

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:

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

For brevity, the parantheses can be omitted.

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

The inversion rule $\neg\Box = \{!\diamond, \neg!\diamond, \Box\}$ can be used with $\{!\diamond, \neg!\diamond, \Box\}X = !\diamond X \vee \neg!\diamond X \vee \Box X$.

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

For example:

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore & \Box A \neg = \Box B && \text{Notice that } \neg = \text{ uses } \neg \text{ not} \\ \therefore & (\text{not} . \text{eq})(\Box A, \Box B) \\ \therefore & (\text{eq}[\text{not}] . (\text{not} . \text{fst}, \text{not} . \text{snd}))(\Box A, \Box B) \\ \therefore & \text{eq}[\text{not}](\text{not}(\Box A), \text{not}(\Box B)) \\ \therefore & \text{xor}(!\diamond A, !\diamond B) \\ \therefore & (!\diamond A \wedge \text{not}(!\diamond B)) \vee (\text{not}(!\diamond A) \wedge !\diamond B) \\ \therefore & (!\diamond A \wedge \Box B) \vee (\Box A \wedge !\diamond B) \end{aligned}$$

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

	$!\diamond A$	$\neg!\diamond A$	$\Box A$
$!\diamond B$	0	0	1
$\neg!\diamond B$	0	0	0
$\Box B$	1	0	0

Another example:

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore & \Box A \Rightarrow \Box B \\ \therefore & \text{not}(\Box A) \vee \Box B \\ \therefore & !\diamond A \vee \Box B \end{aligned}$$

	$!\diamond A$	$\neg!\diamond A$	$\Box A$
$!\diamond B$	1	0	0
$\neg!\diamond B$	1	0	0
$\Box B$	1	1	1

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