

# The sound and complete **R**-calculus for revising propositional theories

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**Abstract** The AGM postulates are for the belief revision (revision by a single belief), and the DP postulates for the iterated revision (revision by a finite sequence of beliefs). Li gave an **R**-calculus for **R**-configurations  $\Delta|\Gamma$ , where  $\Delta$  is a set of atomic formulas or the negations of atomic formulas, and  $\Gamma$  is a finite set of formulas. In this paper, two deduction systems for the revision of a theory by another theory are given such that the systems are sound and complete, that is, if  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Gamma'$  is provable then  $\Gamma' \supseteq \Delta$  is consistent and  $\Gamma' - \Delta$  is a maximal subset of  $\Gamma$  such that  $(\Gamma' - \Delta) \cup \Delta$  is consistent; and for any finite theories  $\Delta$  and  $\Gamma$ , there is a finite theory  $\Gamma'$  such that  $\Gamma' - \Delta$  is a maximal subset of  $\Gamma$  such that  $(\Gamma' - \Delta) \cup \Delta$  is consistent, and  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Gamma'$  is provable. Moreover, if  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Gamma'$  is provable then  $\Gamma'$  satisfies the AGM and the DP postulates.

**Keywords** belief revision, **R**-calculus, minimal change, the AGM postulates, the DP postulates

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## 1 Introduction

The AGM postulates [1–4] are for the revision  $K \circ \varphi$  of a theory  $K$  by a formula  $\varphi$ ; while the DP postulates [5] are for the iterated revision  $(\cdots (K \circ \varphi_1) \circ \cdots) \circ \varphi_n$  [6–13].

The **R**-calculus [14] brought up a Gentzen-type deduction system to deduce a consistent one  $\Gamma' \cup \Delta$  from an inconsistent theory  $\Gamma \cup \Delta$ , where  $\Gamma' \cup \Delta$  should be a maximal consistent subtheory of  $\Gamma \cup \Delta$  which includes  $\Delta$  as a subset (notice that here is the maximal consistent theory, not the maximally consistent theory), where  $\Delta|\Gamma$  is an **R**-configuration,  $\Gamma$  is a consistent set of formulas, and  $\Delta$  is a consistent sets of atomic formulas or the negation of atomic formulas. It was proved that if  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta|\Gamma'$  is deducible and  $\Delta|\Gamma'$  is an **R**-termination, i.e., there is no **R**-rule to reduce  $\Delta|\Gamma'$  to another **R**-configuration  $\Delta|\Gamma''$ , then  $\Delta \cup \Gamma'$  is a contraction of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$ .

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Given two theories  $\Delta, \Gamma$ , assume that  $\Gamma = \{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$  is finite. To find a maximal subset  $\Gamma'$  of  $\Gamma$  such that  $\Gamma' \cup \Delta$  is consistent, a natural way is to define

$$\Theta_0 = \Delta;$$

$$\Theta_i = \begin{cases} \Theta_{i-1} \cup \{\varphi_i\}, & \text{if } \varphi_i \cup \Theta_{i-1} \text{ is consistent,} \\ \Theta_{i-1}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then,  $\Gamma' = \Theta_n - \Delta \subseteq \Gamma$  is a maximal subset such that  $\Gamma' \cup \Delta$  is consistent.

Therefore, a revision should be a formula that is revised by a theory, formally,  $\Delta|\varphi$  (or  $\varphi \circ \Delta$ ). Correspondingly, a theory  $\Gamma$  revised by a theory  $\Delta$  is an iterated revision of form

$$\Delta|\Gamma = (\dots((\Delta|\varphi_1)|\varphi_2)\dots)|\varphi_n,$$

where  $\Gamma = \{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$ . Here, we consider only the belief bases and not the belief sets.

In this paper we firstly consider a simple case of revision:  $\Delta|\varphi$ , where  $\Delta$  is a set of formulas to revise, and  $\varphi$  is a formula to be revised; and then consider a general case of revision:  $\Delta|\Gamma$ , which is reduced to the successive revisions  $(\dots((\Delta|\varphi_1)|\varphi_2)\dots)|\varphi_n$ , where  $\Gamma = \{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$ . Here, formulas are in the propositional logic [15–17].

A set of deduction rules  $\mathbf{S}$  for  $\Delta|\varphi$  will be given such that  $\mathbf{S}$  are sound and complete, that is, for any theories  $\Delta, \Theta$  and formula  $\varphi$ , if  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{S}$  then  $\Theta$  is consistent, and if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent then  $\Theta = \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$ ; and if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent then  $\Theta = \Delta$ ; and conversely, if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is provable in  $\mathbf{S}$ ; and if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{S}$ .

Generally, the soundness and completeness theorems hold good for  $\Delta|\Gamma$  too. That is, for any consistent sets  $\Delta, \Gamma, \Theta$  of formulas with  $\Gamma$  being finite, if  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{S}$  then  $\Theta$  is a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$ ; and for any maximal consistent set  $\Theta$  of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$  then  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{S}$ . Here,  $\Theta$  is a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$  if (i)  $\Theta \supseteq \Delta$ , (ii)  $\Theta$  is consistent, and (iii) for any  $\Theta'$  with  $\Theta \subset \Theta' \subseteq \Gamma \cup \Delta$ ,  $\Theta'$  is inconsistent.

It will be proved that the AGM postulates and the DP postulates are satisfied by both  $\Delta|\varphi$  and  $\Delta|\Gamma$ .

The deduction rules in  $\mathbf{S}$  are used to decompose formulas in  $\Gamma$  (we call the right decomposition). Symmetrically, there is a set  $\mathbf{T}$  of deduction rules to decompose formulas in  $\Delta$ , so that the rule ( $S^\neg$ ) that if  $\Delta \vdash \neg p$  then  $\Delta|p \Rightarrow \Delta$  is reduced to the revision of revising  $l$  by  $\neg l$  by a set of deduction rules for the left decomposition, where  $l$  is a literal (atomic formula or the negation of an atomic formula). We shall prove that  $\mathbf{T}$  is sound and complete, that is, for any consistent sets  $\Delta, \Gamma, \Theta$  of formulas with  $\Gamma$  being finite, if  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{T}$  then  $\Theta$  is a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$ ; and for any maximal consistent set  $\Theta$  of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$  then  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{T}$ .

The paper is organized as follows: Section 2 lists the AGM postulates and the  $\mathbf{R}$ -calculus; Section 3 gives an  $\mathbf{R}$ -calculus  $\mathbf{S}$  (a deduction rules) for the revision operator  $\Delta|\varphi$ , and proves that the deduction rules for  $\Delta|\varphi$  are sound and complete; Section 4 discusses the basic properties of  $\Delta|\varphi$ , and shows that  $\Delta|\varphi$  satisfies the AGM postulates for the  $\mathbf{R}$ -calculus (the  $\mathbf{R}$ -calculus is set-based, not closed theory-based, and hence,  $\Delta|\Gamma$  is a set of formulas, not a belief base, a deductively closed set of formulas); Section 5 gives a set  $\mathbf{T}$  of deduction rules for the left-decomposition of formulas such that the set of the deduction rules is sound and complete with respect to the maximal consistent sets; and the last section draws conclusion for the whole paper and discusses future work.

## 2 The AGM postulates for the $\mathbf{R}$ -calculus

The  $\mathbf{R}$ -calculus [14] is defined on a first-order logical language [16,17]. Let  $L'$  be a logical language of the first-order logic;  $\varphi, \psi$  formulas and  $\Gamma, \Delta$  sets of formulas (theories), where  $\Delta$  is a set of atomic formulas or the negations of atomic formulas, and  $\Delta|\Gamma$  is called an  $\mathbf{R}$ -configuration.

The **R**-calculus consists of the following axiom and inference rules:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\mathbf{A}^\neg) \quad & \Delta, \varphi_1 | \neg \varphi_1, \Gamma \Rightarrow \varphi_1, \Delta | \Gamma, \\
 & \Gamma_1, \varphi_1 \vdash \varphi_2 \quad \varphi_1 \mapsto_T \varphi_2 \\
 (\mathbf{R}^{\text{cut}}) \quad & \frac{\Gamma_2, \varphi_2 \vdash \varphi_3 \quad \Delta | \varphi_3, \Gamma_2 \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma_2,}{\Delta | \varphi_1, \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2}, \\
 (\mathbf{R}^\wedge) \quad & \frac{\Delta | \varphi_1, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma}, \\
 (\mathbf{R}^\vee) \quad & \frac{\Delta | \varphi_1, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma \quad \Delta | \varphi_2, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma}, \\
 (\mathbf{R}^\rightarrow) \quad & \frac{\Delta | \neg \varphi_1, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma \quad \Delta | \varphi_2, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma}, \\
 (\mathbf{R}^\forall) \quad & \frac{\Delta | \varphi[t/x], \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma}{\Delta | \forall x \varphi, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma},
 \end{aligned}$$

where in  $\mathbf{R}^{\text{cut}}$ ,  $\varphi_1 \mapsto_T \varphi_2$  means that  $\varphi_1$  occurs in the proof tree  $T$  of  $\varphi_2$  from  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\varphi_1$ ; and in  $\mathbf{R}^\forall$ ,  $t$  is a term, and is free in  $\varphi$  for  $x$ .

**Definition 1.**  $\Delta | \Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta | \Gamma'$  is an **R**-theorem, denoted by  $\vdash^{\mathbf{R}} \Delta | \Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta | \Gamma'$ , if there is a sequence  $\{(\Delta_i, \Gamma_i, \Delta'_i, \Gamma'_i) : i \leq n\}$  such that

- (i)  $\Delta | \Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta | \Gamma' = \Delta_n | \Gamma_n \Rightarrow \Delta'_n | \Gamma'_n$ ,
- (ii) for each  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , either  $\Delta_i | \Gamma_i \Rightarrow \Theta_i | \Gamma'_i$  is an axiom, or  $\Delta_i | \Gamma_i \Rightarrow \Theta_i | \Gamma'_i$  is deduced by some **R**-rule of form  $\frac{\Delta_{i-1} | \Gamma_{i-1} \Rightarrow \Theta_{i-1} | \Gamma'_{i-1}}{\Delta_i | \Gamma_i \Rightarrow \Theta_i | \Gamma'_i}$ .

**Definition 2.**  $\Delta | \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma'$  is valid, denoted by  $\models \Delta | \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma'$ , if for any contraction  $\Theta$  of  $\Gamma'$  by  $\Delta$ ,  $\Theta$  is a contraction of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$ .

**Theorem 1** (The soundness and completeness theorem of the **R**-calculus). For any theories  $\Gamma, \Gamma'$  and  $\Delta$ ,

$$\vdash \Delta | \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma'$$

if and only if

$$\models \Delta | \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta | \Gamma'.$$

In the following we discuss about the propositional logic. Let  $L$  be a logical language of the propositional logic which contains the following symbols:

- propositional variables  $p_0, p_1, \dots$ ;
- logical connectives  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow$ .

Formulas are defined as follows:  $\varphi = p | \neg p | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 | \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 | \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$ .

The AGM postulates are for the logically-closed theory revision; and the **R**-calculus is for the set-theoretic theory revision. Therefore, the AGM postulates should be rewritten as follows to fit in the set-theoretic theory revision.

The AGM postulates for the **R**-calculus:

- Success:  $\Delta \subseteq \Delta | \Gamma$ ;
- Inclusion:  $\Delta | \Gamma \subseteq \Delta \cup \Gamma$ ;
- Vacuity: if  $\Gamma \not\vdash \neg \varphi_1, \Gamma_1 = \Gamma \cup \{\varphi_1\} \not\vdash \neg \varphi_2, \dots, \Gamma_{n-1} = \Gamma \cup \{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{n-1}\} \not\vdash \neg \varphi_n$ , where  $\Delta = \{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$ , then  $\Delta | \Gamma = \Delta \cup \Gamma$ ;
- Extensionality:  $\Delta | \Gamma$  is consistent if  $\Delta$  is consistent;
- Extensionality: if  $\Delta \equiv \Delta'$ , that is,  $\Delta \vdash \Delta'$  and  $\Delta' \vdash \Delta$  then  $\Delta | \Gamma \equiv \Delta' | \Gamma$ ;
- Superexpansion:  $(\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2) | \Gamma \subseteq (\Delta_1 | \Gamma) \cup \Delta_2$ ;
- Subexpansion: if  $\Delta_1 | \Gamma \not\vdash \neg \Delta_2$  then  $(\Delta_1 | \Gamma) \cup \Delta_2 \subseteq (\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2) | \Gamma$ .

**Definition 3.** Given any sets  $\Delta, \Gamma, \Theta$  of formulas,  $\Theta$  is called a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$  if

- (i)  $\Theta \subseteq \Delta \cup \Gamma$ ;

(ii)  $\Delta \subseteq \Theta$ , and

(iii) for any set  $\Theta'$  of formulas with  $\Theta \subset \Theta' \subseteq \Delta \cup \Gamma$ ,  $\Theta'$  is inconsistent.

**Proposition 1.**  $\Theta$  is a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$  if and only if  $\Theta - \Delta$  is a maximal subset of  $\Gamma$  such that  $(\Theta - \Delta) \cup \Delta$  is consistent.

### 3 The R-calculus S

The rules for the calculus **S** are the composing rules, which compose subformulas (e.g.  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ ) in the precondition of a rule into a complex formula (e.g.  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ ) in the postcondition of the rule.

**S** consists of the following rules:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (S^{\text{con}}) & \frac{\varphi \cup \Delta \text{ is consistent}}{\Delta | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}}, \\
 (S^-) & \frac{\Delta \vdash \neg p}{\Delta | p \Rightarrow \Delta}, \\
 (S_1^\wedge) & \frac{\Delta | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta} \text{ if } \Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\} \text{ is inconsistent,} \\
 (S_2^\wedge) & \frac{\Delta, [\varphi_1] | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, [\varphi_1]}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta} \text{ if } \Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\} \text{ is consistent,} \\
 (S^\vee) & \frac{\Delta | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta \quad \Delta | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}, \\
 (S^\rightarrow) & \frac{\Delta | \neg \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta \quad \Delta | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Remark 1.** The rules

$$\frac{\Delta | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta} \text{ and } \frac{\Delta | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}$$

are too weak to revise  $\Delta | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$  when both  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\}$  and  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_2\}$  are consistent and  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2\}$  is inconsistent.

We need  $(S_1^\wedge)$  and  $(S_2^\wedge)$  instead of the weak ones.

For example, let  $\Delta = \{p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r\}$  and  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 = p \wedge \neg r$ . Then, both  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\}$  and  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_2\}$  are consistent and  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2\}$  is inconsistent. Therefore, we have the following deduction:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r, [p] \vdash r \\
 & p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r, [p] | \neg r \Rightarrow p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r, [p] \quad (S^-) \\
 & p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r | p \wedge \neg r \Rightarrow p \rightarrow q, q \rightarrow r \quad (S_2^\wedge)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 1.** Revision  $p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | q \rightarrow r$  has the following sub-revisions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) & p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q \vdash q \\
 (2) & p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | \neg q \Rightarrow p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q \quad (S^-) \\
 (3) & p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q \vdash \neg r \\
 (4) & p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | r \Rightarrow p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q \quad (S^-) \\
 (5) & p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | q \rightarrow r \Rightarrow p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q \quad (S^\rightarrow)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 4.**  $\Delta | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi^i$  is provable if there is a sequence  $\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_m\}$  of statements such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_1 &= \Delta | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta | \varphi_2, \\
 &\dots \\
 \theta_m &= \Delta | \varphi_m \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi^i;
 \end{aligned}$$

and for each  $j < m$ ,  $\Delta|\varphi_j \Rightarrow \Delta|\varphi_{j+1}$  is deduced from the previous statements by a deduction rule, where  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\varphi^1 = \varphi$  and  $\varphi^0 = \lambda$ , the empty string.

Intuitively, we decompose  $\varphi$  into literals according to the structure of  $\varphi$ , and delete/add literals by rule  $(S^\neg)/(S^{\text{con}})$ .

**Theorem 2.** For any consistent theory  $\Delta$  and formula  $\varphi$ , if  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi^i$  is provable then if  $i = 0$  then  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent; otherwise,  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent.

*Proof.* Assume that  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi^i$  is provable.

If  $i = 1$ , i.e.,  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi$  is provable then by  $(S^{\text{con}})$ ,  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent.

If  $i = 0$  then we prove that  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent by induction on the structure of  $\varphi$ .

If  $\varphi = p$  or  $\neg p$  is a literal then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  only if  $\Delta \vdash \neg\varphi$ , and by  $(S^\neg)$ ,  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent;

If  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$  then there are two cases: either  $\Delta|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta$  or  $\Delta, [\varphi_1]|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, [\varphi_1]$  is provable. By the induction assumption, if  $\Delta|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta$  then  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\}$  is inconsistent, and so is  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2\}$ ; and if  $\Delta, [\varphi_1]|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, [\varphi_1]$  then  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1, \varphi_2\}$  is inconsistent, and so is  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2\}$ ;

If  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$  then  $\Delta|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta$  and  $\Delta, [\varphi_1]|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, [\varphi_1]$  are provable. By the induction assumption, both  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\}$  and  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_2\}$  are inconsistent, and so is  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2\}$ ;

Similarly for  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$ .

Theorem 2 is the soundness theorem for the deduction, that is, if  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta|\varphi^i$  is provable then

$$\Delta||\varphi = \begin{cases} \Delta \cup \{\varphi\} & \text{if } \Delta \cup \{\varphi\} \text{ is consistent,} \\ \Delta & \text{if } \Delta \text{ is consistent,} \end{cases}$$

where  $||$  is a consistent operator. And the following Theorem 3 is the completeness theorem for the deduction, that is, if  $\Delta||\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi^i$  then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi^i$  is provable.

**Theorem 3.** For any consistent theory  $\Delta$  and formula  $\varphi$ , if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi$  is provable; and if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  is provable.

*Proof.* If  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent then, by  $(S^{\text{con}})$ ,

$$\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi;$$

If  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent then we prove that  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  is provable by induction on the structure of  $\varphi$ .

If  $\varphi = p$  or  $\neg p$  is a literal then  $\Delta \vdash \neg\varphi$ , and  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  by  $(S^{\text{con}})$ .

If  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$  then either  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\}$  is inconsistent or  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\} \cup \{\varphi_2\}$  is inconsistent. By the induction assumption, either  $\Delta|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta$ , or  $\Delta, [\varphi_1]|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, [\varphi_1]$ ; and by  $(S_1^\wedge)$  and  $(S_2^\wedge)$ ,  $\Delta|\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta$ .

If  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$  then  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\}$  and  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi_2\}$  are inconsistent. By the induction assumption,  $\Delta|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta$ , and  $\Delta|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta$ ; and by  $(S_1^\vee)$ ,  $\Delta|\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta$ .

Similarly for  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$ .

Let  $\Delta, \Gamma$  be two finite consistent sets of formulas such that  $\Gamma = \{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$ . Then we define

$$\Delta|\Gamma = (\dots((\Delta|\varphi_1)|\varphi_2)|\dots)|\varphi_n.$$

Thus, Theorems 2 and 3 can be generalized to any finite set  $\Gamma$  in the following Theorems 4 and 5, respectively.

**Theorem 4.** For any consistent theories  $\Delta, \Gamma$  and  $\Theta$ , if  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable then  $\Theta$  is a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$ .

**Theorem 5.** For any consistent theories  $\Delta$  and  $\Gamma$  and any maximal consistent set  $\Theta$  of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$ ,  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable.

## 4 The basic logical properties of $\Delta|\Gamma$

The AGM postulates for revision:

- Success:  $\Delta \subset \Delta|\varphi$ ;
- Inclusion:  $\Delta|\varphi \subseteq \{\varphi\} \cup \Delta$ ;
- Vacuity: if  $\Delta \not\vdash \neg\varphi$  then  $\Delta|\varphi = \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$ ;
- Extensionality:  $\Delta|\varphi$  is consistent if  $\Delta$  is consistent;
- Extensionality: if  $\models \Delta \leftrightarrow \Delta'$  then  $\Delta|\varphi \equiv \Delta'|\varphi$ ;
- Superexpansion:  $(\Delta_1, \Delta_2)|\varphi \subseteq (\Delta_2|\varphi) \cup \Delta_1$ ;
- Subexpansion: if  $\Delta_2|\varphi \not\vdash \neg\Delta_1$  then  $(\Delta_2|\varphi) \cup \Delta_1 \equiv \Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi$ .

**Theorem 6.**  $\Delta|\varphi$  satisfies the AGM postulates.

*Proof.* It is obvious that  $\Delta \subseteq \Delta|\varphi$  and  $\Delta|\varphi \subseteq \{\varphi\} \cup \Delta$ .

(Vacuity) If  $\Delta \not\vdash \neg\varphi$  then  $\Delta \cup \varphi$  is consistent, and by ( $S^{\text{con}}$ ),  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$ .

(Extensionality) By the proof of the completeness theorem, if  $\Delta$  is consistent with  $\varphi$  then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$ ; and if  $\Delta$  is inconsistent with  $\varphi$  then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$ , and  $\Delta$  is consistent.

(Extensionality) If  $\Delta \equiv \Delta'$  then  $\Delta$  is consistent with  $\varphi$  if and only if  $\Delta'$  is consistent with  $\varphi$ , and  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  iff  $\Delta'|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta' \cup \{\varphi\}$ , and hence,

$$\Delta|\varphi \equiv \Delta'|\varphi.$$

(Superexpansion) By the definition

$$\Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi = \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi)$$

and (Inclusion),  $\Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi = \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) \subseteq (\Delta_2|\varphi) \cup \Delta_1$ .

(Subexpansion) Assume that  $\Delta_2|\varphi \not\vdash \neg\Delta_1$ . Then,  $(\Delta_2|\varphi)$  is consistent with  $\Delta_1$ , and  $\Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) \equiv \Delta_1 \cup (\Delta_2|\varphi)$ .

The DP postulates:

- (C1) If  $\Delta_2 \models \Delta_1$  then  $\Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi) \equiv \Delta_2|\varphi$ ;
- (C2) If  $\Delta_2 \models \neg\Delta_1$  then  $\Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi) \equiv \Delta_2|\varphi$ ;
- (C3) If  $(\Delta_2|\varphi) \models \Delta_1$  then  $\Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi) \models \Delta_1$ ;
- (C4) If  $(\Delta_2|\varphi) \not\models \neg\Delta_1$  then  $\Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi) \not\models \neg\Delta_1$ .

**Lemma 1.** If  $\Delta_1 \equiv \Delta_2$  then  $\Delta_1|\varphi \equiv \Delta_2|\varphi$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $\Delta_1 \equiv \Delta_2$ .

If  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Delta_1$  then  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Delta_2$ , and  $\Delta_1|\varphi = \Delta_1 \cup \{\varphi\} \equiv \Delta_2 \cup \{\varphi\} = \Delta_2|\varphi$ .

If  $\varphi$  is inconsistent with  $\Delta_1$  then  $\varphi$  is inconsistent with  $\Delta_2$ , and  $\Delta_1|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta_2$ , and hence,  $\Delta_1|\varphi \equiv \Delta_2|\varphi$ .

**Lemma 2.** Assume that  $\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2$  is consistent. Then,  $\Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi \equiv \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) \equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi)$ .

*Proof.* If  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2$  then  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$ , respectively, and  $\Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi; \Delta_2, \Delta_1|\varphi$  are consistent, and

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi &= \Delta_1, \Delta_2, \varphi \\ &= \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\varphi$  is inconsistent with  $\Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) &= \Delta_1|\Delta_2 \\ &= \Delta_1, \Delta_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\equiv \Delta_2|\Delta_1 \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Delta_1$  and inconsistent with  $\Delta_2$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) &= \Delta_1|\Delta_2 \\ &= \Delta_1, \Delta_2 \\ &\equiv \Delta_2, \Delta_1|\varphi \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1, \varphi) \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$ , and inconsistent with  $\Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) &= \Delta_1|(\Delta_2, \varphi) \\ &= \Delta_1, \Delta_2|\varphi \\ &= \Delta_1, \Delta_2 \\ &\equiv \Delta_2, \Delta_1|\varphi \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1, \varphi) \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi). \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 7.** By introducing a postulate

$$\Delta_2, \Delta_1, \neg\Delta_1|\varphi \equiv \Delta_2|\varphi,$$

$\Delta|\varphi$  satisfies the DP postulates.

*Proof.* (C1) Assume that  $\Delta_2 \models \Delta_1$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_2|\varphi &\equiv (\Delta_2, \Delta_1)|\varphi \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1)|\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

(C2) Assume that  $\Delta_2 \models \neg\Delta_1$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_2, \Delta_1|\varphi &\equiv \Delta_2, \neg\Delta_1, \Delta_1|\varphi \\ &\equiv \Delta_2|\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

(C3) Assume that  $\Delta_2|\varphi \models \Delta_1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_2, \Delta_1|\varphi &\equiv \Delta_2|(\Delta_1|\varphi) \\ &\supseteq \Delta_2 \\ &\models \Delta_1. \end{aligned}$$

(C4) Assume that  $\Delta_2|\varphi \not\models \neg\Delta_1$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_2, \Delta_1|\varphi &\equiv \Delta_1|(\Delta_2|\varphi) \\ &\equiv \Delta_1 \cup (\Delta_2|\varphi) \\ &\not\models \neg\Delta_1, \end{aligned}$$

because  $\Delta_1 \cup (\Delta_2|\varphi)$  is consistent.

It is rather clear that  $\Delta|\varphi$  satisfies the principle of the minimal change [18–20] with respect to set. Considering the fact that if  $\Delta$  is consistent with  $\varphi$  then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Theta = \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$ , and for any set  $A \subseteq \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$ , if  $A \supseteq \Delta$  then  $A \subseteq \Theta$ ; and if  $\Delta$  is inconsistent with  $\varphi$  then  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Theta = \Delta$ , and for any set  $A \subseteq \Delta$ , if  $A \supseteq \Delta$  then  $A \subseteq \Theta$ .

$\Delta|\varphi$  also satisfies the principle of the minimal change with respect to inference.

**Theorem 8.** Assume that  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable. Then,

- (i)  $\Theta \vdash \Delta$ ; and
- (ii) for any theory  $\Delta_0$ , if  $\Delta_0 \vdash \Delta$  and  $\Delta_0 \vdash \varphi$  then  $\Delta_0 \vdash \Theta$ .

*Proof.* If  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Delta$  then  $\Theta = \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$ , and (i),(ii) are satisfied.

If  $\varphi$  is inconsistent with  $\Delta$  then  $\Theta = \Delta$ , and for any theory  $\Delta_0$ , if  $\Delta_0 \vdash \Delta$  and  $\Delta_0 \vdash \varphi$  then  $\Delta_0$  is inconsistent, and so  $\Delta_0 \vdash \Theta$ .

Similarly, the following theorem is also true.

**Theorem 9.** (i)  $\Delta|\Gamma$  satisfies the AGM postulates; and

- (ii)  $\Delta|\Gamma$  satisfies the AGM postulates.

**Theorem 10.** Assume that  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable. Then,

- (i)  $\Theta \subseteq \Delta \cup \Gamma$ ;
- (ii)  $\Theta \vdash \Delta$ ; and
- (iii) for any consistent theory  $\Delta_0$ , if  $\Delta_0 \vdash \Delta$  and  $\Delta_0 \vdash \Gamma$  then  $\Delta_0 \vdash \Theta$ .

## 5 The left decomposition rules

The **S**-rules are used to decompose the formula  $\varphi$  to be revised by  $\Delta$ . The rule ( $S^{\text{con}}$ ) can be replaced by a set of the  $T$ -rules to decompose formulas in  $\Delta$ .

The rules for the calculus **T** are decomposed into two classes: the right-side rules (denoted by  $T$ ) and the left-side rules (denoted by  $S$ ).

The right-side rules:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (T^{\text{incon}}) & \frac{\Delta \text{ is inconsistent}}{\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta|}, \\
 (T_1^-) & \frac{\neg l \in \Delta}{\Delta|l \Rightarrow \Delta}, & (T_2^-) & \frac{}{\Delta, l', \neg l'|l \Rightarrow \Delta, l', \neg l'}, \\
 (T_1^\wedge) & \frac{\Delta, \psi_1|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1}{\Delta, \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2}, \\
 (T_2^\wedge) & \frac{\Delta, \psi_2|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2}{\Delta, \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2}, \\
 (T^\vee) & \frac{\Delta, \psi_1|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \quad \Delta, \psi_2|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2}{\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2}, \\
 (T^\rightarrow) & \frac{\Delta, \neg\psi_1|l \Rightarrow \Delta \quad \Delta, \psi_2|l \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta, \psi_1 \rightarrow \psi_2|l \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \rightarrow \psi_2},
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $l = p|\neg p$ .

The left-side rules:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (S^{\text{con}}) & \frac{\varphi \cup \Delta \text{ is consistent}}{\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta \cup \{\varphi\}}, \\
 (S_1^\wedge) & \frac{\Delta|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta|\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta} & \text{if } \Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\} \text{ is inconsistent,} \\
 (S_1^\wedge) & \frac{\Delta, [\varphi_1]|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, [\varphi_1]}{\Delta|\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta} & \text{if } \Delta \cup \{\varphi_1\} \text{ is consistent,} \\
 (S^\vee) & \frac{\Delta|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta \quad \Delta|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta|\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}, \\
 (S^\rightarrow) & \frac{\Delta|\neg\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta \quad \Delta|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta|\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta}.
 \end{aligned}$$



The reason for which we need rule  $(T_2^\neg)$  is given in the following example. Let  $\Delta = \{p, p \rightarrow q\}$  and  $l = \neg q$ . To use  $(T^{\rightarrow})$ , we need

- (i)  $p, \neg p | \neg q \Rightarrow p, \neg p$ ;
- (ii)  $p, q | \neg q \Rightarrow p, q$

and a rule to get

$$p, p \rightarrow q | \neg q \Rightarrow p, p \rightarrow q.$$

(ii) is obtained by rule  $(T_1^\neg)$ . Without  $(T_1^\neg)$  we cannot prove (i).

**Example 2.** Revision  $p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | q \rightarrow r$  has the following sub-revisions:

- (1)  $p, \neg r, \neg p | \neg q \Rightarrow p, \neg r, \neg p$   $(T_2^\neg)$
- (2)  $p, \neg r, q | \neg q \Rightarrow p, \neg r, q$   $(T_1^\neg)$
- (3)  $p, \neg r, \neg p | r \Rightarrow p, \neg r, \neg p$   $(T_1^\neg)$
- (4)  $p, \neg r, q | r \Rightarrow p, \neg r, q$   $(T_1^\neg)$
- (5)  $p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | \neg q \Rightarrow p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q$   $(1, 2, T^{\rightarrow})$
- (6)  $p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | r \Rightarrow p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q$   $(3, 4, T^{\rightarrow})$
- (7)  $p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | q \rightarrow r \Rightarrow p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q$   $(5, 6, S^{\rightarrow})$ .

Therefore, we have

$$p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q | q \rightarrow r \Rightarrow p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q = \{p, \neg r, p \rightarrow q\}.$$

Intuitively,  $\varphi$  can be decomposed into literals by the decomposition **S**-rules, and some formulas in  $\Delta$  can be decomposed into literals by the decomposition **T**-rules. By  $(S^{\text{con}})$  and  $(T^{\text{incon}})$  rules, we delete some literals, and then, compose the formulas in  $\Delta$  by the composition **T**-rules.

**Proposition 2.** For any formula  $\varphi$ , we have

- $(T_1')$   $\frac{\neg\varphi \in \Delta}{\Delta | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta},$   $(T_1'')$   $\frac{}{\Delta, \psi, \neg\psi | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi, \neg\psi},$
- $(T_2)$   $\frac{\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \text{ or } \Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2}{\Delta, \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2},$
- $(T_3)$   $\frac{\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \quad \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2}{\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2},$
- $(T_4)$   $\frac{\Delta, \neg\psi_1 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta \quad \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta, \psi_1 \rightarrow \psi_2 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \rightarrow \psi_2},$

*Proof.* We prove  $(T_3)$  by the induction on the structure of  $\varphi$ , and can prove others similarly.

Case 1.  $\varphi = l$  is a literal. Then,  $(T_3)$  is  $(T^\vee)$ ;

Case 2.  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ . Assume that

$$\frac{\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \quad \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2}{\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2}$$

$$\frac{\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \quad \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2}{\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2},$$

and

$$\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1$$

$$\Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2$$

are provable, i.e.,

$$\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1$$

$$\Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2$$

are provable. Then, either  $\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1$  or  $\Delta, \psi_1, \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1$ ; and either  $\Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2$  or  $\Delta, \psi_2, \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2$  are provable.

If  $\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1$  and  $\Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2$  are provable then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \\ \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2 \end{aligned}$$

are provable and by  $(T^\vee)$ , we have  $\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2$  is provable.

If  $\Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1$  and  $\Delta, \psi_2, \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2, \varphi_1$  are provable then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \\ \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2 \end{aligned}$$

are provable and by  $(T^\vee)$ , we have  $\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2$  is provable.

If  $\Delta, \psi_1, \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1, \varphi_1$  and  $\Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2$  are provable then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \\ \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2 \end{aligned}$$

are provable and by  $(T^\vee)$ , we have  $\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2$  is provable.

If  $\Delta, \psi_1, \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1, \varphi_1$  and  $\Delta, \psi_2, \varphi_1 | \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2, \varphi_1$  are provable then

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta, \psi_1 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \\ \Delta, \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_2 \end{aligned}$$

are provable and by  $(T^\vee)$ , we have  $\Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \Delta, \psi_1 \vee \psi_2$  is provable.

Similarly, there is the following soundness and completeness theorem for the deduction.

**Theorem 11.** For any consistent theory  $\Delta$  and formula  $\varphi$ , if  $\Delta | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi^i$  is provable then if  $i = 0$  then  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent; otherwise,  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent.

We cannot prove that for any consistent theory  $\Delta$  and formula  $\varphi$ , if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent then  $\Delta | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  is provable. For example, let  $\Delta = \{\neg p \vee q, \neg p \vee \neg q\}$  and  $\varphi = p$ , we cannot prove that either  $\neg p \vee q | p \Rightarrow \neg p \vee q$ , or  $\neg p \vee \neg q | p \Rightarrow \neg p \vee \neg q$ , and hence it cannot be inferred that

$$\neg p \vee q, \neg p \vee \neg q | p \Rightarrow \neg p \vee q, \neg p \vee \neg q \equiv \neg p.$$

Because  $\neg p \vee q, \neg p \vee \neg q \equiv \neg p$  and  $\neg p | p \Rightarrow \neg p$ , we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 12.** For any consistent theory  $\Delta$  and formula  $\varphi$ , if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is consistent then  $\Delta | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta, \varphi$  is provable; and if  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent then there is a theory  $\Delta'$  such that  $\Delta' \equiv \Delta$  and  $\Delta' | \varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  is provable.

*Proof.* Assume that  $\Delta \cup \{\varphi\}$  is inconsistent. Then, there is a theory  $\Delta'$  such that  $\neg \varphi \in \Delta'$  and  $\Delta' \equiv \Delta$ .

Therefore, we prove that  $\neg \varphi | \varphi \Rightarrow \varphi$  is provable. We prove it by the induction on the structure of  $\varphi$ .

If  $\varphi = p$  is a propositional variable then by  $(T^\neg)$ ,  $\neg p | p \Rightarrow \neg p$ .

If  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$  then  $\neg \varphi | \varphi \equiv \neg \varphi_1 \vee \neg \varphi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \neg \varphi_1 | \varphi_1 &\Rightarrow \neg \varphi_1 && \text{(induction assumption)} \\ \neg \varphi_1 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \neg \varphi_1 && (S^\wedge) \\ \neg \varphi_2 | \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \neg \varphi_2 && \text{(induction assumption)} \\ \neg \varphi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \neg \varphi_2 && (S^\wedge) \\ \neg \varphi_1 \vee \neg \varphi_2 | \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 &\Rightarrow \neg \varphi_1 \vee \neg \varphi_2 && (T^\vee). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$  then  $\neg\varphi|\varphi \equiv \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2|\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$ , and

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \neg\varphi_1|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \neg\varphi_1 & (\text{induction assumption}) \\
 \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2|\varphi_1 \Rightarrow \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2 & (T^\wedge) \\
 \neg\varphi_2|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \neg\varphi_2 & (\text{induction assumption}) \\
 \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2|\varphi_2 \Rightarrow \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2 & (T^\wedge) \\
 \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2|\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \Rightarrow \neg\varphi_1 \wedge \neg\varphi_2 & (S^\vee).
 \end{array}$$

Similar for  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2$ .

We extend Theorems 11 and 12 for a single formula  $\varphi$  to a theory  $\Delta$  as follows.

**Theorem 13.** For any consistent theories  $\Delta, \Gamma$  and  $\Theta$ , if  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{T}$  then  $\Theta$  is a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$ .

**Theorem 14.** For any consistent theories  $\Delta, \Gamma$  and  $\Theta$ , if  $\Theta$  is a maximal consistent set of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Delta$  then  $\Delta|\Gamma \Rightarrow \Theta$  is provable in  $\mathbf{T}$ .

## 6 Conclusion

This paper gave two  $\mathbf{R}$ -calculi  $\mathbf{S}$  and  $\mathbf{T}$ , which both are sound and complete with respect to the maximal consistent sets, given that  $\mathbf{T}$  is a set of axioms without  $(S^-)$ .

Further work is to reduce  $(S^{\text{con}})$  into a set of deduction rules. In  $\mathbf{S}$ , firstly it is to be decided whether  $\varphi$  is consistent with  $\Gamma$ , and if not then we use other deduction rules to reduce  $\varphi$  in  $\Delta|\varphi$  into the empty string so that  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta|\lambda$ , i.e.,  $\Delta|\varphi \Rightarrow \Delta$  is provable.

This question seems difficult, owing to the asymmetrical properties of consistence and inconsistency.

Let  $\text{con}(\Gamma)$  and  $\text{incon}(\Gamma)$  denote that  $\Gamma$  is consistent and inconsistent, respectively. Then, for the consistence,

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 (\text{con}\wedge_1^+) \frac{\text{con}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{con}(\varphi_1, \Gamma)}, & (\text{con}\wedge_2^+) \frac{\text{con}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{con}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}, \\
 (\times\text{con}\wedge^-) \frac{\text{con}(\varphi_1, \Gamma) \text{ con}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{con}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, & \\
 (\text{con}\vee^+) \frac{\text{con}(\varphi_1, \Gamma)}{\text{con}(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, & (\text{con}\vee^-) \frac{\text{con}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{con}(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, \\
 (\text{con}\rightarrow^+) \frac{\text{con}(\neg\varphi_1, \Gamma)}{\text{con}(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, & (\text{con}\rightarrow^-) \frac{\text{con}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{con}(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, \\
 (\text{con}\neg^-) \frac{\Gamma \not\vdash \neg\varphi_1}{\text{con}(\varphi_1, \Gamma)}, & (\neg^+) \frac{\text{con}(\varphi_1, \Gamma)}{\Gamma \not\vdash \neg\varphi_1},
 \end{array}$$

and for the inconsistency,

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 (\wedge_1^+) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, & (\wedge_2^+) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, \\
 (\times\wedge^-) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma) \text{ or } \text{incon}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}, & (\wedge^-) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma) \text{ or } \text{incon}(\varphi_2, \Gamma \cup \{\varphi_1\})}, \\
 (\vee^+) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma) \text{ incon}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, & (\vee^-) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma) \text{ incon}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, \\
 (\rightarrow^+) \frac{\text{incon}(\neg\varphi_1, \Gamma) \text{ incon}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, & (\rightarrow^-) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma) \text{ incon}(\varphi_2, \Gamma)}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \Gamma)}, \\
 (\neg^-) \frac{\Gamma \vdash \neg\varphi_1}{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma)}, & (\neg^+) \frac{\text{incon}(\varphi_1, \Gamma)}{\Gamma \vdash \neg\varphi_1}.
 \end{array}$$

From these rules, we see that the rules for the consistence are not dual to those for the inconsistency;  $(\times\wedge^-)$  should be replaced by  $(\wedge^-)$ ; and each other rule has an inverse rule.

For the asymmetry of the rules for inconsistency, we should make the rules for the revision asymmetrical.

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