

# Two-player Game Structures for Service Composition, Synthesis and Generalized Planning

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# Solving Composition Problems

- Service Composition problems can be solved using a variety of approaches, e.g.,:
  - PDL-based  
[Berardi,Calvanese,De Giacomo,Lenzerini,Mecella@ICSOC03]
  - Direct simulation computation  
[Ströder,Pagnucco@IJCAI09]
  - LTL synthesis  
[Sardina,DeGiacomo@ICAPS08; P@Phd09]
- **2-GS: powerful framework to capture and solve all above**

# Two-player Game Structures (2-GS)

- Inspired by game structures for LTL synthesis  
[Piterman,Pnueli,Sa'ar@VMCAI06; Alur,Henzinger,Kupferman@JACM-02]
- Model the **rules** of a game (e.g., Chess) between players:
  - Controller (**the good**)
  - Environment (**the bad**)
- With the game at hand, we can:
  - **define a problem** (e.g., can we checkmate from a starting situation?)
  - (Try to) **solve the problem**

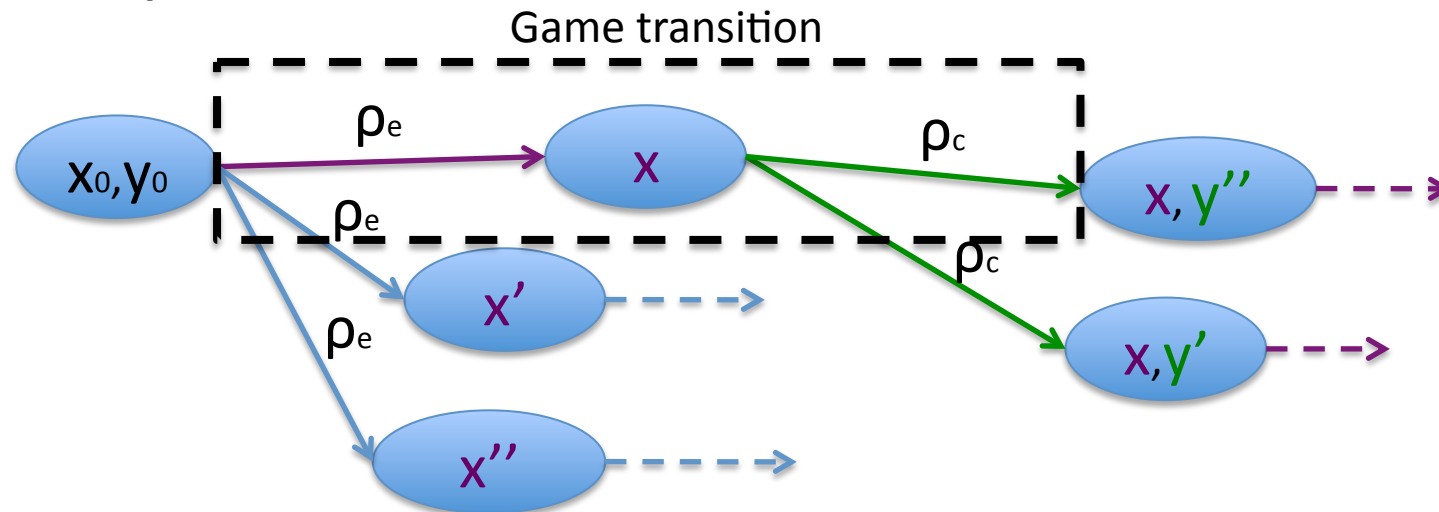
# 2-GS: Definition

$G = \langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, start, \rho_e, \rho_c \rangle$ , where:

- $\mathcal{X}$ : set of environment (uncontrolled) variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , ranging over  $X = X_1 \times \dots \times X_n$
- $\mathcal{Y}$ : set of controller (controlled) variables  $y_1, \dots, y_m$ , ranging over  $Y = Y_1 \times \dots \times Y_m$
- $start = \langle x_0, y_0 \rangle \in X \times Y$  is the initial game state
- $\rho_e \subseteq X \times Y \times X$  is the environment transition relation
- $\rho_c \subseteq X \times Y \times X \times Y$  is the controller transition relation

# 2-GS: Rounds

- Each round consists of an environment move and a controller reply
- Moves and replies must be compliant with  $\rho_e$  and  $\rho_c$



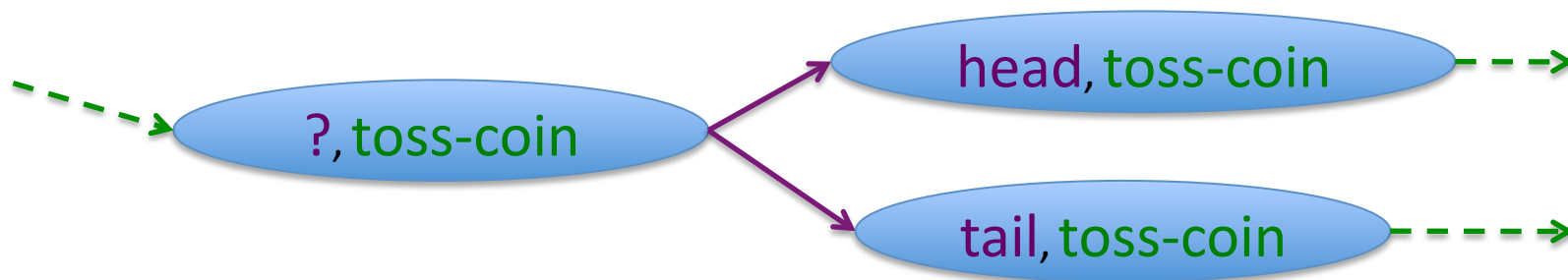
# 2-GS MC Example: TIC-TAC-TOE

	A	B	C
1			
2			
3			

- $\mathcal{X} = \{x_{A1}, \dots, x_{A3}, \dots, x_{C1}, x_{C3}\}$ : propositional
- $\mathcal{Y} = \{y_{A1}, \dots, y_{A3}, \dots, y_{C1}, y_{C3}\}$ : propositional
- Start: all variables are initially false
- $\rho_e$ : assign true exactly one  $\mathcal{X}$  variable  $x_{ij}$  s.t.  $y_{ij}$  is false
- $\rho_c$ : assign true exactly one  $\mathcal{Y}$  variable  $y_{ij}$  s.t.  $x_{ij}$  is false

# Example(2)

- 2-GSs capture (ND) planning domains:
  - The controller executes an action
  - The environment chooses the outcome



- $\rho_c$  accounts for preconditions
- $\rho_e$  accounts for (ND) effects

# Goals for 2GS

- When does a player win  $G$ ?
- It depends on the **goal**
- In planning, we have **reachability goals**, e.g.:
  - checkmate the opponent's king
- In general, we can define **complex goals**, e.g.:
  - The controller can always reach a state where the coin can be tossed



# $\mu$ -calculus over 2-GS

- To define goals, we use a variant of the  $\mu$ -calculus<sub>[Emerson96]</sub>, whose formulae are:
  - *atoms* of the form  $x_i = x$  or  $y_i = y$
  - $\odot\Psi$  (*next*), if  $\Psi$  is a formula
  - $\mu Z.\Psi$  (*least fixpoint*), if  $\Psi$  is a formula
  - $\nu Z.\Psi$  (*greatest fixpoint*), if  $\Psi$  is a formula
  - Boolean combinations of above formulae

# $\mu$ -calculus over 2-GS (2)

For complete semantics, see [Emerson96]

- Key operator *next*

$\langle x, y \rangle \models \odot \Psi$  iff

$\exists x'. \rho_e(x, y, x') \wedge$

$\forall x'. \rho_e(x, y, x') \rightarrow \exists y'. \rho_c(x, y, x', y') \text{ s.t. } \langle x', y' \rangle \models \Psi$

(Player controller is able to force the game to reach, in one step, a state where  $\Psi$  holds, no matter how the environment moves)

# Defining Goals

- Given a ( $\mu$ -calculus) goal formula  $\phi$ , player *controller wins iff*  $\langle x_0, y_0 \rangle \models \phi$
- We use particular goal patterns
  - $\diamond\phi \doteq \mu Z. \phi \vee \odot Z$  (C. can force the game to eventually reach  $\phi$ )
  - $\square\phi \doteq \nu Z. \phi \wedge \odot Z$  (C. can force the game to always satisfy  $\phi$ )
  - $\square\diamond\phi$  (C. can force the game to always satisfy  $\diamond\phi$ )

# 2-GS Model Checking

- DEF: Given a 2-GS  $G$  and a goal formula  $\phi$ ,  
 $G \models \phi$  iff  $\langle x_0, y_0 \rangle \models \phi$
- The **MC problem** requires to check if, given  $G$  and  $\phi$ ,  $G \models \phi$
- If so, the controller has a **strategy** to enforce  $\phi$ , (no matter how the environment plays)
- Strategy: function of histories
- We are not only interested in the checking problem, but in **computing** the strategy

## 2-GS Model Checking (2)

- The computational cost of 2-GS MC is  $O((|G| \cdot |\phi|)^k)$ , where:
  - $|G| = |S_G| + |\rho_e| + |\rho_c|$
  - $k$  is the number of fixpoint nestings in  $\phi$

# Conditional Planning with 2-GS (2)

Domain: Tossing a coin

Predicates: inHand, head

Actions:

```
toss(pre: inHand,  
     eff: oneof(head,-head) and -inHand  
)  
turn(  
     pre: -inHand  
     eff: (when (head)(-head) and when (-head)(head))  
)  
nop()
```

Init: inHand

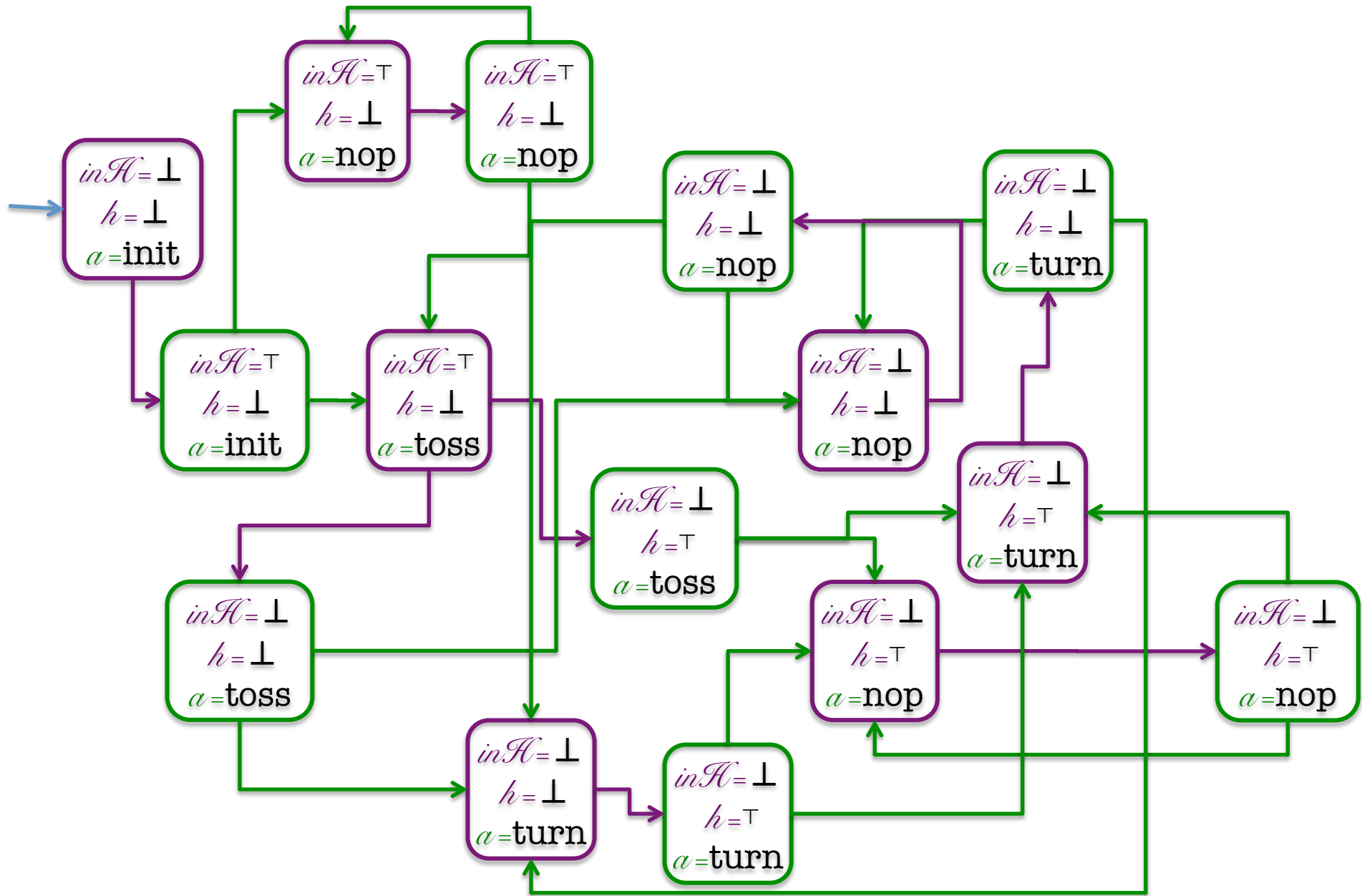
Goal: head

# Coin Tossing as a 2-GS

GS:

- $\mathcal{X} = \{inHand, head\}$ : propositional
- $\mathcal{Y} = \{act\}$ , over: {toss, turn, nop, init}
- start:  $inHand = head = \perp$ ;  $act = init$
- $\rho_e$ : selects action effects (according to current  $act$ )
- $\rho_c$ : chooses next action, among those executable in current state
- Special action  $init$  for initialization only

Goal formula:  $\Psi = \diamond(head = \top)$





# Solution Approach

- We applied a MC algorithm for  $\mu$ -calc
- Time cost:  $O(|2^P| |A| + |\rho|)$
- During the check, we saved additional information to extract a **witness**, i.e., a strategy for the controller
- A strategy for  $\diamond(head = \top)$  corresponds, in fact, to a conditional plan
- Explicit state manipulation not required: symbolic approaches (e.g., BDD-based) can be used

# Solving Multi-Target Composition using 2-GS

- Encoding similar to Planning Programs
- Player **Environment** features:
  - the **execution of target programs**
  - (A target program is advanced only after the controller declares its request fulfilled)
- Player **Controller**:
  - **delegates**, at each step, an action requested by some target, to some available service **able to execute it**
  - At some point, **based on action outcomes**, declares some targets fulfilled
  - (When no more target requests are pending, at least one target must be declared satisfied, so as to get a new request)

# Solving Multi-Target Composition using 2-GS (2)

- $\mathcal{X} = \{s_1, \dots, s_n, t_1, \dots, t_m\}$ 
    - $s$ : state of available service
    - $t$ : requested transition
  - $\mathcal{Y} = \{act, ser, full_1, \dots, full_m\}$ 
    - $act$ : action to execute
    - $ser$ : delegated service
    - $full_i$ : fulfilled?
  - start:  $act = ser = \text{init}; full_i = \perp$  (all state initial)
  - $\rho_e$ : selects action effects, according to current  $act$  and  $ser$ , and advances the target, according to  $full_i$
  - $\rho_c$ : chooses next action  $act$ , according to  $t_i$ , delegates to  $ser$ , and, when needed, declares targets' fulfillment, assigning  $full_i$
  - (Special action  $\text{init}$  for initialization only)
- Goal formula:  $\Psi = \Box \Diamond (full_1 = \top) \wedge \dots \wedge \Box \Diamond (full_m = \top)$

# Solution

- Still an exponential bound
- Optimal as the problem is EXPTIME-complete

# Solving Agent Planning Programs using 2-GS

Domain: TVworld

Predicates: on, broken, mute

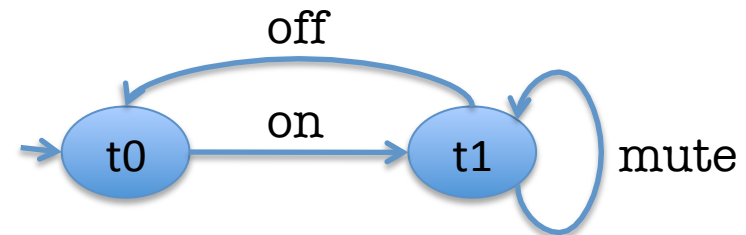
Actions:

muteTV ( pre: on  
eff: when(mute)(¬mute) ∧ when(¬mute)(mute))

switchOn ( pre: off ∧ ¬broken  
eff: on)

switchOff ( pre: on  
eff: off)

throwTV (eff: off ∧ broken)



Init: off ∧ ¬broken ∧ ¬mute

# Solving Agent Planning Programs using 2-GS (2)

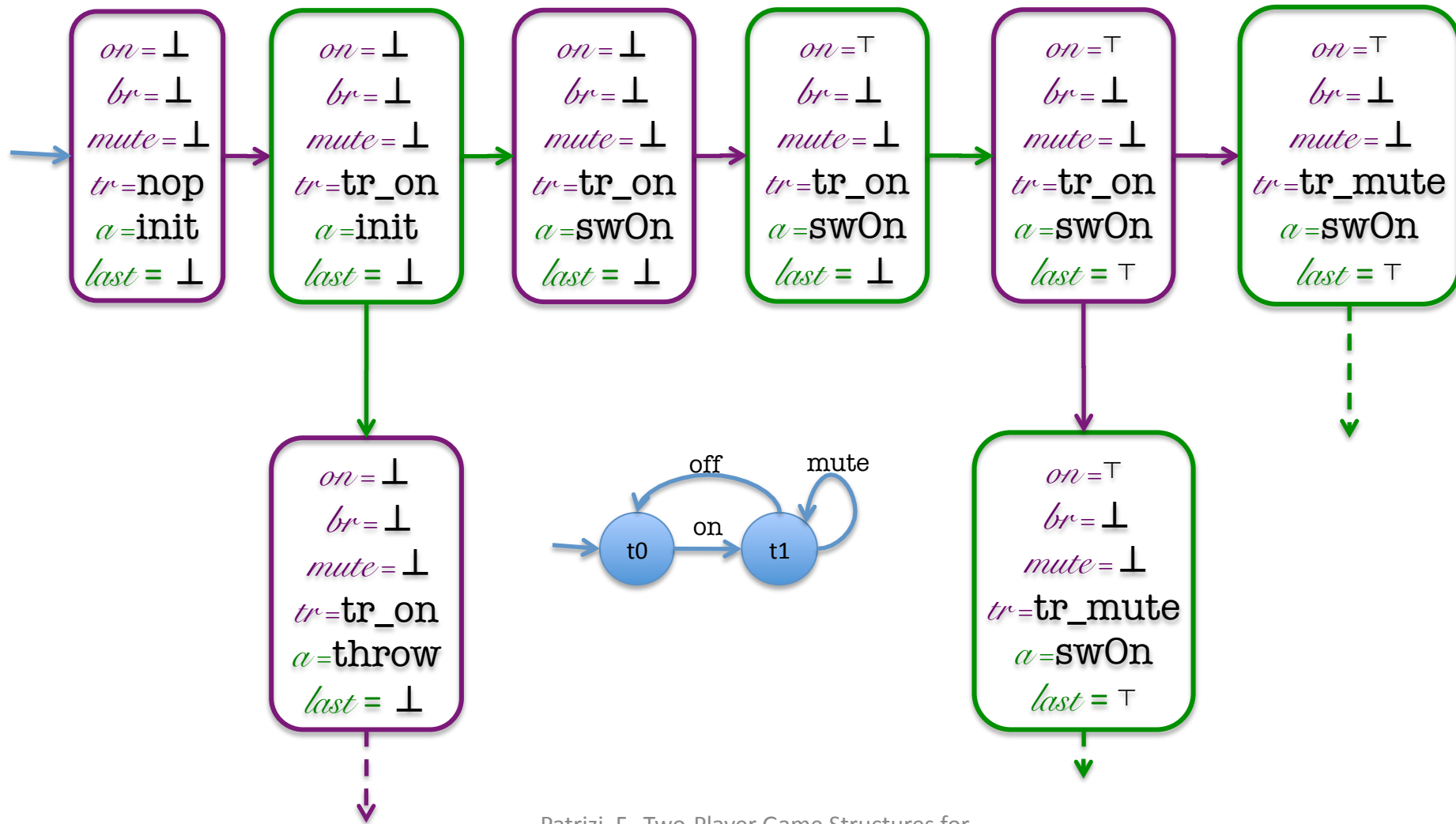
- Player **Environment** features:
  - the **planning domain**
  - the target service **evolution**, i.e., its requests
  - (The target service advances only when its current request is fulfilled)
- Player **Controller**:
  - selects, at each step, the actions needed to **fulfill current request**
  - **announces** current request fulfillment to the environment (which advances the target)

# Solving Agent Planning Programs using 2-GS (3)

TV Domain:

- $\mathcal{X} = \{on, broken, mute, tr\}$
- $\mathcal{Y} = \{act, last\}$
- In the start state,  $last = \perp$  (special action `init` also used)
- $\rho_e$ :
  - according to current  $act$  changes  $on, broken, mute$
  - If  $last = \top$ , changes  $tr$  according to the target service
- $\rho_c$ :
  - chooses next action, among those executable in current state
  - sets  $last = \top$  only if current  $tr$  is actually realized
- Goal formula:  $\Psi = \square \diamond (last = \top)$

# Example





# Observation

- Each target transition is realized by a (conditional) plan
- However, plans *cannot* be computed as usually done in planning
- Realizability of possible future transitions must be guaranteed
- TV cannot be switched off by throwing it because this prevents future requests for on

# Solution

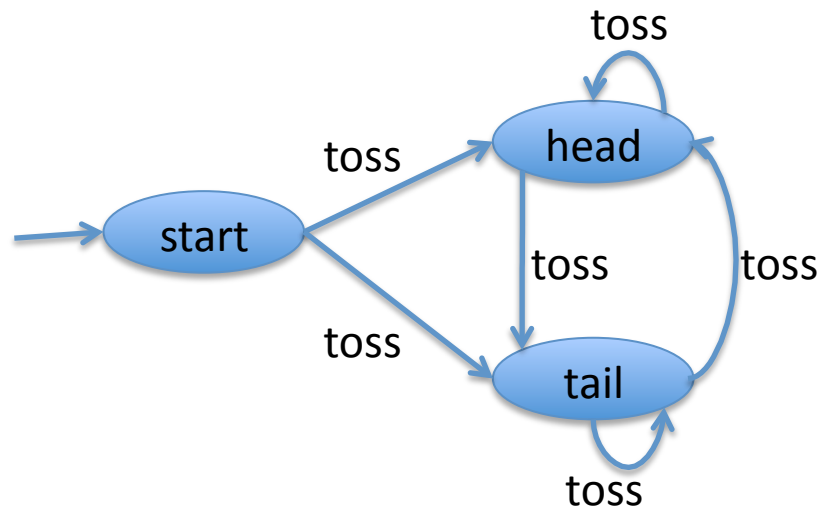
- Again, we use a MC algorithm (in fact, the same as before) for  $\mu$ -calc
- (This time, two non-nested fixpoint computations are needed, for  $\diamond$  and  $\square$ )
- Time cost:  $O(|2^P| \cdot (|\rho| + |\delta|))$
- **Optimal**, as the problem is EXPTIME-complete

# Agent Planning Programs and Services

- How planning programs are related to services?
- Given a set of available services, we *compose* a high-level procedure, instead of a new service

# Generalized Planning w/ loops under strong fairness constraints

- 2-GS and the  $\mu$ -calc are also useful to tackle generalized forms of planning
- Sample ND Domain:



# Generalized Planning w/ loops under strong fairness constraints (2)

- **Conditional Plan:**  
Acyclic plan that reaches a goal , e.g., “head”, no matter how nondeterminism is resolved at runtime
- **Strong Cyclic Plan**[Cimatti,Pistore,Roveri,Traverso-AI 03]:  
Cyclic plan that reaches a goal, under the **assumption that loops iterate only a finite (though unbounded) number of times**

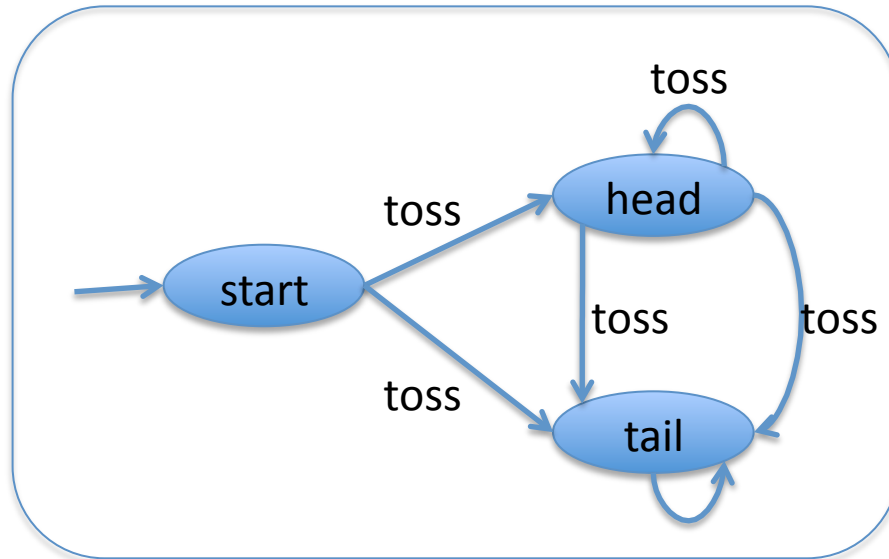
# Fairness Constraints

Strong cyclic plans work under a *specific fairness* assumption, required to hold for all loops

We want to be able to

1. Asserting explicitly general fairness constraints on domain evolutions
2. Finding plans that work under such constraints

# Fairness Constraints (2)



$$\Box \Diamond (\text{act}=\text{toss}) \rightarrow \Box \Diamond (\text{head})$$



# Generalized Planning w/ loops under strong fairness constraints (3)

- Can be reduced to MC a 2GS (not done, yet)
- (Currently: reduction to LTL synthesis problem [DeGiacomo,P,Sardina@KR10])
- The problem is EXPTIME-complete



# Conclusion

- “Local” MC techniques can be useful for optimization?