

Logics of Non-actual Possible Worlds*

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Abstract. In Jia Chen (2020), a logic of strong possibility and weak necessity, which we call ‘logic of non-actual possible worlds’ here, is proposed and axiomatized over various frames. However, the completeness proof therein is quite complicated, which involves the use of copies of maximal consistent sets in the construction of the canonical model, among other considerations. In this paper, we demonstrate that the completeness of some systems thereof can be reduced to those of the familiar systems in the literature via translations, which builds a bridge among these systems. We also explore the frame definability of such a logic.

1 Introduction

Standard modal logic concerns about notions of necessity and possibility. Intuitively, a proposition is possible, if it is true at some accessible possible world; it is necessary, if it is true at all accessible possible worlds. For standard modal logic, refer to any textbook on modal logic, e.g. [1]. Here possible worlds include not only the actual (i.e. real) world, but also those non-actual ones. The existence of non-actual possible worlds is supported by modal realists, represented by David Lewis (e.g. [8]).

The notion of non-actual possible worlds is related to the actualism vs. possibilism dispute. According to actualism, everything that there is, everything that has being in any sense, is actual, which states in terms of possible worlds that everything that exists in any world exists in the actual world. By contrast, possibilism thinks that there are things that exist in other possible worlds but fail to exist in the actual world, which are called ‘mere possibilia’. Non-actual possible worlds are prime examples of such mere possibilia. ([10])

The notion of non-actual possible worlds is also related to counterfactual reasoning and imagination. For instance, as known, Donald Trump was not elected as the 46th U.S. president. But we can imagine what would happen if Donald Trump had been elected as the 46th U.S. president. Non-actual possible worlds are indispensable in such imagination and counterfactual reasoning. Moreover, although the world we

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are living in, that is, the real world, is also a possible world, in some cases, however, we are more interested in those non-actual possible worlds than the actual one.¹

In this paper, we investigate a logic of non-actual possible worlds, which dates back to [6], under the name of ‘a logic of strong possibility and weak necessity’.² Intuitively, a proposition is strongly possible, if it is true at some accessible non-actual possible world; it is weakly necessary, if it is true at all accessible non-actual possible worlds. The logic is axiomatized over various classes of frames. However, the completeness proofs via a variant of the usual canonical model construction thereof are quite complicated, which involves the use of copies of maximal consistent sets, among other considerations.

Observing the proof systems of the logic of non-actual possible worlds and the \Box -based normal modal logics, we can see the similarities in form between their minimal logics (denoted $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and \mathbf{K} , respectively) and symmetric logics (denoted $\Box\mathbf{B}$ and \mathbf{B} , respectively). This inspires us that we may use a method to show the completeness of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$ rather than canonical model constructions. The method in question is the reduction via translations. In details, by finding suitable translation functions, we can obtain the axiom schemas and inference rules of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ from \mathbf{K} and $\Box\mathbf{B}$ from \mathbf{B} , and vice versa. Another observation is that, although the semantics of \Box and \square are different in general, they are the same (i.e. equivalent) on irreflexive models. Based on the two observations, we can reduce the determination results (that is, soundness and completeness) of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$ to those of \mathbf{K} and \mathbf{B} , respectively. This much simplifies the completeness proof of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$.

Our logic is also related to the modal logic for elsewhere ([7]), which is also called the logic of somewhere else ([14, p. 69]), the modal logic of inequality ([11]), and the modal logic of other worlds ([4]). This logic is axiomatized over the class of all frames $\langle W, R \rangle$ in which for all $x, y \in W$, xRy if and only if $x \neq y$ (in short, R is nonidentity) in [12], and a more elegant axiomatization, denoted KAB , is given in [7]. When it comes to form, the symmetric and transitive logic (denoted $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ below) has the same axioms and inference rules as KAB . Moreover, their semantics are the same on the models which we call ‘conversely irreflexive models’. As we shall show, the determination result of the former system can be reduced to that of the latter.

As a matter of fact, the semantics of everywhere-else and somewhere-else oper-

¹For instance, the worlds in science fiction and film are usually non-actual possible worlds, and in deontic logic, we usually hope to find deontically ideal worlds, which are again non-actual possible worlds.

²If it is proper to call the standard modal logic ‘the logic of possible worlds’, then we may also call the logic of strong possibility and weak necessity ‘the logic of non-actual possible worlds’, in which we are mainly concerned with those non-actual possible worlds. Note that the term ‘weak necessity’ is also used in the deontic setting, see for instance [13]. Partly because of this, we prefer to use the term ‘the logic of non-actual possible worlds’ rather than ‘the logic of strong possibility and weak necessity’.

ators can be thought of as special instances of weak necessity and strong possibility operators, respectively, when the accessibility relation is universal.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Sec. 2 introduces the syntax and semantics of the logic $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ of non-actual possible worlds and some related logics. Sec. 3 reviews axiomatizations of the modal logic for elsewhere and $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$. Sec. 4 investigates its frame definability. Sec. 5 presents several translation functions, which either reduce the determination results of some axiomatizations of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ to those in the literature, or help us find a simpler axiomatization of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ over transitive frames. We conclude with some future work in Sec. 6.

2 Syntax and semantics

Throughout the paper, we fix \mathbf{P} to be a nonempty set of propositional variables and let $p \in \mathbf{P}$. We first define a large language, which has the language of the logic of non-actual possible worlds as fragments.

Definition 1 (Languages). The language $\mathcal{L}(\Box, \square, \bar{D})$ is defined recursively as follows:

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid (\varphi \wedge \varphi) \mid \Box\varphi \mid \square\varphi \mid \bar{D}\varphi$$

With the sole modal construct $\Box\varphi$, we obtain the language $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ of the logic of non-actual possible worlds, alias *the logic of strong possibility and weak necessity*; with the sole modal construct $\square\varphi$, we obtain the language $\mathcal{L}(\square)$ of standard modal logic; with the sole modal construct $\bar{D}\varphi$, we obtain the language $\mathcal{L}(\bar{D})$ of the logic of elsewhere.

Intuitively, $\Box\varphi$, $\square\varphi$, and $\bar{D}\varphi$ are read, respectively, “it is *weakly necessary* that φ ”, “it is necessary that φ ”, and “it is the case that φ everywhere else”. Other connectives are defined as usual. In particular, $\Diamond\varphi$, $\Diamond\varphi$, and $D\varphi$ are read “it is strongly possible that φ ”, “it is possible that φ ”, and “it is the case that φ somewhere else”, and abbreviate $\neg\Box\neg\varphi$, $\neg\square\neg\varphi$, and $\neg\bar{D}\neg\varphi$ respectively. We will mainly focus on the logic $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ in the sequel.

Instead of using \bar{D} , we could have used \Box for the operator of *everywhere else*, as in some literature, e.g. [4, 7]. But we have already used this notation for the operator of weak necessity, thus we here adopt the notation \bar{D} from [11] and [1, Sec. 7.1] instead.

The language $\mathcal{L}(\Box, \square, \bar{D})$ is interpreted over (Kripke) models. A *model* is a triple $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, R, V \rangle$, where W is a nonempty set of possible worlds, R is a binary relation over W , called ‘accessibility relation’, and V is a valuation assigning some subset of W to each propositional variable in \mathbf{P} . A *pointed model* is a pair of a model with a world in it. A *frame* is a model without a valuation. Model \mathcal{M} is said to be a \mathcal{K} -model (resp., \mathcal{D} -model, \mathcal{T} -model, \mathcal{B} -model, 4-model, 5-model, $\mathcal{B}4$ -model, $\mathcal{B}5$ -model,

$\mathcal{S5}$ -model) if its accessibility relation is arbitrary (resp., serial, reflexive, symmetric, transitive, Euclidean, symmetric and transitive, symmetric and Euclidean, reflexive and Euclidean). A \mathcal{K} -frame and the like are defined similarly.

Given a model $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, R, V \rangle$ and a world $w \in W$, the semantics of $\mathcal{L}(\Box, \Diamond, \bar{\Box})$ is defined inductively as follows:

$\mathcal{M}, w \models p$	\iff	$w \in V(p)$
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \neg\varphi$	\iff	$\mathcal{M}, w \not\models \varphi$
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \wedge \psi$	\iff	$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi$ and $\mathcal{M}, w \models \psi$
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \Box\varphi$	\iff	for all $v \in W$, if $w \neq v$ and wRv , then $\mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi$.
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \Diamond\varphi$	\iff	for all $v \in W$, if wRv , then $\mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi$.
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \bar{\Box}\varphi$	\iff	for all $v \in W$, if $w \neq v$, then $\mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi$.

Notions of truth, model validity, frame validity and semantic consequence are defined as usual.

Observe that the semantics of \Box can be seen as a ‘combination’ of those of \Diamond and $\bar{\Box}$, in the sense that the antecedent of the interpretation of $\Box\varphi$ (namely ‘ $w \neq v$ and wRv ’), is a conjunction of those of the interpretation of $\Diamond\varphi$ and $\bar{\Box}\varphi$. Besides, the semantics of $\bar{\Box}$ can be seen as a special case of \Box when the accessibility relation R is universal.

One may see that the semantics of \Box and \Diamond are different in general. However, they are the same on the models in which the following condition are satisfied:

$$(\text{Irref}) \quad \text{for all } w, v \in W, \text{ if } wRv, \text{ then } w \neq v.$$

It should be easy to verify that (Irref) amounts to saying that the models are irreflexive:

$$\text{for all } w \in W, \text{ it is not the case that } wRw.$$

Also, even though the semantics of \Box and $\bar{\Box}$ are different in general, they are the same on the models that have the following property:

$$(\text{Ci}) \quad \text{for all } w, v \in W, \text{ if } w \neq v, \text{ then } wRv.$$

As easily seen, (Ci) is just the converse of (Irref). For this reason, we use the name (Ci), to stand for C(onverse) i(rreflexivity). Both (Irref) and (Ci) play important roles in our paper.

One may easily compute the semantics of the defined operators as follows.

$\mathcal{M}, w \models \Diamond\varphi$	\iff	there exists v such that $w \neq v$ and wRv and $\mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi$.
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \bar{\Box}\varphi$	\iff	there exists v such that wRv and $\mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi$.
$\mathcal{M}, w \models \Diamond\varphi$	\iff	there exists v such that $w \neq v$ and $\mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi$.

Note that $\models \Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box\varphi$. That is why \Box is called the operator of weak necessity. This follows by the monotony of \Box that $\models \Box^n\varphi \rightarrow \Box^n\varphi$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. It may be

worth remarking that over reflexive models, \Box is definable in terms of \Box , as $\Box\varphi =_{df} \Box\varphi \wedge \varphi$. This will guide us to propose a translation between $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ and $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$, and then a transitive axiom in the latter language.

3 Existing results on axiomatizations of $\mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$ and $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$

3.1 Existing results on axiomatizations of $\mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$

The minimal normal logic of $\mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$, denoted **S_wB** + **A5** in [14], or *KAB* in [7], or *DL*⁻ in [11], or **KB4'** in [4], consists of the following axioms and inference rules. Here we follow [7] and call the system *KAB*.

- (TAUT) all instances of propositional tautologies
- (DK) $\overline{D}(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\overline{D}\varphi \rightarrow \overline{D}\psi)$
- (D4) $\overline{D}\varphi \wedge \varphi \rightarrow \overline{D}\overline{D}\varphi$
- (DB) $\varphi \rightarrow \overline{D}\overline{D}\varphi$
- (MP) From φ and $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ infer ψ
- (DN) From φ infer $\overline{D}\varphi$

It is shown in [7] that *KAB* is determined by (that is, sound and complete w.r.t.) not only the class of all frames under the semantics of $\mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$, but also two extra classes of frames (see Thm. 1 below). Here the more unusual condition of *alio*transitivity can be expressed in first-order logic as

$$\forall x \forall y \forall z (x \neq z \wedge xRy \wedge yRz \rightarrow xRz).$$

Theorem 1. ([7])

- *KAB* is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of alio
- transitive and symmetric frames;
- *KAB* is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of (Ci)-frames;
- *KAB* is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of frames where the accessibility relation is nonidentity.

In what follows, we will make use of the determination result of *KAB* by the class of (Ci)-frames to obtain that of \Box **B4** below by the class of **B4**-frames, through a method of reduction via translations.

3.2 Existing results on axiomatizations of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$

Recall that the minimal logic of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$, denoted $\Box\mathbf{K}$, which consists of the following axioms and inference rules, is given in [6, p. 62].

- (TAUT) all instances of propositional tautologies
- ($\Box\mathbf{K}$) $\Box(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box\psi)$
- (MP) From φ and $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ infer ψ
- ($\Box\mathbf{N}$) From φ infer $\Box\varphi$

It is easy to see that $\Box\mathbf{K}$ is normal, thus it is monotone, namely, if $\vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi$, then $\vdash \Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box\psi$.

Theorem 2. ([6, Thm. 4]) $\Box\mathbf{K}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class \mathcal{K} of all frames, the class \mathcal{D} of all serial frames, the class \mathcal{T} of all reflexive frames. In symbols, for all $\mathcal{X} \in \{\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}\}$, for all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{K}} \varphi \text{ iff } \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi.$$

It is then extended to other systems and various soundness and strong completeness results obtain.

Axioms	Systems
($\Box\mathbf{B}$) $\varphi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\varphi$	$\Box\mathbf{B} = \Box\mathbf{K} + (\Box\mathbf{B}); \Box\mathbf{4} = \Box\mathbf{K} + (\Box\mathbf{4})$
($\Box\mathbf{B}'$) $\Box(\varphi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\varphi)$	$\Box\mathbf{5} = \Box\mathbf{K} + (\Box\mathbf{B}') + (\Box\mathbf{5})$
($\Box\mathbf{4}$) $(\Box\varphi \wedge \psi) \rightarrow \Box\Box(\varphi \vee \psi)$	$\Box\mathbf{B4} = \Box\mathbf{K} + (\Box\mathbf{B}) + (\Box\mathbf{4})$
($\Box\mathbf{5}$) $\Diamond\varphi \rightarrow \Box(\varphi \vee \Diamond\varphi)$	$\Box\mathbf{B5} = \Box\mathbf{K} + (\Box\mathbf{B}) + (\Box\mathbf{5})$

Theorem 3. ([6, Thm. 5, Thm. 6])

- (1) $\Box\mathbf{B}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of \mathcal{B} -frames, to the class of \mathcal{DB} -frames, and to the class of \mathcal{TB} -frames.
- (2) $\Box\mathbf{4}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of $\mathcal{4}$ -frames, to the class of $\mathcal{D4}$ -frames, and to the class of $\mathcal{S4}$ -frames.
- (3) $\Box\mathbf{5}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of $\mathcal{5}$ -frames, and to the class of $\mathcal{D5}$ -frames.
- (4) $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ (and its equivalent system $\Box\mathbf{B5}$) is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of $\mathcal{B4}$ -frames (equivalently, the class of $\mathcal{B5}$ -frames) and to the class of $\mathcal{S5}$ -frames.³

However, the proof of the strong completeness of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ (and thus its extensions) in [6] is quite complicated, needing, among other things, to make use of copies of

³Note that it is claimed without proof in [6] that $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B5}$ are equivalent. In what follows, we will give a proof.

maximal consistent sets in the construction of the canonical model. For the details, we refer to [6] or Appendix below.

Note that in terms of the form, the axioms and inference rules of the system $\Box\mathbf{K}$ are similar to those of the minimal normal modal logic \mathbf{K} , which consists of the following axioms and inference rules:

- (TAUT) all instances of propositional tautologies
- ($\Box\mathbf{K}$) $\Box(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box\psi)$
- (MP) From φ and $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ infer ψ
- ($\Box\mathbf{N}$) From φ infer $\Box\varphi$

Also, when it comes to the form, the axioms and inference rules of the system $\Box\mathbf{B}$ is similar to those of the normal modal logic \mathbf{B} , which is the smallest normal extension of \mathbf{K} with an extra axiom $\varphi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\varphi$, denoted $\Box\mathbf{B}$.

In what follows, we will give a simpler proof for the completeness of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$, by reducing the soundness and strong completeness of the two systems, respectively, to those of \mathbf{K} and \mathbf{B} .

Moreover, we can see other \Box -axioms are *not* similar in form to their \Box -counterparts that are used to provide completeness of normal modal logics. We will explain why this is the case, which will in turn explain that the completeness of the other four systems, namely $\Box\mathbf{4}$, $\Box\mathbf{5}$, $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B5}$, cannot be reduced to those of their corresponding \Box -systems via the translation function used in the case of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$.

Furthermore, although the axiom ($\Box\mathbf{4}$) in the proof system $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ is not similar in form to its counterpart in \Box -based normal modal logics, one of its simpler equivalences (denoted ($\Box\mathbf{4}'$) below) is indeed similar in form to the axiom (D4) in the proof system KAB introduced above. By giving two translation functions, among some semantic considerations, we will finally demonstrate in Sec. 5.2 that the soundness and completeness of $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ can be reduced to those of KAB .

4 Irreflexive reduction

This section proposes a notion called ‘irreflexive reduction’. This notion will play a crucial role in the frame definability, and more importantly, in the completeness of the proof systems $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$ of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ below.

Intuitively, the irreflexive reduction of a frame is obtained from the original frame by deleting all reflexive arrows. It is easy to see that every frame has a unique irreflexive reduction.⁴

⁴The notion of irreflexive reduction differs from the notion of mirror reduction in [9], in that the irreflexive reduction is also a mirror reduction, but not vice versa. Every frame may have many mirror reductions, but has only one irreflexive reduction.

Definition 2 (Irreflexive reduction). Let $\mathcal{F} = \langle W, R \rangle$ be a frame. Frame $\mathcal{F}^{-T} = \langle W, R^{-T} \rangle$ is said to be the *irreflexive reduction* of \mathcal{F} , if

$$R^{-T} = R \setminus \{(w, w) \mid w \in W\}.$$

Moreover, say that $\mathcal{M}^{-T} = \langle \mathcal{F}^{-T}, V \rangle$ is the *irreflexive reduction* of $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{F}, V \rangle$, if \mathcal{F}^{-T} is the irreflexive reduction of \mathcal{F} . We say that a class of frames \mathfrak{C} is *closed under irreflexivization*, if $\mathcal{F} \in \mathfrak{C}$ implies $\mathcal{F}^{-T} \in \mathfrak{C}$.

The satisfiability and frame validity of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formulas are invariant under the notion of irreflexive reduction. We omit the proof details due to space limitation.

Proposition 1. Let $\mathcal{F}^{-T} = \langle W, R^{-T} \rangle$ be the irreflexive reduction of $\mathcal{F} = \langle W, R \rangle$, and let $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{F}, V \rangle$ and $\mathcal{M}^{-T} = \langle \mathcal{F}^{-T}, V \rangle$. Then

(a) For all $w \in W$, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \iff \mathcal{M}^{-T}, w \models \varphi.$$

(b) For all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have

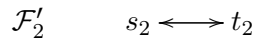
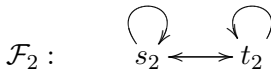
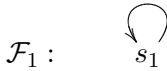
$$\mathcal{F} \models \varphi \iff \mathcal{F}^{-T} \models \varphi.$$

It is claimed without proof in [6, p. 65] that the property of symmetry is definable in $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$, by $p \rightarrow \Box \Diamond p$, but other familiar frame properties, such as seriality, reflexivity, transitivity, Euclideaness, are undefinable in this language. Here we give a proof for the undefinability results with the notion of irreflexive reduction.

A frame property P is said to be definable in a language, if there exists a set of formulas Γ in this language such that for all frames \mathcal{F} , we have $\mathcal{F} \models \Gamma$ iff \mathcal{F} has the property P . We write simply $\mathcal{F} \models \varphi$ if Γ is a singleton $\{\varphi\}$.

Theorem 4. Seriality, reflexivity, transitivity, Euclideaness, and convergence are all not definable in $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$.

Proof. Consider the following frames:



It is easy to check that \mathcal{F}'_1 and \mathcal{F}'_2 are, respectively, the irreflexive reductions of \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 . By item (b) of Prop. 1, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, $\mathcal{F}'_1 \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{F}_1 \models \varphi$, and $\mathcal{F}'_2 \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{F}_2 \models \varphi$. Now observe that \mathcal{F}_1 is serial and reflexive, but \mathcal{F}'_1 is not; \mathcal{F}_2 is transitive, Euclidean, and convergent, but \mathcal{F}'_2 is not. Therefore, none of seriality, reflexivity, transitivity, Euclideaness, and convergence is definable in $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$. \square

The following results will be used in the completeness proof. Given a class of frames \mathfrak{C} , define $\mathfrak{C}^{-T} = \{\mathcal{F}^{-T} : \mathcal{F} \in \mathfrak{C}\}$, where \mathcal{F}^{-T} is the irreflexive reduction of \mathcal{F} . In other words, \mathfrak{C}^{-T} is the set of the irreflexive reduction of each frame in \mathfrak{C} .

Lemma 1. *Let \mathfrak{C} and \mathfrak{C}' be two classes of frames. If $\mathfrak{C}^{-T} = \mathfrak{C}'^{-T}$, then for all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have*

$$\Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}} \varphi \text{ iff } \Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}'} \varphi.$$

Proof. By Prop. 1(a), we can show that $\Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}} \varphi$ iff $\Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}^{-T}} \varphi$, and $\Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}'} \varphi$ iff $\Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}'^{-T}} \varphi$. Since $\mathfrak{C}^{-T} = \mathfrak{C}'^{-T}$, we conclude that $\Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}} \varphi$ iff $\Gamma \models_{\mathfrak{C}'} \varphi$. \square

Given any class of frames \mathcal{X} , one may check that if $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$, then $\mathcal{X}^{-T} = \mathcal{T}^{-T}$, and if $S5 \subseteq \mathcal{X} \subseteq B4$, then $B4^{-T} = \mathcal{X}^{-T} = S5^{-T}$. Then by Lemma 1, we immediately have the following special semantic properties of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$.

Proposition 2. *Let $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$.*

- (1) $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{T}} \varphi$ for $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$;
- (2) $\Gamma \models_{B4} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{S5} \varphi$ for $S5 \subseteq \mathcal{X} \subseteq B4$.

We close this section with an important result, which says that $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ is insensitive to reflexivity, that is, adding or deleting reflexive arrows does not change the validity of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formulas in a given frame (satisfiability, for that matter).

Proposition 3. *Let $\mathcal{M}_1 = \langle W, R_1, V \rangle$ and $\mathcal{M}_2 = \langle W, R_2, V \rangle$ be models such that R_1 and R_2 only differ in pairs of reflexive arrows. Then for all $w \in W$, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have*

$$\mathcal{M}_1, w \models \varphi \iff \mathcal{M}_2, w \models \varphi.$$

Proof. Note that \mathcal{M}_1 and \mathcal{M}_2 must have the common irreflexive reduction. Then use Prop. 1(a). \square

5 Reducing completeness via translations

In this section, we reduce some proof systems in $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ to the more familiar ones in the literature, by proposing several translation functions. Given any translation function f and any set of formulas Γ , we define $\Gamma^f = \{\varphi^f \mid \varphi \in \Gamma\}$.

5.1 Reducing completeness of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$

In this part, we reduce the (soundness and) strong completeness of the unfamiliar proof systems $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$ to those of the familiar ones \mathbf{K} and \mathbf{B} , respectively, by giving a pair of translation functions, namely \Box -translation $(\cdot)^\Box$ and \Box -translation $(\cdot)^\Box$. The strategy can be summed up as follows. For all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$,

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{K}} \varphi \stackrel{(1)}{\iff} \Gamma^\Box \vdash_{\mathbf{K}} \varphi^\Box \stackrel{(2)}{\iff} \Gamma^\Box \models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi^\Box \stackrel{(3)}{\iff} \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi,$$

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Box \mathbf{B}} \varphi \iff \Gamma^\Box \vdash_{\mathbf{B}} \varphi^\Box \iff \Gamma^\Box \models_{\mathcal{B}} \varphi^\Box \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{B}} \varphi.$$

In what follows, we will show the case for $\Box \mathbf{K}$ in detail. The proof for $\Box \mathbf{B}$ is analogous.

Definition 3 (\Box -translation, \Box -translation). Define the \Box -translation $(\cdot)^\Box : \mathcal{L}(\Box) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ and the \Box -translation $(\cdot)^\Box : \mathcal{L}(\Box) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ as follows:

$$\begin{array}{llll} p^\Box & = & p & p^\Box & = & p \\ (\neg\varphi)^\Box & = & \neg\varphi^\Box & (\neg\varphi)^\Box & = & \neg\varphi^\Box \\ (\varphi \wedge \psi)^\Box & = & \varphi^\Box \wedge \psi^\Box & (\varphi \wedge \psi)^\Box & = & \varphi^\Box \wedge \psi^\Box \\ (\Box\varphi)^\Box & = & \Box\varphi^\Box & (\Box\varphi)^\Box & = & \Box\varphi^\Box \end{array}$$

One may easily see that both $(\cdot)^\Box$ and $(\cdot)^\Box$ are *definitional* translations, since they are variable-fixed and compositional.⁵ Intuitively, the \Box -translation replaces all occurrences of \Box in every $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formula with \Box , and the \Box -translation replaces all occurrences of \Box in every $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formula with \Box . It is straightforward to show by induction that $(\varphi^\Box)^\Box = \varphi$ for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ and $(\psi^\Box)^\Box = \psi$ for all $\psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. In general, $(\Gamma^\Box)^\Box = \Gamma$ for all $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ and $(\Sigma^\Box)^\Box = \Sigma$ for all $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$.

The following result is an immediate consequence of the purely notational difference between the axiomatizations \mathbf{K} and $\Box \mathbf{K}$.

Lemma 2. For all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, $\Gamma \vdash_{\Box \mathbf{K}} \varphi$ iff $\Gamma^\Box \vdash_{\mathbf{K}} \varphi^\Box$.

This completes the step (1) in the above strategy. The step (2) is immediate by the soundness and strong completeness of \mathbf{K} . It remains only to show the step (3). For this, we need some preparation.

Recall that we remarked that the semantics of \Box and \Box are the same on the irreflexive models. Here is a formal exposition, which can be shown by induction on $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formulas.

Proposition 4. For all irreflexive models \mathcal{M} , for all worlds w in \mathcal{M} , for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \text{ iff } \mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi^\Box.$$

Recall from Def. 2 that \mathcal{M}^{-T} is the irreflexive reduction of \mathcal{M} . The following result is a direct consequence of Prop. 1(a), Prop. 4 and the fact that \mathcal{M}^{-T} is irreflexive.

Corollary 1. For all models \mathcal{M} , for all worlds w in \mathcal{M} , for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \text{ iff } \mathcal{M}^{-T}, w \models \varphi^\Box.$$

Consequently, for all $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, $\mathcal{M}, w \models \Gamma$ iff $\mathcal{M}^{-T}, w \models \Gamma^\Box$.

⁵As for the notion of definitional translations, we refer to [5, p. 265].

Lemma 3. *For all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have*

$$\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi \iff \Gamma^{\Box} \models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi^{\Box}.$$

Proof. Suppose that $\Gamma \not\models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi$. Then there exists a model \mathcal{M} and a world w such that $\mathcal{M}, w \models \Gamma$ and $\mathcal{M}, w \not\models \varphi$. By Coro. 1, $\mathcal{M}^{-T}, w \models \Gamma^{\Box}$ and $\mathcal{M}^{-T}, w \not\models \varphi^{\Box}$. Therefore, $\Gamma^{\Box} \not\models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi^{\Box}$.

Now assume that $\Gamma^{\Box} \not\models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi^{\Box}$. Then there exists \mathcal{M} and w such that $\mathcal{M}, w \models \Gamma^{\Box}$ and $\mathcal{M}, w \not\models \varphi^{\Box}$. Since $\Gamma^{\Box} \cup \{\varphi^{\Box}\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, by a well-known result⁶ in the modal logic literature (see e.g. [2, p. 48]), there must be an irreflexive model \mathcal{M}' and w' such that $\mathcal{M}', w' \models \Gamma^{\Box}$ and $\mathcal{M}', w' \not\models \varphi^{\Box}$. Note that $\mathcal{M}' = (\mathcal{M}')^{-T}$. This means that $(\mathcal{M}')^{-T}, w' \models \Gamma^{\Box}$ and $(\mathcal{M}')^{-T}, w' \not\models \varphi^{\Box}$. By Coro. 1 again, we infer that $\mathcal{M}', w' \models \Gamma$ and $\mathcal{M}', w' \not\models \varphi$, and therefore $\Gamma \not\models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi$. \square

With the above results in hand, we obtain the soundness and strong completeness of $\Box\mathbf{K}$. As a matter of fact, we can show the following general result.

Theorem 5. *Let $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{K}$. Then $\Box\mathbf{K}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of \mathcal{X} -frames. That is, for all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have that: $\Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{K}} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi$.*

Proof. Let $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. We have the following equivalences:

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{K}} \varphi \iff \Gamma^{\Box} \vdash_{\mathbf{K}} \varphi^{\Box} \iff \Gamma^{\Box} \models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi^{\Box} \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{K}} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{T}} \varphi,$$

where the first equivalence follows from Lemma 2, the second from the soundness and strong completeness of \mathbf{K} , the third from Lemma 3, and the last two equivalences follow from Prop. 2(1). \square

Corollary 2. [6, Thm. 4] $\Box\mathbf{K}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class \mathcal{K} of all frames, to the class \mathcal{D} of all serial frames, and to the class \mathcal{T} of all reflexive frames.

As with the reduction of the sound and strong completeness of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ to those of \mathbf{K} , we can also reduce the soundness and strong completeness of $\Box\mathbf{B}$ to those of \mathbf{B} . Note that [2, p. 48] also tells us that every symmetric model can be transformed into a pointwise-equivalent irreflexive symmetric model, thus we can show a similar result to Lemma 3.

⁶The result is as follows. For each model \mathcal{M} and w in \mathcal{M} , there is an irreflexive model \mathcal{M}' and w' in \mathcal{M}' such that for each $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$,

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \text{ iff } \mathcal{M}', w' \models \varphi.$$

That is, every model can be transformed into a pointwise-equivalent irreflexive model.

Theorem 6. [6, Thm. 5(1)] $\Box\mathbf{B}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of \mathcal{B} -frames, the class of \mathcal{DB} -frames, and also the class of \mathcal{TB} -frames.

Similarly, the soundness and completeness of the bimodal logics of $\mathcal{L}(\Box, \Box)^7$, namely $\mathbf{K}+$ and $\mathbf{KB}+$ in [6], can be reduced to those of normal modal logics \mathbf{K} and \mathbf{B} , respectively, by translating $\Box\varphi$ to $\Box\varphi$. We omit the proof details due to space limitation.

We have seen from Sec. 3 that the axioms $(\Box\mathbf{K})$ and $(\Box\mathbf{B})$ are similar in form to their counterparts in \Box -based normal modal logics, that is, $(\Box\mathbf{K})$ and $(\Box\mathbf{B})$, respectively. However, this is not the case for other axioms. One may ask why it is so. In what follows, we provide an explanation for this phenomenon.

Proposition 5. Let \mathfrak{C} be a class of frames. If (i) \mathfrak{C} is closed under irreflexivization, then (ii) for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, if $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$, then $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi^\Box$.

Proof. Suppose that (i) holds, to show that (ii) holds. For this, let $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ and assume that $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi^\Box$, it suffices to prove that $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi$.

By assumption, there is a \mathfrak{C} -model $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, R, V \rangle$ and $w \in W$ such that $\mathcal{M}, w \not\models \varphi^\Box$. By Coro. 1 and $\varphi^\Box \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, $\mathcal{M}^{-T}, w \not\models (\varphi^\Box)^\Box$, that is, $\mathcal{M}^{-T}, w \not\models \varphi$. Note that \mathcal{M}^{-T} is also a \mathfrak{C} -model, which follows from the fact that \mathcal{M} is a \mathfrak{C} -model and (i). Thus $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi$. \square

Since $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$ are, respectively, valid on the class of all frames and the class of symmetric frames, and both frame classes are closed under irreflexivization, $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and $\Box\mathbf{B}$ are valid with respect to the corresponding classes of frames.

Corollary 3.

- (1) $\Box(\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box\psi)$ is valid on the class of all frames.
- (2) $\varphi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\varphi$ is valid on the class of symmetric frames.

We have seen from Prop. 5 that (i) is a *sufficient* condition of (ii). One may then naturally ask whether (i) is also a *necessary* condition of (ii). In general, the answer would be negative.

Proposition 6. Let \mathfrak{C} be the class of all frames which has at least one reflexive point. Then (i) of Prop. 5 fails, but (ii) of Prop. 5 holds.

Proof. One may check that \mathfrak{C} is not closed under irreflexivization, thus (i) of Prop. 5 fails. In what follows, we show that for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, (1) $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$ implies $\models \varphi$, (2) $\models \varphi$ implies $\models \varphi^\Box$, and (3) $\models \varphi^\Box$ implies $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi^\Box$. This entails that $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$ implies $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi^\Box$, namely (ii) of Prop. 5. (3) is straightforward. It remains only to show (1) and (2).

⁷The language $\mathcal{L}(\Box, \Box)$ is the extension of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ with the modal construct $\Box\varphi$.

For (1): suppose that $\not\models \varphi$, then $\neg\varphi$ is satisfiable. By finite model property of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$, there exists a finite model, say \mathcal{M} , and $w \in \mathcal{M}$, such that $\mathcal{M}, w \models \neg\varphi$. Let $\mathcal{M}' = \langle W', R', V' \rangle$ such that $W' = \{s\}$ where $s \notin \mathcal{M}$ (since \mathcal{M} is finite, such s must exist), $R' = \{(s, s)\}$. Now consider the disjoint union of \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{M}' , say \mathcal{M}'' . Since \mathcal{M}'' contains the reflexive point s , its underlying frame belongs to \mathfrak{C} . Moreover, as modal satisfaction is invariant under disjoint unions (see e.g. [1]), we have $\mathcal{M}'', w \models \neg\varphi$, and therefore $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi$.

For (2): assume that $\not\models \varphi^\Box$, then there is a model \mathcal{N} and u such that $\mathcal{N}, u \not\models \varphi^\Box$. Since $\varphi^\Box \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, by Coro. 1, $\mathcal{N}^{-T}, u \not\models (\varphi^\Box)^\Box$. We have shown previously that $(\varphi^\Box)^\Box = \varphi$. Thus $\mathcal{N}^{-T}, u \not\models \varphi$, and therefore $\not\models \varphi$, as desired. \square

Despite this, below we shall show that the converse of Prop. 5 indeed holds when \mathfrak{C} is the class of serial frames, the class of reflexive frames, the class of transitive frames, or the class of Euclidean frames. Note that *none* of such class of frames is closed under irreflexivization, which can be seen from the figures in the proof of Thm. 4.

Proposition 7. *Let \mathfrak{C} be the class of \mathcal{D} -frames, the class of \mathcal{T} -frames, the class of 4-frames, or the class of 5-frames. Then there is a $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ such that $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$ but $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi^\Box$.*

Proof. If \mathfrak{C} is the class of \mathcal{D} -frames, we let $\varphi = \Box p \rightarrow \Diamond p$. On one hand, it is well known that $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$. On the other hand, $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi^\Box$, where $\varphi^\Box = \Box p \rightarrow \Diamond p$. To see this, consider a model, say \mathcal{M}_1 , which contains only a single world that is reflexive, say w_1 (where the valuation is inessential). We can check that \mathcal{M}_1 is serial and $\mathcal{M}_1, w_1 \models \Box p \wedge \Box \neg p$.

If \mathfrak{C} is the class of \mathcal{T} -frames, we let $\varphi = \Box p \rightarrow p$. It is well known that $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$. However, $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi^\Box$, where $\varphi^\Box = \Box p \rightarrow p$. To see this, consider a model, say \mathcal{M}_2 , which consists of a single reflexive world, say w_2 , falsifying p . It is easy to see that \mathcal{M}_2 is reflexive. Moreover, one can show that $\mathcal{M}_2, w_2 \models \Box p \wedge \neg p$.

If \mathfrak{C} is the class of the class of 4-frames, we let $\varphi = \Box p \rightarrow \Box \Box p$. On one hand, $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$. On the other hand, $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi^\Box$, where $\varphi^\Box = \Box p \rightarrow \Box \Box p$. To see this, consider a model, say \mathcal{M}_3 , which consists of two worlds w_3 and v such that the accessibility relation is universal and p is only true at v . One may check that \mathcal{M}_3 is transitive and $\mathcal{M}_3, w_3 \models \Box p \wedge \neg \Box \Box p$.

If \mathfrak{C} is the class of 5-frames, we let $\varphi = \Diamond p \rightarrow \Box \Diamond p$. On one hand, we have $\mathfrak{C} \models \varphi$. On the other hand, $\mathfrak{C} \not\models \varphi^\Box$, where $\varphi^\Box = \Diamond p \rightarrow \Box \Diamond p$. To see this, consider a model \mathcal{M}_4 , which consists of two worlds w_4 and u such that w_4 accesses to u and u accesses to itself and there are no other accesses, and p is only true at u . It is clear that \mathcal{M}_4 is Euclidean. Moreover, one may verify that $\mathcal{M}_4, w_4 \models \Diamond p \wedge \neg \Box \Diamond p$. \square

5.2 Reducing completeness of $\Box\mathbf{B4}$

We now reduce the soundness and strong completeness of $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ to those of KAB . The strategy is as before, except for an additional step: for all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$,

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{B4}} \varphi \xLeftrightarrow{(*)} \Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{B4}'} \varphi \xLeftrightarrow{(**)} \Gamma^t \vdash_{KAB} \varphi^t \xLeftrightarrow{(***)} \Gamma^t \models_{\text{Ci}} \varphi^t \xLeftrightarrow{****)} \Gamma \models_{\mathbf{B4}} \varphi,$$

where $(\cdot)^t$ is defined below.

To obtain the desired system $\Box\mathbf{B4}'$, we define the following translation function.

Definition 4. Define the \star -translation $(\cdot)^\star : \mathcal{L}(\Box) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} p^\star &= p \\ (\neg\varphi)^\star &= \neg\varphi^\star \\ (\varphi \wedge \psi)^\star &= \varphi^\star \wedge \psi^\star \\ (\Box\varphi)^\star &= \Box\varphi^\star \wedge \varphi^\star \end{aligned}$$

Recall that the transitivity axiom in $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ is $\Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box\Box\varphi$. Using the above \star -translation, we obtain the following formula:

$$(\Box 4'') \quad (\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \rightarrow \Box(\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \wedge (\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi).$$

In the system $\Box\mathbf{K}$, this formula can be simplified to the following equivalent one, denoted $(\Box 4')$:

$$(\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \rightarrow \Box\Box\varphi.$$

Define $\Box\mathbf{B4}' = \Box\mathbf{B} + (\Box 4')$. We choose $(\Box 4')$ instead of $(\Box 4)$ (namely, $\Box\varphi \wedge \psi \rightarrow \Box\Box(\varphi \vee \psi)$) in the system $\Box\mathbf{B4}$, partly because this axiom is simpler than the latter, and partly because it is more convenient in showing that $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ is equivalent to $\Box\mathbf{B5}$; more importantly, it is similar in form to the axiom (D4) in KAB , which is useful in the completeness proof of $\Box\mathbf{B4}$.

Proposition 8. $\Box 4$ and $\Box 4'$ are interderivable in $\Box\mathbf{K}$.⁸

Proof. Firstly, $(\Box 4) \implies (\Box 4')$: let ψ in $(\Box 4)$ be φ . Then apply the rule $\frac{\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi}{\Box\varphi \leftrightarrow \Box\psi}$ twice, which is derivable from the axiom $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and the inference rule $\Box\mathbf{N}$.

Secondly, $(\Box 4') \implies (\Box 4)$: suppose that $(\Box 4')$. We have the following proof sequences in $\Box\mathbf{K}$.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| (1) $\Box(\varphi \vee \psi) \wedge (\varphi \vee \psi) \rightarrow \Box\Box(\varphi \vee \psi)$ | $(\Box 4')$ |
| (2) $\Box\varphi \rightarrow \Box(\varphi \vee \psi)$ | \Box is monotone |
| (3) $\psi \rightarrow \varphi \vee \psi$ | TAUT |
| (4) $\Box\varphi \wedge \psi \rightarrow \Box\Box(\varphi \vee \psi)$ | (1) – (3) |

□

⁸This is claimed without proof in [6, p. 65].

Corollary 4. $\Box 4 = \Box K + (\Box 4')$; $\Box B4 = \Box B4'$. Therefore, $\Gamma \vdash_{\Box B4} \varphi \iff \Gamma \vdash_{\Box B4'} \varphi$.

We have thus finished the step $(*)$. To complete the step $(**)$, we introduce a pair of translations.

Definition 5. Define the translation $(\cdot)^t : \mathcal{L}(\Box) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$ and the translation $(\cdot)^s : \mathcal{L}(\overline{D}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\Box)$ as follows.

$$\begin{array}{llll} p^t & = & p & p^s & = & p \\ (\neg\varphi)^t & = & \neg\varphi^t & (\neg\varphi)^s & = & \neg\varphi^s \\ (\varphi \wedge \psi)^t & = & \varphi^t \wedge \psi^t & (\varphi \wedge \psi)^s & = & \varphi^s \wedge \psi^s \\ (\Box\varphi)^t & = & \overline{D}\varphi^t & (\overline{D}\varphi)^s & = & \Box\varphi^s \end{array}$$

Again, both $(\cdot)^t$ and $(\cdot)^s$ are *definitional* translations. Intuitively, the t -translation replaces all occurrences of \Box in every $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formula with \overline{D} , and the s -translation replaces all occurrences of \overline{D} in every $\mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$ -formula with \Box . Moreover, $(\varphi^t)^s = \varphi$ for each $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, and $(\varphi^s)^t = \varphi$ for each $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$. This also extends to the set of formulas; that is, $(\Gamma^t)^s = \Gamma$ for each $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, and $(\Gamma^s)^t = \Gamma$ for each $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$.

As with Lemma 2, we can show the following.

Lemma 4. Let $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. Then $\Gamma \vdash_{\Box B4'} \varphi$ iff $\Gamma^t \vdash_{KAB} \varphi^t$.

It remains only to show the step $(***)$. For this, we need some preparations. First, as mentioned before, the semantics of \Box and \overline{D} are the same over Ci-models. Here is a formal exposition, which can be shown by induction on $\mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$ -formulas.

Proposition 9. For all Ci-model $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, R, V \rangle$ and $w \in W$, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$, we have

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \iff \mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi^s.$$

Proposition 10. For each Ci-model $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, R, V \rangle$ and $w \in W$, there exists some $B4$ -model \mathcal{M}' such that for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\overline{D})$,

$$\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \iff \mathcal{M}', w \models \varphi^s.$$

Proof. We take the reflexive closure of \mathcal{M} , denoted \mathcal{M}^{+T} . One may easily show that \mathcal{M}^{+T} is transitive and symmetric. Moreover, by Prop. 9, $\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi^s$. Note that $\varphi^s \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. By Prop. 3, $\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi^s$ iff $\mathcal{M}^{+T}, w \models \varphi^s$. Therefore, $\mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}^{+T}, w \models \varphi^s$. \square

The following result plays a crucial role in the completeness proof via reduction below.

Proposition 11. For each $B4$ -model $\mathcal{N} = \langle W, R, V \rangle$ and $w \in W$, there exists some Ci-model \mathcal{N}' such that for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$,

$$\mathcal{N}, w \models \varphi \iff \mathcal{N}', w \models \varphi^t.$$

Proof. We take the submodel of \mathcal{N} generated by w , denoted $\mathcal{N}_w = \langle U, R', V' \rangle$. We can show that $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formulas are invariant under the generated submodels, as in the case of the standard modal logic. Also, the properties of symmetry and transitivity are preserved under generated submodels, thus \mathcal{N}_w is also a $\mathcal{B4}$ -model. Now we show that \mathcal{N}_w is a Ci-model, which is divided into two steps:⁹

- (a) for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, for all $x \in U$, if $w \neq x$ and $w(R')^m x$, then $wR'x$.
- (b) for all $x, y \in U$, if $x \neq y$, then $xR'y$.

The proof for (a) is by induction on $m \in \mathbb{N}$. The case $m = 0$ holds vacuously. Suppose, as induction hypothesis, that (a) holds for some fixed m , we show (a) also holds for $m + 1$. For this, we assume that $w \neq x$ and $w(R')^{m+1}x$. Then there exists $u \in U$ such that $w(R')^m u$ and $uR'x$. If $w = u$, then it is clear that $wR'x$. Otherwise, that is, $w \neq u$, then by induction hypothesis, it follows that $wR'u$. Now by transitivity of R' and $wR'u$ and $uR'x$, we obtain $wR'x$.

The proof for (b) is as follows. Suppose that $x \neq y$ for all $x, y \in U$. Then there are $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $w(R')^m x$ and $w(R')^n y$.

If $w = x$, then $w \neq y$, by (a), it follows that $wR'y$, and thus $xR'y$.

If $w = y$, then $w \neq x$, by (a) again, $wR'x$, that is, $yR'x$. Now by symmetry of R' , we infer $xR'y$.

If $w \neq x$ and $w \neq y$, then by (a) again, we obtain $wR'x$ and $wR'y$. Since R' is symmetric and transitive, R' is Euclidean, thus $xR'y$.

So far we have shown that \mathcal{N}_w is a Ci-model. It suffices to show that $\mathcal{N}_w, w \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{N}_w, w \models \varphi^t$ for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. The proof proceeds with induction on φ . The non-trivial case is $\Box\varphi$. This follows directly from the previous remark that the semantics of \Box and \bar{D} are the same on the Ci-models. \square

Lemma 5. Let $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. Then $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{B4}} \varphi$ iff $\Gamma^t \models_{\text{Ci}} \varphi^t$.

Proof. ‘Only if’: suppose that $\Gamma^t \not\models_{\text{Ci}} \varphi^t$. Then there is a Ci-model \mathcal{M} and w in \mathcal{M} such that $\mathcal{M}, w \models \Gamma^t$ and $\mathcal{M}, w \not\models \varphi^t$. By Prop. 10, there exists a $\mathcal{B4}$ -model \mathcal{M}' such that $\mathcal{M}', w \models (\Gamma^t)^s$ and $\mathcal{M}', w \not\models (\varphi^t)^s$. That is, $\mathcal{M}', w \models \Gamma$ and $\mathcal{M}', w \not\models \varphi$. Therefore, $\Gamma \not\models_{\mathcal{B4}} \varphi$.

‘If’: assume that $\Gamma \not\models_{\mathcal{B4}} \varphi$. Then there exists a $\mathcal{B4}$ -model \mathcal{N} and w in \mathcal{N} such that $\mathcal{N}, w \models \Gamma$ and $\mathcal{N}, w \not\models \varphi$. Now by Prop. 11, there exists some Ci-model \mathcal{N}' such that $\mathcal{N}', w \models \Gamma^t$ and $\mathcal{N}', w \not\models \Gamma^t$. Therefore, $\Gamma^t \not\models_{\text{Ci}} \varphi^t$. \square

With the above results in mind, we can obtain the soundness and strong completeness of $\Box\mathcal{B4}$. As a matter of fact, we can show the following general result.

⁹The proofs of the two steps are shown as in [7, p. 185], where the proofs are for the canonical model, rather than an arbitrary $\mathcal{B4}$ -model, though.

Theorem 7. *Let $S5 \subseteq \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{B}4$. Then $\Box\mathbf{B}4$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of \mathcal{X} -frames. That is, for any $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, $\Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{B}4} \varphi$ iff $\Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi$.*

Proof. We have the following proof equivalences:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{B}4} \varphi &\iff \Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{B}4'} \varphi \iff \Gamma^t \vdash_{KAB} \varphi^t \iff \Gamma^t \models_{Ci} \varphi^t \\ &\iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{B}4} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi \iff \Gamma \models_{S5} \varphi, \end{aligned}$$

where the first equivalence follows from Coro. 4, the second from Lemma 4, the third from Thm. 1, the fourth from Lemma 5, and the last two follow from Prop. 2(2). \square

Corollary 5. *$\Box\mathbf{B}4$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of \mathcal{X} -frames, where $\mathcal{X} \in \{\mathcal{B}4, \mathcal{B}4\mathcal{D}, S5\}$.*

Theorem 8. *$\Box\mathbf{B}5$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class of \mathcal{X} -frames, where $S5 \subseteq \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{B}4$.*

Proof. By Coro. 4 and Thm. 7, it suffices to show that $\Box\mathbf{B}4' = \Box\mathbf{B}5$.

We first show that $\Box 5$ is provable in $\Box\mathbf{B}4'$. We have the following proof sequence in $\Box\mathbf{B}4'$, where $(\Box 4')^d$ means the dual formula of $\Box 4'$.

$$\begin{array}{ll} (i) & \Diamond\varphi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\Diamond\varphi \quad (\Box\mathbf{B}) \\ (ii) & \Diamond\Diamond\varphi \rightarrow (\Diamond\varphi \vee \varphi) \quad (\Box 4')^d \\ (iii) & \Box\Diamond\Diamond\varphi \rightarrow \Box(\Diamond\varphi \vee \varphi) \quad (ii), \Box \text{ is monotone} \\ (iv) & \Diamond\varphi \rightarrow \Box(\Diamond\varphi \vee \varphi) \quad (i)(iii) \end{array}$$

Next, we show that $\Box 4'$ is provable in $\Box\mathbf{B}5$. We have the following proof sequence in $\Box\mathbf{B}5$, where $(\Box 5)^d$ means the dual formula of $\Box 5$.

$$\begin{array}{ll} (i) & (\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \rightarrow \Box\Diamond(\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \quad (\Box\mathbf{B}) \\ (ii) & \Diamond(\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \rightarrow \Box\varphi \quad (\Box 5)^d \\ (iii) & \Box\Diamond(\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \rightarrow \Box\Box\varphi \quad (ii), \Box \text{ is monotone} \\ (iv) & (\Box\varphi \wedge \varphi) \rightarrow \Box\Box\varphi \quad (i)(iii) \end{array}$$

\square

It is worth remarking that from axiom 5 (namely, $\Diamond\varphi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\varphi$), the \star -translation in Def. 4 gives us the following axiom, denoted $\Box 5'$:

$$\Diamond\varphi \vee \varphi \rightarrow \Box(\varphi \vee \Diamond\varphi)$$

It should be not hard to verify that $\Box\mathbf{B} + \Box 5' = \Box\mathbf{B}5$.

6 Conclusion and future work

Our contribution is mainly technical. We investigate the frame definability of the logic of non-actual possible worlds $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$. Most importantly, by defining suitable translation functions, we reduced the determination results of $\Box\mathbf{K}$, $\Box\mathbf{B}$, $\Box\mathbf{B4}$ to those of \mathbf{K} , \mathbf{B} , KAB , respectively. For us, this method, namely reduction-via-translations, is simpler than the direct proof method of using copies of maximal consistent sets in [6]. The hardest of this method lies in the reduction of the semantic consequence relation. This establishes some metaproperties of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$, for instance, decidability. This also build a bridge between $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ and $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$, and $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ and $\mathcal{L}(\bar{D})$. We also explained why other \Box -axioms cannot be obtained from the corresponding \Box -axioms by using \Box -translation. We can also extend the axiomatization results to the dynamic cases.

Coming back to Prop. 3, we can see that $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ is insensitive to reflexivity, that is, adding or deleting reflexive arrows does not change the validity (satisfiability, for that matter) of \Box -formulas in a given frame. This is similar to the case for the logic of essence and accident $\mathcal{L}(\circ)$ ([9]). Due to this crucial observation, similar to $\mathcal{L}(\circ)$ in [3], one may give a generalized completeness and soundness result for $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$. Besides, one can investigate if the soundness and strong completeness of KAB in [7] can be reduced to some system in $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ by a certain translation. Moreover, one may explore the applications of $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ in counterfactual reasoning and imagination. We leave this for future work.

7 Appendix

This appendix is intended to describe the completeness proof of $\Box\mathbf{K}$.

Due to the similarity of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ and \mathbf{K} , a natural question would be whether the completeness of $\Box\mathbf{K}$ can be shown as that of \mathbf{K} ; in more detail, in the construction of the canonical model, the canonical relation is defined as $wR^c v$ iff $\Box^-(w) \subseteq v$, where $\Box^-(w) = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box) : \Box\varphi \in w\}$. The answer is negative. Consider the set

$$\Gamma = \{\Box\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)\}.$$

Note that Γ is consistent.¹⁰ Then by Lindenbaum's Lemma, there exists a maximal consistent set u such that $\Gamma \subseteq u$. Therefore, one may check that

$$\{\varphi : \Box\varphi \in u\} = u.$$

Then according to the previous definition of R^c and the properties of maximal consistent sets, $R^c(u) = \{u\}$. That is, u has itself as its sole R^c -successor.

¹⁰For this, it suffices to show that Γ is satisfiable. Construct a model $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, R, V \rangle$, which consists of two worlds s and t , sRt and tRs , and any propositional variable is true at both worlds. By induction on the structure of formulas, we can verify that $\mathcal{M}, s \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}, t \models \varphi$ for any $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. It then follows that $\mathcal{M}, s \models \Box\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi$ for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. Therefore, Γ is satisfiable.

Now that u cannot ‘see’ any of possible worlds other than itself, the semantics tell us that $u \models \Box \perp$. However, as $\perp \notin u$, we should have $\Box \perp \notin u$. Therefore, the truth lemma fails.

In fact, not only those maximal consistent supersets of Γ above, but some maximal consistent supersets of $\{\Box\varphi \rightarrow \varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)\}$ will lead to a failure of the truth lemma, and will require special attention (Def. 6 below) for the sake of our completeness proof. For instance, consider a maximal consistent set that contains the following set of formulas Φ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\Box\varphi \rightarrow \varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)\} \\ \cup & \{\Box(\varphi_1 \vee \dots \vee \varphi_n) : \varphi_1 \in \Gamma_1, \dots, \varphi_n \in \Gamma_n\} \\ \cup & \{\Diamond\varphi : \varphi \in \Gamma_1 \cup \dots \cup \Gamma_n\} \end{aligned}$$

where Γ_i, Γ_j are pairwise different maximal consistent sets for every $i, j \in [1, n]$ such that $i \neq j$.¹¹

All such maximal consistent sets have a common subset, that is, $\{\Box\varphi \rightarrow \varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)\}$. Chen ([6]) refers to such special sets as ‘problematic’ and collect them as $\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$, in symbols,

$$\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L}) = \{w \in \text{MCS} : \{\Box\varphi \rightarrow \varphi : \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)\} \subseteq w\},$$

and then let $\overline{\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})} = \text{MCS}(\mathbf{L}) \setminus \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$, where \mathbf{L} is a consistent normal extension of $\Box\mathbf{K}$, and MCS consists of all maximal \mathbf{L} -consistent sets. One may check that for all $w \in \text{MCS}$, $w \in \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$ iff $\Box^-(w) \subseteq w$.

Definition 6. [6, Def. 2] Given any consistent normal extension \mathbf{L} of $\Box\mathbf{K}$, define the canonical model $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}} = \langle W^{\mathbf{L}}, R^{\mathbf{L}}, V^{\mathbf{L}} \rangle$, where

- $W^{\mathbf{L}} = (\{0, 1\} \times \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})) \cup (\{2\} \times \overline{\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})})$
- $R^{\mathbf{L}} = \{((n_1, w_1), (n_2, w_2)) \in W^{\mathbf{L}} \times W^{\mathbf{L}} \mid (n_1, w_1) = (n_2, w_2) \text{ or } \Box^-(w_1) \subseteq w_2\}$
- $V^{\mathbf{L}}(p) = \{(n, w) \in W^{\mathbf{L}} \mid p \in w\}$.

The reason for using copies in the case of $w \in \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$, is that, as explained before, as w may have itself as its sole successor, copies can guarantee w to have a different successor.

¹¹We show such a maximal consistent set indeed exists via constructing a model. Consider a model which consists of $n + 1$ worlds w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{n+1} such that w_1 and w_2 can ‘see’ each other, both of which can ‘see’ all other worlds, w_1 and w_2 agree on all propositional variables, the valuations on other worlds are not the same as w_1 and w_2 , and also different with each other. One should easily verify that w_1 and w_2 agree on all $\mathcal{L}(\Box)$ -formulas. Let $\Gamma_i = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box) : \mathcal{M}, w_{i+1} \models \varphi\}$ for each $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $\Gamma = \Gamma_1$. We can then show that Γ and all Γ_i are maximally consistent, $\Gamma_i \neq \Gamma_j$ for every $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $i \neq j$, and $\Phi \subseteq \Gamma$.

Lemma 6. [6, Lem. 3] *Let \mathbf{L} be any consistent normal extension of $\Box\mathbf{K}$. For all $(n, w) \in W^{\mathbf{L}}$ and for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have*

$$\varphi \in w \iff \mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (n, w) \models \varphi.$$

Proof. By induction on $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Box)$. The nontrivial case is $\Box\varphi$.

Suppose that $\Box\varphi \in w$, to show that $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (n, w) \models \Box\varphi$. By supposition, $\varphi \in \Box^-(w)$. For all $(m, v) \in W^{\mathbf{L}}$ such that $(n, w) \neq (m, v)$ and $(n, w)R^{\mathbf{L}}(m, v)$, by definition of $R^{\mathbf{L}}$, we have $\Box^-(w) \subseteq v$, and then $\varphi \in v$. By the induction hypothesis, $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (m, v) \models \varphi$, for all such (m, v) . Therefore, $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (n, w) \models \Box\varphi$.

Conversely, assume that $\Box\varphi \notin w$. It is easy to show that $\Box^-(w) \cup \{\neg\varphi\}$ is consistent. Then by Lindenbaum's Lemma, there exists $u \in \text{MCS}(\mathbf{L})$ such that $\Box^-(w) \subseteq u$ and $\varphi \notin u$. We distinguish two cases according to the value of n :

- $n = 2$. In this case, $w \notin \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$. This means that for some χ we have $\Box\chi \in w$ but $\chi \notin w$. As $\Box\chi \in w$, $\chi \in u$, thus $w \neq u$. If $u \in \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$, we set $m = 0$; otherwise, set $m = 2$. Then $(m, u) \in W^{\mathbf{L}}$. Because $w \neq u$, we have $(n, w) \neq (m, u)$; since $\Box^-(w) \subseteq u$, we infer that $(n, w)R^{\mathbf{L}}(m, u)$. From $\varphi \notin u$ and induction hypothesis, it follows that $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (m, u) \not\models \varphi$. Therefore, $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (n, w) \not\models \Box\varphi$.
- $n \in \{0, 1\}$. In this case, $w \in \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$. If $u \in \mathbb{T}(\mathbf{L})$, we set $m = 1 - n$; otherwise, set $m = 2$. Then $(m, u) \in W^{\mathbf{L}}$, and $m \neq n$. Then we can also show that $(n, w) \neq (m, u)$, $(n, w)R^{\mathbf{L}}(m, u)$ and $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (m, u) \not\models \varphi$. Therefore, $\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{L}}, (n, w) \not\models \Box\varphi$.

□

Theorem. [6, Thm. 4] $\Box\mathbf{K}$ is sound and strongly complete with respect to the class \mathcal{K} of all frames, the class \mathcal{D} of all serial frames, the class \mathcal{T} of all reflexive frames. In symbols, for all $\mathcal{X} \in \{\mathcal{K}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{T}\}$, for all $\Gamma \cup \{\varphi\} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Box)$, we have

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Box\mathbf{K}} \varphi \text{ iff } \Gamma \models_{\mathcal{X}} \varphi.$$

Proof. The soundness is straightforward. For completeness, note that $\mathcal{M}^{\Box\mathbf{K}}$ is reflexive. Thus it suffices to show that every $\Box\mathbf{K}$ -consistent set is satisfiable.

First, Lindenbaum's Lemma tells us that every $\Box\mathbf{K}$ -consistent set can be extended to a maximal $\Box\mathbf{K}$ -consistent set, say w . If $w \in \mathbb{T}(\Box\mathbf{K})$, then by Lemma 6, we have $\mathcal{M}^{\Box\mathbf{K}}, (0, w) \models w$; if $w \in \mathbb{T}(\Box\mathbf{K})$, then by Lemma 6 again, we have $\mathcal{M}^{\Box\mathbf{K}}, (2, w) \models w$. This indicates that w is satisfiable. Therefore every $\Box\mathbf{K}$ -consistent set is satisfiable, as desired. □

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非现实可能世界的逻辑

范杰

摘 要

在陈佳（2020）中，强可能性与弱必然性的逻辑被提出，并在许多框架类上被公理化。本文将称该逻辑为“非现实可能世界的逻辑”。然而，那里的完全性证明非常复杂，其中涉及到在典范模型的构造中极大一致集副本的使用，以及其他的考虑。在本文中，我们证明陈佳（2020）中某些系统的完全性可以通过翻译归约为文献中一些熟悉系统的完全性，从而在这些系统之间架起一座桥梁。我们也将探讨该逻辑的框架可定义性问题。