

INDEPENDENCE OF TARSKI'S LAW IN HENKIN'S
PROPOSITIONAL FRAGMENTS

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The system $\{A1-3, (\varphi)^*\}$ is the system of Henkin's [1], proved by him complete for tautologies in implication and whatever truth-function $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m)$ may be. If $m = 0$, φ is just T or F. The basis of the system is *modus ponens*, the axiom schemata

- $$\begin{aligned} A1. & A \supset . B \supset A \\ A2. & A \supset B \supset . A \supset (B \supset C) \supset . A \supset C \\ A3. & A \supset C \supset . A \supset B \supset C \supset C \end{aligned}$$

and a set, $(\varphi)^*$, of 2^m axiom schemata

$$x_1^* \supset . x_2^* \supset . \dots \supset . x_m^* \supset \varphi^*$$

in which x_i^* is x_i or $x_i \supset y$ (with y a new variable) in the j -th schema according as x_i is T or F in the j -th valuation (according to some ordering) of $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m)$, and φ^* is $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m) \supset y \supset y$ or $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m) \supset y$ according as $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m)$ is T or F. (Henkin used $x_i \supset y \supset y$ in place of our antecedents x_i , but since $A \supset . B \supset C$ and $A \supset C \supset C \supset . B \supset C$ are equivalent forms in any system containing A1-2, we use the shorter expression.) φ is a function symbol, but we shall usually refrain from indicating its argument places, and this should not cause confusion.

L'Abbé in [2] showed that only the independence of A3 is ever in doubt. We here show the general (necessary and sufficient) conditions for A3 to be independent¹), the method of determining this being simple inspection of a truth-table for φ . The term 'Tarskian' in the ensuing theorem is chosen because A3 is the often so-called Law of Tarski with commuted antecedents.

Def. T For all φ , φ is Tarskian iff there are valuations of φ , say α and β , such that φ is F in α , T in β , and all arguments of φ that are T in β are T in α .

THEOREM. A3 is independent in the system $\{A1-3, (\varphi)^*\}$ iff φ is not Tarskian.

¹ We are indebted to Professor Henkin for suggesting this problem.