

# Disjunctive Syllogism in Relevant Logics

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Tore Fjetland Øgaard



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University of Bergen / Department of Philosophy

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# Basic idea of relevant logics

- Relevant logics:
  - Some conditional  $\rightarrow$  expresses entailment
  - An argument can't be valid if the premises are unrelated to the conclusion.
  - A  $\rightarrow$ -statement can't be logically true if the antecedent is unrelated to the consequent.
- Paradoxes of the material and strict conditionals:
- Classical logic:  $A \wedge \sim A \supset B$
- Modal logic:  $A \wedge \sim A \rightarrow B$
- Neither  $\supset$  nor  $\rightarrow$  can express entailment

## Traditional claim: relevant logics are all paraconsistent

- (Berto & Restall)

*Relevant logic is paraconsistent, so we all count as paraconsistentists to the extent that we count as relevantists. ([BR19, p. 23])*

- (Read)

*Recently Bob Meyer has claimed that relevant logic is mistaken in rejecting  $DS_{\vee}$ [...]. In contrast I claim that the rejection of  $DS_{\vee}$  is central to the whole conception of relevant logic. ([Rea81, p. 66])*

$DS_{\vee} =_{df}$  the inference schema **if  $A$  and  $\lceil \sim A \vee B \rceil$  are true, then so is  $B$**

- (Burgess)

*All relevantists agree in rejecting disjunctive syllogism (DS):*

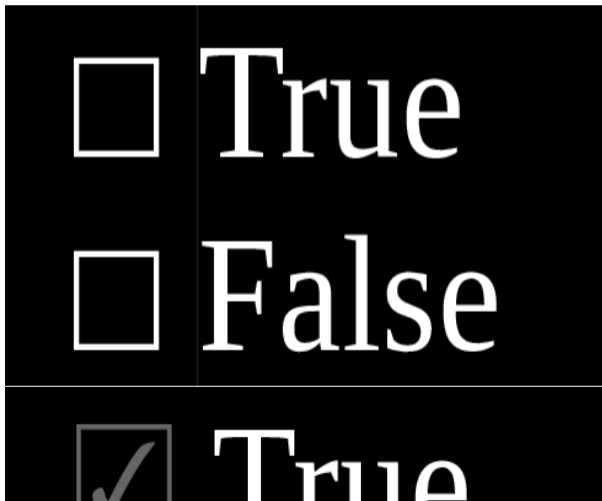
$$(DS) \quad \frac{p \vee q \quad \sim p}{q}$$

*([Bur83, p. 41])*

- (Anderson & Belnap)

*we do hold that the inference from  $\bar{A}$  and  $A \vee B$  to  $B$  is in error: it is a simple inferential mistake, such as only a dog would make [...]. Such an inference commits nothing less than a fallacy of relevance. ([AB75, p. 165])*

# Relevance $\Rightarrow$ Paraconsistency?



- Definitions, such as explosive vs. paraconsistent logic
- Show forth Ackermann's logic  $\Pi'$  and Anderson and Belnap's **E**
- Show forth an explosive logic which has all the treasured properties Anderson and Belnap's **E**
- Time permitting: look at the concept of relevant deduction

# Disjunctive syllogism, Explosion & Paraconsistency

## Definition (Explosion)

A consequence relation  $\vdash$  is *explosive* just in case for all  $A$ 's and  $B$ 's,

$$\{A, \sim A\} \vdash B.$$

## Definition (Paraconsistency)

A consequence relation  $\vdash$  is *paraconsistent* just in case explosion does not hold for it.

## Definition (Disjunctive syllogism)

A consequence relation  $\vdash$  validates *disjunctive syllogism* just in case for all  $A$ 's and  $B$ 's,

$$\{A, \sim A \vee B\} \vdash B$$

# The Hilbert consequence relation of a logic

## Definition ( $\vdash^h$ )

A HILBERT PROOF of a formula  $A$  from a set of formulas  $\Gamma$  in the logic  $\mathbf{L}$  is defined to be a finite list  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  such that  $A_n = A$  and every  $A_{i \leq n}$  is either a member of  $\Gamma$ , a logical axiom of  $\mathbf{L}$ , or there is a set  $\Delta \subseteq \{A_j \mid j < i\}$  such that  $\Delta \Vdash A_i$  is an instance of a rule of  $\mathbf{L}$ . The existential claim that there is such a proof is written  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h A$  and expressed as “there exists a Hilbert-derivation of  $A$  from  $\Gamma$  in the logic  $\mathbf{L}$ ”.

$$A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_n$$

- $A_1 \in \Gamma$
- $A_1 \in \text{AXIOM}_{\mathbf{L}}$



## Definition (Variable sharing)

A logic  $\mathbf{L}$  has the *variable sharing property* =<sub>df</sub>  
if  $\vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h A \rightarrow B$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  share a propositional variable.

## Definition (Motivational: Relevant deduction property / Entailment Theorem)

A logic has the *relevant deduction property* just in case  $A \rightarrow B$  is a logical theorem if (and only if) there is a proof of  $B$  in which  $A$  is *used*

## Definition (Anderson & Belnap: Relevant logic)

- Necessary property: the variable sharing property
- Necessary and sufficient property: the relevant deduction property / Entailment theorem

## Definition (Ackermann's $\Pi'$ )

$$(Ax1) \quad A \rightarrow A$$

$$(Ax2) \quad A \rightarrow A \vee B \text{ and } B \rightarrow A \vee B$$

$$(Ax3) \quad A \wedge B \rightarrow A \text{ and } A \wedge B \rightarrow B$$

$$(Ax4) \quad A \wedge (B \vee C) \rightarrow (A \wedge B) \vee (A \wedge C)$$

$$(Ax5) \quad (A \rightarrow B) \wedge (A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B \wedge C)$$

$$(Ax6) \quad (A \rightarrow C) \wedge (B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \vee B \rightarrow C)$$

$$(Ax7) \quad (A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$$

$$(Ax8) \quad (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow ((C \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (C \rightarrow B))$$

$$(Ax9) \quad (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow ((B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))$$

$$(Ax10) \quad \sim\sim A \rightarrow A$$

$$(Ax11) \quad (A \rightarrow \sim B) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow \sim A)$$

$$(Ax12) \quad (A \rightarrow \sim A) \rightarrow \sim A$$

$$(\alpha) \quad \{A, A \rightarrow B\} \Vdash B$$

$$(\beta) \quad \{A, B\} \Vdash A \wedge B$$

$$(\gamma) \quad \{A, \sim A \vee B\} \Vdash B$$

$$(\delta) \quad \{A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C), B\} \Vdash A \rightarrow C$$

## Theorem

$\Pi'$  is  $\vdash^h$ -explosive, that is  $\{A, \sim A\} \vdash_{\Pi'}^h B$  for all  $A$ 's and  $B$ 's.

## Proof.

- |     |                                    |                   |
|-----|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| (1) | $A$                                | <i>assumption</i> |
| (2) | $\sim A$                           | <i>assumption</i> |
| (3) | $\sim A \rightarrow \sim A \vee B$ | $(Ax2)$           |
| (4) | $\sim A \vee B$                    | 2, 3, $(\alpha)$  |
| (5) | $B$                                | 1, 4, $(\gamma)$  |



- Pro: Seems to block the paradoxes of the material and strict conditionals
- Pro: Can express **S4**-modality using a defined  $\Box$
- Con: Lacks a deduction theorem for  $\rightarrow$
- Solution: drop  $(\gamma)$  and  $(\delta)$ .

$$(\gamma) \quad \{A, \sim A \vee B\} \Vdash B$$

$$(\delta) \quad \{A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C), B\} \Vdash A \rightarrow C$$

# Anderson and Belnap's **E**

## Definition (Anderson and Belnap's **E**)

Anderson and Belnap's **E** consists of axioms (Ax1)–(Ax12), together with the rules ( $\alpha$ ) and ( $\beta$ ) above, as well as the following axioms:

$$(Ax13) \quad ((A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B$$

$$(Ax14) \quad \Box A \wedge \Box B \rightarrow \Box(A \wedge B) \quad \Box C =_{df} (C \rightarrow C) \rightarrow C$$

## Fact (( $\gamma$ ) and ( $\delta$ ) are admissible in **E**)

$$(\gamma^a) \quad \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h A \ \& \ \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h \sim A \vee B \implies \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h B \quad [MD69]$$

$$(\delta^a) \quad \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \ \& \ \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h B \implies \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h A \rightarrow C \quad [AB75, \S 8.2]$$

## Corollary

$$\emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h A \iff \emptyset \vdash_{\Pi'}^h A$$

## Fact

**E** is  $\vdash^h$ -paraconsistent

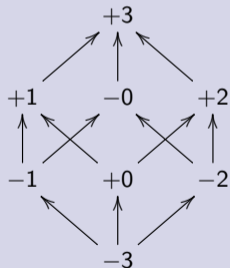
# Belnap: ([Bel60]) $\Pi'$ and $\mathbf{E}$ have the variable sharing property

## Theorem

If  $\vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h A \rightarrow B$  for  $\mathbf{L} \in \{\Pi', \mathbf{E}\}$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  share a propositional variable.

## Proof.

$$\mathcal{T} = \{+0, +1, +2, +3\}$$



$\rightarrow$	-3	-2	-1	-0	+0	+1	+2	+3	$\sim$	$\square$
-3	+3	+3	+3	+3	+3	+3	+3	+3	+3	-3
-2	-3	+2	-3	+2	-3	-3	+2	+3	+2	-2
-1	-3	-3	+1	+1	-3	+1	-3	+3	+1	-1
-0	-3	-3	-3	+0	-3	-3	-3	+3	+0	-0
+0	-3	-2	-1	-0	+0	+1	+2	+3	-0	+0
+1	-3	-3	-1	-1	-3	+1	-3	+3	-1	+1
+2	-3	-2	-3	-2	-3	-3	+2	+3	-2	+2
+3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	+3	-3	+3

Figure: Belnap's model of relevance

Fact ([AB59]:  $\Pi'$  and  $\mathbf{E}$  are **S4**-type modal logics)

For  $\mathbf{L} \in \{\Pi', \mathbf{E}\}$ ,

$$(\mathbf{K}) \quad \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h \Box(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\Box A \rightarrow \Box B)$$

$$(\mathbf{T}) \quad \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h \Box A \rightarrow A$$

$$(\mathbf{4}) \quad \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h \Box A \rightarrow \Box \Box A$$

$$(\mathbf{N}) \quad \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h A \implies \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h \Box A$$

*In fact, the search for a suitable deduction theorem for Ackermann's systems [...] provided the initial impetus leading to the research reported in this book. ([AB75, p. 261])*

Fact (**E**-Enthymemathical deduction thm.)

*For every set of formulas  $\Theta$ , there is a conjunction  $C$  of axioms of  $\mathbf{E}$  such that*

$$\Theta \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h A \iff \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{E}}^h \bigwedge_{i \leq n} \theta_i \wedge C \rightarrow A$$

Fact (The enthymematical deduction theorem fails for  $\Pi'$ )

Proof.

$$A, \sim A \vee B \vdash_{\Pi'}^h B,$$

but

$$\emptyset \not\vdash_{\Pi'}^h (A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge C \rightarrow B$$

(ref. [AB75, §25.1])





*Suppose now for the sake of argument that The Dog reasons as follows: “The arguments of §§16 and 22 make it clear that, when The Man accepts  $A \& (\bar{A} \vee B) \rightarrow B$ , he is making a simple inferential blunder. But surely The Man has something in mind [...].*

*Maybe The Man meant that there were some axioms Axioms which when conjoined to the premises, would produce the desired entailment: he may have supposed that  $\vdash A \& (\bar{A} \vee B) \& \text{Axioms} \rightarrow B$ . This could have happened if, being as confused as he is, he was thinking of the Official deduction theorem [...]. [A&B notes that any such formula can be falsified in Belnap’s test-model]. So B does not even derive “from” A and  $\bar{A} \vee B$  in the Official sense [...]. [AB75, p. 297f.]*

## Desiderata for relevant $\vdash^h$ -explosion—combining $\mathbf{E}$ and $\Pi'$

- Retain  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\Pi'$ 's variable sharing property
- Retain  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\Pi'$ 's **S4**-modality
- Retain  $\mathbf{E}$ 's enthymematical deduction theorem
- Retain  $\Pi'$ 's derivability of disjunctive syllogism / explosion
- Retain  $\mathbf{E}$ 's Entailment theorem

 KABOOM!  $\Pi'_E!$  BOOM!  $\Pi'_E!$ 

## Definition ( $\Pi'_E$ )

- |                     |  |              |  |
|---------------------|--|--------------|--|
| (Ax1)               | $A \rightarrow A$  | (Ax10)       | $\sim\sim A \rightarrow A$   |
| (Ax2)               | $A \rightarrow A \vee B$ and $B \rightarrow A \vee B$  | (Ax11)       | $(A \rightarrow \sim B) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow \sim A)$                |
| (Ax3)               | $A \wedge B \rightarrow A$ and $A \wedge B \rightarrow B$  | (Ax12)       | $(A \rightarrow \sim A) \rightarrow \sim A$                                |
| (Ax4)               | $A \wedge (B \vee C) \rightarrow (A \wedge B) \vee (A \wedge C)$   | (Ax13)       | $((A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B$                          |
| (Ax5)               | $(A \rightarrow B) \wedge (A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B \wedge C)$                        | (Ax14)       | $\Box A \wedge \Box B \rightarrow \Box(A \wedge B)$                        |
| (Ax6)               | $(A \rightarrow C) \wedge (B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \vee B \rightarrow C)$                          | (K)          | $\Box(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\Box A \rightarrow \Box B)$            |
| (Ax7)               | $(A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)$  | (4)          | $\Box A \rightarrow \Box \Box A$   |
| (Ax8 <sup>b</sup> ) | $(A \rightarrow B) \wedge (C \rightarrow C) \rightarrow ((C \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (C \rightarrow B))$ | (Ax15)       | $(A \rightarrow B) \wedge (B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)$ |
| (Ax9 <sup>b</sup> ) | $(A \rightarrow B) \wedge (C \rightarrow C) \rightarrow ((B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))$ | (Ax16)       | $(A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge (B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B$        |
|                     |  | ( $\alpha$ ) | $\{A, A \rightarrow B\} \Vdash B$  |
|                     |  | ( $\beta$ )  | $\{A, B\} \Vdash A \wedge B$   |

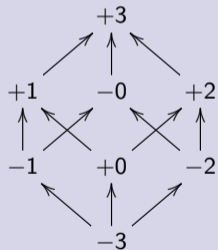
# $\Pi'_E$ and the the variable sharing property

## Theorem

$\Pi'_E$  has the variables sharing property.

## Proof.

$$\mathcal{T} = \{+0, +1, +2, +3\}$$



$\rightarrow$	-3	-2	-1	-0	+0	+1	+2	+3	$\sim$	$\square$
-3	+0	+2	+1	+3	+0	+1	+2	+3	+3	-3
-2	-3	+2	-3	+2	-3	-3	+2	+2	+2	-2
-1	-3	-3	+1	+1	-3	+1	-3	+1	+1	-1
-0	-3	-3	-3	+0	-3	-3	-3	+0	+0	-0
+0	-3	-2	-1	-0	+0	+1	+2	+3	-0	+0
+1	-3	-3	-1	-1	-3	+1	-3	+1	-1	+1
+2	-3	-2	-3	-2	-3	-3	+2	+2	-2	+2
+3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	+0	-3	+3

Figure:  $\Pi'_E$ 's model of relevance

## $\Pi'_E$ : S4-modality and the enthymematical deduction theorem

### Theorem

$\Pi'_E$ 's  $\Box$  has the characteristics of a **S4** modality

### Proof.

The **T**-axiom: instance of (Ax13); the others are primitive axioms of  $\Pi'_E$ . The admissibility of the necessitation rule is a simple induction on the length of proof.  $\square$

### Theorem

$\Pi'_E$  has enthymematical deduction theorem.

### Proof.

Simple induction on length of proof.  $\square$

$\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^h$  is explosive

## Theorem

For all  $A$ 's and  $B$ 's,  $\{A, \sim A\} \vdash_{\Pi'_E}^h B$

## Proof.

- |     |   |                    |
|-----|---|--------------------|
| (1) | $A$   | <i>assumption</i>  |
| (2) | $\sim A$  | <i>assumption</i>  |
| (3) | $\sim A \rightarrow \sim A \vee B$                                  | (Ax2)              |
| (4) | $\sim A \vee B$   | 2, 3, ( $\alpha$ ) |
| (5) | $A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)$  | 1, 4, ( $\beta$ )  |
| (6) | $B \rightarrow B$   | (Ax1)              |
| (7) | $(A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge (B \rightarrow B)$               | 5, 6, ( $\beta$ )  |
| (8) | $(A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge (B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B$ | (Ax16)             |
| (9) | $B$   | 7, 8, ( $\alpha$ ) |



# The relevant consequence relation of a logic

## Definition (Relevant deduction)

$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^r A$ : A RELEVANT DEDUCTION of a formula  $A$  from a set of formulas  $\Gamma$  in the logic  $\mathbf{L}$  having only modus ponens,  $(\alpha)$ , and adjunction,  $(\beta)$ , as primitive rules, is defined as a Hilbert proof  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  of  $A$  from  $\Gamma$  such that it is possible to mark the  $A_i$ 's with  $\#$ 's according to the following rules:

- 1 If  $A_i \in \Gamma$ , then  $A_i$  is marked.
- 2 If  $A_i$  is got from  $A_j$  and  $A_k$  using modus ponens, then  $A_i$  is marked if either or both of  $A_j$  and  $A_k$  are marked.
- 3 Adjunction is only used on premises which are either both marked or both unmarked.
- 4 If  $A_i$  is got from  $A_j$  and  $A_k$  using adjunction and both of  $A_j$  and  $A_k$  are marked, then  $A_i$  is marked.
- 5 No other formulas are marked.
- 6 As a consequence of (1–5),  $A_n$  is marked.

# How to think of the relevant consequence relation of a logic

$$\Theta \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^r A \quad =_{df} \quad \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h \bigwedge_{i \leq n} \theta_i \rightarrow A$$

for some subset  $\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n\} \subseteq \Theta$ .



## Theorem

$\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r$  is paraconsistent: for some  $A$ 's and  $B$ 's,  $\{A, \sim A\} \not\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r B$ .

## Failed Proof

- |     |   |   |  |
|-----|---|---|--|
| (1) | # | $A$   | assumption   |
| (2) | # | $\sim A$  | assumption   |
| (3) |   | $\sim A \rightarrow \sim A \vee B$                                  | (Ax2)  |
| (4) | # | $\sim A \vee B$   | 2, 3, ( $\alpha$ )   |
| (5) | # | $A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)$  | 1, 4, ( $\beta$ )  |
| (6) |   | $B \rightarrow B$   | (Ax1)  |
| (7) |   | $(A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge (B \rightarrow B)$               | 5, 6, ( $\beta$ ): Not allowed: 3.clause on use of ( $\beta$ ) |
| (8) |   | $(A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge (B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B$ | (Ax16)   |
| (9) |   | $B$   | 7, 8, ( $\alpha$ ); not marked                                 |

Theorem ( $\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r$  is only irregularly paraconsistent)

$$\{A, \sim A, B \rightarrow B\} \vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r B$$

Proof.

- |     |   |   |                    |
|-----|---|---|--------------------|
| (1) | # | $A$   | <i>assumption</i>  |
| (2) | # | $\sim A$  | <i>assumption</i>  |
| (3) |   | $\sim A \rightarrow \sim A \vee B$                                  | (Ax2)              |
| (4) | # | $\sim A \vee B$   | 2, 3, ( $\alpha$ ) |
| (5) | # | $A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)$  | 1, 4, ( $\beta$ )  |
| (6) | # | $B \rightarrow B$   | <i>assumption</i>  |
| (7) | # | $(A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge (B \rightarrow B)$               | 5, 6, ( $\beta$ )  |
| (8) |   | $(A \wedge (\sim A \vee B)) \wedge (B \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B$ | (Ax16)             |
| (9) | # | $B$   | 7, 8, ( $\alpha$ ) |



# The Entailment theorem

## Theorem (The Entailment theorem)

Let  $\mathbf{L}$  be any axiomatic extension of either  $\mathbf{E}$  or  $\Pi'_{\mathbf{E}}$ . Then

$$\{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n\} \cup \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m\} \vdash_{\mathbf{L}} B \iff \emptyset \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h \bigwedge_{i \leq n} \psi_i \wedge \bigwedge_{i \leq m} \theta_i \rightarrow B$$

Where  $\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m\} \subseteq \text{Axioms}_{\mathbf{L}}$ .

## Proof.

Easy induction on the length of proof. □

## Corollary (Entailment thm. combined with the enthymematical ded. theorem)

Let  $\mathbf{L}$ , the  $\theta$ 's and  $\psi$ 's be as above. Then

$$\{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n\} \cup \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m\} \vdash_{\mathbf{L}} B \iff \{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n\} \vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^h B$$

### Corollary

*The Entailment theorem holds for classical logic...*

### Bad Definition (The definition of 'relevant logic' is bad)

Classical logic does not have the variable sharing property—a necessary property of being a relevant logic—yet satisfies the Entailment theorem—a necessary and *sufficient* for being a relevant logic.

Cont.:  $\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^h$  vs.  $\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r$

Proof that  $\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r$  is paraconsistent.

Given the Entailment Theorem:

$$\{A, \sim A\} \vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r B \iff \emptyset \vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r A \wedge \sim A \rightarrow B.$$

Since  $A \wedge \sim A \rightarrow B$  fails in  $\Pi'_E$ 's model of relevance, it follows that  $\{A, \sim A\} \not\vdash_{\Pi'_E}^r B$ . □

Corollary

*If  $\mathbf{L}$  is a logic for which the Entailment theorem holds, then  $\vdash_{\mathbf{L}}^r$  is paraconsistent if  $\mathbf{L}$  has the variable sharing property.*

We have seen that  $\Pi'_E$  has the following properties

- Variable sharing
- Entailment theorem
- Enthymematical deduction theorem
- **S4** modality
- Explosive  $\vdash^h$
- Mildly paraconsistent  $\vdash^r$

*we do hold that the inference from  $\bar{A}$  and  $A \vee B$  to  $B$  is in error: it is a simple inferential mistake, such as only a dog would make [...]. Such an inference commits nothing less than a fallacy of relevance. ([AB75, p. 165])*

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