

# Non-primitive recursive decidability of products of modal logics with expanding domains

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## Abstract

We show that—unlike products of ‘transitive’ modal logics which are usually undecidable—their ‘expanding domain’ relativisations can be decidable, though not in primitive recursive time. In particular, we prove the decidability and the finite expanding product model property of bimodal logics interpreted in two-dimensional structures where one component—call it the ‘flow of time’—is

- a finite linear order or a finite transitive tree

and the other is composed of structures like

- transitive trees/partial orders/quasi-orders/linear orders or only finite such structures

*expanding over the time*. (It is known that none of these logics is decidable when interpreted in structures where the second component does not change over time.) The decidability proof is based on Kruskal’s tree theorem, and the proof of non-primitive recursiveness is by reduction of the reachability problem for lossy channel systems. The result is used to show that the dynamic topological logic interpreted in topological spaces with continuous functions is decidable (in non-primitive recursive time) if the number of function iterations is assumed to be finite.

**Keywords.** modal logic, temporal logic, decidability, dynamic topological logic

**MSC.** 03B45, 03B44, 03B70

## 1 Introduction

Started in the 1970s [38, 39], the research programme of investigating and using *products of modal logics*<sup>1</sup> as a multi-dimensional formalism for a variety of promising applications in mathematical logic, computer science and artificial intelligence (see, e.g., [2, 34, 9, 4, 35, 13, 7, 43]) has recently culminated in a series of interesting decidability and complexity results.

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<sup>1</sup>For the definition of *products* of modal logics see Section 5 below.

**Decidability:** Roughly, a two-dimensional product of modal logics can be decidable only if, in order to check satisfiability of a formula  $\varphi$  in product frames for the logic, it suffices to consider those of them where the depth of one of the component frames is bounded by some finite number depending on  $\varphi$ . In other words, only products of standard modal logics with **K**-like or **S5**-like logics are decidable [13, 42, 11]. Three-dimensional products and products of transitive logics with arbitrary finite or infinite frames are *not* decidable [29, 17, 36, 14].

**Complexity:** The computational complexity of decidable product logics turns out to be much higher than the complexity of their components. For example, it is shown in [30] that *all* product logics between **K**  $\times$  **K** and **S5**  $\times$  **S5** are coNEXPTIME-hard (while **K** is known to be PSPACE-complete and **S5** coNP-complete). According to [31], even the satisfiability problem for formulas of modal depth 2 in **K**  $\times$  **K**-frames is NEXPTIME-hard.  $\text{Log}(\mathbb{N}, <) \times \mathbf{S5}$  is EXPSPACE-hard, while **PTL**  $\times$  **K** is not elementary [16, 18, 11].

Such is the price we have to pay for the strong interaction between the modal operators of the component logics of a product, which is syntactically reflected by the (seemingly harmless) commutativity and Church–Rosser axioms

$$\diamond \diamond p \leftrightarrow \diamond \diamond p \quad \text{and} \quad \diamond \Box p \rightarrow \Box \diamond p.$$

The general research problem we are facing now can be formulated as follows: *is it possible to reduce the computational complexity of product logics by relaxing the interaction between their components and yet keeping some of the useful and attractive features of the product construction?*

One approach to this problem is motivated by structures often used in such areas as temporal and modal first-order logics, temporal data or knowledge bases (say, temporal description logics) or logical modelling of dynamical systems. What we mean is models/structures with *expanding domains*: if at a certain time point (or in a world)  $w$  we have a ‘population’  $\Delta_w$  of elements (objects), then at every later point (in every accessible world)  $u$  the population  $\Delta_u$  cannot be smaller but can grow—i.e.,  $\Delta_w \subseteq \Delta_u$ . Standard product logics respect the stronger *constant domain assumption* according to which  $\Delta_w = \Delta_u$  for all  $u$  and  $w$ . In the case of dynamic topological logics [25, 20], expanding domains correspond to the condition that the function describing movements of points in topological spaces is *continuous* (while constant domains correspond to *homeomorphisms*).

Models with expanding domains also naturally arise in the context of tableau- and resolution-based decision procedures that have been developed and implemented for certain monodic fragments of first-order temporal logic and some modal description logics [15, 22, 19] which include, in particular, the (expanding) products of the corresponding temporal and modal logics with **S5**. One of the most difficult problems in the development and implementation was the conflict between modularity and the necessity to backtrack after introducing every new element; in fact, the systems developed so far are considerably more efficient for expanding domain than for constant domain interpretations.

Products of modal logics with expanding domains were introduced in [28], where it was shown that they cannot be more complex than (in fact, are reducible to) products. But can they be simpler? For example, is it possible that a product logic is undecidable while its expanding relativisation is decidable? A similar question was asked in [12] where it was shown that the two-variable fragment of most first-order modal logics with constant domains is undecidable.

The main aim of this paper is to show that there are ‘standard’ modal logics whose product with expanding domains is indeed simpler than their usual product. For example, it turns out that the product of **GL.3** and **GL** is undecidable and does not have the (abstract) finite model property [14], while their expanding product is decidable and does have the expanding product finite model property.

Our main decidability results can be summarised as follows: bimodal logics interpreted in expanding product frames where the first component consists of

- finite linear orders or finite transitive trees

and the second is composed of frames like

- transitive trees/partial orders/quasi-orders/linear orders or only finite such structures

are decidable and have the finite expanding product model property. If the second (‘vertical’) component is Noetherian (say, frames for **GL.3** or **GL**), then we may also allow infinite Noetherian first (‘horizontal’) components. None of these logics is decidable when interpreted in models with constant domains [14].

The decidability proof is based on Kruskal’s tree theorem [27] and does not establish any elementary upper bound for the time/space complexity of the decision algorithm. We show that indeed no such upper bound exists by proving that there is no primitive recursive decision algorithm for such logics. The proof uses a recent result of Schnoebelen [37] according to which reachability in lossy channel systems is not decidable in time bounded by a primitive recursive function. This actually explains why numerous attempts to prove decidability of expanding products failed: quite often the idea was to reduce the decision problem to  $S\omega S$  which is not elementary yet primitive recursive [6].

Using the fact that quasi-ordered frames induce topological spaces—and, in fact, determine the same logic **S4** as the class of all topological spaces—we show that properties of dynamical systems that can be expressed in the dynamic topological logic interpreted in topological spaces with continuous functions cannot be decided in primitive recursive time. However, the logic becomes decidable (but not primitive recursive) if the number of function iterations is assumed to be finite—again in contrast to the undecidability in the case of dynamic topological structures with homeomorphisms [20].

The structure of the paper is as follows. In Section 2 we introduce our central notions of two-dimensional expanding domain frames and the interpretation of bimodal formulas in them. In Section 3 we formulate and prove the main decidability results. This is done in three steps. First, in Section 3.1, we use the maximal point technique of [10] to show that the logics under consideration enjoy the expanding product finite model property. Then, in Section 3.2, Kruskal’s tree theorem and König’s infinity lemma are employed for proving decidability of these logics. Finally, in Section 3.3, we encode the reachability problem for lossy channel systems to establish the non-primitive recursive lower bound. Section 4 shows how the obtained results can be used for investigating the computational behaviour of dynamic topological logics. In Section 5 we compare the expanding domain products introduced in Section 2 with expanding relativised products of [28]. We conclude in Section 6 with a discussion of the obtained results and open problems.

## 2 Two-dimensional frames with expanding domains

Let  $\mathcal{ML}_2$  be the usual propositional bimodal language with two diamonds  $\blacklozenge$ ,  $\blacklozenge$  (and their dual boxes  $\blackbox$ ,  $\blackbox$ ) and the Boolean connectives. The intended ‘expanding domain semantics’ for this language is defined as follows.

Let  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  be a (‘horizontal’) frame<sup>2</sup> and let  $f$  be a function associating with every  $x \in W$  a (‘vertical’) frame

$$f(x) = (W_x, R_x)$$

in such a way that whenever  $xRy$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  then  $f(x)$  is a subframe of  $f(y)$  in the sense that

- $W_x \subseteq W_y$  and
- for all  $u, v \in W_x$ , we have  $uR_xv$  iff  $uR_yv$ .

Then the pair  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is called an *expanding domain frame*, or simply an *e-frame* (see Fig. 1 for an example).

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<sup>2</sup>We remind the reader that a pair  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  is called a (unimodal) *Kripke frame* if  $W$  is a nonempty set and  $R$  is a binary relation on  $W$ . A *valuation* in  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a function  $\mathfrak{V}$  mapping propositional variables to subsets of  $W$ .

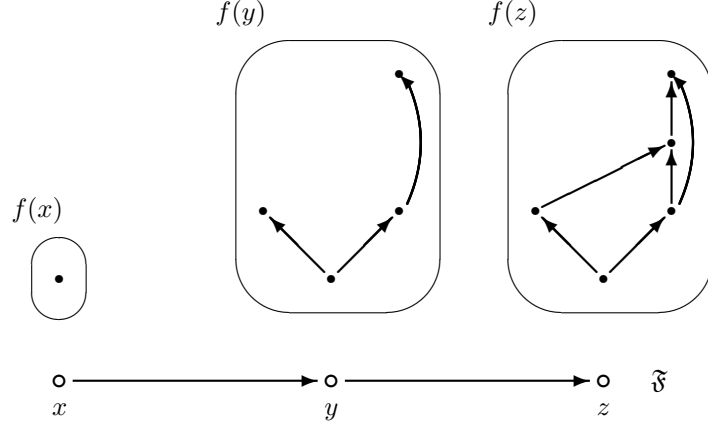


Figure 1: An e-frame  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$ .

The following definition shows how to interpret  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formulas in e-frames. A *valuation*  $\mathfrak{V}$  in an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is a set  $(\mathfrak{V}_w)_{w \in W}$  of valuations  $\mathfrak{V}_w$  in the frames  $f(w)$ . The pair  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  is called an *expanding domain model based on  $\mathfrak{H}$* . The *truth relation*  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \varphi$ , where  $\varphi \in \mathcal{ML}_2$ ,  $x \in W$  and  $u \in W_x$ , is defined inductively as follows:

- $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models p$  iff  $u \in \mathfrak{V}_x(p)$ , where  $p$  is a propositional variable,
- $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \diamond\psi$  iff there exists  $y \in W$  such that  $xRy$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, u)) \models \psi$ ,
- $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \square\psi$  iff there exists  $v \in W_x$  such that  $uR_xv$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, v)) \models \psi$

(plus the standard clauses for the Boolean connectives). We say that  $\varphi$  is *valid* in  $\mathfrak{H}$  ( $\mathfrak{H} \models \varphi$ , in symbols) if  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \varphi$  holds for all  $x \in W$ ,  $u \in W_x$  and all models  $\mathfrak{M}$  based on  $\mathfrak{H}$ . Note that every e-frame validates the left commutativity and Church–Rosser axioms

$$\diamond\diamond p \rightarrow \diamond\diamond p \quad \text{and} \quad \diamond\square p \rightarrow \square\diamond p$$

but not the right commutativity  $\diamond\diamond p \rightarrow \diamond\square p$  (see Fig. 1).

Given two classes  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  of unimodal frames, denote by

$$(\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^e$$

the class of all e-frames  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  such that  $\mathfrak{F} \in \mathcal{C}_1$  and  $f(x) \in \mathcal{C}_2$  for every point  $x$  from  $\mathfrak{F}$ , and let

$$\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^e = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{ML}_2 \mid \forall \mathfrak{H} \in (\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^e \ \mathfrak{H} \models \varphi\}.$$

**Remark 1.** Observe that  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^e$  is always a Kripke complete normal bimodal logic. Indeed, given an expanding domain model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  as above, we can ‘represent’ it as a usual Kripke model  $\overline{\mathfrak{M}} = (\overline{\mathfrak{H}}, \overline{\mathfrak{V}})$  based on the bimodal frame

$$\overline{\mathfrak{H}} = (\{(x, u) \mid x \in W, u \in W_x\}, R_h, R_v),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} (x, u)R_h(y, v) & \quad \text{iff} \quad u = v \text{ and } xRy, \\ (x, u)R_v(y, v) & \quad \text{iff} \quad x = y \text{ and } uR_xv, \\ \overline{\mathfrak{V}}(p) & = \{(x, u) \mid u \in \mathfrak{V}_x(p)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, for every  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula  $\varphi$ , we have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \varphi$  iff  $(\overline{\mathfrak{M}}, (x, u)) \models \varphi$ .

Note that if the e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is such that  $f(x) = \mathfrak{G}$  for all  $x$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , then  $\overline{\mathfrak{H}}$  coincides with what is called the *product* of frames  $\mathfrak{F}$  and  $\mathfrak{G}$ ; for more details see Section 5.

Let  $L_1$  be a normal unimodal logic in the language with the diamond  $\diamond$ . Let  $L_2$  be a normal unimodal logic in the language with the diamond  $\diamond$ . Assume also that both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are Kripke complete. Then the *expanding domain product* (or *e-product*, for short) of the logics  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  is

$$(L_1 \times L_2)^e = \text{Log}(\text{Fr } L_1 \times \text{Fr } L_2)^e,$$

where  $\text{Fr } L_i$  is the class of all Kripke frames for  $L_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Note that  $(L_1 \times L_2)^e$  is a conservative extension of both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ .

In order to make the paper self-contained, here we give a list of the standard modal logics we deal with. All logics  $L$  in this list are complete with respect to the classes  $\text{Fr } L$  of their Kripke frames:

- $\text{Fr } \mathbf{K}$  is the class of all frames  $(W, R)$ ,
- $\mathbf{K4} = \mathbf{K} \oplus \Box p \rightarrow \Box \Box p$  and  $\text{Fr } \mathbf{K4}$  is the class of all frames  $(W, R)$  with *transitive*  $R$ ,
- $\mathbf{S4} = \mathbf{K4} \oplus \Box p \rightarrow p$  and  $\text{Fr } \mathbf{S4}$  is the class of frames  $(W, R)$  with *transitive, reflexive*  $R$ ,
- $\mathbf{S5} = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \Diamond p \rightarrow \Box \Diamond p$  and  $\text{Fr } \mathbf{S5}$  is the class of frames  $(W, R)$  where  $R$  is an *equivalence relation*,
- $\mathbf{GL} = \mathbf{K4} \oplus \Box(\Box p \rightarrow p) \rightarrow \Box p$  and  $\text{Fr } \mathbf{GL}$  is the class of all frames  $(W, R)$  such that  $R$  is *transitive, irreflexive* and *Noetherian* in the sense that there is no infinite sequence  $x_0 R x_1 R x_2 \dots$  where  $x_i \neq x_{i+1}$  for  $i < \omega$ ,
- $\mathbf{Grz} = \mathbf{S4} \oplus \Box(\Box(p \rightarrow \Box p) \rightarrow p) \rightarrow p$  and  $\text{Fr } \mathbf{Grz}$  is the class of all frames  $(W, R)$  such that  $R$  is *transitive, reflexive* and *Noetherian*,
- $\mathbf{K4.3} = \mathbf{K4} \oplus \Box(\Box^+ p \rightarrow q) \vee \Box(\Box^+ q \rightarrow p)$  and  $\text{Fr } \mathbf{K4.3}$  is the class of frames  $(W, R)$  such that  $R$  is *transitive* and *weakly connected* in the sense that whenever  $xRy$ ,  $xRz$  and  $y \neq z$  then either  $yRz$  or  $zRy$ . Rooted<sup>3</sup> transitive and weakly connected frames will be called *linear*. Note that linear frames can have clusters<sup>4</sup> of any kind, in particular, proper and degenerate ones. The logics  $\mathbf{S4.3}$ ,  $\mathbf{GL.3}$ , and  $\mathbf{Grz.3}$  are defined analogously.

Here  $\oplus$  means ‘add the axiom and take the closure under modus ponens, substitution and necessitation  $\varphi/\Box\varphi$ ,’ and  $\Box^+ \psi = \psi \wedge \Box \psi$ .

### 3 Decidability and complexity

As e-products are known to be reducible to standard product logics (see [11, Theorem 9.12] or Proposition 5 below), e-product logics are usually decidable if one of their components is an  $\mathbf{S5}$ - or  $\mathbf{K}$ -like logic [13, 42, 11]. On the other hand, products of ‘transitive’ logics with frames of arbitrarily large finite or infinite depth are undecidable and do not have the finite model property [14].

In this section we show that logics of e-frames with arbitrarily large finite transitive components can be decidable, and even can have the following strong version of the finite model property. A bimodal logic  $L$  is said to have the *expanding domain product finite model property* (*e-product fmp*, for short) if, for every  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula  $\varphi \notin L$ , there is a finite e-frame for  $L$  that refutes  $\varphi$ .

The main results of this paper are the following:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}_h$  be any of the following classes of frames:*

<sup>3</sup>We remind the reader that a frame  $(W, R)$  is called *rooted* if there exists  $r \in W$  such that  $W = \{u \in W \mid rR^*u\}$ , where  $R^*$  is the reflexive and transitive closure of  $R$ .

<sup>4</sup>Recall that a set  $X \subseteq W$  is called a *cluster* in  $\mathfrak{F}$  if  $X = \{x\} \cup \{y \in W \mid xRy \text{ and } yRx\}$  for some  $x \in W$ . A cluster  $X$  is *proper* if  $|X| \geq 2$ , it is *simple* if  $X = \{x\}$  and  $xRx$ ; otherwise the cluster is called *degenerate*.

- (C1) all finite transitive antisymmetric frames,  
(C2) all reflexive or all irreflexive members of (C1),  
(C3) all linear members of any of the classes in (C1) and (C2).

Let  $\mathcal{C}_v$  be any of the classes:

- (C4) all transitive frames,  
(C5) all reflexive and transitive frames,  
(C6) all linear members of (C4) or (C5).

Then the logic  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  has the e-product fmp and is decidable, but not in time bounded by a primitive recursive function.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  be any of the following classes:

- (C7) all Noetherian irreflexive transitive frames,  
(C8) all Noetherian reflexive transitive frames,  
(C9) all linear members of (C7) or (C8).

Then the logic  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  has the e-product fmp and is decidable, but not in time bounded by a primitive recursive function. In other words, if  $L_1, L_2 \in \{\mathbf{GL}, \mathbf{Grz}, \mathbf{GL.3}, \mathbf{Grz.3}\}$  then  $(L_1 \times L_2)^e$  has the e-product fmp and is decidable, but not in time bounded by a primitive recursive function.

We give a common proof of Theorems 1 and 2 via a sequence of lemmas, where we assume  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  to be as in the formulations of the theorems.

### 3.1 The expanding domain product fmp

Fix some  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula  $\varphi$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** If  $\varphi \notin \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  then  $\varphi$  is refuted in a model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  such that  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R) \in \mathcal{C}_h$ ,  $f(x) = (W_x, R_x) \in \mathcal{C}_v$  ( $x \in W$ ) and, for all  $x \in W$ ,  $v \in W_x$  and all  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formulas  $\psi$  with  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, v)) \models \psi$ , the set

$$A_{x,v,\psi} = \{u \in W_x \mid vR_x u \text{ and } (\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \psi\} \cup \{v\}$$

contains an  $R_x$ -maximal point (i.e., a point  $w$  such that if  $wR_x w'$  for some  $w' \in A_{x,v,\psi}$  then  $w'R_x w$ ).

**Proof.** Clearly, the lemma holds if  $\mathcal{C}_v$  is as in Theorem 2 (that is, consists of Noetherian frames only). So suppose that  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  are as in the formulation of Theorem 1, that is,  $\mathcal{C}_h$  is one of (C1)–(C3) (and so contains only *finite* frames) and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  is one of (C4)–(C6).

Suppose that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x_0, v_0)) \not\models \varphi$  for some model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{G}, \mathfrak{U})$  based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{G} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$ , where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R) \in \mathcal{C}_h$ ,  $f(x) = (W_x, R_x) \in \mathcal{C}_v$ ,  $x_0 \in W$  and  $v_0 \in W_{x_0}$ . By Remark 1, we may assume that  $x_0$  is a root of  $\mathfrak{F}$  and  $v_0$  is a root of  $f(x_0)$ . Define a new model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f^{ue})$  as follows. Take the set  $U$  of ultrafilters over  $V = \bigcup_{x \in W} W_x$ , and set  $f^{ue}(x) = (W_x^{ue}, R_x^{ue})$ , where

$$W_x^{ue} = \{\mathbf{u} \in U \mid W_x \in \mathbf{u}\}$$

and

$$\mathbf{u}_1 R_x^{ue} \mathbf{u}_2 \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{for all } A \in \mathbf{u}_2, \{v \in W_x \mid \exists v' \in A \ vR_x v'\} \in \mathbf{u}_1.$$

It is not hard to show that  $\mathfrak{H}$  is indeed an e-frame. Note that  $f^{ue}(x)$  does not necessarily coincide with the usual ‘ultrafilter extension’ of  $f(x)$ , as it may contain several different extensions of each

ultrafilter over  $W_x$ . However, it is straightforward to check that  $f^{ue}(x)$  is a transitive rooted frame for every  $x \in W$  (the principal ultrafilter  $\mathbf{u}_0$  containing  $\{v_0\}$  is a root of  $f^{ue}(x)$ ), and  $R_x^{ue}$  is reflexive (irreflexive, weakly connected) if  $R_x$  is reflexive (irreflexive, weakly connected). Therefore,  $\mathfrak{H}$  belongs to  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ .

Define a valuation  $\mathfrak{M}$  as the set  $(\mathfrak{M}_x^{ue})_{x \in W}$ , where

$$\mathfrak{M}_x^{ue}(p) = \{\mathbf{u} \in W_x^{ue} \mid \mathfrak{M}_x(p) \in \mathbf{u}\}.$$

We claim that, for all  $x \in W$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in W_x^{ue}$ , and all formulas  $\psi$

$$(\mathfrak{M}, (x, \mathbf{u})) \models \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad \{v \in W_x \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (x, v)) \models \psi\} \in \mathbf{u}. \quad (1)$$

The proof is by induction on  $\psi$ . Here we show the only ‘non-standard’ step of  $\psi = \diamond\chi$ . Suppose first that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, \mathbf{u})) \models \diamond\chi$ . Then, by IH, there is some  $y \in W$  such that  $xRy$  and

$$\{v \in W_y \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (y, v)) \models \chi\} \in \mathbf{u}.$$

Since  $\mathbf{u} \in W_x^{ue}$ , we have

$$\{v \in W_x \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (x, v)) \models \diamond\chi\} \supseteq \{v \in W_x \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (y, v)) \models \chi\} \in \mathbf{u},$$

as required. Conversely, suppose  $B_{x, \diamond\chi} = \{v \in W_x \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (x, v)) \models \diamond\chi\} \in \mathbf{u}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{F}$  is finite<sup>5</sup>, there are  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  in  $W$  such that  $xRy_i$ ,  $B_{y_i, \chi} = \{v \in W_x \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (y_i, v)) \models \chi\} \neq \emptyset$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) and  $B_{x, \diamond\chi} = \bigcup_{i=1}^n B_{y_i, \chi}$ . It follows that there is some  $i$  such that  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and

$$\{v \in W_{y_i} \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (y_i, v)) \models \chi\} \supseteq B_{y_i, \chi} \in \mathbf{u},$$

and so, by IH,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, \mathbf{u})) \models \diamond\chi$  holds.

As a consequence of (1) we obtain that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x_0, \mathbf{u}_0)) \not\models \varphi$ .

The existence of  $R_x^{ue}$ -maximal points in sets of form  $A_{x, \mathbf{u}, \psi}$  in  $\mathfrak{M}$  follows from a well-known result of Fine [10]. Here is a sketch of the proof. Consider the family

$$\mathcal{X} = \{X \subseteq A_{x, \mathbf{u}, \psi} \mid R_x^{ue} \cap (X \times X) \text{ is linear, with smallest element } \mathbf{u}\}.$$

Let  $C$  be a  $\subseteq$ -maximal set in  $\mathcal{X}$  (i.e., for every  $C' \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $C \subseteq C'$  implies  $C' = C$ ); its existence can be readily proved with the help of Zorn’s lemma. Now take the set

$$\mathbf{y}_0 = \{A \subseteq W_x \mid \exists \mathbf{z} \in C \forall \mathbf{z}' \in C (\mathbf{z}R_x^{ue} \mathbf{z}' \rightarrow A \in \mathbf{z}')\}.$$

This set is not empty, since  $\{v \in W_x \mid (\mathfrak{N}, (x, v)) \models \psi\} \in \mathbf{y}_0$ , and clearly  $\mathbf{y}_0$  has the finite intersection property. Hence we can find an ultrafilter  $\mathbf{y} \in W_x^{ue}$  containing  $\mathbf{y}_0$ . Then it is easy to see, using the definition of  $R_x^{ue}$ , that

$$\forall \mathbf{z} \in C \mathbf{z}R_x^{ue} \mathbf{y}. \quad (2)$$

We claim that  $\mathbf{y}$  is  $R_x^{ue}$ -maximal in  $A_{x, \mathbf{u}, \psi}$ . Indeed, take some  $\mathbf{y}' \in A_{x, \mathbf{u}, \psi}$  such that  $\mathbf{y}R_x^{ue} \mathbf{y}'$ . If  $\mathbf{y}' \in C$  then  $\mathbf{y}'R_x^{ue} \mathbf{y}$  holds by (2). If  $\mathbf{y}' \notin C$  then, by the  $\subseteq$ -maximality of  $C$  in  $\mathcal{X}$ ,  $R_x^{ue}$  is not linear on  $C \cup \{\mathbf{y}'\}$ . Since by (2) and  $\mathbf{y}R_x^{ue} \mathbf{y}'$ , we have  $\mathbf{z}R_x^{ue} \mathbf{y}'$  for all  $\mathbf{z} \in C$ , there exists a  $\mathbf{z}' \in C$  such that  $\mathbf{y}'R_x^{ue} \mathbf{z}'$ , and so, again by (2),  $\mathbf{y}'R_x^{ue} \mathbf{y}$  as required.  $\square$

We will use Lemma 2.1 to show that  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  has the e-product fmp. To formulate the next lemma, we require the following notions.

We say that a transitive frame  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  is a *quasi-tree of clusters* if  $\mathfrak{F}$  is rooted and  $R$  is weakly connected on the set  $\{y \in W \mid yRx\}$  for every  $x \in W$ . If in addition  $\mathfrak{F}$  is antisymmetric (that is, does not contain proper clusters), then we call  $\mathfrak{F}$  simply a *quasi-tree*. If a quasi-tree of clusters is well-founded (i.e., there are no infinite descending  $R$ -chains  $\dots Rx_2Rx_1Rx_0$  of points

<sup>5</sup>This step of the proof would not work for infinite  $\mathfrak{F}$ . In fact, as is shown in item 1 of Section 6, Theorem 1 does not even hold in this case.

from distinct clusters) then we call  $\mathfrak{F}$  a *tree of clusters*. Finally, a tree of clusters without proper clusters is called a *tree*<sup>6</sup>. Note that since Noetherian frames do not have proper clusters, a Noetherian tree (quasi-tree) of clusters is always just a tree (quasi-tree).

The *co-depth*  $cd(x)$  of a point  $x$  in a quasi-tree  $\mathfrak{F}$  is defined to be the  $R$ -distance of  $x$  from the root. More precisely, the co-depth of the root is 0, and the co-depth of immediate  $R$ -successors of a point of co-depth  $n$  is  $n + 1$ . If for no  $n < \omega$  the point  $x$  is of co-depth  $n$ , then we say that  $x$  is of *infinite co-depth*. The *depth* of a finite tree  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  is the maximum of  $cd(x)$ , for  $x \in W$ .

**Remark 2.** By a standard unravelling argument one can show that every rooted transitive frame  $\mathfrak{F}$  that belongs to one of the classes (C1)–(C9) above is a p-morphic image of a quasi-tree  $\mathfrak{G}$  of clusters belonging to the same class. It can also be shown that this unravelling ‘commutes’ with the formation of e-frames in both ‘coordinates’ in the following sense. On the one hand, if  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is an e-frame and  $\mathfrak{F}$  is the  $\pi$ -image of a quasi-tree  $\mathfrak{G}$  for some p-morphism  $\pi$ , then  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is a p-morphic image of the e-frame  $(\mathfrak{G}, g)$  defined by taking  $g(x) = f(\pi(x))$  ( $x$  in  $\mathfrak{G}$ ). On the other hand, if  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is a rooted e-frame then for every  $x$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  there exists a quasi-tree  $g(x)$  of clusters such that  $(\mathfrak{F}, g)$  is an e-frame and  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is a p-morphic image of it. Moreover, if  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  satisfies the ‘maximal points’ condition of Lemma 2.1 then the  $g(x)$  can be chosen in such a way that  $(\mathfrak{F}, g)$  satisfies this condition as well.

Denote by  $\ell(\varphi)$  the *length* of  $\varphi$ , say,  $\ell(\varphi) = |\text{sub } \varphi|$  where  $\text{sub } \varphi$  is the set of all subformulas of  $\varphi$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** *If  $\varphi \notin \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  then  $\varphi$  is refuted in a model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$ , where*

- $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R) \in \mathcal{C}_h$  is a finite transitive tree

and, for every  $x \in W$ ,

- $f(x) = (W_x, R_x) \in \mathcal{C}_v$  is a finite transitive tree of clusters,
- $|W_x| \leq (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!^{cd(x)+1}$ , and
- $x$  has at most  $\ell(\varphi) \cdot (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!^{cd(x)+1}$  immediate  $R$ -successors in  $\mathfrak{F}$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, w)) \not\models \varphi$  for some model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$ , where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R) \in \mathcal{C}_h$ ,  $f(x) = (W_x, R_x) \in \mathcal{C}_v$ ,  $x \in W$  and  $w \in W_x$ . According to Remark 2, we may assume that  $\mathfrak{M}$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2.1,  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  is a (possibly infinite) Noetherian tree-like frame, and  $(W_x, R_x)$  is a quasi-tree of clusters, for every  $x \in W$ .

Now we take the closure  $Y$  of the set  $X = \{(x, w)\}$  under the the following three rules:

- **$\diamond$ -rule:** if  $(y, v) \in X$ ,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \diamond\psi$ , for some  $\diamond\psi \in \text{sub } \varphi$ , and there is no  $(y', v) \in X$  such that  $yRy'$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y', v)) \models \psi$ , then choose an  $R$ -maximal point  $y' \in W$  such that  $yRy'$ ,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y', v)) \models \psi$  (such a point exists because  $\mathfrak{F}$  is Noetherian), and set  $X := X \cup \{(y', v)\}$ .
- **$\diamond$ -rule:** if  $(y, v) \in X$ ,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \diamond\psi$ , for some  $\diamond\psi \in \text{sub } \varphi$ , and there is no  $(y, v') \in X$  such that  $vRyv'$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v')) \models \psi$ , then choose an  $R_y$ -maximal  $v' \in f(y)$  such that  $vRyv'$ ,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v')) \models \psi$  (such a point exists by Lemma 2.1), and set  $X := X \cup \{(y, v')\}$ .
- **Square-rule:** if  $(y, v) \in X$ ,  $yRy'$  and  $(y', v) \notin X$ , then set  $X := X \cup \{(y', v)\}$ .

Consider the restriction  $\mathfrak{H}' = (\mathfrak{F}', f')$  of  $\mathfrak{H}$  to  $Y$ , where  $\mathfrak{F}' = (W', R')$ ,  $W' = W \cap \{x \mid (x, w) \in Y\}$ ,  $R' = R \upharpoonright W'$ , and  $f'(x) = (W'_x, R'_x)$  where  $W'_x = \{v \mid (x, v) \in Y\}$  and  $R'_x = R_x \upharpoonright W'_x$  for  $x \in W'$ .

Since  $\mathfrak{F}'$  is a subframe of  $\mathfrak{F}$ ,  $f'(x)$  is a subframe of  $f(x)$  for  $x \in W'$ , and the classes  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  are closed under taking subframes in all the cases (C1)–(C9),  $\mathfrak{F}'$  is a Noetherian quasi-tree in  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and the  $f'(x)$  are quasi-trees of clusters in  $\mathcal{C}_v$ .

<sup>6</sup>Here we slightly deviate from the usual notion of a *transitive tree*, as our trees may contain both reflexive and irreflexive points.



CLAIM 2.2.1. *If  $x$  is of finite co-depth in  $\mathfrak{F}'$ , then  $|W'_x| \leq (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!^{cd(x)+1}$ .*

PROOF. The proof is by induction on  $n$ . If  $n = 0$ , then by applying the  $\diamond$ -rule to the root  $(x, w)$  of  $\mathfrak{H}'$ , we can obtain  $\leq \ell(\varphi)$  immediate  $R'_x$ -successors of the form  $(x, v)$ . In view of maximality, at each of these points the number of formulas of the form  $\diamond\psi \in \text{sub}\varphi$  to which the  $\diamond$ -rule still applies is  $\leq \ell(\varphi) - 1$ . We proceed with the same kind of argument and finally get

$$|W'_x| \leq 1 + \ell(\varphi) + \ell(\varphi) \cdot (\ell(\varphi) - 1) + \cdots + \ell(\varphi)! \leq (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!.$$

The induction step for  $y$  of co-depth  $n + 1$  is considered analogously. The only difference is that instead of one ‘starting’ point in the root  $W'_x$ , we should start applying the  $\diamond$ -rule to all points of the form  $(y, v)$  such that  $v \in W'_z$  for the unique point  $z$  with  $cd(z) = n$  and  $zR'y$ , that is to  $|W'_z| \leq (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!^{n+1}$  many points.  $\square$

CLAIM 2.2.2. *Every point  $x$  of finite co-depth in  $\mathfrak{F}'$  has  $\leq \ell(\varphi) \cdot (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!^{cd(x)+1}$  immediate  $R'$ -successors.*

PROOF. Follows from the previous claim and the fact that the  $\diamond$ -rule can be applied at most  $\ell(\varphi)$  times to a point  $(x, v)$ .  $\square$

CLAIM 2.2.3. *Every point in  $\mathfrak{F}'$  is of finite co-depth, that is,  $\mathfrak{F}'$  is a tree.*

PROOF. Since  $\mathfrak{F}'$  is Noetherian, we cannot have infinite ascending chains of distinct points in  $\mathfrak{F}'$ . Suppose  $\mathfrak{F}'$  still contains a point  $x$  of infinite co-depth. This means that there is an infinite descending chain  $\dots R'x_2R'x_1R'x$ . Let  $y$  be an  $R'$ -maximal point of finite co-depth such that  $yR'x$ . It exists because  $\mathfrak{F}'$  is Noetherian. By Claim 2.2.1,  $W'_y$  is finite. Therefore, we may apply the  $\diamond$ -rule to points in  $W'_y$  finitely many times only, and so there exists an immediate  $R'$ -successor  $y'$  of  $y$  located properly between  $y$  and  $x$ . But then  $cd(y') = cd(y) + 1$ , and so the co-depth of  $y'$  is finite, which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Thus,  $\mathfrak{F}'$  is a Noetherian tree with finite branching. Therefore, by König’s lemma, it must be finite. This completes the proof of Lemma 2.2.  $\square$

## 3.2 Decidability

We are now in a position to prove that  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  is decidable. It is to be noted that the e-product fmp does not give decidability automatically because (i) we do not have an effective upper bound for the size of a model refuting a given formula  $\varphi \notin \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ , nor (ii) do we know that  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  is finitely axiomatisable.

We will use a version of Kruskal’s tree theorem [27]. Given a finite set  $\Sigma$ , a *labelled  $\Sigma$ -tree* is a triple  $\mathfrak{T} = (T, <, l)$ , where  $(T, <)$  is a transitive tree and  $l$  is a function from  $T$  to  $\Sigma$ . Given two finite labelled  $\Sigma$ -trees  $\mathfrak{T}_i = (T_i, <_i, l_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , we say that  $\mathfrak{T}_1$  is *embeddable* into  $\mathfrak{T}_2$  if there exists an injective map  $\iota : T_1 \rightarrow T_2$  such that, for all  $u, v \in T_1$ ,

- $u <_1 v$  iff  $\iota(u) <_2 \iota(v)$ ,
- $l_2(\iota(u)) = l_1(u)$ .

**Theorem (Kruskal).**<sup>7</sup> *For every infinite sequence  $\mathfrak{T}_1, \mathfrak{T}_2, \dots$  of finite labelled  $\Sigma$ -trees, there exist  $i < j < \omega$  such that  $\mathfrak{T}_i$  is embeddable into  $\mathfrak{T}_j$ .*

In order to use this theorem, we represent expanding domain models in a slightly different form. Roughly, the idea is as follows. By Lemma 2.2, we may assume that the ‘vertical components’ of

<sup>7</sup>In the usual treatments of Kruskal’s tree theorem, trees are meant to be either irreflexive [27] or reflexive [32]. However, it is easy to see that the theorem also holds without any such restriction, as we can add the information about reflexivity/irreflexivity of a tree-node to its label.

e-frames are finite trees of clusters. We take the ‘skeleton-tree’ of such a tree of clusters, and label each node of this skeleton with the set of Boolean types of points from the cluster represented by the node.

To this end, denote by  $\mathbf{T}_\varphi$  the set of *Boolean types*  $\mathbf{t}$  over  $\text{sub } \neg\varphi$ , where

- $\neg\psi \in \mathbf{t}$  iff  $\psi \notin \mathbf{t}$ , for every  $\neg\psi \in \text{sub } \neg\varphi$ , and
- $\chi \wedge \psi \in \mathbf{t}$  iff  $\chi \in \mathbf{t}$  and  $\psi \in \mathbf{t}$ , for every  $\chi \wedge \psi \in \text{sub } \neg\varphi$ .

Let  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}_\varphi)^+$  be the set of all nonempty subsets of  $\mathbf{T}_\varphi$ . A pair  $\mathfrak{Q} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is called a *pre-quasimodel* (for  $\varphi$ ) if

- $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  is a transitive tree, and
- $f(x) = (T_x, <_x, l_x)$ , for  $x \in W$ , is a finite labelled  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{T}_\varphi)^+$ -tree.

We call such a pre-quasimodel *small* if, for all  $x, y \in W$ ,

(sm1)  $|T_x| \leq (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!^{cd(x)+1}$ ,

(sm2)  $x$  has at most  $\ell(\varphi) \cdot (\ell(\varphi) + 1)!^{cd(x)+1}$  immediate  $R$ -successors in  $\mathfrak{F}$ , and

(sm3) if  $xRy$  and  $x \neq y$  then  $f(x)$  is not embeddable into  $f(y)$ .

For every  $n < \omega$ , let  $Q_n$  be the set of all small pre-quasimodels  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  such that  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a finite tree of depth  $n$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** *There is an  $n < \omega$  such that  $Q_n = \emptyset$ , and so the set of small pre-quasimodels for  $\varphi$  is finite and can be constructed effectively from  $\varphi$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose otherwise. Define a relation  $E$  on the set  $Q$  of all small pre-quasimodels as follows. For  $\mathfrak{Q} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$ ,  $\mathfrak{Q}' = (\mathfrak{F}', f')$  in  $Q$ , set  $\mathfrak{Q}E\mathfrak{Q}'$  iff  $\mathfrak{F}$  is an ‘initial subtree’ of  $\mathfrak{F}'$  and  $f$  coincides with  $f'$  on the points of  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Clearly, for every  $\mathfrak{Q}' \in Q_{n+1}$ , there is some  $\mathfrak{Q} \in Q_n$  such that  $\mathfrak{Q}E\mathfrak{Q}'$ . Therefore, by König’s infinity lemma, there is an infinite  $E$ -chain  $\mathfrak{Q}_0E\mathfrak{Q}_1E \dots E\mathfrak{Q}_nE \dots$  in  $Q$  such that  $\mathfrak{Q}_n \in Q_n$  for  $n < \omega$ . Since  $\mathfrak{Q}_{n+1}$  is always an extension of  $\mathfrak{Q}_n$ , their union  $\mathfrak{Q} = \bigcup_{n < \omega} \mathfrak{Q}_n$  is also a pre-quasimodel. Let  $\mathfrak{Q} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  and  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$ . Then  $\mathfrak{F}$  is an infinite tree with finite branching. By König’s lemma, it must have an infinite branch  $x_0Rx_1R \dots$ . Then, by Kruskal’s theorem, there exist  $i < j < \omega$  such that  $f(x_i)$  is embeddable into  $f(x_j)$ . But  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  already belonged to the underlying tree of  $\mathfrak{Q}_j$ , contrary to  $\mathfrak{Q}_j$  being in  $Q_j$ .  $\square$

What is left is to establish a connection between expanding domain models and pre-quasimodels. A *run*  $r$  through a pre-quasimodel  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  (where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  and  $f(x) = (T_x, <_x, l_x)$ , for  $x \in W$ ) is a partial function from  $W$  into  $(\bigcup_{x \in W} T_x) \times \mathbf{T}_\varphi$  such that, for all  $x \in W$ ,

- if  $x \in \text{dom } r$  and  $r(x) = (w_{r(x)}, \mathbf{t}_{r(x)})$ , then  $w_{r(x)} \in T_x$  and  $\mathbf{t}_{r(x)} \in l_x(w_{r(x)})$ ,
- if  $x \in \text{dom } r$  and  $xRy$  then  $y \in \text{dom } r$ ,
- for all  $\diamond\psi \in \text{sub } \neg\varphi$ , we have  $\diamond\psi \in \mathbf{t}_{r(x)}$  iff there exists  $y \in W$  such that  $xRy$  and  $\psi \in \mathbf{t}_{r(y)}$ .

We call a triple  $(\mathfrak{F}, f, \mathcal{R})$  a  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -*quasimodel* (for  $\varphi$ ) if the following conditions are satisfied:

(q0)  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is a pre-quasimodel,  $\mathcal{R}$  is a set of runs through  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$ ,  $\mathfrak{F} \in \mathcal{C}_h$  and  $(T_x, <_x) \in \mathcal{C}_v$  for all  $x \in W$ ;

(q1)  $\neg\varphi \in l_r(w)$  for the root  $r \in W$  of  $\mathfrak{F}$  and the root  $w$  of  $f(r)$ ;

(q2) for all  $x \in W$ ,  $w \in T_x$  and  $\diamond\psi \in \text{sub } \neg\varphi$ , the following conditions are equivalent:

- there exists a  $\mathbf{t} \in l_x(w)$  with  $\diamond\psi \in \mathbf{t}$ ;
- there exists a  $v$  with  $w <_x v$  and  $\mathbf{t}' \in l_x(v)$  such that  $\psi \in \mathbf{t}'$ ;

(q3) for all  $x \in W$ ,  $w \in T_x$  and  $\mathbf{t} \in l_x(w)$ , there is  $r \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $r(x) = (w, \mathbf{t})$ ;

(q4) for all  $r, r' \in \mathcal{R}$  and for all  $x, y \in \text{dom } r \cap \text{dom } r'$ ,  $w_{r(x)} <_x w_{r'(x)}$  iff  $w_{r(y)} <_y w_{r'(y)}$ .

We call a quasimodel *small* if the underlying pre-quasimodel is small.

**Lemma 2.4.**  $\varphi \notin \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  iff there is a small  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -quasimodel for  $\varphi$ .

**Proof.** Suppose first that there is a  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -quasimodel  $(\mathfrak{F}, f, \mathcal{R})$  for  $\varphi$  (where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  and  $f(x) = (T_x, <_x, l_x)$ , for  $x \in W$ ). Then we let, for all  $x \in W$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} W_x &= \{r \in \mathcal{R} \mid x \in \text{dom } r\}, \\ rR_xr' &\quad \text{iff} \quad w_{r(x)} <_x w_{r'(x)}, \\ g(x) &= (W_x, R_x). \end{aligned}$$

It is straightforward to check that  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, g)$  is an e-frame in  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ . Moreover, by taking, for all  $x \in W$  and propositional variables  $p$ ,

$$\mathfrak{V}_x(p) = \{r \in W_x \mid p \in \mathbf{t}_{r(x)}\},$$

we obtain an expanding domain model  $(\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  refuting  $\varphi$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $\varphi \notin \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ . We may assume that  $\varphi$  is refuted in a model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  satisfying the conditions of Lemma 2.2. We can turn  $\mathfrak{M}$  to a  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -quasimodel  $(\mathfrak{F}, g, \mathcal{R})$  as follows. Suppose that  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  and  $f(x) = (W_x, R_x)$  for  $x \in W$ . For every  $x \in W$ , define an equivalence relation  $\sim_x$  on  $W_x$  by taking, for all  $u, v \in W_x$ ,

$$u \sim_x v \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{either } u = v, \text{ or } uR_xv \text{ and } vR_xu,$$

that is, iff  $u$  and  $v$  are in the same  $R_x$ -cluster. Let  $[u]_x$  denote the  $\sim_x$ -class of  $u$ . For all  $x \in W$ ,  $w \in W_x$ , we let

$$\mathbf{t}_x^{\mathfrak{M}}(w) = \{\psi \in \text{sub } \neg\varphi \mid (\mathfrak{M}, (x, w)) \models \psi\}.$$

For every  $x \in W$ , let  $g(x) = (T_x, <_x, l_x)$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} T_x &= \{[u]_x \mid u \in W_x\} \\ [u]_x <_x [v]_x &\quad \text{iff} \quad \exists u' \in [u]_x \exists v' \in [v]_x \ u'R_xv' \\ l_x([u]_x) &= \{\mathbf{t}_x^{\mathfrak{M}}(u') \mid u' \in [u]_x\}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, for every  $w \in \bigcup_{x \in W} W_x$  define a run  $r_x$  through  $(\mathfrak{F}, g)$  by taking

$$\text{dom } r_w = \{x \in W \mid w \in W_x\}$$

and for every  $x \in \text{dom } r_w$ ,

$$r_w(x) = ([w]_x, \mathbf{t}_x^{\mathfrak{M}}(w)).$$

Let  $\mathcal{R} = \{r_w \mid w \in \bigcup_{x \in W} W_x\}$ . It is straightforward to check that  $(\mathfrak{F}, g, \mathcal{R})$  is indeed a  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -quasimodel for  $\varphi$ . Moreover, by the assumption on  $\mathfrak{M}$ , the pre-quasimodel  $(\mathfrak{F}, g)$  is finite. To show that we can turn it to a pre-quasimodel satisfying **(sm3)**, suppose that there are  $x, y \in W$  such that  $xRy$  and  $g(x)$  is embeddable into  $g(y)$  by an embedding  $\iota$ . Then we replace in  $\mathfrak{F}$  the subtree generated by  $x$  with the subtree generated by  $y$ , thus obtaining some tree  $\mathfrak{F}' = (W', R')$ . Let  $g'$  be the restriction of  $g$  to  $W'$ . We define new runs through  $(\mathfrak{F}', g')$  by taking, for all  $r, r' \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $x \in \text{dom } r$ ,  $y \in \text{dom } r'$ ,  $\iota(w_{r(x)}) = w_{r'(y)}$ ,  $\mathbf{t}_{r(x)} = \mathbf{t}_{r'(y)}$ , and for all  $z \in W'$ ,  $z \in \text{dom } r$ ,

$$(r + r')(z) = \begin{cases} r(z), & \text{if } zRx, \\ r'(z), & \text{if } z = y \text{ or } yRz. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\mathcal{R}'$  be the collection of these new runs together with those runs from  $\mathcal{R}$  that 'start at' a point  $z$  with  $yRz$ . It is straightforward to check that  $(\mathfrak{F}', g', \mathcal{R}')$  is a  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -quasimodel for  $\varphi$ .

Since  $\mathfrak{F}$  is finite, after finitely many repetitions of this procedure the underlying pre-quasimodel will satisfy **(sm3)**. To comply with the cardinality conditions **(sm1)** and **(sm2)**, we can use the construction from the proof of Lemma 2.2. Then, again we can get rid of the embeddable pairs as above, and so on. As at each step the underlying tree can get only smaller, we will end up with a small  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -quasimodel for  $\varphi$ .  $\square$

Now we can describe the decision algorithm for  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  as follows. Given a formula  $\varphi$ , by Lemma 2.3, we can effectively construct the set of all small pre-quasimodels for  $\varphi$ . Then for each such small pre-quasimodel, we check whether it is a  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ -quasimodel for  $\varphi$  (that is, whether conditions **(q0)**–**(q4)** hold). By Lemma 2.4, this way we find a quasimodel for  $\varphi$  iff  $\varphi \notin \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ .

### 3.3 Complexity

Now we complete the proof of Theorems 1 and 2 by showing that no algorithm can decide whether a given  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula  $\varphi$  is satisfiable in an e-frame from  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  in *primitive recursive* time or space. To understand the meaning of this result, let us recall that every primitive recursive function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  is (eventually) dominated by one of the (primitive recursive) functions  $h_n$  which are defined inductively as follows

$$h_0(k) = 2k, \quad h_{n+1}(k) = h_n^{(k)}(1),$$

where  $h_n^{(k)}$  denotes the result of  $k$  successive applications of  $h_n$ ; see, e.g., [33] and references therein. For example,

$$h_1(k) = 2^k, \quad h_2(k) = 2^{2^{\dots^2}} \} \text{ } k \text{ times}.$$

(In particular, all elementary functions are dominated by  $h_2$ .) The diagonal  $h_n(n)$ —a variant of the Ackermann function—is not primitive recursive. We are about to prove that the decision problem for our logics is at least as hard as termination of Turing machines running in Ackermann time or space. It seems that these expanding products as well as some relevance logics [41] are the most complex natural and mathematically interesting decidable theories known so far (cf. [6]).

We will use a reduction of the *reachability problem for lossy channel systems* which was shown to have non-primitive recursive complexity by Schnoebelen [37], even for systems with a single channel. A *single channel system* is a triple  $S = (Q, \Sigma, \Delta)$ , where  $Q = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$  is a finite set of *control states*,  $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots\}$  is a finite alphabet of *messages*, and  $\Delta \subseteq Q \times \{?, !\} \times \Sigma \times Q$  is a finite set of *transitions*. A *configuration* of  $S$  is a pair  $\gamma = (q, \mathbf{w})$ , where  $q \in Q$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  is a finite nonempty<sup>8</sup>  $\Sigma$ -word. Say that a configuration  $\gamma' = (q', \mathbf{w}')$  is the result of a *perfect transition* of  $S$  from  $\gamma = (q, \mathbf{w})$  and write  $\gamma \xrightarrow{S_p} \gamma'$  if

- there is  $(q, !, a, q') \in \Delta$  such that  $\mathbf{w}' = a\mathbf{w}$ , or
- there is  $(q, ?, a, q') \in \Delta$  such that  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}'a$ .

We say that  $\gamma'$  is a result of a *lossy transition* from  $\gamma$  and write  $\gamma \xrightarrow{S_\ell} \gamma'$  if

$$\gamma \sqsupseteq \gamma_1 \xrightarrow{S_p} \gamma_2 \sqsupseteq \gamma'$$

for some  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$ , where  $(q, \mathbf{w}) \sqsupseteq (q', \mathbf{w}')$  iff  $\mathbf{w}'$  is a subword of  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $q = q'$ . Denote by  $\xrightarrow{S_\ell^*}$  and  $\xrightarrow{S_p^*}$  the transitive and reflexive closures of  $\xrightarrow{S_\ell}$  and  $\xrightarrow{S_p}$ , respectively.

As was proved by Schnoebelen [37], the following problem is not decidable in primitive recursive time: ‘given a channel system  $S$ , two configurations  $\gamma_0$  and  $\gamma_f$ , and any relation  $\rightarrow$  in the interval

$$\xrightarrow{S_p^*} \subseteq \rightarrow \subseteq \xrightarrow{S_\ell^*},$$

decide whether  $\gamma_0 \rightarrow \gamma_f$ .’ So in order to establish the non-primitive recursive lower bound for our logics, it is enough to prove the following:

<sup>8</sup>In the standard definition, empty words are permitted. However, it is not hard to see that the computational behaviour of channel systems does not depend on whether empty words are permitted or not.

**Lemma 2.5.** *For every channel system  $S$  and all configurations  $\gamma_0, \gamma_f$ , one can construct an  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula  $\varphi_{S,\gamma_0,\gamma_f}$  which is polynomial in the size of  $S, \gamma_0, \gamma_f$  and satisfies the following two properties:*

- (a) *if  $\varphi_{S,\gamma_0,\gamma_f}$  is satisfiable in an e-frame from  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  then  $\gamma_0 \xrightarrow{S_\ell^*} \gamma_f$ ,*
- (b) *if  $\gamma_0 \xrightarrow{S_p^*} \gamma_f$  then  $\varphi_{S,\gamma_0,\gamma_f}$  is satisfiable in an e-frame from  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ .*

**Proof.** To construct the required formula  $\varphi_{S,\gamma_0,\gamma_f}$ , we will need modal operators interpreted via accessibility relations that are irreflexive on certain points of e-frames. So, similarly to the undecidability proofs of [40, 11, 14, 36], we fix two propositional variables  $h$  and  $v$ , and define new modal operators by setting, for every  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula  $\psi$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \blacklozenge\psi &= [h \rightarrow \blacklozenge(\neg h \wedge (\psi \vee \blacklozenge\psi))] \wedge [\neg h \rightarrow \blacklozenge(h \wedge (\psi \vee \blacklozenge\psi))], \\ \blacklozenge\psi &= [v \rightarrow \blacklozenge(\neg v \wedge (\psi \vee \blacklozenge\psi))] \wedge [\neg v \rightarrow \blacklozenge(v \wedge (\psi \vee \blacklozenge\psi))], \\ \blacksquare\psi &= \neg\blacklozenge\neg\psi, \quad \text{and} \quad \blacksquare\psi = \neg\blacklozenge\neg\psi. \end{aligned}$$

We will use the following abbreviations. For every formula  $\psi$ ,  $\square \in \{\boxplus, \boxminus\}$ , and every  $n < \omega$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \square^+\psi &= \psi \wedge \square\psi, \\ \blacklozenge^0\psi &= \blacksquare^0\psi = \psi, & \blacklozenge^{n+1}\psi &= \blacklozenge\blacklozenge^n\psi, \\ \blacksquare^{n+1}\psi &= \blacksquare\blacksquare^n\psi, & \blacklozenge^{=n}\psi &= \blacklozenge^n\psi \wedge \blacksquare^{n+1}\neg\psi. \end{aligned}$$

The last formula says: ‘see  $\psi$  vertically in  $n$  steps, but not in  $n + 1$  steps.’

With a slight abuse of notation, we also introduce propositional variables

- $\delta$ , for every transition  $\delta \in \Delta$ ,
- $a$ , for every  $a \in \Sigma$ ,
- $q$ , for every  $q \in Q$ ,

and use the abbreviation  $w \leftrightarrow \bigvee_{a \in \Sigma} a$ .

Now suppose that a channel system  $S$  and two configurations

$$\gamma_0 = (q_0, b_1 \dots b_k), \quad \gamma_f = (q_f, a_1 \dots a_m)$$

are given. Define  $\varphi_{S,\gamma_0,\gamma_f}$  to be the conjunction of formulas (3)–(12):

$$\boxplus^+((h \rightarrow \boxplus h) \wedge (\neg h \rightarrow \boxplus \neg h)) \tag{3}$$

$$\boxplus^+\boxplus^+((v \rightarrow \boxplus v) \wedge (\neg v \rightarrow \boxplus \neg v)) \tag{4}$$

$$\boxplus^+\boxplus^+((w \rightarrow \boxplus w) \wedge (\neg w \rightarrow \boxplus \neg w)) \tag{5}$$

$$\boxplus^+\boxplus^+\left(\bigwedge_{a \in \Sigma} (a \rightarrow \boxplus(w \rightarrow a)) \wedge \bigwedge_{a \neq a'} (a \rightarrow \neg a')\right) \tag{6}$$

$$\boxplus^+\boxplus^+\left(\bigvee_{q \in Q} q \wedge \bigwedge_{q \neq q'} (q \rightarrow \neg q') \wedge \bigwedge_{q \in Q} (q \rightarrow \boxplus q)\right) \tag{7}$$

$$\boxplus^+\boxplus^+\left[\blacklozenge\top \rightarrow \left(\bigvee_{\delta \in \Delta} \delta \wedge \bigwedge_{\delta \neq \delta'} (\delta \rightarrow \neg \delta') \wedge \bigwedge_{\delta \in \Delta} (\delta \rightarrow \boxplus \delta)\right)\right] \tag{8}$$

$$q_f \wedge \neg w \wedge \blacklozenge^{=m}\top \wedge \boxplus \bigwedge_{0 \leq i < m} (\blacklozenge^{=i}\top \rightarrow a_{m-i}) \tag{9}$$

$$\boxplus \left[ \boxplus \perp \rightarrow \left( q_0 \wedge \boxplus^+ \left( (\blacklozenge^k\top \rightarrow \neg w) \wedge \bigwedge_{0 \leq i < k} (\blacklozenge^{=i}\top \rightarrow b_{k-i}) \right) \right) \right] \tag{10}$$

$$\bigwedge_{\delta=(q,!a,q')} \square^+ \square^+ \left[ \delta \rightarrow \left( q' \wedge (\mathbf{w} \rightarrow \blacksquare \blacklozenge (\mathbf{w} \wedge q)) \wedge (\mathbf{w} \wedge \blacksquare \perp \rightarrow \blacklozenge (\mathbf{w} \wedge q)) \wedge (\mathbf{w} \wedge \neg \blacklozenge (\mathbf{w} \wedge q) \rightarrow a) \right) \right] \quad (11)$$

$$\bigwedge_{\delta=(q,?,a,q')} \square^+ \square^+ \left[ \delta \rightarrow \left( q' \wedge (\mathbf{w} \rightarrow \blacklozenge (\mathbf{w} \wedge q \wedge \square^+ (\blacksquare \perp \rightarrow a))) \wedge \square^+ (\blacksquare \perp \rightarrow \blacksquare \blacklozenge \top) \right) \right] \quad (12)$$

The intended meaning of these conjuncts will be clear from the proof below.

**Proof of (a).** Suppose that  $\varphi_{S,\gamma_0,\gamma_f}$  is satisfied at some point  $(x_0, u_0)$  of an expanding domain model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{W})$  that is based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  from  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ , where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R)$  and  $f(x) = (W_x, R_x)$ , for  $x \in W$ . By Lemma 2.2, we may assume that  $\mathfrak{H}$  is finite, and  $(x_0, u_0)$  is a root of  $\mathfrak{H}$ .

Define new relations  $\bar{R}$  and  $\bar{R}_x$  ( $x \in W$ ) by taking, for all  $y, y' \in W$ ,  $u, u' \in W_x$ ,

$$y \bar{R} y' \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists y'' \in W \left[ y R y'' \text{ and } ((\mathfrak{M}, (y, u_0)) \models \mathbf{h} \iff (\mathfrak{M}, (y'', u_0)) \models \neg \mathbf{h}) \right. \\ \left. \text{and (either } y'' = y' \text{ or } y'' R y') \right], \quad (13)$$

$$u \bar{R}_x u' \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists u'' \in W_x \left[ u R_x u'' \text{ and } ((\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \mathbf{v} \iff (\mathfrak{M}, (x, u'')) \models \neg \mathbf{v}) \right. \\ \left. \text{and (either } u'' = u' \text{ or } u'' R_x u') \right]. \quad (14)$$

It is readily checked that all of the  $\bar{R}$  and  $\bar{R}_x$ ,  $x \in W$ , are transitive,  $\bar{R} \subseteq R$ ,  $\bar{R}_x \subseteq R_x$ , and for all  $x \in W$ ,  $u \in W_x$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \blacklozenge \psi & \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists y \in W (x \bar{R} y \text{ and } (\mathfrak{M}, (y, u)) \models \psi), \\ (\mathfrak{M}, (x, u)) \models \blacklozenge \psi & \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists v \in W_x (u \bar{R}_x v \text{ and } (\mathfrak{M}, (x, v)) \models \psi). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $((W, \bar{R}), \bar{f})$  where  $\bar{f} = (W_x, \bar{R}_x)$  ( $x \in W$ ) is not necessarily an e-frame, because we can have  $x, y \in W$ ,  $u, v \in W_x$  such that  $x \bar{R} y$ ,  $u \bar{R}_x v$ , but  $u$  is not  $\bar{R}_x$ -related to  $v$ . Nevertheless, for all  $x, y \in W$ ,  $u, v \in W_x$ , we always have that

$$\text{if } x \bar{R} y \text{ and } u \bar{R}_x v \text{ then } u \bar{R}_y v. \quad (15)$$

Since there are no proper clusters in  $\mathfrak{F}$ ,  $\bar{R}$  is irreflexive. The  $\bar{R}_x$  are not necessarily irreflexive, but all non-degenerate  $\bar{R}_x$ -clusters are necessarily 'blank' (i.e., make  $\neg \mathbf{w}$  true):

CLAIM 2.5.1. *Let  $y \in W$  and  $v \in W_y$  be such that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \mathbf{w}$ . Then  $v \bar{R}_y v$  does not hold.*

PROOF. Suppose otherwise, that is  $v \bar{R}_y v$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \mathbf{w}$ . Then  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \blacklozenge \top$ , since otherwise we would have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, u_0)) \models \blacksquare \perp$ , and so  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \neg \mathbf{w}$  by (10). Hence it follows from (8) that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \delta$  for some  $\delta \in \Delta$ . Now we obtain  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v)) \models \blacklozenge (\mathbf{w} \wedge q)$ , by (11) and (12). Thus there exists  $y_1 \in W$  such that  $y \bar{R} y_1$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y_1, v)) \models \mathbf{w}$ . Since  $\bar{R}$  is irreflexive,  $y_1 \neq y$ . By (15), we have  $v \bar{R}_{y_1} v$ . By repeating the above argument, we must have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y_1, v)) \models \blacklozenge \top$  again. Therefore, we can continue in this manner to obtain an infinite ascending chain  $y \bar{R} y_1 \bar{R} y_2 \dots$ , contrary to  $\mathfrak{F}$  being Noetherian.  $\square$

For a finite sequence  $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$  of elements of  $W_y$  with  $v_i \bar{R}_y v_{i+1}$  and  $y \in W$ , we write

$$\text{val}_y(\vec{v}) = d_1 \dots d_n$$

if, for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , we have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v_i)) \models d_i$  for some  $d_i \in \Sigma \cup \{\neg \mathbf{w}\}$ . Say that  $\vec{u} = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r)$  is an *extension* of  $\vec{v}$ , if  $u_i \in W_y$ ,  $u_i \bar{R}_y u_{i+1}$ , and there are  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_n \leq r$  such that  $u_{i_j} = v_j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . Say that  $\vec{v}$  carries a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $y$  if there are  $d_1, \dots, d_n \in \Sigma$  such that  $\text{val}_y(\vec{v}) = d_1 \dots d_n$ . A sequence  $\vec{v}$  is said to be *maximal carrying a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $y$*  if no extension of  $\vec{v}$  carries a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $y$ .

CLAIM 2.5.2. For every  $x \in W$  and every  $q' \in Q$  such that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u_0)) \models q' \wedge \blacklozenge \top$ , if a nonempty sequence  $\vec{v}$  is maximal carrying a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $x$  then there exist  $y \in W$ ,  $q \in Q$ , and a nonempty sequence  $\vec{u}$  that is maximal carrying a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $y$  such that  $x\bar{R}y$ ,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, u_0)) \models q$ , and

$$(q, \text{val}_y(\vec{u})) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_\ell} (q', \text{val}_x(\vec{v})).$$

PROOF. Suppose that  $\vec{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  and  $\text{val}_x(\vec{v}) = c_1 \dots c_n$  for some  $c_i \in \Sigma$ . By (8), there exists a unique  $\delta \in \Delta$  such that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, u_0)) \models \delta$ . By (11) and (12),  $\delta$  is of the form  $(q, !, a, q')$  or  $(q, ?, a, q')$  for some  $q \in Q$ ,  $a \in \Sigma$ .

Case 1:  $\delta = (q, !, a, q')$ . Then, by (11),

$$(\mathfrak{M}, (x, v_1)) \models \blacksquare \blacklozenge (w \wedge q)$$

and there exists a minimal  $i \leq n$  such that

$$(\mathfrak{M}, (x, v_i)) \models \blacklozenge (w \wedge q).$$

Clearly,  $1 \leq i \leq 2$ . Take  $y$  such that  $x\bar{R}y$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v_i)) \models w \wedge q$ . By (5), we have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v_j)) \models w$ , for all  $j \geq i$ . As we have  $v_i\bar{R}_y \dots \bar{R}_y v_n$  by (15),

$$\text{val}_x(v_i, \dots, v_n) = \text{val}_y(v_i, \dots, v_n).$$

follows from (6). Take any maximal extension  $\vec{u}$  of  $(v_i, \dots, v_n)$  carrying a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $y$ . That such an extension exists in the finite e-frame  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  follows from Claim 2.5.1. Assume first that  $i = 2$ . Then, by (11), we have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, v_1)) \models a$ . It follows that

$$(q, \text{val}_y(\vec{u})) \sqsupseteq (q, \text{val}_y(v_2, \dots, v_n)) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_p} (q', a \text{val}_y(v_2, \dots, v_n)) = (q', \text{val}_x(\vec{v})).$$

If  $i = 1$  then

$$(q, \text{val}_y(\vec{u})) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_p} (q', a \text{val}_y(\vec{u})) \sqsupseteq (q', \text{val}_y(\vec{v})) = (q', \text{val}_x(\vec{v})).$$

Case 2:  $\delta = (q, ?, a, q')$ . By (12), there exists  $y \in W$  such that  $x\bar{R}y$  and

$$(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v_1)) \models w \wedge q \wedge \boxplus^+(\blacksquare \perp \rightarrow a).$$

By (5) and Claim 2.5.1,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x, v_n)) \models \blacksquare \perp$ . Therefore, by (12),  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v_n)) \models \blacklozenge \top$ . Since  $W_y$  is finite, by (5) and Claim 2.5.1 again, we find  $v_{n+1} \in W_y$  with  $v_n\bar{R}_y v_{n+1}$  and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v_{n+1})) \models \blacksquare \perp$ . By (12), we have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (y, v_{n+1})) \models a$ . By (15), we have  $v_1\bar{R}_y \dots \bar{R}_y v_n$ . Therefore, by (5), we have  $\text{val}_x(\vec{v}) = \text{val}_y(\vec{v})$ . Take any maximal extension  $\vec{u}$  of  $(v_1, \dots, v_n, v_{n+1})$  carrying a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $y$ . By Claim 2.5.1, such an extension exists and

$$\text{val}_y(\vec{u}) = wa$$

for some  $\Sigma$ -word  $w$  having  $\text{val}_y(\vec{v})$  as a subword. But then

$$(q, \text{val}_y(\vec{u})) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_p} (q', w) \sqsupseteq (q', \text{val}_y(\vec{v})) = (q', \text{val}_x(\vec{v})),$$

which completes the proof of Claim 2.5.2.  $\square$

Now we can find a ‘lossy run’ from  $\gamma_0$  to  $\gamma_f$  as follows. By (9), we have  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x_0, u_0)) \models q_f$ , and there exists a sequence  $\vec{w}$  that is maximal carrying a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $x_0$  and such that

$$\text{val}_{x_0}(\vec{w}) = a_1 \dots a_k.$$

Since  $\mathfrak{F}$  is finite and  $\bar{R}$  is irreflexive, it follows from Claim 2.5.2 that there exist  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in W$ ,  $q_1, \dots, q_n \in Q$ , nonempty sequences  $\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_n$  such that  $x_0\bar{R}x_1\bar{R} \dots \bar{R}x_n$ ,  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x_i, u_0)) \models q_i$ ,  $\vec{w}_i$  is maximal carrying a  $\Sigma$ -word in  $x_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,

$$(q_n, \text{val}_{x_n}(\vec{w}_n)) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_\ell} \dots \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_\ell} (q_1, \text{val}_{x_1}(\vec{w}_1)) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_\ell} (q_f, \text{val}_{x_0}(\vec{w})) = \gamma_f$$

and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (x_n, u_0)) \models \blacksquare \perp$ . By (10),  $q_n = q_0$  and  $val_{x_n}(w_n)$  is a subword of  $b_1 \dots b_k$ . Therefore,  $(q_0, b_1 \dots b_k) \xrightarrow{S_\ell} (q_{n-1}, val_{x_{n-1}}(w_{n-1}))$ , and so  $\gamma_0 \xrightarrow{S_\ell^*} \gamma_f$ .

**Proof of (b).** Suppose that  $\gamma_0 \xrightarrow{S_p^*} \gamma_f$ , i.e., there exists a finite sequence

$$\gamma_0 \xrightarrow{S_p} \gamma_1 \xrightarrow{S_p} \dots \xrightarrow{S_p} \gamma_n = \gamma_f$$

of perfect transitions, where  $\gamma_i = (q_i, d_1^i \dots d_{\ell_i}^i)$ , for  $i \leq n$ . Let  $\delta_i$  denote the transition from  $\gamma_{i-1}$  to  $\gamma_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , that is,

$$\delta_i = \begin{cases} (q_{i-1}, !, a, q_i), & \text{if } d_1^i \dots d_{\ell_i}^i = ad_1^{i-1} \dots d_{\ell_{i-1}}^{i-1}, \\ (q_{i-1}, ?, a, q_i), & \text{if } d_1^{i-1} \dots d_{\ell_{i-1}}^{i-1} = d_1^i \dots d_{\ell_i}^i a. \end{cases}$$

We show that the formula  $\varphi_{S, \gamma_0, \gamma_f}$  is satisfiable in an e-frame from  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$ . First, for each  $i \leq n$ , we define inductively a number  $N_i < \omega$  by taking  $N_0 = \ell_n$  and, for  $0 < i \leq n$ ,

$$N_i = \begin{cases} N_{i-1}, & \text{if } \delta_{n-i+1} = (q_{n-i}, !, a, q_{n-i+1}) \in \Delta \text{ for some } a \in \Sigma, \\ N_{i-1} + 1, & \text{if } \delta_{n-i+1} = (q_{n-i}, ?, a, q_{n-i+1}) \in \Delta \text{ for some } a \in \Sigma. \end{cases}$$

Now we define an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  as follows. Let  $W = \{0, \dots, n\}$  and let  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, \leq)$  if  $\mathcal{C}_h$  contains only reflexive frames, and  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, <)$  otherwise. For each  $i \in W$ , let  $W_i = \{0, \dots, N_i\}$  and  $f(i) = (W_i, \leq)$  if  $\mathcal{C}_v$  contains only reflexive frames, and  $f(i) = (W_i, <)$  otherwise. Finally, define valuations for the propositional variables by taking, for  $i \leq n$ ,  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  $q \in Q$ ,  $\delta \in \Delta$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{V}_i(h) &= \begin{cases} W_i, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd;} \end{cases} \\ \mathfrak{V}_i(v) &= \{j \leq N_i \mid j \text{ is even}\}; \\ \mathfrak{V}_i(a) &= \{N_i - \ell_{n-i} + j \mid 1 \leq j \leq \ell_{n-i}, d_j^{n-i} = a\}; \\ \mathfrak{V}_i(q) &= \begin{cases} W_i, & \text{if } q = q_{n-i}, \\ \emptyset, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases} \\ \mathfrak{V}_i(\delta) &= \begin{cases} W_i, & \text{if } i < n \text{ and } \delta = \delta_{n-i}, \\ \emptyset, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and let  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, (\mathfrak{V}_i)_{i \leq n})$ . The reader can easily check that  $(\mathfrak{M}, (0, 0)) \models \varphi_{S, \gamma_0, \gamma_f}$ .  $\square$

## 4 An application to dynamic topological logic

Dynamic topological logic was introduced in 1997 (see, e.g., [23, 24, 26, 3, 25]) as a logical formalism for describing the behaviour of *dynamical systems*, e.g., in order to specify liveness and safety properties of hybrid systems [8]. Roughly, the idea is to model (some aspects of) these systems by means of *dynamic topological structures* (DTS)  $\mathfrak{D} = (\mathfrak{T}, g)$ , where  $\mathfrak{T} = (\Delta, \mathbb{I})$  is a topological space with an interior operator  $\mathbb{I}$  and  $g$  is a continuous<sup>9</sup> function on  $\mathfrak{T}$  which ‘moves’ the points of  $\mathfrak{T}$  in each discrete unit of time. What we are interested in is the asymptotic behaviour of iterations of  $g$ , in particular, the orbits  $\{w, g(w), g^2(w), \dots\}$  of states  $w \in \Delta$ . A natural formalism for speaking about such iterations is obtained by interpreting the previously introduced modal operator  $\Box$  as ‘always in the future,’ its dual  $\Diamond$  as ‘eventually,’ the operator  $\Box$  as topological interior and  $\Diamond$  as topological closure, by taking, for every  $X \subseteq \Delta$ ,

$$\Box X = \bigcap_{0 < n < \omega} g^{-n}(X), \quad \Diamond X = \bigcup_{0 < n < \omega} g^{-n}(X), \quad \Box X = \mathbb{I}X, \quad \Diamond X = \Delta - \mathbb{I}(\Delta - X)$$

<sup>9</sup>Recall that a set  $X \subseteq \Delta$  is called *open in  $\mathfrak{T}$*  if  $\mathbb{I}X = X$ . A function  $g$  between topological spaces is called *continuous* if the inverse image  $g^{-1}(X)$  of every open set  $X$  is open.



and adding the ‘next time’ operator  $\circ$ :

$$\circ X = g^{-1}(X).$$

The resulting language will be denoted by  $\mathcal{ML}_2^\circ$ .

By a *dynamic topological model with  $N \leq \omega$  iterations* ( $\text{DTM}_N$ , for short) we understand a triple  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{D}, \mathfrak{V}, N)$ , where  $\mathfrak{D} = (\mathfrak{T}, g)$  is a DTS with  $\mathfrak{T} = (\Delta, \mathbb{I})$ , and  $\mathfrak{V}$ , a *valuation*, associates with each propositional variable  $p$  a subset  $\mathfrak{V}(p)$  of  $\Delta$ . The truth of a formula  $\varphi$  at a state  $w$  depends on how many iterations of  $g$  we consider and at which iteration step we evaluate  $\varphi$ . Let  $N' = N + 1$  if  $N < \omega$  and  $N' = \omega$  otherwise. For every  $m < N'$ , define inductively the *truth relation*  $(\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \varphi$  (‘in model  $\mathfrak{M}$ ,  $\varphi$  is true at  $w$  after  $m$  iterations of  $g$ ’) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m p & \quad \text{iff} \quad w \in \mathfrak{V}(p), \quad p \text{ a propositional variable,} \\ (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \Box \varphi & \quad \text{iff} \quad w \in \mathbb{I} \{v \in \Delta \mid (\mathfrak{M}, v) \models_m \varphi\}, \\ (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \Diamond \varphi & \quad \text{iff} \quad w \in \mathbb{C} \{v \in \Delta \mid (\mathfrak{M}, v) \models_m \varphi\}, \\ (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \circ \varphi & \quad \text{iff} \quad m + 1 < N' \text{ and } (\mathfrak{M}, g(w)) \models_{m+1} \varphi, \\ (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \Box \varphi & \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{M}, g^n(w)) \models_{m+n} \varphi \text{ for every } n > 0 \text{ such that } m + n < N', \\ (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \Diamond \varphi & \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{M}, g^n(w)) \models_{m+n} \varphi \text{ for some } n > 0 \text{ such that } m + n < N'. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $g^n(w) = \overbrace{g \dots g}^n(w)$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  is the closure operator on  $\mathfrak{T}$ . Note that if a formula  $\psi$  contains no ‘temporal’ operators or if  $N = \omega$  then the truth relation  $(\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \psi$  does not depend on  $m$ . Say that  $\varphi$  is *satisfiable* if there exist a  $\text{DTM}_N$   $\mathfrak{M}$  and a state  $w$  in it such that  $(\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_0 \varphi$ . We also say that  $\varphi$  is *satisfiable in models with finite iterations* if  $\varphi$  is satisfied in a  $\text{DTM}_N$  for some  $N < \omega$ . It is worth noting that for various natural properties it is sufficient to consider finitely many iterations only. For example, a *safety property* like ‘ $w$  will never visit some danger zone  $P$ ’ is satisfiable iff it is satisfiable in models with finite iterations.

The language  $\mathcal{ML}_2^\circ$  can also be interpreted in expanding domain models  $\mathfrak{N}$  based on e-frames  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$ , where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, <)$  is a *finite strict linear order* (that is, a finite irreflexive linear frame) and, for every  $x \in W$ ,  $f(x) = (\Delta_x, R_x)$  is a reflexive and transitive frame. Indeed, given such an  $\mathfrak{N}$ , we set

$$\bullet \quad (\mathfrak{N}, (x, u)) \models \circ \varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{there exists an immediate } <\text{-successor } x' \text{ of } x \text{ and } (\mathfrak{N}, (x', u)) \models \varphi,$$

and leave all the other truth conditions from Section 2 unchanged. Then it is not hard to see that the proof of Theorem 1 can be generalised to show the following:

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}_h$  be the class of all finite strict linear orders and let  $\mathcal{C}_v$  be the class of all transitive and reflexive frames. Then the logic*

$$\{\varphi \in \mathcal{ML}_2^\circ \mid \forall \mathfrak{H} \in (\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^e \quad \mathfrak{H} \models \varphi\}$$

*has the e-product fmp and is decidable, but not in time bounded by a primitive recursive function.*

It is a challenging open question whether the satisfiability problem for  $\mathcal{ML}_2^\circ$ -formulas in dynamic topological structures is decidable. Some partial result is obtained in [20] where it is proved that the problem is *undecidable*, even for models with finite iterations, if we consider DTSs with *homeomorphisms*. Here we prove—using Theorem 3 above—that the satisfiability problem for  $\mathcal{ML}_2^\circ$ -formulas in models with finite iterations is decidable, but not in primitive recursive time. As it is not hard to see (using the relativisation technique of, say, [11]) that satisfiability in models with finite iterations is polynomially reducible to general satisfiability, we obtain that the general satisfiability problem cannot be decided in primitive recursive time either.

**Theorem 4.** *The satisfiability problem for  $\mathcal{ML}_2^\circ$ -formulas in dynamic topological models with finite iterations is decidable, but not in primitive recursive time.*

**Proof.** We remind the reader that every reflexive and transitive frame (i.e., frame for modal logic **S4**)  $\mathfrak{G} = (\Delta, R)$  gives rise to a topological space  $\mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{G}} = (\Delta, \mathbb{I}_{\mathfrak{G}})$ , where, for every  $X \subseteq \Delta$ ,

$$\mathbb{I}_{\mathfrak{G}}(X) = \{x \in X \mid \forall y \in \Delta (xRy \rightarrow y \in X)\}.$$

Such spaces are known as *Aleksandrov spaces*. Alternatively they can be defined as topological spaces where arbitrary (not only finite) intersections of open sets are open; for details see [1, 5]. The next lemma follows immediately from [3, 26, 25]:

**Lemma 4.1.** *For every  $N < \omega$ , an  $\mathcal{ML}_2^{\circ}$ -formula is satisfiable in a  $DTM_N$  iff it is satisfiable in a  $DTM_N$  that is based on a (finite) Aleksandrov space.*

Thus, it is enough to consider DTMs of the form  $\mathfrak{M} = ((\mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{G}}, g), \mathfrak{V}, N)$ , where  $\mathfrak{G} = (\Delta, R)$  is a reflexive and transitive frame. In this case we can rewrite the truth conditions for the operators  $\Box$  and  $\Diamond$  in a more familiar way:

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \Box \varphi & \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{M}, v) \models_m \varphi \text{ for every } v \in \Delta \text{ with } wRv, \\ (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \Diamond \varphi & \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{M}, v) \models_m \varphi \text{ for some } v \in \Delta \text{ such that } wRv. \end{aligned}$$

It is not hard to see that for any function  $g: \Delta \rightarrow \Delta$ ,

$$g \text{ is continuous on } \mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{G}} \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall w, v \in \Delta (wRv \rightarrow g(w)Rg(v)). \quad (16)$$

Indeed, suppose first that  $g$  is continuous and  $wRv$ . Then

$$w \in \{u \in \Delta \mid g(w)Rg(u)\} = g^{-1}(\{u \in \Delta \mid g(w)Ru\})$$

is open, and so  $g(w)Rg(v)$  follows. Conversely, take any open set  $X$  in  $T_{\mathfrak{G}}$  and let  $w \in g^{-1}(X)$ ,  $wRv$ . Then  $g(w) \in X$  and  $g(w)Rg(v)$ , from which  $g(v) \in X$  follows.

Moreover, we have the following:

**Lemma 4.2.** *An  $\mathcal{ML}_2^{\circ}$ -formula  $\varphi$  is satisfiable in an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$  where  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a finite strict linear order and the  $f(x)$  are reflexive and transitive frames iff  $\varphi$  is satisfiable in some  $DTM_N$  with  $N < \omega$ .*

**Proof.** ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose that  $\varphi$  is satisfied in a model  $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{V})$  based on an e-frame  $\mathfrak{H} = (\mathfrak{F}, f)$ , where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, <)$  is a finite strict linear order and each  $f(x) = (\Delta_x, R_x)$  is a reflexive and transitive frame, for  $x \in W$ . We may assume that

$$\mathfrak{F} = (\{0, \dots, N\}, <)$$

for some  $N < \omega$ , and  $(\mathfrak{M}, (0, r)) \models \varphi$  for a root  $r$  of  $f(0)$ . Define a  $DTM_N$   $\mathfrak{M} = (\mathfrak{D}, \mathfrak{U}, N)$  based on the DTS  $\mathfrak{D} = ((\Delta, \mathbb{I}_{\mathfrak{G}}), g)$  with  $\mathfrak{G} = (\Delta, R)$  and the valuation  $\mathfrak{V}$  by taking

$$\Delta = \bigcup_{n \leq N} (\{n\} \times \Delta_n),$$

for each  $(n, w) \in \Delta$

$$g(n, w) = \begin{cases} (n+1, w), & \text{if } n < N, \\ (n, w), & \text{if } n = N, \end{cases}$$

for all  $(n_1, w_1), (n_2, w_2) \in \Delta$

$$(n_1, w_1)R(n_2, w_2) \quad \text{iff} \quad n_1 = n_2 \text{ and } w_1R_{n_1}w_2,$$

and, for every propositional variable  $p$ ,

$$\mathfrak{U}(p) = \{(n, w) \in \Delta \mid w \in \mathfrak{V}_n(p)\}.$$

Clearly,  $\mathfrak{M}$  is a  $\text{DTM}_N$  (in particular,  $g$  is continuous by (16)). Moreover, it is easy to show by induction that for every  $\mathcal{ML}_2^\circ$ -formula  $\psi$ , every  $n \leq N$  and every  $w \in \Delta_n$ ,

$$(\mathfrak{N}, (n, w)) \models \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{M}, (n, w)) \models_n \psi.$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Conversely, by Lemma 4.1 we may suppose that  $\varphi$  is satisfied in a  $\text{DTM}_N$

$$\mathfrak{M} = ((\mathfrak{T}_\mathfrak{G}, g), \mathfrak{V}, N),$$

where  $N < \omega$  and  $\mathfrak{G} = (\Delta, R)$  is a reflexive and transitive frame. So, we can find a  $v_0 \in \Delta$  such that  $(\mathfrak{M}, v_0) \models_0 \varphi$ .

Note first that without loss of generality we may assume that  $g$  is ‘onto.’ Indeed, if this is not the case, then we take the model  $\mathfrak{M}' = ((\mathfrak{T}_{\mathfrak{G}'}, g'), \mathfrak{V}', N)$  with  $\mathfrak{G}' = (\Delta', R')$ , where

- $\Delta' = \mathbb{N} \times \Delta$ ;
- $(n_1, w_1)R'(n_2, w_2)$  iff  $n_1 = n_2$  and  $w_1 R w_2$ ;
- $g'(0, w) = (0, g(w))$  and, for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $g'(n+1, w) = (n, w)$ ;
- $(\mathfrak{M}', (n, w)) \models p$  iff  $(\mathfrak{M}, w) \models p$ .

Then, for every  $\psi$  and every  $m \leq N$ , we have

$$(\mathfrak{M}', (0, w)) \models_m \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{M}, w) \models_m \psi.$$

Now, for every  $n \leq N$  and every propositional variable  $p$ , let

- $\Delta_n = \Delta$ ,
- $uR_n v$  iff  $g^n(u)Rg^n(v)$ ,
- $\mathfrak{U}_n(p) = \{(n, w) \mid g^n(w) \in \mathfrak{V}(p)\}$ ,

and let  $\mathfrak{H} = ((\{0, \dots, N\}, <), f)$  with  $f(n) = (\Delta_n, R_n)$ , and  $\mathfrak{N} = (\mathfrak{H}, (\mathfrak{U}_n)_{n \leq N})$ . It is not difficult to prove by induction that, for all  $w \in \Delta$  and  $m \leq N$ ,

$$(\mathfrak{M}, g^m(w)) \models_m \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{N}, (m, w)) \models \psi.$$

Note that we use that  $g$  is ‘onto’ in the induction step for  $\square$ .

In general,  $\mathfrak{H}$  is not an e-frame because, in view of (16), we only have  $uR_n v \rightarrow uR_{n+1} v$  but not the other way round. However, we can take the transitive unravelling  $f^*(n) = (\Delta_n^*, R_n^*)$  of  $f(n) = (\Delta_n, R_n)$ , where

$$\Delta_n^* = \{(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k) \mid v_i R_n v_{i+1} \text{ and } v_i \neq v_{i+1}\}$$

and  $R_n^*$  is the transitive and reflexive closure of the relation  $R'_n$  defined by taking

$$(v_0, \dots, v_k)R'_n(v_0, \dots, v_k, v_{k+1}) \quad \text{iff} \quad v_k R_n v_{k+1}.$$

The frame  $\mathfrak{H}^* = ((\{0, \dots, N\}, <), f^*)$  is an e-frame. Indeed, suppose that both  $(v_0, \dots, v_k)$  and  $(v_0, \dots, v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_m)$  are in  $W_n^*$ . Then, by the definition of  $R_n^*$ , we have  $v_k R_n v_{k+1} R_n \dots R_n v_m$  and so  $(v_0, \dots, v_k)R_n^*(v_0, \dots, v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_m)$ .

Now consider the model  $\mathfrak{N}^* = (\mathfrak{H}^*, \mathfrak{U}^*)$ , where  $\mathfrak{U}^* = (\mathfrak{U}_n^*)_{n \leq N}$  and

$$\mathfrak{U}_n^*(p) = \{(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_m) \in W_n^* \mid v_m \in \mathfrak{U}_n(p)\}.$$

By the unravelling theorem of classical modal logic, we have

$$(\mathfrak{N}, (n, v_0)) \models \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad (\mathfrak{N}^*, (n, (v_0))) \models \psi$$

for every formula  $\psi$ . □

Now Theorem 4 follows immediately from Lemma 4.2 and Theorem 3. □

## 5 Expanding domain products vs expanding relativisations

The original definition of ‘expanding product’ frames and logics from [28] was motivated by the idea of *relativising* the standard product construction.

Given unimodal Kripke frames  $\mathfrak{F}_1 = (W_1, R_1)$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_2 = (W_2, R_2)$ , their *product* is defined to be the bimodal frame

$$\mathfrak{F}_1 \times \mathfrak{F}_2 = (W_1 \times W_2, \bar{R}_1, \bar{R}_2),$$

where  $W_1 \times W_2$  is the Cartesian product of  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  and, for all  $u, u' \in W_1, v, v' \in W_2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (u, v)\bar{R}_1(u', v') &\text{ iff } uR_1u' \text{ and } v = v', \\ (u, v)\bar{R}_2(u', v') &\text{ iff } vR_2v' \text{ and } u = u'. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $L_1$  be a normal modal logic in the language with  $\Box, \Diamond$  and let  $L_2$  be a normal modal logic in the language with  $\square, \diamond$ . Assume also that both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are Kripke complete. Then the *product* of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  is the normal bimodal logic  $L_1 \times L_2$  in the language  $\mathcal{ML}_2$  with the boxes  $\Box, \square$  and the diamonds  $\Diamond, \diamond$  which is characterised by the class of product frames  $\mathfrak{F}_1 \times \mathfrak{F}_2$ , where  $\mathfrak{F}_i$  is a frame for  $L_i, i = 1, 2$ . (Here we assume that  $\Box$  and  $\Diamond$  are interpreted by  $\bar{R}_1$ , while  $\square$  and  $\diamond$  are interpreted by  $\bar{R}_2$ .)

According to the definition in [28], a frame  $\mathfrak{G} = (W, R'_1, R'_2)$  is an *expanding relativised product frame* if there exist frames  $\mathfrak{F}_1 = (U_1, R_1)$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_2 = (U_2, R_2)$  such that

- $\mathfrak{G}$  is a subframe of  $\mathfrak{F}_1 \times \mathfrak{F}_2$  (that is,  $W \subseteq U_1 \times U_2$  and  $R'_i = \bar{R}_i \upharpoonright W$  for  $i = 1, 2$ ), and
- for all  $(w_1, w_2) \in W$  and  $u \in U_1$ , if  $w_1R_1u$  then  $(u, w_2) \in W$ .

Given two classes  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  of unimodal frames, denote by

$$(\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^{\text{ex}}$$

the class of all expanding relativised product frames that are subframes of some  $\mathfrak{F}_1 \times \mathfrak{F}_2$ , for some  $\mathfrak{F}_i \in \mathcal{C}_i, i = 1, 2$ , and let

$$\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^{\text{ex}} = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{ML}_2 \mid \forall \mathfrak{G} \in (\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^{\text{ex}} \mathfrak{G} \models \varphi\}.$$

Given Kripke complete unimodal logics  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , let

$$(L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}} = \text{Log}(\text{Fr } L_1 \times \text{Fr } L_2)^{\text{ex}}$$

be the *expanding relativised product* of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . We obviously have

$$(L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}} \subseteq L_1 \times L_2.$$

As is shown in [28], if both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are *subframe logics* (that is, each  $\text{Fr } L_i$  is closed under—not necessarily generated—subframes), then  $(L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}}$  is a conservative extension of both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . Note that all of the logics listed at the end of Section 2 are subframe logics.

Further, it is not hard to see that expanding relativised products are reducible to products. Indeed, let  $\varphi$  be an  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula and  $e$  a propositional variable which does not occur in  $\varphi$ . Define by induction on the construction of  $\varphi$  an  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formula  $\varphi^e$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} p^e &= p \quad (p \text{ a propositional variable}), \\ (\psi \wedge \chi)^e &= \psi^e \wedge \chi^e, \\ (\neg\psi)^e &= \neg\psi^e, \\ (\Box\psi)^e &= \Box\psi^e, \\ (\square\psi)^e &= \square(e \rightarrow \psi^e). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $md(\varphi)$  denote the *modal depth* of  $\varphi$ , that is, the maximal number of nested modal operators in  $\varphi$ . By a structural induction on  $\varphi$ , one can easily prove the following:

**Proposition 5.** For all Kripke complete unimodal logics  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  and all  $\mathcal{ML}_2$ -formulas  $\varphi$ ,

$$\varphi \in (L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}} \quad \text{iff} \quad \left( e \wedge \Box^{\leq md(\varphi)} \Box^{\leq md(\varphi)} (e \rightarrow \Box e) \right) \rightarrow \varphi^e \in L_1 \times L_2,$$

where  $\Box^{\leq n} \psi = \bigwedge_{k \leq n} \Box^k \psi$ , for  $\Box \in \{\Box, \Box\}$ .

The following proposition connects expanding domain products with expanding domain relativisations:

**Proposition 6.**

(i) If both  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  are closed under subframes then

$$\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e \subseteq \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^{\text{ex}}.$$

(ii) Let  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  be as in the formulations of Theorems 1 or 2. Then

$$\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e = \text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^{\text{ex}}.$$

**Proof.** To prove (i), let us assume that a formula  $\varphi$  is refuted in an expanding relativised product frame  $\mathfrak{G} \subseteq \mathfrak{F}_1 \times \mathfrak{F}_2$  such that  $\mathfrak{F}_1 \in \mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_2 \in \mathcal{C}_v$ . Assume also that  $\mathfrak{G} = (W, R'_1, R'_2)$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_i = (U_i, R_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Now let

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \{u \in U_1 \mid \exists v \in U_2 (u, v) \in W\}, \\ \mathfrak{F} &= (X, R_1 \cap (X \times X)). \end{aligned}$$

For every  $x \in X$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} W_x &= \{v \in U_2 \mid (x, v) \in W\}, \\ f(x) &= (W_x, R_2 \cap (W_x \times W_x)). \end{aligned}$$

Since both  $\mathcal{C}_h$  and  $\mathcal{C}_v$  are closed under subframes, it is straightforward to see that  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is an e-frame in  $(\mathcal{C}_h \times \mathcal{C}_v)^e$  and  $\varphi$  can be refuted in it.

The inclusion  $\supseteq$  of (ii) follows from (i) and from the fact that all the classes in the formulations of Theorems 1 and 2 are closed under subframes. To prove  $\supseteq$ , let us assume that some formula  $\varphi$  is refuted in an e-frame  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$ , where  $\mathfrak{F} = (W, R) \in \mathcal{C}_h$ , and  $f(x) = (W_x, R_x) \in \mathcal{C}_v$  for all  $x \in W$ . By Lemma 2.2, we may assume that  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a (finite) transitive tree. It is not hard to see (using the fact that  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a tree) that by renaming the points of the frames  $f(x)$ ,  $x \in W$ , we can always end up with an e-frame having the following property: for all  $x \neq y \in W$ ,  $u \in W_x \cap W_y$ ,

$$\text{either } xRy \text{ or } yRx \text{ or there is } z \in W \text{ such that } zRx, zRy \text{ and } u \in W_z. \quad (17)$$

Now if  $\mathcal{C}_v$  is not a class of linear frames (that is, it is not like in the cases (C6) of Theorem 1 or (C9) of Theorem 2), then define a frame  $\mathfrak{G} = (U, S)$  by taking  $U = \bigcup_{x \in W} W_x$  and  $S$  to be the *transitive closure* of  $\bigcup_{x \in W} R_x$ . If  $\mathcal{C}_v$  is as in (C6) or (C9), then define  $S$  to be the *minimal transitive and linear extension* of  $\bigcup_{x \in W} R_x$  instead.

CLAIM 6.1. For all  $x \in W$ ,  $u, v \in W_x$ ,

$$uSv \quad \text{iff} \quad uR_x v.$$

PROOF. The  $(\Leftarrow)$  direction is obvious. The proof of the  $(\Rightarrow)$  direction is by induction on the length  $n$  of a minimal chain

$$uR_{x_1} u_1 R_{x_2} \dots R_{x_n} u_n = v. \quad (18)$$

We prove the general case only, and leave its modification to the linear case to the reader. The case  $n = 1$  follows by (17), given that  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is an e-frame and  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a tree. Now suppose that  $n > 1$  and the claim holds for all  $k < n$ . If  $x = x_1$  then  $u_1 \in W_x$ , so  $uR_x v$  follows by IH and transitivity of  $R_x$ . So suppose  $x \neq x_1$ . As  $u \in W_x \cap W_{x_1}$ , we can apply (17). There are several

cases, we discuss only the most complex one, that is, when there is  $z \in W$  such that  $zRx$ ,  $zRx_1$  and  $u \in W_z$ . By the minimality of the chain (18), we have  $x_1 \neq x_2$ . As  $u_1 \in W_{x_1} \cap W_{x_2}$ , we can apply (17) again. Again, we consider only the case when there is  $z' \in W$  such that  $z'Rx_1$ ,  $z'Rx_2$  and  $u_1 \in W_{z'}$ . As  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a tree, either  $z = z'$ , or  $zRz'$  or  $z'Rz$ . The first two cases cannot happen, otherwise  $uR_{x_2}u_2$  which contradicts the minimality of the chain (18). Thus  $z'Rz$ , and so we have  $uR_xu_1$  because  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  is an e-frame. Finally,  $uR_xv$  follows by IH and transitivity of  $R_x$ .  $\square$

By Claim 6.1, the representation  $\overline{\mathfrak{H}}$  of the e-frame  $\mathfrak{H}$  defined in Remark 1 is a subframe of  $\mathfrak{F} \times \mathfrak{G}$ . It remains to show that  $\mathfrak{G}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{C}_v$ . By definition,  $\mathfrak{G}$  is transitive. By Claim 6.1,  $\mathfrak{G}$  is reflexive (irreflexive, linear) iff all the  $f(x)$  ( $x \in W$ ) are reflexive (irreflexive, linear). So we only need to show that  $\mathfrak{G}$  is Noetherian whenever all the  $f(x)$  ( $x \in W$ ) are Noetherian. Since  $U$  is finite, it is enough to show that there are no proper  $S$ -clusters in  $\mathfrak{G}$ .

Suppose otherwise, that is there are  $u \neq v \in U$ ,  $x \in W$  such that  $uSvR_xu$ . By Claim 6.1, we have  $uR_xv$ , which is a contradiction as there are no proper  $R_x$ -clusters in  $f(x)$ .  $\square$

As a consequence of Proposition 6 (i) we obtain that if both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are subframe logics then

$$(L_1 \times L_2)^e \subseteq (L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}}.$$

Moreover, a proof similar to that of Proposition 6 (ii) shows that in fact

$$(L_1 \times L_2)^e = (L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}},$$

whenever  $L_1, L_2 \in \{\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{K4}, \mathbf{S4}, \mathbf{S5}, \mathbf{K4.3}, \mathbf{S4.3}\}$ .

It is to be noted, however, that Proposition 6 does not hold for arbitrary subframe logics  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . Consider, for example, the formula

$$\chi = \Box \perp \wedge \Box^+ \Box^+ (\Box \perp \rightarrow \Diamond \Diamond \Box \perp) \quad (19)$$

It is clearly satisfied (under any valuation) in the e-frame  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  in which  $\mathfrak{F} = (\mathbb{N}, <)$  and  $f(n) = (\{0, 1, \dots, n\}, <)$ . Obviously,  $\mathfrak{F} \models \mathbf{K4}$  and  $f(n) \models \mathbf{GL}$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . However it is impossible to ‘embed’  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  into a real product without an infinite ascending chain in the vertical component (although all the vertical components  $f(n)$  of  $(\mathfrak{F}, f)$  itself are finite). In fact, one can readily show that if  $\chi$  is satisfied in an expanding relativised product frame  $\mathfrak{G} = (W, R_1, R_2)$  where  $R_1$  is transitive and  $R_2$  is irreflexive, then  $W$  contains an infinite ascending  $R_2$ -chain. This means that  $\chi$  is not satisfiable in any expanding relativised product frame for  $(\mathbf{K4} \times \mathbf{GL})^{\text{ex}}$ , and so

$$(\mathbf{K4} \times \mathbf{GL})^e \neq (\mathbf{K4} \times \mathbf{GL})^{\text{ex}}.$$

## 6 Discussion

In this paper, we have presented first examples of products of modal logics with expanding domains which are

- decidable, but
- not in primitive recursive time,

while the corresponding product logics (with constant domains) are

- undecidable.

Numerous interesting problems concerning logics of expanding domain frames remain open:

1. Our decidability proofs make use of the e-product fmp. Decidability of e-products without the the e-product fmp remains open. We would like to mention here two particularly interesting cases.

First, observe that even if each component logic  $L_i$  is determined by a class  $\mathcal{C}_i$  of frames ( $i = 1, 2$ ), the logics  $(L_1 \times L_2)^e = \text{Log}(\text{Fr } L_1 \times \text{Fr } L_2)^e$  and  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2)^e$  are not necessarily the same. For instance,  $\mathbf{GL}$  is determined by the class  $\mathcal{C}$  of all finite irreflexive and transitive frames, so  $\text{Log}(\mathcal{C} \times \text{Fr } \mathbf{K4})^e$  has the e-product fmp (and is decidable) by Theorem 1. On the other hand, it is easy to see using, for instance, the formula

$$\Box^+ \Diamond \top \wedge \Box^+ \Diamond (p \wedge \Box \neg p)$$

that  $(\mathbf{GL} \times \mathbf{K4})^e$  does not have the e-product fmp. In fact, a similar formula that has  $\Diamond$  and  $\Box$  (see the proof of Lemma 2.5) in place of  $\Diamond$  and  $\Box$  shows the lack of e-product fmp for  $(L_1 \times L_2)^e$ , whenever  $L_1$  is any logic that has a frame containing a point with infinitely many successors, and  $\text{Fr } L_2$  is any class of transitive frames containing an infinite ascending chain of distinct points. It is also possible to ‘force’ such an infinite ascending chain ‘horizontally:’ the formula

$$\Box^+ \Diamond (p \wedge \Diamond \Box^+ \neg p)$$

shows the lack of e-product fmp for  $(L_1 \times L_2)^e$ , whenever  $\text{Fr } L_1$  is any class of transitive frames containing an infinite ascending chain of distinct points, and  $L_2$  is any logic that has a frame containing a point with infinitely many successors.

Second, the logic

$$\text{Log}(\{\mathbb{N}, <\} \times \text{Fr } \mathbf{S4})^e$$

is of particular interest since it coincides with the logic of  $\text{DTM}_\omega$ s based on Aleksandrov spaces with continuous mappings. As any of the formulas above shows, this logic does not have the e-product fmp, and so its decidability is open. (We conjecture that the logic is undecidable.)

2. As is shown in [11, Section 9.1], logics of the form  $(L \times (\mathbf{S5} \times \mathbf{S5}))^{\text{ex}}$  are reducible to the two-variable fragment of quantified  $L$  with expanding domains. According to [21], these first-order modal logic fragments are actually undecidable, whenever  $L$  has a frame containing a point with infinitely many successors. (For the constant domain case this was proved in [12].) We conjecture that the proof in [21] can be extended to show undecidability of  $(L \times (\mathbf{S5} \times \mathbf{S5}))^{\text{ex}}$  as well.

3. We did not consider the problem of finding axiomatisations for e-product logics. Here we just list a selection of open questions. Denote by  $[L_1, L_2]^e$  the bimodal logic obtained by adding to the independent fusion of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  the axioms

$$\Diamond \Diamond p \rightarrow \Diamond \Diamond p \quad \text{and} \quad \Diamond \Box p \rightarrow \Box \Diamond p,$$

and call it the *expanding commutator* of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . It is easy to see that

$$[L_1, L_2]^e \subseteq (L_1 \times L_2)^e,$$

and if  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are subframe logics then

$$[L_1, L_2]^e \subseteq (L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}}.$$

As is shown in [11, Theorem 9.10],  $(L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}} = [L_1, L_2]^e$  whenever  $L_1 \in \{\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{K4}, \mathbf{S4}, \mathbf{S5}\}$  and  $L_2$  is axiomatisable by modal formulas with a universal Horn first-order translation. It would be interesting to find pairs of logics such that  $(L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}} \neq [L_1, L_2]^e$ , but  $(L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}}$  (or  $(L_1 \times L_2)^e$ ) is still finitely axiomatisable. Are there any pairs of logics such that

$$(L_1 \times L_2)^{\text{ex}} = [L_1, L_2]^e, \quad \text{but} \quad (L_1 \times L_2) \neq [L_1, L_2],$$

where  $[L_1, L_2] = ([L_1, L_2]^e + \Diamond \Diamond p \rightarrow \Diamond \Diamond p)$ ?

Further, as is shown in [14], the product logics (such as, say,  $\mathbf{GL} \times \mathbf{GL}$ ) whose ‘expanding domain’ versions are decidable by Theorem 2 are not even recursively enumerable. It is also shown in [14] that commutators like  $[\mathbf{GL}, \mathbf{GL}]$  are (though also undecidable) Kripke incomplete, so cannot coincide with the corresponding product logics (which are Kripke complete by definition). Does

any of these decidable e-products coincide with the corresponding expanding commutator? If not, are they finitely axiomatisable? Are these expanding commutators decidable or Kripke complete? Note that the formula (19) actually shows that

$$[\mathbf{K4}, \mathbf{GL}]^e \neq (\mathbf{K4} \times \mathbf{GL})^{\text{ex}},$$

but it is not known whether  $[\mathbf{K4}, \mathbf{GL}]^e$  and  $(\mathbf{K4} \times \mathbf{GL})^e$  are different.

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