

Hybrid and Subexponential Linear Logics

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Abstract

HyLL (Hybrid Linear Logic) and SELL (Subexponential Linear Logic) are logical frameworks that have been extensively used for specifying systems that exhibit modalities such as temporal or spatial ones. Both frameworks have linear logic (LL) as a common ground and they admit (cut-free) complete focused proof systems. The difference relies on the way modalities are handled. In HyLL, truth judgments are labelled by *worlds* and hybrid connectives relate worlds with formulas. In SELL, the linear logic exponentials ($!$, $?$) are decorated with labels representing *locations* and an ordering on such labels defines the provability relation among resources in those locations. It is well known that SELL, as a logical framework, is strictly more expressive than LL. However, so far, it was not clear whether HyLL is more expressive than LL and/or SELL. In this paper, we show an encoding of the HyLL's logical rules into LL with the highest level of adequacy, hence showing that HyLL is as expressive as LL. We also propose an encoding of HyLL into SELL^m (SELL plus quantification over locations) that gives better insights about the meaning of worlds in HyLL. Finally, we show how to encode temporal operators of Computational Tree Logic (CTL) into LL with fixed point operators.

Keywords: Linear Logic, Hybrid Linear Logic, subexponentials, logical frameworks, Temporal Logic.

1 Introduction

Logical frameworks are adequate tools for specifying proof systems, since they support levels of abstraction that facilitate writing declarative specifications of object-logic proof systems. Many frameworks have been used for the specification of proof systems, and linear logic [14] (LL) is one of the most successful ones, since it is resource conscious and, at the same time, can internalize classical and intuitionistic behaviors (see, for example, [7, 16]).

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However, since specifications of object-level systems into the logical framework should be natural and direct, there are some features that cannot be adequately captured in LL, in particular, modalities different from the ones present in LL.

More recently, extensions of LL have been proposed in order to fill this gap. The aim is to propose stronger logical frameworks that preserve the elegant properties of linear logic as the underlying logic. Two of such extensions are HyLL (Hybrid Linear Logic)³ [11] and SELL (Subexponential Linear Logic) [10, 21]. These logics have been extensively used for specifying systems that exhibit modalities such as temporal or spatial ones. The difference between HyLL and SELL relies on the way modalities are handled.

In HyLL, truth judgments are labelled by worlds and two hybrid connectives relate worlds with formulas: the satisfaction \mathbf{at} which states that a proposition is true at a given world, and the localization \downarrow which binds a name for the (current) world the proposition is true at. These constructors allow for the specification of modal connectives such as $\Box A$ (A is true in all the accessible worlds) and $\Diamond A$ (there exists an accessible world where A holds). The underlying structure on worlds allows for the modeling of transitions systems and the specification of temporal formulas [11, 15].

In SELL, the LL exponentials ($!$, $?$) are decorated with labels: the formula $?^a A$ can be interpreted as A holds in a location, modality, or world a . Moreover, A can be deduced in a location b related to a ($b \preceq a$). On the other side, the formula $?^a!^a A$ means that A is confined into the location a and then, the information A is not propagated to other worlds/locations related to a . While linear logic has only seven logically distinct prefixes of bangs and question-marks (none, $!$, $?$, $!?$, $?!$, $!?!?$, $?!?!?$), SELL allows for an unbounded number of such prefixes (e.g., $!^a?^c?^d$). Hence SELL enhances the expressive power of LL as a logical framework.

Up to now, it was not clear how HyLL is related to LL and/or SELL. In this paper we answer that question by showing a direct encoding of the HyLL's logical rules into LL with the highest level of adequacy, hence showing that HyLL is actually as expressive as LL. We also propose an encoding of HyLL into SELL[Ⓜ] (SELL with quantification over locations) that gives better insights about the meaning of worlds in HyLL. More precisely, we represent HyLL formulas as formulas in SELL and encode the rules as formulas in SELL[Ⓜ]. In particular, we show that a flat subexponential structure is sufficient for representing any world structure in HyLL. This explains better why the worlds in HyLL do not add any expressive power to LL: they cannot control the logical context as the subexponentials do with the promotion rule.

One of the most common approaches to the formal verification of biological systems is model checking of formulas written in temporal logic, such as Computational Tree Logic (CTL). HyLL has been shown to be a flexible framework for the specification of such systems [15] where both the system and its properties are specified using the same logic. However, there is no a formal statement about the

³ Actually, HyLL is an extension of intuitionistic linear logic (ILL), while SELL can be viewed as an extension of both ILL or LL.

CTL fragments that can be adequately captured in HyLL. As the last contribution of this paper, we continue our study of HyLL theory and we push forward previous attempts of using this logic for the specification of transition systems and formulas in CTL. We show that it is not possible to adequately encode, in HyLL, the universal path quantifier A (for all paths), nor the temporal formula EGA (there exists a path where A always holds). The definition of such formulas is recursive and then, one needs to use induction, at the meta-level, to accurately capture their behavior. Instead of using meta-reasoning, we use a logical framework featuring fixed point constructs. More precisely, we use additive multiplicative LL with fixed point operators (μ MALL) [3] for the encoding of CTL. We show that the well known fixed point characterization of CTL [5] can be matched by the fixed point operators of μ MALL.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. We briefly recall LL in Section 2.1, HyLL in Section 2.2 and SELL in Section 2.3. The encoding of HyLL logical rules into LL is discussed in Section 3.1. Section 3.2 presents the encoding of HyLL into SELL^m. We also prove that information confinement, a feature in SELL that is needed to specify spatial systems, cannot be captured in HyLL. Section 4 shows how to encode CTL into μ MALL. Section 5 concludes the paper.

2 Preliminaries

Although we assume that the reader is familiar with linear logic [14] (LL), we review some of its basic proof theory in the following sections.

2.1 Linear Logic and Focusing

Literals are either atomic formulas (p) or their negations (p^\perp). The connectives \otimes and \wp and their units 1 and \perp are *multiplicative*; the connectives \oplus and $\&$ and their units 0 and \top are *additive*; \forall and \exists are (first-order) quantifiers; and $!$ and $?$ are the exponentials (called bang and question-mark, respectively).

First proposed by Andreoli [1] for linear logic, focused proof systems provide normal form proofs for cut-free proofs. The connectives of linear logic can be divided into two classes. The *negative* connectives have invertible introduction rules: these connectives are \wp , \perp , $\&$, \top , \forall , and $?$. The *positive* connectives \otimes , 1 , \oplus , 0 , \exists , and $!$ are the de Morgan duals of the negative connectives. A formula is *positive* if it is a negated atom or its top-level logical connective is positive. Similarly, a formula is *negative* if it is an atom or its top-level logical connective is negative.

Focused proofs are organized into two *phases*. In the *negative* phase, all the invertible inference rules are eagerly applied. The *positive* phase begins by choosing a positive formula F on which to focus. Positive rules are applied to F until either 1 or a negated atom is encountered (and the proof must end by applying the initial rules), the promotion rule ($!$) is applied, or a negative subformula is encountered and the proof switches to the negative phase.

This change of phases on proof search is particularly interesting when the focused formula is a *bipole* [1].

Definition 1. We call a *monopole* a linear logic formula that is built up from atoms and occurrences of the negative connectives, with the restriction that $?$ has atomic scope. Bipoles, on the other hand, are positive formulas built from monopoles and negated atoms using only positive connectives, with the additional restriction that $!$ can only be applied to a monopole.

Focusing on a bipole will produce a single positive and a single negative phase. This two-phase decomposition enables us to adequately capture the application of object-level inference rules by the meta-level linear logic, as will be shown in Section 3.

The focused system LLF for classical linear logic can be found in [12].

2.2 Hybrid Linear Logic

Hybrid Linear Logic (HyLL) is a conservative extension of Intuitionistic first-order Linear Logic (ILL) [14] where the truth judgments are labelled by worlds representing constraints on states and state transitions. Judgments of HyLL are of the form “ A is true at world w ”, abbreviated as $A @ w$. Particular choices of worlds produce particular instances of HyLL. Typical examples are “ A is true at time t ”, or “ A is true with probability p ”. HyLL was first proposed in [11] and it has been used as a logical framework for specifying biological systems [15].

Formally, worlds are defined as follows.

Definition 2 (HyLL worlds). A constraint domain \mathcal{W} is a monoid structure $\langle W, \cdot, \iota \rangle$. The elements of W are called *worlds* and its reachability relation $\preceq : W \times W$ is defined as $u \preceq w$ if there exists $v \in W$ such that $u \cdot v = w$.

The identity world ι is \preceq -initial and is intended to represent the lack of any constraints. Thus, the ordinary first-order linear logic is embeddable into any instance of HyLL by setting all world labels to the identity. A typical, simple example of constraint domain is $\mathcal{T} = \langle \mathbb{N}, +, 0 \rangle$, representing instants of time.

Atomic propositions (p, q, \dots) are applied to a sequence of terms (s, t, \dots) , which are drawn from an untyped term language containing constants (c, d, \dots) , term variables (x, y, \dots) and function symbols (f, g, \dots) applied to a list of terms (\mathbf{t}) . Non-atomic propositions are constructed from the connectives of first-order intuitionistic linear logic and the two hybrid connectives *satisfaction* (\mathbf{at}), which states that a proposition is true at a given world $(w, \iota, u \cdot v, \dots)$, and *localization* (\downarrow), which binds a name for the (current) world the proposition is true at. The following grammar summarizes the syntax of HyLL.

$$\begin{aligned}
 t & ::= c \mid x \mid f(\mathbf{t}) \\
 A, B & ::= p(\mathbf{t}) \mid A \otimes B \mid \mathbf{1} \mid A \rightarrow B \mid A \& B \mid \top \mid A \oplus B \mid \mathbf{0} \mid !A \mid \\
 & \quad \forall x. A \mid \exists x. A \mid (A \mathbf{at} w) \mid \downarrow u. A \mid \forall u. A \mid \exists u. A
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that world u is bounded in the propositions $\downarrow u. A$, $\forall u. A$ and $\exists u. A$. World variables cannot be used in terms, and neither can term variables occur in worlds. This restriction is important for the modular design of HyLL because it keeps purely

logical truth separate from constraint truth. We note that \downarrow and **at** commute freely with all non-hybrid connectives [11].

The sequent calculus [13] presentation of HyLL uses sequents of the form $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash C @ w$ where Γ (*unbounded context*) is a set and Δ (*linear context*) is a multiset of judgments of the form $A @ w$. Note that in a judgment $A @ w$ (as in a proposition A **at** w), w can be any expression in \mathcal{W} , not only a variable.

The inference rules dealing with the new hybrid connectives are depicted below (the complete set of rules can be found in [12]).

$$\frac{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash A @ u}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash (A \text{ at } u) @ w} \text{at}R \quad \frac{\Gamma; \Delta, A @ u \vdash C @ w}{\Gamma; \Delta, (A \text{ at } u) @ v \vdash C @ w} \text{at}L$$

$$\frac{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash A[w/u] @ w}{\Gamma; \Delta \vdash \downarrow u. A @ w} \downarrow R \quad \frac{\Gamma; \Delta, A[v/u] @ v \vdash C @ w}{\Gamma; \Delta, \downarrow u. A @ v \vdash C @ w} \downarrow L$$

Note that $(A \text{ at } u)$ is a *mobile* proposition: it carries with it the world at which it is true. Weakening and contraction are admissible rules for the unbounded context.

The most important structural properties are the admissibility of the general identity (i.e. over any formulas, not only atomic propositions) and cut theorems. While the first provides a syntactic completeness theorem for the logic, the latter guarantees consistency (i.e. that there is no proof of $.; \vdash 0 @ w$).

Theorem 1 (Identity/Cut).

1. $\Gamma; A @ w \vdash A @ w$
2. If $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash A @ u$ and $\Gamma; \Delta', A @ u \vdash C @ w$, then $\Gamma; \Delta, \Delta' \vdash C @ w$
3. If $\Gamma; . \vdash A @ u$ and $\Gamma, A @ u; \Delta \vdash C @ w$, then $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash C @ w$.

Moreover, HyLL is conservative with respect to intuitionistic linear logic: as long as no hybrid connectives are used, the proofs in HyLL are identical to those in ILL. It is worth noting that HyLL is more expressive than S5, as it allows direct manipulation of the worlds using the hybrid connectives and HyLL's δ connective (see Section 4) is not definable in S5. We also note that HyLL admits a complete focused [1] proof system. The interested reader can find proofs and further meta-theoretical theorems about HyLL in [11].

2.3 Subexponentials in Linear Logic

Linear logic with subexponentials⁴ (SELL) shares with LL all its connectives except the exponentials: instead of having a single pair of exponentials $!$ and $?$, SELL may contain as many *subexponentials* [10, 17, 21], written $!^a$ and $?^a$, as one needs. The grammar of formulas in SELL is as follows:

$$F ::= \mathbf{0} \mid 1 \mid \top \mid \perp \mid p(\mathbf{t}) \mid F_1 \otimes F_2 \mid F_1 \oplus F_2 \mid F_1 \wp F_2 \mid F_1 \& F_2 \mid \\ \exists x.F \mid \forall x.F \mid !^a F \mid ?^a F$$

⁴ A very important note is that intuitionistic and classical SELL are equally expressive, as shown in [8]. Hence, although we will introduce here the classical version of SELL (needed in Section 3.2), we could also present SELL as an extension of ILL.

The proof system for SELL is specified by a *subexponential signature* $\Sigma = \langle I, \preceq, U \rangle$, where I is a set of labels, $U \subseteq I$ is a set specifying which subexponentials allow weakening and contraction, and \preceq is a pre-order among the elements of I . We shall use a, b, \dots to range over elements in I and we will assume that \preceq is upwardly closed with respect to U , *i.e.*, if $a \in U$ and $a \preceq b$, then $b \in U$.

The system SELL is constructed by adding all the rules for the linear logic connectives except for the exponentials. The rules for subexponentials are dereliction and promotion of the subexponential labelled with $a \in I$

$$\frac{\vdash ?^{a_1} F_1, \dots ?^{a_n} F_n, G}{\vdash ?^{a_1} F_1, \dots ?^{a_n} F_n, !^a G} !^a \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma, G}{\vdash \Gamma, ?^a G} ?^a$$

Here, the rule $!^a$ has the side condition that $a \preceq a_i$ for all i . That is, one can only introduce a $!^a$ on the right if all other formulas in the sequent are marked with indices that are greater or equal than a . Moreover, for all indices $a \in U$, we add the usual rules for weakening and contraction.

We can enhance the expressiveness of SELL with the subexponential quantifiers \mathfrak{M} and \mathfrak{U} ([18, 21]) given by the rules (omitting the subexponential signature)

$$\frac{\vdash \Gamma, G[l_e/l_x]}{\vdash \Gamma, \mathfrak{M}l_x : a.G} \mathfrak{M} \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma, G[l/l_x]}{\vdash \Gamma, \mathfrak{U}l_x : a.G} \mathfrak{U}$$

where l_e is fresh. Intuitively, subexponential variables play a similar role as eigen-variables. The generic variable $l_x : a$ represents any subexponential, constant or variable in the ideal of a . Hence l_x can be substituted by any subexponential l of type b (*i.e.*, $l : b$) if $b \preceq a$. We call the resulting system $\text{SELL}^{\mathfrak{M}}$.

As shown in [18, 21], $\text{SELL}^{\mathfrak{M}}$ admits a cut-free and also a complete focused proof system (available in [12]).

Theorem 2. *SELL^{mathfrak{M}} admits cut-elimination for any subexponential signature Σ .*

3 Relative Expressiveness Power of HyLL and SELL

We observe that, while linear logic has only seven logically distinct prefixes of bangs and question-marks, SELL allows for an unbounded number of such prefixes, *e.g.*, $!^i$, or $!^i?^j$. Hence, by using different prefixes, we allow for the specification of richer systems where subexponentials are used to mark different modalities/states. For instance, subexponentials can be used to represent contexts of proof systems [19]; to specify systems with temporal, epistemic and spatial modalities [18, 21] and soft-constraints or preferences [22]; to specify Bigraphs [9]; and to specify and verify biological [20] and multimedia interacting systems [2].

One may wonder whether the use of worlds in HyLL increases also the expressiveness of LL. In this section we prove that this is not the case by showing that HyLL rules can be directly encoded into LL by using the methods proposed in [16].

$\otimes R$	$: \exists C, C', w. ([C \otimes C']@w)^\perp \otimes [C@w] \otimes [C'@w]$	$\otimes L$	$: \exists C, C', w. ([C \otimes C']@w)^\perp \otimes ([C@w] \wp [C'@w])$
$\text{at } R$	$: \exists C, u, w. ([C \text{ at } u]@w)^\perp \otimes [C@u]$	$\text{at } L$	$: \exists C, u, w. ([C \text{ at } u]@w)^\perp \otimes [C@u]$
$\downarrow R$	$: \exists A, u, w. ([\downarrow u.A]@w)^\perp \otimes [(A w)@w]$	$\downarrow L$	$: \exists A, u, w. ([\downarrow u.A]@w)^\perp \otimes [(A w)@w]$
$\forall R(F)$	$: \exists B, u. ([\forall x.B]@u)^\perp \otimes \forall x. [(B x)@u]$	$\forall L(F)$	$: \exists B, u. ([\forall x.B]@u)^\perp \otimes \exists x. [(B x)@u]$
$\forall R(W)$	$: \exists A, u. ([\forall v.A]@u)^\perp \otimes \forall v. [(A v)@u]$	$\forall L(W)$	$: \exists A, u. ([\forall v.A]@u)^\perp \otimes \exists v. [(A v)@u]$
$!_L$	$: \exists C, w. ([!C]@w)^\perp \otimes ?[C@w]$	$Init$	$: \exists C, w. ([C]@w)^\perp \otimes [C@w]^\perp$

Fig. 1. HyLL rules into LL. (Definition 3)

3.1 HyLL and Linear Logic

In [16] classical linear logic (LL) was used as the logical framework for specifying a number of logical and computational systems. The idea is simple: use two meta-level predicates $[\cdot]$ and $[\cdot]$ for identifying objects that appear on the left or on the right side of the sequents in the object logic. Hence, object-level sequents of the form $B_1, \dots, B_n \vdash C_1, \dots, C_m$ (where $n, m \geq 0$) are specified as the multiset $[B_1], \dots, [B_n], [C_1], \dots, [C_m]$. If an object-formula B is in a (object-level) classical context, it will be specified in LL as $?[B]$ or $?[B]$ (depending on the side of B in the original sequent). Hence HyLL sequents of the form $\Delta; \Gamma \vdash C$ will be encoded in LL as $?[\Delta] \wp [\Gamma] \wp [C]$ where if $\Psi = \{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$ then $[\Psi] = [F_1] \wp \dots \wp [F_n]$ and $?[\Psi] = ?[F_1] \wp \dots \wp ?[F_n]$ (similarly for $[\cdot]$).

Inference rules are specified by a rewriting clause that replaces the active formula in the conclusion by the active formulas in the premises. The linear logic connectives indicate how these object level formulas are connected: contexts are copied ($\&$) or split (\otimes), in different inference rules (\oplus) or in the same sequent (\wp). As a matter of example, the additive version of the inference rules for conjunction in classical logic

$$\frac{\Delta, A \longrightarrow \Gamma}{\Delta, A \wedge B \longrightarrow \Gamma} \wedge_{L1} \quad \frac{\Delta, B \longrightarrow \Gamma}{\Delta, A \wedge B \longrightarrow \Gamma} \wedge_{L2} \quad \frac{\Delta \longrightarrow \Gamma, A \quad \Delta \longrightarrow \Gamma, B}{\Delta \longrightarrow \Gamma, A \wedge B} \wedge_R$$

are specified as

$$\wedge_L : \exists A, B. ([A \wedge B]^\perp \otimes ([A] \oplus [B])) \quad \wedge_R : \exists A, B. ([A \wedge B]^\perp \otimes ([A] \& [B]))$$

The following definition shows how to encode HyLL inference rules into LL.

Definition 3 (HyLL rules into LL). *Let w , \mathbf{d} , \mathbf{h} and \mathbf{o} denote, respectively, the types for worlds, (first-order) objects, HyLL judgments and LL formulas. Let $[\cdot]$ and $[\cdot]$ be predicates of the type $\mathbf{h} \rightarrow \mathbf{o}$ and A, B, C have, respectively, types $w \rightarrow \mathbf{h}$, $\mathbf{d} \rightarrow \mathbf{h}$ and \mathbf{h} . The encoding of HyLL inference rules into LL is depicted in Figure 1 (we omit the encoding of most of the linear logic connectives that can be found in [16]).*

Observe that left and right inference rules for the hybrid connectives (at and \downarrow) are the same (see Section 2.2). This is reflected in the duality of the encoding where we only replace $[\cdot]$ with $[\cdot]$. Observe also that the inference rules for the quantifiers (first-order and worlds) look the same. The difference is on the type of the variables involved. Since A has type $w \rightarrow \mathbf{h}$, the encoding clause $\forall R(W)$ guarantees that the variable v has type w . Analogously, since B has type $\mathbf{d} \rightarrow \mathbf{h}$, then x has type \mathbf{d} in

the clause $\forall R(F)$. This neat way of controlling the behavior of objects by using types is also inherited by the encoding of the other object level inference rules.

The following theorem shows that, in fact, the encoding of HyLL into LL is adequate in the sense that a focused step in LL corresponds *exactly* to the application of one inference rule in HyLL (the details can be found in [12]).

Theorem 3 (Adequacy). *Let Υ be the set of clauses in Figure 1. The sequent $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash F@w$ is provable in HyLL iff $\vdash ?\Upsilon, ?[\Gamma], [\Delta], [F@w]$ is provable in LL. Moreover, the adequacy of the encodings is on the level of derivations meaning that, when focusing on a LL specification clause, the bipole derivation corresponds exactly to applying the introduction rule at the object level.*

3.2 HyLL and SELL

Linear logic allows for the specification of two kinds of context maintenance: both weakening and contraction are available (classical context) or neither is available (linear context). That is, when we encode (linear) judgments in HyLL belonging to different worlds, the resulting meta-level atomic formulas will be stored in the same (linear) LL context. The same happens with classical HyLL judgments and the classical LL context.

Although this is perfectly fine, encoding HyLL into $SELL^{\mathfrak{m}}$ allows for a better understanding of worlds in HyLL as we shall see. For that, we use subexponentials to represent worlds, having each world as a linear context. A HyLL judgment of the shape $F@w$ in the (left) linear context is encoded as the $SELL^{\mathfrak{m}}$ formula $?^w[F@w]$. Hence, HyLL judgments that hold at world w are stored at the w linear context of $SELL^{\mathfrak{m}}$. A judgment of the form $G@w$ in the classical HyLL context is encoded as the $SELL^{\mathfrak{m}}$ formula $?^c?^w[G@w]$. Then, the encoding of $G@w$ is stored in the unbounded (classical) subexponential context c (see Definition 4 below).

The next definition introduces the encoding of HyLL inference rules into $SELL^{\mathfrak{m}}$. Observe that, surprisingly, the subexponential structure needed is flat and it does not reflect the order on worlds. This is explained by the fact that worlds in HyLL do not control the context on rules as the promotion rule in SELL does. This also explains why HyLL does not add any expressive power to LL.

Definition 4. *Let $w, d, o, [\cdot], [\cdot], A, B, C$ be as in Definition 3 and \mathfrak{h} be the type for $SELL^{\mathfrak{m}}$ formulas. Given a HyLL constraint domain \mathcal{W} , consider a subexponential signature $\Sigma = \langle I, \preceq, U \rangle$ such that $I = \mathcal{W} \cup \{\infty, c\}$, $w \preceq \infty$ for any $w \in I$ and, for any $u, w \in \mathcal{W} \cup \{c\}$, $u \not\preceq w$. Moreover, $U = \{c, \infty\}$. The encoding of HyLL inference rules into $SELL^{\mathfrak{m}}$ is depicted in Figure 4 (we omit the encoding of the other connectives that follow similarly).*

Note that $w : \infty$ represents *any* subexponential in the ideal of ∞ . This means that, in $\Downarrow w : \infty.F$, the subexponential variable w could be substituted, in principle, by *any* element of I . But then, since world symbols are restricted to \mathcal{W} , substituting w by c or ∞ would not match any encoded formula in the context. That is, the proposed subexponential signature correctly specifies the role of worlds in HyLL.

The following theorem shows that our encoding is indeed adequate (the proof

$$\begin{aligned}
\otimes R & : \exists C, C'. \mathbb{U} w : \infty. (!^w [(C \otimes C')@w]^\perp \otimes ?^w [C@w] \otimes ?^w [C'@w]) \\
\text{at } R & : \exists A. \mathbb{U} u : \infty, w : \infty. (!^w [(A \text{ at } u)@w]^\perp \otimes ?^u [A@u]) \\
\text{at } L & : \exists A. \mathbb{U} u : \infty, w : \infty. (!^w [(A \text{ at } u)@w]^\perp \otimes ?^u [A@u]) \\
\downarrow R & : \exists A. \mathbb{U} u : \infty, w : \infty. (!^w [\downarrow u. A@w]^\perp \otimes ?^w [(A w)@w]) \\
\downarrow L & : \exists A. \mathbb{U} u : \infty, w : \infty. (!^w [\downarrow u. A@w]^\perp \otimes ?^w [(A w)@w]) \\
\forall R(F) & : \exists A, \mathbb{U} w : \infty. (!^w [\forall x. B@w]^\perp \otimes \forall x. ?^w [(B x)@w]) \\
\forall R(W) & : \exists A, \mathbb{U} w : \infty. (!^w [\forall v. A@w]^\perp \otimes \mathbb{M} v : \infty. ?^w [(A v)@w]) \\
!_L & : \exists C, \mathbb{U} w : \infty. (!^w [!C@w]^\perp \otimes ?^c ?^w [C@w])
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 2. HyLL rules into $\text{SELL}^{\mathbb{M}}$. (Definition 4)

can be found in [12]). It is worth noticing that, in a (focused) derivation proving $!^w F$, the only contexts that can be present are the w and the ∞ contexts due to the promotion rule and the ordering in Σ . Moreover, as explained above, the encoding does not store any formula into the context ∞ , that is, the proof of $!^w F$ must necessarily use only the formulas stored at w .

Theorem 4 (Adequacy). *Let Υ be the set of formulas resulting from the encoding in Definition 4. The sequent $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash F@w$ is provable in HyLL iff $\vdash ?^c \Upsilon, ?^c[\Gamma], [\Delta], ?^w[F@w]$ is provable in $\text{SELL}^{\mathbb{M}}$. Moreover, the adequacy of the encodings is on the level of derivations.*

3.3 Information Confinement

One of the features needed to specify spatial modalities is information *confinement*: a space/world can be inconsistent and this does not imply the inconsistency of the whole system. We finish this section by showing that information confinement cannot be specified in HyLL.

The authors in [18] exploit the combination of subexponentials of the form $!^w ?^w$ in order to specify information confinement in $\text{SELL}^{\mathbb{M}}$. More precisely, note that the sequents (in a 2-sided presentation of SELL) $!^w ?^w \mathbf{0} \vdash \mathbf{0}$ and $!^w ?^w \mathbf{0} \vdash !^v ?^v \mathbf{0}$, representing “inconsistency is not local” and “inconsistency is propagated” respectively, are *not* provable in SELL.

In HyLL, it is not possible to confine inconsistency. In fact, the rule $\mathbf{0}L$ [12] shows that *any* formula F in any world w is derivable from $\mathbf{0}$ appearing in any world u . Observe that even if we exchange the rule $\mathbf{0}L$ by

$$\frac{}{\Gamma; \Delta, \mathbf{0}@w \vdash F@w} \mathbf{0}L$$

the rule $\mathbf{0}L$ would still be admissible

$$\frac{\frac{}{\Gamma; \Delta, \mathbf{0}@w \vdash (\mathbf{0} \text{ at } v)@w} \mathbf{0}L \quad \frac{\frac{}{\Gamma; \Delta, \mathbf{0}@v \vdash F@v} \mathbf{0}L}{\Gamma; \Delta, (\mathbf{0} \text{ at } v)@w \vdash F@v} \text{at}_L}{\Gamma; \Delta, \mathbf{0}@w \vdash F@v} \text{cut}}$$

4 Computation Tree Logic (CTL) in Linear Logic.

Hybrid linear logic is expressive enough to encode some forms of modal operators, thus allowing for the specification of properties of transition systems. As mentioned in [15], it is possible to encode CTL temporal operators into HyLL considering existential (E) and bounded universal (A) path quantifiers. We show in this section the limitation of such encodings and how to fully capture E and A CTL quantifiers in linear logic with fixed points. For that, we shall use the system μMALL [3] that extends MALL (multiplicative, additive linear logic) with fixed point operators.

CTL connectives and path quantifiers

Let us recall the meaning of the temporal operators in CTL. X (Next) means “at the next state”. F (Future) means “in some future” while G (Globally) means “in all futures”. U (Until): $\varphi U \psi$ (φ until ψ) means “from now, φ will be true in every steps until some future point (possibly including now) where ψ holds (and from that point on, φ can be true or false)”.

The CTL quantifier E (Exists) means “for some path” while A (All) means “for all paths”. Formulas in CTL are built from propositional variables a, b, c, \dots , the usual propositional logic connectives and the temporal connectives preceded by a path quantifier:

$$F ::= p \mid F \wedge F \mid F \vee F \mid \mathbf{Q}XF \mid \mathbf{Q}FF \mid \mathbf{Q}GF \mid \mathbf{Q}[FUF] \quad \mathbf{Q} \in \{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{E}\} \quad (1)$$

where p is a state formula.

Transition Systems

Consider a set of propositional CTL variables $\mathbf{V} = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$. A state \mathbf{s} is a valuation from \mathbf{V} into the set $\{\mathbf{true}, \mathbf{false}\}$. We shall use $\mathbf{pres}(a_i)$ (resp. $\mathbf{abs}(a_i)$) to denote that $\mathbf{s}(a_i) = \mathbf{true}$ (resp. $\mathbf{s}(a_i) = \mathbf{false}$). Hence, a state \mathbf{s} on the set \mathbf{V} can be seen as a conjunction of the form $\mathbf{p}_1(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathbf{p}_n(a_n)$ where $\mathbf{p}_i \in \{\mathbf{pres}, \mathbf{abs}\}$.

We consider transition systems defined by states as above and transition rules of the form $r : \mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{s}'$. For instance, if $\mathbf{V} = \{a, b\}$, the transition rule $r : \mathbf{pres}(a) \wedge \mathbf{abs}(b) \rightarrow \mathbf{abs}(a) \wedge \mathbf{pres}(b)$ enables a transition from a state $\mathbf{s} = \{a \mapsto \mathbf{true}, b \mapsto \mathbf{false}\}$ to the state $\mathbf{s}' = \{a \mapsto \mathbf{false}, b \mapsto \mathbf{true}\}$. We shall use $\mathbf{s} \xrightarrow{r} \mathbf{s}'$ to denote such transitions.

4.1 Transition Systems and HyLL

In order to specify reachability properties in transition systems, some modal connectives can be defined in HyLL as shown in [11]:

$$\begin{aligned} \Box A &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \downarrow u. \forall w. (A \text{ at } u.w) & \Diamond A &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \downarrow u. \exists w. (A \text{ at } u.w) & \delta_v A &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \downarrow u. (A \text{ at } u.v) \\ A \cup B &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \downarrow u. \exists v. (B \text{ at } u.v \ \& \ \forall w \prec v. A \text{ at } u.w) \end{aligned}$$

$\Box A$ (resp. $\Diamond A$) represents all (resp. some) state(s) satisfying A and reachable in some path from now. The connective δ represents a form of delay: $\delta_v A$ stands for an *intermediate state* in a transition to A . Informally it can be thought to be “ v before A ”. AUB represents that A holds in all the steps until B holds.

We may use such modal operators in order to encode some features of transition systems as HyLL formulas as follows. Consider a set $\mathbf{V} = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ of propositional variables, let $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{p}_1(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \mathbf{p}_n(a_n)$ represent a state where $\mathbf{p}_i \in \{\mathbf{pres}, \mathbf{abs}\}$ and $r : \mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{s}'$ be a state transition. We define the encoding $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ from CTL states and state transitions to HyLL as

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \mathbf{pres}(a_i) \rrbracket &= \mathbf{pres}(a_i) & \llbracket \mathbf{abs}(a_i) \rrbracket &= \mathbf{abs}(a_i) \\ \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket &= \bigotimes_{i \in 1..n} \llbracket \mathbf{p}_i(a_i) \rrbracket & \llbracket r : \mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{s}' \rrbracket &= \forall w. ((\llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket \text{ at } w) \multimap \delta_1(\llbracket \mathbf{s}' \rrbracket) \text{ at } w) \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, let F, G be CTL formulas built from states and the connectives $\wedge, \vee, \mathbf{U}, \mathbf{EX}, \mathbf{EF}$. We can define $\mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket$ as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}\llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket &= \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket & \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \wedge G \rrbracket &= \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket \& \mathcal{C}\llbracket G \rrbracket \\ \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \vee G \rrbracket &= \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket \oplus \mathcal{C}\llbracket G \rrbracket & \mathcal{C}\llbracket \mathbf{E}[F \mathbf{U} G] \rrbracket &= \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket \mathbf{U} \mathcal{C}\llbracket G \rrbracket \\ \mathcal{C}\llbracket \mathbf{EX}F \rrbracket &= \delta_1 \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket & \mathcal{C}\llbracket \mathbf{EF}F \rrbracket &= \Diamond \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that such encodings are *faithful*, that is, a (CTL) formula F holds at state \mathbf{s} in the system defined by the transition rules \mathcal{R} if and only if the sequent $\llbracket \mathcal{R} \rrbracket @0; \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w \vdash \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket @w$ is provable in HyLL (the proof can be found in [12]). In fact, since the left linear context is always constituted by atoms, the only action that can be performed is to apply transition rules up to reaching the state to be proven, which is finitely reachable for this CTL’s limited grammar.

We observe that the above encodings cannot be extended to consider formulas of the shape $\mathbf{E}GF$. In fact, the natural choice would be $\mathcal{C}\llbracket \mathbf{E}GF \rrbracket = \Box \mathcal{C}\llbracket F \rrbracket$, but this encoding would not be adequate. Consider, for instance, a system with only one rule $\mathcal{R} = \{r : \mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{s}\}$ that loops on the same state. Clearly, in CTL, \mathbf{s} satisfies the formula $\mathbf{E}Gs$. However, in HyLL any derivation of $\llbracket \mathcal{R} \rrbracket; \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w \vdash \Box \mathcal{C}\llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w$ will necessarily have the form

$$\frac{\llbracket \mathcal{R} \rrbracket @0; \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w \vdash \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w.v}{\llbracket \mathcal{R} \rrbracket @0; \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w \vdash \Box \mathcal{C}\llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w} \downarrow_R, \forall_R, \mathbf{at}_R$$

where v is fresh. Observe that all that the rule r can do is to move \mathbf{s} from the world $w.k$ to $w.(k+1)$. Hence the left and right states in the sequent $\llbracket \mathcal{R} \rrbracket @0; \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w \vdash \llbracket \mathbf{s} \rrbracket @w.v$ will never match, and this sequent is not provable. Saying this in other way, the resources in the context are enough for proving the property for a (bounded) n but not for all natural numbers. For proving this, one needs (meta-level) induction which is the same as using fixed points. The next section shows how to do that with linear logic with fixed point operators.

4.2 Encoding E and A quantifiers in linear logic with fixed points

In order to prove (in CTL) the formula $AF F$ at state \mathbf{s} , we have to check that \mathbf{s} satisfies F . If this is not the case, we have to check that $AF F$ holds for all the successors of \mathbf{s} (i.e., for all \mathbf{s}' s.t. $\mathbf{s} \xrightarrow{r} \mathbf{s}'$). Hence, the definition of AF is recursive and it is usually characterized as a (least) fixed point.

One way to capture this behavior is by adding fixed point operators to HyLL. Even though this could be achieved, it is simpler to rely on already defined systems for linear logic with fixed points. In the following, we show that it is possible to characterize the CTL formulas built from the syntax (1) into the system μMALL [3] that adds to linear logic (without exponentials) least and greatest fixed points.

μMALL shares with linear logic all the proof rules for the additive and multiplicative connectives plus the following two rules⁵

$$\frac{\Sigma \vdash \Delta, S\mathbf{t} \quad \mathbf{x} \vdash B \ S\mathbf{x}, (S\mathbf{x})^\perp}{\Sigma \vdash \Delta, \nu B\mathbf{t}} \nu \quad \frac{\Sigma \vdash \Delta, B(\mu B)\mathbf{t}}{\Sigma \vdash \Delta, \mu B\mathbf{t}} \mu$$

where S is the (co)inductive invariant. The μ rule corresponds to unfolding while ν allows for (co)induction. Σ represents the (first-order) signature.

Path quantifiers as fixpoints

The interpretation of the CTL quantifiers as fixed points (see e.g., [5]) is

$$\begin{aligned} E F F &= \mu Y. F \vee E X Y & E G F &= \nu Y. F \wedge E X Y & E[F \cup G] &= \mu Y. G \vee (F \wedge E X Y) \\ A F F &= \mu Y. F \vee A X Y & A G F &= \nu Y. F \wedge A X Y & A[F \cup G] &= \mu Y. G \vee (F \wedge A X Y) \end{aligned}$$

In CTL, the considered transition system is assumed to be serial, i.e. every state has at least one successor. This means that, in every state, there is at least one firable rule. The interpretation of $E X F$ is that there exists a successor where F holds. On the other side, $A X F$ means that F must hold for all successor states.

Next definition shows how to encode CTL formulas into μMALL .

Definition 5 (CTL into μMALL). *Let \mathcal{R} be a set of transition rules. The encoding of $\mathbf{Q}X$, $\mathbf{Q}F$ and $\mathbf{Q}G$, for $\mathbf{Q} \in \{A, E\}$ is in Figure 3. Given a state $s = p_1(a_1) \wedge \dots \wedge p_n(a_n)$ (as in Section 4.1), we define*

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket pres(a_i) \rrbracket &= a_i & \llbracket abs(a_i) \rrbracket &= a_i^\perp & \llbracket p \rrbracket &= pos(p) \\ \llbracket s \rrbracket &= \llbracket p_1(a_1) \rrbracket^\perp \wp \dots \wp \llbracket p_n(a_n) \rrbracket^\perp \\ pos(s) &= \llbracket p_1(a_1) \rrbracket \otimes \dots \otimes \llbracket p_n(a_n) \rrbracket \\ neg(s) &= (\llbracket p_1(a_1) \rrbracket^\perp \otimes \top) \oplus \dots \oplus (\llbracket p_n(a_n) \rrbracket^\perp \otimes \top) \end{aligned}$$

⁵ μMALL also consider rules for equality and inequality but we do not need them in our developments.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{C}[\text{AXF}]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \bigotimes_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{neg}(s) \oplus (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp \phi))) \\
\mathcal{C}[\text{EXF}]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \bigoplus_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp \phi)) \\
\mathcal{C}[\text{AFF}]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \mu Y. \phi \oplus \bigotimes_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{neg}(s) \oplus (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp Y))) \\
\mathcal{C}[\text{EFF}]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \mu Y. \phi \oplus \bigoplus_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp Y)) \\
\mathcal{C}[\text{AGF}]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \nu Y. \phi \& \bigotimes_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{neg}(s) \oplus (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp Y))) \\
\mathcal{C}[\text{EGF}]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \nu Y. \phi \& \bigoplus_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp Y)) \\
\mathcal{C}[\text{A}[F \text{ U } G]]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \mu Y. \psi \oplus \left(\phi \& \bigotimes_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{neg}(s) \oplus (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp Y))) \right) \\
\mathcal{C}[\text{E}[F \text{ U } G]]_{\mathcal{R}} &= \mu Y. \psi \oplus \left(\phi \& \bigoplus_{s \rightarrow s' \in \mathcal{R}} (\text{pos}(s) \otimes (\llbracket s' \rrbracket \wp Y)) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 3. Encoding of CTL temporal operators into μMALL . $\phi = \mathcal{C}[F]_{\mathcal{R}}$ and $\psi = \mathcal{C}[G]_{\mathcal{R}}$.

where p is a state formula.⁶ Finally, we map the CTL connectives \wedge and \vee into $\&$ and \oplus , respectively.

Let us give some intuition. Consider the rule $r : s \rightarrow s'$. The formula $\text{pos}(s)$ (resp. $\text{neg}(s)$) tests if r can (resp. cannot) be fired at the current state.

The encoding of the temporal quantifiers relies on the following principles. For each transition rule, we test if the rule can be fired or not. If it can be fired, then the current state is transformed into the new state. The encoding of AXF (resp. EXF) test all (resp. one) of the fireable rules. This explains the use of \bigotimes (resp. \bigoplus).

Consider the temporal formula AFF . In this case, we check that F holds in the current state. If this is not the case, for each of the fireable rules, we prove $\text{pos}(s)$ from the current state $\llbracket s \rrbracket$, consume the formulas representing the state and then release $\llbracket s' \rrbracket$, thus updating the current state. For instance, consider the sequent $\vdash \llbracket s \rrbracket, \mathcal{C}[\text{AF}p]_{\mathcal{R}}$ and assume that the state formula p does not hold at s . If we decide to focus on $\mathcal{C}[\text{AF}p]_{\mathcal{R}}$ we obtain a derivation of the shape

$$\frac{\vdash \llbracket s \rrbracket, \text{neg}(s_1) \oplus (\text{pos}(s_1) \otimes (\llbracket s'_1 \rrbracket \wp \mu B)) \quad \dots \quad \vdash \llbracket s \rrbracket, \text{neg}(s_m) \oplus (\text{pos}(s_m) \otimes (\llbracket s'_m \rrbracket \wp \mu B))}{\vdash \llbracket s \rrbracket, \mu B} \mu, \oplus, \&$$

The premises correspond to proving if the rule r_i is fireable or not. If $r_i : s_i \rightarrow s'_i$ is fireable, we observe a derivation of the shape:

$$\frac{\frac{\vdash \llbracket s'_i \rrbracket, \mu B}{\vdash \llbracket s \rrbracket, \text{pos}(s_i) \otimes (\llbracket s'_i \rrbracket \wp \mu B)} \otimes, \wp}{\vdash \llbracket s \rrbracket, \text{neg}(s_i) \oplus (\text{pos}(s_i) \otimes (\llbracket s'_i \rrbracket \wp \mu B))} \oplus$$

⁶ It is useful to allow the state property to mention only a subset of the propositional variables in \mathbf{V} . In that case, we can define $\llbracket p_i(a_i) \rrbracket$ as above if a_i occurs in p and \top otherwise.

where \mathfrak{s} becomes \mathfrak{s}'_i and, from that state, μB must be proved.

Remark 1. *Instead of $\text{pos}(\mathfrak{s}) \otimes (\llbracket \mathfrak{s}' \rrbracket \wp B)$, which is equivalent to $\text{pos}(\mathfrak{s}) \otimes (\llbracket \mathfrak{s}' \rrbracket^\perp \multimap B)$, we could have written $\llbracket r \rrbracket \multimap B$, which reads closer to what we expect: “assuming that r is fired, then B holds”. Observe that the formulas $(L \multimap R) \multimap B$ and $L \otimes (R \multimap B)$ are not equivalent. In fact, the first formula is equivalent to $(L \otimes R^\perp) \wp B$ while the second is equivalent to $L \otimes (R^\perp \wp B)$. The first is stronger than the second in the sense that B can choose the branch (with L or R), while the second forces B to stick with R . Since the desired behavior is the second, offering an extra possibility is not good for proof search.*

Let $\mathfrak{s} \models_{CTL}^{\mathcal{R}} F$ denote that the (CTL) formula F holds at state \mathfrak{s} in the transition system defined by \mathcal{R} . The following adequacy result follows the same lines as the ones in the previous sections for the least fixed point cases (using unfolding). For the greatest fixed point, the result follows by (co)induction.

Theorem 5. *Let $V = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ be a set of propositional variables, \mathcal{R} be a set of transition rules on V and F be a CTL formula. Then, $\mathfrak{s} \models_{CTL}^{\mathcal{R}} F$ iff the sequent $\vdash \llbracket \mathfrak{s} \rrbracket, \mathcal{C} \llbracket F \rrbracket_{\mathcal{R}}$ is provable in μMALL .*

We conclude here by comparing our encodings and those in [15].

Our encodings assume that each rule “uses” all the variables (either present or absent). This greatly simplifies the encodings and the adequacy proofs. In [15], this restriction is not made. The rules are thus more compact there. However, if we were to consider the encodings in [15], the proofs of adequacy, straightforward in the present work, would be more involved. We believe that our restrictions on the use of variables are without loss of generality: if a rule does not use all the variables, we can preprocess the input and generate accordingly a set of rules satisfying our requirements.

A short remark about adding fixed points to HyLL and encoding of E, A. On one hand, encoded transition rules as theories (see, in Section 4.1, the formula $\llbracket \mathcal{R} \rrbracket$ stored in the classical context) allow the change of states whenever they are fireable. And, since CTL assumes that transition systems are serial, there is always a fireable rule available. On the other hand, fixed points must be applied in order to go through paths, checking properties on them. These two actions should be coordinated, otherwise one would lose adequacy in the encodings. More precisely, by focusing on $\llbracket \mathcal{R} \rrbracket$, we may “jump” a state without checking the needed property. Hence, the use of fixed points excludes the use of theories for encoding transition systems and we must internalize the transition rules in the definition of the path quantifiers (see Definition 5). This seems to be the accurate way of controlling the use of rules in CTL.

Finally, as far as the applications investigated in this work are concerned, the exponentials do not play a role in the presence of fixed points. That is, only the multiplicative/additive part of the logic would be enough.

5 Concluding Remarks and Future Work

We compared the expressiveness, as logical frameworks, of two extensions of linear logic (LL). We show that it is possible to encode the logical rules of HyLL into LL. In order to better analyze the meaning of worlds in HyLL, we show that a flat subexponential structure suffices to encode HyLL into SELL[Ⓜ]. We also show that information confinement cannot be specified in HyLL. Finally, with better insights about the meaning of HyLL’s words, we pushed forward previous attempts of using HyLL to encode Computational Tree Logic (CTL). We showed that only using meta-level induction (or fixed points inside the logic) is possible to faithfully encode CTL path quantifiers. We then propose encodings of CTL into MALL with fixpoint operators.

In related works, let us note that HLF [23], being a logic in the LF family, is based on natural deduction, has a complex notion of $(\beta\eta)$ normal form, and lacks a focused (necessarily sequent) system. Thus adequacy (of encodings of systems in HLF) results are often much harder to prove in HLF than in HyLL or in SELL. HLF seems to have been later abandoned in favour of Hybridized Intuitionistic Linear Logic (HILL) [6] - a type theory based on a subpart of HyLL.

While logical frameworks should be general enough for specifying and verifying properties of a large number of systems, some logical frameworks may be more suitable for dealing with specific applications than others. Hence, it makes little sense to search for the “universal logical framework”. However, it is often salutary to establish connections between frameworks, specially when they are meant to reason about the same set of systems.

In this context, both HyLL and SELL have been used for formalizing and analyzing biological systems [15, 20]. This work indicates that SELL is a broader framework for handling such systems, since it can encode HyLL’s rules naturally and directly. However, the simplicity of HyLL may be of interest for specific purposes, such as building tools for diagnosis in biomedicine. And we can use the encoding of HyLL into LL in order to perform automatic proofs of properties of systems encoded in HyLL, for example.

Formal proofs in HyLL were implemented in [15], in the Coq [4] proof assistant. It would be interesting to extend the implementations of HyLL given there to SELL. Such an interactive proof environment would enable both formal studies of encoded systems in SELL and formal meta-theoretical study of SELL itself.

We may pursue the goal of using HyLL/SELL for further applications. That might include neuroscience, a young and promising science where many hypotheses are provided and need to be verified. Indeed, logic is a general tool whose area of potential applications are not restricted per se. This is in contrast to most of the other approaches, which are valid only in a restricted area.

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