

Interpreting Łukasiewicz logic into Intuitionistic logic.

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Łukasiewicz (infinite-valued propositional) logic – denoted \mathbf{L} – and Intuitionistic (propositional) logic – denoted \mathbf{Int} – are two of the oldest and most well studied systems of non-classical logic. See [2] and [1], respectively, for background. The two logics were conceived with entirely different motivations, and have very different formal properties. Nonetheless, we prove the following.

Notation. We fix countable sets of propositional variables X and Y , and write FORM_X for the set of formulæ of \mathbf{L} and FORM_Y for the set of formulæ of \mathbf{Int} . We further denote by $\vdash_{\mathbf{L}}$ and $\vdash_{\mathbf{Int}}$ the syntactic consequence relations of \mathbf{L} and \mathbf{Int} , respectively.

Theorem. *There exists a deductively closed theory $\Theta_{\mathbf{L}}$ in \mathbf{Int} , and a function $\mathcal{T} : \text{FORM}_X \rightarrow \text{FORM}_Y$, such that, for each $\alpha \in \text{FORM}_X$, the following holds.*

$$\vdash_{\mathbf{L}} \alpha \quad \text{if, and only if,} \quad \Theta_{\mathbf{L}} \vdash_{\mathbf{Int}} \mathcal{T}(\alpha) \quad (1)$$

Remark. The function \mathcal{T} is essentially surjective in the following sense. Given $\beta_1 \in \text{FORM}_Y$, there exists $\beta_2 \in \text{FORM}_Y$ such that β_1 and β_2 are logically equivalent modulo $\Theta_{\mathbf{L}}$ (i.e. $\Theta_{\mathbf{L}} \vdash_{\mathbf{Int}} \beta_1 \leftrightarrow \beta_2$), and $\mathcal{T}(\alpha) = \beta_2$ for some $\alpha \in \text{FORM}_X$.

The proof of the theorem rests on a remarkable property of the lattice \mathcal{L}_{fa} of finitely axiomatisable theories in \mathbf{L} :

Lemma. *The (distributive) lattice \mathcal{L}_{fa} is a (countable) Heyting algebra.*

The set of maximally consistent theories in \mathbf{L} carries a natural topology that makes it homeomorphic to $[0, 1]^\omega$. The lattice \mathcal{L}_{fa} is anti-isomorphic to the lattice of (cylindrified) rational polyhedra in $[0, 1]^\omega$. This is proved by passing to Lindenbaum-Tarski algebras, and applying the geometric duality theory of Chang’s MV-algebras, the algebraic counterparts of \mathbf{L} . Algebraically, the lemma asserts the remarkable fact that *the lattice of principal ideals of $\mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{L}}$, the free MV-algebra on ω generators, is a countable Heyting algebra*. This result is part of a more general investigation of the topology of prime spectral spaces of MV-algebras and related structures; see Andrea Pedrini’s submitted abstract. It follows that there is an onto homomorphism of Heyting algebras

$$q : \mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{Int}} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\text{fa}},$$

where $\mathcal{F}_{\mathbf{Int}}$ is the free Heyting algebra on ω generators. Now, if \top is the top element of \mathcal{L}_{fa} , the filter $q^{-1}(\top)$ corresponds to a theory $\Theta_{\mathbf{L}}$ in \mathbf{Int} , and the map q can be used to define the translation map \mathcal{T} , leading to a proof of the theorem.

At the time of writing, the theorem above is a purely existential result. In further work, we plan to investigate the properties of \mathcal{T} and $\Theta_{\mathbf{L}}$ more closely. Some obvious questions to be addressed include axiomatisability of $\Theta_{\mathbf{L}}$, and computability of \mathcal{T} .

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