

# Category Theory for Compositional Verification

Kazuki Watanabe<sup>1,2</sup>  
Clovis Eberhart<sup>2,3</sup>  
Kazuyuki Asada<sup>4</sup>  
Ichiro Hasuo<sup>1,2</sup>

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NII



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# Category Theory for Compositional ~~Verification~~ Models

Markov Decision  
Processes

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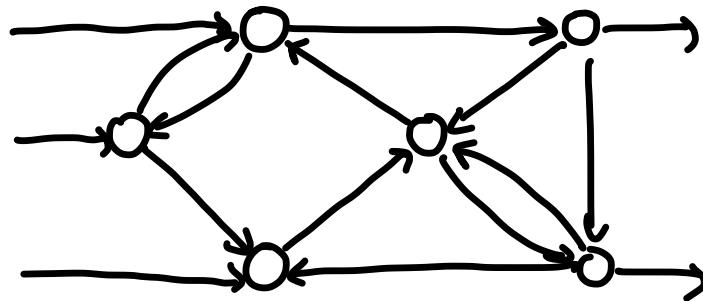
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# Plan

categorical side

syntax



semantics

$\rightsquigarrow$  morphism  $3 \rightarrow 2$  in  $\mathbb{S}$

(+ bidirectional setting)

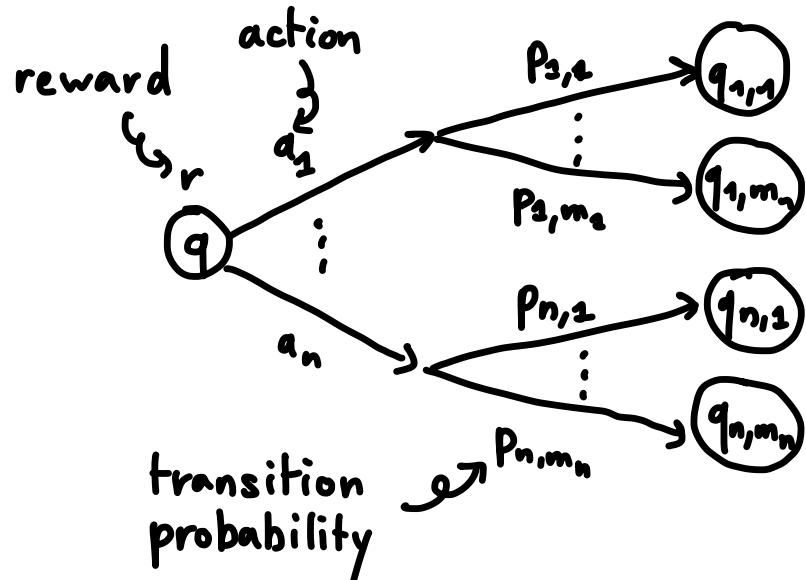
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algorithmic side

We get a nice algorithm from a categorical approach.  
(+ free syntax)

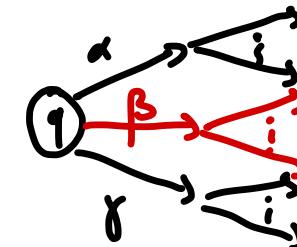
# Markov Decision Processes

Definition: "graph-like" structure with actions, probabilities, and rewards.



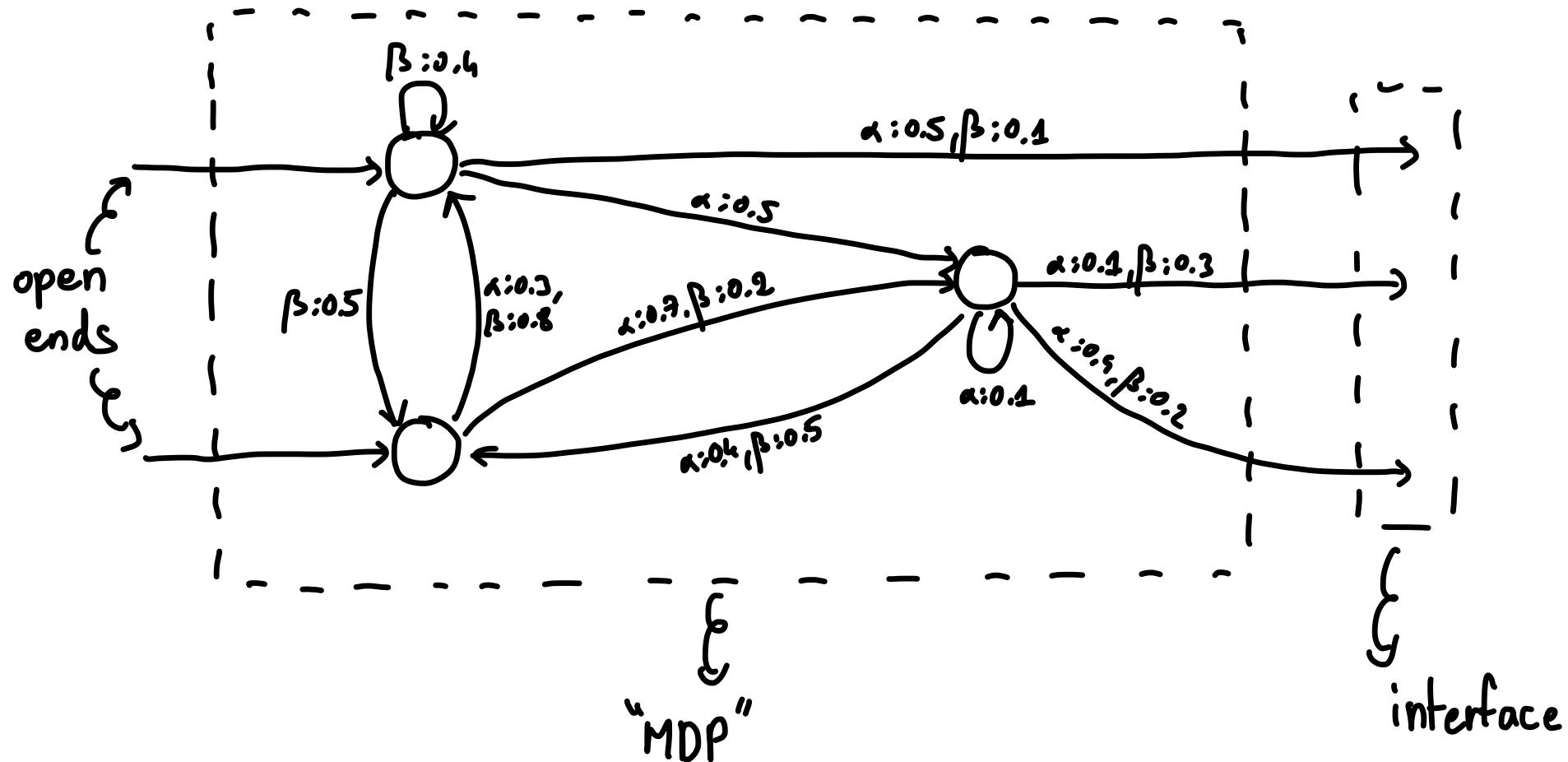
(coalgebras  
 $X \rightarrow (\mathcal{D}_{\leq 1} X)^{\Sigma} \times \mathbb{Q}$   
(where  $\Sigma = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ )

scheduler: choice of action for each state  
↳ expected reward from  $q_i$  to  $q_f$



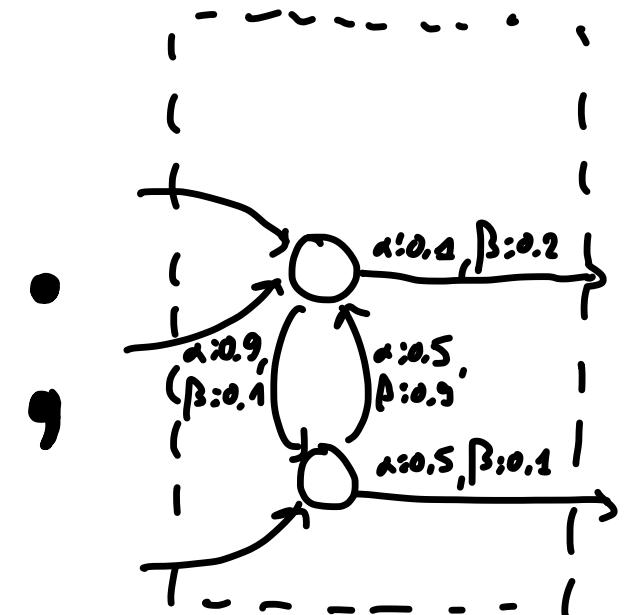
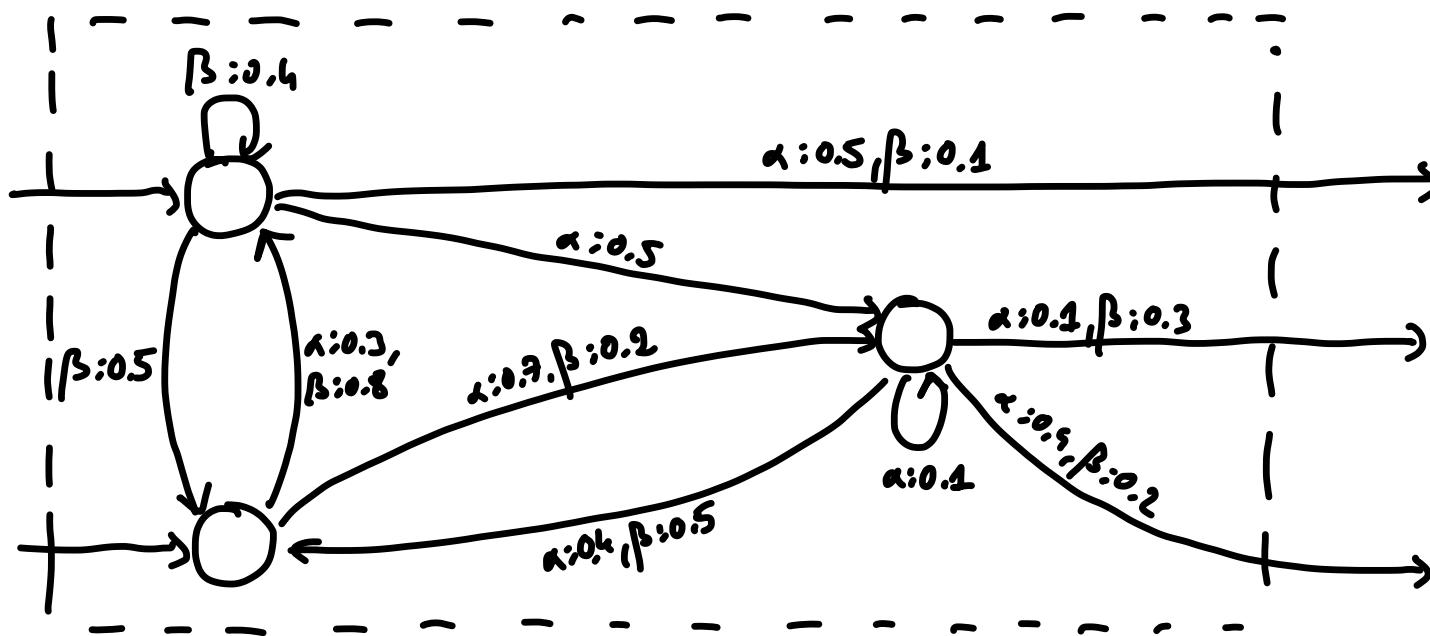
Problem: given  $q_i, q_f, q_t$ , find the maximum expected reward from  $q_i$  to  $q_f$ .

# Open MDPs

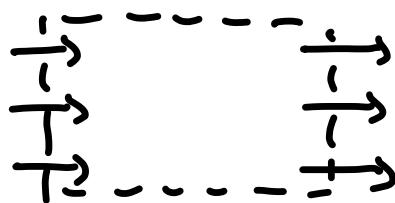


# Composition of OMDPs

composition:



identities:



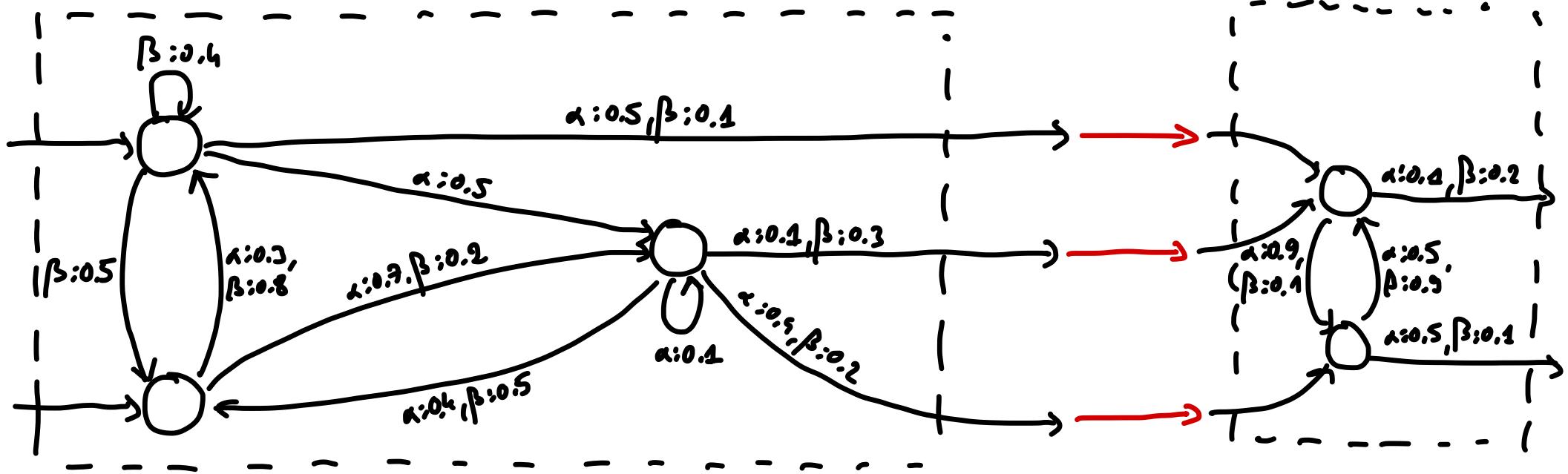
Lemma: OMDP ; - objects : natural numbers

- morphisms  $m \rightarrow n$  : OMDPs with  $m(n)$  open ends on the left (right)

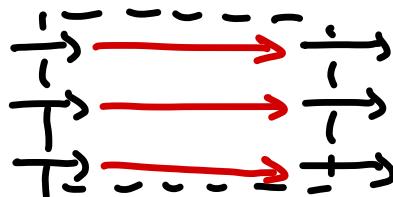
forms a category.

# Composition of OMDPs

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identities:

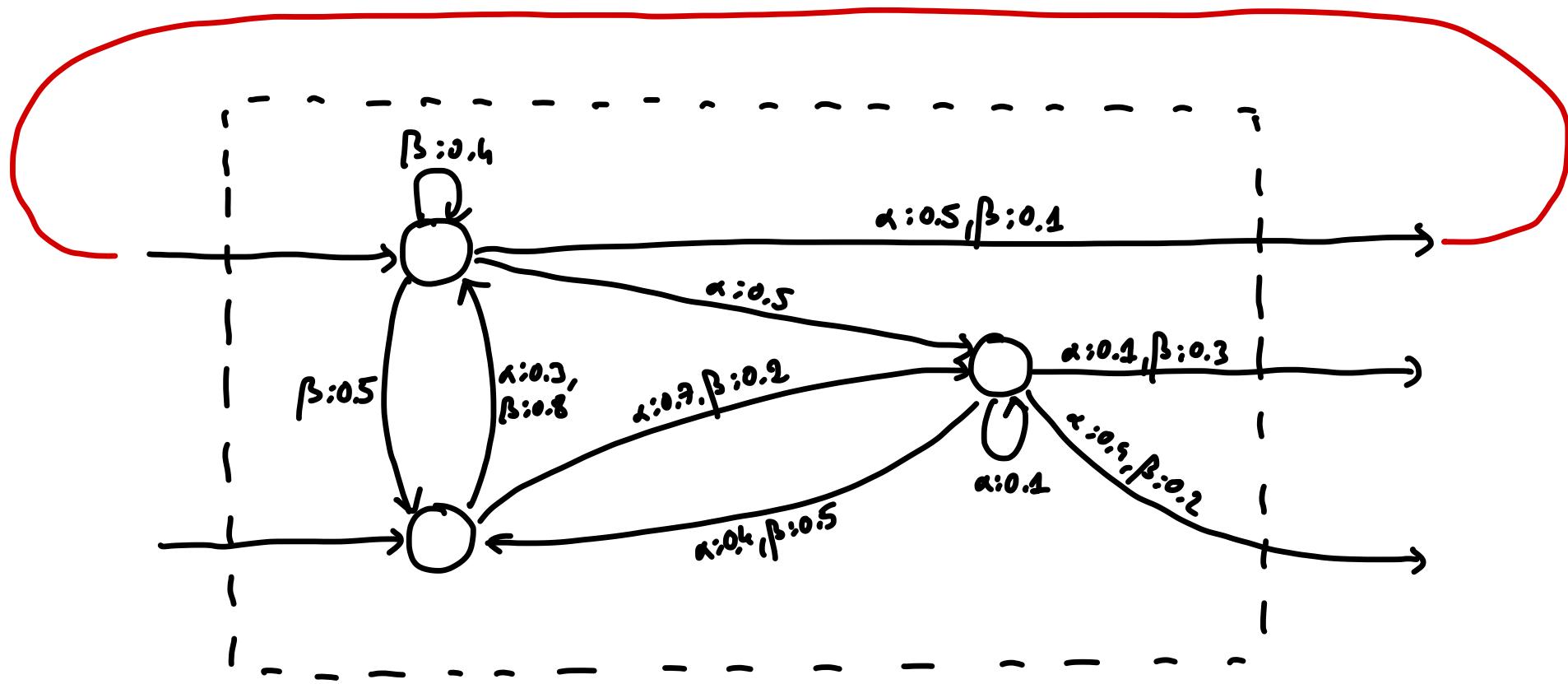


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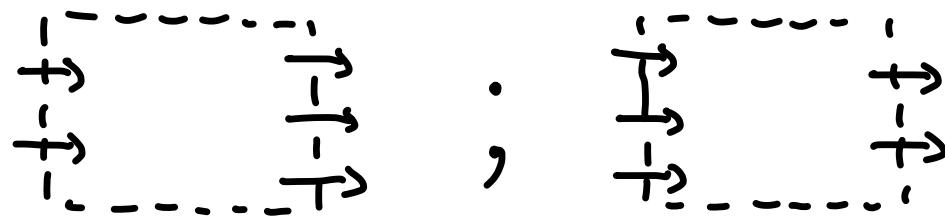
# Trace of OMDPs



Lemma: OMDP forms a traced symmetric monoidal category (TSMC).

# Semantics of OMDPs

To compute maximum expected reward compositionally, we need to know all possible expected rewards from entries to exits.



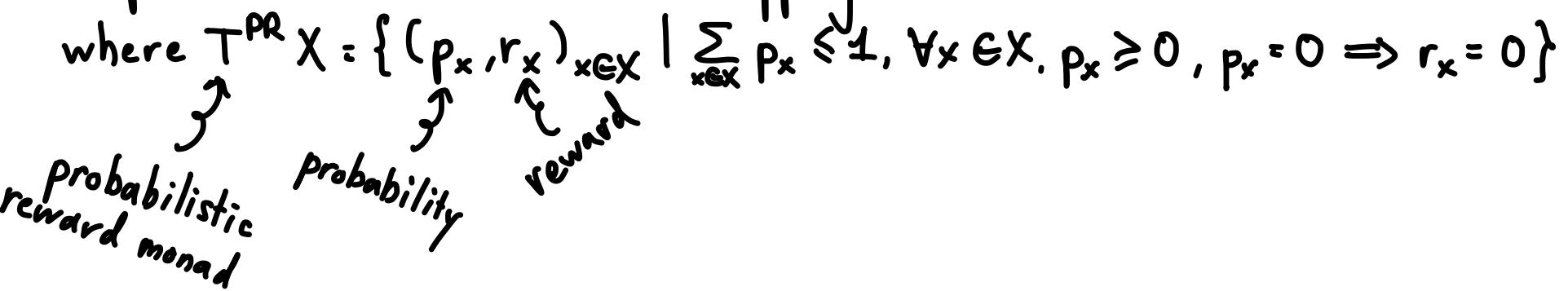
Probabilities :  $RP_{\alpha_l; \alpha_r}(i, k) = \sum_{j=1}^n RP_{\alpha_l}(i, j) RP_{\alpha_r}(j, k)$

Expected reward :  $ER_{\alpha_l; \alpha_r}(i, k) = \sum_{j=1}^n ER_{\alpha_l}(i, j) RP_{\alpha_r}(j, k) + RP_{\alpha_l}(i, j) ER_{\alpha_r}(j, k)$

To compute expected rewards compositionally, we need to know ;  
- expected rewards  
- reachability probabilities

# Semantic Category for OMDPs

## Definition of $\mathbb{S}$ :

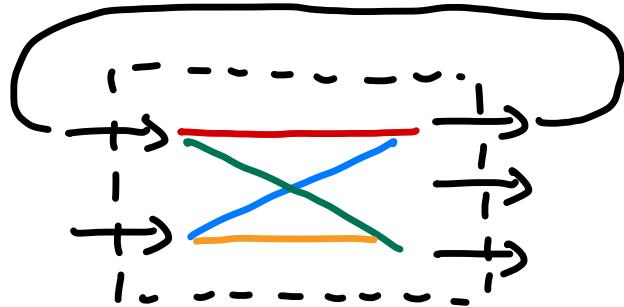
- objects : natural numbers
- morphisms  $m \rightarrow n$  : (sets of) mappings  $[n] \rightarrow T^{PR}[m]$   
where  $T^{PR} X = \{(p_x, r_x)_{x \in X} \mid \sum_{x \in X} p_x \leq 1, \forall x \in X. p_x \geq 0, p_x = 0 \Rightarrow r_x = 0\}$   


## Composition: $f: m \rightarrow n, g: n \rightarrow p$

- $p_{f;g}(i, k) = \sum_{j=1}^n p_f(i, j) p_g(j, k)$
- $r_{f;g}(i, k) = \sum_{j=1}^n r_f(i, j) p_g(j, k) + p_f(i, j) r_g(j, k)$

# Trace in semantics

Trace:  $(f : [p+n] \rightarrow [p+m]) \mapsto (tr_p(f) : [n] \rightarrow [m])$



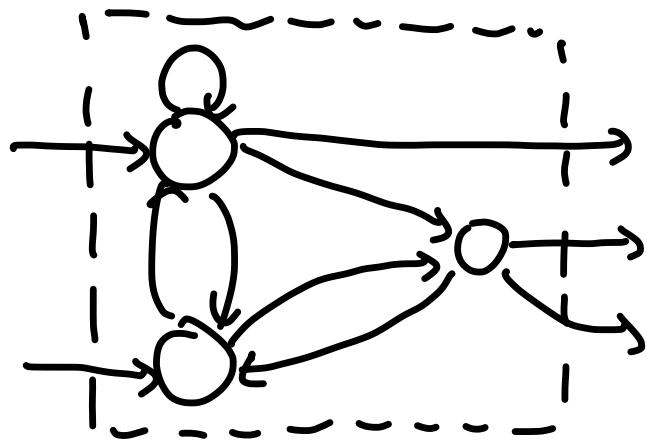
$$RP_f = \begin{bmatrix} RP_{loop} & RP_{out} \\ RP_{in} & RP_{through} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{(same for)} \\ ER_f \end{matrix}$$

$$RP_{tr_p(f)} = RP_{through} + \sum_{d \in N} RP_{in} \cdot RP_{loop}^d \cdot RP_{out}$$

$$ER_{tr_p(f)} = ER_{through} + \sum_{d \in N} [RP_{in} \quad ER_{in}] \begin{bmatrix} RP_{through} & ER_{through} \\ 0 & RP_{through} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} ER_{out} \\ RP_{out} \end{bmatrix}$$

Lemma: \$ is a TSMC.

# Interpretation of OMDPs



morphism  $2 \rightarrow 3$  in  $\mathbb{S}$   
(i.e. a set of mappings  
 $2 \rightarrow T^{PR} 3$ )

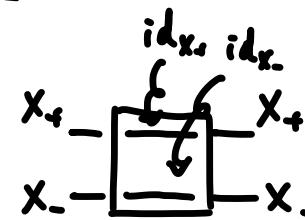
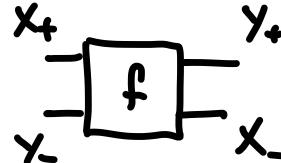
$$[\![\mathcal{M}]\!](i,j) = \{(RP_\sigma(i,j), ER_\sigma(i,j)) \mid \sigma \text{ scheduler}\}$$

Lemma:  $[\![-\!]\!]$  is a traced symmetric monoidal functor.

↳ We can compute expected rewards compositionally!

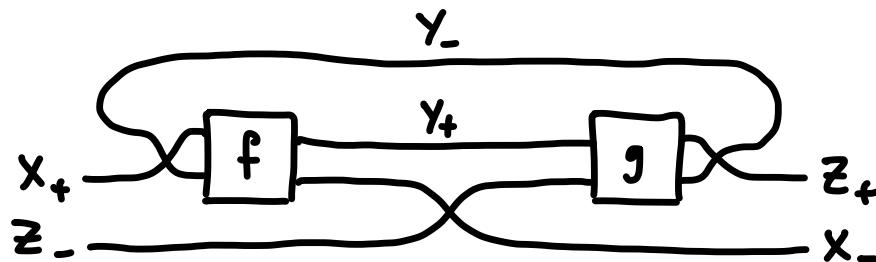
# Bidirectionality and Int-construction

$\text{Int}(\mathbb{C})$  :- objects :  $(X_+, X_-)$  where  $X_+, X_-$  objects of  $\mathbb{C}$   
 - morphisms  $(X_+, X_-) \rightarrow (Y_+, Y_-) : f \in \mathbb{C}(X_+ \otimes Y_-, Y_+ \otimes X_-)$



identity on  $(X_+, X_-) : id_{(X_+, X_-)} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} id_{X_+ \otimes X_-}$

composition :

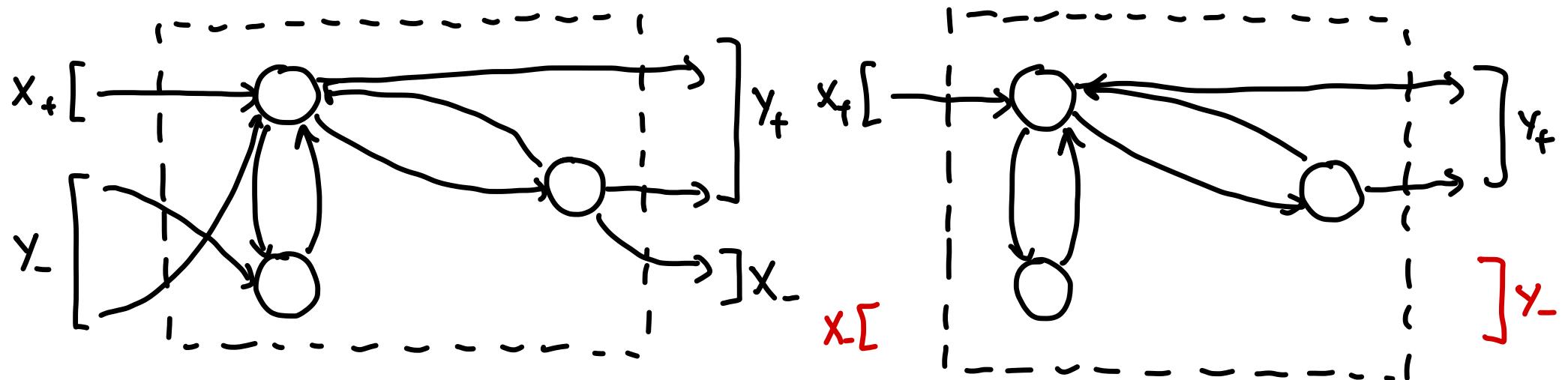


Lemma :  $\text{Int}(\mathbb{C})$  is compact closed.

unit :  $\eta_X : \text{Int}(\mathbb{C})((I, I), (X_+, X_-) \otimes (X_-, X_+)) = \text{Int}(\mathbb{C})((I, I), (X_+ \otimes X_-, X_+ \otimes X_-)) = \mathbb{C}(X_+ \otimes X_-, X_+ \otimes X_-)$

$\eta_X = id_{X_+ \otimes X_-}$

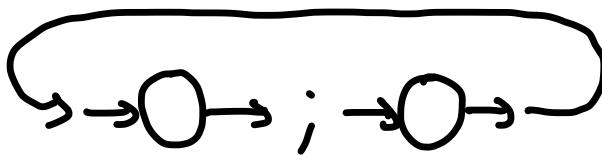
# Int-construction : example



usefulness : ease of modelling



graph

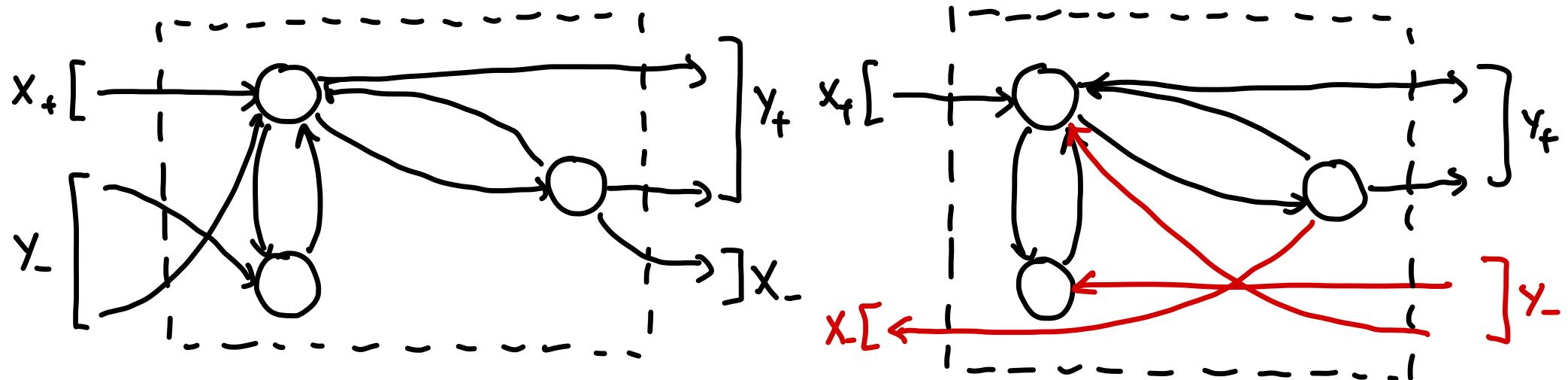


in TSMC



in CompCC

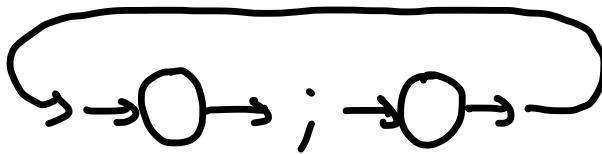
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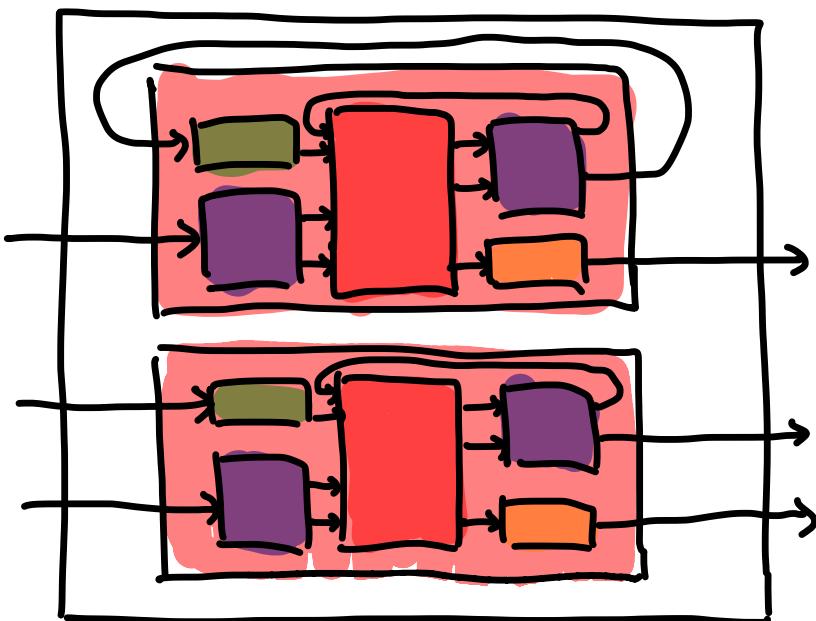
in CompCC

# Algorithm

This work is published in CAV !

Algorithm to compute  $\llbracket M \rrbracket$ :

- if  $M = M_1 ; M_2$  then  $\llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket M_1 \rrbracket ; \llbracket M_2 \rrbracket$   
(idem if  $M = \text{tr}_p(M')$  ...)
- if  $M$  is a single state, computing  $\llbracket M \rrbracket$  is trivial



Our algorithm:

- beats state of the art when there is repetition
- performance increases with degree of repetition
- cannot handle large interfaces in practice

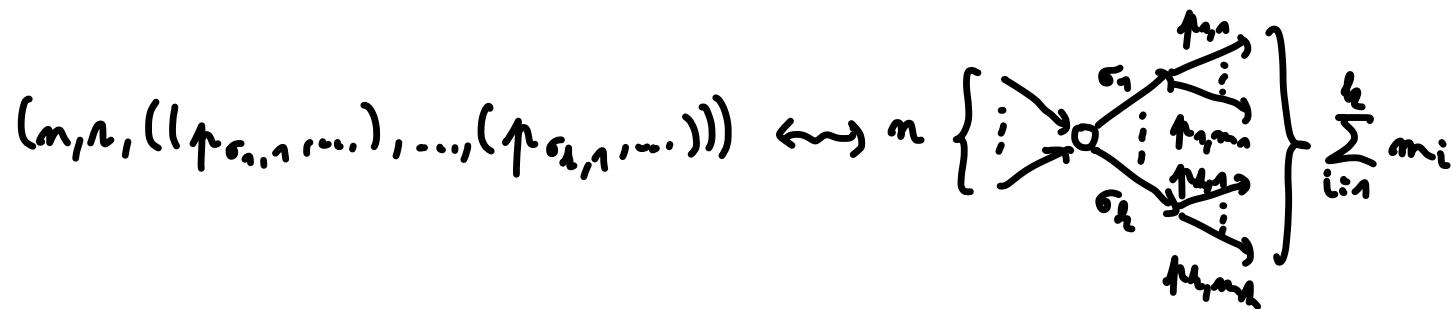
# Free Syntax

Formally, open MDPs are equivalence classes of  $(m, m, Q, E, P, R)$

↳ not so nice to reason about or program on.

Also, would be nice to reason with universal properties.

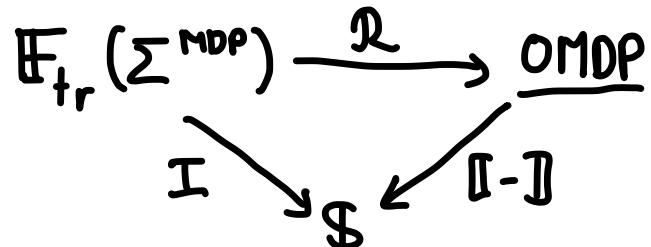
Free syntax :  $\mathbb{F}_{\text{tr}}(\Sigma^{\text{MDP}})$  with  $\Sigma^{\text{MDP}} = \{(n, r, ((p_{c_1, 1}, \dots, p_{c_n, m}), \dots, (p_{c_k, 1}, \dots, p_{c_k, m})): n \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^k m_i\}$



Realisation functor :  $\mathcal{R} : \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t}_r}(\Sigma^{\text{MDP}}) \rightarrow \underline{\text{MDP}}$

Lemma:  $R$  is full.

# Algorithm (in depth)



$\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{R}$  : defined inductively  
(by universal property)

Lemma.  $\mathbb{I}-\mathbb{J} \circ \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{I}$ .

Algo :

Data : a morphism  $f : m \rightarrow n$  in  $\mathbb{F}_{\text{tr}}(\Sigma^{\text{MDP}})$

Returns :  $\mathcal{I}(f)$

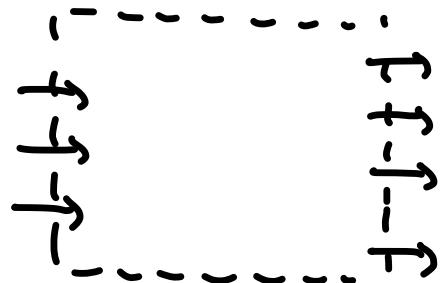
```
if ( $f = f_1 ; f_2$ ) { return  $\mathcal{I}(f_1) ; \mathcal{I}(f_2)$ }  
elif ( $f = f_1 \otimes f_2$ ) { return  $\mathcal{I}(f_1) \otimes \mathcal{I}(f_2)$ }  
elif ( $f = \text{Tr}(f')$ ) { return  $\text{Tr}(\mathcal{I}(f'))$ }  
elif ( $f$  generator) { enumerate all schedulers }
```

not actually exact

- } - inductive on structure of  $f$   
- can be done while remembering  
 $\mathcal{I}(g)$  for sub-MDPs

# New heuristics from compositionality

Our algorithm is inefficient on large interfaces.



Why: scheduler potentially optimal if for all other schedulers, it reaches at least one exit with higher probability / reward.  
⇒ number increases exponentially with number of exits.

Watanabe, van der Vegt, Hasuo, Rot, Junges. Pareto Curves for Compositionally Model Checking String Diagrams of MDPs.

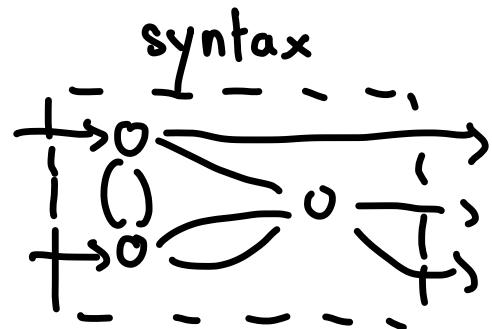
- ↳ give a sound heuristic to approximate maximal reachability probability.
- ↳ TACAS, Wednesday, 15:00

# If you're interested

- Watanabe, E., Asada, Hasuo. A Compositional Approach to Parity Games. MFPS '21.
  - ↳ best account of the categorical techniques used in our approach (arXiv version has appendices)
- Watanabe, E., Asada, Hasuo. Compositional Probabilistic Model Checking with String Diagrams of MDPs. CAV '23.
  - ↳ gives algorithm and experimental results
- Watanabe, E., Asada, Hasuo. Compositional Solution of Mean Payoff Games by String Diagrams.
  - ↳ develops a "meager semantics"
- Watanabe, van der Vegt, Hasuo, Rot, Junges. Pareto Curves for Compositionally Model Checking String Diagrams of MDPs, TACAS '24.
  - ↳ develops a sound heuristic based on compositionality
- Lechenne, E., Hasuo. A Compositional Approach to Petri Nets. CMCS '24
  - ↳ interesting case of Petri nets

# Conclusion

categorical side



semantics  
morphism  $2 \rightarrow 3$  in  $\mathbb{S}$

algorithmic side

We get a nice algorithm from a categorical approach.

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## Related work

- open parity games [Watanabe, MFPS'21]
- efficient heuristics for OMDPs [Watanabe, TACAS'24]
- open Petri nets [Lechenne+, CMCS'24]