

# Behavioural Preorders on Stochastic Systems - Logical, Topological, and Computational Aspects

Thesis defence

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AALBORG UNIVERSITY  
DENMARK



# Agenda

Introduction

Models

Contributions

Paper A

Paper B and Paper C

Paper D

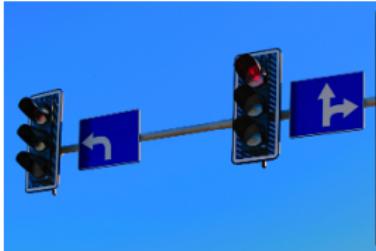
Conclusion

Future work

# Introduction

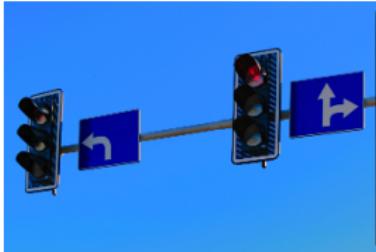
# Introduction

## Background



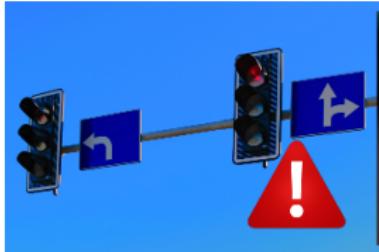
# Introduction

## Background



# Introduction

## Background



# Introduction

Time is important



- ▶ Airbag must deploy within a precise time window.
- ▶ Light must not be red for more than a minute.
- ▶ A pacemaker must take over quickly and produce a precisely timed pattern.



# Introduction

Time is important



We want to be able to analyse timing aspects of systems.

# Introduction

## Model checking

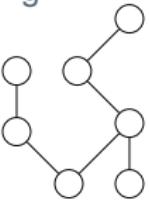




# Introduction

## Model checking

Modelling/formalising





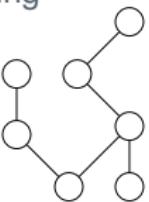
# Introduction

## Model checking

Requirements

"Must complete within two minutes."

Modelling/formalising





# Introduction

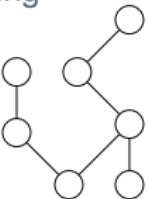
## Model checking

Requirements

"Must complete within two minutes."

Translating to formal  
specification language

Modelling/formalising



$\varphi$



# Introduction

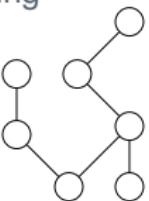
## Model checking

Requirements

"Must complete within two minutes."

Translating to formal  
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Modelling/formalising



$\models$

$\varphi$

# Introduction

## Model checking

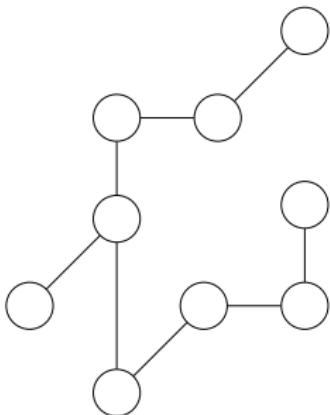
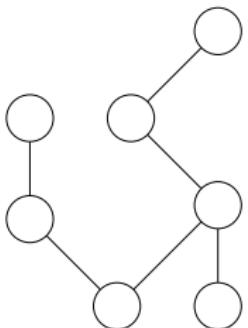


$$M \models \varphi$$

The model  $M$  satisfies the requirements given by  $\varphi$ .

# Introduction

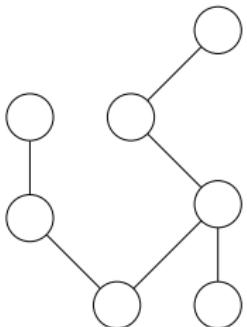
## Relations between models





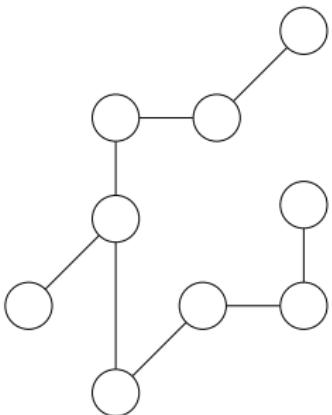
# Introduction

## Relations between models



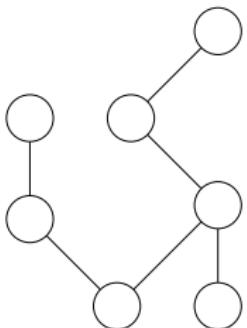
Bisimulation

~



# Introduction

## Relations between models

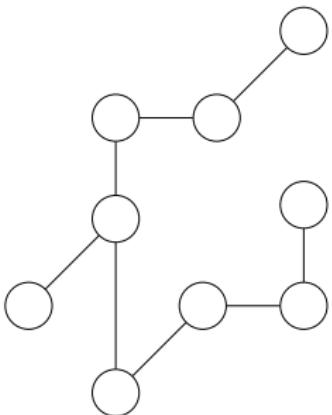


Bisimulation

$\sim$

Simulation

$\sim\!\!\!\succ$



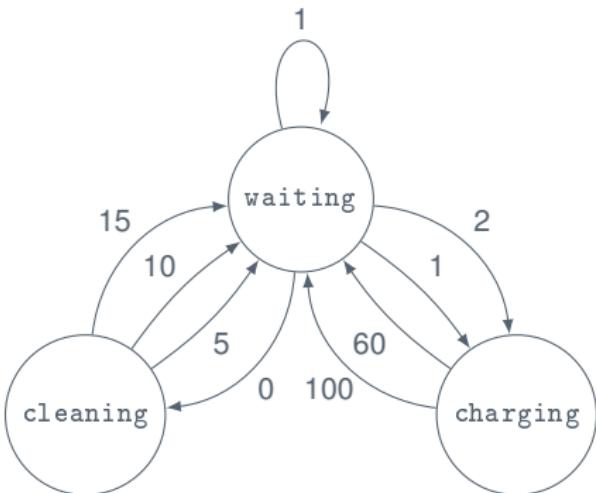
# Models



# Models

Weighted transition systems

Robot vacuum cleaner





# Models

## Weighted transition systems

### Definition 2.6.1

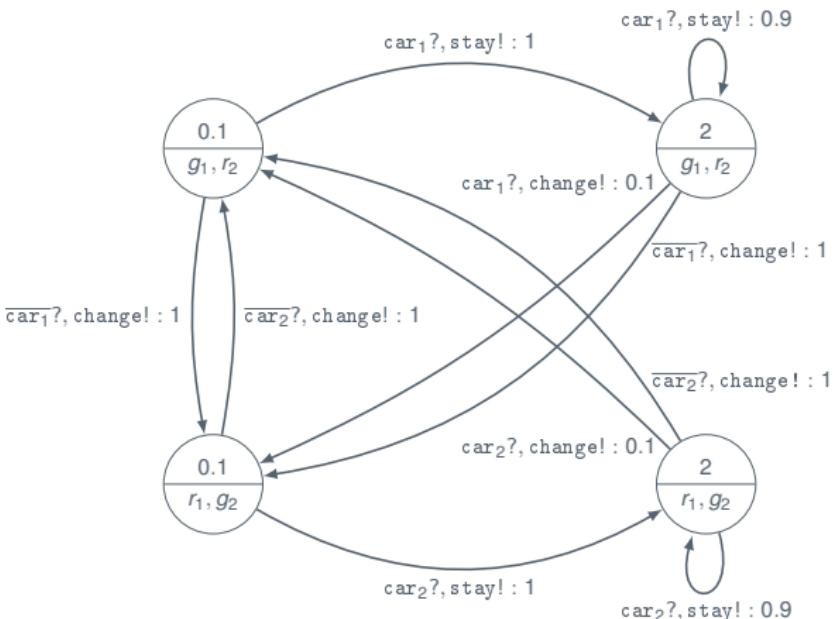
A *weighted transition system (WTS)* is a tuple  $\mathcal{M} = (S, \rightarrow, \ell)$ , where

- ▶  $S$  is a set of *states*,
- ▶  $\rightarrow \subseteq S \times \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \times S$  is the *transition relation*, and
- ▶  $\ell : S \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{AP}}$  is the *labelling function*.

# Models

## Semi-Markov processes

### Intelligent traffic light





# Models

## Semi-Markov processes

### Definition 2.6.4

A *semi-Markov process (SMP)* is a tuple  $\mathcal{M} = (S, \tau, \rho, \ell)$ , where

- ▶  $S$  is a countable set of *states*,
- ▶  $\tau : S \times \text{In} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(S \times \text{Out})$  is the *transition function*,
- ▶  $\rho : S \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0})$  is the *time-residence function*, and
- ▶  $\ell : S \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{AP}}$  is the *labelling* function.



# Models

## Semi-Markov processes

Reactive semi-Markov processes:

$$\tau : S \times \text{In} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(S) \quad \text{input}$$

Generative semi-Markov processes:

$$\tau : S \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(S \times \text{Out}) \quad \text{output}$$

# Contributions



# Contributions

## Papers

- ▶ Paper A: *Reasoning About Bounds in Weighted Transition Systems*, published in LMCS.  
Co-authors: Mikkel Hansen, Kim Guldstrand Larsen, and Radu Mardare.
- ▶ Paper B: *Timed Comparisons of Semi-Markov Processes*, published in LATA '18.  
Co-authors: Nathanaël Fijalkow, Giorgio Bacci, Kim Guldstrand Larsen, and Radu Mardare.
- ▶ Paper C: *A Faster-Than Relation for Semi-Markov Decision Processes*, unpublished.  
Co-authors: Giorgio Bacci and Kim Guldstrand Larsen.
- ▶ Paper D: *A Hemimetric Extension of Simulation for Semi-Markov Decision Processes*, published in QEST '18.  
Co-authors: Giorgio Bacci, Kim Guldstrand Larsen, and Radu Mardare.

# Paper A

# Contributions

Paper A



## Contribution 1

We present a language for reasoning about lower and upper bounds in weighted transition systems and we show that this language characterises exactly those systems that have the same kind of behaviour.



# Contributions

## Paper A

Weighted logic with bounds (WLWB):

$$\varphi, \psi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \psi \mid L_r \varphi \mid M_r \varphi$$

# Contributions

## Paper A



Weighted logic with bounds (WLWB):

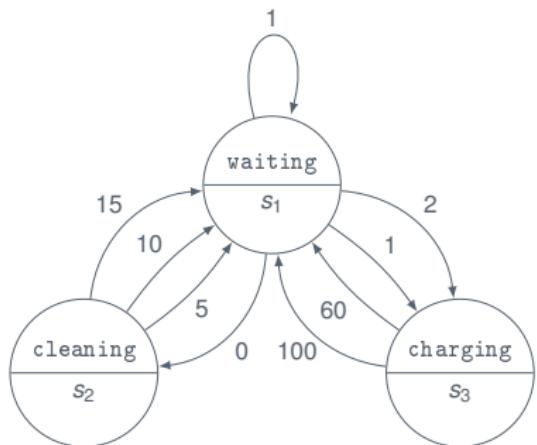
$$\varphi, \psi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \psi \mid L_r\varphi \mid M_r\varphi$$

$L_r\varphi$ : a transition with *at least* weight  $r$  can be taken to where  $\varphi$  holds.

$M_r\varphi$ : a transition with *at most* weight  $r$  can be taken to where  $\varphi$  holds.

# Contributions

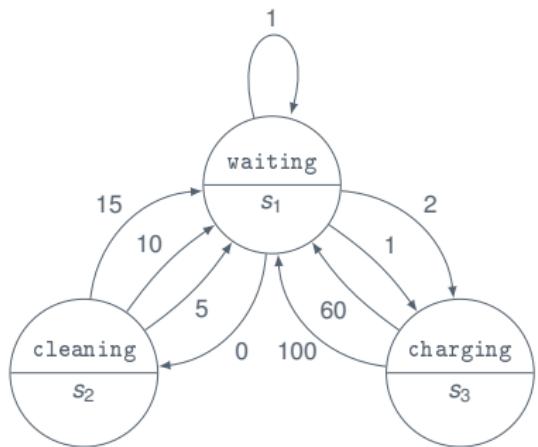
## Paper A



$$s_1 \models M_2 \text{charging}$$

# Contributions

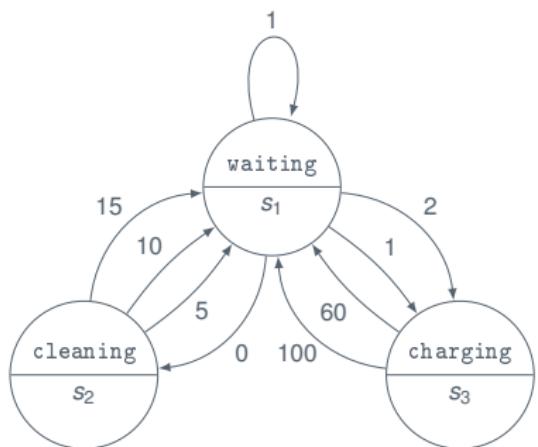
## Paper A



$s_1 \models M_2 \text{charging}$   
 $s_1 \not\models M_1 \text{charging}$

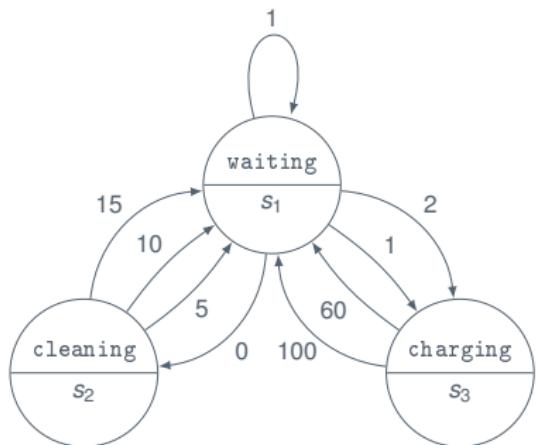
# Contributions

## Paper A


$$\begin{aligned}s_1 &\models M_2 \text{charging} \\ s_1 &\not\models M_1 \text{charging} \\ s_2 &\models L_2 \text{waiting}\end{aligned}$$

# Contributions

## Paper A



$s_1 \models M_2 \text{charging}$   
 $s_1 \not\models M_1 \text{charging}$   
 $s_2 \models L_2 \text{waiting}$   
 $s_2 \not\models L_7 \text{waiting}$



# Contributions

## Paper A

### Theorem A.2.5

For image-finite WTSs, we have

$$s \sim t \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \text{for all } \varphi, s \models \varphi \text{ if and only if } t \models \varphi.$$



# Contributions

Paper A

## Contribution 2

We provide a complete axiomatisation of the logical specification language, and give an algorithm for deciding the model checking problem and an algorithm for deciding satisfiability of a formula.



# Contributions

## Paper A

- 
- (A1):  $\vdash \neg L_0 \perp$
- (A2):  $\vdash L_{r+q}\varphi \rightarrow L_r\varphi$  if  $q > 0$
- (A2'):  $\vdash M_r\varphi \rightarrow M_{r+q}\varphi$  if  $q > 0$
- (A3):  $\vdash L_r\varphi \wedge L_q\psi \rightarrow L_{\min\{r,q\}}(\varphi \vee \psi)$
- (A3'):  $\vdash M_r\varphi \wedge M_q\psi \rightarrow M_{\max\{r,q\}}(\varphi \vee \psi)$
- (A4):  $\vdash L_r(\varphi \vee \psi) \rightarrow L_r\varphi \vee L_r\psi$
- (A5):  $\vdash \neg L_0\psi \rightarrow (L_r\varphi \rightarrow L_r(\varphi \vee \psi))$
- (A5'):  $\vdash \neg L_0\psi \rightarrow (M_r\varphi \rightarrow M_r(\varphi \vee \psi))$
- (A6):  $\vdash L_{r+q}\varphi \rightarrow \neg M_r\varphi$  if  $q > 0$
- (A7):  $\vdash M_r\varphi \rightarrow L_0\varphi$
- (R1):  $\vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi \implies \vdash (L_r\psi \wedge L_0\varphi) \rightarrow L_r\varphi$
- (R1'):  $\vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi \implies \vdash (M_r\psi \wedge L_0\varphi) \rightarrow M_r\varphi$
- (R2):  $\vdash \varphi \rightarrow \psi \implies \vdash L_0\varphi \rightarrow L_0\psi$
- 

+ axioms for propositional logic.



# Contributions

Paper A

Soundness and completeness

Theorem A.4.2 and A.4.10

$$\vdash \varphi \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \Vdash \varphi$$



# Contributions

## Paper A

Model checking: Does a given model  $M$  satisfy a given formula  $\varphi$ ?

### Theorem A.5.4

The model checking problem for WLWB is decidable.



# Contributions

## Paper A

Model checking: Does a given model  $M$  satisfy a given formula  $\varphi$ ?

### Theorem A.5.4

The model checking problem for WLWB is decidable.

Satisfiability: Does there exist a model which satisfies a given formula  $\varphi$ ?

### Theorem A.5.11

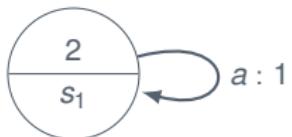
The satisfiability problem for WLWB is decidable.

Paper B and Paper C

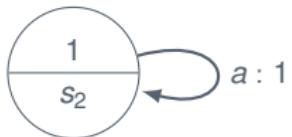


# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C



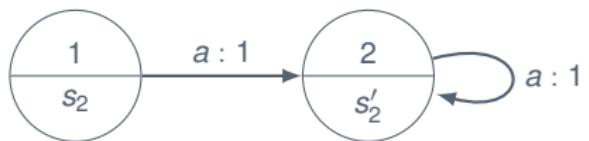
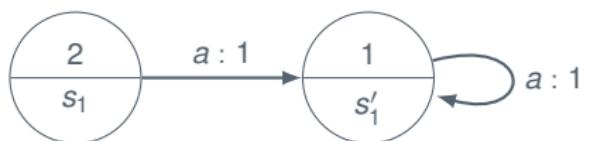
$$s_1 \preceq s_2$$





# Contributions

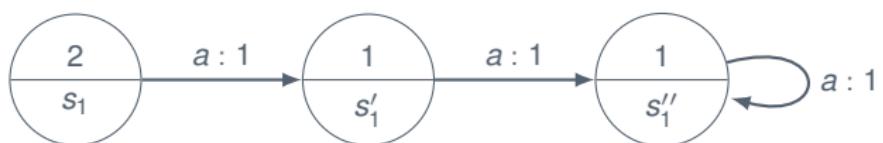
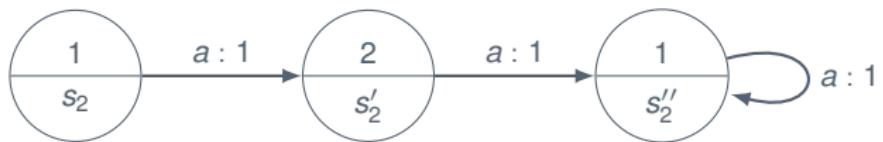
Paper B and Paper C

 $s_1 \not\preceq s_2$



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

 $s_1 \preceq s_2$ 



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

Generative:

Definition B.2.3

$s_1$  is *faster than*  $s_2$  ( $s_1 \preceq s_2$ ) if for all  $a_1 \dots a_n$  and  $t$  we have

$$\mathbb{P}(s_1)(a_1 \dots a_n, t) \geq \mathbb{P}(s_2)(a_1 \dots a_n, t).$$



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

Generative:

## Definition B.2.3

$s_1$  is *faster than*  $s_2$  ( $s_1 \preceq s_2$ ) if for all  $a_1 \dots a_n$  and  $t$  we have

$$\mathbb{P}(s_1)(a_1 \dots a_n, t) \geq \mathbb{P}(s_2)(a_1 \dots a_n, t).$$

Reactive:

## Definition C.4.3

$s_1$  is *faster than*  $s_2$  ( $s_1 \preceq s_2$ ) if for all schedulers  $\sigma$ ,  $a_1 \dots a_n$ , and  $t$  there exists a scheduler  $\sigma'$  such that

$$\mathbb{P}^{\sigma'}(s_1)(a_1 \dots a_n, t) \geq \mathbb{P}^{\sigma}(s_2)(a_1 \dots a_n, t).$$



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

## Contribution 3

We show that deciding the faster-than relation is a difficult problem. In particular, the relation is undecidable and approximating it up to a multiplicative constant is impossible.



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

## Contribution 4

We give an algorithm for approximating a time-bounded version of the faster-than relation up to an additive constant for slow processes.



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

Assumptions:

- ▶ Time-bounded: We only look at behaviours up to a given time bound.
- ▶ Slow residence-time functions: all transitions take *some* time to fire.



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

Assumptions:

- ▶ Time-bounded: We only look at behaviours up to a given time bound.
- ▶ Slow residence-time functions: all transitions take *some* time to fire.

## Theorem B.4.3 and C.5.6

The time-bounded approximation problem is decidable.



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

## Contribution 5

We give an algorithm for unambiguous processes which can decide whether one process is faster than another.

# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

A SMP is *unambiguous* if every output label leads to a unique successor state.

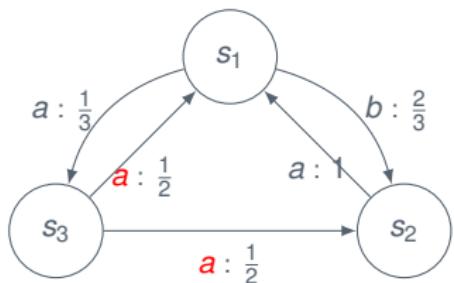


Figure 1: Ambiguous

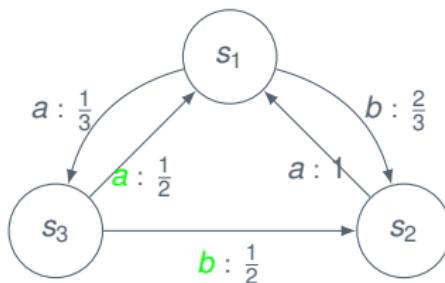


Figure 2: Unambiguous

# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

A SMP is *unambiguous* if every output label leads to a unique successor state.

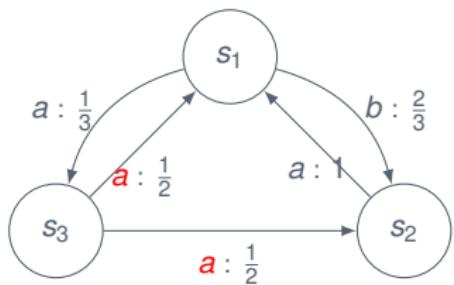


Figure 1: Ambiguous

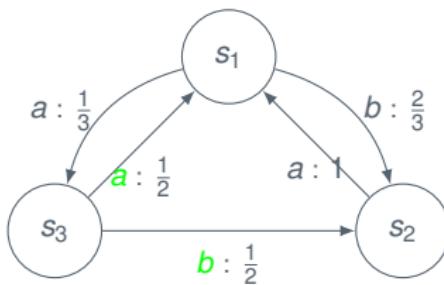


Figure 2: Unambiguous

## Theorem B.5.2

For unambiguous SMPs, the faster-than problem is decidable.



# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C

## Contribution 6

We introduce a logical language which characterises the faster-than relation and we show that both the satisfiability problem and the model checking problem for this language are decidable.

# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C



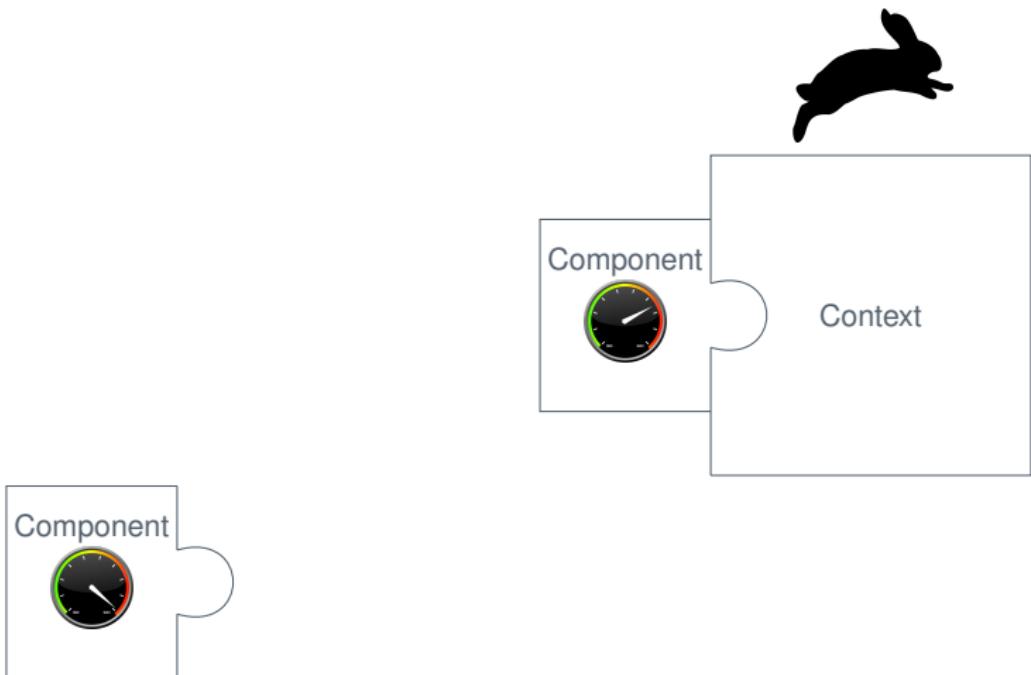
## Contribution 7

We give examples of parallel timing anomalies occurring for the faster-than relation. However, we also describe some conditions under which parallel timing anomalies can not occur, and we develop an algorithm for checking whether these conditions are met.



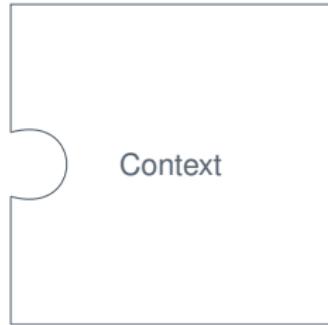
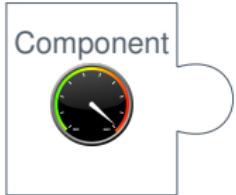
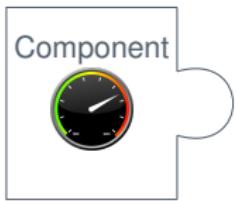
# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C



# Contributions

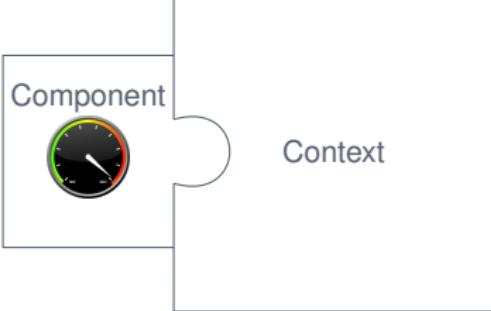
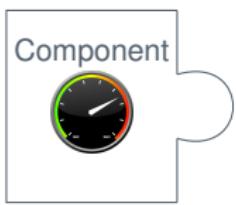
Paper B and Paper C





# Contributions

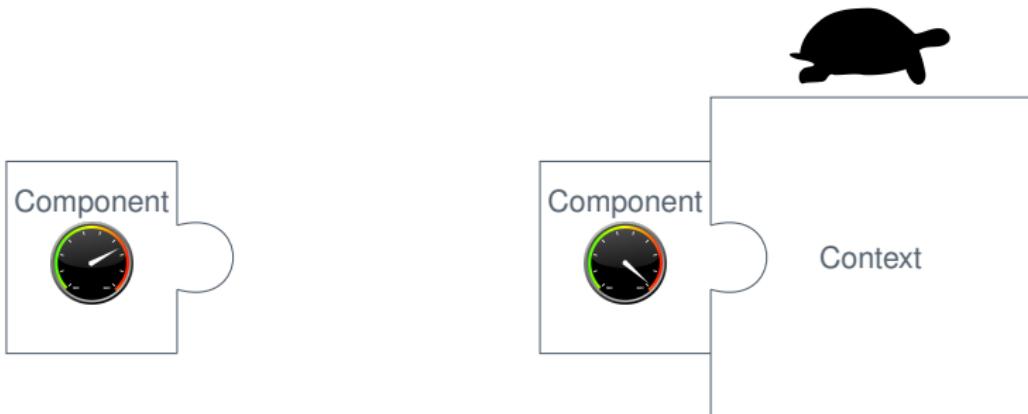
Paper B and Paper C





# Contributions

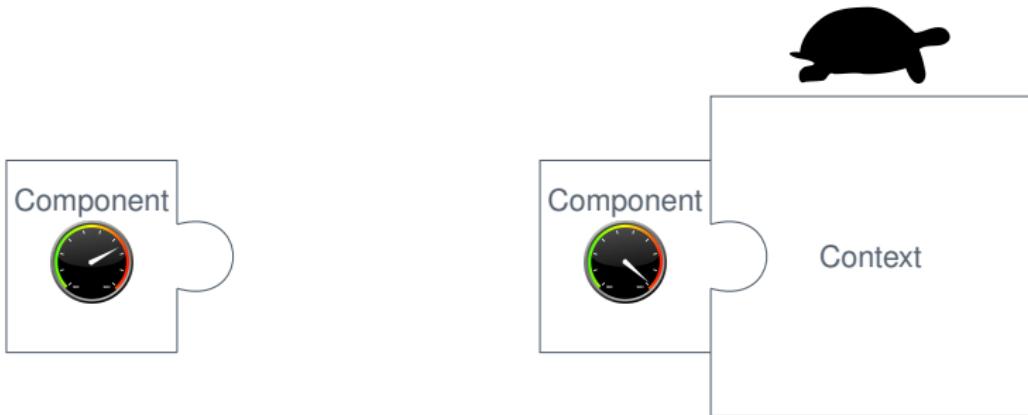
Paper B and Paper C





# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C



*Timing anomaly*

# Contributions

Paper B and Paper C



## Theorem C.6.15

There exist decidable conditions that guarantee the absence of timing anomalies.

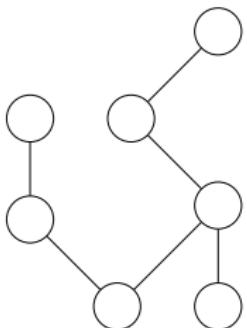
# Paper D

# Contributions

## Paper D

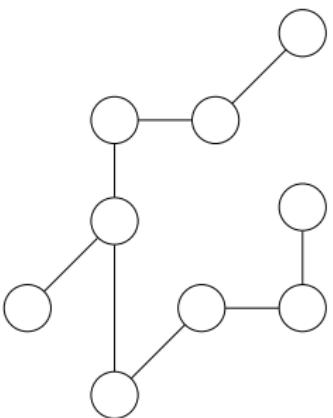


### Reactive processes



Simulation

$\approx$



# Contributions

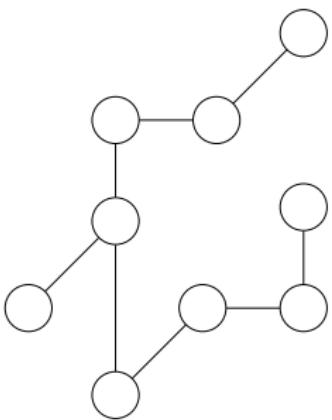
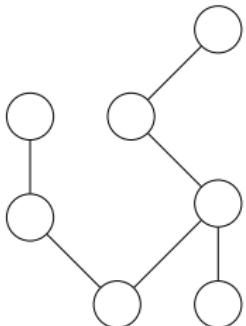
## Paper D



### Reactive processes

Simulation

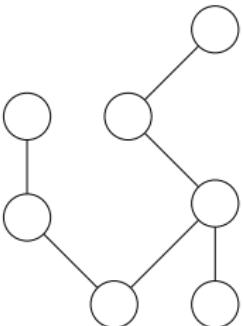
$\mathcal{L}$





# Contributions

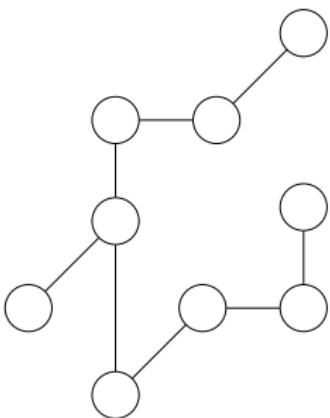
## Paper D



### Reactive processes

Simulation

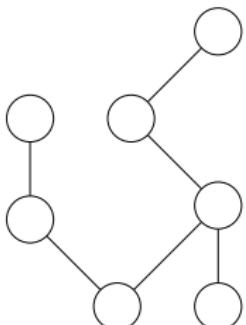
But how *close* is the process to simulating the other process?



# Contributions

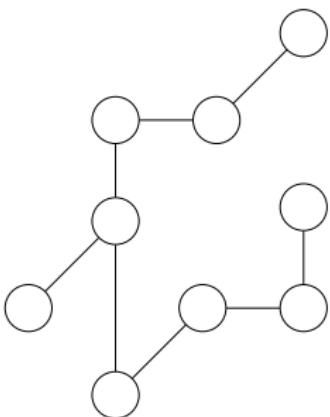
## Paper D

### Reactive processes



Simulation

But how *close* is the process to simulating the other process?  
*Quantitative measure of distance*





# Contributions

## Paper D

### Definition D.2.2

$s_2$  simulates  $s_1$ , written  $s_1 \precsim s_2$ , if

⋮

- ▶  $F_{s_1}(t) \leq F_{s_2}(t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

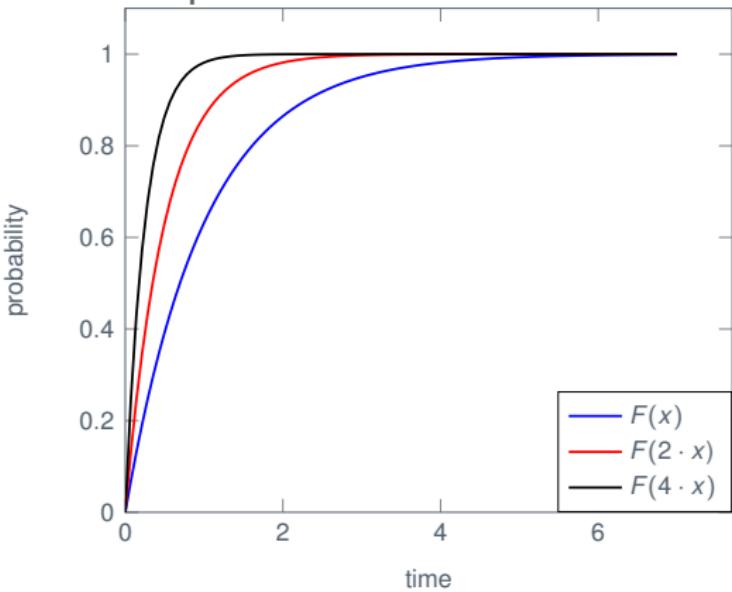
⋮



# Contributions

## Paper D

Exponential distribution





# Contributions

## Paper D

### Definition D.2.2

$s_2$  simulates  $s_1$ , written  $s_1 \precsim s_2$ , if

⋮

- ▶  $F_{s_1}(t) \leq F_{s_2}(t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

⋮



# Contributions

## Paper D

### Definition D.2.2

$s_2$   $\varepsilon$ -simulates  $s_1$ , written  $s_1 \precsim_\varepsilon s_2$ , if

⋮

- ▶  $F_{s_1}(t) \leq F_{s_2}(\varepsilon \cdot t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

⋮



# Contributions

## Paper D

### Definition D.2.2

$s_2$   $\varepsilon$ -simulates  $s_1$ , written  $s_1 \precsim_\varepsilon s_2$ , if

⋮

- ▶  $F_{s_1}(t) \leq F_{s_2}(\varepsilon \cdot t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$

⋮

### Definition D.4.5

$$d(s_1, s_2) = \inf\{\varepsilon \geq 1 \mid s_1 \precsim_\varepsilon s_2\}$$



# Contributions

## Paper D

### Contribution 8

We describe an algorithm for computing the distance from one process to another. This algorithm runs in polynomial time using known techniques, making it relevant for use and implementation in practice.

# Contributions

## Paper D



### Contribution 9

We show that, under mild assumptions, composition is non-expansive with respect to the distance between semi-Markov processes.

# Contributions

Paper D



## Contribution 10

We introduce a logical specification language called timed Markovian logic and show that this language characterises both the  $\varepsilon$ -simulation relation and the distance between semi-Markov processes.



# Contributions

## Paper D

### Timed Markovian logic

TML :  $\varphi, \varphi' ::= \alpha \mid \neg\alpha \mid \ell_p t \mid m_p t \mid L_p^a \varphi \mid M_p^a \varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi' \mid \varphi \vee \varphi'$



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TML $^{\leq}$  :  $\varphi ::= \alpha \mid \neg\alpha \mid m_p t \mid M_p^a \varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi' \mid \varphi \vee \varphi'$



# Contributions

## Paper D

Perturbation  $(\varphi)_\varepsilon$ :

- ▶  $(\ell_p t)_\varepsilon = \ell_p \varepsilon \cdot t$
- ▶  $(m_p t)_\varepsilon = m_p \varepsilon \cdot t$



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### Theorem D.7.2

For finite SMPs we have

- ▶  $d(s_1, s_2) \leq \varepsilon$  if and only if

for all  $\varphi \in \text{TML}^{\geq}$ ,  $s_1 \models \varphi$  implies  $s_2 \models (\varphi)_\varepsilon$

- ▶  $d(s_2, s_1) \leq \varepsilon$  if and only if

for all  $\varphi \in \text{TML}^{\leq}$ ,  $s_2 \models (\varphi)_\varepsilon$  implies  $s_1 \models \varphi$

# Conclusion

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- ▶ *Formalisms* for specifying, comparing, and reasoning about properties involving time.
- ▶ *Algorithms* enabling use of these formalisms in practice.



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  - ▶  $\varepsilon$ -*simulation* allows quantitative comparison of time behaviour of different systems.

## Future work



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## Strong completeness

*Weak* completeness

$\models \varphi$  implies  $\vdash \varphi$



# Future work

## Strong completeness

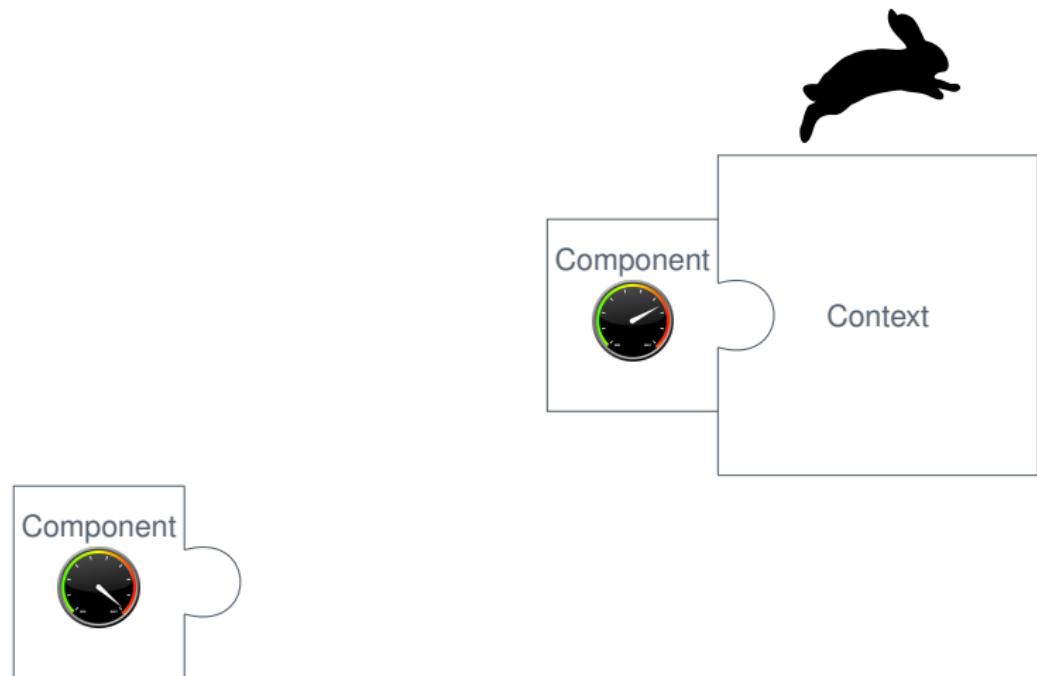
*Strong* completeness

$\Phi \models \varphi$  implies  $\Phi \vdash \varphi$



# Future work

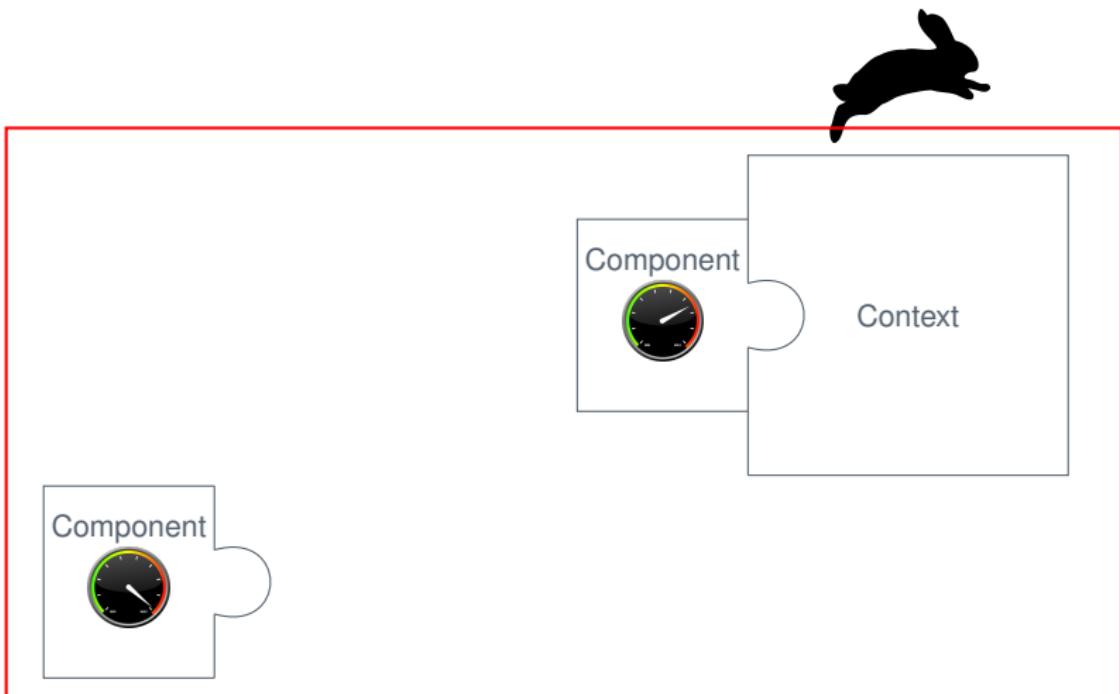
## Timing anomalies





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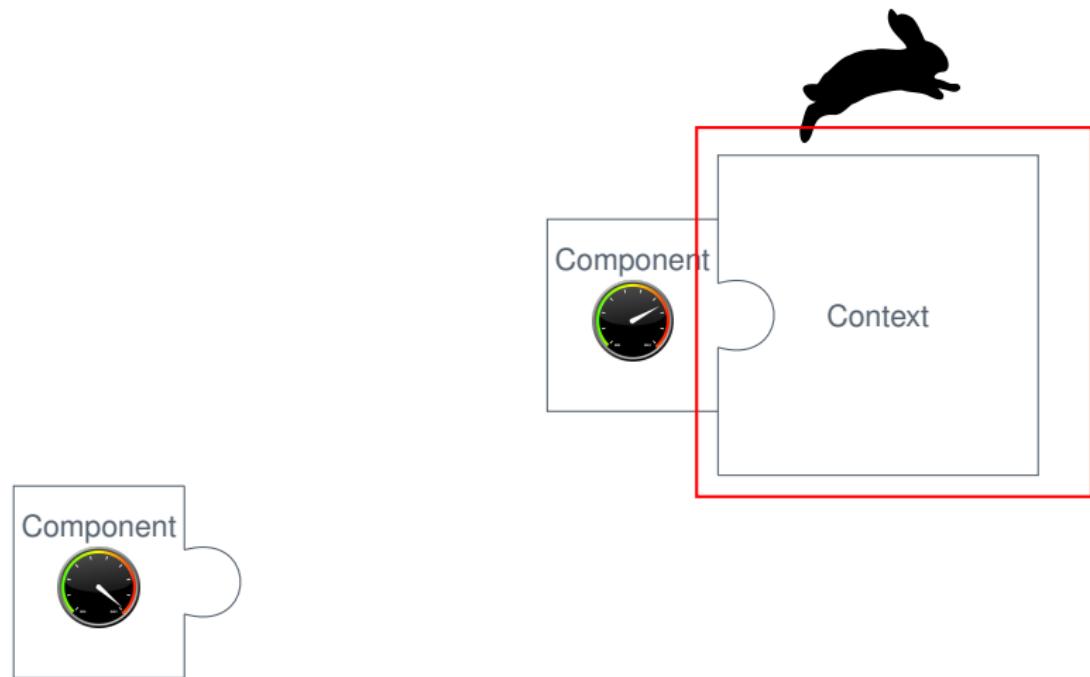
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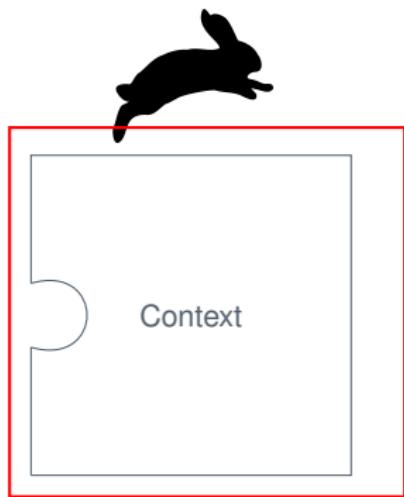
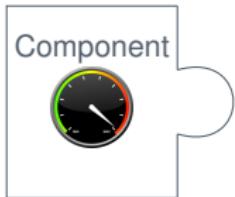
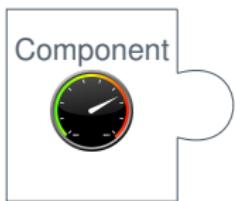
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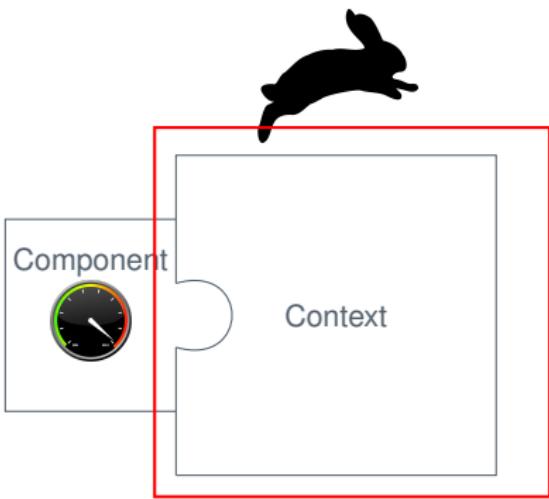
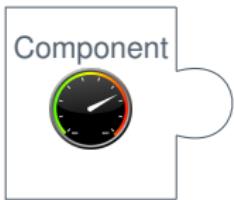
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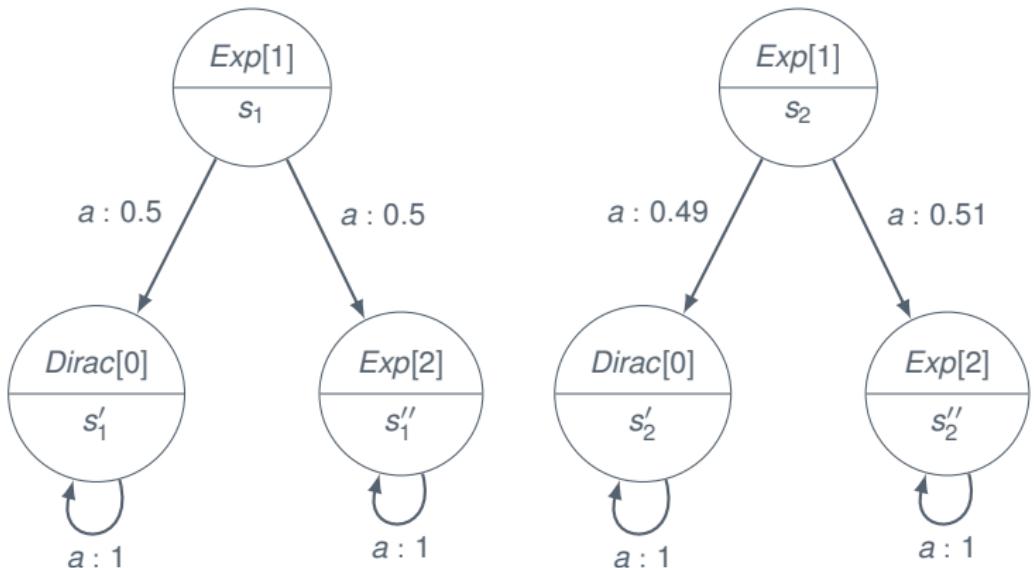
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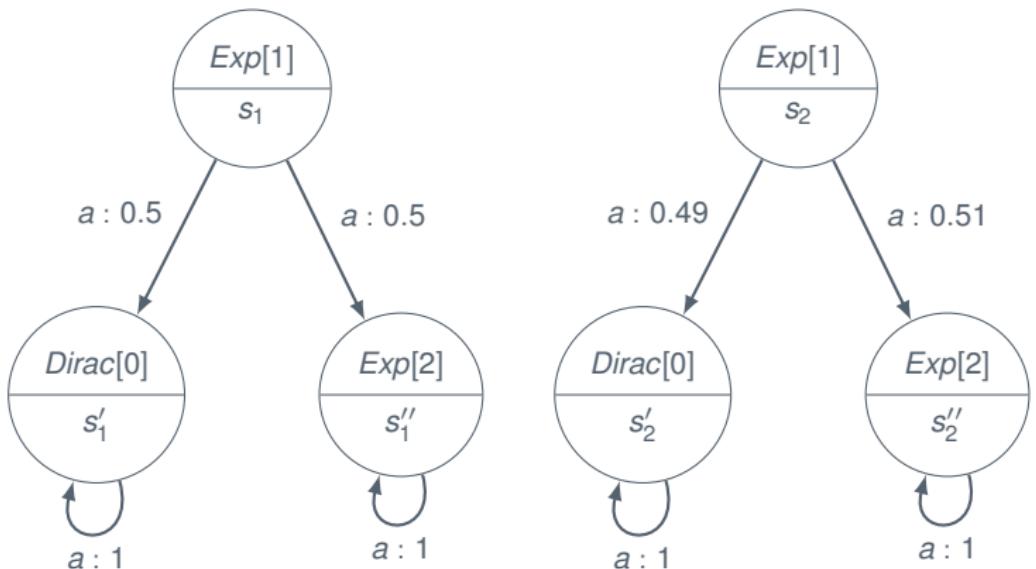
# Future work

Branching in simulation distance



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Branching in simulation distance



$$d(s_1, s_2) = \infty$$

Thank you!

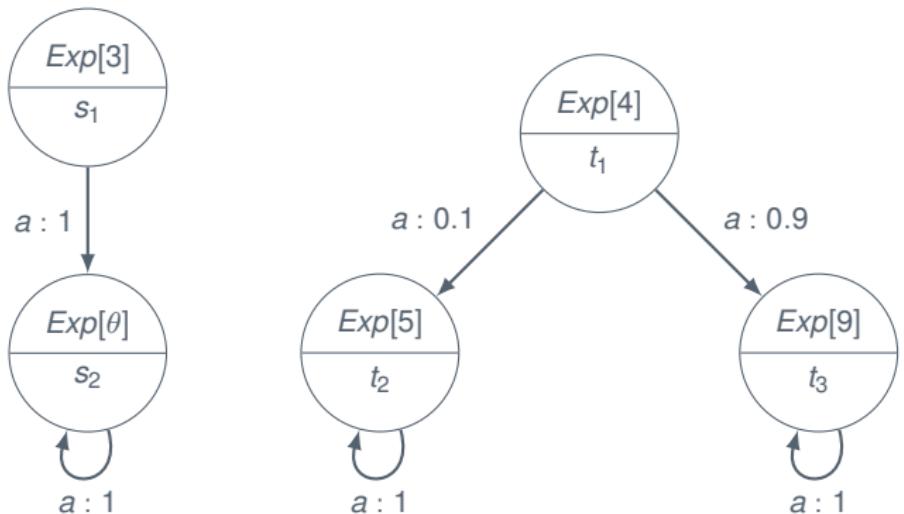
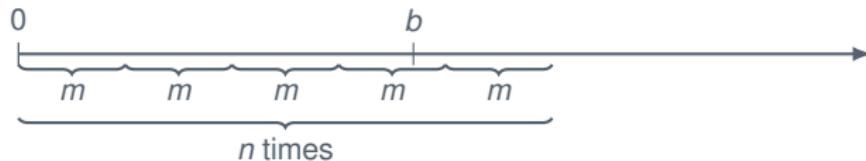


Figure 3: A semi-Markov process where  $s_1 \precsim t_1$  if  $\theta \leq 5$  and  $s_1 \not\precsim t_1$  if  $\theta > 5$ .

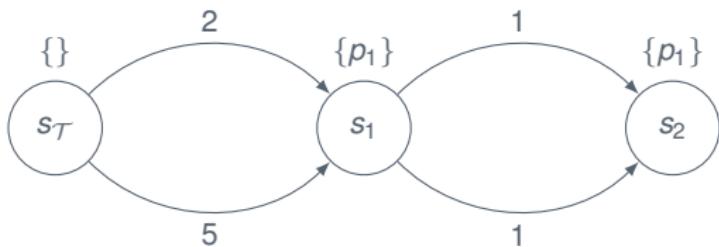
## Time-bounded approximation



- ▶  $\mathbb{P}(s, a^n, b) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .
- ▶ Hence we can find  $N$  such that  $\mathbb{P}(s, a^n, b) \leq \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ .
- ▶ We only need to consider words of length  $\leq N$ .

# Tableau

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \langle \{\neg(\neg(L_2 p_1 \wedge M_5 L_1 p_1) \wedge M_2 p_2)\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle \\
 \hline
 (\neg\wedge) \frac{\langle \{\neg\neg(L_2 p_1 \wedge M_5 L_1 p_1)\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle}{\langle \{L_2 p_1 \wedge M_5 L_1 p_1\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle} \\
 (\neg\neg) \frac{\langle \{L_2 p_1 \wedge M_5 L_1 p_1\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle}{\langle \{L_2 p_1, M_5 L_1 p_1\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle} \\
 (\wedge) \frac{\langle \{L_2 p_1, M_5 L_1 p_1\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle}{\langle \{p_1, L_1 p_1\}, [2, \infty), [5, \infty) \rangle} \\
 (\text{mod}) \frac{\langle \{p_1, L_1 p_1\}, [2, \infty), [5, \infty) \rangle}{\langle \{p_1\}, [1, \infty), [0, \infty) \rangle} \\
 (\text{mod}) \frac{\langle \{p_1\}, [1, \infty), [0, \infty) \rangle}{\langle \{M_2 p_2\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle} \\
 (\neg\neg) \frac{\langle \{M_2 p_2\}, [0, 0], [0, 0] \rangle}{\langle \{p_2\}, [0, \infty), [0, 2] \rangle}
 \end{array}$$



## Image-finite counterexample

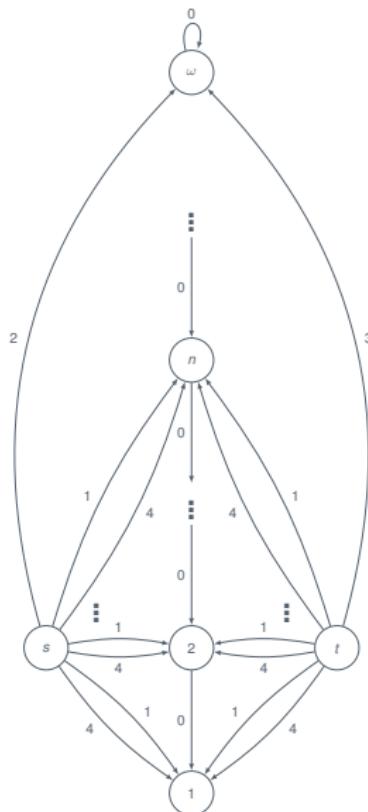


Figure 4:  $s$  and  $t$  satisfy the same logical formulas, but  $s \not\sim t$ .

## Kantorovich counterexample

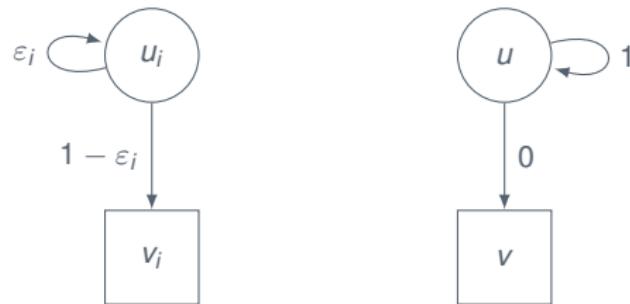
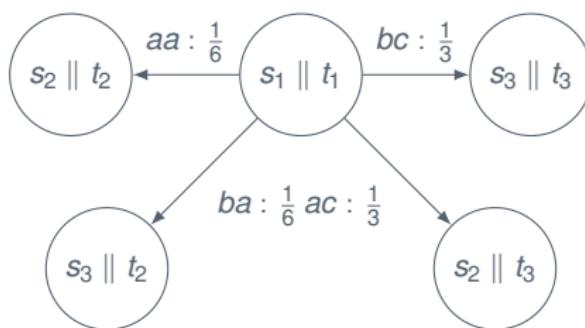


Figure 5: A Markov process with states  $u_i$  and  $v_i$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

New axioms

$$\{L_q\varphi \mid q < r\} \vdash L_r\varphi \quad \text{and} \quad \{M_q\varphi \mid q < r\} \vdash M_r\varphi$$

## Generative composition – synchronous



Example from Ana Sokolova and Erik P. de Vink, *Probabilistic Automata: System Types, Parallel Composition and Comparison*, in Validation of Stochastic Systems - A Guide to Current Research, Lecture Notes in Computer Science volume 2925, pp. 1–43, 2004