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## A lattice of the paracomplete calculi

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**Abstract:** Paracomplete logic is intended to cope with the problem of vagueness, or uncertain and incomplete data. It deals with the situation when some propositions and their negations are allowed to be simultaneously false, which is obviously impossible in the classical and many non-classical propositional logics. In paracomplete logic, such classical laws as *tertium non datur* or *consequentia mirabilis* are not generally accepted. This implies that the logic is defined negatively.

In this paper, we introduce a family of the paracomplete calculi that will be defined in a Hilbert-style formalization. We propose the so-called bi-valuational semantics and prove the key metatheorems for the calculi. We also discuss a generalization of the paracomplete calculus  $QD^1$  to the hierarchy of related calculi.

**Keywords:** paracomplete logic, paracompleteness, the law of excluded middle, *tertium non datur*, *consequentia mirabilis*, weakly-intuitionistic logic, literal-paracomplete logic, paraconsistent logic

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### 1. Introduction

Let *var* denote a (non-empty) denumerable set of all propositional variables. The set of formulas  $\mathcal{F}$  is inductively defined as follows:

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\alpha \mid \alpha \vee \alpha \mid \alpha \wedge \alpha \mid \alpha \rightarrow \alpha,$$

where  $p \in \text{var}$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$  and the symbols  $\neg$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\rightarrow$  denote negation, disjunction, conjunction and implication, respectively. The connective of equivalence,  $\alpha \leftrightarrow \beta$ , is treated as an abbreviation for  $(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge (\beta \rightarrow \alpha)$ .

Paracomplete logic can be defined in various ways, for instance,

**Definition 1.** A logic  $\langle \mathcal{L}, \vdash \rangle$  is said to be paracomplete if, and only if

- (1)  $\{\beta \rightarrow \alpha, \neg\beta \rightarrow \alpha\} \not\vdash \alpha$ , for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{F}$ ; or
- (2)  $\emptyset \not\vdash \alpha \vee \neg\alpha$ , for some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ ; or
- (3)  $\emptyset \not\vdash (\neg\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$ , for some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ ; or
- (4)  $\emptyset \not\vdash (\alpha \rightarrow \neg\alpha) \rightarrow \neg\alpha$ , for some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ .<sup>1</sup>

It is noticeable that paracomplete logic is specified negatively: any logic is paracomplete if it meets at least one of the criteria listed above. The definitions may seem too general at first sight; in particular, they may suggest some logics which have nothing in common with *paracompleteness*. Suffice it to note that Łukasiewicz’s three-valued logic meets the four requirements. It is not by accident, however, that the example has been cited here. From philosophical perspective, paracomplete calculi are expected to cope with the problem of vagueness,<sup>2</sup> or uncertain and incomplete information.<sup>3</sup> Seen from this viewpoint, Łukasiewicz’s logic is a good example of how to interpret uncertainty in relation to the issue of determinism or fatalism, whereas paracomplete calculi – with regard to the dynamic character of information or knowledge. Metaphorically speaking, in paracomplete logic, the dilemma of ‘Tomorrow’s sea fight’ has been reduced to ‘Today’s communication’.

The paracomplete calculi are expected to deal with the situation when some propositions and their negations are allowed to be simultaneously false, which is impossible in the classical and many non-classical propositional logics. The calculi are also viewed as being *dual* to their paraconsistent counterparts, in a sense that “(...) a logic is paraconsistent if it can be the underlying logic of theories containing contradictory theorems which are both true. (...) a logical system is paracomplete if it can function as the underlying logic of theories in which there are (closed) formulas such that these formulas and their negations are simultaneously false” [Loparić, da Costa, 1984, p. 119].

In what follows, we will consider axiomatic propositional calculi in a Hilbert-style formalization with the sole rule of inference (MP):  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta, \alpha / \beta$ . Such a calculus  $\mathcal{C}$ , identified with the triple  $\langle \mathcal{F}, Ax_{\mathcal{C}}, \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \rangle$ , is determined by its set of axioms  $Ax_{\mathcal{C}}$  which is included in  $\mathcal{F}$ . We will require for each paracomplete calculus that it contains all axiom schemas of the positive fragment of Classical Propositional Calculus ( $\mathcal{CPC}^+$ , for short), that is, all instances of the following schemas:

<sup>1</sup>*Cit. per* [Petrukhin, 2018, pp. 425–426]. Some interesting examples of the paracomplete calculi are given in [Batens et al, 1999; Bolotov et al, 2018; Ciuciuca, 2015; Karpenko, Tomova, 2017; Loparić, da Costa, 1984; Popov, 2002; Sette, Carnielli, 1995].

<sup>2</sup>See [Arruda, Alves, 1979; Arruda, Alves, 1979] and [Beall, 2017, Section 4.1], for details.

<sup>3</sup>See [Bolotov et al, 2018], for details.

- (A1)  $\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \alpha)$
- (A2)  $(\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \gamma)) \rightarrow ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \gamma))$
- (A3)  $((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$
- (A4)  $(\alpha \wedge \beta) \rightarrow \alpha$
- (A5)  $(\alpha \wedge \beta) \rightarrow \beta$
- (A6)  $\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow (\alpha \wedge \beta))$
- (A7)  $\alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \vee \beta)$
- (A8)  $\beta \rightarrow (\alpha \vee \beta)$
- (A9)  $(\alpha \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow ((\beta \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow (\alpha \vee \beta \rightarrow \gamma))$ ,

admits the rule (MP), and fulfils all the criteria listed in *Definition 1*. To put it more accurately:

**Definition 2.** A calculus  $\langle \mathcal{F}, Ax_{\mathcal{C}}, \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \rangle$  is said to be paracomplete if, and only if it contains  $\mathcal{CPC}^+$ , admits (MP) and cumulatively meets the conditions:

- (1)  $\{\beta \rightarrow \alpha, \neg\beta \rightarrow \alpha\} \not\vdash \alpha$ , for some  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{F}$
- (2)  $\emptyset \not\vdash \alpha \vee \neg\alpha$ , for some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$
- (3)  $\emptyset \not\vdash (\neg\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$ , for some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$
- (4)  $\emptyset \not\vdash (\alpha \rightarrow \neg\alpha) \rightarrow \neg\alpha$ , for some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Observe that many non-classical logics, esp. Intuitionistic and Łukasiewicz's three-valued logic, do not come within the scope of *paracompleteness*.

**Definition 3.** For  $\mathcal{C}$ , any  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$  and any  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ , we say that  $\alpha$  is provable from  $\Gamma$  within  $\mathcal{C}$  (in symbols:  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ ) iff there is a finite sequence of formulas,  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n$  such that  $\beta_n = \alpha$  and for each  $i \leq n$ , either  $\beta_i \in \Gamma$ , or  $\beta_i \in Ax_{\mathcal{C}}$ , or for some  $j, k \leq i$  we have  $\beta_k = \beta_j \rightarrow \beta_i$ . A formula  $\alpha$  is a thesis of  $\mathcal{C}$  iff  $\alpha$  is provable from  $\emptyset$  within  $\mathcal{C}$  (in symbols:  $\emptyset \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ ).

**Definition 4.** Let  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C})$  be the set of all theses of  $\mathcal{C}$ . For any calculi  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}\star$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ , we say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is an extension of  $\mathcal{C}\star$  if, and only if  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C}\star) \subseteq \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C})$ . We say that  $\mathcal{C}\star$  is a *proper subsystem* of  $\mathcal{C}$  (in symbols:  $\mathcal{C}\star \sqsubset \mathcal{C}$ ) if, and only if  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C}\star) \subseteq \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C})$  and  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C}) \not\subseteq \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{C}\star)$ .

Let us recall a few well-known facts about  $\mathcal{C}$ , where  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{CPC}^+ + (\text{MP})$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Deduction theorem holds for  $\mathcal{C}$ .*

**Proof.** This follows from the fact that  $\mathcal{C}$  includes (A1) and (A2), and the sole rule of inference in  $\mathcal{C}$  is (MP). ■

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $\Gamma, \Delta \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathcal{F}$ .*

- (1) *If  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$*
- (2) *If  $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ , then  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$*
- (3)  *$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$  iff for some finite  $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$ ,  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$*
- (4) *If  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$  and, for every  $\beta \in \Delta$  it is true that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \beta$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$*
- (5) *If  $\Gamma \cup \{\alpha\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \gamma$  and  $\Gamma \cup \{\beta\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \gamma$ , then  $\Gamma \cup \{\alpha \vee \beta\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \gamma$*
- (6) *If  $\Gamma \cup \{\alpha\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \beta$  and  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ , then  $\Gamma \cup \Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \beta$*   
*(in particular, if  $\Gamma \cup \{\alpha\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \beta$  and  $\emptyset \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \beta$ )*

**Proof.** We refer the interested reader to [Wójcicki, 1988] and [Pogorzelski, Wojtylak, 2008] for details. ■

**Remark 1.** The relation  $\vdash_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a finitary consequence relation satisfying Tarskian properties (reflexivity, monotonicity, transitivity).

## 2. Paracomplete calculi. Axioms

The *basic* paracomplete calculus discussed in this section is  $CLaN$ .  $CLaN$ , as introduced in [Batens et al., 1999], is defined by (MP),  $CPC^+$  and the law of explosion ( $DS$ ):  $\alpha \rightarrow (\neg\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$ . In the succeeding paragraphs, we consider some extensions of  $CLaN$ . They are obtained from  $CLaN$  by adding to it at least one of the schemas:

$$(ExM^2) \alpha \vee \neg\alpha \vee \neg\neg\alpha$$

$$(NN^*) \alpha \rightarrow \neg\neg\alpha.$$

As a result, we obtain three such extensions, namely,

$$D_{min} = CLaN + (NN^*)$$

$$Q^1 = CLaN + (ExM^2)$$

$$QD^1 = CLaN + (ExM^2) + (NN^*).$$

The calculus  $Q^1$  was introduced in [Ciuciura, 2019];  $D_{min}$  was briefly discussed in [Carnielli, Marcos, 1999];  $QD^1$  seems to be pretty new. Notice that the calculi (incl.  $QD^1$ ) are proper subsystems of  $I^1$ . The propositional calculus  $I^1$  was originally defined by (MP), (A1), (A2),

$$(I1) (\neg\neg\alpha \rightarrow \neg\beta) \rightarrow ((\neg\neg\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \neg\alpha)$$

$$(I2) \neg\neg(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta).^4$$

The connectives of  $\neg$  and  $\rightarrow$  are taken as primitives. Conjunction, disjunction and equivalence are useful abbreviations. They can be introduced *via* the definitions:

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<sup>4</sup>[Sette, Carnielli, 1995, pp. 182–183].

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha \wedge \beta &=_{df} \neg(((\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \neg((\beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta)) \\ \alpha \vee \beta &=_{df} (\neg(\beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow ((\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha) \\ \alpha \leftrightarrow \beta &=_{df} (\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge (\beta \rightarrow \alpha).^5\end{aligned}$$

It is noteworthy that  $I^1$  gave an impulse for further research and several alternative axiomatizations for the calculus were proposed. In [Ciuciura, 2015], for instance, the *consequentia mirabilis* (cf. Definition 1, (3)) plays the key role; in [Fernández, Coniglio, 2003], the role is taken by the *tertium non datur* (cf. Definition 1, (2)) which suggests that the connective of disjunction (and conjunction) formally appears in formulas. Indeed, Fernández–Coniglio’s axiomatization consists of (A1), (A2), (A4)–(A9), (NN\*) and

$$\begin{aligned}(nC) & \neg(\alpha \wedge \neg\alpha) \\ (NI^*) & (\alpha \vee \neg\alpha) \rightarrow ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow ((\alpha \rightarrow \neg\beta) \rightarrow \neg\alpha)) \\ (ExM^-) & \neg\alpha \vee \neg\neg\alpha \\ (ExM^\ddagger) & (\alpha \ddagger \beta) \vee \neg(\alpha \ddagger \beta), \text{ where } \ddagger \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow\}.\end{aligned}$$

The sole rule of inference is (MP).

We prove now that  $CLaN, D_{min}, Q^1$  and  $QD^1$  meet the criteria mentioned in Definition 2; let  $\mathcal{C} \in \{CLaN, D_{min}, Q^1, QD^1\}$ , for the sake of brevity.

**Remark 2.** (1) The formulas

$$\begin{aligned}(ExM) & p \vee \neg p \\ (CM1) & (p \rightarrow \neg p) \rightarrow \neg p \\ (CM2) & (\neg p \rightarrow p) \rightarrow p \\ (NN) & \neg\neg p \rightarrow p\end{aligned}$$

are not provable in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

(2) Neither (a)  $\{\beta \rightarrow \alpha, \neg\beta \rightarrow \alpha\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ , nor (b)  $\{\neg(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \neg\beta$ , nor (c)  $\{\alpha \rightarrow \neg\beta, \alpha \rightarrow \beta\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \neg\alpha$  hold, for any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{F}$ .

**Proof.** Apply the matrix  $\mathcal{M}_I = \langle \{1, 2, 0\}, \{1\}, \neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow \rangle$ , where  $\{1, 2, 0\}$  is the set of logical values, 1 is the designated truth value in  $\mathcal{M}_I$  and the connectives  $\neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow$  are defined in the same way as it is done in [Sette, Carnielli, 1995] (see pp. 190, 199), that is,

$\rightarrow$	1	2	0	$\neg$
1	1	0	0	1
2	1	1	1	2
0	1	1	1	0

<sup>5</sup>See *Ibid.*, p. 199.; see also [Karpenko, Tomova, 2017, p. 14].

$\wedge$	1	2	0	$\vee$	1	2	0
1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
2	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

Observe that (A1)–(A9), (DS), ( $ExM^2$ ), ( $NN^*$ ) are valid in  $\mathcal{M}_I$  and (MP) preserves validity. To demonstrate that ( $ExM$ ), (CM1), (CM2) and ( $NN$ ) are unprovable in  $\mathcal{C}$ , it suffices to assign 2 to  $p$  in the formulas  $p \vee \neg p$ ,  $(p \rightarrow \neg p) \rightarrow \neg p$ ,  $(\neg p \rightarrow p) \rightarrow p$  and  $\neg \neg p \rightarrow p$ , respectively. This shows that the claim (1) holds. For (2), assign 2 to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in (a); 1 to  $\alpha$  and 2 to  $\beta$  in (b); 2 to  $\alpha$  and 0 to  $\beta$  in (c). ■

**Remark 3.** The calculus  $QD^1$  can be defined, in a Hilbert-style formalization, by the axiom schemas of  $CPC^+$ , (DS), ( $ExM^-$ )  $\neg \alpha \vee \neg \neg \alpha$  and (MP).

**Proof.** We need to show that (1) ( $ExM^-$ ) is a thesis of  $QD^1$ , and (2) ( $ExM^2$ ) and ( $NN^*$ ) are provable in  $QD^1_\star$ , where  $QD^1_\star$  is defined by  $CPC^+$ , (DS), ( $ExM^-$ ) and (MP). (1): This can be easily done by means of ( $ExM^2$ ), ( $NN^*$ ), the thesis of  $CPC^+$   $(\alpha \vee \beta \vee \gamma) \rightarrow ((\alpha \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow (\beta \vee \gamma))$  and (MP). (2): Assume that  $\alpha$  (by the deduction theorem). Then, we obtain  $\neg \alpha \rightarrow \neg \neg \alpha$  by (DS), the assumption and (MP). Notice that  $\emptyset \vdash_{QD^1_\star} (\neg \alpha \rightarrow \neg \neg \alpha) \rightarrow \neg \neg \alpha$  by ( $ExM^-$ ), the thesis of  $CPC^+$   $(\alpha \vee \beta) \rightarrow ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta)$  and (MP). If  $\neg \alpha \rightarrow \neg \neg \alpha$  and  $(\neg \alpha \rightarrow \neg \neg \alpha) \rightarrow \neg \neg \alpha$ , then  $\neg \neg \alpha$ , and finally  $\emptyset \vdash_{QD^1_\star} \alpha \rightarrow \neg \neg \alpha$  by the deduction theorem. To prove that ( $ExM^2$ ) is a thesis of  $QD^1_\star$ , it suffices to apply (MP) to (A8) and ( $ExM^-$ ). ■

**Remark 4.**  $CLaN \sqsubset Q^1 \sqsubset QD^1$  and  $CLaN \sqsubset D_{min} \sqsubset QD^1$ .

**Proof.** It is clear that  $Q^1$  and  $D_{min}$  are the extensions of  $CLaN$ . A proof that  $CLaN$  is a proper subsystem of  $Q^1$  immediately follows from the classical truth tables for implication, conjunction and disjunction plus the following one for negation:

	$\neg$
1	0
0	0

The designated value is 1. As expected, (A1)–(A9), (DS) are valid under the interpretation and (MP) preserves validity. Now, assign 0 to  $p$  in  $p \vee \neg p \vee \neg \neg p$  to demonstrate that there is a thesis of  $Q^1$  which is unprovable in  $CLaN$ .

A proof that  $CLaN$  is a proper subsystem of  $D_{min}$  basically follows from the fact that  $p \rightarrow \neg \neg p$  is not provable in  $CLaN$ . This can be shown by modifying

the matrix  $\mathcal{M}_I$  appropriately, that is, by replacing the truth table for negation with the so-called rotary negation:

	$\neg$
1	2
2	0
0	1

and assigning 1 to  $p$  in  $p \rightarrow \neg\neg p$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}_3$  denote the resulting matrix, henceforth.

It is obvious that  $QD^1$  is an extension of  $Q^1$  and  $D_{min}$ . Now, we show that the formula  $\neg p \vee \neg\neg p$  is provable neither in  $Q^1$  nor  $D_{min}$ . Case  $Q^1$ : apply  $\mathcal{M}_3$  and assign 1 to  $p$  in  $\neg p \vee \neg\neg p$ . Case  $D_{min}$ : consider the matrix  $\mathcal{M}_{3\star} = \langle \{1, 2, 0\}, \{1\}, \neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow \rangle$ , where the connectives  $\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow$  are defined in the same way as in  $\mathcal{M}_I$ , but the truth table for negation is as follows:

	$\neg$
1	0
2	2
0	1

The axiom schemas of  $D_{min}$  are valid in the matrix and (MP) preserves validity; to falsify  $\neg p \vee \neg\neg p$ , it is enough to assign 2 to  $p$ . ■

**Remark 5.** (1)  $D_{min} \not\sqsubseteq Q^1$   
 (2)  $Q^1 \not\sqsubseteq D_{min}$ .

**Proof.** (1): Apply the matrix  $\mathcal{M}_{3\star}$  and assign 2 to  $p$  in  $p \vee \neg p \vee \neg\neg p$ , to show that the formula  $p \vee \neg p \vee \neg\neg p$  is unprovable in  $D_{min}$ . (2): Use the matrix  $\mathcal{M}_3$  and assign 1 to  $p$  in  $p \rightarrow \neg\neg p$ , to demonstrate that  $p \rightarrow \neg\neg p$  is unprovable in  $Q^1$ . ■

**Remark 6.**  $QD^1 \sqsubset I^1 \sqsubset CPC$ , where CPC denotes the classical propositional calculus.

**Proof.** It is known that  $I^1 \sqsubset CPC$ .<sup>6</sup> All we have to do is to prove that  $QD^1 \sqsubset I^1$ . Since (MP) is the sole rule of inference of both calculi and each axiom schema of  $QD^1$  is provable in  $I^1$ , then  $I^1$  is an extension of  $QD^1$ . Now, we prove that  $(nC^p) \neg(p \wedge \neg p)$  is not a thesis of  $QD^1$  (cf. Fernández–Coniglio’s axiomatization of  $I^1$ ). For this purpose, consider the matrix  $\mathcal{M}_{3\star\star} = \langle \{1, 2, 0\}, \{1\}, \neg, \wedge, \vee, \rightarrow \rangle$ , where 1 is the only designated value in  $\mathcal{M}_{3\star\star}$ , the connectives of negation and implication are specified in the same way as in  $\mathcal{M}_I$ , but conjunction and disjunction are defined as follows:

<sup>6</sup>See [Sette, Carnielli, 1995; Karpenko, Tomova, 2017; Ciuciura, 2015], for details.

$\wedge$	1	2	0	$\vee$	1	2	0
1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
0	2	2	0	0	1	2	0

Each axiom schema of  $QD^1$  is valid in  $\mathcal{M}_{3\star\star}$  and the rule of detachment preserves validity. To show that  $(nC^p)$  is unprovable in  $QD^1$ , it is enough to assign 2 to  $p$  in  $\neg(p \wedge \neg p)$ . ■

Since  $CLaN$ ,  $D_{min}$ ,  $Q^1$  and  $QD^1$  are proper subsystems of  $I^1$ ,  $I^1$  is the *strongest* calculus among the paracomplete calculi that have been discussed so far. Moreover,  $I^1$  is *maximal* in the sense that if we enrich the calculus with any classical tautology, which is not valid in  $I^1$ , the resulting calculus collapses into  $CPC$ . It means that there is no *structural* proper subsystem of  $CPC$  stronger than  $I^1$ . But ‘Is  $CLaN$  the *weakest* paracomplete calculus?’, or: ‘Is there a proper subsystem of  $CLaN$  admitting  $CPC^+$  and (MP)?’ Some results supporting a positive answer were suggested in *Section 7* of [Nowak, 1998]. The requested calculus, denoted as  $\vdash_{C11}$ , is defined by  $CPC^+$ , (MP) and  $(DS^*) \alpha \rightarrow (\neg\alpha \rightarrow \neg\beta)$ .

**Remark 7.**  $CPC^+ \sqsubset \vdash_{C11} \sqsubset CLaN$ .

**Proof.** It is obvious that  $CPC^+ \sqsubset \vdash_{C11}$ . For  $\vdash_{C11} \sqsubset CLaN$ , note that  $(DS^*)$  is an instance of  $(DS)$ . Thus all the axiom schemas of  $\vdash_{C11}$  are theses of  $CLaN$ . To show that  $p \rightarrow (\neg p \rightarrow q)$  is unprovable in  $\vdash_{C11}$ , apply the classical truth tables for implication, conjunction and disjunction plus the following one for negation (1 is the designated value):

	$\neg$
1	1
0	1

■

Let us summarize that the lattice relationships between the calculi can be represented by the structure of Figure 1.

### 3. Paracomplete calculi. Semantics

A Kripke-type semantics for  $\vdash_{C11}$  was given in [Nowak, 1998, p. 98]; a valuation semantics for  $CLaN$  was introduced in [Batens et al, 1999, p. 32]; and a three-valued semantics for  $I^1$  was proposed in [Sette, Carnielli, 1995, p. 190]; an alternative semantics for  $I^1$  was discussed in [Fernández, Coniglio, 2003]. In this section, we propose a bi-valuational semantics for the calculi  $Q^1$  and  $QD^1$ ; let  $\mathcal{C}\star \in \{Q^1, QD^1\}$ , for the sake of brevity.



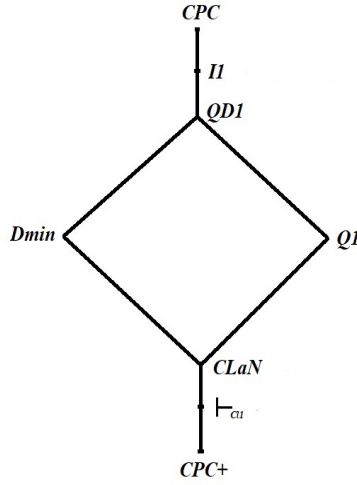


Fig. 1. A lattice of the paraconsistent calculi.

**Definition 5.** A  $\mathcal{C}\star$ -valuation is any function  $v : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \{1, 0\}$  that satisfies, for any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{F}$ , the following conditions:

- ( $\vee$ )  $v(\alpha \vee \beta) = 1$  iff  $v(\alpha) = 1$  or  $v(\beta) = 1$
- ( $\wedge$ )  $v(\alpha \wedge \beta) = 1$  iff  $v(\alpha) = 1$  and  $v(\beta) = 1$
- ( $\rightarrow$ )  $v(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) = 1$  iff  $v(\alpha) = 0$  or  $v(\beta) = 1$
- ( $\neg$ ) if  $v(\neg\alpha) = 1$ , then  $v(\alpha) = 0$ ,

and additionally,

- ( $\neg\neg$ ) if  $v(\neg\neg\alpha) = 0$ , then  $(v(\alpha) = 1 \text{ or } v(\neg\alpha) = 1)$ , for  $\mathcal{C}\star = Q^1$
- ( $\neg\neg$ ) if  $v(\neg\neg\alpha) = 0$ , then  $v(\neg\alpha) = 1$ , for  $\mathcal{C}\star = QD^1$ .

**Definition 6.** A formula  $\alpha$  is a  $\mathcal{C}\star$ -tautology if, and only if for every  $\mathcal{C}\star$ -valuation  $v$ ,  $v(\alpha) = 1$ . For any  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\alpha$  is a semantic consequence of  $\Gamma$  ( $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{C}\star} \alpha$ , in symbols) iff for any  $\mathcal{C}\star$ -valuation  $v$ : if  $v(\beta) = 1$  for any  $\beta \in \Gamma$ , then  $v(\alpha) = 1$ .

The proof of soundness can be obtained in the standard way, by induction on the length of a derivation in  $\mathcal{C}\star$ .

**Theorem 2.** For every  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ , we have if  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \alpha$ , then  $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{C}\star} \alpha$ .

For the proof of completeness, we apply the method which is based on the notion of maximal non-trivial sets of formulas. We use the technique proposed in [Carnielli, Coniglio, 2016, Section 2.2]. Before going further, let us recall some important definitions and results. Let  $\mathcal{C} = \langle \mathcal{F}, Ax_{\mathcal{C}}, \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \rangle$  be a calculus (satisfying Tarskian properties) and  $\Delta \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ .

**Definition 7.** We say that  $\Delta$  is a closed theory of  $\mathcal{C}$  if, and only if for any  $\beta \in \mathcal{F}$ :  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \beta$  iff  $\beta \in \Delta$ . We say that  $\Delta$  is maximal non-trivial with respect to  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , if, and only if (i)  $\Delta \not\vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ , and (ii) for every  $\beta \in \mathcal{F}$ , if  $\beta \notin \Delta$  then  $\Delta \cup \{\beta\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ .

**Lemma 2** ([Carnielli, Coniglio, 2016], Lemma 2.2.5). *Every maximal non-trivial set with respect to some formula is a closed theory.*

Observe that the lemma holds for  $\mathcal{C}\star$ . Moreover, we have:

**Lemma 3.** *For any maximal non-trivial set  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{C}\star$  the mapping  $v : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \{1, 0\}$  defined, for any  $\delta \in \mathcal{F}$ , as  $(\star)$ :  $v(\delta) = 1$  if and only if  $\delta \in \Delta$ , is a  $\mathcal{C}\star$ -valuation.*

**Proof.** We only prove the clauses for negation. The rest of the proof is similar to that of *Theorem 2.2.7* in [Carnielli, Coniglio, 2016].

Assume, for a contradiction, that  $v(\neg\beta) = 1$  and  $v(\beta) = 1$ . Thus we have  $\neg\beta \in \Delta$  and  $\beta \in \Delta$  by  $(\star)$ . This implies, by *Lemma 1(1)*, that  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \neg\beta$  and  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \beta$ . But, if  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \neg\beta$  and  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \beta$ , then  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \{\neg\beta, \beta\}$ . Since  $\emptyset \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \beta \rightarrow (\neg\beta \rightarrow \gamma)$ , thus  $\{\beta, \neg\beta\} \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \gamma$ , by the deduction theorem. The relation  $\vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star}$  is transitive, so  $\Delta \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \gamma$ . Notice that  $\Delta$  is a closed theory, so  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . But  $\alpha \notin \Delta$  (by the main assumption). This yields a contradiction.

If  $\mathcal{C}\star = Q^1$ , we need to show that the mapping  $v$  satisfies the following clause: if  $v(\neg\neg\beta) = 0$  then  $(v(\beta) = 1$  or  $v(\neg\beta) = 1)$ , for any  $\beta \in \mathcal{F}$ . Assume, for a contradiction, that  $v(\neg\neg\beta) = 0$  and  $v(\neg\beta) = v(\beta) = 0$ . Thus we have  $\neg\neg\beta \notin \Delta$ ,  $\neg\beta \notin \Delta$  and  $\beta \notin \Delta$  by  $(\star)$ . Since  $\Delta$  is a maximal non-trivial set with respect to  $\alpha$ ,  $\Delta \cup \{\beta\} \vdash_{Q^1} \alpha$ ,  $\Delta \cup \{\neg\beta\} \vdash_{Q^1} \alpha$  and  $\Delta \cup \{\neg\neg\beta\} \vdash_{Q^1} \alpha$ . Consequently,  $\Delta \cup \{\beta \vee \neg\beta \vee \neg\neg\beta\} \vdash_{Q^1} \alpha$ , by *Lemma 1 (5)*. Note that  $\emptyset \vdash_{Q^1} \beta \vee \neg\beta \vee \neg\neg\beta$ , so  $\Delta \vdash_{Q^1} \alpha$ , by *Lemma 1 (6)*. Since  $\Delta$  is a closed theory, then  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . But  $\alpha \notin \Delta$ . This yields a contradiction.

If  $\mathcal{C}\star = QD^1$ , we have to prove that the mapping  $v$  satisfies the clause: if  $v(\neg\neg\beta) = 0$  then  $v(\neg\beta) = 1$ , for any  $\beta \in \mathcal{F}$ . Assume, for a contradiction, that  $v(\neg\neg\beta) = 0$  and  $v(\neg\beta) = 0$ . Then we have  $\neg\neg\beta \notin \Delta$  and  $\neg\beta \notin \Delta$  by  $(\star)$ . Since  $\Delta$  is a maximal non-trivial set with respect to  $\alpha$ , then  $\Delta \cup \{\neg\neg\beta\} \vdash_{QD^1} \alpha$  and  $\Delta \cup \{\neg\beta\} \vdash_{QD^1} \alpha$ . Consequently,  $\Delta \cup \{\neg\beta \vee \neg\neg\beta\} \vdash_{QD^1} \alpha$ , by *Lemma 1 (6)*. It is known that  $\emptyset \vdash_{QD^1} \neg\beta \vee \neg\neg\beta$ , so  $\Delta \vdash_{QD^1} \alpha$ , by *Lemma 1 (6)*. Since  $\Delta$  is a closed theory, then  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . But  $\alpha \notin \Delta$ . This yields a contradiction. ■

Note that the so-called Lindenbaum–Łoś’ theorem holds, for any finitary calculus  $\mathcal{C} = \langle \mathcal{F}, Ax_{\mathcal{C}}, \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \rangle$ .

**Lemma 4** ([Pogorzelski, Wojtylak, 2008], Theorem 3.31; [Carnielli, Coniglio, 2016], Theorem 2.2.6). *For any  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\Gamma \not\vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \alpha$ , there is a maximal non-trivial set  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$ .*

Thus, the completeness of  $\mathcal{C}\star$  follows:

**Theorem 3.** *For all  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ : if  $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{C}\star} \alpha$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\mathcal{C}\star} \alpha$ .*

**Proof.** Assume that  $\Gamma \not\models_{\mathcal{C}\star} \alpha$  and  $\Delta$  be a maximal non-trivial set with respect to  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{C}\star$  such that  $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$ . Then  $\alpha \notin \Delta$ . Because *Lemma 3* holds, there is a valuation  $v$  such that  $v(\alpha) = 0$  and  $v(\beta) = 1$ , for any  $\beta \in \Gamma$ . Hence  $\Gamma \not\models_{\mathcal{C}\star} \alpha$ . ■

#### 4. A hierarchy of the paracomplete calculi

The  $\vdash_{CL1}$ ,  $CLaN$ ,  $D_{min}$ ,  $Q^1$ ,  $QD^1$  and  $I^1$  are not the only paracomplete calculi that satisfy the criteria specified in *Definition 2*. In fact, there are infinitely many such calculi, for example,  $Q^1$ ,  $Q^2$ , ...,  $Q^n$ ; or  $QD^1$ ,  $QD^2$ , ...,  $QD^n$ . The hierarchy of  $Q^n$ -calculi,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , was considered in [Ciuciura, 2019]. In the subsequent paragraphs we will discuss the hierarchy of  $QD^n$ -calculi. The hierarchy is obtained by replacing  $(ExM^\neg)$  with a more general schema, that is,

$$(ExM^{-n}) \neg^n \alpha \vee \neg^{n+1} \alpha,$$

where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\neg^n \alpha$  is an abbreviation for  $\overbrace{\neg \neg \dots \neg}^n \alpha$ . To put it more precisely, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $QD^n$  be obtained from  $CPC^+$  (and (MP)) by adding to it the axiom schemas:

$$\begin{aligned} (DS) \quad & \alpha \rightarrow (\neg \alpha \rightarrow \beta) \\ (ExM^{-n}) \quad & \neg^n \alpha \vee \neg^{n+1} \alpha.^7 \end{aligned}$$

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the semantics for  $QD^n$  results from replacing the evaluation condition for  $(\neg \neg)$  with a more general one, *i.e.*

$$(\neg^{n+1}) \text{ if } v(\neg^{n+1} \alpha) = 0, \text{ then } v(\neg^n \alpha) = 1.$$

The semantic clauses for  $(\vee)$ ,  $(\wedge)$ ,  $(\rightarrow)$  and  $(\neg)$  remain unchanged, *i.e.*

**Definition 8.** A  $QD^n$ -valuation is any function  $v : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \{1, 0\}$  that satisfies, for any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{F}$ , the conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} (\vee) \quad & v(\alpha \vee \beta) = 1 \text{ iff } v(\alpha) = 1 \text{ or } v(\beta) = 1 \\ (\wedge) \quad & v(\alpha \wedge \beta) = 1 \text{ iff } v(\alpha) = 1 \text{ and } v(\beta) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

<sup>7</sup>If  $n = 0$ , then  $QD^0 = CPC$ . Some other examples of the hierarchies are known in the logical literature. For instance, the hierarchy of  $I^n$ -calculi is proposed in [Sette, Carnielli, 1995] and [Fernández, Coniglio, 2003]. There are also interesting hierarchies in a Newton da Costa-style presentation, *e.g.* da Costa and Marconi's hierarchy of paracomplete calculi  $P_n$ , see [da Costa, Marconi, 1986]; or Arruda-Alves' logic of vagueness, see [Arruda, Alves, 1979] and [Arruda, Alves, 1979].

- $(\rightarrow) v(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)=1$  iff  $v(\alpha)=0$  or  $v(\beta)=1$   
 $(\neg)$  if  $v(\neg\alpha)=1$ , then  $v(\alpha)=0$ ,  
 $(\neg^{n+1})$  if  $v(\neg^{n+1}\alpha)=0$ , then  $v(\neg^n\alpha)=1$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

The definition of  $QD^n$ -tautology (and semantic consequence  $\models_{QD^n}$ ) is analogous to that of *Definition 6*.

**Theorem 4.** For every  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\Gamma \vdash_{QD^n} \alpha$  iff  $\Gamma \models_{QD^n} \alpha$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Proof.** Proceed analogously to the proof of *Theorems 2 and 3*. ■

At the end of this section, we state a few simple facts about the  $QD^n$ -calculi.

**Remark 8.** If  $n > 1$ , then the formula  $p \rightarrow \neg\neg p$  is not provable in  $QD^n$ .

**Proof.** This follows from the completeness of  $QD^n$ -calculi. ■

**Remark 9.** If  $n > 1$ , then

- (1)  $D_{min} \not\sqsubseteq QD^n$
- (2)  $QD^n \not\sqsubseteq D_{min}$ .

**Proof.** (1): Although  $(ExM^{-n})$  is an axiom schema of  $QD^n$ , the formula  $\neg^n p \vee \neg^{n+1} p$  is not provable in  $D_{min}$  (it is enough to apply the semantics and completeness theorem for  $D_{min}$ , cf. [Carnielli, Marcos, 1999], *Proposition 6.2*). (2): This is a consequence of *Remark 8* and the fact that  $(NN^*)$  is an axiom schema of  $D_{min}$ . ■

**Remark 10.** For any  $r, m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $r > m$ , we have  $QD^r \sqsubset QD^m$ .

**Proof.** The proof follows from the completeness of  $QD^n$ -calculi. ■

**Remark 11.** Enriching the set of axiom schemas of any  $QD^n$ -calculus ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) with the formula  $(NN) \neg\neg\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ , results in obtaining the axiom system of *CPC*.

**Proof.** This follows from the fact that the axiom schemas  $(ExM^{-n})$  and  $(NN)$  are equivalent to  $(ExM) \alpha \vee \neg\alpha$  in *CPC*. ■

**Remark 12.** Enriching the set of axiom schemas of any  $QD^n$ -calculus (for  $n > 1$ ) with the formula  $\neg\neg\neg\alpha \rightarrow \neg\alpha$ , results in obtaining the calculus  $QD^1$ .

**Proof.** Notice that (1)  $\neg\neg\neg\alpha \rightarrow \neg\alpha$  is a thesis of  $QD^1$ , and (2)  $\neg\neg\neg p \rightarrow \neg p$  is not provable in any  $QD^n$ -calculus that is weaker than  $QD^1$ . Now it suffices to show that  $(ExM^{-n})$ , where  $n > 1$ , and  $\neg\neg\neg\alpha \rightarrow \neg\alpha$  are equivalent to  $(ExM^{-})$  in  $QD^1$ . ■

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