

PROOF THEORY AND MEANING

Greg Restall · <http://consequently.org>



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Outline

Scene Setting

Propositional Logic

Quantification

Mathematics

Modality

SCENE SETTING

A compelling idea ...



$\&-I$ $\frac{\mathcal{A} \quad \mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B}}$	$\&-E$ $\frac{\mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B} \quad \mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{A} \quad \mathcal{B}}$	$\vee-I$ $\frac{\mathcal{A} \quad \mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{A} \vee \mathcal{B} \quad \mathcal{A} \vee \mathcal{B}}$	$\vee-E$ $\frac{\mathcal{A} \vee \mathcal{B} \quad \mathcal{C} \quad \mathcal{C}}{\mathcal{C}}$
$\forall-I$ $\frac{\mathcal{C}a}{\forall x \mathcal{C}x}$	$\forall-E$ $\frac{\forall x \mathcal{C}x \quad \mathcal{C}a}{\mathcal{C}a}$	$\exists-I$ $\frac{\mathcal{C}a}{\exists x \mathcal{C}x}$	$\exists-E$ $\frac{\exists x \mathcal{C}x \quad \mathcal{C} \quad \mathcal{C}}{\mathcal{C}}$
$\supset-I$ $\frac{[\mathcal{A}] \quad \mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{A} \supset \mathcal{B}}$	$\supset-E$ $\frac{\mathcal{A} \quad \mathcal{A} \supset \mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{B}}$	$\neg-I$ $\frac{[\mathcal{A}] \quad \wedge}{\neg \mathcal{A}}$	$\neg-E$ $\frac{\mathcal{A} \quad \neg \mathcal{A} \quad \wedge}{\wedge} \quad \frac{\wedge}{\mathcal{D}}$

Gerhard Gentzen: "Untersuchungen über das logische Schliessen" *Math. Zeitschrift* 1934

Inference rules *define* connectives

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You don't need to give *truth conditions*,
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These rules tie *meaning* to *use*.

But ... does it work?

But ... does it work?



38

ANALYSIS

THE RUNABOUT INFERENCE-TICKET

By A. N. PRIOR

IT is sometimes alleged that there are inferences whose validity arises solely from the meanings of certain expressions occurring in them. The precise technicalities employed are not important, but let us say that such inferences, if any such there be, are analytically valid.

One sort of inference which is sometimes said to be in this sense analytically valid is the passage from a conjunction to either of its conjuncts, e.g., the inference 'Grass is green and the sky is blue, therefore grass is green'. The validity of this inference is said to arise solely from the meaning of the word 'and'. For if we are asked what is the meaning of the word 'and', at least in the purely conjunctive sense (as opposed to, e.g., its colloquial use to mean 'and then'), the answer is said to be *completely* given by saying that (i) from any pair of statements P and Q we can infer the statement formed by joining P to Q by 'and' (which statement we hereafter describe as 'the statement P-and-Q'), that (ii) from any conjunctive statement P-and-Q we can infer P, and (iii) from P-and-Q we can always infer Q. Anyone who has learnt to perform these inferences knows the meaning of 'and', for there is simply nothing more *to* knowing the meaning of 'and' than being able to perform these inferences.

A doubt might be raised as to whether it is really the case that, for any pair of statements P and Q, there is always a statement R such that given P and given Q we can infer R, and given R we can infer P and can also infer Q. But on the view we are considering such a doubt is quite misplaced, once we have introduced a word, say the word 'and', precisely in order to form a statement R with these properties from any pair of statements P and Q. The doubt reflects the old superstitious view that an expression must have some independently determined meaning before we can discover whether inferences involving it are valid or invalid. With analytically valid inferences this just isn't so.

I hope the conception of an analytically valid inference is now at least as clear to my readers as it is to myself. If not, further illumination is obtainable from Professor Popper's paper on 'Logic without Assumptions' in *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society for 1946-7*, and from Professor Kneale's contribution to *Contemporary British Philosophy*, Volume III. I have also been much helped in my understanding of the notion by some lectures of Mr. Strawson's and some notes of Mr. Hare's.

I want now to draw attention to a point not generally noticed, namely that in this sense of 'analytically valid' any statement whatever may be

But ... does it work?

$$\frac{A}{A \text{ tonk } B} [\text{tonk}I] \qquad \frac{A \text{ tonk } B}{B} [\text{tonk}E]$$

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$$\frac{A}{A \text{ tonk } B} [\text{tonk}I] \qquad \frac{A \text{ tonk } B}{B} [\text{tonk}E]$$

$$\frac{\frac{p}{p \text{ tonk } q} [\text{tonk}I]}{q} [\text{tonk}E]$$

It would be *bad* to have tonk in your language.

But ... does it work?



130

ANALYSIS

TONK, PLONK AND PLINK¹

By NUEL D. BELNAP

A N. PRIOR has recently discussed² the connective *tonk*, where *A tonk B* is defined by specifying the role it plays in inference. Prior characterizes the role of *tonk* in inference by describing how it behaves as conclusion, and as premiss: (1) $A \vdash A \text{ tonk } B$, and (2) $A \text{ tonk } B \vdash B$ (where we have used the sign " \vdash " for deductibility). We are then led by the transitivity of deductibility to the validity of $A \vdash B$,³ which promises to banish *falsche Spitzfindigkeiten* from Logic for ever.⁴

A possible moral to be drawn is that connectives cannot be defined in terms of deductibility at all; that, for instance, it is illegitimate to define *and* as that connective such that (1) $A \text{ and } B \vdash A$, (2) $A \text{ and } B \vdash B$, and (3) $A, B \vdash A \text{ and } B$. We must first, so the moral goes, have a notion of what *and* means, independently of the role it plays as premiss and as conclusion. Truth-tables are one way of specifying this antecedent meaning; this seems to be the moral drawn by J. T. Stevenson.⁵ There are good reasons, however, for defending the legitimacy of defining connections in terms of the roles they play in deductions.

It seems plain that throughout the whole texture of philosophy one can distinguish two modes of explanation: the analytic mode, which tends to explain wholes in terms of parts, and the synthetic mode, which explains parts in terms of the wholes or contexts in which they occur.⁶ In logic, the analytic mode would be represented by Aristotle, who commences with terms as the ultimate atoms, explains propositions or judgments by means of these, syllogisms by means of the propositions which go to make them up, and finally ends with the notion of a science as a tissue of syllogisms. The analytic mode is also represented by the contemporary logician who first explains the meaning of complex sentences, by means of truth-tables, as a function of their parts, and then proceeds to give an account of correct inference in terms of the sentences occurring therein. The *slow classism* of the application of the synthetic mode is, I suppose, Plato's treatment of justice in the *Republic*, where he defines the just man by reference to the larger context of the community. Among formal logicians, use of the synthetic mode in logic is illustrated by Kneale and Popper (cited by Prior), as well as by Jaskowski, Gentzen, Fitch, and Curry, all of these treating the meaning of connectives as

¹ This research was supported in part by the Office of Naval Research, Group Psychology Branch, Contract No. S49(000-60936).

² "The Bombast Inference-ticker", *ANALYSIS* 21.2, December 1960.

³ "Roundabout the Bombast Inference-ticker", *ANALYSIS* 21.6, June 1961, Cf. p. 127.

⁴ "The important difference between the theory of analytic validity (Prior's phrase for what is here called the synthetic view) is that it should be stated and as Prior stated it lies in the fact that he gives the meaning of connectives in terms of permissive rules, whereas they should be stated in terms of truth-function statements in a meta-language."

⁵ "I learned this way of looking at the matter from R. S. Brumbaugh."

Nuel Belnap: "Tonk, Plonk and Plink" *Analysis* 1962

But ... does it work?

It seems to me that the key to a solution² lies in observing that even on the synthetic view, we are not defining our connectives *ab initio*, but rather in terms of an *antecedently given context of deducibility*, concerning which we have some definite notions. By that I mean that before arriving at the problem of characterizing connectives, we have already made some assumptions about the nature of deducibility. That this is so can be seen immediately by observing Prior's use of the transitivity of deducibility in order to secure his ingenious result. But if we note that we already *have* some assumptions about the context of deducibility within which we are operating, it becomes apparent that by a too careless use of definitions, it is possible to create a situation in which we are forced to say things inconsistent with those assumptions.

Nuel Belnap: "Tonk, Plonk and Plink" *Analysis* 1962

But ... does it work?



(1) We consider some characterization of deducibility, which may be treated as a formal system, *i.e.*, as a set of axioms and rules involving the sign of deducibility, ' \vdash ', where ' $A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B$ ' is read ' B is deducible from A_1, \dots, A_n '. For definiteness, we shall choose as our characterization the structural rules of Gentzen:

Axiom. $A \vdash A$

Rules. *Weakening:* from $A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash C$ to infer $A_1, \dots, A_n, B \vdash C$
Permutation: from $A_1, \dots, A_i, A_{i+1}, \dots, A_n \vdash B$ to infer $A_1, \dots, A_{i+1}, A_i, \dots, A_n \vdash B$.
Contraction: from $A_1, \dots, A_n, A_n \vdash B$ to infer $A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B$
Transitivity: from $A_1, \dots, A_m \vdash B$ and $C_1, \dots, C_n, B \vdash D$ to infer $A_1, \dots, A_m, C_1, \dots, C_n \vdash D$.

In accordance with the opinions of experts (or even perhaps on more substantial grounds) we may take this little system as expressing all and only the universally valid statements and rules expressible in the given notation: it completely determines the context.

(2) We may consider the proposed definition of some connective, say *plonk*, as an *extension* of the formal system characterizing deducibility, and an extension in two senses. (a) The notion of sentence is extended by introducing A -*plonk*- B as a sentence, whenever A and B are sentences. (b) We add some axioms or rules governing A -*plonk*- B as occurring as one of the premisses or as conclusion of a deducibility-statement. These axioms or rules constitute our definition of *plonk* in terms of the role it plays in inference.

(3) We may now state the demand for the consistency of the definition of the new connective, *plonk*, as follows: the extension must be *conservative*¹; *i.e.*, although the extension may well have new deducibility-statements, these new statements will all involve *plonk*. The extension will not have any new deducibility-statements which do not involve *plonk* itself. It will not lead to any deducibility-statement $A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B$ not containing *plonk*, unless that statement is already provable in the absence of the *plonk*-axioms and *plonk*-rules. The justification for unpacking the demand for consistency in terms of conservativeness is precisely our antecedent assumption that we already had *all* the universally valid deducibility-statements not involving any special connectives.

Nuel Belnap: "Tonk, Plonk and Plink" *Analysis* 1962

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How far can we go, keeping *existence* and *uniqueness*?

PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC

A tonk connective doesn't pass the 'existence' test for most accounts of logical consequence.

However it's a bit *complicated* ...

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ROY T. COOK

WHAT'S WRONG WITH TONK(?)

1. TONK AND LOGIC

In “The Runabout Inference Ticket” A. N. Prior (1960) examines the idea that logical connectives can be given a meaning solely in virtue of the stipulation of a set of rules governing them, and thus that logical truth/consequence can be explicated in terms of the meanings (so understood) of the logical connectives involved. He proposes a counterexample to such a view, his notorious binary connective *tonk* (which I will symbolize as \otimes), whose meaning is given by the following introduction and elimination rules:

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HEINRICH WANSING

CONNECTIVES STRANGER THAN TONK

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ABSTRACT. Many logical systems are such that the addition of Prior's binary connective *tonk* to them leads to triviality, see [1, 8]. Since *tonk* is given by some introduction and elimination rules in natural deduction or sequent rules in Gentzen's sequent calculus, the unwanted effects of adding *tonk* show that some kind of restriction has to be imposed on the acceptable operational inferences rules, in particular if these rules are regarded as definitions of the operations concerned. In this paper, a number of simple observations is made showing that the unwanted phenomenon exemplified by *tonk* in some logics also occurs in contexts in which *tonk* is acceptable. In fact, in any non-trivial context, the acceptance of arbitrary introduction rules for logical operations permits operations leading to triviality. Connectives that in all non-trivial contexts lead to triviality will be called *non-trivially trivializing connectives*.

A tonk connective doesn't pass the 'existence' test for most accounts of logical consequence.

The traditional connectives fare somewhat better.

But not *quite* as well as you might think ...

Suppose that in the vocabulary p, q, \dots the *only* proofs are identities.

A [Id]

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Suppose that in the vocabulary p, q, \dots the *only* proofs are identities. Now add Gentzen's *conjunction*.

$$A \quad [Id] \qquad \frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} \quad [\wedge I] \qquad \frac{A \wedge B}{A} \quad [\wedge E_l] \qquad \frac{A \wedge B}{B} \quad [\wedge E_r]$$

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 \end{array}$$

Now we have a proof from p and q to p .

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We didn't have one before. The addition is non-conservative.

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- ▶ Accept primitive *weakening* proofs, like this:
$$\frac{p \quad q}{p} [K]$$
- ▶ Reject weakening as *invalid*, and hence reject $[\wedge I]$ or $[\wedge E]$.
- ▶ Put up with the mismatch between *validity* (the argument from p , q to p is *valid*) and *proofs* (there is no proof from p , q to p) in the basic language.

This means *paying attention* to the context of deducibility.

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Let's look at some of the assumptions we've been making.

Choice of proof structure

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{q \vee r} [\wedge E]}{\frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{p} [\wedge E]} [q] [\wedge I]}{\frac{p \wedge q}{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)} [\vee I]} [\vee E]}{\frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{p \wedge r} [\wedge E]} [r] [\wedge I]}{\frac{p \wedge q}{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)} [\vee I]} [\vee E]} \frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)} [\vee E]$$

Gentzen proofs have **premises** and a **conclusion**.

Choice of proof structure

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{q \vee r} [\wedge E] \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{p} [\wedge E] \quad [q]}{p \wedge q} [\wedge I] \quad (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)}{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)} [\vee I] \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{p} [\wedge E] \quad [r]}{p \wedge r} [\wedge I] \quad (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)}{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)} [\vee I] \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{p \wedge (q \vee r)}{q \vee r} [\wedge E] \quad \frac{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)}{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)} [\vee E]}{(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)}
 \end{array}$$

Gentzen proofs have **premises** and a **conclusion**.

Choice of proof structure

	1	(1)	$p \wedge (q \vee r)$	A
	1	(2)	p	1, $\wedge E$
	1	(3)	$q \vee r$	1, $\wedge E$
	4	(4)	q	A
	5	(5)	r	A
	1,4	(6)	$p \wedge q$	2,4, $\wedge I$
	1,4	(7)	$(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$	6, $\vee I$
	1,5	(8)	$p \wedge r$	2,5, $\wedge I$
	1, 5	(9)	$(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$	8, $\vee I$
	1	(10)	$(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$	3,4,5,7,9, $\vee E$

So do Lemmon proofs.

Choice of proof structure

1	$p \wedge (q \vee r)$	A
2	p	1, $\wedge E$
3	$q \vee r$	1, $\wedge E$
4	q	A
5	$p \wedge q$	2, 5, $\wedge I$
6	$(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$	5, $\vee I$
7	r	A
8	$p \wedge r$	2, 7, $\wedge I$
9	$(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$	8, $\vee I$
10	$(p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$	3, 4-6, 7-9, $\vee E$

And so do Fitch proofs.

These proofs match *sequents* with premises and a conclusion

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$$A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B$$

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The natural rules for the conditional in this context are *incomplete* for classical logic.

$$\frac{X, A \vdash B}{X \vdash A \supset B} [\supset R]$$

$$\frac{X \vdash A \quad Y, B \vdash C}{X, Y, A \supset B \vdash C} [\supset L]$$

These proofs match *sequents* with premises and a conclusion

$$A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B_1, \dots, B_m$$

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$$\frac{X, A \vdash B, Y}{X \vdash A \supset B, Y} [\supset R]$$

$$\frac{X \vdash A, W \quad Y, B \vdash Z}{X, Y, A \supset B \vdash Z, W} [\supset L]$$

But if we allow **conclusions**, the rules become complete for classical logic.

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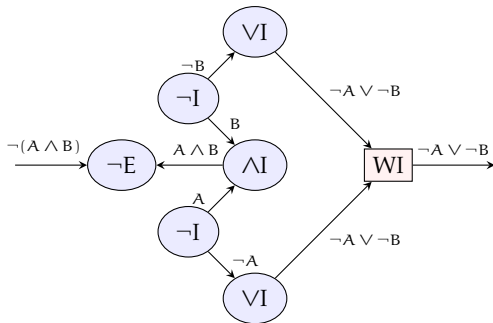
But if we allow *conclusions*, the rules become complete for classical logic.

Are there any *proofs* that look like *that*?

Proofs with *restart* do. $\frac{A}{B}$ [*restart*]

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{[p]^1}{p \vee (q \supset p)} [VI] \\
 \frac{\quad}{p \vee (q \supset p)} [restart] \\
 \frac{q}{p \supset q} [\supset I^1] \\
 \frac{\quad}{p \vee (p \supset q)} [VI]
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{p \vdash p}{p \vdash p \vee (p \supset q)} [VR] \\
 \frac{\quad}{p \vdash p \vee (p \supset q), q} [KR] \\
 \frac{\quad}{\vdash p \vee (p \supset q), p \supset q} [\supset R] \\
 \frac{\quad}{\vdash p \vee (p \supset q), p \vee (p \supset q)} [VR] \\
 \frac{\quad}{\vdash p \vee (p \supset q)} [WR]
 \end{array}$$

And so do circuits.



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{A \vdash A}{\vdash A, \neg A} \quad \frac{A \vdash A}{\vdash B, \neg B} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A, \neg A \vee \neg B \quad \vdash B, \neg A \vee \neg B \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \wedge B, \neg A \vee \neg B, \neg A \vee \neg B \\
 \hline
 \neg(A \wedge B) \vdash \neg A \vee \neg B, \neg A \vee \neg B \\
 \hline
 \neg(A \wedge B) \vdash \neg A \vee \neg B
 \end{array}$$

Different *contexts of deducibility* motivate different logics.

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- ▶ Multiple conclusions? **Classical logic.**

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So how do we pick?

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- ▶ Two uses differs from one? **linear or other contraction-free logics.**
- ▶ Single conclusions? **Intuitionistic logic.**
- ▶ Multiple conclusions? **Classical logic.**

So how do we pick?

It depends, of course, on what a proof is *for*.

Multiple Conclusions

Greg Restall*

Philosophy Department, The University of Melbourne
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Abstract. I argue for the following four theses. (1) Denial is not to be analysed as the assertion of a negation. (2) Given the concepts of assertion and denial, we have the resources to analyse logical consequence as relating arguments with *multiple* premises and *multiple* conclusions. Gentzen, Gerhard's multiple conclusion calculus can be understood in a straightforward, motivated, non-question-begging way. (3) If a broadly anti-realist or inferentialist justification of a logical system works, it works just as well for *classical* logic as it does for *intuitionistic* logic. The special case for an anti-realist justification of intuitionistic logic over and above a justification of classical logic relies on an unjustified assumption about the shape of proofs. Finally, (4) this picture of logical consequence provides a relatively neutral shared vocabulary which can help us understand and adjudicate debates between proponents of classical and non-classical logics.

LMPS, Oviedo, 2003

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- ▶ A proof from X to A rules out the (assertion of the X s and denial of A).
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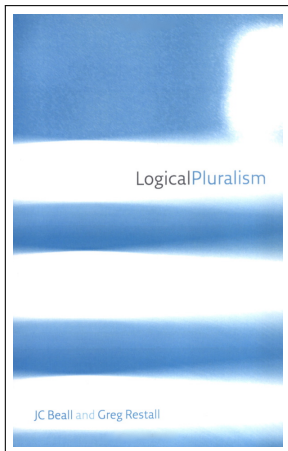
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- ▶ This works *just* as well with multiple conclusions: a proof from X to Y rules out the (assertion of the X s and denial of the Y s).
- ▶ Proofs provide normative statuses of combinations of assertions and denials.

Of course, there are others

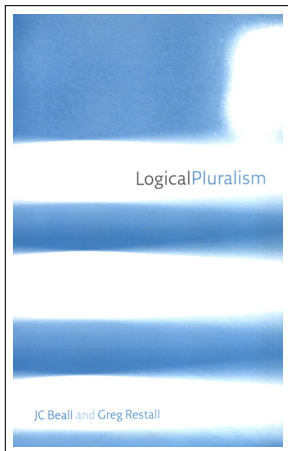


LogicalPluralism

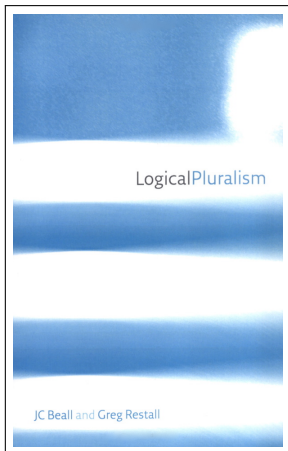
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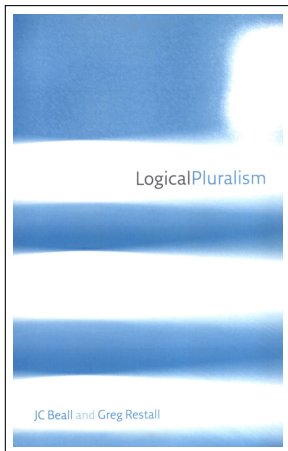
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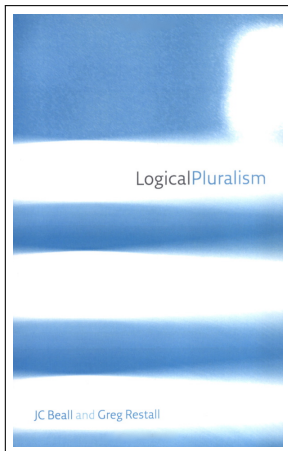
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- ▶ Proofs as *functions* converting warrants for premises into warrant for a conclusion? *Intuitionistic logic*.
- ▶ Proofs keeping track of *use*? *Relevant logic*.
- ▶ Different contexts of deducibility track different normative statuses. There is no need to choose *one* as the **WHOLE STORY**.

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- ▶ **UNIQUENESS:** do they *define*, or merely *describe*?
 - This is supplied by a simple argument for each rule:

Suppose we have *two* conjunctions \wedge and $\&$, both satisfying the usual rules.

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We have the following proofs

$$\frac{\frac{A \ \& \ B}{A} \ [\&E] \quad \frac{A \ \& \ B}{B} \ [\&E]}{A \ \wedge \ B} \ [\wedge I] \qquad \frac{\frac{A \ \wedge \ B}{A} \ [\wedge E] \quad \frac{A \ \wedge \ B}{B} \ [\wedge E]}{A \ \& \ B} \ [\&I]$$

So \wedge is interchangeable with $\&$ as a premise or a conclusion in any argument. They are *equivalent*.

$$\&-IS: \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \Theta, \mathcal{A} \quad \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta, \mathcal{B}}{\Gamma \rightarrow \Theta, \mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B}},$$

$$\&-IA: \frac{\mathcal{A}, \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta}{\mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B}, \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta} \quad \frac{\mathcal{B}, \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta}{\mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B}, \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta},$$

$$\vee-IA: \frac{\mathcal{A}, \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta \quad \mathcal{B}, \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta}{\mathcal{A} \vee \mathcal{B}, \Gamma \rightarrow \Theta},$$

$$\vee-IS: \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \Theta, \mathcal{A}}{\Gamma \rightarrow \Theta, \mathcal{A} \vee \mathcal{B}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \Theta, \mathcal{B}}{\Gamma \rightarrow \Theta, \mathcal{A} \vee \mathcal{B}},$$

Gentzen's rules for classical propositional connectives satisfy existence and uniqueness in this context of deducibility.

QUANTIFICATION

$$\frac{(\forall x)A(x)}{A(t)} [\forall E]$$

$$\frac{A(c)}{(\forall x)A(x)} [\forall I]$$

These rules seem straightforward,

$$\frac{(\forall x)A(x)}{A(t)} [\forall E] \text{ (for any term } t)$$

$$\frac{A(c)}{(\forall x)A(x)} [\forall I] \text{ (for any constant } c \text{ not in the premises)}$$

These rules seem straightforward, but things are subtle.

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Remember: multi-sorted predicate logic.

Existence (conservative extension)

The usual cut-elimination or normalisation process can show that proofs with the universal quantifier conservatively extend proofs without it.

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$$\begin{array}{c}
 X \\
 \vdots \\
 \pi \\
 \vdots \\
 A(c) \\
 \hline
 (\forall x)A(x) \quad [VI] \\
 \hline
 A(t) \quad [VE]
 \end{array}$$

The usual cut-elimination or normalisation process can show that proofs with the universal quantifier conservatively extend proofs without it.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\begin{array}{c} X \\ \vdots \\ \pi \\ A(c) \end{array}}{(\forall x)A(x)} [VI]}{A(t)} [VE]}{A(t)} \implies \frac{\begin{array}{c} X \\ \vdots \\ \pi_{[c \mapsto t]} \\ A(t) \end{array}}{A(t)}$$

The result π_t^c is a proof from the same premises since

- ▶ The constant c does not appear in X , premises of π .
- ▶ Any rule is closed under the substitution of terms for constants.

Unique Definition (equivalence)?

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But uniqueness can *fail*.

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But uniqueness can *fail*.

We can have *two* disjoint categories of terms, two sets of quantifiers — two-sorted first-order logic.

However, if the two quantifiers are defined using the *same* class of terms, and the *same* notion of substitution, then uniqueness follows:

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This analysis of the vocabulary is part of the [context of deducibility](#).

As for names, so for predicates?

Normalisation for the universal quantifier appealed to a closure property concerning the constant c .

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$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\begin{array}{c} X \\ \vdots \\ \pi \\ A(c) \end{array}}{(\forall x)A(x)} [\forall I]}{A(t)} [\forall E]}{A(t)}$$
$$\Longrightarrow \frac{\begin{array}{c} X \\ \vdots \\ \pi_{[c \mapsto t]} \\ A(t) \end{array}}$$

In any inference c be everywhere replaced by t .

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Do *predicates* satisfy this condition?

In the rules for first-order logic, no predicates (except for identity) are singled out for special treatment.

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In the general case we want either:

- ▶ Rules to be closed under substitution of predicates.
- ▶ A special class of predicates (predicate 'variables') that satisfy this closure condition.



Identity and harmony

STEPHEN READ

1. Harmony

The inferentialist account of logic says that the meaning of a logical operator is given by the rules for its application. Prior (1960–61) showed that a simple and straightforward interpretation of this account of logicality reduces to absurdity. For if 'tonk' has the meaning given by the rules Prior proposed for it, contradiction follows. Accordingly, a more subtle interpretation of inferentialism is needed. Such a proposal was put forward initially by Gentzen (1934) and elaborated by, e.g., Prawitz (1977). The meaning of a logical expression is given by the rules for the assertion of statements containing that expression (as designated component); these are its introduction-rules. The meaning so given justifies further rules for drawing inferences from such assertions; these are its elimination-rules:

The introductions represent, as it were, the 'definitions' of the symbols concerned, and the eliminations are no more, in the final analysis, than the consequence of these definitions. (Gentzen 1934: 80)

For example, if the only ground for assertion of 'p tonk q' is given by Prior's rule:

$$\frac{p}{p \text{ tonk } q} \text{ tonk I}$$

then Prior mis-stated the elimination-rule. It should read

$$\frac{(p) \quad p \text{ tonk } q \quad r}{r} \text{ tonk E}$$

that is, given 'p tonk q', and a derivation of r from p (the ground for asserting 'p tonk q'), we can infer r, discharging the assumption p. We can state the rule more simply as follows:

$$\frac{q \text{ tonk } q}{p}$$

For if we may infer whatever, r, we can infer from p, we can infer p and then proceed to infer r, that is, what we can infer from p. Prior's mistake was to give a rule

ANALYSIS 64.2, April 2004, pp. 115–19. © Stephen Read

Stephen Read: "Identity and Harmony" *Analysis* 2004

Defining Identity

$$\frac{a = b \quad C(a)}{C(b)} [=E]$$
$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} [Fa] \\ \vdots \\ \pi \\ \vdots \\ Fb \end{array}}{a = b} [=I] \quad (F \text{ not in the other premises of } \pi)$$

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(Replacing the F with C in π yields a proof from the same premises.)

We have variables – why not *quantify*?

$$\frac{(\forall X)A(X)}{A(C)} \quad [\forall^2 E] \qquad \frac{A(F)}{(\forall X)A(X)} \quad [\forall^2 I] \quad (F \text{ not in the premises of the proof of } A)$$

X is a bound predicate variable of the same arity as the variable F and context C.

Example

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{(\forall X)(Xb \supset Xa)}{b = b \supset a = b} [\forall^2 E] \quad \frac{[Fb]^1}{b = b} [=I^1] \\
 \hline
 \frac{a = b \quad [Fa]^2}{Fb} [\supset E] \\
 \hline
 \frac{Fb}{Fa \supset Fb} [\supset I^2] \\
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(In the $[\forall^2 E]$ step, Xy is instantiated to $y = b$.)

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This is second order logic. In multiple conclusion consequence, it's *classical* second order logic.

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By Belnap's criteria (in this context of deducibility) second order quantification is properly logical.

None of this requires appealing to sets
as semantic values for predicate variables.

If the axiom of choice is true, then in every (standard) model of second-order logic, it holds:

$$(\forall X)((\forall x)(\exists y)Xxy \supset (\exists f)(\forall x)Xxf(x))$$

(We can define function quantification in terms of predicate quantification or give separate rules, if you prefer.)

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However, it has no proof, so far, at least.

Take a model of ZF without choice, and define a model for second order quantification “internally” in *that* model. This is closed under each of our inference rules, but choice fails.

MATHEMATICS

Proving Choice

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Both are problematic.

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But how do we define ϵ ? We want rules like these:

$$\frac{F(a)}{F(\epsilon x Fx)} \quad [\epsilon I] \qquad \frac{\begin{array}{c} [Fc] \\ \vdots \\ \pi \\ \dot{C} \end{array}}{C} \quad [\epsilon E] \qquad \text{(c occurs in no other premise in } \pi \text{.)}$$

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These rules *don't* define ϵ uniquely.

Given a model with two different choice functions f and f' for every nonempty extension, the indefinite descriptions ϵ and ϵ' would both satisfy these rules, yet be inequivalent.

One could *define* ϵxFx as the *first* object satisfying F .

Provided, of course, that you had a well-ordering lying around to help get things in line.

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Like $(\exists x)(\exists y)x \neq y$.

MODALITY

\Box and \Diamond seem *semi-logical*.

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In a Kripke model, \Box and \Diamond , depend on an *accessibility* relation,

\Box and \Diamond seem *semi-logical*.

In a Kripke model, \Box and \Diamond , depend on an *accessibility* relation, and a model can have more than one.

You might think that we would have severe troubles with uniqueness.

How **not** to do it

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \Box A \vdash \Delta} [\Box L]$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Box A, \Delta} [\Box R] \quad (\Gamma \text{ and } \Delta \text{ are modalised})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \Box A \vdash \Delta} [\Box L] \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Box A, \Delta} [\Box R] \quad (\Gamma \text{ and } \Delta \text{ are modalised})$$

These *describe*, but do not *define*.

We don't have uniqueness.

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I've used this *stratification* to give a proof theory for the modal logic $S5$.

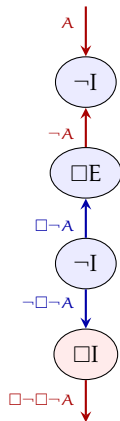
Sequent Rules

$$\frac{X, A \vdash Y \mid \Delta}{\Box A \vdash \mid X \vdash Y \mid \Delta} [\Box L] \qquad \frac{\vdash A \mid \Delta}{\vdash \Box A \mid \Delta} [\Box R]$$

Example

To each modal proofnet we may associate a sequent derivation.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{A \vdash A}{A, \neg A \vdash} L\neg \\
 \frac{\quad}{A \vdash \mid \Box \neg A \vdash} L\Box \\
 \frac{\quad}{A \vdash \mid \vdash \neg \Box \neg A} R\neg \\
 \frac{\quad}{A \vdash \mid \vdash \Box \neg \Box \neg A} R\Box \\
 \frac{\quad}{A \vdash \Box \neg \Box \neg A} \text{merge}
 \end{array}$$



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$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{A \vdash A}{\Box' A \vdash | \vdash A} [\Box' L] \\
 \frac{\Box' A \vdash | \vdash A}{\Box' A \vdash | \vdash \Box A} [\Box R] \\
 \frac{\Box' A \vdash | \vdash \Box A}{\Box' A \vdash \Box A} [merge]
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{A \vdash A}{\Box A \vdash | \vdash A} [\Box L] \\
 \frac{\Box A \vdash | \vdash A}{\Box A \vdash | \vdash \Box' A} [\Box' R] \\
 \frac{\Box A \vdash | \vdash \Box' A}{\Box A \vdash \Box' A} [merge]
 \end{array}$$

And more ...

- ▶ **Actuality:** $@A$ is asserting A in the *actual* zone.

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- ▶ **2D Modal logic:** Two kinds of zone shift.

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We have explained the *use* of necessity talk without appealing to possible worlds.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!