Canonical Form of Answered Modal Logic

by Sven Nilsen, 2020

In this paper I introduce the canonical form of Answered Modal Logic.

The canonical form of Answered Modal Logic is the following syntax:

$$(a_0 \wedge a_1 \wedge \ldots a_n) \vee (b_0 \wedge b_1 \wedge \ldots b_n) \vee \ldots$$

For brevity, the parantheses can be omitted.

Each term is prefixed with one of members of the modal set $\{\Box, \diamond, \neg \diamond\}$.

The inversion rule $\neg \Box = \{\diamond, \neg \diamond\}$ can be used with $\{\diamond, \neg \diamond\}X = \diamond X \lor \neg \diamond X$ to normalize.

This form is used to reduce an expression into one that can be compared with other expressions.

For example:

- \therefore $\Box A \neg = \Box B$
- \therefore (not . eq)($\square A$, $\square B$)
- \therefore (eq[not] . (not . fst, not . snd))($\Box A$, $\Box B$)
- \therefore eq[not]($\neg \Box A$, $\neg \Box B$)
- \therefore xor($\neg \Box A$, $\neg \Box B$)
- $\therefore \qquad (\neg \Box A \land \neg \neg \Box B) \lor (\neg \neg \Box A \land \neg \Box B)$
- \therefore ($\neg \Box A \land \Box B$) \lor ($\Box A \land \neg \Box B$)
- $\therefore \qquad (\{\diamondsuit, \neg \diamondsuit\} A \land \Box B) \lor (\Box A \land \{\diamondsuit, \neg \diamondsuit\} B)$
- $\therefore \qquad ((\Diamond A \lor \neg \Diamond A) \land \Box B) \lor (\Box A \land (\Diamond B \lor \neg \Diamond B))$
- $\therefore \qquad ((\Diamond A \land \Box B) \lor (\neg \Diamond A \land \Box B)) \lor ((\Box A \land \Diamond B) \lor (\Box A \land \neg \Diamond B))$
- $\therefore \qquad (\Diamond A \land \Box B) \lor (\neg \Diamond A \land \Box B) \lor (\Box A \land \Diamond B) \lor (\Box A \land \neg \Diamond B)$

After normalizing to the canonical form, the expressions can be extracted to a table:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \neg \Diamond A & \Diamond A & \Box A \\ \neg \Diamond B & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \Diamond B & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \Box B & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

Another example:

When a variable is unmentioned, e.g. `B` is not mentioned in `\$A`, one can fill out the row/column.