

Sequent Calculus for Natural Deduction

Reference: *Logic and Computation* by L. C. Paulson, Cambridge University Press.

Judgements, or logical assertions to be proved, are of the form $\Gamma \vdash A$, where A is a formula, and Γ is a set or sequence of formulas: $\Gamma = A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$. Intuitively, the judgement $\Gamma \vdash A$ asserts that A is true, or more precisely, provable, under the hypotheses Γ . We also use other capital Greek letters like Δ and Θ for formula sets, and we use Γ, Δ to denote the union of Γ and Δ .

Assumption: $A \vdash A$

Conjunction:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \quad \Delta \vdash B}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash A \wedge B} \quad (\wedge \text{ intro})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B}{\Gamma \vdash A} \quad (\wedge \text{ elim 1}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B}{\Gamma \vdash B} \quad (\wedge \text{ elim 2})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B \quad \Delta, A, B \vdash C}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash C} \quad (\wedge \text{ elim 3})$$

Disjunction:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B} \quad (\vee \text{ intro 1}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B} \quad (\vee \text{ intro 2})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B \quad \Delta, A \vdash C \quad \Theta, B \vdash C}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta \vdash C} \quad (\vee \text{ elim})$$

Implication:

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B} \quad (\rightarrow \text{ intro}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \quad \Delta \vdash A}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash B} \quad (\rightarrow \text{ elim, MP})$$

Negation:

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \mathbf{F}}{\Gamma \vdash \neg A} \quad (\neg \text{ intro}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \neg A \quad \Delta \vdash A}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash \mathbf{F}} \quad (\neg \text{ elim})$$

Contradiction:

$$\frac{\Gamma, \neg A \vdash \mathbf{F}}{\Gamma \vdash A} \quad (\mathbf{F} \text{ elim, classical}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{F}}{\Gamma \vdash A} \quad (\mathbf{F} \text{ elim, int.})$$

The additional rules for the quantifier forms in the predicate calculus are as follows:

Universal Quantifier:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash \forall x.A} \quad x \text{ not free in } \Gamma \quad (\forall \text{ intro})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \forall x.A}{\Gamma \vdash A[t/x]} \quad (\forall \text{ elim})$$

Existential Quantifier:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A[t/x]}{\Gamma \vdash \exists x.A} \quad (\exists \text{ intro})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \exists x.A \quad \Delta, A \vdash B}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash B} \quad x \text{ not free in } \Delta, B \quad (\exists \text{ elim})$$

Example 1 (Exercise 6.3.5(b) from Homework 6). The proof of $A \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow (A \wedge \neg B))$:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{A \vdash A \quad \neg B \vdash \neg B}{A, \neg B \vdash A \wedge \neg B} (\wedge \text{ intro})}{A \vdash \neg B \rightarrow (A \wedge \neg B)} (\rightarrow \text{ intro})}{\vdash A \rightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow (A \wedge \neg B))} (\rightarrow \text{ intro})$$

Example 2 (Exercise 6.3.5(d) from Homework 6). The proof of $(B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \wedge B \rightarrow A \wedge C)$:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{(A \wedge B) \vdash A \wedge B}{(A \wedge B) \vdash A} (\wedge \text{ elim}) \quad \frac{(B \rightarrow C) \vdash B \rightarrow C \quad \frac{(A \wedge B) \vdash A \wedge B}{(A \wedge B) \vdash B} (\wedge \text{ elim})}{(B \rightarrow C), (A \wedge B) \vdash C} (\rightarrow \text{ elim})}{\frac{(B \rightarrow C), (A \wedge B) \vdash A \wedge C}{(B \rightarrow C) \vdash A \wedge B \rightarrow A \wedge C} (\rightarrow \text{ intro})}{\vdash (B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \wedge B \rightarrow A \wedge C)} (\rightarrow \text{ intro})$$

Example 3 To prove $\neg \forall x.A \vdash \exists x.\neg A$ we need first to prove some derived rules.

$$(R1) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \neg \neg A}{\Gamma \vdash A}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \neg \neg A \quad \overline{\neg A \vdash \neg A}}{\frac{\Gamma, \neg A \vdash \mathbf{F}}{\Gamma \vdash A} (\mathbf{F} \text{ elim})} (\neg \text{ elim})$$

$$(R2) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \forall x.\neg \neg A}{\Gamma \vdash \forall x.A}$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\Gamma \vdash \forall x.\neg \neg A}{\Gamma \vdash \neg \neg A} (\forall \text{ elim})}{\Gamma \vdash A} (R1)}{\Gamma \vdash \forall x.A} (\forall \text{ intro})$$

(R3) $\neg(A \vee B) \vdash \neg B$

$$\frac{\neg(A \vee B) \vdash \neg(A \vee B) \quad \frac{B \vdash B}{B \vdash A \vee B} (\vee \text{ intro } 2)}{\frac{\neg(A \vee B), B \vdash \mathbf{F}}{\neg(A \vee B) \vdash \neg B} (\neg \text{ intro})} (\neg \text{ elim})$$

(R4) $\neg(\exists x.A) \vdash \forall x.\neg A$

$$\frac{\neg\exists x.A \vdash \neg\exists x.A \quad \frac{A \vdash A}{A \vdash \exists x.A} (\exists \text{ intro})}{\frac{\neg\exists x.A, A \vdash \mathbf{F}}{\neg\exists x.A \vdash \neg A} (\neg \text{ intro})} (\neg \text{ elim})$$

$$\frac{\neg\exists x.A \vdash \neg A}{\neg\exists x.A \vdash \forall x.\neg A} (\forall \text{ intro})$$

(swap) $\frac{\Gamma, \neg B \vdash A}{\Gamma, \neg A \vdash B}$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \neg B \vdash A \quad \neg A \vdash \neg A}{\frac{\Gamma, \neg B, \neg A \vdash \mathbf{F}}{\Gamma, \neg A \vdash B} (\mathbf{F} \text{ elim})} (\neg \text{ elim})$$

And now we can finally prove $\neg\forall x.A \vdash \exists x.\neg A$, starting with (R4) instantiated with $\neg A$ for A .

$$\frac{\neg\exists x.\neg A \vdash \forall x.\neg\neg A}{\frac{\neg\exists x.\neg A \vdash \forall x.A}{\neg\forall x.A \vdash \exists x.\neg A} (\text{swap})} (\text{R2})$$