

# Proving Theorems in Łukasiewicz's Simple Propositional Calculus

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## Introduction and Comments

(0.0) We take our *propositional calculus* (alternatively called a *sentential logic*, *propositional logic*, etc) to be called  $L_1$ .

(0.1) We allow only one rule of inference *Modus Ponens* (MP):

$$(MP) \quad A, A \rightarrow B \vdash B$$

(0.2) For our purposes, *Modus Ponens* will follow two lines in a proof.

|          |    |   |                           |
|----------|----|---|---------------------------|
| Example: | 1] | $A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)$   | S1; Sub(B, A)             |
|          | 2] | $(A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A))$ | AS2; Sub(B, A); Sub(C, A) |
|          | 3] | $((A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A))$   | MP 1], 2]                 |

(0.3) We allow only two logical operators (logical connectives):

{ $\rightarrow$ }

{ $\neg$ }

(0.4) The *well-formed formulae* (wff) of  $L_1$  are recursively defined as follows:

- (i) Any  $\delta$ , where  $\delta$  is a propositional variable of  $L_1$ , is a formula.
- (ii) If  $\delta$  is a formula then,  $\neg\delta$  is a formula.
- (iii) If  $\delta$  and  $\phi$  are formulas then,  $\delta \rightarrow \phi$  is a formula.
- (iv) Any combination of the above is a wff.
- (v) There are no other wff.

(0.5) We allow only three *axiom schemata*:

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| (AS1) | $A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)$   |
| (AS2) | $(A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))$ |
| (AS3) | $(\neg A \rightarrow \neg B) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A)$                                       |

(0.6) An *axiom schemata* differs from an *axiom*, in that the former lays down any wff of a particular form as being an *axiom* of the logic, whereas the latter takes a specific wff as a fundamental truth. *Axioms* are used to derive other statements within the logic, using the rules of inference. As a note, a *schema* is a general meta-level rule that describes the behavior of *axioms* within a logic (Axiom of Replacement in ZFC Set Theory). *Schema* and *scheme* are used interchangeably for the singular. *Schemas*, *schemata*, *schemes* are used interchangeably for the plural.

(0.7) Thus, any wff of  $L_1$  can be *substituted uniformly* through one of the *axiom schemata* (AS1), (AS2) and (AS3).

|           |      |                                   |                           |
|-----------|------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Examples: | (i)  | $A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)$ | AS1; Sub(B, A)            |
|           | (ii) | $B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$ | AS1; Sub(B, A); Sub(A, B) |

(0.8) We define a *theorem* to be a statement proved from the application of our inference rules and *axiom schemata* alone, that is to say without any additional *premises* (assumptions). All *theorems* of  $L_1$  are *axioms* given that they follow from the *schemata* with inference rules.

- (0.9) For our present investigation we will prove some of the *theorems* of  $L_1$ .
- (0.10) Outermost parenthesis can be dropped.
- (0.11) We will use [ ] and { } with the usual parenthetical notation ( ) as a means to avoid confusion and to assist in dropping outermost, or unnecessary, parenthesis.
- (0.12) When a *premise* is made we will denote it P#. Proofs derived using *premises* will be called *rules*.
- (0.13) A *rule* can be used on an acceptable *premise*, or on a derived statement.

## Proving Theorems and Rules

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| <b>[Th1]</b> | $\vdash (A \rightarrow A)$  |   |
| 1]           | $A \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A)$   | AS1; Sub(B, [A $\rightarrow$ A])                          |
| 2]           | $[A \rightarrow \{(A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A\}] \rightarrow [\{A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)\} \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)]$ | AS2; Sub(C, A); Sub(B, [A $\rightarrow$ A])               |
| 3]           | $\{A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)\} \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)$   | MP 1], 2]   |
| 4]           | $A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A)$   | AS1; Sub(B, A)  |
| 5]           | $(A \rightarrow A)$   | MP 3], 4]   |
|              | QED   |   |
| <b>[R1]</b>  | $(A \rightarrow B), (B \rightarrow C) \vdash (A \rightarrow C)$   |   |
| 1]           | $(A \rightarrow B)$   | P1  |
| 2]           | $(B \rightarrow C)$   | P2  |
| 3]           | $(B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow [A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)]$   | AS1; Sub(A, [B $\rightarrow$ C]); Sub(B, A)               |
| 4]           | $A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$   | MP 2], 3]   |
| 5]           | $[A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)] \rightarrow [(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)]$                                     | AS2   |
| 6]           | $(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)$   | MP 4], 5]   |
| 7]           | $(A \rightarrow C)$   | MP 1], 6]   |
|              | QED   |   |
| <b>[R2]</b>  | $\neg\neg A \vdash A$   |   |
| 1]           | $\neg\neg A$  | P1  |
| 2]           | $\neg\neg A \rightarrow (\neg\neg\neg\neg A \rightarrow \neg\neg A)$  | AS1; Sub(A, $\neg\neg A$ ); Sub(B, $\neg\neg\neg\neg A$ ) |
| 3]           | $(\neg\neg\neg\neg A \rightarrow \neg\neg A)$   | MP 1], 2]   |
| 4]           | $(\neg\neg\neg\neg A \rightarrow \neg\neg A) \rightarrow (\neg A \rightarrow \neg\neg\neg\neg A)$                                     | AS3; Sub(A, $\neg\neg\neg\neg A$ ); Sub(B, $\neg A$ )     |
| 5]           | $(\neg A \rightarrow \neg\neg\neg\neg A)$   | MP 3], 4]   |
| 6]           | $(\neg A \rightarrow \neg\neg\neg\neg A) \rightarrow (\neg\neg A \rightarrow A)$  | AS3; Sub(B, $\neg\neg A$ )                                |
| 7]           | $(\neg\neg A \rightarrow A)$  | MP 5], 6]   |
| 8]           | $A$   | MP 1], 7]   |
|              | QED   |   |