Realist consequence, epistemic inference, computational correctness

Giuseppe Primiero

FWO – Research Foundation Flanders Centre for Logic and Philosophy of Science, Ghent University



Giuseppe.Primiero@Ugent.be http://www.philosophy.ugent.be/giuseppeprimiero/

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On logical systems

- The scope of logic is defined through the development of logical notions, relations, (meta-theoretical) results;
- Validity and correctness have a crucial role in defining the philosophical status of a logical system;
- This is a historically unstable notion: how does it appear it *today* in view of its historical background?

Validity by logical consequence

- Tradition of the Bolzano-Frege-Quine-Tarski school;
- Consequence as a relation between propositions as truth-bearers, expressing (the obtaining of) corresponding states of affairs;

Definition

A consequence from antecedents to conclusion is valid if the latter is true in the same state of affairs or models where the former are.

Correctness by epistemic inference

- Tradition of assertoric perspective on formulas, since the BHK school;
- Inference as a relation between judgements stating truth by verification of assertion conditions;

Definition

An inference from premises to conclusion is correct if the latter is knowable under the same conditions of the former ones.

Which current picture? A pluralist account

- (Luckily) Historical development has generated no unique framework;
- Both realist and anti-realist interpretations are still good and alive;
- There are a number of other paradigms around: substructural, dynamic, non-monotonic, ...;
- We shall focus on *one* significantly new approach, generated from the previous dialectic: the *computational* paradigm.

The correctnes problem in CS

Correctness in the Logical Foundations of Computer Science (since [De Millo et al.(1979)]): can computer systems satisfy correctly their designers aim?

- Correct satisfaction' is a non-redundant expression;
- It refers to the *intention* of the designer;
- It requires properties that are non-standard in previous frameworks;

Correctness as Type reconstruction

Proos-as-programs paradigm and validity in typed (programming) languages:

Given a program p, there exists a specification S and network \mathcal{N} such that $\mathcal{N} \vdash p: S$ is a derivable expression?

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New features of logical correctness

- Are conditions for execution and termination of p admissible?
- 2 Are resources in \mathcal{N} reachable?
- Where in \mathcal{N} are processes of p valid as to satisfy S?
- Sinally, how to resolve non-correct executions of p?

1: Typological Non-neutrality

Not all data are of the same type:

- some processes hold in view of explicit computational content;
- some depend on execution of implicit computational content;
- While normalization requires explicit data, correctness does not.

2: Data Accessibility

Processes need to be able to access data:

- provide meta-data on processes to express accessibility;
- formal extensions to induce labelling, modalities, mobility (not computationally irrelevant extensions) to index locally vs. globally terminating routines.

3: Local Validity

Validity becomes a localised concept:

- terminating programs induce global truth: define validity
- locally bounded programs induce local truth: define admissible computational steps

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4: Failure

Local validity and truth admits failure;

Internal Sense	External Sense
[<i>IL</i> 1] correctness of routine	[IL3] correctness of data dependency
[IL2] correctness of subcalls recursion	[<i>IL</i> 4] correctness of data retrieval

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4/2: Handling or Debugging

Failing processes require error handling:

- Errors of definition require re-typing
- Errors of location require resource re-assessment
- Errors of mobility require process re-execution

To Sum up

Computational Correctness admits:

- logical distinction among data (data are not all the same);
- metadata (the when/how/where of data is relevant);
- restricted well-formedness and termination (not every process satisfies these properties).
- failure is possible.

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A new notion of valid logical process

Definition

A process P is valid iff at its execution, P is capable for any required P' of controlling

- access to location(s) of P';
- Output in the second second
- So correctness of P' (global/local w.r.t. its locations).

Conclusion

- The computional paradigm offers a more empirically-oriented, practical view on logical validity;
- It embeds notions of locality, agency, partiality;
- It represents a true extension of the 'old' paradigms.

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Final Remarks

Thanks!

Comments? Questions?

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Computational Correctness

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