# PROPOSITIONAL SEQUENCE-CALCULI FOR INCONSISTENT SYSTEMS 

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Contradictions arise mostly at the beginning and at the end of a theoretical construction. If the meaning of words is not fixed a proposition and its negation can both be true. And, as it is well known, a theory in spite of the axiomatic fixation of its concepts must contain inconsistencies if its means of expression are sufficiently rich. If classical-but also intuitionistic-propositional logic is used as the basic logical frame of a theory the deduction of a contradiction produces its complete trivialization: every proposition is deducible in it, ex falso sequitur quodlibet. The minimal logic avoids this logical principle but from a contradiction we can deduce in it the negation of every proposition. By weakening the classical logic S. Jaśkowski (cf. [6]) and specially Newton C. A. da Costa have built propositional calculi which enable us to overcome this difficulty. By the way these systems contain logical laws which Hegelians in spite of their famous rejection of the principle of contradiction must acknowledge as valid.

Da Costa has built a hierarchy of propositional calculi $C_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ whose decidability has not been settled yet. We tried first to solve this problem constructing equivalent sequence-calculi and proving the corresponding cut-theorems. But this new hierarchy which we called $\mathrm{CG}_{n}(1 \leq$ $n \leq \omega$ ) showed some restrictions which are only justified from an intuitionistic point of view. By dropping these restrictions we have constructed a new hierarchy $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ of decidable calculi with the same essential properties of the $\mathrm{C}_{n}$.*

[^0]§1．Equivalence of $\mathrm{C}_{n}$ and $\mathrm{CG}_{n}$ ．Da Costa uses the following axiom system for his $\mathrm{C}_{n}$（cf．［1］）
（1）$\because \supset(\mathfrak{B} \supset \mathfrak{\varkappa})$
（2）$(\Re \supset \mathfrak{B}) \supset((\Re \supset(B \supset \mathbb{C})) \supset(\Re \supset \mathbb{C}))$
（3）$\frac{\mathfrak{\imath}, \mathfrak{\imath} \supset \Re}{\Re}$
（4）$\because \& B \supset \mathfrak{Q}$
（5）$\quad \mathfrak{\&} \& B \supset B$
（6）थ $\supset(\mathbb{B} \supset थ \& \mathfrak{B})$
（7）थ $\supset$ थ $\vee$ B
（8） $\mathfrak{B} \supset \mathfrak{Q} \vee \mathfrak{B}$
（9）$(\mathfrak{\Re} \supset \mathfrak{C}) \supset((\mathfrak{B} \supset \mathbb{C}) \supset(\Re \vee B \supset \mathbb{C}))$
（10）थン ท 亿
（11） 77 民 $\supset$ 民

（13）$\quad \mathfrak{R}^{(n)} \& \mathfrak{B}^{(n)} \supset\left(\{\mathbb{C} \&)^{(n)}\right.$
（14）$\quad \mathfrak{N}^{(n)} \& \mathfrak{B}^{(n)} \supset(\mathfrak{Q} \vee \mathfrak{B})^{(n)}$
（15）$\quad \mathfrak{U}^{(n)} \& \mathfrak{B}^{(n)} \supset(\Re \supset \mathfrak{B})^{(n)}$
（16）$\quad \mathfrak{N}^{(n)} \supset\left(7 \mathcal{U}^{(n)}\right.$
$B^{0}$ is short for $7(B \& \neg \mathscr{B})$ and $\mathfrak{B}^{(n)}$ is defined by the following recursion
$\mathrm{C}_{\omega}$ contains only the first eleven axiom schemata and rules； $\mathrm{C}_{n}(1 \leq n<\omega)$ has all sixteen with the corresponding value of $n$ ．
$\mathbf{C G}_{\omega}$ differs from the propositional part of Gentzen＇s LK（cf．［4］， p．191）only in the following rules
\[

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { instead of NEA, CG } \omega \text { has NEA' } & \frac{\mathfrak{\imath}, \Gamma \rightarrow \theta}{7\urcorner \mathfrak{\imath}, \Gamma \rightarrow \theta} \\
\text { instead of FES, CG } \omega \text { has FES' } & \frac{\mathfrak{\imath}, \Gamma \rightarrow B}{\Gamma \rightarrow \mathfrak{\imath} \supset \mathfrak{B}}
\end{array}
$$
\]

The $\mathrm{CG}_{n}(1 \leq n<\omega)$ have all rules of $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ and also the following rule NEA＂ with the corresponding value of $n$
 only $\urcorner, v, \&$ and $\supset$ ．In the sequel we use the terminology of［4］．

The equivalence of $\mathrm{C}_{\omega}$ and $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ means that
a）If ${t_{C_{\omega}}}^{2 x}$ ，then ${r_{r_{G}}} \rightarrow$ थ $\quad$ The proof is trivial．
b1）If ${\hat{\mathbf{C}} \bar{G}_{\omega}}^{\mathfrak{n}_{1}}, \mathfrak{n}_{2}, \ldots, \mathfrak{N}_{n} \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}_{1}, \mathfrak{B}_{2}, \ldots, \mathfrak{B}_{p}$ ， then $\mid \bar{C}_{\omega} \mathscr{R}_{1} \& \mathscr{R}_{2} \& \ldots \& \mathscr{N}_{n} \supset B_{1} \vee B_{2} \vee \ldots B_{p}$

Cases b1) and b2) exhaust all possibilities because no sequence with empty succedent is deducible in $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ (proof by induction over the axioms and rules of $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ ). We must prove first that the formulas of $\mathrm{C}_{\omega}$ which according to b1) and b2) correspond to the axioms of $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ are deducible in $\mathrm{C}_{\omega}$, and second that the rules of $C_{\omega}$ which correspond to the rules of $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ are admissible in $\mathrm{C}_{\omega}$ ( $c f$. in [7] p. 40 the concept of 'zulaessig'"). These proofs use only elementary deductive properties of $C_{\omega}$; by the way all deductive properties contained in Theorem 2 from [5] except the reductio ad absurdum are valid in $\mathrm{C}_{\omega}$ ( $c f$. Théorème 1 from [1]).

The equivalence of $\mathrm{C}_{n}$ and $\mathrm{CG}_{n}(1 \leq n<\omega)$ means that
a), b1) and b2) are the same as in the former case.


where $\left.\mathfrak{B}_{1}^{(n)} \& \mathscr{B}_{1} \&\right\urcorner \mathfrak{B}_{1}$ is a formula (not a schema) from which all formulas of $\mathrm{C}_{n}(1 \leq n<\omega)$ are deducible ( $c f$. [1] Théorème 6).

This deduction of $\rightarrow(12)$ in $\mathrm{CG}_{n}(1 \leq n<\omega)$ and the corresponding deductions of the axioms (13)-(16) prove a) of the equivalence. The other b1)-b4) can be proved using elementary deductive properties of $C_{n}(1 \leq n<\omega)$. In the analysis of NEA" it is important that

$$
\left.\left.\beta\left(\varkappa_{1}, \varkappa_{2}, \ldots, \varkappa_{p}\right)\right|_{c_{n}}\right\urcorner \beta\left(\varkappa_{1}, \varkappa_{2}, \ldots, \varkappa_{p}\right) \& \varkappa_{1}^{(n)} \& \varkappa_{2}^{(n)} \& \ldots \& \varkappa_{p}^{(n)} \supset \mathbb{}
$$

§2. The rule FES is not admissible in $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$. If FES were admissible in $\mathbf{C G}{ }_{\omega}$, then we could make the following deduction

But as $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{\omega}$ are equivalent we could also deduce ( $(\mathscr{S} \supset \mathfrak{N} \vee \mathfrak{B}) \supset$ $थ \vee(\mathbb{C} \supset \mathfrak{B})$ in $C_{\omega}$. The following normal matrix with the distinguished elements 1 and 2 shows, choosing 3 for ${ }^{\mathcal{E}}$, 3 for $थ$ and 4 for $\mathscr{B}$, the opposite.

| $\because$ | ㄱ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 4 |
| 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 |


| $\mathfrak{Q}$ ¢ | B |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| ข 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| - 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

B

| $\because 2$ | $\vee B$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
|  | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
|  | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |


| $\mathfrak{2} \&$ | $\mathfrak{B}$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathfrak{\imath}$ | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|  | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
|  | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

§3. Trying to apply Gentzen's proof of his Hauptsatz to the $\mathrm{CG}_{n}(1 \leq$ $n \leq \omega$ ) we encounter great difficulties in handling the rules FES' and NEA' ${ }^{\prime \prime}$. The first contains the typical intuitionistic restriction that the succedentia should have at most one formula. But the other rules of the $\mathrm{CG}_{n}$ are free from this restriction and this prevents the application of Gentzen's proof (cf. [4] 3.232.1). Also the rule NEA' contains only a conditioned and not as NEA an unconditioned introduction of negation in the antecedent. Precisely this difference raises difficulties to the application of Gentzen's proof. By the way, the $C_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ have no finite characteristic matrices ( $c f$. Théorème 6 from [1]) and this also suggests the conjecture that both the $C_{n}$ and $C G_{n}$ are undecidable.

But if we start from classical logic-and this is the standpoint of da Costa-there is no justification of FES' so far its substitution by FES produces no unpleasant consequences. On the other hand we can try to express the special conditions for the negation introduction contained in NE A" by a more general rule like NEA and some supplementary restriction on the formula to be negated. According to these suggestions we have built a new hierarchy $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ as follows

WG $_{\omega}$ differs from the propositional part of Gentzen's LK only in the following rule:

$$
\text { instead of NEA, } \mathbf{W G}_{\omega} \text { has NEA': } \frac{\mathfrak{N}, \Gamma \rightarrow \theta}{\neg\urcorner \mathfrak{N}, \Gamma \rightarrow \theta}
$$

WG $_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ contains all rules of WG $_{\omega}$ and NEA''': $\frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \theta, \mathscr{Q}^{[n]}}{7 \mathcal{U N}^{[n]}, \Gamma \rightarrow \theta}$
with the corresponding value of $n$ and where $\mathfrak{U}^{[1]}=\mathfrak{U} \& \neg \mathfrak{U}$ and $\mathfrak{U}^{[n+1]}=$ $\mathfrak{U}^{[n]} \& า \mathfrak{U}^{[n]}$.
§4. Gentzen's Hauptsatz for $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$. We only need to change the original proof contained in [4] page 196 ff . in those parts where negation plays an essential role. We adopt the numbering of [4] and make in the
deductive steps the same suppositions. Let us analyze first the case $n=\omega$.
3.113.35 The principal sign of $\mathfrak{g}$ ( $m i x$ formula) is 7 . But then the end of the deduction is

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { NES } \\
& \text { Mix } \\
& \frac{7 थ, \Gamma_{1} \rightarrow \theta_{1}}{\left.\Gamma_{1} \rightarrow \theta_{1}, 7\right\urcorner थ 2} \frac{थ, \Gamma_{2} \rightarrow \theta_{2}}{7 \tau थ, \Gamma_{2} \rightarrow \theta_{2}} \\
& \Gamma_{1}, \Gamma_{2} \rightarrow \theta_{1}, \theta_{2} \\
& \text { NEA. }
\end{aligned}
$$

As the rank of the mix is 2 , 7 थ is not contained in $\theta_{1}$ or $\Gamma_{2}$. The necessary transformation is

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { NES } \frac{\vartheta, \Gamma_{2} \rightarrow \theta_{2}}{\Gamma_{2} \rightarrow \theta_{2}, 7 थ} \rightarrow \uparrow, \Gamma_{1} \rightarrow \theta_{1} \\
& \frac{\Gamma_{2}, \Gamma_{1}^{*} \rightarrow \theta_{2}^{*}, \theta_{1}}{\overline{\Gamma_{1}, \Gamma_{2} \rightarrow \theta_{1}, \theta_{2}}}
\end{aligned}
$$

7 ㅇ. can occur in $\Gamma_{1}$ or $\theta_{2}$. But as the grade of 7 is less than the grade of $77 \mathfrak{U}$ the new mix can be eliminated according to the inductive hypothesis.
3.121.22 In this case Gentzen supposes that the right rank is greater than 1 (3.121) and that the mix formula $\mathfrak{N}$ occurs in $\Sigma$ and $\Gamma$ (3.121) but not in $\Pi$ (3.121.2). The rule above the right upper sequence of the mix is a NEA ${ }^{\prime}$.
a) $\mathfrak{N}$ is the same as $77 थ$. The end of the deduction is

$$
\operatorname{Mix} \mathrm{I} \frac{\Pi \rightarrow \Sigma \frac{\varkappa, \Gamma \rightarrow \Omega}{7\urcorner थ, \Gamma \rightarrow \Omega}}{\Pi, \Gamma^{*} \rightarrow \Sigma^{*}, \Omega} \text { NEA }^{\prime}
$$

The necessary change is

The mixes II and III have the same left rank as the mix I; the right rank of II is less than that of I. Because 77 थ can not occur in $थ, \Pi$ or $\Gamma^{*}$ the right rank of III is 1 . The new mixes II and III can be eliminated according to the inductive hypothesis.
b) $\mathfrak{M}$ differs from $7 \mathfrak{q}$. The end of the deduction is

The necessary transformation is

$$
\frac{\Pi \rightarrow \Sigma \quad \vartheta, \Gamma \rightarrow \Omega}{\frac{\Pi, \varkappa^{*}, \Gamma^{*} \rightarrow \Sigma^{*}, \Omega}{\Pi,\urcorner\urcorner, \Gamma^{*} \rightarrow \Sigma^{*}, \Omega}} \quad \text { Mix } \quad \text { eventually interchanges and NEA. }
$$

The new mix has a smaller right rank than the original mix and the same left rank. But then we can apply the inductive hypothesis. This completes the proof of Gentzen's Hauptsatz for $\mathbf{W G}_{\omega}$. $\mathbf{W G}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ also has the rule $N E A^{\prime \prime}$ '. But this rule is a special case of NEA, and we can apply without change Gentzen's original proof.
§5. Deductive properties of $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$.
a) $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ is decidable and has the subformula property (cf. [4] page 195).
b) $\mathbf{W G}_{\omega}$ is not finitely trivializable. A calculus is finitely trivializable (cf. [1] page 3791) if there is a formula (not a schema) from which all formulas are deducible. If $\mathbf{W G}_{\omega}$ were finitely trivializable, then there is a cutfree deduction of $\varkappa_{1} \rightarrow B_{1}$, where $\Omega_{1}$ is a formula with the aforementioned property and $\mathscr{B}_{1}$ is a propositional variable not occurring in $\overline{\mathscr{U}}_{1}$. But then the cut-free deduction of $\Omega_{1} \rightarrow \Re_{1}$ has a deductive thread with the following properties:

1) The rules FES, NES, OES, UES and the cut-rule do not occur in this thread;
2) The succedentia of the sequences belonging to this thread are not empty and contain only formulas $\mathfrak{B}_{1}$;
3) This deductive thread ends with the sequence $\mathfrak{B}_{1} \rightarrow B_{1}$.

But then if we follow this deductive thread in the inverse direction we could prove that $B_{1}$ is a subformula of $\Re_{1}$. But this contradicts our hypothesis (this proof is also valid in $\mathrm{CG}_{\omega}$ ).
c) $\mathbf{W G}_{n}(1 \leq n<\omega)$ is finitely trivializable

 not the corresponding schemata with a smaller value of $n$.
If we use the $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ as basic propositional calculi of an axiom system, then by smaller values of $n$ increases the danger of trivialization.


 $\urcorner \mathfrak{U}^{[1]}, 7 \mathfrak{U}^{[2]}, \ldots, 7 \mathfrak{थ}^{[n]} \rightarrow \neg\left(7 \mathfrak{U l}^{[m]}(m \geq 1)\right.$ are deducible, but not the corresponding schemata with smaller values of $n$.

| $2 \rightarrow$ 2 | $\mathfrak{B}, 7 \mathfrak{B}, 7 \mathfrak{B}^{[1]}, \mathfrak{P}^{[2]} \ldots \mathfrak{P}^{[n-1]} \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}^{[n]}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\vartheta \rightarrow$ 埌 | $\mathfrak{Q}, \mathfrak{Q} \supset \mathfrak{B}, 7 \mathfrak{B}, 7 \mathfrak{B}^{[1]}, 7 \mathfrak{B}^{[2]}, \ldots, 7 \mathfrak{B}^{[n-1]} \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}^{[n]}$ |
|  |  |
|  |  |

FEA and other rules FEA and other rules NES, NEA"' and other rules

The right initial sequence of the former and the initial sequence of this deduction are deducible sequences of the form

$$
\varkappa_{1}, \Re_{2}, \ldots, \varkappa_{p} \rightarrow \varkappa_{1} \& \vartheta_{2} \& \ldots \& \varkappa_{p}
$$

h) In WG $\left.\left._{1}\right\urcorner \mathfrak{U}^{[1]} \&\right\urcorner \mathfrak{B}^{[1]} \rightarrow \neg\left(\mathscr{U}^{[1} \& B^{[1]}\right.$ is not deducible. Therefore (13) is independent from (1)-(12) in $C_{1}$. Axioms (14) and (15) of $C_{1}$ are also independent.
i) If $\left.\right|_{W G_{s}} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$, then $\dagger_{W G_{t}} \rightarrow \hat{\mu}(1 \leq t<s \leq \omega)$

On the other hand there are sequences which are deducible in $\mathbf{W G}_{t}$ but not in $\mathbf{W G}_{s}$. Therefore the $\mathbf{W G}_{n}$ build a genuine heirarchy. The Théorèmes 2 and 3 from [1] are valid in WG $_{1}$.
j) Supposing that $\urcorner \Re_{1}, \neg \Re_{2}, \ldots, \neg \Re_{p}$, are all the negations which

1) are proper subformulas of $थ$ and
2) do not have the form 7$\urcorner$ § or $7 \bigodot^{[n]}$,
then for $1 \leq n<\omega$

The implication from right to left is trivial; that from left to right can be proved in the following way. We can suppose that there is a cutfree deduction of $\rightarrow$ थ in LK. We choose in it a NEA rule-if there are no such rules the LK deduction is already a $\mathbf{W G}_{n}$ deduction:

$$
\text { NEA } \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \theta, \mathfrak{B}}{\neg \mathfrak{B}, \Gamma \rightarrow \theta}
$$

If $B$ has the form $\bigodot^{[n]}$, then this NEA is already a NEA ${ }^{\prime \prime}$. In the opposite case we make the following change

The right upper sequence of the cut is deducible in $\mathbf{W G}_{n}$. Let us suppose that $B$ has not the form $7 \mathbb{C}$. In all sequences of the deductive thread starting in the lower sequence of NEA'"' and ending in the end sequence we add-if necessary-in their antecedentia the formulas $7 \mathfrak{S}^{[1]}, 7 \mathfrak{B}^{[2]}, \ldots$, $7 \mathfrak{B}^{[n]}$. In this way we obtain a new deduction with a NEA less and an end sequence corresponding to the conditions of our theorem. On the other hand if $\Re$ has the form $\urcorner^{\circledR}$, then according to the second part of $g$ ) we can add
instead of the formulas $\neg \mathfrak{B}^{[d]}$ the corresponding $\urcorner \mathbb{§}^{[d]}$. By repeating this procedure we obtain a deduction in $\mathbf{W G}_{n}$ of the sequence we need (cf. Théorème 4 from [1]).

There is no principal difficulty in extending the $\mathbf{W G}_{n}$ into quantificational calculi. Only we must take care of the restrictions in the use of free variables; for example, in $j$ ) the added formulas $7_{B^{[d]}}$ must be the corresponding universal quantifications. By the way and considering j) and Church's theorem these quantificational extensions are not decidable (cf. [2]).
§6. Adding the rule

$$
\text { NES' } \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \theta, \mathfrak{A}}{\Gamma \rightarrow \theta, 7\urcorner \mathfrak{A}}
$$

we can extend the $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$. In the so defined $\mathrm{WG}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ hierarchy all theorems of the preceding section except the last part of i) are valid. The Théorèmes 2 and 3 from [1] are also valid except the undeducibility of $\rightarrow थ \supset 77 थ$. Furthermore all odd and all even iterations of negation are equivalent in $\mathbf{W G}_{n}$; but this is not very important because there is no law of replacement for equivalent schemata either in $\mathbf{W G}_{n}$ or in WG $_{n}$.

Choosing the intuitionistic and not the classical logic as starting point we can build a hierarchy $\mathrm{WGI}_{n}(1 \leq n \leq \omega)$ in the following way:

WGI $_{n}$ differs from WG $_{n}$ by having NES' instead of NEA'. Moreover the succedentia can have at most one formula.

The theorems a), b), c), d), e), j) and i)-except the undeducibility of $\rightarrow थ \supset\urcorner\urcorner$ 亿-are also valid. On the other hand the second sequence of g) is not deducible.

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