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History and Philosophy of Infinity  
University of Cambridge

# Modal Set Theory

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21 September 2013

# The Iterative Conception

## The Cumulative Hierarchy of Sets

$$V_0 = \{x : x \text{ is an individual}\}$$

$$V_{\alpha+1} = V_\alpha \cup \mathcal{P}(V_\alpha)$$

$$V_\lambda = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} V_\alpha \text{ if } \lambda \text{ is a limit ordinal}$$

## The Cumulative Hierarchy of Pure Sets

$$V_0 = \emptyset$$

$$V_{\alpha+1} = \mathcal{P}(V_\alpha)$$

$$V_\lambda = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} V_\alpha \text{ if } \lambda \text{ is a limit ordinal}$$

# Structuralist Logic

## Implication Structures

$$\mathfrak{I} = \langle S, \Rightarrow \rangle$$

$S$  is a non-empty collection  
 $\Rightarrow$  is a relation on  $S$

1. **Reflexivity:**  $A \Rightarrow A$ , for all  $A$  in  $S$
2. **Projection:**  $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow A_k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq n$
3. **Contraction:** If  $A_1, A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$ , then  $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$
4. **Permutation:** If  $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$ , then  $A_{f(1)}, \dots, A_{f(n)} \Rightarrow B$ , for any permutation  $f$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
5. **Weakening:** If  $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$ , then  $A_1, \dots, A_n, C \Rightarrow B$
6. **Cut:** If  $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$  and  $B, B_1, \dots, B_m \Rightarrow C$ , then  $A_1, \dots, A_n, B_1, \dots, B_m \Rightarrow C$

# Implication Relations

1. Semantic consequence
2. Syntactic deducibility
3. Subset relation
  - $\mathfrak{J} = \langle U, \Rightarrow \rangle$
  - $A \Rightarrow B$  iff  $A \subseteq B$
  - $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$  iff  $A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n \subseteq B$

## Structural Modals

$$\mathfrak{J} = \langle S, \Rightarrow \rangle$$

A modal operator  $\phi$  is a function that maps  $S$  to itself, and

**M1.** If  $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$ , then  $\phi(A_1), \dots, \phi(A_n) \Rightarrow \phi(B)$

**M2.** There are  $A$  and  $B$  in  $S$  such that  
 $\phi(A \vee B) \Rightarrow \phi(A) \vee \phi(B)$  fails



## Necessity

Suppose  $A_1, \dots, A_n \Rightarrow B$ . Then  $\Box A_1, \dots, \Box A_n \Rightarrow \Box B$

But  $\Box(A \vee B) \Rightarrow \Box A \vee \Box B$  fails.

## Power Set

$$\mathfrak{I} = \langle U, \subseteq \rangle$$

Suppose  $X_1, \dots, X_n \Rightarrow Y$ .

$$X_1 \cap \dots \cap X_n \subseteq Y$$

$$\mathcal{P}(X_1) \cap \dots \cap \mathcal{P}(X_n) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(Y)$$

## Power Set

$\mathcal{P}(X \cup Y) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X) \cup \mathcal{P}(Y)$  fails.

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Suppose:  $\mathcal{P}(X \cup Y) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X) \cup \mathcal{P}(Y)$

$X \not\subseteq Y$  and  $Y \not\subseteq X$

$X \cup Y \in \mathcal{P}(X \cup Y)$

$X \cup Y \in \mathcal{P}(X) \cup \mathcal{P}(Y)$

$X \cup Y \in \mathcal{P}(X)$  or  $X \cup Y \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$

Either  $X \cup Y \subseteq X$ , and so  $Y \subseteq X$

Or  $X \cup Y \subseteq Y$ , and so  $X \subseteq Y$

# Naive Modal Set Theory

## Naive Set Theory

Ext.  $\forall x \forall y [\forall z (z \in x \leftrightarrow z \in y) \rightarrow x = y]$

Comp.  $\exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \Phi]$

## Naive Comprehension

$$\exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \Phi]$$

$$\exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow x \notin x]$$

$$\forall x [x \in r \leftrightarrow x \notin x]$$

$$r \in r \leftrightarrow r \notin r$$

## Modal Logic

$w \Vdash \diamond A$  iff there exists a  $v$ ,  $wRv$ , and  $v \Vdash A$   
 $w \Vdash \square A$  iff for all  $v$  such that  $wRv$ ,  $v \Vdash A$

$w \Vdash \blacklozenge A$  iff there exists a  $v$ ,  $vRw$  and  $v \Vdash A$   
 $w \Vdash \blacksquare A$  iff for all  $v$  such that  $vRw$ ,  $v \Vdash A$

## Modal Naive Comprehension

MNC:  $\Diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \Phi]$

$$w \Vdash \Diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \Phi]$$

$$wRv$$

$$v \Vdash \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow x \notin x]$$

$$v \Vdash \forall x [x \in r \leftrightarrow x \notin x]$$

$$v \Vdash r \in r \leftrightarrow r \notin r$$



## Bi-Modal Naive Comprehension

BMNC:  $\diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge \Phi]$

$$w \Vdash \diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge \Phi]$$

$$wRv$$

$$v \Vdash \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge (x \notin x)]$$

$$v \Vdash \forall x [x \in r \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge (x \notin x)]$$

$$v \Vdash r \in r \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge (r \notin r)$$

## Bi-Modal Naive Comprehension

$$v \Vdash r \in r \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge(r \notin r)$$

$$v \Vdash r \notin r.$$

$$v \Vdash \neg \blacklozenge(r \notin r)$$

$$v \Vdash \blacksquare(r \in r)$$

$$w \Vdash r \in r$$

$$v \Vdash r \in r$$

$$v \Vdash r \in r$$

$$v \Vdash \blacklozenge(r \notin r)$$

$$w' \Vdash r \notin r$$

## ZF Axioms

Empty Set:  $\Diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge (x \neq x)]$

Power Set:  $\Diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge (x \subseteq a)]$

Infinity:  $\Diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge \Diamond (x \subseteq y)]$

## Infinity

$$w \Vdash \diamond \exists y [\emptyset \in y \wedge \forall x (x \in y \rightarrow \{x\} \in y)]$$

$wRv$  and  $\emptyset$  exists at  $v$ .

From BMNC,  $v \Vdash \diamond \exists y \forall x [x \in y \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge \blacklozenge (x \subseteq y)]$

$vRu$  and  $u \Vdash \forall x [x \in i \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge \blacklozenge (x \subseteq i)]$

$u \Vdash \emptyset \subseteq i$

$u \Vdash \blacklozenge \blacklozenge (\emptyset \subseteq i)$

$u \Vdash \emptyset \in i$

## Infinity

$$w \Vdash \diamond \exists y [\emptyset \in y \wedge \forall x (x \in y \rightarrow \{x\} \in y)]$$

$$u \Vdash z \in i$$

$$u \Vdash \{z\} \subseteq i$$

$$u \Vdash \blacklozenge \blacklozenge (\{z\} \subseteq i)$$

$$u \Vdash \forall x [x \in i \leftrightarrow \blacklozenge \blacklozenge (x \subseteq i)]$$

$$u \Vdash \{z\} \in i$$

$$u \Vdash \exists y [\emptyset \in y \wedge \forall x (x \in y \rightarrow \{x\} \in y)]$$

$$v \Vdash \diamond \exists y [\emptyset \in y \wedge \forall x (x \in y \rightarrow \{x\} \in y)]$$

$$w \Vdash \diamond \diamond \exists y [\emptyset \in y \wedge \forall x (x \in y \rightarrow \{x\} \in y)]$$

$$w \Vdash \diamond \exists y [\emptyset \in y \wedge \forall x (x \in y \rightarrow \{x\} \in y)]$$

Thank you.

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