# Decision procedures for quantified fragments of reflexive common knowledge logic

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## 1. Introduction

Logics of knowledge, especially the common knowledge logics, have a lot of applications in computer science and artificial intelligence (see, e.g., [2], [3], [4]). On the other hand, common knowledge operator satisfies induction-like postulates and for this reason is interesting from a logical point of view. A decision procedure for propositional irreflexive common knowledge logic (based on multi-modal logics  $K_n$ ) can be get relying on sequent-like calculus with analytic cut presented in [1]. Propositional logics for knowledge-based logics are often insufficient for more complex real world situations. First-order extensions of these logics are necessary whenever an application domain is infinite or a cardinality of application domain is not known in advance. In [6] it is presented decidability of some fragments of first-order one-sorted irreflexive common knowledge logics. In [2] it is proved general decidability results for some fragments of first-order one-sorted agent-based logics.

In this paper decidable fragments of first-order two-sorted logic of reflexive common knowledge (FRCL) are considered. A language of FRCL is based on first-order two-sorted extension of common knowledge logic [4], containing individual knowledge operators, reflexive "common knowledge" operator and "everyone knows" operator. A reflexive common knowledge is based on reflexive and transitive closure of individual knowledge. The irreflexive knowledge (see, e.g., [3]) is based only on transitive closure of individual knowledge. Individual knowledge operators satisfy modal postulates of first-order two-sorted multi-modal logic  $K_n$ . A language of FRCL contains two sorts of variables and constants, namely, variables and constants for agents, variables and constants for other individuals.

## 2. Language of FRCL and calculi

FRCL is a first-order version of two-sorted multi-modal logic of reflexive common knowledge denoted as  $K_n(C)$ .

A language of FRCL contains: a denumerable set of predicate symbols; a denumerable set of agent constants  $a_1, a_2, \ldots$ ; a denumerable set of constants for other individuals  $c_1, c_2, \ldots$ ; a denumerable set of agent variables  $x^a, y^a, z^a, x_1^a, y_1^a, \ldots$ ; a denumerable set of variables for other individuals  $x, y, z, x_1, y_1, \ldots$ ; logical symbols:  $\supset, \land, \lor, \neg, \forall, \exists$ ; knowledge operators: individual knowledge operators

 $[t_k^a]$  (where  $k \in \{1, ..., m\}$  and  $m \ge 1$ ,  $t_k^a$  is an agent term); "everyone knows" operator  $\mathcal{E}$  and "common knowledge" operator  $\mathcal{C}$ . A term is a constant or a variable. An agent term is an agent constant or an agent variable. Formulas are constructed in a traditional way. A formula (sequent) is a logical one if it contains only logical symbols and atomic formulas.

The formula  $[t_i^a](A)$  means: "agent  $t_i$  knows that A". The knowledge operators  $[t_i^a]$   $(1 \le i \le n)$  satisfy axioms of the basic multi-modal logic  $K_n$  (as in [1]). The formula  $\mathcal{E}(A)$  means: "everybody agent  $i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$  knows A", i.e.,  $\mathcal{E}(A) \equiv \bigwedge_{i=1}^n [t_i^a](A)$ . The formula  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  means: "A is common knowledge of all agents" (therefore we use only so-called public common knowledge operator). We consider so-called reflexive common knowledge operator [4], which satisfies the following axioms:  $\mathcal{C}(A) \supset (A \land \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{C}(A)))$  (common knowledge axiom) and  $A \land \mathcal{C}(A \supset \mathcal{E}(A)) \supset \mathcal{C}(A)$  (induction axiom). In the case of irreflexive common knowledge operator [3] instead of these axioms there are the following common knowledge axiom  $\mathcal{C}(A) \supset \mathcal{E}(A \land \mathcal{C}(A))$  and the following induction rule:  $A \supset \mathcal{E}(A \land B)$  implies  $A \supset \mathcal{C}(B)$ . A formal semantics of formulas with the knowledge operators  $[t_i^a]$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  can be found in [4].

A sequent S is a *miniscoped* sequent if all negative (positive) occurrences of  $\forall$  ( $\exists$ , correspondingly) in S occur only in formulas of the shape  $Q\bar{x}A(\bar{x})$  and  $Qx^a[x^a]B$ , where  $Q \in \{\forall, \exists\}, \bar{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n, n \geq 0$ ,  $Q\bar{x}A(\bar{x})$  is a decidable logical formula (a logical formula (sequent) is decidable if it belongs to a decidable class of classical first-order logic).

A sequent S is an RC-sequent, if S satisfies the following conditions: (a) the sequent S is a miniscoped one (miniscoped condition); (b) if any formula of the shape C(A) occur negatively in S then A does not contain positive occurrences of operator  $\sigma$  (where  $\sigma \in \{[t_i^a], C, \mathcal{E}\}$ )(regularity condition); (c) the sequent S contains at most one positive occurrence of a formula  $\sigma(A)$  where  $\sigma \in \{[t^a], \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}\}$  and  $\sigma(A)$  is not a subformula of another formula, but A can contain occurrences of formulas of the shape  $\sigma B$  (Horn-type condition). An RC-sequent is an induction-free one if S does not contain positive occurrences of the induction-type operator C.

Let us introduce some canonical forms of RC-sequents.

An RC-sequent S is a primary RC-sequent, if  $S = \Sigma_1$ ,  $\forall \mathcal{K}_i \Gamma$ ,  $C\Theta \to \Sigma_2$ ,  $\exists \mathcal{K}_j A$ , C(B), where for every k ( $k \in \{1, 2\}$ ),  $\Sigma_k$  is empty or consists of decidable logical formulas;  $\forall \mathcal{K}_i \Gamma$  is empty or consists of formulas of the shape  $\forall x_i^a [x_i^a] M$  or  $[a_i] M$  ( $1 \le i \le m$ );  $C\Theta$  is empty or consists of formulas of the shape C(A);  $\exists \mathcal{K}_j A$  is empty or is a formula of the shape  $\exists x_j^a [x_j^a] A$  or  $[a_j] A$  ( $j \in \{1, ..., n\}$ ); C(B) is empty or is a formula of the shape C(B). An RC-sequent S is a reduced primary, if S is a primary one not containing  $C\Theta$  and C(B).

Log is a calculus in which logical sequents are decidable.

As in [1] let us introduce a calculus  $K_nC_\omega$  containing infinitary rule for the common knowledge operator. This rule defines the semantics of the reflexive common knowledge operator. The calculus  $K_nC_\omega$  is convenient to prove disjunctive invertibility of separation rules (see below). The calculus  $K_nC_\omega$  is defined by the following postulates:

Logical axiom:  $\Sigma_1 \to \Sigma_2$ , where  $Log \vdash \Sigma_1 \to \Sigma_2$ .

Logical rules consist of traditional invertible rules for logical symbols.

Rules for knowledge:

$$\frac{A, \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{C}(A)), \Gamma_1 \to \Delta_1}{\mathcal{C}(A), \Gamma_1 \to \Delta_1} (\mathcal{C} \to) \qquad \frac{A, \Pi \to \Theta}{\mathcal{C}(A), \Pi \to \Theta} (\mathcal{C}_0 \to),$$

where  $\Gamma_1 \to \Delta_1$  contains a positive occurrence of knowledge operators;  $\Pi \to \Theta$  does not contain positive occurrences of knowledge operators;

$$\frac{\Gamma \to \Delta, A; \Gamma \to \Delta, \mathcal{E}(A); \dots; \Gamma \to \Delta; \mathcal{E}^k(A); \dots}{\Gamma \to \Delta, \mathcal{C}(A)} (\to \mathcal{C}_{\omega}),$$

where  $k \in \omega = \{0, 1, ...\}; \mathcal{E}^0(A) = A, \mathcal{E}^k(A) = \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}^{k-1}(A)), k \ge 1;$ 

$$\frac{\Gamma \to \Delta, \wedge_{i=1}^{m} [a_i] A}{\Gamma \to \Delta, \mathcal{E}(A)} (\to \mathcal{E}) \qquad \frac{\wedge_{i=1}^{m} [a_i] A, \Gamma \to \Delta}{\mathcal{E}(A), \Gamma \to \Delta} (\mathcal{E} \to).$$

Separation rules:

$$\frac{S_l}{\Sigma_1, \forall \mathcal{K}_i \Gamma \to \Sigma_2, \exists \mathcal{K}_j A} (SR_l),$$

where  $l \in \{1, 2\}$ ; the conclusion of these rules is a reduced primary RC-sequent such that  $Log \nvdash \Sigma_1 \to \Sigma_2$ .

Let  $\exists \mathcal{K}_j A = \exists x_j^a [x_j^a] A$  and  $\forall \mathcal{K}_i \Gamma = \forall \mathcal{K}_i \Gamma_0, [a_1] \Gamma_1, \dots, [a_n] \Gamma_n, (n \geq 0)$  where  $\forall \mathcal{K}_i \Gamma_0$  is empty or consists of formulas of the shape  $\forall x_i^a [x_i^a] M$ ;  $[a_k] \Gamma_k$   $(1 \leq k \leq n)$  is empty or consists of formulas of the shape  $[a_k] N$ . Then  $S_1 = \Gamma_0, \Gamma_k \to A, k \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ .

Let  $\exists \mathcal{K}_j A = [a_j]A$  and  $\forall \mathcal{K}_i \Gamma$  has the same shape as in the previous case. Then  $S_2 = \Gamma_0, \Gamma_k^{\circ} \to A$ , where  $\Gamma_k^{\circ} = \Gamma_k$  if k = j, and  $\Gamma_k^{\circ} = \emptyset$  in opposite case.

A calculus  $K_nC$  is obtained from  $K_nC_\omega$  by dropping the rule  $(\to C_\omega)$ .

A calculus  $K_n^*C$  is obtained from  $K_nC$  by adding the following rule:

$$\frac{\Gamma \to \Delta, A; \Gamma \to \Delta, \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{C}(A))}{\Gamma \to \Delta, \mathcal{C}(A)} (\to \mathcal{C}^+);$$

Now we define the basic calculus  $K_n^+C$ . First, let us introduce some auxiliary notions. Formulas A and  $A^*$  are called parametrically identical ones (in symbols  $A \approx A^*$ ) if either  $A = A^*$ , or A and  $A^*$  are congruent, or differ only by the corresponding occurrences of eigen-variables of the rules  $(\to \forall)$ ,  $(\exists \to)$ . RC-sequents  $S = A_1, \ldots, A_n \to A_{n+1}, \ldots, A_{n+m}$  and  $S^* = A_1^*, \ldots, A_n^* \to A_{n+1}^*, \ldots, A_{n+m}^*$  are parametrically identical (in symbols  $S \approx S^*$ ), if  $\forall k$   $(1 \le k \le n+m)$  formulas  $A_k$  and  $A_k^*$  are parametrically identical ones. An RC-sequent  $S = \Gamma \to \Delta$  subsumes an RC-sequent  $S^* = \Pi$ ,  $\Gamma^* \to \Delta^*$ ,  $\Theta$  (in symbols  $S \succeq S^*$ ), if  $\Gamma \to \Delta \approx \Gamma^* \to \Delta^*$ . In this case the RC-sequent  $S^*$  is subsumed by S (in a special case,  $S = S^*$  or  $S \approx S^*$ ).

In derivations in the calculus  $K_n^+C$  along with logical axioms non-logical axioms are used. These non-logical axioms are defined in following way. Let (i) be a branch from a derivation and an RC-sequent  $S^* = \Gamma^*$ ,  $\Pi \to \Delta^*$ ,  $\Theta$  belongs to the branch (i). Let in the branch (i) (below than  $S^*$ ) there exists RC-sequent  $S = \Gamma \to \Delta$  such that

 $S \succeq S^*$ . Then the *RC*-sequent *S* is a *saturated* one. A saturated *RC*-sequent *S* is a *non-logical axiom* (*loop axiom*) if *S* has the following shape:  $\Gamma \to \Delta, C(A)$ .

A calculus  $K_n^+C$  is obtained from  $K_n^*C$  by adding the non-logical axiom.

All rules of the calculi  $K_n C_{\omega}$  and  $K_n^* C$ , except the separation rules  $(SR_i)$   $(i \in \{1,2\})$ , are invertible.

LEMMA 1 (disjunctive invertibility of  $(SR_i)$ ). Let S be a reduced primary RC-sequent, and  $S_i$ ,  $(i \in \{1,2\})$  be a premise of  $(SR_i)$ . Then if  $K_nC_\omega \vdash S$  then (1) either  $Log \vdash \Sigma_1 \to \Sigma_2$ , or (2) there exists such k that  $K_nC_\omega \vdash S_1$ , or  $K_nC_\omega \vdash S_2$ .

Bottom-up applying logical rules (except the rules  $(\to \exists)$   $(\forall \to)$ ) and rules  $(\to \mathcal{E})$ ,  $(\mathcal{E} \to)$  of the calculus  $K_n^*C$  any RC-sequent S can be reduced to a set of primary RC-sequents. A reduction of RC-sequent S to a set of reduced primary RC-sequents is carried out bottom-up applying (in all possible ways) rules of  $K_n^*C$ . Using the invertibility of these rules we get that if  $K_n^*C \vdash S$  then  $K_n^*C \vdash S_j$ , where  $j \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$  is primary (reduced primary) RC-sequent.

To prove that the separation rules  $(SR_i)$ ,  $(i \in \{1,2\})$  are disjunctive invertible in  $K_n^+C$  let us introduce an invariant calculus  $INK_nC$  which is a connecting link between the calculi  $K_nC_\omega$  and  $K_n^+C$ . A calculus  $INK_nC$  is obtained from the calculus  $K_n^*C$  by adding the following rule:

$$\frac{\Gamma \to \Delta, I; \ I \to \mathcal{E}(I); \ I \to A}{\Gamma \to \Delta, \mathcal{C}(A)} (\to \mathcal{C}^*),$$

where a formula I is called an invariant formula and is constructed automatically using the shape of non-logical axioms in a derivation in the calculus  $K_n^+C$ .

Analogously as in [5] we can prove that  $K_n^+C \vdash S \iff INK_nC \vdash S \iff K_nC_\omega \vdash S$ , where S is an RC-sequent. Thus, the separation rules  $(SR_i)$ ,  $(i \in \{1, 2\})$  are also disjunctive invertible in  $K_n^+C$ .

# 3. Decision procedure for RC-sequents

First, we present a decision procedure for induction-free RC-sequents. Decision procedure for induction-free RC-sequents is realized by constructing so-called ordered derivation in the calculus  $K_nC$ .

An ordered derivation D for induction-free RC-sequents is a derivation consisting of several horizontal levels. Each level consists of bottom-up applications of rules of the calculus  $K_nC$ . In each level, when a set consisting of only reduced primary RC-sequents is received all possible bottom-up applications of separation rules  $(SR_i)$ ,  $i \in \{1,2\}$  to every reduced primary RC-sequent are carried out. An ordered derivation D is successful one, if each leaf of D is a logical axiom. In opposite case D is unsuccessful.

Each bottom-up application of the separation rules  $(SR_i)$   $(i \in \{1, 2\})$  supplies a possibility to construct a different (in general) ordered derivation.

From the invertibility of the rules of  $K_nC$  and from the shape of these rules we get that one can automatically construct a successful or unsuccessful ordered derivation of an RC-sequent S in  $K_nC$ . The process of construction of such derivation D always terminates.

A decision procedure for non-induction-free RC-sequents is realized constructing an ordered derivation D in the calculus  $K_n^+C$  analogously as in the case of induction-free RC-sequent. If each leaf of an ordered derivation D of RC-sequent S is either a logical axiom, or a non-logical axiom then  $K_n^+C \vdash S$ . In this case D is a successful ordered derivation. In opposite case D is unsuccessful.

THEOREM 1. Let S be an RC-sequent. Then one can automatically construct a successful or unsuccessful ordered derivation of the RC-sequent S in  $K_n^+C$ . This process always terminates.

*Proof.* Automatic way of construction of an ordered derivation D and correctness (i.e., preservation of derivability) follows from invertibility of the rules; termination follows from finiteness of a set of generated subformulas in D (congruent subformulas are merged).

Depending on decision procedures for different fragments of first-order logic we can get decision procedures for different fragments of FRCL.

## References

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#### REZIUMĖ

#### R. Pliuškevičius. Refleksyviosios bendro žinojimo logikos išsprendžiami kvantoriniai fragmentai

Pasiūlytos išprendžiamosios procedūros refleksyviosios bendro žinojimo logikos kvantoriniams fragmentams. Išprendžiamosios procedūros yra grindžiamos sekvenciniais skaičiavimais.