

# Full proofs for the postulates of a rational consequence relation for datalog

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## Postulate 1 (Reflexivity)

$$\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \beta$$

**Reflexivity** seems to be satisfied universally by any kind of reasoning that is based on some notion of consequence [1]. Our defeasible entailment check for the given defeasible rule is eventually reduced to a classical entailment check for a strict version of the rule, which will always be reflexive.

### Proof:

1. In order for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \beta)$  to terminate, we have to break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3, so we will either have **Case 1** where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds or **Case 2** where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true.

#### Case 1:

2. (a) Since  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \rightarrow \perp$ , we must have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \beta$  by classical inference.  
(b) Line 4 of Algorithm 3 will then return **True** for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta)$ , meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \beta$  for this case.

#### Case 2:

3. (a) Since  $i_\beta > n$ , we will only be dealing with the classical portion of the datalog program.  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \beta$  will hold by classical inference.  
(b) Line 4 of Algorithm 3 will then return **True** for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta)$ , meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \beta$  for this case.

□

## Postulate 2 (Left Logical Equivalence)

$$\frac{\beta = \gamma, \mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta}{\mathcal{K} \approx \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta}$$

**Left Logical Equivalence** expresses the requirement that logically equivalent formulas have exactly the same consequences [1]. Since  $\beta \equiv \gamma$ , Algorithm 3 will consider the same portion of the knowledge base for both  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  where they are not exceptional. Since  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , we know that  $\beta \rightarrow \eta$  holds for this portion of the knowledge base. Since  $\beta \equiv \gamma$  and we are considering the same portion of the knowledge base,  $\gamma \rightarrow \eta$  will hold. Algorithm 3 will, therefore, return **True** when checking  $\mathcal{K} \approx \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ .

**Proof:**

1. Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) returns **True**.
2. In order for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) to terminate, we have to break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3, so we either have **Case 1** where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds or **Case 2** where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true.

**Case 1:**

3. (a) Since  $\beta \equiv \gamma$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) must give  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  where  $i_\gamma = i_\beta$  for which  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ).
- (b) Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ).
- (c)  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \equiv \bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR}$  and  $\beta \equiv \gamma$ , therefore  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ), meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$  for this case.

**Case 2:**

4. (a) If  $i_\beta > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \equiv \emptyset$ .
- (b) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3.
- (c) Since  $\beta \equiv \gamma$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) must not have any number  $i_\gamma$  for which  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  and  $i_\gamma \leq n$ , therefore  $i_\gamma > n$ .
- (d) If  $i_\gamma > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$ .
- (e) If  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  and  $\beta \equiv \gamma$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ), meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$  for this case.

□

**Postulate 3 (Right Weakening)**

$$\frac{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta, \models \eta \rightarrow \gamma}{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma}$$

**Right Weakening** implies that we may replace logically equivalent formulas in the head of the rule [1]. The portion of the knowledge base that Algorithm 3 considers for both  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$  and  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$  is the same due to exceptionality being determined by the body of a rule and these two rules have the same body. We know that  $\beta \rightarrow \eta$  holds for this portion of the knowledge base and we know that  $\models \eta \rightarrow \gamma$ . Due to transitivity of strict (classical) implication, we know that  $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$  will also hold for this portion of the knowledge base, so Algorithm 3 will return **True** when checking  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ .

**Proof:**

1. Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) returns **True**.
2. In order for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) to terminate, we have to break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3, so we either have **Case 1** where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds or **Case 2** where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true.

**Case 1:**

3. (a) Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ).
- (b) With  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  and given  $\models \eta \rightarrow \gamma$ , we will get  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  due to the transitivity of strict datalog implication.
- (c) Thus,  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  will hold on line 4 of algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ) and cause RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ) to return **True**, meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$  for this case.

**Case 2:**

4. (a) If  $i_\beta > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \equiv \emptyset$ .
- (b) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \equiv \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$ .
- (c) With  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  and given  $\models \eta \rightarrow \gamma$ , we will get  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  due to the transitivity of strict datalog implication.
- (d) Thus,  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  will hold on line 4 of algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ) and cause RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ) to return **True**, meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$  for this case.

□

**Postulate 4 (And)**

$$\frac{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma, \mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta}{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma \wedge \eta}$$

**And** expresses the fact that the conjunction of two plausible consequences is also a plausible consequence [1]. The portion of the knowledge base that Algorithm 3 considers for  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ,  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , and  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  is the

same due to exceptionality being determined by the body of a rule and all of these rules having the same body. For this portion of the knowledge base, we know that both  $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$  and  $\beta \rightarrow \eta$ . Due to classical conjunction introduction,  $\beta \rightarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  must also hold for this portion of the knowledge base. Algorithm 3 will, therefore, return **True** when checking  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$ .

**Proof:**

1. Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$  and  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ,  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma)$  and  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta)$  both return **True**.
2. In order for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma)$  and  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta)$  to terminate, we have to break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3, so we either have **Case 1** where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds or **Case 2** where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true.

**Case 1:**

3. (a) Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma)$ .
- (b) Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ,  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta)$ .
- (c) If we have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  and  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  must hold due to classical conjunction introduction.
- (d) If we have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  on line 4 of algorithm 3, then  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma \wedge \eta)$  will return **True**, meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  for this case.

**Case 2:**

4. (a) If  $i_\beta > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$ .
- (b) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma)$ .
- (c) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta)$ .
- (d) If we have  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  and  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  must hold due to classical conjunction introduction..
- (e) If we have  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  on line 4 of algorithm 3, then  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma \wedge \eta)$  will return **True**, meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma \wedge \eta$  for this case.

□

**Postulate 5 (Or)**

$$\frac{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta, \mathcal{K} \approx \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta}{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta}$$

**Or** states that any formula that is, separately, a plausible consequence of two different formulas, should also be a plausible consequence of their disjunction [1]. For  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , Algorithm 3 considers the portion of the knowledge base where  $\beta$  is not exceptional.  $\eta$  classically follows for this portion of the knowledge base. For  $\mathcal{K} \models \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , Algorithm 3 considers the portion of the knowledge base where  $\gamma$  is not exceptional.  $\eta$  classically follows for this portion of the knowledge base. When Algorithm 3 checks if  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , it will consider the largest portion of the knowledge base where at least one of  $\beta$  or  $\gamma$  is no longer exceptional. We know that at the point where at least one of  $\beta$  or  $\gamma$  is no longer exceptional,  $\eta$  classically follows for this portion of the knowledge base. So we know that  $\beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  for this portion of the knowledge base. Algorithm 3 will, therefore, return **True** when checking  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ .

**Proof:**

1. Given  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$  and  $\mathcal{K} \models \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) both return **True**.
2. In order for both RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) to terminate, both calls to Algorithm 3 need to break out of the while loop on line 2, so we can have 4 different cases. For **Case 1** RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds. For **Case 2** RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds. For **Case 3** RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $i_\gamma \leq n$  is no longer true. For **Case 4** RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) reaches a point where  $i_\gamma \leq n$  is no longer true.

**Case 1:**

3. (a) Given  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ).
- (b) Given  $\mathcal{K} \models \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ).
- (c) We now have 3 subcases. We have **Case 1a** where  $i_\beta < i_\gamma$ . We have **Case 1b** where  $i_\beta > i_\gamma$ . We have **Case 1c** where  $i_\beta = i_\gamma$ .

**Case 1a:**

- (d) i. Since  $i_\beta < i_\gamma$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) will break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3 at a point when  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds.

- ii. Since we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  holds, we then know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$ , meaning  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

**Case 1b:**

- (e) i. Since  $i_\beta > i_\gamma$ ,  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$  will break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3 at the point when  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds.
- ii. Since we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  holds, we then know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$ , meaning  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

**Case 1c:**

- (f) i. Since  $i_\beta = i_\gamma$ , we will have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \equiv \bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j$ , so  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$  will break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3 at a point when both  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  and  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  no longer hold.
- ii. Since we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  and  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  both hold, we know that both  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  and  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$ , meaning  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

**Case 2:**

- 4. (a) Since  $i_\beta > n$  and  $i_\gamma \leq n$ , it must be that  $i_\gamma < i_\beta$ , so  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$  will break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3 at the point when  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds.
- (b) Given  $\mathcal{K} \models \gamma \leadsto \eta$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \gamma \leadsto \eta)$ .
- (c) Since  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$ , meaning  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

**Case 3:**

- 5. (a) Since  $i_\gamma > n$  and  $i_\beta \leq n$ , it must be that  $i_\beta < i_\gamma$ , so  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \vee \gamma \leadsto \eta)$  will break out of the while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3 at the point when  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds.
- (b) Given  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \leadsto \eta$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in  $\text{RationalClosure}(\mathcal{K}, \beta \leadsto \eta)$ .

- (c) Since  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ), meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$  for this case.

**Case 4:**

6. (a) Since  $i_\beta > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} = \emptyset$ .
- (b) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3.
- (c) Since  $i_\gamma > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} = \emptyset$ .
- (d) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\gamma}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3.
- (e) Therefore  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \vee \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  also holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3, thus returning **True** for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ), meaning  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \vee \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$  for this case.

□

**Postulate 6 (Cautious Monotonicity)**

$$\frac{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma, \mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta}{\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \wedge \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta}$$

**Cautious Monotonicity** expresses that learning a new fact that could have been plausibly concluded should not invalidate previous conclusions [1]. For  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$  and  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , Algorithm 3 considers the portion of the knowledge base where  $\beta$  is not exceptional. We know that  $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$  and  $\beta \rightarrow \eta$  for this portion of the knowledge base. Since  $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$ , we know that  $\beta \wedge \gamma$  will not be exceptional for this same portion of the knowledge base. Algorithm 3 will, therefore, consider this same portion of the knowledge base when checking  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \wedge \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ . Since  $\beta \rightarrow \eta$  for this portion of the knowledge base,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  will also hold for this portion of the knowledge base due to classical monotonicity. Algorithm 3 will, therefore, return **True** when checking  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \wedge \gamma \rightsquigarrow \eta$ .

**Proof:**

1. Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$  and  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ) and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) both return **True**.
2. In order for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ) and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \eta$ ) to terminate, both calls to Algorithm 3 have to break out of the while loop on line 2, so we either have **Case 1** where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds or **Case 2** where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true.

**Case 1:**

3. (a) Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \overrightarrow{R_j} \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \rightsquigarrow \gamma$ ).

- (b) Given  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \leadsto \eta$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \leadsto \eta$ ).
- (c) Since we have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$ , we equivalently have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \neg(\beta \wedge \neg\gamma)$ . Therefore  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \neg\gamma$  cannot hold, so the equivalent  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  will not hold on line 2 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ).
- (d) Since  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold by classical monotonicity on line 4 of Algorithm 3.
- (e) Since  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$ , then RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ) must return **True**, meaning  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

**Case 2:**

- 4. (a) Since  $i_\beta > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$ .
- (b) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \leadsto \gamma$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3.
- (c) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \leadsto \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  holds on line 4 of Algorithm 3.
- (d) Since  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \gamma$ , we equivalently have  $\mathcal{SR} \models \neg(\beta \wedge \neg\gamma)$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \neg\gamma$  cannot hold, so the equivalent  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  does not hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ).
- (e) Since  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  must hold by classical monotonicity on line 4 of Algorithm 3.
- (f) Since  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$ , then RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ) must return **True**, meaning  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

□

**Postulate 7 (Rational Monotonicity)**

$$\frac{\mathcal{K} \models \beta \leadsto \eta, \mathcal{K} \not\models \beta \leadsto \neg\gamma}{\mathcal{K} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta}$$

**Rational Monotonicity** expresses the fact that only the negation that only additional information that negates a previously drawn plausible conclusion should force us to withdraw that plausible conclusion [1]. For  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \leadsto \eta$  and  $\mathcal{K} \not\models \beta \leadsto \neg\gamma$ , Algorithm 3 considers the portion of the knowledge base where  $\beta$  is not exceptional. We know that  $\beta \rightarrow \eta$  and that is is not the case that  $\beta \rightarrow \neg\gamma$  for this portion of the knowledge base. We, therefore, know that  $\beta \wedge \gamma$  will not be exceptional for this same portion of the knowledge base. Algorithm 3 will, therefore, consider this same portion of the knowledge base when checking  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ . Since  $\beta \rightarrow \eta$  for this portion of the knowledge base,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  will also hold for this portion of the knowledge base due to classical monotonicity. Algorithm 3 will, therefore, return **True** when checking  $\mathcal{K} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ .

**Proof:**



1. Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \leadsto \eta$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \leadsto \eta$ ) returns **True**.
2. Given  $\mathcal{K} \not\approx \beta \leadsto \neg\gamma$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \leadsto \neg\gamma$ ) returns **False**.
3. In order for RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \leadsto \eta$ ) and RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \leadsto \neg\gamma$ ) to terminate, both calls to Algorithm 3 have to break out of the while loop on line 2, so we either have **Case 1** where  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \perp$  no longer holds or **Case 2** where  $i_\beta \leq n$  is no longer true.

**Case 1:**

4. (a) Given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \leadsto \eta$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  must hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \leadsto \eta$ ).
- (b) Given  $\mathcal{K} \not\approx \beta \leadsto \neg\gamma$ , we know that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \neg\gamma$  does not hold on line 4 of Algorithm 3 in RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \leadsto \neg\gamma$ ).
- (c) In order to have  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ) must return **True**.
- (d) Since  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \rightarrow \perp$ , we will have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  by classical monotonicity.
- (e) Since we have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \perp$ , RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ) will progress out of its while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3.
- (f) Since  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  and  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \rightarrow \neg\gamma$ , we can have  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  by classical monotonicity.
- (g) By having  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  on line 4 of Algorithm 3, RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ) will return **True**, thereby giving  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

**Case 2:**

5. (a) Since  $i_\beta > n$ , then  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$ .
- (b) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \leadsto \eta$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$ .
- (c) If  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j = \emptyset$  and given  $\mathcal{K} \not\approx \beta \leadsto \neg\gamma$ , then  $\mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \rightarrow \neg\gamma$ .
- (d) Since there is no number  $i_\beta \leq n$  such that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \rightarrow \perp$ , there will be no number  $i_\beta \leq n$  such that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \perp$  due to classical monotonicity.
- (e) Since there is no number  $i_\beta \leq n$  such that  $\bigcup_{j=i_\beta}^{j \leq n} \vec{R}_j \cup \mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \perp$ , we will have  $i_\beta > n$ , so RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ) will progress out of its while loop on line 2 of Algorithm 3.
- (f) Since  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \rightarrow \eta$  and  $\mathcal{SR} \not\models \beta \rightarrow \neg\gamma$ , we can have  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  by classical monotonicity.
- (g) By having  $\mathcal{SR} \models \beta \wedge \gamma \rightarrow \eta$  on line 4 of Algorithm 3, RationalClosure( $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{K}$ ,  $\beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$ ) will return **True**, thereby giving  $\mathcal{K} \approx \beta \wedge \gamma \leadsto \eta$  for this case.

□

## References

1. Kraus, S., Lehmann, D., Magidor, M.: Nonmonotonic reasoning, preferential models and cumulative logics. *Artificial Intelligence* **44**(1-2), 167–207 (1990)