

# Lecture 5

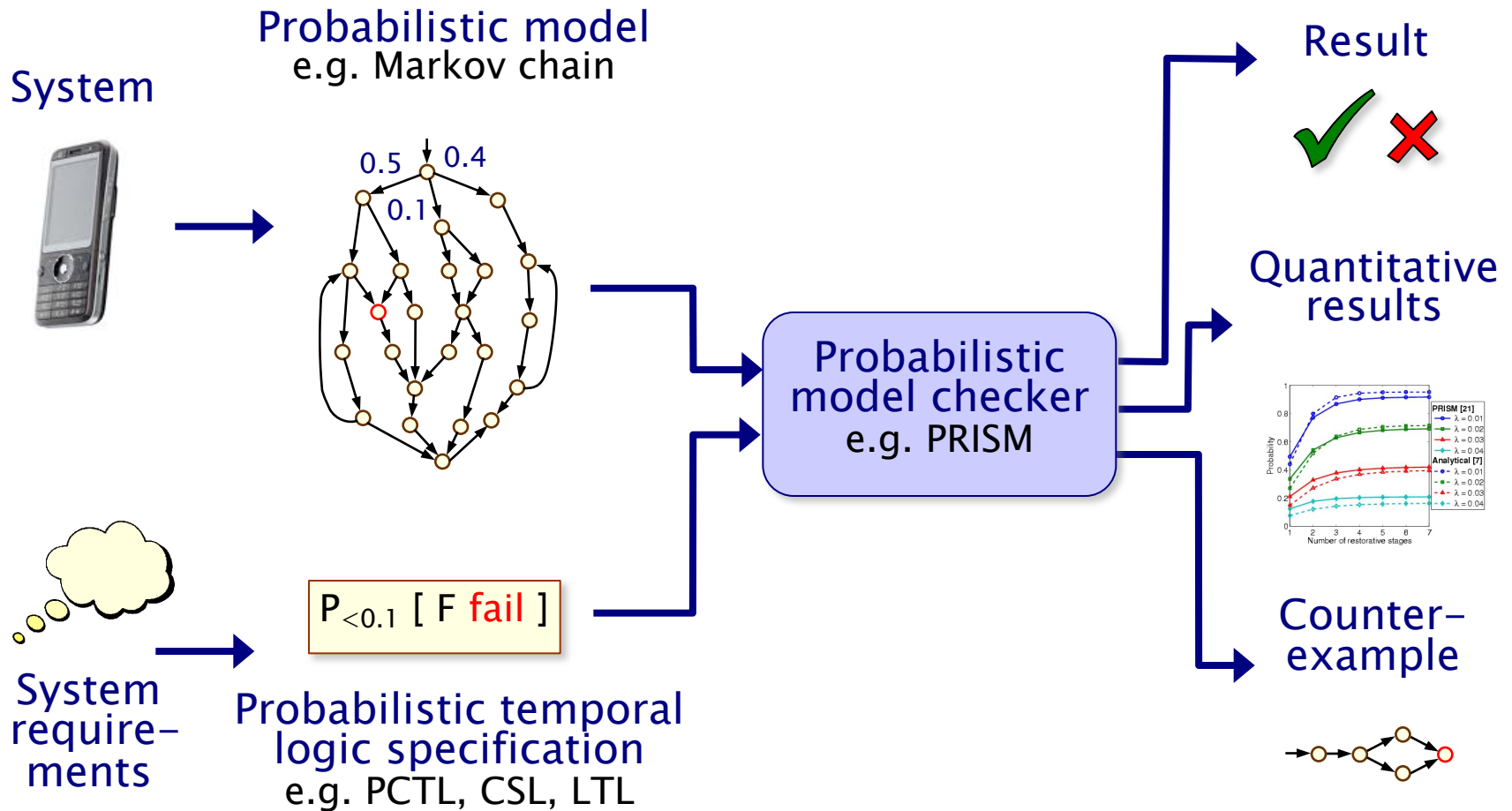
## PCTL Model Checking for DTMCs

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# Probabilistic model checking



# Overview

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- PCTL model checking for DTMCs
- Computation of probabilities for PCTL formulae
  - next
  - bounded until
  - (unbounded) until
- Solving large systems of linear equations
  - direct vs. iterative methods
  - iterative solution methods

# PCTL

- PCTL syntax:

–  $\phi ::= \text{true} \mid a \mid \phi \wedge \phi \mid \neg\phi \mid P_{\sim p} [\psi]$

$\psi$  is true with probability  $\sim p$

(state formulae)

–  $\psi ::= X\phi \mid \phi U^{\leq k} \phi \mid \phi U \phi$

“next”

“bounded until”

“until”

(path formulae)

– where  $a$  is an atomic proposition,  $p \in [0,1]$  is a probability bound,  $\sim \in \{<, >, \leq, \geq\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$

- Remaining operators can be derived (false,  $\vee$ ,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $F$ ,  $G$ , ...)
  - hence will not be discussed here

# PCTL model checking for DTMCs

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- Algorithm for PCTL model checking [CY88,HJ94,CY95]
  - inputs: DTMC  $D=(S,s_{init},P,L)$ , PCTL formula  $\phi$
  - output:  $Sat(\phi) = \{ s \in S \mid s \models \phi \}$  = set of states satisfying  $\phi$
- What does it mean for a DTMC  $D$  to satisfy a formula  $\phi$ ?
  - often, just want to know if  $s_{init} \models \phi$ , i.e. if  $s_{init} \in Sat(\phi)$
  - sometimes, want to check that  $s \models \phi \forall s \in S$ , i.e.  $Sat(\phi) = S$
- Sometimes, focus on quantitative results
  - e.g. compute result of  $P_{=?} [ F \text{ error} ]$
  - e.g. compute result of  $P_{=?} [ F^{\leq k} \text{ error} ]$  for  $0 \leq k \leq 100$

# PCTL model checking for DTMCs

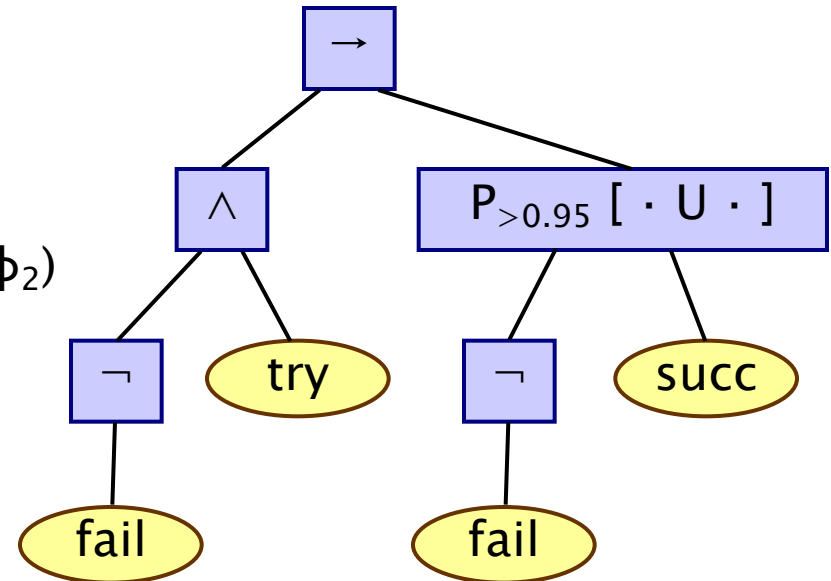
- Basic algorithm proceeds by induction on **parse tree** of  $\phi$ 
  - example:  $\phi = (\neg\text{fail} \wedge \text{try}) \rightarrow P_{>0.95} [\neg\text{fail} \cup \text{succ}]$

- For the non-probabilistic operators:

- $\text{Sat}(\text{true}) = S$
- $\text{Sat}(a) = \{ s \in S \mid a \in L(s) \}$
- $\text{Sat}(\neg\phi) = S \setminus \text{Sat}(\phi)$
- $\text{Sat}(\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2) = \text{Sat}(\phi_1) \cap \text{Sat}(\phi_2)$

- For the  $P_{\sim p} [\psi]$  operator:

- need to compute the probabilities  $\text{Prob}(s, \psi)$  for all states  $s \in S$
- $\text{Sat}(P_{\sim p} [\psi]) = \{ s \in S \mid \text{Prob}(s, \psi) \sim p \}$



# Probability computation

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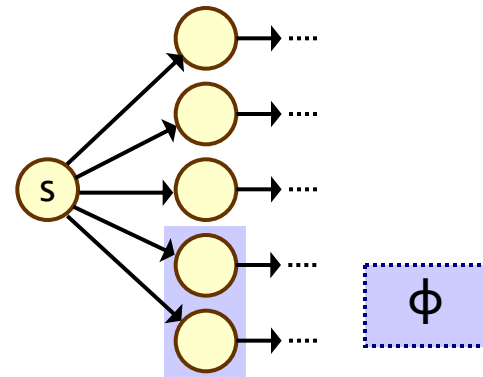
- Three temporal operators to consider:
- Next:  $P_{\sim p}[X \phi]$
- Bounded until:  $P_{\sim p}[\phi_1 U^{\leq k} \phi_2]$ 
  - adaptation of bounded reachability for DTMCs
- Until:  $P_{\sim p}[\phi_1 U \phi_2]$ 
  - adaptation of reachability for DTMCs
  - graph-based “precomputation” algorithms
  - techniques for solving (large) systems of linear equations

# PCTL next for DTMCs

- Computation of probabilities for PCTL next operator
  - $\text{Sat}(P_{\sim p}[X \phi]) = \{s \in S \mid \text{Prob}(s, X \phi) \sim p\}$
  - need to compute  $\text{Prob}(s, X \phi)$  for all  $s \in S$

- Sum outgoing probabilities for transitions to  $\phi$ -states

- $\text{Prob}(s, X \phi) = \sum_{s' \in \text{Sat}(\phi)} P(s, s')$



- Compute vector  $\underline{\text{Prob}}(X \phi)$  of probabilities for all states  $s$  (useful for Sat set)
  - $\underline{\text{Prob}}(X \phi) = P \cdot \underline{\phi}$
  - where  $\underline{\phi}$  is a 0-1 vector over  $S$  with  $\underline{\phi}(s) = 1$  iff  $s \models \phi$
  - computation requires a **single matrix-vector multiplication**



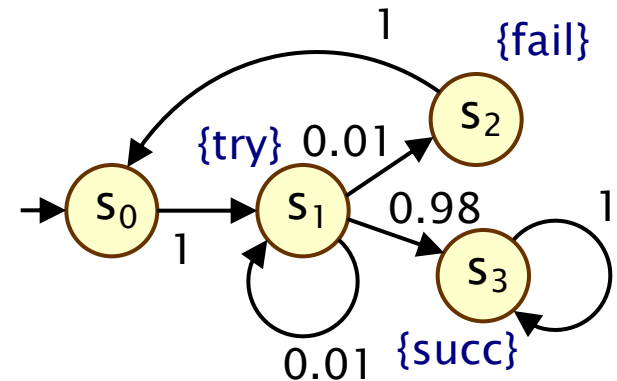
# PCTL next – Example

- Model check:  $P_{\geq 0.9} [ X (\neg \text{try} \vee \text{succ}) ]$

- $\text{Sat} (\neg \text{try} \vee \text{succ}) = (S \setminus \text{Sat}(\text{try})) \cup \text{Sat}(\text{succ})$   
 $= (\{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3\} \setminus \{s_1\}) \cup \{s_3\} = \{s_0, s_2, s_3\}$

- $\text{Prob}(X (\neg \text{try} \vee \text{succ})) = \mathbf{P} \cdot \underline{(\neg \text{try} \vee \text{succ})} = \dots$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.01 & 0.01 & 0.98 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0.99 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



- Results:

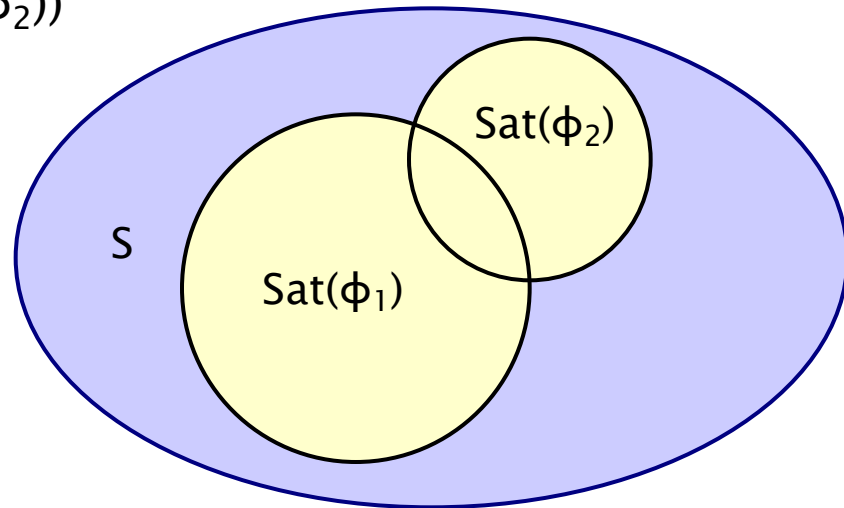
- $\text{Prob}(X (\neg \text{try} \vee \text{succ})) = [0, 0.99, 1, 1]$

- $\text{Sat}(P_{\geq 0.9} [ X (\neg \text{try} \vee \text{succ}) ]) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3\}$

# PCTL bounded until for DTMCs

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- Computation of probabilities for PCTL  $U^{\leq k}$  operator
  - $\text{Sat}(P_{\sim p}[\phi_1 U^{\leq k} \phi_2]) = \{s \in S \mid \text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^{\leq k} \phi_2) \sim p\}$
  - need to compute  $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^{\leq k} \phi_2)$  for all  $s \in S$
- First identify (some) states where **probability is trivially 1 / 0**
  - $S^{\text{yes}} = \text{Sat}(\phi_2)$
  - $S^{\text{no}} = S \setminus (\text{Sat}(\phi_1) \cup \text{Sat}(\phi_2))$



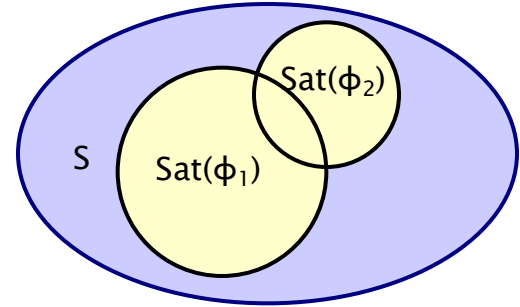
# PCTL bounded until for DTMCs

- Let:

- $S^{\text{yes}} = \text{Sat}(\phi_2)$
- $S^{\text{no}} = S \setminus (\text{Sat}(\phi_1) \cup \text{Sat}(\phi_2))$

- And let:

- $S^? = S \setminus (S^{\text{yes}} \cup S^{\text{no}})$



- Compute solution of **recursive equations**:

$$\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^{\leq k} \phi_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s \in S^{\text{yes}} \\ 0 & \text{if } s \in S^{\text{no}} \\ 0 & \text{if } s \in S^? \text{ and } k = 0 \\ \sum_{s' \in S} P(s, s') \cdot \text{Prob}(s', \phi_1 U^{\leq k-1} \phi_2) & \text{if } s \in S^? \text{ and } k > 0 \end{cases}$$

# PCTL bounded until for DTMCs

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- Simultaneous computation of vector  $\underline{\text{Prob}}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{\leq k} \phi_2)$ 
  - i.e. probabilities  $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 \text{ U}^{\leq k} \phi_2)$  for all  $s \in S$
  - (important in order to find Sat set of formula)
- Iteratively define in terms of matrices and vectors
  - define matrix  $\mathbf{P}'$  as follows:
    - if  $s \in S^?$   $\mathbf{P}'(s, s') = \mathbf{P}(s, s')$ ;
    - if  $s \in S^{\text{yes}}$ ,  $\mathbf{P}'(s, s') = 1$  if  $s = s'$ , otherwise  $\mathbf{P}'(s, s') = 0$
  - $\underline{\text{Prob}}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{\leq 0} \phi_2) = \underline{\phi}_2$
  - $\underline{\text{Prob}}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{\leq k} \phi_2) = \mathbf{P}' \cdot \underline{\text{Prob}}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{\leq k-1} \phi_2)$
  - requires **k matrix-vector multiplications**
- Note that we could express this in terms of matrix powers
  - $\underline{\text{Prob}}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{\leq k} \phi_2) = (\mathbf{P}')^k \cdot \underline{\phi}_2$  and compute  $(\mathbf{P}')^k$  in  $\log_2 k$  steps
  - but this can be inefficient, as  $(\mathbf{P}')^k$  is much less sparse than  $\mathbf{P}'_{12}$

# PCTL bounded until – Example

- Model check:  $P_{>0.98} [ F^{\leq 2} \text{ succ} ] \equiv P_{>0.98} [ \text{true } U^{\leq 2} \text{ succ} ]$ 
  - Sat (true) =  $S = \{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3\}$ , Sat(succ) =  $\{s_3\}$
  - $S^{\text{yes}} = \{s_3\}$ ,  $S^{\text{no}} = \emptyset$ ,  $S^? = \{s_0, s_1, s_2\}$ ,  $\mathbf{P}' = \mathbf{P}$
  - Prob(true  $U^{\leq 0}$  succ) = succ =  $[0, 0, 0, 1]$

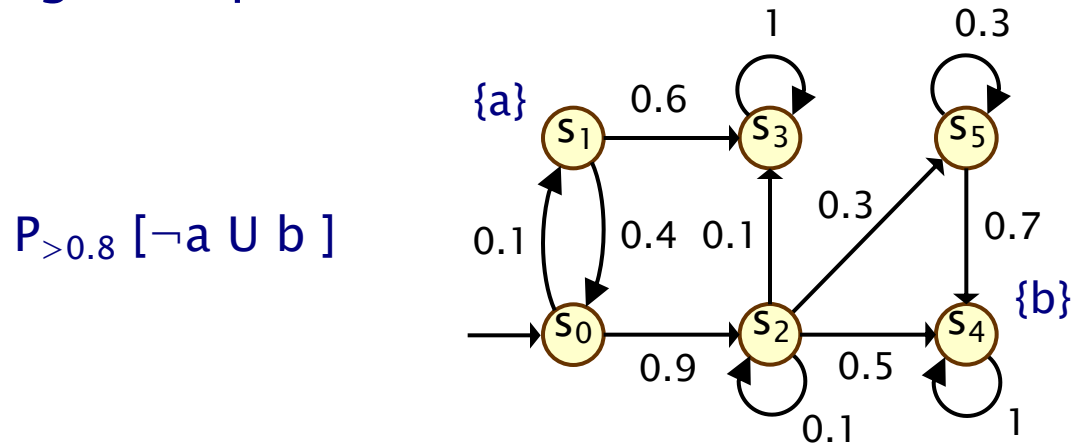
$$\text{Prob}(\text{true } U^{\leq 1} \text{ succ}) = \mathbf{P}' \cdot \text{Prob}(\text{true } U^{\leq 0} \text{ succ}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.01 & 0.01 & 0.98 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0.98 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- Sat( $P_{>0.98} [ F^{\leq 2} \text{ succ} ]$ ) =  $\{s_1, s_3\}$

# PCTL until for DTMCs

- Computation of probabilities  $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 \text{ U } \phi_2)$  for all  $s \in S$
- First, identify **all** states where the **probability is 1 or 0**
  - $S^{\text{yes}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\geq 1} [\phi_1 \text{ U } \phi_2])$
  - $S^{\text{no}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\leq 0} [\phi_1 \text{ U } \phi_2])$
- Then solve system of linear equations for remaining states
- Running example:



# Precomputation

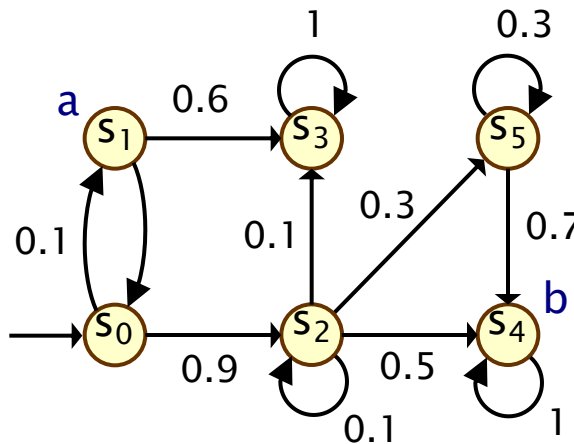
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- We refer to the first phase (identifying sets  $S^{\text{yes}}$  and  $S^{\text{no}}$ ) as “precomputation”
  - two algorithms: Prob0 (for  $S^{\text{no}}$ ) and Prob1 (for  $S^{\text{yes}}$ )
  - algorithms work on underlying graph (probabilities irrelevant)
- Important for several reasons
  - Prob0 ensures **unique** solution to system of linear equations
  - both **reduce** the set of states for which probabilities must be computed numerically
  - give **exact results** for the states in  $S^{\text{yes}}$  and  $S^{\text{no}}$  (no round-off)
  - (of course, for model checking of **qualitative** properties ( $P_{\sim p}[\cdot]$  where  $p$  is 0 or 1), no further computation is required)

# Precomputation – Prob0

- Prob0 algorithm to compute  $S^{\text{no}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\leq 0} [\phi_1 \cup \phi_2])$ :
  - first compute  $\text{Sat}(P_{>0} [\phi_1 \cup \phi_2]) \equiv \text{Sat}(E[\phi_1 \cup \phi_2])$
  - i.e. find all states which can, **with non-zero probability, reach a  $\phi_2$ -state without leaving  $\phi_1$ -states**
  - i.e. find all states from which there is a finite path through  $\phi_1$ -states to a  $\phi_2$ -state: simple **graph-based computation**
  - subtract the resulting set from  $S$

Example:  
 $P_{>0.8} [\neg a \cup b]$

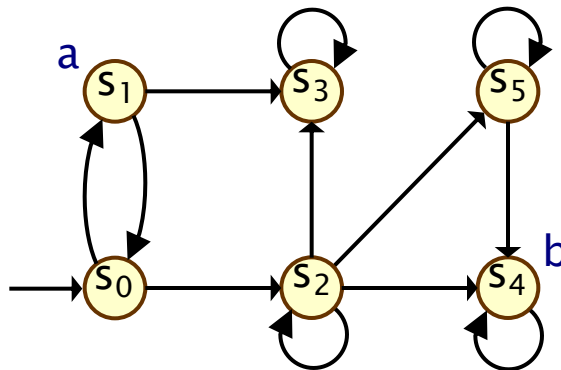




# Precomputation – Prob0

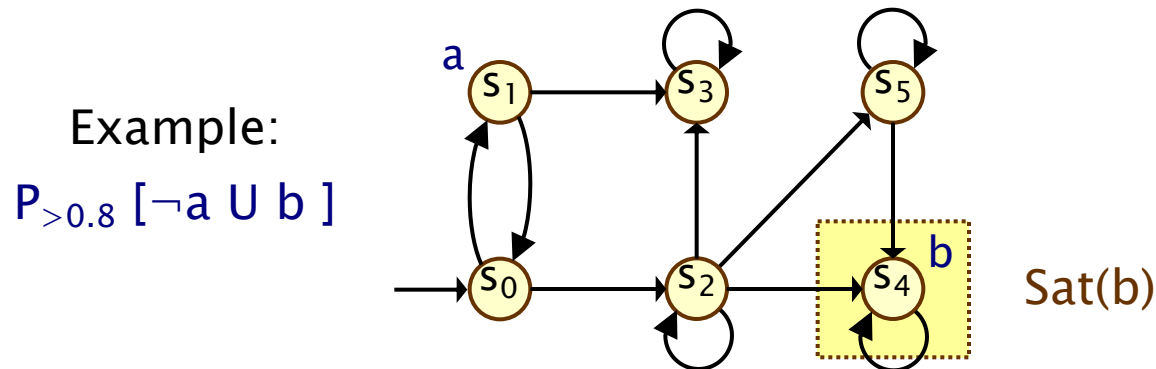
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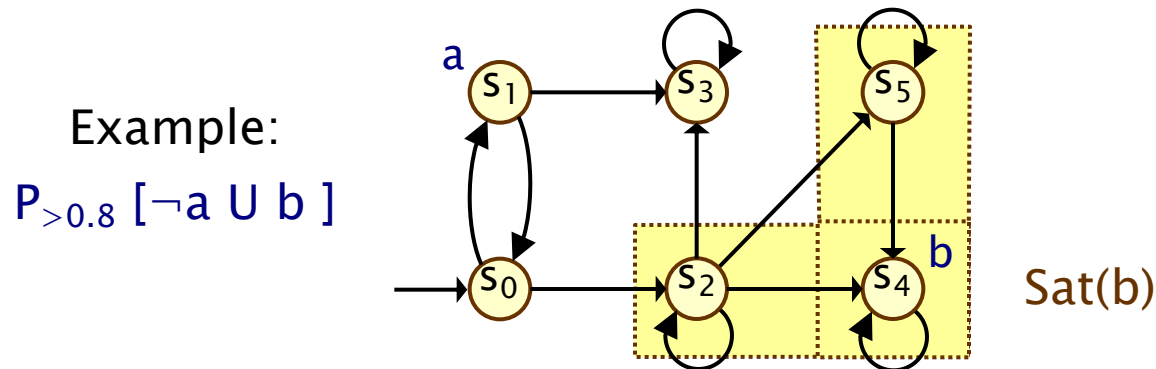
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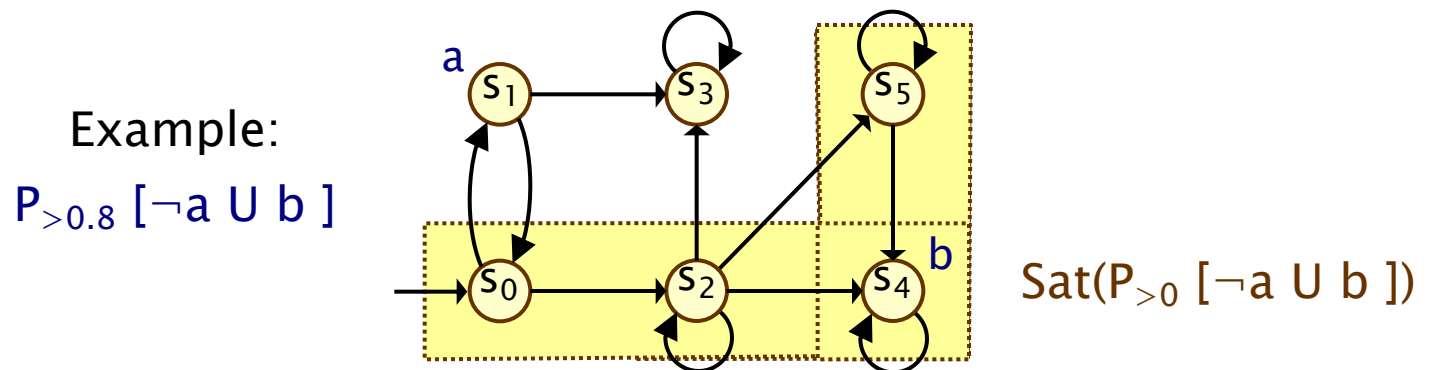
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# Precomputation – Prob0

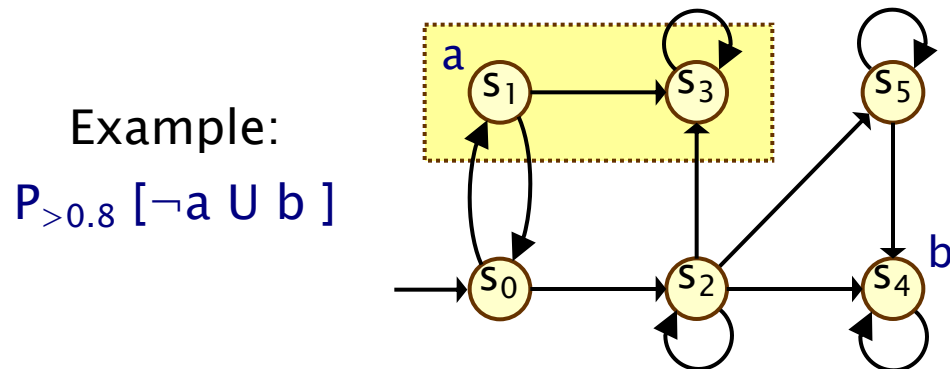
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# Precomputation – Prob0

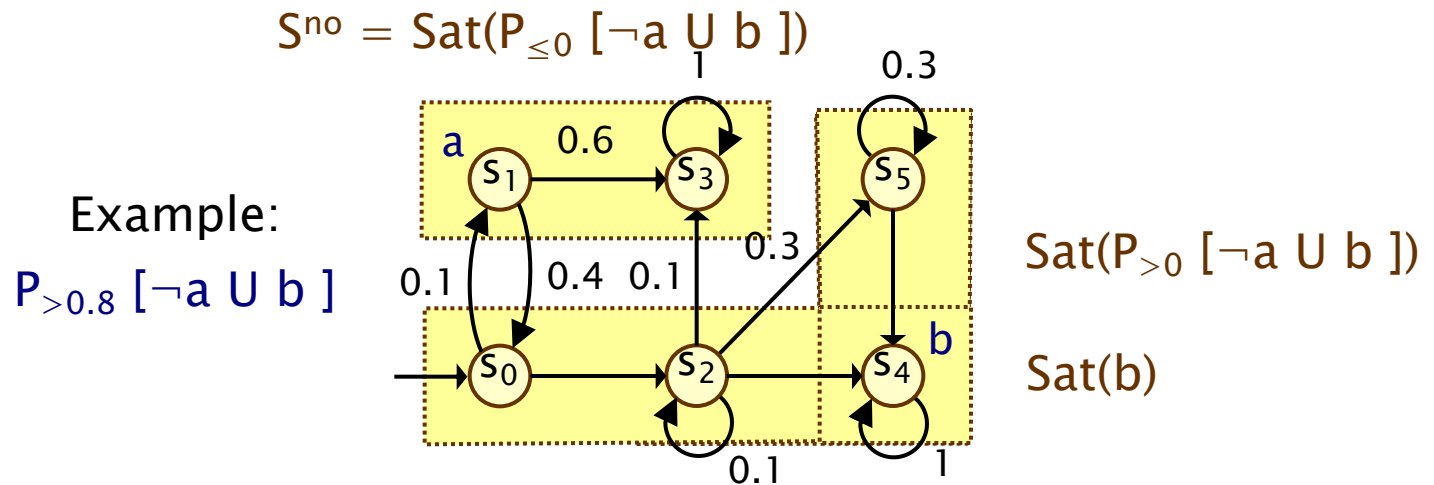
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$$S^{\text{no}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\leq 0} [\neg a \cup b])$$



# Precomputation – Prob0

- Prob0 algorithm to compute  $S^{\text{no}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\leq 0} [\phi_1 \cup \phi_2])$  :
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# Prob0 algorithm

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PROB0( $Sat(\Phi), Sat(\Psi)$ )

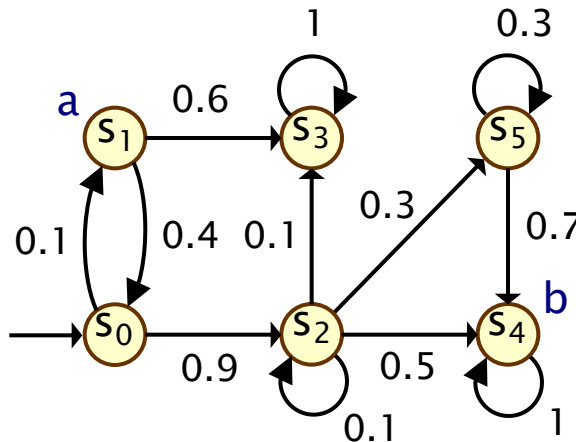
1.  $R := Sat(\Psi)$
2.  $done := \mathbf{false}$
3. **while** ( $done = \mathbf{false}$ )
4.      $R' := R \cup \{s \in Sat(\Phi) \mid \exists s' \in R. \mathbf{P}(s, s') > 0\}$
5.     **if** ( $R' = R$ ) **then**  $done := \mathbf{true}$
6.      $R := R'$
7. **endwhile**
8. **return**  $S \setminus R$

- **Note:** can be formulated as a least fixed point computation
  - also well suited to symbolic computations, e.g., with binary decision diagrams

# Precomputation – Prob1

- Prob1 algorithm to compute  $S^{\text{yes}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\geq 1} [\phi_1 \cup \phi_2])$  :
  - first compute  $\text{Sat}(P_{<1} [\phi_1 \cup \phi_2])$ , reusing  $S^{\text{no}}$
  - this is equivalent to the set of states which have a **non-zero probability of reaching  $S^{\text{no}}$ , passing only through  $\phi_1$ -states**
  - again, this is a simple **graph-based computation**
  - subtract the resulting set from  $S$

Example:  
 $P_{>0.8} [\neg a \cup b]$

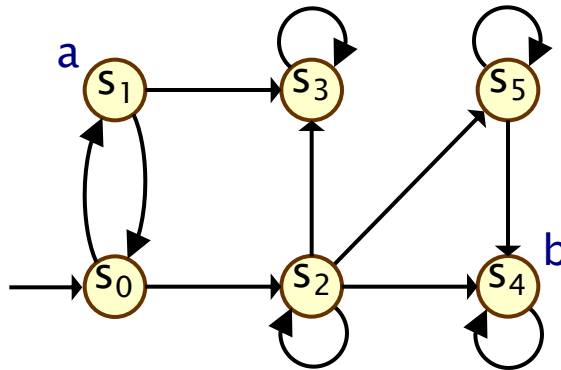




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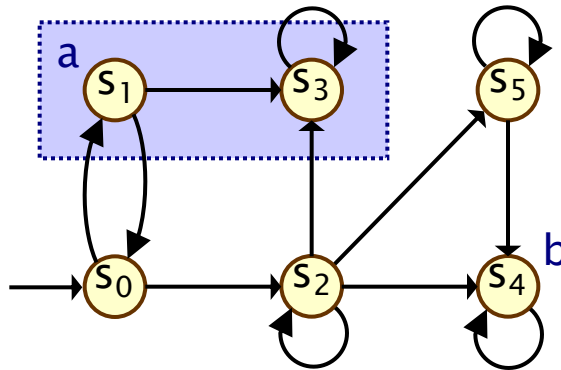
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$$S^{\text{no}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\leq 0} [\neg a \cup b])$$

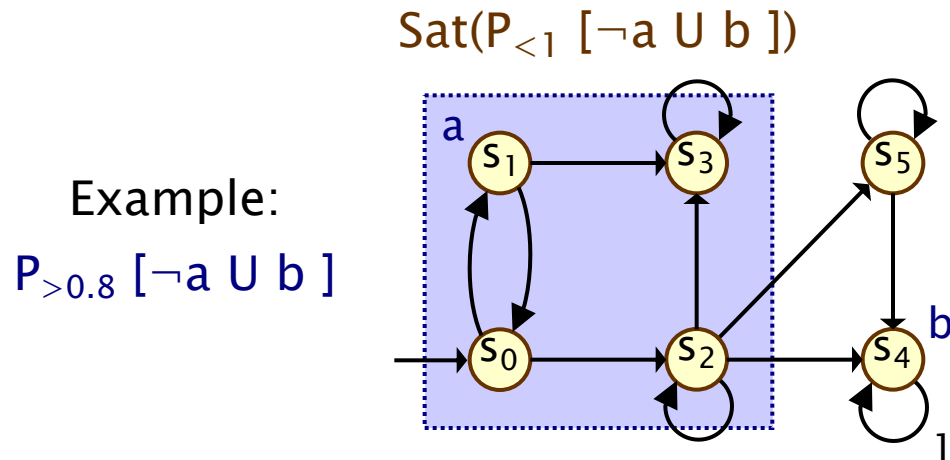
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# Precomputation – Prob1

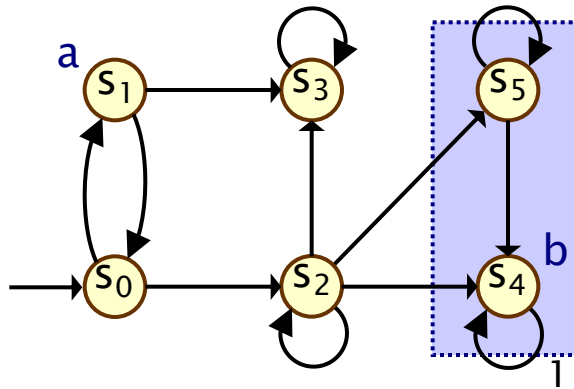
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# Precomputation – Prob1

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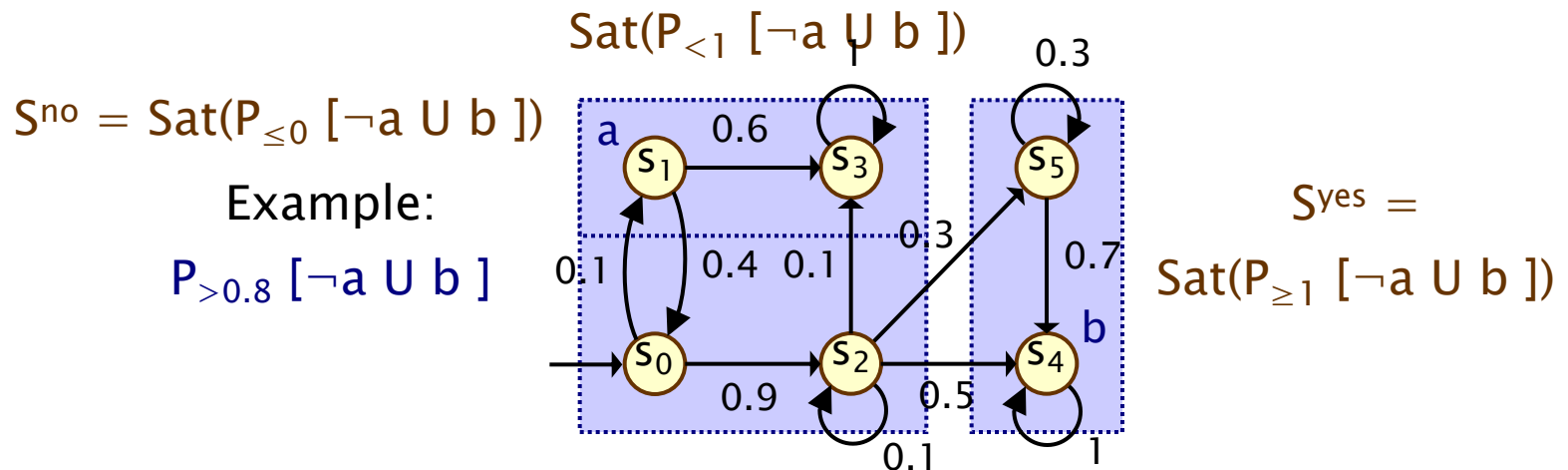
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$S^{\text{yes}} =$   
 $\text{Sat}(P_{\geq 1} [\neg a \cup b])$

# Precomputation – Prob1

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# Prob1 algorithm

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$\text{PROB1}(Sat(\Phi), Sat(\Psi), Sat(\mathbf{P}_{\leq 0}[\Phi \cup \Psi]))$

1.  $R := Sat(\mathbf{P}_{\leq 0}[\Phi \cup \Psi])$
2.  $done := \mathbf{false}$
3. **while** ( $done = \mathbf{false}$ )
4.      $R' := R \cup \{s \in (Sat(\Phi) \setminus Sat(\Psi)) \mid \exists s' \in R. \mathbf{P}(s, s') > 0\}$
5.     **if** ( $R' = R$ ) **then**  $done := \mathbf{true}$
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# PCTL until – linear equations

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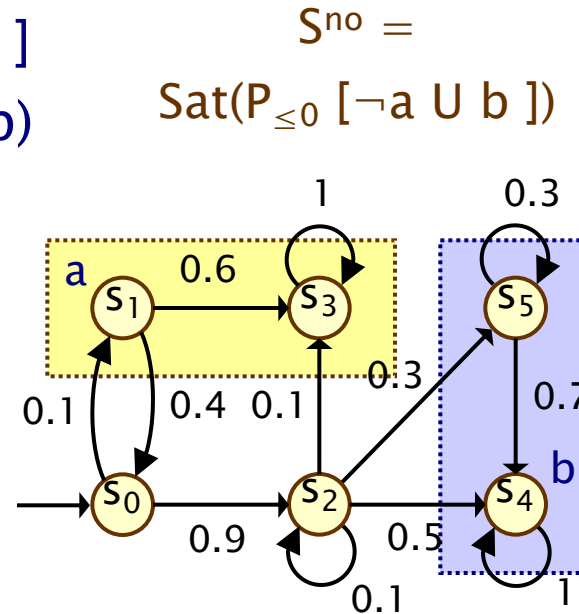
- Probabilities  $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 \text{ U } \phi_2)$  can now be obtained as the unique solution of the following set of **linear equations**
  - essentially the same as for probabilistic reachability

$$\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 \text{ U } \phi_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s \in S^{\text{yes}} \\ 0 & \text{if } s \in S^{\text{no}} \\ \sum_{s' \in S} P(s, s') \cdot \text{Prob}(s', \phi_1 \text{ U } \phi_2) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Can also be reduced to a system in  $|S^?|$  unknowns instead of  $|S|$  where  $S^? = S \setminus (S^{\text{yes}} \cup S^{\text{no}})$

# PCTL until – linear equations

- Example:  $P_{>0.8} [\neg a \text{ U } b]$
- Let  $x_i = \text{Prob}(s_i, \neg a \text{ U } b)$



$$x_1 = x_3 = 0$$

$$x_4 = x_5 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 0.1x_2 + 0.1x_3 + 0.3x_5 + 0.5x_4 = 8/9$$

$$x_0 = 0.1x_1 + 0.9x_2 = 0.8$$

$$\text{Prob}(\neg a \text{ U } b) = \underline{x} = [0.8, 0, 8/9, 0, 1, 1]$$

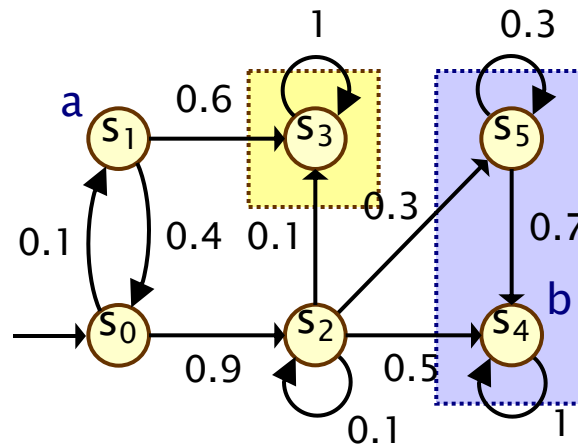
$$\text{Sat}(P_{>0.8} [\neg a \text{ U } b]) = \{s_2, s_4, s_5\}$$



# PCTL Until – Example 2

- Example:  $P_{>0.5} [ G \neg b ]$
- $\text{Prob}(s_i, G \neg b)$   
 $= \text{Prob}(s_i, \neg(F b))$   
 $= 1 - \text{Prob}(s_i, F b)$
- Let  $x_i = \text{Prob}(s_i, F b)$

$$S^{\text{no}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\leq 0} [ F b ])$$



$$S^{\text{yes}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\geq 1} [ F b ])$$

$$x_3 = 0 \text{ and } x_4 = x_5 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 0.1x_2 + 0.1x_3 + 0.3x_5 + 0.5x_4 = 8/9$$

$$x_1 = 0.6x_3 + 0.4x_0 = 0.4x_0$$

$$x_0 = 0.1x_1 + 0.9x_2 = 5/6 \text{ and } x_1 = 1/3$$

$$\text{Prob}(G \neg b) = \underline{1} - \underline{x} = [1/6, 2/3, 1/9, 1, 0, 0]$$

$$\text{Sat}(P_{>0.5} [ G \neg b ]) = \{ s_1, s_3 \}$$

# System of linear equations

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- Solution of **large** (likely sparse) systems of linear equations
  - size of system (number of variables) typically  $O(|S|)$
  - state space  $S$  gets very large in practice
- Two main classes of solution methods:
  - **direct** methods – compute exact solutions in fixed number of steps, e.g. Gaussian elimination, L/U decomposition
  - **iterative** methods, e.g. matrix power, Jacobi, Gauss–Seidel, ...
  - the latter are preferred in practice due to scalability

- General form:  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \underline{x} = \underline{b}$ 
  - indexed over integers,
  - i.e. assume  $S = \{ 0, 1, \dots, |S|-1 \}$

$$\sum_{j=0}^{|S|-1} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}(j) = \underline{b}(i)$$

# Iterative solution methods

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- Start with an initial estimate for the vector  $\underline{x}$ , say  $\underline{x}^{(0)}$
- Compute successive (increasingly accurate) approximations
  - approximation (**solution vector**) at  $k^{\text{th}}$  iteration denoted  $\underline{x}^{(k)}$
  - computation of  $\underline{x}^{(k)}$  uses values of  $\underline{x}^{(k-1)}$
- Terminate when solution vector has converged sufficiently
- Several possibilities for **convergence criteria**, e.g.:
  - maximum **absolute** difference

$$\max_i \left| \underline{x}^{(k)}(i) - \underline{x}^{(k-1)}(i) \right| < \varepsilon$$

- maximum **relative** difference

$$\max_i \left( \frac{|\underline{x}^{(k)}(i) - \underline{x}^{(k-1)}(i)|}{|\underline{x}^{(k)}(i)|} \right) < \varepsilon$$

# Jacobi method

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- Based on fact that:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{|S|-1} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}(j) = \underline{b}(i)$$

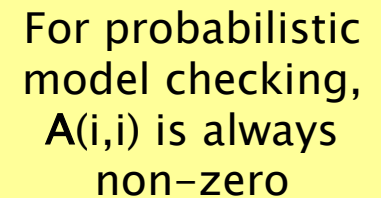
- can be rearranged as:

$$\underline{x}(i) = \left( \underline{b}(i) - \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}(j) \right) / \mathbf{A}(i, i)$$

- yielding this update scheme:

$$\underline{x}^{(k)}(i) := \left( \underline{b}(i) - \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}^{(k-1)}(j) \right) / \mathbf{A}(i, i)$$

For probabilistic model checking,  $\mathbf{A}(i, i)$  is always non-zero



# Gauss–Seidel

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- The update scheme for Jacobi:

$$\underline{x}^{(k)}(i) := \left( \underline{b}(i) - \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}^{(k-1)}(j) \right) / \mathbf{A}(i, i)$$

- can be improved by using the most up-to-date values of  $\underline{x}^{(k)}$  that are available
- This is known as the Gauss–Seidel method:

$$\underline{x}^{(k)}(i) := \left( \underline{b}(i) - \sum_{j < i} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}^{(k)}(j) - \sum_{j > i} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}^{(k-1)}(j) \right) / \mathbf{A}(i, i)$$

- (uses just one vector, as opposed to Jacobi's)

# Over-relaxation

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- **Over-relaxation:**
  - compute new values with existing schemes (e.g. Jacobi)
  - but use weighted average with previous vector
- **Example: Jacobi + over-relaxation**

$$\underline{x}^{(k)}(i) := (1 - \omega) \cdot \underline{x}^{(k-1)}(i) + \omega \cdot \left( \underline{b}(i) - \sum_{j \neq i} \mathbf{A}(i, j) \cdot \underline{x}^{(k-1)}(j) \right) / \mathbf{A}(i, i)$$

- where  $\omega \in (0, 2)$  is a parameter to the algorithm

# Comparison

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- Gauss–Seidel typically outperforms Jacobi
  - i.e. faster convergence
  - Also, it requires only storing single solution vector
- Both Gauss–Seidel and Jacobi usually outperform the matrix power method (see least fixed point method from Lecture 2)
- However Power method has guaranteed convergence
  - Jacobi and Gauss–Seidel **do not**
- Over–relaxation methods may converge faster in practice
  - for well chosen values of  $\omega$
  - need to rely on heuristics for this selection

# Model checking complexity

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- Model checking of DTMC  $(S, s_{\text{init}}, P, L)$  against PCTL formula  $\Phi$  complexity is **linear in  $|\Phi|$**  and **polynomial in  $|S|$**
- Size  $|\Phi|$  of  $\Phi$  is defined as number of logical connectives and temporal operators plus sizes of temporal operators
  - model checking is performed for each operator
- Worst-case operator is  $P_{\sim p} [ \Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2 ]$ 
  - main task: **solution of system of linear equations**, of size  $|S|$
  - can be solved with Gaussian elimination: **cubic** in  $|S|$
  - and also precomputation algorithms (max  $|S|$  steps)
- Strictly speaking,  $U^{\leq k}$  could be worse than  $U$  for large  $k$ 
  - but in practice  $k$  is usually small



# Summing up...

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- Model checking a PCTL formula  $\phi$  on a DTMC
  - i.e. determine set  $\text{Sat}(\phi)$
  - recursive: bottom-up traversal of parse tree of  $\phi$
- Atomic propositions and logical connectives: trivial
- Key part: computing probabilities for  $P_{\sim p} [ \dots ]$  formulae
  - $X \phi$  : one matrix-vector multiplications
  - $\phi_1 U^{\leq k} \phi_2$  :  $k$  matrix-vector multiplications
  - $\phi_1 U \phi_2$  : graph-based precomputation algorithms + solution of linear equation system in at most  $|S|$  variables
- Iterative methods to solve large systems of linear equations