

ICAPS 2018 Tutorial

# Decision Diagrams in Automated Planning and Scheduling, Part II

Scott Sanner

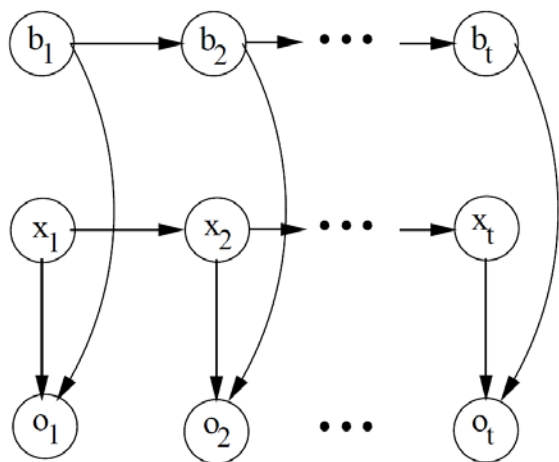


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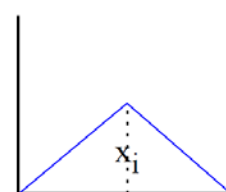
Part II:

Extensions to  
Continuous Inference

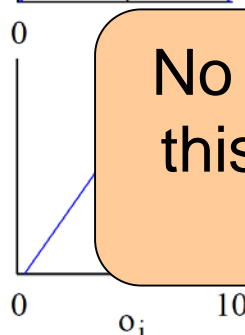
# Inference for Continuous HMMs



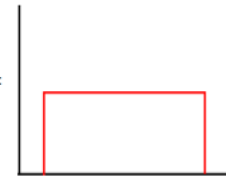
$$P(o_i | x_i, b_i=0) =$$



$$P(o_i | x_i, b_i=1) =$$



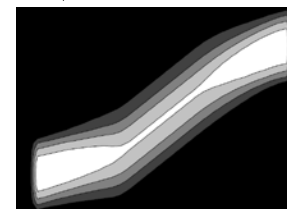
$$P(x_1) =$$



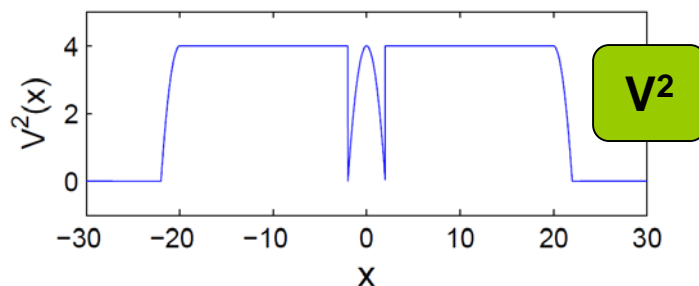
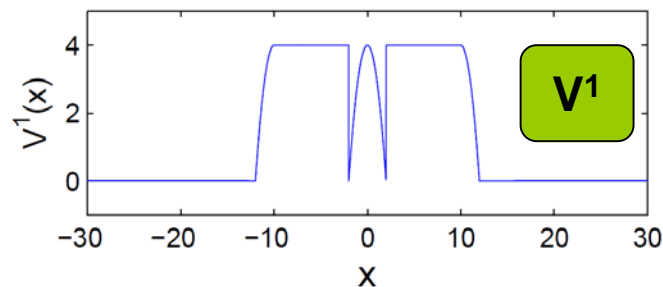
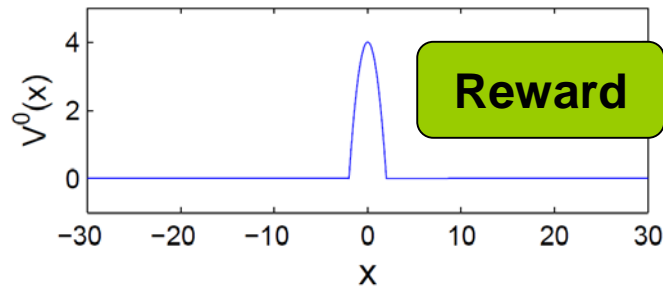
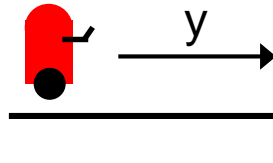
No one previously did this inference exactly in closed-form!

What's that function?

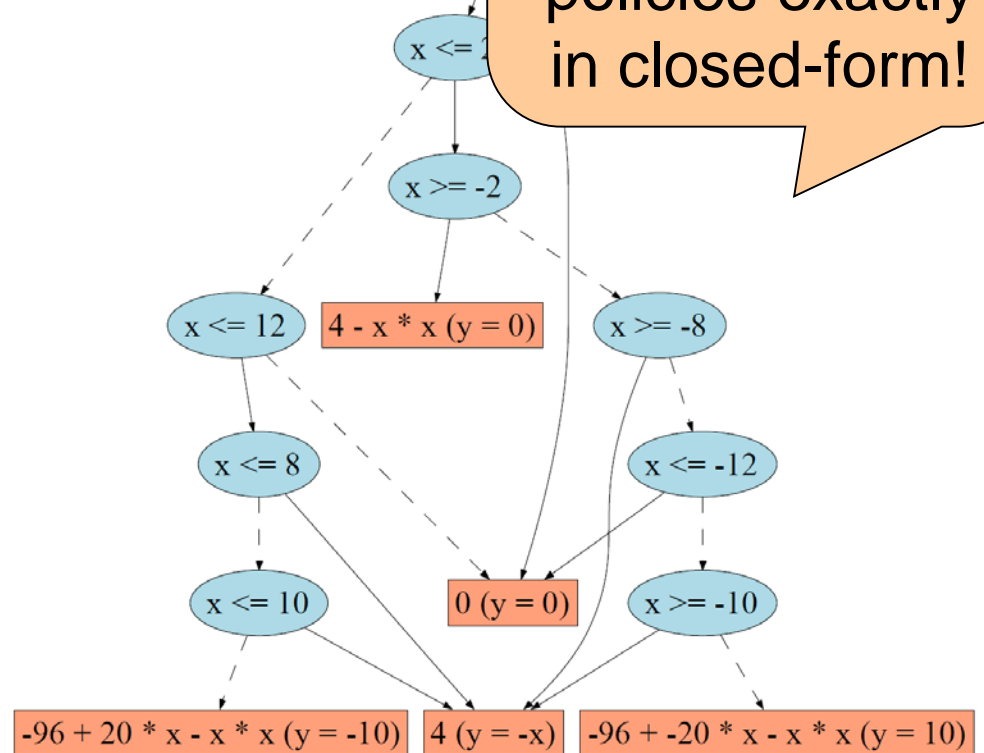
WTF?



# Optimal Policies in Hybrid MDPs



No one previously derived optimal policies exactly in closed-form!



Value (Policy)

How to obtain closed-form  
*exact* solutions?

Symbolic representations  
and operations on  
piecewise functions

Think Mathematica, not Matlab

# Piecewise Functions (Cases)

$$z = f(x, y) = \begin{cases} (x > 3) \wedge (y \leq x) : & x + y \\ (x \leq 3) \vee (y > x) : & x^2 + xy^3 \end{cases}$$

Diagram illustrating the components of a piecewise function definition:

- Constraint**: Points to the conditions  $(x > 3) \wedge (y \leq x)$  and  $(x \leq 3) \vee (y > x)$ .
- Partition**: Points to the colon  $:$  separating the constraints from the values.
- Value**: Points to the expressions  $x + y$  and  $x^2 + xy^3$ .

Linear  
constraints  
and value

Linear  
constraints,  
constant value

Quadratic  
constraints  
and value

# Formal Problem Statement

- General continuous graphical models represented by piecewise functions (cases)

$$f = \begin{cases} \phi_1 : & f_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \phi_k : & f_k \end{cases}$$

- Exact closed-form solution inferred via the following piecewise calculus:

- $f_1 \oplus f_2, f_1 \otimes f_2$
- $\max(f_1, f_2), \min(f_1, f_2)$
- $\int_x f(x)$
- $\max_x f(x), \min_x f(x)$

Question: how do we perform these operations in closed-form?

# Polynomial Case Operations: $\oplus$ , $\otimes$

$$\begin{cases} \phi_1 : & f_1 \\ \phi_2 : & f_2 \end{cases} \oplus \begin{cases} \psi_1 : & g_1 \\ \psi_2 : & g_2 \end{cases} = \quad ?$$



# Polynomial Case Operations: $\oplus$ , $\otimes$

$$\begin{cases} \phi_1 : f_1 \\ \phi_2 : f_2 \end{cases} \oplus \begin{cases} \psi_1 : g_1 \\ \psi_2 : g_2 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} \phi_1 \wedge \psi_1 : f_1 + g_1 \\ \phi_1 \wedge \psi_2 : f_1 + g_2 \\ \phi_2 \wedge \psi_1 : f_2 + g_1 \\ \phi_2 \wedge \psi_2 : f_2 + g_2 \end{cases}$$

- Similarly for  $\otimes$ 
  - Polynomials closed under  $+$ ,  $*$
- What about  $\max$ ?
  - Max of polynomials is not a polynomial ☹

# Polynomial Case Operations: max

$$\max \left( \begin{array}{l} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \phi_1 : & f_1 \\ \phi_2 : & f_2 \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \psi_1 : & g_1 \\ \psi_2 : & g_2 \end{array} \right\} \end{array} \right) = \quad ?$$

# Polynomial Case Operations: max

$$\max \left( \begin{array}{l} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi_1 : f_1 \\ \phi_2 : f_2 \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \psi_1 : g_1 \\ \psi_2 : g_2 \end{array} \right\} \end{array} \right) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \phi_1 \wedge \psi_1 \wedge f_1 > g_1 : & f_1 \\ \phi_1 \wedge \psi_1 \wedge f_1 \leq g_1 : & g_1 \\ \phi_1 \wedge \psi_2 \wedge f_1 > g_2 : & f_1 \\ \phi_1 \wedge \psi_2 \wedge f_1 \leq g_2 : & g_2 \\ \phi_2 \wedge \psi_1 \wedge f_2 > g_1 : & f_2 \\ \phi_2 \wedge \psi_1 \wedge f_2 \leq g_1 : & g_1 \\ \phi_2 \wedge \psi_2 \wedge f_2 > g_2 : & f_2 \\ \phi_2 \wedge \psi_2 \wedge f_2 \leq g_2 : & g_2 \end{array} \right.$$

- Still a piecewise polynomial!

**Size blowup?**  
**We'll get to that...**

# Definite Integration: $\int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty}$

- Closed for polynomials
  - But how to compute for case?

$$\int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} \begin{cases} \phi_1 : f_1 \\ \vdots \\ \phi_k : f_k \end{cases} dx$$



- Just integrate case partitions,  $\oplus$  results!

# Partition Integral

## 1. Determine integration bounds

$$\int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} [\phi_1] \cdot f_1 dx$$

$$\phi_1 := [x > -1] \wedge [x > y - 1] \wedge [x \leq z] \wedge [x \leq y + 1] \wedge [y > 0]$$

$$f_1 := x^2 - xy$$

What constraints here?

- independent of x
- pairwise UB > LB

UB and LB are symbolic!

How to evaluate?

# Definite Integral Evaluation

- How to evaluate integral bounds?

$$\int_{x=LB}^{UB} x^2 - xy = \left. \frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2y \right|_{LB}^{UB}$$

- Can do polynomial operations on cases!

Symbolically,  
exactly  
evaluated!

# Exact Graphical Model Inference!

(directed and undirected)

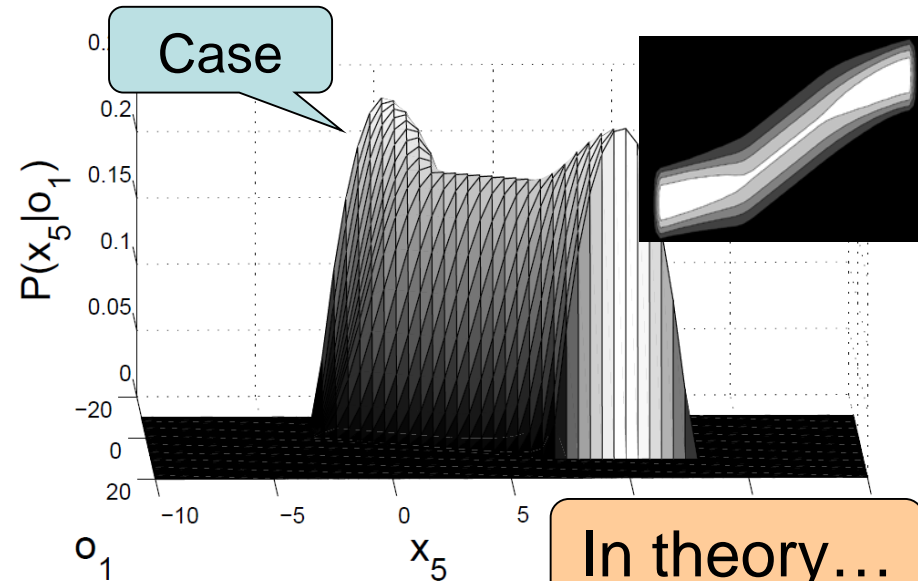
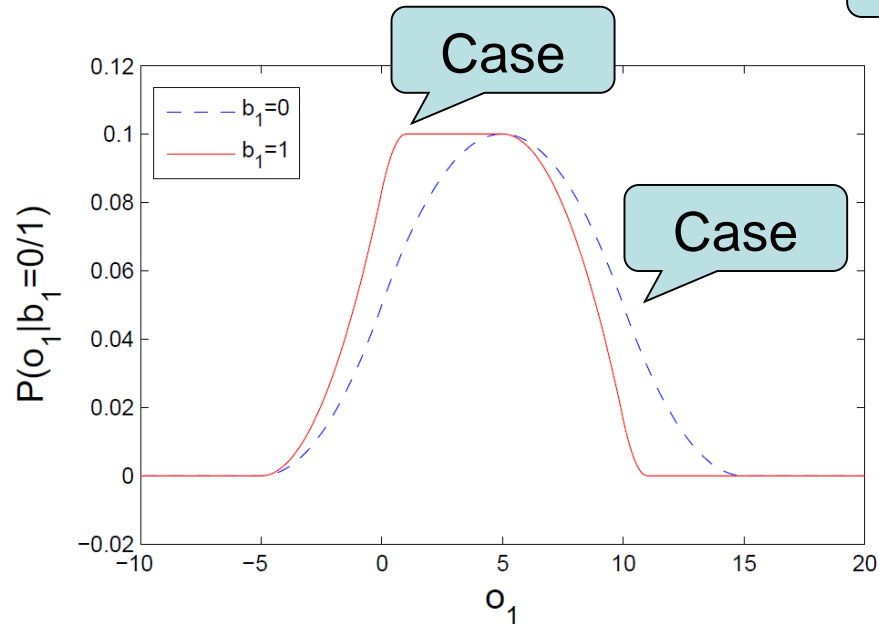
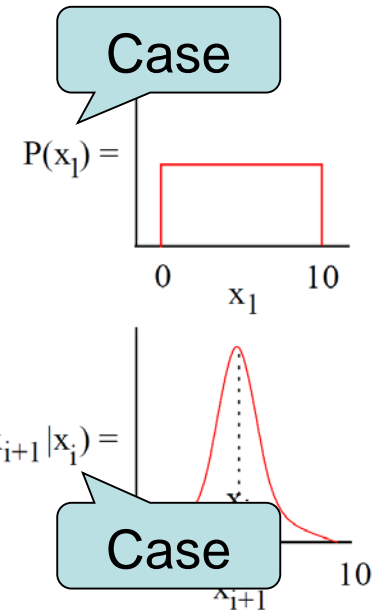
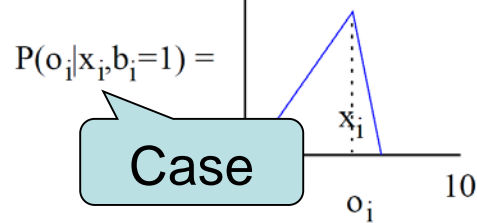
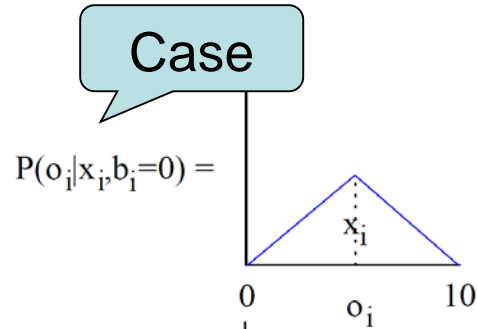
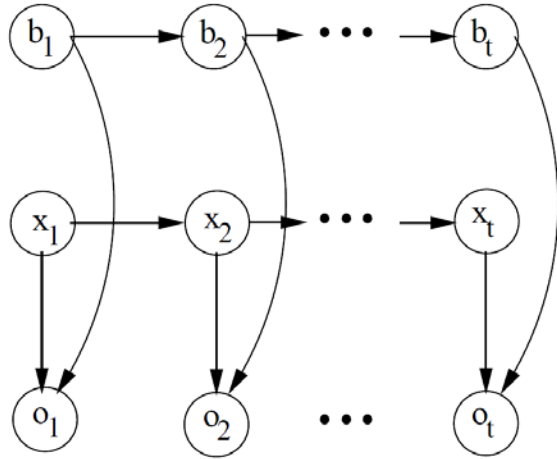
- Can do general probabilistic inference

$$p(x_2|x_1) = \frac{\int_{x_3} \cdots \int_{x_n} \bigotimes_{i=1}^k case_i dx_n \cdots dx_3}{\int_{x_2} \cdots \int_{x_n} \bigotimes_{i=1}^k case_i dx_n \cdots dx_2}$$

- Or an exact expectation of *any* polynomial

– *poly* = Mean, variance, skew, curtosis, ...,  $x^2+y^2+xy$

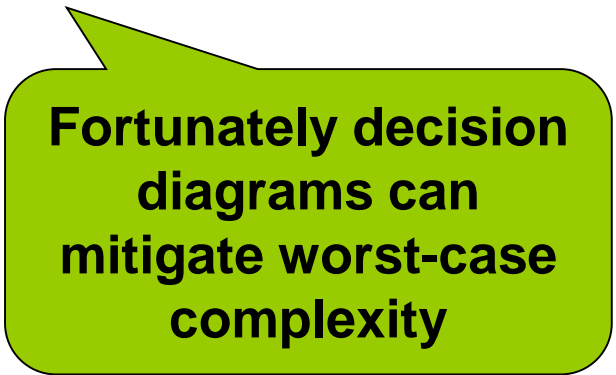
# Voila: Closed-form Exact Inference via SVE!





# Computational Complexity?

- In theory for SVE on graphical models
  - Worst-case complexity is  $O(\exp(\#operations))$ 
    - Not explicitly tree-width dependent!
    - **But worse:** integral may invoke 100's of operations!



Fortunately decision diagrams can mitigate worst-case complexity

# BDD / ADDs

## Quick Introduction

# Function Representation (Tables)

- How to represent functions:  $B^n \rightarrow R$ ?
- How about a fully enumerated table...
- ...OK, but can we be more compact?

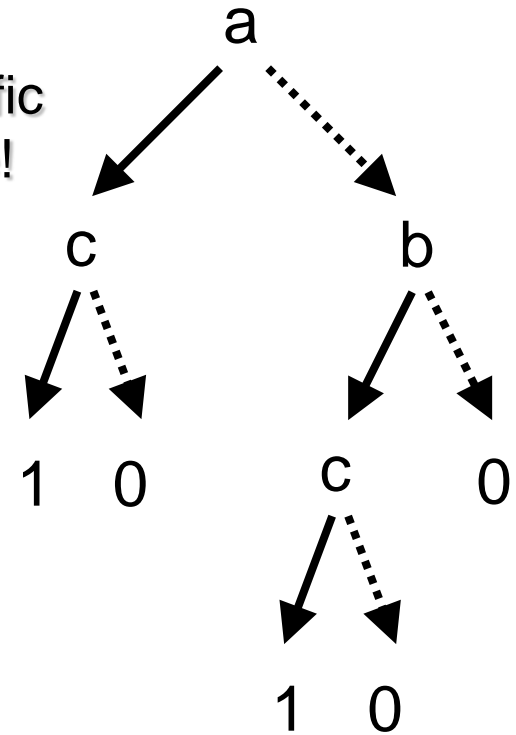
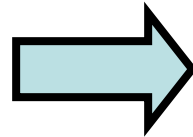
a	b	c	F(a,b,c)
0	0	0	0.00
0	0	1	0.00
0	1	0	0.00
0	1	1	1.00
1	0	0	0.00
1	0	1	1.00
1	1	0	0.00
1	1	1	1.00

# Function Representation (Trees)

- How about a tree? Sure, can simplify.

a	b	c	F(a,b,c)
0	0	0	0.00
0	0	1	0.00
0	1	0	0.00
0	1	1	1.00
1	0	0	0.00
1	0	1	1.00
1	1	0	0.00
1	1	1	1.00

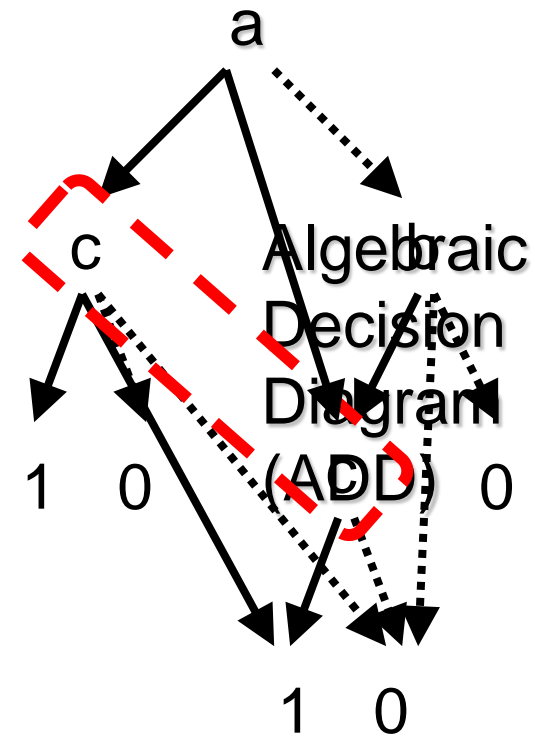
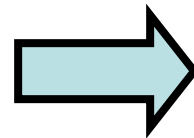
Context-specific  
independence!



# Function Representation (ADDs)

- Why not a directed acyclic graph (DAG)?

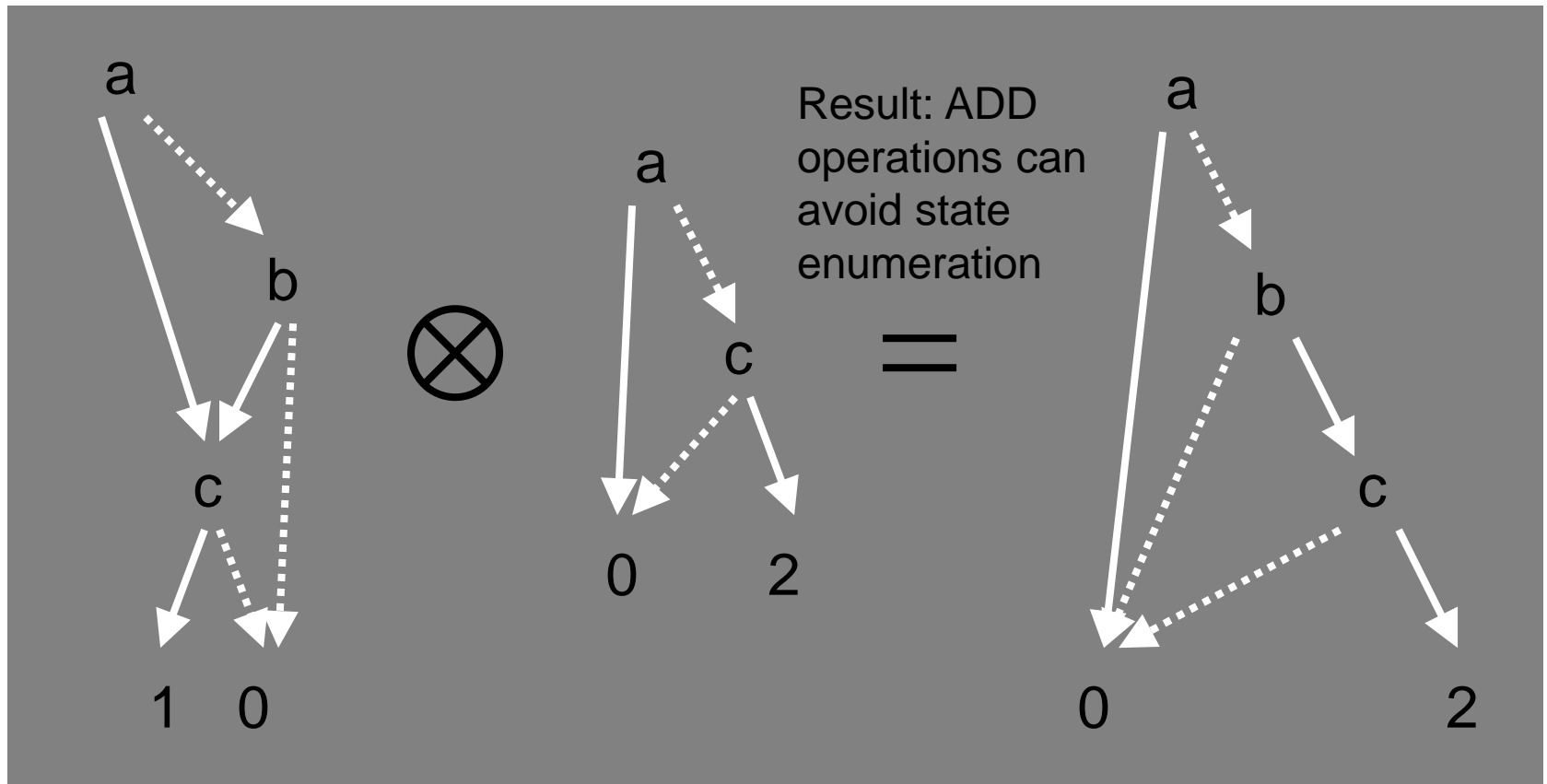
a	b	c	F(a,b,c)
0	0	0	0.00
0	0	1	0.00
0	1	0	0.00
0	1	1	1.00
1	0	0	0.00
1	0	1	1.00
1	1	0	0.00
1	1	1	1.00



Exploits context-specific independence (CSI) and shared substructure.

# Binary Operations (ADDs)

- Why do we order variable tests?
- Enables us to do efficient binary operations...

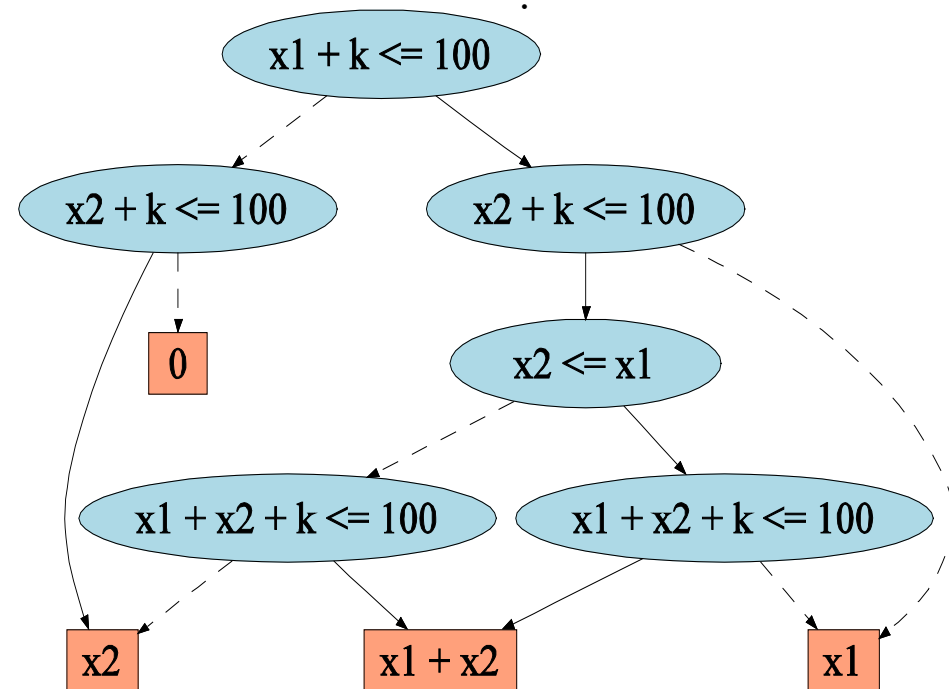
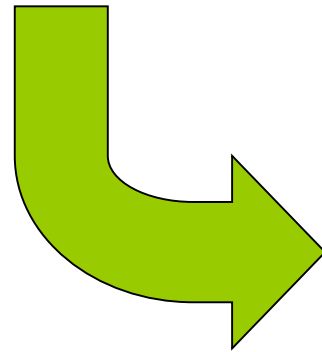


# Case $\rightarrow$ XADD

XADD = continuous variable **extension**  
of **algebraic decision diagram**

# Case $\rightarrow$ XADD

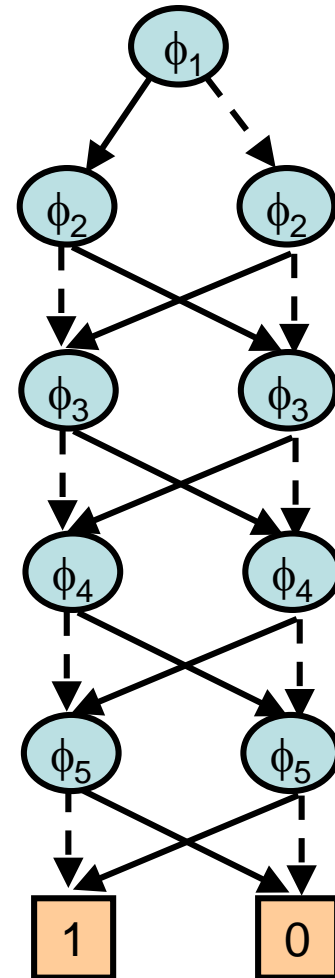
$$V = \begin{cases} x_1 + k > 100 \wedge x_2 + k > 100 : & 0 \\ x_1 + k > 100 \wedge x_2 + k \leq 100 : & x_2 \\ x_1 + k \leq 100 \wedge x_2 + k > 100 : & x_1 \\ x_1 + x_2 + k > 100 \wedge x_1 + k \leq 100 \wedge x_2 + k \leq 100 \wedge x_2 > x_1 : & x_2 \\ x_1 + x_2 + k > 100 \wedge x_1 + k \leq 100 \wedge x_2 + k \leq 100 \wedge x_2 \leq x_1 : & x_1 \\ x_1 + x_2 + k \leq 100 : & x_1 + x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{cases}$$



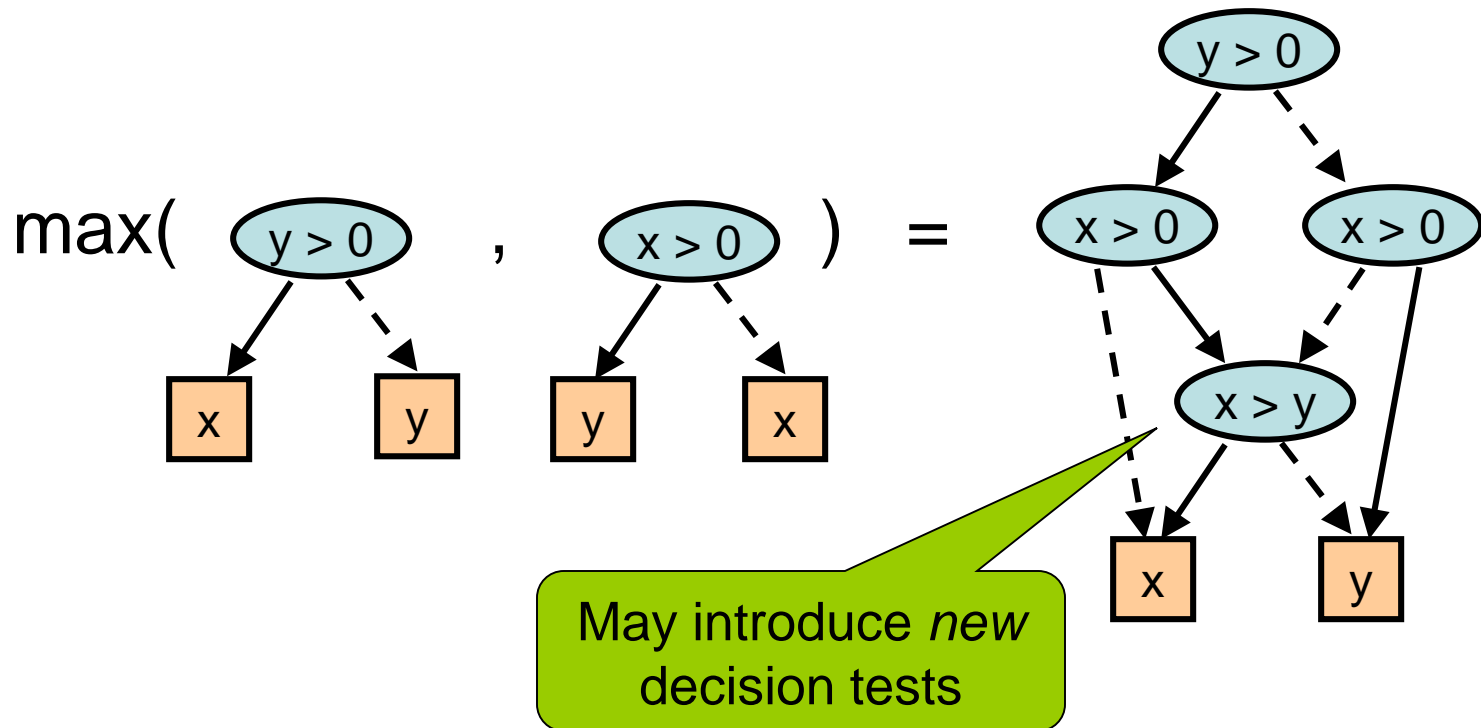


# Compactness of (X)ADDs

- XDD is linear in # of decisions  $\phi_i$
- Case version has exponential number of partitions!



# XADD Maximization



Operations exploit structure:  $O(|f||g|)$

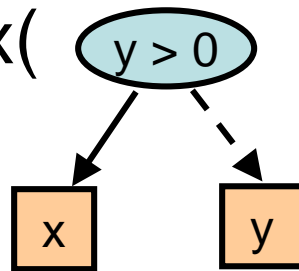
# Maintaining XADD Orderings

- Max may get decisions out of order

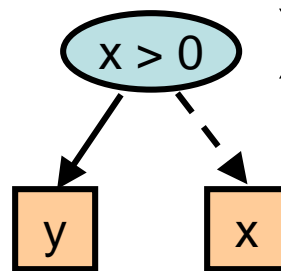
Decision  
ordering  
(root→leaf)

- ↓
- $x > y$
  - $y > 0$
  - $x > 0$

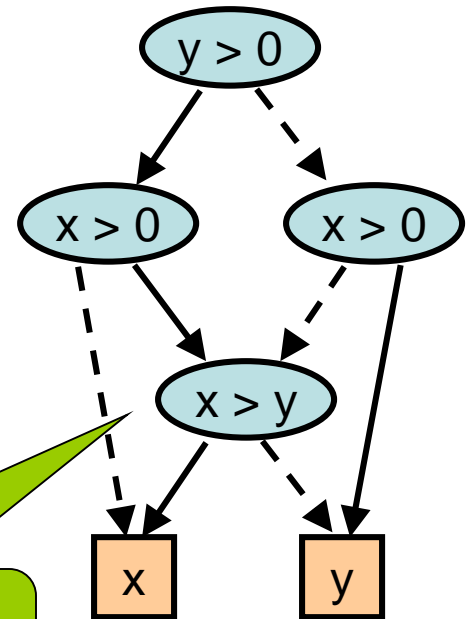
$\max($



,



$=$



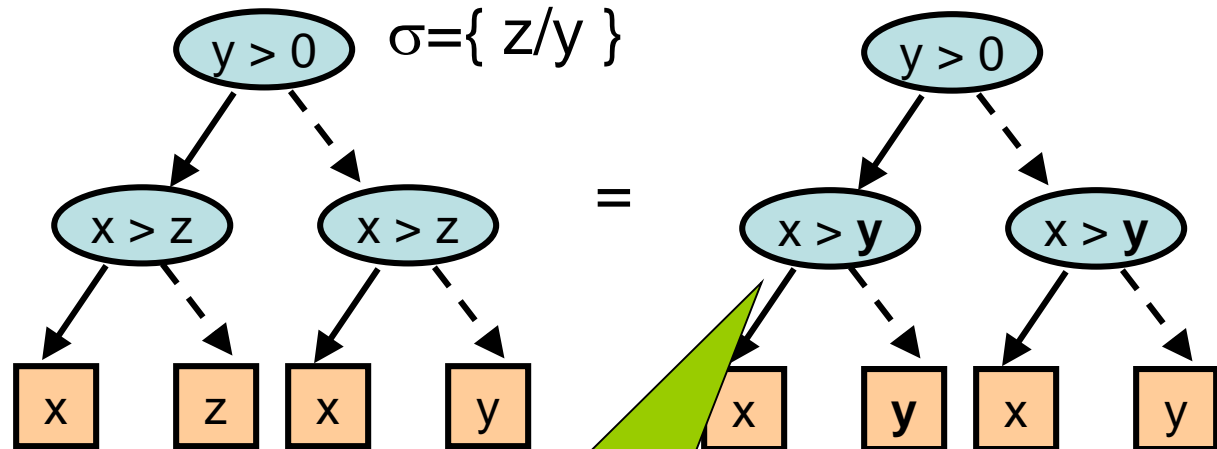
Newly introduced  
node is out of order!

# Maintaining XADD Orderings

- Substitution may get decisions out of order

Decision  
ordering  
(root→leaf):

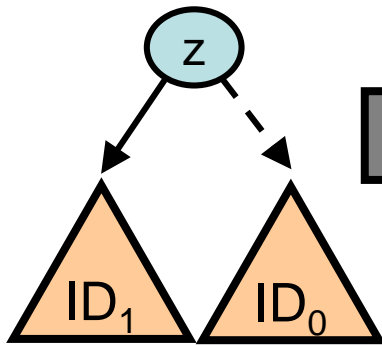
- ↓
- $x > y$
  - $y > 0$
  - $x > z$



# Correcting XADD Ordering

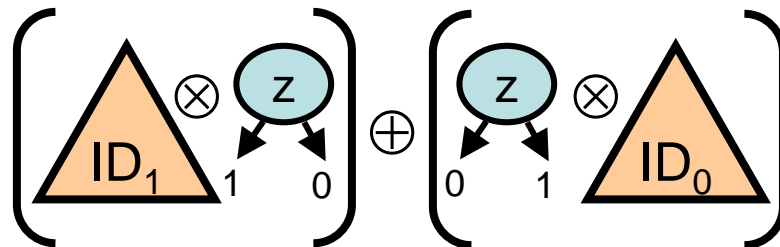
- Obtain *ordered* XADD from *unordered* XADD
  - key idea: binary operations maintain orderings

z is out of order



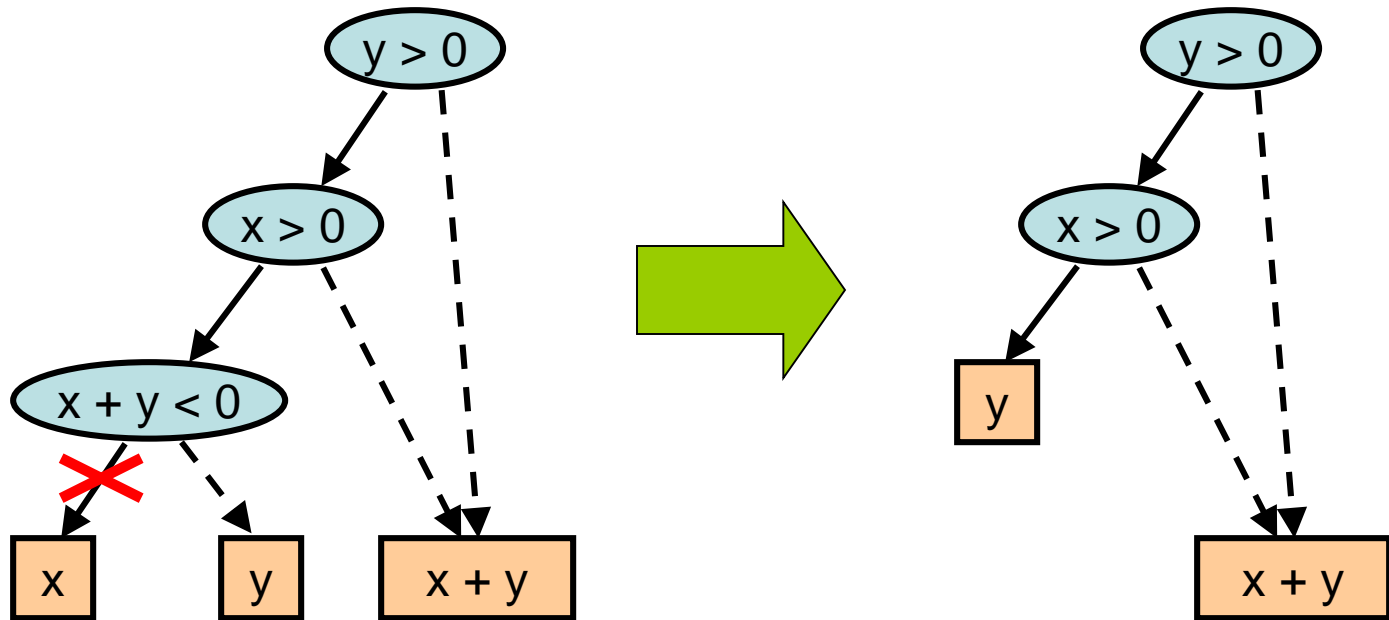
Inductively assume ID<sub>1</sub>  
and ID<sub>0</sub> are ordered.

result will have z in order!



All operands ordered, so  
applying  $\otimes$ ,  $\oplus$  produces  
ordered result!

# Maintaining Minimality



Node unreachable –  
 $x + y < 0$  always  
false if  $x > 0$  &  $y > 0$

If **linear**, can detect with  
feasibility checker of LP  
solver & prune

More subtle  
prunings as  
well.

XADD enables all  
previous inference!

**Solution is inherently  
piecewise, need a data  
structure to maintain  
compact form**

# Beyond Inference

Optimal Sequential  
Decision-making



# Integration with a $\delta$ : substitution

- Special case for integrals with  $\delta$ -functions

- $\int_x \delta[x - y] f(x) dx = f(y)$  triggers symbolic *substitution*

- More generally:  $\int_{x'_j} \delta[x'_j - g(\vec{x})] V' dx'_j = V' \{x'_j / g(\vec{x})\}$

- E.g.,

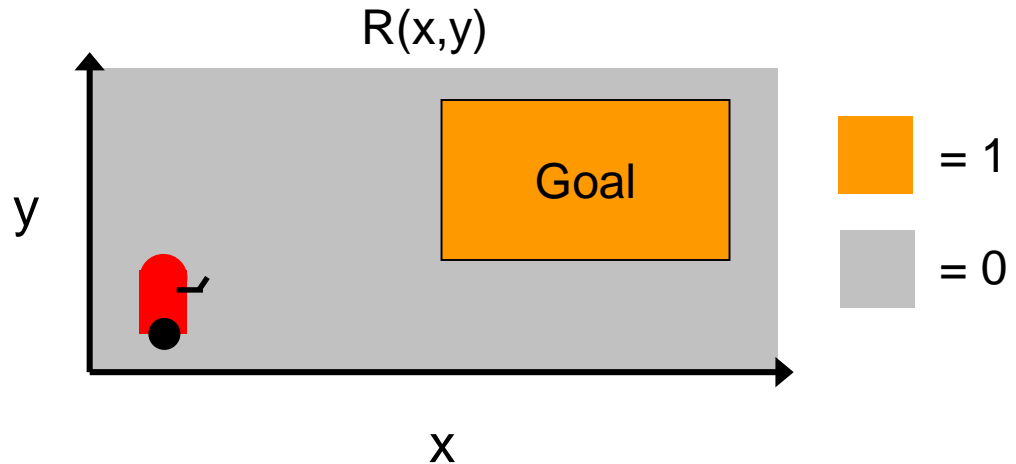
$$\int_{x'_1} \delta[x'_1 - (x_1^2 + 1)] \left( \begin{cases} \underline{x'_1} < 2 : & \underline{x'_1} \\ \underline{x'_1} \geq 2 : & \underline{x_1'^2} \end{cases} \right) dx'_1 = \begin{cases} \underline{x_1^2 + 1} < 2 : & \underline{x_1^2 + 1} \\ \underline{x_1^2 + 1} \geq 2 : & \underline{(x_1^2 + 1)^2} \end{cases}$$

- If  $g$  is case: need *conditional substitution*

- see Sanner, Delgado, Barros (UAI 2011)

# Continuous State MDPs

- 2-D Navigation
- State:  $(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$
- Actions:
  - move-x-2
    - $x' = x + 2$
    - $y' = y$
  - move-y-2
    - $x' = x$
    - $y' = y + 2$
- Reward:
  - $R(x,y) = \mathbb{I}[(x > 5) \wedge (x < 10) \wedge (y > 2) \wedge (y < 5)]$

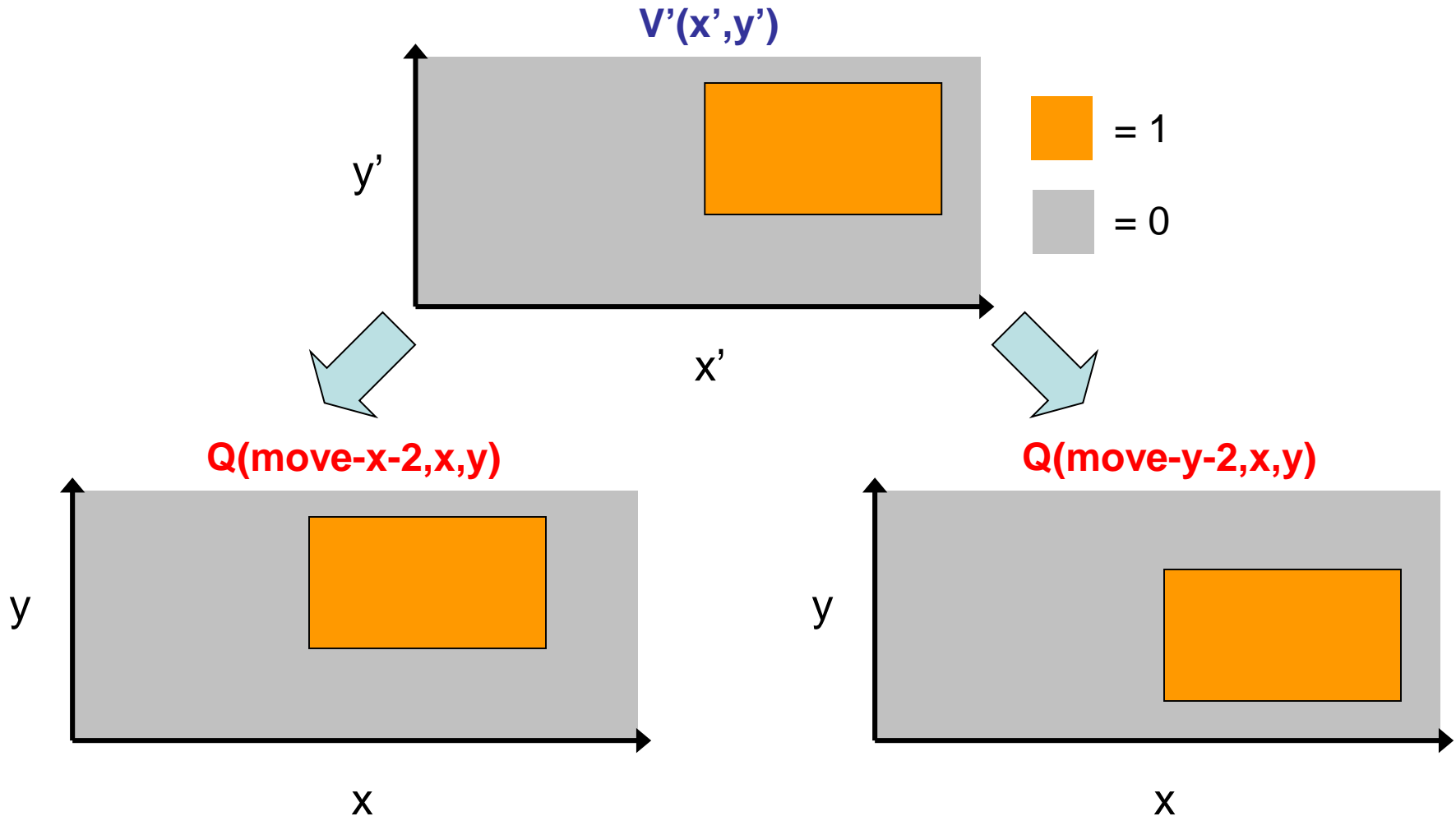


Feng *et al* (UAI-04) Assumptions:

1. Continuous transitions are deterministic and linear functions of **single variable**
2. Discrete transitions can be stochastic
3. Reward is piecewise rectilinear convex

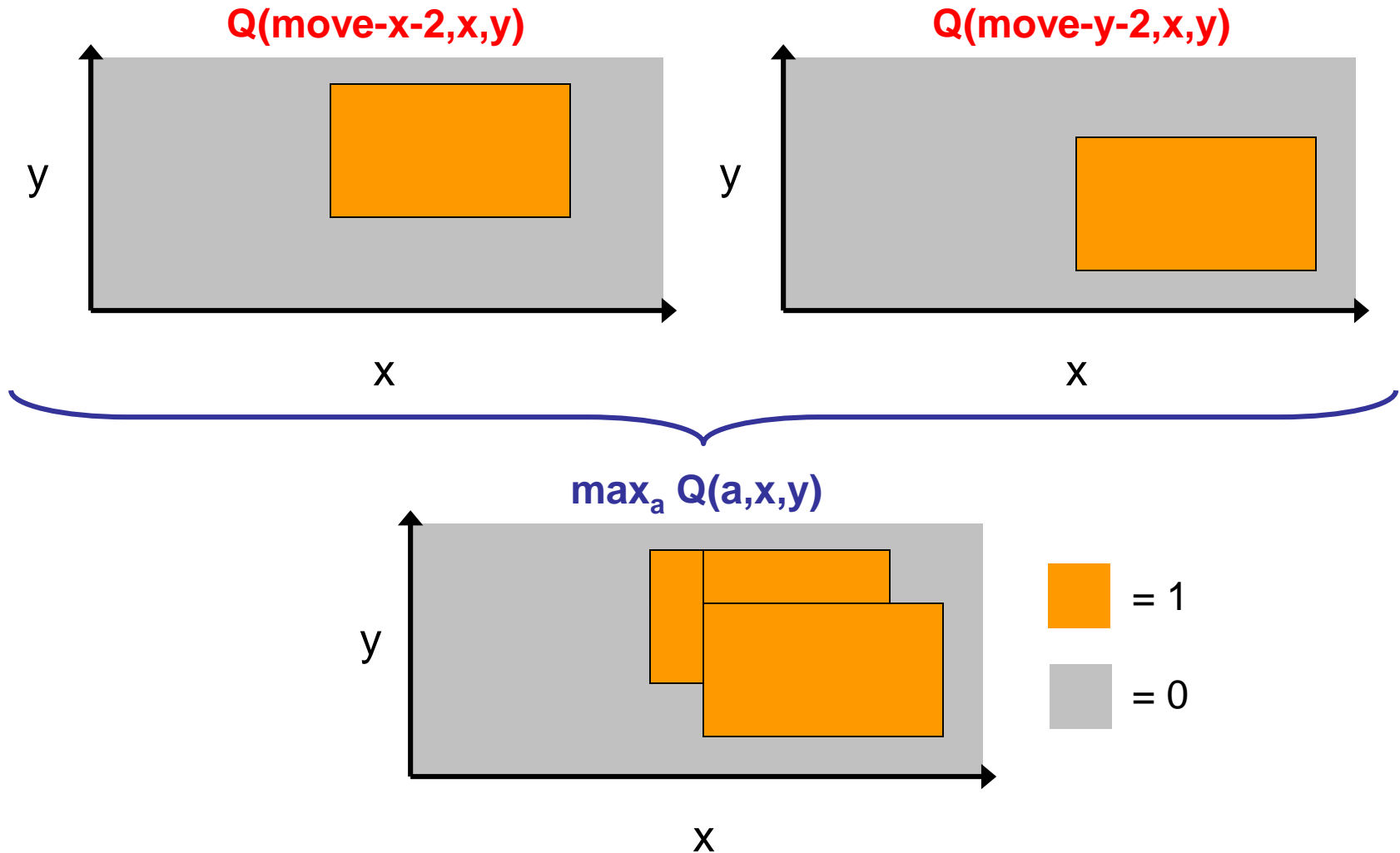
# Exact Solutions to DC-MDPs: Regression

- Continuous regression is just translation of “pieces”



# Exact Solutions to DC-MDPs: Maximization

- Q-value maximization yields piecewise rectilinear solution



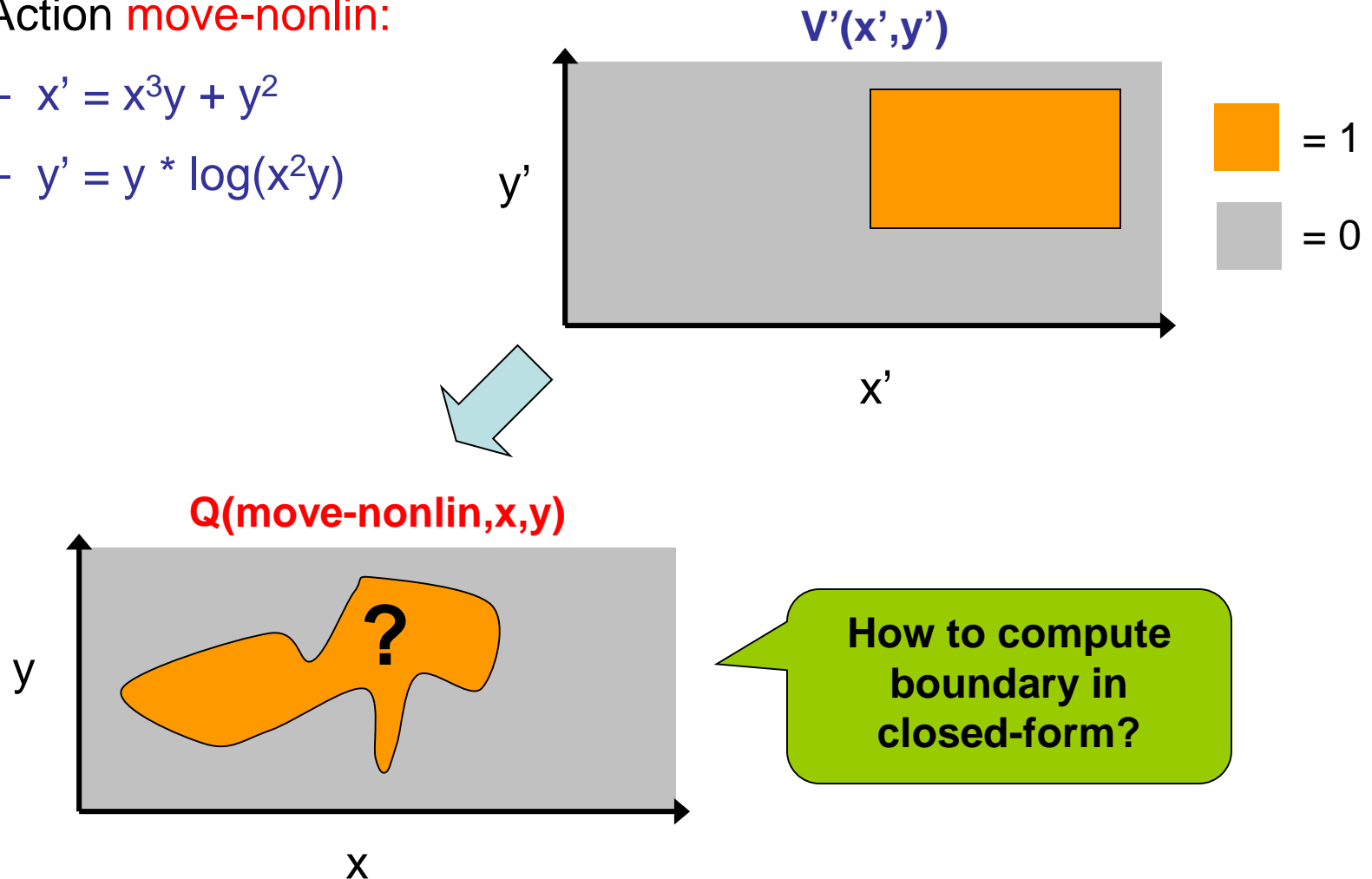
# Previous Work Limitations I

- Exact regression when transitions multivariate nonlinear?

Action **move-nonline**:

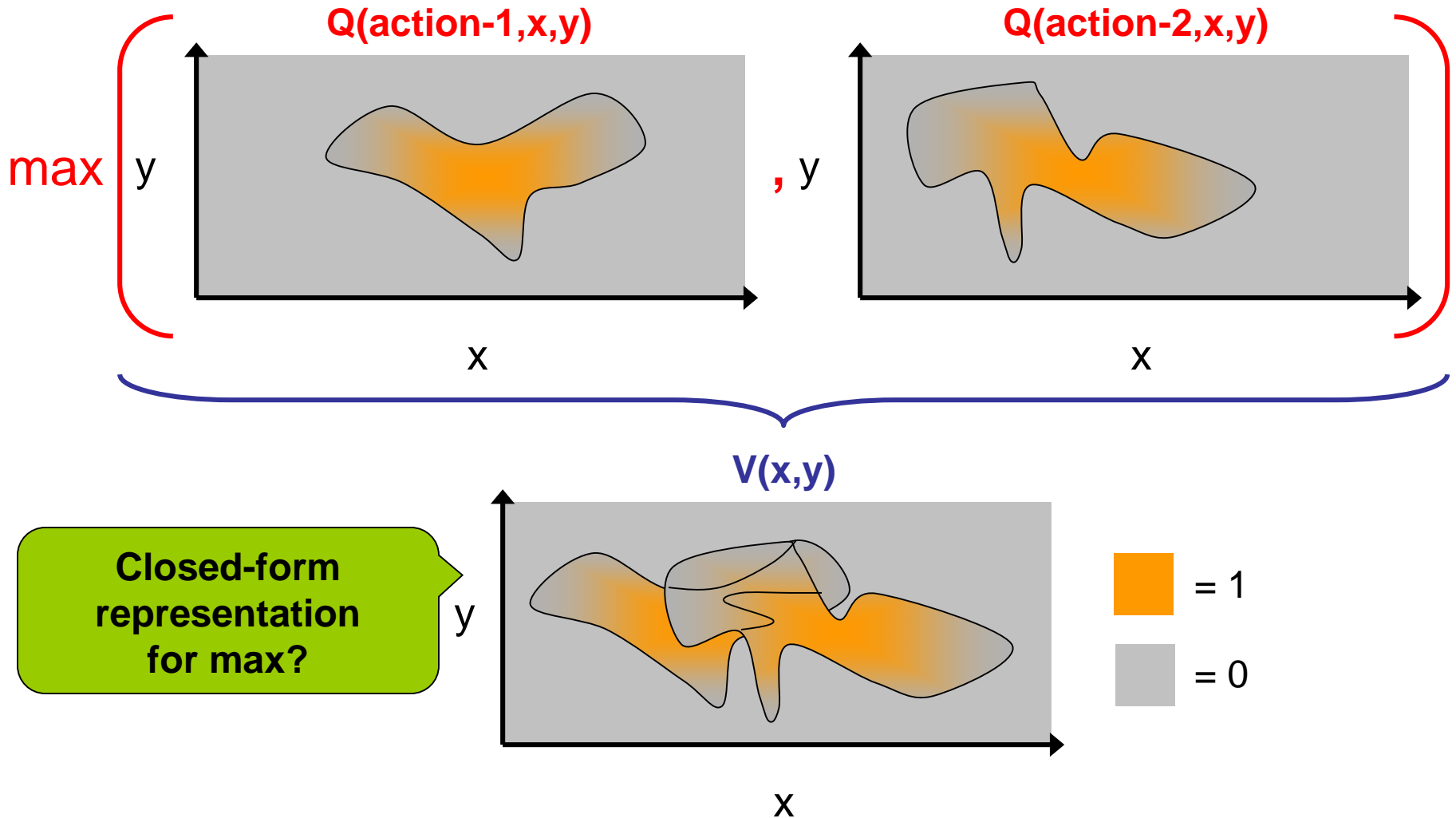
$$- x' = x^3y + y^2$$

$$- y' = y * \log(x^2y)$$



# Previous Work Limitations II

- $\max(\cdot, \cdot)$  when reward/value arbitrary piecewise?



A solution to previous limitations:

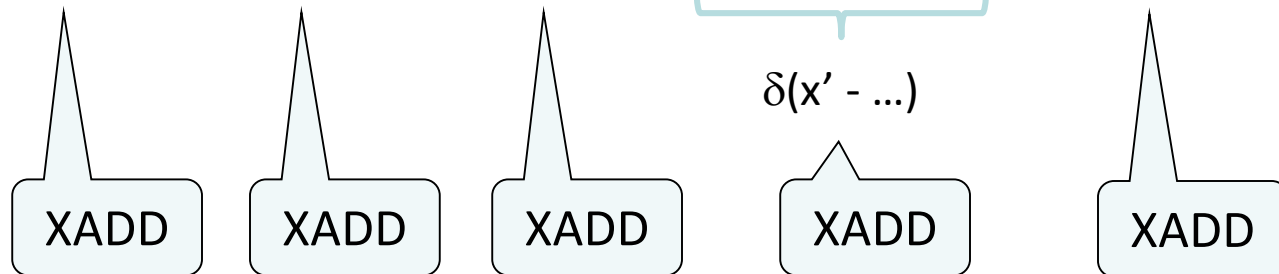
# Symbolic Dynamic Programming (SDP)

n.b., motivated by SDP from  
Boutilier *et al* (IJCAI-01) but here  
continuous instead of relational

# Using SDP, we can compute the MDP solution symbolically!

Compute the following in symbolic closed-form:

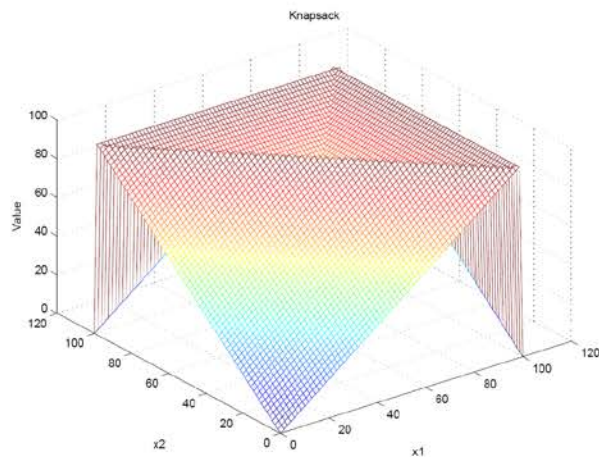
$$V^t(x) = R(x) \oplus \max_a \int_{x'} \underbrace{P(x'|x,a)}_{\delta(x' - \dots)} \otimes V^{t+1}(x')$$



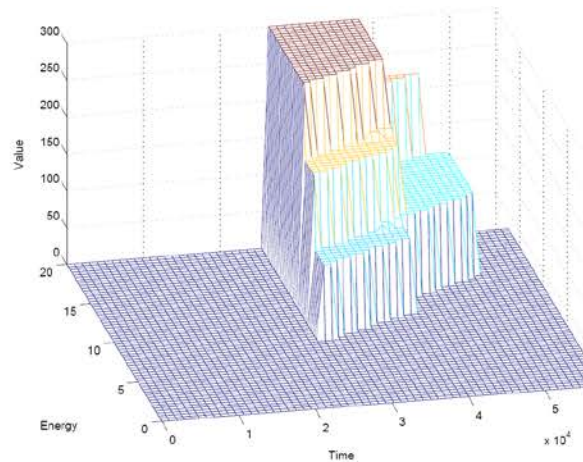


# That's SDP! 3D Value Function Gallery

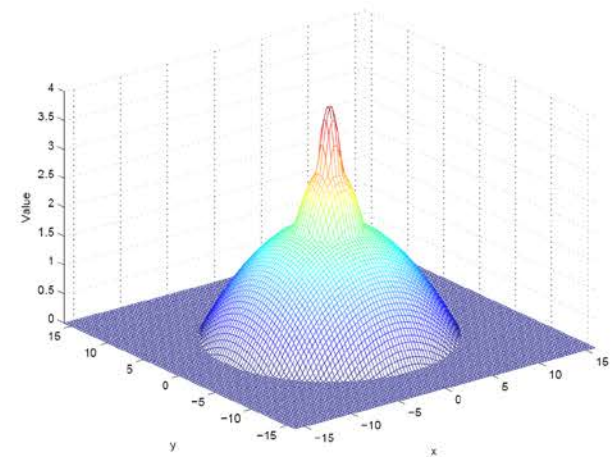
Knapsack



Mars Rover Linear



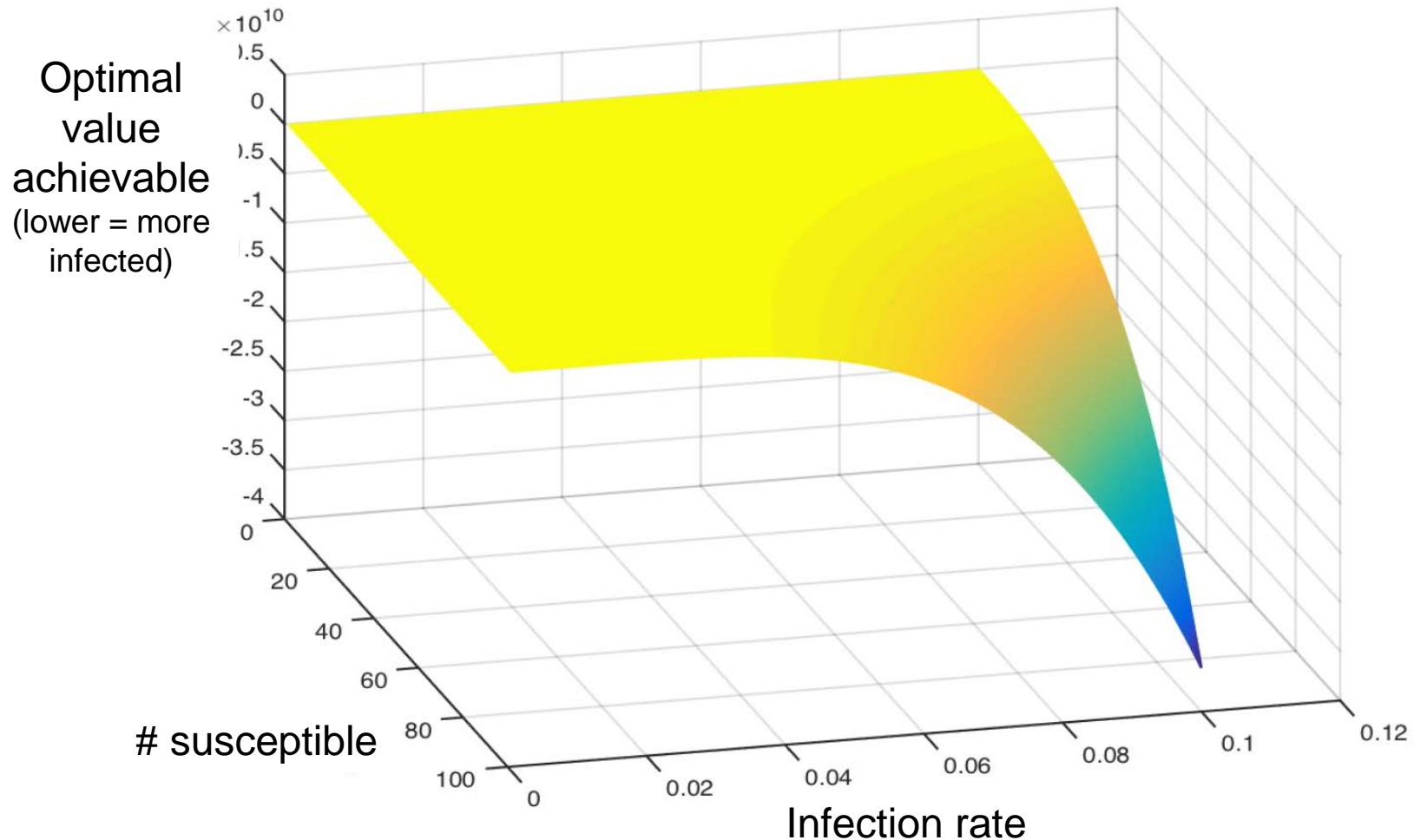
Mars Rover Nonlinear



Exact value functions for **discrete action** hybrid MDPs:

- Arbitrary reward, transitions –  $\cos(xy)$
- (non)linear piece boundaries and function surfaces!

# Example: Optimal Controllability of Epidemics in Nonlinear SIR Models



# Continuous Actions?

If we can solve this, can solve  
**multivariate inventory control** –  
closed-form policy unknown for  
50+ years!

# Continuous Actions

- Inventory control
  - Reorder based on stock, future demand
  - Action:  $a(\vec{\Delta}); \vec{\Delta} \in \mathbb{R}^{|a|}$



- Need  $\max_{\Delta}$  in Bellman backup

$$V_{h+1} = \max_{a \in A} \max_{\vec{\Delta}} Q_a^{h+1}(\vec{b}, \vec{x}, \vec{\Delta})$$

- How to do  $\max_{\Delta}$ ?
  - And track maximizing  $\Delta$  substitutions to recover  $\pi$ ?

# Symbolic MILP Solutions

- How to max out variable  $x$  from a case?

$$\max_{x \in (-\infty, \infty)} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \phi_1 : & f_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \phi_k : & f_k \end{array} \right. =$$

Actually defining a MILP.  
Maxing out all vars leads  
to solution!

$$= \max_{i=1..k}$$



$$\max_{x \in (-\infty, \infty)} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \phi_i : & f_i \\ \neg \phi_i : & -\infty \end{array} \right.$$

– Just max  $x$  in case partitions, then max results!

# Partition Max

## 1. Determine integration bounds

$$\max_{x \in (-\infty, \infty)} \{\phi_1 \cdot f_1\}$$

$$\phi_1 := [x > -1] \wedge [x > y - 1] \wedge [x \leq z] \wedge [x \leq y + 1] \wedge [y > 0]$$

$$f_1 := x - 2y$$

What constraints here?

- independent of x
- pairwise UB > LB

$$\{\phi_{cons} : \max_{x \in [LB, UB]} f_1\}$$

UB and LB are symbolic!

How to evaluate?

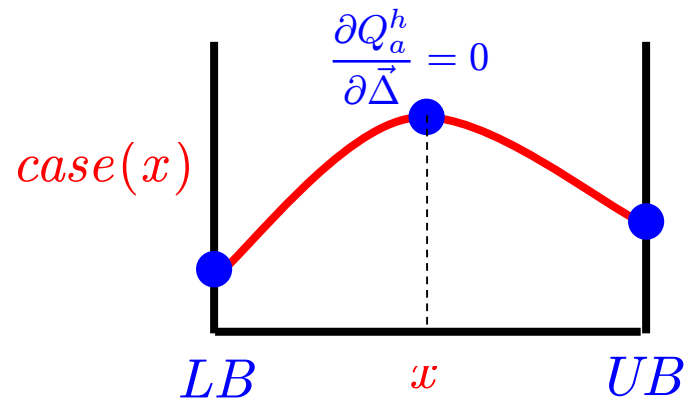
# Max-out Case Operation

- $\max_x \text{case}(x)$  reduced to a “casemax” of single partition  $\max_x$ ’s:

- In a *single* case partition ...*max* w.r.t. critical points

- LB, UB
- Derivative is zero (Der0)

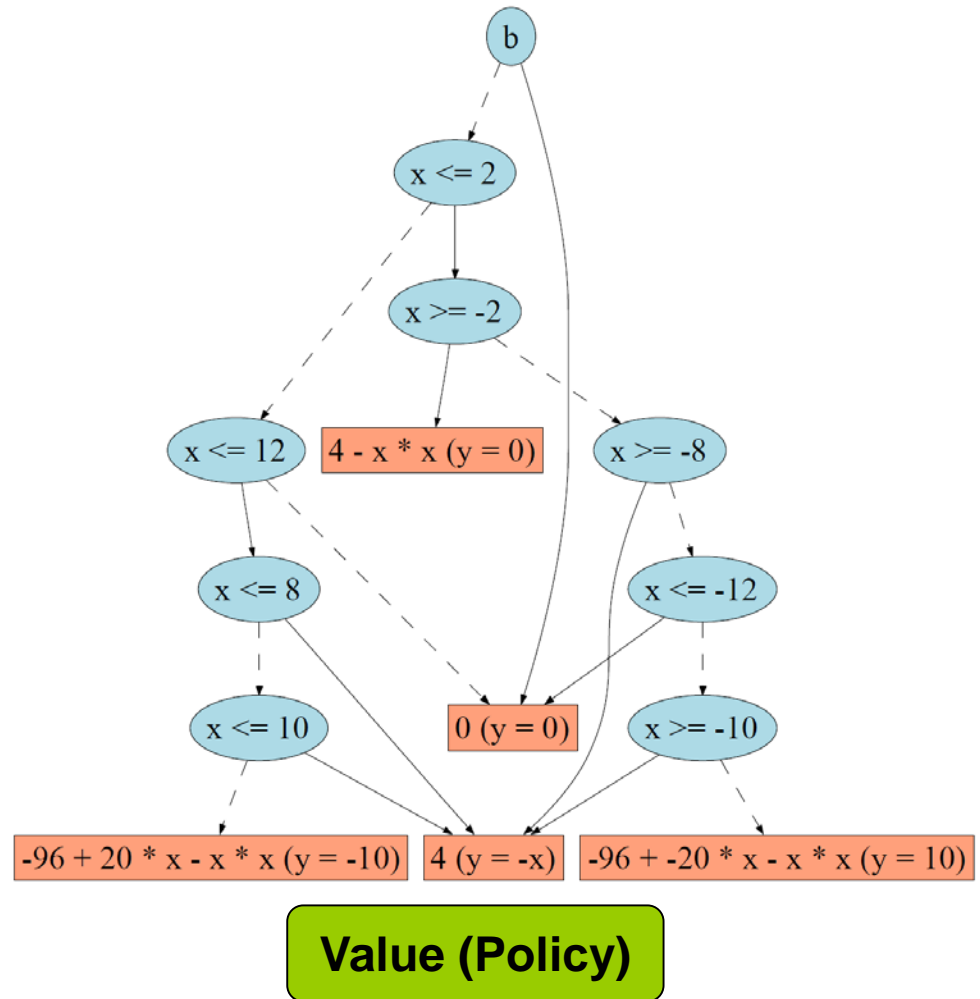
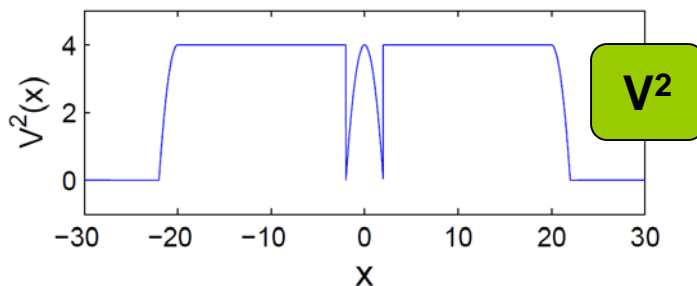
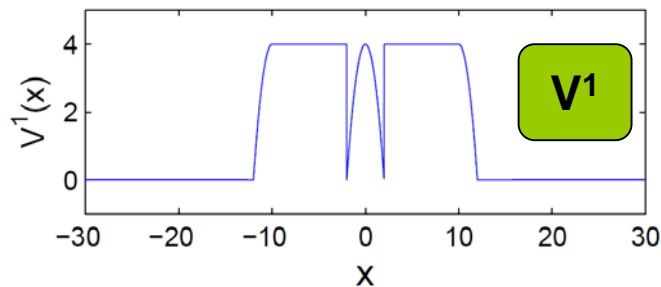
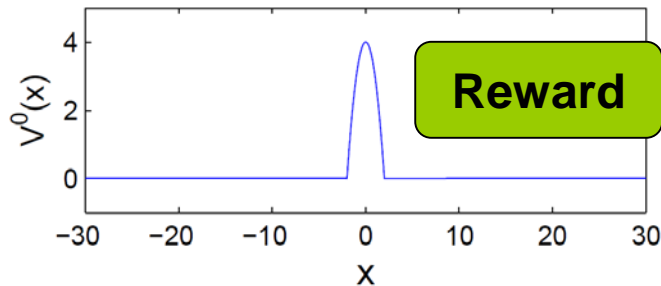
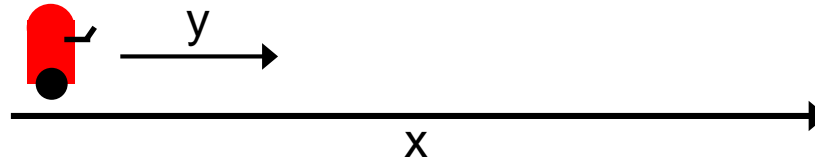
- $\max( \text{case}(x/\text{LB}), \text{case}(x/\text{UB}), \text{case}(x/\text{Der0}) )$



See AAI 2012  
for more details

- Can even track substitutions through max
  - Recovers function of maximizing assignments!

# Illustrative Value and Policy





# Continuous Actions, Nonlinear

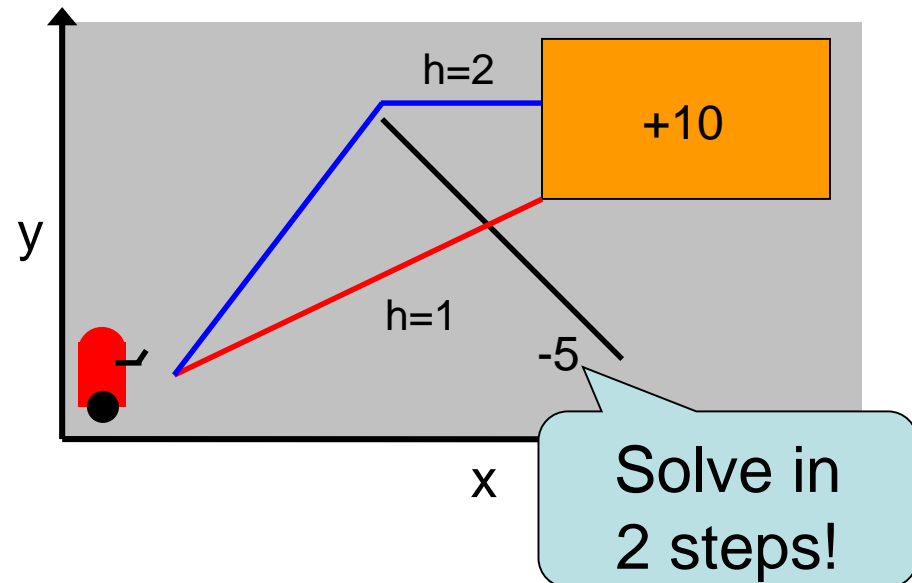
- **Robotics**

- Continuous position, joint angles
- Represent exactly with polynomials
  - Radius constraints



- **Obstacle Navigation**

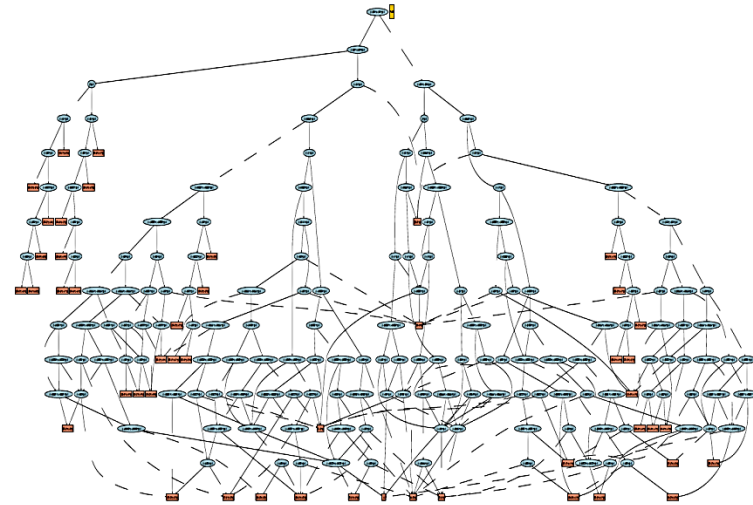
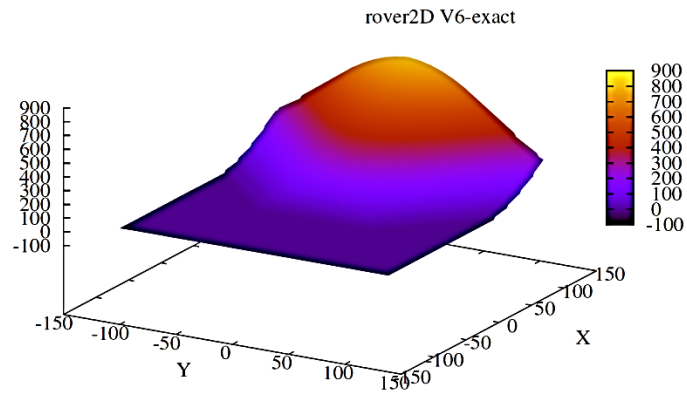
- 2D, 3D, 4D (time)
- Don't discretize!
  - Grid worlds
- But nonlinear ☹️



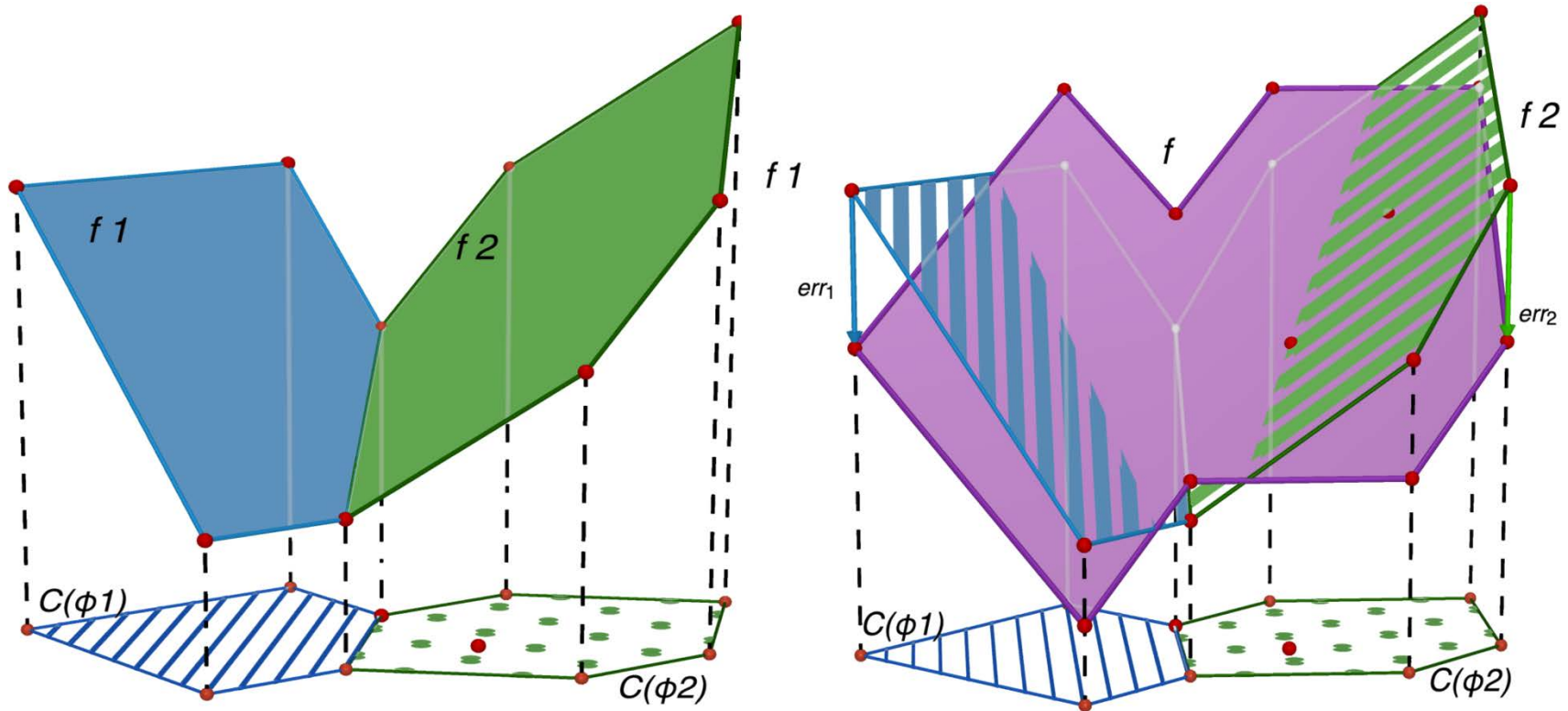
**Multilinear, quadratic extensions.**  
**In general: algebraic geometry.**

Need bounded / targeted  
approximations to scale...

# Bounded Error Compression



# Linear XADD Leaf Merging



Best  $f^*$

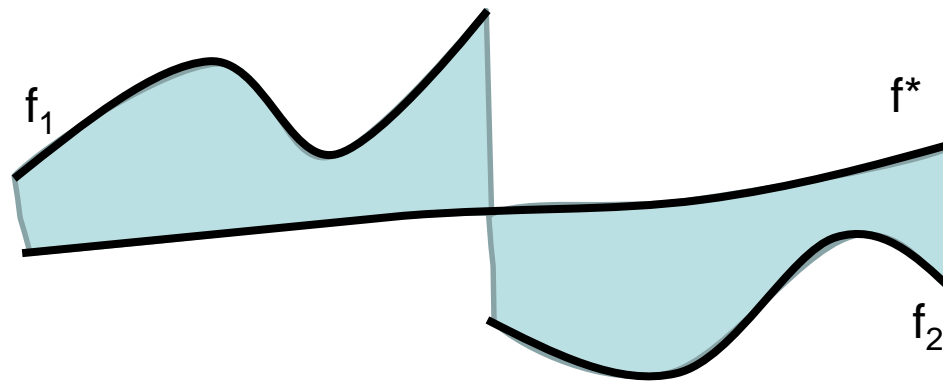
$\min_{\vec{c}^*}$

$$\max_{i \in \{1, 2\}} \max_{\vec{x} \in S_{\phi_i}} \left| \underbrace{\vec{c}_i^T \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{f_i} - \underbrace{\vec{c}^{*T} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{x} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{f^*} \right|$$

Max error

# Nonlinear XADD Approximation?

- 1D Example



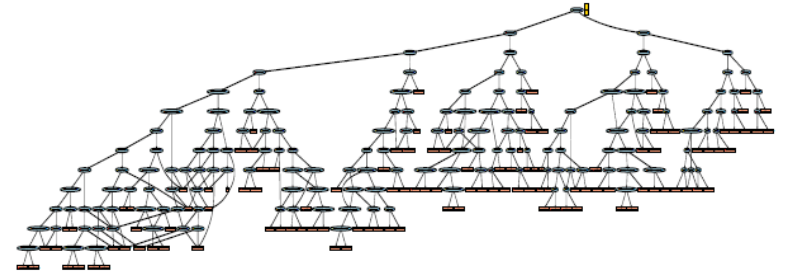
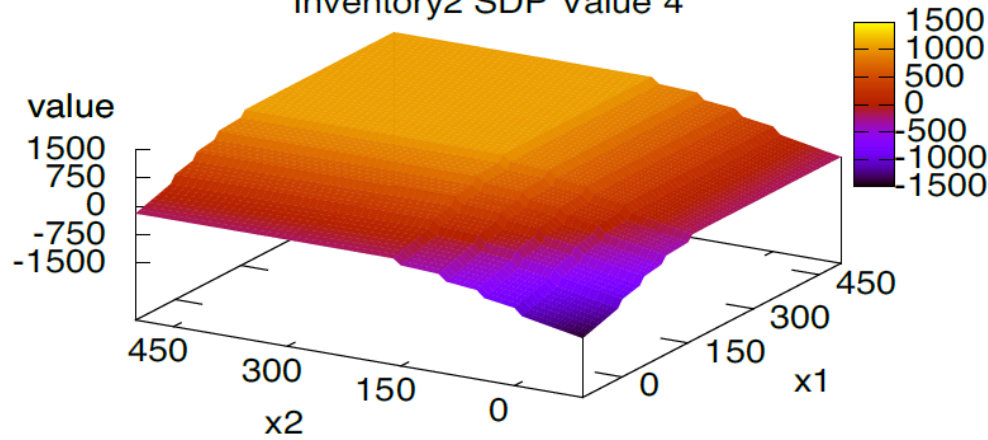
- Questions

- What approximating class?
- What error function?
  - Max not feasible
  - Volume of squared error? Integral is exact.

But many caveats vs. linear case

# Real-time Symbolic Dynamic Programming

Inventory2 SDP Value 4



# Sequential Control Summary

- Continuous state, action, observation (PO)MDPs
  - Discrete action, nonlinear MDPs UAI-11
  - Continuous action MDPs (incl. exact policy) AAI-12b
  - Continuous observation POMDPs NIPS-12
  - Chance-constrained solutions with continuous noise IJCAI-13
  - XADD Compression UAI-13
  - Game-theoretic / adversarial setting UAI-14
  - RTDP: scaling nonlinear and continuous action solutions AAI-15
  - First optimal solutions to market-making with inventory IJCAI-16
  - Analytic Policy Gradient, Sensitivity Analysis, Inverse Learning ICAPS-17

# More Applications

## Constrained Optimization



# $\max_x \text{ case}(x)$ = Constrained Optimization!

- Conditional constraints
  - E.g., if  $(x > y)$  then  $(y < z)$
  - MILP, MIQP equivalent
- Factored / sparse constraints
  - Constraints may be sparse!  
 $x_1 > x_2, \quad x_2 > x_3, \quad \dots, \quad x_{n-1} > x_n$
  - Dynamic programming for continuous optimization!
- Parameterized optimization
  - $f(y) = \max_x f(x, y)$
  - Maximum value, substitution as a **function of  $y$**

**Symbolic Bucket  
Elimination, Student  
Paper Award, CPAIOR-18**

# Recap

- Defined a calculus for piecewise functions
  - $f_1 \oplus f_2, f_1 \otimes f_2$
  - $\max(f_1, f_2), \min(f_1, f_2)$
  - $\int_x f(x)$
  - $\max_x f(x), \min_x f(x)$
- Defined XADD to efficiently compute with cases
- Makes possible
  - Exact inference in continuous graphical models
  - First exact solutions to planning, control, and OR problems
  - New paradigms for optimization

Symbolic Piecewise  
Calculus + XADD  
= Expressive Hybrid  
Inference, Optimization,  
& Control

Thank you!

Questions?