

# CONCURRENT PARITY GAMES

REDUCING CONCURRENT TO TURN-BASED  
BÜCHI AND CO-BÜCHI GAMES

MARCIN JURDZIŃSKI

ORNA KUPFERMAN TOM HENZINGER

LIAFA, PARIS 7

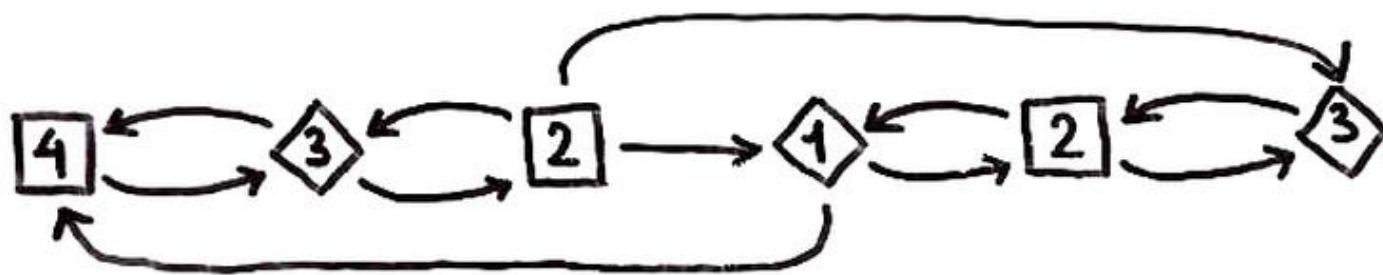
UC BERKELEY

# PARITY GAMES

FOCUS HERE ON:

- GENERALIZATION TO CONCURRENT GAMES  
(PROBABILISTIC STRATEGIES NEEDED)
  - GENERALIZATION OF DETERMINACY
  - STRUCTURE OF WINNING STRATEGIES
  - ALGORITHMS OF SOLVING GAMES
-

# PARITY GAME EXAMPLE



□ PLAYER 0

◇ PLAYER 1

- PLAY: INFINITE PATH

- WINNING PLAY (FOR PL. 0):

HIGHEST PRIORITY OCCURRING  
INFINITELY OFTEN IS EVEN

- STRATEGY

- WINNING STRATEGY

# STRATEGIES

PURE

|            | HISTORY |          | CURRENT VERTEX | NEXT VERTEX              |
|------------|---------|----------|----------------|--------------------------|
| GENERAL    | $V^*$   | $\times$ | $V$            | $\rightarrow V$          |
| w/MEMORY   | $M$     | $\times$ | $V$            | $\rightarrow V \times M$ |
| MEMORYLESS |         |          | $V$            | $\rightarrow V$          |

OUTCOME  $(v, \sigma, \tau)$ : AN INFINITE PATH

MIXED  
(PROBABILISTIC)

|          |       |          |     |                                       |
|----------|-------|----------|-----|---------------------------------------|
| GENERAL  | $V^*$ | $\times$ | $V$ | $\rightarrow$ DISTR( $V$ )            |
| w/MEMORY | $M$   | $\times$ | $V$ | $\rightarrow$ DISTR( $V$ ) $\times M$ |

OUTCOMES  $(v, \sigma, \tau)$ : PROBABILITY SPACE  
OVER INFINITE PATHS

# DETERMINACY OF TURN-BASED PARITY GAMES

THM [EJ'91, Mos'91]

THERE IS A **UNIQUE** PARTITION

$$V = W_0 \cup W_1$$

S.T. PLAYER  $i$  WINS ON  $W_i$

**WINNING STRATEGIES** FOR BOTH PLAYERS ARE

- **PURE**
  - **MEMORYLESS**
-



# CONCURRENT PARITY GAMES [dANK'98]



FACT FOR EACH PURE STRATEGY  $\alpha$  FOR PLAYER 0  
THERE IS A STRATEGY  $\beta$  FOR PLAYER 1, S.T.  
OUTCOME  $(v, \alpha, \beta)$  IS LOSING FOR PL. 0

$\Rightarrow$  PURE STRATEGIES DETERMINACY FAILS  
FOR CONCURRENT GAMES

# A PROBABILISTIC STRATEGY FOR PL. 0



MIXED STRATEGY  $\alpha$  FOR PLAYER 0:

$$P^\alpha[\text{THROW L}] = \epsilon$$

$$P^\alpha[\text{THROW R}] = 1 - \epsilon$$

FACT FOR EVERY MIXED STRATEGY  $\tau$  OF PL. 1

$$P_{\sigma}^{\alpha, \tau}[\text{HIT}] \geq \epsilon$$

$$\text{IF } \epsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

COROLLARY

$$P_{\sigma}^{\alpha, \tau}[\text{PL. 0 WINS}] = 1$$

ALMOST SURE / POSITIVE PROBABILITY WIN  
"DETERMINACY" FOR CONCURRENT PARITY GAMES

THM [dAH'00] THERE IS A UNIQUE PARTITION

$$V = W_0^{AS} \cup W_1^P \quad \text{s.t.}$$

• PLAYER 0 HAS A STRATEGY  $\alpha$  ON  $W_0^{AS}$ , s.t.

$$P^{\alpha, \tau} [\text{PL. 0 WINS}] = 1$$

FOR EVERY STRATEGY  $\tau$  FOR PLAYER 1

• PLAYER 1 HAS A STRATEGY  $\beta$  ON  $W_1^P$ , s.t.

$$P^{\sigma, \beta} [\text{PL. 1 WINS}] > 0$$

FOR EVERY STRATEGY  $\sigma$  FOR PLAYER 0

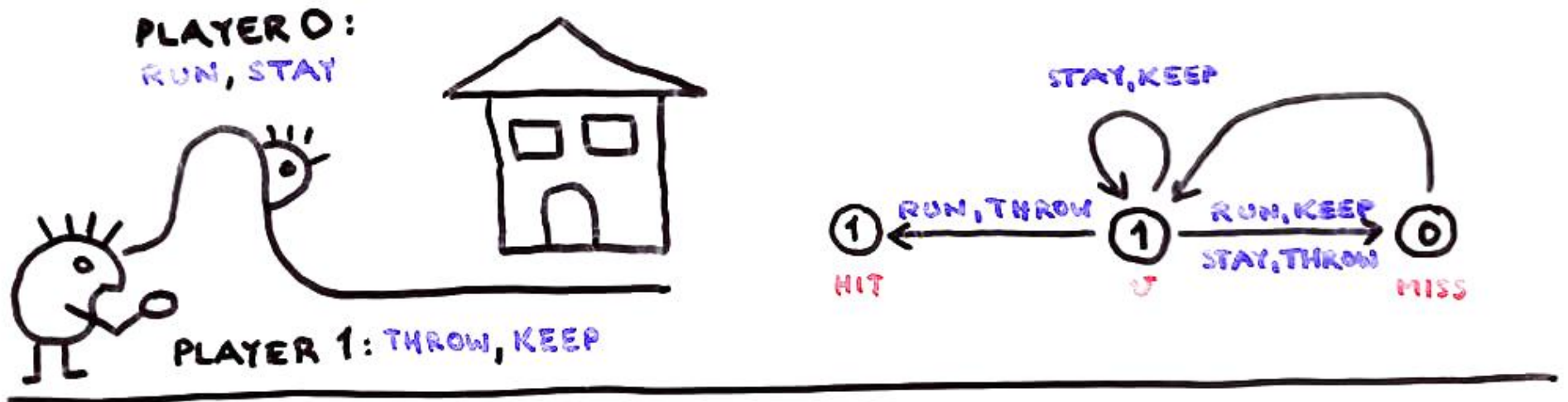
WINNING STRATEGIES  $\alpha, \beta$  ARE:

• MIXED

• WITH "COUNTING" MEMORY (INFINITE!)



# "ALMOST" ALMOST SURE WIN

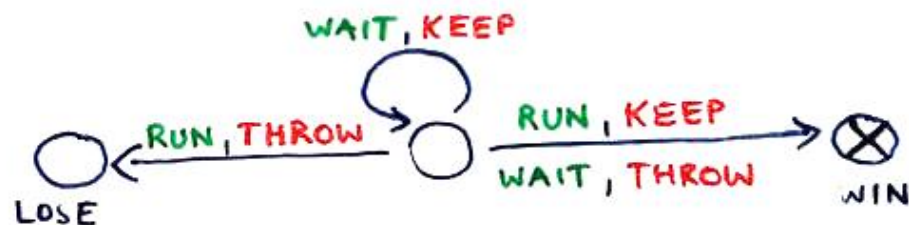


FACT 1 PLAYER 0 CANNOT WIN ALMOST SURELY

FACT 2 FOR EVERY  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  
PLAYER 0 HAS A STRATEGY TO WIN  
WITH PROBABILITY  $\geq 1 - \epsilon$

(LIMIT SURE WIN)

# CONCURRENT REACHABILITY GAME : LIMIT-SURE WIN



$$\alpha: \begin{bmatrix} \text{RUN} \mapsto \epsilon \\ \text{WAIT} \mapsto 1-\epsilon \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\beta: \begin{bmatrix} \text{THROW} \mapsto 1-k \\ \text{KEEP} \mapsto k \end{bmatrix}$$

FACT IF PLAYER 0 PLAYS  $\alpha$  IN ALL STEPS  
 THEN HE WINS WITH PROBABILITY  $\geq 1-2\epsilon$

CLAIM

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| (1) | $P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}] \geq \epsilon$                                     |
| (2) | $P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{LOSE}] \leq 2\epsilon \cdot P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}]$ |

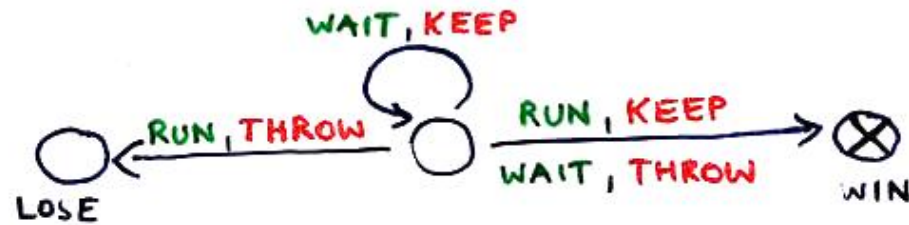
PROOF

$$(1) \quad P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}] = \epsilon \cdot k + (1-\epsilon) \cdot (1-k) \geq \epsilon$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{LOSE}]}{P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}]} \leq \frac{\epsilon \cdot (1-k)}{(1-\epsilon) \cdot (1-k)} \leq 2\epsilon$$

ASS.  $\epsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}$

# CONCURRENT REACHABILITY GAME : LIMIT-SURE WIN



$$\alpha: \begin{bmatrix} \text{RUN} \mapsto \epsilon \\ \text{WAIT} \mapsto 1-\epsilon \end{bmatrix}$$

FACT IF PLAYER 0 PLAYS  $\alpha$  IN ALL STEPS  
THEN HE WINS WITH PROBABILITY  $\geq 1-2\epsilon$

CLAIM

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| (1) | $P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}] \geq \epsilon$                                     |
| (2) | $P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{LOSE}] \leq 2\epsilon \cdot P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}]$ |

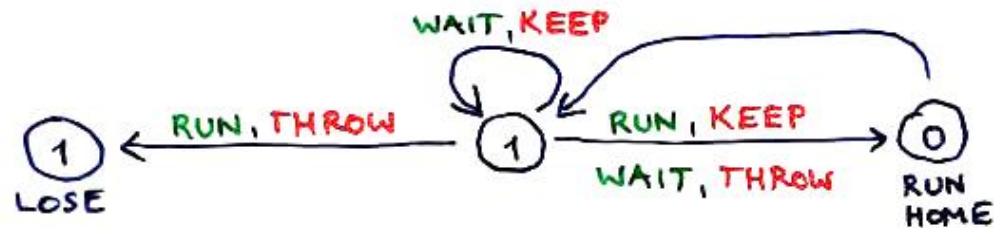
PROOF  $L \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{PROBABILITY OF REACHING } \underline{\text{LOSE}} \text{ BEFORE } \underline{\text{WIN}}$

$$L \leq P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{LOSE}] + (1 - P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}]) \cdot L$$

$$\Rightarrow L \leq \frac{P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{LOSE}]}{P^{\alpha\beta}[\text{WIN}]} \leq 2\epsilon$$

# CONCURRENT BÜCHI GAME : LIMIT-SURE WIN

## INFINITE MEMORY STRATEGY



$\alpha_\delta$  : STR. FOR PL. 0 TO RUN HOME WITH PROB.  $\geq \delta$

$\bar{\alpha}$  : AFTER RUNNING HOME  $k$  TIMES PLAY  $\alpha_{\delta_k}$

WHERE  $\delta_k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (1-\epsilon)^{1/2^{k+1}}$

FACT PLAYER 0 USING  $\bar{\alpha}$  RUNS HOME  $\infty$  MANY TIMES  
WITH PROBABILITY  $\geq 1-\epsilon$

PROOF  $R_k$  : EVENT THAT PL. 0 RUNS HOME  $\geq k$  TIMES

$$P^{\bar{\alpha}\beta}[R_\infty] = \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} P^{\bar{\alpha}\beta}[R_{i+1} | R_i] \geq \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} \delta_i = 1-\epsilon$$



LIMIT SURE / POSITIVE BOUNDED PROBABILITY WIN  
"DETERMINACY" FOR CONCURRENT PARITY GAMES

THM [JAH'00] THERE IS A UNIQUE PARTITION

$$V = W_0^{LS} \cup W_1^B \quad \text{s.t.}$$

- PLAYER 0 WINS LIMIT-SURELY ON  $W_0^{LS}$ , I.E.

FOR ALL  $\epsilon > 0$ , HE HAS A STRATEGY  $\alpha$  ON  $W_0^{LS}$ , S.T.

$$\inf_{\tau} P^{\alpha, \tau} [\text{PL. 0 WINS}] \geq 1 - \epsilon$$

- PLAYER 1 WINS WITH PROB. BOUNDED AWAY FROM 0 ON  $W_1^B$ , I.E.

THERE IS  $k > 0$ , S.T. HE HAS A STRAT.  $\beta$  ON  $W_1^B$ , S.T.

$$\inf_{\sigma} P^{\sigma, \beta} [\text{PL. 1 WINS}] \geq k$$

# "QUANTITATIVE" DETERMINACY FOR CONCURRENT PROBABILISTIC PARITY GAMES

THM [dAM'01]

FOR EACH VERTEX  $v$ ,  
THERE IS A NUMBER  $\pi_v$ , S.T.

- $\sup_{\sigma} \inf_{\tau} P_v^{\sigma, \tau} [\text{PL. 0 WINS}] = \pi_v$
- $\sup_{\tau} \inf_{\sigma} P_v^{\sigma, \tau} [\text{PL. 1 WINS}] = 1 - \pi_v$

OPEN PROBLEM <sup>EFFICIENT</sup> ALGORITHMS FOR SOLVING  
QUANTITATIVE CONCURRENT PARITY GAMES

# THE MAIN RESULT

## LINEAR TIME REDUCTIONS

- FROM CONCURRENT BÜCHI GAMES  
TO TURN-BASED BÜCHI GAMES
  - FROM CONCURRENT CO-BÜCHI GAMES  
TO TURN-BASED PARITY (0,2) GAMES
- 

## COROLLARY

CONCURRENT CO-BÜCHI GAMES CAN BE  
SOLVED IN QUADRATIC TIME

---



## CONSEQUENCES AND BY-PRODUCTS

- THE REDUCTIONS TURN SOLVERS OF TURN-BASED PARITY GAMES INTO SOLVERS OF CONCURRENT BÜCHI AND CO-BÜCHI GAMES
  - A GENERALIZATION OF LOCAL WITNESSES (A.K.A. PROGRESS MEASURES / SIGNATURES) TO CONCURRENT GAMES
  - AN ALTERNATIVE PROOF OF ALMOST SURE / POSITIVE PROB. WIN DUALITY FROM MEMORYLESS DETERMINACY OF TURN-BASED PARITY GAMES
-



# TOWARDS THE TRANSLATION

CONCURRENT  
BÜCHI GAME

TURN-BASED  
BÜCHI GAME

$G$



$\bar{G}$

PLAYER  $i$  WINS  
FROM  $\bar{v}$



PLAYER  $i$  WINS  
FROM  $\bar{v}$

MEMORYLESS  
DETERMINACY  
THROUGH  
LOCAL WITNESSES

$(\psi, \Psi)$

GENERALIZED  
LOCAL  
WITNESSES



$(\bar{\psi}, \bar{\Psi})$

LOCAL  
WITNESSES

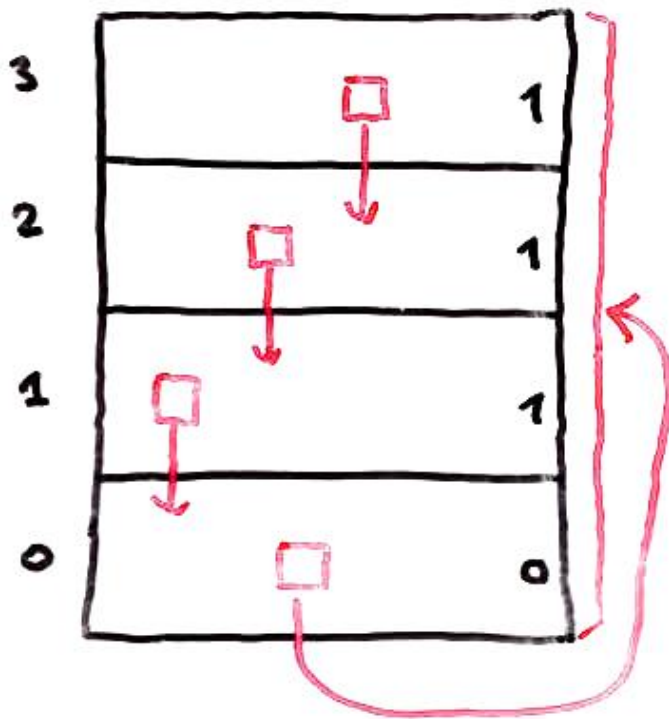
## THE INGREDIENTS WE NEED

1. DEFINITION OF LOCAL WITNESSES FOR CONCURRENT GAMES
2. CORRECTNESS PROOF FOR LOCAL WITNESSES: THEY INDUCE WINNING STRATEGIES
3. PROOF THAT LOCAL WITNESSES IN  $\bar{G}$  INDUCE LOCAL WITNESSES IN  $G$

# LOCAL WITNESSES (FOR BÜCKI GAMES)

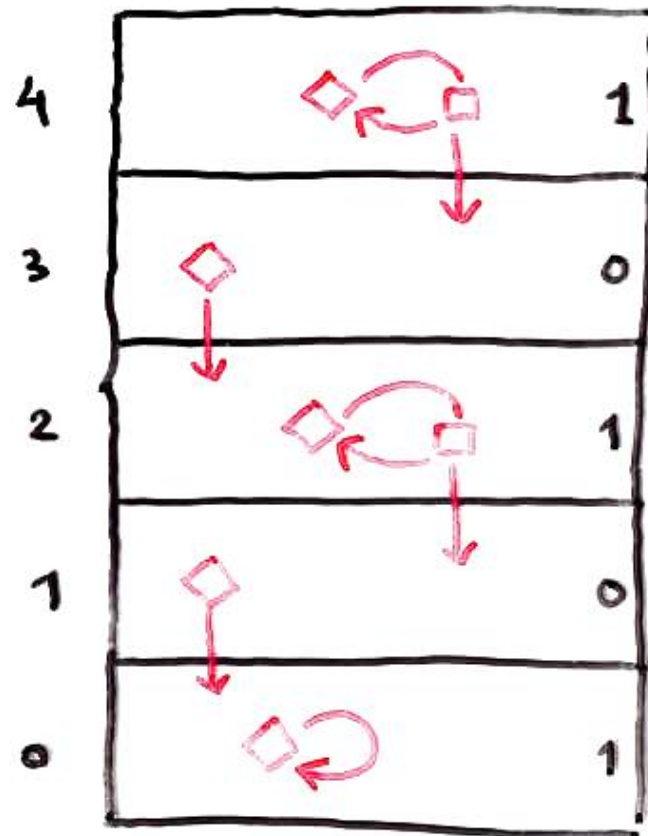
PLAYER 0

$$\varphi: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$$



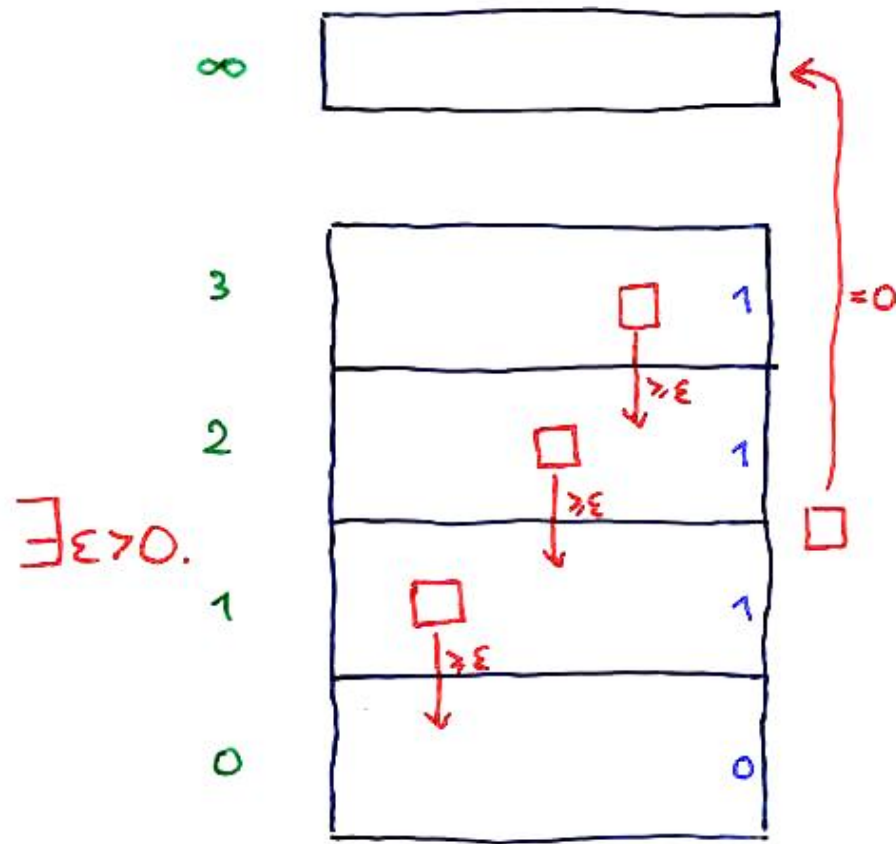
PLAYER 1

$$\psi: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$$



# GENERALIZED LOCAL WITNESSES FOR PLAYER 0 IN $C_{as}(0,1)$ GAMES

$$\varphi: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$$



FACT PLAYER 0 WINS  
WITH PROBABILITY 1

PROOF

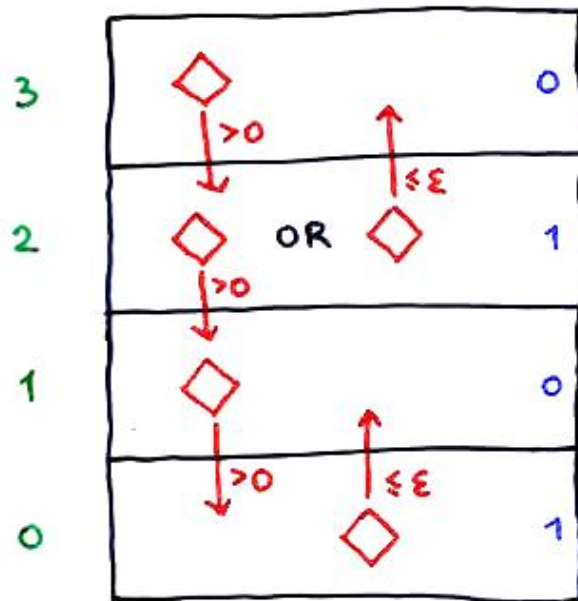
$R_k$ : EVENT THAT RANK 0  
IS REACHED  $\geq k$  TIMES

$$P[R_\infty] = \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} P[R_{i+1} | R_i] = 1$$



# GENERALIZED LOCAL WITNESSES FOR PLAYER 1 IN $C_{as}(0,1)$ GAMES

$$\Psi : V \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$$



$$\forall \epsilon < \frac{1}{2}$$

FACT PLAYER 1 WINS  
WITH PROBABILITY  $> 0$

PROOF (INDUCTION ON RANK)

- RANK  $r = 0$

CLAIM PLAYER 1 CAN STAY  
IN  $\Psi_0$  WITH PROB.  $\geq 1 - \epsilon$

PROOF

$\bar{\alpha}$ : IN  $k$ -TH STEP CHOOSE  $\alpha_{\epsilon_k}$

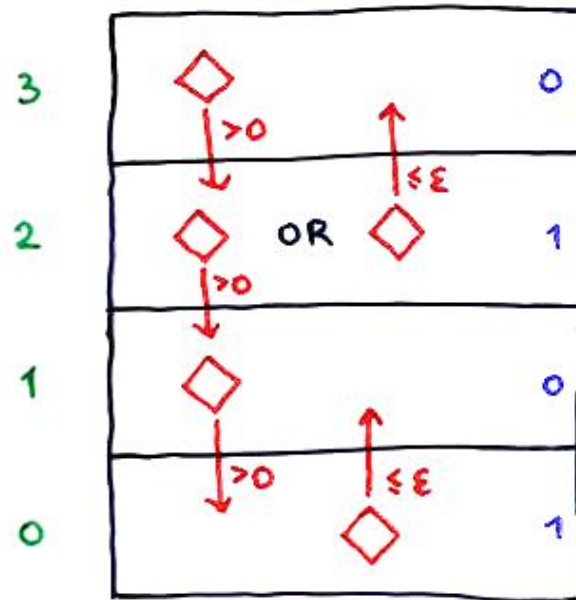
WHERE  $\epsilon_k = \frac{\epsilon}{2^k}$

PROBABILITY OF LEAVING  $\Psi_0$ :

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \epsilon_i = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon}{2^i} = \epsilon$$

# GENERALIZED LOCAL WITNESSES FOR PLAYER 1 IN $C_{as}(0,1)$ GAMES

$$\Psi: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$$



$$\forall \epsilon < \frac{1}{2}$$

FACT PLAYER 1 WINS  
WITH PROBABILITY  $> 0$

PROOF (INDUCTION ON RANK)

• RANK  $\tau$  IS EVEN

$\alpha$ : IN  $k$ -TH STEP PLAY  $\alpha_{\epsilon_k}$

S.T.  $P^{\alpha_{\epsilon_k} \beta}[\Psi_{<v}] > 0$  (\*)

OR  $P^{\alpha_{\epsilon_k} \beta}[\Psi_{>v}] \leq \epsilon_k$

IF (\*) NEVER HOLDS THEN  
PROBABILITY OF INCREASING  
RANK IS

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \epsilon_i = \epsilon$$

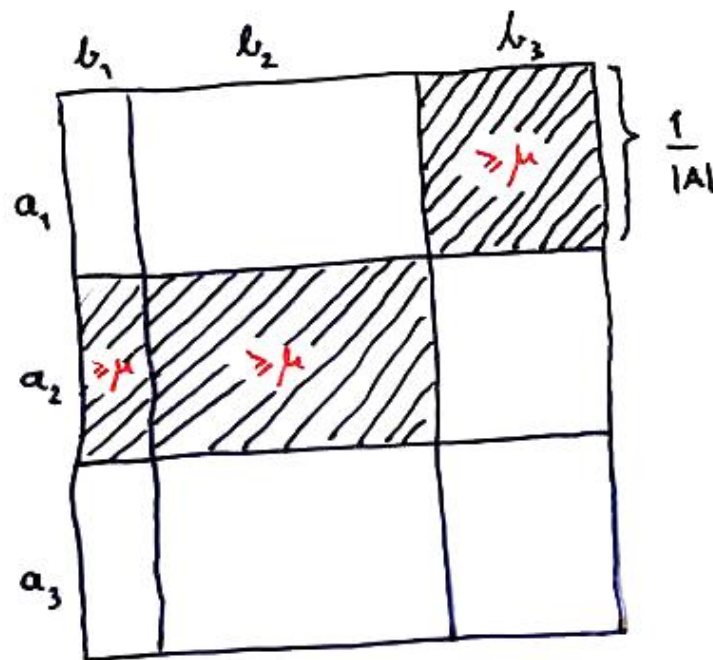
TRANSLATING THE  $\left[ \exists \epsilon > 0. \begin{matrix} \square \\ \downarrow \epsilon \end{matrix} \right]$  CONDITION

$$\boxed{\exists \epsilon > 0. \exists \alpha. \forall \beta. P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\varphi_\infty] = 0 \wedge P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\varphi_{<v}] \geq \epsilon}$$

$$\alpha: \begin{cases} A \mapsto \frac{1}{|A|} \\ \bar{A} \mapsto 0 \end{cases}$$

s.t.

$$\boxed{\forall b. \exists a \in A. P_v^{ab}[\varphi_{<v}] > 0}$$



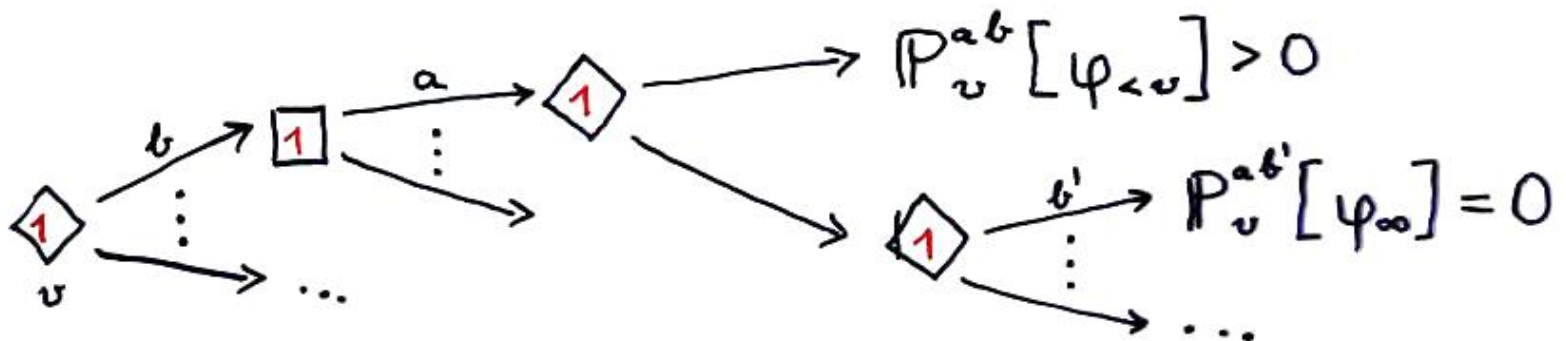
$$\Rightarrow P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\varphi_{<v}] \geq \frac{\mu}{|A|}$$

$\mu$  = THE SMALLEST NON-ZERO  $P_v^{ab}[w]$ .

# TRANSLATING THE $[\exists \epsilon > 0. \overset{v}{\square} \downarrow_{\geq \epsilon}]$ CONDITION

$$\boxed{\exists \epsilon > 0. \exists \alpha. \forall \beta. P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_\infty] = 0 \wedge P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{<v}] \geq \epsilon}$$

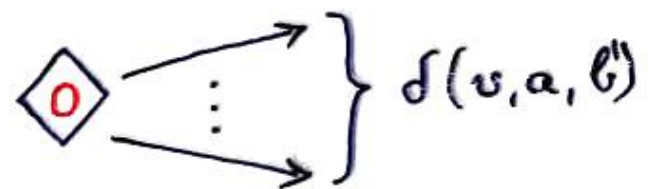
$$\forall b. \exists a. (\forall b'. P_v^{ab'}[\psi_\infty] = 0) \wedge P_v^{ab}[\psi_{<v}] > 0$$



$$P_v^{ab}[\psi_{<v}] > 0 \quad ?$$



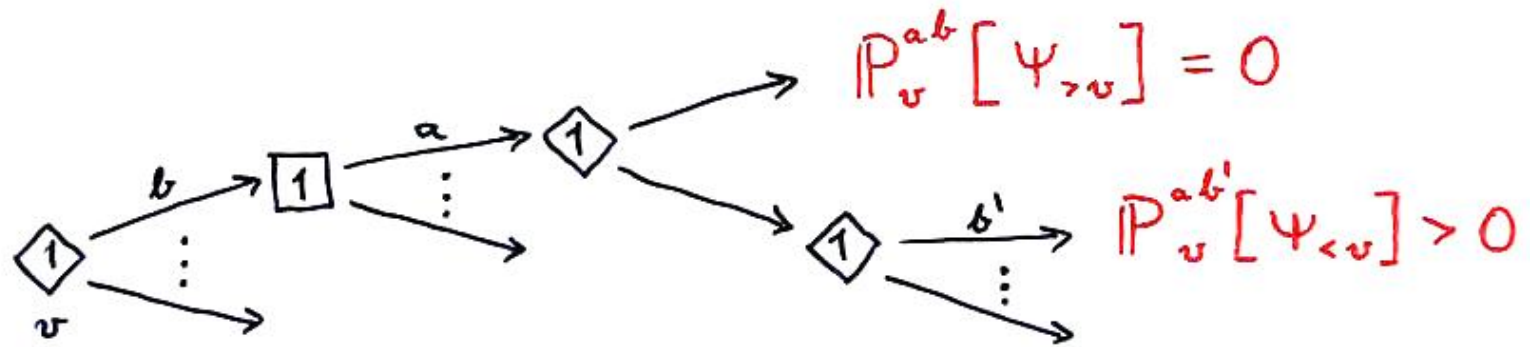
$$P_v^{ab}[\psi_\infty] = 0 \quad ?$$



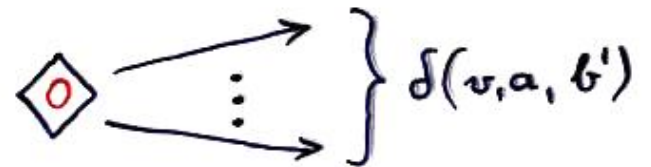


THE  $[\forall \epsilon < \frac{1}{2}. \downarrow_{>0} \text{ OR } \uparrow_{\leq \epsilon}]$  IS DUAL TO  $[\exists \epsilon > 0. \downarrow_{\geq \epsilon}]$

$$\forall \epsilon < \frac{1}{2}. \exists \beta. \forall \alpha. P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\Psi_{>v}] > 0 \vee P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\Psi_{<v}] \leq \epsilon$$



$$P_v^{ab}[\Psi_{>v}] = 0$$



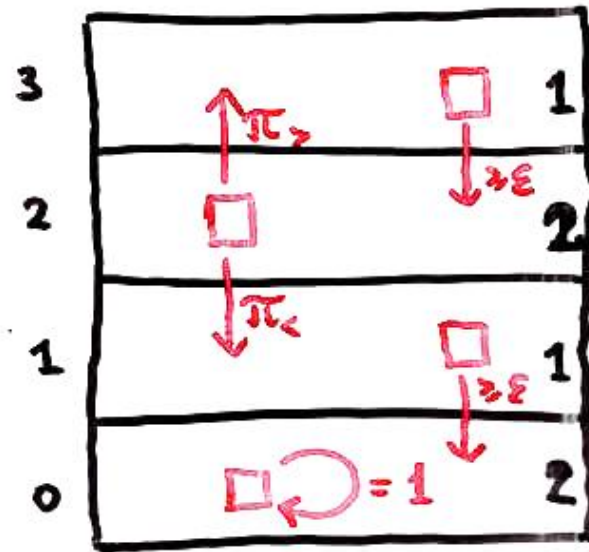
$$P_v^{ab'}[\Psi_{<v}] > 0$$

# GENERALIZED LOCAL WITNESSES FOR CONCURRENT CO-BÜCHI GAMES

PLAYER 0

$$\varphi: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$$

$\exists \varepsilon > 0.$



$$\pi_{<} \geq \varepsilon \cdot \pi_{>}$$

PLAYER 0 WINS W/PROBABILITY 1

# GENERALIZED LOCAL WITNESSES FOR CONCURRENT CO-BÜCHI GAMES

PLAYER 1

$$\Psi : V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^2 \cup \{\infty\}$$



⋮

$(i,3)$

$\pi_> 2$

$(i,2)$

$\diamond$  OR  $(\diamond$  AND  $\diamond)$   $\pi_<$   $2$

$(i,1)$

$2$

$(i,0)$

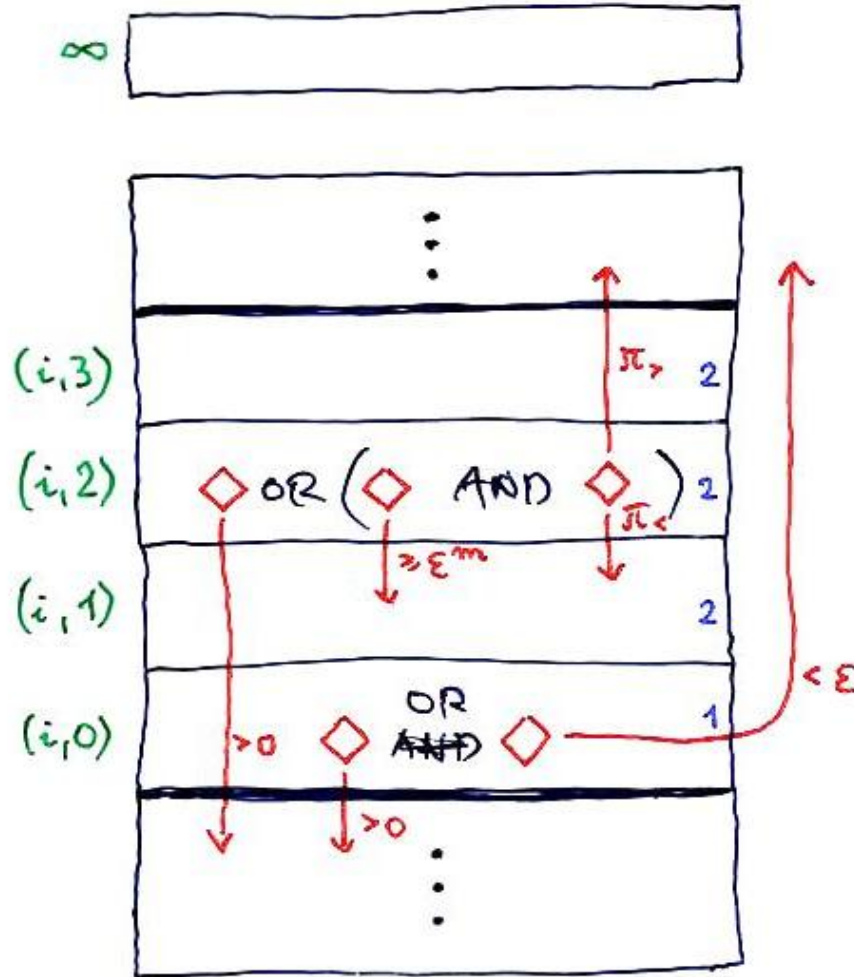
$>0$   $\diamond$  OR AND  $\diamond$   $1$

⋮

$$\exists m \geq 1. \forall \epsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

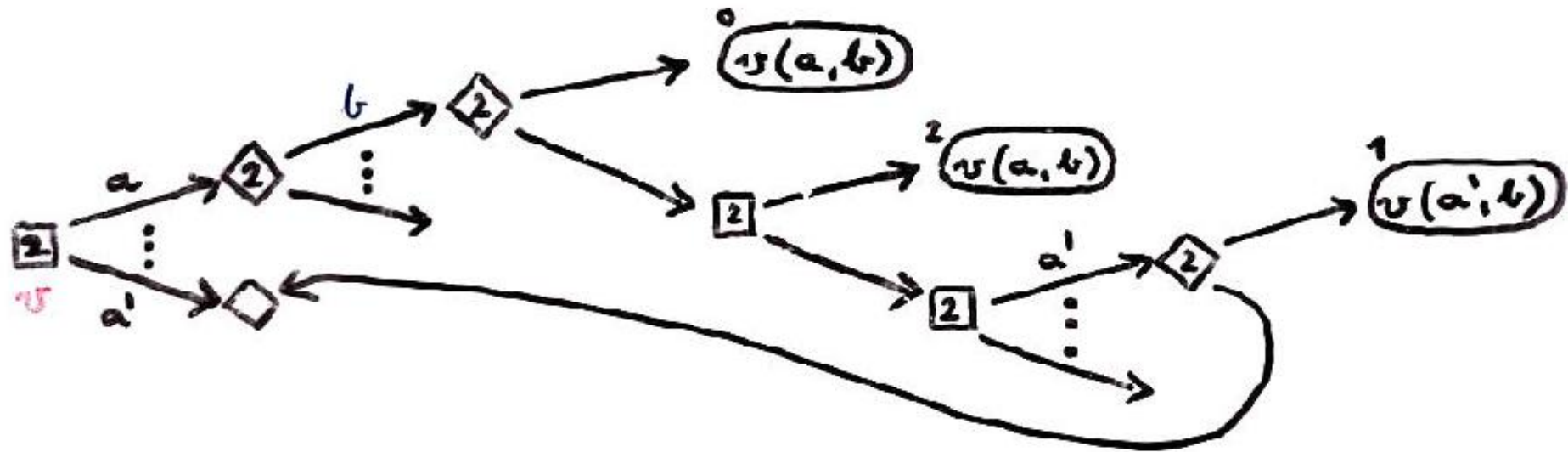
$$\pi_> \leq \epsilon \cdot \pi_<$$

$< \epsilon$



TRANSLATING THE  $\left[ \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \pi, \\ \square \varepsilon \\ \downarrow \bar{\pi}_c \end{array} / \diamond \downarrow_{>0} \text{ OR } \left( \diamond \downarrow_{\geq \frac{1}{2}} \text{ AND } \diamond \downarrow_{\delta} \right) \right]$  CONDITION

PLAYER 0:  $\exists \varepsilon > 0. \exists \alpha. \forall \beta. P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{<\infty}] = 1 \wedge$   
 $\wedge P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{<v}] \geq \varepsilon \cdot P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{>v}]$



PLAYER 1:  $\exists m. \forall \varepsilon \leq \frac{1}{2}. \exists \beta. \forall \alpha. P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{<v}^0] > 0 \vee$

$\vee \left( P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{<v}] \geq \varepsilon^m \wedge P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{>v}^0] \leq \varepsilon \cdot P_v^{\alpha\beta}[\psi_{<v}] \right)$



## TO BE DONE

- TRANSLATIONS OF  $C(1,d)$  AND  $C(0,d)$  GAMES TO TURN-BASED  $(0,d)$  GAMES  
⇒ IMPROVING COMPLEXITY FROM  $O(n^d)$  TO  $O(n^{d/2})$
- SAME FOR LIMIT-SURE WIN
- GENERALIZATION TO QUANTITATIVE SOLUTION OF CONCURRENT PROBABILISTIC GAMES ?  
⇒ ALGORITHMS ?