

# AXIOMATIZING MODAL LOGIC OVER SEMILATTICES

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Extract from MSc thesis, supervised by Johan van Benthem and Nick Bezhanishvili

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Universiteit van Amsterdam

# Outline of the talk

- Introduction and motivation
- Informal presentation of key ideas going into the axiomatization
- Conclusion

# Defining Modal Logic over Semilattices

## Definition (language and semantics)

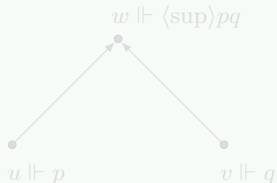
The **language** is given by

$$\varphi ::= \perp \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \vee \psi \mid \langle \text{sup} \rangle \varphi \psi,$$

and the **semantics** of ' $\langle \text{sup} \rangle$ ' is:

$$w \Vdash \langle \text{sup} \rangle \varphi \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists u, v (u \Vdash \varphi; v \Vdash \psi; \\ w = \text{sup}\{u, v\})$$

## Example



## Definition (frames and logic)

- A **semilattice frame** is a pair  $(W, \leq)$ , where  $W$  is a set and  $\leq$  is a join-semilattice on  $W$  (i.e., re., tr., anti-symm. and w. all binary joins).
- The modal **logic** over semilattices is denoted  $MIL_{Sem}$  and defined as

$$MIL_{Sem} := \{\varphi \in \mathcal{L}_M \mid \varphi \text{ is valid on all semilattice frames } (W, \leq)\}.$$

Main concern of this talk: Axiomatizing this logic.

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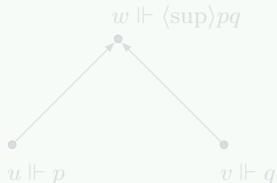
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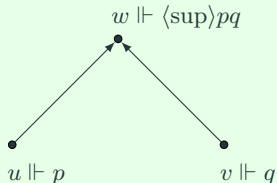
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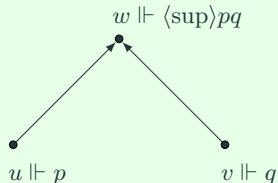
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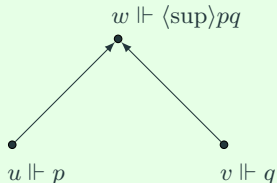
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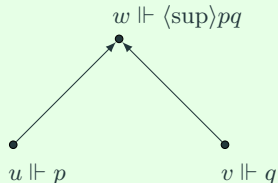
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  - Preorder and poset versions,  $MIL_{Pre}$  and  $MIL_{Pos}$ , introduced by van Benthem (1996)
  - Knudstorp (Forthcoming) proves that the modal information logics over preorders and posets coincide, are decidable and finitely axiomatizable
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- **First conclusion:** We must supplement with additional axioms.
- **Method for finding axioms:** We assume we have some MCS  $\Gamma_0$  and work out what axioms are needed to construct a satisfying semilattice model.
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- (Base) Define singleton semilattice frame  $\mathbb{F}_0 := (\{\{*\}\}, \{\{\{*\}, \{*\}\}\})$  and 'label' it with our MCS:  $l_0(\{*\}) = \Gamma_0$ .
- (Ind.) Step-wise construct  $(\mathbb{F}_{n+1}, l_{n+1})$  from  $(\mathbb{F}_n, l_n)$ .  
The goal being to prove a 'truth lemma' s.t. (after all finite steps)

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This achieves the reduction:

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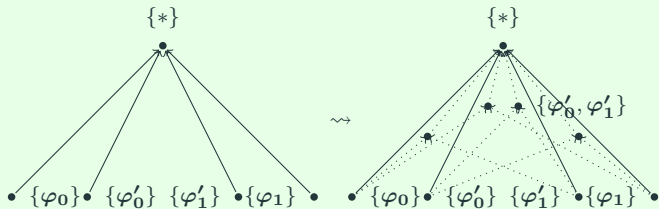
## This achieves the reduction:

*Axiomatizing  $MIL_{Sem} \rightsquigarrow$  Finding (sound) axioms enabling this construction.*

# Step-by-step: obstacle 1

- Suppose  $\{(\sup)\varphi_0\varphi'_0, (\sup)\varphi_1\varphi'_1\} \subseteq l(\{*\}) = \Gamma_0$ . Then add points  $\{\varphi_0\}, \{\varphi'_0\}, \{\varphi_1\}, \{\varphi'_1\}$ , and label them using the existence lemma (EL) s.t.  $\varphi_0 \in l(\{\varphi_0\})$ , etc.
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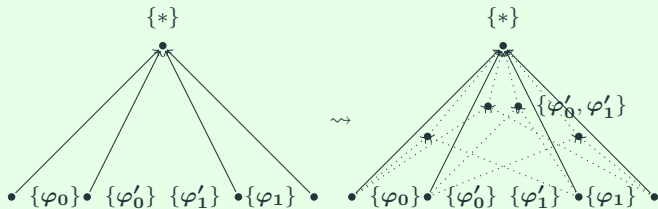


Obs:  $\mathbb{M}, w \Vdash \langle \sup \rangle \varphi_0 \varphi'_0 \wedge \langle \sup \rangle \varphi_1 \varphi'_1 \not\Rightarrow$  sub-semilattice is *isomorphic* to RHS,  
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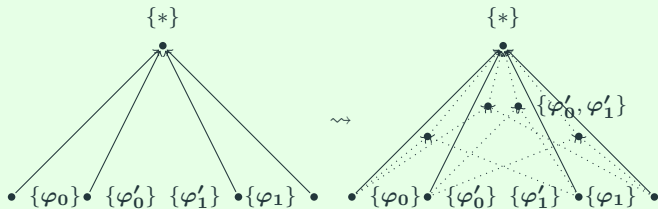


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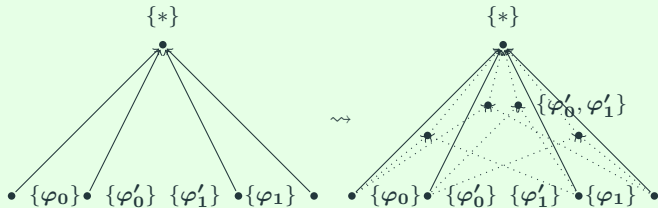
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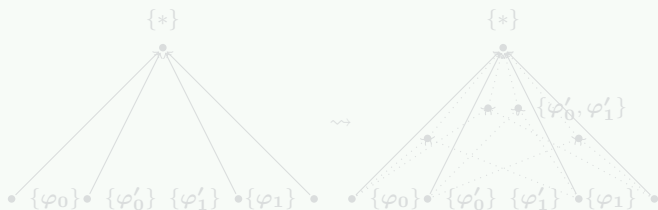


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# Step-by-step: obstacle 2

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- Axioms, like  $\pi_1$ , are implications  $\beta \rightarrow \alpha$  encoding:  
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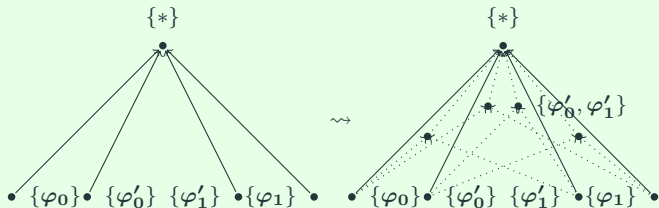


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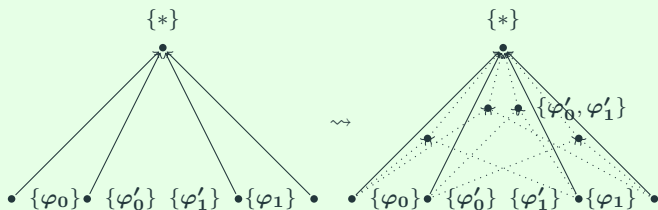


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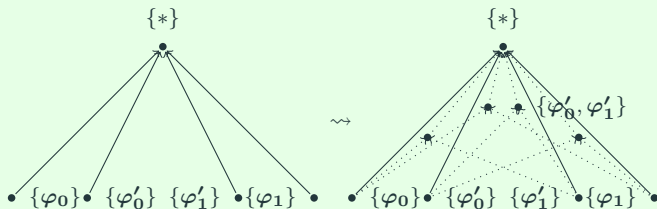


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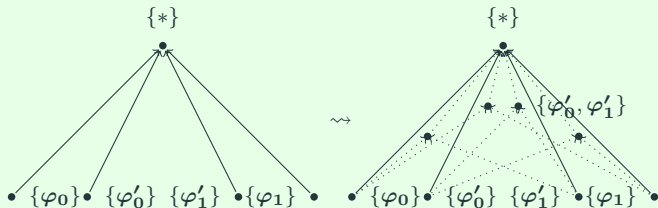


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- Aim for weak completeness instead: Extend consistent formula  $\varphi$  to the least subformula-closed set  $\Phi \ni \varphi$ .
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Recall: “Axioms, like  $\pi_1$ , are implications  $\beta \rightarrow \alpha$  encoding:

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**Final problem:** If the consequents of the formulas  $\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots$  consist of disjunctions defining *distinct* semilattices, which disjunct shall we choose when stepwise extending our semilattice as to satisfy the truth lemma?

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Three ways to completeness:

**Henkin (e.g.,  $K$ )**

$M$

•

Standard step-by-step (e.g.,  $MIL_{Pre}$ )

$M_0 \quad M_1 \quad M_2 \quad \dots \quad M_\omega$

• → • → • → ... → •

'Indeterministic step-by-step' ( $MIL_{Sem}$ )

Model constr:

Axioms:  $\pi_0 \quad \pi_1 \quad \pi_2 \quad \dots$

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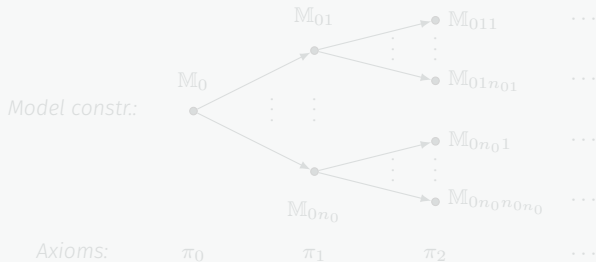
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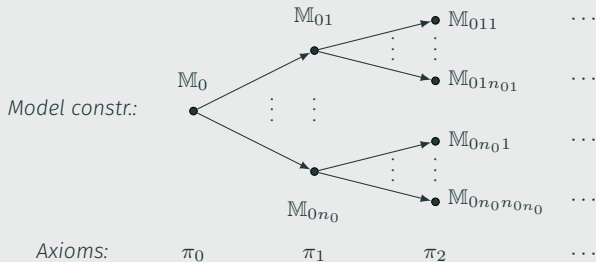
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'Indeterministic step-by-step' ( $MIL_{Sem}$ )



This completes our informal walk-through of  
the ideas going into the axiomatization

## Summary and main themes:

- We went through the process of coming up with an axiomatization of  $MIL_{Sem}$ .
- Our axiomatization employed an *infinite* extension scheme.
  - This is a contrast to  $MIL_{Pre} = MIL_{Pos}$ ;
  - and to truthmaker semantics [cf. Fine and Jago (2019)]
- Two selected take-homes:
  - Going for weak completeness facilitates **'naming' via finiteness**
  - **Indeterministic step-by-step** when standard step-by-step fails

## Open problems and further research:

- Proving (un)decidability of  $MIL_{Sem}$ .
- Applying these techniques of this talk in other settings.
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## Summary and main themes:

- We went through the process of coming up with an axiomatization of  $MIL_{Sem}$ .
- Our axiomatization employed an *infinite* extension scheme.
  - This is a contrast to  $MIL_{Pre} = MIL_{Pos}$ ;
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- Two selected take-homes:
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Thank you!

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