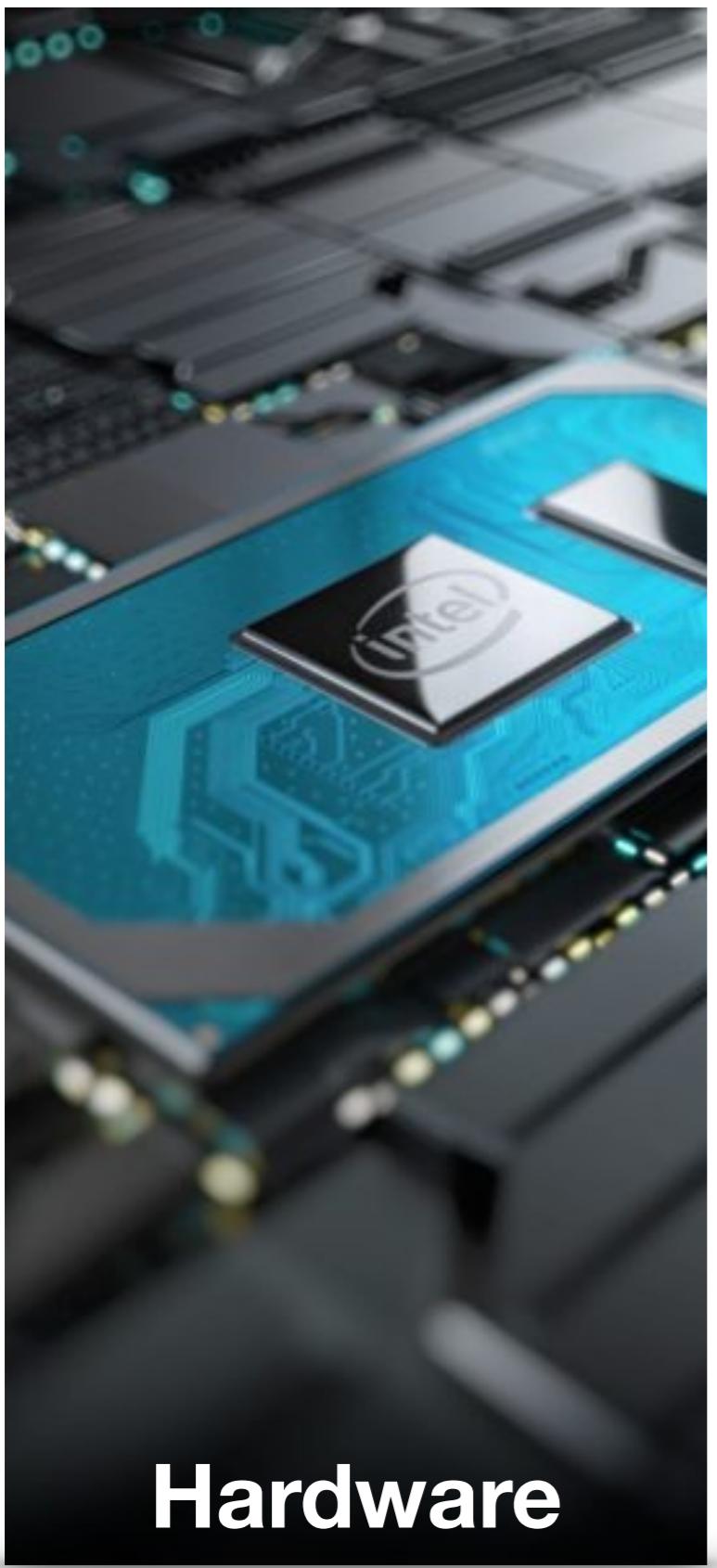


Programmatic Reinforcement Learning for All

Ashutosh Trivedi
Computer Science and ECEE
University of Colorado Boulder

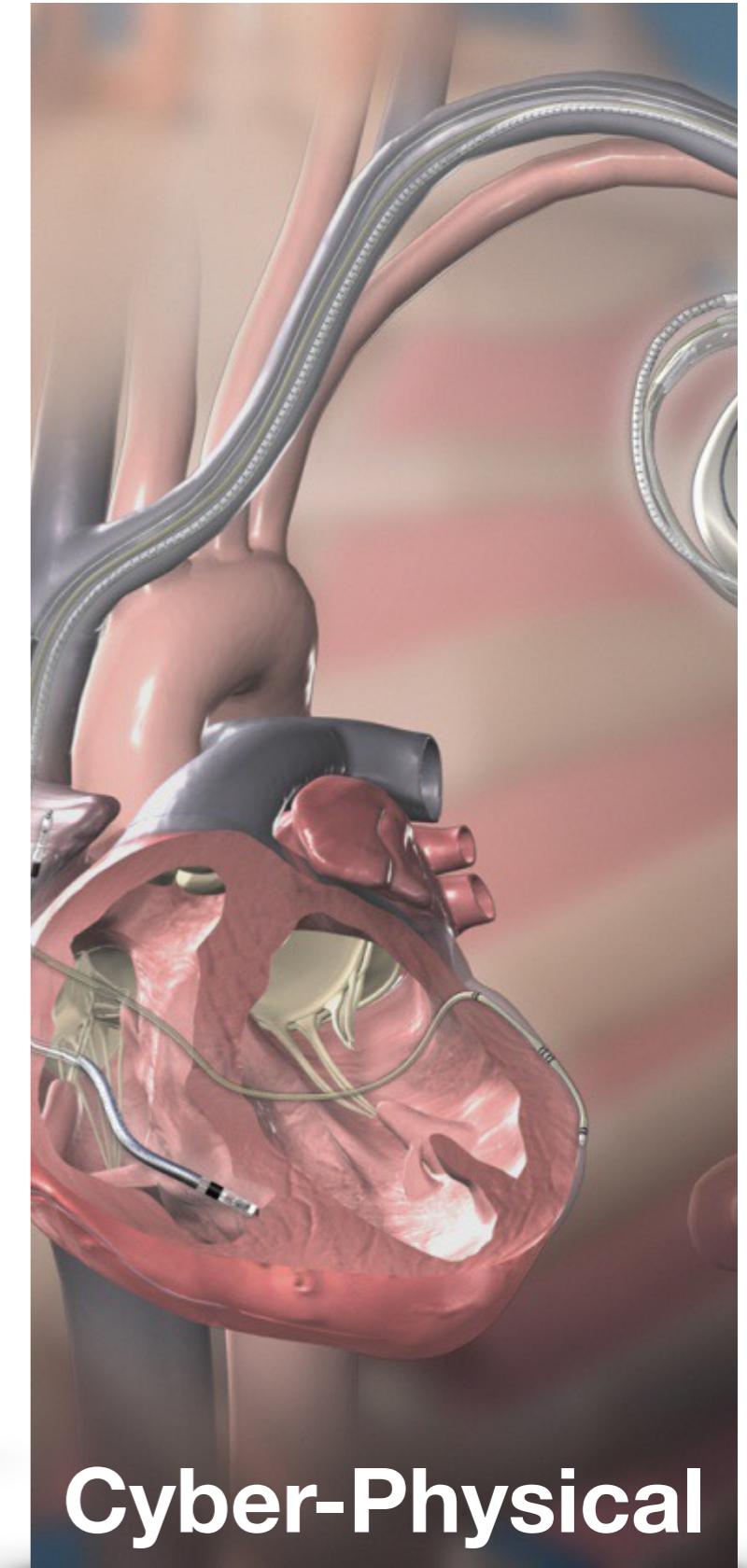
CUPLV



Hardware

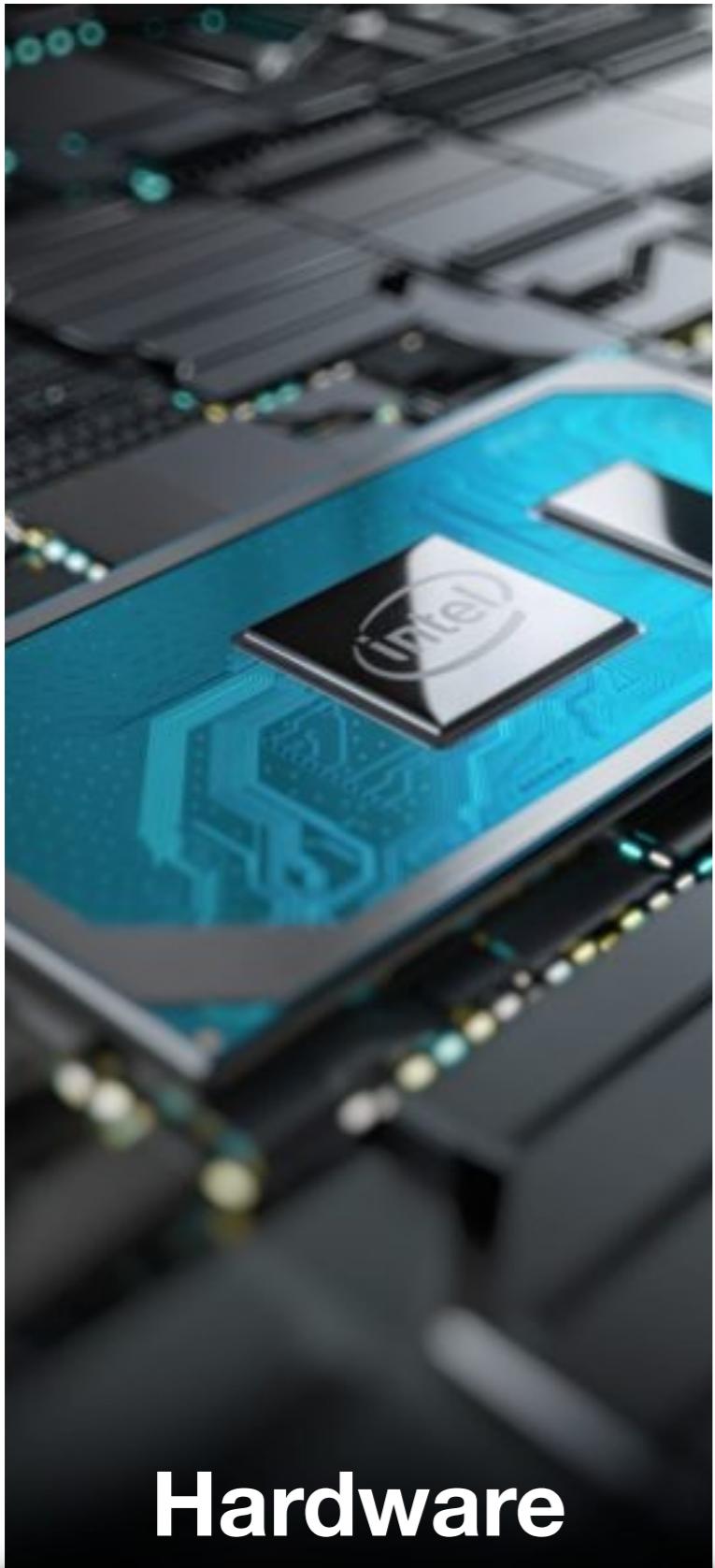


Software

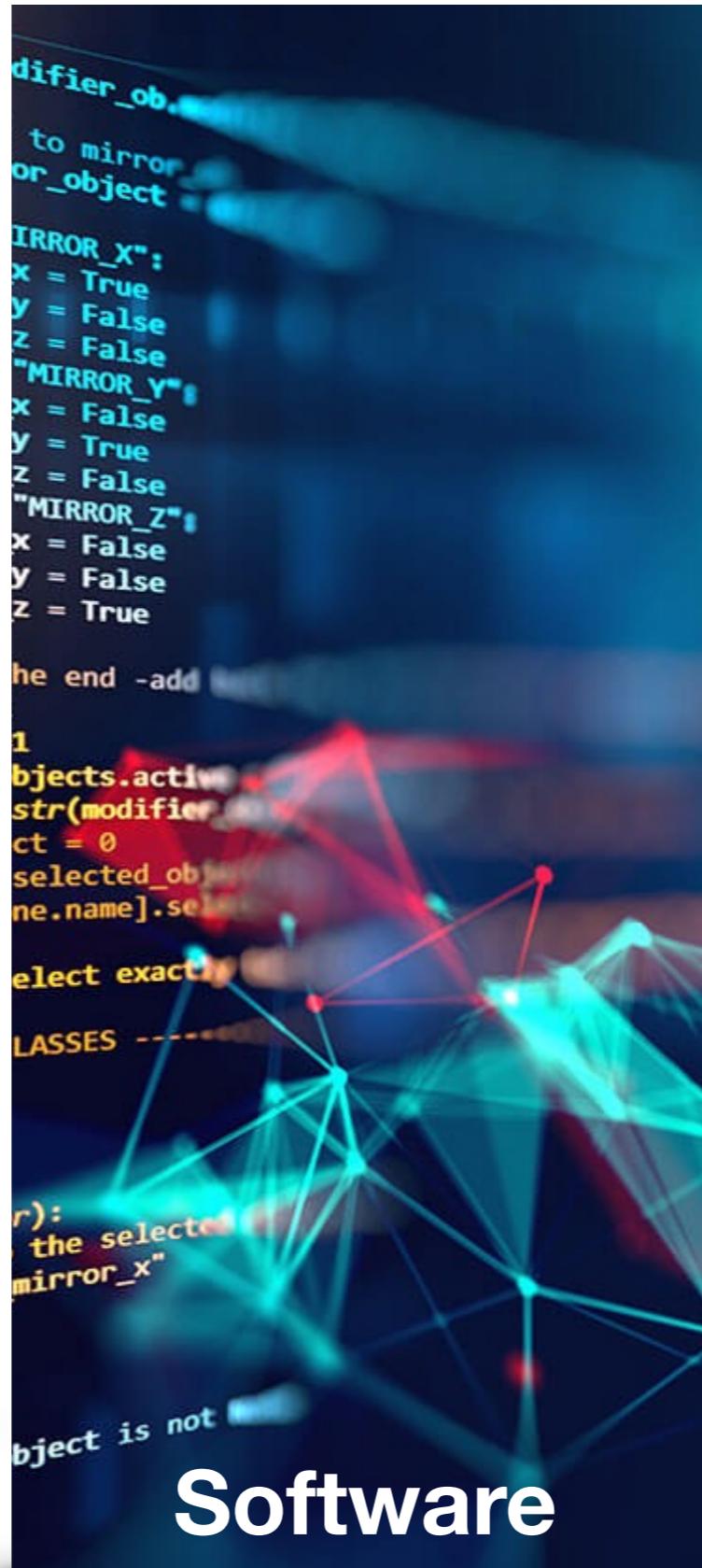


Cyber-Physical

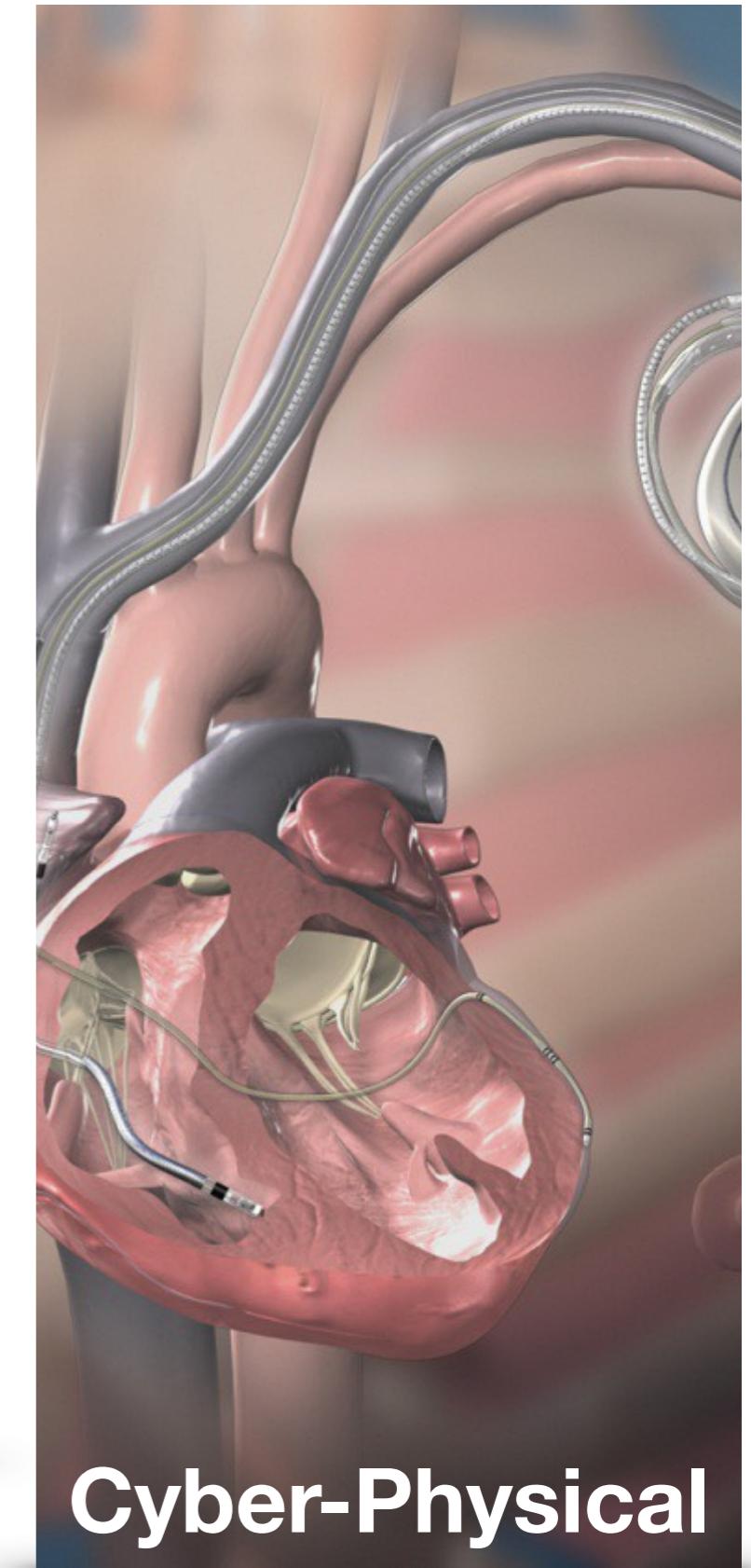
A new trend in Programming



Hardware

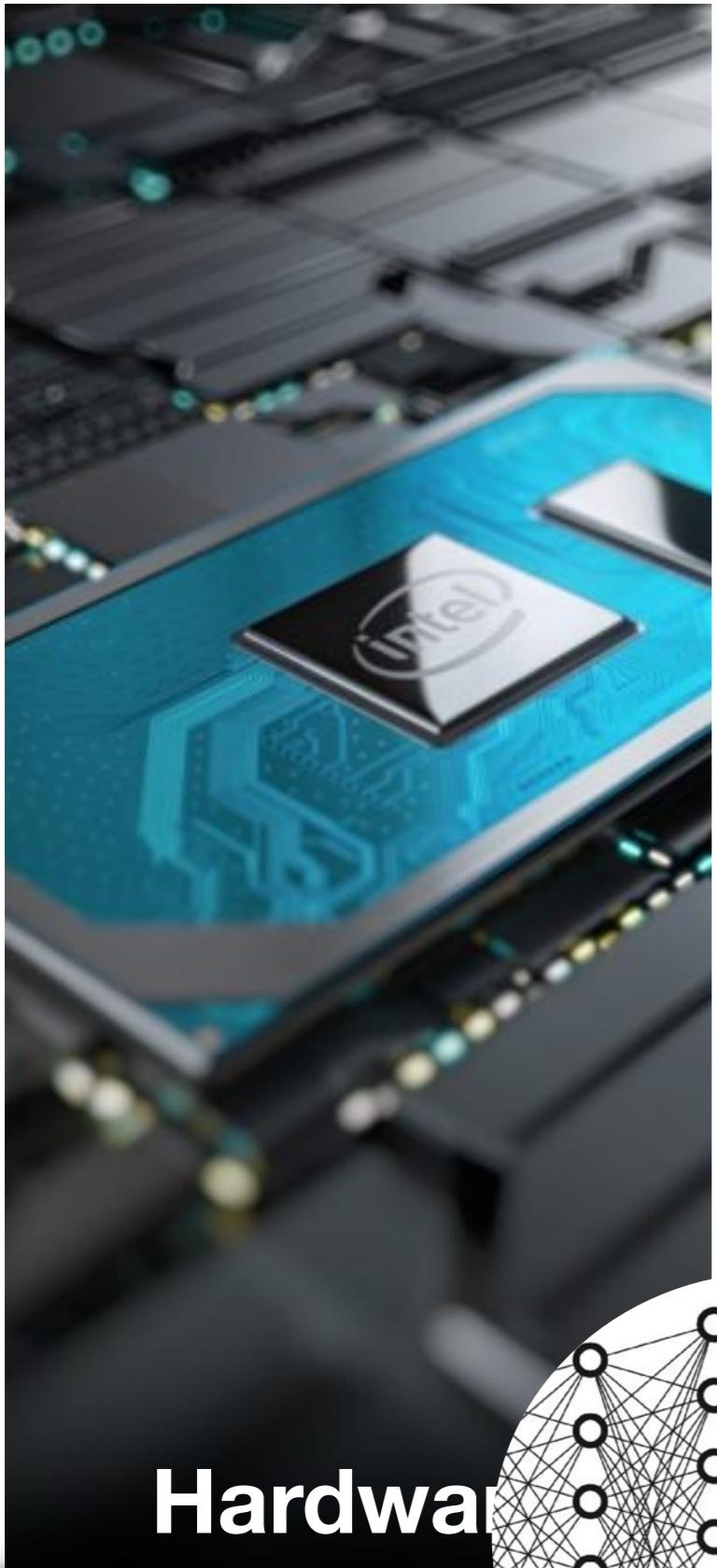


Software

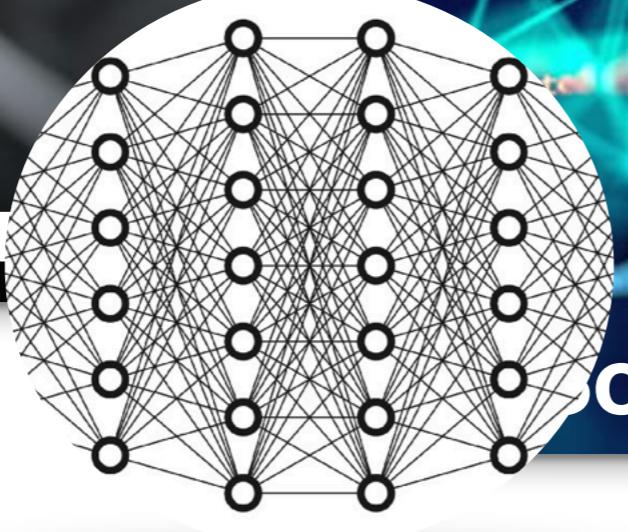


Cyber-Physical

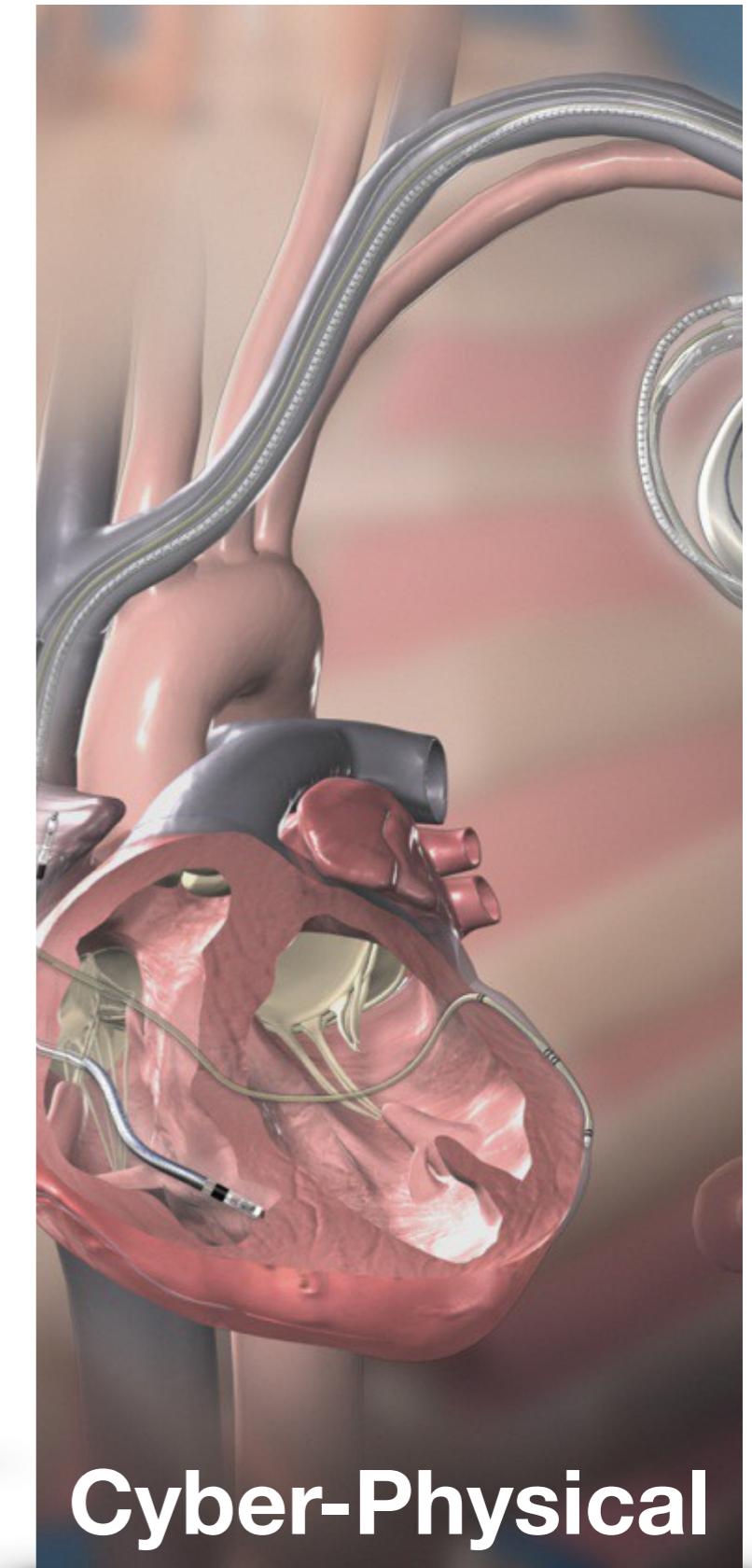
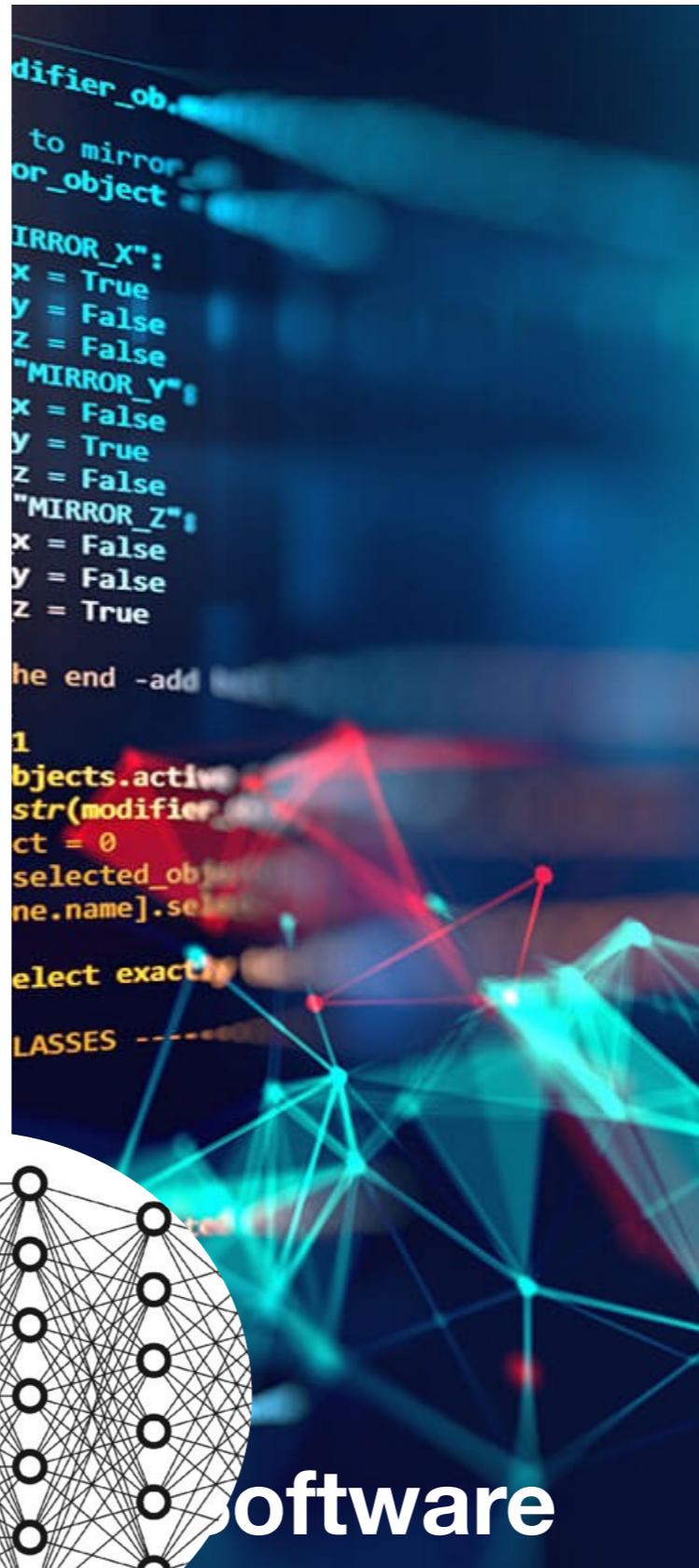
A new trend in Programming



Hardware

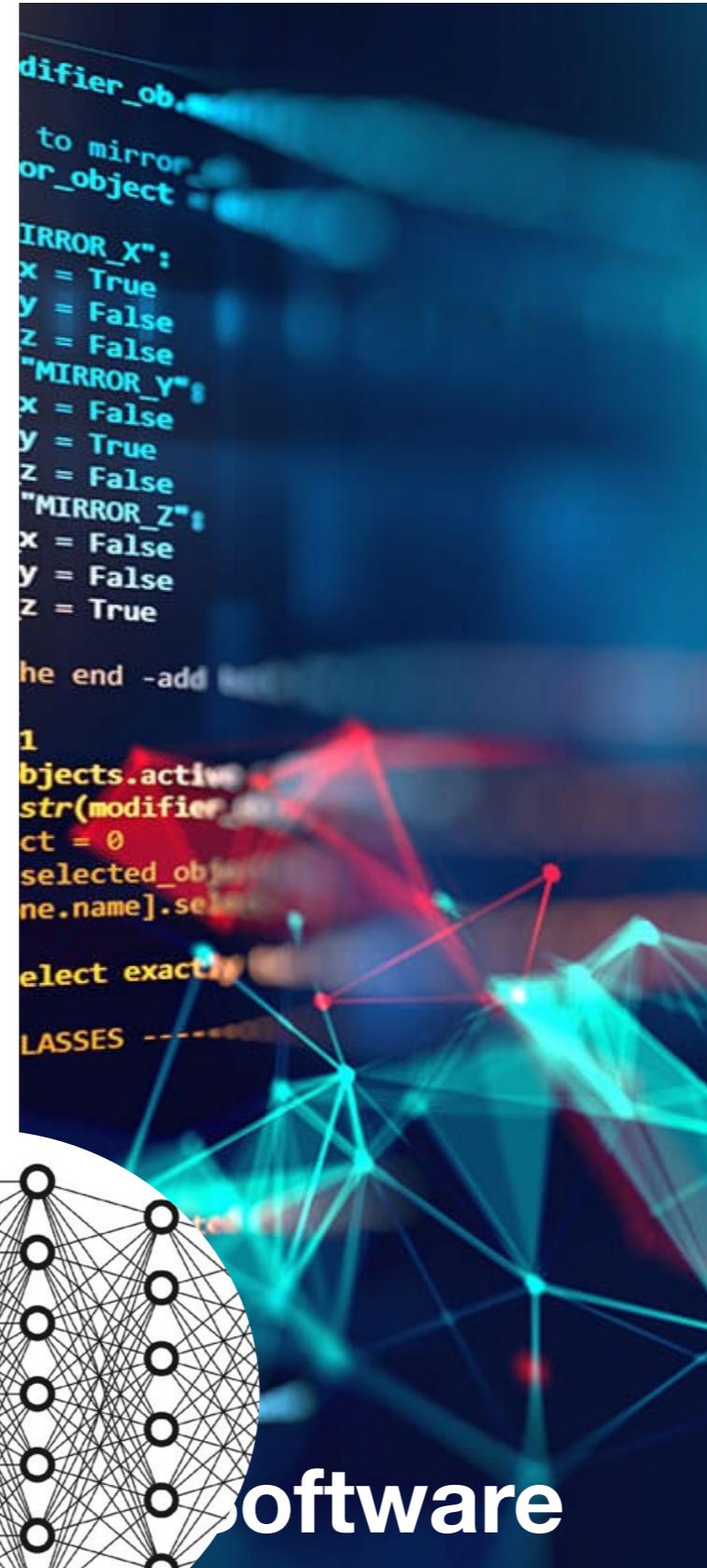
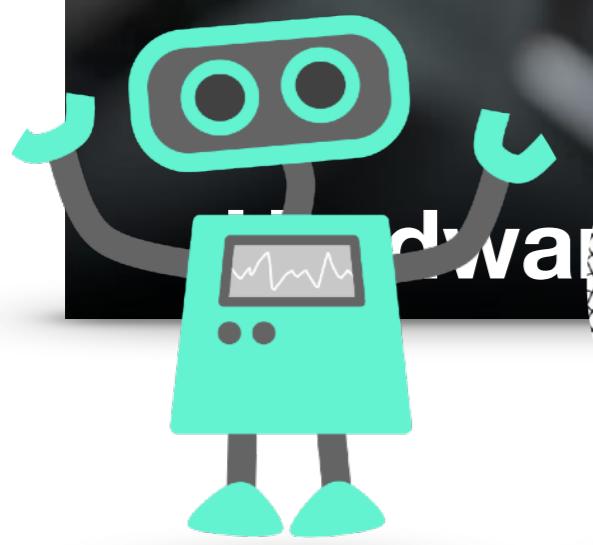


software

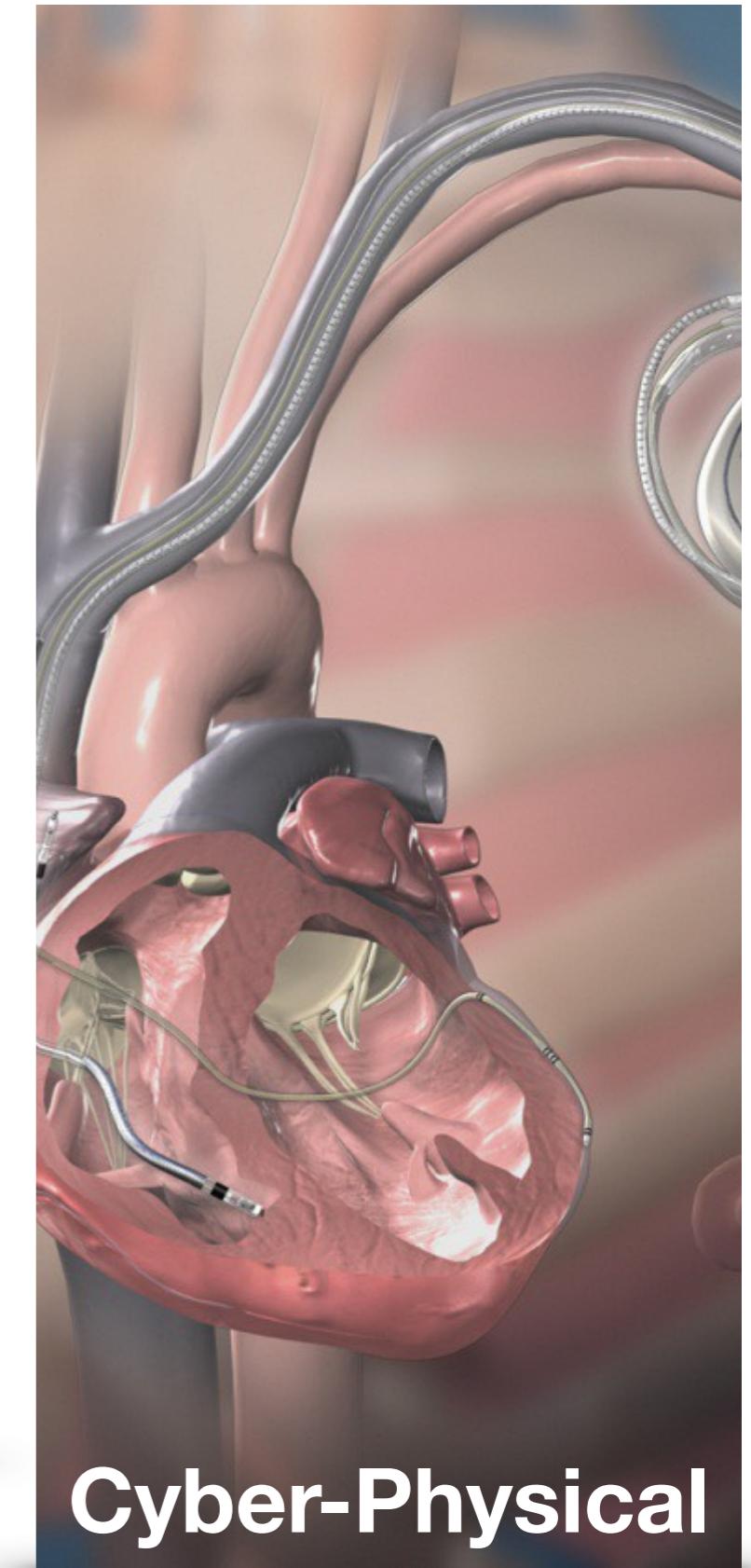


Cyber-Physical

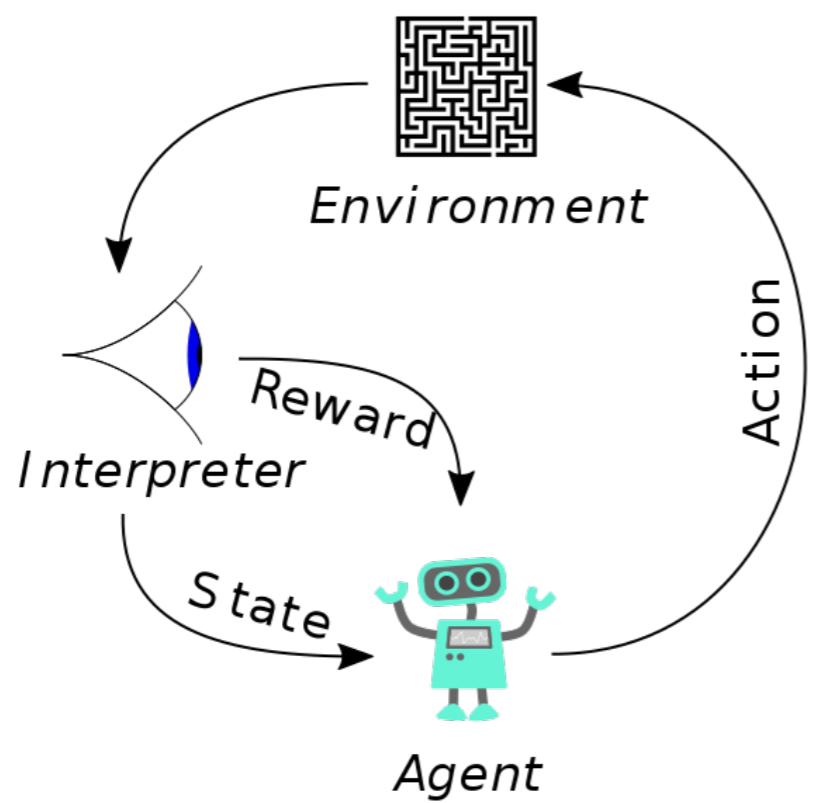
A new trend in Programming



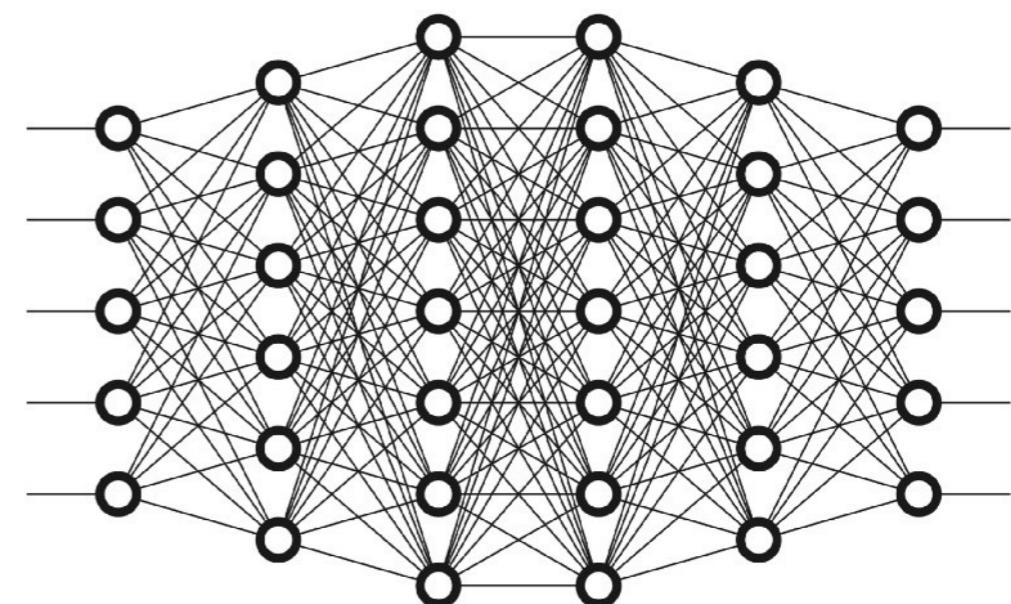
software



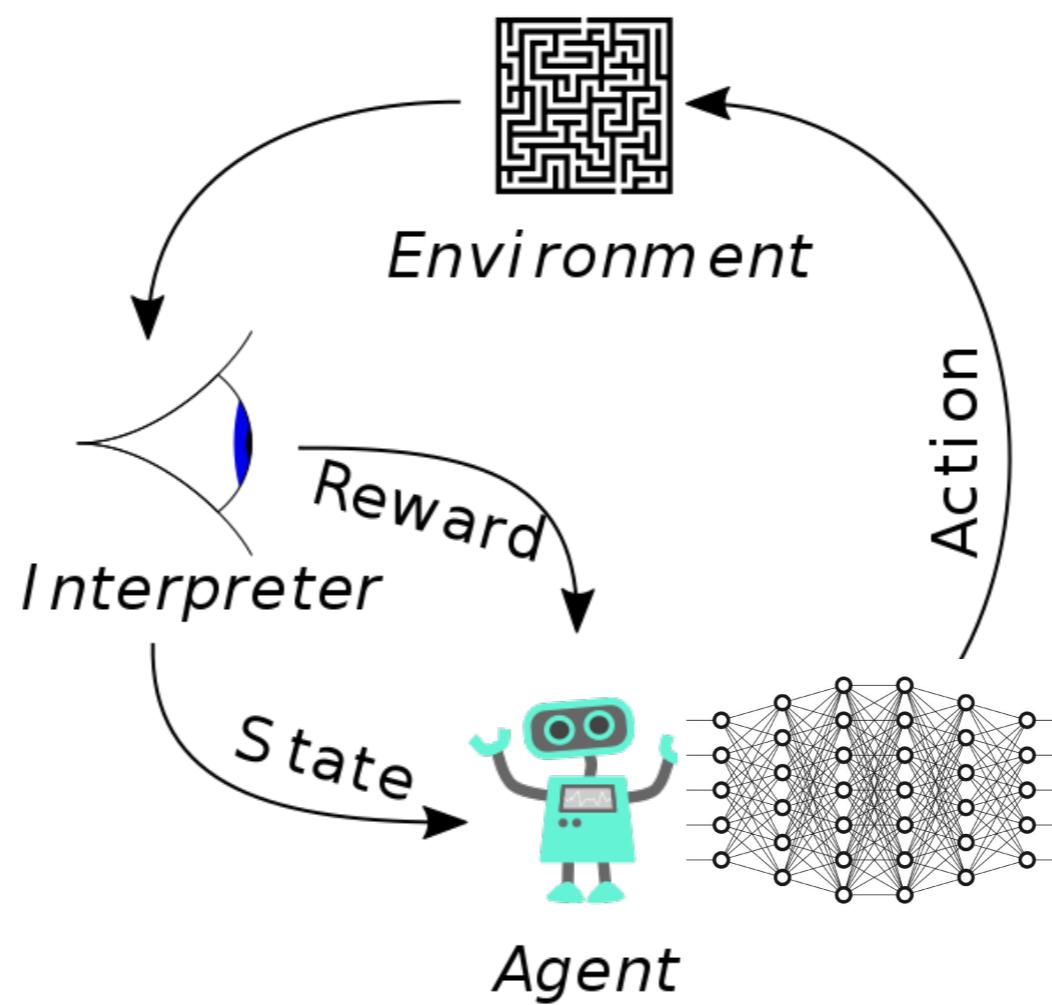
Cyber-Physical



Reinforcement Learning



Deep Neural Networks

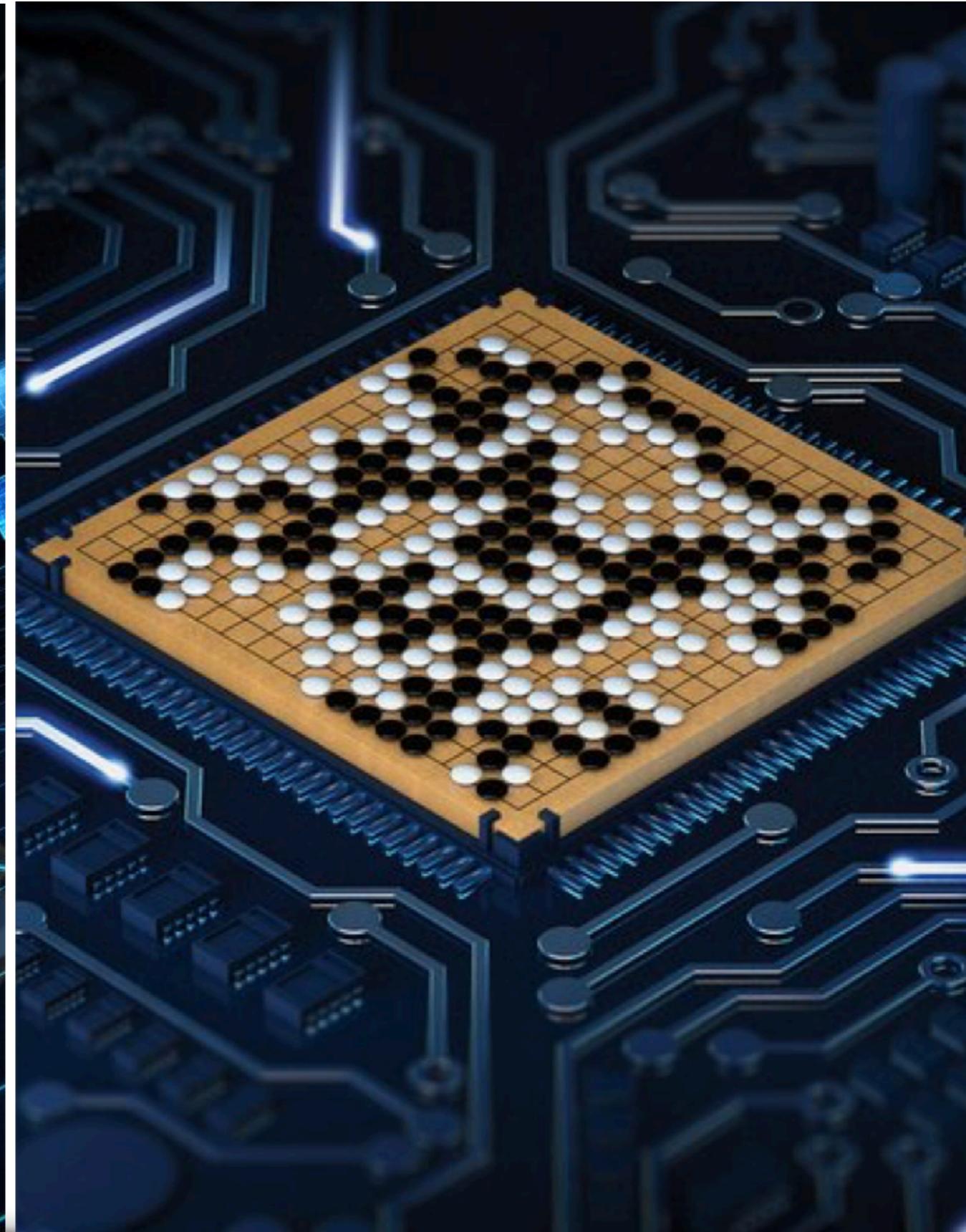


Deep Reinforcement Learning



Human-level control through deep reinforcement learning

<https://www.nature.com/articles/nature14236>



Mastering the game of Go without human knowledge

<https://www.nature.com/articles/nature24270>



Wayve: Learning to drive in a day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eRwTbRtnT1I>



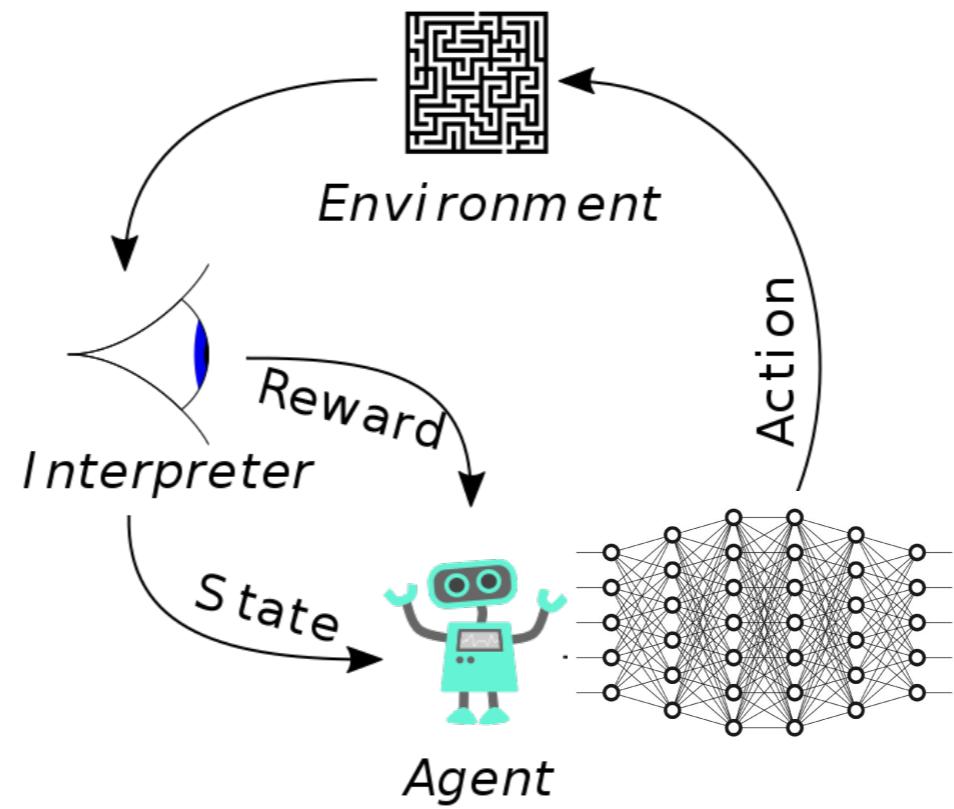
FANUC: Bin-Picking Robots.

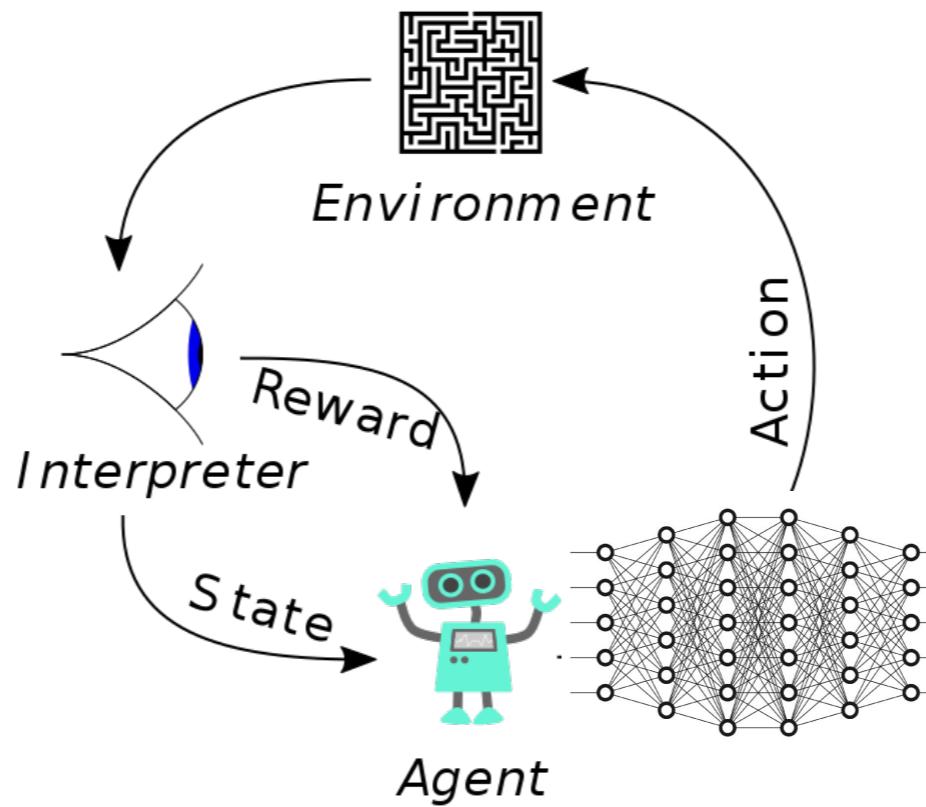
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydh_AdWZfIA



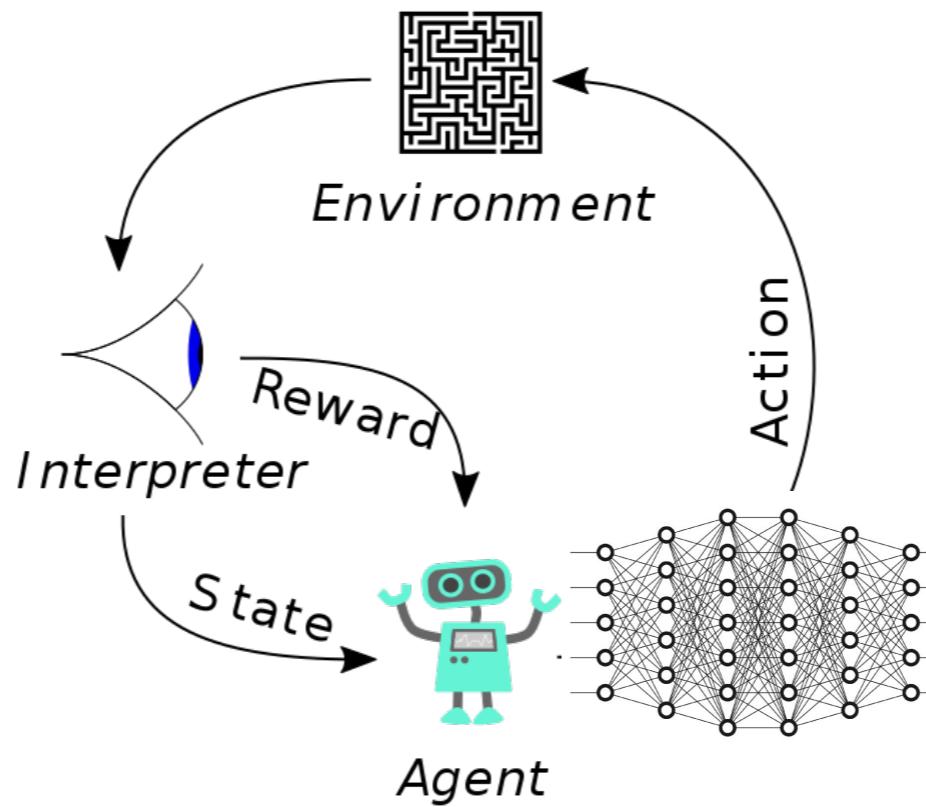
Chip Placement with Deep Reinforcement Learning

<https://www.nature.com/articles/nature24270>





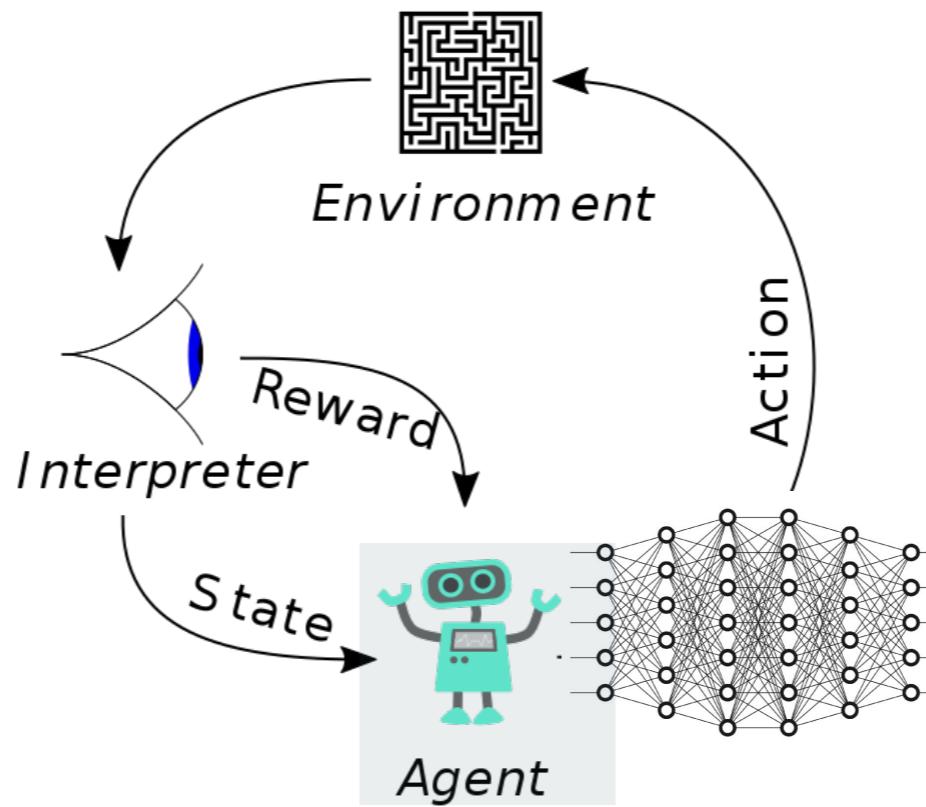
Program Synthesis
(Episodic RL)



Program Synthesis
(Episodic RL)



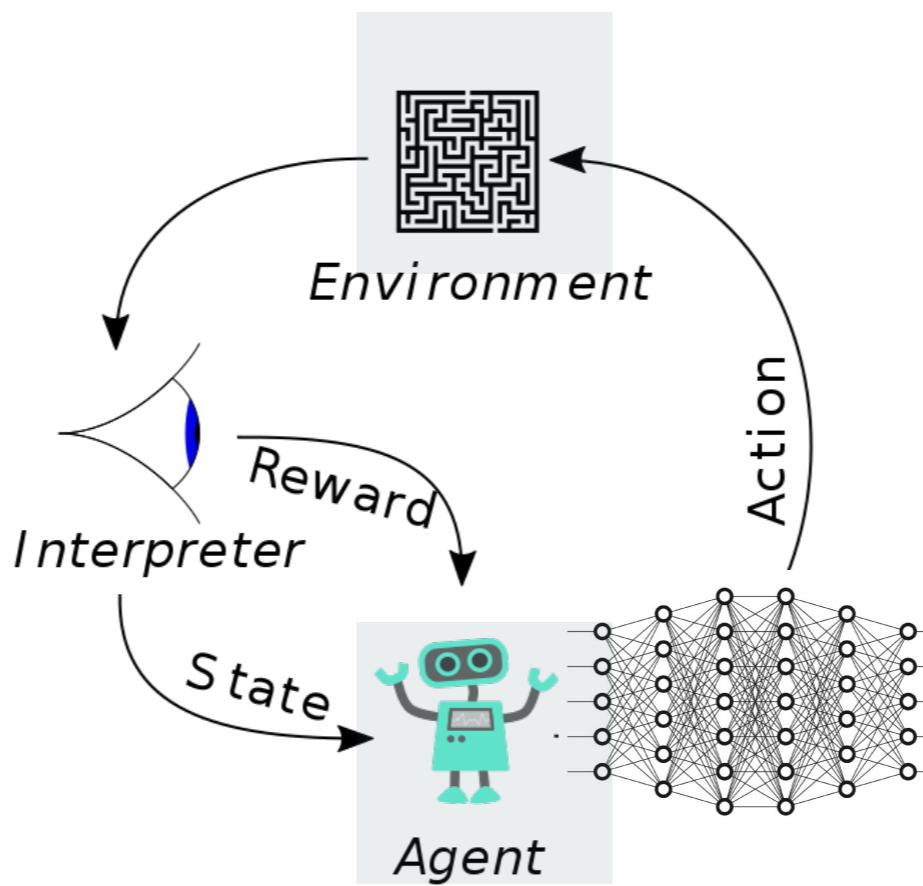
Adaptive Programs
(Continual RL)



Program Synthesis
(Episodic RL)



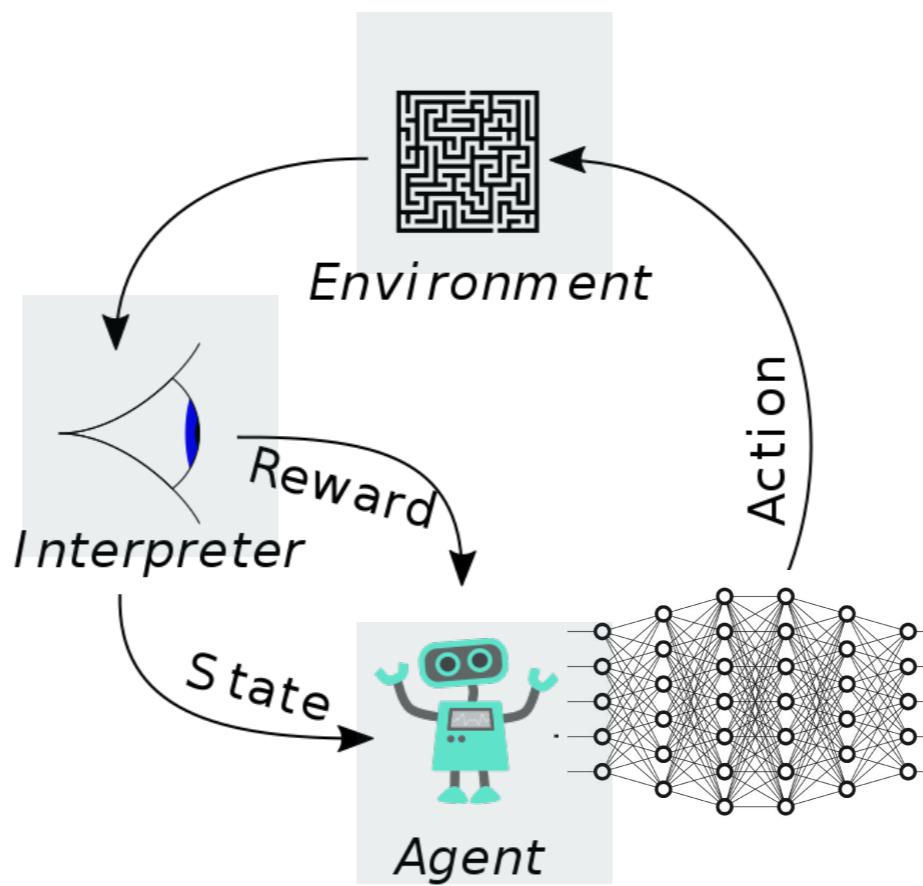
Adaptive Programs
(Continual RL)



Program Synthesis
(Episodic RL)



Adaptive Programs
(Continual RL)

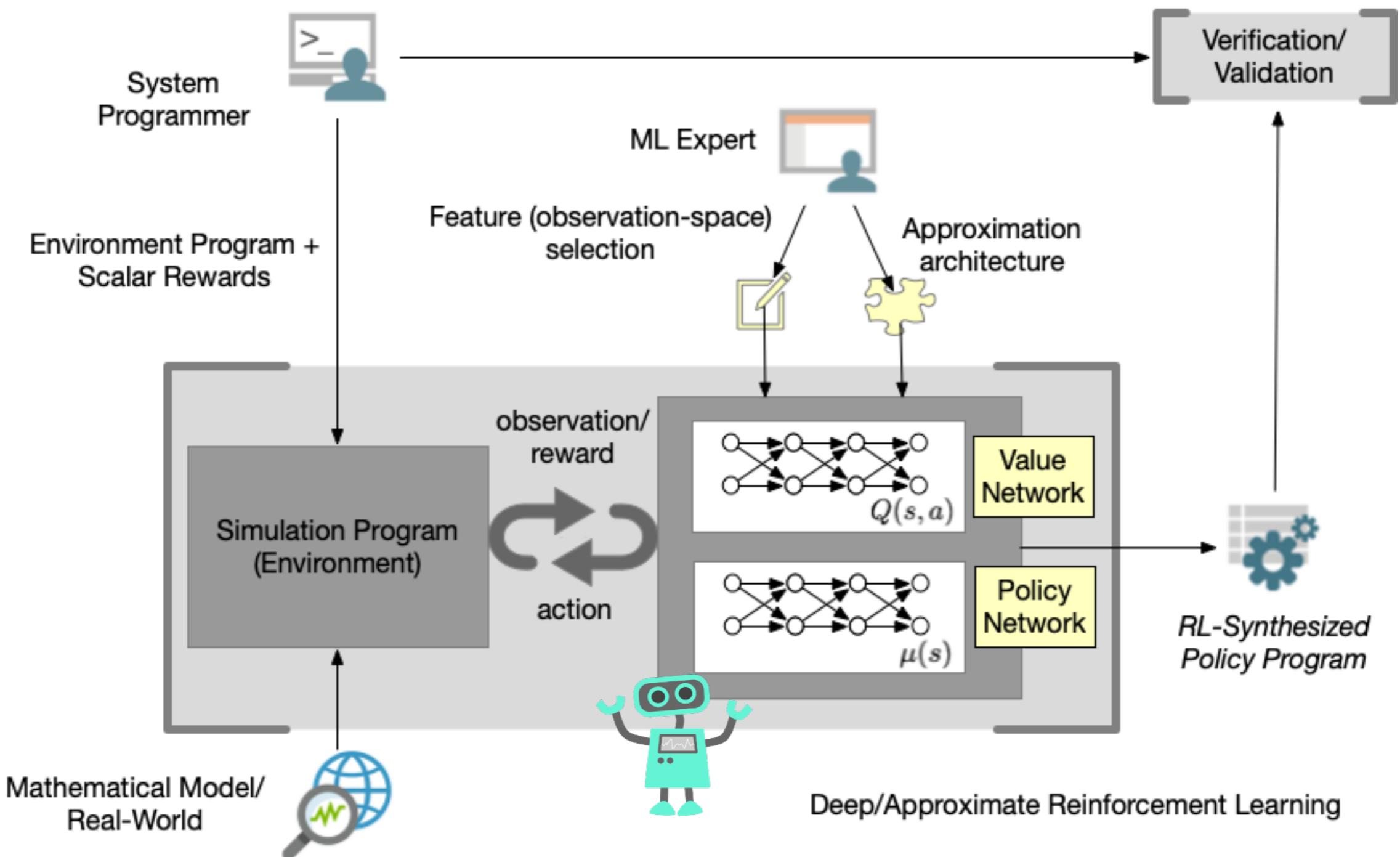


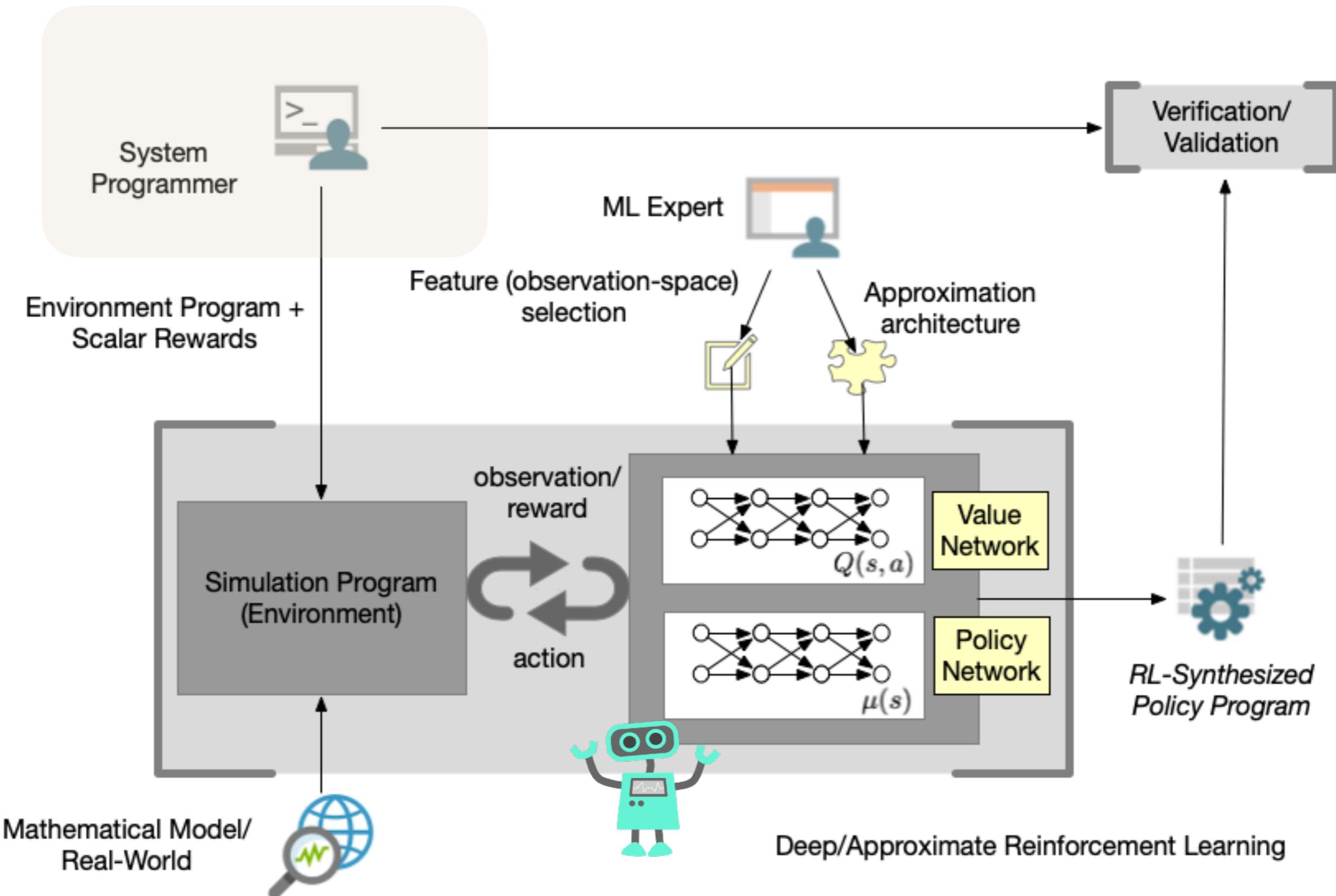
Program Synthesis
(Episodic RL)

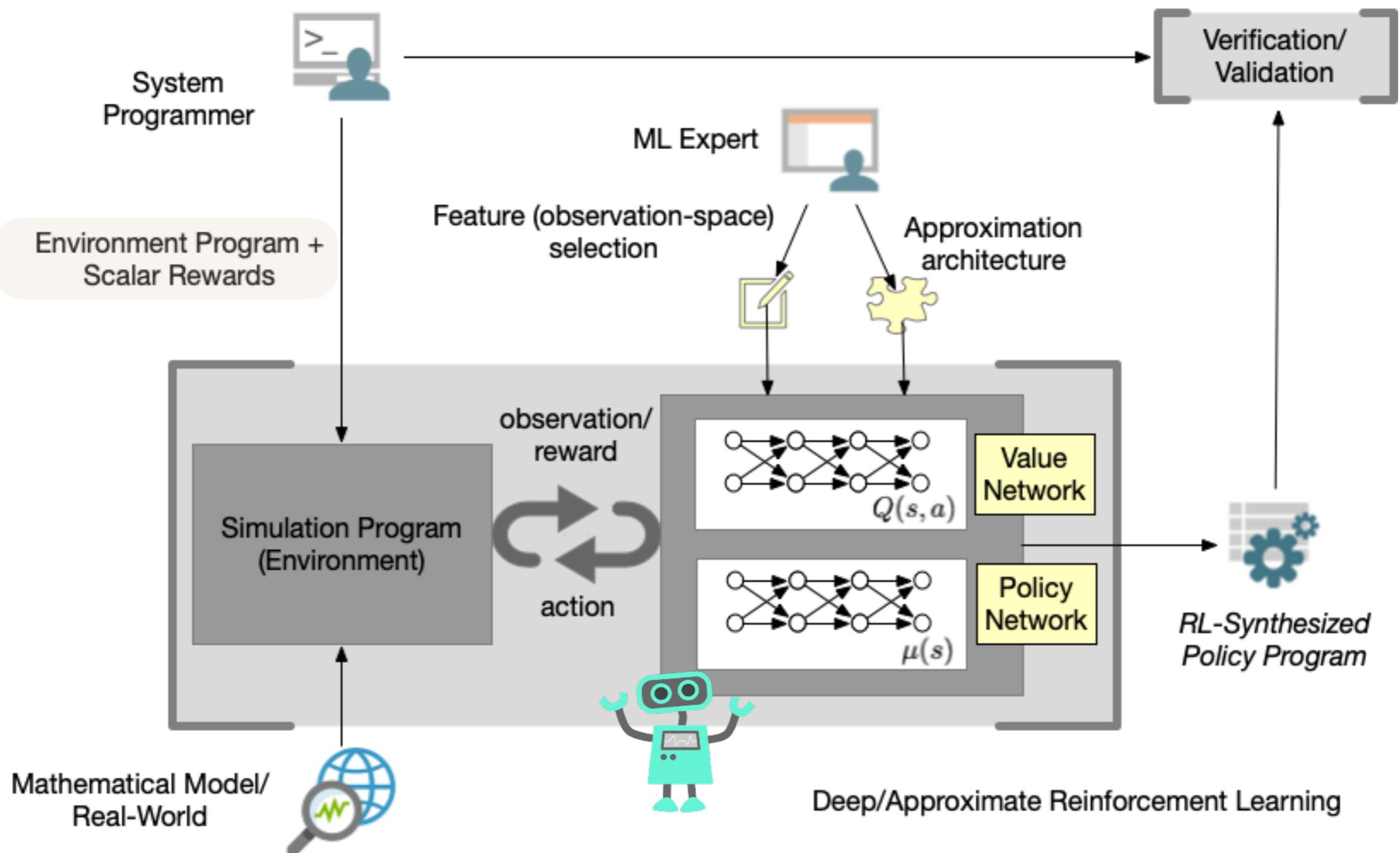


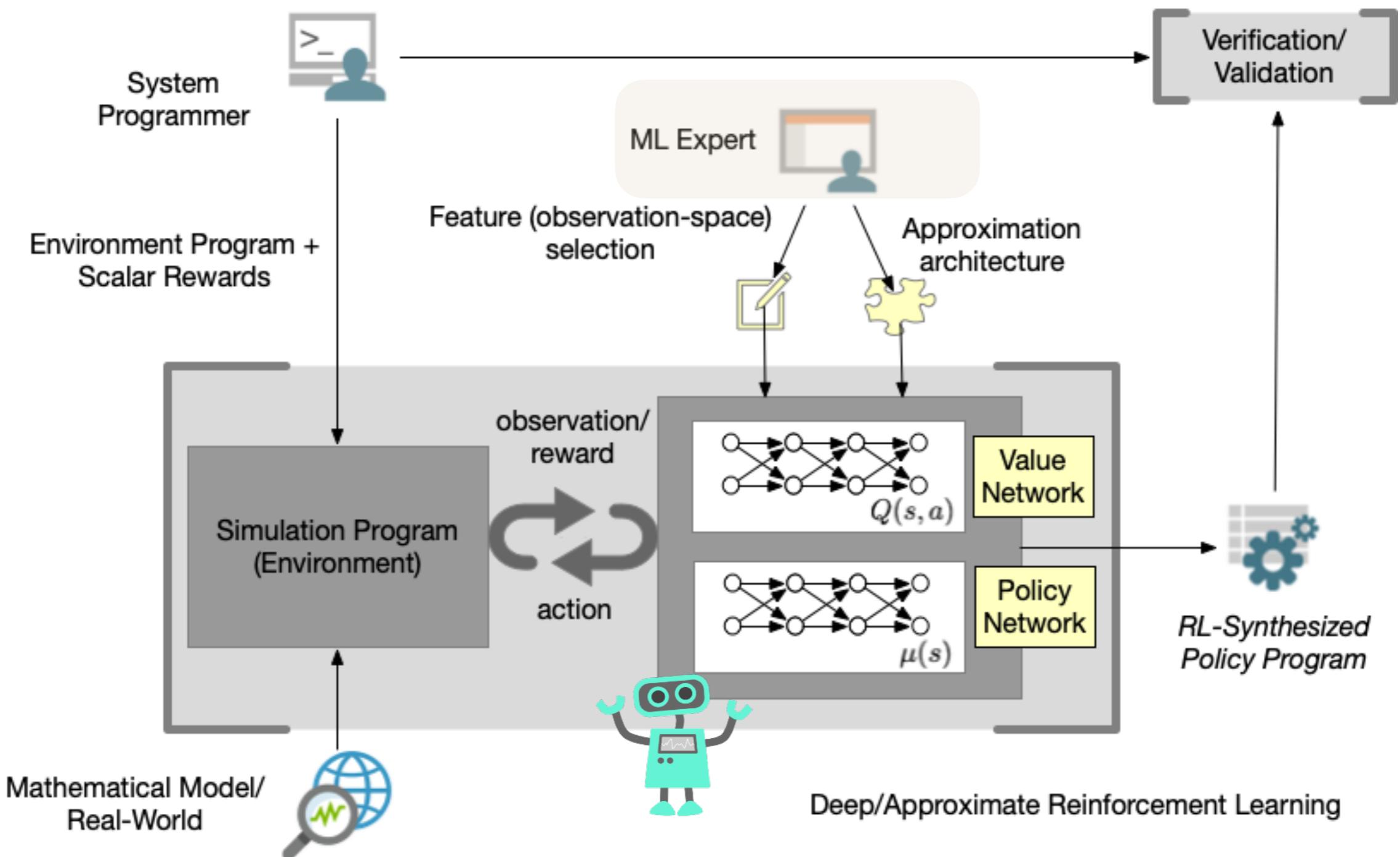
Adaptive Programs
(Continual RL)

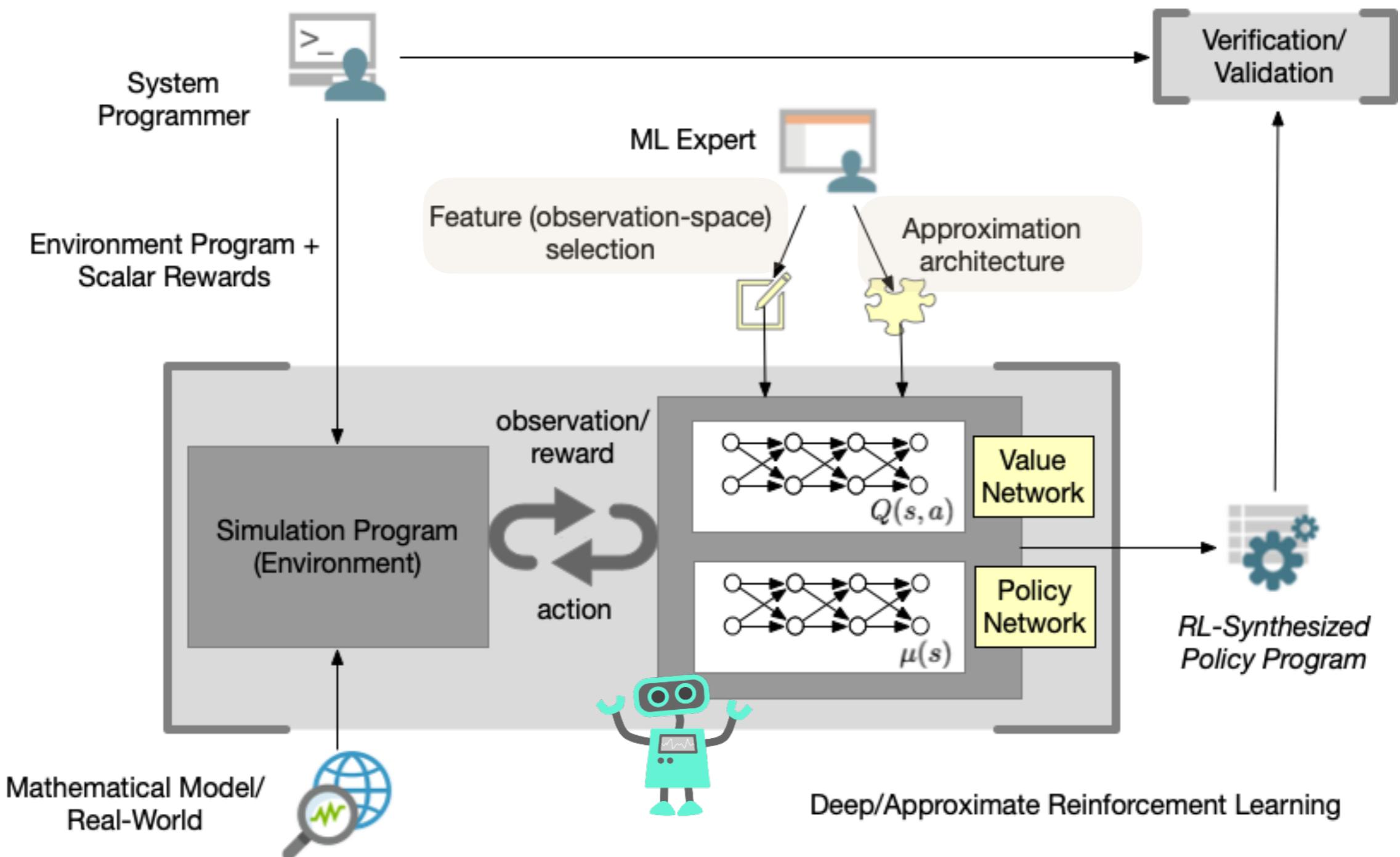
Programmatic Reinforcement Learning

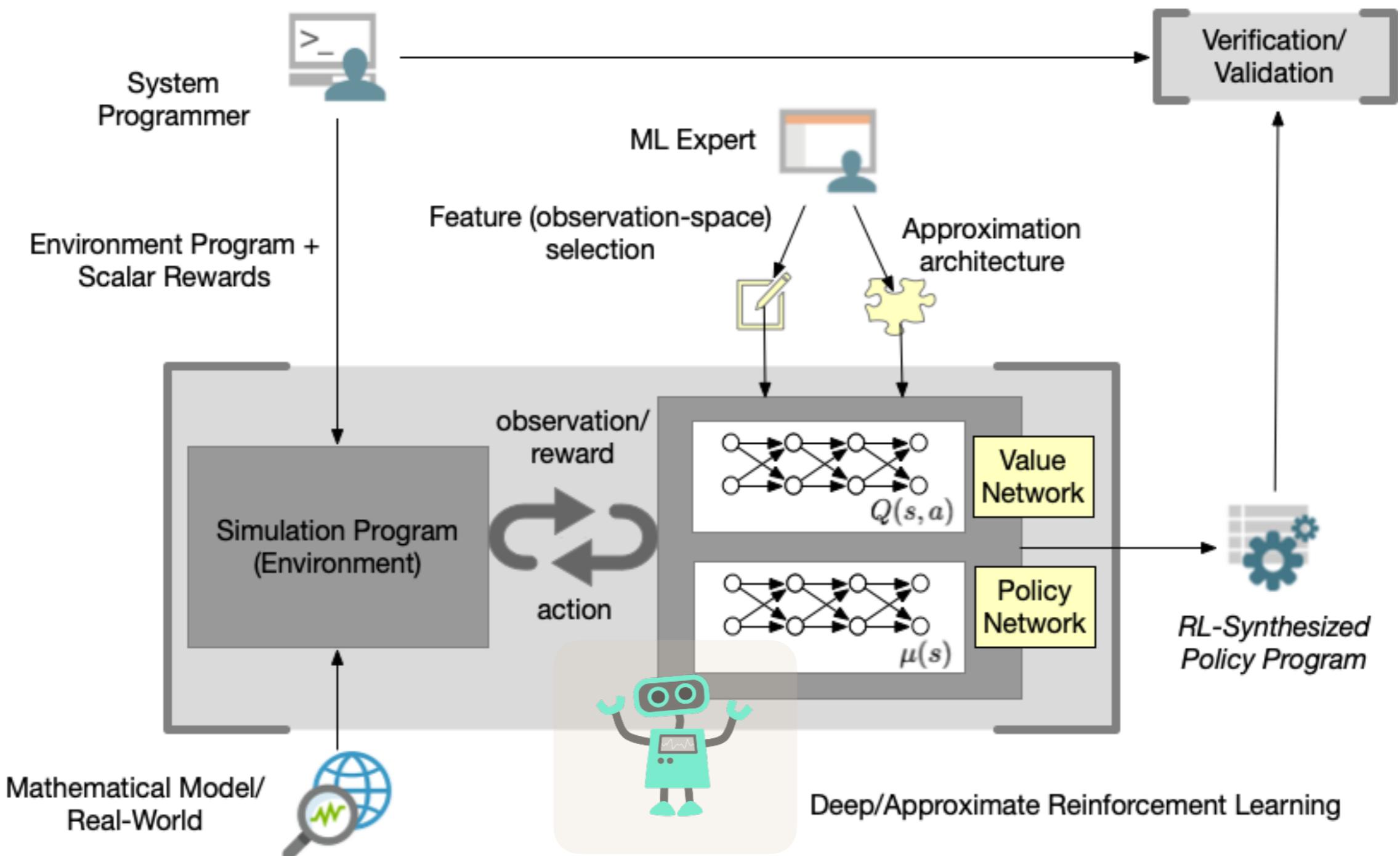


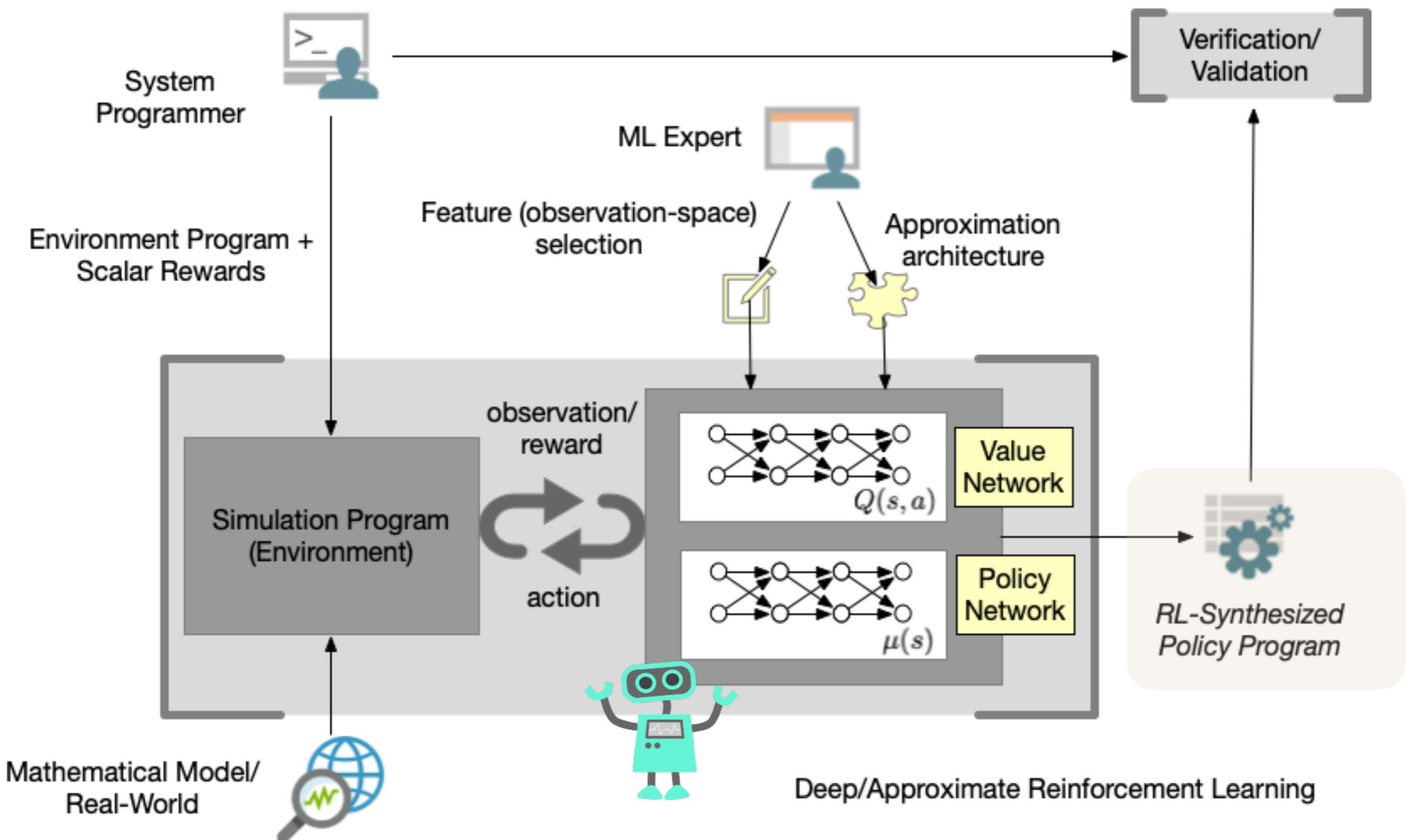




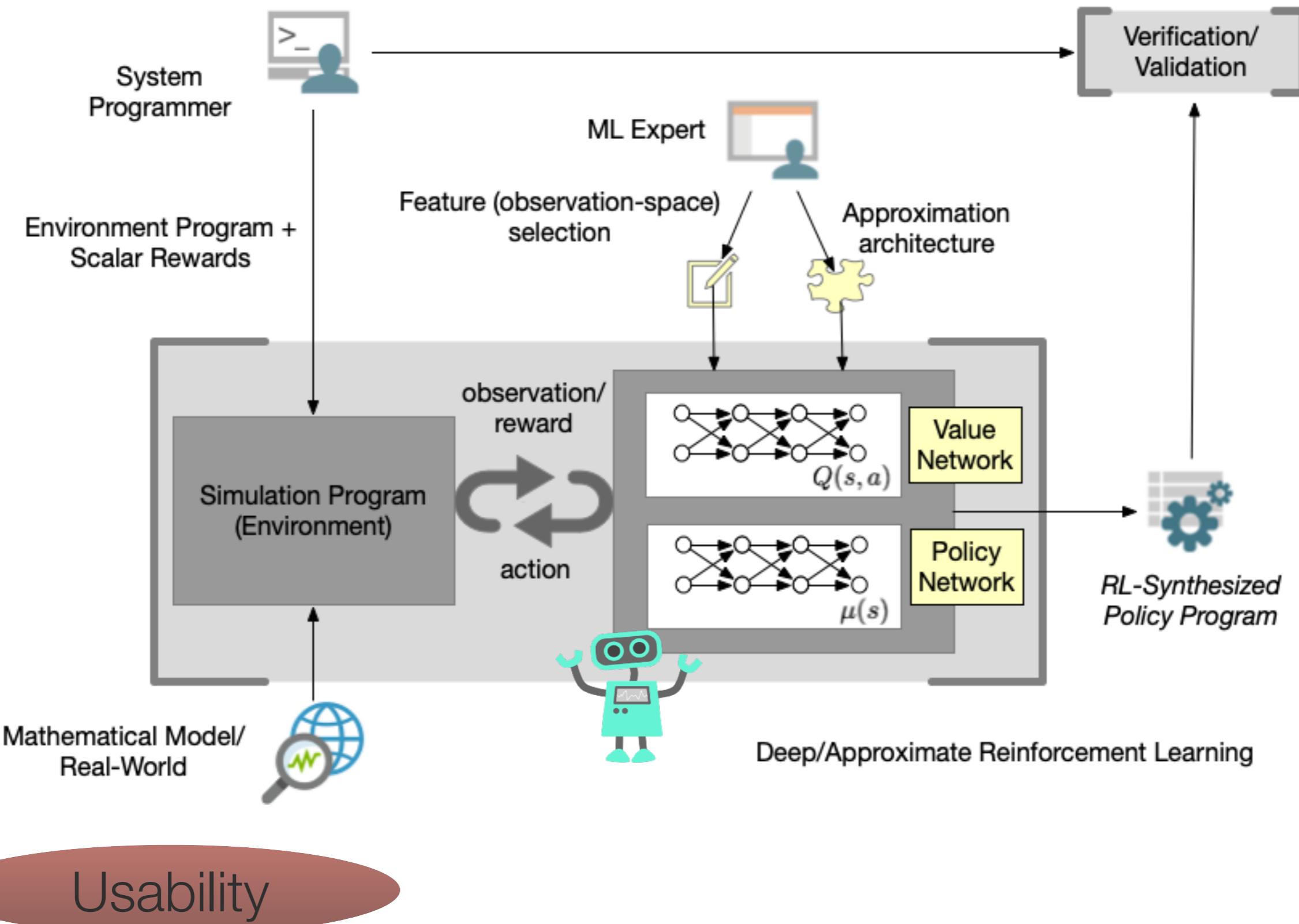




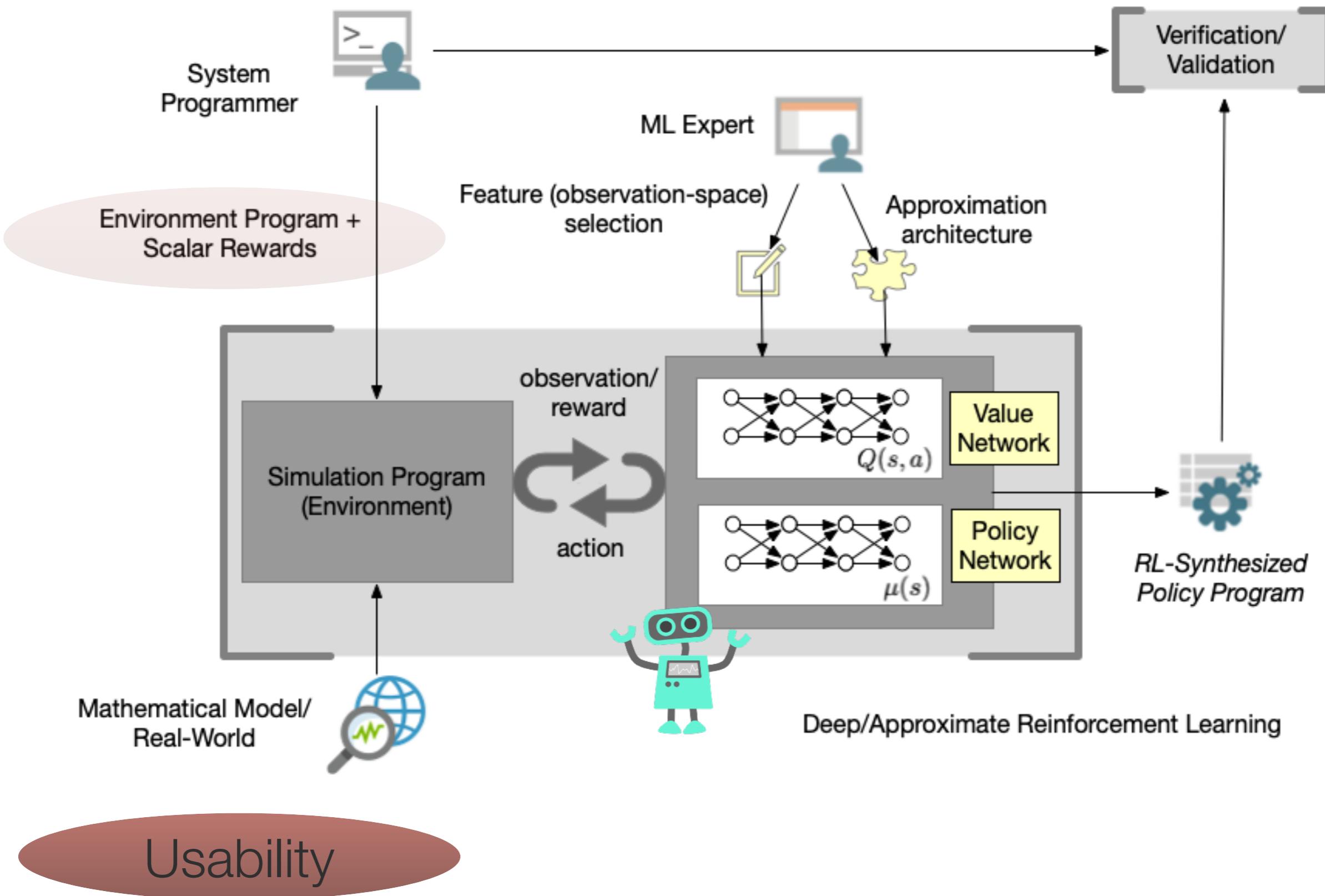




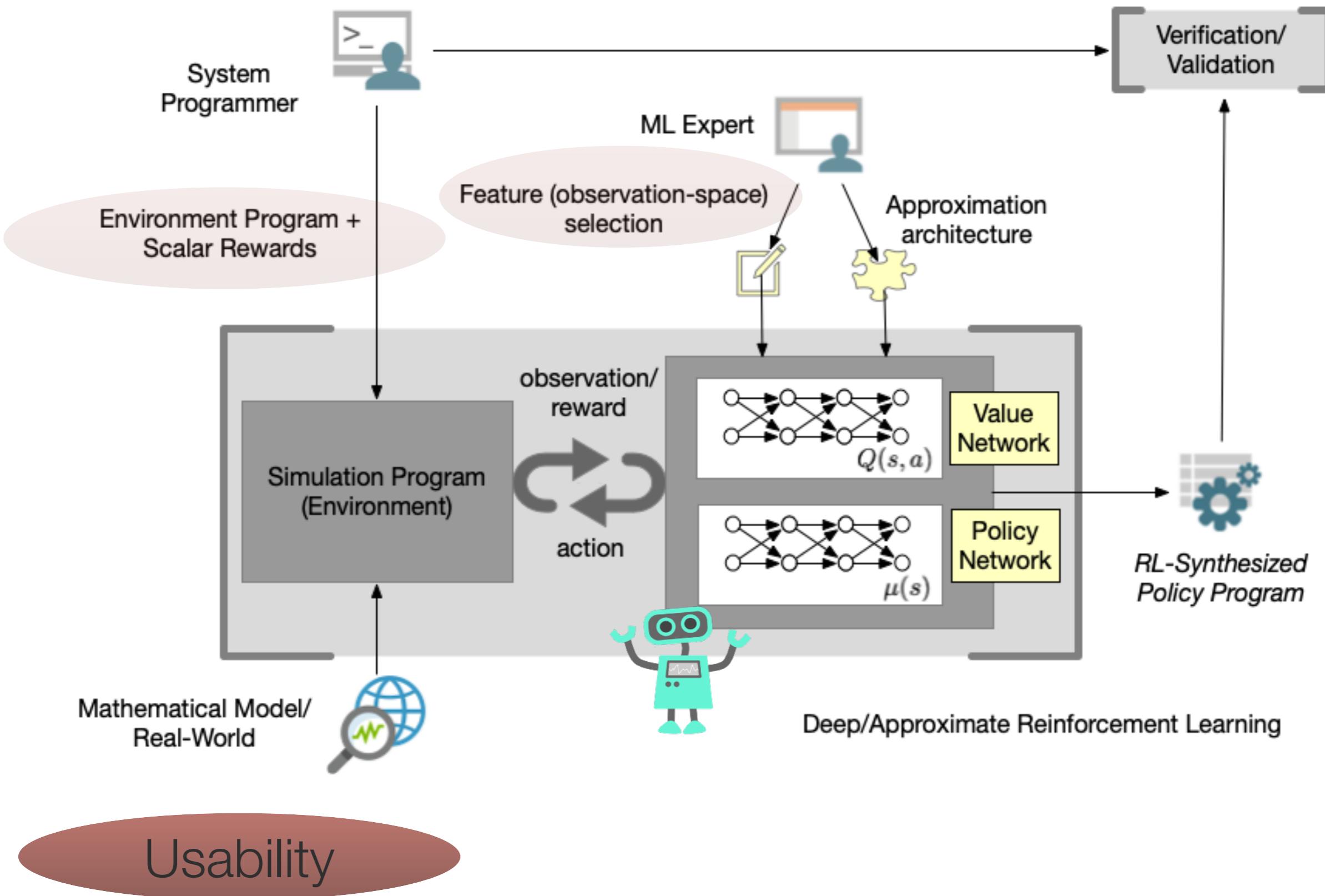
Pain Points



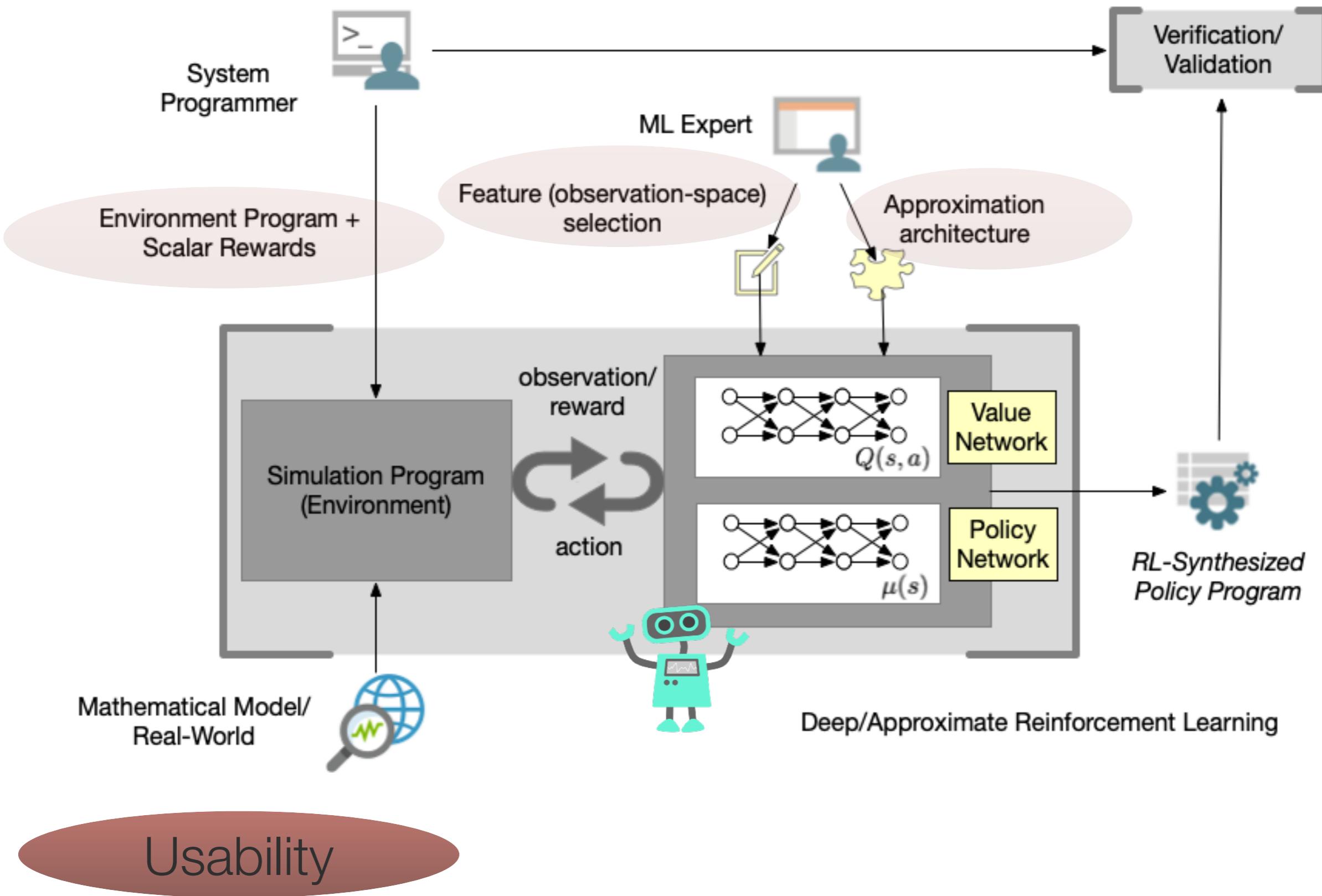
Pain Points



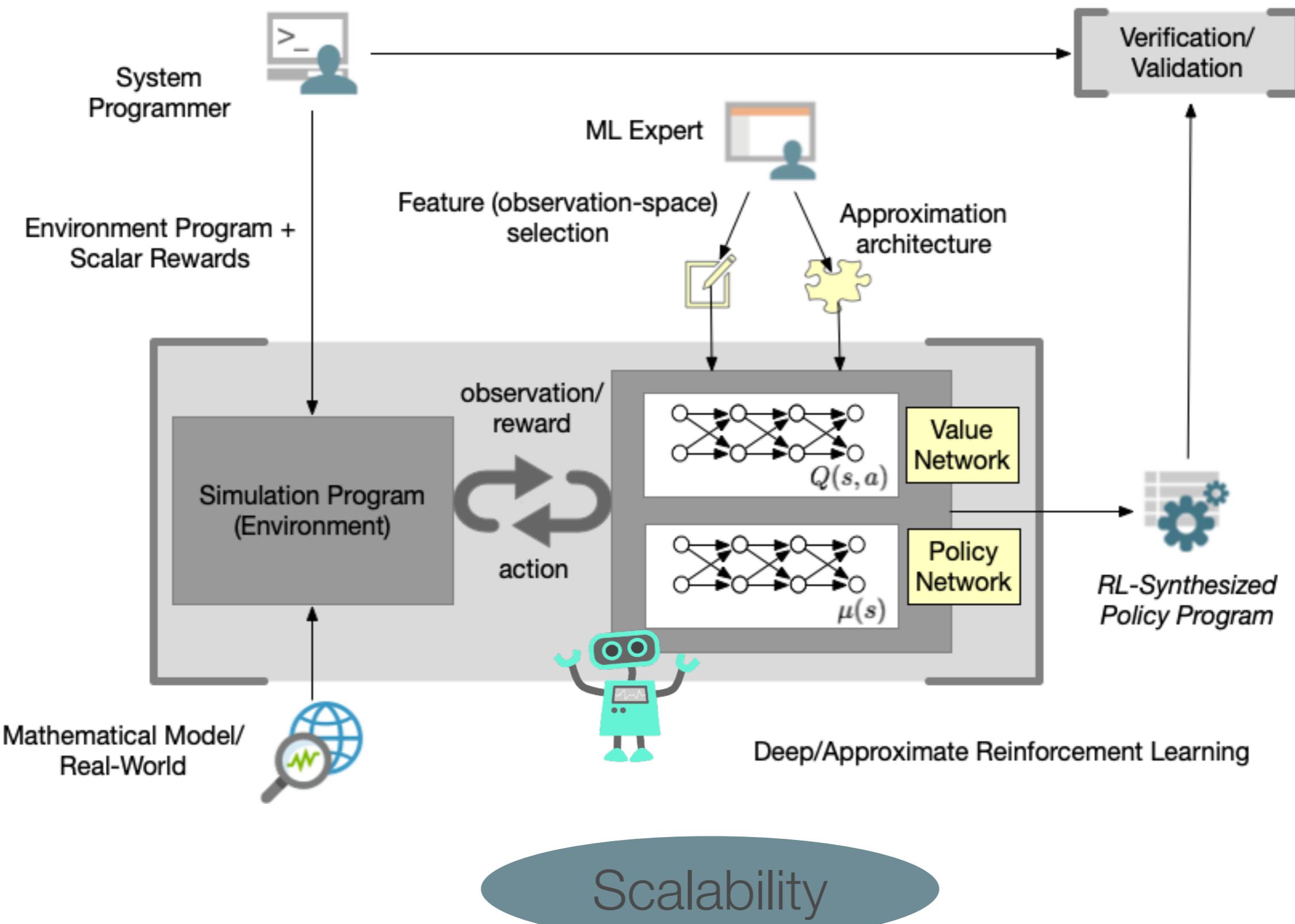
Pain Points



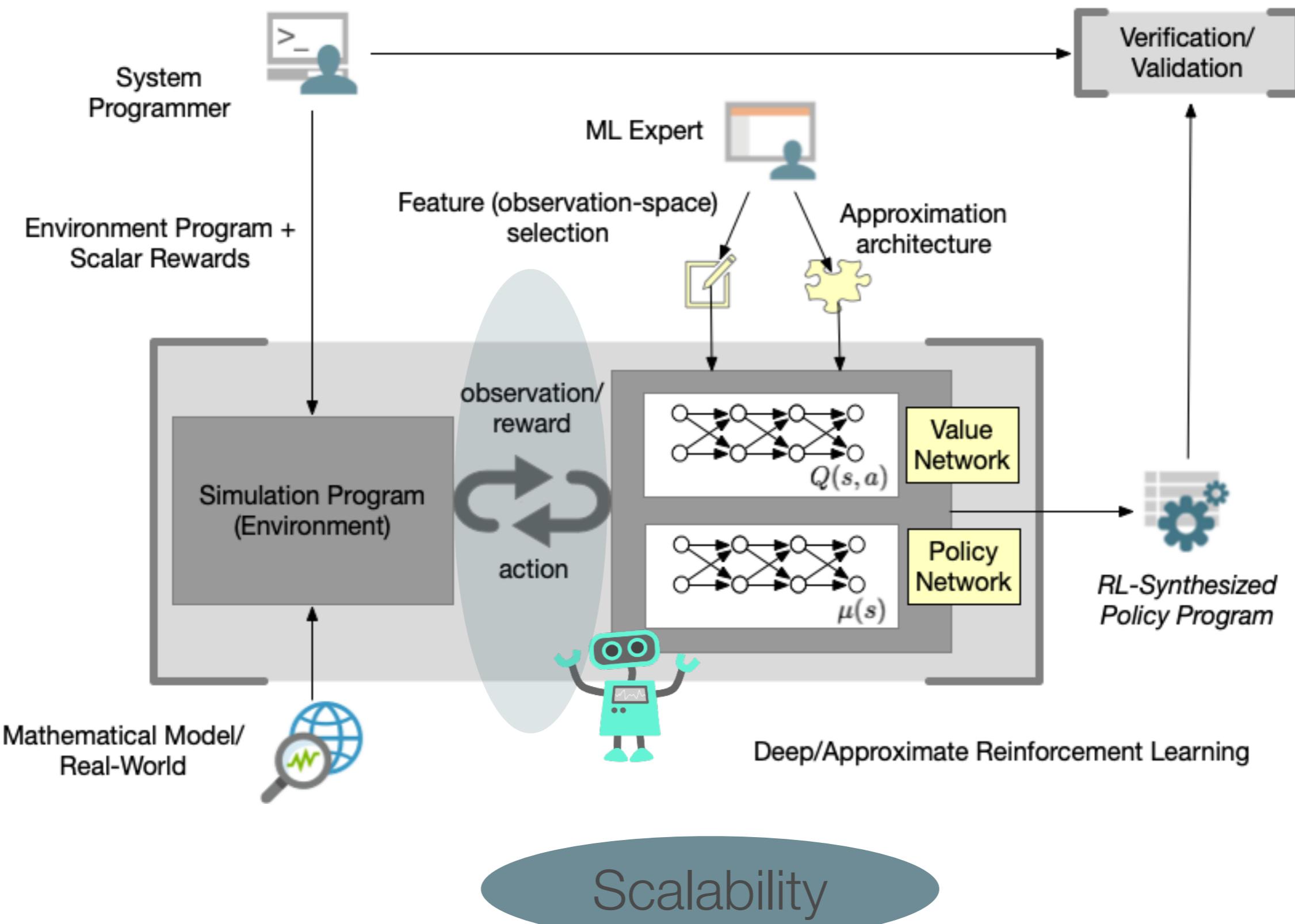
Pain Points



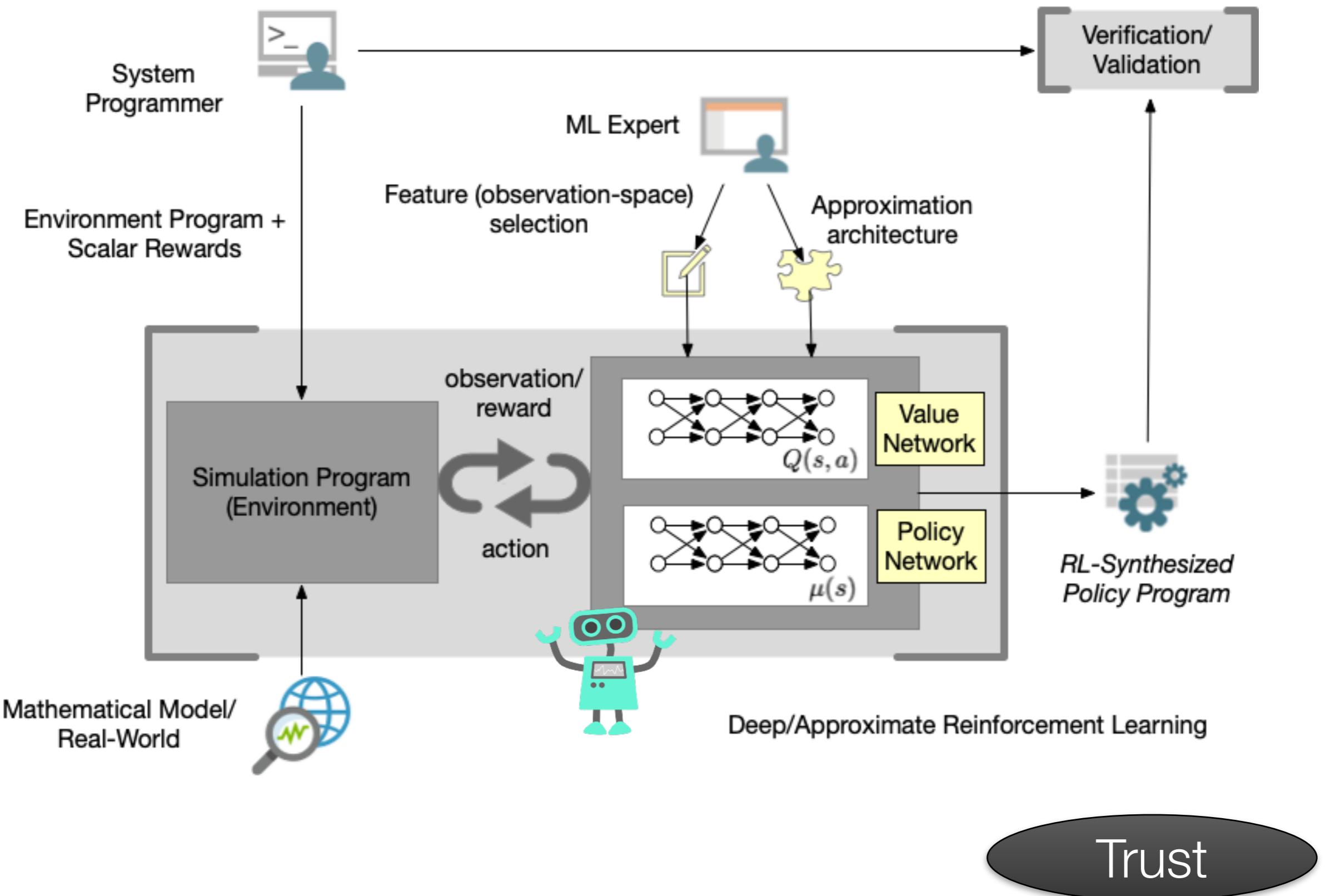
Pain Points



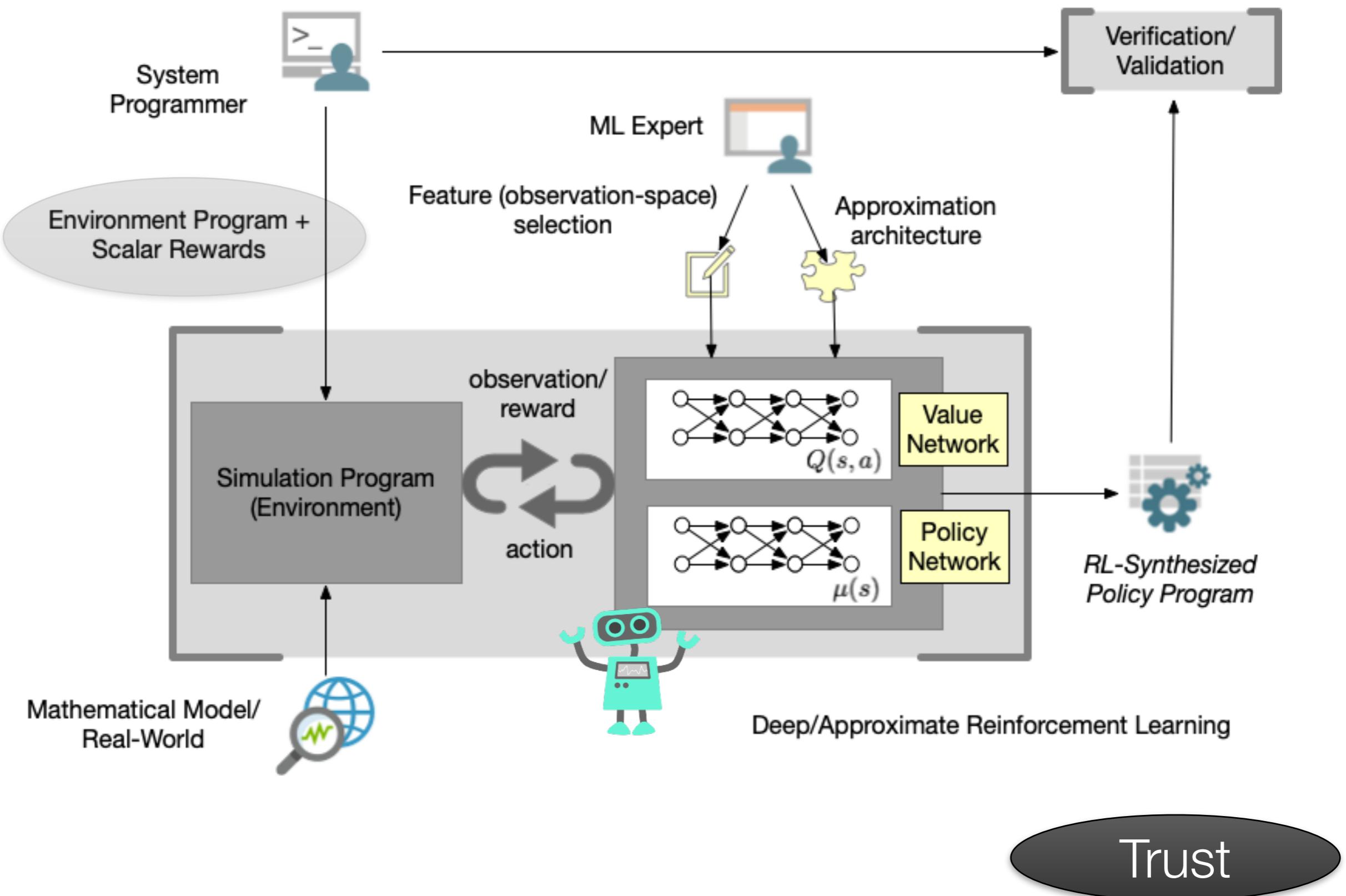
Pain Points



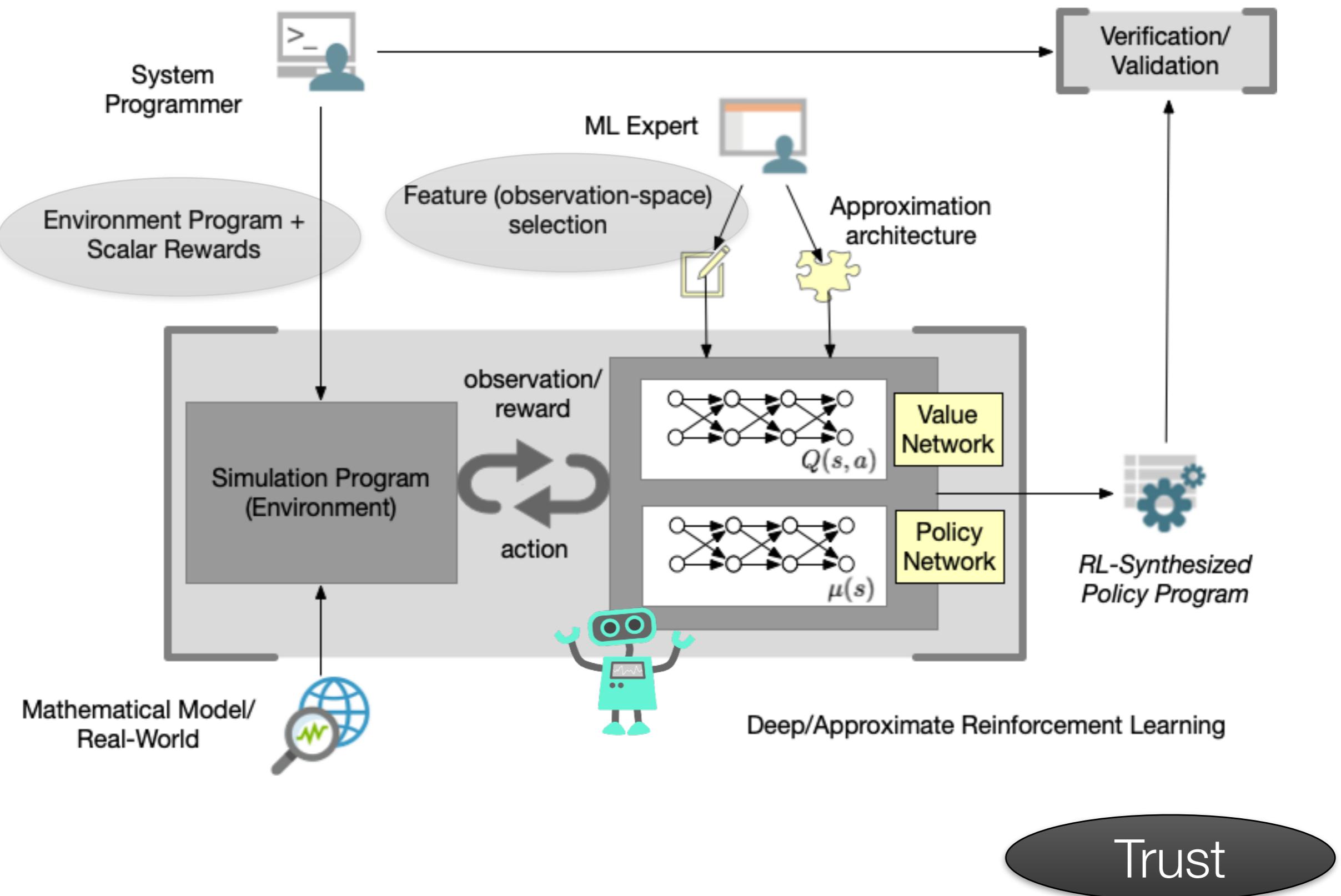
Pain Points



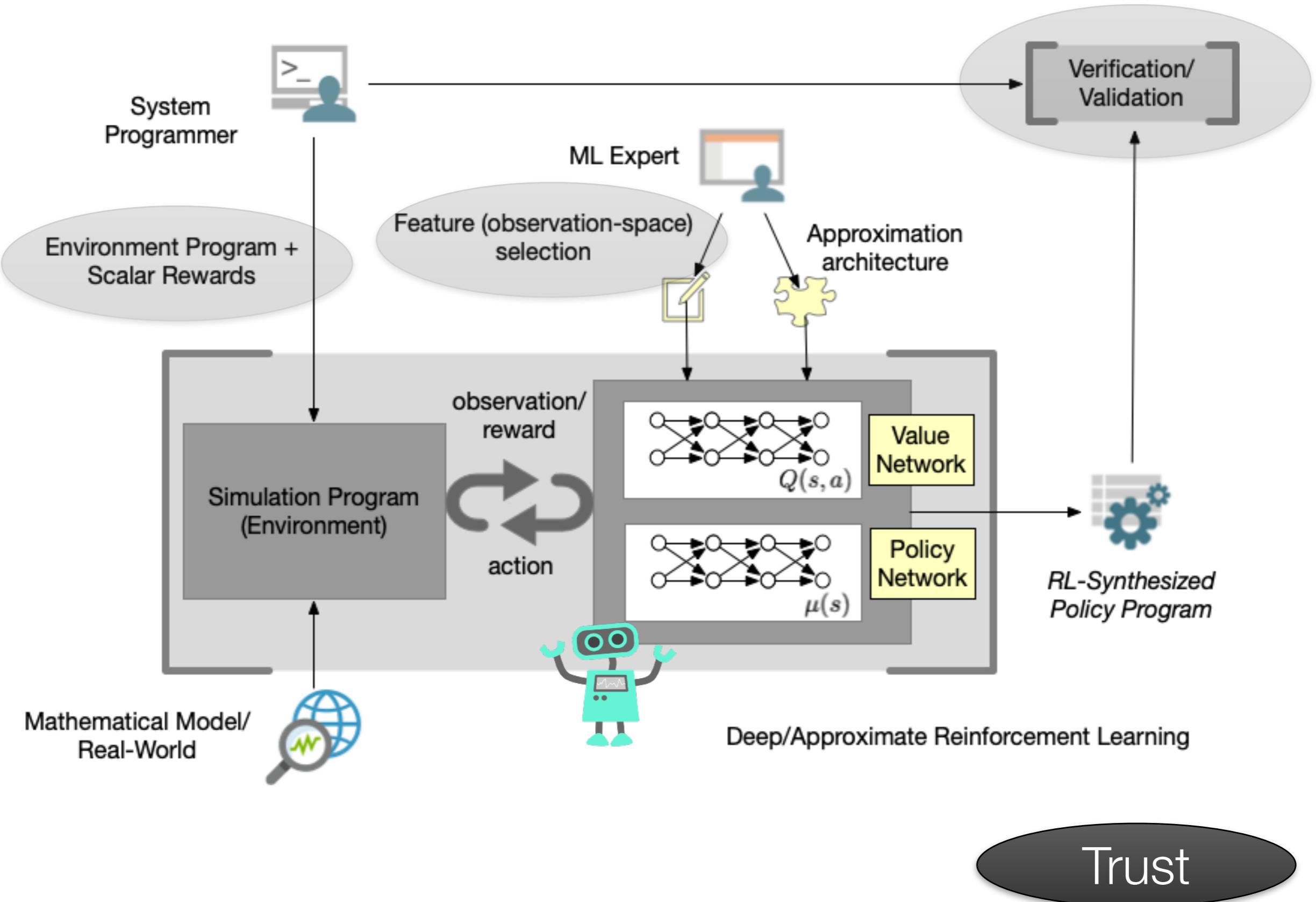
Pain Points



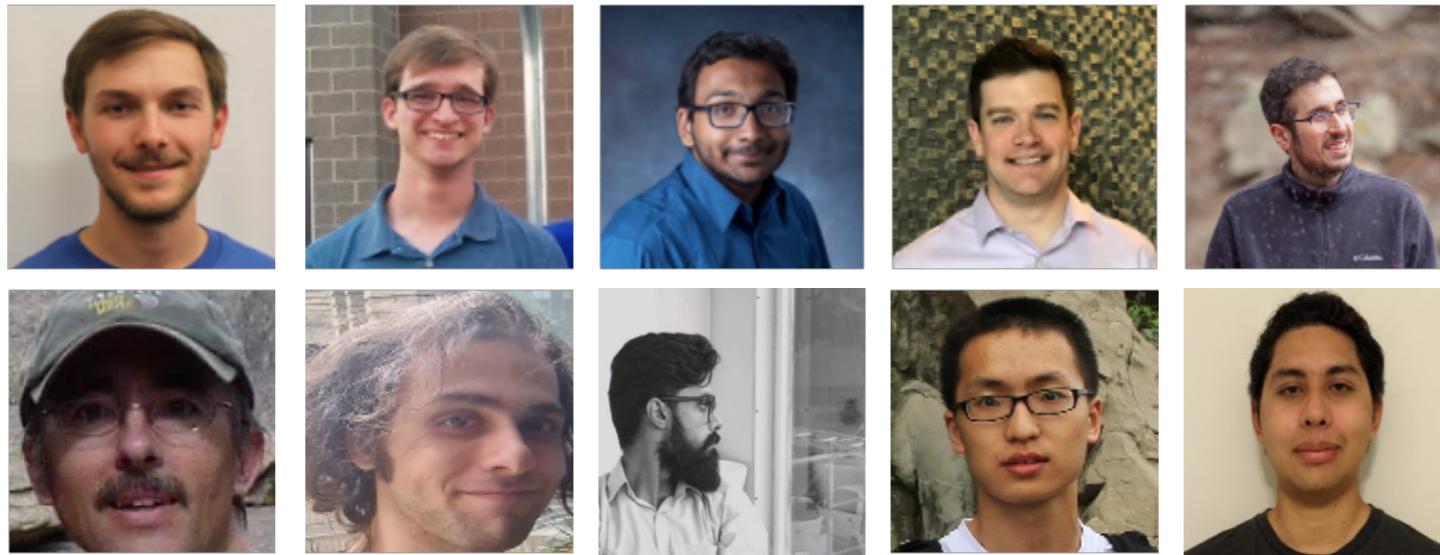
Pain Points



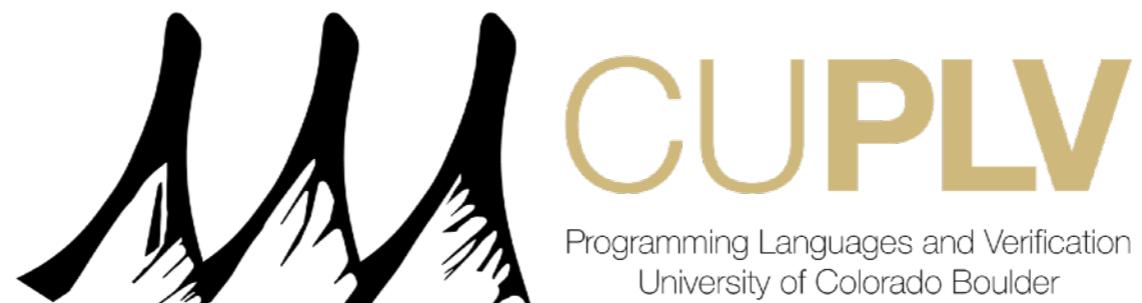
Pain Points



*Principled methodologies and powerful tools to improve the
usability, scalability, and trustworthiness of programmatic
reinforcement learning.*



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usability, scalability, and trustworthiness of programmatic
reinforcement learning.*



Improving Usability



I. Programming Language of Rewards

Ernst Moritz Hahn, Mateo Perez, Sven Schewe, Fabio Somenzi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Dominik Wojtczak [ID](#):

Omega-Regular Objectives in Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. TACAS (1) 2019: 395-412

Ernst Moritz Hahn, Mateo Perez, Sven Schewe, Fabio Somenzi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Dominik Wojtczak:

Model-Free Reinforcement Learning for Stochastic Parity Games. CONCUR 2020: 21:1-21:16

Kalyani Dole, Ashutosh Gupta, John Komp, Shankara Narayanan Krishna, Ashutosh Trivedi:

Event-Triggered and Time-Triggered Duration Calculus for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. RTSS 2021: 240-252

Ernst Moritz Hahn [ID](#), Mateo Perez [ID](#), Sven Schewe [ID](#), Fabio Somenzi [ID](#), Ashutosh Trivedi [ID](#), Dominik Wojtczak [ID](#):

Model-Free Reinforcement Learning for Lexicographic Omega-Regular Objectives. FM 2021: 142-159

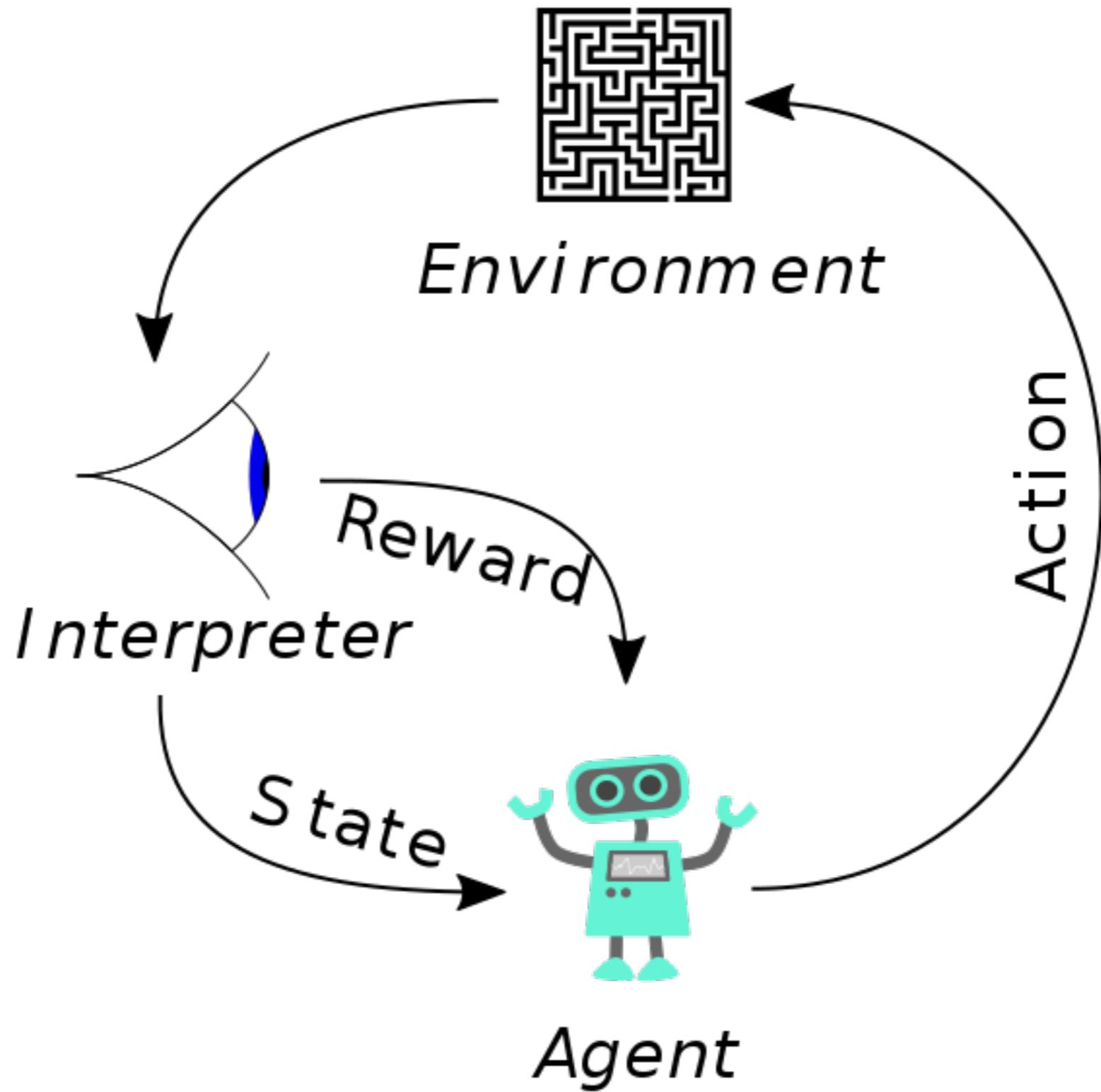
Milad Kazemi, Mateo Perez, Fabio Somenzi, Sadegh Soudjani, Ashutosh Trivedi, Alvaro Velasquez:

Translating Omega-Regular Specifications to Average Objectives for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. AAMAS 2022: 732-741

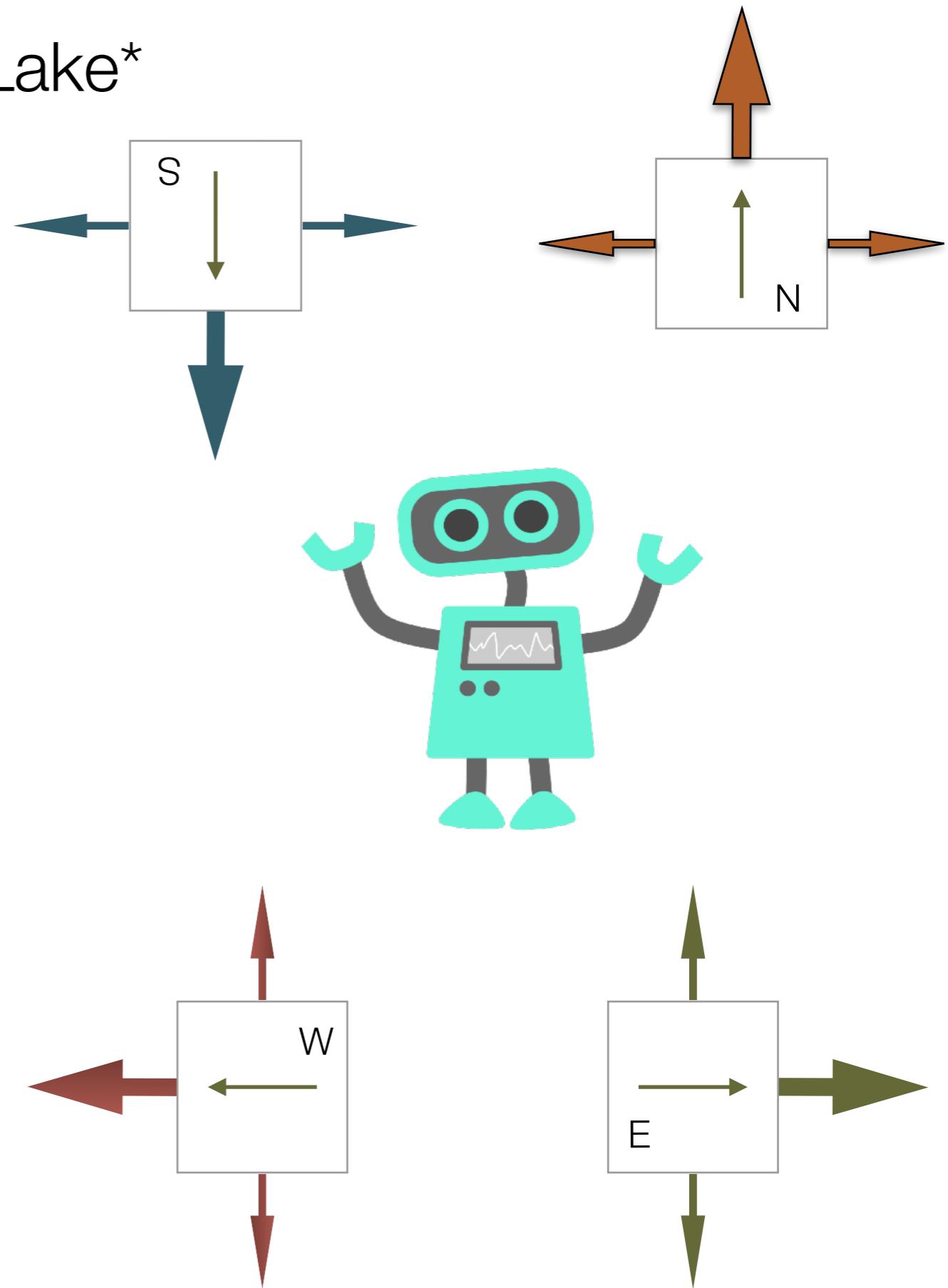
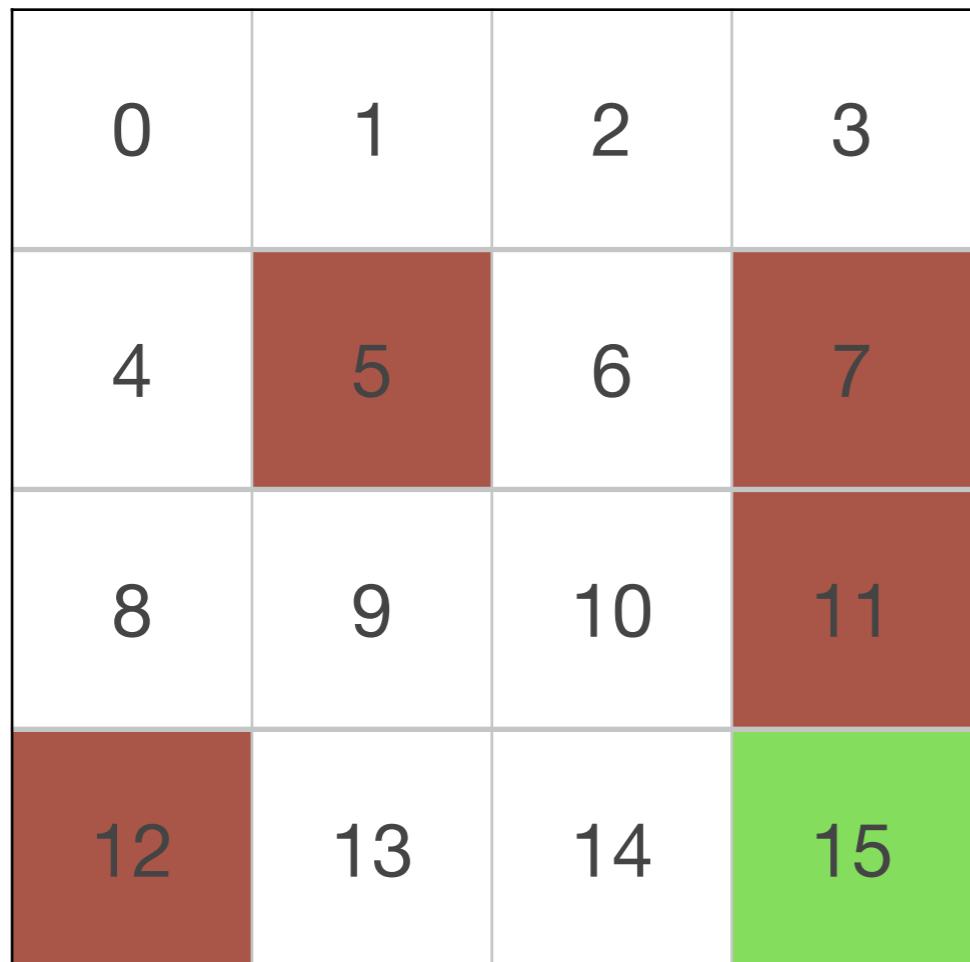
Taylor Dohmen, Noah Topper, George K. Atia, Andre Beckus, Ashutosh Trivedi, Alvaro Velasquez:

Inferring Probabilistic Reward Machines from Non-Markovian Reward Signals for Reinforcement Learning. ICAPS 2022: 574-582

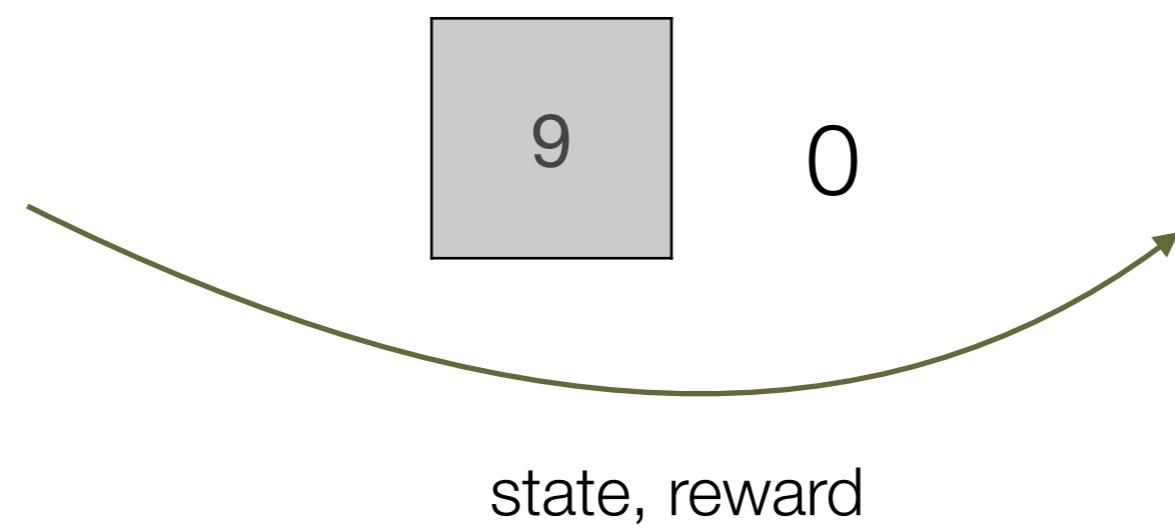
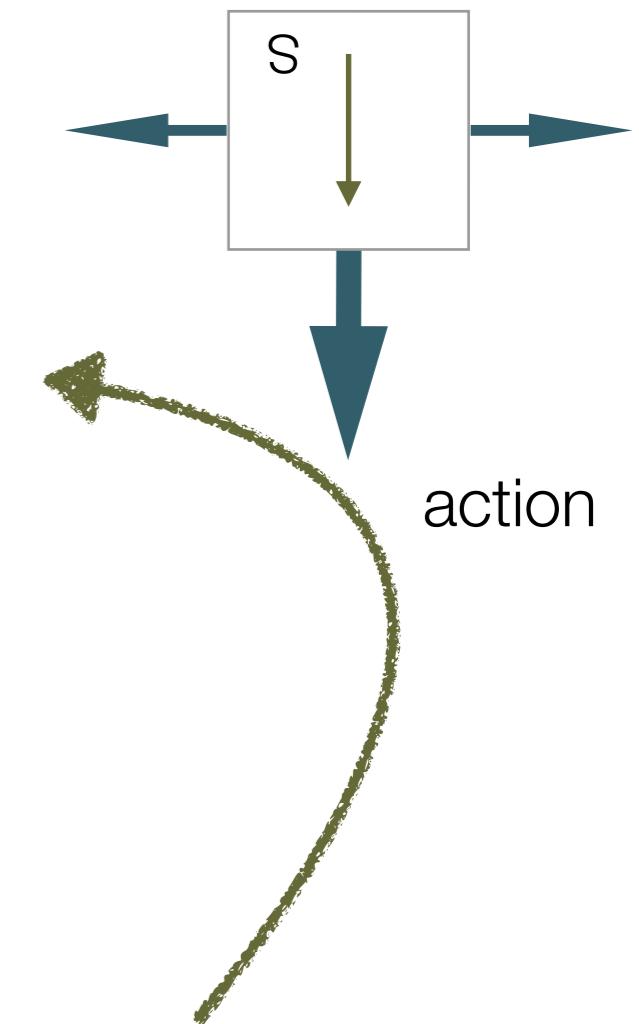
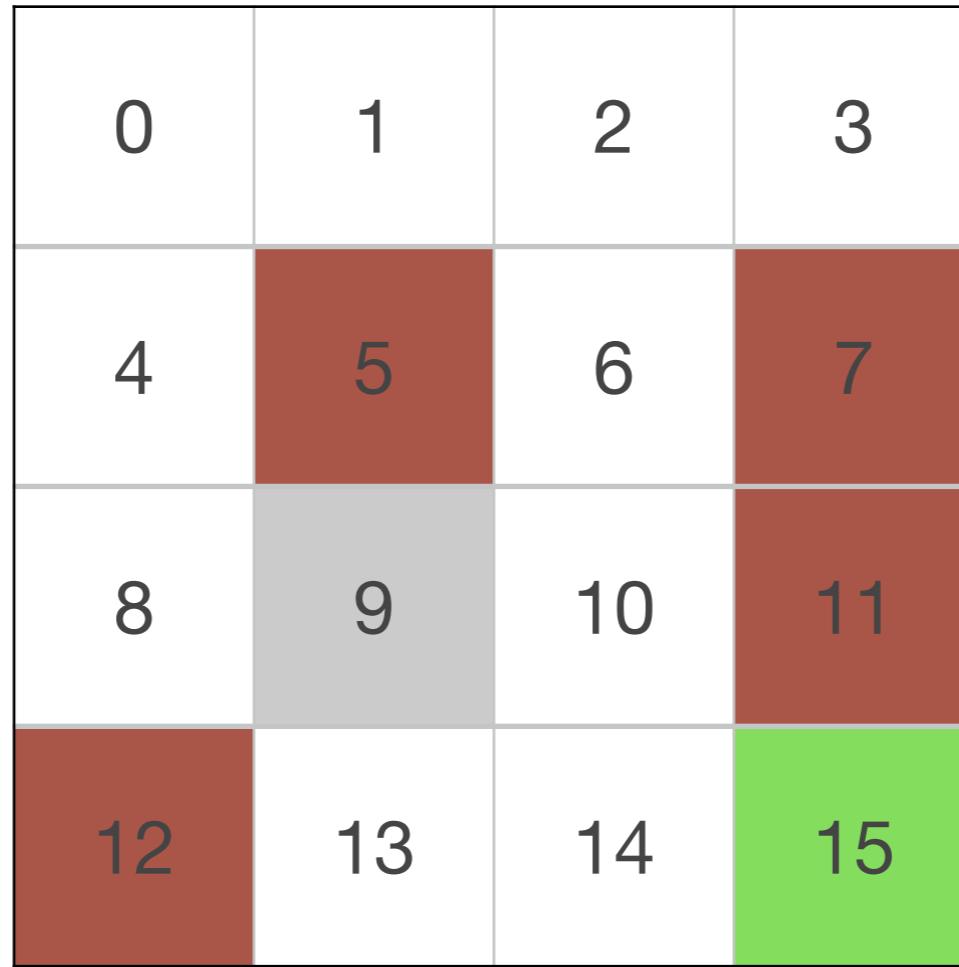
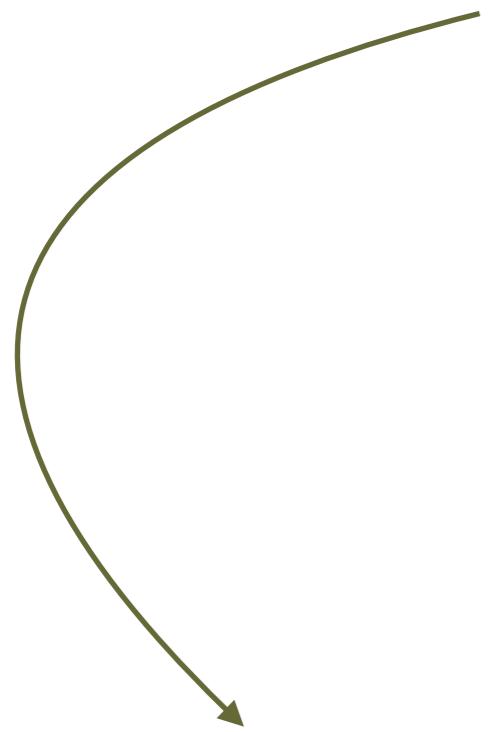
What is Reinforcement Learning?



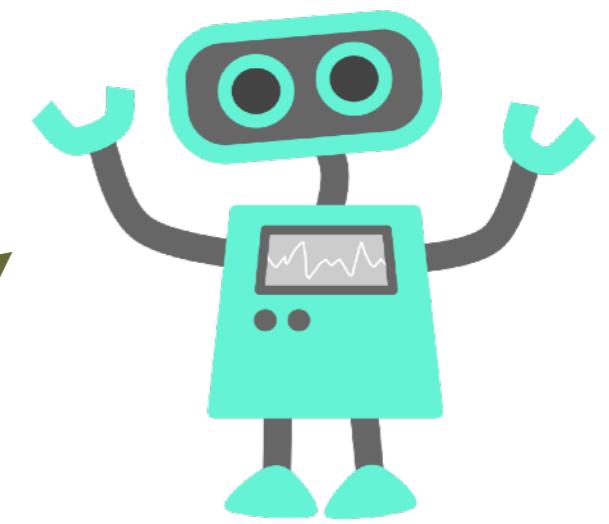
Grid-World Example: Frozen Lake*

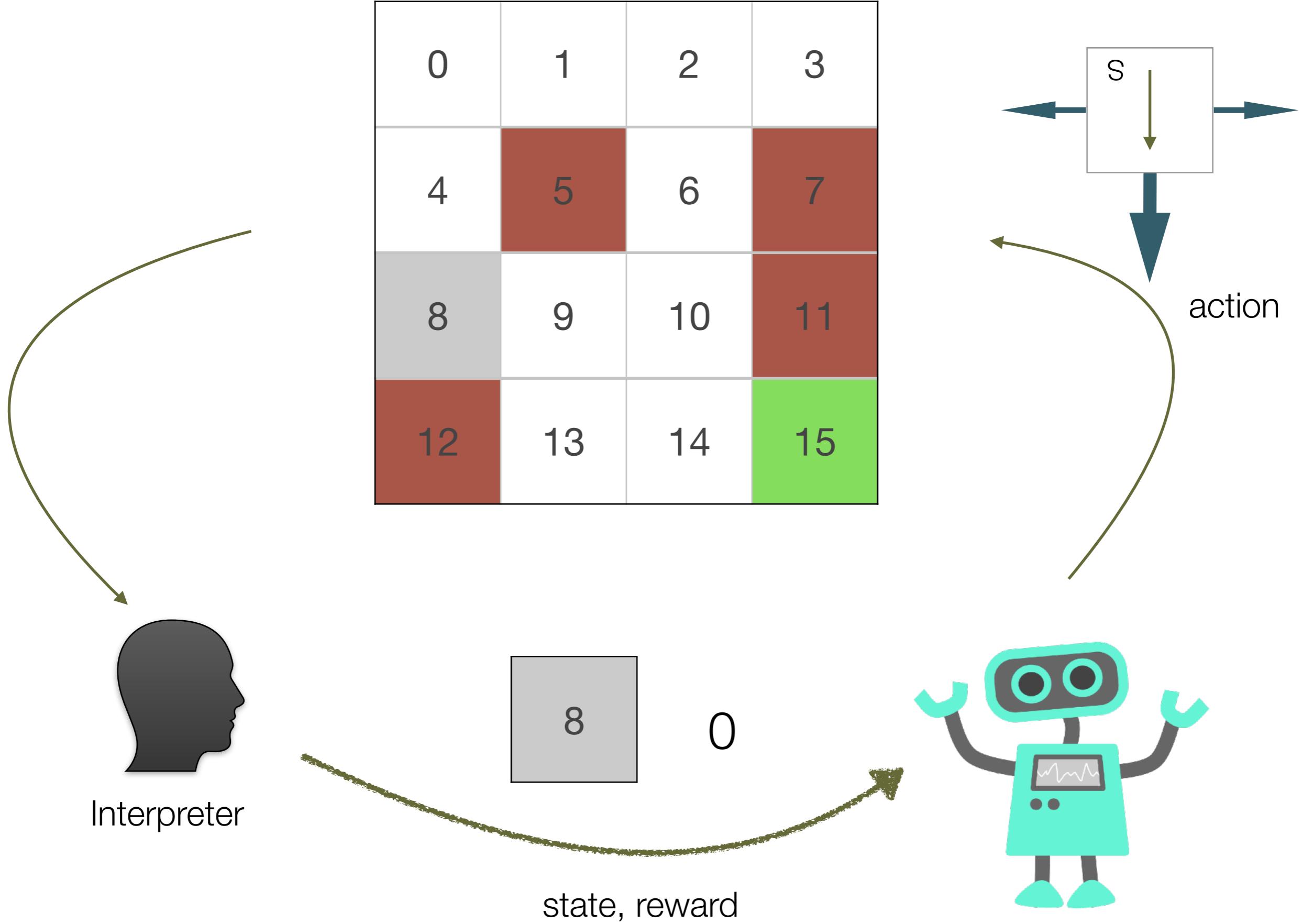


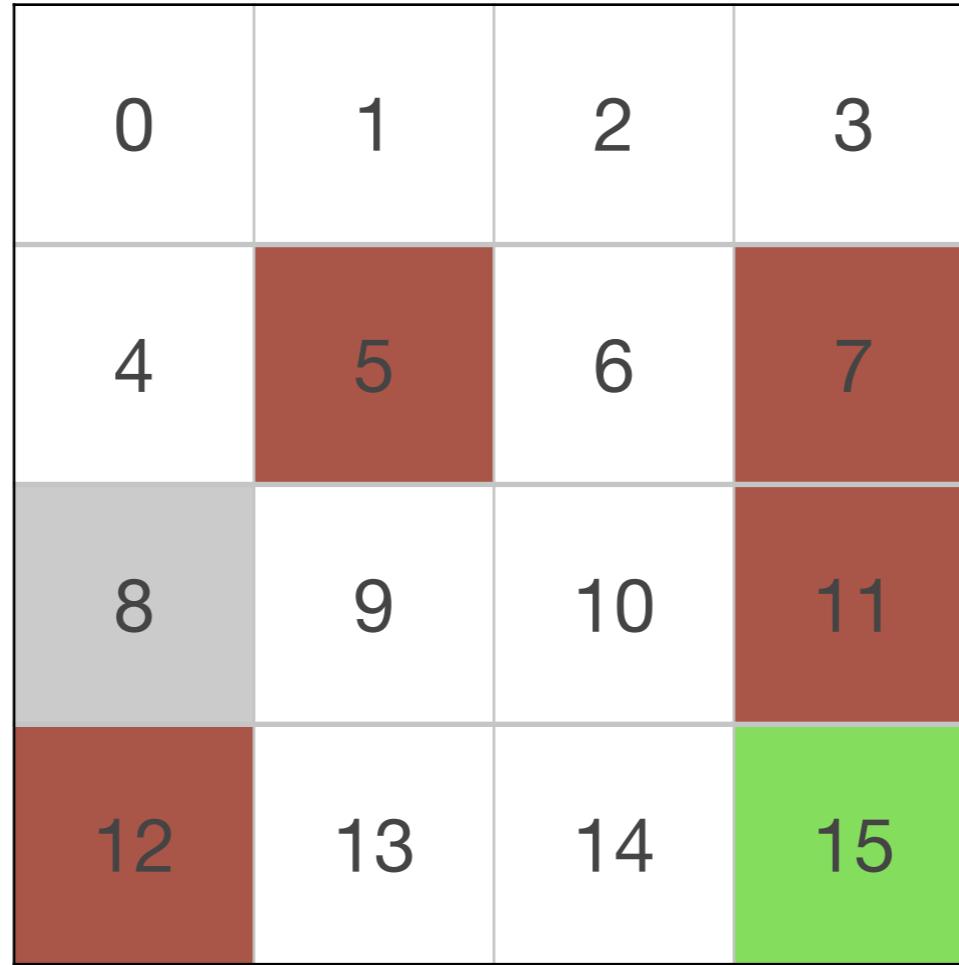
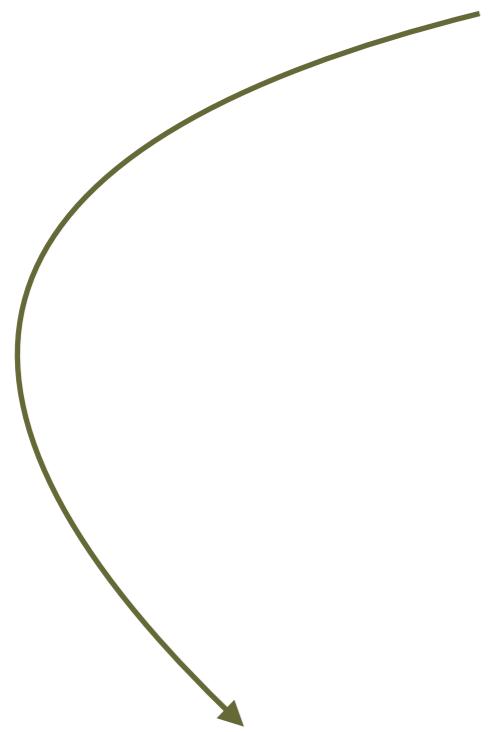
*Frozen Lake (<https://gym.openai.com>)



state, reward



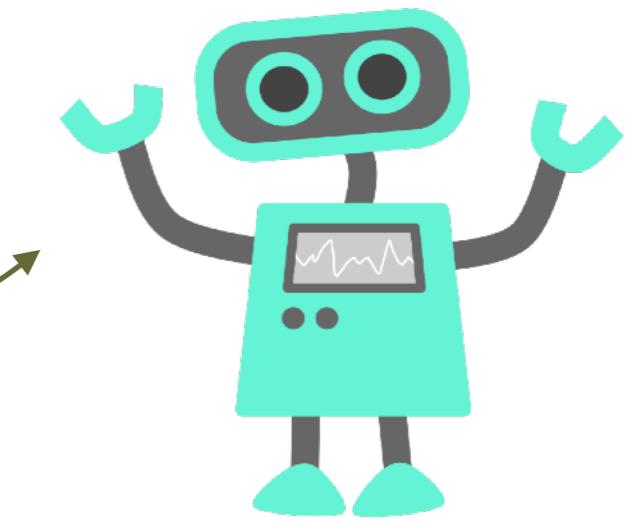
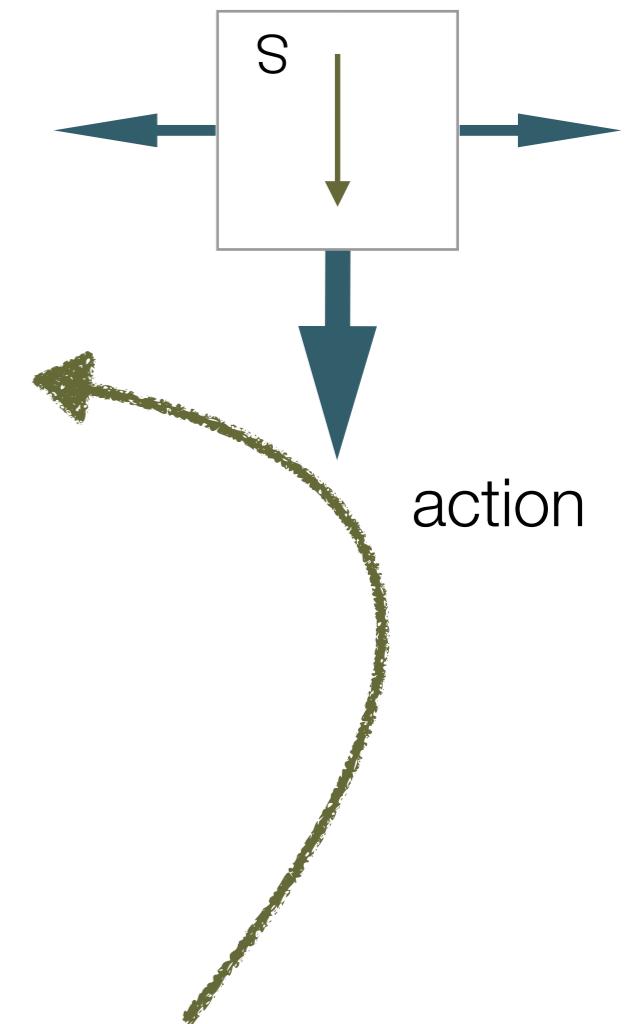


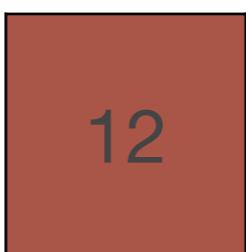
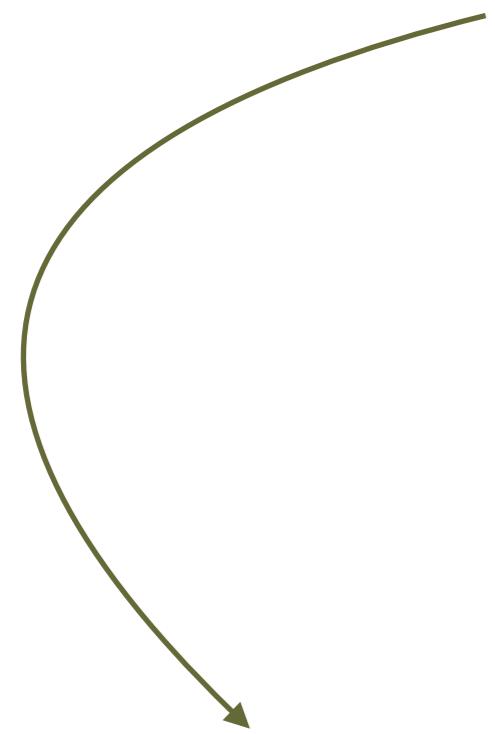


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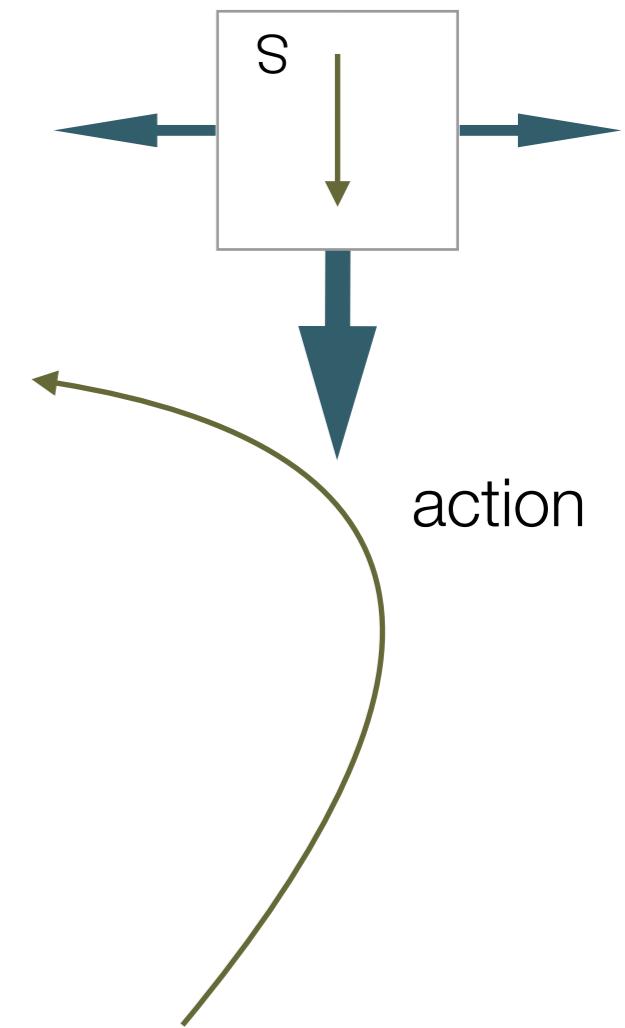
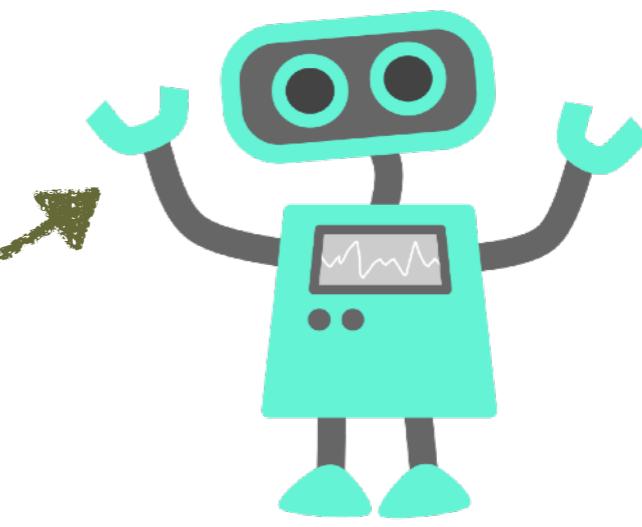
state, reward





-10

state, reward



9

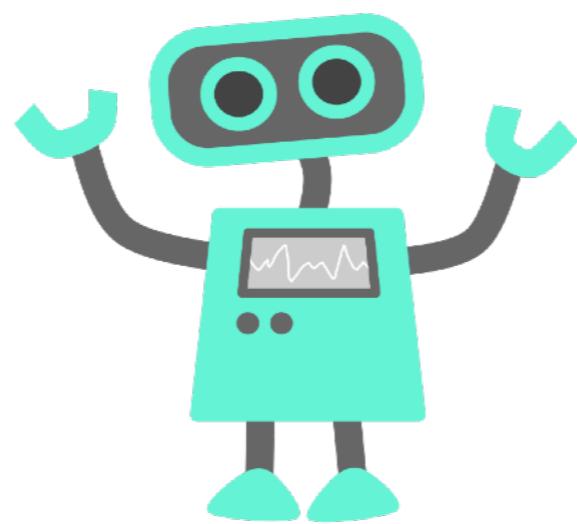
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11

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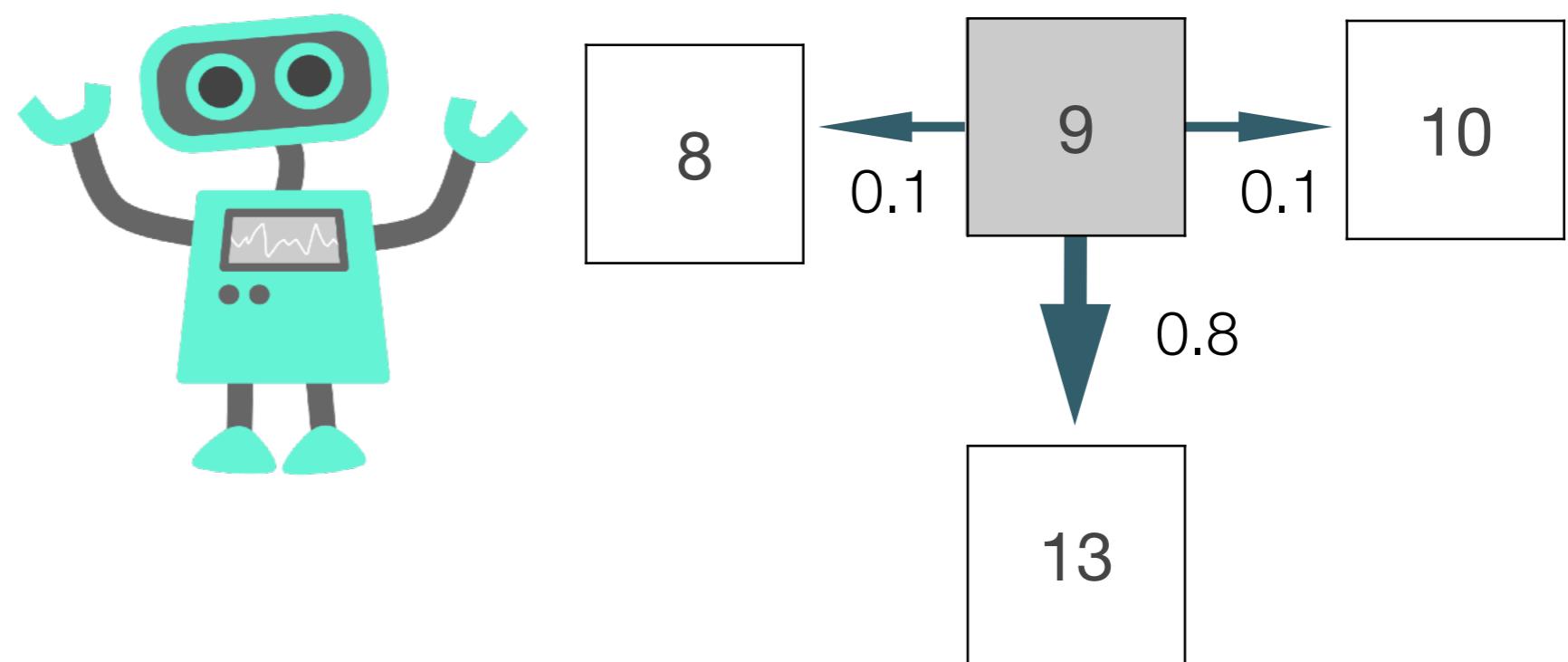
15



Two flavors of reinforcement learning

	9	10	11
2	13	14	15

5



Markov Decision Process

Model-Based Reinforcement Learning

9

10

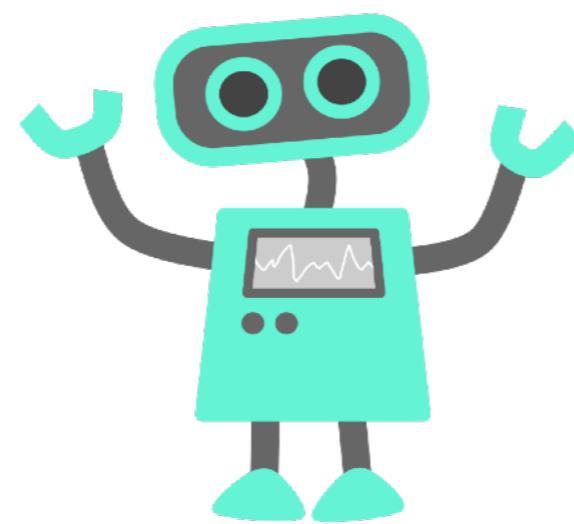
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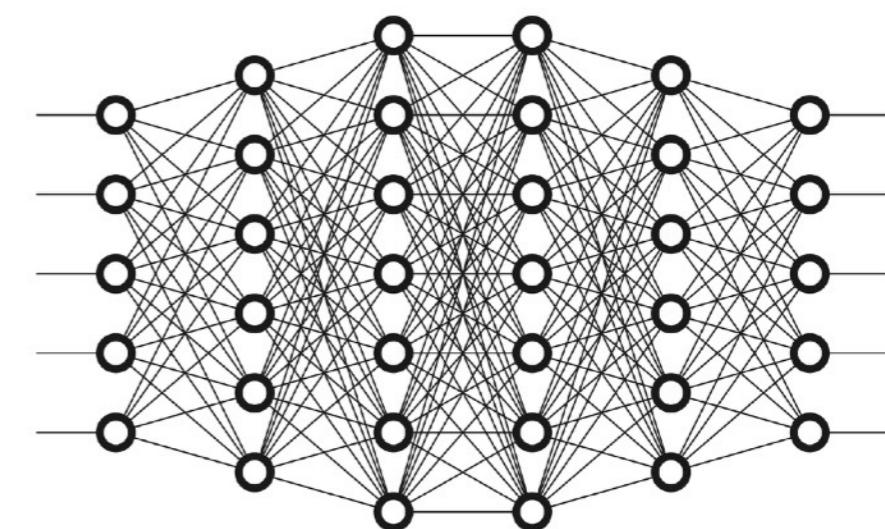
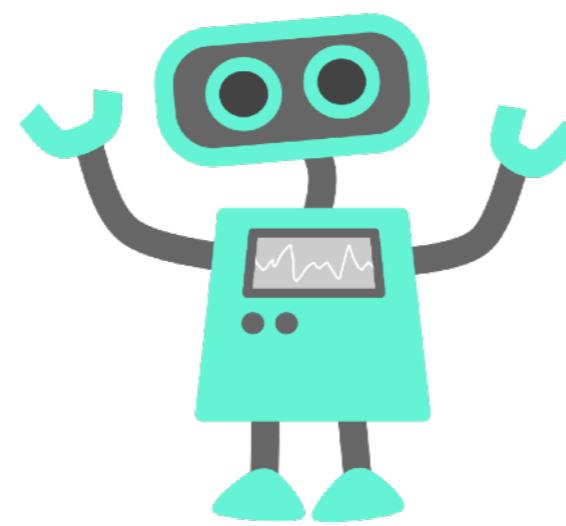
Model-Free Reinforcement Learning



Q	N	W	E	S
1	0.04	0.030	0.092	0.026
2	0.059	-1	0.136	-1
3	0.221	0.495	0.525	-1
4
...

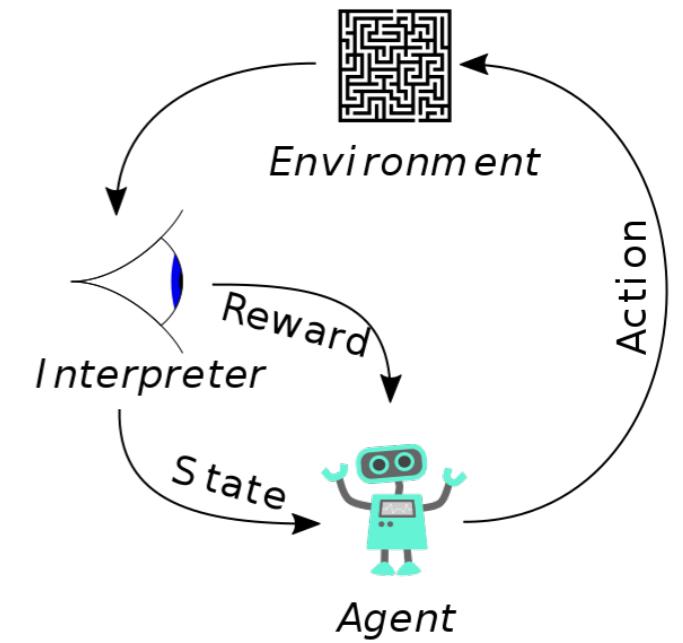
$$Q_{t+1}(s, a) = \begin{cases} (1-\alpha_t)Q_t(s, a) + \alpha_t(r_{t+1} + \lambda \cdot \max_{a' \in A(s)} Q_t(s_{t+1}, a')), & \text{if } (s, a) = (s_t, a_t) \\ Q_t(s, a), & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

Model-Free Reinforcement Learning



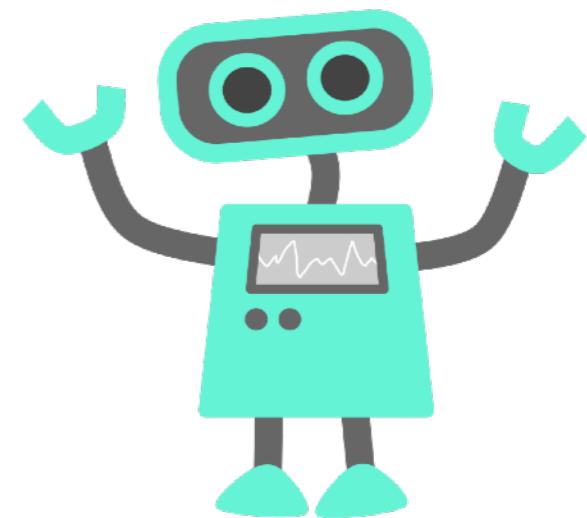
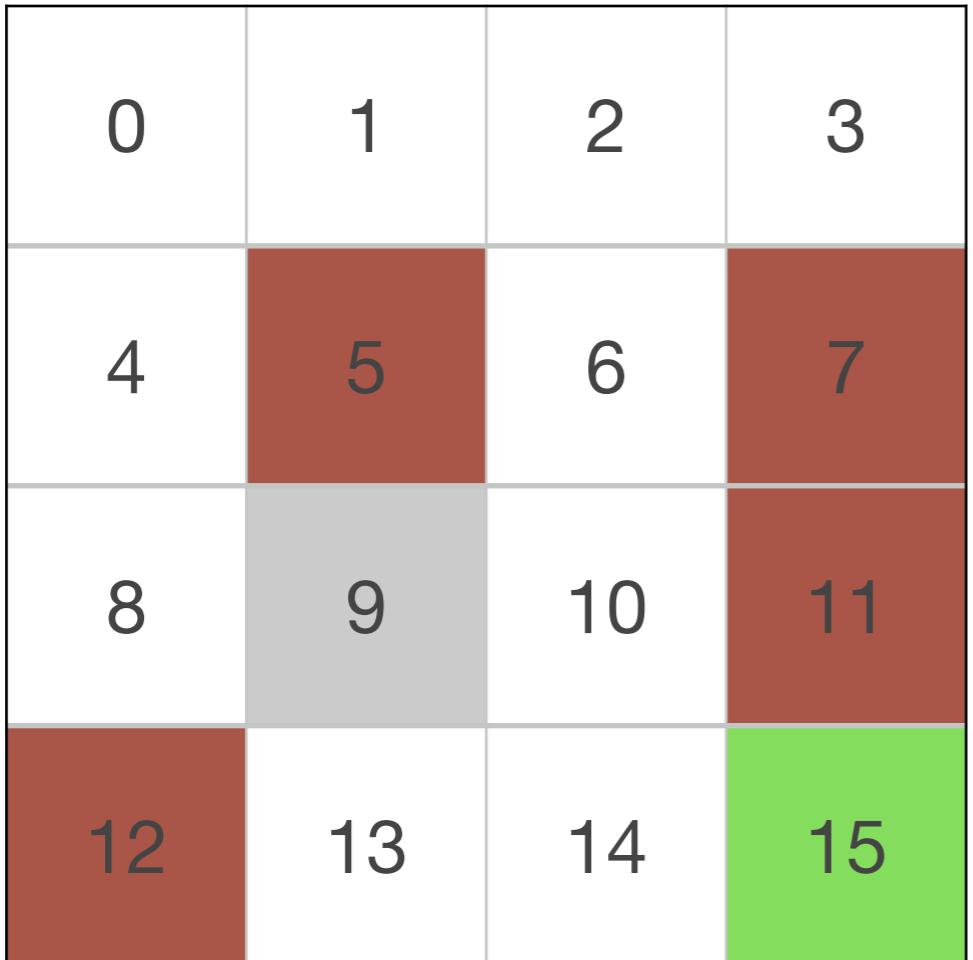
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Programming with scalar rewards

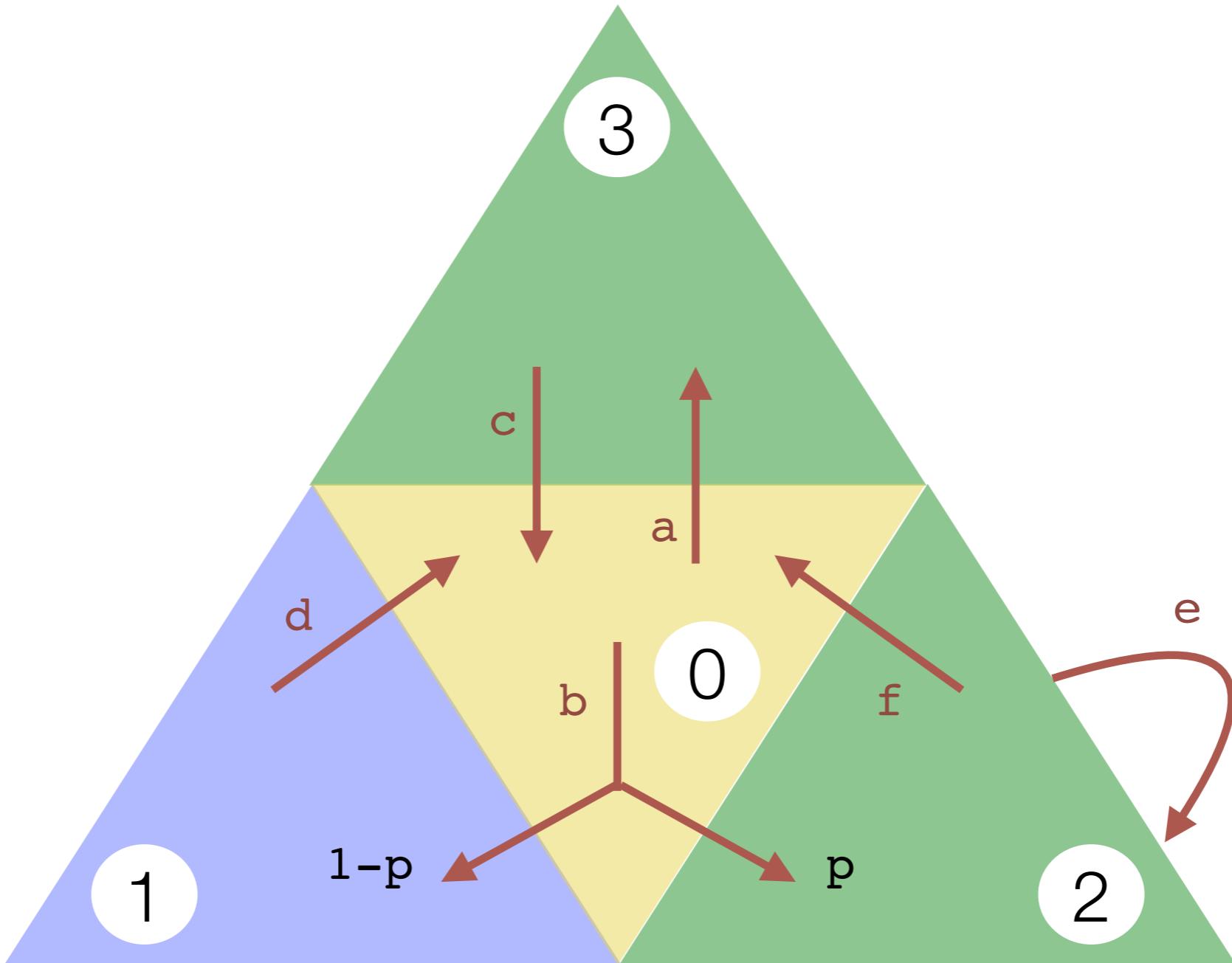
Some rewards are easy to express:



Specification: Reach  while Avoiding 

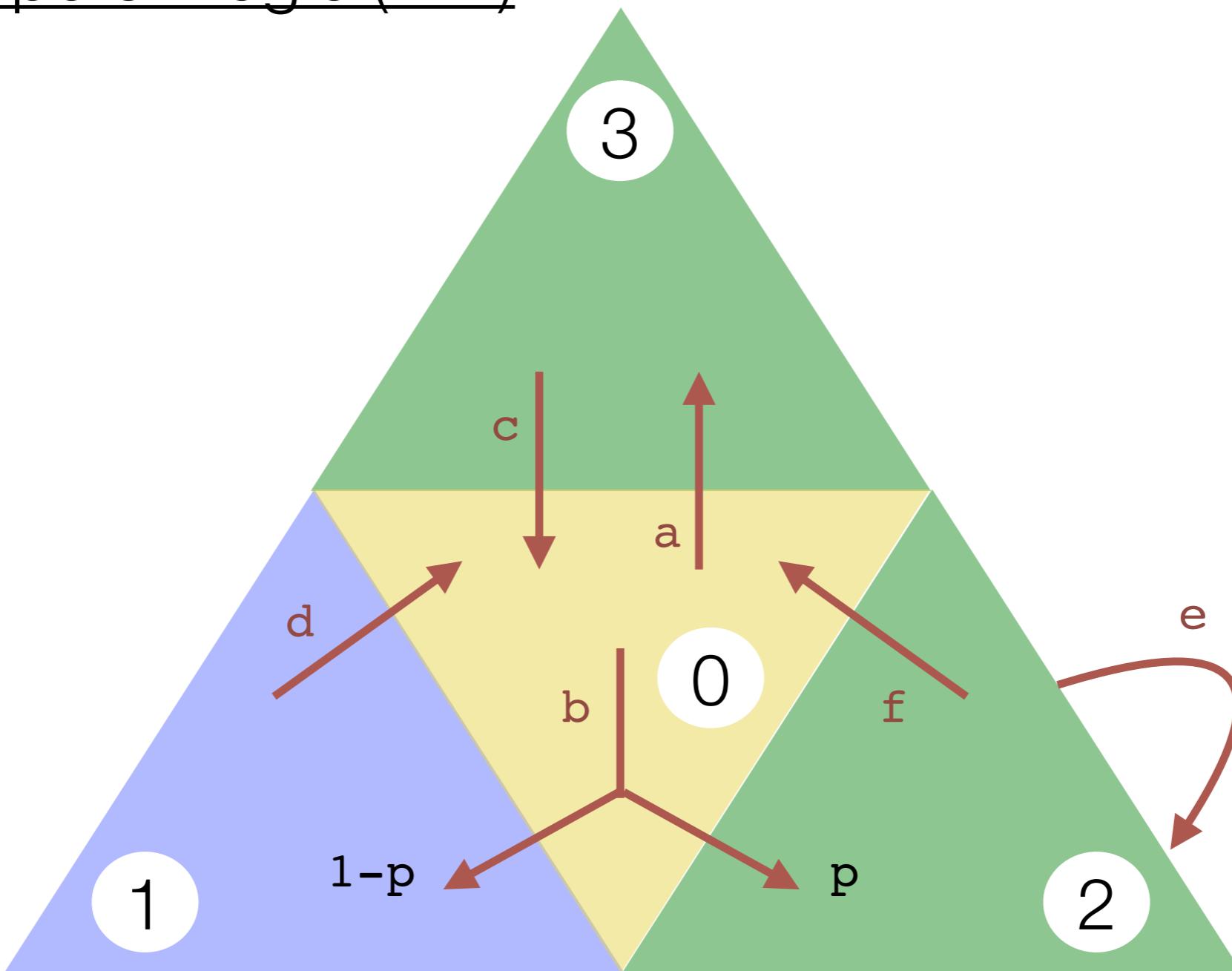
Reward: +1 at  -1 at  

Some, more involved:



always avoid and infinitely often visit

Linear-Temporal Logic (LTL)

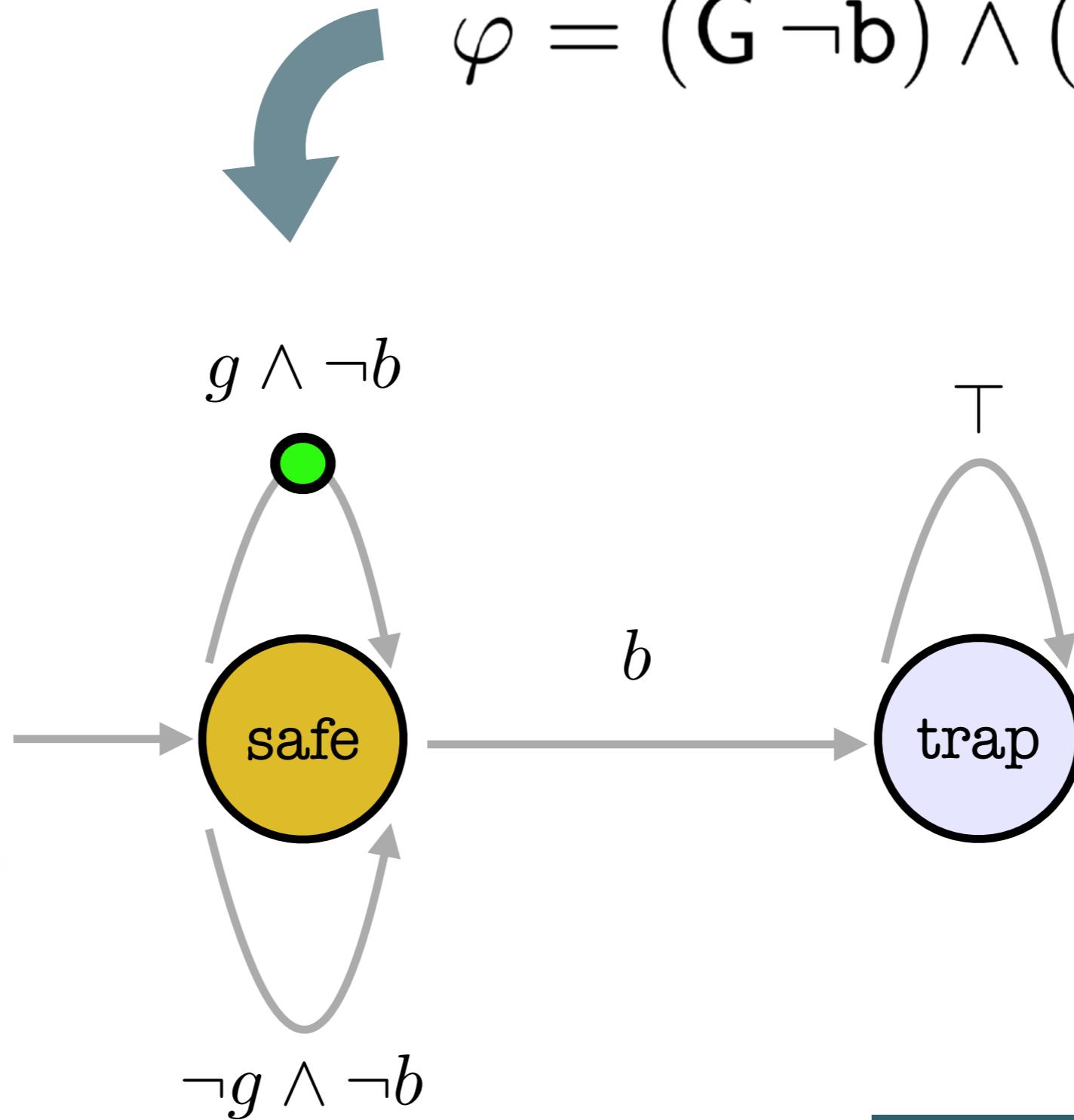


$$\varphi = (\text{G} \neg b) \wedge (\text{G F g})$$

globally globally finally

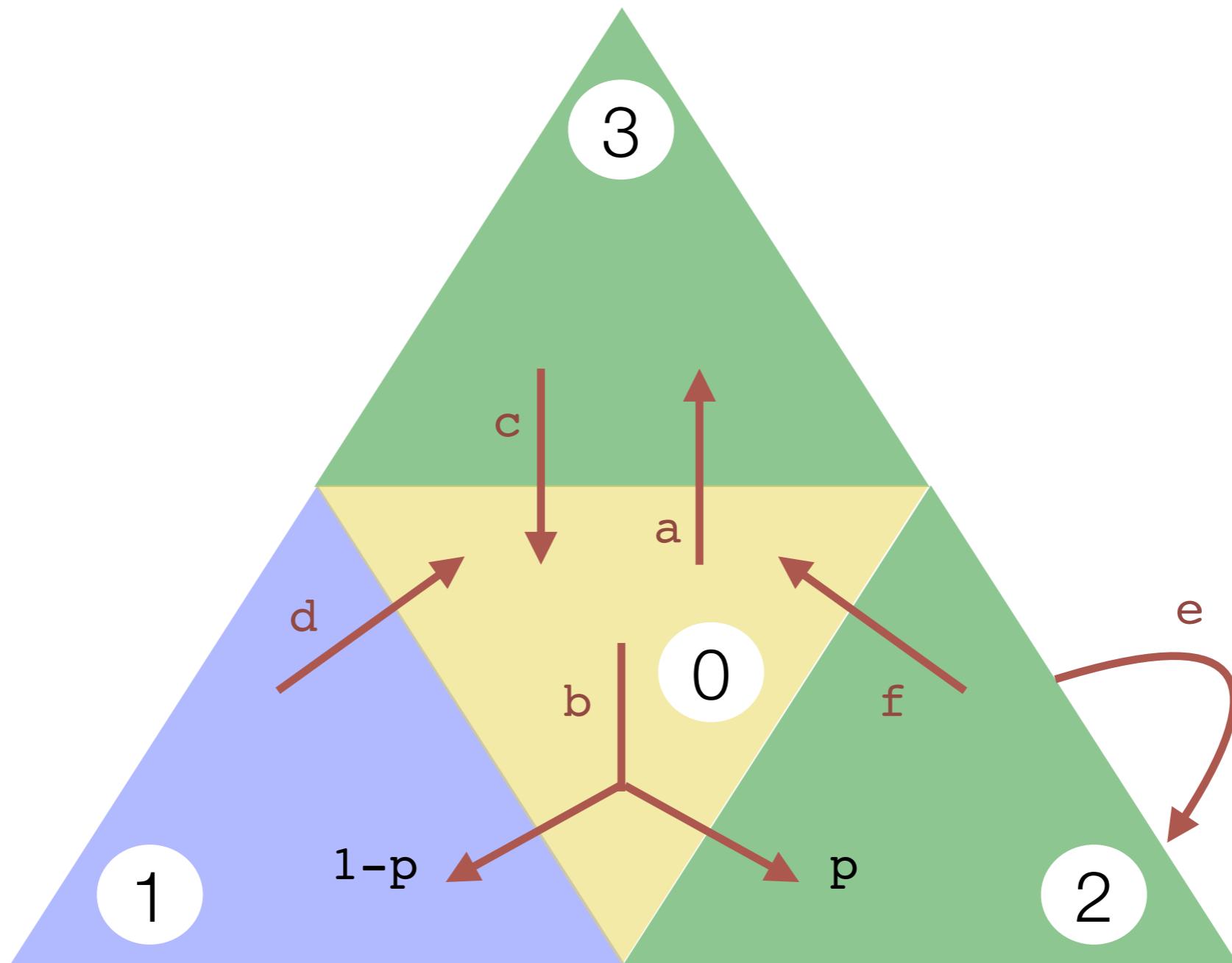
Compiling LTL to Monitor Automata

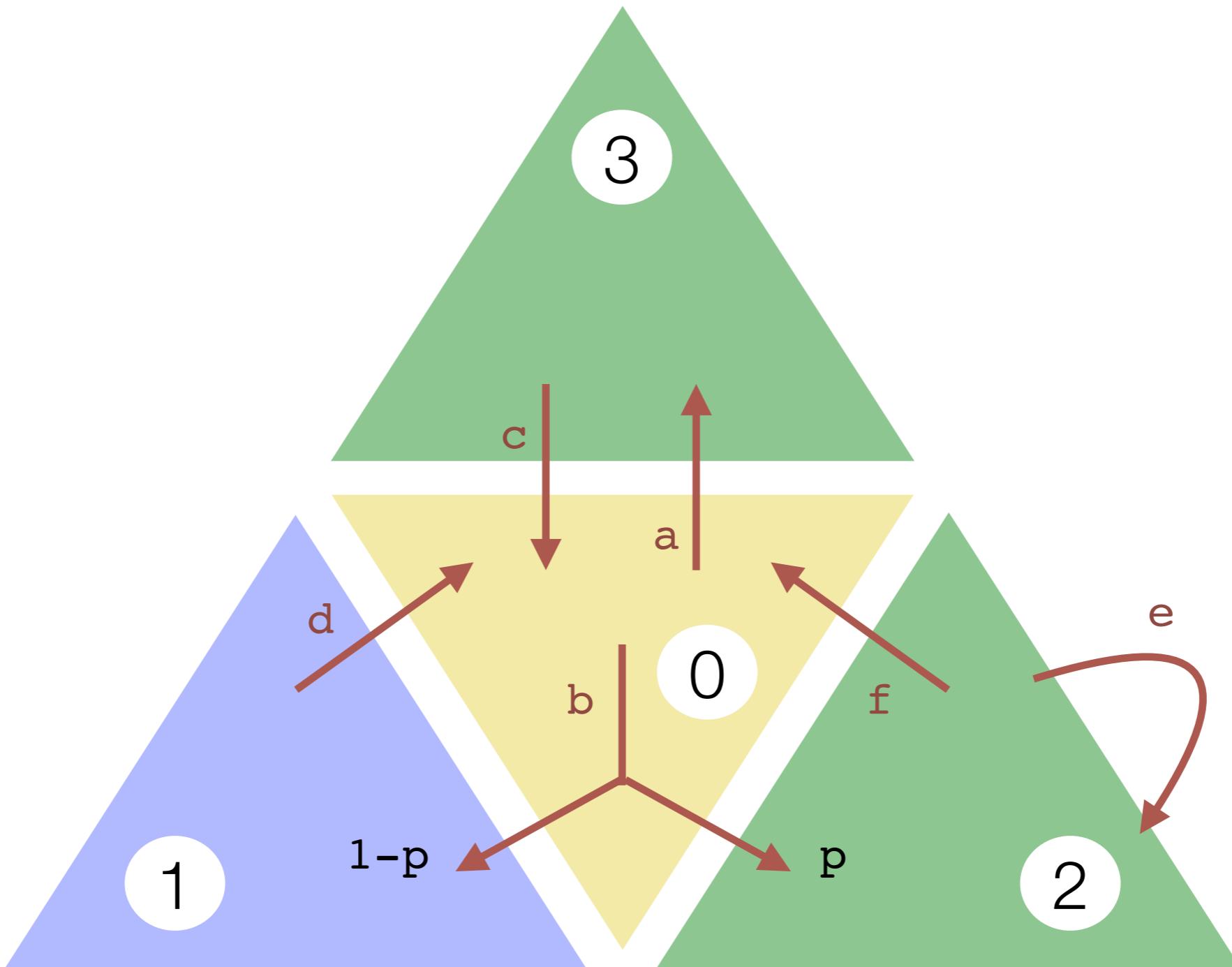
$$\varphi = (G \neg b) \wedge (G F g)$$

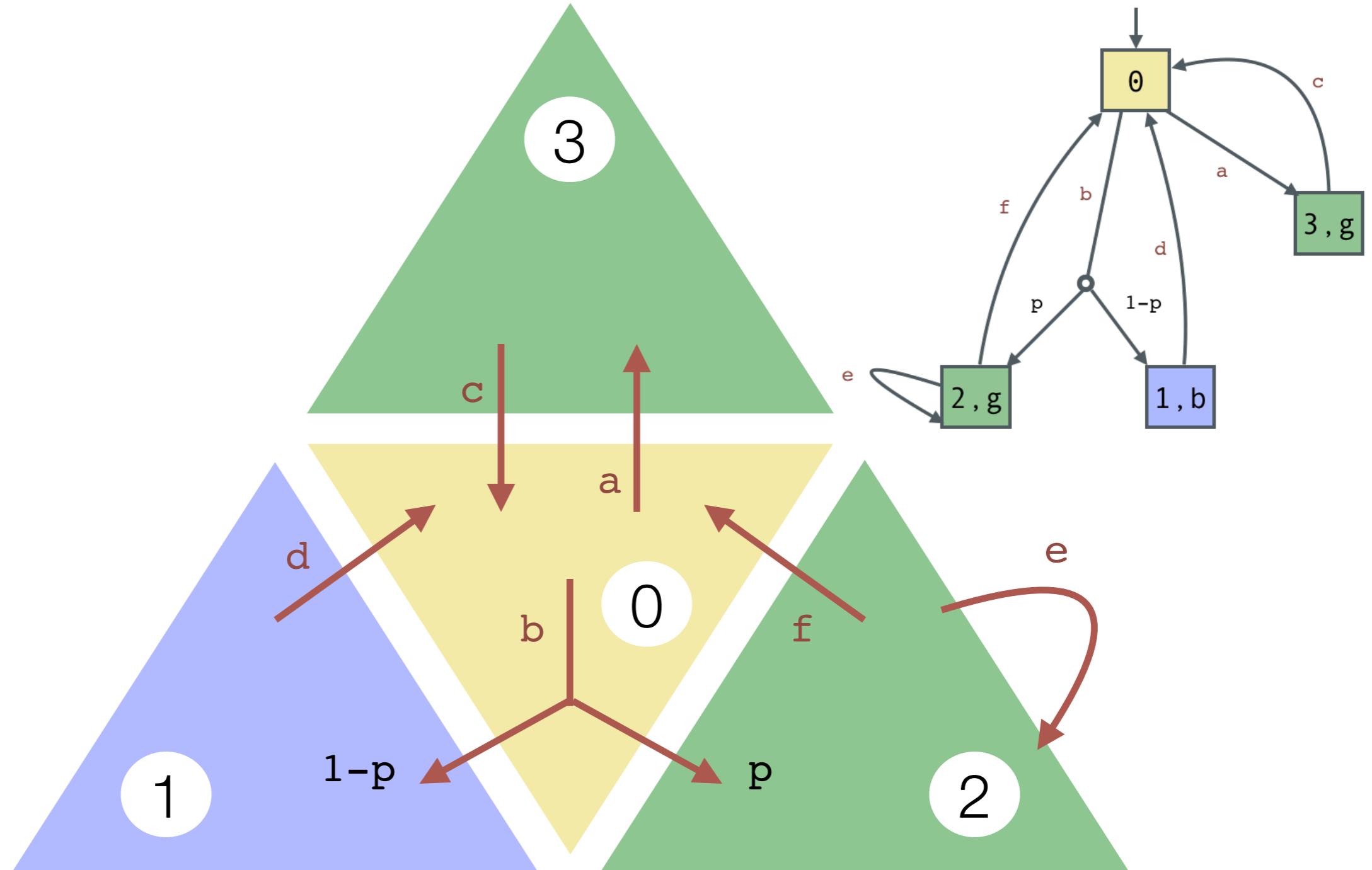


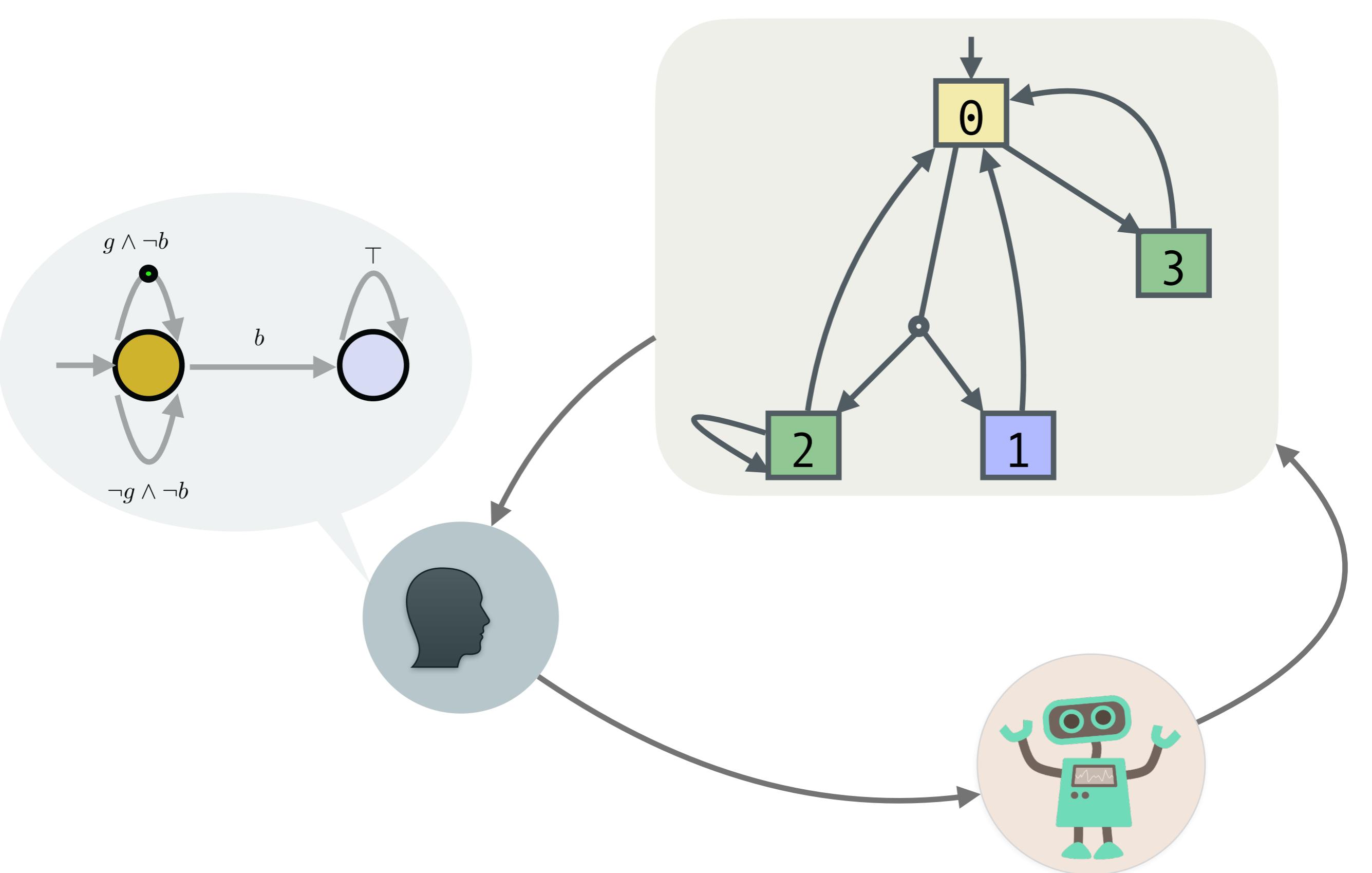
Büchi Automata

How to use Linear Temporal Logic in RL?









Formal Reinforcement Learning

Model-Based Formal Reinforcement Learning

Moshe Y. Vardi:

Automatic Verification of Probabilistic Concurrent Finite-State Programs. FOCS 1985: 327-338

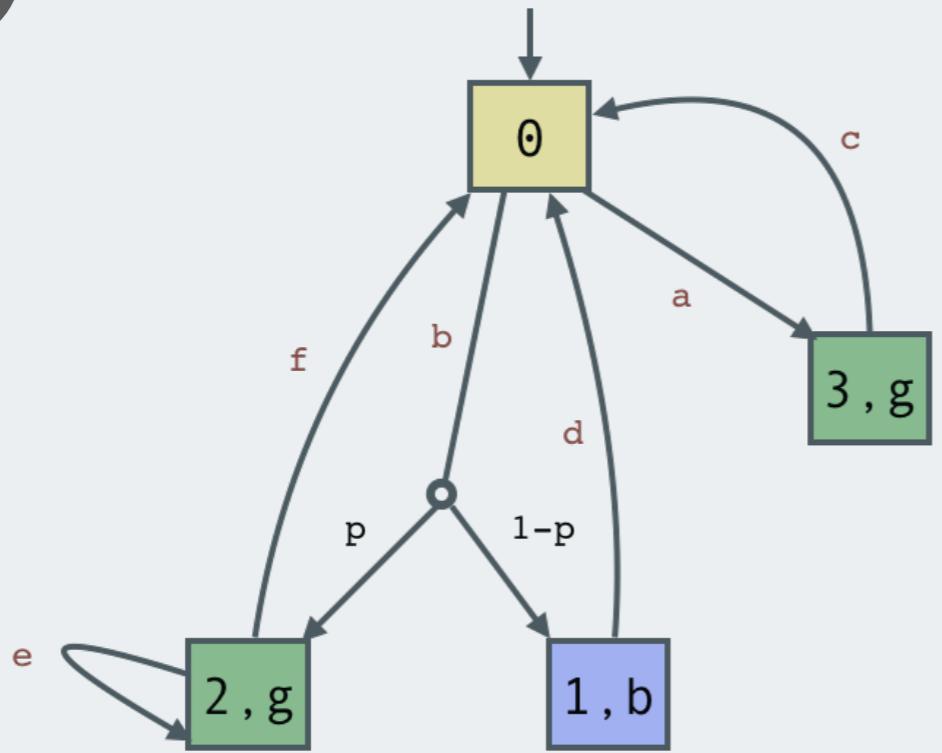
Jie Fu, Ufuk Topcu:

Probably Approximately Correct MDP Learning and Control With Temporal Logic Constraints. Robotics: Science and Systems 2014

Probabilistic Model Checking

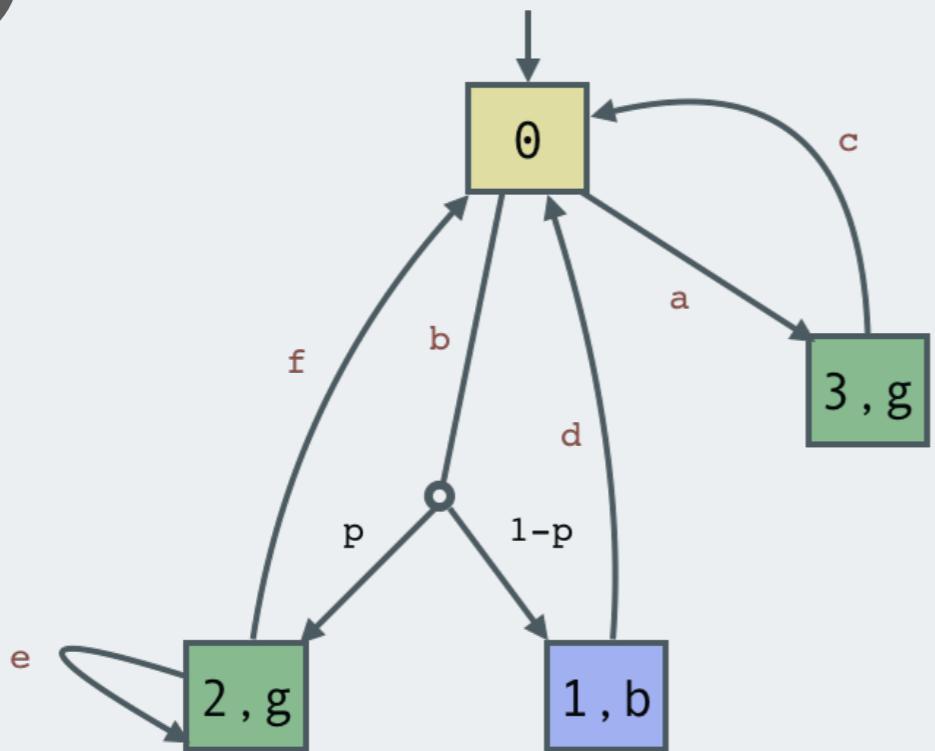
1

System given as an MDP

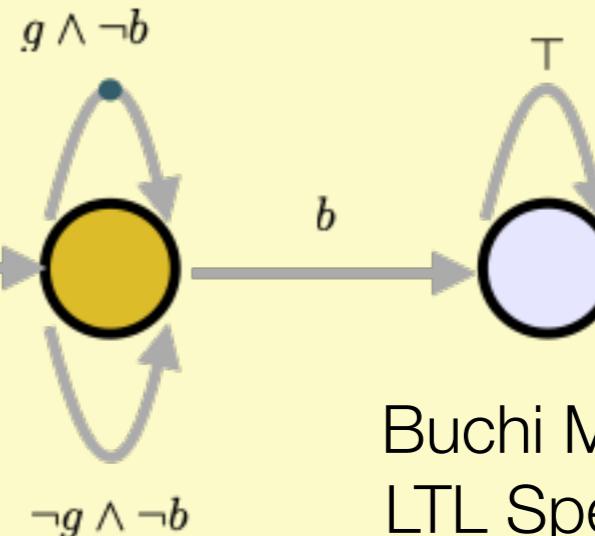


1

System given as an MDP

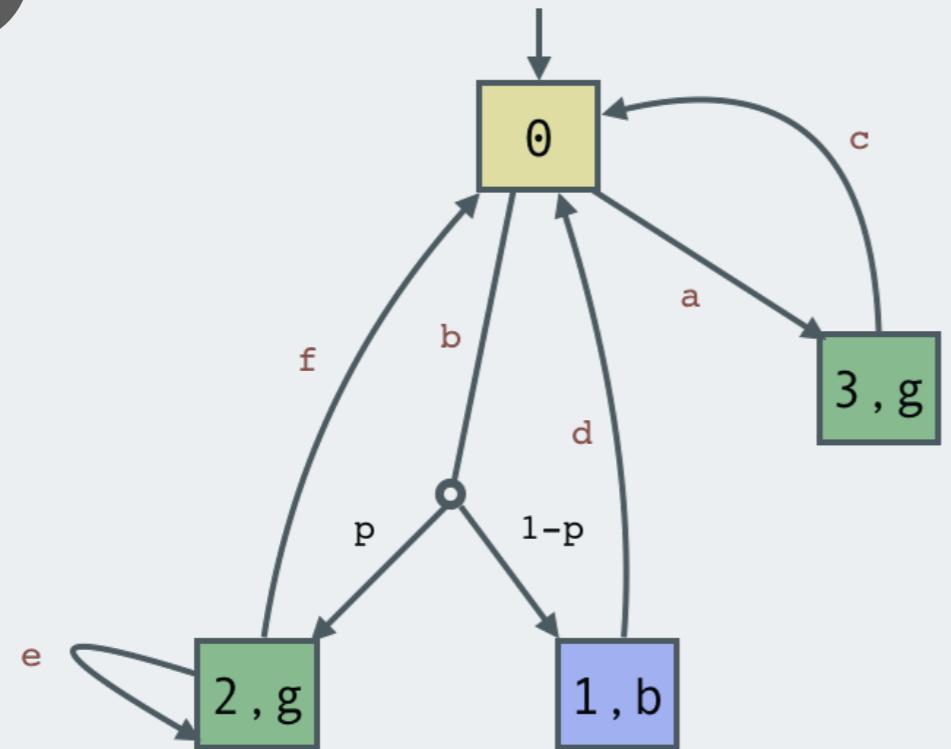


2

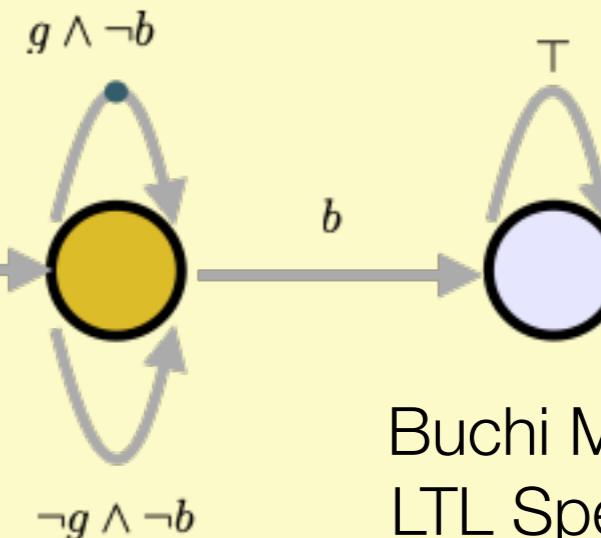
Buchi Monitor for
LTL SpecificationProbabilistic Model Checking

1

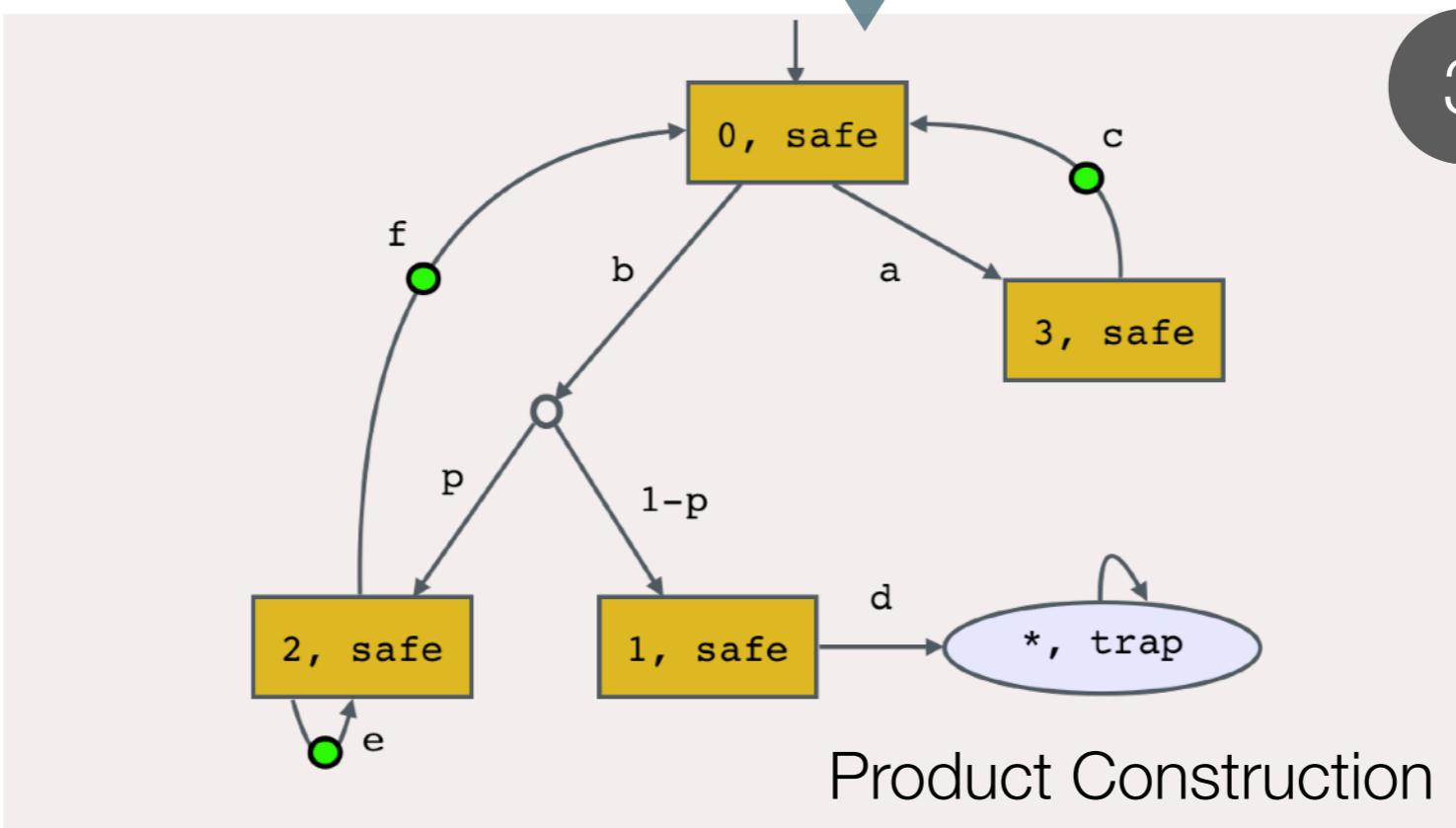
System given as an MDP



2



3



Probabilistic Model Checking

Model-Free Formal Reinforcement Learning

Dorsa Sadigh, Eric S. Kim, Samuel Coogan , S. Shankar Sastry, Sanjit A. Seshia:

A learning based approach to control synthesis of Markov decision processes for linear temporal logic specifications. CDC 2014: 1091-1096

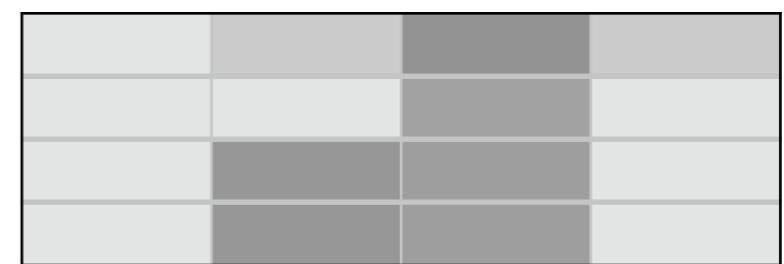
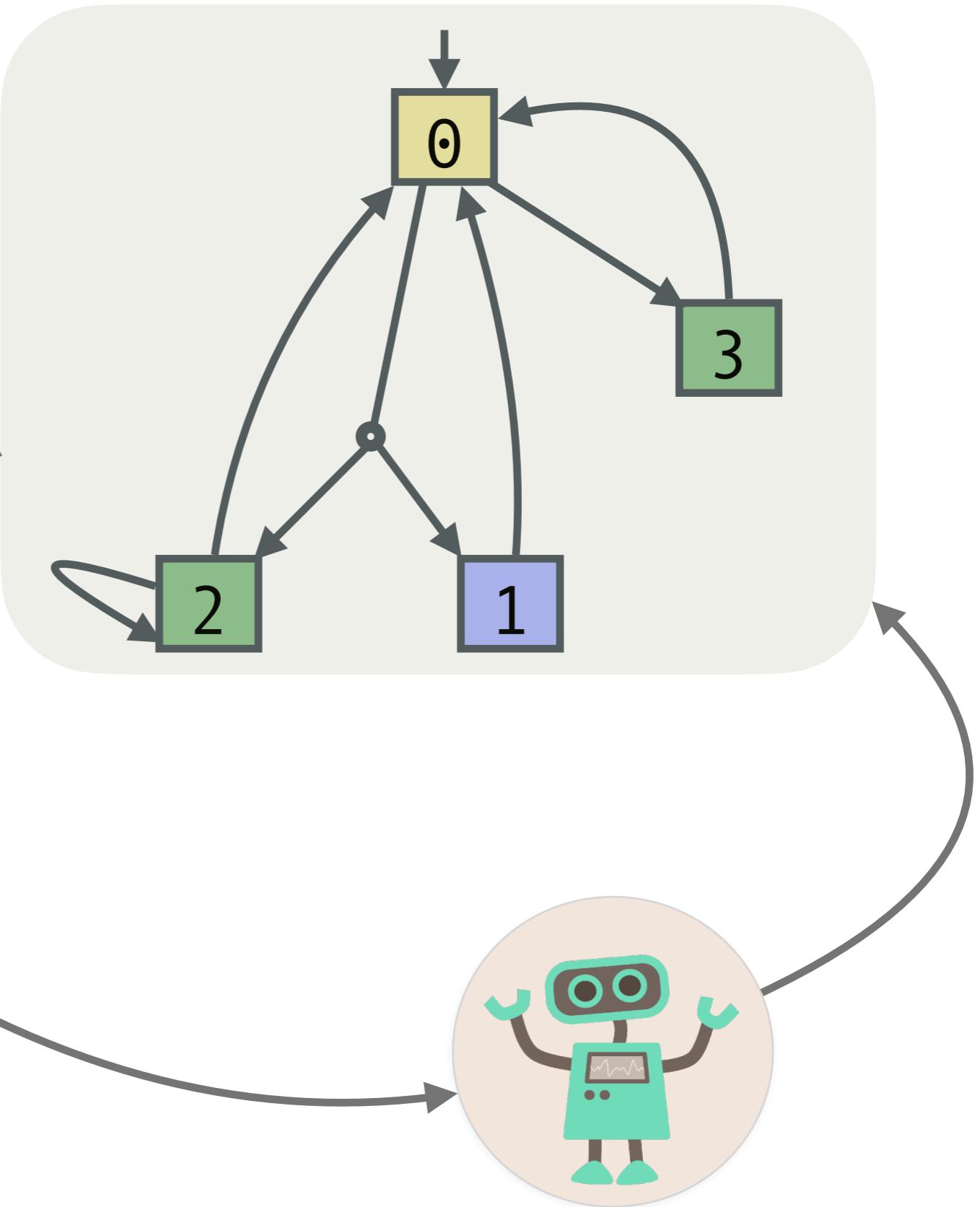
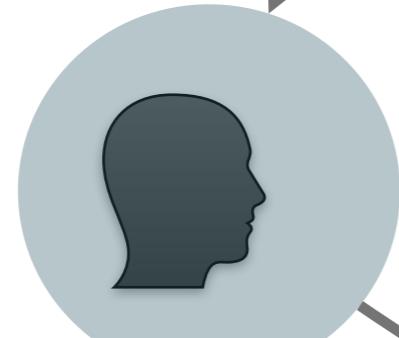
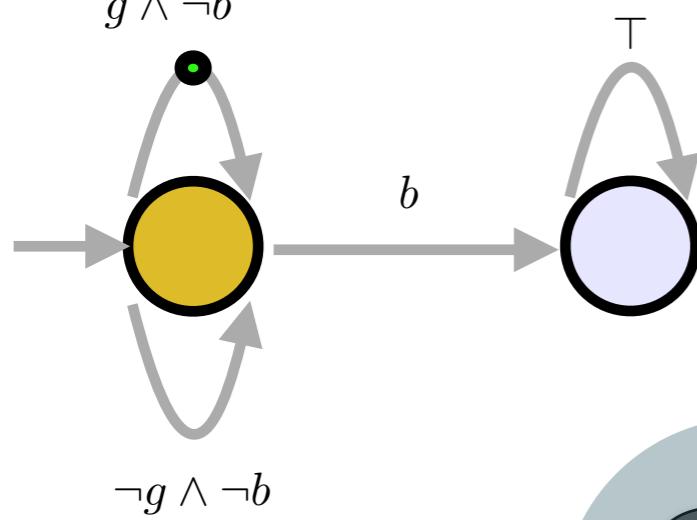
Mohammadhosseini Hasanbeig, Alessandro Abate, Daniel Kroening:

Logically-Correct Reinforcement Learning. CoRR abs/1801.08099 (2018)

Masaki Hiromoto, Toshimitsu Ushio:

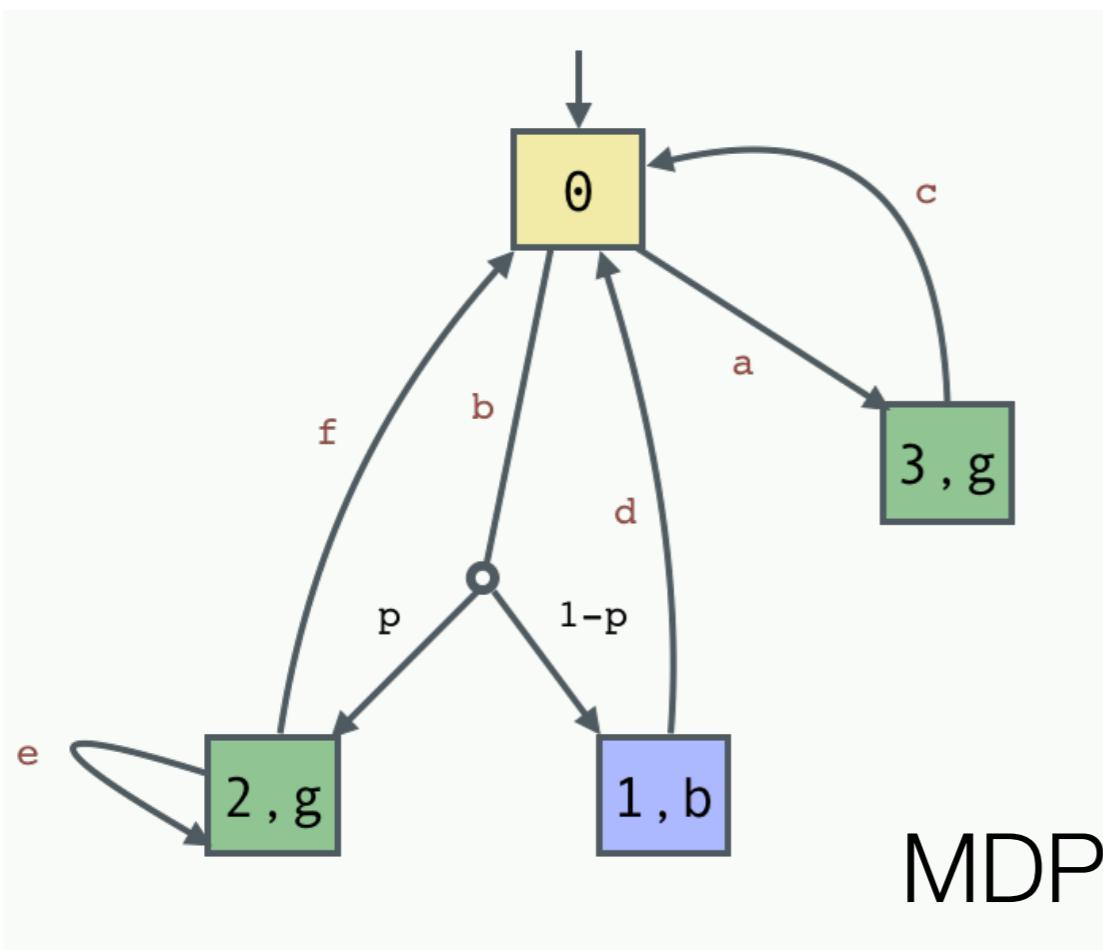
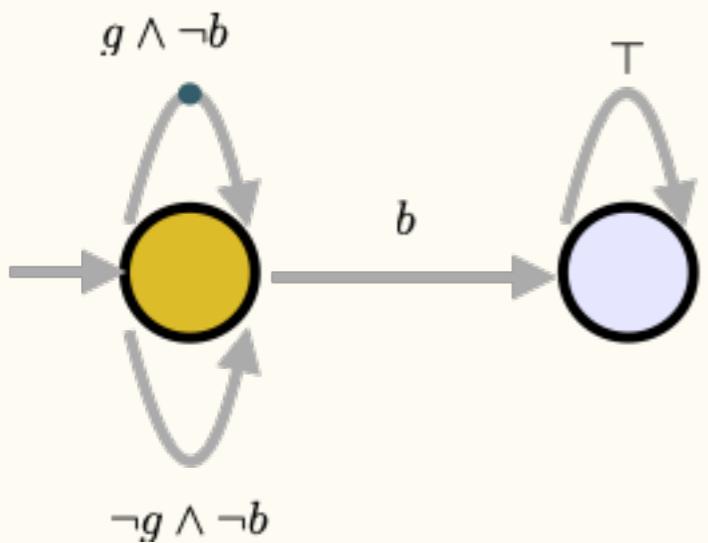
Learning an Optimal Control Policy for a Markov Decision Process Under Linear Temporal Logic Specifications. SSCI 2015: 548-555

$$\begin{array}{l}
 g \wedge \neg b \\
 \text{---} \\
 \text{---} \\
 \neg g \wedge \neg b
 \end{array}$$

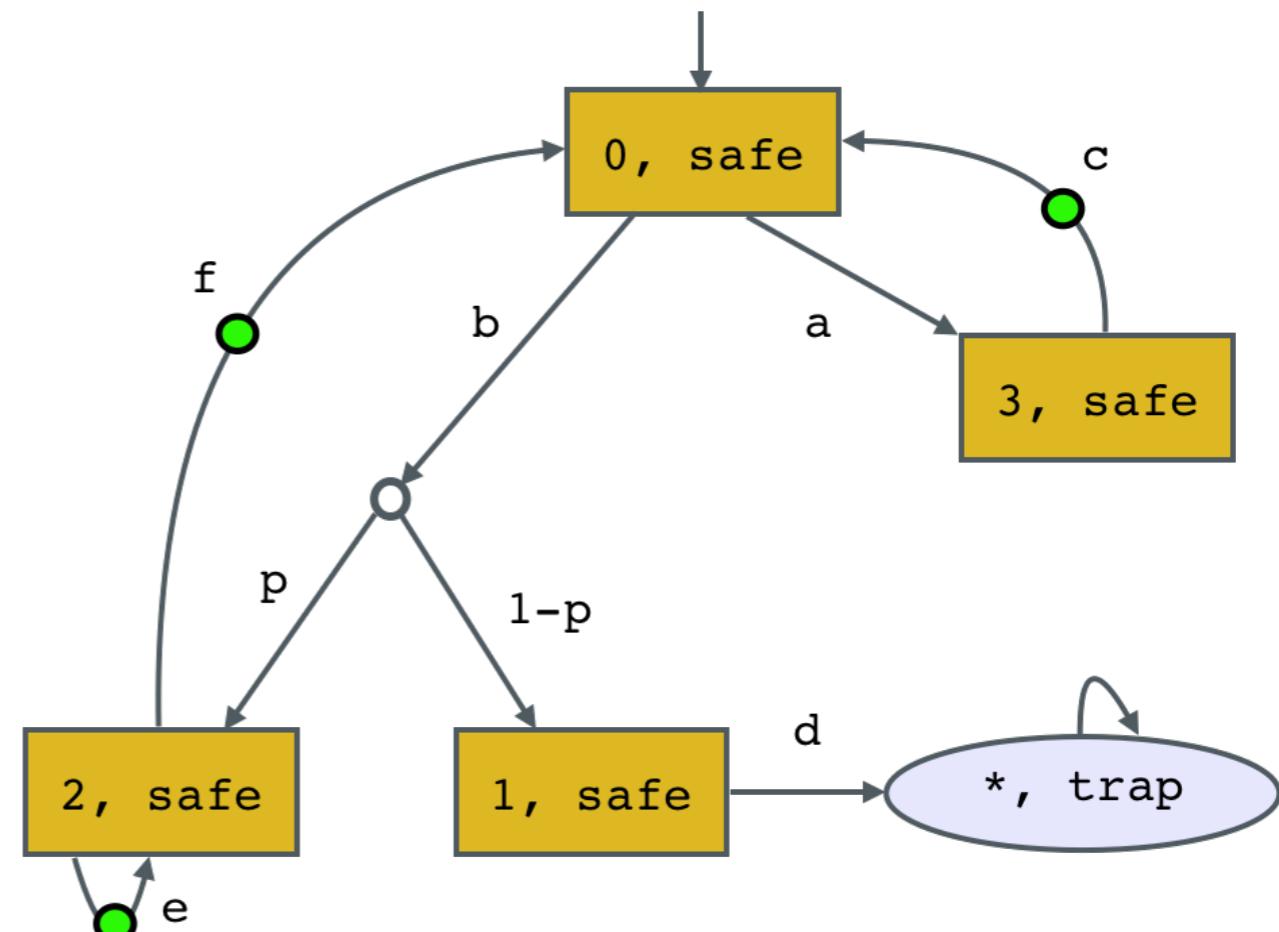


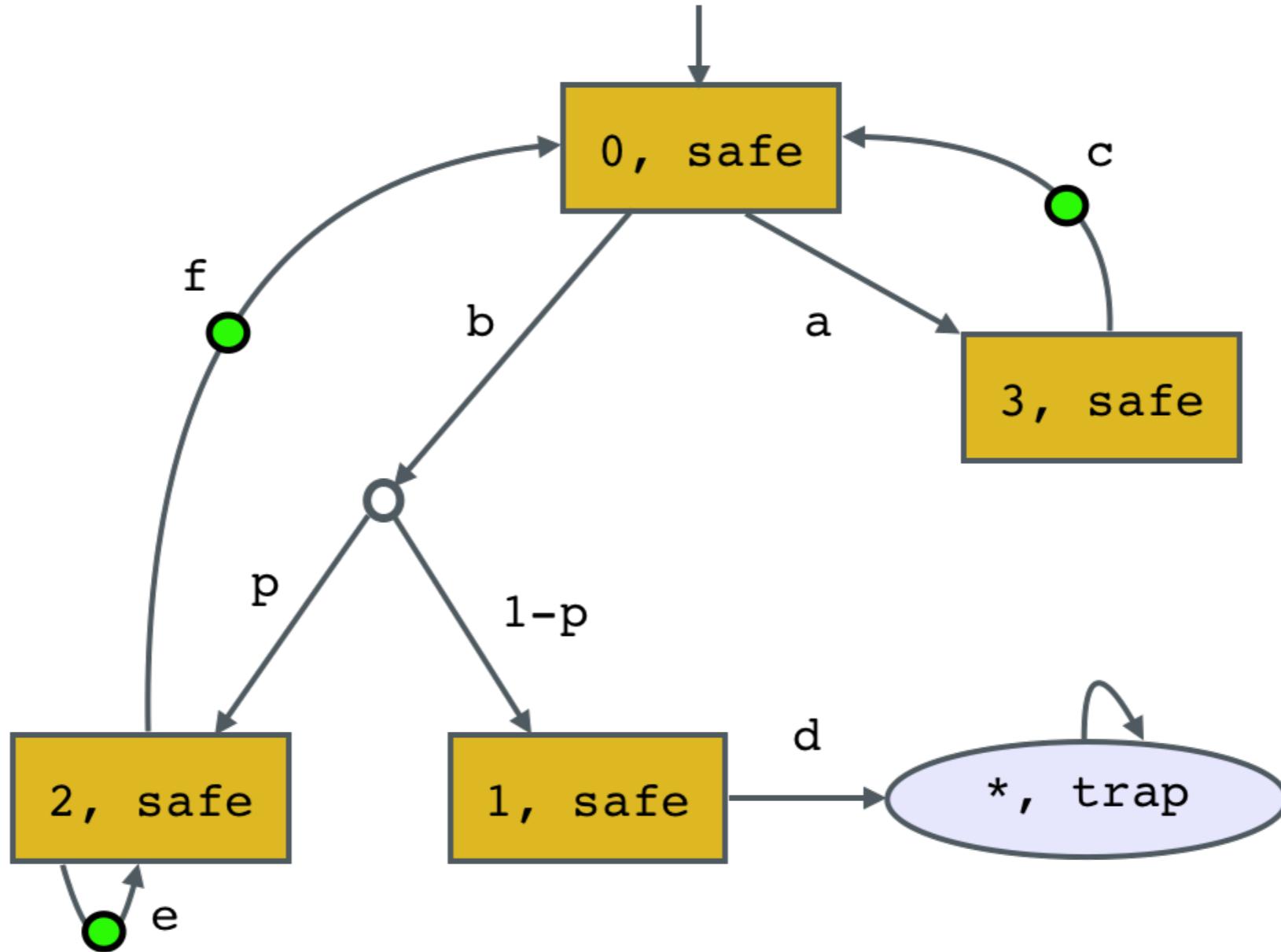
Unfortunately, this simple approach is incorrect.

DBA



MDP

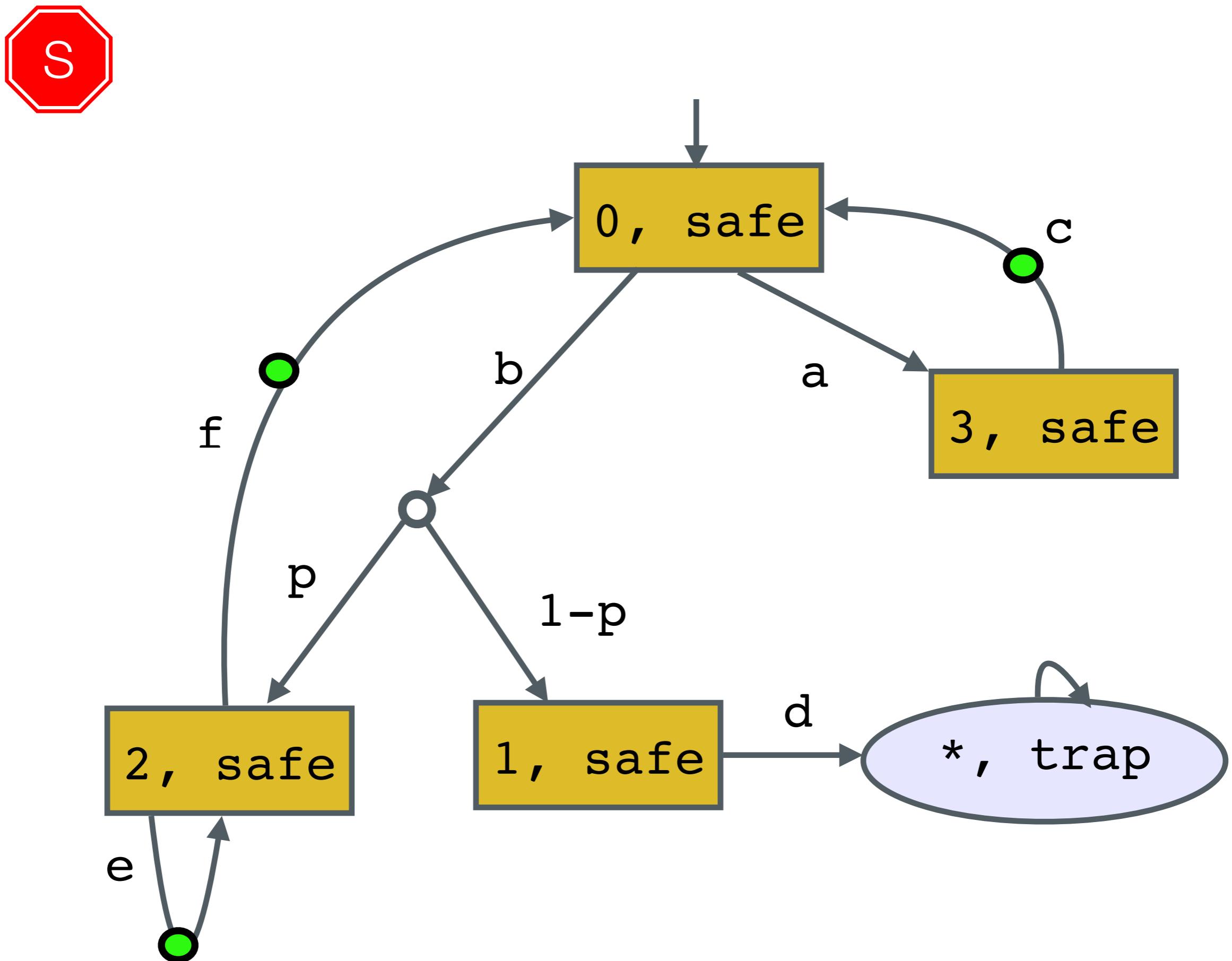


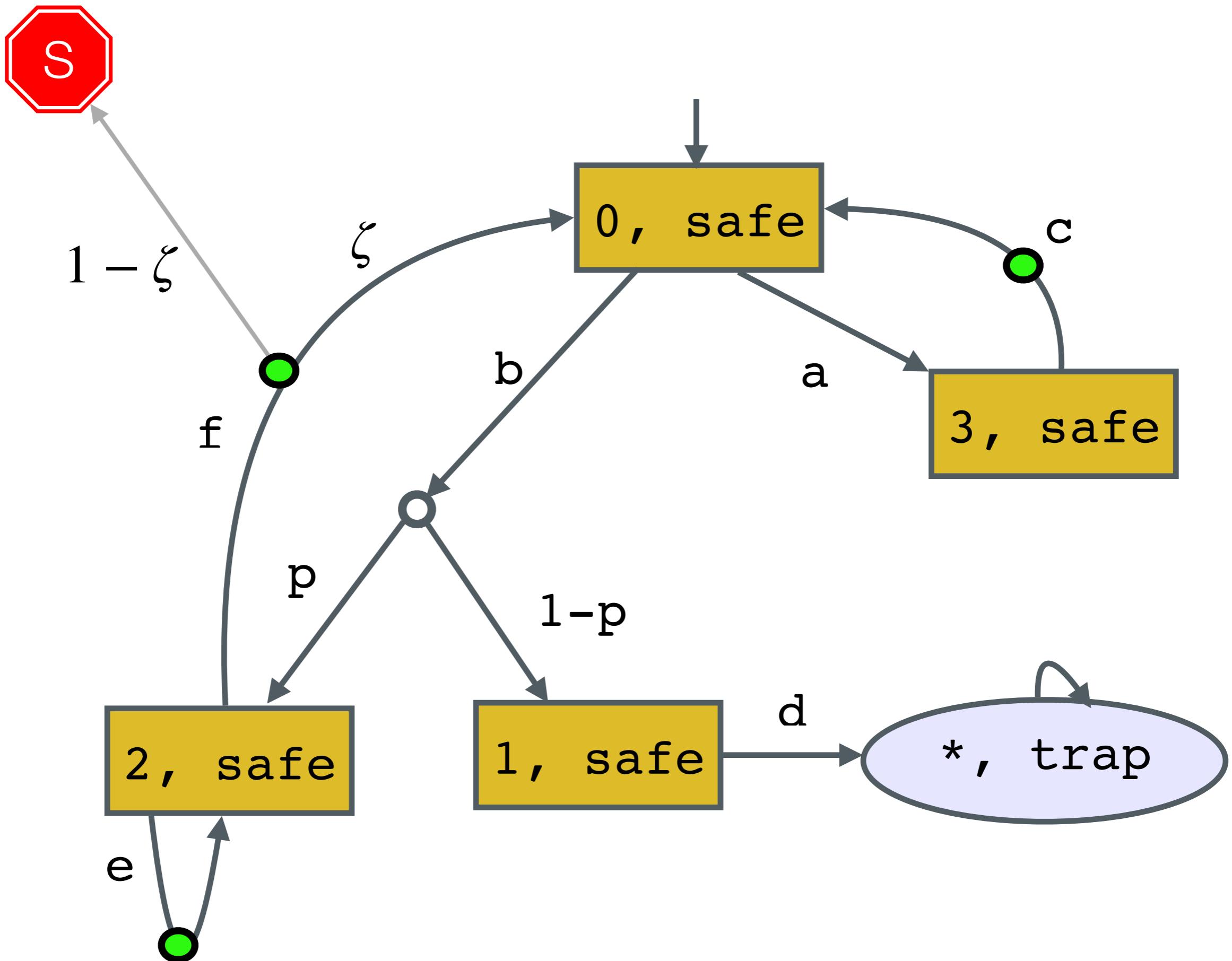


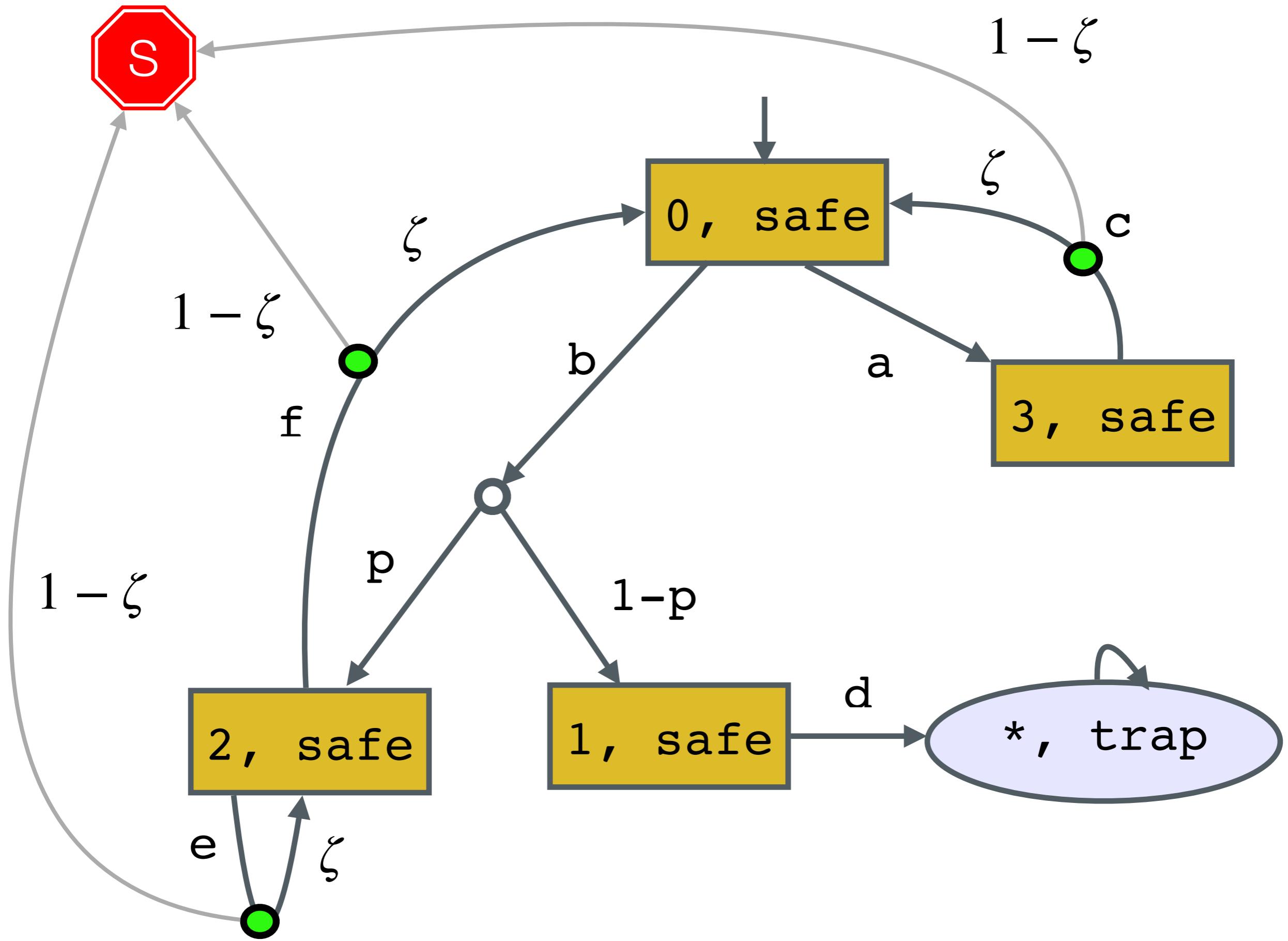
The optimal expected average policy **may not** always be the optimal policy for the LTL objective.

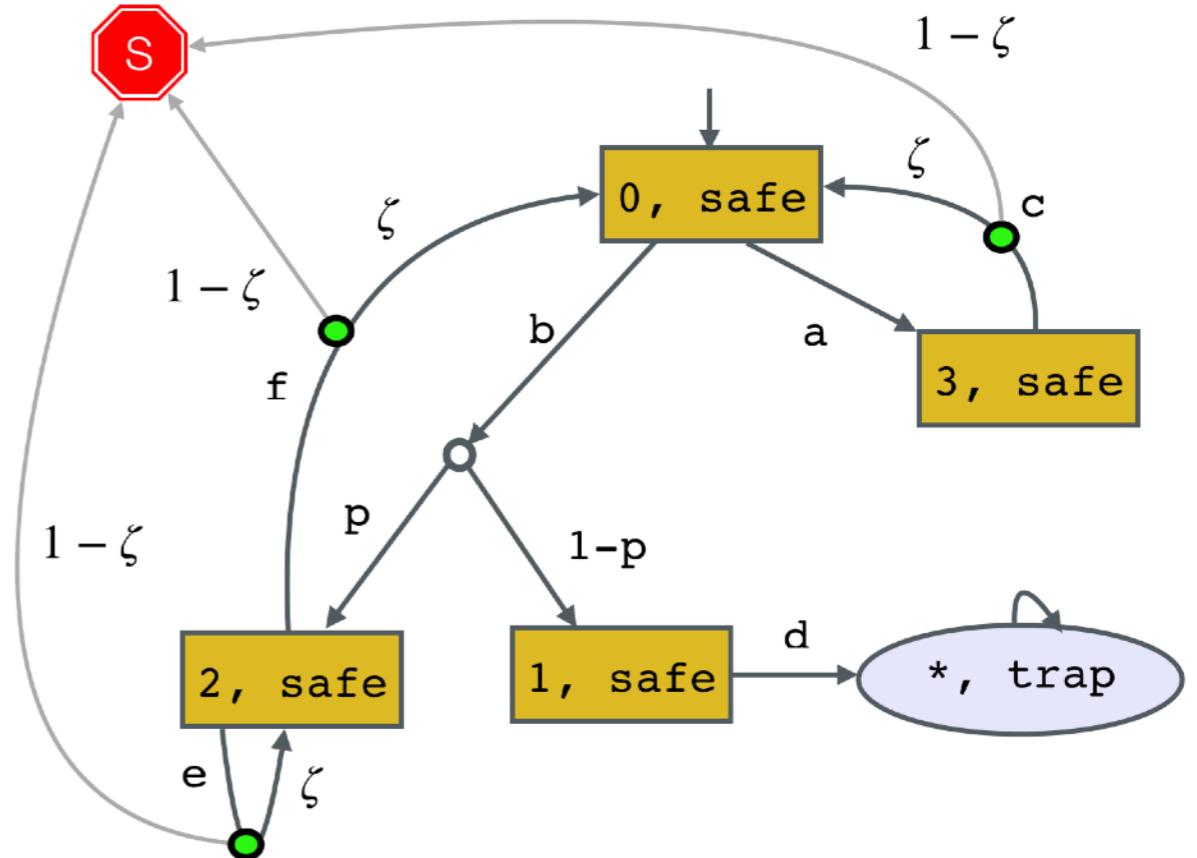
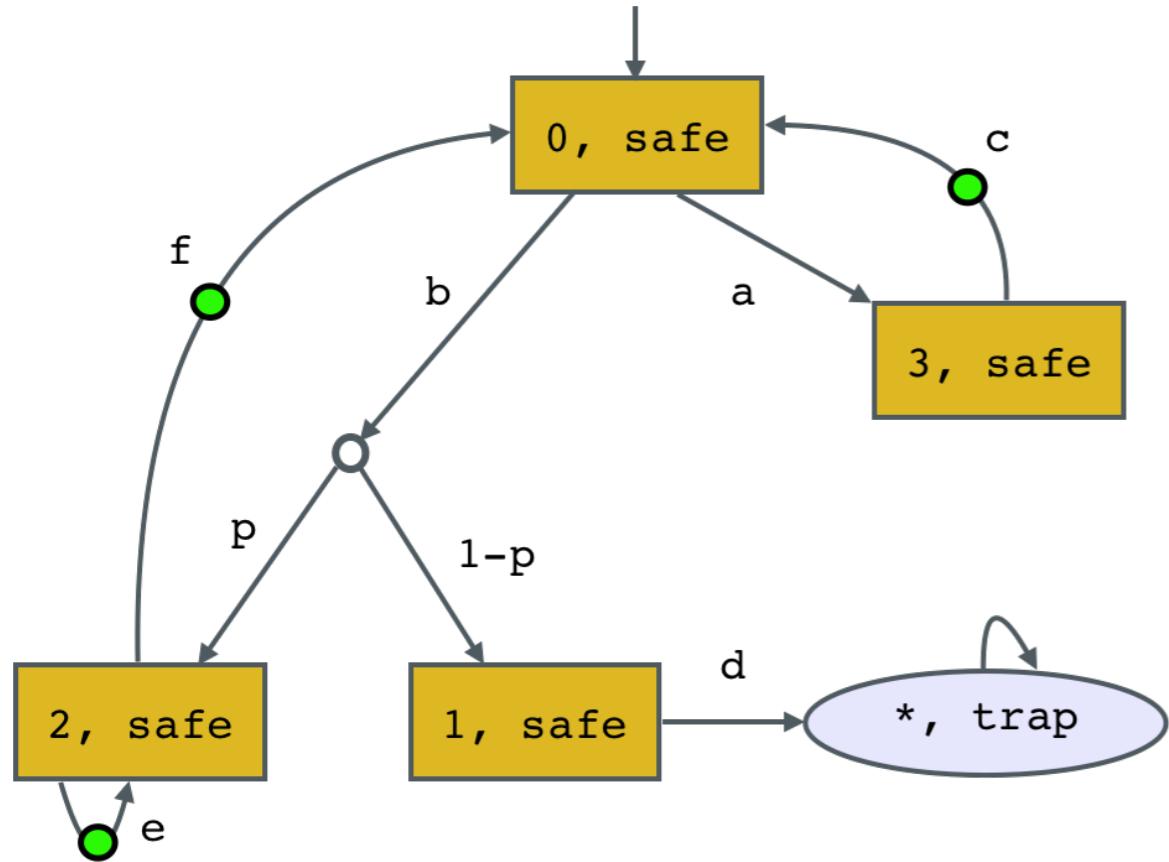
Limit Reachability Theorem

Ernst Moritz Hahn, Mateo Perez, Sven Schewe, Fabio Somenzi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Dominik Wojtczak:
Omega-Regular Objectives in Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. TACAS (1) 2019: 395-412

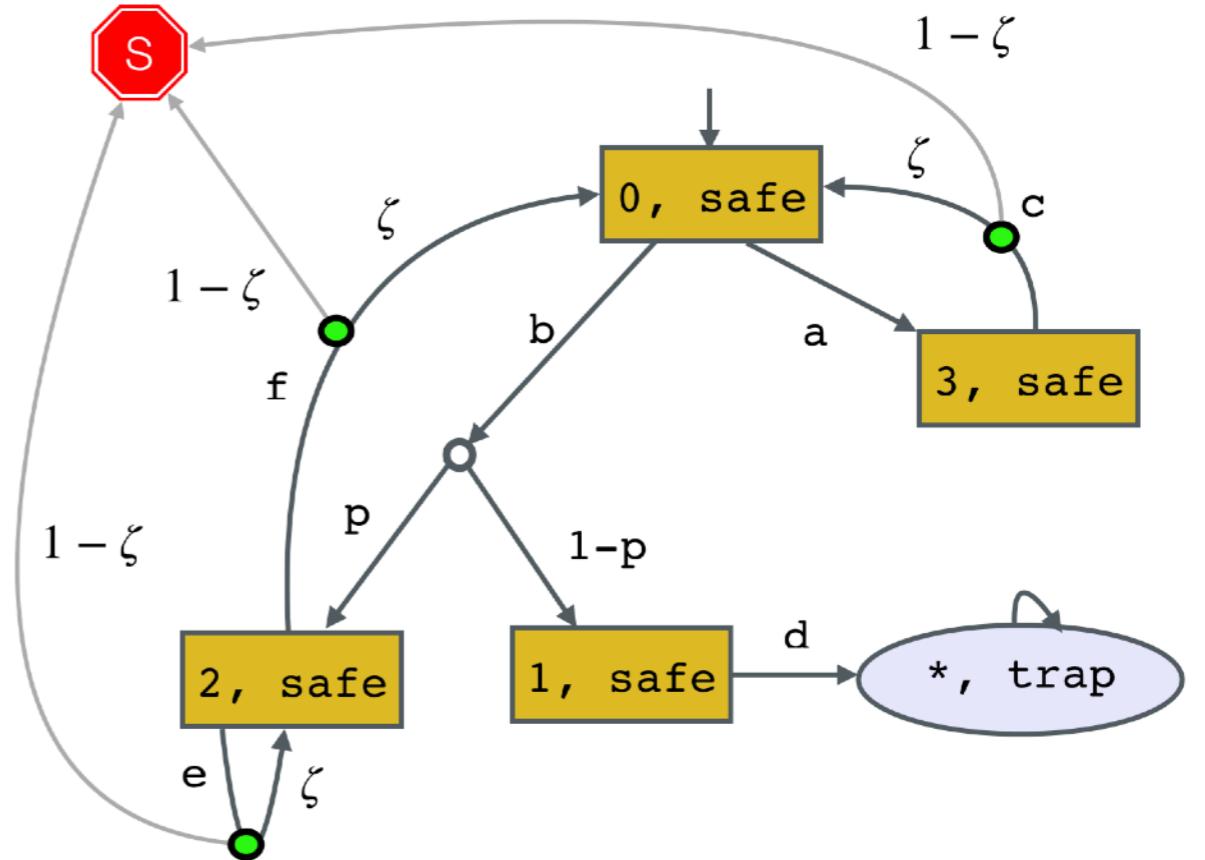
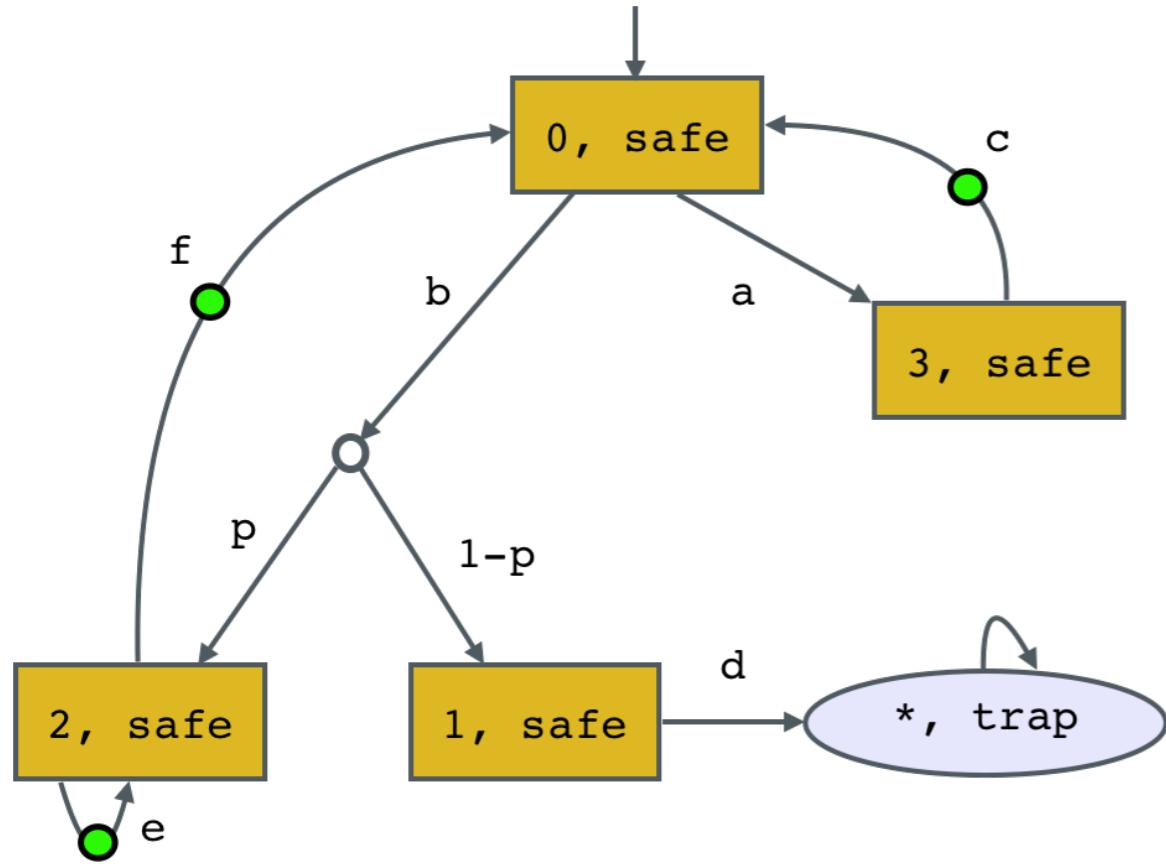




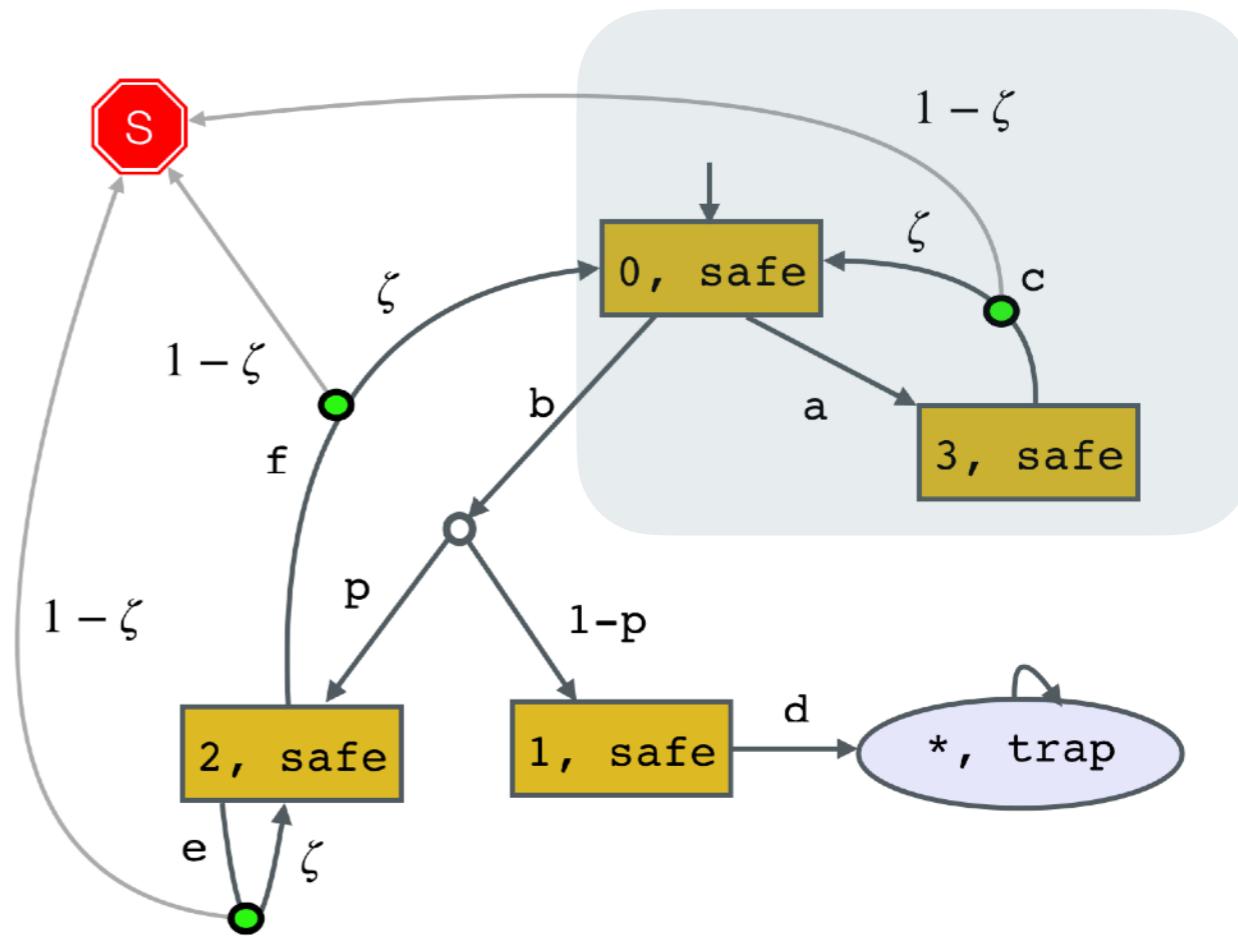
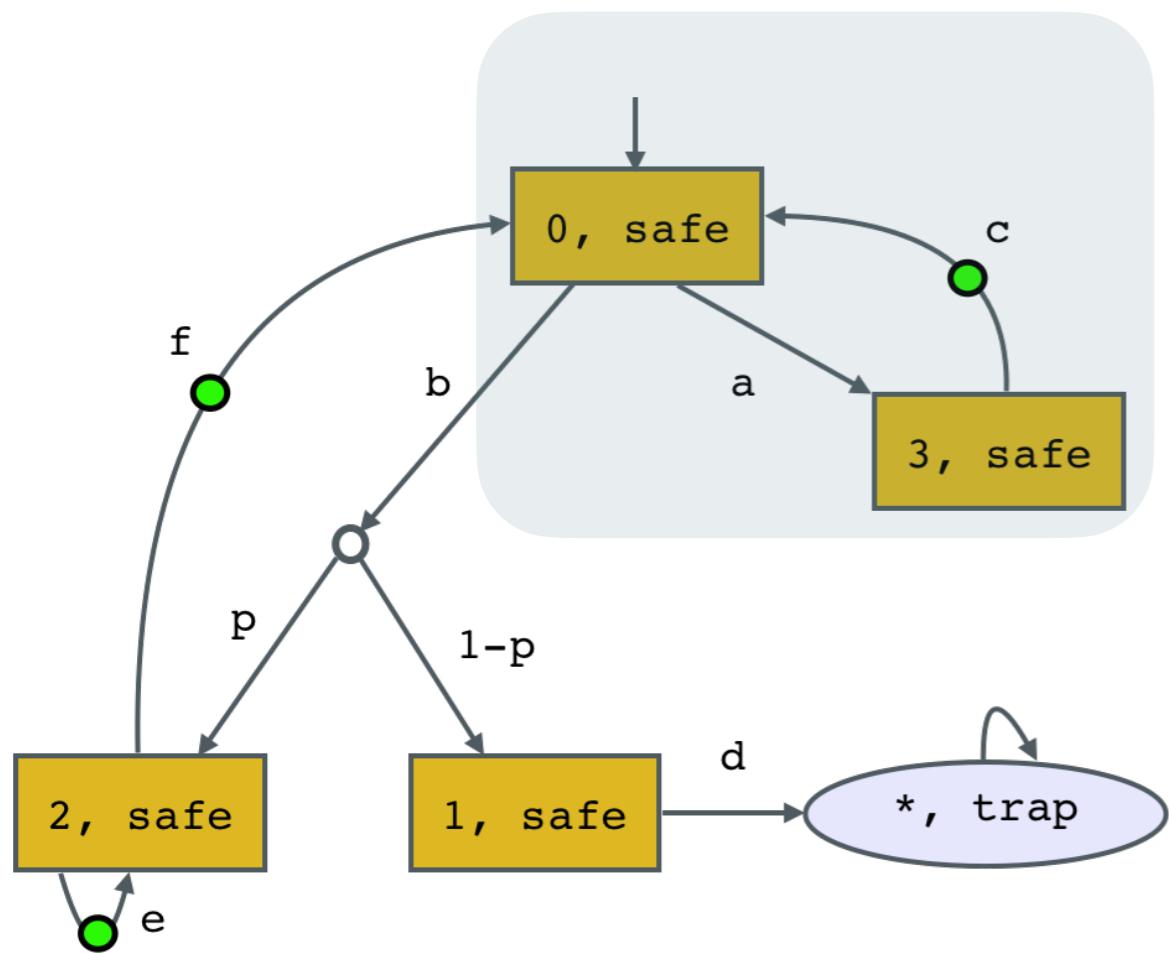




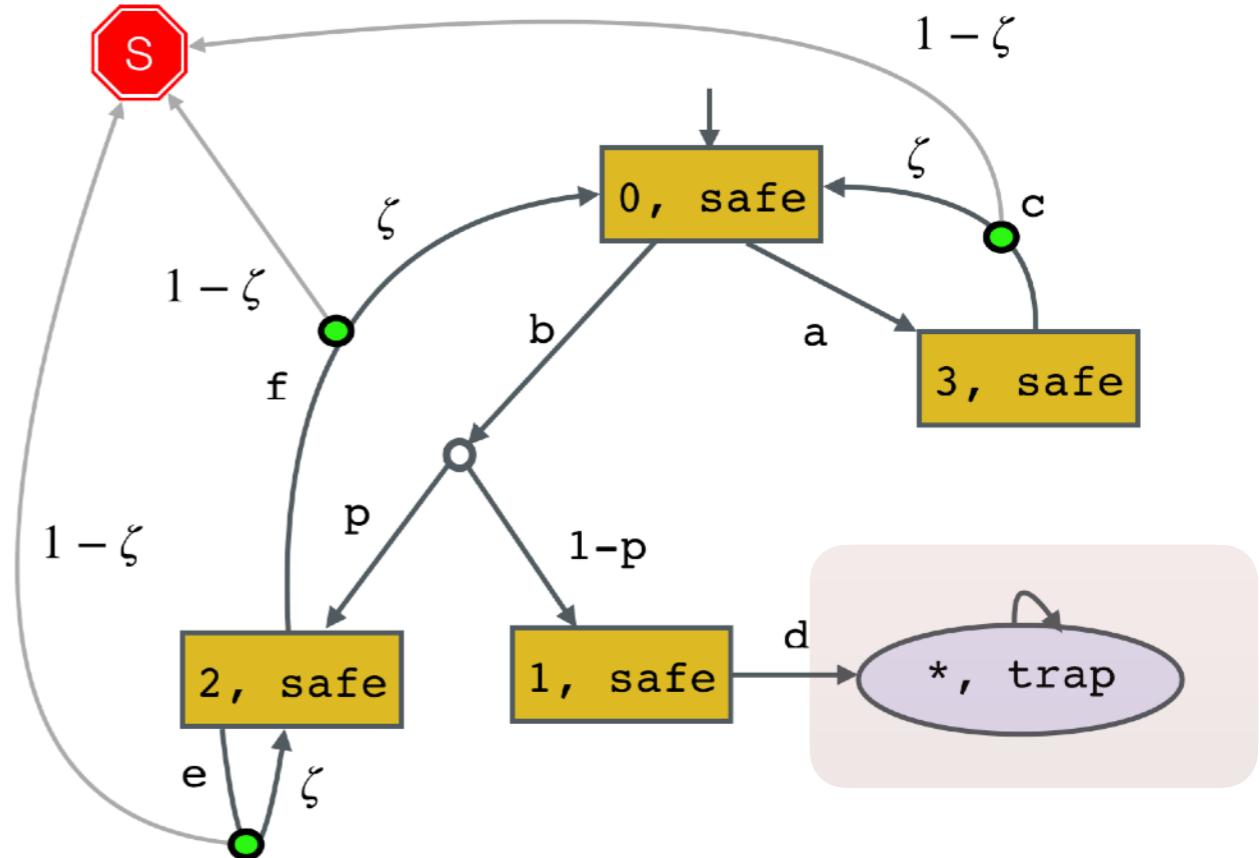
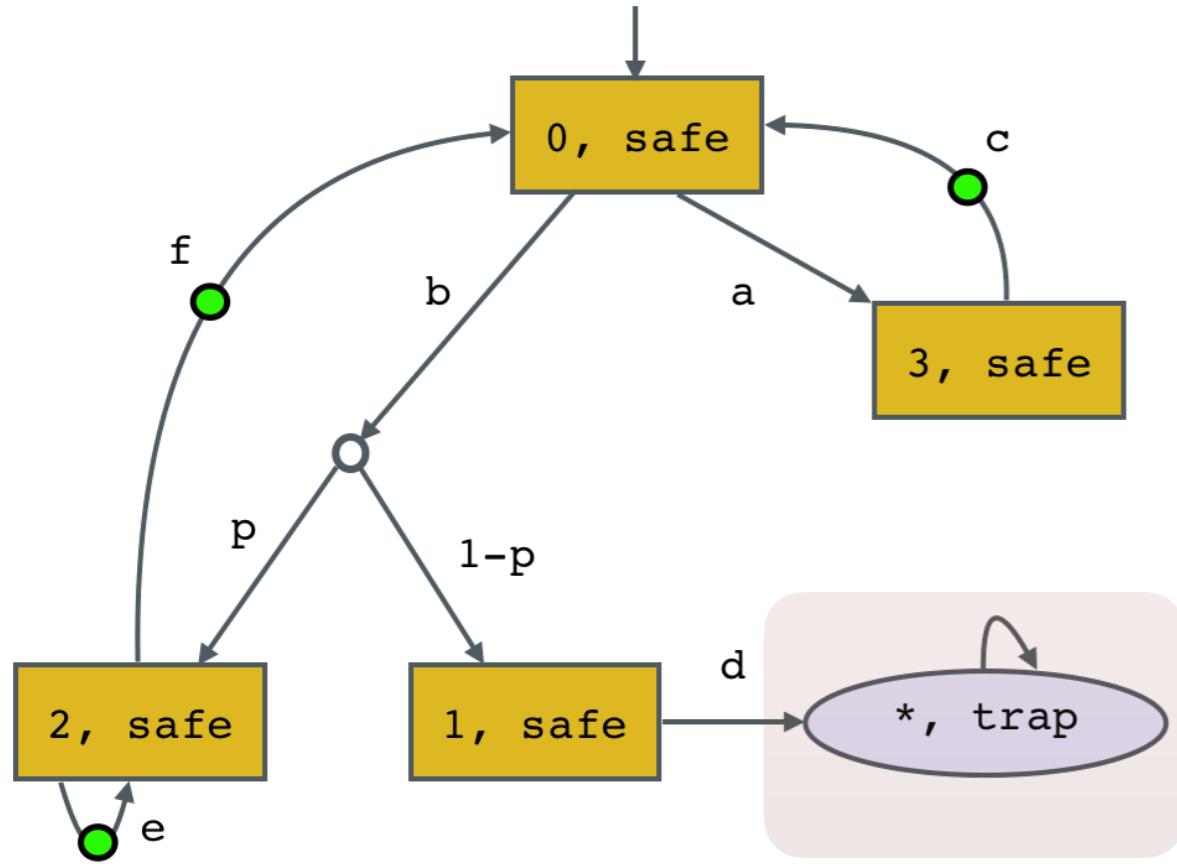
Theorem. For any value of ζ , the sink can be reached almost-surely iff the MDP satisfies LTL property almost-surely.



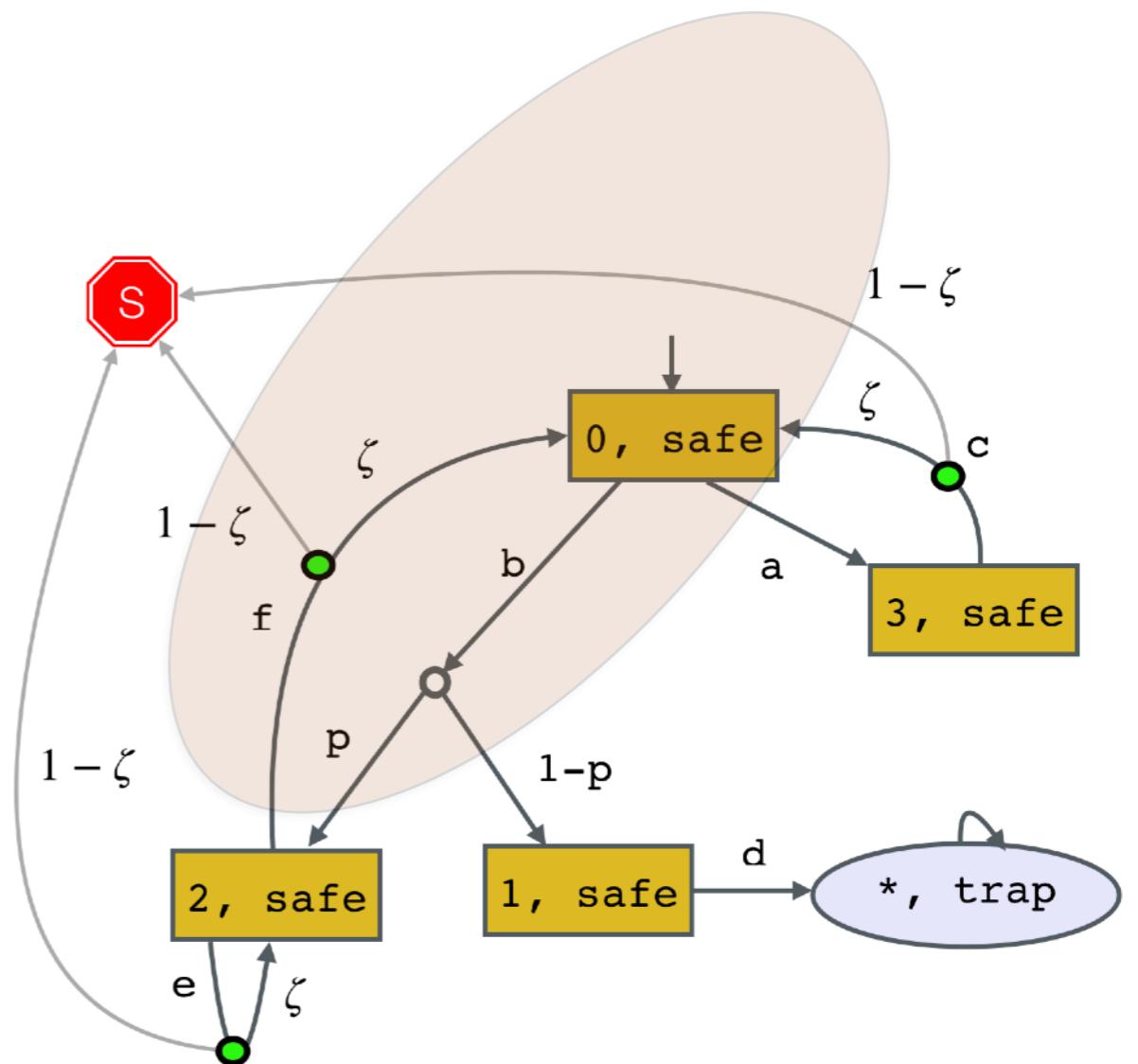
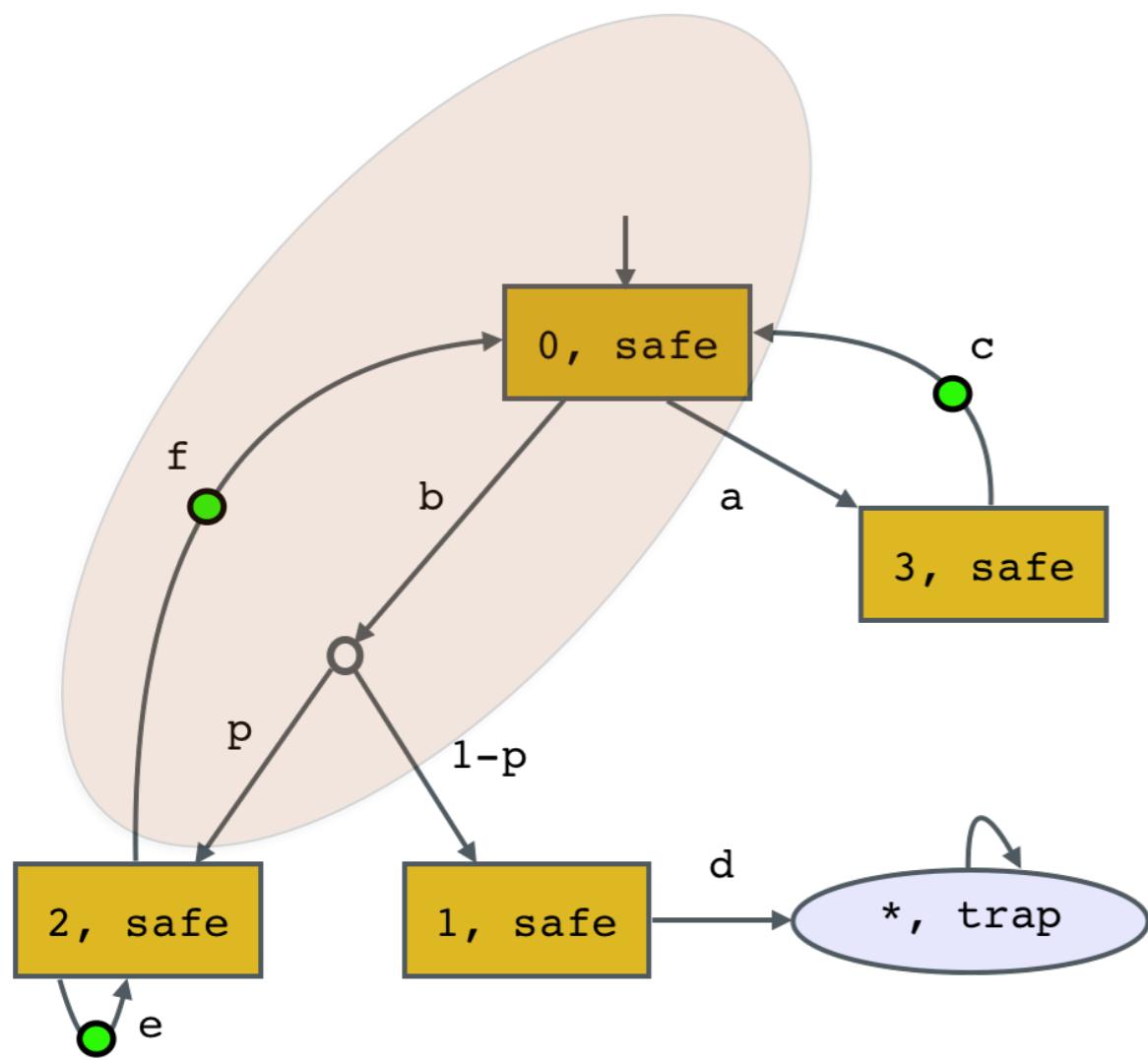
Theorem. The optimal probability of reaching the sink state as ζ tends to 1 equals the optimal probability of satisfying the LTL property.



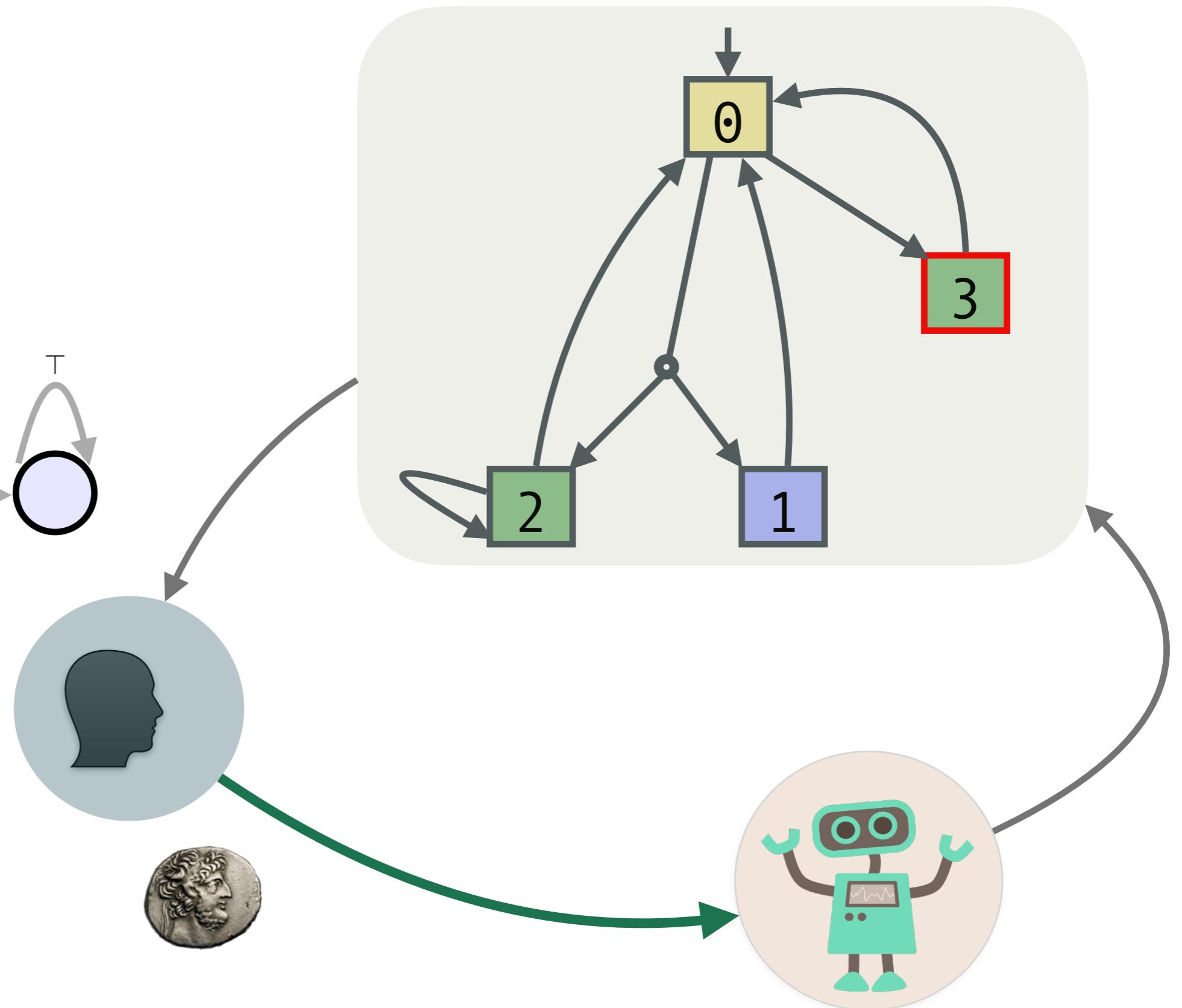
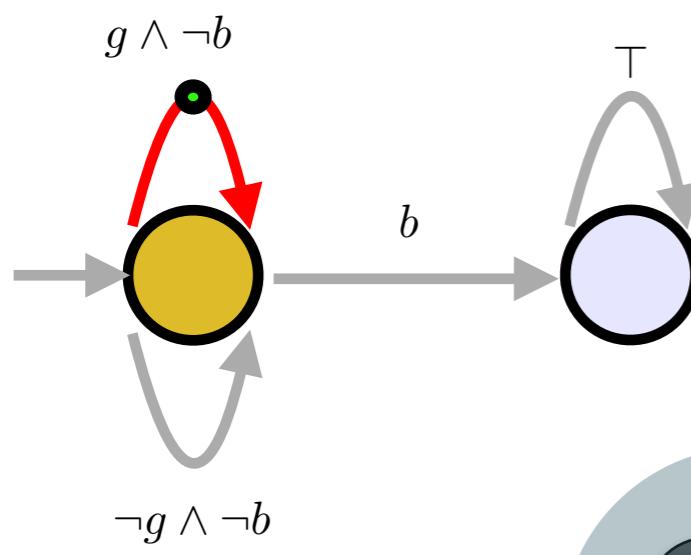
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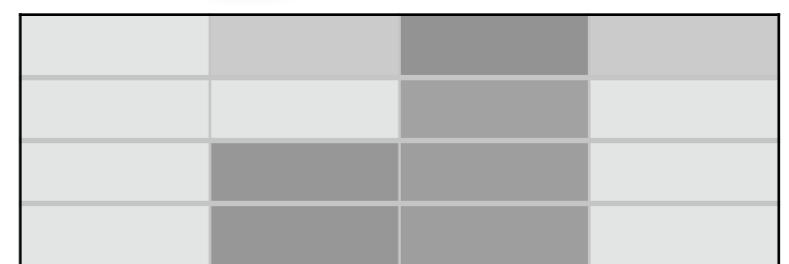
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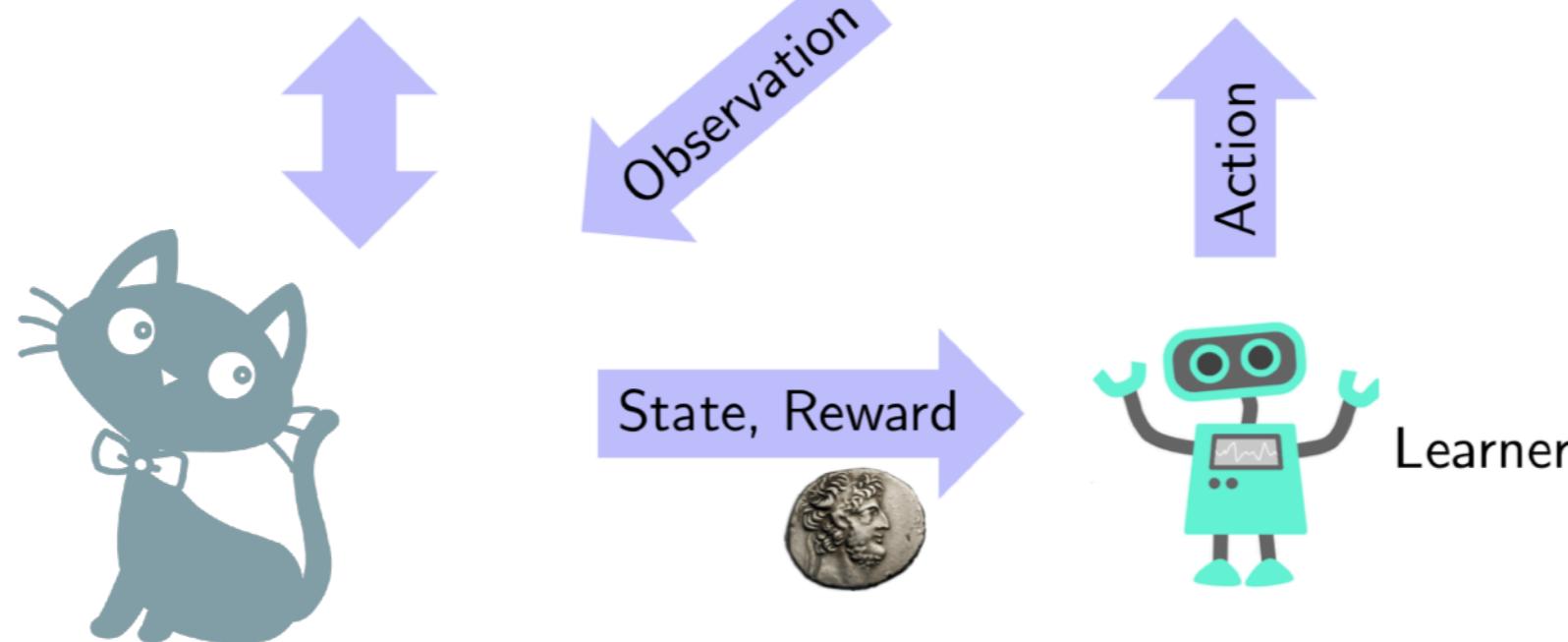
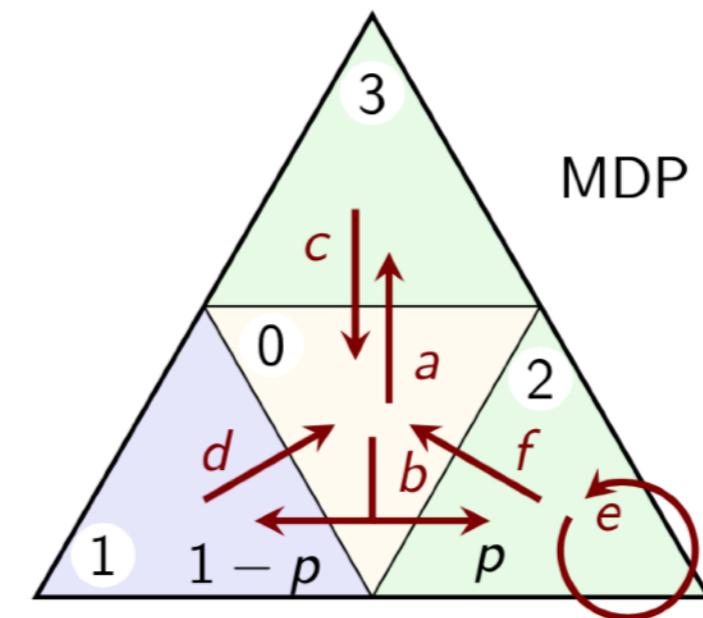
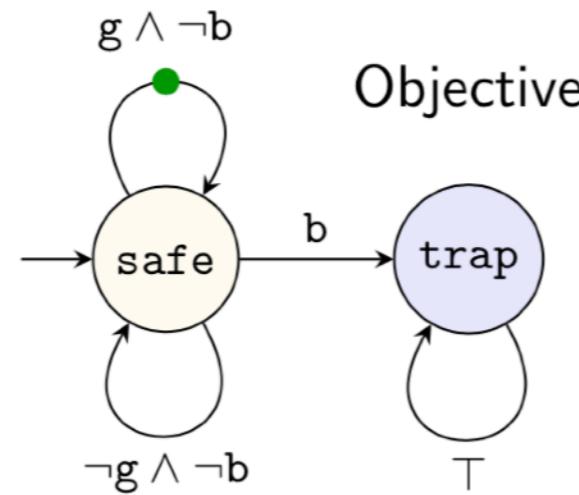


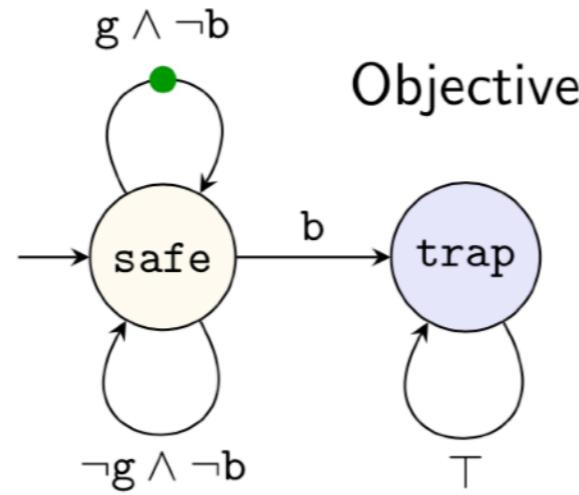
Theorem. The optimal probability of reaching the sink state as ζ tends to 1 equals the optimal probability of satisfying the LTL property.



$1 - \zeta : r \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}, \text{done} = \text{True}$
 $\zeta : 0, \text{done} = \text{False}$

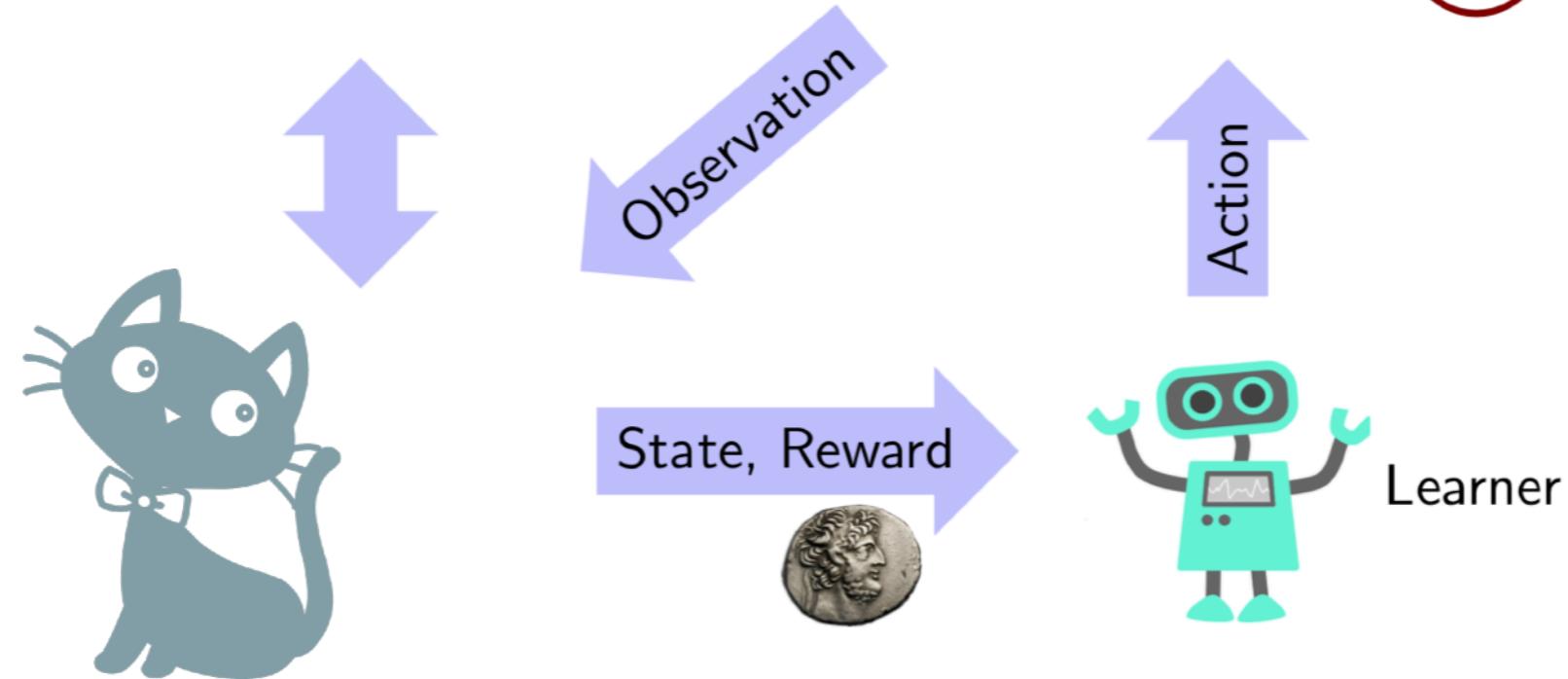
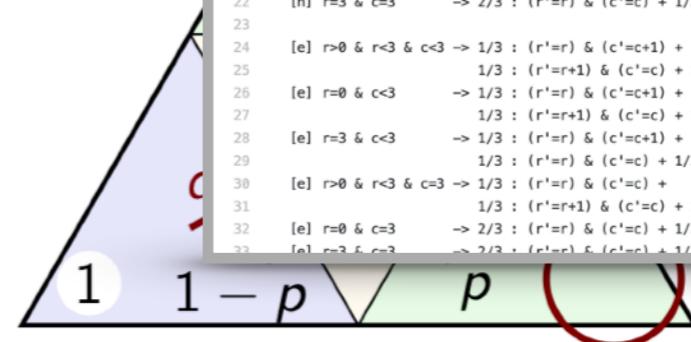






```

1 // Small frozen lake MDP from OpenAI Gym.
2
3 mdp
4
5 label "start" = r=3 & c=0;
6 label "goal" = r=0 & c=3;
7 label "trap" = r=0 & c=0 | r=1 & c=3 | r=2 & (c=1 | c=3);
8
9 module grid
10   r : [0..3] init 3;
11   c : [0..3] init 0;
12
13 [n] r<3 & c>0 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) +
14   1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
15 [n] r<3 & c=0 -> 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) +
16   1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
17 [n] r<3 & c=3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) +
18   1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c);
19 [n] r=3 & c>0 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) +
20   1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
21 [n] r=3 & c=0 -> 2/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
22 [n] r=3 & c=3 -> 2/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1);
23
24 [e] r>0 & r<3 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1) +
25   1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r-1) & (c'=c);
26 [e] r=0 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1) +
27   1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c);
28 [e] r=3 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1) +
29   1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r-1) & (c'=c);
30 [e] r>0 & r<3 & c=3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) +
31   1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r-1) & (c'=c);
32 [e] r=0 & c=3 -> 2/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c);
33 [e] r=3 & c=3 -> 2/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r-1) & (c'=c);
  
```

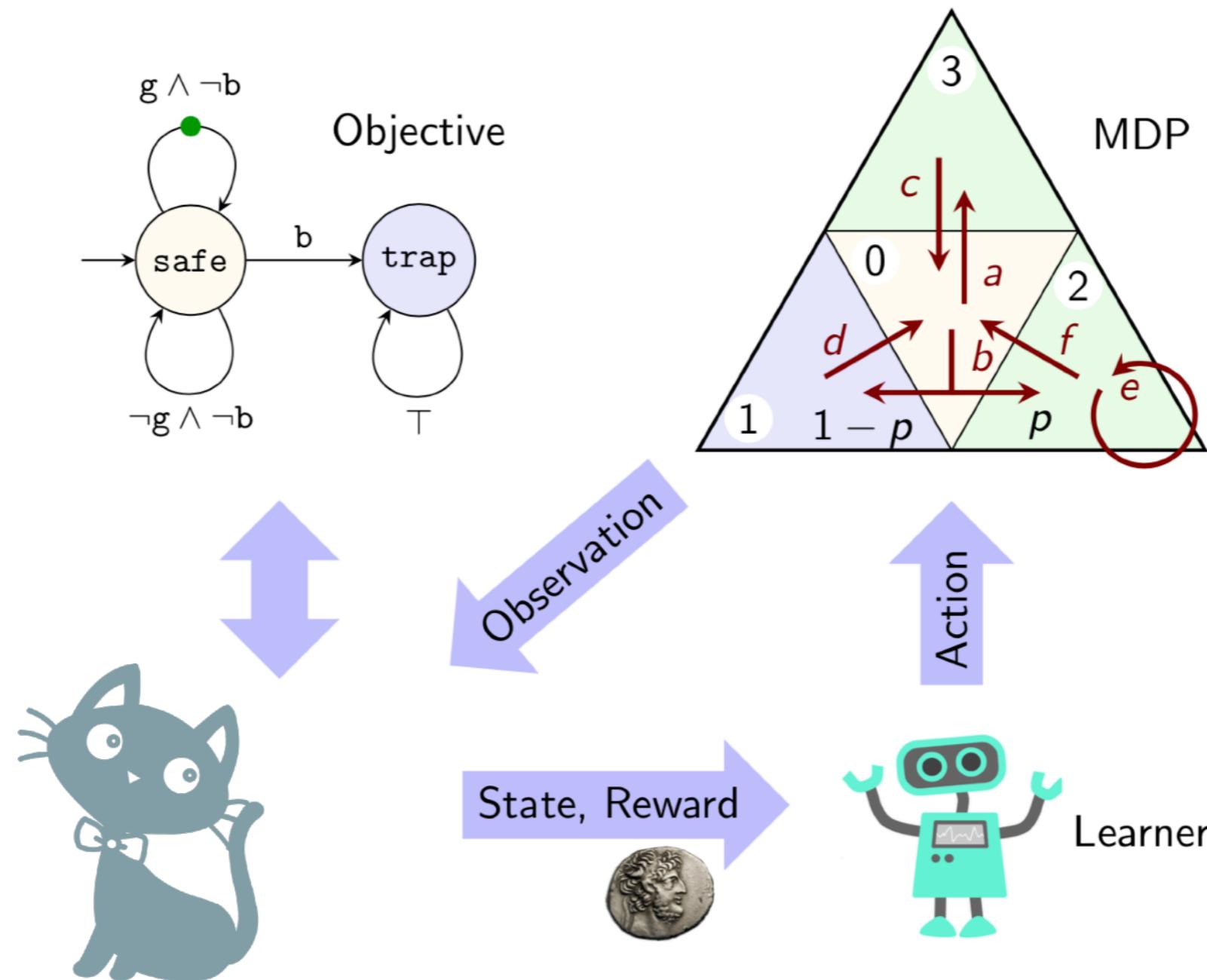
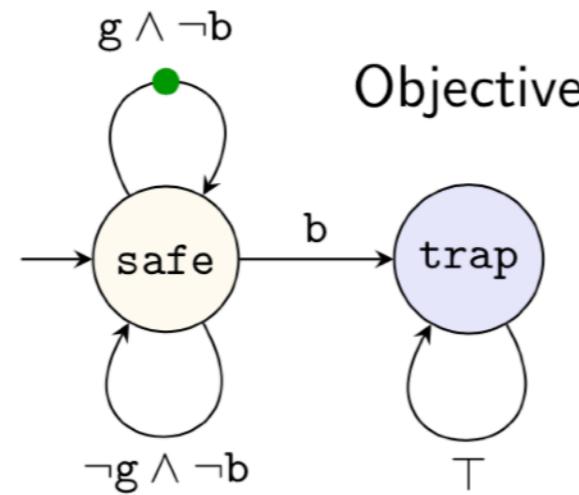


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```

3 mdp
4
5 label "start" = r=3 & c=0;
6 label "goal"   = r=0 & c=3;
7 label "trap"   = r=0 & c=0 | r=1 & c=3 | r=2 & (c=1 | c=3);
8
9 module grid
10    r : [0..3] init 3;
11    c : [0..3] init 0;
12
13    [n] r<3 & c>0 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) +
14                                1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
15    [n] r<3 & c=0          -> 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) +
16                                1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
17    [n] r<3 & c=3          -> 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) +
18                                1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c);
19    [n] r=3 & c>0 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) +
20                                1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
21    [n] r=3 & c=0          -> 2/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1);
22    [n] r=3 & c=3          -> 2/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c-1);
23
24    [e] r>0 & r<3 & c<3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1) +
25                                1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r-1) & (c'=c);
26    [e] r=0 & c<3          -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c+1) +
27                                1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c);
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29                                1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r-1) & (c'=c);
30    [e] r>0 & r<3 & c=3 -> 1/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) +
31                                plv.colorado.edu/omega/regular.rl-benchmarks, 2019 =c);
32    [e] r=0 & c=3          -> 2/3 : (r'=r) & (c'=c) + 1/3 : (r'=r+1) & (c'=c) +

```



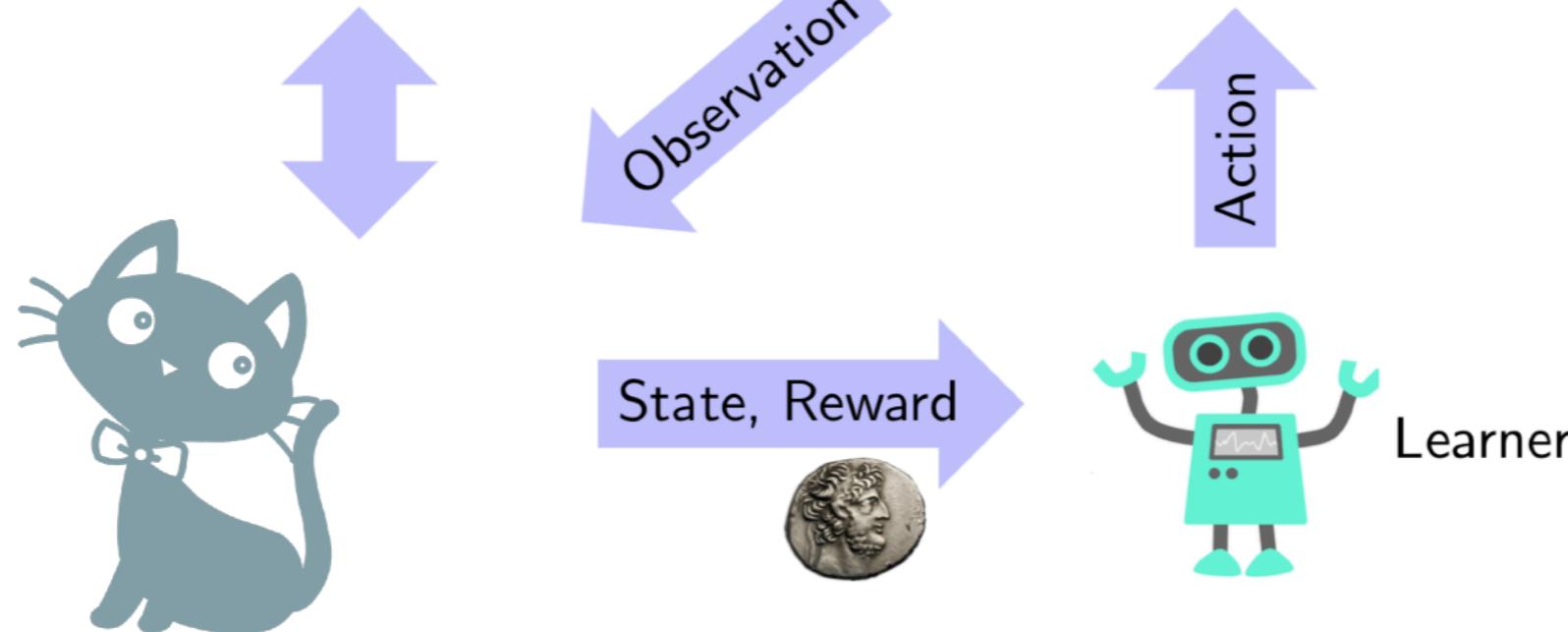
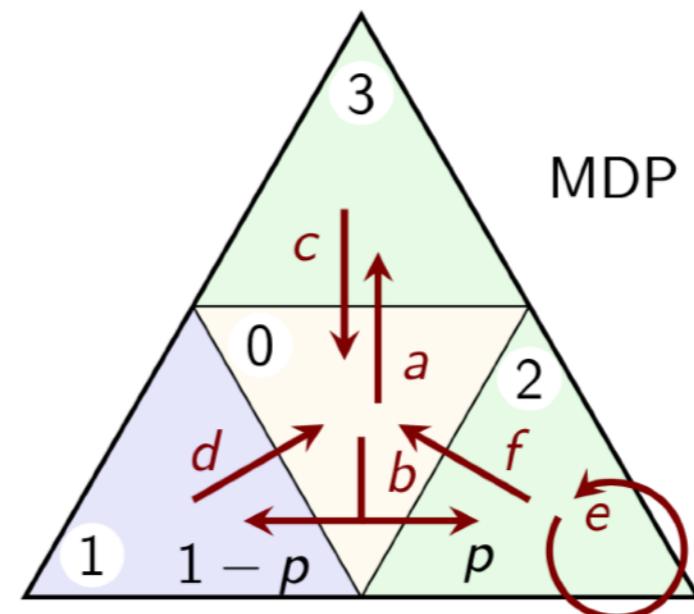
```

1 HUA: v1
2 name: "!trap U goal"
3 States: 3
4 Start: 0
5 acc-name: parity max odd 2
6 Acceptance: 2 Inf(1) | Fin(0)
7 AP: 2 "goal" "trap"
8 properties: deterministic complete colored trans-acc explicit-labels
9 --BODY--
10 State: 0 "start"
11 [!0 & !1] 0 {0}
12 [0 & !1] 1 {1}
13 [1] 2 {0}
14 State: 1 "goal"
15 [t] 1 {1}
16 State: 2 "trap"
17 [t] 2 {0}
18 --END--

```

$\neg g \wedge \neg b$

T



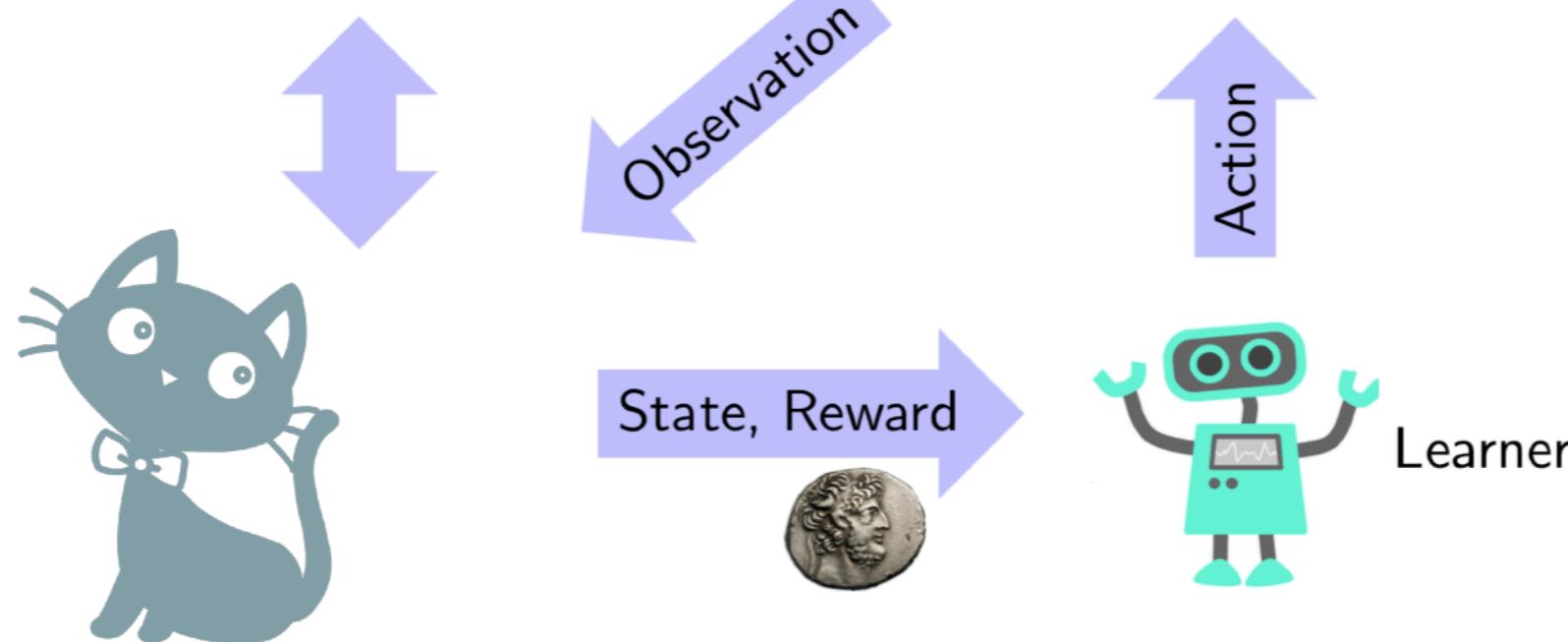
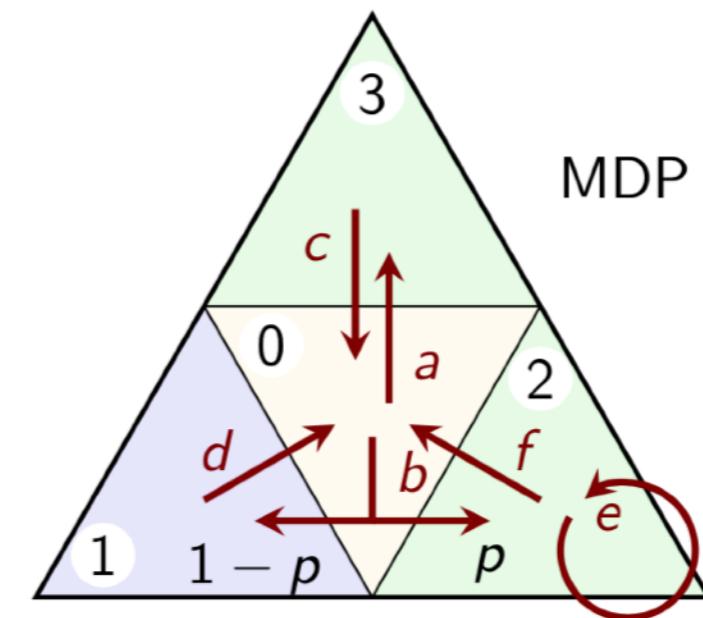
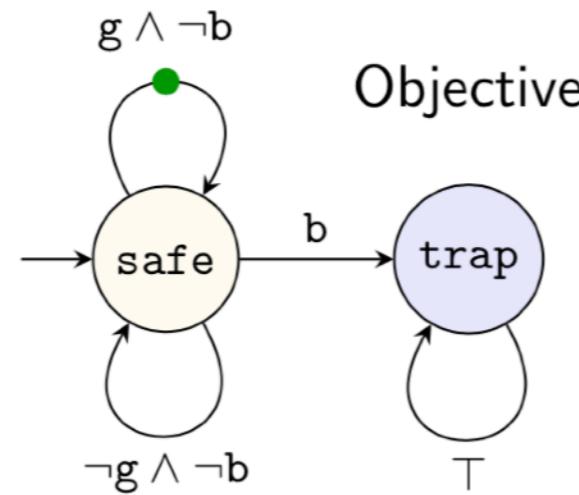
MUNGOJERRIE
Formal Reinforcement Learning



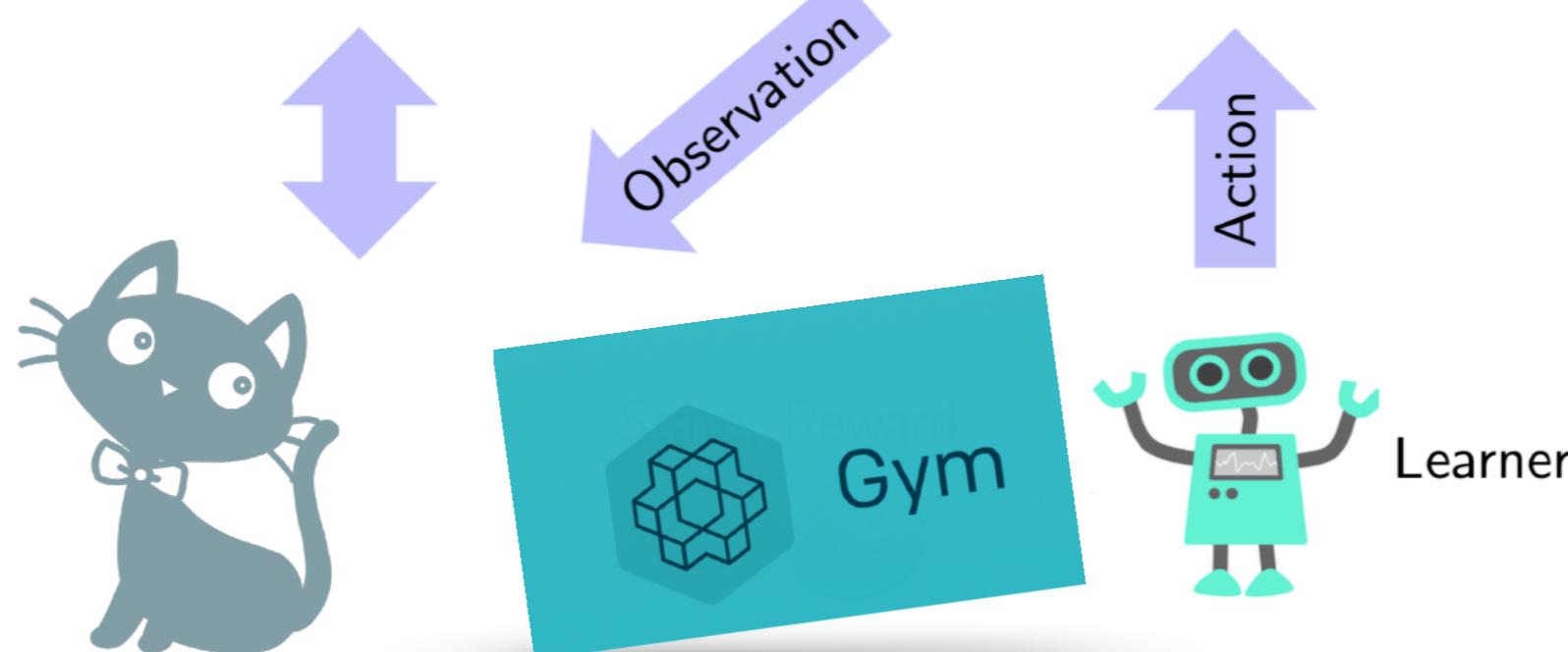
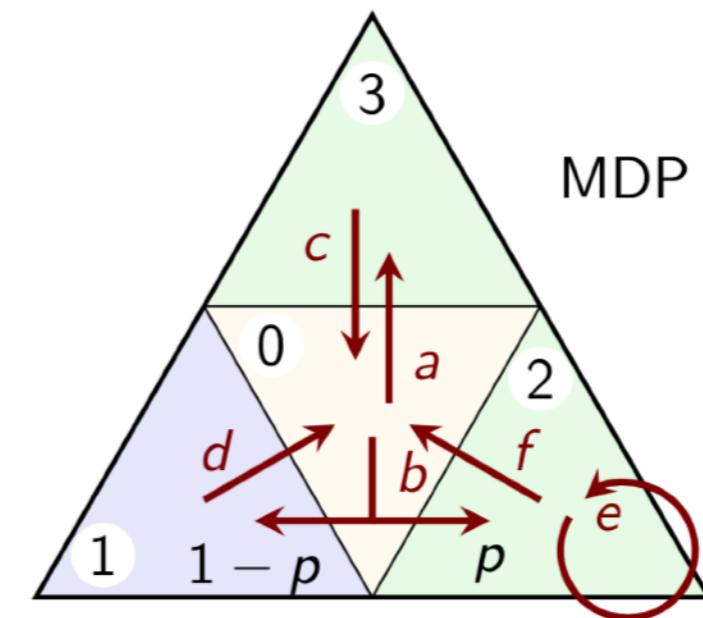
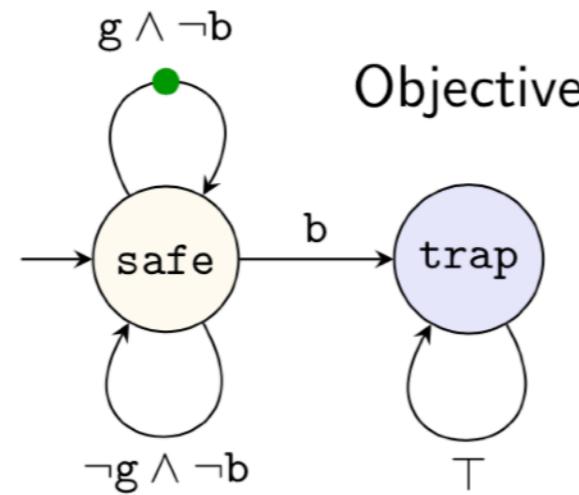
```
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10 State: 0 "start"
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12   [0 & !1] 1 {1}
13   [1] 2 {0}
14 State: 1 "goal"
15   [t] 1 {1}
16 State: 2 "trap"
17   [t] 2 {0}
18 --END--
```

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Formal Reinforcement Learning



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Name	states	aut.	prod.	prob.	est.	time	ζ	ε	α	tol	ep-l	ep-n
twoPairs	4	4	16	1	1	0.26						
riskReward	4	2	8	1	1	1.47						
deferred	41	1	41	1	1	1.01						
grid5x5	25	3	75	1	1	10.82		0.01	0.2		400	30k
trafficNtk	122	13	462	1	1	2.89						
windy	123	2	240	1	1	12.35	0.95	0.001	0.05	0	900	200k
windyKing	130	2	256	1	1	14.34	0.95	0.02	0.2	0	300	120k
windyStoch	130	2	260	1	1	47.70	0.95	0.02	0.2	0	300	200k
frozenSmall	16	3	48	0.823	0.83	0.51			0.05	0	200	
frozenLarge	64	3	192	1	1	1.81			0.05	0	700	
othergrid6	36	25	352	1	1	10.80				0	300	75k
othergrid20	400	25	3601	1	1	78.00	0.9999	0.07	0.2	0	5k	
othergrid40	1600	25	14401	1	0.99	87.90	0.9999	0.05	0.2	0	14k	25k
doublegrid8	4096	3	12287	1	1	45.50				0	3k	100k
doublegrid12	20736	3	62207	1	1	717.6				0	20k	300k
slalom	36	5	84	1	1	0.98						
rps1	121	2	130	0.768	0.76	5.21		0.12	0.006	0		500k
dpenny	52	2	65	0.5	0.5	1.99		0.001	0.2	0	50	120k
devious	11	1	11	1	1	0.81						
arbiter2	32	3	72	1	1	5.16			0.5	0.02	200	
knuthYao	13	3	39	1	1	0.31					100	
threeWayDuel	10	3	13	0.397	0.42	0.08						
mutual4-14	27600	128	384386	1	1	2.74						
mutual4-15	27600	527	780504	1	1	3.61						



Reinforcement
Learning

+

Programmatic
Rewards

Reinforcement
Learning
+
Programmatic
Rewards

A large teal circle on the left contains the text "Reinforcement Learning + Programmatic Rewards". A green curved arrow points from this circle to a green rounded rectangle labeled "Sparse Rewards". A light gray arrow points from the "Sparse Rewards" box back towards the teal circle.

Sparse Rewards

Reinforcement
Learning
+
Programmatic
Rewards

Sparse Rewards

Reward Schemes

Ernst Moritz Hahn , Mateo Perez, Sven Schewe, Fabio Somenzi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Dominik Wojtczak :
Faithful and Effective Reward Schemes for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning of Omega-Regular Objectives. ATVA 2020: 108-124

Reinforcement
Learning
+
Programmatic
Rewards

Sparse Rewards

Reward Schemes
Reward Shaping

Ernst Moritz Hahn , Mateo Perez, Sven Schewe, Fabio Somenzi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Dominik Wojtczak :
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Abolfazl Lavaei, Fabio Somenzi, Sadegh Soudjani, Ashutosh Trivedi, Majid Zamani:

Formal Controller Synthesis for Continuous-Space MDPs via Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. ICCPS 2020: 98-107

Reinforcement
Learning
+
Programmatic
Rewards

Sparse Rewards

Reward Schemes
Reward Shaping
Average-Reward RL

Ernst Moritz Hahn , Mateo Perez, Sven Schewe, Fabio Somenzi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Dominik Wojtczak :
Faithful and Effective Reward Schemes for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning of Omega-Regular Objectives. ATVA 2020: 108-124

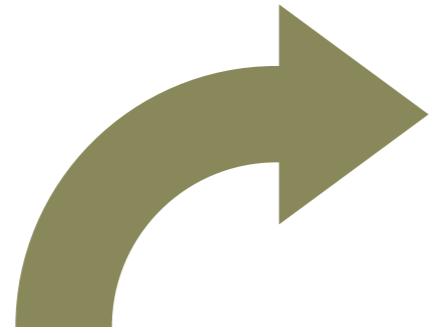
Abolfazl Lavaei, Fabio Somenzi, Sadegh Soudjani, Ashutosh Trivedi, Majid Zamani:

Formal Controller Synthesis for Continuous-Space MDPs via Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. ICCPS 2020: 98-107

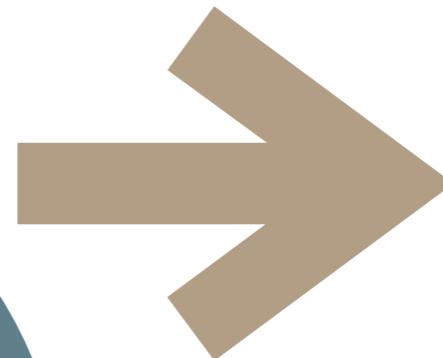
Milad Kazemi, Mateo Perez, Fabio Somenzi, Sadegh Soudjani, Ashutosh Trivedi, Alvaro Velasquez:

Translating Omega-Regular Specifications to Average Objectives for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. AAMAS 2022: 732-741

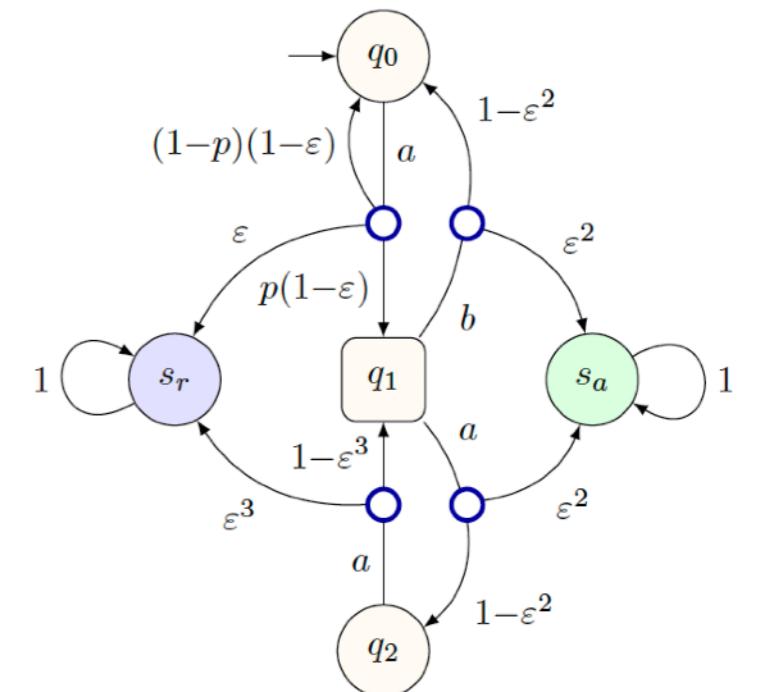
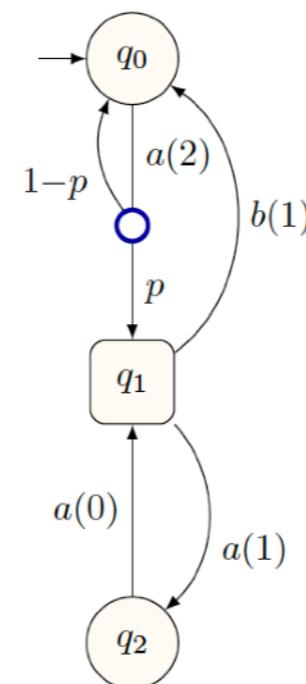
Reinforcement
Learning
+
Programmatic
Rewards



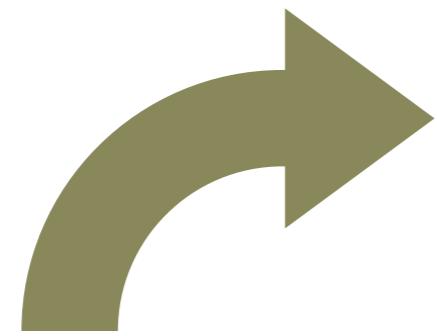
Sparse Rewards



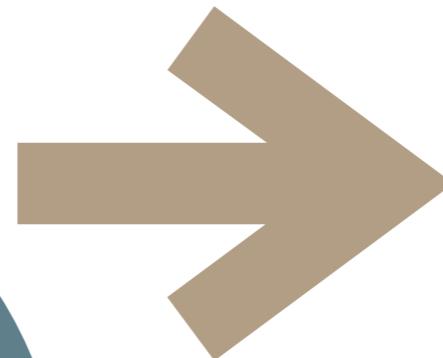
Multiplayer Games



Reinforcement
Learning
+
Programmatic
Rewards

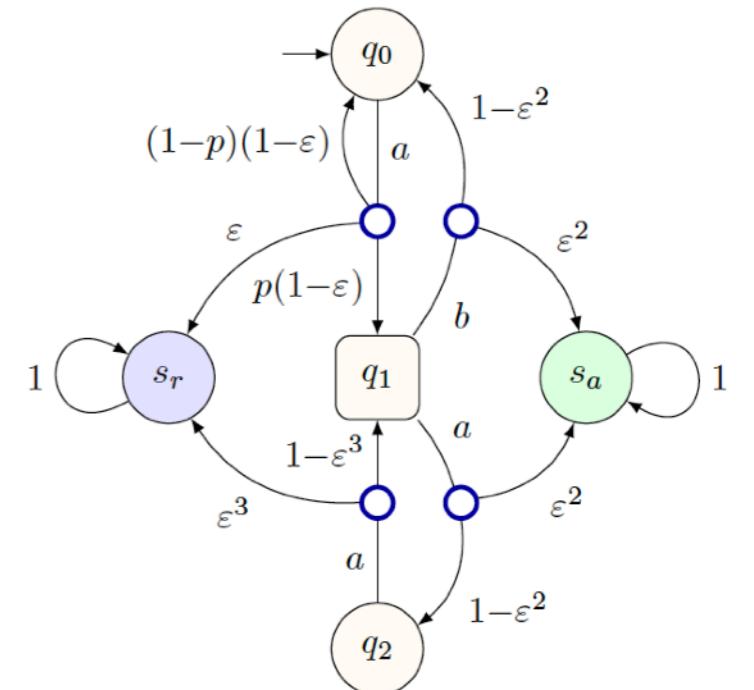
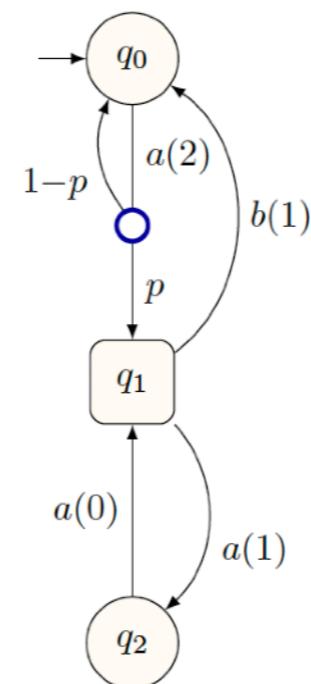


Sparse Rewards

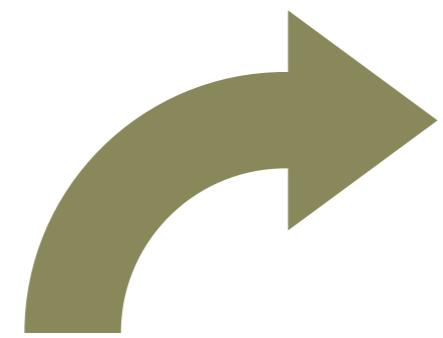


Multiplayer Games

Stochastic parity games

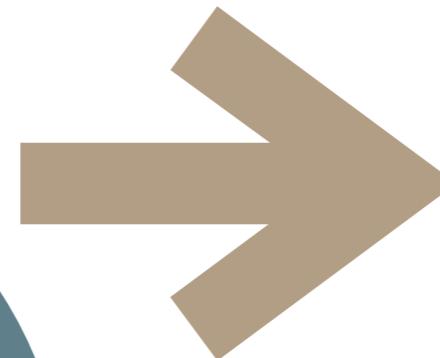


Reinforcement
Learning
+
Programmatic
Rewards

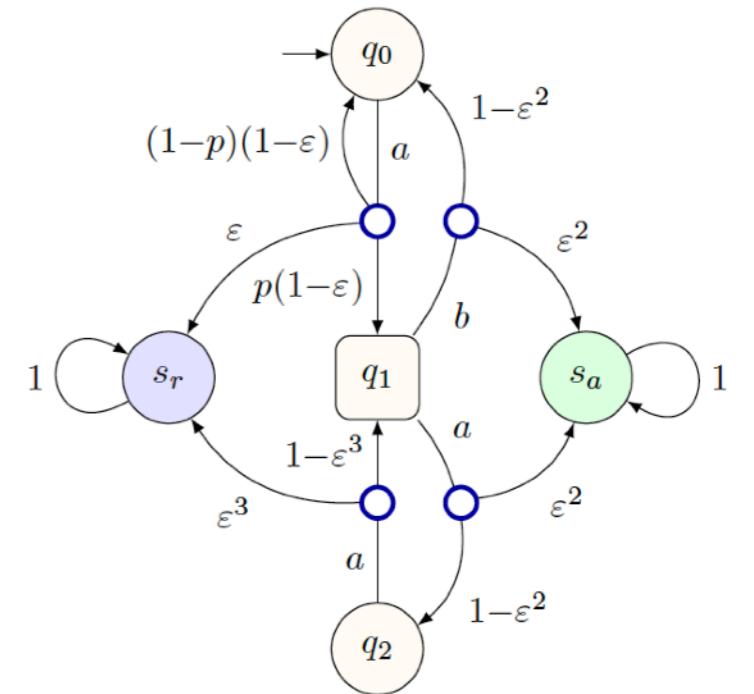
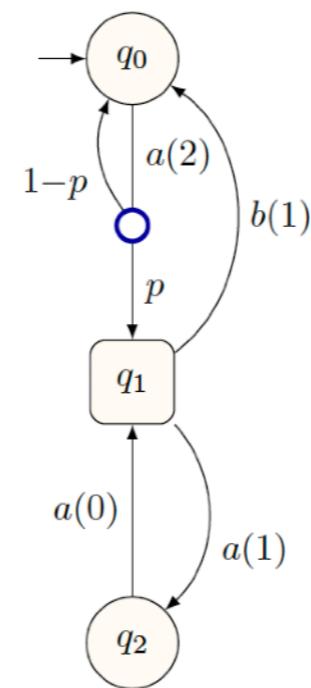


Sparse Rewards

Stochastic parity games
Multi-objective RL

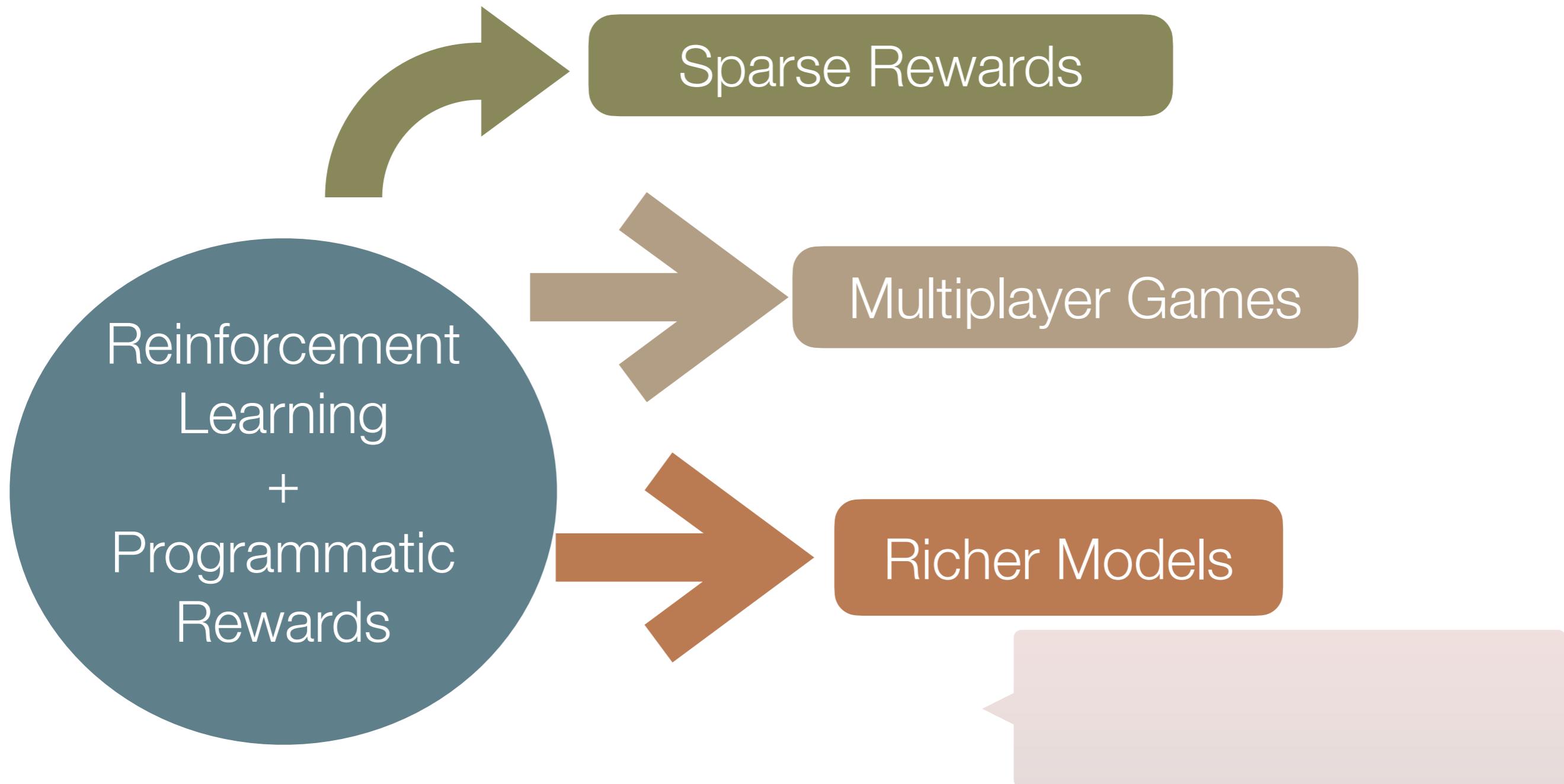


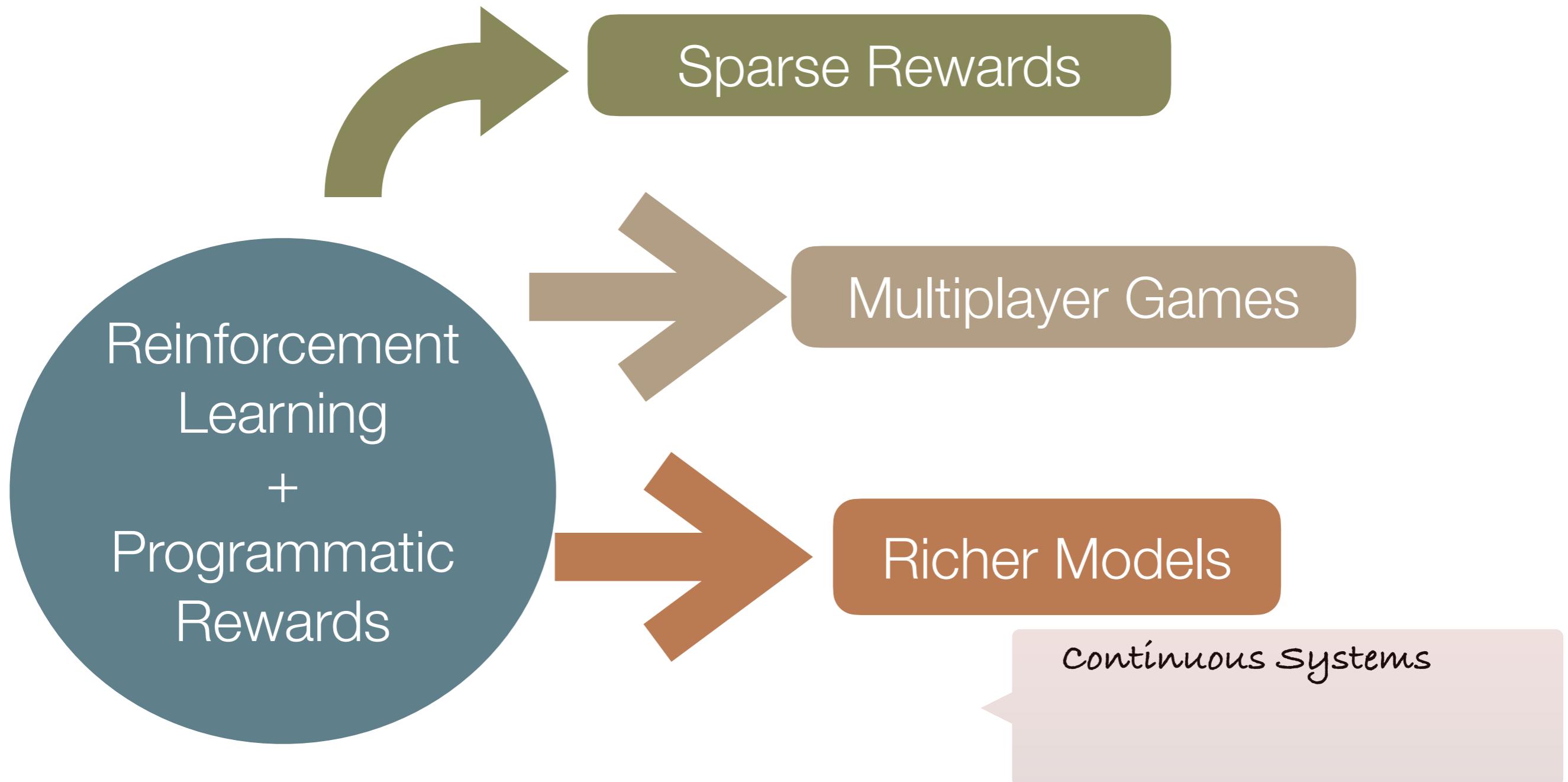
Multiplayer Games



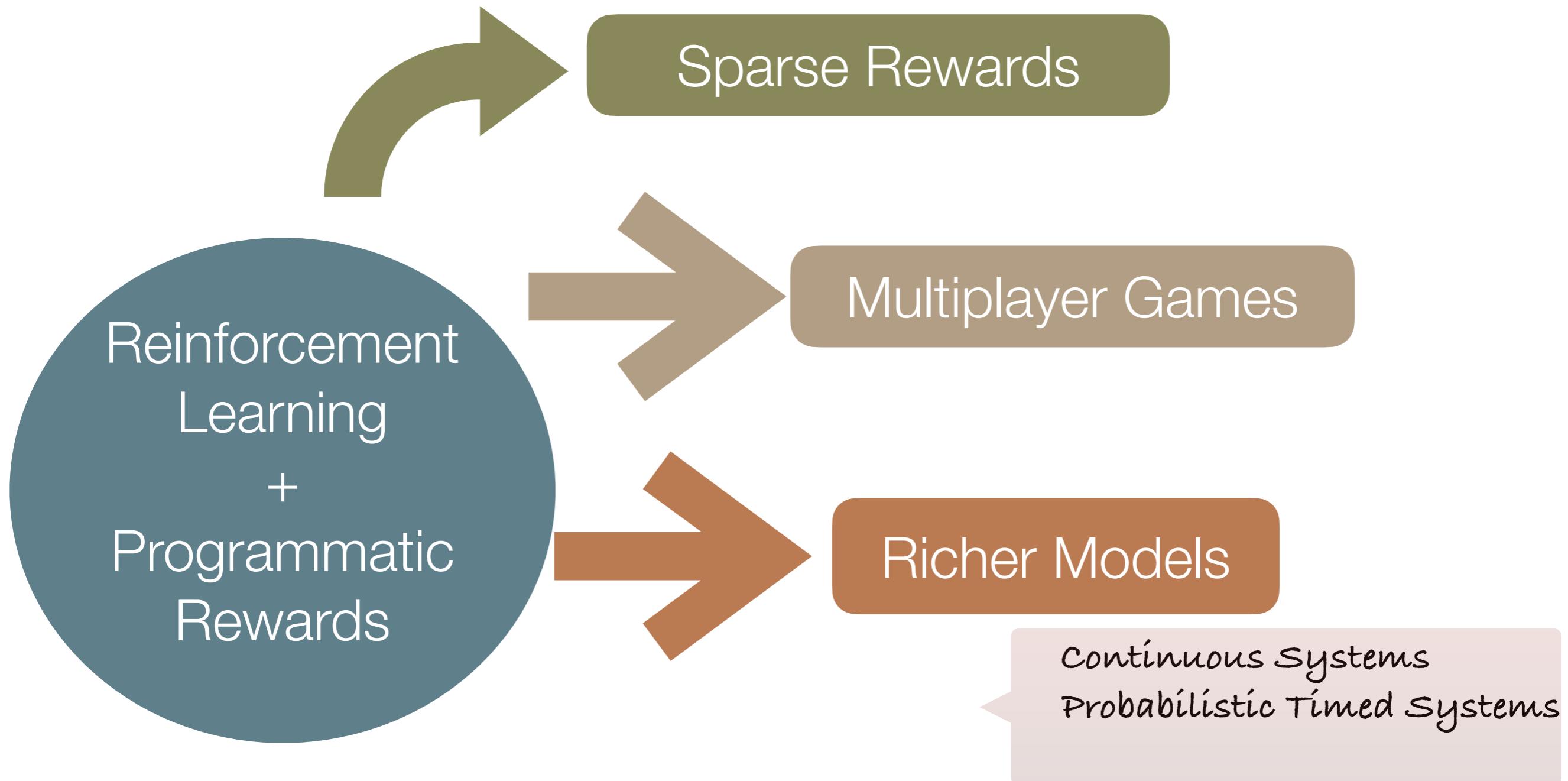
Ernst Moritz Hahn, Mateo Perez, Sven Schewe, Fabio Somenzi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Dominik Wojtczak:
Model-Free Reinforcement Learning for Stochastic Parity Games. CONCUR 2020: 21:1-21:16

Ernst Moritz Hahn , Mateo Perez , Sven Schewe , Fabio Somenzi , Ashutosh Trivedi , Dominik Wojtczak :
Model-Free Reinforcement Learning for Lexicographic Omega-Regular Objectives. FM 2021: 142-159



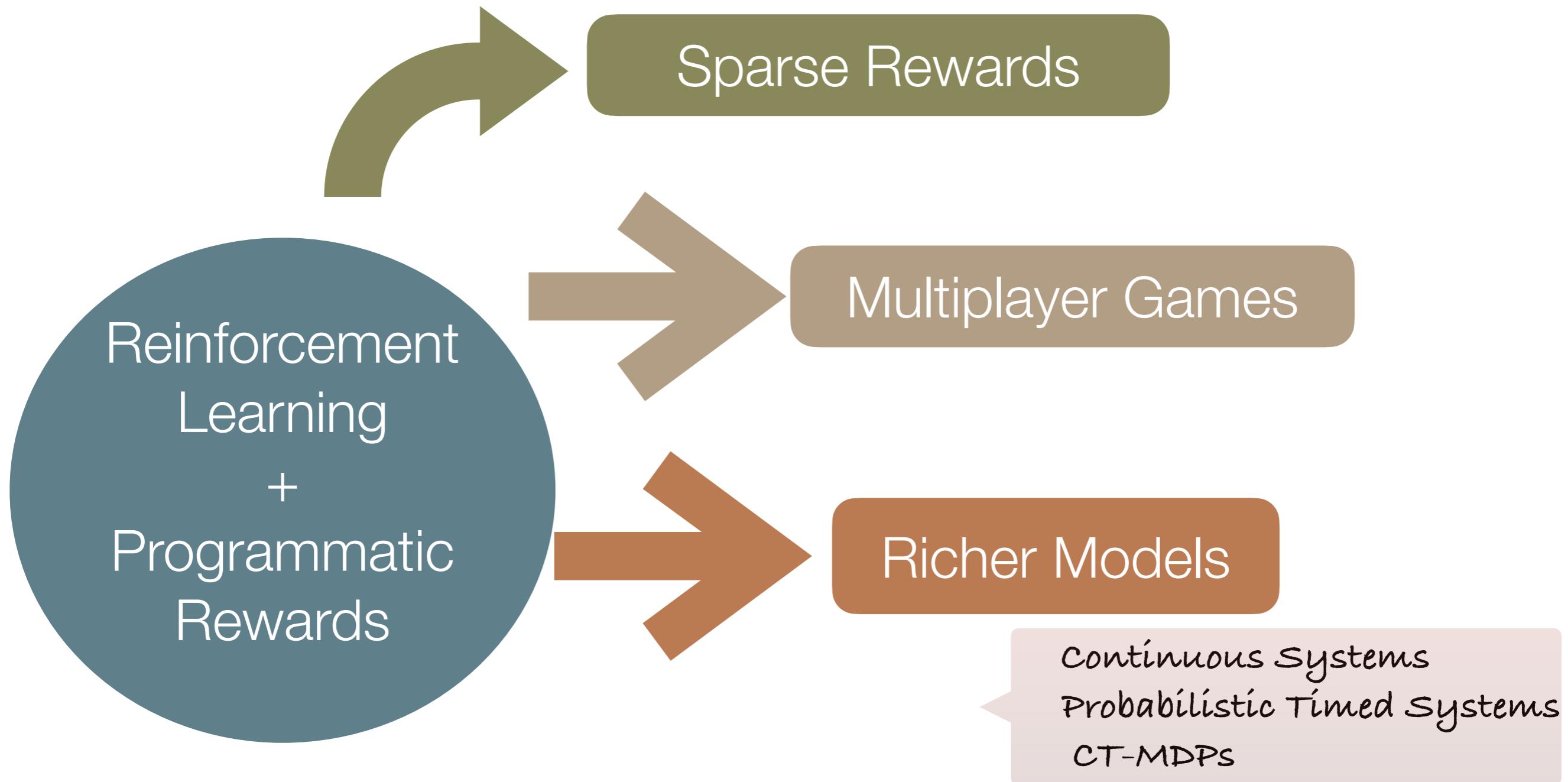


Abolfazl Lavaei, Fabio Somenzi, Sadegh Soudjani, Ashutosh Trivedi, Majid Zamani:
Formal Controller Synthesis for Continuous-Space MDPs via Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. ICCPS 2020: 98-107



Abolfazl Lavaei, Fabio Somenzi, Sadegh Soudjani, Ashutosh Trivedi, Majid Zamani:
Formal Controller Synthesis for Continuous-Space MDPs via Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. ICCPS 2020: 98-107

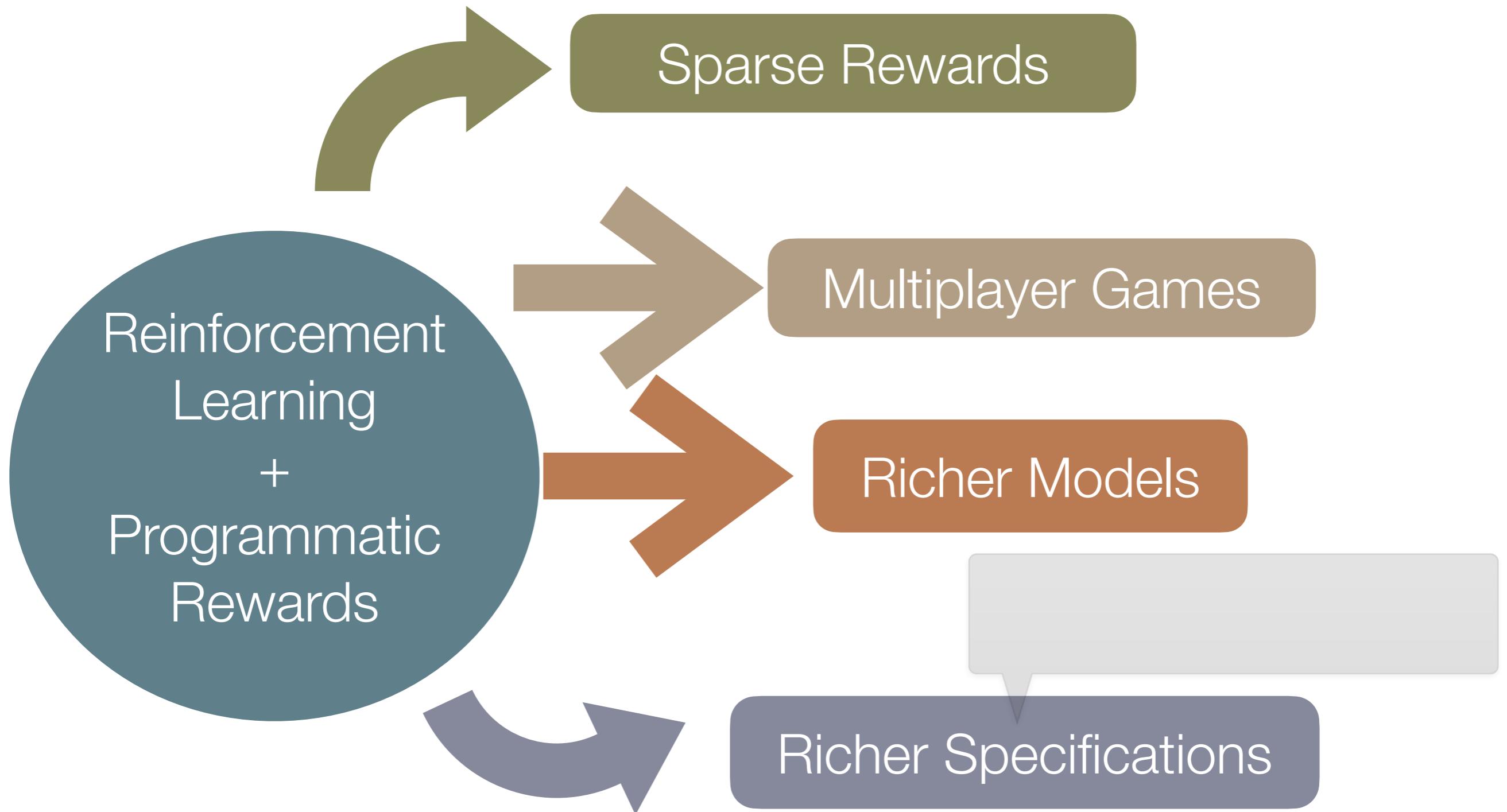
Kalyani Dole, Ashutosh Gupta, John Komp, Shankara Narayanan Krishna, Ashutosh Trivedi:
Event-Triggered and Time-Triggered Duration Calculus for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. RTSS 2021: 240-252

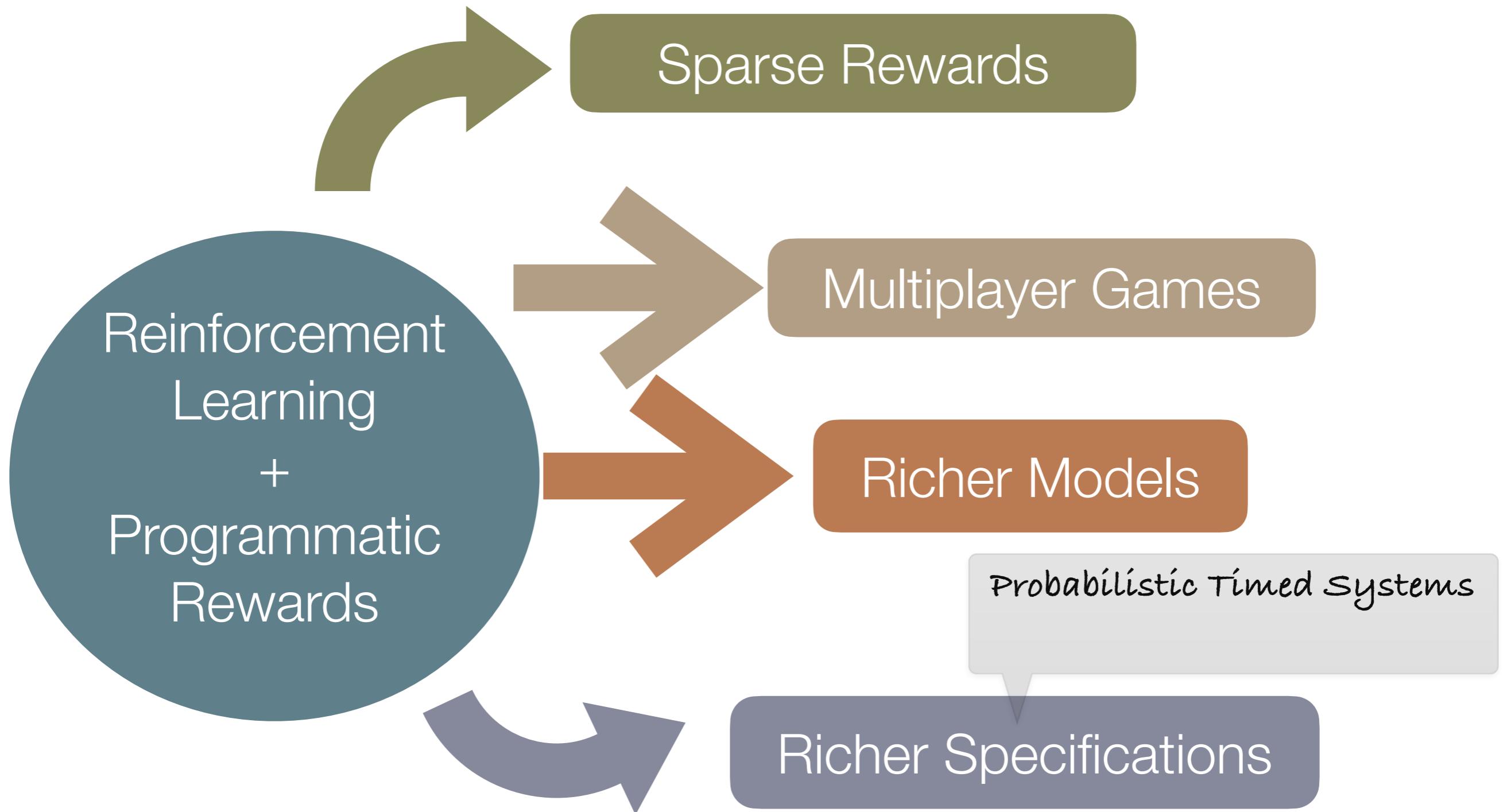


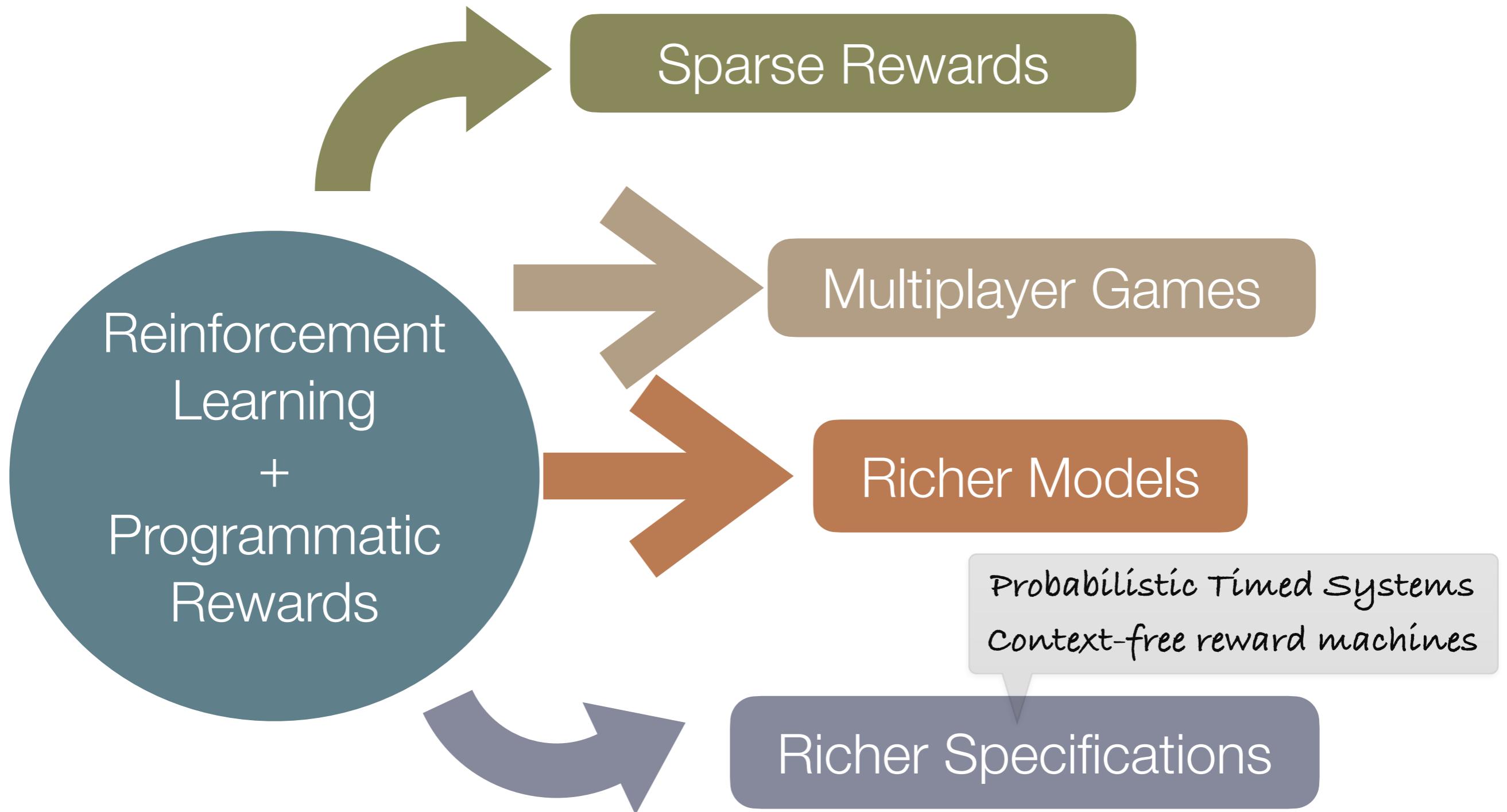
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Event-Triggered and Time-Triggered Duration Calculus for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. RTSS 2021: 240-252

Amin Falah, Shibashis Guha, and Ashutosh Trivedi:
Reinforcement Learning for Omega-Regular Specifications on Continuous-Time MDPs. Under Review.







Kalyani Dole, Ashutosh Gupta, John Komp, Shankara Narayanan Krishna, Ashutosh Trivedi:
Event-Triggered and Time-Triggered Duration Calculus for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. RTSS 2021: 240-252

Improving Scalability

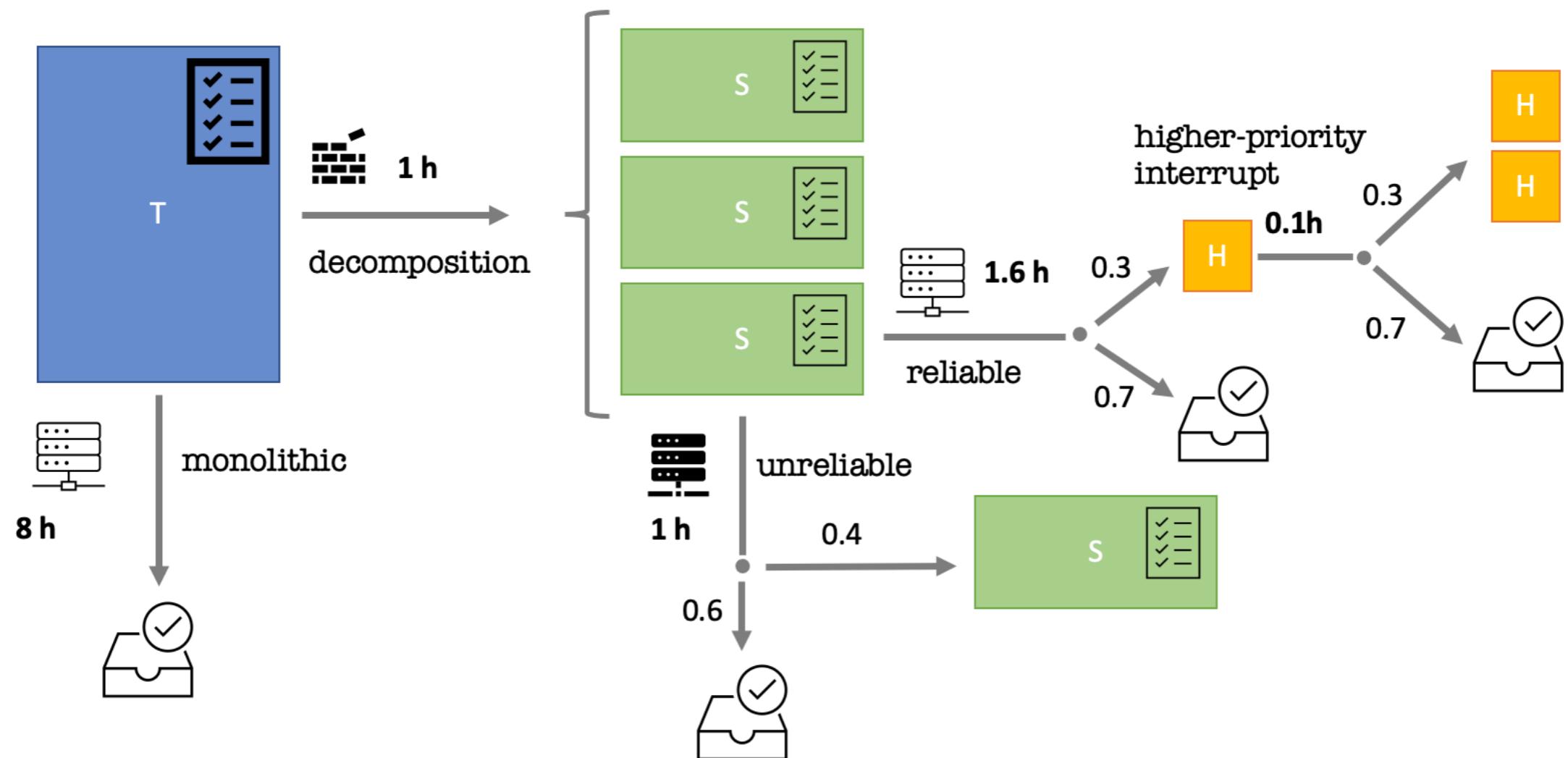


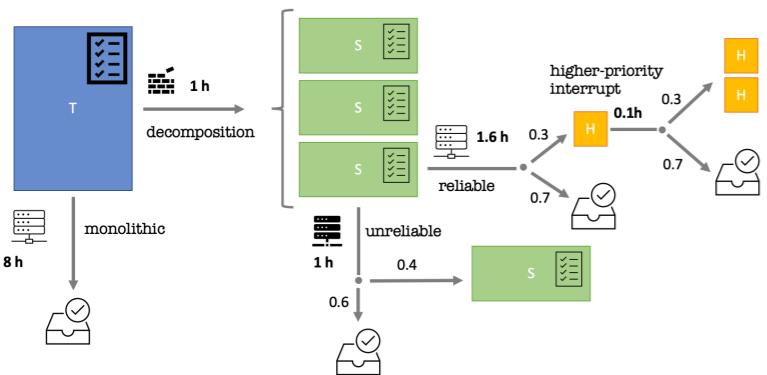
Recursive Reinforcement Learning

Ernst Moritz Hahn , Mateo Perez , Sven Schewe , Fabio Somenzi , Ashutosh Trivedi , Dominik Wojtczak :
Model-Free Reinforcement Learning for Branching Markov Decision Processes. CAV (2) 2021: 651-673

Ernst Moritz Hahn , Mateo Perez , Sven Schewe , Fabio Somenzi , Ashutosh Trivedi , Dominik Wojtczak
Recursive Reinforcement Learning. NeurIPS'22.

Taylor Dohmen, Noah Topper, George K. Atia, Andre Beckus, Ashutosh Trivedi, Alvaro Velasquez:
Inferring Probabilistic Reward Machines from Non-Markovian Reward Signals for Reinforcement Learning. ICAPS 2022: 574-582



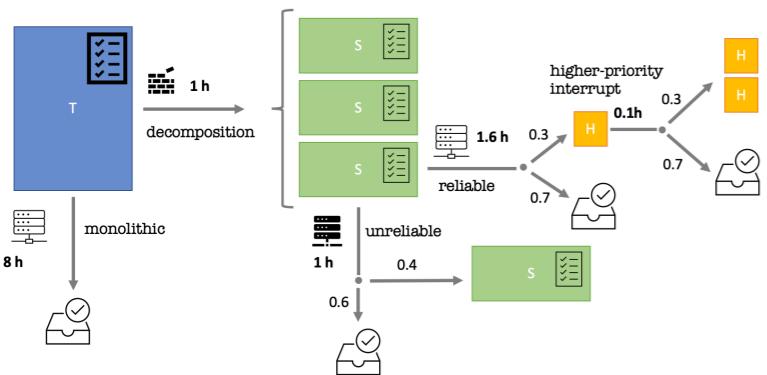


Branching Markov Decision Processes

$$T \xrightarrow[1]{a_1} SSS \quad S \xrightarrow[1.6]{a_1} 0.3:H + 0.7:\varepsilon$$

$$T \xrightarrow[8]{a_2} \varepsilon \quad S \xrightarrow[1]{a_2} 0.4:S + 0.6:\varepsilon$$

$$H \xrightarrow[0.1]{a_1} 0.3:HH + 0.7:\varepsilon$$



Branching Markov Decision Processes

$$T \xrightarrow[1]{a_1} SSS \quad S \xrightarrow[1.6]{a_1} 0.3: H + 0.7: \varepsilon$$

$$T \xrightarrow[8]{a_2} \varepsilon \quad S \xrightarrow[1]{a_2} 0.4: S + 0.6: \varepsilon$$

$$H \xrightarrow[0.1]{a_1} 0.3: HH + 0.7: \varepsilon$$

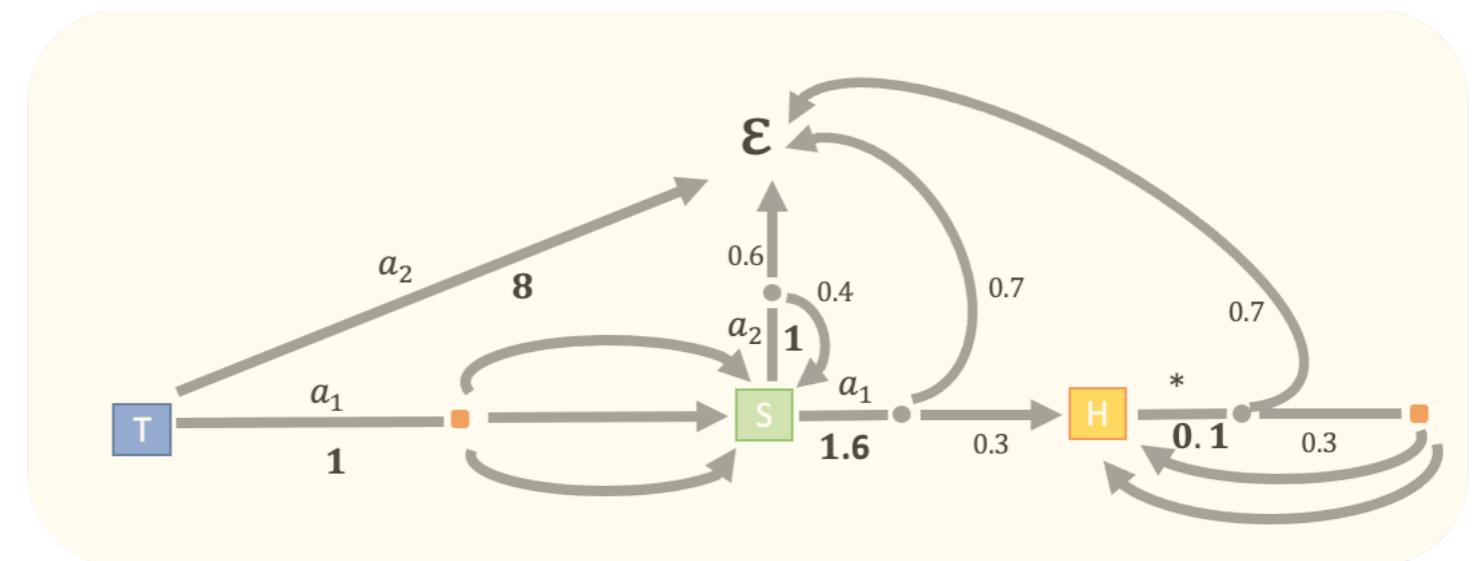


Harris, Theodore Edward, *The Theory of Branching Process*, Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND Corporation, R-381-PR, 1964. As of June 16, 2021: <https://www.rand.org/pubs/reports/R381.html>



Kousha Etessami, Mihalis Yannakakis:
Recursive Markov Decision Processes and Recursive Stochastic Games. J. ACM 62(2): 11:1-11:69 (2015)

$$\begin{aligned}
 T &\xrightarrow[1]{a_1} SSS & S &\xrightarrow[1.6]{a_1} 0.3:H + 0.7:\varepsilon \\
 T &\xrightarrow[8]{a_2} \varepsilon & S &\xrightarrow[1]{a_2} 0.4:S + 0.6:\varepsilon \\
 H &\xrightarrow[0.1]{*} 0.3:HH + 0.7:\varepsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

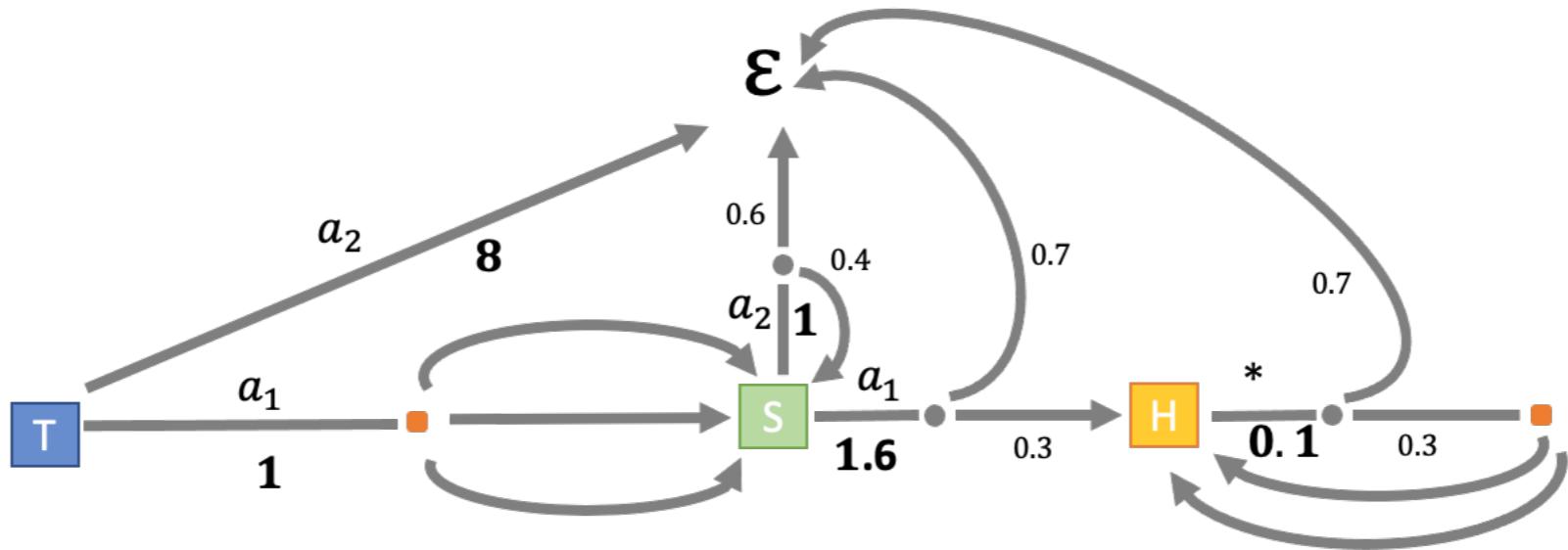


BMDP Optimization (When the model is completely known).

Given a Branching Markov decision process (BMDP) with positive cost, compute

- the minimum total expected cost (to termination) and
- an optimal strategy.

When the model is known.



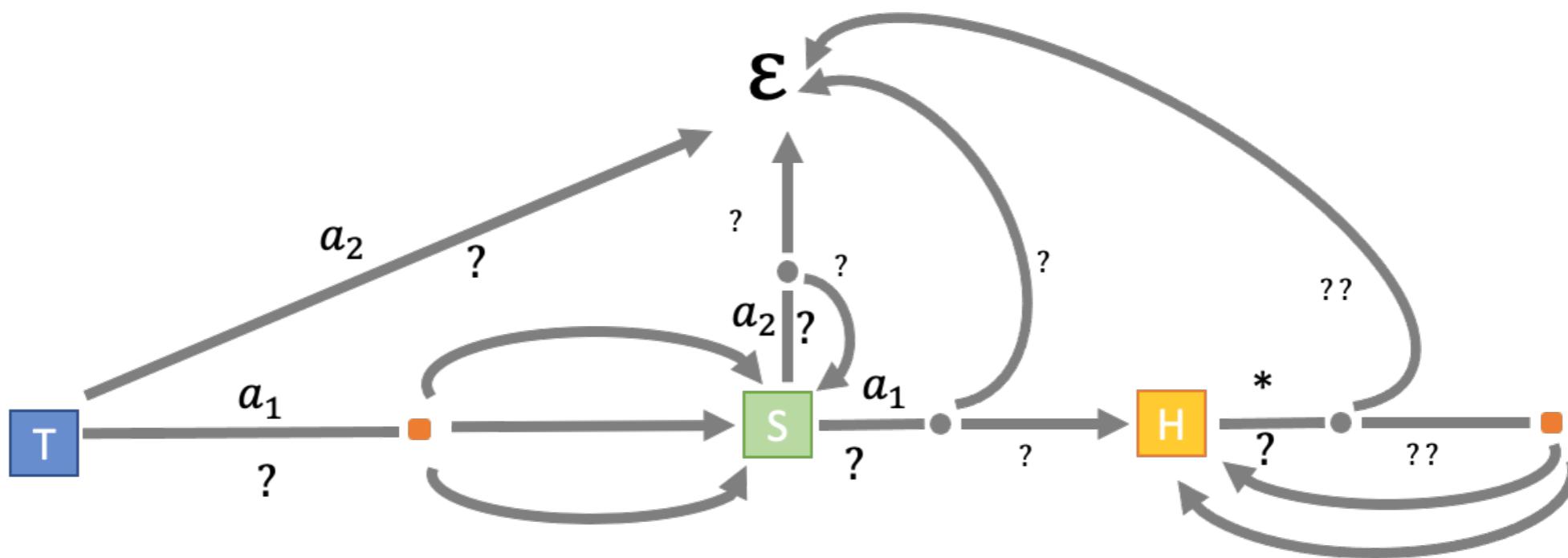
$$x_T = \min \{ 1 + (x_S + x_S + x_S), 8 + x_\varepsilon \}$$

$$x_S = \min \{ 1.6 + 0.3 x_H + 0.7 x_\varepsilon, 1 + 0.4 x_S + 0.6 x_\varepsilon \}$$

$$x_H = \min \{ 0.1 + 0.3 (x_H + x_H) + 0.7 x_\varepsilon \}$$

$$x_\varepsilon = 0$$

When the model is unknown.

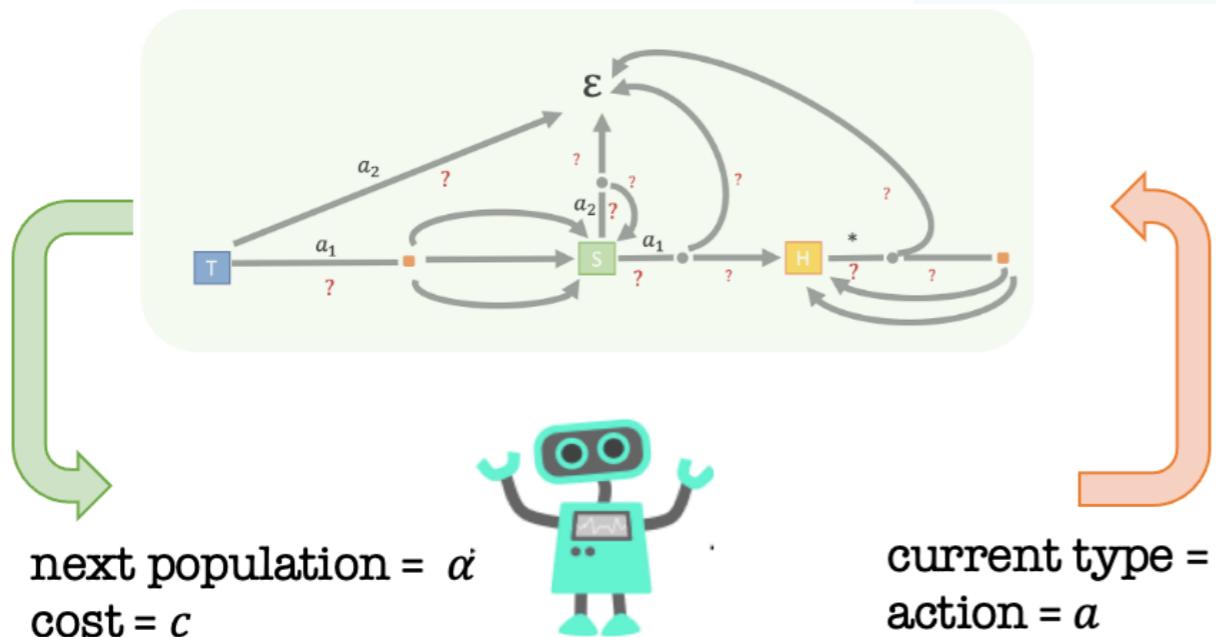


Challenges:

- The state-space of the underlying MDP is infinite
- One-step reward is unbounded
- Undiscounted rewards result in a lack of contraction

Q-Learning for BMDP

$$Q(q, a) = c_{qa} + \sum_{\alpha \in \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\}} p_{qa}(\alpha) \cdot \left(\sum_{n \leq |\alpha|} \min_{a'} Q(\alpha(n), a') \right)$$



Theorem (Convergence of Q-Learning for BMDPs).

For positive rewards r_i , and learning-rates satisfying

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \lambda_i = \infty \text{ and } \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \lambda_i^2 < \infty$$

We have that $Q_i(x_q, a) \rightarrow Q(x_q, a)$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$ if every (s, a) pair has a minimum probability p_{min} of being selected in every step.

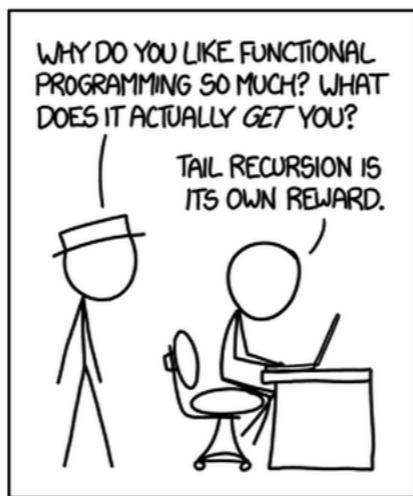
Q	a_1	a_2	a_3	a_4
q_1				
q_2				
q_3				
q_4				

$$Q_{i+1}(q, a) = (1 - \lambda_i) Q_i(q, a) + \lambda_i \left(c + \sum_{n \leq |\alpha|} \min_{a'} Q(\alpha(n), a') \right)$$

new estimate

old estimate

current sample



Beyond Branching MDPs: Recursion

- Probabilistic pushdown systems
- “Context-free” specifications
- Modular Reinforcement Learning
- Probabilistic Boolean programs

```

def T():
    a = ?({mono, divide});
    if a = mono:
        execute_mono() # -$8
    else :
        decompose() # -$0.5
        S()
        S()
        S()
        combine() # -$0.5
    return

```

(a) Task T

```

def S():
    a = ?({reliable, fast});
    if a = fast:
        try:
            execute_fast() # -$1
        except Crash: # prob = 0.4
            S()
    else:
        try:
            execute_reliable() #-$1.5
        except Interrupt: #prob = 0.3
            H() # +$0.2
    return

```

(b) Task S

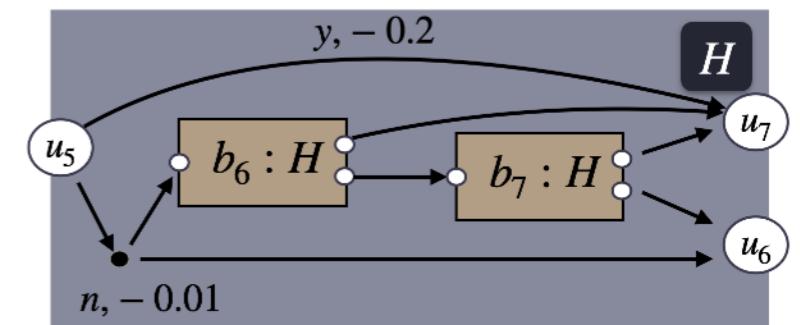
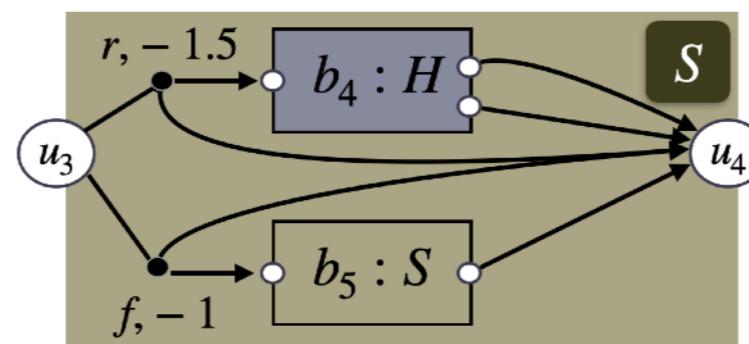
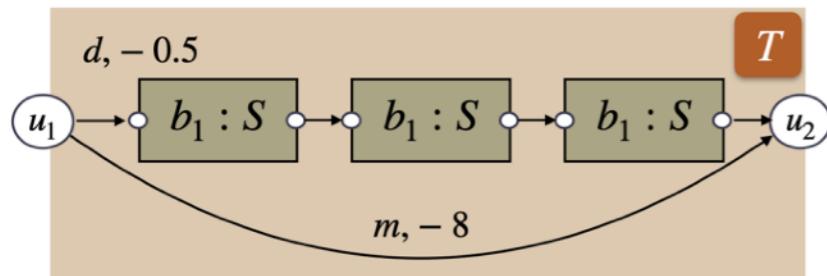
```

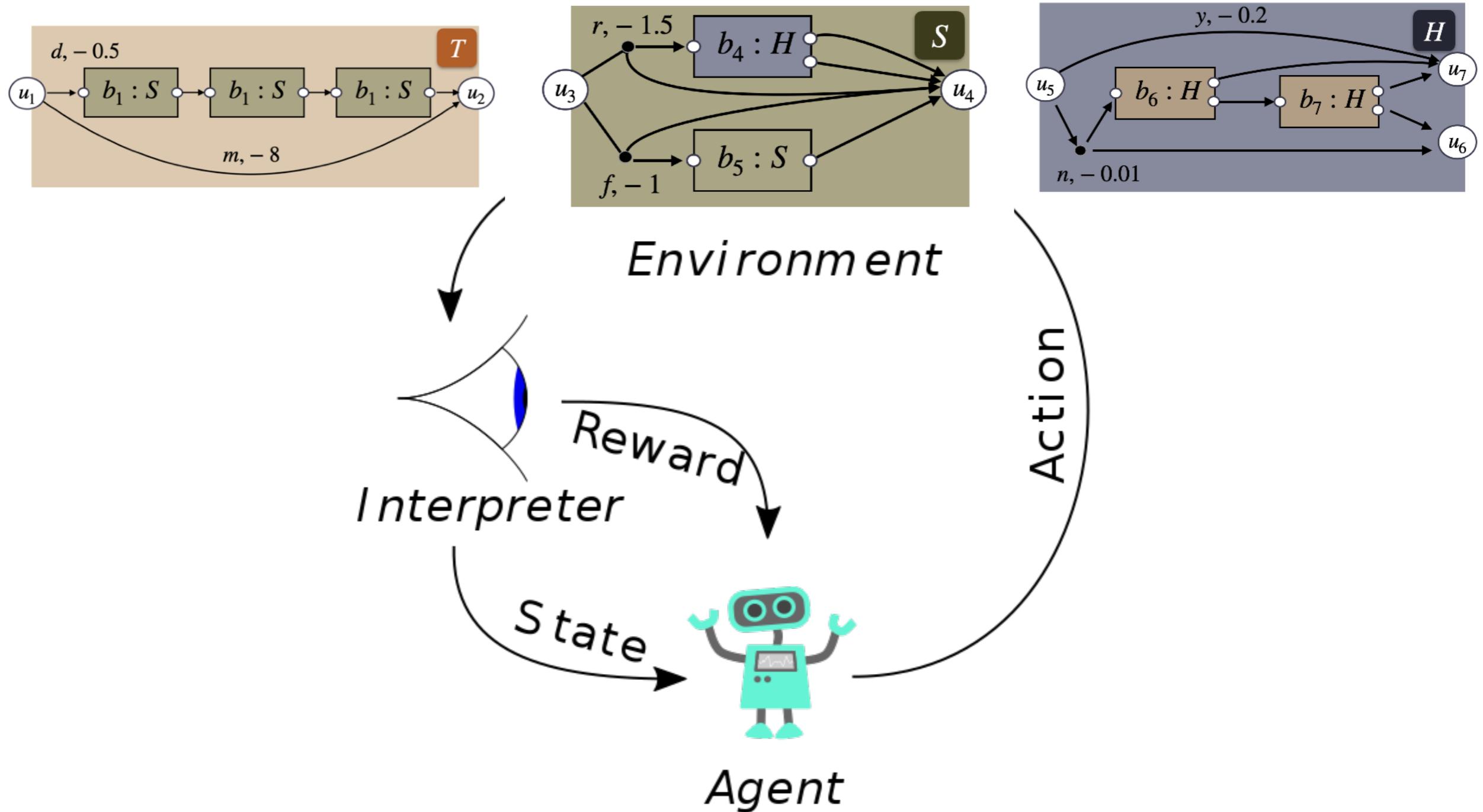
def H():
    upgrade = ?({yes, no});
    if upgrade = no:
        try:
            ISR() # -$0.01
        except Interrupt: #prob = 0.3
            if (H()):
                return 1
            if (H()):
                return 1
    return 0
else : #-$0.2
    return 1

```

(c) Task H

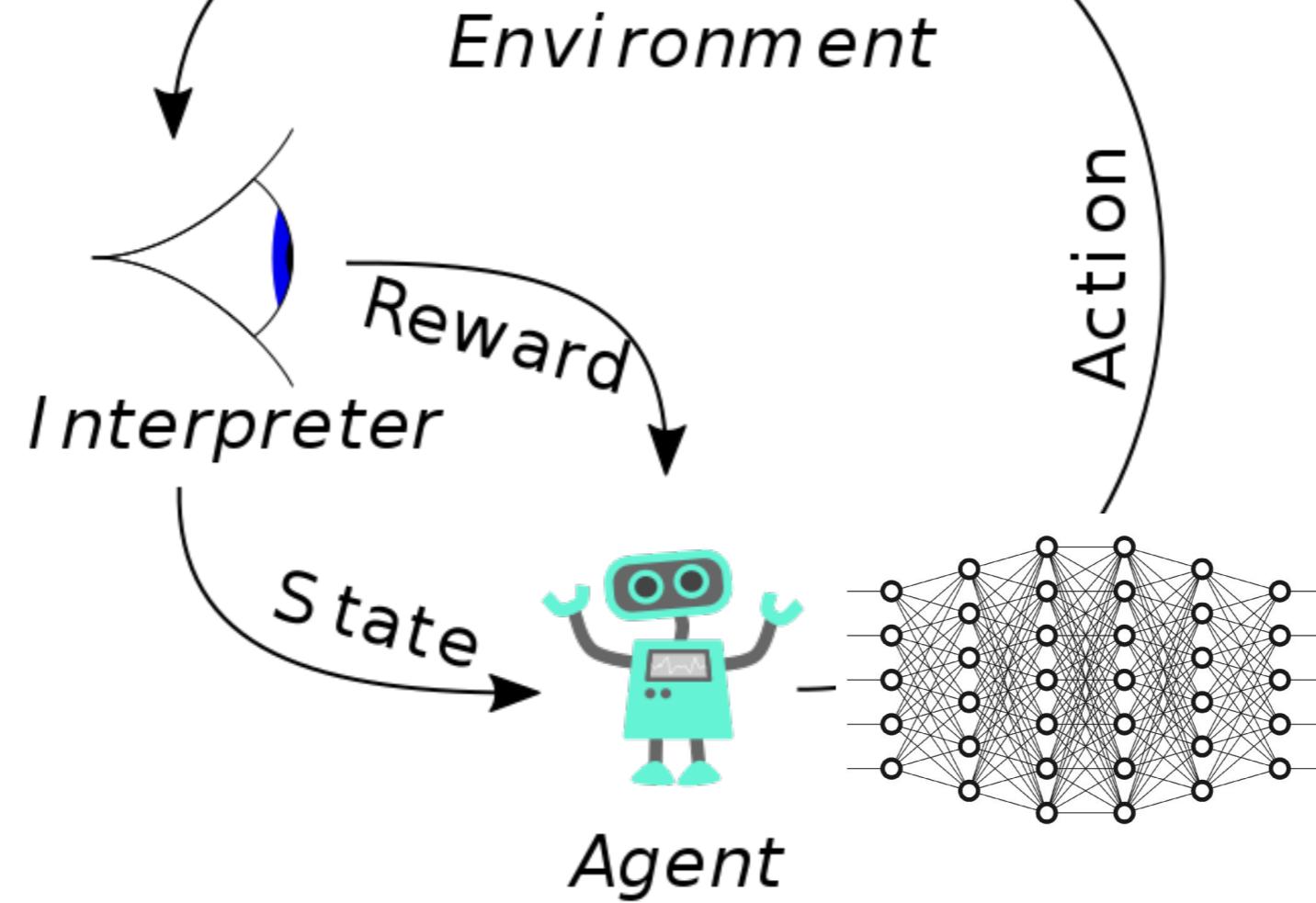
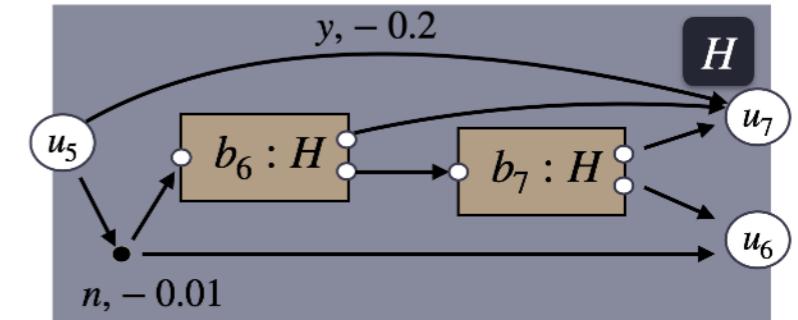
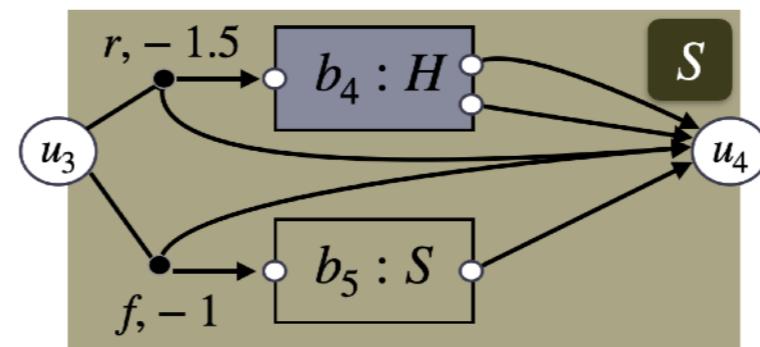
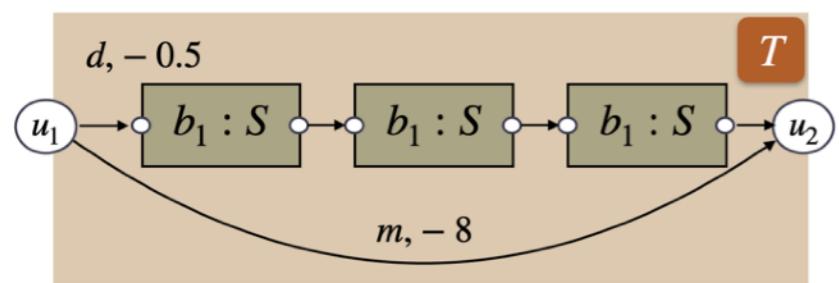
Figure 2: A probabilistic Boolean program sketch where the choice of the hole (?) is to be filled by RL agent.

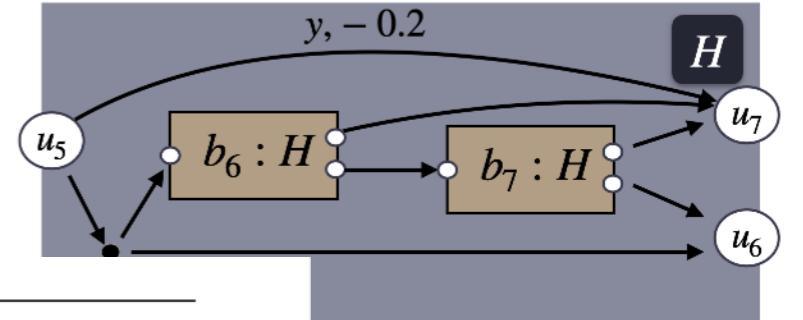
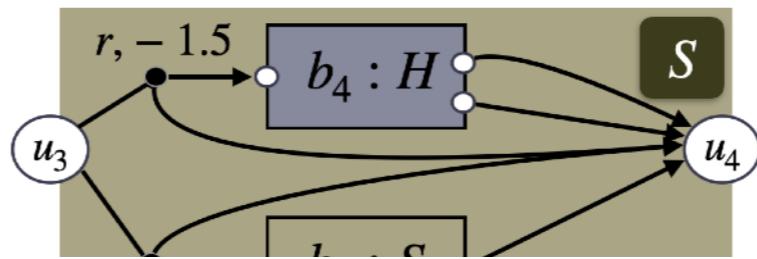
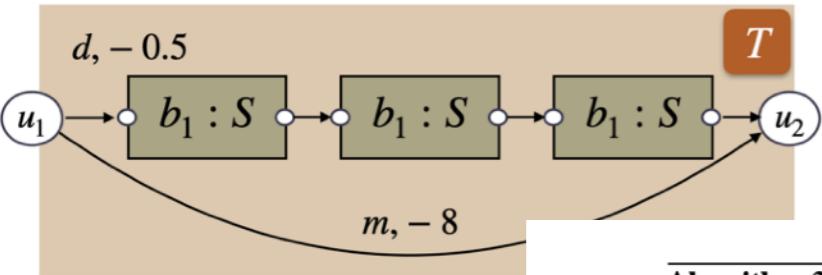




Theorem (Convergence)

Tabular recursive Q-learning algorithm converges for deterministic multi-exit RMDPs and single-exit RMDPs.



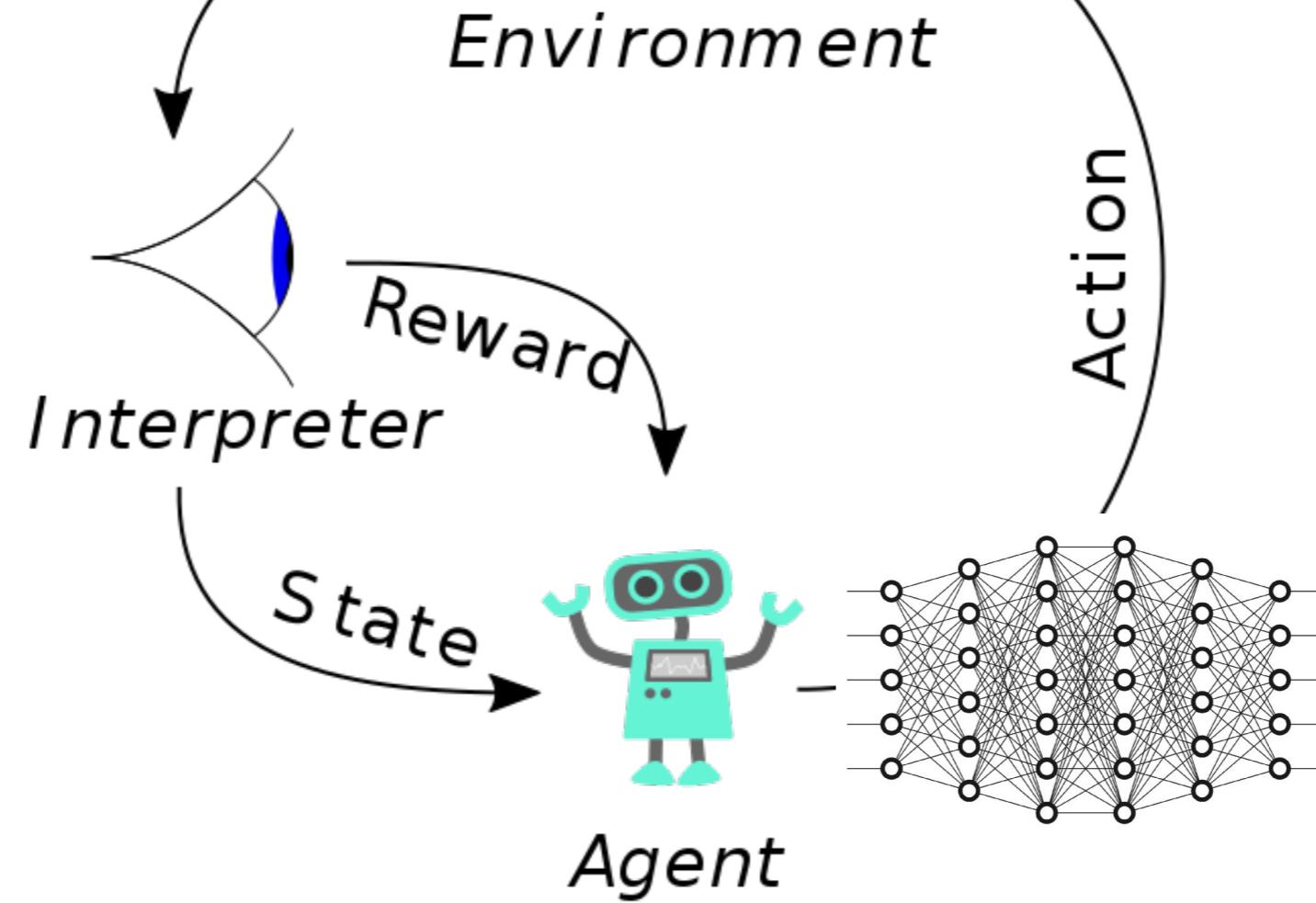
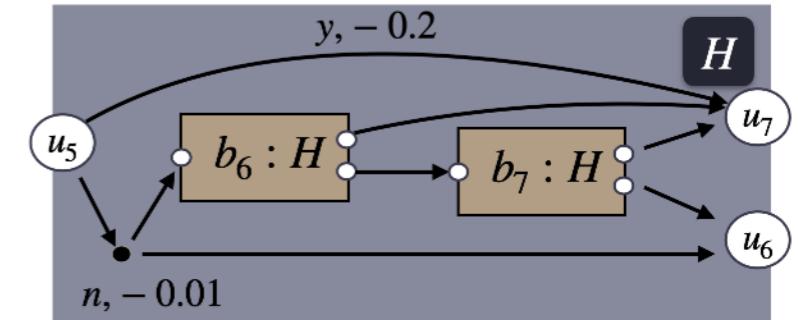
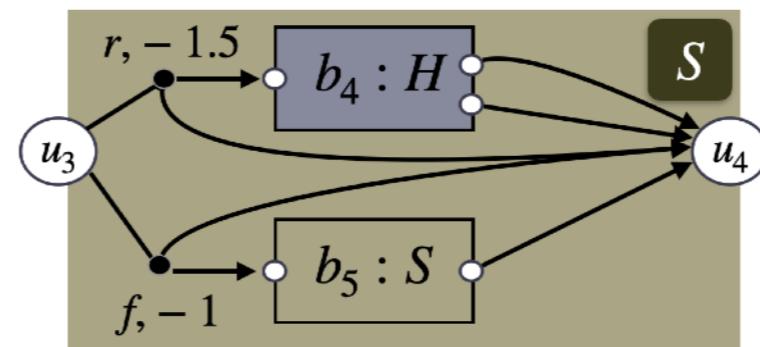
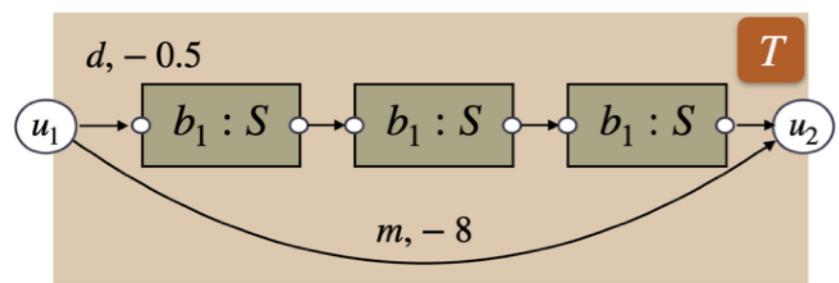


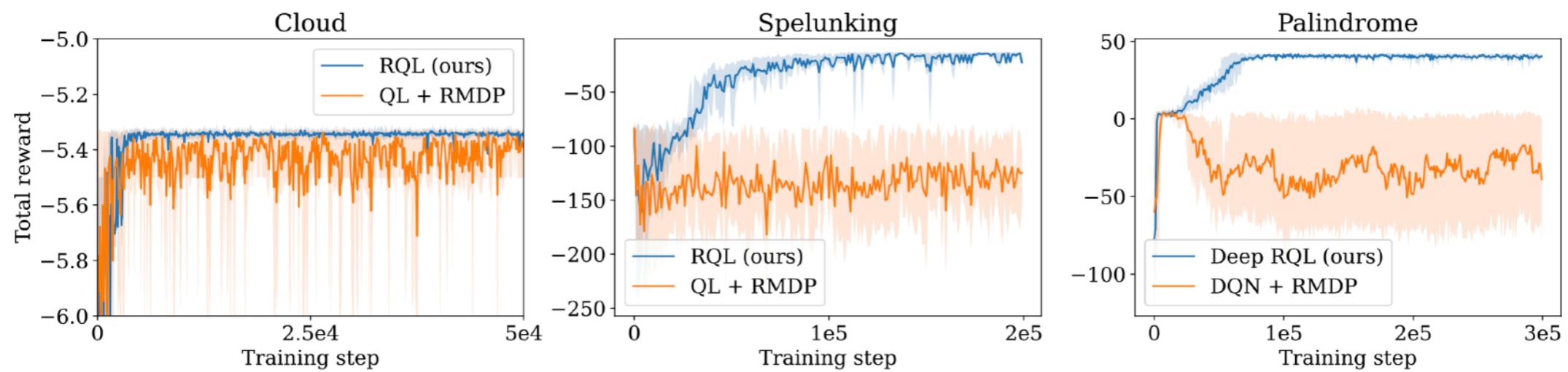
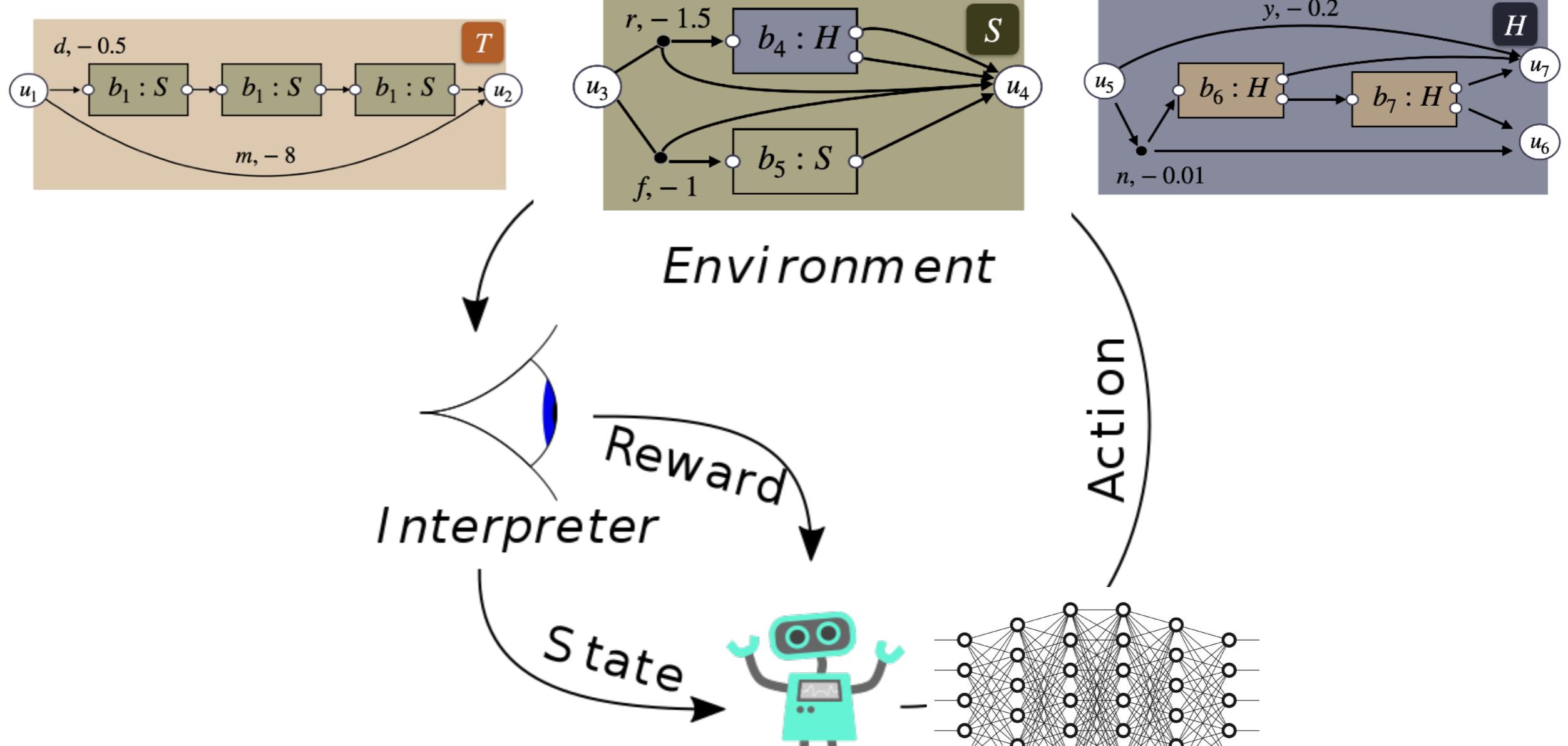
Algorithm 3: Deep Recursive Q-learning (DQN-style)

```

1 Buffer size  $N$ , update frequency  $C$ 
2 Initialize network parameters  $\theta$ 
3 Set target network parameters  $\theta^- \leftarrow \theta$ 
4 Initialize empty replay buffer
5 while not converged do
6    $v \leftarrow \mathbf{0}$ 
7   stack  $\leftarrow \emptyset$ 
8   Sample trajectory  $\tau \sim \{(s, a, r, s'), \dots\}$ 
9   for  $s, a, r, s'$  in  $\tau$  do
10    // Push update to replay buffer
11    if entered box then
12       $\{s_{\text{exit}_1}, \dots, s_{\text{exit}_n}\} \leftarrow \text{getExits}(s')$ 
13       $v' \leftarrow [\max_{a' \in A(s_{\text{exit}_1})} Q(s_{\text{exit}_1}, v, a'; \theta), \dots, \max_{a' \in A(s_{\text{exit}_n})} Q(s_{\text{exit}_n}, v, a'; \theta)]$ 
14       $v'_{\min} \leftarrow \min(v')$ 
15       $v' \leftarrow v' - v'_{\min}$ 
16      buffer.add(entered box,  $(s, v, a, r, s', v')$ ,  $v'_{\min}$ )
17      stack.push( $v'$ )
18    else if exited box then
19       $\{s_{\text{exit}_1}, \dots, s_{\text{exit}_n}\} \leftarrow \text{getExits}(s)$ 
20      Set  $k$  such that  $s' = s_{\text{exit}_k}$ 
21      buffer.add(exited box,  $(s, v, a, r, s', v)$ ,  $v(k)$ )
22       $v \leftarrow \text{stack.pop}()$ 
23    else
24      buffer.add(normal,  $(s, v, a, r, s', v)$ ,  $\perp$ )
25    end
26    // Update network
27    Sample minibatch  $\{\text{type}_j, (s_j, v_j, a_j, r_j, s'_j, v'_j), \text{aux}_j\}_{j=1}^N$  of size  $N$  from replay buffer
28    for  $j = 1, \dots, N$  do
29       $\text{targ}_j \leftarrow \begin{cases} r_j + \max_{a' \in A(s'_j)} Q(s'_j, v'_j, a'; \theta^-) + \text{aux}_j & \text{type}_j = \text{entered box} \\ r_j + \text{aux}_j & \text{type}_j = \text{exited box} \\ r_j + \max_{a \in A(s'_j)} Q(s'_j, v'_j, a; \theta^-) & \text{type}_j = \text{normal} \end{cases}$ 
30    end
31     $\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (Q(s_j, v_j, a_j) - \text{targ}_j)^2$ 
32    Update  $\theta$  with respect to loss  $\mathcal{L}$  with gradient descent
33    Set  $\theta^- \leftarrow \theta$  every  $C$  steps
34  end
35 return  $\theta$ 

```







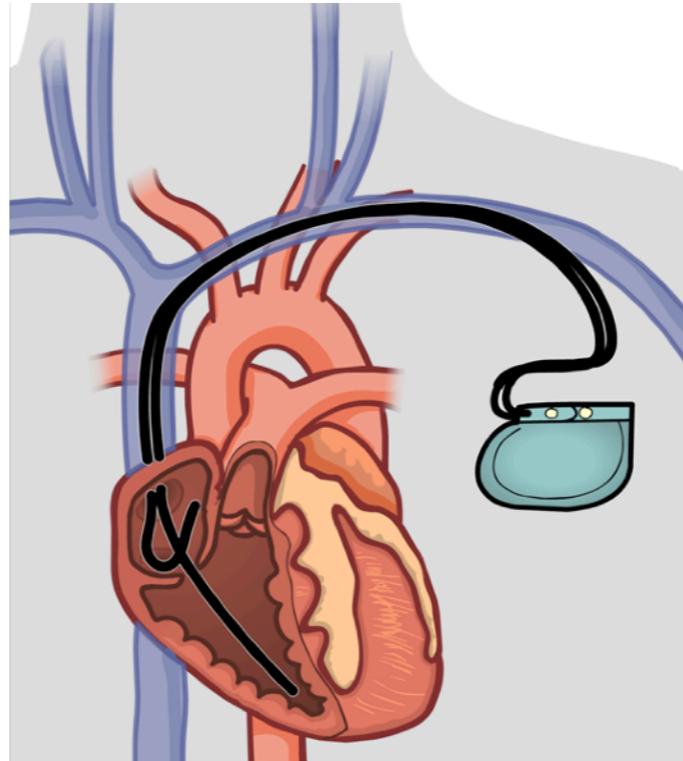
MUNGOJERRIE

Formal Reinforcement Learning

plv.colorado.edu/mungojerrie/

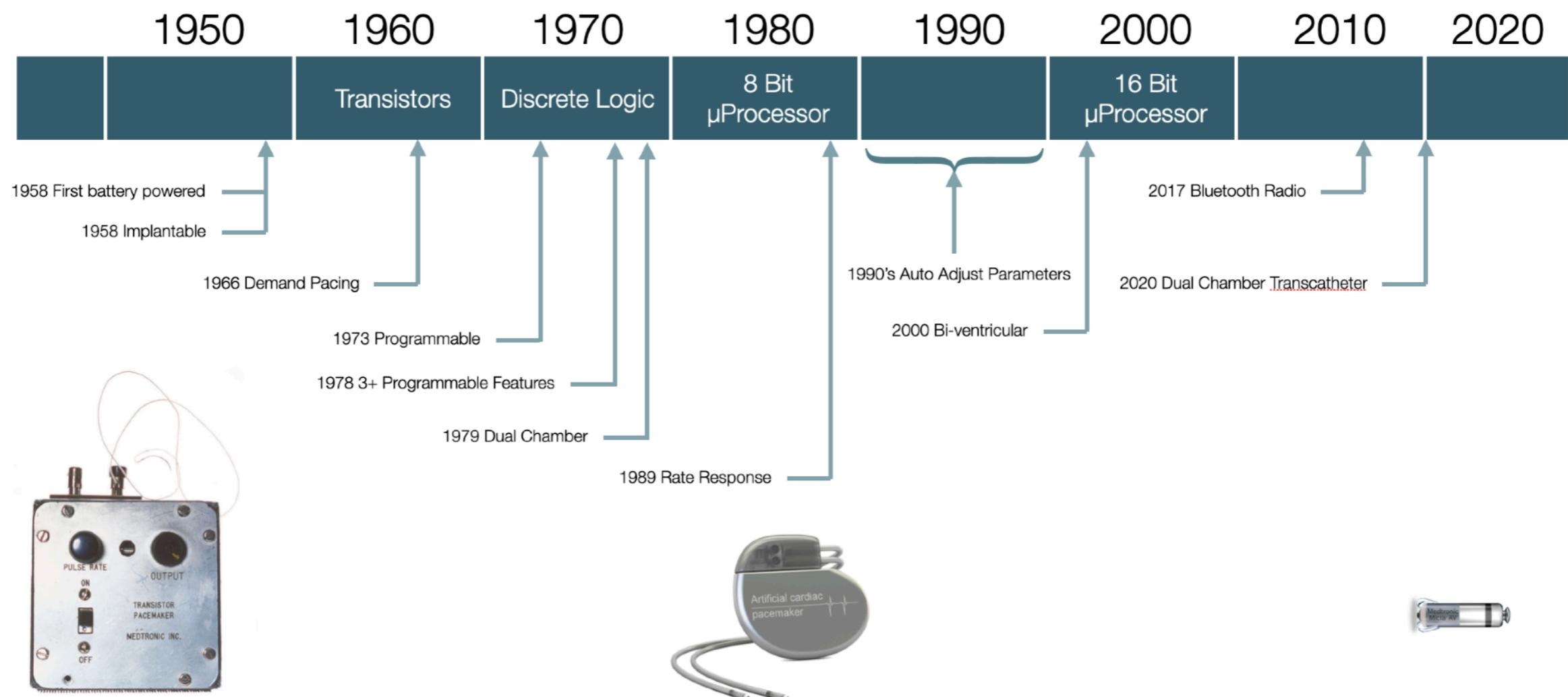
Improving Trust

Next-Generation Cardiac Pacemakers



Kalyani Dole, Ashutosh Gupta, John Komp, Shankara Narayanan Krishna, Ashutosh Trivedi:
Event-Triggered and Time-Triggered Duration Calculus for Model-Free Reinforcement Learning. RTSS 2021: 240-252

Kalyani Dole, Ashutosh Gupta, John Komp, S. Krishna, and Ashutosh Trivedi:
Correct-by-Construction Reinforcement Learning of Cardiac Pacemakers from Duration Calculus Requirement. Under Review.



RL for creative design space exploration

RL for creative design space exploration

- Time-triggered and event-triggered Duration Calculus
- Elicitation of VVI and DDD Pacemaker Specifications in DC
- DC to Scalar Rewards
- Learning and validation

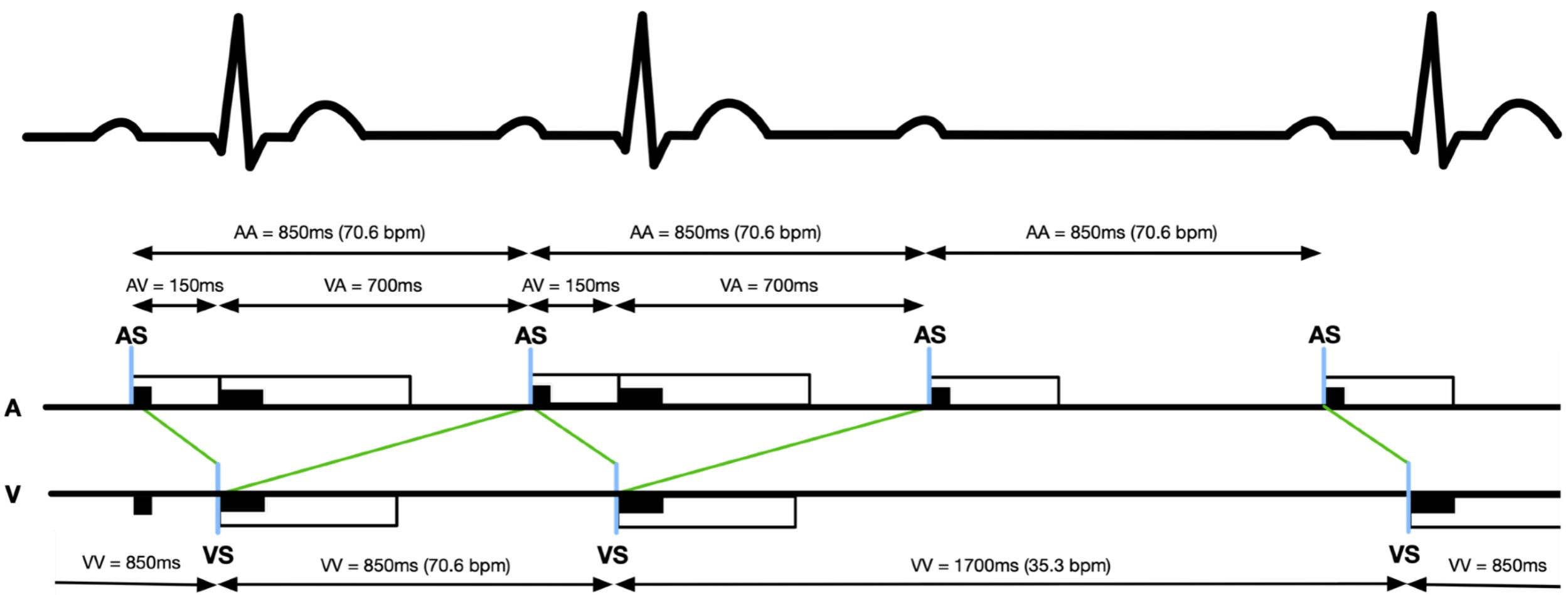
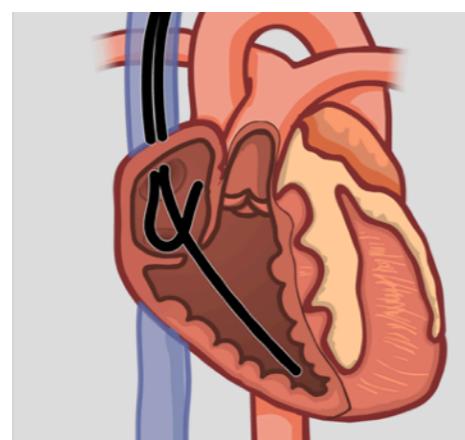
VVI Pacemaker Specification

<i>lowvp</i>	$[VP]^* \wedge true \implies ((\ell =_{VP}^* (pace - 1)) \wedge \square [\neg VP])$
<i>onlyref</i>	$(\ell =_{tic}^* pace) \wedge \square ((\ell =_{tic}^* ref) \wedge \square [\neg VS \wedge \neg VP] \implies ((\ell =_{tic}^* (ref + 1)) \wedge [\neg VS]^*))$
<i>pace_req</i>	$(\ell =_{tic}^* pace) \wedge [VP]^*$
<i>no_pace_req</i>	$(\ell =_{tic}^* pace - 1) \wedge (\square [\neg VP])$
<i>repeatvp</i>	$\square ([VP]^* \wedge true) \wedge onlyref \implies pace_req$
<i>vtrigger</i>	$[(VS)^* \wedge true] \wedge onlyref \implies pace_req \wedge [VS]^* \wedge true \implies no_pace_req$
<i>repeatvs</i>	$\square [((\ell =_{tic}^* ref) \wedge \square [\neg VS \wedge \neg VP])) \implies ((\ell =_{tic}^* ref + 1) \wedge vtrigger)]$
<i>boot</i>	$((onlyref \implies pace_req) \wedge (\ell =_{tic}^* pace - 1 \wedge \square [\neg VP]))$
<i>Specification</i>	$lowvp \wedge repeatvp \wedge repeatvs \wedge boot$

RL for creative design space exploration

- Time-triggered and event-triggered Duration Calculus
- Elicitation of VVI and DDD Pacemaker Specifications in DC
- DC to Scalar Rewards
- Learning and validation

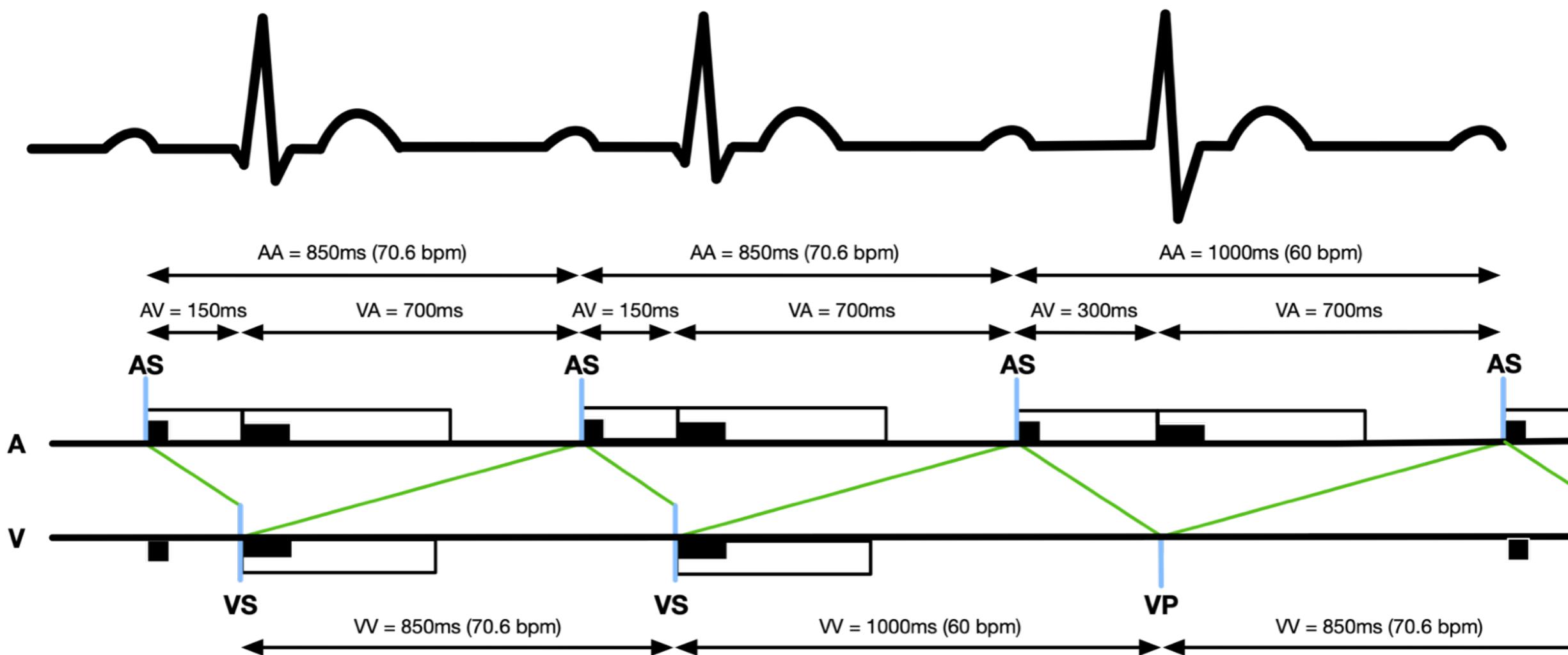
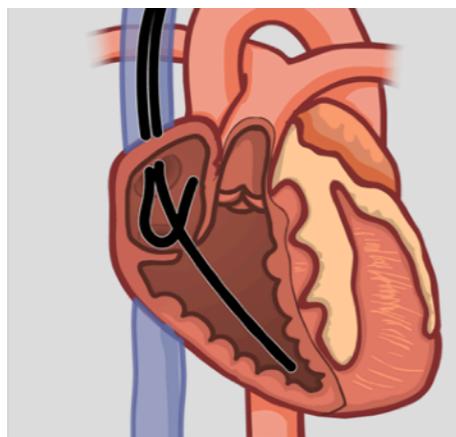
RL for adaptive cardiac pacemakers



3:2 Heartblock without pacing

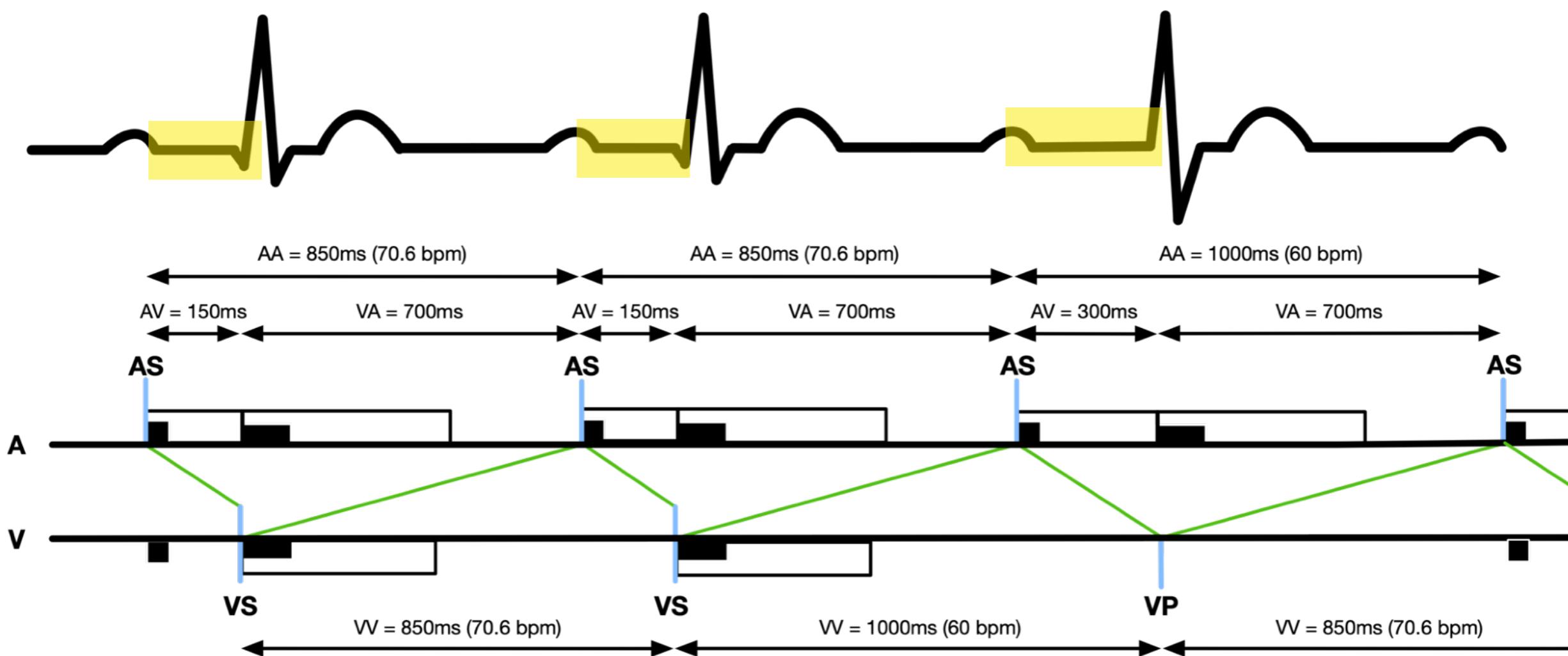
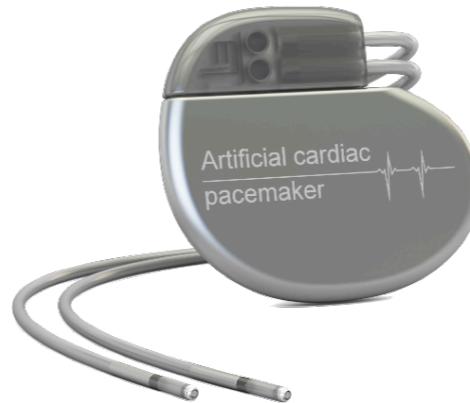
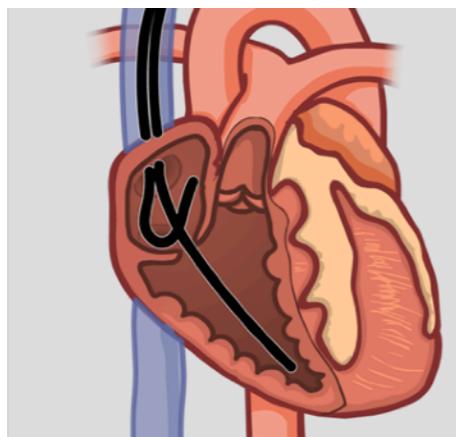
PAAB = 30ms
 PAVB = 25ms
 PAAR = PAV
 PVAB = 75ms
 PVVB = 75ms
 PVARP = 300ms
 PVVR = 275ms

LRL = 60 bpm
URL = 180 bpm



3:2 Heartblock with pacing

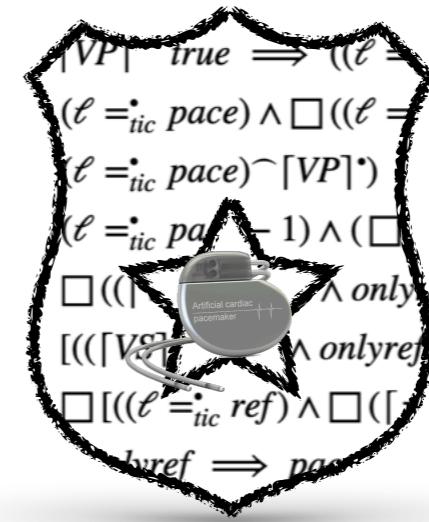
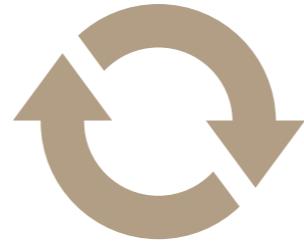
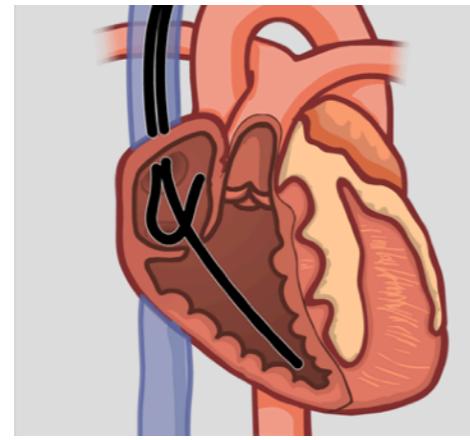
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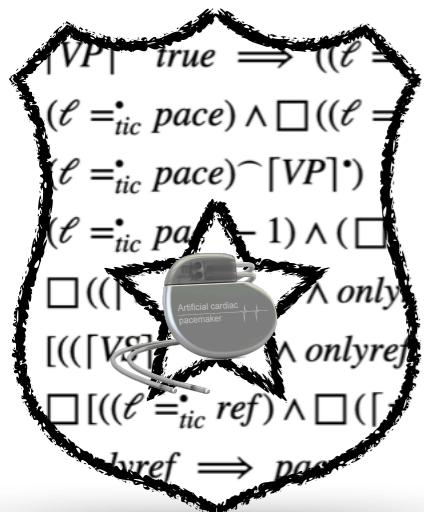
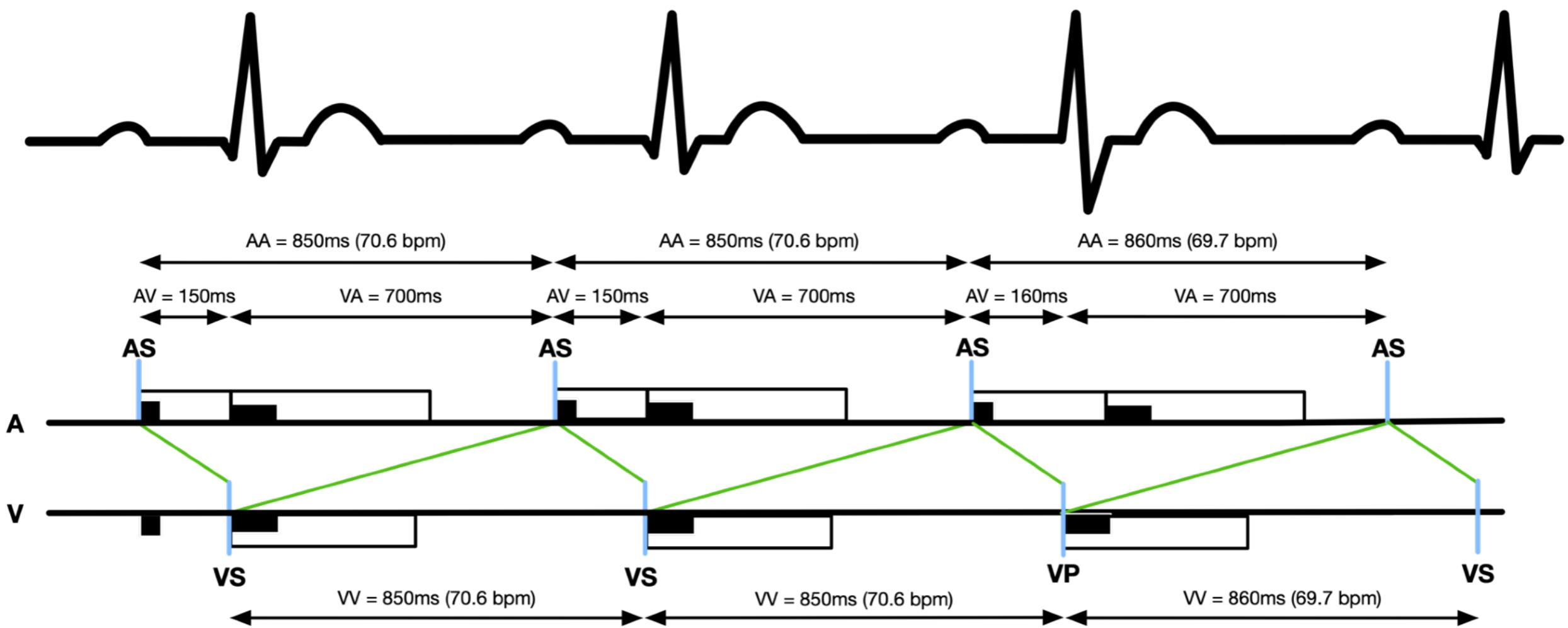
RL for adaptive cardiac pacemakers

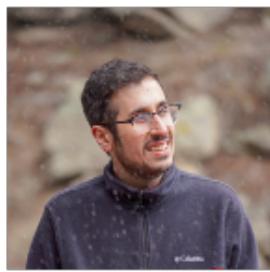
— Safety-DC fragment

— Shield Synthesis from DC specifications

— Scalar Reward for adaptive behavior

— Adaptable-by-construction synthesis





Siyuan Liu , Ashutosh Trivedi, Xiang Yin, Majid Zamani:
Secure-by-construction synthesis of cyber-physical systems. Annu. Rev. Control. 53: 30-50 (2022)

Mahathi Anand, Vishnu Murali, Ashutosh Trivedi, Majid Zamani:
Formal verification of hyperproperties for control systems. CAADCPS@CPSIoTWeek 2021: 29-30

Saeid Tizpaz-Niari:
Differential Performance Debugging and its application to side-channel analysis. PhD Thesis.
CU Boulder (2020).

Saeid Tizpaz-Niari, Pavol Cerný, Ashutosh Trivedi:
Data-Driven Debugging for Functional Side Channels. NDSS 2020

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Selectively-Amortized Resource Bounding. SAS 2021: 286-307

Beyond Safety

Security



Fairness/Discrimination



Accountability





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Saeid Tizpaz-Niari, Ashish Kumar, Gang Tan, Ashutosh Trivedi:
Fairness-aware Configuration of Machine Learning Libraries. ICSE 2022: 909-920

Verya Monjezi, Ashutosh Trivedi, Gang Tan, Saeid Tizpaz-Niari:
Information-Theoretic Testing and Debugging of Fairness Defects in Deep Neural Networks. (Under Review)

Beyond Safety

Security

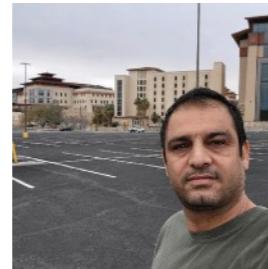


Fairness/Discrimination



Accountability



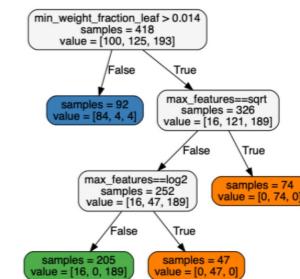
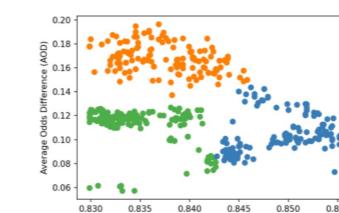
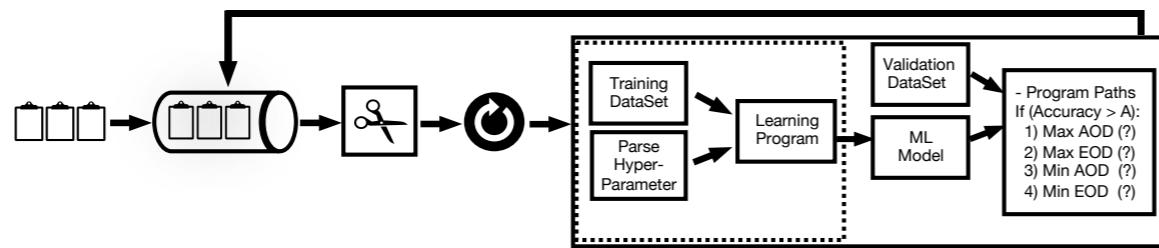


Saeid Tizpaz-Niari, Ashish Kumar, Gang Tan, Ashutosh Trivedi:
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Information-Theoretic Testing and Debugging of Fairness Defects in Deep Neural Networks. (Under Review)

Fairness-aware Configuration of Machine Learning Libraries

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2202.06196.pdf>



- Challenges:**
- Testing individual models
 - Modification of datasets and learning algorithms
 - Low precision and Scalability.

- RQ1:** Hyperparameter can aggravate or suppress present biases in the dataset.
RQ2: Mutation-based Evolutionary algorithms are effective search technique.
RQ3: Some hyperparameters systematically introduce biases.
RQ4: Parfait-ML outperforms Exp. Gradients and Fairway mitigation techniques.



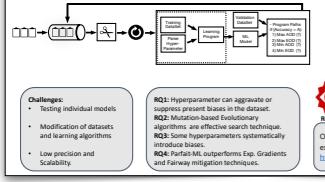
Reusable



Available

Our **open-source** tool **Parfait-ML** and all experimental subjects are **publicly available**:
<https://github.com/Tizpaz/Parfait-ML>





Saeid Tizpaz-Niari, Ashish Kumar, Gang Tan, Ashutosh Trivedi:
Fairness-aware Configuration of Machine Learning Libraries. ICSE 2022: 909-920

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Beyond Safety

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Fairness/Discrimination



Accountability





Saeid Tizpaz-Niari, Morgan Wagner, Shiva Darian, Krystia Reed, Ashutosh Trivedi:
Metamorphic Testing and Debugging of Tax Preparation Software. CoRR abs/2205.04998 (2022)

Beyond Safety



Form **1040**Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service
(99)
U.S. Individual Income Tax Return**2021**

OMB No. 1545-0074

IRS Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space.

Filing StatusCheck only
one box.

Single Married filing jointly Married filing separately (MFS) Head of household (HOH) Qualifying widow(er) (QW)
 If you checked the MFS box, enter the name of your spouse. If you checked the HOH or QW box, enter the child's name if the qualifying person is a child but not your dependent ►

Your first name and middle initial	Last name	Your social security number
If joint return, spouse's first name and middle initial	Last name	Spouse's social security number
Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instructions.		Apt. no.
City, town, or post office. If you have a foreign address, also complete spaces below.		State ZIP code
Foreign country name	Foreign province/state/county	Foreign postal code
Presidential Election Campaign Check here if you, or your spouse if filing jointly, want \$3 to go to this fund. Checking a box below will not change your tax or refund. <input type="checkbox"/> You <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse		
At any time during 2021, did you receive, sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any financial interest in any virtual currency? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Standard Deduction

Someone can claim: You as a dependent Your spouse as a dependent
 Spouse itemizes on a separate return or you were a dual-status alien

Age/Blindness **You:** Were born before January 2, 1957 Are blind **Spouse:** Was born before January 2, 1957 Is blind

Dependents (see instructions):

If more than four dependents, see instructions and check here ►

(1) First name	Last name	(2) Social security number	(3) Relationship to you	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if qualifies for (see instructions): Child tax credit	Credit for other dependents
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attach Sch. B if required.

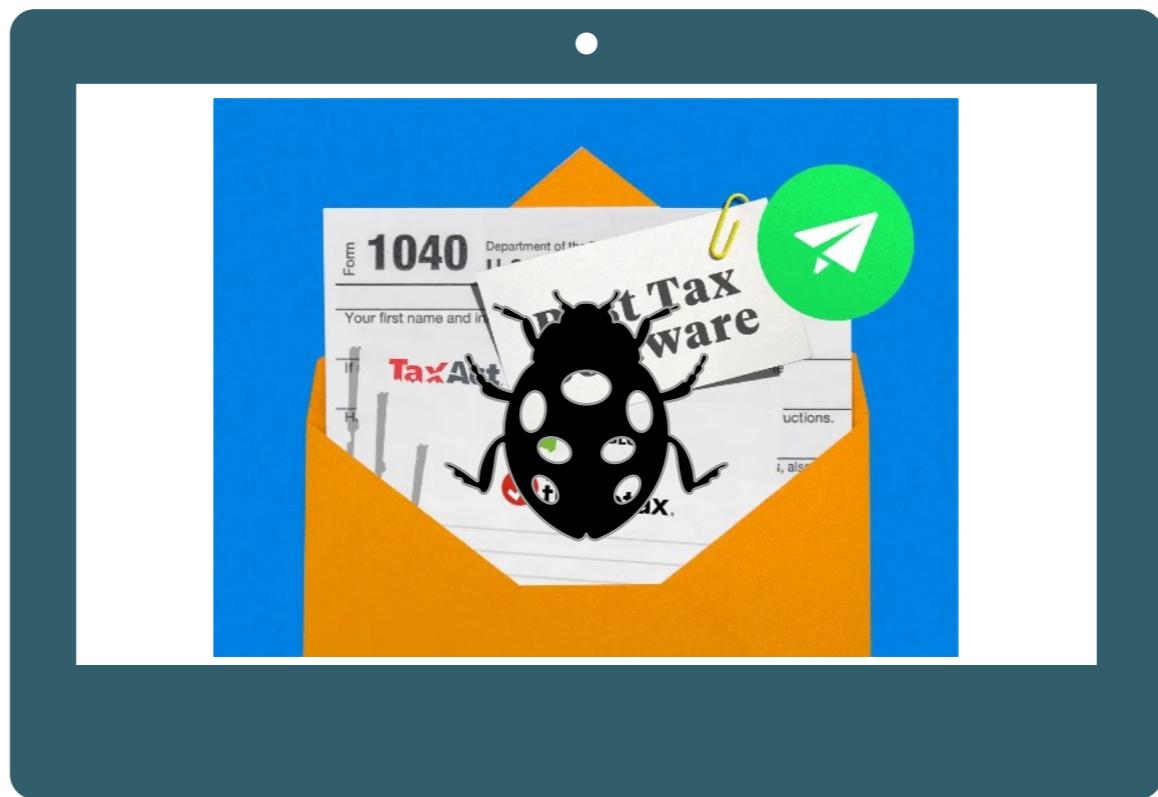
1	Wages, salaries, tips, etc. Attach Form(s) W-2	1
2a	Tax-exempt interest	2a
3a	Qualified dividends	3a
4a	IRA distributions	4a
5a	Pensions and annuities	5a
6a	Social security benefits	6a
7	Capital gain or (loss). Attach Schedule D if required. If not required, check here ► <input type="checkbox"/>	7
8	Other income from Schedule 1, line 10	8
9	Add lines 1, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7, and 8. This is your total income	9
10	Adjustments to income from Schedule 1, line 26	10
11	Subtract line 10 from line 9. This is your adjusted gross income	11
12a	Standard deduction or itemized deductions (from Schedule A)	12a
b	Charitable contributions if you take the standard deduction (see instructions)	12b
c	Add lines 12a and 12b	12c
13	Qualified business income deduction from Form 8995 or Form 8995-A	13
14	Add lines 12c and 13	14
15	Taxable income. Subtract line 14 from line 11. If zero or less, enter -0-	15

For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions.

Cat. No. 11320B

Form **1040** (2021)





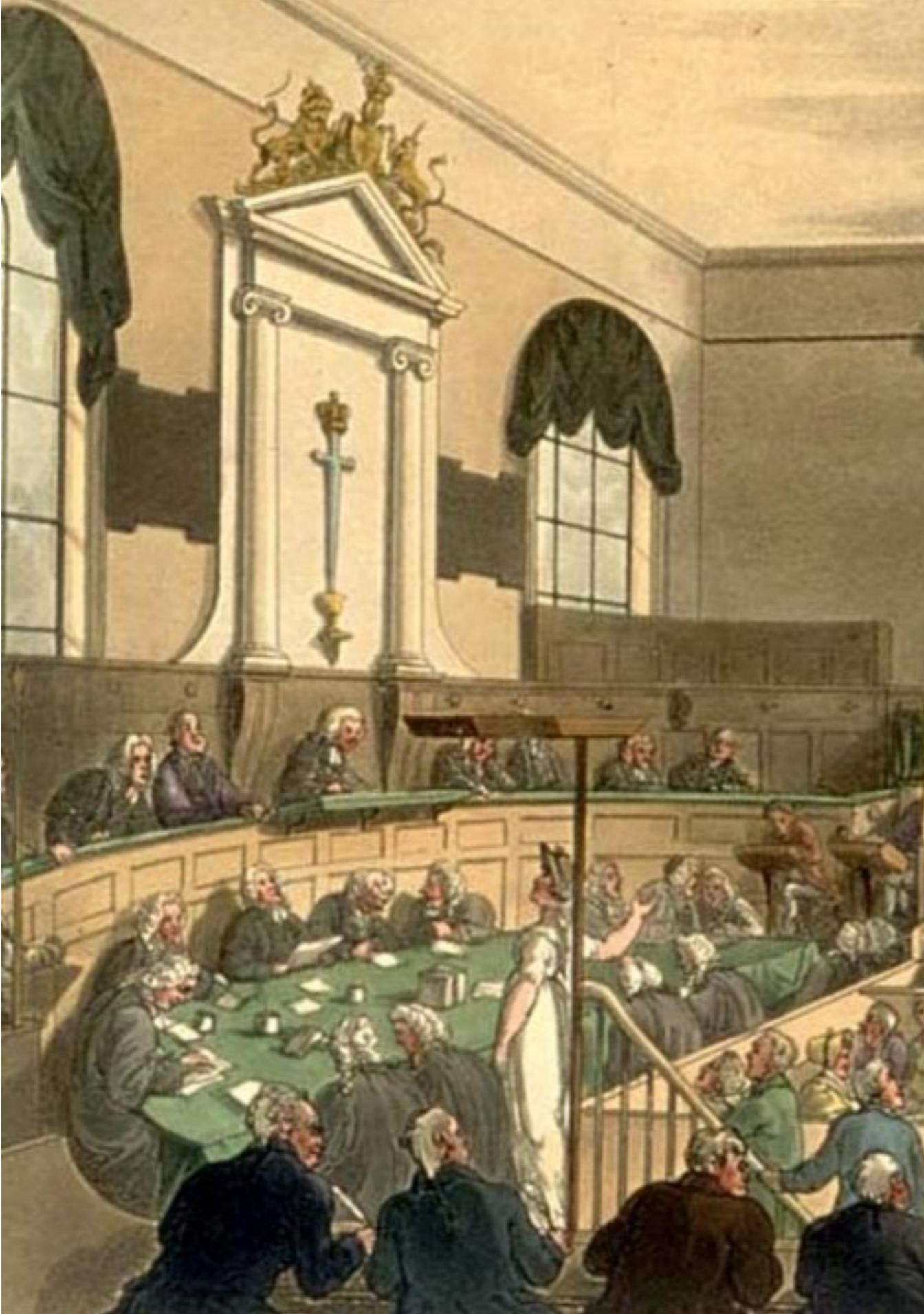
The **misuse** of tax preparation software, even if unintentional or accidental, is no defense to accuracy-related penalties under **section 6662**.

— **Langley v. Comm'r, T.C. Memo. 2013-22**

Challenges

- Absence of oracle
- Lack of trustworthy dataset
- Computationally infeasible





Common Law

[*kä-mən 'lō*]

A body of unwritten laws based on legal precedents established by the courts.

Stare decisis: similar cases must follow similar rulings

Stare decisis: similar cases must follow similar rulings

Corollary. Correctness properties for legal software can be defined in terms of relating similar cases!

Stare decisis: similar cases must follow similar rulings

corollary. Correctness properties for legal software can be defined in terms of relating similar cases!



Krystia Reed, JD, PhD (UTEP)



Morgan Wagner (UTEP)



Shiva Darian (CU)



Saeid Tizpaz-Niari (UTEP)



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Publication 596

Cat. No. 15173A

Earned Income Credit (EIC)

For use in preparing
2021 Returns



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Future Developments

For the latest information about developments related to Pub. 596, such as legislation enacted after it was published, go to [IRS.gov/Pub596](https://irs.gov/Pub596).

Jan 10, 2022

Stare decisis: similar cases must follow similar rulings

corollary. Correctness properties for legal software can be defined in terms of relating similar cases!



Krystia Reed, JD, PhD (UTEP)



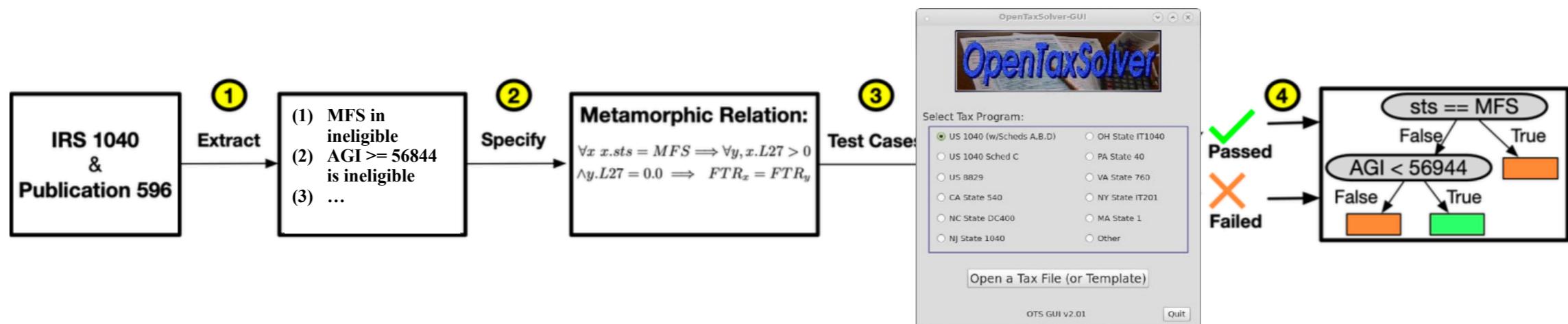
Morgan Wagner (UTEP)

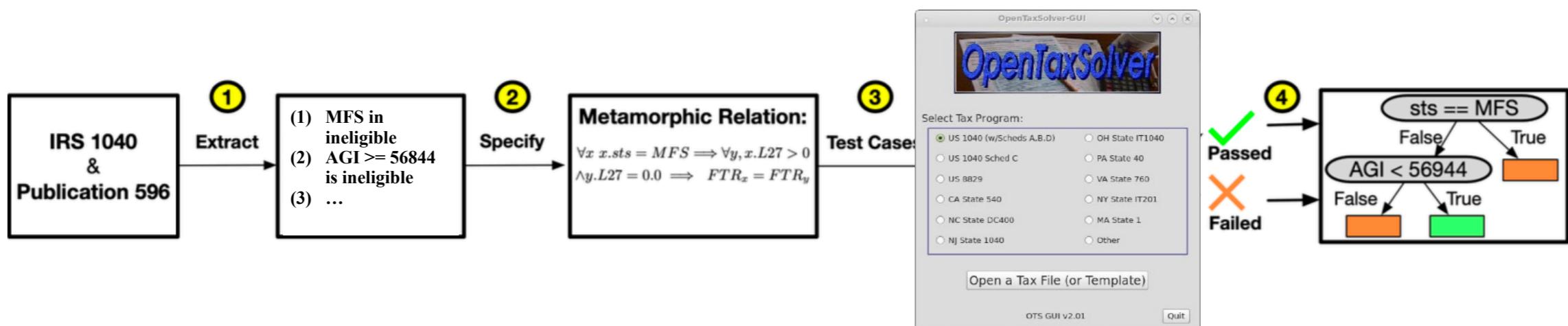


Shiva Darian (CU)



Saeid Tizpaz-Niari (UTEP)





- i) missing eligibility conditions completely (properties #3-#4 and #9-#10);
- ii) unexpected outcomes when the federal tax returns get close to zero (property #11);
- iii) applying itemized deductions when expenses are less than 7.5% of AGI (property #13);
- iv) itemized deductions slightly exceed a standard deduction, but result in a lower tax return (property #16).



CUPLV

Programming Languages and Verification
University of Colorado Boulder

[http://ashutoshtrivedi
plv.colorado.edu](http://ashutoshtrivedi.plv.colorado.edu)