

GENTZEN SYSTEMS FOR MODAL LOGIC

LOUIS F. GOBLE

Nice Gentzen formulations of the normal modal systems T and S4 have been known for some time; see, for example, Kanger [5] or Curry [1]. A similar formulation of S5 has also been given, but it is not so nice as the Elimination Theorem is not provable for it. I shall present here sets of rules for several of the non-normal modal systems which are akin to T and S4. Each of the L-systems to be defined here has an Elimination Theorem which may be proved by the methods of Gentzen [3]. These systems are useful, in that each of them has a decision procedure, following, for example, Kleene [6], §80.

1 Epistemic Systems In order to provide a decision procedure for Lewis' system S2, Ohnishi and Matsumoto [11] defined a system, Q2, which had the property that a formula, A , was provable in S2 if and only if the consecution $N(p \supset p) \Vdash A$ was provable in Q2. Q2 was formed by adjoining to any appropriate formulation of the classical propositional calculus, such as Gentzen's LK [3], the rules:

$$(\text{NI}\vdash) \frac{\Gamma, A \Vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, NA \Vdash \Delta} \quad \text{and} \quad (\Vdash\text{N}) \frac{\Gamma \Vdash A}{N\Gamma \Vdash NA}$$

where for $(\Vdash\text{N})\Gamma$ must be non-empty.

Here, and elsewhere, A, B, C , etc. are well formed formulas formed from atomic formulas by means of propositional connectives, including N for necessity; Γ, Δ , etc. are any finite sequences of (zero or more) constituent formulas, A, B, C , etc. Consecutions α, β , etc. are expressions $\Gamma \Vdash \Delta$. $N\Gamma$ is the result of applying the operator N to each member of Γ .

Q2 is equivalent to the Hilbert style system E2 introduced by Lemmon (see, for example, [8]), in the sense that A is provable in E2 if and only if $\Vdash A$ is provable in Q2.

Besides the axioms and rules for the classical propositional calculus, E2 has only the axioms

A.1 $NA \supset A$

A.2 $N(A \supset B) \supset .NA \supset NB$

Received October 11, 1971