

# The Implication Problem For Disjunctive Rules

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# Basic Definitions & Examples

**Definition 1.1** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $X \subseteq S$ , and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  a set of subsets of  $S$ . A disjunctive rule over  $S$  is an expression of the form  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ . The number of subsets of  $S$  in  $\mathcal{Y}$ , denoted  $|\mathcal{Y}|$ , is called the order of  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ .*

**Example 1.2** *Let  $S = \{A, B, C\}$ . The following are disjunctive rules of order respectively 0, 1, 2, and 3:*

$\{A, B, C\} \rightarrow \emptyset$ ;  
 $\{C\} \rightarrow \{\{A, B\}\}$ ;  
 $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \{\{A\}, \{A, B\}\}$ ; and  
 $\emptyset \rightarrow \{\{A, B\}, \{B, C\}, \{A, C\}\}$ .

# Basic Definitions & Examples

**Triviality**

$$\frac{}{X \cup Y \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\}}$$

**Strong Transitivity**

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \\ \forall Y \in \mathcal{Y} : Y \cup W \rightarrow \mathcal{Z} \end{array}}{X \cup W \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}}$$

Figure 1: Inference system for disjunctive rules.

# Basic Definitions & Examples

**Definition 1.3** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a set of disjunctive rules over  $S$ , and let  $c$  be a disjunctive rule over  $S$ . We say that  $c$  can be derived from  $\mathcal{C}$  if there exists a finite sequence of disjunctive rules  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  such that*

- for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $c_i$  is either given (i.e., an element of  $\mathcal{C}$ ) or  $c_i$  can be derived from some of the constraints  $c_1, \dots, c_{i-1}$  using an inference rule;*
- $c_n = c$ .*

*The sequence  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  is called a derivation.*

# Basic Definitions & Examples

**Definition 1.4** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a set of disjunctive rules over  $S$ , and let  $c$  be a disjunctive rule over  $S$ . Furthermore, let  $u$  be the highest order of a disjunctive rule in  $\mathcal{C} \cup \{c\}$  and let  $\ell$  be the lowest order of a disjunctive rule in  $\mathcal{C} \cup \{c\}$ .*

*If all the disjunctive rules in a derivation of  $c$  from  $\mathcal{C}$  have order at most  $u$ , we say that the derivation is upper bounded. If all the disjunctive rules in a derivation of  $c$  from  $\mathcal{C}$  have order at least  $\ell$ , we say that the derivation is lower bounded. Finally, if a derivation is both lower bounded and upper bounded, we say that it is bounded.*

# Basic Definitions & Examples

**Example 1.5** *Let  $S = \{A, B, C, D\}$ , let  $\mathcal{C} = \{\{A\} \rightarrow \{\{B, C\}, \{C, D\}\}, \{C\} \rightarrow \{\{D\}\}\}$ , and let  $c$  be  $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \{\{D\}\}$ . Observe that all disjunctive rules in  $\mathcal{C} \cup \{c\}$  are of order 1 or 2. Let's look at a bounded derivation:*

- (1)  $\{C\} \rightarrow \{\{D\}\}$  (given)
- (2)  $\{B, C, D\} \rightarrow \{\{D\}\}$  (**triviality**)
- (3)  $\{B, C\} \rightarrow \{\{D\}\}$  (**s.t.**  $W = \{B, C\}$ )
- (4)  $\{A\} \rightarrow \{\{B, C\}, \{C, D\}\}$  (given)
- (5)  $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \{\{D\}\}$  (**s.t.**  $W = \{B\}$ )

# Basic Definitions & Examples

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$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Augmentation} \\ X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \\ \hline X \cup W \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \end{array}$$

Figure 2: Additional inference rule derivable from the inference system in Figure 1.

# Basic Definitions & Examples

**Definition 1.6** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $X \subseteq S$ , and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a set of subsets of  $S$ . The lattice decomposition of  $X$  relative to  $\mathcal{Y}$ , is defined by*

$$L(X, \mathcal{Y}) = [X, S] - \left( \bigcup_{Y \in \mathcal{Y}} [Y, S] \right).$$

**Definition 1.7** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a set of subsets of  $S$ . A subset  $W$  of  $S$  is called a witness of  $\mathcal{Y}$  if  $W \subseteq \bigcup \mathcal{Y}$ , and for each  $Y \in \mathcal{Y}$ ,  $Y \cap W \neq \emptyset$ . A subset  $W$  of  $S$  is called a minimal witness of  $\mathcal{Y}$  if it is a witness of  $\mathcal{Y}$  and does not properly contain another witness of  $\mathcal{Y}$ .*

# Basic Definitions & Examples

We denote by  $\mathcal{W}^+(\mathcal{Y})$  the set of all witnesses of  $\mathcal{Y}$  and by  $\mathcal{W}^-(\mathcal{Y})$  the set of all minimal witnesses of  $\mathcal{Y}$ . We can now rewrite lattice decompositions as follows

**Proposition 1.8** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $X \subseteq S$ , and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a set of subsets of  $S$ . Then*

$$L(X, \mathcal{Y}) = \bigcup_{W \in \mathcal{W}^+(\mathcal{Y})} [X, \overline{W}] = \bigcup_{W \in \mathcal{W}^-(\mathcal{Y})} [X, \overline{W}].$$

# Basic Definitions & Examples

**Theorem 1.9** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $X \subseteq S$ , and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a set of subsets of  $S$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a set of disjunctive rules over  $S$  and let  $c$  be the disjunctive rule  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ . Then  $\mathcal{C} \vdash c$  if and only if  $L(X, \mathcal{Y}) \subseteq \bigcup_{X' \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}' \in \mathcal{C}} L(X', \mathcal{Y}')$ .*

A careful inspection of the proof of the above theorem reveals that we can make a stronger statement on the syntactic nature of the derivations involved.

**Theorem 1.10** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a set of disjunctive rules over  $S$ , and let  $c$  be a disjunctive rule over  $S$ . If  $\mathcal{C} \vdash c$  then there exists a bounded derivation of  $\mathcal{C} \vdash c$ .*

# Differentials and Densities

**Definition 1.11** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $F : 2^S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a set of subsets of  $S$ . The  $\mathcal{Y}$ -differential of  $F$  is the function  $\Delta^{\mathcal{Y}} F : 2^S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined recursively:*

$$\Delta^{\emptyset} F(X) = F(X) \text{ and}$$

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{Y} \cup \{Y\}} F(X) = \Delta^{\mathcal{Y}} F(X) - \Delta^{\mathcal{Y}} F(X \cup Y)$$

*for each  $X \subseteq S$ .*

The analogy with the definition of derivatives of real functions is obvious. Notice that  $|\mathcal{Y}|$  corresponds to the order of differentiation.

# Differentials and Densities

**Definition 1.12** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, and let  $F : 2^S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The density of  $F$  is the function  $\Delta F : 2^S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $\Delta F(X) = \Delta^{\mathcal{A}(\bar{X})} F(X)$ , for each  $X \subseteq S$ .*

The following relationship between a function and its density justifies the name:

**Proposition 1.13** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $F : 2^S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Then, for each  $X \subseteq S$ ,*

$$F(X) = \sum_{X \subseteq U \subseteq S} \Delta F(U).$$

The analogy with densities in probability theory is obvious.

# Differentials and Densities

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Additionally, it turns out that the differential of a set-valued function can also be expressed in terms of its densities.

**Proposition 1.14** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let*

*$F : 2^S \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ . Then, for each  $X \subseteq S$ ,*

$$\Delta^{\mathcal{Y}} F(X) = \sum_{U \in L(X, \mathcal{Y})} \Delta F(U).$$

# Differentials as Constraints

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We can interpret disjunctive rules as constraints on set-valued functions into the reals.

**Definition 1.15** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $X$  be a subset of  $S$ , and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a set of subsets of  $S$ . Let  $F : 2^S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . We say that  $F$  satisfies the disjunctive rule  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  if  $\Delta^{\mathcal{Y}} F(X) = 0$ .*

# Differentials as Constraints

Relative to this notion of satisfaction, we define the logical implication problem for disjunctive rules given a class of set-valued functions  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Definition 1.16** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a set of disjunctive rules over  $S$ , let  $c$  be a disjunctive rule over  $S$ , and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. We say that  $\mathcal{C}$  logically implies  $c$  under  $\mathcal{F}$ , and write  $\mathcal{C} \models_{\mathcal{F}} c$ , if each function  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  that satisfies all disjunctive rules in  $\mathcal{C}$  also satisfies the disjunctive rule  $c$ .*

# Soundness

**Definition 2.17 (Soundness property)** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. Let  $\ell, u \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $0 \leq \ell \leq u \leq 2^{|S|}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -soundness property if, for each set  $\mathcal{C}$  of disjunctive rules over  $S$  of order at least  $\ell$  and at most  $u$ , and each disjunctive rule  $c$  over  $S$  of order at least  $\ell$  and at most  $u$ , we have that  $\mathcal{C} \vdash c$  implies  $\mathcal{C} \models_{\mathcal{F}} c$ .*

# Soundness

## Definition 2.18 (Augmentation and zero-density p.)

- We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -augmentation property if, for each function  $F$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  and for each disjunctive rule  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  over  $S$  of order at least  $\ell$  and at most  $u$ , then whenever  $F$  satisfies  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ , we have that  $F$  also satisfies  $X \cup W \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ , for each  $W \subseteq S$ .
- We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -zero-density property if, for each function  $F$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  and for each disjunctive rule  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  over  $S$  of order at least  $\ell$  and at most  $u$ , then whenever  $F$  satisfies  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ , we have that  $\Delta F(U) = 0$ , for all  $U \in L(X, \mathcal{Y})$ .

# Soundness

Each of these properties is equivalent to the  $[\ell, u]$ -soundness property:

**Theorem 2.19** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. Let  $\ell, u \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $0 \leq \ell \leq u \leq 2^{|S|}$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

1.  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -augmentation property;
2.  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -zero-density property; and
3.  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -soundness property.

# Completeness

First, we define the notion of completeness formally.

**Definition 2.20 (Completeness property)** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. Let  $\ell, u \in \mathbf{N}$  such that  $0 \leq \ell \leq u \leq 2^{|S|}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -completeness property if, for each set  $\mathcal{C}$  of disjunctive rules over  $S$  of order at least  $\ell$  and at most  $u$ , and each disjunctive rule  $c$  over  $S$  of order at least  $\ell$  and at most  $u$ , we have that  $\mathcal{C} \models_{\mathcal{F}} c$  implies  $\mathcal{C} \vdash c$ .*

# Completeness

We now present two properties that guarantee  $[0, 2^{|S|}]$ -completeness and  $[1, 2^{|S|}]$ -completeness, respectively. To do so, we need to introduce the following notions:

**Definition 2.21** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $V \subseteq S$ .*

- *We define the Kronecker density function of  $V$ , denoted  $\delta_V$ , as the function from  $2^S$  into the reals for which  $\delta_V(V) = 1$  and  $\delta_V(X) = 0$  if  $X \neq V$ .*
- *We define the Kronecker-induced function of  $V$ , denoted  $F_V$ , as the function whose density function is the Kronecker density function of  $V$ , i.e.,  $F_V(X) = \sum_{X \subseteq U \subseteq S} \delta_V(U)$ , for each  $X \subseteq S$ .*

# Completeness

Based on these notions, we can define the following properties of classes of set-valued functions into the reals:

## **Definition 2.22 (Strong and weak Kronecker properties)**

*Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued function from  $2^S$  into the reals.*

- *We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the strong Kronecker property if, for each subset  $V$  of  $S$ , there exists a real number  $c_V \neq 0$  such that the function  $c_V F_V$  is in  $\mathcal{F}$ .*
- *We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the weak Kronecker property if, for each strict subset  $V$  of  $S$ , there exist real numbers  $c_V \neq 0$  and  $d_V$  such that the function  $c_V F_V + d_V$  is in  $\mathcal{F}$ .*

# Completeness

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**Theorem 2.23** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals.*

- *If  $\mathcal{F}$  has the strong Kronecker property it also has the  $[0, 2^{|S|}]$ -completeness property.*
- *If  $\mathcal{F}$  has the weak Kronecker property it also has the  $[1, 2^{|S|}]$ -completeness property.*

# Soundness and Completeness

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**Definition 2.24** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. Let  $\ell, u \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $0 \leq \ell \leq u \leq 2^{|S|}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -sound-and-completeness property if  $\mathcal{F}$  has both, the  $[\ell, u]$ -soundness and  $[\ell, u]$ -completeness property.*

# Soundness and Completeness

**Theorem 2.25** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. Let  $\ell, u \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $0 \leq \ell \leq u \leq 2^{|S|}$ .*

- *If  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[\ell, u]$ -augmentation property (respectively, the  $[\ell, u]$ -zero-density property) and the strong Kronecker property, then  $\mathcal{F}$  has also the  $[\ell, u]$ -sound-and-completeness property.*
- *In the above statement, the strong Kronecker property may be replaced by the weak Kronecker property, provided  $\ell \geq 1$ .*

# Soundness and Completeness

Ideally, we would like to *characterize*  $[\ell, u]$ -sound-and-completeness. For  $\ell = 0$  and  $\ell = 1$ , we actually can.

**Lemma 2.26** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. Let  $u \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq 2^{|S|}$ .*

- *If  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[0, u]$ -sound-and-completeness property, it also has the strong Kronecker property.*
- *If  $\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[1, u]$ -sound-and-completeness property, it also has the weak Kronecker property.*

# Soundness and Completeness

**Theorem 2.27** *Let  $S$  be a finite set and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a class of set-valued functions from  $2^S$  into the reals. Let  $u \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq 2^{|S|}$ . Then,*

- *$\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[0, u]$ -sound-and-completeness property if and only if it has the  $[0, u]$ -augmentation property (respectively, the  $[0, u]$ -zero-density property) and the strong Kronecker property; and*
- *$\mathcal{F}$  has the  $[1, u]$ -sound-and-completeness property if and only if it has the  $[1, u]$ -augmentation property (respectively, the  $[1, u]$ -zero-density property) and the weak Kronecker property.*

# Applications

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**Example 3.28 (All functions)** *Let  $S$  be a finite non-empty set. In The set of all set-valued functions does not have the  $[0, 2^{|S|}]$ -soundness property. However, since this class has the strong Kronecker property it does have the  $[0, 2^{|S|}]$ -completeness property.*

# Applications

**Example 3.29 (Frequent itemset mining)** *Given a finite set  $S$  of items and a list  $\mathcal{B}$  of subsets of  $S$ . The support of an itemset  $X \subseteq S$  is defined as  $S^{\mathcal{B}}(X) = |\mathcal{B}(X)|$  where  $\mathcal{B}(X) = \{i \mid X \subseteq \mathcal{B}[i]\}$ . The class of all support functions over  $S$  has the  $[0, 2^{|S|}]$ -augmentation property, whence the  $[0, 2^{|S|}]$ -soundness property. One can also easily verify that the class of all support functions has the strong Kronecker property. Thus, this class has the  $[0, 2^{|S|}]$ -sound-and-completeness property.*

# Applications

**Definition 3.30 (Choquet capacities)** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, let  $F$  be a function from  $2^S$  into the reals, and let  $k$  be a natural number,  $k \geq 1$ .*

- *The function  $F$  is a positive  $k$ -alternating capacity if, for each subsets  $X$  of  $S$  and for each non-empty set  $\mathcal{Y}$  of at most  $k$  subsets of  $S$ ,  $\Delta^{\mathcal{Y}} F(X) \geq 0$ .*
- *The function  $F$  is a negative  $k$ -alternating capacity if, for each subset  $X$  of  $S$  and for each non-empty set  $\mathcal{Y}$  of at most  $k$  subsets of  $S$ ,  $\Delta^{\mathcal{Y}} F(X) \leq 0$ .*

# Applications

**Corollary 3.31** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, and let  $k \geq 1$ . Every class of positive (respectively, negative)  $(k + 1)$ -alternating capacities over  $S$  has the  $[1, k]$ -sound-and-completeness property if and only if it has the weak Kronecker property.*

**Theorem 3.32** *Let  $S$  be a finite set, and let  $k \geq 1$ . Every class of positive  $(k + 1)$ -alternating capacities over  $S$  with  $k \geq 1$  has the  $[0, k]$ -soundness property. Moreover, it has the  $[0, k]$ -sound-and-completeness property if and only if it has the strong Kronecker property.*

# Applications

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Now, these results follow directly:

- The class of Shannon entropy functions has the  $[1, 1]$ -sound-and-completeness property. Compare this case to functional dependencies!
- The class of all plausibility functions over  $S$  has the  $[1, 2^{|S|}]$ -sound-and-completeness property;
- The class of all probability functions over  $S$  has the  $[1, 2^{|S|}]$ -soundness property but not the weak Kronecker property;
- The class of all  $(k + 1)$ -alternating capacities,  $k \geq 1$ , has the  $[1, k]$ -sound-and-completeness property.