# cse541 LOGIC for Computer Science

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# LECTURE 7a

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# Chapter 7 Introduction to Intuitionistic and Modal Logics

PART 4: Gentzen Sequent System LI

#### Gentzen Sequent System LI

G. Gentzen formulated in 1935 a first syntactically decidable (in propositional case) proof systems for classical and intuitionistic logics

He proved their equivalence with their well established, respective Hilbert style formalizations

He **named** his classical system **LK** (K for Klassisch) and intuitionistic system **LI** (I for Intuitionistisch)

### Gentzen Sequent System LI

In order to prove the **completeness** of the system **LK** and to prove the **adequacy** of **LI** he introduced a special inference

rule, called **cut rule** that **corresponds** to the Modus Ponens rule in Hilbert style proof systems

Then, as the next step he proved the now famous **Hauptzatz**, called in English the **Cut Elimination Theorem** 

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Gentzen Sequent System LI

Gentzen original proof system LI is a particular case of his proof system LK for the classical logic

Both of them are presented in chapter 6 together with the original Gentzen's proof of the **Hauptzatz** for both, **LK** and **LI** proof systems

The elimination of the cut rule and the structure of other rules makes it possible to define effective automatic procedures for **proof** search, what is impossible in a case of the Hilbert style systems

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# LI Sequents

The Gentzen system LI is defined as follows.

Let

$$SQ = \{ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta : \Gamma, \Delta \in \mathcal{F}^* \}$$

be the set of all Gentzen sequents built out of the formulas of the language

 $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\{\cup,\cap,\Rightarrow,\neg\}}$ 

and the additional Gentzen arrow symbol  $\rightarrow$ 

We assume that all LI sequents are elements of a following subset *ISQ* of the set *SQ* of all sequents

 $ISQ = \{ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta : \Delta \text{ consists of at most one formula } \}$ 

The set /SQ is called the set of all **intuitionistic sequents**; the LI sequents

# Axioms of LI

**Logical Axioms** of **LI** consist of any sequent from the set *ISQ* which contains a formula that appears on both sides of the sequent arrow  $\rightarrow$ , i.e any sequent of the form

 $\Gamma, \ A, \ \Delta \ \longrightarrow \ A$ 

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for  $\Gamma, \Delta \in \mathcal{F}^*$ 

The set inference rules of LI is divided into two groups : the structural rules and the logical rules

There are three **Structural Rules** of **LI**: Weakening, Contraction and Exchange

Weakening structural rule

$$(weak \rightarrow) \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}{A, \ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}$$
$$(\rightarrow weak) \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow}{\Gamma \longrightarrow A}$$

A is called the weakening formula **Remember** that  $\Delta$  contains at most one formula

Contraction structural rule

$$(contr \rightarrow) \quad \frac{A, A, \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}{A, \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}$$

A is called the contraction formula **Remember** that  $\Delta$  contains at most one formula

The rule below is **not VALID** for **LI**; we list it as it is used in the classical case

$$(\rightarrow contr) \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta, \ A, A}{\Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta, \ A}$$

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Exchange structural rule

$$(exch \rightarrow) \quad \frac{\Gamma_1, \ A, B, \ \Gamma_2 \ \longrightarrow \ \Delta}{\Gamma_1, \ B, A, \ \Gamma_2 \ \longrightarrow \ \Delta}$$

**Remember** that  $\Delta$  contains at most one formula

The rule below is **not VALID** for **LI**; we list it as it is used in the classical case

$$(\rightarrow exch) \quad \frac{\Delta \longrightarrow \Gamma_1, \ A, B, \ \Gamma_2}{\Delta \longrightarrow \Gamma_1, \ B, A, \ \Gamma_2}.$$

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**Logical Rules** 

**Conjunction rules** 

$$(\cap \rightarrow) \quad \frac{A, B, \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}{(A \cap B), \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta},$$
$$(\rightarrow \cap) \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow A; \Gamma \longrightarrow B}{\Gamma \longrightarrow (A \cap B)}$$

**Remember** that  $\Delta$  contains at most one formula

**Disjunction rules** 

$$(\rightarrow \cup)_{1} \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow A}{\Gamma \longrightarrow (A \cup B)}$$
$$(\rightarrow \cup)_{2} \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow B}{\Gamma \longrightarrow (A \cup B)}$$
$$(\cup \rightarrow) \quad \frac{A, \ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta \quad ; \quad B, \ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}{(A \cup B), \ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}$$

**Remember** that  $\Delta$  contains at most one formula

Implication rules

$$(\rightarrow \Rightarrow) \quad \frac{A, \ \Gamma \longrightarrow B}{\Gamma \longrightarrow (A \Rightarrow B)}$$
$$(\Rightarrow \rightarrow) \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow A \ ; \ B, \ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}{(A \Rightarrow B), \ \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta}$$

**Remember** that  $\Delta$  contains at most one formula

#### Gentzen System LI

**Negation rules** 

$$(\neg \rightarrow) \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow A}{\neg A, \ \Gamma \longrightarrow}$$
$$(\rightarrow \neg) \quad \frac{A, \Gamma \longrightarrow}{\Gamma \longrightarrow \neg A}$$

We define the Gentzen system LI as

 $LI = (\mathcal{L}, ISQ, LA, Structural rules, Logical rules)$ 

# LI Completeness

The completeness of the **cut-free LI** follows directly from **LI Hauptzatz** proved in chapter 6 and the **intuitionistic completeness** (Mostowski 1948)

Completeness of LI

For any sequent  $\Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta \in ISQ$ ,

 $\vdash_{LI} \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta \quad \text{if and only of} \models_I \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta$ 

In particular, for any formula A,

 $\vdash_{LI} A$  if and only of  $\models_{I} A$ 

### Intuitionistic Disjunction

The particular form the following theorem was stated without the proof by Gödel in 1931

The theorem proved by Gentzen in 1935 via **Hauptzatz** and we follow his proof

#### Intuitionistically Derivable Disjunction

For any formulas  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ ,

 $\vdash_{LI} (A \cup B)$  if and only if  $\vdash_{LI} A$  or  $\vdash_{LI} B$ 

In particular, a disjunction  $(A \cup B)$  is intuitionistically **provable** in any proof system I if and only if either A or B is intuitionistically **provable** in I

### Intuitionistic Disjunction

#### Proof of

## $\vdash_{LI} (A \cup B)$ if and only if $\vdash_{LI} A$ or $\vdash_{LI} B$

Assume  $\vdash_{LI} (A \cup B)$ 

This equivalent to  $\vdash_{LI} \longrightarrow (A \cup B)$ 

The last step in the proof of  $\longrightarrow (A \cup B)$  in **LI** must be the application of the rule  $(\rightarrow \cup)_1$  to the sequent  $\longrightarrow A$ , or the application of the rule  $(\rightarrow \cup)_2$  to the sequent  $\longrightarrow B$ 

There is no other possibilities

We have proved that  $\vdash_{LI} (A \cup B)$  implies  $\vdash_{LI} A$  or  $\vdash_{LI} B$ 

The inverse implication is obvious by respective applications of rules  $(\rightarrow \cup)_1$  or  $(\rightarrow \cup)_2$  to the sequents  $\rightarrow A$  or  $\rightarrow B$ 

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Search for proofs in LI is a much more complicated process then the one in classical logic systems RS or GL defined in chapter 6

Here, as in any other Gentzen style proof system, proof search procedure consists of building the **decomposition** trees

# Remark 1

In **RS** the decomposition tree  $T_A$  of any formula A is always unique

# Remark 2

In **GL** the "blind search" defines, for any formula *A* a **finite** number of decomposition trees,

Nevertheless, it can be proved that the search can be reduced to examining only **one** of them, due to the **absence** of structural rules

### **Remark 3**

In **LI** the structural rules play a **vital role** in the proof construction and hence, in the proof search

The fact that a given **decomposition** tree ends with an **non**axiom leaf **does not** always imply that the proof does not exist

It might only imply that our search strategy was not good

The problem of **deciding** whether a given formula *A* **does**, or **does not** have a proof in **LI** becomes more complex then in the case of Gentzen system for classical logic

Before we define a heuristic method of **searching** for proof and **deciding** whether such a proof exists or not we make some observations

#### **Observation 1**

**Logical rules** of **LI** are similar to those in Gentzen type classical formalizations we already examined in previous chapters in a sense that each of them introduces a logical **connective** 

### **Observation 2**

The process of searching for a proof is a **decomposition** process in which we use the **inverse** of logical and structural rules as **decomposition** rules

For **example** the implication rule:

$$(\rightarrow \Rightarrow) \ \frac{A, \Gamma \longrightarrow B}{\Gamma \longrightarrow (A \Rightarrow B)}$$

becomes an implication **decomposition** rule (we use the same name  $(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$  in both cases)

$$(\rightarrow \Rightarrow) \quad \frac{\Gamma \longrightarrow (A \Rightarrow B)}{A, \Gamma \longrightarrow B}$$

#### **Observation 3**

We write proofs as **trees**, so the proof search process is a process of building decomposition trees

To facilitate the process we write the **decomposition** rules in a tree decomposition form as follows

```
\Gamma \longrightarrow (A \Rightarrow B)|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)A, \Gamma \longrightarrow B
```

The two premisses rule  $(\Rightarrow \rightarrow)$  written as the tree decomposition rule becomes

 $(A \Rightarrow B), \Gamma \longrightarrow$  $\bigwedge (\Rightarrow \rightarrow)$  $\Gamma \longrightarrow A \qquad B, \Gamma \longrightarrow$ 

The structural weakening rule written as the **decomposition** rule is

$$(\rightarrow weak) \xrightarrow{\Gamma \longrightarrow A}$$

We write it in a tree decomposition form as

$$\Gamma \longrightarrow A$$
$$| (\rightarrow weak)$$
$$\Gamma \longrightarrow$$

We define the notion of decomposable and indecomposable formulas and sequents as follows

**Decomposable formula** is any formula of the degree  $\geq$  1 **Decomposable sequent** is any sequent that contains a decomposable formula

**Indecomposable formula** is any formula of the degree 0 i.e. is any propositional variable

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#### Remark

In a case of formulas written with use of capital letters A, B, C, ... etc , we treat these letters as propositional variables , i.e. as **indecomposable formulas** 

**Indecomposable sequent** is a sequent formed from indecomposable formulas only.

#### **Decomposition Tree Construction (1)**

Given a formula A we construct its **decomposition** tree  $T_A$  as follows

**Root** of the tree  $T_A$  is the sequent  $\longrightarrow A$ 

Given a **node** n of the tree we identify a **decomposition** rule applicable at this node and write its premisses as the **leaves** of the **node** n

We **stop** the decomposition **process** when we obtain an **axiom** or **all leaves** of the tree are **indecomposable** 

## **Observation 4**

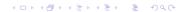
The decomposition tree  $T_A$  obtained by the **Construction** (1) most often is not unique

### **Observation 5**

The fact that we **find** a decomposition tree  $T_A$  with a non-axiom leaf **does not** mean that  $r_{LI}$  A

This is due to the role of **structural rules** in **LI** and will be discussed later

**Proof Search Examples** 



We perform proof search and **decide** the existence of proofs in **LI** for a given formula  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  by constructing its **decomposition** trees **T**<sub>A</sub>

We examine here some **examples** to show the **complexity** of the problem

#### Reminder

In the following and similar examples when building the decomposition trees for formulas representing general schemas we treat the capital letters A, B, C, D... as propositional variables, i.e. as **indecomposable** formulas

#### Example 1

Determine] whether

$$\vdash_{\mathsf{LI}} ((\neg A \cap \neg B) \Rightarrow \neg (A \cup B))$$

#### Observe that

If we find a decomposition tree of A in **LI** such that all its leaves are axiom, we have a proof, i.e

# ⊦<sub>LI</sub> A

If all possible decomposition trees have a non-axiom leaf then the proof of *A* in **LI** does not exist, i.e.

# ⊬<sub>LI</sub> A

# Consider the following decomposition tree T1A

$$\rightarrow ((\neg A \cap \neg B) \Rightarrow (\neg (A \cup B))$$

$$| (\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$$

$$(\neg A \cap \neg B) \rightarrow \neg (A \cup B)$$

$$| (\rightarrow \neg)$$

$$(A \cup B), (\neg A \cap \neg B) \rightarrow$$

$$| (exch \rightarrow)$$

$$(\neg A \cap \neg B), (A \cup B) \rightarrow$$

$$| (\cap \rightarrow)$$

$$\neg A, \neg B, (A \cup B) \rightarrow$$

$$| (\neg \rightarrow)$$

$$\neg B, (A \cup B) \rightarrow$$

$$| (\neg \rightarrow)$$

$$\neg B, (A \cup B) \rightarrow$$

$$| (- \rightarrow)$$

$$(A \cup B) \rightarrow$$

$$| (\neg \rightarrow)$$

$$(A \cup B) \rightarrow$$

$$| (\neg \rightarrow)$$

 $A \longrightarrow B$ 

 $B \longrightarrow B$ 

non – axiom

The tree  $T1_A$  has a non-axiom leaf, so it **does not** constitute a proof in **LI** 

Observe that the **decomposition** tree in **LI** is not always unique

Hence the existence of a non-axiom leaf **does not** yet prove that the **proof** of A does not exist

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Consider the following decomposition tree T2<sub>A</sub>

 $\longrightarrow ((\neg A \cap \neg B) \Rightarrow (\neg (A \cup B))$  $|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$  $(\neg A \cap \neg B) \longrightarrow \neg (A \cup B)$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $(A \cup B), (\neg A \cap \neg B) \longrightarrow$  $|(exch \rightarrow)$  $(\neg A \cap \neg B), (A \cup B) \longrightarrow$  $|(\cap \longrightarrow)$  $\neg A, \neg B, (A \cup B) \longrightarrow$  $|(exch \rightarrow)$  $\neg A, (A \cup B), \neg B \longrightarrow$  $|(exch \rightarrow)$  $(A \cup B), \neg A, \neg B \longrightarrow$  $\land (\cup \longrightarrow)$ 

$A, \neg A, \neg B \longrightarrow$	$B, \neg A, \neg B \longrightarrow$
$ (exch \rightarrow)$	$ (exch \rightarrow)$
$\neg A, A, \neg B \longrightarrow$	$B, \neg B, \neg A \longrightarrow$
$ (\neg \longrightarrow)$	$ (exch \rightarrow)$
$A, \neg B \longrightarrow A$	$\neg B, B, \neg A \longrightarrow$
axiom	$ (\neg \longrightarrow)$

. . .

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 $B, \neg A \longrightarrow B; axiom$ 

All leaves of  $T2_A$  are axioms This means that the tree  $T2_A$  is a **a proof** of A in LI

We hence proved that

 $\vdash_{\mathsf{LI}} ((\neg A \cap \neg B) \Rightarrow \neg (A \cup B))$ 

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**Example 2:** Show that

- **1.**  $\vdash_{\mathsf{LI}} (A \Rightarrow \neg \neg A)$
- **2.**  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{LI}}$   $(\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$

# Solution of 1.

We construct some, or all decomposition trees of

$$\rightarrow (A \Rightarrow \neg \neg A)$$

A tree  $T_A$  that **ends** with all leaves being axioms is a proof of A in **LI** 

We construct  $T_A$  as follows

 $\rightarrow (A \Rightarrow \neg \neg A)$  $|(\longrightarrow \Rightarrow)$  $A \longrightarrow \neg \neg A$  $|(\longrightarrow \neg)$  $\neg A.A \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \longrightarrow)$  $A \longrightarrow A$ axiom

All leaves of  $T_A$  are axioms so we found the **proof** We **do not** need to construct any other decomposition trees.

# Solution of 2.

In order to prove that

$$\mathsf{F}_{\mathsf{LI}} \quad (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$$

we have to construct all decomposition trees of

 $\longrightarrow (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$ 

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and show that each of them has a non-axiom leaf

Here is **T1**<sub>A</sub>

 $\rightarrow$  ( $\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A$ )  $|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$ one of 2 choices  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow A$  $|(\longrightarrow weak)$ one of 3 choices  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \longrightarrow)$ one of 3 choices  $\rightarrow \neg A$  $|(\longrightarrow \neg)$ one of 2 choices  $A \longrightarrow$ 

non – axiom

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#### Here is **T2**<sub>A</sub>

 $\longrightarrow (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$  $|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$  one of 2 choices  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow A$  $|(contr \rightarrow) second of 2 choices$  $\neg \neg A$ ,  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow A$  $|(\longrightarrow weak)$  first of 2 choices  $\neg \neg A$ ,  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$  first of 2 choices  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow \neg A$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  one of 2 choices  $A, \neg \neg A \longrightarrow$  $|(exch \rightarrow) one of 2 choices$  $\neg \neg A, A \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$ one of 2 choices  $A \longrightarrow \neg A$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  first of 2 choices  $A, A \longrightarrow$ 

non – axiom

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We can see from the above **decomposition** trees that the "blind" construction of all possible trees only leads to more complicated trees

This is due to the presence of structural rules The "blind" application of the rule (*contr*  $\rightarrow$ ) gives always an infinite number of **decomposition** trees

In order to decide that none of them will produce a proof we need some **extra knowledge** about patterns of their construction, or just simply about the number o **useful** of application of **structural rules** 

In this case we can just make an "external" **observation** that the our first tree  $T1_A$  is in a sense a minimal one

It means that all other trees would only **complicate** this one in an inessential way, i.e. the we will never produce a tree with all axioms leaves

One can formulate a deterministic procedure giving a finite number of trees, but the proof of its **correctness** is needed and that requires some extra knowledge

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Within the scope of this book we accept the "external explanation as a sufficient solution

As we can see from the above examples the structural rules and especially the (*contr*  $\rightarrow$ ) rule **complicates** the proof searching task.

Both Gentzen type proof systems **RS** and **GL** from the previous chapter don't contain the structural rules They also are as we have proved, **complete** with respect to classical semantics.

The original Gentzen system **LK** which does contain the structural rules is also, as proved by Gentzen, **complete** 

Hence all three classical proof system RS, GL, LK are equivalent

This proves that the structural rules can be eliminated from the system **LK** 

A natural question of **elimination** of **structural rules** from the system **LI** arises

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The following **example** illustrates the negative answer

# Example 3

We know that for any formula  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ ,

 $\models$  A if and only if  $\vdash_I \neg \neg A$ 

where  $\models$  *A* means that *A* is classical tautology

⊢<sub>I</sub> A means that A is Intutionistically provable in any intuitionistically complete proof system I

The system **LI** is intuitionistically **complete** so have that for any formula  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ ,

 $\models$  A if and only if  $\vdash_{\mathsf{LI}} \neg \neg A$ 

Obviously  $\models (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$ , so we must have that

$$\vdash_{\mathsf{LI}} \neg \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$$

We are going to prove now that the rule  $(contr \rightarrow)$  is essential to the existence of the proof  $\neg \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$ It means that  $\neg \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$  is not provable without the rule  $(contr \rightarrow)$ 

The following decomposition tree  $T_A$  is a proof of  $\neg\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A)$  with use of the rule (*contr*  $\rightarrow$ )

 $\rightarrow \neg \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow$  $|(contr \rightarrow)$  $\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A), \neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow$  $\downarrow (\neg \rightarrow)$  $\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow (\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A)$  $|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$  $\neg \neg A, \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow A$  $|(\rightarrow weak)|$  $\neg \neg A, \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$  $\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow \neg A$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $A, \neg(\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow$  $|(exch \rightarrow)$  $\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A), A \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$  $A \longrightarrow (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$  $|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$  $\neg \neg A, A \longrightarrow A$ 

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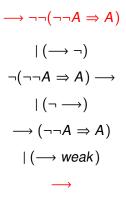
axiom

Assume now that the rule  $(contr \rightarrow)$  is not available. All possible decomposition trees are as follows Tree  $T1_A$ 

> $\rightarrow \neg \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$  $\rightarrow$  ( $\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A$ )  $|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow A$  $|(\rightarrow weak)$  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$  $\longrightarrow \neg A$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $A \longrightarrow$ non – axiom

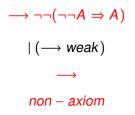
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The next is T2<sub>A</sub>



non – axiom

The next is  $T3_A$ 



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The last one is T4<sub>A</sub>

 $\longrightarrow \neg \neg (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A) \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \longrightarrow)$  $\rightarrow (\neg \neg A \Rightarrow A)$  $|(\rightarrow \Rightarrow)$ ]  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow A$  $|(\longrightarrow weak)$  $\neg \neg A \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \longrightarrow)$  $\rightarrow \neg A$  $| (\longrightarrow weak)$  $\rightarrow$ 

non – axiom

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We have considered all possible decomposition trees that **do not** involve the contraction rule (*contr*  $\rightarrow$ ) and **none** of them was a proof

This shows that the formula

 $\neg\neg(\neg\neg A \Rightarrow A)$ 

is not provable in LI without  $(contr \rightarrow)$  rule, i.e. that we proved the following

#### Fact

The contraction rule  $(contr \rightarrow)$  can not be eliminated from LI

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Before we define a heuristic method of searching for proof in LI let's make some additional observations to the already made **observations 1-5** 

# **Observation 6**

The goal of constructing the decomposition tree is to **obtain** axioms or indecomposable leaves

With respect to this goal the use **logical** decomposition rules has a priority over the use of the **structural** rules

We use this information while describing the proof search **heuristic** 

# **Observation 7**

All logical decomposition rules  $(\circ \rightarrow)$ , where  $\circ$  denotes any connective, must have a formula we want to decompose as the first formula at the decomposition node

It means that if we want to **decompose** a formula  $\circ A$  the node must have a form  $\circ A, \Gamma \longrightarrow \Delta$ 

**Remember:** order of decomposition is important Also sometimes it is necessary to decompose a **formula** within the sequence  $\Gamma$  first, before decomposing  $\circ A$  in order to find a proof

For example, consider two nodes

$$n_1 = \neg \neg A, \ (A \cap B) \longrightarrow B$$

and

$$n_2 = (A \cap B), \ \neg \neg A \longrightarrow B$$

We are going to see that the results of decomposing  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  differ dramatically

Let's decompose the node  $n_1$ 

Observe that the only way to be able to decompose the formula  $\neg \neg A$  is to use the rule  $(\rightarrow weak)$  as a **first step** 

The **two possible** decomposition trees that starts at the node  $n_1$  are as follows

First Tree

**T1**<sub>n1</sub>

 $\neg \neg A, (A \cap B) \longrightarrow B$  $|(\rightarrow weak)$  $\neg \neg A, (A \cap B) \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$  $(A \cap B) \longrightarrow \neg A$  $|(\cap \rightarrow)$  $A, B \longrightarrow \neg A$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $A, A, B \longrightarrow$ non – axiom

Second Tree

**T2**<sub>n1</sub>

 $\neg \neg A, (A \cap B) \longrightarrow B$  $|(\rightarrow weak)$  $\neg \neg A, (A \cap B) \longrightarrow$  $|(\neg \rightarrow)$  $(A \cap B) \longrightarrow \neg A$  $|(\rightarrow \neg)$  $A, (A \cap B) \longrightarrow$  $|(\cap \rightarrow)$  $A, A, B \longrightarrow$ non – axiom

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Let's now decompose the node  $n_2$ Observe that following our **Observation 6** we start by decomposing the formula  $(A \cap B)$  by the use of the rule  $(\cap \rightarrow)$  as the **first step** 

A decomposition tree that starts at the node  $n_2$  is as follows

# $T_{n_2}$ $(A \cap B), \neg \neg A \longrightarrow B$ $\mid (\cap \rightarrow)$ $A, B, \neg \neg A \longrightarrow B$ axiom

This proves that the node  $n_2$  is **provable** in **LI**, i.e.

 $\vdash_{\mathsf{LI}} (A \cap B), \neg \neg A \longrightarrow B$ 

# **Observation 8**

The use of structural rules is **important** and **necessary** while we search for proofs

Nevertheless we have to **use them** on the "must" basis and set up some **guidelines** and **priorities** for their use

For example, the use of weakening rule discharges the weakening formula, and hence we might **loose an information** that may be essential to finding the proof

We should use the weakening rule only when it is **absolutely necessary** for the next decomposition steps

Hence, the use of weakening rule ( $\rightarrow$  weak) can, and should be restricted to the cases when it leads to possibility of the future use of the negation rule ( $\neg \rightarrow$ )

This was the case of the decomposition tree  $T1_{n_1}$ 

We used the rule  $(\rightarrow weak)$  as an necessary step, but it **discharged** too much information and we didn't get a proof, when **proof on this node existed** 

Here is such a proof

**T3**<sub>n1</sub>

 $\neg \neg A, (A \cap B) \longrightarrow B$  $| (exch \longrightarrow)$  $(A \cap B), \neg \neg A \longrightarrow B$  $| (\cap \rightarrow)$  $A, B, \neg \neg A \longrightarrow B$ axiom

# Method

For any  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  we construct the set of decomposition trees  $T_{\rightarrow A}$  following the rules below.

1. Use first logical rules where applicable.

**2.** Use  $(exch \rightarrow)$  rule to decompose, via logical rules, as many formulas on the left side of  $\rightarrow$  as possible

**Remember** that the order of decomposition matters! so you have to cover different choices

**3.** Use  $(\rightarrow weak)$  only on a "must" basis and in connection with the **possibility** of the future use of the  $(\neg \rightarrow)$  rule

**4.** Use  $(contr \rightarrow)$  rule as the **last recourse** and only to formulas that contain  $\neg$  or  $\Rightarrow$  as a main connective

**5.** Let's call a formula *A* to which we apply  $(contr \rightarrow)$  rule a **a contraction formula** 

**6.** The only contraction formulas are formulas containing  $\neg$  or  $\Rightarrow$  between theirs logical connectives

7. Within the process of construction of all possible trees use  $(contr \rightarrow)$  rule only to contraction formulas

**8.** Let *C* be a contraction formula appearing on a node *n* of the decomposition tree of  $T_{\rightarrow A}$ 

For any **contraction formula** C, any node n, we apply  $(contr \rightarrow)$  rule to the the formula C at the node n **at most** as many times as the number of sub-formulas of C

If we find a tree with all axiom leaves we have a proof, i.e.

# *⊢<sub>LI</sub>A*

If **all trees** (finite number) have a non-axiom leaf we have proved that proof of *A* **does not exist**, i.e.

*⊮<sub>LI</sub> A*