

Strong Completeness and Limited Canonicity for PDL

Gerard Renardel de Lavalette · Barteld Kooi ·
Rineke Verbrugge

Published online: 11 February 2009
© Springer Science+Business Media B.V. 2009

Erratum to: J Log Lang Inf (2008) 17:69–87
DOI 10.1007/s10849-007-9051-4

Our paper [Renardel de Lavalette et al. \(2008\)](#) “Strong completeness and limited canonicity for PDL” contains three unfortunate mistakes that we would like to correct.

1. First of all, Lemma 1 on the equivalence of saturated and maximal consistent sets for PDL_ω is not original, contrary to what we stated in the paper. In fact, it has been proved before as Corollary 9.3.6 on p. 222 of [Goldblatt \(1993\)](#) and as Corollary 3.10 in [Seeger \(1994\)](#).
2. Theorem 1 of [Renardel de Lavalette et al. \(2008\)](#) on strong completeness of PDL_ω is not really new. In [Goldblatt \(1982, 1993\)](#) and [Seeger \(1994\)](#), strong completeness has been proved for several infinitary modal logics, and in [Goldblatt \(1987\)](#) completeness for first-order dynamic logic has been proved. All these proofs follow essentially the same pattern: first it is shown in a Lindenbaum Lemma that each consistent set is contained in a maximal consistent set, then a canonical model is constructed from maximal consistent sets and a Truth Lemma is proved. In all

The online version of the original article can be found under doi:[10.1007/s10849-007-9051-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10849-007-9051-4).

G. Renardel de Lavalette (✉)
Department of Computing Science, University of Groningen, P.O. Box 407, Groningen 9700 AK,
The Netherlands
e-mail: g.r.renardel.de.lavalette@rug.nl

B. Kooi
Faculty of Philosophy, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands
e-mail: b.p.Kooi@rug.nl

R. Verbrugge
Department of Artificial Intelligence, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands
e-mail: rineke@ai.rug.nl

cases, the proof of the Lindenbaum Lemma requires additional effort, since the logics in question are not compact. This additional effort can be summarized by the slogan *saturated sets are maximal consistent*, and this is done explicitly in Goldblatt (1993) and Segerberg (1994).

In PDL, formulas and programs are defined with mutual recursion, since test programs $A?$ for arbitrary formulas A are allowed. This is unlike the logics treated in the completeness proofs in Goldblatt (1982, 1987, 1993) and Segerberg (1994), where the recursion is nested: first the modalities/programs are defined, and then the formulas using the modalities or programs. The structure of the Truth Lemma reflects this. First, some property is proved for modalities/programs. This property is then used in the proof of the following formula property: a formula holds in a maximal consistent set in the canonical model iff it is an element of that set. For PDL_ω , the property for programs and the formula property have to be proved via simultaneous induction. This requires some adaptation of the proofs mentioned above, but the adaptation is rather straightforward, as Professor Goldblatt has kindly shown us (in private correspondence).

Thus, contrary to our remark on p. 70 that the proof in Goldblatt (1982) “does not transfer to PDL”, there is an extension of Goldblatt’s methods to PDL. In particular, Theorem 13.12 on first-order dynamic logic in Goldblatt (1987) straightforwardly leads to the Lindenbaum Lemma for PDL_ω . Therefore, we no longer claim any priority regarding the proof of strong completeness of PDL_ω . Indeed, the proof of Theorem 1 in Renardel de Lavalette et al. (2008) turns out to be a rather short argument that can be obtained by stripping down other, more general proofs to the bare essentials for PDL.

- Finally, the notion of derivable sequent used in Lemma 1 of Renardel de Lavalette et al. (2008) does not correspond to Definition 4. This can be remedied by the following adaptation of Definition 4. A sequent $\Gamma \vdash \varphi$ is derivable iff it is the root of some derivation tree; a derivation tree is a well-founded tree (i.e. with all branches finite), with leaves labeled with axioms, and non-leaves labeled with sequents that are the conclusion of a rule with the labels of the children as premises. This yields an equivalent notion of derivability, corresponding to the definition in Mirkowska (1981).

Acknowledgment We thank Professor Goldblatt for pointing out these mistakes to us.

References

- Goldblatt, R. (1982). *Axiomatising the logic of computer programming*. Lecture Notes in Computer Science (Vol. 130). Berlin: Springer.
- Goldblatt, R. (1987). *Logics of time and computation*. CSLI Lecture Notes (Vol. 7). Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications (2nd ed., revised and expanded, 1992).
- Goldblatt, R. (1993). *Mathematics of modality*. CSLI Lecture Notes (Vol. 43). Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.
- Mirkowska, G. (1981). PAL—Propositional algorithmic logic. In E. Engeler (Ed.), *Logic of Programs*. Lecture Notes in Computer Science (Vol. 125, pp. 23–101). Berlin: Springer.
- Renardel de Lavalette, G. R., Kooi, B., & Verbrugge, R. (2008). Strong completeness and limited canonicity for PDL. *Journal of Logic, Language and Information*, 17, 69–87.
- Segerberg, K. (1994). A model existence program in infinitary propositional modal logic. *Journal of Philosophical Logic*, 23, 337–367.