

# Qualitative Reachability for Open Interval Markov Chains

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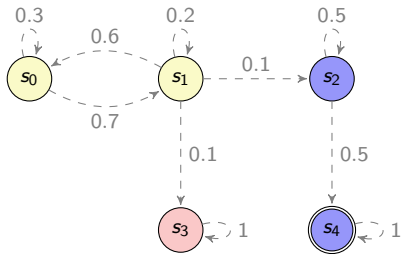
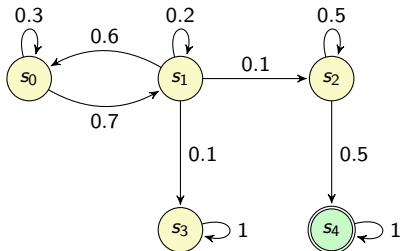
# Qualitative reachability in Markov chains

Input:

- Markov chain
- Target states  $T$

Output:

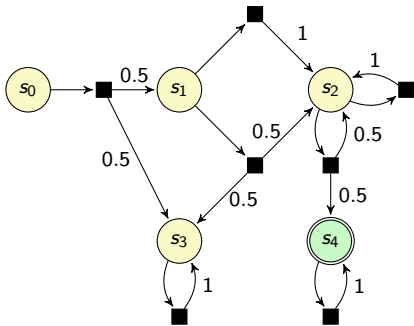
- $S^{=0}$ : set of states reaching  $T$  with probability 0
- $S^{=1}$ : set of states reaching  $T$  with probability 1



# Qualitative reachability in Markov decision processes

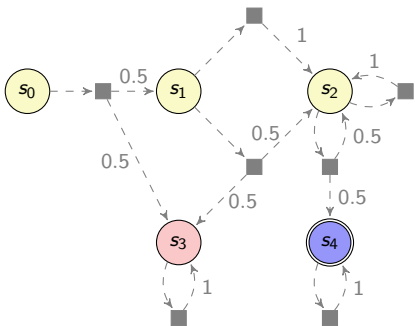
Input:

- Markov decision process (MDP): transition consists of nondeterministic choice of distribution from source state, then probabilistic choice of target state according to the distribution
- Target states  $T$



Output:

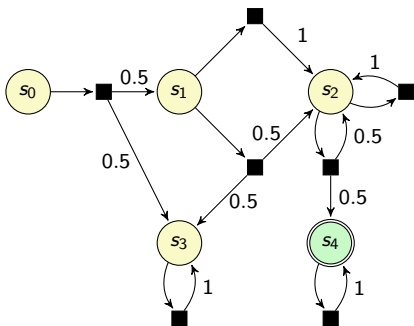
- $S_{\nabla}^0$ : set of states reaching  $T$  with probability 0 for all schedulers (resolutions of nondeterminism)
- $S_{\nabla}^1$ : set of states reaching  $T$  with probability 1 for all schedulers (resolutions of nondeterminism)



# Qualitative reachability in Markov decision processes

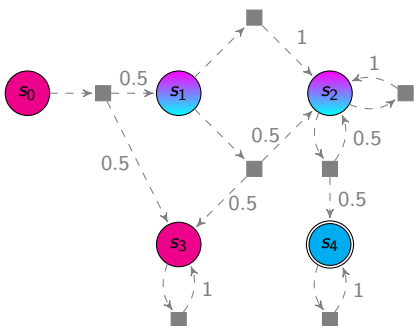
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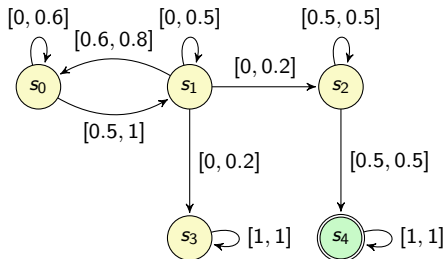
Output:

- $S_{\exists}^0$ : set of states reaching  $T$  with probability 0 for some scheduler (resolution of nondeterminism)
- $S_{\exists}^1$ : set of states reaching  $T$  with probability 1 for some scheduler (resolution of nondeterminism)



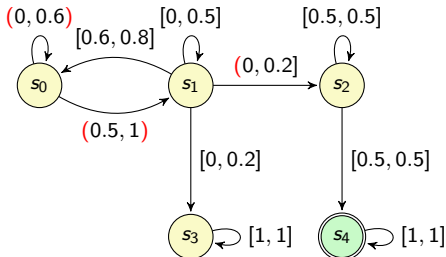
# Interval Markov chains

- Precise information regarding transition probabilities may not be available.
- *Interval Markov chains* (IMCs): Markov chains where transition probabilities are replaced by *intervals* [JL91, KU02].



# Open interval Markov chains

- Open IMCs: use (half-)open intervals, in addition to closed intervals [CK15].



# Reachability in IMCs

- For *closed IMCs*, quantitative reachability (more general than qualitative reachability) can be decided in *polynomial time* [CHK13,PLSS13].
- For *open IMCs*, quantitative reachability probabilities can be *approximated*.
  - Transforming an open IMC to a closed IMC by closing all intervals labelling transitions gives an arbitrarily close approximation [CK15].
- What about *exact* verification of *qualitative* reachability probabilities in open IMCs?

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[CHK13]. T. Chen, T. Han, M. Kwiatkowska. On the Complexity of Model Checking Interval-valued Discrete Time Markov Chains. *Information Processing Letters*, 113(7), 2013.

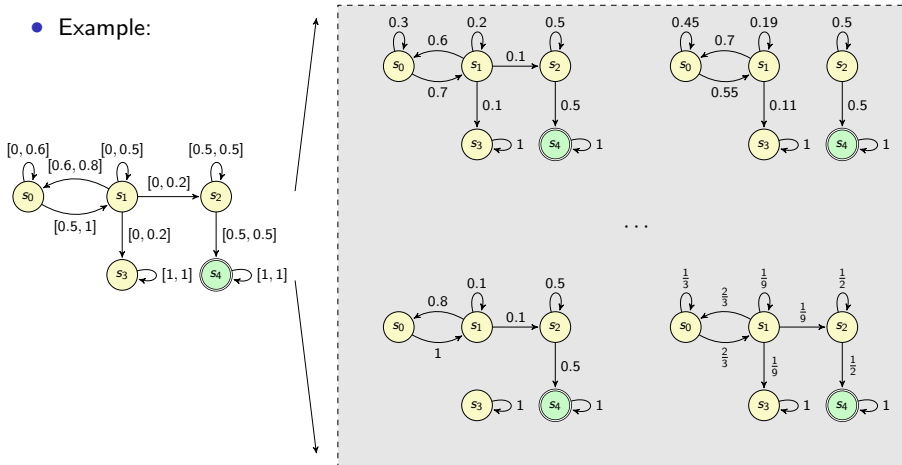
[CK15]. S. Chakraborty and J.-P. Katoen. Model Checking of Open Interval Markov Chains. In *Proc. ASMTA 2015*.

[PLSS13]. A. Puggelli *et al.* Polynomial-Time Verification of PCTL Properties of MDPs with Convex Uncertainties. In *Proc. CAV 2013*.

# Uncertain Markov chain semantics of an IMC

- The *uncertain Markov chain* (UMC) semantics is an (uncountable) set of Markov chains.
  - Each Markov chain corresponds to a certain choice of probabilities from the intervals of each transition.

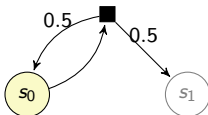
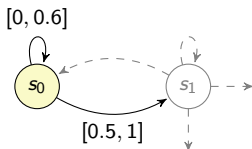
- Example:





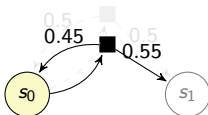
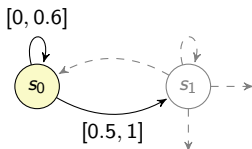
# Interval Markov decision process semantics of an IMC

- The *interval Markov decision process* (IMDP) semantics is an MDP with an (uncountable) number of transition distributions.
  - The probabilities of each distribution associated with state  $s$  corresponds to a certain choice of probabilities from the intervals of the outgoing edges of  $s$ .
- Example: state  $s_0$



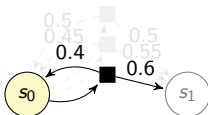
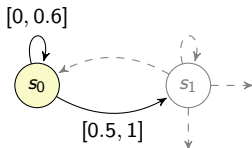
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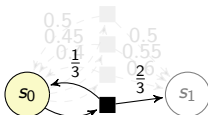
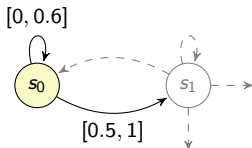
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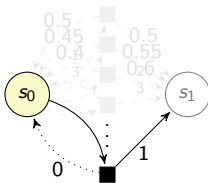
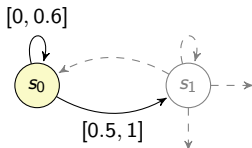
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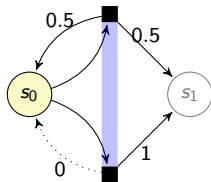
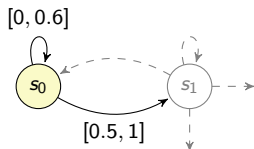
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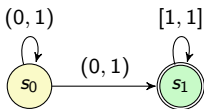
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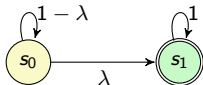
Uncountable set of distributions available in  $s_0$ :  
between  $\{s_0 \mapsto 0.5, s_1 \mapsto 0.5\}$  and  $\{s_0 \mapsto 0, s_1 \mapsto 1\}$

# UMC semantics vs. IMDP semantics: example

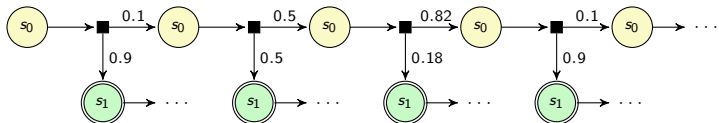
- Example IMC:



- UMC semantics: for each  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{\text{UMC}}$  contains a Markov chain  $\mathcal{D}_\lambda$  of the form:



- IMDP semantics: on each visit to  $s_0$ , can choose a different distribution, for example:



# Qualitative reachability in interval Markov chains

- $\mathcal{S}_{\forall}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\}$ ;
- $\mathcal{S}_{\exists}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\}$ ;
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- $\mathcal{S}_{\forall}^{0,IMDP} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{IMDP}} . \Pr_s^{\sigma}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\}$ ;
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(where  $\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC}$  is the UMC semantics of IMC  $\mathcal{O}$ , and  $\text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{IMDP}}$  is the set of schedulers of  $\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{IMDP}$ ).



# Main results

UMC and IMDP semantics coincide for all cases bar “universal/probability 1”

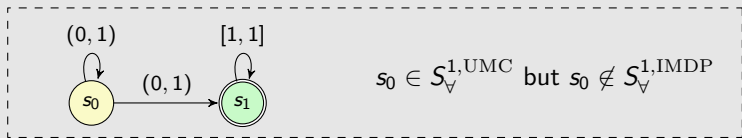
$$S_{\forall}^{0,UMC} = S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP}, S_{\exists}^{0,UMC} = S_{\exists}^{0,IMDP} \text{ and } S_{\exists}^{1,UMC} = S_{\exists}^{1,IMDP}.$$

There exists an open IMC such that  $S_{\forall}^{1,UMC} \neq S_{\forall}^{1,IMDP}$ .

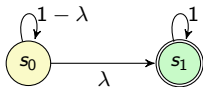
Qualitative reachability for open IMCs can be decided efficiently

$S_{\forall}^{0,UMC}$ ,  $S_{\exists}^{0,UMC}$ ,  $S_{\exists}^{1,UMC}$ ,  $S_{\forall}^{1,UMC}$ ,  $S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP}$ ,  $S_{\exists}^{0,IMDP}$ ,  $S_{\exists}^{1,IMDP}$  and  $S_{\forall}^{1,IMDP}$  can be computed in polynomial time in the size of the IMC.

# Open IMC witnessing $S_{\forall}^{1,UMC} \neq S_{\forall}^{1,IMDP}$



- $s_0 \in S_{\forall}^{1,UMC}$ : recall that all Markov chains  $\mathcal{D}_{\lambda}$  in  $[\mathcal{O}]_{UMC}$  are of the form



for  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ , hence  $\Pr_{s_0}^{\mathcal{D}_{\lambda}}(\text{Reach}(\{s_1\})) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 1 - (1 - \lambda)^k = 1$ .

- $s_0 \notin S_{\forall}^{1,IMDP}$ :
  - Consider scheduler (with memory)  $\sigma$  that assigns  $\frac{1}{2^i}$  probability to the  $i$ -th attempt to take the transition from  $s_0$  to  $s_1$ .
  - $\Pr_{s_0}^{\sigma}(\text{Reach}(\{s_1\})) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4}(\frac{1}{8} + \dots)) < 1$ .

# Qualitative reachability in interval Markov chains

- $S_{\forall}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\}$ ;
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# Universal quantification/probability 0

- Complement sets:
  - $S \setminus S_{\forall}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) > 0\}$ .
  - $S \setminus S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket}_{IMDP} . \Pr_s^{\sigma}(\text{Reach}(T)) > 0\}$ .

Computation of  $S \setminus S_{\forall}^{0,UMC}$  and  $S \setminus S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP}$  by graph reachability

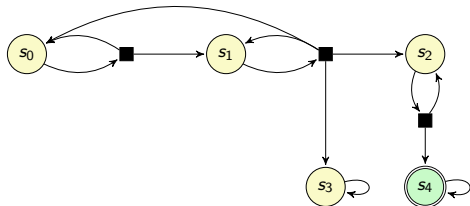
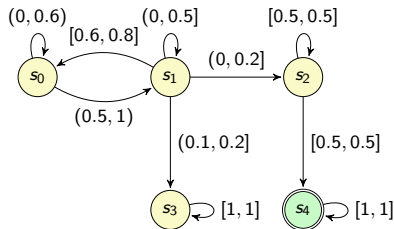
- $s \in S \setminus S_{\forall}^{0,UMC}$  iff there exists a path in the graph of the IMC from  $s$  to  $T$ .
- $s \in S \setminus S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP}$  iff there exists a path in the graph of the IMC from  $s$  to  $T$ .
- Consequence:  $S_{\forall}^{0,UMC} = S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP}$ ; can be computed in polynomial time.

# Qualitative reachability in interval Markov chains

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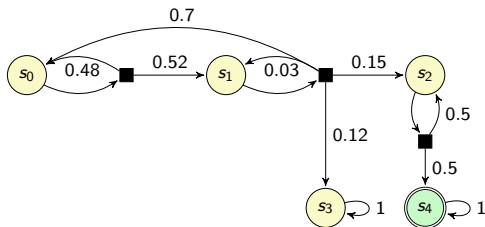
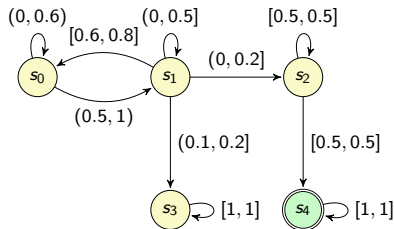
# Existential quantification/probability 0 and 1

- Valid edge set: set of edges with
  - 1 Same source state;
  - 2 At least one assignment of positive probabilities to edges that respects the edges' intervals.
- Qualitative MDP abstraction: represent each valid edge set by an (arbitrary) *representative distribution* over the set's edges.
  - Justification: in finite MDPs, exact (positive) probability values are immaterial for qualitative reachability properties.
- Example:



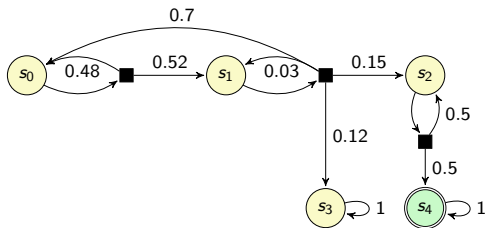
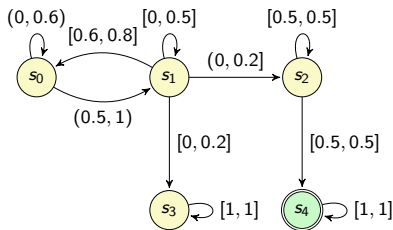
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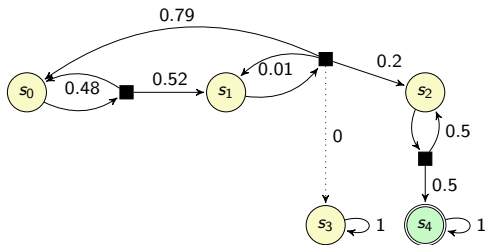
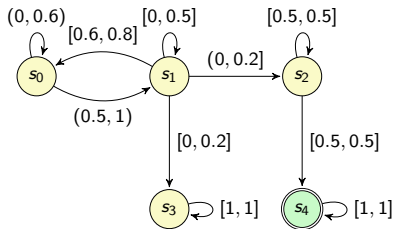
- Example with eliminable edges (edges with left-closed intervals for which the left endpoint equals 0):





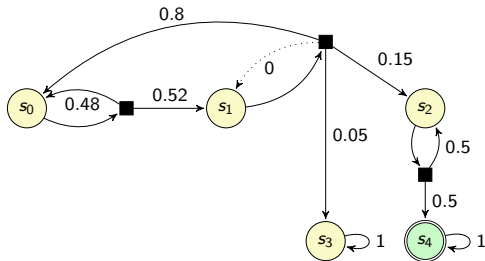
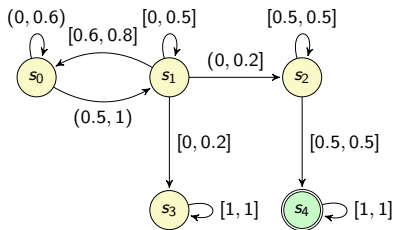
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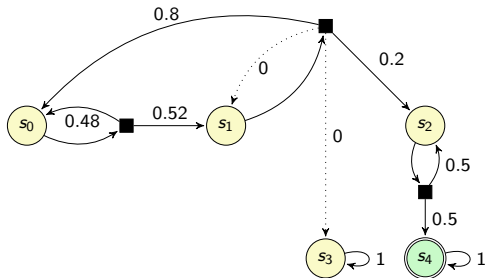
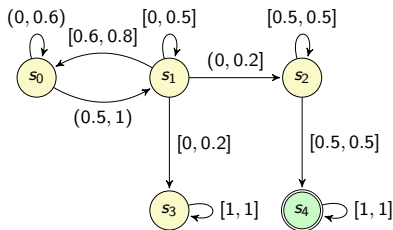
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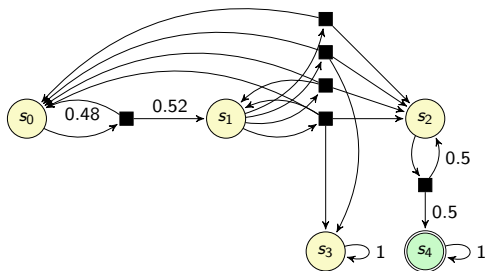
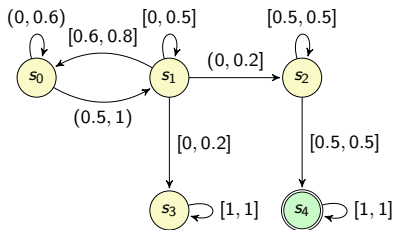
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# Existential quantification/probability 0 and 1

## Preservation of existential qualitative reachability

Let  $\lambda \in \{0, 1\}$ . There exists a scheduler  $\sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})}$  of the qualitative MDP abstraction such that  $\text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda$  if and only if:

- there exists  $\mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{\text{UMC}}$  such that  $\text{Pr}_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda$ ;
- there exists  $\sigma' \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket}_{\text{IMDP}}$  such that  $\text{Pr}_s^{\sigma'}(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda$ .

• Hence:

- $S_{\exists}^{\lambda, \text{UMC}} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda\}$ ;
- $S_{\exists}^{\lambda, \text{IMDP}} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda\}$ .
- Proposal: compute  $\{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda\}$  by analysing the qualitative MDP abstraction using established techniques for qualitative reachability properties of finite MDPs.

# Existential quantification/probability 0 and 1

## Preservation of existential qualitative reachability

Let  $\lambda \in \{0, 1\}$ . There exists a scheduler  $\sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})}$  of the qualitative MDP abstraction such that  $\text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda$  if and only if:

- there exists  $\mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{\text{UMC}}$  such that  $\text{Pr}_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda$ ;
- there exists  $\sigma' \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket}_{\text{IMDP}}$  such that  $\text{Pr}_s^{\sigma'}(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda$ .

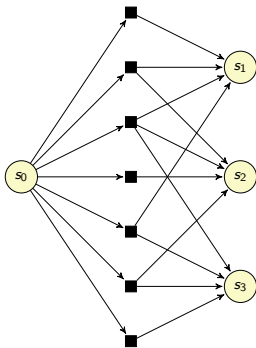
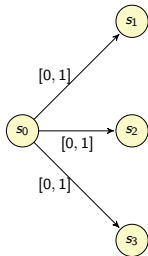
• Hence:

- $S_{\exists}^{\lambda, \text{UMC}} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda\}$ ;
- $S_{\exists}^{\lambda, \text{IMDP}} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda\}$ .

- Proposal: compute  $\{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = \lambda\}$  by analysing the qualitative MDP abstraction using established techniques for qualitative reachability properties of finite MDPs.
- But ...

# Existential quantification/probability 0 and 1

- Size of the qualitative MDP abstraction: exponential in the size of the IMC.
  - If an IMC state has  $n$  eliminable edges, the corresponding state of the qualitative MDP abstraction has in the worst case  $2^n - 1$  outgoing distributions (depends on the endpoints of the intervals).
  - Example with  $n = 3$ :



# Existential quantification/probability 0 and 1

- Obtain algorithms applied to the qualitative MDP abstraction that run in polynomial time *in the size of the IMC*?
  - Sufficient to compute predecessor operations in polynomial time in the size of the IMC (precedent in the quantitative context in [HM18]).
- Example of predecessor operation: CPre (used for probability 0 case).
  - For  $X \subseteq S$ ,  $\text{CPre}(X)$  is the set of states for which there exists a distribution such that all of the distributions edges lead to states in  $X$ .
  - Formally,  $\text{CPre}(X) = \{s \in S \mid \exists \mu \in \Delta_{\text{QMA}}(s) . \text{support}(\mu) \subseteq X\}$ , where  $\Delta_{\text{QMA}}(s)$  is the set of distributions available in state  $s$  in  $\text{QMA}(\mathcal{O})$ .

$\text{CPre}(X)$  can be computed in polynomial time in the size of the IMC

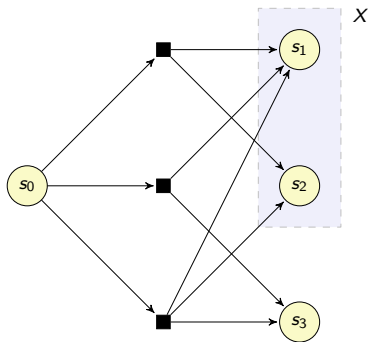
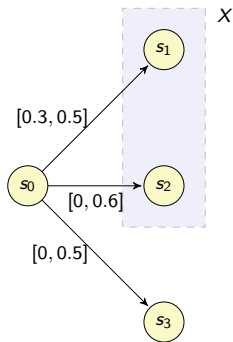
Given  $s \in S$ , we have  $s \in \text{CPre}(X)$  if and only if

- ① edges from  $s$  to  $S \setminus X$  are eliminable, and
- ② the sum of the right endpoints of edges from  $s$  to  $X$  is at least 1 (strictly greater than 1 if at least one edge from  $s$  to  $X$  is right open).



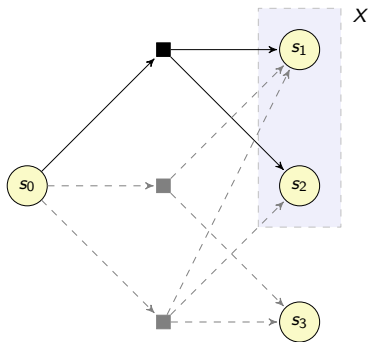
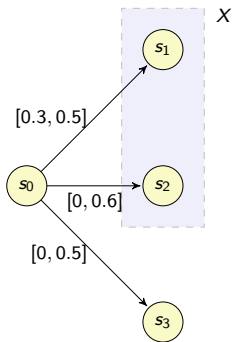
# Existential quantification/probability 0 and 1

- Recall:  $s \in \text{CPre}(X)$  if and only if
  - edges from  $s$  to  $S \setminus X$  are eliminable, and
  - the sum of the right endpoints of edges from  $s$  to  $X$  is at least 1 (strictly greater than 1 if at least one edge from  $s$  to  $X$  is right open).
- Example:



# Existential quantification/probability 0 and 1

- Recall:  $s \in \text{CPre}(X)$  if and only if
  - edges from  $s$  to  $S \setminus X$  are eliminable, and
  - the sum of the right endpoints of edges from  $s$  to  $X$  is at least 1 (strictly greater than 1 if at least one edge from  $s$  to  $X$  is right open).
- Example:



# Qualitative reachability in interval Markov chains

- $S_{\forall}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\};$
- $S_{\exists}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\};$
- $S_{\exists}^{1,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 1\};$
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- $S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket}_{IMDP} . \Pr_s^{\sigma}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\};$
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# Universal quantification/probability 1: UMC semantics

- Aim: computation of  $S_{\forall}^{1,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 1\}$ .
- Compute  $S \setminus S_{\forall}^{1,UMC}$ , i.e.,  $\{s \in S \mid \exists \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) < 1\}$ .

## Universal quantification/probability 1: UMC semantics

There exists  $\mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC}$  such that  $\Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) < 1$  if and only if there exists a finite path of the graph of  $\mathcal{O}$  from  $s$  to a state in  $S_{\exists}^{0,UMC}$ .

- Algorithm for computing  $S_{\forall}^{1,UMC}$ : take the complement of the set of states that can reach  $S_{\exists}^{0,UMC}$  in the graph of the IMC.

# Qualitative reachability in interval Markov chains

- $S_{\forall}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\}$ ;
  - $S_{\exists}^{0,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\}$ ;
  - $S_{\exists}^{1,UMC} = \{s \in S \mid \exists \mathcal{D} \in \llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket_{UMC} . \Pr_s^{\mathcal{D}}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 1\}$ ;
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- 
- $S_{\forall}^{0,IMDP} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket}_{IMDP} . \Pr_s^{\sigma}(\text{Reach}(T)) = 0\}$ ;
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# Universal quantification/probability 1: IMDP semantics

- Aim: computation of  $S_{\forall}^{1, \text{IMDP}} = \{s \in S \mid \forall \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket \text{IMDP}} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) = 1\}$ .
- Compute  $S \setminus S_{\forall}^{1, \text{IMDP}}$ , i.e.,  $\{s \in S \mid \exists \sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket \text{IMDP}} . \text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) < 1\}$ .
- $U_{\neg T}$ : state set, not including any states in  $T$ , in which the IMC can confine itself with positive probability (defined on the next slide).

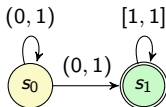
## Universal quantification/probability 1: IMDP semantics

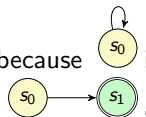
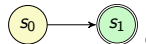
There exists  $\sigma \in \text{Sched}^{\llbracket \mathcal{O} \rrbracket \text{IMDP}}$  such that  $\text{Pr}_s^\sigma(\text{Reach}(T)) < 1$  if and only if there exists a finite path of the graph of  $\mathcal{O}$  from  $s$  to a state in  $U_{\neg T}$ .

- Algorithm for computing  $S_{\forall}^{1, \text{IMDP}}$ : take the complement of the set of states that can reach  $U_{\neg T}$  in the graph of the IMC.

# Universal quantification/probability 1: IMDP semantics

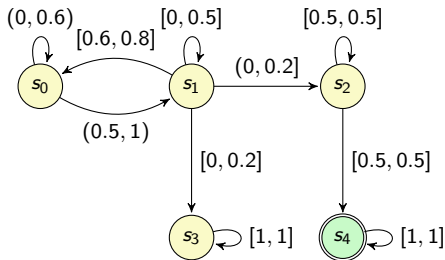
- Characterisation and computation of the set  $U_{\neg T}$ ?
- Strongly-connected components with no state in  $T$  for which the probability of outgoing edges can be made arbitrarily small (requires left endpoint 0, but can be left-open).
- Example:






- $U_{\neg T} = \{s_0\}$ , because  is a strongly-connected component, and the probability of  can be made arbitrarily small.

# Universal quantification/probability 1: IMDP semantics

- Example:



- $U_{\neg T} = \{s_0, s_1\}$ , because  is a strongly-connected component, and the probability of  and  can be made arbitrarily small.



# Conclusions

- Exact and efficient computation of state sets satisfying qualitative reachability properties for open IMCs.
- Future work:
  - Qualitative  $\omega$ -regular properties.
  - Exact computation of state sets satisfying *quantitative* reachability properties for open IMCs.