

My Rendition of Hunter's Strong Inductive Proof of The Deduction Theorem for PS

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Theorem. Let Γ be an arbitrary set of formulas of P, and let A and B be arbitrary formulas of P.

If $\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS} B$, then $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset B$.

If there is a derivation (in PS) of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$, then there is a derivation (in PS) of $A \supset B$ from Γ alone.

Proof. We will prove this by *strong induction* on the length of derivations establishing $\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS} B$. More precisely, we will prove by strong induction that the statement $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$, where $S(n)$ is:

$S(n)$: *If there is a derivation (in PS) of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$ of length n ,
then there is a derivation (in PS) of $A \supset B$ from Γ alone.*

To prove that $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$ by strong induction, we will proceed in two steps:

I. **Basis Step:** Prove that $S(1)$ is true.

II. **Inductive Step:** Assume as our **inductive hypothesis** that $S(i)$ is true for all i such that $1 < i < n$. Then, use this *inductive hypothesis* to show that $S(i)$ is true when $i = n$ (i.e., that $S(n)$ is true).

Having accomplished both (I) and (II), we will have succeeded in showing that $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$.

In what follows, I will use \mathcal{D} to stand for some derivation (in PS) of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$, and I will use \mathcal{D}' to stand for some derivation (in PS) of $A \supset B$ from Γ alone. Since we are concerned about the length of \mathcal{D} , I will use $\mathcal{D}_1, \mathcal{D}_2, \dots, \mathcal{D}_m$ to stand for the m lines of a derivation \mathcal{D} with length m . Now, the inductive proof.

I. Basis Step. Let \mathcal{D} be a derivation (in PS) of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$ that is exactly one formula long. Thus, \mathcal{D} has exactly one term: B . So, $\mathcal{D} = \langle \mathcal{D}_1 \rangle = \langle B \rangle$. By the definition of a derivation in PS, we must have *either*:

1. B is an axiom, *or*
2. B is a member of the set Γ , *or*
3. B is A itself, *or*
4. B is an immediate consequence of two previous lines of \mathcal{D} by Modus Ponens.

Case 4 is *impossible* here, since $\mathcal{D} = \langle \mathcal{D}_1 \rangle = \langle B \rangle$. So, we only need to look at Cases 1-3. For each of these three cases, we will show how to construct from \mathcal{D} another derivation (in PS) \mathcal{D}' of $A \supset B$ from Γ alone.

Case 1. B is an axiom. Then we can construct a 3-line derivation \mathcal{D}' showing $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset B$:

[1] B	[Axiom, by assumption of Case 1]
[2] $B \supset (A \supset B)$	[Axiom, by PS1]
[3] $A \supset B$	[MP, 1, 2]

Note: \mathcal{D}' is a *proof* in this Case. So, $A \supset B$ is a *theorem* in this Case. Therefore, *trivially*, $A \supset B$ can be derived from *any* set Γ in this Case (23.5). Remember, these sorts of statements involving A , B , etc. are *metalinguistic forms*, not statements of P. What this gives you is a general *metatheoretic recipe* for taking *any* B falling into Case 1 and using it to generate a derivation of $A \supset B$ from Γ . \square

Case 2. B is a member of the set Γ . Again, we have a 3-line derivation \mathcal{D}' showing $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset B$:

[1] B	[Given as a member of the set Γ]
[2] $B \supset (A \supset B)$	[Axiom, by PS1]
[3] $A \supset B$	[MP, 1, 2] \square

Case 3. $B = A$. Here is a 5-line derivation \mathcal{D}' showing $\emptyset \vdash_{PS} A \supset B$, viz., $\emptyset \vdash_{PS} A \supset A$:

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| [1] $A \supset ((A \supset A) \supset A)$ | [Axiom, by PS1] |
| [2] $(A \supset ((A \supset A) \supset A)) \supset ((A \supset (A \supset A)) \supset (A \supset A))$ | [Axiom, by PS2] |
| [3] $(A \supset (A \supset A)) \supset (A \supset A)$ | [MP, 1, 2] |
| [4] $A \supset (A \supset A)$ | [Axiom, by PS1] |
| [5] $A \supset A$ | [MP, 3, 4] |

That is to say, $A \supset B = A \supset A$ is a *theorem* in this Case. So, in this Case, $A \supset B$ can — *trivially* — be derived from *any* set Γ (23.5). That completes the Basis Step of the strong inductive proof. \square

II. Inductive Step. Assume the following strong inductive hypothesis:

Inductive Hypothesis (IH): The Deduction Theorem $[\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS} B \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset B]$ holds for every derivation \mathcal{D} of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$ **with length less than n** .

And, using this assumed inductive hypothesis (IH), prove:

Inductive Conclusion: The Deduction Theorem $[\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS} B \Rightarrow \Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset B]$ holds for every derivation \mathcal{D} of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$ **with length equal to n** .

Let \mathcal{D} be an arbitrary derivation (in PS) of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$ with length *equal to n* . Our goal is to use the (IH) on \mathcal{D} to show that there must be a derivation (in PS) of $A \supset B$ from Γ alone. Again, four Cases:

1. B is an axiom.
2. B is a member of the set Γ .
3. B is A itself.
4. B is an immediate consequence of two previous lines of \mathcal{D} by Modus Ponens.

For Cases 1–3, we can generate a derivation \mathcal{D}' just as we did in the Basis Step. This time, Case 4 is *not* impossible, since \mathcal{D} *could* have *many* lines prior to the final line on which B occurs ($n \geq 3$ in Case 4).

Case 4. B is an immediate consequence of two lines \mathcal{D}_i and \mathcal{D}_j of \mathcal{D} , where i and j are both less than n . Therefore, because of the way (MP) works, we must have either $\mathcal{D}_i = \mathcal{D}_j \supset B$ or $\mathcal{D}_j = \mathcal{D}_i \supset B$. I will assume that $\mathcal{D}_j = \mathcal{D}_i \supset B$. [The proof could also be run on the other assumption $\mathcal{D}_i = \mathcal{D}_j \supset B$.]

There are derivations of each of \mathcal{D}_i and \mathcal{D}_j from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$, each of which are *less than n* lines long. So, by (IH), we know that both $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset \mathcal{D}_i$, and $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset \mathcal{D}_j$ [$\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset (\mathcal{D}_i \supset B)$]. Then, we reason:

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| 1. $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset \mathcal{D}_i$ | [$\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS} \mathcal{D}_i$, $i < n$, (IH)] |
| 2. $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset (\mathcal{D}_i \supset B)$ | [$\Gamma \cup \{A\} \vdash_{PS} \mathcal{D}_j$, $j < n$, (IH), $\mathcal{D}_j = \mathcal{D}_i \supset B$] |
| 3. $\vdash_{PS} (A \supset (\mathcal{D}_i \supset B)) \supset ((A \supset \mathcal{D}_i) \supset (A \supset B))$ | [Axiom, by PS2] |
| 4. $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} (A \supset \mathcal{D}_i) \supset (A \supset B)$ | [From 2 and 3, by 23.45, see below] |
| 5. $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A \supset B$ | [From 1 and 4, by Hunter's 23.4] |

Metatheorem 23.45. If $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A$ and $\vdash_{PS} A \supset B$, then $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} B$.

Proof. 23.45 follows from Hunter's 23.4 & 23.5. If $\Gamma \vdash_{PS} A$, then there is a derivation \mathcal{D} of A from Γ . And, if $\vdash_{PS} A \supset B$, then the (k -step) *proof* of $A \supset B$ can be inserted into \mathcal{D} (prior to its last line), yielding a new (k -step longer) derivation \mathcal{D}' of A from Γ . Then, we can apply (MP) to the lines in \mathcal{D}' containing A and $A \supset B$ to infer B , which yields a derivation \mathcal{D}'' of B from Γ . \square

Using (IH), we have shown that *if* there is a derivation \mathcal{D} (of any length $n \geq 3$) of B from $\Gamma \cup \{A\}$ in which B is derived using (MP) from two previous lines of \mathcal{D} , *then* there is a derivation \mathcal{D}' of $A \supset B$ from Γ alone (do we know how to *construct \mathcal{D}' from \mathcal{D}* ?). That's Case 4, and the Inductive Step. \square

So, we have shown that (I) $S(1)$ is true, and that (II) *if $S(i)$ is true for all $i < n$, then $S(i)$ is true when $i = n$* . Therefore, by the principle of strong mathematical induction, $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$, as desired. \square