

Constructive Quantum Logics

Guillaume Massas

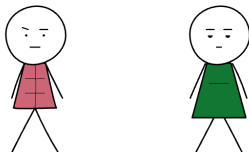
Chapman University

TACL 2026, Kraków, July 31, 2026

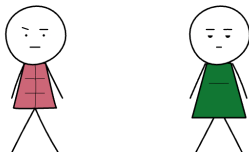
- This talk is **not** not based on the abstract I submitted.

- This talk is **not** not based on the abstract I submitted.
- This talk is based on some joint work with **Wes Holliday**, and on some joint work with **Juan P. Aguilera**.

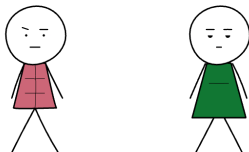
- This talk is **not** not based on the abstract I submitted.
- This talk is based on some joint work with **Wes Holliday**, and on some joint work with **Juan P. Aguilera**. It is not based on some joint work with Wes Holliday and Juan P. Aguilera.



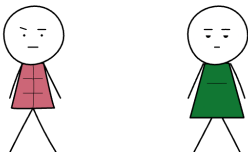
- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:



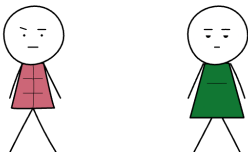
- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:
 - Your friend **Abelard Troelstra**, a strict **constructive mathematician**;



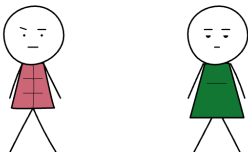
- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:
 - Your friend **Abelard Troelstra**, a strict **constructive mathematician**;
 - Your friend **Heloise Putnam**, who thinks the world only obeys the laws of **quantum logic**.



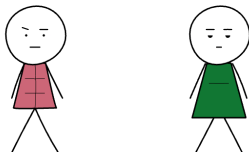
- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:
 - Your friend **Abelard Troelstra**, a strict **constructive mathematician**;
 - Your friend **Heloise Putnam**, who thinks the world only obeys the laws of **quantum logic**.
- What **principles of reasoning** can **A. Troelstra** and **H. Putnam** agree on?



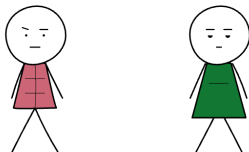
- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:
 - Your friend **Abelard Troelstra**, a strict **constructive mathematician**;
 - Your friend **Heloise Putnam**, who thinks the world only obeys the laws of **quantum logic**.
- What **principles of reasoning** can **A. Troelstra** and **H. Putnam** agree on?
- **Option 1**: Let them talk to one another



- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:
 - Your friend **Abelard Troelstra**, a strict **constructive mathematician**;
 - Your friend **Heloise Putnam**, who thinks the world only obeys the laws of **quantum logic**.
- What **principles of reasoning** can **A. Troelstra** and **H. Putnam** agree on?
- **Option 1**: Let them talk to one another $\Rightarrow$ **fundamental logic** (Holliday 2023, Holliday and M. 2026)



- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:
 - Your friend **Abelard Troelstra**, a strict **constructive mathematician**;
 - Your friend **Heloise Putnam**, who thinks the world only obeys the laws of **quantum logic**.
- What **principles of reasoning** can **A. Troelstra** and **H. Putnam** agree on?
- **Option 1**: Let them talk to one another $\Rightarrow$ **fundamental logic** (Holliday 2023, Holliday and M. 2026)
- **Option 2**: Ask them independently what reasoning principles they accept



- Suppose that you are a **classical logician** with two peculiar friends:
 - Your friend **Abelard Troelstra**, a strict **constructive mathematician**;
 - Your friend **Heloise Putnam**, who thinks the world only obeys the laws of **quantum logic**.
- What **principles of reasoning** can **A. Troelstra** and **H. Putnam** agree on?
- **Option 1**: Let them talk to one another $\Rightarrow$ **fundamental logic** (Holliday 2023, Holliday and M. 2026)
- **Option 2**: Ask them independently what reasoning principles they accept $\Rightarrow$ **Ex logic** (Aguilera and M. 2026)

- Intuitively, their common logic must generalize both intuitionistic logic (IPC) and orthologic (OL), the “minimal” quantum logic.

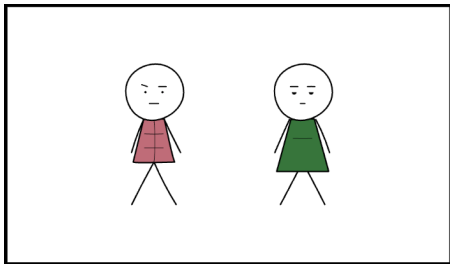
- Intuitively, their common logic must generalize both intuitionistic logic (IPC) and orthologic (OL), the “minimal” quantum logic.
- But there is a mismatch between the signatures of the two logics: IPC has a conditional (the Heyting implication), and OL only has the connectives $\wedge$, $\vee$ and $\neg$.

- Intuitively, their common logic must generalize both **intuitionistic logic (IPC)** and **orthologic (OL)**, the “minimal” quantum logic.
- But there is a **mismatch** between the signatures of the two logics: **IPC** has a conditional (the **Heyting implication**), and **OL** only has the connectives $\wedge$, $\vee$ and $\neg$.
- **Simple solution**: work in the **smallest common language** $\{\wedge, \vee, \neg\}$, and define a consequence relation that generalizes both **OL** and **IPC⁻**, the $\rightarrow$ -free fragment of **IPC**.

- Intuitively, their common logic must generalize both **intuitionistic logic (IPC)** and **orthologic (OL)**, the “minimal” quantum logic.
- But there is a **mismatch** between the signatures of the two logics: **IPC** has a conditional (the **Heyting implication**), and **OL** only has the connectives $\wedge$, $\vee$ and $\neg$.
- **Simple solution**: work in the **smallest common language** $\{\wedge, \vee, \neg\}$, and define a consequence relation that generalizes both **OL** and **IPC⁻**, the $\rightarrow$ -free fragment of **IPC**.
- **Less simple solution**: work in orthomodular logic, where reasonably nice conditionals can be defined, and work in the language $\{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow\}$, with $\neg\varphi$ defined as $\varphi \rightarrow \perp$.

- Intuitively, their common logic must generalize both **intuitionistic logic (IPC)** and **orthologic (OL)**, the “minimal” quantum logic.
- But there is a **mismatch** between the signatures of the two logics: **IPC** has a conditional (the **Heyting implication**), and **OL** only has the connectives $\wedge$, $\vee$ and $\neg$.
- **Simple solution**: work in the **smallest common language** $\{\wedge, \vee, \neg\}$, and define a consequence relation that generalizes both **OL** and **IPC⁻**, the $\rightarrow$ -free fragment of **IPC**.
- **Less simple solution**: work in orthomodular logic, where reasonably nice conditionals can be defined, and work in the language $\{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow\}$, with $\neg\varphi$ defined as $\varphi \rightarrow \perp$.
- One more caveat: Because we do not always have implications, we think of a logic as a **binary consequence relation** on the set of formulas, not as a set of theorems.

Fundamental Logic

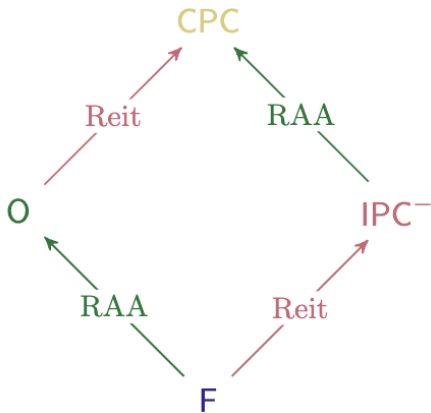


- Holliday (2023) introduces **fundamental logic** as a logic generalizing both **OL** and **IPC⁻**.

- Holliday (2023) introduces **fundamental logic** as a logic generalizing both **OL** and **IPC⁻**.
- Fundamental logic is the logic of **fundamental lattices**, bounded lattices L equipped with a unary operation $\neg : L \rightarrow L$ satisfying:
 - $a \leq \neg b$ implies $b \leq \neg a$ (**dual self-adjointness**);
 - $a \wedge \neg a \leq 0$ (**non-contradiction**).

- Holliday (2023) introduces **fundamental logic** as a logic generalizing both **OL** and **IPC⁻**.
- Fundamental logic is the logic of **fundamental lattices**, bounded lattices L equipped with a unary operation $\neg : L \rightarrow L$ satisfying:
 - $a \leq \neg b$ implies $b \leq \neg a$ (**dual self-adjointness**);
 - $a \wedge \neg a \leq 0$ (**non-contradiction**).
- It is also the logic determined by the intersection of the set of **inference rules** valid in **IPC⁻** and the set of those valid in **OL** in **Fitch's natural deduction** system.

The 'Fundamental Diamond'



- Modal translations are a powerful way of comparing logics:

- Modal translations are a powerful way of comparing logics:
- A classical logician can understand intuitionistic logic via the Gödel-McKinsey-Tarski translation, which fully and faithfully embeds IPC into S4 (the modal logic of reflexive and transitive frames).

- Modal translations are a powerful way of comparing logics:
- A classical logician can understand intuitionistic logic via the Gödel-McKinsey-Tarski translation, which fully and faithfully embeds IPC into S4 (the modal logic of reflexive and transitive frames).
- She can also understand orthologic via the Goldblatt translation, which fully and faithfully embeds OL into KTB (the modal logic of reflexive and symmetric frames).

- Modal translations are a powerful way of comparing logics:
- A classical logician can understand intuitionistic logic via the Gödel-McKinsey-Tarski translation, which fully and faithfully embeds IPC into S4 (the modal logic of reflexive and transitive frames).
- She can also understand orthologic via the Goldblatt translation, which fully and faithfully embeds OL into KTB (the modal logic of reflexive and symmetric frames).
- Motivating idea: use non-classical modal logics to understand the relationship between fundamental logic, constructive reasoning “from the viewpoint of” the quantum logician, and quantum reasoning “from the viewpoint of” the constructive logician.

- Heloise can try to understand Abelard by considering the orthomodal logic of reflexive and transitive frames $OS4$, and the preimage of the GMT translation;
- Abelard can try to understand Heloise by considering the intuitionistic modal logic of reflexive and symmetric frames $FSTB$, and the preimage of the Goldblatt translation.

- **Heloise** can try to understand **Abelard** by considering the orthomodal logic of reflexive and transitive frames **OS4**, and the preimage of the GMT translation;
- **Abelard** can try to understand **Heloise** by considering the intuitionistic modal logic of reflexive and symmetric frames **FSTB**, and the preimage of the Goldblatt translation.

Theorem (Holliday and M., 2026)

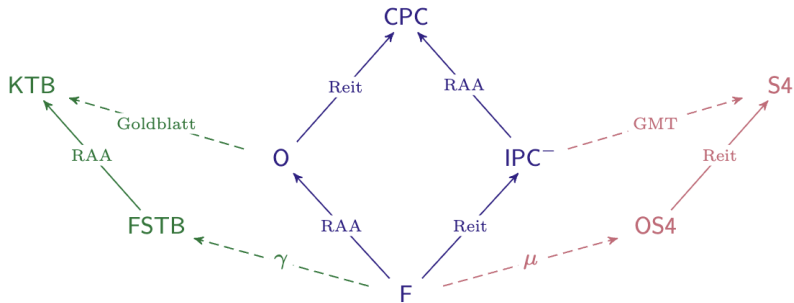
- 1 *The restriction μ of the GMT translation to the language of IPC^- fully and faithfully embeds F into OS4;*
- 2 *The Goldblatt translation fully and faithfully embeds F into FSTB.*

- Heloise can try to understand Abelard by considering the orthomodal logic of reflexive and transitive frames OS4, and the preimage of the GMT translation;
- Abelard can try to understand Heloise by considering the intuitionistic modal logic of reflexive and symmetric frames FSTB, and the preimage of the Goldblatt translation.

Theorem (Holliday and M., 2026)

- 1 The restriction μ of the GMT translation to the language of IPC^- fully and faithfully embeds F into OS4;
 - 2 The Goldblatt translation fully and faithfully embeds F into FSTB.
- An extension of this result to the language $\{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow\}$ was recently obtained by Zhicheng Chen, *Fundamental Propositional Logic with Preconditional* (2026).

The 'Fundamental Lotus'



- Holliday (2023) showed that the double negation translation is an embedding of orthologic into fundamental logic.

- Holliday (2023) showed that the double negation translation is an embedding of orthologic into fundamental logic.
- A natural question: Can the fundamental logician also interpret intuitionistic logic in a natural fundamental modal logic?

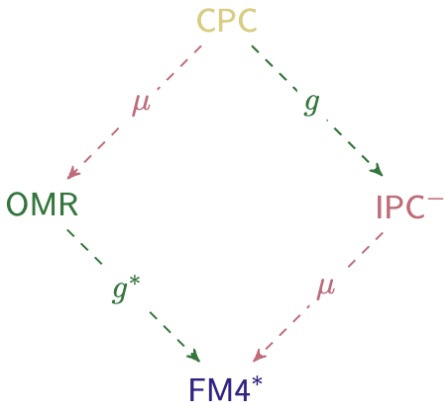
- Holliday (2023) showed that the double negation translation is an embedding of orthologic into fundamental logic.
- A natural question: Can the fundamental logician also interpret intuitionistic logic in a natural fundamental modal logic?

Theorem (Holliday and M., 2026)

There exists a fundamental logic FM4^ and an orthomodal logic OMR such that:*

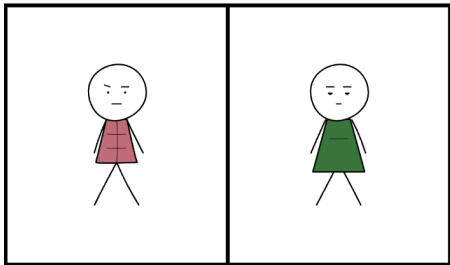
- *The GMT translation μ embeds IPC^- into FM4^* ;*
- *The GMT translation μ embeds CPC into OMR ;*
- *A natural modal extension of the double negation translation g embeds OMR into FM4^* .*

The 'Reverse Fundamental Diamond'



- More on this: Holliday and M., *Fundamental Logic through the Lens of Modality*, preprint.

Ex Logic



Question: Is $\neg\neg a \wedge \neg\neg b \leq \neg\neg(a \wedge b)$ a valid principle?

Question: Is $\neg\neg a \wedge \neg\neg b \leq \neg\neg(a \wedge b)$ a valid principle?

- **Abelard:** Of course! This follows from the **Pseudo-Complementation Law**:

$$a \wedge b \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow a \leq \neg b.$$

Question: Is $\neg\neg a \wedge \neg\neg b \leq \neg\neg(a \wedge b)$ a valid principle?

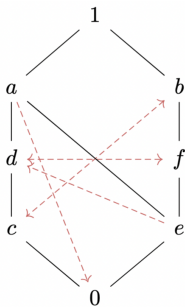
- **Abelard:** Of course! This follows from the **Pseudo-Complementation Law**:

$$a \wedge b \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow a \leq \neg b.$$

- **Heloise:** Of course! This is a direct consequence of $\neg$ being an **involution**:

$$\neg\neg a = a.$$

- Fact: $\neg\neg a \wedge \neg\neg b \leq \neg\neg(a \wedge b)$ is not valid in **fundamental logic**.



Question: Is $\neg\neg a \wedge b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq a \vee (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d)$ a valid principle?

Question: Is $\neg\neg a \wedge b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq a \vee (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d)$ a valid principle?

- **Abelard:** Of course! This follows from the following **Distributive Law**:

$$b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d).$$

Question: Is $\neg\neg a \wedge b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq a \vee (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d)$ a valid principle?

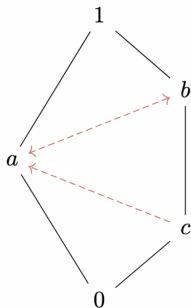
- **Abelard:** Of course! This follows from the following **Distributive Law**:

$$b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d).$$

- **Heloise:** Of course! This is, again, a direct consequence of $\neg$ being an **involution**:

$$\neg\neg a = a.$$

- Fact: $\neg\neg a \wedge b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq a \vee (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d)$ is not valid in fundamental logic.



- Fundamental logic is a **strict sublogic** of $\text{IPC}^- \cap \text{OL}$.
- Is there a **reasonable axiomatization** of that logic?

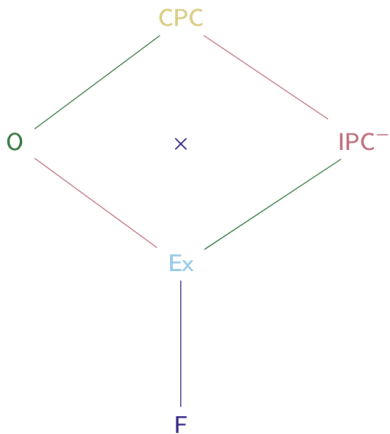
- Fundamental logic is a **strict sublogic** of $\text{IPC}^- \cap \text{OL}$.
- Is there a **reasonable axiomatization** of that logic?

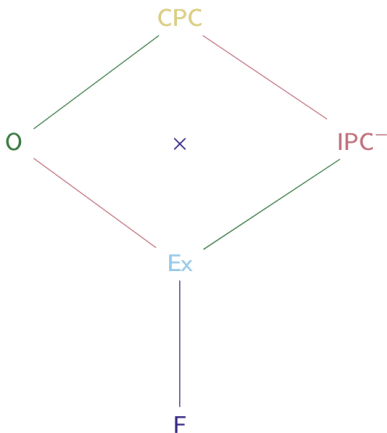
Theorem (Aguilera and M., 2026)

The intersection of IPC^- and OL is axiomatized by adding a single, 6-variable axiom (Ex) to fundamental logic.

Moreover, the lattice of extensions of Ex is isomorphic to the product of the lattice of extensions of IPC^- and the lattice of extensions of OL .

The 'Fundamental Kite'





- More on this: Aguilera and M., *Constructive Quantum Logics*, Proc. of the Roy. Soc. A, 2026.

- There is no (interesting) way of adding a conditional to orthologic that satisfies the Residuation Law:

$$a \wedge b \leq c \Leftrightarrow a \leq b \rightarrow c.$$

- There is no (interesting) way of adding a conditional to orthologic that satisfies the Residuation Law:

$$a \wedge b \leq c \Leftrightarrow a \leq b \rightarrow c.$$

- A prominent notion of a conditional in quantum logic is given by the Sasaki hook:

$$a \rightarrow b := \neg a \vee (a \wedge b).$$

- There is no (interesting) way of adding a conditional to orthologic that satisfies the Residuation Law:

$$a \wedge b \leq c \Leftrightarrow a \leq b \rightarrow c.$$

- A prominent notion of a conditional in quantum logic is given by the Sasaki hook:

$$a \rightarrow b := \neg a \vee (a \wedge b).$$

- Requiring the Sasaki hook to satisfy modus ponens is equivalent to working in a well-known quantum logic called orthomodular logic (OML).

- There is no (interesting) way of adding a conditional to orthologic that satisfies the Residuation Law:

$$a \wedge b \leq c \Leftrightarrow a \leq b \rightarrow c.$$

- A prominent notion of a conditional in quantum logic is given by the Sasaki hook:

$$a \rightarrow b := \neg a \vee (a \wedge b).$$

- Requiring the Sasaki hook to satisfy modus ponens is equivalent to working in a well-known quantum logic called orthomodular logic (OML).
- So the question becomes: what is the intersection of IPC and OML?

- Algebraically, the intersection of IPC and OML is the logic of the join variety $\mathbb{V}$ of the variety HA of Heyting algebras and the variety OMA of orthomodular algebras (orthomodular lattices with the Sasaki implication in the signature).

- Algebraically, the intersection of **IPC** and **OML** is the logic of the **join variety** $\mathbb{V}$ of the variety **HA** of Heyting algebras and the variety **OMA** of orthomodular algebras (orthomodular lattices with the Sasaki implication in the signature).
- By Birkhoff's Variety Theorem, algebras in $\mathbb{V}$ are (homomorphic images of) subalgebras of products of Heyting algebras and orthomodular algebras.

- Algebraically, the intersection of IPC and OML is the logic of the join variety $\mathbb{V}$ of the variety HA of Heyting algebras and the variety OMA of orthomodular algebras (orthomodular lattices with the Sasaki implication in the signature).
- By Birkhoff's Variety Theorem, algebras in $\mathbb{V}$ are (homomorphic images of) subalgebras of products of Heyting algebras and orthomodular algebras.
- **Key Idea:** find some inequations to impose on a fundamental lattice L so that:

- Algebraically, the intersection of **IPC** and **OML** is the logic of the **join variety** $\mathbb{V}$ of the variety **HA** of Heyting algebras and the variety **OMA** of orthomodular algebras (orthomodular lattices with the Sasaki implication in the signature).
- By Birkhoff's Variety Theorem, algebras in $\mathbb{V}$ are (homomorphic images of) subalgebras of products of Heyting algebras and orthomodular algebras.
- **Key Idea:** find some inequations to impose on a fundamental lattice L so that:
 - ① the Heyting implication and the Sasaki implication both satisfy these inequations;

- Algebraically, the intersection of IPC and OML is the logic of the join variety $\mathbb{V}$ of the variety HA of Heyting algebras and the variety OMA of orthomodular algebras (orthomodular lattices with the Sasaki implication in the signature).
- By Birkhoff's Variety Theorem, algebras in $\mathbb{V}$ are (homomorphic images of) subalgebras of products of Heyting algebras and orthomodular algebras.
- **Key Idea:** find some inequations to impose on a fundamental lattice L so that:
 - ① the Heyting implication and the Sasaki implication both satisfy these inequations;
 - ② the inequations guarantee that L can be embedded into the product of a HA and an OMA.

An **Ex-algebra** is a bounded lattice L equipped with a binary operation $\rightarrow$ such that:

- The operation $\neg : L \rightarrow L$ given by $\neg a = a \rightarrow 0$ is a **fundamental negation** on L ;
- $(L, \rightarrow)$ satisfies the following inequations:

An **Ex-algebra** is a bounded lattice L equipped with a binary operation $\rightarrow$ such that:

- The operation $\neg : L \rightarrow L$ given by $\neg a = a \rightarrow 0$ is a **fundamental negation** on L ;
- $(L, \rightarrow)$ satisfies the following inequations:

$$(M) \quad 1 \leq (a \wedge b) \rightarrow b;$$

$$(MP) \quad a \wedge (a \rightarrow b) = a \wedge b;$$

$$(nS) \quad \neg(a \rightarrow b) = \neg(\neg a \vee (a \wedge b));$$

An **Ex-algebra** is a bounded lattice L equipped with a binary operation $\rightarrow$ such that:

- The operation $\neg : L \rightarrow L$ given by $\neg a = a \rightarrow 0$ is a **fundamental negation** on L ;
- $(L, \rightarrow)$ satisfies the following inequations:

$$(M) \quad 1 \leq (a \wedge b) \rightarrow b;$$

$$(MP) \quad a \wedge (a \rightarrow b) = a \wedge b;$$

$$(nS) \quad \neg(a \rightarrow b) = \neg(\neg a \vee (a \wedge b));$$

$$(Nu) \quad \neg\neg a \wedge \neg\neg b \leq \neg\neg(a \wedge b)$$

$$(Vi) \quad \neg\neg a \wedge b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq a \vee (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d)$$

An **Ex-algebra** is a bounded lattice L equipped with a binary operation $\rightarrow$ such that:

- The operation $\neg : L \rightarrow L$ given by $\neg a = a \rightarrow 0$ is a **fundamental negation** on L ;
- $(L, \rightarrow)$ satisfies the following inequations:

$$(M) \quad 1 \leq (a \wedge b) \rightarrow b;$$

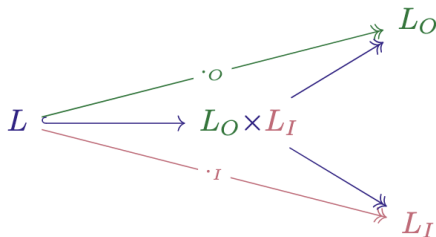
$$(MP) \quad a \wedge (a \rightarrow b) = a \wedge b;$$

$$(nS) \quad \neg(a \rightarrow b) = \neg(\neg a \vee (a \wedge b));$$

$$(Nu) \quad \neg\neg a \wedge \neg\neg b \leq \neg\neg(a \wedge b)$$

$$(Vi) \quad \neg\neg a \wedge b \wedge (c \vee d) \leq a \vee (b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d)$$

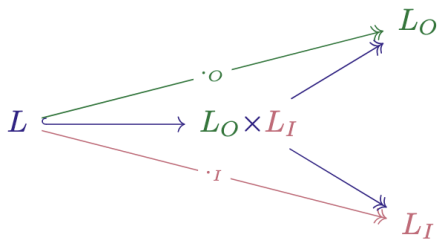
$$(iCI) \quad [(a \wedge ((b \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge d))) \rightarrow g] \wedge a \leq [(b \wedge (c \vee d)) \vee ((b \wedge (c \vee d)) \rightarrow g)].$$



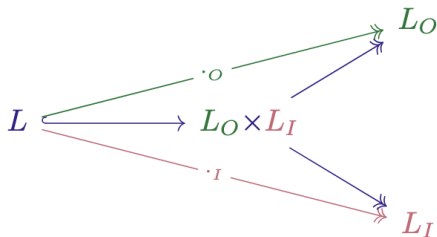
Theorem (iEx-Embedding Theorem)

Let L be a fundamental algebra. Then L is the *subdirect product* of an *orthomodular algebra* O_L and a *Heyting algebra* I_L .

The iEx-Embedding Theorem

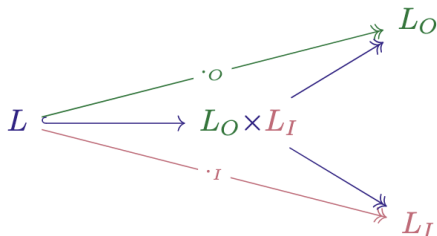


The iEx-Embedding Theorem



- The **orthomodular algebra** L_O is obtained by taking the quotient of L modulo the equivalence relation

$$a \sim b \Leftrightarrow \neg a = \neg b;$$



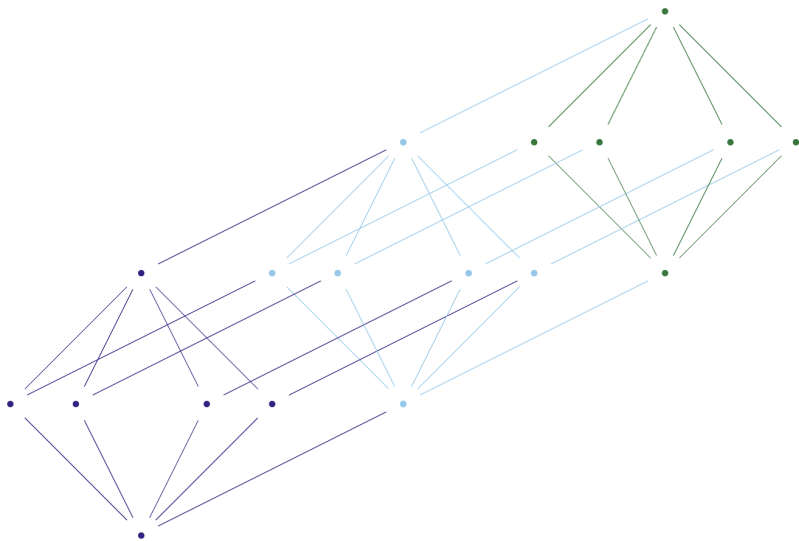
- The **orthomodular algebra** L_O is obtained by taking the quotient of L modulo the equivalence relation

$$a \sim b \Leftrightarrow \neg a = \neg b;$$

- The **Heyting algebra** L_I is the subalgebra of the **downsets** of $(P_L, \supseteq)$ (the poset of prime filters on L , ordered by converse inclusion) generated by sets of the form:

$$\hat{a} = \{p \in P_L \mid a \in p\}.$$

“Minimal” Non-Trivial Example of an Ex-Algebra



- Corollary: Ex-algebras are precisely the fundamental algebras in the join variety of **HA** and **OMA**.

- Corollary: Ex-algebras are precisely the fundamental algebras in the join variety of HA and OMA.
- This immediately gives that iEx, the logic of Ex-algebras, is exactly $\text{IPC} \cap \text{OML}$.

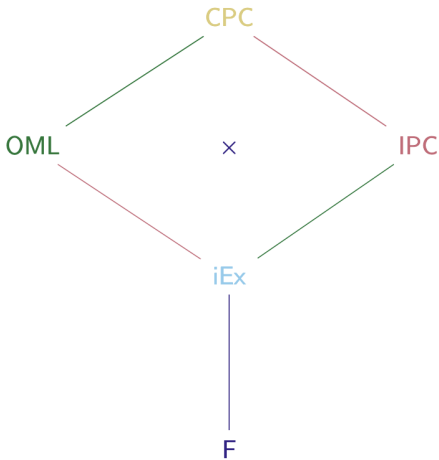
- Corollary: Ex-algebras are precisely the fundamental algebras in the join variety of HA and OMA.
- This immediately gives that iEx, the logic of Ex-algebras, is exactly $\text{IPC} \cap \text{OML}$.
- From iEx, one can recover IPC by adding the axiom $a \leq b \rightarrow a$, and OML by adding $\neg\neg a \leq a$.

- Corollary: Ex-algebras are precisely the fundamental algebras in the join variety of HA and OMA.
- This immediately gives that iEx, the logic of Ex-algebras, is exactly IPC $\cap$ OML.
- From iEx, one can recover IPC by adding the axiom $a \leq b \rightarrow a$, and OML by adding $\neg\neg a \leq a$.
- In the $\{\wedge, \vee, \neg\}$ fragment, the axiomatization simplifies to the Ex axiom, and recovers $\text{IPC}^- \cap \text{OL}$.

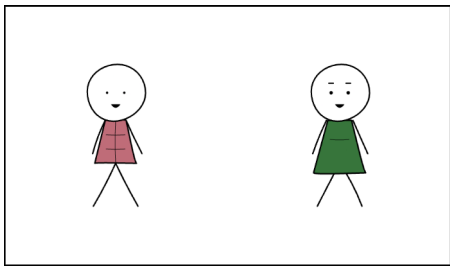
- In fact, the method is much more **general**: for any **superintuitionistic logic** L_I and any **superorthomodular logic** L_O , one can axiomatize in a straightforward way the logic $L_I \cap L_O$.

Theorem

Let iSI be the lattice of **superintuitionistic logics**, iSO the lattice of **superorthomodular logics**, and iSE the lattice of **implicative constructive quantum logics** (i.e., **extensions of iEx**). Then $iSE \simeq iSO \times iSI$.



- More on this: Aguilera and M., *Conditionals and Modalities in Constructive Quantum Logics*, Advances in Modal Logic, Vol.16.



Thank You!