



# Automated Verification Techniques for Probabilistic Systems

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EU-FP7: CONNECT



LSCITS/PSS



VERIWARE





# Part 4

Compositional  
probabilistic verification

# Overview

- Lectures 1 and 2:
  - 1 – Introduction
  - 2 – Discrete-time Markov chains
  - 3 – Markov decision processes
  - 4 – Compositional probabilistic verification
- PRISM lab session (4.30pm)
  - PC lab downstairs – or install PRISM on your own laptop
- Course materials available here:
  - <http://www.prismmodelchecker.org/courses/sfm11connect/>
  - lecture slides, reference list, tutorial chapter, lab session

# Overview (Part 4)

- **Compositional verification**
  - assume-guarantee reasoning
- **Markov decision processes**
  - probabilistic safety properties
  - multi-objective model checking
- **Probabilistic assume guarantee**
  - semantics, model checking
  - assume-guarantee proof rules
  - quantitative approaches
  - implementation & experimental results
  - assumption generation with learning

# Compositional verification

- Goal: scalability through modular verification
  - e.g. decide if  $M_1 || M_2 \models G$
  - by analysing  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  separately
- Assume–guarantee (AG) reasoning
  - use assumption  $A$  about the context of a component  $M_2$
  - $\langle A \rangle M_2 \langle G \rangle$  – “whenever  $M_2$  is part of a system satisfying  $A$ , then the system must also guarantee  $G$ ”
  - example of asymmetric (non–circular) A/G rule:

$$\frac{M_1 \models A \quad \langle A \rangle M_2 \langle G \rangle}{M_1 || M_2 \models G}$$

[Pasareanu/Giannakopoulou/et al.]

# AG rules for probabilistic systems

- How to formulate AG rules for MDPs?

$$\frac{M_1 \models A \quad \langle A \rangle M_2 \langle G \rangle}{M_1 \parallel M_2 \models G}$$

- Key questions:
  - 1. What form do assumptions **A** take?
    - needs to be compositional
    - needs to be efficient to check
    - needs to allow compact assumptions
  - 2. How do we generate suitable assumptions?
    - preferably in a fully automated fashion
  - 3. Can we get “quantitative” results?
    - i.e. numerical values, rather than “yes”/”no”

# AG rules for probabilistic systems

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- Key questions:

– 1. What form do assumptions **A** take?

- needs to be compositional
- needs to be efficient to check
- needs to allow compact assumptions

▷ various compositional relations exist

- e.g. strong/weak (probabilistic) (bi)simulation
- but these are either too fine (difficult to get small assumptions) or expensive to check

▷ here, we use: **probabilistic safety properties** [TACAS'10]

- less expressive, but compact and efficient
- (see also generalisation to liveness/rewards [TACAS'11])

# AG rules for probabilistic systems

- How to formulate AG rules for MDPs?

$$\frac{M_1 \models A \quad \langle A \rangle M_2 \langle G \rangle}{M_1 \parallel M_2 \models G}$$

- Key questions:
  - 2. How do we generate suitable assumptions?
    - preferably in a fully automated fashion
    - ▷ algorithmic learning (based on L\* algorithm)  
adapt techniques for (non-probabilistic) assumptions
  - 3. Can we get “quantitative” results?
    - i.e. numerical values, rather than “yes”/”no”
    - ▷ yes: generate lower/upper bounds on probabilities

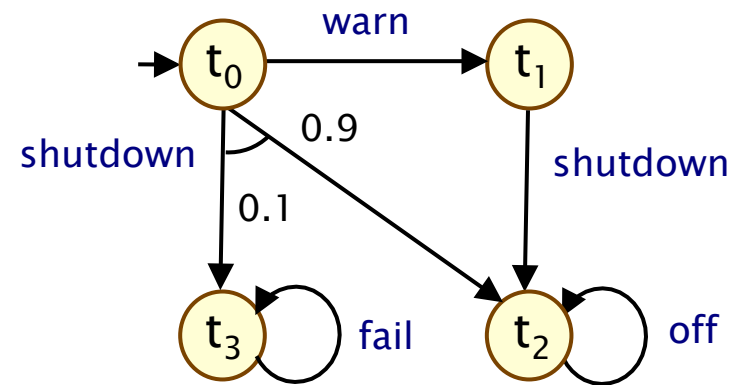


# Overview (Part 4)

- Compositional verification
  - assume-guarantee reasoning
- **Markov decision processes**
  - probabilistic safety properties
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- Probabilistic assume guarantee
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  - assume-guarantee proof rules
  - quantitative approaches
  - implementation & experimental results
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# Recap: Markov decision processes

- Markov decision processes (MDPs)
  - model probabilistic and nondeterministic behaviour
- An MDP is a tuple  $M = (S, s_{\text{init}}, \alpha_M, \delta_M, L)$ :
  - $S$  is the state space
  - $s_{\text{init}} \in S$  is the initial state
  - $\alpha_M$  is the action alphabet
  - $\delta_M \subseteq S \times (\alpha_M \cup \tau) \times \text{Dist}(S)$  is the transition probability relation
  - $L : S \rightarrow 2^{\text{AP}}$  labels states with atomic propositions
- Notes:
  - $\alpha_M, \delta_M$  have subscripts to avoid confusion with other automata
  - transitions can also be labelled with a “silent”  $\tau$  action
  - we write  $s \xrightarrow{a} \mu$  as shorthand for  $(s, a, \mu) \in \delta_M$
  - MDPs, here, are identical to probabilistic automata [Segala]



# Recap: Model checking for MDPs

- An **adversary**  $\sigma$  resolves the nondeterminism in an MDP  $M$ 
  - make a (possibly randomised) choice, based on history
  - induces probability measure  $\Pr_M^\sigma$  over (infinite) paths  $\text{Path}_M^\sigma$
  - can compute probability of some measurable property  $\phi$ 
    - e.g.  $F \text{ err} \equiv \diamond \text{err}$  – “an error eventually occurs”
    - or automata over action labels (see later)
- **Property specifications: quantify over all adversaries**
  - e.g. PCTL:  $M \models P_{\geq p}[\phi] \Leftrightarrow \Pr_M^\sigma(\phi) \geq p$  for all adv.s  $\sigma \in \text{Adv}_M$
  - corresponds to best-/worst-case behaviour analysis
  - requires computation of  $\Pr_M^{\min}(\phi)$  or  $\Pr_M^{\max}(\phi)$
  - or in a more quantitative fashion:
    - just ask e.g.  $P_{\min=?}(\phi)$  or  $P_{\max=?}(\phi)$
    - also extends to (min/max) expected costs & rewards

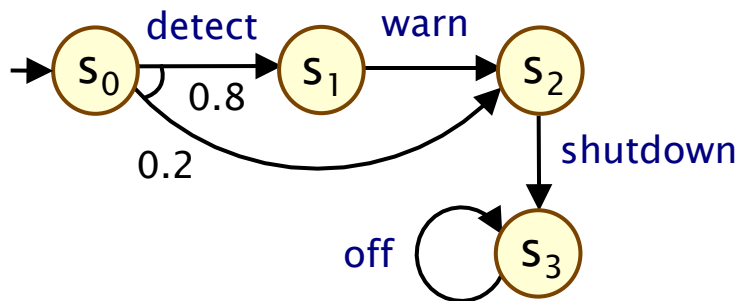
# Parallel composition for MDPs

- The parallel composition of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  is denoted  $M_1 \parallel M_2$ 
  - CSP style: synchronise over all common (non- $\tau$ ) actions
  - when synchronising, transition probabilities are multiplied
- Formally, if  $M_i = (S_i, s_{\text{init},i}, \alpha_{M_i}, \delta_{M_i}, L_i)$  for  $i=1,2$ , then:
- $M_1 \parallel M_2 = (S_1 \times S_2, (s_{\text{init},1}, s_{\text{init},2}), \alpha_{M_1} \cup \alpha_{M_2}, \delta_{M_1 \parallel M_2}, L_{12})$  where:
  - $L_{12}(s_1, s_2) = L_1(s_1) \cup L_2(s_2)$
  - $\delta_{M_1 \parallel M_2}$  is defined such that  $(s_1, s_2) \xrightarrow{a} \mu_1 \times \mu_2$  iff one of:
    - $s_1 \xrightarrow{a} \mu_1, s_2 \xrightarrow{a} \mu_2$  and  $a \in \alpha_{M_1} \cap \alpha_{M_2}$  (synchronous)
    - $s_1 \xrightarrow{a} \mu_1, \mu_2 = \eta_{s_2}$  and  $a \in (\alpha_{M_1} \setminus \alpha_{M_2}) \cup \{\tau\}$  (asynchronous)
    - $s_2 \xrightarrow{a} \mu_2, \mu_1 = \eta_{s_1}$  and  $a \in (\alpha_{M_2} \setminus \alpha_{M_1}) \cup \{\tau\}$  (asynchronous)
  - where  $\mu_1 \times \mu_2$  denotes the product of distributions  $\mu_1, \mu_2$
  - and  $\eta_s \in \text{Dist}(S)$  is the Dirac (point) distribution on  $s \in S$

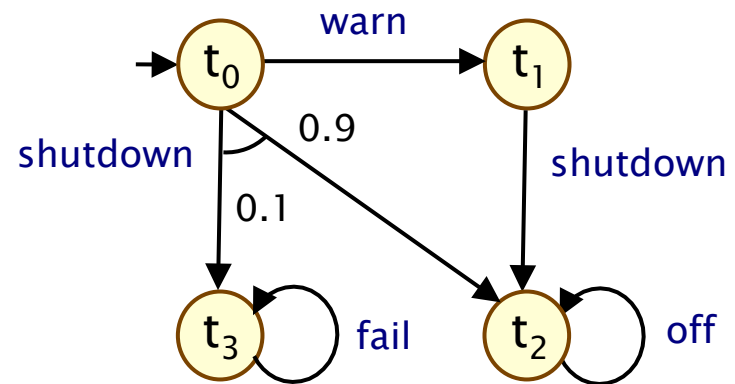
# Running example

- Two components, each a Markov decision process:
  - $M_1$ : controller which shuts down devices (after warning first)
  - $M_2$ : device to be shut down (may fail if no warning sent)

MDP  $M_1$  (“controller”)

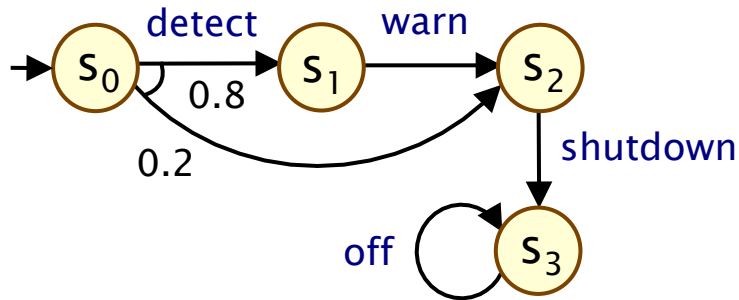


MDP  $M_2$  (“device”)

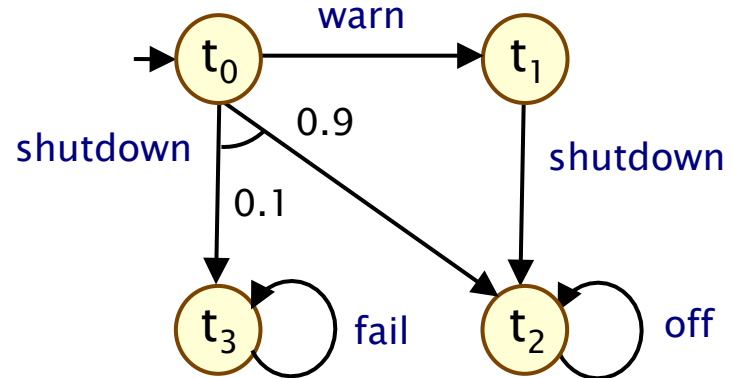


# Running example

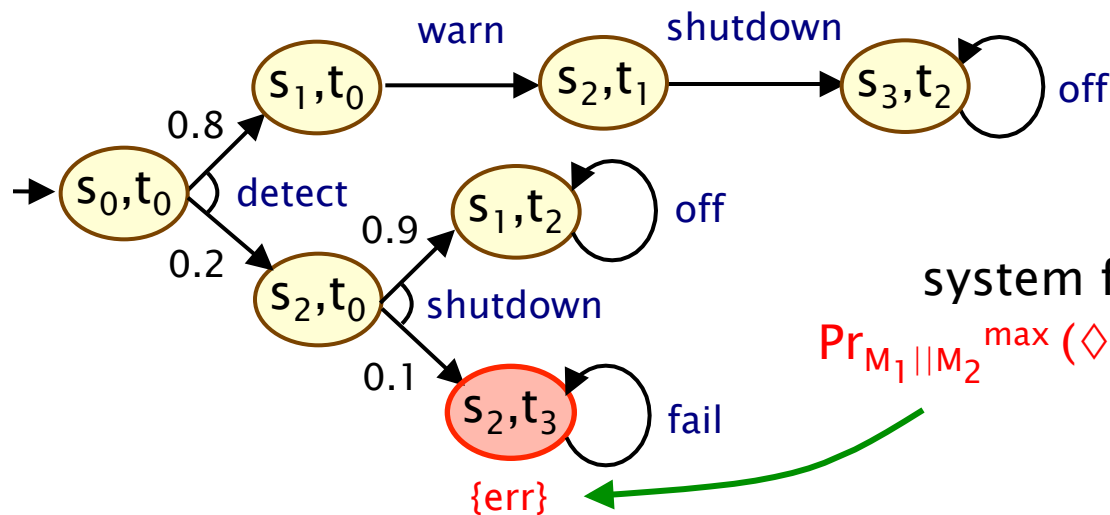
MDP  $M_1$  ("controller")



MDP  $M_2$  ("device")



Parallel composition:  $M_1 \parallel M_2$

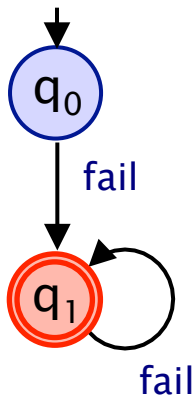


system failure:

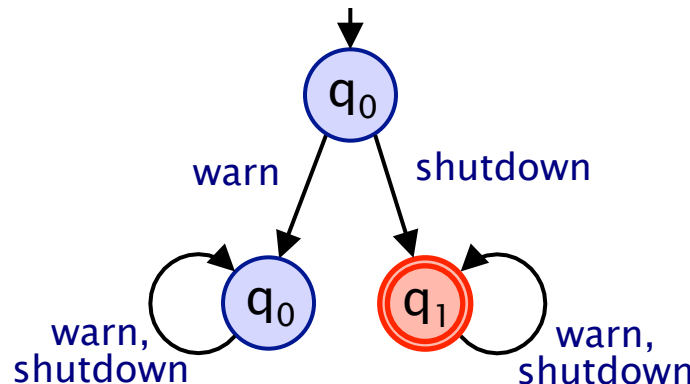
$$\Pr_{M_1 \parallel M_2}^{\max} (\diamond \text{err}) = 0.02$$

# Safety properties

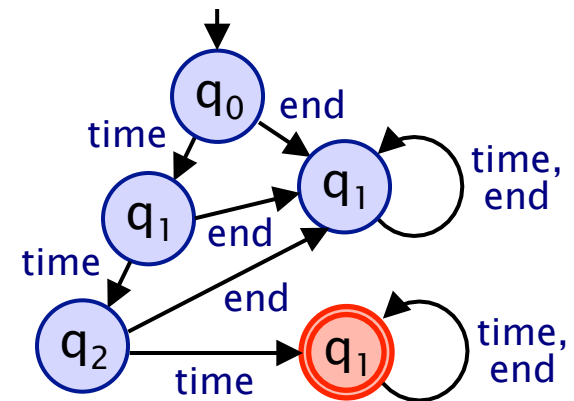
- Safety property: language of infinite words (over actions)
  - characterised by a set of “bad prefixes” (or “finite violations”)
  - i.e. finite words of which any extension violates the property
- Regular safety property
  - bad prefixes are represented by a regular language
  - property  $A$  stored as deterministic finite automaton (DFA)  $A_{err}$



“a fail action never occurs”



“warn occurs before shutdown”



“at most 2 time steps pass before termination”

# Probabilistic safety properties

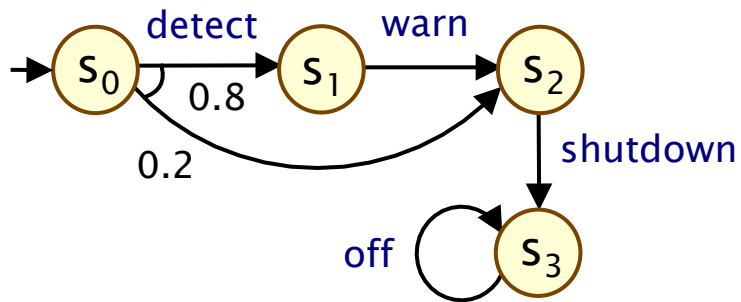
- A probabilistic safety property  $P_{\geq p}[A]$  comprises
  - a regular safety property  $A$  + a rational probability bound  $p$
  - “the probability of satisfying  $A$  must be at least  $p$ ”
  - $M \models P_{\geq p}[A] \Leftrightarrow \Pr_M^\sigma(A) \geq p$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{Adv}_M \Leftrightarrow \Pr_M^{\min}(A) \geq p$
- Examples:
  - “*warn* occurs before *shutdown* with probability at least 0.8”
  - “the probability of a failure occurring is at most 0.02”
  - “probability of terminating within  $k$  time-steps is at least 0.75”
- Model checking:  $\Pr_M^{\min}(A) = 1 - \Pr_{M \otimes A_{\text{err}}}^{\max}(\diamond \text{err}_A)$ 
  - where  $\text{err}_A$  denotes “accept” states for DFA  $A$
  - i.e. construct (synchronous) MDP-DFA product  $M \otimes A_{\text{err}}$
  - then compute reachability probabilities on product MDP



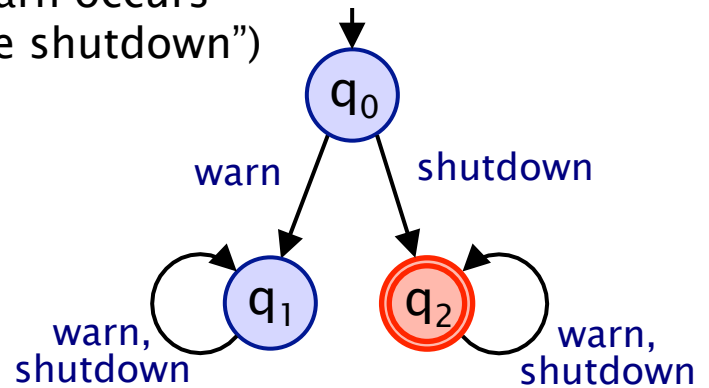
# Running example

- Does probabilistic safety property  $P_{\geq 0.8} [A]$  hold in  $M_1$ ?

MDP  $M_1$  (“controller”)



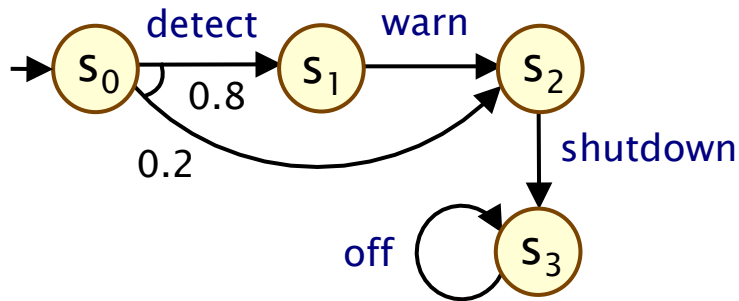
$A$  (“warn occurs before shutdown”)



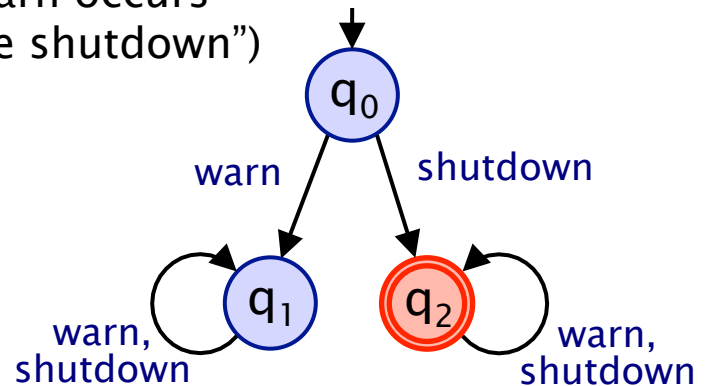
# Running example

- Does probabilistic safety property  $P_{\geq 0.8} [A]$  hold in  $M_1$ ?

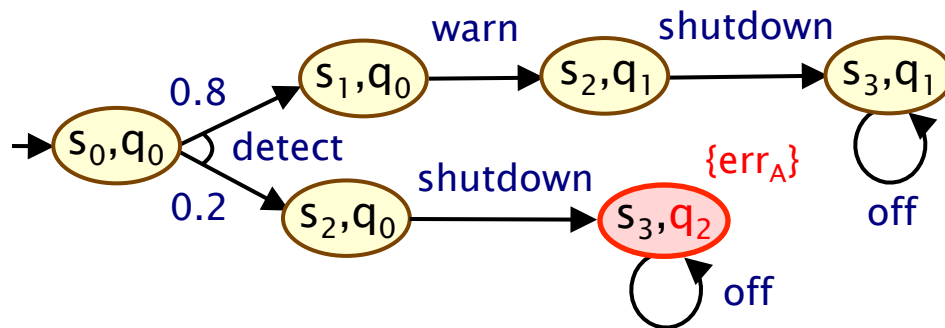
MDP  $M_1$  (“controller”)



$A$  (“warn occurs before shutdown”)



Product MDP  $M_1 \otimes A_{err}$



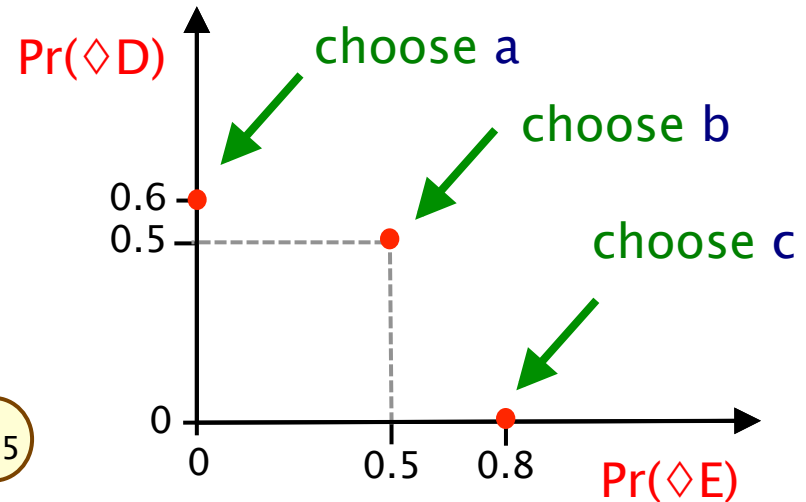
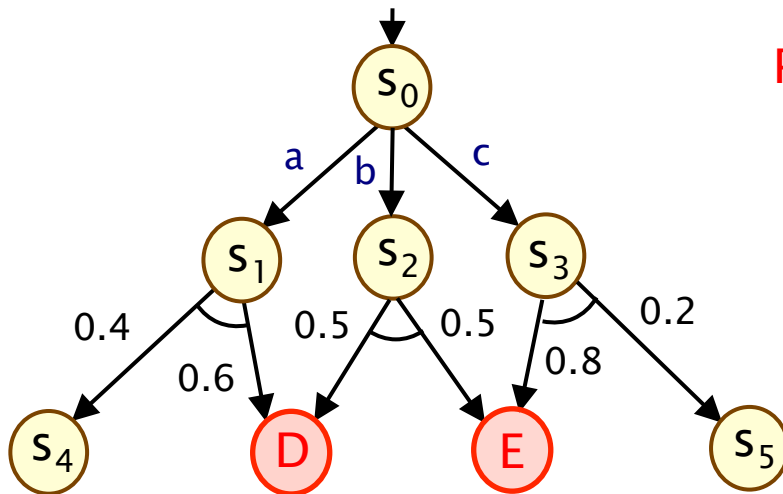
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \Pr_{M_1}^{\min}(A) \\
 &= 1 - \Pr_{M_1 \otimes A_{err}}^{\max}(\diamond err_A) \\
 &= 1 - 0.2 \\
 &= 0.8 \\
 &\rightarrow M_1 \models P_{\geq 0.8} [A]
 \end{aligned}$$

# Multi-objective MDP model checking

- Consider multiple (linear-time) objectives for an MDP  $M$ 
  - LTL formulae  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_k$  and probability bounds  $\sim_1 p_1, \dots, \sim_k p_k$
  - question: does there exist an adversary  $\sigma \in \text{Adv}_M$  such that:  
$$\Pr_M^\sigma(\phi_1) \sim_1 p_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \Pr_M^\sigma(\phi_k) \sim_k p_k$$
- Motivating example:
  - $\Pr_M^\sigma(\Box(\text{queue\_size} < 10)) > 0.99 \wedge \Pr_M^\sigma(\Diamond \text{flat\_battery}) < 0.01$
- Multi-objective MDP model checking [EKVY07]
  - construct product of automata for  $M, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_k$
  - then solve linear programming (LP) problem
  - the resulting adversary  $\sigma$  can be obtained from LP solution
  - note:  $\sigma$  may be randomised (unlike the single objective case)

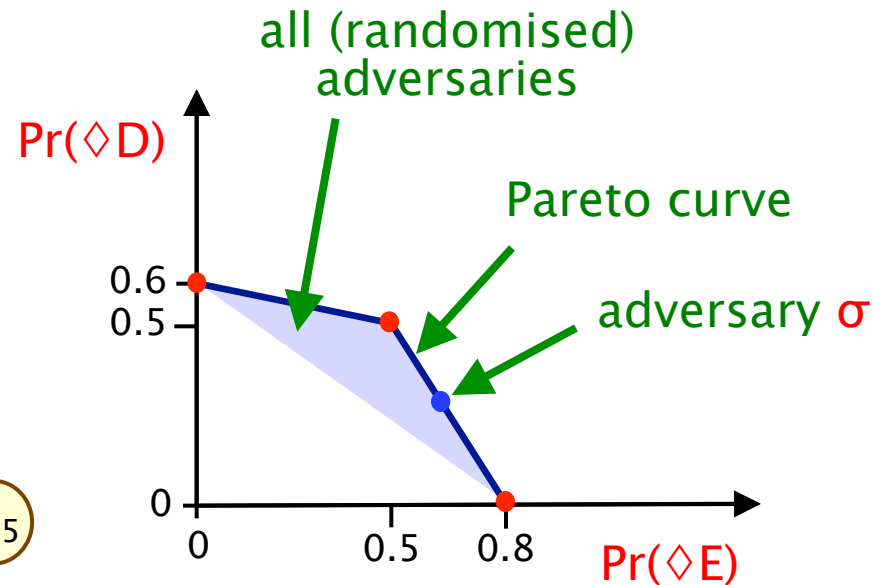
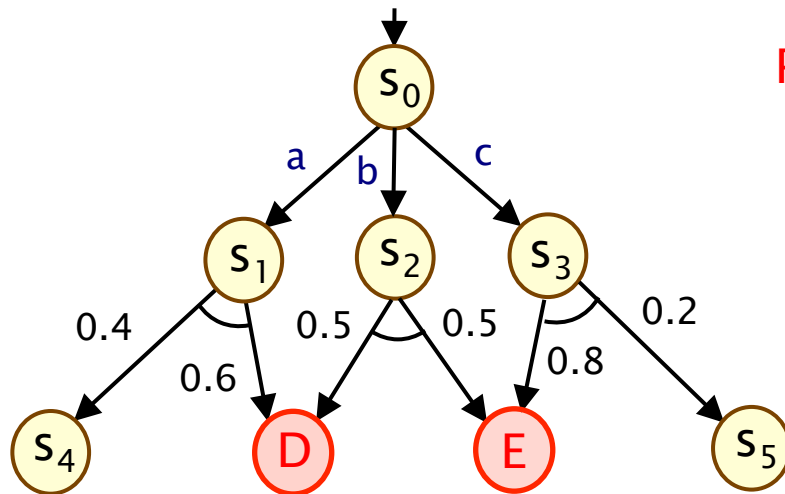
# Multi-objective MDP model checking

- Consider the two objectives  $\diamond D$  and  $\diamond E$  in the MDP below
  - i.e. the trade-off between the probabilities  $\Pr(\diamond D)$  and  $\Pr(\diamond E)$
  - an adversary resolves the choice between a/b/c
  - increasing the probability of reaching one target decreases the probability of reaching the other



# Multi-objective MDP model checking

- Need to consider all **randomised** adversaries
  - for example, is there an adversary  $\sigma$  such that:
  - $\Pr(\diamond D) > 0.2 \wedge \Pr(\diamond E) > 0.6$



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# Probabilistic assume guarantee

- Assume-guarantee triples  $\langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} M \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G}$  where:
  - $M$  is an MDP
  - $P_{\geq p_A}[A]$  and  $P_{\geq p_G}[G]$  are probabilistic safety properties
- Informally:
  - “whenever  $M$  is part of a system satisfying  $A$  with probability at least  $p_A$ , then the system is guaranteed to satisfy  $G$  with probability at least  $p_G$ ”
- Formally:
  - $\forall \sigma \in \text{Adv}_{M'} ( \Pr_{M', \sigma}(A) \geq p_A \rightarrow \Pr_{M', \sigma}(G) \geq p_G )$
  - where  $M'$  is  $M$  with its alphabet extended to include  $\alpha_A$
  - reduces to multi-objective model checking on  $M'$
  - look for adversary satisfying assumption but not guarantee
  - i.e. can check  $\langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} M \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G}$  efficiently via LP problem

# An assume–guarantee rule

- The following **asymmetric** proof rule holds
  - (asymmetric = uses one assumption about one component)

$$\frac{M_1 \models P_{\geq p_A} [A] \quad \langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G}}{M_1 \parallel M_2 \models P_{\geq p_G} [G]} \quad (\text{ASYM})$$

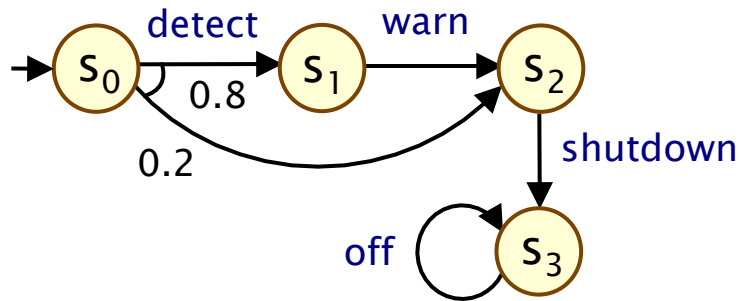
- So, verifying  $M_1 \parallel M_2 \models P_{\geq p_G} [G]$  requires:
  - premise 1:  $M_1 \models P_{\geq p_A} [A]$  (standard model checking)
  - premise 2:  $\langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G}$  (multi-objective model checking)
- Potentially much cheaper if  $|A|$  much smaller than  $|M_1|$



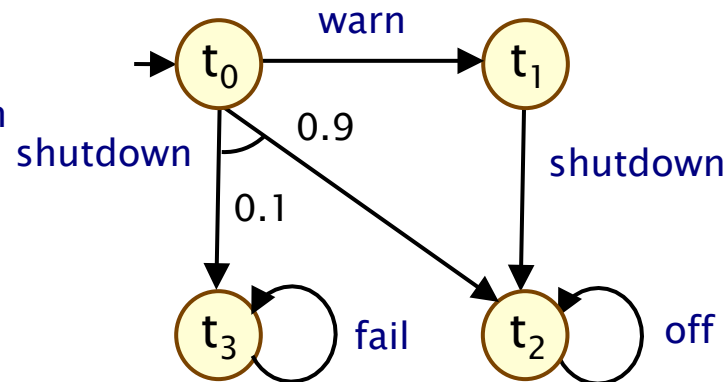
# Running example

- Does probabilistic safety property  $P_{\geq 0.98} [G]$  hold in  $M_1 || M_2$ ?

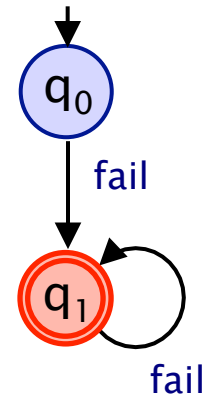
MDP  $M_1$  (“controller”)



MDP  $M_2$  (“device”)



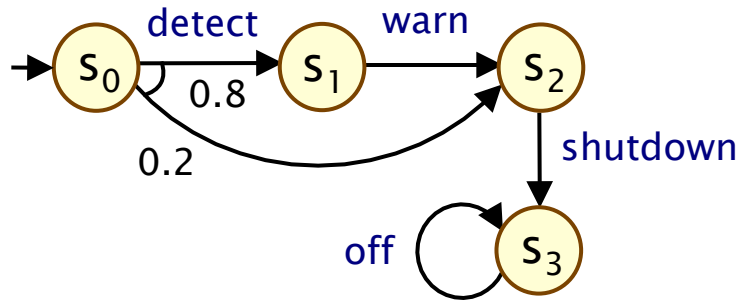
$G$  (“a fail action never occurs”)



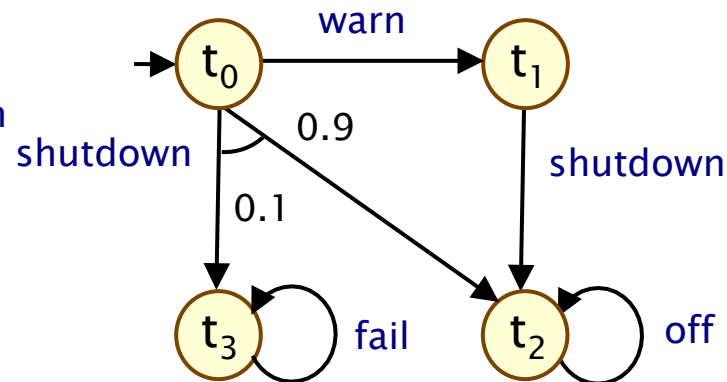
# Running example

- Does probabilistic safety property  $P_{\geq 0.98} [G]$  hold in  $M_1 || M_2$ ?

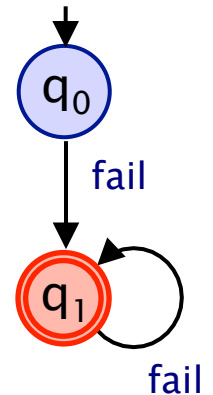
MDP  $M_1$  (“controller”)



MDP  $M_2$  (“device”)



$G$  (“a fail action never occurs”)



- Use AG with assumption  $\langle A \rangle_{\geq 0.8}$  about  $M_1$

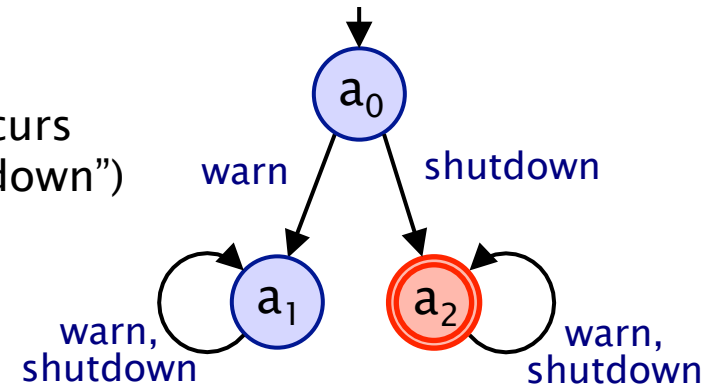
$$\langle \text{true} \rangle_{M_1} \langle A \rangle_{\geq 0.8}$$

$$\langle A \rangle_{\geq 0.8} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq 0.98}$$

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$$\langle \text{true} \rangle_{M_1 || M_2} \langle G \rangle_{\geq 0.98}$$

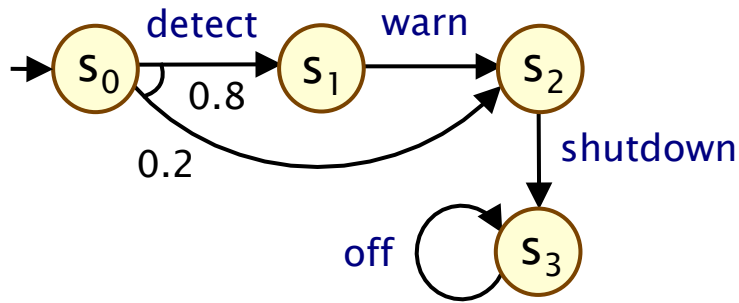
$A$  (“warn occurs before shutdown”)



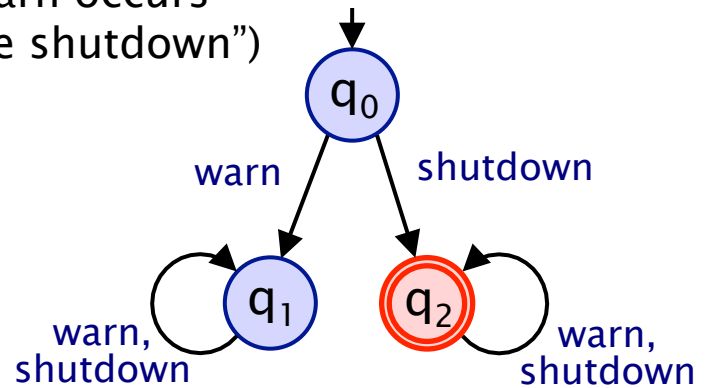
# Running example

- Premise 1: Does  $M_1 \models P_{\geq 0.8} [A]$  hold? (same as earlier ex.)

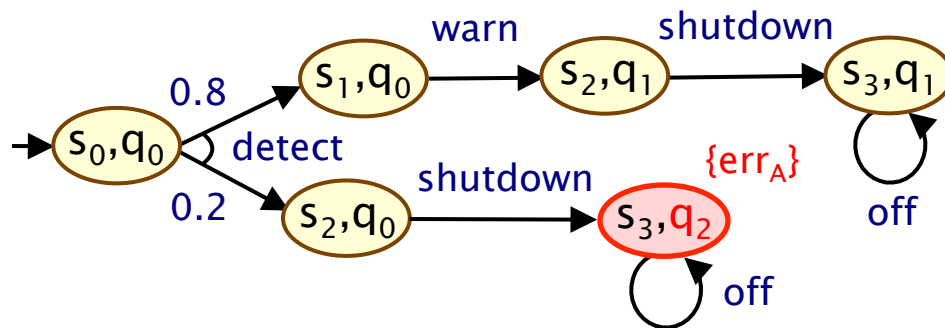
MDP  $M_1$  (“controller”)



$A$  (“warn occurs before shutdown”)



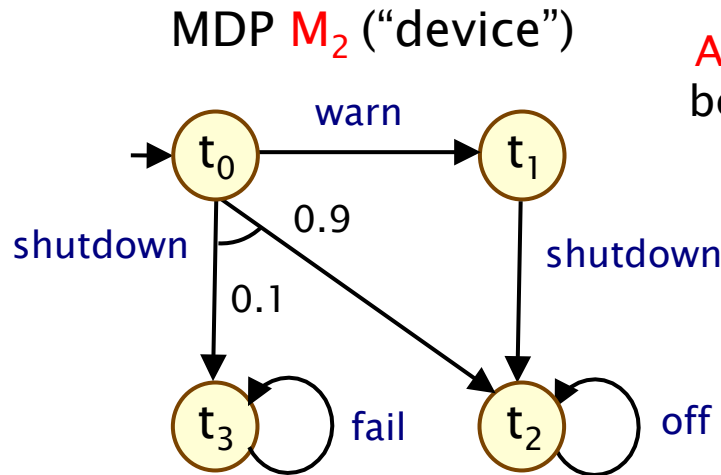
Product MDP  $M_1 \otimes A_{\text{err}}$



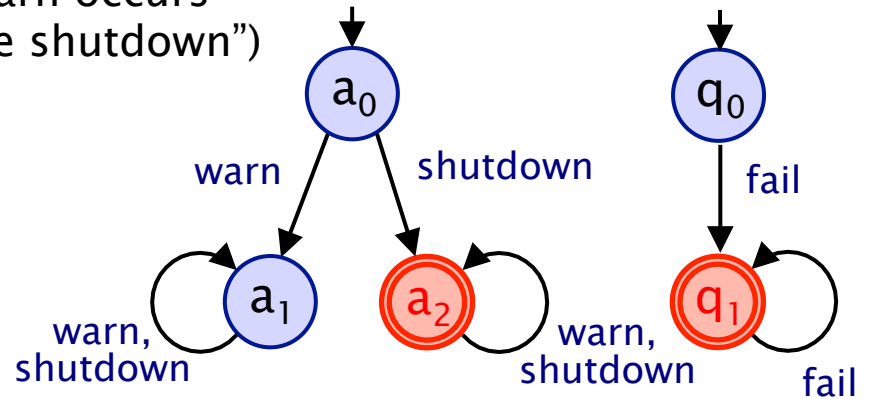
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \Pr_{M_1}^{\min}(A) \\
 &= 1 - \Pr_{M_1 \otimes A_{\text{err}}}^{\max}(\diamond \text{err}_A) \\
 &= 1 - 0.2 \\
 &= 0.8 \\
 &\rightarrow M_1 \models P_{\geq 0.8} [A]
 \end{aligned}$$

# Running example

- Premise 2: Does  $\langle A \rangle_{\geq 0.8} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq 0.98}$  hold?

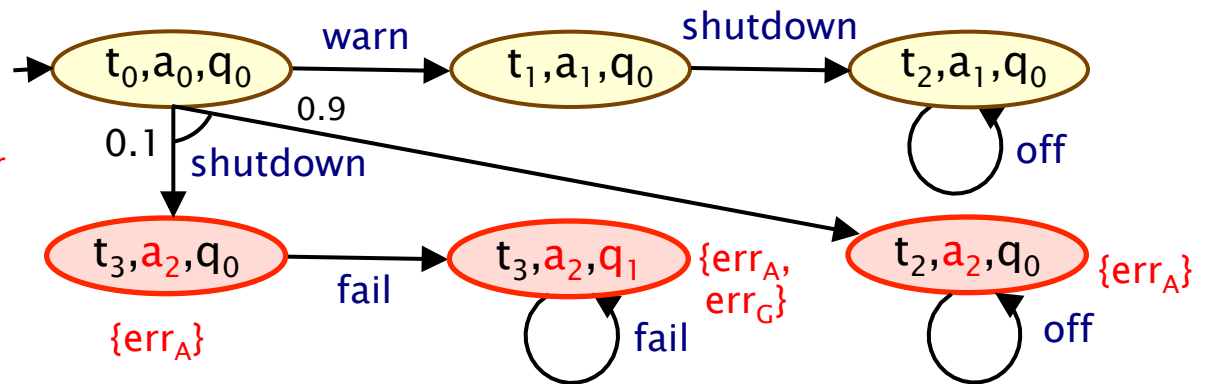


$A$  ("warn occurs before shutdown")



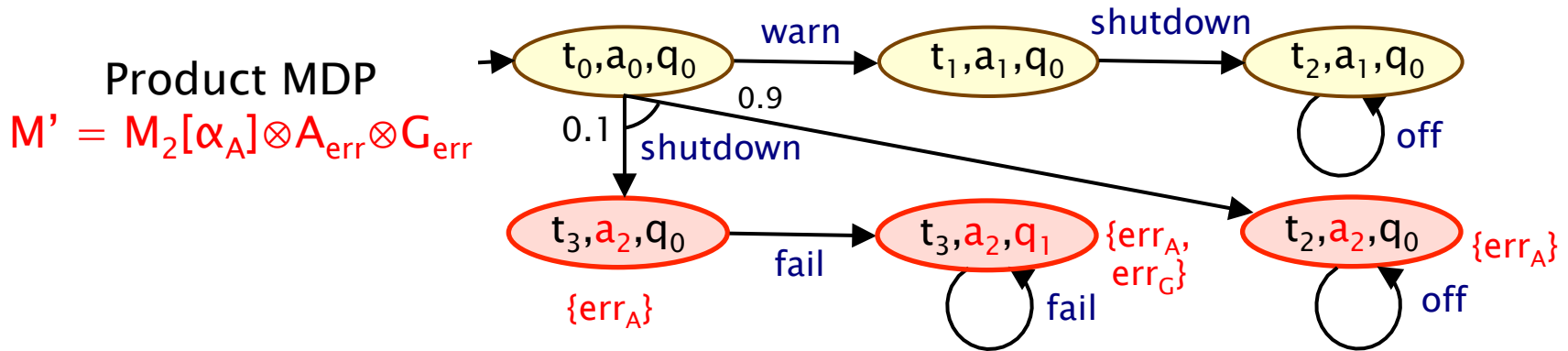
$G$  ("a fail action never occurs")

Product MDP  
 $M' = M_2[\alpha_A] \otimes A_{err} \otimes G_{err}$



# Running example

- Premise 2: Does  $\langle A \rangle_{\geq 0.8} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq 0.98}$  hold?



- $\exists$  an adversary of  $M_2$  satisfying  $\Pr_{M, \sigma}(A) \geq 0.8$  but not  $\Pr_{M, \sigma}(G) \geq 0.98$  ?  
 $\Leftrightarrow$
- $\exists$  an an adversary of  $M'$  with  $\Pr_{M, \sigma'}(\diamond err_A) \leq 0.2$  and  $\Pr_{M, \sigma'}(\diamond err_G) > 0.02$  ?
- To satisfy  $\Pr_{M, \sigma'}(\diamond err_A) \leq 0.2$ , adversary  $\sigma'$  must choose **shutdown** in initial state with probability  $\leq 0.2$ , which means  $\Pr_{M, \sigma'}(\diamond err_G) \leq 0.02$
- So, there is no such adversary and  $\langle A \rangle_{\geq 0.8} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq 0.98}$  does hold

# Other assume-guarantee rules

- Multiple assumptions:

$$\frac{M_1 \models P_{\geq p_1} [A_1] \wedge \dots \wedge P_{\geq p_k} [A_k] \quad \langle A_1, \dots, A_k \rangle_{\geq p_1, \dots, p_k} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G} \quad (\text{ASYM-MULT})}{M_1 \parallel M_2 \models P_{\geq p_G} [G]}$$

- Multiple components (chain):

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} M_1 \models P_{\geq p_1} [A_1] \\ \langle A_1 \rangle_{\geq p_1} M_2 \langle A_2 \rangle_{\geq p_2} \\ \dots \\ \langle A_n \rangle_{\geq p_n} M_n \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G} \end{array} \quad (\text{ASYM-N})}{M_1 \parallel \dots \parallel M_n \models P_{\geq p_G} [G]}$$

- Circular rule:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} M_2 \models P_{\geq p_2} [A_2] \\ \langle A_2 \rangle_{\geq p_2} M_1 \langle A_1 \rangle_{\geq p_1} \\ \langle A_1 \rangle_{\geq p_1} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G} \end{array} \quad (\text{CIRC})}{M_1 \parallel M_2 \models P_{\geq p_G} [G]}$$

- Asynchronous components:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \langle A_1 \rangle_{\geq p_1} M_1 \langle G_1 \rangle_{\geq q_1} \\ \langle A_2 \rangle_{\geq p_2} M_2 \langle G_2 \rangle_{\geq q_2} \end{array} \quad (\text{ASYNC})}{\langle A_1, A_2 \rangle_{\geq p_1 p_2} M_1 \parallel M_2 \langle G_1 \vee G_2 \rangle_{\geq (q_1 + q_2 - q_1 q_2)}}$$

# A quantitative approach

- For (non-compositional) probabilistic verification
  - prefer quantitative properties:  $\Pr_M^{\min}(G)$ , not  $M \models P_{\geq p_G} [G]$
  - can we do this for compositional verification?
- Consider, for example, AG rule (ASym)
  - this proves  $\Pr_{M_1 || M_2}^{\min}(G) \geq p_G$  for certain values of  $p_G$
  - i.e. gives lower bound for  $\Pr_{M_1 || M_2}^{\min}(G)$
  - for a fixed assumption  $A$ , we can compute the maximal lower bound obtainable, through a simple adaption of the multi-objective model checking problem
  - we can also compute upper bounds using generated adversaries as witnesses
  - furthermore: can explore trade-offs in parameterised models by approximating Pareto curves

$$\frac{\langle \text{true} \rangle_{M_1} \langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} \quad \langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G}}{\langle \text{true} \rangle_{M_1 || M_2} \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G}}$$

# Implementation + Case studies

- **Prototype extension of PRISM model checker**
  - already supports LTL for Markov decision processes
  - automata can be encoded in modelling language
  - added support for multi-objective LTL model checking, using LP solvers (ECLiPSe/COIN-OR CBC)
- **Two large case studies**
  - **randomised consensus algorithm** (Aspnes & Herlihy)
    - minimum probability consensus reached by round R
  - **Zeroconf network protocol**
    - maximum probability network configures incorrectly
    - minimum probability network configured by time T



# Experimental results

| Case study<br>[parameters]                        |       | Non-compositional |          | Compositional |          |
|---|-------|-------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
|   |       | States            | Time (s) | LP size       | Time (s) |
| Randomised<br>consensus<br>(3 processes)<br>[R,K] | 3, 2  | 1,418,545         | 18,971   | 40,542        | 29.6     |
|   | 3, 20 | 39,827,233        | time-out | 40,542        | 125.3    |
|   | 4, 2  | 150,487,585       | 78,955   | 141,168       | 376.1    |
|   | 4, 20 | 2,028,200,209     | mem-out  | 141,168       | 471.9    |
| ZeroConf<br>[K]                                   | 4     | 313,541           | 103.9    | 20,927        | 21.9     |
|   | 6     | 811,290           | 275.2    | 40,258        | 54.8     |
|   | 8     | 1,892,952         | 592.2    | 66,436        | 107.6    |
| ZeroConf<br>time-bounded<br>[K, T]                | 2, 10 | 65,567            | 46.3     | 62,188        | 89.0     |
|   | 2, 14 | 106,177           | 63.1     | 101,313       | 170.8    |
|   | 4, 10 | 976,247           | 88.2     | 74,484        | 170.8    |
|   | 4, 14 | 2,288,771         | 128.3    | 166,203       | 430.6    |

# Experimental results

| Case study<br>[parameters]                        |       | Non-compositional |          | Compositional |          |
|---|-------|-------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
|   |       | States            | Time (s) | LP size       | Time (s) |
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- Faster than conventional model checking in a number of cases

# Experimental results

| Case study<br>[parameters]                        |       | Non-compositional |          | Compositional |          |
|---|-------|-------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
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- Verified instances where conventional model checking is infeasible

# Experimental results

| Case study<br>[parameters]                        |       | Non-compositional |          | Compositional |          |
|---|-------|-------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
|   |       | States            | Time (s) | LP size       | Time (s) |
| Randomised<br>consensus<br>(3 processes)<br>[R,K] | 3, 2  | 1,418,545         | 18,971   | 40,542        | 29.6     |
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- LP problem generally much smaller than full state space  
(but still the limiting factor)

# Overview (Part 4)

- Compositional verification
  - assume-guarantee reasoning
- Markov decision processes
  - probabilistic safety properties
  - multi-objective model checking
- Probabilistic assume guarantee
  - semantics, model checking
  - assume-guarantee proof rules
  - quantitative approaches
  - implementation & experimental results
  - **assumption generation with learning**

# Generating assumptions

- Can model check  $M_1 || M_2$  compositionally
  - but this relies on the existence of a suitable assumption  $P_{\geq p_A} [A]$

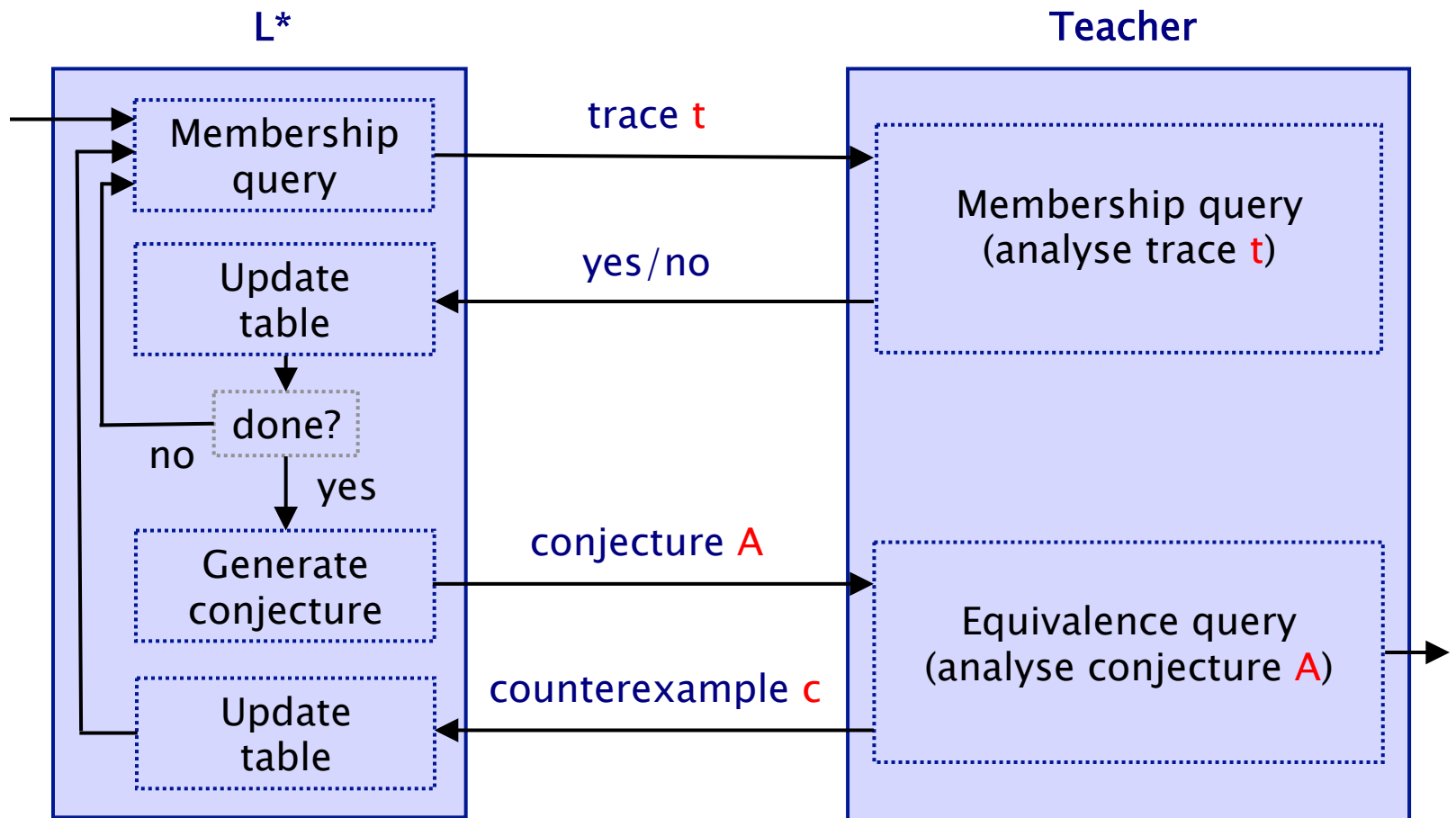
$$\frac{M_1 \models P_{\geq p_A} [A] \quad \langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} M_2 \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G}}{M_1 || M_2 \models P_{\geq p_G} [G]}$$

- 1. Does such an assumption always exist?
- 2. When it does exist, can we generate it automatically?
- Our approach: use **algorithmic learning** techniques
  - inspired by non-probabilistic AG work of [Pasareanu et al.]
  - uses  $L^*$  algorithm to learn finite automata for assumptions
  - we use a modified version of  $L^*$
  - to learn probabilistic assumptions for rule (ASYM) [QEST'10]

# The L\* learning algorithm

- The L\* algorithm [Angluin]
  - learns an unknown regular language  $L$ , as a (minimal) DFA
- Based on “active” learning
  - relies on existence of a “teacher” to guide the learning
  - answers two type of queries: “membership” and “equivalence”
  - membership: “is trace (word)  $t$  in the target language  $L$ ?”
    - stores results of membership queries in observation table
    - based on these, generates conjectures  $A$  for the automata
  - equivalence: “does automata  $A$  accept the target language  $L$ ?”
    - if not, teacher must return counterexample  $c$
    - ( $c$  is a word in the symmetric difference of  $L$  and  $L(A)$ )

# The L\* learning algorithm





# L\* for assume-guarantee

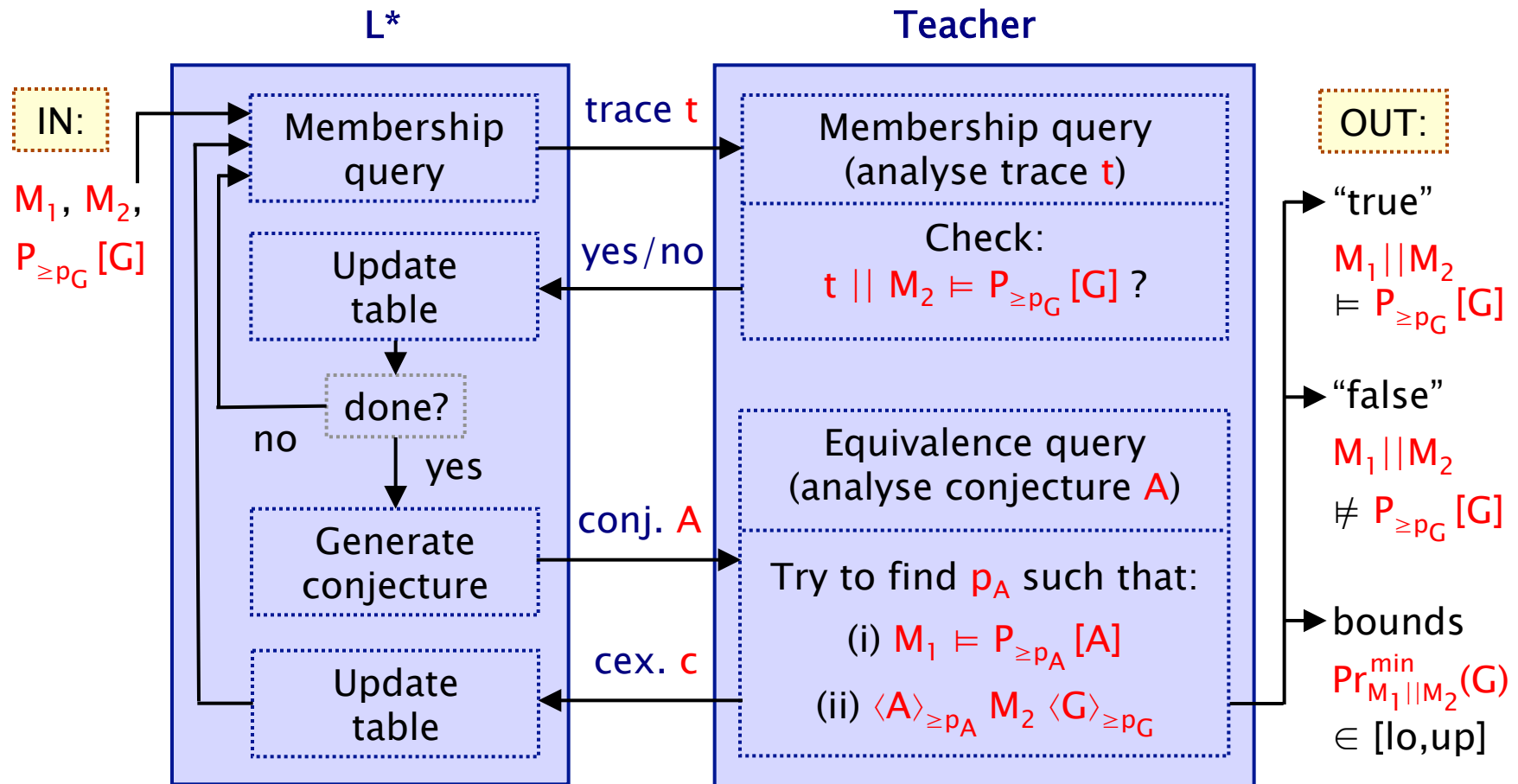
- Breakthrough in automated compositional verification
  - use of L\* to learn assumptions for A/G reasoning
  - [Pasareanu/Giannakopoulou/et al.]
  - uses notion of “weakest assumption” about a component that suffices for compositional verification (always exists)
  - weakest assumption is the target regular language
- Fully automated L\* learning loop
  - model checker plays role of teacher, returns counterexamples
  - in practice, can usually stop early: either with a simpler (stronger) assumption or by refuting the property
- Successfully applied to several large case studies
  - does particularly well when assumption/alphabet are small
  - much recent interest in learning for verification...

# Probabilistic assumption generation

- Goal: automate A/G rule (ASYM)
  - generate probabilistic assumption  $P_{\geq p_A} [A]$
  - for checking property  $P_{\geq p_G} [G]$  on  $M_1 \parallel M_2$
- Reduce problem to generation of non-probabilistic assumption  $A$ 
  - then (if possible) find lowest  $p_A$  such that premises 1 & 2 hold
  - in fact, for fixed  $A$ , we can generate lower and upper bounds on  $\Pr_{M_1 \parallel M_2}^{\min} (G)$ , which may suffice to verify/refute  $P_{\geq p_G} [G]$
- Use adapted  $L^*$  to learn non-probabilistic assumption  $A$ 
  - note: there is no “weakest assumption” (AG rule is incomplete)
  - but can generate sequence of conjectures for  $A$  in similar style
  - “teacher” based on a probabilistic model checker (PRISM), feedback is from probabilistic counterexamples [Han/Katoen]
  - three outcomes of loop: “true”, “false”, lower/upper bounds

$$\begin{array}{c} M_1 \models P_{\geq p_A} [A] \\ \langle A \rangle_{\geq p_A} M_2 \quad \langle G \rangle_{\geq p_G} \\ \hline M_1 \parallel M_2 \models P_{\geq p_G} [G] \end{array}$$

# Probabilistic assumption generation



# Implementation + Case studies

- Implemented using:
  - extension of **PRISM** model checker
  - libalf learning library [Bollig et al.]
- Several case studies
  - **client-server** (A/G model checking benchmark + failures)
    - minimum probability mutual exclusion not violated
  - **randomised consensus algorithm** [Aspnes & Herlihy]
    - minimum probability consensus reached by round R
  - **sensor network** [QEST'10]
    - minimum probability of processor error occurring
  - **Mars Exploration Rovers (MER)** [NASA]
    - minimum probability mutual exclusion not violated in k cycles

# Experimental results (learning)

| Case study<br>[parameters]           |          | Component sizes                |         | Compositional      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|---------|--------------------|----------|
|                                      |          | $ M_2 \otimes G_{\text{err}} $ | $ M_1 $ | $ A^{\text{err}} $ | Time (s) |
| Client-server<br>(N failures)<br>[N] | 3        | 229                            | 16      | 5                  | 6.6      |
|                                      | 4        | 1,121                          | 25      | 6                  | 26.1     |
|                                      | 5        | 5,397                          | 36      | 7                  | 191.1    |
| Randomised<br>consensus<br>[N,R,K]   | 2, 3, 20 | 391                            | 3,217   | 6                  | 24.2     |
|                                      | 2, 4, 4  | 573                            | 431,649 | 12                 | 413.2    |
|                                      | 3, 3, 20 | 8,843                          | 38,193  | 11                 | 438.9    |
| Sensor<br>network [N]                | 2        | 42                             | 1,184   | 3                  | 3.7      |
|                                      | 3        | 42                             | 10,662  | 3                  | 4.6      |
| MER<br>[N R]                         | 2, 5     | 5,776                          | 427,363 | 4                  | 31.8     |
|                                      | 3, 2     | 16,759                         | 171     | 4                  | 210.5    |

# Experimental results (learning)

| Case study<br>[parameters]           |          | Component sizes         |         | Compositional |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------|---------------|----------|
|                                      |          | $ M_2 \otimes G_{err} $ | $ M_1 $ | $ A^{err} $   | Time (s) |
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| MER<br>[N R]                         | 2, 5     | 5,776                   | 427,363 | 4             | 31.8     |
|                                      | 3, 2     | 16,759                  | 171     | 4             | 210.5    |

- Successfully learnt (small) assumptions in all cases

# Experimental results (learning)

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|--------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|---------|---------------|----------|
|                                      |          | $ M_2 \otimes G_{err} $ | $ M_1 $ | $ A^{err} $   | Time (s) |
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| MER<br>[N R]                         | 2, 5     | 5,776                   | 427,363 | 4             | 31.8     |
|                                      | 3, 2     | 16,759                  | 171     | 4             | 210.5    |

- In some cases, learning + compositional verification is faster (than non-compositional verification, using PRISM)

# Summary (Part 4)

- Compositional verification, e.g. **assume-guarantee**
  - decompose verification problem based on system structure
- Compositional probabilistic verification based on:
  - **Markov decision processes**, with arbitrary parallel composition
  - assumptions/guarantees are **probabilistic safety properties**
  - reduction to **multi-objective model checking**
  - multiple proof rules; adapted to quantitative approach
  - automatic generation of assumptions: **L\* learning**
- Can work well in practice
  - verified safety/performance on several large case studies
  - **cases where infeasible using non-compositional verification**
- For further detail, see [\[KNPQ10\]](#), [\[FKP10\]](#), [\[FKN+11\]](#)
- Next: PRISM lab session...



A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a classical building facade. At the top, there is a statue of a female figure, possibly a personification of Liberty or Justice, standing on a pedestal. Below it, there are decorative architectural elements, including a smaller statue or relief. The building is made of light-colored stone or brick.

Thanks for your attention

More info here:

[www.prismmodelchecker.org](http://www.prismmodelchecker.org)