

Agent Interpolation in Distributed Systems

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(joint work with Marta Bílková and Wesley Fussner)

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One-slide Summary of the Talk

Main result

We have **constructively** proved **agent + Lyndon interpolation** for **$S5_n$, multi-agent logic of knowledge in distributed systems.**

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Clarification 1: agent + Lyndon interpolation

If $S5_n \vdash A \rightarrow B$, there exists an **interpolant** C such that

$$S5_n \vdash A \rightarrow C \quad \text{and} \quad S5_n \vdash C \rightarrow B \quad \text{and}$$

every positive atom p

occurs positively

every negative atom p in C occurs negatively in both A, B

every modality \Box_i

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Logic of Kripke frames with **equivalence relation** \sim_i for each agent.

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Logic of Kripke frames with **equivalence relation** \sim_i for each agent.

Clarification 3: constructively

We designed **cut-free crossword-sequent proof calculus** allowing to construct **interpolant** C .

Theory and Applications of Craig Interpolation (ed. ten Cate et al.)

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General shape of interpolation for a logic L (excluding uniform)

If B is a consequence of A according to L , then there is an interpolant C such that

- C is a consequence of A according to L ,
- B is a consequence of C according to L , and
- C only uses the common language of A and B .

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Some options for consequence according to L

- $L \vdash A \rightarrow B \Rightarrow L \vdash A \rightarrow C \ \& \ L \vdash C \rightarrow B$ Craig, Lyndon
- $A \vdash_L B \Rightarrow A \vdash_L C \vdash_L B$ deductive

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Some options for common language

- common atoms Craig
- common positive and negative atoms Lyndon
- common modalities strong or multimodal or agent

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- common positive and negative atoms Lyndon
- common modalities agent

Agent Interpolation Is Not Trivial

Example (Marx, 1999)

Consider logic $L := K_2 + \Box_1 A \rightarrow \Box_2 A$

Then

$$L \vdash \Box_1 p \rightarrow \Box_2 p$$

but agent interpolants have to be purely propositional, which is not possible.

Hilbert axioms

- propositional tautologies
- $K(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (KA \rightarrow KB)$ logical omniscience 1
- $KA \rightarrow A$ factivity
- $KA \rightarrow KKA$ positive introspection
- $\neg KA \rightarrow K\neg KA$ negative introspection
- from A and $A \rightarrow B$, infer B modus ponens
- from A , infer KA necessitation, logical omniscience 2

Semantics

$S5 \vdash A$

iff

A is valid in all Kripke models (W, \sim, V)
with \sim an equivalence relation.

Why Is That Knowledge?

Distributed systems

Multi-agent systems where several agents aim to fulfill a common task, but each has independent control and coordination requires communication.

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Knowledge of Preconditions principle (Moses, 2015)

If A is a precondition for agent i doing action α ,
then $K_i A$ is also a precondition for i doing α .

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Multi-agent systems where several agents aim to fulfill a common task, but each has independent control and coordination requires communication.

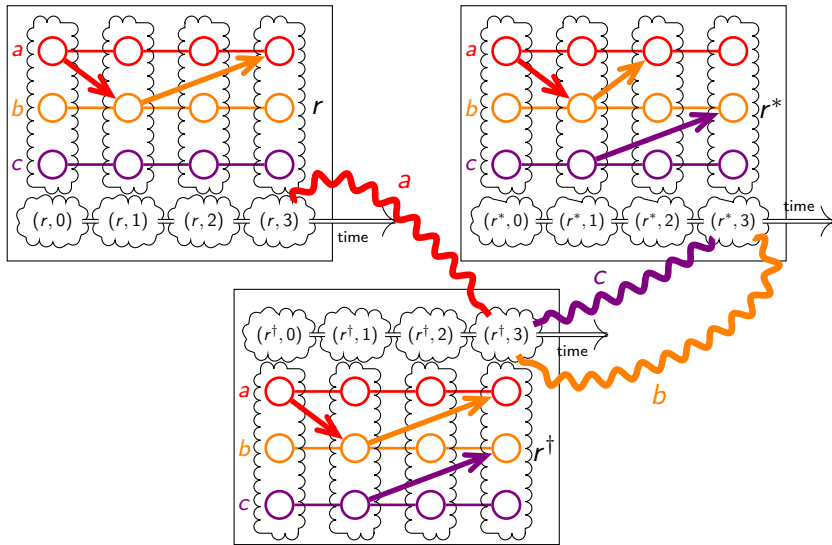
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Runs-and-systems paradigm

- a world is a global state (r, t) of a run r at time t
- in global state (r, t) , each agent i has local state $r_i(t)$
- global states $(r, t) \sim_i (r', t')$ are indistinguishable by agent i iff it has the same local state $r_i(t) \neq r'_i(t')$
- such \sim_i is necessarily an equivalence relation

Modeling Knowledge in Distributed Systems



Hilbert axioms

- propositional tautologies
- $\Box_i(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\Box_i A \rightarrow \Box_i B)$ logical omniscience 1
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Semantics

$S5_n \vdash A$

iff

A is valid in all Kripke models $(W, \sim_1, \dots, \sim_n, V)$
with each \sim_i an equivalence relation.

- $S5$ has Lyndon (hence, Craig) interpolation
- Fusion preserves Craig interpolation (Kracht–Wolter, 1991)
- $S5_n$ has Lyndon interpolation
- $S5_n$ has agent + Craig interpolation (van Benthem, 1997)

What is known

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- $S5_n$ has agent + Craig interpolation (van Benthem, 1997)

One method to prove them all?

We say: **proof theory!**

Proof-theoretic method is constructive

(rules and conditions apply)

Van Benthem's proof does not yield an efficient* method of finding interpolants

* For any recursively enumerable logic, any proof that an interpolant exists yields an algorithm for finding an interpolant by enumerating all theorems of the logic.

Mattias Baaz

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Proof-theoretic method provides an efficient* method for constructing an interpolant

* The interpolant is constructed not from the given valid implication $A \rightarrow B$ but rather from its derivation in a suitable proof calculus, e.g., from a cut-free sequent derivation of $A \Rightarrow B$.

Reviewer 2: Begone, 'tis Trivial to Go from S_5 to S_{5_n}

Authors 1, 2, 3

It is only trivial if one does not try.

Cut-free sequents for S_5

- **Not known**

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Cut-free hypersequents for S5

- Mints, 1968; Pottinger, 1983; Avron, 1996
- Hypersequents are **not trivial** to extend to many modalities.
- They rely on all worlds being accessible from each other. This restriction works for S5 but **not** for S5_n.

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Cut-free nested sequents for $S5$

- Brünnler, 2006; Poggiolesi, 2007
- Extended to $S5_n$ (Girlando–Lellmann–Olivetti, 2019)
- Works the way one expects
- I dare anyone to claim that nested cut elimination is trivial.

Analogy with S5

- Hypersequents correspond to simplified prefixed tableaux, i.e., with integer prefixes $1, 2, 3, \dots$
- Nested sequents correspond to prefixed tableaux where prefixes are sequences of integers $1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.1.1, 1.1.2, \dots$

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In the former case, prefixes/sequent components have a **flat, homogenous structure**, which matches the structure of S5 Kripke models.

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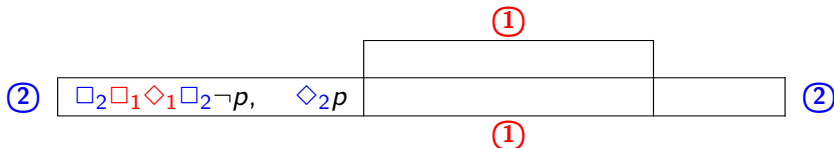
We wanted sequents for $S5_n$ with structure as simple as possible.

- Models for $S5_n$ consist of intersecting clusters of worlds.
- Each \Box_i behaves like **S5-modality within its i -clusters.**
- Alternation $\Box_i\Box_j$ behaves like **T-modalities switching from an i -cluster to the j -cluster.**
- So our proof calculus combines

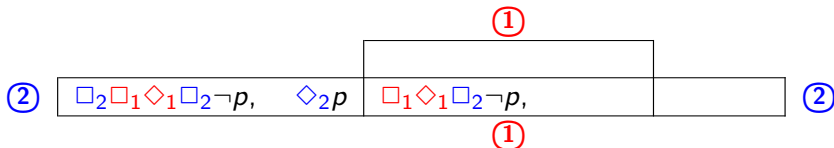
hypersequent S5 and **nested sequent T** features,
with any two hypersequent clusters intersecting
in at most one component,
like a (multi-dimensional) **crossword**.

Crossword Derivation of $S5_2 \vdash \diamond_2 \diamond_1 \square_1 \diamond_2 p \rightarrow \diamond_2 p$

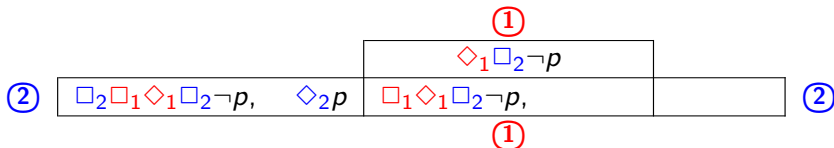
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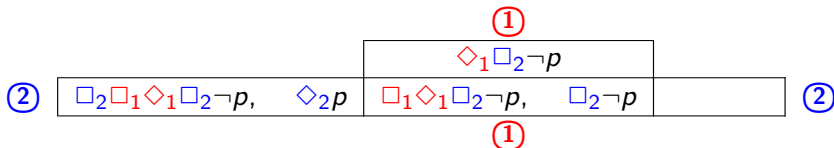
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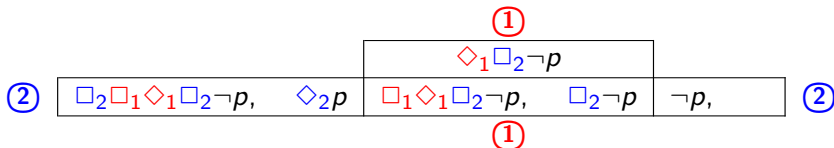
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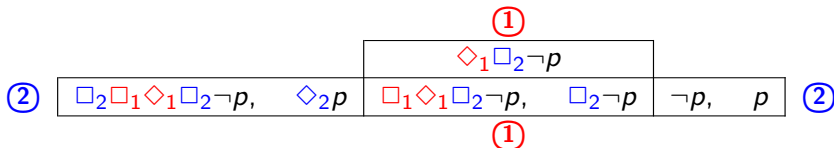
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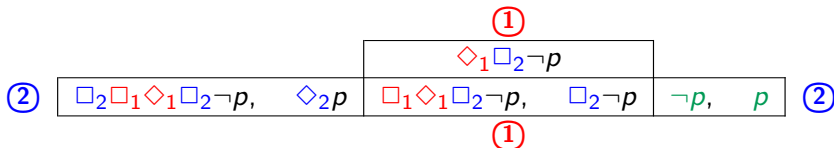
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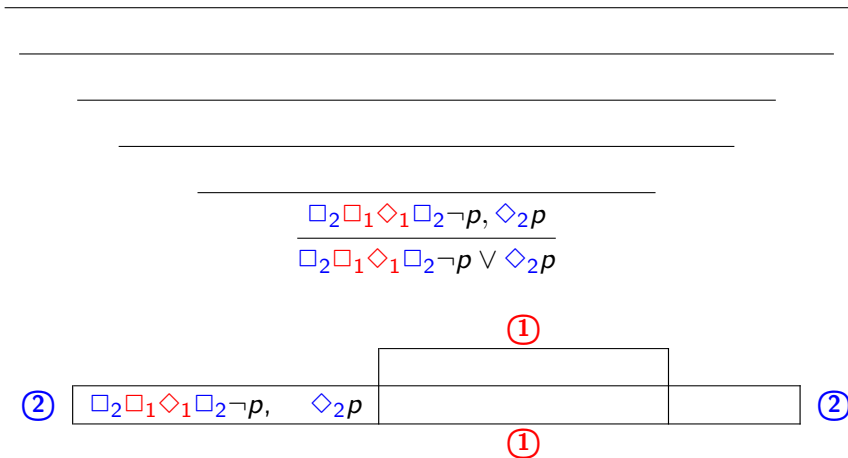
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \overline{\mathcal{S}\{p, \neg p\}} \quad \overline{\mathcal{S}\{\top\}} \\
 \\
 \frac{\mathcal{S}\{A \vee B, A, B\}}{\mathcal{S}\{A \vee B\}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{S}\{A \wedge B, A\} \quad \mathcal{S}\{A \wedge B, B\}}{\mathcal{S}\{A \wedge B\}} \\
 \\
 \frac{\mathcal{S}\{[A|\Box_i A, \mathcal{T}|H]_i\}}{\mathcal{S}\{[\Box_i A, \mathcal{T}|H]_i\}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{S}\{\Box_i A, [A|H]_i\}}{\mathcal{S}\{\Box_i A, [H]_i\}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{S}\{\Box_i A, [A]_i\}}{\mathcal{S}\{\Box_i A\}} \quad \Box_i A \neq i \\
 \\
 \frac{\mathcal{S}\{[\Diamond_i A, \mathcal{T}|A, \mathcal{U}|H]_i\}}{\mathcal{S}\{[\Diamond_i A, \mathcal{T}|\mathcal{U}|H]_i\}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{S}\{\Diamond_i A, [A, \mathcal{T}|H]_i\}}{\mathcal{S}\{\Diamond_i A, [\mathcal{T}|H]_i\}} \\
 \\
 \frac{\mathcal{S}\{\Diamond_i A, A\}}{\mathcal{S}\{\Diamond_i A\}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{S}\{A, \mathcal{T}, [\Diamond_i A, \mathcal{U}|H]_i\}}{\mathcal{S}\{\mathcal{T}, [\Diamond_i A, \mathcal{U}|H]_i\}}
 \end{array}$$

Linearized Derivation of $S5_2 \vdash \diamond_2 \diamond_1 \square_1 \diamond_2 p \rightarrow \diamond_2 p$

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$$\frac{}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p \vee \diamond_2 p}$$

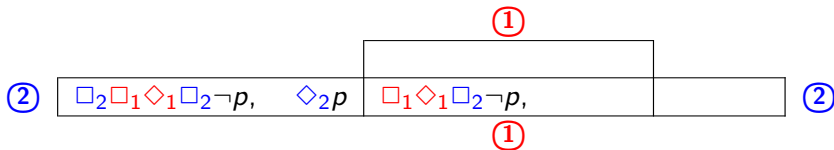
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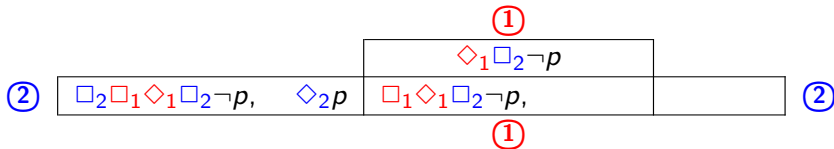
$$\frac{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p, \quad [\square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p]_2}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p}$$

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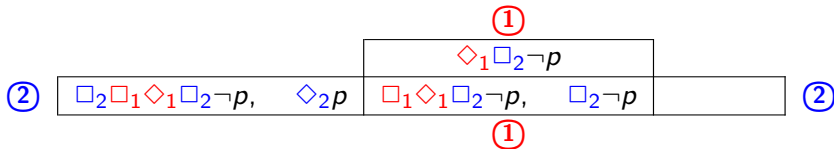
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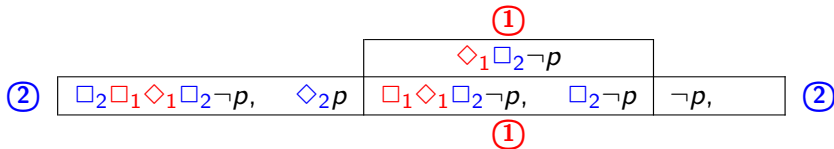
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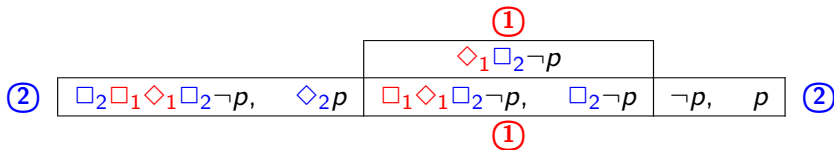
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 \hline
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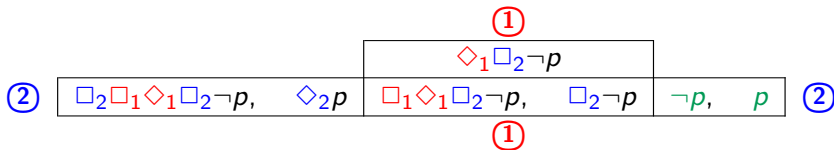
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Linearized Derivation of $S5_2 \vdash \diamond_2 \diamond_1 \square_1 \diamond_2 p \rightarrow \diamond_2 p$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p, \left[\square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \square_2 \neg p, [\diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p]_1 \mid_2 \neg p, p \right]_2}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p, \left[\square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \square_2 \neg p, [\diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p]_1 \mid_2 \neg p \right]_2}}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p, \left[\square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \square_2 \neg p, [\diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p]_1 \right]_2}}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p, \left[\square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, [\diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p]_1 \right]_2}}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p, \left[\square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, [\diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p]_1 \right]_2}}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p, \left[\square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p \right]_2}}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p, \diamond_2 p}}{\square_2 \square_1 \diamond_1 \square_2 \neg p \vee \diamond_2 p}
 \end{array}$$



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- 4 Strong termination (if redundant uses are prohibited)
- 5 Countermodel extraction from any leaf of a failed proof
- 6 Hence, decidability and finite model property

Without boring you with the details

- Maehara's method for sequents
 - Fitting–K's method for generalized sequents
- can be adapted to crossword sequents.

Theorem

Given a crossword sequent derivation of $A \Rightarrow B$, there is an algorithm constructing an agent + Lyndon interpolant of $A \rightarrow B$.

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Thank you!



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