

# On the Independent Axiomatizability of Modal and Intermediate Logics

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## Abstract

This paper gives a solution to the old independent axiomatizability problem by presenting normal modal logics above **K4** and **Grz** and an intermediate logic without independent axiomatizations. Incidentally Blok's problem is solved: the lattices of varieties of topological Boolean and pseudo-Boolean algebras are not strongly atomic. We also study the relationship between independent axiomatizability of intermediate logics and their modal companions above **S4**.

**Keywords:** Modal logic, intermediate logic, independent axiomatization, differentiated frame.

## 1 Introduction

This paper gives a solution to an old problem connected with the efforts to describe the lattices of all normal modal and intermediate logics. The problem is as follows:

*Does every normal modal or intermediate logic have an independent set of axioms?*

For intermediate logics it was formulated by A. Tsytkin in [6], Problem 148.

A way to the negative solution to this problem is opened by the following observation in [5], which is presented here in a form suitable for our purpose:

### LEMMA 1.1

Suppose a logic  $L_1$  has an independent axiomatization. Then, for every finitely axiomatizable logic  $L_2 \subset L_1$ , the interval of logics  $[L_2, L_1] = \{L : L_2 \subseteq L \subseteq L_1\}$  contains an immediate predecessor of  $L_1$ , i.e. a logic  $L \subset L_1$  which has no extension lying properly between  $L$  and  $L_1$ .

**PROOF.** If  $L_1$  is finitely axiomatizable then the existence of an immediate predecessor of  $L_1$  in  $[L_2, L_1]$  follows from Zorn's Lemma.

Suppose now that  $L_1$  has an infinite independent set of axioms  $\{\varphi_i : i \in \omega\}$ . Since  $L_2$  is a finitely axiomatizable sublogic of  $L_1$ , there is  $n < \omega$  such that  $L_2$  is contained in the logic with the axioms  $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_n$ . Let  $L_3$  be the logic with the axioms  $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_n, \varphi_{n+2}, \varphi_{n+3}, \dots$ . Since the set of  $L_1$ 's axioms is independent,  $L_2 \subset L_3 \subset L_1$  and  $\varphi_{n+1} \notin L_3$ . And now again Zorn's Lemma provides us with an immediate predecessor of  $L_1$  in the interval  $[L_3, L_1]$ . ■

Thus, to prove that there is a logic without an independent axiomatization it suffices to produce a finitely axiomatizable logic  $L_2$  and its proper extension  $L_1$  having no immediate predecessor in the interval  $[L_2, L_1]$ .

A lattice (e.g. the lattice of extensions of a given logic) is called *strongly coatomic* if its interval  $[L_2, L_1]$  with  $L_2 \subset L_1$  contains an immediate predecessor of  $L_1$ . Blok in [1] proved that the lattice of normal modal logics is not strongly coatomic (more exactly, he showed that the dual lattice of varieties of modal algebras is not *strongly atomic*). However, it seems unlikely that in

the interval  $[L_2, L_1]$ , constructed by Blok and containing no immediate predecessor of  $L_1$ , the logic  $L_2$  is finitely axiomatizable; in any case its semantic definition involves the set of squares of natural numbers which can hardly be described by a finite set of axioms.

We will strengthen appropriately Blok's result to construct logics without independent axiomatizations lying above **K4**, **S4**, **Grz** and intuitionistic logic, answering incidentally his question concerning the strong coatomicity of the lattices of intermediate logics and modal logics containing **S4**.

## 2 Preliminaries

We use standard notions and notation in the realm of non-classical logic. Here we mention only those of them that have variants.

We denote by  $\Box^+\varphi$ ,  $\Diamond^+\varphi$ ,  $\Box^n\varphi$  and  $\Diamond^n\varphi$  the formulas  $\varphi \wedge \Box\varphi$ ,  $\varphi \vee \Diamond\varphi$ ,  $\underbrace{\Box \dots \Box}_n\varphi$  and  $\underbrace{\Diamond \dots \Diamond}_n\varphi$ , respectively;  $\varphi(\psi/p)$  means the result of replacement of all occurrences of the variable  $p$  in  $\varphi$  with  $\psi$ .

All modal logics in this paper, except those in Section 6, are assumed to be normal, i.e. containing **K** and closed under modus ponens, substitution and necessitation  $\varphi/\Box\varphi$ . The smallest normal modal logic to contain a logic  $L$  and a set of formulas  $\Gamma$  is denoted by  $L \oplus \Gamma$ . Intermediate logics are consistent extensions of intuitionistic logic **Int** closed under modus ponens and substitution.  $L + \Gamma$  means the closure of the set  $L \cup \Gamma$  under the latter two rules.

Let  $L$  be a logic and  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Delta$  sets of formulas in the language of  $L$ .  $\Gamma$  is said to be an *independent set of axioms for  $L$  over  $\Delta$*  if, for every  $\Sigma \subseteq \Gamma$ ,  $L$  is the closure of  $\Sigma \cup \Delta$  under the postulated inference rules of  $L$  iff  $\Sigma = \Gamma$ . For instance, we can talk about independent axiomatization of an intermediate logic over **Int** or that of a modal logic over **K**. If  $\Gamma$  is an independent set of axioms for  $L$  over  $\Delta = \emptyset$  then  $\Gamma$  is called an (*absolutely*) *independent set of axioms for  $L$* . A logic  $L$  is *independently axiomatizable (over  $\Delta$ )* if there is an independent set of axioms for  $L$  (over  $\Delta$ ).

It is clear that the following lemma holds.

### LEMMA 2.1

If a logic  $L$  is independently axiomatizable over a finitely axiomatizable logic then  $L$  is absolutely independently axiomatizable.

As to our semantic apparatus, we use here *differentiated general frames*. Recall that a general frame  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle$ , where  $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, R \rangle$  is a Kripke frame and  $P$  a set of possible values in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , is *differentiated* if, for every two distinct points in  $W$ , there is a set in  $P$  containing only one of them. For more information on general frames consult [4], from which it follows in particular that every normal modal and intermediate logic is characterized by a class of rooted differentiated general frames.

All our frames are assumed to be transitive. We will define them by drawing diagrams (directed graphs) in which reflexive and irreflexive points are denoted by  $\circ$  and  $\bullet$ , respectively, and, for distinct points  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $xRy$  means that there is a directed path from  $x$  to  $y$ . We write  $x\bar{R}y$  if  $xRy$  or  $x = y$ . So  $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, R \rangle$  is *rooted* if there is  $x \in W$  such that  $x\bar{R}y$  for every  $y \in W$ ; in this case  $x$  is called a *root* of  $\mathfrak{F}$ .

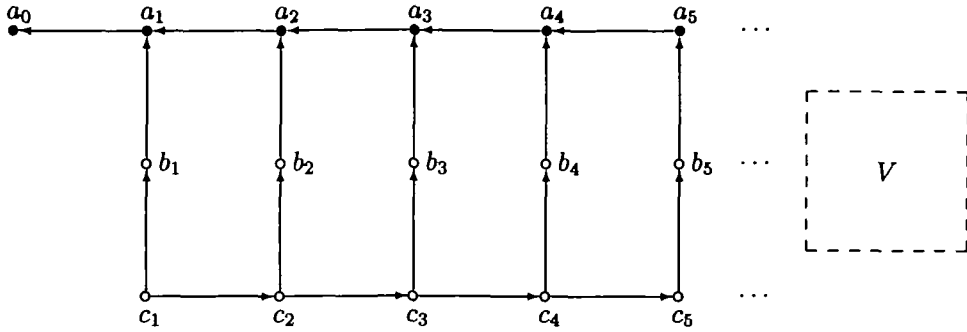


FIG. 1.

### 3 Modal logics above K4

First we give a solution to the independent axiomatizability problem for modal logics containing **K4**. Though afterwards stronger results will be obtained, we prefer to begin with logics above **K4** because in this case our construction is more transparent.

We require a number of modal formulas:

$$\alpha = p \wedge \neg \Diamond p, \alpha' = \alpha(\Diamond p/p), \alpha'' = \alpha'(\Diamond p/p) = \alpha(\Diamond^2 p/p),$$

$$\alpha_i = \alpha(\Diamond^i \top/p), \alpha_{i+1} = \alpha'(\Diamond^i \top/p), \alpha_{i+2} = \alpha''(\Diamond^i \top/p),$$

$$\beta = \Diamond \alpha \wedge \neg \Diamond^+ \alpha', \beta' = \beta(\Diamond p/p),$$

$$\beta_i = \beta(\Diamond^i \top/p) = \Diamond \alpha_i \wedge \neg \Diamond^+ \alpha_{i+1},$$

$$\beta_{i+1} = \beta'(\Diamond^i \top/p) = \Diamond \alpha_{i+1} \wedge \neg \Diamond^+ \alpha_{i+2},$$

$$\gamma = \Diamond \beta' \wedge \Diamond \alpha'' \wedge \neg \Diamond \beta, \gamma' = \gamma(\Diamond p/p),$$

$$\gamma_{i+1} = \gamma(\Diamond^i \top/p) = \Diamond \beta_{i+1} \wedge \Diamond \alpha_{i+2} \wedge \neg \Diamond \beta_i,$$

$$\gamma_{i+2} = \gamma'(\Diamond^i \top/p) = \Diamond \beta_{i+2} \wedge \Diamond \alpha_{i+3} \wedge \neg \Diamond \beta_{i+1} \quad (i \geq 0).$$

Define  $L_2$  as

$$L_2 = \mathbf{K4} \oplus \{ax1, ax2, ax3, ax4, ax5.\psi : \psi \in \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}\},$$

where

$$ax1 = \alpha_0 \vee \Diamond^+ \alpha_1, ax2 = \gamma \rightarrow \Diamond \gamma, ax3 = \gamma \rightarrow \Diamond \gamma',$$

$$ax4 = \Diamond \beta' \wedge \Diamond \alpha'' \rightarrow \Diamond \gamma, ax5.\psi = \Box^+(q \rightarrow \neg \psi) \vee \Box^+(\neg q \rightarrow \neg \psi).$$

It is not hard to verify that  $L_2$  is consistent. Indeed, all its axioms are valid in the frame shown in Figure 1 with empty  $V$ .

Our first goal is to characterize the constitution of rooted differentiated frames for  $L_2$ . To this end we require the following substitution instances of its axioms:

$$ax2.i = \gamma_i \rightarrow \Diamond \gamma_i = ax2(\Diamond^i \top/p),$$

$$\begin{aligned}
ax3.i &= \gamma_i \rightarrow \Diamond \gamma_{i+1} = ax3(\Diamond^i \top / p), \\
ax4.i &= \Diamond \beta_i \wedge \Diamond \alpha_{i+1} \rightarrow \Diamond \gamma_i = ax4(\Diamond^i \top / p) \quad (i \geq 1), \\
ax5.\alpha_i &= \Box^+(q \rightarrow \neg \alpha_i) \vee \Box^+(\neg q \rightarrow \neg \alpha_i) = ax5.\alpha(\Diamond^i \top / p), \\
ax5.\beta_i &= \Box^+(q \rightarrow \neg \beta_i) \vee \Box^+(\neg q \rightarrow \neg \beta_i) = ax5.\beta(\Diamond^i \top / p), \\
ax5.\gamma_{i+1} &= \Box^+(q \rightarrow \neg \gamma_{i+1}) \vee \Box^+(\neg q \rightarrow \neg \gamma_{i+1}) = ax5.\gamma(\Diamond^i \top / p), \quad (i \geq 0).
\end{aligned}$$

For each  $n \geq 1$ , by  $\mathfrak{F}(n, V)$  we denote the rooted subframe of the frame in Figure 1 generated by  $c_n$ ;  $\mathfrak{F}(1, V)$  is that frame itself. Here  $V$  is a (possibly empty) set of points which see all  $a_i$ s and are seen from all  $c_i$ s (as it follows from the diagram,  $b_i$ s do not see points in  $V$  and are not seen from them); the accessibility relation between points in  $V$  is of no concern to us.

Observe that the points  $a_i, b_{i+1}, c_{i+1}$ , for  $i \geq 0$ , are characterized in  $\mathfrak{F}(1, V)$  by the formulas  $\alpha_i, \beta_{i+1}, \gamma_{i+1}$ , respectively, in the sense that under any valuation in  $\mathfrak{F}(1, V)$  we have:

$$\{x : x \models \alpha_i\} = \{a_i\}, \quad \{x : x \models \beta_{i+1}\} = \{b_{i+1}\}, \quad \{x : x \models \gamma_{i+1}\} = \{c_{i+1}\},$$

and the points in  $V$  are exactly those points in  $\mathfrak{F}(1, V)$  at which all  $\Diamond \alpha_i$ s are true and all  $\Diamond \beta_{i+1}$ s are false, for  $i \geq 0$ .

### LEMMA 3.1

Suppose  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle$  is a rooted differentiated frame for  $L_2$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}$  is (isomorphic to) a rooted generated subframe of  $\mathfrak{F}(1, V)$ , for some  $V$ , and  $\{a_i\}, \{b_j\}, \{c_k\}$  are in  $P$ , for all points  $a_i, b_j, c_k$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$ .

PROOF. Let  $z$  be the root of  $\mathfrak{F}$ . As was done above, we classify the points in  $\mathfrak{F}$  according to which of the formulas  $\alpha_i, \beta_i$  and  $\gamma_i$  are true at them.

Say that a point  $x$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  is of type  $a_i$  (respectively,  $b_{i+1}, c_{i+1}$ ) if  $\alpha_i$  (respectively,  $\beta_{i+1}, \gamma_{i+1}$ ) is true at  $x$ ;  $x$  is of type  $a_\omega$  if  $x \models \Diamond \alpha_i$  and  $x \not\models \Diamond \beta_j$ , for all  $i \geq 0, j \geq 1$ .

Since  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle \models ax5.\alpha_i$ ,  $\mathfrak{F}$  contains at most one point of type  $a_i$ , for each  $i \geq 0$ . Indeed, suppose there are two distinct points  $x, y$  of type  $a_i$ . Since  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle$  is differentiated, there is  $X \in P$  such that  $x \in X$  and  $y \notin X$ . Define a valuation  $\mathfrak{V}$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  by taking  $\mathfrak{V}(q) = X$ . Then  $z \not\models ax5.\alpha_i$ , which is a contradiction. Likewise, for each  $i \geq 1$ , there are at most one point of type  $b_i$  and one point of type  $c_i$ .

By the definition of  $\alpha_i$ , each point  $x$  of type  $a_i$ , if any, is irreflexive and must see a point of type  $a_j$ , for every  $j < i$ , and every point accessible from  $x$  is of type  $a_j$ , for some  $j < i$ . Therefore, in view of their uniqueness, the points of type  $a_i, i \geq 0$ , form a descending chain in  $\mathfrak{F}$ .

By  $ax3.i$ , each point of type  $c_i$  for  $i \geq 1$ , if any, sees a point of type  $c_j$ , for every  $j > i$ , and, by the definition of  $\gamma_i$ , a point of type  $a_j$ , for every  $j \geq 0$ ; besides, by  $ax2.i$  and the uniqueness of points of type  $c_i$ , every such point is reflexive.

If some point  $x$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  sees a point of type  $a_i$  and neither sees a point of type  $a_{i+1}$  nor is of type  $a_{i+1}$  itself then, by the definition of  $\beta_i$ ,  $x$  is of type  $b_i$ . Besides, by  $ax1, ax4.i$  and the properties of points of types  $c_j$  and  $a_j$  established above, every point accessible from  $x$  is of one of the types  $a_0, \dots, a_i, b_i$ . It follows in particular that  $x$  is reflexive. For if  $x$  is irreflexive then either it sees only points of types  $a_0, \dots, a_i$  and so is of type  $a_{i+1}$  itself, contrary to our assumption, or sees a point of type  $b_i$ , contrary to the uniqueness of such a point.

It should be clear from the arguments above that each point in  $\mathfrak{F}$  is of at most one type. We show now that each point in  $\mathfrak{F}$  is of some type indeed.

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary point in  $\mathfrak{F}$ . By  $ax1$ , among the points  $y$  such that  $x \bar{R} y$  there is at least one point of type  $a_i$ , for some  $i \geq 0$ . If  $x$  sees only finitely many points of type  $a_i, i \geq 0$ , then,

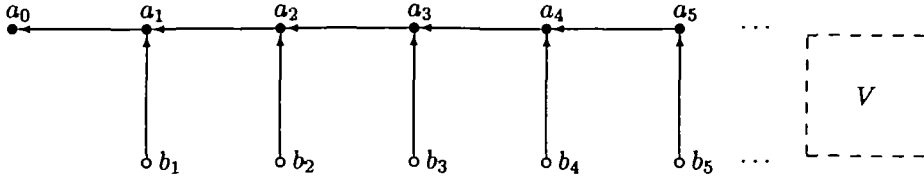


FIG. 2.

as was established above,  $x$  is either of type  $a_i$  or of type  $b_i$ , for some  $i$ . If  $x$  sees points of type  $a_i$  for all  $i \geq 0$  then we have the following alternatives. First,  $x$  sees no point of type  $b_j$ , for  $j \geq 1$ , which means that  $x$  is of type  $a_\omega$ . Second,  $x$  sees a point of type  $b_j$ , for some  $j \geq 1$ , and no point of type  $b_k$ , for  $0 < k < j$ , which means that  $x$  is of type  $c_j$ . We have exhausted all the possibilities, and so each point in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , in particular  $z$ , is of some unique type.

The isomorphism we are after is quite clear now: we map every point of type  $a_i$  (respectively,  $b_{i+1}$ ,  $c_{i+1}$ ) to  $a_i$  (respectively,  $b_{i+1}$ ,  $c_{i+1}$ ). The uniqueness of points of types  $a_i$ ,  $b_{i+1}$  and  $c_{i+1}$  guarantees that  $P$  satisfies the desirable condition. ■

Now we are in a position to define  $L_1$ . Let  $C_1$  be the class of all differentiated frames for  $L_2$  whose underlying Kripke frames have the form shown in Figure 2. Since  $\mathfrak{F}(1, \emptyset) \models L_2$  and the frame in Figure 2 with empty  $V$  is a generated subframe of  $\mathfrak{F}(1, \emptyset)$ ,  $C_1 \neq \emptyset$ . We define  $L_1$  as the logic characterized by the class  $C_1$ , i.e. put

$$L_1 = \{\varphi : \forall \mathfrak{F} \in C_1 \mathfrak{F} \models \varphi\}.$$

LEMMA 3.2

- (i)  $L_2 \subset L_1$ .
- (ii)  $L_1$  has no immediate predecessor in the interval  $[L_2, L_1]$ .

PROOF. (i) By the definition of  $L_1$ , we have  $L_2 \subseteq L_1$ . This inclusion is proper, since  $\neg\gamma_1 \in L_1 - L_2$ .

(ii) Suppose otherwise. Let  $L$  be an immediate predecessor of  $L_1$  containing  $L_2$ . Since  $L \subset L_1$ , there exists a rooted differentiated frame  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, Q \rangle$  such that  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, Q \rangle \models L$  and  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, Q \rangle \not\models L_1$ . On the other hand, since  $L_2 \subseteq L$ , we have  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, Q \rangle \models L_2$  and so, by Lemma 3,  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, Q \rangle$  is of the form  $\langle \mathfrak{F}(n, V), P \rangle$ , for some  $n \geq 1$ ,  $V$  and  $P$ . Then  $\neg\gamma_n \notin L$ ; for, as we know,  $c_n \models \gamma_n$ .

Let  $C'$  be the class of frames containing all the frames in  $C_1$  and also the subframe of  $\langle \mathfrak{F}(n, V), P \rangle$  generated by  $c_{n+1}$ , and let  $L'$  be the logic characterized by  $C'$ . By the definition,  $L \subseteq L' \subseteq L_1$ . Moreover,  $\langle \mathfrak{F}(n+1, U), Q \rangle \models \neg\gamma_n$ , for every  $U$  and  $Q$ , from which  $\neg\gamma_n \in L'$ , and  $c_{n+1} \models \gamma_{n+1}$ , from which  $\neg\gamma_{n+1} \notin L'$ , while  $\neg\gamma_{n+1} \in L_1$ . Therefore,  $L \subset L' \subset L_1$ , contrary to  $L$  being an immediate predecessor of  $L_1$ . ■

As a consequence of Lemmas 1.1 and 3.2 and the fact that  $L_2$  is finitely axiomatizable we obtain our main result:

THEOREM 3.3

$L_1$  has no independent axiomatization.

REMARK 3.4

It is worth noting that  $L_1$  is recursively axiomatizable. Indeed, using Lemma 3.1 one can readily

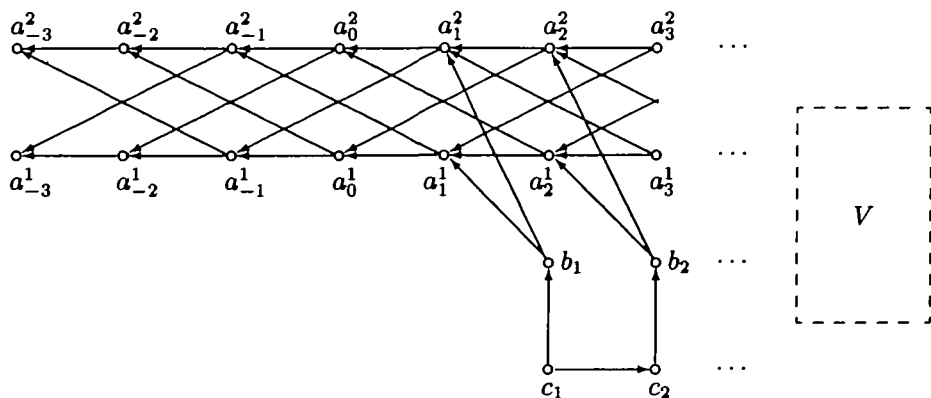


FIG. 3.

prove that

$$L_1 = L_2 \oplus \{\neg\gamma_i : i \geq 1\}.$$

#### 4 Intermediate logics

Now we show how to modify the construction above in order to obtain much stronger logics without independent axiomatizations. First we consider intermediate logics.

The construction in Section 3 was based upon the frame in Figure 1 containing the descending chain  $a_0, a_1, \dots$  of irreflexive points. We replace it with 'Fine's ladder' (cf. [3], p.26) consisting of the pairs of reflexive points  $a_0^1, a_0^2, a_1^1, a_1^2, \dots$ ; see Figure 3 where the points  $a_{-i}^1$  and  $a_{-i}^2$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , play an auxiliary role.

Since in the case under consideration variable free formulas are not expressive enough—there are only two of them (up to equivalence, of course), namely,  $\perp$  and  $\top$ —we shall use as a 'starting formula' the following one:

$$\delta = (p \rightarrow q \vee \neg q) \vee (\neg p \rightarrow q \vee \neg q).$$

It is not hard to see that a rooted Kripke frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  refutes  $\delta$  iff it contains a (not necessarily generated) subframe of the form shown in Figure 4, with  $a$  and  $b$  having no common successors in  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Since the frame in Figure 3 contains only one (modulo interchanging superscripts) subframe of that sort, without loss of generality we may assume that under any valuation refuting  $\delta$  in the frame we have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{-2}^1 &\models p, a_{-2}^1 \not\models q \vee \neg q, a_{-3}^1 \models q, \\ a_{-2}^2 &\models \neg p, a_{-2}^2 \not\models q \vee \neg q, a_{-3}^2 \models q. \end{aligned}$$

Now, taking the formulas

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{-3}^1 &= p \wedge q \rightarrow \perp, \alpha_{-3}^2 = \neg p \wedge q \rightarrow \perp, \\ \alpha_{-2}^1 &= p \rightarrow q \vee \neg q, \alpha_{-2}^2 = \neg p \rightarrow q \vee \neg q, \\ \alpha_{i+1}^1 &= \alpha_i^2 \rightarrow \alpha_i^1 \vee \alpha_{i-1}^2, \alpha_{i+1}^2 = \alpha_i^1 \rightarrow \alpha_i^2 \vee \alpha_{i-1}^1 \quad (i \geq -2), \end{aligned}$$

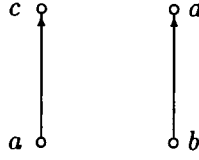


FIG. 4.

$$\begin{aligned}\beta_i &= \alpha_{i+1}^1 \wedge \alpha_{i+1}^2 \rightarrow \alpha_i^1 \vee \alpha_i^2 \quad (i \geq -3), \\ \gamma_{i+1} &= \beta_i \rightarrow \beta_{i+1} \vee \alpha_{i+2}^1 \vee \alpha_{i+2}^2 \quad (i \geq 0),\end{aligned}$$

we obtain, under a valuation refuting  $\delta$ , a classification of points in the frame in Figure 3 similar to that in Section 3:

$$\begin{aligned}\{x : x \not\models \alpha_i^1\} &= \{a_i^1\}, \quad \{x : x \not\models \alpha_i^2\} = \{a_i^2\} \quad (i \geq -3), \\ \{x : x \not\models \beta_i\} &= \begin{cases} \{b_i\} & \text{if } i \geq 1 \\ \emptyset & \text{if } -3 \leq i \leq 0, \end{cases} \\ \{x : x \not\models \gamma_i\} &= \{c_i\} \quad (i \geq 1).\end{aligned}$$

Here  $x \not\models \varphi \rightarrow \psi$  means  $x \models \varphi$  and  $x \not\models \psi$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\{x : a_{-3}^1 Rx\} &= \{x : x \models p \wedge q\}, \quad \{x : a_{-3}^2 Rx\} = \{x : x \models \neg p \wedge q\}, \\ \{x : a_i^1 Rx\} &= \{x : x \models \alpha_{i-1}^2\}, \quad \{x : a_i^2 Rx\} = \{x : x \models \alpha_{i-1}^1\} \quad (i \geq -2), \\ \{x : b_1 Rx\} &= \{x : x \models \alpha_2^1 \wedge \alpha_2^2\}, \quad \{x : b_i Rx\} = \{x : x \models \alpha_{i+1}^1 \wedge \alpha_{i+1}^2 \wedge \beta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \beta_{i-1}\}, \\ \{x : c_1 Rx\} &= \{x : x \models \top\}, \quad \{x : c_i Rx\} = \{x : x \models \beta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \beta_{i-1}\} \quad (i \geq 2).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, every general frame based on this Kripke frame and refuting  $\delta$  contains in its set of possible values the sets generated by each of the points  $a_j^i, b_k, c_l$ .

$L_2$  can be defined now by adding to  $\text{Int}$  the following axioms, for  $i = 1, 2$  and  $-3 \leq j \leq 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}Ax1.1 &= \neg(\alpha_{-3}^1 \wedge \alpha_{-3}^2) \vee \delta, \\ Ax1.2 &= (\alpha_{-2}^1 \wedge \alpha_{-2}^2 \rightarrow \alpha_{-3}^1 \vee (p \wedge q)) \vee \delta, \\ Ax1.3 &= (\alpha_{-2}^1 \wedge \alpha_{-2}^2 \rightarrow \alpha_{-3}^2 \vee (\neg p \wedge q)) \vee \delta, \\ Ax1.4 &= (\beta_{-2} \wedge \beta_{-1} \wedge \beta_0) \vee \delta, \\ Ax3 &= \zeta_2 \rightarrow \zeta_1 \vee \delta, \quad Ax4 = \zeta_1 \rightarrow \eta_1 \vee \xi_2 \vee \xi_2' \vee \delta, \\ Ax5.\alpha_j^i &= \phi(\alpha_j^i), \quad Ax5.\xi_2 = \phi(\xi_2), \quad Ax5.\eta_1 = \phi(\eta_1), \quad Ax5.\zeta_1 = \phi(\zeta_1),\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\xi_{-3} &= r_1, \quad \xi_{-3}' = r_2, \quad \xi_{-2} = s_1, \quad \xi_{-2}' = s_2, \\ \xi_n &= \xi_{n-1}' \rightarrow \xi_{n-1} \vee \xi_{n-2}', \quad \xi_n' = \xi_{n-1} \rightarrow \xi_{n-1}' \vee \xi_{n-2} \quad (n \geq -1), \\ \eta_n &= \xi_{n+1} \wedge \xi_{n+1}' \rightarrow \xi_n \vee \xi_n' \quad (n \geq 0), \\ \zeta_n &= \eta_{n-1} \rightarrow \eta_n \vee \xi_{n+1} \vee \xi_{n+1}' \quad (n \geq 1)\end{aligned}$$

and  $\phi(\varphi \rightarrow \psi)$  is an abbreviation for  $(r \wedge \varphi \rightarrow \psi) \vee (\varphi \rightarrow r \vee \psi) \vee \delta$ . The meaning and purpose of the axioms above are analogous to those of the corresponding axioms in Section 3.

## LEMMA 4.1

Every frame validating  $\delta$  is a frame for  $L_2$ .

PROOF. For each axiom  $\varphi$  of  $L_2$ , we have  $\delta \rightarrow \varphi \in \text{Int}$ . ■

It follows in particular that  $L_2$  is consistent.

Given a formula  $\varphi$ , we denote by  $\varphi_i^*$  the result of substituting in  $\varphi$  the formulas  $\alpha_i^1, \alpha_i^2, \alpha_{i+1}^1, \alpha_{i+1}^2$  ( $i \geq -3$ ) for the variables  $r_1, r_2, s_1, s_2$ , respectively. Observe that the formulas  $\xi_n, \xi'_n, \eta_n, \zeta_n$  are related to  $\alpha_i^1, \alpha_i^2, \beta_i, \gamma_i$  in the following way.

## LEMMA 4.2

- (i)  $(\xi_n)_i^* \leftrightarrow \alpha_{n+i+3}^1 \in \text{Int}, (\xi'_n)_i^* \leftrightarrow \alpha_{n+i+3}^2 \in \text{Int}$ , for  $n \geq -3$ .
- (ii)  $(\eta_n)_i^* \leftrightarrow \beta_{n+i+3} \in \text{Int}$ , for  $n \geq 0$ .
- (iii)  $(\zeta_n)_i^* \leftrightarrow \gamma_{n+i+3} \in \text{Int}$ , for  $n \geq 1$ .

PROOF. (i) is proved by trivial induction on  $n$ ; (ii) and (iii) follow from (i). ■

## REMARK 4.3

If we mean by  $\varphi_i^*$  the result of substituting in  $\varphi$  the formulas  $\alpha_i^2, \alpha_i^1, \alpha_{i+1}^2, \alpha_{i+1}^1$  ( $i \geq -3$ ) for  $r_1, r_2, s_1, s_2$ , respectively, then Lemma 4.2 will hold with (i) replaced by

- (iv)  $(\xi_n)_i^* \leftrightarrow \alpha_{n+i+3}^2 \in \text{Int}, (\xi'_n)_i^* \leftrightarrow \alpha_{n+i+3}^1 \in \text{Int}$ , for  $n \geq -3$ .

As a consequence of Lemma 4.2 and Remark 4.3 we obtain that  $L_2$  contains the following formulas:

$$\begin{aligned} Ax3.i &= \gamma_{i+1} \rightarrow \gamma_i \vee \delta \quad (i \geq 1), \\ Ax4.i &= \gamma_i \rightarrow \beta_i \vee \alpha_{i+1}^1 \vee \alpha_{i+1}^2 \vee \delta \quad (i \geq 1), \\ Ax5.\alpha_j^i &= \phi(\alpha_j^i) \quad (i = 1, 2, j \geq -3), \\ Ax5.\beta_i &= \phi(\beta_i) \quad (i \geq 1), \\ Ax5.\gamma_i &= \phi(\gamma_i) \quad (i \geq 1). \end{aligned}$$

Note by the way that we do not need any counterparts of the formulas  $ax2$  and  $ax2.i$  from Section 3, because intuitionistic frames are *a priori* reflexive.

## LEMMA 4.4

If a rooted differentiated frame  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle$  for  $L_2$  refutes  $\delta$  then  $\mathfrak{F}$  is (isomorphic to) a generated subframe of a frame of the form shown in Figure 3, with the sets generated by each of its points  $a_j^i, b_k, c_l$  belonging to  $P$ .

PROOF. The proof is similar to that of Lemma 3.1, so we leave almost all the details to the reader. The main difference concerns the use of  $\delta$ .

Suppose  $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, R \rangle$  and  $z$  is the root of  $\mathfrak{F}$  refuting  $\delta$  under a valuation  $\mathfrak{V}$  of the variables  $p$  and  $q$  in  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle$ . As was observed above,  $\mathfrak{F}$  must contain a subframe shown in Figure 4, with  $a$  and  $b$  having no common successors in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , and

$$c \Vdash \alpha_{-3}^1, d \Vdash \alpha_{-3}^2, a \nVdash \alpha_{-2}^1, b \nVdash \alpha_{-2}^2.$$

(As in the proof of Lemma 3.1, one might call  $c, d, a, b$  points of types  $\alpha_{-3}^1, \alpha_{-3}^2, \alpha_{-2}^1, \alpha_{-2}^2$ , respectively.)

Let us show first that each point  $x$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  sees  $c$  or  $d$ . Indeed, suppose otherwise. Since  $z \nVdash \delta$  and  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle \models Ax1.1$ , we have  $z \models \neg(\alpha_{-3}^1 \wedge \alpha_{-3}^2)$  and so  $x \nVdash \alpha_{-3}^1$  or  $x \nVdash \alpha_{-3}^2$ . Assume



for definiteness that  $x \not\models \alpha_{-3}^1$ , i.e. there is a point  $y$  such that  $xRy$  and  $y \not\models \alpha_{-3}^1$ . Since  $\neg xRc$ , it follows that  $y \neq c$ . Then there is a set  $X \in P$  such that either  $y \in X$ ,  $c \notin X$  or  $y \notin X$ ,  $c \in X$ . In the former case, by taking  $\mathfrak{W}(r) = X$  we obtain that  $y \not\models r \wedge p \wedge q \rightarrow \perp$  and  $c \models p \wedge q \rightarrow r \vee \perp$ , whence  $z \not\models Ax5.\alpha_{-3}^1$ , which is a contradiction. The latter case is considered analogously.

Thus,  $\mathfrak{F}$  has exactly two final points, namely  $c$  and  $d$ , with  $x = c$  whenever  $x \not\models \alpha_{-3}^1$  and  $x = d$  whenever  $x \not\models \alpha_{-2}^2$ .

Now we show that each point in  $\mathfrak{F}$  different from  $c$  and  $d$  sees  $a$  or  $b$ . Again we prove this by *reductio ad absurdum*. Suppose  $x \neq c$ ,  $x \neq d$ ,  $\neg xRa$  and  $\neg xRb$ . As was established above,  $xRc$  or  $xRd$ . Assume for definiteness that  $xRc$ . Then  $x \not\models \alpha_{-3}^1$ . Besides we have  $x \not\models p \wedge q$ , for otherwise  $x \models \alpha_{-3}^1$ , from which  $x = c$ . Since  $z \models Ax1.2$ , we obtain then either  $x \not\models \alpha_{-2}^1$  or  $x \not\models \alpha_{-2}^2$ . In the former case there exists a point  $y$  accessible from  $x$  such that  $y \neq a$  and  $y \not\models \alpha_{-2}^1$ . Choosing a set in  $P$  separating  $y$  and  $a$ , we can prove in the same way as above that  $z \not\models Ax5.\alpha_{-2}^1$ . The latter case and the case when  $xRd$  are considered analogously. Taking into account the differentiatedness of our frame, we obtain also that  $\{c\}, \{d\} \in P$ , because  $\{c\} = \{x : x \models p \wedge q\}$  and  $\{d\} = \{x : x \models \neg p \wedge q\}$ .

Observe that if  $xRa$  and  $\neg xRd$  then  $x = a$ . Indeed, since  $c$  and  $d$  are the only final points in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , we have  $x \models \neg p$ . Let us change, if necessary, the valuation  $\mathfrak{W}$  in such a way that  $\mathfrak{W}(p) = \mathfrak{W}(\neg p)$ . It should be clear that we still have  $z \not\models \delta$  and besides  $x \not\models \alpha_{-2}^1$  and  $a \not\models \alpha_{-2}^1$ . Therefore, in view of  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle \models Ax5.\alpha_{-2}^1$ , we have  $x = a$ . Likewise we can show that if  $xRb$  and  $\neg xRc$  then  $x = b$ .

The axioms  $Ax5.\alpha_{-2}^1$  and  $Ax5.\alpha_{-2}^2$  guarantee that  $a$  and  $b$  are the only points satisfying  $a \not\models \alpha_{-2}^1$  and  $b \not\models \alpha_{-2}^2$ , respectively.

Let  $x$  be a point in  $\mathfrak{F}$  different from  $a, b, c, d$ . Then  $xRa$  or  $xRb$ . Suppose  $xRa$  and  $\neg xRb$ . As was shown above,  $xRd$  and so  $x \not\models \alpha_{-1}^1$ . And using the axiom  $Ax5.\alpha_{-1}^1$  we see that  $x$  is the only point in  $\mathfrak{F}$  with this property. Similarly, if  $\neg xRa$  and  $xRb$  then  $x$  is the unique point such that  $x \not\models \alpha_{-1}^2$ . Finally, if  $x$  sees both  $a$  and  $b$  then  $x \not\models \alpha_{-2}^1 \vee \alpha_{-2}^2$  and hence, by  $Ax1.4$  (its conjunct  $\beta_2$ , to be more exact),  $x \not\models \alpha_{-1}^1 \wedge \alpha_{-1}^2$ , i.e.  $x$  sees a point  $y$  such that either  $y \not\models \alpha_{-1}^1$  or  $y \not\models \alpha_{-1}^2$  and such  $y$  is unique.

Since  $a \models \alpha_{-3}^2$  and  $x \not\models \alpha_{-3}^2$  whenever  $\neg aRx$ , the subset of  $W$  generated by  $a$  is  $\{x : x \models \alpha_{-3}^2\} \in P$ . In the same way one can prove that the subset of  $W$  generated by  $b$  is also in  $P$ .

The rest of the proof resembles that of Lemma 3.1. ■

Now we define  $L_1$  as the intermediate logic characterized by the class of all differentiated frames validating  $\delta$  and all differentiated frames for  $L_2$  whose underlying Kripke frames have the form shown in Figure 3, but with the points  $c_i$  removed.

LEMMA 4.5

- (i)  $L_2 \subset L_1$ .
- (ii)  $L_1$  has no immediate predecessor in the interval  $[L_2, L_1]$ .

PROOF. (i)  $L_2 \subseteq L_1$  is a consequence of Lemma 4.1. That this inclusion is proper will follow from the fact that  $\gamma_1 \in L_1 - L_2$ . To establish the latter it suffices to show that the Kripke frame  $\mathfrak{F} = \langle W, R \rangle$  in Figure 3 with  $V = \emptyset$  validates all the axioms of  $L_2$ . We verify this claim only for  $Ax3$  and  $Ax5.\xi_2$ .

Suppose that under some valuation in  $\mathfrak{F}$  we have  $x \not\models \zeta_1 \vee \delta$  and show that  $x \not\models \zeta_2$ . Since

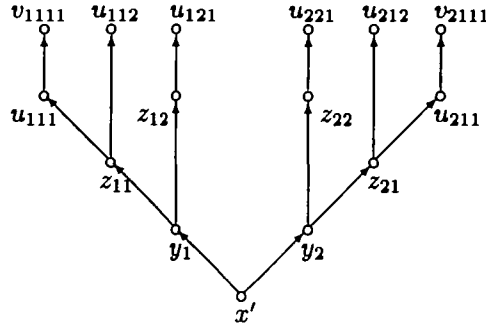


FIG. 5.

$x \not\models \zeta_1$ , there is a point  $x'$  such that  $xRx'$  and

$$x' \models \eta_0, \quad (4.1)$$

$$x' \not\models \eta_1, \quad (4.2)$$

$$x' \not\models \xi_2 \vee \xi'_2. \quad (4.3)$$

The latter provides us with points  $y_1, y_2$  such that  $x'Ry_1, x'Ry_2$  and

$$y_1 \not\models \xi_2, y_2 \not\models \xi'_2.$$

Clearly,  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  do not see each other and there are points  $z_{11}, z_{12}, z_{21}, z_{22}$  such that  $y_1 R z_{1i}, y_2 R z_{2i}$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , and

$$z_{11} \not\models \xi_1, z_{12} \not\models \xi'_0, z_{21} \not\models \xi'_1, z_{22} \not\models \xi_0.$$

So there are points  $u_{111}, u_{112}, u_{121}, u_{211}, u_{212}, u_{221}$  such that  $z_{11} R u_{11i}, z_{12} R u_{12i}, z_{21} R u_{21i}, z_{22} R u_{22i}$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , and

$$u_{111} \not\models \xi_0, u_{112} \not\models \xi'_{-1}, u_{121} \not\models \xi'_{-1}, u_{211} \not\models \xi'_0, u_{212} \not\models \xi_{-1}, u_{221} \not\models \xi_{-1}.$$

The first and the fourth of these conditions give us points  $v_{1111}$  and  $v_{2111}$  such that  $u_{111} R v_{1111}, u_{211} R v_{2111}$  and

$$v_{1111} \not\models \xi_{-1}, v_{2111} \not\models \xi'_{-1}.$$

It follows that  $\mathfrak{F}$  contains a subframe of the form shown in Figure 5 where the points in each of the following sets are not necessarily distinct:

$$\{u_{111}, z_{22}\}, \{u_{211}, z_{12}\}, \{u_{112}, u_{121}, v_{2111}\}, \{u_{212}, u_{221}, v_{1111}\}.$$

Comparing this diagram with  $\mathfrak{F}$  we can conclude that modulo interchanging superscripts one may assume that, for some  $i \geq -3$ ,

$$\{u_{212}, u_{221}, v_{1111}\} = \{a_i^1\}, \{u_{112}, u_{121}, v_{2111}\} = \{a_i^2\},$$

$$\{u_{111}, z_{22}\} = \{a_{i+1}^1\}, \{u_{211}, z_{12}\} = \{a_{i+1}^2\}, \\ z_{11} = a_{i+2}^1, z_{21} = a_{i+2}^2, y_1 = a_{i+3}^1, y_2 = a_{i+3}^2.$$

Thus, for some  $i \geq -3$  and  $j = 0, 1, 2, 3$ , we have

$$a_{i+j}^1 \not\models \xi_{j-1}, a_{i+j}^2 \not\models \xi'_{j-1},$$

from which by induction on  $j$  one can show that, for  $j \geq -1$ ,

$$\{x : x \not\models \xi_j\} = \{a_{i+j+1}^1\}, \{x : x \not\models \xi'_j\} = \{a_{i+j+1}^2\}. \quad (4.4)$$

Immediately from (4.4) we obtain that

$$\{x : x \not\models \eta_j\} = \{b_{i+j+1}\}, \{x : x \not\models \zeta_j\} = \{c_{i+j+1}\}, \quad (4.5)$$

where  $j \geq -1$ ,  $i+j+1 \geq 1$ , and if  $i+j+1 \leq 0$  then

$$\{x : x \not\models \eta_j\} = \{x : x \not\models \zeta_j\} = \emptyset.$$

The conditions (4.1)–(4.5) show that

$$\neg x' R b_{i+1}, x' R b_{i+2}, x' R a_{i+3}^1, x' R a_{i+3}^2,$$

which is possible only if  $x' = c_{i+2}$ . Therefore, we have  $x R c_{i+2} R c_{i+3}$ ,  $c_{i+3} \not\models \zeta_2$  (by (4.5)) and so  $x \not\models \zeta_2$ .

Let us consider now  $Ax5.\xi_2$  and suppose that under some valuation it is refuted in  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Using almost the same argument as above we can establish (4.4). So there is only one point  $x$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  such that  $x \not\models \xi_2$ . However, by the refutability of  $\phi(\xi_2)$ , we must have two points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  such that

$$x_1 \models r \wedge \xi'_1, x_1 \not\models \xi_1 \vee \xi'_0, x_2 \models \xi'_1, x_2 \not\models r \vee \xi_1 \vee \xi'_0.$$

It follows that  $x_1 \neq x_2$ ,  $x_1 \not\models \xi_2$  and  $x_2 \not\models \xi_2$ , which is a contradiction.

(ii) is proved in the same way as (ii) in Lemma 3.2. ■

As a consequence of Lemmas 4.5 and 1.1 and the fact that  $L_2$  is finitely axiomatizable, we obtain

#### THEOREM 4.6

There is an intermediate logic without an independent axiomatization.

Lemma 4.5 provides us with an interval  $[L_2, L_1]$  of intermediate logics in which  $L_1$  has no immediate predecessors. This result and the Blok–Esakia Theorem, according to which the lattices of varieties of pseudo-Boolean (alias Heyting) algebras and Grzegorczyk algebras are isomorphic, give a solution to Blok’s problem in [1]:

#### THEOREM 4.7

- (i) The lattice of varieties of pseudo-Boolean algebras is not strongly atomic.
- (ii) The lattice of varieties of topological Boolean (and even Grzegorczyk) algebras is not strongly atomic.

Slightly modifying the construction above one can prove

## THEOREM 4.8

- (i) There exists a normal extension of the Gödel–Löb provability logic  $\mathbf{GL} = \mathbf{K4} \oplus \Box(\Box p \rightarrow p) \rightarrow \Box p$  without an independent axiomatization.
- (ii) The lattice of varieties of diagonalizable algebras is not strongly atomic.

PROOF. The only essential difference from the proof of Theorem 4.6 is that all reflexive circles  $\circ$  in Figure 3 are replaced with irreflexive bullets  $\bullet$  and instead of intuitionistic formulas we use their modal counterparts in  $\mathbf{GL}$  (for instance, obtained from them by prefixing  $\Box^+$  to their every subformula). The Kripke frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  in Figure 3 (with  $V = \emptyset$ ) does not validate the Löb axiom. However, by defining the set of possible values  $P$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  as the family of all finite and cofinite subsets in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , we obtain  $\langle \mathfrak{F}, P \rangle \models \Box(\Box p \rightarrow p) \rightarrow \Box p$ . ■

## 5 Modal logics above $\mathbf{S4}$

Now we consider the correlation between the independent axiomatizability of intermediate logics and normal modal logics above  $\mathbf{S4}$ . We remind the reader that there is a lattice homomorphism  $\rho$  from the lattice of normal extensions of  $\mathbf{S4}$  onto the lattice of extensions of  $\mathbf{Int}$ , which is defined as follows: for every normal logic  $M \supseteq \mathbf{S4}$ ,

$$\rho M = \{\varphi : T\varphi \in M\},$$

where  $T$  is the Gödel translation prefixing  $\Box$  to every subformula of an intuitionistic formula. The logic  $M$  is called a *modal companion* of  $\rho M$ . The set of all modal companions of an intermediate logic  $L = \mathbf{Int} + \{\varphi_i : i \in I\}$  forms the infinite interval of logics  $[\tau L, \sigma L]$ , where

$$\tau L = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \{T\varphi_i : i \in I\} \subseteq \mathbf{S5},$$

$$\sigma L = \tau L \oplus \mathbf{Grz} = \tau L \oplus \Box(\Box(p \rightarrow \Box p) \rightarrow p) \rightarrow p,$$

with  $\sigma$  being the Blok–Esakia isomorphism between the lattices of extensions of  $\mathbf{Int}$  and normal extensions of the Grzegorczyk system  $\mathbf{Grz}$  mentioned at the end of Section 4. It should be clear that if  $M$  is an immediate predecessor of  $\tau L_1$  in the interval  $[\tau L_2, \tau L_1]$  then  $\rho M$  is an immediate predecessor of  $L_1$  in the interval  $[L_2, L_1]$ . (Indeed, by the definition of  $\tau L_1$ , we have  $\rho M \subset L_1$ . And if  $\rho M \subset \rho M + \varphi \subset L_1$ , for some  $\varphi$ , then  $T\varphi \notin M$ ,  $M \oplus T\varphi = \tau L_1$  and so, since  $\rho$  is a homomorphism,  $\rho(M \oplus T\varphi) = \rho M + \varphi = L_1$ , which is a contradiction.) For more information on modal companions of intermediate logics and references consult [2].

It follows directly from these facts and Lemma 4.5 that in the intervals  $[\tau L_2, \tau L_1]$  and  $[\sigma L_2, \sigma L_1]$ , where  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are the intermediate logics constructed in Section 4, the modal logics  $\tau L_1$  and  $\sigma L_1$  have no immediate predecessors, respectively. Thus we obtain

## THEOREM 5.1

There is a normal modal logic in the interval  $[\mathbf{S4}, \mathbf{S5}]$  and a normal logic containing  $\mathbf{Grz}$  without independent axiomatizations.

Another consequence of the properties of  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$  mentioned above is

## THEOREM 5.2

For every intermediate logic  $L$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- $L$  is independently axiomatizable over  $\mathbf{Int}$ ;
- $\tau L$  is independently axiomatizable over  $\mathbf{S4}$ ;

- $\sigma L$  is independently axiomatizable over **Grz**.

The maps  $\rho$ ,  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$  can be characterized with the help of the modal and intuitionistic canonical formulas, which are denoted here by  $\alpha(\mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{D}, \perp)$  and  $\beta(\mathfrak{F}, \mathcal{D}, \perp)$ , respectively; for a brief exposition and further references consult [7] or [2]. Namely, a normal logic  $M \supseteq \mathbf{S4}$  is a modal companion of an intermediate logic

$$L = \mathbf{Int} + \{\beta(\mathfrak{F}_i, \mathcal{D}_i, \perp) : i \in I\}$$

iff  $M$  can be represented in the form

$$M = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \{\alpha(\mathfrak{F}_i, \mathcal{D}_i, \perp) : i \in I\} \oplus \{\alpha(\mathfrak{G}_j, \mathcal{E}_j, \perp) : j \in J\},$$

where each  $\mathfrak{G}_j$ , for  $j \in J$ , contains at least one proper cluster; in particular,

$$\tau L = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \{\alpha(\mathfrak{F}_i, \mathcal{D}_i, \perp) : i \in I\},$$

$$\sigma L = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \{\alpha(\mathfrak{F}_i, \mathcal{D}_i, \perp) : i \in I\} \oplus \alpha(\odot\odot, \emptyset).$$

Here  $\odot\odot$  is the two-point cluster.

#### THEOREM 5.3

If an intermediate logic  $L$  has an infinite independent axiomatization over **Int** then every logic in the interval  $[\tau L, \sigma L]$  is independently axiomatizable (over **S4**).

PROOF. Suppose  $L = \mathbf{Int} + \{\varphi_i : i \in \omega\}$  with independent axioms  $\varphi_i$ . According to the characterization above, every logic  $M \in [\tau L, \sigma L]$  can be represented as

$$M = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \{T\varphi_i : i \in \omega\} \oplus \{\alpha(\mathfrak{F}_i, \mathcal{D}_i, \perp) : i \in \omega\},$$

where each  $\mathfrak{F}_i$ , for  $i \in \omega$ , contains a proper cluster. Therefore,

$$M = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \{T\varphi_i \wedge \alpha(\mathfrak{F}_i, \mathcal{D}_i, \perp) : i \in \omega\}.$$

The latter axiomatization is independent over **S4**, for otherwise we would have, for some  $i \in \omega$ ,

$$T\varphi_i \in M' = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \{T\varphi_j \wedge \alpha(\mathfrak{F}_j, \mathcal{D}_j, \perp) : j \in \omega, j \neq i\}$$

and hence

$$\varphi_i \in \rho M' = \mathbf{Int} + \{\varphi_j : j \in \omega, j \neq i\},$$

which is a contradiction. By Lemma 2.1,  $M$  is absolutely independently axiomatizable. ■

That  $L$  in Theorem 5.3 is *infinitely* independently axiomatizable over **Int** is essential. For, as is shown by the following theorem, **Int** itself has a modal companion without an independent axiomatization.

#### THEOREM 5.4

The interval  $[\tau \mathbf{Int}, \sigma \mathbf{Int}] = [\mathbf{S4}, \mathbf{Grz}]$  contains a logic without an independent axiomatization.

PROOF. (A sketch.) We point out how to change the proof of Theorem 4.6 in order to obtain the logic we need.

As a 'starting formula'  $\delta$ , we take a modal formula which is refuted in a rooted Kripke frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  iff  $\mathfrak{F}$  contains a subframe shown in Figure 4,  $a$  and  $b$  have no common successors in  $\mathfrak{F}$  and  $d$

(or  $c$ ) is contained either in a proper cluster or in an infinite strictly ascending chain. Besides, in the frame in Figure 3 we replace  $\alpha_{-3}^2$  with the two-point cluster.

Then we construct a finite number of axioms for  $L_2$  in such a way that the modal counterpart of Lemma 4.4 holds for every rooted differentiated frame for  $L_2$  refuting  $\delta$ . And  $L_1$  is defined as the logic characterized by the class of all differentiated (reflexive) frames validating  $\delta$  and all differentiated frames for  $L_2$  of the form shown in Figure 3 with  $\alpha_{-3}^2$  replaced by the two-point cluster and the points  $c_i$ ,  $i \geq 1$ , removed. This class contains all the finite partially ordered frames (since all of them validate  $\delta$ ) which means that  $\rho L_1 = \text{Int}$ . The fact that  $L_1$  has no independent axiomatization is proved in the same way as in Sections 3 and 4. ■

That the property of independent axiomatizability is not in general preserved while passing from an intermediate logic to its arbitrary modal companion can hardly be regarded as a great surprise. Many other properties (such as the decidability, finite model property, Kripke completeness, etc.) behave in this respect in the same way. What is rather unexpected is that unlike the other 'good' properties of logics (at least those known to us) the independent axiomatizability is not in general preserved under the map  $\rho$ .

#### THEOREM 5.5

There is an independently axiomatizable normal modal logic  $M \supset S4$  such that  $\rho M$  does not have an independent axiomatization.

PROOF. We are going to construct an independently axiomatizable modal logic  $M$  such that  $\rho M = L_1$ , where  $L_1$  is the intermediate logic without an independent axiomatization constructed in the proof of Theorem 4.6. By the definition of  $L_1$  and the proof of Lemma 4.5 (i), each subframe  $\mathfrak{G}_i$  of the frame in Figure 3 generated by  $b_i$ , for  $i \in \omega$ , validates  $L_1$  and so each frame  $\mathfrak{F}_i$ , which is obtained from  $\mathfrak{G}_i$  by replacing  $b_i$  with the two-point cluster is a frame for  $\tau L_1$ . For  $i \in \omega$ , we denote by  $\beta_i^*$  the formula

$$T(\alpha_{i+1}^1 \wedge \alpha_{i+1}^2) \rightarrow T(\alpha_i^1 \vee \alpha_i^2) \vee (\Box(\Box(r \rightarrow \Box r) \rightarrow r) \rightarrow r),$$

where  $\alpha_i^k$ 's are taken from the proof of Theorem 4.6. It is not hard to verify that  $\mathfrak{F}_i \not\models \beta_i^*$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_j \models \beta_i^*$ , for every  $j \neq i$ . Therefore, the set  $\{\beta_i^* : i \in \omega\}$  is independent over  $\tau L_1$ .

Let  $\{\varphi_i : i \in \omega\}$  be a set of axioms for  $L_1$  over  $\text{Int}$ . Then, by defining  $M$  as

$$S4 \oplus \{T\varphi_i : i \in \omega\} \oplus \{\beta_i^* : i \in \omega\}, \quad (5.1)$$

we clearly have  $\tau L \subset M \subset \sigma L$ , with

$$S4 \oplus \{T\varphi_i \wedge \beta_i^* : i \in \omega\}$$

being an independent axiomatization of  $M$ . ■

#### REMARK 5.6

It may be of interest that it is impossible to extract an independent set of axioms for  $M$  from the axiomatization (5.1). By using the logic  $L_1$  constructed in the proof of Theorem 4.6, it is not difficult to construct an intermediate logic with the same property.

## 6 Open problems

We conclude the paper with some questions to which we could not find answers.

The first three questions concern the difference between absolutely independent axiomatizability and independent axiomatizability over a finitely axiomatizable logic.

- Is an absolutely independently axiomatizable logic  $L_1$  containing a finitely axiomatizable logic  $L_2$  independently axiomatizable over  $L_2$ ?
- Does the conversion of Lemma 1.1 hold?
- Do Theorems 5.2 and 5.3 hold in the case of absolutely independent axiomatizability?

Our fourth question is connected with the fact that there are two ways of axiomatizing modal logics, namely, with the rule of necessitation and without it. The results above establish the existence of modal logics having no independent axiomatizations only of the former kind. In the proof of Theorem 3.3 the rule of necessitation was used together with the formulas  $\alpha x3.i$ , which can be rewritten as  $\Box \neg \gamma_{i+1} \rightarrow \neg \gamma_i$ , to ensure that  $\neg \gamma_i$  is in an extension of  $L_2$  whenever  $\neg \gamma_j$  belongs to it, for some  $j > i$ . Without this rule the set  $\{\neg \gamma_i : i \geq 1\}$  is independent over  $L_2$ , and it is not hard to show that  $L_1 = L_2 + \{\Box^+ \neg \gamma_i : i \geq 1\}$ . In the proof of Theorem 5.1 we used the Blok–Esakia isomorphism between the lattices of intermediate logics and *normal* extensions of **Grz**, with the condition of normality being essential here (for details see [2]).

- Do there exist modal logics having no independent axiomatizations without the postulated rule of necessitation (for instance, extensions of Solovay’s system **S**)?

One can show, using the mystical part  $V$  of the frames in Figure 1 and 3 that all the logics without independent axiomatizations above have rooted frames of infinite width and depth. Besides, the frames in Figure 1 and 3 are closely related to the frame which was used in [3] for constructing an incomplete modal logic. So our three final questions are:

- Do there exist Kripke complete (modal or intermediate) logics without independent axiomatizations?
- Do there exist (modal or intermediate) logics without independent axiomatizations but with the finite model property?
- Do there exist (modal or intermediate) logics of finite width or finite depth without independent axiomatizations?

(As to the last question, our conjecture is that such logics do not exist.)

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