

SIMPLIFIED FORMALIZATIONS OF FRAGMENTS OF THE
 PROPOSITIONAL CALCULUS

ALAN ROSE

Henkin has given [1] a general method of formalizing 2-valued propositional calculi whose primitive functors are such that material implication is definable in terms of them. Let the primitive functors, other than implication if implication is a primitive functor, be the functors F_i of n_i arguments ($i = 1, \dots, b$) and let the formulae $P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, F_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i}$ take the truth-values $x_1, \dots, x_{n_i}, f_i(x_1, \dots, x_{n_i})$ respectively ($i = 1, \dots, b$). The axiom schemes are

A1 $CPCQP$,

A2 $CCPQCCPCQRCPR$,

A3 $CCPRCCCPQRR$,

A4 $CV_{x_1}P_1Q \dots CV_{x_{n_i}}P_{n_i}QV_yF_iP_1 \dots P_{n_i}Q(y = f_i(x_1, \dots, x_{n_i});$
 $x_1 = \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}; \dots; x_{n_i} = \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}; i = 1, \dots, b)$,

A4 denoting $\sum_{i=1}^b 2^{n_i}$ axiom schemes and the functors $V_{\mathbf{T}}, V_{\mathbf{F}}$ being defined by the equations

$$V_{\mathbf{T}}PQ =_{df} CCPQQ,$$

$$V_{\mathbf{F}}PQ =_{df} CPQ.$$

The only primitive rule of procedure is

R1 If P and CPQ then Q .

We shall show how to reduce¹ the number and lengths of the axiom schemes.

It follows at once from a result of Łukasiewicz [3] that *A1-3* may be replaced by the axiom scheme

B1 $CCCPQRCCRPCSP$.

1. The axiom schemes C are similar to those obtained by using a general method of Shoesmith [5], but his completeness proof is non-constructive.

Since the axiom schemes $A4$ are used in Henkin's completeness proof only to establish the hypothetical deductions

$$V_{x_1}P_1Q, \dots, V_{x_{n_i}}P_{n_i}Q \vdash V_yF_iP_1 \dots P_{n_i}Q$$

it follows at once that if there exist integers $\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{ik_i}$ of the set $\{1, \dots, n_i\}$ and truth-values $x'_{\alpha_{i1}}, \dots, x'_{\alpha_{ik_i}}$ such that $f_i(x_1, \dots, x_{n_i})$ has the constant value y' in all the $2^{n_i-k_i}$ cases where $x_{\alpha_{i1}} = x'_{\alpha_{i1}}, \dots, x_{\alpha_{ik_i}} = x'_{\alpha_{ik_i}}$, then the corresponding $2^{n_i-k_i}$ of the axiom schemes $A4$ may be replaced by the single axiom scheme

$$B2 \quad CV_{x'_{\alpha_{i1}}}P_{\alpha_{i1}}Q \dots CV_{x'_{\alpha_{ik_i}}}P_{\alpha_{ik_i}}QV_{y'}F_iP_1 \dots P_{n_i}Q$$

(for any of the $k_i!$ ways of assigning values to $\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{ik_i}$). Thus we may replace $A1$ - $A4$ by $B1$ and all the² axiom schemes $B2$.

We may assume, without real loss of generality, that

$$f_i(\mathbf{T}, \dots, \mathbf{T}) = \mathbf{T} \quad (i = 1, \dots, b)$$

since, if this is not so, we may, for some integer i ($1 \leq i \leq b$), make the definition

$$NP =_{df} F_iP \dots P$$

if $f_i(\mathbf{F}, \dots, \mathbf{F}) = \mathbf{T}$ or the definition

$$NP =_{df} CPF_iP \dots P$$

if $f_i(\mathbf{F}, \dots, \mathbf{F}) = \mathbf{F}$. Functional completeness of the propositional calculus would then follow at once, making the use of the method of Henkin, rather than that of Kalmár [2], unnecessary. One or more of the axiom schemes $B2$ will then be of the form

$$B2A \quad CV_{\mathbf{T}}P_{\alpha_{i1}}Q \dots CV_{\mathbf{T}}P_{\alpha_{ik_i}}QV_{\mathbf{T}}F_iP_1 \dots P_{n_i}Q$$

and, for the remaining axiom schemes, $x'_{\alpha_{i1}}, \dots, x'_{\alpha_{ik_i}}$ will not all be \mathbf{T} . Thus they will be of one of the forms

$$B2B \quad CV_{x'_{\alpha_{i1}}}P_{\alpha_{i1}}Q \dots CV_{x'_{\alpha_{ik_i}}}P_{\alpha_{ik_i}}QV_{\mathbf{T}}F_iP_1 \dots P_{n_i}Q,$$

$$B2C \quad CV_{x'_{\alpha_{i1}}}P_{\alpha_{i1}}Q \dots CV_{x'_{\alpha_{ik_i}}}P_{\alpha_{ik_i}}QV_{\mathbf{F}}F_iP_1 \dots P_{n_i}Q$$

and we may assign values to $\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{ik_i}$ in such a way that, for some integer j ($1 \leq j \leq k_i$),

$$\begin{aligned} x'_{\alpha_{i1}}, \dots, x'_{\alpha_{ij}} &= \mathbf{F}; \\ x'_{\alpha_{i,j+1}}, \dots, x'_{\alpha_{ik_i}} &= \mathbf{T}. \end{aligned}$$

We shall show that the axiom schemes $B2$ may be replaced by the axiom schemes

2. Two or more axiom schemes $B2$ may replace two or more overlapping groups of some of the axiom schemes $A4$.

$$C2A \quad CP_{\alpha_{i_1}} \dots CP_{\alpha_{i_{k_i}}} F_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i},$$

$$C2B \quad C^{2j} CP_{\alpha_{i,j+1}} \dots CP_{\alpha_{i,k_i}} F_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i} P_{\alpha_{i_1}} P_{\alpha_{i_1}} \dots P_{\alpha_{i_j}} P_{\alpha_{i_j}},$$

$$C2C \quad C^{2j-2} CP_{\alpha_{i,j+1}} \dots CP_{\alpha_{i,k_i}} CF_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i} P_{\alpha_{i_1}} P_{\alpha_{i_2}} P_{\alpha_{i_2}} \dots P_{\alpha_{i_j}} P_{\alpha_{i_j}}.$$

It will be sufficient to establish that *C2A* (*C2B*, *C2C*) follows from *B1*, *B2A* (*B2B*, *B2C*) and *R1*. We shall sometimes abbreviate formulae of the form *CCPQQ* by *APQ*.

By *B1* and *R1*

$$\vdash CCP_1 \dots CP_n R CAP_1 Q \dots CAP_n QARQ \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Thus, by *R1*,

$$CP_1 \dots CP_n R \vdash CAP_1 Q \dots CAP_n QARQ \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots)$$

and *B2A* then follows from *C2A*.

By *B1* and *R1*

$$C^{2m} CP_1 \dots CP_n R Q_1 Q_1 \dots Q_m Q_m \vdash CV_F Q_1 S \dots CV_F Q_m SCV_{\top} P_1 S \dots CV_{\top} P_n SV_{\top} RS \\ (m = 1, 2, \dots; n = 0, 1, \dots)$$

and *B2B* then follows from *C2B*.

By *B1* and *R1*

$$C^{2m-2} CP_1 \dots CP_n CR Q_1 Q_2 Q_2 \dots Q_m Q_m \vdash CV_F Q_1 S \dots \\ CV_F Q_m SCV_{\top} P_1 S \dots CV_{\top} P_n SV_F RS \\ (m = 1, 2, \dots; n = 0, 1, \dots)$$

and *B2C* then follows from *C2C*.

As an example of the above simplifications we shall consider the case where the primitive functors are implication and the functor *F* of 6 arguments whose truth-table is defined by the equation

$$FPQRSUV =_{\top} KAPQEERSEUV.$$

8 of the 64 axiom schemes *A4* are

$$\begin{aligned} & CV_{\top} PWCV_{\top} QWCV_{\top} RWCV_{\top} SWCV_{\top} UWCV_{\top} VWV_{\top} FFPQRSUVW, \\ & CV_{\top} PWCV_F QWCV_{\top} RWCV_{\top} SWCV_{\top} UWCV_{\top} VWV_{\top} FFPQRSUVW, \\ & CV_{\top} PWCV_{\top} QWCV_F RWCV_{\top} SWCV_F UWCV_{\top} VWV_{\top} FFPQRSUVW, \\ & CV_F PWCV_{\top} QWCV_F RWCV_{\top} SWCV_F UWCV_{\top} VWV_{\top} FFPQRSUVW, \\ & CV_{\top} PWCV_{\top} QWCV_F RWCV_F SWCV_{\top} UWCV_F VWV_F FFPQRSUVW, \\ & CV_{\top} PWCV_F QWCV_F RWCV_F SWCV_{\top} UWCV_F VWV_F FFPQRSUVW, \\ & CV_F PWCV_{\top} QWCV_F RWCV_F SWCV_{\top} UWCV_F VWV_F FFPQRSUVW, \\ & CV_F PWCV_F QWCV_F RWCV_F SWCV_{\top} UWCV_F VWV_F FFPQRSUVW. \end{aligned}$$

These give rise³ to

3. These three axiom schemes are not the only axiom schemes *B2*. The total number of such axiom schemes is 25.

B2A $CV_{\top}PWCV_{\top}RWCV_{\top}SWCV_{\top}UWCV_{\top}VWV_{\top}FPQRSUVW,$
B2B $CV_{\top}QWCV_{\top}RWCV_{\top}SWCV_{\top}UWCV_{\top}VWV_{\top}FPQRSUVW,$
B2C $CV_{\top}RWCV_{\top}SWCV_{\top}UWCV_{\top}VWV_{\top}FPQRSUVW.$

Alternative forms of *B2B*, *B2C* are

B2B' $CV_{\top}RWCV_{\top}UWCV_{\top}QWCV_{\top}SWCV_{\top}VWV_{\top}FPQRSUVW,$
B2C' $CV_{\top}RWCV_{\top}SWCV_{\top}VWCV_{\top}UWV_{\top}FPQRSUVW.$

B2A, *B2B'*, *B2C'* may, in turn, be simplified as follows:

C2A $CPCRCSCUCVFPQRSUV,$
C2B $CCCCQCSCVFPQRSUVRUU,$
C2C $CCCCUCFPQRSUVRSSVV.$

In some cases we may use methods somewhat similar to those used above to replace some of the axiom schemes *C* by simpler axiom schemes *D*. For example, in the propositional calculus with the single primitive functor *G* of 4 arguments whose truth-table is defined by the equation

$$GPQRS =_{\top} ACPQERS,$$

we may make the definition

$$CPQ =_{df} GPQPQ$$

and the methods used above lead us to adopt as some of the axiom schemes,

C2A $CQGPQRS,$
 $CRCSGPQRS;$
C2B $CCGPQRSPP,$
 $CCCCGPQRSRRSS.$

We may replace the first (second) of the axiom schemes *C2A*, *C2B* by the axiom scheme *D2* (*D3*) given below.

D2 $CCPQGPQRS,$
D3 $CCRSCSRGPQRS.$

This follows at once from the hypothetical deductions

$$\begin{aligned}
 CCPQR &\vdash CQR, CCRPP; \\
 CCPQCCQPR &\vdash CPCQR, CCCRPPQQ;
 \end{aligned}$$

which we can establish by means of *B1* and *R1*.

If the truth-table of the functor *H* of 5 arguments is defined by the equation

$$HPQRSU =_{\top} ECPQAKRSU$$

we may, similarly, in the *C-H* propositional calculus, replace the axiom schemes

C2C $CCCQCHPQRSURUU,$
 $CCCCCHPQRSUPRRUU$

by the axiom scheme

$$D2 \quad CCCCPCQHPQRSURUU$$

using the hypothetical deductions

$$CCCCPCQCSRUU \vdash CCCQCSRUU, CCCCCSPRRUU.$$

The related axiom scheme

$$D3 \quad CCCCPCQHPQRSUSUU$$

may be replaced by the axiom scheme

$$CHPQRSUHPQRSU$$

since, by *B1* and *R1*, we may derive the hypothetical deduction

$$CCCPCSRUU, CVS \vdash CCCPCVRUU.$$

An alternative approach to the problem of replacing the $\sum_{i=1}^b 2^{n_i}$ axiom schemes *A4* by simpler axiom schemes is provided by replacing the 2^{n_i} axiom schemes describing the truth-table of the functor F_i by two longer axiom schemes ($i = 1, \dots, b$). Since the *C-N* propositional calculus is functionally complete, there exists a formula $\Phi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i})$ of this propositional calculus such that, for all formulae P_1, \dots, P_{n_i} ,

$$\Phi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}) =_{\top} F_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i} \quad (i = 1, \dots, b).$$

Let $\Psi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, Q)$ denote the formula obtained from $\Phi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i})$ by replacing⁴ each sub-formula of the form *NP*, starting from the innermost, by *CPQ*. We shall show that the $\sum_{i=1}^b 2^{n_i}$ axiom schemes *A4* may be replaced by the $2b$ axiom schemes

$$E1 \quad ACF_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i} \Psi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, Q) Q \quad (i = 1, \dots, b),$$

$$E2 \quad AC\Psi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, Q) F_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i} Q \quad (i = 1, \dots, b).$$

For example, if F_i is *K* then suitable choices for $\Phi_i(P_1, P_2), \Psi_i(P_1, P_2, Q)$ are

$$NCP_1 NP_2, CCP_1 CP_2 QQ$$

respectively and the corresponding two axiom schemes are

$$ACKP_1 P_2 CCP_1 CP_2 QQ Q, ACCCP_1 CP_2 Q Q KP_1 P_2 Q.$$

We note that, by *B1* and *R1*,

$$\vdash CCP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\top} RQCACRSQCP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\top} SQ \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots),$$

$$\vdash CCP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\top} RQCACSRQCP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\top} SQ \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Hence, by *R1*,

4. In some cases we must, of course, replace occurrences of the primitive symbol *C* by the corresponding abbreviations.

$$CP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\mathbf{T}} RQ, ACRSQ \vdash CP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\mathbf{T}} SQ \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots),$$

$$CP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\mathbf{F}} RQ, ACSRQ \vdash CP_1 \dots CP_n V_{\mathbf{F}} SQ \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Thus, by *E1* and *E2*

$$CV_{x_1} P_1 Q \dots CV_{x_{n_i}} P_{n_i} Q V_y \Psi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, Q) Q \vdash$$

$$CV_{x_1} P_1 Q \dots CV_{x_{n_i}} P_{n_i} Q V_y F_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i} Q \quad (y = f_i(x_1, \dots, x_{n_i});$$

$$x_1 = \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}; \dots; x_{n_i} = \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}; i = 1, \dots, b).$$

Since the assumption formula of the last hypothetical deduction contains no functors other than *C* (with the possible exceptions of functors occurring in P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, Q) it is derivable from *B1* and *R1*. In all the $\sum_{i=1}^b 2^{n_i}$ cases *A4* then follows at once.

In some cases (such as, for example, that where F_i is *K*, discussed above) the formula scheme

$$E1' \quad CF_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i} \Psi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, Q)$$

will have the property that every instance of it is a tautology. In all these cases it may replace *E1* since, by *B1* and *R1*

$$P \vdash APQ.$$

Similarly we may, in some cases, replace the axiom scheme *E2* by

$$E2' \quad C\Psi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i}, Q) F_i P_1 \dots P_{n_i}.$$

If the symbol *N* does not occur in the formula $\Phi_i(P_1, \dots, P_{n_i})$ (for example, if $b = 1$, $n_1 = 3$ and $F_1 PQR =_{\mathbf{T}} CPCQR$, when we may make the definition $CPQ =_{df} F_1 PPQ$) both simplifications are, of course, always permissible.

Corresponding to the replacement of some of the axiom schemes *A4* by the corresponding axiom schemes *C2B*, we may replace the axiom scheme *A3* (i.e., $CV_{\mathbf{F}} PRV_{\mathbf{T}} CPQR$) by

$$A3' \quad CCCPQPP.$$

In order to prove⁵ this we first note that, since *A1*, *A2*, and *R1* are unchanged, the Deduction Theorem remains valid.

By *R1*

$$P, CPQ, CQR \vdash R. \quad (1)$$

By (1) and the Deduction Theorem

$$CPQ, CQR \vdash CPR. \quad (2)$$

By (2)

$$CCPQQ, CQP \vdash CCPQP. \quad (3)$$

5. For the case where $b = 0$ this result has already been proved by Schumm [4], but his proof is entirely different from that given here.

By $A3'$ and $R1$

$$CCPQP \vdash P. \quad (4)$$

By (3), (4) and the Deduction Theorem

$$CCPQQ \vdash CCQPP \quad (5)$$

By (2)

$$CPR, CRCPQ \vdash CPCPQ \quad (6)$$

By $R1$

$$P, CPCPQ \vdash Q. \quad (7)$$

By (7) and the Deduction Theorem

$$CPCPQ \vdash CPQ. \quad (8)$$

By (6), (8) and the Deduction Theorem

$$CPR \vdash CCRCPPCQ. \quad (9)$$

By (9) and (5)

$$CPR \vdash CCCPQRR. \quad (10)$$

By (10) and the Deduction Theorem

$$\vdash CCPRCCCPQRR.$$

REFERENCES

- [1] Henkin, L., "Fragments of the propositional calculus," *The Journal of Symbolic Logic*, vol. 14 (1949), pp. 42-48.
- [2] Kalmár, L., "Über die Axiomatisierbarkeit des Aussagenkalküls," *Acta scientiarum mathematicarum*, vol. 7 (1935), pp. 222-243.
- [3] Łukasiewicz, J., "The shortest axiom of the implicational calculus of propositions," *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy (A)*, vol. 52 (1948), pp. 25-33.
- [4] Schumm, G. F., "A Henkin-style completeness proof for the pure implicational calculus," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*, vol. XVI (1975), pp. 402-404.
- [5] Shoesmith, D. J., Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Cambridge, 1962.

The University of Nottingham
Nottingham, England