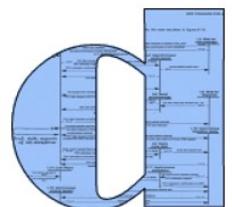


# Markov Automata

The state of affairs

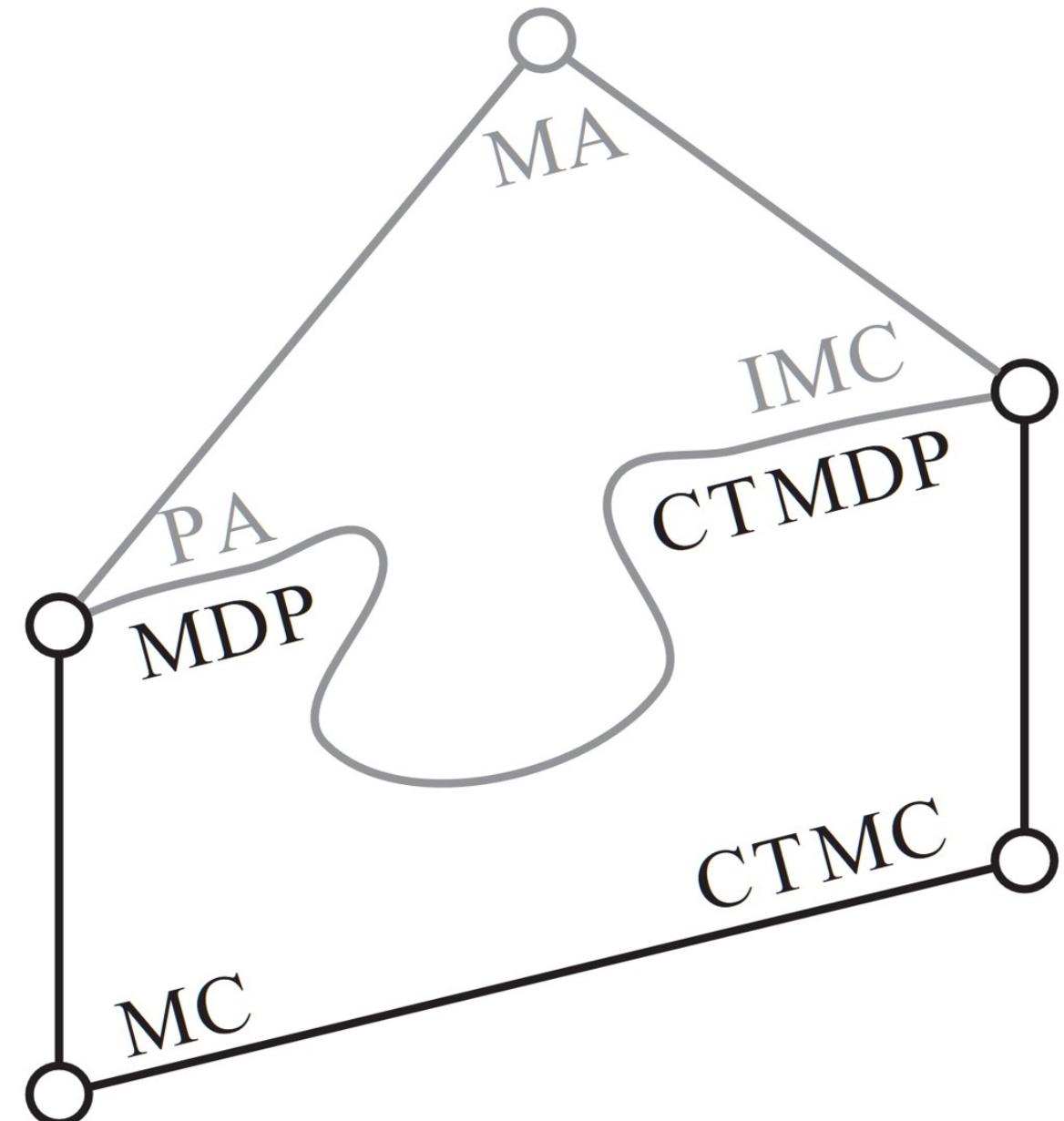
Holger Hermanns  
Saarland University

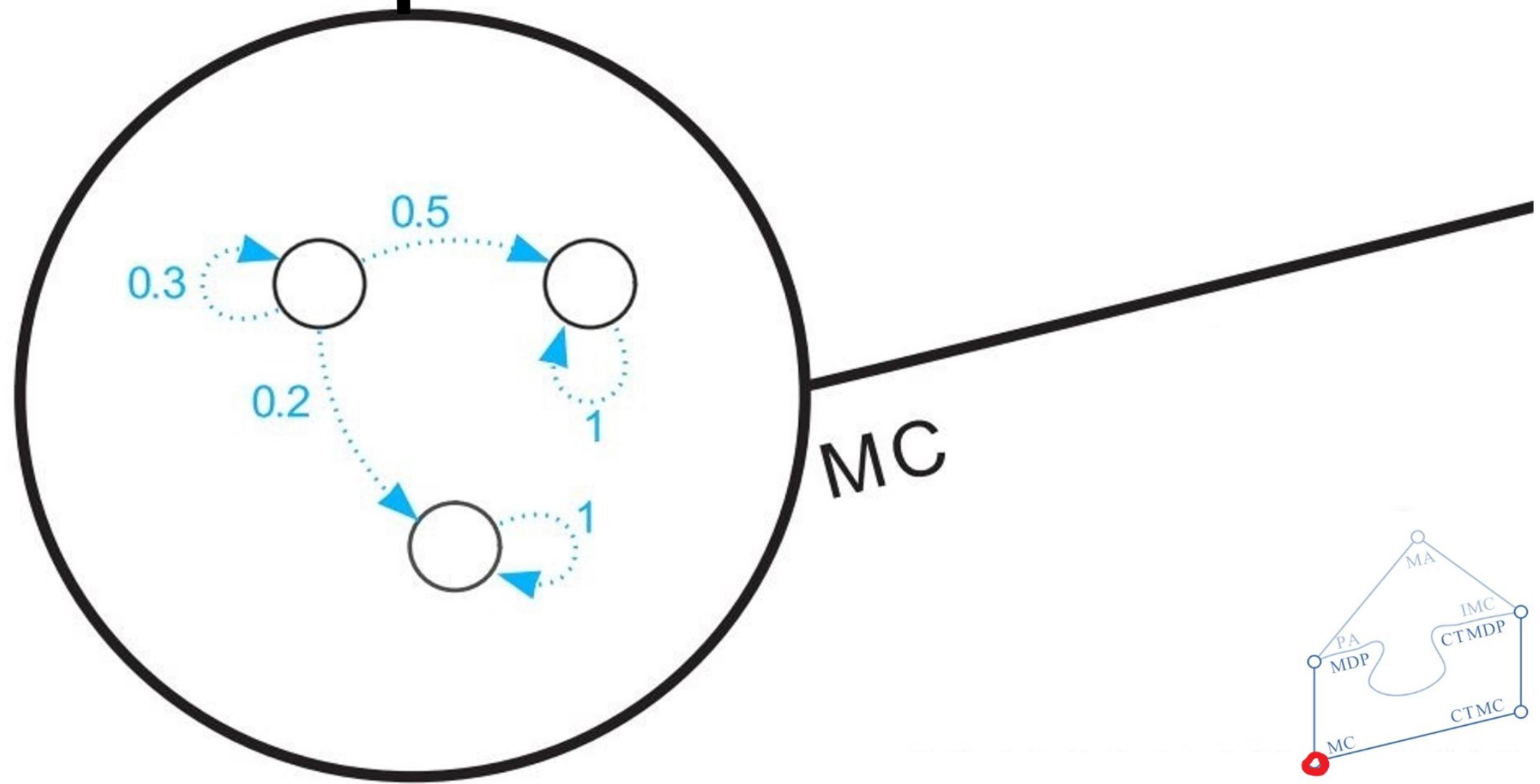




# Markov Automata?

- What?
- Why?
- How?
  - Construction
  - Compression
  - Verification
  - Extension
- Open Challenges





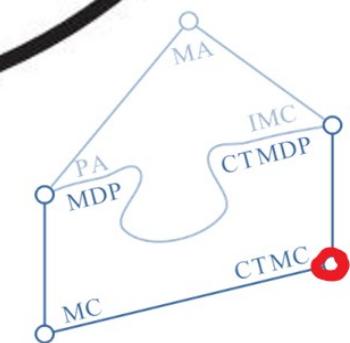
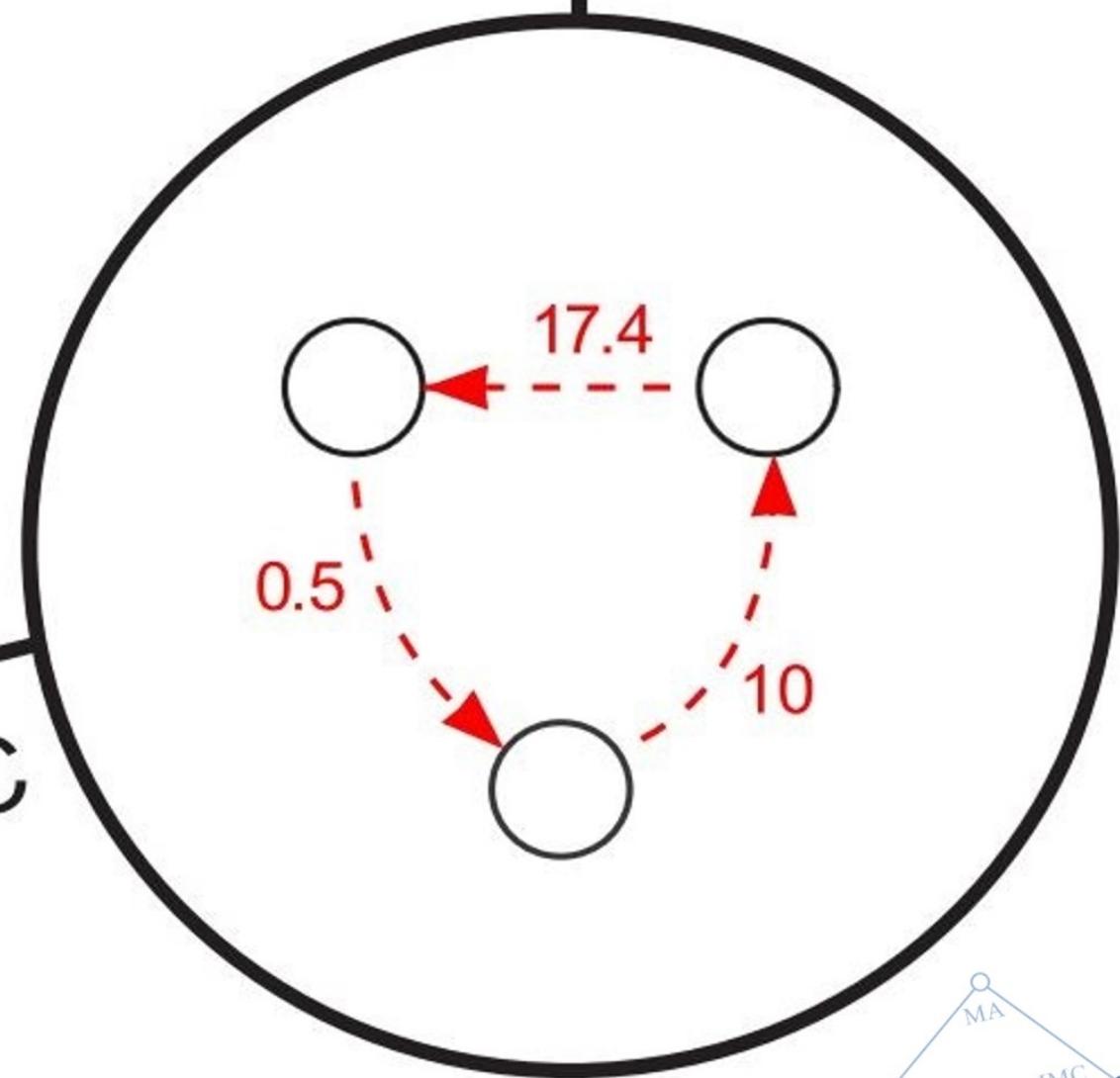


CONTINUOUS-TIME



CTMC

MC

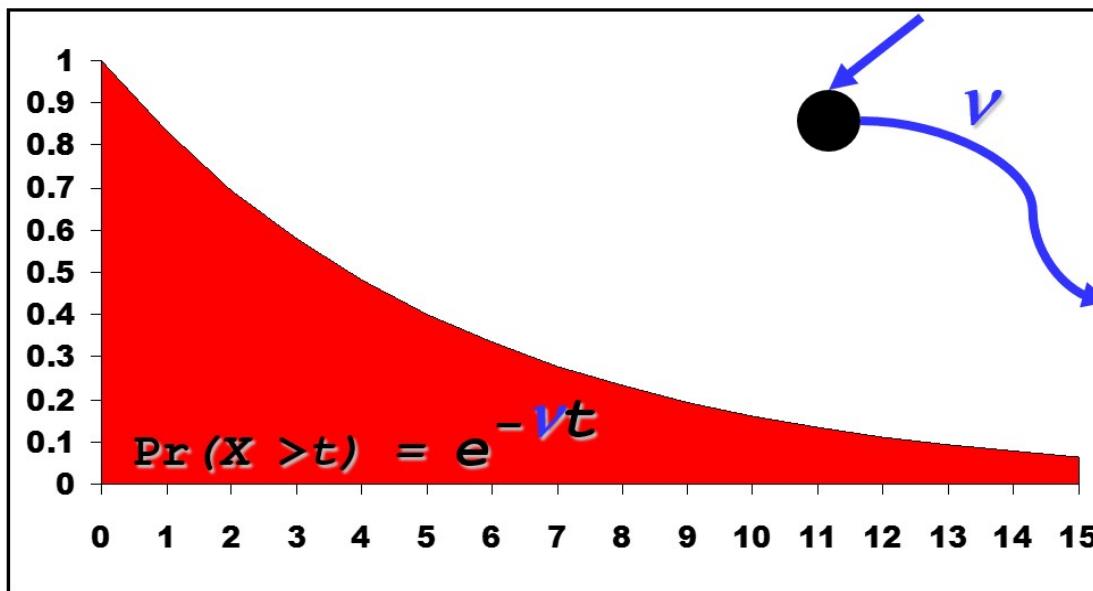




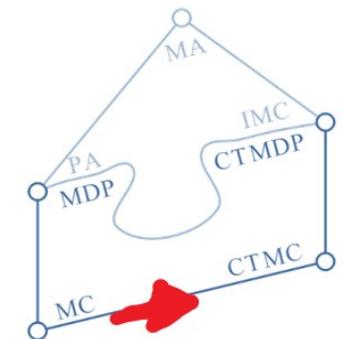
# Continuous Time?

“CTMC”

- basically transition-weighted automata.
- all times are exponentially distributed;



- sojourn time in states are memory-less;

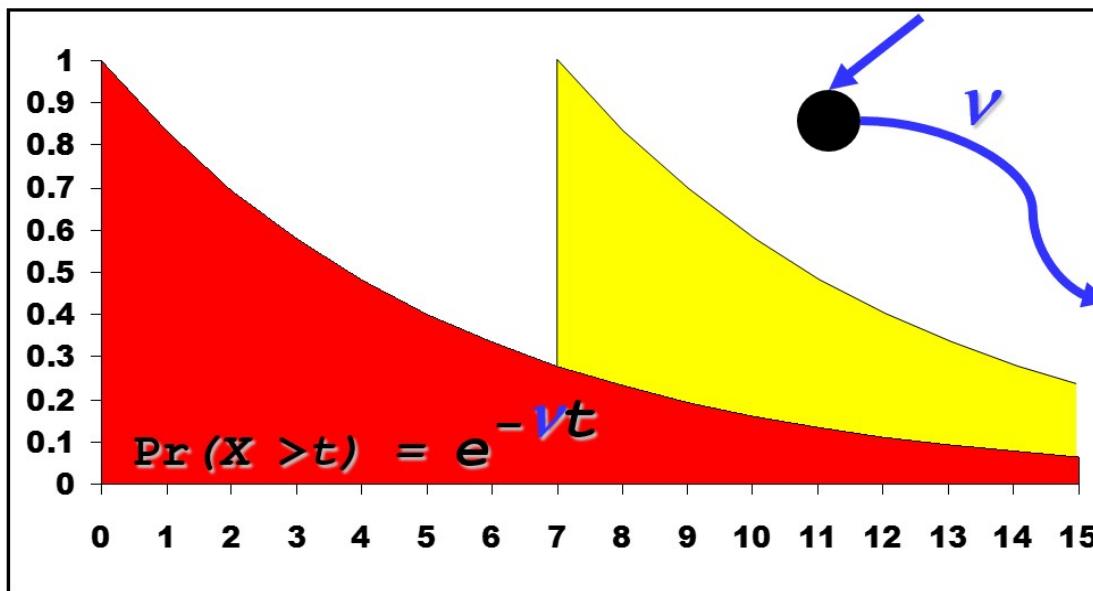




# Continuous Time?

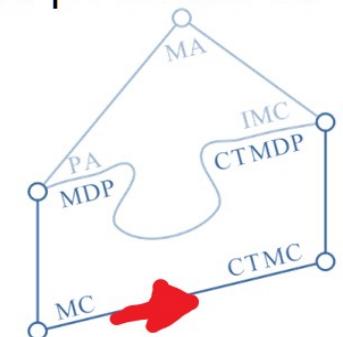
“CTMC”

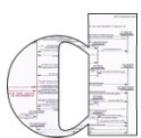
- basically transition-weighted automata.
- all times are exponentially distributed;



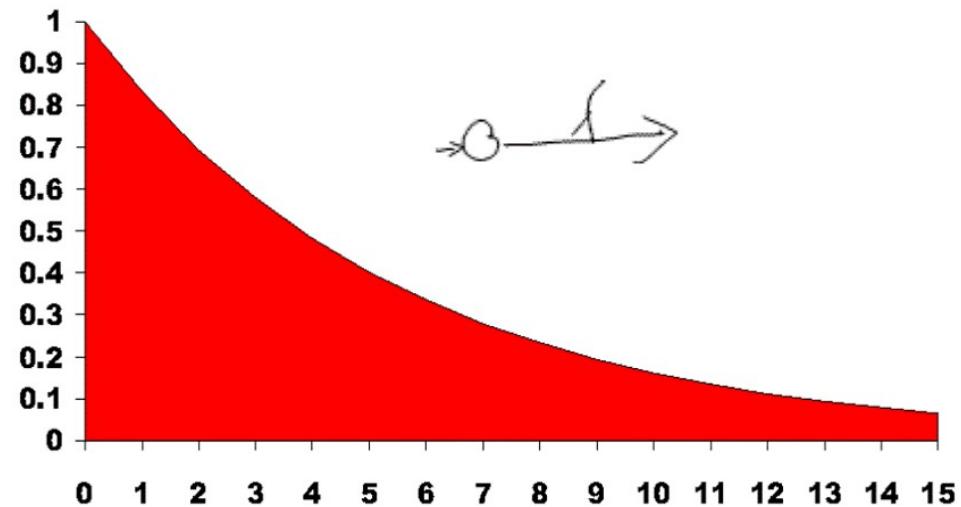
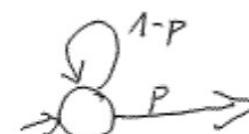
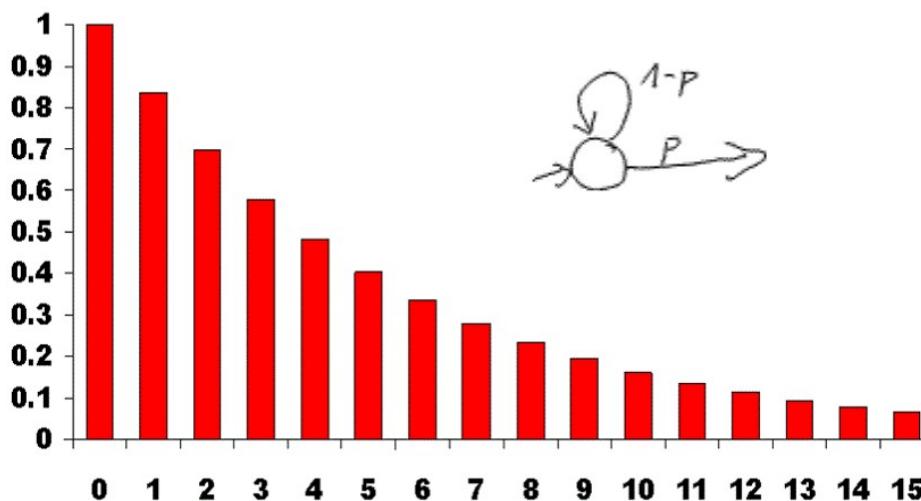
- very well investigated class of stochastic processes,
- efficient and numerically stable analysis algorithms available;
- best guess, if only mean values are known;
- very widely used in practice.

- sojourn time in states are memory-less;





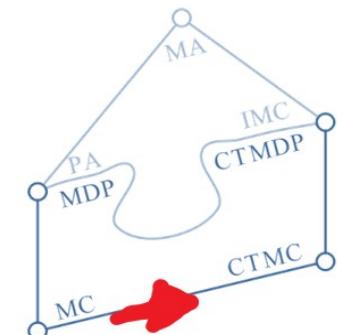
# Discrete vs. Continuous Time?



- For a given time step  $\Delta$  a discretised exponential distribution is a geometric distribution.
- In the limit  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$  a geometric distribution is an exponential distribution.
- This can be lifted to MCs:

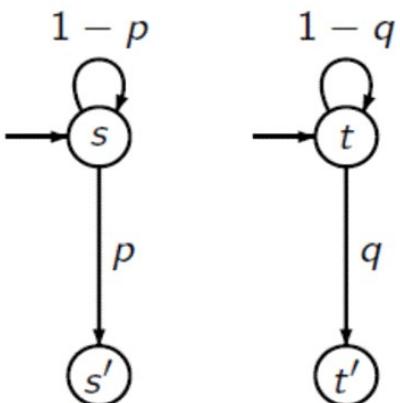
For each CTMC  $\mathcal{M}$  and time step  $\Delta$ ,

there is discretised DTMC  $\mathcal{D}_\Delta$ .





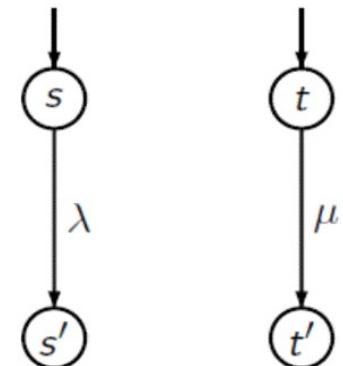
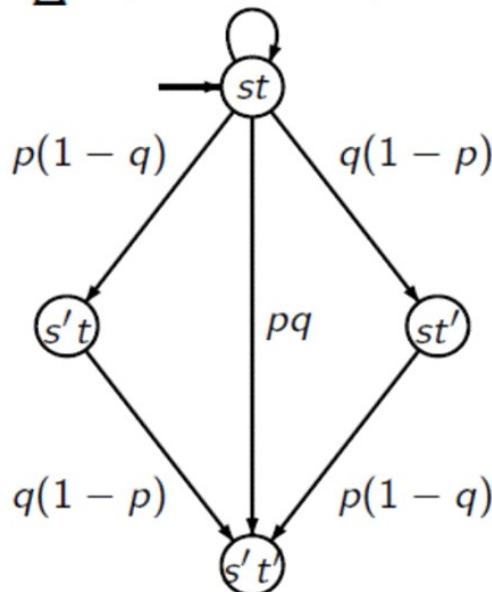
# Discrete vs. Continuous Time?



$$Q^{\parallel\parallel} = \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} (\mathbf{P}_{\Delta}^{\otimes} - \mathbf{I}) / \Delta$$

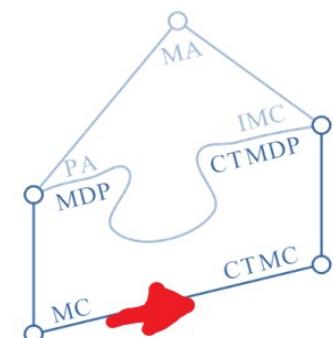
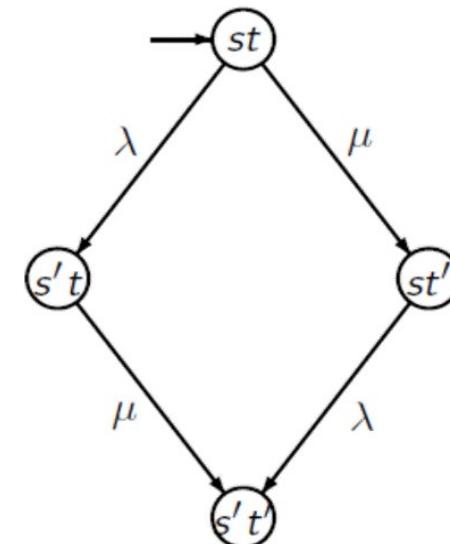
## Synchronous Composition for MC

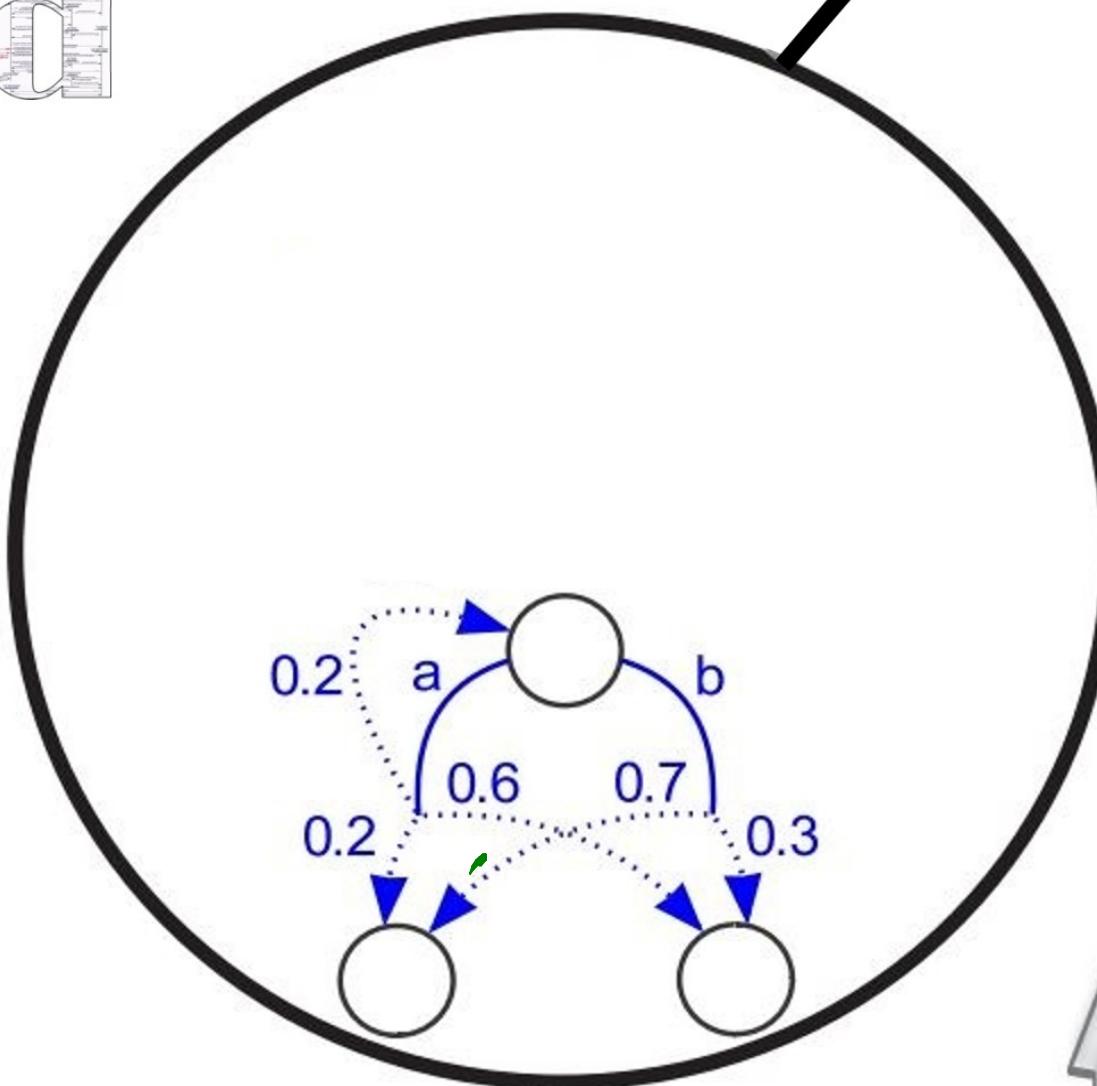
$$\mathcal{D}_{\Delta} \otimes \mathcal{D}'_{\Delta} \quad (1 - p)(1 - q)$$



## Interleaving for CTMC

$$\mathcal{M} \parallel \mathcal{M}'$$

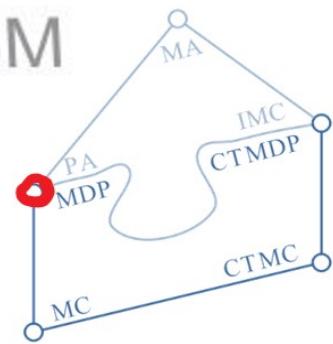




MDP



NONDETERMINISM



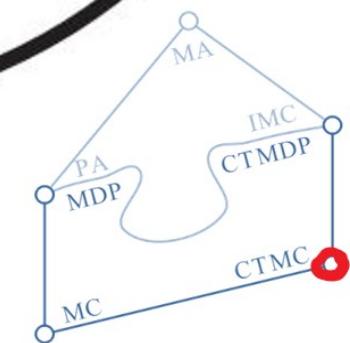
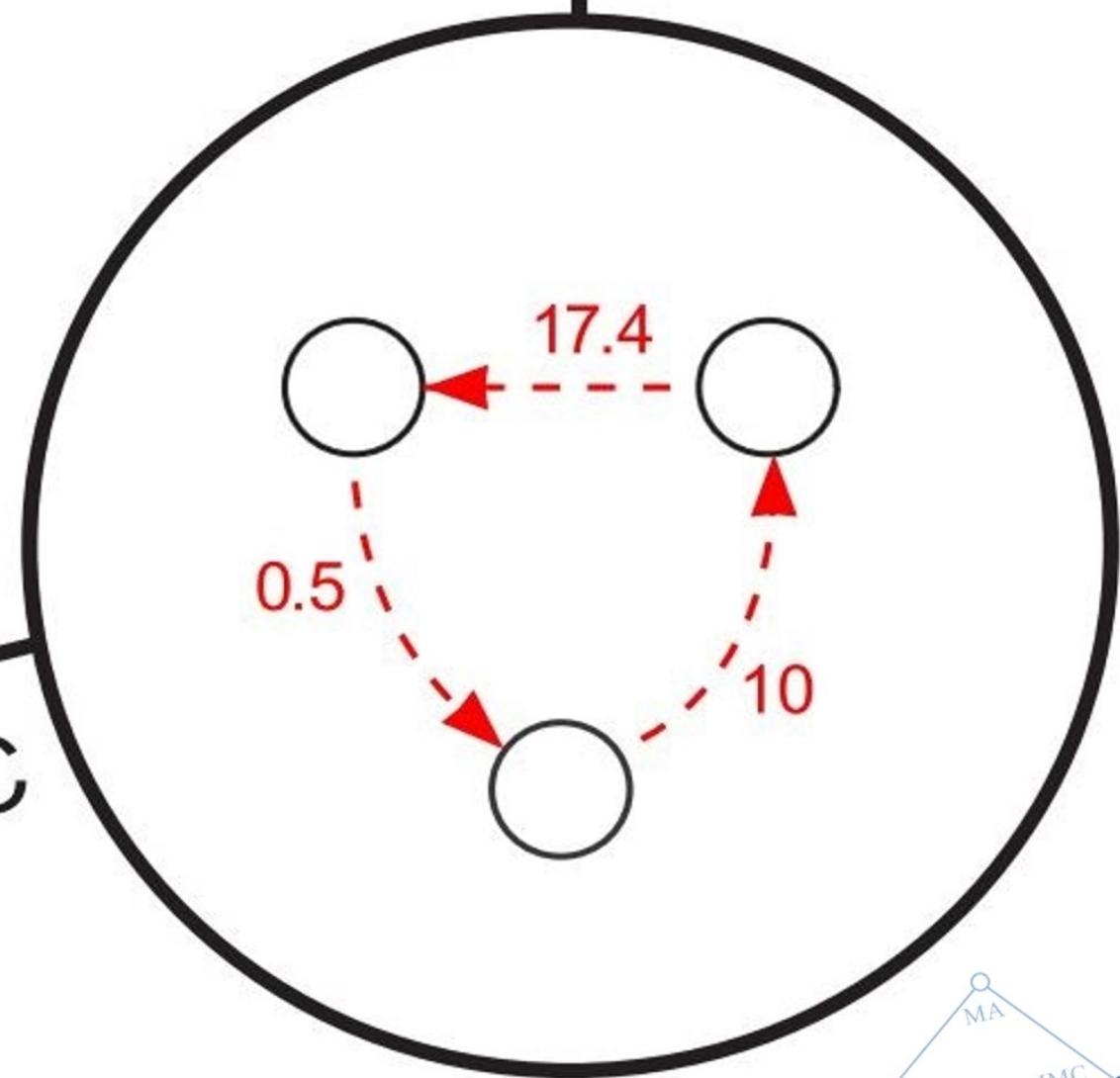


CONTINUOUS-TIME



CTMC

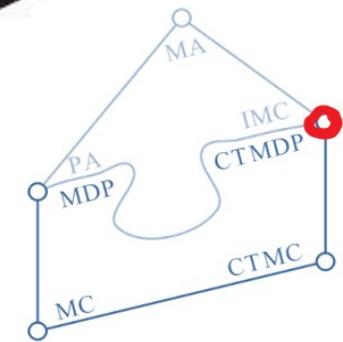
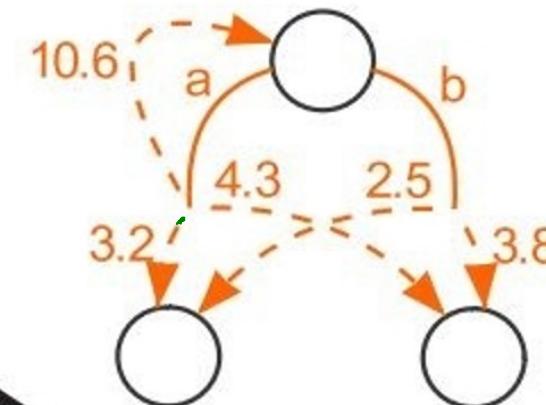
MC





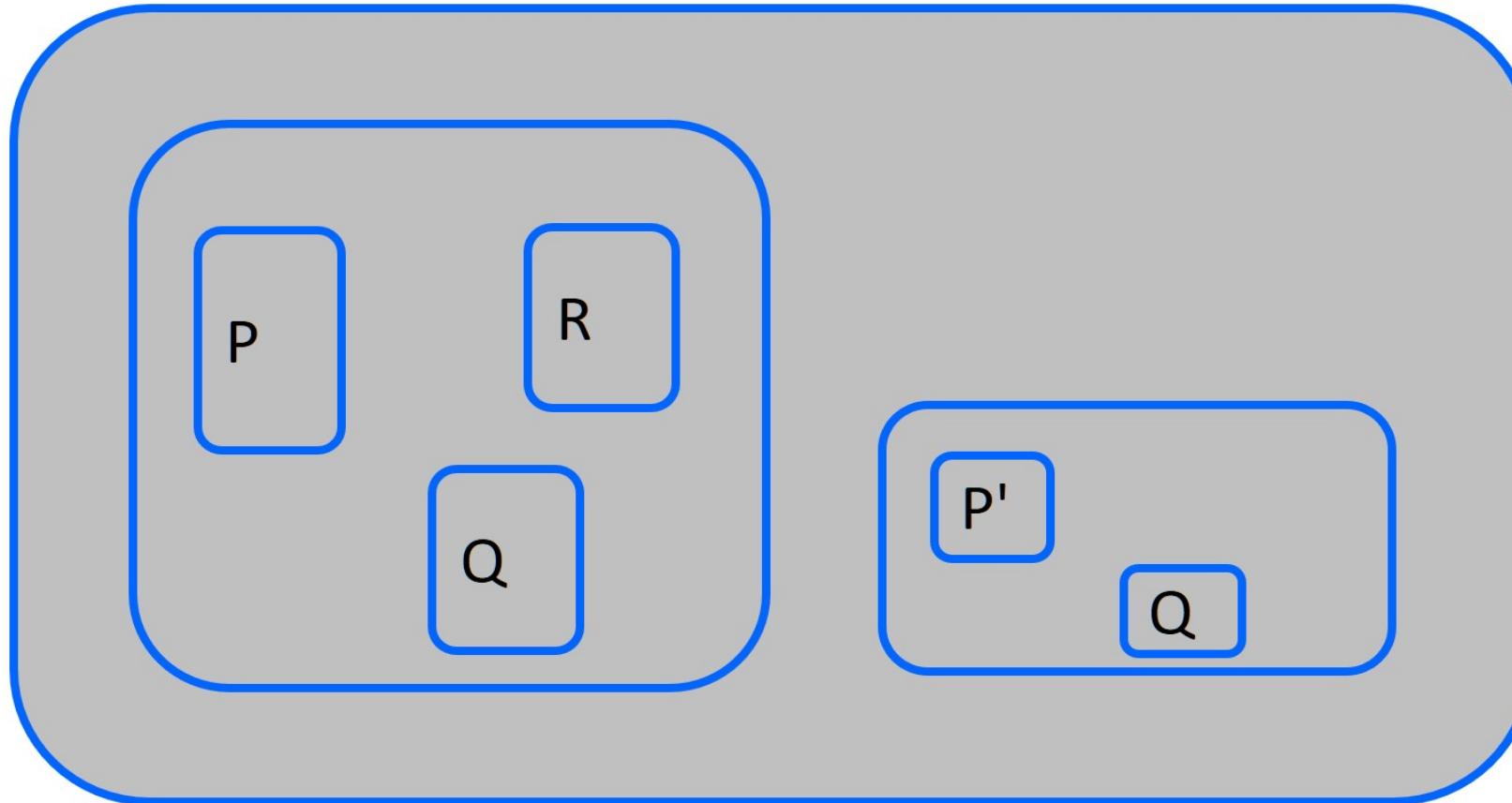
MDP

CTMDP

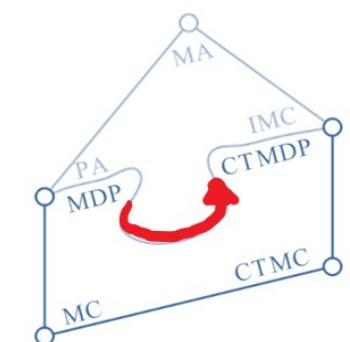




# Compositionality?

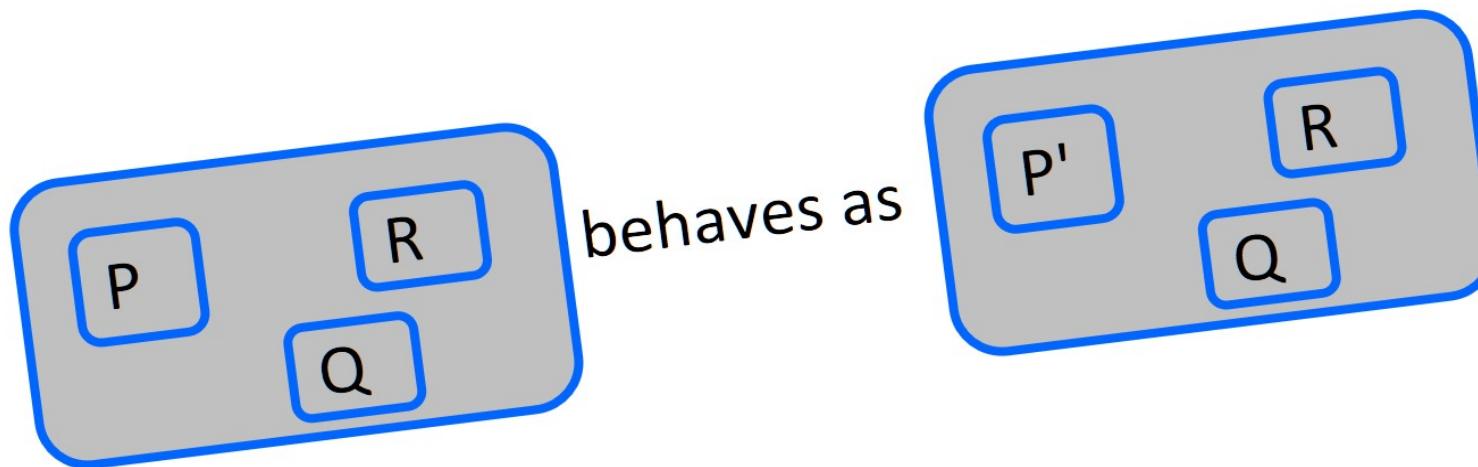


Process Algebraic Composition Operators.





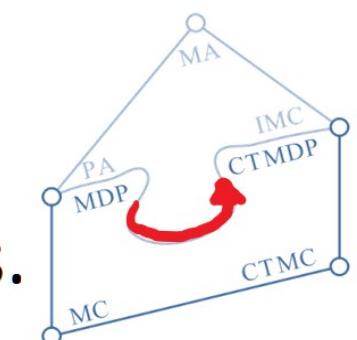
# Compositionality?

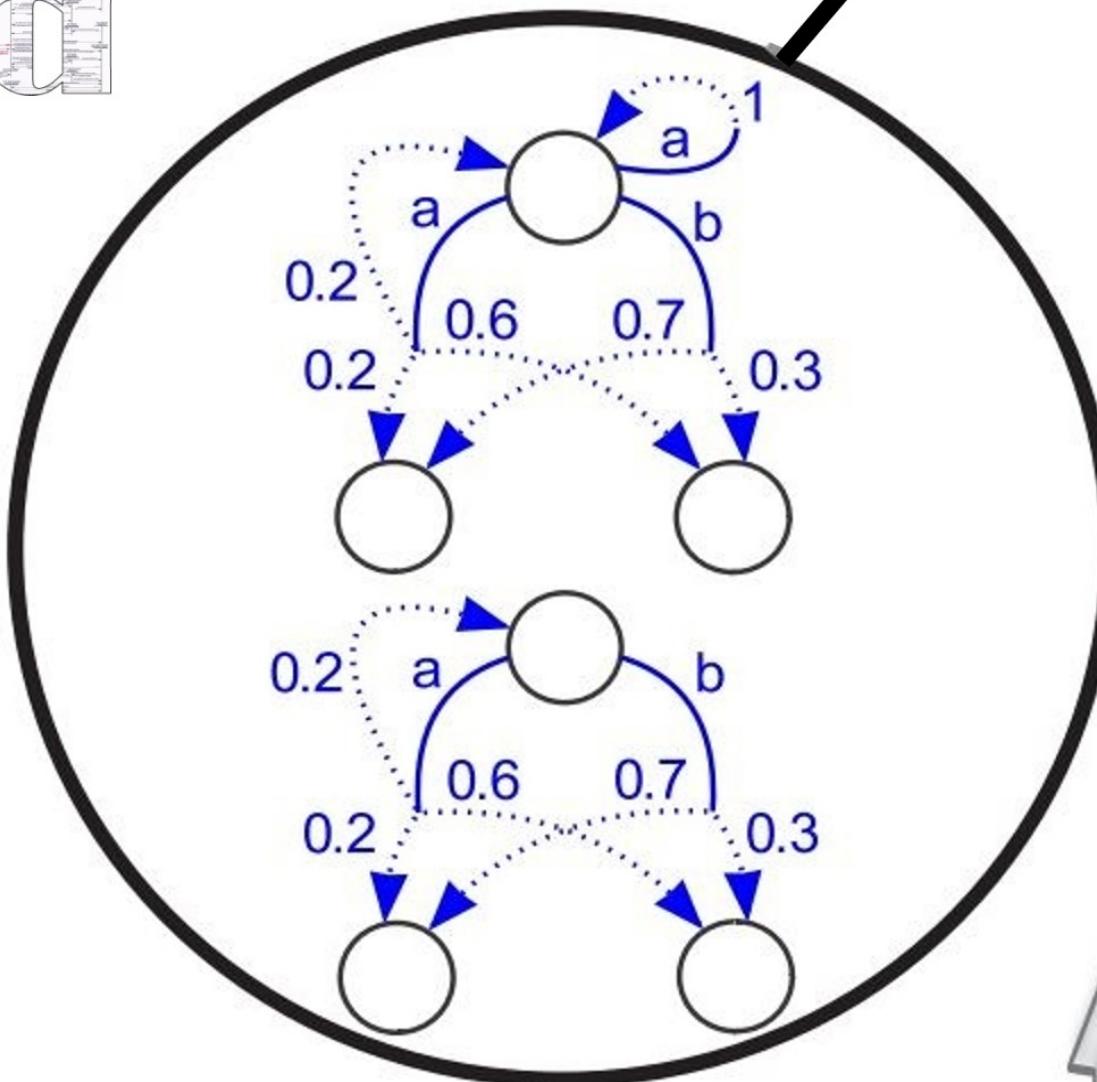
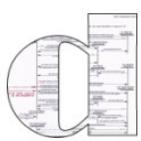


if behaves as

Process Algebraic Composition Operators.

Natural Notions of Bisimulation, are Congruences.



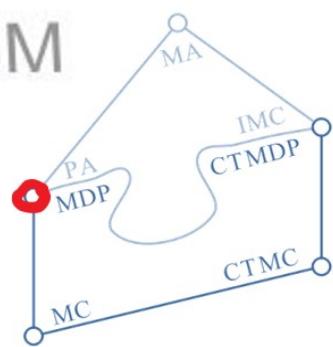


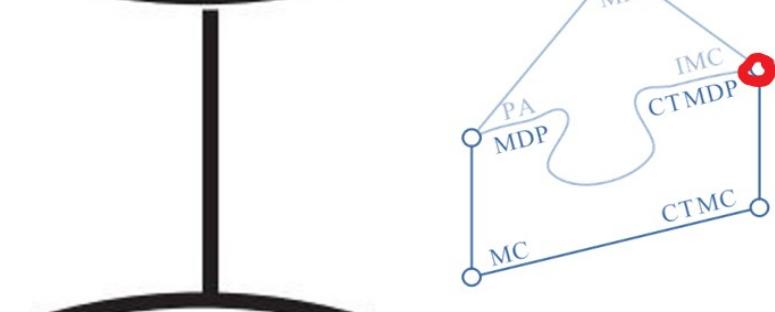
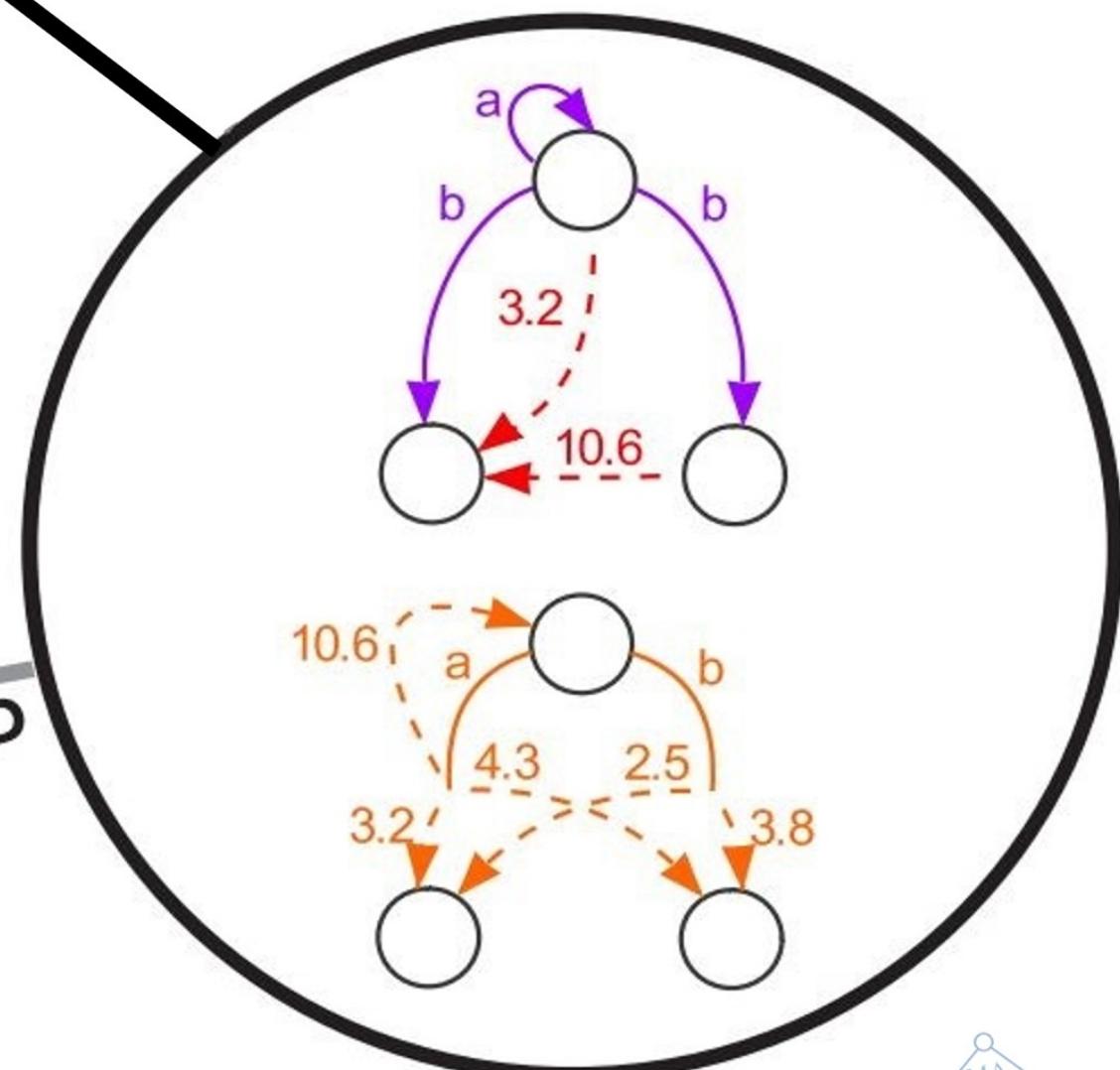
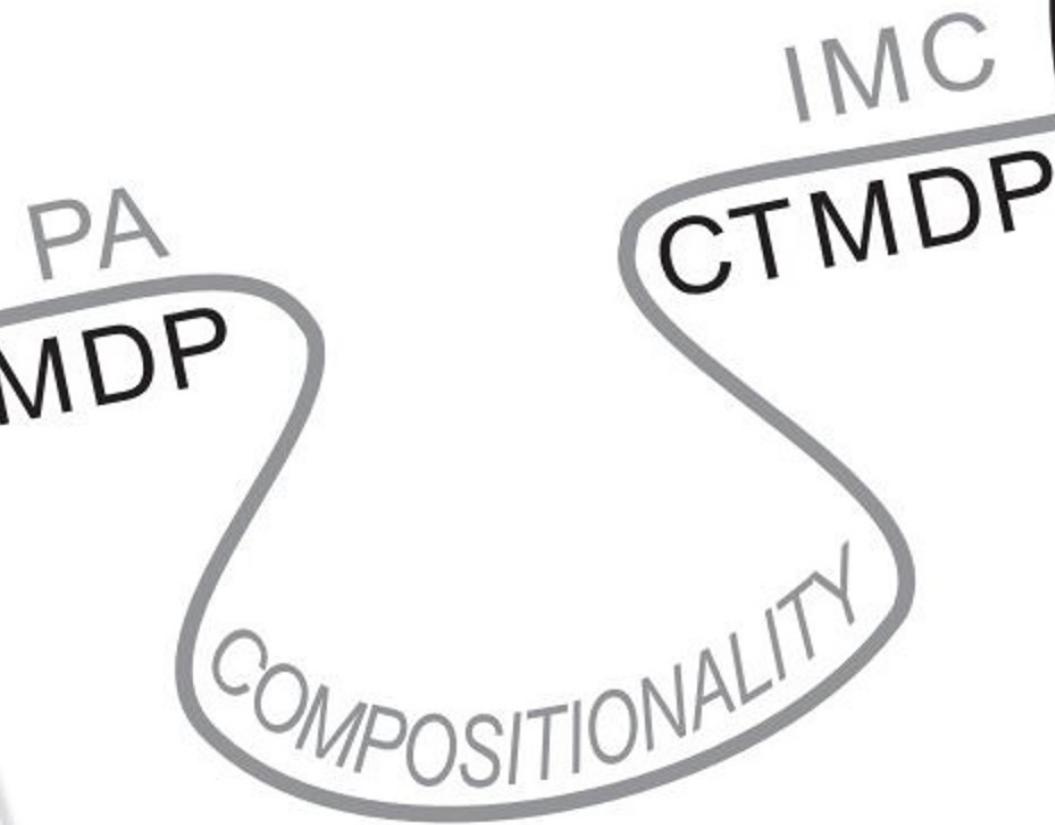
PA  
MDP

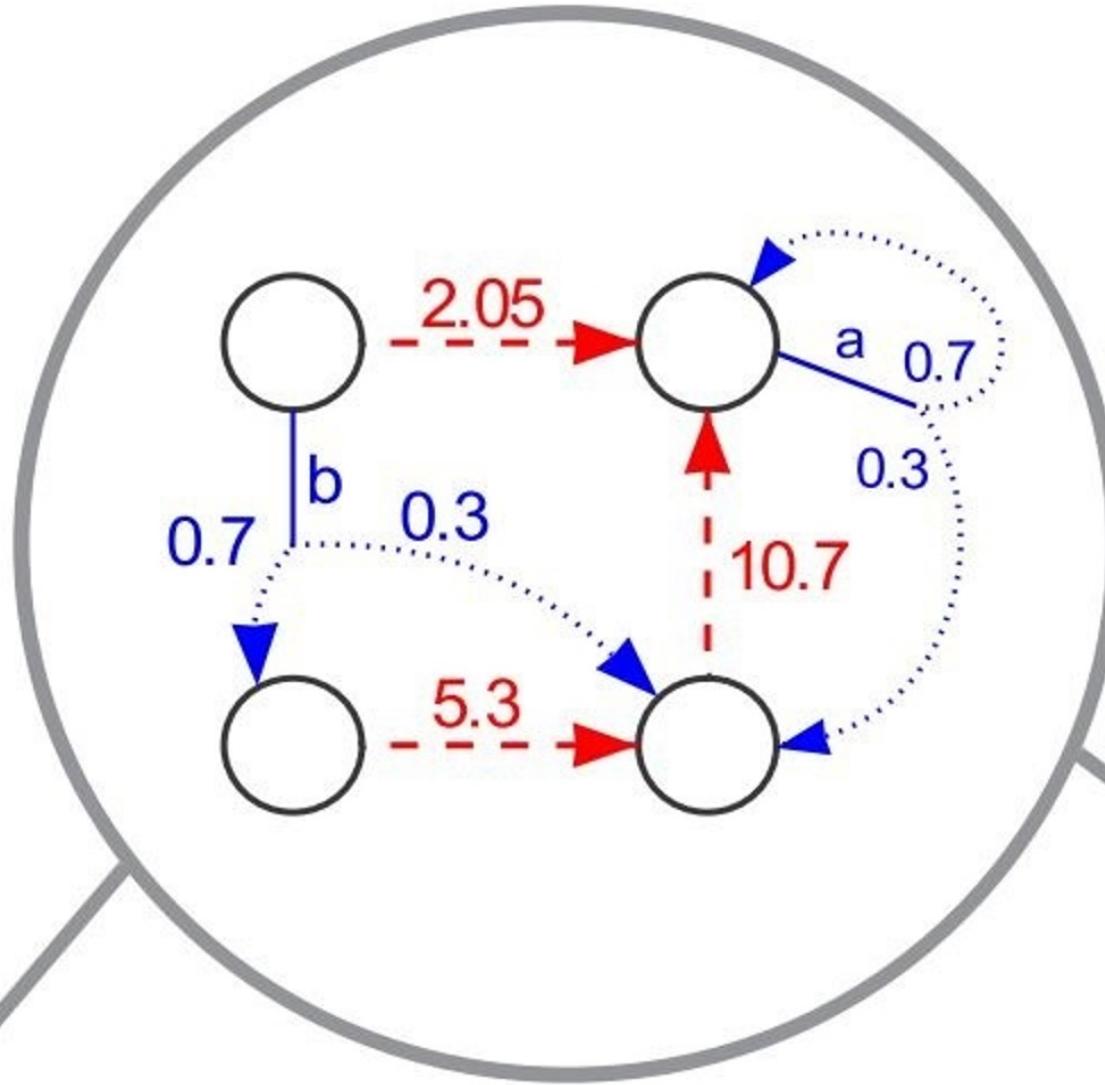
COMPOSITIONALITY



NONDETERMINISM

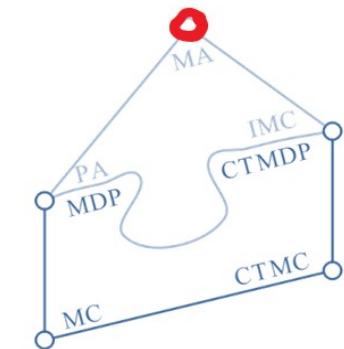
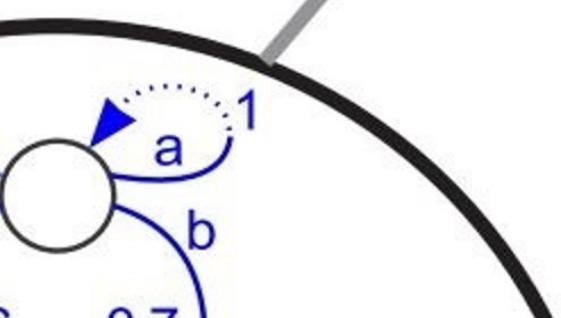


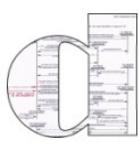




MA

IMC





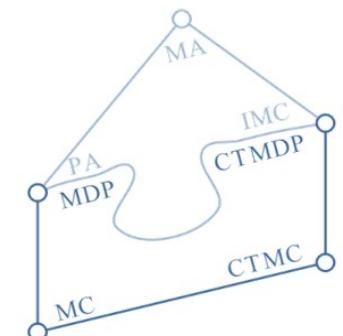
Christian Eisentraut, Holger Hermanns, Lijun Zhang:  
**On Probabilistic Automata in Continuous Time.** LICS 2010: 342-351

Christian Eisentraut, Holger Hermanns, Lijun Zhang:  
**Concurrency and Composition in a Stochastic World.** CONCUR 2010: 21-39

# Markov Automata Semantics

Yuxin Deng, Matthew Hennessy:  
**On the semantics of Markov automata.** Inf. Comput. 222: 139-168 (2013)

Christian Eisentraut, Holger Hermanns, Joost-Pieter Katoen, Lijun Zhang:  
**A Semantics for Every GSPN.** Petri Nets 2013: 90-109





# Markov Automata

**Definition 1.** A Markov automaton MA is a quintuple  $(S, Act, \rightarrow, \rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow, s_o)$ , where

- $S$  is a nonempty finite set of states,
- $Act$  is a set of actions containing the internal action  $\tau$ ,
- $\rightarrow \subset S \times Act \times \text{Dist}(S)$  is a set of probabilistic transitions, and
- $\rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow \subset S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times S$  is a set of Markov timed transitions, and
- $s_o \in S$  is the initial state.

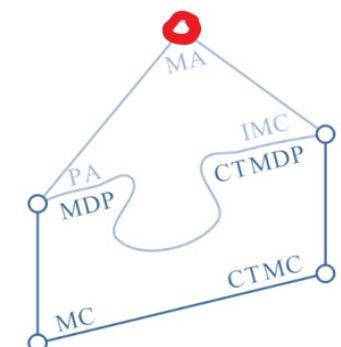
*Labelled Transition Systems:* If  $\rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow = \emptyset$  and  $\rightarrow$  is Dirac.

*Discrete-time Markov chains:* If  $\rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow = \emptyset$  and  $|Act| = 1$  and  $\rightarrow$  is deterministic.

*Continuous-time Markov chains:* If  $\rightarrow = \emptyset$ .

*Probabilistic Automata:* If  $\rightarrow\!\!\!\rightarrow = \emptyset$ .

*Interactive Markov chains:* If  $\rightarrow$  is Dirac.



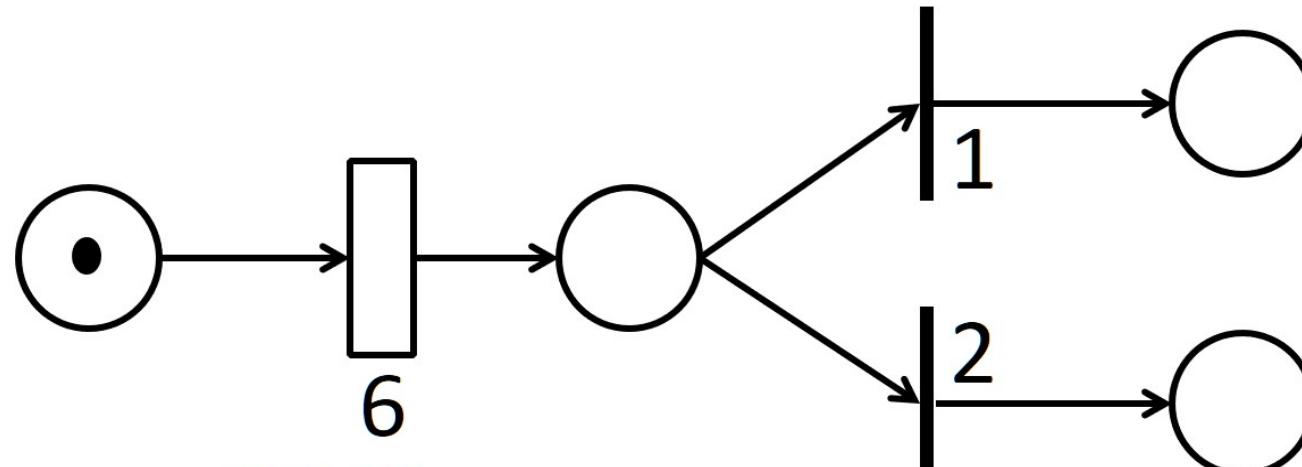


# Generalized Stochastic Petri Net

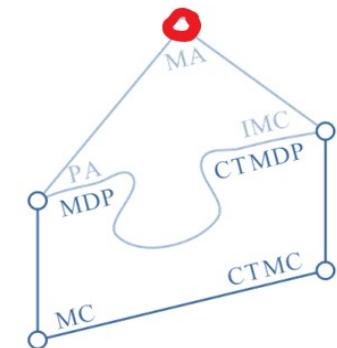
Very popular.

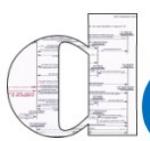
target formalism  
for xyzML

Incomplete  
semantics  
for more  
than 25  
years.

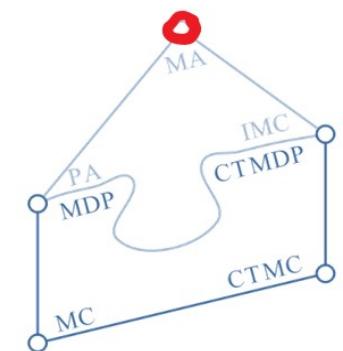
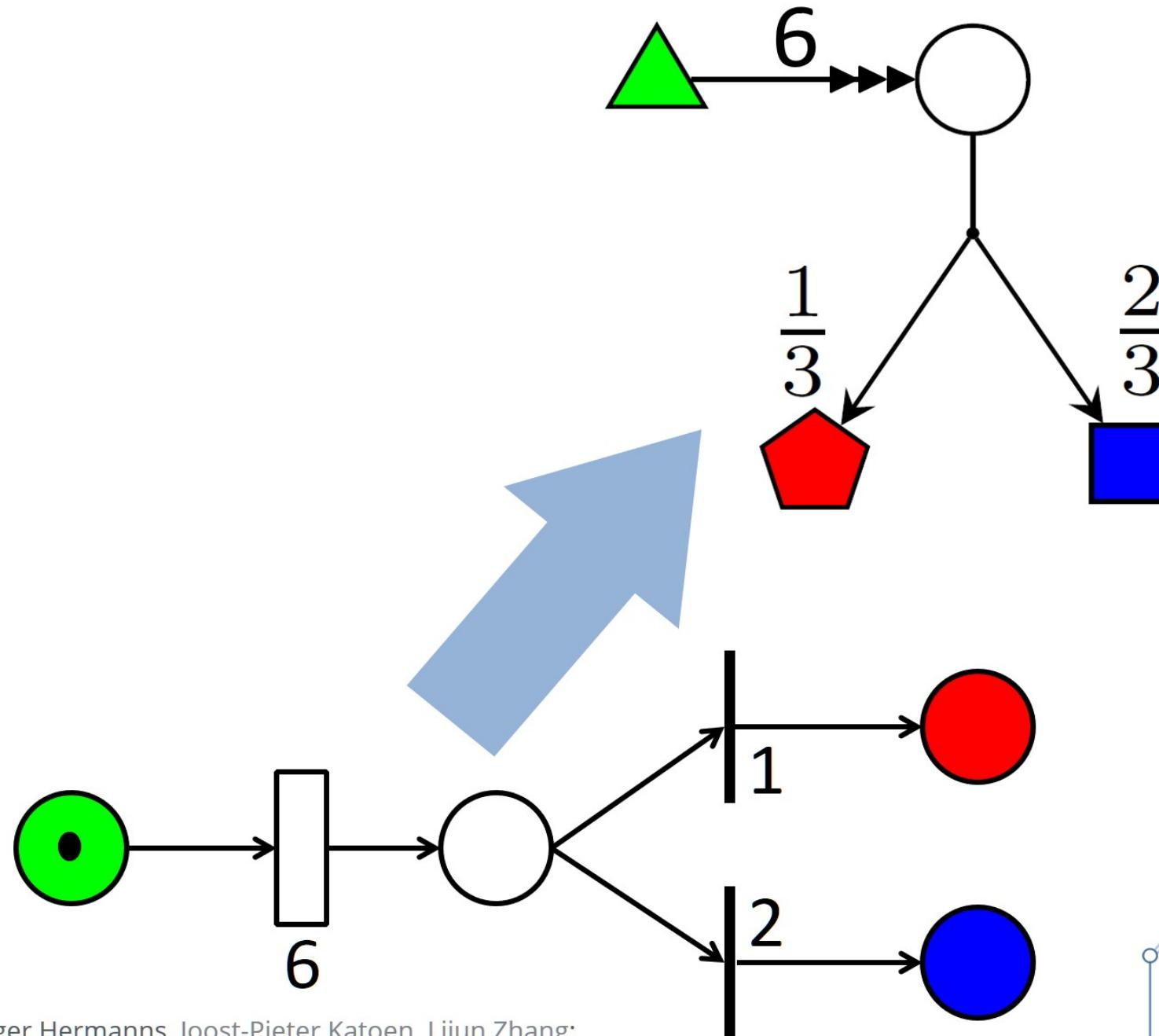


Meant to map on CTMC.



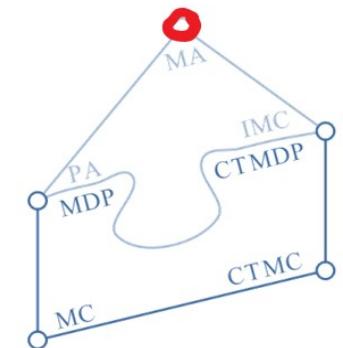
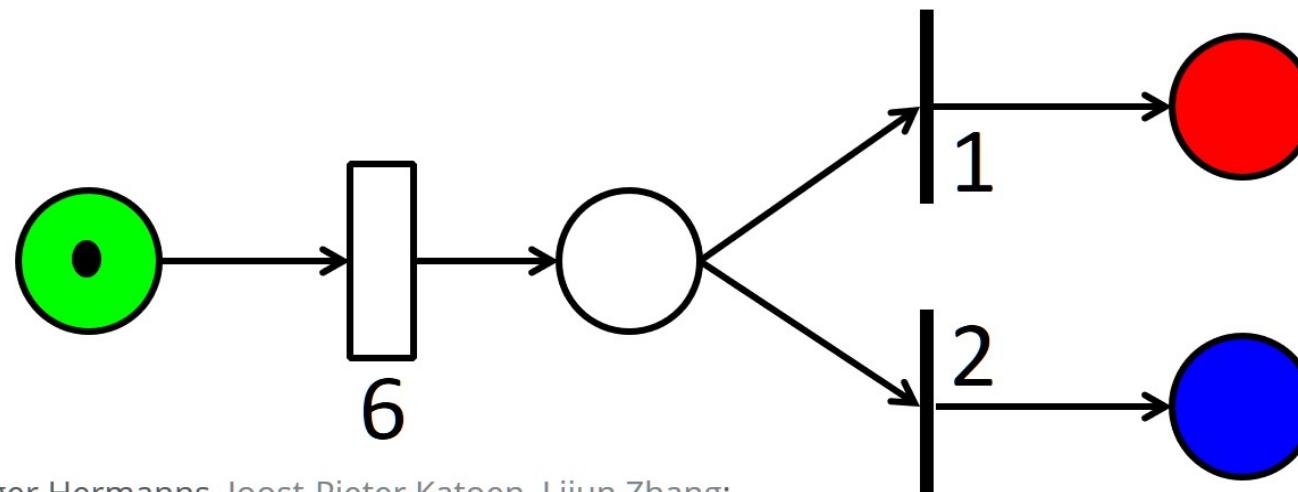
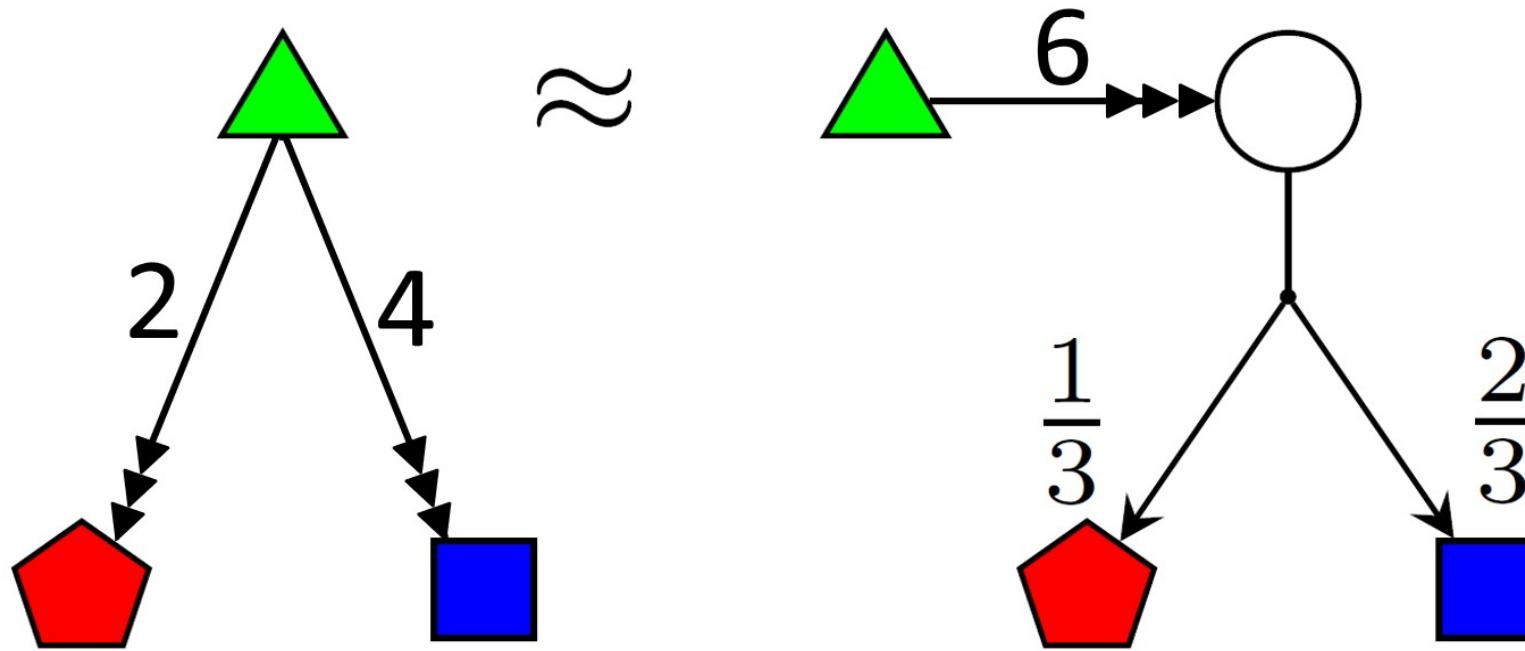


# GSPN Semantics: Markov Automata



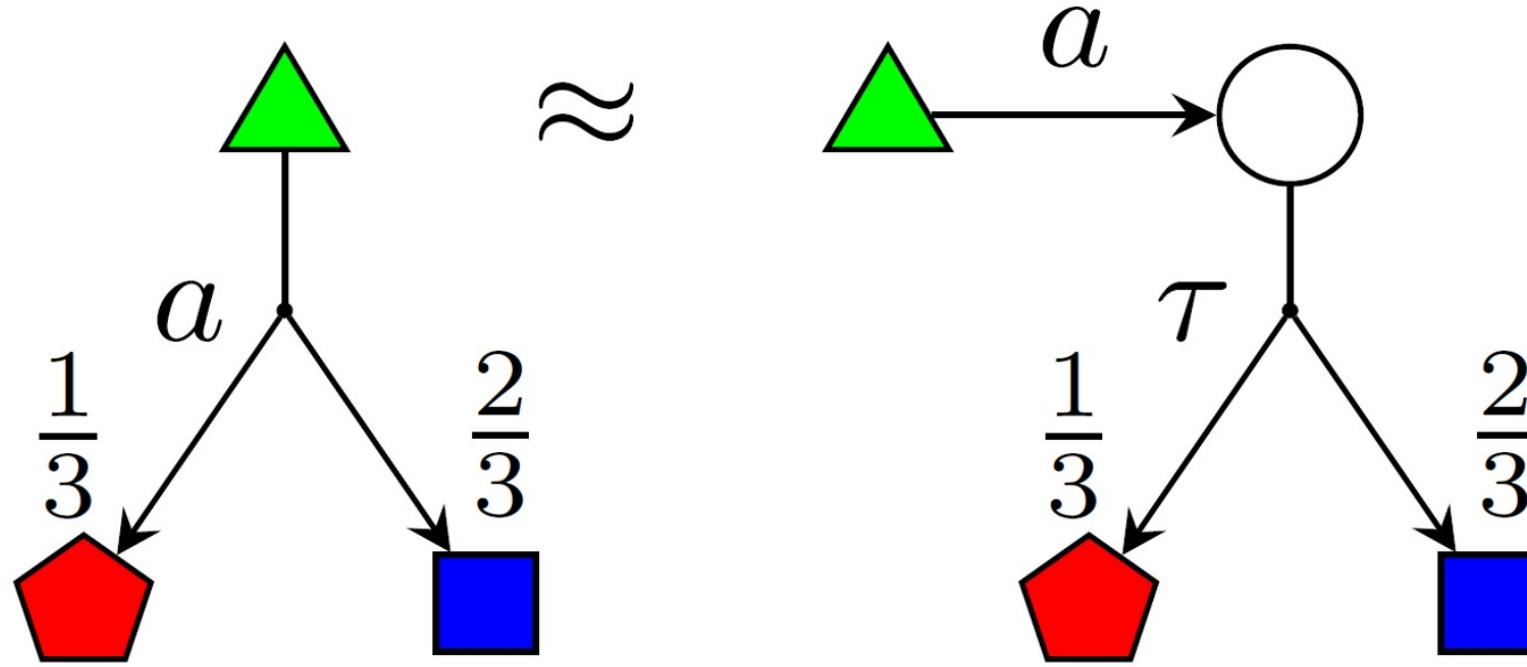


# MA Weak Bisimulation





# MA Weak Bisimulation



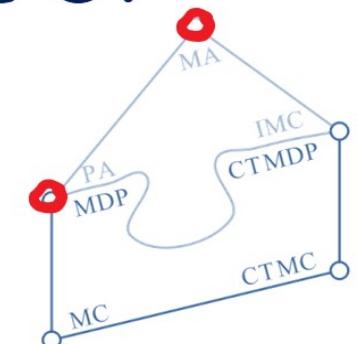
- explained on PA -

How can this work?

There is no state on the left that matches state O.

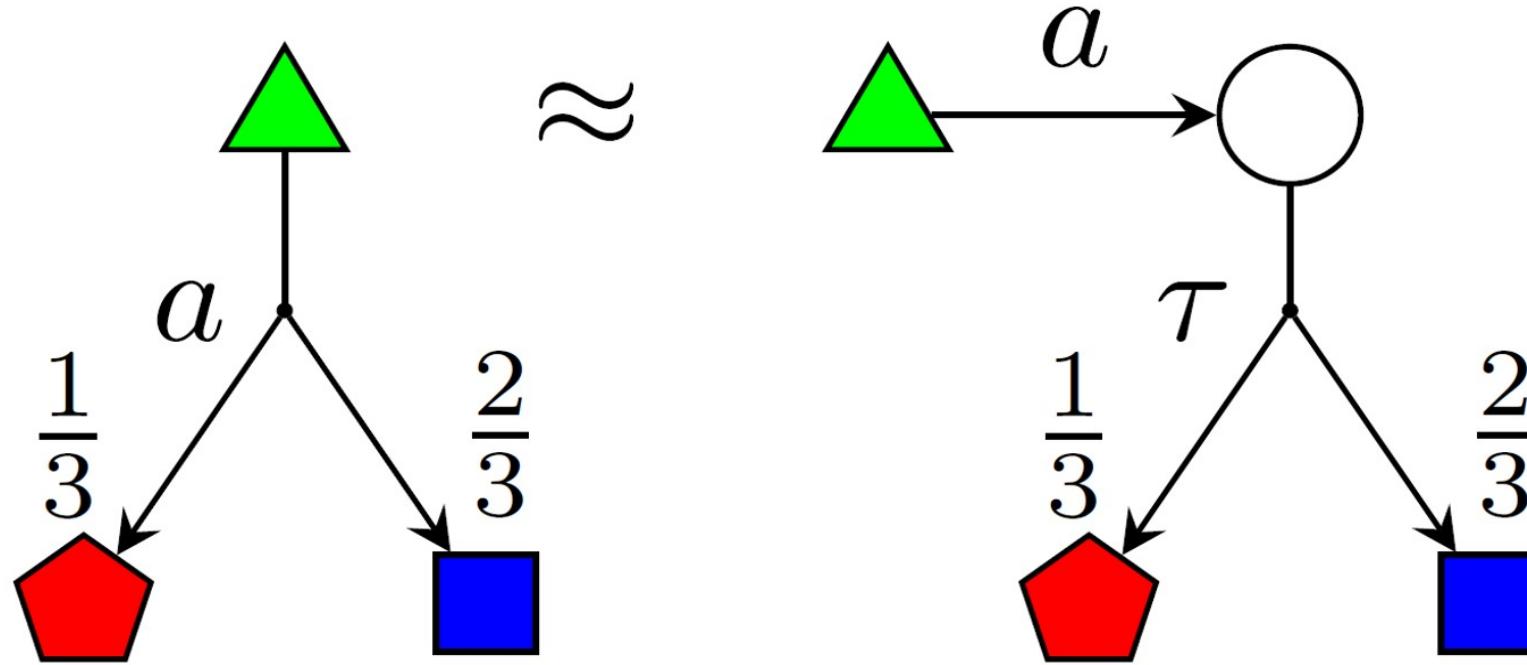
Well, there is a matching distribution.

**Bisimulations on distributions!**





# Weak Distribution Bisimulation



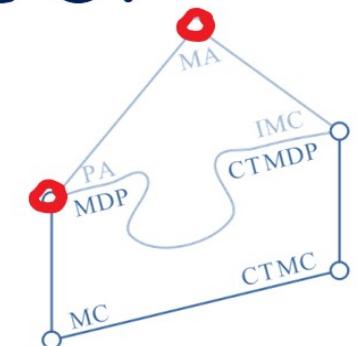
- explained on PA -

How can this work?

There is no state on the left that matches state O.

Well, there is a matching distribution.

**Bisimulations on distributions!**

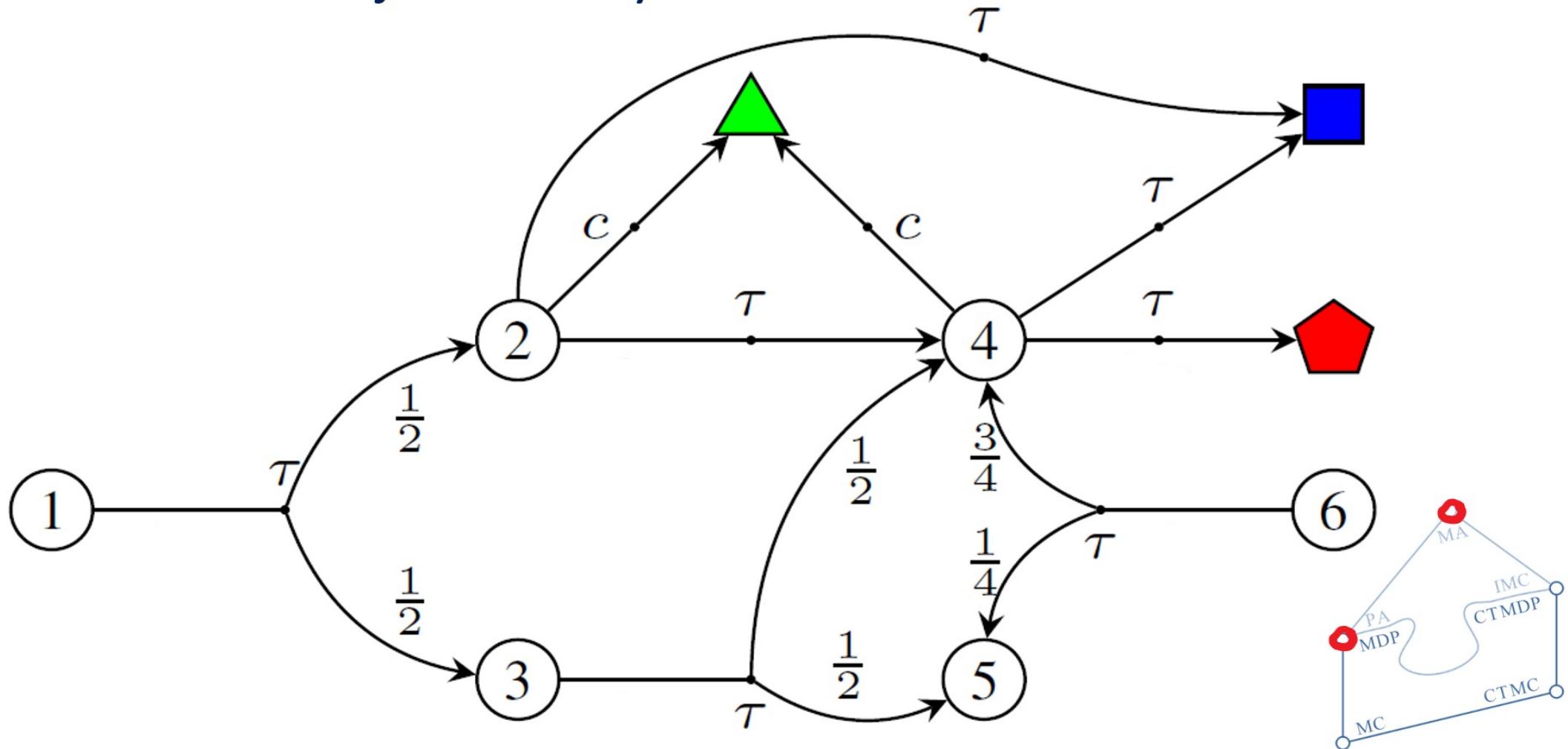




# Weak Distribution Bisimulation in Action

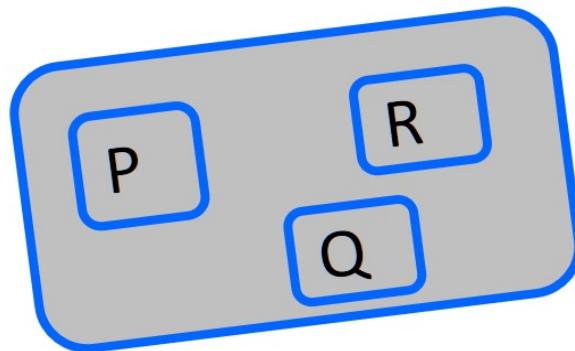
State ① exhibits the same observable behaviour as ⑥.

justified by weak distribution bisimulation.



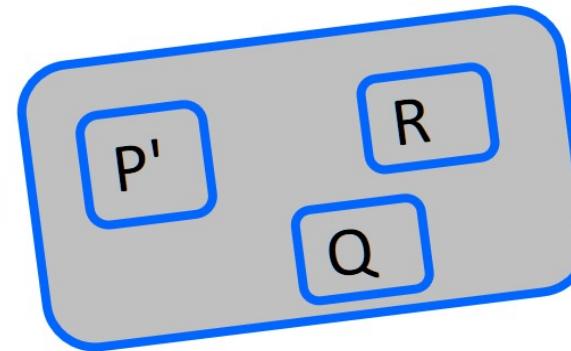


# Compositional Equivalences



*very  
large*

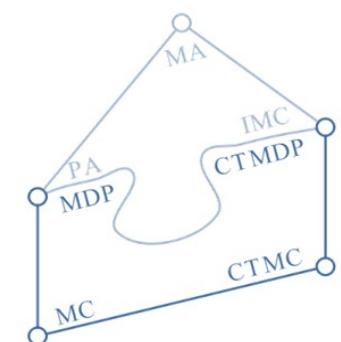
behaves as

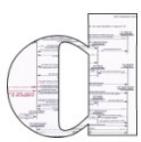


*medium  
but still  
analyzable*

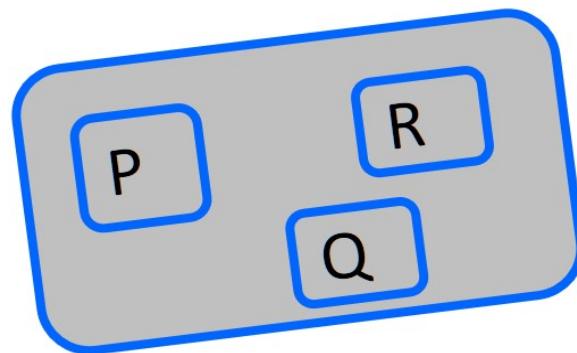
*if  $P$  behaves as  $P'$*   
*large*

*"Applied" Process Algebra*



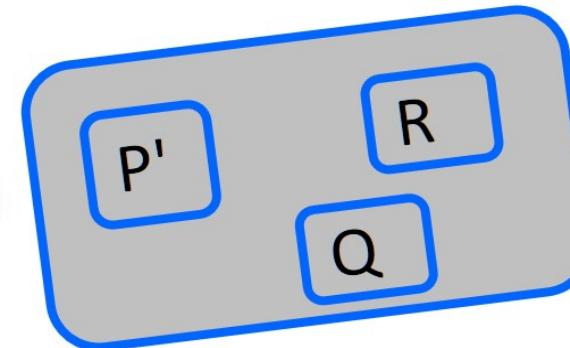


# Compositional Equivalences



*very  
large*

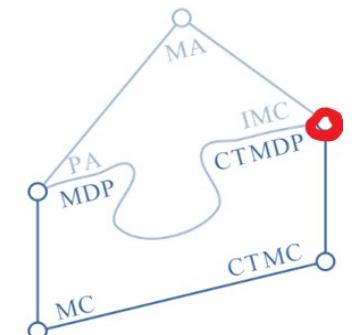
behaves as



*medium  
but still  
analyzable*

*Fits well with  
dependability  
evaluation*

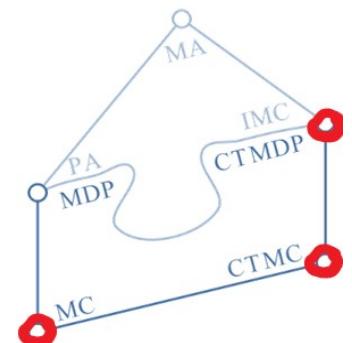
*>  $10^{200}$  reduced to  $10^6$*





# Compositional Minimization

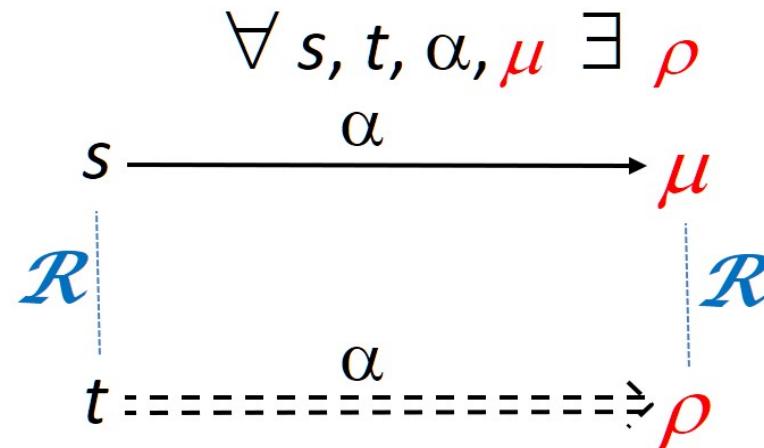
- Based on (strong, or better) weak bisimulations;
- Congruence property wrt parallel composition and hiding operators;
- Requires an efficient decision algorithm which can be turned into a minimization algorithm;
- Cubic algorithms for the base models.





# PA Weak Bisimulation Decision Algorithm

Core Problem:  
matching a challenger transition



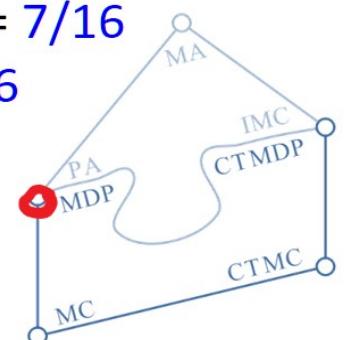
with a weak defender transition

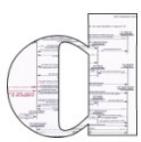
can be coded as an LP-problem  
and be embedded in  
partition refinement strategy

$\max \sum f_i$   
under constraints

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq f_i &\leq c_i (< \infty) \\ f_0 + f_8 &= f_1 + f_4 \\ f_1 &= f_2 + f_3 \\ f_2 &= f_9 \\ f_3 &= f_{10} \\ f_4 &= f_5 + f_6 + f_7 \\ f_5 &= f_8 + f_{11} \\ f_6 &= f_{12} \\ f_7 &= f_{13} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_0 &= 1 \\ f_9 + f_{12} &= 5/16 \\ f_{10} + f_{11} &= 7/16 \\ f_{13} &= 4/16 \end{aligned}$$





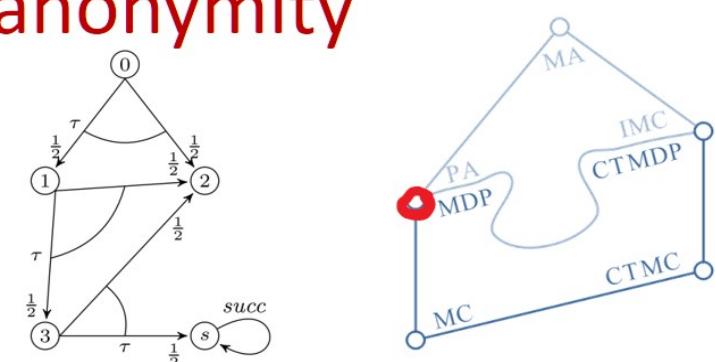
# Weak Bisimulation in Action

Sweep  
over the  
PRISM PA  
collection

Problem	$ S $	$ D $	$ S_{\bowtie} $	$ D_{\bowtie} $	$T_{\mathcal{A}_{\bowtie}}$	$ [S] \approx $	$ [D] \approx $	$T_{[\mathcal{A}_{\bowtie}] \approx}$
csma2	1038	1054	835	849	1s	449	459	1s
csma2-sa	1038	1054	621	630	7s	233	237	< 1s
csma2-sa-nt	1038	1054	91	98	< 1s	87	90	< 1s
dining4	2165	4540	161	300	< 1s	1	1	< 1s
firewire3	611	694	425	469	5s	425	469	5s
firewire3-nt	611	694	29	62	< 1s	4	4	< 1s
wlan_dl0dl6	97	148	63	94	< 1s	59	86	1s
wlan0col0	2954	3972	1097	1591	14s	798	1092	120s
zeroconf	670	827	341	433	< 1s	334	420	14s
zeroconf-nt	670	827	52	75	< 1s	41	52	< 1s

Components	$ S_{\circlearrowleft} $	$ D_{\circlearrowleft} $	$ [S] \approx $	$ [D] \approx $	$T_{\approx}$
$i_1 = d_1 \parallel d_2$	41	92	20	41	4s
$i_2 = [i_1] \approx \parallel d_3$	105	247	33	75	33s
$i_3 = [i_2] \approx \parallel d_4$	180	482	45	107	330s
$i_4 = [i_3] \approx \parallel d_5$	248	706	57	139	20m
$[i_4] \approx \parallel d_6$	178	372	7	6	22m
$d_1 \parallel d_2 \parallel d_3 \parallel d_4$	2242	4708	5	4	39s
$d_1 \parallel d_2 \parallel \dots \parallel d_5$	12042	31184	6	5	335s
$d_1 \parallel d_2 \parallel \dots \parallel d_6$	63511	196642	7	6	22m
$d_1 \parallel d_2 \parallel \dots \parallel d_7$	329784	1189626	8	7	59m
$d_1 \parallel d_2 \parallel \dots \parallel d_8$	1689417	6961480	9	8	161m

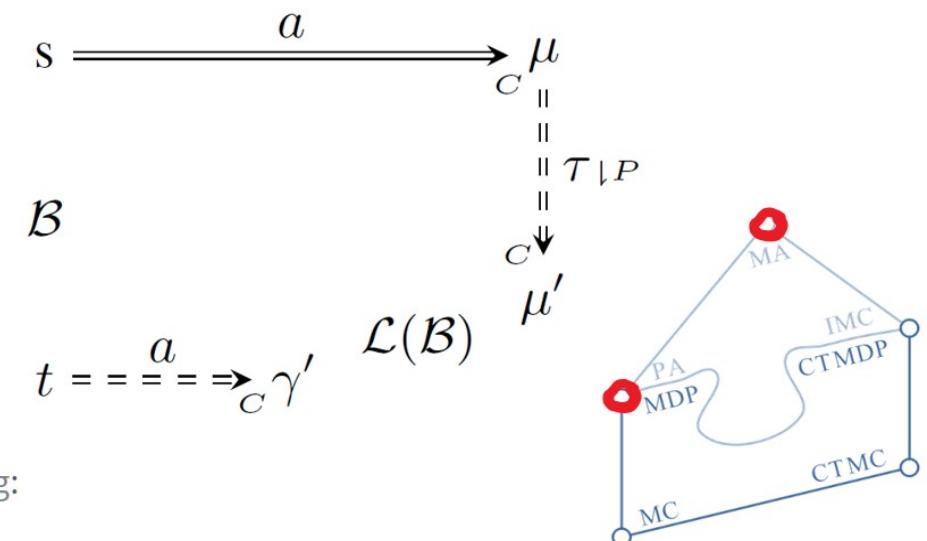
Compositional  
minimization  
applied to dining  
cryptographer  
anonymity





# Weak Distribution Bisimulation Decision Algorithm

- Exploits a state-based characterisation.
- Preprocessing: Eliminate maximal  $\tau$ -end components.
- Brute force guess of “preserving transition” set  $P$ .
- Overall strategy: standard partition refinement approach.
- Step conditions are encoded as LP-problems.
- Challenger transitions range over weak transitions induced by Dirac determinate schedulers.





# Complexity

**Polynomial-time decision algorithms**  
except for Markov automata.

There: Two sources of exponentiality.

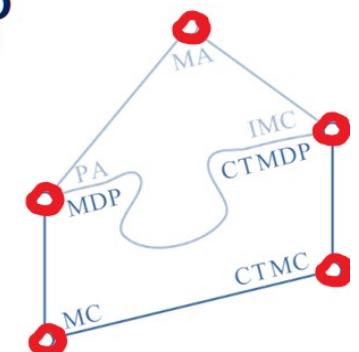
- **Weak transitions appear as challengers.**  
We do not know if strong challengers suffice.
- **Set of preserving transitions is guessed.**  
Possibility to intertwine with computation of  $\mathcal{B}$ ?

Johann Schuster, Markus Siegle:

**Markov Automata: Deciding weak bisimulation by means of non-naïvely vanishing states.** Inf. Comput. 237: 151-173 (2014)

Christian Eisentraut, Holger Hermanns, Julia Krämer, Andrea Turrini, Lijun Zhang:

**Deciding Bisimilarities on Distributions.** QEST 2013: 72-88

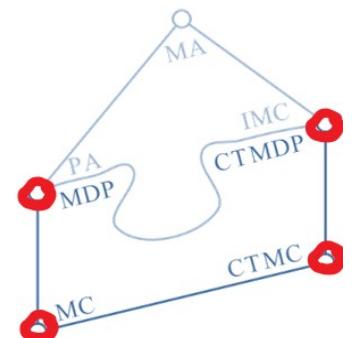


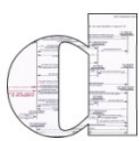


# Minimality

## Quotient Construction:

- Take one representative per equivalence class.
- Then: Number of states is minimal.
- Then: Number of transitions can be made minimal.
- Then: Sum of transition fanout can be made minimal.
- This works for weak bisimulation (on PA etc).
- But not for weak distribution bisimulation.





Joost-Pieter Katoen:

**Concurrency Meets Probability: Theory and Practice - (Abstract).** CONCUR 2013: 44-45

Mark Timmer, Jaco van de Pol, Mariëlle Stoelinga:

**Confluence Reduction for Markov Automata.** FORMATS 2013: 243-257

Mark Timmer, Joost-Pieter Katoen, Jaco van de Pol, Mariëlle Stoelinga:

**Efficient Modelling and Generation of Markov Automata.** CONCUR 2012: 364-379

# Markov Automata Construction & Compression

Marco Bozzano, Alessandro Cimatti, Joost-Pieter Katoen, Viet Yen Nguyen, Thomas Noll, Marco Roveri:

**Safety, Dependability and Performance Analysis of Extended AADL Models.** Comput. J. 54(5): 754-775 (2011)

Hichem Boudali, Pepijn Crouzen, Mariëlle Stoelinga:

**A Rigorous, Compositional, and Extensible Framework for Dynamic Fault Tree Analysis.**

128-143 (2010)



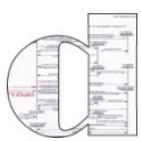
Johann Schuster, Markus Siegle:

**Markov Automata: Deciding weak bisimulation by means of non-naïvely vanishing states.** Inf. Comput. 237: 151-173 (2014)

Christian Eisentraut, Holger Hermanns, Julia Krämer, Andrea Turrini, Lijun Zhang:

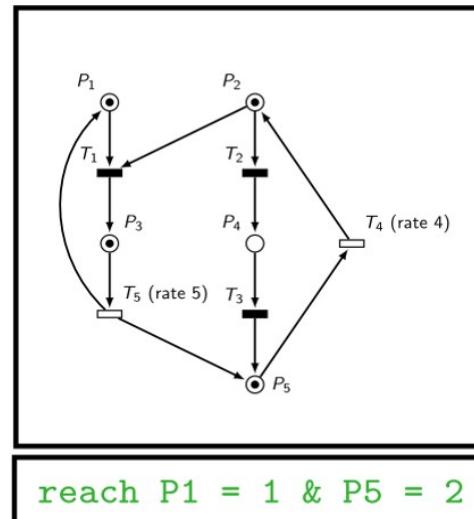
**Deciding Bisimilarities on Distributions.** QEST 2013: 72-88





# MAMA Tool Chain

GSPN  
(PNML)



MAPA

GEMMA

```
GSPN(P1:N, P2:N, P3:N,  
P4:N, P5:N) =  
P2 >= 1 => T2 .  
    GSPN[P2--, P4++]  
+ P5 >= 1 => (4.0) .  
    GSPN[P2++, P5--]  
+ ...  
init GSPN(1,1,1,0,1)  
reach  $P_1 = 1 \& P_5 = 2$ 
```

SCOOP

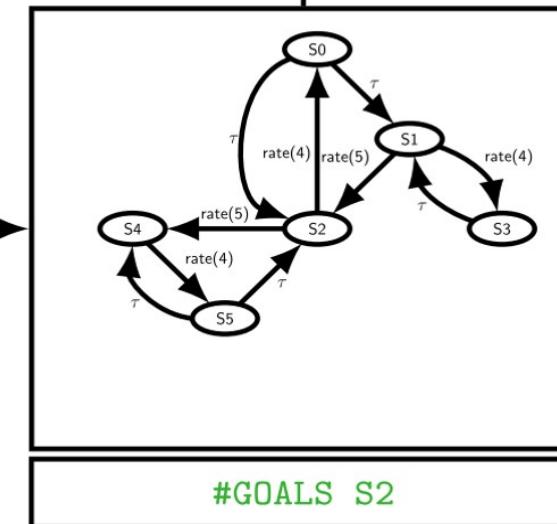
Results

Min. reach. [1, 1.5]: 0.007  
Max. reach. [1, 1.5]: 0.930

Min. expected time: 0.0  
Max. expected time: 0.2

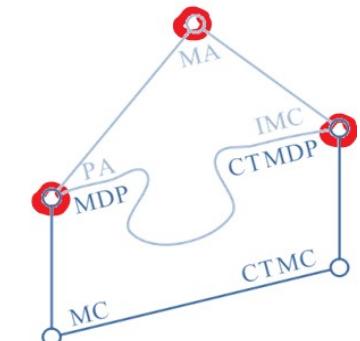
Min. LRA: 0.0  
Max. LRA: 0.4

#GOALS S2



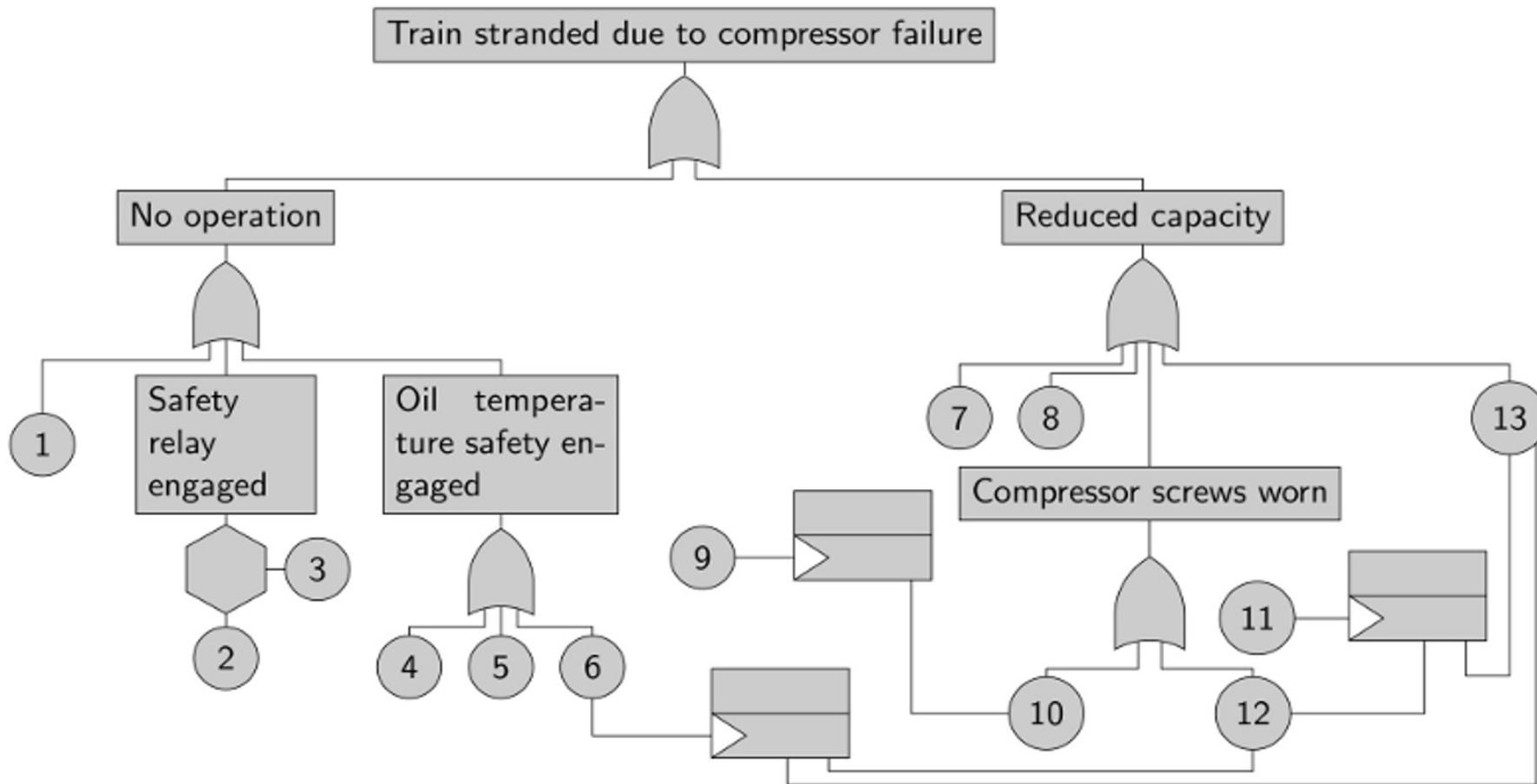
IMCA

MRA

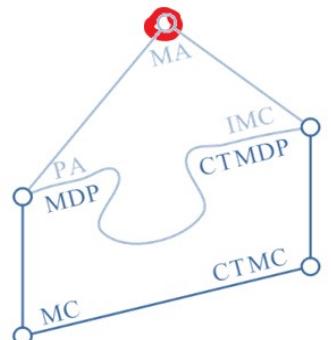




# More of this: Failure-Prone Systems



Can all be coded up into MA components.



Marco Bozzano, Alessandro Cimatti, Joost-Pieter Katoen, Viet Yen Nguyen, Thomas Noll, Marco Roveri:  
**Safety, Dependability and Performance Analysis of Extended AADL Models.** Comput. J. 54(5): 754-775 (2011)

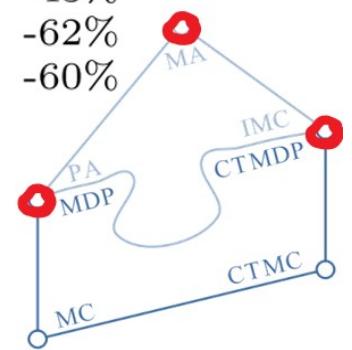
Hichem Boudali, Pepijn Crouzen, Mariëlle Stoelinga:  
**A Rigorous, Compositional, and Extensible Framework for Dynamic Fault Tree Analysis.**  
IEEE Trans. Dependable Sec. Comput. 7(2): 128-143 (2010)

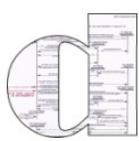


# More of this: Confluence Reduction

Rewrites the state space representation  
so as to eliminate  $\tau$ -confluent transition.

Specification	Original state space				Reduced state space				Impact	
	States	Trans.	SCOOP	IMCA	States	Trans.	SCOOP	IMCA	States	Time
leader-3-7	25,505	34,257	4.7	102.5	5,564	6,819	5.1	9.3	-78%	-87%
leader-3-9	52,465	71,034	9.7	212.0	11,058	13,661	10.4	17.8	-79%	-87%
leader-3-11	93,801	127,683	18.0	429.3	19,344	24,043	19.2	31.9	-79%	-89%
leader-4-2	8,467	11,600	2.1	74.0	2,204	2,859	2.5	6.8	-74%	-88%
leader-4-3	35,468	50,612	9.0	363.8	7,876	10,352	8.7	33.3	-78%	-89%
leader-4-4	101,261	148,024	25.8	1,309.8	20,857	28,023	24.3	94.4	-79%	-91%
polling-2-2-4	4,811	8,578	0.7	3.7	3,047	6,814	0.7	2.3	-37%	-32%
polling-2-2-6	27,651	51,098	12.7	91.0	16,557	40,004	5.4	49.0	-40%	-48%
polling-2-4-2	6,667	11,290	0.9	39.9	4,745	9,368	0.9	26.6	-29%	-33%
polling-2-5-2	27,659	47,130	4.0	1,571.7	19,721	39,192	4.0	1,054.6	-29%	-33%
polling-3-2-2	2,600	4,909	0.4	7.1	1,914	4,223	0.5	4.8	-26%	-29%
polling-4-6-1	15,439	29,506	3.1	330.4	4,802	18,869	3.0	109.4	-69%	-66%
polling-5-4-1	21,880	43,760	5.1	815.9	6,250	28,130	5.1	318.3	-71%	-61%
processor-2	2,508	4,608	0.7	2.8	1,514	3,043	0.8	1.2	-44%	-43%
processor-3	10,852	20,872	3.1	66.3	6,509	13,738	3.3	23.0	-45%	-62%
processor-4	31,832	62,356	10.8	924.5	19,025	41,018	10.3	365.6	-45%	-60%





Hassan Hatefi, Holger Hermanns:

**Model Checking Algorithms for Markov Automata.** ECEASST 53 (2012)

Dennis Guck, Hassan Hatefi, Holger Hermanns, Joost-Pieter Katoen, Mark Timmer:

**Analysis of Timed and Long-Run Objectives for Markov Automata.** Logical Methods in Computer Science 10(3) (2014)

Bettina Braitling, Luis María Ferrer Fioriti, Hassan Hatefi, Ralf Wimmer, Bernd Becker, Holger Hermanns:

**MeGARA: Menu-based Game Abstraction and Abstraction Refinement of Markov Automata.** QAPL 2014: 48-63

# Markov Automata Model Checking

Dennis Guck, Mark Timmer, Hassan Hatefi, Enno Ruijters, Mariëlle Stoelinga:

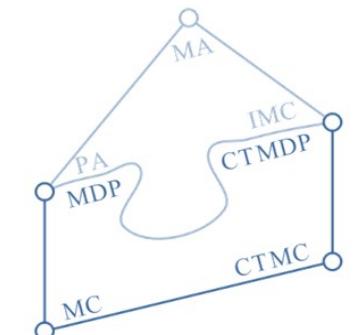
**Modelling and Analysis of Markov Reward Automata.** ATVA 2014: 168-184

Bettina Braitling, Luis María Ferrer Fioriti, Hassan Hatefi, Ralf Wimmer, Bernd Becker, Holger Hermanns:

**Abstraction-Based Computation of Reward Measures for Markov Automata.** VMCAI 2015: 172-189

Hassan Hatefi, Bettina Braitling, Ralf Wimmer, Luis María Ferrer Fioriti, Holger Hermanns, Bernd Becker:

**Cost vs. Time in Stochastic Games and Markov Automata.** SETTA 2015: 19-34



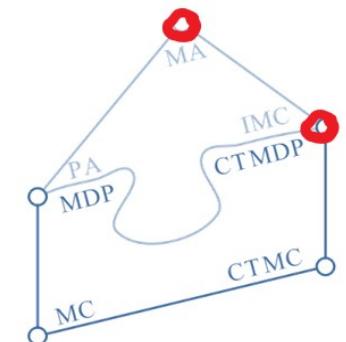
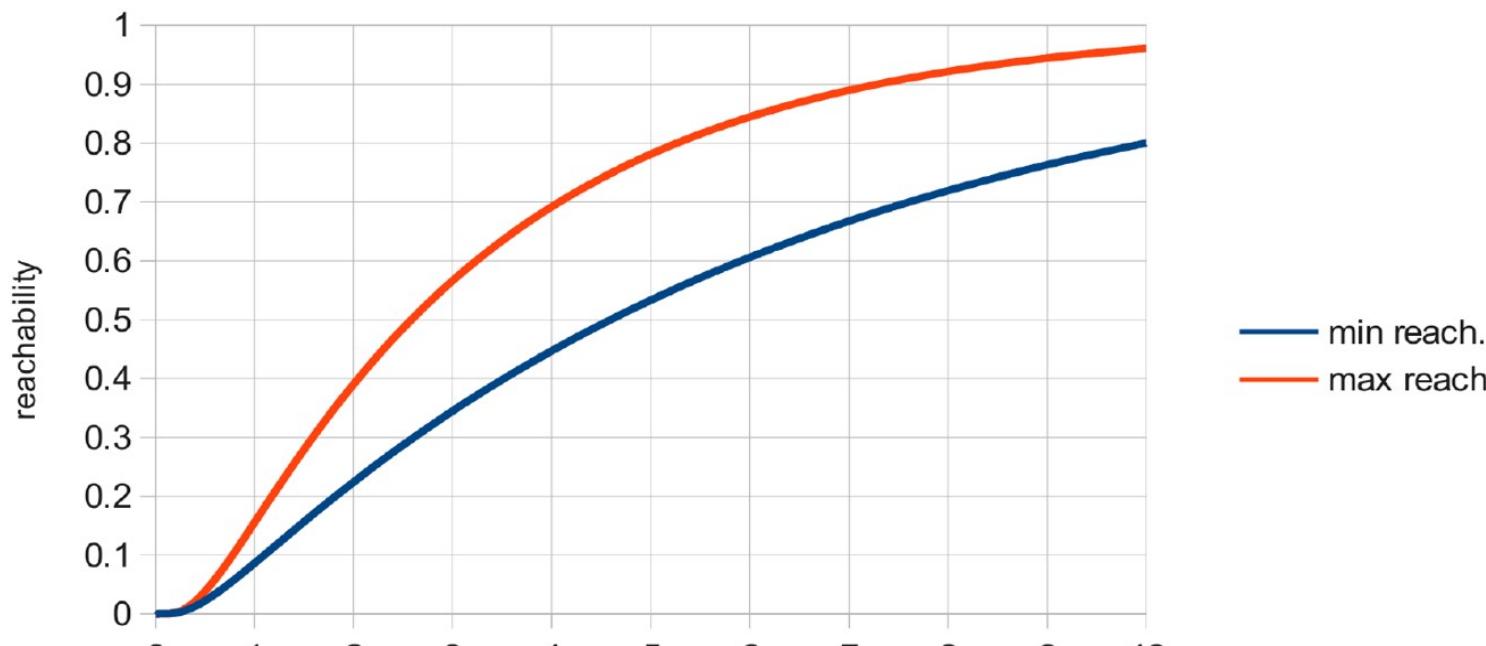


# Model Checking CSL/PCTL

$$\Phi ::= a \quad | \quad \neg\Phi \quad | \quad \Phi \wedge \Phi \quad | \quad \mathcal{P}_{\leq p}(\phi)$$

$$\phi ::= \mathcal{X}'\Phi \quad | \quad \Phi U \Phi \quad | \quad \Phi U' \Phi$$

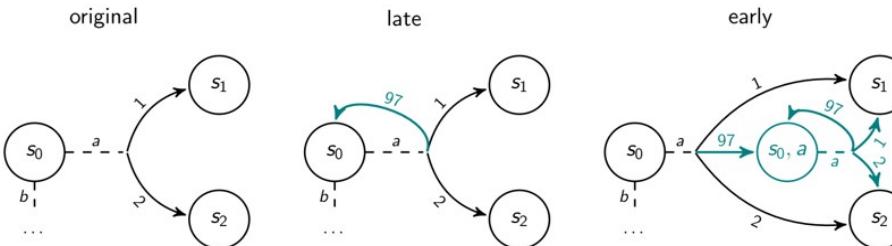
- Mostly reduces to MDP setting.
- Main Challenge: Time bounded reachability.



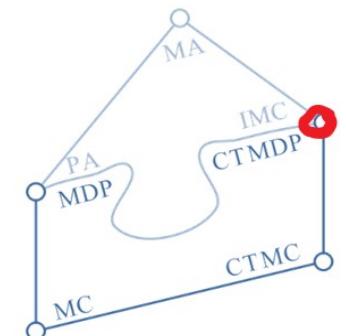


# CTMDP Time Bounded Reachability

- Various algorithm have been proposed, in different setting.
- None of them achieve the efficiency known from CTMC.
- Exception:
  - Greedy Algorithm for Uniform Models.
  - Assumes time-abstract policies only.
- $U^+$  lifts both restrictions at once, and is very simple.
- It uniformises the model,  
doubling the uniformisation rate until sufficient.

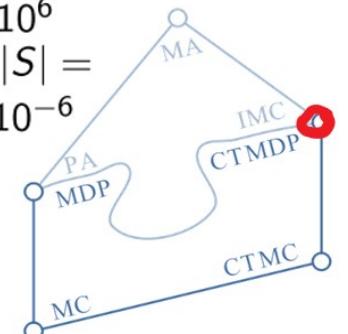
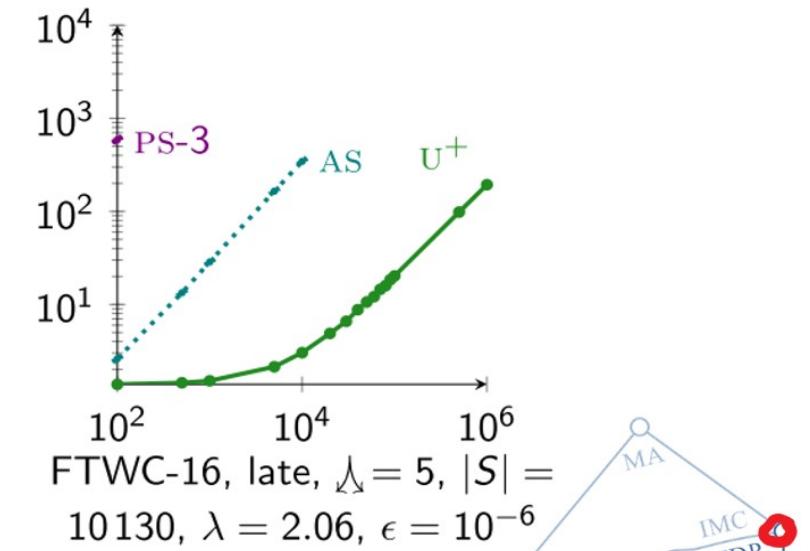
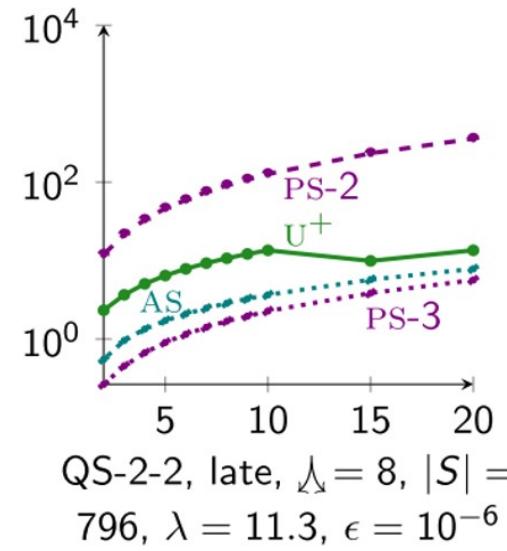
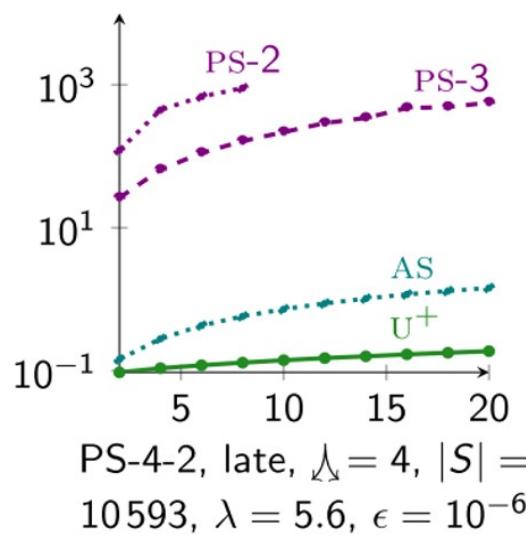
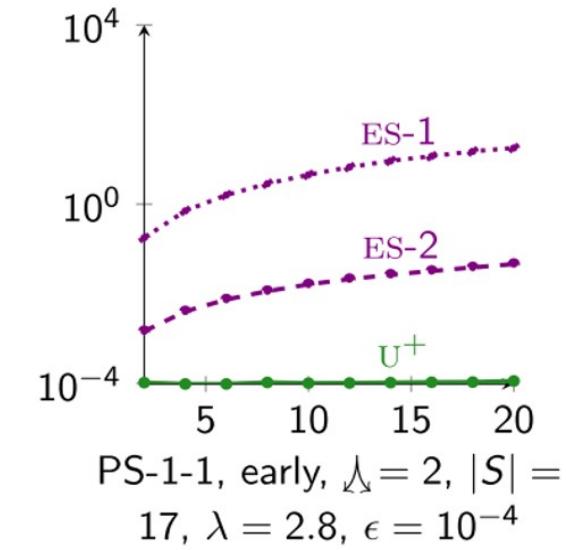
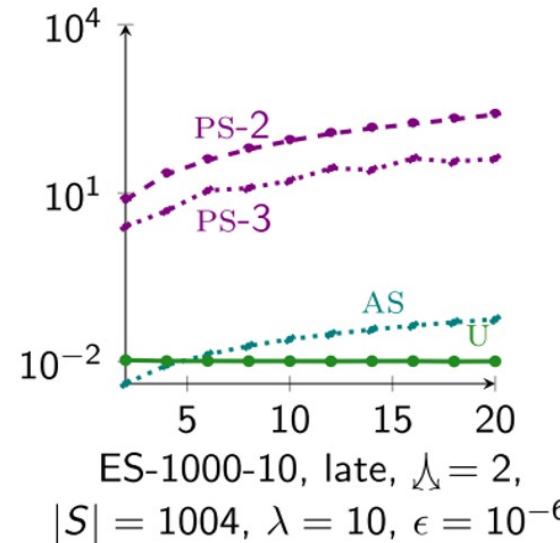
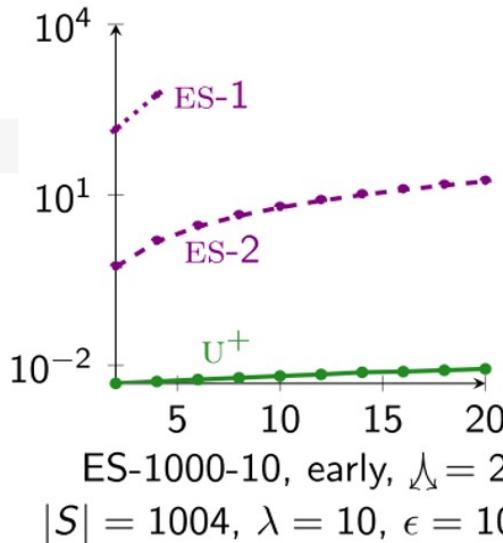


Yuliya Butkova, Hassan Hatifi, Holger Hermanns, Jan Krcál:  
Optimal Continuous Time Markov Decisions. ATVA 2015: 166-182





# CTMDP Time Bounded Reachability

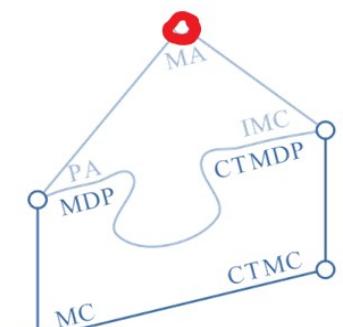




# Long-Run Averages & Expectations

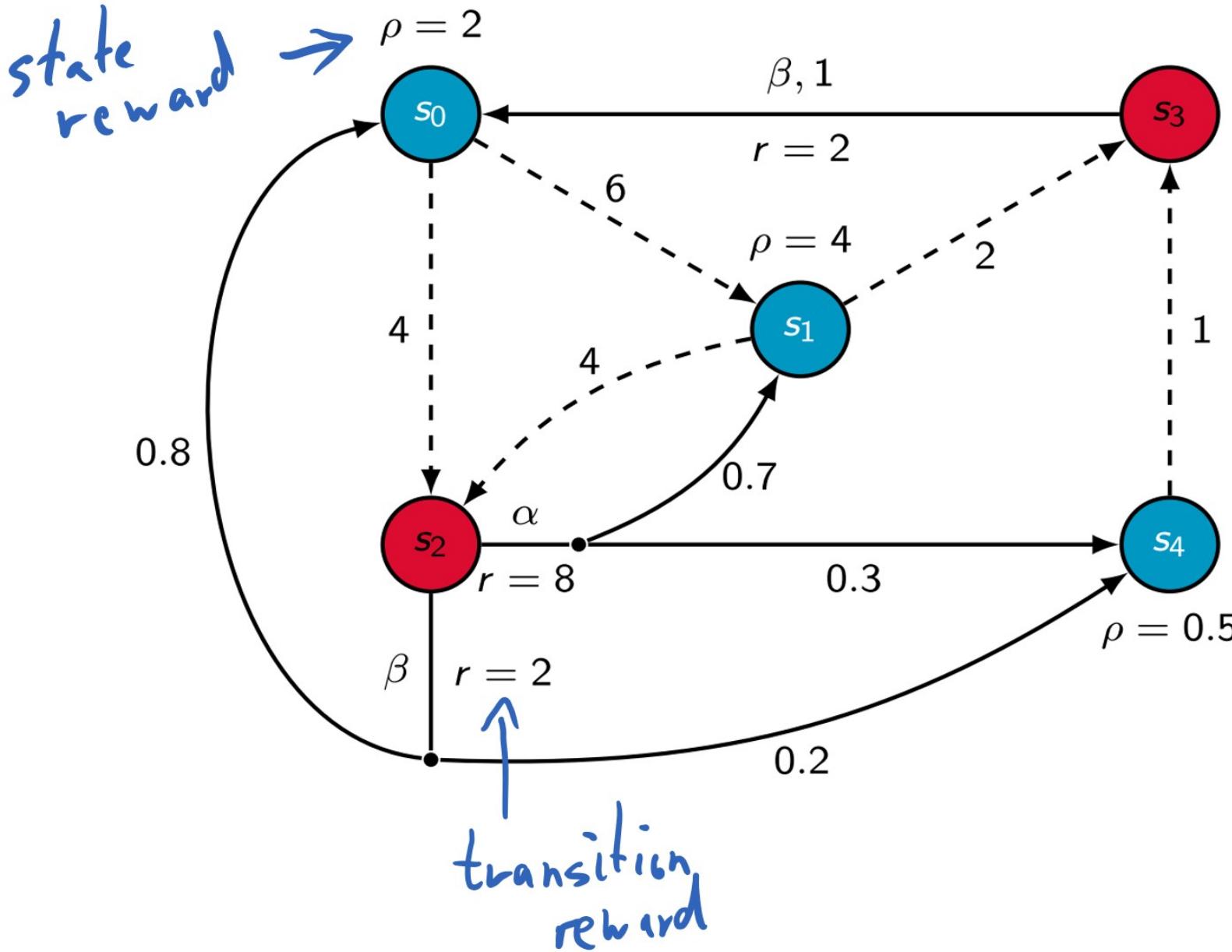
Given a set  $G$  of states of interest, one aims for

- Minimal and maximal expected time to reach  $G$   
can be solved via stochastic shortest path computations
- Minimal and maximal long run fraction of time spent in  $G$   
reduces to MDP setting with residence times as costs





# Adding Costs: Markov Reward Automata

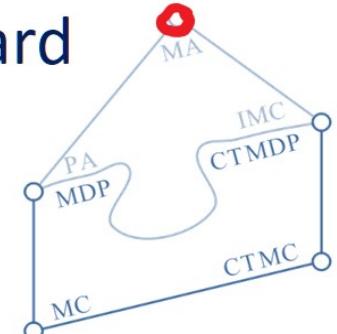


Algorithms extend smoothly

- Expected reward prior to goal
- Long-run reward rate

[de Alfaro] helps

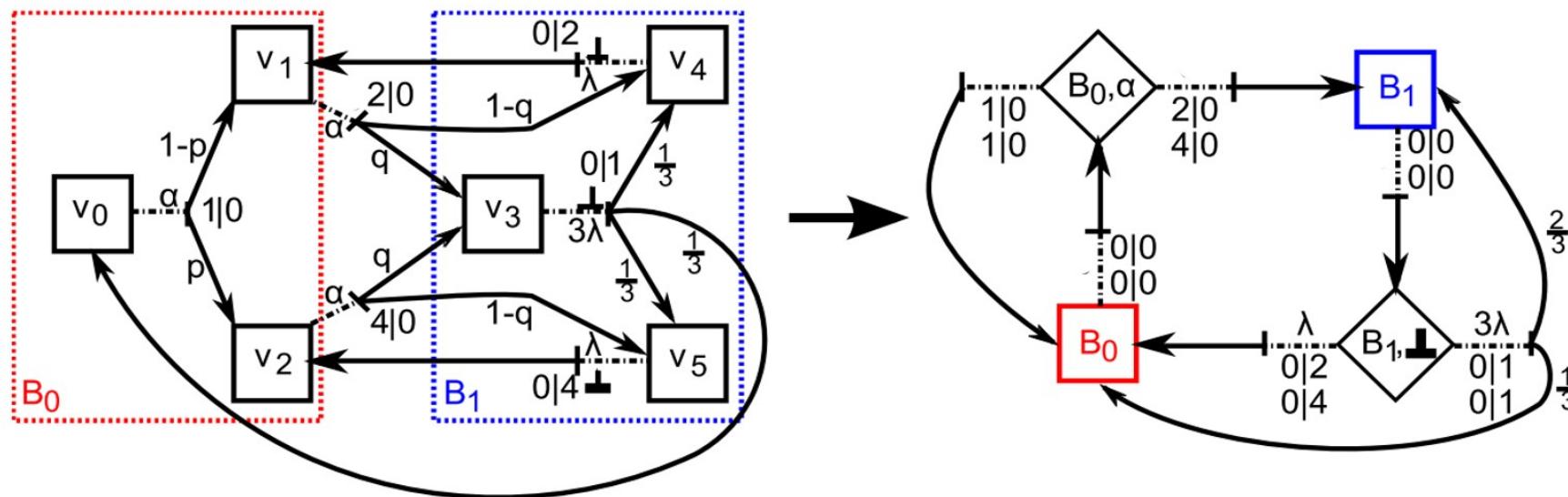
- Time bounded reward



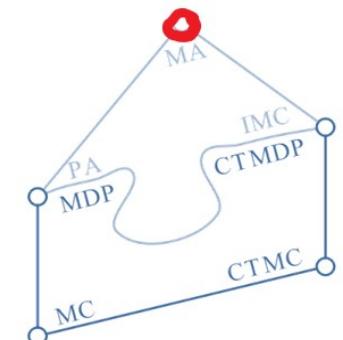


# Attacking Size

- Abstraction refinement applied to  
Markov Reward Automata.



Game-based abstractions

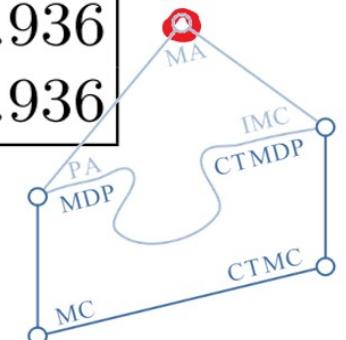




# Attacking Size

- Abstraction refinement applied to  
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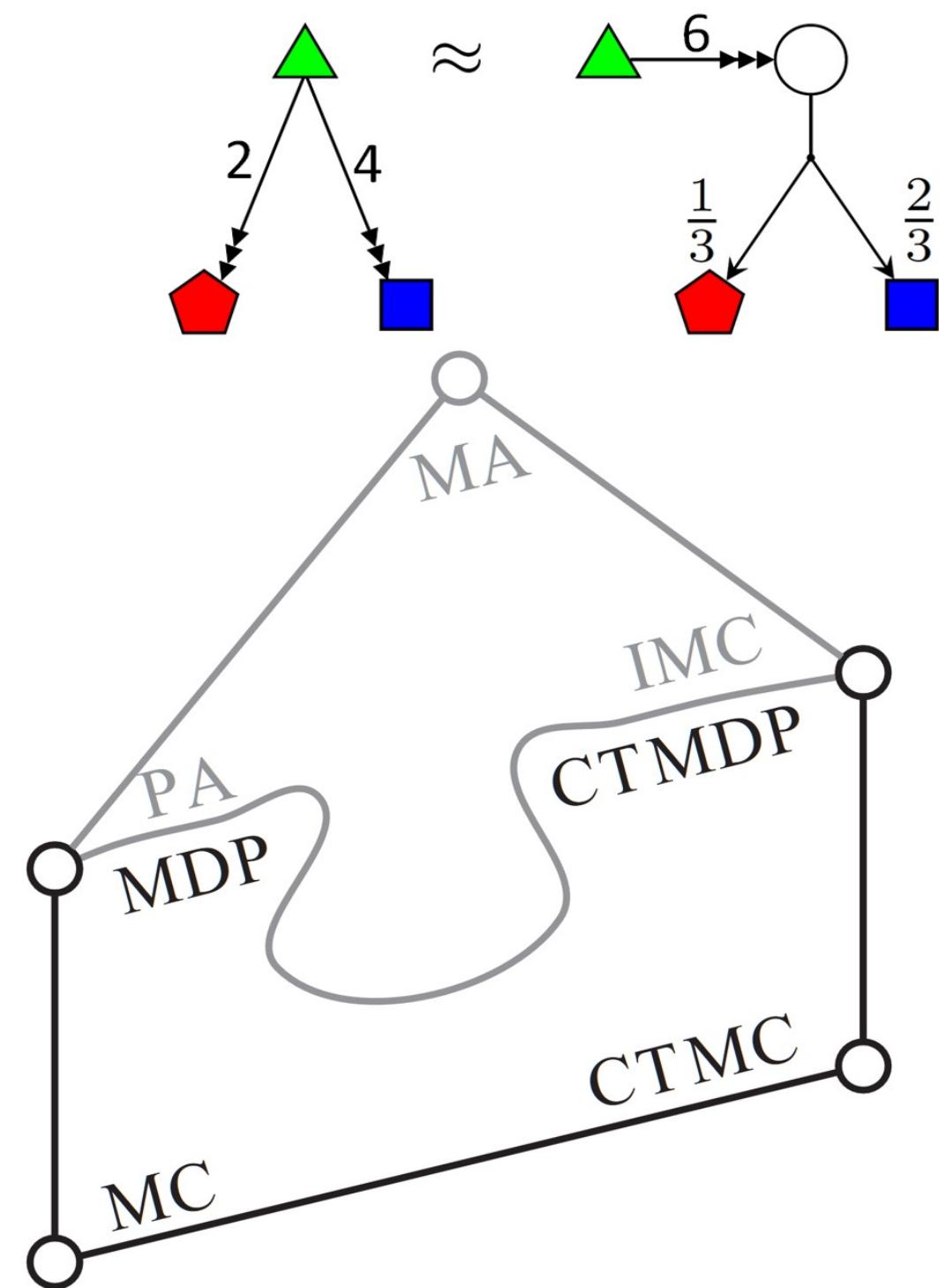
name	#states	budget = 10		budget = 20		budget = 50	
		min	max	min	max	min	max
DPMS-2-5	508	0.759	0.859	1.557	1.924	3.910	5.150
DPMS-2-10	1,588	0.759	0.859	1.557	1.924	3.910	5.150
DPMS-2-20	5,548	0.759	0.859	1.557	1.924	3.910	5.150
DPMS-3-5	5,190	0.785	0.883	1.617	1.930	4.129	5.088
DPMS-3-10	29,530	0.785	0.883	1.617	1.930	4.129	5.088
DPMS-3-20	195,810	0.785	0.883	1.617	1.930	4.129	5.088
DPMS-4-5	47,528	0.784	0.877	1.617	1.889	4.143	4.936
DPMS-4-10	492,478	0.784	0.877	1.617	1.889	4.143	4.936





# Summary

- What?
- Why?
- How?
  - Construction
  - Compression
  - Verification
  - Extension
- Open Challenges

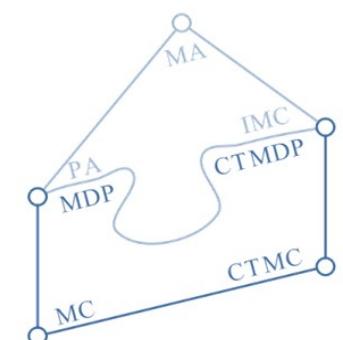




# Outlook

## Solve the open challenges

- Polynomial-time algorithm for weak distribution bisimulation?
- Lifting  $U^+$  to Markov Reward Automata.
- ...





# Not Covered

## Open Interpretation of CT Models

Tomás Brázdil, Holger Hermanns, Jan Krcál, Jan Kretínský, Vojtech Rehák:

**Verification of Open Interactive Markov Chains.** FSTTCS 2012: 474-485

Holger Hermanns, Jan Krcál, Jan Kretínský:

**Compositional Verification and Optimization of Interactive Markov Chains.** CONCUR 2013: 364-379

## Distributed Synthesis in Continuous Time

justifies absence of interleaving scheduler  
provided distributions have  
continuous support.

Holger Hermanns, Jan Krcál, Steen Veester:  
**Distributed Synthesis in Continuous Time.** FOSSACS 2016. To appear

