

# Classical Syllogisms as Computational Inferences

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## Abstract

The classical categorical syllogisms originated and evolved in times without computers, sensors for vision and audition, and actuators for manipulation and vocalization. Therefore, a substitution-driven sign-based ontology was the only practical option.

That it is nevertheless possible to translate categorical syllogisms into the agent-based data-driven inferencing of DBS is because they use the same set-theoretic structures. The following reconstruction proceeds from the diagrams by Swiss mathematician Leonard Euler, used in the year 1761 in a famous “letter to a princess.”

**keywords:** sign-based vs. agent-based; logical vs. common sense reasoning; categorical syllogisms; categorical judgements; Euler diagrams;

## 1 Logical vs. Common Sense Reasoning

A basic distinction in philosophy of language is between logical reasoning and common sense reasoning. Logical reasoning is based on set theory, which is why the associated inferences in DBS are called S-inferences. Common sense reasoning, in contrast, is without a set-theoretic aspect and the associated inferences are called C-inferences in DBS.

In the human prototype, S-inferences and C-inferences are not separated, but work smoothly together. Therefore, the computational model of reasoning in DBS uses the same general inference schema and the same data structure for S- and C-inferences. Consider the following DBS inferences as schematic examples:

### 1.1 Example of an S-inference (FERIO)

|              |                                 |               |                                |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| S-inference: | $\alpha$ is homework            | $\Rightarrow$ | $\alpha$ is no fun             |
|              | $\uparrow$                      |               | $\downarrow$                   |
|              | input: some reading is homework |               | output: some reading is no fun |

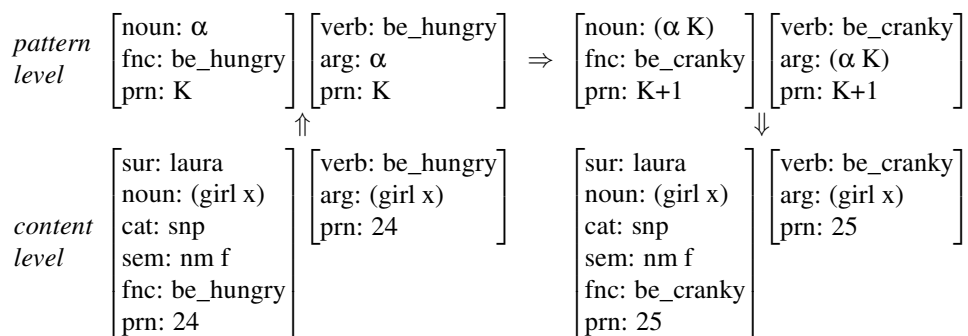
### 1.2 Example of a C-inference (CAUSE\_and\_EFFECT)

|              |                        |               |                         |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| C-inference: | $\alpha$ is hungry     | $\Rightarrow$ | $\alpha$ is cranky      |
|              | $\uparrow$             |               | $\downarrow$            |
|              | input: Laura is hungry |               | output: Laura is cranky |

Both inferences work by binding the subject term of the input to the variable  $\alpha$  in the antecedent of the pattern, which enables the consequent to derive the output.

The implementation of the syllogism FERIO as an S-inference is illustrated in 6.10, while the corresponding implementation of the C-inference 1.2 is shown as the following software operation:

### 1.3 Applying the C-inference 1.2 in DBS format



The content and the pattern level consist of nonrecursive feature structures with ordered attributes. Called *proplets*<sup>1</sup>, they serve as the computational data structure. The proplets of a content are order-free but connected by the classical semantic relations of structure, i.e. functor-argument and coordination, coded by address.

The proplets at the pattern level use variables as values for the ‘core’ and the ‘continuation’ attributes, those at the content level have corresponding constants. The content proplets of the antecedent serve as input to the inference by matching and binding their constants to the corresponding variables of the pattern proplets, which enables the consequent to derive the output.

For computational pattern matching to be successful (i) the attributes of the pattern proplet must be a *sublist*, (ii) the variables of the pattern proplet must be *compatible*, and (iii) the constants of the pattern proplet must be *identical* with those of the corresponding content proplet directly underneath. By binding the variables of the antecedent to the constants of the input, the consequent derives the output.

S-inferences and C-inferences differ in the source of their reasoning. For example, in the S-inference 1.2, the source is the disjunction between the concepts *homework* and *be\_fun* and the intersection between *reading* and *homework* (6.8), which are assumed to be generally accepted. In the C-inference 1.3, in contrast, the source is something observed by the agent(s).<sup>2</sup>

## 2 Categorical Syllogisms

An early highlight in the Western tradition of logical reasoning are the classical syllogisms of Aristotle (384–322 BC) and their further development by the medieval

<sup>1</sup>Socalled because they are the elementary items of propositions.

<sup>2</sup>The resulting set-theoretic relation between *being cranky* and *being hungry* in 1.2, i.e. intersection, is merely a consequence of the reasoning, and not the source.

scholastics.<sup>3</sup> In the modern era, the syllogisms have been based on the intuitions of set theory (Euler, 2.3).

A categorical<sup>4</sup> syllogism consists of three parts, called premise 1, premise 2, and the conclusion. This may be shown schematically as follows:

## 2.1 Schematic instantiation of a categorical syllogism

Major premise: all M are P  
 Minor premise: all S are M  
 Conclusion: all S are P

M is the middle term, S the subject, and P the predicate. M is shared by the two premises. The respective positions of M are called the alignment.

The three parts of a classical syllogism are restricted to the four categorical judgments, named **A**, **E**, **I**, and **O** by the Scholastics:

## 2.2 The four categorical judgements

|          |                        |                                       |                  |
|----------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>A</b> | universal affirmative  | $\forall x [ f(x) \rightarrow g(x) ]$ | all f are g      |
| <b>E</b> | universal negative     | $\neg \exists x [ f(x) \wedge g(x) ]$ | no f are g       |
| <b>I</b> | particular affirmative | $\exists x [ f(x) \wedge g(x) ]$      | some f are g     |
| <b>O</b> | particular negative    | $\exists x [ f(x) \wedge \neg g(x) ]$ | some f are not g |

The first-order Predicate Calculus representation in the third column is in a linear notation called *prenex normal form*, which superseded Frege's (1879) graphical format.

The four categorical judgements combine into 256 ( $2^8$ ) possible syllogism, of which 24 have been found valid. The syllogisms reconstructed in this paper as DBS inferences are BARBARA,<sup>5</sup> CELARENT, DARII, FERIO, BAROCO, and BOCARDO, plus the modi ponendo ponens and tollendo tollens as special<sup>6</sup> cases.

The set-theoretic constellations underlying the four categorical judgements may be shown as follows:

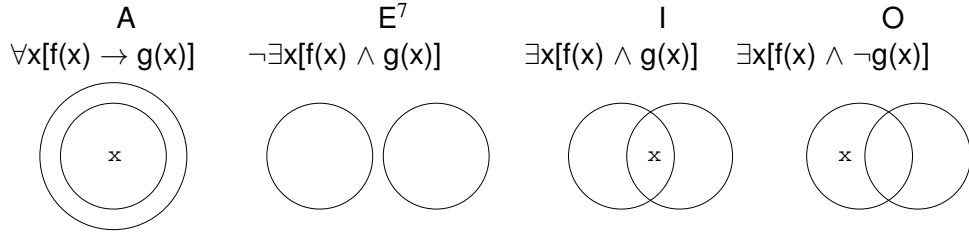
<sup>3</sup>For a critical review of how the understanding of Aristotle's theory of categorical syllogisms changed over the millenia see Read (2017). For a computational automata and factor analysis see Zhang Yinsheng and Qiao Xiaodong (2009).

<sup>4</sup>The term *categorical* refers to the strict specification of the Aristotelian syllogisms, especially in their medieval form, such as exactly two premises – one conclusion, middle term not in the conclusion, subject/predicate structure of the three parts, using only the four categorical judgements, etc.

<sup>5</sup>The scholastics used the vowels of the categorical judgements in the names of the associated syllogisms as mnemonic support. For example, the three vowels in the name of modus BARBARA indicate that the categorical judgements of the propositions serving as the two premises and the consequent are all of the kind **A**, i.e. universal affirmative (2.2).

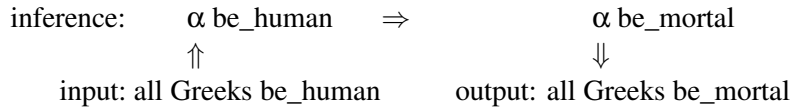
<sup>6</sup>The modi ponendo ponens (3.1) and tollendo tollens (4.1) are not categorical syllogism in the narrow sense because their premise 2 and conclusion are not categorical judgements of the kind **A**, **E**, **I**, or **O**. This is reflected by their different naming convention as compared to categorical syllogisms in the narrow sense, for example BARBARA or FERIO.

### 2.3 Set-theoretic counterparts of the four categorial judgements



Known as Euler diagrams<sup>8</sup> (Euler 1761), the set-theoretic constellations are used in DBS to reconstruct the valid syllogisms as data-driven, agent-based S-inferences. As an example, consider the schematic application of modus Barbara in DBS:

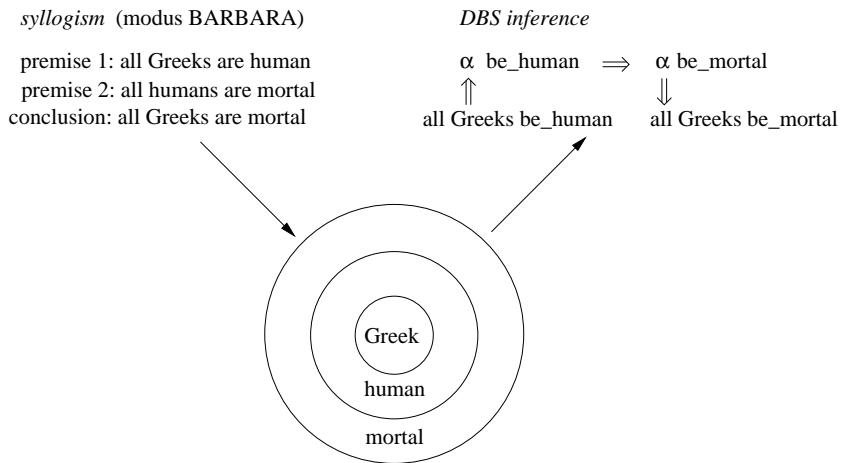
### 2.4 Modus Barbara as a DBS inference



A DBS inference consists of an antecedent pattern, a connective, and a consequent pattern. It takes a content as input and derives a content as output. The purpose of S-inferences is to validly derive new content from given content. The validity follows from set-theoretic intuitions which are the foundation of both the sign-based classical syllogisms and their agent-based counterparts in DBS.

Using modus BARBARA, the transition from a categorial syllogism to a DBS inference may be shown as follows:

### 2.5 From syllogism to DBS inference



The DBS reconstruction of a categorial syllogism as an inference has the form

<sup>7</sup>The categorial judgement E in Predicate Calculus, i.e. (i)  $\neg \exists x[f(x) \wedge g(x)]$ , is entailed by (ii)  $\exists x[f(x) \wedge \neg g(x)]$  and (iii)  $\exists x[\neg f(x) \wedge g(x)]$ , which have separate set-theoretic counterparts (6.8).

$\alpha X$  implies  $\alpha Y$ . The variable  $\alpha$  in the antecedent may be matched by and bound to (1) a complete set, e.g. all Greeks (universal, 4.4), (2) a subset, e.g. some pets (particular, 6.4), or (3) an element, e.g. Socrates (individual, 6.3). In the consequent, the input-binding of  $\alpha$  derives the output.

With the possible presence of negation in the antecedent, the consequent, or both, there result the following four schemata of S-inferences for the categorical syllogisms, each with a universal, a particular, and an individual variant.

The first triple is without negation:

## 2.6 $\alpha$ be\_X implies $\alpha$ be\_Y

- (1) universal: all Greeks be\_human implies all Greeks be\_mortal.
- (2) particular: some pets be\_rabbits implies some pets be\_furry.
- (3) individual: Socrates be\_human implies Socrates be\_mortal.

The universal version is modeled after modus BARBARA (5.1), the particular version after modus DARII (6.1), and the individual version after modus ponendo ponens (3.1).

The second triple negates the consequent:

## 2.7 $\alpha$ be\_X implies $\alpha$ not be\_Y

- (4) universal: all horses be\_quadraped implies all horses not be\_human.
- (5) particular: some pets be\_turtles implies some pets not be\_furry.
- (6) individual: Pegasus be\_quadraped implies Pegasus not be\_human.

The universal version is modeled after modus CELARENT (5.6), the particular version after modus FERIO (6.6), and the individual version after modus tollendo tollens (4.1).

The third triple negates the antecedent:

## 2.8 $\alpha$ not be\_X implies $\alpha$ be\_Y.

- (7) universal: all friars not be\_married implies all friars be\_single.
- (8) particular: some men not be\_married implies some men be\_single.
- (9) individual: Fred not be\_married implies Fred be\_single.

Set-theoretically, the denotations of not be\_married and of be\_single are coextensive in all three versions.

The fourth triple negates the antecedent and the consequent. Though EEE syllogisms are not valid for all instantiations, the following instantiations are:

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<sup>8</sup>Named after Leonhard Euler (1707–1783). the method was known already in the 17th century and has been credited to several candidates.

Venn (1881, p.113) called Euler diagrams “old-fashioned”. Euler diagrams reflect the set-theoretic constellations simple and direct, whereas Venn models the complicated medieval superstructures erected by the scholastics on top of the original syllogisms. Venn diagrams are useful for showing that certain syllogisms, for example, EEE-1 and OOO-1, are not valid.

## 2.9 $\alpha$ not be\_X implies $\alpha$ not be\_Y

(10) universal: all gods not be\_mortal implies all gods not be\_human.

(11) particular: some pets not be\_furry implies some pets not be\_rabbits.

(12) individual: Zeus not be\_mortal implies Zeus not be\_human.

Set-theoretically, the denotations of not be\_X and not be\_Y are disjunct in the (10) universal and the (12) individual variant, and in the complement of the pet-rabbit intersection in the (11) particular variant.

## 3 Modus Ponendo Ponens

Modus ponendo<sup>9</sup> ponens serves as the individual version of 2.6. The standard representation in Predicate Calculus is as follows:

### 3.1 Modus ponendo ponens in Predicate Calculus

premise 1:  $\forall x[f(x) \rightarrow g(x)]$

premise 2:  $\exists y[f(y)]$

conclusion:  $\exists z[g(z)]$

Instantiating f as be\_human and g as be\_mortal has the following result:

### 3.2 Instantiating modus ponendo ponens

premise 1: For all x, if x is human, then x is mortal.

premise 2: There exists a y, such that y is human.

conclusion: There exists a z, such that z is mortal.

The reconstruction of modus ponendo ponens (Hausser 2006 Sect. 5.3) in DBS (i) turns premise 1 into the form  $\alpha$  is human implies  $\alpha$  is mortal, called the inference, (ii) uses premise 2 as the input, and (iii) treats the conclusion as the output:

### 3.3 Rephrasing modus ponendo ponens in DBS

inference:  $\alpha$  be\_human implies  $\alpha$  be\_mortal.

input: Socrates be\_human.<sup>10</sup>

output: Socrates be\_mortal.

Shown here with input for modus ponens (individual), the inference works just as well for particular (2.6, 1) and universal (2.6, 2) input.

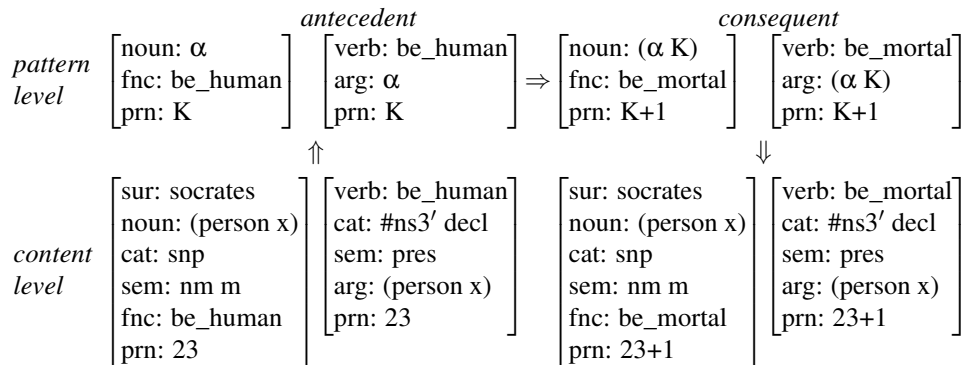
Using the DBS data structure, the inference applies as follows to the modus ponendo ponens input of 3.3:

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<sup>9</sup>In Propositional Calculus, modus ponendo ponens and modus tollendo ponens differ as follows: modus ponendo ponens has the premises  $(A \rightarrow B)$  and  $A$ , resulting in the conclusion  $B$ ; modus tollendo ponens has the premises  $(A \vee B)$  and  $\neg A$ , also resulting in  $B$ . The distinction disappears in the functor-argument structure of DBS.

<sup>10</sup>Predicate Calculus treats the copula-adnominal combination is human as the elementary propo-

### 3.4 Applying modus ponendo ponens as formalized in DBS



The DBS reinterpretation of premise 1 as the inference and premise 2 as the input requires that the input be compatible for matching with the antecedent. This would be prevented, however, if the antecedent specified the noun pattern  $\alpha$  as a plural, corresponding to  $\forall x$  in premise 1 of 3.1, and premise 2 as a singular, corresponding to  $\exists y$ . Therefore, the noun pattern  $\alpha$  in 3.4 omits the **cat** and **sem** features, thus enabling matching (compatibility by omission). By vertically binding the constant **socrates** of the content level to the variable  $\alpha$  in the antecedent of the pattern level, the consequent derives the new content **socrates is mortal** as output.

## 4 Modus Tollendo Tollens

Modus tollendo<sup>11</sup> tollens serves as the individual version of 2.7. A standard representation in Predicate Calculus is as follows:

### 4.1 Modus tollendo tollens in Predicate Calculus

premise 1:  $\forall x[f(x) \rightarrow g(x)]$   
premise 2:  $\exists y[\neg g(y)]$   
conclusion:  $\exists z[\neg f(z)]$

Let us instantiate **f** as **is human** and **g** as **is biped**:

### 4.2 Instantiating modus tollendo tollens

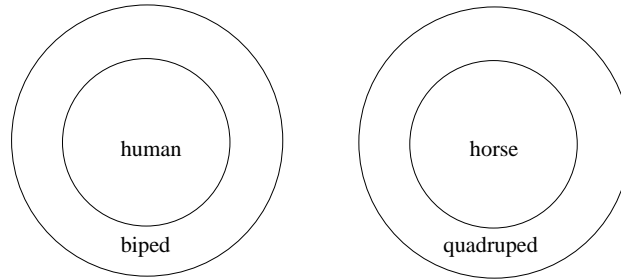
premise 1: For all  $x$ , if  $x$  is human,<sup>12</sup> then  $x$  is biped.  
premise 2: there exists a  $y$  which is not biped.  
conclusion: There exists a  $z$  which is not human.

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sition **be\_human(x)** which denotes a truth value. DBS, in contrast, analyzes **is human** as the modifier|modified (or rather modified|modifier) combination **is|human** (Hausser 2017 Sect. 4.6). For comparison, simplicity, and brevity we compromise here by using the Predicate Calculus notation, e.g. **be\_human**, like intransitive verbs as values in proplets, but without any variable.

If we use `quadruped` to instantiate `not be_biped` and `horse` to instantiate `not be_human`, the set-theoretic constellation underlying `modus tollendo tollens` in 4.2 may be depicted as follows:

### 4.3 Set-theoretic view of `modus tollendo tollens`



Premise 1 corresponds to the set structure on the left, premise 2 to the set structure on the right (with `pegasus` as the individual instantiation of `horse`, and the sets `horse` and `human` being disjunct).

The DBS reconstruction uses the disjunction of the sets `quadruped` and `human` for the inference  $\alpha$  `be_quadruped` implies  $\alpha$  `not be_human`. `Pegasus` being an element of the set `quadruped` renders the input `Pegasus is quadruped`. `Pegasus` not being an element of the set `human` renders the output `Pegasus not be_human`.

### 4.4 Rephrasing `modus tollendo tollens` in DBS

inference:  $\alpha$  `be_quadruped` implies  $\alpha$  `not be_human`.  
input: `Pegasus be_quadruped`.  
output: `Pegasus not be_human`.

The inference works for the individual, the particular, and the universal variant of 2.7; as in 4.3, the variants differ solely in their input and output.

Let us conclude with the translation of 4.4 into the data structure of DBS:

### 4.5 Applying `modus tollendo tollens` as formalized in DBS

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \textit{pattern} \\
 \textit{level}
 \end{array}
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: } \alpha \\ \text{fnc: be\_quadr.} \\ \text{prn: K} \end{array} \right]
 \Rightarrow
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: } (\alpha \text{ K}) \\ \text{fnc: be\_human} \\ \text{prn: K+1} \end{array} \right]
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_quadr.} \\ \text{arg: } \alpha \\ \text{prn: K} \end{array} \right]
 \Rightarrow
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_human} \\ \text{arg: } (\alpha \text{ K}) \\ \text{sem: not} \\ \text{prn: K+1} \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \textit{content} \\
 \textit{level}
 \end{array}
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{sur: pegasus} \\ \text{noun: (horse x)} \\ \text{sem: nm m} \\ \text{fnc: be\_quadr.} \\ \text{prn: 23} \end{array} \right]
 \uparrow
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_quadr.} \\ \text{sem:} \\ \text{arg: (horse x)} \\ \text{prn: 23} \end{array} \right]
 \Rightarrow
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{sur: pegasus} \\ \text{noun: (horse x)} \\ \text{sem: nm m} \\ \text{fnc: be\_human} \\ \text{prn: 23+1} \end{array} \right]
 \downarrow
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_human} \\ \text{sem: not} \\ \text{arg: (horse x)} \\ \text{prn: 23+1} \end{array} \right]$$



The transfer of syllogisms from substitution-driven sign-based symbolic logic to data-driven agent-based DBS relies on DBS inferencing being part of the think mode, which may run detached from the agent's interface component (Hausser 2019: mediated reference 3.1.3, sequential application 3.6.2).

## 5 Modi BARBARA and CELARENT

The vowels in the name of modus BARBARA indicate the categorical judgements of the propositions serving as the premises and the consequent, which are all of type **A**, i.e. universal affirmative (2.2).

### 5.1 Modus BARBARA in Predicate Calculus

premise 1:  $\forall x[f(x) \rightarrow g(x)]$   
 premise 2:  $\forall y[g(y) \rightarrow h(y)]$   
 conclusion:  $\forall z[f(z) \rightarrow h(z)]$

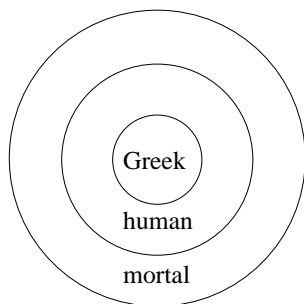
The middle term is *g*. If *f* is realized as *be\_Greek*, *g* as *be\_human*, and *h* as *be\_mortal*, then the syllogism reads as follows:

### 5.2 Instantiating modus BARBARA

premise 1: For all *x*, if *x* *be\_Greek*, then *x* *be\_human*.  
 premise 2: For all *y*, if *y* *be\_human*, then *y* *be\_mortal*.  
 conclusion: For all *z*, if *z* are Greek, then *z* *be\_mortal*.

The set-theoretic constellation underlying modus BARBARA in 5.2 may be depicted as follows:

### 5.3 Set-theoretic view of modus BARBARA



Premise 1 is expressed by the set *Greek* being a subset of *human* and premise 2 by the set *Greek* being a subset of *mortal*.

The inference schema of DBS formulates the set-theoretic constellation as follows:

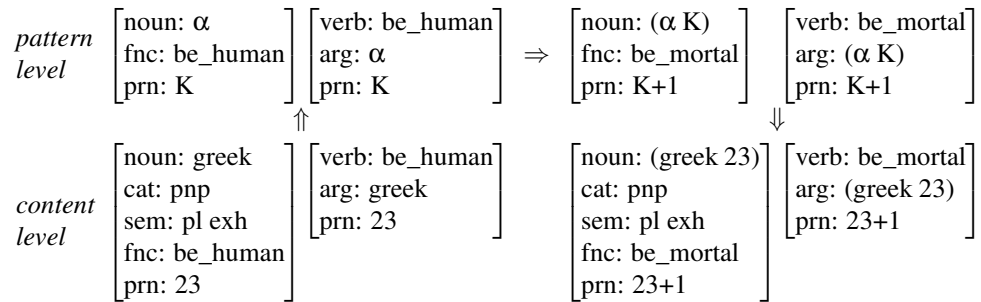
## 5.4 Rephrasing modus BARBARA in DBS

inference:  $\alpha$  be\_human implies  $\alpha$  be\_mortal.  
input: All Greeks be\_human.  
output: All Greeks be\_mortal.

The validity of the inference follows directly from the subset relations  $\text{Greek} \subset \text{human} \subset \text{mortal}$ , which are inherent in the extensions of these concepts.

Consider the translation of 5.4 into the data structure of DBS:

## 5.5 Applying modus BARBARA as formalized in DBS



By vertically binding **greek** of the content level to the variable  $\alpha$  in the antecedent of the pattern level, the consequent derives the desired new content **All Greeks are mortal** as output. In the class of syllogisms with unnegated antecedent and unnegated consequent (2.6), the reconstruction of BARBARA constitutes the universal, of DARII 6.5 the particular, and of modus ponendo ponens 3.4 the individual variant.

Next let us turn to a syllogism with the vowel **E** in its name, where **E** indicates a universal negative (2.2). The vowels in the name of modus CELARENT, for example, indicate that premise 1 is of type **E**, premise 2 of type **A**, and the conclusion of type **E**. In Predicate Calculus, CELARENT is represented as follows:

## 5.6 Modus CELARENT in Predicate Calculus

premise 1:  $\neg \exists x[f(x) \wedge g(x)]$   
premise 2:  $\forall y[h(y) \rightarrow f(y)]$   
conclusion:  $\neg \exists z[h(z) \wedge g(z)]$

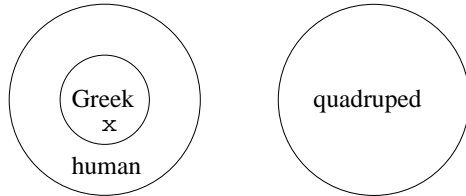
The middle term is **f**. If **f** is realized as **human**, **g** as **quadruped**, and **h** as **Greek**, then the syllogism reads as follows:

## 5.7 Instantiating CELARENT in Predicate Calculus

premise 1:  $\neg \exists x[\text{human}(x) \wedge \text{quadruped}(x)]$   
premise 2:  $\forall y[\text{Greek}(y) \rightarrow \text{human}(y)]$   
conclusion:  $\neg \exists z[\text{Greek}(z) \wedge \text{quadruped}(z)]$

The set-theoretic constellation underlying modus CELARENT in 5.7 may be depicted as follows:

### 5.8 Set-theoretic view of modus CELARENT



Premise 1 is expressed by the sets *human* and *quadruped* being disjoint. Premise 2 is expressed by the set *Greek* being a subset of *human*. The conclusion is expressed by the sets *Greek* and *quadruped* being disjoint.

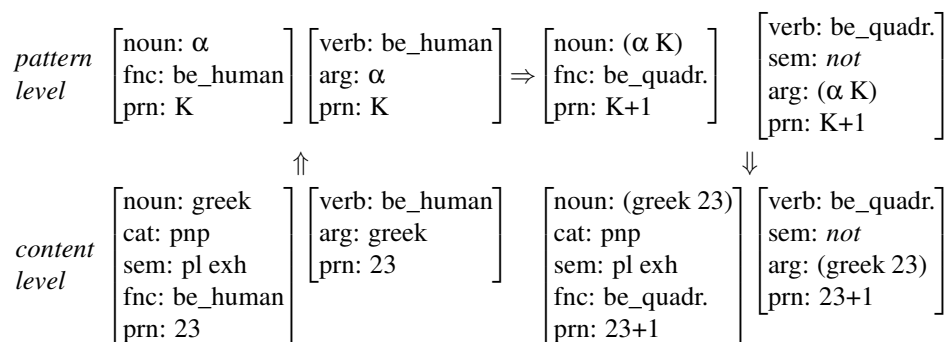
The inference schema of DBS describes the set-theoretic constellation as follows:

### 5.9 Rephrasing modus CELARENT in DBS

inference:  $\alpha$  *be\_human* implies  $\alpha$  not *be\_quadruped*  
input: All Greeks *be\_human*  
output: All Greeks not *be\_quadruped*

Consider the translation of 5.9 into the data structure of DBS:

### 5.10 Applying modus CELARENT as formalized in DBS



By binding *greek* of the content level to the variable  $\alpha$  in the antecedent of the pattern level, the consequent derives the desired new content *All Greeks are not quadruped* as output. The  $\forall x$  quantifier of Predicate Calculus is coded in the *greek* proplet by the feature [sem: pl exh] and the negation in the conclusion is coded in the predicate *be\_quadruped* by the feature [sem: not].

## 6 Modi DARII and FERIO

The DBS variants of modus BARBARA (5.5) and modus CELARENT (5.10) have shown the treatment of the categorical judgements (2.2) **A** (universal affirmative) and **E** (universal negative). To show the treatment of the remaining categorical judgements **I** (particular affirmative) and **O** (particular negative), let us reconstruct the modi DARII and FERIO as DBS inferences.

The vowels in the name DARII indicate the categorical judgment **A** in premise 1, and **I** in premise 2 and the conclusion. The representation in Predicate Calculus is as follows:

### 6.1 Modus DARII in Predicate Calculus

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{premise 1: } \forall x[f(x) \rightarrow g(x)] \\ \text{premise 2: } \exists y[h(y) \wedge f(y)] \\ \hline \text{conclusion: } \exists z[h(z) \wedge g(z)] \end{array}$$

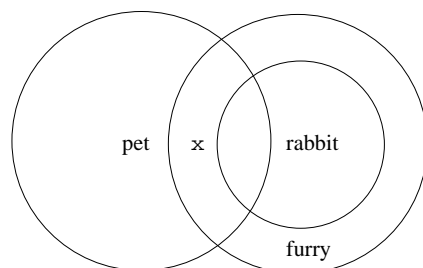
The middle term is *f*. If *f* is instantiated as *be\_rabbit*, *g* as *be\_furry*, and *h* as *be\_pet*, then the syllogism reads as follows:

### 6.2 Instantiating modus DARII

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{premise 1: For all } x, \text{ if } x \text{ is rabbit, then } x \text{ is furry.} \\ \text{premise 2: For some } y, y \text{ is pet and } y \text{ is rabbit.} \\ \hline \text{conclusion: For some } z, z \text{ is pet and } z \text{ is furry.} \end{array}$$

The set-theoretic constellation underlying modus DARII in 6.2 may be depicted as follows:

### 6.3 Set-theoretic view of modus DARII



Premise 1 is expressed by the set *rabbit* being a subset of *furry*. Premise 2 is expressed by the set *pet* overlapping with the set *rabbit*. The conclusion is expressed by the set *pet* overlapping with the set *furry*.

DBS describes the set-theoretic constellation as follows:

## 6.4 Rephrasing modus DARII in DBS

inference:  $\alpha$  be\_rabbit implies  $\alpha$  be\_furry.  
input: Some pets be\_rabbit  
output: Some pets be\_furry

The inference applies by binding *some pets* in the input to the variable  $\alpha$  in the antecedent and using this binding in the consequent to derive the output. The input matches the antecedent and the consequent derives matching output.

Following standard procedure, this is shown in detail by the following translation of 6.4 into the data structure of DBS:

## 6.5 Applying modus DARII as formalized in DBS

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{l} \textit{pattern} \\ \textit{level} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: } \alpha \\ \text{fnc: be\_rabbit} \\ \text{prn: K} \end{array} \right] & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_rabbit} \\ \text{arg: } \alpha \\ \text{prn: K} \end{array} \right] \\ \uparrow \end{array} \\ \Rightarrow & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: } (\alpha \text{ K}) \\ \text{fnc: be\_furry} \\ \text{prn: K+1} \end{array} \right] & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_furry} \\ \text{arg: } (\alpha \text{ K}) \\ \text{prn: K+1} \end{array} \right] \\ \downarrow \end{array} \\ \\
\begin{array}{l} \textit{content} \\ \textit{level} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: pet} \\ \text{cat: pnp} \\ \text{sem: pl sel} \\ \text{fnc: be\_rabbit} \\ \text{prn: 23} \end{array} \right] & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_rabbit} \\ \text{arg: pet} \\ \text{prn: 23} \end{array} \right] \\ \Rightarrow & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: (pet 23)} \\ \text{cat: pnp} \\ \text{sem: pl sel} \\ \text{fnc: be\_furry} \\ \text{prn: 23+1} \end{array} \right] & \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: be\_furry} \\ \text{arg: (pet 23)} \\ \text{prn: 23+1} \end{array} \right]
\end{array}
\end{array}$$

The particular affirmative quality of the judgement type **I**, i.e. the **some**, is coded by the features [cat: pnp] and [sem: pl sel] of the *pet* proplets at the content level. Because the grammatical properties of determiners are not reflected at the pattern level (compatibility by omission), modus DARII joins modus BARBARA and modus ponendo ponens as an instance of the DBS inference kind *unnegated antecedent and unnegated consequent* (2.6) in the variant *particular*.

We turn next to modus FERIO. The vowels in the name indicate the categorical judgment **E** (universal negative) in premise 1, **I** (particular affirmative) in premise 2, and **O** (particular negative) in the conclusion. In Predicate Calculus, this is formalized as follows:

## 6.6 Modus FERIO in Predicate Calculus

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{premise 1: } \neg \exists x [f(x) \wedge g(x)] \\
\text{premise 2: } \exists y [h(y) \wedge g(y)] \\
\hline
\text{conclusion: } \exists z [h(z) \wedge \neg g(z)]
\end{array}$$

The middle term is **g**. If **f** is instantiated as *is homework*, **g** as *is fun*, and **h** as *reading*, then the syllogism reads as follows:

## 6.7 Instantiating modus FERIO

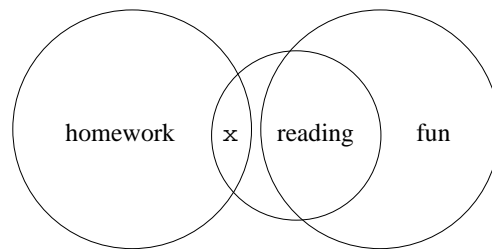
premise 1: There exists no  $x$ ,  $x$  is homework and  $x$  is fun.

premise 2: For some  $y$ ,  $y$  is reading and  $y$  is homework

conclusion: For some  $z$ ,  $z$  is reading and  $z$  is no fun

The set-theoretic constellation underlying modus FERIO in 6.7<sup>13</sup> which may be depicted as follows:

## 6.8 Set-theoretic view of modus FERIO



Premise 1 is shown by the sets `homework` and `fun` being disjoint. Premise 2 is depicted by the sets `reading` and `homework` overlapping. The conclusion is shown by the sets `reading` and `homework`, and `reading` and `fun` overlapping.

The inference schema of DBS describes the set-theoretic constellation as follows:

## 6.9 Rephrasing modus FERIO in DBS

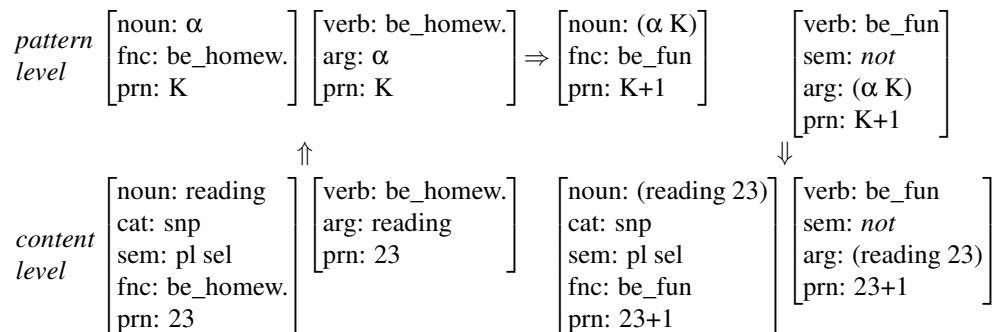
inference:  $\alpha$  `be_homework` implies  $\alpha$  not `be_fun`.

input: Some `reading be_homework`

output: Some `reading not be_fun`

Consider the translation of 6.9 into the data structure of DBS:

## 6.10 Applying modus FERIO as formalized in DBS



<sup>13</sup>Instantiating FERIO with  $f = \text{dog}$ ,  $g = \text{bird}$  and  $h = \text{animal}$  also satisfies 6.7.

The content noun *some reading* is characterized by the features [cat: snp] and [sem: pl sel]. The particular negative quality of the judgement type **O** is coded by the feature [sem: neg] in the *be\_fun* proplets at the pattern as well as the content level. The reconstruction of FERIO in DBS joins the inferences of the kind un-negated antecedent and negated consequent (2.7) in the variant *particular*.

## 7 Modi BAROCO and BOCARDO

Like modus FERIO, modus BAROCO has the particular negative **O** in the conclusion. The **A** representing premise 1 indicates the categorical judgment universal affirmative (2.2).

### 7.1 Modus BAROCO in Predicate Calculus

premise 1:  $\forall x[f(x) \rightarrow g(x)]$   
 premise 2:  $\exists y[h(y) \wedge \neg g(y)]$   
 conclusion:  $\exists z[h(z) \wedge \neg f(z)]$

The middle term is **g**. If **f** is instantiated as *informative*, **g** as *useful*, and **h** as *website*, then the syllogism reads as follows:

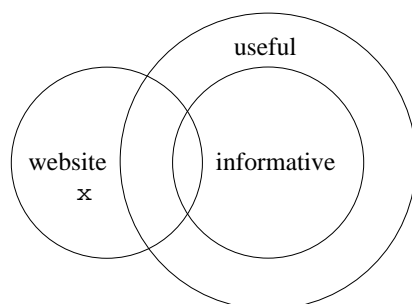
### 7.2 Instantiating Modus BAROCO

premise 1: All informative things are useful  
 premise 2: Some website are not informative  
 conclusion: Some websites are not useful

Among the classical syllogisms, BAROCO is special because the proof of its validity requires a *reductio per impossibile*.

The set-theoretic constellation underlying modus BAROCO in 7.2 may be depicted as follows:

### 7.3 Set-theoretic view of modus BAROCO



Premise 1 is shown by the set *informative* being a subset of *useful*. Premise 2 is depicted by the set *website* merely overlapping with the set *informative*. The conclusion is shown by the set *website* merely overlapping with *useful*.

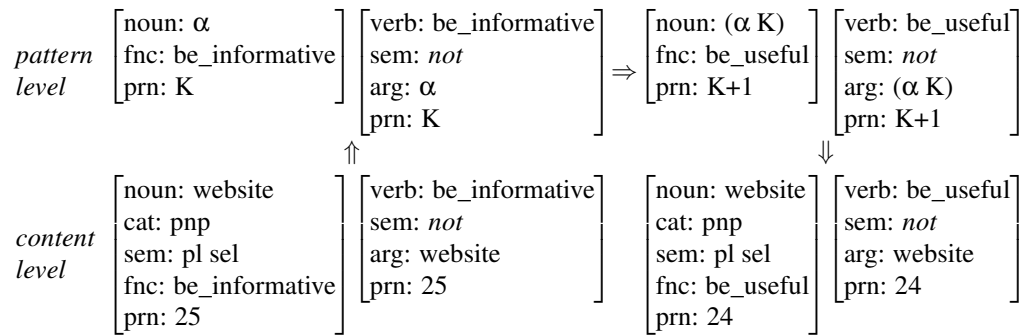
The inference schema of DBS describes the set-theoretic constellation as follows:

#### 7.4 Rephrasing BAROCO in DBS

inference:  $\alpha$  not be\_informative implies  $\alpha$  not be\_useful  
input: Some websites not be\_informative  
output: Some websites not be\_useful

Consider the translation of 7.4 into the data structure of DBS:

#### 7.5 BAROCO in DBS



The reconstruction of BAROCO in DBS joins inferences of the kind negated antecedent and negated consequent (2.9) in the variant *particular*. It differs from DARII (6.5) in that the input and output of BAROCO are negated, while those of DARII are not.

Like modus BAROCO, modus BOCARDO has the particular negative **O** in the conclusion. They differ in that the letters **A** and **O** in premises 1 and 2 are interchanged.

#### 7.6 Modus BOCARDO in Predicate Calculus

premise 1:  $\exists x[f(x) \wedge \neg g(x)]$   
premise 2:  $\forall y[f(y) \rightarrow h(y)]$   
conclusion:  $\exists z[h(z) \wedge \neg g(z)]$

The middle term is f. If f is instantiated as be\_cat, g as has\_tail, and h as be\_mammal, then the syllogism reads as follows:

#### 7.7 Instantiating modus BOCARDO

premise 1: some cats have no tail  
premise 2: all cats are mammals  
conclusion: some mammals have no tail

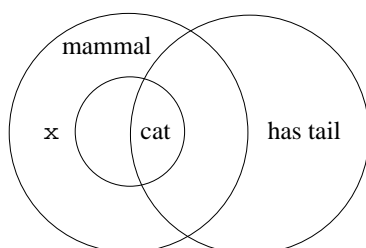
The reductio per impossibile, which helps to prove the validity of BAROCO, is



complemented in BOCARDO by ekthesis (Aristotle, An. Pr. I.6, 28b20–21).<sup>14</sup>

The set-theoretic constellation underlying modus BOCARDO in 7.7 may be depicted as follows:

### 7.8 Set-theoretic view of modus BOCARDO



Premise 1 is the *cat* complement of the *cat* and *has\_tail* intersection. Premise 2 is shown by *cat* being a subset of *mammal*. The conclusion is shown as the *mammal* complement of the *mammal* and *has\_tail* intersection.

### 7.9 Rephrasing BOCARDO in DBS

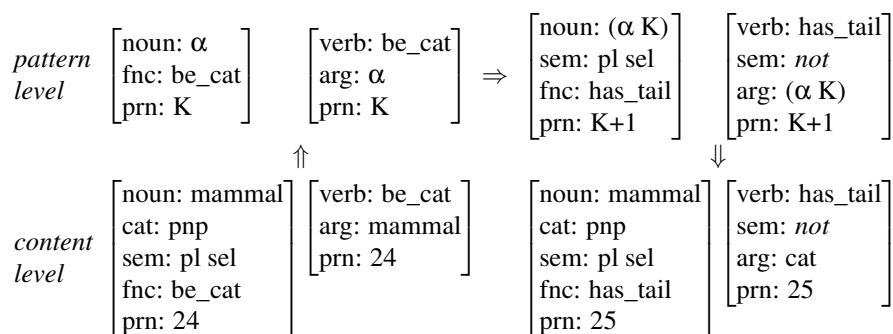
inference:  $\alpha$  be\_cat implies some  $\alpha$  not have\_tail.

input: some mammals are cats

output: some mammals have no tail

Consider the translation of 7.8 into the data structure of DBS:

### 7.10 Applying BOCARDO as a DBS inference



The subject in the consequent pattern of the BOCARDO inference is **some**  $\alpha$ , a restriction which is coded by the feature [sem: pl sel], in contradistinction to the subject of the consequent pattern of the FERIO inference (6.9), which is unrestricted and thus compatible with universal, particular, and individual input (compatibility by omission)

<sup>14</sup>In the middle ages, several jails in England, one specifically in Oxford, were called Bocardo because it was so hard for students to learn how to verify this syllogism.

## 8 Combining S- and C-Inferencing

Functional equivalence (Hausser 2018 Sects. 1.1, 15.1) at a certain level of abstraction between the human prototype and the artificial agent requires computational cognition to apply S- and C-inferencing in one and the same train of thought. Consider the following derivation of a data-driven countermeasure, which begins with the C-inferences 1.2 and (Hausser 2019 5.1.4), continues with a lexical S-inference coding a hypernymy (op. cit. 5.2.2), and concludes with another C-inference:

### 8.1 Mixing S- and C-inference in a train of thought

- 1 C-inference:  $\alpha$  is hungry  $\Rightarrow$   $\alpha$  is cranky (1.2)  
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: Laura is hungry      output: Laura is cranky
- 2 C-inference:  $\alpha$  is cranky  $\Rightarrow$   $\alpha$  needs food  
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: Laura is cranky      output: Laura needs food
- 3 S-inference: Laura eats  $\beta$   $\Rightarrow$   $\beta \in \{\text{apple, banana, cookie, ... , strawberry}\}$   
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: Laura eats food      output: Laura eats apple or cookie  
or banana, ..., or strawberry ...
- 4 C-inference:  $\alpha$  eats cookie  $\Rightarrow$   $\alpha$  is agreeable again  
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: Laura eats cookie      output: Laura is agreeable again

The S-inference 3 illustrates a lexical alternative to the syllogisms analyzed in Sects. 3–7, namely a hypernymy, which is defined as follows.

### 8.2 Lexical S-inference implementing hypernymy

- [noun:  $\alpha$ ]  $\Rightarrow$  [noun:  $\beta$ ]  
If  $\alpha$  is animal, then  $\beta \in \{\text{ape, bear, cat, dog, ...}\}$   
If  $\alpha$  is food, then  $\beta \in \{\text{apple, banana, cookie, ... , strawberry}\}$   
If  $\alpha$  is fuel, then  $\beta \in \{\text{diesel, gasoline, electricity, hydrogen, ...}\}$   
...

The set-theoretic structure of a hypernymy<sup>15</sup> is the relation between a superordinate term and its extension. Accordingly, food is the hypernym of apple, banana, cookie, ..., and strawberry. Set-theoretically, the denotation of food equals the codomain of  $\alpha$ . The restrictions on variables are species-, culture-, and even agent-dependent. and may be approximated empirically by means of DBS corpus analysis (RMD<sup>16</sup> corpus).

<sup>15</sup>For the corresponding hyponymy see Hausser (2019) 9.1.1.

## 9 Analogy

Common sense reasoning is based on relations provided by repeated observation and contingent knowledge. For example, there is nothing law-like or set-theoretic in Laura being cranky when hungry. There is another dimension, however, namely analogy: a truck not starting caused by a lack of fuel may be seen as analogous to being cranky caused by a lack of food.

### 9.1 Common sense reasoning based on analogy

- 1 C-inference:  $\alpha$  has no fuel  $\Rightarrow$   $\alpha$  does not start  
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: truck has no fuel output: truck does not start
- 2 C-inference:  $\alpha$  does not start  $\Rightarrow$   $\alpha$  needs fuel  
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: truck does not start output: truck needs fuel
- 3 S-inference: truck gets  $\beta$   $\Rightarrow$   $\beta \in \{\text{diesel, gasoline, electricity, ...}\}$   
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: truck gets fuel output: truck gets diesel or gasoline  
or electricity or hydrogen...
- 4 C-inference:  $\alpha$  gets fuel  $\Rightarrow$   $\alpha$  starts  
 $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   
input: truck gets fuel output: truck starts

As in 9.1, the C-inference 1 is a general common sense observation, while the C-inference 2 applies to a particular instance. The lexical S-inference 3 is an instance of the hypernymy 8.2, while the C-inference 4 derives the desired result.

Using the data structure of DBS, the data-driven application of the second inference in 9.1 may be shown as follows:

### 9.2 Applying the C-inference 2 of 9.1

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{pattern} \\
 \text{level}
 \end{array}
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: } \alpha \\ \text{fnc: start} \\ \text{prn: K} \end{array} \right]
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: start} \\ \text{sem: not} \\ \text{arg: } \alpha \\ \text{prn: K} \end{array} \right]
 \Rightarrow
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: } (\alpha \text{ K}) \\ \text{fnc: need} \\ \text{prn: K+1} \end{array} \right]
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: need} \\ \text{arg: } (\alpha \text{ K}) \text{ fuel} \\ \text{prn: K+1} \end{array} \right]
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: fuel} \\ \text{cat: snp} \\ \text{fnc: need} \\ \text{prn: K} \end{array} \right]$$

where  $\alpha \in \{\text{motor cycle, car, truck, tank, ...}\}$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{content} \\
 \text{level}
 \end{array}
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: truck} \\ \text{cat: snp} \\ \text{fnc: start} \\ \text{prn: 24} \end{array} \right]
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: start} \\ \text{sem: not} \\ \text{arg: truck} \\ \text{prn: 24} \end{array} \right]
 \downarrow
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: truck} \\ \text{cat: snp} \\ \text{fnc: need} \\ \text{prn: 25} \end{array} \right]
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{verb: need} \\ \text{arg: (truck 24) fuel} \\ \text{prn: 25} \end{array} \right]
 \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{noun: fuel} \\ \text{cat: snp} \\ \text{fnc: need} \\ \text{prn: 25} \end{array} \right]$$

<sup>16</sup>Reference-Monitor corpus structured into Domains (Hausser 2011 Sect 15.3).

Finding and applying analogical countermeasures may be based in part on a systematic development of semantic fields (Hausser (2019) 11.3.3) across domains.

## 10 Conclusion

The valid syllogisms and the corresponding DBS inferences are alike in that they are founded on set-theoretic relations between concepts. They differ in that the concepts of the syllogisms rely on the semantic intuitions of the native speakers alone, whereas the corresponding DBS concepts complement these intuitions with procedures which map between declarative definitions provided by the agent's memory and raw data provided by sensors and activators of the agent's interface component.

In this way, artificial cognition is 'grounded,' which supports not only objective testing by running software, but provides a talking robot with real recognition and action. The procedures complement the set-theoretic relations with a multitude of additional semantic properties, such as wave-length and frequency in the definition of color concepts, or length and angle in the definition of two-dimensional geometric concepts. The sign-based approaches, in contrast, are limited to set-theory as the only semantic structure available.

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