Relational Validity & Dynamic Predicate Logic

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Abstract

In this paper we prove that the principles in the language with relation composition and dynamic implication, valid for all binary relations, are the same ones as the principles valid when we restrict ourselves to DPL-relations, i.e., relations generated from conditions (tests) and resettings.

1 Introduction

Consider a domain, i.e., a non-empty set of objects D. Consider some set \mathcal{R} of binary relations over D. There are two operations on relations, we want to focus on. The first is ordinary relation composition and the second is dynamic implication (to be defined below). We close our relations under these operations. The relations so obtained, together with the operations form a structure. Here we count the relations of our original set \mathcal{R} as 'constants'. We call such structures mDIL-models. The sequents valid for mDIL-models were studied by Patrick Blackburn and Yde Venema in their [3]. Now, suppose our domains are sets of assignments, functions from some specified set of variables to some given non-empty set E, i.e. $D = E^{Var}$, and let's restrict our set of basic relations to relations that are generated by composition from finitely restricted tests (or: finitely restricted conditions) and random resettings of single variables. Here a test or condition is a subrelation C of the identity relation —in other words: a relation without 'dynamic powers'. A test is finitely restricted if there is a finite set of variables W such that:

$$fCf$$
 and $f \upharpoonright W = g \upharpoonright W \Rightarrow gCg$

We often confuse C with the set $\{g \in D^{Var} \mid gCg\}$. Thus, the conditions function as the appearance classical sets of assignments have in the dynamic setting. Resettings of variables are relations of the form $[\exists x]$, where

 $f[\exists x|g:\Leftrightarrow f \text{ and } g \text{ are the same on all variables except possibly } x.$

The relations thus generated by tests and resettings are DPL-relations, i.e., relations typically definable in the language of DPL, a variant of predicate logic invented by Jeroen Groenendijk and Martin Stokhof (see [4]). Which mDIL-principles are valid for the restricted set of relations?

In this paper we will make this question precise and prove that the same sequents are valid in both cases. 1

Here is a sketch of the argument. One first shows that if two structures are bisimilar, then they satisfy the same sequents. This is immediate by the well known fact that composition and dynamic implication are safe for bisimulation. Then one shows that for every structure \mathfrak{N} , there is a structure \mathfrak{D} which is bisimilar to \mathfrak{N} and in which every relation can be generated from conditions and resettings.

¹This result provides a partial confirmation of a conjecture of Johan van Benthem and Giovanna Ceparello. See [2], conjecture 9.

The domain of $\mathfrak O$ is the cartesian product of the domain of $\mathfrak N$ with itself. A relation R of $\mathfrak N$ is mapped to a relation $\widehat R$ of $\mathfrak O$, where:

$$\langle a, b \rangle \widehat{R} \langle c, d \rangle : \Leftrightarrow aRc \text{ and } c = d.$$

These relations \hat{R} can be specified in the *DPL*-language by:

$$\exists y.R(x,y).\exists x.(x=y)$$

This formula means: reset y arbitrarily and then test whether it gives an appropriate output for R. If so, reset x to the value of y. The presence of formula shows that DPL has the resources to transform a static representation of a relation to a dynamic one. To do this we need the $auxiliary\ variable\ y$. We will see that this is unavoidable. It is typical for DPL that it does not have truly $local\ variables$, i.e., variables that can be used for temprary storage and then can be restored to their original content —unless we use some other variable to store this content, but then this variable

The work in the present paper illustrates the usefulness of notions like bisimulation and safety in thinking about relational languages. Moreover, the paper shows one way one could think about the use of auxiliary variables in DPL: they are things to be divided out modulo bisimulation.

2 The problem stated

We provide the necessary definitions to make a precise statement of our problem possible at all. We start with introducing some useful relational notions.

Definition 2.1 Let X be any non-empty set.

- 1. Rel(X) is the set of binary relations on X, i.e., $Rel(X) := \wp(X \times X)$
- 2. Let $R, S \in Rel(X)$. The composition $R \circ S$ of R and S is defined by: $x(R \circ S)y : \Leftrightarrow \exists z \ xRzSy$
- 3. Let $R, S \in Rel(X)$. The dynamic implication $(R \to S)$ between R and S is defined by:

$$x(R \rightarrow S)y : \Leftrightarrow x = y \text{ and } \forall z(xRz \Rightarrow \exists u \ zSu).$$

Our use of \rightarrow here overloads the symbol, since we also use it for implication in the objectlanguage.

4. id_X is the identity relation. A relation R is a condition if $R \subseteq id_X$.

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The notion of dynamic implication was first introduced by Hans Kamp in his pioneering paper [6]. We turn to the definition of *DPL*.

- **Definition 2.2** 1. A *DPL*-language \mathcal{L} is a structure $\langle Pred, Ar, Var \rangle$, where Pred is a set of predicate symbols; Ar is a function from Pred to the natural numbers (including 0); Var is a, possibly empty, set of variables.
 - 2. The set of \mathcal{L} -formulas, $For_{\mathcal{L}}$, is the smallest set such that:
 - $P(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ is in $For_{\mathcal{L}}$, for $P \in Pred$ with Ar(P) = n and $v_1, \dots, v_n \in Var$
 - \top , \bot , v = w, $\exists v$ are in $For_{\mathcal{L}}$ for $v, w \in Var$
 - If $\phi, \psi \in For_{\mathcal{L}}$, then so are $\phi.\psi$ and $(\phi \to \psi)$

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I feel that it is more faithful to the semantics to leave out the brackets in the formation rule for the dot officially, but nothing important hangs on this choice in this paper. We get an ambiguous syntax, but still unique meanings, since the operation of composition is associative. We use $\neg(\phi)$ and $\forall v(\phi)$ as abbreviations of, respectively, $(\phi \to \bot)$ and $(\exists v \to \phi)$. If x and y are distinct variables, we write [x := y] for: $\exists x.x = y$. An alternative notation for $\exists v$, is [v := ?] (random reset).

- 3. A DPL-model \mathfrak{M} for a DPL-language \mathcal{L} is a structure $\langle D, I \rangle$, where D is a non-empty set, the domain of \mathfrak{M} ; I is a function which assigns to each predicate symbol P of $Pred_{\mathcal{L}}$ an Ar(P)-ary relation on D.
- 4. Let a *DPL*-model \mathfrak{M} be given. $Ass_{\mathfrak{M}}$, the set of assignments for \mathfrak{M} , is D^{Var} .
- 5. Let a DPL-model \mathfrak{M} for a DPL-language \mathcal{L} be given. We define an interpretation function $[.]_{\mathfrak{M}}: For_{\mathcal{L}} \to Rel(Ass_{\mathfrak{M}})$ as follows.
 - $f[P(v_1, \dots, v_n)]_{\mathfrak{M}}g :\Leftrightarrow f = g \text{ and } \langle f(v_1), \dots, f(v_n) \rangle \in I(P)$
 - $f[\top] \mathfrak{M}g : \Leftrightarrow f = g$
 - $f[\bot] \mathfrak{M}g : \Leftrightarrow f \neq f$
 - $f[v=w]_{\mathfrak{M}}g : \Leftrightarrow f=g \text{ and } f(v)=f(w)$
 - $f[\exists v]_{\mathfrak{M}}g : \Leftrightarrow \forall w \in Var \setminus \{v\} \ f(w) = g(w)$
 - $[\phi.\psi]_{\mathfrak{M}} := [\phi]_{\mathfrak{M}} \circ [\psi]_{\mathfrak{M}}$
 - $[(\phi \rightarrow \psi)]_{\mathfrak{M}} := ([\phi]_{\mathfrak{M}} \rightarrow [\psi]_{\mathfrak{M}})$
- 6. A model \mathfrak{M} satisfies a formula ϕ at an assignment f or $\mathfrak{M}, f \models \phi$ iff $\exists g \in Ass_{\mathfrak{M}} f[\phi]_{\mathfrak{M}} g$, i.o.w., if $[\phi]_{\mathfrak{M}}$ accepts f.
- 7. We define validity in a given DPL-model \mathfrak{M} by: $\phi \models_{\mathfrak{M}} \psi : \Leftrightarrow \forall f, g(f[\phi]_{\mathfrak{M}}g \Rightarrow \exists h \ g[\psi]_{\mathfrak{M}}h)$ As usual, we define $\phi \models_{\psi}$ if $\phi \models_{\mathfrak{M}} \psi$ for all models \mathfrak{M} that are appropriate for the given language.
- 8. A binary relation R is definable in a DPL-model \mathfrak{M} for a language \mathcal{L} if there is an \mathcal{L} -formula ϕ , which defines R, i.e., $R = [\phi]_{\mathfrak{M}}$.

We will often suppress the subscript \mathfrak{M} , when the model is clear from the context. We could extend the DPL-language with function symbols by copying the way this is done in ordinary predicate logic. However, for the kind of result we are after such an extension is immaterial, since the usual trick to eliminate function symbols works also in DPL—with a small twist. E.g., P(f(g(x))) will be translated to: $\neg \neg (\exists u. G(x, u). \exists v. F(u, v). P(v))$.

Example 2.3 [with Kees Vermeulen] We show that in no DPL-model with at least two elements in D we can define the relation \neq as resetting relation. Suppose we could. Say, ϕ is the defining formula. Since \neq is not a condition ϕ must contain at least one $\exists v$ (not confined in an implication). Let $\exists x$ be the first such. So, ϕ has the form $C.\exists x.\chi$, where C stands for a condition. Since every f can be successfully continued via \neq , no f is weeded out in advance. Hence, C must be equivalent to \top . So we may write ϕ as $\exists x.\chi$. Consider any f and g with $f \neq g$ and $f[\exists x]g$. (Since our domain has at least two elements such f and g exist.) We have $f[\exists x.\chi]g$. But, then, we also have $g[\exists x.\chi]g$, contradicting the assumption that our formula defines \neq . (For a more extensive discussion of the question which relations are DPL-definable see [7].)

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A typical feature of DPL is that the predicate symbols do not take all possible DPL-meanings as possible values. As a consequence, we do not generally have: $\phi \models \psi \Rightarrow \phi[P := \chi] \models \psi[P := \chi]$, where P is a predicate symbol and where no free variables in χ are bound in ϕ, ψ . The simplest example is as follows. We do have $P \models P$, but $not \ Qx.\exists x. \neg Qx \models Qx.\exists x. \neg Qx$.

We now introduce relational models, where every possible relation can occur as atomic meaning.

Definition 2.4 We define the relational theory minimal Dynamic Implication Logic, mDIL, as follows.

- 1. An mDIL-language K is a structure $\langle Rels \rangle$, where Rels is a, possibly empty, set of atomic relation symbols.
- 2. The set of K-formulas, For_K , is the smallest set such that:
 - R is in For_K , for $R \in Rels$
 - \perp , δ are in $For_{\mathcal{K}}$
 - If $\phi, \psi \in For_{\mathcal{K}}$, then so are $\phi.\psi$ and $(\phi \to \psi)$
- 3. An mDIL-model \mathfrak{N} for a mDIL-language \mathcal{K} is a structure $\langle D, I \rangle$, where D is a non-empty set, the domain of \mathfrak{M} ; I is a function which assigns to each atomic relation symbol R of $Rel_{\mathcal{K}}$ a binary relation on D
- 4. Let an mDIL-model \mathfrak{N} for an mDIL-language \mathcal{K} be given. We define an interpretation function $[.]_{\mathfrak{N}}: For_{\mathcal{K}} \to Rel(D)$ as follows: $[R]:=I(R), \ [\bot]:=\emptyset, \ [\delta]:=id_D, \ [\phi.\psi]:=[\phi]\circ [\psi], \ [(\phi \to \psi)]:=([\phi]\to [\psi])$
- 5. An mDIL-model $\mathfrak{N} = \langle D, I \rangle$ is DPL-definable (Dd), if there is a DPL-model \mathfrak{M} , such that D is (isomorphic to) $Ass_{\mathfrak{M}}$ and each I(R) is definable in \mathfrak{M} .
- 6. We define validity in mDIL by: $\phi \models_{\mathfrak{N}} \psi :\Leftrightarrow \forall f, g(f[\phi]_{\mathfrak{N}}g \Rightarrow \exists h \ g[\psi]_{\mathfrak{N}}h)$. $\phi \models \psi$ if $\phi \models_{\mathfrak{N}} \psi$ for all models \mathfrak{N} for the appropriate language. $\phi \models_{Dd} \psi$ iff $\phi \models_{\mathfrak{N}} \psi$ for all DPL-definable models \mathfrak{N} , appropriate for the given language.

Let me briefly comment on a subtle notational difference between DPL-language and mDIL-language. The DPL-predicate symbols, including \top and \bot range over sets/conditions. Thus \top stands for the largest condition in the subset ordering. When viewed as a binary relation, the denotation of \top is simply the identity relation. In mDIL the atomic letters, stand for binary resetting relations. Thus here \top would, reasonably, stand for the universal relation. Hence, we use δ for the identity relation in mDIL.

mDIL was studied by Patrick Blackburn and Yde Venema in their paper [3]. They provide a system of reasoning for mDIL. A DPL-definable mDIL-model $\mathfrak N$ is just an mDIL-model in which the atomic relations can be generated from conditions and resettings. Note that it follows that all relations of $\mathfrak N$ can be generated from conditions and resettings. Finally we have reached the stage, where we can officially state our problem:

Do we have $\models_{Dd} = \models$ for mDIL?

We end this section by describing an equivalent way of introducing \models_{Dd} . Let a mDIL-language \mathcal{K} be given. A translation (.)* from \mathcal{K} to a DPL-language \mathcal{L} is a function from the formulas of \mathcal{K} to the formulas of \mathcal{L} , such that (.)* commutes with \bot , and \to and sends δ to \top . We have for formulas ϕ , ψ in \mathcal{K} : $\phi \models \psi \Leftrightarrow$ for all (.)* (with domain \mathcal{K}) $\phi^* \models \psi^*$.

To solve our problem we will need some facts about transition systems and bisimulations. These are presented in the next section.

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3 Transition Systems

To solve our problem we will need some facts about transition systems and bisimulations. These are presented in the present section.

- **Definition 3.1** 1. A transition system \mathfrak{G} is a structure $\langle S, A, \rightarrow \rangle$. Here, S is a non-empty set, the set of *states*. A is a (possibly empty) set, the set of *labels*. \longrightarrow is a function from A to the binary relations on S. We write $s \xrightarrow{a} t$ for: $\langle s, t \rangle \in \longrightarrow (a)$. Note that our transition systems are "unrooted".
 - 2. Consider two transition systems \mathfrak{G} and \mathfrak{H} . Suppose $A_{\mathfrak{G}} = A_{\mathfrak{H}}$. A bisimulation \mathcal{B} between \mathfrak{G} and \mathfrak{H} is a relation between $S_{\mathfrak{G}}$ and $S_{\mathfrak{H}}$, such that whenever $s\mathcal{B}s'$ and $s \xrightarrow{a}_{\mathfrak{G}} t$, there is a t' with $t\mathcal{B}t'$ and $s' \xrightarrow{a}_{\mathfrak{H}} t'$ (the zig property) and such that whenever $s\mathcal{B}s'$ and $s' \xrightarrow{a}_{\mathfrak{H}} t'$, there is a t with $t\mathcal{B}t'$ and $s \xrightarrow{a}_{\mathfrak{G}} t$ (the zag property). \mathcal{B} is total if $dom(\mathcal{B}) = S_{\mathfrak{G}}$. \mathcal{B} is surjective if $range(\mathcal{B}) = S_{\mathfrak{H}}$. \mathcal{B} is full if \mathcal{B} is total and surjective.
 - 3. Let \mathfrak{G} and \mathfrak{H} have the same set of labels. Define:
 - $\mathcal{B}: \mathfrak{G} \leq \mathfrak{H}: \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{B}$ is a total bisimulation between \mathfrak{G} and \mathfrak{H}
 - $\mathfrak{G} \preceq \mathfrak{H} \Leftrightarrow \text{for some } \mathcal{B} : \mathfrak{G} \preceq \mathfrak{H}$
 - $\mathfrak{G} \equiv \mathfrak{H} \Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{G} \preceq \mathfrak{H} \text{ and } \mathfrak{H} \preceq \mathfrak{G}$

It is easy to check that —for transition systems on a fixed set of labels— \leq is a partial pre-ordering. Bisimulations are closed under union and converse. So when $\mathfrak{G} \equiv \mathfrak{H}$, then there is a full bisimulation between \mathfrak{G} and \mathfrak{H} .

Fix an mDIL-language K. Consider an mDIL model \mathfrak{N} . We associate two transition systems $\mathfrak{G} := T_0(\mathfrak{N})$ and $\mathfrak{H} := T_1(\mathfrak{N})$ to \mathfrak{N} by taking:

- $S_{\mathfrak{G}} := S_{\mathfrak{H}} := D_{\mathfrak{N}}$
- $A_{\mathfrak{G}} := Rel_{\mathcal{K}}, A_{\mathfrak{H}} := For_{\mathcal{K}}$
- $-\rightarrow_{\mathfrak{G}}:=I_{\mathfrak{N}}, -\rightarrow_{\mathfrak{H}}:=[.]_{\mathfrak{N}}$

We state some simple facts.

Theorem 3.2 Consider two K-models \mathfrak{N} and \mathfrak{D} . Suppose $T_0(\mathfrak{N}) \preceq T_0(\mathfrak{D})$. Then, $T_1(\mathfrak{N}) \preceq T_1(\mathfrak{D})$.

Proof

The verification is immediate. The basic insight is that 'adding the identity transition', 'adding the empty transition', composition and dynamic implication are safe for bisimulations. (The fact that, e.g., \circ is safe, means that if \mathcal{B} is a bisimulation for the transitions α and beta, then it also a bisimulation for $\alpha \circ beta$.) Safety is studied and characterized in [1] and [5].

We write $\mathfrak{N} \preceq \mathfrak{D}$ for: $T_0(\mathfrak{N}) \preceq T_0(\mathfrak{D})$.

Theorem 3.3 Consider two K-models \mathfrak{N} and \mathfrak{D} . Suppose $\mathfrak{N} \preceq \mathfrak{D}$. Then, $\models_{\mathfrak{D}} \subseteq \models_{\mathfrak{N}}$.

Proof

Let \mathcal{B} witness $\mathfrak{N} \preceq \mathfrak{D}$. Note that we have: $\mathcal{B}: T_1(\mathfrak{N}) \preceq T_1(\mathfrak{D})$. Suppose $\phi \models_{\mathfrak{D}} \psi$ and $d[\phi]_{\mathfrak{N}}e$. Since \mathcal{B} is a total bisimulation, we can find d',e' with: $d\mathcal{B}d'$, $e\mathcal{B}e'$ and $d'[\phi]_{\mathfrak{D}}e'$. Since $\phi \models_{\mathfrak{D}} \psi$, there is an f' with $e'[\psi]_{\mathfrak{D}}f'$. We have $e\mathcal{B}e'$ and $e'[\psi]_{\mathfrak{D}}f'$, so, by the zag property, there is an f with $f\mathcal{B}f'$ and $e[\psi]_{\mathfrak{N}}f$.

4 The problem solved

We want to show that $\models_{Dd} = \models$. By theorem 3.3 it is sufficient to show that for every \mathcal{K} -model \mathfrak{N} there is a DPL-definable model \mathfrak{D} such that $\mathfrak{N} \equiv \mathfrak{D}$.

Consider an mDIL-model \mathfrak{N} for \mathcal{K} . We write $R_{\mathfrak{N}}$ for $I_{\mathfrak{N}}(R)$, etcetera. We construct \mathfrak{O} as follows.

- $D_{\mathfrak{D}} := D_{\mathfrak{N}} \times D_{\mathfrak{N}}$. We conveniently 'identify' $D_{\mathfrak{D}}$ with $D_{\mathfrak{N}}^{\{x,y\}}$, where x and y are distinct variables.
- $R_{\mathfrak{D}} := \widehat{R_{\mathfrak{N}}}$, where $\langle a, b \rangle \widehat{R_{\mathfrak{N}}} \langle c, d \rangle : \Leftrightarrow aR_{\mathfrak{N}}c$ and c = d

Let $a\mathcal{B}\langle b,c\rangle:\Leftrightarrow a=b$. Clearly \mathcal{B} is a full bisimulation witnessing $\mathfrak{N}\equiv\mathfrak{O}$. Finally we show that \mathfrak{O} is DPL-definable. Consider the DPL-language \mathcal{L} and the \mathcal{L} -model \mathfrak{M} given by:

- $Pred_{\mathcal{L}} := Rels_{\mathcal{K}}$
- $Ar_{\mathcal{L}}(R) := 2$
- $Var_{\mathcal{L}} = \{x, y\}$
- $D_{\mathfrak{M}} := D_{\mathfrak{N}}$
- $I_{\mathfrak{M}}(R) := I_{\mathfrak{N}}(R)$

Note the crucial subtlety that R stands for a set of pairs in \mathfrak{M} , but for a resetting relation in \mathfrak{N} . We can now define the resetting relation $R_{\mathfrak{D}}$ in \mathfrak{M} , by: $\exists y.R(x,y).\exists x.x=y$, or, using an abbreviation: $\exists y.R(x,y).[x:=y]$. We leave the easy check that this formula does deliver the promised goods to the reader.

Our formula effects a static-dynamic conversion. It does this by employing an auxiliary variable y. Note that the original contents stored under y are irrevocably lost. We proceed to illustrate, that the use of an auxiliary variable cannot be avoided. We have considered the DPL-definable relations. This class can be refined in a natural way by counting the number of variables in the DPL-language we are considering. Thus we can talk about the DPL-1-definable relations (1Dd), the DPL- \aleph_0 -definable relations $(\aleph_0 Dd)$, etcetera. Clearly, we have shown that: $\models_{2Dd} = \models$. The result is is preserved if we look at numbers bigger than 2, since for any $n \geq 2$: $\models \subseteq \models_{nDd} \subseteq \models_{2Dd} \subseteq \models$. We do not have $\models_{1Dd} = \models$, as is shown by the following theorem.

Theorem 4.1 We have $\neg\neg(\phi.\phi) \models_{1Dd} \phi.\phi.\phi$, but not $\neg\neg(\phi.\phi) \models \phi.\phi.\phi$.

Proof

To prove the first half of the result, we work in a language with one variable x and in a model for this language. Suppose ψ stands for a condition. By a remark of Kees Vermeulen, we have: $[\exists x.\psi.\exists x] = [\neg\neg(\exists x.\psi).\exists x]$. It follows that ϕ can —salva significatione— be rewritten as $C.\exists x.C'$, where C and C' stand for conditions. Now it is easy to see that both $\phi.\phi$ and $\phi.\phi.\phi$ are equivalent to $\phi.\neg\neg(\exists x.C'.C)$. ¿From this insight, the first half of our result is immediate. The second half is proved by considering countermodel: $\bullet - \xrightarrow{\phi} \bullet - \xrightarrow{\phi} \bullet$.

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Remark 4.2 We provide some remarks and formulate some questions.

1. Note that our result still works for any extension of mDIL with bisimulation safe operations. Thus we could extend our language with \cup (union of relations, indeterministic choice). On the other hand \cap is not safe. So what happens, when we add \cap ? The operations that are safe for (partial) bisimulations were characterized by Johan van Benthem in [1]. We have a bit more here, since full bisimulation is the relevant notion. For example, 'adding the universal relation' is safe for full bismimulation, but not for (partial) bisimulation.² So we could add \top , where \top stands for the universal relation, to the mDIL-language, preserving our result.

- 2. If we replace \models in our question by \subseteq (the subset relation between binary relations), the above argument does not work any more, since the analogue of theorem 3.3 fails. What happens in this case?
- 3. An alternative route would have been to take: $\langle a,b\rangle\widehat{R_{\mathfrak{N}}}\langle c,d\rangle:\Leftrightarrow aR_{\mathfrak{N}}c$ and define this relation by: $\exists y.R(x,y).\exists x.x = y.\exists y.$
- 4. Our result illustrates that modulo bisimulation is a good way of thinking about auxiliary variables in DPL.

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 $^{^2}$ Marco Hollenberg has proved that the operations safe for full bisimulation are obtained by adding the universal relation to the basic repertoire in van Benthems result. (See [5].)