

Dynamic Epistemic Logic

Chapter 4 - Action models

4.1 Motivation

So far. Only public announcements.

How can we model "private announcements", etc...?

Example 1 *a and b both don't know the value of proposition p. This is common knowledge among them. In fact p is true. Then a receives a letter containing the value of p and reads it. Agent b observes a reading the letter and knows that it is about p, but b does not learn the value of p.*

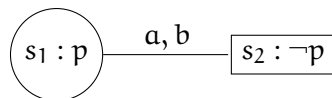


Figure 1: Before

Question: How to get from Before to After?

Answer: Action models.

After, $s'_1 = K_a p \wedge (\neg K_b p \wedge \neg K_b \neg p) \wedge K_b (K_a p \vee K_a \neg p) \wedge K_a (\neg K_b p \wedge \neg K_b \neg p)$

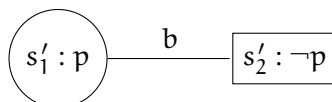


Figure 2: After

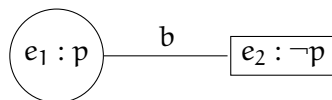


Figure 3: Action model Read

Then, $\text{After} = \text{Before} \otimes \text{Read}$

For an appropriate definition of \otimes :

Definition 1 \otimes is a restricted modal update with component worlds (s,e) only present if $(M,s) \models \text{pre}(e)$

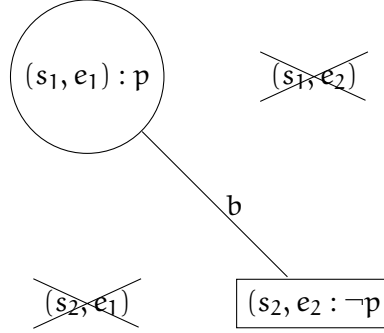


Figure 4: Before \otimes Read

$(s_1, e_1) \sim_b (s_2, e_2)$ because $s_1 \sim_b s_2$ and $e_1 \sim_b e_2$.
 (s_1, e_2) and (s_2, e_1) were eliminated because e_2 cannot be applied in s_1 and e_1 cannot be applied in s_2 .

4.2 Action models

Definition 2 Let \mathcal{L} be any logical language for a set of agents A and a set of atoms P . Then an S5 action model m is a structure $\langle S, \sim, \text{pre} \rangle$ s.t.:

S is the domain of action events,

$\forall a \in A, \sim_a$ is an equivalence relation on S ,

$\text{pre}: S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ is the precondition function that assigns a precondition $\text{pre}(s) \in \mathcal{L}$

$\forall s \in S$

A pointed action model is such a structure (M,s) with $s \in S$

4.3 Syntax of action model logic

Definition 3 Given A and P , the language of action model logic $\mathcal{L}_{\text{KC}\otimes}$ is the union of the formulas $\phi \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{KC}\otimes}^{\text{stat}}(A, P)$ and the actions $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{KC}\otimes}^{\text{act}}(A, P)$ defined by:

$\phi ::= p \mid \neg p \mid (\phi \wedge \phi) \mid \mathbf{K}_a \phi \mid \mathbf{C}_B \phi \mid [\alpha] \phi$

$\alpha ::= (M, s) \mid \alpha \vee \alpha$

where $p \in P, a \in A, B \subseteq A$ and (M,s) is a pointed action model with:

(1) finite domain S ,

(2) such that $\forall t \in S$, the precondition $\text{pre}(t)$ is a $\mathcal{L}_{\text{KC}\otimes}^{\text{stat}}(A, P)$ formula that has already been constructed in a previous step of the induction

Example 2 (*Public announcements*)

Public announcements can be viewed as action models.

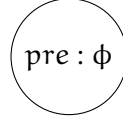


Figure 5: Action model for the public announcement of ϕ

$$\langle \alpha \rangle := \neg[\alpha]\neg\phi$$

$$M = \bigcup_{s \in S} (M, s)$$

Definition 4 (*Composition*)

Let $m = \langle S, \sim, \text{pre} \rangle$ and $m' = \langle S', \sim', \text{pre}' \rangle$ be action models in $\mathcal{L}^{\text{act}}_{\text{KC}} \otimes (A, P)$. Then their composition $(m; m')$ is the action model $\langle S'', \sim'', \text{pre}'' \rangle$ s.t. :

$$S = S \times S'$$

$$(s, s') \sim''_a (t, t') \text{ iff } s \sim_a t \text{ and } s' \sim'_a t'$$

$$\text{pre}((s, s')) = \langle M, s \rangle \text{pre}'(s')$$

For pointed action models: $((m, t); (m', t')) = ((m; m'), (t; t'))$

4.4 Semantics of action model logic

Definition 5 Let $m = \langle S, \sim, V \rangle$ be an epistemic models and let $m' = \langle S', \sim', \text{pre} \rangle$ be an action model. Then the product update of $m \otimes m'$ is the model $m'' = \langle S'', \sim'', V'' \rangle$, where:

$$S'' = \{(s, s') \in S \times S' \mid m, s \models \text{pre}(s')\}$$

$$(s, s') \sim''_a (t, t') \text{ iff } s \sim_a t \text{ and } s' \sim'_a t' \text{ for } a \in A$$

$$(s, s') \in V_p \text{ iff } s \in V_p$$

Example 3 $(\text{Before}, S_1) \otimes (\text{Read}, e_1) = (\text{After}, (s_1, e_1))$

Definition 6 (*Semantics of formulas and actions*)

Let (m, s) be an epistemic state and $m' = \langle S', \sim', \text{pre} \rangle$ an action model, $\phi \in \mathcal{L}^{\text{stat}}_{\text{KC}} \otimes (A, P)$ and $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}^{\text{act}}_{\text{KC}} \otimes (A, P)$. Then:

$$m, s \models \phi \mid \neg\phi \mid \phi \wedge \phi \mid K_a \phi \mid C_B \phi \text{ are as usual}$$

$$m, s \models [\alpha]\phi \text{ iff } \forall m'', s'' : (m, s) \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket (m'', s'') \text{ implies } m'', s'' \models \phi \text{ where}$$

$$(m, s) \llbracket (m', s') \rrbracket (m'', s'') \text{ iff } (m, s) \models \text{pre}(s') \text{ and } (m'', s'') = (m \otimes m', (s, s')) \text{ and}$$

$$\llbracket \alpha \cup \alpha' \rrbracket = \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket \cup \llbracket \alpha' \rrbracket.$$

For $\alpha = (m', s') : m, s \models [m', s']\phi$ iff $(m, s) \models \text{pre}(s')$ implies $(m \otimes m', (s, s')) \models \phi$

Remark: Compare to semantics of $[\phi]\psi$ and $\langle\phi\rangle\psi$ in PA.

Proposition: Let $(m, s), (m', s') \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{KC}}^{\text{act}}(A, P)$ and $\phi \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{KC}}^{\text{stat}}(A, P)$. Then:
 $[(m, s); (m', s')]\phi$ is equivalent to $[(m, s)][(m', s')]\phi$