

Modal Logic Reasoning: The Long View

Ullrich Hustadt

University of Liverpool

(Joint work with Clare Dixon, Cláudia Nalon, Fabio Papacchini, Renate A. Schmidt)

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- **Modal logics** are among the most widely and extensively studied logical formalism
- We will focus on the so-called **modal cube**, extensions of basic modal logic with arbitrary subsets of five additional axioms
- We will consider a small number of approaches to reasoning in the logics of the modal cube that have been proposed over several decades
 - How effective are they?
 - What benchmarks can we use for this purpose?
 - Did we make progress?

-
- A Kripke model with four states: 1, 2, 3, and 4. State 1 is the root, with outgoing arrows to states 2 and 3. State 2 has an outgoing arrow to state 4 and a self-loop arrow. State 3 has a self-loop arrow. Each state has associated modal formulas: State 1: $\Box\varphi$, $\Diamond\varphi$; State 2: φ , $\Diamond\varphi$, $\Diamond\neg\varphi$; State 3: φ , $\Box\varphi$, $\Diamond\varphi$; State 4: $\neg\varphi$, $\Box\varphi$, $\Box\neg\varphi$.

$$M, w \models \Diamond\varphi \quad \text{iff for some } v \in W, \\ wRv \text{ and } M, v \models \varphi$$

- **Basic logic K**: Propositional logic extended with unary operators
 - ('box', 'necessarily') and
 - ◇ ('diamond', 'possibly')
- Semantics of modal formulae is given by **Kripke structures**
 $M = \langle \langle W, R \rangle, V \rangle = \langle W, R, V \rangle$ where
 - W is a set of **world**
 - R is a binary **accessibility relation** on W
 - V is a **valuation**: $V(p) \subseteq W$ for $p \in P$

A formula φ is **K-satisfiable** iff there is a (finite tree) Kripke structure M with root $w \in W$ such that $\langle M, w \rangle \models \varphi$

PSPACE-complete problem [Ladner 77, Halpern and Moses 92]

- In a tree Kripke structure M every world $w \in W$ has a unique **modal level**, $ml_M(w)$, given by the distance of w to the root

Proof System hK for Modal Logic K =

Axioms of Propositional Logic

+ K / Normality

$$\Box(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box\psi)$$

+ Duality

$$\Box\varphi \equiv \neg\Diamond\neg\varphi$$

+ Modus Ponens

$$(\varphi \rightarrow \psi), \varphi \vdash \psi$$

+ Necessitation

$$\varphi \vdash \Box\varphi$$

A formula φ is provable in hK iff $\neg\varphi$ is not K-satisfiable

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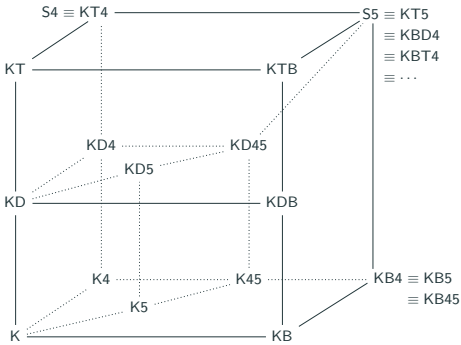
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	Axiom	Frame Property
D	$\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Diamond \varphi$	Serial $\forall v \exists w. vRw$
T	$\Box \varphi \rightarrow \varphi$	Reflexive $\forall w. wRw$
B	$\varphi \rightarrow \Box \Diamond \varphi$	Symmetric $\forall vw. vRw \rightarrow wRv$
4	$\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Box \varphi$	Transitive $\forall uvw. (uRv \wedge vRw) \rightarrow uRw$
5	$\Diamond \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Diamond \varphi$	Euclidean $\forall uvw. (uRv \wedge uRw) \rightarrow vRw$

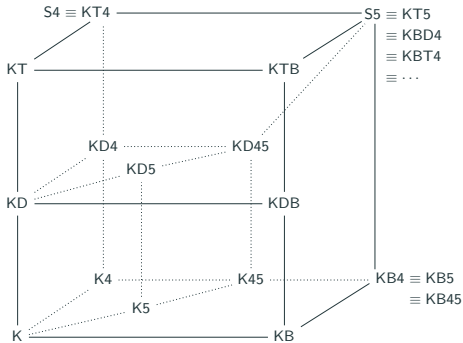


There are 15 distinct logics that can be formed by adding a subset of {B, D, T, 4, 5} to hK

A formula φ is $K\Sigma$ -provable iff it is provable in $hK + \Sigma$.

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	Axiom	Frame Property
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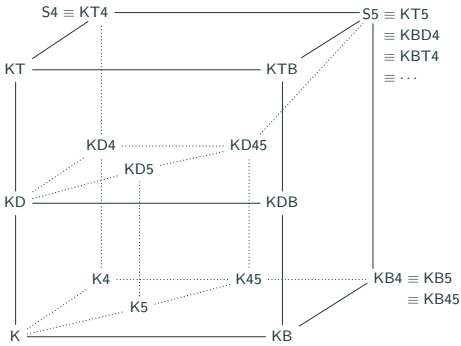
There are 15 distinct logics that can be formed by adding a subset of {B, D, T, 4, 5} to hK

A formula φ is **K Σ -satisfiable** iff there is a (rooted) Kripke structure $M = \langle W, R, V \rangle$ and $w \in W$ such that (1) R satisfies all the frame properties corresponding to axioms in Σ

(2) $\langle M, w \rangle \models \varphi$

M is a **K Σ -model** of φ

	Axiom	Frame Property
D	$\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Diamond \varphi$	Serial $\forall v \exists w. vRw$
T	$\Box \varphi \rightarrow \varphi$	Reflexive $\forall w. wRw$
B	$\varphi \rightarrow \Box \Diamond \varphi$	Symmetric $\forall vw. vRw \rightarrow wRv$
4	$\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Box \varphi$	Transitive $\forall uvw. (uRv \wedge vRw) \rightarrow uRw$
5	$\Diamond \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Diamond \varphi$	Euclidean $\forall uvw. (uRv \wedge uRw) \rightarrow vRw$



There are 15 distinct logics that can be formed by adding a subset of {B, D, T, 4, 5} to hK

A formula φ is is $K\Sigma$ -provable iff $\neg\varphi$ is not $K\Sigma$ -satisfiable

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- We want to determine whether a modal formula φ is $K\Sigma$ -satisfiable / $K\Sigma$ -provable
- **Idea 1:** We can simply write down the semantics of φ as first-order formula and give it to a first-order theorem prover

$$M, w \models p \quad \text{iff } w \in V(p)$$

$$M, w \models \varphi \vee \psi \quad \text{iff } M, w \models \varphi \text{ or } M, w \models \psi$$

$$M, w \models \Box \varphi \quad \text{iff for every } v \in W,$$

$$\text{if } wRv \text{ then } M, v \models \varphi$$

$$M, w \models \Diamond \varphi \quad \text{iff for some } v \in W,$$

$$wRv \text{ and } M, v \models \varphi$$

\leadsto we do not need to include M in the formula

\leadsto instead of $M, w \models p$ we can then write $p(w)$

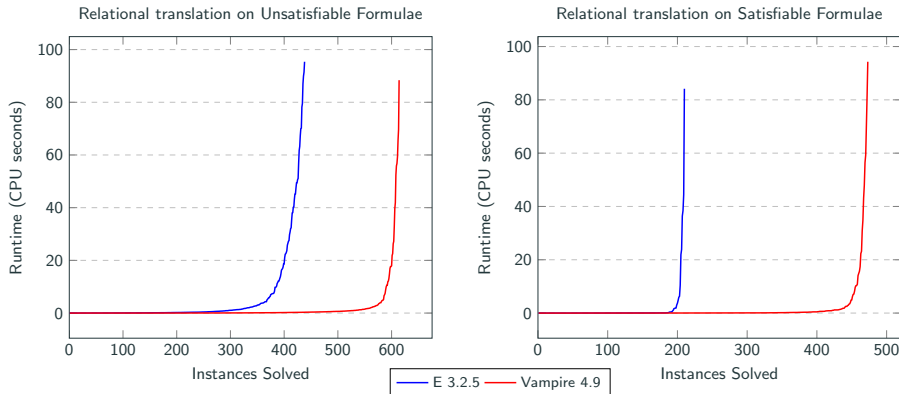
$$\Box p \wedge \Diamond \neg p \quad \text{becomes} \quad \forall v. R(w, v) \rightarrow p(v) \wedge \exists v. R(w, v) \wedge \neg p(v)$$

$$\Box p \wedge \Box \neg p \quad \text{becomes} \quad \forall v. R(w, v) \rightarrow p(v) \wedge \forall v. R(w, v) \rightarrow \neg p(v)$$

- To deal with Σ we add the corresponding frame properties to the first-order formula

How well does Idea 1 work?

- For benchmarking we use 100 satisfiable and 100 unsatisfiable modal formulae for each logic
 \leadsto 1500 satisfiable and 1500 unsatisfiable formulae in total
- Each prover is given 100 CPU seconds to solve each formula
 (median time over five runs)



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How well does Idea 1 work?

- For each logic $\text{Rel}(K\Sigma)$, the $\text{Rel}(K\Sigma)$ subfragment of FOL consisting of formulae obtained as the relational translation of modal formulae for $K\Sigma$ has a decidable satisfiability problem
- But standard first-order calculi (resolution) are not decision procedures for any of the $\text{Rel}(K\Sigma)$ fragments

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- Idea 2:

Introduce new names for each non-atomic subformula of a modal formula φ / the corresponding subformulae of its relational translation

- Possible clauses:

$$\neg q_{\neg p}(w) \vee \neg p(w)$$

$$\neg q_{\varphi \vee \psi}(w) \vee q_{\varphi}(w) \vee q_{\psi}(w)$$

$$\neg q_{\Box \varphi}(w) \vee \neg R(w, v) \vee q_{\varphi}(v)$$

$$\neg q_{\Diamond \varphi}(w) \vee R(w, f_{\Diamond \varphi}(w))$$

$$\neg q_{\Diamond \varphi}(w) \vee q_{\varphi}(f_{\Diamond \varphi}(w))$$

- We deal with Σ again by adding the corresponding frame properties as before
- We can then obtain decision procedures based on [ordered resolution](#) for all $K\Sigma$ where $4, 5 \notin \Sigma$

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How well does Idea 2 work?

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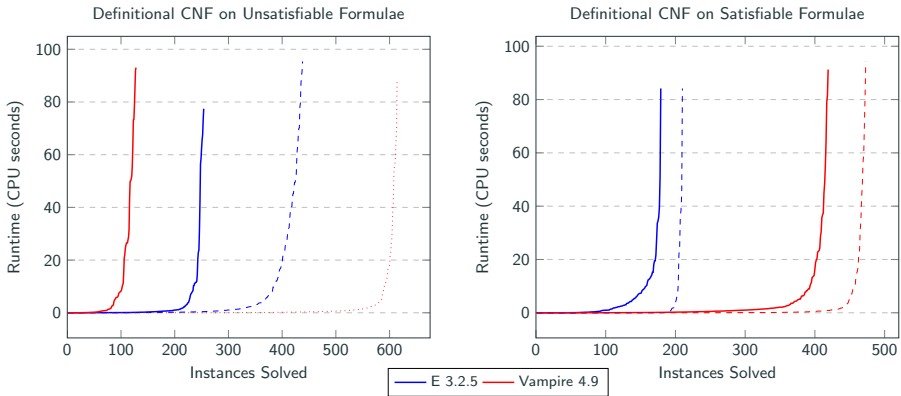
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How well does Idea 2 work?

- Problem 1: Resolution steps neither respect modal levels nor the distinction between \Diamond and \Box
- Problem 2: Resolution steps are 'too small'

Consider $\Diamond((p \vee q) \wedge \Diamond(\neg p \vee q)) \wedge \Box\neg q$

(1)	$q_1(w_0)$	[R,(6)2,(9)2]	(12)	$\neg q_3(V) \vee \neg q_5(V) \vee q(V)$
(2)	$\neg q_1(V) \vee R(V, f(V))$	[R,(7)2,(10)2]	(13)	$\neg q_1(V) \vee \neg q_4(V) \vee q_6(g(V))$
(3)	$\neg q_1(V) \vee q_2(f(V))$	[R,(9)3,(11)2]	(14)	$\neg q_5(V) \vee \neg p(V) \vee \neg q_6(V)$
(4)	$\neg q_2(V) \vee q_3(V)$	[R,(13)3,(14)3]	(15)	$\neg q_1(V) \vee \neg q_4(V)$
(5)	$\neg q_2(V) \vee q_4(V)$			$\vee \neg q_5(g(V)) \vee \neg p(g(V))$
(6)	$\neg q_3(V) \vee p(V) \vee q(V)$	[R,(8)2,(15)3]	(16)	$\neg q_1(V) \vee \neg q_4(V) \vee \neg p(g(V))$
(7)	$\neg q_4(V) \vee R(V, g(V))$			\vdots
(8)	$\neg q_4(V) \vee q_5(g(V))$			
(9)	$\neg q_5(V) \vee \neg p(V) \vee q(V)$			
(10)	$\neg q_1(V) \vee \neg R(V, W) \vee q_6(W)$			
(11)	$\neg q_6(V) \vee \neg q(V)$			

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- **Idea 3:** Use a modal clausal normal form and modal resolution calculus

To deal with axioms in Σ , add instances of the axioms

- Recall that every K-satisfiable formula has a rooted tree Kripke model where every world w has a unique **modal level**, $ml_M(w)$ given by the distance of w to the root
- **Separated Normal Form with Sets of Modal Levels** SNF_{sml}

- Literal clause $S : \bigvee_{i=1}^k l_i$ $\forall w. \text{ if } ml_M(w) \in S \text{ then } M, w \models \bigvee_{i=1}^k l_i$
- Positive modal clause $S : I' \rightarrow \Box I$ $\forall w. \text{ if } ml_M(w) \in S \text{ then } M, w \models I' \rightarrow \Box I$
- Negative modal clause $S : I' \rightarrow \Diamond I$ $\forall w. \text{ if } ml_M(w) \in S \text{ then } M, w \models I' \rightarrow \Diamond I$

where $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ (possibly infinite)

- Disjunctions here are **sets** of literals (not multi-sets)

Only **0** : \perp , where \perp is the empty disjunction of literals, is a clause that is K-unsatisfiable on its own

- The transformation to normal form ρ_L starts with

$$\{ \{0\} : t_\varphi, \quad \{0\} : t_\varphi \rightarrow \varphi \}$$

and uses a new propositional symbol (**surrogate**) $\eta(\psi) = t_\psi$ for (almost) every subformula ψ of φ

KD ($\Box\psi \rightarrow \Diamond\psi$):

$$\Phi \cup \{S : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Box\eta(\psi)\} \implies \Phi \cup \{S : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Box\eta(\psi), S : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Diamond\eta(\psi), S^{\geq} : \eta(\psi) \rightarrow \psi\}$$

KT ($\Box\psi \rightarrow \psi$):

$$\Phi \cup \{S : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Box\eta(\psi)\} \implies \Phi \cup \{S : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Box\eta(\psi), S : \neg t_{\Box\psi} \vee \eta(\psi) S \cup S^+ : \eta(\psi) \rightarrow \psi\}$$

K4 ($\Box\psi \rightarrow \Box\Box\psi$):

$$\Phi \cup \{S : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Box\eta(\psi)\} \implies \Phi \cup \{S^{\geq} : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Box\eta(\psi), S^{\geq} : t_{\Box\psi} \rightarrow \Box t_{\Box\psi}, (S^+)^{\geq} : \eta(\psi) \rightarrow \psi\}$$

where $S^+ = \{l + 1 \in \mathbb{N} \mid l \in S\}$, $S^{\geq} = \{n \mid n \geq \min(S)\}$,

Theorem

Let L be a logic in the modal cube,

φ be a modal formula and

$\Phi = \rho_L(\varphi)$ be the normal form of φ for L .

Then φ is L -satisfiable iff Φ is K -satisfiable

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$$\text{LRES} : \frac{S_0 : D \vee I \quad S_1 : D' \vee \neg I}{S_0 \cap S_1 : D \vee D'}$$

$$\text{MRES} : \frac{S_0 : I_1 \rightarrow \Box I \quad S_1 : I_2 \rightarrow \Diamond \neg I}{S_0 \cap S_1 : \neg I_1 \vee \neg I_2}$$

$$\text{GEN2} : \frac{S_0 : I'_1 \rightarrow \Box I_1 \quad S_1 : I'_2 \rightarrow \Box \neg I_1 \quad S_2 : I'_3 \rightarrow \Diamond I_2}{\bigcap \{S_0, S_1, S_2\} : \neg I'_1 \vee \neg I'_2 \vee \neg I'_3}$$

$$\text{GEN1} : \frac{\begin{array}{c} S_0 : I'_1 \rightarrow \Box \neg I_1 \\ \vdots \\ S_{m-1} : I'_m \rightarrow \Box \neg I_m \\ S_m : I' \rightarrow \Diamond \neg I \\ S_{m+1} : I_1 \vee \dots \vee I_m \vee I \end{array}}{S : \neg I'_1 \vee \dots \vee \neg I'_m \vee \neg I'}$$

$$\text{GEN3} : \frac{\begin{array}{c} S_0 : I'_1 \rightarrow \Box \neg I_1 \\ \vdots \\ S_{m-1} : I'_m \rightarrow \Box \neg I_m \\ S_m : I' \rightarrow \Diamond I \\ S_{m+1} : I_1 \vee \dots \vee I_m \end{array}}{S : \neg I'_1 \vee \dots \vee \neg I'_m \vee \neg I'}$$

where $S = \bigcap \{S_0, \dots, S_m, S_{m+1}^-\}$ in GEN1 and GEN3

$$S_{m+1}^- = \{ml - 1 \in \mathbb{N} \mid ml \in S_{m+1}\}$$

and inference steps are only performed if the labelling set in the resolvent is non-empty

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- **Tautology:**

$S : p \vee \neg p \vee C$ is a tautology

- **Subsumption:**

$S_0 : C$ **subsumes** $S_1 : C \vee D$ where $S_1 \subseteq S_0$ and D is a possibly empty disjunction of literals

- **Derivation** from Φ :

$\Phi = \Phi_0, \Phi_1, \dots$, where for each $i > 0$,

(i) $\Phi_{i+1} = \Phi_i \cup \{ml : C\}$ where $ml : C$ is derived from clauses in Φ_i ,

not a tautology,

and not subsumed by a clause in Φ_i ; or

(ii) $\Phi_{i+1} = \Phi_i - \{ml : C\}$ where $ml : C$ is subsumed by a clause in $\Phi_i - \{ml : C\}$

- **Refutation** of Φ :

A derivation $\Phi = \Phi_0, \Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_n$ where Φ_n contains $S : \perp$ with $0 \in S$

- Φ is **saturated**:

no clause can be derived from Φ that is not a tautology or subsumed by a clause in Φ

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- Efficiency of the calculus can be improved by restricting the applicability of the LRES ('propositional' binary resolution) rule

- **Negative resolution**: One of the premises contains only negative literals

Additional restrictions on normal form:

Only positive literals in modal clauses $\leadsto \text{SNF}_{sml}^-$

- **Positive resolution**: One of the premises contains only positive literals

Additional restrictions on normal form:

Only negative literals in modal clauses $\leadsto \text{SNF}_{sml}^+$

- **Ordered resolution**: For premises $C \vee I$ and $D \vee \neg I$, I must be maximal wrt to C and $\neg I$ must be maximal wrt to D

Additional restrictions on normal form and ordering:

Below modal operators we must have fresh propositional symbols that are smaller than the original propositional symbols $\leadsto \text{SNF}_{sml}^{++}$

- The additional restrictions on the normal form can be enforced by additional **renamings**

Let

L be a logic in the modal cube

φ be a modal formula

Φ be the corresponding finite set of clauses in SNF_{sml} , SNF_{sml}^- , SNF_{sml}^+ , or SNF_{sml}^{++}

Φ' be the saturation of Φ with respect to the corresponding refinement of the calculus for SNF_{sml}

Theorem

φ is L -unsatisfiable iff Φ has a refutation with respect to the corresponding refinement of the calculus

Theorem

If φ is L -satisfiable then Φ and Φ' are K -satisfiable and from the tree model M of Φ' we can construct an L -model of φ

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- We do not have an implementation of the calculus for SNF_{sml}
- Instead there are two implementations of related calculi
 1. **Global Modal Resolution (GMR) calculus:**
 - Overapproximates every clause $S : \psi$ by $\mathbb{N} : \psi$, except for $\{0\} : t_\varphi$
 - Generates instances of axioms ‘on-the-fly’ by additional inference rules
 2. **Modal-layered Resolution (MLR) calculus:**
 - Allows only singleton labelling sets $\{ml\} : \psi = ml : \psi$
 - Approximate $S : \psi$ by $ml_1 : \psi, \dots, ml_k : \psi$
where $ml_i \in S$, $ml_i \leq b_\varphi^L$, b_φ^L is a logic- and formula-dependend bound

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- As **satisfiable benchmark formulae** we use 100 **S5-satisfiable** formulae
 - satisfiable in any logic of the modal cube
 - effort to find a model varies depending on logic
- As **unsatisfiable benchmark formulae** we use 100 **K-unsatisfiable** formulae that are modified for each logic so that logic specific reasoning is required
 - effort to find a refutation varies depending on logic

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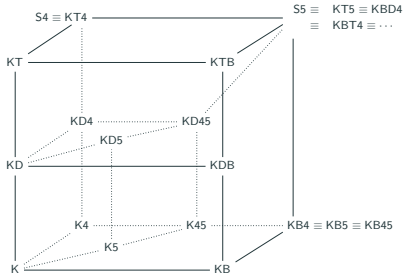
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S5-Satisfiable	K-Unsatisfiable
k_poly_n	k_branch_p
s4_md_n	k_path_p
s4_ph_n	k_ph_p
s4_path_n	k_poly_p
s4_s5_n	k_t4p_p

20 formulae in each family (100 for each logic)

K-Unsatisfiable formulae

Replace each propositional variable p by $p \vee \psi_L^p$:

Logic L	ψ_L^p
K	false
KB	$(\neg q_p \wedge \Diamond \Box q_p)$
KDB	$(\neg q_p \wedge \Diamond \Box ((\Box \neg q'_p \wedge \Box q'_p) \vee q_p))$
KTB	$(\neg q_p \wedge \Diamond \Box ((\neg q'_p \wedge \Box q'_p) \vee q_p))$
KD	$(\Box \neg q_p \wedge \Box q_p)$
KT	$(\neg q_p \wedge \Box q_p)$
K4	$(\Box q_p \wedge \Diamond \Diamond \neg q_p)$
K4B	$(\neg q_p \wedge \Diamond \Diamond \Box q_p)$
KD4	$(\Box q_p \wedge \Diamond \Diamond \Box \Diamond \neg q_p)$
K5	$(\Diamond \neg q_p \wedge \Diamond \Box q_p)$
KD5	$((\Box \neg q_p \wedge \Box q_p) \vee (\Diamond \Box q'_p \wedge \Diamond \neg q'_p))$
K45	$(\Box q_p \wedge \Diamond \Box q'_p \wedge \Diamond \Diamond (\neg q_p \vee \neg q'_p))$
KD45	$((\Box \neg q'_p \wedge \Box q'_p) \wedge (\Box q_p \wedge \Diamond \Box q'_p \wedge \Diamond \Diamond (\neg q_p \vee \neg q'_p)))$
S4	$(\neg q'_p \wedge \Box (\neg q'_p \vee \Box q_p) \wedge \Diamond \Diamond \neg q_p)$
S5	$((\neg q_p \wedge \Box q_p) \vee (\neg q'_p \wedge \Diamond \Diamond \Diamond \Box q'_p))$

- Provers started to implement **modal logic specific** simplifications, e.g.,

$$K4 : \Diamond\Diamond\psi \implies \Diamond\psi$$

\rightsquigarrow allows such provers to undo the replacement of p by $p \vee \psi_L^p$

- The following alternative modifications mostly disable those modal logic specific simplifications

Logic L	ψ_L^p
K	false
KB	$((\neg q_p^0 \vee \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^0 \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^1)$
KDB	$((\Box(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1)) \vee ((\neg q_p^0 \vee \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^0 \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^1))$
K4	$(\Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond\Diamond(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1))$
K5	$(\Diamond\neg q_p^0 \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^0)$
KB4	$((q_p^0 \vee \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond(q_p^2 \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^0) \wedge \Diamond(\neg q_p^2 \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^1))$
K45	$(\Box q_p^0 \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^1 \wedge \Diamond\neg q_p^2 \wedge \Diamond(q_p^2 \wedge \Diamond(\neg q_p^0 \vee \neg q_p^1)))$
KD	$(\Box(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1))$
KT	$(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1 \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1))$

Logic L	ψ_L^p
KTB	$((\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1 \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1)) \vee ((\neg q_p^0 \vee \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^0 \wedge \Diamond\Box q_p^1))$
KD4	$((\Box(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1)) \vee (\Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond\Diamond(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1)))$
S4	$(q_p^0 \wedge \Box(\neg q_p^0 \vee \Box q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond(q_p^2 \wedge \Diamond(\neg q_p^1 \wedge \neg q_p^2)))$
KD5	$((\Box(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1)) \vee (\Diamond\neg q_p^0 \wedge \Diamond(q_p^0 \wedge \Box q_p^0)))$
S5	$((\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1 \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1)) \vee (\neg q_p^1 \wedge \Diamond((q_p^2 \wedge \neg q_p^3) \wedge \Diamond((q_p^3 \wedge \neg q_p^4) \wedge \Diamond(q_p^4 \wedge \Box q_p^1)))))$
KD45	$((\Box(\neg q_p^0 \wedge \neg q_p^1) \wedge \Box(q_p^0 \vee q_p^1)) \vee (\Box q_p^0 \wedge \Diamond(q_p^0 \wedge \Box q_p^1) \wedge \Diamond\neg q_p^2 \wedge \Diamond(q_p^2 \wedge \Diamond(\neg q_p^0 \vee \neg q_p^1))))$

How well does Idea 3 work?

Introduction

Background

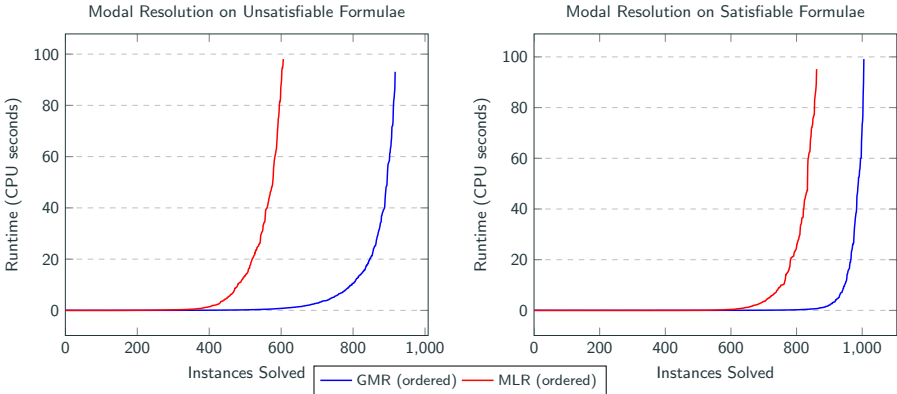
Idea 1:
Relational
Translation

Idea 2:
Definitional
Clause
Normal Form

Idea 3:
Modal
Resolution

Benchmarks

Conclusions,
Future
Work,
Questions



- [Global Modal Resolution](#) currently offers the best overall performance on the logics of the modal cube
- The normal form used for [Global Modal Resolution](#) is closely related to the [definitional clause normal form](#) which performed worse
- The performance gain is therefore most likely linked to
 - the hyperresolution-like inference rules of [Global Modal Resolution](#)
 - the use of [on-the-fly generated instances of axioms](#) instead of relational frame properties

Future work: Extend the comparison to include the [axiomatic translation](#) from modal to first-order logic to disentangle these factors

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- Our modal resolution approach offers a number of advantages:
 - provides [decision procedures](#) for all 15 logics of the modal cube
 - provides [proofs](#)
 - provides [models](#) (implemented only for the ordered refinement)
- But there are faster provers for specific logics
- In particular, the fastest prover for the six logics K, KB, KD, KT, K4, K5 offers neither [proofs](#) nor [models](#)
- We have also seen that the relational translation without the use of definitional clause normal form can result in better performance though it does not provide a decision procedure
- [Question](#): What criteria should we use for the inclusion or exclusion of an approach / prover in a comparison?