

Uninterpreted Frames and Binary Relations

An uninterpreted frame is a pair $\langle W, R \rangle$ where W is a nonempty set and R is a binary relation on W . A formula of a language for the modal sentential calculus is *valid for* $\langle W, R \rangle$ iff it's true in every model $\langle W, R, I, @ \rangle$.

R is reflexive iff every formula in KT is valid for $\langle W, R \rangle$.

Proof: ($\Rightarrow$) follows from the fact that KT is valid for every reflexive model.

($\Leftarrow$) Suppose $w \in W$ and not $w R w$. Pick an atomic sentence α and define I so that $I(\alpha, v) = \text{True}$ iff $v \neq w$. α is true in every world accessible from w , so $\Box \alpha$ is true in w , even though α isn't true in w . So $(\Box \alpha \rightarrow \alpha)$ isn't true in $\langle W, R, I, w \rangle$.

R is transitive iff every formula in $K4$ is valid for $\langle W, R \rangle$.

Proof: ($\Rightarrow$) follows from the fact that $K4$ is valid for every transitive model.

($\Rightarrow$) Suppose w, v , and u are in W , with $w R v$ and $v R u$, but not $w R u$. Pick α and define I so that $I(\alpha, t) = \text{True}$ iff $w R t$. $\Box \alpha$ is true in w . α isn't true in u , so $\Box \alpha$ isn't true in v , so $\Box \Box \alpha$ isn't true in w . So $(\Box \alpha \rightarrow \Box \Box \alpha)$ isn't true in $\langle W, R, I, w \rangle$.

This follows immediately:

R is reflexive and transitive iff every formula in $KT4$ is valid for $\langle W, R \rangle$.

R is Euclidean iff every formula in $K5$ is valid for $\langle W, R \rangle$.

Proof: ($\Rightarrow$) We already know that $K5$ is valid for every Euclidean model.

($\Leftarrow$) Suppose that w, v , and u are in W , that $w R v$ and $w R u$ but not $v R u$. Define I so that α is true in u only. Then $\Diamond \alpha$ is false in v , so $\Box \Diamond \alpha$ is false in w , even though $\Diamond \alpha$ is true in w . So $(\Diamond \alpha \rightarrow \Box \Diamond \alpha)$ is false in $\langle W, R, I, w \rangle$.

We get similar results for every normal modal system obtained by adding one or more of (T), (4), (B), and (5) to K .