

# Logic-based order-of-magnitude qualitative reasoning for closeness via proximity intervals

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# Qualitative Reasoning (QR)

- QR is very useful for searching solutions to problems about the behavior of physical systems without using differential equations or exact numerical data.
- It is possible to reason about incomplete knowledge by providing an abstraction of the numerical values.
- QR has applications in AI, such as Robot Kinematics, Data Analysis, and dealing with movements.

# Logics and QR

- First papers have been focused on
  - ▶ Spatio-Temporal Reasoning and
  - ▶ about solutions of ordinary differential equations
- Our work has been focused on Order of Magnitude QR.

# Order of Magnitude QR

- A partition of the real line in qualitative classes (small, medium, large, . . .) is considered. The absolute approach.
- A family of binary order of magnitude relations which establishes different comparison relations (negligibility, closeness, comparability, . . .). The relative approach.
- We defined some logics which bridge the absolute and relative approaches.

# Previous works I

- Sound and complete multimodal logics dealing with negligibility, comparability, non-closeness and distance.
  - ▶ A multimodal logic approach to order of magnitude qualitative reasoning with comparability and negligibility relations. *Fundamenta Informaticae*, 68:21–46, 2005.
  - ▶ A Logic for Order of Magnitude Reasoning with Negligibility, Non-closeness and Distance. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* 4788: 210–219, 2007
- Theorem provers for logics dealing with negligibility, non-closeness and distance.
  - ▶ (with A. Mora, and E. Orłowska) An implementation of a dual tableaux system for order-of-magnitude qualitative reasoning. *Intl J on Computer Mathematics* 86:1852–1866, 2009
  - ▶ (with J Golinska) Relational approach for a logic for order of magnitude qualitative reasoning with negligibility, non-closeness and distance. *Logic Journal of the IGPL* 17(4): 375–394, 2009

# Previous works II

- ▶ (with J Golinska) Dual tableau for a multimodal logic for order of magnitude qualitative reasoning with bidirectional negligibility. *Intl J on Computer Mathematics* 86: 1707–1718, 2009
- Sound, complete and decidable PDL for qualitative velocity, and for dealing with movements.
  - ▶ A logic framework for reasoning with movement based on fuzzy qualitative representation. *Fuzzy Sets and Systems*, 242:114–131, 2014.
  - ▶ (with J Golinska) Reasoning with Qualitative Velocity: Towards a Hybrid Approach. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* 7208: 635–646 2011
  - ▶ A PDL approach for qualitative velocity. *Intl J of Uncertainty, Fuzziness, and Knowledge-based Systems*, 19(1):11–26, 2011
  - ▶ Closeness and distance in order of magnitude qualitative reasoning via PDL. *Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence* 5988:71–80, 2010.
- We focus here on a multimodal logic for **closeness**.

# Why this approach?

- So far, the only published reference on a logic-based approach to closeness uses PDL and qualitative sum.  
Specifically, two values are assumed to be close if one of them can be obtained from the other by adding a “small” number, and small numbers are defined as those belonging to a fixed interval.
- This specific approach has a number of potential applications but might not be so useful in other situations, for instance, when there are barriers (physical, temporal, etc.).
- In this work, we consider a new logic-based alternative to the notion of closeness in the context of multimodal logics. Our notion of closeness stems from the idea that two values are considered to be *close* if they are inside a prescribed area or *proximity interval*.
- This leads to an equivalence relation, particularly, transitivity holds.

## Preliminary definitions

We will consider a strictly ordered set of real numbers  $(\mathbb{S}, <)$  divided into the following qualitative classes:

$$NL = (-\infty, -\gamma)$$

$$PS = (+\alpha, +\beta]$$

$$NM = [-\gamma, -\beta)$$

$$INF = [-\alpha, +\alpha]$$

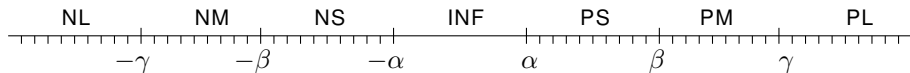
$$PM = (+\beta, +\gamma]$$

$$NS = [-\beta, -\alpha)$$

$$PL = (+\gamma, +\infty)$$

Note that all the intervals are considered relative to  $\mathbb{S}$ .

We will consider each qualitative class to be divided into disjoint intervals called *proximity intervals*, as shown in the figure below. The qualitative class INF is itself a proximity interval.



**Figure :** Proximity intervals.



# Preliminary definitions

## Definition

Let  $(\mathbb{S}, <)$  be a strictly linear divided into the qualitative class defined above.

- A *proximity structure* is a finite set  $\mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S}) = \{I_1, I_2, \dots, I_n\}$  of intervals in  $\mathbb{S}$ , such that:
  - 1 For all  $I_i, I_j \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$ , if  $i \neq j$ , then  $I_i \cap I_j = \emptyset$ .
  - 2  $I_1 \cup I_2 \cup \dots \cup I_n = \mathbb{S}$ .
  - 3 For all  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$  and  $I_i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$ , if  $x, y \in I_i$ , then  $x, y$  belong to the same qualitative class.
  - 4  $\text{INF} \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$ .
- Given a proximity structure  $\mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$ , the binary relation of closeness  $\mathfrak{c}$  is defined, for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$ , as follows:  $x \mathfrak{c} y$  if and only if there exists  $I_i \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$  such that  $x, y \in I_i$ .

# Preliminary definitions

From now on, we will denote by  $\mathcal{Q} = \{NL, NM, NS, INF, PS, PM, PL\}$  the set of qualitative classes, and by  $QC$  to any element of  $\mathcal{Q}$ .

## Definition

Let  $(\mathbb{S}, <)$  be a strictly linear set divided into the qualitative classes defined above. The binary relation of negligibility  $n$  is defined on  $\mathbb{S}$  as  $x n y$  if and only if one of the following situations holds:

- (i)  $x \in INF$  and  $y \notin INF$ ,
- (ii)  $x \in NS \cup PS$  and  $y \in NL \cup PL$ .

# Preliminary results

## Proposition

The relation  $c$  defined above has the following properties:

- 1  $c$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{S}$ .
- 2 For all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{S}$ , the following holds:
  - (a) If  $x, y \in \text{INF}$ , then  $x c y$ .
  - (b) For every  $QC \in \mathcal{Q}$ , if  $x \in QC$  and  $x c y$ , then  $y \in QC$ .

## Proposition

For all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{S}$  we have:

- (i) If  $x c y$  and  $y n z$ , then  $x n z$ .
- (ii) If  $x n y$  and  $y c z$ , then  $x n z$ .

# The language $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$

## Introducing the Syntax

Modal connectives  $\vec{\square}$  and  $\overleftarrow{\square}$  to deal with the usual ordering  $<$ .

Two other modal operators will be used,  $\square_{\mathcal{C}}$  for closeness, and  $\square_{\mathcal{N}}$  for negligibility.

Their informal meanings are the following

- $\vec{\square}A$  means *A is true in every point greater than the current one.*
- $\overleftarrow{\square}A$  means *A is true in every point smaller than the current one.*
- $\square_{\mathcal{C}}A$  means *A is true in every point close to the current one*
- $\square_{\mathcal{N}}A$  means *A is true in every point negligible with respect to the current one.*

# The language $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$

## Syntax

The formulas are defined as follows:

$$A = p \mid \xi \mid c_i \mid \neg A \mid (A \wedge A) \mid (A \vee A) \mid (A \rightarrow A) \mid \vec{\square}A \mid \overleftarrow{\square}A \mid \square_n A \mid \square_c A$$

where

- $p$  represents the propositional variables
- $\xi$  is a metavariable denoting any milestone  $\alpha^-, \alpha^+, \beta^-, \beta^+, \gamma^-, \gamma^+$
- $c_i$  are proximity constants (finitely many)
- The connectives  $\neg, \wedge, \vee$  and  $\rightarrow$  are the classical ones
- $\vec{\square}, \overleftarrow{\square}, \square_n, \square_c$  are the previous unary modalities

We will use the symbols  $\vec{\diamond}, \overleftarrow{\diamond}, \diamond, \heartsuit$  as abbreviations. We will also introduce abbreviations for qualitative classes, for instance,  $ps$  for  $(\overleftarrow{\diamond}\alpha^+ \wedge \vec{\diamond}\beta^+) \vee \beta^+$ .

# The language $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$

## Semantics

### Definition

A *frame* for  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$  is a tuple  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P})$ , where:

- 1  $(\mathbb{S}, <)$  is a strict linearly ordered set.
- 2  $\mathcal{D} = \{+\alpha, -\alpha, +\beta, -\beta, +\gamma, -\gamma\}$  is a set of designated points in  $\mathbb{S}$  (called *frame constants*).
- 3  $\mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$  is a proximity structure.
- 4  $\mathcal{P}$  is a bijection (called *proximity function*),  $\mathcal{P}: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$ , that assigns to each proximity constant  $c$  a proximity interval.

# The language $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$

## Semantics

### Definition

Let  $\Sigma$  be a frame for  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$ , an *MQ-model* is an ordered pair  $\mathcal{M} = (\Sigma, h)$ , where  $h$  is a *meaning function* (or, *interpretation*)  $h: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{S}}$ .

Any interpretation can be uniquely extended to the set of all formulas in  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$  (also denoted by  $h$ ) as follows:

$$h(\vec{\Box}A) = \{x \in \mathbb{S} \mid y \in h(A) \text{ for all } y \text{ such that } x < y\}$$

$$h(\overleftarrow{\Box}A) = \{x \in \mathbb{S} \mid y \in h(A) \text{ for all } y \text{ such that } y < x\}$$

$$h(\Box A) = \{x \in \mathbb{S} \mid y \in h(A) \text{ for all } y \text{ such that } x \subset y\}$$

$$h(\Box A) = \{x \in \mathbb{S} \mid y \in h(A) \text{ for all } y \text{ such that } x \sqcap y\}$$

$$h(\alpha^+) = \{+\alpha\} \quad h(\beta^+) = \{+\beta\} \quad h(\gamma^+) = \{+\gamma\}$$

$$h(\alpha^-) = \{-\alpha\} \quad h(\beta^-) = \{-\beta\} \quad h(\gamma^-) = \{-\gamma\}$$

$$h(c_i) = \{x \in \mathbb{S} \mid x \in \mathcal{P}(c_i)\}$$

The definitions of *truth*, *satisfiability* and *validity* are the usual ones.

# An axiom system for $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$

The axiom system  $MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$  consists of all the tautologies of classical propositional logic plus the following axiom schemata and rules of inference:

## For white connectives

$$\mathbf{K1} \quad \vec{\Box}(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\vec{\Box}A \rightarrow \vec{\Box}B)$$

$$\mathbf{K2} \quad A \rightarrow \vec{\Box}\overleftarrow{\Diamond}A$$

$$\mathbf{K3} \quad \vec{\Box}A \rightarrow \vec{\Box}\vec{\Box}A$$

$$\mathbf{K4} \quad (\vec{\Box}(A \vee B) \wedge \vec{\Box}(\vec{\Box}A \vee B) \wedge \vec{\Box}(A \vee \vec{\Box}B)) \rightarrow (\vec{\Box}A \vee \vec{\Box}B)$$

## For frame constants

$$\mathbf{c1} \quad \overleftarrow{\Diamond}\xi \vee \xi \vee \vec{\Diamond}\xi$$

$$\mathbf{c2} \quad \xi \rightarrow (\overleftarrow{\Box}\neg\xi \wedge \vec{\Box}\neg\xi)$$

$$\mathbf{c3} \quad \gamma^- \rightarrow \vec{\Diamond}\beta^-$$

$$\mathbf{c4} \quad \beta^- \rightarrow \vec{\Diamond}\alpha^-$$

$$\mathbf{c5} \quad \alpha^- \rightarrow \vec{\Diamond}\alpha^+$$

$$\mathbf{c6} \quad \alpha^+ \rightarrow \vec{\Diamond}\beta^+$$

$$\mathbf{c7} \quad \beta^+ \rightarrow \vec{\Diamond}\gamma^+$$



# An axiom system (cont'd)

**For proximity constants** (for all  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ )

$$\mathbf{p1} \quad \bigvee_{i=1}^r c_i$$

$$\mathbf{p2} \quad c_i \rightarrow \neg c_j \quad (\text{for } i \neq j)$$

$$\mathbf{p3} \quad (\overleftarrow{\diamond} c_i \wedge \overrightarrow{\diamond} c_j) \rightarrow c_i$$

$$\mathbf{p4} \quad \overleftarrow{\diamond} c_i \vee c_i \vee \overrightarrow{\diamond} c_i$$

**Mixed axioms** (for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$ )

$$\mathbf{m1} \quad (c_i \wedge qc) \rightarrow (\overleftarrow{\square}(c_i \rightarrow qc) \wedge \overrightarrow{\square}(c_i \rightarrow qc))$$

$$\mathbf{m2} \quad (c_i \wedge inf) \rightarrow (\overleftarrow{\square}(inf \rightarrow c_i) \wedge \overrightarrow{\square}(inf \rightarrow c_i))$$

$$\mathbf{m3} \quad \boxplus A \leftrightarrow \left( A \wedge \bigvee_{i=1}^r \left( c_i \wedge (\overleftarrow{\square}(c_i \rightarrow A) \wedge \overrightarrow{\square}(c_i \rightarrow A)) \right) \right)$$

$$\mathbf{m4} \quad \boxminus A \leftrightarrow \left( (inf \rightarrow (\overleftarrow{\square}(\neg inf \rightarrow A) \wedge \overrightarrow{\square}(\neg inf \rightarrow A))) \wedge \right. \\ \left. ((ns \vee ps) \rightarrow (\overleftarrow{\square}(nl \rightarrow A) \wedge \overrightarrow{\square}(pl \rightarrow A))) \right)$$

# An axiom system (cont'd)

The mirror images of **K1**, **K2** and **K4** are also considered as axioms.

## Rules of inference:

(MP) Modus Ponens for  $\rightarrow$ .

(N $\vec{\square}$ ) If  $\vdash A$  then  $\vdash \vec{\square}A$ .

(N $\overleftarrow{\square}$ ) If  $\vdash A$  then  $\vdash \overleftarrow{\square}A$ .

The syntactical notions of *theoremhood* and *proof* for  $MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$  are defined as usual.

# Completeness

- We follow the step-by-step method, which is a Henkin-style proof.
- The idea is to show that for any consistent formula  $A$ , a model for  $A$  can be built, and this is done by successive finite approximations.
- It is worth to note that the actual construction of the successive finite approximations has a number of specific (and interesting) problems, mainly related to the need of the proximity functions within a frame.

## Theorem (Completeness)

*If  $A$  is valid formula of  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$ , then  $A$  is a theorem of  $MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$ .*

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# Decidability

- The idea is to show that  $MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$  has the strong finite model property.
- Firstly, we show the soundness and completeness of  $MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$  wrt a class of models weaker than the  $MQ$ -models.
- $MQ$ -models do not serve our purpose in order to prove the strong finite model property of  $MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$  because there are formulas which are satisfiable just in infinite  $MQ$ -models (since  $MQ$ -models are strict linear orders).
- The definition of the (weaker)  $MQC$ -models is a generalization of that of  $MQ$ -models in which the irreflexivity is restricted just to the milestones.

## Theorem (Strong Finite Model Property)

*Let  $A$  be a formula of  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$ . If  $A^*$  is satisfiable in a  $MQC$ -model, then  $A^*$  is satisfiable in a finite  $MQC$ -model containing at most  $2^n$  points, where  $n$  is the number of subformulas of  $A^*$ .*

## Theorem (Decidability)

*$MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$  is decidable.*

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# Future work

- Study the complexity of the logic.
- Develop automated provers for this logic: Rasiowa-Sikorsky ??
- Implement those provers.



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# Completeness

## Maximal consistency lemmas

The notions of *consistency* and *maximal consistency* for  $MQ^{\mathcal{P}}$  are the usual ones;  $\mathcal{MC}$  will denote the set of all mc-sets of formulas.

### Definition

The relations  $\triangleright$  and  $\sim$  are defined on  $\mathcal{MC}$  as follows:

- $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_2$  if and only if  $\{A \mid \vec{\Box}A \in \Gamma_1\} \subseteq \Gamma_2$ .
- $\Gamma_1 \sim \Gamma_2$  if and only if  $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_2$  or  $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_2$  or  $\Gamma_2 \triangleright \Gamma_1$ .

# Completeness

## Maximal consistency lemmas

### Lemma

- 1  $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_2$  if and only if  $\{A \mid \Box A \in \Gamma_2\} \subseteq \Gamma_1$ .
- 2  $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_2$  iff  $\{\Diamond A \mid A \in \Gamma_2\} \subseteq \Gamma_1$  iff  $\{\Box A \mid A \in \Gamma_1\} \subseteq \Gamma_2$ .
- 3  $\triangleright$  is a transitive relation on  $\mathcal{MC}$ .
- 4 If  $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_2$  and  $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_3$ , then  $\Gamma_2 \sim \Gamma_3$ , for all  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \Gamma_3 \in \mathcal{MC}$ .
- 5 If  $\Gamma_2 \triangleright \Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_3 \triangleright \Gamma_1$ , then  $\Gamma_2 \sim \Gamma_3$ , for all  $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \Gamma_3 \in \mathcal{MC}$ .

### Lemma

- 1 Given  $\Gamma \in \mathcal{MC}$  there is exactly one proximity constant  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $c \in \Gamma$ .
- 2 For all  $\Gamma_i \in \mathcal{MC}$  and  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ , if  $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_2 \triangleright \Gamma_3$  and  $c \in \Gamma_1, \Gamma_3$ , then  $c \in \Gamma_2$ .

# Completeness

## Maximal consistency lemmas

### Lemma (Lindenbaum Lemma)

*Any consistent set of formulas in  $MQ^P$  can be extended to an mc-set in  $MQ^P$ .*

### Lemma

*Assume  $\Gamma_1 \in \mathcal{MC}$ . Then:*

- 1 If  $\overrightarrow{\diamond} A \in \Gamma_1$ , then there exists  $\Gamma_2 \in \mathcal{MC}$  such that  $\Gamma_1 \triangleright \Gamma_2$  and  $A \in \Gamma_2$ .*
- 2 If  $\overleftarrow{\diamond} A \in \Gamma_1$ , then there exists  $\Gamma_2 \in \mathcal{MC}$  such that  $\Gamma_2 \triangleright \Gamma_1$  and  $A \in \Gamma_2$ .*

# Completeness

## Step-by-step approach to completeness

The specific construction of the successive approximations of the required model for a consistent formula  $A$  forces us to consider the following weaker version of the notion of frame:

### Definition

Given a denumerable infinite set  $\mathcal{S}$ , a *partial frame* is a tuple  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P})$  where  $\mathbb{S}$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  is a set of designated points in  $\mathbb{S}$ ,  $<$  is a total strict ordering on  $\mathbb{S}$ ,  $\mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$  is a proximity structure, and  $\mathcal{P}: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$  is a partial bijective function where  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of proximity constants.

# Completeness

## Conditionals

### Definition

Let  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P})$  be a partial frame.

- 1 A *trace* of  $\Sigma$  is a function  $f_\Sigma : \mathbb{S} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}}$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{S}$  the set  $f_\Sigma(x)$  is a maximal consistent set.
- 2 A trace of  $\Sigma$ ,  $f_\Sigma$ , is called:
  - ▶ *Coherent* if it satisfies for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$  and  $\xi \in \mathcal{D}$ :
    - 1  $\xi^+ \in f_\Sigma(+\xi)$  and  $\xi^- \in f_\Sigma(-\xi)$
    - 2 If  $x < y$ , then  $f_\Sigma(x) \triangleright f_\Sigma(y)$
    - 3 Let  $c_i \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $l \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S})$ . If  $c_i \in f_\Sigma(x)$  and  $x \in l$ , then  $\mathcal{P}(c_i) = l$ .
  - ▶ *Full* if it is coherent and, for all formulas  $A$ , and all  $x \in \mathbb{S}$ , it satisfies the following conditions:
    - (a) if  $\overrightarrow{\diamond} A \in f_\Sigma(x)$ , there exists  $y$  such that  $x < y$  and  $A \in f_\Sigma(y)$
    - (b) if  $\overleftarrow{\diamond} A \in f_\Sigma(x)$ , there exists  $y$  such that  $y < x$  and  $A \in f_\Sigma(y)$

The expressions (a) (resp., (b)) are called *prophetic* (resp., *historic*).

A prophetic conditional is said to be *active* if  $\overrightarrow{\diamond} A \in f_\Sigma(x)$ , but there is no  $y$  such that  $x < y$  and  $A \in f_\Sigma(y)$ ; otherwise, is said to be *exhausted*.

# Completeness

## Main results

### Lemma (Trace lemma)

Let  $f_\Sigma$  be a full trace of a frame  $\Sigma$ . Let  $h$  be an interpretation assigning to each propositional variable  $p$  the set  $h(p) = \{x \in \mathbb{S} \mid p \in f_\Sigma(x)\}$ . Then, for any formula  $A$  we have  $h(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{S} \mid A \in f_\Sigma(x)\}$ .

### Lemma (Exhausting lemma)

Let  $f_\Sigma$  be a coherent trace of a frame  $\Sigma$ , and suppose that there is a conditional for  $f_\Sigma$  which is active. Then, there is a frame  $\Sigma'$  and a coherent trace  $f_{\Sigma'}$  extending  $f_\Sigma$ , such that this conditional is exhausted for  $f_{\Sigma'}$ .

# Decidability

## Definition

An *MQC-frame* for  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$  is a tuple  $\Sigma = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P})$ , where:

- 1  $\mathbb{S}$  is a set containing a subset  $\mathcal{D} = \{+\alpha, -\alpha, +\beta, -\beta, +\gamma, -\gamma\}$  of designated elements (milestones).
- 2  $<$  is a binary relation on  $\mathbb{S}$  which is transitive and connected. Moreover,  $\xi \not< \xi$  for the milestones  $\xi \in \mathcal{D}$ .
- 3  $\mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S}) = \{K_1, K_2, \dots, K_n\}$  is a partition of  $\mathbb{S}$  such that:
  - 1 For all  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$  and  $K_i \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})$ , if  $x, y \in K_i$ , then  $x, y$  belong to the same qualitative class defined by the milestones.
  - 2  $\text{INF} \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})$ .
- 4  $\mathcal{P}: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})$  is a bijection.

An *MQC-model* on  $\Sigma$  is an ordered pair  $\mathcal{M} = (\Sigma, h)$ , where  $h$  is a *meaning function* defined as above.

The concepts of satisfiability, truth and validity of a formula in a *MQC-model* are defined as usual.



# Decidability

- We will use the usual *filtration method*, showing that each formula which is satisfiable in an *MQC*-model is satisfiable also in a *finite MQC*-model with bounded size.
- In order to obtain this finite model, we will define an equivalence relation of the universe of the original (non-necessarily finite) model.
- Due to the particular features of our logic, which includes a number of constants and milestones, this equivalence relation will be based on the set of subformulas of a suitable modification  $A^*$  of the formula  $A$ .
- Given a formula  $A$  written only in terms of the primitive operators we define

$$A^* =_{def} A \wedge \bigvee_{c_i \in \mathcal{C}} c_i \wedge \bigwedge_{\xi \in \mathcal{D}} (\xi \rightarrow \vec{\square} \neg \xi)$$

# Decidability

## Defining filtrations

- In what follows, we denote by  $\Gamma$  the set of subformulas of  $A^*$ .
- Given any MQC-model  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{I}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P}, h)$  of  $A^*$  and  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$ , we define  $x \sim_{\Gamma} y$  iff  $\{B \in \Gamma : x \in h(B)\} = \{B \in \Gamma : y \in h(B)\}$ .
- Clearly  $\sim_{\Gamma}$  is an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{S}$ .
- So, for every  $x \in \mathbb{S}$ , we define  $[x] = \{y \in \mathbb{S} : y \sim_{\Gamma} x\}$
- $\mathbb{S}_{\Gamma}$  denotes the quotient set  $\mathbb{S}/\sim_{\Gamma}$ ,
- $K_{\Gamma}$  denotes the set  $\{[x] \in \mathbb{S}_{\Gamma} \mid x \in K\}$ .

# Decidability

## Filtrations

### Definition

Given  $A^*$ ,  $\Gamma$ , and  $\sim_\Gamma$  as defined above, and given a MQC-model  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P}, h)$  of  $A^*$ , the  $\Gamma$ -filtration of  $\mathcal{M}$  is a structure of the form  $\mathcal{M}_\Gamma = (\mathbb{S}_\Gamma, \mathcal{D}_\Gamma, <_\Gamma, \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})_\Gamma, \mathcal{P}_\Gamma, h_\Gamma)$ , where:

- 1  $\mathbb{S}_\Gamma = \{[x] : x \in \mathbb{S}\}$ .
- 2  $\mathcal{D}_\Gamma = \{[+\alpha], [+\beta], [+\gamma], [-\alpha], [-\beta], [-\gamma]\}$ .
- 3  $\mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})_\Gamma = \{K_\Gamma \mid K \in \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})\}$ .
- 4  $\mathcal{P}_\Gamma(c_i) = \{[x] \mid x \in h(c_i)\}$ .
- 5  $<_\Gamma \subseteq \mathbb{S}_\Gamma \times \mathbb{S}_\Gamma$ , so that for every  $[x], [y] \in \mathbb{S}_\Gamma$  we have  $[x] <_\Gamma [y]$  iff:
  - ▶ for every  $\vec{\square}A \in \Gamma$ : if  $x \in h(\vec{\square}A)$ , then  $y \in h(A) \cap h(\vec{\square}A)$ ;
  - ▶ for every  $\overleftarrow{\square}A \in \Gamma$ : if  $y \in h(\overleftarrow{\square}A)$ , then  $x \in h(A) \cap h(\overleftarrow{\square}A)$ .
- 6  $h_\Gamma(p) = \{[x] : x \in h(p)\}$ , for every atom  $p \in \Gamma$  (if  $p \notin \Gamma$ ,  $h_\Gamma(p) = \emptyset$ ).
- 7  $h_\Gamma(\xi) = \{[\xi]\}$ .
- 8  $h_\Gamma(c_i) = \mathcal{P}_\Gamma(c_i)$ .

# Decidability

## First results

### Proposition

*Given an MQC-model  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $A^*$ , the  $\Gamma$ -filtration of  $\mathcal{M}$  has at most  $2^n$  elements in  $\mathbb{S}_\Gamma$ , where  $n$  is the cardinal of  $\Gamma$ .*

### Proposition

*Let  $\mathcal{M}_\Gamma = (\mathbb{S}_\Gamma, \mathcal{D}_\Gamma, <_\Gamma, \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})_\Gamma, \mathcal{P}_\Gamma, h_\Gamma)$  be the  $\Gamma$ -filtration of a MQC-model  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P}, h)$ . Then,  $x < y$  implies  $[x] <_\Gamma [y]$  for every  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$ .*

### Proposition

*If  $\mathcal{M}_\Gamma = (\mathbb{S}_\Gamma, \mathcal{D}_\Gamma, \mathcal{P}_\Gamma, <_\Gamma, h_\Gamma)$  is the  $\Gamma$ -filtration of an MQC-model  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{P}, <, h)$ , then  $\mathcal{M}_\Gamma$  is also a MQC-model.*

# Decidability

## First results

### Proposition

Let  $\mathcal{M}_\Gamma = (\mathbb{S}_\Gamma, \mathcal{D}_\Gamma, <_\Gamma, \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S})_\Gamma, \mathcal{P}_\Gamma, h_\Gamma)$  be a  $\Gamma$ -filtration of a MQC-model  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathbb{S}, \mathcal{D}, <, \mathcal{K}(\mathbb{S}), \mathcal{P}, h)$ . Then, for every  $A \in \Gamma$  and for every  $x \in \mathbb{S}$ , we have:

$$x \in h(A) \text{ if and only if } [x] \in h_\Gamma(A).$$

### Theorem (Strong Finite Model Property)

Let  $A$  be a formula of  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^{\mathcal{P}}$ . If  $A^*$  is satisfiable in a MQC-model, then  $A^*$  is satisfiable in a finite MQC-model containing at most  $2^n$  points, where  $n$  is the number of subformulas of  $A^*$ .

The previous theorem can be used to define a test for satisfiability (resp. validity) of a formula  $A$  with respect to MQC-models.

# Decidability

## First results

Now, the following result states the equivalence between validity wrt  $MQC$ -models, validity wrt  $MQ$ -models, and theoremhood wrt  $MQ^P$ .

### Theorem

For every formula  $A$  of  $\mathcal{L}(MQ)^P$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $A$  is a theorem of  $MQ^P$ .
- (ii)  $A$  is  $MQC$ -valid.
- (iii)  $A$  is  $MQ$ -valid.

As a consequence of the previous results we obtain the following result:

### Theorem (Decidability)

$MQ^P$  is decidable.