

# Bisimulation, Logics and Metrics for Labelled Markov Processes

Prakash Panangaden  
School of Computer Science  
McGill University  
and  
Research Visitor: The Alan Turing Institute

Logic for Data Science Seminar  
The Alan Turing Institute  
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- Quantitative equational logic [LICS 16, 17, 18]

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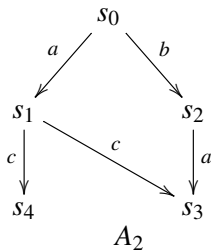
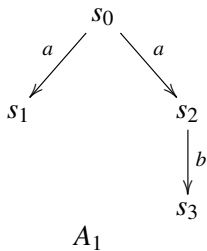
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- We write  $s \xrightarrow{a} s'$  for  $(s, s') \in \rightarrow_a$ .

# A simple example



# Bisimulation

$s$  and  $t$  are states of a labelled transition system. We say  $s$  is **bisimilar** to  $t$  – written  $s \sim t$  – if

$$s \xrightarrow{a} s' \Rightarrow \exists t' \text{ such that } t \xrightarrow{a} t' \text{ and } s' \sim t'$$

and

$$t \xrightarrow{a} t' \Rightarrow \exists s' \text{ such that } s \xrightarrow{a} s' \text{ and } s' \sim t'.$$

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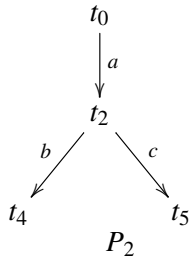
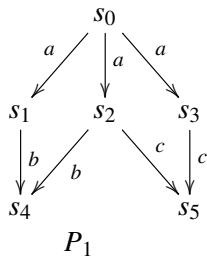


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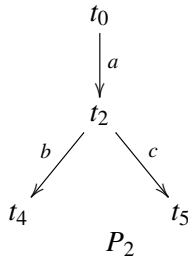
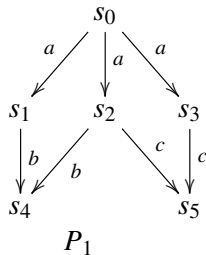
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- This is not circular; it is a condition on  $R$ .
- We define  $s \sim t$  if there is *some* bisimulation relation  $R$  with  $sRt$ .
- This is the version that is used most often.

# An example

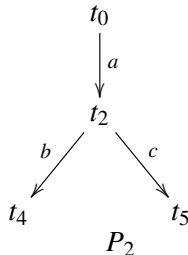
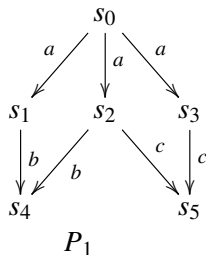


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- Here  $s_0$  and  $t_0$  are not bisimilar.
- However  $s_0$  and  $t_0$  can *simulate each other*!

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- $s \models [a] \phi$  means that *if*  $s$  can do an  $a$  the resulting state must satisfy  $\phi$ .

# Examples of HM Logic

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- $s \models \langle a \rangle (\langle b \rangle T)$  means that  $s$  can do an  $a$  *and then* do a  $b$ .

# The logical characterization theorem

- Two processes are bisimilar if and only if they satisfy the same formulas of HM logic.



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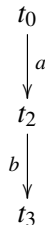
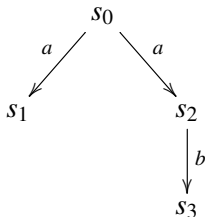
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# The logical characterization theorem

- Two processes are bisimilar if and only if they satisfy the same formulas of HM logic.
- Basic assumption: the processes are finitely-branching (otherwise you need infinitary conjunctions).
- To show that two processes are not bisimilar find a formula on which they disagree.

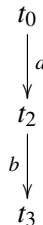
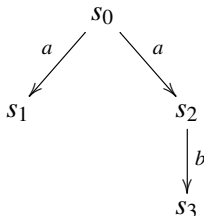
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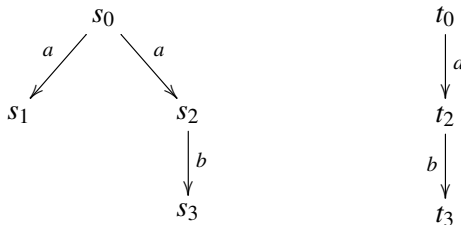
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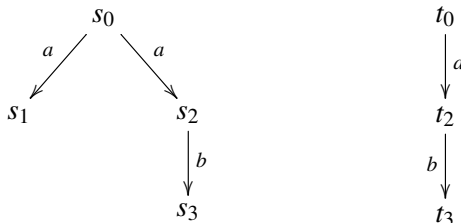
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- Note that  $[a]$  has an implicit negation.

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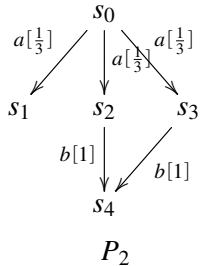
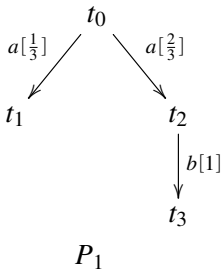


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- The model is *reactive*: All probabilistic data is *internal* - no probabilities associated with environment behaviour.

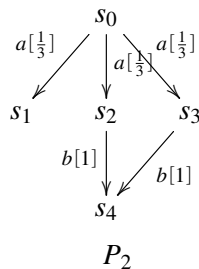
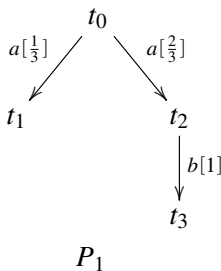
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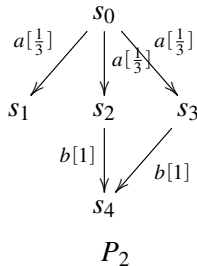
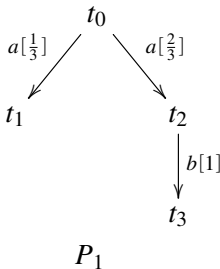
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- Should  $s_0$  and  $t_0$  be bisimilar?
- Yes, but we need to add the probabilities.

# The Official Definition

- Let  $\mathcal{S} = (S, L, T_a)$  be a PTS. An equivalence relation  $R$  on  $S$  is a **bisimulation** if whenever  $sRs'$ , with  $s, s' \in S$ , we have that for all  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  and every  $R$ -equivalence class,  $A$ ,  $T_a(s, A) = T_a(s', A)$ .

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- The notation  $T_a(s, A)$  means “the probability of starting from  $s$  and jumping to a state in the set  $A$ .”
- Two states are bisimilar if there is some bisimulation relation  $R$  relating them.

# What are labelled Markov processes?

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- **In general, the state space of a labelled Markov process may be a *continuum*.**

# Motivation

Model and reason about systems with *continuous* state spaces or continuous time evolution or both.

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- Actually there is if you only require finite additivity.

# Stochastic Kernels

- A *stochastic kernel* (Markov kernel) is a function  $h : S \times \Sigma \rightarrow [0, 1]$  with (a)  $h(s, \cdot) : \Sigma \rightarrow [0, 1]$  a (sub)probability measure and (b)  $h(\cdot, A) : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  a measurable function.

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- Though apparently asymmetric, these are the stochastic analogues of binary relations
- and the uncountable generalization of a matrix.

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- Can be extended to bisimulation between two different **LMPs**.

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- We prove that  $x$  is bisimilar to  $y$  iff Duplicator has a winning strategy starting from  $(x, y)$ .



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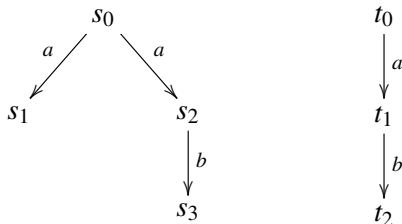
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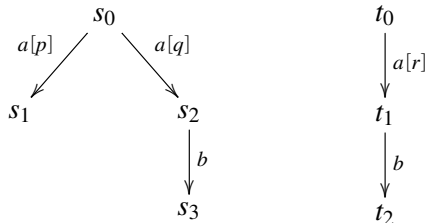
- Two systems are bisimilar iff they obey the same formulas of  $\mathcal{L}$ .  
[DEP 1998 LICS, I and C 2002]

# That cannot be right?



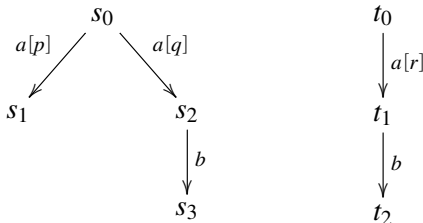
Two processes that cannot be distinguished without negation.  
 The formula that distinguishes them is  $\langle a \rangle (\neg \langle b \rangle \top)$ .

# But it is!



We add probabilities to the transitions.

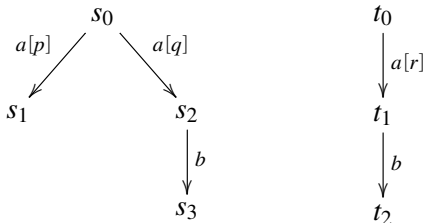
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- If  $p + q < r$  or  $p + q > r$  we can easily distinguish them.
- If  $p + q = r$  and  $p > 0$  then  $q < r$  so  $\langle a \rangle_r \langle b \rangle_1 \top$  distinguishes them.

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Quantitative analogue of an equivalence relation.

- Quantitative measurement of the distinction between processes.

# Criteria on Metrics

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$$d(s, t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow s, t \text{ are bisimilar}$$

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- Stability of distance under temporal evolution: “Nearby states stay close *forever*.”
- Metrics should be computable (efficiently?).

# Bisimulation Recalled

Let  $R$  be an equivalence relation.  $R$  is a bisimulation if:  $s R t$  if:

$$(s \longrightarrow P) \Rightarrow [t \longrightarrow Q, P =_R Q]$$

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where  $P =_R Q$  if

$$(\forall R\text{-closed } E) P(E) = Q(E)$$

# A putative definition of a metric analogue of bisimulation

- $m$  is a metric-bisimulation if:  $m(s, t) < \epsilon \Rightarrow$ :

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- Problem: what is  $m(P, Q)$ ? — Type mismatch!!
- Need a way to lift distances from states to a distances on distributions of states.

# A detour: Kantorovich metric

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- Arises in the solution of an LP problem: *transshipment*.

# An LP version for Finite-State Spaces

When state space is finite: Let  $P, Q$  be probability distributions. Then:

$$m(P, Q) = \max \sum_i (P(s_i) - Q(s_i))a_i$$

subject to:

$$\forall i. 0 \leq a_i \leq 1$$

$$\forall i, j. a_i - a_j \leq m(s_i, s_j).$$

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- We prove many equations by using the primal form to show one direction and the dual to show the other.

# Example

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- Lower bound from primal: Choose  $a_s = 0, a_t = r$ , all others to match the constraints. Then

$$\sum_i (\delta_t(s_i) - \delta_s(s_i)) a_i = r.$$

# The Importance of the Example

We can *isometrically* embed the original space in the metric space of distributions.

# Return from Detour

Summary of detour: Given a metric on states in a metric space, it can be lifted to a metric on probability distributions on states.

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- Thm: *Canonical least metric exists*. Usual fixed-point theory arguments.

# What about Continuous-State Systems?

- Develop a real-valued “modal logic” based on the analogy:

Program Logic	Probabilistic Logic
State $s$	Distribution $\mu$
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- Define a metric based on how closely the random variables agree.
- This metric coincides with the metric based on the Kantorovich metric.

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- Quantitative equational logic:  $=_\epsilon$ , approximate equality
- Algebras are naturally equipped with a metric
- Simple equational axioms capture Kantorovich and total variation metrics.



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- Metrics and logics: exploring links with neural nets.