

# BETTER BOUNDED BISIMULATION CONTRACTIONS

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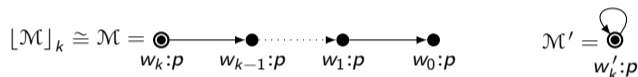
Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

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## Example (Standard $k$ -Contractions are Not Minimal)



**Figure:** Chain model  $\mathcal{M}$  and standard  $k$ -contraction (left) and minimal  $k$ -contraction (right).

In this presentation:

- We give an improved definition: **rooted  $k$ -contractions**
- We prove correctness and **minimality**
- We show an **exponential succinctness** result

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a countable set of atomic propositions and  $\mathcal{J}$  a finite set of modality indices.

## Definition (Language $\mathcal{L}$ of Multi-Modal Logic)

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \Box_i\varphi, \text{ (where } p \in \mathcal{P} \text{ and } i \in \mathcal{J}\text{)}$$

## Definition (Pointed Model)

A **pointed model** is a pair  $(M, w_d)$ , where  $w_d$  is the **designated world** and  $M = (W, R, V)$ :

- $W \neq \emptyset$  is a finite set of **(possible) worlds**
- $R : \mathcal{J} \rightarrow 2^{W \times W}$  assigns to each  $i \in \mathcal{J}$  an **accessibility relation**  $R_i$
- $V : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow 2^W$  is a **valuation function** assigning to each atom a set of worlds

## Definition (Bounded Bisimulation)

Let  $k \geq 0$ . A  **$k$ -bisimulation** between two pointed models  $(M, w_d)$  and  $(M', w'_d)$ , with  $M = (W, R, V)$  and  $M' = (W', R', V')$ , is a sequence of non-empty binary relations  $Z_k \subseteq \dots \subseteq Z_0 \subseteq W \times W'$  such that  $(w_d, w'_d) \in Z_k$  and for all  $h < k$ :

- [atom] If  $(w, w') \in Z_0$ , then for all  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $w \in V(p)$  iff  $w' \in V'(p)$ .
- [forth<sub>h</sub>] If  $(w, w') \in Z_{h+1}$  and  $wR_i v$ , then there is  $v' \in W'$  s.t.  $w'R'_i v'$  and  $(v, v') \in Z_h$ .
- [back<sub>h</sub>] If  $(w, w') \in Z_{h+1}$  and  $w'R'_i v'$ , then there is  $v \in W$  s.t.  $wR_i v$  and  $(v, v') \in Z_h$ .

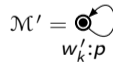
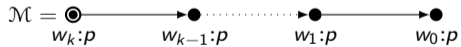
We write  $w \Leftrightarrow_k w'$  to denote that  $w$  and  $w'$  are  **$k$ -bisimilar**. We denote the  **$k$ -bisimulation (equivalence) class** of  $w \in W$  as  $[w]_k = \{v \in W \mid w \Leftrightarrow_k v\}$ .

## Proposition ([book/cup/Blackburn2001])

*Two pointed models are  $k$ -bisimilar iff they satisfy the same formulas of  $\{\phi \in \mathcal{L} \mid md(\phi) \leq k\}$ , i.e., all of formulas up to modal depth  $k$ .*

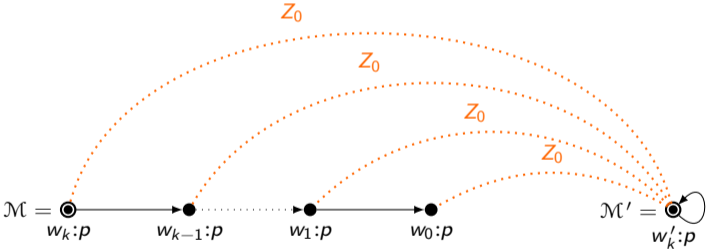
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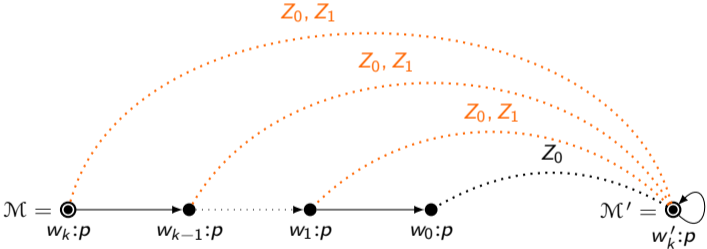


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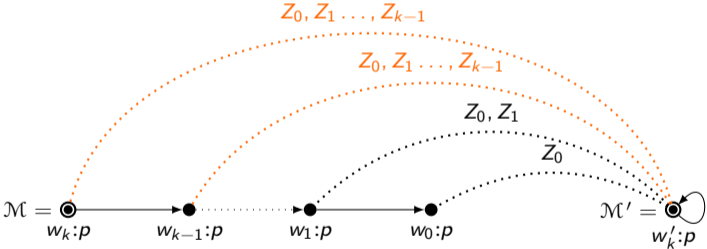


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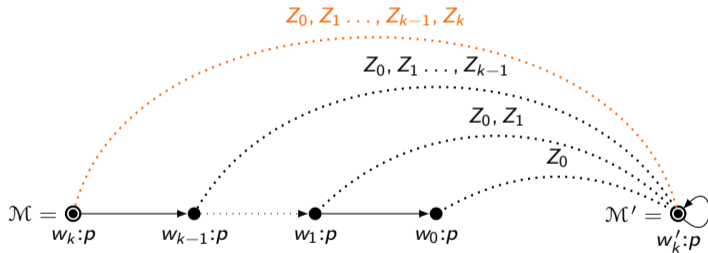
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## Example (Chain Model)





## Example (Chain Model)



## Definition (Bisimulation Contraction)

The **(bisimulation) contraction**  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket$  of a pointed model  $\mathcal{M}$  is the **quotient structure** of  $\mathcal{M}$  with respect to the bisimulation relation  $\Leftrightarrow$ . Namely,  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket = ((W', R', V'), [w_d]_{\Leftrightarrow})$ , where:

- $W' = \{[w]_{\Leftrightarrow} \mid w \in W\}$
- $R'_i = \{([w]_{\Leftrightarrow}, [v]_{\Leftrightarrow}) \mid wR_i v\}$
- $V'(p) = \{[w]_{\Leftrightarrow} \in W' \mid w \in V(p)\}$

## Proposition ([book/cup/Blackburn2001])

*Two pointed models are bisimilar iff they satisfy the same formulas of  $\mathcal{L}$ .*

It is relatively straightforward to prove that:

- $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket$  is bisimilar to  $\mathcal{M}$ ; and
- $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket$  is a minimal model bisimilar to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

## Definition (Standard $k$ -Contraction [journals/logcom/2023/BolanderL; conf/ijcai/Yu2013])

The **standard  $k$ -(bisimulation) contraction**  $\lfloor \mathcal{M} \rfloor_k$  of a pointed model  $\mathcal{M} = ((M, R, V), w_d)$  is the **quotient structure** of  $\mathcal{M}$  with respect to  $\simeq_k$ . Namely,  $\lfloor \mathcal{M} \rfloor_k = ((W', R', V'), [w_d]_k)$ :

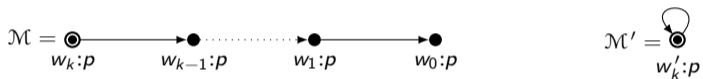
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It is relatively straightforward to prove that  $\lfloor \mathcal{M} \rfloor_k$  is  $k$ -bisimilar to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

However. . .

$\lfloor \mathcal{M} \rfloor_k$  is **not** in general a minimal model  $k$ -bisimilar to  $\mathcal{M}$ , as we now show.

## Example (Chain Model)



$\mathcal{M}'$  is a minimal model  $k$ -bisimilar to  $\mathcal{M}$ . But what does  $[\mathcal{M}]_k$  look like?

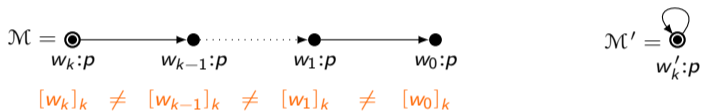
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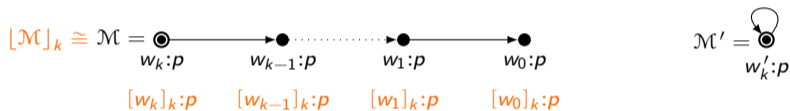
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- Each world of  $\mathcal{M}$  can be **identified by a specific formula** of depth  $\leq k$
- $w_i \neq w_j$  implies  $[w_i]_k \neq [w_j]_k$
- $[\mathcal{M}]_k$  is **isomorphic** to  $\mathcal{M}$

# ROOTED $K$ -CONTRACTIONS



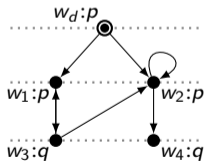
# Bound of a World

Let  $k \geq 0$  and let  $\mathcal{M} = (M, w_d)$  be a pointed model, with  $M = (W, R, V)$ .

## Definition (Depth and Bound)

- The **depth**  $d(w)$  of a world  $w$  is the length of the shortest path from  $w_d$  to  $w$  ( $\infty$  if no such path exists).
- The **bound** of a world  $w$  is  $b(w) = k - d(w)$ .

$d$	$b (k=2)$
0	2
1	1
2	0



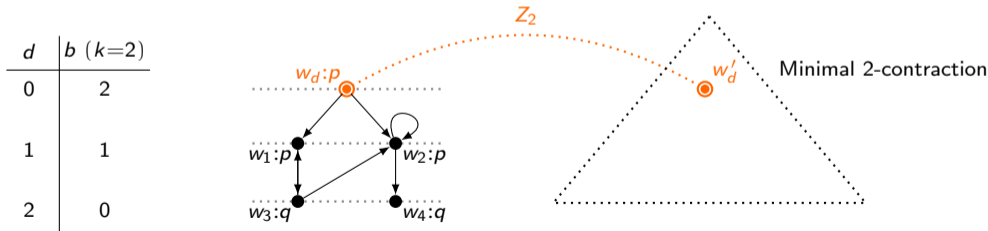
**Figure:** Depth ( $d$ ) and bound ( $b$ ) of worlds of model  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $k = 2$ .

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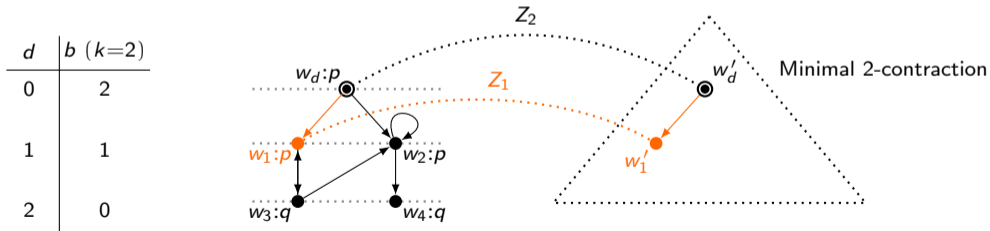
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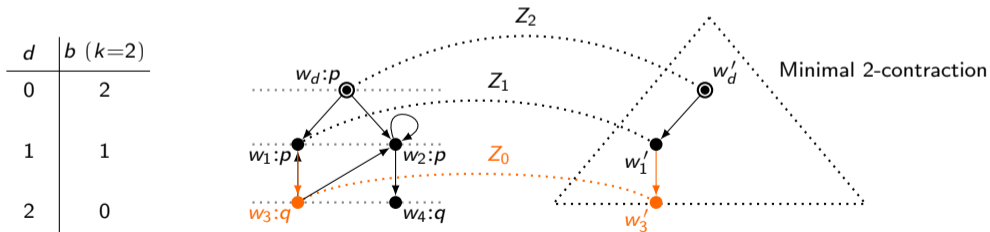
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**Figure:** Depth ( $d$ ) and bound ( $b$ ) of worlds of model  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $k = 2$ .

## Example



Figure: Two pointed models:  $\mathcal{N}_1$  (left) and  $\mathcal{N}_2$  (right).

Let  $k = 2$ . We have the following:

- $\mathcal{N}_1 \Leftrightarrow_2 \mathcal{N}_2$
- $\mathcal{N}_1$  is **not a world-minimal model** 2-bisimilar to  $\mathcal{N}_1$
- $\mathcal{N}_2$  is world minimal, since any model 2-bisimilar to  $\mathcal{N}_1$  must have at least three worlds (one for each atomic proposition)

# Redirecting Edges

## Example



Figure: Two pointed models:  $\mathcal{N}_1$  (left) and  $\mathcal{N}_2$  (right).

$\mathcal{N}_2$  is obtained from  $\mathcal{N}_1$  by **redirecting** all incoming edges of  $w_3$  to  $w_2$  and deleting the worlds that are no longer reachable from the designated world.

## Idea

💡 World  $w_2$  can be considered as a **representative** of  $w_3$ .

This is possible because the following two conditions hold:

- $w_2 \Leftrightarrow_{b(w_3)} w_3$ , namely  $w_2 \Leftrightarrow_0 w_3$
- $b(w_2) \geq b(w_3)$

# Redirecting Edges

## Example



**Figure:** Two pointed models:  $\mathcal{N}_1$  (left) and  $\mathcal{N}_2$  (right).

## Lemma

Let  $k \geq 0$ , let  $(M, w_d)$  be a pointed model, with  $M = (W, R, V)$ , and let  $x \in W$  and  $y \in W \setminus \{w_d\}$  be two distinct worlds such that:

- $b(x) \geq b(y) \geq 0$  and
- $x \Leftrightarrow_{b(y)} y$ .

Let  $(M', w_d)$  be the pointed model obtained by deleting  $y$  from  $(M, w_d)$  and **redirecting** its incoming edges to  $x$ . Then,  $(M, w_d) \Leftrightarrow_k (M', w_d)$ .

# Maximal Representatives

## Definition (Representatives)

Let  $x, y$  be two worlds with non-negative bound.

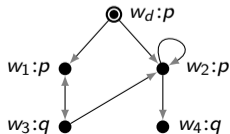
- We say that  $x$  **represents**  $y$ , denoted by  $x \succeq y$ , iff  $b(x) \geq b(y)$  and  $x \Leftrightarrow_{b(y)} y$
- If furthermore  $b(x) > b(y)$ , we say that  $x$  **strictly represents**  $y$ , denoted by  $x \succ y$

## Definition (Maximal Representatives)

The set of **maximal representatives** of  $W$  is the set of worlds

$$W^{\max} = \{x \in W \mid b(x) \geq 0 \text{ and } \neg \exists y \in W (y \succ x)\}$$

Let  $k = 1$ . **We now calculate  $W^{\max}$ :**





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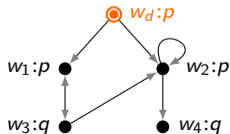
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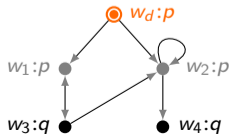
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- $w_d \in W^{\max}$
- $w_1, w_2 \notin W^{\max}$ , since  $w_d \succ w_1, w_2$



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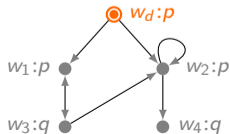
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Let  $k = 1$ . **We now calculate  $W^{\max}$ :**

- $w_d \in W^{\max}$
- $w_1, w_2 \notin W^{\max}$ , since  $w_d \succ w_1, w_2$
- $w_3, w_4 \notin W^{\max}$ , since  $b(w_1), b(w_2) < 0$

Thus:  $W^{\max} = \{w_d\}$ .

# Rooted $k$ -Contractions

It is not hard to show that if  $w, v \in W^{\max}$  and  $w \Leftrightarrow_{b(w)} v$  then  $b(w) = b(v)$ .

## Definition (Representative Class)

The **representative class** of a world  $w$  is the class  $[w]_{b(w)}$ , which we denote with the compact notation  $\llbracket w \rrbracket$ .

## Definition (Rooted $k$ -Contraction)

Let  $\mathcal{M} = ((W, R, V), w_d)$  and let  $k \geq 0$ . The **rooted  $k$ -contraction** of  $\mathcal{M}$  is the pointed model  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k = ((W', R', V'), \llbracket w_d \rrbracket)$ , where:

- $W' = \{\llbracket x \rrbracket \mid x \in W^{\max}\}$
- $R'_i = \{(\llbracket x \rrbracket, \llbracket y \rrbracket) \mid x, y \in W^{\max}, \exists z(xR_i z \text{ and } y \Leftrightarrow_{b(x)-1} z) \text{ and } b(x) > 0\}$
- $V'(p) = \{\llbracket x \rrbracket \in W' \mid x \in V(p)\}$

Accessibility relations:

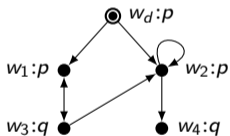
- We **“redirect”**  $xR_i z$  to  $\llbracket x \rrbracket R'_i \llbracket y \rrbracket$
- If  $b(x) = 0$ , then  $\llbracket x \rrbracket$  only needs to **preserve 0-bisimilarity**

# Example

## Recall...

The **rooted  $k$ -contraction** of  $\mathcal{M}$  is the pointed model  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k = ((W', R', V'), \llbracket w_d \rrbracket)$ , where:

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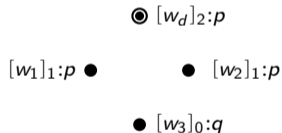
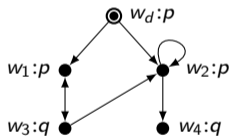


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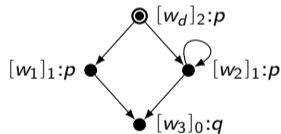
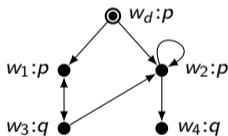
- $W^{\max} = W$
- $\llbracket w_d \rrbracket \neq \llbracket w_1 \rrbracket \neq \llbracket w_2 \rrbracket$
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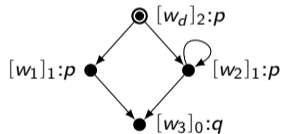
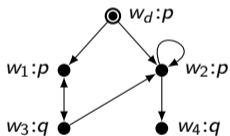
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●  $\llbracket w_d \rrbracket_1:p$

Let  $k = 1$ :

- $W^{\max} = \{w_d\}$

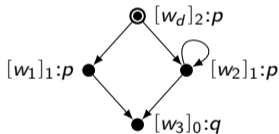
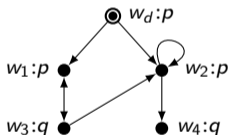


# Example

## Recall...

The **rooted  $k$ -contraction** of  $\mathcal{M}$  is the pointed model  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k = ((W', R', V'), \llbracket w_d \rrbracket)$ , where:

- $W' = \{\llbracket x \rrbracket \mid x \in W^{\max}\}$
- $R'_i = \{(\llbracket x \rrbracket, \llbracket y \rrbracket) \mid x, y \in W^{\max}, \exists z(xR_i z \text{ and } y \Leftrightarrow_{b(x)-1} z) \text{ and } b(x) > 0\}$
- $V'(p) = \{\llbracket x \rrbracket \in W' \mid x \in V(p)\}$



Let  $k = 1$ :

- $W^{\max} = \{w_d\}$
- $\llbracket w_d \rrbracket R' \llbracket w_d \rrbracket$  since  $w_d R w_1$  and  $w_d \Leftrightarrow_0 w_1$

## Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a pointed model and let  $k \geq 0$ . Then,  $\mathcal{M} \Leftrightarrow_k \llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k$ .

## Proof idea.

We show that  $Z_k, \dots, Z_0$  is a  $k$ -bisimulation between  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k$ , where for all  $0 \leq h \leq k$ :

$$Z_h = \{(x, \llbracket x' \rrbracket) \mid x' \in W^{\max}, x' \Leftrightarrow_h x \text{ and } b(x) \geq h\}.$$



## Theorem (World Minimality)

Given a pointed model  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $k \geq 0$ ,  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k$  is a **world-minimal model**  $k$ -bisimilar to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

## Proof sketch.

Let  $\llbracket x \rrbracket \neq \llbracket y \rrbracket$  be two worlds of  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k$  such that  $b(\llbracket x \rrbracket) = b(\llbracket y \rrbracket) = h$ :

- We show that  $\llbracket x \rrbracket \not\equiv_h \llbracket y \rrbracket$
- We then can prove that each set  $W_h$  of worlds of  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k$  having bound  $h$  is minimal
- If all such sets  $W_h$  are minimal, then  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k$  is **world minimal**



# MINIMAL $K$ -CONTRACTIONS

# We Still Don't Have Edge Minimality

## Example



**Figure:** Pointed models  $\mathcal{M}$  (left) and  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_3$  (right).

Let  $k = 3$ . We have  $W^{\max} = W$  and  $b(w_3) = 1$ :

- From  $w_3 R w_1$  and  $w_3 R w_2$  we have  $\llbracket w_3 \rrbracket R' \llbracket w_1 \rrbracket$  and  $\llbracket w_3 \rrbracket R' \llbracket w_2 \rrbracket$
- Since  $b(w_3) = 1$  and thus  $\llbracket w_3 \rrbracket$  only needs to preserve 1-bisimilarity to  $w_3$ 
  - Including only one of those edges in  $R'$  is sufficient to guarantee 3-bisimilarity to  $\mathcal{M}$

# Minimal $k$ -Contractions

## Definition

Let  $<$  be a total order on  $W$  and let  $0 \leq h \leq k$ . The **least  $h$ -representative** of  $w \in W$  is the world  $\min_h(w) = \min_{<} \{v \in W^{\max} \mid v \Leftrightarrow_h w\}$ .

## Definition (Rooted $k$ -Contractions)

Let  $\mathcal{M} = ((W, R, V), w_d)$ , let  $k \geq 0$  and let  $<$  be a total order on  $W$ . The **rooted  $k$ -contraction** of  $\mathcal{M}$  wrt.  $<$  is the pointed model  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k^< = ((W', R', V'), \llbracket w_d \rrbracket)$ , where:

- $W' = \{\llbracket x \rrbracket \mid x \in W^{\max}\}$ ;
- $R'_i = \{(\llbracket x \rrbracket, \llbracket \min_{b(x)-1}(y) \rrbracket) \mid x \in W^{\max}, xR_i y \text{ and } b(x) > 0\}$ ;
- $V'(p) = \{\llbracket x \rrbracket \mid x \in W^{\max} \text{ and } x \in V(p)\}$ .

## Theorem (Correctness and Minimality)

For any  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $k \geq 0$ ,  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k^<$  is a **minimal pointed model  $k$ -bisimilar to  $\mathcal{M}$** .

**EXPONENTIAL SUCCINCTNESS**

# Exponential Succinctness

## Theorem (Exponential succinctness)

*There exist models  $\mathcal{M}_k$ ,  $k \geq 0$ , for which the rooted  $k$ -contraction has  $\Theta(k)$  worlds whereas the standard  $k$ -contraction has  $\Theta(2^k)$  worlds.*

Let  $k = 3$ . We build  $\mathcal{M}_k$  as follows:

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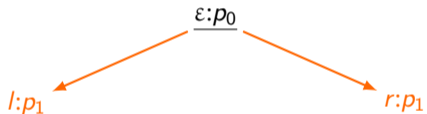


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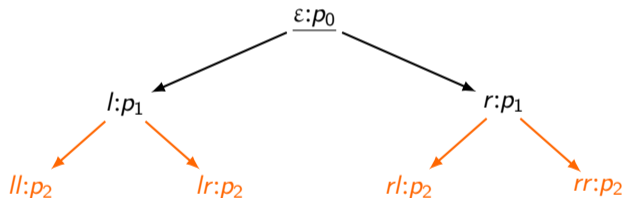


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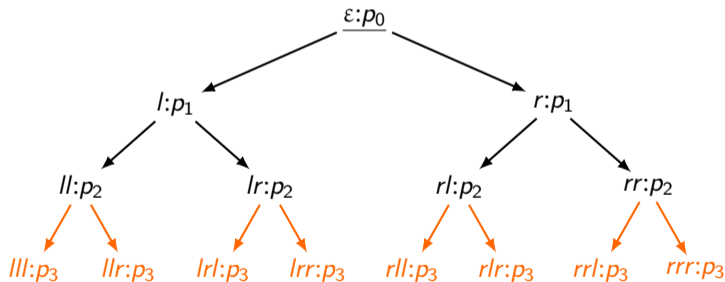


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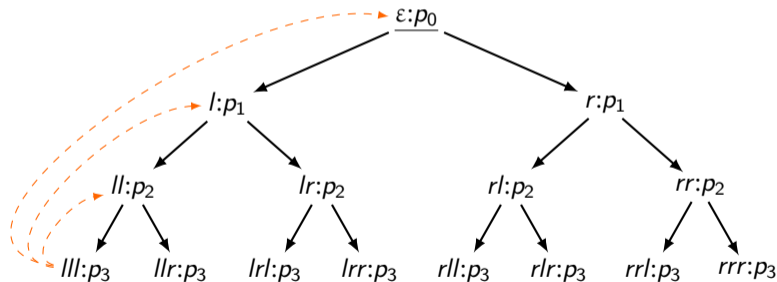


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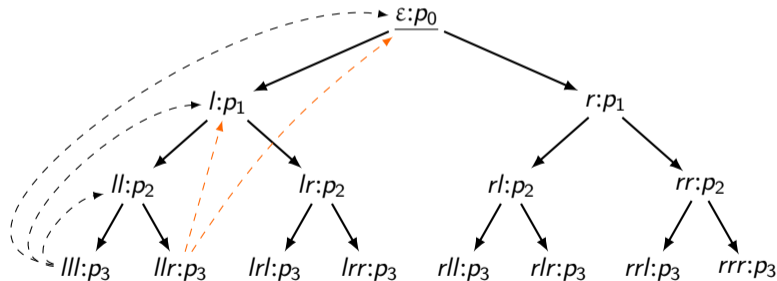


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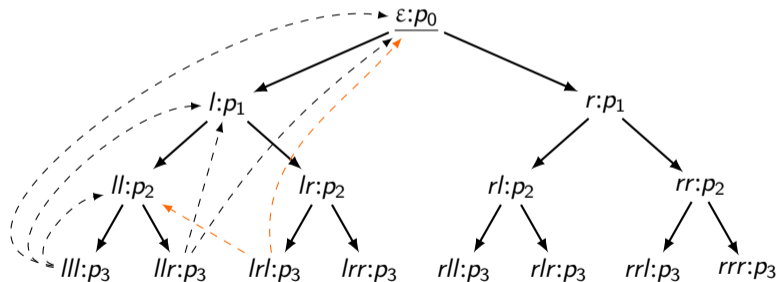


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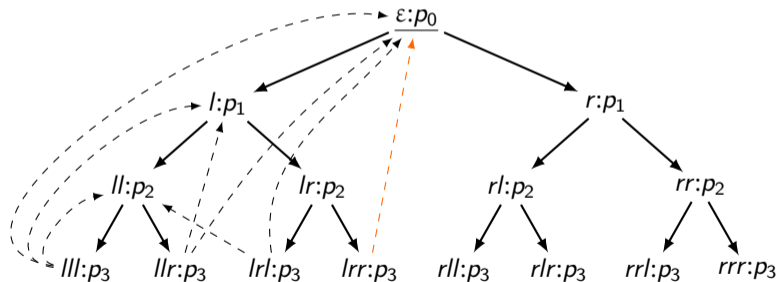


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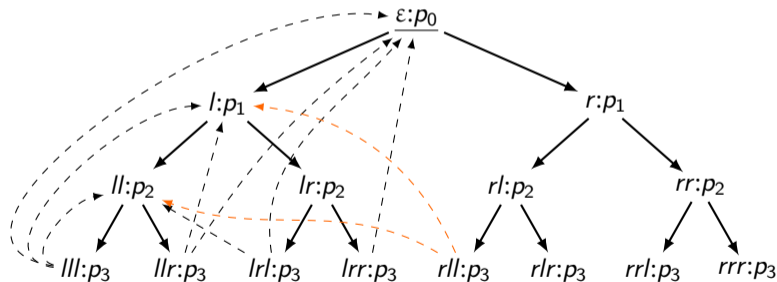


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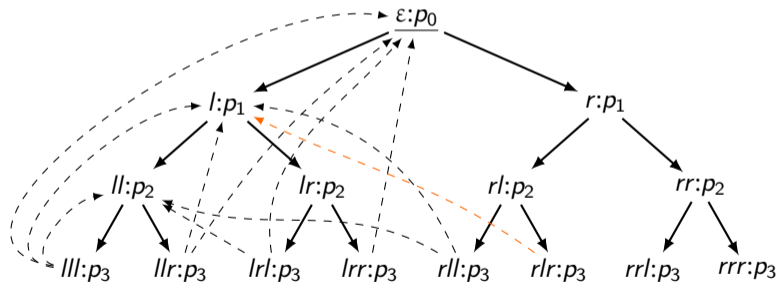


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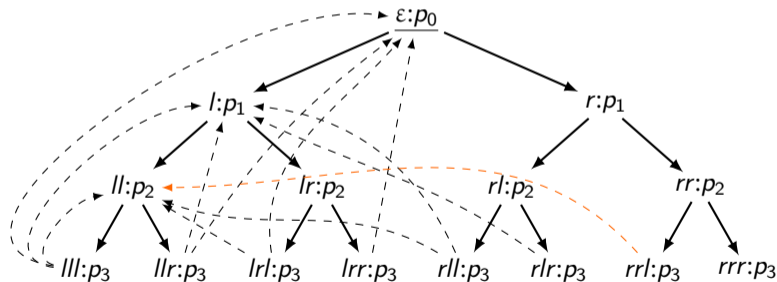


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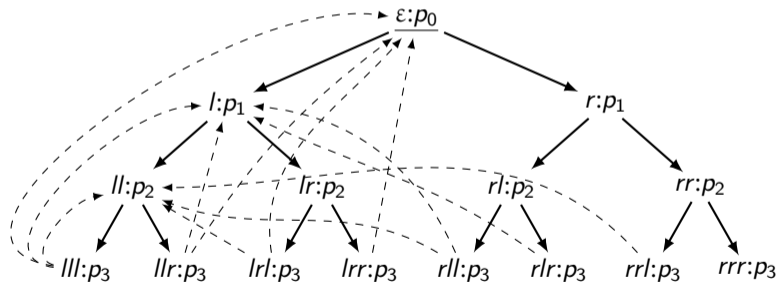


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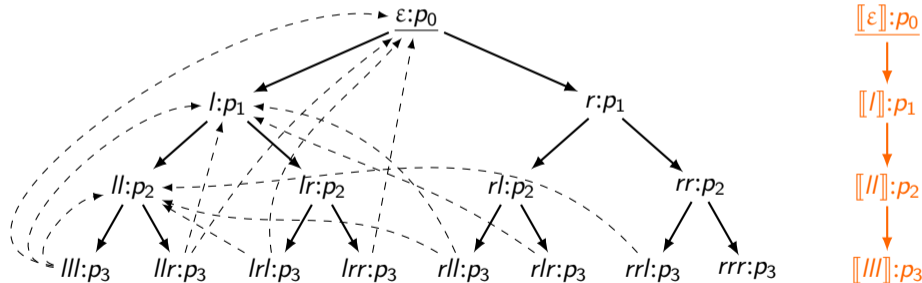
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- In  $\llbracket \mathcal{M} \rrbracket_k^<$ , we have  $b(x) = b(y)$  **implies**  $\llbracket x \rrbracket = \llbracket y \rrbracket$ . Thus  $|W| = k + 1$

# CONCLUSIONS

**Rooted  $k$ -contractions** improve standard  $k$ -contractions:

- Provide **minimal** models
- Can be **exponentially more succinct**

Current and future works:

- **Canonical  $k$ -contractions**: provide a **unique** minimal  $k$ -contracted model
- Multi-pointed models
- Apply rooted  $k$ -contractions to **epistemic planning**
- Connection with **knowledge/modal structures** (by R. Fagin, J. Halpern and M. Vardi)

**THANK YOU**

Questions?