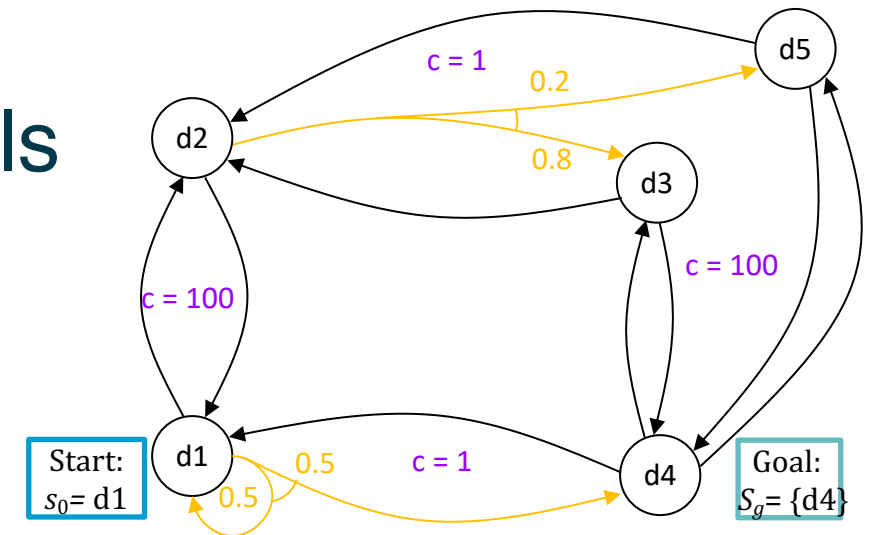




# Intelligent Agents : Automated Planning and Acting

## Probabilistic Models



# Content: Planning and Acting

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1. With **Deterministic** Models
2. With **Temporal** Models
3. With **Nondeterministic** Models
4. With **Probabilistic** Models
  - a. Stochastic Shortest-Path Problems
  - b. Heuristic Search Algorithms
  - c. Online Approaches Including Reinforcement Learning
5. By **Decision Making**
  - A. Foundations
  - B. Extensions
  - C. Structure
6. With **Human-awareness**



# Outline per the Book

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## *6.2 Stochastic shortest path problems*

- Safe/unsafe policies
- Optimality
- Policy iteration, value iteration

## *6.3 Heuristic search algorithms*

- Best-first search
- Determinisation

## *6.4 Online probabilistic planning*

- Lookahead

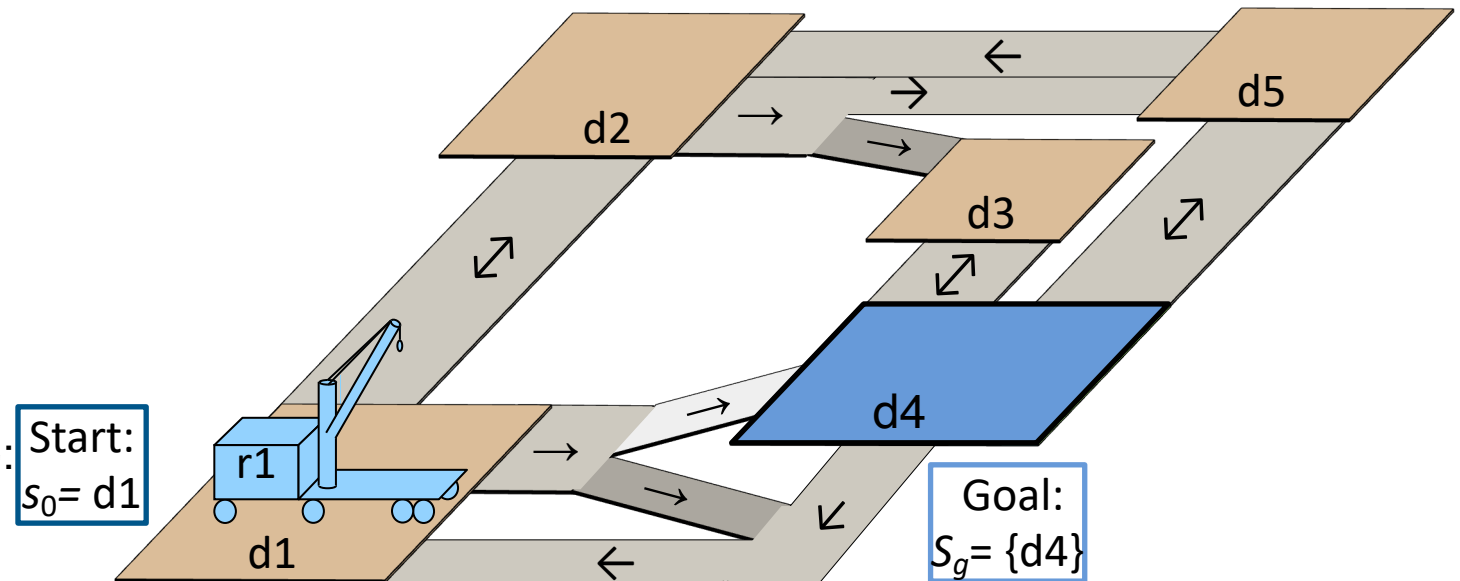
# Probabilistic Planning Domain

- $\Sigma = (S, A, \gamma, P, cost)$ 
  - $S$  = set of states
  - $A$  = set of actions
  - $\gamma : S \times A \rightarrow 2^S$  a transition function
  - $P(s' | s, a)$  = probability of going to state  $s'$  if we perform  $a$  in  $s$ 
    - Require  $P(s' | s, a) \neq 0$  iff  $s' \in \gamma(s, a)$
  - $cost: S \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{>0}$ 
    - $cost(s, a)$  = cost of action  $a$  in state  $s$
    - may omit, default is  $cost(s, a) = 1$

# Example

- Robot  $r1$  starts at  $d1$
- Objective: get to  $d4$
- $r1$  has unreliable steering, especially on hills
  - May slip and go elsewhere
    - $m14$ :  $P(d4 | d1, m14) = 0.5$   
 $P(d1 | d1, m14) = 0.5$
    - $m23$ :  $P(d3 | d2, m23) = 0.8$   
 $P(d5 | d2, m23) = 0.2$
    - $m21$ :  $P(d2 | d1, m21) = 1$ 
      - $m34, m41, m43, m45, m52, m54$ : like  $m21$

- Simplified state names:
  - Write  $\{loc(r1) = d2\}$  as  $d2$
- Simplified action names:
  - Write  $move(r1, d2, d3)$  as  $m23$



# Policies, Problems, Solutions

- **Stochastic shortest path (SSP) problem:**

- Triple  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$

- **Policy:**

- partial function

$\pi : S \rightarrow A$  s.t.

- for every  $s \in \text{Dom}(\pi) \subseteq S$ ,  
 $\pi(s) \in \text{Applicable}(s)$

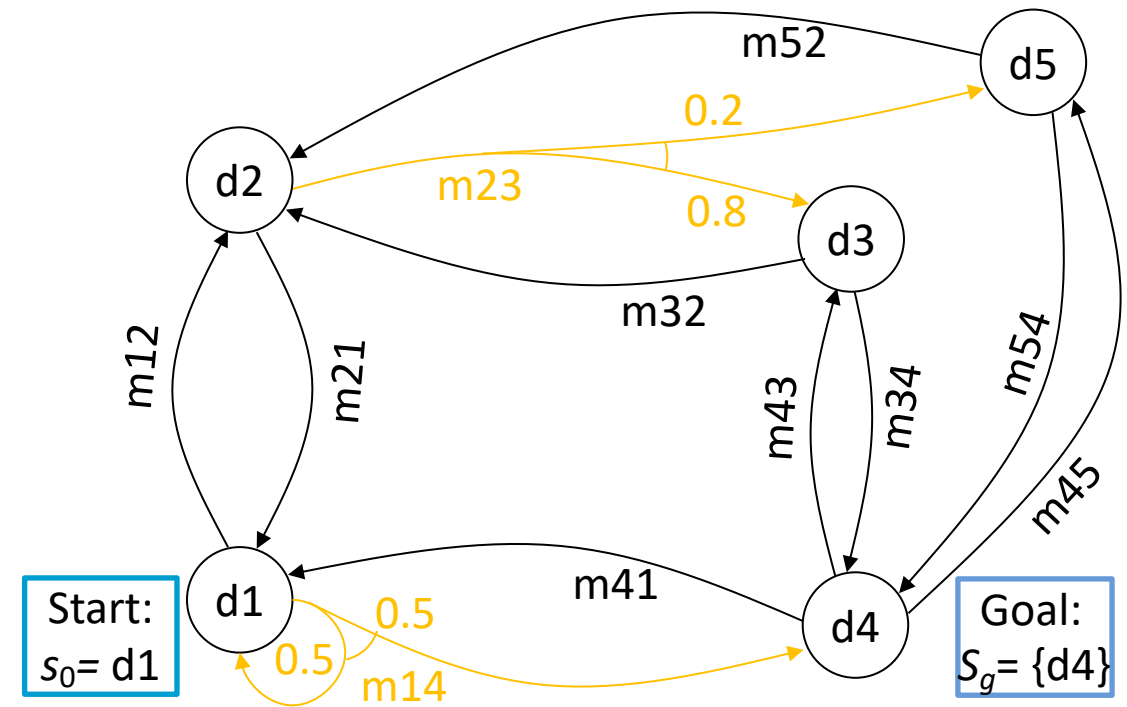
- **Solution for  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$ :**

- a policy  $\pi$  s.t.

- $s_0 \in \text{Dom}(\pi)$  and
- $\hat{\gamma}(s_0, \pi) \cap S_g \neq \emptyset$

$$m_{14} : P(d4 \mid d1, m_{14}) = 0.5, P(d1 \mid d1, m_{14}) = 0.5$$

$$m_{23} : P(d3 \mid d1, m_{23}) = 0.8, P(d5 \mid d1, m_{23}) = 0.2$$

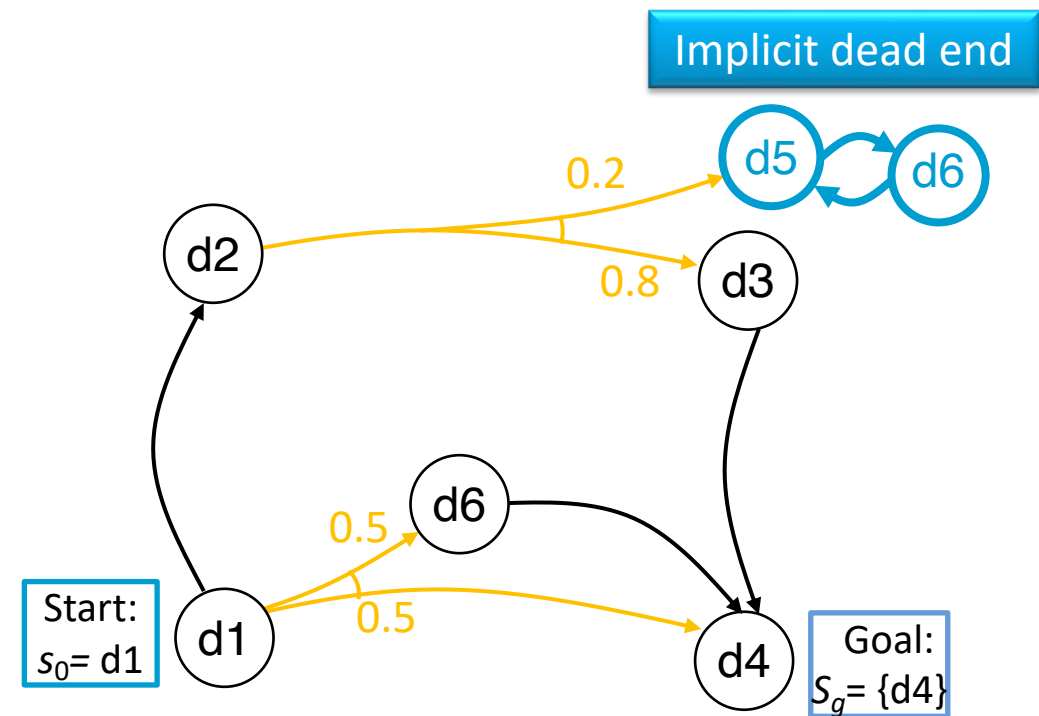
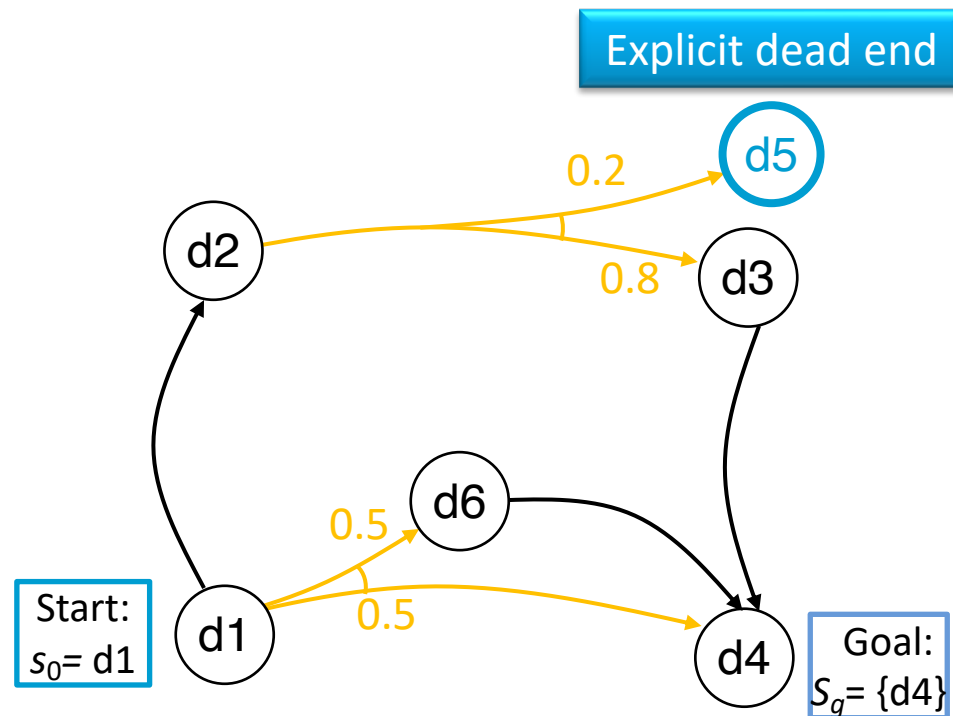


# Notation and Terminology

- As before:
  - **Transitive closure**
    - $\hat{\gamma}(s, \pi) = \{s \text{ and all states reachable from } s \text{ using } \pi\}$
  - $Graph(s, \pi) =$  rooted graph induced by  $\pi$  at  $s$ 
    - Nodes:  $\hat{\gamma}(s, \pi)$
    - Edges: state transitions
  - $leaves(s, \pi) = \hat{\gamma}(s, \pi) \setminus Dom(\pi)$
- Solution policy  $\pi$  is **closed** if it does not stop at non-goal states unless there is no way to continue
  - Formally, for every state  $s \in \hat{\gamma}(s, \pi)$ , either
    - $s \in Dom(\pi)$  (i.e.,  $\pi$  specifies an action at  $s$ ),
    - $s \in S_g$  (i.e.,  $s$  is a goal state), or
    - $Applicable(s) = \emptyset$  (i.e., there are no applicable actions at  $s$ )

# Dead Ends

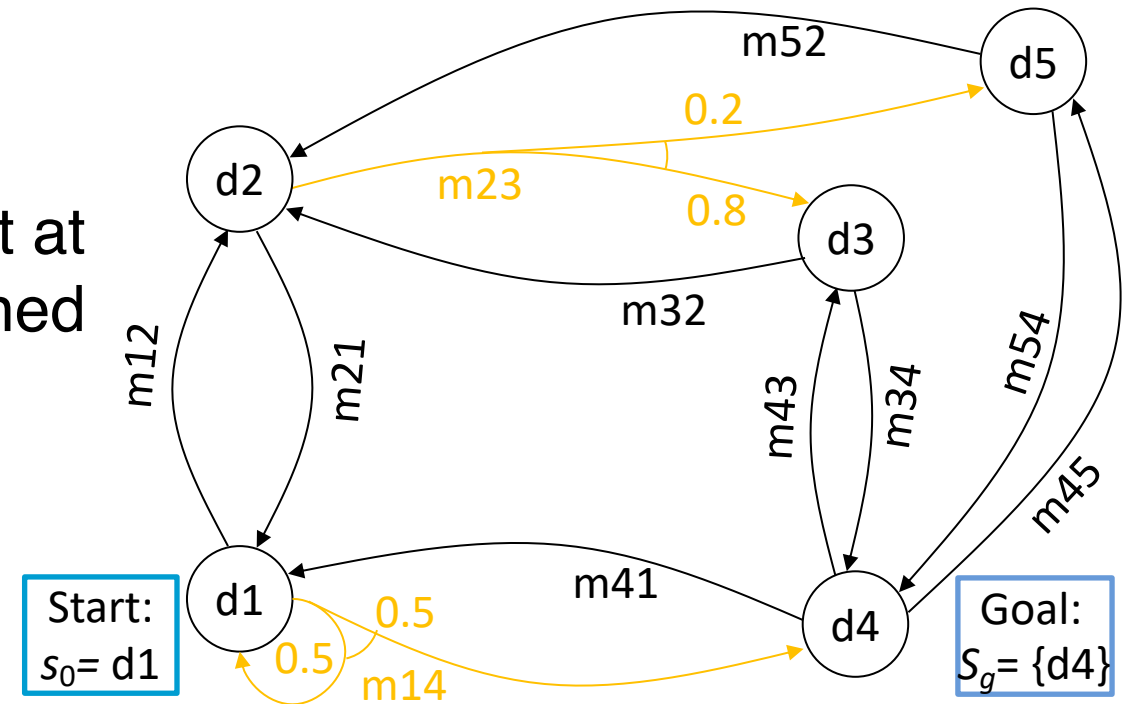
- Dead end
  - A state or set of states from which the goal is unreachable





# Histories

- **History**: sequence of states  $\sigma = \langle s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle$ 
  - May be finite or infinite
    - $\sigma = \langle d1, d2, d3, d4 \rangle$
    - $\sigma = \langle d1, d2, d1, d2, \dots \rangle$
- $H(s, \pi) = \{\text{all possible histories if we start at } s \text{ and follow } \pi, \text{ stopping if } \pi(s) \text{ is undefined or if we reach a goal state}\}$



# Histories

- If  $\sigma \in H(s, \pi)$ , then

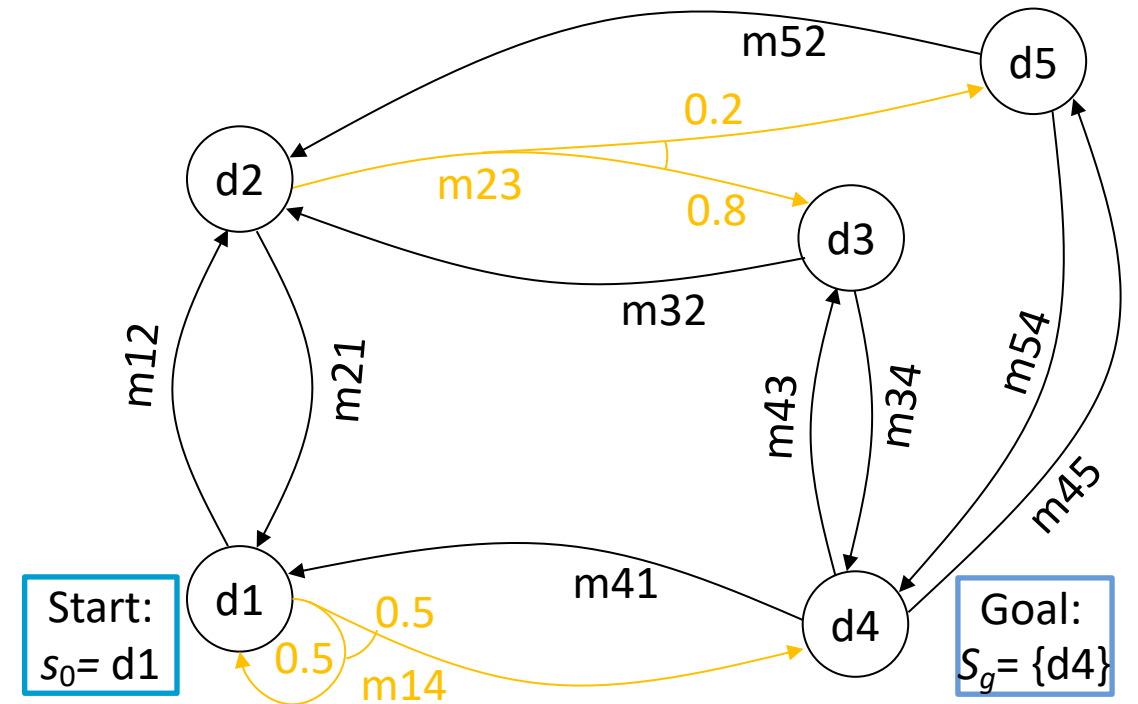
$$P(\sigma \mid s, \pi) = \prod_i P(s_{i+1} \mid s_i, \pi(s_i))$$

– Thus

$$\sum_{\sigma \in H(s, \pi)} P(\sigma \mid s, \pi) = 1$$

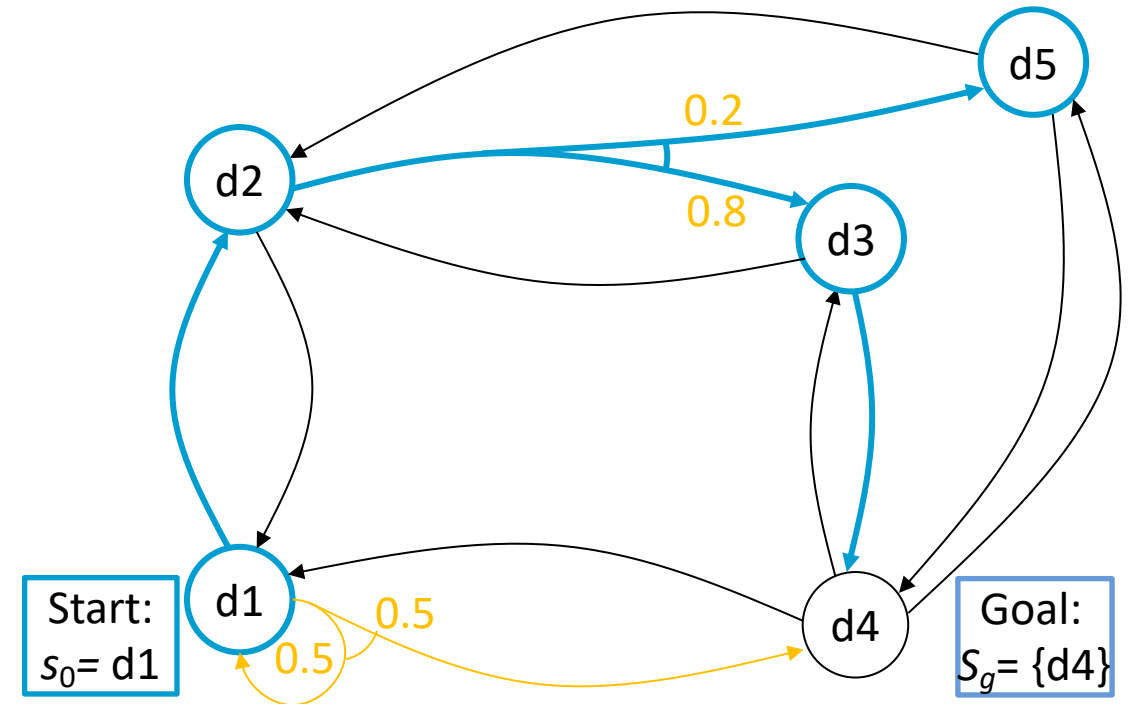
- Probability of reaching a goal:

$$P(S_g \mid s, \pi) = \sum_{\substack{\sigma \in H(s, \pi), \\ \sigma \text{ ends at } s \in S_g}} P(\sigma \mid s, \pi)$$



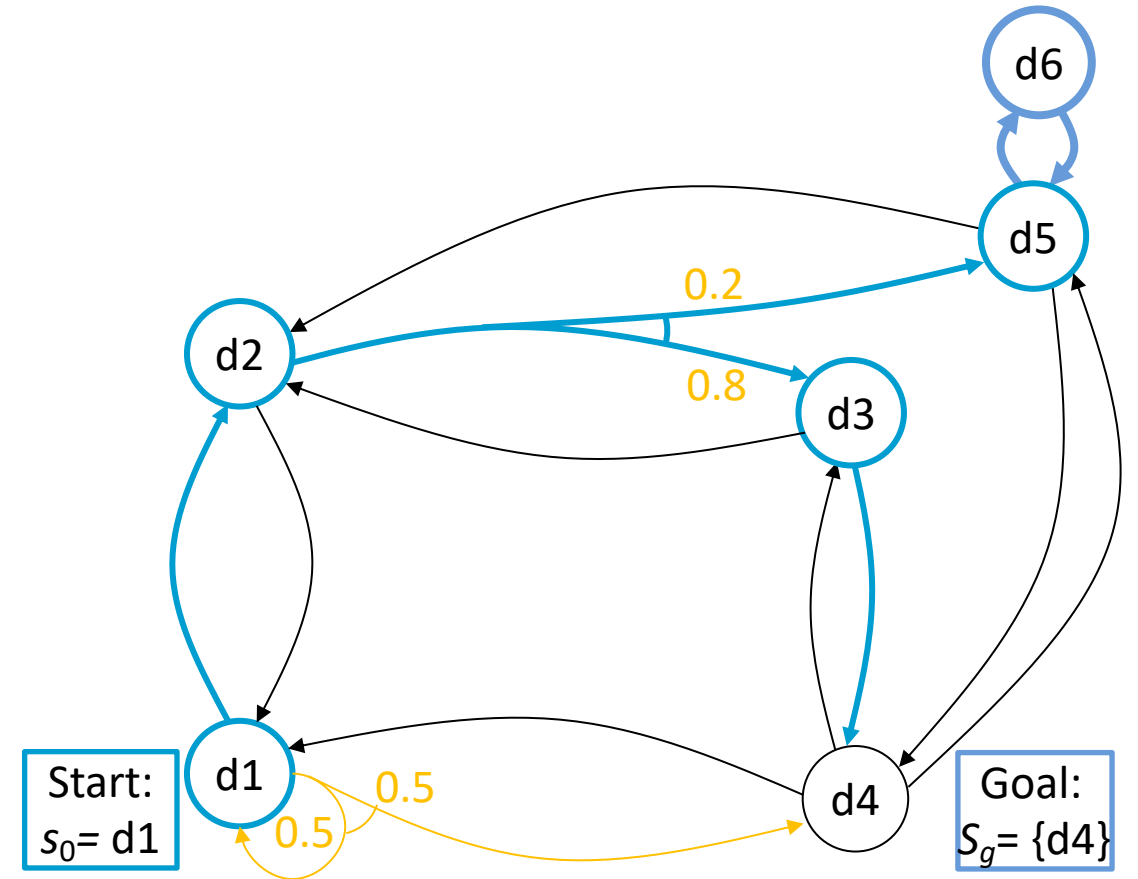
# Unsafe Solutions

- Unsafe solution:  $0 < P(S_g | s_0, \pi) < 1$
- Example:
  - $\pi_1 = \{(d1, m12), (d2, m23), (d3, m34)\}$
  - $H(s_0, \pi_1)$  contains two histories:
    - $\sigma_1 = \langle d1, d2, d3, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_1 | s_0, \pi_1)$   
 $= 1 \cdot 0.8 \cdot 1 = 0.8$
    - $\sigma_2 = \langle d1, d2, d5 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_2 | s_0, \pi_1)$   
 $= 1 \cdot 0.2 = 0.2$
  - $P(S_g | s_0, \pi_1)$   
 $= 0.8$



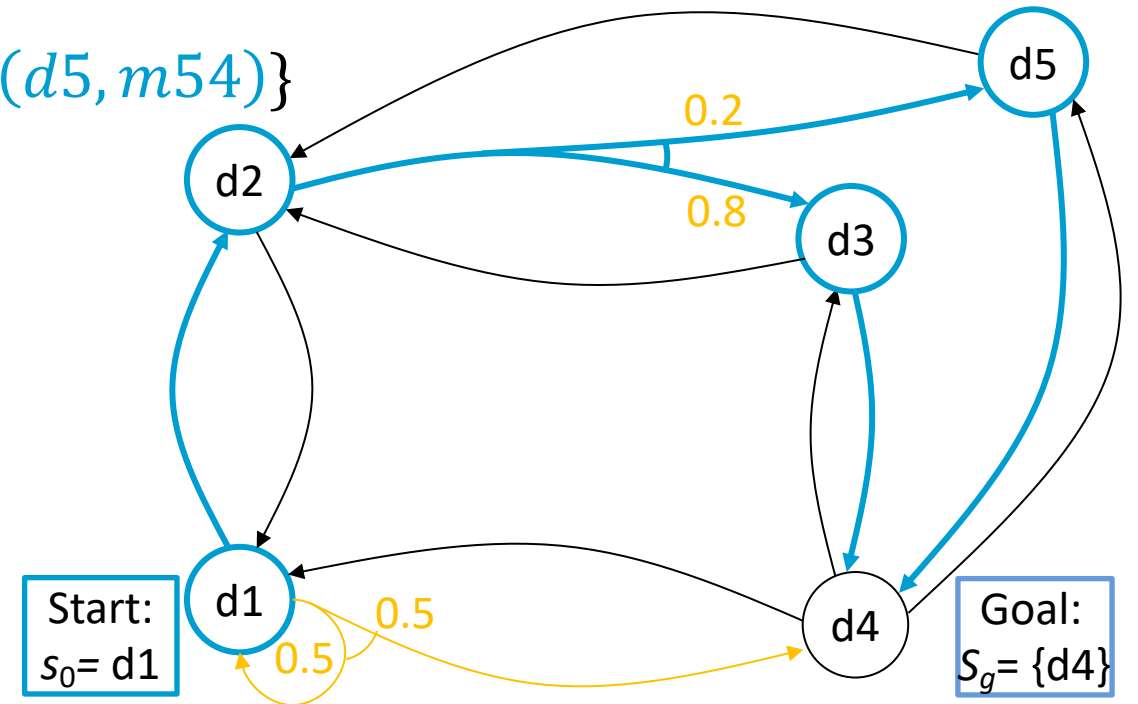
# Unsafe Solutions

- Unsafe solution:  $0 < P(S_g | s_0, \pi) < 1$
- Example:
  - $\pi_2 = \{(d1, m12), (d2, m23), (d3, m34), (d5, m56), (d6, m65)\}$
  - $H(s_0, \pi_2)$  contains two histories:
    - $\sigma_1 = \langle d1, d2, d3, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_1 | s_0, \pi_2) = 1 \cdot 0.8 \cdot 1 = 0.8$
    - $\sigma_3 = \langle d1, d2, d5, d6, \dots \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_3 | s_0, \pi_2) = 1 \cdot 0.2 \cdot 1 \cdot \dots = 0.2$
  - $P(S_g | s_0, \pi_2) = 0.8$



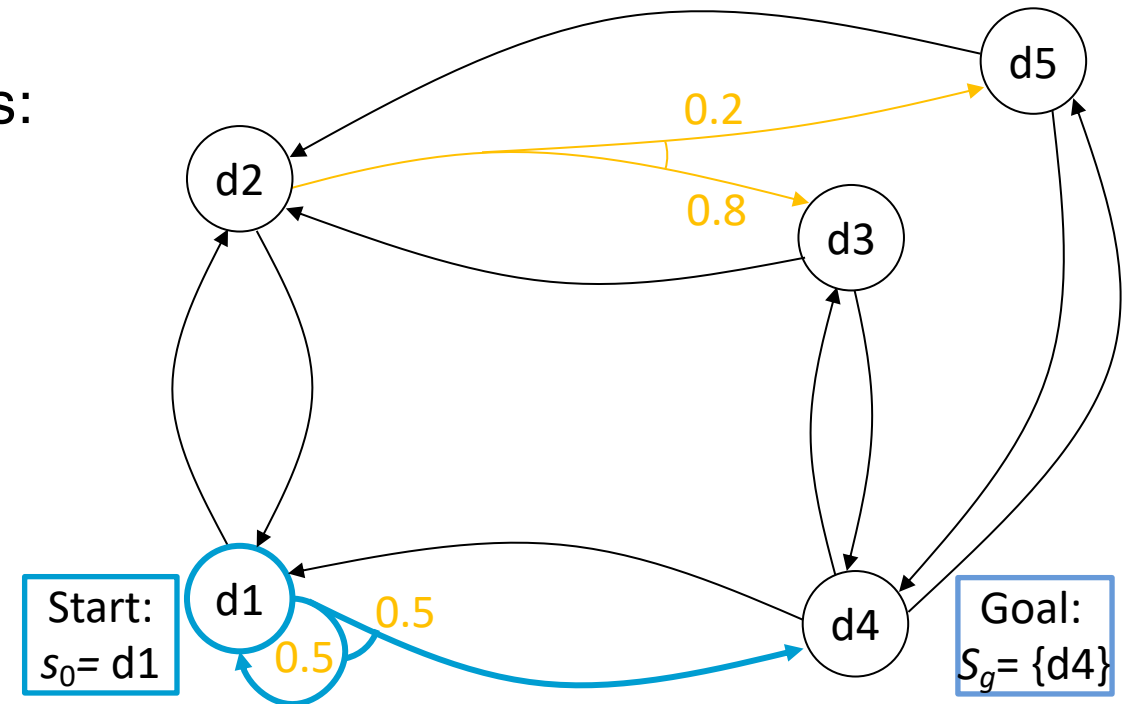
# Safe Solutions

- Safe solution:  $P(S_g | s_0, \pi) = 1$
- An acyclic safe solution:
  - $\pi_3 = \{(d1, m12), (d2, m23), (d3, m34), (d5, m54)\}$
  - $H(s_0, \pi_3)$  contains two histories:
    - $\sigma_1 = \langle d1, d2, d3, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_1 | s_0, \pi_3) = 1 \cdot 0.8 \cdot 1 = 0.8$
    - $\sigma_4 = \langle d1, d2, d5, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_4 | s_0, \pi_3) = 1 \cdot 0.2 \cdot 1 = 0.2$
  - $P(S_g | s_0, \pi_3) = 0.8 + 0.2 = 1$



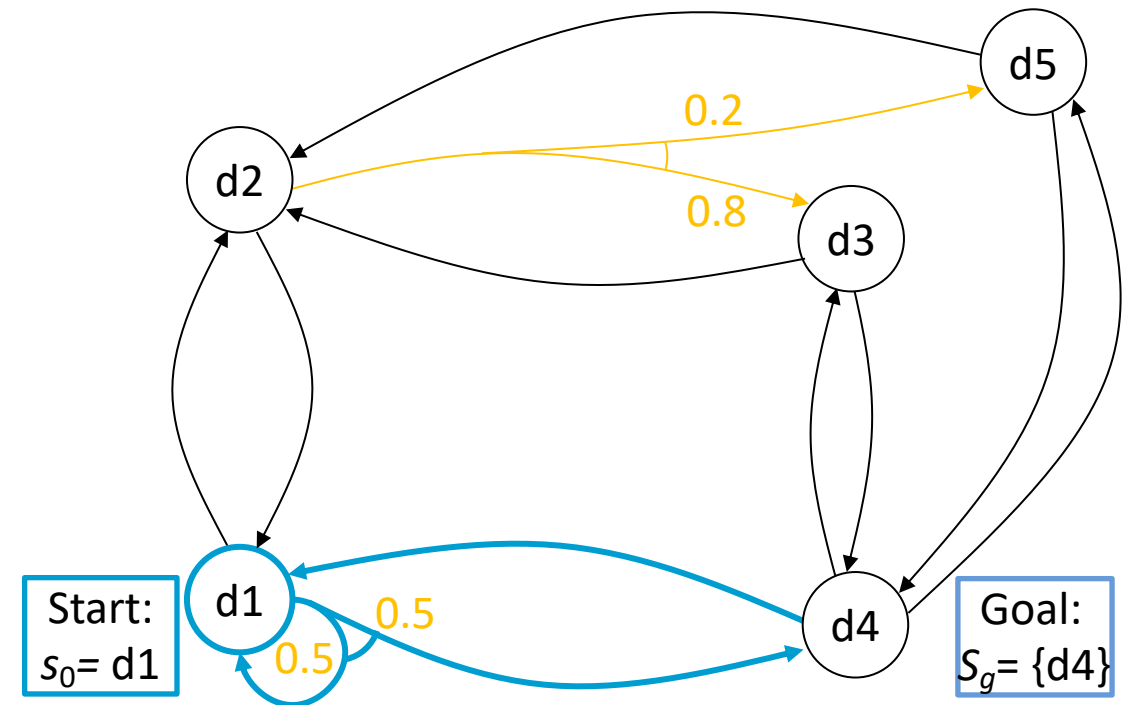
# Safe Solutions

- Safe solution:  $P(S_g | s_0, \pi) = 1$
- A cyclic safe solution:
  - $\pi_4 = \{(d1, m14)\}$
  - $H(s_0, \pi_4)$  contains infinitely many histories:
    - $\sigma_5 = \langle d1, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_5 | s_0, \pi_4) = 0.5 = (1/2)^1$
    - $\sigma_6 = \langle d1, d1, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_6 | s_0, \pi_4) = 0.5 \cdot 0.5 = (1/2)^2$
    - ...
  - $P(S_g | s_0, \pi_4) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots = 1$



# Safe Solutions

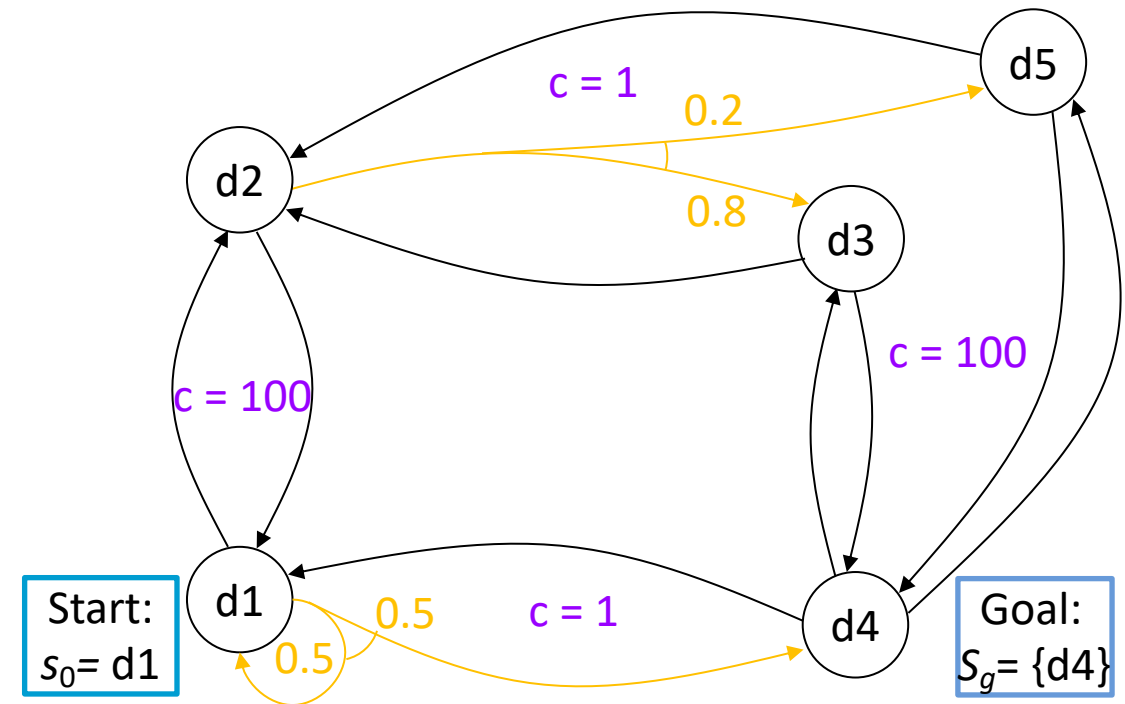
- Safe solution:  $P(S_g | s_0, \pi) = 1$
- Another cyclic safe solution:
  - $\pi_5 = \{(d1, m14), (d4, m41)\}$
  - $H(s_0, \pi_5) = H(s_0, \pi_4)$ :
    - $\sigma_5 = \langle d1, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_5 | s_0, \pi_5) = 0.5 = (1/2)^1$
    - $\sigma_6 = \langle d1, d1, d4 \rangle$
    - $P(\sigma_6 | s_0, \pi_6) = 0.5 \cdot 0.5 = (1/2)^2$
    - ...
  - $P(S_g | s_0, \pi_5) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots = 1$



# Expected Cost

- $cost(s, a) = \text{cost of using } a \text{ in } s$ 
  - Example
    - Each “horizontal” action costs 1
    - Each “vertical” action costs 100
- Costs of a history  $\sigma = \langle s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots \rangle$

$$cost(\sigma | s_0, \pi) = \sum_{s_i \in \sigma} cost(s_i, \pi(s_i))$$





# Expected Cost

- Let  $\pi$  be a safe solution
- At each state  $s \in Dom(\pi)$ , expected cost of following  $\pi$  to goal:
  - Weighted sum of history costs:

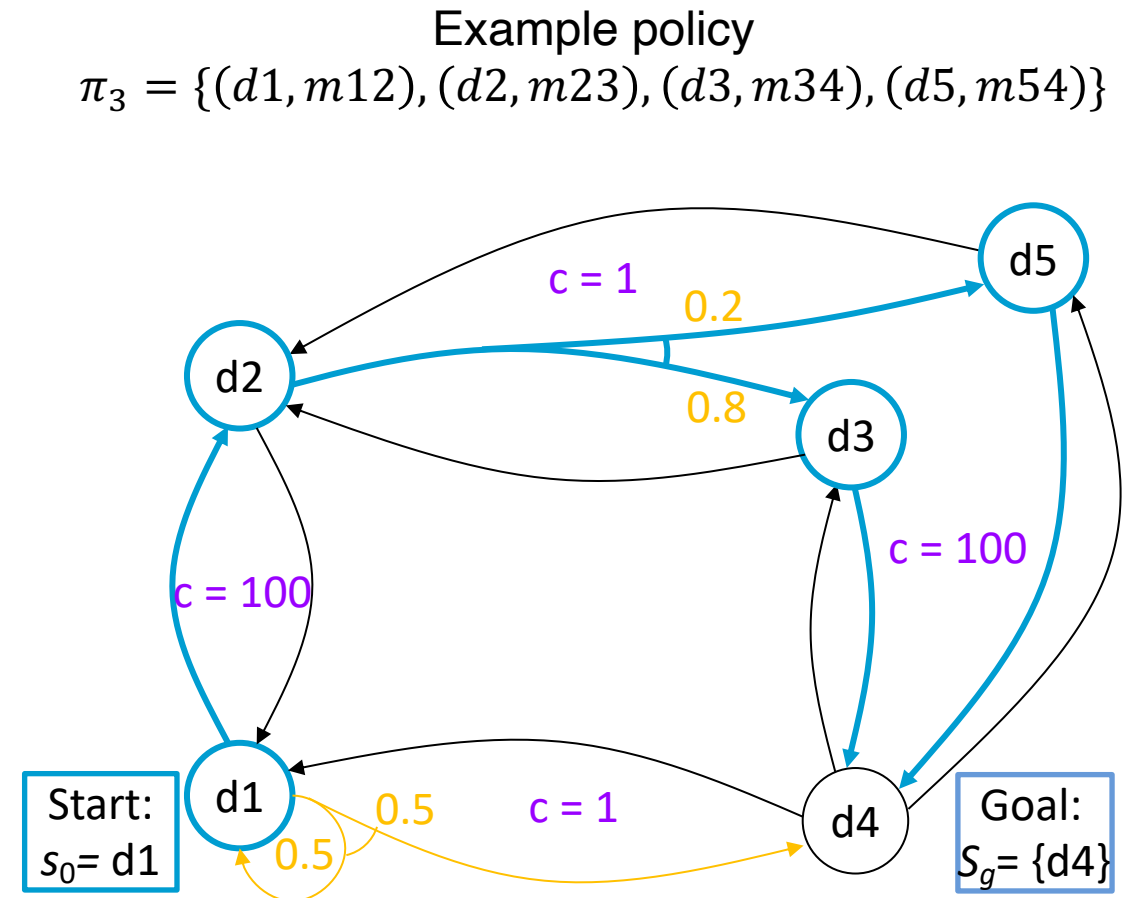
$$V^\pi(s) = cost(s, \pi(s)) + \sum_{\substack{\sigma \in H(s, \pi), \\ \sigma' = \sigma \setminus \{s\}}} P(\sigma' | s, \pi) cost(\sigma' | s, \pi)$$

- Recursive formulation

$$V^\pi(s) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s \in S_g \\ cost(s, \pi(s)) + \sum_{s' \in \gamma(s, \pi(s))} P(s' | s, \pi(s)) V^\pi(s') & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Example

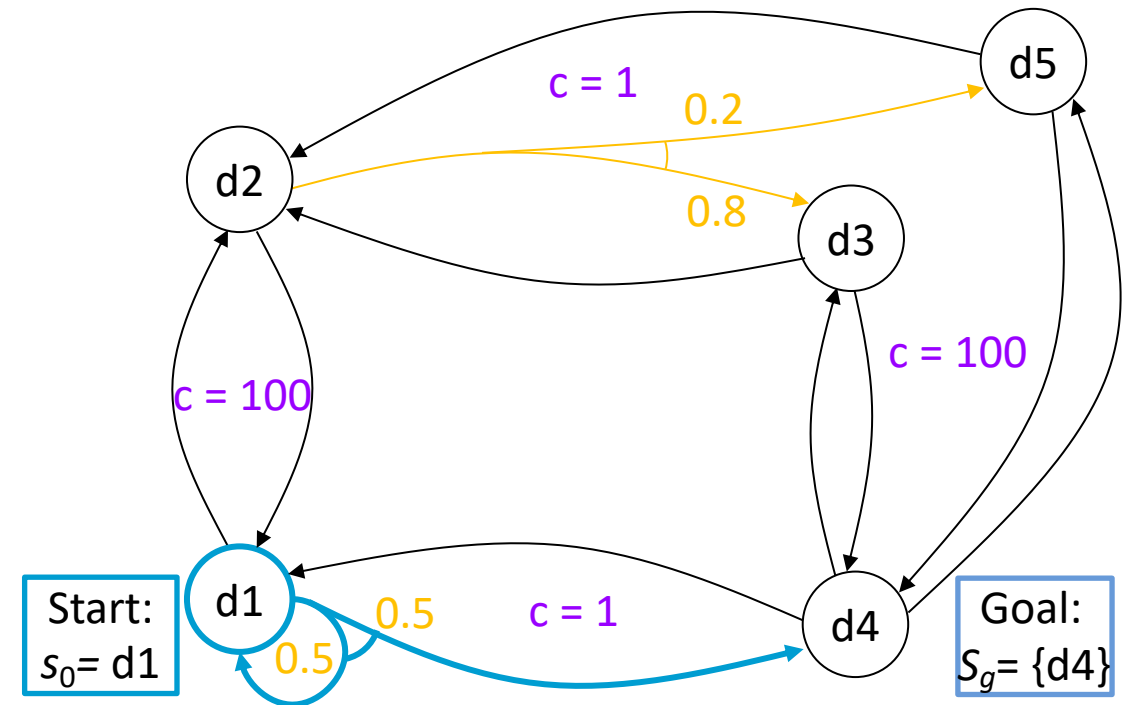
- Weighted sum of history cost:
  - $\sigma_1 = \langle d1, d2, d3, d4 \rangle$ 
    - $P(\sigma_1|s_0, \pi_3) = 0.8$
    - $cost(\sigma_1|s_0, \pi_3) = 100 + 1 + 100 = 201$
  - $\sigma_4 = \langle d1, d2, d5, d4 \rangle$ 
    - $P(\sigma_4|s_0, \pi_3) = 0.2$
    - $cost(\sigma_4|s_0, \pi_3) = 100 + 1 + 100 = 201$
  - $V^{\pi_3}(d1) = 0.8(201) + 0.2(201) = 201$
  - Recursive equation
    - $V^{\pi_3}(d1)$ 
      - $= 100 + V^{\pi_3}(d2)$
      - $= 100 + 1 + 0.8V^{\pi_3}(d3) + 0.2V^{\pi_3}(d5)$
      - $= 100 + 1 + 0.8(100) + 0.2(100) = 201$



# Safe Solutions

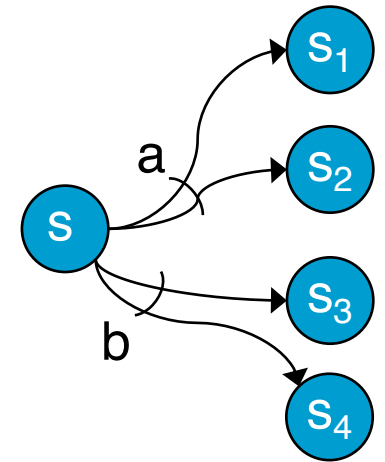
- Weighted sum of history cost:
  - $\sigma_5 = \langle d1, d4 \rangle$ 
    - $P(\sigma_5 | s_0, \pi_4) = (1/2)^1$
    - $cost(\sigma_5 | s_0, \pi_4) = 1$
  - $\sigma_6 = \langle d1, d1, d4 \rangle$ 
    - $P(\sigma_6 | s_0, \pi_4) = (1/2)^2$
    - $cost(\sigma_6 | s_0, \pi_4) = 2$
  - ...
  - $V^{\pi_4}(d1) = \frac{1}{2}(1) + \frac{1}{4}(2) + \dots = 2$
  - Recursive equation
    - $V^{\pi_4}(d1) = 1 + 0.5(0) + 0.5(V^{\pi_4}(d1))$   
 $\Leftrightarrow 0.5V^{\pi_4}(d1) = 1 \Leftrightarrow V^{\pi_4}(d1) = 2$

Example policy  
 $\pi_4 = \{(d1, m14)\}$



# Planning as Optimisation

- Let  $\pi$  and  $\pi'$  be safe solutions
  - $\pi$  **dominates**  $\pi'$  if  $\forall s \in \text{Dom}(\pi) \cap \text{Dom}(\pi') : V^\pi(s) \leq V^{\pi'}(s)$
- $\pi$  is **optimal** if  $\pi$  dominates *every* safe solution
  - If  $\pi$  and  $\pi'$  are both optimal, then  $V^\pi(s) = V^{\pi'}(s)$  at every state where they are both defined
- $V^*(s)$  = expected cost of getting to the goal using an optimal safe solution
- **Optimality principle** (Bellman's theorem):



$$V^*(s) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s \in S_g \\ \min_{a \in \text{Applicable}(s)} \left\{ \text{cost}(s, \pi(s)) + \sum_{s' \in \gamma(s, \pi(s))} P(s'|s, \pi(s)) V^*(s') \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

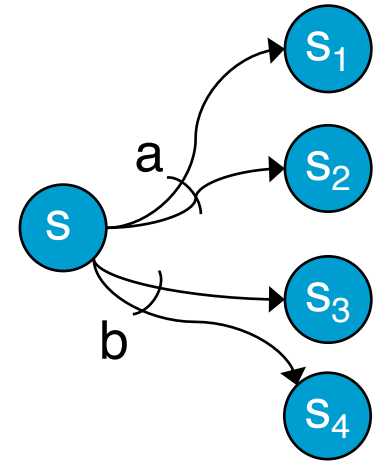
# Cost to Go

- Let  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$  be a **safe SSP**
  - I.e.,  $S_g$  is reachable from every state
    - Same as **safely explorable** in non-deterministic models
- Let  $\pi$  be a safe solution that is defined at all non-goal states
  - I.e.,  $Dom(\pi) = S \setminus S_g$
- Let  $a \in Applicable(s)$
- **Cost-to-go**

$$Q^\pi(s, a) = cost(s, a) + \sum_{s' \in \gamma(s, a)} P(s'|s, a) V^\pi(s')$$

- Expected cost if we start at  $s$ , use  $a$ , and use  $\pi$  afterward
- For every  $s \in S \setminus S_g$ , let

$$\pi'(s) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{a \in Applicable(s)} Q^\pi(s, a)$$



# Policy Iteration

- Inputs
  - SSP problem  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$
  - Initial policy  $\pi_0$
- Finds an optimal policy
- Converges in a finite number of steps

$n$  equations,  
 $n$  unknowns,  
where  $n = |S|$

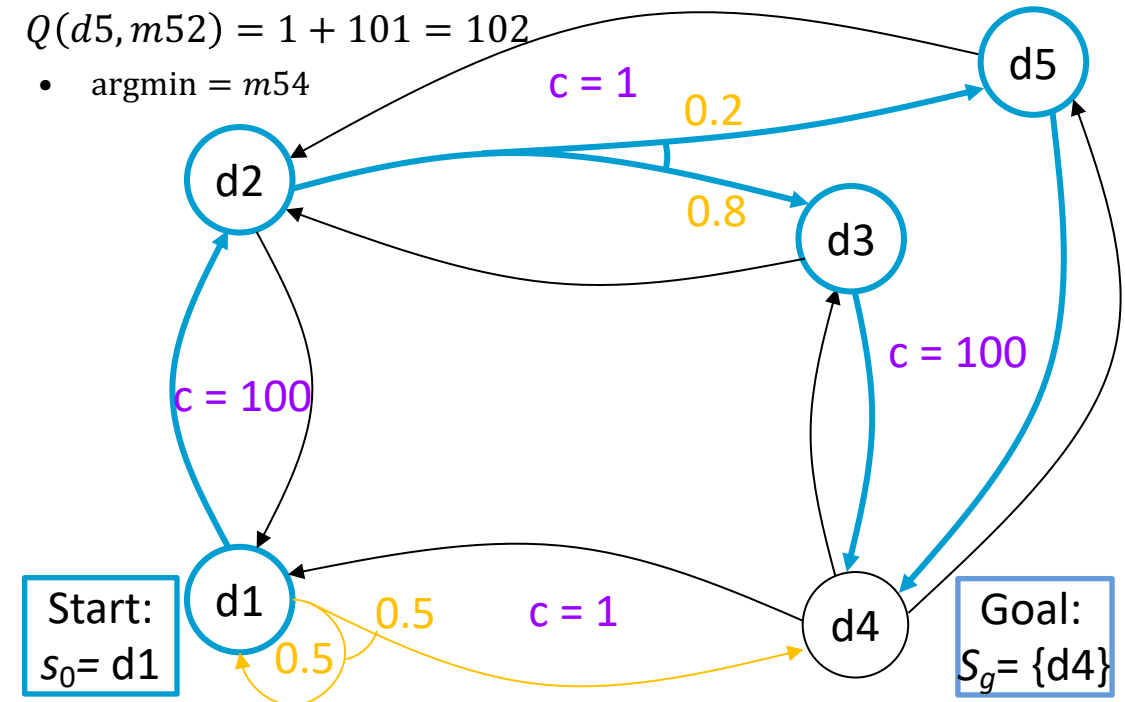
```
policy-iteration( $\Sigma, s_0, S_g, \pi_0$ )
   $\pi \leftarrow \pi_0$ 
  loop
    compute  $\{V^\pi(s) \mid s \in S\}$ 
    for every state  $s \in S \setminus S_g$  do
       $A \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{a \in \text{Applicable}(s)} Q^\pi(s, a)$ 
      if  $\pi(s) \in A$  then
         $\pi'(s) \leftarrow \pi(s)$ 
      else
         $\pi'(s) \leftarrow \text{any action in } A$ 
      if  $\pi' = \pi$  then
        return  $\pi$ 
   $\pi \leftarrow \pi'$ 
```

# Example

- Start with
  - $\pi = \pi_0 = \{(d1, m12), (d2, m23), (d3, m34), (d5, m54)\}$
- Expected cost
  - $V^\pi(d4) = 0$
  - $V^\pi(d3) = 100 + 1 \cdot V^\pi(d4) = 100$
  - $V^\pi(d5) = 100 + 1 \cdot V^\pi(d4) = 100$
  - $V^\pi(d2) = 1 + (0.8 \cdot V^\pi(d3) + 0.2 \cdot V^\pi(d5)) = 101$
  - $V^\pi(d1) = 100 + 1 \cdot V^\pi(d2) = 201$
- Cost-to-go
  - $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 1(101) = 201$
  - $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + 0.5(201) + 0.5(0) = 101.5$ 
    - argmin =  $m14$
  - $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.8(100) + 0.2(100)) = 101$
  - $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 201 = 301$ 
    - argmin =  $m23$

- Cost-to-go continued

- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 101 = 102$ 
  - argmin =  $m34$
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 101 = 102$ 
  - argmin =  $m54$

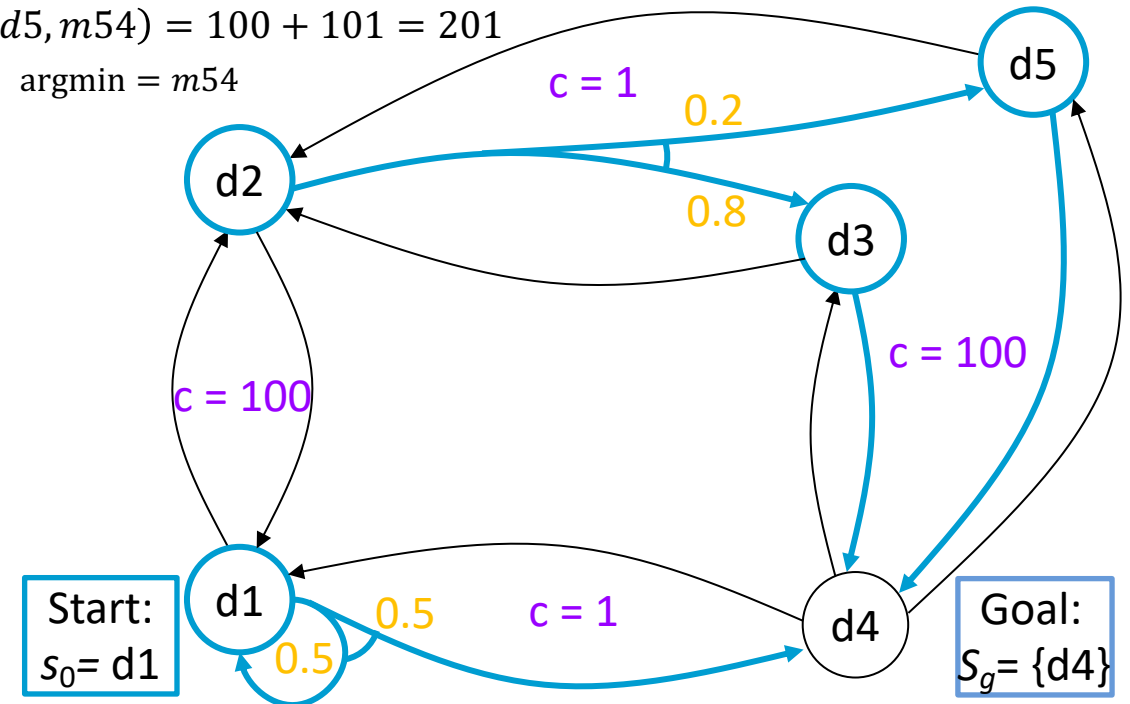


# Example

- Continue with
  - $\pi = \{(d1, m14), (d2, m23), (d3, m34), (d5, m54)\}$
- Expected cost
  - $V^\pi(d4) = 0$
  - $V^\pi(d3) = 100 + V^\pi(d4) = 100$
  - $V^\pi(d5) = 100 + V^\pi(d4) = 100$
  - $V^\pi(d2) = 1 + (0.8V^\pi(d3) + 0.2V^\pi(d5)) = 101$
  - $V^\pi(d1) = 1 + (0.5V^\pi(d1) + 0.5V^\pi(d4)) = 2$
- Cost-to-go
  - $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 101 = 201$
  - $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + 0.5(2) + 0.5(0) = 2$ 
    - argmin = m14
  - $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.8(100) + 0.2(100)) = 101$
  - $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 201 = 301$ 
    - argmin = m23

- Cost-to-go continued

- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 100 + 101 = 201$ 
  - argmin = m34
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 100 + 101 = 201$ 
  - argmin = m54



$\pi$  unchanged



# Value Iteration

- Inputs
  - SSP problem  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$
  - Convergence criterion  $\eta > 0$
  - $V_0$  is a heuristic fct. for initial values
    - E.g.,  $V_0(s) = 0 \forall s \in S_g$  or adapt a heuristics from Ch. 2
- Returns optimal plan  $\pi$ 
  - $V_i$  = values computed at  $i$ 'th iteration
  - $\pi_i$  = plan computed from  $V_i$
  - **Synchronous**: Computes  $V_i$  and  $\pi_i$  from  $V_{i-1}, \pi_{i-1}$
  - **Asynchronous**: Update  $V$  and  $\pi$  in place
    - New values available immediately
    - More efficient than synchronous version

```
sync-value-iteration( $\Sigma, s_0, S_g, V_0, \eta$ )
  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  do
    for every state  $s \in S \setminus S_g$  do
      for every  $a \in \text{Applicable}(s)$  do
         $Q(s, a) \leftarrow \text{cost}(s, a) + \sum_{s' \in S} P(s' | s, a) V_{i-1}(s')$ 
       $V_i(s) \leftarrow \min_{a \in \text{Applicable}(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
       $\pi_i(s) \leftarrow \text{argmin}_{a \in \text{Applicable}(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
    if  $\max_{s \in S} |V_i(s) - V_{i-1}(s)| \leq \eta$  then
      return  $\pi_i$ 
```

```
async-value-iteration( $\Sigma, s_0, S_g, V_0, \eta$ )
  global  $\pi \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
  global  $V(s) \leftarrow V_0(s) \forall s$ 
  loop
     $r \leftarrow \max_{s \in S \setminus S_g} \text{Bellman-Update}(s)$ 
    if  $r \leq \eta$  then
      return  $\pi$ 

Bellman-Update( $s$ )
   $v_{old} \leftarrow V(s)$ 
  for every  $a \in \text{Applicable}(s)$  do
     $Q(s, a) \leftarrow \text{cost}(s, a) + \sum_{s' \in S} P(s' | s, a) V(s')$ 
   $V(s) \leftarrow \min_{a \in \text{Applicable}(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
   $\pi(s) \leftarrow \text{argmin}_{a \in \text{Applicable}(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
  return  $|V(s) - v_{old}|$ 
```

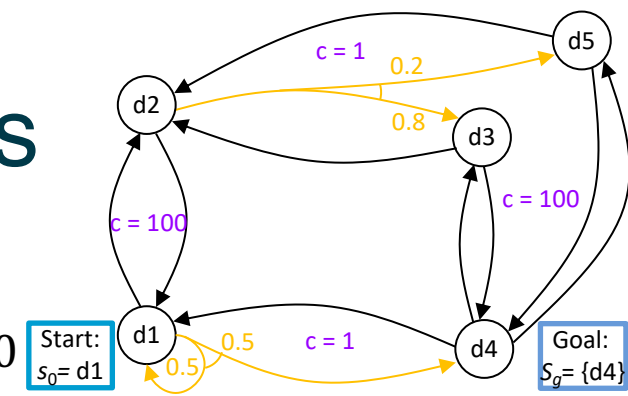
# Synchronous

$$\eta = 0.2$$

$$V_0(s) = 0 \forall s$$

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(0) + 0.5(0)) = 1$ 
  - $V_1(d1) = 1; \pi_1(d1) = m14$
- $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(0) + 0.8(0)) = 1$ 
  - $V_1(d2) = 1; \pi_1(d2) = m23$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 0 = 1$
- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V_1(d3) = 1; \pi_1(d3) = m32$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 0 = 1$
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V_1(d5) = 1; \pi_1(d5) = m52$
- $r = \max(1 - 0, 1 - 0, 1 - 0, 1 - 0) = 1$

# Asynchronous



- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(0) + 0.5(0)) = 1$ 
  - $V(d1) = 1; \pi(d1) = m14$
- $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 1 = 101$
- $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(0) + 0.8(0)) = 1$ 
  - $V(d2) = 1; \pi(d2) = m23$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 1 = 2$
- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V(d3) = 2; \pi(d3) = m32$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 1 = 2$
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V(d5) = 2; \pi(d5) = m52$
- $r = \max(1 - 0, 1 - 0, 2 - 0, 2 - 0) = 2$

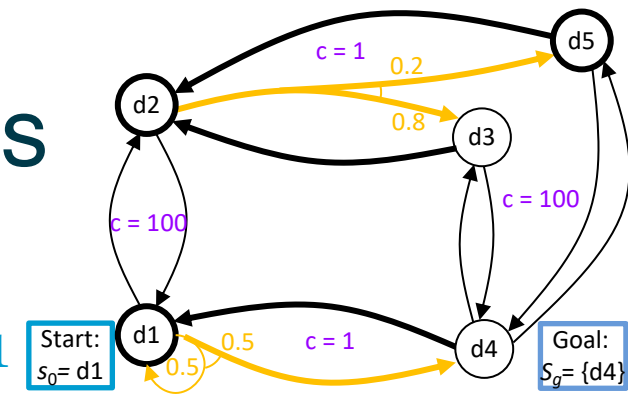
# Synchronous

$$\eta = 0.2$$

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 1 = 101$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1) + 0.5(0)) = 1.5$ 
  - $V_1(d1) = 1.5; \pi_1(d1) = m14$
- $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 1 = 101$
- $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(1) + 0.8(1)) = 2$ 
  - $V_1(d2) = 2; \pi_1(d2) = m23$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 1 = 2$
- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V_1(d3) = 2; \pi_1(d3) = m32$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 1 = 2$
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V_1(d5) = 1; \pi_1(d5) = m52$
- $r = \max(1.5 - 1, 2 - 1, 2 - 1, 2 - 1) = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} V(d1) &= 1 \\ V(d2) &= 1 \\ V(d3) &= 1 \\ V(d5) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

# Asynchronous



- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 1 = 101$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1) + 0.5(0)) = 1.5$ 
  - $V(d1) = 1.5; \pi(d1) = m14$
- $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 1.5 = 101.5$
- $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(2) + 0.8(2)) = 3$ 
  - $V(d2) = 3; \pi(d2) = m23$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 3 = 4$
- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V(d3) = 4; \pi(d3) = m32$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 3 = 4$
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V(d5) = 4; \pi(d5) = m52$
- $r = \max(1.5 - 1, 3 - 1, 4 - 2, 4 - 2) = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} V(d1) &= 1 \\ V(d2) &= 1 \\ V(d3) &= 2 \\ V(d5) &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\eta = 0.2$$

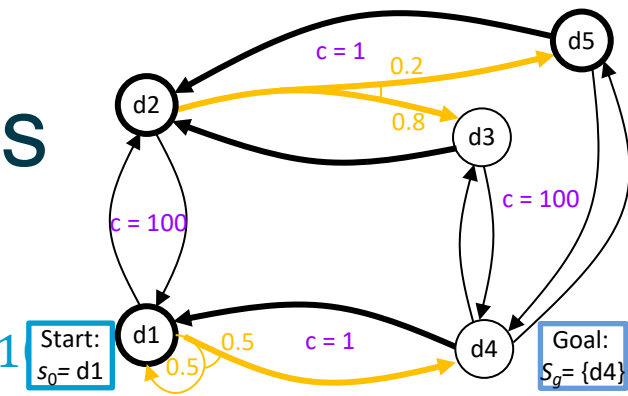
# Synchronous

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 2 = 102$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1.5) + 0.5(0)) = 1.75$ 
  - $V_1(d1) = 1.75; \pi_1(d1) = m14$
- $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 1.5 = 101.5$
- $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(2) + 0.8(2)) = 3$ 
  - $V_1(d2) = 3; \pi_1(d2) = m23$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 2 = 3$
- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V_1(d3) = 3; \pi_1(d3) = m32$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 2 = 3$
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V_1(d5) = 3; \pi_1(d5) = m52$

$$\begin{aligned} V(d1) &= 1.5 \\ V(d2) &= 2 \\ V(d3) &= 2 \\ V(d5) &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$r = \max(1.75 - 1.5, 3 - 2, 3 - 2, 3 - 2) = 1$$

# Asynchronous



- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 3 = 103$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1.5) + 0.5(0)) = 1.75$ 
  - $V(d1) = 1.75; \pi(d1) = m14$
- $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 1.75 = 101.75$
- $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(4) + 0.8(4)) = 5$ 
  - $V(d2) = 5; \pi(d2) = m23$
- $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 5 = 6$
- $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V(d3) = 6; \pi(d3) = m32$
- $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 5 = 6$
- $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$ 
  - $V(d5) = 6; \pi(d5) = m52$

$$\begin{aligned} V(d1) &= 1.5 \\ V(d2) &= 3 \\ V(d3) &= 4 \\ V(d5) &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$r = \max(1.75 - 1.5, 5 - 3, 6 - 4, 6 - 4) = 2$$

# Synchronous

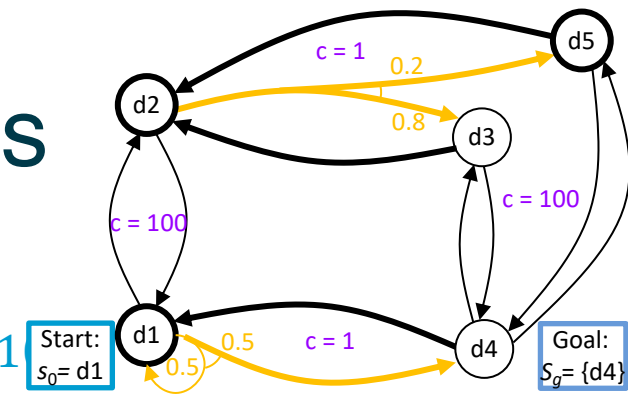
$$\eta = 0.2$$

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 3 = 103$
  - $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1.75) + 0.5(0)) = 1.875$   
 -  $V_1(d1) = 1.875; \pi_1(d1) = m14$
  - $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 1.75 = 101.75$
  - $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(3) + 0.8(3)) = 4$   
 -  $V_1(d2) = 4; \pi_1(d2) = m23$
  - $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 3 = 4$
  - $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$   
 -  $V_1(d3) = 4; \pi_1(d3) = m32$
  - $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 3 = 4$
  - $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$   
 -  $V_1(d5) = 4; \pi_1(d5) = m52$
- $$r = \max(1.875 - 1.75, 4 - 3, 4 - 3, 4 - 3) = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(d1) &= 1.75 \\ V(d2) &= 3 \\ V(d3) &= 3 \\ V(d5) &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

# Asynchronous

How long before  $r \leq \eta$ ?  
 How long, if the "vertical" actions cost 10 instead of 100?



- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1.75) + 0.5(0)) = 1.875$   
 -  $V(d1) = 1.875; \pi(d1) = m14$
  - $Q(d2, m21) = 100 + 1.875 = 101.875$
  - $Q(d2, m23) = 1 + (0.2(6) + 0.8(6)) = 7$   
 -  $V(d2) = 7; \pi(d2) = m23$
  - $Q(d3, m32) = 1 + 7 = 8$
  - $Q(d3, m34) = 100 + 0 = 100$   
 -  $V(d3) = 8; \pi(d3) = m32$
  - $Q(d5, m52) = 1 + 7 = 8$
  - $Q(d5, m54) = 100 + 0 = 100$   
 -  $V(d5) = 8; \pi(d5) = m52$
- $$r = \max(1.875 - 1.75, 7 - 5, 8 - 6, 8 - 6) = 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(d1) &= 1.75 \\ V(d2) &= 5 \\ V(d3) &= 6 \\ V(d5) &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

# Discussion

---

- Policy iteration
    - Computes new  $\pi$  in each iteration; computes  $V^\pi$  from  $\pi$
    - More work per iteration than value iteration
      - Needs to solve a set of simultaneous equations
    - Usually converges in a smaller number of iterations
  - Value iteration
    - Computes new  $V$  in each iteration; chooses  $\pi$  based on  $V$
    - New  $V$  is a revised set of heuristic estimates
      - Not  $V^\pi$  for  $\pi$  or any other policy
    - Less work per iteration: does not need to solve a set of equations
    - Usually takes more iterations to converge
- 
- At each iteration, both algorithms need to examine the entire state space
    - Number of iterations polynomial in  $|S|$ , but  $|S|$  may be quite large
  - Next: use search techniques to avoid searching the entire space

# Summary

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- SSPs
- Solutions, closed solutions, histories
- Unsafe solutions, acyclic safe solutions, cyclic safe solutions
- Expected cost, planning as optimization
- Policy iteration
- Value iteration (synchronous, asynchronous)
  - Bellman-update

# Outline

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## *6.2 Stochastic shortest path problems*

- Safe/unsafe policies
- Optimality
- Policy iteration, value iteration

## **6.3 Heuristic search algorithms**

- Best-first search
- Determinisation

## *6.4 Online probabilistic planning*

- Lookahead
- Reinforcement learning



# AO\*

- Best-first search for acyclic domains
- Inputs: SSP problem  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$ , initial values  $V_0$
- Envelope: set of states that have been generated

Requires acyclic  $\Sigma$

not in book

```

AO*( $\Sigma, s_0, S_g, V_0$ )
  global  $\pi \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  $V(s_0) \leftarrow V_0(s_0)$ ;  $Envelope \leftarrow \{s_0\}$ 
  while  $leaves(s_0, \pi) \setminus S_g \neq \emptyset$  do
    select  $s \in leaves(s_0, \pi) \setminus S_g$ 
    for all  $a \in Applicable(s)$  do
      for all  $s' \in \gamma(s, a) \setminus Envelope$  do
         $V(s') \leftarrow V_0(s')$ 
        Add  $s'$  to  $Envelope$ 
    AO-Update( $s$ )
  return  $\pi$ 
  
```

no  $\pi$ -descendants in  $Z$  but  $s$  itself  
 • ensures bottom-up updates

the states "just above"  $s$

**AO-Update( $s$ )**

```

 $Z \leftarrow \{s\}$  // nodes that need updating
while  $Z \neq \emptyset$  do
  select  $s \in Z$  s.t.  $\tilde{\gamma}(s, \pi(s)) \cap Z = \{s\}$ 
  remove  $s$  from  $Z$ 
  Bellman-Update( $s$ )
   $Z \leftarrow Z \cup \{s' \in Envelope \mid s \in \gamma(s', \pi)\}$ 
  
```

**Bellman-Update( $s$ )**

```

for every  $a \in Applicable(s)$  do
   $Q(s, a) \leftarrow cost(s, a) + \sum_{s' \in S} PR(s' | s, a) V(s')$ 
 $V(s) \leftarrow \min_{a \in Applicable(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
 $\pi(s) \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{a \in Applicable(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
  
```

# LAO\*

Different compared to AO\*

- Best-first search for both cyclic and acyclic domains
- Inputs: SSP problem  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$ , initial values  $V_0$

Asynchronous value iteration, restricted to  $Z$

$\Sigma$  may be cyclic or acyclic

not in book

```

LAO*( $\Sigma, s_0, S_g, V_0$ )
  global  $\pi \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  $V(s_0) \leftarrow V_0(s_0)$ ;  $Envelope \leftarrow \{s_0\}$ 
  loop
    if  $leaves(s_0, \pi) \subseteq S_g \neq \emptyset$  then
      return  $\pi$ 
    select  $s \in leaves(s_0, \pi) \setminus S_g$ 
    for all  $a \in Applicable(s)$  do
      for all  $s' \in \gamma(s, a) \setminus Envelope$  do
         $V(s') \leftarrow V_0(s')$ 
        Add  $s'$  to  $Envelope$ 
      LAO-Update( $s$ )
  return  $\pi$ 
  
```

all  $\pi$ -ancestors of  $s$  in  $Envelope$

```

LAO-Update( $s$ )
   $Z \leftarrow \{s\} \cup \{s' \in Envelope \mid s \in \gamma(s', \pi)\}$ 
  loop
     $r \leftarrow \max_{s \in Z} Bellman-Update(s)$ 
    if  $leaves(s_0, \pi)$  changed or  $r \leq \eta$  then
      break
  
```

```

Bellman-Update( $s$ )
   $v_{old} \leftarrow V(s)$ 
  for every  $a \in Applicable(s)$  do
     $Q(s, a) \leftarrow cost(s, a) + \sum_{s' \in S} PR(s' \mid s, a) V(s')$ 
   $V(s) \leftarrow \min_{a \in Applicable(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
   $\pi(s) \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{a \in Applicable(s)} Q(s, a)$ 
  return  $|V(s) - v_{old}|$ 
  
```

# LAO\* Example

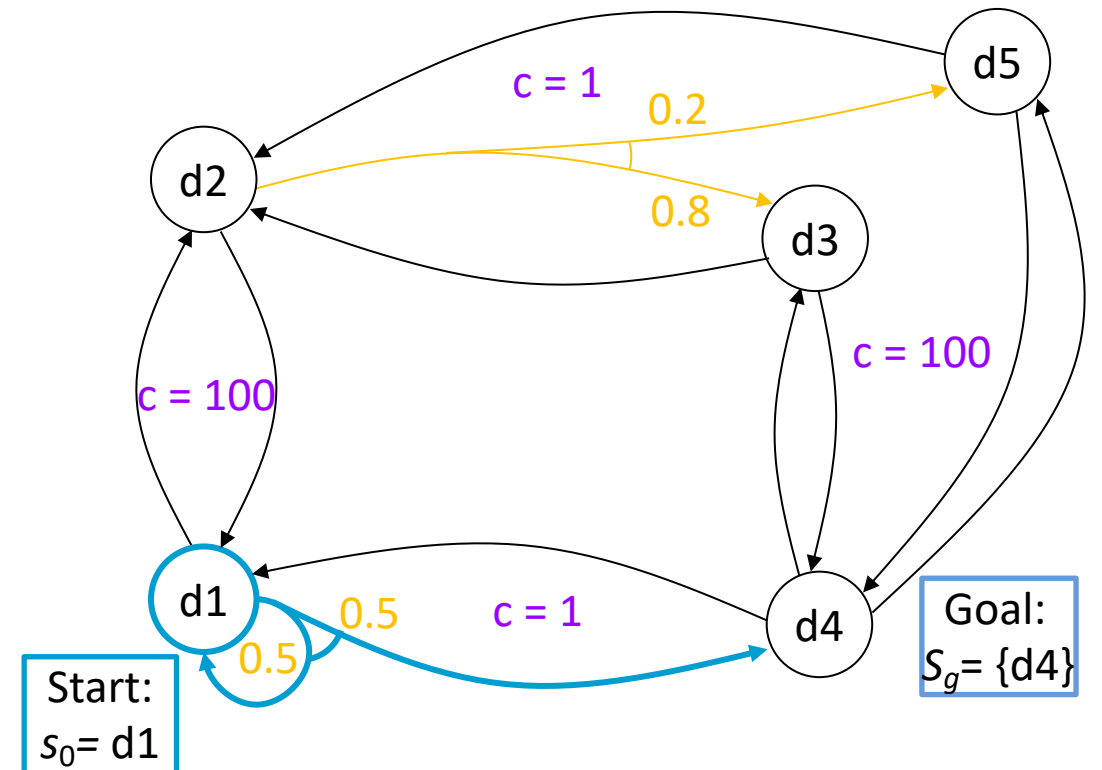
$$\eta = 0.2$$
$$V_0(s) = 0 \forall s$$

1st iteration of main loop:

- Expand d1: add d2 and d4 to Envelope
- Call LAO-Update(d1)
  - $\pi$  is empty, so  $Z = \{d1\}$

Iteration 1:

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 0 = 100$
  - $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(0) + 0.5(0)) = 1$
- $\rightarrow V(d1) = 1$
- $\rightarrow \pi(d1) = m14$
- $\rightarrow r = 1 - 0 = 1$



# LAO\* Example

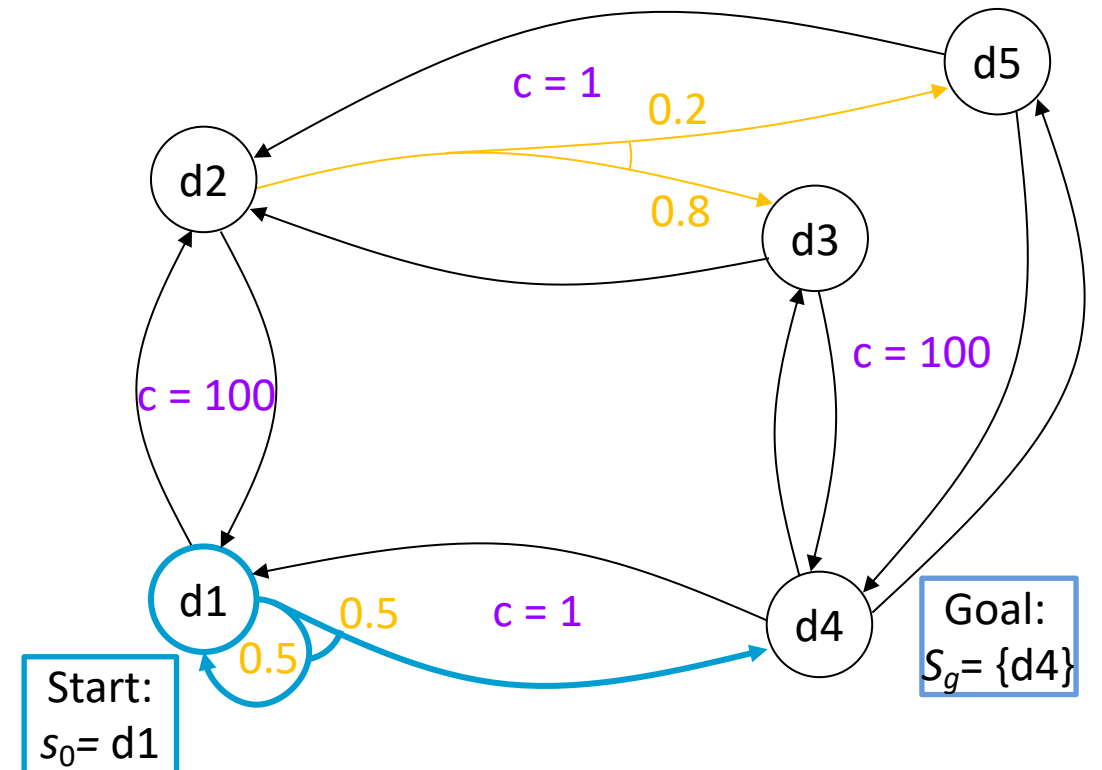
$$\eta = 0.2$$
$$V_0(s) = 0 \forall s$$

Iteration 2:

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1) + 0.5(0)) = 1.5$ 
  - $V(d1) = 1.5$
  - $\pi(d1) = m14$
  - $r = 1.5 - 1 = 0.5$

Iteration 3:

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1.5) + 0.5(0)) = 1.75$ 
  - $V(d1) = 1.75$
  - $\pi(d1) = m14$
  - $r = 1.75 - 1.5 = 0.25$



# LAO\* Example

$$\eta = 0.2$$
$$V_0(s) = 0 \forall s$$

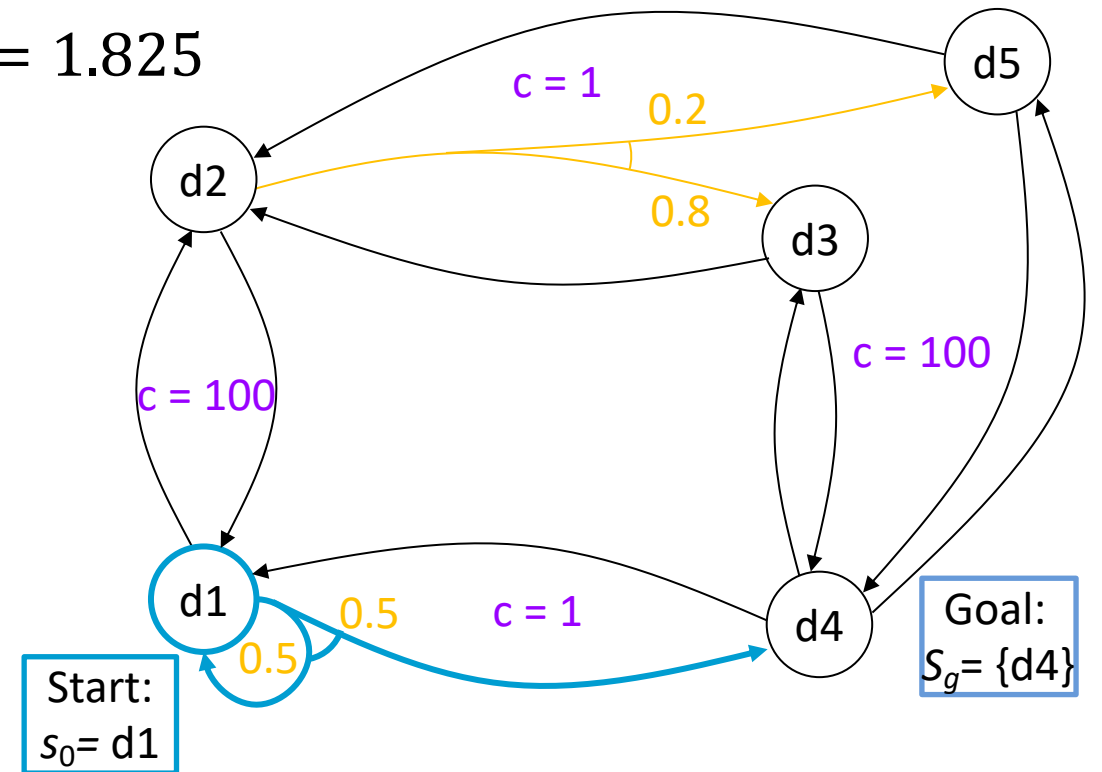
Iteration 4:

- $Q(d1, m12) = 100 + 0 = 100$
- $Q(d1, m14) = 1 + (0.5(1.75) + 0.5(0)) = 1.825$ 
  - $V(d1) = 1.825$
  - $\pi(d1) = m14$
  - $r = 0.125 \leq \eta$

LAO-Update returns

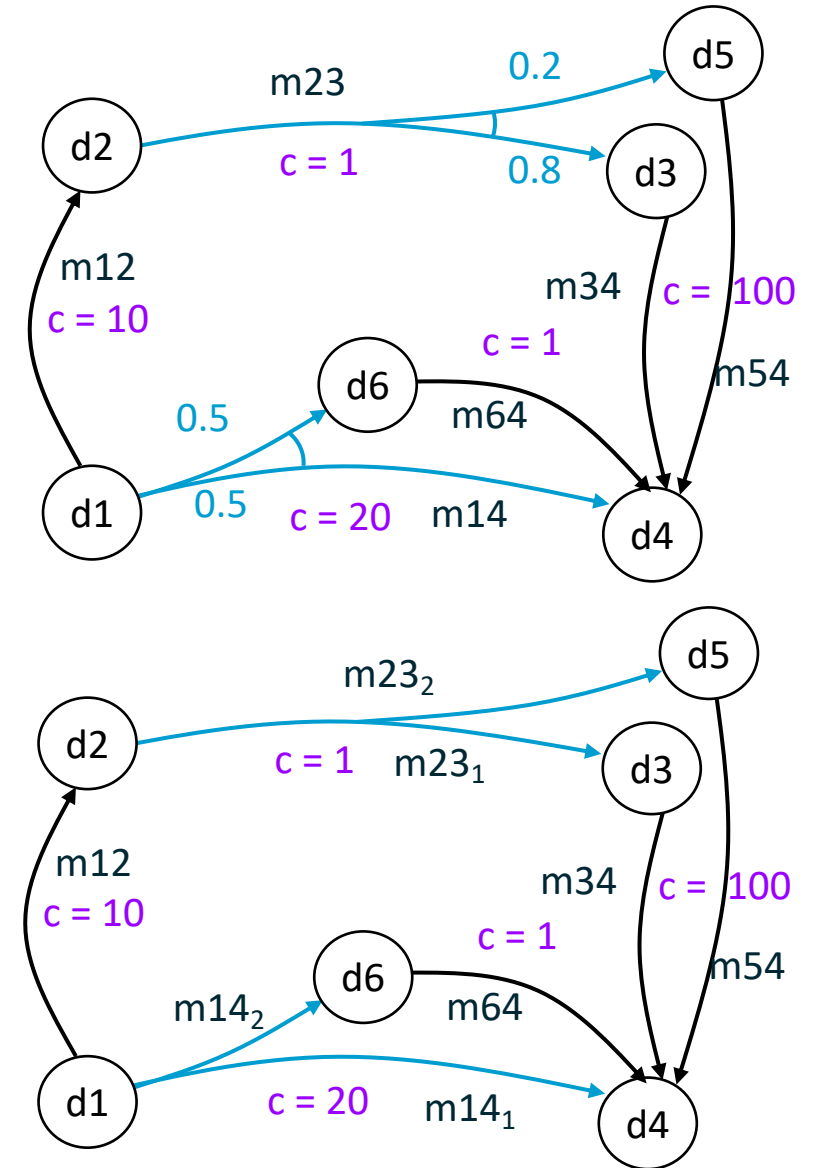
*2nd iteration of main loop:*

- $leaves(\pi) = \{d4\} \subseteq S_g$
- return  $\pi$



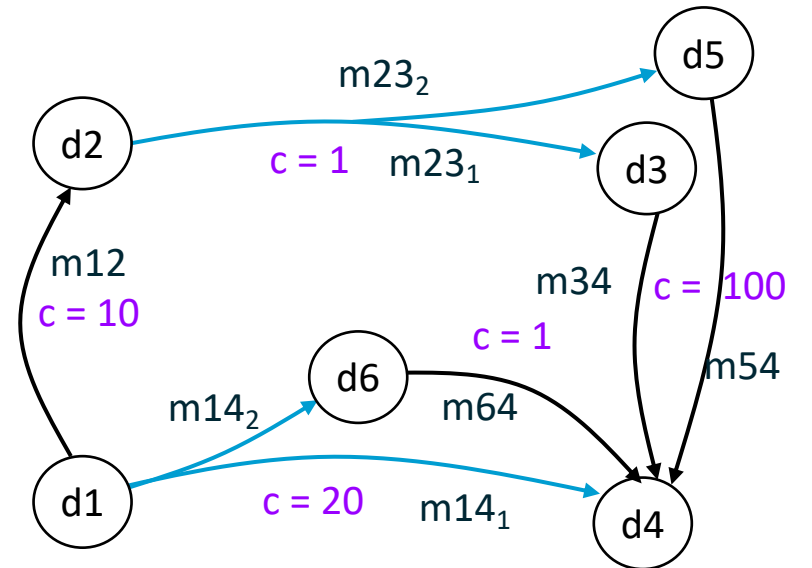
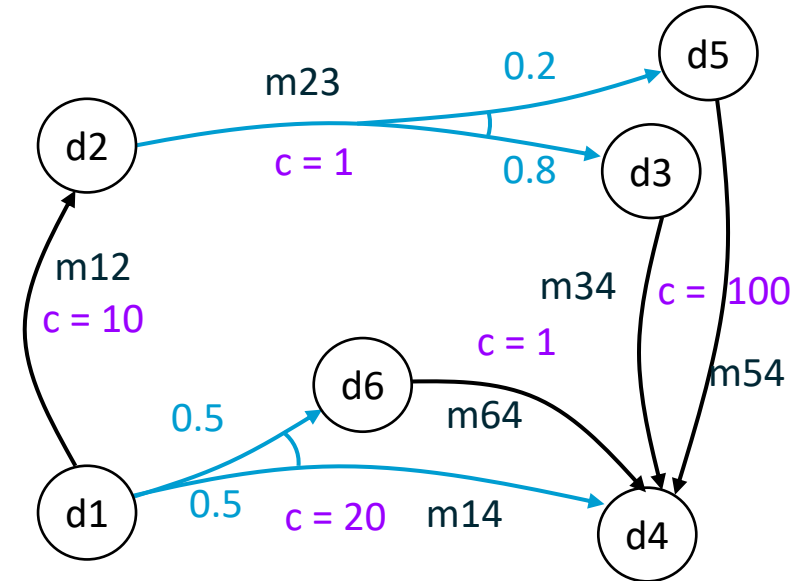
# Heuristics through Determinisation

- What to use for  $V_0$ ? One possibility: classical planner
    - Need to convert nondeterministic actions into something a classical planner can use
  - **Determinise** the actions
    - Suppose  $\gamma(s, a) = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$
    - $Det(s, a) = \{n \text{ actions } a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ 
      - $\gamma_d(s, a_i) = s_i$
      - $cost_d(s, a_i) = cost(s, a)$
- Classical domain  $\Sigma_d = (S, A_d, \gamma_d, cost_d)$
- $S$  = same as in  $\Sigma$
  - $A_d = \bigcup_{a \in A, s \in S} Det(s, a)$
  - $\gamma_d$  and  $cost_d$  as above



# Heuristics through Determinisation

- Call classical planner on  $(\Sigma_d, s, S_g)$ 
  - Get plan  $p = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$
  - Return  $V_0(s) = cost(p) = \sum_{i=1}^n cost(a_i)$
- If the classical planner always returns optimal plans  $p$ , then  $V_0$  is admissible
  - Outline of proof:
    - Let  $\pi$  be a safe solution in  $\Sigma$  and  $p$  be an optimal plan in  $\Sigma_d$  with  $cost(p) = V_0(s)$
    - Every acyclic execution of  $\pi$  corresponds to a plan  $p'$  in  $\Sigma_d$ 
      - $p'$  must have cost  $\geq V_0(s)$
      - Otherwise the classical planner would have chosen  $p'$  instead of  $p$



# Summary

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- $AO^*$ 
  - Acyclic
- $LAO^*$ 
  - (A)cyclic
- Heuristics through determinisation



# Outline

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## *6.2 Stochastic shortest path problems*

- Safe/unsafe policies
- Optimality
- Policy iteration, value iteration

## *6.3 Heuristic search algorithms*

- Best-first search
- Determinisation

## ***6.4 Online probabilistic planning***

- Lookahead
- Reinforcement learning

# Planning and Acting

- Same as in Ch. 2, except  $s$  instead of  $\xi$ 
  - Could use  $s \leftarrow$  abstraction of  $\xi$  as in Ch. 2
  - Inputs:
    - SSP problem  $(\Sigma, s_0, S_g)$
    - Vector of parameters  $\theta$
- Could also use Run-Lazy-Lookahead or Run-Concurrent-Lookahead
- What to use for Lookahead?
  - AO\*, LAO\*, ...  $\rightarrow$  Modify to search part of the space
  - Classical planner running on determinised domain
  - Stochastic sampling algorithms

```
Run-Lookahead( $\Sigma, s_0, S_g, \theta$ )
```

```
 $s \leftarrow s_0$ 
```

```
while  $s \notin S_g$  and  $Applicable(s) \neq \emptyset$  do
```

```
   $a \leftarrow$  Lookahead( $s, \theta$ )
```

```
  perform action  $a$ 
```

```
   $s \leftarrow$  observe resulting state
```

# Planning and Acting

- If Lookahead = classical planner on determinized domain
  - FS-Replan (Ch. 5)
- Problem: Forward-search may choose a plan that depends on low-probability outcome
- RFF algorithm (see book) attempts to alleviate this
- Pointer to the next chapter:  
Acting as *Reinforcement learning*
  - Learning to act / finding the optimal policy in an unknown environment (no model available)

```
Run-Lookahead( $\Sigma, s_0, S_g, \theta$ )
```

```
 $s \leftarrow s_0$ 
```

```
while  $s \notin S_g$  and  $Applicable(s) \neq \emptyset$  do
```

```
   $a \leftarrow$  Lookahead( $s, \theta$ )
```

```
  perform action  $a$ 
```

```
   $s \leftarrow$  observe resulting state
```

```
FS-Replan( $\Sigma, s, S_g$ )
```

```
 $\pi_d \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
```

```
while  $s \notin S_g$  and  $Applicable(s) \neq \emptyset$  do
```

```
  if  $\pi_d$  undefined for  $s$  then
```

```
     $\pi_d \leftarrow$  Forward-Search( $\Sigma_d, s, S_g$ )
```

```
    if  $\pi_d =$  failure then
```

```
      return failure
```

```
  perform action  $\pi_d(s)$ 
```

```
   $s \leftarrow$  observe resulting state
```

# Outline per the Book

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## *6.2 Stochastic shortest path problems*

- Safe/unsafe policies
- Optimality
- Policy iteration, value iteration

## *6.3 Heuristic search algorithms*

- Best-first search
- Determinisation

## *6.4 Online probabilistic planning*

- Lookahead
- Reinforcement learning

⇒ Next: Decision Making