



laetus in praesens

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21 October 2024 | Draft

Enhancing Diplomatic Negotiations with Logical Connectives

Indicative reframing of intractable dialogues by AI -- Russia-Ukraine, Israel-Palestine, China-USA

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Introduction

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Introduction

The world is currently faced with an unprecedented array of conflicts with the prospect that these will escalate further such as to increase the number of fatalities and environmental degradation. Associated with such conflicts are an unprecedented number of fatalities due to hunger and malnutrition -- with little prospect of their mitigation, despite declarations to the contrary.

These challenges, with others, are recognized in the recently approved *Pact for the Future* of the United Nations on the occasion of its *Summit of the Future*. That event was explicitly inspired by the possibility and necessity of "turbocharging" the *Sustainable Development Goals* with its 169 tasks, as discussed separately

(*Turbocharging SDGs by Activating Global Cycles in a 64-fold 3D Array*, 2024). That Summit explicitly recognized the threat to humanity represented by AI, resulting in the adoption of a *Global Digital Compact* to frame a regulatory response. Little use was seemingly made of AI in enhancing the discourse at the Summit, although it proved possible to make use of AI to analyze the documents and the debate (*AI analysis of connectives in the UN's Pact for the Future and its Global Digital Compact*, 2024; *Analysis by AI of Reports of UN Debate on Artificial intelligence*, 2024).

Arguably the prospects for addressing the challenges fruitfully are assumed to be associated with some form of negotiation -- most obviously with respect to intractable conflicts. Curiously little is said about the processes of dialogue employed -- despite frequent reference to the negotiation processes which employ them. For obvious reasons such dialogue takes place under a cloak of secrecy -- usefully exemplified by Chatham House rules. It may therefore be concluded that a key process, whereby the challenges to effective global governance are addressed, is deemed to require the maximum degree of non-transparency -- purportedly in the interest of ensuring global security.

A consequence of this posture is that little is known of the efficacy of the "dialogue" used in negotiation processes to mitigate problematic global conditions. The value of any publicized discourse for purposes of public relations is deprecated in contrast with processes which take place "behind closed doors" -- with little publicized insight into their efficacy or the manner in which they have been enhanced in the light of insights from past failures. Consistent with this lack of transparency has been the manner in which the UN articulated and adopted the key documents of its recent Summit (Derrick Broze, *Summit of the Future: the public still has not seen the final draft of the Pact for the Future*, *Nexus*, 20 September 2024).

One acclaimed indication of such negotiation is *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In* (1981/2011) -- the focus of the [Harvard Negotiation Project](#). It is appropriate to ask whether the innovation in dialogue and negotiation over the recent past has been commensurate with the exacerbation of conflict is claimed to address. Is getting to "yes" the most appropriate framing of dialogue?

The concern in what follows continues to be the extent to which debate on future global strategy, and the relevance of AI, is adequately articulated in the light of the [logical connectives](#) fundamental to the operation of AI and a computer-based knowledge civilization, as previously discussed (*Comprehensible Mapping of the Variety of Fundamental Governance Functions*, 2024). The use of "connectives" in debate whether logical, emotional, "spiritual", or action-oriented is necessarily fundamental to the articulation of coherent strategy, its comprehensibility and its wider uptake. This consideration could be considered fundamental to any UN preoccupation with "turbocharging" the SDGs.

As evident in the documents of the Summit of the Future and in the debate, the possibility that AI might be of considerable value in response to this global crisis is obscured by relatively ill-informed [fear-mongering](#) regarding the threat of AI to the future of human civilization. The focus is on the problematic role of AI in exacerbating international security, exemplified by its use in surveillance and targetting. Little attempt is seemingly made to explore and demonstrate in detail how AI might be used to mitigate the challenges to the governance of a knowledge-based civilization -- emotion having been recognized as "trumping" logic? (Zaman Majed Auda and Sameer Jasam Radhi, *Artificial Intelligence and Evolution of the Global System*, *Islamabad Policy Research Institute Journal*, 22, 2022, 1).

The outcome of the UN-organized [AI for Good Summit](#) (2023) does not seem to have contributed to more balanced understanding. Unfortunately the fear-mongering has effectively been embodied in the *Global Digital Compact*, as approved at the Summit of the Future. Somewhat ironically even the possibility of use of AI to summarize, analyze and render comprehensible the documents emanating from the Summit of the Future has been avoided by the UN.

The concern in what follows is how coherence and its comprehension is engendered by summit debates of strategic significance for the future and the need for debate of a higher order (*Second-order Dialogue and Higher Order Discourse for the Future*, 2023). Some possibilities with that emphasis have been articulated

previously in the light of the potential role of AI ([Facilitating Global Dialogue with AI?](#) 2024; [Pathways in Governance between Logic, Emotion, Spirituality and Action](#), 2024; [AI-enabled Mapping and Animation of Learning Pathways](#), 2024; [Reframing Challenges of Governance of SDGs through Music](#), 2024).

An earlier experiment with AI engendered a speculative dialogue between ETs and the UN, given the hypothetical possibility of contact with extraterrestrials (*). This was done to explore the ability of the UN to engage with logical connectives which might be preferred by ETs -- or characteristic of "others" in a global civilization deemed to be "aliens" or "terrestrial extras". That exercise recognized the possibility that such speculative dialogue could be created experimentally with respect to an interchange between parties currently engaged in major conflict (Russia-Ukraine, Israel-Palestine, China-Taiwan, and the Koreas, for example). A dialogue of that kind could even be created between advocates and opponents of AI, given the focus of UN debate on the matter.

As in the previous experiments, the responses of [ChatGPT 4o](#) are distinctively presented below in grayed areas, in parallel with those of [Claude 3.5](#). **Given the length of the document to which the exchange gives rise, the form of presentation has itself been treated as an experiment in** anticipation of the future implication of AI into research documents. Web technology now enables the whole document to be held as a single "page" with only the "questions" to AI rendered immediately visible -- a facility developed in this case with the assistance of both ChatGPT and Claude 3 (but not operational in PDF variants of the page, in contrast with the [original](#)). Reservations and commentary on the process of interaction with AI to that end have been discussed separately ([Methodological comment on experimental use of AI](#), 2024). Whilst the presentation of responses of two AI's could be readily considered excessive, it offers a "stereoscopic" perspective highlighting the strengths and limitations of each.

As in previous uses of this approach, the question evoked is what can be "gleaned" from interaction with AIs, given their unprecedented access to information generated by a vast array of authors and authorities. The approach also offers the possibility that similar questions could be asked of any AI facility to which readers may have access, currently or in the future. The questions could well be refined, and the responses challenged, given the proactive responses of AI to such interaction.

Show All AI Responses

Reframing dialogue between Russia and Ukraine?

There are a number approaches to the analysis of dialogue, discourse, and conversation -- as [reviewed separately](#) in the context of commentary on [Encoding Coherent Topic Transformation in Global Dialogue](#) (2021). It is less evident to what extent these focus on the use of logical connectives in enhancing the quality of the exchange.

Question: You have previously created a speculative dialogue between radically opposed parties using the full array of 16 logical connectives. Could you generate such a dialogue between representatives of Russia and Ukraine to illustrate the potential role of the different connectives in an intractable conflict situation -- beyond the role of the simplest connectives.

Show/Hide AI response

Reframing dialogue between Israel and Palestine?

Question: As with the speculative dialogue you generated between representatives of Russia and Ukraine, could you repeat the exercise between representatives of Israel and Palestine using the full array of 16 logical connectives to illustrate the potential role of the different connectives in another intractable conflict situation - - beyond the role of the simplest connectives.

Show/Hide AI response

Reframing dialogue between North and South Korea?

Question: As with the speculative dialogues you have previously generated, could you repeat the exercise between representatives of the two Koreas using the full array of 16 logical connectives to illustrate the potential role of the different connectives in another intractable conflict situation -- beyond the role of the simplest connectives. Does the use by both of them of the subtleties of BaGua symbolism inform that articulation to any degree

Show/Hide AI response

Chess as the exemplification of connective strategic logic?

There is a long association of chess with military strategy and its adaptation to diplomacy and politics -- especially as an indication of relative superiority::

- Becky Alexis-Martin: *Chess: a game rooted in military strategy that has become a tool of international diplomacy* (*The Conversation*, 28 September 2024)
- Stephen Nguyen: *Chess in Politics: The Game of Diplomacy* (*HenryChessSets*, 03 April 2023)
- *Chess and Diplomacy: A Cold War Case Study* (*Chess.com*, 15 August 2024)

Strategic games have been created by combining those focused on diplomacy with those focused on chess (*Diplomat Chess*, *Chess Variants*, 7 April 2003; *Diplomacy Chess*, *Chess Variants*, 30 September 1996). Considerable significance has been attributed to the controversy associated with the comical satirical play by Thomas Middleton (*A Game at Chess*, 1624). The plot takes the form of a chess match, includes some genuine chess moves -- with the actors named as chess pieces. Current intractable conflicts could be similarly framed -- most readily with the assistance of AI.

Whilst the strategic implications are clear, less evident is their relevance to negotiation and diplomatic dialogue, as indicated by the following:

Negotiation and chess may seem worlds apart at first glance, but a deeper dive reveals striking similarities between these two disciplines. Both require a strategic mindset, careful preparation, emotional control, and the ability to anticipate and respond to the actions of an opponent. Just as great chess players are made through practice and study, great negotiators hone their skills through training and real-world experience. (*Mastering the Art of Negotiation: lessons from the Chessboard*, *Chess.com*, 2 August 2024)

That recognition is variously reinforced:

- Anatoly Karpov, et al: *Chess and the Art of Negotiation: Ancient Rules for Modern Combat* (Bloomsbury, 2006)
- Paula J. Albano: *Mastering the Chessboard: The Strategic Power of Negotiation* (2023)
- Keld Jensen: *Negotiation Showdown: Chessboard or Tennis Racket: Which Game Are You Really Playing?* (*LinkedIn*, 4 October 2024)
- Rudolf Spielmann: *Checkmate or Stalemate: Identifying the Phantoms on Your Negotiation Chessboard* (*Parley Negotiations*, 17 October 2023)
- Michael Golomb: *How Chess is Similar to Business Negotiations* (*Medium*, 27 March 2018)

Valuable distinctions are however highlighted by Lynden Renwick (*The Bottom Line: Why Negotiation is Nothing Like Chess*, *Out-House Attorneys*, 2 April 2021)

Question: Do you have any trace of efforts to present current intractable conflicts as was done by Thomas Middleton in *A Game at Chess* (1624)

Show/Hide AI response

Question: In the light of that response, and noting that reference is occasionally made to strategic use of the Knight's gambit in international relations. could you outline a speculative contemporary plot analogous to Middleton's *A Game at Chess*

Show/Hide AI response

Implications of Knight's move strategy in logical dialogues

In the adaptation of the strategic logic of chess to diplomacy, particular value is associated with the capacity of the Knight, as appropriately recognized by the CIA:

No piece on the chessboard is more useful than an astutely employed knight, the only piece that jumps; and no knight's move is more effective than a successful fork - in which a knight unexpectedly jumps to a new square, often taking a pawn in the process, suddenly and simultaneously threatening two or more valuable pieces an opponent is loathe to lose, forcing that opponent into an unpalatable, reactive choice. (George Carver, Jr *The Red Knight's Gambit*, Central Intelligence Agency, 23 September 1986)

That assessment has been echoed more recently:

A brilliant move by a Chinese Knight astonished the entire world during their chess match with the US in the Middle East. The international politics arena is a set of different chess games different countries play. Likely the other chess games played by other countries similar chess game is in action between China and US, and their chess set is located in the Middle East region. By brokering a recent agreement between Iran and Saudi Arabia, China played the role of a Knight, the piece chess player, who usually forms a fork by attacking two pieces at one time by putting the King on the check and also attacking other parts, such as the Queen and Bishop. China's Knight in international politics put the US, the global hegemon, in review, and on the other side, it captured the attention of Saudi Arabia, which once was US ally (Hammad Madni, *China's Diplomatic Gambit: the Middle East chessboard and the Knight's Move*, *South Asia Journal*, 16 August 2023)

Question: Beyond the use of individual connectives in those indicative dialogues, could you suggest how the use of one or more mutually consistent connectives might be followed by another which is effectively "orthogonal" to the previous line of reasoning, as with a Knight's Move in chess. With both participants able to surprise each other with such inconsistency, how might the dynamics of the dialogue evolve.

Show/Hide AI response

Question: Mathematics has extensively explored the capacity of a Knight to move across the array of 64 positions offered by a chess board, such as to occupy all of them through a Knight's Tour. What implication does this have for the strategies of opposing parties in a dialogue.

Show/Hide AI response

Reframing intractable dialogue as an infinite game?

Question: That response notes the recognition of patterns, whether in a dialogue or in a game. The contrast between an open and closed Knight's Tour, or one which is symmetrical, merits comparison with that between finite and infinite games, as articulated by James Carse (1987). To what extent can an intractable dialogue be fruitfully reframed as an infinite game through cultivating circular argument by appropriately chaining logical connectives.

Show/Hide AI response

Curiously relevant to the sustainability of an infinite game is its "interestingness", as discussed separately (*Relative interestingness and boringness of forms of coherence*, 2022; *Interestingness, suggestiveness, memorability and presentation*, 2014).

Question: Curiously fundamental to the viability of the opportunity of an infinite game is the manner in which the chaining of connective sustains "interestingness". What complexification of the chaining and configuration of connectives might achieve this -- in contrast with exacerbating conflictual polarization

Show/Hide AI response

Recognizing alternative "infinite games"?

Question: Given the catastrophic tragedy associated with conflicts such as Russia-Ukraine, Israel-Palestine, and potentially China-USA, could you comment on the remarkable irony that a form of infinite game could be recognized in the engagement provided by role-playing games such as *Dungeons and Dragons* and the like. How might this suggest an ongoing shift in perspective in the generations so engaged, and how should this be contrasted with the problematic role of violence in the media and the Colosseum of Ancient Rome.

Show/Hide AI response

Religions and academic disciplines as infinite games?

Question: Given your comments on an infinite game, to what extent should a religion be recognized as an infinite game -- or an academic discipline. In which case, how best to understand the relationship between infinite games, given the manner in which both religions and disciplines engender conflicts they have proven to be quite unable to resolve fruitfully through interfaith or interdisciplinary dialogue -- beyond tokenism.

Show/Hide AI response

Question: The game metaphor has long been evoked in descriptions of the engagement between opposing political parties, between opposing intelligence agencies, and the engagement with crime by security services -- the "need for enemies" framing their identity. The irony in each case is "winning" in that context would call into question the *raison d'être* of the players. How is the prolongation of the dynamic to be usefully recognized as effectively an infinite game.

Show/Hide AI response

Swastika variants exemplifying the challenge of dialogue polarization

The highly controversial issue of the symbolism of the variants of the swastika can be recognized as indicative of the epitome of polarization and its problematic polarization, as discussed separately (*Swastika as Dynamic Pattern Underlying Psychosocial Power Processes*, 2012).

Question: In contrast with the pattern of movement of a Knight's Tour, a Knight can trace out a right- or left-facing swastika around a central point on the chess board -- each effectively a rotation of its L-shaped pattern of movement. How might these contrasting patterns be distinguished as "creative" or "destructive" as with their symbolic associations. The question is of some relevance given the controversial perception by Russia of the Nazi associations of Ukraine.

Show/Hide AI response

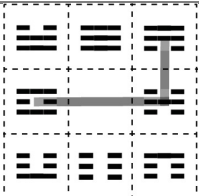
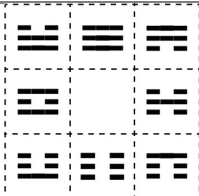
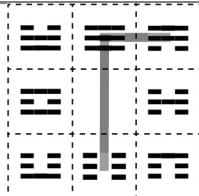
Question: Eastern appreciation of the contrasting clockwise and counterclockwise movements recognizes the developmental significance of both creation and destruction. To the extent that development may require

destruction of what is obstructing it, how is beneficial strategic destruction to be distinguished from any problematic appreciation. Conversely how is problematic creation (following a pattern held to be outdated) to be distinguished from its beneficial form.

Show/Hide AI response

Question: Could you comment on the uncritical condemnation of the destructive cycle exemplified by one variant of the swastika (and the Knight's Move) and the uncritical appreciation of the constructive cycle exemplified by the other variant in potentially perpetuating outmoded patterns. Of some relevance is the inability to distinguish the two variants in current condemnation of the swastika -- and legislation against its depiction

Show/Hide AI response

Animation of superposition of Swastika on BaGua "Earlier Heaven" Arrangement (transformation of trigram coding consistent with Knight's move, namely <i>reflection across the centre or change of line pattern for the "sting"</i>)		
Left-facing Swastika defined by succession of Knight's moves on BaGua pattern	Animation engendering both forms of Swastika: left-facing (green) and right- facing (red) Note switch in colour and direction -- to the "other" variant	Right-facing Swastika defined by succession of Knight's moves on BaGua pattern
		
Reproduced from <i>Alternative representations: Knight's move, Swastika and BaGua?</i> (2012)		

Positive versus negative from a systems critical thinking perspective

Question: That valuable clarification is partially undermined by its use of "positive" versus "negative", with the implication that the latter is to be avoided. This obscures the fundamental significance of "negative feedback" in any viable system -- or the plea for "negative capability" of John Keats. There is the further irony in that it effectively ignores the vital role of the "negative" wire in any electrical system (and the creation of light), with the strange implication that all such "negativity" should be removed.

Show/Hide AI response

Question: That response is somewhat indicative of the curious relationship between criticism and negativity with its implication that uncritical thinking should be promoted as positive -- and the consequence that the value of critical thinking is conflated with negativity (and therefore to be avoided, at all costs, inhibiting recognition of the subtle distinctions to which you refer

Show/Hide AI response

Question: Given that response, could you comment on the manner in which logical connectives are able to distinguish between criticisms, critical thinking and negativity -or whether that distinction can only be made with emotional or value-based connectives

Show/Hide AI response

Contrasting insights from the Game of Go -- China versus USA?

Question: In contrast to the role of the Knight's Move in chess, what corresponding move is indicative of creative and destructive possibilities in the light of the principles of the Game of Go in those cultures where the strategies of that game are valued.

Show/Hide AI response

Question: Given the earlier example of *A Game at Chess*, and recognizing a degree of strategic equivalence to the Game of Go, do you have any trace of an analogous articulation within Chinese culture -- and could you speculate on a current equivalent as you have previously done for chess.

Show/Hide AI response

Question: In the light of that response regarding the Game of Go in contrast to that of chess, could you generate a speculative dialogue between representatives of China and the USA using the 16 logical connectives -- informed by the classic study of the Vietnam arena of their confrontation by Scott Boorman (*A Protracted Game: a wei-ch'i interpretation of maoist revolutionary strategy*, 1971)

Show/Hide AI response

Martial arts as a metaphor for negotiation with logical connectives

Of relevance to this argument is the metaphorical recognition of the *katas* of martial arts in an institutional environment, as variously argued (Thierry Gaudin, *Les Katas institutionnels*, *Transnational Associations*, 1977, 3; Mike Rother, *Toyota Kata: managing people for improvement, adaptiveness and superior results*, 2009). The articulation by Gaudin is presented separately (*Game-playing in global governance?* 2016).

Question: Whilst board games like chess and go have clearly inspired reflection on strategic negotiation and military strategy, the focus here on connectives suggests, somewhat ironically, that martial arts may offer further insights into the manner in which connectives are significantly chained sequentially. Eastern martial arts embody a degree of flow exemplified by katas as detailed choreographed patterns of movements. Do you have any trace of the adaptation of this metaphor to dialogue and negotiation

Show/Hide AI response

Given the variety of domains in which rankings are currently highly valued, it is intriguing to note that little explicit effort is made to rank dialogue capacity, most notably with respect to negotiation, as discussed separately with extensive AI assistance (*Ranking dialogues in terms of use of logical and emotional connectives*, 2023).

Question: As a form of "martial art", that response suggests the probability that *Tai Chi* movement would have evoked recognition of its relevance as a metaphor for dialogue in the East, if not for negotiation. How would this be contrasted with the adaptations of the "games people play" of *transactional analysis* to both dialogue and negotiation. Both adaptations could imply insights into logical connectives. Although martial arts play particular attention to ranking ("black belt", etc), is there any trace of analogous ranking with respect to negotiation, if not to dialogue.

Show/Hide AI response

Potential reframing of intractable conflicts by AI?

Question: Given the strategic mastery already elegantly demonstrated by AI with respect to the games of chess, go and poker, and the capacity of AI to generate millions of new proteins and materials, could you comment on the potential capacity of AI to reframe intractable conflicts such as to indicate viable pathways to reconciliation -- even allowing for the possibility that any viable outcome may be of a completely unexpected nature in conventional strategic terms, possibly one of higher dimensionality.

Show/Hide AI response

Beyond conventional logical connectives in dialogue with AI?

Question: In that response you indicate that AI has the capacity to propose unexpected outcomes that defy conventional logic. What implication does this have for the conventional set of 16 logical connectives. Does this suggest that the set might be extended or reframed in some manner as yet to be fully understood

Show/Hide AI response

Interrelating traditional and emergent connective frameworks

Question: Whilst that clarification is much to be appreciated, the reference to "traditional" is potentially ambiguous. On the one hand it implies that what is currently "conventional" may in future be reframed as "traditional" (as with the manner in which Newtonian physics was superseded). On the other hand it neglects the possibility that the innovations identified by AI may derive in part from a recognition of alternative logics in non-Western cultures and indigenous traditions.

Show/Hide AI response

Question: Whilst there is a degree of recognition of the "traditional" insights to which you refer, a missing factor of seemingly major importance is the manner in which their relevance to intractable conflicts will be simply denied and declared to be irrelevant by many -- if not irresponsible and dangerous. AI has itself been framed in this way. How are such perceptions to be fruitfully integrated into the strategic space of higher dimensionality to which you refer. The current interface between Newtonian and relativistic physics clarifies the issue. Ironically the point is well-illustrated by the continuing assertions of science, despite Galileo, that the Sun "rises".

Show/Hide AI response

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