

Stochastic Strategies in Quantitative and Timed Games

Julie PARREAUX¹

supervised by

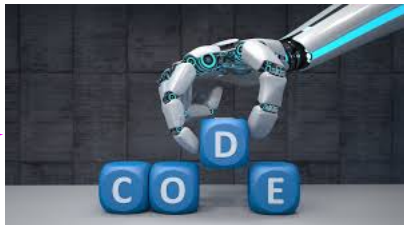
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¹ENS Rennes

²LIS, Team Modelisation and Verification

October 30, 2020

Motivation : game theory for synthesis



- ▶ Check the correctness of a system
- ▶ Interaction between two antagonistic agents : environment and controller
- ▶ Correct by construction : synthesis of controller

Different sorts of games

Qualitative games

Reach or avoid some (sequences of) states

Quantitative games

- ▶ Consider quantitative parameters : energy consumption...
- ▶ Compare distinct strategies

Different sorts of games

Qualitative games

Reach or avoid some (sequences of) states

Quantitative games

- ▶ Consider quantitative parameters : energy consumption...
- ▶ Compare distinct strategies

Shortest-Path games

- ▶ Combination of a qualitative with a quantitative objective
- ▶ Reach a target with a minimum cost

Different sorts of games

Timed games

- ▶ Consider timed issues : receive a message...
- ▶ Infinite games

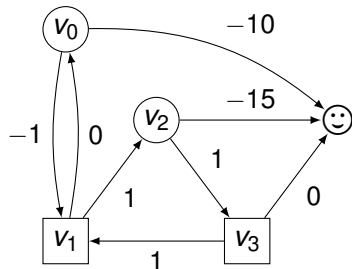
Weighted Timed games

Combination of timed games and shortest path games.

Shortest Path Game

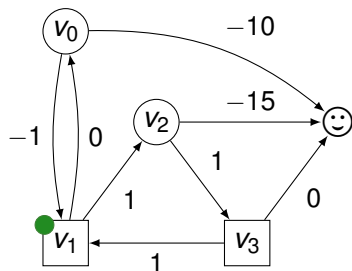
□ Adam ○ Eve

😊 target (T)



Shortest Path Game

□ Adam ○ Eve



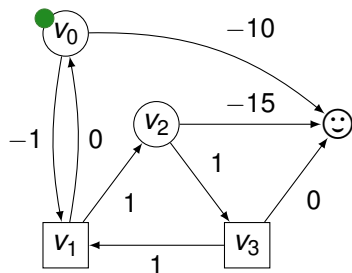
How to play?

Move a token along edge

$$\pi = v_1$$

Shortest Path Game

□ Adam ○ Eve



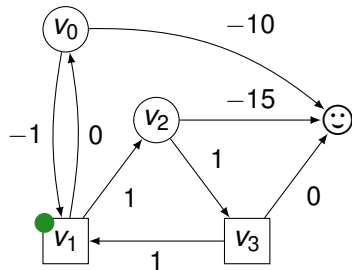
How to play?

Move a token along edge

$$\pi = v_1 v_0$$

Shortest Path Game

□ Adam ○ Eve



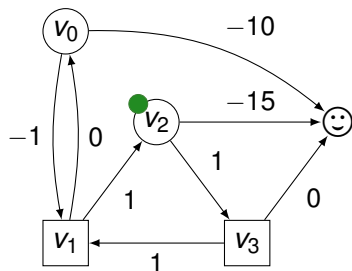
How to play?

Move a token along edge

$$\pi = v_1 v_0 v_1$$

Shortest Path Game

□ Adam ○ Eve



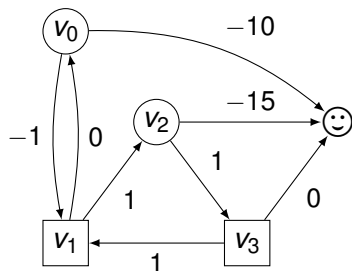
How to play?

Move a token along edge

$$\pi = v_1 v_0 v_1 v_2$$

Shortest Path Game

□ Adam ○ Eve



Play

An infinite path or reach the target

$$\pi = (v_i)_i \in V^\omega \quad \pi = (v_i)_i \text{😊}$$

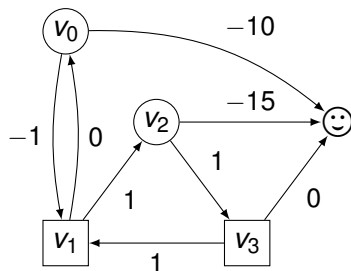
How to play?

Move a token along edge

$$\pi = v_1 v_0 v_1 v_2 v_3 \text{😊}$$

Shortest Path Game

□ Adam ○ Eve



Play

An infinite path or reach the target

$$\pi = (v_i)_i \in V^\omega \quad \pi = (v_i)_i \text{☺}$$

How to play?

Move a token along edge

$$\pi = v_1 v_0 v_1 v_2 v_3 \text{☺}$$

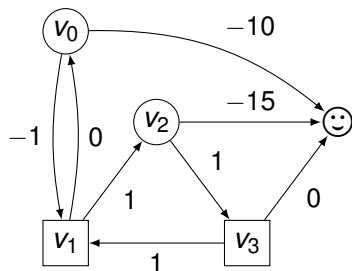
Shortest Path payoff

Let π be a run.

$$\mathbf{SP}(\pi) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} w((\pi_i, \pi_{i+1})) \\ +\infty \end{cases}$$

if n is the smallest index s.t. $\pi_n \in T$
if π does not reach T

Shortest Path Game



Play

An infinite path or reach the target

$$\pi = (v_i)_i \in V^\omega \quad \pi = (v_i)_i \text{☺}$$

How to play?

Move a token along edge

$$\pi = v_1 v_0 v_1 v_2 v_3 \text{☺}$$

$$\mathbf{SP}(\pi) = 0 + (-1) + 1 + 1 + 0 = 1$$

Shortest Path payoff

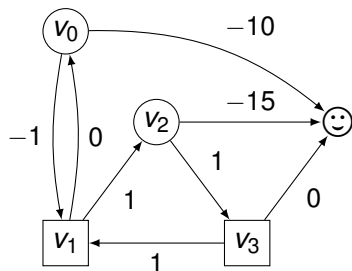
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if n is the smallest index s.t. $\pi_n \in T$
if π does not reach T

Shortest Path Game

□ Adam ○ Eve



Objectives

Eve maximise the payoff

Adam minimise the payoff

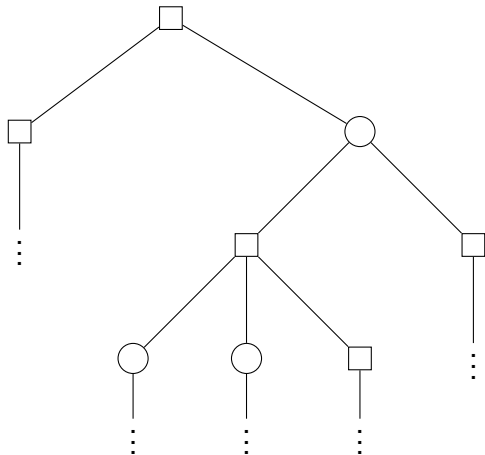
Shortest Path payoff

Let π be a run.

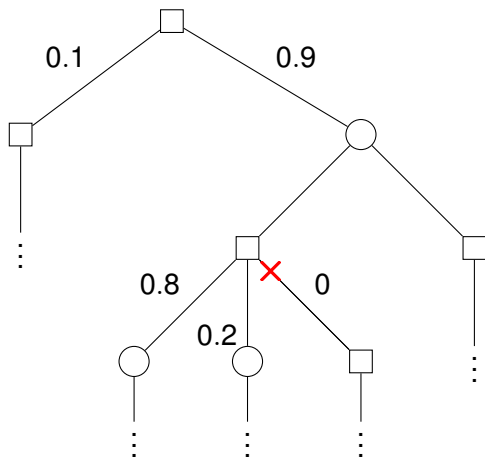
$$\mathbf{SP}(\pi) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} w((\pi_i, \pi_{i+1})) \\ +\infty \end{cases}$$

if n is the smallest index s.t. $\pi_n \in T$
if π does not reach T

Strategies for Adam



Strategies for Adam



A strategy ¹

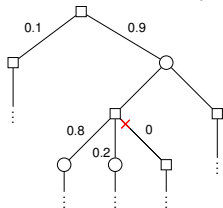
$$\sigma : V^* V_{Adam} \rightarrow \Delta(V).$$

¹Trading Memory for Randomness, K. Chatterjee, L. Alfaró and T. Henzinger, 2004, QEST

Strategies for Adam

Infinite memory

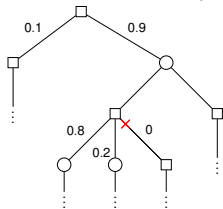
$$\sigma : V^* V_{Adam} \rightarrow \Delta(V)$$



Strategies for Adam

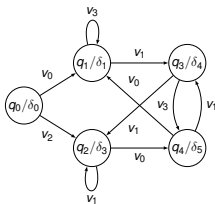
Infinite memory

$$\sigma : V^* V_{Adam} \rightarrow \Delta(V)$$



Finite memory

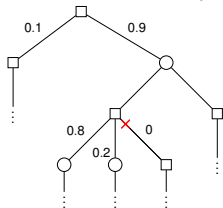
Moore machine



Strategies for Adam

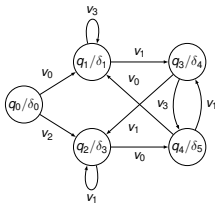
Infinite memory

$$\sigma : V^* V_{Adam} \rightarrow \Delta(V)$$



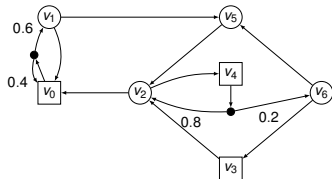
Finite memory

Moore machine



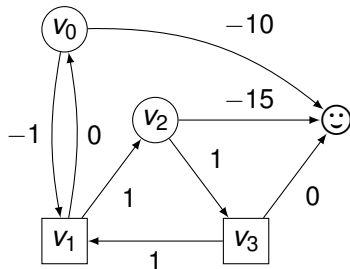
Memoryless

$$\sigma : V_{Adam} \rightarrow \Delta(V)$$



Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Value

$$\overline{\text{dVal}}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\text{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{\text{dVal}^{\sigma}(v)}$$

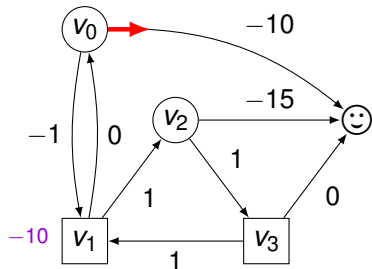
Deterministic strategy

$$\sigma : V^* \times V_{\text{Adam}} \rightarrow V$$

¹ Pseudopolynomial iterative algorithm to solve total-payoff games and min-cost reachability games, T. Brihaye, G. Geeraerts, A. Haddad and B. Monmege, 2016, Acta Informatica

Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Estimate $\overline{\text{dVal}}(v_1)$

Eve chooses smiley face in v_0 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$

Value

$$\overline{\text{dVal}}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\text{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{\text{dVal}^{\sigma}(v)}$$

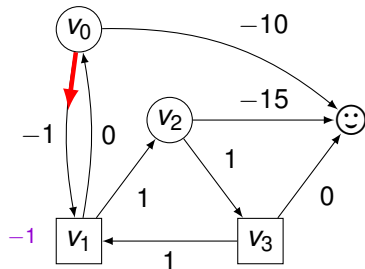
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Estimate $\overline{dVal}(v_1)$

Eve chooses ☺ in v_0 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$

Eve chooses v_1 in v_0 : $\dashrightarrow -1$

Value

$$\overline{dVal}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

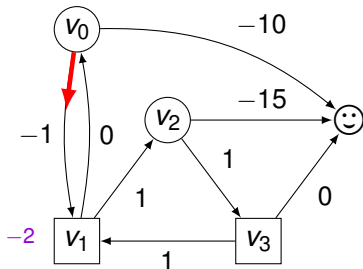
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Estimate $\overline{\text{dVal}}(v_1)$

Eve chooses smiley in v_0 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$

Eve chooses v_1 in v_0 : $\dashrightarrow -2$

Value

$$\overline{\text{dVal}}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\text{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{\text{dVal}^{\sigma}(v)}$$

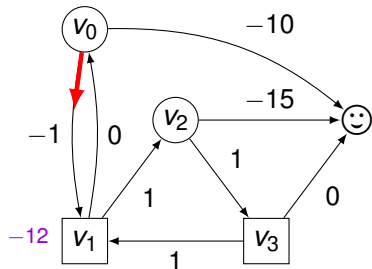
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Estimate $\overline{dVal}(v_1)$

Eve chooses ☺ in v_0 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$

Eve chooses v_1 in v_0 : $\dashrightarrow -12$

Value

$$\overline{dVal}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

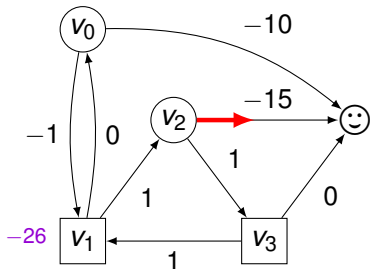
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Estimate $\overline{\text{dVal}}(v_1)$

Eve chooses ☺ in v_0 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$

Eve chooses v_1 in v_0 : $\dashrightarrow -12$

Eve chooses ☺ in v_2 : $\rightsquigarrow -26$

Value

$$\overline{\text{dVal}}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\text{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{\text{dVal}^{\sigma}(v)}$$

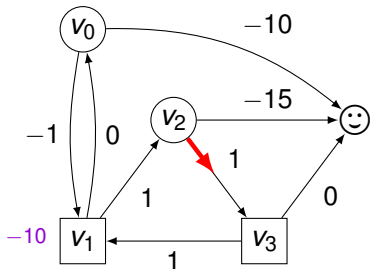
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Estimate $\overline{dVal}(v_1)$

- Eve chooses ☺ in v_0 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$
- Eve chooses v_1 in v_0 : $\dashrightarrow -12$
- Eve chooses ☺ in v_2 : $\rightsquigarrow -26$
- Eve chooses v_3 in v_2 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$

Value

$$\overline{dVal}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

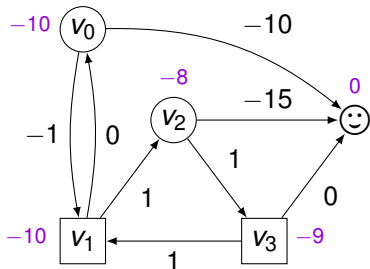
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Estimate $\overline{dVal}(v_1)$

- Eve chooses ☺ in v_0 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$
- Eve chooses v_1 in v_0 : $\dashrightarrow -12$
- Eve chooses ☺ in v_2 : $\rightsquigarrow -26$
- Eve chooses v_3 in v_2 : $\rightsquigarrow -10$

Value

$$\overline{dVal}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

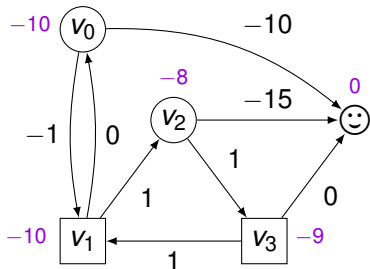
Deterministic strategy

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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Determinacy

$$dVal(v) = \overline{dVal}(v) = \underline{dVal}(v)$$

Value

$$\overline{dVal}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

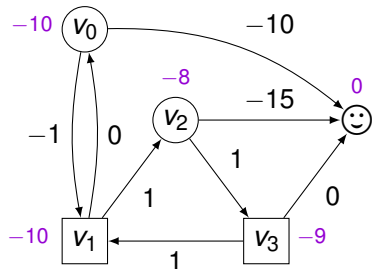
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Optimal strategy

$$dVal^{\sigma^*}(v) \leq dVal(v)$$

Value

$$dVal(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

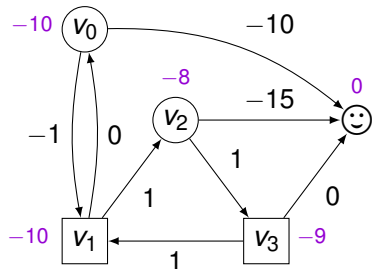
Deterministic strategy

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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Optimal strategy

$$dVal^{\sigma^*}(v) \leq dVal(v)$$

Optimal strategy for Adam

An optimal strategy for Adam may require finite memory.

Value

$$dVal(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

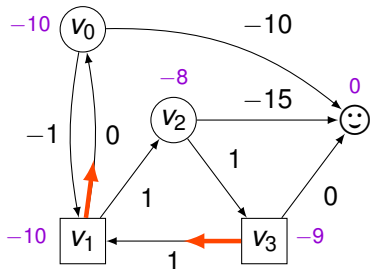
Deterministic strategy

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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Optimal strategy

$$dVal^{\sigma^*}(v) \leq dVal(v)$$

Optimal strategy for Adam

The switching strategy:

► σ_1 : reach negative cycle

Value

$$\overline{dVal}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

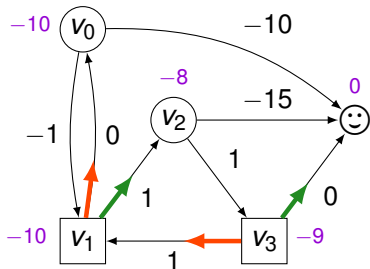
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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Optimal strategy

$$dVal^{\sigma^*}(v) \leq dVal(v)$$

Optimal strategy for Adam

The switching strategy:

- ▶ σ_1 : reach negative cycle
- ▶ σ_2 : reach ☺

Value

$$dVal(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

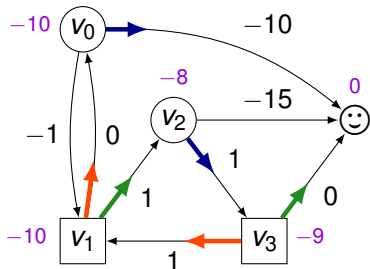
Deterministic strategy

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Deterministic Strategies ¹

σ Adam τ Eve



Optimal strategy

$$dVal^{\sigma^*}(v) \leq dVal(v)$$

Optimal strategy for Eve

Eve has a memoryless optimal strategy.

Value

$$dVal(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \underbrace{\mathbf{SP}(\text{Play}(v, \sigma, \tau))}_{dVal^{\sigma}(v)}$$

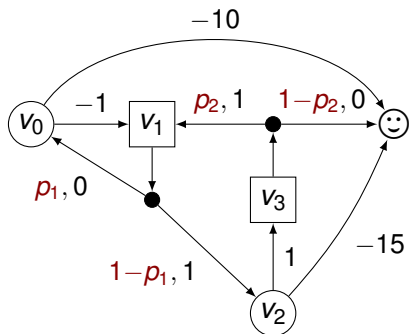
Deterministic strategy

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Memoryless strategies

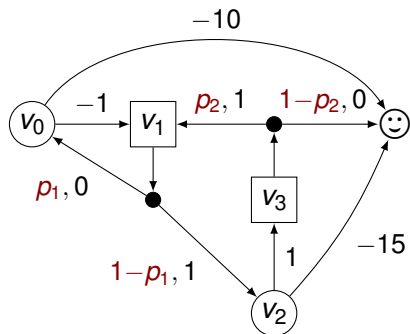
σ Adam τ Eve



Memoryless strategy

$$\sigma : V_{\text{Adam}} \rightarrow \Delta(V)$$

Memoryless strategies

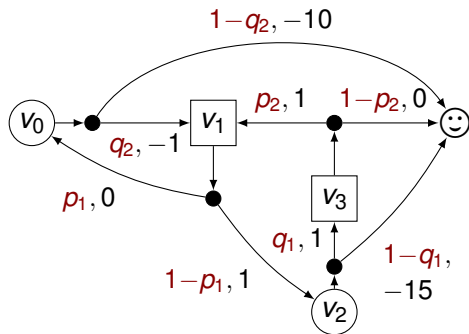


Value

$$\overline{\text{mVal}}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \mathbb{E}^{\sigma, \tau}(\mathbf{SP})$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{mVal}^{\sigma}(v)}$

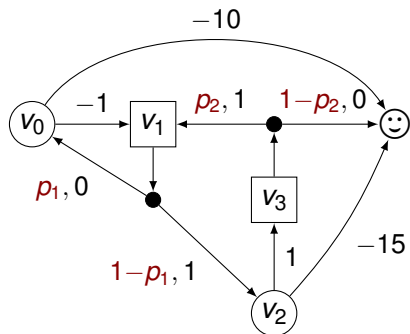
σ Adam τ Eve



Memoryless strategy

$$\sigma : V_{\text{Adam}} \rightarrow \Delta(V)$$

Memoryless strategies

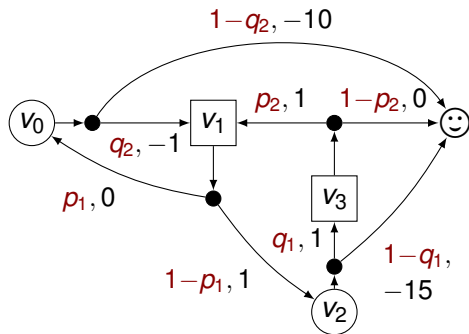


Value

$$\overline{\text{mVal}}(v) = \inf_{\sigma} \sup_{\tau} \mathbb{E}^{\sigma, \tau}(\mathbf{SP})$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{mVal}^{\sigma}(v)}$

\square Adam \circ Eve



Memoryless strategy

$$\sigma : V_{\text{Adam}} \rightarrow \Delta(V)$$

ϵ -optimal strategy

$$\text{mVal}^{\sigma^*}(v) \leq \overline{\text{mVal}}(v) + \epsilon$$

Contributions (1)

Main theorem

For all shortest-path games and vertices v , $dVal(v) = \overline{mVal}(v)$.

Contributions (1)

Main theorem

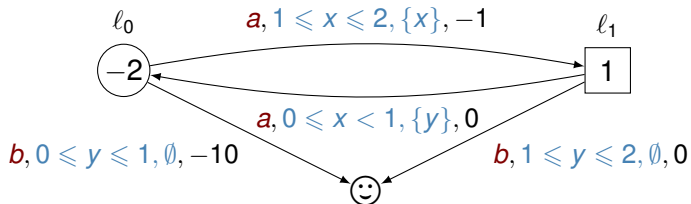
For all shortest-path games and vertices v , $dVal(v) = \overline{mVal}(v)$.

Optimality proposition

1. We can characterize and test in polynomial time the existence of an optimal memoryless strategy.
2. Adam has an optimal (randomised) memoryless strategy if and only if Adam has an optimal deterministic memoryless strategy.

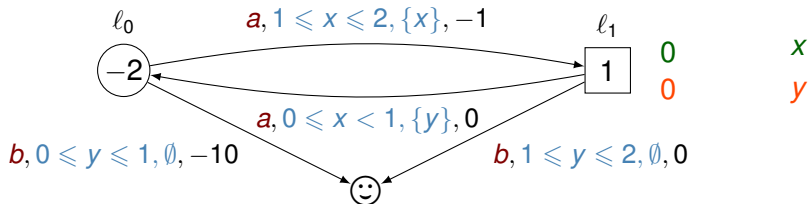
Weighted timed games

□ Adam ○ Eve



Weighted timed games

□ Adam ○ Eve

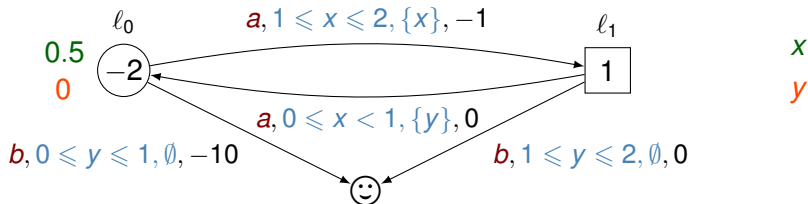


Play

$(l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix})$

Weighted timed games

□ Adam ○ Eve



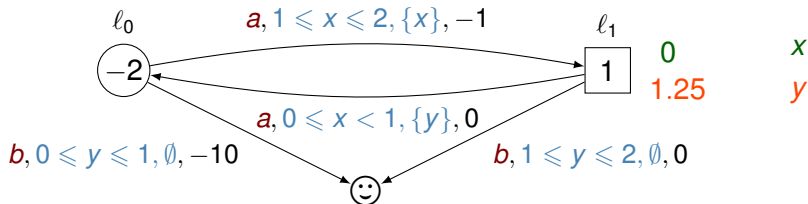
Play

$$\left(l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} \left(l_0, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$1 \times 0.5 + 0$

Weighted timed games

□ Adam ○ Eve

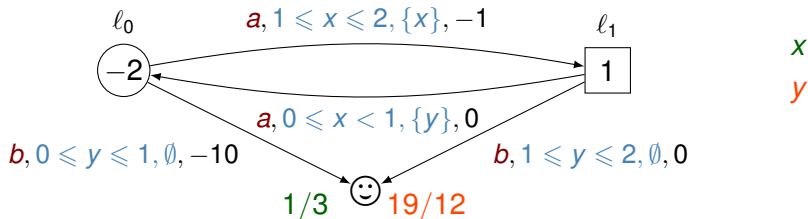


Play

$$\begin{array}{c}
 (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} (l_0, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}) \\
 1 \times 0.5 + 0 \qquad -2 \times 1.25 - 1
 \end{array}$$

Weighted timed games

□ Adam ○ Eve

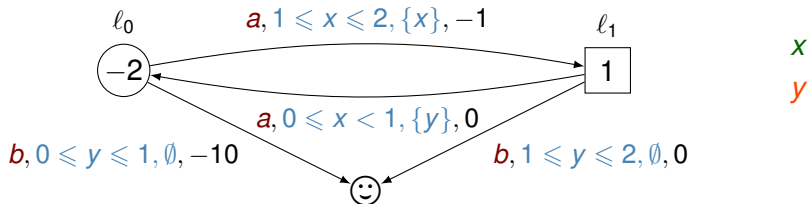


Play

$$\begin{aligned}
 (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) &\xrightarrow{a, 0.5} (l_0, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}) \xrightarrow{b, 1/3} (\text{smiley}, \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 19/12 \end{pmatrix}) \\
 1 \times 0.5 + 0 & \quad -2 \times 1.25 - 1 & \quad 1 \times \frac{1}{3} + 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Weighted timed games

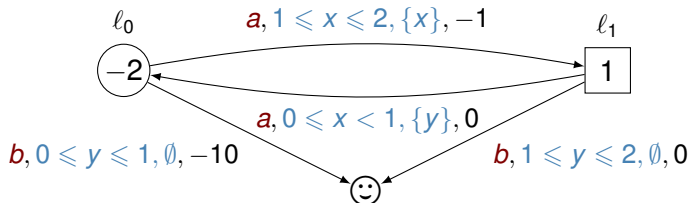
□ Adam ○ Eve



Play

$$\begin{aligned}
 (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) &\xrightarrow[1 \times 0.5 + 0]{a, 0.5} (l_0, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) \xrightarrow[-2 \times 1.25 - 1]{a, 1.25} (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}) \xrightarrow[1 \times \frac{1}{3} + 0]{b, 1/3} (\text{Smiley}, \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 19/12 \end{pmatrix}) \rightsquigarrow -\frac{8}{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

Weighted timed games



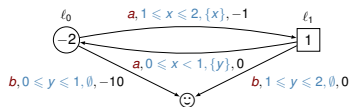
Value problem ²

The value problem, i.e. deciding if $dVal(l_0, \nu_0) \leq c$ with $c \in \mathbb{Z}$, is undecidable.

²On the value problem in weighted timed games, P. Bouyer, S. Jaziri, and N. Markey, 2015, CONCUR.

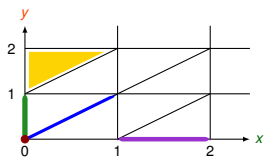
Weighted timed games

□ Adam ○ Eve



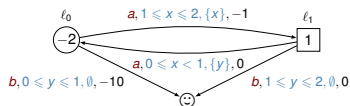
Finite abstraction

- ▶ Region : a finite abstraction of time



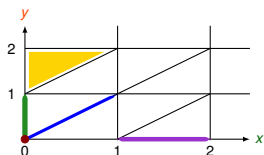
Weighted timed games

□ Adam ○ Eve



Finite abstraction

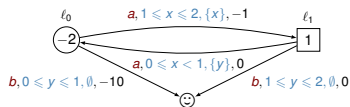
- ▶ Region : a finite abstraction of time



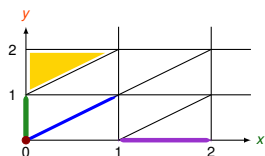
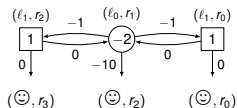
Simulate play

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} & (l_0, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} & (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{b, 1/3} & (\text{😊}, \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 19/12 \end{pmatrix}) \\
 (l_1, r_0) & \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} & (l_0, r_1) & \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} & (l_1, r_2) & \xrightarrow{b, 1/3} & (\text{😊}, r_3)
 \end{array}$$

Weighted timed games



□ Adam ○ Eve



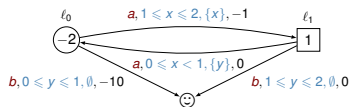
Finite abstraction

- ▶ Region : a finite abstraction of time
- ▶ Region automaton : finite abstraction of timed game

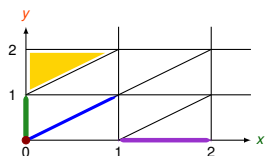
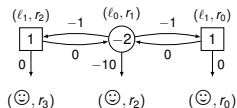
Simulate play

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} & (l_0, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} & (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{b, 1/3} & (\text{smiley}, \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 19/12 \end{pmatrix}) \\
 (l_1, r_0) & \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} & (l_0, r_1) & \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} & (l_1, r_2) & \xrightarrow{b, 1/3} & (\text{smiley}, r_3)
 \end{array}$$

Weighted timed games



□ Adam ○ Eve



Finite abstraction

- ▶ Region : a finite abstraction of time
- ▶ Region automaton : finite abstraction of timed game
- ▶ Divergent weighted timed games

Simulate play

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} & (l_0, \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} & (l_1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}) & \xrightarrow{b, 1/3} & (\text{smiley}, \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 19/12 \end{pmatrix}) \\
 (l_1, r_0) & \xrightarrow{a, 0.5} & (l_0, r_1) & \xrightarrow{a, 1.25} & (l_1, r_2) & \xrightarrow{b, 1/3} & (\text{smiley}, r_3)
 \end{array}$$

Contribution (2)

Conjecture

For all divergent weighted timed games and configurations (ℓ, ν) ,

$$\text{dVal}(\ell, \nu) = \overline{\text{mVal}}(\ell, \nu)$$

Contribution (2)

Conjecture

For all divergent weighted timed games and configurations (ℓ, ν) ,

$$\text{dVal}(\ell, \nu) = \overline{\text{mVal}}(\ell, \nu)$$

Steps of proof

1. Definition of randomized memoryless strategy
2. Finite abstraction and approximation successive
3. Application of main theorem in quantitative games

Memoryless simulate deterministic

Main theorem

For all shortest-path games and vertices v , $dVal(v) = \overline{mVal}(v)$.

Memoryless simulate deterministic

Claim

For all v , there exists p such that $mVal^{\sigma^p}(v) \leq dVal(v)$.

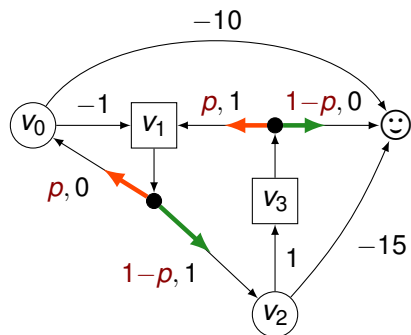
Memoryless simulate deterministic



Adam



Eve



Claim

For all v , there exists p such that $mVal^{\sigma_p}(v) \leq dVal(v)$.

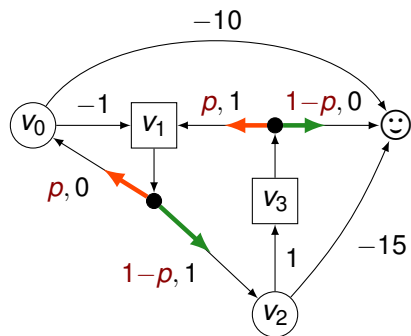
Strategy σ_p

Let $\langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ be an optimal switching strategy, for all $p \in (0, 1)$,

$$\sigma_p = p \times \sigma_1 + (1-p) \times \sigma_2$$

Memoryless simulate deterministic

σ Adam τ Eve



Claim

For all v , there exists p such that $mVal^{\sigma_p}(v) \leq dVal(v)$.

Properties of σ_p

- ▶ For all τ , $\mathbb{P}^{\sigma_p, \tau}(\diamond \text{smiley}) = 1$

Strategy σ_p

Let $\langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ be an optimal switching strategy, for all $p \in (0, 1)$,

$$\sigma_p = p \times \sigma_1 + (1-p) \times \sigma_2$$

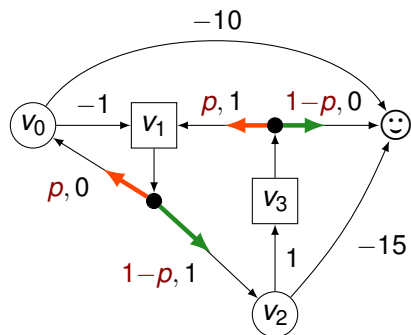
Memoryless simulate deterministic



Adam



Eve



Claim

For all v , there exists p such that $mVal^{\sigma_p}(v) \leq dVal(v)$.

Properties of σ_p

- ▶ For all τ , $\mathbb{P}^{\sigma_p, \tau}(\diamond \text{smiley}) = 1$
- ▶ Eve has an optimal memoryless deterministic strategy²

Strategy σ_p

Let $\langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ be an optimal switching strategy, for all $p \in (0, 1)$,

$$\sigma_p = p \times \sigma_1 + (1-p) \times \sigma_2$$

²An analysis of stochastic shortest path problems, D. Bertsekas and J. Tsitsiklis, 1991, Mathematics of Operations Research.

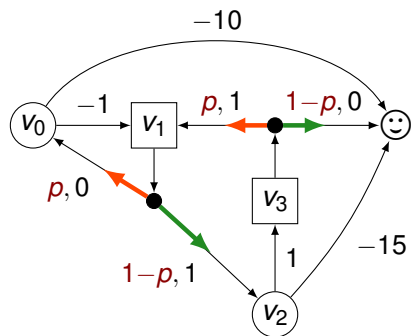
Memoryless simulate deterministic



Adam



Eve



Claim

For all v , there exists p such that $mVal^{\sigma_p}(v) \leq dVal(v)$.

Problem

Presence of non-negative cycles

Strategy σ_p

Let $\langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ be an optimal switching strategy, for all $p \in (0, 1)$,

$$\sigma_p = p \times \sigma_1 + (1-p) \times \sigma_2$$

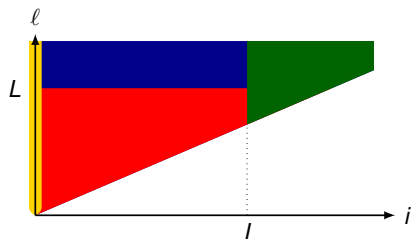
Memoryless simulate deterministic



Adam



Eve



Claim

For all v , there exists p such that $mVal^{\sigma_p}(v) \leq dVal(v)$.

Problem

Presence of non-negative cycles

Tool of proof

Control them with a partition of plays

Strategy σ_p

Let $\langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ be an optimal switching strategy, for all $p \in (0, 1)$,

$$\sigma_p = p \times \sigma_1 + (1-p) \times \sigma_2$$

Deterministic simulate memoryless

Claim

For all v and for all memoryless strategy ρ , there exists a deterministic strategy σ such that

$$\text{dVal}^\sigma(v) \leq \text{mVal}^\rho(v)$$

Tools of proof

- ▶ Build a switching strategy $\sigma = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ for ρ .
- ▶ Value iteration for the fixpoint that gives the value.

Conclusion

Quantitative games

1. Adam has the same hope using memory or randomness.
2. Existence of an optimal memoryless strategy for Adam is testable in polynomial time.

Divergent weighted timed games

Claim : memoryless value is equal to deterministic value

Perspectives

Quantitative games

- ▶ A polynomial-time algorithm to compute the value
- ▶ Extension to probabilistic value (memory and randomisation)

Weighted timed games

Extension to other class of decidable game such as games restricted to a single clock