

Symbolic Executions of Epistemic Ensembles

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A Simple Bit Transmission Protocol

Epistemic **ensemble** of epistemic **processes** executing epistemic **actions** guarded by epistemic **formulae**

$$Ag1 = \mu X . (\neg K_1 K_2 x_1 \supset snd_{\text{los}}^{1 \rightarrow 2}(x_1).X + K_1 K_2 x_1 \supset \mathbf{1.0})$$

$$Ag2 = K_2 x_1 \supset snd_{\text{rel}}^{2 \rightarrow 1}(K_2 x_1).\mathbf{0}$$

$$Ag3 = K_3 x_1 \supset snd_{\text{rel}}^{3 \rightarrow 1}(K_3 x_1).\mathbf{0}$$

$$Sys = 1 : Ag1 \parallel 2 : Ag2 \parallel 3 : Ag3$$

- ▶ A. Baltag, L. S. Moss. Logics for epistemic programs. Synthese, 2004.
- ▶ E. Lorini, E. Perrotin, F. Schwarzenruber. Epistemic actions: Comparing multi-agent belief bases with action models. KR, 2022.
- ▶ A. Witzel, J. A. Zvesper. Epistemic logic and explicit knowledge in distributed programming. AAMAS, 2008.

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Goal: Executing ensembles **concretely**, **symbolically**, and **distributed**

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Executing Epistemic Ensembles

- **Concretely** on a set of epistemic states

$$a : P_a \parallel \vec{E}, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} a : P'_a \parallel \vec{E}, \mathcal{K}'$$

- infinite state space

- **Symbolically** on a **global knowledge base**

$$a : P_a \parallel \vec{E}, \Gamma \xrightarrow{\alpha} \Delta a : P'_a \parallel \vec{E}, \Gamma'$$

- **finite** state space for model checking due to abstractions

- **Distributed** on agent-wise **local knowledge bases**

$$i : (P_i, \Lambda_i) \parallel (a : (P_a, \Lambda_a))_{a \in C} \parallel \vec{D} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \vec{\nabla}$$

$$i : (P'_i, \Lambda'_i) \parallel (a : (P_a, \Lambda'_a))_{a \in C} \parallel \vec{D}$$

- **parallel** execution, finite state space

Epistemic Logic

$$\mathcal{F} \ni \varphi ::= p \mid \text{true} \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid K_a \varphi$$

- ▶ set of propositions $\Pi \ni p$, (finite) set of agents $A \ni a$
- ▶ $K_a \varphi$ read as “agent a knows φ ”

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Interpreted over **epistemic structure** $K = (W, (E_a)_{a \in A}, L)$

- ▶ worlds W , labelling $L: W \rightarrow \wp\Pi$
- ▶ accessibility relation $E_a \subseteq W \times W$ of **possible worlds** for each agent a
 - ▶ equivalence relation for **S5**

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Satisfaction relation $K, w \models \varphi$ with $w \in W$

$$K, w \models K_a \varphi \iff K, w' \models \varphi \text{ f. a. } w' \in W \text{ with } (w, w') \in E_a$$

Epistemic Logic: Axioms

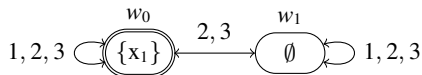
S5-logic — all E_a equivalence relations

- ▶ $(K_a \varphi_1 \wedge K_a(\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2)) \rightarrow K_a \varphi_2$ — distribution axiom
- ▶ $K_a \varphi \rightarrow \varphi$ — knowledge axiom
 - ▶ “Known facts are true”
 - ▶ E_a reflexive on W
- ▶ $K_a \varphi \rightarrow K_a K_a \varphi$ — positive introspection axiom
 - ▶ “If agent a knows φ , then it knows that it knows φ ”
 - ▶ E_a transitive
- ▶ $\neg K_a \varphi \rightarrow K_a \neg K_a \varphi$ — negative introspection axiom
 - ▶ “If agent a does not know φ , then it knows that it does not know φ ”
 - ▶ E_a Euclidean
- ▶ $\neg K_a \text{false}$ — consistency axiom
 - ▶ “No agent believes false”
 - ▶ E_a serial

Epistemic States

Epistemic state $\mathfrak{K} = (K, w)$

Example Epistemic state $\mathfrak{K}_0$



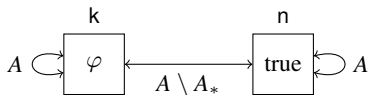
- ▶ $\mathfrak{K}_0 \models K_1 x_1, \quad \mathfrak{K}_0 \models \neg K_2 x_1, \quad \mathfrak{K}_0 \models \neg K_3 x_1$
- ▶ $\mathfrak{K}_0 \models K_1 \neg K_2 x_1, \quad \mathfrak{K}_0 \models K_1 \neg K_3 x_1$

Epistemic Actions

Epistemic action model $U = (Q, (F_a)_{a \in A}, pre)$

- ▶ events Q
- ▶ accessibility $F_a \subseteq Q \times Q$
- ▶ precondition $pre: Q \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$

Example Group announcement $U_{grp}(A_*, \varphi)$

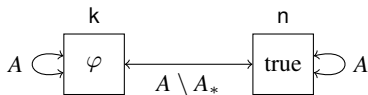


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Example Group announcement $U_{grp}(A_*, \varphi)$



Epistemic action $u = (U, q) \quad pre(u) = pre(q)$

Epistemic Updates

Product update $(K, w) \triangleleft (U, q) = (K \triangleleft U, (w, q))$ if $K, w \models \text{pre}(q)$

$$(W', E', L') = (W, E, L) \triangleleft (Q, F, \text{pre})$$

$$W' = \{(w, q) \in W \times Q \mid K, w \models \text{pre}(q)\}$$

$$E'_a = \{((w, q), (w', q')) \mid (w, w') \in E_a, (q, q') \in F_a\}$$

$$L'(w, q) = L(w)$$

Epistemic Updates

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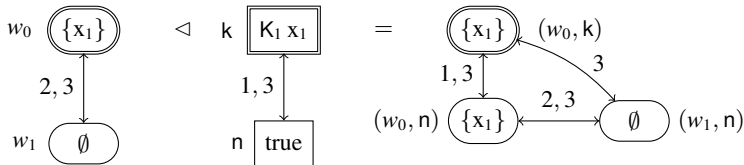
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$$L'(w, q) = L(w)$$

Example $\mathfrak{K}_1 = \mathfrak{K}_0 \triangleleft (U_{\text{grp}}(\{2\}, K_1 x_1), k)$



► $\mathfrak{K}_1 \models K_2 K_1 x_1$, but $\mathfrak{K}_1 \models \neg K_1 K_2 K_1 x_1$

Composite Epistemic Actions

Epistemic choice actions $\alpha = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\} \quad pre(\alpha) = \bigvee_{u \in \alpha} pre(u)$

- choice dependent on current state, according to precondition

Examples

$$\alpha_{x_1}^k = \{(U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 x_1), k), (U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 \neg x_1), k)\}$$

$$\alpha_{x_1}^n = \{(U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 x_1), n)\}$$

$$\alpha_{\neg x_1}^n = \{(U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 \neg x_1), n)\}$$

$$snd_{los}^{1 \rightarrow 2}(K_1 x_1).X = \alpha_{x_1}^k.X + \alpha_{x_1}^n.X + \alpha_{\neg x_1}^n.X$$

$$snd_{rel}^{2 \rightarrow 1}(K_2 x_1).X = \{(U_{grp}(\{1, 2\}, K_2 x_1), k)\}.X$$

$(K_a x$ abbreviates $K_a x \vee K_a \neg x)$

Concrete Epistemic States

$\mathcal{K}$ set of epistemic states

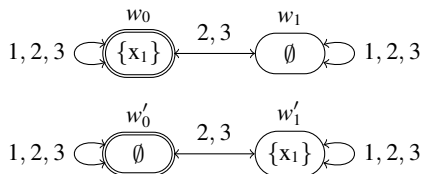
$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{K} \models \varphi \iff \mathfrak{K} \models \varphi \text{ f. a. } \mathfrak{K} \in \mathcal{K}$$

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Example $\mathcal{K}_0 = \{\mathfrak{K}_0, \mathfrak{K}'_0\}$



- $\blacktriangleright \mathcal{K}_0 \models K_1 x_1 \vee K_1 \neg x_1$
- $\blacktriangleright \mathcal{K}_0 \not\models K_2 M_1 x_1 \vee K_2 M_1 \neg x_1$
 - $\blacktriangleright M_a \varphi = \neg K_a \neg \varphi$

Epistemic Processes on Concrete States

$$P ::= \mathbf{0} \mid \alpha.P \mid \varphi \supset P \mid P_1 + P_2 \mid \mu X.P \mid X$$

Concrete operational semantics on a set $\mathcal{K}$ of epistemic states

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K} \models \varphi &\iff \mathfrak{K} \models \varphi \text{ f. a. } \mathfrak{K} \in \mathcal{K} \\ \mathcal{K} \triangleleft \alpha &= \bigcup_{u \in \alpha} \mathcal{K} \triangleleft u, \quad \mathcal{K} \triangleleft u = \{ \mathfrak{K} \triangleleft u \mid \mathfrak{K} \in \mathcal{K}, \mathfrak{K} \models pre(u) \} \end{aligned}$$

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Concrete operational semantics on a set $\mathcal{K}$ of epistemic states

$$\alpha.P, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} P, \mathcal{K} \triangleleft \alpha \quad \text{if } \mathcal{K} \models \text{pre}(\alpha)$$

$$\mathcal{K} \models \varphi \iff \mathfrak{K} \models \varphi \text{ f.a. } \mathfrak{K} \in \mathcal{K}$$

$$\mathcal{K} \triangleleft \alpha = \bigcup_{u \in \alpha} \mathcal{K} \triangleleft u, \quad \mathcal{K} \triangleleft u = \{\mathfrak{K} \triangleleft u \mid \mathfrak{K} \in \mathcal{K}, \mathfrak{K} \models \text{pre}(u)\}$$

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$$\frac{P, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} P', \mathcal{K}'}{\varphi \supset P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P', \mathcal{K}'} \quad \text{if } \mathcal{K} \models \varphi$$

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$$\frac{P\{X \mapsto \mu X.P\}, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} P', \mathcal{K}'}{\mu X.P \xrightarrow{\alpha} P', \mathcal{K}'}$$

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Epistemic Ensembles on Concrete States

For $G \subseteq A$, G -families of epistemic processes $\vec{E} = (a : P_a)_{a \in G}$

- ▶ each process P_a only contains (pre-)conditions in $\mathcal{F} \upharpoonright a$

$\mathcal{F} \upharpoonright a \ni \varphi_a ::= \text{true} \mid \neg \varphi_a \mid \varphi_{a,1} \wedge \varphi_{a,2} \mid K_a \varphi \quad \text{where } \varphi \in \mathcal{F}$

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Concrete operational semantics on a set $\mathcal{K}$ of epistemic states

$$a : P_a \parallel \vec{E}, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} a : P'_a \parallel \vec{E}, \mathcal{K}' \quad \text{if } P_a, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_a, \mathcal{K}'$$

Symbolic Epistemic States

Focus formulæ $\Delta \subseteq \mathcal{F}$

- ▶ like in predicate abstraction

Symbolic epistemic state $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$ such that

- ▶ Γ is Δ -closed: $\Gamma \models \varphi$ implies $\varphi \in \Gamma$ for all $\varphi \in \Delta$
- ▶ global knowledge base

Symbolic update $\Gamma \triangleleft^\Delta \alpha = \{\varphi \in \Delta \mid \Gamma \models \text{wlp}(\alpha, \varphi)\}$

- ▶ weakest liberal precondition

$$\mathcal{K} \models \text{wlp}(u, \varphi) \iff \mathcal{K} \not\models \text{pre}(u) \text{ or } \mathcal{K} \triangleleft u \models \varphi$$

$$\mathcal{K} \models \text{wlp}(\alpha, \varphi) \iff \mathcal{K} \models \bigwedge_{u \in \alpha} \text{wlp}(u, \varphi)$$

$$\mathcal{K} \models \text{wlp}(\alpha, \varphi) \iff \mathcal{K} \triangleleft \alpha \models \varphi$$

Epistemic Processes and Ensembles on Symbolic States

Symbolic operational process semantics on a symbolic state $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$

Symbolic operational ensemble semantics on a symbolic state $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$

Processes only contain (pre-)conditions in Δ

Epistemic Processes and Ensembles on Symbolic States

Symbolic operational process semantics on a symbolic state $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$

$$\alpha.P, \Gamma \xrightarrow{\alpha}^{\Delta} P, \Gamma \triangleleft^{\Delta} \alpha \quad \text{if } \Gamma \models \text{pre}(\alpha)$$

Symbolic operational ensemble semantics on a symbolic state $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$

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Processes only contain (pre-)conditions in Δ

Symbolic Updates: Weakest Liberal Preconditions

Given focus formulæ Δ , how can

- ▶ $\Gamma \models pre(\alpha)$ be decided?
- ▶ $\Gamma \triangleleft^\Delta \alpha = \{\varphi \in \Delta \mid \Gamma \models wlp(\alpha, \varphi)\}$ be computed?

Weakest liberal preconditions recursively computable in $\mathcal{F}$

H. van Ditmarsch, W. van der Hoek, B. Kooi. Dynamic Epistemic Logic, 2008.

Symbolic Updates: Weakest Liberal Preconditions

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Weakest liberal preconditions recursively computable in $\mathcal{F}$

$$wlp(u, p) \leftrightarrow pre(u) \rightarrow p$$

$$wlp(u, \text{true}) \leftrightarrow \text{true}$$

$$wlp(u, \neg \varphi) \leftrightarrow pre(u) \rightarrow \neg wlp(u, \varphi)$$

$$wlp(u, \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \leftrightarrow wlp(u, \varphi_1) \wedge wlp(u, \varphi_2)$$

$$wlp(u, K_a \varphi) \leftrightarrow pre(u) \rightarrow \bigwedge_{q \in F(u)_a} K_a wlp(u \cdot q, \varphi)$$

$$wlp(\alpha, \varphi) \leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{u \in \alpha} wlp(u, \varphi)$$

H. van Ditmarsch, W. van der Hoek, B. Kooi. Dynamic Epistemic Logic, 2008.

Symbolic Updates: Δ -representability (1)

Epistemic choice action α Δ -representable if

1. there is a $\rho \in \Delta$ with $\models pre(\alpha) \leftrightarrow \rho$
2. for each $\varphi \in \Delta$ there is a $\rho \in \Delta$ with $\models pre(\alpha) \rightarrow (wlp(\alpha, \varphi) \leftrightarrow \rho)$

Example $\Delta = \{\text{true}, K_1 x_1, K_2 x_1, K_1 K_2 x_1\}$

$$\alpha_{x_1}^k = \{(U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 x_1), k), (U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 \neg x_1), k)\}$$

$$pre(\alpha_{x_1}) = K_1 x_1 = (K_1 x_1) \vee (K_1 \neg x_1)$$

$$\models pre(\alpha_{x_1}) \rightarrow (wlp(\alpha_{x_1}, \begin{matrix} K_2 x_1 & \text{true} \\ K_1 K_2 x_1 & K_1 K_2 x_1 \end{matrix}) \leftrightarrow \text{true})$$

Symbolic Updates: Δ -representability (2)

Epistemic choice action α Δ -representable if

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Example $\Delta = \{\text{true}, K_1 x_1, K_2 x_1, K_1 K_2 x_1\}$

$$\alpha_{x_1}^{1,2} = \{(U_{grp}(\{1, 2\}, K_2 x_1), k)\}$$

$$pre(\alpha_{x_1}^{1,2}) = K_2 x_1 = (K_2 x_1) \vee (K_2 \neg x_1)$$

$$\models pre(\alpha_{x_1}^{1,2}) \rightarrow (wlp(\alpha_{x_1}^{1,2}, K_1 x_1) \leftrightarrow K_1 M_2 \neg x_1 \vee K_1 M_2 x_1)$$

$$K_2 x_1 \quad \text{true}$$

$$K_1 K_2 x_1 \quad \text{true}$$

Symbolic Updates: Δ -representability (3)

Epistemic choice action α Δ -representable if

1. there is a $\rho \in \Delta$ with $\models pre(\alpha) \leftrightarrow \rho$
2. for each $\varphi \in \Delta$ there is a $\rho \in \Delta$ with $\models pre(\alpha) \rightarrow (wlp(\alpha, \varphi) \leftrightarrow \rho)$

Example $\Delta = \{\text{true}, K_1 x_1, K_2 x_1, K_1 K_2 x_1, K_1 M_2 \neg x_1 \vee K_1 M_2 x_1\}$

$$\alpha_{x_1}^n = \{(U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 x_1), n)\}$$

$$\alpha_{\neg x_1}^n = \{(U_{grp}(\{2\}, K_1 \neg x_1), n)\}$$

$$pre(\alpha_{x_1}^n) = \text{true} = pre(\alpha_{\neg x_1}^n)$$

$$\models wlp(\alpha_{x_1}^n, K_1 M_2 \neg x_1 \vee K_1 M_2 x_1) \leftrightarrow$$

$$(M_1 \neg x_1 \wedge K_1 M_2 \neg x_1) \vee K_1 M_2 x_1$$

$$\models wlp(\alpha_{\neg x_1}^n, (M_1 \neg x_1 \wedge K_1 M_2 \neg x_1) \vee K_1 M_2 x_1) \leftrightarrow$$

$$(M_1 \neg x_1 \wedge K_1 M_2 \neg x_1) \vee (M_1 x_1 \wedge K_1 M_2 x_1)$$

<https://github.com/AlexanderKnapp/epistemic.git>

Syntactic Symbolic Updates

If $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta$ is Δ -closed, then also $\Gamma \triangleleft^\Delta \alpha$ is Δ -closed.

- Γ is Δ -closed: $\Gamma \models \varphi$ implies $\varphi \in \Gamma$ for all $\varphi \in \Delta$

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Syntactic variant of symbolic updates for Δ -representable α

$$\Gamma \ll^\Delta \alpha = \{\varphi \in \Delta \mid \text{ex. } \rho \in \Gamma \text{ s.t. } \models pre(\alpha) \rightarrow (wlp(\alpha, \varphi) \leftrightarrow \rho)\}$$

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Syntactic variant of symbolic updates for Δ -representable α

$$\Gamma \ll^\Delta \alpha = \{\varphi \in \Delta \mid \text{ex. } \rho \in \Gamma \text{ s.t. } \models \text{pre}(\alpha) \rightarrow (\text{wlp}(\alpha, \varphi) \leftrightarrow \rho)\}$$

Lemma Let $\Gamma \models \text{pre}(\alpha)$ for Δ -representable α . Then $\Gamma \ll^\Delta \alpha = \Gamma \triangleleft^\Delta \alpha$.

Equivalence of Concrete and Symbolic Semantics

$\mathcal{K} \equiv^\Delta \Gamma$ iff $\mathcal{K} \models \varphi \iff \Gamma \models \varphi$ for all $\varphi \in \Delta$

Theorem Let α be Δ -representable. Let $\mathcal{K} \equiv^\Delta \Gamma$.

1. If $\vec{E}, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \vec{E}', \mathcal{K}'$, then $\vec{E}, \Gamma \xrightarrow{\alpha} \vec{E}', \Gamma'$ with $\mathcal{K}' \equiv^\Delta \Gamma'$.
2. If $\vec{E}, \Gamma \xrightarrow{\alpha} \vec{E}', \Gamma'$, then $\vec{E}, \mathcal{K} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \vec{E}', \mathcal{K}'$ with $\mathcal{K}' \equiv^\Delta \Gamma'$.

Distributed Symbolic Epistemic States

Distributed **focus formulæ** $\vec{\nabla} = (\nabla_a)_{a \in A}$

- ▶ $\vec{\Phi} = (\Phi_a)_{a \in A}$ **distributed** if $\bigcup \vec{\Phi} \cap \mathcal{F} \upharpoonright a = \Phi_a$ for all $a \in A$

Distributed symbolic epistemic **state** $\vec{\Lambda} = (\Lambda_a \subseteq \nabla_a)_{a \in A}$ such that

- ▶ $\bigcup \vec{\Lambda}$ is $\bigcup \vec{\nabla}$ -closed
- ▶ agent-wise **local knowledge bases**

Symbolic update $\vec{\Lambda} \triangleleft^{\vec{\nabla}} \alpha = (\Lambda_a \triangleleft^{\nabla_a} \alpha)_{a \in A}$

$$\Lambda_a \triangleleft^{\nabla_a} \alpha = \{\varphi \in \nabla_a \mid \Lambda_a \models \text{wlp}(\alpha, \varphi)\}$$

- ▶ also with **syntactic variant**

Distributed Epistemic Ensembles

Distributed operational ensemble semantics on a distributed state $\vec{\Lambda} \subseteq \vec{\nabla}$

- ▶ initiator i
- ▶ at most affected group C
 - ▶ $\Lambda_a \triangleleft^{\nabla_a} \alpha = \Lambda_a$ for all $a \in A \setminus C$

Distributed Epistemic Ensembles

Distributed operational ensemble semantics on a distributed state $\vec{\Lambda} \subseteq \vec{\nabla}$

$$i : (P_i, \Lambda_i) \parallel (a : (P_a, \Lambda_a))_{a \in C} \parallel \vec{D} \xrightarrow{\alpha}^{\vec{\nabla}} i : (P'_i, \Lambda'_i) \parallel (a : (P_a, \Lambda'_a))_{a \in C} \parallel \vec{D}$$

if $P_i, \Lambda_i \xrightarrow{\alpha} P'_i, \Lambda'_i$ and $(\Lambda_a)_{a \in C} \triangleleft^{(\nabla_a)_{a \in C}} \alpha = (\Lambda'_a)_{a \in C}$

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Distributed Updates: $\vec{\nabla}$ -representability

Given distributed focus formulæ $\vec{\nabla} = (\nabla_a)_{a \in A}$, how can

- ▶ $\Lambda_a \models pre(\alpha)$ be decided?
- ▶ $\Lambda_a \triangleleft^{\nabla_a} \alpha = \{\varphi \in \nabla_a \mid \Lambda_a \models wlp(\alpha, \varphi)\}$ be computed?
- ▶ the “affected group” of an action be determined?

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Epistemic choice action α $\vec{\nabla}$ -representable if

1. there is a $\rho_a \in \nabla_a$ with $\models pre(\alpha) \leftrightarrow \rho_a$
2. for each $\varphi \in \nabla_a$ there is a $\rho_a \in \nabla_a$ with $\models pre(\alpha) \rightarrow (wlp(\alpha, \varphi) \leftrightarrow \rho_a)$

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Example $K_3 x_1 \in \nabla_3$

$$\models K_2 x_1 \rightarrow (wlp(\alpha_{x_1}^{1,2}, K_3 x_1) \leftrightarrow K_3 x_1)$$

Equivalence of Distributed and Symbolic Semantics

Theorem Let $(a : (P_a, \Lambda_a))_{a \in A}$ be $\vec{\nabla}$ -distributed and let α be $\vec{\nabla}$ -representable.

$$(a : (P_a, \Lambda_a))_{a \in A} \xrightarrow{\alpha}^{\vec{\nabla}} (a : (P'_a, \Lambda'_a))_{a \in A} \iff \\ (a : P_a)_{a \in A}, \bigcup \vec{\Lambda} \xrightarrow{\alpha}^{\vec{\nabla}} (a : P'_a)_{a \in A}, \bigcup \vec{\Lambda}'$$

Conclusions and Future Work

Executing epistemic ensembles

- ▶ concretely, **symbolically**, and **distributed**
- ▶ using techniques from symbolic execution and predicate abstraction

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Executing epistemic ensembles

- ▶ concretely, **symbolically**, and **distributed**
- ▶ using techniques from symbolic execution and predicate abstraction
- ▶ When do **finite** abstractions exist?
- ▶ How to handle **infinite** sets of focus formulæ?
- ▶ relation to knowledge-based programs
(R. Fagin, J. Y. Halpern, Y. Moses, M. Y. Vardi)
- ▶ applications to distributed communication protocols
(M. Herlihy, D. Kozlov, S. Rajsbaum)