

# Winning Games with Semiring Provenance

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Mathematische  
Grundlagen  
der Informatik



Lightning Math Night, Aachen 2024

# How to win chocolate?



**Hangry Hanna**



**Selfish Simon**

# How to win chocolate?



**Hangry Hanna**



**Selfish Simon**

# How to win chocolate?



**Hangry Hanna**

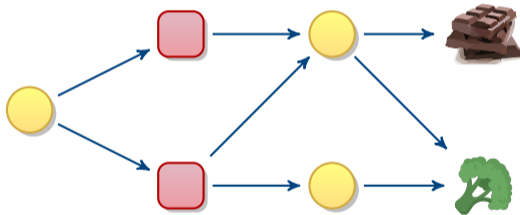


all mine!

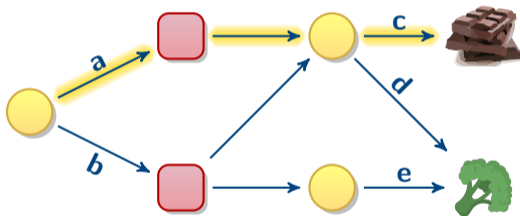


**Selfish Simon**

# How to win chocolate?



# How to win chocolate?



**Hanna's strategy:** moves **a** and **c**.

# How to win **more** chocolate?



**Hangry Hanna**  
M.Sc. RWTH



**Selfish Simon**  
M.Sc. RWTH

# How to win **more** chocolate?



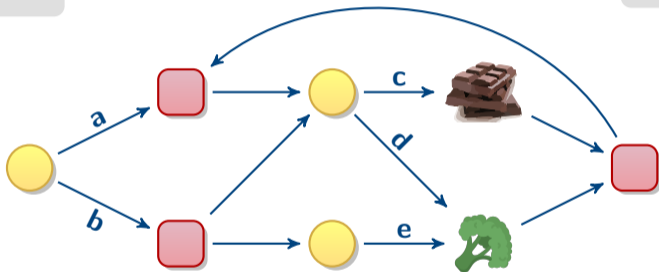
**Hangry Hanna**  
M.Sc. RWTH



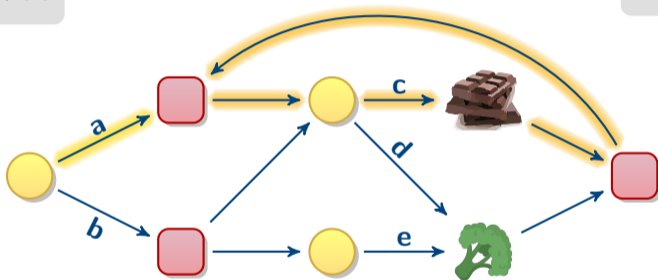
**Selfish Simon**  
M.Sc. RWTH



# How to win **more** chocolate?

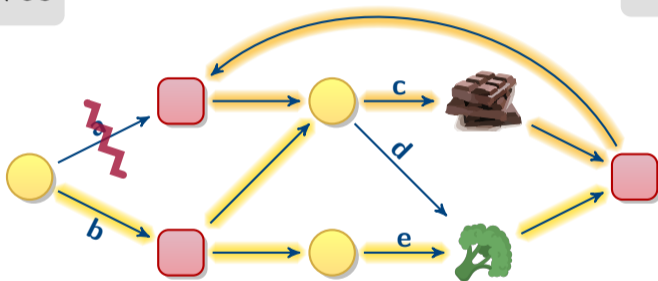


# How to win **more** chocolate?



**Strategy 1:** **a** once  
**c** infinitely often

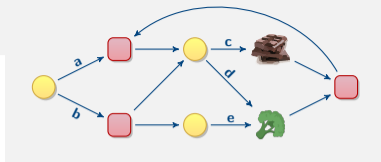
# How to win **more** chocolate?



**Strategy 1:** **a** once  
**c** infinitely often

**Strategy 2:** **b, e** once (at most)  
**c** infinitely often

# Unified approach to winning chocolate



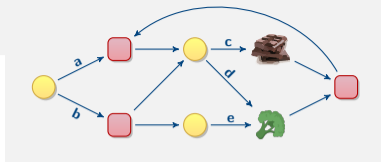
Once:

$$\mu X. \text{chocolate} \vee (\text{yellow} \wedge \diamond X) \vee (\text{red} \wedge \square X)$$

Infinitely often:

$$\nu Y. \mu Z. \left( \text{chocolate} \wedge ((\text{yellow} \wedge \diamond Y) \vee (\text{red} \wedge \square Y)) \right) \\ \vee \left( \neg \text{chocolate} \wedge ((\text{yellow} \wedge \diamond Z) \vee (\text{red} \wedge \square Z)) \right)$$

# Unified approach to winning chocolate



Once:

$$\mu X. \text{🍫} \vee (\text{🟡} \wedge \diamond X) \vee (\text{🟠} \wedge \square X)$$

$$\rightsquigarrow a \cdot c$$

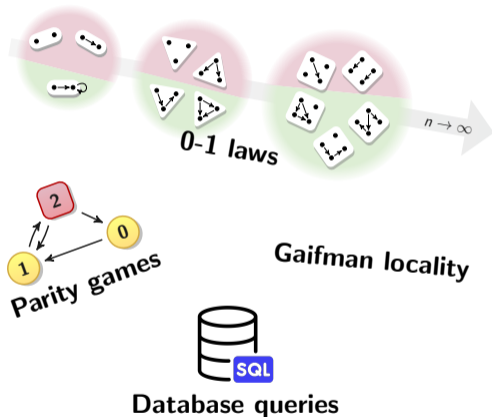
Infinitely often:

$$\nu Y. \mu Z. \left( \text{🍫} \wedge ((\text{🟡} \wedge \diamond Y) \vee (\text{🟠} \wedge \square Y)) \right) \\ \vee \left( \neg \text{🍫} \wedge ((\text{🟡} \wedge \diamond Z) \vee (\text{🟠} \wedge \square Z)) \right)$$

$$\rightsquigarrow a \cdot c^\infty + b \cdot e \cdot c^\infty$$

# Semiring Provenance for Fixed-Point Logics

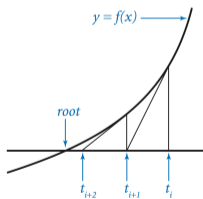
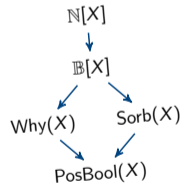
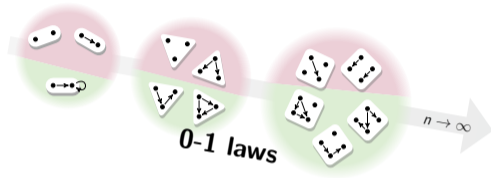
# Semiring Provenance for Fixed-Point Logics



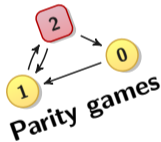
# Semiring Provenance for Fixed-Point Logics

$$a + ab = a$$

Absorption



&



Gaifman locality

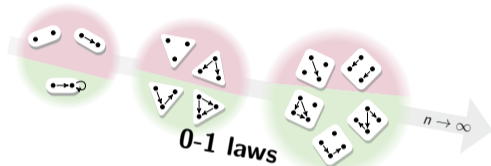


Database queries



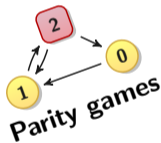
# Semiring Provenance for Fixed-Point Logics

$a + ab = a$   
Absorption



$y = f(x)$

&



Gaifman locality

