

# Proof Theory of Modal Logic

## Lecture 2 Nested Sequents



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ILLC, Universiteit of Amsterdam

5th Tsinghua Logic Summer School  
Beijing, 14 - 18 July 2025

## Recap

## Today's lecture: Nested Sequents

- ▶ Nested sequents for K
- ▶ Nested sequents for the S5-cube

## Nested sequents for K



## Nested sequents in the literature

Independently introduced in:

- ▶ [Bull, 1992]; [Kashima, 1994]  $\rightsquigarrow$  *nested sequents*
- ▶ [Brünnler, 2006], [Brünnler, 2009]  $\rightsquigarrow$  *deep sequents*
- ▶ [Poggiolesi, 2008], [Poggiolesi, 2010]  $\rightsquigarrow$  *tree-hypersequents*

Main references for this lecture:

- ▶ [Lellmann & Poggiolesi, 2022 (arXiv)]
- ▶ [Brünnler, 2009], [Brünnler, 2010 (arXiv)]
- ▶ [Marin & Straßburger, 2014]

## One-sided sequents

Sequent

$$\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta$$

$\Gamma, \Delta$  multisets of formulas

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Rules of  $\text{G3cp}^{one}$

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**Exercise.**  $\vdash_{G3cp} \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta$  iff  $\vdash_{G3cp^{one}} \bar{\Gamma}, \Delta$ , where  $\bar{\Gamma} = \{\bar{A} \mid A \in \Gamma\}$ .

## Nested sequents for modal logic

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We call  $[\Gamma]$  a **boxed sequent**.

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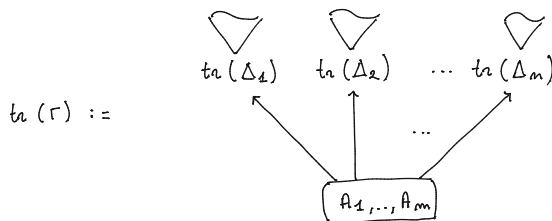
We call  $[\Gamma]$  a **boxed sequent**.

Nested sequents are multisets of formulas and boxed sequents:

$$A_1, \dots, A_m, [\Delta_1], \dots, [\Delta_n]$$

$$\Gamma = A_1, \dots, A_m, [\Delta_1], \dots, [\Delta_n]$$

To a nested sequent  $\Gamma$  there corresponds the following tree  $tr(\Gamma)$ , whose nodes  $\gamma, \delta, \dots$  are multisets of formulas:

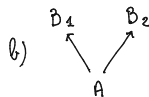
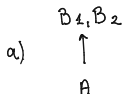


The formula interpretation  $i(\Gamma)$  of a nested sequent  $\Gamma$  is defined as:

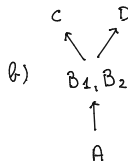
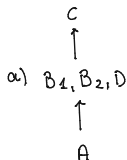
- ▶ If  $m = n = 0$ , then  $i(\Gamma) := \perp$
- ▶ Otherwise,  $i(\Gamma) := A_1 \vee \dots \vee A_m \vee \Box(i(\Delta_1)) \vee \dots \vee \Box(i(\Delta_n))$

## Examples

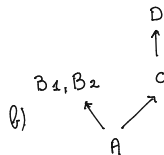
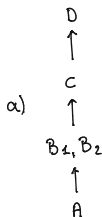
1)  $\Gamma = A, [B_1, B_2]$   
what is  $tr(\Gamma)$ ?



2)  $\Gamma = A, [B_1, B_2, [C], D]$   
what is  $tr(\Gamma)$ ?



3)  $\Gamma = A, [B_1, B_2], [C, [D]]$   
what is  $tr(\Gamma)$ ?



## Contexts

A **context** is a nested sequent with one or multiple holes, denoted by  $\{\}$ , each taking the place of a formula in the nested sequent.

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- ▶ Binary context  $\Gamma\{\}\{\}$

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- ▶ Binary context  $\Gamma\{\}\{\}$   $\rightsquigarrow \Gamma\{\Delta_1\}\{\Delta_2\}$ : filling  $\Gamma\{\}\{\}$  with  $\Delta_1, \Delta_2$

$$\Gamma\{\}\{\}\{\} = A, [B, \{\}\{\}, [\{\}\{\}], C]$$

$$\Gamma\{\}\{\}\{\}$$

$$\{\}\{\}$$



$$B, \{\}\{\}, C$$



$$A$$



## Contexts

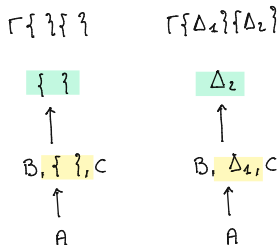
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$\Delta_1, \Delta_2$  nested sequents

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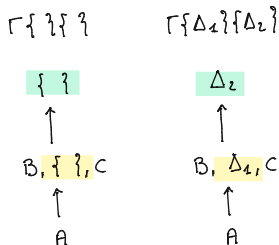
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$$\Gamma\{\}\{\}\{\} \quad \Gamma\{\Delta_1\}\{\Delta_2\}$$

$$\{\}$$



$$B, \{\}, C$$



$$A$$

$$\Delta_2$$



$$B, \Delta_1, C$$



$$A$$

The **depth**  $depth(\Gamma\{\})$  of a unary context  $\Gamma\{\}$  is defined as:

- ▶  $depth(\{\}) := 0$ ;
- ▶  $depth(\Gamma\{\}, \Delta) := depth(\Gamma\{\})$ ;
- ▶  $depth([\Gamma\{\}]) := depth(\Gamma\{\}) + 1$ .

$$depth(\Gamma\{\}\{\}\{\Delta_1\}) = 1$$

$$depth(\Gamma\{\Delta_1\}\{\}\{\}) = 2$$

## Rules of NK

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{init} \frac{}{\Gamma\{p, \bar{p}\}} \quad \wedge \frac{\Gamma\{A\} \quad \Gamma\{B\}}{\Gamma\{A \wedge B\}} \quad \vee \frac{\Gamma\{A, B\}}{\Gamma\{A \vee B\}} \\[1em] \Box \frac{\Gamma\{[A]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A\}} \quad \Diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond A, [A, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond A, [\Delta]\}} \end{array}$$

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 \end{array}$$

Example. Proof of  $(\Diamond p \rightarrow \Box q) \rightarrow \Box(p \rightarrow q)$  in NK

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{init} \frac{}{\Diamond p, [p, \bar{p}, q]} \quad \text{init} \frac{}{\Diamond \bar{q}, [\bar{q}, \bar{p}, q]} \\
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 \Box \frac{}{\Diamond p \wedge \Diamond \bar{q}, \Box(\bar{p} \vee q)} \\
 \vee \frac{}{(\Diamond p \wedge \Diamond \bar{q}) \vee \Box(\bar{p} \vee q)}
 \end{array}$$

## Roadmap

HILBERT-STYLE  
AXIOM SYSTEM

$\Gamma \vdash A$



LOGICAL  
CONSEQUENCE

$\Gamma \models A$

$\vdash_{mk} \Gamma \Rightarrow A$

NESTED SEQUENTS  
(without cut)

For a nested sequent  $\Gamma$  and a model  $\mathcal{M} = \langle W, R, v \rangle$ , an  $\mathcal{M}$ -map for  $\Gamma$  is a map  $f : tr(\Gamma) \rightarrow W$  such that whenever  $\delta$  is a child of  $\gamma$  in  $tr(\Gamma)$ , then  $f(\gamma)Rf(\delta)$ .

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A nested sequent  $\Gamma$  is **satisfied** by an  $\mathcal{M}$ -map for  $\Gamma$  iff

$$\mathcal{M}, f(\delta) \models B, \text{ for some } \delta \in tr(\Gamma), \text{ for some } B \in \delta$$



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A nested sequent  $\Gamma$  is **refuted** by an  $\mathcal{M}$ -map for  $\Gamma$  iff

$$\mathcal{M}, f(\delta) \not\models B, \text{ for all } \delta \in tr(\Gamma), \text{ for all } B \in \delta$$

## Validity of nested sequents [Kuznets & Straßburger, 2018]

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A nested sequent is **valid** iff it is satisfied by all  $\mathcal{M}$ -maps for  $\Gamma$ , for all models  $\mathcal{M}$ .

## Soundness of NK

**Lemma.** If  $\Gamma$  is derivable in NK then  $\Gamma$  is valid in all Kripke frames.

# Roadmap

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AXIOM SYSTEM

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LOGICAL  
CONSEQUENCE

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Sound.

$\vdash_{mk} \Gamma \Rightarrow A$

NESTED SEQUENTS  
(without cut)

## Completeness of NK

$$\text{wk} \frac{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}}{\Gamma\{\Delta\}}$$

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**Lemma.** The rules wk and ctr are hp-admissible in NK.

**Lemma.** All the rules of NK are hp-invertible.

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**Theorem.** The cut rule is admissible in NK.



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**Lemma.** All the rules of NK are hp-invertible.

**Theorem.** The cut rule is admissible in NK.

*Proof sketch.* Assume that the two premisses of cut are derivable in NK, and show how to construct a derivation of the conclusion of the conclusion. Lexicographic induction on  $(c, h)$ .



## One cut reduction case



$\rightsquigarrow$



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$\rightsquigarrow$



$A := \Box B$ , and  $\Box B$  is principal in the last rule applied in  $D_1, D_2$

# One cut reduction case



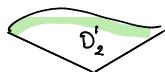
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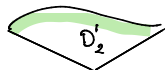


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$\rightsquigarrow$



$$\frac{\Gamma\{\Box B, [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box B, [\Delta]\}} \Box$$



$$\frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{B}, [\bar{B}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{B}, [\Delta]\}} \text{cut}$$



$$\frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{B}, [\bar{B}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{B}, [\Delta]\}} \Diamond$$

$$\Gamma\{[\bar{B}, \Delta]\}$$

$$\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{B}, [\Delta]\}$$

$$\Gamma\{[\Delta]\}$$

$D =$

## Roadmap

**Theorem.** If  $\Gamma \vdash A$ , then the nested sequent  $\bar{\Gamma} \vee A$  is derivable in NK.

HILBERT-STYLE  
AXIOM SYSTEM

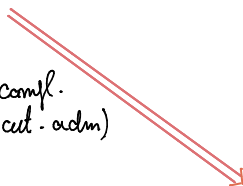
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CONSEQUENCE

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compl.  
(no cut - adm)



Sound.

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NESTED SEQUENTS  
(without cut)

## Semantic completeness

**Lemma (Proof or Countermodel).** For  $\Gamma$  nested sequent, either  $\Gamma$  is derivable in NK or there is an  $\mathcal{M}$ -map for  $\Gamma$  such that  $\Gamma$  is refuted by the  $\mathcal{M}$ -map.

**Theorem (Semantic Completeness).** If  $\Gamma \models A$ , then the nested sequent  $\bar{\Gamma} \vee A$  is derivable in NK.

## Proof or countermodel

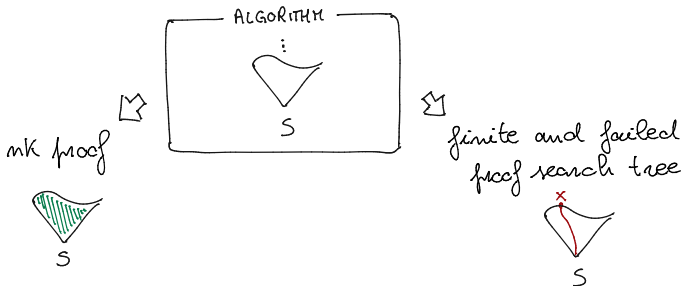
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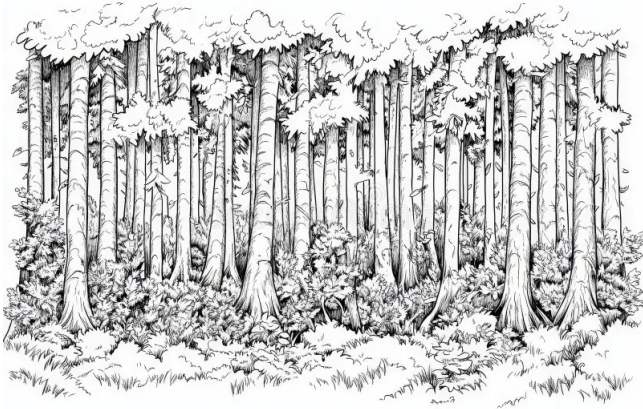
Proof (sketch). Algorithm implementing proof search in nk



## Example

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{init} \frac{}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{p}, p], \Box q} \quad \wedge \frac{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{q}, p], [\bar{p}, q] \quad \text{init} \frac{}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{q}, p], [\bar{q}, q]}}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{q}, p], [\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}, q]} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \Diamond \frac{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{q}, p], [q]}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{q}, p], \Box q} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \Box \frac{}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{q}, p], \Box q} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \wedge \frac{\text{init} \frac{}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{p}, p], \Box q} \quad \Diamond \frac{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}, p], \Box q}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [p], \Box q}}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}, p], \Box q} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \Box \frac{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), [p], \Box q}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), \Box p, \Box q} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \vee \frac{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), \Box p, \Box q}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), \Box p \vee \Box q} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \vee \frac{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}), \Box p \vee \Box q}{\Diamond(\bar{p} \wedge \bar{q}) \vee (\Box p \vee \Box q)}
 \end{array}$$

## Nested sequents for the S5-cube



# Rules for extensions: $NK \cup X^\diamond$

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 d^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\diamond A, [A]\}}{\Gamma\{\diamond A\}} & t^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\diamond A, A\}}{\Gamma\{\diamond A\}} & b^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{[\Delta, \diamond A], A\}}{\Gamma\{[\Delta, \diamond A]\}} \\
 4^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\diamond A, [\diamond A, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\diamond A, [\Delta]\}} & 5^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\diamond A\}\{\diamond A\}}{\Gamma\{\diamond A\}\{\emptyset\}} & \text{depth}(\Gamma\{\}\{\emptyset\}) > 0
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 \end{array}$$

For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , we write  $X^\diamond$  for the corresponding subset of  $\{d^\diamond, t^\diamond, b^\diamond, 4^\diamond, 5^\diamond\}$ . We shall consider the calculi  $NK \cup X^\diamond$ .

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**Example.** Proof of  $\Box p \rightarrow \Box\Box p$  in  $NK \cup \{t, 4\}$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{init} \frac{}{\diamond \bar{p}, [\diamond \bar{p}, [\diamond \bar{p}, \bar{p}, p]]} \\
 t^\diamond \frac{}{\diamond \bar{p}, [\diamond \bar{p}, [\diamond \bar{p}, p]]} \\
 4^\diamond \frac{}{\diamond \bar{p}, [\diamond \bar{p}, [p]]} \\
 4^\diamond \frac{}{\diamond \bar{p}, [[p]]} \\
 \Box \frac{}{\diamond \bar{p}, [\Box p]} \\
 \Box \frac{}{\diamond \bar{p}, \Box\Box p} \\
 \vee \frac{}{\diamond \bar{p} \vee \Box\Box p}
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## Structural rules [Brünnler, 2009]

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**Proposition.** Rule  $5^\diamond$  is derivable in  $NK \cup \{5_1^\diamond, 5_2^\diamond, 5_3^\diamond\} \cup \{\text{ctr}\}$ .

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 5^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\diamond A\}\{\diamond A\}}{\Gamma\{\diamond A\}\{\emptyset\}} \text{depth}(\Gamma\{\}\{\emptyset\}) > 0 \\
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 \end{array}$$

For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , a nested sequent is **X-valid** iff it is satisfied by all  $\mathcal{M}$ -maps for  $\Gamma$ , for all models  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfying the frame conditions in  $X$ .

**Theorem.** If  $\Gamma$  is derivable in  $NK \cup X^\diamond$  then  $\Gamma$  is valid in all  $X$ -frames.

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- ▶ Axiom 5, that is,  $\Diamond A \rightarrow \Box \Diamond A$ , is valid in all  $\{b, 4\}$ -frames, but it is **not** derivable in  $NK \cup \{b^\Diamond, 4^\Diamond\}$ .

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Failed proof of  $\Diamond A \rightarrow \Box \Diamond A$  in  $NK \cup \{b^\Diamond, 4^\Diamond\}$

$$\begin{array}{c} b^\Diamond \frac{[\bar{p}], p, [\Diamond p]}{[\bar{p}], [\Diamond p]} \\ \square \frac{[\bar{p}], [\Diamond p]}{\square \bar{p}, [\Diamond p]} \\ \square \frac{\square \bar{p}, [\Diamond p]}{\square \bar{p}, \square \Diamond p} \\ \vee \frac{\square \bar{p}, \square \Diamond p}{\square \bar{p} \vee \square \Diamond p} \end{array}$$

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Failed proof of  $\Diamond A \rightarrow \Box \Diamond A$  in  $NK \cup \{b^\Diamond, 4^\Diamond\}$

$$\begin{array}{c} b^\Diamond \frac{[\bar{p}], p, [\Diamond p]}{[\bar{p}], [\Diamond p]} \\ \Box \frac{[\bar{p}], [\Diamond p]}{\Box \bar{p}, [\Diamond p]} \\ \Box \frac{\Box \bar{p}, [\Diamond p]}{\Box \bar{p}, \Box \Diamond p} \\ \vee \frac{\Box \bar{p}, \Box \Diamond p}{\Box \bar{p} \vee \Box \Diamond p} \end{array}$$

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For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , the **45-closure** of  $X$  is defined as:

$$\hat{X} = \begin{cases} X \cup \{4\} & \text{if } \{b, 5\} \subseteq X \text{ or } \{t, 5\} \subseteq X \\ X \cup \{5\} & \text{if } \{b, 4\} \subseteq X \\ X & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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**Proposition.** For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$   $X$  is 45-closed iff, for  $\rho \in \{4, 5\}$ , it holds that if  $\rho$  is valid in all  $X$ -frames, then  $\rho \in X$ .

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To prove:

**Theorem (Completeness).** For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , if  $\Gamma$  is  $X$ -valid, then  $\Gamma$  is derivable in  $NK \cup \hat{X}^\diamond$ .

**Theorem (Cut-elimination).** For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$  45-closed, if  $\Gamma$  is derivable in  $NK \cup X^\diamond \cup \{\text{cut}\}$ , then it is derivable in  $NK \cup X^\diamond$ .

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The proof uses:

- ▶ A generalised version of cut (Y-cut, eliminable)

$$\text{cut} \frac{\frac{\square \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [\Delta]\}} \quad \text{tr}^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Delta]\}}}{\Gamma\{[\Delta]\}}}$$

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- ▶ Additional structural modal rules (admissible)

## Example: 4-cut

$$\text{cut} \frac{\Gamma\{A\} \quad \Gamma\{\bar{A}\}}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}} \qquad \text{Y-cut} \frac{\Gamma\{\Box A\}\{\emptyset\}^n \quad \Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}^n}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}\{\emptyset\}^n}$$

If  $Y = \{4\}$ , then  $\Gamma\{\}\{\}\^n$  is of the form  $\Gamma_1\{\}, \Gamma_2\{\}\^n$ :

$$\text{4-cut} \frac{\Gamma_1\{\Box A\}, \Gamma_2\{\emptyset\}^n \quad \Gamma_1\{\Diamond A\}, \Gamma_2\{\Diamond A\}^n}{\Gamma_1\{\emptyset\}, \Gamma_2\{\emptyset\}^n}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \Box \\ \text{cut} \end{array} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [\Delta]\}} \quad \begin{array}{c} 4^\Diamond \\ \text{cut} \end{array} \frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Delta]\}} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} \Box \\ \text{cut} \end{array} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [\Delta]\}} \quad \begin{array}{c} 4\text{-cut} \end{array} \frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{[\Delta]\}}$$



## cut and Y-cut

$$\text{cut} \frac{\Gamma\{A\} \quad \Gamma\{\bar{A}\}}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}}$$

$$\text{Y-cut} \frac{\Gamma\{\Box A\}\{\emptyset\}^n \quad \Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}^n}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}\{\emptyset\}^n}$$

In the Y-cut:

- ▶  $\{\Delta\}^n$  denotes  $\overbrace{\{\Delta\} \dots \{\Delta\}}^{n \text{ times}}$ ;
- ▶  $n \geq 0$ ;
- ▶  $Y \subseteq \{4, 5\}$ ;
- ▶ there is a derivation of  $\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}^n$  to  $\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}\{\emptyset\}^n$  in system  $Y^\Diamond$ .

## Example: 4-cut

$$\text{cut} \frac{\Gamma\{A\} \quad \Gamma\{\bar{A}\}}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}}$$

$$\text{Y-cut} \frac{\Gamma\{\Box A\}\{\emptyset\}^n \quad \Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}\{\Diamond \bar{A}\}^n}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}\{\emptyset\}^n}$$

If  $Y = \{4\}$ , then  $\Gamma\{\}\{\}^n$  is of the form  $\Gamma_1\{\}, \Gamma_2\{\}^n$ :

$$4\text{-cut} \frac{\Gamma_1\{\Box A\}, \Gamma_2\{\emptyset\}^n \quad \Gamma_1\{\Diamond A\}, \Gamma_2\{\Diamond A\}^n}{\Gamma_1\{\emptyset\}, \Gamma_2\{\emptyset\}^n}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \Box \\ \text{cut} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [\Delta]\}} \end{array} \quad 4^\Diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Delta]\}} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} \Box \\ 4\text{-cut} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [\Delta]\}} \quad \Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{[\Delta]\}} \end{array}$$

$$\Gamma_2\{\}\{\}^1 = [\{\}, \Delta]$$

$$\Gamma_1\{\}\{\}\{\}\{\} = \Gamma\{\}\{\}, [\{\}, \Delta]\}$$

## Structural modal rules

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 d^{[1]} \frac{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}} & t^{[1]} \frac{\Gamma\{\Delta\}}{\Gamma\{\Delta\}} & b^{[1]} \frac{\Gamma\{[\Sigma], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Delta, [\Sigma]\}} \\
 4^{[1]} \frac{\Gamma\{[\Delta], [\Sigma]\}}{\Gamma\{[[\Delta], \Sigma]\}} & 5^{[1]} \frac{\Gamma\{[\Delta]\}\{\emptyset\}}{\Gamma\{\emptyset\}\{[\Delta]\}} & \text{depth}(\Gamma\{\}\{[\Delta]\}) > 0
 \end{array}$$

For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , we write  $X^{[1]}$  for the corresponding subset of  $\{d^{[1]}, t^{[1]}, b^{[1]}, 4^{[1]}, 5^{[1]}\}$ .

## Structural modal rules

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 \\
 \text{4}^{[ ]} \frac{\Gamma\{\{\Delta, [\Sigma]\}\}}{\Gamma\{\{[\Delta], \Sigma]\}\}} \quad \text{5}^{[ ]} \frac{\Gamma\{\{\Delta\}\}\{\emptyset\}}{\Gamma\{\{\emptyset\}\}\{\Delta\}} \text{depth}(\Gamma\{\{\}\}\{\Delta\}) > 0
 \end{array}$$

For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , we write  $X^{[ ]}$  for the corresponding subset of  $\{d^{[ ]}, t^{[ ]}, b^{[ ]}, 4^{[ ]}, 5^{[ ]}\}$ .

**Example.** Proof of  $\Diamond A \rightarrow \Box \Diamond A$  in  $NK \cup \{b^{[ ]}, 4^{[ ]}\}$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{init} \frac{}{[[[\bar{p}, p], \Diamond p]]} \\
 \Diamond \frac{}{[[[\bar{p}], \Diamond p]]} \\
 \text{4}^{[ ]} \frac{}{[[[\bar{p}]], \Diamond p]} \\
 \text{b}^{[ ]} \frac{}{[\bar{p}], [\Diamond p]} \\
 \Box \frac{}{\Box \bar{p}, [\Diamond p]} \\
 \Box \frac{}{\Box \bar{p}, \Box \Diamond p} \\
 \vee \frac{}{\Box \bar{p} \vee \Box \Diamond p}
 \end{array}$$

## Cut-admissibility

**Theorem (Cut-admissibility).** For  $X \subseteq \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$  45-closed, the cut rule and the Y-cut rule are admissible in  $NK \cup X^\diamond$ .

$$\frac{\frac{\square}{\text{cut}} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [\Delta]\}} \quad 4^\diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Delta]\}}}{\Gamma\{[\Delta]\}} \rightsquigarrow \frac{\square}{4\text{-cut}} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [\Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [\Delta]\}} \quad \Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, \Delta]\}}{\Gamma\{[\Delta]\}}$$

$$\frac{\square}{4\text{-cut}} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [[\Sigma]]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [[\Sigma]]\}} \quad \diamond \frac{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, [\bar{A}, \Sigma]]\}}{\Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Sigma]]\}}}{\Gamma\{[[\Sigma]]\}} \rightsquigarrow$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \frac{4[\Box] \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [[\Sigma]]\}}{\Gamma\{[[A], [\Sigma]]\}} \quad 4[\Box] \frac{\Gamma\{[[A], [\Sigma]]\}}{\Gamma\{[[A], [\Sigma]]\}}}{\text{cut}} \quad \frac{\square}{4\text{-cut}} \frac{\Gamma\{[A], [[\Sigma]]\}}{\Gamma\{\Box A, [[\Sigma]]\}} \quad \Gamma\{\Diamond \bar{A}, [\Diamond \bar{A}, [\bar{A}, \Sigma]]\}}{\Gamma\{[[\bar{A}, \Sigma]]\}}}{\Gamma\{[[\Sigma]]\}}$$

## Roadmap

$X \subseteq \{d, t, b, \wedge, \exists\}$  and  $X$   $\Delta^1_1$ -closed:

HILBERT-STYLE  
AXIOM SYSTEM

$\Gamma \vdash_X A$

LOGICAL  
CONSEQUENCE

$\Gamma \models_X A$

compl.  
(via cut-adm)

Sound.

$\vdash_{mk \cup X} \Gamma \Rightarrow A$   
NESTED SEQUENTS  
(without cut)

## Solution # 2 [Marin & Straßburger, 2014]

Can we get rid of the 45-closure condition?

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**YES:** by adding to NK both the propagation rules  $X^\diamond$  and the structural rules  $X^[]$ . The price to pay is that contraction is no longer admissible.

**Theorem.** For  $X = \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , and  $\Gamma$  a set of formulas, it holds that  $\Gamma$  is derivable in  $NK_{ctr} \cup X_{ctr}^\diamond \cup X^[]$  iff  $\Gamma$  is X-valid.



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Can we get rid of the propagation rules, and use  $NK_{ctr} \cup X^[]$  ?

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Can we get rid of the propagation rules, and use  $NK_{\text{ctr}} \cup X^[]$  ?

**NO**, some combinations are incomplete, and one example is given in [Marin & Straßburger, 2014].

## Summing up

	fml. interpr.	invertible rules	analyti- city	termination proof search	counterterm. constr.	modu- larity
<b>G3cp</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes, easy!	yes, easy!	n/a
<b>G3K</b>	yes	no	yes	yes, easy!	yes, not easy	no
$NK \cup X^\diamond$	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	45-clause

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► **Hypersequents** for S5

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A hypersequent  $\mathcal{H}$  is a finite multiset of sequents:

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- ▶ **Linear nested sequents**, lists of sequents [Lellmann, 2015]
- ▶ .. and many more! For an overview: [Lyon et al., 2025]



End of content for today's lecture!

Questions?

## Exercises

$$d \quad \Box A \rightarrow \Diamond A$$

$$t \quad \Box A \rightarrow A$$

$$b \quad A \rightarrow \Box \Diamond A$$

$$4 \quad \Box A \rightarrow \Box \Box A$$

$$5 \quad \Diamond A \rightarrow \Box \Diamond A$$

1. For  $X \in \{d, t, b, 4, 5\}$ , show that the axiom  $X$  is derivable in the nested sequent calculus  $NK \cup X^\Diamond$ .
2. Show that axiom 4 is valid in all  $\{t, 5\}$ -frames, but it is **not** derivable in  $NK \cup \{t^\Diamond, 5^\Diamond\}$ . Show that the axiom is derivable in  $NK \cup \{t^{[]}, 5^{[]}\}$ .
3. Show that 4 is valid in all  $\{b, 5\}$ -frames, but it is **not** derivable in  $NK \cup \{b^\Diamond, 5^\Diamond\}$ . Show that the axiom is derivable in  $NK \cup \{b^{[]}, 5^{[]}\}$ .
4. Derive axioms  $t, b$  and  $5$  in the hypersequent calculus for  $S5$ .