

# TRANSCENDENTAL SYNTAX

**JEAN-YVES GIRARD**

The reconciliation of the *mathematical* and  
*philosophical* sides of logic thanks to *informatics*.

# 1 — EPICYCLES, A.K.A. THE REALIST PREJUDICE

- XX<sup>th</sup> century logic begins *after* incompleteness.  
**Herbrand:** synthetic *a posteriori*, a.k.a. *usine*.  
**BHK:** synthetic *a priori*, a.k.a. *usage*.  
**Gentzen:** relation *usine/usage* through *cut-elimination*.
- XIX<sup>th</sup> century, up to  $\sim 1925$ : axiomatic and semantic.  
**Hilbert:** *militarism* (axiomatics). *A priori*  $\rightsquigarrow$  consistency.  
**Russell:** *religion* (of reality). Semantics, a.k.a. *prejudice*.
- **Realism:** cognitive simplicism, yields monsters.  
**Epicycles:** fantasmatic reality backing *geocentric* prejudice.
- Realism expressed by *classical* reduction to *true/false*.  
**Loss** of propositional expressivity.  
**Compensation:** fantasmatic first-order individuals.  
**Symptom:** no logical handling of *equality* (next talk).

	<b>Analytic</b>	<b>Synthetic</b>
<b>Explicit</b>	<b>Constat</b>	<b>Usine</b>
<b>Implicit</b>	<b>Performance</b>	<b>Usage</b>

# I — WHAT IS AN ANSWER?

Keywords: `analytic, untyped, computational.`

## 2 — ANALYTICITY : CONSTAT VS. PERFORMANCE

- Cognition *without* presupposition: everything on the table.  
**Including table:** finite (no etc.), no link to external « *reality* ».  
**Verbatim:** the style of cowards, *meaningless*.
- Key  $\downarrow$  either *constative*: adds new line, *incremental*. Or:  
**Performative:** launches program, *destructive*.
- *Pure* lambda-calculus approximates analyticity.  
**Strong normalisation** relates constat and performance.  
**Undecidability:** performance  $\neq$  constat ; no *pravdameter*.  
**Church-Rosser** relates performance and usage.
- *External* performance replaced with *self-performance*:  
**Plugging** of wires of complementary colours.  
**Unification:** wires split into *implicit* subwires.  
**Resolution:** clause  $\Gamma \vdash A$  becomes  $\{\gamma, a\}$ .

### 3 — STARS AND CONSTELLATIONS

- **Star:**  $n \neq 0$  terms (*rays*) with exactly the same variables.  
**Disjoint:** rays pairwise not *matchable*.  
**Substitution:**  $[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]\theta := [[t_1\theta, \dots, t_n\theta]]$  still a star.
- **Constellation:** finite set of stars.  
**Bound** variables, i.e., local to each star.  
**Rays** of the (stars of the) constellation pairwise disjoint.
- **Colours:** just a convenience, unary function letters.  
**Disjoint:** come by *complementary* pairs.  
**Pairs:** green/magenta, red/cyan, blue/yellow.
- Colours responsible for divide *constat/performance*.  
**Constative** constellation: in black (no colour).  
**Performance:** elimination of colour, normalisation.  
**Gol:** analytic substrate of synthetic *cut-elimination*.

## 4 — STRONG NORMALISATION

- **Diagrams** of constellation: *tree* (connected/acyclic graph).  
**Vertices:** stars (with repetitions). Infinitely many diagrams.  
**Edges:** formal equalities  $t = u, t = u, t = u$ .
- **Actualisation** of a diagram:  
**Match** underlying terms:  $t = u$  becomes  $t\theta = u\theta$ .  
**Failure** of most actualisations; diagram *correct* otherwise.
- **Strong normalisation:** knitting constat/performance.  
**1–Finiteness:** all diagrams of size  $N$ , hence  $\geq N$  fail.  
**Excludes**  $[[x, x]]$ . **Undecidability:** no way to predict  $N$ .  
**2–Openness:** no *closed* correct diagram (with no *free* ray).
- **Residual** star of correct diagram: its actualised *free* rays.  
**Normal form:** constellation of *uncoloured* residual stars.  
**Church-Rosser:** two pairs of complementary colours.

## 5 — NON-DETERMINISM

- *Non-determinism* in constellations allows matching rays.  
**Resolution:** stars  $\Gamma \vdash A$  or  $\Gamma \vdash A$ : a fine mess (**PROLOG**).  
 *$\pi$ -calculi* : parallel  $\lambda$ -calculus or cheap linear logic?
- *Matching rays* can only represent *Alzheimer*, NL-style.  
**Coherence:**  $\mathcal{S} \ddagger \mathcal{T}$ : *forbidden* substitutions.  
**Strong normalisation:** *self-incoherent* diagrams fail.
- $A \& B$ : choose between « **parallel universes** »  $A/B$ .  
**If already** in universe  $A$ , I cannot see alternative  $B$ .
- Herbrand: *formal* function  $f(t)$ , a variable unknown to  $t$ .  
**Herbrand boolean**  $\eta_{\mathcal{S}}$  indexed by a substar of some  $\mathcal{T}$ .  
**Evolution** of  $\mathcal{T}$  into  $\mathcal{T}'$  induces similar evolution  $\eta_{\mathcal{S}} \rightsquigarrow \eta_{\mathcal{S}'}$ .
- $\eta_{A\&B}$ : boolean living « **outside** »  $A/B$ . Chooses  $A$ .  
**Cancellation** with  $\neg\eta_{A\&B}$ : only if behave in *same* way.  
**Arrival** in  $A \& B$ : not influenced by dichotomy  $A/B$ .



## II — WHAT IS A QUESTION?

Keywords: `synthetic, typed, logical.`

## 6 — SYNTHETICITY : USINE VS. USAGE

- Cognition *with* presupposition. Dubious *since* meaningful.
- *L'usine* a.k.a. synthetic *a posteriori*: factory tests.  
**Proof-nets**: no vicious circle (already in Herbrand).  
**Testing**: analytic performance; output unquestionable.
- *L'usage*, a.k.a. synthetic *a priori*: use of the product.  
**Gentzen**: the cut-rule, deductive *since* destructive.
- Fundamental *duality* of meaning: *dinaturals*, hexagons.  
**Predictivity**: *commitment* usine w.r.t. usage.  
**Cut-elimination**: performance implementing the reduction.  
**Incompleteness**: convergence of reduction problematic.
- *Consistency proofs*: no commitment. *Ditto* with *realism*:  
**Semantics**: identification usine/usage: no testing.  
**Reformed BHK**: one must choose between testing and use.

## 7 — MULTIPLICATIVE PROOF-NETS

- Function symbols  $1, r, g$  (0-ary),  $\cdot$  binary.

To each proposition  $A$  associate *location*  $p_A(x)$ .

To each proof  $\pi$  associate *vehicle*  $\pi^\bullet$ .

**Identity axiom**  $\vdash A, \sim A$ :  $\pi^\bullet := \llbracket p_A(x), p_{\sim A}(x) \rrbracket$ .

- $p_A(x) := p_{A\boxtimes B}(1 \cdot x)$ ,  $p_B(x) := p_{A\boxtimes B}(r \cdot x)$  ( $\boxtimes = \otimes, \wp, \dots$ )  
 $\wp$ -rule: if  $\pi$  comes from  $\nu$  of  $\vdash \Gamma, A, B$ ,  $\pi^\bullet := \nu^\bullet$ .  
 $\otimes$ -rule: if  $\pi$  from  $\nu, \mu$  of  $\vdash \Gamma, A, \vdash \Delta, B$ , then  $\pi^\bullet := \nu^\bullet + \mu^\bullet$ .
- **Ordeals**:  $q_A(x) := p_A(g \cdot x)$ ; the  $q_A(x)$  pairwise *disjoint*.  
**Conclusions**: green/black, **premises**: magenta/yellow.
- **LEGO bricks**: Literals:  $\llbracket \frac{p_A(x)}{q_A(x)} \rrbracket$ ; conclusion  $A \in \Gamma$ :  $\llbracket \frac{q_A(x)}{p_A(x)} \rrbracket$ .  
 $\otimes$ -link:  $\llbracket \frac{q_A(x), q_B(x)}{q_{A\otimes B}(x)} \rrbracket$ .  
 $\wp$ -links:  $\llbracket \frac{q_A(x)}{q_{A\wp B}(x)} \rrbracket + \llbracket \frac{q_B(x)}{q_{A\wp B}(x)} \rrbracket$  or  $\llbracket \frac{q_A(x)}{q_{A\wp B}(x)} \rrbracket + \llbracket \frac{q_B(x)}{q_{A\wp B}(x)} \rrbracket$ .

## 8 — CORRECTNESS

- **Gabarit:** all ordeals obtained by *switching* the  $\mathfrak{A}$ -links.  
**Vehicles** coloured in blue.  
**Correctness:**  $\mathcal{V} + \mathcal{O}$  strongly normalises into  
**Normal form:**  $\llbracket p_{\Gamma}(x) \rrbracket := \llbracket \{p_A(x); A \in \Gamma\} \rrbracket$ .
- $\eta$ -expansion: identity links on literals. Criterion insensitive.
- **Herbrand:** existentials as functions of universals  $\vec{y} = \vec{t}[\vec{x}]$ .  
 $x := f(y)$  as independence of  $y = t$  from  $x$ , i.e.,  $\exists y \forall x$ .
- $X$  ( $\sim X$ ) must be paired; not with  $X, Y, \sim Y$  ( $\sim X, Y, \sim Y$ ).  
**Essentialism:** complementarity of *names*.  
**Literal  $X, \sim X$ :** occ. of *universally* quantified variable  $\forall X$ .  
**Cancelling ordeal:** special kind bound to normalise to  $\emptyset$ .  
**Switching:** select a literal in all pairs,  $\sim X, \sim Y, Z$ .  
**Sum of all:**  $\llbracket \frac{q_A(l \cdot x), q_A(r \cdot x)}{} \rrbracket$  when literal  $A$  is selected.

## 9 — THE CUT RULE

- Cut as conclusion  $[A \otimes \sim A]$ . *Predicts* erasure, usage.
- *Vehicle*  $\mathcal{V}$  with conclusions  $\vdash \Gamma, A \otimes \sim A$  and  
**Feedback:**  $\mathcal{F}_A := \left[ \frac{p_A(x), p_{\sim A}(x)}{\quad} \right]$ ; fits  $p_A(-)$  and  $p_{\sim A}(-)$ .  
**Performance:**  $\mathcal{V} + \mathcal{F}_A$  possibly yields normal form  $\mathcal{W}$ .  
**Correctness:** of  $\mathcal{W}$  w.r.t. *ordeal*  $\mathcal{O}$  for  $\vdash \Gamma$ .
- Case  $A = X$ :  $\mathcal{V} = \left[ \frac{\quad}{p_{\sim X'}(x), p_X(x)} \right] + \left[ \frac{\quad}{p_{\sim X}(x), p_{X''}(x)} \right] + \dots$   
**Then:**  $\mathcal{W} = \left[ \frac{\quad}{p_{\sim X'}(x), p_{X''}(x)} \right] + \dots$  passes test  $\mathcal{O}$ .
- Case  $A = B \otimes C$ ; replace  $\mathcal{F}_A$  with  $\mathcal{F}_B + \mathcal{F}_C$ .  
**Change of syntheticity:** two cuts instead of one.  
 $\mathcal{V} + \mathcal{F}_A$  same normal form as  $\mathcal{V} + \mathcal{F}_B + \mathcal{F}_C$ .
- Replacing  $\left[ \frac{q_D(x)}{p_D(x)} \right]$  with  $\left[ \frac{q_D(x)}{\quad} \right]$  in  $\mathcal{O}$  yields *closing*  $\mathcal{O}'$ .  
**Main result:**  $\mathcal{V} + \mathcal{O}'$  normalises into:  

$$\left[ \frac{\quad}{p_B(x)} \right] + \left[ \frac{\quad}{p_C(x)} \right] + \left[ \frac{\quad}{p_{\sim B}(x), p_{\sim A}(x)} \right]$$

## 10 — EXPONENTIALS REVISITED

- **Knitting:**, e.g., *Church-Rosser* with two pairs of colours.  
**Relates** usine/usage: compositionality, BHK.
- Poorly knitted operations only live at *second order*.  
**Exponentials:**  $!A, ?A$ .  
**Intuitionistic disjunction:**  $!A \oplus !B$ ; *commutative* cuts.  
**Multiplicative neutrals:**  $1, \perp$ .
- Basic problem: *weakening* impossible.  
**Want** of *physical* connection.  
**Hidden conclusion:**  $\Gamma, \underline{\Delta}$ .  
**Ordeal:**  $\llbracket \frac{q_A(x)}{\quad} \rrbracket$  when  $A \in \Delta$  hidden.
- Revert to *intuitionistic* implication... Not quite.  
**Semi-tensor**  $A \otimes B := !A \otimes B$ .  
**Semi-par**  $A \times B := ?A \wp B$ .
- Vehicles: auxiliary variable for *duplication*:  $p_A(x \cdot y)$ .

## III — WHAT CONVEYS CERTAINTY?

Keywords: `derealism, epidictic, épure.`

# 11 — DEREALISM

KEIO, 28 Novembre 2015

- First order treatment of  $\mathbb{N}$  *axiomatic*,  $\neq$  logic.  
**Second order:** (Dedekind) induction on  $T$  handled by  $\exists X$ .  
**Flexibility:** range of (inductive) witnesses  $T$  in  $A[T/X]$ .  
**Subf. property:** depends on possible  $T$ ; ditto for 1st order.  
**Foundational problems:** reduction usage/usine problematic.
- *Church* and *Curry* both wrong w.r.t. l'usine:  
**Essentialism:** objets born synthetic, *typed*. No usine.  
**Existentialism:** objects born analytic, *untyped*. Usine  $\infty$ .
- *Derealism:* usine stays finite if witness made part of proof.  
**Épure:** analytic *vehicle* + synthetic *mould*, i.e., witness.  
**Epidictics:** requires/believes moulds to be *balanced*.  
**Balance:** rights/duties (cut-elim.) not checkable at usine.
- *Consistency* and Hegel's contradictory foundations:  
**Animæ:** « *Incorrect* » proofs, mingle analytic/synthetic.



## 12 — SYSTEM F

- **Second order** quantifications: over *propositions*.

**Links:**

$$\frac{A}{\forall X A} \qquad \frac{A[T/X]}{\exists X A}$$

- Can be handled by *usine* (proof-nets).

$\forall X: X := \cdot / \otimes / \wp$ , hence  $\sim X := \cdot / \wp / \otimes$ .

**Existential**  $\exists X: T$  provides its own switchings.

- However,  $T$  is part of the *derealist* answer.

**Épure:** combination vehicle + *mould*, e.g.,  $T + \sim T$ .

**Balance:** how do we know that  $T + \sim T$  actually match ?

**Object/Subject** no longer valid: answer partly *subjective*.

**Answer** combines analytic and synthetic features.

**Epidictic:** uncheckable affirmation.

## 13 — ANIMÆ

- Derealism: two pairs, **blue**/**yellow** and **red**/**cyan**.

**Animæ**: uses colours **blue**, **red**.

**Épure**: splits as  $\mathcal{V} + \mathcal{M}$ .

**Animist** otherwise: Object and Subject intertwined.

**Ordeal**: uses colours **yellow**, **cyan**, black.

- Additive neutrals: no balance problem in  $\exists X X$ .

**T**: unique ordeal  $\llbracket \frac{R(x), S(x)}{\quad} \rrbracket + \llbracket \frac{T(x)}{T(x)} \rrbracket$ .

**O**: three ordeals,  $\llbracket \frac{r(x)}{\quad} \rrbracket + \llbracket \frac{s(x), t(x)}{O(x)} \rrbracket$  and

$\llbracket \frac{s(x)}{\quad} \rrbracket + \llbracket \frac{r(x), t(x)}{O(x)} \rrbracket$  and  $\llbracket \frac{t(x)}{O(x)} \rrbracket$ .

- The absurdity has an *animist* proof:

$\llbracket \frac{\quad}{t(x)} \rrbracket + \llbracket \frac{\quad}{r(x), s(x)} \rrbracket$ .

**But no épure**: hence consistency.