

A SEQUENT CALCULUS FOR OPETOPES

CT 2019

Pierre-Louis Curien¹ Cédric Ho Thanh¹ Samuel Mimram²

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¹IRIF, Paris University

²LIX, École Polytechnique

This presentation informally presents some of the main notions and results of [Curien et al., 2019] [arXiv:1903.05848](https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.05848), namely a “unnamed” syntax for **opetopes**, and a sequent calculus **Opt**[?].

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Opetopes

In a nutshell...

Opetopes are shapes (akin to globules, cubes, simplices, dendrices, etc.) designed to represent the notion of composition in every dimension. As such, they were introduced in [Baez and Dolan, 1998] to describe laws and coherence in weak higher categories.

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They have been actively studied over the recent years in [Hermida et al., 2002], [Cheng, 2003], [Leinster, 2004], [Kock et al., 2010] and applied to the theory of polygraphs in [Ho Thanh, 2018a].

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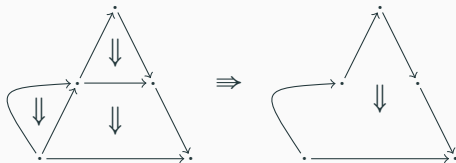
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A first syntactic account of opetopes has been tried in [Hermida et al., 2002], but does not seem usable for any computation.

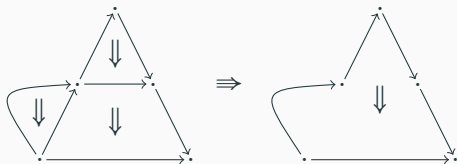
Informal definition

They are **pasting diagrams** where every cell is **many-to-one** i.e. many inputs, one output. Here is an example of a 3-opetope:



Informal definition

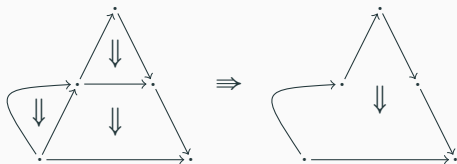
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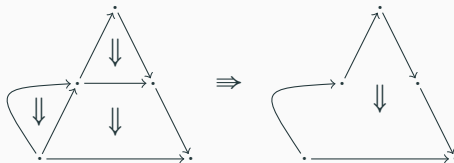


Every cell denoted by a \Downarrow above has dimension 2, so that a 3-opetope really is a pasting diagram of cells of dimension 2.

We further ask those cells of dimension 2 to be 2-opetopes, i.e. pasting diagram of cells of dimension 1 (the simple arrows \rightarrow).



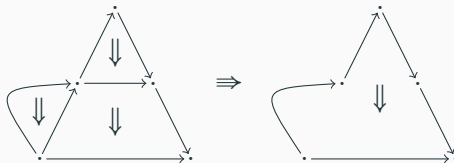
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An n -dimensional **opetope** (or just n -opetope) is a pasting diagram of $(n - 1)$ -opetopes,

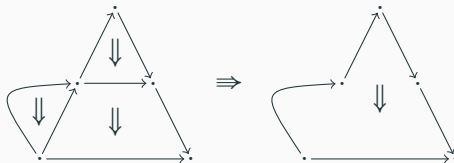
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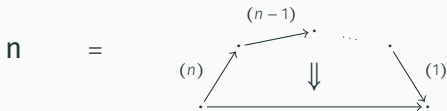
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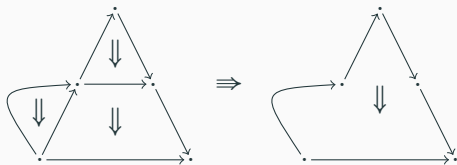
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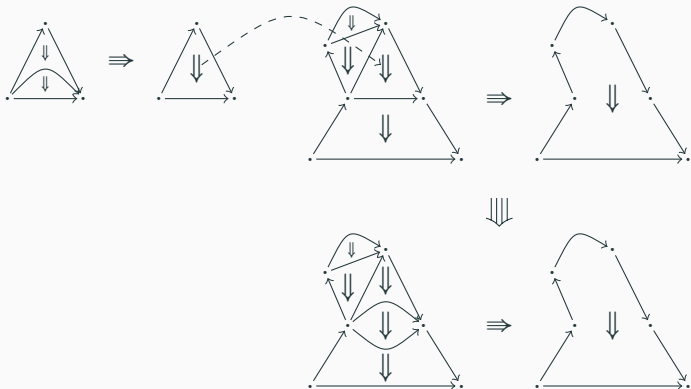
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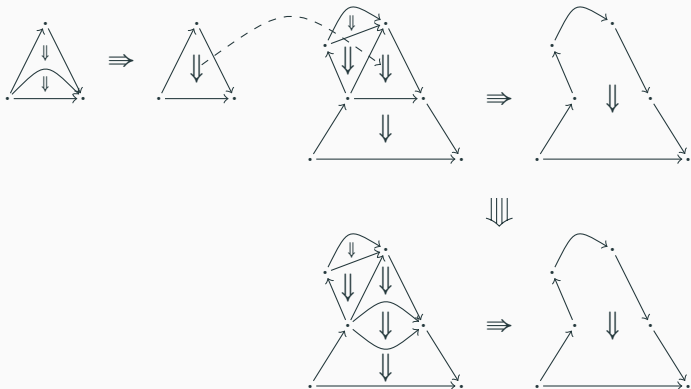
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This is getting out of hand...

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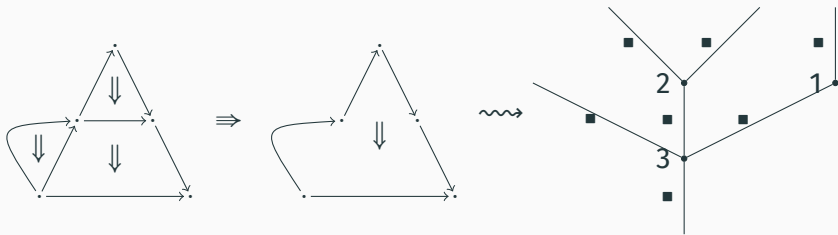
Solution

In this presentation, we give a way to define opetopes syntactically.

Syntax

Idea

Since opetopes are pasting diagrams whose cells are **many-to-one**, they can be represented as trees:



Idea: dimension 0 and 1

Denote by \blacklozenge the unique 0-opetope, a.k.a. the point:

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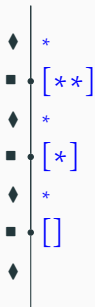


Let us add address information.

Idea: dimension 2

Then we can:

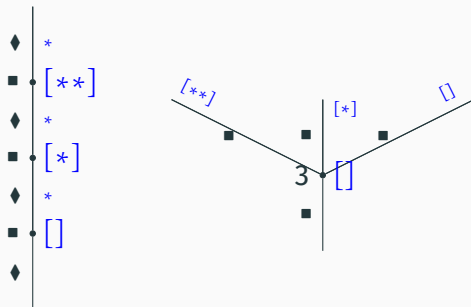
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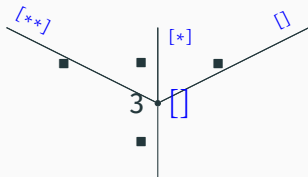
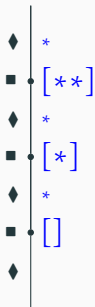


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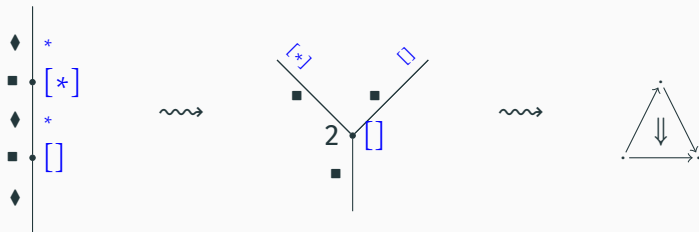
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2. consider that tree as a corolla, where the input edges are the nodes
3. be convinced that this is a good representation of some 2-opetope!

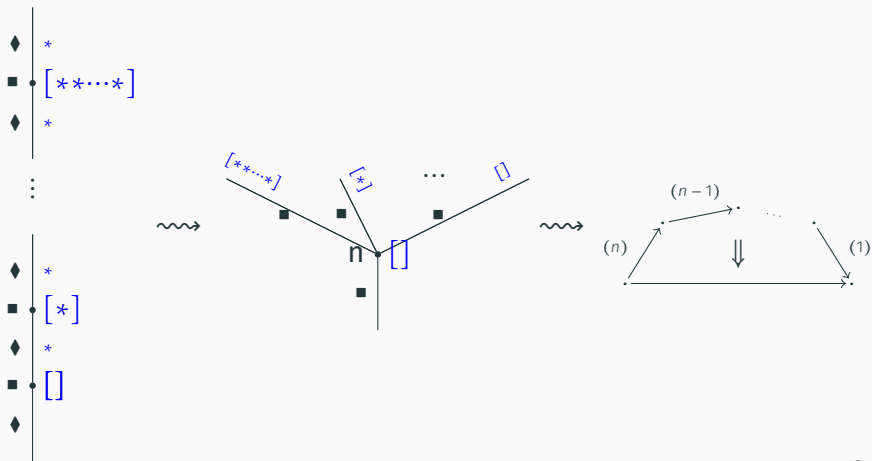
Idea: dimension 2

Depending on the original tree, we obtain different 2-opetopes:



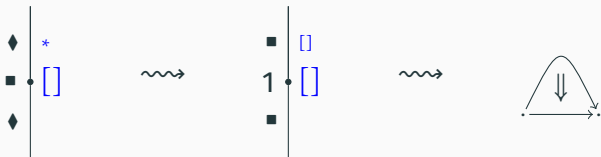
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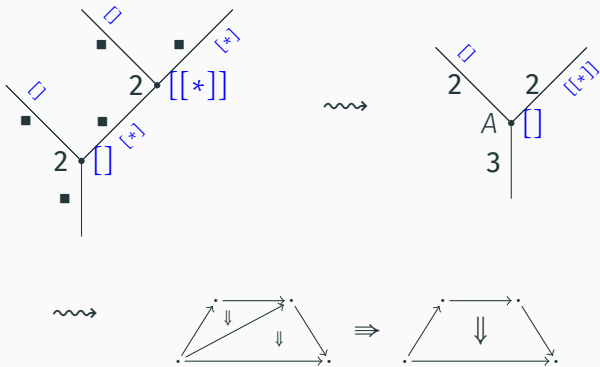
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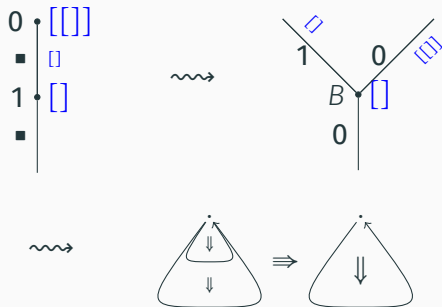
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From there, repeat the process!



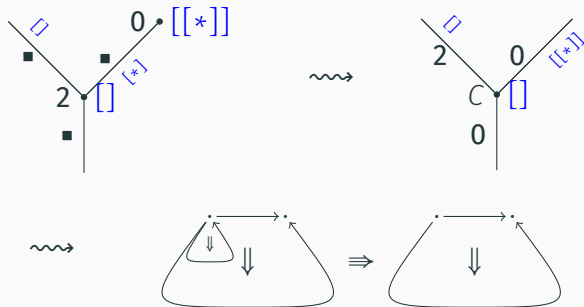
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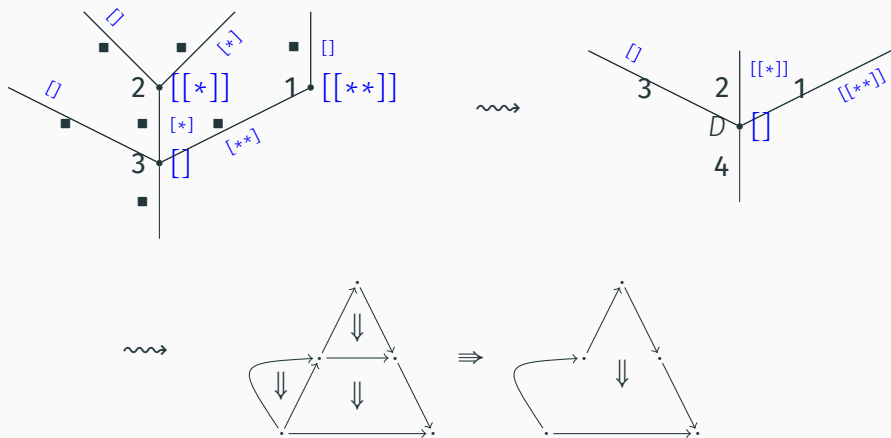
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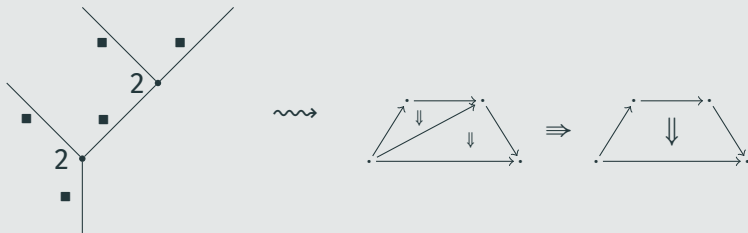


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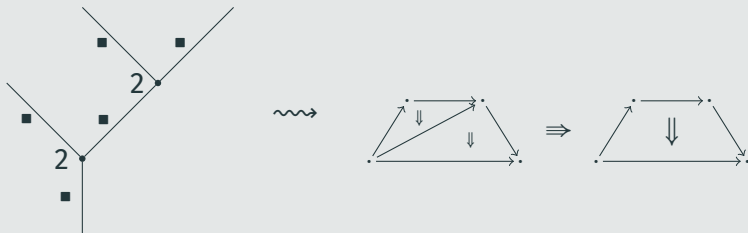
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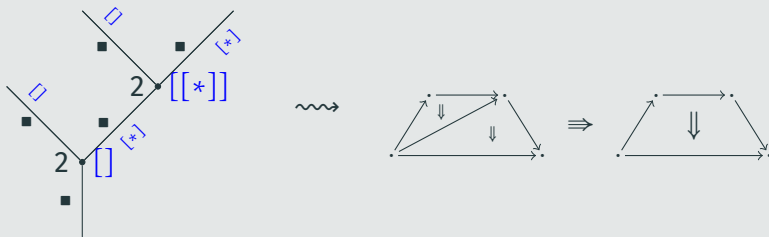
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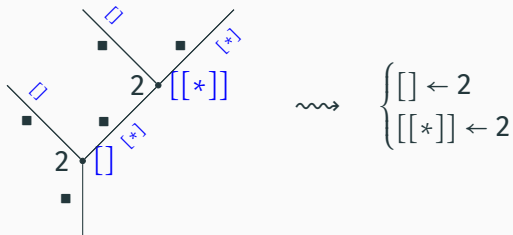
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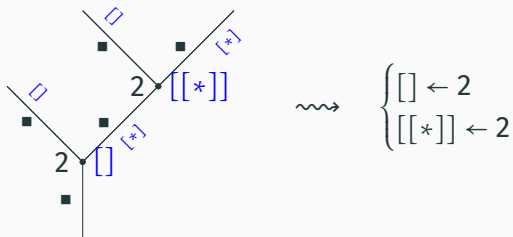
In an n -opetope, every node is decorated by $(n - 1)$ -opetope, but $(n - 1)$ -opetope does not uniquely identify a node. But addresses do! So we just need to describe a partial map

$$A \longrightarrow \mathbb{O}_{n-1}.$$

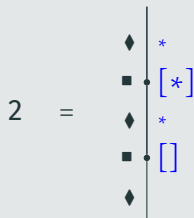
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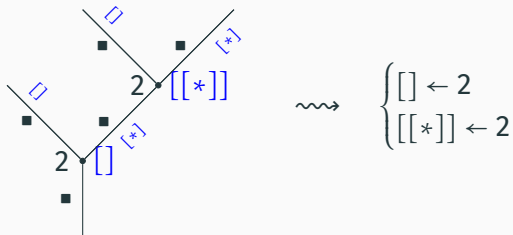
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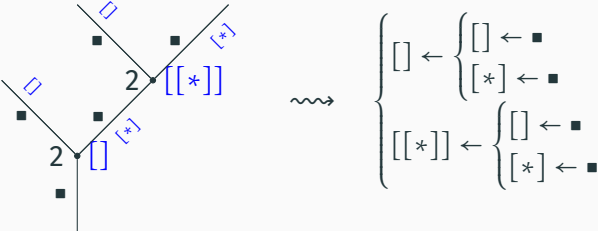


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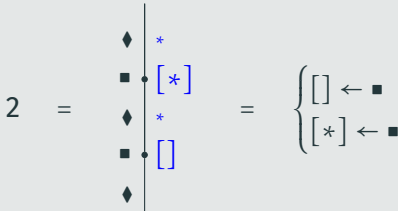
$$2 = \begin{array}{c} \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \\ \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \\ \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \end{array} \begin{array}{l} * \\ [\] \\ * \\ [\] \end{array} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [\] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [\] \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \right.$$

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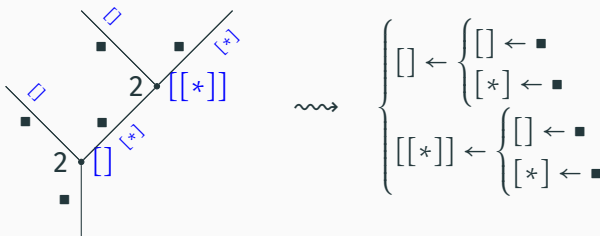


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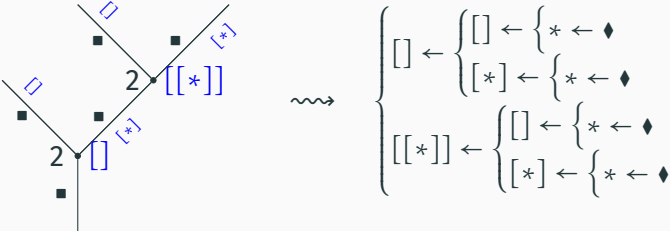


Convention

$$\blacksquare = \left\{ * \leftarrow \blacklozenge \right.$$

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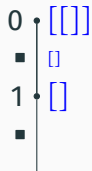
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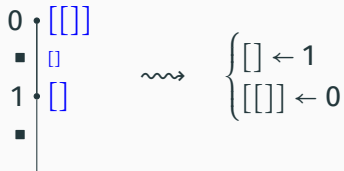
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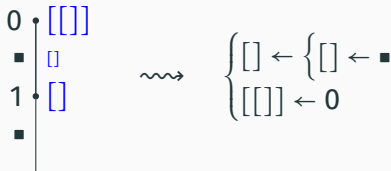
Syntax: examples

$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \bullet \quad [[]] \\ \blacksquare \quad [] \\ 1 \bullet \quad [] \\ \blacksquare \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} [] \leftarrow 1 \\ [[]] \leftarrow 0 \end{cases}$$

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$$1 = \begin{array}{c} \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \end{array} \begin{array}{c} * \\ [] \end{array} = \{ [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \}$$

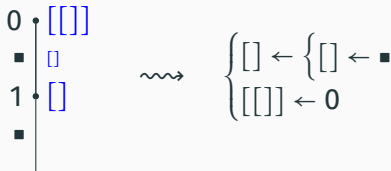
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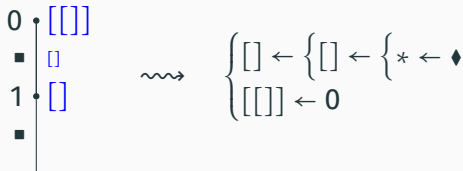
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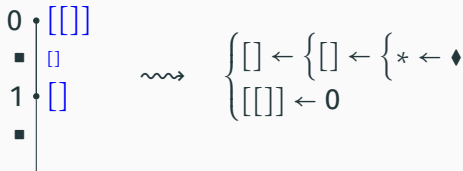
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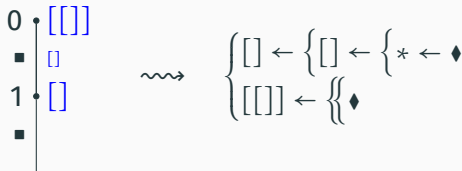
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Reminder + convention

$$0 = \blacklozenge \mid = \{ \blacklozenge$$

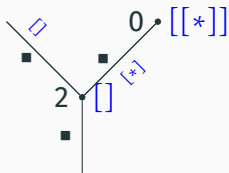
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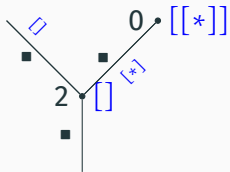
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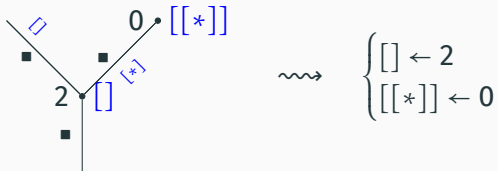


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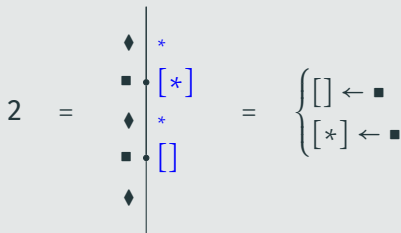


$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} [] \leftarrow 2 \\ [[*]] \leftarrow 0 \end{cases}$$

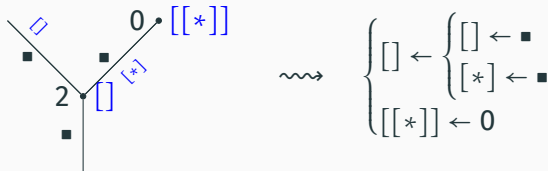
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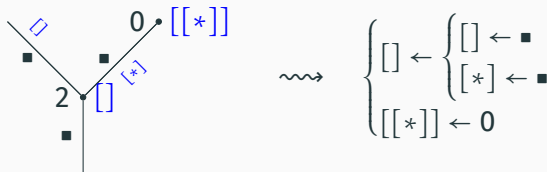
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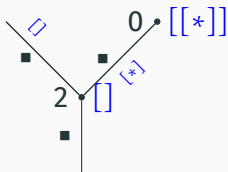
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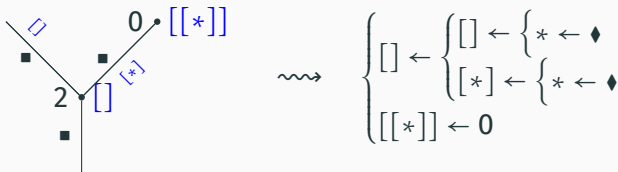


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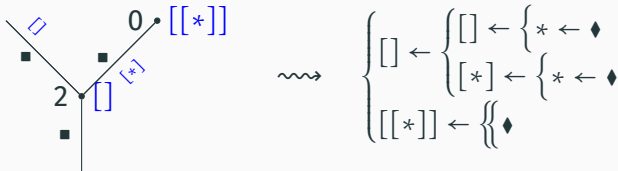
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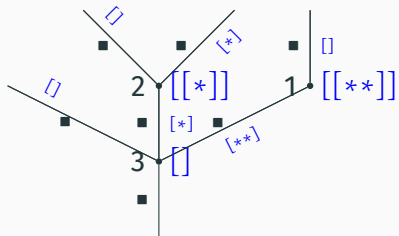
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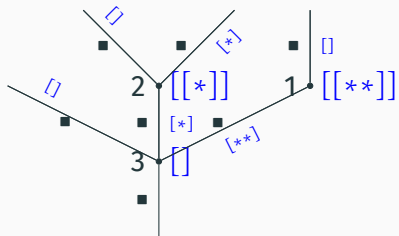
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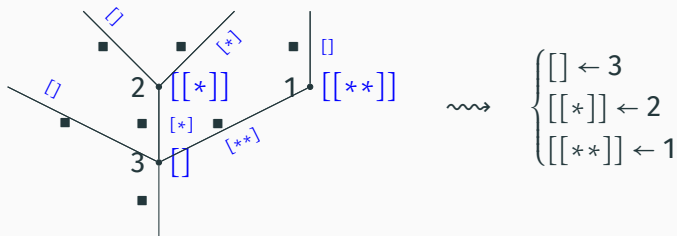


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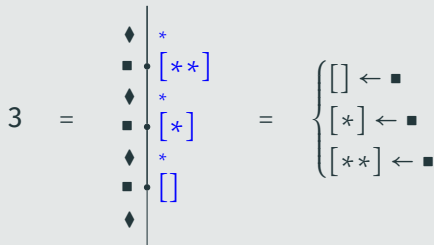


$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} [] \leftarrow 3 \\ [] * [] \leftarrow 2 \\ [] * [] \leftarrow 1 \end{cases}$$

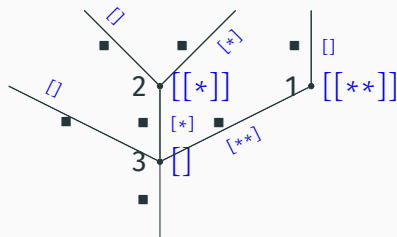
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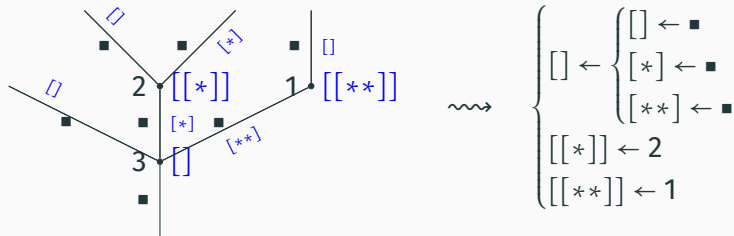


$$\rightsquigarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \begin{cases} [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [*] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [**] \leftarrow \blacksquare \end{cases} \\ [[*]] \leftarrow 2 \\ [[**]] \leftarrow 1 \end{array} \right.$$

Reminder

$$3 = \begin{array}{c} \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \end{array} \begin{array}{c} * \\ [**] \\ * \\ [*] \\ * \\ [] \end{array} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [*] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [**] \leftarrow \blacksquare \end{array} \right.$$

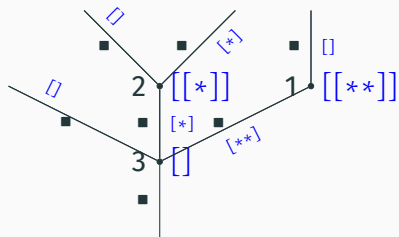
Syntax: examples



Reminder

$$1 = \begin{array}{c} \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \\ \blacklozenge \end{array} \cdot \begin{array}{c} * \\ [\] \end{array} = \{ [\] \leftarrow \blacksquare \}$$

Syntax: examples

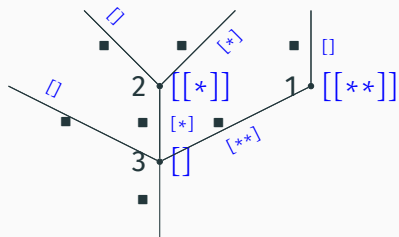


$$\rightsquigarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [*] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [**] \leftarrow \blacksquare \end{array} \right. \\ [[*]] \leftarrow 2 \\ [[**]] \leftarrow \left\{ [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \right. \end{array} \right.$$

Reminder

$$1 = \begin{array}{c} \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \\ \blacklozenge \end{array} \cdot \begin{array}{c} * \\ [] \end{array} = \left\{ [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \right.$$

Syntax: examples

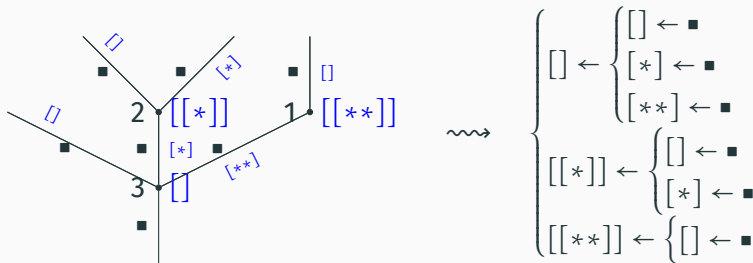


$$\rightsquigarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [*] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [**] \leftarrow \blacksquare \end{array} \right. \\ [[*]] \leftarrow 2 \\ [[**]] \leftarrow \left\{ [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \right. \end{array} \right.$$

Reminder

$$2 = \begin{array}{c} \blacklozenge \quad * \\ \blacksquare \quad \cdot \quad [*] \\ \blacklozenge \quad * \\ \blacksquare \quad \cdot \quad [] \\ \blacklozenge \end{array} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [*] \leftarrow \blacksquare \end{array} \right.$$

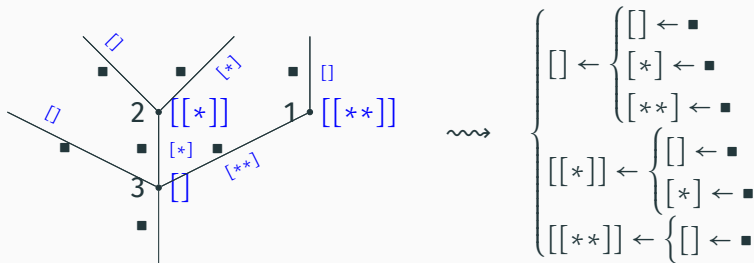
Syntax: examples



Reminder

$$2 = \begin{array}{c} \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \\ \blacksquare \bullet \\ \blacklozenge \end{array} \begin{array}{c} * \\ [*] \\ * \\ [] \end{array} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [\] \leftarrow \blacksquare \\ [*] \leftarrow \blacksquare \end{array} \right.$$

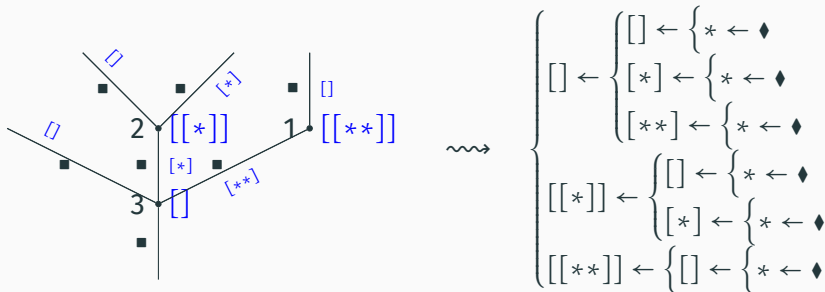
Syntax: examples



Reminder

$$\blacksquare = \left\{ * \leftarrow \blacklozenge \right.$$

Syntax: examples



Reminder

$$\blacksquare = \{ * \leftarrow \blacklozenge$$

Question

Is this an opetope?

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 \square \leftarrow \begin{cases} [*] \leftarrow \blacklozenge \\
 [**] \leftarrow \blacklozenge \\
 [***] \leftarrow \blacklozenge \end{cases} \\
 [**] \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \blacklozenge \} \} \} \} \} \} \} \} \} \\
 [***] \leftarrow \begin{cases} \square \leftarrow \begin{cases} \square \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \blacklozenge \\
 [*] \leftarrow \blacklozenge \\
 [**] \leftarrow \blacklozenge \end{cases} \\
 [\square] \leftarrow \{ \square \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \blacklozenge \\
 [\square] \leftarrow \begin{cases} [\square] \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \blacklozenge \\
 [***] \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \blacklozenge \end{cases} \end{cases} \\
 [***] \leftarrow \blacklozenge
 \end{array} \right.$$

Opt[?]: a sequent calculus for
opetopes

The set of prepetopes \mathbb{P} is defined by the following grammar:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P} & ::= \blacklozenge \\ & | \begin{cases} A \leftarrow \mathbb{P} \\ \vdots \\ A \leftarrow \mathbb{P} \end{cases} \\ & | \{\!\! \{ \mathbb{P} \end{aligned}$$

The set of preopetopes \mathbb{P} is defined by the following grammar:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P} & ::= \blacklozenge \\ & | \begin{cases} A \leftarrow \mathbb{P} \\ \vdots \\ A \leftarrow \mathbb{P} \end{cases} \\ & | \{\!\!\{ \mathbb{P} \end{aligned}$$

System $\text{Opt}^?$ aims to characterize preopetopes that actually are opetopes.

System Opt?: the point rule

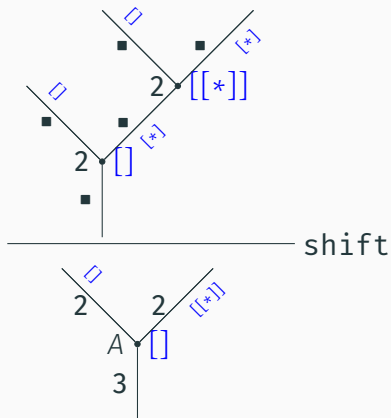
The first rule of **Opt?** states that we may create points without any prior assumption:

— point

— point

System Opt?: the shift rule

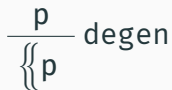
This rule takes an opetope \mathbf{p} and produces a new opetope having a unique node, decorated in \mathbf{p} :



$$\frac{\mathbf{p}}{\{[] \leftarrow \mathbf{p}\}} \text{ shift}$$

System Opt?: the degen rule

This rule takes an opetope and produces a degenerate opetope from it:



System Opt?: the graft rule

This rule glues an n -opetope \mathbf{q} to an $(n + 1)$ -opetope \mathbf{p} , the latter really just being a pasting diagram of n -opetopes, and “glues” them together:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \\
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \\
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \\
 \vdots \\
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow{\text{graft-}[b]}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \\
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \\
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array} \\
 \vdots \\
 \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ \bullet \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \left. \begin{array}{l} [a_1] \leftarrow r_1 \\ \vdots \\ [a_k] \leftarrow r_k \end{array} \right\} \mathbf{q} \\
 \text{graft-}[b] \\
 \left. \begin{array}{l} [a_1] \leftarrow r_1 \\ \vdots \\ [a_k] \leftarrow r_k \\ [b] \leftarrow \mathbf{q} \end{array} \right\}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Theorem

Derivable preopetopes in system **Opt**[?] are in bijective correspondence with opetopes.

Examples

Examples

The proof tree of

$$\diamond = .$$

is

$$\frac{}{\diamond} \text{point}$$

Examples

The proof tree of

$$\blacksquare = \cdot \longrightarrow \cdot$$

is

$$\frac{\overline{\blacklozenge} \text{ point}}{\{\square \leftarrow \blacklozenge\} \text{ shift}}$$

Examples

The proof tree of

$$\blacksquare = \cdot \longrightarrow \cdot$$

is

$$\frac{\text{point}}{\{ * \leftarrow \blacklozenge \} \text{ shift}}$$

Examples

The proof tree of



is

$$\frac{\frac{\text{point}}{\diamond} \text{ shift}}{\{ * \leftarrow \diamond \}} \text{ shift}$$
$$\frac{\{ \square \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \diamond \} \}}{\text{shift}}$$

Examples

The proof tree of



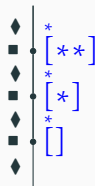
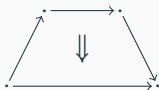
is

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{\text{point}}{\diamond}}{\text{shift}}}{\{ * \leftarrow \diamond}} \\
 \frac{\frac{\frac{\text{point}}{\diamond}}{\text{shift}}}{\{ [] \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \diamond}}}{\frac{\frac{\frac{\text{point}}{\diamond}}{\text{shift}}}{\{ [] \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \diamond}} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{\text{point}}{\diamond}}{\text{shift}}}{\{ [] \leftarrow \diamond}}}{\text{graft-}[*]} \\
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \diamond \\ [*] \leftarrow \{ * \leftarrow \diamond \end{array} \right.
 \end{array}$$

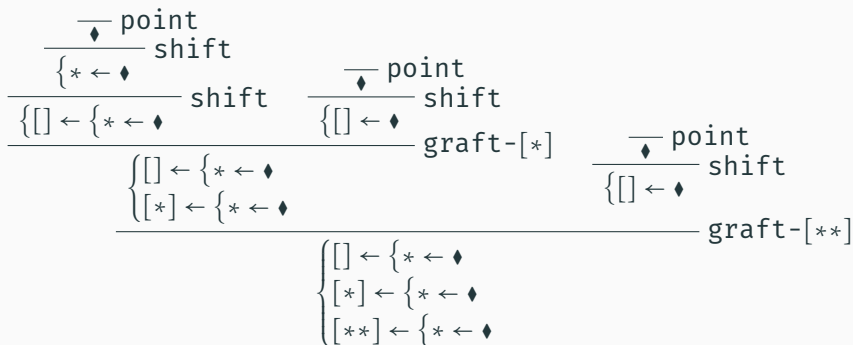
Examples

The proof tree of

3 =

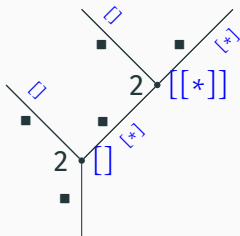
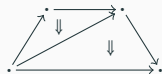


is



Examples

The proof tree of

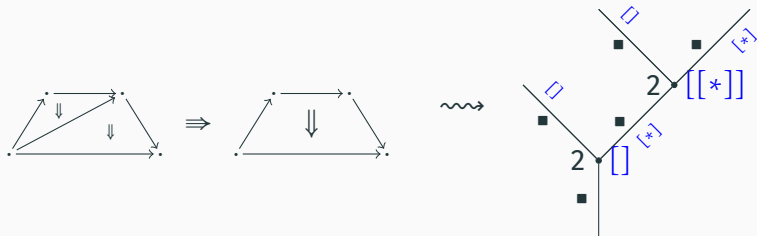


is:

⋮
2

Examples

The proof tree of

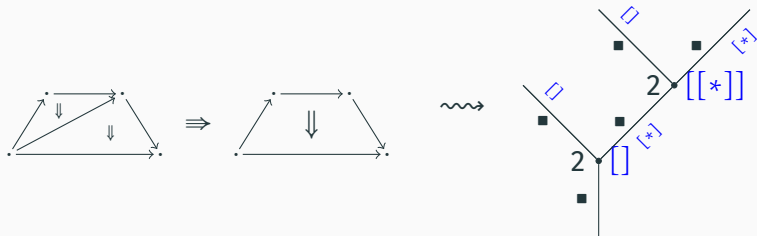


is:

$$\frac{\vdots}{2} \text{ shift} \\ \{ [] \leftarrow 2$$

Examples

The proof tree of

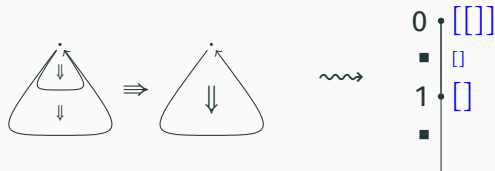


is:

$$\frac{\frac{\vdots}{2} \text{ shift} \quad \frac{\vdots}{2}}{\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [] \leftarrow 2 \\ []^* \leftarrow 2 \end{array} \right.} \text{graft-} [[*]]$$

Example

The proof tree of

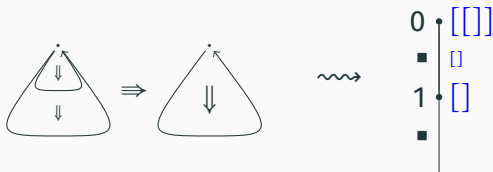


is

\vdots
1

Example

The proof tree of

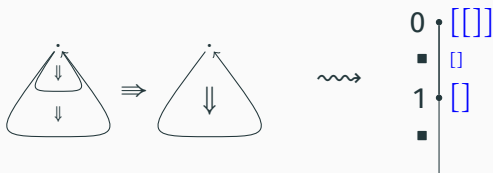


is

$$\frac{\vdots}{1} \text{ shift}$$
$$\{ \square \leftarrow 1$$

Example

The proof tree of



is

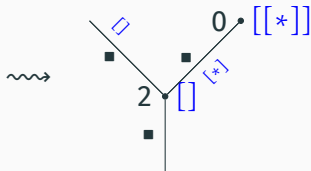
$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ 1 \\ \hline \{ [\] \leftarrow 1 \end{array} \text{ shift} \quad \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ 0 \end{array}}{\begin{array}{c} \{ [\] \leftarrow 1 \\ \{ [\] \leftarrow 0 \end{array} \text{ graft-}[\]}$$

Examples

The proof tree of



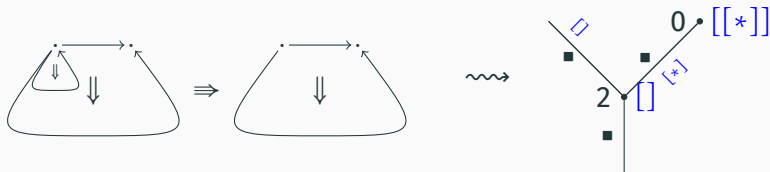
is



⋮
2

Examples

The proof tree of

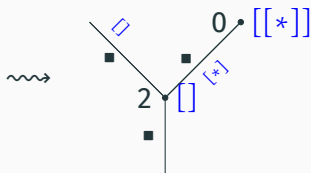


is

$$\frac{\vdots}{2} \text{ shift} \\ \{ \square \leftarrow 2$$

Examples

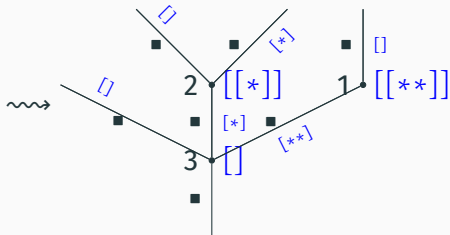
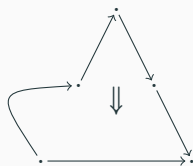
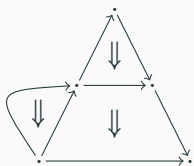
The proof tree of



is

$$\frac{\frac{\vdots}{2} \text{ shift} \quad \frac{\vdots}{0} \text{ graft-}[[*]]}{\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \square \leftarrow 2 \\ [[*]] \leftarrow 0 \end{array} \right.}$$

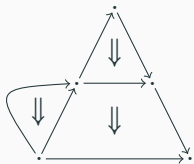
Examples



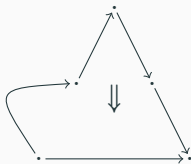
\vdots

3

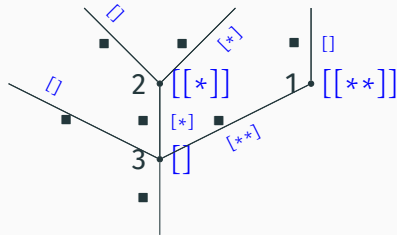
Examples



\Rightarrow

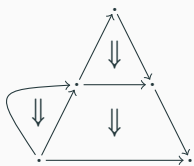


\rightsquigarrow

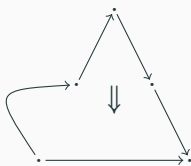


$$\frac{\vdots}{3} \text{ shift}$$
$$\{ [] \leftarrow 3$$

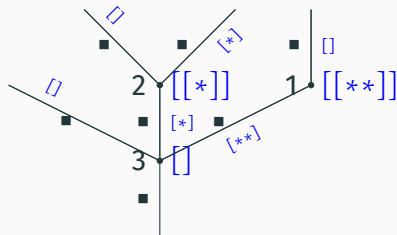
Examples



\Rightarrow



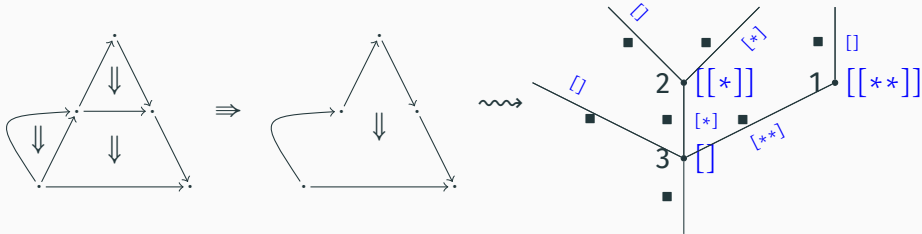
\rightsquigarrow



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 3 \\
 \hline
 \{ \emptyset \leftarrow 3 \} \text{ shift}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 2 \\
 \hline
 \text{graft-} \{ [*] \}
 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{\left(\begin{array}{c} \emptyset \leftarrow 3 \\ [*] \leftarrow 2 \end{array} \right)}{}$$

Examples



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 3 \\
 \hline
 \{ [] \leftarrow 3 \} \text{ shift} \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 2 \\
 \hline
 \{ [] \leftarrow 3 \\
 [[*] \leftarrow 2 \} \text{ graft-}[[*]] \\
 \hline
 \vdots \\
 1 \\
 \hline
 \text{graft-}[[**]] \\
 \hline
 \begin{cases}
 [] \leftarrow 3 \\
 [[*] \leftarrow 2 \\
 [[**] \leftarrow 1
 \end{cases}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Conclusion

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- In this presentation, we gave a “unnamed” way to describe opetopes using terms and system **Opt**?

Conclusion

- In this presentation, we gave a “unnamed” way to describe opetopes using terms and system **Opt**?
- In [Curien et al., 2019] **arXiv:1903.05848** we also present variants of this system for **opetopic sets**.

Conclusion

- In this presentation, we gave a “unnamed” way to describe opetopes using terms and system **Opt**?
- In [Curien et al., 2019] **arXiv:1903.05848** we also present variants of this system for **opetopic sets**.
- We are experimenting with those new tools to automatically check coherence laws for an appropriate definition of opetopic ∞ -**groupoid**.

The various constructs and algorithms can be easilyTM implemented, and opetopes amount to valid proof trees. An example implementation in Python 3 is available at github.com/altaris/opetopy, where valid proof trees are represented by certain expressions that evaluate without throwing any

exception. For example:

$$\frac{p}{\{[] \leftarrow p\}} \text{ shift}$$

```
def shift(seq: Sequent) -> Sequent:
    n = seq.source.dimension
    ctx = Context(n + 1)
    for a in seq.source.nodeAddresses():
        ctx += (a.shift(), a)
    return Sequent(
        ctx,
        Preopetope.fromDictOfPreopetopes(
            {Address.epsilon(n):
              ↪ seq.source}
        ),
        seq.source
    )
```

Thank you for your attention!



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