

## COPI'S METHOD OF DEDUCTION

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In [1] Bradley pointed out that it was superfluous for Copi to refer to the completeness and analyticity of **RS** to show that the method of deduction set forth in Chapter 3 of *Symbolic Logic*, 3rd ed. [3], is complete. Since in the 4th edition [4] Copi continues to make his proof of completeness depend upon the completeness and analyticity of **RS**, it seems worthwhile to give a proof which clearly stands on its own. To do this, it is necessary to formalize Copi's method of deduction. We will call the formalization **CMD**.<sup>\*</sup> We will let the capital letters, with or without subscripts, from the earlier part of the alphabet be the simple well-formed formulas in **CMD** and the capital letters, with or without subscripts, from the later part of the alphabet be variables in our meta-language which range over the well-formed formulas of **CMD**. The well-formed formulas of **CMD** are defined inductively in the classical way. Well-formed arguments have the form  $x \rightarrow Q$ , where  $x$  is the empty symbol or a well-formed formula of **CMD**. The intended reading of ' $P \rightarrow Q$ ' is  $Q$  follows from  $P$ ; the intended reading of ' $x \rightarrow Q$ ', where  $x$  is the empty symbol, is  $Q$  follows from the empty premise, or  $Q$  follows from any premise. It will become evident that all of the theorems (and axioms) of **CMD** are well-formed arguments. The axiom schema for **CMD** areas follows, where ' $\vdash P \leftrightarrow Q$ ' abbreviates ' $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$  and  $\vdash Q \rightarrow P$ ':

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|--|---------|
| Ax1. $\vdash(P \supset Q) \cdot P \rightarrow Q$   | (M.P.)  |
| Ax2. $\vdash(P \supset Q) \cdot \sim Q \rightarrow \sim P$   | (M.T.)  |
| Ax3. $\vdash(P \supset Q) \cdot (Q \supset R) \rightarrow P \supset R$                                     | (H.S.)  |
| Ax4. $\vdash(P \vee Q) \cdot \sim P \rightarrow Q$   | (D.S.)  |
| Ax5. $\vdash((P \supset Q) \cdot (R \supset S)) \cdot (P \vee R) \rightarrow Q \vee S$                     | (C.D.)  |
| Ax6. $\vdash((P \supset Q) \cdot (R \supset S)) \cdot (\sim Q \vee \sim S) \rightarrow \sim P \vee \sim R$ | (D.D.)  |
| Ax7. $\vdash P \cdot Q \rightarrow P$  | (Simp.) |
| Ax8. $\vdash P \cdot Q \rightarrow P \cdot Q$  | (Conj.) |
| Ax9. $\vdash P \rightarrow P \vee Q$   | (Add.)  |

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<sup>\*</sup>I am indebted to T. J. Smiley for his comments on an earlier version of this paper.

Ax10.	$\vdash \sim(P \cdot Q) \leftrightarrow \sim P \vee \sim Q$	(DeM.)
	$\vdash \sim(P \vee Q) \leftrightarrow \sim P \cdot \sim Q$	
Ax11.	$\vdash P \vee Q \leftrightarrow Q \vee P$	(Com.)
	$\vdash P \cdot Q \leftrightarrow Q \cdot P$	
Ax12.	$\vdash P \vee (Q \vee R) \leftrightarrow (P \vee Q) \vee R$	(Assoc.)
	$\vdash P \cdot (Q \cdot R) \leftrightarrow (P \cdot Q) \cdot R$	
Ax13.	$\vdash P \cdot (Q \vee R) \leftrightarrow (P \cdot Q) \vee (P \cdot R)$	(Dist.)
	$\vdash P \vee (Q \cdot R) \leftrightarrow (P \vee Q) \cdot (P \vee R)$	
Ax14.	$\vdash P \leftrightarrow \sim \sim P$	(D.N.)
Ax15.	$\vdash P \supset Q \leftrightarrow \sim Q \supset \sim P$	(Trans.)
Ax16.	$\vdash P \supset Q \leftrightarrow \sim P \vee Q$	(Impl.)
Ax17.	$\vdash P \equiv Q \leftrightarrow (P \supset Q) \cdot (Q \supset P)$	(Equiv.)
	$\vdash P \equiv Q \leftrightarrow (P \cdot Q) \vee (\sim P \cdot \sim Q)$	
Ax18.	$\vdash (P \cdot Q) \supset R \leftrightarrow P \supset (Q \supset R)$	(Exp.)
Ax19.	$\vdash P \leftrightarrow P \vee P$	(Taut.)
	$\vdash P \leftrightarrow P \cdot P$	

The rules of inference for **CMD** are:

R1. (The Rule of Replacement) If  $f(Q)$  is formed by replacing one occurrence of  $P$  in  $f(P)$  by  $Q$ , then

- (i) if  $\vdash P \leftrightarrow Q$  and  $\vdash f(P) \rightarrow R$  then  $\vdash f(Q) \rightarrow R$ ,
- (ii) if  $\vdash P \leftrightarrow Q$  and  $\vdash R \rightarrow f(P)$  then  $\vdash R \rightarrow f(Q)$ ,

and

- (iii) if  $\vdash P \leftrightarrow Q$  and  $\vdash \rightarrow f(P)$  then  $\vdash \rightarrow f(Q)$ .

R2. (Transitivity of  $\rightarrow$ ) (i) If  $\vdash P_1 \dots P_m \rightarrow Q_1$  and  $\vdash R \rightarrow S$ , where  $R$  is any permutation of  $Q_1 \dots Q_n$ , then  $\vdash T \rightarrow S$ , where  $T$  is any permutation of  $P_1 \dots P_m Q_2 \dots Q_n$ .

(ii) If  $\vdash \rightarrow Q_1$  and  $\vdash R \rightarrow S$ , where  $R$  is any permutation of  $Q_1 \dots Q_n$ , then  $\vdash T \rightarrow S$ , where  $T$  is any permutation of  $Q_2 \dots Q_n$ .

R3. (Conditional Proof) If  $\vdash P_1 \dots P_m \rightarrow Q$  then  $\vdash R \rightarrow P_i \supset Q$ , where  $R$  is any permutation of  $P_1 \dots P_{i-1} \cdot P_{i+1} \dots P_m$ .

R4. (Indirect Proof) If  $\vdash P_1 \dots P_m \rightarrow Q \cdot \sim Q$  then  $\vdash R \rightarrow S$ , where  $R$  is any permutation of  $P_1 \dots P_{i-1} P_{i+1} \dots P_m$  and  $\vdash S \leftrightarrow \sim P_i$ .

R5. (Adjunction) (i) If  $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$  and  $\vdash P \rightarrow R$  then  $\vdash P \rightarrow Q \cdot R$ .

(ii) If  $\vdash \rightarrow Q$  and  $\vdash \rightarrow R$  then  $\vdash \rightarrow Q \cdot R$ .

R6. (Introduction of Superfluous Premises) (i) If  $\vdash P_1 \dots P_m \rightarrow Q$  then  $\vdash R \rightarrow Q$ , where  $R$  is any permutation of  $P_1 \dots P_{m+n}$ .

(ii) If  $\vdash \rightarrow Q$  then  $\vdash P_1 \dots P_m \rightarrow Q$ .

For evidence that **CMD** is actually a formalization of Copi's method of deduction we will indicate how proofs in **CMD** can be constructed from Copi's proofs in Chapter 3. Consider the proof on p. 61 in [4] argument with premise  $(A \vee B) \supset ((C \vee D) \supset E)$  and conclusion  $A \supset \sim \sim$ . Copi's proof:

1. $(A \vee B) \supset ((C \vee D) \supset E)$	
2. $A$	
3. $A \vee B$	2, Add.
4. $(C \vee D) \supset E$	1, 3, M.P.
5. $C \cdot D$	
6. $C$	5, Simp.
7. $C \vee D$	6, Add.
8. $E$	4, 7, M.P.
9. $(C \cdot D) \supset E$	5-8, C.P.
10. $A \supset ((C \cdot D) \supset E)$	2-9, C.P.

**Proof in CMD:**

1. $\vdash A \rightarrow A \vee B$	Ax9. (Add.)
2. $\vdash ((A \vee B) \supset ((C \vee D) \supset E)) \cdot (A \vee B) \rightarrow (C \vee D) \supset E$	Ax1. (M.P.)
3. $\vdash A \cdot ((A \vee B) \supset ((C \vee D) \supset E)) \rightarrow (C \vee D) \supset E$	1, 2, R2
4. $\vdash C \cdot D \rightarrow C$	Ax7. (Simp.)
5. $\vdash C \rightarrow C \vee D$	Ax8. (Add.)
6. $\vdash ((C \vee D) \supset E) \cdot (C \vee D) \rightarrow E$	Ax1. (M.P.)
7. $\vdash C \cdot D \rightarrow C \vee D$	4, 5, R2
8. $\vdash (C \cdot D) \cdot ((C \vee D) \supset E) \rightarrow E$	6, 7, R2
9. $\vdash (C \cdot D) \cdot A \cdot ((A \vee B) \supset ((C \vee D) \supset E)) \rightarrow E$	3, 8, R2
10. $\vdash A \cdot ((A \vee B) \supset ((C \vee D) \supset E)) \rightarrow (C \cdot D) \supset E$	9, R3. (C.P.)
11. $\vdash ((A \vee B) \supset ((C \vee D) \supset E)) \rightarrow A \supset ((C \cdot D) \supset E)$	10, R3. (C.P.)

Consider also his proof on page 54 of [4] for an argument with conclusion  $E$  and premises  $A \supset (B \cdot C)$ ,  $(B \vee D) \supset E$  and  $D \vee A$ . Copi's proof:

1. $A \supset (B \cdot C)$	
2. $(B \vee D) \supset E$	
3. $D \vee A$	
4. $\sim E$	I.P. (Indirect Proof)
5. $\sim (B \vee D)$	2, 4, M.T.
6. $\sim B \cdot \sim D$	5, DeM.
7. $\sim D \cdot \sim B$	6, Com.
8. $\sim D$	7, Simp.
9. $A$	3, 8, D.S.
10. $B \cdot C$	1, 9, M.P.
11. $B$	10, Simp.
12. $\sim B$	6, Simp.
13. $B \cdot \sim B$	11, 12, Conj.

**Proof in CMD:**

1. $\vdash ((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \rightarrow \sim (B \vee D)$	Ax2. (M.T.)
2. $\vdash \sim (B \vee D) \rightarrow \sim B \cdot \sim D$	Ax10. (DeM.)
3. $\vdash ((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \rightarrow \sim B \cdot \sim D$	1, 2, R1
4. $\vdash \sim B \cdot \sim D \leftrightarrow \sim D \cdot \sim B$	Ax11. (Com.)
5. $\vdash ((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \rightarrow \sim D \cdot \sim B$	3, 4, R2
6. $\vdash \sim D \cdot \sim B \rightarrow \sim D$	Ax7. (Simp.)

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|---|---------------|
| 7. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \rightarrow \sim D$   | 5, 6, R2      |
| 8. $\vdash(D \vee A) \cdot \sim D \rightarrow A$  | Ax4. (D.S.)   |
| 9. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \cdot (D \vee A) \rightarrow A$   | 7, 8, R2      |
| 10. $\vdash(A \supset (B \cdot C)) \cdot A \rightarrow B \cdot C$   | Ax1. (M.P.)   |
| 11. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \cdot (D \vee A) \cdot (A \supset (B \cdot C)) \rightarrow B \cdot C$      | 9, 10, R2     |
| 12. $\vdash B \cdot C \rightarrow B$  | Ax7. (Simp.)  |
| 13. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \cdot (D \vee A) \cdot (A \supset (B \cdot C)) \rightarrow B$              | 11, 12, R2    |
| 14. $\vdash \sim B \cdot \sim D \rightarrow \sim B$   | Ax7. (Simp.)  |
| 15. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \rightarrow \sim B$  | 3, 14, R2     |
| 16. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \cdot (D \vee A) \cdot (A \supset (B \cdot C)) \rightarrow \sim B$         | 15, R6        |
| 17. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot \sim E \cdot (D \vee A) \cdot (A \supset (B \cdot C)) \rightarrow B \cdot \sim B$ | 13, 16, R5    |
| 18. $\vdash((B \vee D) \supset E) \cdot (D \vee A) \cdot (A \supset (B \cdot C)) \rightarrow E$                           | 17, R4 (I.P.) |

Let ' $\models P \rightarrow Q$ ' say that  $P \supset Q$  is a truth-table tautology; let ' $\models \rightarrow Q$ ' say that  $Q$  is a truth-table tautology. To show the completeness of **CMD** we need to show that (i) if  $\models P \rightarrow Q$  then  $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$  and (ii) if  $\models \rightarrow Q$  then  $\vdash \rightarrow Q$ . By extrapolating from Canty [2], we can sketch a proof of (i) as follows. (The changes in the proof of (i) required for the proof of (ii) will be put in parentheses.) Suppose  $\models P \rightarrow Q$ . (Suppose  $\models \rightarrow Q$ .)

1.  $\vdash P \cdot \sim Q \leftrightarrow$  a disjunctive normal form of  $P \cdot \sim Q$ , call it  $R$ .  
( $\vdash \sim Q \leftrightarrow$  a disjunctive normal form of  $\sim Q$ , call it  $R$ .)
2.  $\vdash R \rightarrow A \cdot \sim A$ .
3.  $\vdash P \cdot \sim Q \rightarrow A \cdot \sim A$ . 1, 2, R2  
( $\vdash \sim Q \leftrightarrow A \cdot \sim A$ , by 1, 2 and R2.)
4.  $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$  3, R4  
( $\vdash \rightarrow Q$ , by 3 and R4.)

Call this the **DNF** proof. By using conjunctive normal forms we can give an equally simple proof. Suppose  $\models P \rightarrow Q$ . (Suppose  $\models \rightarrow Q$ .)

1.  $\vdash P \supset Q \leftrightarrow$  a conjunctive normal form of  $P \supset Q$ , call it  $S$ , where the conjuncts of  $S$  are  $S_1, \dots, S_n$ .  
( $\vdash Q \leftrightarrow$  a conjunctive normal form of  $Q$ , call it  $S$ , where the conjuncts of  $S$  are  $S_1, \dots, S_n$ .)
2.  $\vdash \rightarrow S_1$ .
3.  $\vdash \rightarrow S_2$ .
- ⋮
- ⋮
- $n + 1$ .  $\vdash \rightarrow S_n$ .
- $n + 2$ .  $\vdash \rightarrow S_1 \cdot S_2$ . 2, 3, R5
- ⋮
- ⋮
- $2n$ .  $\vdash \rightarrow S_1 \dots S_n$ . 2n - 1, n + 1, R5
- $2n + 1$ .  $\vdash \rightarrow P \supset Q$ . 1, 2n, R1  
( $\vdash \rightarrow Q$ , by 1, 2n and R1.)
- $2n + 2$ .  $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$ . Ax1., 2n + 1, R2

Call this the **CNF** proof. To complete the justifications for the steps in the

**DNF** and **CNF** proofs we need to show that **CMD** is analytic (if  $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$  then  $\models P \rightarrow Q$  and if  $\vdash \rightarrow Q$  then  $\models \rightarrow Q$ ). By using truth tables we can show that  $\models P \rightarrow Q$ , where  $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$  is an axiom. So **CMD** is analytic if R1-R5 do not introduce theorems which are not semantically valid.

R1. By using induction on the number of occurrences of connectives in  $f(P)$  other than those in that occurrence of  $P$  which is replaced by  $Q$  to form  $f(Q)$ , we can show that if  $\models P \leftrightarrow Q$  then  $\models f(P) \leftrightarrow f(Q)$ . Now if  $\models f(P) \leftrightarrow f(Q)$  and  $\models f(P) \rightarrow R$  then  $\models f(Q) \rightarrow R$ . So, if  $\models P \leftrightarrow Q$  and  $\models f(P) \rightarrow R$  then  $\models f(Q) \rightarrow R$ . We can treat the other parts of R1 in the same way.

R2. (i) Suppose  $\models P_1 \dots P_m \rightarrow Q_1$  and  $\models R \rightarrow S$ , where  $R$  is any permutation of  $Q_1 \dots Q_n$ . Suppose not  $\models T \rightarrow S$ , where  $T$  is any permutation of  $P_1 \dots P_m \cdot Q_2 \dots Q_n$ . Then there are circumstances,  $C$ , in which  $P_1 - P_m$  are true,  $Q_2 - Q_n$  are true and  $S$  false. So  $Q_1$  is false in  $C$  since  $\models R \rightarrow S$ . Since  $\models P_1 \dots P_m \rightarrow Q_1$ ,  $Q_1$  is also true in  $C$ . So  $\models T \rightarrow S$ .

(ii) Same argument as for (i).

The proofs for R3-R6 are no more complicated than the proof for R2 and will be omitted.

We will now use the analyticity of **CMD** to prove step 2 in the **DNF** proof if we are given step 1. From step 1 it follows that  $\vdash R \rightarrow P \cdot \sim Q$ . By the analyticity of **CMD** it follows that  $\models R \rightarrow P \cdot \sim Q$ . Since  $\models P \rightarrow Q$ ,  $P \cdot \sim Q$  is a contradiction. But then  $R$  is a contradiction since  $R \supset P \cdot \sim Q$  is a tautology. So in each disjunct of  $R$  there are at least two conjuncts, one a propositional constant and another its negation. Suppose that  $B$  and  $\sim B$  occur in one of the disjuncts. By using Ax11, Ax12,  $\vdash P \vee (Q \cdot \sim Q) \cdot R \rightarrow P$  (see Canty [2]), Ax7, R1 and R2, we can show that  $\vdash R \rightarrow B \cdot \sim B$ . But  $\vdash B \cdot \sim B \rightarrow A \cdot \sim A$ . So  $\vdash R \rightarrow A \cdot \sim A$ .

To prove step 2 in the **CNF** proof, given step 1, first note that from step 1  $\vdash P \supset Q \rightarrow S$ . By the analyticity of **CMD**  $\models P \supset Q \rightarrow S$ . Since  $\models P \rightarrow Q$ ,  $S$  is a tautology. But then each conjunct in  $S$  must be a tautology. So in  $S_1$  there must be at least two disjuncts, one a propositional constant, say  $A$ , and the other its negation,  $\sim A$ . Let  $T$  be the disjunction of the other disjuncts, if any, in  $S_1$ . By Ax14 and R2  $\vdash A \rightarrow A$ . By R3  $\vdash \rightarrow A \supset A$ . By Ax16 and R1  $\vdash \rightarrow \sim A \vee A$ . By Ax8  $\vdash \sim A \vee A \rightarrow (\sim A \vee A) \vee T$ . By R2  $\vdash \rightarrow (\sim A \vee A) \vee T$ . Then by Ax11, Ax12 and R1,  $\vdash \rightarrow S_1$ . We can give the same proof for steps  $3-n+1$ .

To prove step 1 in each of the above proofs, first note that by Ax16, Ax17 and R1,  $\vdash P \leftrightarrow P'$ , where  $P'$  contains no occurrences of the connectives,  $\supset$  and  $\equiv$ . Now let  $n(P)$  = the number of occurrences of connectives which are in the scope of a negation sign in  $P$ . By using induction on  $n(P')$  we can show that  $\vdash P' \leftrightarrow P''$ , where  $n(P'') = 0$ .

Suppose  $n(P'') = 0$ . If  $P' = P''$  then  $\vdash P' \leftrightarrow P''$ , where  $n(P'') = 0$ . The induction hypothesis is that if  $n(P') = j$ , for  $j < k$ , then  $\vdash P' \leftrightarrow P''$ , where  $n(P'') = 0$ . Suppose  $n(P') = k$ , for  $k > 0$ . Let  $S$  be the smallest well-formed formula contained in  $P'$  such that  $n(S) = k$ . So  $P' = S$ ,  $P' = S \vee T$ ,  $P' = T \vee S$ ,  $P' = S \cdot T$  or  $P' = T \cdot S$ , where  $n(T) = 0$ . If we can show that  $\vdash S \leftrightarrow S'$ , where

$n(S') = 0$ , then it is obvious that  $\vdash P' \leftrightarrow P''$ , where  $n(P'') = 0$ . There are three cases to consider: (a)  $S = \sim S_1$ . Subcase (i):  $S_1 = \sim S_2$ . Since  $n(S_2) < n(S)$ , by the induction hypothesis  $\vdash S_2 \leftrightarrow S_3$ , where  $n(S_3) = 0$ . So  $\vdash S \leftrightarrow S_3$ , where  $n(S_3) = 0$ . Subcase (ii):  $S_1 = S_2 \vee S_3$ . By Ax14, R2, Ax9 and R1  $\vdash S \leftrightarrow \sim S_2 \cdot \sim S_3$ . Since  $n(\sim S_2) < n(S)$  and  $n(\sim S_3) < n(S)$ , by the induction hypothesis  $\vdash \sim S_2 \leftrightarrow S_4$  and  $\vdash \sim S_3 \leftrightarrow S_5$ , where  $n(S_4) = 0$  and  $n(S_5) = 0$ . By R1  $\vdash S \leftrightarrow S_4 \cdot S_5$ , where  $n(S_4 \cdot S_5) = 0$ . Subcase (iii):  $S_1 = S_2 \cdot S_3$ . Use the same argument as for subcase (ii).

(b)  $S = S_1 \vee S_2$ . Since  $n(S_1) < n(S)$  and  $n(S_2) < n(S)$ , by the induction hypothesis  $\vdash S_1 \leftrightarrow S_3$  and  $\vdash S_2 \leftrightarrow S_4$ , where  $n(S_3)$  and  $n(S_4) = 0$ . By Ax14, R2 and R1  $\vdash S \leftrightarrow S_3 \vee S_4$ , where  $n(S_3 \vee S_4) = 0$ .

(c)  $S = S_1 \cdot S_2$ . Same argument as for (b).

If  $P''$  is not in disjunctive normal form, then there is a constituent well-formed formula,  $T$ , of  $P''$  such that  $T = (R_1 \vee \dots \vee R_m) \cdot (S_1 \vee \dots \vee S_n)$  where  $m > 1$  or  $n > 1$ . Call such formulas as  $T$  disrupting formulas. By Ax14, Ax11, Ax13, R1 and R2  $\vdash T \leftrightarrow U$ , where  $U$  contains no disrupting formulas. So by R1  $\vdash P'' \leftrightarrow R$ , where  $R$  is in disjunctive normal form. Since we have shown that  $\vdash P \leftrightarrow P'$  and  $\vdash P' \leftrightarrow P''$ , it follows by R2 that  $\vdash P \leftrightarrow R$ . If  $P''$  is not in conjunctive normal form, then the disrupting formulas are of the form  $(R_1 \dots R_m) \vee (S_1 \dots S_n)$ , where  $m > 1$  or  $n > 1$ . By using Ax14, Ax11, Ax13, R1 and R2 we can remove all such disrupting formulas. So  $\vdash P'' \leftrightarrow S$ , where  $S$  is in conjunctive normal form, and  $\vdash P \leftrightarrow S$ .

## REFERENCES

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