



# Bundles in Epistemic Logic

Epistemic Logics of Know-wh

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## Logics of know-wh

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# Beyond knowing that

Knowledge is not only expressed in terms of “*knowing that*”:

- I *know whether* I can get rid of the jet lag this time.
- I *know what* the meaning of the world is.
- I *know how* to miss my own lecture.
- I don't *know why* they started weeding that early.
- I don't *know who* will come to my lecture tomorrow.
- I don't *know how* to sleep well but I *know that* my wife *knows how* and I *know why* she knows.

Hits (in millions) returned by google:

X	that	whether	what	how	who	why
“know X”	574	28	592	490	112	113
“knows X”	50.7	0.51	61.4	86.3	8.48	3.55

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**Linguistically:** why can't we replace “know” by “believe”?

**Philosophically:** reducibility to “knowledge-that”?

**Logically:** how to reason about “know-wh”?

**Computationally:** efficient representation and reasoning

## What about the logic part?

Epistemic logic is a major subfield of modal logic initiated by von Wright and Hintikka, which has a wide range of applications in TCS, AI, game theory beyond philosophy.

knowledge-that — propositional modal logic  
knowledge-wh — **quantified modal logic**

“knowing who” was discussed by Hintikka (1962) in terms of first-order modal logic, e.g., *knowing who* murdered Mary:

$$\exists x K M(x, \text{Bob}).$$

Compare it with  $K \exists x M(x, \text{Bob})$ : *de re* vs. *de dicto*.

Knowledge-wh is in general *de re* (knowledge of things).

See my survey paper *Beyond knowing that: a new generation of epistemic logics*, for the early contributions of Hintikka.

## The neglected topic of know-wh (until recently)

Quantified modal logic is infamous for its various philosophical and technical “problems”, and was under developed.

The early scattered discussions on know-wh seem to be largely forgotten in the later literature, for example:

- In the *Handbook of Epistemic Logic* (2015), there is hardly anything explicitly about quantified epistemic logic nor logic of know-wh (except epistemic strategic logic).
- In the very same paper where public announcement logic was proposed, Plaza (1989) actually spent half of the paper discussing knowing what (the value is).
- The same operator was defined and discussed earlier by Xiwen Ma and Weide Guo from Peking University (IJCAI 83).

We will come back to Plaza's paper later on.

## Some developments for FO epistemic logic

A slightly out-dated survey in Gochet and Gribomont (2006)

Mostly application-driven (not an exhaustive list):

- about games: Kaneko and Nagashima (1996)
- about cryptographic knowledge: Cohen and Dam (2007)
- about security protocols: Belardinelli and Lomuscio (2011)
- (un)decidability: Wolter (2000), Sturm et al (2000)
- *de dicto* vs. *de re*: distinction Corsi and Orlandelli (2011)
- “second-order” epistemic logic: Belardinelli and van der Hoek (2015, 2016)
- ...



## Beyond knowing that: starting point

Instead of using the **full language** of quantified modal logic, we can use some well-behaved *fragments* of it to focus on what we really care but **no more**.

Can we repeat the success of propositional modal logic by a systematic approach to know-wh?

- simple language
- intuitive semantics
- useful models
- balanced expressive power and complexity...

**Bundles** can help!

# The proposal of the “bundled” approach [Wang18]

- take a know-wh construction as a **single** modality (a “bundle”), e.g., pack  $\exists x K(Mary \approx x)$  into *Kwho Mary*
- the use of quantifiers is restricted (recall the secret of success of propositional modal logic).
- natural and succinct to express the desired properties, e.g., I *know that you know what* the password is but I do not know the password.
- capture the essence of the relevant reasoning by axioms.
- stay (technically) neutral for certain philosophical issues.

## For each know-wh: the work flow

- focus on some logically **interesting types** of know-wh;
- find the **right bundle** as the semantics, guided by philosophical and linguistic theories;
- **axiomatize** logics with (combinations of) new modalities;
- **simplify the semantics** while keeping the validities;
- capture the expressivity via notions of **bisimulation**;
- **dynamify** those logics with new updates of knowledge;
- automate the inferences based on decidability.
- probably come back to philosophy and linguistics with new insights and questions.

## Some earlier know-wh logics we studied

wh-word	bundle (roughly)	connection	key ref
whether	$Kw\varphi := K\varphi \vee K\neg\varphi$	non-contingency logic	[FWvD14,15]
what	$Kvc := \exists xK(x \approx c)$	weakly aggregative logic	[WF13,14]
how	$Kh\varphi := \exists\sigma K[\langle\sigma\rangle]\varphi$	game logic, ATL	[Wang15,17]
why	$Ky\varphi := \exists tK(t:\varphi)$	justification logic	[XWS18]

We obtained complete axiomatizations, characterizations of expressive power, simplified semantics, and decidability ...

See my NASSLLI18 course slides for details

[wangyanjing.com/beyond-knowing-that/](http://wangyanjing.com/beyond-knowing-that/). For an updated survey see Section 4 of [SEP entry of Epistemic Logic](#).

# Example: A logic of knowing how to achieve [IJCAI17]

TAUT	all axioms of propositional logic	MP	$\frac{\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi}$
DISTK	$Kp \wedge K(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow Kq$	NECK	$\frac{\psi}{K\psi}$
T	$Kp \rightarrow p$	MonoKh	$\frac{\varphi \rightarrow \psi}{Kh\varphi \rightarrow Kh\psi}$
4	$Kp \rightarrow KKp$	SUB	$\frac{\varphi(p)}{\varphi[\psi/p]}$
5	$\neg Kp \rightarrow K\neg Kp$		
AxKtoKh	$Kp \rightarrow Khp$		
AxKh to KKh	$Kh p \rightarrow KKh p$		
AxKh to KhK	$KKh p \rightarrow KhK p$		
AxKhKh	$KhKh p \rightarrow Kh p$		
AxKhbot	$\neg Kh \perp$		

# Typical technical difficulties introduced by the bundles

- (apparently) **not normal**:
  - $\not\models Kw(p \wedge q) \rightarrow (Kw p \wedge Kw q)$
  - $\not\models Kh\varphi \wedge Kh\psi \rightarrow Kh(\varphi \wedge \psi)$
  - $\models \varphi \not\Rightarrow \models Ky\varphi$
- **not strictly weaker either**:  $\models Kw\varphi \leftrightarrow Kw\neg\varphi$ ;
- **alternation** of quantifiers and modalities, e.g.,  $\exists x\Box\varphi(x)$ ;
- the things we quantify sometimes **have structures**;
- the axioms depend on the **shape of  $\varphi$**  as well;
- **weak** language vs. **rich** model: hard to axiomatize;
- fragments of FO/SO-modal language: we know **little**.

We will give you **a list of tips** at the end of the lecture.

# Connections to existing logics and linguistic theories

Classification by **question words**:

- Knowing **whether**: non-contingency logic, ignorance logic
- Knowing **what**: weakly aggregative logic, dependence logic
- Knowing **how**: game Logic, alternating temporal logic
- Knowing **why**: (quantified) justification Logic
- Knowing **who**: (dynamic) termed modal logic

Classification by **logical forms**:

- **Mention-some**: e.g., *knowing how/why...*  $\exists x K\varphi(x)$
- **Mention-all** (strongly exhaustive reading): e.g., *I know who came to the party...*  $\forall x (K\varphi(x) \vee K\neg\varphi(x))$
- **In-between**: *know-value*  $\exists x (K c \approx x) \leftrightarrow \forall x (K c \approx x \vee K c \not\approx x)$

(Routine) research questions:

- Model theory, proof theory, computational complexity
- Group knowledge
- Logical omniscience
- Natural dynamics
- Applications

New questions:

- Interactions of different knowledge expressions;
- Simplification of semantics.
- Epistemology questions...



## Knowing value as a minimal example

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## A classic paper in Dynamic Epistemic Logic (DEL)

- Jan Plaza: Logics of public communications. In Proceedings of the 4th ISMIS Oak Ridge, pp. 201-216. (1989) Unknown for a long time.
- Rediscovered in the late 90s after Gerbrandy and Groeneveld (1997) proposed a similar logic independently (in the Amsterdam tradition of update semantics).
- Reprinted in *Synthese* Volume 158, Issue 2, pp 165-179 (2007), with Hans van Ditmarsch's comments about the history of **DEL** before and after Plaza's paper, and content of the paper (pp 181-187).

*"Classic" - a book which people praise and don't read.*

– Mark Twain

# What Plaza did

- Syntax and semantics of *public announcement logic* (**PAL**):

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid K_i\varphi \mid K_{w_i}\varphi \mid \varphi + \varphi$$

$\mathcal{M}, s \models \varphi + \psi \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{M}, s \models \varphi$  and  $\mathcal{M}|_{\varphi}, s \models \psi$ , where  $\mathcal{M}|_{\varphi}$  is a **submodel** of  $\mathcal{M}$  collecting all the worlds satisfying  $\varphi$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

- $\varphi + \psi$  is essentially  $\langle \varphi \rangle \psi$  in the modern syntax of **PAL**.
- Discover the **reduction** to epistemic logic
- Give a complete proof system via reduction axioms: e.g.,  
$$\varphi + (\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2) \equiv (\varphi + \psi_1) \wedge (\varphi + \psi_2)$$

## Plaza's notation may help to see reduction axioms

$\varphi + \psi \not\equiv \psi + \varphi, \varphi + \varphi \not\equiv \varphi$  but...

The following are provable theorems:

$$\top + \varphi \equiv \varphi$$

$$\perp + \varphi \equiv \perp$$

$$\varphi + (\psi + \chi) \equiv (\varphi + \psi) + \chi$$

$$\varphi + \psi \rightarrow \varphi$$

$$(\varphi_1 + \cdots + \varphi_i + \cdots + \varphi_n) \rightarrow (\varphi_1 + \cdots + \varphi_i)$$

$$(\varphi + \psi_1) \wedge (\varphi + (\psi_1 \rightarrow \psi_2)) \rightarrow \varphi + \psi_2$$

But that is only *half* of the paper!

## One of the two running examples in Plaza's paper

### Mr. Sum & Mr. Product

**Mr. Puzzle:** *I choose two natural numbers greater than 1 such that the sum is less than 100. I will tell the sum of the numbers only to Mr. Sum, and their product only to Mr. Product.*

*He tells them.*

**Mr. Product:** *I do not know the numbers.*

**Mr. Sum:** *I knew you didn't.*

**Mr. Product:** *But now I know!*

**Mr. Sum:** *So do I!*

*What are the two numbers?*

How to express *knowing the numbers*?

# Know-value operator by Plaza (also Ma & Guo IJCAI83)

**ELKv** is defined as (where  $c \in C$  is a constant symbol):

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid K_i\varphi \mid K_{v_i}c$$

$K_{v_i}$  says “agent  $i$  knows [what] the value of  $c$  [is]”

**ELKv** is interpreted on FO-epistemic (S5) models with a *constant* domain  $\mathcal{M} = \langle S, D, \{\sim_i \mid i \in \mathbf{I}\}, V, V_C \rangle$ , where  $V_C$  assigns to each (non-rigid)  $c \in C$  an  $o \in D$  on each  $s \in S$ :

$$\boxed{\mathcal{M}, s \models K_{v_i}c \iff \text{for any } t_1, t_2 : \text{if } s \sim_i t_1, s \sim_i t_2, \\ \text{then } V_C(c, t_1) = V_C(c, t_2).}$$

Essentially the semantics is the bundle  $\exists x K(c \approx x)$ .

## Know-value operator by Plaza (also Ma, Guo IJCAI83)

**ELK<sub>v</sub>** can express “*i* knows that *j* knows the password but *i* doesn't know what exactly it is” by  $K_i K_v j c \wedge \neg K_v j c$ .

The interaction between the two operators is crucial: it cannot be treated as  $K_i K_j p \wedge \neg K_i p$  which is inconsistent.

It is crucial in security protocol verification. Ways to capture “knowing what”: e.g., introducing  $has_i(m)$  as a basic proposition with a database of messages in the semantics.

See [Dechesne & Wang, Synthese 2010] for a survey on various knowledge in the security setting.

## Know-value operator by Plaza (also Ma, Guo IJCAI83)

To handle the *Sum and Product* puzzle, Plaza extended **ELKv** with announcement operator (call it **PALKv**):

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid K_i\varphi \mid K_{v_i}c \mid \langle\varphi\rangle\varphi$$

Plaza mentioned some axioms on top of S5 and van Ditmarsch (2007) raised their completeness as a question.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{Kv4} & K_{v_i}c & \rightarrow K_iK_{v_i}c \\ \text{Kv5} & \neg K_{v_i}c & \rightarrow K_i\neg K_{v_i}c \\ \text{KKv} & \langle K_i\varphi \rangle K_{v_i}c & \leftrightarrow K_i\varphi \wedge K_{v_i}c \\ & \langle K_{v_i}c \rangle K_{v_i}d & \leftrightarrow K_{v_i}c \wedge K_{v_i}d \\ & \langle\varphi\rangle K_{v_i}c & \rightarrow K_i(\varphi \rightarrow \langle\varphi\rangle K_{v_i}c) \\ & \langle\varphi\rangle\neg K_{v_i}c & \rightarrow K_i(\varphi \rightarrow \langle\varphi\rangle\neg K_{v_i}c) \end{array}$$



Call S5 plus Plaza's three axioms  $\text{PALKV}_p$ .

### Theorem (Wang & Fan IJCAI13)

$\theta = \langle p \rangle K_{v_i} c \wedge \langle q \rangle K_{v_i} c \rightarrow \langle p \vee q \rangle K_{v_i} c$  is not provable in  $\text{PALKV}_p$ , thus  $\text{PALKV}_p$  is not complete.

Proof idea:

- define a class  $\mathbb{C}$  of two-dimensional models (with  $\xrightarrow{\varphi}$ -labelled transitions) and a new semantics  $\Vdash$  for **PALKv** such that:
- for all **PALKv** formulas  $\varphi$ :  $\vdash \varphi \implies \mathbb{C} \Vdash \varphi$
- show that  $\mathbb{C} \not\Vdash \theta$ .

Cf. [Wang & Cao Synthese 2013] for the general method of constructing such semantics for **PAL** and incompleteness.

## A bisimulation notion

We can use a notion of **bisimulation** to understand the expressivity of **ELKv**.

A *d-bisimulation* between  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$  is a non-empty relation  $Z \subseteq S_1 \times S_2$  such that if  $s_1 Z s_2$  then the following requirements hold for all  $i \in \mathbf{I}$  (besides the standard bis conditions):

Kv-Zig: if  $t_1 \sim_i^1 s_1 \sim_i^1 t'_1$ , and  $V_C^1(c, t_1) \neq V_C^1(c, t'_1)$   
for some  $c$  then there exist  $t_2, t'_2 \in S_2$  such that  
 $t_2 \sim_i^2 s_2 \sim_i^2 t'_2$ , and  $V_C^2(c, t_2) \neq V_C^2(c, t'_2)$ ;

Kv-Zag: symmetric

We write  $\mathcal{M}_1, s_1 \Leftrightarrow_d \mathcal{M}_2, s_2$  iff there is a *d-bisimulation* between  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$  linking  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ .

### Proposition

If  $\mathcal{M}_1, s_1 \Leftrightarrow_d \mathcal{M}_2, s_2$ , then  $\mathcal{M}_1, s_1 \equiv_{\mathbf{ELKv}} \mathcal{M}_2, s_2$ .

# A reduction-based axiomatization is impossible

Now consider the following two epistemic models (using  $\circ$  and  $\bullet$  for the objects assigned to  $c$ ):

$$s : p \circ -1 \multimap \neg p \circ -1 \multimap p \bullet \qquad s' : p \circ -1 \multimap \neg p \bullet$$

It is not hard to see that these two models are  $d$ -bisimilar linking  $s$  and  $s'$ . However, we can distinguish  $s$  and  $s'$  easily by a **PALK<sub>v</sub>** formula  $[p]K_{v_1}c$ .

**Theorem (Wang & Fan IJCAI13)**

***PALK<sub>v</sub>** is strictly more expressive than **ELK<sub>v</sub>**.*

## Conditionally knowing value

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# Conditionally knowing what

Axiomatizing **PALK<sub>v</sub>** looks hard at the beginning. We propose a generalization of  $Kv_i$  operator inspired by the relativized common knowledge operator (call it **ELK<sub>v</sub><sup>r</sup>**):

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid K_i\varphi \mid Kv_i(\varphi, c)$$

where  $Kv_i(\varphi, c)$  says “agent  $i$  knows what  $c$  is **given  $\varphi$** ”, e.g., I know my password for this website given it is 4-digit.

$\mathcal{M}, s \models Kv_i(\varphi, c) \iff \text{for any } t_1, t_2 \in S \text{ such that } s \sim_i t_1 \text{ and } s \sim_i t_2 : \\ \mathcal{M}, t_1 \models \varphi \& \mathcal{M}, t_2 \models \varphi \text{ implies } V_C(c, t_1) = V_C(c, t_2)$
--

The bundle  $Kv_i(\varphi, c)$  is  $\exists x K_i(\varphi \rightarrow c \approx x)$ , thus  $\models Kv_i c \leftrightarrow Kv_i(\top, c)$ .

Let **PALK<sub>v</sub><sup>r</sup>** be:

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid K_i\varphi \mid Kv_i(\varphi, c) \mid \langle \varphi \rangle \varphi$$

**PALK $v^r$**  looks more expressive than **PALK $v$**  but in fact they are equally expressive.

### Theorem (Wang & Fan IJCAI13)

*The comparison of the expressive power of those logics are summarized in the following (transitive) diagram:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{ELK}v^r & \longleftrightarrow & \mathbf{PALK}v^r \\
 \uparrow & & \updownarrow \\
 \mathbf{ELK}v & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{PALK}v
 \end{array}$$

Translation  $t : \mathbf{ELK}v^r \rightarrow \mathbf{PALK}v$ ,  $g : \mathbf{PALK}v^r \rightarrow \mathbf{ELK}v^r$

$$\begin{aligned}
 t(Kv_i(\varphi, d)) &= K_i \neg t(\varphi) \vee \hat{K}_i \langle t(\varphi) \rangle Kv_i d \\
 g(\langle \varphi \rangle Kv_i(\psi, d)) &= g(\varphi) \wedge g(Kv_i(\langle \varphi \rangle \psi, d))
 \end{aligned}$$

# A sound and complete axiomatization

## System $\mathbb{ELKV}^r$

### Axiom Schemas

TAUT

all the instances of tautologies

DISTK

$$K_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (K_i p \rightarrow K_i q)$$

T

$$K_i p \rightarrow p$$

4

$$K_i p \rightarrow K_i K_i p$$

5

$$\neg K_i p \rightarrow K_i \neg K_i p$$

DISTK $\forall^r$

$$K_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (Kv_i(q, c) \rightarrow Kv_i(p, c))$$

K $\forall^r$ 4

$$Kv_i(p, c) \rightarrow K_i Kv_i(p, c)$$

K $\forall^r \perp$

$$Kv_i(\perp, c)$$

K $\forall^r \vee$

$$\hat{K}_i(p \wedge q) \wedge Kv_i(p, c) \wedge Kv_i(q, c) \rightarrow Kv_i(p \vee q, c)$$

Rules

MP

$$\frac{p, p \rightarrow q}{q}$$

NECK

$$\frac{q}{\phi}$$

SUB

$$\frac{K_i \phi}{\phi[p/\psi]}$$

RE

$$\frac{\psi \leftrightarrow \chi}{\phi \leftrightarrow \phi[\psi/\chi]}$$

K $\forall^r \vee$  was inspired by  $\theta = \langle p \rangle Kv_i c \wedge \langle q \rangle Kv_i c \rightarrow \langle p \vee q \rangle Kv_i c$ .

$$K_i Kv_i(\varphi, d) \leftrightarrow Kv_i(\varphi, d)$$

T, K $\forall^r$ 4

$$\neg K_i Kv_i(\varphi, d) \rightarrow K_i \neg K_i Kv_i(\varphi, d)$$

5

$$\neg Kv_i(\varphi, d) \rightarrow K_i \neg Kv_i(\varphi, d)$$

RE

## Core ideas for the completeness

$Kv_i(\varphi, c)$  can be viewed as  $\exists x K_i(\varphi \rightarrow c \approx x)$  where  $x$  is a variable.

Weak language vs. rich model.

Bundle means trouble: to build a canonical model, just using maximal consistent sets as building blocks won't work: (Two worlds below satisfy exactly the same formulas but you do need two worlds to satisfy  $\neg Kvd$ , a single MCS won't work)

$$p, d \mapsto \circ \text{ — } p, d \mapsto \bullet$$

We can saturate each maximal consistent set with:

- counterparts of atomic formulas such as  $c \approx x$
- counterparts of  $K_i(\varphi \rightarrow c \approx x)$

In short, we use some fake formulas (semantic objects). We need to make sure the extra information is “consistent” by some conditions on the MCSs.



## Definition (Wang & Fan AiML14)

Let  $MCS$  be the set of maximal consistent sets w.r.t.  $\mathbf{ELKV}^r$ , and let  $\mathbb{N}$  be the set of natural numbers. The canonical model  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\mathbf{ELKV}^r$  is a tuple  $\langle S, \mathbb{N}, \{\sim_i \mid i \in \mathbf{I}\}, V, V_C \rangle$  where:

- $S$  consists of all the triples  $\langle \Gamma, f, g \rangle \in MCS \times \mathbb{N}^C \times (\mathbb{N} \cup \{\star\})^{\mathbf{I} \times \mathbf{ELKV}^r \times C}$  that satisfy the following three conditions:
  - (i)  $g(i, \psi, d) = \star$  iff  $Kv_i(\psi, d) \wedge \hat{K}_i\psi \notin \Gamma$ ,
  - (ii) If  $g(i, \varphi, d) \neq \star$  and  $g(i, \psi, d) \neq \star$  then:  
 $g(i, \varphi, d) = g(i, \psi, d)$  iff  $Kv_i(\varphi \vee \psi, d) \in \Gamma$
  - (iii)  $\psi \wedge Kv_i(\psi, d) \in \Gamma$  implies  $f(d) = g(i, \psi, d)$ .
- $s \sim_i t$  iff  $\{\varphi \mid K_i\varphi \in s\} \subseteq t$  and  $g(i) = g(i)$  in  $s$
- $V_C(d, s) = f(d)$  in  $s$ .

$f$  and  $g$  are counterparts of  $d \approx x, K_i(\varphi \rightarrow d \approx x)$  formulas.

The conditions (i)-(iii) make sure the fake formulas are “consistent” with  $\Gamma$ . To find the **right** conditions is not easy.

### Lemma (Lindenbaum **plus**)

*Each maximal consistent set can be properly **saturated** with those counterparts.*

### Lemma

*Each saturated MCS including  $\hat{K}\varphi$  has a **saturated**  $\varphi$ -successor.*

### Lemma (Existence lemma **doubled**)

*Each saturated MCS including  $\neg K v_i(\varphi, c)$  has **two** saturated  $\varphi$ -successors which disagree about the value of  $c$ .*

In general, it is much harder for a  $\exists xK$  bundle: you may need to construct **infinitely many successors** in know-how/why...

The existence lemma is broken down to two propositions:

### Proposition

*Given any  $s \in S^c$  and any  $i \in I$ , suppose there exist two (possibly identical) maximal consistent sets  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  such that:*

$$(a) \ \{\psi \mid K_i \psi \in s\} \subseteq \Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2$$

$$(b) \ \text{for any } K_{v_i}(\theta, d) \in s, \theta \notin \Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2.$$

*then  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  can be extended into two states  $w, v$  in  $S^c$  such that  $s \sim_i^c w$ ,  $s \sim_i^c v$  and  $f_w(d) \neq f_v(d)$ .*

## Proposition

Given any  $s \in S^c$  and any  $i \in I$ , suppose  $\neg Kv_i(\varphi, d) \in s$  then there are two (possibly identical) maximal consistent sets  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  such that:

- (a')  $\{\varphi\} \cup \{\psi \mid K_i\psi \in s\} \subseteq \Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2$
- (b) for any  $Kv_i(\theta, d) \in s$ ,  $\theta \notin \Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2$ .

Let  $Z = \{\psi \mid K_i\psi \in s\} \cup \{\varphi\}$  and let  $X = \{\neg\theta \mid Kv_i(\theta, d) \in s\}$ .

Note that due to  $Kv^r \perp$ ,  $X$  is non-empty. We want to build two consistent sets  $B$  and  $C$  such that  $Z \subseteq B \cap C$  and  $X \subseteq B \cup C$ .

Let  $B_0 = Z \cup \{\neg\theta_0\}$  and let  $C_0 = Z$  as the starting points. Then we build  $B_{n+1}$  and  $C_{n+1}$  based on the already defined  $B_n$  and  $C_n$  by adding  $\neg\theta_{n+1}$  into one of them.

A generalization of Axiom  $Kv^r \vee$  ( $U$  is a finite set of formulas)

$\hat{K}_i(\bigwedge U) \wedge \bigwedge_{\varphi \in U} Kv_i(\varphi, d) \rightarrow Kv_i(\bigvee U, d)$  is crucial.

# Completeness proof requires 10+ pages

## Theorem (Wang & Fan AiML14)

$ELKV^r$  is sound and strongly complete for  $ELKV^r$ .

We can axiomatize multi-agent  $PALKV^r$  by adding the following reduction axiom schemas (call the resulting system  $SPALKV^r$ ):

$$\begin{array}{ll} !\text{ATOM} & \langle \psi \rangle p \leftrightarrow (\psi \wedge p) \\ !\text{NEG} & \langle \psi \rangle \neg \varphi \leftrightarrow (\psi \wedge \neg \langle \psi \rangle \varphi) \\ !\text{CON} & \langle \psi \rangle (\varphi \wedge \chi) \leftrightarrow (\langle \psi \rangle \varphi \wedge \langle \psi \rangle \chi) \\ !K & \langle \psi \rangle K_i \varphi \leftrightarrow (\psi \wedge K_i (\psi \rightarrow \langle \psi \rangle \varphi)) \\ !KV^r & \langle \varphi \rangle K_{V_i}(\psi, c) \leftrightarrow (\varphi \wedge K_{V_i}(\langle \varphi \rangle \psi, c)) \end{array}$$

If you can prove first-order modal logic is a conservative extension of our logic, you can also obtain completeness (but it is hard as well)

# Axiomatizing $\text{ELKV}^r$ over arbitrary frames [Ding 2015]

## System $\text{ELKV}^r$

### Axiom Schemas

TAUT all the instances of tautologies

DISTK  $K_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (K_i p \rightarrow K_i q)$

DISTK $v^r$   $K_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (Kv_i(q, c) \rightarrow Kv_i(p, c))$

K $v^r \perp$   $Kv_i(\perp, c)$

K $v^r \vee$   $\hat{K}_i(p \wedge q) \wedge Kv_i(p, c) \wedge Kv_i(q, c) \rightarrow Kv_i(p \vee q, c)$

- The SAT problem of this logic is PSPACE-complete over arbitrary models (Ding 2015).

The completeness proofs are highly non-trivial due to the imbalance between the rich model and limited language.

Suitable bisimulation notion for this logic was unknown.

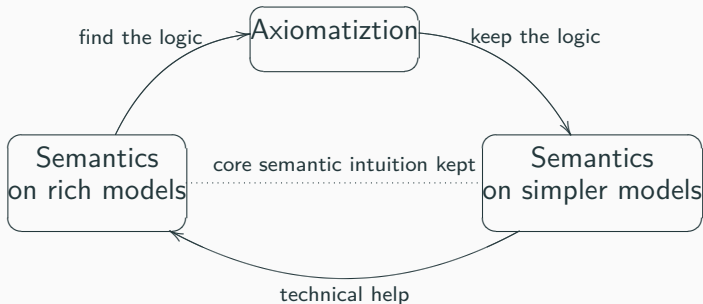
We can do better.

## Rematching model with the language

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## Two questions and our key observation

- How to **rebalance** the syntax and semantics?
- How can it be connected to (normal) modal logic?

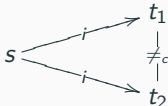




# Simplify the semantics while keeping the logic [Gu & Wang 16]

Observation:  $\neg Kv_i(\varphi, c)$  can be viewed as a special **diamond**:

$$\mathcal{M}, s \models \neg Kv_i(\varphi, c) \Leftrightarrow \text{there exist } t_1, t_2 \in S \text{ such that } s \sim_i t_1 \text{ and } s \sim_i t_2 : \\ \mathcal{M}, t_1 \models \varphi \text{ and } \mathcal{M}, t_2 \models \varphi \text{ but } V_C(c, t_1) \neq V_C(c, t_2)$$



We do not care about the **exact values** of  $c$ !

Then why not make it a ternary relation?

# A modal language

To facilitate the comparison, we write  $\neg K v_i(\varphi, c)$  as  $\Diamond_i^c \varphi$  and use the following language **MLKv<sup>r</sup>**:

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg \varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid \Box_i \varphi \mid \Diamond_i^c \varphi$$

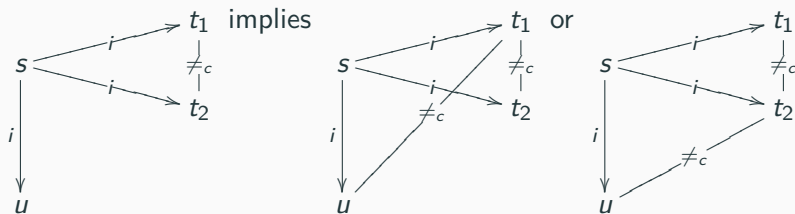
interpreted on Kripke models with binary and **ternary** relations  $\langle S, \{\rightarrow_i : i \in \mathbf{I}\}, \{R_i^c : i \in \mathbf{I}, c \in \mathbf{D}\}, V \rangle$ , with extra conditions.

$$M, s \Vdash \Diamond_i^c \varphi \iff \exists u, v. \text{ s.t. } sR_i^c uv \text{ and } M, u \Vdash \varphi, M, v \Vdash \varphi.$$

- (1)  $sR_i^c tu \iff sR_i^c ut$ ; (2)  $sR_i^c uv$  only if  $s \rightarrow_i u$  and  $s \rightarrow_i v$ ;
- (3)  $sR_i^c tu$  and  $s \rightarrow_i v$  implies that  $sR_i^c tv$  or  $sR_i^c uv$  holds;
- (4)  $sR_j^c tu$  for some  $j \in \mathbf{I}$ ,  $s \rightarrow_i t$  and  $s \rightarrow_i u$  implies  $sR_i^c tu$ ;
- (5)  $sR_j^c tu$  implies  $t \neq u$ .

## An interesting property

$sR_i^c t_1 t_2$  and  $s \rightarrow_i u$  implies that at least one of  $sR_i^c t_1 u$  and  $sR_i^c t_2 u$  holds



We show that (4)(5) do not matter: For any set  $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\}$  of **MLKv<sup>r</sup>** formulas:  $\Gamma \Vdash_{\mathbb{C}_{1-5}} \varphi \iff \Gamma \Vdash_{\mathbb{C}_{1-3}} \varphi \iff t(\Gamma) \models t(\varphi)$  where  $t$  translates **MLKv<sup>r</sup>** formulas back to **ELKv<sup>r</sup>**.

# Recall the system for ELKV<sup>r</sup>.

System ELKV <sup>r</sup>		Rules
Axiom Schemas		
TAUT	all the instances of tautologies	MP $\frac{\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi}$
DISTK	$K_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (K_i p \rightarrow K_i q)$	NECK $\frac{\psi}{K_i \psi}$
DISTKV <sup>r</sup>	$K_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (Kv_i(q, c) \rightarrow Kv_i(p, c))$	SUB $\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[p/\psi]}$
KV <sup>r</sup> ⊥	$Kv_i(\perp, c)$	$\psi \leftrightarrow \chi$
KV <sup>r</sup> ∨	$\hat{K}_i(p \wedge q) \wedge Kv_i(p, c) \wedge Kv_i(q, c) \rightarrow Kv_i(p \vee q, c)$	RE $\frac{\varphi[p/\psi]}{\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi[\psi/\chi]}$

In the new language:

- DISTKV<sup>r</sup>:  $\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i^c \neg q \rightarrow \Box_i^c \neg p)$  equivalent to  $\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i^c p \rightarrow \Box_i^c q)$  under SUB and RE.
- KV<sup>r</sup>∨:  $\Diamond_i(p \wedge q) \wedge \Diamond_i^c(p \vee q) \rightarrow (\Diamond_i^c p \vee \Diamond_i^c q)$
- KV<sup>r</sup>⊥:  $\Box_i^c \top$

# A new look at the axiomatization

## System SMLKVR

### Axiom Schemas

TAUT            all the instances of tautologies

DISTK             $\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i p \rightarrow \Box_i q)$

DISTK $\forall^r$          $\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i^c p \rightarrow \Box_i^c q)$

K $\forall^r\forall$              $\Diamond_i(p \wedge q) \wedge \Diamond_i^c(p \vee q) \rightarrow (\Diamond_i^c p \vee \Diamond_i^c q)$

### Rules

MP	$\frac{\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi}$
NECK	$\frac{\psi}{\Box_i \psi}$
NECK $^r$	$\frac{\Box_i \psi}{\Box_i^c \psi}$
RE	$\frac{\psi \leftrightarrow \chi}{\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi[\psi/\chi]}$
SUB	$\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[p/\psi]}$

We replace  $\Box_i^c \top$  by a necessitation rule NECK $^r$ .

## Theorem (Gu & Wang AiML16)

SMLKVR is sound and complete w.r.t.  $\mathbb{C}_{1-3}$  (and  $\mathbb{C}_{1-5}$ ).

A relatively easy canonical model construction suffices (3 pages).

# A new look at the axiomatization

## System SMLKVR

### Axiom Schemas

TAUT all the instances of tautologies

DISTK  $\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i p \rightarrow \Box_i q)$

DISTK $\forall^r$   $\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i^c p \rightarrow \Box_i^c q)$

K $\forall^r\forall$   $\Diamond_i(p \wedge q) \wedge \Diamond_i^c(p \vee q) \rightarrow (\Diamond_i^c p \vee \Diamond_i^c q)$

### Rules

MP  $\frac{\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi}$

NECK  $\frac{\psi}{\Box_i \psi}$

NECK $^r$   $\frac{\Box_i^c \varphi}{\psi \leftrightarrow \chi}$

RE  $\frac{\psi \leftrightarrow \chi}{\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi[\psi/\chi]}$

SUB  $\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[p/\psi]}$

Note that  $\Diamond_i^c(\varphi \vee \psi) \rightarrow (\Diamond_i^c \varphi \vee \Diamond_i^c \psi)$  does not hold.

Moreover,  $\Box_i^c(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\Box_i^c \varphi \rightarrow \Box_i^c \psi)$  does not hold either, thus the logic is **not** a normal modal logic.

However, this is only the **appearance**.

$\Diamond_i^c$  is essentially a **binary** diamond!

In MLKvr we only allow  $\Diamond_i^c(\varphi, \varphi)$ . Let MLKvb be the language with  $\Diamond_i^c(\varphi, \psi)$ .

$\Diamond_i^c(\varphi, \psi)$  has the standard semantics for (polyadic) normal modal logic:

$$M, s \Vdash \Diamond_i^c(\varphi, \psi) \iff \exists u, v. \text{ s.t. } sR_i^c uv \text{ and } \mathcal{M}, u \Vdash \varphi, \mathcal{M}, v \Vdash \psi.$$

# The generalization does not increase expressivity

## Proposition

*MLKvb is equally expressive as MLKvr over  $\mathbb{C}_{1-3}$ .*

$\Diamond_i^c(\varphi, \psi)$  is equivalent to the disjunction of the following:

- $\Diamond_i^c\varphi \wedge \Diamond_i\psi$
- $\Diamond_i^c\psi \wedge \Diamond_i\varphi$
- $\Diamond_i\varphi \wedge \Diamond_i\psi \wedge \neg\Diamond_i^c\varphi \wedge \neg\Diamond_i^c\psi \wedge \Diamond_i^c(\varphi \vee \psi)$



# A normal polyadic modal logic

## System SMLKVB

### Axiom Schemas

TAUT	all the instances of tautologies
DISTK	$\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i p \rightarrow \Box_i q)$
DISTBK	$\Box_i^c(p \rightarrow q, r) \rightarrow (\Box_i^c(p, r) \rightarrow \Box_i^c(q, r))$
SYM	$\Box_i^c(p, q) \rightarrow \Box_i^c(q, p)$
INCL	$\Diamond_i^c(p, q) \rightarrow \Diamond_i p$
DISBK	$\Diamond_i^c(p, q) \wedge \Diamond_i r \rightarrow \Diamond_i^c(p, r) \vee \Diamond_i^c(q, r)$

### Rules

MP	$\frac{\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi}$
NECK	$\frac{\psi}{\Box_i \psi}$
NECKvb	$\frac{\Box_i \varphi}{\Box_i^c(\varphi, \psi)}$
SUB	$\frac{\varphi}{\varphi[p/\psi]}$

## Theorem (Gu & Wang AiML16)

SMLKVB is sound and complete w.r.t.  $\mathbb{C}_{1-3}$  and  $\mathbb{C}_{1-5}$ .

SMLKVB can drive all the axioms in SMLKVR.

## The completeness proof is now mostly routine (one page)

$$\mathcal{M}^c = \langle S, \{\rightarrow_i : i \in \mathbf{I}\}, \{R_i^c : i \in \mathbf{I}, c \in \mathbb{C}\}, V \rangle$$

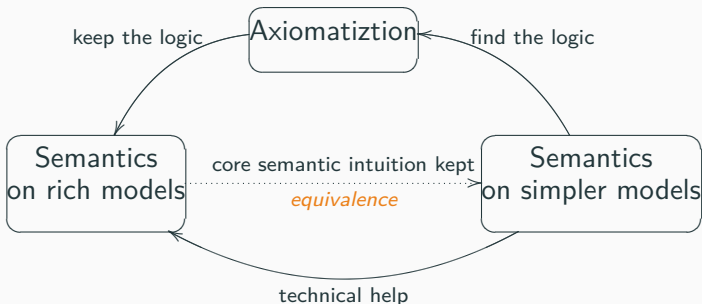
- $S$  is the set of all maximal SMLKVB-consistent sets of MLKvb formulas,
- $s \rightarrow_i t \iff \{\varphi : \Box_i \varphi \in s\} \subseteq t$ ,
- $s R_i^c t u \iff$  (1)  $\{\varphi : \Box_i \varphi \in s\} \subseteq t \cap u$  and (2) for any  $\Box_i^c(\varphi, \psi) \in s$ ,  $\varphi \in t$  or  $\psi \in u$ .
- $V(s) = \{p : p \in s\}$ .

SYM, INCL, and DISBK are canonical for the corresponding properties 1-3.

## If you can find the right abstract model...

Completeness proof: 10 pages  $\Rightarrow$  3 pages  $\Rightarrow$  (equ. exp.) 1 page

Of course, the burden is then to show the **equivalence** between the semantics over original model and the abstract model. You can then reserve the work flow:



The **original** semantics + model is always **the starting point**.

**ELKv<sup>r</sup>** can be viewed as a disguised normal modal logic!

Standard techniques apply:

- Canonical model for free.
- Bisimulation for free.
- Polyadic modal logic is under-developed too...

(If you like modal logic, do FOML or polyadic modal logic!)

These will help us in solving problems about the original **ELKv<sup>r</sup>**.

## Definition (Polyadic Bisimulation)

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1 = \langle S_1, \{\rightarrow_i^1 : i \in I\}, \{R_i^c : i \in I, c \in \mathbb{C}\}, V_1 \rangle$ ,  
 $\mathcal{M}_2 = \langle S_2, \{\rightarrow_i^2 : i \in I, c \in \mathbb{C}\}, \{Q_i^c : i \in I\}, V_2 \rangle$  be two models for **MLKvb** (also for **MLKv<sup>r</sup>**). A  $\mathbb{C}$ -bisimulation between  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$  is a non-empty binary relation  $Z \subseteq S_1 \times S_2$  such that for all  $s_1 Z s_2$ , the following conditions are satisfied:

$$\mathbf{Inv} : V_1(s_1) = V_2(s_2);$$

$$\mathbf{Zig} : s_1 \rightarrow_i^1 t_1 \Rightarrow \exists t_2 \text{ such that } s_2 \rightarrow_i^2 t_2 \text{ and } t_1 Z t_2;$$

$$\mathbf{Zag} : s_2 \rightarrow_i^2 t_2 \Rightarrow \exists t_1 \text{ such that } s_1 \rightarrow_i^1 t_1 \text{ and } t_1 Z t_2;$$

$$\mathbf{Kvb-Zig} : s_1 R_i^c t_1 u_1 \Rightarrow \exists t_2, u_2 \in S_2 \text{ such that } t_1 Z t_2, u_1 Z u_2 \\ \text{and } s_2 Q_i^c t_2 u_2;$$

$$\mathbf{Kvb-Zag} : s_2 Q_i^c t_2 u_2 \Rightarrow \exists t_1, u_1 \in S_1 \text{ such that } t_1 Z t_2, u_1 Z u_2 \\ \text{and } s_1 R_i^c t_1 u_1.$$

Can be translated back to **ELKv<sup>r</sup>**.

## A simpler logic

Plaza's unconditional language:

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid K_i\varphi \mid K_{V_i}c$$

is essentially  $(\neg K_{V_i}c \text{ is } \Diamond_i^c \top)$ :

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid \Box_i\varphi \mid \Box_i^c\perp$$

System SMLKV

Axiom Schemas

TAUT all the instances of tautologies

DISTK  $\Box_i(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow (\Box_i p \rightarrow \Box_i q)$

INCLT  $\Diamond_i^c \top \rightarrow \Diamond_i \top$

Rules

MP  $\frac{\varphi, \varphi \rightarrow \psi}{\psi}$

NECK  $\frac{\psi}{\Box_i \psi}$

SUB  $\frac{\varphi[p/\psi]}{\varphi}$

RE  $\frac{\psi \leftrightarrow \chi}{\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi[\psi/\chi]}$

For logics over epistemic (S5) models, you need the usual axiom of S5 and  $\Diamond_i \Diamond_i^c \top \rightarrow \Diamond_i^c \top$  (i.e.,  $K_{V_i}c \rightarrow K_i K_{V_i}c$ ).

## Further directions

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## Axiomatization of **PALKv** directly

See Bo Hong's master thesis (2022).

It can be obtained by translating the **PALKv<sup>r</sup>** axioms and provide some supplementations. The proof can be done by taking  $[\varphi]Kvd$  as an atomic formula like  $Kv(\varphi, d)$ .

We can also extend  $Kvc$  to  $KvP$  (knowing a predicate) with mention-some and mention-all semantics [Hong LORI23].



knowing *that*    announcing *that*  
knowing *what*    announcing *what*

Enrich **ELKv<sup>r</sup>** with *public inspection*  $[c]$ :

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid K_i\varphi \mid K_{v_i}(\varphi, c) \mid [c]\varphi$$

$$\boxed{\mathcal{M}, s \models [c]\varphi \iff \mathcal{M}|_c^s, s \models \varphi}$$

where  $\mathcal{M}|_c^s$  is defined as the tuple  $\langle S', D, \sim|_{S' \times S'}, V|_{D \times S'}, V_D|_{S'} \rangle$   
where  $S' = \{s' \mid V_D(c, s') = V_D(c, s)\}$ .

Note that the relativization here is *local*.

**PSELKv<sup>r</sup>** is more expressive than **ELKv<sup>r</sup>**:  $[c]$  cannot be reduced.

# How to axiomatize it?

It is still open, but you can:

- **Restrict** the language: to only allow  $Kv_i c$  and  $[c]\varphi$  [van Eijck, Gattinger, Wang ICLA17]
- **Enrich** the language: with equalities, and conditional operator for all the combinations of values and propositions [Baltag AiML16]

There is another (much better) way: **breaking the bundles** into **different** pieces [Cohen, Tang, Wang TARK21]!

# Weakly Aggregative Logic

Modal logic with diagonal modalities as special cases on polyadic modal logic:

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid \Box\varphi$$

It can be defined on models with  $n$ -ary relations.

$\mathcal{M}, w \models \Box\varphi$	iff	for all $v_1, \dots, v_n \in W$ with $Rwv_1 \dots, v_n$ , $\mathcal{M}, v_i \models \varphi$ for some $i \leq n$ .
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \Diamond\varphi$	iff	there are $v_1, \dots, v_n \in W$ st. $Rwv_1 \dots, v_n$ and $\mathcal{M}, v_i \models \varphi$ for all $i \leq n$ .

The following is valid over models with  $n + 1$ -ary relations:

$$\Box p_0 \wedge \dots \wedge \Box p_n \rightarrow \Box \bigvee_{(0 \leq i < j \leq n)} (p_i \wedge p_j).$$

It does not have Craig interpolation! [Liu, Ding and Wang 2019]

## WAML over hypergraphs [Ding, Liu, Wang 21]

We can actually define the semantics over hypergraphs, which are a collection of subsets (hyperedges) of a given non-empty set of vertices. We can then define:

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models \Box\varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{for any hyperedges } E \text{ such that } w \in E, \\ \mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi \text{ for some } v \in E \end{array}$$

Note the similarity with neighborhood semantics.

It has close connections with evidence logic, local reasoning, logic of somebody knows.

We can combine ETL with the the know-value operator:

$$\varphi ::= \top \mid p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid X\varphi \mid \varphi U\psi \mid K_i\varphi \mid K_v d \mid C\varphi$$

The semantics is based on epistemic temporal models with a constant domain and value assignments.

We can also introduce the commonly know-value operator  $C_v$ :

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models C_v d \iff \exists x \in D, \mathcal{M}, w \models C(x \approx d).$$

Over S5 models with finite agents  $C_v d$  is equivalent to  $C \bigwedge_i K_v d$

Lin (2022) gave a complete proof system.

# Conclusions

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# Handling the bundling: Problems and Possible Solutions

Mainly about axiomitization.

P Don't have the desired subformulas in the language

S Fake it until you make it...

P Maximal consistent sets are not enough

S Adding additional information (like fake formulas), find some notion of “consistency” between it and the MCS. Do not forget to prove a stronger Lindenbaum lemma

P Quantifier alternation leads to complication about the existence lemma

S Find a general method to construct many possible worlds, some experience with polyadic modal logic can help, or prove it directly (not contrapositive)

# Handling the bundling: Problems and Solutions

P Some components of the model are not even mentioned in the language at all

S **Educated guess**, often the naive idea roughly works.

P Rich model vs. simple language

S **Rebalancing** with alternative semantics on **abstract models**, while keeping the logic. Many things would become more familiar and some results are for free.

Difficulties did not show up in this simple case:

- $\exists x$  quantifies over complicated structures
- The bundle is not expressible in a well-known logic.

This is the crucial thing in know-how and know-why.

Be brave and use your **imagination**!

Read the classics!