

Nested Sequents and Countermodels for Monotone Modal Logic

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Modal logics: A success story

Fact

*Many problems in Computer Science are modelled in **Modal Logic**.*

Examples

- ▶ **Epistemic logics**: $\mathcal{K}(A)$... “the agent knows A is the case”
- ▶ **Deontic logics**: $\mathcal{O}(A)$... “ A ought to be the case”
- ▶ ...

In particular, modal logics often have nice reasoning systems
a.k.a. **calculi** with strong connections to

- ▶ **Syntax**: useful for proving theorems
- ▶ **Semantics**: useful for finding countermodels.

Modal logics: A success story (normally?)

... But not all applications might satisfy **normality**:

Epistemic logics: $\mathcal{K}(A)$... “the agent knows that A is the case”

- ▶ $\mathcal{K}(\top)$... “the agent knows all tautologies”

Deontic logics: $\mathcal{O}(A)$... “ A ought to be the case”

- ▶ $\mathcal{O}(\text{go}) \wedge \mathcal{O}(\neg\text{go}) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{go} \wedge \neg\text{go})$... “in presence of conflicting obligations, \perp ought to be the case”

So...

Can we find good calculi for non-normal modal logics?

Monotone modal logic

The **formulae** of monotone modal logic **M** are given by

$$p \in \text{Var} \mid \perp \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \mid \langle 1 \rangle \varphi$$

A **neighbourhood frame** $\mathcal{F} = (W, \mathcal{N})$ has a **neighbourhood function** satisfying $\mathcal{N}(w) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(W)$ for every $w \in W$.

Valuations $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ satisfy:

- ▶ local clauses for $\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \perp$.
- ▶ $\mathcal{F}, \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket, w \Vdash \langle 1 \rangle A$ iff $\exists \alpha \in \mathcal{N}(w) \forall v \in \alpha. \mathcal{F}, \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket, v \Vdash A$

The **axiomatisation** of **M** is given by propositional logic and the rule

$$\frac{\vdash A \rightarrow B}{\vdash \langle 1 \rangle A \rightarrow \langle 1 \rangle B}$$

Reasoning in monotone modal logic

There are some calculi for M:

Syntactical calculi:

- ▶ Sequent calculi [Lavendhomme, Lucas:2000, Indrzejczak:2005]
- ▶ (Labelled Tableaux [Indrzejczak:2007])

Pro: Good for reasoning,
formula interpretation

Con: Bad for countermodels

Semantical calculi:

- ▶ Labelled sequent calculi [Negri:2017, Dalmonte et al:2018]

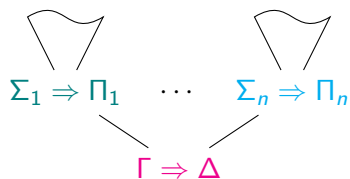
Pro: Good for countermodels

Con: Bad for reasoning,
no formula interpretation

Can we get the best of both worlds?

Nested sequents to the rescue!

Nested sequents are trees of (multi-set based) sequents:



interpreted in normal modal logics as

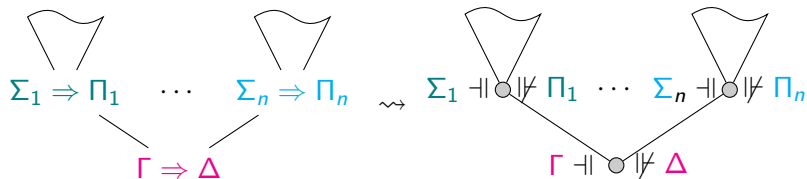
$$\boxed{\wedge \Gamma \rightarrow \vee \Delta} \vee \square(\wedge \Sigma_1 \rightarrow \vee \Pi_1^*) \vee \dots \vee \square(\wedge \Sigma_n \rightarrow \vee \Pi_n^*).$$

A bit of history:

- ▶ Precursors: [Bull:'92], [Kashima:'94], [Masini:'92]
- ▶ Current form in modal logics: [Brünnler:'09], [Poggiolesi:'09]
- ▶ For intuitionistic modal logics: [Straßburger et al:'12 - now]
- ▶ Adapted to intuitionistic logic in [Fitting:'14]

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$$\bigwedge \Gamma \rightarrow \bigvee \Delta \vee \square(\bigwedge \Sigma_1 \rightarrow \bigvee \Pi_1^*) \vee \dots \vee \square(\bigwedge \Sigma_n \rightarrow \bigvee \Pi_n^*).$$

Nested sequents give rise to models for normal modal logic.

What's the problem with the formula interpretation?

Interpreting the nesting of nested sequents with τ and using Ackermann's Lemma we have the following equivalences:

$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow A] \quad \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow B]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow A \wedge B]} \iff \overline{\tau(A) \wedge \tau(B) \Rightarrow \tau(A \wedge B)}$$
$$\frac{}{\Rightarrow [p \Rightarrow p]} \iff \overline{\Rightarrow \tau(p \rightarrow p)}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow A]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow A \vee B]} \iff \overline{\tau(A) \Rightarrow \tau(A \vee B)}$$

Note that these are (equivalent to) the axioms of K. Hence:

“Deep applicability” of the propositional rules implies normality of the interpretation of the nesting operator!

monotone modal logic

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Bimodal monotone modal logic

The **formulae** of bimodal monotone modal logic aka. Brown's **Ability Logic** are given by

$$p \in \text{Var} \mid \perp \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \mid \langle 1 \rangle \varphi \mid [1] \varphi$$

A **neighbourhood frame** $\mathcal{F} = (W, \mathcal{N})$ has a **neighbourhood function** satisfying $\mathcal{N}(w) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(W)$ for every $w \in W$.

Valuations $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ satisfy:

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Brown's **ability interpretation** [Brown:'88]:

$\langle 1 \rangle A$: "The agent can reliably bring about A "

$[1] A$: "The agent will bring about A "

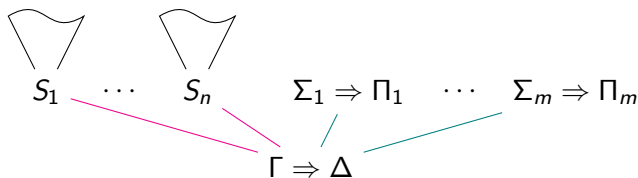
Bimodal nested sequents

A **bimodal nested sequent** is a structure

$$\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [S_1], \dots, [S_n], \langle \Sigma_1 \Rightarrow \Pi_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle \Sigma_m \Rightarrow \Pi_m \rangle$$

with $n, m \geq 0$ where the S_i are bimodal nested sequents.

As a tree:



Its **formula interpretation** ι is

$$\wedge \Gamma \rightarrow \vee \Delta \vee \vee_{i=1}^n \llbracket \iota(S_i) \vee \vee_{j=1}^m \langle \wedge \Sigma_j \rightarrow \vee \Pi_j \rangle$$

The calculus for bimodal M

The calculus contains the (classical) propositional rules plus:

$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow A]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\]A} [\]_R \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma, A \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma, [\]A \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi]} [\]_L$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Rightarrow A \rangle}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \]A \rangle} \langle \]_R \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma, A \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma, \langle \]A \rangle \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi \rangle} \langle \]_L$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\]A, \langle \Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi \rangle} \text{I}$$

Rules are applied **anywhere except inside $\langle \cdot \rangle$** .

Theorem

The rules are sound wrt. the formula interpretation and (a variant of) the calculus has cut elimination.

The calculus for bimodal M

The calculus contains the (classical) propositional rules plus:

$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow A]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \rangle A} \langle \rangle_R \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma, A \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma, \langle \rangle A \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi]} \langle \rangle_L$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Rightarrow A \rangle}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \rangle A} \langle \rangle_R \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma, A \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma, \langle \rangle A \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi \rangle} \langle \rangle_L$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \rangle A, \langle \Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi \rangle} \langle \rangle_L$$

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Bonus: Restricting the language specifies the calculus to the standard (linear) nested sequent calculus for **modal logic K**

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$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow A]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [!A]} [!_R] \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma, A \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma, [!A \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi]]} [!_L]$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Rightarrow A \rangle}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle !A \rangle} \langle ! \rangle_R \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma, A \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma, \langle !A \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi \rangle} \langle ! \rangle_L$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [!A, \langle \Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi \rangle} !$$

Rules are applied **anywhere except inside $\langle \cdot \rangle$** .

Bonus: Restricting the language specifies the calculus to the standard (linear) nested sequent calculus for modal logic K or the (linear) nested sequent calculus for **monomodal M**

Deontic extensions

Adding further rules gives calculi for extensions of the logic.

Some (vaguely) deontic ones:

	axiom	frame property	$P_{\langle \rangle}$	$N_{\langle \rangle}$	$D_{[\]}$
$n_{\langle \rangle}$	$\neg \langle \rangle \perp$	$\emptyset \notin \mathcal{N}(w)$	✓		
$d_{\langle \rangle}$	$\neg(\langle \rangle A \wedge [\] \neg A)$	$\emptyset \notin \mathcal{N}(w)$	✓		
$d_{[\]}$	$[\] A \rightarrow \langle \rangle A$	$\mathcal{N}(w) \neq \emptyset$		✓	
$d_{[\]}$	$\neg([\] A \wedge [\] \neg A)$	$\exists \alpha \in \mathcal{N}(w). \alpha \neq \emptyset$		✓	✓

With the additional rules:

$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Rightarrow \rangle}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta} P_{\langle \rangle} \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \langle \Sigma \Rightarrow \Pi \rangle} N_{\langle \rangle} \quad \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, [\Rightarrow]}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta} D_{[\]}$$

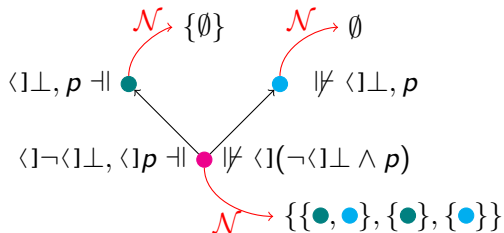
Bonus: Restricting the language specifies the calculus to those for **MP** (via $n_{\langle \rangle}$) and for **KD** (via $d_{[\]}$).

What about countermodels?

Using an annotated version of the calculus, underivable sequents give rise to countermodels: E.g.

$$\langle 1 \neg \langle 1 \perp, \langle 1 p \Rightarrow \langle 1 (\neg \langle 1 \perp \wedge \langle 1 p), [\langle 1 \perp, p \Rightarrow], [\Rightarrow \langle 1 \perp, p]$$

yields



Theorem

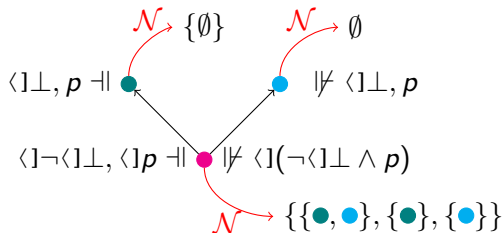
The calculus for bimodal M is cut-free complete and failed proof search yields a countermodel.

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Corollary (Bonus)

The calculi for K and monomodal M are cut-free complete and failed proof search yields a countermodel.

What do derivations look like?

... Let the implementation work that out!

(<http://subsell.logic.at/bprover/nnProver/>)

Suming up

Bimodal nested sequents for monotone modal logic yield:

- ▶ an internal calculus;
- ▶ syntactic cut elimination;
- ▶ support for countermodel construction;
- ▶ the basis for a general treatment of non-normal modal logics;
- ▶ an implementation including countermodel generation

Thank You!