

# Probabilistic Anonymity via Coalgebraic Simulations

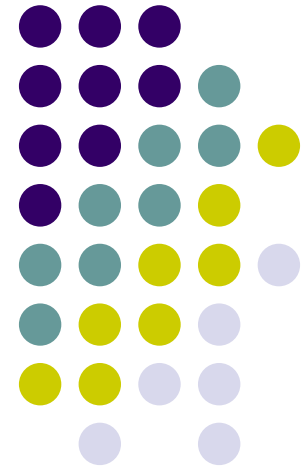
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Telecom”



Joint work with Yoshinobu Kawabe  
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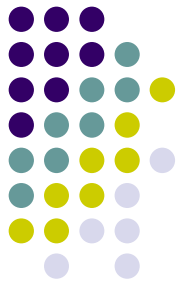


Radboud University Nijmegen



# Online privacy

# Online anonymity



is attracting *growing*

- **Threats**

- ISPs in EU are forced to keep logs of your web access
- Your passport stores your fingerprint on a RFID chip

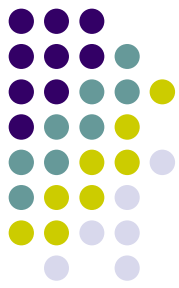
- **Public concerns**

- **Research interest**

- See *Anonymity Bibliography*  
<http://freehaven.net/anonbib/>
- The field is quite young
  - Compared to “traditional” security notions such as secrecy, authentication

# Overview:

## Probabilistic anonymity via coalgebraic simulations



Simulation-based proof method for  
**non-deterministic = possibilistic**  
anonymity [KawabeMST06]

Generic, **coalgebraic** theory of  
traces and simulations  
[IH,Jacobs,Sokolova]

- non-det. → prob. is just a change of a parameter

Simulation-based proof method for  
**probabilistic**  
anonymity



# For you to take home

- Probability in *anonymity*
  - Subtlety in definition of “probabilistic anonymity”
- Power of *categorical methods* in computer science
  - Specifically, theory of *coalgebras*
  - Abstraction and genericity
  - Category theory in action!

# References

- Coalgebraic theory of traces and simulations
  - Ichiro Hasuo, Bart Jacobs and Ana Sokolova  
**Generic Trace Theory**  
*CMCS'06, ENTCS 164*
  - Ichiro Hasuo  
**Generic Forward and Backward Simulations**  
*CONCUR 2006, LNCS 4137*
- Simulation-based proof method of anonymity
  - Y. Kawabe, K. Mano, H. Sakurada and Y. Tsukada  
**Theorem-proving anonymity of infinite state systems**  
*Information Processing Letters, to appear*
  - Y. Kawabe, K. Mano, H. Sakurada and Y. Tsukada  
**Backward simulations for anonymity**  
*WITS'06*
  - Ichiro Hasuo and Yoshinobu Kawabe  
**Probabilistic Anonymity via Coalgebraic Simulations**  
*ESOP'07, to appear*



Y. Kawabe



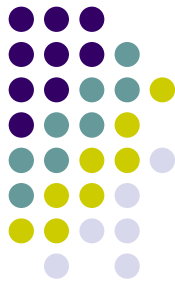
B. Jacobs



A. Sokolova



Nina Hagen





***Part I:***

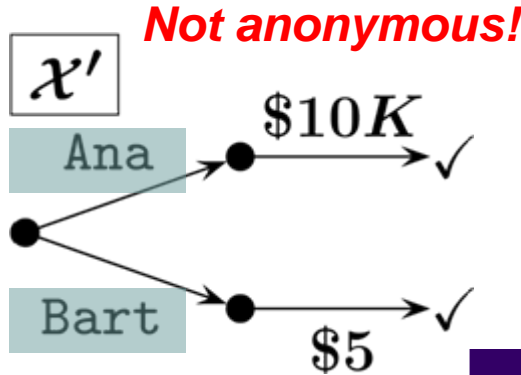
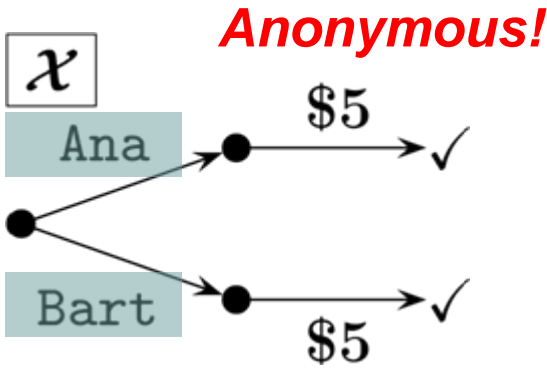
***Non-deterministic version of  
 $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity***



# Non-deterministic “trace” anonymity

[Schneider&Sidiropoulos,ESORICS'96]

## Anonymous donation as an example



- Ana : **actor** action (invisible for adversary)
- \$5: **observable** action

$$\text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle \text{Ana}, \$5 \rangle, \\ \langle \text{Bart}, \$5 \rangle \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{tr}(\mathcal{X}') = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle \text{Ana}, \$10K \rangle, \\ \langle \text{Bart}, \$5 \rangle \end{array} \right\}$$

Are these protocols “anonymous”?

Observation  $\vec{o} \cdot \vec{o}'$  can be attributed to anybody

### Definition (Trace anonymity)

$$\mathcal{X} \text{ is anonymous} \Leftrightarrow \forall \vec{o}, \vec{o}'. \langle \vec{o}, \text{Ana}, \vec{o}' \rangle \in \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) \implies \langle \vec{o}, \text{Bart}, \vec{o}' \rangle \in \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}), \langle \vec{o}, \text{Chris}, \vec{o}' \rangle \in \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}), \dots$$

# Non-deterministic

( $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity)

[Kawabe, Mano, Sakurada, Tsukada 2006]

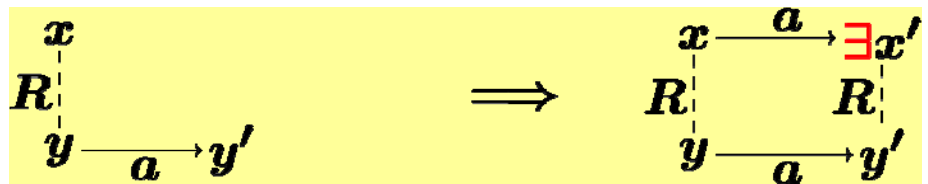
An automaton which models an anonymizing protocol

## Theorem

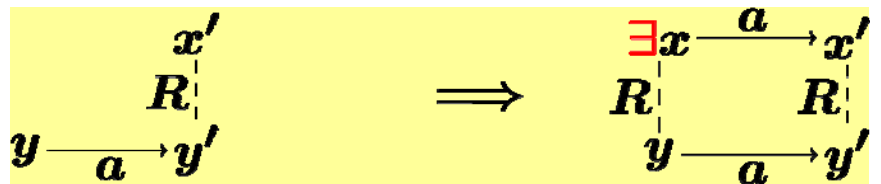
$\exists$  forward/backward simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is anonymous

### • *Theory of traces and simulations*

- Forward simulation  $R$  is such that:



- Backward simulation  $R$  is such that:



- **Soundness theorem:**

$\exists$  fwd/bwd simulation  $\rightarrow$  trace inclusion

- [Lynch&Vaandrager, Inf.&Comp. 1995]



# Non-deterministic

( $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity)

[Kawabe, Mano, Sakurada, Tsukada 2006]

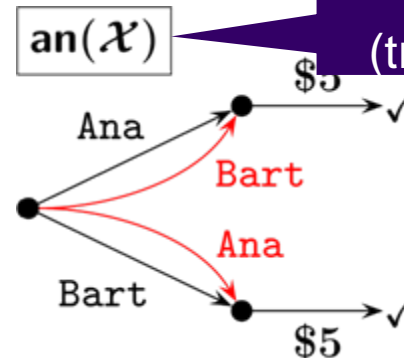
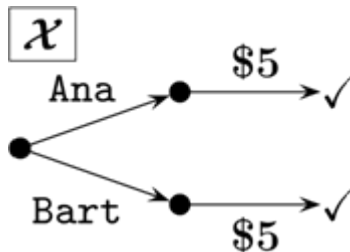


## Theorem

$\exists$  forward/backward simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is anonymous

“anonymized” version of  $\mathcal{X}$

(trivially anonymous)



*Proof.*

$\mathcal{X}$  is anonymous

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) = \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$

(anonymity is trace-based)

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) \supseteq \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$

( $\subseteq$  is trivial)

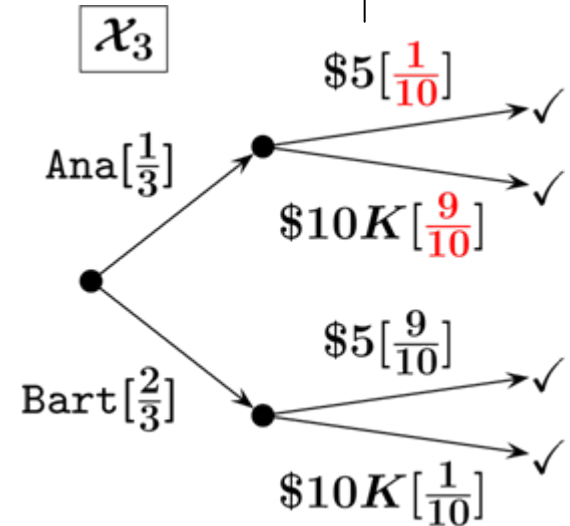
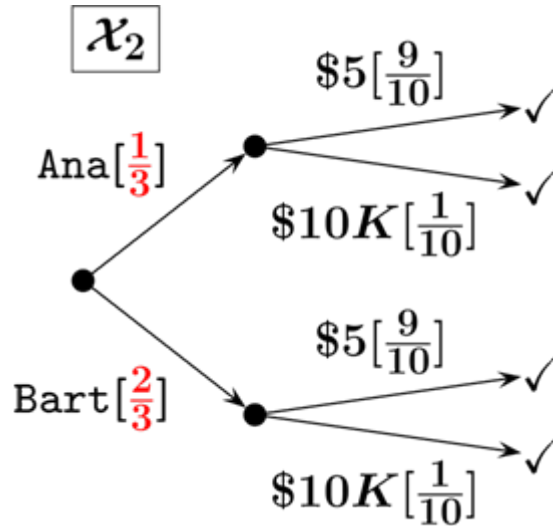
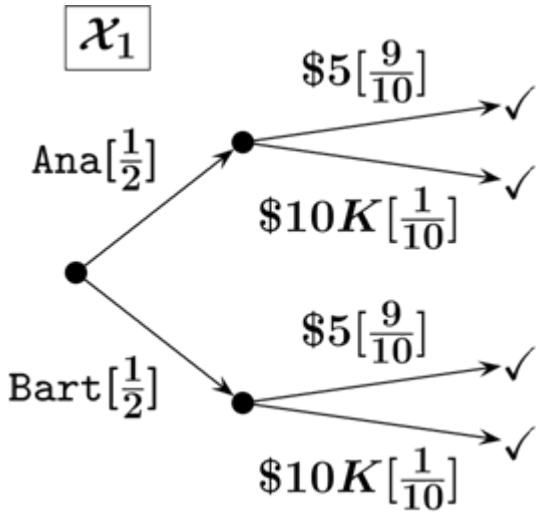
$\leftarrow \exists$  simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$  (**soundness theorem!**)



## ***Part II:***

***Probabilistic anonymity and  
( $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity)***

# Probabilistic anonymity



**Anonymous!**

**“Anonymous”!**

**Not anonymous!**

- Are these protocols “anonymous”?
- These are all anonymous in a **possibilistic** sense.  
 → definition of “probabilistic anonymity”?

# Probabilistic anonymity

[Bhargava&Palamidessi, CONCUR'05]

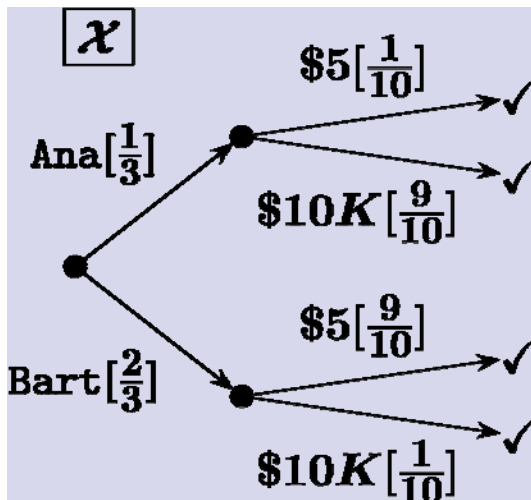


**Definition** (Probabilistic anonymity)

$\mathcal{X}$  is *anonymous* such as  $\langle \$5 \rangle$

$\Leftrightarrow \forall \vec{o}$ : observation.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prob}(\vec{o} \mid \text{Ana donates}) &= \text{Prob}(\vec{o} \mid \text{Bart donates}) \\ &= \text{Prob}(\vec{o} \mid \text{Chris donates}) \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$



conditional probability

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prob}(\vec{o} \mid \text{Bart donates}) &= \frac{\text{Prob}(\vec{o} \wedge \text{Bart donates})}{\text{Prob}(\text{Bart donates})} \end{aligned}$$

# More on probabilistic anonymity

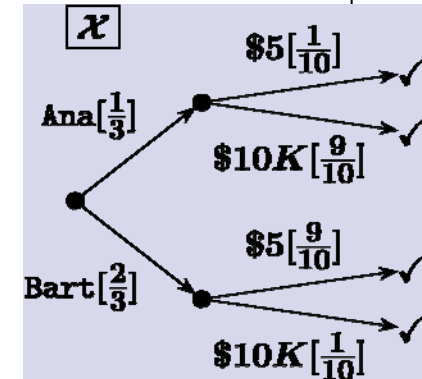


## Definition (Probabilistic anonymity)

$\mathcal{X}$  is anonymous  $\Leftrightarrow$

$\forall \vec{o}$ : observation.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prob}(\vec{o} \mid \text{Ana donates}) &= \text{Prob}(\vec{o} \mid \text{Bart donates}) \\ &= \text{Prob}(\vec{o} \mid \text{Chris donates}) \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$



- Intuition:

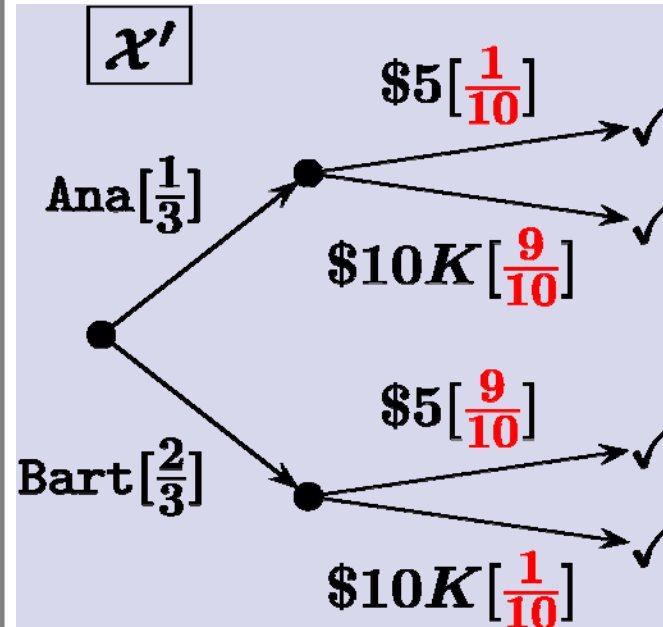
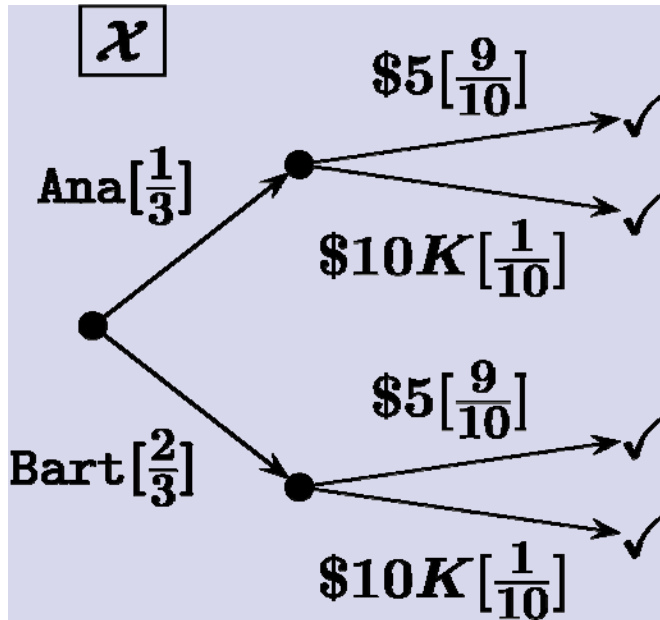
“Observation of  $\vec{o}$  does not carry any info. on who is donating”

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Ana} \mapsto \frac{1}{3} \\ \text{Bart} \mapsto \frac{2}{3} \end{array} \right]$$

- **A priori** distribution of suspicion need not be uniform
- However, after any observation, any agent must be exactly as suspicious as before



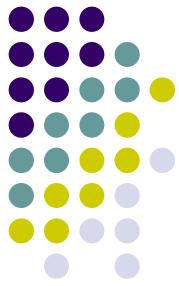
# More on probabilistic anonymity



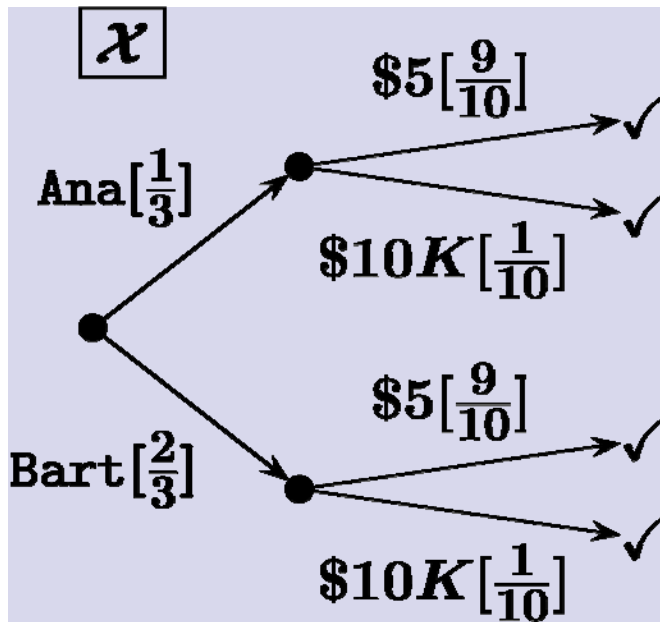
I Know Bart is more likely to donate



I Know Bart is more likely to donate



# More on probabilistic anonymity

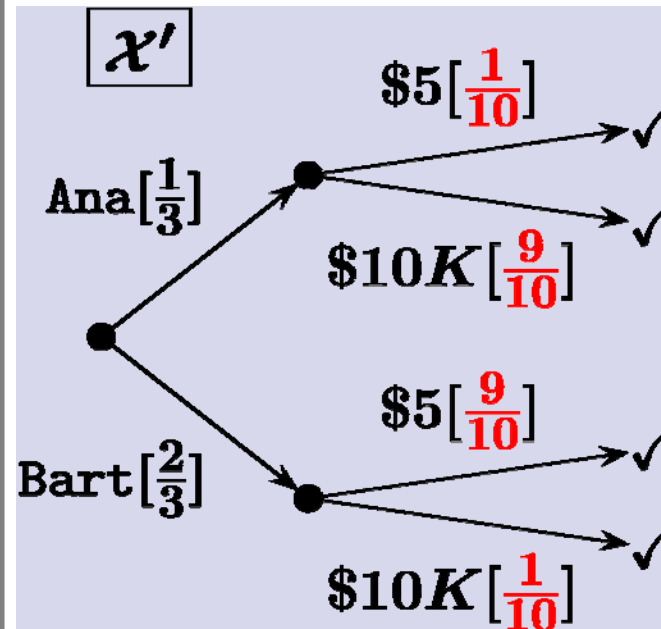


\$10K



Someone donated \$10K,  
which is more likely  
by Bart (as I  
suspected)...

**(anonymous)**



\$10K



Bart wouldn't donate  
such an amount.  
This time it's likely  
that Ana did!

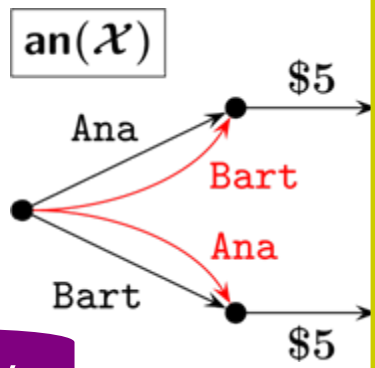
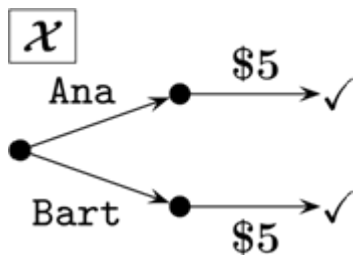
**(not anonymous)**



# Again the same scenario: ( $\exists$ simulation $\rightarrow$ anonymity)

probabilistic automaton

**Theorem**  
 $\exists$  forward/backward simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is anonymous



probabilistic anonymity

Can we do this probabilistically?  
• What is  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$ ?  
• What is “probabilistic simulation”?

Proof.

$\mathcal{X}$  is anonymous  $\xrightarrow{\text{trace distribution}}$

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) = \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$  (anonymity is)

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) \supseteq \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$  (probabilistic simulation)

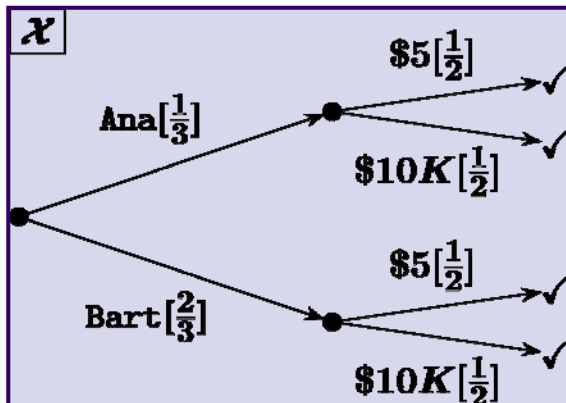
$\leftarrow \exists$  simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$  (**soundness theorem!**)





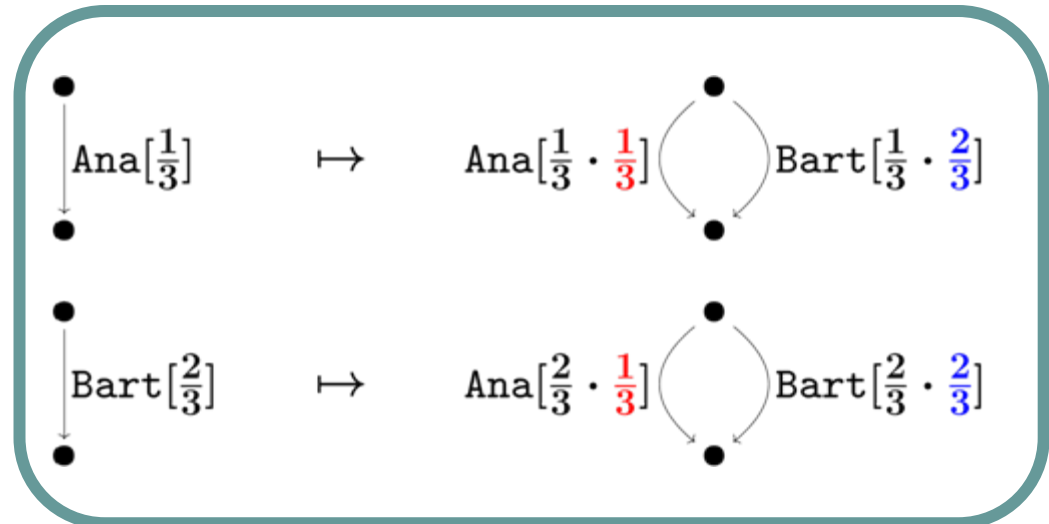
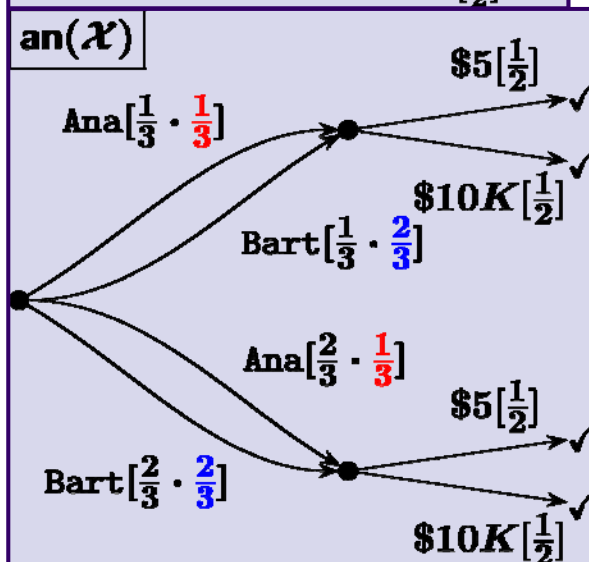
# an( $\mathcal{X}$ ), in a probabilistic setting

- Idea: distribute probability according to a-priori suspicion



A-priori suspicion:  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Ana} \mapsto \frac{1}{3} \\ \text{Bart} \mapsto \frac{2}{3} \end{array} \right]$

Hence



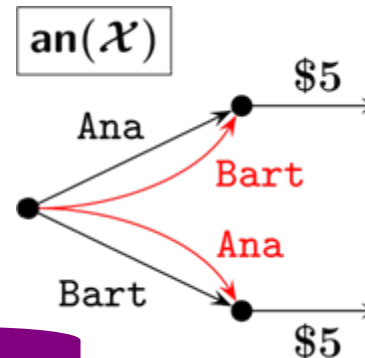
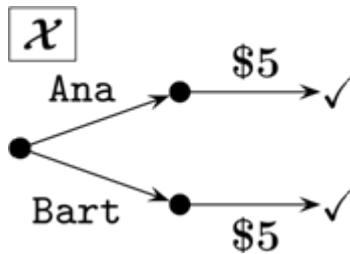
# Again the same scenario: ( $\exists$ simulation $\rightarrow$ anonymity)



probabilistic automaton

## Theorem

$\exists$  forward/backward simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is anonymous



probabilistic anonymity

Proof.

$\mathcal{X}$  is anonymous  $\leftarrow$  trace distribution

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) = \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$  (anonymity is)

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) \supseteq \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$  probabilistic simulation (al)

$\leftarrow \exists$  simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$  (**soundness theorem!**)

Can we do this probabilistically?

- What is  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$ ?
- What is “probabilistic simulation”?



***Intermezzo:***

**Coalgebraic theory of  
*traces and simulations***

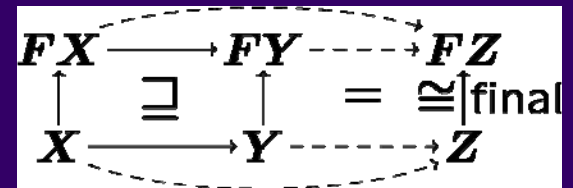


# Theory of coalgebras

- **Categorical** theory of “state-based systems”

Everything as *objects* and *arrows*

- Focus on “essence”
- Abstraction, genericity



- Base categories
  - Sets  $\rightarrow$  theory of *bisimilarity* [Rutten, TCS'00]
  - $\mathbf{KI}(T)$   $\rightarrow$  theory of *traces* and *simulations*

[IH, Jacobs, Sokolova, CMCS'06][IH, CONCUR'06]

# Traces and simulations coalgebraically



Parameter  $F$  :  
for transition-type

System	a coalgebra <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array}</math> </div>
Trace semantics	<div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{ccc} FX &amp; \text{---} &amp; FZ \\ \uparrow &amp; &amp; \uparrow \text{final} \\ X &amp; \text{--- trace ---} &amp; Z \end{array}</math> </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">             in <math>\mathcal{Kl}(T)</math> </div>
Simulations	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{ccc} FX &amp; \xrightarrow{\cong} &amp; FY \\ \uparrow &amp; &amp; \uparrow \\ X &amp; \xrightarrow{\quad} &amp; Y \end{array}</math> <p><b>forward sim.</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{ccc} FX &amp; \xrightarrow{\quad} &amp; FY \\ \uparrow &amp; &amp; \uparrow \\ X &amp; \xrightarrow{\quad} &amp; Y \end{array}</math> <p><b>backward sim.</b></p> </div> </div>

Parameter  $T$  :  
for branching-type

General soundness theorem :  $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  trace incl.



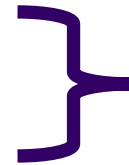
# Genericity

*T* and *F*

By changing parameters, the framework covers

- different **branching-types** by different *T*

- non-determinism
- probabilistic branching



We exploit this!

- Anything we can do in a non-det. setting,
- we can also do in a probabilistic setting

- different **transition-types** by different *F*

- LTS:  $x \mapsto (a, x')$

- Context-free grammar:  $x \mapsto \langle \text{"}\neg\text{"}, x \rangle$   
 $x \mapsto \langle x, \text{"}\wedge\text{"}, x \rangle$



# Systems as coalgebras

$F$ : a functor  
for transition-type

A system is:

$$\begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array}$$

in

$\mathcal{Kl}(T)$

$T$ : a monad  
for branching-type

- $T$  is a **monad**, for branching-type. Examples:

- $\mathcal{P}$ , powerset monad
  - for non-determinism

- $\mathcal{D}$ , subdistribution monad
  - for (generative) probabilistic branching

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}X &= \{\text{probability subdistributions on } X\} \\ &= \{d : X \rightarrow [0, 1] \mid \sum_{x \in X} d(x) \leq 1\} \end{aligned}$$



# Systems as coalgebras

A system is:

$$\begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array} \text{ in } \mathcal{Kl}(T)$$

A category where **branching** is implicit

---


$$TFX$$

, a function

$\mathcal{Kl}(T)$ : the **Kleisli** category for T

- Main point:

for  $T = \mathcal{P}$ ,

$$X \longrightarrow Y \text{ in } \mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$$

---


$$X \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}Y, \text{ a function}$$

$$x \longmapsto \{y_1, y_2, \dots\}$$





# Parameters

A system is:

$$\begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array} \text{ in } \mathcal{Kl}(T)$$

branching-type:  
non-determinism

$$\begin{array}{c} TFX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array}, \text{ a function}$$

transition-type:  
terminate or (output, next)

- $T = \mathcal{P}, \quad F = 1 + \Sigma \times -$

$$\mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times X)$$

$$\uparrow \\ X$$

such as

$$\{\checkmark, (a_1, x_1), (a_2, x_2)\}$$

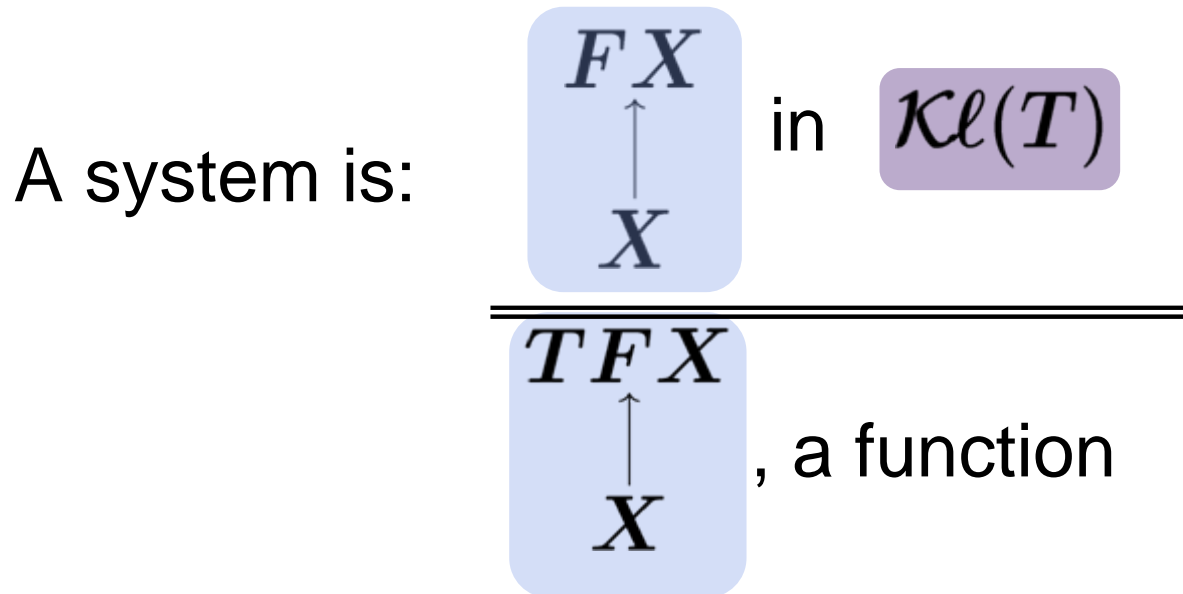
$$\uparrow \\ x$$




$$\begin{array}{l} x \rightarrow \checkmark \\ x \xrightarrow{a_1} x_1 \\ x \xrightarrow{a_2} x_2 \end{array}$$

➔ LTS with explicit termination



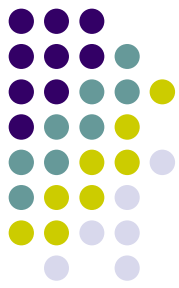
# Parameters



- $T = \mathcal{P}$ ,  $F = 1 + \Sigma \times -$   
 LTS with explicit termination
- $T = \mathcal{D}$ ,  $F = 1 + \Sigma \times -$   
 Generative probabilistic system
- $T = \mathcal{P}$ ,  $F = (\Sigma + -)^*$   
 Context-free grammar

# Trace semantics

[IH, Jacobs, Sokolova. CMCS'06]



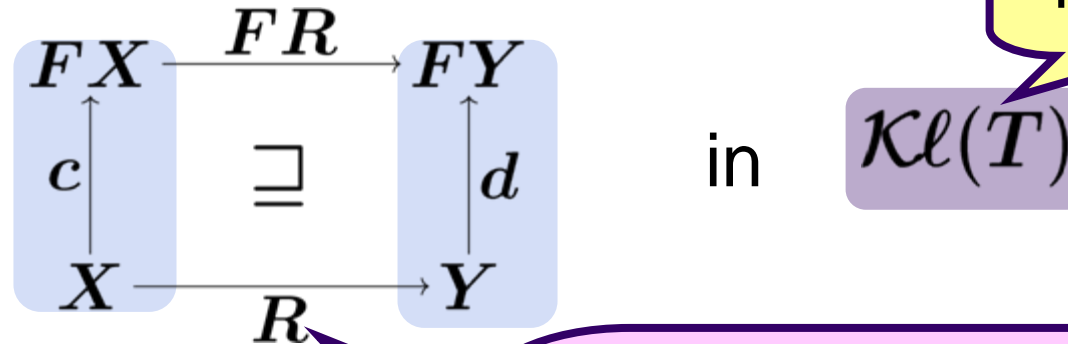
1.  $\exists$  final coalgebra  $\begin{array}{c} FZ \\ \cong \uparrow \\ Z \end{array}$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(T)$

For any system  $\begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array}$ ,  $\exists! f$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{---} Ff \text{---} \\ \text{---} f \text{---} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} FZ \\ \cong \uparrow \\ Z \end{array} \end{array}$$

2. This induced  $f$  gives (finite) trace semantics

# Forward simulation



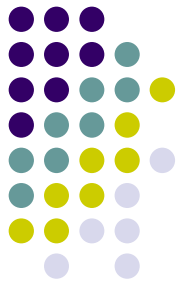
Take  $T = \mathcal{P}$

**$R$** : a **relation**, because

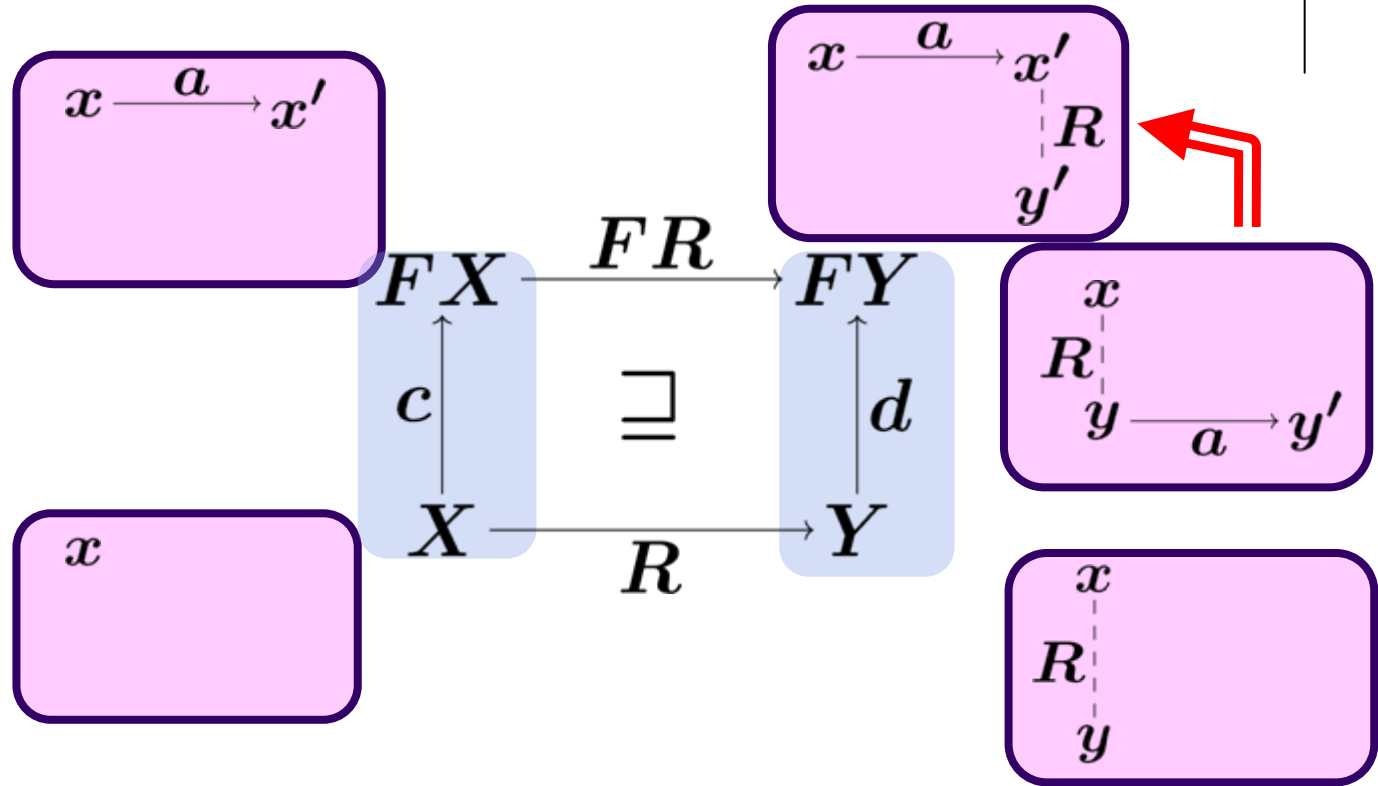
$X \longrightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$

$X \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}Y$ , a function

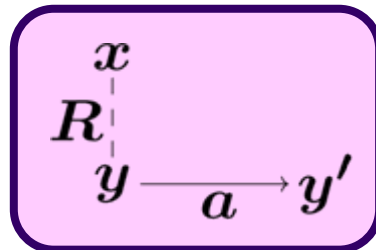
$R \subseteq X \times Y$ , a relation



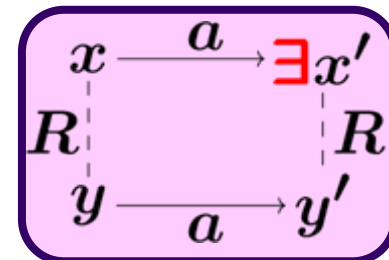
# Forward simulation

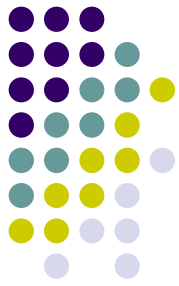


Hence

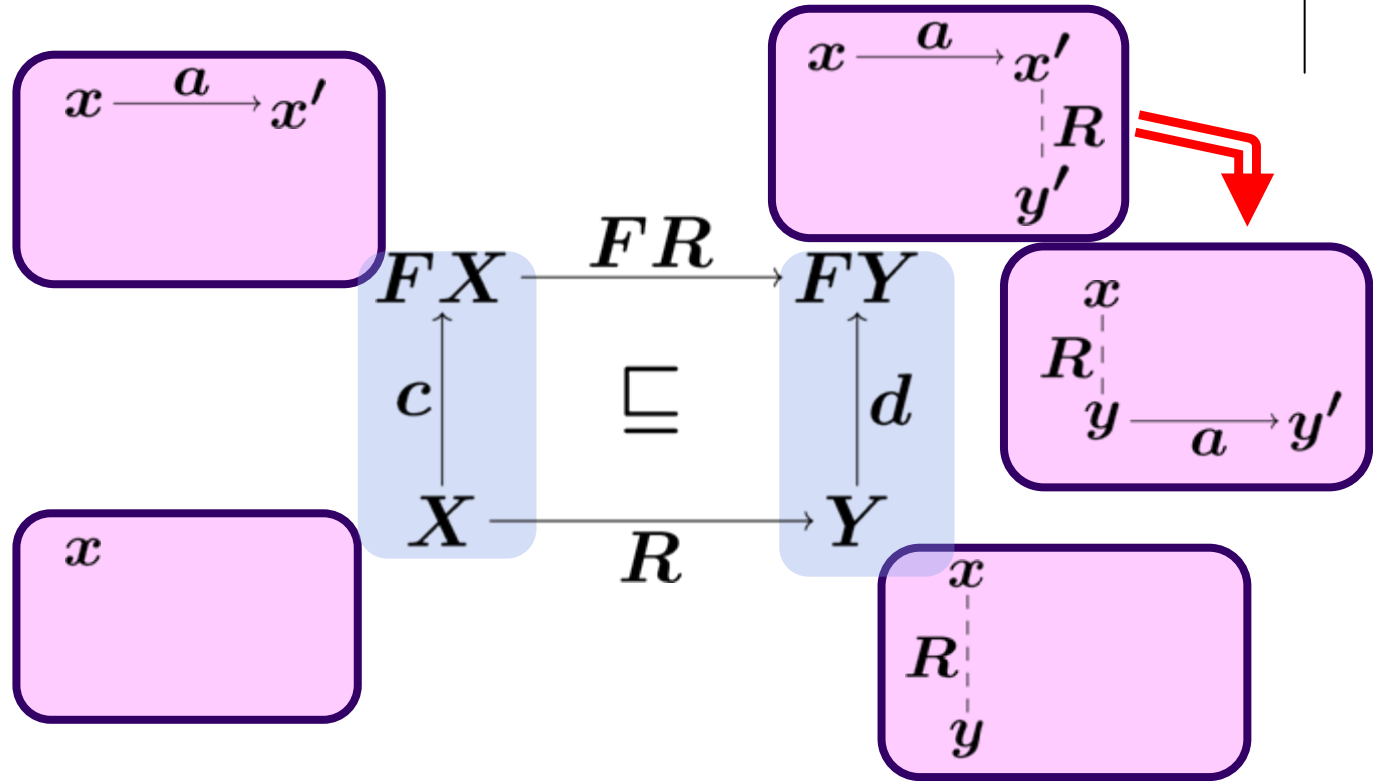


implies

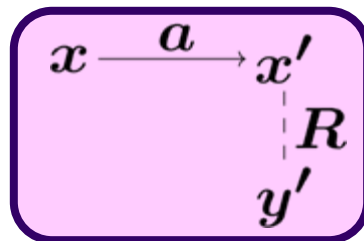




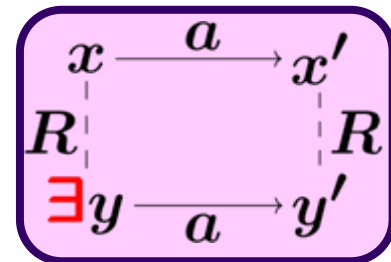
# Backward simulation



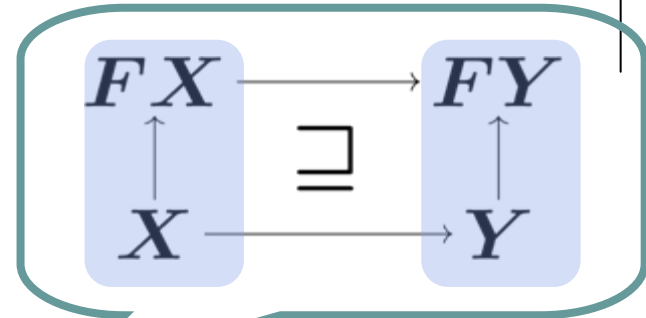
Hence



implies



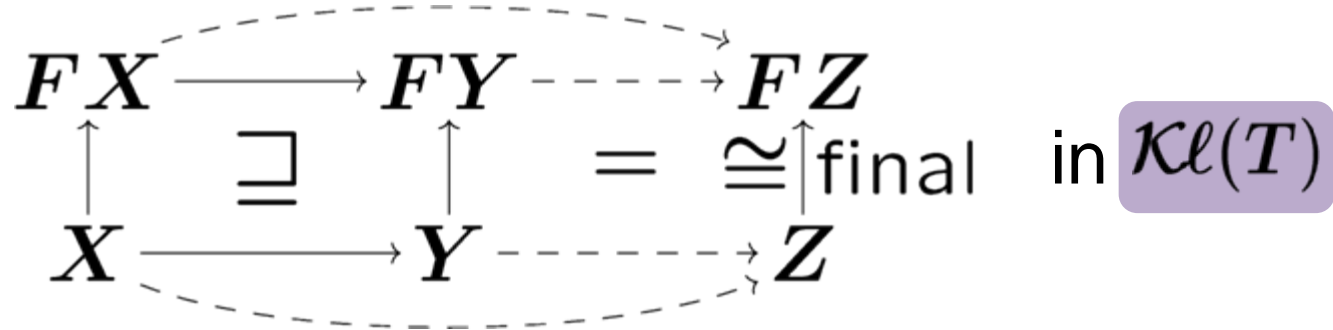
# Main result: general soundness theorem



$\exists$  forward/backward simulation

**➔** trace inclusion

Proof.



- Also completeness result, as easily

# Summary: we have illustrated



System	$\begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array}$
Trace semantics	$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array} & \overset{\text{trace}}{\dashrightarrow} & \begin{array}{c} FZ \\ \cong \uparrow \text{final} \\ Z \end{array} \\ & = & \end{array}$
Simulations	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array} &amp; \supseteq &amp; \begin{array}{c} FY \\ \uparrow \\ Y \end{array} \\ \text{forward sim.} &amp; &amp; \end{array}</math> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <math display="block">\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} FX \\ \uparrow \\ X \end{array} &amp; \sqsubseteq &amp; \begin{array}{c} FY \\ \uparrow \\ Y \end{array} \\ \text{backward sim.} &amp; &amp; \end{array}</math> </div> </div>

in  $\mathcal{Kl}(T)$

General soundness theorem :  $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  trace incl.





# Back to probabilistic anonymity

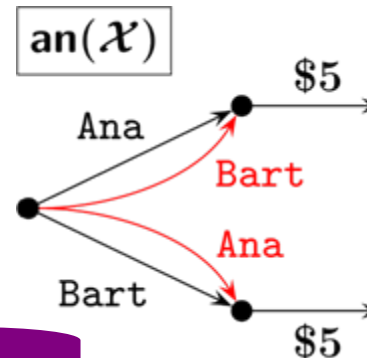
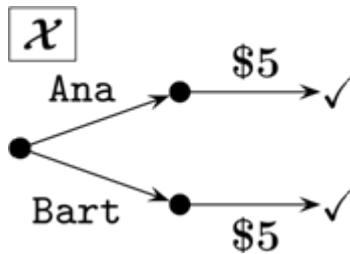
# Back to probabilistic anonymity



probabilistic automaton

## Theorem

$\exists$  forward/backward simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is anonymous



probabilistic anonymity

Proof.

$\mathcal{X}$  is anonymous  $\leftarrow$  trace distribution

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) = \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$  (anonymity is)

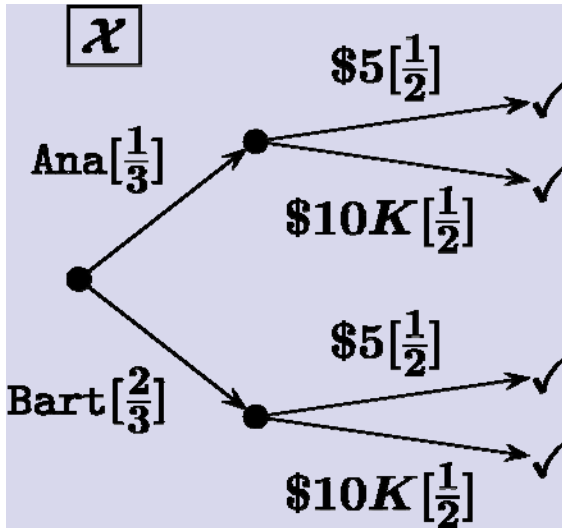
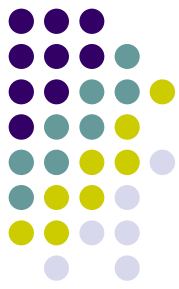
$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) \supseteq \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$  probabilistic simulation (al)

$\leftarrow \exists$  simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$  (**soundness theorem!**)

Can we do this probabilistically?

- What is  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$ ?
- What is “probabilistic simulation”?

# Probabilistic simulation via coalgebraic simulation



$f$ : fwd simulation from  $\mathcal{Y}$  to  $\mathcal{X}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{ccc} FX & \longrightarrow & FY \\ \uparrow & \sqsupseteq & \uparrow \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array} \text{ in } \mathcal{Kl}(T)$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} s(x) &\leq \sum_{y \in Y} t(y) \cdot f(y)(x) && \text{for any } x \in X, \\ \sum_{x \in X} f(y)(x) \cdot c(x)(e, \checkmark) &\leq d(y)(e, \checkmark) && \text{for any } y \in Y \text{ and } e \in \mathcal{A}, \\ \sum_{x \in X} f(y)(x) \cdot c(x)(e, x') &\leq \sum_{y' \in Y} d(y)(e, y') \cdot f(y')(x') && \text{for any } y \in Y, e \in \mathcal{A} \text{ and } x' \in X. \end{aligned}$$

**Coalgebra** for

- $T = \mathcal{D}$  (prob. branching)
- $F = \mathcal{A} \times \{\checkmark\} + \mathcal{A} \times \_$

**Soundness** comes for free

by

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} FX & \longrightarrow & FY & \dashrightarrow & FZ \\ \uparrow & \sqsupseteq & \uparrow & = & \cong \uparrow_{\text{final}} \\ X & \longrightarrow & Y & \dashrightarrow & Z \end{array}$$

# Probabilistic

( $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity)

[IH&Kawabe,2006]



## Theorem

$\exists$  forward/backward simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is anonymous

Probabilistic

Probabilistically

*Proof.*

$\mathcal{X}$  is anonymous

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) = \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$

(anonymity is trace-based)

$\leftarrow \text{tr}(\mathcal{X}) \supseteq \text{tr}(\text{an}(\mathcal{X}))$

( $\subseteq$  is by constr. of  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$ )

$\leftarrow \exists$  simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$  (**soundness theorem!**)

# Probabilistic

( $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity)

[IH&Kawabe,2006]



## Theorem

$\exists$  forward/backward simulation from  $\text{an}(\mathcal{X})$  to  $\mathcal{X}$   
 $\rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  is anonymous

Probabilistic

Probabilistically

- Should be useful in ***theorem-proving*** anonymity
  - This is the case in a non-deterministic setting
    - Verification of the FOO voting protocol [Kawabe,Mano,Sakurada,Tsukada'06]
  - Probabilistic verification example is yet to be found
    - Currently our running example is dining cryptographers [Chaum'88]



# Conclusion

**non-deterministic ( $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity)**  
[KawabeMST06]

- Generic, coalgebraic** theory of traces and simulations [IH, Jacobs, Sokolova]
- $T = \mathcal{P} \rightarrow$  non-determinism
  - $T = \mathcal{D} \rightarrow$  probability

***probabilistic* ( $\exists$  simulation  $\rightarrow$  anonymity)**  
[Current work]



# Conclusion and future work

- Future work
  - Bigger **verification example**?
  - Systems with **both non-determinism and probability**?
    - As in [Segala&Lynch'95]
    - Important also for anonymity applications [Palamidessi,MFPS'05]
    - Suitable coalgebraic framework is missing
  - **Weaker notion** of anonymity?
    - Current “anonymity” notion is pretty strong
    - “Simulation-based” method also for weaker notions?

For you to take home:

- ***Probability*** in anonymity
- **Category theory in action!**

**Thank you for your  
attention!**

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