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Gentzen Method in Modal Calculi

By Masao Ohnishi and Kazuo Matsumoto

A decision procedure by Gentzen style has been given by H. B. Curry [4] only for S4. J. Ridder [16] intended to give the decision procedures for M, S4 and S5 by Gentzen style¹). By using the different methods, the decision procedures for the various modal systems have been obtained by J. C. C. McKinsey [12], R. Carnap [3], G. H. von Wright [17], J. Ridder [15], Alan Ross Anderson [1], and M. Itoh [8].

The object of this paper is to give decision procedures by Gentzen style for modal sentential calculi S2, S4, S5 and M^{2} .

(I) Formulation

§1 Definitions of S5*, S4*, M^* and Q2.

1.1 Our formulation of the above systems is based upon "Sequenzenkalkül *LK*", which was constructed by G. Gentzen [6]. Namely:

[logical symbols:

• (and), \sim (not), \vee (or), \supset (if..., then)

rules of inference :

structural rules

weakening, contraction, exchange and cut.

logical rules

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(\rightarrow \cdot) UES, (\rightarrow \lor) OES, (\rightarrow \sim) NES, (\rightarrow \supset) FES,
(\cdot \rightarrow) UEA, (\vee \rightarrow) OEA, (\sim \rightarrow) NEA, (\supset \rightarrow) FEA.
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Next, we add to LK two kinds of logical symbols:

 \Diamond (possible),

 \Box ······(necessary),

and we define as follows: if α is a formula, then $\Diamond \alpha$ and $\Box \alpha$ are also formulae.

Numbers in brackets refer to the bibliography at the end of this paper.

¹⁾ The authors have communicated to Prof. J. Ridder and he has admitted that his system was found to be unsatisfactory for the decision problem.

²⁾ C. I. Lewis and C. H. Langford [9]. G. H. von Wright [17].