

A diagrammatic calculus of syllogisms

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Categorical Propositions

A_{SP}: All *S* is *P* (universal affirmative)

E_{SP}: No *S* is *P* (universal negative)

I_{SP}: Some *S* is *P* (particular affirmative)

O_{SP}: Some *S* is not *P* (particular negative)

Syllogisms

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More precisely, in a syllogism appear exactly three terms S , P and M as follows:

- M must appear in both P_1 and P_2 but is not allowed to appear in C .
- S must appear in both P_2 and C , as the subject of the latter.
- P must appear in both P_1 and C , as the predicate of the latter.

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Example:

$$\mathbf{O}_{PM}, \mathbf{E}_{MS} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{SP}$$

Valid Syllogisms

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| $A_{MP}, A_{SM} \vDash A_{SP}$ $E_{MP}, A_{SM} \vDash E_{SP}$ $A_{MP}, I_{SM} \vDash I_{SP}$ $E_{MP}, I_{SM} \vDash O_{SP}$ | $E_{PM}, A_{SM} \vDash E_{SP}$ $A_{PM}, E_{SM} \vDash E_{SP}$ $E_{PM}, I_{SM} \vDash O_{SP}$ $A_{PM}, O_{SM} \vDash O_{SP}$ | $I_{MP}, A_{MS} \vDash I_{SP}$ $A_{MP}, I_{MS} \vDash I_{SP}$ $O_{MP}, A_{MS} \vDash O_{SP}$ $E_{MP}, I_{MS} \vDash O_{SP}$ | $A_{PM}, E_{MS} \vDash E_{SP}$ $I_{PM}, A_{MS} \vDash I_{SP}$ $E_{PM}, I_{MS} \vDash O_{SP}$ |
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The calculus

$$S \xrightarrow{A_{SP}} P$$

$$S \longrightarrow \bullet \xleftarrow{E_{SP}} P$$

$$S \xleftarrow{I_{SP}} \bullet \longrightarrow P$$

$$S \xleftarrow{\bullet} \bullet \xrightarrow{O_{SP}} \bullet \xleftarrow{P}$$

Example

$$\mathbf{A}_{MP}, \mathbf{A}_{SM} \models \mathbf{A}_{SP}$$

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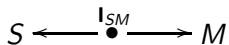
$$S \xrightarrow{\mathbf{A}_{SP}} P$$

Example

$$\mathbf{E}_{PM}, \mathbf{I}_{SM} \models \mathbf{O}_{SP}$$

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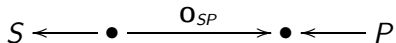
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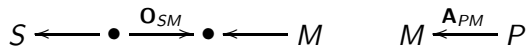


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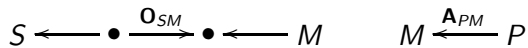
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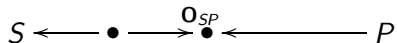
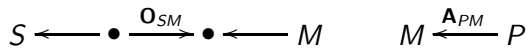
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$$S \xleftarrow{\mathbf{A}_{MS}} M \quad M \xrightarrow{\mathbf{A}_{MP}} P$$

$$S \xleftarrow{\mathbf{A}_{MS}} M \xleftarrow{\mathbf{I}_{MM}} \bullet \xrightarrow{\quad} M \xrightarrow{\mathbf{A}_{MP}} P$$

Example

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$$S \xleftarrow{\mathbf{I}_{SP} \bullet} P$$

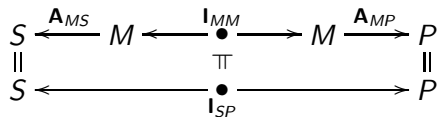
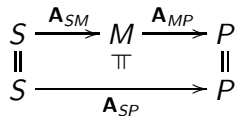
Terminology and notation

A *syllogistic inference* is any instance of the previous computation process.

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Sylogistic inferences will be henceforth represented by planar diagrams like



Recovering the valid syllogisms

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Sketch of proof: A syllogistic inference yields a diagram between \mathbf{A}_{SP} , \mathbf{E}_{SP} , \mathbf{I}_{SP} , \mathbf{O}_{SP} in exactly the following cases:

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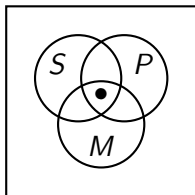
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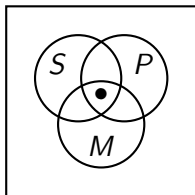
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Example: $E_{MP}, I_{SM} \vDash O_{SP}$



- the calculus easily extends to n -term syllogisms.

Non-valid syllogisms

Syllogistic inferences do not delete or create the bullet symbols.

Non-valid syllogisms

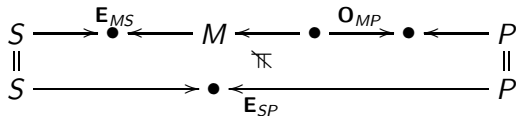
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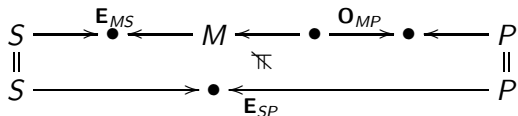
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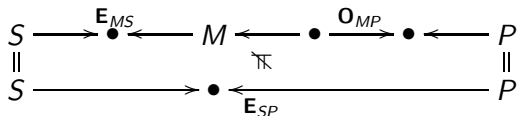


Example: The syllogism $E_{MP}, E_{SM} \vDash A_{SP}$ is not valid.

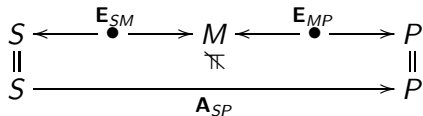
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The rules of syllogism

- From two negative premisses nothing can be inferred.
- From two particular premisses nothing can be inferred.
- From a particular first premise and a negative second premise nothing can be inferred.
- If one premise is particular, then the conclusion is such.
- The conclusion of a syllogism is negative if and only if so is one of its premisses.

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$$S \longrightarrow \overset{E_{SM}}{\bullet} \longleftarrow M \qquad M \longleftarrow \bullet \overset{O_{MP}}{\longrightarrow} \bullet \longleftarrow P$$

$$S \longleftarrow \bullet \overset{O_{SM}}{\longrightarrow} \bullet \longleftarrow M \qquad M \longrightarrow \overset{E_{MP}}{\bullet} \longleftarrow P$$

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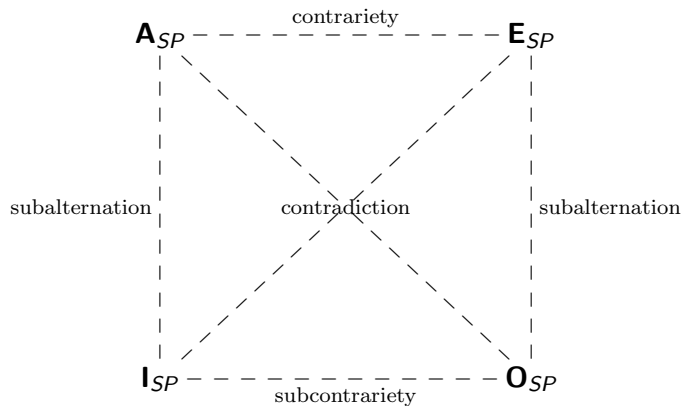
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The Square of Opposition



The laws of the Square of Opposition

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{A}_{SP}, \mathbf{I}_{SS} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{SP} \\ \mathbf{E}_{SP}, \mathbf{I}_{SS} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{SP} \end{array} \right\} \text{Subalternation}$$

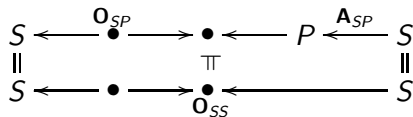
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{A}_{SP}, \mathbf{O}_{SP} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{SS} \\ \mathbf{E}_{SP}, \mathbf{I}_{SP} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{SS} \end{array} \right\} \text{Contradiction}$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{PP}, \mathbf{A}_{SP} \vDash \mathbf{E}_{SP} \text{ Contrariety}$$

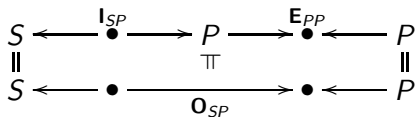
$$\mathbf{E}_{PP}, \mathbf{I}_{SP} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{SP} \text{ Subcontrariety}$$

The laws of the Square of Opposition

Contradiction:



Subcontrary:



Extending the calculus: n -term syllogisms

An n -term syllogism is a rule of inference

$$P_1, \dots, P_{n-1} \vDash C$$

in which P_1, \dots, P_{n-1}, C are categorical propositions any two contiguous of which have exactly one term in common.

Notation: the appearing terms will be henceforth denoted by T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n .

Recovering the valid n -term syllogisms

Theorem

For every positive natural number n , an n -term syllogism is valid if and only if there is a (not necessarily unique) pasting of syllogistic inferences from its premisses to its conclusion.

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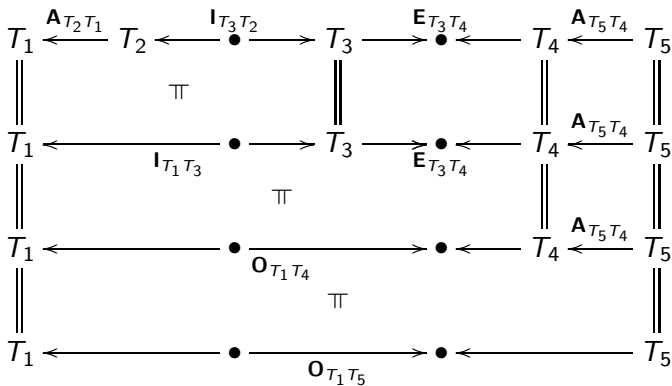
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Sketch of proof: For every positive natural number n , a syllogistic inference yields a diagram between \mathbf{A}_{SP} , \mathbf{E}_{SP} , \mathbf{I}_{SP} , \mathbf{O}_{SP} in exactly the following cases:

- $T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T_i \rightarrow T_{i+1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T_{n-1} \rightarrow T_n$.
- $T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T_i \rightarrow \bullet \leftarrow T_{i+1} \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow T_{n-1} \leftarrow T_n$, with $1 \leq i \leq n-1$.
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- $T_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow T_i \leftarrow \bullet \rightarrow T_{i+1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T_{j-1} \rightarrow \bullet \leftarrow T_j \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow T_n$, with $1 \leq i < j \leq n$.
- $T_1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow T_i \leftarrow \bullet \rightarrow T_i \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T_{j-1} \rightarrow \bullet \leftarrow T_j \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow T_n$, with $1 \leq i < j \leq n$.

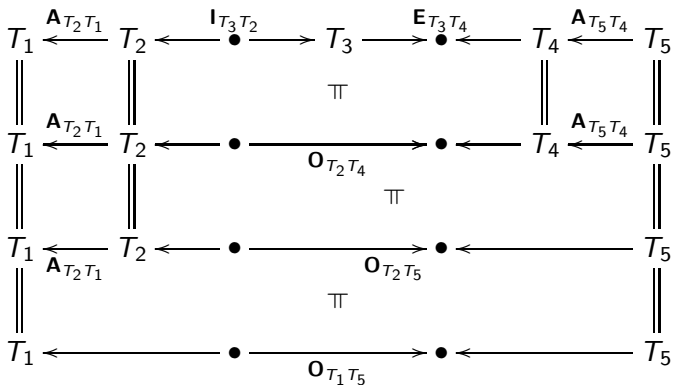
Example

$$\mathbf{A}_{T_5 T_4}, \mathbf{E}_{T_3 T_4}, \mathbf{I}_{T_3 T_2}, \mathbf{A}_{T_2 T_1} \models \mathbf{O}_{T_1 T_5}$$



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Valid n -term syllogisms

The valid n -term syllogisms are $3n^2 - n$:

| syllogism | quantity |
|--|------------------------|
| $\mathbf{A}_{T_{n-1}T_n}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_1T_2} \vDash \mathbf{A}_{T_1T_n}$ | 1 |
| $\mathbf{A}_{T_nT_{n-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{E}_{T_iT_{i+1}}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_1T_2} \vDash \mathbf{E}_{T_1T_n}$ | n-1 |
| $\mathbf{A}_{T_nT_{n-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{E}_{T_{i+1}T_i}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_1T_2} \vDash \mathbf{E}_{T_1T_n}$ | n-1 |
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| $\mathbf{A}_{T_{n-1}T_n}, \dots, \mathbf{I}_{T_iT_i}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_2T_1} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{T_1T_n}$ | n |
| $\mathbf{A}_{T_nT_{n-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{O}_{T_iT_{i+1}}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_2T_1} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1T_n}$ | n-1 |
| $\mathbf{A}_{T_nT_{n-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{E}_{T_{j-1}T_j}, \dots, \mathbf{I}_{T_iT_{i+1}}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_2T_1} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1T_n}$ | $\frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2}$ |
| $\mathbf{A}_{T_nT_{n-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{E}_{T_{j-1}T_j}, \dots, \mathbf{I}_{T_{i+1}T_i}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_2T_1} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1T_n}$ | $\frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2}$ |
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| $\mathbf{A}_{T_nT_{n-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{E}_{T_{j-1}T_j}, \dots, \mathbf{I}_{T_iT_i}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_2T_1} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1T_n}$ | $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ |
| $\mathbf{A}_{T_nT_{n-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{E}_{T_jT_{j-1}}, \dots, \mathbf{I}_{T_iT_i}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{T_2T_1} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1T_n}$ | $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ |

Particular cases: $n = 1, 2$

$n = 1$: two valid syllogisms, that is the *laws of identity*

$$\mathbf{A}_{T_1 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{A}_{T_1 T_1} \quad \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_1}$$

$n = 2$: ten valid syllogisms,

- $\mathbf{A}_{T_1 T_2} \vDash \mathbf{A}_{T_1 T_2}$, $\mathbf{E}_{T_1 T_2} \vDash \mathbf{E}_{T_1 T_2}$, $\mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_2} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_2}$, $\mathbf{O}_{T_1 T_2} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1 T_2}$, plus the *laws of subalternation* $\mathbf{A}_{T_1 T_2}, \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_2}$, $\mathbf{E}_{T_1 T_2}, \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1 T_2}$.
- $\mathbf{E}_{T_2 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{E}_{T_1 T_2}$, $\mathbf{I}_{T_2 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_2}$ which are the *laws of simple conversion*, and $\mathbf{I}_{T_2 T_2}, \mathbf{A}_{T_2 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_2}$, $\mathbf{E}_{T_2 T_1}, \mathbf{I}_{T_1 T_1} \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_1 T_2}$ which are the *laws of conversion per accidens*.

n-graphs

An *n*-graph is a diagram of sets and functions

$$G_0 \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{s_0} \\ \xleftarrow{t_0} \end{array} G_1 \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{s_1} \\ \xleftarrow{t_1} \end{array} G_2 \cdots G_{n-1} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{s_{n-1}} \\ \xleftarrow{t_{n-1}} \end{array} G_n$$

such that $s_k \circ s_{k+1} = s_k \circ t_{k+1}$ and $t_k \circ s_{k+1} = t_k \circ t_{k+1}$.

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- A 0-graph is just a set.
- A 1-graph is an ordinary multilabelled oriented graph.

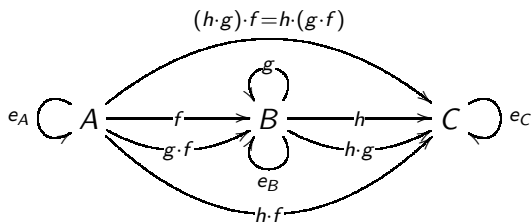
Categories

A *category* is a multilabelled oriented graph $G_0 \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{s_0} \\ \xleftarrow{t_0} \end{array} G_1$ equipped with a composition operation on arcs, required to be associative and with neutral element.

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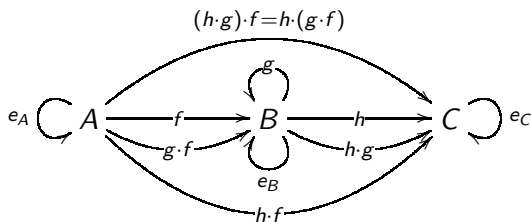
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Example:



Examples: sets and functions, each monoid, well formed formulas and logical consequence. . .

The free category over a graph

Let $G = (G_0 \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{s_0} \\ \xleftarrow{t_0} \end{array} G_1)$ be a graph. A *word* in G is a sequence (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k) where $f_i \in G_1$ and $t_0(f_i) = s_0(f_{i+1})$:

$$s_0(f_1) \xrightarrow{f_1} t_0(f_1) = s_0(f_2) \xrightarrow{f_2} t_0(f_2) \cdots s_0(f_k) \xrightarrow{f_k} t_0(f_k)$$

For $k = 0$, one gets the empty word $()$.

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The *free category* over G is the the graph $G^* = (G_0 \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\overline{s_0}} \\ \xleftarrow{\overline{t_0}} \end{array} G_1^*)$

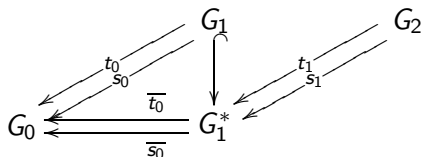
where G_1^* is the set of words in G equipped with concatenation as composition, with neutral element given by the empty word:

$$(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k) \# (g_1, g_2, \dots, g_r) = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k, g_1, g_2, \dots, g_r)$$

$$() \# (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k) = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k) = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k) \# ()$$

2-polygraphs

A 2-polygraph is a diagram of sets and functions

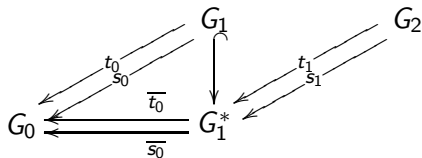


in which $G^* = (G_0 \xleftarrow{\bar{s}_0} G_1^* \xleftarrow{\bar{t}_0} G_0)$ is the free category over

$G = (G_0 \xleftarrow{s_0} G_1 \xleftarrow{t_0} G_0)$ and where $G_0 \xleftarrow{\bar{t}_0} G_1^* \xleftarrow{s_1} G_2$ is a 2-graph.

Rewriting systems

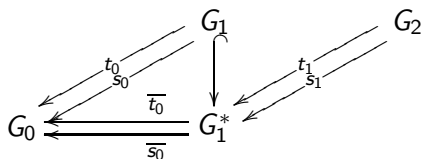
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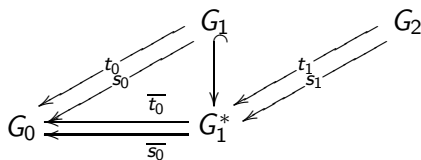
in which the set G_0 consists of exactly one element.

- G_2 identifies a subset of $G_1^* \times G_1^*$, namely the set of rewriting rules

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Remark: the emphasis is on the directed nature of \vDash .

The 2-polygraph of n -term syllogisms

For every positive natural number n :

- $G_0 = \{T_1, \dots, T_n\}$.
- $G_1 = \{\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_j}, \mathbf{E}_{T_i T_j}, \mathbf{I}_{T_i T_j}, \mathbf{O}_{T_i T_j} \mid 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n\}$
- G_2 :

$$(\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_i}) \vDash (\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_i}) \qquad (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_i}) \vDash (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_i}) \qquad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$(\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad 1 \leq i < j \leq n$$

$$(\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad (\mathbf{O}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{O}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad 1 \leq i < j \leq n$$

$$(\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_j}) \sharp (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_i}) \vDash \mathbf{I}_{T_i T_j} \qquad (\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_j}) \sharp (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_i}) \vDash \mathbf{O}_{T_i T_j} \qquad 1 \leq i < j \leq n$$

$$(\mathbf{E}_{T_j T_i})^\circ \vDash (\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad (\mathbf{I}_{T_j T_i})^\circ \vDash (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad 1 \leq i < j \leq n$$

$$(\mathbf{I}_{T_j T_j}) \sharp (\mathbf{A}_{T_j T_i})^\circ \vDash (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad (\mathbf{E}_{T_j T_i})^\circ \sharp (\mathbf{I}_{T_i T_i}) \vDash (\mathbf{O}_{T_i T_j}) \qquad 1 \leq i < j \leq n$$

$$(\mathbf{A}_{T_j T_k}) \sharp (\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_k}) \qquad (\mathbf{E}_{T_j T_k}) \sharp (\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_k}) \qquad 1 \leq i < j < k \leq n$$

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$$(\mathbf{E}_{T_k T_j})^\circ \sharp (\mathbf{A}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_k}) \qquad (\mathbf{A}_{T_k T_j})^\circ \sharp (\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_j}) \vDash (\mathbf{E}_{T_i T_k}) \qquad 1 \leq i < j < k \leq n$$

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Theorem

For every positive natural number n , the rewriting system for the calculus of n -term syllogisms is complete.

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Sketch of proof: It must be observed that the length of the words that undergo rewriting strictly decreases. Then, the proof proceeds by cases depending on n .

- $n = 2$: the test is on the two possible rewritings of the word $(\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_i})^\circ \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_i})$.
- $n = 3$: the test is on the possible rewritings of the words

$$\begin{array}{ll} (\mathbf{E}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_i A_j}) & (\mathbf{A}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_i})^\circ \\ (\mathbf{E}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_j}) & (\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_k}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_j A_i})^\circ \\ (\mathbf{A}_{A_j A_k}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_j A_i})^\circ & (\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_k})^\circ \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_j A_i})^\circ \\ (\mathbf{I}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_j A_i})^\circ & (\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_i})^\circ \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_i}) \\ (\mathbf{A}_{A_j A_k}) \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_i A_j}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_i}) & (\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_k}) \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_i A_j}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_i}) \\ (\mathbf{A}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{E}_{A_i A_j}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_i}) & (\mathbf{E}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_i A_j}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_i}) \\ (\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_k}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_j A_j}) \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_j A_i})^\circ & (\mathbf{A}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{E}_{A_j A_i})^\circ \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_i A_i}) \\ (\mathbf{E}_{A_k A_j})^\circ \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_j A_j}) \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_j A_i})^\circ & (\mathbf{A}_{A_j A_k}) \# (\mathbf{I}_{A_j A_j}) \# (\mathbf{A}_{A_j A_i})^\circ \end{array}$$