

# Another Logic Exercise

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First the patter ... Recall the principle of well-founded induction over a relation  $R$ ;

$$(\forall x)((\forall y)(R(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z))$$

**REMARK 1** Suppose  $R' \subseteq R$  are wellfounded relations on a fixed domain. Then  $R'$ -induction is a weaker principle than  $R$ -induction.

*Proof:*

If  $R'(x, y) \rightarrow R(x, y)$  then  $(\forall y)(R(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y))$  implies  $(\forall y)(R'(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y))$  and  
 $(\forall x)((\forall y)(R'(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x))$  implies  $(\forall x)((\forall y)(R(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x))$   
and finally

$$(\forall x)((\forall y)(R(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z))$$

implies

$$(\forall x)((\forall y)(R'(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z))$$

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Reflect that if  $R'$  is the empty relation then  $R$ -induction is trivial. For consider: if  $R$  is the empty relation then

$$(\forall x)((\forall y)(R(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z))$$

is

$$(\forall x)((\forall y)(\perp \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z))$$

which is

$$(\forall x)((\forall y)(\top \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z))$$

which is

$$(\forall x)(\phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z)).$$

**EXERCISE 1** Provide demonstrations, using sequent calculus, natural deduction or resolution that  $(\forall x)((\forall y)(R(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z))$  and  $(\forall xy)(R'(x, y) \rightarrow R(x, y))$  together imply

$$(\forall x)((\forall y)(R'(y, x) \rightarrow \phi(y)) \rightarrow \phi(x)) \rightarrow (\forall z)(\phi(z)).$$

I offer the usual inducements (bottle of port or claret) for a nicely L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X-ed answer to any of the above. (That is to say, a natural deduction proof, sequent proof or resolution proof. A JAPE box-proof would be acceptable too).