

ACT 2023

1 August 2023

# PARTIAL MARKOV CATEGORIES

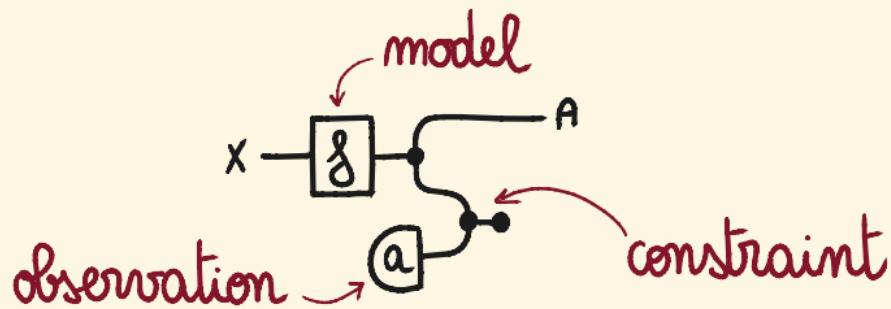
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# MOTIVATION

- Find the algebraic structure to express belief updates.
- Markov categories express probabilistic processes.



Updating a model on an observation means restricting the model to scenarios that are compatible with this observation.

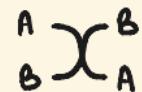
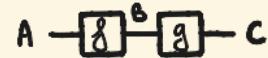
# OUTLINE

- copy-discard categories
- Markov categories
- cartesian restriction categories
- Partial Markov categories

# STRING DIAGRAMS

$\mathcal{C}$  symmetric monoidal category

- composition  $f; g : A \rightarrow C$   
for  $f : A \rightarrow B$ ,  $g : B \rightarrow C$  in  $\mathcal{C}$
- monoidal product  $f \otimes f' : A \otimes A' \rightarrow B \otimes B'$   
for  $f : A \rightarrow B$ ,  $f' : A' \rightarrow B'$  in  $\mathcal{C}$
- symmetry  $\sigma_{A,B} : A \otimes B \rightarrow B \otimes A$



$$A \xrightarrow{f} B = A \xrightarrow{\sigma} B \quad (\text{naturality})$$

Two string diagrams are shown as equal. The left one shows a string 'A' mapping to 'B' via a box 'f'. The right one shows a string 'A' mapping to 'B' via a box 'σ' (symmetry).

## EXAMPLES

- $(\text{Set}, \times, \{\ast\})$  : sets and functions  
 $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a function
- $(\text{Par}, \times, \{\ast\})$  : sets and partial functions  
 $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a function     $f: A \rightarrow B+1$
- $(\text{Kl}(\mathcal{D}), \times, \{\ast\})$  : sets and stochastic functions  
 $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a function     $f: A \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(B)$
- $(\text{Rel}, \times, \{\ast\})$  : sets and relations  
 $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a function     $f: A \rightarrow P(B)$
- $(\text{Kl}(\mathcal{D}_{\leq 1}), \times, \{\ast\})$  : sets and partial stochastic functions  
 $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a function     $f: A \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(B+1)$

# COPY-DISCARD CATEGORIES

A copy-discard category is a symmetric monoidal category where every object is a uniform cocommutative comonoid.

## COCOMMUTATIVE COMONOIDS

$$\text{Diagram showing two configurations of a loop with a dot at the top-left vertex, separated by an equals sign.}$$

$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---}$$

$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---} \bullet \text{---}$$

## UNIFORMITY

$$X \otimes Y = \begin{array}{c} X \\ \otimes \\ Y \end{array}$$

$$x \otimes y = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

[Corradini & Gadducci 1999]

# DETERMINISTIC & TOTAL MAPS

Deterministic maps can be copied.

$$A \xrightarrow{\delta} B = A \xrightarrow{\delta} B$$

Total maps can be discarded.

$$A \xrightarrow{\delta} \bullet = A \bullet$$

EXAMPLES

$$A \xrightarrow{\delta} B = A \xrightarrow{\delta} B$$

$$A \xrightarrow{\delta} \bullet = A \bullet$$

(Set,  $\times$ ,  $\{*\}$ )

✓

✓

(Par,  $\times$ ,  $\{*\}$ )

✓

✗

(Kl(D),  $\times$ ,  $\{*\}$ )

✗

✓

(Rel,  $\times$ ,  $\{*\}$ )

✗

✗

(Kl(D $_{\leq 1}$ ),  $\times$ ,  $\{*\}$ )

✗

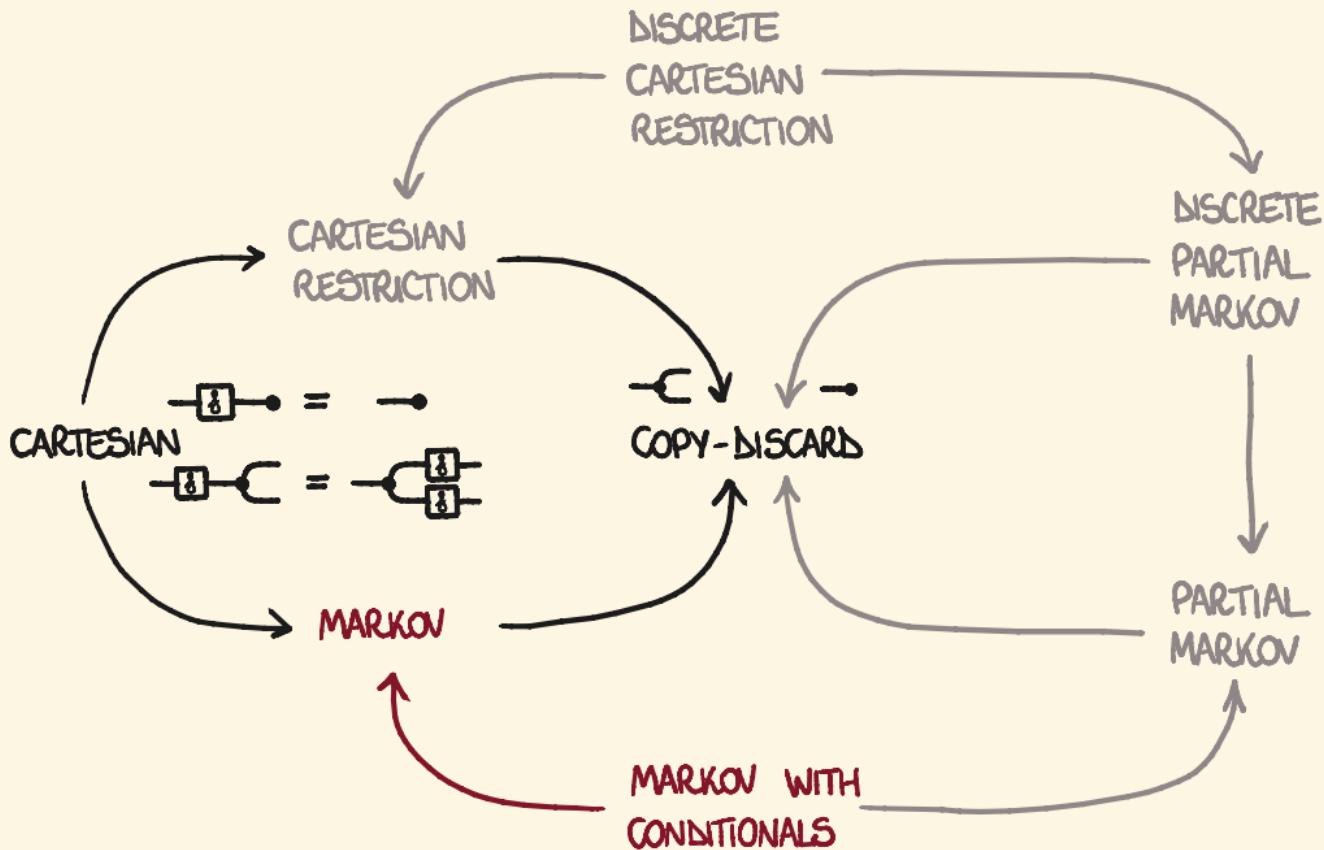
✗

# FOX'S THEOREM

A copy-discard category is cartesian if and only if all morphisms are deterministic and total,

$$\text{---} \square \text{---} \curvearrowleft = \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \square \text{---} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{---} \square \text{---} \bullet = \text{---} \bullet \quad \text{for all } g.$$

# OUTLINE



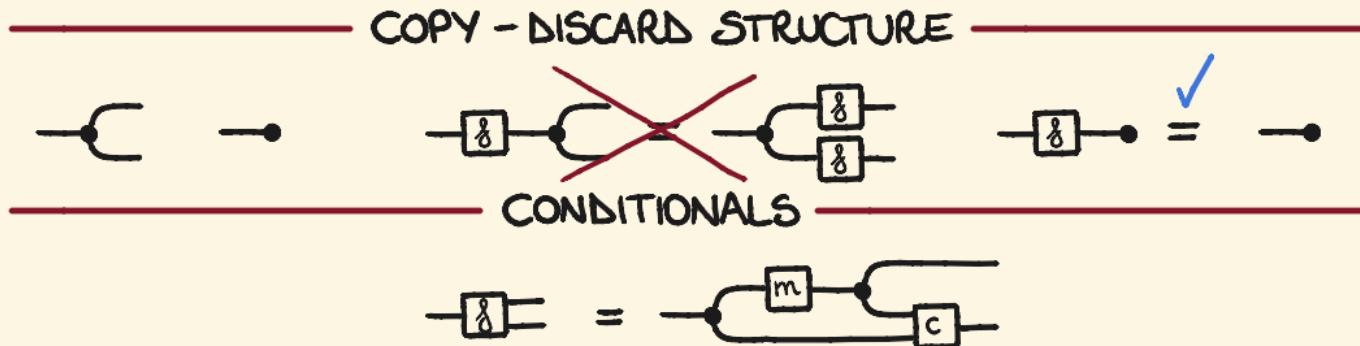
# PROBABILISTIC PROCESSES

Markov categories express probabilistic processes,  
for example

- throwing a coin  2
- tomorrow's weather given today's clouds c —  w
- developing cancer given smoking habits s —  c — 2

# MARKOV CATEGORIES & CONDITIONALS

A Markov category with conditionals is a copy-discard category with conditionals where all morphisms are total.



## FINITARY DISTRIBUTIONS

A finitary distribution  $\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(A)$  is a function  
 $\sigma: A \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

- its support,  $\text{supp}(\sigma) := \{a \in A \mid \sigma(a) > 0\}$ , is finite, and
- its total probability mass is 1,  $\sum_{a \in A} \sigma(a) = 1$ .

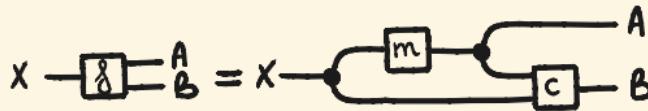
A morphism  $x \dashv \vdash A$  in  $\text{Kl}\mathcal{D}$  is a function  $X \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(A)$   
 $g(a|x)$  = "probability of a given  $x$ "

composition is

$$x \dashv \vdash g \dashv \vdash B \quad (b|x) := \sum_{a \in A} g(a|x) \cdot g(b|a)$$

# CONDITIONALS

KlD has conditionals.



$$m(a|x) := \sum_{b \in B} \delta(a, b|x)$$

$$x - \boxed{m} - A := x - \boxed{\delta} - A$$

$$c(b|a,x) := \begin{cases} \frac{\delta(a,b|x)}{m(a|x)} & \text{if } m(a|x) \neq 0 \\ \sigma(b) & \text{if } m(a|x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

*any distribution on B*

~ conditionals are not unique and they cannot be

# MARGINALS IN MARKOV CATEGORIES

Marginals in Markov categories are as expected :

$$x - \boxed{m} - A = x - \boxed{\delta} - \begin{matrix} A \\ B \end{matrix}$$

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{---} \boxed{\delta} \text{ ---} \\ = & \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{m} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{c} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \\ = & \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{m} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{conditionals :} \\ \rightsquigarrow & \text{---} \boxed{\delta} \text{ ---} = \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{m} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{c} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \\ & \rightsquigarrow \text{totality} \end{aligned}$$

□

# BAYES INVERSION

The Bayes inversion of a channel  $g: B \rightarrow A$  with respect to a distribution  $\sigma: I \rightarrow B$  is classically defined as

$$g_\sigma^+(b|a) := \frac{g(a|b)\sigma(b)}{\sum_{b' \in B} g(a|b')\sigma(b')}$$

In a Markov category, it is a  $g_\sigma^+: A \rightarrow B$  such that

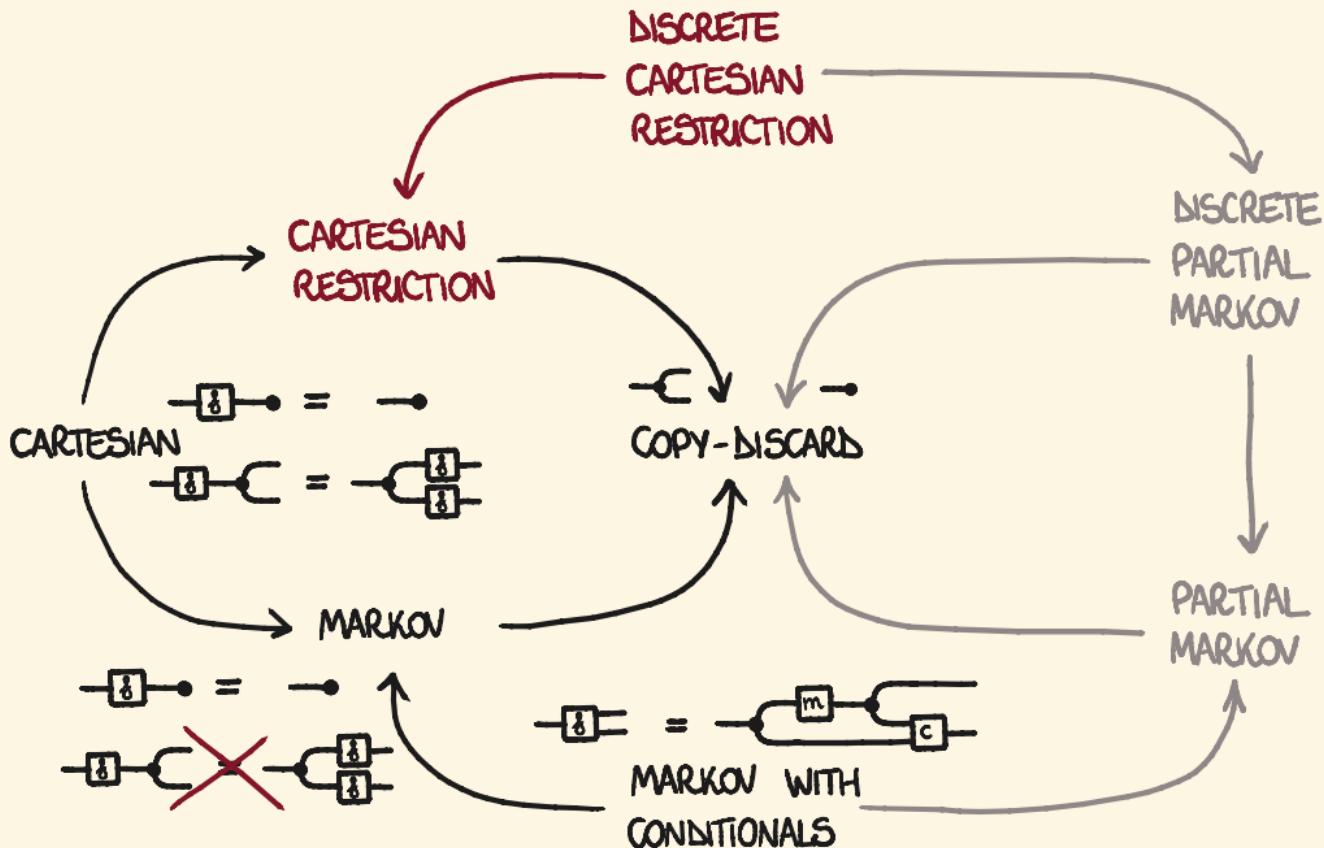
$$\textcircled{\sigma} \xrightarrow{\quad g \quad} A = \textcircled{\sigma} \xrightarrow{\quad g \quad} \textcircled{A} \xrightarrow{\quad g_\sigma^+ \quad} B$$

↑ marginal  
↑ conditional

Bayes inversions are instances of conditionals.

[Cho & Jacobs 2019]

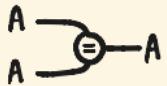
# OUTLINE



# PARTIAL PROCESSES

Cartesian restriction categories express partial computations,  
for example

- computing  $\frac{1}{x}$
- checking equality
- non-terminating computations



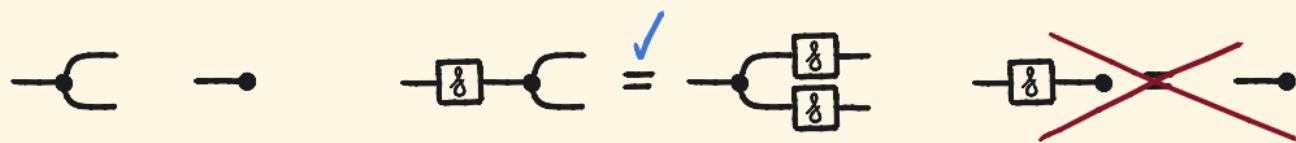
# CARTESIAN RESTRICTION CATEGORIES

A cartesian restriction category is a copy-discard category where all morphisms are deterministic.

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## COPY - DISCARD STRUCTURE

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# PARTIAL FUNCTIONS

$(\text{Par}, \times, \{\ast\})$  is a cartesian restriction category

- objects are sets  $A, B, C, \dots$
- morphisms are partial functions  $f: A \rightarrow B, g: B \rightarrow C, \dots$   
i.e. functions  $f: A \rightarrow B+1, g: B \rightarrow C+1, \dots$
- composition is

$$f;g(a) := \begin{cases} g(f(a)) & \text{if } f(a) \neq \perp \\ \perp & \text{if } f(a) = \perp \end{cases}$$

- monoidal product is

$$f \times f'(a, a') := \begin{cases} (f(a), f'(a')) & \text{if } f(a) \neq \perp \text{ and } f'(a') \neq \perp \\ \perp & \text{if } f(a) = \perp \text{ or } f'(a') = \perp \end{cases}$$

# PREDICATES, DOMAINS, RESTRICTIONS

Morphisms  $q: A \rightarrow 1$  in Par are predicates.

$$A \xrightarrow{q} (a) = \begin{cases} * & \text{if } a \text{ satisfies } q \\ \perp & \text{if } a \text{ does not satisfy } q \end{cases}$$

The domain of  $A \xrightarrow{g} B$  is the predicate  $A \xrightarrow{g} \bullet$ .

$$A \xrightarrow{g} B = A \xrightarrow{g} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} B \\ \bullet \end{array} \right\} = A \xrightarrow{\left[ \begin{array}{c|c} g & B \\ g & \bullet \end{array} \right]} \bullet$$

The restriction preorder on morphisms is

$$f \leq g \quad \text{iff} \quad A \xrightarrow{g} B = A \xrightarrow{\left[ \begin{array}{c|c} g & B \\ f & \bullet \end{array} \right]} \bullet$$

g restricted to the domain of f

# EQUALITY CHECK

Par has equality checks.

$$\begin{array}{c} {}^A \\[-1ex] \text{A} \end{array} \multimap A \quad (a, a') := \begin{cases} a & \text{if } a = a' \\ \perp & \text{if } a \neq a' \end{cases}$$

Equality checks interact with the comonoid structure.

$$A - \text{---} \bullet \text{---} A = A - \text{---} \quad \text{and}$$

$$A \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \\[-1ex] \text{A} \end{array} \multimap A \quad \text{---} \begin{array}{c} \searrow \\[-1ex] \text{A} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} A \\[-1ex] \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \\[-1ex] \text{A} \end{array} \multimap A \quad \text{---} \begin{array}{c} \searrow \\[-1ex] \text{A} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} A \\[-1ex] \text{---} \end{array}$$

# CONSTRAINTS VIA PARTIAL FROBENIUS

A discrete cartesian restriction category is a copy-discard category with comparators where all morphisms are deterministic.

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## COPY - DISCARD STRUCTURE

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$$\text{---} \cap \text{---} = \text{---} \cap \boxed{\delta} \cap \text{---} = \text{---} \cap \boxed{\delta} \cap \boxed{\delta} \cap \text{---} \neq \text{---} \cap \boxed{\delta} \text{---}$$

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## PARTIAL FROBENIUS STRUCTURE

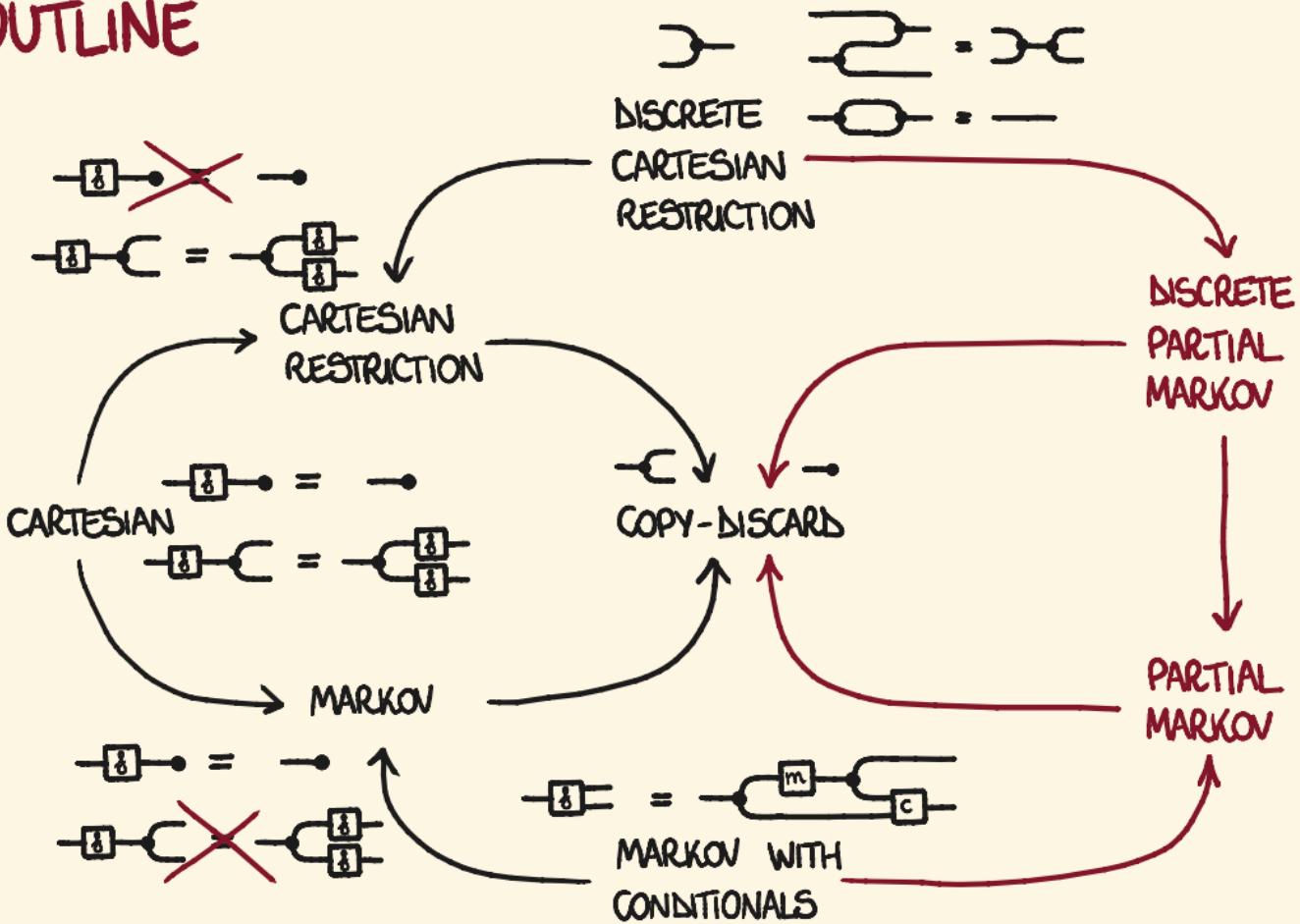
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$$\text{---} \cup \text{---} = \text{---} \quad \text{---} \cap \text{---} = \text{---}$$

↑  
COMPARATOR

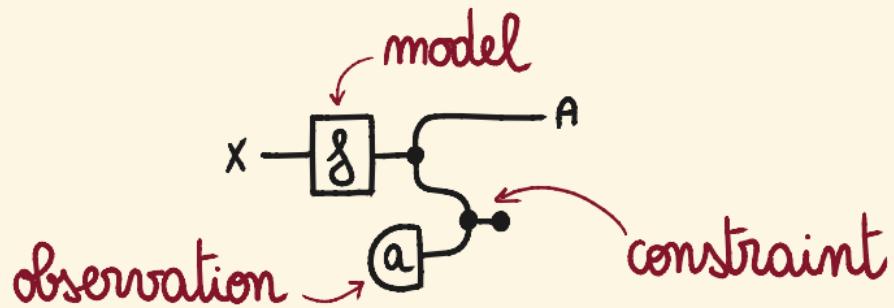
[Cockett, Guo & Hofstra 2012, Di Liberti, Słonecki, Nester & Sobociński 2020]

# OUTLINE



# PARTIALITY FOR OBSERVATIONS

Updating a model on an observation means restricting the model to scenarios that are compatible with this observation.



constraints  $\rightarrow$  cannot be total computations  
because  $\neq \equiv$ .

# OVERVIEW

combine Markov and cartesian restriction categories to express partial stochastic processes.

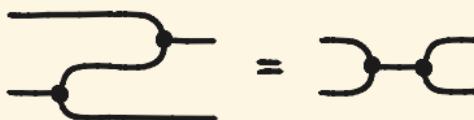
cartesian  
restriction

Markov  
with conditionals



Add the discrete structure to express equality checking.

discrete cartesian  
restriction



# DROPPING TOTALITY

We want to keep the nice marginals of Markov categories.

$$x - \boxed{\delta} = x - \text{m} \quad x - \boxed{m} = x - \boxed{\delta}$$

Should we ask conditionals to be total ? X NO

→ too strong: total conditionals fail to exist in  $\text{Kl}(\mathcal{D}_{\leq 1})$ .

Can we ask conditionals to be quasi-total ? ✓ YES

→ sweet spot: quasi-total conditionals usually exist  
and give nice marginals.

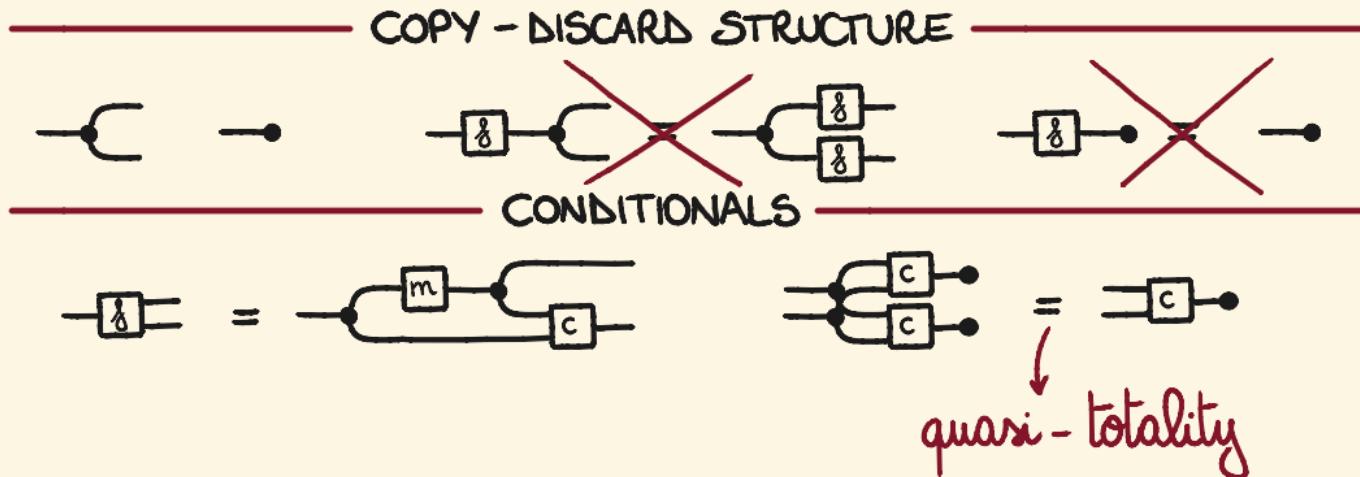
QUASI-TOTAL MORPHISM (in a copy-discard category)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \boxed{\delta} \\ | \\ \boxed{\delta} \end{array} = \text{---} \quad \rightsquigarrow \text{failure is deterministic}$$

↑  
domain of definition

# PARTIAL MARKOV CATEGORIES

A partial Markov category is a copy-discard category with quasi-total conditionals.



# SUBDISTRIBUTIONS

A subdistribution  $\sigma$  on  $A$  is a distribution on  $A+1$ :

$\sigma \in \mathcal{D}_{\leq 1}(A)$  is a function  $\sigma: A \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that

- its support,  $\text{supp}(\sigma) := \{a \in A \mid \sigma(a) > 0\}$ , is finite, and
- its total probability mass is at most 1,  $\sum_{a \in A} \sigma(a) \leq 1$ .

A morphism  $x - \boxed{\delta} - A$  in  $\text{Kl}\mathcal{D}_{\leq 1}$  is a function  $x \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\leq 1}(A)$

$\delta(a|x) = \text{"probability of a given } x\text{"}$

$\delta(\perp|x) = \text{"probability of failure"}$

composition is

$$x - \boxed{\delta} - \boxed{g} - B \quad (\delta|_B) := \sum_{a \in A} \delta(a|x) \cdot g(\delta|_a)$$

$$x - \boxed{\delta} - \boxed{g} - B \quad (\perp|_B) := \sum_{a \in A} \delta(a|x) \cdot g(\perp|_a) + \delta(\perp|x)$$

# EXAMPLES : PARTIAL STOCHASTIC PROCESSES

A partial stochastic process is a stochastic process  
that may fail.

↳ Maybe monad

a Markov category with conditionals

Partial stochastic processes form a partial Markov category.

## PROPOSITION

{ of Markov category with conditionals and coproducts  
some ugly technical conditions  
 $\Rightarrow \text{Kl}(\cdot + 1)$  is a partial Markov category.

## EXAMPLES

- $\text{Kl}(\mathcal{D}(\cdot + 1))$   $\rightsquigarrow$  finitary subdistributions
- $\text{Kl}(\mathcal{C}\mathcal{I}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{Y}_S(\cdot + 1))$   $\rightsquigarrow$  subdistributions on standard Borel spaces

# PREDICATES & DOMAINS

Morphisms  $q: A \rightarrow 1$  in  $\text{Kl}(\mathbb{D}(•+1))$  are 'fuzzy' predicates.

$$A \xrightarrow{q} 1 \quad (*1a) \quad \rightsquigarrow \text{probability of } q \text{ being true}$$

Deterministic predicates are classical predicates.

$$A \xrightarrow{q} 1 = A \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} q \\ q \end{array}} 1 \quad \Rightarrow q \text{ is a classical predicate}$$

Quasi-total morphisms have a domain.

$$x \xrightarrow{\gamma} • = x \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{c} \gamma \\ \gamma \end{array}} • \quad \rightsquigarrow \text{domain of } \gamma$$

↑ probability of failure of  $\gamma$

## CONDITIONALS IN SUBDISTRIBUTIONS

A quasi-total morphism  $g: X \rightarrow A \otimes B$  is a function  $g: X \rightarrow \mathcal{D}B + 1$ .

The marginal of  $g: X \rightarrow A \otimes B$  is

$$x \multimap^A (a|x) = x \multimap^{\mathcal{D}B + 1} (a|x) = \sum_{b \in B} g(a, b|x)$$

$$x \multimap^A (\perp|x) = x \multimap^{\mathcal{D}B + 1} (\perp|x) = g(\perp|x)$$

A conditional of  $g$  is:

$$x \multimap^{\mathcal{D}B} (b|a,x) = \begin{cases} \frac{g(a,b|x)}{m(a|x)} & m(a|x) \neq 0 \\ 0 & m(a|x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$x \multimap^{\mathcal{D}B} (\perp|a,x) = \begin{cases} 0 & m(a|x) \neq 0 \\ 1 & m(a|x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

# BAYES INVERSION

The Bayes inversion of a channel  $g: B \rightarrow A$  with respect to a distribution  $\sigma: I \rightarrow B$  is classically defined as

$$g_\sigma^+(b|a) := \frac{g(a|b)\sigma(b)}{\sum_{b' \in B} g(a|b')\sigma(b')}$$

In a partial Markov category, it is a  $g_\sigma^+: A \rightarrow B$  such that

$$\textcircled{a} \xrightarrow{g} A = \textcircled{a} \xrightarrow{\sigma} \textcircled{g} \xrightarrow{g_\sigma^+} B$$

↑ marginal  
↑ conditional

Bayes inversions are instances of quasi-total conditionals.

# NORMALISATION

The normalisation of a partial channel  $f: X \rightarrow A$  is classically defined as

$$\bar{f}(a|x) := \frac{f(x|a)}{1 - f(\perp|a)}$$

In a partial Markov category, it is a  $\bar{f}: X \rightarrow A$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{marginal} & & \text{conditional} \\ \text{---} \square \text{---} = \text{---} \square \text{---} & \text{and} & \text{---} \square \text{---} = \text{---} \square \text{---} \\ \text{---} \square \text{---} & & \text{---} \square \text{---} \end{array}$$

Normalisations are instances of quasi-total conditionals.

# EQUALITY CHECK

$\text{KlD}_{\leq 1}$  has equality checks.

$$\overset{A}{\underset{A}{\textstyle \bigtriangleright}} (a, a') := \begin{cases} \delta_a & \text{if } a = a' \\ \delta_{\perp} & \text{if } a \neq a' \end{cases}$$

Equality checks interact with the comonoid structure.

$$A - \text{---} \circ \text{---} A = A - \text{---} \quad \text{and}$$

$$A - \underset{A}{\text{---}} \overset{A}{\underset{A}{\text{---}}} \circ \underset{A}{\text{---}} \overset{A}{\underset{A}{\text{---}}} = A - \underset{A}{\text{---}} \circ \underset{A}{\text{---}} \overset{A}{\underset{A}{\text{---}}}$$

# DISCRETE PARTIAL MARKOV CATEGORIES

A discrete partial Markov category is a copy-discard category with quasi-total conditionals and comparators.

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## COPY - DISCARD STRUCTURE

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$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---} \boxed{\delta} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \neq \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{\delta} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \neq \text{---} \bullet \text{---}$$

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## CONDITIONALS

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$$\boxed{\delta} \text{---} = \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{m} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{c} \text{---} \quad \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{c} \text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---} \bullet \text{---} \boxed{c} \text{---} \bullet \text{---}$$

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## PARTIAL FROBENIUS STRUCTURE

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$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---} \quad \text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---} \quad \text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---}$$

↑ COMPARATOR

# SYNTHETIC BAYES THEOREM

A deterministic observation  $a: I \rightarrow A$  from a prior  $\sigma: I \rightarrow X$  through a channel  $c: X \rightarrow A$  determines an update proportional to the Bayes inversion  $c_\sigma^+$  evaluated on  $a$ .

$$P(X=x | A=a) = \frac{P(A=a | X=x) \cdot P(X=x)}{\sum_{y \in X} P(A=a | X=y) \cdot P(X=y)}$$

classical formula  
for Bayes theorem

# SYNTHETIC BAYES THEOREM

A deterministic observation  $a: I \rightarrow A$  from a prior  $\sigma: I \rightarrow X$  through a channel  $c: X \rightarrow A$  determines an update proportional to the Bayes inversion  $c_\sigma^+$  evaluated on  $a$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{σ} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{c} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{a} \end{array} \quad = \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{σ} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{c} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{a} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{a} \\ \text{---} \\ c_\sigma^+ \\ \text{---} \\ x \end{array}$$

PROOF

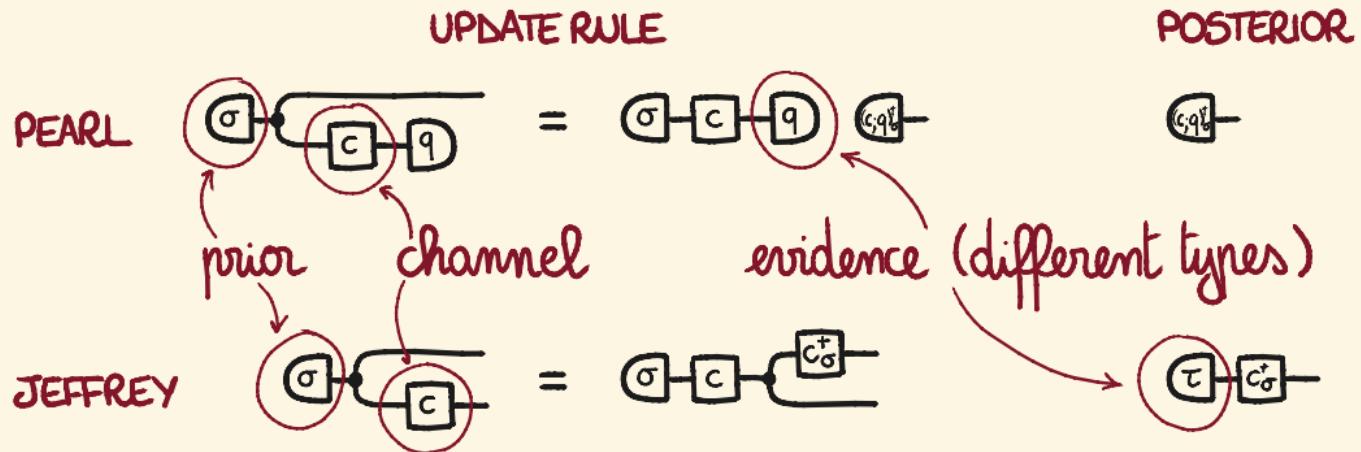
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{σ} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{c} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{a} \end{array} \quad = \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{σ} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{c} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{a} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} c_\sigma^+ \\ \text{---} \\ x \end{array} \quad = \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{σ} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{c} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{a} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{c} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{a} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} c_\sigma^+ \\ \text{---} \\ x \end{array} \quad = \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{σ} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{c} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{a} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{a} \\ \text{---} \\ c_\sigma^+ \\ \text{---} \\ x \end{array}$$

↑                      ↑                      ↑

conditionals            Frobenius            determinism

□

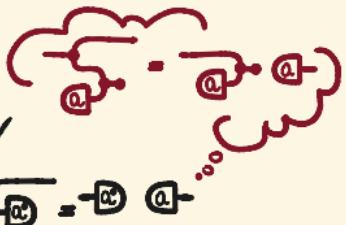
# PEARL'S VS JEFFREY'S UPDATES



Pearl's update on  $\overrightarrow{a}$  coincides with Jeffrey's update on  $\overleftarrow{a}$ , whenever  $\overleftarrow{a}$  is deterministic.

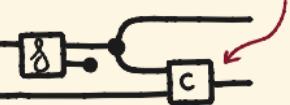
# PROCESSES WITH EXACT OBSERVATIONS

We can add exact observations to any Markov category:

$$\text{exOb}(\mathcal{C}) = (\mathcal{C} + \{\text{A} - \square\} \mid \square \rightarrow \text{A} \text{ deterministic}) / \begin{array}{c} \text{embeds faithfully into } (\mathcal{C} + \mathbb{I}) / \text{partial} \\ \text{Grobenius} \end{array}$$


Conditionals and normalisations are computed in  $\mathcal{C}$   
normalisation of  $\mathfrak{F}$  conditional of  $\bar{\mathfrak{F}}$

$$-\square\mathfrak{F}- = -\square\mathfrak{F}\square h\square\mathfrak{A}-$$


$$-\square\bar{\mathfrak{F}}- = -\square\bar{\mathfrak{F}}\square c-$$


$\Rightarrow \text{exOb}(\mathcal{C})$  is a partial Markov category.

# MINIMAL CONDITIONALS

• partial Markov category

## RESTRICTION ORDER

$$\boxed{\delta} \leq \boxed{g} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\delta} = \begin{array}{c} g \\ \downarrow \\ \delta \end{array}$$

→ this is a partial order on quasi-total morphisms

$$\boxed{\delta} \leq \boxed{\delta} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{\delta} = \begin{array}{c} \delta \\ \downarrow \\ \delta \end{array}$$

(reflexivity)

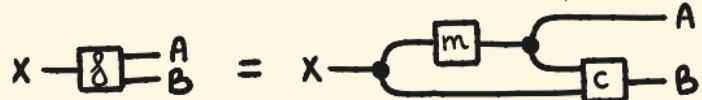
(quasi-totality)

## MINIMAL CONDITIONALS

• has minimal conditionals if, for every  $\boxed{\delta}$ ,  
the partial order on its quasi-total conditionals has  
a minimal element.

# MINIMAL CONDITIONALS IN SUBDISTRIBUTIONS

A quasi-total morphism  $g: X \rightarrow B$  is a function  $g: X \rightarrow \mathcal{D}B + 1$ .



The conditionals of  $g$  are:

$$x \begin{smallmatrix} A \\ \square \\ B \end{smallmatrix} (b|a, x) = \begin{cases} \frac{g(a, b|x)}{m(a|x)} & m(a|x) \neq 0 \\ \sigma(b) & m(a|x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

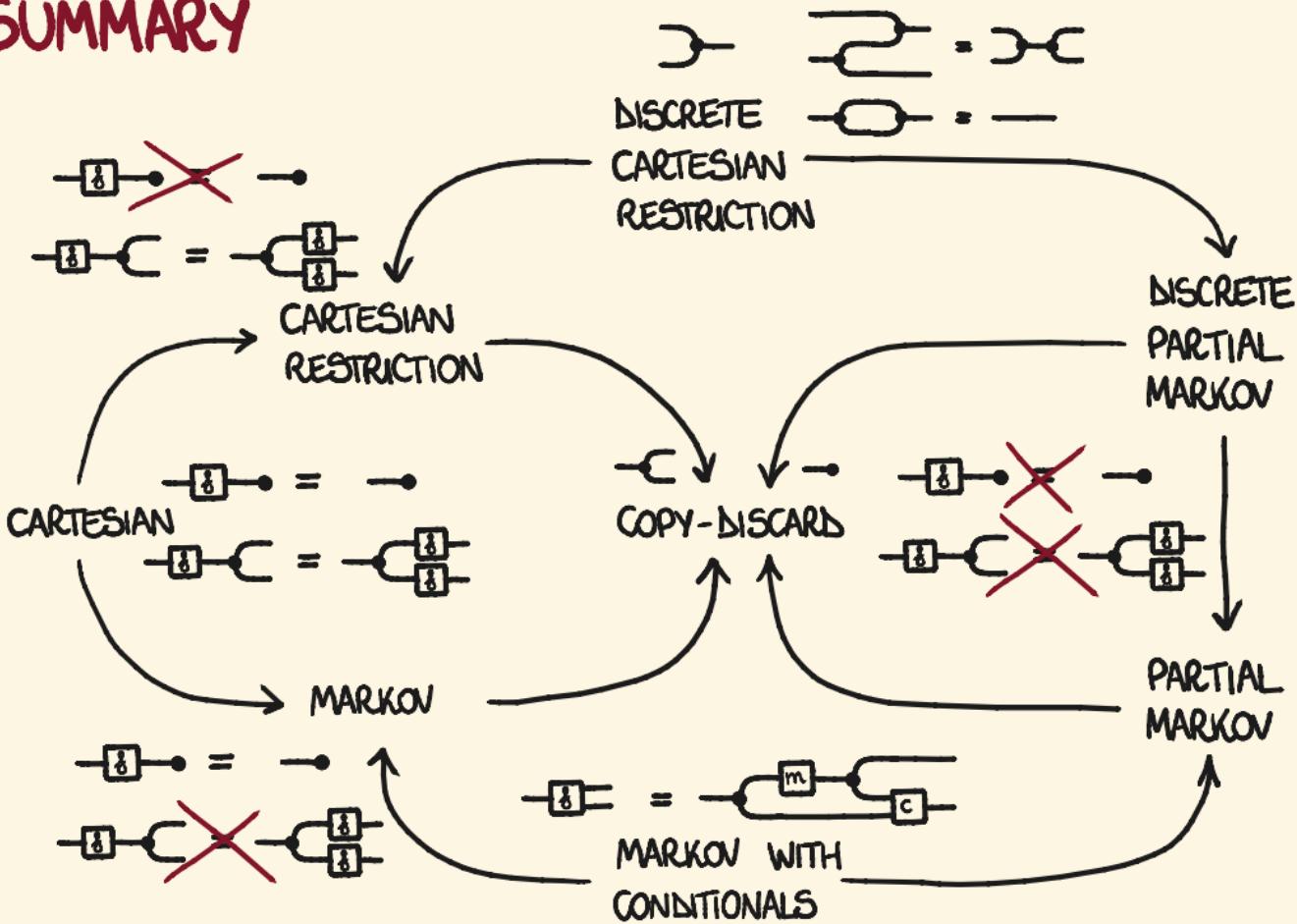
$$x \begin{smallmatrix} A \\ \square \\ B \end{smallmatrix} (\perp|a, x) = \begin{cases} 0 & m(a|x) \neq 0 \\ \sigma(\perp) & m(a|x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

for some  $\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(B) + 1$ .

$\Rightarrow$  The minimal choice for  $\sigma$  is  $\begin{cases} \sigma(b) = 0 & \text{for } b \in B \\ \sigma(\perp) = 1 & \end{cases}$  for  $b \in B$ .

$\rightsquigarrow$  fail on unexpected observations

# SUMMARY



# NEWCOMB'S PROBLEM

I PREDICT THAT  
THE AGENT WILL ...

"ONE-BOX"  $\Rightarrow X = 10\ 000$   
"TWO-BOX"  $\Rightarrow X = 0$



PREDICTOR

very accurate:  
it is right 90%  
of the times



OPAQUE  
BOX WITH  $X \in$



TRANSPARENT  
BOX WITH 1€

SHOULD I  
"ONE-BOX" OR  
"TWO-BOX" ?



AGENT

# CAUSAL DECISION THEORY

Causal decision theory answers :

“Which action would cause the best-case scenario?”

Whatever the predictor did,  
I get 1€ extra if I two-box  
⇒ I will two-box



AGENT PREDICTOR	ONE-BOX	TWO-BOX
ONE-BOX	10 000 €	10 001 €
TWO-BOX	0 €	1 €

# EVIDENTIAL DECISION THEORY

Evidential decision theory answers :

“Which action would be evidence for the best-case scenario ? ”

My action is evidence for the prediction:

if I one-box I expect 10 000 €,

if I two-box I expect 1€ .

⇒ I will one-box

AGENT PREDICTOR	ONE-BOX	TWO-BOX
ONE-BOX	10 000 €	10 001 €
TWO-BOX	0 €	1 €

MOST LIKELY



# EVIDENTIAL VS CAUSAL DECISION THEORY



CAUSAL  
DECISION  
THEORIST



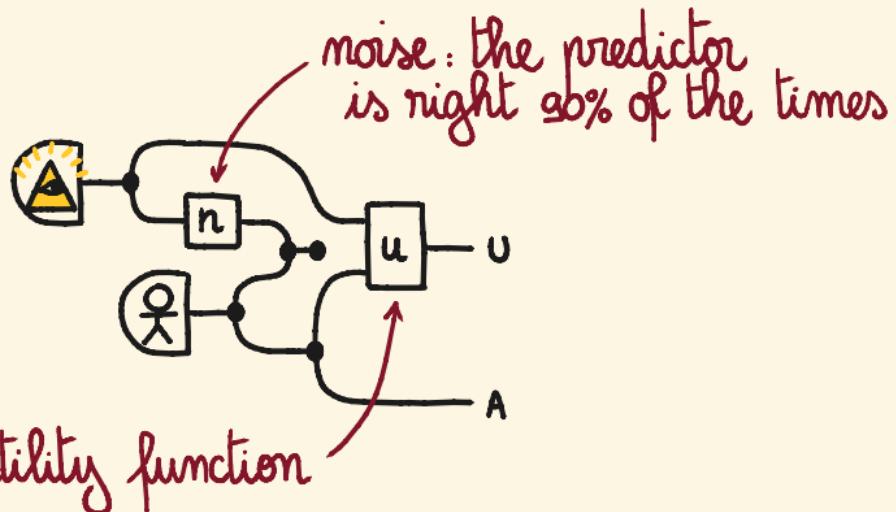
EVIDENTIAL  
DECISION  
THEORIST

EXPECTED  
UTILITY

$$\begin{aligned} & 0.9 \times 1 \text{ €} \\ & + 0.1 \times 10\,001 \text{ €} \\ & = 1\,001 \text{ €} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 0.9 \times 10\,000 \text{ €} \\ & + 0.1 \times 0 \text{ €} \\ & = 9\,000 \text{ €} \end{aligned}$$

# NEWCOMB'S PROBLEM CATEGORICALLY

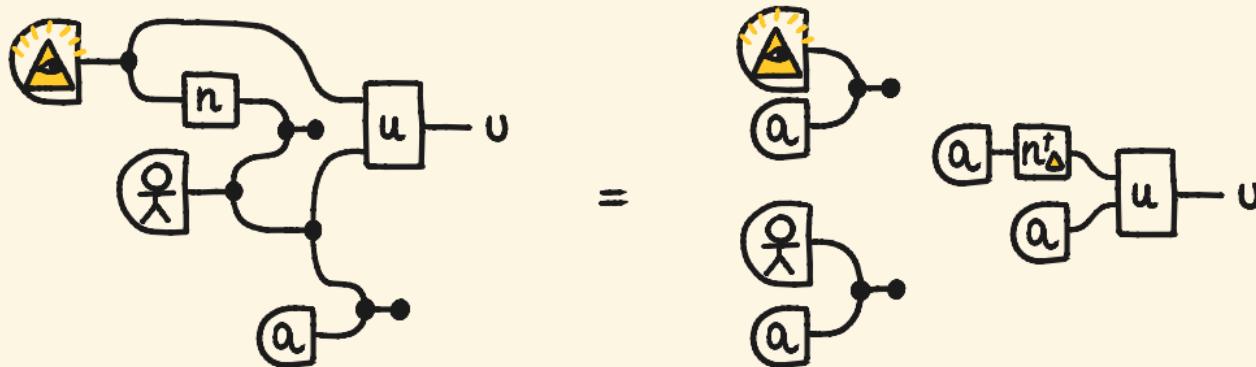


AGENT PREDICTOR	ONE-BOX	TWO-BOX
ONE-BOX	10 000 €	10 001 €
TWO-BOX	0 €	1 €

# SOLVING NEWCOMB'S PROBLEM

Evidential decision theory asks:

"Which action would be evidence for the best-case scenario?"  
i.e. "Which action maximises the average of the state below?"



# CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK

- Partial Markov categories are for updating on observations.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram showing } \sigma \xrightarrow{x} \text{ and } \sigma \xrightarrow{c} a \\ \text{with a commutative square: } \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \sigma \xrightarrow{c} c \\ \downarrow \quad \text{and} \\ \sigma \xrightarrow{a} a \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{c} a \xrightarrow{c^+} c \\ \downarrow \quad \text{and} \\ a \xrightarrow{x} x \end{array}$$

Synthetic Bayes theorem

- Is there a bicategorical structure hiding?

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram showing } g \leq h \\ \text{with a commutative square: } \end{array} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram showing } g = h \\ \text{with a commutative square: } \end{array}$$

Restriction preorder