

# 3 Problem-solving processes

3.1 Aim and introductory remarks

3.2 Problem-solving processes: first elements

3.3 An example

3.4 The rules and the permissions and obligations

3.5 Answerable questions

3.6 Variants, extensions and comments

## 3.1 Aim and introductory remarks



*backbone* of formal approach to problem solving

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- aim: *explication* of problem solving processes (psps)

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*adaptive logics*: control by conditions and marking definition  
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- + devise new empirical means: future research  
(seems within reach)
- + model-based reasoning, ...: future research



## Plan



given a logic (or a set of logics)  $\mathbb{L}$ , we can handle the heuristics  
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adaptive logics enable us to explicate the reasoning behind many psps  
(see next lecture)



## Background



- philosophy of science: Nickles, Meheus, Batens
- erotetic logic (varying on Wiśniewski)
- logic
  - adaptive logics
    - prospective dynamics
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problem determined by (changing) constraints

- conditions on the solution
- methodological instructions / heuristics / examples
- certainties (conceptual system ...)



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*formal* but not *logic* with the usual connotations



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- proofs – success
- arbitrary sequence of applications of rules
  
- psp (problem solving process) – success?
- goal directed

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*formal* but not *logic* with the usual connotations

- proofs – success
- arbitrary sequence of applications of rules
- infinite consequence set
- *useless* subsequences
- deductive
- **CL**
  
- psp (problem solving process) – success?
- goal directed
- unique aim (possibly unspecified at outset)
- *unsuccessful* subsequences
- also other forms of reasoning
- multiplicity of logics





differences partly rely on confusion

- proof search is goal-directed process (and is a psp)
- proof search is not always successful
- no arbitrary sequences result of proof search
- proof search for *one* formula from given premises  
(but set of problems solvable by certain means)
- unsuccessful subsequences in proof search  
no 'useless' subsequences in goal-directed proofs
- that all logic is deductive (or is **CL**) is a plain prejudice

## 3.2 Problem-solving processes: first elements



terminology: psp refers to *explicandum* and to *explicatum*

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terminology: psp refers to *explicandum* and to *explicatum*

- psp contain unsuccessful subsequences
  - justified at some point in the psp
  - not justified any more at later point
  - *and vice versa*

‘unsuccessful’ is a *dynamic* property





- psps require prospective dynamics + derived problems



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- prospective dynamics (previous lecture)  
now breath first (better w.r.t. problems)



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- derived problems:

$\{?\{A, \sim A\}\}$  (problem)

⋮  
 $[B_1, \dots, B_n] A$  (if  $B_1, \dots, B_n$  true, then also  $A$ )



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- prospective dynamics (previous lecture)  
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- derived problems:

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...

$[B_1, \dots, B_n] A$  (if  $B_1, \dots, B_n$  true, then also  $A$ )  
 $\{?\{B_1, \sim B_1\}, \dots, ?\{B_n, \sim B_n\}\}$  derived problem



Lines occurring in a psp



problem lines:  $\text{problem} = \text{non-empty set of questions}$

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declarative lines

- conditional:  $[B_1, \dots, B_n] A$
- unconditional:  $[\emptyset] A$ , viz.  $A$





a stage of a psp: sequence of lines

a psp: chain of stages

next stage obtained by adding new line

marks may change (governed by marking definitions)

relation between stages governed by *procedure*



## rehearsal

- the complement of a formula
- $\alpha$ -formulas and  $\mathfrak{b}$ -formulas ( $\alpha$  and  $\mathfrak{b}$ )
- formula analysing rules and condition analysing rules
- $pp(A, B)$  ( $A$  is a positive part of  $B$ )
- the Prem rule
- EM, EM0 and Trans
- direct answer to a question / problem



## Specific rules



Where  $\{?{M, \sim M}\}$  is the main (or original) problem:

Main      Start a psp with the line:

1           $\{?{M, \sim M}\}$

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Target rule (to choose a target that one tries to obtain)

Target If  $P$  is the problem of an unmarked problem line, and  $A$  is a direct answer of a member of  $P$ , then one may add:

$k$   $[A] A$  Target

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Derive problems:

DP If  $A$  is an unmarked target from problem line  $i$  and  $[B_1, \dots, B_n] A$  is the formula of an unmarked line  $j$ , then one may add:

$k$   $\{?\{B_1, \sim B_1\}, \dots, ?\{B_n, \sim B_n\}\}$   $i, j$ ; DP

### 3.3 An example



main problem:  $?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}$

premise set:  $\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1     $\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$     Main

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



- |   |                                     |        |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | $\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$ | Main   |
| 2 | $[\sim(p \vee q)] \sim(p \vee q)$   | Target |

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
2	$[\sim(p \vee q)] \sim(p \vee q)$	Target	$D^3$
3	$[\sim p, \sim q] \sim(p \vee q)$	2; $C\sim VE$	$D^3$

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
2	$[\sim(p \vee q)] \sim(p \vee q)$	Target	$D^3$
3	$[\sim p, \sim q] \sim(p \vee q)$	2; $C\sim VE$	$D^3$
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
2	$[\sim(p \vee q)] \sim(p \vee q)$	Target	$D^3$
3	$[\sim p, \sim q] \sim(p \vee q)$	2; $C\sim VE$	$D^3$
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	
5	$[p] p \vee q$	4; $CVE$	$D^5$

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
2	$[\sim(p \vee q)] \sim(p \vee q)$	Target	D <sup>3</sup>
3	$[\sim p, \sim q] \sim(p \vee q)$	2; C $\sim$ VE	D <sup>3</sup>
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	
5	$[p] p \vee q$	4; CVE	D <sup>5</sup>
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	



$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP

pursued answer:  $q$

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP
8	$[q] q$	Target

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP
8	$[q] q$	Target
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem

4 and 6 have no premise in their path

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP
8	$[q] q$	Target
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem
10	$[q \vee u] \sim t \vee q$	9; $\supset E$

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP
8	$[q] q$	Target
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem
10	$[q \vee u] \sim t \vee q$	9; $\supset E$
11	$[q] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP	
8	$[q] q$	Target	
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem	
10	$[q \vee u] \sim t \vee q$	9; $\supset E$	
11	$[q] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	$D^{12}$
12	$[q, t] q$	11; $\vee E$	$I^{12}$

12: inoperative line

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP	
8	$[q] q$	Target	
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem	
10	$[q \vee u] \sim t \vee q$	9; $\supset E$	
11	$[q] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	$D^{12}$
12	$[q, t] q$	11; VE	$I^{12}$
13	$[u] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP	
8	$[q] q$	Target	
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem	
10	$[q \vee u] \sim t \vee q$	9; $\supset E$	
11	$[q] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	$D^{12}$
12	$[q, t] q$	11; VE	$I^{12}$
13	$[u] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	
14	$[u, t] q$	13; VE	

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1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP	
8	$[q] q$	Target	
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem	
10	$[q \vee u] \sim t \vee q$	9; $\supset E$	
11	$[q] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	$D^{12}$
12	$[q, t] q$	11; VE	$I^{12}$
13	$[u] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	
14	$[u, t] q$	13; VE	
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP	

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
4	$[p \vee q] p \vee q$	Target	
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	
7	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	4, 6; DP	
8	$[q] q$	Target	
9	$(q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q)$	Prem	
10	$[q \vee u] \sim t \vee q$	9; $\supset E$	
11	$[q] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	$D^{12}$
12	$[q, t] q$	11; VE	$I^{12}$
13	$[u] \sim t \vee q$	10; CVE	
14	$[u, t] q$	13; VE	
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP	
16	$[t] t$	Target	

cleaning up for lack of space



$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



8	$[q] q$	Target
...	...	...
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP
16	$[t] t$	Target

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



8	$[q] q$	Target
...	...	...
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP
16	$[t] t$	Target
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem

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8	$[q] q$	Target
...	...	...
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP
16	$[t] t$	Target
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



8	$[q] q$	Target
...	...	...
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP
16	$[t] t$	Target
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$
19	$[\sim s] t$	18; $\wedge E$

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



8	$[q] q$	Target
...	...	...
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP
16	$[t] t$	Target
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$
19	$[\sim s] t$	18; $\wedge E$
20	$\{?\{s, \sim s\}\}$	16, 19; DP

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



8	$[q] q$	Target
...	...	...
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP
16	$[t] t$	Target
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$
19	$[\sim s] t$	18; $\wedge E$
20	$\{?\{s, \sim s\}\}$	16, 19; DP
21	$[\sim s] \sim s$	Target

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



8	$[q] q$	Target	
...	...	...	
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$	
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP	
16	$[t] t$	Target	
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem	
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$	
19	$[\sim s] t$	18; $\wedge E$	$S^{22}$
20	$\{?\{s, \sim s\}\}$	16, 19; DP	$R^{22}$
21	$[\sim s] \sim s$	Target	$R^{22}$
22	$\sim s$	Prem	

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



8	$[q] q$	Target	
...	...	...	
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$	$S^{23}$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP	$R^{23}$
16	$[t] t$	Target	$R^{23}$
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem	
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$	
19	$[\sim s] t$	18; $\wedge E$	$S^{22} R^{23}$
20	$\{?\{s, \sim s\}\}$	16, 19; DP	$R^{22}$
21	$[\sim s] \sim s$	Target	$R^{22}$
22	$\sim s$	Prem	
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans	

$$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$$


8	$[q] q$	Target	
...	...	...	
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$	$S^{23} R^{24}$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP	$R^{23}$
16	$[t] t$	Target	$R^{23}$
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem	
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$	
19	$[\sim s] t$	18; $\wedge E$	$S^{22} R^{23}$
20	$\{?\{s, \sim s\}\}$	16, 19; DP	$R^{22}$
21	$[\sim s] \sim s$	Target	$R^{22}$
22	$\sim s$	Prem	
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans	
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans	

$$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$$


8	$[q] q$	Target	
...	...	...	
14	$[u, t] q$	13; $\vee E$	$S^{23} R^{24}$
15	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}, ?\{t, \sim t\}\}$	8, 14; DP	$R^{23}$
16	$[t] t$	Target	$R^{23}$
17	$(r \wedge t) \vee s$	Prem	
18	$[\sim s] r \wedge t$	17; $\vee E$	
19	$[\sim s] t$	18; $\wedge E$	$S^{22} R^{23}$
20	$\{?\{s, \sim s\}\}$	16, 19; DP	$R^{22}$
21	$[\sim s] \sim s$	Target	$R^{22}$
22	$\sim s$	Prem	
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans	
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans	
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP	

cleaning up for lack of space



$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
...		
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
...		
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
...		
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
...		
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP
26	$[u] u$	Target

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main
...		
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE
...		
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP
26	$[u] u$	Target
27	$t \supset u$	Prem

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
...			
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	
...			
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans	
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans	
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP	
26	$[u] u$	Target	
27	$t \supset u$	Prem	
28	$[t] u$	27; $\supset E$	$S^{28}$

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
...			
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	
...			
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans	
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans	$S^{29}$
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP	$R^{29}$
26	$[u] u$	Target	$R^{29}$
27	$t \supset u$	Prem	
28	$[t] u$	27; $\supset E$	$S^{28} R^{29}$
29	$u$	23, 28; Trans	

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	
...			
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	$S^{30}$
...			
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans	
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans	$S^{29} R^{30}$
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP	$R^{29}$
26	$[u] u$	Target	$R^{29}$
27	$t \supset u$	Prem	
28	$[t] u$	27; $\supset E$	$S^{28} R^{29}$
29	$u$	23, 28; Trans	
30	$q$	24, 29; Trans	

$\{\sim s, \sim u \vee r, (r \wedge t) \vee s, (q \vee u) \supset (\sim t \vee q), t \supset u\}$



1	$\{?\{p \vee q, \sim(p \vee q)\}\}$	Main	$R^{31}$
...			
6	$[q] p \vee q$	4; CVE	$S^{30} R^{31}$
...			
23	$t$	19, 22; Trans	
24	$[u] q$	14, 23; Trans	$S^{29} R^{30}$
25	$\{?\{u, \sim u\}\}$	8, 24; DP	$R^{29}$
26	$[u] u$	Target	$R^{29}$
27	$t \supset u$	Prem	
28	$[t] u$	27; $\supset E$	$S^{28} R^{29}$
29	$u$	23, 28; Trans	
30	$q$	24, 29; Trans	
31	$p \vee q$	6, 30; Trans	

## 3.4 The rules and the permissions and obligations



Prem, FAR, CAR, EM, EM0, Trans, Main, Target, DP

permissions + further comments on some rules

(marking definitions follow)





Main Start a psp with the line:  
1  $\{?\{M, \sim M\}\}$

Main



Main Start a psp with the line:

1  $\{?\{M, \sim M\}\}$

Main

Target If  $P$  is the problem of an unmarked problem line,  
and  $A$  is a direct answer of a member of  $P$ ,  
then one may add:

$k$   $[A] A$

Target



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1  $\{?\{M, \sim M\}\}$

Main

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then one may add:

$k$   $[A] A$

Target

Prem If  $A$  is an unmarked target,  $B \in \Gamma$ , and  $pp(A, B)$ ,  
then one may add:

$k$   $B$

Prem



Formula analysing rules (bring one closer to a target):

$$\frac{[\Delta] a}{[\Delta] a_1 \quad [\Delta] a_2} \quad \frac{[\Delta] b}{[\Delta \cup \{ *b_2 \}] b_1 \quad [\Delta \cup \{ *b_1 \}] b_2}$$

FAR

If  $C$  is an unmarked target,

$[\Delta] A$  is the formula of an unmarked line  $i$ ,

$[\Delta] A / [\Delta \cup \Delta'] B$  is a formula analysing rule,

and  $pp(C, B)$ ,

then one may add:

$k \quad [\Delta \cup \Delta'] B \quad i; R$

in which  $R$  is the name of the formula analysing rule.



Condition analysing rules (reveal other means to reach a target):

$$\frac{[\Delta \cup \{a\}] A}{[\Delta \cup \{a_1, a_2\}] A} \quad \frac{[\Delta \cup \{b\}] A}{[\Delta \cup \{b_1\}] A \quad [\Delta \cup \{b_2\}] A}$$

CAR If  $A$  is an unmarked target,  
 $[\Delta \cup \{B\}] A$  is the formula of an unmarked line  $i$ ,  
 and  $[\Delta \cup \{B\}] A / [\Delta \cup \Delta'] A$  is a condition analysing rule,  
 then one may add:

$$k \quad [\Delta \cup \Delta'] A \quad i; R$$

in which  $R$  is the name of the condition analysing rule.



Eliminate some problems without answering them:

EM0 If  $[\Delta \cup \{*A\}] A$  is the formula of a line  $i$  that is neither R-marked nor I-marked, then one may add:

$k$   $[\Delta] A$   $i$ ; EM0

EM If  $A$  is an unmarked target,  
 $[\Delta \cup \{B\}] A$  and  $[\Delta' \cup \{\sim B\}] A$  are the respective formulas of the unmarked or only D-marked lines  $i$  and  $j$ ,  
and  $\Delta \subseteq \Delta'$  or  $\Delta' \subseteq \Delta$ ,  
then one may add:

$k$   $[\Delta \cup \Delta'] A$   $i, j$ ; EM



eliminate obtained elements from a condition (and solved questions from a problem)

and

summarize remaining problems (and paths):

Trans If  $A$  is an unmarked target,  
and  $[\Delta \cup \{B\}] A$  and  $[\Delta'] B$  are the respective formulas of the  
at most S-marked (not R-, I- or D-marked) lines  $i$  and  $j$ ,  
then one may add:

$k \quad [\Delta \cup \Delta'] A \quad i, j; \text{ Trans}$



handle derived problems:

DP      If  $A$  is an unmarked target from problem line  $i$   
and  $[B_1, \dots, B_n] A$  is the formula of an unmarked line  $j$ ,  
then one may add:

$k$        $\{?\{B_1, \sim B_1\}, \dots, ?\{B_n, \sim B_n\}\} \quad i, j; \text{ DP}$



no instruction for applying EFQ

in view of the intended applications

(deriving predictions, finding explanations, etc.)

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the *only* exception seems to be: answering  $\{?\{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{CL}} A, \Gamma \not\vdash_{\text{CL}} A\}\}$

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the *only* exception seems to be: answering  $\{?\{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{CL}} A, \Gamma \not\vdash_{\text{CL}} A\}\}$

but every possible application seems to require  $\text{CL}^-$ .



## Marking definitions

*redundant* lines are R-marked: (unconditional  $A$  identified with  $[\emptyset] A$ )

**Definition 1** *An at most S-marked declarative line  $i$  that has  $[\Delta] A$  as its formula is R-marked at a stage iff, at that stage,  $[\Theta] A$  is the formula of a line for some  $\Theta \subset \Delta$ .*

**Definition 2** *An unmarked problem line  $i$  is R-marked at a stage iff, at that stage, a direct answer  $A$  of a question of line  $i$  is the formula of a line.*



the following definitions require:

- target from a problem line
- resolution line
- direct target from
- target sequence
- grounded target sequence



*inoperative* lines are I-marked (not useful for extant problem):

**Definition 3** *An at most S-marked target line that has  $[A] A$  as its formula is I-marked at a stage iff every problem line from which  $A$  is a target is marked at that stage.*

**Definition 4** *An at most S-marked resolution line of which  $[\Delta^1] A^1$  is the formula for some  $\Delta^1 \neq \emptyset$  is I-marked at a stage iff, at that stage, for every grounded target sequence  $\langle [\Delta^n] A^n, \dots, [\Delta^1] A^1 \rangle$ ,*

- (i) some target  $[A^i] A^i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) is marked, or*
- (ii)  $\{A^n, \dots, A^1\} \cap \Delta^1 \neq \emptyset$ , or*
- (iii)  $\Delta^1 \cup \dots \cup \Delta^n \cup \Gamma_s^\circ$  is flatly inconsistent.*

**Definition 5** *An unmarked problem line is I-marked iff no unmarked resolution line generates it.*



*Dead end* lines are D-marked (no further action from such line)

- $A$  is a *dead end* ( $A$  is literal and not a positive part of a premise)
- CAR-descendant of  $[\Delta \cup \{A\}] B$

**Definition 6** An at most S-marked resolution line with formula  $[\Delta] A$  is D-marked at a stage iff some  $B \in \Delta$  is a dead end or, at that stage, all CAR-descendants of  $[\Delta] A$  occur in the psp and are D-marked.

**Definition 7** An at most S-marked target line with formula  $[A] A$  is D-marked at a stage iff  $A$  is a dead end or no further action can be taken in view of target  $A$ .



it can be shown that, for all consistent  $\Gamma$ :



(i) the procedure applied to  $\Gamma$  and  $\{?{A, \sim A}\}$  results in the answer  $A$ ,  
iff  $\Gamma \vdash_{\text{CL}} A$

and

(ii) the procedure applied to  $\Gamma$  and  $\{?{A, \sim A}\}$  stops without the main  
problem being answered, or results in the answer  $\sim A$  iff  $\Gamma \not\vdash_{\text{CL}} A$

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for the predicative case:

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because

(ii') the procedure applied to  $\Gamma$  and  $\{?{A, \sim A}\}$  stops without the main  
problem being answered, or results in the answer  $\sim A$ , or *does not stop*  
iff  $\Gamma \not\vdash_{\text{CL}} A$



Speed up the procedure by S-marks

- $\Gamma_s^o$ : union of  $\Gamma$  and of the set of conditionless formulas that occur at stage  $s$  of the psp

**Definition 8** *A R-unmarked resolution line in which  $[\Delta^1] A^1$  is derived is S-marked iff*

- (i)  $\Delta^1 \cap \Gamma_s^o \neq \emptyset$ , or
- (ii) for some target sequence  $\langle [\Delta^n] A^n, \dots, [\Delta^1] A^1 \rangle$ ,  $\{A^n\} \cup \Delta^1$  is flatly inconsistent whereas  $\Delta^1$  is not flatly inconsistent, or
- (iii)  $\Delta_1 \subset \Delta^n \cup \dots \cup \Delta^2$  for some target sequence  $\langle [\Delta^n] A^n, \dots, [\Delta^1] A^1 \rangle$ .

## 3.5 Answerable questions



$\mathbb{A}$  is a set of questions that can be answered by standard means  
(for example: observation or experiment)

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of a member of  $\mathbb{A}$ , that question can be answered (outside the proof)  
and the answer can be introduced as a new premise

whether some  $?\{A, \sim A\} \in \mathbb{A}$  is launched depends on pragmatic  
(economic) considerations





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- $\{B \supset A, \sim(B \supset A)\}$

etc.



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- $?\{B \supset A, \sim(B \supset A)\}$

etc.

so  $A$  need not be an unmarked target in order for  $?\{A, \sim A\}$  to be launched





a launched question is answered *outside* the psp



a launched question is answered *outside* the psp

its answer is introduced as a new premise



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its answer is introduced as a new premise

this is awkward from a logical point of view

so better

redefine  $\mathbb{A}$  as a set of couples  $\langle ?\{A, \sim A\}, B \rangle$  with  $B \in \{A, \sim A\}$

$B$  is determined but unknown to the problem solver



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so better

redefine  $\mathbb{A}$  as a set of couples  $\langle ?\{A, \sim A\}, B \rangle$  with  $B \in \{A, \sim A\}$

$B$  is determined but unknown to the problem solver

that  $A$  is the target justifies launching  $\langle ?\{A, \sim A\}, A \rangle$  just as much as it justifies launching  $\langle ?\{A, \sim A\}, \sim A \rangle$  (etc.)





instruction:

New If  $A$  is the target of the unmarked target line  $i$ ,  $pp(A, B)$  or  $pp(A, \sim B)$ , and  $\langle ?\{B, \sim B\}, C \rangle \in \mathbb{A}$  (where  $C \in \{B, \sim B\}$ ), then one may add:

$k$        $C$        $i$ ; New

obvious from New:

which member of  $\mathbb{A}$  was launched in view of which target



$\Gamma = \{(q \wedge r) \supset p, \sim s \vee q, s, \dots\}$   $\Delta = \{\langle ?\{q \supset r, \sim(q \supset r)\}, q \supset r \rangle, \dots\}$ .

1	$\{?\{p, \sim p\}\}$	Main	$R^{19}$
2	$[p] p$	Target	$R^{19}$
3	$(q \wedge r) \supset p$	Prem	
4	$[q \wedge r] p$	3; $\supset E$	$R^{19}$
5	$[q, r] p$	4; $C\wedge E$	$S^9 R^{10}$
6	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}, ?\{r, \sim r\}\}$	2, 5; DP	$I^{10}$
7	$[r] r$	Target	$I^{10}$
8	$q \supset r$	7; <b>New</b>	
9	$[q] r$	8; $C\supset E$	$I^{10}$
10	$[q] p$	5, 9; Trans	$R^{19}$
11	$\{?\{q, \sim q\}\}$	2, 10; DP	$R^{18}$
12	$[q] q$	Target	$R^{18}$
13	$\sim s \vee q$	Prem	
14	$[s] q$	13; $\vee E$	$S^{17} R^{18}$
15	$\{?\{s, \sim s\}\}$	12, 14; DP	$R^{17}$
16	$[s] s$	Target	$R^{17}$
17	$s$	Prem	
18	$q$	14, 17; Trans	
19	$p$	10, 18; Trans	

## 3.6 Variants, extensions and comments

- procedural variants
- extensions to other logics
  - including adaptive logics to handle inconsistencies, abduction, inductive generalization, ... (fifth lecture)

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- (iii) easily generalizable to other logics (devise prospective dynamics)

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procedure is probably not maximally efficient in its kind

- this requires further research
- it does not undermine the main aim of the enterprise:  
to delineate sensible reasoning