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茅号	姓 名	职称	单位	论文题目	刊物、会议名称	年、卷、期	类别
1	柴小文 马维华	硕士 副高	042 042	量子密码学安全协议的研究	微机发展	2002.12.05	
2	陈兵 王立松	中级中级	042 042	SOCKSV5服务器的研究与实现	数据采集与处理	2002.17.03	Н
3	陈兵 万晖 王立松 丁秋林	中级中级中级	042 外 041 041	一种新型的安全网模型的设计	计算机科学	2002.29.09	Н
4	陈兵	中级	042	基于XML的web数据交换	计算机工程	2002.28.02	J
5	陈兵 王立松	中级中级	042 042	基于哈希链表的HTTP代理缓存机制的实现	南京航空航天大学学报	2002.34.01	Н
6	陈兵 王立松	中级 中级	042 042	基于三层架构的网络拓扑结构发 现	计算机应用	2002.22.06	J
7	陈兵 王立松	中级 中级	042 042	网络安全体系结构研究	计算机工程与应用	2002.38.07	J
8	陈兵 王立松 周良 丁秋林	中级中级中级正高	042 042 042 042	基于大型数据库平台的柔性MIS 的设计与实现	计算机工程与应用	2002.37.06	J
9	陈兵 丁秋林	中级 正高		安全SOCKET通信平台的设计与 实现	南京大学学报	2002.38.00	Н
10	陈兵 王立松	中级中级	042 042	电子行业BOM的应用与发展	电力自动化设备	2002.22.05	J
11	陈丽 周良 丁秋林	硕士 中级 正高	042 042 042	利用XML和ASP技术实现数据库 的数据集成与交换	计算机应用研究	2002.00.00	J
12	陈松灿	正高	042	复形态联想记忆及其性能分析	软件学报	2002.13.03	Н
13	陈松灿	正高	042	多重加权改进型指数双向联想记 忆网络及其决策性能	电子学报	2002.30.08	El、 I
14	陈松灿	正高	042	内连接复值双向联想记忆模型及 性能分析	软件学报	2002.13.03	Н
15	陈松灿 刘征	正高 硕士	042 042	具有内连接的指数多值双向联想 记忆模型	控制理论与应用	2002.19.01	Н
16	陈一飞 章勇	硕士 副高	042 042	安全供货库存量的径向基函数决 策模型	航空计算技术	2002.32.03	J
17	高航 刘伟龙 陈松灿	副高 硕士 正高	042 042 042	最小平方形态联想记忆模型的研 究与实现	小型微型计算机系统	2002.23.08	Н
18	高鹏 黄忠定 泉 京 京 京 京 京 泉 京 泉 京 り 表 り た り り り り り り り り り り り り り り り り	硕正中 硕正 中 硕士	042 042 042 042 042	一种实用面向对象软件度量工具 的设计与实现	小型微型计算机系统	2002.23.12	Н
19	胡宏 万麟瑞	硕士 副高		基于层次关系模型的MDBMS研究	计算机工程与设计	2002.23.03	J

亨号	姓名		单位	论文题目	刊物、会议名称	年、卷、期	类别
20	胡一萍 徐涛	延 硕士 副高	042 042	一种基于粗糙集的模糊数学形态 学方法	数据采集与处理	2002.17.03	Н
21	刘学军 陈松丸 彭宏京	正高	042 042 042	基于支持向量机的计算机键盘用 户身份验真	计算机研究与发展	2002.39.09	Н
22	柳雪湖黄宝银龙高鹏	正高	042 042 042 042	数据仓库系统中用户驱动报表工具的设计与实现	小型微型计算机系统	2002.23.02	Н
23	骆洪青 万麟瑞 胡宏		042 042 042	Systolic陈列中的多维DFT立体向 量法研究	计算机工程与设计	2002.23.01	J
24	马进 徐涛	硕士 副高	042 042	防火墙技术剖析与启示	航空计算技术	2002.32.04	J
25	马维华	副高	042	利用UART扩展大容量具有SPI接口的快速串行E2PROM的方法	计算机应用	2002.22.09	J
26	马维华	副高	042	基于虚拟I2C总线的多并行口扩展 技术	微电子学与计算机	2002.19.09	J
27	马维华	副高	042	提高多机数据采集系统的可靠性	数据采集与处理	2002.17.04	Н
28	马维华	副高	042	研究型大学应正确对待本科教育	南京航空航天大学学报社 科版	2002.4.00	
29	毛宇光 徐浩磐 韩波		042 042 042	一种基于三值逻辑的关系演算	计算机科学	2002.29.8(增)	Н
30	潘志松 陈松灿 彭宏京	正高	042 042 042	一种基于人工免疫和神经网络相结合的入侵检测系统模型	计算机科学(专刊)	2002.29.09	Н
31	彭宏京 陈松灿		042 042	改进的稀疏分布存储器模型及其 学习能力分析	电子学报	2002.30.05	EI、F
32	皮德常	中级	042	NGC-CIMS信息分类编码系统的设计与实现	小型微型计算机系统	2002.23.05	Н
33	皮德常	中级	042	CIMS中信息分类编码技术及其发 展	计算机集成制造系统 -CIMS	2002.8.01	J
34	皮德常	中级	042	CIMS分类编码中码位依赖的研究	计算机应用研究	2002.19.02	J
35	皮德常	中级	042	一种基于可扩展对象的程序设计 方法	计算机应用研究	2002.19.01	J
36	钱红燕	中级	042	计算机网络实验课的探讨	南京航空航天大学学报(社会科学版)	2002.4.00	
37	沈国华 黄志对 柳雪涛 陶剑青	副高 硕士	042 042 タト 042	面向试飞工程数据仓库系统的设 计与实现	计算机工程与设计	2002.23.10	J
38	孙红星 万麟瑞 李志飞	硕士 副高	042 042 042	HTTP分布式缓存机制研究	计算机工程与应用	2002.38.04	J

序号	姓 名		单位	论文题目	刊物、会议名称	年、卷、期	类别
39	孙伟 周良	硕士 中级	042 042	ASP技术实现动态权限管理	计算机应用研究	2002.00.01	J
40	谭志国 陈松灿	硕士 正高	042 042	灰色SART模型	南京大学学报	002.38.2002、3	Н
41	王立松 陈兵 周良 丁秋林	中级 中级 中级 正高	042 042 042 042	MRPII系统中基于对象关系方法 的BOM管理的设计	计算机工程与应用	2002.38.06	J
42	王立松 陈兵	中级中级	042 042	产品成本管理的设计与实现	电力自动化设备	2002.22.05	J
43	王立松 陈兵 林钧海 秦小麟	中级 中级 正高 正高	042 042 042 042	基于对象的数字地图存储管理技术	南京航空航天大学学报	2002.34.01	J
44	吴洁 徐琳 韩军 丁秋林	中级 其他1 其他1 正高	042 外 外 外 042	xml TRAM+:改进的软件需求和系统结构管理模型	计算机应用	2002.22.06	J
45	吴洁 丁秋林	中级正高	042 042	基于xml的系统结构管理模型	计算机工程与应用	2002.38.21	J
46	吴洁	中级	042	xml TRAM+: Using xml Technology to manage software Requirements and Architectures	The Eight Australia World wide web conference	2002.01	
47	吴洁 丁秋林	中级正高	042 042	Furtter studyon Management in System Requirements and Architectures	The 6th world Multiconference on Aystematics Cybernetics and Informatics 2002	2002.01	ISTP
48	吴洁 丁秋林	中级正高	042 042	A Synthetic Environment for System Evolution	南京航空航天大学学报英 文版	2002.19.02	J
49	吴洁	中级	042	数据挖掘的粗集方法研究	宁夏大学学报自然科学版	2002.23.02	J
50	吴洁	中级	042	从BLUEJ谈面向对象的交互式集成教学环境的模式与意义	闽江学院学报	2002.16.06	
51	项阳	硕士	042	COTBA对象服务器资源使用的分析与优化	计算机工程与设计	2002.23.08	J
52	项阳 顾其威	硕士 正高	042 042	一种新的基于A算法的分布式数 据库查询优化	计算机工程与应用	2002.00.11	J
53	谢强 郑洪源 周良 丁秋林	中级高高高高		基于故障模式的外部质量控制及 分析	中国机械工程	2002.13.18	Н
54	谢强 周良 丁秋林	中级 中级 正高	042 042 042	基于WEB的产品售后服务研究	计算机应用研究	2002.19.05	J

序号	姓 名	职称	单位	论文题目	刊物、会议名称	年、卷、期	类别
55	谢维杲 顾其威	初级 正高	042 外	构建结合入侵检测的桌面防御系 统	计算机应用研究	2002.19.07	J
56	徐敏 金远平 朱梧槚	中级 正高 正高	042 外 042	Mining Cyclic Generalized Association Rules	南京航空航天大学学报英 文版	2002.19.01	J
57	徐涛 骆明	副高硕士	042 042	一种新颖的基于坐标逻辑的多结 构元图像边缘检测方法	数据采集与处理	2002.17.03	H.
58	许瑛 马维华	硕士 副高	042 042	软实时分布式系统中的时间期限 分配	航空计算技术	2002.32.02	J
59	许瑛 马维华	硕士 副高	042 042	微机网络集中抄表系统的一种设 计	自动化技术与应用	2002.21.03	
60	章勇 陈一飞 卫修菊 丁秋林	副高 硕士 其他 1 正高	042 042 タト 042	生产管理中的智能优化决策	计算机应用研究	2002.19.10	J
61	张道强 陈松灿	博士正高	042 042	Fuzzy clustering using kernel Method	International Conference on Control and Automation	2002.01	
62	张仕 毛宇光	硕士 副高	042 042	XML语法检查的实现	计算机工程与设计	2002.23.11	J
63	张志政 毛宇光 韩波 邬丽云	硕士 副 硕士	042 042 042 042	神经网络在汇率预测上的应用	计算机科学	2002.29.8(增)	Н
64	张卓莹	中级	042	数学模型:数学与科学技术之间 的桥梁	南京航空航天大学学报社 科版	2002.4.18	
65	张卓莹	中级	042	基于IOS/OSI高层协议通讯的设计	计算机应用研究	2002.00.00	J
66	张卓莹 是锦春	中级副高	042 042	异构系统互连网络的设计与实现	通信技术	2002.00.02	J
67	张卓莹 是锦春	中级副高	042 042	市域异种机互连IBM主机接口和 通信软件系统的研制	计算机工程与应用	2002.38.00	J
68	周良 郑洪源 谢强 丁秋林	中级 初级 中级 正高	042 042 042 042	客户关系管理系统研究	计算机应用研究	2002.00.09	J
69	朱朝晖 潘正华 陈世福 朱梧槚	副高 副高 正高 正高	042 外 外 042	Valuation Structure	The Journal of symbolic logic	2002.67.01	SCI、 EI、W
70	邹永娟 秦小麟	硕士 正高	042 042	时空数据库中的时空拓扑查询	计算机科学	2002.29.04	Н

VALUATION STRUCTURE

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Abstract. This paper introduces valuation structures associated with preferential models. Based on KLM valuation structures, we present a canonical approach to obtain injective preferential models for any preferential relation satisfying the property INJ, and give uniform proofs of representation theorems for injective preferential relations appeared in the literature. In particular, we show that, in any propositional language (finite or infinite), a preferential inference relation satisfies INJ if and only if it can be represented by a standard preferential model. This conclusion generalizes the result obtained by Freund. In addition, we prove that, when the language is finite, our framework is sufficient to establish a representation theorem for any injective relation.

§1. Introduction. Nonmonotonic reasoning is one of important research fields in AI. Researches in this filed can be broadly classified into two categories: those that proposed systems in which nonmonotonic inferences are performed and those that presented general framework in which nonmonotonic reasoning systems could be compared and classified. In the former category, the best known are probably: negation as failure, circumscription, the modal system of McDermott and Doyle, default logic and autoepistemic logic. In the latter category, Gabbay was probably first to suggest focusing the study of nonmonotonic logics on their inference relations [4]. Inspired by Gabbay's work, there has been interest in researching into nonmonotonic inference relation from various angles.

One of the main tools in exploring nonmonotonic inference relations is the representation of these inference relations in terms of preferential models. A number of representation theorems have been established in the literature. Among them, some results illustrate that there exists a large class of nonmonotonic inference relations that can be represented by injective preferential models. These relations are referred to as injective inference relations.

The contribution of this paper is to provide an uniform framework to obtain representation theorems for injective inference relations. The key idea is the notion of the valuation structure (defined in section 3) associated with KLM models, where KLM model is introduced by Kraus, et al., in [5]. These valuation structures provide an unified approach to construct injective preferential models for inference relations satisfying INJ. Formally, let $|\sim$ be a preferential relation and W be the KLM model associated with $|\sim$, we will show that, if the relation $|\sim$ satisfies the

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LLE (Left Logical Equivalence)
 RW (Right Weakening)

$$\frac{\vdash \alpha \leftrightarrow \beta, \alpha \mid \sim \gamma}{\beta \mid \sim \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\vdash \alpha \to \beta, \gamma \mid \sim \alpha}{\gamma \mid \sim \beta}$$

 CM (Cautious Monotony)
 CUT

$$\frac{\alpha \mid \sim \beta, \alpha \mid \sim \gamma}{\beta \land \alpha \mid \sim \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\alpha \land \beta \mid \sim \gamma, \alpha \mid \sim \beta}{\alpha \mid \sim \gamma}$$

TABLE 1

property INJ then the valuation structure I(W) is an injective preferential model, moreover this injective model represents the relation $|\sim$. This result generalizes the conclusion obtained by Freund. What is more, we will illustrate that, if the relation $|\sim$ satisfies properties that are stronger than INJ, then the valuation structure I(W) has further fine features, for instance, if the relation $|\sim$ is disjunctive (resp., rational, rationally transitive) then I(W) is filtered (resp., ranked, quasi-linear), and so on. These results indicate that, the valuation structure (associated with KLM model) is a powerful tool in exploring the semantic characterizations of preferential relations that satisfy the property INJ.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: In section 2, we recall some basic definitions and results related to this paper. In section 3, we introduce valuation structures. In section 4, we discuss the valuation structure associated with *KLM* model, and adopt it to establish the representation theorems for injective relations appeared in the literature. In finite framework, section 5 explores valuation structures associated with ordinary preferential models, and shows that there exists only one injective model for any injective inference. In section 6, we compare our work with related works that have appeared in the literature.

- §2. Preliminaries. In this section, we will recall some basic definitions and results from [5] and [6], which will be used in this paper.
- **2.1.** Nonmonotonic inference relation. We consider formulae of classical propositional calculus built over a set of atomic formulae denoted L plus two constants \top and \bot (the formulae *true* and *false* respectively). If L is finite we will say that the propositional language is finite. We denote the set of all well formed formulas by Form(L). A valuation is a function $v: L \cup \{\top, \bot\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ such that $v(\top) = 1$ and $v(\bot) = 0$. We use lower case letters of the Greek alphabet to denote formulae, the letters $v, v_1, v_2, \ldots, n, m, \ldots$ to denote valuations, and U to denote the set of all valuations.

As usually, $\vdash \alpha$ means that the formula α is a tautology and $v \models \alpha$ means that the valuation v satisfies α where compound formulae are evaluated as usually. If Σ is a set of valuations, then $\Sigma \models \alpha$ means that $v \models \alpha$ for any valuation $v \in \Sigma$.

A nonmonotonic inference relation is a binary relation over formulae which satisfies some Horn or non-Horn conditions defined in the style of Gentzen. Gabbay uses the relation symbol $|\sim$ to denote nonmonotonic consequence to distinguish it from monotonic logical consequence. If α , β are formulas, then the sequence α $|\sim$ β is called a conditional assertion. Let $|\sim$ be an inference relation. As usual, the set

 $\{\beta : \alpha \mid \sim \beta\}$ is denoted by $C_{\mid \sim}(\alpha)$. If there is no ambiguity we shall write $C(\alpha)$ instead of $C_{\mid \sim}(\alpha)$. If Γ is a set of formulas then $Cn(\Gamma)$ will denote the set of classical consequence of Γ . If α is a formula, we shall write $Cn(\alpha)$ instead of $Cn(\{\alpha\})$.

A consequence relation $|\sim$ is said to be *cumulative* if and only if it contains all instances of the axiom **Reflexivity** (i.e., $\alpha \mid \sim \alpha$) and is closed under the inference rules described in Table 1.

A relation $|\sim$ is said to be *preferential* inference relation if and only if it is *cumulative* and satisfies the following rule **OR**

$$\frac{\beta \mid \sim \gamma, \alpha \mid \sim \gamma}{\beta \vee \alpha \mid \sim \gamma}.$$

2.2. Preferential Model. Following the definition in [5], a preferential model W is a triple $\langle S, l, \prec \rangle$, where S is a set, the elements of which will be called states, the interpretation function $l: S \to U$ assigns a valuation to each state, where U is the set of all valuations, and \prec is a strict partial order on S (i.e., transitive and irreflexive) satisfying the following smoothness condition: for any $\alpha \in \text{Form}(L)$, the set $\|\alpha\|_w = \{s: s \in S \text{ and } l(s) \mid = \alpha \}$ is smooth.\(^1 \text{ If there is no ambiguity, we shall write } \|\alpha\| \| \text{ instead of } \|\alpha\|_w.\) A preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is said to be injective model if and only if l is injective.

A ranked model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is a preferential model for which the strict partial order \prec is modular, i.e., for any $x, y, z \in S$, if $x \not\prec y, y \not\prec x$ and $z \prec x$, then $z \prec y$. Let $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ be a preferential model, the inference relation generated by W will be denoted by $|\sim_w$ and is defined as follows: for any formulas α and β , α $|\sim_w \beta$ if and only if for any s minimal in $||\alpha||$, $|l(s)| = \beta$. We denote the set $\{\beta: \alpha \mid \sim_w \beta\}$ by $C_w(\alpha)$.

An inference relation $|\sim$ is said to be injective preferential relation if and only if there exists an injective preferential model W such that $|\sim|=|\sim_w$.

§3. Valuation structure. In this section, we will introduce valuation structure which is the key concept in this paper. We first recall some basic definitions and notations in [9].

Let $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ be a preferential model. We adopt the following notations: the range of l will be denoted by $\operatorname{rang}(l)$ (i.e., $\operatorname{rang}(l) =_{\operatorname{def}} \{ v \in U : \exists s \ (s \in S \text{ and } l(s) = v) \}$). If $X \subseteq S$, then $l(X) =_{\operatorname{def}} \{ v \in U : \exists s \ (s \in X \text{ and } l(s) = v) \}$, and $\min(X)$ is the set of all minimal element of X with respect to \prec (i.e., $\min(X) =_{\operatorname{def}} \{ t \in X : \neg \exists s \ (s \in X \text{ and } s \prec t) \}$). If $\Sigma \subseteq \operatorname{rang}(l)$, then $l^{-1}(\Sigma) =_{\operatorname{def}} \{ s \in S : \exists v \ (v \in \Sigma \text{ and } l(s) = v) \}$; we shall write $l^{-1}(v)$ instead of $l^{-1}(\{v\})$.

Previously, in order to establish representation theorems for some inference relations, we introduced the binary relation α_w which is defined as follows.

DEFINITION 3.1 ([9]). Let $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ be a preferential model, the relation α_w is defined as follows, for any $X_1, X_2 \subseteq S$,

$$X_1 \propto_w X_2$$
 if and only if $\forall s \ (s \in X_2 \Longrightarrow \exists t \ (t \in X_1 \text{ and } t \prec s)).$

¹Let W be a set, \prec be a strict partial order over W and $V \subseteq W$, we shall say that V is smooth if and only if for any $t \in V$, either t is itself minimal in V (i.e., there is no $w \in V$ such that $w \prec t$), or there exists $s \in V$ such that $s \prec t$ and s is minimal in V.

By the transitivity of the relation \prec , it is easy to show that the relation \propto_w is transitive.

DEFINITION 3.2. Let $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ be a preferential model. The relation \sqsubseteq_w over the set rang(l) is defined by the following: for any valuations m, n in rang(l),

$$n \sqsubset_w m$$
 if and only if $l^{-1}(n) \propto_w l^{-1}(m)$.

In other words, $n \sqsubseteq_w m$ if and only if for any state s such that l(s) = m, there exists a state t with l(t) = n and $t \prec s$. If there is no ambiguity, we shall write $n \sqsubseteq m$ instead of $n \sqsubseteq_w m$. The valuation structure associated with the model W is the triple $\langle \operatorname{rang}(l), \operatorname{id}, \sqsubseteq \rangle$, where id is the identity function over the set $\operatorname{rang}(l)$. In the following, we denote this triple by I(W). For any formula α , we denote the set $\{v \in \operatorname{rang}(l) : v \models \alpha\}$ by $\|\alpha\|_{I(w)}$.

DEFINITION 3.3. A preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is said to be *valuation parsimonious* if and only if for any valuation $m \in \text{rang}(l)$, there is a formula α such that $m \in l(\min(\|\alpha\|))$.

In [1] the authors define parsimonious preferential model in the following way:

DEFINITION 3.4 ([1]). A preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is said to be *parsimonious* if and only if for every state $s \in S$ there is a formula α such that $s \in \min(\|\alpha\|)$.

It is evident that, if a preferential model is parsimonious then it is valuation parsimonious, but not conversely.

Lemma 3.1. Suppose that $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is a preferential model, then

- (i) The relation

 is transitive, and
- (ii) If the model W is valuation parsimonious then the relation \Box is irreflexive.

PROOF. (i) Immediate from the definition of \Box and the transitivity of the relation \propto_m .

(ii) Let m be any valuation in the set $\operatorname{rang}(l)$. We want to show $m \not\sqsubset m$. Suppose not. Since $m \in \operatorname{rang}(l)$ and the model W is valuation parsimonious, there is a formula α such that $m \in l(\min(\|\alpha\|))$. Hence, there exists a state $s \in S$ such that l(s) = m and $s \in \min(\|\alpha\|)$. Furthermore, by $m \sqsubset m$, there exists $t \in S$ such that l(t) = m and $t \prec s$. This contradicts $s \in \min(\|\alpha\|)$. Thus, the relation \sqsubset is irreflexive, as desired.

When the language is infinite and W just is an ordinary preferential model, the relation \square is not always irreflexive. This can be seen by the following example. Let the language $L = \{p_0, p_1, \ldots, p_n, \ldots\}$, and n be a valuation. Consider the preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ where $S = \{s_i : i \ge 1\} \cup X$, the interpretation function l satisfies $l(s_i) = n$ for any $i \ge 1$, and $l(X) = U - \{n\}$, and the relation \prec is the transitive closure of the relation $\{\langle s_{i+1}, s_i \rangle : i \ge 1\} \cup \{\langle x, s_i \rangle : i \ge 1\}$ and $x \in X\}$. Graphically, see Figure 1.

Clearly, $n \sqsubseteq_w n$. So, the relation \sqsubseteq_w is not irreflexive. What is more, in part (ii) of the above lemma, *valuation parsimonious* is just a sufficient condition, not necessary one. This can be seen by the following example. Suppose that the language is infinite and W_1 is an injective *ranked* model whose states are valuations, with two levels: v_0 in the upper level and the rest of the valuations in the lower level, i.e., the order is

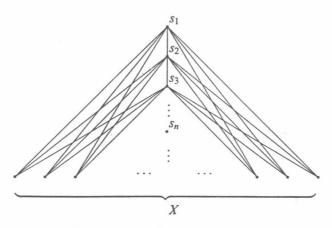


FIGURE 1. Preferential model W.

 $v \prec v_0$ for all valuations $v \neq v_0$. It is clear that the relation \sqsubseteq_{w_1} is irreflexive, but the model W_1 is not valuation parsimonious.

In addition, by the above lemma, for any valuation parsimonious preferential model W, if the relation \square is smooth then the structure I(W) is an injective preferential model. However, the relation \square is not always smooth when the language is infinite. For instance, let the language $L = \{p_0, p_1, \ldots, p_n, \ldots\}$, consider the following preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$, where

$$S = \{s, t\} \cup \{s_i : i \ge 0\} \cup \{t_i : i \ge 0\} \cup \{k_i : i \ge 0\},$$

 $l(s) = \{p_1\}^2$, $l(t) = \{p_1, p_2\}$, $l(s_0) = l(t_0) = \{p_0, p_1, p_2\}$, $l(s_i) = l(t_i) = \{p_1, p_{i+2}\}$ for any $i \ge 1$, $l(k_i) = \{p_1\} \cup \{p_{i+n} : n \ge 3\}$ for any $i \ge 0$, and the relation \prec is the transitive closure of the relation

$$\{ \langle s, s_i \rangle : i \ge 0 \} \cup \{ \langle s_{i+1}, s_i \rangle : i \ge 0 \} \cup \{ \langle t, t_i \rangle : i \ge 0 \}$$
$$\cup \{ \langle t_{i+1}, t_i \rangle : i \ge 0 \} \cup \{ \langle k_i, t_i \rangle : i \ge 0 \}.$$

Graphically, see Figure 2.

It is easy to see that the above preferential model W is parsimonious. The valuation structure I(W) is represented by the following figure.

Since the set $||p_1||_{I(w)}$ does not satisfy smoothness condition, the relation \square is not smooth. Thus, it can be seen that *parsimonious* model is not always a guarantee of the smoothness of the relation \square associated with it.

LEMMA 3.2. If $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is a preferential model, then for any formula α ,

$$l(\min(\|\alpha\|_w)) \subseteq \min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$$

where the set $\{v \in \operatorname{rang}(l) : v \models \alpha \text{ and } \neg \exists m \in \operatorname{rang}(l) \ (m \sqsubset v \text{ and } m \models \alpha)\}$ is denoted by $\min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$.

PROOF. Suppose $n \in l(\min(\|\alpha\|_w))$. We want to show $n \in \min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$. Suppose not. Then there is a valuation m such that $m \in \|\alpha\|_{I(w)}$ and $m \subseteq n$. Since $n \in l(\min(\|\alpha\|_w))$, there exists a state $s \in \min(\|\alpha\|_w)$ such that l(s) = n. By the

²We give the valuations as for a Herbrand model, that is identifying the subset of variables with its characteristic function.

FIGURE 2. Preferential model W.

$$\{p_{0}, p_{1}, p_{2}\}$$

$$\{p_{1}, p_{3}\}$$

$$\{p_{1}, p_{4}\}$$

$$\{p_{1}, p_{5}\}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\{p_{1}, p_{m}\} (m \ge 3)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\{p_{1}, p_{m}\} (m \ge 3)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\{p_{1}, p_{3}, p_{4}, p_{5}, \cdots\} \{p_{1}, p_{n+3}, p_{n+4}, p_{n+5}, \cdots\}$$

$$(n \ge 3)$$

FIGURE 3. I(W).

definition of \Box and $m \Box n$, there is a state $t \in S$ such that l(t) = m and $t \prec s$. We get a contradiction because $t \prec s$, $l(t) \models \alpha$ and $s \in \min(\|\alpha\|_w)$.

From the above lemma, the following holds.

COROLLARY 3.1. Given a preferential model W, if the valuation structure I(W) is a preferential model then $|\sim_{I(w)} \subseteq |\sim_w$.

Note that the equation $|\sim_{I(w)}|=\sim_w$ does not always hold. Consider the following model $W=\langle S,l,\prec\rangle$ where $S=\{s_0,s_1,s_2,s_3\}, \prec=\{\langle s_0,s_1\rangle,\langle s_3,s_2\rangle\},\ l(s_0)=\{p,q\},l(s_3)=\{p\}$ and $l(s_1)=l(s_2)=\{q\}$. This model and its valuation structure I(W) are represented by the following figure.

It is clear that $\top \mid \sim_w p$ and $\top \mid \not \sim_{I(w)} p$. Hence, $\mid \sim_{I(w)} \neq \mid \sim_w$. In section 5, we will show that, when the language is finite, the equation $\mid \sim_{I(w)} = \mid \sim_w$ holds for exactly those preferential models which represent the inference relations satisfying the property INJ.

$$\begin{bmatrix} s_1 \\ s_0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} s_2 \\ i(s_0) \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} i(s_3) \\ i(s_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} i(s_0) \\ i(s_3) \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} i(s_1) \\ i(s_2) \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} i(s_2) \\ i(s_2) \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} i(s$$

FIGURE 4. $|\sim_{I(w)} \neq |\sim_w$.

- §4. Valuation structure associated with *KLM* Model and injective representation. One of the topics in the study of nonmonotonic inference relations is establishing the representation theorems for them. Suppose that Φ is a set of Horn or non-Horn conditions defined in the style of Gentzen, and suppose Ω is a set of preferential models. The representation theorem $TH(\Phi,\Omega)$ is usually consisted of the following two statements:
 - (i) If an inference relation $|\sim$ satisfies the rules in Φ , then there exists a preferential model $W \in \Omega$ such that $|\sim|=|\sim_w$, and
- (ii) If a preferential model $W \in \Omega$ then the relation $|\sim_w$ satisfies the rules in Φ .

In the above two statements, the proof of the part (i) is usually harder than (ii). We call the part (i) the hard part of the representation theorem $TH(\Phi, \Omega)$.

The aim of this section is to present uniform proofs of the hard part of representation theorems for injective inference relations. Valuation structures associated with *KLM* models play a key role in this section, where *KLM* model is introduced by Kraus, et al. In the following, we recall some basic definitions and results from [5] which will be used.

Kraus, et al., have investigated the semantic characterization of preferential relations in [5]. In particular, given a preferential relation $|\sim$, they introduce a method to construct a preferential model for the relation $|\sim$. We describe this method as follows.

Let $|\sim$ be a preferential inference relation, following the technic in [5], we say that the formula α is not less ordinary than β and write $\alpha \leq \beta$ if and only if $\alpha \vee \beta \mid \sim \alpha$. A valuation m is said to be normal for the formula α (or, α -normal) if and only if $m \models C(\alpha)$. In the following, for any valuation n, Σ_n will denote the set $\{ \gamma \in \text{Form}(L) : n \text{ is a normal valuation for } \gamma \}$.

Given a preferential relation $|\sim$, Kraus, et al., construct the preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ as follows:

- (i) $S = \{ \langle m, \alpha \rangle : \alpha \in Form(L) \text{ and } m \text{ is a } \alpha\text{-normal valuation } \}$,
- (ii) $l(\langle m, \alpha \rangle) = m$, and
- (iii) $\langle m, \alpha \rangle \prec \langle n, \beta \rangle$ if and only if $\alpha \leq \beta$ and $m \models \neg \beta$.

For convenience, in the following, we call the above model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ the *KLM* model associated with the relation $|\sim$.

Lemma 4.1 ([5]). Let $|\sim$ be a preferential inference relation and $W=\langle S,\ell,\prec\rangle$ be the KLM model associated with the relation $|\sim$, then

(i) $|\sim =|\sim_w$.

(ii) If $\alpha \leq \beta$ and m is a α -normal valuation that satisfies β , then m is β -normal.

(iii) $\langle m, \beta \rangle \in \min(\|\alpha\|)$ if and only if $m \models \alpha$ and $\beta \leq \alpha$.

By the construction of KLM models and the part (iii) of the above lemma, it is clear that KLM models are parsimonious. Let $|\sim$ be a preferential relation and $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ be the KLM model associated with $|\sim$. By the definitions of valuation structure and KLM model, it is easy to see that, for any valuations m, n in rang(l), $m \sqsubset_w n$ if and only if for every formula α such that n satisfies $C(\alpha)$, m does not satisfy α and there exists a formula β such that $m \models C(\beta)$ and $\beta \le \alpha$.

Lemma 4.2. Suppose that $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is a KLM model. If the valuation n is α -normal then $n \in \min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$.

PROOF. Since the valuation n is α -normal, we get $\langle n, \alpha \rangle \in S$. By the part (iii) of Lemma 4.1, $\langle n, \alpha \rangle \in \min(\|\alpha\|_w)$. Furthermore, by Lemma 3.2, it is easy to show that $n \in \min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$.

In the following, we will discuss the smoothness of valuation structures associated with *KLM* models. The following property is introduced in [3].

INJ $C(\alpha \vee \beta) \subseteq Cn(C(\alpha) \cup C(\beta))$, where α and β are formulas.

We will show that, if a model W is KLM model associated with an inference relation satisfying INJ, then the relation \square is smooth.

LEMMA 4.3. Let $|\sim$ be a preferential relation satisfying INJ. Suppose that $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is the KLM model associated with the relation $|\sim$. For any formula α and valuation $n \in \text{rang}(l)$, if $n \models \alpha$ and n is not α -normal then there exists a α -normal valuation m_0 such that $m_0 \sqsubseteq n$.

PROOF. Put $\Gamma = \bigcup \{ C(\alpha \vee \gamma) : \gamma \in \Sigma_n \} \cup \{\alpha\} \cup \{\neg \gamma : \gamma \in \Sigma_n \}$. We want to show that the set Γ is consistent. Suppose not. Then, by the compactness of classical consequence, there must be $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_k, \delta_1, \delta_2, \ldots, \delta_h \in \Sigma_n$ such that $C(\alpha \vee \gamma_1) \cup C(\alpha \vee \gamma_2) \cup \cdots \cup C(\alpha \vee \gamma_k) \vdash \alpha \rightarrow \beta$, where $\beta = \delta_1 \vee \delta_2 \vee \cdots \vee \delta_h$. By INJ, $C(\beta) \subseteq Cn(\bigcup \{C(\delta_i) : i \leq h\})$. So, by $\delta_1, \delta_2, \ldots, \delta_h \in \Sigma_n, \beta \in \Sigma_n$. Similarly, $\gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \cdots \lor \gamma_k \lor \beta \in \Sigma_n$. Thus, $\langle n, \gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \cdots \lor \gamma_k \lor \beta \rangle \in S$. Since $n \models \alpha$ and n is not a normal valuation for α , $\langle n, \gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \cdots \lor \gamma_k \lor \alpha \rangle$ $\beta \in \|\alpha\|_w$ and $\langle n, \gamma_1 \vee \gamma_2 \vee \cdots \vee \gamma_k \vee \beta \rangle \notin \min(\|\alpha\|_w)$. Furthermore, by the smoothness of the relation \prec , there exists a state $\langle m, \delta \rangle \in \min(\|\alpha\|_w)$ such that $\langle m, \delta \rangle \prec \langle n, \gamma_1 \vee \gamma_2 \vee \cdots \vee \gamma_k \vee \beta \rangle$. So, by the construction of *KLM* model and the part (iii) of Lemma 4.1, we obtain $m \models \neg(\gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \cdots \lor \gamma_k \lor \beta), \ \delta \le \alpha$ and $\delta \leq \gamma_1 \vee \gamma_2 \vee \cdots \vee \gamma_k \vee \beta$. From $\delta \leq \alpha$ and $\delta \leq \gamma_1 \vee \gamma_2 \vee \cdots \vee \gamma_k \vee \beta$, we conclude $\alpha \lor \delta \mid \sim \delta$ and $\gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \cdots \lor \gamma_k \lor \beta \lor \delta \mid \sim \delta$. Thus, by **OR**, $\alpha \lor \gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \cdots \lor \gamma_k \lor \beta \lor \delta \mid \sim \delta$. So, $\delta \leq \gamma_1 \vee \gamma_2 \vee \cdots \vee \gamma_k \vee \beta \vee \alpha$. For any $1 \leq i \leq k$, by $\delta \leq \gamma_1 \vee \gamma_2 \vee \cdots \vee \gamma_k \vee \beta \vee \alpha$ and $\gamma_1 \vee \gamma_2 \vee \cdots \vee \gamma_k \vee \beta \vee \alpha \leq \alpha \vee \gamma_i$, we get $\delta \leq \alpha \vee \gamma_i$. Since $m \models \alpha \vee \gamma_i$, $\delta \leq \alpha \vee \gamma_i$ and m is δ -normal, by part (ii) of Lemma 4.1, m is a normal valuation for $\alpha \vee \gamma_i$. Hence, $m \models C(\alpha \vee \gamma_1) \cup C(\alpha \vee \gamma_2) \cup \cdots \cup C(\alpha \vee \gamma_k)$. Furthermore, by $m \models \neg(\gamma_1 \lor \gamma_2 \lor \cdots \lor \gamma_k \lor \beta) \text{ and } C(\alpha \lor \gamma_1) \cup C(\alpha \lor \gamma_2) \cup \cdots \cup C(\alpha \lor \gamma_k) \vdash \alpha \to \beta,$ $m \models \neg \alpha$. So, we get a contradiction because $m \models \neg \alpha$ and $\langle m, \delta \rangle \in \min(\|\alpha\|_w)$. So, the set Γ is consistent, as desired.

³Note that if the relation $|\sim$ is preferential then the relation \leq is transitive. (See [5].)

Therefore, there is a valuation m_0 such that $m_0 \models \Gamma$. In the following, we want to show $m_0 \sqsubseteq n$. Let γ be any formula in Σ_n . Since $m_0 \models C(\alpha \lor \gamma)$, m_0 is a normal valuation for $\alpha \lor \gamma$. Furthermore, from $m_0 \models \{\neg \gamma : \gamma \in \Sigma_n\}$ and $\alpha \lor \gamma \le \gamma$, we get $\langle m_0, \alpha \lor \gamma \rangle \prec \langle n, \gamma \rangle$. Hence, by $l^{-1}(n) = \{\langle n, \gamma \rangle : \gamma \in \Sigma_n\}$ and the definition of the relation Γ , we conclude $m_0 \sqsubseteq n$. Moreover, since $m_0 \models \alpha$, $\alpha \lor \gamma \le \alpha$ and m_0 is a normal valuation for $\alpha \lor \gamma$, by the part (ii) of Lemma 4.1, the valuation m_0 is α -normal.

Lemma 4.4. Let $|\sim$ be a preferential relation satisfying INJ. Suppose that $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is the KLM model associated with the relation $|\sim$. Then, the relation \square is smooth.

PROOF. Let α be any formula and n be any valuation. Suppose that $n \in \|\alpha\|_{I(w)}$ and $n \notin \min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$. By Lemma 4.2, the valuation n is not α -normal. Furthermore, by Lemma 4.3, there exists a α -normal valuation m_0 such that $m_0 \subseteq n$. Since the valuation m_0 is α -normal, by Lemma 4.2, $m_0 \in \min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$. Hence, the relation \subseteq is smooth.

The following theorem is due to Freund:

Theorem 4.1 ([3]). Let L be a logically finite language and $|\sim$ a preferential inference relation on L. Then

- (i) If the relation $|\sim$ satisfies INJ then there exists an injective preferential model W such that $|\sim = |\sim_w$.
- (ii) If W is an injective preferential model then the relation $|\sim_w$ satisfies INJ.

The above theorem characterizes injective preferential relations in the finite language. However, when the language is infinite, how to characterize the preferential relations that can be represented by an injective preferential model remains open. Recently, R. Pino Pérez and Carlos Uzcategui show that, if the preferential relation $|\sim$ satisfies INJ then it can be represented by an essential pre-structure $\langle S, \mathrm{id}, \prec_e \rangle$. Unfortunately they do not prove that the relation \prec_e is transitive in this case, and so far it is unknown whether this structure is a preferential model. However this result suggests that the property INJ could be considered a postulate that characterizes injective relations even when the language is infinite.

In the following, based on the valuation structure associated with *KLM* model, we will show that, in any propositional language (finite or infinite), if a preferential inference relation satisfies **INJ** then it indeed can be represented by an injective preferential model.

By Lemma 4.2 and Lemma 4.3 we get the following.

Lemma 4.5. Let $|\sim$ be a preferential relation satisfying INJ. Suppose that $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is the KLM model associated with the relation $|\sim$. Then, for any formula α and valuation n, $n \in \min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)})$ if and only if the valuation n is α -normal.

Recently, two particular kinds of injective model appear in literatures; one is the *standard* model introduced in [3], the other is the *collapsed* model presented in [1]. They are defined as follows, respectively.

⁴Technical details may be found in [8].

DEFINITION 4.1 ([3]). An injective preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is said to be a *standard* model if and only if for any $s \in S$, $s \in \min(\|\alpha\|)$ if and only if $l(s) = C_w(\alpha)$.

DEFINITION 4.2 ([1]). A preferential model is said to be a *collapsed* model if and only if it is injective and *parsimonious*.

The following theorem reveals that the valuation structures associated with *KLM* models provide a canonical approach to obtain *standard* and *collapsed* preferential model for any preferential relation satisfying **INJ**.

Theorem 4.2. Let $|\sim$ be a preferential relation satisfying INJ. Suppose that $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is the KLM model associated with the relation $|\sim$. Then

- (i) The structure I(W) is an injective preferential model,
- (ii) The structure I(W) is standard and collapsed, and
- (iii) $|\sim_w = |\sim_{I(w)}$.

PROOF. (i) By Lemma 3.1, the relation \square is transitive. It is clear that KLM models are *valuation parsimonious*, so, by Lemma 3.1, \square is irreflexive. Moreover, by Lemma 4.4, the relation \square is smooth. Hence, the structure I(W) is an injective preferential model.

- (ii) Immediate from the part (i), the construction of *KLM* models and Lemma 4.5.
- (iii) By Lemma 4.5, and parts (ii) and (iii) of Lemma 4.1, it is easy to show that $\min(\|\alpha\|_{I(w)}) = l(\min(\|\alpha\|_w))$ for any formula α . Thus, $|\sim_w = |\sim_{I(w)}$, as desired.

The following theorem provide a characterization of all the preferential inference relations that may be represented by a *standard* model, which generalize a result established in finite case in [3].

Theorem 4.3. A preferential inference relation $|\sim$ satisfies INJ if and only if there exists a standard preferential model W such that $|\sim_w = |\sim$.

PROOF. Suppose that the preferential inference relation $|\sim$ satisfies INJ, and $W_{klm} = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is the *KLM* model associated with the relation $|\sim$. By part (i) of Lemma 4.1 and Theorem 4.2, we get $|\sim_{I(w_{klm})} = |\sim$. Furthermore, by Lemma 4.5 and part (i) of Theorem 4.2, the structure $I(W_{klm})$ is a *standard* model.

Suppose that $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is a *standard* preferential model. Let α , β and γ be any formulas and $\gamma \in C_w(\alpha \vee \beta)$. We want to show $\gamma \in \operatorname{Cn}(C_w(\alpha) \cup C_w(\beta))$. Suppose not. Thus, $C_w(\alpha) \cup C_w(\beta) \cup \{\neg\gamma\}$ is consistent. So, there is a valuation m such that $m \models C_w(\alpha) \cup C_w(\beta) \cup \{\neg\gamma\}$. Let Γ be a set of formulas, in the following, we denote the set $\{n : n \models \Gamma\}$ by $\operatorname{Mod}(\Gamma)$. It is obvious that $\min(\|\alpha\|) \cap \min(\|\beta\|) \subseteq \min(\|\alpha \vee \beta\|)$. Since the model M is *standard*, we get $\operatorname{Mod}(C_w(\alpha)) \cap \operatorname{Mod}(C_w(\beta)) \subseteq \operatorname{Mod}(C_w(\alpha \vee \beta))$. Hence, $m \in \operatorname{Mod}(C_w(\alpha \vee \beta))$. This contradicts $\gamma \in C_w(\alpha \vee \beta)$. So, the relation $|\sim_w$ satisfies INJ.

In the literature, a number of rules that are stronger than INJ have been presented and explored. Certain especially interesting rules are described as follows, the

intuition behind those rules may be found in [7], [2] and [1].

 $\frac{\alpha \wedge \gamma \not \sim \beta, \alpha \not \sim \neg \gamma}{\alpha \not \sim \beta}$

DR (Disjunctive Rationality)
 DP (Determinacy Preservation)

$$\frac{\alpha \mid \not\sim \beta, \gamma \mid \not\sim \beta}{\alpha \lor \gamma \mid \not\sim \beta}$$

$$\frac{\alpha \land \gamma \mid \not\sim \neg \beta, \alpha \mid \sim \beta}{\alpha \land \gamma \mid \sim \beta}$$

 RT (Rational Transitivity)
 CEM (Completely Determinated)

$$\frac{\alpha \mid \sim \beta, \beta \mid \sim \gamma, \alpha \mid \not\sim \neg \gamma}{\alpha \mid \sim \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\alpha \mid \not\sim \beta}{\alpha \mid \sim \neg \beta}$$

 FD (Fragmented Disjunction)
 FC (Fragmented Conjunction)

$$\frac{\alpha \mid \sim \beta \mid \sim \gamma, \alpha \mid \not\sim \gamma}{\neg \beta \mid \sim \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\alpha \land \beta \mid \sim \gamma, \beta \mid \not\sim \gamma, \alpha \mid \not\sim \gamma}{\alpha \mid \sim \neg \beta}$$

 RM (Rational Monotony)

The representation theorems for the above rules have been established, respectively. Among them, Lehmann and Magidor study the non-Horn condition RM and demonstrate that rational inference relations⁵ are exactly those that may be represented by a *ranked* model [6]. Freund provide a semantic characterization of preferential inference relations satisfying DR in terms of *filtered* model [3]. In [1], Bezzazi, et al., study non-Horn conditions RT, DP, FD, FC and CEM systematically, establish interrelations and provide semantic characterizations for them.

In [1], Bezzazi, et al., compare the strength of the rules **DP**, **RT**, **CEM**, **FD**, **FC** and **RM**, together with the results obtained in [7] and [3], the interrelations of these rules may be represented by the following diagram, where one condition implies another, given a preferential inference relation, if and only if one can follow arrows from the former to the latter.

Hence, if the preferential relation $|\sim$ satisfies the properties above mentioned, then the valuation structure associated with its KLM model represents the relation. Moreover, in the following, we will show that those valuation structures have further fine features. Firstly, we recall some basic definitions appeared in the literature.

DEFINITION 4.3 ([3]). A preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is said to be *filtered* if whenever two states s and t of S satisfy a formula α without being minimal in $\|\alpha\|_w$, there exists a state r, $r \prec s$ and $r \prec t$, such that $l(r) \models \alpha$.

DEFINITION 4.4 ([1]). A preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is said to be *quasi-linear* if and only if it is *ranked* and it has at most one state at any level above the lowest. In other words *quasi-linear* means *ranked* and whenever $r \prec s$, $r \prec t$ then either s = t or $s \prec t$ or $t \prec s$.

DEFINITION 4.5 ([1]). A preferential model $W = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$ is said to be *linear* if and only if it is *ranked* and it has at most one state at each level.

 $^{^{5}|\}sim$ is called a rational relation if and only if it is a preferential relation satisfying RM.