



## Introduction to Logical Geometry 5. Case Studies and Philosophical Outlook

## Lorenz Demey & Hans Smessaert

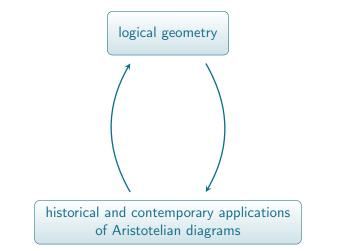
ESSLLI 2018, Sofia

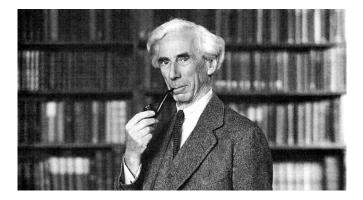


- 1. Basic Concepts and Bitstring Semantics
- 2. Abstract-Logical Properties of Aristotelian Diagrams, Part I Aristotelian, Opposition, Implication and Duality Relations
- 3. Visual-Geometric Properties of Aristotelian Diagrams Informational Equivalence, Symmetry and Distance
- 4. Abstract-Logical Properties of Aristotelian Diagrams, Part II Boolean Structure and Logic-Sensitivity
- 5. Case Studies and Philosophical Outlook

**KU LEL** 

**KU LEUVEN** 





"ever since the beginning of the seventeenth century, almost every serious intellectual advance has had to begin with an attack on some Aristotelian doctrine; in logic, this is still true at the present day"

Introduction to Logical Geometry – Part 5

- definite descriptions in natural language:
  - the president of the United States
  - the man standing over there
  - $\bullet$  the so-and-so
- they can occur in
  - subject position
  - predicate position

e.g. The president was in Hamburg last week. e.g. Donald Trump is currently still the president.

**KU LEL** 

- Russell's quantificational analysis of 'the A is B' $\exists x \Big( Ax \land \forall y (Ay \rightarrow y = x) \land Bx \Big)$
- Neale's restricted quantifier notation

[the x: Ax]Bx

- [the  $x: Ax]Bx \equiv_{\mathsf{FOL}} (EX) \land (UN) \land (UV)$ 
  - (EX)  $\exists x A x$ (UN)  $\forall x \forall y ((Ax \land Ay) \rightarrow x = y)$ (UV)  $\forall x (Ax \rightarrow Bx)$

there exists at least one A there exists at most one A all  $A\mathbf{s}$  are B

6

• much of the subsequent literature on Russell's quantificational theory of definite descriptions has focused on one of these three conditions

- [the  $x: Ax]Bx \equiv_{\mathsf{FOL}} (EX) \land (UN) \land (UV)$ 
  - (EX)  $\exists x A x$ (UN)  $\forall x \forall y ((Ax \land Ay) \rightarrow x = y)$ (UV)  $\forall x (Ax \rightarrow Bx)$

there exists at least one A there exists at most one A all  $A\mathbf{s}$  are B

**KU LEU** 

- much of the subsequent literature on Russell's quantificational theory of definite descriptions has focused on one of these three conditions
- what is the linguistic status of (EX)?
  - Russell: (EX) is part of the **truth conditions** of 'the A is  $B' \Rightarrow$  if (EX) is false, then 'the A is B' is false
  - Strawson: (EX) is a presupposition of 'the A is B'
     ⇒ if (EX) is false, then 'the A is B' does not have a truth value at all

• [the  $x: Ax]Bx \equiv_{\mathsf{FOL}} (EX) \land (UN) \land (UV)$ 

(EX)  $\exists xAx$ (UN)  $\forall x \forall y ((Ax \land Ay) \rightarrow x = y)$ (UV)  $\forall x (Ax \rightarrow Bx)$  there exists at least one A there exists at most one A all  $A\mathbf{s}$  are B

KULE

- much of the subsequent literature on Russell's quantificational theory of definite descriptions has focused on one of these three conditions
- the problem of **incomplete definite descriptions** (for which (UN) fails) e.g. the book is on the shelf  $\Rightarrow$  there is at most one book in the universe
- refinements and alternatives:
  - ellipsis theories (Vendler)
  - quantifier domain restriction theories (Stanley and Szabó)
  - pragmatic theories (Heim, Szabó)

- [the  $x: Ax]Bx \equiv_{\mathsf{FOL}} (EX) \land (UN) \land (UV)$ 
  - (EX)  $\exists xAx$ (UN)  $\forall x \forall y ((Ax \land Ay) \rightarrow x = y)$ (UV)  $\forall x (Ax \rightarrow Bx)$

there exists at least one A there exists at most one A all  $A\mathbf{s}$  are B

**KULEU** 

- much of the subsequent literature on Russell's quantificational theory of definite descriptions has focused on one of these three conditions
- what about non-singular definite descriptions?
  - plurals
    mass nouns
    e.g. The wives of King Henry VIII were pale.
    e.g. The water in the Dead Sea is very salty.
- such descriptions also satisfy a version of (UV) (Sharvy, Brogaard)

## An Aristotelian square for definite descriptions

- Russell: what is the negation of 'the A is B'?
  - law of excluded middle  $\Rightarrow$  'the A is B' is true or 'the A is not B' is true
  - but if there are no As, then both statements seem to be false
- Russell: 'the A is not B' is **ambiguous** (scope)

• 
$$\neg \exists x \Big( Ax \land \forall y (Ay \to y = x) \land Bx \Big)$$
  $\neg [\text{the } x : Ax] Bx$   
•  $\exists x \Big( Ax \land \forall y (Ay \to y = x) \land \neg Bx \Big)$  [the  $x : Ax] \neg Bx$ 

#### • first interpretation:

- Boolean negation of 'the A is B'
- if there are no As, then [the  $x \colon Ax]Bx$  is false,  $\neg$ [the  $x \colon Ax]Bx$  is true
- second interpretation:
  - if there are no As, then [the x: Ax]Bx and [the  $x: Ax]\neg Bx$  are false
  - not the Boolean negation of 'the A is B'

#### Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

**KU LEL** 

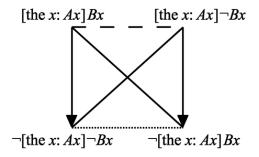
## An Aristotelian square for definite descriptions

- crucial insight: the two interpretations of 'the A is not B' distinguished by Russell stand in different Aristotelian relations to 'the A is B'
  - [the x: Ax]Bx and  $\neg$ [the x: Ax]Bx are FOL-contradictory
  - [the x: Ax]Bx and [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx$  are FOL-contrary
- cf. Haack (1978), Speranza and Horn (2010, 2012), Martin (2016)
- natural move: consider a fourth formula (with two negations)

$$\exists x (Ax \land \forall y (Ay \to y = x) \land Bx)$$
 [the  $x: Ax ]Bx$   
 $\neg \exists x (Ax \land \forall y (Ay \to y = x) \land Bx)$   $\neg [the  $x: Ax]Bx$   
 $\exists x (Ax \land \forall y (Ay \to y = x) \land \neg Bx)$  [the  $x: Ax ]\neg Bx$   
 $\neg \exists x (Ax \land \forall y (Ay \to y = x) \land \neg Bx)$   $\neg [the  $x: Ax ]\neg Bx$$$ 

• in FOL, these four formulas constitute a classical square

**KU LEU** 



- this is an Aristotelian square
- but also a **duality** square

lecture 2

#### **KU LEUVEN**

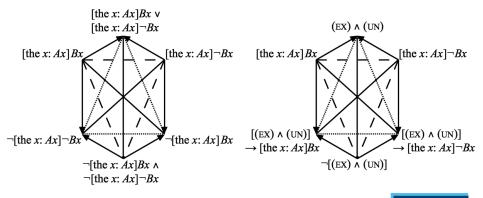
- $\bullet\,$  this square is fully defined in 'ordinary' FOL  $\Rightarrow$  acceptable for Russell
- summarizes Russell's solution to puzzle on law of excluded middle
- interesting new formula:  $\neg$ [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx$ 
  - expresses a weak version of 'the A is B'  $\neg$ [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx \equiv_{FOL} [(EX) \land (UN)] \rightarrow$ [the x: Ax]Bx
    - ▶ if there is exactly one A, [the x: Ax]Bx and ¬[the x: Ax]¬Bx always have the same truth value
    - ▶ in all other cases, [the x: Ax]Bx is always false, whereas ¬[the x: Ax]¬Bx is always true
  - self-predication principles: what is the logical status of 'the A is A'?
    - [the x: Ax]Ax is not a FOL-tautology
    - $\neg$ [the x: Ax] $\neg Ax$  is a FOL-tautology

Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

**KU LEU** 

## Boolean closure of the definite description square

- the Aristotelian square for definite descriptions is not Boolean closed
- its Boolean closure is a JSB hexagon
- $\bullet$  importance of the  $({\rm EX})\text{-}$  and  $({\rm UN})\text{-}conditions$



## Bitstring analysis

- consider the formulas in the definite descripton square/hexagon
- these formulas induce the partition  $\Pi_{TDD}^{FOL}$ :
  - $\alpha_1 := [\text{the } x \colon Ax]Bx$
  - $\alpha_2 := [\text{the } x \colon Ax] \neg Bx$
  - $\alpha_3 := \neg[(\text{ex}) \land (\text{un})]$
- example bitstring representations:

• [the 
$$x: Ax]Bx \equiv_{\mathsf{FOL}} \alpha_1$$

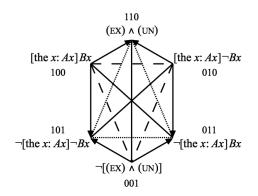
•  $\neg$ [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx \equiv_{FOL} \alpha_1 \lor \alpha_3$ 

 $\rightsquigarrow$  gets represented as 100  $\rightsquigarrow$  gets represented as 101

**KU LEU** 

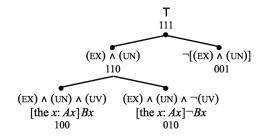
- logical perspective: the Boolean closure of the square/hexagon has  $2^3 2 = 6$  contingent formulas
- conceptual/linguistic perspective: recursive partitioning of logical space

**KU LEUVEN** 



## Linguistic relevance of the bitstring analysis

- view  $\Pi_{TDD}^{FOL}$  as the result of a process of **recursively partitioning and restricting logical space** (Seuren, Jaspers, Roelandt)
  - $\bullet$  divide the logical universe: (EX)  $\wedge$  (UN) vs.  $\neg[(EX) \wedge (UN)]$
  - $\bullet\,$  focus on the logical subuniverse defined by  $(EX)\wedge(UN)$
  - recursively divide this subuniverse: [the x: Ax]Bx vs. [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx$



Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

**KU LEU** 

## Linguistic relevance of the bitstring analysis

- another look at the ambiguity pointed out by Russell
  - 'the A is B' unambiguously corresponds to [the x: Ax]Bx = 100
  - relative to the entire universe, its negation is  $\neg$ [the x: Ax]Bx = 011
  - relative to the subuniverse (110), its negation is [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx = 010$

 $\Rightarrow$  Russell's two interpretations of 'the A is not B' correspond to negations of 'the A is B' **relative to two different universes** (semantic instead of syntactic characterization)

- Seuren and Jaspers's (2014) defeasible Principle of Complement Selection: "Natural complement selection is primarily relative to the proximate subuniverse, but there are overriding factors."
- overriding factors: intonation, additional linguistic material (Horn 1989)
  - the largest prime is not even; in fact, there doesn't exist a largest prime
  - the prime divisor of 30 is not even; in fact, 30 has multiple prime divisors

#### Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

**KULE** 

### recall the four categorical statements from syllogistics:

А	all $A$ s are $B$				
1	some $A$ s are $B$				
Е	no $A$ s are $B$				
$\cap$	some As are not A				

 $\forall x(Ax \rightarrow Bx)$  $\exists x(Ax \land Bx)$  $\forall x(Ax \rightarrow \neg Bx)$ O some As are not  $B = \exists x(Ax \land \neg Bx)$ 

#### already implicit in the definite description formulas

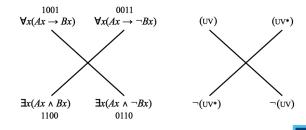
• [the 
$$x: Ax$$
]  $Bx \equiv_{FOL} (EX) \land (UN) \land (UV)$   
•  $\neg$ [the  $x: Ax$ ]  $Bx \equiv_{FOL} \neg (EX) \lor \neg (UN) \lor \neg (UV)$   
• [the  $x: Ax$ ] $\neg Bx \equiv_{FOL} (EX) \land (UN) \land (UV^*)$   
•  $\neg$ [the  $x: Ax$ ] $\neg Bx \equiv_{FOL} \neg (EX) \lor \neg (UN) \lor \neg (UV^*)$   
(UV)  $\equiv_{FOL} \forall x(Ax \rightarrow Bx) = A$   
 $\neg (UV) \equiv_{FOL} \forall x(Ax \land \neg Bx) = O$   
(UV<sup>\*</sup>)  $\equiv_{FOL} \forall x(Ax \rightarrow \neg Bx) = E$   
 $\neg (UV^*) \equiv_{FOL} \exists x(Ax \land Bx) = I$ 

Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

- first-order logic (FOL) has no existential import
- the categorical statements induce the partition  $\Pi_{CAT}^{FOL}$ :

• 
$$\beta_1 := \exists x A x \land \forall x (A x \to B x)$$
  
•  $\beta_2 := \exists x (A x \land B x) \land \exists x (A x \land \neg B x)$   
•  $\beta_3 := \exists x A x \land \forall x (A x \to \neg B x)$   
•  $\beta_4 := \neg \exists x A x$  (recursive partitioning)

## • in FOL, the categorical statements constitute a degenerate square

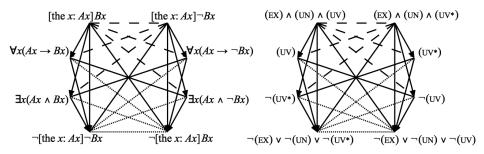


Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

## Definite descriptions and categorical statements

- there is a subalternation from [the x : Ax]Bx to the A-statement
- there is a subalternation from [the x: Ax]Bx to the l-statement
- and so on...
- summary:

the interaction between the definite description formulas and the categorical statements gives rise to a **Buridan octagon** 



Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

## **Bitstring analysis**

- the definite descriptions induce the 3-partition  $\Pi_{TDD}^{\rm FOL}$
- the categorical statements induce the 4-partition  $\Pi_{CAT}^{\rm FOL}$

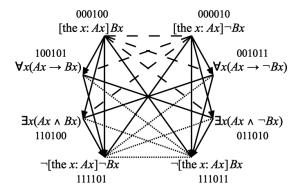
 $\Rightarrow$  together, they induce the 6-partition  $\Pi_{\textit{OCTA}}^{\textit{FOL}} = \Pi_{\textit{TDD}}^{\textit{FOL}} \wedge_{\textit{FOL}} \Pi_{\textit{CAT}}^{\textit{FOL}}$ 

• 
$$\gamma_1 := \exists x \exists y (Ax \land Ay \land x \neq y) \land \forall x (Ax \to Bx)$$
  
•  $\gamma_2 := \exists x (Ax \land Bx) \land \exists x (Ax \land \neg Bx)$   
•  $\gamma_3 := \exists x \exists y (Ax \land Ay \land x \neq y) \land \forall x (Ax \to \neg Bx)$   
•  $\gamma_4 := [\text{the } x : Ax] Bx$   
•  $\gamma_5 := [\text{the } x : Ax] \neg Bx$ 

- $\gamma_6 := \neg \exists x A x$
- $\Pi_{OCTA}^{\text{FOL}}$  is a refinement of  $\Pi_{TDD}^{\text{FOL}}$  $\Rightarrow \gamma_4 = \alpha_1 \text{ and } \gamma_5 = \alpha_2$ , while  $\gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \gamma_3 \lor \gamma_6 \equiv_{\text{FOL}} \alpha_3$
- $\Pi_{OCTA}^{\text{FOL}}$  is a refinement of  $\Pi_{CAT}^{\text{FOL}}$  $\Rightarrow \gamma_2 = \beta_2 \text{ and } \gamma_6 = \beta_4$ , while  $\gamma_1 \lor \gamma_4 \equiv_{\text{FOL}} \beta_1$  and  $\gamma_3 \lor \gamma_5 \equiv_{\text{FOL}} \beta_3$

#### Introduction to Logical Geometry – Part 5

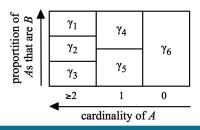
 $\bullet~\Pi_{\textit{OCTA}}^{\rm FOL}$  allows us to encode every formula of the Buridan octagon



Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

## **Bitstring analysis**

- $\bullet~\Pi_{\textit{OCTA}}^{\rm FOL}$  is ordered along two semi-independent dimensions
  - the cardinality of (the extension of)  $\boldsymbol{A}$
  - the **proportion** of As that are B
- **semi**-independent: higher cardinalities allow for more fine-grained proportionality distinctions
- ongoing work on linguistic aspects:
  - plausible partitioning process?
  - split the ' $\geq$  2'-region into ' $\geq$  3'- and '= 2'-subregions ('both', 'neither')



Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

**KU LEU** 

## A related octagon

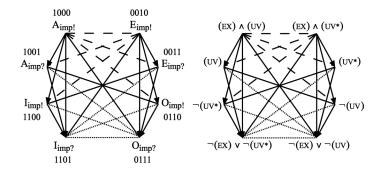
- recent work on existential import in syllogistics (Seuren, **Chatti and Schang**, Read)
- $\bullet$  for every categorical statement  $\varphi,$  define
  - variant  $\varphi_{\rm imp!}$  that explicitly has existential import
  - $\bullet\,$  variant  $\varphi_{\rm imp?}$  that explicitly lacks existential import

#### **KU LEUVEN**

#### Introduction to Logical Geometry – Part 5

 $\exists x A x \land \varphi \\ \exists x A x \to \varphi$ 

- Chatti and Schang's 8 formulas are closely related to our 8 formulas
- Chatti and Schang's 8 formulas also constitute a Buridan octagon
- bitstring analysis: partition  $\{A_{imp!}, I_{imp!} \land O_{imp!}, E_{imp!}, \neg \exists xAx\} = \Pi_{CAT}^{FOL}$





# • Buridan octagon for definite description formulas and categorical statements

- $\bullet\,$  induces the partition  $\Pi_{\textit{OCTA}}^{\textit{FOL}},$  with 6 anchor formulas
- [the x: Ax]  $Bx \not\equiv_{FOL} A \land I$
- $\neg$ [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx \not\equiv_{FOL} A \lor I$

 $(000100 \neq 100101 \land 110100)$  $(111101 \neq 100101 \lor 110100)$ 

- Buridan octagon for categorical statements that explicitly have/lack existential import
  - $\bullet$  induces the partition  $\Pi_{\textit{CAT}}^{\text{FOL}},$  with 4 anchor formulas
  - $A_{imp!} \equiv_{FOL} A_{imp?} \wedge I_{imp!}$  (1000 = 1001  $\wedge$  1100)
  - $I_{imp?} \equiv_{FOL} A_{imp?} \lor I_{imp!}$

 $(1000 = 1001 \land 1100)$  $(1101 = 1001 \land 1100)$ 

- summary:
  - one and the same Aristotelian family (Buridan octagons)
  - different Boolean subtypes

🖙 lecture 4

## **KU LEUVEN**

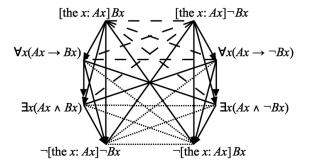
- until now: only worked in ordinary first-order logic (FOL)
- Chatti and Schang: deal with existential import by adding  $(\neg) \exists x A x$  as conjunct/disjunct to the categorical statements
- alternative approach:
  - $\bullet~$  existential import  $\neq$  property of individual~formulas
  - existential import = property of underlying logical system
- introduce new logical system SYL:
  - SYL = FOL +  $\exists xAx$
  - interpreted on FOL-models  $\langle D, I \rangle$  such that  $I(A) \neq \emptyset$
  - analogy with modal logic:
    - $KD = K + \Diamond \top$
    - interpreted on serial frames,

i.e. K-frames  $\langle W, R \rangle$  such that  $R[w] \neq \emptyset$  (for all  $w \in W$ )

- move from FOL to SYL
- influence on the categorical statements:
  - e.g. A and E are unconnected in FOL, but become contrary in SYL, etc.
  - degenerate square turns into classical square
- no influence on the definite description formulas:
  - e.g. [the  $x \colon Ax]Bx$  and [the  $x \colon Ax]\neg Bx$  are contrary in FOL, and remain so in SYL
  - classical square remains classical square
- no influence on the interaction between definite descriptions and categorical statements:
  - e.g. subalternation from [the x: Ax]Bx to A and I in FOL, and this remains so in SYL
- from Buridan octagon to Lenzen octagon



lecture 4



31

**KU LEUVEN** 

## **Bitstring analysis**

- which partition  $\Pi_{OCTA}^{SYL}$  is induced?
  - SYL is a stronger logical system than FOL
  - consider  $\neg \exists x A x = \gamma_6 \in \Pi_{OCTA}^{SYL}$ : FOL-consistent, but SYL-inconsistent
  - $\Pi_{OCTA}^{SYL} = \Pi_{OCTA}^{FOL} \{\gamma_6\}$

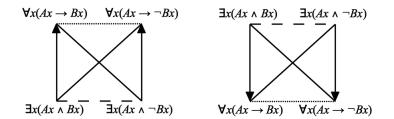
• deleting the sixth bit position  $\Rightarrow$  unified perspective on all changes:

- A (100101) and E (001011) change from unconnected to contrary
- $\bullet\,$  I (110100) and O (011010) change from unconnected to subcontrary
- $\bullet\,$  A (100101) and I (110100) change from unconnected to subaltern
- [the x: Ax]Bx (000100) and [the x: Ax]Bx (000010) are contrary and remain so
- [the x: Ax]Bx (000100) and A (100101) are subaltern and remain so

**KU LEU** 

- $\bullet~(\mathrm{EX})$  and  $(\mathrm{UN})$  play complementary roles in Russell's theory
- introduce new logical system SYL\*
  - SYL\* = FOL +  $\forall x \forall y ((Ax \land Ay) \rightarrow x = y)$
  - $\bullet$  interpreted on FOL-models  $\langle D,I\rangle$  such that  $|I(A)|\leq 1$
- move from FOL to SYL\*
- no influence on the definite description formulas
  - e.g. [the  $x \colon Ax]Bx$  and [the  $x \colon Ax]\neg Bx$  are contrary in FOL, and remain so in SYL
  - classical square remains classical square
- influence on the categorical statements:
  - e.g. A and E are unconnected in FOL, but become subcontrary in SYL
  - degenerate square turns into classical square
  - note: this square is 'flipped upside down'!

**KULEU** 



- $\bullet$  example: take A to be the predicate 'monarch of country C'
- then always  $|I(A)| \leq 1$ 
  - if C is a monarchy, then |I(A)| = 1
  - if C is a republic, then |I(A)| = 0

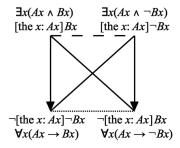
**KU LEU** 

- move from FOL to SYL\*
- influence on the interaction between definite descriptions and categorical statements
  - e.g. [the x: Ax]Bx and the E-statement go from FOL-contrary to SYL\*-contradictory
  - e.g. in FOL there is a subalternation from [the x: Ax]Bx to the I-statement, but in SYL\* they are logically equivalent to each other
- pairwise collapse of def. descr. formulas and categorical statements:

[the $x \colon Ax]Bx$	$\equiv_{SYL^*}$	1	=	$\exists x (Ax \land Bx)$
$\neg$ [the $x$ : $Ax$ ] $Bx$	$\equiv_{SYL^*}$	Е	=	$\forall x (Ax \to \neg Bx)$
[the $x : Ax$ ] $\neg Bx$	$\equiv_{SYL^*}$	0	=	$\exists x (Ax \land \neg Bx)$
$\neg$ [the $x: Ax$ ] $\neg Bx$	$\equiv_{SYL^*}$	А	=	$\forall x (Ax \to Bx)$

• from Buridan octagon to collapsed (flipped) classical square

Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5



**KU LEUVEN** 

# **Bitstring analysis**

• elementary calculation yields the partition  $\Pi_{COLL}^{SYL^*}$ = { $\exists xAx \land \forall x(Ax \to Bx), \exists xAx \land \forall x(Ax \to \neg Bx), \neg \exists xAx$ }

• 
$$\Pi_{COLL}^{SYL^*} = \Pi_{OCTA}^{FOL} - \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3\}$$

- SYL\* is a stronger logical system than FOL
- $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$  are FOL-consistent, but SYL\*-inconsistent
- $\Pi_{COLL}^{SYL^*} = \Pi_{TDD}^{FOL}$ 
  - $\bullet~\Pi_{\textit{TDD}}^{\textit{FOL}}$  is the partition for the def. descr. square in FOL
  - moving from FOL to SYL\* did not change this square
  - but did cause it to coincide with the categorical statement square

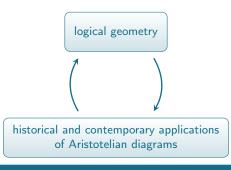
• 
$$\Pi_{COLL}^{SYL^*} = \Pi_{CAT}^{FOL} - \{\beta_2\}$$

- $\Pi_{CAT}^{\rm FOL}$  is the partition for the cat. statement square in FOL
- SYL\* is a stronger than FOL;  $\beta_2$  is FOL-consistent, but SYL\*-inconsistent
- moving from FOL to SYL\* triggered change from degen. square to (flipped) classical square, which coincides with the def. descr. square

#### Introduction to Logical Geometry – Part 5

**KU LEUVEN** 

- Aristotelian diagrams for Russell's theory of definite descriptions
  - classical square, JSB hexagon, Buridan octagon...
  - the formula ¬[the x: Ax]¬Bx and its interpretation, negations of [the x: Ax]Bx relative to different subuniverses...
- phenomena and techniques studied in logical geometry
  - bitstring analysis, Boolean closure...
  - Boolean subtypes, logic-sensitivity...



Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

KUL

- 1. Basic Concepts and Bitstring Semantics
- 2. Abstract-Logical Properties of Aristotelian Diagrams, Part I Aristotelian, Opposition, Implication and Duality Relations
- 3. Visual-Geometric Properties of Aristotelian Diagrams Informational Equivalence, Symmetry and Distance
- 4. Abstract-Logical Properties of Aristotelian Diagrams, Part II Boolean Structure and Logic-Sensitivity
- 5. Case Studies and Philosophical Outlook

**KU LEU** 

- recall the guiding metaphor:
  - Aristotelian diagrams constitute a language
  - logical geometry is the **linguistics** that studies that language
- double motivation for logical geometry:
  - Aristotelian diagrams as objects of independent interest
  - Aristotelian diagrams as a widely-used language
- fundamental question:
  - why are Aristotelian diagrams used so widely to begin with?
  - which reasons do the authors themselves offer for their usage?

(practice-based philosophy of logic)

**KU LEL** 

- the received view: Aristotelian diagrams as **pedagogical devices**
- the multimodal nature of Aristotelian diagrams
- the **implicit normativity** of the tradition of using Aristotelian diagrams
- Aristotelian diagrams as heuristic tools

- these explanations are not mutually exclusive
- Aristotelian diagrams as technologies or instruments
  - a technology can be created with one function in mind
  - and later acquire another function
  - the latter can even become the primary function

**KU LEU** 

- Aristotelian diagrams are mainly pedagogical devices
- visual nature  $\Rightarrow$  **mnemonic** value
- helpful to introduce novice students to the abstract discipline of logic
- Kruja et al., *History of Graph Drawing*, 2002:
   "Squares of opposition were pedagogical tools used in the teaching of logic ... They were designed to facilitate the recall of knowledge that students already had"
- Nicole Oresme, Le livre du ciel et du monde, 1377:

"In order to illustrate this, I clarify it by means of a figure very similar to that used to introduce children to logic."

(Et pour ce mieux entendre, je le desclaire en une figure presque semblable a une que l'en fait pour la premiere introduction des enfans en logique.)

Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

**KULEU** 

#### Scholastic and contemporary textbooks



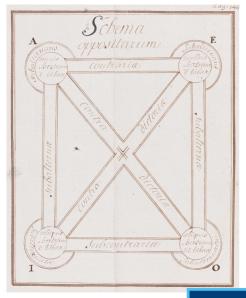
# Joerden Logik im Recht



#### **KU LEUVEN**

### Student notes (Ludovicus Bertram, Leuven, ca. 1781)





#### **KU LEUVEN**

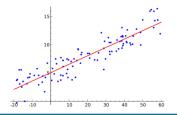
### Problem

- the received view was accurate in the past: Aristotelian diagrams indeed were primarily/exclusively teaching tools
- but today, Aristotelian diagrams occur
  - not only in textbooks on logic
  - but mainly in **research-level** papers/monographs on **various disciplines** (logic, linguistics, psychology, computer science, etc.)

**KU LEU** 

# The multimodal nature of Aristotelian diagrams

- Aristotelian diagrams offer cognitive advantages, because of their **multimodal** nature (visual + symbolic/textual)
- Aristotelian diagrams as a **visual summary** of some of the key properties of the logical system under investigation
- analogy: graph vs. raw numeric data
- comparison with the received view:
  - both emphasize the cognitive advantages of Aristotelian diagrams
  - the second view accommodates teaching and research contexts



# 47

**KU LEU** 

### • Béziau, 2013:

"The use of such a coloured diagram is very useful to understand in a direct, quick and synthetic way basic notions of modern logic, corresponding to the notion of Übersichtlichkeit [surveyability] that Wittgenstein was fond of"

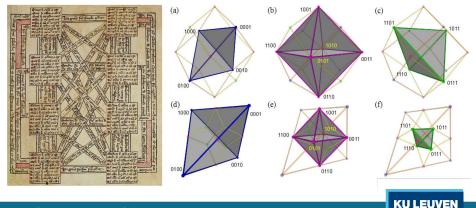
### • Ciucci, Dubois & Prade, 2015:

"Opposition structures are a powerful tool to express all properties of rough sets and fuzzy rough sets w.r.t. negation in a synthetic way."

• Eilenberg & Steenrod, 1952 (commutative diagrams in alg. topology): "The diagrams incorporate a large amount of information. Their use provides extensive savings in space and in mental effort."

### Problem

- the second view fits well with **visually 'simple'** diagrams such as the square of opposition
- but what about more visually complex diagrams?



- Aristotelian diagrams have a **very rich and respectable tradition** within the broader history of logic: many famous authors made use of these diagrams
- the tradition of using Aristotelian diagrams gets endowed with a kind of (implicit) normativity (tradition itself as object of reverence)
- Banerjee et al., 2018:

"many artificial intelligence knowledge representation settings are sharing the same structures of opposition that extend or generalise the traditional square of opposition which dates back to Aristotle"

• Ciucci, 2016:

"The study of oppositions starts in ancient Greece and has its main result in the Square of Opposition by Aristotle. In the last years, we can assist to a renewal of interest in this topic."

### Problem

- this provides a (partial) explanation as to why we **continue** to use Aristotelian diagrams
- it takes the tradition of using Aristotelian diagrams as its starting point
- but how/why did this tradition start in the first place?



- Aristotelian diagrams as heuristic tools
- they enable researchers
  - to draw high-level analogies between seemingly unrelated frameworks
  - to introduce **new concepts** (by transferring them across frameworks)
- Aristotelian relations = 'right' layer of abstraction
  - not overly specific (otherwise, no analogies are possible)
  - not overly general (otherwise, the analogies become vacuous)

**KULEU** 

• Ciucci et al., 2014:

The Structure of Oppositions in Rough Set Theory and Formal Concept Analysis - Toward a New Bridge between the Two Settings

• Dubois et al., 2015:

The Cube of Opposition - A Structure underlying many Knowledge Representation Formalisms

• Read, 2012:

"Buridan was able [...] to exhibit a strong analogy between modal, oblique and nonnormal propositions in his three octagons"

**KULE** 

- think back of  $\neg$ [the x: Ax] $\neg Bx$  from the case study
- Yao, 2013:

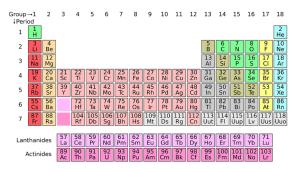
"With respect to the four logic expressions of the square of opposition, we can identify four subsets of attributes. [...] While the set of core attributes is well studied, the other [three] sets of attributes received much less attention."

**KU LEUV** 



### typology

- discover systematic regularities in logical behavior
- extrapolate new diagrams and predict their behavior



#### Introduction to Logical Geometry – Part 5

**KU LEUVEN** 

### typology

- discover systematic regularities in logical behavior
- extrapolate new diagrams and predict their behavior

### database

- help to avoid idle armchair theorizing
- discover new types of logical behavior





## typology

- discover systematic regularities in logical behavior
- extrapolate new diagrams and predict their behavior

#### database

- help to avoid idle armchair theorizing
- discover new types of logical behavior



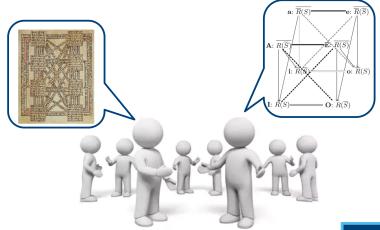
### interplay

- Aristotelian diagrams as heuristic devices
- unexpected analogies
- introducing new concepts



### **KU LEUVEN**

- Aristotelian diagrams as objects of independent interest
- Aristotelian diagrams as a widely-used language



#### Introduction to Logical Geometry - Part 5

#### **KU LEUVEN**

# Thank you! Questions?

More info: www.logicalgeometry.org

**KU LEUVEN**