

From axioms to synthetic inference rules via focusing

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Joint work with Dale Miller, Elaine Pimentel, and Marco Volpe

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The axioms-as-rules problem

How to incorporate **inference rules** encoding axioms into existing proof systems for **classical and intuitionistic logics**?

A fresh view to an old problem:

The combination of **bipolars** and **focusing** provides **simple rules for atomic formulas**.

Motivation

Object

Reasoning

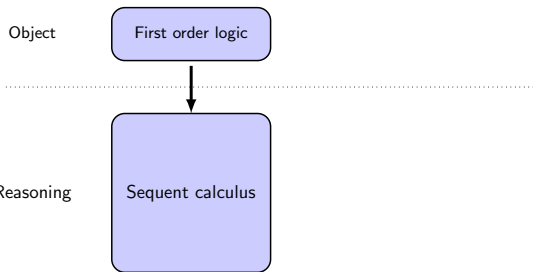
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Object

First order logic

Reasoning

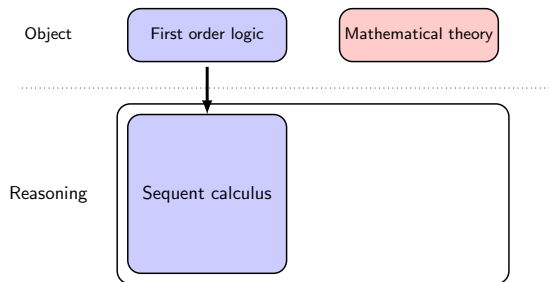
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Avantages of the sequent framework

(1) simple; (2) strong properties (*analyticity*); (3) easy implementation.

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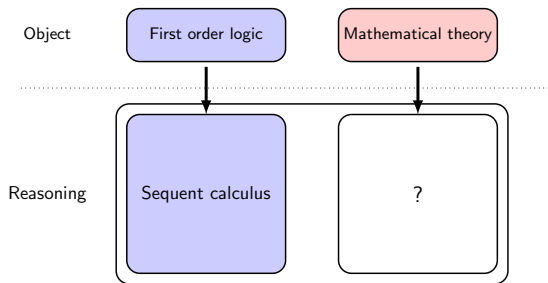
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Add mathematical theories to first order logic

Reason about them using all the machinery already built for the sequent framework.

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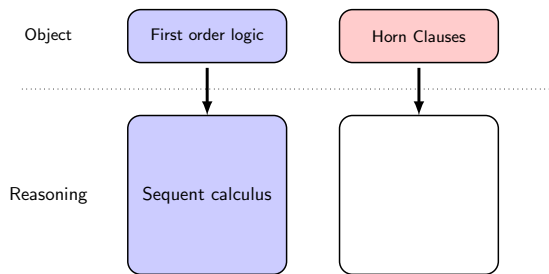
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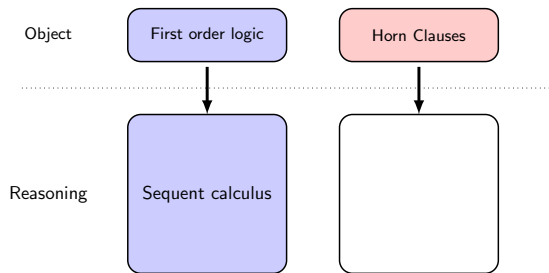
★ Long tradition: Negri, von Plato, Dyckhoff; Simpson, Viganò, Ciabattoni; Dowek...

Motivation



Horn Clauses: $\forall \bar{z}(P_1 \wedge \dots \wedge P_m \rightarrow Q)$

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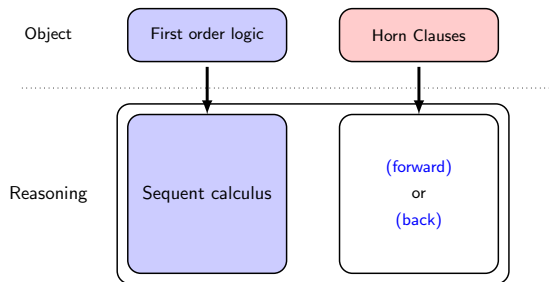


Horn Clauses: $\forall \bar{z}(P_1 \wedge \dots \wedge P_m \rightarrow Q)$

▷ **In logic programming:** To show Q , one needs to show P_1 and \dots and P_m .

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash P_1 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma \vdash P_m}{\Gamma \vdash Q} \text{ (back)}$$

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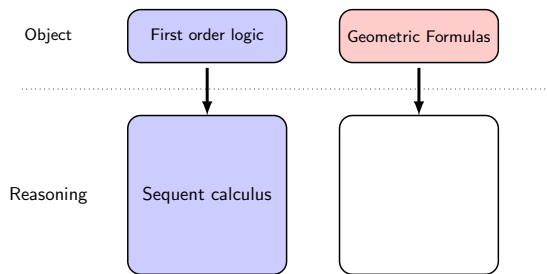
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▷ **In theorem proving:** To infer C from P_1, \dots, P_m , it is enough to infer it from Q .

$$\frac{Q, \Gamma \vdash C}{P_1, \dots, P_m, \Gamma \vdash C} \text{ (forward)}$$

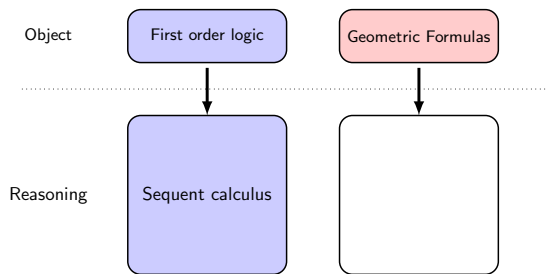
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Geometric/Coherent Implications:

$$\forall \vec{y}. (P_1 \wedge \dots \wedge P_m \rightarrow \exists \vec{x}_1. (Q_{11} \wedge \dots \wedge Q_{1k_1}) \vee \dots \vee \exists \vec{x}_n. (Q_{n1} \wedge \dots \wedge Q_{nk_n}))$$

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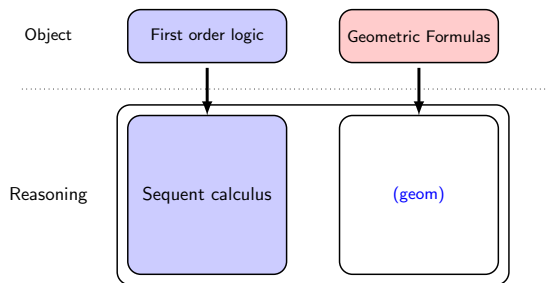


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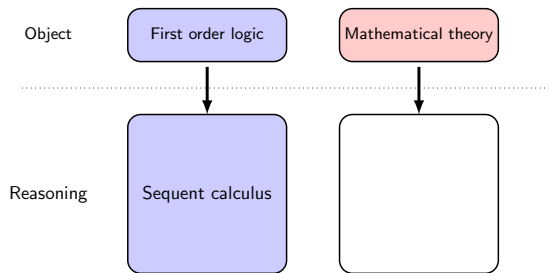
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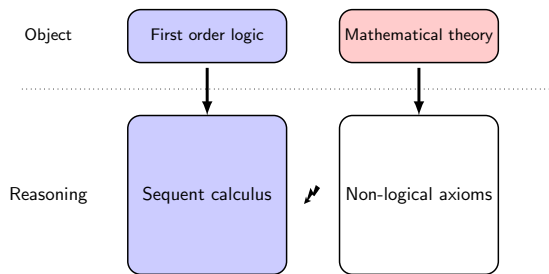
- ▷ Originally a **category theoretic** notion \rightsquigarrow structural proof theory [Negri-von Plato]
- ▷ “A certain **simple form** into which **only atomic** formulas play a critical part” [Simpson]

$$\frac{Q_{11}, \dots, Q_{1k_1}, \Gamma \vdash C \quad \dots \quad Q_{n1}, \dots, Q_{nk_n}, \Gamma \vdash C}{P_1, \dots, P_m, \Gamma \vdash C} \text{ (geom)}$$

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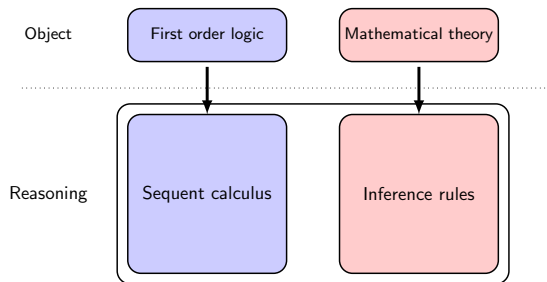


Non-logical axioms.

Take $\vdash P \rightarrow Q$ and $\vdash P$. Then, cut-elimination would fail.[Girard]

$$\text{cut} \frac{\overline{\vdash P} \quad \text{cut} \frac{\overline{\vdash P \rightarrow Q} \quad \overrightarrow{\rightarrow L} \frac{\overline{P \vdash P} \quad \overline{Q \vdash Q}}{\overline{P, P \rightarrow Q \vdash Q}}}{\overline{P \vdash Q}}}{\vdash Q}$$

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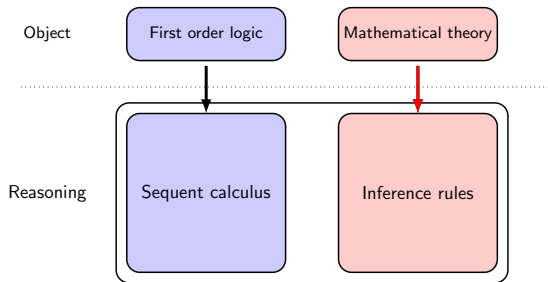
Non-logical rules of inference.

$$\frac{\Gamma, Q \vdash C}{\Gamma, P \vdash C} (P \rightarrow Q) \quad \frac{\Gamma, P \vdash C}{\Gamma \vdash C} (P)$$

Now, Q has a direct cut-free proof

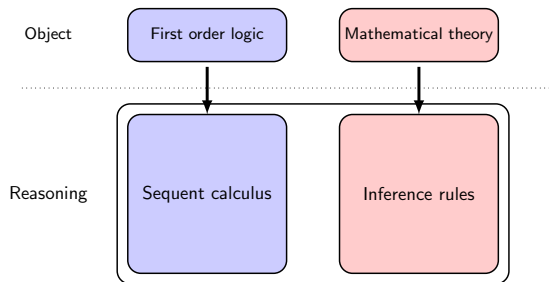
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In this talk



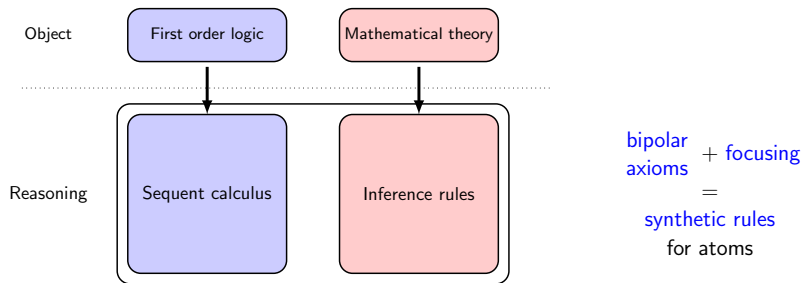
Which ones, how, and why?

In this talk



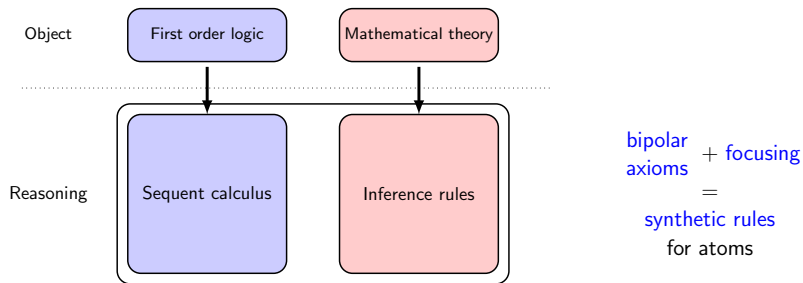
bipolar
axioms + focusing
=
synthetic rules
for atoms

In this talk



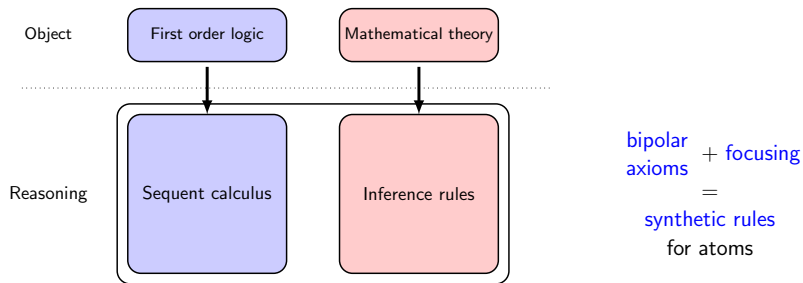
Classifying axioms into a **polarity hierarchy** (inspired by [Ciabattini et al.])

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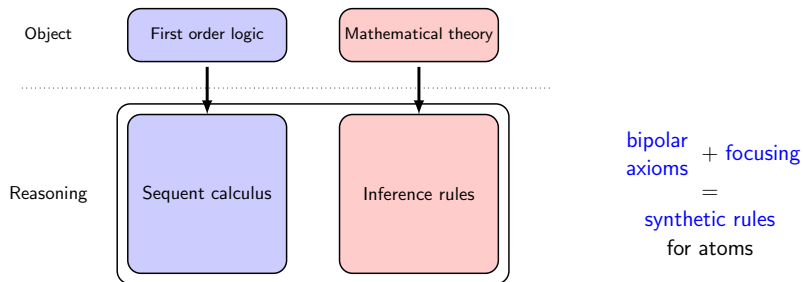
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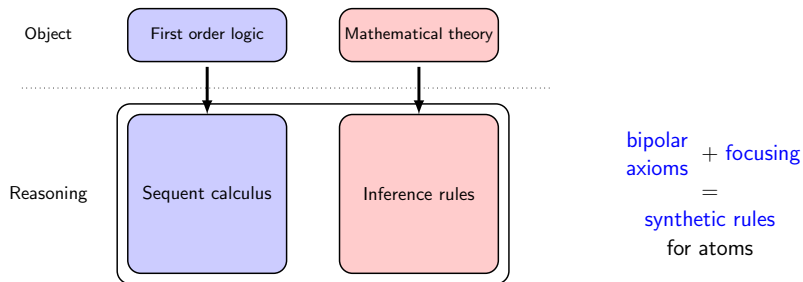
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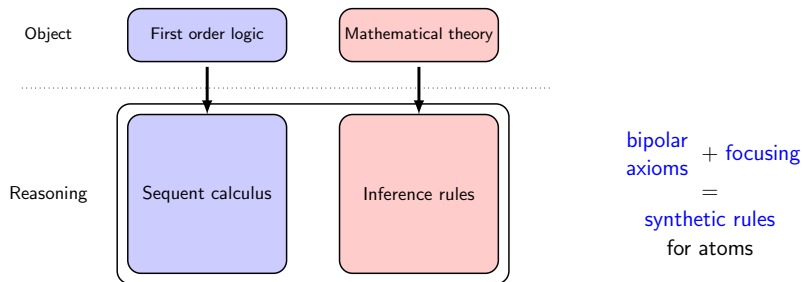
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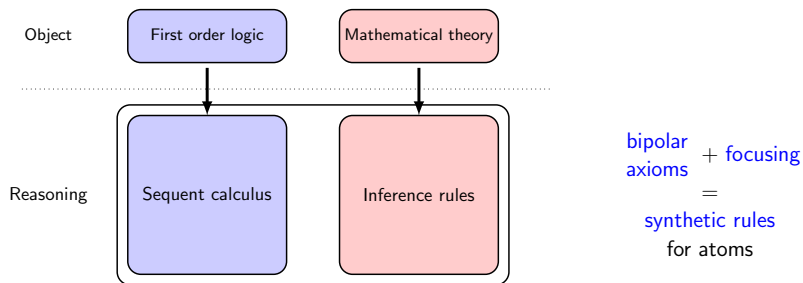
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- **Generalisation** of the literature (e.g. for Horn and geometric theories);



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- **Uniform** presentation for **classical** and **intuitionistic** first order systems;
- **Generalisation** of the literature (e.g. for Horn and geometric theories);
- **Cut-elimination** guaranteed for the system with the new inferences.

1. Polarities and bipolar formulas
2. Focusing and bipoles
3. Axioms-as-rules revisited

1. Polarities and bipolar formulas

2. Focusing and bipoles

3. Axioms-as-rules revisited

First-order classical and intuitionistic language:

$$A ::= P(x) \mid A \wedge A \mid t \mid A \vee A \mid f \mid A \rightarrow A \mid \exists x A \mid \forall x A$$

Polarised connectives:

- In **classical logic**

- ▶ **positive** and **negative** versions of the logical connectives and constants:

$$\wedge^-, \wedge^+, \vee^-, \vee^+, f^-, f^+$$

- ▶ first-order quantifiers: \forall **negative** and \exists **positive**.

- In **intuitionistic logic**

- ▶ polarised classical connectives and constants where f^-, \vee^- do not occur;
- ▶ **negative** implication: \rightarrow .

Important: Even **atomic** formulas are polarised!

Hierarchy of negative and positive classical formulas. (Inspired by [Ciabattoni et al.])

\mathcal{N}_0 and \mathcal{P}_0 consist of **all** atoms

$\mathcal{N}_{n+1} ::= \mathcal{P}_n \mid \mathcal{N}_{n+1} \wedge^- \mathcal{N}_{n+1} \mid t^- \mid \mathcal{N}_{n+1} \vee^- \mathcal{N}_{n+1} \mid f^- \mid \forall x \mathcal{N}_{n+1} \mid \mathcal{P}_{n+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_{n+1}$

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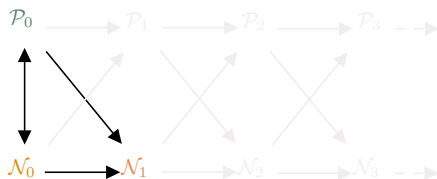
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$Q_1 \wedge^- Q_2$



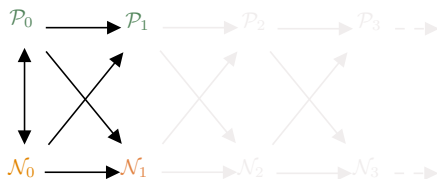
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$R_1 \vee^+ R_2$

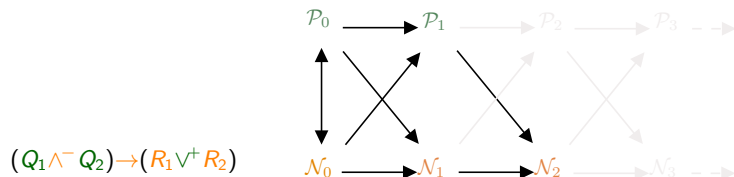


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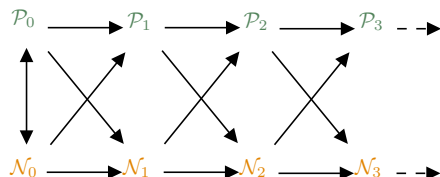


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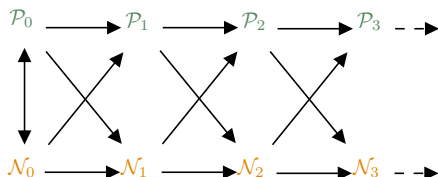


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The hierarchy can be specified for **intuitionistic or classical** formulas.

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Aside: How to polarise a formula?

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Example. $(P_1 \rightarrow P_2) \vee (Q_1 \rightarrow Q_2) \rightsquigarrow$ classical bipolar $(P_1 \rightarrow P_2) \vee^- (Q_1 \rightarrow Q_2)$.

No polarisation yields an intuitionistic bipolar formula.

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What is focusing?

Consider the sequent

$$\Gamma, A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rightarrow A_3 \rightarrow A_4 \rightarrow A_0 \vdash B$$

with A_i atomic, B a formula, and Γ a multiset of formulas.

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Many ways to proceed!

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Unfocused



Focused

Two kinds of focused sequents

- \Downarrow **sequents** to decompose the formula **under focus**

$$\begin{aligned} & \Gamma \Downarrow B \vdash \Delta \text{ with a left focus on } B \\ & \Gamma \vdash B \Downarrow \Delta \text{ with a right focus on } B \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Gamma_1 \Uparrow \Gamma_2 \vdash \Delta_1 \Uparrow \Delta_2$$

\Rightarrow Sequent derivations are organised into **synchronous/asynchronous** phases

\Rightarrow **Synthetic rules** result from looking only at border sequents: $\Gamma \Uparrow \cdot \vdash \cdot \Uparrow \Delta$

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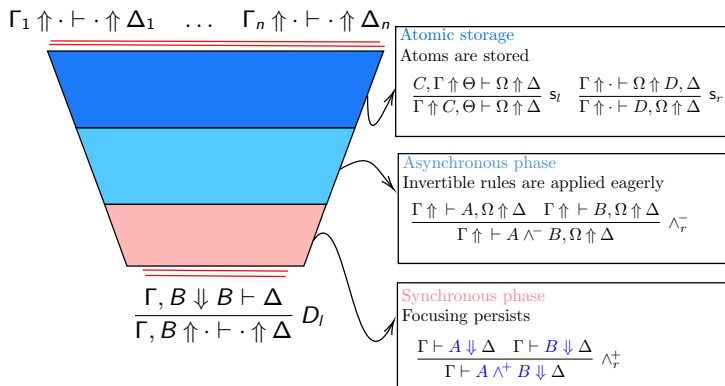
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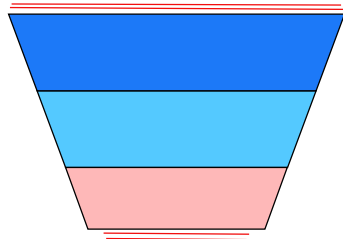
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- 1 starting with a decide on B ;
- 2 in which no synchronous rule occurs above an asynchronous rule;
- 3 and only atomic formulas are stored.

$\Gamma_1 \uparrow \cdot \vdash \cdot \uparrow \Delta_1 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma_n \uparrow \cdot \vdash \cdot \uparrow \Delta_n$



$$\frac{\Gamma, B \downarrow B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, B \uparrow \cdot \vdash \cdot \uparrow \Delta} D_i$$

Corresponding synthetic rule
(in LK or LJ)

$$\frac{\Gamma_1 \vdash \Delta_1 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma_n \vdash \Delta_n}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

1. Polarities and bipolar formulas
2. Focusing and bipoles
3. Axioms-as-rules revisited

1st result: Bipolar \longleftrightarrow Bipole

Let B be a polarised negative (classical or intuitionistic) formula.

Theorem:

- If B is bipolar, then **any** synthetic inference rule for B is a **bipole**.
- If **every** synthetic inference rule for B is a bipole then B is **bipolar**.

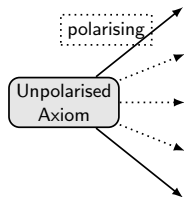
This delineates precisely the scope of the relationship between axioms and rules!

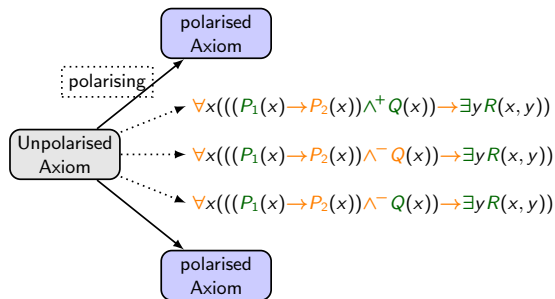
- ▷ And provides the answer to **Which ones?**

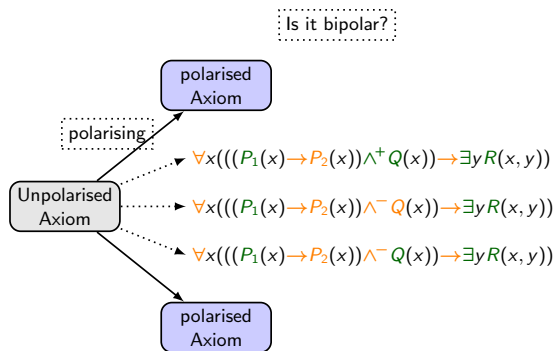
How?

Unpolarised
Axiom

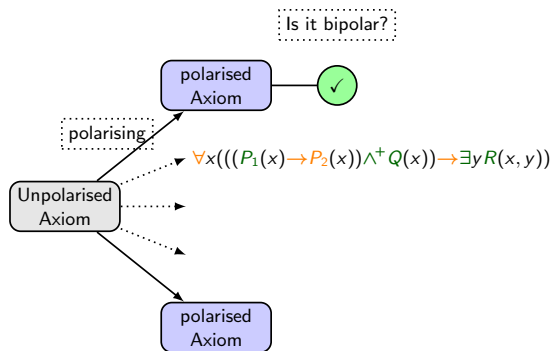
$$\forall x(((P_1(x) \rightarrow P_2(x)) \wedge Q(x)) \rightarrow \exists yR(x, y))$$



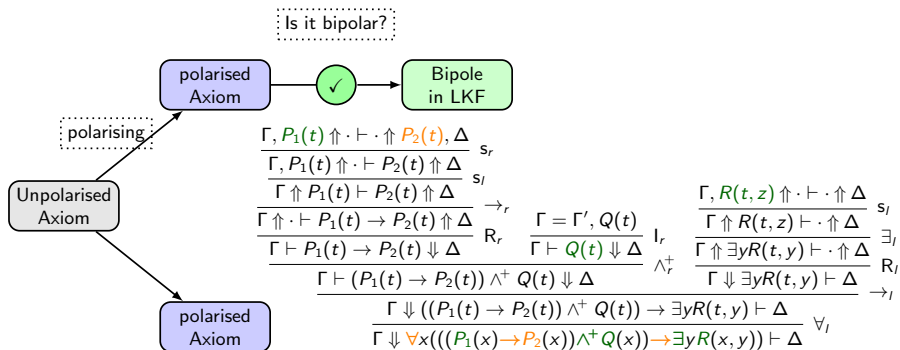




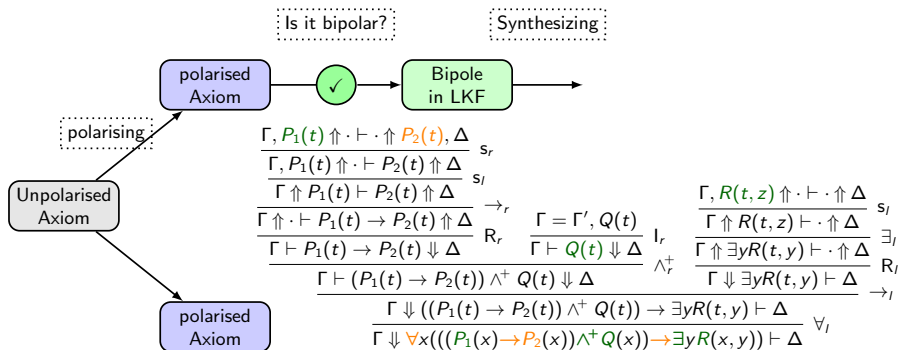
Rules from axioms



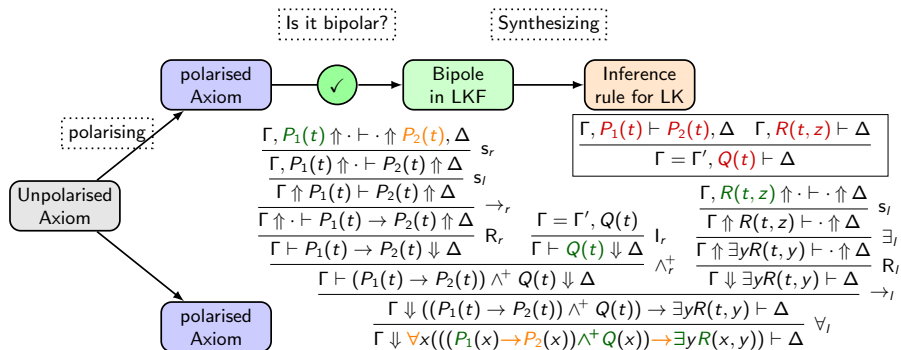
Rules from axioms



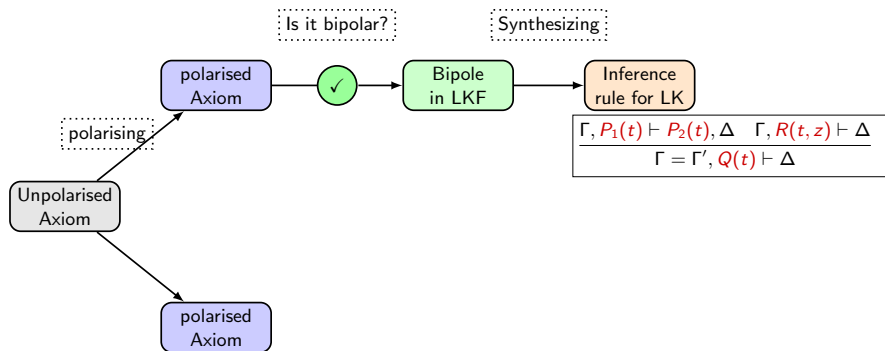
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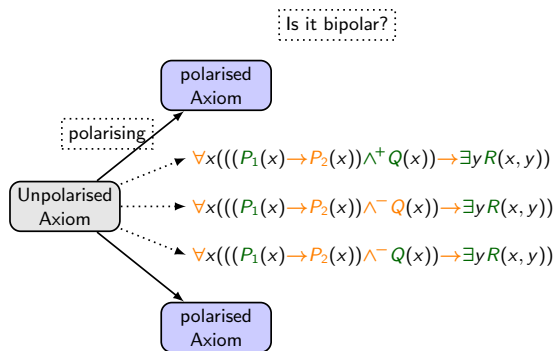


Rules from axioms

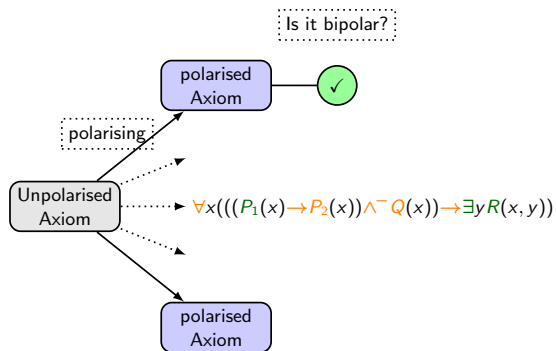


Rules from axioms

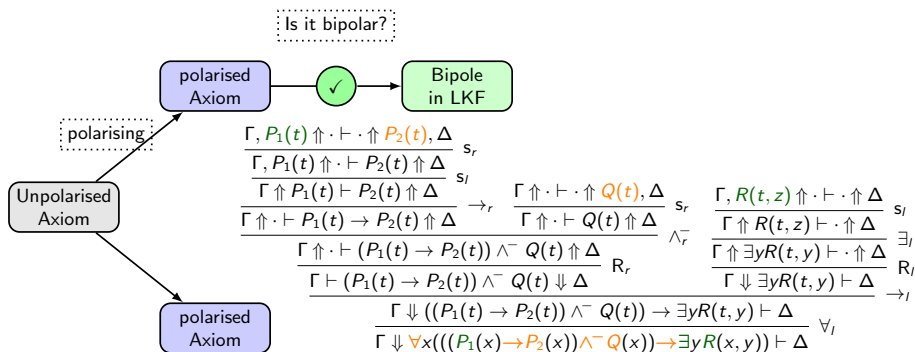




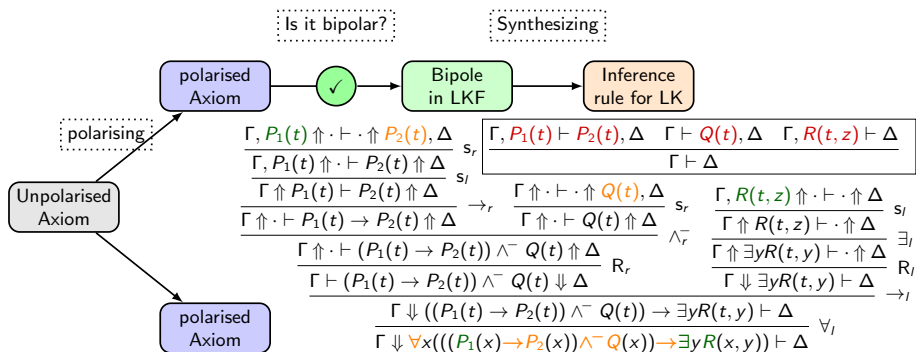
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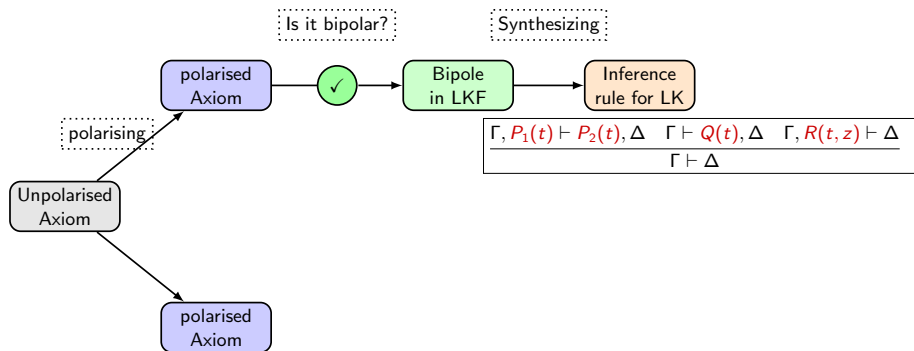
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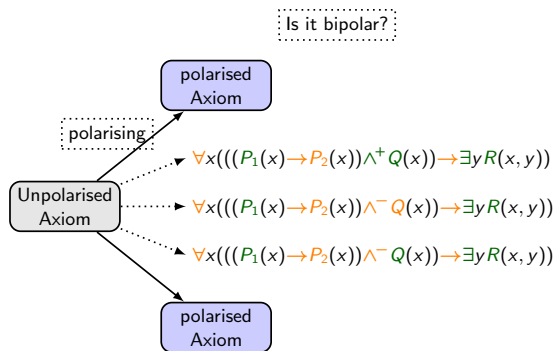


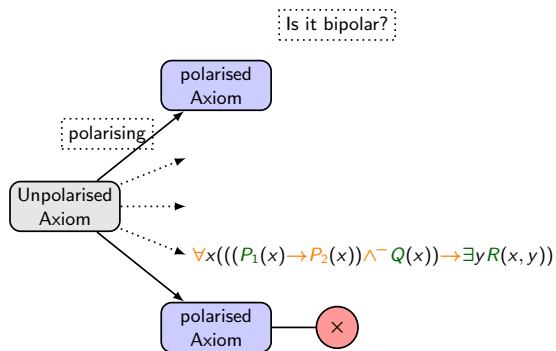
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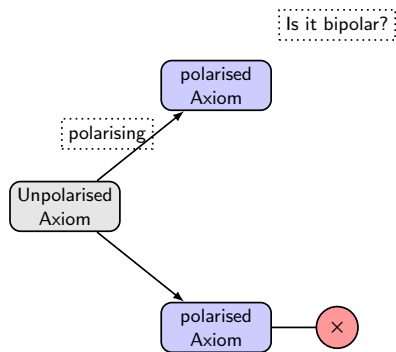
Rules from axioms



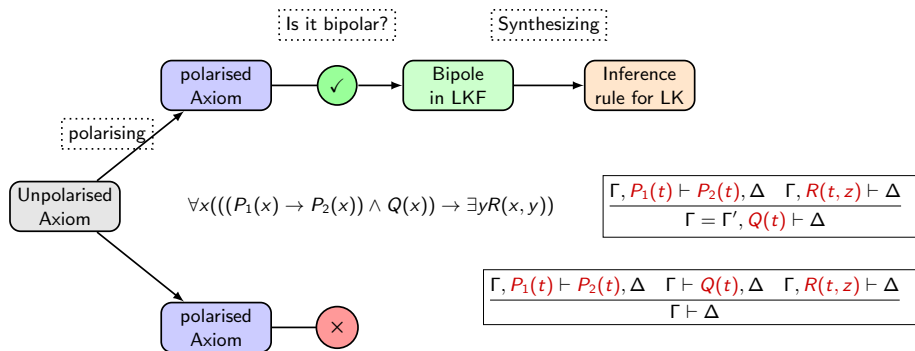




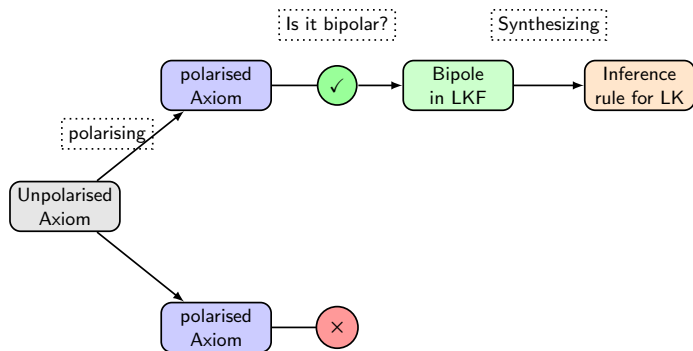
Rules from axioms



Rules from axioms



Rules from axioms



2nd result: Cut admissibility

Let \mathcal{T} be a set of bipolar formulas.

$LK\langle\mathcal{T}\rangle/LJ\langle\mathcal{T}\rangle$ denotes the extension of LK/LJ with the synthetic inference rules corresponding to a bipole for each $B \in \mathcal{T}$.

Theorem: The cut rule is admissible for the proof systems $LK\langle\mathcal{T}\rangle/LJ\langle\mathcal{T}\rangle$.

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Note: the proof is [simple!](#)

It is a direct consequence of (polarised) cut admissibility in LKF/LJF.

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This is **why** the obtained rules live in harmony within the sequent framework.

Horn clauses as bipoles.

$$\forall \bar{z}(P_1 \wedge \dots \wedge P_m \rightarrow Q)$$

Geometric axioms as bipoles.

$$\forall \bar{z}(P_1 \wedge \dots \wedge P_m \rightarrow \exists \bar{x}_1(\wedge Q_1) \vee \dots \vee \exists \bar{x}_n(\wedge Q_n))$$

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$$\frac{\bar{Q}_1, \Gamma \vdash C \quad \dots \quad \bar{Q}_n, \Gamma \vdash C}{P_1, \dots, P_m, \Gamma' \vdash C} \text{ (geom)}$$

Logics on first-order structures.

Modal and substructural logics in labelled sequents. [Simpson, Viganò, Ciabattoni, . . .]

- ▶ Direct consequence of synthetisation result.

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Arbitrary first-order axioms.

- **System of rules:** for generalised geometric formulas. [Negri]
 - ▶ Our approach should apply and generalise this to “generalised bipolar axioms”.
- **Morleyisation:** every first-order theory is equivalent to a geometric theory. Adapted to the proof theoretic setting. [Dyckhoff and Negri]
 - ▶ We need to study how the polarisation of formulas commute with their “geometrisation”.

Axiom + Focusing = Rules

- ★ **Synthetic inference rules** generated using **polarisation** and **focusing** provide inference rules that capture certain classes of **axioms**.
- ★ In particular: **bipolar formulas** correspond to inference rules for **atoms**.
- ★ As **geometric formulas** are examples of bipolar formulas, polarised versions of such formulas yield **well known** inference systems derived from geometric formulas.
- ★ Polarisation of subsets of geometric formulas explain the **forward-chaining** and **backward-chaining** variants of their synthetic inference rules.
- ★ Direct proof of **cut-elimination** for the proof systems that arise from incorporating synthetic inference rules based on polarised formulas.
- ★ Additionally, all of these results work equally well in both **classical** and **intuitionistic** logics using the corresponding LKF and LJF focused proof systems.
- ★ **Future work**: beyond focusing-bipoles.

Thank you!