

# A survey on Kearns' modal semantics without possible worlds

Hitoshi Omori <sup>1</sup>   Daniel Skurt <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Post-doctoral Fellow of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science  
Department of Philosophy, Kyoto University  
hitoshiomori@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Department of Philosophy II, Ruhr-Universität Bochum  
ResearchSchool Plus  
daniel.skurt@rub.de

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# What is Kearns' semantics?



## “Modal Semantics without Possible Worlds” (JSL, 1981)

- John Kearns develops some semantics without possible worlds for modal logics **T**, **S4** and **S5**.
- Motivation: “I do not think there are such things as possible worlds, or even that they constitute a useful fiction.”
- Technically: (i) Non-deterministic semantics combined with (ii) additional hierarchy of valuations.

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# Four truth values

Read intuitively (through the canonical model construction)

$$v_0(\beta) := \begin{cases} \mathbf{T} & \text{if } \Sigma \vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \beta & \text{Necessarily true} \\ \mathbf{t} & \text{if } \Sigma \not\vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \beta & \text{Contingently true} \\ \mathbf{f} & \text{if } \Sigma \vdash \Diamond\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \beta & \text{Contingently false} \\ \mathbf{F} & \text{if } \Sigma \not\vdash \Diamond\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \beta & \text{Necessarily false} \end{cases}$$

# Non-determinacy in Kearns' semantics

$\alpha \rightsquigarrow \beta$	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	???	<b>f</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	???	???	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>



# Non-determinacy in Kearns' semantics

$\alpha \rightsquigarrow \beta$	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	???	<b>f</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	???	???	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>

## Question

How shall we assign the values for the blanks?

# Non-determinacy in Kearns' semantics

$\alpha \rightsquigarrow \beta$	T	t	f	F
T	T	t	f	F
t	T	t	f	f
f	T	t	t	t
F	T	T	T	T

## Kearns' example

- $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

# Non-determinacy in Kearns' semantics

$\alpha \rightsquigarrow \beta$	T	t	f	F
T	T	t	f	F
t	T	T, t	f	f
f	T	T, t	T, t	t
F	T	T	T	T

## Kearns' example

- $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
- $(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \alpha$

# Non-determinacy in Kearns' semantics

$\alpha \rightsquigarrow \beta$	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>

Now...

How can we spell out this idea formally?



## “Non-Deterministic Multiple-valued Structures” (JLC, 2005)

The first systematic presentation of non-deterministic semantics which generalizes the many-valued semantics very nicely. Since then, it has been applied to semantics for systems of paraconsistent logic and so on.

# Kearns' truth tables for **S5**, **S4** and **T**

## à la Avron

A **S5**-*Nmatrix* for a propositional language  $\{\neg, \Box, \Diamond, \rightarrow\}$  is a tuple  $M = \langle \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{O} \rangle$ , where:

- (a)  $\mathcal{V} = \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{F}\}$ ,
- (b)  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}\}$ ,
- (c) For every  $n$ -ary connective  $*$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\mathcal{O}$  includes a corresponding  $n$ -ary function  $\tilde{*} : \mathcal{V}^n \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{V}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  as follows (we omit the brackets for sets):

$\alpha$	$\tilde{\neg}\alpha$	$\tilde{\Box}\alpha$	$\tilde{\Diamond}\alpha$	$\alpha \tilde{\rightarrow} \beta$	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>

# Kearns' truth tables for **S5**, **S4** and **T**

## à la Avron

A **S4**-*Nmatrix* for a propositional language  $\{\neg, \Box, \Diamond, \rightarrow\}$  is a tuple  $M = \langle \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{O} \rangle$ , where:

- (a)  $\mathcal{V} = \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{F}\}$ ,
- (b)  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}\}$ ,
- (c) For every  $n$ -ary connective  $*$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\mathcal{O}$  includes a corresponding  $n$ -ary function  $\tilde{*} : \mathcal{V}^n \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{V}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  as follows (we omit the brackets for sets):

$\alpha$	$\tilde{\neg}\alpha$	$\tilde{\Box}\alpha$	$\tilde{\Diamond}\alpha$	$\alpha \tilde{\rightarrow} \beta$	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>

# Kearns' truth tables for S5, S4 and T

## à la Avron

A **T-Nmatrix** for a propositional language  $\{\neg, \Box, \Diamond, \rightarrow\}$  is a tuple  $M = \langle \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{O} \rangle$ , where:

- (a)  $\mathcal{V} = \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{F}\}$ ,
- (b)  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}\}$ ,
- (c) For every  $n$ -ary connective  $*$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\mathcal{O}$  includes a corresponding  $n$ -ary function  $\tilde{*} : \mathcal{V}^n \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{V}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  as follows (we omit the brackets for sets):

$\alpha$	$\tilde{\neg}\alpha$	$\tilde{\Box}\alpha$	$\tilde{\Diamond}\alpha$	$\alpha \tilde{\rightarrow} \beta$	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>



# Non-determinacy is not enough!

## An example in **S5**

$\alpha$	$\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>

Note the non-determinacy in red!

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$\alpha$	$\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>

And here, too!

# Non-determinacy is not enough!

## An example in S5

$\alpha$	$\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$	$\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha)$
<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>

So,  $\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha)$  is not valid!

# Hierarchy introduced

## Definition

Let  $v$  be a function  $v : L \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$ . Then,

- $v$  is a *0th-level-S5-valuation* if  $v$  is a legal-S5-valuation.
- $v$  is a  *$m + 1$ st-level-S5-valuation* iff  $v$  is a  *$m$ th-level-S5-valuation* and assigns value **T** to every sentence  $\alpha$  if  $v'(\alpha) \in \mathcal{D}$  for any  *$m$ th-level-S5-valuation*  $v'$ .

## Remark

The 'height' of the hierarchy might be very large!

## Definition

Based on these, we define

- $v$  to be a *S5-valuation* iff  $v$  is  *$m$ th-level-S5-valuation* for any  $m \geq 0$ .
- $\alpha$  is a *S5-tautology* ( $\models_{S5} \alpha$ ) iff  $v(\alpha) = \mathbf{T}$  for any *S5-valuation*  $v$ .

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# An example for hierarchy in $\mathbf{T}$

0th-level

$\square$	$\square$	$(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha)$		
<b>T, t, f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>T, t, f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>f, F</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>t</b>
<b>T, t, f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>f, F</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>T, t, f, F</b>	<b>T, t</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>F</b>

# An example for hierarchy in $\mathbf{T}$

1st-level

$\square$	$\square$	$(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha)$		
$\mathbf{T, t, f, F}$	$\mathbf{T, t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$
$\mathbf{T, t, f, F}$	$\mathbf{T, t}$	$\mathbf{t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{t}$
$\mathbf{T, t, f, F}$	$\mathbf{T, t}$	$\mathbf{f}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{f}$
$\mathbf{T, t, f, F}$	$\mathbf{T, t}$	$\mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{F}$



# An example for hierarchy in $\mathbf{T}$

2nd-level

$\square$	$\square$	$(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha)$		
$\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$
$\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{t}$
$\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{f}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{f}$
$\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{F}$

# An example for hierarchy in $\mathbf{T}$

3rd-level

$\square$	$\square$	$(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha)$		
$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$
$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{t}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{t}$
$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{f}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{f}$
$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{T}$	$\mathbf{F}$

## Proposition

In defining valuations, Kearns introduced a whole hierarchy of  $m$ th-level-valuations. But, it turns out that this is not necessary in the case for **S4** and **S5**. Here we only need to make use of 2 levels.

## Remark

However, this is not possible for **T**. Take for instance the following set of formulas with iterated modalities:

$(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha), \Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha), \Box\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha), \Box\Box\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha), \Box\Box\Box\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha),$   
 $\Box\Box\Box\Box\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha), \Box\Box\Box\Box\Box\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha), \Box\Box\Box\Box\Box\Box\Box(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha), \dots$

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# Kearns' semantics for modal logic **K** and beyond

Read intuitively (through the canonical model construction for **K**)

$$v_0(\beta) := \begin{cases} \mathbf{T} & \text{if } \Sigma \vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \Diamond\beta \\ \mathbf{t}_1 & \text{if } \Sigma \vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \Diamond\beta \\ \mathbf{t} & \text{if } \Sigma \not\vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \Diamond\beta \\ \mathbf{t}_2 & \text{if } \Sigma \not\vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \Diamond\beta \\ \mathbf{f}_2 & \text{if } \Sigma \vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \Diamond\beta \\ \mathbf{f} & \text{if } \Sigma \not\vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \vdash \Diamond\beta \\ \mathbf{f}_1 & \text{if } \Sigma \vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \Diamond\beta \\ \mathbf{F} & \text{if } \Sigma \not\vdash \Box\beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \beta \text{ and } \Sigma \not\vdash \Diamond\beta \end{cases}$$

## Truth-tables for $\Box$ for **K**

$A$	$\Box A$
<b>T</b>	<b>T, t<sub>1</sub>, t, t<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>t<sub>1</sub></b>	<b>T, t<sub>1</sub>, t, t<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>t</b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, f<sub>1</sub>, F</b>
<b>t<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, f<sub>1</sub>, F</b>
<b>f<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>T, t<sub>1</sub>, t, t<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>f</b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, f<sub>1</sub>, F</b>
<b>f<sub>1</sub></b>	<b>T, t<sub>1</sub>, t, t<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>F</b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, f<sub>1</sub>, F</b>

# Kearns' semantics for modal logic **K** and beyond

## Truth-tables for $\Box$ for **D**

$A$	$\Box A$
<b>T</b>	<b>T, t, t<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>t</b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, F</b>
<b>t<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, F</b>
<b>f<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>T, t, t<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>f</b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, F</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>f<sub>2</sub>, f, F</b>

# Kearns' semantics for modal logic **K** and beyond

Truth-tables for  $\Box$  for **T**

$A$	$\Box A$
<b>T</b>	<b>T, t</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>f, F</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>f, F</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>f, F</b>



# Future avenues (I)

## Analyticity

Any partial valuation which seems to refute a given formula can be extended to a full valuation (which necessarily refutes that formula too).

## Counterexample to analyticity

$$\frac{\Box (p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow \Box (\Box p \rightarrow \Box q)}{\begin{array}{cccccccccc} \mathbf{T} & \mathbf{t} & \mathbf{T} & \mathbf{t} & \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{f} & \mathbf{t} & \mathbf{t} & \mathbf{f} & \mathbf{t} \end{array}}$$

## Question

In order to evaluate a formula in Kearns' semantic one has to take into account *every* formula.

Is it possible to simplify the requirement that we have to take every formula into account? E.g., in order to evaluate a formula only take a special set of formulas into account?

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$$\frac{\Box (p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow \Box (\Box p \rightarrow \Box q)}{\mathbf{T} \quad \mathbf{t} \quad \mathbf{T} \quad \mathbf{t} \quad \mathbf{F} \quad \mathbf{F} \quad \mathbf{f} \quad \mathbf{t} \quad \mathbf{t} \quad \mathbf{f} \quad \mathbf{t}}$$

## Question

In order to evaluate a formula in Kearns' semantic one has to take into account *every* formula.

Is it possible to simplify the requirement that we have to take every formula into account? E.g., in order to evaluate a formula only take a special set of formulas into account?

## Future avenues (II)

### Kearns's semantics for (sub)intuitionistic logics?

In view of the close connection between the modal logic S4 and intuitionistic logic, one may also ask if we can devise a Kearns-style semantics for intuitionistic logic. To this end, one may introduce an Nmatrix for the intuitionistic conditional based on the translation between S4 with the persistence condition and intuitionistic logic.

### Difficulty

We require further consideration since it is not clear at all how to rule out valuations to include, for example,  $\alpha \rightarrow_{\Box} \alpha$  as a tautology.

$\alpha \rightarrow_{\Box} \beta$	T	t	f	F
T	T	f, F	f, F	F
t	T	T, f, F	f, F	f, F
f	T	T, f, F	T, f, F	f, F
F	T	T	T	T

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$\alpha \rightarrow_{\square} \beta$	<b>T</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>t</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, f, F</b>	<b>f, F</b>	<b>f, F</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T, f, F</b>	<b>T, f, F</b>	<b>f, F</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>T</b>

The details of the talk are available at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/hitoshiomori/home/publications>

<http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/philosophy/logic/team/skurt.html.en>