Possibility Frames and Forcing for Modal Logic*

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Abstract

This paper develops the model theory of normal modal logics based on partial “possibilities” instead of total “worlds,” following Humberstone [1981] instead of Kripke [1963]. Possibility semantics can be seen as extending to modal logic the semantics for classical logic used in weak forcing in set theory, or as semanticizing a negative translation of classical modal logic into intuitionistic modal logic. Thus, possibility frames are based on posets with accessibility relations, like intuitionistic modal frames, but with the constraint that the interpretation of every formula is a regular open set in the Alexandrov topology on the poset. The standard world frames for modal logic are the special case of possibility frames wherein the poset is discrete. The analogues of classical Kripke frames, i.e., full world frames, are full possibility frames, in which propositional variables may be interpreted as any regular open sets.

We develop the beginnings of duality theory, definability/correspondence theory, and completeness theory for possibility frames. The duality theory, relating possibility frames to Boolean algebras with operators (BAOs), shows the way in which full possibility frames are a generalization of Kripke frames. Whereas Thomason [1975a] established a duality between the category of Kripke frames with p-morphisms and the category of complete (C), atomic (A), and completely additive (V) BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms (these categories being dually equivalent), we establish a duality between the category of full possibility frames with possibility morphisms and the category of CV-BAOs, i.e., allowing non-atomic BAOs, with complete BAO-homomorphisms (the latter category being dually equivalent to a reflective subcategory of the former). This parallels the connection between forcing posets and Boolean-valued models in set theory, but now with accessibility relations and modal operators involved. Generalizing further, we introduce a class of principal possibility frames that capture the generality of V-BAOs. If we do not require a full or principal frame, then every BAO has an equivalent possibility frame, whose possibilities are proper filters in the BAO. With this filter representation, which does not

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require the ultrafilter axiom, we are lead to a notion of filter-descriptive possibility frames. Whereas Goldblatt [1974] showed that the category of BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to the category of descriptive world frames with p-morphisms, we show that the category of BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to the category of filter-descriptive possibility frames with possibility morphisms. Applying our duality theory to definability theory, we prove analogues for possibility semantics of theorems of Goldblatt [1974] and Goldblatt and Thomason [1975] characterizing modally definable classes of frames. In addition, we discuss analogues for possibility semantics of first-order correspondence results in the style of Lemmon and Scott [1977], Sahlqvist [1975], and van Benthem [1976a]. Finally, applying our duality theory to completeness theory, we show that there are continuum many normal modal logics that can be characterized by full possibility frames but not by Kripke frames, that all Sahlqvist logics can be characterized by full possibility frames that contain no worlds, and that all normal modal logics can be characterized by filter-descriptive possibility frames.

**Keywords:** modal logic, possibility semantics, Boolean algebras with operators, duality theory, regular open algebras, Kripke-frame incompleteness

**MSC:** 03B45, 03G05

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1 Introduction

The model theory of modal logic has been developed extensively on the basis of possible world semantics, as presented in its now standard form by Kripke [1963]. In this paper, we develop the beginnings of a more general theory of possibility semantics for modal logic, building on the work of Humberstone [1981].

As presented in §2, possibility semantics can be seen as extending to modal logic the semantics for classical logic used in weak forcing in set theory, or as semanticizing a negative translation of classical modal logic into intuitionistic modal logic. Thus, possibility frames are based on posets with accessibility relations, like intuitionistic modal frames, but with the constraint that the interpretation of every formula is a regular open set in the Alexandrov topology on the poset. Unlike intuitionistic Kripke semantics, possibility semantics allows a partial possibility to determine that a disjunction is true without determining which disjunct is true, leaving that to be determined by refinements of the possibility. Worlds are totally determinate possibilities—endpoints in the poset—which not all possibility frames contain; and the standard world frames for modal logic are the special case of possibility frames wherein all possibilities are worlds—so the poset is discrete. The
analogues of classical Kripke frames, i.e., full world frames, are full possibility frames, in which propositional variables may be interpreted as any regular open sets. At the end of §2, we give examples of full possibility frames whose logics are not validated by any Kripke frames.

An important motivation for the move from total worlds to partial possibilities is philosophical (Humberstone 1981; Edgington 1985, p. 564; Edgington 2010, §4; Rumfitt 2015, §§6.1-6.2), but in this paper we focus on the logical ramifications. After expanding the précis of possibility semantics above in §2, we introduce a number of useful concepts for the study of possibility semantics in §3 and §4: in §3, we introduce notions of possibility morphisms between possibility frames, which reduce to the standard p-morphisms (bounded morphisms) when the frames in question are Kripke frames; and in §4, we provide a catalogue of classes of frames that are of special importance in possibility semantics. With this toolkit acquired, we proceed to develop for possibility semantics the beginnings of duality theory, definability/correspondence theory, and completeness theory, the “three pillars of wisdom” supporting modal logic [van Benthem, 2001, p. 331].

In §5, we prove our main results concerning dualities between possibility frames on the one hand and Boolean algebras with operators (BAOs) [Jónsson and Tarski, 1951, 1952] on the other. From an algebraic perspective, the possibility semantics developed in this paper occupies a special place among generalizations of Kripke semantics. Thomason [1975a] showed that Kripke frames correspond to BAOs that are complete (C), atomic (A), and completely additive (V). Semantically: any Kripke frame can be turned into a modally equivalent CAV-BAO, and vice versa. Categorically: the category of Kripke frames with p-morphisms is dually equivalent to the category of CAV-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms. More general types of frames have been proposed that correspond to CAV-BAOs, viz. normal neighborhood frames as in Došen 1989, and AV-BAOs, viz. discrete general frames as in ten Cate and Litak 2007. Possibility frames generalize in a different direction, by dropping atomicity. We show that full possibility frames correspond to CVA-BAOs. Semantically: any full possibility frame can be turned into a modally equivalent CVA-BAO (§5.1), and vice versa (§5.2). Categorically: the category of CVA-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with possibility morphisms (§5.3). This parallels the connection between Boolean-valued models and forcing posets in set theory (see, e.g., Takeuti and Zaring 1973), but now with modal operators and accessibility relations involved. (As we briefly note at the end of §2.3, if we consider normal neighborhood versions of full possibility frames, then such frames are to C-BAOs as our relational versions of full possibility frames are to CVA-BAOs.)

One of our duality results for CVA-BAOs can be sketched as follows. On the algebraic side, given any complete Boolean algebra, we can form a CVA-BAO by adding an operator ♦ on the algebra such that for the bottom element ⊥ of the algebra, ♦⊥ = ⊥, and for any set X of elements, ♦{x | x ∈ X}. For morphisms between such CVA-BAOs, we consider Boolean algebra homomorphisms that also preserve infinite joins and ♦ (complete BAO-homomorphisms). Then the question naturally arises: can we have an analogue for the category of CVA-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms of Thomason’s theorem for CAV-BAOs? On the frame-theoretic side, instead of adding a modal operator ♦, we add an accessibility relation R. Given any complete Boolean algebra, we can form what we call a rich possibility frame (§4.7), by deleting the bottom element of the algebra and then adding a binary relation R on the underlying set that interacts with the order relation ≤ from the bottomless algebra in a nice first-order way (called $R\Rightarrow\text{win}$ and motivated in §2.3): $xRy$ iff $\forall y' \leq y \exists x' \leq x \forall x'' \leq x' \exists y'' \leq y' x''Ry''$. For morphisms between such frames, we consider

\[ \text{In §2 and following, we use the symbol } '\subseteq ' \text{ instead of } '\leq ' \text{ for the order relation in possibility frames. It is also important} \]

\[ \text{It is not known (at least to this author) whether Humberstone’s original frames for possibility semantics are more general than Kripke frames. We compare our possibility frames with Humberstone’s frames at the end of §2.3 and in Appendix §B.1.} \]

\[ \text{The notation } '\mathcal{C}', '\mathcal{A}', '\mathcal{V}', \text{ and } '\mathcal{T}' \text{ (below) is from Litak 2005a,b, 2008. See §5 for the definitions of these classes of BAOs.} \]

\[ \text{In §2 and following, we use the symbol } '\subseteq ' \text{ instead of } '\leq ' \text{ for the order relation in possibility frames. It is also important} \]
maps $h$ satisfying the familiar “forth” conditions of p-morphisms, namely that $x \leq y$ implies $h(x) \leq' h(y)$, and $xRy$ implies $h(x)R'h(y)$, plus the following variations on the familiar “back” conditions of p-morphisms: if $y' \leq h(x)$, then $\exists y: y \leq x$ and $h(y) \leq' y'$; and if $h(x)R'y'$, then $\exists y: xRy$ and $y' \leq h(y)$. These maps are a special case of possibility morphisms, what we call taut possibility morphisms (§3). Together rich possibility frames with taut possibility morphisms form a category. In §5.3, we show that this category is indeed dually equivalent to that of $CV$-$BAOs$ with complete $BAO$-homomorphism. Moreover, this result is robust with respect to enlarging the class of morphisms between frames. We can move to a larger class of strict possibility morphisms or the still larger class of all possibility morphisms, while retaining the dual equivalence between rich possibility frames with such morphisms and $CV$-$BAOs$ with complete $BAO$-homomorphism.

The rich possibility frames just sketched are a special case of the full possibility frames described in §2, which have much looser constraints in general, e.g., the order relation on possibilities can be an arbitrary partial order. Yet we show that for every full possibility frame, there is a strict possibility morphism from that frame to a rich possibility frame that validates exactly the same modal formulas. In addition to this semantic fact, we prove a categorical fact: the category of rich possibility frames with possibility morphisms (resp. strict possibility morphisms) is a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with matching morphisms. This explains the statement above that the categorical relation between $CV$-$BAOs$ and full possibility frames is that of a dual equivalence with a reflective subcategory.

Going beyond full possibility frames, we show that our principal possibility frames (from §4.6) correspond semantically to $V$-$BAOs$ (§§5.1-5.2). We turn any $V$-$BAO$ into a semantically equivalent principal possibility frame by deleting the bottom element of the algebra and then defining a binary relation $R$ on the underlying set by: $xRy$ iff for all $y' \leq y$ $(y' \neq \perp)$, $x \land \lozenge y' \neq \perp$. A key fact for proving the semantic equivalence of the resulting principal possibility frame and the original $V$-$BAO$ is that complete additivity of a BAO implies the following condition: if $x \land \lozenge y \neq \perp$, then there is a $y' \leq y$ $(y' \neq \perp)$ such that $xRy'$ for the $R$ just defined. In fact, as observed in Holliday and Litak 2015, the ostensibly second-order condition of complete additivity is equivalent to the first-order condition just given. In this way, thinking in terms of possibility frames has led to a new view of $V$-$BAOs$. In addition, thinking in terms of possibility frames leads to a new characterization (in §5.6) of the (lower) MacNeille completion of a $V$-$BAO$ as in Monk 1970.

In addition to this connection with complete additivity, we show that the special case of functional principal possibility frames correspond semantically to BAOs that admit residuals or $T$-$BAOs$ (§§5.1-5.2). On this point, one of the interesting options that becomes available with the move from worlds to possibilities is a functional semantics for modalities according to which $\Box \varphi$ is true at a possibility $x$ iff $\varphi$ is true at the unique possibility $f(x)$ determined by an accessibility function $f$ (see §4.4 and Holliday 2014).

If we do not require a full or principal possibility frame, then every BAO has an equivalent possibility frame, whose possibilities are proper filters in the BAO (§5.4). In such a frame, a possibility $Y$ refines a possibility $Y'$ iff the proper filter $X$ is a superset of the proper filter $Y$. An accessibility relation $R$ on proper filters is given by a standard definition: $X R Y'$ iff for all elements $z$ in the algebra, $\blacksquare z \in X$ implies $z \in Y$, where $\blacksquare$ is the dual of the $\lozenge$ operator in the BAO. With this filter representation of BAOs, which does not require the ultrafilter axiom, we arrive at a notion of descriptive frames in the context of possibility semantics, which we call filter-descriptive frames. Whereas Goldblatt [1974] showed that the category of BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to the category of descriptive world frames with p-morphisms, we show that the category of BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to the to note that our notation in this paper is flipped relative to most of the literature on intuitionistic Kripke semantics: we take $x \sqsubseteq y$ to mean that $x$ is a refinement/further specification/extension/etc. of $y$ (in agreement with most of the literature on set-theoretic forcing), whereas the intuitionistic literature would take it to mean that $y$ is an extension of $x$.
category of filter-descriptive possibility frames with (taut, strict, or all) possibility morphisms (§5.5).

Putting together the links between BAOs and frames just described, we arrive at the picture in Figure 1. Finally, in §5.7 we compare possibility frame constructions that preserve the validity of modal formulas with algebraic constructions that preserve algebraic equations, in ways that we later exploit in §§6.1-6.2.

Figure 1: classes of BAOs and semantically equivalent frames—any BAO in the class before the / can be turned into a frame in the class after the / that validates the same formulas, and vice versa. A * indicates there is also a dual equivalence between associated categories of BAOs and frames as described in the main text or references. See Thomason [1975a] on CAV/Kripke, Došen [1989] on CA/neighborhood, ten Cate & Litak [2007] on AV/discrete, and Goldblatt [1974] on BAO/descriptive world frames. The † indicates that we will prove a dual equivalence involving a reflective subcategory of the category of frames (see §5.3).

In §6, we turn to definability and correspondence theory (cf. van Benthem 1983, 2001). In §§6.1-6.2, we treat the question of which classes of possibility frames are definable by modal formulas. Using the duality theory of §5, we prove analogues for possibility semantics of Goldblatt’s [1974] characterization of modally definable classes of world frames and Goldblatt and Thomason’s [1975] characterization of modally definable classes of full world frames. In §6.3, we discuss the question of which modal formulas define classes of possibility frames that are first-order definable. As noted by Goldblatt [2006, p. 51], “a substantial reason for the great success” of Kripke semantics is the way in which many natural modal axioms correspond to first-order properties of the accessibility relations in Kripke frames, such as seriality (□φ → ◇φ), reflexivity (□φ → φ), transitivity (□φ → □□φ), symmetry (φ → □◇φ), and so on. Similarly, many natural modal axioms correspond to first-order properties of full possibility frames. As an illustration, we give an analogue for full possibility frames of one of the most elegant first-order correspondence results for Kripke frames, namely Lemmon and Scott’s [1977, §4] result for axioms of the form ◇k□p → □m◇np. We also discuss the extent to which the “minimal valuation” heuristic for first-order correspondence in Kripke semantics applies in possibility semantics. More generally, using the connection between full possibility frames and CV-BAOs (§§5.1-5.3) and the methods of algebraic modal correspondence [Conradie et al., 2014], Yamamoto
[2016] establishes the possibility-semantic version of Sahlqvist correspondence (Sahlqvist 1975, van Benthem 1976a): every Sahlqvist modal formula corresponds to a first-order formula over full possibility frames.

In §7, we draw out some consequences of §5 for completeness theory. The discovery in the 1970s of Kripke-frame incompleteness, the fact that not all normal modal logics are sound and complete with respect to a class of Kripke frames, has been considered one of the two forces that gave rise to the “modern era” of modal logic [Blackburn et al., 2001, p. 44].

By duality, this amounts to the fact that not every variety of BAOs is HSP-generated by the $CAV$-BAOs that it contains. For a class $X$ of BAOs or frames, let $ML(X)$ be the set of modal logics $L$ such that $L$ is the logic of some subclass of $X$. Let $ALG$ be the class of all BAOs. Then $ML(ALG)$ is the class of all normal modal logics (see §A.3), and we have the following inequalities, the first three of which are from Litak 2005a and the last of which is from Holliday and Litak 2015:

\[ ML(CAV) \subseteq ML(CV) \subseteq ML(T) \subseteq ML(V) \subseteq ML(ALG). \] (1)

Thus, every normal modal logic is sound and complete with respect to a class of filter-descriptive possibility frames, but the other types of possibility frames give rise to distinct notions of completeness. We stress the first and last inequalities above. The first means that there are Kripke-frame incomplete normal modal logics that are sound and complete with respect to a class of full possibility frames—indeed, we will show there are uncountably many such logics in §7.1. The last inequality means that completeness with respect to principal possibility frames is still an informative notion of completeness. To obtain better understandings of $ML(CV)$ (= $ML(FP)$) and $ML(V)$ (= $ML(PR)$) is a major open problem in the theory of possibility semantics (see §8.2).

By contrast, $ML(T)$ is relatively well understood. For instance, there is a known syntactic characterization of $ML(T)$: a logic is in $ML(T)$ iff its minimal tense extension is a conservative extension. In §7.2, we review other sufficient syntactic conditions for $T$-completeness, as well as $V$-completeness.

Another topic in completeness theory for possibility semantics, emphasized in Humberstone 1981 and Holliday 2014, is completeness with respect to atomless possibility frames, in which every possibility can be further refined. These are frames with no worlds. In §7.3, we show that all normal modal logics given by Sahlqvist axioms are sound and complete with respect to an atomless, functional, full possibility frame.

Finally, in §7.4, we discuss canonical possibility frames for normal modal logics. Unlike in possible world semantics, where the domain of the canonical frame for a logic is the set of all maximally consistent sets of formulas (or ultrafilters in the Lindenbaum algebra for the logic), in possibility semantics we can take the domain of the canonical frame to be the set of all consistent and deductively closed sets of formulas (or proper filters in the Lindenbaum algebra). As an illustration, we prove that all normal modal logics given by Lemmon-Scott axioms are sound and complete with respect to their canonical full possibility frames.

In §8, we conclude with a review of related work (§8.1) and a list of open problems (§8.2).

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5For a brief historical overview of Kripke-frame incompleteness results, see Goldblatt 2006, §6.1, and for textbook presentations, see, e.g., Chagrov and Zakharyaschev 1997, Ch. 6 or Hughes and Cresswell 1996, Ch. 9. Classic papers on Kripke-frame incompleteness include Thomason 1972, 1974a, Fine 1974b, van Benthem 1978, 1979a, and Boolos and Sambin 1985.
The appendices contain a review of Kripke semantics (§A.1), general frame semantics (§A.2), and algebraic semantics (§A.3), followed by some deferred topics (§B), including a comparison of our definition of possibility frames with Humberstone’s [1981] original definition and an intermediate alternative (§B.1).

Before embarking on the plan above, we fix our languages and logics in §1.1 and our notation in §1.2.

### 1.1 Languages and Logics

Possibility semantics naturally invites one to consider novel languages that cannot be treated by standard possible world semantics. However, in this study we restrict attention to the basic polymodal language, in order to see how possibility semantics and world semantics compare on a common playing field.

**Definition 1.1** (Modal Language). Given a nonempty set \( \Phi \) of propositional variables and a set \( I \) of modal operator indices, the language \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) is generated by the following grammar:

\[
\varphi ::= p \mid \neg \varphi \mid (\varphi \land \varphi) \mid (\varphi \rightarrow \varphi) \mid \square_i \varphi,
\]

where \( p \in \Phi \) and \( i \in I \). The language \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \emptyset) \) is the non-modal fragment of \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \).

As abbreviations, we define \( (\varphi \lor \psi) := \neg(\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi) \), \( (\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi) := ((\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \land (\psi \rightarrow \varphi)) \), \( \diamond_i \varphi := \neg \square_i \neg \varphi \), \( \bot := (p \land \neg p) \) for some \( p \in \Phi \), and \( \top := \neg \bot \).

When there is no risk of ambiguity, we omit parentheses in formulas in standard fashion.

As is common in the modal logic literature (e.g., Chagrov and Zakharyaschev 1997, Blackburn et al. 2001), we take a modal logic \( L \) for \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) to be a subset of \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) satisfying certain closure conditions. For familiar notation: if \( \varphi \in L \), then \( L \vdash \varphi \); otherwise \( \not L \varphi \).

**Definition 1.2** (Classical Normal Modal Logic). \( L \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) is a classical normal modal logic iff for all \( \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I), i \in I \):

1. Uniform Substitution – if \( L \vdash \varphi \) and \( \psi \) is a substitution instance of \( \varphi \), then \( L \vdash \psi \);
2. Tautologies – if \( \varphi \) is a classical propositional tautology, then \( L \vdash \varphi \);
3. Modus Ponens – if \( L \vdash \varphi \) and \( L \vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi \), then \( L \vdash \psi \);
4. K axiom – \( L \vdash \square_i (\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\square_i \varphi \rightarrow \square_i \psi) \);
5. Necessitation – if \( L \vdash \varphi \), then \( L \vdash \square_i \varphi \).

The smallest classical normal modal logic for a unimodal language, i.e., with \( |I| = 1 \), is denoted by ‘\( K \)’.

The smallest classical normal modal logic for a polymodal language with \( |I| = n \) is usually denoted by ‘\( K^n \)’.

Since the logic depends on both \( \Phi \) and \( I \), the definition really defines a logic \( K_{\Phi, I} \), but to avoid proliferating subscripts, we will simply write ‘\( K \)’, with \( \Phi \) and \( I \) understood, and similarly for extensions of \( K \).

We will also mention intuitionistic normal modal logic, for which we use the following language.

**Definition 1.3** (Intuitionistic Modal Language). The language \( \mathcal{L}'(\Phi, I) \) is generated by the following grammar:

\[
\varphi ::= p \mid \neg \varphi \mid (\varphi \land \varphi) \mid (\varphi \rightarrow \varphi) \mid (\varphi \land \varphi) \mid \square_i \varphi,
\]

where \( p \in \Phi \) and \( i \in I \).

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6 The term ‘classical’ has unfortunately also been used to mean that a logic \( L \) is congruential: if \( L \models \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi \), then \( L \models \square_i \varphi \leftrightarrow \square_i \psi \) [Segerberg, 1971, Chellas, 1980]. We use ‘classical’ to contrast with intuitionistic, not non-congruential.
We think of $\odot$ as the primitive intuitionistic disjunction, to be distinguished from the $\lor$ in Definition 1.1 that we use to abbreviate $\neg(\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi)$. Also note that the intuitionistic diamond modality is often treated as a primitive, not definable in terms of $\neg$ and $\square$, but our concern here is the $\square$-only language $\mathcal{L}'(\Phi, I)$.

An intuitionistic normal modal logic for $\mathcal{L}'(\Phi, I)$ is defined as in Definition 1.2, except with $\mathcal{L}'(\Phi, I)$ in place of $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ and theorem of intuitionistic (Heyting) propositional calculus in place of classical propositional tautology in part 2. We denote the smallest intuitionistic normal modal logic by ‘$\text{HK}$’ [Božic and Došen, 1984] (called ‘$\text{IntK}_{\square}$’ in Wolter and Zakharyaschev 1997).

Whenever we use the term ‘normal modal logic’ without specifying ‘classical’ or ‘intuitionistic’, the intended meaning is classical normal modal logic.

1.2 Notation

The following notation will be used throughout.

**Notation 1.4** (Posets and Relations). For a poset $(S, \sqsubseteq)$ and $x, y \in S$:

1. $\downarrow x = \{x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq x\}$;
2. $x \triangleright y$ iff $\exists z \in S : z \sqsubseteq x$ and $z \sqsubseteq y$ (“$x$ and $y$ are compatible”);
3. $x \perp y$ iff not $x \triangleright y$ (“$x$ and $y$ are incompatible”).

For a binary relation $R$ on $S$, $X \subseteq S$, and $x \in S$:

4. $R[X]$ is the image of $X$ under $R$, i.e., $R[X] = \{y \in S \mid \exists x \in X : xRy\}$;
5. $R^{-1}[X]$ is the preimage of $X$ under $R$, i.e., $R^{-1}[X] = \{y \in S \mid \exists x \in X : yRx\}$;
6. $R(x) = R[\{x\}]$. □

Other new pieces of notation will be introduced as we go.

2 From Partial-State Frames to Possibility Frames

2.1 Partial-State Frames and Semantics

We take the following structures as our starting point for the semantics of normal modal logics.

**Definition 2.1** (Partial-State Frames and Models). A partial-state frame is a tuple $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ where:

1. $S$ is a nonempty set (the set of states);
2. $\sqsubseteq$ is a partial order on $S$ (the refinement relation);
3. $R_i$ is a binary relation on $S$ (the $i$-accessibility relation);
4. $P$ is a subset of $\wp(S)$ (the set of admissible propositions) such that $\emptyset \in P$ and for all $X, Y \in P$:
   (a) $X \cap Y \in P$;
   (b) $X \supset Y = \{s \in S \mid \forall s' \sqsubseteq s : s' \in X \Rightarrow s' \in Y\} \in P$;
Given a class \( \mathcal{C} \), the truth set valid and satisfiability with respect to the class of all models based on frames in \( \mathcal{C} \). We relate the formal language \( L(\Phi, I) \) to partial-state frames and models as follows.

**Definition 2.3 (Partial-State Semantics).**

Given a partial-state model \( \mathcal{M} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle \) with \( x \in S \) and \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), define \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \) (“\( \varphi \) is forced at \( x \) in \( \mathcal{M} \)”) as follows:

1. \( \mathcal{M}, x \models p \) iff \( x \in \pi(p) \);
2. \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \neg \varphi \) iff \( \forall x' \subseteq x: \mathcal{M}, x' \not\models \varphi \);
3. \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \land \psi \) iff \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \) and \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \psi \);
4. \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \to \psi \) iff \( \forall x' \subseteq x: \) if \( \mathcal{M}, x' \models \varphi \) then \( \mathcal{M}, x' \models \psi \);
5. \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \square_i \varphi \) iff \( \forall y \in R_i(x): \mathcal{M}, y \models \varphi \).

The truth set of \( \varphi \) in \( \mathcal{M} \) is the set \( \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket^\mathcal{M} = \{ x \in S \mid \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \} \).

We also have the following derived notions, where \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) is a partial-state frame:

6. \( \mathcal{F}, x \models \varphi \) iff \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \) for every model \( \mathcal{M} \) based on \( \mathcal{F} \);
7. \( \mathcal{M} \models \varphi \) (\( \varphi \) is globally true in \( \mathcal{M} \)) iff \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \) for all \( x \in S \);
8. \( \mathcal{F} \models \varphi \) (\( \varphi \) is valid over \( \mathcal{F} \)) iff \( \mathcal{M} \models \varphi \) for every model \( \mathcal{M} \) based on \( \mathcal{F} \) (equivalently, \( \mathcal{F}, x \models \varphi \) for all \( x \in S \)).

Given a class \( \mathcal{M} \) of partial-state models, \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), and \( \Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \):

9. \( \vdash_{\mathcal{M}} \varphi \) (\( \varphi \) is valid over \( \mathcal{M} \)) iff for every \( \mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{M} \), \( \mathcal{M} \models \varphi \);
10. \( \Sigma \) is satisfiable in \( \mathcal{M} \) iff for some \( \mathcal{M} \in \mathcal{M} \) and \( x \in \mathcal{M} \), \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \sigma \) for all \( \sigma \in \Sigma \).

For a class \( \mathcal{F} \) of partial-state frames, validity (\( \vdash_{\mathcal{F}} \)) and satisfiability with respect to \( \mathcal{F} \) are defined as validity and satisfiability with respect to the class of all models based on frames in \( \mathcal{F} \).

Given a logic \( \mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) and a class \( \mathcal{C} \) of frames or of models:

11. \( \mathcal{L} \) is sound with respect to \( \mathcal{C} \) iff for all \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), if \( \vdash_{\mathcal{L}} \varphi \), then \( \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \varphi \);
12. \( \mathcal{L} \) is complete with respect to \( \mathcal{C} \) iff for all \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), if \( \vdash_{\mathcal{C}} \varphi \), then \( \vdash_{\mathcal{L}} \varphi \).
The forcing clauses 2-4 in Definition 2.3, together with the following derived clause for ∨, are just the
standard clauses for the connectives used in weak forcing in set theory (see, e.g., Jech 2008, §5.1.3). 7

**Fact 2.4 (Forcing ∨).** Given \( \varphi \lor \psi := \neg (\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi) \), \( M, x \Vdash \varphi \lor \psi \) iff \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' : M, x'' \Vdash \varphi \) or \( M, x'' \Vdash \psi \).

The connection with set-theoretic forcing will reappear below (e.g., in Remark 2.15 and §5).

Together the closure conditions on the set \( P \) of admissible propositions in Definition 2.1.4 and the
semantic clauses for the operators in Definition 2.3 guarantee that the truth set of every formula of \( L(\Phi, I) \)
is an admissible proposition, as in the following fact.

**Fact 2.5 (Truth Sets and Substitution).** For any partial-state frame \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) and model \( M = \langle F, \pi \rangle \) based on \( \mathcal{F} 

1. Where \( \supset \) and \( \square_i \) are the operations from Definition 2.1.4:
   (a) \( \left[ p \right]_M = \pi(p) \);
   (b) \( \left[ \neg \varphi \right]_M = \left[ \varphi \right]_M \supset \emptyset \);
   (c) \( \left[ \varphi \land \psi \right]_M = \left[ \varphi \right]_M \cap \left[ \psi \right]_M \);
   (d) \( \left[ \varphi \rightarrow \psi \right]_M = \left[ \varphi \right]_M \supset \left[ \psi \right]_M \);
   (e) \( \left[ \square_i \varphi \right]_M = \square_i \left[ \varphi \right]_M \).

2. for any \( \varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \), \( \left[ \varphi \right]_M \in P \);

3. the set of formulas valid over \( \mathcal{F} \) is closed under Uniform Substitution (Definition 1.2).

**Proof.** Part 1 is just a matter of checking the semantic clauses in Definition 2.3. Part 2 is immediate from
part 1 and Definition 2.1.4. Part 3 is a straightforward consequence of part 2. \( \square \)

We will now give several examples of partial-state frames.

**Example 2.6 (World Frames).** Classical Kripke frames \( \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle \) (reviewed in Appendix §A.1) may be
regarded as partial-state frames \( \langle W, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) where:

1. \( \subseteq \) is the identity relation;
2. \( P = \varphi(W) \).

For models based on Kripke frames, the forcing relation \( \Vdash \) defined in Definition 2.3 is equivalent to the
standard satisfaction relation, i.e., \( M, x \Vdash \neg \varphi \) iff \( M, x \nvDash \varphi \), and \( M, x \Vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi \) iff \( M, x \nvDash \varphi \) or \( M, x \Vdash \psi \).

Classical general frames \( \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A \rangle \) (reviewed in Appendix §A.2) may also be regarded as partial-
state frames \( \langle W, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A \rangle \) in which \( \subseteq \) is the identity relation. When \( \subseteq \) is identity, the closure conditions on the set \( P \) of admissible propositions in a partial-state frame coincide with the closure conditions on the
set \( A \) of admissible propositions in a general frame (Definition A.5). As usual, we may view Kripke frames
as full general frames, i.e., general frames in which \( A = \varphi(W) \).

Henceforth we will call general frames world frames. Kripke frames are then full world frames. Models
based on world frames will be called world models. Note that we use the term ‘partial state’ frame/model
to cover world frames/models as well, just as ‘partial function’ covers total functions.

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7This notion of forcing differs from Paul Cohen’s original notion, which has come to be called “strong” forcing. For the
historical origins of weak forcing, owing to Solomon Feferman and Dana Scott, see Moore 1988, p. 160.
Example 2.7 (Intuitionistic Modal Frames). Full intuitionistic modal frames as in Wolter and Zakharyaschev 1997 (full □-IM frames) are partial-state frames \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) satisfying the following conditions:

1. \( \text{up-} R \) – if \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) and \( x' R_i y' \), then \( x R_i y' \) (see Figure 2);

2. \( R\text{-down} \) – if \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) and \( x R_i y \), then \( x R_i y' \) (see Figure 3);

3. \( P \) is the set of all downsets in \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \).\(^8\)

The set of all downsets is closed under \( \cap \) and \( \sqcup \), as required by Definition 2.1.4; and the \( \text{up-} R \) condition guarantees that the set of all downsets is also closed under \( \Box \), from Definition 2.1.4. Thus, by Fact 2.5, the truth set of every formula will be a downset. This is the property of Persistence (or Heredity) that is necessary and sufficient for a partial-state frame to validate the intuitionistic principle \( \varphi \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \varphi) \):

- Persistence: if \( M, x \models \varphi \) and \( x' \sqsubseteq x \), then \( M, x' \models \varphi \).

For the \( \Box \), case of the inductive proof of Persistence, if \( M, x' \not\models \Box_i \varphi \), so there is a \( y' \) with \( x'R_i y' \) and \( M, y' \not\models \varphi \), then by \( \text{up-} R \), \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) implies \( x'R_i y' \), so \( M, x \not\models \Box_i \varphi \).

Having established Persistence using \( \text{up-} R \), one can then motivate \( R\text{-down} \) as follows. The intended interpretation of \( x R_i y' \) is that whatever is necessary/known/believed/henceforth true/etc. at \( x \) is true at \( y' \). If \( M, x \models \Box_i \varphi \) and \( x R_i y \), so \( M, y \models \varphi \), then \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) and Persistence together imply \( M, y' \models \varphi \). Thus, according to our interpretation of \( R_i \), we should be able to have \( x R_i y' \).

The condition \( \text{up-} R \) is not necessary for Persistence. A weaker commutativity condition from Božic and Došen 1984 (cf. Celani and Jansana 1997, Restall 2000, §11.2) is necessary and sufficient:

- \( R\text{-com} \) – if \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) and \( x'R_i y' \), then \( \exists y: x R_i y \) and \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) (see Figure 4).

Although \( \text{up-} R \) is not necessary, every partial-state frame \( F \) in which \( P \) is a set of downsets may be turned into a semantically equivalent partial-state frame satisfying \( \text{up-} R \) and \( R\text{-down} \) (see Proposition 2.37.1).

For the extended language \( L'(\Phi, I) \) of Definition 1.3, we extend the forcing relation \( \models \) from Definition 2.3 with the clause:

- \( M, x \models \varphi \otimes \psi \) iff \( M, x \models \varphi \) or \( M, x \models \psi \).

Since the set of all downsets is closed under unions, the Persistence property still holds for \( L'(\Phi, I) \). If we go from full intuitionistic modal frames to general intuitionistic modal frames for \( L'(\Phi, I) \), then \( P \) is any set of downsets closed under \( \cap, \sqcup, \sqsubseteq, \text{and } \sqcup \). These frames are clearly also partial-state frames.

(The above treatment of \( \otimes \), as in intuitionistic Kripke semantics [Kripke, 1965], makes the forcing clauses for intuitionistic and classical disjunction different (recall Fact 2.4). In §8.1, we discuss a more unified approach to intuitionistic and classical forcing based on Beth-style semantics from Dragalin 1988.)

The logic of intuitionistic modal frames is the logic \( \text{HK} \) introduced in §1.1.

Theorem 2.8 (Božic and Došen 1984). \( \text{HK} \) is sound with respect to the class of all intuitionistic modal frames and complete with respect to the class of full intuitionistic modal frames.

Our third example of partial-state frames will be quite important for our purposes. According to a world-based view of possibilities, a “possibility” is simply a set of worlds; a possibility \( X \) “refines” a possibility \( Y \) iff \( X \subseteq Y \); and however we define “truth at a possibility,” it should turn out that truth at a possibility is

\(^8\)As usual, a downset in \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is an \( X \subseteq S \) such that for all \( x, x' \in S \), if \( x \in X \) and \( x' \subseteq x \), then \( x' \in X \).
Figure 2: the up-$R$ condition from Example 2.7. Given $x'R_i y'$, we may go up in the first coordinate to any $x$ above $x'$ to obtain $xR_i y'$. A solid arrow from $s$ to $t$ indicates that $t$ is a refinement of $s$ ($t \subseteq s$), while a dashed arrow indicates that $t$ is accessible from $s$ ($sR_i t$).

Figure 3: the $R$-down condition from Example 2.7. Given $xR_i y$, we may go down in the second coordinate to any $y'$ below $y$ to obtain $xR_i y'$.

equivalent to truth at every world in that possibility (see Cresswell 2004 for this line of thinking and §8.1 for other semantics that evaluate formulas at sets of worlds). Thus, where $\models_p$ is a proposed forcing relation between possibilities and formulas, and $\models_w$ is the usual satisfaction relation between worlds and formulas (Definition A.2), it should hold that for all possibilities $X$ and formulas $\varphi$:

$$\mathcal{M}, X \models_p \varphi \iff \forall x \in X : \mathcal{M}, \{x\} \models_p \varphi, \text{ where } \mathcal{M}, \{x\} \models_p \varphi \iff \mathcal{M}, x \models_w \varphi. \quad (2)$$

Fact 2.10 below records that the forcing relation $\models$ from Definition 2.3 is indeed such a $\models_p$ satisfying (2).

First, let us make official the construction of possibilities out of arbitrary sets of worlds.

Example 2.9 (Powerset Possibilization). Given a world frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A \rangle$ and a world model $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{F}, V \rangle$, the powerset possibilizations of $\mathcal{F}$ and $\mathcal{M}$, $\mathcal{F}^p = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ and $\mathcal{M}^p = \langle \mathcal{F}^p, \pi \rangle$, are defined by:

1. $S = \wp(W) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$;
2. $X \subseteq Y$ iff $X \subseteq Y$;
3. $XR_i Y$ iff $Y \subseteq R_i[X]$;
4. $P = \{\downarrow X \mid X \in A\}$;
5. $\pi(p) = \{X \in S \mid X \subseteq V(p)\}$.

One can check that since $A$ satisfies the closure conditions required by a world frame (Definition A.5), the $P$ defined in part 4 satisfies the closure conditions required by a partial-state frame.

Note that if $\mathcal{F}$ is a full world frame (Kripke frame), then $P = \{\downarrow X \mid X \in \wp(W)\}$.

A key fact about this construction is that the logic of the powerset possibilization $\mathcal{F}^p$ coincides with the logic of the world frame $\mathcal{F}$, as in Fact 2.10.2.

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9 Compare the use of powerset (minus empty set) frames as intuitionistic frames for Medvedev’s [1966] “logic of finite problems” and Skvortsov’s [1979] “logic of infinite problems,” as reviewed in, e.g., Definition 1 of Shatrov 2008.

10 Recall from Notation 1.4.1 that $\downarrow X = \{X' \in S \mid X' \subseteq X\}$.
Fact 2.10 (Powerset Possibilization). For any world frame $\mathfrak{F}$ and world model $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{F}, V)$:

1. for any $X \in \mathfrak{M}_p$ and $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\mathfrak{M}_p, X \models \varphi$ if $\forall x \in X: \mathfrak{M}, x \models \varphi$;

2. for any $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\Sigma$ is satisfiable over $\mathfrak{F}_p$ if $\Sigma$ is satisfiable over $\mathfrak{F}$.

Proof. Part 1 is provable by an easy induction on $\varphi$.

For part 2, if $\Sigma$ is satisfied at a world $w$ in a world model $\mathfrak{M}$ based on $\mathfrak{F}$, then by part 1, $\Sigma$ is satisfied at $\{w\}$ in $\mathfrak{M}_p$, which is easily seen to be an admissible model based on $\mathfrak{F}_p$. In the other direction, for any partial-state model $\mathcal{M} = (\mathfrak{F}_p, \pi)$ based on $\mathfrak{F}_p$, the world model $\mathcal{M}^{-p} = (\mathfrak{F}, \pi^{-p})$ defined by $w \in \pi^{-p}(p)$ iff $\{w\} \in \pi(p)$ is easily seen to be an admissible model based on $\mathfrak{F}$. Moreover, $(\mathcal{M}^{-p})^p = \mathcal{M}$, so if $\Sigma$ is satisfied at a state $X$ in $\mathcal{M}$, then part 1 implies that there is an $x \in X$ such that $\Sigma$ is satisfied at $x$ in $\mathcal{M}^{-p}$. □

From Fact 2.10.2 and the fact that $\mathbf{K}$ is the logic of (full) world frames, we have the following.

Corollary 2.11 (Logics of Powerset Possibilizations). $\mathbf{K}$ is sound with respect to the class of all powerset possibilizations of world frames and complete with respect to the class of powerset possibilizations of full world frames. Moreover, any normal modal logic that is sound and complete with respect to a class $\mathcal{F}$ of world frames, according to standard Kripke semantics (Definition A.1), is also sound and complete with respect to the class of powerset possibilizations of frames from $\mathcal{F}$, according to partial-state semantics (Definition 2.3).

Whatever examples of partial-state frames we consider, the following properties are evident from the semantic clauses for $\to$ and $\Box_i$ and the definition of validity in Definition 2.3.

Fact 2.12 (Modus Ponens, $\mathbf{K}$, and Necessitation). For any class $\mathcal{F}$ of partial-state frames and $\varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$:

1. if $\models_{\mathcal{F}} \varphi$ and $\models_{\mathcal{F}} \varphi \to \psi$, then $\models_{\mathcal{F}} \psi$;

2. $\models_{\mathcal{F}} \Box_i(\varphi \to \psi) \to (\Box_i\varphi \to \Box_i\psi)$;

3. if $\models_{\mathcal{F}} \varphi$, then $\models_{\mathcal{F}} \Box_i \varphi$.

Classes of partial-state frames may differ with respect to their propositional logics and the extra modal principles they validate. The logic of all partial-state frames is a subintuitionistic modal logic (cf. Restall 1994, Celani and Jansana 2001), but we will not go into the details. Our interest here is in partial-state semantics for classical modal logic as in §2.2.

2.2 Possibility Frames

In this section, we present two ways of thinking about partial-state frames for classical modal logic, in Remarks 2.13 and 2.15, both of which will converge in our definition of possibility frames below.
Remark 2.13 (Perspective 1 – Persistence and Refinability). Over classical frames, the classical principle 
\( \neg \neg \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi \) must be valid, so \( \neg \neg \varphi \) must be equivalent to \( \varphi \). Let us analyze both directions of this equivalence.

First, since \( \varphi \) is to be a consequence of \( \neg \neg \varphi \), any classical partial-state model is such that if \( M, x \models \neg \neg \varphi \), then \( M, x \models \varphi \), or equivalently, if \( M, x \not\models \varphi \), then \( M, x \not\models \neg \neg \varphi \), which is equivalent to:

- Refinability – if \( M, x \not\models \varphi \), then \( \exists x' \subseteq x : M, x' \models \neg \varphi \).

Note that if \( M, x \not\models \varphi \), then \( \exists x' \subseteq x : M, x' \models \varphi \), by the semantics of \( \neg \). So the idea behind Refinability is this: if \( \varphi \) is indeterminate at \( x \), i.e., if \( M, x \not\models \varphi \) and \( M, x \not\models \neg \varphi \), then there is a refinement of \( x \) that decides \( \varphi \) negatively and a refinement of \( x \) that decides \( \varphi \) affirmatively. This gives us the classical view of possibilities: indeterminacy with respect to \( \varphi \) is equivalent to having refinements that determine \( \varphi \) each way.

Second, since \( \neg \neg \varphi \) is to be a consequence of \( \varphi \), any classical partial-state model is such that if \( M, x \models \varphi \), then \( M, x \not\models \neg \varphi \). Given Refinability, this condition is equivalent to the condition from Example 2.7:

- Persistence: if \( M, x \models \varphi \) and \( x' \subseteq x \), then \( M, x' \models \varphi \).

For if \( M, x \models \varphi \) but \( M, x' \not\models \varphi \), then by Refinability there is an \( x'' \subseteq x' \) such that \( M, x'' \models \neg \varphi \), which with \( x'' \subseteq x \) from the transitivity of \( \subseteq \) implies \( M, x \not\models \neg \neg \varphi \). So for \( \neg \neg \varphi \) to be a consequence of \( \varphi \), Persistence is necessary. It is also easy to see that Persistence is sufficient for \( \neg \neg \varphi \) to be a consequence of \( \varphi \).

Thus, in classical partial-state frames, every admissible proposition \( X \in P \) will satisfy:

- persistence: if \( x \in X \) and \( x' \subseteq x \), then \( x' \in X \);
- refinability: if \( x \not\in X \), then \( \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x' : x'' \not\in X \).

The first condition is just the condition that \( P \) be a set of downsets, familiar from Example 2.7. However, we cannot assume that \( P \) contains all downsets, but only those satisfying refinability.\(^{11}\)

The contrapositive form of refinability, if \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' : x'' \in X \), then \( x \in X \), is often convenient to use. It is also useful to note that \( X \) satisfying both persistence and refinability is equivalent to \( X \) satisfying:

- \( x \in X \) if \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' : x'' \in X \).

The conditions of persistence and refinability on admissible propositions are not only necessary but also sufficient for a partial-state frame to be classical. To see this, one can check that over frames satisfying those conditions, the axioms of some complete Hilbert-style calculus for classical propositional logic are valid. Instead, we will give a more illuminating proof in the style of Cohen [1966, p. 119] for the case where \( \Phi \) is countable, as in Lemma 2.14 below. The idea is that every state \( x \) belongs to a chain \( x_0 \supseteq x_1 \supseteq x_2 \ldots \) that decides the truth value of every formula eventually, i.e., \( \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \exists k \in \mathbb{N} : M, x_k \models \varphi \) or \( M, x_k \models \neg \varphi \), and we can read off a classical propositional valuation from such a chain.

\(^{11}\)Our use of the term ‘refinability’ comes from Humberstone [1981]. It is not to be confused with other uses of ‘refined’ in modal logic, e.g., refined general frames as in Blackburn et al. 2001, Def. 5.65. Van Benthem [1981] uses ‘cofinality’ for the same idea, but given our flipped perspective noted in Remark 2.2, we would have to talk of ‘coinitiality’. Our refinability is equivalent to: if \( \downarrow x \cap X \) is a coinitial subset of \( \downarrow x \), or in the terms of set-theoretic forcing, a dense subset of \( \downarrow x \), then \( x \in X \).
Proof. Suppose $\mathcal{F}$ is a frame as in the statement of the lemma, so any model based on $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies the properties of Persistence and Refinability from Remark 2.13. First, we observe that over $\mathcal{F}$, $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ is equivalent to $\neg(\varphi \land \neg\psi)$, so in the inductive proof below, we do not need a separate case for $\rightarrow$. That $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ entails $\neg(\varphi \land \neg\psi)$ is obvious. In the other direction, suppose $\mathcal{M}, x \not\models \varphi \rightarrow \psi$, so there is some $y \subseteq x$ such that $\mathcal{M}, y \not\models \varphi$ but $\mathcal{M}, y \models \neg\psi$. Then by Refinability, there is some $z \subseteq y$ such that $\mathcal{M}, z \models \neg\psi$. By Persistence, $\mathcal{M}, y \models \varphi$ implies $\mathcal{M}, z \models \varphi$, and by the transitivity of $\subseteq$, $y \subseteq x$ and $z \subseteq y$ together imply $z \subseteq x$. Then $\mathcal{M}, x \models \neg\psi$ imply $\mathcal{M}, x \not\models \neg(\varphi \land \neg\psi)$ by the semantic clauses for $\neg$ and $\land$.

Now suppose that $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \emptyset)$ is not valid over $\mathcal{F}$, so there is a model $\mathcal{M}$ based on $\mathcal{F}$ and an $x \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $\mathcal{M}, x \not\models \varphi$. It follows by Refinability that there is an $x' \subseteq x$ such that $\mathcal{M}, x' \models \neg\varphi$. By the semantic clause for $\neg$, for any $y \in \mathcal{M}$ and $\psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ we can choose a $y^\psi \subseteq y$ with $\mathcal{M}, y^\psi \models \psi$ or $\mathcal{M}, y^\psi \models \neg\psi$. Enumerating the formulas of $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, \emptyset)$ as $\psi_1, \psi_2, \ldots$, define a sequence $x_0, x_1, x_2, \ldots$ such that $x_0 = x'$ and $x_{n+1} = x_n^{\psi_n+1}$. Thus, $x_0 \supseteq x_1 \supseteq x_2 \ldots$ is a chain that decides every formula eventually. Define a propositional valuation $v: \Phi \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ such that $v(p) = 1$ if for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mathcal{M}, x_k \models p$, and $v(p) = 0$ otherwise. Where $\tau: \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \emptyset) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ is the usual classical extension of $v$, we claim that for all $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \emptyset)$:

$$\tau(\alpha) = 1 \text{ iff } \exists k \in \mathbb{N}: \mathcal{M}, x_k \models \alpha.$$  

(3)

For induction on $\alpha$, the base case of $p$ follows from the definition of $v$. For the $\neg$ case, simply observe that

$$\tau(\neg\alpha) = 1 \iff \tau(\alpha) = 0 \text{ by definition of } \tau,$$

$$\iff \forall j \in \mathbb{N}: \mathcal{M}, x_j \not\models \alpha \text{ by the inductive hypothesis},$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}, x_m \models \neg\alpha \text{ where } \alpha = \psi_m \text{ in the enumeration},$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{N}: \mathcal{M}, x_k \models \neg\alpha$$

and the last line implies the second by Persistence and the semantic clause for $\neg$ in Definition 2.3.

For the $\land$ case, simply observe that

$$\tau(\alpha \land \beta) = 1 \iff \tau(\alpha) = 1 \text{ and } \tau(\beta) = 1 \text{ by definition of } \tau,$$

$$\iff \exists j, j' \in \mathbb{N}: \mathcal{M}, x_j \models \alpha \text{ and } \mathcal{M}, x_{j'} \models \beta \text{ by the inductive hypothesis},$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}, x_{\max(j, j')} \models \alpha \text{ and } \mathcal{M}, x_{\max(j, j')} \models \beta \text{ by Persistence},$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}, x_{\max(j, j')} \models \alpha \land \beta \text{ by Definition 2.3},$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists k \in \mathbb{N}: \mathcal{M}, x_k \models \alpha \land \beta$$

and the last line implies the second. Thus, we have established (3).

Since $\mathcal{M}, x_0 \models \neg\varphi$, we have $\tau(\neg\varphi) = 1$ by (3), so $\varphi$ is not a classical tautology. 

Our second perspective on classical partial-state frames is a topological one, which is well-known in the literature on forcing in set theory (see, e.g., Jech 2008, §5.1.3 and Takeuti and Zaring 1973).\textsuperscript{12}

Remark 2.15 (Perspective 2 – Regular Open Truth Sets). Let $\mathcal{O}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ be the set of all downsets in the poset $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$. Then $\mathcal{O}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ is an open set topology on $S$, the downset topology or Alexandrov topology (though the latter term is also often used for the topology of upsets rather than downsets); and by Remark 2.13, $P \subseteq \mathcal{O}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ for any classical partial-state frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$. Since for any downset in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$,

\textsuperscript{12}The history of forcing in Moore 1988 (p. 163) attributes this topological perspective on forcing to Dana Scott.
its complement is an upset, and vice versa, the closed sets in \( O(S, \subseteq) \) are just the upsets in \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \). Thus, the closure \( \text{cl}(X) \) of a set \( X \), the smallest upset that includes \( X \), is the set \( \{ y \in S \mid \exists x \subseteq y : x \in X \} \) of all states with refinements in \( X \); and the interior \( \text{int}(X) \) of \( X \), the largest downset that is included in \( X \), is the set \( \{ y \in S \mid \forall x \subseteq y : x \in X \} = (S \setminus \neg \neg \langle S \setminus X \rangle) \) of all states all of whose refinements are in \( X \). (Note that in what follows, we sometimes apply the operations \( \text{int} \) and \( \text{cl} \) to sets \( X \subseteq S \) that are not downsets.) From this perspective, we can rewrite the \( \neg \) and \( \to \) clauses of Definition 2.3 equivalently as:

- \( \neg \phi \) is valid over \( X \) iff \( \text{int}(X) \) is included in \( \text{cl}(\neg \phi) \);
- \( \phi \to \psi \) is valid over \( X \) iff \( \text{int}(X) \) is included in \( \text{cl}(\phi, \psi) \).

Since the interior of the complement is the complement of the closure, \( \text{int}(S \setminus \phi) = S \setminus \text{cl}(\phi) \). So by the \( \neg \) clause, \( \neg \phi \) is valid over \( X \) iff \( \text{int}(S \setminus \phi) \) is included in \( \text{cl}(\phi) \). Thus, the classical requirement that \( \phi \equiv (\phi \to \phi) \to \phi \) is equivalent to the requirement that for all admissible propositions \( X \subseteq P \), \( X = \text{int}(\text{cl}(X)) \).

Also note that from this perspective, the clause for \( \lor \) from Fact 2.4 is equivalent to:

- \( \phi \lor \psi \) is valid over \( X \) iff \( \text{cl}(\phi, \psi) \) is included in \( \text{cl}(\phi \lor \psi) \).

Open sets \( X \) with the property that \( X = \text{int}(\text{cl}(X)) \) are called regular open. What the Refinability principle of Remark 2.13 adds to Persistence topologically is the idea that the admissible propositions in \( P \) should be not only open sets in \( O(S, \subseteq) \) but regular open sets in \( O(S, \subseteq) \).

For any partial-state frame \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \), the condition that \( P \) be a set of regular open sets in \( O(S, \subseteq) \) (still satisfying the required closure under \( \cap, \cup, \) and \( \llcorner \) from Definition 2.1) is not only necessary but also sufficient for \( F \) to be a classical frame. As observed by Tarski [1937a, 1938, 1956], for any topological space \( S = \langle S, O \rangle \), the structure \( \langle \text{RO}(S), \wedge, \neg, \top \rangle \) where \( \text{RO}(S) \) is the set of all regular open sets in \( S \), \( X \wedge Y = X \cap Y \), \( -X = \text{int}(S \setminus X) \), and \( \top = S \) is a complete Boolean algebra, with the meet of an arbitrary \( X \subseteq \text{RO}(S) \) given by \( \bigwedge X = \text{int}(\bigcap X) \) and the join by \( \bigvee X = \text{int}(\bigcup X) \). This is called the regular open algebra of \( S \). Another way to the same point is that the open sets ordered by inclusion form a complete Heyting algebra, and the regular elements of a Heyting algebra, those \( X \) for which \( -X = X \), form a complete Boolean algebra (cf. Glivenko 1929). Now even if \( P \subseteq F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) does not include all regular open sets in \( O(S, \subseteq) \), the closure conditions on \( P \) from Definition 2.1 ensure that \( P \) is closed under the operations \( \wedge \) and \( - \) just defined, and \( S \in P \). Thus, if \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) is a partial-state frame such that all \( X \in P \) are regular open, then \( \langle P, \wedge, -, \top \rangle \) is a subalgebra of the regular open algebra arising from \( O(S, \subseteq) \), so \( \langle P, \wedge, -, \top \rangle \) is a Boolean algebra (though not necessarily a complete Boolean algebra).

From these observations it is a short step, which we leave to the reader, to Lemma 2.16.

Lemma 2.16 (Regular Opens and Classicality). If \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) is a partial-state frame in which every \( X \in P \) is a regular open set in \( O(S, \subseteq) \), and if \( \phi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \emptyset) \) is a classical propositional tautology, then \( \phi \) is valid over \( F \); so by Fact 2.5.3, every substitution instance of \( \phi \) in \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) is valid over \( F \).

The perspectives of Remarks 2.13 and 2.15 come together easily in part 3 of the following fact. For part 2, let \( \llcorner X = \{ y \in S \mid \exists x \subseteq X : y \subseteq x \} \), so \( \llcorner X = X \) iff \( X \) is a downset.

Fact 2.17 (Regular Opens, Persistence, and Refinability). For any poset \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) and \( X \subseteq S \):

1. \( \text{int}(\text{cl}(X)) = \{ x \in S \mid \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' : x'' \in X \} \);

Note that where \( O \) is the Alexandrov topology \( O(S, \subseteq) \), we have \( \bigwedge X = \bigcap X \).
2. \(\text{int} (\text{cl} (\downarrow X))\) is the smallest regular open set that includes \(X\);

3. \(X\) satisfies \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability} as in Remark 2.13 iff \(X\) is regular open in \(O(S, \sqsubseteq)\).

\textbf{Proof.} Part 1 is immediate from the first-order definitions of \(\text{int}(X)\) and \(\text{cl}(X)\) in Remark 2.15; part 2 follows straightforwardly from part 1; and part 3 follows from part 1 and the combined formulation of \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability} in Remark 2.13. \(\square\)

To get a sense of the constraint that admissible propositions must be regular open sets, it helps to consider some simple examples, such as the following.

\textbf{Example 2.18} (Beth Comb). Consider the infinite poset \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) depicted three times in Figure 5, dubbed the \textit{Beth comb} due to its use in Beth semantics for intuitionistic logic [Beth, 1956] (see Humberstone 2011, p. 898). As usual, arrows implied by reflexivity and transitivity are omitted. Let us call the \(w_n\) states \textit{worlds} and the \(s_n\) states \textit{non-worlds}. In addition to \(S\) and \(\emptyset\), there are two kinds of regular open sets in the downset topology on the Beth comb:

(i) if \(X\) contains only worlds, then \(X\) is regular open iff \(\forall w_k \in X \exists l > k: w_l \notin X\).

(ii) if \(X\) contains a non-world, then where \(n = \min\{k \mid s_k \in X\}\), \(X\) is regular open iff \(\downarrow s_n \subseteq X\) and \(w_{n-1} \notin X\).

Thus, the infinite downsets indicated by the ellipses in Figure 5 are \textit{not} regular open. The smallest regular open set including the set in the middle (resp. the right) of Figure 5 is \(S\) (resp. \(\downarrow s_1\)).

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{beth_comb.png}
\caption{the Beth comb (left) and two examples of non-regular-open sets (middle and right).}
\end{figure}

Since we will refer to sets as in Fact 2.17 so frequently, we use the following notation.

\textbf{Notation 2.19} (RO). For a poset \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\), let \(\text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)\) be the set of all \(S \subseteq S\) satisfying \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability}, or equivalently, the set of all regular open sets in \(O(S, \sqsubseteq)\).

For a partial-state frame \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\), let \(\text{RO}(F) = \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)\).

Let us summarize the perspectives on classicality from this section with the following proposition.

\textbf{Proposition 2.20} (Characterizations of Classicality). For any partial-state frame \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\), the following are equivalent:

1. the set of \(\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)\) valid over \(F\) is a classical normal modal logic as in Definition 1.2;
2. for every $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\neg \neg \varphi$ is equivalent to $\varphi$ over $\mathcal{F}$;

3. $P \subseteq \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$.

Proof. Part 1 obviously implies part 2, and we observed in Remarks 2.13 and 2.15 that part 2 is equivalent to part 3. Thus, to complete the proof, it suffices to show that part 3 implies part 1. By Fact 2.5 and 2.12, for any partial-state frame, the set of formulas valid over $\mathcal{F}$ is closed under Uniform Substitution, Modus Ponens, and Necessitation, and contains the $K$ axiom; and by Lemma 2.16, for a partial-state frame $\mathcal{F}$ satisfying 3, the set of formulas valid over $\mathcal{F}$ contains all classical propositional tautologies. Thus, the set of formulas valid over such a frame is a classical normal modal logic as in Definition 1.2. 

Proposition 2.20 motivates the following central definition of the paper.

**Definition 2.21** (Possibility Frames). A possibility frame is a partial-state frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ as in Definition 2.1 in which $P \subseteq \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$. A full possibility frame is a possibility frame in which $P = \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$.  

Full possibility frames are the possibility semantic analogue of Kripke frames, which are full world frames (recall Example 2.6 or see Appendix §A.2). As previewed in §1, in §2.5, §5.2, and §7.1 we will show that full possibility frames provide a more general semantics for normal modal logics than Kripke frames; and in §5.4, we will show that general possibility frames provide a fully general semantics.

Two of our three examples of partial-state frames from §2.1 are examples of possibility frames.

**Example 2.22** (World Frames Cont.). One can check that every world frame, viewed as a partial-state frame as in Example 2.6, is a possibility frame, and every full world frame is a full possibility frame.

**Example 2.23** (Powerset Possibilization Cont.). One can check that for any world frame $\mathcal{F}$, its powerset possibilization $\mathcal{F}^\mathcal{P}$ as in Example 2.9 is a possibility frame, and if $\mathcal{F}$ is a full world frame, then $\mathcal{F}^\mathcal{P}$ is a full possibility frame (cf. Facts 2.38 and 4.48).

Recall that the operation of powerset possibilization captures the view that the space of possibilities is the space of nonempty sets of worlds. This view builds in strong assumptions about the nature of possibilities, e.g., that the space of possibilities ordered by refinement has the structure of a complete and atomic Boolean lattice (minus the minimum element). Using these properties and one other property concerning the interplay of accessibility and refinement, we can characterize the class possibility frames that are isomorphic to the powerset possibilization of some Kripke frame, as in §4.7. In §4.7 we will also explain that any full possibility frame can be transformed into a semantically equivalent possibility frame that shares several of the properties of powerset possibilizations, with the exception of atomicity. In §§5.2-5.3, we will show that it is precisely this difference with respect to atomicity that makes full possibility frames more general than Kripke frames and their equivalent powerset possibilizations. In §4.6 and §5.2, we will generalize even further away from powerset possibilizations with our principal possibility frames, which drop lattice-completeness as well.

Using Example 2.22 or Example 2.23, we get an easy completeness proof for $K$.

**Corollary 2.24** (Soundness and Completeness of $K$). $K$ is sound with respect to the class of all possibility frames and complete with respect to the class of full possibility frames.

Proof. Soundness is given by Proposition 2.20. Completeness follows from the completeness of $K$ with respect to the class of full world frames together with Example 2.22, or Example 2.23 and Fact 2.10. 

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An important property of a full possibility frame $F$ is that $\text{RO}(F)$ is closed under $\boxdot_i$ from Definition 2.1. This follows from the requirement of a partial-state frame that $P$ be closed under $\boxdot_i$ plus the requirement of a full possibility frame that $P = \text{RO}(F)$; and this is not trivial, for there are possibility frames $F$ that lack the property. By contrast, it is easy to check that for any $F$, $\text{RO}(F)$ is closed under $\cap$ and $\cup$.

The fact that not every possibility frame is such that $\text{RO}(F)$ is closed under $\boxdot_i$, means that not every possibility frame can be turned into a full possibility frame simply by replacing its set of admissible propositions $P$ by $\text{RO}(F)$. It is helpful to put this point in terms of the following terminology and notation.

**Definition 2.25** (Foundations of Frames and Associated Full Frames). A *foundation* is a tuple $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$ where $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ is a nonempty poset and each $R_i$ is a binary relation on $S$.

Given a possibility frame $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$, the *foundation of $F$* is the tuple $F^\flat = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$. We say that $F$ is based on $F^\flat$.

Given a foundation $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$, let $F^\sharp = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \rangle$. Given a possibility frame $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$, if $\text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ is closed under $\boxdot_i$, then we call $(F^\sharp)^\downarrow = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \rangle$ the *associated full frame of $F$*. 

Many possibility frames may be based on the same foundation. Yet at most one full possibility frame may be based on a given foundation $F$. If $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$ is such that $\text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ is closed under $\boxdot_i$, then $F^\flat$ is the unique full possibility frame based on $F$. If $\text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ is not closed under $\boxdot_i$, then $F^\flat$ is not even a partial-state frame as in Definition 2.1. In §2.3, we will give first-order conditions on the interplay of $\sqsubseteq$ and $R_i$ that are equivalent to $\text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ being closed under $\boxdot_i$; and in §2.3 and §5.4, we will see that every possibility frame can be turned into a modally equivalent one satisfying even stronger interplay conditions.

The fact that closure of $\text{RO}(F)$ under $\cap$ and $\cup$ is guaranteed whereas closure under $\boxdot_i$ is an extra requirement is reflected in a syntactic fact: to embed classical modal logic into intuitionistic modal logic by an extension of the Gödel-Gentzen negative translation, the translation can simply “pass through” conjunctions and implications (and negations), but we must double-negate the box formulas, as follows.

**Definition 2.26** (Modal Negative Translation). Let $G: \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \to \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ be recursively defined as follows:

1. $p^G = \neg\neg p$;
2. $(\neg \varphi)^G = \neg \varphi^G$;
3. $(\varphi \land \psi)^G = \varphi^G \land \psi^G$;
4. $(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)^G = (\varphi^G \rightarrow \psi^G)$;
5. $(\square_i \varphi)^G = \neg \neg \square_i \varphi^G$.

Since we defined $(\varphi \lor \psi) := \neg \neg (\varphi \land \neg \psi)$, we can think of $(\varphi \lor \psi)^G = \neg \neg (\varphi^G \land \neg \psi^G)$.

If we simply translated $\square_i \varphi$ as $\square_i \varphi^G$, we would not get the modal extension of the famous result that $\varphi$ is a theorem of classical logic iff $\varphi^G$ is a theorem of intuitionistic logic [Gödel, 1933, Gentzen, 1933, 1936, 1974]. For example, although $\vdash_K \neg \neg \square_i p \rightarrow \square_i p$, one can check that $\neg \neg \square_i \neg \neg p \rightarrow \square_i \neg \neg p$ is not valid over intuitionistic frames and hence $\vdash_{HK} \neg \neg \square_i \neg \neg p \rightarrow \square_i \neg \neg p$ by Theorem 2.8. But if we double-negate box formulas, we obtain the following (cf. Božić and Došen 1984, pp. 231-2).

**Proposition 2.27** (Full and Faithful Translation). For all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$: $\vdash_K \varphi$ iff $\vdash_{HK} \varphi^G$. 

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**Proof.** From left to right, first, the famous result for propositional logic gives us that the translations of classical propositional tautologies are theorems of HK. Second, it is easy to check that the translation of the K axiom is a theorem of HK and that we can match in HK applications of Modus Ponens and Necessitation in K. Finally, that we can match in HK applications of Uniform Substitution in K follows from the fact that for any \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) and substitution \( \sigma : \Phi \to \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), we have \( \vdash_{\text{HK}} (\tilde{\sigma}(\varphi))^G \leftrightarrow \sigma^G(\varphi^G) \), where \( \tilde{\sigma} : \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \to \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) is the usual extension of \( \sigma \) to all formulas, and \( \sigma^G \) is the substitution defined by \( \sigma^G(p) = (\sigma(p))^G \). (Note: this part of the proof would fail if we had translated \( \Box \varphi \) as \( \Box \varphi^G \).

From right to left, if \( \not\vdash_{\text{K}} \varphi \), then by the completeness of K with respect to the class of world models according to the standard satisfaction relation \( \models \) of Kripke semantics (Definition A.2), there is a world model \( \mathcal{M} \) that falsifies \( \varphi \) according to \( \models \). Thus, \( \mathcal{M} \) falsifies \( \varphi^G \) according to \( \models \), since \( \varphi \) and \( \varphi^G \) are equivalent according to \( \models \). Viewing \( \mathcal{M} \) as a partial-state model as in Example 2.6, it is easy to see that it counts as an intuitionistic modal model as in Example 2.7, and over world models the forcing relation \( \models \) reduces to the relation \( \models \). Thus, we have an intuitionistic modal model that falsifies \( \varphi^G \) according to \( \models \), so \( \not\vdash_{\text{HK}} \varphi^G \) by the soundness of HK with respect to intuitionistic modal models according to \( \models \) (Theorem 2.8).

Returning to our semantics, the reason that closure of RO(\( \mathcal{F} \)) under \( \Box \) is nontrivial is because such closure depends on the interplay of the \( R \) and \( \Box \) relations in \( \mathcal{F} \), to which we turn in §2.3.

Before proceeding further, let us consider a simple example of a full possibility frame.

**Example 2.28** (A Temporal Flow on the Beth Comb). Returning to the Beth comb of Example 2.18, let us think of the \( w_n \) as instants of time, the \( s_n \) as unending stretches of time, and \( s_{n+1} \) as the whole of the future relative to \( w_n \). Define an accessibility relation on the Beth comb by: \( xR_ny \) iff \( x \) is the \( n \)-th world or stretch of time and \( y = s_{n+1} \). The result is shown in Figure 6, in which successive instants of time peel off of the future. First observe that if \( X \in \text{RO}(S, \Box) \), then \( \Box X \in \text{RO}(S, \Box) \). For if \( X \) is a regular open set of type (i) in Example 2.18, then \( \Box X = \emptyset \), which is regular open; and if \( X \) is a regular open set of type (ii) in Example 2.18, then where \( n = \min\{k \mid s_k \in X\} \), \( \Box X = s_{n-1} \), which is a regular open set of type (ii). Thus, the structure \( \mathcal{F} = ⟨ S, \Box, R_n, \text{RO}(S, \Box)⟩ \) is a full possibility frame. It is easy to see that this frame validates exactly the same formulas as the Kripke frame (\( \mathcal{N}, \prec \)). Indeed, any possibility frame, like this one, in which every state is refined by an endpoint (world, instant) is semantically equivalent to a Kripke frame based on those endpoints (see §4.2). Yet this frame is a good example of how assumptions about relations and modal axioms from Kripke semantics must be reconsidered in possibility semantics. For example, our \( R_n \) is functional, and yet \( \Diamond p \to \Box p \) is not valid. (Later we will see that for any full possibility frame, there is a semantically equivalent one in which the relations are partially functional.) Our \( R_n \) is not transitive, and yet it validates \( \Box p \to \Box \Box p \). This raises obvious questions about how modal axioms correspond to possibility frame properties, which we treat in §6.3. For now, note in connection with \( \Box p \to \Box \Box p \) that the frame in Figure 6 is such that \( f_<(f_<(x)) \subseteq f<(x) \), where \( f_<(x) \) is the unique \( y \) such that \( xR_<(y) \).

Below we will see a possibility frame without endpoints, based on the infinite complete binary tree (Example 2.40). We will also see a possibility frame for which there is no equivalent Kripke frame in §2.5.

### 2.3 The Interplay of Accessibility and Refinement

In this section, we will show that two first-order conditions on the interplay of \( R \) and \( \Box \) are necessary and sufficient for RO(\( \mathcal{F} \)) to be closed under \( \Box \) (Proposition 2.30), so every full possibility frame satisfies these conditions. We will then show that every full possibility frame can be turned into a semantically equivalent one that satisfies a stronger and simpler condition on the interplay of \( R \) and \( \Box \) (Proposition 2.37).
For RO(\(F\)) to be closed under \(\Box\), it must be that if \(Y\) satisfies persistence and refinability, then so does \(\Box Y\). Let us first consider persistence for \(\Box Y\): if \(x' \subseteq x\) and \(x \in \Box Y\), then \(x' \in \Box Y\). The necessary and sufficient condition to ensure this, as shown by Proposition 2.30, is that if a state \(x\) has “ruled out” a state \(z\), then \(z\) remains ruled out by every refinement \(x'\) of \(x\) (recall Notation 1.4):

- **R-rule** – if \(x' \subseteq x\), and for all \(y \in R_i(x)\), \(y \perp z\), then for all \(y' \in R_i(x')\), \(y' \perp z\).

Or equivalently:

- **R-rule** – if \(x' \subseteq x\) and \(x' R_i y' \not\approx z\), then \(\exists y: x R_i y \not\approx z\) (see Figure 7).

Note that **R-rule** is implied by the **R-com** condition and hence the **up-R** condition from intuitionistic frames in Example 2.7.\(^{14}\) In increasing strength, the order is: **R-rule**, **R-com**, and **up-R** (see Figure 13).

Next, consider refinability for \(\Box Y\): if \(x \not\in \Box Y\), then \(\exists x' \subseteq x \ \forall x'' \subseteq x': x'' \not\in \Box Y\). The condition to ensure this can be understood by adopting the game perspective of Remark 2.29.

**Remark 2.29 (Accessibility Game).** Given a partial-state frame \(F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\), \(x, y \in S\), and \(i \in I\), the accessibility game \(G(F, x, y, i)\) for players A and E has the following rounds, depicted in Figure 8:

1. A chooses a \(y' \subseteq y\);
2. E chooses an \(x' \subseteq x\);
3. A chooses an \(x'' \subseteq x'\);

   if \(R_i(x'') = \emptyset\), then A wins, otherwise play continues;

\(^{14}\)Also note that since \(\subseteq\) is transitive, **R-rule** is equivalent to: if \(x' \subseteq x\), \(x' R_i y'\), and \(z' \subseteq y'\), then \(\exists y: x R_i y \not\approx z'\).
4. \( E \) chooses a \( y'' \in R_i(x'') \);

if \( y'' \rhd y' \), then \( E \) wins, otherwise \( A \) wins.

One can think of \( A \) and \( E \) as arguing about whether \( y \) is accessible to \( x \): if it is, then for any way \( y' \) of further specifying \( y \), there should be some way \( x' \) of further specifying \( x \) that “locks in” access to states compatible with \( y' \), i.e., such that all refinements \( x'' \) of \( x' \) have access to some state \( y'' \) compatible with \( y' \).

If refinements of \( x \) cannot keep up with refinements of \( y \) in this way, then \( y \) is not accessible to \( x \). Thus, player \( A \) is trying to show that \( y \) is not accessible to \( x \), while player \( E \) is trying to block \( A \)’s argument.

Now consider the following condition on a partial-state frame \( F \):

- \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \) - if \( xR_iy \), then \( \forall y' \subseteq y \ \exists x' \subseteq x \ \\forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y'' : x''R_iy'' \).

This condition says that if \( xR_iy \), then \( E \) has a winning strategy in the accessibility game \( G(F, x, y, i) \), in line with our way of thinking about the accessibility game above.

Figure 8: the accessibility game \( G \) – if \( y'' \rhd y' \), \( E \) wins, otherwise \( A \) wins.

Now we will show that \( R \)-rule and \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \) characterize closure of \( \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) under \( \mathbf{1} \).

**Proposition 2.30** (First-order Characterization of Closure of \( \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) under \( \mathbf{1} \)). For any poset \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) and binary relation \( R_i \) on \( S \), the following are equivalent:

1. \( \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) is closed under \( \mathbf{1} \);

2. \( R_i \) and \( \sqsubseteq \) satisfy \( R \)-rule and \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \).

**Proof.** We begin with the implication from 2 to 1. Assume that \( X \subseteq S \) satisfies persistence and refinability.

To show that \( \mathbf{1}X \) satisfies persistence, suppose \( x' \subseteq x \) and \( x' \notin \mathbf{1}X \), so there is a \( y' \) such that \( x'R_iy' \) and \( y' \notin X \). Then since \( X \) satisfies refinability, there is a \( z \sqsubseteq y' \) such that (i) for all \( z' \sqsubseteq z \), \( z' \notin X \). Since \( z \sqsubseteq y' \) gives us \( y' \rhd z \), from \( x'R_iy' \) and \( R \)-rule we have a \( y \) such that \( xR_iy \rhd z \). Then from \( y \rhd z \), (i), and persistence for \( X \), it follows that \( y \notin X \), which with \( xR_iy \) implies \( x \notin \mathbf{1}X \). Thus, \( \mathbf{1}X \) satisfies persistence.

For refinability, suppose that \( x \notin \mathbf{1}X \), so there is a \( y \) such that \( xR_iy \) and \( y \notin X \). Then since \( X \) satisfies refinability, there is a \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) such that (ii) for all \( z \sqsubseteq y' \), \( z \notin X \). Assuming \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \), from \( xR_iy \) and \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) we have that \( \exists x' \subseteq x \ \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y'' : y'' \rhd y' \) and \( x''R_iy'' \). From \( y'' \rhd y' \), (ii), and persistence for \( X \), it follows that \( y'' \notin X \), which with \( x''R_iy'' \) implies \( x'' \notin \mathbf{1}X \). So we have shown that if \( x \notin \mathbf{1}X \), then \( \exists x' \subseteq x \ \forall x'' \subseteq x' \) : \( x'' \notin \mathbf{1}X \). Thus, \( \mathbf{1}X \) satisfies refinability.

Now let us prove the implication from 1 to 2.
First, suppose that \textbf{R-rule} does not hold, so we have \(x' \sqsubseteq x\) and \(x'R_iy' \not\notin z\), but for all \(y\) with \(xR_iy\), we have \(y \perp z\). Let \(V = \{v \in S \mid v \perp z\}\), so \(x \in \mathbb{I}_iV\). One can check that \(V\) satisfies \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability} (see Fact 6.16), so \(V \in RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\). Since \(y' \not\in z\), \(y' \not\in V\), which with \(x'R_iy'\) implies \(x' \not\in \mathbb{I}_iV\). But then since \(x' \sqsubseteq x\), \(x \in \mathbb{I}_iV\), and \(x' \not\in \mathbb{I}_iV\), \(\mathbb{I}_iV\) does not satisfy \textit{persistence}, so \(\mathbb{I}_iV \not\in RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\). But then since \(V \in RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\), \(RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\) is not closed under \(\mathbb{I}_i\).

Second, suppose that \(R \Rightarrow \text{win}\) does not hold, so we have \(xR_iy\) and \(\exists y' \subseteq y \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' \forall y'' \exists x''R_iy''\) implies \(y'' \perp y\). Let \(V = \{v \in S \mid v \perp y'\}\), so \(V \in RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\) by the same reasoning as above. Since \(y' \subseteq y\), \(y' \not\in V\), which with \(xR_iy\) implies \(x \not\in \mathbb{I}_iV\). But it also follows from our supposition that \(\forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' \exists x''R_iy''\). Thus, \(\mathbb{I}_iV\) does not satisfy \textit{refinability}, so \(\mathbb{I}_iV \not\in RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\). But then since \(V \in RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\), \(RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\) is not closed under \(\mathbb{I}_i\). \(\square\)

As an immediate corollary of Proposition 2.30, we have the following (recall Definitions 2.21 and 2.25).

**Corollary 2.31** (Interplay of \(R_i\) and \(\sqsubseteq\) for Full Possibility Frames).

1. If \(F\) is a full possibility frame, then \(F\) satisfies \textbf{R-rule} and \(R \Rightarrow \text{win}\);
2. For any foundation \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle\), \(F^i = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, RO(S, \sqsubseteq)\rangle\) is a full possibility frame iff \(F\) satisfies \textbf{R-rule} and \(R \Rightarrow \text{win}\).

In addition to identifying conditions so that \(RO(F)\) is closed under \(\mathbb{I}_i\), let us identify conditions so that for every state \(x\), its set \(R_i(x)\) of accessible states is in \(RO(F)\).

**Fact 2.32** \((R_i(x)\) and \(RO(F)\)). For any partial-state frame \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P\rangle\), the following are equivalent:

1. for all \(x \in S\), \(R_i(x) \in RO(F)\);
2. \(F\) satisfies both
   
   (a) \textit{R-down} – if \(xR_iy\) and \(y' \subseteq y\), then \(xR_iy'\) (recall Figure 3);
   (b) \textit{R-dense} – \(xR_iy\) if \(\forall y' \subseteq y \exists y'' \subseteq y' : xR_iy''\) (see Figure 9).

**Proof.** \textit{R-down} corresponds to \textit{persistence} of \(R_i(x)\) and \textit{R-dense} corresponds to \textit{refinability} of \(R_i(x)\). \(\square\)

\[\begin{array}{c}
  x \\
  \downarrow \forall \quad y' \\
  \downarrow \exists \quad y'' \\
 \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c}
  x \\
  \rightarrow \\
 y \\
 \end{array} \]

\[\text{Figure 9: R-dense} \]

Note how the conditions above relate to the \textbf{up-R} condition from intuitionistic frames (Example 2.7).

**Fact 2.33** (Deriving \textbf{up-R}). For any partial-state frame \(F\), if \(F\) satisfies \textbf{R-rule}, \textbf{R-down}, and \textbf{R-dense}, then \(F\) satisfies \textbf{up-R}.
Proof. To show that \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) and \( x'R_iy \) together imply \( xR_iy \), suppose \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) but \( y \not\in R_i(x) \). Then by \textbf{R-dense}, there is a \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) such that (i) for all \( y'' \sqsubseteq y' \), \( y'' \not\in R_i(x) \). We claim that for all \( z \in R_i(x) \), \( z \perp y' \).

For if \( z \parallel y' \), then there is a \( y'' \sqsubseteq z \) with \( y'' \sqsubseteq y' \); and then by \textbf{R-down}, \( z \in R_i(x) \) and \( y'' \sqsubseteq z \) together imply \( y'' \in R_i(x) \); but by (i), \( y'' \sqsubseteq y' \) implies \( y'' \not\in R_i(x) \). Let \( V = \{ v \in S \mid v \perp y' \} \), so \( x = \boxdot V \). One can check that \( V \in RO(F) \) (see Fact 6.16), so by the proof of Proposition 2.30, \textbf{R-rule} implies that \( \boxdot V \) satisfies \textit{persistence}. Thus, from \( x \in \boxdot V \) and \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) we have \( x' \in \boxdot V \), which implies \( y' \not\in R_i(x') \) by the definition of \( V \), which with \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) implies \( y \not\in R_i(x') \) by \textbf{R-down}. This shows that \( F \) satisfies \textbf{up-R}. \( \square \)

Next, note how the \textbf{R-down} condition from intuitionistic frames simplifies other conditions.

**Fact 2.34** (Simplifying with \textbf{R-down}). For any partial-state frame satisfying \textbf{R-down}, the following are equivalent:

1. \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \) if \( xR_iy \), then \( \forall y' \sqsubseteq y \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \, \forall x'' \sqsubseteq x' \exists y'' \parallel y' \colon x''R_iy'' \);
2. \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \) if \( xR_iy \), then \( \forall y' \sqsubseteq y \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \, \forall x'' \sqsubseteq x' \exists y'' \sqsubseteq y' \colon x''R_iy'' \);
3. \( R \Rightarrow \text{refinability} \) if \( xR_iy \), then \( \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \, \forall x'' \sqsubseteq x' \exists y'' \sqsubseteq y' \colon x''R_iy'' \).

Corresponding to \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \) is a modified accessibility game \( \Gamma(F, x, y, i) \) that differs from the accessibility game \( G(F, x, y, i) \) of Remark 2.29 by changing the winning condition (see Figure 10):

- if \( y'' \sqsubseteq y' \), then \( E \) wins, otherwise \( A \) wins.

As shown by Fact 2.34, in frames satisfying \textbf{R-down} the accessibility games \( \Gamma \) and \( G \) are equivalent, i.e., \( E \) has a winning strategy in the one iff \( E \) has a winning strategy in the other.

Having considered the condition that \( xR_iy \) implies that \( E \) was a winning strategy in the accessibility game \( G(F, x, y, i) \), it is natural to consider the stronger condition that \( xR_iy \) is \textit{equivalent} to \( E \) having a winning strategy in the accessibility game \( \Gamma(F, x, y, i) \):

- \( R \Leftrightarrow \text{win} \) if \( \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \, \forall x'' \sqsubseteq x' \exists y'' \sqsubseteq y' \colon x''R_iy'' \) (see Figure 11).

Remarkably, not only does this one condition imply all of the others, and not only is it equivalent to the conjunction of the conditions from Propositions 2.30 and 2.32, but also, we may assume \( R \Leftrightarrow \text{win} \) without loss of generality when working with full possibility frames. We prove these claims in turn.

![Figure 10: the accessibility game \( \Gamma \) - if \( y'' \sqsubseteq y' \), \( E \) wins, otherwise \( A \) wins.](image-url)
Proposition 2.35 (Master Condition). The condition $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$ implies all of the conditions above and is implied by the conjunction of the conditions from Propositions 2.30 and 2.32: $R$-rule, $R \Rightarrow \text{win}$, $R$-down, and $R$-dense. Thus, by Propositions 2.30 and 2.32, for any partial-state frame $\mathcal{F} = (S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$, the following are equivalent:

1. $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$;
2. for all $X \subseteq S$ and $x \in S$, $\Box_i X \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$ and $R_i(x) \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$.

Proof. First, we show that $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$ implies all the other conditions. It is easy to see that $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$ implies $R$-rule and therefore $R$-down implies $R$-dense and that $R \Rightarrow \text{win}$ implies $R$-dense and therefore the conditions in Fact 2.34. To see that $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$ implies $R$-dense, suppose it is not the case that $xR_i y$. Then by the right-to-left direction of $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$, there is a $y' \subseteq y$ such that (i) $\forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' \forall y'' \subseteq y'$: not $x'' R_i y''$. Now we claim that for all $y'' \subseteq y'$, it is not the case that $xR_i y''$. For if $xR_i y''$, then by the left-to-right direction of $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$, $\exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y''' \subseteq y''$: $x'' R_i y'''$, which with $y''' \subseteq y'$ contradicts (i). Thus, we have shown that if not $xR_i y$, then $\exists y' \subseteq y \forall y'' \subseteq y'$: not $xR_i y''$, which is the contrapositive of $R$-dense.

Next, we show that the stated conditions imply $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$. The left-to-right direction of $R \Rightarrow \text{win}$ follows from $R \Rightarrow \text{win}$ and $R$-down by Fact 2.34. For the right-to-left direction, suppose $\forall y' \subseteq y \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y'' \subseteq y'$: $x'' R_i y''$, which implies $xR_i y''$ by $R$-dense.

Given the strength and importance of the $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$ condition, we introduce the following terminology.

Definition 2.36 (Strong Possibility Frames). A strong possibility frame is a possibility frame as in Definition 2.21 that satisfies $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$.

Proposition 2.37 (From Full Possibility Frames to Strong Possibility Frames). For any partial-state frame $\mathcal{F} = (S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$, define $\mathcal{F}^\Box = (S, \subseteq, \{R_i^\Box\}_{i \in I}, P)$ by $xR_i^\Box y$ iff for all $Z \in P$, $x \in \Box_i^\Box Z$ implies $y \in Z$, where $\Box_i^\Box$ is the $\Box_i$ operator for $\mathcal{F}$. Then:

1. if every $X \subseteq P$ satisfies persistence, then $\mathcal{F}^\Box$ satisfies $R$-rule and $R$-dense;
2. if $\mathcal{F}$ is a possibility frame, then $\mathcal{F}^\Box$ is a possibility frame satisfying $R$-dense;
3. if $\mathcal{F}$ is a full possibility frame, then $\mathcal{F}^\Box$ is a strong and full possibility frame;

Figure 11: $R \Leftrightarrow \text{win}$

We will now prove that any full possibility frame can be turned into a semantically equivalent strong and full possibility frame, simply by modifying the accessibility relations in the frame.
4. for all \( \pi : \Phi \to P \), \( x \in S \), and \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) : \langle \mathcal{F}, \pi \rangle, x \models \varphi \iff \langle \mathcal{F}^\square, \pi \rangle, x \models \varphi \).

**Proof.** For 1, we prove \( \text{up-R} \) and \( \text{R-down} \) at the same time. Suppose \( x' \sqsubseteq x \), \( y' \sqsubseteq y \), and \( x'R_i^\square y \). To show that \( xR_i^\square y' \), consider any \( Z \in P \) with \( x \in \mathcal{F}^Z \). Then since \( \mathcal{F} \) is a partial-state frame, \( \mathcal{F}^Z \in P \), so \( \mathcal{F}^Z \) satisfies \textit{persistence} by the assumption of part 1, so from \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) and \( x \in \mathcal{F}^Z \) we have \( x' \in \mathcal{F}^Z \). Then since \( x'R_i^\square y \), we have \( y \in Z \), which together with \( y' \sqsubseteq y \) and \textit{persistence} for \( Z \) implies \( y' \in Z \). Thus, \( xR_i^\square y' \).

For part 2, we first show that \( \mathcal{F}^\square \) is a possibility frame, assuming that \( \mathcal{F} \) is. Since \( \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}) = \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}^\square) \), and the set \( P \) of admissible propositions is the same in \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{F}^\square \), we need only show that \( P \) is closed under \( \mathcal{F}^\square \), the \( \square \) operator for \( \mathcal{F}^\square \). Since \( P \) is closed under \( \mathcal{F} \) by assumption, it suffices to show that for all \( Z \in P \), \( \mathcal{F}^Z \sqsubseteq \mathcal{F}^\square \). To see that \( \mathcal{F}^\square \subseteq \mathcal{F}^Z \), suppose \( x \notin \mathcal{F}^Z \); then there is a \( y \) such that \( xR_i\,y \) but \( y \notin Z \). Then since \( xR_i\,y \) and by \( \mathcal{F}^Z \), we have \( x \notin \mathcal{F}^Z \). To see that \( \mathcal{F}^\square \subseteq \mathcal{F}^\square \), suppose \( x \notin \mathcal{F}^\square \), so there is a \( y \) such that \( xR_i\,y \) but \( y \notin Z \). Then by the definition of \( \mathcal{F}^\square \), \( x \notin \mathcal{F}^\square \).

For \( \text{R-dense} \) in part 2, assume that \( \forall y' \subseteq y \exists y'' \subseteq y' : xR_i\,y'' \). For reductio, suppose \( \neg xR_i\,y' \), and there is some \( Z \in P \) such that \( x \in \mathcal{F}^Z \) but \( y \notin Z \). Then since \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \textit{refinability}, \( \exists y' \subseteq y \forall y'' \subseteq y' : y'' \notin Z \), which is \( \neg xR_i\,y'' \). But this contradicts our initial assumption.

For part 3, we have already shown that \( \mathcal{F}^\square \) is a possibility frame if \( \mathcal{F} \) is. Then since \( \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}) = \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}^\square) \), and the set \( P \) of admissible propositions is the same in \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{F}^\square \), \( \mathcal{F}^\square \) is a full possibility frame if \( \mathcal{F} \) is.

To now show that \( \mathcal{F}^\square \) satisfies \( \text{R} \)\( \Leftrightarrow \text{win} \), by Fact 2.35 it suffices to show \( \text{up-R} \), \( \text{R-down} \), \( \text{R-dense} \), and \( \text{R-refinability} \), the first three of which we have already shown. For \( \text{R-refinability} \), suppose for reductio that \( xR_i\,y \) but \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' \) such that (i) \( \forall y' : \text{if } x''R_i\,y' \text{ then } y' \notin y \). It follows that (ii) \( \forall y' : \text{if } x''R_i\,y' \), then \( y' 
subseteq y \). For otherwise there is a \( y'' \) \nsubseteq \( y' \) with \( y'' \subseteq y \), and by \( \text{R-down} \), \( x''R_i\,y' \) and \( y'' \subseteq y \) together imply \( x''R_i\,y'' \), which with \( y'' \subseteq y \) contradicts (i). Then since \( x''R_i\,y' \) implies \( x''R_i\,y'' \), (ii) implies (iii) \( \forall y' : \text{if } x''R_i\,y' \), then \( y' \nsubseteq y \). Now define \( V = \{ v \in S \mid v \perp y \} \). One can check that \( V \) satisfies \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability} (see Fact 6.16), so \( V \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}) \). Then because \( \mathcal{F} \) is a full possibility frame, so \( P = \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}) \), we have \( V \in P \). Since \( xR_i\,y \) and \( y \notin V \), \( x \notin \mathcal{F}^V \), \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x' : x'' \in \mathcal{F}^V \) by (iii). Thus, \( \mathcal{F}^V \) does not satisfy \textit{refinability}, so \( \mathcal{F}^V \notin \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}) \) and hence \( \mathcal{F}^V \notin P \). But if \( V \in P \) and \( \mathcal{F}^V \notin P \), then by Definition 2.1, \( \mathcal{F} \) is not a partial-state frame, which contradicts the assumption that \( \mathcal{F} \) is a possibility frame.

The proof of part 4 is by induction on \( \varphi \). Since \( \mathcal{F}^\square \) differs from \( \mathcal{F} \) only with respect to the accessibility relations, the only inductive case to check is the \( \square \) case, which follows from the fact established above that for all \( Z \in P \), \( \mathcal{F}^Z \sqsubseteq \mathcal{F}^\square Z \), together with Fact 2.5. \( \Box \)

Not only can any full possibility frame be transformed into a semantically equivalent \textit{strong} possibility frame, but also in §5.4 we will show that \textit{any} possibility frame can be transformed into a semantically equivalent strong possibility frame. Thus, one may assume without loss of generality that \( \text{R} \Leftrightarrow \text{win} \) gets at the essence of the interplay between accessibility and refinement in possibility frames.

We have already seen two examples of strong possibility frames. Every world frame, viewed as a possibility frame as in Example 2.22, is trivially a strong possibility frame. Less trivially, the \textit{powerset possibilitization} of any world frame as in Example 2.9 is also a strong possibility frame.

**Fact 2.38** (Powerset Possibilization Cont.). For any world frame \( \mathfrak{F} = (W, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, \Lambda) \), its powerset possibilitization \( \mathfrak{F}^\square \) is a strong possibility frame.

**Proof.** By Proposition 2.35, it suffices to show that \( \mathfrak{F}^\square \) satisfies \textit{up-R} and \textit{R-down}, which is easy to check, and:

- \textit{R-dense} \( \Rightarrow xR_i^\square y \) if \( \forall y' \subseteq Y \exists y'' \subseteq Y' : xR_i^\square y'' \).
- **$R$-refinability** – if $XR_i^0Y$, then $\exists X' \subseteq X \forall X'' \subseteq X' \exists Y' \subseteq Y: X''R_i^0Y'$.

For $R$-dense, given nonempty $X,Y \subseteq W$, assume that for all nonempty $Y' \subseteq Y$ there is a nonempty $Y'' \subseteq Y'$ with $XR_i^0Y''$, i.e., $Y'' \subseteq R_i[X]$. Then for any $y \in Y$, taking $Y' = \{y\}$ implies $Y'' = \{y\} \subseteq R_i[X]$. Since this holds for every $y \in Y$, we have $Y \subseteq R_i[X]$, i.e., $XR_i^0Y$.

For $R$-refinability, we must check that if $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq R_i[X]$, then there is a nonempty $X' \subseteq X$ such that for all nonempty $X'' \subseteq X'$, there is a nonempty $Y_{X''} \subseteq Y$ with $Y_{X''} \subseteq R_i[X'']$. Since $\emptyset \neq Y \subseteq R_i[X]$, $X \cap R_i^{-1}[Y] \neq \emptyset$, so pick $x \in X \cap R_i^{-1}[Y]$ and $y \in R_i(x) \cap Y$. Setting $X' = \{x\}$, we have $X' \subseteq X$, and there is only one nonempty $X'' \subseteq X'$, namely $X'$ itself. Then setting $Y_{X'} = \{y\}$, we have $Y_{X'} \subseteq Y$ and $Y_{X'} \subseteq R_i[X']$, so we are done.

This proof actually shows that $\mathfrak{F}^0$ satisfies the following stronger condition (see Figure 13):

- **$R$-refinability$^+$** – if $xR_i y$, then $\exists y' \subseteq y \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x': x''R_i y'$.

We will see this condition satisfied in another frame in §2.5. (Whether every frame is modally equivalent to one satisfying $R$-refinability$^+$ depends on the assumption of the ultrafilter axiom. See Appendix §B.1.)

We are now in a good position to consider Humberstone's [1981] original frames for possibility semantics.

**Remark 2.39** (Humberstone Frames). While we defined full possibility frames as partial-state frames $\mathcal{F}$ in which $P = RO(\mathcal{F})$, Humberstone [1981] built strong conditions on the interplay of $R_i$ and $\subseteq$ into his definition of frames. A **Humberstone frame** is a tuple $\mathcal{F} = (S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$, where $\langle S, \subseteq \rangle$ is a poset, $R_i$ is a binary relation on $S$, and $P = RO(\langle S, \subseteq \rangle)$, such that $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies **up-$R$, $R$-down**, and:

- **$R$-refinability$^{++}$** – if $xR_i y$, then $\exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x': x''R_i y'$.

A **Humberstone model** is a tuple $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{F}, \pi \rangle$ where $\mathcal{F}$ is a Humberstone frame and $\pi : \Phi \to P$. (In fact, Humberstone [1981] took $\pi$ to be a partial function, but that approach is equivalent to the approach of this paper, as explained in Remark 8.3. Later Humberstone [2011, p. 900] took the total function approach.)

Since **up-$R$ and $R$-refinability$^{++}$** together imply the conditions of Proposition 2.30, the set $P$ of admissible propositions in a Humberstone frame is closed under $\text{□}_i$, and as previously noted, $RO(S, \subseteq)$ is automatically closed under $\cap$ and $\cup$. Thus, Humberstone frames are partial-state frames as in Definition 2.1, and since they satisfy $P = RO(S, \subseteq)$, they are full possibility frames as in Definition 2.21.

Humberstone's $R$-refinability$^{++}$ condition is not implied by any combination of the other conditions discussed in this section. In contrast to Fact 2.38, the powerset possibilization of a Kripke frame is not necessarily a Humberstone frame (see Appendix §B.1). It is an open question whether Humberstone frames are as general as the full possibility frames of Definition 2.21, or even whether they are more general than Kripke frames, for the purposes of characterizing normal modal logics (see Problem 6 in §8.2).

In §4.2, we will see that all finite full possibility frames, and hence all finite Humberstone frames, can be turned into modally equivalent Kripke frames. By contrast, in §2.5 we will construct infinite full possibility frames for which there are no modally equivalent Kripke frames. The question of whether every infinite Humberstone frame is modally equivalent to a Kripke frame is an open question.

Let us finally consider a concrete example of the interplay of accessibility and refinement.

**Example 2.40** (Accessibility Relations on the Infinite Complete Binary Tree). Consider the set $2^{<\omega}$ of all finite binary strings. For $x, x' \in 2^{<\omega}$, let $x' \subseteq x$ iff $x'$ extends $x$, i.e., $x$ is an initial segment of $x'$. We can view $\langle 2^{<\omega}, \subseteq \rangle$ as the infinite complete binary tree with $\subseteq$ as the reflexive transitive closure of the child relation—a
simple example of a possibility space in which every possibility can be further refined. Observe that for each \( x \in 2^{<\omega} \), \( \downarrow x \) satisfies refinement and hence \( \downarrow x \in \text{RO}(2^{<\omega}, \sqsubseteq) \), so \( \text{RO}(2^{<\omega}, \sqsubseteq) \) is an atomless Boolean algebra. As an exercise, consider various definitions of accessibility relations on \( 2^{<\omega}, \sqsubseteq \) and then check which, if any, of the interplay conditions are satisfied. For example, for \( n \in \mathbb{N} \), define an accessibility relation \( R_n \) by: 
\[ xR_n y \text{ if and only if } x \text{ and } y \text{ have the same length and differ in no more than } n \text{ places}, \] 
and \( y = \langle y_1, \ldots, y_k \rangle \), we have \( |\{i \mid 1 \leq i \leq k, x_i \neq y_i\}| \leq n \). See Figure 12 for \( R_1 \). Since \( x \) and \( y \) must have the same length, \( R_n \) does not satisfy \textbf{up-} \( R \), \textbf{R-down}, or \textbf{R-refinability}⁺. However, \( R_n \) does satisfy \textbf{R-com} and \( R \Rightarrow \textbf{win} \). For \( R \Rightarrow \textbf{win} \), if \( xR_n y \) and \( y' = \langle y_1, \ldots, y_l \rangle \) is an extension \( y = \langle y_1, \ldots, y_k \rangle \), let \( x' \) be the result of concatenating \( \langle y_{k+1}, \ldots, y_l \rangle \) on to the end of \( x \). Then clearly for every extension \( x'' \) of \( x \), there is an extension \( y'' \) of \( y \) such that \( x''R_n y'' \), since we can use the same move of copying and concatenating. Thus, the structure \( \mathcal{F} = (2^{<\omega}, \sqsubseteq, \{R_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, \text{RO}(2^{<\omega}, \sqsubseteq)) \) is a full possibility frame. Alternatively, suppose we define \( R_n^\prec \) by: 
\[ xR_n^\prec y \text{ if } y \text{ is at least as long as } x \text{ and } xR_n z \text{ where } z \text{ is the initial segment of } y \text{ of the same length as } x. \] 
Then \( R_n^\prec \) satisfies \textbf{up-} \( R \), \textbf{R-down}, and \textbf{R-refinability}, but still not \textbf{R-refinability}⁺.

![Figure 12: the infinite complete binary tree with outgoing \( R_1 \) arrows as in Example 2.40 shown only for states along the leftmost branch. Reflexive accessibility loops are omitted.](image)

Although we have seen that we can assume without loss of generality stronger conditions than \textbf{R-rule} and \( R \Rightarrow \textbf{win} \), we do not build these conditions into the definition of possibility frames. The greatest payoff in terms of simplifying our theory seems to come from assuming the \textbf{R-down} property as in intuitionistic frames and Humberstone frames. We give frames with this property the following honorific title.

**Definition 2.41** (Standard Possibility Frames). A \textit{standard possibility frame} is a possibility frame satisfying \textbf{R-down}.

The topic of this section has been the interplay of two \textit{relations}: accessibility and refinement. It is worth mentioning how the situation changes if we consider the possibility semantic analogue not of Kripke frames but of \textit{neighborhood} frames [Montague, 1970; Scott, 1970], which can characterize non-normal modal logics.

**Remark 2.42** (Neighborhood Possibility Frames). A \textit{full neighborhood possibility frame} may be defined as a tuple \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{N_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) where \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is a poset, \( N_i: S \rightarrow \wp(P), P = \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \), and \( \sqsubseteq \) and \( N_i \) satisfy the following interplay conditions:

- \textbf{if } \( x' \sqsubseteq x \), then \( N_i(x') \supseteq N_i(x) \);
- \textbf{if } \( x \not\in N_i(x) \), then \( \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \forall x'' \sqsubseteq x': X \not\in N_i(x'') \).

The standard neighborhood semantics clause for \( \Box \) now applies:
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So far we have said nothing about the semantics of $\diamond_i$. Since we use the classical definition $\diamond_i \varphi := \neg \Box_i \neg \varphi$, the semantics of $\diamond_i$ is derived directly from that of $\neg$ and $\Box_i$ as follows.

**Fact 2.43** (Forcing $\diamond_i$). Given a partial-state frame $F = (S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$, $x \in S$, and $Y \subseteq S$, define:

1. $x \in \downarrow_i Y$ iff $\forall x' \subseteq x \exists y' : x' R_i y'$ and $\exists y'' \subseteq y' : y'' \in Y$.

Then for any possibility model $M$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $\llbracket \diamond_i \varphi \rrbracket^M = \downarrow_i \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket^M$, i.e.:

2. $M, x \vDash \diamond_i \varphi$ iff $\forall x' \subseteq x \exists y' : x' R_i y'$ and $\exists y'' \subseteq y' : M, y'' \vDash \varphi$ (see Figure 14, left).
For standard frames satisfying \( R\text{-}\text{down} \) as in \( \S2.3 \), these conditions simplify to:

3. \( x \in \uparrow Y \) iff \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists y' : x'R_i y' \) and \( y' \in Y \);

4. \( M, x \vdash \diamond_i \phi \) iff \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists y' : x'R_i y' \) and \( M, y' \vdash \phi \) (see Figure 14, right).

Although unfamiliar, the clause for \( \diamond_i \) is quite intuitive: for whatever sense of ‘possible’ is at issue, the clause says that \( x \) forces that \( \phi \) is possible iff for every refinement \( x' \) of \( x \) (think of this as the forcing part), \( x' \) has access to a state that forces \( \phi \), or if we are not assuming \( R\text{-}\text{down} \), then \( x' \) has access to state that can be refined to force \( \phi \) (think of this as the possibility part).

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\downarrow \forall \quad \downarrow \exists \quad \downarrow \\
\begin{array}{c}
x \vdash \diamond_i \phi \\
x' \rightarrow y' \\
\exists \\
y'' \vdash \phi \\
\end{array}
\end{array} 
\]

Figure 14: the semantic clause for \( \diamond_i \), without (left) and with (right) the \( R\text{-}\text{down} \) condition.

It is useful to know some shortcuts for thinking about sequences of modal operators involving diamonds. Since \( \diamond_i \ldots \diamond_i \phi \) is equivalent to \( \neg \Box_i \ldots \Box_i \neg \phi \), we have \( M, x \vdash \diamond_i \ldots \diamond_i \phi \) iff \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists y'_1, \ldots, y'_n : x'R_i y'_1 \ldots y'_{n-1} R_i y'_n \) and \( \exists y''_n \subseteq y'_n : M, y''_n \vdash \phi \). Over standard frames satisfying \( R\text{-}\text{down} \), we can simplify this further as follows.

**Fact 2.44** (Iterated Modalities). For any possibility model \( M \) based on a standard possibility frame:

1. \( M, x \vdash \diamond_i \ldots \diamond_i \phi \) iff \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists y'_1, \ldots, y'_n : x'R_i y'_1 \ldots y'_{n-1} R_i y'_n \) and \( M, y'_n \vdash \phi \);

2. \( M, x \vdash \Box_i \diamond_i \ldots \diamond_i \phi \) iff \( \forall y: xR_j y \) then \( \exists y_1, \ldots, y_n : yR_i y_1 \ldots y_{n-1} R_i y_n \) and \( M, y_n \vdash \phi \).

**Proof.** For part 1, in the truth condition for \( \neg \Box_i \ldots \Box_i \neg \phi \) given above, together \( y'_{n-1} R_i y'_n \) and \( \exists y''_n \subseteq y'_n \) imply \( y''_{n-1} R_i y''_n \) by the \( R\text{-}\text{down} \) property of standard frames.

For part 2, by part 1 we have that \( M, x \vdash \Box_i \diamond_i \ldots \diamond_i \phi \) iff \( \forall y: xR_j y \) then \( \exists y_1, \ldots, y_n : y'R_i y'_1 \ldots y'_{n-1} R_i y'_n \) and \( M, y'_n \vdash \phi \). This clearly implies the clause given in part 2, and the converse implication also holds due to \( R\text{-}\text{down} \): for \( xR_j y \) and \( y' \subseteq y \) together imply \( xR_j y' \).

Fact 2.44 shows that for any sequence \( M_1 \ldots M_n \) of modal operators beginning with a box, we can think of the semantic clause for \( M_1 \ldots M_n \) in standard models exactly as in Kripke semantics. If \( M_1 \) is a diamond, we must add an initial \( \forall x' \subseteq x \), but then the rest of the clause is as in Kripke semantics.

Note that we cannot conclude from \( xR_i y \) and \( M, y \vdash \phi \) that \( M, x \vdash \diamond_i \phi \). This shows that in possibility semantics, \( y \) being accessible to \( x \), which guarantees that \( M, x \vdash \Box_i \phi \Rightarrow M, y \vdash \phi \), is not the same as \( y \) being possible relative to \( x \), in the sense that would guarantee \( M, y \vdash \phi \Rightarrow M, x \vdash \diamond_i \phi \). We can, however, define a relation of relative possibility that will guarantee the latter implication, as in Remark 2.45.

**Remark 2.45** (Relative Possibility). Given a partial-state frame \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) and \( x, y \in S \), define
Let us make three observations concerning the relation based on or equivalently, which for standard frames simplifies to

- \( x R_i y \) if \( x \in \downarrow_i y \), or equivalently,
- \( x R_i y \) if \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists y': x' R_i y' \subseteq y \),

Thus, \( x R_i y \) witnesses \( y \) if \( y \) is accessible to \( x \), then for every refinement \( y' \) of \( y \) there is a refinement \( x' \) of \( x \) such that \( y' \) is possible relative to \( x' \).

Third, assuming only \( M_i, x \models \Box_i \varphi \), we cannot conclude that there is a \( y \) such that \( x R_i y \) and \( M, y \models \varphi \). The reason is that a partial state \( x \) might determine that \( \varphi \) is possible without yet determining any particular witness \( y \) for the possibility of \( \varphi \). More formally: it may be that for every state \( y \) that forces \( \varphi \), \( x \) can still be refined to an \( x_y \) that “rules out” that particular \( y \), in the sense that every state in \( R_i(x_y) \) is incompatible with \( y \), i.e., \( \forall y \in \downarrow_i \exists y \subseteq x \forall z \in R_i(x_y): z \perp y \). This is consistent with \( M_i, x \models \Box_i \varphi \).

In \( \S 2.5 \), we will see the semantics for \( \Box_i \) in action in a concrete example.

### 2.5 Full Possibility Frames with No Kripke Equivalents

We will conclude \( \S 2 \) by constructing a full possibility frame \( F \) that validates a modal formula that is not valid over any Kripke frame. Thus, the logic of \( F \) will be a normal modal logic that is \textit{Kripke-frame inconsistent}—it is not sound with respect to any class of Kripke frames—and hence \textit{Kripke-frame incomplete}—it is not sound and complete with respect to any class of Kripke frames. From \( F \) we will generate continuum many full possibility frames with distinct Kripke-inconsistent logics. This requires a polymodal language, since every syntactically consistent normal unimodal logic is Kripke-frame consistent [Makinson, 1971]. In \( \S 7.1 \), we will generate continuum many full possibility frames with distinct Kripke-\textit{incomplete} unimodal logics.

Suppose \( \varphi \) and \( \psi \) are modal formulas such that the propositional variable \( p \) does not occur in \( \psi \) (or at least it only occurs in the form \( \top := (p \lor \neg p) \)). Then consider the following formula:

\[
\Box_i(p \land \psi) \rightarrow (\Box_i(p \land \varphi) \land \Box_i(p \land \neg \varphi)).
\]

We claim that any Kripke frame \( \mathfrak{F} \) that validates (\textit{Split}) must also validate \( \neg \Box_i \psi \). Suppose \( \neg \Box_i \psi \) is not valid over \( \mathfrak{F} \), so there is a model \( \mathfrak{M} \) based on \( \mathfrak{F} \) and a world \( w \) such that \( \mathfrak{M}, w \models \Box_i \psi \). Hence there is some world \( v \) such that \( w R_i v \) and \( \mathfrak{M}, v \models \psi \). Let \( \mathfrak{M}' \) be the model based on \( \mathfrak{F} \) that differs from \( \mathfrak{M} \) only in that \( \mathfrak{M}'[p] = \{v\} \). Then since \( \psi \) does not contain \( p \), we still have \( \mathfrak{M}', v \models \psi \). Now observe that the antecedent of (\textit{Split}) is true at \( w \) in \( \mathfrak{M}' \), but clearly the consequent of (\textit{Split}) is false since \( \mathfrak{M}'[p] \) is a singleton set.
Worlds cannot split, but possibilities can. We will construct a full possibility frame that validates an instance of (\textsc{Split}) and \( \Diamond \psi \).\footnote{\emph{Since we saw that this conjunction is Kripke-inconsistent, the example requires multiple modal operators by the point above about Makinson’s theorem. Another way to see this (thanks here to Lloyd Humberstone) is that no syntactically consistent normal unimodal logic contains a pair of formulas of the form \( \Diamond \alpha \) and \( \Diamond \neg \alpha \) (see French and Humberstone 2015), but any normal modal logic containing (\textsc{Split}) and \( \Diamond \psi \) contains both \( \Diamond \psi (\top/p) \) and \( \Diamond \neg \psi (\top/p) \) (substitute \( \top \) for \( p \) in (\textsc{Split}).)} The construction is a possibility frame version of the construction in Litak 2005a of a \( CV \)-\textsc{BAO} that generates a variety of \textsc{BAOs} with no atomic members. (We will precisely relate full possibility frames and \( CV \)-\textsc{BAOs} in §§5.1-5.3.) The main idea of the following is exactly as in Litak 2005a (also cf. Venema 2003), but where Litak defines operators on an algebra, we define relations on a frame. One may compare the two constructions to see the relative benefits of thinking in terms of relations vs. operators.

Consider the standard topology on \( \mathbb{R} \) generated by the basis of open intervals \( (a, b) \). Let \( \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \) be the set of regular open sets. Recall the fact that a subset of \( \mathbb{R} \) is open if and only if it is the union of a countable set of pairwise disjoint open intervals. A subset of \( \mathbb{R} \) is regular open if and only if it is the union of a countable set of pairwise disjoint and non-adjacent open intervals—for if adjacent intervals \( (a, b) \) and \( (b, c) \) are in the set, then the interior of the closure of the union will contain \( b \), which is not in the union. For any regular open \( O \), since

\[
O = \bigcup \{(a, b) \mid (a, b) \subseteq O \text{ and } \neg \exists (a', b'): (a, b) \subsetneq (a', b') \subseteq O\},
\]

we can canonically “encode” \( O \) as the following set of pairs:

\[
\sigma_O = \{(a, b) \mid (a, b) \subseteq O \text{ and } \neg \exists (a', b'): (a, b) \subsetneq (a', b') \subseteq O\}.
\]  
(4)

This gives us a convenient way of shrinking a given regular open set \( O \), as follows:

\[
O_- = \bigcup \{(a, b) \mid \exists (a', b') \in \sigma_O: \langle a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2} \rangle = \langle a', b' \rangle\}.
\]  
(5)

If we consider \( \langle \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}, \subseteq \rangle \) as a possibility space, then since \( O_- \subseteq O \), the possibility \( O_- \) is a strict refinement of the possibility \( O \). As in Remark 2.13, the regular open sets of any topology, ordered by inclusion, form a complete Boolean lattice. In addition, \( \langle \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}), \subseteq \rangle \) is atomless. Thus, in \( \langle \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}, \subseteq \rangle \), every possibility can be further refined. This is the key to validating an instance of (\textsc{Split}).

Building a possibility frame on a complete Boolean lattice—minus the bottom element—makes it easy to deal with the set \( P \) of admissible propositions. For if \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is a poset obtained from a complete Boolean lattice by deleting the bottom element, then the regular open sets in the downset topology on \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) are just \( \emptyset \) and each principal downset \( \downarrow x = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq x \} \) for \( x \in S \) (see Fact 4.48). Thus, the regular open sets in the downset topology on \( \langle \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}, \subseteq \rangle \) are \( \emptyset \) and each \( \downarrow O = \{ O' \in \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\} \mid O' \subseteq O \} \).

We noted above how a regular open set can be canonically encoded as a nonempty set of pairs of real numbers. We will take as the possibilities of our frame \( \mathcal{F} \) not only every nonempty regular open set of reals, but also every nonempty set of pairs of reals. Thus, let

\[
S = (\text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \cup \wp(\mathbb{R}^2)) \setminus \{\emptyset\}.
\]

We will write ‘\( O \)’, ‘\( O' \)’, etc., for elements of \( \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\} \), and ‘\( \sigma' \), ‘\( \sigma'' \)', ‘\( \tau' \)’, etc., for elements of \( \wp(\mathbb{R}^2) \setminus \{\emptyset\} \).

The refinement relation \( \sqsubseteq \) in our frame \( \mathcal{F} \) will be \( \sqsubseteq \). So regular open sets can refine regular open sets, and sets of pairs can refine sets of pairs, but regular open sets cannot refine sets of pairs or vice versa. Since \( \langle \wp(\mathbb{R}^2), \subseteq \rangle \) is a complete (and atomic) Boolean lattice, we have taken a disjoint union of two complete
Boolean lattices—minus the bottom elements. Again, this makes it easy to deal with the set $P$ of admissible propositions in our full possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$. The regular open sets in the downset topology on our $(S, \subseteq)$ are just $\emptyset$ and for each $O \in \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ and $\sigma \in \wp(\mathbb{R}^2) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$, the sets $\downarrow O$, $\downarrow \sigma$, and $\downarrow O \cup \downarrow \sigma$.

All that remains is to define the accessibility relations in $\mathcal{F}$. Let $R_i$ be the universal relation on $S$. Before defining the other relations, let us explain the strategy to ensure that $\mathcal{F}$ validates a (SPLIT) formula.

**Strategy.** We will define a formula $\psi$ such that $\models^M \mathcal{F} = \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ for any model $M$ based on $\mathcal{F}$. Thus, $\diamond_i (p \land \psi)$ will say that $p$ is true at some regular open set, which with our observation above about the admissible sets in $P$ implies that there is some regular open $O$ such that $[p]^M \cap \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) = \downarrow O$. Then we will define a formula $\varphi$ such that for any model $M$ based on $\mathcal{F}$, if $[p]^M \cap \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) = \downarrow O$, then $[\varphi]^M = \downarrow O_-$ for $O_-$ as in (5). Hence $\emptyset \neq [\varphi]^M \subseteq [p]^M$. This implies that there is an $x$ with $M, x \models p \land \varphi$, and there is a $y$ with $M, y \models p$ and $M, y \not\models \varphi$, which by Refinability and Persistence implies that there is a $y' \subseteq y$ with $M, y' \models p \land \neg \varphi$. Thus, the formula $\diamond_i (p \land \psi) \rightarrow (\diamond_i (p \land \varphi) \land \diamond_i (p \land \neg \varphi))$ will be valid over $\mathcal{F}$.

Our strategy to define $\varphi$ will be to define a polymodal formula $\alpha$ and appropriate accessibility relations of $\mathcal{F}$ for the operators in $\alpha$ such that if $[p]^M \cap \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) = \downarrow O$, then $[\alpha]^M = \downarrow \sigma_{O_-}$. We will also define an accessibility relation $R_o$ such that $[\alpha]^M = \downarrow \sigma_{O_-}$ implies $[\diamond_o \alpha]^M = \downarrow O_-$. We can then take $\varphi := \diamond_o \alpha$.

In addition to the universal relation $R_i$, we will define four other accessibility relations for $\mathcal{F}$. The relation $R_o$ just mentioned only relates regular open sets to sets of pairs:

- $\text{OR}_o \sigma$ iff $\forall \langle a', b' \rangle \in \sigma \exists (a, b) \subseteq O$: $(a, b) \subseteq (a', b')$.

For any $O \in \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$, $\text{OR}_o \sigma$ for $\sigma$ as in (4); and $x R_o y$ only if $x \in \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$. So for any model $M$ based on our frame, we will have $[\diamond_o \top]^M = \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$. Thus, we can take $\psi$ in the **Strategy** to be $\diamond_o \top$.

Since we want our frame $\mathcal{F}$ to be a full possibility frame, we will check that each accessibility relation we define for $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies the **R-rule** and **R=win** conditions from §2.3 (recall Proposition 2.30). In fact, we will show that each relation $R$ satisfies the following stronger set of conditions from §2.3:

- **up-R** if $x' \subseteq x$ and $x' R y'$, then $x R y'$;
- **R-down** if $y' \subseteq y$ and $x R y$, then $x R y'$;
- **R-refinability**$^+$ if $x R y$, then $\exists y' \subseteq y \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x': x'' R y'$.

Clearly the relation $R_o$ defined above satisfies **up-R** and **R-down**. For **R-refinability**$^+$, given $\text{OR}_o \sigma$, let $\sigma' = \{\langle a', b' \rangle \}$ for one of the $\langle a', b' \rangle \in \sigma$. Then $\text{OR}_o \sigma$ implies that there is an $O' = \langle a, b \rangle \subseteq O$ such that $O' \subseteq (a', b')$. Then for all $O'' \subseteq O'$, $O'' R_o \sigma'$. This establishes **R-refinability**$^+$.

The following lemma is the motivation for defining $R_o$ as above. Informally, it says that $\diamond_o \sigma$ can take us from the canonical encoding $\sigma$ of a regular open set $O$ back to $O$ itself. Although we have not yet defined all of $\mathcal{F}$, the lemma holds no matter what further accessibility relations we define.

**Lemma 2.46.** For any formula $\chi$ and model $M$ based on the frame $\mathcal{F}$, if $[\chi]^M = \downarrow \sigma_O$, then $[\diamond_o \chi]^M = \downarrow O$.

**Proof.** Suppose $[\chi]^M = \downarrow \sigma_O$. First, we show $M, O \models \diamond_o \chi$, which implies $[\diamond_o \chi]^M \subseteq \downarrow O$ by Persistence. Recall from §2.4 that $M, O \models \diamond_o \chi$ if $\forall O' \subseteq O \exists x': O' R_o \sigma'$ and $M, \sigma' \models \chi$. Given $O' \subseteq O$, let $\sigma' = \{\langle a', b' \rangle \mid \exists (a, b) \subseteq O': (a, b) \subseteq (a', b')\}$.

Observe that $\sigma' \neq \emptyset$ and $O' R_o \sigma'$. Since $\sigma \subseteq \sigma_O$ and $[\chi]^M = \downarrow \sigma_O$, we have $M, \sigma' \models \chi$. Thus, $M, O \models \diamond_o \chi$. 

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Next, we show that if \( O' \not\subseteq O \), then \( M, O' \not\models \Diamond_\alpha \chi \), so \( \models \Diamond_\alpha \chi \subseteq \downarrow O \). If \( O' \not\subseteq O \), then since \( O \) and \( O' \) are each unions of non-adjacent open intervals, it follows that there is an \( (a, b) \subseteq O' \) such that \( a,b \cap O = \emptyset \). We claim that for any \( \sigma \) with \( (a, b) R_\sigma, M, \sigma \not\models \chi \). Then since \( (a, b) \subseteq O' \), we have \( M, O' \not\models \Diamond_\alpha \chi \) by the truth clause for \( \Diamond_\alpha \) given \textbf{R-down} (recall §2.4). To prove the claim, suppose \( (a, b) R_\sigma, M, \sigma \models \chi \). Since \( \models \Diamond_\alpha \chi \subseteq \downarrow \sigma O \), \( M, \sigma \models \chi \) only if \( \sigma \subseteq \sigma O \). Suppose for reductio that \( \sigma \not\subseteq \sigma O \), so there is an \( \langle a', b' \rangle \in \sigma \) such that \( (a', b') \subseteq O \). Together \( \langle a', b' \rangle \in \sigma \) and \( (a, b) R_\sigma \) imply \( (a, b) \cap (a', b') \not= \emptyset \) by the definition of \( R_\sigma \). But since \( (a', b') \subseteq O, (a, b) \cap (a', b') \not= \emptyset \) contradicts \( (a, b) \cap O = \emptyset \) from above. Thus, \( \sigma' \not\subseteq \sigma O \), which completes the proof. \( \square \)

Next, we define a relation that only relates sets of pairs to regular open sets:

- \( \sigma R_\Delta \) iff \( \forall (a, b) \subseteq O \exists \langle a', b' \rangle \in \sigma: (a, b) \subseteq (a', b') \).

Note that since each \( O \) is a union of open intervals, \( \sigma R_\Delta \) implies \( O \subseteq \bigcup_{(a, b) \in \sigma} (a, b) \).

Clearly \( R_\Delta \) satisfies \textbf{up-R} and \textbf{R-down}. For \textbf{R-refinability}+, given \( \sigma R_\Delta \), let \( O' = (a, b) \) for one of the \( (a, b) \subseteq O \). Then \( \sigma R_\Delta \) implies that there is an \( \langle a', b' \rangle \in \sigma \) such that \( O' \subseteq (a', b') \). Let \( \sigma' = \{ \langle a', b' \rangle \} \). Then for all nonempty \( \sigma'' \subseteq \sigma' \), i.e., \( \sigma'' = \sigma' \), we have \( \sigma'' R_\Delta \). This establishes \textbf{R-refinability}+.

The following lemma is the motivation for defining \( R_\Delta \) as above.

**Lemma 2.47.** For any model \( M \) based on the frame \( F \), if \( \models [p]^M \cap \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) = \downarrow O \), then \( M, \{ (a, b) \} \models \Box_d p \) iff \( (a, b) \subseteq O \).

**Proof.** Suppose \( M, \{ (a, b) \} \not\models \Box_d p \), so there is an \( O' \) with \( \{ (a, b) \} R_\Delta O' \) and \( M, O' \not\models p \). Since \( M, O' \not\models p \) and \( \models [p]^M \cap \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) = \downarrow O \), we have \( O' \not\subseteq O \). Since \( \{ (a, b) \} R_\Delta O' \), we have \( O' \subseteq (a, b) \), which with \( O' \not\subseteq O \) implies \( (a, b) \not\subseteq O \). Conversely, if \( (a, b) \not\subseteq O \), then \( M, \{ (a, b) \} \not\models p \), which then also gives \( \{ (a, b) \} R_\Delta (a, b) \), \( M, \{ (a, b) \} \not\models \Box_d p \). \( \square \)

Finally, we define two relations that only relate sets of pairs to sets of pairs:

- \( \sigma R_\subseteq \tau \) iff \( \tau \) is a singleton \( \{ (c, d) \} \) and \( \exists (a, b) \in \sigma: (a, b) \subseteq (c, d) \);
- \( \sigma R_+ \tau \) iff \( \tau \) is a singleton \( \{ (c, d) \} \) and \( \exists (a, b) \in \sigma: (a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2}) = (c, d) \).

Both relations clearly satisfy \textbf{up-R} and \textbf{R-down}. For \textbf{R-refinability}+, if \( \sigma R_\subseteq \tau \), then \( \tau \) is a singleton \( \{ (c, d) \} \) and there is an \( (a, b) \in \sigma \) with \( (a, b) \subseteq (c, d) \), let \( \sigma' = \{ (a, b) \} \). Then for all nonempty \( \sigma'' \subseteq \sigma' \), i.e., \( \sigma'' = \sigma' \), we have \( \sigma'' R_\subseteq \tau \). So \( R_\subseteq \) satisfies \textbf{R-refinability}+, and the same form of argument applies to \( R_+ \).

We have now shown that \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_\subseteq, R_+, R_\subseteq, R_+ \}, \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \rangle \) is a full possibility frame.

The following lemma is the motivation for defining \( R_\subseteq \) and \( R_+ \) as above. Informally, it says that we can write a formula that takes us from a regular open \( O \) to the canonical encoding \( \sigma_{O+} \) of the shrunk open \( O_+ \subseteq O \).

**Lemma 2.48.** Let \( \alpha := \Diamond_+ \top \land \Box_+ (\Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p) \). For any model \( M \) based on \( F \), if \( \models [p]^M \cap \text{RO}(\mathbb{R}) = \downarrow O \), then \( \models [\alpha]^M = \downarrow \sigma_{O+} \).

**Proof.** Note that \( M, \models \Diamond_+ \top \land \Box_+ (\Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p) \) if \( x \) is a set \( \sigma \) of pairs. Now consider \( M, \models \Box_+ (\Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p) \). By definition of \( R_+ \), this is equivalent to: for all \( \langle a, b' \rangle \), if \( \exists (a, b) \in \sigma \) such that \( (a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2}) = \langle a', b' \rangle \), then \( M, \{ (a', b') \} \models \Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p \). That is in turn equivalent to: for all \( (a, b) \in \sigma \), \( M, \{ (a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2}) \} \models \Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p \). By Lemma 2.47, \( M, \{ (a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2}) \} \models \Box_\Delta p \) iff there is no \( (c, d) \) such that \( (a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2}) \subseteq (c, d) \subseteq O \). Also observe that \( M, \models \Box_+ (\Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p) \) iff there is no \( (c, d) \) such that \( (a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2}) \subseteq (c, d) \subseteq O \). Putting all of this together with the definition of \( \sigma_{O+} \) from (4), we have \( M, \sigma \models \Box_+ (\Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p) \) iff for each \( (a, b) \in \sigma \), \( (a, b + \frac{|a-b|}{2}) \in \sigma_{O+} \). It follows by the definition of \( \sigma_{O+} \) in (5) that \( M, \sigma \models \Box_+ (\Box_\Delta p \land \neg \Diamond_\subseteq \Box_\Delta p) \) iff \( \sigma \subseteq \sigma_{O+} \). \( \square \)

\(^{16}\)In fact, this shows that \( R_\subseteq \) and \( R_+ \) satisfy the stronger \textbf{R-refinability}++ condition from Remark 2.39.
Together Lemmas 2.46 and 2.48 immediately imply the following final piece of the argument.

**Proposition 2.49.** For the formula \( \alpha \) from Lemma 2.48 and any model \( \mathcal{M} \) based on \( \mathcal{F} \), if \( \llbracket p \rrbracket ^{\mathcal{M}} \cap RO(\mathbb{R}) = \downarrow O \), then \( \llbracket \diamond \alpha \rrbracket = \downarrow O \).

Where \( \varphi := \diamond\Diamond \alpha \) and \( \psi := \diamond\Diamond \top \), based on the *Strategy* outlined above we have completed the proof that our full possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} \) validates \( \diamond (p \land \psi) \rightarrow (\Diamond \diamond (p \land \varphi) \land \diamond \Diamond (p \land \neg \varphi)) \).

From this one example of a full possibility frame whose logic is Kripke-frame inconsistent, we can easily generate continuum many others, as in Proposition 2.50. The proof of Proposition 2.50 uses the fact, proved in §5.7, that given any two full possibility frames \( \mathcal{H} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \), there is a full possibility frame \( \mathcal{H} \cup \mathcal{G} \), the disjoint union of \( \mathcal{H} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \), such that a formula is valid over \( \mathcal{H} \cup \mathcal{G} \) iff it is valid over both \( \mathcal{H} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \).

**Theorem 2.50 (Polymodal Possibility Frames with No Kripke Equivalents).** There are continuum many full possibility frames for the polymodal language above whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame inconsistent.

**Proof.** We first prove the weaker claim that there are continuum many full possibility frames whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame *incomplete*. We then show how to modify the argument to obtain the stated theorem for Kripke-frame *inconsistent* logics.

Our frame \( \mathcal{F} \) above is a frame for the language \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \{i, \triangleright, \triangleleft, \gg, \vdash\}) \). Take any continuum-sized set \( \{\mathcal{G}_j\}_{j \in J} \) of Kripke frames for the unimodal language \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \{+\}) \), viewed as full possibility frames, such that the logics of the \( \mathcal{G}_j \) are pairwise distinct. That such a set of frames exists is a standard fact. Extend each \( \mathcal{G}_j \) to a frame \( \mathcal{G}'_j \) for \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \{i, \triangleright, \triangleleft, \gg, \vdash\}) \) such that the accessibility relations for \( i, \triangleright, \triangleleft, \gg, \vdash \) are empty in \( \mathcal{G}'_j \). Then it is easy to see that each \( \mathcal{G}'_j \) is still a full possibility frame, and the polymodal logics of the \( \mathcal{G}'_j \) are still pairwise distinct. Finally, consider the continuum-sized set \( \{\mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j\}_{j \in J} \) where \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \) is the disjoint union of \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{G}'_j \) as in Definition 5.53. We claim that (i) the logic of each \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \) is Kripke-frame incomplete and (ii) the logics of the \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \) are pairwise distinct. For (i), for our chosen \( \varphi \) and \( \psi \) above, we showed that \( \text{(Split)} \) is valid over \( \mathcal{F} \), and \( \text{(Split)} \) is valid over \( \mathcal{G}'_j \) since the accessibility relation for \( i \) is empty in \( \mathcal{G}'_j \), so \( \text{(Split)} \) is valid over \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \) by Proposition 5.54. However, \( \neg \Diamond \psi \) is not valid over \( \mathcal{F} \), so by Proposition 5.54, it is not valid over \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \). Then since we observed at the beginning of this section that any Kripke frame whose logic includes \( \text{(Split)} \) also includes \( \neg \Diamond \psi \), we have established (i). For (ii), by the initial description of \( \{\mathcal{G}_j\}_{j \in J} \), for any distinct \( \mathcal{G}_j \) and \( \mathcal{G}_k \), there is a \( \chi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, \{+\}) \) that is valid over one but not the other. Suppose that \( \mathcal{G}_j \models \chi \) but \( \mathcal{G}_k \nvDash \chi \). Then since \( \mathcal{G}'_j \) and \( \mathcal{G}'_k \) are obtained from \( \mathcal{G}_j \) and \( \mathcal{G}_k \) by adding empty accessibility relations for \( \triangleright \) and \( \triangleleft \) (and \( i \) and \( \gg, \vdash \)), it follows that \( \mathcal{G}'_j \models \Diamond (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \) but \( \mathcal{G}'_k \nvDash \Diamond (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \). By our construction of \( \mathcal{F} \), every regular open set has an \( R_0 \)-successor and every set of pairs has an \( R_{\sigma} \)-successor, so \( \mathcal{F} \models \neg (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \) and hence \( \mathcal{F} \models (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \). Combining \( \mathcal{G}'_j \models (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \), \( \mathcal{G}'_k \nvDash (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \), and \( \mathcal{F} \models (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \), it follows by Proposition 5.54 that \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \models (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \) but \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_k \nvDash (\Box \bot \land \Box \bot) \rightarrow \chi \). Thus, we have established (ii).

Now we prove the claim about Kripke-frame inconsistent logics. For each \( j \in J \), let \( \text{(} \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \text{)}' \) be obtained from \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \) by making the accessibility relation for \( i \) the universal relation in \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \) and changing nothing else. First, it is easy to check that \( \text{(} \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \text{)}' \) is still a full possibility frame. Second, from the fact that \( \text{(Split)} \) is valid over \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \), it is easy to check that \( \text{(Split)} \) is valid over \( \text{(} \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \text{)}' \). This uses the fact that no state from \( \mathcal{G}'_j \) has an \( R_0 \)-successor, so our formula \( \psi \), i.e., \( \Diamond \Diamond \top \), that appears in the antecedent of \( \text{(Split)} \) cannot be true at a state from \( \mathcal{G}'_j \). Not only does \( \text{(} \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \text{)}' \) validate \( \text{(Split)} \), but unlike \( \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \), it also clearly validates \( \Diamond \Diamond \psi \), i.e., \( \Diamond \Diamond \Diamond \top \). Thus, by the reasoning at the beginning of this section, the logic of \( \text{(} \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \text{)}' \) is Kripke-frame *inconsistent*. It only remains to show that for \( j \neq k \), the logics of \( \text{(} \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_j \text{)}' \) and \( \text{(} \mathcal{F} \cup \mathcal{G}'_k \text{)}' \) are
distinct. This follows from the fact above that $\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_j] \vdash (\Box_b \bot \land \Box_q \bot) \to \chi$ and $\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_k] \not\vdash (\Box_b \bot \land \Box_q \bot) \to \chi$, which implies $(\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_j])' \not\vdash (\Box_b \bot \land \Box_q \bot) \to \chi$ and $(\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_k])' \not\vdash (\Box_b \bot \land \Box_q \bot) \to \chi$ because $\chi \in L(\Phi, \{+\})$ does not contain the $\Box_i$ modality, and $(\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_j])'$ and $(\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_k])'$ differ from $\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_j]$ and $\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_k]$, respectively, only in the accessibility relation for $\Box_i$. Thus, $\{(\mathcal{F}[\bigcup G'_j])' \}_{j \in J}$ is our desired continuum-sized set of frames.

In §7, we will use Proposition 2.50, our duality theory for full possibility frames in §5, and known results about polymodal-to-unimodal reduction to prove the following result for the unimodal case.

**Theorem 2.51 (Unimodal Full Possibility Frames with No Kripke Equivalents).** There are continuum many full possibility frames for the unimodal language whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame incomplete.

The syntactic form of (SPLIT) is a direct way of getting at the distinction between worlds and possibilities. It remains to be seen in what indirect ways the differences between Kripke frames and full possibility frames may show up syntactically in the basic polymodal language. It also remains to be seen what other kinds of mathematical structures can produce full possibility frames with no equivalent Kripke frame. In what follows, we will be interested not only in full possibility frames, but possibility frames generally. §4 contains a catalogue of some of the most important other classes of possibility frames.

With our introduction to possibility semantics now complete, we proceed in §3 to our first major topic in the model theory of modal logic based on possibilities: morphisms between possibility frames.

## 3 Possibility Morphisms

Morphisms between frames and models are of fundamental importance in possible world semantics, as well as the more general setting of possibility semantics. Recall that given world frames $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A \rangle$ and $\mathfrak{F}' = \langle W', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, A' \rangle$ (see Appendix §A.2), a p-morphism or bounded morphism [Blackburn et al., 2001, p. 309] from $\mathfrak{F}$ to $\mathfrak{F}'$ is a function $f: W \to W'$ such that for all $w, v \in W$ and $v' \in W'$:

(a) if $wR_iv$, then $f(w)R'_if(v)$;

(b) if $f(w)R'_iv'$, then $\exists v \in W: wR_iv$ and $f(v) = v'$;

(c) $\forall X \in A': f^{-1}[X] \in A$.

Note that (a) is equivalent to $f[R_i(w)] \subseteq R'_i(f(w))$ and (b) is equivalent to $f[R_i(w)] \supseteq R'_i(f(w))$. Also note that if $\mathfrak{F}$ and $\mathfrak{F}'$ are full world frames, so $A = \varphi(W)$ and $A' = \varphi(W')$, then (c) is trivially satisfied.

Given world models $\mathfrak{M} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, V \rangle$ and $\mathfrak{M}' = \langle W', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, V' \rangle$ for $L(\Phi, I)$, a p-morphism from $\mathfrak{M}$ to $\mathfrak{M}'$ is a function $f: W \to W'$ satisfying (a)-(b) above such that for all $p \in \Phi$:

(d) $V(p) = f^{-1}[V'(p)]$.

The key semantic preservation facts about p-morphisms are the following. First, if $f$ is a p-morphism from $\mathfrak{M}$ to $\mathfrak{M}'$, then for all $w \in W$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $\mathfrak{M}, w \vdash \varphi$ iff $\mathfrak{M}, f(w) \vdash \varphi$. Second, if $f$ is a surjective p-morphism from $\mathfrak{F}$ to $\mathfrak{F}'$, then $\mathfrak{F} \models \varphi$ implies $\mathfrak{F}' \models \varphi$. Third, say that $f$ is an embedding iff $f$ is an injective p-morphism such that for all $X \in A$, there is an $X' \in A'$ such that $f[X] = f[W] \cap X'$ [Blackburn et al., 2001, p. 309]; then if there is an embedding of $\mathfrak{F}$ into $\mathfrak{F}'$, we have that $\mathfrak{F}' \models \varphi$ implies $\mathfrak{F} \models \varphi$.

Below we present analogous definitions and preservation facts suitably generalized for possibility semantics. We will define three different grades of possibility morphisms, which requires some explanation.
Remark 3.1 (Three Grades of Possibility Morphisms). While in possible world semantics there is one central notion of \(p\)-morphism, for possibility semantics we will define three different grades of morphisms: possibility morphisms, \textit{strict} possibility morphisms, and \textit{taut} possibility morphisms. All taut morphisms are strict morphisms, but not vice versa, and all strict morphisms are possibility morphisms, but not vice versa. Over the class of Kripke frames regarded as possibility frames, i.e., when \(\subseteq\) is discrete, these distinctions collapse. But when \(\subseteq\) is not discrete, the three notions of morphisms can come apart.

When we prove a result that assumes the existence of a morphism between frames, for the strongest version of the result we want the weakest applicable notion of morphism, in which case we reach for the notion of \textit{strict} possibility morphism. The reason for the intermediate notion of \textit{strict} possibility morphism is the following. When we are proving that there is a possibility morphism between frames whose structure is not so constrained, such as proving that there is a possibility morphism from \(F\) to \(F'\), we can prove that the possibility morphism is \textit{taut} (e.g., Theorems 5.18 and 5.35). However, when we are proving that there is a possibility morphism between frames whose structure is not so constrained, such as a morphism from an arbitrary full possibility frame to some other frame, often we can only prove that the possibility morphism is \textit{strict} (e.g., Theorem 5.25.1 and Lemma 6.6); but this is still much more informative than proving only that there is a possibility morphism in the most general sense.

In addition, strict and taut possibility morphisms are easier to visualize than general possibility morphisms. For the definition of general possibility morphisms involves second-order conditions, whereas all of the conditions of strict and taut possibility morphisms but one (\textit{tight possibility morphisms}) are first-order (e.g., Proposition 3.7 and Theorem 5.9). Moreover, the general notion of possibility morphism is sufficient for the semantic preservation results for which one often uses morphisms. On the other hand, when we prove a result that establishes the existence of a morphism between frames, for the strongest version of the result we want the strongest applicable notion of morphism, in which case we reach for the notion of \textit{taut} possibility morphism. The reason for the intermediate notion of \textit{strict} possibility morphism is that often we are proving that there is a possibility morphism between frames whose structure is highly constrained, such as frames arising from BAOs by some transformation, typically we can prove that the possibility morphism is \textit{taut} (e.g., Theorems 5.18 and 5.35). However, when we are proving that there is a possibility morphism between frames whose structure is not so constrained, such as a morphism from an arbitrary full possibility frame to some other frame, often we can only prove that the possibility morphism is \textit{strict} (e.g., Theorem 5.25.1 and Lemma 6.6); but this is still much more informative than proving only that there is a possibility morphism in the most general sense.

In addition, strict and taut possibility morphisms are easier to visualize than general possibility morphisms. For the definition of general possibility morphisms involves second-order conditions, whereas all of the conditions of strict and taut possibility morphisms but one (\textit{tight possibility morphisms}) are first-order; and when the frames in question are full frames, all of the conditions of strict and taut morphisms are first-order.

The differences between strict and taut possibility morphisms and \(p\)-\textit{morphisms} will be made intelligible in the comments after Definition 3.2, especially with Fact 3.3.

Definition 3.2 (Possibility Morphisms). Given possibility frames \(F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\) and \(F' = \langle S', \subseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle\), a possibility morphism from \(F\) to \(F'\) is a function \(h: S \to S'\) such that for all \(x \in S\) and \(i \in I\):

1. \(\subseteq\)-matching – \(\forall X' \in P': h(x) \cap X' = \emptyset\) iff \(\downarrow x \cap h^{-1}[X'] = \emptyset\);
2. \(R\)-matching – \(\forall X' \in P': R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq X'\) iff \(R_i(x) \subseteq h^{-1}[X']\);
3. \(\text{pull back}\) – \(\forall X' \in P': h^{-1}[X'] \in P_{17}\).

A \textit{strict} possibility morphism from \(F\) to \(F'\) is an \(h: S \to S'\) satisfying \textit{pull back} such that for all \(x, y, y', z' \in S'\), and \(i \in I\):

4. \(\subseteq\)-\textit{forth}\ – if \(y \subset x\), then \(h(y) \subset h(x)\);
5. \(\subseteq\)-\textit{back}\ – if \(y' \subset h(x)\), then \(\exists y: y \subset x\) and \(h(y) \subset y'\) (see Figure 15);
6. \(R\)-\textit{forth}\ – if \(xR_iy\), then \(h(x)R'_ih(y)\);
7. \(R\)-\textit{back}\ – if \(h(x)R'_iy'\) and \(z' \subset y'\), then \(\exists y: xR_iy\) and \(h(y) \not\subset z'\) (see Figure 16).

\footnote{If \(F\) and \(F'\) are full possibility frames, then \textit{pull back} says that \(h: S \to S'\) is such that the inverse image of each regular open set in \(O(S', \subseteq')\) is regular open in \(O(S, \subseteq)\) (recall Remark 2.15). A map between topological spaces such that the inverse image of each regular open set is regular open is called an \textit{R-map} [Carnahan, 1973].}
As stated in Facts 3.4-3.5 below, these \textit{forth} and \textit{back} conditions jointly imply \textit{$\sqsubseteq$-matching} and \textit{R-matching} above, and they imply \textit{pull back} whenever $\mathcal{F}$ is a full possibility frame.

A \textit{taut} possibility morphism is a strict possibility morphism that satisfies the following, which implies $R$-\textit{back}:

8. \textit{taut} $R$-\textit{back} – if $h(x)R_i'y'$, then $\exists y: xR_iy$ and $y' \sqsubseteq h(y)$ (see Figure 17).

We also highlight the following special classes of possibility morphisms:

9. a possibility morphism $h$ is \textit{dense} iff $\forall x' \in S' \exists x \in S: h(x) \subseteq x'$;

10. a possibility morphism $h$ is \textit{robust} iff $\forall X \in P: X = h^{-1}[h[X]]$ and $\exists X' \in P': h[X] = h[S] \cap X'$;

11. a possibility morphism $h$ is a \textit{strong embedding} iff for all $x,y \in S$: (i) $y \sqsubseteq x$ iff $h(y) \sqsubseteq h(x)$ (which implies that $h$ is injective given the antisymmetry of $\sqsubseteq$); (ii) $xR_iy$ iff $h(x)R_i'h(y)$; and (iii) $\forall X \in P$ $\exists X' \in P': h[X] = h[S] \cap X'$;

12. a possibility morphism $h$ is a \textit{$\sqsubseteq$-strong embedding} iff it satisfies (i) and (iii) of part 11;

13. $h: S \rightarrow S'$ is an \textit{isomorphism} iff it is a bijection satisfying (i) and (ii) of part 11, $\text{pull back}$, and $\forall X \in P$: $h[X] \in P'$.

Given possibility models $\mathcal{M} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle$ and $\mathcal{M}' = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, \pi' \rangle$ for $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, in the weakest sense a possibility morphism from $\mathcal{M}$ to $\mathcal{M}'$ is an $h: S \rightarrow S'$ satisfying clauses 1-2 above with $P'$ replaced by $\{[\varphi]^{\mathcal{M}'} \mid \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)\}$ such that for all $p \in \Phi$:

14. $\pi(p) = h^{-1}[\pi'(p)]$.

\textit{Strict/taut} morphisms between models are defined using the same \textit{forth} and \textit{back} conditions as above.

\[ \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{h} \mathcal{F}' \]

\[ \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\exists} \mathcal{F}' \]

\[ \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{h} \mathcal{F}' \]

\[ \mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\exists} \mathcal{F}' \]

Figure 15: the $\sqsubseteq$-\textit{back} condition of strict possibility morphisms. Dotted lines indicate the possibility morphism $h$, while a solid line from $s$ down to $t$ indicates that $t$ is a refinement of $s$.

Let us make a number of clarificatory comments on Definition 3.2.

First, it can sometimes be useful to think of $\sqsubseteq$-\textit{matching} and \textit{R-matching} with the right-hand sides of the ‘iff’ written as $h[x] \cap X' = \emptyset$ and $h[R_i(x)] \subseteq X'$, respectively.

\[ \text{See Definition 104 of Goranko and Otto 2007 for the notion of a bounded} \textit{strong} \text{morphism between general frames, which requires that} \forall X \in P: X = h^{-1}[h[X]] \text{and} h[X] \in P'. \text{Note that if} h \text{is robust and surjective, then it is strong in this sense.} \]

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Simpler condition: if \( p \)-morphisms would require \( R \) relations, then \( R \) back conditions for \( M \) may seem mysterious; but it can be demystified as follows. Where \( M \) is the \( R \) target frame, \( \mathcal{F} \) is the \( R \) figure, and operators to reduce clutter. Recall from Fact 2.17.2 that for any \( \pi \), \( \exists x \in X \) such that for all \( p \in \Phi \), \( \pi(p) = h^{-1}[\pi'(p)] \), then by Definition 3.2, \( h \) is a possibility morphism from \( \mathcal{M} \) to \( \mathcal{M}' \), since \( \{ \varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \} \subseteq P' \) by Fact 2.5.2.

Second, note that if \( h \) is a possibility morphism from a frame \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) to a frame \( \mathcal{F}' = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{ R'_i \}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle \), and we consider admissible models \( \mathcal{M} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle \) and \( \mathcal{M}' = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{ R'_i \}_{i \in I}, \pi' \rangle \), then by Definition 3.2, \( h \) is a possibility morphism \( \sqsubseteq\)-back from \( \mathcal{M} \) to \( \mathcal{M}' \), since \( \{ \varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \} \subseteq P' \) by Fact 2.5.2.

Third, the way in which \( R \)-back and \( \sqsubseteq\)-back differ from each other and the back condition for \( p \)-morphisms may seem mysterious; but it can be demystified as follows. Where \( \langle S', \sqsubseteq' \rangle \) is the poset of the target frame \( \mathcal{F}' \) and \( X \subseteq S' \), as in Remark 2.15 and following let \( \downarrow X = \{ y \in S' \mid \exists x \in X : y \sqsubseteq' x \} \), \( \cl(X) = \uparrow X = \{ y \in S' \mid \exists x \sqsubseteq' y : x \in X \} \), and \( \int(X) = \{ y \in S' \mid \forall x \sqsubseteq' y : x \in X \} \) (dropping primes on operators to reduce clutter). Recall from Fact 2.17.2 that for any \( X \subseteq S' \), \( \int(\downarrow X) \) is the smallest regular open set in the downset topology on \( \langle S', \sqsubseteq' \rangle \) that includes \( X \). Now consider the following back conditions:

\begin{align*}
\text{B1} & \quad R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq h[R_i(x)]; \\
\text{B2} & \quad \downarrow R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq \downarrow h[R_i(x)]; \\
\text{B3} & \quad \cl(\downarrow R'_i(h(x))) \subseteq \cl(\downarrow h[R_i(x)]); \\
\text{B4} & \quad \int(\cl(\downarrow R'_i(h(x)))) \subseteq \int(\cl(\downarrow h[R_i(x)]))).
\end{align*}

B1-B4 clarify the earlier back conditions for \( R_i \) as follows.

**Fact 3.3** (Back Conditions for \( R_i \)). For any possibility frames \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{F}' \) and function \( h : \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{F}' \):

1. B1 implies B2, which implies B3, which implies B4;
2. the back condition of \( p \)-morphisms is equivalent to B1;

3. taut \( R \)-back is equivalent to \( R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq \downarrow h[R_i(x)] \), which is equivalent to B2;

4. \( R \)-back is equivalent to \( \downarrow R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq \text{cl}(\downarrow h[R_i(x)]) \), which is equivalent to B3;

5. B4 implies the right-to-left direction of \( R \)-matching;

6. if \( F' \) is a full possibility frame, then B4 is equivalent to the right-to-left direction of \( R \)-matching.

\textbf{Proof.} Part 1 is immediate from the monotonicity property of the operators \( \downarrow \), \( \text{cl} \), and \( \text{int} \). Parts 2-4 are easy to verify by inspection of the conditions.

For part 5, to establish \( R \)-matching, suppose that for an \( X' \in P' \), \( R_i(x) \subseteq h^{-1}[X'] \), i.e., \( h[R_i(x)] \subseteq X' \). We must show that \( R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq X' \). From \( h[R_i(x)] \subseteq X' \), we have \( \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow h[R_i(x)])) \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow X')) \), and since \( X' \in P' \subseteq \text{RO}(S', \sqsubseteq') \), we have \( X' = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow X')) \), so \( \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow h[R_i(x)])) \subseteq X' \). Then since \( R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow R'_i(h(x)))) \), we have \( R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq X' \) by B4.

For part 6, we assume that for any \( X' \in P' \), \( h[R_i(x)] \subseteq X' \) implies \( R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq X' \). By Fact 2.17.2, \( h[R_i(x)] \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow h[R_i(x)])) \in \text{RO}(S', \sqsubseteq') \), so since \( F' \) is full, we have \( \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow h[R_i(x)])) \in P' \), so we can use our previous assumption with \( X' = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow X')) \) to conclude that \( R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow h[R_i(x)])) \), which implies that \( \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow R'_i(h(x)))) \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow h[R_i(x)])) \), which is B4.

Thus, \( p \)-morphisms use B1, taut possibility morphisms use B2, and strict possibility morphisms use B3. We could also give a special name to morphisms satisfying B4, but we will not need such weaker conditions here.

Observe how the other conditions on strict possibility morphisms imply the other \textit{matching} conditions on possibility morphisms, with Fact 3.4.4 following from Fact 3.3.

\textbf{Fact 3.4 (Strict Conditions & Matching Conditions).} For any possibility frames \( F \) and \( F' \) and \( h: F \rightarrow F' \):

1. \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth implies the left-to-right direction of \( \sqsubseteq \)-matching;

2. \( \sqsubseteq \)-back implies the right-to-left direction of \( \sqsubseteq \)-matching;

3. \( R \)-forth implies the left-to-right direction of \( R \)-matching;

4. \( R \)-back implies the right-to-left direction of \( R \)-matching.

An analysis similar to that of the back conditions for \( R_i \) above applies to back conditions for \( \sqsubseteq \). Note that our \( \sqsubseteq \)-back is equivalent to \( \downarrow h(x) \subseteq \text{cl}(h[\downarrow x]) \), which is equivalent to \( \text{cl}(\downarrow h(x)) \subseteq \text{cl}(h[\downarrow x]) \). We can also give a similar analysis of weaker \textit{forth} conditions for \( R_i \) and \( \sqsubseteq \) that still imply the left-to-right directions of \( \sqsubseteq \)-matching and \( R \)-matching, but we will not need such weaker conditions here.

As in the case of \( p \)-morphisms mentioned at the beginning of this section, so too in the case of strict possibility morphisms, the \textit{pull back} condition comes for free for \textit{full} frames, as in Fact 3.5.

\textbf{Fact 3.5 (pull back to Full Frames).} If \( F \) is a full possibility frame, \( F' \) is any possibility frame, and \( h: F \rightarrow F' \) satisfies \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth and \( \sqsubseteq \)-back, then \( h \) satisfies pull back.

\textbf{Proof.} Where \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) and \( F' = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle \), suppose \( X' \in P' \), so \( X' \) satisfies persistence and refinability with respect to \( \langle S', \sqsubseteq' \rangle \). Then we will show that \( h^{-1}[X] \) satisfies persistence and refinability with respect to \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \), so \( h^{-1}[X] \in \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) = P \) by the assumption that \( F \) is full.

For persistence, suppose \( x \in h^{-1}[X'] \), so \( h(x) \in X' \), and \( y \sqsubseteq x \). Then by \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth, \( h(y) \sqsubseteq h(x) \), so \( h(x) \in X' \) implies \( h(y) \in X' \) by persistence for \( X' \), so \( y \in h^{-1}[X'] \) as desired. For refinability, suppose
x \not\in h^{-1}[X]'$, so $h(x) \not\in X'$. Then by refinability for $X'$, there is a $y' \subseteq h(x)$ such that (i) for all $z' \subseteq y'$, $z' \not\subseteq X'$. By $\subseteq$-back, $y' \subseteq h(x)$ implies there is a $y \subseteq x$ such that $h(y) \subseteq y'$. Now we claim that for all $z \subseteq y$, $z \not\in h^{-1}[X]'$. For if $z \subseteq y$, then $h(z) \subseteq h(y)$ by $\subseteq$-forth, which with $h(y) \subseteq y'$ and (i) implies $h(z) \not\in X'$, so $z \not\in h^{-1}[X]'$. Thus, $x \not\in h^{-1}[X]'$ implies $\exists y \subseteq x \forall z \subseteq y$: $z \not\in h^{-1}[X]'$ as desired. \hfill \Box

We leave it as an exercise to the reader to check the following observation.

**Observation 3.6** (P-morphisms). Possibility morphisms between Kripke frames/models, regarded as possibility frames/models as in Examples 2.6 and 2.22, are exactly the standard p-morphisms between Kripke frames/models reviewed above. Moreover, strictly possibility morphisms between (general) world frames/models are exactly the standard p-morphisms between world frames/models reviewed above.

Finally, we note several aspects of our definition of strict embeddings. First, strong embeddings are a special case of robust possibility morphisms, since injectivity gives $h^{-1}[h[X]] = X$. Second, surjective strong embeddings are equivalent to isomorphisms. Third, without surjectivity, strong embeddings are not guaranteed to be strict or taut (i.e., to satisfy $\subseteq$-back, $R$-back, or taut $R$-back), so we may speak of, e.g., taut strong embeddings. In §5.7, we consider the kind of subframes that are images of taut strong embeddings.

Now the following result demonstrates the importance of Definition 3.2.

**Proposition 3.7** (Preservation by Possibility Morphisms). For any possibility models $\mathcal{M}$ and $\mathcal{M}'$ and possibility frames $\mathcal{F}$ and $\mathcal{F}'$:

1. if there is a possibility morphism $h$ from $\mathcal{M}$ to $\mathcal{M}'$, then for all $x \in \mathcal{M}$ and $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}', h(x) \models \varphi$;

2. if there is a dense possibility morphism from $\mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F}'$, then for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\mathcal{F} \models \varphi$ implies $\mathcal{F}' \models \varphi$;

3. if there is a robust possibility morphism from $\mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F}'$, then for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\mathcal{F}' \models \varphi$ implies $\mathcal{F} \models \varphi$.

**Proof.** Part 1 is by induction on $\varphi$. The atomic case is by Definition 3.2.14; the $\wedge$ case is routine; and since $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ is equivalent to $\neg(\varphi \wedge \neg \psi)$ over possibility frames (Proposition 2.14), we do not need a $\rightarrow$ case.

For the $\neg$ and $\Box$ cases, the inductive hypothesis gives us $h^{-1}[\models \varphi] = \models \varphi$. Thus, by $\subseteq$-matching with $P'$ replaced by $\subseteq$-back, $\Box \models h(x) \cap \models \varphi = \emptyset$ iff $\Box \models \varphi = \emptyset$, so $\mathcal{M}', h(x) \models \neg \varphi$ implies $\mathcal{M}, x \models \neg \varphi$. Similarly, by $R$-matching, $R(h(x)) \subseteq \models \varphi$ iff $R(x) \subseteq \models \varphi$, so $\mathcal{M}', h(x) \models \Box \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}, x \models \Box \varphi$. For part 2, if $\mathcal{F} \not\models \varphi$, then there is a possibility model $\mathcal{M}' = (\mathcal{F}', \pi')$ and $y' \in \mathcal{M}'$ such that $\mathcal{M}, y' \not\models \varphi$, in which case Refinability implies that there is an $x' \subseteq y'$ such that $\mathcal{M}', x' \not\models \neg \varphi$. Given our morphism $h$ from $\mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F}'$, define a valuation $\pi$ on $\mathcal{F}$ by $\pi(p) = h^{-1}[\pi'(p)]$. Then $h^{-1}[\pi'(p)] \in P$ by pull back, so $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{F}, \pi)$ is an admissible model based on $\mathcal{F}$, and $h$ is a possibility morphism from $\mathcal{M}$ to $\mathcal{M'}$ according to Definition 3.2.14. Finally, since $h$ is a dense possibility morphism from $\mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F}'$, there is an $x \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $h(x) \subseteq x'$, which implies $\mathcal{M}, x' \not\models \neg \varphi$ implies $\mathcal{M}', h(x) \not\models \varphi$, which with part 1 implies $\mathcal{M}, x \not\models \varphi$, so $\mathcal{F} \not\models \varphi$. For part 3, suppose $\mathcal{F} \not\models \varphi$, so there is a possibility model $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{F}, \pi)$ and $x \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $\mathcal{M}, x \not\models \varphi$. Since our morphism $h$ from $\mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F'}$ is robust, we can choose for each $p \in \Phi$ a $\pi'(p) \in P'$ such that $h[\pi(p)] = h[S] \cap \pi'(p)$. Let this define a valuation $\pi'$ on $\mathcal{F}'$, so $\mathcal{M}' = (\mathcal{F}', \pi')$ is an admissible model based on $\mathcal{F}'$. Then for all $y \in S$, from the equation $h[\pi(p)] = h[S] \cap \pi'(p)$ we have that $y \in \pi(p)$ implies $h(y) \in \pi'(p)$; and from the same equation we have that $h(y) \in \pi'(p)$ implies $h(y) \in h[\pi'(p)]$, which with $\pi(p) = h^{-1}[h[\pi(p)]]$ from the robustness of $h$ implies $y \in \pi(p)$. Thus, $h$ is a possibility morphism from $\mathcal{M}$ to $\mathcal{M}'$ according to Definition 3.2.14, in which case $\mathcal{M}, x \not\models \varphi$ and part 1 we have $\mathcal{M}', h(x) \not\models \varphi$, so $\mathcal{F} \not\models \varphi$. \hfill \Box

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We will use Proposition 3.7 in §4 and §5 to show that various frame constructions preserve validity and non-validity. We have already seen one frame construction that preserves validity and non-validity, namely the construction of $F^\square$ from $F$ in Proposition 2.37. The proof of Proposition 2.37.4 gives us the following.

**Fact 3.8** ($F^\square$ Construction). For any possibility frame $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$, the identity map on $S$ is a surjective robust possibility morphism from $F$ to the $F^\square = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i^\square\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ in Proposition 2.37.

A surjective robust morphism is also a dense and robust morphism, so by Proposition 3.7, $F \models \varphi$ iff $F^\square \models \varphi$.

An important fact about our morphisms is that they compose to form morphisms of the same type.

**Fact 3.9** (Composition of Morphisms). For any possibility frames $F$, $G$, and $H$ and functions $f : F \to G$ and $g : G \to H$:

1. if $f$ and $g$ are possibility morphisms, then $g \circ f$ is a possibility morphism;
2. if $f$ and $g$ are strict possibility morphisms, then $g \circ f$ is a strict possibility morphism;
3. if $f$ and $g$ are taut possibility morphisms, then $g \circ f$ is a taut possibility morphism.

**Proof.** For part 1, the proofs that $g \circ f$ satisfies \( \sqsubseteq \)-matching and $R$-matching follow exactly the same pattern, so we include only the latter. We must show that (a) $\forall x^F \in F \forall X^H \in P^H : R^H_i(g(f(x^F)))) \sqsubseteq X^H$ iff $R^F_i(x^F) \sqsubseteq (g \circ f)^{-1}[X^H]$. By $R$-matching for $g$, we have that $\forall x^G \in G \forall X^H \in P^H : R^H_i(g(x^G))) \sqsubseteq X^H$ iff $R^G_i(x^G) \sqsubseteq g^{-1}[X^H]$. Thus, we have (b) $\forall x^F \in F \forall X^H \in P^H : R^H_i(g(f(x^F)))) \sqsubseteq X^H$ iff $R^F_i(f(x^F)) \sqsubseteq g^{-1}[X^H]$. By pull back for $g$, $X^H \in P^H$ implies $g^{-1}[X^H] \in P^G$, so by $R$-matching for $f$, we have (c) $R^F_i(f(x^F))) \sqsubseteq g^{-1}[X^H]$ iff $R^G_i(x^F) \sqsubseteq g^{-1}[X^H] = (g \circ f)^{-1}[X^H]$. Together (b) and (c) imply (a).

For part 2, that \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth (resp. $R$-forth) for $f$ and $g$ implies \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth (resp. $R$-forth) for $g \circ f$ is obvious. To show that $g \circ f$ satisfies \( \sqsubseteq \)-back, we must show that if $y^H \sqsubseteq^H g(f(x))$, then there is a $y^F \in F$ such that $y^F \sqsubseteq^F x$ and $g(f(y^F)) \sqsubseteq^H y^H$. So suppose $y^H \sqsubseteq^H g(f(x))$. Then by \( \sqsubseteq \)-back for $g$, there is a $y^G \in G$ such that $y^G \sqsubseteq^G f(x)$ and $g(y^G) \sqsubseteq^H y^H$. Given $y^G \sqsubseteq^G f(x)$ and \( \sqsubseteq \)-back for $f$, there is a $y^F \in F$ such that $y^F \sqsubseteq^F x$ and $f(y^F) \sqsubseteq^G y^G$. By \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth for $g$, $f(y^F) \sqsubseteq^G y^G$ implies $g(f(y^F)) \sqsubseteq^H g(y^G)$, which with $g(y^G) \sqsubseteq^H y^H$ implies $g(f(y^F)) \sqsubseteq^H y^H$, which with $y^F \sqsubseteq^F x$ means that $y^F$ is our desired witness.

Next, to show that $g \circ f$ satisfies $R$-back, we must show that if $g(f(x))R^H_i y^H$ and $z^H \sqsubseteq^H y^H$, then there is a $y^F \in F$ such that $xR^F_i y^F$ and $g(f(y^F)) \sqsubseteq^H z^H$. So suppose $g(f(x))R^H_i y^H$ and $z^H \sqsubseteq^H y^H$. Then by $R$-back for $g$, there is $y^G \in G$ such that $f(x)R^G_i y^G$ and $g(y^G) \sqsubseteq^H z^H$. Since $g(y^G) \sqsubseteq^H z^H$, there is a $u^H \in H$ such that $u^H \sqsubseteq^H y^G$ and $u^H \sqsubseteq^H z^H$. By \( \sqsubseteq \)-back for $g$, $u^H \sqsubseteq^H g(y^G)$ implies that there is a $u^G \in G$ such that $u^G \sqsubseteq^G y^G$ and $g(u^G) \sqsubseteq^H u^H$. Given $f(x)R^F_i y^F$ and $u^G \sqsubseteq^G y^G$, $R$-back for $f$ implies that there is a $y^F \in F$ such that $xR^F_i y^F$ and $g(y^F) \sqsubseteq^H y^G$. Thus, there is a $v^G \in G$ such that $v^G \sqsubseteq^G f(y^F)$ and $v^G \sqsubseteq^G u^G$, which with \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth for $g$ implies $g(v^G) \sqsubseteq^H g(f(y^F))$ and $g(v^G) \sqsubseteq^H g(u^G)$, which with $g(u^G) \sqsubseteq^H u^H \sqsubseteq^H z^H$ from above gives us $g(f(y^F)) \sqsubseteq^H z^H$. This completes the proof of part 2.

For part 3, to show that $g \circ f$ satisfies taut $R$-back, follow the same pattern as for \( \sqsubseteq \)-back in part 2, only using taut $R$-back instead of \( \sqsubseteq \)-back for $g$ and then $f$, followed by \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth for $g$ as before.

The importance of Fact 3.9 is that it allows us to think in categorical terms as follows.

**Remark 3.10** (Categories). By Fact 3.9, any class $F$ of possibility frames together with all possibility morphisms (resp. strict possibility morphisms, taut possibility morphisms) between frames in $F$ constitutes a category, where the objects are the frames, the morphisms are the possibility morphisms, the identity morphism for each frame is the identity function, and composition of morphisms is functional composition.
This is the categorical perspective we will adopt for the duality theory of §5. All of the concepts from category theory that we will use can be found in, e.g., §§3-4 of Adámek et al. 2009.

4 Special Classes of Frames

In this section, we survey classes of possibility frames that are important for understanding the relations between possibility frames and world frames, and between possibility frames and Boolean algebras with operators. Here is a brief statement of the importance of each class of frames to be considered:

- **separative** frames (§4.1) – these are important because *separativity* simplifies reasoning about frames, without loss of generality, and is related to the *tight* frames of §4.5 and the *principal* frames of §4.6.

- **atomic** frames (§4.2) – these are important because any atomic (full) possibility frame can be easily transformed into a semantically equivalent (full) *world* frame.

- **extended** frames (§4.3) – these frames have a distinguished minimum element $\bot$, which can be useful when working with functional frames as in §4.4 or principal frames as in §4.6.

- **functional** frames (§4.4) – these frames support the functional semantics for $\Box_i$ mentioned in §1 (cf. Holliday 2014), where $\mathcal{M}, x \models \Box_i \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}, f_i(x) \models \varphi$, and they are important in the duality theory relating possibility frames and Boolean algebras with operators that admit residuals (T-BAOs) in §5.

- **tight** frames (§4.5) – the notion of tightness will be used in characterizing the *rich* frames of §4.7 and the *filter-descriptive* frames of §5.5, both of which are central to the duality theory of §5.

- **principal** frames (§4.6) – these will be important in the duality theory relating possibility frames and *completely additive* Boolean algebras with operators (V-BAOs) in §5.2.

- **rich** frames (§4.7) – this subclass of principal frames will be important in providing a categorical duality with *complete* and *completely additive* Boolean algebras with operators (CV-BAOs) in §5.3.

For most of these frame classes, the *powerset possibilization* of a Kripke frame (Example 2.9) will provide an example of a frame in the class, but we wish to abstract away from some properties of such powerset possibilizations—especially their atomicity in light of §4.2. A diagram illustrating the relations between some of the above frame classes will appear in Figure 18 at the end of our tour in §4.7.

Recall that we have already encountered some special classes of possibility frames in §2.3, namely *strong* possibility frames (Definition 2.36) and *standard* possibility frames (Definition 2.41). These will reappear in §§4.4-4.7 and when we study correspondence theory for possibility semantics in §6.3.

4.1 Separative Frames

The following relation on states behaves much like the refinement relation $\sqsubseteq$ in possibility frames.

**Definition 4.1 ($\sqsubseteq_s$).** Given a partial-state frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P_i \rangle$ and $x, y \in S$, define

$$x \sqsubseteq_s y \text{ iff } \forall x' \sqsubseteq x : x' \not\sqsubseteq y,$$

i.e., $x \sqsubseteq_s y$ iff $\forall x' \sqsubseteq x \exists x'' \sqsubseteq x' : x'' \not\sqsubseteq y$. Let $x \sim_s y$ iff $x \sqsubseteq_s y$ and $y \sqsubseteq_s x$.

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If \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) is such that every state is refined by a minimal point (see Definition 4.13), then \(x \sqsubseteq_s y\) iff every minimal point that refines \(x\) also refines \(y\). Note that \(\sqsubseteq_s\) is a preorder,\(^{19}\) but not necessarily antisymmetric.

We first observe that sets of possibilities satisfying persistence and refinability are closed under \(\sqsubseteq_s\).

**Fact 4.2 (\(\sqsubseteq_s\)-persistence).** Given a poset \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\), if \(X \in \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)\) (recall Notation 2.19), then \(X\) satisfies \(\sqsubseteq_s\)-persistence: if \(x \in X\) and \(x' \sqsubseteq_s x\), then \(x' \in X\).

**Proof.** Suppose that \(x' \not\sqsubseteq_s x\). If \(x' \not\in X\), then by refinability there is a \(y' \subseteq x'\) such that (i) for all \(y'' \subseteq y'\), \(y'' \not\in X\). By Definition 4.1, together \(x' \sqsubseteq_s x\) and \(y' \subseteq x'\) imply that there is a \(y'' \subseteq y'\) such that \(y'' \subseteq x\). By (i), \(y'' \subseteq y'\) implies \(y'' \not\in X\), with \(y'' \subseteq x\) and persistence implies \(x \not\in X\).

Next, we observe that taking the \(\sqsubseteq_s\)-successors of a given possibility is a way of generating a set of possibilities that satisfies persistence and refinability.

**Fact 4.3 (\(\sqsubseteq_s\)-generated Propositions).** Given a poset \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) and \(x \in S\), \(\{x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s x\}\) satisfies persistence.

**Proof.** Since \(x' \subseteq x\) implies \(x' \subseteq_s x\), the set \(\{x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s x\}\) satisfies persistence.

For refinability, suppose \(y \notin \{x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s x\}\), so \(y \not\sqsubseteq_s x\), so there is a \(y' \subseteq y\) such that for all \(y'' \subseteq y'\), \(y'' \not\subseteq x\). It follows that for all \(y'' \subseteq y'\) and \(y''' \subseteq y'', y''' \not\subseteq x\), so \(y'' \not\subseteq x\) and hence \(y'' \not\in \{x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s x\}\).

Thus, \(\{x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s x\}\) satisfies refinability.

Finally, we observe that \(\sqsubseteq_s\) behaves like \(\sqsubseteq\) with respect to the forcing relation in possibility models.

**Fact 4.4 (Forcing and \(\sqsubseteq_s\)).** For any possibility model \(M = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle\), \(x, x' \in S\), and \(\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)\):

1. \(\sqsubseteq_s\)-Persistence: if \(M, x \Vdash \varphi\) and \(x' \sqsubseteq_s x\), then \(M, x' \Vdash \varphi\);
2. \(\sqsubseteq_s\)-Refinability: if \(M, x \nvDash \varphi\), then \(\exists x' \subseteq_s x: M, x' \Vdash \neg \varphi\);
3. \(\sqsubseteq_s\)-Negation: \(M, x \Vdash \neg \varphi\) iff \(\forall x' \subseteq_s x: M, x' \nvDash \varphi\);
4. \(\sqsubseteq_s\)-Duplication: if \(x \simeq_s x'\), then \(M, x \Vdash \varphi\) iff \(M, x' \Vdash \varphi\).

**Proof.** By Fact 2.5 and Definition 2.21, the truth set of any formula in a possibility model satisfies persistence and refinability. Thus, part 1 follows from Fact 4.2.

Part 2 is immediate from refinability and the fact that \(x' \subseteq x\) implies \(x' \subseteq_s x\).

For part 3, the right-to-left direction holds because \(x' \subseteq x\) implies \(x' \subseteq_s x\). For the left-to-right direction, suppose there is a \(x' \subseteq_s x\) with \(M, x' \Vdash \varphi\). Since \(x' \subseteq_s x\), there is a \(x'' \subseteq x'\) with \(x'' \subseteq x\). By persistence, \(M, x'' \Vdash \varphi\) and \(x'' \subseteq x'\) together imply \(M, x'' \Vdash \varphi\), which with \(x'' \subseteq x\) implies \(M, x \nvDash \neg \varphi\).

Part 4 follows from part 1.

In light of the similarities between \(\sqsubseteq_s\) and \(\sqsubseteq\) observed above, it is natural to consider frames in which \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) is, in the terminology of set-theoretic forcing (e.g., Jech 1986, p. 4), a separative poset.

**Definition 4.5 (Separative Frames).** A poset \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) is separative iff \(\sqsubseteq = \sqsubseteq_s\), i.e., \(x \sqsubseteq y\) iff \(\forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x': x'' \subseteq y\). A partial-state frame \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\) is separative iff \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) is separative.

Note that every world frame and powerset possibilization thereof (Example 2.9) is separative.

Separativity can be characterized in other useful ways.

\(^{19}\)For transitivity, suppose \(x_1 \sqsubseteq_s x_2\) and \(x_2 \sqsubseteq_s x_3\). Toward showing \(x_1 \sqsubseteq_s x_3\), suppose \(z_1 \sqsubseteq x_1\). Then given \(x_1 \sqsubseteq_s x_2\), there is some \(z_1' \sqsubseteq z_1\) such that \(z_1' \sqsubseteq x_2\). Then given \(x_2 \sqsubseteq_s x_3\), there is some \(z_2' \sqsubseteq z_1'\) such that \(z_2' \sqsubseteq x_3\). Given \(z_2' \sqsubseteq z_1' \subseteq z_1\), by the transitivity of \(\sqsubseteq\) we have \(z_2' \subseteq x_3\). Thus, for any \(z_1 \sqsubseteq x_1\) there is a \(z_2' \subseteq x_3\) such that \(z_2' \subseteq x_3\), which implies \(x_1 \sqsubseteq_s x_3\).
Fact 4.6 (Separativity). For any poset \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\):

1. \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) is separative iff for all \(y \in S\), \(\downarrow y\) satisfies refinability, so \(\downarrow y \in \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)\);

2. if \(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle\) is separative, then for any \(x, y \in S\), if \(x \not\sqsubseteq y\), then \(x\) and \(y\) are distinguishable by a set in \(\text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)\): \(\downarrow y \in \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)\) and \(y \in \downarrow y\) but \(x \not\in \downarrow y\).

Proof. For part 1, refinability for \(\downarrow y\) says that if \(\forall x' \sqsubseteq x \exists x'' \sqsubseteq x': x'' \in \downarrow y\), then \(x \in \downarrow y\). But this is just to say that if \(\forall x' \sqsubseteq x \exists x'' \sqsubseteq x': x'' \sqsubseteq y\), then \(x \sqsubseteq y\), which is the non-trivial direction of separativity.

Part 2 is immediate from part 1. \(\square\)

Recall the notion of differentiation of general frames [Blackburn et al., 2001, Def. 5.6].

Definition 4.7 (Differentiated Frames). A partial-state frame \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\) is differentiated iff for all \(x, y \in S\): \(x = y\) iff for all \(Z \in P\), \(x \in Z\) iff \(y \in Z\).

By Fact 4.6.2, we have the following.

Fact 4.8 (Separativity and Differentiation). Every separative full possibility frame is differentiated.

Another useful fact concerns possibility morphisms to separative frames.

Fact 4.9 (Separativity and Morphisms). For any possibility frames \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\) and \(F' = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle\) and possibility morphism \(h: S \to S'\):

1. if for every \(x \in S\), \(\downarrow' h(x) \in P'\), then \(h\) is such that for all \(x, y \in S\), \(y \sqsubseteq x\) implies \(h(y) \sqsubseteq h(x)\);

2. if \(F'\) is a full separative frame, then \(h\) is such that for all \(x, y \in S\), \(y \sqsubseteq x\) implies \(h(y) \sqsubseteq h(x)\).

Proof. For part 1, we use the pull back property of possibility morphisms: for any \(X' \in P'\), \(h^{-1}[X'] \in P\). Suppose that for every \(x \in S\), \(\downarrow' h(x) \in P'\), so \(h^{-1}[\downarrow' h(x)] \subseteq P\) by pull back, which means that \(h^{-1}[\downarrow' h(x)] \subseteq \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)\) since \(F\) is a possibility frame. Then by Fact 4.2, together \(x \in h^{-1}[\downarrow' h(x)]\) and \(y \sqsubseteq x\) imply \(y \in h^{-1}[\downarrow' h(x)]\), which means \(h(y) \in \downarrow' h(x)\), so \(h(y) \sqsubseteq h(x)\). Thus, \(y \sqsubseteq x\) implies \(h(y) \sqsubseteq h(x)\).

Part 2 follows from part 1 and Fact 4.6.1. \(\square\)

It will follow from Theorem 5.26 in §5.3 that for any possibility frame \(F\), there is a separative possibility frame \(\mathcal{F}'\) and a dense and robust possibility morphism from \(\mathcal{F}\) to \(\mathcal{F}'\), so by Proposition 3.7, \(\mathcal{F}\) and \(\mathcal{F}'\) validate the same formulas. But we can also prove the following stronger result more directly.

Proposition 4.10 (Separative Quotient). For every possibility frame \(\mathcal{F}\), there is a separative possibility frame \(\mathcal{F}^\sim\) (such that if \(\mathcal{F}\) is full, so is \(\mathcal{F}^\sim\)) and a surjective robust possibility morphism from \(\mathcal{F}\) to \(\mathcal{F}^\sim\). Thus, by Proposition 3.7, for all \(\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)\), \(\mathcal{F} \vdash \varphi\) iff \(\mathcal{F}^\sim \vdash \varphi\).

Proof. See Appendix §B.2. The claim also follows from Proposition 4.34 together with Fact 4.32.1. \(\square\)

Since the construction of strong possibility frames from full possibility frames for Proposition 2.37 preserves separativity, and the composition of two surjective robust possibility morphisms is also a surjective robust possibility morphism, from Propositions 4.10 and 2.37 and Fact 3.8 we have the following.

Corollary 4.11 (Separative Strong Frames). For any full possibility frame \(\mathcal{F}\), there is a separative, strong, and full possibility frame \((\mathcal{F}^\sim)^\square\) and a surjective robust possibility morphism from \(\mathcal{F}\) to \((\mathcal{F}^\sim)^\square\).
4.2 Atomic Frames

World frames and their powerset possibilizations (Examples 2.6 and 2.9) are examples of what we will call atomic possibility frames in Definition 4.13, deviating slightly from the standard definition for posets.

**Definition 4.12** (Atomic Poset). Given a poset $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$, an atom in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ is an $a \in S$ that is not the minimum of $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ (if there is one) such that for all $x \in S$, if $x \sqsubseteq a$, then either $x = a$ or $x$ is the minimum of $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$. A poset is atomic iff for every non-minimum element $x \in S$, there is an atom $a$ such that $a \sqsubseteq x$. ♦

This it not quite the notion we want for possibility frames (though it would be fine for the extended frames of §4.3), so we define atomic possibility frames a bit differently.

**Definition 4.13** (Minimal Points and Atomic Frames). A minimal point in a poset $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ is an $a \in S$ such that for all $x \in S$, if $x \sqsubseteq a$, then $x = a$. Let $\min(S, \sqsubseteq)$ be the set of minimal points in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$. A partial-state frame $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ is atomic iff for every $x \in S$, there is an $a \in \min(S, \sqsubseteq)$ such that $a \sqsubseteq x$. ♦

This notion of atomic is the flipped version of what is called the McKinsey condition [Chagrov and Zakharyaschev, 1997, p. 82], the condition that for all $x \in S$, there is a $y \in \max(S, \sqsubseteq)$ such that $x \sqsubseteq y$.

Note that the condition of atomicity concerns only the poset $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$, not the set $P$ of admissible propositions. Following standard terminology [Blackburn et al., 2001, Def. 5.65], we could say that an atomic possibility frame is discrete iff for each of its minimal points $a$, $\{a\} \in P$.

Using the following construction (cf. Venema 1998), we will show in Proposition 4.15 that atomic possibility frames are semantically equivalent to world frames, and atomic full possibility frames are semantically equivalent to full world frames (Kripke frames).

**Definition 4.14** (Atom Structure). Given an atomic possibility frame $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ and possibility model $M = \langle F, \pi \rangle$, define $\At F = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle$ and $\At M = \langle \At F, \pi' \rangle$ by:

1. $S' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq)$ and $\sqsubseteq'$ is the identity relation on $S'$;
2. for all $a, b \in S'$, $aR'_ib$ iff $\exists x \in S$: $aR_ix$ and $b \sqsubseteq x$;
3. $P' = \{\min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X \mid X \in P\}$;
4. for all $a \in S'$, $a \in \pi'(p)$ iff $a \in \pi(p)$.

Note that if $F$ satisfies $R\text{-down}$ (§2.3), then the definition of $R'_i$ is equivalent to: $aR'_ib$ iff $aR_ib$.

**Proposition 4.15** (From Atomic Possibility Frames to World Frames). For any atomic possibility frame $F$:

1. $\At F$ is a world frame as in Example 2.6;
2. if $F$ is a full possibility frame, then $\At F$ is a full world frame (Kripke frame) as in Example 2.6;
3. the identity map on $\At F$ is a dense strong embedding of $\At F$ into $F$. Thus, by Proposition 3.7, for all $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $\At F \models \varphi$ iff $F \models \varphi$.

**Proof.** For part 1, the only fact to check is that $P'$ satisfies the closure conditions of a (general) world frame as in Definition A.5, i.e., that it is closed under intersection, complement, and $\Box'$. Since $P$ is closed under intersection, $P'$ is clearly closed under intersection as well. For the other two closure conditions, suppose $X' \in P'$, so there is an $X \in P$ such that $X' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X$. Since $X \in P$, it follows by Definition 2.1 and
Remark 2.15 that \( \text{int}(S \setminus X) = \{ x \in S \mid \downarrow x \cap X = \emptyset \} \in P \). Now we claim that \( S' \setminus X' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \text{int}(S \setminus X) \).

For the right-to-left inclusion, if \( a \in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \text{int}(S \setminus X) \), then \( a \in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \) we have \( a \not\in S' \) and from \( a \in \text{int}(S \setminus X) \) we have \( a \not\in X \), so \( a \not\in X' \). From left to right, if \( a \in S' \setminus X' \), then \( a \in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \) but \( a \not\in X \), which together imply \( a \in \text{int}(S \setminus X) \), so \( a \in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \text{int}(S \setminus X) \). Thus, \( S' \setminus X' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \text{int}(S \setminus X) \), so \( P' \) is closed under complement because \( P \) is closed under taking the interior of the complement.

Finally, we claim that \( \Box' X' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \Box X \). For the right-to-left inclusion, if \( a \not\in \Box' X' \), then there is a \( b \in S' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \) such that \( aR'_b b \not\in X' \). From \( b \in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \) and \( b \not\in X' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X \), it follows that \( b \not\in X \). Since \( aR'_b b \), there is an \( x \in S \) such that \( aR_x b \) and \( b \subseteq x \). By persistence for \( X \), together \( b \not\in X \) and \( b \subseteq x \) imply \( x \not\in X \), which with \( aR_x b \) implies \( a \not\in \Box X \). For the left-to-right inclusion, suppose \( x \not\in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \Box X \). If \( x \not\in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \), then \( x \not\in S' \), so \( x \not\in \Box' X \). So suppose \( x \in \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \) but \( x \not\in \Box X \), so there is a \( y \) such that \( xR_y y \) and \( y \not\in X \). Then by refinability for \( X \), there is a minimal \( b \subseteq y \) such that \( b \not\in X \) and hence \( b \not\in X' \). From \( xR_y y \) and \( b \subseteq y \), we have \( xR'_y b \), which with \( b \not\in X' \) implies \( x \not\in \Box' X' \). Thus, we have shown that \( \Box' X' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \Box X \), so \( P' \) is closed under \( \Box' \) because \( P \) is closed under \( \Box \).

For part 2, every set of minimal points in \( F \) satisfies persistence and refinability, so if \( F \) is full, then every set of minimal points in \( F \) belongs to \( P \) and therefore to \( P' \) by Definition 4.14.3, so \( \mathcal{U} F \) is full.

For part 3, since \( \Box' \) and \( R'_b \) are the restrictions of \( \sqsubseteq \) and \( R_b \) to \( S' \), the identity map \( h \) on \( S' \) satisfies the requirements of a strong embedding that \( a \sqsubseteq b \) iff \( h(a) \sqsubseteq h(b) \), and \( aR'_b a \) iff \( h(a)R_b h(b) \). Moreover, since \( \sqsubseteq' \) is the identity relation, \( h \) satisfies \( \Box' \)-back and hence \( \Box' \)-matching. It only remains to show:

- **R-matching** \( \forall a \in S' \forall X \in P: R_i(h(a)) \subseteq X \) iff \( R'_i(a) \subseteq h^{-1}[X] \);
- **pull back** \( \forall X \in P: h^{-1}[X] \in P' \);
- **embedding** \( \forall X' \in P' \exists X \in P: h[X'] = h[S'] \cap X \);
- **dense** \( \forall x \in S \exists a \in S': h(a) \subseteq x \).

For pull back, for any \( X \in P \), \( h^{-1}[X] = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X \in P' \). For R-matching, since \( h(a) = a \) and \( h^{-1}[X] = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X \), we must show that \( R_i(a) \subseteq X \) iff \( R'_i(a) \subseteq \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X \). This follows from the fact, established in the proof of part 1, that \( \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap \Box X = \Box(\min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X) \).

Finally, from the facts that \( h \) is the identity map and \( S' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \), the embedding condition is just that for all \( X' \in P' \) there is an \( X \in P \) such that \( X' = \min(S, \sqsubseteq) \cap X \), which is immediate from the definition of \( P' \) in Definition 4.14.3. From the same facts, the dense condition is just the condition that \( F \) is atomic.

Although atomic possibility frames and their atom structures are semantically equivalent by Proposition 4.15.3, many non-isomorphic atomic possibility frames can have the same atom structure, so we do lose information when going from an atomic possibility frame to its atom structure, in a way that we do not lose information when going from a world frame to its powerset possibilization. The following proposition records the relationship between atom structures and possiblizations.

**Proposition 4.16 (Atom Structures and Powerset Possibilizations).** For any world frame \( \mathfrak{F} \) (regarded as a possibility frame as in Examples 2.6 and 2.22) and atomic possibility frame \( F \):

1. \( \mathcal{U}(\mathfrak{F}) \) is isomorphic to \( \mathfrak{F} \);
2. the function \( h: F \to (\mathcal{U} F) \) defined by \( h(x) = \{ a \in \mathcal{U} F \mid a \sqsubseteq^F x \} \) is a dense and robust possibility morphism from \( F \) to \( (\mathcal{U} F) \), so by Proposition 3.7, for all \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( F \models \varphi \) iff \( (\mathcal{U} F) \models \varphi \);
3. if \( F \) is separative, then the \( h \) from part 2 is a \( \sqsubseteq \)-strong embedding of \( F \) into \( (\mathcal{U} F) \).
Proof. Part 1 is easy to check using the definitions.

For part 2, let $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$, $\mathcal{AF} = \langle S', \subseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle$, and $(\mathcal{AF})^o = \langle S'^o, \subseteq'^o, \{R'^o_i\}_{i \in I}, P'^o \rangle$. First, we show that $h$ satisfies:

- pull back: $\forall X \in P'^o: h^{-1}[X] \in P$;
- robust: $\forall X \in P: X = h^{-1}[h[X]]$ and $\exists X \in P'^o: h[X] = h[S] \cap X$.

For pull back, by definition of $(\mathcal{AF})^o$, $P'^o = \{ \downarrow X \mid X \in P' \}$, where $\downarrow X = \{ Y \in S'^o \mid Y \subseteq'^o X \} = \{ Y \subseteq \min(S, \subseteq) \mid \emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X \}$, and by definition of $\mathcal{AF}$, $P' = \{ \min(S, \subseteq) \cap X \mid X \in P \}$. So for $X \in P'^o$, there is an $X \in P$ such that (i) $X = \downarrow (\min(S, \subseteq) \cap X) = \{ Y \subseteq \min(S, \subseteq) \mid \emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X \}$. We claim that $h^{-1}[X] = X$. For the right-to-left inclusion, by persistence for $X$, if $x \notin X$, then there is a minimal point $a \subseteq x$ such that $a \notin X$, so $h(x) \notin X$, contradicting what we just showed. Thus, $x \in X$. For the right-to-left inclusion, by persistence for $X$, if $x \in X$, then for every minimal point $a \subseteq x$, $a \in X$, so $h(x) \subseteq X$, which implies $h(x) \in X$ and hence $x \notin h^{-1}[X]$. Thus, $h^{-1}[X] = X \in P$.

For robust, to show $X = h^{-1}[h[X]]$, we show that if $h(x) \in h[X]$, then $x \in X$. If $h(x) \in h[X]$, then there is an $x' \in X$ such that $h(x) = h(x')$. From $h(x) = h(x')$ we have that $x \subseteq x'$, which with $x' \in X$ implies $x \in X$ by Fact 4.2. Next, we must show that there is an $X \in P'^o$ such that $h[X] = h[S] \cap X$. Taking $X = \{ Y \subseteq \min(S, \subseteq) \mid \emptyset \neq Y \subseteq X \}$, we have $X \in P'^o$ by the unpacking of definitions above. For any $x \in X$, $h(x) \subseteq X$ by persistence for $X$, so $h(x) \in X$. Thus, $h[X] \subseteq X$. Now suppose $Y \subseteq h[S] \cap X$. Since $Y \subseteq X$, $Y \subseteq X$, and since $Y \subseteq h[S]$, there is a $y \in S$ such that $h(y) = Y$. If $y \notin X$, then by refinability for $X$ there is a minimal point $a \subseteq y$ such that $a \notin X$, so $h(y) \notin X$, contradicting the fact from the previous sentence that $h(y) = Y \subseteq X$. Thus, $y \in X$, so $Y = h(y) \in h[X]$. This shows that $h[S] \cap X \subseteq h[X]$.

Next, we show that $h$ satisfies:

- $\subseteq$-forth: if $y \subseteq x$, then $h(y) \subseteq'^o h(x)$;
- $\subseteq$-back: if $Y \subseteq'^o h(x)$, then $\exists y: y \subseteq x$ and $h(y) \subseteq'^o Y$;
- R-matching: $\forall X \in P'^o: R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq X$ iff $R_i(x) \subseteq h^{-1}[X]$;
- dense: $\forall X \in S'^o \exists x \in S$: $h(x) \subseteq'^o X$.

For $\subseteq$-forth, if $y \subseteq x$, then $h(y) \subseteq h(x)$, so $h(y) \subseteq'^o h(x)$ by the definition of $(\mathcal{AF})^o$.

For $\subseteq$-back, suppose $Y \subseteq'^o h(x)$, so $Y \subseteq h(x)$. Since every state in $(\mathcal{AF})^o$ is a nonempty set of minimal points from $\mathcal{F}$, there is a minimal point $y \in Y$. Then $Y \subseteq h(x)$ implies $y \subseteq x$, and $h(y) = \{ y \}$, so $y \in Y$ implies $h(y) \subseteq Y$ and hence $h(y) \subseteq'^o Y$.

For R-matching, suppose $R_i(x) \notin h^{-1}[X]$, so $x \notin \blacksquare h^{-1}[X]$. By pull back, $h^{-1}[X] \in P$, so $\blacksquare h^{-1}[X] \in P$. Then by refinability for $\blacksquare h^{-1}[X]$ and the fact that $\mathcal{F}$ is atomic, $x \notin \blacksquare h^{-1}[X]$ implies that there is a minimal point $a \subseteq x$ such that $a \notin \blacksquare h^{-1}[X]$, so there is a $y$ such that $aR_iy$ and $y \notin h^{-1}[X]$, so $h(y) \notin X$. Since $a \subseteq x$, $a \in h(x)$. Now we claim that $h(x)R'_i[h(y)]$, which by the definition of $(\mathcal{AF})^o$ is equivalent to $h(y) \subseteq R'_i[h(x)]$, where $R'_i$ is the accessibility relation in $\mathcal{AF}$. To prove the claim, take a $b \in h(y)$, so $b \subseteq y$. Then since $aR_iy$, it follows by the definition of $R'_i$ that $aR'_ib$, which with $a \in h(x)$ implies $b \in R'_i[h(x)]$. Hence $h(y) \subseteq R'_i[h(x)]$, so $h(x)R'_i[h(y)]$, which with $h(y) \notin X$ implies $R'_i[h(x)] \subseteq X$.

Conversely, suppose $R'_i(h(x)) \subseteq X$, so there is a $Y$ such that $h(x)R'_iY$, i.e., $Y \subseteq R'_i[h(x)]$, and $Y \notin X$. Then by refinability for $X$ and the fact that $(\mathcal{AF})^o$ is atomic, $Y \notin X$ implies that there is a minimal point $B$ in $(\mathcal{AF})^o$ such that $B \subseteq'^o Y$, i.e., $B \subseteq Y$, and $B \notin X$. That $B$ is a minimal point in $(\mathcal{AF})^o$ means that
4.23 below, we define \( B = \{ b \} \) for \( b \) in \( \mathfrak{A} \mathfrak{t} \mathcal{F} \). Now given \( Y \subseteq R'_i[h(x)] \), we have \( b \in R'_i[h(x)] \), so there is a minimal point \( a \in h(x) \), i.e., \( a \sqsubseteq x \), such that \( aR'_ib \). Since \( h(b) = B \) and \( B \not\subseteq \mathcal{X} \), \( b \not\in h^{-1}[\mathcal{X}] \), with \( a \sqsubseteq x \) and persistence for \( h^{-1}[\mathcal{X}] \) implies \( x \not\in h^{-1}[\mathcal{X}] \), so \( R_i(x) \not\subseteq h^{-1}[\mathcal{X}] \).

Finally, to show that \( h \) is dense, since every \( X \in S^\omega \) is a nonempty set of minimal points from \( \mathcal{F} \), simply take a minimal point \( x \in X \), so \( h(x) = \{ x \} \subseteq X \), which means \( h(x) \sqsubseteq^\omega X \).

For part 3, if \( \mathcal{F} \) is atomic and separative, then as noted after Definition 4.1, \( x \sqsubseteq y \) if every minimal point that refines \( x \) also refines \( y \), i.e., \( h(x) \subseteq h(y) \), which is equivalent to \( h(x) \sqsubseteq^\omega h(y) \). This implies, together with the fact from above that \( h \) is a robust possibility morphism, that \( h \) is a \( \sqsubseteq \)-strong embedding.

This proof provides an example of how our \( \sqsubseteq \)-back clause may apply when the standard back clause for a p-morphism does not, i.e., \( Y \sqsubseteq^\omega h(x) \) does not imply there is a \( y \sqsubseteq x \) such that \( h(y) = Y \), as required by a p-morphism. For if all we assume is that \( \mathcal{F} \) is atomic, there is no guarantee that for each set \( Y \) of minimal points in \( \mathcal{F} \), there is a \( y \) in \( \mathcal{F} \) such that the set of minimal points refining \( y \), our \( h(y) \) above, is exactly \( Y \).

In §4.7, we will identify the possibility frames \( \mathcal{F} \) for which \( (\mathfrak{A} \mathfrak{t} \mathcal{F})^\omega \) is isomorphic to \( \mathcal{F} \).

### 4.3 Extended Frames

When we defined the powerset possibilization of a world frame (Example 2.9), we chopped off the bottom element \( \emptyset \) of the poset \( \langle \wp(W), \sqsubseteq \rangle \). However, it would sometimes be convenient—especially when dealing with the functional frames of §4.4 or the principal frames of §4.5—to allow in our frames a distinguished minimum element \( \bot \), which may be thought of as the “impossible state.”

To be clear: a possibility frame as in Definition 2.21 is already allowed to have a minimum in its poset \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \), but such frames are somewhat uninteresting for the following reason.

**Fact 4.17** (Collapse). If a possibility model \( \mathcal{M} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle \) is such that \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) has a minimum element, then for every formula \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), either \( \| \varphi \|^\mathcal{M} = S \) or \( \| \varphi \|^\mathcal{M} = \emptyset \).

**Proof.** By Persistence, if \( \varphi \) is true anywhere in \( \mathcal{M} \), then it is true at the minimum. But then \( \varphi \) must be true everywhere, for if \( \mathcal{M}, x \not\models \varphi \), then by Refinability, there is an \( x' \sqsubseteq x \) with \( \mathcal{M}, x' \models \neg \varphi \), which contradicts the fact that \( \varphi \) is true at the minimum. (From the topological perspective of Remark 2.15, the point is that in a poset \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) with a minimum element, the only regular open sets in \( \mathcal{O}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) are \( S \) and \( \emptyset \).)

What we want to allow is a distinguished minimum \( \bot \) that does not lead to Fact 4.17.

**Definition 4.18** (Extended Possibility Frames and Models). An extended possibility frame is a tuple \( \mathcal{E} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \bot, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) where: \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is a poset with minimum \( \bot \); \( R_i \) is a binary relation on \( S \) such that \( R_i(\bot) = \{ \bot \} \) and \( xR_i\bot \) for all \( x \in S \); \( P \) is a subset of \( \wp(S) \) such that \( \bot \in \bigcap P \); and the structure \( \mathcal{E}_- = \langle S_-, \sqsubseteq_-, \{ R_i_- \}_{i \in I}, P_- \rangle \) defined as follows is a possibility frame as in Definition 2.21:

1. \( S_- = S \setminus \{ \bot \} \);
2. \( \sqsubseteq_- \) and \( R_i_- \) are the restrictions of \( \sqsubseteq \) and \( R_i \) to \( S_- \);
3. \( P_- = \{ X \setminus \{ \bot \} \mid X \in P \} \).

An extended possibility model \( \mathcal{M} \) based on \( \mathcal{E} \) is a tuple \( \mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{F}, \pi \rangle \) where \( \pi : \Phi \rightarrow P \). For Proposition 4.23 below, we define \( \pi_- : \Phi \rightarrow P_- \) by \( \pi_-(p) = \pi(p) \setminus \{ \bot \} \).

The semantics for extended models essentially ignores the impossible state \( \bot \) as follows.
Definition 4.19 (Forcing for Extended Models). Given an extended possibility model $M$, $x \in M$, and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, we define $\mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi$ as in Definition 2.3 except with a modified clause for $\neg$:

1. $\mathcal{M}, x \models \neg \varphi$ iff $\forall x' \subseteq x$: if $x' \neq \bot$, then $\mathcal{M}, x' \not\models \varphi$.

Now an easy induction shows that all formulas are true at the impossible state $\bot$, using the fact that in an extended model, every $p \in \Phi$ is true at $\bot$ given the requirement that $\bot \in \bigcap P$.

Fact 4.20 (Incoherence). For any extended possibility model $\mathcal{M}$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $\mathcal{M}, \bot \models \varphi$.

It is also easy to see that Fact 4.17 does not hold for extended possibility models.

As a natural example of an extended possibility frame, we have the following.

Example 4.21 (Extended Powerset Possibilization). Given a world frame $\mathfrak{F} = (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A)$ and a world model $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{F}, V)$, the extended powerset possibilizations of $\mathfrak{F}$ and $\mathfrak{M}$, $\mathfrak{F}_\bot = (\mathfrak{F}, \bot)$ and $\mathfrak{M}_\bot = (\mathfrak{F}, \bot, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$ and $\mathfrak{M}_\bot = (\mathfrak{F}, \bot, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$, are defined by: $S = \mathfrak{F}(W); X \subseteq Y$ if $X \subseteq Y; \bot = \emptyset; X R_i Y$ iff $Y \subseteq R_i[X]; P = \{X \mid X \in A\}$; and $\pi(p) = \{X \in S \mid X \subseteq V(p)\}$. Note that if $\mathfrak{F}$ is a Kripke frame, then $P = \{X \mid X \in S\}$.

We can switch back and forth between extended and non-extended frames whenever convenient, by restriction as in Definition 4.18 and extension as in Definition 4.22.

Definition 4.22 (Extending Frames). Given a partial-state frame $\mathcal{F} = (S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$ and $\bot \notin S$, define $\mathcal{F}_\bot = (S_\bot, \subseteq_\bot, \bot, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P_\bot)$ as follows: $S_\bot = S \cup \{\bot\}; x \subseteq_\bot y$ if $x \subseteq y$ or $x = \bot; xR_i y$ iff $xR_i y$ or $y = \bot$; and $P_\bot = \{X \cup \{\bot\} \mid X \in P\}$.

Given a valuation $\pi: \Phi \to P$, define $\pi_\bot: \Phi \to P_\bot$ by $\pi_\bot(p) = \pi(p) \cup \{\bot\}$.

The following fact records that restriction and extension work as desired.

Fact 4.23 (Equivalence of Extended and Restricted Frames). For any possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$ and extended possibility frame $\mathcal{E}$:

1. $\mathcal{F}_\bot$ is an extended possibility frame such that $(\mathcal{F}_\bot)_\bot = \mathcal{F}$, and for any possibility model $(\mathcal{F}, \pi), x \in \mathcal{F}$, and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I), (\mathcal{F}, \pi), x \models \varphi$ iff $(\mathcal{F}_\bot, \pi_\bot), x \models \varphi$;

2. $\mathcal{E}_\bot$ is a possibility frame such that $(\mathcal{E}_\bot)_\bot$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{E}$, and for any possibility model $(\mathcal{E}, \pi), x \in \mathcal{E}_\bot$, and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I), (\mathcal{E}, \pi), x \models \varphi$ iff $(\mathcal{E}_\bot, \pi_\bot), x \models \varphi$.

4.4 Functional Frames

For the powerset possibilization $\mathfrak{F}^\bot$ of a world frame $\mathfrak{F} = (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A)$ (Example 2.9), we defined its accessibility relations by $XR_i^\bot Y$ if $Y \subseteq R_i[X]$. As a result, for any possibility $X \in \mathfrak{F}^\bot$, the set $R_i^\bot(X) = \{Y \in S^\bot \mid XR_i^\bot Y\}$ has a maximum in $(S^\bot, \subseteq^\bot)$, i.e., a single possibility $f_i(X)$ of which all possibilities accessible from $X$ are refinements, namely $f_i(X) = R_i[X]$. This makes possible a functional semantics for the modality $\Box_i$, which we may retain even as we generalize away from powerset possibilizations.

Definition 4.24 (Quasi-Functional and Functional Possibility Frames). A quasi-functional possibility frame is a possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = (S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$ satisfying:

1. $R\text{-}\text{max}$ – if $R_i(x) \neq \emptyset$, then $R_i(x)$ has a maximum in $(S, \subseteq)$.

An extended quasi-functional possibility frame is an extended possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = (S, \subseteq, \bot, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P)$ (Definition 4.18) satisfying:
2. **R-maxe** – $R_i(x)$ has a maximum in $(S, \sqsubseteq)$.

A functional possibility frame is a possibility frame in which each $R_i$ is partially functional, i.e., $xR_i y$ and $xR_i y'$ together imply $y = y'$. An extended functional possibility frame is an extended possibility frame in which each $R_i$ is functional, i.e., partially functional and such that $\forall x \in S. \exists y \in S.: xR_i y$.

For each $i \in I$, let $f_i: S \rightarrow S$ be the partial function such that for all $x \in S$, if $R_i(x) \neq \emptyset$, then $f_i(x)$ is the maximum of $R_i(x)$. We write `$f_i(x)\downarrow$' to indicate that $f_i$ is defined at $x$. In an extended quasi-functional possibility frame, $f_i$ is a total function.

A (quasi-)functional possibility model is a possibility model based on a (quasi-)functional possibility frame, and similarly for extended models.

Note that every functional frame is a quasi-functional frame. Also note the following.

**Fact 4.25 (R-princ).** If a frame is quasi-functional and satisfies $R$-down, then it satisfies the following condition, and vice versa: $R$-princ – if $R_i(x) \neq \emptyset$, then $R_i(x)$ is a principal downset in $(S, \sqsubseteq)$.

Over quasi-functional models, we obtain the following simple semantic clause for $\square_i$.

**Fact 4.26 (Functional Semantics).** For any extended quasi-functional possibility model $\mathcal{M}$, $x \in \mathcal{M}$, and $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$:

$$\mathcal{M}, x \models \square_i \varphi \text{ iff } \mathcal{M}, f_i(x) \models \varphi.$$ 

For quasi-functional models that are not extended, $\mathcal{M}, x \models \square_i \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}, f_i(x) \models \varphi$ or $f_i$ is undefined at $x$.

As suggested by Fact 4.26, we can always go from a quasi-functional to an equivalent functional frame.

**Proposition 4.27 (From Quasi-Functional to Functonal Frames).** For any quasi-functional possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = (S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}, \{f_i\})$, define its functionalization $\mathcal{F}_f = (S, \sqsubseteq, \{f_i\})$ where $f_i$ is the partial function (partially functional relation) given in Definition 4.24. Then:

1. $\mathcal{F}_f$ is a functional possibility frame;
2. if $\mathcal{F}$ is a full possibility frame, then $\mathcal{F}_f$ is a full possibility frame satisfying the following conditions (cf. $R$-rule and $R$⇒win from §2.3):
   (a) $f$-rule – if $x' \sqsubseteq x$ and $f_i(x') \not\sqsubseteq z$, then $f_i(x) \not\sqsubseteq z$;
   (b) $f$⇒win – $\forall y \sqsubseteq f_i(x) \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \forall x'' \sqsubseteq x': y \not\sqsubseteq f_i(x'')$;
3. if $\mathcal{F}$ is separative and satisfies $R$-rule, then $\mathcal{F}_f$ satisfies:
   (a) $f$-monotonicity – if $x' \sqsubseteq x$ and $f_i(x') \downarrow$, then $f_i(x) \downarrow$ and $f_i(x') \sqsubseteq f_i(x)$;
4. for all $\pi: \Phi \rightarrow P$, $x \in S$, and $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$: $(\mathcal{F}, \pi), x \models \varphi$ iff $(\mathcal{F}_f, \pi), x \models \varphi$;
5. if a logic $L$ is sound and complete with respect to a class $\mathcal{F}$ of quasi-functional possibility frames, then $L$ is sound and complete with respect to the class of functionalizations of frames from $\mathcal{F}$.

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20 As usual, a principal downset in $(S, \sqsubseteq)$ is an $X \subseteq S$ such that $X = \downarrow x$ for some $x \in S$.
21 We intend this to mean: if $x' \sqsubseteq x$, $f_i(x') \downarrow$, and $f_i(x') \not\sqsubseteq z$, then $f_i(x) \downarrow$ and $f_i(x) \not\sqsubseteq z$, but we leave the definedness implicit.
22 In Holliday 2014, this condition was called $f$-refinability.
23 In Holliday 2014, this condition was called $f$-persistence.
Proof. For part 1, we must first verify that \( \mathcal{F}_f \) is indeed a possibility frame. Since we have only modified the accessibility relations, it suffices to check that \( P \) is still closed under \( \mathbf{f}^i \) for each \( i \in I \), as required of a partial-state frame (Definition 2.1). Since \( \mathcal{F} \) is quasi-functional, for any \( x \in S \) and \( Y \in P \), we have \( x \in \mathbf{f}^i Y \) iff either \( f_i(x) \in Y \) or \( f_i(x) \) is undefined (the same point as in Fact 4.26), which is then equivalent to \( x \in \mathbf{f}^i \mathcal{F}_f \). Thus, \( \mathbf{f}^i \mathcal{F}_f = \mathbf{f}^i \mathcal{F} \), so \( P \) is closed under \( \mathbf{f}^i \) by virtue of being closed under \( \mathbf{f} \).

For part 2, if \( \mathcal{F} \) is full, then by Proposition 2.30, \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \textit{R-rule} and \textit{R\Rightarrow win}. It is then easy to check that \( \mathcal{F}_f \) satisfies \textit{f-rule} and \textit{f\Rightarrow win}.

For part 3, as just noted, \textit{R-rule} for \( \mathcal{F} \) implies \textit{f-rule} for \( \mathcal{F}_f \), which gives us that if \( x' \subseteq x \) and \( f_i(x') \downarrow \), then \( f_i(x) \downarrow \). Now if \( f_i(x') \not\subseteq f_i(x) \), then by separativity there is a \( z \subseteq f_i(x') \), so \( f_i(x') \not\subseteq z \), such that not \( f_i(x) \not\subseteq z \), which implies \( x' \not\subseteq x \) by \textit{f-rule}. This establishes \textit{f-monotonicity}.

Part 4 has an obvious proof by induction using Fact 4.26 in the \( \Box_i \) case.

Part 5 is immediate from part 4. \( \square \)

From Example 2.23 we know that the powerset possibilization \( \mathfrak{F}^\mathfrak{v} \) of a world frame \( \mathfrak{F} \) is a possibility frame, and \( \mathfrak{G}^\mathfrak{v} \) is full if \( \mathfrak{G} \) is full, so the observation at the beginning of this section give us the following.

**Example 4.28** (Powerset Possibilization Cont.). The powerset possibilization \( \mathfrak{F}^\mathfrak{v} \) of any world frame (resp. full world frame) \( \mathfrak{F} \) is a \textit{quasi-functional} possibility frame (resp. full possibility frame).

Putting together Example 4.28 and Proposition 4.27, we can define the \textit{functional powerset possibilization} of a world frame \( \mathfrak{G} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A \rangle \) as the functionalization \( (\mathfrak{G}^\mathfrak{v})_f \) of the powerset possibilization \( \mathfrak{G}^\mathfrak{v} \) of \( \mathfrak{G} \). More directly, each accessibility function \( f_i \) in \( (\mathfrak{G}^\mathfrak{v})_f \) is defined by \( f_i(X) = R_i[X] \). For an application of this functional powerset possibilization construction, see van Benthem et al. 2015.

Together Fact 2.10, Example 4.28, and Proposition 4.27 show that the functional powerset possibilization of a world frame validates exactly the same formulas as the original world frame. Thus, (full) functional possibility frames are as general as (full) world frames in the following sense.

**Corollary 4.29** (Completeness for Functional Frames). If a logic \( \mathcal{L} \) is sound and complete with respect to a class \( \mathcal{F} \) of world frames, then \( \mathcal{L} \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of functional possibility frames, viz., the class of functional powerset possibilizations of frames from \( \mathcal{F} \). Moreover, this statement holds for \textit{full} world/possibility frames.

Not only can every full world frame be transformed into a semantically equivalent \textit{functional} full possibility frame, but more remarkably, so can every \textit{full possibility frame}. Thus, we could assume without modal-logical loss of generality that our full possibility frames are always functional.

**Proposition 4.30** (From Relations to Functions). For any full possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} \), there is a \textit{functional} full possibility frame \( \mathcal{F}' \) and a dense and robust possibility morphism \( h: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}' \). Thus, by Proposition 3.7, for all \( \phi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( \mathcal{F} \models \phi \) iff \( \mathcal{F}' \models \phi \).

Proposition 4.30 will follow from Proposition 5.23.3 and Theorem 5.25.1 in §5.3.

### 4.5 Tight Frames

Kripke frames and their powerset possibilizations are examples of \textit{tight} possibility frames in the following standard sense [Chagrov and Zakharyaschev, 1997, p. 251], which will be important in §5.

**Definition 4.31** (Tight Frames). Let \( \mathcal{F} \) be a partial-state frame \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \).
1. $\mathcal{F}$ is $R$-tight iff for all $i \in I$ and $x, y \in S$, if $\forall Z \in P: x \in \downarrow_i Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$, then $x R_i y$;

2. $\mathcal{F}$ is $\sqsubseteq$-tight iff for all $x, y \in S$, if $\forall Z \in P: x \in \downarrow Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$, then $y \sqsubseteq x$;

3. $\mathcal{F}$ is tight iff it is $R$-tight and $\sqsubseteq$-tight.

Note that for any partial-state frame, $x R_i y$ implies $\forall Z \in P: x \in \downarrow_i Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$; and for any possibility frame, $y \sqsubseteq x$ implies $\forall Z \in P: x \in Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$.

The notion of $\sqsubseteq$-tightness is related to the notions of separativity and differentiation from §4.1 as follows.

**Fact 4.32** ($\sqsubseteq$-tightness, Separativity, and Differentiation).  
1. Every $\sqsubseteq$-tight possibility frame is separative;
2. Every separative full possibility frame is $\sqsubseteq$-tight;
3. Every $\sqsubseteq$-tight possibility frame is differentiated.

**Proof.** For part 1, if $y \sqsubseteq x$, then by Fact 4.2, $\forall Z \in P: x \in Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$, so $y \sqsubseteq x$ by $\sqsubseteq$-tightness.

Parts 2 and 3 follow from Fact 4.6 and Definition 4.7, respectively. □

The notion of $R$-tightness is related to the interplay conditions discussed in §2.3 as follows.

**Lemma 4.33** ($R$-tightness and Interplay Conditions). For any possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$:

1. if $\mathcal{F}$ is $R$-tight, then $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies up-$R$, R-down, and R-dense;
2. if $\mathcal{F}$ is $R$-tight and satisfies $R$-refinability, then $\mathcal{F}$ is strong, i.e., satisfies $R$-$\Rightarrow$ win;
3. if $\mathcal{F}$ is full, then $\mathcal{F}$ is $R$-tight iff $\mathcal{F}$ is strong.

**Proof.** The proof of part 1 is the same as the proof for Proposition 2.37 that $\mathcal{F}^\Box$ satisfies up-$R$, R-down, and R-dense. Part 2 follows from part 1, Proposition 2.35, and Fact 2.34.

For part 3 from left to right, if $\mathcal{F}$ is full, then it satisfies $R$-$\Rightarrow$ win by Proposition 2.31, which combines with up-$R$, R-down, and R-dense from part 1 to give us that $\mathcal{F}$ is strong by Proposition 2.35. From right to left, if $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ satisfies R-down and R-dense, then by Fact 2.32, for all $x \in S$, $R_i(x)$ satisfies persistence and refinability, so if $\mathcal{F}$ is also full, then $R_i(x) \subseteq Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$. Then since $R_i(x) \subseteq P$, we have $y \in R_i(x)$, so $x R_i y$. Thus, $\mathcal{F}$ is $R$-tight. □

Recall that for Proposition 2.37, we took a possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ and constructed a new possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R^\Box_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ by setting $x R^\Box_i y$ iff $\forall Z \in P: x \in \downarrow_i Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$. Since we showed in the proof of Proposition 2.37.2 that for all $Z \in P$, $\downarrow_i Z = \downarrow^\Box_i Z$, it follows that $x R^\Box_i y$ iff $\forall Z \in P: x \in \downarrow_i Z \Rightarrow y \in Z$. Thus, $\mathcal{F}^\Box$ is $R$-tight. By applying the same idea to $\sqsubseteq$ in addition to $R_i$, i.e., defining $x' \sqsubseteq^i x$ iff $\forall Z \in P: x \in Z \Rightarrow x' \in Z$, it is straightforward to prove the following.

**Proposition 4.34** (Tightening). For any possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$, there is a tight possibility frame $\mathcal{F}^t$ (differing from $\mathcal{F}$ only in the relations $\sqsubseteq$ and $R_i$) and a surjective robust possibility morphism from $\mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F}^t$. Thus, by Proposition 3.7, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\mathcal{F} \models \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{F}^t \models \varphi$.

That every possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$ is semantically equivalent to a tight possibility frame will also follow from Corollary 5.43 in §5.5.
4.6 Principal Frames

A special feature of the powerset possibilization $\mathcal{F}_P$ of a Kripke frame $\mathfrak{F}$ from Example 2.9 is that the set $P$ of admissible propositions in $\mathcal{F}_P$ is the set of all principal downsets in the poset $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ underlying $\mathcal{F}_P$, plus the empty set. If we consider the extended powerset possibilization $\mathcal{F}_{P_e}$ as in Example 4.21, then we can simply say that $P$ is the set of all principal downsets. Thus, every possibility $x \in S$ gives rise to a proposition $\downarrow x \in P$, expressing that the possibility $x$ obtains; and for every proposition $X \in P$, there is a least specific possibility $x \in S$ where that proposition is true, which could be thought of as the possibility that $X$.

We can detach this feature of $\mathcal{F}_P$ from its other features, e.g., that its poset is a complete and atomic Boolean lattice (minus the minimum), or that it is a quasi-functional possibility frame. Let us consider possibility frames in which $P$ is the set of all principal downsets in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ plus $\emptyset$.

**Definition 4.35 (Principal Possibility Frame).** A principal possibility frame is a possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ in which $P$ is the set of all principal downsets in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ plus $\emptyset$.

An extended principal possibility frame is an extended possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \perp, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ as in §4.3 in which $P$ is the set of all principal downsets in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$.

In order for $P$ to be the set of all principal downsets (plus $\emptyset$) and satisfy the closure conditions on $P$ required of a partial-state frame in Definition 2.1, $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ must have a particular form, which we will describe.

Recall that a poset $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ is a lower semilattice iff for all $x, y \in A$, $\{x, y\}$ has a greatest lower bound $x \wedge y$ in $\langle A, \leq \rangle$. A lower semilattice $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ with a minimum $\bot$ is a $p$-semilattice (for pseudocomplemented) iff for all $x \in A$, there is an $x^* \in A$ such that for all $z \in A$, $z \wedge x = \bot$ iff $z \subseteq x^*$. A lower semilattice $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ is an implicative semilattice [Nemitz, 1965] (or a Brouwerian semilattice in Birkhoff 1967 and Köhler 1981, or a relatively pseudocomplemented semilattice) iff for all $x, y \in A$, there is an $x^* y \in A$ such that for all $z \in A$, $z \wedge x \sqsubseteq y$ iff $z \subseteq x^* y$. A bounded implicative semilattice is an implicative semilattice with a minimum $\bot$. Any bounded implicative semilattice is a $p$-semilattice, with $x^* = x \wedge \bot$.

Finally, note that a Heyting algebra may be defined as a bounded implicative lattice. Every finite bounded implicative semilattice is a Heyting algebra, but not every infinite bounded implicative semilattice is a Heyting algebra.

When we add an accessibility relation $R_i$ to $\langle A, \leq \rangle$, we need one more definition.

**Definition 4.36 (□_i Operation).** Given a poset $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ with minimum $\bot$ and a binary relation $R_i$ on $A$, define a partial operation $\Box_i$ on $A$ as follows: for $y \in A$, if the set $\Box_i y$, i.e., $\{x \in A \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \downarrow y\}$ (Definition 2.1), is nonempty and contains a maximum element, then $\Box_i y = \max(\Box_i y)$. If $\Box_i y$ is empty, then $\Box_i y = \bot$. If $\Box_i y$ is nonempty but does not contain a maximum element, then $\Box_i y$ is undefined.

The following fact is a straightforward consequence of the definitions just given.

**Fact 4.37 (Principal Partial-State Frames).** Let $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ be such that $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ is a poset, $R_i$ is a binary relation on $S$, and $P$ is the set of all principal downsets in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ plus $\emptyset$.

Then the following are equivalent:
1. $\mathcal{F}$ is a partial-state frame;
2. $P$ is closed under the operations $\cap$, $\triangleright$, and $\Box$, from Definition 2.1;
3. the extension $\langle S_\downarrow, \sqsubseteq_\downarrow \rangle$ of $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ (Definition 4.22) is a bounded implicative semilattice on which the operation $\Box_i$ defined from $R_i$ (Definition 4.22) is a total operation.\[24\]Of course, we are treating all of these as classes of posets, rather than algebraic structures of particular similarity types.
In addition to the closure requirements on \( P \) in partial-state frames, there is the requirement in possibility frames that \( P \subseteq \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) (Definition 2.21). The following is immediate from Facts 4.6 and 4.32.1.

**Fact 4.38** (Principal Possibility Frames, Separativity, and \( \sqsubseteq \)-tightness). If \( P \) is the set of all principal downsets in \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) plus \( \emptyset \), then the following are equivalent:

1. \( P \subseteq \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \);
2. \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is separative;
3. \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is \( \sqsubseteq \)-tight with respect to \( P \).

The requirements on principal possibility frames from Facts 4.37 and 4.38 are related as follows.

**Fact 4.39** (Boolean Lattices). The following are equivalent:

1. \( \langle A, \leq \rangle \) is a p-semilattice such that the restriction of \( \leq \) to \( A \setminus \{ \perp \} \) is a separative partial order;
2. \( \langle A, \leq \rangle \) is a Boolean lattice.

*Proof.* Frink [1962] showed that \( \langle A, \leq \rangle \) is a Boolean lattice iff \( \langle A, \leq \rangle \) is a p-semilattice such that for all \( x \in A \), \( x^{**} = x \). Thus, we need only show that a p-semilattice \( \langle A, \leq \rangle \) obeys \( x^{**} = x \) iff the restriction of \( \leq \) to \( A \setminus \{ \perp \} \) is separative. Let \( \sqsubseteq \) be the restriction.

For any p-semilattice \( \langle A, \leq \rangle \) and \( x \in A \), \( x \leq x^{**} \), so we need only show that \( x^{**} \leq x \). If \( x^{**} = \perp \), then \( x^{**} \leq x \), so suppose \( x^{**} \neq \perp \). Then \( z \leq x^{**} \), so \( z \leq x \), contradicting our assumption. Thus, \( z \leq x \). So we have shown that for every \( z \in x^{**} \) there is a \( z' \subseteq z \), namely \( z' = z \wedge x \), such that \( z' \subseteq x \), which means \( x^{**} \subseteq x \). Then by Definition 4.5, if \( \sqsubseteq \) is separative, \( x^{**} \subseteq x \) implies \( x^{**} \leq x \) and hence \( x^{**} \leq x \).

In the other direction, to show that \( \sqsubseteq \) is separative, for some \( x, y \in A \setminus \{ \perp \} \), assume that \( x \nsubseteq y \). It follows that \( x \wedge y^{*} \neq \perp \), for otherwise \( x \leq y^{**} \), which with \( y^{**} \leq y \) and the transitivity of \( \leq \) implies \( x \leq y \) and hence \( x \nsubseteq y \), contradicting our assumption. Thus, \( x \wedge y^{*} \nsubseteq x \). Moreover, for any \( x^{''} \subseteq x \wedge y^{*} \), so \( x^{''} \neq \perp \), we have \( x^{''} \nsubseteq y \). So from the assumption that \( x \nsubseteq y \), we have shown that there is an \( x' \subseteq x \), namely \( x' = x \wedge y^{*} \), such that for all \( x^{''} \subseteq x', x^{''} \nsubseteq y \). Hence \( \sqsubseteq \) is separative. \( \square \)

Combining the previous three facts, we can characterize principal possibility frames as follows.

**Fact 4.40** (Characterization of Principal Possibility Frames). Let \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) be such that \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is a poset, \( R_i \) is a binary relation on \( S \), and \( P \subseteq \varphi(S) \). Then the following are equivalent:

1. \( F \) is a principal possibility frame;
2. \( P \) is the set of all principal downsets in \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) plus \( \emptyset \), and \( \langle S_{\perp}, \sqsubseteq_{\perp} \rangle \) is a Boolean lattice on which the \( \sqsubseteq \)-operation.

Now let us consider the interplay conditions on \( R_i \) and \( \sqsubseteq \) that hold for any principal possibility frame. Recall that in Proposition 2.30 we showed the following conditions to be necessary and sufficient for a poset \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) with accessibility relation \( R_i \) to be such that \( \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) is closed under \( \blacksquare_i \):

- **R-rule** – if \( x' \subseteq x \) and \( x' R_i y' \not\subseteq z \), then \( \exists y: x R_i y \not\subseteq z \);
- **R⇒win** – if \( x R_i y \), then \( \forall y' \subseteq y \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y'' \not\subseteq y': x'' R_i y'' \).

Thus, every full possibility frame satisfies R-rule and R⇒win. Also recall that in Lemma 4.33.3, we observed that if \( F \) is full, then \( F \) is \( R \)-tight iff \( F \) is strong, i.e., iff it satisfies R⇔win (Definition 2.36).
Proposition 4.41 (Interplay of Accessibility and Refinement in Principal Frames). For any principal possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$:

1. $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies $R$-rule and $R\Rightarrow\text{win}$;
2. $\mathcal{F}$ is $R$-tight iff $\mathcal{F}$ is strong.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ be a principal possibility frame.

For part 1, suppose $\mathcal{F}$ does not satisfy $R$-rule, so we have $x' \sqsubseteq x$ and $x'R_iy' \not\in z$, but for all $y$, if $xR_iy$, then $y \not\sqsubseteq z$, so $y \sqsubseteq z^*$. Hence $x \not\in z^*$, but $x' \not\in \Box z^*$, so $x \not\in \Box z^*$ does not satisfy persistence. Then since $\mathcal{F}$ is a possibility frame, $\Box z^* \not\in P$. Yet $\Box z^*$ is a principal downset and hence in $P$, since $\mathcal{F}$ is a principal possibility frame. Thus, $P$ is not closed under $\Box$, so $\mathcal{F}$ is not a partial-state frame, a contradiction.

Next, suppose $\mathcal{F}$ does not satisfy $R\Rightarrow\text{win}$, so we have $xR_iy$ and $\exists y' \sqsubseteq y \forall x' \sqsubseteq x \exists x'' \sqsubseteq x' \forall y''$: if $x''R_iy''$, then $y'' \not\sqsubseteq y'$, so $y'' \sqsubseteq y'^*$. Hence $\forall x' \sqsubseteq x \exists x'' \sqsubseteq x': x'' \in \Box y'^*$. But since $xR_iy$ and $y' \sqsubseteq y$, $x \not\in \Box y'^*$. It follows that $\Box y'^*$ does not satisfy refinability, so $\Box y'^* \not\in P$. Yet $\Box y'^*$ is a principal downset and hence in $P$. Thus, $P$ is not closed under $\Box$, so $\mathcal{F}$ is not a partial-state frame, a contradiction.

For part 2, the proof of the left-to-right direction is the same as the proof of the left-to-right direction of Fact 4.33.3, but using the fact just shown that any principal frame satisfies $R\Rightarrow\text{win}$. From right to left, to show that $\mathcal{F}$ is $R$-tight, suppose that not $xR_iy$. Then we must find a $Z \in P$ such that $R_i(x) \subseteq Z$ but $y \not\in Z$. Since not $xR_iy$, by the $R$-dense property that follows from $R\Rightarrow\text{win}$ (Proposition 2.35) there is a $y' \sqsubseteq y$ such that (i) $\forall y'' \sqsubseteq y'$: not $xR_iy''$. Now we claim that for all $z \in R_i(x)$, $z \not\sqsubseteq y'$. For if $xR_iz$ and $z \not\in y'$, so there is a $z' \sqsubseteq z$ such that $z' \sqsubseteq y'$, then by the $R$-down property that follows from $R\Rightarrow\text{win}$ (Proposition 2.35), $xR_iz$ implies $xR_z$, which with $z' \sqsubseteq y'$ contradicts (i). Thus, for all $z \in R_i(x)$, $z \not\sqsubseteq y'$, which implies $R_i(x) \subseteq \Box y'^*$. But since $y' \sqsubseteq y$, $y \not\in \Box y'^*$. Finally, since $\mathcal{F}$ is principal, $\Box y'^* \in P$, so our desired $Z$ is $\Box y'^*$. 

For quasi-functional frames as in §4.4, we can say more about the interplay of accessibility and refinement. By the same reasoning as in the proof of Proposition 4.27.3, we have the following.

Fact 4.42 (Quasi-Functional Principal Frames). If $\mathcal{F}$ is a quasi-functional principal possibility frame, then $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies $f$-monotonicity: if $x' \sqsubseteq x$ and $f_i(x') \downarrow$, then $f_i(x) \downarrow$ and $f_i(x') \subseteq f_i(x)$.

From the assumption that $\mathcal{F}$ is a partial-state frame in which $P$ is the set of all principal downsets in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ plus $\emptyset$, we can deduce facts not only about the structure of $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ (Proposition 4.40) and the interplay of $R_i$ and $\sqsubseteq$ (Proposition 4.41 and Fact 4.42), but also about the nature of possibility morphisms to $\mathcal{F}$.

Fact 4.43 (Possibility Morphisms to Principal Frames). For any possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$ and principal possibility frame $\mathcal{F}'$, if $h: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}'$ is a possibility morphism, then $h$ satisfies:

1. $\sqsubseteq$-forth – if $y \sqsubseteq x$, then $h(y) \sqsubseteq h(x)$;
2. $\sqsubseteq$-back – if $y' \sqsubseteq h(x)$, then $\exists y \sqsubseteq x$: $h(y) \sqsubseteq y'$.

Proof. For part 1, since all principal downsets in $\mathcal{F}'$ are admissible propositions in $\mathcal{F}'$, Fact 4.9.1 implies that $h$ satisfies $\sqsubseteq$-forth. For part 2, by the left-to-right direction of $\sqsubseteq$-matching, we have that $\forall x \in \mathcal{F} \forall X' \in P'$: if $\downarrow h(x) \cap X' = \emptyset$, then $\downarrow x \cap h^{-1}[X'] = \emptyset$. Since $\mathcal{F}'$ is a principal frame, for any $y' \in \mathcal{F}'$, $y' \downarrow y' \in P'$, so by $\sqsubseteq$-matching, if $\downarrow h(x) \cap \downarrow y' = \emptyset$, then $\downarrow x \cap h^{-1}[\downarrow y'] = \emptyset$. Then since $y' \sqsubseteq h(x)$ implies $\downarrow h(x) \cap \downarrow y' = \emptyset$, it implies $\downarrow x \cap h^{-1}[\downarrow y'] = \emptyset$, which means there is a $y \sqsubseteq x$ such that $h(y) \sqsubseteq y'$.

\[\text{57}\]
Now that we have an idea of the structure of principal possibility frames, let us return to the point made at the beginning of this section: in an (extended) principal possibility frame, for every proposition \( X \in P \), there is at least specific possibility \( x \in X \). Then since the truth set \( \{ \varphi \}^M \) of a formula \( \varphi \) in a partial-state model \( M \) always belongs to \( P \) (Fact 2.5), we have the following.

**Fact 4.44 (Principal Truth Sets).** If \( F \) is an extended principal possibility frame, then for any possibility model \( M \) based on \( F \) and \( \varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \), there is an element \( \varphi^M \in S \) such that \( \varphi^M = \downarrow \varphi^M \). For any \( \varphi, \psi \in L(\Phi, I) \), \( \| \varphi \| = \| \varphi \| \wedge \| \psi \| = \| \varphi \| \wedge \| \psi \| \), and \( \| \Box_i \varphi \| = \Box_i \| \varphi \| \).

Fact 4.44 shows that principal possibility frames will easily transform into modal \textit{algebras} (see §5).

In §5.2, we will identify a vast source of principal possibility frames. In particular, we will show that any \( \forall \)-BAO can be turned into a semantically equivalent principal possibility frame, and any \( T \)-BAO can be turned into a semantically equivalent \textit{quasi-functional} principal possibility frame (and hence into a semantically equivalent \textit{functional} principal possibility frame by Proposition 4.27).

### 4.6.1 Lattice-Complete Principal Frames

Since principal frames are always based on Boolean lattices, an important special case is the following.

**Definition 4.45 (Lattice-Complete Principal Frames).** A principal possibility frame \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) is \textit{lattice-complete} iff \( \langle S_\perp, \subseteq \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice.

When \( \langle S_\perp, \subseteq \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice, the property characterizing principal frames in Fact 4.40 that \( \Box_i \) is a total operation on \( \langle S_\perp, \subseteq \rangle \) not only implies the interplay conditions \textbf{R-rule} and \textbf{R\Rightarrow win} as in Fact 4.41, but it is also implied by these interplay conditions, as shown by the following.

**Fact 4.46 (Characterization of Lattice-Complete Principal Frames).** Let \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) be such that \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is a poset, \( R_i \) is a binary relation on \( S \), and \( P \subseteq \Phi(S) \). Then the following are equivalent:

1. \( F \) is a lattice-complete principal possibility frame;
2. \( P \) is the set of all principal downsets in \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) plus \( \emptyset \), \( \langle S_\perp, \subseteq \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice, and \( R_i \) satisfies \textbf{R-rule} and \textbf{R\Rightarrow win}.

**Proof.** The implication from part 1 to part 2 follows from Definitions 4.35 and 4.45 and Fact 4.41.

From part 2 to part 1, given the characterization of principal frames in terms of \( \Box_i \) being a total operation in Fact 4.40, it suffices to show that if \( R_i \) satisfies \textbf{R-rule} and \textbf{R\Rightarrow win}, then \( \Box_i \) is such a total operation, which is to say that for any \( y \in S_\perp \), if \( \{ x \in S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \} \) is nonempty (where \( \down y = \{ y' \in S_\perp \mid y' \subseteq \perp y \} \) then it has a \textit{maximum} in \( \langle S_\perp, \subseteq \rangle \). Since \( F \) is lattice-complete, this is equivalent to the claim that

\[
\forall \{ x \in S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \} \subseteq \{ x \in S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \}. \tag{6}
\]

Recall from the definition of \( R_i \perp \) in Definition 4.22 that \( R_i \perp = \{ \perp \} \) and for \( x \subseteq S \), \( R_i(x) = R_i(x) \cup \{ \perp \} \).

If \( \forall \{ x \in S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \} = \perp \), then (6) holds, so suppose it is not \( \perp \). Then to establish (6), suppose for \textit{reductio} that \( \forall \{ x \in S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \} \) but \( z \not\subseteq \perp \) and \( z \wedge y' \not\subseteq \perp \), so \( z \wedge y' \subseteq \perp \). Let \( z' = z \wedge y' \). Then by \textbf{R\Rightarrow win} for \( Ri \), there is an \( x' \subseteq \forall \{ x \in S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \} \) such that (i) \( \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists z'' \ni z' = x''R_i z'' \). Given \( x'' \subseteq \forall \{ x \in S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \} \), there is an \( x \subseteq S_\perp \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \) such that \( x' \wedge x \not\subseteq \perp \) (cf. Fact 5.12), so \( x' \wedge x \subseteq x' \). Then by (i), there is a \( z'' \ni z' \) such that \( x''R_i z'' \). Given \( x''R_i z'' \ni z' \) and \( x'' \subseteq x \), it follows by \textbf{R-rule} that there is a \( u \) such that \( xR_i u \ni y' \). Then since \( z' = z \wedge y' \), we have \( xR_i u \ni y' \), which contradicts the fact that \( R_i(x) \subseteq \down y \). ∎

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Recall from Fact 4.41.2 that a principal frame is \textit{R-tight} iff it is \textit{strong}. For lattice-complete principal frames, we can add the following observation concerning \textit{R}-tightness.

\textbf{Fact 4.47 (R-tight and R-princ).} If \( \mathcal{F} \) is a lattice-complete principal possibility frame, then \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies the \textit{R-tight} condition iff \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies the \textit{R-princ} condition from §4.4: \( R_i(x) \) is a principal downset if \( R_i(x) \neq \emptyset \)

\textit{Proof.} From left to right, assuming \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \textit{R-tight} and \( R_i(x) \neq \emptyset \), we show that \( R_i(x) = \downarrow \bigvee R_i(x) \), where \( \bigvee \) is the join operation in the complete Boolean lattice minus \( \bot \) that underlies \( \mathcal{F} \). By Fact 4.33.1, \textit{R-tight} implies \textit{R-down}, so \( R_i(x) \) is a downset. Thus, to show that \( \bigvee R_i(x) \in R_i(x) \), it suffices to show that \( \bigvee R_i(x) \in R_i(x) \). Consider any \( Z \in P \) such that \( x \in \mathbb{[} Z, \mathbb{]} \), so \( R_i(x) \subseteq Z \). If \( \bigvee R_i(x) \notin Z \), then by \textit{refinability} for \( Z \), there is a \( z \subseteq \bigvee R_i(x) \) such that for all \( z' \subseteq z, z' \notin Z \). Since \( z \subseteq \bigvee R_i(x) \), there is some \( y \in R_i(x) \) such that \( z \land y \neq \bot \) (cf. Fact 5.12), so \( z \land y \subseteq y \), but \( z \land y \notin Z \) by the previous sentence. Then by \textit{persistence} for \( Z \), \( y \notin Z \), which contradicts the fact that \( y \in R_i(x) \subseteq Z \). Thus, \( \bigvee R_i(x) \in Z \). Since this holds for any \( Z \in P \) such that \( x \in \mathbb{[} Z, \mathbb{]} \), \textit{R-tight} implies \( \bigvee R_i(x) \in R_i(x) \).

From right to left, assume \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \textit{R-princ} and that for all \( Z \in P \), \( x \in \mathbb{[} Z, \mathbb{]} \) implies \( y \in Z \). It follows that \( R_i(x) \neq \emptyset \), for \( R_i(x) = \emptyset \) implies \( x \in \mathbb{[} \emptyset, \emptyset \] \), which with our assumption implies the contradiction \( y \notin \emptyset \). Thus, by \textit{R-princ}, \( R_i(x) = \downarrow f_i(x) \) for some \( f_i(x) \). Now suppose \textit{not} \( x R_i y \), so \( y \notin f_i(x) \). Then since \( \mathcal{F} \) is separative by Fact 4.39, there is a \( z \subseteq y \) such that \textit{not} \( z \uparrow f_i(x) \). Then since \( R_i(x) = \downarrow f_i(x) \), it follows that \( x \in \mathbb{[} z, z^* \] \), and \( z^* \in P \) since \( \mathcal{F} \) is a principal frame, so our initial assumption implies that \( y \in \downarrow z^* \), which contradicts \( z \subseteq y \). Thus, \( x R_i y \), which shows that \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \textit{R-tight}. \( \square \)

Finally, it is important to note that lattice-complete principal possibility frames are a special case of \textit{full} possibility frames, as shown by the following.

\textbf{Fact 4.48 (Completeness and Fullness).} The following are equivalent:

1. \( \mathcal{F} \) is a lattice-complete principal possibility frame;
2. \( \mathcal{F} \) is a full possibility frame in which \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice.

\textit{Proof.} It suffices to show that if \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice, then the set of principal downsets in \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) plus \( \emptyset \), which is \( P \) in a principal frame, is exactly the set of all \( X \subseteq S \) satisfying \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability} in \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \), which is \( P \) in a full frame. If \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is a Boolean lattice, then \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is separative by Fact 4.39, so every principal downset satisfies not only \textit{persistence} but also \textit{refinability} by Fact 4.6.1; and of course \( \emptyset \) satisfies \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability}. In the other direction, suppose \( X \subseteq S \) satisfies \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability}. If \( X = \emptyset \), we are done, so suppose \( X \neq \emptyset \). Since \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is complete, \( \bigvee X \) exists in \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \), and since \( X \subseteq S, \bot \notin S \), \( \bigvee X \) exists in \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \). Now we claim that \( X = \downarrow \bigvee X \), so \( X \) is a principal downset. Since \( X \subseteq \downarrow \bigvee X \) is immediate, we need only show that \( \downarrow \bigvee X \subseteq X \). By \textit{persistence}, it suffices to show that \( \bigvee X \subseteq X \). If \( \bigvee X \notin X \), then \textit{refinability} in \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) implies that there is an \( x \in S \) such that \( x \subseteq \bigvee X \) and for all \( x' \subseteq x, x' \notin X \). It follows by \textit{persistence} that for all \( y \in X, x \land y = \bot \), so \( y \subseteq x^* \). Hence \( \bigvee X \subseteq x^* \), which contradicts the fact that \( x \subseteq \bigvee X \). Thus, \( \bigvee X \subseteq X \), as desired. \( \square \)

\textbf{4.7 Rich Frames}

If we combine the idea of lattice-complete principal possibility frames from §4.6.1 with the idea of \textit{strong} possibility frames from §2.3, we arrive at a special class of full possibility frames that will be of great importance in the duality theory of §5. We will begin with a very direct definition of this class of frames, which does not refer back to further definitions from previous sections. As in §4.3, if \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is a poset, then \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) is the result of extending \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) with a new minimum element \( \bot \).
**Definition 4.49 (Rich Frames).** A rich frame is a tuple \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) where \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) is a poset such that \( \langle S_{\perp}, \sqsubseteq_{\perp} \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice, \( P \) is the set of all principal downsets in \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) plus \( \emptyset \), and each \( R_i \) is a binary relation on \( S \) satisfying:

- \( R \leftrightarrow \text{win} \) - \( xRy \) iff \( \forall y' \sqsubseteq y \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \ \forall x'' \sqsubseteq x' \ \exists y'' \sqsubseteq y' : x''R'y'' \) (see Figure 11).

Recall from §2.3 that possibility frames satisfying \( R \leftrightarrow \text{win} \) are the strong possibility frames.

The first thing to prove about rich frames is that they are in fact possibility frames in the sense of Definition 2.21 and therefore strong possibility frames. The following fact characterizes rich frames as a special kind of principal possibility frames or equivalently as a special kind of full possibility frames.

**Fact 4.50 (Characterizations of Rich Frames).** For any \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \), the following are equivalent:

1. \( \mathcal{F} \) is a rich frame;
2. \( \mathcal{F} \) is a principal possibility frame that is lattice-complete and satisfies \( R \)-tight;
3. \( \mathcal{F} \) is a principal possibility frame that is lattice-complete and satisfies \( R \text{-princ} \);
4. \( \mathcal{F} \) is a full possibility frame in which \( \langle S_{\perp}, \sqsubseteq_{\perp} \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice, satisfying \( R \)-tight;
5. \( \mathcal{F} \) is a full possibility frame in which \( \langle S_{\perp}, \sqsubseteq_{\perp} \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice, satisfying \( R \text{-princ} \).

**Proof.** First observe that if \( \mathcal{F} \) is rich and therefore satisfies \( R \leftrightarrow \text{win} \), then \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies the weaker \( R \text{-rule} \) and \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \) from §2.3, so Definition 4.49 and Fact 4.46 together imply that \( \mathcal{F} \) is a principal possibility frame, and then \( \mathcal{F} \) is lattice-complete by Definition 4.49. Thus, \( \mathcal{F} \) being rich implies that \( \mathcal{F} \) is a lattice-complete principal possibility frame satisfying \( R \leftrightarrow \text{win} \). The converse implication is clear, so \( \mathcal{F} \) being rich is equivalent to \( \mathcal{F} \) being a lattice-complete principal possibility frame satisfying \( R \leftrightarrow \text{win} \).

Then to see that parts 1, 2, and 3 are equivalent, it suffices to recall from Proposition 4.41.2 that if \( \mathcal{F} \) is a principal possibility frame, then \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \( R \leftrightarrow \text{win} \) iff it satisfies \( R \)-tight, and from Fact 4.47 that if \( \mathcal{F} \) is a lattice-complete principal possibility frame, then \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \( R \)-tight iff it satisfies \( R \text{-princ} \).

To complete the proof, it suffices to observe that parts 2 and 4 are equivalent, and that parts 3 and 5 are equivalent. This follows from Fact 4.48, which showed that \( \mathcal{F} \) is a lattice-complete principal possibility frame iff \( \mathcal{F} \) is a full possibility frame in which \( \langle S_{\perp}, \sqsubseteq_{\perp} \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice.

Figure 18 shows how the class of rich frames sits inside other frame classes we have discussed in §4.

The next significant fact about rich frames is that atomic (§4.2) rich frames are exactly the possibility frames that are isomorphic to the powerset possibilization of some Kripke frame (Example 2.9), as shown by the following proposition. For part 2, recall the notion of the atom structure \( \mathfrak{At} \mathcal{F} \) from Definition 4.14.

**Proposition 4.51 (Characterization of Powerset Possibilizations).**

1. If \( \mathfrak{F} \) is a Kripke frame, then \( \mathfrak{F}^\mathfrak{p} \) is an atomic rich frame.
2. If \( \mathcal{F} \) is an atomic rich frame, then \( \mathcal{F} \) is isomorphic to \( (\mathfrak{At} \mathcal{F})^\mathfrak{p} \).

**Proof.** Part 1 is straightforward (see Fact 2.38). For part 2, we showed in Proposition 4.16.3 that for any atomic and separative possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} \), which includes any atomic rich frame, the function \( h: \mathcal{F} \to (\mathfrak{At} \mathcal{F})^\mathfrak{p} \) defined by \( h(x) = \{a \in \mathfrak{At} \mathcal{F} \mid a \sqsubseteq x \} \) is a \( \sqsubseteq \)-strong embedding of \( \mathcal{F} \) into \( (\mathfrak{At} \mathcal{F})^\mathfrak{p} \). We will now prove that it is a possibility isomorphism as in Definition 3.2 when \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) is an atomic rich frame. First, since we are assuming that \( \langle S_{\perp}, \sqsubseteq_{\perp} \rangle \) is a complete Boolean lattice, every \( A \subseteq \min \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) has a least upper
bound \( x_A \) in \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \), and \( h(x_A) = A \). Thus, \( h \) is surjective. Then since \( h \) is a surjective \( \sqsubseteq \)-strong embedding, we have that for all \( X \in P^F \), \( h[X] \in P^{(\exists \mathcal{L}F)^v} \), as required for an isomorphism.

It only remains to show that \( xR^F_i y \) iff \( h(x)R^F_i h(y) \). By the definition of powerset possibilization, \( h(x)R^F_i h(y) \) iff \( h(y) \subseteq R^F_i [h(x)] \). Since \( F \) satisfies \( R \Leftrightarrow \text{win} \), it satisfies \( R \downarrow \). Thus, as noted after Definition 4.14, the relation \( R^F_i \) in \( \mathcal{R} \) is such that for all \( a, b \in \mathcal{R} \), \( aR^F_i b \) iff \( aR^F b \). Thus, \( h(y) \subseteq R^F_i [h(x)] \) iff \( h(y) \subseteq R^F_i [h(x)] \). Putting all of this together with the definition of \( h \), we have

\[
h(x)R^F_i h(y) \iff \{ b \in \mathcal{R} \mid b \sqsubseteq h(x) \} \subseteq R^F_i \{ \{ a \in \mathcal{R} \mid a \sqsubseteq x \} \},
\]

so we must show that the right side is equivalent to \( xR^F_i y \). If \( xR^F_i y \), then by the left-to-right direction of \( R \Leftrightarrow \text{win} \), for any minimal point \( b = y' \sqsubseteq y \), there is a minimal \( a = x'' \sqsubseteq x \) and a \( y'' \sqsubseteq b \) such that \( aR^F_i y'' \). Then since \( b \) is minimal, \( y'' = b \), so \( aR^F_i b \). Hence the right side of (7) holds. In the other direction, suppose not \( xR^F_i y \). If \( R^F_i (x) = \emptyset \), then for any minimal point \( a \sqsubseteq x \), we have \( R^F_i (a) = \emptyset \) by \( \text{up-}R \), which follows from \( R \Leftrightarrow \text{win} \), but there is at least one minimal point \( b \sqsubseteq y \), so the right side of (7) does not hold. On the
other hand if $R^F_i(x) \neq \emptyset$, then since $F$ satisfies $R$-princ by Fact 4.50, where $R^F_i(x) = \downarrow f_i(x)$, not $xR^F_i y$ implies not $y \sqsubseteq f_i(x)$, which with separativity implies there is a minimal point $b \sqsubseteq y$ such that $b \nsubseteq f_i(x)$, which implies not $xR^F_i b$. Then there can be no minimal point $a \sqsubseteq x$ such that $aR^F_i b$, for that would imply $xR^F_i b$ by up-$R$. Thus, $b$ shows that the right side of (7) does not hold.

That rich frames are not required to be atomic is the key to their importance in possibility semantics. The following theorem demonstrates the special relation of rich frames to full possibility frames in general. We prove part 1 in §5.3 as Proposition 5.23.1 and Theorem 5.25.1, and part 2 in §5.3 as Theorem 5.28.

**Theorem 4.52** (From Full Frames to Rich Frames).

1. For any full possibility frame $F$, there is a rich possibility frame $F'$ and a strict, dense, and robust possibility morphism $h: F \to F'$. Thus, by Proposition 3.7, for all $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $F \models \varphi$ iff $F' \models \varphi$.

2. The category of rich possibility frames with (strict) possibility morphisms is a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with (strict) possibility morphisms.

For a reminder of the definition of reflective subcategory, see the discussion preceding Theorem 5.28 below.

In §5.3, we will also show that the category of rich possibility frames with (strict) possibility morphisms is dually equivalent to the category of $\mathcal{CV}$-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms (Theorem 5.27).

## 5 Beginnings of Duality Theory

The duality theory relating possible world frames and Boolean algebras with operators (BAOs) has been one of the most fruitful areas of mathematical modal logic (see, e.g., Goldblatt 2006 and Blackburn et al. 2001, Ch. 5). As noted in §1, two of the fundamental results of this theory are:26

- Thomason 1974a: the category of complete, atomic, and completely additive BAOs (see Definition 5.1) with complete BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to the category of full world frames (Kripke frames) with p-morphisms.

- Goldblatt 1974: the category of all BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to the category of descriptive world frames with p-morphisms. (For a topological version of this duality, see Esakia 1974.)

We will prove analogues for possibility semantics of both of these results in §5.3 and §5.5, respectively:

- Theorems 5.27 and 5.28: the category of complete and completely additive BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with (strict or all) possibility morphisms.

- Theorem 5.42: the category of all BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to the category of filter-descriptive possibility frames (Definition 5.39) with (taut, strict, or all) possibility morphisms.

In addition, we will prove results relating classes of BAOs (in particular, $\lor$-BAOs and $\tau$-BAOs as in Definition 5.1) to possibility frames that have no obvious analogues on the side of world semantics.

The duality we develop in §§5.1-5.3 between full possibility frames and complete and completely additive BAOs parallels the connection between forcing posets and Boolean valued models in set theory. As Takeuti and Zaring [1973, p. 1] nicely explain the connection:

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26 For a detailed study of the following two dualities, as well as a third “hybrid” duality, see Givant 2014.
One feature [of the theory developed in this book] is that it establishes a relationship between Cohen’s method of forcing and Scott-Solovay’s method of Boolean valued models. The key to this theory is found in a rather simple correspondence between partial order structures and complete Boolean algebras... With each partial order structure \( P \), we associate the complete Boolean algebra of regular open sets determined by the order topology on \( P \). With each Boolean algebra \( B \), we associate the partial order structure whose universe is that of \( B \) minus the zero element and whose order is the natural order on \( B \).

This is exactly how we proceed in §§5.1-5.3, except the key additional step now is to connect the accessibility relations on our partial order structures with the modal operators on our Boolean algebras.

The duality we develop in §§5.4-5.5 between arbitrary BAOs and filter-descriptive possibility frames is very similar to the theory of descriptive frames developed by Goldblatt [1974, §1.9] (published in Goldblatt 1976a,b, 1993), except where the theory of descriptive frames relies on assumptions about ultrafilters, we will make do with reasoning about proper filters. As a result, unlike the theory of descriptive frames, the theory of filter-descriptive frames does not require going beyond ZF set theory.

For a review of BAOs and the semantics for normal modal logics using BAOs, see Appendix §A.3. We will proceed in this section assuming familiarity with that material. For the purposes of possibility semantics, the theory of filter-descriptive frames does not require going beyond ZF set theory.

Fact 5.2. Any \( \mathcal{T} \)-BAO is a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO, and any \( \mathcal{CV} \)-BAO is a \( \mathcal{CT} \)-BAO. Thus, \( \mathcal{CV} = \mathcal{CT} \).
Proof. For the first part, if \( \bigwedge X \) exists, then \( \blacksquare_i \bigwedge X \) is a lower bound of \( \{ \blacksquare_i x \mid x \in X \} \). In a \( T \)-BAO it is also the greatest: if \( z \leq \blacksquare_i x \) for all \( x \in X \), then \( f_i(z) \leq x \) for all \( x \in X \), so \( f_i(z) \leq \bigwedge X \) and hence \( z \leq \blacksquare_i \bigwedge X \). For the second part, in a \( CV \)-BAO \( \mathbb{A} \) the residual \( f_i \) of \( \blacksquare_i \) is given by \( f_i(x) = \bigwedge \{ y \in \mathbb{A} \mid x \leq \blacksquare_i y \} \).

Recall from §1 that where \( \mathcal{X} \) is a class of BAOs, \( ML(\mathcal{X}) \) is the set of modal logics \( L \) such that \( L \) is the logic of some subclasses of \( \mathcal{X} \), and \( A\mathcal{L}\mathcal{G} \) is the class of all BAOs, we have:

\[
ML(\mathcal{C}A\mathcal{V}) \subseteq ML(\mathcal{C}V) \subseteq ML(T) \subseteq ML(V) \subseteq ML(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{L}\mathcal{G}).
\]

Finally, we fix our terminology for discussing homomorphisms between BAOs.

**Definition 5.3** (Homomorphisms). Given BAOs \( \mathbb{A} = \langle A, \land, \lnot, \{ \blacksquare_i \}_{i \in I} \rangle \) and \( \mathbb{A}' = \langle A', \land', \lnot', \{ \blacksquare'_i \}_{i \in I} \rangle \), a function \( h: A \to A' \) is a **Boolean algebra homomorphism** iff for every \( x, y \in A \): \( h(x \land y) = h(x) \land' h(y) \); \( h(\lnot x) = \lnot' h(x) \); and \( h(T) = T' \). For a BAO-homomorphism, we additionally require that \( h(\blacksquare_i x) = \blacksquare'_i h(x) \).

For a **complete** BAO-homomorphism, we require that if \( \bigwedge x_j \exists \) exists in \( \mathbb{A} \), then \( \bigwedge' h(x_j) \exists \) exists in \( \mathbb{A}' \) and \( h(\bigwedge_{j \in J} x_j) = \bigwedge'_{j \in J} h(x_j) \). A (complete) **BAO-embedding** is an injective (complete) BAO-homomorphism. A **BAO-isomorphism** is a bijective BAO-homomorphism (and hence complete).

\[\Box\]

### 5.1 From Possibility Frames to BAOs

We begin our duality theory with the simpler direction, going from frames to BAOs. As motivation for the following definition, recall the discussion of regular open algebras and subalgebras thereof in Remark 2.15.

**Definition 5.4** (Underlying BAO). Given a possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \), its **underlying BAO** is the structure \( \mathfrak{F}^b = \langle A, \land, \lnot, T, \{ \blacksquare_i \}_{i \in I} \rangle \) where:

1. \( A = P \);
2. \( X \land Y = X \cap Y \);
3. \( \lnot X = \text{int}(S \setminus X) \);\(^{27}\)
4. \( T = S \);
5. \( \blacksquare_i Y = \{ x \in S \mid R_i(x) \subseteq Y \} \).

In what follows, several notions and results for possibility frames will specialize to well-known notions and results when the possibility frames in question are Kripke frames. Definition 5.4 is already an example.

**Remark 5.5** (Full Complex Algebra). If \( \mathcal{F} \) is a Kripke frame, regarded as a possibility frame as in Examples 2.6 and 2.22, then its underlying BAO as in Definition 5.4 is its **full complex algebra** (see Appendix §A.1).

Let us now verify that the “underlying BAO” of a possibility frame is indeed a BAO and moreover that a formula \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over a possibility frame according to possibility semantics iff \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over its underlying BAO according to algebraic semantics, so the two are semantically equivalent. As explained in §A.3, we say that \( \varphi \) is **satisfiable** over a BAO \( \mathbb{A} \) iff there is an algebraic model \( \mathbb{M} = \langle A, \theta \rangle \) based on \( \mathbb{A} \) such that \( \tilde{\theta}(\varphi) \neq \bot \), where \( \tilde{\theta} \) is the meaning function extending \( \theta \), and \( \bot \) is the bottom of \( \mathbb{A} \); and \( \varphi \) is **valid** over \( \mathbb{A} \) iff for all algebraic models \( \mathbb{M} = \langle A, \theta \rangle \) based on \( \mathbb{A} \), \( \tilde{\theta}(\varphi) = T \), where \( T \) is the top of \( \mathbb{A} \). Thus, as usual, \( \varphi \) is valid iff \( \neg \varphi \) is not satisfiable, so if the same formulas are satisfiable over a possibility frame and over a BAO, then the same formulas are valid over each, so they have the same logic.

\(^{27}\)Recall from Remark 2.15 that \( \text{int}(X) = \{ y \in S \mid \forall x \sqsubseteq y : x \in X \} \).

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Theorem 5.6 (From Possibility Frames to BAOs). For any possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} \) and model \( \mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{F}, \pi) \):

1. \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is a BAO;
2. if \( \mathcal{F} \) is a full possibility frame, then \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is a CV-BAO;
3. if \( \mathcal{F} \) is a principal possibility frame, then \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO;
4. if \( \mathcal{F} \) is a quasi-functional principal possibility frame, then \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is a \( \mathcal{T} \)-BAO;
5. where \( \bar{\pi} \) is the meaning function on \( \mathcal{F}^b \) extending \( \pi \), for all \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( \|\varphi\|^\mathcal{M} = \bar{\pi}(\varphi) \);
6. for all \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over \( \mathcal{F} \) iff \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over \( \mathcal{F}^b \).

Proof. For part 1, we already explained in Remark 2.15 that if \( (\lambda, \land, \lnot, \top) \) is defined as in Definition 5.4, then it is a Boolean algebra, and it is easy to check that \( \lambda, \top = \top \) and \( \lambda, (\lambda, \land, \lambda, \top) = \lambda, \land, \lambda, \top \), so \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is a BAO. For part 2, we already explained in Remark 2.15 that if all regular open sets in \( \mathcal{O}(S, \subseteq) \) are admissible propositions, as in a full possibility frame, then \( (\lambda, \land, \lnot, \top) \) is a complete Boolean algebra, and since arbitrary meets are given by intersection in this regular open algebra of the Alexandrov topology \( \mathcal{O}(S, \subseteq) \), clearly for any \( X \subseteq A \) we have \( \bigwedge_{X \subseteq X} \lambda, X = \lambda, \bigwedge_{X \subseteq X} X \). Thus, \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is a CV-BAO.

For parts 3 and 4, suppose \( \mathcal{F} = (\langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i \}_{i \in I}, \lambda \rangle, P) \) is a principal possibility frame. Let \( (S', \subseteq') \) be the Boolean lattice associated with \( \mathcal{F} \), so \( S' = S' \cup \{ \top' \} \), where \( \top' \) is the minimum of \( (S', \subseteq') \). Let \( R_i' \) be the extension of \( R_i \) to \( (S', \subseteq') \) defined by \( xR_i'y \) iff \( xR_iy \) or \( y = \top' \) (recall Definition 4.22). Where \( (S', \land', \lnot', \top', \subseteq') \) is the Boolean algebra obtained from \( (S', \subseteq') \), consider the structure \( \mathcal{F}' = (S', \land', \lnot', \top', \{ R_i' \}_{i \in I}) \) where \( R_i' \) is the operation on \( S' \) from Definition 4.36, so \( \top_i' = \max\{ x \in S' | R_i'(x) \subseteq \emptyset \} \). We claim that \( \mathcal{F}' = (S', \land', \lnot', \top', \{ R_i' \}_{i \in I}) \) is a BAO that is BAO-isomorphic to \( \mathcal{F}^b = (P, \land, \lnot, \top, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}) \) from Definition 5.4. It is easy to check that \( \top' \land' = \top' \) and \( \top_i' \lnot' = \top_i' \top' \top_i' \subseteq' \top_i' \). Since \( \mathcal{F} \) is a principal frame, \( P \) is the set of all principal downsets in \( (S, \subseteq) \) plus \( \emptyset \). Define a function \( h: S' \to P \) by \( h(x) = \{ x' \in S | x' \subseteq x \} \), noting that \( h(\top') = \emptyset \). It is straightforward to check that \( h \) is a BAO-isomorphism, using the fact that \( h(\top_i') = \{ y \in S | y \subseteq \top_i' \} = \{ y \in S | R_i(y) \subseteq \{ x' \in S | x' \subseteq x \} \} = \lambda, \{ x' \in S | x' \subseteq x \} = \lambda, h(x) \).

For part 3, it suffices to show that \( \mathcal{F}' \) is a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO. To reduce clutter, we will drop some of the primes. For reductio, suppose that for any \( X \subseteq S' \), \( \bigwedge X \) exists in \( \mathcal{F}' \), but \( \bigwedge_i \bigwedge X \) is not the greatest lower bound of \( \{ \top_i | x \in X \} \). Since \( \mathcal{F}' \) is a BAO, for any \( y \in X \), \( \bigwedge X \subseteq y \) implies \( \bigwedge_i \bigwedge X \subseteq \top_i y \), so \( \bigwedge_i \bigwedge X \) is a lower bound of \( \{ \top_i | x \in X \} \). Hence if \( \bigwedge_i \bigwedge X \) is not the greatest, then there is a \( u \in S' \) such that \( u \subseteq \top_i \) for all \( x \in X \), but \( u \not\subseteq \bigwedge_i \bigwedge X \) is not the greatest lower bound of \( \{ y \in S | y \subseteq \top_i \} \). Thus, \( u \not\subseteq \bigwedge_i \bigwedge X \), so there is a \( z \in R_i(u) \) with \( z \not\subseteq \bigwedge X \), for some \( x \in X \), \( z \not\subseteq x \) and hence \( z \land -x \neq \bot \). Given \( uR'_i z \), \( z \land -x \neq \bot \), and \( u \subseteq \top_i x \), by \( \mathcal{R} \)-rule from Proposition 4.41 there is a \( v \in S' \) with \( \top_i x R'_i v \) and \( v \land -x \neq \bot \). But \( \top_i x = \max\{ y \in S' | R'_i(y) \subseteq \downarrow x \} \), so \( \top_i x R'_i v \) implies \( v \subseteq x \), contradicting \( v \land -x \neq \bot \).

For part 4, it suffices to show that \( \mathcal{F}' \) is a \( \mathcal{T} \)-BAO. Since \( \mathcal{F} \) is quasi-functional, \( \mathcal{F}_\bot \) is an extended quasi-functional frame (recall Definition 4.24), so for every \( z \in S' \), there is a \( f_i(z) \in S' \) such that \( f_i(z) = \max(R'_i(z)) \). We must show that \( y \subseteq \top_i x \) iff \( f_i(y) \subseteq x \). The left-hand side says that \( y \subseteq \max\{ z \in S' \land R'_i(z) \subseteq \downarrow x \} \). If \( f_i(y) \subseteq x \), then since \( f_i(y) = \max(R'_i(y)) \), \( R'_i(y) \subseteq \downarrow x \), so \( y \subseteq \max\{ z \in S' \land R'_i(z) \subseteq \downarrow x \} \). In the other direction, if \( y \subseteq \max\{ z \in S' \land R'_i(z) \subseteq \downarrow x \} \), then by Fact 4.42, \( f_i(y) \subseteq f_i(\max\{ z \in S' \land R'_i(z) \subseteq \downarrow x \}) \), and given \( f_i(z) = \max(R'_i(z)) \), we have \( f_i(\max\{ z \in S' \land R'_i(z) \subseteq \downarrow x \}) \subseteq x \), so \( f_i(y) \subseteq x \).

Part 5 is by an easy induction on \( \varphi \) using Fact 2.5.1, which is left to the reader.

For part 6, we already have from part 5 that if \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over \( \mathcal{F} \), then \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over \( \mathcal{F}^b \). For the other direction, suppose \( \varphi \) is satisfied in some algebraic model \( (\mathcal{F}^b, \theta) \). Since \( \theta: \Phi \to P \), \( \theta \) is an admissible valuation for \( \mathcal{F} \), and then by part 5, since \( \varphi \) is satisfied in \( (\mathcal{F}^b, \theta) \), \( \varphi \) is satisfied in \( (\mathcal{F}, \theta) \). \( \square \)
As an aside concerning Theorem 5.6.2, recall from Fact 5.2 that every CV-BAO is a CT-BAO, which leads to the following observation.

**Observation 5.7** (Residuals from Full Possibility Frames). When \( F = (S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P) \) is a full possibility frame, the residual of \( \mathbb{1} \) in \( F^b \) is the \( f_i: P \to P \) defined by \( f_i(X) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow R_i[X])) \) as in Fact 2.17.2.

By Theorem 5.6, we can transfer completeness results from possibility semantics to algebraic semantics as follows.

**Corollary 5.8** (From Frame Completeness to BAO Completeness). For any normal modal logic \( L \), if \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of full possibility frames (resp. principal possibility frames, quasi-functional principal possibility frames), then \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of CV-BAOs (resp. \( V \)-BAOs, \( T \)-BAOs).

Not only are possibility frames semantically equivalent to their underlying BAOs, but also morphisms between possibility frames transform into morphisms between their underlying BAOs in the other direction. Compare this with the analogous standard results for world frames and their underlying BAOs in, e.g., Goldblatt 1974, Thm. 1.5.9 or Blackburn et al. 2001, Props. 5.51, 5.79.

**Theorem 5.9** (From Possibility Morphisms to BAO-Homomorphisms). For any possibility frames \( F \) and \( F' \) and possibility morphism \( h: F \to F' \), define \( h^b: F'^b \to F^b \) by \( h^b(X') = h^{-1}[X'] \). Then:

1. \( h^b \) is a BAO-homomorphism, which is complete if \( F \) and \( F' \) are full;
2. if \( h \) is dense as in Definition 3.2.9, then \( h^b \) is injective;
3. if \( h \) is robust as in Definition 3.2.10, then \( h^b \) is surjective;
4. if \( f: F \to F' \) is the identity map on \( F \), then \( f^b \) is the identity map on \( F^b \);
5. for any possibility morphisms \( f: F \to G \) and \( g: G \to H \), \((g \circ f)^b = g^b \circ f^b\).

**Proof.** First, by the pull back condition on possibility morphisms (Definition 3.2.3), \( h^b \) is indeed a function to the domain of \( F^b \), i.e., \( P \) in \( F \). Second, clearly \( h^b(X' \land Y') = h^b(X') \land h^b(Y') \), and if \( F \) and \( F' \) are full, then arbitrary meets coincide with intersections, so \( h^b(\bigwedge_{j \in J} X'_j) = \bigwedge_{j \in J} h^b(X'_j) \). Next, by our definitions:

\[
\begin{align*}
h^b(-X') &= -h^b(X') \\
h^b(\text{int}(S' \setminus X')) &= \text{int}(S \setminus h^b(X')) \\
h^{-1}[\text{int}(S' \setminus X')] &= \text{int}(S \setminus h^{-1}[X']) \\
\forall x \in S: \downarrow h(x) \cap X' &= \emptyset \iff \downarrow x \cap h^{-1}[X'] = \emptyset,
\end{align*}
\]

and the ‘iff’ is exactly the \( \sqsubseteq \)-matching condition on possibility morphisms. Finally, by our definitions:

\[
\begin{align*}
h^b(\mathbb{1}X') &= \mathbb{1}h^b(X') \\
h^b(\{ y' \in S' \mid R'_i(y') \subseteq X' \}) &= \{ y \in S \mid R_i(y) \subseteq h^b(X') \} \\
h^{-1}[\{ y' \in S' \mid R'_i(y') \subseteq X' \}] &= \{ y \in S \mid R_i(y) \subseteq h^{-1}[X'] \} \\
\forall y \in S: R'_i(h(y)) \subseteq X' \iff R_i(y) \subseteq h^{-1}[X'],
\end{align*}
\]

and the ‘iff’ is exactly the \( R \)-matching condition on possibility morphisms.
For part 2, assume \( h \) is dense and that \( h^b(X') = h^b(Y') \), so \( h^{-1}[X'] = h^{-1}[Y'] \). To show that \( X' = Y' \), consider an \( x' \in X' \). We claim that for all \( y' \subseteq x' \) there is a \( z' \subseteq y' \) such that \( z' \in Y' \), so by refinability for \( Y' \), we have \( x' \in Y' \). Suppose \( y' \subseteq x' \). Since \( h \) is dense, there is a \( z \in F \) such that \( h(z) \subseteq y' \). Since \( x' \in X' \) and \( h(z) \subseteq y' \subseteq x' \), we have \( h(z) \in X' \) by persistence for \( X' \). Then since \( h^{-1}[X'] = h^{-1}[Y'] \), \( h(z) \in X' \) implies \( h(z) \in Y' \). So where \( z' = h(z) \), we have proven the claim needed to apply refinability and conclude \( x' \in Y' \). Hence \( X' \subseteq Y' \), and the other direction is the same, so \( h^b \) is injective.

For part 3, suppose \( X \in F^p \), so \( X \in P^F \). Then assuming \( h \) is robust, there is an \( X' \in P^{F'} \) such that \( h[X] = h[S^F] \cap X' \). We claim that \( h^{-1}[X'] = X \). Since \( h[X] = h[S^F] \cap X' \), we have \( h^{-1}[h[X]] = h^{-1}[h[S^F]] \cap h^{-1}[X'] = S^F \cap h^{-1}[X'] = h^{-1}[X'] \). Then since \( h \) is robust, \( h^{-1}[h[X]] = X \), which with the previous sentence gives us \( h^{-1}[X'] = X \), so \( h^b[X'] = X \). This shows that \( h^b \) is surjective.

Parts 4-5 are easy to check.

Thus, we arrive at the first part of the categorical picture that we prepared for in Remark 3.10.

**Corollary 5.10** (The \((\cdot)^b \) Functor). The \((\cdot)^b \) operation given in Definition 5.4 and Theorem 5.9 is a contravariant functor from the category of full possibility frames (resp. principal possibility frames, quasi-functional principal possibility frames, all possibility frames) with possibility morphisms to the category of CV-BAOs (resp. V-BAOs, T-BAOs, all BAOs) with complete (resp. all) BAO-homomorphisms.

### 5.2 From V-BAOs to Possibility Frames

To go from BAOs to possibility frames, we will consider two different routes, one in this section and §5.3, and the other in §§5.4-5.5. In this section, we show how V-BAOs can be turned into semantically equivalent principal possibility frames and CV-BAOs can be turned into semantically equivalent full possibility frames.

In addition, in the case of CV-BAOs, we will establish a categorical connection with full possibility frames. We will show that there is a contravariant functor \((\cdot)^b \) from the category of CV-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms to the category of full possibility frames with (taut) possibility morphisms. Thus, \((\cdot)^p \) and \((\cdot)^b \) from Corollary 5.10 will form a pair of contravariant functors between these categories.

We begin by introducing the following definition of a class of BAOs, inspired by possibility frames, which can be easily transformed into semantically equivalent possibility frames.

**Definition 5.11** (\( R \)-BAOs). Given a BAO \( \mathbb{A} = \langle A, \land, -, \top, \{\, \}, \, i \in I \rangle \), for each \( i \in I \), define a relation \( R_i \subseteq A \times A \) by:

1. \( xR_i y \) iff for all \( y' \in A \), if \( y' \not\leq y \), then \( x \land \Diamond_{i} y' \not\leq \top \).

Then \( \mathbb{A} \) is an \( R \)-BAO iff for every \( i \in I \) and \( x, y \in A \):

2. if \( x \land \Diamond_{i} y \not\leq \top \), then there is a \( y' \in A \) such that \( y' \not\leq y \) and \( xR_i y' \).

It turns out that the class of \( R \)-BAOs is exactly the class of V-BAOs, a result which Holliday and Litak [2015] use to show that not all normal modal logics are sound and complete with respect to a class of V-BAOs.\(^{28} \) Here we use it to show that any V-BAO can be transformed into a semantically equivalent principal possibility frame. To establish the result in Lemma 5.13 below, the following straightforward fact is useful.

---

\(^{28} \) Around the same time that Litak and I proved that complete additivity of an operator in a BAO is equivalent to the \( \forall \exists \) first-order condition \( R \), in January 2015, Hajnál Andréka, Zalán Gyenis, and István Németi independently proved that complete additivity of an operator on a poset is preserved under ultraproducts. After they learned of our result on the first-orderness of complete additivity in BAOs from Steven Givant, Andréka et al. [Forthcoming] extended it from BAOs to arbitrary posets.
**Fact 5.12 (Least Upper Bounds).** For any BAO $\mathbb{A} = \langle A, \wedge, -, \top, \{\blacksquare_i\}_{i \in I}, x \in A, Y \subseteq A$, the following are equivalent:

1. $x = \bigvee Y$;
2. $x$ is an upper bound of $Y$, and for any $z \in A$, if $z \wedge x \neq \bot$, then for some $y \in Y$, $z \wedge y \neq \bot$.

**Lemma 5.13** (Holliday and Litak 2015).

1. Every $\mathcal{V}$-BAO is an $\mathcal{R}$-BAO;
2. Every $\mathcal{R}$-BAO is a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO.

**Proof.** For part 1, suppose $\mathbb{A}$ is not an $\mathcal{R}$-BAO, so for some $x, y \in A$, $x \wedge \blacksquare_i y \neq \bot$ but

$$\forall y' \in A: \text{if } \bot \neq y' \leq y \text{ then } \exists y'' \in A: \bot \neq y'' \leq y' \text{ and } x \wedge \blacksquare_i y'' = \bot.$$  

(8)

Let $Y'$ be the set of all $y' \in A$ such that $\bot \neq y' \leq y$, and let $Y''$ be the set of all $y'' \in A$ such that $\bot \neq y'' \leq y$ and $x \wedge \blacksquare_i y'' = \bot$. Then from (8), we have

$$\forall y' \in Y' \exists y'' \in Y'': y'' \leq y'.$$  

(9)

Now we claim that

$$y = \bigvee Y''.$$  

(10)

First, by definition of $Y''$, $y$ is an upper bound of $Y''$. Second, observe that for all $z \in A$, if $z \wedge y \neq \bot$, then $z \wedge y \in Y'$, which with (9) implies that for some $y'' \in Y''$, $\bot \neq y'' \leq z \wedge y$ and hence $z \wedge y'' \neq \bot$. Thus, we have (10) by Fact 5.12. Now if

$$\blacksquare_i y = \bigvee\{\blacksquare_i y'' | y'' \in Y''\},$$  

(11)

then since $x \wedge \blacksquare_i y \neq \bot$, by Fact 5.12 there is a $y'' \in Y''$ such that $x \wedge \blacksquare_i y'' \neq \bot$. But by the definition of $Y''$, there is no such $y''$. Thus, although (10) holds, (11) does not, so $\mathbb{A}$ is not a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO.

For part 2, suppose $\mathbb{A}$ is not a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO, so there is some $X \subseteq A$ such that $\bigvee X$ exists in $\langle A, \leq \rangle$, but $\blacksquare_i \bigvee X$ is not the least upper bound of $\{\blacksquare_i x | x \in X\}$. For every $x \in X$, since $x \leq \bigvee X$, we have $\blacksquare_i x \leq \blacksquare_i \bigvee X$, so $\blacksquare_i \bigvee X$ is an upper bound of $\{\blacksquare_i x | x \in X\}$. Then by the assumption that it is not a least upper bound, Fact 5.12 implies that there is a $z \in A$ such that (i) $z \wedge \blacksquare_i \bigvee X \neq \bot$, but (ii) for all $x \in X$, $z \wedge \blacksquare_i x = \bot$. Now if $\mathbb{A}$ is an $\mathcal{R}$-BAO, then (i) implies that there is a $u \in A$ such that (iii) $\bot \neq u \leq \bigvee X$ and (iv) $zR_i u$, i.e., for all $u' \in A$ such that $\bot \neq u' \leq u$, $z \wedge \blacksquare_i u' \neq \bot$. Given (iii), by Fact 5.12 there is an $x \in X$ such that $u \wedge x \neq \bot$. Then where $u' = u \wedge x$, we have $\bot \neq u' \leq u$ and hence $z \wedge \blacksquare_i u' \neq \bot$ by (iv). But then since $\blacksquare_i u' \leq \blacksquare_i x$, we have $z \wedge \blacksquare_i x \neq \bot$, which contradicts (ii). Thus, $\mathbb{A}$ is not an $\mathcal{R}$-BAO.

Thomason [1975a] observed that any $\mathcal{C}4\mathcal{V}$-BAO can be turned into an equivalent Kripke frame whose domain is the set of atoms in the BAO and whose accessibility relations $R_i$ are defined by: $aR_i b$ iff $a \wedge \blacksquare_i b \neq \bot$. Note how this definition relates to part 3 of the following definition for turning $\mathcal{V}$-BAOs into possibility frames.

**Definition 5.14 (Full Frame and Principal Frame of a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO).** Given a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO $\mathbb{A} = \langle A, \wedge, -, \top, \{\blacksquare_i\}_{i \in I}, x \in A, Y \subseteq A$, and algebraic model $\mathbb{M} = \langle \mathbb{A}, \theta \rangle$, we define the full frame $\mathbb{A}_u = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P_u \rangle$ of $\mathbb{A}$, the principal frame $\mathbb{A}_p = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P_p \rangle$ of $\mathbb{A}$, and $\mathbb{M}_p = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle$ as follows:

1. $S = A \setminus \{\bot\}$;
2. $\sqsubseteq$ is the restriction of $\leq$ to $S$;
3. $xR_i y$ iff for all $y' \in A$: if $\bot \neq y' \sqsubseteq y$, then $x \land \downarrow_i y \neq \bot$;
4. $P_u = \text{RO}(\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle)$ (recall Notation 2.19);
5. $P_p = \{\downarrow x \mid x \in S\} \cup \{\emptyset\}$, where $\downarrow x = \{x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq x\}$;
6. $\pi(p) = \downarrow \theta(p) = \{x \in S \mid x \subseteq \theta(p)\}$. \hfill $\Box$

The following property of $\mathcal{A}_u/\mathcal{A}_p$ when $\mathcal{A}$ is a T-BAO will be useful later.

**Lemma 5.15** (Full/Principal Frame of a T-BAO). For any T-BAO $\mathcal{A}$, $\mathcal{A}_u/\mathcal{A}_p$ is such that for all $x, y \in S$, $xR_i y$ iff $y \subseteq f_i(x)$, where $f_i$ is the residual of $\mathcal{A}_i$ (recall Definition 5.1.4).

*Proof.* If we do not have $xR_i y$, then there is a $y'$ such that $\bot \neq y' \sqsubseteq y$ and $x \land \downarrow_i y' = \bot$, so $x \subseteq \downarrow_i -y'$. Hence $f_i(x) \subseteq -y'$, which with $\bot \neq y'$ implies $y' \not\subseteq f_i(x)$, which with $y' \sqsubseteq y$ implies $y \not\subseteq f_i(x)$.

If $y \not\subseteq f_i(x)$, then $y' = y \land -f_i(x) \neq \bot$. Since $f_i$ is the residual of $\mathcal{A}_i$, we have $x \subseteq \downarrow_i f_i(x)$ from $f_i(x) \subseteq f_i(x)$, so $x \land \downarrow_i -f_i(x) = \bot$, which implies $x \land \downarrow_i y' = \bot$. Thus, we do not have $xR_i y$. \hfill $\Box$

Another important fact is that for a CV-BAO, its full frame and principal frame are the same.

**Lemma 5.16** (Full = Principal Frame of a CV-BAO). For any CV-BAO $\mathcal{A}$, $\mathcal{A}_u = \mathcal{A}_p$.

*Proof.* As shown in the proof of Fact 4.48, if $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ is a complete Boolean lattice and $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ is the result of deleting the bottom element as in Definition 5.14, then the set RO($\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$) of regular open sets in the downset topology on $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ is exactly the set of principal downsets in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ plus $\emptyset$, so $P_u = P_p$. \hfill $\Box$

Theorem 5.17 records the crucial properties of the ($\cdot)_p$ and ($\cdot)_u$ transformations. For part 7 of the theorem, we generalize the notion of satisfiability over a BAO from a single formula to a set of formulas: $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ is satisfiable over a BAO $\mathcal{A}$ iff there is an algebraic model $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{A}, \theta \rangle$ and an $x \in \mathcal{A}$, $x \neq \bot$, such that for all $\sigma \in \Sigma$, $\theta(\sigma) = x$. This is not the only generalization that makes sense, but it fits here.

**Theorem 5.17** (From V-BAOs to Possibility Frames). For any $\mathcal{V}$-BAO $\mathcal{A}$ and algebraic model $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{A}, \theta \rangle$:

1. $\mathcal{A}_p$ is a tight principal possibility frame, and $\mathcal{A}_u$ is a tight full possibility frame;
2. if $\mathcal{A}$ is a T-BAO, then $\mathcal{A}_p$ and $\mathcal{A}_u$ are quasi-functional;
3. if $\mathcal{A}$ is a CV-BAO, then $\mathcal{A}_p = \mathcal{A}_u$ is a rich possibility frame;
4. $\mathcal{M}_p$ is a possibility model based on $\mathcal{A}_p$ and $\mathcal{A}_u$;
5. for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $[\varphi]^{\mathcal{M}_p} = \downarrow \hat{\theta}(\varphi)$;
6. for all $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, if $\Sigma$ is satisfiable over $\mathcal{A}$, then $\Sigma$ is satisfiable over $\mathcal{A}_u$;
7. for all $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\Sigma$ is satisfiable over $\mathcal{A}$ iff $\Sigma$ is satisfiable over $\mathcal{A}_p$.

*Proof.* For part 1, we first show that $\mathcal{A}_p = \langle S, \sqsubseteq , \{R_i\}_{i \in I} , P \rangle$ is a principal possibility frame. By Fact 4.40, it suffices to show: that $P$ is the set of all downsets in $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ plus $\emptyset$, which is immediate from Definition 5.14; that $\langle S_{\bot}, \sqsubseteq_{\bot} \rangle$ is a Boolean lattice, which is also immediate, since $\langle S_{\bot}, \sqsubseteq_{\bot} \rangle$ is isomorphic to the underlying lattice $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ of $\mathcal{A}$, which we will now identify with $\langle S_{\bot}, \sqsubseteq_{\bot} \rangle$; and that the operation $\sqsubseteq$, defined on $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ using $R_i$ as in Definition 4.36 is a total operation. For the last property, we claim that for all $y \in A$, $\downarrow_i y = \sqsubseteq_i y = \max\{x \in A \mid R_i(x) \subseteq \downarrow y\}$, so $\sqsubseteq_i$ is total since $\downarrow_i$ is total. (To reduce clutter, we will drop the superscript for $\mathcal{A}$, but remember that $\downarrow_i$ is the operator in $\mathcal{A}$, not the defined operation $\downarrow_i^\mathcal{A}$ on $P$ in the
frame \(\mathcal{A}_p\). Suppose \(x \not\leq \mathbf{y}, \) so \(x \land \mathbf{\neg y} \not\subseteq \perp\). Then since \(\mathcal{A}\) is a \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO and hence an \(\mathcal{R}\)-BAO by Lemma 5.13, it follows that there is a \(z \leq -y\) such that \(z \not\subseteq \perp\) and \(x \land z\), which implies \(\pi_i(x) \not\subseteq \perp\). This shows that \[\mathbf{y}\] is an upper bound of the set \(\{x \in A \mid R_{i}(x) \subseteq \perp\}\). To show that it is the maximum, we show that \(\mathbf{y}\) belongs to the set. Suppose \(\mathbf{y}R_i z\), so by the definition of \(R_i\) in \(\mathcal{A}_p\), for all \(z' \leq z\) with \(z' \not\subseteq \perp\), we have \(\mathbf{y} \land \mathbf{\neg z'} \not\subseteq \perp\). Now if \(z \not\leq y\), then \(\perp \not\subseteq z \land y \leq z\), and so by the previous step, \(\mathbf{y} \land \mathbf{\neg y} \not\subseteq \perp\), which is a contradiction given the properties of \(\mathbf{y}\) (Definition A.8). Thus, \(R_i(\mathbf{y}) \subseteq \perp\), as desired.

To show that \(\mathcal{A}_p\) is \(R\)-tight, let \(\mathcal{E}_i\) be the modal operator on \(P\) in \(\mathcal{A}_p\), in order to distinguish it from \(\mathcal{A}/\square_i\). We need to show that if \(\forall Z \in P: x \in \mathcal{E}_i Z \Rightarrow y \in Z\), then \(x \land R_{i} y\). Suppose that we do not have \(x \land R_{i} y\), so there is a \(y' \in A\) with \(\perp \not\subseteq y' \not\subseteq y\) and \(x \land \mathbf{\neg y} = \perp\). Then we claim that \(x \in \mathcal{E}_i \mathbf{\neg y'}\), i.e., \(R_i(x) \subseteq \perp\). If \(x \land R_{i} y\), then for all \(v' \in A\) such that \(\perp \not\subseteq v' \not\subseteq v\), we have \(x \land \mathbf{\neg y' \not\subseteq v}\), which with \(\mathbf{\neg y} = \perp\) implies \(v' \not\subseteq y'\). Since this holds for all \(v' \not\subseteq \perp\) with \(v' \not\subseteq v\), we have \(v \not\subseteq -y'\). Thus, \(x \in \mathcal{E}_i \perp\). But since \(\perp \not\subseteq \perp\), we have \(y \not\subseteq \perp\), so \(y \not\subseteq \perp\). Thus, we have a \(Z\) for which \(x \in \mathcal{E}_i Z\), but \(y \not\subseteq Z\). Hence \(\mathcal{A}_p\) is \(R\)-tight. Finally, since \(\mathcal{A}_p\) is a principal possibility frame, it is \(\square\)-tight by Fact 4.38.

Next we show that \(\mathcal{A}_u\) is a full possibility frame that is tight. Since \(\mathcal{A}_p\) is \(R\)-tight, it is strong by Proposition 4.41.2, i.e., \(\subseteq\) and \(R_i\) satisfy \(R\rightleftharpoons \text{win}\). Then since \(\mathcal{A}_u = ((\mathcal{A}_p))^{\top}\) (Definition 2.25), it follows by Corollary 2.31.2 that \(\mathcal{A}_u\) is indeed a full possibility frame. Then since \(\mathcal{A}_u\) is also strong, it is \(R\)-tight by Fact 4.33.3. Finally, since \(\mathcal{A}_u\) is a full frame and is separative by Fact 4.39, it is \(\square\)-tight by Fact 4.32.2.

For part 2, by Lemma 5.15, if \(\mathcal{A}\) is a \(\mathcal{T}\)-BAO, then \(\mathcal{A}_u\) and \(\mathcal{A}_p\) satisfy \(R\)-principal as in Fact 4.25 with \(R_i(x) = f_i(x)\), so they are quasi-functional by Definition 4.24.

For part 3, any \(\mathcal{C}\)-BAO \(\mathcal{A}\) is a \(\mathcal{T}\)-BAO by Fact 5.2, so \(\mathcal{A}_p\) satisfies \(R\)-principal as above. By Fact 4.50, being a rich frame is equivalent to being a full frame that satisfies \(R\)-principal and for which \(\langle S_1, \subseteq_1 \rangle\) is a complete Boolean lattice. It follows that if \(\mathcal{A}\) is a \(\mathcal{C}\)-BAO, then \(\mathcal{A}_u = \mathcal{A}_p\) is a rich frame.

For part 4, that \(\pi(p) \in P_{p}\) is immediate from Definition 5.14.5-6, so \(M_p\) is based on \(\mathcal{A}_p\), and \(P_p \subseteq P_u\), so \(M_p\) is based on \(\mathcal{A}_u\) as well.

For part 5, \([\varphi]^{M_p} = \downarrow \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\) can be rewritten as: for all \(x \in S\), \(M_p, x \models \varphi\) iff \(x \subseteq \downarrow \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\). The proof is by induction on \(\varphi\). The atomic case is by definition of \(M_p\), and the \(\land\) case is routine. For the \(\neg\) case, \(\hat{\theta}(\neg \varphi) = \neg \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\), so we show that \(M_p, x \models \neg \varphi\) iff \(x \subseteq \neg \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\). Now \(x \subseteq \neg \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\) iff for all \(x' \subseteq x\) (so \(x' \not\subseteq \perp\)), \(x' \not\subseteq \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\). Then since \(x' \not\subseteq \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\) is equivalent to \(M_p, x' \not\models \varphi\) by the inductive hypothesis, the right side of the previous ‘iff’ is equivalent to \(M_p, x \models \neg \varphi\). For the \(\square\) case, \(\hat{\theta}(\square_i \varphi) = \square_i \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\), so we show that \(M_p, x \models \square_i \varphi\) iff \(x \subseteq \square_i \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\). From left to right, suppose \(x \not\subseteq \square_i \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\), so \(x \land \mathbf{\neg} \hat{\theta}(\varphi) \not\subseteq \perp\). Then since \(\mathcal{A}\) is a \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO and hence an \(\mathcal{R}\)-BAO by Lemma 5.13, there is a \(y \in A\) such that \(\perp \not\subseteq y \not\subseteq \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\) and \(x \land y\). Hence \(y \not\subseteq \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\), which with the inductive hypothesis implies \(M_p, y \not\models \varphi\), which with \(x \land y\) implies \(M_p, x \not\models \varphi\). In the other direction, suppose \(M_p, x \not\models \square_i \varphi\), so there is a \(y \in A\) such that \(x \land y\) and \(M_p, y \not\models \varphi\). Then \(y \not\subseteq \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\) by the inductive hypothesis, so \(y \land \mathbf{\neg} \hat{\theta}(\varphi) \not\subseteq \perp\). It follows by the definition of \(R_i\) in \(\mathcal{M}_p\) that \(x \land \mathbf{\neg} (y \land \mathbf{\neg} \hat{\theta}(\varphi)) \not\subseteq \perp\), which by the properties of \(\mathbf{y}\) (Definition A.8) implies \(x \land \mathbf{\neg} \hat{\theta}(\varphi) \not\subseteq \perp\) and hence \(x \not\subseteq \square_i \hat{\theta}(\varphi)\).

Part 6 is immediate from parts 4 and 5.

For part 7, the left-to-right direction is immediate from part 5. For the right-to-left direction, given a possibility model \(\langle \mathcal{A}_p, \pi \rangle\), define \(\pi_{\neg}: \Phi \rightarrow A\) (where \(A\) is the domain of \(\mathcal{A}\)) such that \(\pi_{\neg}(p) = \perp\) if \(\pi(p) = \perp\), and otherwise \(\pi_{\neg}(p) = x\) for the \(x\) such that \(\pi(p) = \downarrow x\), which is guaranteed to exist since \(\mathcal{A}_p\) is a principal possibility frame for which \(\pi\) is an admissible valuation. Then \(\langle \mathcal{A}, \pi_{\neg} \rangle\) is an algebraic model such that \(\langle \mathcal{A}_p, (\pi_{\neg})_p \rangle = \langle \mathcal{A}_p, \pi \rangle\), so if \(\Sigma\) is satisfied at a point \(x\) in \(\langle \mathcal{A}_p, \pi \rangle\) and hence in \(\langle \mathcal{A}_p, (\pi_{\neg})_p \rangle\), then by part 5, \(\Sigma\) is satisfied at \(x\) in \(\langle \mathcal{A}, \pi_{\neg} \rangle\) as well.

Note the contrast between parts 6 and 7 of Theorem 5.17: we cannot always turn a possibility model
based on $A_o$ into a semantically equivalent algebraic model based on $A$. We will return to this point in §5.6.

While Theorem 5.17 applies to all $\mathcal{V}$-BAOs, if we focus in on $CV$-BAOs we can go further: not only are $CV$-BAOs semantically equivalent to full possibility frames, but also morphisms between $CV$-BAOs transform into morphisms between their associated possibility frames in the other direction. Thomason [1975a] observed that given $CAV$-BAOs $A$ and $A'$ and a complete BAO-homomorphism $h: A' \rightarrow A$, for every atom $a$ in $A$, there is a unique atom $a'$ in $A'$ such that $a \leq h(a')$, and the function that sends each atom $a$ in $A$ to its $a'$ with $a \leq h(a')$ is a p-morphism from the atom structure of $A$ to that of $A'$. Since Thomason’s construction depends on atoms, we cannot use it for $CV$-BAOs in general. The construction of $h_p$ we use for Theorem 5.18 has been used by Bezhanishvili [1999, Thm. 30] to establish a duality between, on the one hand, certain frames for intuitionistic modal logic together with p-morphism-like maps, and on the other hand, complete and completely join-prime generated Heyting algebras with operators (HAOs) together with complete HAO-homomorphisms. Although this construction does not depend on atoms, it does depend on lattice-completeness for the arbitrary meets in the definition of $h_p$, so we cannot use it for $V$-BAOs in general.

**Theorem 5.18 (From BAO-Homomorphisms to Possibility Morphisms).** For any $CV$-BAOs $A$ and $A'$ and complete BAO-homomorphism $h: A' \rightarrow A$, define $h_p: \mathcal{A}_p \rightarrow \mathcal{A}'_p$ by $h_p(x) = \bigwedge\{x' \in A' \mid x \leq h(x')\}$. Then:

1. $h_p$ is a taut possibility morphism as in Definition 3.2;
2. if $h$ is surjective, then $h_p$ is a strong embedding;
3. if $h$ is injective, then $h_p$ is surjective;
4. if $f: A \rightarrow A$ is the identity map on $A$, then $f_p$ is the identity map on $A_p$;
5. for any $CV$-BAOs $A$, $B$, and $C$ and complete BAO-homomorphisms $f: A \rightarrow B$ and $g: B \rightarrow C$, $(g \circ f)_p = f_p \circ g_p$.

**Proof.** We begin by verifying that $h_p$ is indeed a function to the domain of $\mathcal{A}'_p$, which is that of $A'$ minus $\bot'$. This requires that for $x \in \mathcal{A}_p$, so $x \neq \bot$, we have $h_p(x) \neq \bot'$. Indeed, if $h_p(x) = \bigwedge\{x' \mid x \leq h(x')\} = \bot'$, then since $h$ is complete, $\bigwedge\{h(x') \mid x \leq h(x')\} = \bot$, which implies $x \leq \bot$, contradicting $x \neq \bot$. Since $\bot$ is not in the domain of $h_p$ and $\bot'$ is not in its range, we may write $h_p(x) = \bigwedge\{x' \in \mathcal{A}'_p \mid x \leq h(x')\}$. Here $\sqsubseteq$ and $\sqsubset'$ are the refinement relations in $\mathcal{A}_p$ and $\mathcal{A}'_p$, respectively, as in Definition 5.14.

Now we make several observations about $h_p$:

(a) $y \sqsubseteq x$ implies $h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(x)$. For if $y \sqsubseteq x$, then $x \sqsubseteq h(z')$ implies $y \sqsubseteq h(z')$, so $\{z' \mid x \sqsubseteq h(z')\} \subseteq \{z' \mid y \sqsubseteq h(z')\}$, which means $h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(x)$.

(b) $h_p(h(y)) \sqsubset' y'$. By definition of $h_p$, $h_p(h(y)) = \bigwedge\{z' \mid h(y') \sqsupseteq h(z')\}$, and $y' \in \{z' \mid h(y') \sqsupseteq h(z')\}$.

(c) $x \sqsubseteq h(h_p(x))$. By definition of $h_p$, $h_p(h_p(x)) = \bigwedge\{z' \mid x \sqsubseteq h(z')\}$; since $h$ is a complete homomorphism, $h(\bigwedge\{z' \mid x \sqsubseteq h(z')\}) = \bigwedge\{h(z') \mid x \sqsubseteq h(z')\;}$; and $\bigwedge\{h(z') \mid x \sqsubseteq h(z')\}$.

(d) $h_p(x) \sqsubseteq y'$ iff $x \sqsubseteq h(y')$. Since $h_p(x) = \bigwedge\{z' \mid x \sqsubseteq h(z')\}$, clearly $x \sqsubseteq h(y')$ implies $h_p(x) \sqsubseteq y'$. In the other direction, $h_p(x) \sqsubseteq y'$ implies $h_p(h_p(x)) \sqsubseteq h(y')$, which with (c) implies $x \sqsubseteq h(y')$.

(e) $h_p(f_i(x)) = f'_i(h_p(x))$, where $f_i$ and $f'_i$ are the residuals of $f_i$, and $f'_i$, respectively, which exist since $A$ and $A'$ are $CV$-BAOs and hence $CT$-BAOs (Fact 5.2). By (d), $h_p(f_i(x)) \sqsubset' y'$ iff $f_i(x) \sqsubseteq h(y')$. Since $f_i$ is the residual of $f_i$, the right side of the ‘iff’ is equivalent to $x \sqsubseteq i_h(y') = h(\text{res}y')$, which by (d) is equivalent to $h_p(x) \sqsubseteq i_h(y')$, which by the fact that $f'_i$ is the residual of $f'_i$ is equivalent to $f'_i(h_p(x)) \sqsubseteq y'$. Thus, for any $y' \in \mathcal{A}'_p$, $h_p(f_i(x)) \sqsubset' y'$ iff $f'_i(h_p(x)) \sqsubset' y'$, so $h_p(f_i(x)) = f'_i(h_p(x))$.

Observation (a) shows that $h_p$ satisfies $\sqsubseteq$-forth. Next, we show:

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• if \( y' \sqsubseteq h_p(x) \), then \( \exists y : y \sqsubseteq x \) and \( h_p(y) \sqsubseteq y' \) (\( \sqsubseteq \)-back);

• if \( xR_iy \), then \( h_p(x)R'_i h_p(y) \) (\( R \)-forth);

• if \( h_p(x)R'_i y' \), then \( \exists y : xR_iy \) and \( y' \sqsubseteq h_p(y) \) (taut \( R \)-back).

Since \( A_p \) is a full possibility frame by Theorem 5.17.3, the pull back property of \( h_p \) follows from \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth and \( \sqsubseteq \)-back by Fact 3.5.

For \( \sqsubseteq \)-back, suppose \( y' \sqsubseteq h_p(x) \). By (a), \( h_p(h(y') \land x) \sqsubseteq h_p(h(y')) \), and by (b), \( h_p(h(y')) \sqsubseteq y' \), so we have \( h_p(h(y') \land x) \sqsubseteq y' \). Thus, if we can show that for \( y = h(y') \land x \), \( y \neq \perp \), then we have established \( \sqsubseteq \)-back. For reductio, suppose \( h(y') \land x = \perp \), so \( x \sqsubseteq \neg h(y') = h(\neg y') \), which by (a) and (b) implies \( h_p(x) \sqsubseteq h_p(h(\neg y')) \sqsubseteq \neg y' \). But then \( y' \sqsubseteq h_p(x) \sqsubseteq \neg y' \), so \( y' = \perp \), contradicting \( y' \in A_p \).

For \( R \)-forth, if \( xR_iy \), then \( y \sqsubseteq f_i(x) \) by Lemma 5.15, so \( h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(f_i(x)) \) by (a), so \( h_p(y) \sqsubseteq f'_i(h_p(x)) \) by (c), so \( h_p(x)R'_i h_p(y) \) by Lemma 5.15.

For taut \( R \)-back, if \( h_p(x)R'_i y' \), then \( y' \sqsubseteq f'_i(h_p(x)) \) by Lemma 5.15, so \( y' \sqsubseteq h_p(f_i(x)) \) by (c). Then \( f_i(x) \) is our desired \( y \) such that \( xR_iy \) and \( y' \sqsubseteq h_p(y) \).

For part 2, assuming \( h \) is surjective, we must show that (i) \( h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(x) \) implies \( y \sqsubseteq x \) (so \( h \) is injective), (ii) \( h_p(x)R'_i h_p(y) \) implies \( xR_i y \), and (iii) for all \( X \in P \) there is an \( X' \in P' \) such that \( h_p[X] = h_p[S] \cap X' \), where \( S \) is the domain of \( A_p \). For (i), if \( h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(x) \), then

\[
\forall \{y' \in h' : y \leq h'(y')\} \subseteq \forall \{x' \in A' : x \leq h(x')\}
\]

by definition of \( h_p \) and \( \sqsubseteq \).

\[
\Rightarrow h(\forall \{y' \in A' : y \leq h'(y')\}) \leq h(\forall \{x' \in A' : x \leq h(x')\})
\]

since \( h \) is a homomorphism.

\[
\Rightarrow \forall \{h(y') : y \leq h(y')\} \subseteq \forall \{h(x') : x \leq h(x')\}
\]

since \( h_p \) is complete.

\[
\Rightarrow y \leq x
\]

since \( h \) is surjective,

so \( y \sqsubseteq x \) since \( y \in A_p \). For (ii), if \( h_p(x)R'_i h_p(y) \), then by Lemma 5.15, \( h_p(y) \sqsubseteq f'_i(h_p(x)) \), which with (e) implies \( h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(f_i(x)) \), which with (i) implies \( y \sqsubseteq f_i(x) \), which with Lemma 5.15 implies \( xR_i y \). Finally, for (iii), suppose \( X \in P \), so by Definition 5.14.5, either \( X = \emptyset \) or \( X = \downarrow x \) for some non-minimum element \( x \) of \( A \). If \( X = \emptyset \), we can take \( X' = \emptyset \). So suppose \( X = \downarrow x \). Let \( X' = \downarrow h_p(x) \). Then \( X' \in P' \) by Definition 5.14.5. It only remains to show that \( h_p[\downarrow x] = h_p[S] \cap \downarrow h_p(x) \). Suppose \( y' \in h_p[\downarrow x] \), so there is a \( y \subseteq x \) such that \( h_p(y) = y' \). Then by \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth, \( y' = h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(x) \), so \( y' \in h_p[S] \cap \downarrow h_p(x) \). In the other direction, suppose \( y' \in h_p[S] \cap \downarrow h_p(x) \), so there is a \( y \in S \) such that \( y' = h_p(y) \sqsubseteq h_p(x) \). Then by (i) above we have \( y \subseteq x \), which with \( y' = h_p(y) \) implies \( y' \in h_p[\downarrow x] \). This completes the proof of part 2.

For part 3, assuming \( h \) is injective and \( y' \in A'_p \), we claim that \( h_p(h(y')) = y' \). As in (b) above, by definition of \( h_p \), \( h_p(h(y')) = \forall \{z' : h(y') \subseteq h(z')\} \), and \( y' \in \{z' : h(y') \subseteq h(z')\} \). Now we claim that \( y' \) is the minimum of \( \{z' : h(y') \subseteq h(z')\} \), which implies \( h_p(h(y')) = y' \). For suppose \( z' \) is a member of the set, so \( h(y') \subseteq h(z') \), and \( z' \subseteq y' \). Then since \( h \) is a homomorphism, \( h(z') \subseteq h(y') \), which with \( h(y') \subseteq h(z') \) and the injectivity of \( h \) implies \( y' = z' \). Hence \( h_p(h(y')) = y' \), which shows that \( h_p \) is surjective.

Parts 4-5 are easy to check.

From Theorems 5.17.3 and 5.18, we obtain the second piece of our categorical picture.

**Corollary 5.19** (The \( (\_)_p \) Functor). The \( (\_)_p \) operation given by Definition 5.14 and Theorem 5.18 is a contravariant functor from the category of CV-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms to the category of rich possibility frames with taut possibility morphisms—and hence to the categories of rich possibility frames with strict possibility morphisms and of rich possibility frames with possibility morphisms.
5.3 \((\cdot)_p\) and \((\cdot)^b\), and Dual Equivalence & Reflection with Rich Frames

Let us now consider the relation between \((\cdot)_p\) from §5.2 and \((\cdot)^b\) from §5.1. We begin by relating an arbitrary \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO \(A\) to the underlying BAO \((A_p)^b\) of its principal frame \(A_p\). In §5.6, we will relate an arbitrary \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO to the underlying BAO \((A_u)^b\) of its full frame \(A_u\). Recall that for a \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO \(A\), \(A_p = A_u\).

**Definition 5.20** (Morphism from \(A\) to \((A_p)^b\)). Given a \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO \(A\) whose associated Boolean lattice is \(\langle A, \leq \rangle\) with minimum \(\perp\), define \(\zeta_A : A \to (A_p)^b\) by \(\zeta_A(x) = \{x' \in A \setminus \{\perp\} \mid x' \leq x\}\). \(\Box\)

**Theorem 5.21** (From BAOs to Frames and Back).

1. If \(A\) is a \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO, then \(\zeta_A\) is a complete BAO-isomorphism.
2. If \(A\) and \(B\) are \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAOs, and \(h : A \to B\) is a complete BAO-homomorphism, then \((h_p)^b \circ \zeta_A = \zeta_B \circ h\), so the following diagram commutes:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
A & \xrightarrow{h} & B \\
\zeta_A \downarrow & & \downarrow \zeta_B \\
(A_p)^b & \xrightarrow{(h_p)^b} & (B_p)^b
\end{array}
\]

**Proof.** For part 1, it is straightforward to check that \(\zeta_A\) is a complete Boolean algebra isomorphism, so we only show that it respects the operators. Let \(A = \langle A, \wedge, \wedge, \top, \{\|\}_{i \in I}\rangle\). For \(x \in A\), \(\zeta_A(x) = \{y \in A \setminus \{\perp\} \mid y \leq \|\}_{i \in I}\) by the definition of \(\zeta_A\), and \(\zeta_A(x) = \{y \in A \setminus \{\perp\} \mid R_1(y) \leq \zeta_A(x)\}\) by Definition 5.4 and the fact from Definition 5.14 that \(A_p = A \setminus \{\perp\}\). So we must show that for all \(y \in A \setminus \{\perp\}\), \(y \leq \|\}_{i \in I}\) iff \(R_1(y) \leq \zeta_A(x)\). Suppose \(y \leq \|\}_{i \in I}\) and consider a \(z\) such that \(yR_1(z)\), which means that for all \(z'\) such that \(\perp \neq z' \leq z\), \(y \wedge \|\}_{i \in I}z' \neq \perp\). It follows that \(z \leq x\), for if \(z \not\leq x\), then \(z \wedge -x \neq \perp\), so by the previous step, \(y \wedge \|\}_{i \in I}x \neq \perp\), which implies \(y \wedge \|\}_{i \in I}-x \neq \perp\), which contradicts \(y \leq \|\}_{i \in I}\). In the other direction, if \(y \leq \|\}_{i \in I}\), then \(y \wedge \|\}_{i \in I}x \neq \perp\), so \(y \wedge \|\}_{i \in I}-x \neq \perp\). Then since \(A\) is a \(\mathcal{V}\)-BAO and hence an \(\mathcal{R}\)-BAO by Lemma 5.13, by Definition 5.11 there is a \(z\) such that \(\perp \neq z \leq -x\) and \(yR_1\). Then \(z \leq x\), so \(R_1(y) \nleq \zeta_A(x)\).

For part 2, let \(\perp_A\) and \(\perp_B\) be the minimums of \(A\) and \(B\), respectively. For \(a \in A\), we have

\[
(h_p)^b(\zeta_A(a)) = (h_p)^b\{a' \in A \setminus \{\perp\} \mid a' \leq a\} \quad \text{by definition of } \zeta_A
\]

\[
h_p^{-1}\{a' \in A \setminus \{\perp\} \mid a' \leq a\} \quad \text{by definition of } (\cdot)^b
\]

\[
\{b \in B \setminus \{\perp\} \mid h_p(b) \leq a\} \quad \text{by definition of } (\cdot)^{\perp}
\]

\[
\{b \in B \setminus \{\perp\} \mid \bigwedge \{x \in A \mid b \leq h(x)\} \leq a\} \quad \text{by definition of } (\cdot)_p
\]

\[
\{b \in B \setminus \{\perp\} \mid b \leq h(a)\} \quad (\dagger)
\]

\[
\zeta_B(h(a)) \quad \text{by definition of } \zeta_B.
\]

For \((\dagger)\), if \(b \leq h(a)\), then \(a \in \{x \in A \mid b \leq h(x)\}\), so \(\bigwedge \{x \in A \mid b \leq h(x)\} \leq a\). In the other direction, since \(h\) is a complete BAO-homomorphism, we have

\[
\bigwedge \{x \in A \mid b \leq h(x)\} \leq a
\]

\[
\Rightarrow h\bigwedge \{x \in A \mid b \leq h(x)\} \leq h(a)
\]

\[
\Rightarrow \bigwedge \{h(x) \mid x \in A \text{ and } b \leq h(x)\} \leq h(a)
\]

\[
\Rightarrow b \leq h(a),
\]

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which completes the proof.

In the other direction, going from a possibility frame \( F \) to \((F^b)_p\), this transformation is only well-defined if \( F^b \) is a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO (recall Definition 5.14), which is guaranteed if \( F \) is a full or principal possibility frame (Theorem 5.6.2-3). If \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) is full or principal, then by Definitions 5.4 and 5.14, \((F^b)_p\) is such that \( S(F^b)_p = P \setminus \{ \emptyset \} \), \( X \sqsubseteq(F^b)_p Y \) iff \( X \subseteq Y \), and \( P(F^b)_p \) is the set of all principal downsets in \( \langle S(F^b)_p, \sqsubseteq(F^b)_p \rangle \) plus \( \emptyset \). In contrast to Theorem 5.21, clearly \((F^b)_p\) is not guaranteed to be isomorphic to \( F \), since \((F^b)_p\) is always a principal possibility frame, with its poset a Boolean lattice minus \( \perp \). Even if \( F \) is a principal frame, it might not be isomorphic to \((F^b)_p\), because the relation \( R_i(F^b)_p \) may relate more possibilities than \( R_i \) does. To get an isomorphism we need to start with principal frames that are \emph{tight} as in §4.5. (Since all principal frames are \( \sqsubseteq \)-\emph{tight} by Fact 4.38, the requirement we have in mind here is \( R \)-\emph{tight}.)

**Proposition 5.22** (Tight Principal Frames and BAOs). A possibility frame \( F \) is possibility-isomorphic to \((F^b)_p\) iff \( F \) is a tight principal possibility frame.

**Proof.** For the left-to-right direction, by Theorem 5.6.3, for any principal possibility frame \( F \), \( F^b \) is a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO, and by Theorem 5.17.1, for any \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO \( A \), \( A_p \) is a tight principal possibility frame. Thus, \((F^b)_p\) is a tight principal possibility frame, so any isomorphic frame is too.

The right-to-left direction follows from Theorem 5.26.1 below. \( \square \)

Recall from §4.7 that \emph{rich} possibility frames are equivalent to tight principal possibility frames that are \emph{lattice-complete} (Fact 4.50). Rich frames arise now thanks to Proposition 5.23.1.

**Proposition 5.23** (From Full Frames to Rich Frames and Functional Frames). If \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) is a \emph{full} possibility frame, then:

1. \((F^b)_p\) is a rich possibility frame;
2. the relation \( R_i(F^b)_p \) in \((F^b)_p\) is given by \( X R_i(F^b)_p Y \) iff \( Y \subseteq \text{int}(\text{cl}(\uparrow R_i[X])) \);
3. \((F^b)_p\) can be functionalized (Proposition 4.27) by \( f_i(X) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\uparrow R_i[X])) \).

**Proof.** Part 1 is immediate from Theorems 5.6.2 and 5.17.3. Part 2 is immediate from Observation 5.7 and Lemma 5.15. Part 3 is immediate from part 2 and Proposition 4.27. \( \square \)

We now give the analogues of Definition 5.20 and Theorem 5.21 for moving from \( F \) to \((F^b)_p\).

**Definition 5.24** (Morphism from \( F \) to \((F^b)_p\)). Given a full or principal possibility frame \( F \) whose associated poset is \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \), define \( \zeta_F : F \to (F^b)_p \) by \( \zeta_F(x) = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq_s x \} \) (recall Definition 4.1).

If \( F \) is full, then Fact 4.3 implies that \( \zeta_F(x) \in P_F \); and if \( F \) is principal, then Lemma 4.39 implies that \( \sqsubseteq_s = \sqsubseteq \), so \( \zeta_F(x) = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq x \} \in P_F \). Thus, \( \zeta_F(x) \) is indeed in the domain of \((F^b)_p\).

Before proving the right-to-left direction of Proposition 5.22, we will show that if \( F \) is an arbitrary full or principal frame, then although we are not guaranteed that \( F \) is isomorphic to \((F^b)_p\), we are guaranteed a rather close connection. For the following, recall the terminology for morphisms from Definition 3.2.

**Theorem 5.25** (From Frames to BAOs and Almost Back). For any full or principal possibility frame \( F \):

1. \( \zeta_F \) is a strict, dense, and robust possibility morphism from \( F \) to \((F^b)_p\);
2. if \( F \) is \emph{separable}, then \( \zeta_F \) is a \( \sqsubseteq \)-strong embedding;

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3. If $F$ is separative and strong, then $\zeta_F$ is a strong embedding.

**Proof.** Let $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ and $(F^b)_p = \langle S^{(F^b)_p}, \sqsubseteq^{(F^b)_p}, \{ R_i^{(F^b)_p} \}_{i \in I}, P^{(F^b)_p} \rangle$. We begin with the observation $(\ast)$ that if $X \in S^{(F^b)_p}$ and $x \in X$, then by Fact 4.2, $\zeta_F(x) \subseteq X$, so $\zeta_F(x) \sqsubseteq^{(F^b)_p} X$. Since each $X \in S^{(F^b)_p}$ is nonempty, it follows that there is an $x \in S$ such that $\zeta_F(x) \sqsubseteq^{(F^b)_p} X$, so $\zeta_F$ is dense in the sense of Definition 3.2.9. For the special features of robust morphisms, we must show that for all $X \in P$, $\zeta_F[X] = \zeta_F^{-1}[\zeta_F[X]]$ and there is an $X' \in P^{(F^b)_p}$ such that $\zeta_F[X] = \zeta_F[S] \cap X'$. Since $\zeta_F[X] \subseteq \zeta_F^{-1}[\zeta_F[X]]$ is immediate, we begin with $\zeta_F[X] \supseteq \zeta_F^{-1}[\zeta_F[X]]$. If $\zeta_F(y) \in \zeta_F[X]$, then for some $x \in X$, $\zeta_F(y) = \{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq_s y \} = \zeta_F(x) = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq_s x \}$. Hence $y \sqsubseteq_s x$, which with $x \in X$ and Fact 4.2 implies $y \in X$, so $\zeta_F(y) \in \zeta_F[X]$. Thus, $\zeta_F[X] \supseteq \zeta_F^{-1}[\zeta_F[X]]$. For the required $X'$, take $X' = \{ Y \in (F^b)_p \mid Y \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} X \}$, so by $(\ast)$, $\zeta_F[X] \subseteq X'$ and hence $\zeta_F[X] \subseteq \zeta_F[S] \cap X'$. In the other direction, if $Y \in \zeta_F[S] \cap X'$, then there is a $y \in S$ such that $Y = \zeta_F(y) \in X'$, so $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} X$ and hence $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq X$. Then $y \in X$, so $\zeta_F(y) \in \zeta_F[X]$ and hence $Y \in \zeta_F[X]$. Thus, $\zeta_F[X] \supseteq \zeta_F[S] \cap X'$.

For the rest of part 1, we show that $\zeta_F$ satisfies:

- if $y \subseteq x$, then $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} \zeta_F(x)$ (E-forth);
- if $Y \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} \zeta_F(x)$, then $\exists y \subseteq x$ and $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} Y$ (E-back);
- if $xR_i y$, then $\zeta_F(x)R_i^{(F^b)_p}\zeta_F(y)$ (R-forth);
- if $\zeta_F(x)R_i^{(F^b)_p}Y$ and $Z \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} Y$, then $\exists y: xR_i y$ and $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} Z$ (R-back).

Since $F$ is a rich and hence full possibility frame, the pull back property of $\zeta_F$ follows from $\subseteq$-forth and $\subseteq$-back by Fact 3.5. For $\subseteq$-forth, if $y \subseteq x$, then $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq \zeta_F(x)$, so $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} \zeta_F(x)$. For $\subseteq$-back, if $Y \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} \zeta_F(x)$, so $Y \subseteq \{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s x \}$, then there is a $y' \in Y$ such that $y' \subseteq_s x$, which implies that there is a $y \subseteq y'$ such that $y \subseteq x$. Since $Y$ satisfies persistence and refinability, from $y' \in Y$ and $y \subseteq y'$ we have that $\{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s y \} \subseteq Y$ by Fact 4.2, so $\zeta_F(y) \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} Y$.

To show that $\zeta_F$ satisfies $R$-forth, we use the fact from Corollary 2.31 and Proposition 4.41 that any full or principal possibility frame satisfies $R \Rightarrow \text{win}$ from §2.3, plus the definition of $\bullet Y$ from Fact 2.43:

$$xR_i y$$

\[\Rightarrow \forall y'' \subseteq y \exists x'' \subseteq x \forall x''' \subseteq x' \exists y'''': x''''R_i y''' \text{ and } y' \ll y'''] by $R \Rightarrow \text{win}$

\[\Rightarrow \forall Y \in P: \text{ if } \emptyset \neq Y \subseteq \zeta_F(y), \text{ then } \zeta_F(x) \sqsubseteq Y \text{ is a downset} \]

\[\Rightarrow \forall Y \in F^b: \text{ if } \perp^{(F^b)} \neq Y \subseteq^{(F^b)} \zeta_F(y), \text{ then } \zeta_F(x) \land^{(F^b)} \Diamond \neq \perp^{(F^b)} \]

\[\Rightarrow \zeta_F(x)R_i^{(F^b)_p}\zeta_F(y) \text{ by definition of } (\cdot)^b \text{ and } \bullet \]

\[\text{by definition of } (\cdot)_p. \]

For $R$-back, suppose that $\zeta_F(x)R_i^{(F^b)_p}Y$ and $Z \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} Y$. By definition of $(\cdot)_p$ (Definition 5.14), it follows that $\zeta_F(x) \land \bullet Z \neq \perp$, i.e.,

$$\{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq_s x \} \cap \{ x' \in S \mid \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists z: x''R_i z \text{ and } \exists z' \subseteq z: z' \in Z \} \neq \emptyset.$$
\( xR_iy \) and \( y \not\perp z' \), so there is a \( z'' \) with \( z'' \subseteq y \) and \( z'' \subseteq z' \). Thus, by \( R\)-forth, \( \zeta_F(z'') \subseteq (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \zeta_F(y) \) and \( \zeta_F(z'') \subseteq (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \zeta_F(z') \), which with \( \zeta_F(z') \subseteq (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \), \( Z \) implies \( \zeta_F(y) \not\in (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \). This establishes \( R\)-back.

For part 2, if \( F \) is separative, then \( \zeta_F(x) = \down x = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq x \} \). Then since \( \subseteq \) is a partial order, we have \( y \subseteq x \) if \( \{ y' \in S \mid y' \subseteq y \} \subseteq \{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq x \} \) iff \( \zeta_F(y) \subseteq (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \zeta_F(x) \), which also shows that \( \zeta_F \) is injective. Since we already showed that \( \zeta_F \) is robust, it follows that \( \zeta_F \) is a \( \subseteq \)-strong embedding.

For part 3, all we need to show to part 2 is that \( xR_iy \) iff \( \zeta_F(x)R_i(\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \zeta_F(y) \). If \( F \) is not only separative but also strong, i.e., satisfies \( R\leftrightarrow \text{win} \) from §2.3, then using the definition of \( \zeta \), \( y \) assuming \( R\)-down from Fact 2.43, we have:

\[
xR_iy \\
\iff \forall y' \subseteq y \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y'' \subseteq y': x''R_iy'' \\
\iff \forall y \in P: \text{if } \emptyset \neq Y \subseteq \down y, \text{ then } \\
\down x \cap \{ x' \in S \mid \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y'' \in Y: x''R_iy'' \} \neq \emptyset \\
\iff \forall Y \in \mathcal{J}_i: \text{if } \down x \neq Y \subseteq \down x, \text{ then } \down x \wedge x \not\perp Y \neq \down x \\
\iff \down xR_i(\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \down y \\
\iff \zeta_F(x)R_i(\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \zeta_F(y)
\]  

by \( R\leftrightarrow \text{win} \) since every \( Y \in P \) is a downset and \( \forall y' \subseteq y, \down y' \in P \) by Fact 4.6.1

\( \iff \) by definition of \( (\cdot)_b \) and \( \down \)

\( \iff \) by definition of \( \zeta_F \),

which completes the proof.\( \square \)

We are now ready to prove the analogue of Theorem 5.20 going from \( F \) to \( (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \).

**Theorem 5.26** (From Frames to BAOs and Back).

1. If \( F \) is a tight principal possibility frame, then \( \zeta_F \) is an isomorphism.

2. If \( F \) and \( G \) are rich possibility frames, and \( h: F \rightarrow G \) is a possibility morphism, then \( (h)_\rho \circ \zeta_F = \zeta_G \circ h \), so the following diagram commutes:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
F & \xrightarrow{h} & G \\
\down & \down & \down \\
\zeta_F & \zeta_G & \zeta_F \\
(\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho & (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho & (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \\
(\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho & (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho & (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \\
\end{array}
\]

**Proof.** Since we are dealing with principal frames, we have \( \zeta_F(x) = \down x = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq x \} \).

For part 1, by Fact 4.38 and Proposition 4.41.2, every tight principal frame is separative and strong, so by Theorem 5.25.3 we have that \( \zeta_F \) is a strong embedding. Moreover, since the domain of \( (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \) is the set of principal downsets in \( F \), and \( \zeta_F(x) = \down x = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq x \} \) since \( F \) is principal, we have that \( \zeta_F \) is surjective. Then since a surjective strong embedding is equivalent to an isomorphism, \( \zeta_F \) is an isomorphism.

For part 2, assuming \( F \) and \( G \) are rich possibility frames, \( \mathcal{J}_i \) and \( \mathcal{J}_i \) are CV-BAOs by Theorem 5.6.2. Thus, for any possibility morphism \( h: F \rightarrow G \), which gives us the complete BAO-homomorphism \( h_\rho: \mathcal{J}_i \rightarrow \mathcal{J}_i \) as in Theorem 5.9, we can form the possibility morphism \( (h)_\rho: (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \rightarrow (\mathcal{J}_i)_\rho \) as in Theorem 5.18. Now
for $x \in S^F$, we have:

$$(h^b)_{p} \circ \zeta_F(x) = (h^b)_{p}(\{x' \in S^F \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x\}) \quad \text{by definition of } \zeta_F$$

$$= \bigwedge\{X \in (G^b)_{p} \mid \{x' \in S^F \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x\} \sqsubseteq (F^b)_{p} h^b(X)\} \quad \text{by definition of } (\cdot)_{p}$$

$$= \bigwedge\{X \in (G^b)_{p} \mid \{x' \in S^F \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x\} \sqsubseteq (F^b)_{p} h^{-1}[X]\} \quad \text{by definition of } (F^b)_{p}$$

$$= \bigwedge\{X \in (G^b)_{p} \mid \forall x' \sqsubseteq^F x : h(x') \in X\} \quad \text{by definition of } h^{-1}$$

$$= \{y \in S^G \mid y \sqsubseteq^G h(x)\} \quad \text{(1)}$$

$$= \zeta_G(h(x)) \quad \text{by definition of } \zeta_G.$$

For (1), since $G$ is a rich and hence principal frame, Definitions 5.14 and 5.4 imply that the domain of $(G^b)_{p}$ is the set of all principal downsets in $G$, so $\downarrow^G h(x) = \{y \in S^G \mid y \sqsubseteq^G h(x)\}$ is in $(G^b)_{p}$. Moreover, Fact 4.43 implies that for all $x' \sqsubseteq^F x$, $h(x') \sqsubseteq^G h(x)$, so $h(x') \in \downarrow^G h(x)$, which implies $\downarrow^G h(x) \in \{X \in (G^b)_{p} \mid \forall x' \sqsubseteq^F x : h(x') \in X\}$. Now consider any $X \in (G^b)_{p}$ such that $\forall x' \sqsubseteq^F x : h(x') \in X$, so in particular, $h(x) \in X$. Then since $X$ is a downset in $G$, $\downarrow^G h(x) \subseteq X$, so $\downarrow^G h(x) \subseteq (G^b)_{p} X$. Putting it all together, we have shown that $\downarrow^G h(x)$ is the greatest lower bound of $\{X \in (G^b)_{p} \mid \forall x' \sqsubseteq^F x : h(x') \in X\}$ in $(G^b)_{p}$, as (1) claims.

Putting together Theorems 5.21 and 5.26 and Corollaries 5.10 and 5.19, we have the following analogue of Thomason’s [1975a] dual equivalence result for the categories of $CAV$-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphism and of Kripke frames with $p$-morphisms.

**Theorem 5.27 (Dual Equivalence).** The category of $CAV$-BAOs with complete BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to each of the following categories: rich possibility frames with possibility morphisms; rich possibility frames with strict possibility morphisms; rich possibility frames with taut possibility morphisms.

Finally, we will show that the category of rich possibility frames with possibility morphisms is a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with possibility morphisms. Recall that this means it is a full subcategory such that for any full frame $F$, there is a rich frame $R(F)$ and a morphism $r : F \to R(F)$ such that for any rich frame $G$ and morphism $g : F \to G$, there is a unique morphism $\overline{g} : R(F) \to G$ such that $g = \overline{g} \circ r$.

The pair $(R(F), r)$ is called the reflection of $F$ in the category of rich frames with possibility morphisms. We will take as the reflection of $F$ the pair $(F^b)_{p}$ with $\zeta_F$ from Definition 5.24.

At the same time we will show that the category of rich possibility frames with $strict$ possibility morphisms is a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with strict possibility morphisms, i.e., that we can take $\zeta_F$ and $\overline{g}$ in the previous paragraph to be strict possibility morphisms, assuming $g$ is. We already showed in Theorem 5.25.1 that $\zeta_F$ is strict, and we will show that our $\overline{g}$ is strict without even assuming that $g$ is strict. We will not however, prove an analogous reflective subcategory result involving $taut$ possibility morphisms, because we cannot guarantee that for an arbitrary full frame $F$, $\zeta_F$ is taut.

**Theorem 5.28 (Rich Reflections).** For any full possibility frame $F$, rich possibility frame $G$, and possibility morphism $g : F \to G$, define $\overline{g} : (F^b)_{p} \to G$ such that for $X \in (F^b)_{p}$, $\overline{g}(X) = \bigvee g[X]$, where $\bigvee$ is the join operation in the complete Boolean lattice underlying the rich frame $G$. Then:

1. $\overline{g}$ is a strict possibility morphism;
2. $\overline{g}$ is the unique possibility morphism from $(F^b)_{p}$ to $G$ such that $g = \overline{g} \circ \zeta_F$, so the following diagram commutes:

---

29 Sometimes this is not taken to be the definition of being a reflective subcategory, but rather a condition that is proved equivalent to being a reflective subcategory (e.g., Balbes and Dwinger 1974, §1.18).
Proof. We first show \( g = \overline{g} \circ \zeta_F \) and prove uniqueness below. By the definitions of \( \overline{g} \) and \( \zeta_F \), we have
\[
\overline{g} \circ \zeta_F (x) = \bigvee g \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \},
\]
so we want to show that \( g(x) = \bigvee g \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \). Since \( G \) is rich, by Fact 4.50 it is a lattice-complete principal possibility frame. Thus, \( G \) is separable by Lemma 4.39 and full by Fact 4.48, so by Fact 4.9.2, \( x' \sqsubseteq^F x \) implies \( g(x') \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(x) \). It follows that \( g(x) = \bigvee g \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \).

For part 1, to show that \( \overline{g} \) is a strict possibility morphism, we must show:

- if \( Y \sqsubseteq^{(F^b)_p} X, \) then \( \overline{g}(Y) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(X) \) (\( \sqsubseteq \)-forth);
- if \( Y' \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(X), \) then \( \exists Y': Y' \sqsubseteq^{(F^b)_p} X \) and \( \overline{g}(Y) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y') \) (\( \sqsubseteq \)-back);
- if \( XR_i^{(F^b)_p} Y, \) then \( \overline{g}(X) R_i \overline{g}(Y) \) (\( R \)-forth);
- if \( \overline{g}(X) R_i^{(F^b)_p} Y' \) and \( Z' \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y) \), then \( \exists Y': X R_i^{(F^b)_p} Y' \) and \( \overline{g}(Y) \sqsubseteq Z' \) (\( R \)-back).

Since \( (F^b)_p \) is a rich and hence full possibility frame by Proposition 5.23, the pull back property of \( \overline{g} \) follows from \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth and \( \sqsubseteq \)-back by Fact 3.5.

To establish the above properties of \( \overline{g} \), we will use the fact that since \( g \) is a possibility morphism to a rich and hence principal frame \( G \), \( g \) satisfies \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth and \( \sqsubseteq \)-back by Fact 4.43. In addition, since \( G \) is a rich frame and \( (F^b)_p \) is a rich frame by Proposition 5.23, they satisfy \( R \equiv \text{win} \) and hence \( \text{up-R} \).

For \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth, if \( Y \sqsubseteq^{(F^b)_p} X, \) then \( Y \subseteq X \), which implies \( \bigvee g[Y] \sqsubseteq \overline{g} \bigvee g[X], \) so \( \overline{g}(Y) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(X) \).

For \( \sqsubseteq \)-back, suppose \( Y' \sqsubseteq \overline{g} \bigvee g[X] \). Then by Fact 5.12, there is an \( x \in X \) such that in the Boolean algebra associated with \( G \) poset, \( Y' \wedge g(x) \neq 1 \), so \( Y' \wedge g(x) \in G \). Then by \( \sqsubseteq \)-back for \( g, Y' \wedge g(x) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(g(x)) \) implies that there is a \( y \sqsubseteq^F x \) such that \( g(y) \sqsubseteq Y' \wedge g(x) \). Since \( F \) is full, \( \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \in (F^b)_p \) and \( \{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \} \in (F^b)_p \) by Fact 4.3, and since \( g \subseteq \bigvee \), \( \{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \} \subseteq \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \), so \( \{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \} \subseteq (F^b)_p \) \( \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \). Since \( X \in (F^b)_p \), \( X \) is closed under \( \sqsubseteq \), by Fact 4.2, so \( x \in X \) implies \( \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \subseteq X \) and hence \( \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \subseteq (F^b)_p \), which with \( \{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \} \subseteq (F^b)_p \) \( \{ x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^F x \} \) implies \( \{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \} \subseteq \bigvee \). In addition, by the first paragraph of this proof, \( g(y) = \overline{g}(\{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \}) \), so from \( g(y) \sqsubseteq Y' \wedge g(x) \) above, we have \( \overline{g}(\{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \}) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y) \). Thus, setting \( Y = \{ y' \in S \mid y' \sqsubseteq^F y \} \), we have \( Y \subseteq (F^b)_p \) \( X \) and \( \overline{g}(Y) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y') \), which establishes \( \sqsubseteq \)-back.

For \( R \)-forth, since \( G \) is rich and hence \( R \)-tight, to show that \( \overline{g}(X) R_i \overline{g}(Y) \) is full, it suffices to show that for all \( Z \in P^G \), if \( \overline{g}(X) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y) \), then \( \overline{g}(Y) \subseteq Z \). Suppose \( \overline{g}(Y) \not\subseteq Z \), so by refinability there is a \( Y' \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y) \) such that (a) for all \( Y'' \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y) \), \( Y'' \not\subseteq Z \). Then by \( \sqsubseteq \)-back for \( \overline{g} \), there is a \( V \in (F^b)_p \) such that \( V \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} Y \) and (b) \( \overline{g}(V) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y) \). Since \( V \subseteq^{(F^b)_p} Y, X R_i^{(F^b)_p} Y \) implies \( X \wedge^F \downarrow^F V \neq 1 \) by Definition 5.14.3. Then by the definition of \( \downarrow^F \), (Fact 2.43), \( X \wedge^F \downarrow^F V \neq 1 \) implies that there is an \( x \in X, \) a \( v \in F \) with \( xR_i^F v \), and a \( v' \sqsubseteq^F v \) with \( v' \in V \). Since \( g \) satisfies \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth, \( v' \sqsubseteq^F v \) implies \( g(v') \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(g(v)) \). Since \( v' \in V, g(v') \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(V) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(V) \), so \( g(v') \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(Y) \) by (b), which implies \( g(v') \not\subseteq Z \) by (a), which with \( g(v') \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(V) \) and persistence for \( Z \) implies \( g(v') \not\subseteq Z \), which with the \( R \)-matching property of \( g \) implies that \( R_i^F(g(x)) \not\subseteq Z \). Since \( x \in X, g(x) \sqsubseteq \overline{g}(g[X]) \), so by \( \text{up-R} \) in \( G, R_i^F(g(x)) \subseteq R_i^F(V g[X]) \). Then from \( R_i^F(g(x)) \subseteq Z \) we have \( R_i^F(V g[X]) \subseteq Z \), which means \( \overline{g}(Y) \not\subseteq Z \). Thus, we have shown that \( \overline{g}(X) R_i^F \overline{g}(Y) \).
For $R$-back, suppose $\overline{g}(X)R^g_Y Y'$ and $Z' \sqsubseteq^g Y'$. Then by the $R \Rightarrow \text{win}$ property of $G$, there is an $X' \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}(X)$ such that (i) for all $X'' \sqsubseteq^g X'$ there is a $Z'' \sqsubseteq^g Z'$ such that $X'' R^g_Y Z''$. Since $X' \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}(X) = \bigvee g[X]$, by Fact 5.12 there is an $x \in X$ such that in the Boolean algebra associated with $G$’s poset, $X' \land g(x) \neq \bot$, so $X' \lor g(x) \in G$. Then by $\neg\text{-back}$ for $g$, $X' \lor g(x) \sqsubseteq^g g(x)$ implies that there is an $x' \sqsubseteq^g x$ such that $g(x') \sqsubseteq^g X' \lor g(x)$. Since $x' \sqsubseteq^g x$ and $x \in X$, we have that $x' \in X$ by persistence for $X$. Since $g(x') \sqsubseteq^g X'$, it follows by (i) that there is a $Z'' \sqsubseteq^g Z'$ such that $g(x') R^g_Y Z''$. Now since $G$ is a principal frame, where $C$ is the complement of $Z'$ in the Boolean algebra associated with $G$’s poset, we have $\downarrow C \in P^g$, and $g(x') R^g_Y Z'' \sqsubseteq^g Z'$ implies $R^g_Y(g(x')) \not\subseteq \downarrow C$. It follows by $R$-matching for $g$ that $R^g_F(x') \not\subseteq g^{-1}[\downarrow C]$. Thus, there is a $y \in F$ such that $x'R^g_F y$ and $g(y) \not\subseteq \downarrow C$, i.e., $g(y) \not\subseteq C$, which implies $g(y) \uparrow Z'$. By the proof of Theorem 5.25.1, $x'R^g_F y$ implies $\zeta_F(x')R^g(x') \zeta_F(y)$. Since $x' \in X$ and $X$ satisfies persistence and refinability, Fact 4.2 implies that $\zeta_F(x') \sqsubseteq X$ and hence $\zeta_F(x') \sqsubseteq^{(F)^g} X$, which with $\zeta_F(x')R^g(x') \zeta_F(y)$ and $\text{up-R}$ in $(F)^g$ implies $XR^g(x') \zeta_F(y)$. By the first paragraph of this proof, $g(y) = \overline{g}(\zeta_F(y))$, so from $g(y) \uparrow Z'$ we have $\overline{g}(\zeta_F(y)) \downarrow Z'$. Thus, taking $Y = \zeta_F(y)$ establishes $R$-back.

Finally, we prove that $\overline{g}$ is the unique possibility morphism from $(F)^g_p$ to $G$ such that $g = \overline{g} \circ \zeta_F$. Suppose $\overline{g}'$ is a possibility morphism from $(F)^g_p$ to $G$ such that $g = \overline{g}' \circ \zeta_F$. First, we claim that for all $X \in (F)^g_p$, $\bigvee g[X] \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}'(X)$. If not, then there is an $x \in X$ such that $g(x) \not\subseteq \overline{g}'(X)$. Then since $g = \overline{g}' \circ \zeta_F$, we have $\overline{g}'(\zeta_F(x)) \not\subseteq \overline{g}'(X)$. Since $X \in (F)^g_p$, $X$ is closed under $\sqcap^g_F$ by Fact 4.2, so $x \in X$ implies $\zeta_F(x) = \{x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^g x\} \subseteq X$, so $\zeta_F(x) \sqsubseteq^{(F)^g} X$. By Fact 4.43, $\overline{g}'$ satisfies $\sqsubseteq$-forth, so $\zeta_F(x) \sqsubseteq^{(F)^g} X$ implies $\overline{g}'(\zeta_F(x)) \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}'(X)$, contradicting what we obtained above. Thus, $\bigvee g[X] \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}'(X)$. Second, we claim that $\overline{g}(X) \sqsubseteq^g \bigvee g[X]$. If not, then there is a $Y' \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}'(X)$ such that in the Boolean algebra associated with $G$’s poset, $Y' \land \bigvee g[X] = \bot$. By Fact 4.43, $\overline{g}'$ satisfies $\sqsubseteq$-back, so $Y' \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}'(X)$ implies that there is a $Y \in (F)^g_p$ such that $Y \sqsubseteq^{(F)^g} X$ and $\overline{g}'(Y) \sqsubseteq^g Y'$. Thus, $Y' \land \bigvee g[X] = \bot$ implies $\overline{g}'(Y) \land \bigvee g[X] = \bot$, which implies that for all $x \in X$, $\overline{g}'(Y) \land g(x) = \bot$. Since $Y \sqsubseteq^{(F)^g} X$, $Y \cap X \neq \emptyset$, so take an $x \in Y \cap X$. As above, since $Y \in (F)^g_p$, $x \in Y$ implies $\zeta_F(x) = \{x' \in S \mid x' \sqsubseteq^g x\} \subseteq Y$, so $\zeta_F(x) \sqsubseteq^{(F)^g} Y$, which with $\sqsubseteq$-forth for $\overline{g}'$ gives us $\overline{g}'(\zeta_F(x)) \sqsubseteq^g \overline{g}'(Y)$ and hence $g(x) \subseteq^g \overline{g}'(Y)$, which contradicts $\overline{g}'(Y) \land g(x) = \bot$ above. Thus, $\overline{g}'(X) \subseteq^g \bigvee g[X]$. We have shown that $\overline{g}'(X) = \bigvee g[X]$, so $\overline{g}' = \overline{g}$ by the definition of $\overline{g}$.  

From Theorem 5.28 and the definition of reflective subcategories, we obtain our claimed result.

**Theorem 5.29** (Reflective Subcategories).

1. The category of rich possibility frames with possibility morphisms is a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with possibility morphisms.

2. The category of rich possibility frames with strict possibility morphisms is a reflective subcategory of the category of full possibility frames with strict possibility morphisms.

### 5.4 From Arbitrary BAOS to Possibility Frames

Going beyond $\mathcal{V}$-BAOs, any BAO can be transformed into a semantically equivalent world frame and hence possibility frame, namely its general ultrafilter frame (see Appendix §A.3). Below we give another way of transforming any BAO into a semantically equivalent possibility frame, namely its general filter frame. While worlds must come from ultrafilters, possibilities can come from any proper filters.

Recall that a proper filter in a BAO $A = (A, \land, -, \bot, \{1\}_{i \in I})$ is a nonempty $F \subseteq A$ such that for all $x, y \in A$: $x, y \in F$ implies $x \land y \in F$ ($F$ is downward directed); if $x \leq y$ and $x \in F$, then $y \in F$ ($F$ is an upset); and $\bot \notin F$, which with the previous condition is equivalent to $F \subseteq A$ ($F$ is proper).
**Definition 5.30** (Filter Frames and General Filter Frames). Given a BAO $\mathcal{A} = \langle A, \land, -, \top, \{\生殖\}_{i \in I} \rangle$ and algebraic model $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{A}, \emptyset \rangle$, we define the filter frame $\mathcal{A}_f = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P_i \rangle$, the general filter frame $\mathcal{A}_g = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P_g \rangle$, and $\mathcal{M}_g = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle$ as follows:

1. $S$ is the set of proper filters in $\mathcal{A}$;
2. $X \subseteq Y$ if $X \supseteq Y$;
3. $X R_i Y$ if for all $x \in A$, if $\生殖x \in X$ then $x \in Y$;
4. $P_i = RO(S, \subseteq)$ (recall Notation 2.19);
5. where $\hat{x} = \{X \in S \mid x \in X\}$, $P'_g = \{\hat{x} \mid x \in A\}$;
6. $\pi(p) = \{X \in S \mid \hat{\emptyset}(p) \in X\}$.  

As observed by Stone [1936] and Tarski [1937b], the set of ideals of a Boolean algebra ordered by inclusion ($I \subseteq I'$ iff $I \subseteq I'$) forms a complete Heyting algebra. The same holds for the set of filters of a Boolean algebra ordered by inclusion, which is isomorphic as a lattice to the set of ideals ordered by inclusion. But note that in Definition 5.30.2 we order the (proper) filters by reverse inclusion. The set of filters of a Boolean algebra ordered by reverse inclusion is therefore what is known as a complete co-Heyting algebra. Thus, the (general) filter frame of a BAO is always based on a complete co-Heyting algebra minus its bottom element.

The following notation and fact about filters will be useful in what follows.

**Fact 5.31** (Filter Generated by a Subset). Given a BAO $\mathcal{A} = \langle A, \land, -, \top, \{\生殖\}_{i \in I} \rangle$ and $X \subseteq A$, let $\{X\}$ be the smallest filter in $\mathcal{A}$ that contains $X$, which must exist because the intersection of filters is a filter. Then $\{X\} = \{x \in A \mid \exists x_1, \ldots, x_n \in X \mid x \land \cdots \land x_n \leq x\}$. For $y \in A$, $\{\{y\}\} = \uparrow y = \{x \in A \mid y \leq x\}$.

While the claim made above about the relationship between a BAO and its general ultrafilter frame requires going beyond ZF set theory, since it requires the use of the ultrafilter axiom, our claim about the relationship between a BAO and its general filter frame does not go beyond ZF. For the following result, recall the notions of strong frames from Definition 2.36 and of tight frames from Definition 4.31. Also recall that we say $\phi$ is satisfiable over a BAO $\mathcal{A}$ iff there is some algebraic model $\langle \mathcal{A}, \emptyset \rangle$ with $\hat{\emptyset}(\phi) \neq \bot$.

**Theorem 5.32** (From BAOs to Possibility Frames). For any BAO $\mathcal{A}$ and algebraic model $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{A}, \emptyset \rangle$:

1. $\mathcal{A}_g$ is a strong and tight possibility frame, and $\mathcal{A}_f$ is a strong, tight, and full possibility frame;
2. $\mathcal{M}_g$ is a possibility model based on $\mathcal{A}_g$ and $\mathcal{A}_f$;
3. for all $\phi \in L(\Phi, I)$ and $X \in \mathcal{A}_g$: $M_g, X \Vdash \phi$ if $\hat{\emptyset}(\phi) \in X$;
4. for all $\phi \in L(\Phi, I)$ and $x \in A$: $x \in \mathcal{A}_f$ if $M_g, \uparrow x \Vdash \phi$;
5. for all $\phi \in L(\Phi, I)$, if $\phi$ is satisfiable over $\mathcal{A}$, then $\phi$ is satisfiable over $\mathcal{A}_g$ and $\mathcal{A}_f$.

**Proof.** For part 1, we first show that $P_g$ is closed under $\cap$, $\subseteq$, and $\生殖\subseteq$ as in Definition 2.1, so $\mathcal{A}_g$ is a partial-state frame. (Note the distinction between $\生殖\subseteq$ and $\生殖\subseteq$, the latter being the operator in $\mathcal{A}$.) Since $\hat{\bot} = \emptyset, \emptyset \in P_g$. Now consider $X, Y \in P_g$, so there are $x, y \in A$ such that $X = \hat{x}$ and $Y = \hat{\hat{y}}$. We claim that:

(i) $\hat{x} \cap \hat{\hat{y}} = \hat{x} \land \hat{\hat{y}}$;
(ii) $\hat{x} \subseteq \hat{\hat{y}} = \{Z \in S \mid \forall Z' \subseteq Z : Z' \supseteq \hat{x} \Rightarrow Z' \subseteq \hat{\hat{y}}\} = \neg \hat{x} \lor \hat{\hat{y}}$;

Since the lattice of open sets of any topological space is a complete Heyting algebra, the observation also follows from the fact that the lattice of ideals of a Boolean algebra is isomorphic to the lattice of open sets in the dual Stone space [Stone, 1937].
(iii) \( \Box^A \widehat{x} = \{ Z \in S \mid R_i(Z) \subseteq \widehat{x} \} = \Box x. \)

For part (i), for any \( Z \in S \), we have: \( Z \in \widehat{x} \cap \widehat{y} \) iff \( x, y \in Z \) iff \( x \land y \in Z \) (since \( Z \) is a filter) iff \( Z \in \widehat{x} \land \widehat{y} \).

Part (ii) is also easy to check. For part (iii), we have \( Z \in \Box x \) iff \( \Box x \in Z \) (by the definition of \( R_i \)) for every \( Z' \in R_i(Z), x \in Z' \), i.e., \( Z' \in \widehat{x} \), which is equivalent to \( R_i(Z) \subseteq \widehat{x} \).

Second, we show that \( P_g \subseteq RO(S, \subseteq) \), i.e., every \( X \in P_g \) satisfies persistence and refinability, so \( A_g \) is a possibility frame. By definition of \( P_g \), \( X = \widehat{x} \) for some \( x \in A \). For persistence, if \( X' \subseteq X \), then \( X' \subseteq \widehat{x} \), and \( X \in \widehat{x} \), so \( x \in X' \) and hence \( X' \in \widehat{x} \). For refinability, if \( X \not\subseteq \widehat{x} \), then \( x \not\in X' \), then \( X' = \{X \cup \{-x\}\} \) is a proper filter, and \( X' \supseteq X \), so \( X' \in X \). Moreover, for every proper filter \( X'' \subseteq X' \), i.e., \( X'' \supseteq X' \), we have \( x \not\in X'' \), so \( X'' \not\subseteq \widehat{x} \). Thus, \( \widehat{x} \) satisfies refinability.

Third, to see that \( A_g \) is \( R \)-tight, suppose that \( \neg XR_iY \), so by Definition 5.30.3 there is some \( x \in A \) such that \( \Box x \in X \) but \( x \not\in Y \). Then \( X \in \Box x \) but \( Y \not\subseteq \widehat{x} \). It follows by (iii) above that \( X \in \Box^A \widehat{x} \) but \( Y \not\subseteq \widehat{x} \), and by definition of \( P_g \), \( \widehat{x} \in P_g \). Thus, if for all \( Z \in P_g \), \( X \in \Box^A Z \) implies \( Y \in Z \), then \( XR_iY \). So \( A_g \) is \( R \)-tight. For \( \subseteq \)-tight, if \( Y \not\subseteq X \), then taking an \( x \in X \) such that \( x \not\in Y \), we have \( X \in \widehat{x} \) but \( Y \not\subseteq \widehat{x} \), and \( \widehat{x} \in P_g \). Thus, if for all \( Z \in P_g \), \( X \in Z \) implies \( Y \in Z \), then \( Y \subseteq X \). Hence \( A_g \) is \( \subseteq \)-tight.

Finally, since \( A_g \) is tight, to show that \( A_g \) is strong it suffices by Fact 4.33.2 to show that it satisfies \( R \)-refinability. To that end, consider proper filters \( X \) and \( Y \) such that \( XR_iY \). Where

\[
X' = X \cup \{y \mid y \in Y\},
\]

suppose for reductio that \( |X'| \) is not a proper filter, i.e., \( \bot \in |X'| \). Then by (12) and Fact 5.31, there are \( x_1, \ldots, x_m \in X \) and \( y_1, \ldots, y_k \in Y \) such that

\[
x_1 \land \ldots \land x_m \land \Diamond y_1 \land \ldots \land \Diamond y_k \leq \bot,
\]

which implies

\[
x_1 \land \ldots \land x_m \leq \Diamond_1 \neg (y_1 \land \ldots \land y_k)
\]

by the properties of \( \Diamond_1 \) and \( \Box_1 \) (see Definition A.8). Since \( X \) is a filter, \( x_1, \ldots, x_m \in X \) implies \( x_1 \land \ldots \land x_m \in X \), which with (13) implies \( \Diamond_1 \neg (y_1 \land \ldots \land y_k) \in X \), which with \( XR_iY \) implies \( \neg (y_1 \land \ldots \land y_k) \in Y \), which contradicts the facts that \( y_1, \ldots, y_k \in Y \) and \( Y \) is a proper filter. Thus, \( X' = |X'| \) is a proper filter.

Now consider any proper filter \( X'' \subseteq X' \), i.e., \( X'' \supseteq X' \). Where

\[
Y' = Y \cup \{x \mid \Box x \in X''\},
\]

suppose for reductio that \( |Y'| \) is not a proper filter, i.e., \( \bot \in |Y'| \). Then by (14) and Fact 5.31, there are \( y_1, \ldots, y_m \in Y \) and \( \Box x_1, \ldots, \Box x_k \in X'' \) such that

\[
y_1 \land \ldots \land y_m \land x_1 \land \ldots \land x_k \leq \bot,
\]

which implies

\[
\Box_1 x_1 \land \ldots \land \Box_1 x_k \leq \Diamond_1 \neg (y_1 \land \ldots \land y_m)
\]

by the properties of \( \Box_1 \). Since \( Y \) is a filter, \( y_1, \ldots, y_m \in Y \) implies \( y_1 \land \ldots \land y_m \in Y \), which with \( X' = |X'| \) and (12) implies \( \Diamond_1 (y_1 \land \ldots \land y_m) \in X' \). Then since \( X'' \supseteq X' \), we have \( \Diamond_1 (y_1 \land \ldots \land y_m) \in X'' \). On the other hand, since \( X'' \) is a filter, \( \Box x_1, \ldots, \Box x_k \in X'' \) and (15) together imply \( \Box_1 \neg (y_1 \land \ldots \land y_m) \in X'' \). The previous two
Lemma 5.33. Given a BAO \( A = \langle A, \cdot, \to, \{ \cdot^i \}_{i \in I} \rangle \) and a possibility model \( M = \langle A, g \rangle \) based on \( \mathcal{A}_g \), define \( M_{-g} = \langle A, g, \pi_{-g} \rangle \) with \( \pi_{-g} : \Phi \to A \) given by \( \pi_{-g}(p) = x \) for the \( x \in A \) such that \( g(p) = \{ x \in A \mid x \in X \} \), which must exist by Definition 5.30.4 and the fact that \( M \) is based on \( \mathcal{A}_g \). Then \( (M_{-g})_g = M \).

Thus, we arrive at our desired result on the modal equivalence of a BAO and its general filter frame.

Theorem 5.34 (Semantic Equivalence of BAOs and General Filter Frames). For any BAO \( \mathcal{A} \) and \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over \( \mathcal{A} \) iff \( \varphi \) is satisfiable over \( \mathcal{A}_g \).

Proof. The left-to-right direction is given by Theorem 5.32.5. From right to left, if \( \varphi \) is satisfied in a possibility model \( M \) based on \( \mathcal{A}_g \), then by Lemma 5.33, it is satisfied in the possibility model \( (M_{-g})_g \), in which case by Theorem 5.32.3 it is satisfied in the algebraic model \( M_{-g} \) based on \( \mathcal{A} \).
Not only is every BAO semantically equivalent to its general filter frame, but also homomorphisms between BAOs transform into possibility morphisms between their general filter frames as follows.

**Theorem 5.35** (From BAO-homomorphisms to Possibility Morphisms II). For any BAOs $\mathbb{A}$ and $\mathbb{A}'$ and BAO-homomorphism $h : \mathbb{A}' \to \mathbb{A}$, define $h_g : \mathbb{A}_g \to \mathbb{A}'_g$ by $h_g(X) = h^{-1}[X]$. Then:

1. $h_g$ is a taut possibility morphism as in Definition 3.2;
2. if $h$ is surjective, then $h_g$ is a strong embedding;
3. if $h$ is injective, then $h_g$ is surjective;
4. as a function from $\mathbb{A}_g$ to $\mathbb{A}'_g$, $h_g$ still satisfies parts 1-3;
5. if $f : \mathbb{A} \to \mathbb{A}$ is the identity map on $\mathbb{A}$, then $f_g$ is the identity map on $\mathbb{A}_g$;
6. for any BAO-homomorphisms $f : \mathbb{A} \to \mathbb{B}$ and $g : \mathbb{B} \to \mathbb{C}$, $(g \circ f)_g = f_g \circ g_g$.

**Proof.** For part 1, that $h_g$ is a function from $\mathbb{A}_g$ to $\mathbb{A}'_g$, i.e., sending proper filters from $\mathbb{A}$ to proper filters from $\mathbb{A}'$, follows from the definition of $h_g$ and the fact that $h$ is a homomorphism. Where $\mathbb{A}_g = (\langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P_g \rangle$ and $\mathbb{A}'_g = (\langle S', \subseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P'_g \rangle$, we will show that for all proper filters $X, Y$ from $\mathbb{A}$ and $Y' \subseteq X'$ from $\mathbb{A}'$:

- if $Y \subseteq X$, then $h_g(Y) \subseteq h_g(X)$ (\$\subseteq$-forth);
- if $Y' \nsubseteq h_g(X)$, then $\exists Y' : Y \subseteq X$ and $h_g(Y) \nsubseteq Y'$ (\$\subseteq$-back);
- if $XR_iY$, then $h_g(X)R'_i h_g(Y)$ (R-forth);
- if $h_g(X)R'_i Y'$, then $\exists Y : XR_i Y$ and $Y' \nsubseteq h_g(Y)$ (taut R-back);
- $\forall X' \in P'_g$, $h_g^{-1}[X'] \in P_g$ (pull back).

For \$\subseteq$-forth, if $Y \subseteq X$, then $h_g(Y) = h^{-1}[Y] \supseteq h^{-1}[X] = h_g(X)$, so $h_g(Y) \subseteq h_g(X)$.

For \$\subseteq$-back, suppose $Y' \nsubseteq h_g(X)$, so $Y' \supseteq h_g(X)$. We claim that $[h(Y') \cup X]$ is a proper filter. If not, so $\bot \in [h(Y') \cup X]$, then by Fact 5.31 there are $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in h(Y')$ and $x_1, \ldots, x_m \in X$ such that $y_1 \land \ldots \land y_n \land x_1 \land \ldots \lor x_m \leq \bot$. Then $x_1 \land \ldots \land x_m \leq -(y_1 \land \ldots \land y_n)$, so $-(y_1 \land \ldots \land y_n) \in X$ since $X$ is a filter. Since $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in h(Y')$, there are $y'_1, \ldots, y'_n \in Y'$ with $h(y'_i) = y_i$, so $-(y'_1 \land \ldots \lor y'_n) \in X$. Then since $h$ is a homomorphism, $h(-(y'_1 \land \ldots \lor y'_n)) \in X$, so $-(y'_1 \land \ldots \lor y'_n) \in h^{-1}[X] = h_g(X)$, which with $Y' \supseteq h_g(X)$ gives us $-(y'_1 \land \ldots \lor y'_n) \in Y'$, which contradicts the fact that $y'_1, \ldots, y'_n \in Y'$ and $Y'$ is a proper filter. Thus, $[h(Y') \cup X]$ is indeed a proper filter. Let $Y = [h(Y') \cup X]$. Then since $Y \supseteq X$, we have $Y \subseteq X$, and since $h_g(Y) = h^{-1}[h(Y')] \cup X \supseteq Y'$, we have $h_g(Y) \nsubseteq Y'$, which completes the proof of \$\subseteq$-back.

For R-forth, suppose $XR_iY$. For any $z' \subseteq \mathbb{A}'$, if $h(z') \in h_g(X)$, then $h([z']) \in X$, which implies $h(z') \circ Y \subseteq X$. Then by Fact 5.31, there are $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in Y$ such that $y_1 \land \ldots \lor y_n \leq \bot$, so $h(y_1) \land \ldots \land h(y_n) \in X$ since $X$ is a filter. Then since $h$ is a homomorphism, $h([z']) \in X$. But since $Y'$ is a proper filter, $L' \nsubseteq Y'$, which with $h_g(X)R'_i Y'$ implies $L' \nsubseteq h_g(X)$, which means $L' \nsubseteq h^{-1}[X]$, which contradicts $h([L']) \subseteq X$. Thus $Y = [h(Y') \cup X]$. Finally, we claim that $Y' \subseteq h_g(Y)$, i.e., $Y' \supseteq h_g(Y)$. If $y' \in h_g(Y)$, then $h(y') \in Y$. Then by Fact 5.31, there are $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in Y$ such that $y_1 \land \ldots \lor y_n \leq h(y')$, which implies $h(y_1) \land \ldots \land h(y_n) \in X$ by the definition of $X$ and the fact that $X$ is a filter. Then since $h$ is a homomorphism, $h(y') = h([y']) \in X$, so $[y'] \subseteq h^{-1}[X] = h_g(X)$, which with $h_g(X)R'_i Y'$ implies $y' \subseteq Y'$. Thus, $Y' \supseteq h_g(Y)$, which completes the proof of taut R-back.
For pull back, recall that $P_g = \{ \widehat{x} \mid x \in A \}$ and $P'_g = \{ \widehat{x'} \mid x' \in A' \}$. Now suppose $\widehat{x'} \in P'_g$, so $x' \in A'$. Then $h(x') \in A$, so $\widehat{h(x')} \in P_g$. We claim that $h^{-1}[\widehat{x'}] = h(\widehat{x'})$, so $h^{-1}[\widehat{x'}] \in P_g$, as desired. For $h^{-1}[\widehat{x'}]$ is the set of proper filters $X$ in $A$ such that $h_g(X) = h^{-1}[X] \ni \widehat{x'}$, which means $x' \in h^{-1}[X]$, which means $h(x') \in X$, and $\widehat{h(x')} \in P_g$ is the set of proper filters $X$ in $A$ such that $h(x') \in X$.

For part 2, we must show that if $h$ is surjective, then (i) $h_g(Y) \subseteq h_g(X)$ implies $Y \subseteq X$ (so $h_g$ is injective), (ii) $h_g(X)R^t_{h_g}(Y)$ implies $XR_Y$, and (iii) for every $\widehat{x} \in P_g$ there is a $\widehat{x'} \in P'_g$ such that $h_g[\widehat{x}] = h_g[\widehat{x'}]$. For (i), assume $h_g(Y) \subseteq h_g(X)$, so $h^{-1}[Y] \supseteq h^{-1}[X]$. Since $h$ is surjective, for any $x \in X$ there is an $x' \in A'$ such that $h(x') = x$, so $x' \in h^{-1}[X]$ and hence $x' \in h^{-1}[Y]$ by our assumption, so $h(x') = x \in Y$. Thus, $Y \supseteq X$, so $Y \subseteq X$. For (ii), to show $XR_Y$, we must show that for all $\bullet x \in X$, $x \in Y$. Given $\bullet x \in X$, since $h$ is surjective, there is an $x' \in A'$ such that $h(x') = x$, and then since $h$ is a BAO-homomorphism, $\bullet x = \bullet h(x') = h(\bullet x')$. Hence $h(\bullet x') \in X$, so $\bullet x' \in h^{-1}[Y] = h_g(X)$, which with $h_g(X)R^t_{h_g}(Y)$ implies $x' \in h_g(Y) = h^{-1}[Y]$, so $h(x') = x \in Y$. Thus, $XR_Y$. For (iii), since $h$ is surjective, given $\widehat{x} \in P_g$ there is an $x' \in A'$, so $\widehat{x'} \in P'_g$, such that $h(x') = x$, so $h_g[\widehat{x}] = h_g[\widehat{x'}]$. Now we claim that $h_g(\widehat{x}) = h_g[\widehat{x'}]$. For the left-to-right inclusion, suppose $\widehat{x'} \in h_g(\widehat{x'})$, so there is an $X \in S$ such that $X \ni h(\widehat{x'})$, so $h(x') \in X$, and $h_g[X] = h^{-1}[X] = X'$. It follows that $x' \in X'$, so $X' \ni \widehat{x'}$. For the right-to-left inclusion, suppose that $X' \ni \widehat{x'}$, so $X' \in S'$ and $x' \in X'$, and that $X' \ni h_g[\widehat{x}]$, so there is an $X \in S$ such that $h_g(\widehat{x}) = h^{-1}[X] = X'$. Hence $x'(X) \in X$, so $X \ni h(\widehat{x})$, which with $h_g(\widehat{x}) = X'$ implies $x' \ni h_g(\widehat{x})$.

For part 3, assuming $h$ is injective, for any $X' \in P'_g$, $h_g(hg[X']) = h^{-1}[h(X')] = X'$, so $h_g$ is surjective.

For part 4, to show that $h_g$ is a taut possibility morphism from $\mathcal{A}_f$ to $\mathcal{A}'_f$, we need only add to the proof of part 1 above that $h_g$ satisfies pull back with respect to $\mathcal{A}_f$ and $\mathcal{A}'_f$: for all $\mathcal{X}' \in P'_g = RO(S', \sqsubseteq)$, we have $h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}'] \in P'_g = RO(S, \sqsubseteq)$. To show that $h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$ satisfies persistence with respect to $\sqsubseteq$, suppose $X \in h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$, so $h_g[X] \in \mathcal{X}'$, and $Y \sqsubseteq X$. Then $h_g(Y) \sqsubseteq h_g(X)$ by $\sqsubseteq$-forth, which with $h_g[X] \in \mathcal{X}'$ and the persistence of $\mathcal{X}'$ with respect to $\sqsubseteq$ implies $h_g(Y) \sqsubseteq \mathcal{X}'$, so $Y \in h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$. To show that $h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$ satisfies refinability with respect to $\sqsubseteq$, observe that if $X \notin h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$, so $h_g(X) \notin \mathcal{X}'$, then by refinability for $\mathcal{X}'$ with respect to $\sqsubseteq$, there is a $Y' \sqsubseteq h_g(X)$ such that (a) for all $Y'' \sqsubseteq Y'$, $Y'' \notin \mathcal{X}'$. Given $Y' \sqsubseteq h_g(X)$ and $\sqsubseteq$-back, there is a $Y \sqsubseteq X$ such that $Y \in \mathcal{X}'$, then for any $Z \sqsubseteq Y$, we have $h_g(Z) \not\subseteq h_g(Y) \sqsubseteq \mathcal{X}'$ by $\sqsubseteq$-forth, so $h_g(Z) \not\subseteq \mathcal{X}'$. Thus, we have shown that if $X \notin h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$, then there is a $Y \sqsubseteq X$ such that for all $Z \sqsubseteq Y$, $Z \notin h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$, so $h_g^{-1}[\mathcal{X}']$ satisfies refinability with respect to $\sqsubseteq$.

Next, to show that if $h$ is surjective, then $h_g$ is a strong embedding from $\mathcal{A}_f$ to $\mathcal{A}'_f$, we need only add to the proof of part 2 above that for all $\mathcal{X} \in P_f = RO(S, \sqsubseteq)$, there is an $\mathcal{X}' \in P'_f = RO(S', \sqsubseteq)$ such that $h_g[\mathcal{X}'] = h_g[S] \cap \mathcal{X}'$. Where $\mathcal{X}' = \{ Y' \in S' \mid \exists X' \in h_g[\mathcal{X}]: Y' \sqsubseteq X' \}$, let $\mathcal{X}' = \mathcal{X}'(cl(\bullet h_g[\mathcal{X}]))$, recalling that $\mathcal{X}' = \{ Y' \in S' \mid \exists Z' \sqsubseteq Y': Z' \in \mathcal{X}' \} = \{ Y' \in S' \mid \exists Z' \sqsubseteq Y': Z' \in \mathcal{X}' \}$. Then by Fact 2.17.2, $\mathcal{X}' \in P'_f$ and $h_g[S] \subseteq h_g[\mathcal{X}'] \subseteq \mathcal{X}'$. To show $h_g[S] \cap \mathcal{X}' \subseteq h_g[\mathcal{X}']$, suppose $X' \in h_g[S]$, there is an $X \in S$ such that $h_g(X) = X'$, which with $X' \notin h_g[S]$ implies $X \notin \mathcal{X}'$. Then by refinability for $\mathcal{X}$ with respect to $\sqsubseteq$, there is a $Y \sqsubseteq X$ such that for all $Z \sqsubseteq Y$, $Z \notin \mathcal{X}'$. But $Z \in \mathcal{X}'$, so there is a $\mathcal{X}' \subseteq X$ such that for all $Z \sqsubseteq X$, $Z \notin \mathcal{X}'$. Thus, we have shown that if $X \in \mathcal{X}'$, then there is a $\mathcal{X}' \subseteq X$ such that for all $Z \sqsubseteq X$, $Z \notin \mathcal{X}'$, so $\mathcal{X}'$ satisfies refinability with respect to $\sqsubseteq$.
From Theorems 5.32.1 and 5.35, we obtain the next piece of our categorical picture.

**Corollary 5.36** (The \(\cdot\)\_g Function). The \(\cdot\)\_g operation given in Definition 5.30 and Theorem 5.35 is a contravariant functor from the category of BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms to the category of (strong and tight) possibility frames with (taut) possibility morphisms. Thus, together \(\cdot\)\_g and \(\cdot\)\_b from Corollary 5.10 form a pair of contravariant functors between these categories.

**5.5 \(\cdot\)\_g and \(\cdot\)\_b, and Dual Equivalence with Filter-Descriptive Frames**

Let us now consider the relation between the functor \(\cdot\)\_g from §5.4 and the functor \(\cdot\)\_b from §5.1.

**Proposition 5.37** (From BAOs to Frames and Back II). Given a BAO \(\mathbb{A}\), define \(\eta_{\mathbb{A}}: \mathbb{A} \rightarrow (\mathbb{A}_g)^b\) by \(\eta_{\mathbb{A}}(x) = \hat{x}\), where \(\hat{x}\) is the set of proper filters in \(\mathbb{A}\) that contain \(x\), as in Definition 5.30. Then:

1. \(\eta_{\mathbb{A}}\) is a BAO-isomorphism;
2. if \(g: \mathbb{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}\) is a BAO-homomorphism, then \((g_g)^b \circ \eta_{\mathbb{A}} = \eta_{\mathbb{B}} \circ g\), so the following diagram commutes:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathbb{A} & \xrightarrow{g} & \mathbb{B} \\
\downarrow \eta_{\mathbb{A}} & & \downarrow \eta_{\mathbb{B}} \\
(\mathbb{A}_g)^b & \xrightarrow{(g_g)^b} & (\mathbb{B}_g)^b
\end{array}
\]

**Proof.** For part 1, to see that \(\eta_{\mathbb{A}}\) is order-reflecting and hence injective, observe that if \(x \not\leq_A y\), then \(x \in \uparrow x\) but \(y \not\in \uparrow x\), so \(\hat{x} \not\subseteq \hat{y}\). To see that \(\eta_{\mathbb{A}}\) is surjective, recall that by Definition 5.30, the set \(P_g\) of admissible propositions in \(\mathbb{A}_g\) is \(\{\hat{x} | x \in \mathbb{A}\}\), and by Definition 5.4, \(P_g\) is the domain of \((\mathbb{A}_g)^b\). Then since \(x \leq_A y\) implies \(\hat{x} \subseteq \hat{y}\), it follows that \(\eta_{\mathbb{A}}\) is an order-isomorphism and hence a Boolean isomorphism. To see how the Boolean conditions work out directly, for meets we obviously have \(\eta_{\mathbb{A}}(x \land_A y) = \hat{x} \cap \hat{y} = \eta_{\mathbb{A}}(x) \land (\mathbb{A}_g)^b \eta_{\mathbb{A}}(y)\).

For complement, we have:

\[
\eta_{\mathbb{A}}(\neg_A x) = \bar{\hat{x}} = \{Y \in \mathbb{A}_g | \neg_A x \in Y\} \\
= \{Y \in \mathbb{A}_g | \forall Y' \in \mathbb{A}_g: Y' \supseteq Y \Rightarrow x \not\in Y'\} \\
= \{Y \in \mathbb{A}_g | \forall Y' \in \mathbb{A}_g: Y' \subseteq (\mathbb{A}_g)^b Y \Rightarrow Y' \not\in \hat{x}\}
\]

Finally, for the modal operators, we have:

\[
\eta_{\mathbb{A}}(\Box_i x) = \Box_i \hat{x} = \{Y \in \mathbb{A}_g | \neg_A x \in Y\} \\
= \{Y \in \mathbb{A}_g | \forall Y' \in \mathbb{A}_g: Y' \subseteq (\mathbb{A}_g)^b Y \Rightarrow \hat{x}\}
\]

The proof of (18) is essentially the same as the \(\Box_i\) case of the proof of Theorem 5.32.3.
For part 2, given \( g: \mathbb{A} \to \mathbb{B}, g_b: \mathbb{B}_g \to \mathbb{A}_g, (g_b)^b: (\mathbb{A}_g)^b \to (\mathbb{B}_g)^b, \eta_b: \mathbb{A} \to (\mathbb{A}_g)^b, \) and \( \eta_b: \mathbb{B} \to (\mathbb{B}_g)^b, \) we have:

\[
(g_b)^b(\eta_b(x)) = (g_b)^b(\widehat{\eta^A}) \\
= (g_b)^b[\widehat{\eta^A}] = \{ X \in \mathbb{B}_g \mid g(X) \in \widehat{\eta^A} \} \\
= \{ X \in \mathbb{B}_g \mid g^{-1}[X] \in \widehat{\eta^A} \} \\
= \widehat{g(x)} \\
= \eta_b(g(x)) \quad \text{(\(\Delta\))}
\]

For \((\Delta), x \in \hat{g}(x),\) then \(X\) is a proper filter in \(\mathbb{B}, X \in \mathbb{B}_g,\) and \(g(x) \in X, x \in g^{-1}[X].\) Then since \(g\) is a homomorphism from \(\mathbb{A}\) to \(\mathbb{B},\) that \(X\) is a proper filter in \(\mathbb{B}\) implies that \(g^{-1}[X]\) is a proper filter in \(\mathbb{A},\) so \(x \in g^{-1}[X]\) implies \(g^{-1}[X] \in \widehat{\eta^A}.\) In the other direction, if \(g^{-1}[X] \in \widehat{\eta^A},\) then \(x \in g^{-1}[X],\) so \(g(x) \in X,\) and since \(X \in \mathbb{B}_g, X\) is a proper filter in \(\mathbb{B},\) so \(g(x) \in X\) implies \(X \in \hat{g}(x).\)

Let us now go in the other direction, from a frame \(\mathcal{F}\) to \((\mathcal{F}^b)_g.\) Later we will also consider \((\mathcal{F}^b)_f.\)

**Definition 5.38** (Filter Extension and General Filter Extension). For a possibility frame \(\mathcal{F},\) its *filter extension* is the possibility frame \((\mathcal{F}^b)_f,\) and its *general filter extension* is the possibility frame \((\mathcal{F}^b)_g.\)

In contrast to Proposition 5.37, it is clear that many possibility frames \(\mathcal{F}\) will not be isomorphic to \((\mathcal{F}^b)_g.\) The same point applies in the case of taking the general ultrafilter frame of the underlying BAO of a world frame (see §A.3), which is isomorphic to the original world frame iff the original frame is descriptive (see Blackburn et al. 2001, Thm 5.76). Goldblatt [1974, p. 33f] originally defined a descriptive frame to be a world frame \(\mathcal{F}\) that is differentiated (Axiom I), tight (Axiom II), and such that for every ultrafilter \(u\) in the underlying BAO of \(\mathcal{F},\) there is a world \(w\) in \(\mathcal{F}\) such that \(u\) is the set of admissible propositions from \(\mathcal{F}\) that contain \(w\) (Axiom III). Descriptive world frames are a special case of possibility frames (Example 2.22). But we would like a notion analogous to descriptive so that the general filter frame of a BAO will qualify.

**Definition 5.39** (Filter-Descriptive). A possibility frame \(\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_t \}_{t \in T}, P \rangle\) is *filter-descriptive* iff it is tight and for every proper filter \(F\) in \(\mathcal{F}^b,\) there is an \(x \in S\) such that \(F = P(x) = \{ X \in P \mid x \in X \}.\)

Recall that *tight* implies \(\sqsubseteq\)-tight (Definition 4.31), which implies differentiated (Fact 4.32.3).

The following two propositions show that *filter-descriptive* is indeed the notion we want.

**Proposition 5.40** (Filter-Descriptive Frames and BAOs). For any BAO \(\mathbb{A}\) and possibility frame \(\mathcal{F}:\)

1. \(\mathbb{A}_g\) is filter-descriptive;
2. \(\mathcal{F}\) is possibility-isomorphic to \((\mathcal{F}^b)_g\) iff \(\mathcal{F}\) is filter-descriptive.

**Proof.** For part 1, we have already shown for Theorem 5.32.1 that \(\mathbb{A}_g\) is tight. Let us show that \(\mathbb{A}_g\) satisfies the condition about filters. Consider a proper filter \(F\) in \((\mathbb{A}_g)^b.\) Since the domain of \((\mathbb{A}_g)^b\) is the set \(P_g\) of admissible proposition in \(\mathbb{A}_g,\) we have \(F \subseteq P_g = \{ \widehat{x} \mid x \in \mathbb{A} \}.\) Recall that \(\widehat{x}\) is the set of all proper filters in \(\mathbb{A}\) that contain \(x.\) Now let \(Z = \{ x \in \mathbb{A} \mid \widehat{x} \in F \}.\) First, we claim that \(Z\) is a proper filter in \(\mathbb{A},\) so \(Z \in \mathbb{A}_g.\)

Suppose \(x \in Z,\) so \(\widehat{x} \in F,\) and \(x \leq \mathbb{A} y.\) Since \(\widehat{x}\) and \(\widehat{y}\) are the sets of proper filters in \(\mathbb{A}\) containing \(x\) and \(y,\) respectively, \(x \leq \mathbb{A} y\) implies that any proper filter that contains \(x\) also contains \(y,\) so \(\widehat{x} \subseteq \widehat{y}\) and hence \(\widehat{x} \leq (\mathbb{A}_g)^b \widehat{y}.\) Then since \(\widehat{x} \in F\) and \(F\) is a filter in \((\mathbb{A}_g)^b,\) we have \(\widehat{y} \in F\) and hence \(y \in Z.\) Thus, \(Z\) is an upset in \(\mathbb{A}.\) Next, if \(x, y \in Z,\) then \(\widehat{x}, \widehat{y} \in F,\) so \(\widehat{x} \cap \widehat{y} \in F\) because \(F\) is a filter in \((\mathbb{A}_g)^b,\) so \(\widehat{x} \wedge \widehat{y} \in F\) by the fact that \(\widehat{x} \cap \widehat{y} = \widehat{x \wedge y}\) (recall the proof of Theorem 5.32), so \(x \wedge y \in Z.\) Thus, \(Z\) is also downward directed. So
Z is a filter. Moreover, if \( \bot \in Z \), then \( \hat{\bot} = \emptyset \in F \), in which case \( F \) would not be a proper filter in \( (\mathbb{A}_g)^b \). Thus, \( Z \) is a proper filter in \( \mathbb{A} \). Finally, by our definitions, \( P_g(Z) = \{ \hat{x} \mid Z \in \hat{x} \} = \{ \hat{x} \mid x \in Z \} = F \).

For part 2, the left-to-right direction follows from part 1. The right-to-left direction follows from the following Proposition 5.41.

Proposition 5.41 (From Frames to BAOs and Back II). For any filter-descriptive possibility frame \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \), define \( \eta_F: F \to (\mathcal{F}^b)_g \) by \( \eta_F(x) = P(x) \), where \( P(x) = \{ X \in P \mid x \in X \} \). Then:

1. \( \eta_F \) is a possibility isomorphism;
2. for any filter-descriptive possibility frame \( H \), if \( g: F \to H \) is a possibility morphism, then \( (g^b)_g \circ \eta_F = \eta_H \circ g \), so the following diagram commutes:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
F & \xrightarrow{g} & H \\
\downarrow{\eta_F} & & \downarrow{\eta_H} \\
(\mathcal{F}^b)_g & \xrightarrow{(g^b)_g} & (\mathcal{H}^b)_g
\end{array}
\]

Proof. For part 1, we first observe that for every \( x \in S \), \( P(x) \) is a proper filter in \( \mathcal{F}^b \), and since \( F \) is filter-descriptive, every proper filter in \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is \( P(x) \) for some \( x \in S \). Since the set of proper filters in \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is the domain of \( (\mathcal{F}^b)_g \), it follows that \( \eta_F \) is a surjective map from the domain of \( F \) onto the domain of \( (\mathcal{F}^b)_g \).

That \( \eta_F \) is injective follows from the assumption that \( F \) is \( \sqsubseteq \)-tight and hence differentiated (Fact 4.32.3). Where \( R'_i \) is the \( i \)-accessibility relation in \( (\mathcal{F}^b)_g \), the equivalence of \( xR_i y \) and \( P(x)R'_i P(y) \) follows from the assumption that \( F \) is \( \sqsubseteq \)-tight. Where \( \sqsubseteq' \) is the refinement relation in \( (\mathcal{F}^b)_g \), \( P(x) \sqsubseteq' P(y) \) iff \( P(x) \supseteq P(y) \), and the equivalence of \( x \sqsubseteq y \) and \( P(x) \supseteq P(y) \) follows from the assumption that \( F \) is \( \sqsubseteq \)-tight.

Finally, we must relate \( P \) and \( P_g \) with \( \eta_F \). \( P \) serves as the domain of \( \mathcal{F}^b \), and \( P_g = \{ \hat{X} \mid X \in \mathcal{F}^b \} \), where \( \hat{X} \) is the set of proper filters in \( \mathcal{F}^b \) that contain \( X \). We must show that for any \( X \in P \), \( \eta_F[X] \subseteq P_g \), and for any \( \hat{X} \in P_g \), \( \eta^{-1}_F[X] \subseteq P \). We claim that for all \( X \in P \), \( \eta_F[X] = \hat{X} \), so \( \eta^{-1}_F[X] = X \) since \( \eta_F \) is injective. Since \( \eta_F[X] = \{ P(x) \mid x \in X \} \) if \( F \in \eta_F[X] \), then \( F = P(x) \) for some \( x \in X \), so \( X \in P(x) = F \) and hence \( F \in \hat{X} \); in the other direction, if \( F \in \hat{X} \), so \( F \) is a proper filter in \( \mathcal{F}^b \) such that \( X \in F \), then since \( F \) is filter-descriptive, there is some \( x \in S \) such that \( F = P(x) \), and then \( X \in F \) implies \( x \in X \), so \( F \in \eta_F[X] \).

For part 2, given \( g: F \to H \), \( g^b: \mathcal{H}^b \to \mathcal{F}^b \), and \( (g^b)_g: (\mathcal{F}^b)_g \to (\mathcal{H}^b)_g \), \( \eta_F: F \to (\mathcal{F}^b)_g \), and \( \eta_H: \mathcal{H} \to (\mathcal{H}^b)_g \), we have:

\[
(g^b)_g(\eta_F(x)) = (g^b)_g(P_F(x)) \quad \text{by definition of } \eta_F
\]

\[
= (g^b)^{-1}[P_F(x)] = \{ X \in \mathcal{H}^b \mid g^b(X) \in P_F(x) \} \quad \text{by definition of } (\cdot)_g
\]

\[
= \{ X \in \mathcal{H}^b \mid g^{-1}[X] \in P_F(x) \} \quad \text{by definition of } (\cdot)^b
\]

\[
= P_H(g(x)) \quad \text{by definition of } (\cdot)^b
\]

\[
= \eta_H(g(x)) \quad \text{by definition of } \eta_H.
\]

For \((\ast)\), if \( X \in P_H(g(x)) \), then \( X \in P_H \), so \( X \in \mathcal{H}^b \), and by pull back for \( g \), \( g^{-1}[X] \in P_F \). From \( X \in P_H(g(x)) \) we also have \( g(x) \in X \), so \( x \in g^{-1}[X] \), which with \( g^{-1}[X] \in P_F \) implies \( g^{-1}[X] \in P_F(x) \). In
We saw in §5.3 that any $\mathcal{F}$-BAO $\mathcal{A}$ is necessarily filter-descriptive as in Definition 5.39. In this case, unlike the case of the descriptive frames with $p$-morphisms.

Putting together Propositions 5.37 and 5.41 and Corollaries 5.10 and 5.36, we have the following analogue of Goldblatt’s [1974] dual equivalence result for the categories of BAOs with BAO-homomorphism and of descriptive frames with $p$-morphisms.

**Theorem 5.42** (Dual Equivalence II). The category of BAOs with BAO-homomorphisms is dually equivalent to each of the following categories: filter-descriptive possibility frames with possibility morphisms; filter-descriptive possibility frames with strict possibility morphisms; filter-descriptive possibility frames with taut possibility morphisms.

Finally, let us consider the relation between $\mathcal{F}$ and $(\mathcal{F}^b)_g$ when $\mathcal{F}$ is an arbitrary possibility frame, not necessarily filter-descriptive as in Definition 5.39. In this case, unlike the case of the $\zeta: \mathcal{F} \to (\mathcal{F}^b)_p$ in Theorem 5.25, the $\eta: \mathcal{F} \to (\mathcal{F}^b)_g$ in Theorem 5.41 is not guaranteed to be a strict possibility morphism. Consider the $\subseteq$-back condition: if $Y \subseteq^\mathcal{F} x$, then $\exists y: y \subseteq^\mathcal{F} x$ and $\eta_Y(y) \subseteq^\mathcal{F}^b X$. To see why this is not guaranteed, suppose $Y$ is an ultrafilter in $\mathcal{F}^b$, so it is a minimal point in $(\mathcal{F}^b)_g$. Then $\eta_Y(y) \subseteq^\mathcal{F}^b X$ iff $\eta_Y(y) = Y$. But it is not guaranteed that there is a $y$ in the possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$ such that the set $\eta_Y(y) = P(y)$ of admissible propositions containing $y$ is an ultrafilter, let alone the particular ultrafilter $Y$.

Compare this to the relation between a (general) world frame $\mathfrak{F}$ and the general ultrafilter frame of its underlying BAO, $(\mathfrak{F}^b)_g$ (see Appendix §A.3): if $\mathfrak{F}$ is an arbitrary world frame, not necessarily descriptive in Goldblatt’s sense, then it is not guaranteed that the function $f$ that sends each world $x$ to the principal ultrafilter of admissible propositions containing $x$ (see, e.g., Blackburn et al. 2001, Thm. 5.76(iii)) is a $p$-morphism from $\mathcal{F}$ to $(\mathfrak{F}^b)_g$. The back clause of a $p$-morphism requires that if $f(x)R\mathfrak{F}^b y$, so $Y$ is an ultrafilter in the underlying BAO $\mathcal{F}^b$ of $\mathcal{F}$, then there is a $\mathcal{F}$ such that $xR\mathcal{F} y$ and $f(y) = Y$, so the set of admissible propositions containing $y$ is exactly the ultrafilter $Y$. But if $\mathcal{F}$ is an arbitrary world frame, then it is not guaranteed that there is such a $Y \in \mathcal{F}$ (cf. Blackburn et al. 2001, p. 94-95).

Although $\eta$ is not guaranteed to be a strict possibility morphism from $\mathcal{F}$ to $(\mathcal{F}^b)_g$, we do have the following as an immediate corollary of Theorems 5.6.6 and 5.34 and Proposition 5.40.

**Corollary 5.43** (From Arbitrary Frames to Filter-descriptive Frames). For any possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$, $\mathcal{F}$ is semantically equivalent to the filter-descriptive frame $(\mathcal{F}^b)_g$: for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\mathcal{F} \models \varphi$ iff $(\mathcal{F}^b)_g \models \varphi$.

By contrast, if we consider the filter extension $(\mathcal{F}^b)_f$ instead of the general filter extension $(\mathcal{F}^b)_g$, then we only get one direction of validity preservation. The following is a corollary of Theorems 5.6.6 and 5.32.5.

**Corollary 5.44** (Anti-Preservation of Validity under Filter Extensions). For any possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$ and $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, if $(\mathcal{F}^b)_f \models \varphi$, then $\mathcal{F} \models \varphi$.

### 5.6 MacNeille Completions and Canonical Extensions of BAOs

We saw in §5.3 that any $\mathcal{V}$-BAO $\mathcal{A}$ is isomorphic to $(\mathcal{A}_p)^b$, the underlying BAO of the principal frame of $\mathcal{A}$, and in §5.5 that any BAO $\mathcal{A}$ is isomorphic to $(\mathcal{A}_b)^b$, the underlying BAO of the general filter frame of $\mathcal{A}$.

Next we consider the relation of a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO $\mathcal{A}$ to $(\mathcal{A}_u)^b$, the underlying BAO of the full frame of $\mathcal{A}$ (Definition 5.14), and the relation of a BAO $\mathcal{A}$ to $(\mathcal{A}_f)^b$, the underlying BAO of the filter frame of $\mathcal{A}$ (Definition 5.30).

To characterize the relation between $\mathcal{A}$ and $(\mathcal{A}_u)^b$, recall the result (due to MacNeille 1937, Tarski 1937a) that for any Boolean algebra $\mathfrak{A}$, there is a unique—up to isomorphism—complete Boolean algebra $\mathfrak{A}'$ such
that \( \mathfrak{A} \) embeds densely into \( \mathfrak{A}' \), i.e., there is an injective homomorphism \( \xi : \mathfrak{A} \to \mathfrak{A}' \) such that for every non-minimum \( a' \in \mathfrak{A}' \), there is a non-minimum \( a \in \mathfrak{A} \) such that \( \xi(a) \preceq a' \).\(^{31}\) This \( \mathfrak{A}' \) can be characterized and constructed in several ways. For one, it can be constructed by an application of the general MacNeille completion of a poset. (For the moment let us blur the distinction between Boolean algebras and Boolean lattices.) Given a poset \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) and \( X \subseteq P \), consider the sets of lower bounds \( X^l = \{ y \in P \mid \forall x \in X : y \leq x \} \) and upper bounds \( X^u = \{ y \in P \mid \exists x : x \in X : x \leq y \} \) of \( X \). The MacNeille completion of \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) is the poset \( M(P, \leq) = \langle P', \leq' \rangle \) where \( P' = \{ X \subseteq P \mid X^u = X \} \) (the set of “normal” ideals) and \( X \leq' Y \) iff \( X \subseteq Y \). For any poset \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \), \( M(P, \leq) \) is a complete lattice with \( \bigwedge X = \bigcap X \) and \( \bigvee X = (\bigcup X)^\uparrow \) for \( X \subseteq P' \), and \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) embeds densely into \( M(P, \leq) \) by \( x \mapsto x \). For an arbitrary poset \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \), there is no guarantee that \( M(P, \leq) \) is a Boolean lattice. But if \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) is a Boolean lattice to begin with, then so is \( M(P, \leq) \).

Compare the above with the construction of the full regular open algebra based on \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) as in Remark 2.15, which for any poset \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) produces a complete Boolean lattice, which we will call \( R(P, \leq) \). Recall from §4.3 that if \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) has a minimum element \( \bot \), then \( R(P, \leq) \) contains only \( P \) and \( \emptyset \); so the better comparison is between \( M(P, \leq) \) and \( R(P, \leq) \) where \( P_\cdot = P \setminus \{ \bot \} \) and \( \leq' \) is the restriction of \( \leq \) to \( P_\cdot \). If \( \langle P_\cdot, \leq' \rangle \) is separative as in §4.1, then \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) embeds densely into \( R(P, \leq) \) by \( x \mapsto \downarrow x = \{ y \in P_\cdot \mid y \leq x \} \). \( R(P, \leq) \) is often called the completion by regular cuts of \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \). Then since \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) being Boolean implies that \( \langle P_\cdot, \leq' \rangle \) is separative (Fact 4.39), \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) being Boolean implies that \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) densely embeds into \( R(P, \leq) \). These points show that although for an arbitrary poset \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \), there is no guarantee that \( M(P, \leq) \) and \( R(P, \leq) \) are isomorphic, if \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) is Boolean, then \( M(P, \leq) \) and \( R(P, \leq) \) are both complete Boolean lattices into which our Boolean \( \langle P, \leq \rangle \) densely embeds, so they are isomorphic.\(^{32}\)

Let us apply the foregoing points to the relation between \( \mathfrak{A} \) and \( \langle \mathfrak{A}_u \rangle^b \). Recall that the poset in \( \mathfrak{A}_u \) is the Boolean lattice of \( \mathfrak{A} \) minus its bottom element, and the Boolean algebra reduct of \( \langle \mathfrak{A}_u \rangle^b \) is the full regular open algebra based on the poset in \( \mathfrak{A}_u \). Thus, by the previous paragraph, the Boolean reduct of the BAO \( \langle \mathfrak{A}_u \rangle^b \) is isomorphic to the MacNeille completion of the Boolean reduct of the BAO \( \mathfrak{A} \).

To relate \( \mathfrak{A} \) and \( \langle \mathfrak{A}_u \rangle^b \) as BAOs, recall that the Monk completion or lower MacNeille completion of a BAO \( \mathfrak{A} \) [Monk, 1970] is obtained by extending the operators \( \bullet_i \) of \( \mathfrak{A} \) to operators \( \bullet_i^\circ \) on the MacNeille completion of the Boolean reduct of \( \mathfrak{A} \) as follows, where \( \xi \) is the embedding into the completion with order \( \leq \):

\[
\bullet_i^\circ Y = \bigvee \{ \xi(x) \mid x \in \mathfrak{A} \text{ and } \xi(x) \leq Y \}. \tag{19}
\]

If \( \bullet_i \) is completely additive, then so is \( \bullet_i^\circ \) [Monk, 1970, Thm. 1.2]; otherwise the Monk completion of a BAO is not even guaranteed to be a BAO. For the dual box operator, we have:

\[
\Box_i^\circ Y = \bigwedge \{ \xi(x) \mid x \in \mathfrak{A} \text{ and } Y \leq \xi(x) \}. \tag{20}
\]

Properties of the Monk completion have been investigated in Monk 1970, Givant and Venema 1999, Gehrke et al. 2005, Harding and Bezhanishvili 2007 and Theunissen and Venema 2007. With Theorem 5.45 below, we obtain a new characterization of the Monk completion of a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO. The key point is that instead of thinking of extending the operators from \( \mathfrak{A} \) to \( \mathfrak{A}_u \) in terms of (19)/(20), we can equivalently think in terms of first defining an accessibility relation \( R_i \) on \( \mathfrak{A} \) (minus its bottom \( \bot \)) as in Definition 5.14.3, and then defining the extended \( \Box_i^\circ \) using the relation \( R_i \) as usual, so \( \Box_i^\circ Y \) is the set of \( x \) for which \( R_i(x) \subseteq Y \).

\(^{31}\)This \( \mathfrak{A}' \) is sometimes called the completion of \( \mathfrak{A} \) (Givant and Halmos 2000, p. 214; Jech 2002, p. 82); but in lattice theory, a “completion” of a poset is given by an order-embedding of it into a complete lattice (Davey and Priestley 2002, p. 165).

\(^{32}\)Yet another way to get an isomorphic copy of this completion is by taking the regular open algebra of the Stone space [Stone, 1937] of the original Boolean algebra.
**Theorem 5.45 (Monk Completion).** The Monk completion of a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO \( \mathcal{A} \) is isomorphic to \( (\mathcal{A}_u)^b \).

**Proof.** Since we already saw above that the MacNeille completion of the Boolean reduct of \( \mathcal{A} \) is isomorphic to the Boolean reduct of \( (\mathcal{A}_u)^b \), we need only show that extending the operator \( \mathbb{1}^\mathcal{A} \) to \( \mathbb{1}_Y \) as in (20) is equivalent to extending \( \mathbb{1}^\mathcal{A} \) to \( \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} \), where \( \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} Y = \{ x \in \mathcal{A}_u \mid R_{\mathcal{A}_u}(x) \subseteq Y \} \). Recall that the poset \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \) in \( \mathcal{A}_u \) is the poset of \( \mathcal{A} \) minus its bottom \( \bot \), and the poset of \( (\mathcal{A}_u)^b \) is the set of all regular open sets in the downset topology on \( \langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle \), ordered by inclusion. For \( z \in \mathcal{A}_u \), let \( \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} z = \{ z' \in \mathcal{A}_u \mid z' \sqsubseteq z \} \). As above, the Boolean reduct of \( \mathcal{A} \) embeds into that of \( (\mathcal{A}_u)^b \) by \( \xi(x) = \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} x \). Then we first observe that for any \( Y \in (\mathcal{A}_u)^b \):

\[
\mathbb{1}_Y = \bigwedge \{ \xi(\mathbb{1}^\mathcal{A} y) \mid y \in \mathcal{A} \text{ and } Y \subseteq \xi(y) \} \\
= \bigcap \{ \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} \mathbb{1}^\mathcal{A} y \mid y \in \mathcal{A}_u \text{ and } Y \subseteq \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \} \\
= \{ x \in \mathcal{A}_u \mid \forall y \in \mathcal{A} : \text{ if } Y \subseteq \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \text{, then } x \subseteq \mathbb{1}_Y \} \\
= \{ x \in \mathcal{A}_u \mid \forall y \in \mathcal{A} : \text{ if } Y \subseteq \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \text{, then } x \in \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \} \\
\supseteq \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} Y,
\]

where the equivalence of \( x \subseteq \mathbb{1}^\mathcal{A} y \) and \( x \in \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \) was proven for Theorem 5.17.5, and the \( \supseteq \) inclusion holds because \( Y \subseteq \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \) implies \( \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} Y \subseteq \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \).

In the other direction, suppose \( x \not\subseteq \mathbb{1}^{(\mathcal{A}_u)^b} Y \), so \( \exists z : x R_{\mathcal{A}_u} z \) and \( z \not\in Y \). Since \( z \not\in Y \), it follows by refinability for \( Y \) that \( \exists z' \subseteq z \forall z'' \subseteq z' : z'' \not\in Y \). Then by persistence for \( Y \), it follows that for all \( y \in Y \), \( y \land z' \not\in Y \), so \( y \land z' \subseteq z' \). Thus, \( Y \subseteq \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} z' \). Finally, by definition of the relation \( R_{\mathcal{A}_u}^b \) in \( \mathcal{A}_u \) (Definition 5.14.3), \( x R_{\mathcal{A}_u}^b z \) and \( z' \subseteq z \) together imply that \( x \land z' \neq \bot \), so \( x \not\subseteq \mathbb{1}^\mathcal{A} z' \). Thus, we have found a \( y = z' \), namely \( y = z' \), such that \( Y \subseteq \downarrow^{\mathcal{A}_u} y \) but \( x \not\subseteq \mathbb{1}^\mathcal{A} y \), so \( x \not\in \mathbb{1}_Y \) by the equations above. \( \square \)

Using Proposition 5.45, we can transfer results about Monk completions to results about \( (\mathcal{A}_u)^b \) and vice versa. We will see an example of the utility of this connection in §7.3.

Let us now turn to the relation between \( \mathcal{A} \) and \( (\mathcal{A}_u)^b \). Following Jónsson and Tarski 1951, a BAO \( \mathcal{B} \) is a **perfect extension** of a BAO \( \mathcal{A} \) iff: (i) \( \mathcal{B} \) is a \( \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{A} \)-BAO, and there is a BAO-embedding \( e \) of \( \mathcal{A} \) into \( \mathcal{B} \); (ii) if \( a \) and \( b \) are distinct atoms in \( \mathcal{B} \), then there is an \( x \in \mathcal{A} \) such that \( a \leq \mathcal{B} e(x) \) and \( e(x) \leq \mathcal{B} b \); and (iii) if \( X \) is a set of elements from \( \mathcal{A} \) such that \( \mathcal{B} e[X] = \top \), then there is a finite \( X' \subseteq X \) such that \( \bigvee X' = \top \). Jónsson and Tarski showed that every BAO has a perfect extension, assuming the ultrafilter axiom or an equivalent axiom, and any two perfect extensions are isomorphic, so we may speak of the perfect extension of a BAO.

The perfect extension of \( \mathcal{A} \) can be constructed as the full complex algebra of the ultrafilter frame of \( \mathcal{A} \) (see §A.3). If we think of the ultrafilter frame as a full world frame or full possibility frame (recall Example 2.6) instead of a Kripke frame, then we can say that the perfect extension of \( \mathcal{A} \) arises as the underlying BAO of the ultrafilter frame of \( \mathcal{A} \). By contrast, our \( (\mathcal{A}_f)^b \) is the underlying BAO of the filter frame of \( \mathcal{A} \).

Assuming the ultrafilter axiom, the filter frame \( \mathcal{A}_f \) of \( \mathcal{A} \) is an **atomic** full possibility frame as in §4.2, and the **atom structure** \( \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{A}_f) \) of \( \mathcal{A}_f \) (Definition 4.14) is the ultrafilter frame of \( \mathcal{A} \) considered as a full possibility frame. Thus, the underlying BAO \( (\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{A}_f))^b \) of \( \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{A}_f) \) is isomorphic to the perfect extension of \( \mathcal{A} \). By Proposition 4.15.3, there is a dense possibility embedding of \( \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{A}_f) \) into \( \mathcal{A}_f \), so by Theorem 5.9, \( (\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{A}_f))^b \) is isomorphic to \( (\mathcal{A}_f)^b \). Therefore, assuming the ultrafilter axiom, \( (\mathcal{A}_f)^b \) is a perfect extension of \( \mathcal{A} \).

The perfect extension of a BAO has come to be called the **canonical extension** of the BAO. However, there is a different definition of the canonical extension, due to Gehrke and Harding [2001, Def. 2.5] (in the more general setting of lattices with additional operations), that does not require the canonical extension to be atomic, as required for a perfect extension; with this definition, one can prove in ZF set theory that...
Theorem 5.46

(iii) equivalently in this Boolean case, every element of $\mathcal{B}$ is a join of meets of $\mathcal{e}$-images of elements of $\mathcal{A}$—or equivalently in this Boolean case, every element of $\mathcal{B}$ is a meet of joins of $\mathcal{e}$-images of elements of $\mathcal{A}$; and (iii') for any sets $X, Y$ of elements of $\mathcal{A}$, if $\bigwedge^\mathcal{B} e[X] \leq^\mathcal{B} \bigvee^\mathcal{B} e[Y]$, then there are finite $X' \subseteq X$ and $Y' \subseteq Y$ such that $\bigwedge X' \leq \bigvee Y'$. Following the terminology of Conradie and Palmigiano 2016, let us call such a $\mathcal{B}$ a constructive canonical extension of $\mathcal{A}$. Then the following is provable without use of the ultrafilter axiom.

**Theorem 5.46 (Canonical Extension).** For any BAO $\mathcal{A}$, $(\mathcal{A}_t)^b$ is a constructive canonical extension of $\mathcal{A}$.

**Proof.** For condition (i'), by Theorem 5.32.1, $\mathcal{A}_t$ is a full possibility frame, so by Theorem 5.6.2, $(\mathcal{A}_t)^b$ is a $\mathcal{CV}$-BAO. By the proof of Proposition 5.37, the map $\eta_\mathcal{A}$ sending each $x \in \mathcal{A}$ to $\eta_\mathcal{A}(x) = \widehat{x} \in (\mathcal{A}_t)^b$ is a BAO-embedding. Recall that $\widehat{x}$ is the set of all proper filters in $\mathcal{A}$ that contain $x$.

For condition (ii'), each $\mathcal{X} \in (\mathcal{A}_t)^b$ is a regular open downset of filters in $\mathcal{A}_t$, so we have

$$\mathcal{X} = \operatorname{int}(\operatorname{cl}(\mathcal{X})) = \operatorname{int}(\operatorname{cl}(\bigcup_{F \in \mathcal{X}} \downarrow F)) = \operatorname{int}(\operatorname{cl}(\bigcup_{F \in \mathcal{X}, x \in F} \widehat{x})) = \bigvee_{F \in \mathcal{X}} \bigwedge_{x \in F} \widehat{x},$$

where $\bigvee$ and $\bigwedge$ are the join and meet in the regular open algebra $(\mathcal{A}_t)^b$. Thus, every element is a join of meets of $\eta_\mathcal{A}$-images. To see directly that every element is a meet of joins of $\eta_\mathcal{A}$-images, we claim that

$$\mathcal{X} = \bigwedge_{G \in \operatorname{int}(S \setminus \mathcal{X})} \bigvee_{y \in G} \widehat{y},$$

where $S$ is the domain of $\mathcal{A}_t$, which implies

$$\mathcal{X} = \bigcup_{G \in \operatorname{int}(S \setminus \mathcal{X})} \bigvee_{y \in G} \widehat{y}.\tag{21}$$

Recall that the poset of $\mathcal{A}_t$ is the set of proper filters of $\mathcal{A}$ ordered by reverse inclusion. For the right-to-left inclusion in (21), if $F \notin \mathcal{X}$, then by refinability for $\mathcal{X}$ there is a proper filter $F' \supseteq F$ such that $F' \in \operatorname{int}(S \setminus \mathcal{X})$. Since $F'$ is proper, $F' \nsubseteq \operatorname{cl}(\bigcup_{y \in F'} \widehat{y})$, so $F \nsubseteq \operatorname{cl}(\bigcup_{y \in F'} \widehat{y})$. Thus, $F$ is not in the right-hand side of (21).

For the left-to-right inclusion in (21), suppose $F \in \mathcal{X}$ and $G \in \operatorname{int}(S \setminus \mathcal{X})$. To show $F \in \operatorname{int}(\operatorname{cl}(\bigcup_{y \in G} \widehat{y}))$, we must show that for every proper filter $F' \supseteq F$, there is a proper filter $F'' \supseteq F'$ with $F'' \in \operatorname{cl}(\bigcup_{y \in G} \widehat{y})$, i.e., such that $-y \in F''$ for some $y \in G$. Since $F \in \mathcal{X}$, for any proper filter $F' \supseteq F$, we have $F' \in \mathcal{X}$. Since $G \in \operatorname{int}(S \setminus \mathcal{X})$, for any proper filter $G' \supseteq G$, we have $G' \notin \mathcal{X}$. It follows that for some $y \in G$, $[F' \cup \{y\}]$ is a proper filter, for otherwise by Fact 5.31 we would have $F' \supseteq G$, a contradiction. Thus, we can set $F'' = [F' \cup \{y\}]$.

For condition (iii'), suppose that for sets $X, Y$ of elements of $\mathcal{A}$, $\bigwedge \{\widehat{x} \mid x \in X\} \subseteq (\mathcal{A}_t)^b \bigvee \{\widehat{y} \mid y \in Y\}$, so

$$\bigcap \{\widehat{x} \mid x \in X\} \subseteq \operatorname{int}(\operatorname{cl}(\bigcup \{\widehat{y} \mid y \in Y\})),\tag{22}$$

which means that for any proper filter $F$ in $\mathcal{A}$ such that $X \subseteq F$, we have that for all proper filters $F' \supseteq F$,
there is a proper filter \( F'' \supseteq F' \) such that \( y \in F'' \) for some \( y \in Y \). In particular, this holds for \( F = \{ X \} \).

Now suppose for reductio that for every finite \( X' \subseteq X \) and \( Y' \subseteq Y \), \( \bigwedge X' \not\subseteq \bigvee Y' \). It follows by Fact 5.31 that \( F' = \{ X \cup \{-y \mid y \in Y\} \} \) is a proper filter. Given \( F'' \supseteq \{ X \} \), by the unpacking of (22) above there is a proper filter \( F'' \supseteq F \) such that \( y \in F'' \) for some \( y \in Y \), which is impossible given our choice of \( F' \).

We will return to this connection between \((\mathcal{A}_t)^b\) and the constructive canonical extension of \( \mathcal{A} \) in \S7.4.

### 5.7 Frame Constructions and Algebraic Constructions

The next step in developing the duality theory for possibility frames and BAOs is to relate frame constructions that preserve the validity of modal formulas with algebraic constructions that preserve the validity of modal formulas, or in more algebraic terms, that preserve universally quantified algebraic equations. The story here parallels the story for world frames and BAOs [Goldblatt, 1974, §§1.4-1.6] but with some twists.

Let us recall the standard algebraic notions of homomorphic images, subalgebras, and direct products. A BAO \( \mathcal{A} \) is a homomorphic image of a BAO \( \mathcal{B} \) iff there is a surjective BAO-homomorphism as in Definition 5.3 from \( \mathcal{B} \) to \( \mathcal{A} \). Where \( A \) and \( B \) are the domains of \( \mathcal{A} \) and \( \mathcal{B} \), respectively, \( \mathcal{A} \) is a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{B} \) iff \( A \subseteq B \), \( A \) is closed under the operations of \( \mathcal{B} \), and the operations of \( \mathcal{A} \) are the restrictions to \( A \) of the operations of \( \mathcal{B} \). Finally, given a family \( \{ \mathcal{A}_j \}_{j \in J} \) of BAOs \( \mathcal{A}_j = \langle A_j, \land_j, \neg_j, \top_j, \{ □_i \}_{i \in I} \rangle \) where \( A \) is the Cartesian product \( \prod_{j \in J} A_j \) and the operations of \( \prod_{j \in J} A_j \) are defined coordinatewise from those of the \( \mathcal{A}_j \), i.e., for functions \( x, y \in \prod_{j \in J} A_j \), \( x \land y \) is the function in \( \prod_{j \in J} A_j \) such that for all \( j \in J \), \((x \land y)_j = x_j \land y_j \), where \( f_j \) is the value of function \( f \) at \( j \), and similarly for the other operations. One can easily check that \( \prod_{j \in J} A_j \) is indeed a BAO.

Taking homomorphic images, subalgebras, and direct products of algebras are ways of preserving universally quantified algebraic equations. Let us now compare these with ways of preserving the validity of modal formulas over possibility frames. We recall the following from Proposition 3.7.2.

**Proposition 5.47** (Preservation Under Dense Possibility Morhisms). For any possibility frames \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{F}' \), if there is a dense possibility morphism from \( \mathcal{F} \) to \( \mathcal{F}' \), then for all \( \phi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( \mathcal{F} \models \phi \) implies \( \mathcal{F}' \models \phi \).

A special case of dense possibility morphisms are surjective possibility morphisms, but surjectivity is not required to preserve validity. Also recall the special case of taut possibility morphisms from Definition 3.2.

We have already done the work with Theorems 5.35 and 5.9 to relate possibility morphisms and subalgebras as follows.

**Proposition 5.48** (Possibility Morhpisms and Subalgebras). For any BAOs \( \mathcal{A} \) and \( \mathcal{B} \):

1. if \( \mathcal{A} \) is isomorphic to a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{B} \), then there is a surjective taut possibility morphism from \( \mathcal{B}_g \) to \( \mathcal{A}_g \);
2. if \( \mathcal{A} \) is isomorphic to a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{B} \), then there is a surjective taut possibility morphism from \( \mathcal{B}_t \) to \( \mathcal{A}_t \).

Conversely, for any possibility frames \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \):

3. if there is a dense possibility morphism from \( \mathcal{F} \) to \( \mathcal{G} \), then \( \mathcal{G}^b \) is isomorphic to a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{F}^b \).

**Proof.** For part 1, if \( \mathcal{A} \) is isomorphic to a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{B} \), then the isomorphism is an injective homomorphism from \( \mathcal{A} \) to \( \mathcal{B} \), so by parts 1 and 3 of Theorem 5.35, there is a surjective taut possibility morphism from \( \mathcal{B}_g \) to \( \mathcal{A}_g \). The proof of part 2 is the same but using part 4 of Theorem 5.35 instead of parts 1 and 3.
For part 3, if there is a dense possibility morphism from \( \mathcal{F} \) to \( \mathcal{G} \), then by Theorem 5.9, there is an injective homomorphism from \( \mathcal{G}^b \) to \( \mathcal{F}^b \), so \( \mathcal{G}^b \) is isomorphic to a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{F}^b \).  

Another validity preserving construction for possibility frames is given by the notion of generated subframes, which parallels the standard definition for world frames [Goldblatt, 1974, §1.4]. In fact, for possibility frames the key subframe notion is a more liberal notion of selective subframe. (Compare this to the definition of cofinal subframes in Chagrov and Zakharyaschev 1997, p. 295 and Bezhanishvili 2006, p. 61.)

**Definition 5.49 (Subframes).** Given a possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \), a subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \) is a tuple \( \mathcal{F}' = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle \) such that:

1. \( S' \subseteq S; \sqsubseteq' = \sqsubseteq \cap (S' \times S') \), and \( R'_i = R_i \cap (S' \times S') \);
2. \( P' = \{ X \cap S' \mid X \in P \} \).

A generated subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \) is a subframe \( \mathcal{F}' \) of \( \mathcal{F} \) such that \( S' \) is closed under \( \sqsubseteq \) and \( R_i \) from \( \mathcal{F} \):

3. if \( x \in S' \) and \( y \sqsubseteq x \), then \( y \in S' \); if \( x \in S' \) and \( xR_i y \), then \( y \in S' \).

A selective subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \) is a subframe \( \mathcal{F}' \) of \( \mathcal{F} \) such that:

4. if \( x \in S' \) and \( y \sqsubseteq x \), then there is a \( z \in S' \) such that \( z \subseteq y \).
5. if \( x \in S' \) and \( xR_i y \), then there is a \( z \in S' \) such that \( y \sqsubseteq z \) and \( xR_i z \).

Note the following facts about Definition 5.49. First, a subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \) is not guaranteed to be a possibility frame. Second, every generated subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \) is a selective subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \). Third, if \( \mathcal{F} \) is a world frame, so \( \sqsubseteq \) is identity, then every selective subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \) is a generated subframe of \( \mathcal{F} \).

**Proposition 5.50 (Preservation Under Selective Subframes).** If \( \mathcal{F}' \) is a selective subframe of a possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} \), then:

1. \( \mathcal{F}' \) is a possibility frame;
2. if \( \mathcal{F} \) is full, then \( \mathcal{F}' \) is full;
3. for all \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( \mathcal{F} \vDash \varphi \) implies \( \mathcal{F}' \vDash \varphi \).

**Proof.** For part 1, we must first show that \( P' \) is closed under the operations \( \sqcap, \sqcup', \) and \( \Box_i \) as in Definition 2.1, and \( \emptyset \in P' \). Since \( \emptyset \in P \), we have \( \emptyset = \emptyset \cap S' \in P' \) by Definition 5.49.2. For the closure conditions, suppose \( X', Y' \in P' \), so by Definition 5.49.2 there are \( X, Y \in P \) such that \( X' = X \cap S' \) and \( Y' = Y \cap S' \). Where \( \sqcup \) and \( \Box_i \) are the operation in \( \mathcal{F} \), we claim that:

(a) \( X' \cap Y' = (X \cap Y) \cap S' \);
(b) \( X' \sqcup' Y' = (X \sqcup Y) \cap S' \);
(c) \( \Box_i X' = (\Box_i X) \cap S' \).

From (a)-(c), \( X, Y \in P \), the fact that \( P \) is closed under \( \cap, \cup, \) and \( \Box_i \), and Definition 5.49.2, it follows that \( X' \cap Y' \in P' \), \( X' \cup' Y' \in P' \), and \( \Box_i X' \in P' \), as desired. Hence \( \mathcal{F}' \) is a partial-state frame.

Equation (a) is immediate from \( X' = X \cap S' \) and \( Y' = Y \cap S' \). For (b), the right-to-left inclusion is straightforward. For the left-to-right inclusion, suppose \( x \notin (X \cup Y) \cap S' \). If \( x \notin S' \), then \( x' \notin X' \cup' Y' \), so suppose \( x \in S' \). From \( x \notin X \cup Y \), there is a \( z \subseteq x \) such that \( z \in X \) but \( z \notin Y \). Then by refinability for \( Y \), there is a \( z' \subseteq z \) such that for all \( z'' \subseteq z' \), \( z'' \notin Y \). By Definition 5.49.4, since \( x \in S' \) and \( z' \subseteq x \), there is a \( z'' \in S' \) such that \( z'' \subseteq z' \). Then by the refinability step, \( z'' \notin Y \), so \( z'' \notin Y' = Y \cap S' \), but by persistence...
for \( X, z'' \subseteq z \in X \) implies \( z'' \in X \), which with \( z'' \in S' \) implies \( z'' \in X' = X \cap S' \). Finally, from \( z'' \in S' \) and \( z'' \subseteq z' \subseteq z \subseteq x \), we have \( z'' \subseteq x' \). Hence we have a \( z'' \subseteq x' \) such that \( z'' \in X' \) and \( z'' \notin Y' \), so \( x \notin X' \supseteq Y' \).

For (c), the right-to-left inclusion is again straightforward. For the left-to-right inclusion, suppose \( x \in S' \) but \( x \notin \square x \), so there is a \( y \) such that \( xR_y \) and \( y \notin X \). By Definition 5.49.5, since \( x \in S' \) and \( xR_y \), there is a \( z \in S' \) such that \( y \subseteq z \) and \( xR_z \), so \( xR'_z \). By persistence for \( X \), together \( y \notin X \) and \( y \subseteq z \) imply \( z \notin X \), so \( z \notin X' = X \cap S' \), which with \( xR'_z \) implies \( x \notin \square X' \).

To show that \( F' \) is a possibility frame, it only remains to show that \( P' \subseteq RO(S', \subseteq') \). Suppose \( X' \in P' \), so there is an \( X \in P \) such that \( X' = X \cap S' \). To show that \( X' \) satisfies persistence with respect to \( \langle S', \subseteq' \rangle \), suppose \( x \in X' = X \cap S' \) and \( y \subseteq x \). Then \( y \subseteq x \), which with \( x \in X \) and persistence for \( X \) implies \( y \in X \), which with \( y \subseteq S' \) implies \( y \subseteq X = X \cap S' \). To show that \( X' \) satisfies refinability with respect to \( \langle S', \subseteq' \rangle \), suppose \( x \in S' \) but \( x \notin X' = X \cap S' \). Then \( x \notin X \), so by refinability for \( X \), there is a \( y \subseteq x \) such that for all \( z \subseteq y, z \notin X \). By Definition 5.49.4, since \( x \in S' \) and \( y \subseteq x \), there is a \( z \in S' \) such that \( z \subseteq y \) and hence \( z \subseteq x \). Now for any \( u \subseteq x \), we have \( u \subseteq y \) and hence \( u \notin X \) by the refinability step, so \( u \notin X' \). Thus, we have shown that if \( x \notin X' \), then there is a \( z \subseteq x \) such that for all \( u \subseteq z \), \( u \notin X' \), as desired.

For part 2, assuming \( F \) is full, so \( P = RO(S, \subseteq) \), we will show that \( RO(S', \subseteq') \subseteq P' \), which with the previous paragraph shows that \( F' \) is full. Suppose \( X' \in RO(S', \subseteq') \). By Definition 5.49.2, to show \( X' \in P' \), it suffices to show that there is an \( X \in P = RO(S, \subseteq) \) such that \( X' = X \cap S' \). Where \( \upharpoonright X' = \{ x \in S \mid \exists y \in X' : x \subseteq y \} \), let \( X = \text{int}(\{ \downarrow X' \}) \), so \( X' \subseteq X \in RO(S, \subseteq) \) by Fact 2.17.2. It remains to show that \( X \cap S' \subseteq X' \). Suppose \( x \in S' \). Then if \( x \notin X' \), refinability for \( X' \) with respect to \( \subseteq' \) gives us a \( y \subseteq x \) such that (i) for all \( z \subseteq y, z \notin X' \). Now suppose for reduction that \( y \in \text{cl}(\uparrow X') \), so there is a \( u \subseteq y \) and a \( y' \subseteq X' \) such that \( u \subseteq y' \). Then by Definition 5.49.4, there is a \( z \subseteq u \) such that \( z \subseteq u \). Since \( z \subseteq u \subseteq y \), \( z \subseteq u \subseteq y' \), \( z \subseteq S' \), and \( y, y' \subseteq S' \), we have \( z \subseteq y \) and \( z \subseteq y' \). By (i), \( z \subseteq y \) implies \( z \notin X' \), which with \( z \subseteq y' \) and persistence for \( X' \) with respect to \( \subseteq' \) implies \( y' \notin X' \), contradicting \( y' \subseteq X' \) from above. Hence \( y \notin \text{cl}(\downarrow X') \), which with \( y \subseteq x \) implies \( x \notin \text{int}(\{ \downarrow X' \}) \), so \( x \notin X \), which completes the proof of part 2.

For part 3, the observations made in the proof of part 1 imply that the identity map on \( S' \) is a strong embedding from \( F' \) to \( F \) (Definition 3.2.11), so by Proposition 3.7.3, \( F \models \varphi \) implies \( F' \models \varphi \).

The following proposition shows that being a selective subframe is equivalent to being the image of a taut strong embedding as in Definition 3.2.

**Proposition 5.51 (Embeddings and Subframes).** For any possibility frames \( F \) and \( G \), the following are equivalent:

1. there is a taut strong embedding from \( F \) into \( G \);
2. \( F \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( G \).

**Proof.** From 1 to 2, where \( h \) is the taut strong embedding of \( F \) into \( G \), we first claim that the subframe \( G' \) of \( G \) with domain \( h[S^F] \) is a selective subframe of \( G \). Suppose \( x^G \in h[S^F] \) and \( y^G \subseteq x^G \). Thus, \( x^F = h(x^F) \) for some \( x^F \in F \). Then since \( y^G \subseteq h(x^F) \) and \( h \) is a taut possibility morphism, by \( \subseteq \)-back there is a \( y^F \in F \) such that \( h(y^F) \subseteq y^G \). Then taking \( z^G = h(y^F) \), we have \( z^F \in h[S^F] \) and \( z^G \subseteq y^G \), so \( G' \) satisfies part 4 of Definition 5.49. Next, suppose \( z^G = h(x^F)R^G_zy^G \). Then by taut \( R \)-back, there is a \( y^F \in F \) such \( x^F R^F y^F \) and

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33 The fact that refinability for \( X \) is not used in this part of the proof is a hint that there is a more liberal notion of subframe for which the proposition still holds. The more liberal notion replaces part 5 of Definition 5.49 with the following weaker requirement: if \( x \in S' \), \( xR_uz \), and \( u \subseteq y \), then there is a \( z \in S' \) such that \( z \subseteq u \) and \( xR_uz \). This is the notion of subframe that is equivalent to being the image of a strict strong embedding, just as the notion of selective subframe is equivalent to being the image of a taut strong embedding (Proposition 5.51 below).
For part 2, if there is a surjective homomorphism from \( \mathbb{B} \) to \( \mathbb{A} \), then by Theorem 5.35, there is a taut strong embedding from \( \mathbb{A}_g \) into \( \mathbb{B}_g \), so by Proposition 5.51, \( \mathbb{A}_g \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( \mathbb{B}_g \).

The proof of part 2 is the same but using part 4 of Theorem 5.35 instead of parts 1 and 3.

For part 3, if \( \mathcal{F} \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( \mathcal{G} \), then by Proposition 5.51, there is a strong embedding from \( \mathcal{F} \) into \( \mathcal{G} \), so by Theorem 5.9, there is a surjective homomorphism from \( \mathcal{G}^b \) to \( \mathcal{F}^b \). \( \square \)

Now we can relate selective subframes and homomorphic images as follows.

**Proposition 5.52** (Selective Subframes and Homomorphic Images). For any BAOs \( \mathbb{A} \) and \( \mathbb{B} \):

1. if \( \mathbb{A} \) is a homomorphic image of \( \mathbb{B} \), then \( \mathbb{A}_g \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( \mathbb{B}_g \);
2. if \( \mathbb{A} \) is a homomorphic image of \( \mathbb{B} \), then \( \mathbb{A}_f \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( \mathbb{B}_f \).

Conversely, for any possibility frames \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{G} \):

3. if \( \mathcal{F} \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( \mathcal{G} \), then \( \mathcal{F}^b \) is a homomorphic image of \( \mathcal{G}^b \).

**Proof.** For part 1, if there is a surjective homomorphism from \( \mathbb{B} \) to \( \mathbb{A} \), then by Theorem 5.35, there is a taut strong embedding from \( \mathbb{A}_g \) into \( \mathbb{B}_g \), so by Proposition 5.51, \( \mathbb{A}_g \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( \mathbb{B}_g \).

The proof of part 2 is the same but using part 4 of Theorem 5.35 instead of parts 1 and 3.

For part 3, if \( \mathcal{F} \) is isomorphic to a selective subframe of \( \mathcal{G} \), then by Proposition 5.51, there is a strong embedding from \( \mathcal{F} \) into \( \mathcal{G} \), so by Theorem 5.9, there is a surjective homomorphism from \( \mathcal{G}^b \) to \( \mathcal{F}^b \). \( \square \)

A third validity preserving construction for possibility frames is given by the notion of **disjoint unions** of possibility frames, which parallels the standard definition for world frames [Goldblatt, 1974, §I.6].

**Definition 5.53** (Disjoint Union). Given a nonempty indexed family \( \{ \mathcal{F}_j \}_{j \in J} \) of possibility frames \( \mathcal{F}_j = \langle S_j, \sqsubseteq_j, \{ R_{i,j} \}_{i \in I}, P_j \rangle \), let \( \mathcal{F}'_j = \langle S'_j, \sqsubseteq'_j, \{ R'_{i,j} \}_{i \in I}, P'_j \rangle \) be the isomorphic copy of \( \mathcal{F}_j \) with domain \( S'_j = S_j \times \{ j \} \), so that \( \{ \mathcal{F}'_j \}_{j \in J} \) is a family of pairwise disjoint possibility frames. Then the **disjoint union** of \( \{ \mathcal{F}_j \}_{j \in J} \) is the tuple \( \bigcup_{j \in J} \mathcal{F}_j = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) defined by:

1. \( S = \bigcup_{j \in J} S'_j \); \( \sqsubseteq = \bigcup_{j \in J} \sqsubseteq'_j \); \( R_i = \bigcup_{j \in J} R'_{i,j} \);
2. \( P = \{ X \subseteq S | \forall j \in J: X \cap S'_j \in P'_j \} \).

**Proposition 5.54** (Preservation Under Disjoint Unions). For any nonempty indexed family \( \{ \mathcal{F}_j \}_{j \in J} \) of possibility frames:

1. \( \bigcup_{j \in J} \mathcal{F}_j \) is a possibility frame;
2. if each $F_j$ is full, then $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j$ is full;
3. for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j \models \varphi$ iff for all $j \in J$, $F_j \models \varphi$.

Proof. For part 1, we must first show that the set $P$ of admissible propositions in $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j$ contains $\emptyset$, which is immediate from Definition 5.53.2 and $\emptyset \in P_j'$, and is closed under the operations $\cap$, $\supset$, and $\models$, from Definition 2.1. By the disjointness of the $S_j'$, for all $X, Y \in P$ we have:

(i) $X \cap Y = \bigcup_{j \in J} (X \cap Y \cap S_j')$;
(ii) $X \supset Y = \bigcup_{j \in J} ((X \cap S_j') \supset_j (Y \cap S_j'))$;
(iii) $\models_j X = \bigcup_{j \in J} \models_{i,j} (X \cap S_j')$.

If $X, Y \in P$, then by definition of $P$, for all $j \in J$, $X \cap S_j' \in P_j'$ and $Y \cap S_j' \in P_j'$. Since $P_j'$ is closed under $\cap$, $\supset$, and $\models_j$, it follows that $X \cap Y \cap S_j' \in P_j'$, $(X \cap S_j') \supset_j (Y \cap S_j') \in P_j'$, and $\models_{i,j} (X \cap S_j') \in P_j'$. Since $S_j'$ is the whole domain of $F_j$, $(X \cap S_j') \supset_j (Y \cap S_j') = (X \supset_j Y) \cap S_j'$ and $\models_{i,j} (X \cap S_j') = (\models_{i,j} X) \cap S_j'$. The previous two sentences, equations (i)-(iii), and the definition of $P$ jointly imply that $X \cap Y, X \supset Y, \models_j X \in P$.

Next, we must show that each $X \in P$ satisfies persistence and refinability with respect to $\subseteq$. For persistence, suppose $x \in X$ and $y \subseteq x$. Then since $X = \bigcup_{j \in J} (X \cap S_j')$, we have $x \in X \cap S_j'$ for some $j \in J$. By definition of $P$, $X \cap S_j' \in P_j'$, so $X \cap S_j'$ satisfies persistence with respect to $\subseteq_j$. Since $\subseteq = \bigcup_{j \in J} \subseteq_j$, $y \subseteq x$, and $x \in S_j'$, it follows by the disjointness of the $\subseteq_j$ relations that $y \subseteq_j x$, which with the previous sentence implies that $y \in X \cap S_j'$, so $y \in X$. Thus, we have shown that $X$ satisfies persistence with respect to $\subseteq$.

For refinability, assume that for all $y \subseteq x$ there is a $z \subseteq y$ such that $z \in X$. Consider such a $z$. As above, $z \in X \cap S_j'$ for some $j \in J$, which with $z \subseteq x$ implies that for all $y \subseteq x$, $y \subseteq_j x$ and $y \in S_j'$. Thus, from our initial assumption, it follows that for all $y \subseteq_j x$ there is a $z \subseteq_j y$ such that $z \in X \cap S_j'$. Since $X \cap S_j' \in P$, $X \cap S_j'$ satisfies refinability with respect to $\subseteq_j$, but the previous sentence implies $x \in X \cap S_j'$, so $x \in X$. Thus, we have shown that $X$ satisfies refinability with respect to $\subseteq$.

For part 2, assume that each $F_j$ is full, which implies that each $F_j'$ is full. Then the fact that $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j$ is full is a consequence of the following, which is easy to check: if $X \in \text{RO}(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)$, then for all $j \in J$, $X \cap S_j' \in \text{RO}(F_j')$, so $X \cap S_j' \in P_j'$ since $F_j'$ is full. Then by the definition of $P$ in $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j$, $X \in P$.

For part 3, the obvious embedding of $F_j$ into $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j$ gives us that $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j \models \varphi$ implies $F_j \models \varphi$ by Proposition 3.7.3. In the other direction, suppose $\varphi$ is falsified at an $x$ in $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j$ with an admissible valuation $\pi$. Then $x \in F_j$ for some $j \in J$; the restriction $\pi_j$ of $\pi$ to $F_j'$ is an admissible valuation for $F_j'$ by Definition 5.53.2, and the identity map on $F_j'$ is a possibility morphism from $\langle F_j', \pi_j \rangle$ to $\langle \bigcup_{j \in J} F_j, \pi \rangle$ as in Definition 3.2.14, so $\langle \bigcup_{j \in J} F_j, \pi \rangle, x \not\models \varphi$ implies $\langle F_j', \pi_j \rangle, x \not\models \varphi$ by Proposition 3.7.1, so $F_j \not\models \varphi$ since $F_j$ and $F_j'$ are isomorphic.

As usual, we can relate disjoint unions and direct products as follows.

**Proposition 5.55** (Disjoint Unions and Direct Products). For any nonempty indexed family $\{F_j\}_{j \in J}$ of possibility frames, $(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b$ is BAO-isomorphic to $\prod_{j \in J} F_j^b$.

Proof. As in Definition 5.53, $\{F_j'\}_{j \in J}$ is the family of pairwise disjoint frames such that for each $j \in J, F_j'$ is isomorphic to $F_j$, which is used to construct $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j$. Since $\prod_{j \in J} F_j^b$ is obviously BAO-isomorphic to $\prod_{j \in J} F_j$, it
suffices to show that \(( \bigcup_{j \in J} F_j )^b\) is BAO-isomorphic to \(\prod_{j \in J} F_j^b\). Where \(P\) is the set of admissible propositions in \(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j\), and \(P'_j\) is the set of admissible propositions in \(F'_j\), we define a map \(h: P \to \prod_{j \in J} P'_j\) so that for \(X \in P\), 
\(h(X)\) is the element of \(\prod_{j \in J} P'_j\) whose value at \(j\) is \(X \cap S'_j\), so \(h\) is clearly a bijection by Definition 5.53.2. That \(h\) is a BAO-homomorphism follows from equations (i)-(iii) in the proof of Proposition 5.54.1. For example, for \(\lhd\), where \(f_k\) is the value of function \(f\) at \(k\), \(\mathcal{A} = \bigcup_{j \in J} F_j^b\), and \(\mathcal{B} = \prod_{j \in J} F_j^b\):

\[
\begin{align*}
    h(\lhd^\mathcal{A} X)_k &= \lhd^\mathcal{A} X \cap S'_k \quad \text{by definition of } h \\
    &= \bigcup_{j \in J} \lhd^\mathcal{A}_j (X \cap S'_j) \cap S'_k \quad \text{by (iii)} \\
    &= \lhd^\mathcal{A}_k (X \cap S'_k) \quad \text{by the pairwise disjointness of the } S'_j \\
    &= \lhd^\mathcal{A}_k h(X)_k \quad \text{by definition of } h \\
    &= (\lhd^{\mathcal{B}} h(X))_k \quad \text{by definition of the direct product},
\end{align*}
\]

so \(h(\lhd^\mathcal{A} X) = \lhd^{\mathcal{B}} h(X)\). The other cases are similar.

We will see in §§6.1-6.2 how the above connections between frame constructions and algebraic constructions can be applied to the study of modally definable classes of frames.

### 6 Beginnings of Definability & Correspondence Theory

In this section, we turn to modal definability theory, including correspondence theory, in the context of possibility semantics (cf. van Benthem 1983, 2001 on definability theory for possible world semantics). Three classic questions concerning modal definability are the following from van Benthem 1983 (p. 13):

1. When does a given modal formula define a first-order property of the relations in frames?
2. When can a given first-order property of frames be defined by means of modal formulas?
3. Which classes of frames are definable at all by means of modal formulas?

We will take these questions in reverse order: we discuss question 3 for possibility frames in §6.1, question 2 for full possibility frames in §6.2, and question 1 for full possibility frames in §6.3.

To make these questions precise, we need to fix the relevant notions of definability and of first-orderness. We begin with definability, for which the general notion is that of relative definability.

**Definition 6.1** (Relative Modal Frame Definability). Let \(F\) and \(G\) be classes of possibility frames.

A set \(\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)\) of modal formulas defines \(F\) relative to \(G\) iff for all \(F \in G\), \(F \in F\) iff every \(\varphi \in \Sigma\) is valid over \(F\). \(F\) is modally definable (or modal axiomatic) relative to \(G\) iff there is some \(\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)\) that defines \(F\) relative to \(G\).

For question 3 above, in §6.1 we give a characterization of the classes of possibility frames that are modally definable relative to the class of all possibility frames. Theorem 6.4 in §6.1 is the analogue for possibility semantics of Goldblatt’s [1974, Thm. 1.12.11] characterization of modally definable classes of world frames.

Turning to the notion of first-orderness, let \(\mathcal{L}^1(I)\) be the first-order language with equality that contains binary relation symbols \(\sqsubseteq\) and \(\hat{R}_i\) for each \(i \in I\). We interpret \(\mathcal{L}^1(I)\) in possibility frames \(F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle\) in the obvious way, interpreting \(\sqsubseteq\) as the refinement relation \(\sqsubseteq\) and \(\hat{R}_i\) as the accessibility relation \(\hat{R}_i\) for each \(i \in I\).
relation \( R_i \). The set \( P \) of admissible propositions plays no role in interpreting \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \), so instead of talking of frames we can talk of foundations \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \} \rangle \) as in Definition 2.25.

Foundations serve as standard first-order structures for \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \), so we can apply to foundations standard notions of \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-definability, \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementary equivalence, etc. From Corollary 2.31.2, we have the following definability result.

**Corollary 6.2** (First-Order Definability of Foundations of Full Frames). The class of foundations \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \} \rangle \) for which \( F^4 = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}, \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \rangle \) is a full possibility frame is definable by an \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-sentence relative to the class of all \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-structures, viz., by the \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-sentence expressing that \( \sqsubseteq \) is a partial order and that \( \sqsubseteq \) and \( R_i \) satisfy the interplay conditions \( R \)-rule and \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \) from §2.3.

Using the notion of foundations, we can also talk about \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-definability and \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementary equivalence for frames as follows.

**Definition 6.3** (\( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-Definability and Equivalence of Frames). Let \( F \) and \( G \) be classes of possibility frames.

A set \( \Sigma \) of \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-sentences defines \( F \) relative to \( G \) if for all \( F \in G \): \( F \in F \) iff every \( \varphi \in \Sigma \) is true in \( F \).

Possibility frames \( F \) and \( G \) are \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementarily equivalent if \( F \) and \( G \) are \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementarily equivalent. \( F \) is closed under \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementary equivalence relative to \( G \) if whenever \( F \in F \), \( G \in G \), and \( F \) is \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementarily equivalent to \( G \), then \( G \in F \).

For succinctness, we will adopt the following convention: when we say that a class of full possibility frames is simply ‘definable’, in the modal or \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \) sense, or that it is simply ‘closed under \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementary equivalence’, we mean relative to the class of full possibility frames.

In §6.2, we answer question 2 above for full possibility frames. We give a characterization of when a class of full possibility frames that is closed under \( \mathcal{L}^1(I) \)-elementary equivalence is modally definable. Theorem 6.7 in §6.2 is the analogue for possibility semantics of the well-known Goldblatt-Thomason Theorem (Goldblatt and Thomason 1975, Thm. 8, Blackburn et al. 2001, Thm. 3.19) about when a class of full world frames closed under elementary equivalence is modally definable (relative to the class of full world frames). Stating the result for classes closed under elementary equivalence is of course stronger than what question 2 asks for, because while first-order definability by a set of sentences implies closure under elementary equivalence, the converse implication does not hold. (Recall that closure under elementary equivalence is equivalent to the weaker condition of being the union of classes each of which is first-order definable by a set of sentences.)

We will postpone discussion of question 1 and our relevant results until §6.3.

### 6.1 Modally Definable Classes of Possibility Frames

In this section, we use the results of §5.7 to prove an analogue for possibility frames of Goldblatt’s [1974, Thm. 1.12.11] characterization of modally definable classes of world frames.

Goldblatt’s [1974, Thm. 1.12.11] theorem states that a class \( K \) of world frames is modally definably if and only if it is closed under surjective p-morphisms, generated subframes, and disjoint unions, while both \( K \) and its complement are closed under general ultrafilter extensions (i.e., taking the general ultrafilter frame of the underlying BAO of a frame, as in §A.3). The left-to-right direction simply uses the fact that the validity of modal formulas is preserved by surjective p-morphisms, generated subframes, and disjoint unions, while a frame validates exactly the same formulas as its general ultrafilter extension. For the right-to-left direction, Goldblatt’s strategy for showing that the modal logic of \( K \) defines \( K \) involves switching from the universe of frames to the universe of BAOs, where we can then apply Birkhoff’s [1935] HSP theorem: the
smallest equationally definable class of algebras containing a given class $C$ of algebras is $\text{HSP}(C)$, the class of all homomorphic images of subalgebras of direct products of algebras from $C$. Given suitable connections between algebraic constructions and frame constructions (recall §5.7), one can then use the HSP theorem to show that any frame validating the modal logic of $K$ in fact belongs to $K$. This new standard strategy is exactly the strategy we will follow below. Compare the proof of Theorem 6.4 below to van Benthem’s [1983, Thm. 16.1] proof of Goldblatt’s [1974, Thm. 1.12.11] characterization of modally definable classes of world frames. Also note that the HSP theorem is a theorem of ZF set theory [Andréka and Németi, 1981], so Theorem 6.4 does not require the axiom of choice or even the ultrafilter axiom.

**Theorem 6.4** (Modal Definability of Possibility Frames). For any class $F$ of possibility frames, $F$ is modally definable iff $F$ is closed under dense possibility morphisms, selective subframes, and disjoint unions (§5.7), while both $F$ and its complement are closed under general filter extensions (§5.5). (We may replace ‘dense possibility morphisms’ with ‘surjective taut possibility morphisms’ for a stronger result from right to left.)

**Proof.** For the left-to-right direction, if $F$ is defined by a set $\Sigma$ of modal formulas, then since the validity of modal formulas is preserved by dense possibility morphisms (Proposition 5.47), selective subframes (Proposition 5.50), disjoint unions (Proposition 5.54), and general filter extensions (Theorem 5.43), $F$ is closed under these constructions. Since validity is also anti-preserved by general filter extensions, i.e., if $\varphi$ is valid over the general filter extension of a frame, then $\varphi$ is valid over the frame (Theorem 5.43), it follows that the complement of $F$ is closed under general filter extensions. For if $F \not\in F$, so it does not validate some formula from $\Sigma$, then $(F^b)_g$ does not validate that formula from $\Sigma$, so $(F^b)_g \not\in F$.

For the right-to-left direction, let $\Sigma$ be the modal logic of $F$, i.e., the set of all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ that are valid over every frame in $F$. We will show that $\Sigma$ defines $F$: a frame $F$ is in $F$ iff $F$ validates $\Sigma$. The left-to-right direction is immediate. For the left-to-right direction, as usual, we can turn the set $\Sigma$ of modal formulas into a set $\Sigma^b$ of algebraic equations, and then since $\Sigma$ is the modal logic of $F$, $\Sigma^b$ is the algebraic equational theory of $F^b = \{F^b \mid F \in F\}$ by Theorem 5.6.6. Then the class of all BAOs in which the equations of $\Sigma^b$ hold is the smallest equationally definable class of BAOs containing $F^b$, which by Birkhoff’s theorem is $\text{HSP}(F^b)$, the class of all homomorphic images of subalgebras of direct products of algebras from $F^b$.

Now suppose $F$ is a possibility frame validating $\Sigma$, so by the previous paragraph, the equations of $\Sigma^b$ hold in $F^b$ and hence $F^b \in \text{HSP}(F^b)$. Thus, there is a family $\{F^b_j\}_{j \in J}$ of possibility frames from $F$ such that $F^b$ is a homomorphic image of a subalgebra $S$ of $\prod_{j \in J} F^b_j$. Since $F^b$ is a homomorphic image of $S$, by Proposition 5.52.1, $(F^b)_g$ is isomorphic to a selective subframe of $S_g$. Next, from Proposition 5.55, $\prod_{j \in J} F_j$ is isomorphic to $(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b$. Thus, the subalgebra $S$ of $\prod_{j \in J} F_j$ is isomorphic to a subalgebra of $(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b$, whence by Proposition 5.48.1, there is a dense (indeed surjective, taut) possibility morphism from $(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b_g$ to $S_g$.

Now we argue that $F \in F$. Since each $F_j$ is in $F$, $\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j \in F$ by closure under disjoint unions; then $(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b_g \in F$ by closure under general filter extensions; then since there is a dense possibility morphism from $(\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b_g$ to $S_g$, $S_g \in F$ by closure under dense possibility morphisms; then since $(F^b)_g$ is isomorphic to a selective subframe of $S_g$, $(F^b)_g \in F$ by closure under selective subframes and isomorphisms; and then finally $F \in F$ by the closure of the complement of $F$ under general filter extensions. 

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6.2 Modally Definable Classes of Full Possibility Frames

Next we will prove an analogue for full possibility frames of the Goldblatt-Thomason Theorem for full world frames. Goldblatt and Thomason’s [1975] result concerns classes $K$ of full world frames that are closed under elementary equivalence in the sense that if $\langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle \in K$, and $\langle W', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$ and $\langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$ satisfy exactly the same sentences of the first-order language with equality and a binary predicate $\hat{R}_i$ for each $i \in I$, then $\langle W', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle \in K$. The theorem states that any class $K$ of full world frames that is closed under elementary equivalence is modally definable relative to the class of full world frames iff $K$ is closed under surjective p-morphisms, generated subframes, and disjoint unions, while the complement of $K$ is closed under ultrafilter extensions (i.e., taking the ultrafilter frame of the underlying BAO of the frame, as in §A.3). Note the differences between this result and Goldblatt’s result on modally definable classes of (general) world frames. There is no closure under general ultrafilter extensions, because such extensions are not full frames (except in the trivial case of the general ultrafilter extension of a finite full frame, which is always isomorphic to the initial frame). Thus, we consider ultrafilter extensions instead of general ultrafilter extensions. Recall that if $\varphi$ is valid over the ultrafilter extension of a frame, then $\varphi$ is valid over the frame, but the converse is not guaranteed, as it was in the case of general ultrafilter extensions. However, if $K$ is closed under elementary equivalence as well as surjective p-morphisms, then $K$ is closed under ultrafilter extensions [van Benthem, 1979b, Lem. 3.8]. This fact allows the same form of argument as used in the proof of Goldblatt’s theorem for world frames to be used in a proof of the Goldblatt-Thomason Theorem for full world frames.

Our analogue of Goldblatt-Thomason concerns classes of full possibility frames that are closed under $L^1(I)$-elementary equivalence as in Definition 6.3 (relative to the class of full possibility frames). The restriction to classes closed under elementary equivalence helps in a way analogous to the way it helps in the case of full world frames: any class of full possibility frames closed under $L^1(I)$-elementary equivalence and dense (and strict) possibility morphisms is also closed under filter extensions, as in Lemma 6.5. This fact will allow us to easily adapt the proof of Theorem 6.4 above to give a proof of Theorem 6.7 below.

To prove the key Lemma 6.6, we need some help from first-order model theory. Given a first-order structure $\mathfrak{A}$ for a language $\mathcal{L}$ and an element $a$ in $\mathfrak{A}$, let $\langle \mathcal{L}, \dot{a} \rangle$ be the expansion of $\mathcal{L}$ with a new constant symbol $\dot{a}$, and let $\langle \mathfrak{A}, a \rangle$ be the $\langle \mathcal{L}, \dot{a} \rangle$-expansion of $\mathfrak{A}$ that interprets $\dot{a}$ as $a$. A structure $\mathfrak{A}$ for $\mathcal{L}$ is 2-saturated iff for any element $a$ in $\mathfrak{A}$ and any set $\Sigma(x)$ of formulas of $\langle \mathcal{L}, \dot{a} \rangle$ containing at most the variable $x$ free, if every finite subset of $\Sigma(x)$ is satisfied by some object or other in $\langle \mathfrak{A}, a \rangle$, then $\Sigma(x)$ is satisfied by an object in $\langle \mathfrak{A}, a \rangle$. It is a standard result in first-order model theory that every model has a 2-saturated (indeed, $\omega$-saturated) elementary extension [Chang and Keisler, 1990, §5.1]. Here we assume the axiom of choice.

**Lemma 6.5** (2-Saturated Elementary Extensions). For every full possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$, viewed as a structure for the first-order language $L^1(I, P)$ with identity, binary predicate symbols $\subseteq$ and $\hat{R}_i$ for each $i \in I$, and a unary predicate symbol $\dot{X}$ for each $X \in P$, there is a $L^1(I, P)$-structure $\mathcal{F}' = \langle S', \subseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, P' \rangle$ such that:

1. $\mathcal{F}'$ is a 2-saturated $L^1(I, P)$-elementary extension of $\mathcal{F}$;
2. $\langle S', \subseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$ is an $L^1(I)$-elementary extension of $\langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$;
3. $\mathcal{F}' = \langle S', \subseteq', \{R'_i\}_{i \in I}, RO(S', \subseteq') \rangle$ is a full possibility frame.

34In fact, the result that every model has an $\omega$-saturated elementary extension does not require full choice. It suffices for this result to assume the ultrafilter axiom and the axiom of dependent choice (thanks to Dan Appel and Nick Ramsey for discussion of this point). Pincus [1977] showed that ZF plus the ultrafilter axiom and dependent choice is strictly weaker than ZFC.
Lemma 3.8

Proof. We have already noted that part 1 follows from standard results in first-order model theory. Part 2 is immediate from part 1. For part 3, by Proposition 2.30, \( F' \) is a full possibility frame iff it satisfies the sentence \( \rho \) of \( L^1(I) \) expressing R-rule, \( R \Rightarrow \text{win} \), and that the refinement relation is a partial order. Since \( F \) is a full possibility frame, \( F \) satisfies \( \rho \) by Proposition 2.30, so by part 2, \( F' \) also satisfies \( \rho \).

We can now prove the key lemma that will take us from Theorem 6.4 to Theorem 6.7. It is based on Lemma 3.8 of van Benthem 1979b, which is in turn based on Lemma 9 of Fine 1975b.

Lemma 6.6 (From Frames to Filter Extensions). For every full possibility frame \( F = \langle S, \sqsubset, \{ R_i \} \rangle \), there is a full possibility frame \( F' = \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{ R_i' \} \rangle \) such that \( \langle S', \sqsubseteq', \{ R_i' \} \rangle \) is an \( L^1(I) \)-elementary extension of \( \langle S, \sqsubset, \{ R_i \} \rangle \) and there is a dense and strict possibility morphism from \( F' \) to the filter extension \( (F^b)_t \) of \( F \).

Proof. Given \( F \), let \( F^s \) and \( F' \) be as in Lemma 6.5. Define a function \( g \) with domain \( S' \) by \( g(x) = \{ X \subseteq S \mid x \in X^{\tilde{F}} \} \), where \( X^{\tilde{F}} \) is the interpretation of the predicate symbol \( X \) in the \( L^1(I,P) \)-structure \( F^s \). We claim that \( g \) is a dense and strict possibility morphism from \( F' \) to \( (F^b)_t \).

First, we check that \( g(x) \) is in the domain of \( (F^b)_t \), i.e., that \( g(x) \) is a proper filter in \( F^b \). For every \( X, Y \subseteq P \), where \( (X \cap Y) \) and \( \neg X \) are the predicate symbols of \( L^1(I,P) \) corresponding to the sets \( X \cap Y \) and \( \neg X = X \cup \emptyset \) in \( P \), the \( L^1(I,P) \) sentences \( \forall z((X(z) \land Y(z)) \leftrightarrow (X \cap Y)(z)) \) and \( \forall z((\neg X)(z) \rightarrow \neg X(z)) \) are true in the possibility frame \( F \), regarded as an \( L^1(I,P) \)-structure, and hence true in its \( L^1(I,P) \)-elementary extension \( F^s \) that is used to define \( g \). It follows that \( X, Y \in g(x) \) iff \( X \cap Y \in g(x) \), so \( g(x) \) is a filter in \( F^b \), and that \( \neg X \in g(x) \) implies \( X \not\in g(x) \), so \( g(x) \) is a proper filter.

Next, we show that \( g \) satisfies the dense condition, i.e., that for every \( y' \in (F^b)_t \), there is a \( y \in F' \) such that \( g(y) \subseteq (F^b)_t \). Consider any element of \( (F^b)_t \), i.e., any filter \( F \) in \( F^b \). Let \( \Sigma = \{ X(x) \mid X \in F \} \). For any finite set \( \Sigma_0 \subseteq \Sigma \), let \( F_0 = \{ X \mid \tilde{X}(x) \in \Sigma_0 \} \), so \( F_0 \) is a finite subset of \( F \). Hence \( \bigcap F_0 \in F \) by the fact that \( F \) is a filter, and so \( \bigcap F_0 \neq \emptyset \) by the fact that \( F \) is a proper filter. Thus, there is an \( x \in \bigcap F_0 \), which means that \( x \in F \). Hence \( \exists x(\bigland \Sigma_0) \) is true in \( F \) and therefore in its \( L^1(I,P) \)-elementary extension \( F^s \). Thus, we have shown that every finite subset of \( \Sigma \) is satisfied by some object or other in \( F^s \). Then since \( F^s \) is 2-saturated, it follows that \( \Sigma \) is satisfied in \( F^s \) by an object \( y \), so \( y \in F' \) as well. Then by the definition of \( g \), \( g(y) \models F \), so \( g(y) \subseteq (F^b)_t \) by definition of \( (F^b)_t \). Hence \( g \) satisfies the dense condition.

Finally, we show that \( g \) is a strict possibility morphism:

- if \( y \sqsubset x \), then \( g(y) \sqsubseteq (F^b)_t \) \( g(x) \) (\( \sqsubset \)-forth);
- if \( F \sqsubseteq (F^b)_t \) \( g(x) \), then \( \exists y : y \sqsubseteq x \) and \( g(y) \sqsubseteq (F^b)_t \) \( F \) (\( \sqsubseteq \)-back);
- if \( xR_i y \), then \( g(x)R_i g(y) \) (\( R \)-forth);
- if \( g(x)R_i g(y) \) \( F \) and \( G \sqsubseteq (F^b)_t \) \( F \), then \( \exists y : xR_i y \) and \( g(y) \mid G \) (\( R \)-back).

Since \( F' \) is a full possibility frame, the pull back property of \( g \) follows from \( \sqsubset \)-forth and \( \sqsubseteq \)-back by Fact 3.5.

For \( \sqsubset \)-forth, since \( F \) is a possibility frame, we have that for all \( x \in P, F \) satisfies the \( L^1(I,P) \) sentence \( \forall Y \forall y((\exists x \tilde{X}(x) \land \tilde{X}(y)) \rightarrow \tilde{X}(y)) \), so its \( L^1(I,P) \)-elementary extension \( F^s \) does as well. Now if \( y \sqsubset x \), so \( y \sqsubseteq x \), the since \( F^s \) satisfies the given sentence, it follows by the definition of \( g \) that \( g(y) \models g(x) \), so \( g(y) \subseteq (F^b)_t \) \( g(x) \).

The proof of \( R \)-forth is analogous, using for every \( x \in P \) the sentence \( \forall Y \forall y((xR_i y \land (\exists \tilde{X}(x)) \rightarrow \tilde{X}(y)) \), where \( (\exists \tilde{X}) \) is the predicate symbol corresponding to \( \exists \tilde{X} \) in \( P \), and then the definition of \( R_i (F^b)_t \).

For \( \sqsubseteq \)-back, suppose that \( F \sqsubseteq (F^b)_t \) \( g(x) \), so \( F \) is a filter in \( F^b \) such that \( F \models g(x) \). Expand the language \( L^1(\Phi,P) \) with a new constant symbol \( \tilde{x} \). Let \( \Sigma = \{ \tilde{Y}(y) \mid X \in F \} \cup \{ y \sqsubseteq \tilde{x} \} \). For any finite \( \Sigma_0 \subseteq \Sigma \), let
$F_0 = \{ X \mid \dot{X}(y) \in \Sigma_0 \}$ as above, so \( \bigcap F_0 \in F \) as above. Let \( Q = \bigcap F_0 \), so \( Q \in F \). Then since \( F \) is a proper filter and \( F \supseteq g(x) \), it follows that \( -Q \notin g(x) \). Hence \( x \) is not in the interpretation of the predicate symbol \( (\sim -Q) \) in \( F^* \). Now since the \( L^1(I,P) \) sentence \( \forall x(\sim -Q)(x) \rightarrow \exists y(y \subseteq x \wedge \dot{Q}(y)) \) is true in the possibility frame \( F \), it is true in its \( L^1(I,P) \)-elementary extension \( F^* \). Combining the previous two steps, we have that there is a \( y \in F^* \) such that \( y \subseteq^s x \), so \( y \subseteq' x \), and \( y \in Q = \bigcap F_0 \). Hence \( y \) satisfies the set \( \Sigma_0 \cup \{ y \subseteq \dot{x} \} \) in the expansion of \( F^* \) that interprets the new constant \( \dot{x} \) as \( x \). Since \( \Sigma_0 \) was an arbitrary finite subset of \( \Sigma \), we can apply the fact that \( F^* \) is 2-saturated to conclude that there is an object \( y \) that satisfies the whole set \( \Sigma \) in the expansion of \( F^* \). Then by the definition of \( \Sigma \) and \( g \), we have \( g(y) \subseteq F \), so \( g(y) \sqsubseteq^{(F^*_h)} F \). Finally, since \( y \subseteq^s x \), we have that \( y \subseteq' x \). This completes the proof of \( \sqsubseteq \)-back.

For \( \sqsubseteq \)-right, suppose \( g(x)R^*_h F \) and \( G \sqsubseteq^{(F^*_h)} F \), so for every \( X \in P \), \( \blacksquare X \in g(x) \) implies \( X \in G \) by the definitions of \( R^*_h \) and \( (F^*_h) \). As above, expand the language with a new constant \( \dot{x} \), but this time let \( \Sigma = \{ X(z) \mid X \in G \} \cup \{ \exists y(\dot{x}R_0y \wedge z \subseteq y) \} \). For any finite \( \Sigma_0 \subseteq \Sigma \), let \( G_0 = \{ X \mid \dot{X}(z) \in \Sigma_0 \} \), so as above, where \( Q = \bigcap G_0 \), \( Q \in G \). Then since \( G \) is a proper filter, the first sentence of this paragraph implies that \( \blacksquare -Q \notin g(x) \), so \( x \) is not in the interpretation of the predicate symbol \( (\blacksquare -Q) \) in \( F^* \). Now since the \( L^1(I,P) \) sentence \( \forall x(\blacksquare -Q)(x) \rightarrow \exists y(xR_0y \wedge z \subseteq y \wedge \dot{Q}(y)) \) is true in \( F \), it is true \( F^* \). As above, we then deduce that there is an object \( z \) in \( F^* \) that satisfies the whole of \( \Sigma \) in the expansion of \( F^* \) that interprets \( \dot{x} \) as \( x \). Thus, there are \( y, z \in F^* \) such that \( xR_0y \) and \( z \subseteq^s y \), so \( xR_0y \) and \( z \subseteq' y \), and \( g(z) \subseteq F \), so \( g(z) \sqsubseteq^{(F^*_h)} G \). Since \( z \subseteq' y \), we have \( g(z) \sqsubseteq^{(F^*_h)} g(y) \) by \( \sqsubseteq \)-forth, which with \( g(z) \sqsubseteq^{(F^*_h)} G \) implies \( g(y) \sqsubseteq G \). This completes the proof of \( \sqsubseteq \)-back.

We now obtain our possibility-semantic analogue of the Goldblatt-Thomason Theorem.

**Theorem 6.7** (Modal Definability of Full Possibility Frames). If a class \( F \) of full possibility frames is closed under \( L^1(I,P) \)-elementary equivalence, then \( F \) is modally definable if \( F \) is closed under dense possibility morphisms, selective subframes, and disjoint unions, while its complement is closed under filter extensions. (We may replace ‘dense’ with ‘dense and strict’ for a stronger result from right to left.)

**Proof.** From left to right, all we need to add to the left-to-right proof for Theorem 6.4 is the fact, given in Corollary 5.44, that if \( \varphi \) is valid over the filter extension of a frame, then \( \varphi \) is valid over the frame. By the same reasoning as before, that fact and the assumption that \( F \) is modally definable together imply that the complement of \( F \) is closed under filter extensions.

From right to left, since \( F \) is closed under elementary equivalence and dense (and strict) possibility morphisms, it is closed under filter extensions by Lemma 6.6. Thus, we have a setup analogous to that of the right-to-left direction of Theorem 6.4: \( F \) is closed under dense possibility morphisms, selective subframes, and disjoint unions, while both \( F \) and its complement are closed under filter extensions. Now reproduce the proof of the left-to-right direction of Theorem 6.4 but with \( (F^b)^h \) in place of \( (F^b) \), \( (\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b \) in place of \( (\bigcup_{j \in J} F_j)^b \), Lemma 5.52.2 in place of Lemma 5.52.1, and Lemma 5.48.2 in place of Lemma 5.48.1. The resulting argument is a proof of the left-to-right direction of the current theorem. \( \square \)

### 6.3 Modal Formulas with First-Order Correspondents

In this section, we address question 1 from the beginning of §6, going in the opposite direction relative to 6.2: given a modal formula \( \varphi \), is the class of full possibility frames that \( \varphi \) defines also definable by a first-order sentence of \( L^1(I) \)? Let us phrase this in the standard terms of first-order correspondence.
Definition 6.8 (Relative Frame Correspondence). A formula $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ globally corresponds to a sentence $\psi \in \mathcal{L}^1(I)$ relative to a class $\mathcal{F}$ of possibility frames iff for any $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{F}$: $\varphi$ is valid over $\mathcal{F}$ as a possibility frame iff $\psi$ is true in $\mathcal{F}_1$ (recall Definition 2.25) as a structure for $\mathcal{L}^1(I)$.

A formula $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ locally corresponds to a formula $\psi(x) \in \mathcal{L}^1(I)$ with exactly one free variable $x$, relative to $\mathcal{F}$, iff for any $\mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{F}$ and $s \in \mathcal{F}$: $s \models \varphi$ (recall Definition 2.3) iff $\psi(x)$ is satisfied by $s$ in $\mathcal{F}_2$. \(\triangleleft\)

Note that $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ globally corresponds to $\psi \in \mathcal{L}^1(I)$ relative to $\mathcal{F}$ iff $\varphi$ and $\psi$ define the same class of possibility frames relative to $\mathcal{F}$, as in Definitions 6.1 and 6.3.

In §1, we quoted Goldblatt’s [2006, p. 51] remark that a “substantial reason for the great success” of Kripke semantics is the way in which many natural modal axioms correspond to first-order properties of the accessibility relations in Kripke frames (full world frames), e.g., seriality ($\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Diamond \varphi$), reflexivity ($\Box \varphi \rightarrow \varphi$), transitivity ($\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Box \varphi$), symmetry ($\varphi \rightarrow \Box \varphi$), etc. When moving to a more general semantics, we may lose such nice correspondences. For example, although for any full world frame $\mathfrak{F}$, $\mathfrak{F}$ validates the 4 axiom, $\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Diamond \varphi$, iff $R_i$ is transitive, it is not the case that for any (general) world frame $\mathfrak{g}$ (see §A.2), $\mathfrak{g}$ validates the 4 axiom iff $R_i$ is transitive. The reason is that even if $R_i$ is not transitive, $\mathfrak{g}$ may validate the 4 axiom because of the limitations on admissible valuations over $\mathfrak{g}$.\(^{35}\) Analogous points apply to other axioms.

Given a modal formula $\varphi$, we will ask whether it has a first-order correspondent over full possibility frames. One can seek an answer in terms of semantic or syntactic features of $\varphi$. Over full world frames, a semantic feature that is necessary and sufficient for $\varphi$ to have a global first-order correspondent is that the validity of $\varphi$ be preserved under taking ultrapowers of full world frames, and a related feature characterizes local first-order correspondence (see van Benthem 1976b, 1983, §VIII). A syntactic feature that is sufficient for local and global correspondence over full world frames is that $\varphi$ be a Sahlqvist formula (see Blackburn et al. 2001, §3.6, Sahlqvist 1975, van Benthem 1976a, §4, van Benthem 1983, §IX).

For full possibility frames, on the semantic side an analogous result with ultrapowers holds, as shown in Yamamoto 2016. Given a full possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$, consider its foundation $\mathcal{F}_2$ (Definition 2.25) as a first-order structure for $\mathcal{L}^1(I)$, and then take an ultrapower $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{F}_2$ of $\mathcal{F}_2$ in the standard sense. By Corollary 6.2 and the preservation of first-order sentences under taking ultrapowers, $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{F}_2$ is the foundation of a full possibility frame. Thus, there is a full possibility frame $(\prod_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{F}_2)^{\#}$ based on $\prod_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{F}_2$. We say that $(\prod_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{F}_2)^{\#}$ is an ultrapower of $\mathcal{F}$. Then the analogue of van Benthem’s result is that $\varphi$ has a global first-order correspondent over full possibility frames iff the validity of $\varphi$ is preserved under taking ultrapowers of full possibility frames.

On the syntactic side, Yamamoto [2016] shows that the possibility-semantic version of the Sahlqvist correspondence theorem also holds: every Sahlqvist formula has a local (resp. global) first-order correspondent over full possibility frames. Yamamoto’s proof uses the connection between full possibility frames and CV-BAOs (§§5.1-5.3) and the methods of algebraic modal correspondence [Conradie et al., 2014], further supporting the theme of the present paper of the importance of duality theory.

Below we will give some simpler methods for calculating first-order correspondents for restricted classes of Sahlqvist formulas. First, we discuss the extent to which the “minimal valuation” heuristic for first-order correspondence in Kripke semantics can be applied to possibility semantics. Second, we give an analogue for full possibility frames of one of the most elegant first-order correspondence results for full world frames, namely Lemmon and Scott’s [1977, §4] result (also covered in Chellas 1980, §3.3, §5.5, Popkorn 1994, §6, and Garson 2014, §9) for formulas of the form $\Diamond_\alpha \Box_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p$, where $\Diamond_\alpha$ is a sequence of diamond operators, $\Box_\beta$ is a sequence of box operators, etc., which covers many familiar modal axioms.

\(^{35}\)As Kracht [1993] discusses, familiar correspondences may be restored relative to certain classes of general world frames defined by conditions on the set of admissible propositions.
As in the case of possible world semantics, so too in the case of possibility semantics, the problem of establishing first-order correspondence can be viewed as the problem of showing that certain second-order formulas have first-order equivalents. For every modal formula has a second-order correspondent over full frames. To get to this second-order perspective, we begin with a first-order language formulas have first-order equivalents. For every modal formula has a establishing first-order correspondence can be viewed as the problem of showing that certain second-order

Let \( L \)

\[ \text{Definition 6.9 (Standard Translation).} \] For each first-order variable \( x \), define the standard translation \( ST_x : L(\Phi, I) \rightarrow L^1(\Phi, I) \) as follows:

1. \( ST_x(q) = \dot{Q}x \) for \( q \in \Phi \);
2. \( ST_x(\neg \varphi) = \forall y(y \subseteq x \rightarrow \neg ST_x(\varphi)) \), where \( y \) is a fresh variable;
3. \( ST_x((\varphi \land \psi)) = (ST_x(\varphi) \land ST_x(\psi)) \);
4. \( ST_x((\varphi \rightarrow \psi)) = \forall y((y \subseteq x \land ST_y(\varphi)) \rightarrow ST_y(\psi)) \), where \( y \) is a fresh variable;
5. \( ST_x(\Box \varphi) = \forall y(x\dot{R}y \rightarrow ST_y(\varphi)) \), where \( y \) is a fresh variable.

Let \( ST(\varphi) = \forall xST_x(\varphi) \).

\[ \text{Proposition 6.10 (Correspondence on Models).} \] For any possibility model \( M, s \in M \), and \( \varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \):

1. \( M, s \models \varphi \) iff the formula \( ST_x(\varphi) \) is satisfied by \( s \) in \( M \) regarded as a first-order structure for \( L^1(\Phi, I) \);
2. \( M \models \varphi \) iff the sentence \( ST(\varphi) \) is true in \( M \) regarded as a first-order structure for \( L^1(\Phi, I) \).

To have this kind of result at the level of frame validity, we move to the monadic second-order language \( L^2(\Phi, I) \) obtained from \( L^1(\Phi, I) \) by adding a predicate variable \( \dot{Q} \) for each \( q \in \Phi \). We interpret \( L^2(\Phi, I) \) in possibility frames—or rather, foundations \( F = (S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}) \) of possibility frames—with \( \varphi(S) \) as the domain for the monadic second-order quantifiers. We then relate the modal language \( L(\Phi, I) \) to the second-order language \( L^2(\Phi, I) \) over full possibility frames using the following definition and proposition.

\[ \text{Definition 6.11 (Second-Order Translation).} \] For each first-order variable \( x \), define the second-order translation \( SOT_x : L(\Phi, I) \rightarrow L^2(\Phi, I) \) as follows, where \( \dot{Q} \) is a second-order variable:

1. \( RO(\dot{Q}) = \forall v(\dot{Q}v \leftrightarrow \forall v'(v' \subseteq v \rightarrow \exists v''(v'' \subseteq v' \land \dot{Q}v''))) \);
2. \( SOT_x(\varphi) = \forall \dot{Q}_1 \ldots \forall \dot{Q}_n ((\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} RO(\dot{Q}_i)) \rightarrow ST_x(\varphi)) \), where \( \dot{Q}_1, \ldots, \dot{Q}_n \) are the unary predicates occurring in \( ST_x(\varphi) \).

Let \( SOT(\varphi) = \forall xSOT_x(\varphi) \).

From now on we will usually drop the dots over symbols, trusting that no confusion will arise, and we will use abbreviations of the form ‘\( \forall y \subseteq x \)’ for restricted quantification.

\[ \text{Proposition 6.12 (Correspondence on Frames).} \] For any full possibility frame \( F, s \in S \), and \( \varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \):

1. \( F, s \models \varphi \) iff the formula \( SOT_x(\varphi) \) is satisfied by \( s \) in \( F \);
2. \( F \models \varphi \) iff the sentence \( SOT(\varphi) \) is true in \( F \).
Thus, a modal formula \( \varphi \) having a first-order local/global correspondent \( \psi \) over full possibility frames is the same as the second-order \( SOT_{x}(\varphi)/SOT(\varphi) \) being logically equivalent to the first-order \( \psi \).

The first-order correspondence problem for full possibility frames is related to the first-order correspondence problem for full \textit{world} frames by the following fact, which is an immediate consequence of the fact that full world frames are a special case of full possibility frames.

**Fact 6.13** (Possibility Correspondence Implies World Correspondence). Any modal formula that has a local/global first-order correspondent over all full possibility frames also has a local/global first-order correspondent over full world frames, viz., the same first-order formula, in which \( \subseteq \) may be replaced by \( = \).

Thus, the modal formulas that lack first-order correspondents over full world frames, e.g., \( \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} p \) [van Benthem, 1975, Goldblatt, 1975], also lack first-order correspondents over full possibility frames. This does not show, however, that such formulas lack a first-order correspondent over some restricted class of full possibility frames that does not include all full world frames, e.g., \textit{functional} full frames (§4.4).

The converse question of whether every modal formula with a local/global first-order correspondent over full world frames also has one over full possibility frames is an open question (see §8.2).

We will consider both local and global correspondence as in Definition 6.8. By part 1 of the following obvious fact, having a local correspondent implies having a global one (part 2 will be useful later).

**Fact 6.14** (From Local to Global). For any \( \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \( \psi(x) \in \mathcal{L}^{1}(I) \) with \( x \) free, and class \( F \) of possibility frames:

1. if \( \varphi \) locally corresponds to \( \psi(x) \) relative to \( F \), then \( \varphi \) globally corresponds to \( \forall x \psi(x) \) relative to \( F \);
2. if \( \varphi \rightarrow \psi \) locally corresponds to \( \forall x \subseteq x_{0} \psi(x) \) relative to \( F \), then \( \varphi \rightarrow \psi \) globally corresponds to \( \forall x \psi(x) \) relative to \( F \).

As in possible world semantics, so too in possibility semantics, having a global correspondent does not imply having a local correspondent. The following example comes from van Benthem 1983, Theorem 7.1.

**Fact 6.15** (Global without Local). \( \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} p \) globally corresponds to \( \forall x \exists y x R_{i} y \) over all possibility frames, but does not locally correspond to any \( \mathcal{L}^{1}(I) \) formula even over full possibility frames.

**Proof.** First, for the claim of global correspondence, observe that for any possibility model \( M \) and \( x, y \in M \), if there is no \( y \) such that \( x R_{i} y \), then every \( \Box_{i} \varphi \) is true at \( x \) and every \( \Diamond_{i} \psi \) is false at \( x \). Thus, if a possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} \) does not satisfy \( \forall x \exists y x R_{i} y \), there is an \( x \) with no \( y \) such that \( x R_{i} y \), then \( \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} p \) is false at \( x \) in any model based on \( \mathcal{F} \). In the other direction, observe that if \( \mathcal{F} \) satisfies \( \forall x \exists y x R_{i} y \), then for any \( M \) based on \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( x \in M \), \( M, x \models \Box_{i} \varphi \) implies \( M, x \models \Diamond_{i} \varphi \). For if \( M, x \models \Box_{i} \varphi \), then by Persistence, for all \( x' \subseteq x \) we have \( M, x' \models \Box_{i} \varphi \), which with \( \forall x \exists y x R_{i} y \) implies that there is a \( y' \) such that \( x' R_{i} y' \) and \( M, y' \models \varphi \), which implies \( M, x \models \Diamond_{i} \varphi \). Then since \( M, x \models \Box_{i} \varphi \) implies \( M, x \models \Diamond_{i} \varphi \), it clearly follows that \( M, x \models \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} p \) implies \( M, x \models \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} p \). Thus, \( \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} p \) is valid over \( \mathcal{F} \).

The claim of no local correspondent follows from the fact that \( \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} \Box_{i} \Diamond_{i} p \) has no local correspondent over full world frames (van Benthem 1983, Theorem 7.1) plus Fact 6.13. \( \square \)

The proof of Fact 6.15 also shows that \( \Box_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} p \) globally corresponds to \( \forall x \exists y x R_{i} y \). In contrast to Fact 6.15, however, it is easy to see that \( \Box_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} p \) locally corresponds to \( \forall x \subseteq x_{0} \exists y x R_{i} y \). This is an atypical case of correspondence, insofar as we can show that if \( \mathcal{F}, x_{0} \) does not satisfy \( \forall x \subseteq x_{0} \exists y x R_{i} y \), then for every model \( M \) based on \( \mathcal{F} \), \( M, x_{0} \not \models \Box_{i} p \rightarrow \Diamond_{i} p \). Typically we have to carefully choose a falsifying model.
Indeed, the tricky part of establishing correspondence is usually that of showing that if \( \mathcal{F}, x \models \varphi \), then \( \mathcal{F}, x \) satisfies the putative local first-order correspondent \( \psi(x) \) of \( \varphi \), and similarly in the global case. The \textit{direct strategy} for local correspondence is to show that we can find minimal valuations \( \pi \) in such a way that from the fact that \( \varphi \) is true at \( x \) in the models \( (\mathcal{F}, \pi) \) (by the assumption that \( \mathcal{F}, x \models \varphi \)), it follows that \( \psi(x) \) is satisfied by \( x \) in \( \mathcal{F} \) as a first-order structure. (See van Benthem 2010, §9.4 for an introduction to this strategy as applied to full world frames.) The \textit{contrapositive strategy} for local or global correspondence is to show that if \( \mathcal{F}, x \) (resp. \( \mathcal{F} \)) does not satisfy the putative first-order correspondent, then we can add a valuation to obtain a model on \( \mathcal{F} \) witnessing \( \mathcal{F}, x \not\models \varphi \) (resp. \( \mathcal{F} \not\models \varphi \)). For both strategies, the trick is to pick the right valuations. In the context of possibility semantics, we have the additional constraint that an admissible valuation \( \pi \) on a frame must be such that \( \pi(p) \) satisfies \textit{persistence} and \textit{refinability}. In this respect, correspondence theory for possibility semantics is similar to intuitionistic correspondence theory, as developed in Rodenburg 1986, which shares the \textit{persistence} constraint on valuations.

Thus, we need methods of constructing admissible valuations on full possibility frames. From Fact 4.3, we know that if for each \( p \in \Phi \), we set \( \pi(p) = \{ x' \in S \mid x' \subseteq x \} \) for some \( x \in S \), then \( \pi \) is admissible. More generally, from Fact 2.17.2, we know that if for each \( p \in \Phi \) we set

\[
\pi(p) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow X)) = \{ x \in S \mid \forall x' \subseteq x \exists x'' \subseteq x': x'' \in \downarrow X \}
\]

for some \( X \subseteq S \), then \( \pi \) is admissible. The following gives another way of ensuring that \( \pi \) is admissible.

**Fact 6.16 (\( \sqsubseteq \)-Generated Propositions).** For any poset \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) and \( Y \subseteq S \), \( \{ x \in S \mid \forall y \in Y : x \sqsubseteq y \} \) is in \( \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq) \).

**Proof.** Since \( x' \subseteq x \) and \( x \sqsubseteq y \) together imply \( x' \sqsubseteq y \), \( \{ x \in S \mid \forall y \in Y : x \sqsubseteq y \} \) satisfies \textit{persistence}.

For \textit{refinability}, suppose \( x \notin \{ x \in S \mid \forall y \in Y : x \sqsubseteq y \} \), so there is a \( y \in Y \) such that \( x \nless y \). Then there is an \( x' \subseteq x \) such that \( x' \subseteq y \), which implies that for all \( x'' \subseteq x', x'' \nless y \) and hence \( x'' \notin \{ x \in S \mid \forall y \in Y : x \sqsubseteq y \} \).

Thus, \( \{ x \in S \mid \forall y \in Y : x \sqsubseteq y \} \) satisfies \textit{refinability}. \( \square \)

In the rest of this section, we will state our results for correspondence relative to the class of full standard possibility frames (Definition 2.41), i.e., full possibility frames satisfying the \textit{R-down} condition that if \( xR_iy \) and \( y' \subseteq y \), then \( xR_iy' \) (recall Example 2.7 and §2.3). The \textit{R-down} condition significantly simplifies the first-order correspondents of modal formulas (recall Fact 2.44). The first-order correspondents are further simplified by assuming the conditions of \textit{strong} possibility frames, especially \textit{R-dense}: if \( \forall y' \subseteq y \exists y'' \subseteq y xR_iy'' \), then \( xR_iy \). Recall from Fact 2.32 that \textit{R-down} and \textit{R-dense} are jointly equivalent to the condition that for each \( x \in \mathcal{F} \), \( R_i(x) \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}) \). Also recall from Proposition 2.37 that any full possibility frame can be transformed into a modally equivalent full, strong and hence standard possibility frame. Our correspondence results for standard full frames will imply correspondence results for all full frames, by the following reasoning.

**Lemma 6.17 (Transferring Correspondence).** Given \( \psi \in \mathcal{L}(I) \), let \( \psi_\downarrow \) be the result of replacing each subformula of \( \psi \) of the form \( xR_iy \) with \( \exists y'(x\overline{R}_iy' \land y \subseteq y') \). If \( \psi \) is a local (resp. global) first-order correspondent of \( \varphi \) over standard full possibility frames, then \( \psi_\downarrow \) is a local (resp. global) first-order correspondent of \( \varphi \) over all full possibility frames.

**Proof.** Given a full possibility frame \( \mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle \), define \( \mathcal{F}_\downarrow = \langle S, \subseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle \) by \( xR_iy \) iff \( \exists y': xR_iy' \) and \( y \subseteq y' \). Then it is easy to check that \( \mathcal{F}_\downarrow \) is a full possibility frame, and \( \mathcal{F}_\downarrow \) satisfies \textit{R-down} by construction, so it is a standard possibility frame. Moreover, the identity map on \( S \) is a surjective robust
possibility morphism from $\mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F}_4$, so these frames validate exactly the same formulas by Proposition 3.7. Since $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies $\exists y'(x R_i x' \wedge y \subseteq y')$ with some variable assignment, $\mathcal{F}_4$ satisfies $x R_i y$ with the same variable assignment, $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies $\psi_i$ iff $\mathcal{F}_4$ satisfies $\psi$. Then assuming that $\mathcal{F}_4$, $x$ (resp. $\mathcal{F}_4$, $x$) satisfies $\psi_i$ and $\mathcal{F}_4$, $x$ (resp. $\mathcal{F}_4$, $x$) validates $\varphi$, it follows that $\mathcal{F}$, $x$ (resp. $\mathcal{F}$) validates $\varphi$. □

By the same kind of argument, we can show that if $\psi$ is a first-order correspondent of $\varphi$ over strong full possibility frames, then a related formula $\psi'$ is a first-order correspondent of $\varphi$ over all full possibility frames. Note, however, that none of our arguments show, e.g., that if $\psi$ is a first-order correspondent of $\varphi$ over functional full possibility frames, then a related formula is a first-order correspondent over functional full possibility frames. For we cannot always turn a full possibility frame into a modally equivalent functional one simply by modifying the accessibility relations of the frame, let alone in a first-order definable way. It is an open question whether more modal formulas have first-order correspondents over functional full possibility frames.

Let us first consider the direct strategy for establishing correspondence with minimal valuations. As an example, we compute a first-order correspondent for $\Box_i q \rightarrow \Box_i \Box_i q$ (again cf. van Benthem 2010, §9.4).

**Example 6.18** (Correspondence by Minimal Valuations). Given a frame $\mathcal{F}$, what is the minimal way of making the antecedent of $\Box_i q \rightarrow \Box_i \Box_i q$ true at a state $x$? If $\mathcal{F}$ were a full world frame, the minimal way of making $\Box_i q$ true at $x$ would be with a valuation $\pi$ such that $\pi(q) = R_i(x)$. However, if $\mathcal{F}$ is a standard full possibility frame, the minimal admissible way of making $\Box_i p$ true at $x$ is with a valuation $\pi$ such that

$$\pi(q) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(R_i(x))) = \{ z \in S \mid \forall w \subseteq z \exists w' \subseteq w : x R_i w' \}. \quad (23)$$

Since $R_i(x)$ is a downset by **R-down**, this $\pi(q)$ is the minimal regular open set including $R_i(x)$ by Fact 2.17.2. Now consider the second-order translation with respect to $x_0$ of $\Box_i p \rightarrow \Box_i \Box_i p$,

$$\forall Q(RO(Q) \rightarrow ST_{x_0}(\Box_i p \rightarrow \Box_i \Box_i p)), \quad (24)$$

which is equivalent to

$$\forall Q \left( \forall v (Qv \leftrightarrow \forall v' \subseteq v \exists v'' \subseteq v' Q v'') \rightarrow \right.$$

$$\left. \forall x \subseteq x_0 (\forall y (x R_i y \rightarrow Qy) \rightarrow \forall z (x R_i^2 z \rightarrow Qz)) \right), \quad (25)$$

using $x R_i^2 z$ as the obvious abbreviation. If we plug in for $Q$ the first-order description of the minimal valuation from (23), i.e., for each variable $\alpha$, replace $Q\alpha$ with $\forall w \subseteq \alpha \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w'$, then we obtain:

$$\forall v \left( \forall w \subseteq v \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w' \leftrightarrow \forall v' \subseteq v \exists v'' \subseteq v' \forall w \subseteq v'' \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w' \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\forall x \subseteq x_0 \left( \forall y (x R_i y \rightarrow \forall w \subseteq y \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w') \rightarrow \forall z (x R_i^2 z \rightarrow \forall w \subseteq z \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w') \right). \quad (25)$$

Every frame satisfies the main antecedent of (25), so we can reduce (25) to

$$\forall x \subseteq x_0 \left( \forall y (x R_i y \rightarrow \forall w \subseteq y \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w') \rightarrow \forall z (x R_i^2 z \rightarrow \forall w \subseteq z \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w') \right). \quad (26)$$

Moreover, every frame satisfying **R-down** satisfies the main antecedent in (26), so we can reduce (26) to

$$\forall x \subseteq x_0 \forall z (x R_i^2 z \rightarrow \forall w \subseteq z \exists w' \subseteq w x R_i w'), \quad (27)$$

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which over frames satisfying \( R\text{-down} \) is equivalent to the simpler
\[
\forall x \subseteq x_0 \forall w(xR_i^2w \rightarrow \exists w' \subseteq w xR_iw').
\] (28)

Over frames satisfying both \( R\text{-down} \) and \( R\text{-dense} \), (27) is equivalent to the still simpler
\[
\forall x \subseteq x_0 \forall w(xR_i^2w \rightarrow xR_iw).
\] (29)

Now we claim that (24) and (27)/(28) are equivalent over standard frames. We already have the implication from (24) to (27), since (27) is equivalent to (25), which is simply an instantiation of (24). The implication from (27) to (24) relies on the following two key points:

(A) If \( \alpha := \forall \nu(\forall Q \nu \leftrightarrow \forall \nu' \subseteq \nu \exists \nu'' \subseteq \nu' Q\nu'') \) and \( \forall x \subseteq x_0 \land \forall y(xR_iy \rightarrow Qy) \) from (24) is satisfied in \( \mathcal{F} \) with a variable assignment \( \nu \) such that \( \nu(x) = 0 \), then \( \nu(Q) \) is a regular open set that includes \( R_i(x) \). Thus, \( \nu(Q) \) is a superset of the image of \( \text{cl}(\text{int}(R_i(x))) \) from (23), which we noted above is the minimal regular open set that includes \( R_i(x) \).

(B) Thanks to its positive syntactic form, \( \beta := \forall z(xR_i^2z \rightarrow Qz) \) from (24) is semantically upward monotone in \( Q \): for any assignments \( \nu \) and \( \nu' \) that agree on \( x \), if \( \beta \) is satisfied by \( \mathcal{F} \) with \( \nu' \), and \( \nu'(Q) \subseteq \nu(Q) \), then \( \beta \) is satisfied by \( \mathcal{F} \) with \( \nu \).

Let \( \gamma \) be the formula that comes after \( \forall x \subseteq x_0 \) in (27), and suppose \( \gamma \) is satisfied in \( \mathcal{F} \) with some assignment \( \nu \). It follows that \( \beta \) is satisfied in \( \mathcal{F} \) with the assignment \( \nu' \) that differs from \( \nu \) only in that \( \nu'(Q) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\text{int}(R_i(\nu(x))))) = \{ z \in S \mid \forall w \subseteq z \exists w' \subseteq w : \nu(z)xR_iw' \} \). Finally, suppose that \( \alpha \) is satisfied in \( \mathcal{F} \) with \( \nu \). Then by (A), \( \nu'(Q) \subseteq \nu(Q) \), so by (B) and the previous point that \( \beta \) is satisfied in \( \mathcal{F} \) with \( \nu' \), we have that \( \beta \) is satisfied by \( \mathcal{F} \) with \( \nu \). This shows that (27) implies (24).

Thus, (28) is a local first-order correspondent of \( \Box q \rightarrow \Box \Box q \) over standard frames, and (29) is a local first-order correspondent over strong frames. Then by Fact 6.14, its global first-order correspondents are
\[
\forall x \forall w(xR_i^2w \rightarrow \exists w' \subseteq w xR_iw') \quad \text{and} \quad \forall x \forall w(xR_i^2w \rightarrow xR_iw)
\]
over standard and strong possibility frames, respectively. Thus, \( \Box q \rightarrow \Box \Box q \) corresponds to a kind of “delayed transitivity” over standard frames and to ordinary transitivity over strong frames.

Example 6.18 can be turned into a general result, which we state as Proposition 6.21 below. First, let us state the limitation of the minimal valuation method in the context of possibility semantics: it does not work when a diamond is in the antecedent of an implication, as in, e.g., the 5 axiom \( \Diamond q \rightarrow \Box \Diamond q \). Recall from §2.4 that the derived clause for \( \Diamond : \neg \Box \neg \varphi \) is (in its simplified form using \( R\text{-down} \)):

- \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \Diamond \varphi \) if \( \forall x' \subseteq x \exists y': x'R_iy' \) and \( \mathcal{M}, y' \models \varphi \).

This \( \forall \exists \) pattern in an antecedent blocks the standard minimal valuation method, just as the \( \Box, \Diamond \) pattern in the antecedent of \( \Box \Diamond q \rightarrow \Box \Box q \) blocks the method in Kripke semantics.

However, this obstacle involving diamonds in antecedents can be overcome. For simplicity, suppose we have a modal formula \( \varphi \) containing only the propositional variable \( q \). If the minimal valuation method would work on \( \varphi \), it would give us a formula \( \sigma \in \mathcal{L}_1(I) \) with a free variable \( u \) such that if we replace, for each variable \( \alpha \), each occurrence of \( Q\alpha \) in \( ST_k(\varphi) \) by \( \sigma[\alpha/u] \), then we obtain a formula \( ST_k(\varphi)[\sigma/Q] \in \mathcal{L}_1(I) \) with exactly \( x \) free that is equivalent to the second-order translation \( \forall Q(RO(Q) \rightarrow ST_k(\varphi)) \) of \( \varphi \). But this is more than we need for local first-order correspondence. It suffices to find a formula \( \sigma \in \mathcal{L}_1(I) \) with free
variables including \( u \) and \( u_1, \ldots, u_n \) such that the formula \( \forall u_1 \ldots \forall u_n ST_x(\varphi)[\sigma/\rho] \in L_1(I) \) has exactly \( x \) free and is equivalent to the second-order translation \( \forall Q(RO(Q) \rightarrow ST_x(\varphi)) \) of \( \varphi \). Thus, we are using \( \sigma[\alpha/u] \) to pick out a family of subsets by varying parameters. This is an example of the more general method of substitutions for first-order correspondence (see van Benthem 1983, pp. 108-9) that Yamamoto [2016] uses to prove that every Sahlqvist modal formula has a first-order correspondent over full possibility frames.

Before leaving the minimal valuation method, let us generalize Example 6.18. For this we need a quick review of relevant notions (see Blackburn et al. 2001, pp. 151-3). Recall that for a propositional variable \( \varphi \) notions apply to a predicate variable \( \phi \) negative (resp. positive) formula is true in a structure given an interpretation of the variables, then it is positive (resp. negative) iff it is positive (resp. negative) in every propositional variable that occurs in it. The key property of positive (resp. negative) formulas is that they are semantically upward (resp. downward) monotone in their variables: if a positive (resp. negative) formula is true in a structure given an interpretation of the variables, then it remains true under expanding (resp. shrinking) the interpretation of the variables.

We now define the class of Sahlqvist formulas without diamonds in the antecedents of implications, which we call safe Sahlqvist formulas (cf. Blackburn et al. 2001, Def. 3.51).

**Definition 6.19 (Safe Sahlqvist Formulas).** Fix a set \( L(\Phi, I) \) of modal formulas.

A boxed atom is a formula of the form \( \Box_i \ldots \Box_i p \) for \( i_1, \ldots, i_n \in I, p \in \Phi \). If \( n = 0, \Box_i \ldots \Box_i p = p \).

A safe Sahlqvist antecedent is a formula built from boxed atoms and negative formulas using \( \land \) and \( \lor \).

A safe Sahlqvist implication is a formula \( \varphi \rightarrow \psi \) where \( \varphi \) is a safe Sahlqvist antecedent and \( \psi \) is positive.

A safe Sahlqvist formula is a formula built from safe Sahlqvist implications by applying boxes and conjunctions, and by applying disjunctions only between formulas that share no propositional variables.

The correspondence problem for safe Sahlqvist formulas can be reduced to the problem for safe Sahlqvist implications using the following standard lemma [Blackburn et al., 2001, Lem. 3.53] that continues to hold in possibility semantics.

**Lemma 6.20 (Inductive Local Correspondence).** For any \( \varphi, \psi \in L(\Phi, I) \) and \( \delta, \gamma \in L_1(I) \):

1. if \( \varphi \) locally corresponds to \( \delta(x) \), then \( \Box_i \varphi \) locally corresponds to \( \forall y(xR_i y \rightarrow \delta(y/x)) \);
2. if \( \varphi \) locally corresponds to \( \delta \), and \( \psi \) locally corresponds to \( \gamma \), then \( \varphi \land \psi \) locally corresponds to \( \delta \land \gamma \);
3. if \( \varphi \) locally corresponds to \( \delta \), \( \psi \) locally corresponds to \( \gamma \), and \( \varphi \) and \( \psi \) do not share any propositional variables, then \( \varphi \lor \psi \) locally corresponds to \( \delta \lor \gamma \).

Now we have the following significant generalization of Example 6.18.

**Proposition 6.21 (Safe Sahlqvist Correspondence).** Every safe Sahlqvist formula \( \varphi \) locally corresponds over full standard possibility frames to a \( \psi(x) \in L_1(I) \) that can be effectively computed from \( \varphi \).

**Proof.** Given Lemma 6.20, we need only explain what to do with each safe Sahlqvist implication \( \psi \rightarrow \chi \). First, using propositional logic, rewrite \( \psi \) as an equivalent disjunction \( \psi_1 \lor \cdots \lor \psi_n \) where each \( \psi_k \) is a conjunction of boxed atoms and negative formulas. Then rewrite \( \psi \rightarrow \chi \) as the equivalent conjunction \( \bigwedge_{1 \leq k \leq n} (\psi_k \rightarrow \chi) \), which is a safe Sahlqvist formula. Then by Lemma 6.20.2, it suffices to find a local
correspondent for each implication $\psi_k \to \chi$. Using the equivalence of $(\alpha \land \beta) \to \gamma$ and $\alpha \to (\neg \beta \lor \gamma)$, pull out any negative conjuncts from $\psi_k$, negate them, and disjoin them with the consequent. Then the consequent is still positive, so the result is a safe Sahlqvist implication $\psi'_k \to \chi'$ where $\psi'_k$ is a conjunction of boxed atoms and $\chi'$ is positive. Now we determine the local first-order correspondent of $\psi'_k \to \chi'$ as in the standard Sahlqvist-van Benthem algorithm, as presented in Blackburn et al. 2001, Theorems 3.40, 3.42, and 3.49, except for three main differences evident from Example 6.18. First, our second-order translation has the $RO(\hat{Q})$ constraint on each predicate variable $\hat{Q}$; but these disappear as in Example 6.18 when we substitute the description of the minimal valuation in for $\hat{Q}$. Second, our implications introduce universal quantification $\forall x \subseteq x_0$ as in Example 6.18, but that poses no problem. Third, our minimal valuation is the first-order definable int(cl($\downarrow X$)) where $X$ is the minimal valuation used in Blackburn et al.’s proof.

As noted above, the restriction that diamonds not appear in the antecedents of implications is not necessary. We will illustrate this in a way that is useful for calculating first-order correspondents of many standard modal axioms. Where $\sigma$ is a sequence $i_1, \ldots, i_n$ of modal operator indices from $I$, let $\Diamond_\sigma \varphi$ be $\Diamond_{i_1} \ldots \Diamond_{i_n} \varphi$ and $\Box_\sigma \varphi$ be $\Box_{i_1} \ldots \Box_{i_n} \varphi$. If $\sigma$ is the empty sequence, then $\Diamond_\sigma \varphi$ and $\Box_\sigma \varphi$ are simply $\varphi$. We will prove a possibility-semantic analogue of the correspondence result from Lemmon and Scott [1977, §4] for formulas of the form $\Diamond_\alpha \Box_\beta p \to \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p$, where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ are sequences of indices from $I$.

First, we recall the original result of Lemmon and Scott for Kripke frames. Given a Kripke frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$ and a sequence $\alpha = \langle i_1, \ldots, i_n \rangle$ of indices from $I$, let $x R_\alpha y$ iff there are $x_0, \ldots, x_n$ such $x_0 = x$, $x_n = y$, and $x_0 R_{i_1} x_1, x_1 R_{i_2} x_2, \ldots, x_{n-1} R_{i_n} x_n$. If $\alpha$ is the empty sequence, then $x R_\alpha y$ iff $x = y$.

In the following, we will blur the distinction between our metalanguage for talking about frame conditions and our formal first-order language $L^1(I)$, trusting that no confusion will arise.

**Proposition 6.22** (Lemmon-Scott Kripke Frame Correspondence). Let $\mathcal{F}$ be a Kripke frame. Then for any sequences $\alpha, \beta, \delta, \gamma$ of indices from $I$, $\Diamond_\alpha \Box_\beta p \to \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p$ is valid over $\mathcal{F}$ iff $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies:

$$\forall x \forall y \forall z((x R_\delta y \land x R_\gamma z) \to \exists u(y R_\gamma u \land z R_\beta u)).$$  \hspace{1cm} (30)

For a local correspondent of $\Diamond_\alpha \Box_\beta p \to \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p$, simply delete the $\forall x$ from (30).

For possibility frames, we have a very similar result in Proposition 6.23. Given a possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ and a sequence $\alpha = \langle i_1, \ldots, i_n \rangle$ of indices from $I$, define $x R_\alpha y$ as above except that if $\alpha$ is the empty sequence, let $x R_\alpha y$ iff $y \subseteq x$. Note that the R-down condition of standard frames implies:

- if $x R_\alpha y$ and $y' \subseteq y$, then $x R_\alpha y'$.

For the empty sequence, this means that if $y \subseteq x$ and $y' \subseteq y$, then $y' \subseteq x$, which is just the transitivity of $\subseteq$.

We are now ready to prove the analogue of Proposition 6.22 in possibility semantics.

**Proposition 6.23** (Lemmon-Scott Possibility Frame Correspondence). Let $\mathcal{F}$ be a full standard possibility frame. Then for any sequences $\alpha, \beta, \delta, \gamma$ of indices from $I$, $\Diamond_\alpha \Box_\beta p \to \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p$ is valid over $\mathcal{F}$ iff $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies:

$$\forall x \forall y(x R_\delta y \to \exists x' \sqsubseteq x \forall z(x' R_\gamma z \to \exists u(y R_\gamma u \land z R_\beta u))).$$ \hspace{1cm} (31)

For the case where $\alpha$ is empty, $\Box_\beta p \to \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p$ is valid over $\mathcal{F}$ iff $\mathcal{F}$ satisfies:

$$\forall x \forall y(x R_\delta y \to \exists u(y R_\gamma u \land x R_\beta u)).$$ \hspace{1cm} (32)

36 The result in Lemmon and Scott 1977 is only stated for the unimodal language, but the polymodal version is a straightforward generalization.
For local correspondents, replace ∀x in (31) and (32) with ∀x ⊆ x₀ so x₀ is free.

Proof. Suppose ℳ satisfies (31). Further suppose that there is a model ℳ based on ℱ and an x ∈ ℳ such that ℳ, x ⊭ □ₗ₀γₗ₀p. Then as in Figure 19, there is a y’ such that xRₗ₀y’ and ℳ, y’ ⊭ □ₗ₀γₗ₀p, i.e., ℳ, y’ ⊭ ¬□ₗ₀¬p, so there is a y ⊆ y’ such that ℳ, y ⊭ □ₗ₀¬p. By R-down, xRₗ₀y’ implies xRₗ₀y. Now take an x’ as in (31) and consider any z’ such that x’Rₐz’. We claim that ℳ, z’ ⊭ ¬□ₗ₀p. So consider any z ⊆ z’. By R-down, x’Rₐz’ implies x’Rₐz, so by (31) there is a u with yRₐu and zRₐu. Then since ℳ, y ⊭ □ₗ₀¬p, yRₐu implies ℳ, u ⊭ ¬p, which with zRₐu implies ℳ, z ⊭ □ₗ₀p. Since this holds for all z ⊆ z’, we have ℳ, z’ ⊭ ¬□ₗ₀p, as claimed. Then since z’ was an arbitrary Rₐ-successor of x’, we have ℳ, x’ ⊭ □ₗ₀¬□ₗ₀p, which with x’ ⊆ x implies ℳ, x ⊭ ¬□ₗ₀¬□ₗ₀p, i.e., ℳ, x ⊭ □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p. Thus, □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p → □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p is valid over ℱ.

In the other direction, suppose ℱ does not satisfy (31), so it satisfies

\[ \exists x \exists y (xRₗ₀y \land \forall x' \subseteq x \exists z (x' Rₐz \land \forall u(yRₐu \rightarrow \neg zRₐu))) \]  

(33)

Define ℳ = ⟨ℱ, π⟩ such that s ∈ π(p) iff for all t ∈ Rₗ₀(y), s ⊥ t, so by Fact 6.16, ℳ is an admissible model based on ℱ. Now consider any x’ ⊆ x, so we have a z as in (33). We claim that ℳ, z ⊭ □ₗ₀p, so consider any u’ with zRₗ₀u’. Suppose for reductio that u’ ∈ π(p), so there is a t ∈ Rₗ₀(y) with u’ ⊥ t, so there is a u ⊆ u’ with u ⊆ t. By R-down, zRₗ₀u’ and u ⊆ u’ together imply zRₗ₀u, and yRₐt and u ⊆ t together imply yRₐu. But zRₗ₀u and yRₐu together contradict (33). Thus, u’ ∈ π(p). Since u’ was an arbitrary Rₐ-successor of z, ℳ, z ⊭ □ₗ₀p, which with x’Rₐz implies ℳ, x’ ⊭ □ₗ₀¬□ₗ₀p. Since this holds for all x’ ⊆ x, ℳ, x ⊭ □ₗ₀¬□ₗ₀p, i.e., ℳ, x ⊭ □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p. By definition of π together with R-down, we also have ℳ, y ⊭ □ₗ₀¬p and hence ℳ, y ⊭ □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p, which with xRₗ₀y implies ℳ, x ⊭ □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p. Thus, □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p → □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p is not valid over ℱ.

For the claim about the empty α case, suppose ℱ satisfies (32) and there is a model ℳ based on ℱ and an x ∈ ℳ such that ℳ, x ⊭ □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p. Thus, there is a y’ such that xRₗ₀y’ and ℳ, y’ ⊭ □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p, i.e., ℳ, y’ ⊭ □ₗ₀¬p, so there is a y ⊆ y’ such that ℳ, y ⊭ □ₗ₀¬p. By R-down, xRₗ₀y’ implies xRₗ₀y. Then by (32) there is a u with yRₐu and xRₐu. Then since ℳ, y ⊭ □ₗ₀¬p, yRₐu implies ℳ, u ⊭ ¬p, which with xRₐu implies ℳ, x ⊭ □ₗ₀p. Thus, □ₗ₀p → □ₗ₀□ₗ₀p is valid over ℱ.
In the other direction for the empty α case, suppose \( F \) does not satisfy (32), so
\[
\forall x \forall y (xR_\delta y \rightarrow \forall u (yR_\gamma u \rightarrow \neg xR_\beta u)).
\] (34)

Define \( M \) exactly as we did after (33). Then by the same form of argument used to show that \( M, z \models \Box_\beta z \)
in the proof from (33), one can show that \( M, x \models \Box_\beta p \) from (34). Moreover, the exact same argument used
to show \( M, x \not\models \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma \beta p \) above works here. Thus, \( \Box_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma \beta p \) is not valid over \( F \).

Finally, for the claim about local correspondence, where \( \forall x \psi(x) \) is (31), we claim that \( \forall x \subseteq x_0 \forall x \psi(x) \)
is a local correspondent of \( \Diamond_\alpha \Diamond_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p \). If there is a model \( M \) based on \( F \) and an \( x_0 \in M \) such
that \( M, x_0 \not\models \Diamond_\alpha \Diamond_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p \), then there is an \( x \subseteq x_0 \) such that \( M, x \models \Diamond_\alpha \Diamond_\beta p \) but \( M, x \not\models \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p \).
Then by the same reasoning as in the first paragraph of this proof, it follows that \( \psi(x) \) is falsified by \( x \), so
\( \forall x \subseteq x_0 \forall x \psi(x) \) is falsified by \( x_0 \). In the other direction, if the local correspondent is not satisfied at a state
\( x_0 \) in \( F \), then there is an \( x \subseteq x_0 \) such that \( x \) satisfies the formula obtained from (33) by deleting the initial
existential quantifier. Then the proof that \( M, x \models \Diamond_\alpha \Diamond_\beta p \) and \( M, x \not\models \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma p \) proceeds as before. \( \square \)

Note that the proof that the Lemmon-Scott axiom is valid if \( F \) satisfies (31)/(32) does not rely on the assumption that \( F \) is full; thus it holds for all standard possibility frames.

Before applying Proposition 6.23 to some example axioms, it is worth seeing how the frame conditions
in Propositions 6.22 and 6.23 relate between a Kripke frame and its powerset possibilization (Example 2.9).

**Example 6.24** (Frame Properties and Powerset Possibilization). For any Kripke frame \( \mathfrak{F} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}) \) and sequences \( \alpha, \beta, \delta, \) and \( \gamma \) of indices from \( I \), the condition
\[
\forall x \forall y \forall z ((xR_\delta y \land xR_\alpha z) \rightarrow \exists u (yR_\gamma u \land zR_\beta u))
\] (35)
holds of \( \mathfrak{F} \) iff the condition
\[
\forall X \forall Y (XR_\delta Y \rightarrow \exists X' \subseteq X \forall Z (X'R_\alpha Z \rightarrow \exists U (YR_\gamma U \land ZR_\beta U)))
\] (36)
holds of the powerset possibilization \( \mathfrak{F}^\wp = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \).\(^{37}\) This follows from Propositions 6.22 and 6.23
plus the fact that \( \mathfrak{F} \) and \( \mathfrak{F}^\wp \) validate the same formulas (Fact 2.10.2), but it is also easy to prove directly.

First, recall that for possibility frames, we defined \( XR_\delta Y \) as \( Y \subseteq X \), which for \( \mathfrak{F}^\wp \) means \( Y \subseteq X \), which
is equivalent to \( Y \subseteq R_\delta^{\mathfrak{F}} [X] \), since we defined \( R_\delta^{\mathfrak{F}} [y] \) as \( x = y \) for Kripke frames.

Now suppose \( \mathfrak{F} \) satisfies (35), and consider \( X, Y \in \wp(W) \setminus \{\emptyset\} \) with \( XR_\delta Y \), so \( Y \subseteq R_\delta [X] \). Let \( X' = \{x \in X \mid \exists y \in Y : xR_\delta y\} \), so \( \emptyset \neq X' \subseteq X \). Now consider any \( Z \in \wp(W) \setminus \{\emptyset\} \) with \( X'R_\alpha Z \), so \( Z \subseteq R_\alpha [X'] \),
and pick an \( x \in X' \) such that for some \( z \in Z, xR_\alpha z \). Since \( x \in X' \), we also have a \( y \in Y \) with \( xR_\delta y \). Then
by (35), there is a \( u \) such that \( yR_\gamma u \land zR_\beta u \). Setting \( U = \{u\} \), we have \( U \subseteq R_\gamma \{Y\} \) and \( U \subseteq R_\beta \{Z\} \), so
\( YR_\gamma U \land ZR_\beta U \). Thus, \( \mathfrak{F}^\wp \) satisfies (36).

Next, suppose \( \mathfrak{F}^\wp \) satisfies (36), and consider \( x, y, z \in W \) with \( xR_\delta y \) and \( xR_\alpha z \). Then setting \( X = \{x\} \) and \( Y = \{y\} \), there is a \( X' \subseteq X \) for which the rest of (36) holds. Now \( X' \subseteq X \) means \( X' \subseteq \{x\} \).
Then since \( xR_\alpha z \) gives us \( \{x\}R_\alpha \{z\} \), setting \( Z = \{z\} \) in (36) gives us a \( U \neq \emptyset \) such that \( \{y\}R_\gamma U \land \{z\}R_\beta U \), which implies there is a \( u \in U \) such that \( yR_\gamma u \land zR_\beta u \). Thus, \( \mathfrak{F} \) satisfies (35).

Example 6.24 enables a quick proof that where \( L \) is the least normal extension of \( K \) with a set of Lemmon-Scott axioms, \( L \) is complete with respect to the class of rich possibility frames (§4.7) satisfying

\(^{37}\)Note that despite the capitalization of ‘\( X \)’, ‘\( Y \)’, etc., we are using them as first-order variables ranging over the domain of \( \mathfrak{F}^\wp \). We are using capital letters only as a reminder that the possibilities in \( \mathfrak{F}^\wp \) are sets of worlds.
If we combine Proposition 6.23 with Lemma 6.20 and Fact 6.14, we can treat other familiar axioms such as:

$\exists z$ and $\Box^\ast (Familiar Axioms)$

**Proof.** If $x' \subseteq x$ and $x'R_iy'$, then by the **R-rule** property of full frames (§2.3), $\exists y: xR_iy \models y'$, so $\exists z: z \subseteq y$ and $z \subseteq y'$. Then since $xR_iz$ and $x'R_iy'$, we have $xR_iz$ and $x'R_iz$ by **R-down** for standard frames.

Some of the first-order correspondences produced by Proposition 6.23 have even simpler forms over *strong* possibility frames (Definition 2.36), which we will note in the following example.

**Example 6.26** (Familiar Axioms). Consider the following special cases of the correspondence between $\Diamond_\alpha \Box_\beta \rho \rightarrow \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma \rho$ and $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists x' \subset x \forall z (x'R_\alpha z \rightarrow \exists u (yR_\gamma u \land zR_\beta u)))$, and between $\Box_\beta \rho \rightarrow \Box_\delta \Diamond_\gamma \rho$ and $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u (yR_\gamma u \land xR_\beta u))$, over full standard frames from Proposition 6.23 (recall that if $\sigma$ is empty, then $xR_\sigma y$ means $y \not\subseteq x$):

- $\Box p \rightarrow \Diamond p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (x \not\subseteq y \rightarrow \exists u (yR_iu \land xR_iu))$, which by Fact 6.25 is equivalent to *seriality*, $\forall x \exists u xR_iu$.
- $\Diamond p \rightarrow \Box p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists x' \subset x \forall z (x'R_i z \rightarrow \exists u (u \not\subseteq y \land u \not\subseteq z)))$, i.e., $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists x' \subset x \forall z (x'R_i z \rightarrow y \models z))$.
- $\Box p \rightarrow p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y \subseteq x \exists u \subseteq y xR_iu$, which by Fact 6.25 is equivalent to $\forall x \exists u \subseteq x xR_iu$. Over *strong* frames, it is equivalent to *reflexivity*, $\forall x \exists u xR_i u$, by **R-dense** and **R-down**.
- $p \rightarrow \Box p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u (u \not\subseteq y \land u \subseteq x))$, i.e., $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow x \models y)$.
- $\Box p \rightarrow \Box \Box p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u (u \not\subseteq y \land xR_iu))$. Over strong frames, this is equivalent to *transitivity*, $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u (u \not\subseteq y \land xR_i u))$ by **R-dense** and **R-down**.
- $p \rightarrow \Box p \rightarrow \Box \Box p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u (u \not\subseteq y \land u \not\subseteq x))$.
- $\Diamond p \rightarrow \Box \Diamond p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists x' \subset x \forall z (x'R_i z \rightarrow \exists u (yR_\gamma u \land zR_\beta u)))$. Over strong frames, this becomes $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists x' \subset x \forall z (x'R_i z \rightarrow yR_i z))$ by **R-dense** and **R-down**.
- $\Box p \rightarrow \Box p$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u (u \not\subseteq y \land xR_iu))$. Over strong frames, this is equivalent to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u (u \not\subseteq y \land xR_iu))$ by **R-dense** and **R-down**.

If we combine Proposition 6.23 with Lemma 6.20 and Fact 6.14, we can treat other familiar axioms such as:

- $\Box (\Box p \rightarrow p)$ (globally) corresponds to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow Loc_y (\Box p \rightarrow p))$, where $Loc_y (\Box p \rightarrow p)$ is the local correspondent with respect to $y$ given by Proposition 6.23. Given **R-down**, the result is equivalent to $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow \exists u \subseteq y yR_i u)$. Over strong frames, this is equivalent to *shift-reflexivity*, $\forall x \forall y (xR_iy \rightarrow yR_i y)$, by **R-dense**, **R-down**, and **up-R**.

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Note that when we apply the first-order conditions above to the special case of Kripke frames regarded as possibility frames as in Examples 2.6 and 2.22, so $\sqsubseteq$ is the identity relation, then these conditions reduce to the familiar conditions corresponding to the axioms over Kripke frames (recall Fact 6.13).

Also note that over strong possibility frames, the correspondents for the axioms in Example 6.26 with boxes in the antecedent and without any diamonds are already the same as the familiar correspondents over Kripke frames. This observation can be turned into a general result, but we will not go into it here. (See Kojima 2012, Ch. 4 for a study of when a modal formula has the same first-order correspondent over $\text{intuitionistic}$ modal frames as over classical Kripke frames. We leave for future work a comparison of first-order correspondence over intuitionistic modal frames vs. classical possibility frames.)

Finally, let us note how the first-order correspondents look over functional frames (§4.4). Using Lemma 6.17, all of our correspondence results can be applied to functional full possibility frames. But over functional frames the correspondents can be further simplified, especially if we assume the frames are separative as in §4.1. Recall that in a separative full frame, for any $x \in S$, $\downarrow x$ is an admissible proposition (Fact 4.6). Thus, in a full frame that is both separative and functional, a minimal valuation $\pi$ making $\Box x \varphi$ true at $x$ sets $\pi(p) = \downarrow f_i(x)$, or $\pi(p) = \emptyset$ if $f_i(x)$ is undefined. For simplicity, let us consider frames in which each $f_i$ is a total function, which validate the D axiom $\Box x \varphi \rightarrow \Diamond x \varphi$. Note that in functional frames the $\Diamond x \varphi$ clause (recall §2.4) is that $\mathcal{M}, x, y \models \Diamond x \varphi$ iff $x x' \subseteq x \in \exists y \subseteq f_i(x')$: $\mathcal{M}, x, y \models \varphi$. Also note that if we have a functional frame $\mathcal{F}$ and obtain the modally equivalent standard frame $\mathcal{F}_i$ as in Lemma 6.17, then $x R_{i_1} y$ iff $y \subseteq f_i(x)$. This equivalence is helpful when comparing the first-order correspondents in Examples 6.26 and 6.27.

Example 6.27 (Functional Correspondence). Over separative full possibility frames in which each accessibility relation is a total function $f_i$, we have the following global correspondences:

\begin{itemize}
  \item $\Diamond \varphi \rightarrow p \rightarrow \Diamond \Box \varphi$ corresponds to $\forall x \forall y \subseteq f_i(x) \exists x' \subseteq x \forall z \subseteq f_i(x') y \in z$.
  \item $\Box p \rightarrow p$ corresponds to $\forall x x \subseteq f_i(x)$.
  \item $p \rightarrow \Box p$ corresponds to $\forall x x \subseteq f_i(x)$.
  \item $\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Box \varphi$ corresponds to $\forall x f_i((x)) \subseteq f_i(x)$ (cf. Example 2.28).
  \item $p \rightarrow \Box \varphi$ corresponds to $\forall x x' \subseteq f_i(x) \exists x' x \subseteq f_i(x)$.
  \item $\Diamond \varphi \rightarrow \Box \Diamond \varphi$ corresponds to $\forall x x' \subseteq f_i(x) \exists x' x \subseteq f_i(x,y)$.
  \item $\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Box \varphi$ corresponds to $\forall x f_i(x) \subseteq f_i(x)$.
  \item $\Box \varphi \rightarrow \Box \varphi$ corresponds to $\forall x f_i(x) \subseteq f_i(x)$.
\end{itemize}

\section{Beginnings of Completeness Theory}

In this section, we begin the study of classes of logics complete with respect to classes of possibility frames. Our starting point is Theorem 7.1, which follows immediately from results we have already established.

Theorem 7.1 (From Algebraic to Possibility Completeness). Let $L$ be a normal modal logic.

1. $L$ is sound and complete with respect to a filter-descriptive possibility frame;

2. if $L$ is sound and complete with respect to a class of $\forall$-BAOs, then $L$ is sound and complete with respect to a class of principal possibility frames (and vice versa);

\footnote{On this point, we can add a follow-up to Example 6.24: for axioms of the form $\Box \alpha \rightarrow \Box \beta$, a Kripke frame $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle$ satisfies the corresponding condition $\forall x y (x R_i y \rightarrow x R_\beta y)$ iff its powerset possibilization $\mathfrak{F}^\subseteq = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ satisfies $\forall x y (x R_\beta y \rightarrow x R_\beta y)$, i.e., $\forall x y (y \subseteq R_\beta x) \rightarrow y \subseteq R_\beta x$.}
3. if \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of \( T \)-BAOs, then \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of functional principal possibility frames (and vice versa);

4. if \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of \( CV \)-BAOs, then \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of full (indeed rich) possibility frames (and vice versa).

**Proof.** For part 1, \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a BAO (Theorem A.11), which can be turned into a modally equivalent possibility frame (Theorem 5.34) that is filter-descriptive (Proposition 5.40.1).

Parts 2-4 follow from Theorem 5.17 and Proposition 4.27.5 (for the move from quasi-functional to functional completeness), with the *vice versa* reminders coming from Corollary 5.8. □

Using Theorem 7.1.2-4, we can transfer knowledge about the algebraic completeness notions of \( V \)-completeness, \( T \)-completeness, and \( CV \)-completeness to knowledge about the associated possibility-semantic completeness notions. As shown in Litak 2005a, these three completeness notions are distinct and generalize Kripke-completeness; and as shown in Holliday and Litak 2015, the most general of these notions, \( V \)-completeness, is still a nontrivial notion of completeness—not all normal modal logics are \( V \)-complete. More detailed knowledge about \( CV \)- and \( V \)-completeness would be of great value for understanding possibility semantics. At present, only \( T \)-completeness is well understood, as we briefly review in §7.2.

In the rest of this section, we report some salient results concerning completeness with respect to the following special classes of possibility frames: full possibility frames (§7.1), principal possibility frames (§7.2), atomless possibility frames (§7.3), and finally, canonical possibility frames (§7.4).

### 7.1 Completeness for Full Possibility Frames

By the fact that every Kripke frame may be regarded as a modally equivalent full possibility frame, every Kripke-frame complete logic is also sound and complete with respect to a class of full possibility frames. As we have seen, the converse does not hold. We already showed in §2.5 that there are continuum many full possibility frames for a polynomial language whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame incomplete. By using our duality theory and the polymodal-to-unimodal reduction techniques of Thomason [1974b, 1975b, 1975c] and Kracht and Wolter [1999], we can now prove the analogous result in the unimodal case.

**Theorem 2.51** (Unimodal Full Possibility Frames with No Kripke Equivalents). There are continuum many full possibility frames for the unimodal language whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame incomplete.

**Proof.** Theorem 2.50 gives us continuum many full possibility frames for a polymodal language whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame incomplete. Thus, by Theorem 5.6, there are continuum many \( CV \)-BAOs for a polymodal language whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame incomplete.

Kracht and Wolter [1999] show that there is a function \( \text{sim} \), the Thomason-Simulation, sending each normal polymodal logic \( L \) to a normal unimodal logic \( L^{\text{sim}} \) such that: (i) for each \( n \in \mathbb{N} \), \( \text{sim} \) is an isomorphism from the lattice of normal modal logics with \( n \) modal operators onto an interval in the lattice of normal unimodal logics, so for any normal modal logics \( L_1 \) and \( L_2 \) for \( n \) modal operators, \( L_1 \subseteq L_2 \) iff \( L_1^{\text{sim}} \subseteq L_2^{\text{sim}} \); and (ii) if \( L \) is Kripke-frame incomplete, so is \( L^{\text{sim}} \). Kracht and Wolter (p. 116) also give an algebraic characterization of the Thomason-Simulation: given a polymodal BAO \( A \), they define a unimodal BAO \( A^{\text{sim}} \) such that if \( L \) is the logic of \( A \), then \( L^{\text{sim}} \) is the logic of \( A^{\text{sim}} \). (They only give the definition of \( A^{\text{sim}} \) for the case where \( A \) has two operators, but one can work out the general definition from the remarks...
on p. 121 of their paper.) Now we add the following observation, which one can check with their definition of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathrm{sim}}$: if $\mathcal{A}$ is a CV-BAO, then so is $\mathcal{A}^{\mathrm{sim}}$. Thus, since there are continuum many CV-BAOs for a polymodal language whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame incomplete, there are also continuum many CV-BAOs for the unimodal language whose logics are pairwise distinct (by (i) above) and Kripke-frame incomplete (by (ii) above). Then by Theorem 5.17, there are continuum many full possibility frames for the unimodal language whose logics are pairwise distinct and Kripke-frame incomplete.

Thus, Kripke-completeness is a sufficient but far from necessary condition for a unimodal logic to be sound and complete with respect to a class of full possibility frames. Whether we can find weaker sufficient conditions that are illuminating remains to be seen. For the case of completeness with respect to principal possibility frames, we will see examples of such sufficient conditions in §7.2.

Recall that the degree of Kripke-incompleteness of a normal modal logic $\mathcal{L}$ for $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ is the cardinality of the set of normal modal logics for $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ that are valid over exactly the same Kripke frames as $\mathcal{L}$ [Fine, 1974b]. More generally, we can consider a notion of degree of relative Kripke-incompleteness, suggested by Tadeusz Litak (see Holliday and Litak 2015), which we can apply as follows. Fixing the language $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, let $\text{ML}(\mathcal{F})$ be the set of normal modal logics that are sound and complete with respect to some class of full possibility frames. Then the degree of Kripke-incompleteness relative to $\mathcal{F}$ of a normal modal logic $\mathcal{L}$ is the cardinality of the set of $\mathcal{L}' \in \text{ML}(\mathcal{F})$ such that $\mathcal{L}$ and $\mathcal{L}'$ are valid over exactly the same Kripke frames. For example, for a polymodal language, Theorem 2.50 showed that the logic of our full possibility frame $\mathcal{F}$ in §2.5 has degree $2^{\aleph_0}$; for Theorem 2.50 showed that there are continuum many other logics in $\text{ML}(\mathcal{F})$ that are valid over the same set of Kripke frames, namely the empty set. Of course, this special example involving the empty set of frames gives little hint of the general situation. While a great deal is known about degrees of unrelativized incompleteness [Blok, 1980, Litak, 2008], little is currently known about relativized degrees. Knowing more about degrees of Kripke-incompleteness relative to $\mathcal{F}$ would give us a better measure of how much more fine-grained full possibility frames are than Kripke frames for distinguishing between logics.

We will see more about completeness for full possibility frames in §§7.3-7.4, where we treat completeness for atomless full possibility frames and canonical full possibility frames.

### 7.2 Completeness for Principal Possibility Frames

We turn now to classes of logics that are sound and complete with respect to principal possibility frames (equivalently, $\mathcal{V}$-BAOs), starting with the special case of functional principal frames (equivalently, $\mathcal{T}$-BAOs).

Recall that a tense logic is a normal bimodal logic containing the axioms $p \rightarrow \Box < q$ and $p \rightarrow \Box > q$. For any tense logic $\mathcal{L}$, $\vdash_{\mathcal{L}} p \rightarrow \Box < q$ iff $\vdash_{\mathcal{L}} q > p \rightarrow q$, and similarly for $\Box >$ and $\Box <$. Thus, the Lindenbaum algebra (Definition A.10) of any tense logic is a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO. Then since every tense logic is sound and complete with respect to its Lindenbaum algebra (Theorem A.11), every tense logic is sound and complete with respect to a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO. By contrast, it is well-known that there are tense logics that are not sound and complete with respect to any class of Kripke frames [Thomason, 1972, Blackburn et al., 2001, §4.4].

More generally, say that a normal modal logic $\mathcal{L}$ is a logic with converses iff for every $a \in I$ there is a $b \in I$ such that $\vdash_{\mathcal{L}} p \rightarrow \Box a q p$ and $\vdash_{\mathcal{L}} p \rightarrow \Box b q p$ (this class includes what are called the connected logics in Kracht 1999, p. 71). By the same argument as for tense logics, every logic with converses is sound and complete with respect to a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO, namely its Lindenbaum algebra. Note that since we do not require that the $a$ and $b$ be distinct, any extension of $\mathcal{KB}$ (in its unimodal or polymodal fusion version) is also a logic with converses. Just as there are tense logics that are not sound and complete with respect to any class of

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Kripke frames, there are also extensions of $\mathbf{KB}$—in fact, continuum many extensions of $\mathbf{KB}$—that are not sound and complete with respect to any class of Kripke frames [Miyazaki, 2007].

From the previous two paragraphs, Theorem 5.17, and Proposition 4.27.5, we obtain the following.

**Corollary 7.2** (General Completeness for Logics with Converses). Every normal modal logic with converses (and hence every tense logic and every extension of $\mathbf{KB}$) is sound and complete with respect to a functional principal possibility frame.

Corollary 7.2 gives us a simple syntactic characterization of a class of logics that are $T$-complete. We can give a somewhat more complex syntactic characterization of a strictly larger class of $T$-complete logics using the following notion studied in Holliday 2014.

**Definition 7.3** (Internal Adjointness). A modal logic $L$ has internal adjointness iff for every $i \in I$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, there is a $f^L_i(\varphi) \in L(\Phi, I)$ such that for all $\psi \in L(\Phi, I)$:

$$\vdash_L \varphi \to \Box_i \psi \text{ iff } \vdash_L f^L_i(\varphi) \to \psi.$$

It is easy to see that internal adjointness is related to $T$-BAOs as follows.

**Lemma 7.4** (Internal Adjointness and $T$-BAOs). A normal modal logic $L$ has internal adjointness iff the Lindenbaum algebra of $L$ is a $T$-BAO.

Then we can strengthen the general completeness result given in Corollary 7.2 as follows.

**Corollary 7.5** (General Completeness for Logics with Internal Adjointness). Every normal modal logic with internal adjointness is sound and complete with respect to a functional principal possibility frame.

Corollary 7.5 is stronger than Corollary 7.2 because every logic with converses has internal adjointness, but there are logics with internal adjointness that are not logics with converses. Holliday 2014 determines whether several well-known Kripke-frame complete modal logics have internal adjointness: in addition to all normal modal logics with converses, the logics $\mathbf{K}$ (cf. Ghilardi 1995, Thm. 6.3), $\mathbf{KD}$, $\mathbf{T}$, $\mathbf{KD4}$, and $\mathbf{S4}$ have internal adjointness, whereas $\mathbf{K5}$ and its extensions with the D and/or 4 axioms lack internal adjointness.

It would be interesting to know more about internal adjointness for Kripke-frame incomplete modal logics. So far we have shown that various logics are $T$-complete by observing that their Lindenbaum algebras are $T$-BAOs. In other cases, we may know that a logic is sound and complete with respect to a $T$-BAO that is not its Lindenbaum algebra. For example, consider the much-used veiled recession frame [Makinson, 1969, Thomason, 1974a, van Benthem, 1978, Blok, 1979], which is the world frame $\mathfrak{g} = \langle W, R, A \rangle$ where $W = \mathbb{N}$, $nRm$ iff $n - 1 \leq m$, and $A$ is the set of all finite and co-finite subsets of $\mathbb{N}$. It is easy to check that $\mathfrak{g}$ is a general world frame. In addition, $A$ has the property that if $X \in A$, then $R[X] \subseteq A$, because for any $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, $R[X]$ is co-finite, since $W \setminus R[X] = \{k \in \mathbb{N} \mid k < \min(X) - 1\}$. From here it is easy to see that the BAO underlying $\mathfrak{g}$ is a $T$-BAO. But the logic of $\mathfrak{g}$ is not a logic with converses, since $\varphi \to \Box \diamond \varphi$ is not valid over $\mathfrak{g}$. Like the logic of any world frame, the logic of the veiled recession frame is a normal modal logic. Moreover, it is finitely axiomatizable [Blok, 1979]. This logic is Kripke-frame incomplete [Blok, 1979, 1980], but since the BAO underlying $\mathfrak{g}$ is a $T$-BAO, we have the following result as a corollary of Theorem 5.17.

**Corollary 7.6** (Logic of the Veiled Recession Frame). The logic of the veiled recession frame $\mathfrak{g}$ is sound and complete with respect to a quasi-functional principal possibility frame, viz., the principal frame $(\mathfrak{g}^\flat)_p$ of its underlying BAO $\mathfrak{g}^\flat$, and hence with respect to a functional principal possibility frame (by Proposition 4.27).
The syntactic conditions mentioned above—being a logic with converses, having internal adjointness—are sufficient for $\mathcal{T}$-completeness, but far from necessary. For a necessary and sufficient syntactic condition, let us say that for a normal unimodal logic $L$, the minimal tense extension $L.t$ of $L$ is the minimal tense logic containing $L$ [Kracht and Wolter, 1997, §3.3]. More generally, given a normal modal logic $L$ for the language $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, let the minimal tense extension $L.t$ of $L$ be the smallest normal modal logic in the language $\mathcal{L}(\Phi, I \cup \{i^{-1} \mid i \in I\})$ such that $L.t$ extends $L$ and for every $i \in I$, $L.t$ contains the axioms $p \to \square_i \Diamond_{i-1}p$ and $p \to \square_{i-1} \Diamond ip$. The following result is straightforward to prove (see Litak 2005b, Corollary 3.25).

**Lemma 7.7** (Minimal Tense Extensions and $\mathcal{T}$-Completeness). For any normal modal logic $L$, the following are equivalent:

1. $L$ is sound and complete with respect to a class of $\mathcal{T}$-BAOs;
2. the minimal tense extension $L.t$ of $L$ is a conservative extension of $L$.

Characterizations of $\mathcal{V}$-completeness and $\mathcal{CV}$-completeness in terms of conservativity of extensions are open questions. The only new result we will report here is the analogue of Lemma 7.4 for $\mathcal{V}$-BAOs. Recall that the standard “existence lemma” for a normal modal logic $L$ states that for any $i \in I$, $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, and $\psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, if $\Sigma \not\vdash_{L} \Box i \psi$, then there is a (maximally $L$-consistent) set $\Delta \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ such that: 1. $\Delta \not\vdash_{L} \psi$, and 2. for all $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\Sigma \vdash_{L} \Box \alpha$ implies $\Delta \vdash_{L} \alpha$. Consider the following finitary version of this property.

**Definition 7.8** (Finite Existence Lemma). A modal logic $L$ satisfies the finite existence lemma iff for every $i \in I$ and $\varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, if $\not\vdash_{L} \varphi \rightarrow \Box i \psi$, then there is a $g_{\psi}^{\varphi}(\varphi, \psi) \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ such that:

1. $\not\vdash_{L} g_{\psi}^{\varphi}(\varphi, \psi) \rightarrow \psi$;
2. for all $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\vdash_{L} \varphi \rightarrow \Box i \alpha$ implies $\vdash_{L} g_{\psi}^{\varphi}(\varphi, \psi) \rightarrow \alpha$.

Clearly $L$ satisfies the finite existence lemma if it has internal adjointness. Conversely, arguments showing a lack of internal adjointness often extend to show a lack of the finite existence lemma. For example, the arguments in Holliday 2014 showing that the logic $K5$ and its extensions with the D and/or 4 axioms lack internal adjointness can be easily adapted to show that these logics lack the finite existence lemma.\(^{39}\)

The following is the analogue of Lemma 7.4 for complete additivity.

**Lemma 7.9** (Finite Existence Lemma and Complete Additivity). A normal modal logic $L$ satisfies the finite existence lemma iff the Lindenbaum algebra of $L$ is a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO.

**Proof.** To show that the Lindenbaum algebra $\mathcal{A}^{L}$ of $L$ is a $\mathcal{V}$-BAO, by Lemma 5.13.2 it suffices to show that it is an $\mathcal{R}$-BAO as in Definition 5.11, i.e., that for all $x, y \in A$, if $x \land \Box_{i} y \neq \bot$, then there is a $y' \in A$ such that $\bot \neq y' \leq y$ and $xR_{i}y'$, where $xR_{i}y'$ iff for all $y'' \in A$, if $\bot \neq y'' \leq y'$, then $x \land \Box_{i} y'' \neq \bot$. So suppose that for some $x, y \in A$, $x \land \Box_{i} y \neq \bot$. By definition of $\mathcal{A}^{L}$ (Definition A.10), there are $\varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ such that $x = [\varphi]_{L}$ and $y = [\psi]_{L}$. (We will henceforth omit the subscripts for the equivalence classes.) Thus, $x \land \Box_{i} y \neq \bot$ implies $\not\vdash_{L} \varphi \rightarrow \Box_{i} \neg \psi$. Assuming that $L$ satisfies the finite existence lemma, it follows that there is a $\chi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ such that (i) $\not\vdash_{L} \chi \rightarrow \neg \psi$ and (ii) for all $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, if $\vdash_{L} \varphi \rightarrow \Box_{i} \alpha$, then $\vdash_{L} \chi \rightarrow \alpha$. By (i), $\psi' = \varphi \land \chi$ is $L$-consistent, so $\bot \neq [\psi'] \leq [\psi]$. Now we claim that (ii) implies $[\varphi]_{R_{i}}[\psi]$. Suppose not, so there is a $[\psi''] \in A$ such that $\bot \neq [\psi'] \leq [\psi'']$ and $[\varphi] \land \Box_{i} [\psi''] = [\varphi] \land [\Box_{i} \psi''] = \bot$. It follows that $\vdash_{L} \varphi \rightarrow \Box_{i} \neg \psi''$, which with (ii) implies $\vdash_{L} \chi \rightarrow \neg \psi''$. But then since $\psi' = \psi \land \chi$, $\vdash_{L} \psi' \rightarrow \neg \psi''$, which contradicts $\bot \neq [\psi''] \leq [\psi']$. Thus, $[\varphi]_{R_{i}}[\psi]$, which shows that $\mathcal{A}^{L}$ is an $\mathcal{R}$-BAO.

\(^{39}\)For negative results on internal adjointness and the finite existence lemma in the context of quantified modal logic, see Harrison-Trainor 2016a.
Now suppose \( L \) does not satisfy the finite existence lemma, so there are \( \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) such that (a) \( \not\Vdash_L \varphi \rightarrow \square_i \psi \) but (b) for every \( \chi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) such that \( \not\Vdash_L \chi \rightarrow \psi \), there is an \( \alpha \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) such that \( \not\Vdash_L \varphi \rightarrow \square_i \alpha \) but \( \not\Vdash_L \chi \rightarrow \alpha \). By (a), \([\varphi] \land \diamond_i[\neg \psi] = [\varphi] \land [\diamond_i \neg \psi] \neq \bot\). Now consider any \( \chi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) such that \( \bot \neq [\chi] \leq [\neg \psi] \), so \( \not\Vdash_L \chi \rightarrow \psi \). Then by (b), there is an \( \alpha \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) such that \( \not\Vdash_L \varphi \rightarrow \square_i \alpha \) but \( \not\Vdash_L \chi \rightarrow \alpha \). Where \( \chi' = \chi \land \neg \alpha \), \( \not\Vdash_L \chi \rightarrow \alpha \) implies \( \bot \neq [\chi'] \leq [\chi] \), and \( \not\Vdash_L \varphi \rightarrow \square_i \alpha \) implies \([\varphi] \land \diamond_i[\chi'] = \bot\).

Thus, \( A^L \) is not an \( R\)-BAO, so by Lemma 5.13.1, it is not a \( V\)-BAO.

From Lemma 7.9 and Theorem 5.17 we obtain the analogue of Corollary 7.5 for the finite existence lemma in place of internal adjointness.

**Corollary 7.10** (General Completeness for Logics with the Finite Existence Lemma). Every normal modal logic satisfying the finite existence lemma is sound and complete with respect to a principal possibility frame.

### 7.3 Completeness for Atomless Possibility Frames

As noted in §1, a topic emphasized in previous work on possibility semantics [Humberstone, 1981, Holliday, 2014] is the completeness of some modal logics with respect to classes of atomless possibility frames, which we define as possibility frames whose poset \((S, \sqsubseteq)\) is such that for every \( x \in S \), there is an \( x' \in S \) such that \( x' \sqsubseteq x \), i.e., \( x' \subseteq x \) but \( x \not\subseteq x' \). Compare this with the notion of an atomless BAO, which is a BAO such that for every \( x \in A \setminus \{\bot\} \), there is an \( x' \in A \setminus \{\bot\} \) such that \( x' < x \), i.e., \( x' \leq x \) but \( x \not\leq x' \). Note that if the set \( \Phi \) of propositional variables is infinite, then the Lindenbaum algebra \( A^L \) of any normal modal logic \( L \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) (Definition A.10) is atomless. We assume in this section that \( \Phi \) is infinite.

Using the fact that for any atomless BAO \( A \), its principal frame \( A_p \) as in Definition 5.14 is atomless, we obtain the following result concerning completeness with respect to atomless principal possibility frames.

**Theorem 7.11** (Completeness for Atomless Principal Possibility Frames). For any normal modal logic \( L \):

1. if the Lindenbaum algebra \( A^L \) of \( L \) is a \( V\)-BAO (equivalently, if \( L \) satisfies the finite existence lemma), then \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to an atomless principal possibility frame, viz., \((A^L)_p\);

2. if \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a class of \( T\)-BAOs (equivalently, if the minimal tense extension \( L.t \) of \( L \) is a conservative extension), then \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to an atomless and functional principal possibility frame.

**Proof.** Part 1 follows from Theorem 5.17 and the fact that the Lindenbaum algebra is atomless.

For part 2, it suffices to show that \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to a principal possibility frame \( F \) that is atomless and quasi-functional, for then \( L \) is also sound and complete with respect to the functionalization of \( F \) (Proposition 4.27), which is principal and atomless if \( F \) is. Where \( A^{L.t} \) is the Lindenbaum algebra of \( L.t \), which is a \( T\)-BAO, let \( B \) be the reduct of \( A^{L.t} \) to the signature of \( L \), i.e., the result of dropping from \( A^{L.t} \) the converse operators \( \text{■}^{-1} \). \( B \) is still a \( T\)-BAO, because the functions that must exist for a BAO to be a \( T\)-BAO need not be included among the operations of the BAO; and since \( A^{L.t} \) is an atomless BAO, so is \( B \). For any \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), we have the following equivalences: \( \varphi \) is consistent in \( L \) iff \( \varphi \) is consistent in \( L.t \) (because \( L.t \) is a conservative extension of \( L \)) iff \( \varphi \) is satisfiable in \( A^{L.t} \) iff \( \varphi \) is satisfiable in \( B \) (because \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \) and \( B \) is the reduct of \( A^{L.t} \) to this signature) iff \( \varphi \) is satisfiable in \( B_p \) (by Theorem 5.17.7). Thus, \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to \( B_p \). Then since \( B \) is atomless, so is \( B_p \), and since \( B \) is a \( T\)-BAO, \( B_p \) is a quasi-functional principal frame by Theorem 5.17.2, so we are done. \( \square \)
In addition to proving completeness with respect to atomless principal possibility frames, we would like to do so with respect to atomless full possibility frames. We will first prove that every normal modal logic obtained from $K$ by adding a set of axioms of the Lemmon-Scott form $\Box \alpha \Box \beta p \rightarrow \Box \beta \Box \alpha p$ from §6.3 is sound and complete with respect to an atomless full possibility frame. To do so, we first show that if a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO $A$ validates a Lemmon-Scott axiom, then its full frame $A_u$ as in Definition 5.14 has the property corresponding to the axiom according to Proposition 6.23.

**Lemma 7.12** (Full Frames of $\mathcal{T}$-BAOs and Lemmon-Scott Correspondence). For any $\mathcal{T}$-BAO $A$ and sequences $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$, and $\delta$ of indices from $I$, if for all $x \in A$, $\Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\beta} x \subseteq \Box_{\delta} \Box_{\gamma} x$, then $A_u$ satisfies:

$$\forall x \forall y (x R_{\delta} y \rightarrow \exists x' \subseteq x \forall z (x' R_{\alpha} z \rightarrow \exists u (y R_{\gamma} u \land z R_{\beta} u))).$$

**Proof.** Let $f_i$ be the residual of $\Box_{i}$ that is given since $A$ is a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO. For a sequence $\sigma = \langle i_1, \ldots, i_n \rangle$ of indices from $I$, let $f_{\sigma}(x) = f_{i_n}(f_{i_{n-1}}(\ldots f_{i_1}(x) \ldots))$, and if $\sigma$ is empty, let $f_{\sigma}(x) = x$. Recall that by Lemma 5.15, $A_u$ is such that $x R_{\alpha} y$ if $y \subseteq f_i(x)$, and that if $x' \subseteq x$ and $R_i(x') \neq \emptyset$, then $f_i(x') \subseteq f_i(x)$. It follows that $x R_{\sigma} y$ as in §6.3 if $y \subseteq f_\sigma(x)$, so the property in the statement of the lemma is equivalent to:

$$\forall x \forall y \subseteq f_\sigma(x) \exists x' \subseteq x \forall z (x' R_\alpha z \rightarrow \exists u (u \subseteq f_\sigma(y) \land u \subseteq f_\beta(z))).$$

Recall that the poset $\langle S, \subseteq \rangle$ of $A_u$ is the Boolean lattice $\langle A, \leq \rangle$ of $A$ restricted to $A \setminus \{\bot\}$. So for $y \in A_u$, $y \neq \bot$. Now suppose $y \subseteq f_\sigma(x)$. Then $x \wedge \Box y \neq \bot$, for otherwise $x \supseteq \Box y$, which implies $f_\sigma(x) \subseteq y$, which contradicts $y \subseteq f_\sigma(x)$ given $y \neq \bot$. Let $x' = x \wedge \Box y$. Now consider some $z \subseteq f_\sigma(x')$, so $z \neq \bot$. For reductio, suppose $f_\sigma(y) \wedge f_\beta(z) = \bot$, so $f_\gamma(y) \subseteq -f_\beta(z)$, which implies $y \supseteq \Box_{\gamma} -f_\beta(z)$, which in turn implies $\Box_{\beta} y \subseteq \Box_{\beta} -f_\beta(z)$. By our choice of $x'$, $x' \subseteq \Box y$, and by the assumption of the lemma, $\Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\beta} -f_\beta(z) \subseteq \Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\gamma} -f_\beta(z)$, so $x' \subseteq \Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\gamma} -f_\beta(z)$, which implies $f_\alpha(x') \subseteq \Box_{\gamma} -f_\beta(z)$. Then by our choice of $z$, $z \supseteq \Box_{\gamma} -f_\beta(z)$, so $z \supseteq -\Box_{\gamma} f_\beta(z)$. But then since $z \supseteq -\Box_{\gamma} f_\beta(z)$, we have $z = \bot$, which is inconsistent with our choice of $z$. Hence $f_\gamma(y) \wedge f_\beta(z) \neq \bot$, so taking $u = f_\gamma(y) \wedge f_\beta(z)$ completes the proof.

We can now prove the promised completeness result for atomless full possibility frames.

**Theorem 7.13** (Lemmon-Scott Completeness for Atomless Full Possibility Frames). Where $L$ is the least normal modal logic extending $K$ with a set of axioms of the Lemmon-Scott form $\Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\beta} p \rightarrow \Box_{\beta} \Box_{\alpha} p$, $L$ is sound and complete with respect to an atomless and functional full possibility frame.

**Proof.** As in the proof of Theorem 7.11, it suffices to show that $L$ is sound and complete with respect to an atomless and quasi-functional full possibility frame. Any $L$ as in the statement of the current theorem is Kripke-frame complete [Lemmon and Scott, 1977], so it is complete with respect to a $\mathcal{CAV}$-BAO and hence a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO, so the minimal tense extension $L.t$ of $L$ is a conservative extension of $L$ by Lemma 7.7. Where $A^{L.t}$ is the Lindenbaum algebra of $L.t$, which is a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO, let $B$ be the reduct of $A^{L.t}$ to the signature of $L$, as in the proof of Theorem 7.11, so $B$ is still a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO and atomless since $A^{L.t}$ is. Then as in the proof of Theorem 7.11, for any $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $\varphi$ is consistent in $L$ iff $\varphi$ is satisfiable in $B$. Now if $\varphi$ is satisfiable in the principal frame $B$, then $\varphi$ is satisfiable in the full frame $B_u$, so we have that $L$ is complete with respect to $B_u$. It only remains to show that $L$ is sound with respect to $B_u$. For each axiom $\Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\beta} p \rightarrow \Box_{\beta} \Box_{\alpha} p$ added to $K$ to obtain $L$, $A^{L.t}$ and hence $B$ is such that for all $x \in B$, $\Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\beta} x \subseteq \Box_{\beta} \Box_{\alpha} x$. Then by Lemma 7.12, $B_u$ satisfies the properties that correspond to the axioms of $L$ in Proposition 6.23. Thus, $L$ is sound with respect to $B_u$. Since $B_u$ is atomless, quasi-functional (Theorem 5.17.3), and full, we are done. \qed
In fact, we have the resources to generalize Theorem 7.13 to any Sahlqvist logic, i.e., any least normal extension of $K$ with some set of Sahlqvist axioms (see Blackburn et al. 2001, §3.6). The key resources are Proposition 5.45, which showed that the underlying BAO $(\mathbb{A}_u)^b$ of the full frame $\mathbb{A}_u$ of a $\mathcal{L}$-BAO $\mathbb{A}$ is isomorphic to the Monk completion of $\mathbb{A}$, plus Givant and Venema’s [1999, Cor. 34(ii)] result that all Sahlqvist equations are preserved in going from a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO to its Monk completion.

**Theorem 7.14** (Sahlqvist Completeness for Atomless Full Possibility Frames). Every Sahlqvist logic is sound and complete with respect to an atomless and functional full possibility frame.

**Proof.** The proof uses the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 7.13, only now we must show that every Sahlqvist formula valid over $\mathbb{B}$ is also valid over $\mathbb{B}_u$. Since $\mathbb{B}$ is a $\mathcal{T}$-BAO, the cited result of Givant and Venema [1999] gives us that every Sahlqvist formula valid over $\mathbb{B}$ is valid over its Monk completion. By Proposition 5.45, the Monk completion of $\mathbb{B}$ is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{B}_u)^b$, which has the same logic as $\mathbb{B}_u$ by Theorem 5.6.6. Thus, the validity of Sahlqvist formulas are indeed preserved from $\mathbb{B}$ to $\mathbb{B}_u$. \hfill $\Box$

Theorem 7.14 represents a quite general realization of the goal from Humberstone 1981 of proving completeness of modal logics with respect to full possibility frames that contain no worlds.

### 7.4 Completeness for Canonical Possibility Frames

Let us finally treat the topic of canonical possibility frames and models for normal modal logics. In Kripke semantics, the set of worlds in the canonical frame for a logic $L$ is the set of all maximally $L$-consistent sets of formulas. From an algebraic perspective, these worlds arise from ultrafilters in the Lindenbaum algebra for $L$. By contrast, in possibility semantics, we can take the set of possibilities in the canonical frame for $L$ to be the set of all $L$-consistent and $L$-deductively closed sets of formulas. From an algebraic perspective, these possibilities arise from proper filters in the Lindenbaum algebra for $L$. We will define the canonical frame for $L$ in this algebraic way, based on the notions of the filter frame $A_\mathbb{A}$ and general filter frame $A_\kappa$ of a BAO from Definition 5.30. The more syntactic definition is then straightforward to work out.

**Definition 7.15** (Canonical Frames, Models, Formulas, and Logics). Given a normal modal logic $L$, where $\mathbb{A}^L$ is the Lindenbaum algebra for $L$, and $M^L = (\mathbb{A}^L, \theta)$ is the algebraic model such that for all $p \in \Phi$, $(p)_L = \theta(p)$ (see Definition A.10):

1. the canonical (general) possibility frame for $L$ is the frame $G^L = (\mathbb{A}^L_G)_k$;
2. the canonical full possibility frame for $L$ is the frame $\mathcal{F}^L = (\mathbb{A}^L_F)_k$;
3. the canonical possibility model for $L$ is the model $M^L = (M^L)_k$.

A formula $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$ is filter-canonical iff for any normal modal logic $L \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $\vdash_L \varphi$ implies $\mathcal{F}^L \vDash \varphi$.

A normal modal logic $L$ is filter-canonical iff it is sound with respect to $\mathcal{F}^L$.\footnote{In the context of Kripke semantics, the term ‘canonical’ has been used to mean several things when applied to a normal modal logic $L$ (with a countably infinite set of propositional variables): (a) that $L$ is sound with respect to its canonical Kripke frame [Goldblatt, 1976b]; (b) that for any infinite cardinal $\kappa$, $L$ is sound with respect to the canonical Kripke frame for $L_\kappa$, the conservative extension of $L$ to the modal language with $\kappa$-many propositional variables [Fine, 1975b]; and (c) that if $L$ is sound with respect to a descriptive frame, then $L$ is sound with respect to the associated Kripke frame [van Benthem, 1975b] (called ‘$d$-persistent’ in Goldblatt 1974). While (b) and (c) are equivalent [Sambin and Vaccaro, 1988, p. 294], and (b)/(c) obviously implies (a), it is unknown whether (a) implies (b)/(c). Note that our notion of filter-canonical is analogous to (a).}

From Theorem 5.34 and the fact that every normal modal logic is sound and complete with respect to its Lindenbaum algebra (Theorem A.11), we have the following result for $G^L$.\hfill $\square$
Corollary 7.16 (General Soundness and Completeness). For any normal modal logic \( L \), \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to its canonical (general) possibility frame \( G^L \), and \( L \) is complete with respect to its canonical full possibility frame \( F^L \).

Recall that a general filter frame such as \( G^L \) is filter-descriptive (Proposition 5.40), so Corollary 7.16 is another expression of general soundness and completeness with respect to filter-descriptive possibility frames.

Of course, we cannot have such a general soundness result for the canonical full possibility frame \( F^L \)—not every normal modal logic is filter-canonical—because we know from Corollary 5.8 that full possibility frames are no more general than \( CV \)-BAOs. There are several routes to proving that certain logics are filter-canonical. First, if we assume the ultrafilter axiom, then the logic of \( F^L \) is exactly the logic of the canonical Kripke frame for \( L \), or equivalently, the ultrafilter frame of \( L^\perp \). For these frames have the same logics as their underlying BAOs (Theorem 5.6.6), and as we observed in §5.6, the underlying BAOs of the filter and ultrafilter frames are isomorphic under the assumption of the ultrafilter axiom. Thus, assuming that axiom, a logic is filter-canonical iff it is canonical in the traditional sense of Kripke semantics.

A second, more direct route to proving filter-canonicity, which does not require the ultrafilter axiom, takes advantage of correspondence results for possibility semantics. As an example, we will prove that any normal modal logic obtained from \( K \) by the addition of Lemmon-Scott axioms as in §6.3 is filter-canonical.

Lemma 7.17 (Filter Frames and Lemmon-Scott Correspondence). For any BAO \( A \) and sequences \( \alpha, \beta, \delta, \) and \( \gamma \) of indices from \( I \), if for all \( x \in A, \Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\beta} x \leq \Box_{\delta} \Box_{\gamma} x \), then \( A_{\alpha} \) and \( A_{\delta} \) satisfy:

\[
\forall X \forall Y (X R_\delta Y \Rightarrow \exists X' \subseteq X \forall Z (X' R_\alpha Z \Rightarrow \exists U (Y R_\gamma U \land Z R_\beta U))).
\]

Proof. It is helpful to reformulate the assumption as: \( \Box_{\beta} \Box_{\delta} x \leq \Box_{\alpha} \Box_{\gamma} x \). Suppose \( X R_\delta Y \), so by Definition 5.30.3, we have that for all \( x \in A, \Box_{\beta} x \in X \) implies \( x \in Y \). Where

\[
X' = X \cup \{ \Box_{\beta} y \mid y \in Y \},
\]

by the same form of argument as in the proof of Theorem 5.32.1, \( X' = [X'] \) is a proper filter, and \( X' \supseteq X \) gives us \( X' \subseteq X \). Now consider a proper filter \( Z \) such that \( X' R_\alpha Z \). Where

\[
U = \{ y \mid \Box_{\gamma} y \in Y \} \cup \{ z \mid \Box_{\beta} z \in Z \},
\]

suppose for reductio that \( U \) is not a proper filter, i.e., \( \bot \in [U] \). Then by (38) and Fact 5.31, there are \( \Box_{\gamma} y_1, \ldots, \Box_{\gamma} y_\ell \in Y \) and \( \Box_{\beta} z_1, \ldots, \Box_{\beta} z_j \in Z \) such that

\[
y_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge y_\ell \wedge z_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge z_j \leq \bot,
\]

which implies

\[
\Box_{\gamma} y_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge \Box_{\gamma} y_\ell \leq \Box_{\gamma} \neg (z_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge z_j)
\]

by the properties of \( \Box_{\gamma} \). Then since \( Y \) is a filter, \( \Box_{\gamma} y_1, \ldots, \Box_{\gamma} y_\ell \in Y \) implies \( \Box_{\gamma} y_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge \Box_{\gamma} y_\ell \in Y \) and hence \( \Box_{\gamma} \neg (z_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge z_j) \in Y \) by (39). It follows by (37) that \( \Box_{\beta} \Box_{\gamma} \neg (z_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge z_j) \in X' \), which with our initial assumption and the fact that \( X' \) is a filter implies \( \Box_{\beta} \Box_{\gamma} \neg (z_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge z_j) \in X' \). Then since \( X' R_\alpha Z \), we have \( \Box_{\beta} \neg (z_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge z_j) \in Z \), which with the properties of \( \Box_{\beta} \) and \( \Box_{\gamma} \) contradicts the fact from above that \( \Box_{\beta} z_1, \ldots, \Box_{\beta} z_j \in Z \). Thus, \( U = [U] \) is a proper filter, and by (38), \( Y R_\gamma U \) and \( Z R_\beta U \).

\[\square\]
From Lemma 7.17, we immediately obtain the following.

**Corollary 7.18** (Lemmon-Scott Filter-Canonicity). For any normal modal logic $L$ and sequences $\alpha, \beta, \delta,$ and $\gamma$ of indices from $I$, if $\vdash_L \lozenge_\alpha \Box_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \lozenge_\gamma p$, then the canonical full possibility frame $\mathcal{F}^L$ satisfies the first-order correspondent of $\lozenge_\alpha \Box_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \lozenge_\gamma p$ as in Proposition 6.23, so $\mathcal{F}^L \models \lozenge_\alpha \Box_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \lozenge_\gamma p$.

Together with Theorem 5.32, Corollary 7.18 gives us the following general completeness result.

**Theorem 7.19** (Lemmon-Scott Soundness and Completeness for $\mathcal{F}^L$). Where $L$ is the least normal modal logic extending $K$ with a set of axioms of the Lemmon-Scott form $\lozenge_\alpha \Box_\beta p \rightarrow \Box_\delta \lozenge_\gamma p$, $L$ is sound and complete with respect to its canonical full possibility frame $\mathcal{F}^L$.

A third route to proving filter-canonicity, which also does not require the ultrafilter axiom, uses Theorem 5.46. It follows from Theorem 5.46 that $(\mathcal{F}^L)^b = (((A^L)^b)^b)$ is a constructive canonical extension of the Lindenbaum algebra $A^L$ of $L$. Conradie and Palmigiano [2016] show in a constructive meta-theory that all inductive formulas, which include Sahlqvist formulas as a special case, are preserved under constructive canonical extensions (cf. Ghilardi and Meloni 1997). Thus, if $A^L$ validates some inductive formulas, then so does $(\mathcal{F}^L)^b$ and hence $\mathcal{F}^L$, which yields the following.

**Theorem 7.20** (Inductive Filter-Canonicity). All inductive formulas are filter-canonical. Hence every normal modal logic $L$ axiomatized by inductive formulas is sound and complete with respect to its canonical full possibility frame $\mathcal{F}^L$.

The results of this section, §7.3, and §7.1 concerning completeness with respect to full possibility frames lead to questions about the “persistence” of modal formulas (see, e.g., Blackburn et al. 2001, §5.6), not in the sense of persistence that we have used since Remark §2.13, but in the following sense: a formula $\varphi$ is persistent with respect to a class $F$ of possibility frames that have associated full frames as in Definition 2.25 iff whenever $\varphi$ is valid over a frame $F \in F$, then $\varphi$ is also valid over the associated full frame $(F^\#)\#$. For example, we can consider persistence of $\varphi$ with respect to filter-descriptive possibility frames as in §5.5, which implies that $\varphi$ is filter-canonical as in Definition 7.15, since $\mathcal{G}^L$ is filter-descriptive and its associated full frame $(G^L)^\# \#$ is $\mathcal{F}^L$. Or we can consider persistence with respect to principal possibility frames, which with Proposition 5.45 and our duality theory implies that $\varphi$ is preserved under Monk completions of $\mathcal{V}$-BAOs. We leave it to future work to study various notions of persistence in the context of possibility semantics.

**8 Conclusion**

It is remarkable that as a semantics for modal logic originally motivated mainly on philosophical and conceptual grounds [Humberstone, 1981], possibility semantics also turns out to be natural from a mathematical perspective, e.g., with its topological and set-theoretical connections, and so fruitful for pure modal logic, e.g., with its new categorical connections with classes of modal algebras. Something similar could be argued for standard possible world semantics, of which possibility semantics is a generalization. So it is remarkable that the confluence of the philosophical-conceptual and the mathematical continues.

We will conclude our study of possibility semantics in this paper by looking to the past and present of related work in §8.1 and then looking to the future of open problems in §8.2.
8.1 Related Work

Below we organize our pointers to related work by topic, indicated by the italicized headings. We will not repeat here discussion of the related work in modal logic and set theory to which we have already referred.

Possibility Semantics for Non-modal Logic. An early source of what is essentially possibility semantics for classical first-order logic is Fine 1975a. Here we focus on the propositional version of Fine’s semantics, for comparison with our framework. One can think of Fine’s propositional models as tuples $M = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, V \rangle$ where $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ is a poset and $V: \Phi \times S \to \{0, 1\}$ is a partial function satisfying the following conditions (see Fine 1975a, p. 272 and pp. 278-9):

- **stability:** if $V(p, x)$ is defined and $x' \sqsubseteq x$, then $V(p, x')$ is defined and $V(p, x') = V(p, x)$;
- **resolution:** if $V(p, x)$ is undefined, then there are $y \sqsubseteq x$ and $z \sqsubseteq x$ such that $V(p, y) = 1$ and $V(p, z) = 0$.

Note that stability is the analogue of our persistence, and resolution is the analogue of our refinability.

Fine (p. 279) defines truth and falsity relations $\models$ and $\not\models$ as follows:

- $M, x \models p$ iff $V(p, x) = 1$;
- $M, x \not\models p$ iff $V(p, x) = 0$;
- $M, x \models \neg \varphi$ iff $M, x \not\models \varphi$;
- $M, x \models \varphi \land \psi$ iff $M, x \models \varphi$ and $M, x \models \psi$;
- $M, x \not\models \varphi \land \psi$ iff $\forall x' \sqsubseteq x$ $\exists x'' \sqsubseteq x'$: $M, x'' \models \varphi$ or $M, x'' \not\models \psi$.

The connectives $\lor$ and $\rightarrow$ are defined classically in terms of $\neg$ and $\land$.

It is easy to see from the falsity clause for $\varphi \land \psi$, which matches our forcing clause for $\neg \varphi \lor \neg \psi$ (recall Fact 2.4), that this setup is equivalent to possibility semantics for propositional logic. Let us say that a propositional possibility model is a tuple $M = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \pi \rangle$ where $\pi: \Phi \to \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)$. Recall from §2.2 that RO($S, \sqsubseteq$) is the set of all $X \subseteq S$ that satisfy persistence and refinability, or equivalently, that are regular open sets in the downset topology on $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$. We can make the claimed equivalence precise as in Fact 8.1, the proof of which is straightforward and left as an exercise.

Fact 8.1 (Equivalence of Fine’s Semantics and Possibility Semantics). Given any Fine model $M = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, V \rangle$, define $M^p = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \pi_V \rangle$ by $\pi_V(p) = \{ x \in S \mid V(p, x) = 1 \}$. Then:

1. $M^p$ is a propositional possibility model;
2. for any $x \in S$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, \emptyset)$, $M, x \models \varphi$ iff $M^p, x \models \varphi$,

where $\models$ is our forcing relation from Definition 2.3.

Conversely, given any propositional possibility model $M = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \pi \rangle$, define $M^f = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, V_\pi \rangle$ by: $V_\pi(p, x) = 1$ if $x \in \pi(p)$; $V_\pi(p, x) = 0$ if $\forall x' \sqsubseteq x$ $x' \not\in \pi(p)$; and otherwise $V_\pi(p, x)$ is undefined. Then:

3. $M^f$ is a Fine model;
4. for any $x \in S$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, \emptyset)$, $M, x \models \varphi$ iff $M^f, x \models \varphi$.

In addition to the conditions on Fine models given above, Fine proposes that every element in the poset $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ should be refined by an endpoint, as in our Definition 4.13 for atomic frames (see his condition of
completeability on p. 272). However, he also observes (p. 280) on the basis of a Cohen-style argument as in our Lemma 2.14 that the assumption about endpoints is not necessary to obtain classical logic.

Another source of possibility semantics for classical first-order logic is van Benthem 1981. Starting with Kripke models for intuitionistic first-order logic and then imposing the same kind of refinability condition on valuations as in this paper (but there called cofinality—recall footnote 11), van Benthem observes that one obtains a semantics for classical first-order logic by retaining the intuitionistic semantic clauses for ¬, →, ∧, and ∀ and defining \((φ ∨ ψ)\) as \((¬φ ∧ ¬ψ)\) and \(∃φ\) as \(¬∀¬\). Van Benthem calls this ‘possible world semantics’ for classical logic, but we prefer ‘possibility semantics’ for reasons that should now be clear. The main model-theoretic result of van Benthem’s paper is a characterization of the classes of first-order possibility structures that are definable by a set of first-order sentences, viz., those classes that are closed under formation of generated submodels, disjoint unions, zig-zag images, filter products and filter bases.

Van Benthem [1981, 1986, 1988] also observes that the universe of all classically consistent sets of formulas, ordered by inclusion, is a canonical first-order possibility model. (van Benthem 1981 considers taking only the finitely axiomatized consistent sets.) As he remarks: ‘There is something inelegant to an ordinary Henkin argument. One has a consistent set of sentences \(\{\}\), the finitely axiomatized consistent sets.) As he remarks: ‘There is something inelegant to an ordinary Henkin argument. One has a consistent set of sentences \(\{\}\), the finitely axiomatized consistent sets.) As he remarks: ‘There is something inelegant to an ordinary Henkin argument. One has a consistent set \(\{\}\) such that for all \(\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\emptyset, \emptyset)\), \(v(\varphi) = 0\). Given a set \(V\) of valuations for \(\mathcal{L}(\emptyset, \emptyset)\), define \(M_V = (V, \sqsubseteq_V, π_V)\) by:

- \(\sqsubseteq_V\) is the binary relation on \(V\) such that \(v' \sqsubseteq_V v\) iff for all \(\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\emptyset, \emptyset)\), if \(v(\varphi) = 1\), then \(v'(\varphi) = 1\);
- \(π_V : \Phi \rightarrow \varphi(V)\) is such that \(π_V(p) = \{v \in V \mid v(p) = 1\}\).

Given a set \(V\) of valuations for \(\mathcal{L}(\emptyset, \emptyset)\), say that \(\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\emptyset, \emptyset)\) is \(V\)-valid iff for all \(v \in V\), \(v(\varphi) = 1\); and say that a natural deduction rule (an introduction or elimination rule for \(\bot, ¬, ∧, ∨, →\), or \(↔\)) preserves \(V\)-validity iff whenever the premises of the rule are all \(V\)-valid, the conclusion of the rule is also \(V\)-valid.

**Theorem 8.2** (Garson 2013, §8.8). For any set \(V\) of valuations for \(\mathcal{L}(\emptyset, \emptyset)\), the following are equivalent:

1. the natural deduction rules for classical propositional logic preserve \(V\)-validity;
2. \(M_V = (V, \sqsubseteq_V, π_V)\) is a propositional possibility model such that for all \(v \in V\), \(v(\varphi) = 1\) iff \(M_V, v \vdash \varphi\).

Thus, one can “read off” propositional possibility semantics just from the assumption that the natural deduction rules for classical propositional logic preserve validity. As Garson [2013, §4.4] shows, the same cannot be said for classical truth-table semantics. (For assumptions about the connection between natural deduction and propositional semantics sufficient to fix the classical truth tables, see Bonnay and Westerståhl 2015.)

**Beth Semantics for Intuitionistic and Classical Logic, Closure Operators on Heyting Algebras, and Closure Frames for Substructural Logics.** As shown in §2, possibility semantics for classical (modal) logic is closely
related to semantics for intuitionistic (modal) logic. However, the treatments of intuitionistic and classical logic using partial-state frames in §2 were not as unified as they could be, due to the handling of disjunction on the intuitionistic side. Recall that we did not include disjunction as a primitive symbol of the classical language (Definition 1.1). Instead, we defined \( \varphi \lor \psi \) as an abbreviation in terms of \( \neg \) and \( \land \). Of course, for the (full) intuitionistic language we need a primitive disjunction symbol, for which we used \( \lor \) (Definition 1.3). The disunity arose because we used the forcing clause for \( \lor \) from intuitionistic Kripke semantics (Example 2.7), so \( \lor \) and \( \otimes \) had very different semantics:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\( M, x \models \varphi \lor \psi \) if & \forall x' \in x \exists x'' \in x': M, x'' \models \varphi \) or \( M, x'' \models \psi \);} \\
\text{\( M, x \models \varphi \otimes \psi \) if & \( M, x \models \varphi \) or \( M, x \models \psi \).}
\end{align*}
\]

In addition, this clause for \( \otimes \) requires that the set \( P \) of admissible sets in a frame be closed under unions—in order for the logic of the frame to be closed under uniform substitution—which clashes with the requirement on full possibility frames that \( P \) be the set of all regular open sets, which need not be closed under unions.

For a more unified treatment, we can move from Kripke semantics for intuitionistic logic to Beth semantics [Beth, 1956]. Dragalin [1988, p. 72ff] presents a version of Beth semantics in which the difference between intuitionistic and classical logic emerges at the level of different frame classes, rather than different forcing clauses.\(^{41}\) We will present a modified version of Dragalin’s frames, which he calls Beth-Kripke frames. (One of the differences will be that we include a set \( P \) of admissible propositions.) For the case of propositional logic, instead of starting with partial-state frames \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, P \rangle \) as in Definition 2.1, we start with richer frames \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, P, Q \rangle \) where \( F = \langle S, \subseteq, P \rangle \) is a partial-state frame as before and \( Q \) is a function assigning to each state \( s \in S \) a set \( Q(s) \subseteq \wp(S) \). An \( X \in Q(s) \) is called a path starting from \( s \), so \( Q(s) \) is the set of all paths starting from \( s \). For \( X, X' \subseteq S \), define \( X' \sqsubset X \) if \( \forall x \in X \exists x' \in X': x' \subseteq x \). Then the function \( Q \) is required to satisfy at least the following natural conditions (for simplicity, we state the stronger version of Dragalin’s second condition): first, \( \emptyset \notin Q(s) \); second, \( X \in Q(s) \) implies \( X \subseteq \downarrow s \); third, \( s' \sqsubset s \) implies that \( \forall X' \in Q(s') \exists X \in Q(s) \) such that \( X' \sqsubset X \); fourth, \( s' \in X \in Q(s) \) implies \( \exists X' \in Q(s') \) such that \( X \sqsubset X' \); and finally, \( Q(s) \neq \emptyset \) (for Dragalin’s “normal” frames). As for \( P \), it is required to be closed not only under intersection and the operation \( \sqcup \) defined by \( X \sqcup Y = \{ s \in S \mid \forall s' \subseteq s: s' \in X \Rightarrow s' \in Y \} \in P \) as in Definition 2.1, but also under the operation \( + \) defined by \( X + Y = \{ s \in S \mid \forall Z \in Q(s) \exists z \in Z: z \in X \text{ or } z \in Y \} \). In other words, \( s \) is in \( X + Y \) iff every path starting from \( s \) hits a state in \( X \) or in \( Y \). In addition, to obtain at least intuitionistic logic, we require that every \( X \in P \) satisfies persistence and

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\( \text{\( barring \)} \) - & if \( \forall Z \in Q(x) \exists z \in Z: z \in X \), then \( x \in X \).}
\end{align*}
\]

In other words, if every path starting from \( x \) hits a state in \( X \), then \( x \in X \). Naturally, we define a full frame as one in which \( P \) is the set of all \( X \subseteq S \) satisfying persistence and barring.

For the semantics, we keep the forcing clauses for \( p, \neg, \land, \) and \( \rightarrow \) as in Definition 2.3, throw away \( \otimes \), and add a new forcing clause for a new primitive disjunction \( \lor \):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{\( M, x \models \varphi \lor \psi \) if & \forall Z \in Q(x) \exists z \in Z: M, z \models \varphi \) or \( M, z \models \psi \),}
\end{align*}
\]

so \( [\varphi \lor \psi]^M = [\varphi]^M + [\psi]^M \) for the \( + \) operation defined above. It is with this treatment of disjunction that we can achieve a more unified treatment of intuitionistic and classical logic.

Intuitionistic propositional logic is sound and complete with respect to the class of all frames \( F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, P, Q \rangle \) satisfying the conditions above, according to the forcing relation just described. For soundness, one can check that the operations \( \land, \lor, \) and \( + \) give rise to a Heyting algebra on \( P \). For completeness, in

\(^{41}\) Thanks to Guram Bezhanishvili for pointing out connections between possibility semantics and Dragalin’s version of Beth semantics, as well as connections with nuclei on Heyting algebras discussed below.
the case where \( Q(s) = \{ s \} \) for each \( s \in S \), the requirements on \( Q \) hold and the forcing clause for \( \forall \) becomes the same as for \( \forall \) in Kripke semantics, so Kripke completeness implies Beth completeness.

Now an observation of Dragalin (p. 74, Ex. 3) shows that we can use the same forcing relation and obtain soundness and completeness for classical propositional logic as well. To do so, we do not consider all frames \( \mathcal{F} = (S, \sqsubseteq, P, Q) \) as above, but only those in which for every \( x \in S \), \( Q(x) = \{ \downarrow y \mid y \sqsubseteq x \} \), i.e., the paths starting from \( x \) are the principal downsets of refinements of \( x \). Observe that given this definition of \( Q \), the \textit{barring} condition above is equivalent to our \textit{refinability} condition, which in contrapositive form says that if \( \forall x' \sqsubseteq x \exists y'' \sqsubseteq x' x'' \in X \), then \( x \in X \). Also observe that given this definition of \( Q \), the forcing clause for \( \forall \) becomes equivalent to the forcing clause for our classical \( \forall \) above. From these observations it is a short step to the soundness and completeness of classical propositional logic. Furthermore, one can extend this analysis to intuitionistic and classical \textit{modal} logic based on Beth-style semantics.

There is a deeper perspective on this connection between Beth semantics and possibility semantics, explored in Bezhanishvili and Holliday Forthcoming. Given a frame \( \mathcal{F} = (S, \sqsubseteq, P, Q) \) as above, consider the Heyting algebra \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) of all downsets in \( (S, \sqsubseteq) \). Then consider the function \( j \) on \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) such that for any downset \( O \), \( j(O) = \{ x \in S \mid \forall z \in Q(x) \exists z \in Z : z \in O \} \). Dragalin shows (pp. 72-3, using ‘\( D \)’ instead of ‘\( j \)’) that this \( j \) is a \textit{closure operator} on \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) in the sense of lattice theory [Davey and Priestley, 2002, §7.1], i.e., where \( \leq \) is the natural order on the algebra, we have that for all elements \( a \) and \( b \) of the algebra: \( a \leq b \) implies \( j(a) \leq j(b) \); \( a \leq j(a) \); and \( j(j(a)) = j(a) \). In fact, Dragalin shows that \( j \) is a \textit{nucleus} on the Heyting algebra in the sense of topos theory, i.e., a closure operator that also satisfies \( j(a) \land j(b) \leq j(a \land b) \). There are two other important facts about the \( j \) just defined using \( Q \). First, together \textit{persistence} and \textit{barring} above imply that the sets \( X \in P \) are \textit{fixed points} of \( j \) in \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \), i.e., \( j(X) = X \); and if the frame is full, then \( P \) is the set of all fixed point of \( j \). Second, the definition \( Q(x) = \{ \downarrow y \mid y \sqsubseteq x \} \) for classical frames implies that \( j \) is the operation of \textit{double negation}. The first fact is important because for any Heyting algebra (resp. complete Heyting algebra) \( \mathbb{H} \) and closure operator \( j \), one obtains a new Heyting algebra (resp. complete Heyting algebra) \( \mathbb{H}_j \) by taking the fixed points of \( j \) in \( \mathbb{H} \), with the same meet and implication as in \( \mathbb{H} \), but with a new join defined by \( A + B = j(A \cup B) \), where \( \cup \) is the join in \( \mathbb{H} \). This is in essence what Beth semantics does. If \( P \) is full, then \( P \) together with \( \cap, \sqsubseteq \), and \( + \) form the complete Heyting algebra \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \).

Even if \( P \) is not full, our requirement that \( P \) be closed under \( \cap, \sqsubseteq \), and \( + \) guarantees that \( P \) gives rise to a subalgebra of \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \) and therefore a Heyting algebra. Finally, the second fact is important because if we form \( \mathbb{H}_j \) with \( j \) as double negation, then \( \mathbb{H}_j \) is a Boolean algebra, which is complete if \( \mathbb{H} \) is complete. We thereby obtain exactly the \textit{regular open algebra} from Remark 2.15 (which Dragalin calls the \textit{MacNeille algebra}). As we have seen, this is what possibility semantics does.

The foregoing points lead to the idea of replacing \( P \) and \( Q \) in full frames \( \mathcal{F} = (S, \sqsubseteq, P, Q) \) by a nucleus \( j \) on \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \), or rather by something (such as a special binary relation or subframe) that determines a nucleus \( j \) on \( \mathbb{H}(S, \sqsubseteq) \), of which \( j \) as double negation is but one example. Frames of this kind are studied in Goldblatt 1981, Fairtlough and Mendler 1997, and Bezhanishvili and Holliday Forthcoming.

Dragalin’s approach in terms of closure operators also appears in the semantics for substructural logics, including substructural modal logics, using \textit{closure frames} in Restall 2000, §12.2. In the non-modal case, a (full) closure frame is a tuple \( \mathcal{F} = (S, \sqsubseteq, \Gamma) \) where \( (S, \sqsubseteq) \) is a poset and \( \Gamma : \wp(S) \to \wp(S) \) is a closure operator as above, but on the full powerset algebra rather than just the Heyting algebra of downsets. Otherwise the idea is as above: propositional variables must be interpreted as fixed points of \( \Gamma \), and the semantic clause for disjunction is \( \mathcal{M}, x \models \varphi \lor \psi \) iff \( x \in \Gamma(\}[\varphi]^{\mathcal{M}} \cup \}[\psi]^{\mathcal{M}} \). (There is also a more general semantics for substructural negation.) Possibility semantics emerges in the case where \( \Gamma(X) = \text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow X)) \) as in Fact 2.17.2.
Finally, the closure operator approach also appears in the truth-ground semantics for intuitionistic propositional logic in Rumfitt 2012, 2015. Rumfitt considers lower semilattices $(S, \sqsubseteq)$ with a bottom element and picks a specific closure operator $j$ on $\wp(S)$, namely the operator $(\cdot)^{ul}$ used for the MacNeille completion in §5.6. As above, admissible propositions are taken to be the fixed points of $j$, and since the fixed points of $(\cdot)^{ul}$ are downsets, they are elements of the Heyting algebra $\text{HH}(S, \sqsubseteq)$. Since $(S, \sqsubseteq)$ is a lower semilattice, the relative pseudocomplement in $\text{HH}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ may be defined by $X \to Y = \{ s \in S \mid \forall x \in X : s \land x \in Y \}$, which is how Rumfitt defines implication. As above, the conjunction of propositions is their intersection and the disjunction is the closure of their union. Thus, also as above, from the complete Heyting algebra $(\text{HH}(S, \sqsubseteq))$ we obtain the complete Heyting algebra $\text{HH}(S, \sqsubseteq)$, Possibility semantics would instead take $j$ to be $\text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow(\cdot)))$ with respect to the poset obtained from the bounded lower semilattice by deleting $\bot$.

Since both Humberstone [1981] and Rumfitt [2012, 2015] speak of ‘possibilities’, one could reasonably use the term ‘possibility semantics’ for the general approach using some closure operator or other, reserving the term ‘classical possibility semantics’ for the specific choice of $j$ as $\text{int}(\text{cl}(\downarrow(\cdot)))$.

### Possibility Semantics for Modal Logic

The origin of possibility semantics for propositional modal logic is Humberstone 1981. The important differences between Humberstone’s frames and our possibility frames are discussed in §2.3 and Appendix §B.1. There is also a more superficial difference, namely that Humberstone’s [1981] valuations were partial functions $V : \Phi \times S \to \{0, 1\}$ satisfying the condition of stability and resolution from above, but which Humberstone called ‘persistence’ and ‘refinability’. Since the different approaches to valuations in the literature may be confusing, we provide the following guide.

#### Remark 8.3 (Three Approaches to Valuations in Possibility Semantics)

There are three approaches to valuation functions in the literature on possibility semantics:

1. The approach in, e.g., Humberstone 1981 and Holliday 2014: a valuation is a partial function $V : \Phi \times S \to \{0, 1\}$ satisfying stability and resolution above (but called ‘persistence’ and ‘refinability’ in the cited papers); $V(p, x) = 1$ means that $x$ determines that $p$ is true; $V(p, x) = 0$ means that $x$ determines that $p$ is false; $V(p, x)$ being undefined means that $x$ does not determine the truth or falsity of $p$.

2. The approach in, e.g., Garson 2013 (§8.8): a valuation is a total function $u : \Phi \times S \to \{0, 1\}$ such that $\{ x \in S \mid u(p, x) = 1 \}$ satisfies persistence and refinability in the sense of this paper; $u(p, x) = 1$ means that $x$ determines that $p$ is true; $u(p, x) = 0$ means that $x$ does not determine that $p$ is true, i.e., either $x$ determines that $p$ is false or $x$ does not determine the truth or falsity of $p$—which explains why this approach, unlike approach 1, does not require that if $u(p, x) = 0$ and $x' \sqsubseteq x$, then $x' \in u(p, x) = 0$.

3. The approach in, e.g., Humberstone 2011 (§6.44) and the present paper: a valuation is a total function $\pi : \Phi \to \wp(S)$ such that $\pi(p)$ satisfies persistence and refinability; $x \in \pi(p)$ means that $x$ determines that $p$ is true; $x \not\in \pi(p)$ means that $x$ does not determine that $p$ is true, i.e., that either $x$ determines that $p$ is false or $x$ does not determine the truth or falsity of $p$.

The three approaches are all mathematically equivalent. We have already seen in Fact 8.1 how to go back and forth between valuations as in approaches 1 and 3, and it is obvious how to go back and forth between valuations as in approaches 2 and 3. An advantage of approach 3 is that we can conveniently restate the constraint on admissible valuations as the constraint that $\pi : \Phi \to \text{RO}(S, \sqsubseteq)$ as in §2.2.

---

Rumfitt goes up rather than down for refinements (writing ‘•’ for join), but we maintain our convention from Remark 2.2. 

Cf. Kripke [1965, 98] on his intuitionistic semantics: “if $\phi(A, H) = T$ we can say that $A$ has been verified at the point $H$ ...; if $\phi(A, H) = F$, then $A$ has not been verified at $H$. Notice, then, that $T$ and $F$ do not denote intuitionistic truth and falsity; if $\phi(A, H) = T$, then $A$ has been verified to be true at the time $H$; but $\phi(A, H) = F$ does not mean that $A$ has been proved false at $H$. It simply is not (yet) proved at $H$, but may be established later.”

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A direct follow-up to Humberstone 1981 is Holliday 2014, which focuses on: functional possibility semantics as in §4.4; the construction of atomless canonical possibility models in which each possibility is given by a single finite formula (cf. Appendix §B.1); and the closely related issue of internal adjointness mentioned in §7.2. The results of §7.3 here can be seen as generalizing the results on atomless models in Holliday 2014.

The idea of giving a semantic clause for $\square_i$ of the form $\mathcal{M}, X \models \square_i \varphi$ iff $\mathcal{M}, f_i(X) \models \varphi$ appears earlier in Fine’s [1974a, 359] discussion of relevance logic, in Humberstone 1988 (p. 418), and in Humberstone 2011 [p. 899]. The idea also appears in Punčochář 2014, which presents a semantics for modal logic (using “regular information models”) that is essentially equivalent to possibility semantics over functional and principal possibility models as in §4.6. Although Punčochář uses an apparently different semantic clause for disjunction, namely the split disjunction discussed below, we show in Fact 8.4 below that split disjunction is equivalent to our $\forall \exists$ forcing clause for disjunction over principal possibility models.

A more indirect follow-up to Humberstone 1981 is Garson 2013, Ch. 16, which discusses the extent to which something like Theorem 8.2 above extends to quantified modal logic. Explaining Garson’s results for modal logic is beyond the scope of this overview, so we refer the reader to Garson 2013.

Finally, we will briefly summarize the recent work on possibility semantics for modal logic in van Benthem et al. 2015 and Harrison-Trainor 2016a,b. The starting point of van Benthem et al. 2015 is the following bimodal perspective on possibility semantics, which parallels previous bimodal perspectives on intuitionistic modal semantics [Wolter and Zakharyaschev, 1999]. A possibility frame $\mathcal{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, R, P \rangle$ for a unimodal language gives rise to a frame $\langle S, \subseteq, R \rangle$ for a bimodal language with modalities $[\square]$ and $[R]$ with the following semantics: $\mathcal{M}, x \models [\square] \varphi$ iff for all $x' \subseteq x$, $\mathcal{M}, x' \models \varphi$; $\mathcal{M}, x \models [R] \varphi$ iff for all $y \in R(x)$, $\mathcal{M}, y \models \varphi$; and $\models$ treats the Boolean connectives as in ordinary possible world semantics. This bimodal perspective lends light on both of our titular topics: possibility frames and possibility forcing. First, the frame conditions relating $\subseteq$ and $R$ in §2.3 (recall Figure 13) can be analyzed in terms of corresponding—in the precise sense of correspondence theory—bimodal interaction axioms relating $[\square]$ and $[R]$. Metatheoretic facts about the relations between frame conditions as in §2.3 can then be established by formal derivations in bimodal logic, as shown by van Benthem et al. Second, the possibility forcing relation $\models$ and the requirement that admissible propositions be regular open sets suggests a translation of the unimodal language with $\square$ into the bimodal language with $[\square]$ and $[R]$. As shown by van Benthem et al., this translation embeds unimodal logics into a range of bimodal logics, including dynamic topological logics as in Kremer and Mints 2005.

The topic of Harrison-Trainor 2016a is possibility semantics for quantified modal logic. In addition to working out the basic setup of possibility semantics for quantified modal logic, Harrison-Trainor investigates the extent to which it is possible to do in the quantified modal case what Humberstone 1981 (p. 326) suggests and Holliday 2014 does in the propositional modal case: prove the completeness of standard modal logics using a simple canonical possibility model construction in which each possibility is identified with a finite set of formulas (cf. §B.1). The construction in Holliday 2014 relies on the property of internal adjointness of certain propositional modal logics, discussed in §7.2.\(^\text{44}\) Harrison-Trainor shows that the quantified versions of those propositional modal logics lose the property of internal adjointness, as well as the weaker finite existence lemma from §7.2. Thus, the direct analogue of the construction from Holliday 2014 does not work in these quantified modal cases. However, Harrison-Trainor also observes that one can prove completeness with a canonical possibility model construction in which each possibility is identified with a computable set of formulas, which retains the spirit of the previous completeness results using finitary possibilities.

\(^{44}\)Note that the proof of Theorem 7.13 in §7.3 shows how to obtain completeness of a logic $\mathbf{L}$ with respect to an atomless and functional full possibility frame without assuming that $\mathbf{L}$ itself has internal adjointness, by taking a detour through the minimal tense extension of $\mathbf{L}$, which always has internal adjointness.
As reflected in the title of the present paper, our focus has been on possibility frames—duality, definability, and completeness for frames. This parallels the state of possible world semantics in its early decades, which focused on the theory of world frames (see, e.g., van Benthem 1983). The notion of validity over a class of frames always gives rise to a normal modal logic, whereas validity over a class of models does not, since the set of formulas valid over a class of models may fail to be closed under Uniform Substitution. This is one reason for the focus on frames (cf. Hughes and Cresswell 1996, p. 159). But just as the theory of possible world semantics expanded to include the study of models per se (see, e.g., Blackburn et al. 2001), we can expand the theory of possibility semantics in this direction. Harrison-Trainor 2016b adopts the model perspective and investigates how possibility models may be turned into and arise from Kripke models that validate the same formulas. (Recall from §2.5 that there can be no such transformation in general from full possibility frames to Kripke frames.) Harrison-Trainor shows how the method of generic chains used for Lemma 2.14 can be extended to turn any countable possibility model for a countable language into a Kripke model—a worldization of the possibility model—that has the same modal theory and bears a natural structural relation to the possibility model.\footnote{A less direct way of turning a possibility model $\mathcal{M} = \langle F, \pi \rangle$ (of any cardinality) based on $F = \langle S, \sqsubseteq, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$ into a Kripke model that has the same modal theory is to first turn $\mathcal{M}$ into an algebraic model $\mathcal{M}^B = \langle F^B, \pi^+ \rangle$ as in Theorem 5.6.5 and then turn $\mathcal{M}^B$ into the Kripke model $\langle \mathcal{M}^B \rangle_+ = \langle (F^B)_+, \pi^+ \rangle$ based on the ultrafilter frame $(F^B)_+$ of $F^B$ as described in §A.3. Whereas this construction builds the worlds of the Kripke model out of ultrafilters in $(P, \subseteq)$, Harrison-Trainor’s construction builds the worlds of the Kripke model out of ultrafilters in $(S, \subseteq)$.}

In addition, Harrison-Trainor gives a general definition of a possibilization of a Kripke model, generalizing the powerset possibilization of §2.1, and shows that if $\mathcal{M}$ is a countable possibility model for a countable language and is separative as in §4.1 and strong as in §2.3, then $\mathcal{M}$ is isomorphic to a possibilization of a worldization of $\mathcal{M}$ (cf. Propositions 4.16 and 4.51). Thus, we can see every such possibility model as arising from a Kripke model via possibilization. Crucially, this construction does not build in that every set of worlds in the Kripke model becomes a possibility in the possibility model. Thus, unlike the views to be discussed below, Harrison-Trainor’s construction does not imply a picture according to which the space $\langle S, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ of possibilities must be isomorphic to the powerset of a set of worlds (minus $\emptyset$) ordered by $\subseteq$.

**Possibilities as Sets of Worlds.** Before Example 2.9, we discussed the view of possibilities as arbitrary sets of worlds, leading to the definition of powerset possibilization. Semantics for classical and intuitionistic propositional logic that evaluate formulas at sets of worlds appear in Cresswell 2004. Semantics for modal logics that evaluate formulas at sets of worlds appear in recent work on inquisitive epistemic logic [Ciardelli and Roelofsen, 2014, Ciardelli, 2014], where sets of worlds are taken to be “information states,” and in recent work on modal dependence logic [Väänänen, 2008, Hella et al., 2014] and modal independence logic [Kontinen et al., 2014], where sets of worlds are called “teams.” We will briefly discuss each of these frameworks.

For team semantics, we will not discuss the dependence and independence formulas that are the main point of modal dependence and independence logic, respectively. We mention only team semantics for the basic propositional modal language. For comparison to possibility semantics, recall from §4.3 that the extended powerset possibilization of a Kripke model $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, V \rangle$ is the extended possibility model $\mathcal{M}^T$ = $\langle \varphi(W), \subseteq, \emptyset, \{ R_i^T \}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle$ where $XR_i^TY$ if $Y \subseteq R_i[X]$ and $\pi(p) = \{ X \subseteq W \mid X \subseteq V(p) \}$. This $\mathcal{M}^T$ is a quasi-functional possibility model in the sense of §4.4, i.e., $R_i^T(X)$ has a maximum element, namely $R_i[X]$, so the modal clause is equivalent to: $\mathcal{M}^T, X \Vdash \Box i \varphi$ if $\mathcal{M}^T, R_i[X] \Vdash \varphi$. Similarly, team semantics evaluates a formula at a set $T$ of worlds from a Kripke model $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, V \rangle$, using the functional clause for the box modality: $\mathcal{M}, T \Vdash \Box i \varphi$ if $\mathcal{M}, R_i[T] \Vdash \varphi$. What we wish to highlight is the clause for disjunction used in team semantics, which is called split disjunction: $\mathcal{M}, T \Vdash \varphi \vee \psi$ if $\exists T_1, T_2 \subseteq W: T = T_1 \cup T_2, \mathcal{M}, T_1 \Vdash \varphi$, and $\mathcal{M}, T_2 \Vdash \psi$. It is easy to check that this is equivalent to our $\forall \exists$ forcing clause for $\vee$ from Fact 2.4 (holding
fixed the other clauses from Definition 2.3) when the space of possibilities/teams is the whole of \( \wp(W) \), as in the extended powerset possibilization; but the clauses can differ over extended possibility models where \( S \) is a proper subset of \( \wp(W) \). For extended possibility models \( \mathcal{M} = \langle S, \subseteq, \bot, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, \pi \rangle \) as in §4.3 where the states in \( S \) are not assumed to be sets of worlds, we may consider the general split disjunction clause: 
\[
\mathcal{M}, X \Vdash \varphi \lor \psi \text{ if and only if } \exists X_1, X_2: X = X_1 \lor X_2, \mathcal{M}, X_1 \Vdash \varphi, \text{ and } \mathcal{M}, X_2 \Vdash \psi.
\]
Here \( X_1 \lor X_2 \) is the least upper bound of \( \{X_1, X_2\} \), if there is one, in the poset \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \). Clearly this clause is not equivalent to our \( \forall \exists \) clause for \( \lor \) over arbitrary possibility frames; but they are equivalent over principal possibility frames as in §4.6.

**Lemma 8.4** (Split Disjunction in Principal Models). For any extended principal possibility model \( \mathcal{M} \), \( X \in \mathcal{M} \), and \( \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \): 
\[
\mathcal{M}, X \Vdash \neg(\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi) \text{ if and only if } \exists X_1, X_2: X = X_1 \lor X_2, \mathcal{M}, X_1 \Vdash \varphi, \text{ and } \mathcal{M}, X_2 \Vdash \psi.
\]

**Proof.** By Fact 4.4 and the fact that the poset \( \langle S, \subseteq \rangle \) in an extended principal \( \mathcal{M} \) is a Boolean lattice (Fact 4.40) with complement \( \neg \), meet \( \land \), and join \( \lor \); \( \mathcal{M}, X \Vdash \neg(\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi) \) if and only if \( X \subseteq \neg(\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi) \) if and only if \( X \subseteq \neg(\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi) \) if and only if \( X \subseteq \neg(\neg \varphi \land \neg \psi) \). Then where \( X_1 = X \land \| \varphi \|^{\mathcal{M}} \) and \( X_2 = X \land \| \psi \|^{\mathcal{M}} \), the right side holds. Conversely, suppose \( X = X_1 \lor X_2, X_1 \subseteq \| \varphi \|^{\mathcal{M}} \), and \( X_2 \subseteq \| \psi \|^{\mathcal{M}} \). Then we have \( X = (X_1 \land \| \varphi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \lor (X_2 \land \| \psi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \), and since \( X_1 \subseteq X \) and \( X_2 \subseteq X \), we have \( (X_1 \land \| \varphi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \lor (X_2 \land \| \psi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \subseteq (X \land \| \varphi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \lor (X \land \| \psi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \subseteq X \). Thus, \( X = (X \land \| \varphi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \lor (X \land \| \psi \|^{\mathcal{M}}) \), which we saw is equivalent to the left side. 

Let us now return to Cresswell 2004. The following observation is close to the main idea of that paper: while split disjunction behaves classically when the underlying poset is a Boolean lattice, it behaves intuitionistically when the underlying poset is such that all elements are join irreducible, i.e., for every \( X, Y, Z \in S \), if \( X = Y \lor Z \), then \( X = Y \) or \( X = Z \). In the join irreducible case, split disjunction requires either \( \mathcal{M}, X \Vdash \varphi \) or \( \mathcal{M}, X \Vdash \psi \). Roughly, Cresswell’s idea is to use the intuitionistic forcing clauses for \( \neg \), \( \land \), and \( \to \), and the split clause for \( \lor \), for both classical and intuitionistic logic, while locating the difference between classical and intuitionistic logic in the assumptions about the underlying poset. (This is not exactly right, since Cresswell only evaluates formulas at nonempty sets of worlds, in which case split disjunction will not behave classically. Instead, he uses the following clause: \( \mathcal{M}, X \Vdash \varphi \lor \psi \) if and only if \( \exists X_1, X_2 \in \wp(W) \setminus \{\emptyset\} : X \subseteq X_1 \cup X_2, [\mathcal{M}, X_1 \Vdash \varphi \lor \psi \text{ or } \mathcal{M}, X_2 \Vdash \varphi \lor \psi] \), and \( [\mathcal{M}, X_1 \Vdash \varphi \lor \psi \text{ or } \mathcal{M}, X_2 \Vdash \varphi \lor \psi] \). See Cresswell 2004, p. 22, for comparison of his disjunction and split disjunction, which he associates with Beth-Kripke-Joyal semantics for local set theory.)

Finally, let us draw some connections with the semantics for inquisitive epistemic logic from Ciardelli and Roelofsen 2014 (Def. 3 and 5) and Ciardelli 2014 (Def. 2.2 and 2.4). For a direct comparison with the present paper, we will consider only the case of inquisitive modal logic without inquisitive modalities, as presented in Ch. 6 of Ciardelli 2016 (Def. 6.1.3). Inquisitive logic has important conceptual motivations, but we will not go into them here (see Ciardelli and Roelofsen 2011, Ciardelli et al. 2013a,b, Roelofsen 2013). We take the language of inquisitive modal logic to be the language \( \mathcal{L}'(\Phi, I) \) from Definition 1.3 that we used for intuitionistic modal logic. Formulas of the form \( \varphi \otimes \psi \) (written in the cited papers as ‘?\{\varphi, \psi\}’ or ‘\varphi \lor \psi’?) are no longer thought of as declarative disjunctions, but rather as interrogatives. From the point of view of this paper, the semantics for inquisitive modal logic is equivalent to the following, as one can check by comparing the cited definitions from Ciardelli and Roelofsen 2014 and Ciardelli 2014, 2016.

**Definition 8.5** (Inquisitive Semantics for \( \mathcal{L}'(\Phi, I) \)). An inquisitive frame is a tuple \( \mathfrak{F} = \langle S, \subseteq, \bot, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle \) that arises from a Kripke frame \( \mathfrak{F} = \langle W, \{ R_i \}_{i \in I} \rangle \) as follows: \( S = \wp(W) \); \( X \subseteq Y \) if \( X \subseteq Y \); \( \bot = \emptyset \); \( X R_i Y \) iff for some \( x \in X \), \( R_i(x) = Y \); and \( P = \{ {\downarrow X \mid X \in S} \} \), where as always, \( {\downarrow X} = \{ Y \in S \mid Y \subseteq X \} \).

An inquisitive model is a tuple \( \mathfrak{M} = \langle \mathfrak{F}, \pi \rangle \) that arises from a Kripke model \( \mathfrak{M} = \langle \mathfrak{F}, V \rangle \) by setting \( X \in \pi(p) \) iff \( X \subseteq V(p) \). The inquisitive support relation between pointed inquisitive models \( \mathfrak{M}, X \) and
formulas of $L'(\Phi, I)$ is the same as our forcing relation $\models$ for $L(\Phi, I)$ from Definition 4.19 extended to $L'(\Phi, I)$ as in Example 2.7, so that $M^\mathfrak{q}$, $X \models \varphi \otimes \psi$ iff $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \models \varphi$ or $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \models \psi$. 

Note that the inquisitive $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$/2$\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ differs from the extended powerset possibilization $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}/2\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ of $\mathfrak{q}/\mathfrak{q}$ (Definition 4.21) only in the definition of the accessibility relation $R^\mathfrak{q}_i$. Recall that $XR^\mathfrak{q}_iY$ iff $Y \subseteq R_i[X]$. Thus, $R^\mathfrak{q}_i$ is a subrelation of $R^\mathfrak{q}_i$, and it may be a proper subrelation.

Fact 8.6 shows that inquisitive frames and models are a special case of extended possibility frames and models. It also shows that for a Kripke frame $\mathfrak{q}$, the inquisitive frame $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ is equivalent to the extended powerset possibilization $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ with respect to $L(\Phi, I)$, though not necessarily $L'(\Phi, I)$ (see Example 8.7).

**Fact 8.6** (Inquisitive Frames as Possibility Frames). For any Kripke frame $\mathfrak{q}$ and Kripke model $M$:

1. $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ is an extended full possibility frame;
2. for all $X \in M^\mathfrak{q}$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \models \varphi$ iff $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \models \varphi$.

**Proof.** For part 1, by Definition 4.18, to say that $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ is an extended full possibility frame is to say that the frame $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$, that results from deleting the bottom element $\emptyset$ from $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ is a full possibility frame in the ordinary sense of Definition 2.21. The fullness requirement that $P_{-} = RO(\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q})$ holds by the same reasoning as in the proof of Fact 4.48. Then the key observation is that $R^\mathfrak{q}_i$ satisfies $\text{up-}R$ and $R\Rightarrow\text{win}$ from §2.3, so by Proposition 2.30, $P_{-}$ is closed under $\square$, as required for a partial-state frame.

For an inductive proof of part 2, since $M^\mathfrak{q}$ and $M^\mathfrak{q}$ differ only with respect to their accessibility relations, the only case we need to check is the $\square_i \varphi$ case. Since $R^\mathfrak{q}_i$ is a subrelation of $R^\mathfrak{q}_i$, $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \not\models \square_i \varphi$ implies $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \not\models \varphi$. Conversely, suppose $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \not\models \square_i \varphi$, so there is a $Y$ such that $XR^\mathfrak{q}_iY$ and $M^\mathfrak{q}, Y \not\models \varphi$. Since $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, by Fact 2.10.1 (which clearly also holds for the extended powerset possibilization) $M^\mathfrak{q}, Y \not\models \varphi$ implies that there is a $y \in Y$ such that $M^\mathfrak{q}, \{y\} \not\models \varphi$, so $M^\mathfrak{q}, \{y\} \not\models \varphi$ by the inductive hypothesis. Since $XR^\mathfrak{q}_iY$, $Y \subseteq R_i[X]$, so there is an $x \in X$ such that $xR_iy$, so $\{y\} \subseteq R_i(x)$ and hence $\{y\} \subseteq R_i(x)$. Since $\{\varphi\}^\mathfrak{q}$ satisfies persistence in $(S, \subseteq)$, from $M^\mathfrak{q}, \{y\} \not\models \varphi$ and $\{y\} \subseteq R_i(x)$ we have $M^\mathfrak{q}, R_i(x) \not\models \varphi$. Then since $x \in X$, we have $XR^\mathfrak{q}_iR_i(x)$, so $M^\mathfrak{q}, R_i(x) \not\models \varphi$ implies $M^\mathfrak{q}, X \not\models \square_i \varphi$.

For part 1, note that although the set $P$ of admissible propositions in $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ is closed under the semantic operations corresponding to the operators $\neg$, $\wedge$, $\rightarrow$, and $\square_i$ of $L(\Phi, I)$, it is not necessarily closed under the semantic operation corresponding to the operator $\otimes$ of $L'(\Phi, I)$, namely union. That is, given $X \in P$ and $Y \in P$, it does not follow that there is a $Z \in P$ such that $Z = X \cup Y$. This is the source of the fact that inquisitive logic—the set of $L'(\Phi, 0)$ formulas valid over all inquisitive frames—is not closed under uniform substitution (see Ciardelli 2009). For example, although $\neg \neg p \rightarrow p$ is valid, $\neg \neg (p \otimes \neg p) \rightarrow (p \otimes \neg p)$ is not.

For part 2, the semantic equivalence of $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ and $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ does not necessarily extend to $L'(\Phi, I)$. This is demonstrated by the following example, for which it is relevant that the intended meaning of $\square_i(p \otimes \neg p)$ in inquisitive epistemic logic is that agent $i$ knows whether or not $p$.

**Example 8.7** (Distinguishing $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ and $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$ with $\otimes$). Consider a Kripke model $M = (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, V)$ in which $W = \{x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2\}$, $R_i(x_1) = \{y_1\}$, $R_i(x_2) = \{y_2\}$, and $V(p) = \{y_1\}$. In $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$, we have $R^\mathfrak{q}_i[\{x_1, x_2\}] = \{\{y_1\}, \{y_2\}\}$, so $M^\mathfrak{q}, \{x_1, x_2\} \models \square_i(p \otimes \neg p)$; but in $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}$, we have $R^\mathfrak{q}_i[\{x_1, x_2\}] = \emptyset$, so $M^\mathfrak{q}, \{x_1, x_2\} \not\models \square_i(p \otimes \neg p)$ because $\{x_1, x_2\} \not\models R^\mathfrak{q}_i[y_1, y_2]$ and $\mathfrak{q}^\mathfrak{q}, \{y_1, y_2\} \not\models p \otimes \neg p$.

In §8.2, we will state as a problem for future work to investigate possibility semantics for languages extending the basic polymodal language $L(\Phi, I)$. But in light of the above observations, we can see that the program of inquisitive semantics has already been doing this for $L'(\Phi, I)$. Something similar could be said about the team semantics mentioned above, but for an extended language with (in)dependence formulas.
8.2 Open Problems

We finish by listing a few of the open problems immediately suggested by our results.

As in §1, for a class $\mathcal{X}$ of BAOs or frames, let $\text{ML}(\mathcal{X})$ be the set of modal logics $\mathbf{L}$ such that $\mathbf{L}$ is the logic of some subclass of $\mathcal{X}$. Where $\mathbf{K}$ is the class of Kripke frames, $\text{FP}$ is the class of full possibility frames, $\text{PR}$ is the class of principal possibility frames, $\text{f-PR}$ is the class of functional principal possibility frames, and $\mathbf{P}$ is the class of all possibility frames—or we could take just filter-descriptive frames—we now know:

$$
\begin{align*}
\text{ML}(\mathcal{CAV}) & \equiv \text{ML}(\mathcal{CV}) & \equiv \text{ML}(\mathcal{T}) & \equiv \text{ML}(\mathcal{V}) & \equiv \text{ML}(\mathcal{ALG}) \\
\text{ML}(\mathbf{K}) & \subset \text{ML}(\text{FP}) & \subset \text{ML}(\text{f-PR}) & \subset \text{ML}(\text{PR}) & \subset \text{ML}(\mathbf{P}).
\end{align*}
$$

We know from the first strict inclusion that full possibility frames are more general than Kripke frames for characterizing normal modal logics. Indeed, we showed in §7.1 that $\text{ML}(\text{FP}) \setminus \text{ML}(\mathbf{K})$ contains continuum many logics in the unimodal case alone. What more can we say about $\text{ML}(\text{FP}) \setminus \text{ML}(\mathbf{K})$?

**Problem 1.** Find additional examples of logics in $\text{ML}(\text{FP}) \setminus \text{ML}(\mathbf{K})$, or equivalently, $\text{ML}(\mathcal{C}) \setminus \text{ML}(\mathcal{A})$, based on a different idea than the ($\text{SPLIT}$) formula of §2.5.

**Problem 2.** Investigate degrees of K-incompleteness (Kripke-incompleteness) relative to FP as in §7.1.

**Problem 3.** Give a syntactic or alternative semantic characterization of the logics in $\text{ML}(\text{FP})$, or of the logics in the difference $\text{ML}(\text{FP}) \setminus \text{ML}(\mathbf{K})$.

A direction that may lead to a better understanding of FP, mentioned at the end of §7.4, is the following.

**Problem 4.** Investigate notions of persistence of modal formulas from possibility frames to their associated full possibility frames.

The same kinds of questions as in Problems 1-3 arise from the other strict inclusions above. For example, we know from the third strict inclusion that arbitrary relations are more general than functions for principal possibility frames, but what more can we say about this difference?

**Problem 5.** Investigate analogues of Problems 1-3 for the other classes of frames/BAOs.

We discussed a number of other special classes of possibility frames in §2.3 and §4, showing in several cases that any (full) possibility frame is semantically equivalent to one in a special class. One special class for which we did not prove such results is the class of Humberstone’s [1981] original frames for possibility semantics (recall Definition 2.39 and see §B.1). Since every Kripke frame is a Humberstone frame and every Humberstone frame is a full possibility frame, we have $\text{ML}(\mathbf{K}) \subseteq \text{ML}(\mathbf{H}) \subseteq \text{ML}(\text{FP})$, where $\mathbf{H}$ is the class of Humberstone frames. We know that at least one of the inclusions is strict, but which?

**Problem 6.** Which of the inclusions $\text{ML}(\mathbf{K}) \subseteq \text{ML}(\mathbf{H})$ and $\text{ML}(\mathbf{H}) \subseteq \text{ML}(\text{FP})$ is strict?

Turning from completeness to correspondence, the next problem is a follow-up to the discussion of §6.3.

**Problem 7.** Does every modal formula that has a first-order correspondent over Kripke frames also have a first-order correspondents over full possibility frames?

Finally, although here we have restricted attention to the basic polymodal language for a direct comparison of possibility semantics and world semantics, a natural step is to see how the richer refinement structure of possibility frames could be exploited for the semantics of extended modal languages.

**Problem 8.** Investigate possibility semantics for extended modal languages.
Appendices

A  Review of Standard Semantics

A.1  Kripke Semantics

To fix terminology and notation, we review the standard definitions for Kripke semantics here.

**Definition A.1**  (Kripke Frames and Models). A Kripke frame is a tuple \( \mathcal{F} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle \) where \( W \) is a nonempty set (the set of worlds) and \( R_i \) is a binary relation on \( W \) (the \( i \)-accessibility relation). A Kripke model based on \( \mathcal{F} \) is a tuple \( \mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{F}, V \rangle \) where \( V : \Phi \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(W) \) (a valuation).

We use ‘\( \models \)’ for the standard satisfaction relation in Kripke models, in contrast with ‘\( \vdash \)’ in Definition 2.3.

**Definition A.2**  (Kripke Semantics). Given a Kripke model \( \mathcal{M} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, V \rangle \) with \( w \in W \) and \( \varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \), define \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \) (“\( \varphi \) is true at \( w \) in \( \mathcal{M} \)”)

1. \( \mathcal{M}, w \models p \) iff \( w \in V(p) \);
2. \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \neg \varphi \) iff \( \mathcal{M}, w \not\models \varphi \);
3. \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \wedge \psi \) iff \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \) and \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \psi \);
4. \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \varphi \rightarrow \psi \) iff \( \mathcal{M}, w \not\models \varphi \) or \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \psi \);
5. \( \mathcal{M}, w \models \Box_i \varphi \) iff \( \forall v \in R_i(w) : \mathcal{M}, v \models \varphi \),

where as in Notation 1.4, \( R_i(w) = \{ v \in W \mid wR_iv \} \).

Validity, satisfiability, soundness, and completeness are defined as in Definition 2.3.

Recall the standard Henkin-style canonical model construction for Kripke semantics.

**Definition A.3**  (Canonical Kripke Frames and Models). The canonical Kripke frame for a normal modal logic \( L \) is the structure \( \mathcal{F}_L = \langle W_L, \{R^L_i\}_{i \in I} \rangle \) where:

1. \( W_L \) is the set of all maximally \( L \)-consistent sets of formulas;
2. for \( \Gamma, \Delta \in W_L, \Gamma R^L_i \Delta \) iff for all \( \varphi \in L(\Phi, I), \Box_i \varphi \in \Gamma \) implies \( \varphi \in \Delta \).

The canonical Kripke model for a normal modal logic \( L \) is the structure \( \mathcal{M}_L = \langle \mathcal{F}_L, V^L \rangle \) where \( \mathcal{F}_L \) is the canonical Kripke frame for \( L \) and for all \( p \in \Phi \) and \( \Gamma \in W_L : \Gamma \in V^L(p) \) iff \( p \in \Gamma \).

As shown in textbooks on modal logic, every normal modal logic \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to its canonical Kripke model \( \mathcal{M}_L \), so every normal \( L \) is complete with respect to its canonical Kripke frame \( \mathcal{F}_L \); but not every normal \( L \) is sound with respect to \( \mathcal{F}_L \)—not every normal \( L \) is canonical. In fact, there are many normal modal logics that are not sound and complete with respect to any class of Kripke frames (see footnote 5), which leads to the following distinction.

**Definition A.4**  (Kripke Completeness). A normal modal logic \( L \) is Kripke-frame complete iff there is a class \( F \) of Kripke frames for which \( L \) is sound and complete. Otherwise it is Kripke-frame incomplete.

The existence of Kripke-frame incomplete normal modal logics is one of the motivations for the semantics of the following sections.
A.2 General Frame Semantics

The following more general semantics for normal modal logics is due to Thomason 1972 (cf. Makinson 1970, and see Blackburn et al. 2001, §1.4, §5.5 for a textbook treatment).

Definition A.5 (General Frame Semantics). A general frame—or in the terminology of this paper, a world frame—is a tuple \( g = (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A) \) where \( (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}) \) is a Kripke frame and \( A \subseteq \wp(W) \) is a set of admissible propositions such that if \( X, Y \subseteq A \), then \( W \setminus X \subseteq A, X \cap Y \subseteq A \), and \( \{w \in W \mid R_i(w) \subseteq X\} \subseteq A \).

A Kripke model \( \mathcal{M} = (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, V) \) is based on the general frame \( g \) iff for every \( p \in \Phi, V(p) \subseteq A \), in which case \( V \) is an admissible valuation for \( g \). We may regard such an \( \mathcal{M} \) as the pair \((g, V)\).

The notions of validity, soundness, and completeness with respect to a class \( G \) of general frames are defined in terms of these notions with respect to the class of Kripke models based on general frames in \( G \).

Note that in a Kripke model \( \mathcal{M} \), we have \( W \setminus [\varphi]^M = [\neg \varphi]^M, [\varphi]^M \cap [\psi]^M = [\varphi \land \psi]^M \), and \( \{w \in W \mid R_i(w) \subseteq [\varphi]^M \} = [\square \varphi]^M \), so the closure conditions on \( A \) in \( g \) ensure that for any \( \mathcal{M} \) based on \( g \) and \( \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \), \([\varphi]^M \subset A \). This guarantees that the set of formulas valid over a class of general frames is closed under Uniform Substitution (Definition 1.2), as is guaranteed for Kripke frames but not for Kripke models.

Also note that any Kripke frame \( \mathcal{F} = (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}) \) can be equivalently viewed as the general frame \( \mathcal{F}^I = (W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \wp(W)) \), called the full general frame of \( \mathcal{F} \), in the sense that the class of Kripke models based on \( \mathcal{F} \) is the same as the class of Kripke models based on \( \mathcal{F}^I \), so \( \mathcal{F} \) and \( \mathcal{F}^I \) determine the same logic.

Note that while in this section we use lower-case Fraktur letters for general frames and upper-case Fraktur letters for Kripke frames (as in Blackburn et al. 2001), for simplicity in the main text we use upper-case Fraktur letters for all “world frames,” i.e., general frames and Kripke frames regarded as full general frames.

Definition A.6 (Canonical General Frame). The canonical general frame for a normal modal logic \( L \) [Blackburn et al., 2001, p. 306] is the structure \( g^L = (\mathcal{F}^L, A^L) \) where \( \mathcal{F}^L \) is the canonical Kripke frame for \( L \) as in Definition A.3 and \( A^L = \{X \subseteq W^L \mid \exists \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \colon X = \{\Gamma \in W^L \mid \varphi \in \Gamma\}\} \). By the Truth Lemma [Blackburn et al., 2001, §4.2], \( A^L = \{[\varphi]^M \mid \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)\} \), so the admissible propositions of \( g^L \) are the sets of worlds definable in the canonical model \( \mathcal{M}^L \) by formulas of \( \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \).

The following result (see, e.g., Blackburn et al. 2001, Thm. 5.64) shows that general frames, unlike Kripke frames, can characterize any normal modal logic.

Theorem A.7 (Adequacy of General Frame Semantics). Every normal modal logic \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to its canonical general frame \( g^L \).

A.3 Algebraic Semantics

In Kripke and general frame semantics, we first define the truth of a formula at a world in a model \( \mathcal{M} \) and then derivatively obtained a mapping \( \varphi \mapsto [\varphi]^M \) of formulas to “propositions,” understood as sets of worlds. In the algebraic semantics for modal logic (see Blackburn et al. 2001, §5.2 for a textbook treatment), we cut out the worlds and directly map formulas to propositions, taken as primitive objects. In the following definition, due to Jónsson and Tarski 1951, 1952, one may think of elements of \( A \) as propositions.

Definition A.8 (Boolean Algebra with Operators). A Boolean algebra with (unary, dual) operators (BAO) is a tuple \( A = (A, \land, -, \top, \{^\sharp_i\}_{i \in I}) \) where \( (A, \land, -, \top) \) is a Boolean algebra with \( \land \) as meet, \( - \) as complement, and \( \top \) as the top element, and each \( ^\sharp_i \colon A \to A \) satisfies:
1. $\blacksquare, \top = \top$;

2. for all $x, y \in A$, $\blacksquare_i(x \land y) = \blacksquare_i x \land \blacksquare_i y$.

Equivalently, where $\lor$ is join, $\bot$ is the bottom element, and for $x \in A$, $\lozenge_i x := \neg \blacksquare_i \neg x$:

3. $\lozenge_i \bot = \bot$;

4. for all $x, y \in A$, $\lozenge_i (x \lor y) = \lozenge_i x \lor \lozenge_i y$.

A BAO $\mathcal{A} = \langle A, \land, -, \top, \{\blacksquare_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$ is trivial if $|A| = 1$ and non-trivial otherwise.

BAOs are often defined with the additive operators $\lozenge_i$, as primitive, rather than the multiplicative dual operators $\blacksquare_i$. But for our purposes, it will be more convenient to take the dual operators as primitive. We also trust that no confusion will arise by using the same symbol ‘$\land$’ for conjunction in our formal language and the meet operation in our Boolean algebras, and similarly for ‘$\lor$’ with disjunction and join.

Turning to the semantics, instead of mapping each $p \in \Phi$ to a set of worlds where it holds, as in a Kripke model, an algebraic model based on $\mathcal{A}$ maps each $p \in \Phi$ to an element of $A$, thought of as a proposition, and this mapping extends to a mapping of each formula of $L(\Phi, I)$ to an element of $A$.

**Definition A.9** (Algebraic Semantics). An algebraic model is a pair $M = \langle \mathcal{A}, \theta \rangle$ where $\mathcal{A}$ is a BAO and $\theta: \Phi \rightarrow A$. We extend $\theta$ to a meaning function $\hat{\theta}: L(\Phi, I) \rightarrow A$ defined by: $\hat{\theta}(p) = \theta(p); \hat{\theta}(\neg \varphi) = -\hat{\theta}(\varphi); \hat{\theta}(\varphi \land \psi) = \hat{\theta}(\varphi) \land \hat{\theta}(\psi)$; and $\hat{\theta}(\Box_i \varphi) = \blacksquare_i \hat{\theta}(\varphi)$.

A formula $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$ is valid over a class $C$ of BAOS $\mathcal{A}$ iff for every algebraic model $M = \langle \mathcal{A}, \theta \rangle$ with $\mathcal{A} \in C$ and $\hat{\theta}(\varphi) = \top$; and $\varphi$ is satisfiable over $C$ iff there is an algebraic model $M = \langle \mathcal{A}, \theta \rangle$ with $\mathcal{A} \in C$ and $\hat{\theta}(\varphi) \neq \bot$. Soundness and completeness of a modal logic $L$ with respect to a class $C$ of BAOS are defined in terms of validity over $C$, as usual.

For any general frame $g = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, A \rangle$, the structure $g^* = \langle A, \cap, -, W, \{\blacksquare_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$ with $-: A \rightarrow A$ and $\blacksquare_i: A \rightarrow A$ defined by $-X = W \setminus X$ and $\blacksquare_i X = \{w \in W \mid R_i(w) \subseteq X\}$ is a BAO, called the underlying BAO of $g$. For a Kripke frame $\mathfrak{g} = \langle W, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$, the structure $\mathfrak{g}^+ = \langle \wp(W), \cap, -, W, \{\blacksquare_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$ with $-$ and $\blacksquare_i$ as just defined is called the full complex algebra of $\mathfrak{g}$, which is the underlying BAO of the full general frame of $\mathfrak{g}$ (recall §A.2), i.e., $\mathfrak{g}^+ = (\mathfrak{g}^i)^*$. One can check that for any general frame $g$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $\varphi$ is valid over $g$ according to Definition A.5 iff $\varphi$ is valid over $g^*$ according to Definition A.9. Thus, any general frame or Kripke frame can be turned into a BAO that validates the same formulas.

In the other direction, for any BAO $\mathcal{A} = \langle A, \land, -, \top, \{\blacksquare_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$, the structure $A_+ = \langle UfA, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$ where $UfA$ is the set of ultrafilters in $A$, and $uR_i u'$ iff $\forall x \in A: \blacksquare_i x \in u$ implies $x \in u'$, is a Kripke frame, called the ultrafilter frame of $\mathcal{A}$. (Here one goes beyond ZF set theory and assumes the ultrafilter axiom.) The structure $\hat{\mathcal{A}}_+ = \langle A_+, \{\hat{a} \mid a \in A\}\rangle$ with $\hat{a} = \{u \in UfA \mid a \in u\}$ is a general frame, called the general ultrafilter frame of $\mathcal{A}$. One can check that for any BAO $\mathcal{A}$ and $\varphi \in L(\Phi, I)$, $\varphi$ is valid over $\mathcal{A}$ according to Definition A.9 iff $\varphi$ is valid over $\mathcal{A}_+$ according to Definition A.5. But that ‘iff’ may fail for $\mathcal{A}_+$: although for any algebraic model $M = \langle \mathcal{A}, \theta \rangle$ based on $\mathcal{A}$, the Kripke model $M_+ = \langle \mathcal{A}_+, \theta_+ \rangle$ with $\theta_+(p) = \{u \in UfA \mid \theta(p) \in u\}$ is modally equivalent to $M$, there may be Kripke models based on $\mathcal{A}_+$ that are not modally equivalent to any algebraic model based on $\mathcal{A}$, because $\mathcal{A}_+$ imposes no constraints on admissible valuations.

Given a normal modal logic $L$ and $\varphi, \psi \in L(\Phi, I)$, let $\varphi \sim_L \psi$ iff $\top \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$, and $[\varphi]_L = \{\psi \in L(\Phi, I) \mid \varphi \sim_L \psi\}$. One can check that $\sim_L$ is a congruence relation with respect to the structure $\langle L(\Phi, I), O_\wedge, O_\lor, \top, \{O_i\}_{i \in I}\rangle$ where $O_\wedge(\varphi, \psi) = (\varphi \land \psi), O_\lor(\varphi) = \neg \varphi, \top = (p \lor \neg p)$, and $O_i(\varphi) = \Box_i \varphi$. Thus, we can take the quotient of this structure with respect to $\sim_L$, obtaining the following.
Definition A.10 (Lindenbaum Algebra). The Lindenbaum algebra for a normal modal logic \( L \) is the structure \( A^L = (A, \land, -, \top, \{\Box\}_i \in I) \) where: \( A = \{[\varphi]_L \mid \varphi \in L(\Phi, I)\}; [\varphi]_L \land [\psi]_L = [(\varphi \land \psi)]_L; -[\varphi]_L = [\neg \varphi]_L; \top = [(p \lor \neg p)]_L; \) \( \land = [\Box \varphi]_L. \)

One can check that \( A^L \) is indeed a BAO. Moreover, \( A^L \) is isomorphic to the underlying BAO of the canonical general frame \( g^L \) from §A.2, and \( A^L \) is isomorphic to the general ultrafilter frame of \( A^L \).

The following result (see Blackburn et al. 2001, §5.2) is an algebraic analogue of Theorem A.7.

Theorem A.11 (Adequacy of Algebraic Semantics). Every normal modal logic \( L \) is sound and complete with respect to its Lindenbaum algebra \( A^L \).

B Deferred Topics

B.1 Stronger Refinability

Recall from §2.3 that Humberstone’s [1981] original frames for possibility semantics were, in the terminology of this paper, full possibility frames satisfying up-R, R-down, and R-refinability++. In this section, we compare the following refinability conditions, from weaker to stronger:

- **R-refinability** – if \( xR_i y \), then \( \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x' \exists y' \subseteq y: x''R_i y' \);

- **R-refinability** – if \( xR_i y \), then \( \exists y' \subseteq y \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x': x''R_i y' \);

- **R-refinability** – if \( xR_i y \), then \( \exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x': x''R_i y \).

In §2.3, we mentioned the following fact.

Fact B.1 (Powerset Possibilizations and R-refinability++). There are Kripke frames \( \mathfrak{F} \) whose powerset possibilizations \( \mathfrak{F}^\nu \) do not satisfy R-refinability++.

Proof. For \( \mathfrak{F}^\nu \), R-refinability++ requires the following:

- if \( Y \subseteq R_a[X] \), then there is some nonempty \( X' \subseteq X \) such that for all nonempty \( X'' \subseteq X' \), \( Y \subseteq R_a[X''] \), which implies:

- if every world in \( Y \) can be “seen” by some world or other in \( X \), then there is some single world in \( X \) that can “see” every world in \( Y \).

This obviously does not hold for all Kripke frames \( \mathfrak{F} \), so R-refinability++ does not hold for all \( \mathfrak{F}^\nu \). \( \square \)

For similar reasons, we cannot always transform a \( \mathcal{V} \)-BAO into a Humberstone frame as in §5.4.

In Humberstone 1981 (p. 326), it is stated that one can prove the completeness of some standard modal logics with respect to classes of atomless Humberstone frames (recall §7.3) using a canonical model construction in which each possibility is the set of syntactic consequences of a consistent finite set of formulas, the refinement relation is the subset relation between sets of formulas, and the accessibility relations and valuation function are defined as for the canonical Kripke frame (Definition A.3). However, the R-refinability++ condition is too strong for such a construction to work, as the following fact shows.

Fact B.2 (Infinitary R-refinability++). If \( \Phi \) is infinite and \( L \subseteq L(\Phi, I) \) is a normal modal logic, then there is no partial-state model \( M \) with a nonempty relation \( R_i \) satisfying R-refinability++ such that for every \( x \in M \), there is a finite \( \Gamma_x \subseteq L(\Phi, I) \) such that \( \{\varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \mid M, x \models \varphi\} = \{\varphi \in L(\Phi, I) \mid \Gamma_x \models \varphi\}. \)
Proof. For reductio, suppose there is such a model $\mathcal{M}$. Since $R_i$ is nonempty, there are $x, y \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $xR_iy$. Since $\{\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \mid \mathcal{M}, y \vDash \varphi\} = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \mid \Gamma_y \vdash_L \varphi\}$, the finite set $\Gamma_y$ is $L$-consistent. It follows that $\Phi(y) = \{p \in \Phi \mid \mathcal{M}, y \vDash p\}$ is finite, because no finite $L$-consistent set $\Gamma_y$ entails infinitely many $p \in \Phi$ (For if $\vdash_L \Gamma_y \rightarrow p$ for a $p$ not occurring in $\Gamma_y$, then $\vdash_L \Gamma_y \rightarrow \bot$ by Uniform Substitution.) Thus, $\Phi \setminus \Phi(y)$ is infinite. Since $xR_iy$, by $R$-refinability++, there is an $x' \in x$ such that for all $x'' \subseteq x'$, $x''R_iy$, which implies $\mathcal{M}, x'' \not\vDash \Box_i p$ for every $p \in \Phi \setminus \Phi(y)$. Since this holds for all $x'' \subseteq x'$, we have $\mathcal{M}, x' \vDash \neg \Box_i p$ for every $p \in \Phi \setminus \Phi(y)$. Thus, there are infinitely many $p \in \Phi$ such that $\mathcal{M}, x' \vDash \neg \Box_i p$. But then there is no finite $\Gamma_{x'}$ such that $\{\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \mid \mathcal{M}, x' \vDash \varphi\} = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I) \mid \Gamma_{x'} \vdash_L \varphi\}$, because no finite $L$-consistent set $\Gamma_{x'}$ entails $\neg \Box_i p$ for infinitely many $p \in \Phi$. For if $\vdash_L \Gamma_{x'} \rightarrow \neg \Box_i p$ for a $p$ not occurring in $\Gamma_{x'}$, then $\vdash_L \Gamma_{x'} \rightarrow \neg \Box_i p$ by Uniform Substitution, which gives us $\vdash_L \neg \bigwedge \Gamma_{x'}$. □

By contrast, we can prove the completeness of various modal logics with respect to classes of atomless possibility frames satisfying $R$-refinability using a model construction in which each possibility is (an equivalence class of) a single finite formula, as in §7.3 (also see Holliday 2014).

In §5.3, we showed that full possibility frames and CV-BAOs can be turned into semantically equivalent rich possibility frames, which satisfy, among other conditions, $R$-refinability and $R$-max, the latter being definitive of quasi-functional possibility frames as in §4.4. This kind of result cannot be proved with $R$-refinability++ in place of $R$-refinability, as shown by Fact B.3.4.

Fact B.3 (R-refinability++ and R-max). For any possibility model $\mathcal{M} = (S, \subseteq, \{R_i\}_{i \in I}, \pi)$ with $R_i$ satisfying $R$-refinability++ and $x, y \in S$:

1. if $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i p \lor \Box_i q$ and $xR_iy$, then $\mathcal{M}, y \vDash p$ or $\mathcal{M}, y \vDash q$;
2. if $R_i$ satisfies $R$-max and $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i p \lor \Box_i q$, then $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i p$ or $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i q$;
3. if $R_i$ and $R_j$ satisfy $R$-max, then $\Box_j(\Box_i p \lor \Box_i q) \rightarrow (\Box_j \Box_i p \lor \Box_j \Box_i q)$ is valid over $\mathcal{F}$;
4. $K$ is not complete with respect to the class of quasi-functional models satisfying $R$-refinability++.

Proof. For part 1, suppose $\mathcal{M}, y \not\vDash p$ and $\mathcal{M}, y \not\vDash q$. By $R$-refinability++, $xR_iy$ implies that $\exists x' \subseteq x \forall x'' \subseteq x': x''R_iy$, so $\mathcal{M}, x'' \not\vDash \Box_i p$ and $\mathcal{M}, x'' \not\vDash \Box_i q$. Since this holds for all $x'' \subseteq x'$, we have $\mathcal{M}, x' \vDash \neg \Box_i p$ and $\mathcal{M}, x' \vDash \neg \Box_i q$, which with $x' \subseteq x$ implies $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \neg \Box_i p \lor \Box_i q$ by Fact 2.4.

For part 2, if $R_i(x)$ is empty, then $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i \varphi$ for every $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, so we are done. If $R_i(x)$ is nonempty, then by $R$-max it has a maximum, $f_i(x)$, in which case $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i p \lor \Box_i q$ and part 1 together imply that $\mathcal{M}, f_i(x) \vDash p$ or $\mathcal{M}, f_i(x) \vDash q$. If $\mathcal{M}, f_i(x) \vDash p$, then since $f_i(x)$ is the maximum of $R_i(x)$, it follows by Persistence that $\mathcal{M}, y \vDash p$ for all $y \in R_i(x)$, so $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i p$. By the same reasoning, if $\mathcal{M}, f_i(x) \vDash q$, then $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i q$. Thus, $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i p \lor \Box_i q$.

For part 3, suppose $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_j(\Box_i p \lor \Box_i q)$. If $R_j(x)$ is empty, then $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_j \varphi$ for every $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, so we are done. If $R_j(x)$ is nonempty, then by $R$-max it has a maximum $f_j(x)$, in which case $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_j(\Box_i p \lor \Box_i q)$ implies $\mathcal{M}, f_j(x) \vDash \Box_i p \lor \Box_i q$. Then by part 2, either $\mathcal{M}, f_j(x) \vDash \Box_i p$ or $\mathcal{M}, f_j(x) \vDash \Box_i q$, so either $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash \Box_i p \lor \Box_i q$ or $\mathcal{M}, x \vDash f_j \Box_i q$. Part 4 follows from part 3 and the fact that $\Box_j(\Box_i p \lor \Box_i q) \rightarrow (\Box_j \Box_i p \lor \Box_j \Box_i q)$ is not a theorem of $K$. □

We conclude with an observation about the intermediate $R$-refinability++. If one goes beyond ZF set theory and assumes the ultrafilter axiom, one can prove that filter frames as in §5.4 satisfy $R$-refinability++.

Proposition B.4 ($R$-refinability++ for Filter Frames). For any BAO $A$, $A_k$ and $A_t$ satisfy $R$-refinability++.
Proof. For proper filters $X, Y$ in $A$, suppose $XR_{i}Y$. By the ultrafilter axiom, there is an ultrafilter $Y' \supseteq Y$, so $Y' \subseteq Y$. Where

$$X' = X \cup \{ -\mathbf{i}y \mid y \not\in Y' \},$$

(40)

suppose for reductio that $[X']$ is not a proper filter, i.e., $\bot \in [X']$. Then by (40) and Fact 5.31, there are $x_{1}, \ldots, x_{m} \in X$ and $y_{1}, \ldots, y_{k} \not\in Y'$ such that

$$x_{1} \wedge \ldots \wedge x_{m} \wedge -\mathbf{i}y_{1} \wedge \ldots \wedge -\mathbf{i}y_{k} \leq \bot$$

which implies

$$x_{1} \wedge \ldots \wedge x_{m} \leq \mathbf{i}(y_{1} \lor \ldots \lor y_{k})$$

(41)

by the properties of $\mathbf{i}$. Then since $X$ is a filter, $x_{1}, \ldots, x_{m} \in X$ implies $x_{1} \wedge \ldots \wedge x_{m} \in X$ and hence $\mathbf{i}(y_{1} \lor \ldots \lor y_{k}) \in X$ by (41), which with $XR_{i}Y$ implies $y_{1} \lor \ldots \lor y_{k} \in Y$, which in turn implies $y_{1} \lor \ldots \lor y_{k} \in Y'$. But since $Y'$ is an ultrafilter, $y_{1}, \ldots, y_{k} \not\in Y'$ implies $-y_{1}, \ldots, -y_{k} \in Y'$, which contradicts $y_{1} \lor \ldots \lor y_{k} \in Y'$. Thus, $X' = [X']$ is a proper filter.

Now consider any proper filter $X'' \subseteq X'$, i.e., $X'' \supseteq X'$. If $y \not\in Y'$, then by (40), $-\mathbf{i}y \in X'$, so $\mathbf{i}y \not\in X'$ by the fact that $X'$ is a proper filter. Thus, $X''R_{i}Y'$, which establishes $R$-refinability$^+$. □

B.2 Separative Quotients

Finally, we prove the following proposition from §4.1.

Proposition 4.10 (Separative Quotient). For every possibility frame $F$, there is a separative possibility frame $F^\approx$ (such that if $F$ is full, so is $F^\approx$) and a surjective robust possibility morphism from $F$ to $F^\approx$. Thus, by Proposition 3.7, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\Phi, I)$, $F \models \varphi$ iff $F^\approx \models \varphi$.

For a possibility frame $F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_{i} \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$, recall the equivalence relation $\simeq_{s}$ on $S$ from Definition 4.5, defined by: $x \simeq_{s} y$ iff $x \subseteq y$ and $y \subseteq x$. For $x \in S$, let $[x]_{\simeq_{s}} = \{ x' \in S \mid x \simeq_{s} x' \}$ be the equivalence class of $x$. Then the frame $F^\approx$ for Proposition 4.10 is defined as follows.

Definition B.5 (Separative Quotient). Given a possibility frame $F = \langle S, \subseteq, \{R_{i} \}_{i \in I}, P \rangle$, define the separative quotient $F^\approx = \langle S^\approx, \subseteq^\approx, \{R_{i}^\approx \}_{i \in I}, P^\approx \rangle$ of $F$ by:

1. $S^\approx = \{ [x]_{\simeq_{s}} \mid x \in S \}$;
2. $[x]_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq^\approx [y]_{\simeq_{s}}$ iff $x \subseteq y$;
3. $[x]_{\simeq_{s}}R_{i}^\approx[y]_{\simeq_{s}}$ iff $\exists x' \in [x]_{\simeq_{s}} \exists y' \in [y]_{\simeq_{s}}: x'R_{i}y'$;
4. $P^\approx = \{ X \subseteq S^\approx \mid X \in P \}$, where $X \subseteq^\approx = \{ [x]_{\simeq_{s}} \mid x \in X \}$.

We will now prove the proposition, defining the morphism $h$ from $F$ to $F^\approx$ by $h(x) = [x]_{\simeq_{s}}$ (so $X^\approx = h[X]$).

Proof of Proposition 4.10. First, we show that $\langle S^\approx, \subseteq^\approx \rangle$ is separative. Consider the relation $\subseteq^\approx_{s}$ defined in terms of $\subseteq^\approx$ in $F^\approx$. Since $[x]_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq^\approx [y]_{\simeq_{s}}$ implies $[x]_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq [y]_{\simeq_{s}}$, we need only prove the converse. If $[x]_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq^\approx [y]_{\simeq_{s}}$, then for all $[x']_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq^\approx [x]_{\simeq_{s}}$ there is a $[x']_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq [x']_{\simeq_{s}}$ with $[x']_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq [y]_{\simeq_{s}}$. This means that (a) $\forall x' \subseteq x$, $\exists x' \subseteq x'$, $x' \subseteq x$ and (b) $x' \subseteq x$, $\exists x' \subseteq x'$, $x' \subseteq x$. To show $X \subseteq X$, consider any $x' \subseteq x$. Then $x' \subseteq x'$, so by (a), there is an $x'' \subseteq x''$ with $x'' \subseteq x'$. Since $x'' \subseteq x'$, there is an $x''' \subseteq x''$ with $x''' \subseteq x'$. Then together $x'' \subseteq y$ and $x''' \subseteq x''$ imply that there is an $x''' \subseteq x'''$ with $x''' \subseteq y$. By the transitivity of $\subseteq$, $x''' \subseteq x''' \subseteq x''$ implies $x''' \subseteq x''$. Thus, for any $x' \subseteq x$, there is an $x''' \subseteq x'$ with $x''' \subseteq x$. Hence $x \subseteq x$, so $[x]_{\simeq_{s}} \subseteq^\approx [y]_{\simeq_{s}}$. 139
Second, we show that $P^\simeq \subseteq \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}^\simeq)$. Consider an $X^\simeq \in P^\simeq$. To show that $X^\simeq$ satisfies persistence, suppose $[x]_\simeq \in X^\simeq$ and $[x']_\simeq \subseteq [x]_\simeq$, so $x \in X$ and $x' \subseteq x$. Then since $X \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$, it follows that $x' \in X$ by Fact 4.2, so $[x']_\simeq \in X^\simeq$. To show that $X^\simeq$ satisfies refinability, suppose $[x]_\simeq \not\in X^\simeq$, so $x \not\in X$. Then since $X \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$, $x \not\in X$ implies that there is an $x' \subseteq x$ such that (b) for all $x'' \subseteq x'$, $x'' \not\in X$. Now consider any $y' \subseteq x'$, so there is a $y'' \subseteq y'$ such that $y'' \subseteq x'$, which with (b) implies $y'' \not\in X$, which with $y'' \subseteq y'$ and persistence for $X$ implies $y' \not\in X$. Thus, for all $y' \subseteq x'$, $y' \not\in X$, so for all $[y']_\simeq \subseteq [x']_\simeq$, $[y']_\simeq \not\in X^\simeq$. Finally, from $x' \subseteq x$ we have $[x']_\simeq \subseteq [x]_\simeq$, so $[x]_\simeq$ is the witness we need for refinability.

Next, we must prove that $\mathcal{F}^\simeq$ is a partial-state frame. To do so, we first show:

(i) $(X \cap Y)^\simeq = X^\simeq \cap Y^\simeq$; (ii) $(X \cup Y)^\simeq = X^\simeq \cup Y^\simeq$; and (iii) $(\mathbb{I},X)^\simeq = \mathbb{I}^\simeq X$.

Checking (i) is straightforward. For (ii), from right to left, if $[z]_\simeq \not\in (X \cup Y)^\simeq$, so $z \not\in X \cup Y$, then there is a $z' \subseteq z$ such that $z' \in X$ but $z' \not\in Y$, which implies $[z']_\simeq \subseteq [z]_\simeq$ and $[z']_\simeq \in X^\simeq$ but $[z']_\simeq \not\in Y^\simeq$, so $[z]_\simeq \not\in X^\simeq \cup Y^\simeq$. From left to right, if $[z]_\simeq \not\in X^\simeq \cup Y^\simeq$, then there is a $[z']_\simeq \subseteq [z]_\simeq$ such that $[z']_\simeq \in X^\simeq$ but $[z']_\simeq \not\in Y^\simeq$, so $z' \in X$ but $z' \not\in Y$, so $z \not\in X \cup Y$. Since $[z]_\simeq \subseteq [z']_\simeq$, we have $z' \subseteq z$. Finally, since $X \cup Y \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$, $z' \not\subseteq X \cup Y$ and $z' \subseteq z$ together imply $z \not\subseteq X \cup Y$ by Fact 4.2, so $[z]_\simeq \not\in (X \cup Y)^\simeq$. For (iii), from right to left, if $[x]_\simeq \not\in (\mathbb{I},X)^\simeq$, so $x \not\in \mathbb{I} \cup X$, then there is a $y \in S$ such that $xRiy$ and $y \not\in X$, which implies $[x]_\simeq R_i^\simeq [y]_\simeq$ and $[y]_\simeq \not\in X^\simeq$, so $[y]_\simeq \not\in \mathbb{I}^\simeq X^\simeq$. From left to right, if $[x]_\simeq \not\in \mathbb{I}^\simeq X^\simeq$, then there is a $[y]_\simeq \in \mathcal{S}^\simeq$ such that $[x]_\simeq R_i^\simeq [y]_\simeq$ and $[y]_\simeq \not\in X^\simeq$. From $[x]_\simeq R_i^\simeq [y]_\simeq$, we have $\exists x' \in [x]_\simeq \exists y' \in [y]_\simeq: x'R_iy'$. From $[y]_\simeq \not\in X^\simeq$, we have $y \not\in X$. Since $X \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$, together $y \not\in X$ and $y \simeq y'$ imply $y' \not\in X$ by Fact 4.2, which with $x'R_iy'$ implies $x' \not\subseteq \mathbb{I}^\simeq X$. Then since $\mathbb{I} \cup X \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F})$, together $x' \not\subseteq \mathbb{I} \cup X$ and $x \simeq x'$ imply $x \not\subseteq \mathbb{I} \cup X$ by Fact 4.2, so $[x]_\simeq \not\in (\mathbb{I},X)^\simeq$.

Since $\mathcal{F}$ is a partial-state frame, $P$ is closed under $\cap$, $\cup$, and $\mathbb{I}$. It follows from (i)-(iii) and the definition of $P^\simeq$ that $P^\simeq$ is also closed under $\cap$, $\cup$, and $\mathbb{I}$, so $\mathcal{F}^\simeq$ is a partial-state frame. Since we also showed above that $P^\simeq \subseteq \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}^\simeq)$, we conclude that $\mathcal{F}^\simeq$ is a possibility frame. To see that $\mathcal{F}^\simeq$ is full if $\mathcal{F}$ is, one can easily show that if $X \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}^\simeq)$, then $h^{-1}[X] \in \text{RO}(\mathcal{F}) = P$, so $X = h[h^{-1}[X]] = (h^{-1}[X])^\simeq \in P^\simeq$.

The function $h: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{F}^\simeq$ defined by $h(x) = [x]_\simeq$ is surjective (which gave us $X = h[h^{-1}[X]]$ above). Given surjectivity, the condition for a robust morphism is that for all $X \in P$, $X = h^{-1}[h[X]]$ and $h[X] \in P^\simeq$. By the definition of $P^\simeq$, $X \in P$ implies $h[X] = X^\simeq \in P^\simeq$. Also observe that $h^{-1}[X^\simeq] = X$, so $h^{-1}[h[X]] = X$. Next, it follows from (ii) above, taking $Y = \emptyset$, that $h$ satisfies the $\subseteq$-matching clause of possibility morphisms; it follows from (iii) above that $h$ satisfies $R$-matching; and it follows from the definition of $P^\simeq$ and $h^{-1}[X^\simeq] = X$ that $h$ satisfies pull down. Thus, $h$ is a surjective robust possibility morphism.

References


