Introduction to modal logic

José Proença

HASLab - INESC TEC Universidade do Minho Braga, Portugal

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What's in a logic? Modal Logic Bisimulation and modal equivalence Temporal logic Hybrid logic

A logic

A language

i.e. a collection of well-formed expressions to which meaning can be assigned.

A semantics

describing how language expressions are interpreted as statements about something.

A deductive system

i.e. a collection of rules to derive in a purely syntactic way facts and relationships among semantic objects described in the language.

Note

- a purely syntactic approach (up to the 1940's; the sacred form)
- a model theoretic approach (A. Tarski legacy)

- sentences
- models & satisfaction: $\mathfrak{M} \models \phi$
- validity: $\models \phi$ (ϕ is satisfied in every possible structure)
- logical consequence: $\Phi \models \phi$ (ϕ is satisfied in every model of Φ)
- theory: $Th \Phi$ (set of logical consequences of a set of sentences Φ)

Syntactic reasoning: deductive systems

Deductive systems

- sequents
- Hilbert systems
- natural deduction
- tableaux systems
- resolution
- . . .
- derivation and proof
- deductive consequence: $\Phi \vdash \phi$
- theorem: $\vdash \phi$

Soundness & completeness

 A deductive system ⊢ is sound wrt a semantics ⊨ if for all sentences ϕ

$$\vdash \phi \implies \models \phi$$

(every theorem is valid)

complete ...

$$\models \phi \implies \vdash \phi$$

(every valid sentence is a theorem)

What's in a logic?

Consistency & refutability

For logics with negation and a conjunction operator

- A sentence ϕ is refutable if $\neg \phi$ is a theorem (i.e. $\vdash \neg \phi$)
- A set of sentences Φ is refutable if some finite conjunction of elements in Φ is refutable
- ϕ or Φ is consistent if it is not refutable.

Examples

- Propositional logic (logic of uninterpreted assertions; models are truth assignments)
- Equational logic (formalises equational reasoning; models are algebras)
- First-order logic (logic of predicates and quatification over structures; models are relational structures)
- Modal logics

Modal logic (from P. Blackburn, 2007)

Over the years modal logic has been applied in many different ways. It has been used as a tool for reasoning about time, beliefs, computational systems, necessity and possibility, and much else besides.

These applications, though diverse, have something important in common: the key ideas they employ (flows of time, relations between epistemic alternatives, transitions between computational states, networks of possible worlds) can all be represented as simple graph-like structures.

Modal logics are

- tools to talk about relational, or graph-like structures.
- fragments of classical ones, with restricted forms of quantification ...
- ... which tend to be decidable and described in a pointfree notations.

The language

Syntax

$$\phi ::= p \mid \mathsf{true} \mid \mathsf{false} \mid \neg \phi \mid \phi_1 \land \phi_2 \mid \phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2 \mid \langle m \rangle \phi \mid [m] \phi$$

where $p \in PROP$ and $m \in MOD$

Disjunction (\lor) and equivalence (\leftrightarrow) are defined by abbreviation. The signature of the basic modal language is determined by sets PROP of propositional symbols (typically assumed to be denumerably infinite) and MOD of modality symbols.

Notes

- if there is only one modality in the signature (i.e., MOD is a singleton), write simply $\Diamond \phi$ and $\Box \phi$
- the language has some redundancy: in particular modal connectives are dual (as quantifiers are in first-order logic): $[m] \phi$ is equivalent to $\neg \langle m \rangle \neg \phi$
- define modal depth in a formula ϕ , denoted by md ϕ as the maximum level of nesting of modalities in ϕ

Semantics

A model for the language is a pair $\mathfrak{M} = \langle \mathbb{F}, V \rangle$, where

- $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, \{R_m\}_{m \in MOD} \rangle$ is a Kripke frame, ie, a non empty set W and a family of binary relations over W, one for each modality symbol $m \in MOD$. Elements of W are called points, states, worlds or simply vertices in directed graphs.
- $V : \mathsf{PROP} \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(W)$ is a valuation.

Semantics

Safistaction: for a model $\mathfrak M$ and a point w

```
\mathfrak{M}, w \models \mathsf{true}
\mathfrak{M}, w \not\models \mathsf{false}
\mathfrak{M}, w \models p
                                                     iff
                                                               w \in V(p)
\mathfrak{M}, w \models \neg \phi
                                                     iff
                                                                \mathfrak{M}, \mathsf{w} \not\models \phi
\mathfrak{M}, w \models \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2
                                                     iff
                                                                \mathfrak{M}, w \models \phi_1 \text{ and } \mathfrak{M}, w \models \phi_2
\mathfrak{M}, \mathsf{w} \models \phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2
                                                     iff
                                                                 \mathfrak{M}, w \not\models \phi_1 or \mathfrak{M}, w \models \phi_2
\mathfrak{M}, w \models \langle m \rangle \phi
                                                     iff
                                                                there exists v \in W st vR_m w and \mathfrak{M}, v \models \phi
\mathfrak{M}, w \models [m] \phi
                                                     iff
                                                                 for all v \in W st vR_m w and \mathfrak{M}, v \models \phi
```

Satisfaction

A formula ϕ is

- ullet satisfiable in a model ${\mathfrak M}$ if it is satisfied at some point of ${\mathfrak M}$
- globally satisfied in \mathfrak{M} ($\mathfrak{M} \models \phi$) if it is satisfied at all points in \mathfrak{M}
- valid ($\models \phi$) if it is globally satisfied in all models
- a semantic consequence of a set of formulas Γ ($\Gamma \models \phi$) if for all models $\mathfrak M$ and all points w, if $\mathfrak M, w \models \Gamma$ then $\mathfrak M, w \models \phi$

Minimal modal logic

- all formulas with the form of a propositional tautology (including formulas which contain modalities but are truth-functionally tautologous)
- all instances of the axiom schema:

$$\Box(\phi \to \psi) \to (\Box \phi \to \Box \psi)$$

• two proof rules:

if
$$\vdash \phi$$
 and $\vdash \phi \rightarrow \psi$ then $\vdash \psi$ (modus ponens)
if $\vdash \phi$ then $\vdash \Box \phi$ (generalization)

Normal modal logics are axiomatic extensions to K

- different applications of modal logic typically validate different modal axioms;
- a normal modal logic is identified with the set of formulas it generates; it is said to be consistent if it does not contain all formulas. This identification immediately induces a lattice structure on the set of all such logics.

Variants

Modal axioms reflect properties of accessibility relations:

- transitive frames: $\Box \phi \rightarrow \Box \Box \phi$
- simple frames: $\Diamond \phi \rightarrow \Box \phi$
- frames consisting of isolated reflexive points: $\phi \leftrightarrow \Box \phi$
- frames consisting of isolated irreflexive points: □false

But there are classes of frames which are not modally definable, eg, connected, irreflexive, containing a isolated irreflexive point

An automaton

$$A = 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{b} 3$$

- two modalities $\langle a \rangle$ and $\langle b \rangle$ to explore the corresponding classes of transitions
- note that

$$1 \models \langle a \rangle \cdots \langle a \rangle \langle b \rangle \cdots \langle b \rangle t$$

where t is a proposition valid only at the (terminal) state 3.

 all modal formulas of this form correspond to the strings accepted by the automaton, i.e. in language $\mathcal{L} = \{a^m b^n \mid m, n > 0\}$

(P, <) a strict partial order with infimum 0

- $P, x \models \Box$ false if x is a maximal element of P
- $P, 0 \models \Diamond \Box$ false iff ...
- $P, 0 \models \Box \Diamond \Box$ false iff ...

Process logic (Hennessy-Milner logic)

- PROP = ∅
- $W = \mathbb{P}$ is a set of states, typically process terms, in a labelled transition system
- each subset $K \subseteq Act$ of actions generates a modality corresponding to transitions labelled by an element of K

Assuming the underlying LTS $\mathfrak{F} = \langle \mathbb{P}, \{p \xrightarrow{K} p' \mid K \subseteq Act\} \rangle$ as the modal frame, satisfaction is abbreviated as

$$\begin{split} p &\models \langle K \rangle \, \phi & \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists_{q \in \{p' \mid p \xrightarrow{a} p' \, \land \, a \in K\}} \, . \, q \models \phi \\ p &\models [K] \, \phi & \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall_{q \in \{p' \mid p \xrightarrow{a} p' \, \land \, a \in K\}} \, . \, q \models \phi \end{split}$$

Temporal logic

- $\langle T, < \rangle$ where T is a set of time points (instants, execution states , ...) and < is the earlier than relation on T.
- Thus, $\Box \varphi$ (respectively, $\Diamond \varphi$) means that φ holds in all (respectively, some) time points.
- origin: Arthur Prior, an attempt to deal with temporal information from the inside, capturing the situated nature of our experience and the context-dependent way we talk about it

Examples

$$\langle T, < \rangle$$

The structure of time is a strict partial order (i.e., a transitive and asymmetric relation)

For any such structure, a new modality, (), can be defined based on the cover relation \leq for < (i.e., the smallest relation whose transitive closure is <). Thus,

$$t \models \bigcirc \phi \qquad \text{iff} \quad \forall_{t' \in \{p' \mid t < t'\}} \cdot t' \models \phi$$

$$t \models \Box \phi \qquad \text{iff} \quad \forall_{t' \in \{p' \mid t < t'\}} \cdot t' \models \phi$$

$$t \models \Diamond \phi \qquad \text{iff} \quad \exists_{t' \in \{p' \mid t < t'\}} \cdot t' \models \phi$$

... but typical structures, however, are

Linear time structures

- linear: $\langle \forall x, y : x, y \in T : x = y \land x < y \land y < x \rangle$.
- discrete: for each $t \in T$, i) if there is a u > t there is a first such u; ii) if there is a u < t there is a last such u.
- dense: if for all $t, x \in T$, if x < t there is a $v \in T$ such that x < v < t.
- Dedekind complete: if for all S ⊆ T non-empty and bounded above, there is a lest upper bound in T.
- continuous: if it is both dense and Dedekind complete

Epistemic logic (J. Hintikka, 1962)

- W is a set of agents
- $\alpha \models i$ means i is the current knowledge of agent i
- $\alpha \models \Box j$ means the agent knows that j (in the sense that at each alternative epistemic situation information j is known)
- $\alpha \models \Diamond j$ means the agent knows that knowledge j is consistent with what the agent knows (is an epistemically acceptable alternative)

Boxes and diamonds are essentially a macro notation to encode quantification over accessible states in a point free way.

The standard translation

... to first-order logic expands these macros:

$$ST_{x}(p) = P x$$

$$ST_{x}(\text{true}) = \text{true}$$

$$ST_{x}(\text{false}) = \text{false}$$

$$ST_{x}(\neg \phi) = \neg ST_{x}(\phi)$$

$$ST_{x}(\phi_{1} \land \phi_{2}) = ST_{x}(\phi_{1}) \land ST_{x}(\phi_{1})$$

$$ST_{x}(\phi_{1} \rightarrow \phi_{2}) = ST_{x}(\phi_{1}) \rightarrow ST_{x}(\phi_{1})$$

$$ST_{x}(\langle m \rangle \phi) = \langle \exists \ y \ :: \ (yR_{m}x \land ST_{y}(\phi)) \rangle$$

$$ST_{x}([m] \phi) = \langle \forall \ y \ :: \ (yR_{m}x \rightarrow ST_{y}(\phi)) \rangle$$

Lemma

For any ϕ , \mathfrak{M} and point w in \mathfrak{M} ,

$$\mathfrak{M}, w \models \phi$$
 iff $\mathfrak{M} \models ST_x(\phi)[x \leftarrow w]$

Note

Note how the (unique) free variable x in ST_x mirrors in first-order the internal perspective: assigning a value to x corresponds to evaluating the modal formula at a certain state.

The first order connection

The standard translation provides a bridge between modal logic and classical logic which makes possible to transfer results from one side to the other. For example,

Compactness

If Φ is a set of basic modal formulas and every finite subset of Φ is satisfiable, then Φ itself is satisfiable.

Löwenheim-Skolem

If Φ is a set of basic modal formulas satisfiable in at least one infinite model, then it is satisfiable in models of every infinite cardinality.

- Propositional modal languages are syntactically simple languages that offer a pointfree notation for talking about relational structures
- They do this from the inside, using the modal operators to look for information at accessible states
- Regarded as a tool for talking about models, any basic modal language can be seen as a fragment of first-order language
- The standard translation systematically maps modal formulas to first-order formulas (in one free variable) and makes the quantification over accessible states explicit

Exercise

Express the following properties in Process Logic

- inevitability of a:
- progress:
- deadlock or termination:
- what about

 $\langle - \rangle$ false and [-] true ?

Express the following properties in Process Logic

- inevitability of a: $\langle \rangle$ true $\wedge [-a]$ false
- progress: ⟨−⟩ true
- deadlock or termination: [-] false
- what about

 $\langle - \rangle$ false and [-] true ?

Express the following properties in Process Logic

- $\phi_0 = \text{In a taxi network, a car can collect a passenger or be allocated}$ by the Central to a pending service
- $\phi_1 =$ This applies only to cars already on service
- $\phi_2 =$ If a car is allocated to a service, it must first collect the passenger and then plan the route
- $\phi_3 = On$ detecting an emergence the taxi becomes inactive
- $\phi_4 = A$ car on service is not inactive

Exercise

Process logic: The taxi network example

- $\phi_0 = \langle rec, alo \rangle$ true
- $\phi_1 = [onservice] \langle rec, alo \rangle$ true or $\phi_1 = [onservice] \phi_0$
- $\phi_2 = [alo] \langle rec \rangle \langle plan \rangle$ true
- $\phi_3 = [sos][-]$ false
- $\phi_4 = [onservice] \langle \rangle$ true

where – stands for Act, and -x abbreviates $Act - \{x\}$

Standard translation to FOL

- Explain how propositional symbols and modalities are translated to first-order logic?
- In what sense can modal logic be regarded as a pointfree version of a FOL fragment?
- Compute $ST_x(p \Rightarrow \langle m \rangle p)$

Definition

Given two models $\mathfrak{M} = \langle \langle W, R \rangle, V \rangle$ and $\mathfrak{M}' = \langle \langle W', R' \rangle, V' \rangle$, a bisimulation is a non-empty binary relation $S \subseteq W \times W'$ st whenever wSw' one has that

- points w and w' satisfy the same propositional symbols
- if vRw, then there is a point v' in \mathfrak{M}' st v'Rw' and vSv'(zig)
- (zag) • if v'R'w', then there is a point v in \mathfrak{M} st vRw and vSv'

Bisimulation

Definition

- Bisimulations can be used to expand or contract models (cf via tree unraveling and contraction)
- Bisimulation vs model constructions (disjoint union, generated submodels and bounded morphisms)

Note

Note the relation to the notion of bisimulation in transition systems, independently discovered by Park (1982) in Computer Science.

Invariance and definability

Lemma (invariance: bisimulation implies modal equivalence)

Given two models $\mathfrak{M}=\langle\langle W,R\rangle,V\rangle$ and $\mathfrak{M}'=\langle\langle W',R'\rangle,V'\rangle$, and a bisimulation $S\subseteq W\times W'$, if two points w,w' are related by S, i.e. wSw', then w,w' satisfy the same basic modal formulas.

Applications

- to prove bisimulation failures
- to show the undefinability of some structural notions, e.g. irreflexivity is modally undefinable
- to show that typical model constructions are satisfaction preserving
- ..

Bisimilarity and modal equivalence

- Show that irreflexivity is modally undefinable.
- Consider the following transition systems:



Give a modal formula that can be satisfied at point 1 but not at 3.

To prove the converse of the invariance lemma requires passing to an infinitary modal language with arbitrary (countable) conjunctions and disjunctions. Alternatively, and more usefully, it can be shown for finite models:

Lemma (modal equivalence implies bisimulation)

If two points w,w' from two finite models $\mathfrak{M}=\langle\langle W,R\rangle,V\rangle$ and $\mathfrak{M}'=\langle\langle W',R'\rangle,V'\rangle$ satisfy the same modal formulas, then there is a bisimulation $S\subseteq W\times W'$ such that wSw'.

Note

- The result can be weakened to image-finite models.
- Combining this result with the invariance lemma one gets the so-called modal equivalence theorem stating that, for image-finite models, bisimilarity and modal equivalence coincide. The result is also known as the Hennessy-Milner theorem who first proved it for process logics.

Exercise

 Give an example of modally equivalent states in different Kripke structure which fail to be bisimilar.

Lemma (modal logic vs first-order)

The following are equivalent for all first-order formulas $\phi(x)$ in one free variable x:

- $\phi(x)$ is invariant for bisimulation.
- 2 $\phi(x)$ is equivalent to the standard translation of a basic modal formula.

Therefore:

the basic modal language corresponds to the fragment of their first-order correspondence language that is invariant for bisimulation

- the basic modal language (interpreted over the class of all models) is computationally better behaved than the corresponding first-order language (interpreted over the same models)
- ... but clearly less expressive

	model checking	satisfiability
ML	PTIME	PSPACE-complete
FOL	PSPACE-complete	undecidable

What are the trade-offs? Can this better computational behaviour be lifted to more expressive modal logics?

Richer modal logics

can be obtained in different ways, e.g.

- axiomatic extensions
- introducing more complex satisfaction relations
- support novel semantic capabilities
- ..

Examples

- richer temporal logics
- hybrid logic
- modal μ-calculus

Temporal logics with ${\cal U}$ and ${\cal S}$

Until and Since

```
\mathfrak{M},w\models\phi\mathcal{U}\psi iff there exists v\in W st vRw and \mathfrak{M},v\models\psi, and for all u st uRw and vRu, one has \mathfrak{M},u\models\phi \mathfrak{M},w\models\phi\mathcal{S}\psi iff there exists v\in W st wRv and \mathfrak{M},v\models\psi, and for all u st uRv and wRu, one has \mathfrak{M},u\models\phi
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- note the ∃∀ qualification pattern: these operators are neither diamonds nor boxes
- more expressive e.g. helpful to express guarantee properties, e.g. some event will happen, and a certain condition will hold until then

Exercise

Temporal logics

• Show that \mathcal{U} is modally undefinable. Hint Consider the following transition structures and formula false U true:





 Would this be the case if we restrict ourselves to transitive. irreflexive models?

Linear temporal logic (LTL)

$$\phi := \mathsf{true} \mid p \mid \phi_1 \land \phi_2 \mid \neg \phi \mid \bigcirc \phi \mid \phi_1 \, \mathcal{U} \, \phi_2$$

mutual exclusion	$\Box(\lnot c_1 \lor \lnot c_2)$
liveness	$\Box\Diamond c_1 \wedge \Box\Diamond c_2$
starvation freedom	$(\Box\lozenge w_1 o \Box\lozenge c_1) \wedge (\Box\lozenge w_1 o \Box\lozenge c_1)$
progress	$\Box(\mathit{w}_1 o \Diamond \mathit{c}_1)$
weak fairness	$\Diamond \Box w_1 \to \Box \Diamond c_1$
eventually forever	$\Diamond \Box w_1$

- First temporal logic to reason about reactive systems [Pnueli, 1977]
- Formulas are interpreted over execution paths
- Express linear-time properties

Computational tree logic (CTL, CTL*)

state formulas to express properties of a state:

$$\Phi := \mathsf{true} \mid \Phi \land \Phi \mid \neg \Phi \mid \exists \phi \mid \forall \phi$$

path formulas to express properties of a path:

$$\phi := \bigcirc \Phi \mid \Phi \mathcal{U} \Psi$$

mutual exclusion	$\forall \Box (\neg c_1 \lor \neg c_2)$
liveness	$\forall \Box \forall \Diamond c_1 \land \forall \Box \forall \Diamond c_2$
order	$\forall \Box (c_1 \lor \forall \bigcirc c_2)$

- Branching time structure encode transitive, irreflexive but not necessarily linear flows of time
- flows are trees: past linear; branching future

Motivation

Add the possibility of naming points and reason about their identity

Compare:

$$\Diamond(r \wedge p) \wedge \Diamond(r \wedge q) \rightarrow \Diamond(p \wedge q)$$

with

$$\Diamond(i \wedge p) \wedge \Diamond(i \wedge q) \rightarrow \Diamond(p \wedge q)$$

for $i \in NOM$ (a nominal)

Nominals i

- Are special propositional symbols that hold exactly on one state (the state they name)
- In a model the valuation V is extended from

$$V: \mathsf{PROP} \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(W)$$

to

$$V: \mathsf{PROP} \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(W) \text{ and } V: \mathsf{NOM} \longrightarrow W$$

where NOM is the set of nominals in the model

Satisfaction:

$$\mathfrak{M}, w \models i$$
 iff $w = V(i)$

The @; operator

$$\mathfrak{M}, w \models \mathbf{Q}_i \phi$$

 $\mathfrak{M}, u \models \phi$ and u is the state denoted by i

Standard translation to first-order

iff

$$ST_x(i) = (x = i)$$

 $ST_x(0, \phi) = ST_i(\phi)(x = i)$

i.e., hybrid logic corresponds to a first-order language enriched with constants and equality.

Hybrid logic

Increased frame definability

- irreflexivity: $i \rightarrow \neg \Diamond i$
- asymmetry: $i \rightarrow \neg \Diamond \Diamond i$
- antisymmetry: $i \to \Box(\Diamond i \to i)$
- trichotomy: $@_i \lozenge i \lor @_{i_i} \lor @_i \lozenge j$

Definition

Given two models $\mathfrak{M}=\langle\langle W,R\rangle,V\rangle$ and $\mathfrak{M}'=\langle\langle W',R'\rangle,V'\rangle$, a bisimulation is a non-empty binary relation $S\subseteq W\times W'$ st whenever wSw' one has that

- points w and w' satisfy the same propositional symbols and nominals
- if vRw, then there is a point v' in \mathfrak{M}' st v'Rw' and vSv' (zig)
- if v'R'w', then there is a point v in \mathfrak{M} st vRw and vSv' (zag)
- V(i) R V'(i) for all nominal i (name consistency)

An invariance theorem and its dual (for image finite models) can also be proved

Summing up

- basic hybrid logic is a simple notation for capturing the bisimulation-invariant fragment of first-order logic with constants and equality, i.e., a mechanism for equality reasoning in propositional modal logic.
- comes cheap: up to a polynomial, the complexity of the resulting decision problem is no worse than for the basic modal language

Hybrid logic

Applications to architectural design

- layout of coordination circuits (e.g. in Reo)
- reconfigurable architectures (parametric on a specification logic)
- hierarchical architectures (e.g. UML statecharts)

[recent research at HASLab: projects MONDRIAN and NASONI]

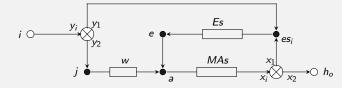
Structural reasoning over Reo circuits

$$\phi :== p \mid i \mid \neg \phi \mid \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \mid [K] \phi \mid \llbracket K \rrbracket \phi \mid @_i \phi$$

- modalities are indexed by regular expressions over channel types;
- $\langle K \rangle$ and [K] (reps., $\langle K \rangle$ and [K]) express properties of outgoing (resp., incoming) connections from the node in which they are evaluated.

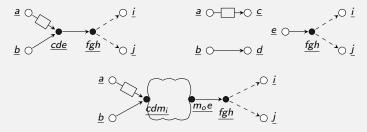
[Nuno Oliveira PhD thesis (MAP-i, 2015)]

Structural reasoning over Reo circuits



- $\mathbf{0} \phi_1 \triangleq \mathbf{0}_{t_0} \langle -^* \rangle \text{ true } \wedge [-^*] [-MAs] \text{ false}$ (there is a path from triage input port (t_o) to a MAs edge)
- $\phi_2 \triangleq \llbracket \rrbracket \text{ false } \rightarrow \llbracket -^* \rrbracket h_o$ (all paths from input ports, lead to the billing service (h_o) port)

Reconfiguration of Reo circuits



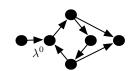
Invariant $\Phi = \langle sync \rangle$ ($\langle - \rangle$ true \wedge [-lossy] false) is displaced along a reconfiguration:

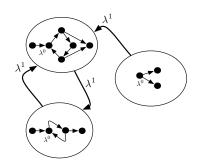


Specifying reconfigurable architectures

- Reconfigurable architectures are represented as structured transition systems whose
- states are endowed with local specifications and
- the global transition structure models system's evolution through possible configurations.
- The hybrid language is developed on top whichever logic is taken for the local configurations (e.g., equational, first-order, fuzzy, etc.)
 by hybridisation.

[Alexandre Madeira PhD thesis (MAP-i, 2013)]





- \mathcal{H} : pure hybrid formulas
- \mathcal{H}^2 : hierarchical sturctures, e.g.

$$\mathbb{Q}_{i^1}k^0 \wedge^1 [\lambda^1](\rho_1,\ldots,\rho_n)$$

Hierarchical architectures

- Hierarchical architectures are represented as hierarchical transition systems whose states are transition systems themselves
- and (intrusive) transitions between designated states in different local transition systems at different levels of abstraction are allowed.
- Hybrid logic captures this principle which is inherent to well known design formalisms such as statecharts and UML.

