

## Efficient Policies for Stationary Possibilistic Markov Decision Processes

Nahla Ben Amor<sup>1</sup>   **Zeineb El Khalfi**<sup>1,2</sup>   Hélène Fargier<sup>2</sup>   Régis Sabaddin<sup>4</sup>

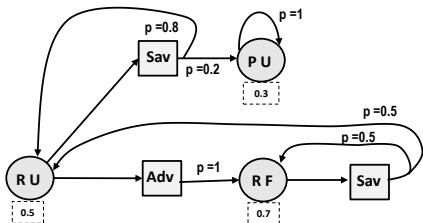
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Reasoning with Uncertainty **ECSQARU'2017**  
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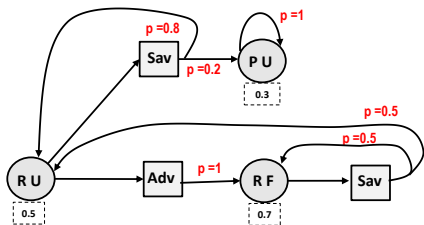
# Markov Decision Processes



- $S = \{RU, RF, PU\}$ :
  - $RU$ : Rich and Unknown
  - $RF$ : Rich and Famous
  - $PU$ : Poor and Unknown
- $A = \{Sav, Adv\}$ :
  - $Sav$ : Saving money
  - $Adv$ : Advertising

- $S$ : finite set of states
- $A$ : finite set of actions,  $\rightarrow A_s$ : the set of actions available from state  $s$
- $\mu$ : utility function,  $\rightarrow \mu(s)$ : utility obtained in state  $s \in S$

# Markov Decision Processes



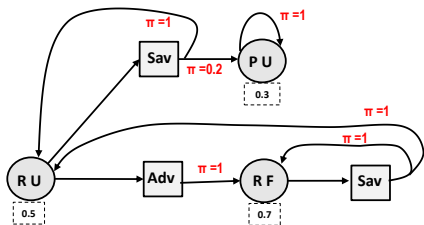
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## Uncertainty:

- $p$ : finite set of probability distributions  $p(s'|s, a)$ : Probabilistic Markov decision process

# Markov Decision Processes



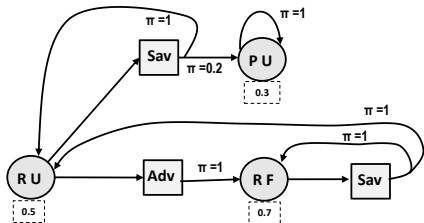
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## Uncertainty:

- $\pi$ : finite set of possibility distributions  $\pi(s'|s, a)$ : Possibilistic Markov decision process

# Markov Decision Processes



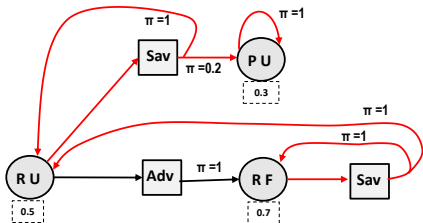
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## Policy

- $\delta \in \Delta : S \rightarrow A_S$

$\Delta$	$RU$	$PU$	$RF$
$\delta_1$	$Sav$	$Stay$	$Sav$
$\delta_2$	$Adv$	$Stay$	$Sav$

# Markov Decision Processes



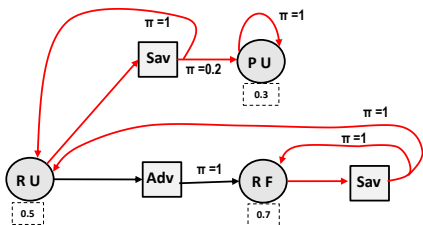
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# Finite possibilistic Markov decision processes

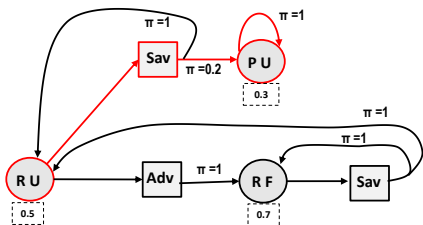


## Policy

$\Delta$	RU	PU	RF
$\delta_1$	Sav	Stay	Sav
$\delta_2$	Adv	Stay	Sav

- $\delta$ : set of trajectories  $\tau \in \delta$
- With  $E = 2$ ,  $\delta_1$  has 3 trajectories

# Finite possibilistic Markov decision processes



$$\tau_1 \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 1 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$$

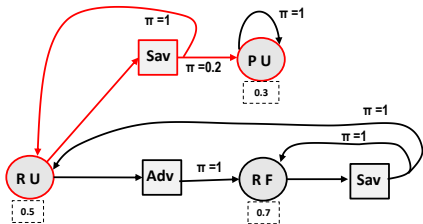
## Policy

$\Delta$	<i>RU</i>	<i>PU</i>	<i>RF</i>
$\delta_1$	<i>Sav</i>	<i>Stay</i>	<i>Sav</i>
$\delta_2$	<i>Adv</i>	<i>Stay</i>	<i>Sav</i>

- With  $E = 2$ ,  $\delta_1$  has 3 trajectories:
  - $\tau_1 = (RU, Sav, PU, Stay, PU)$



# Finite possibilistic Markov decision processes



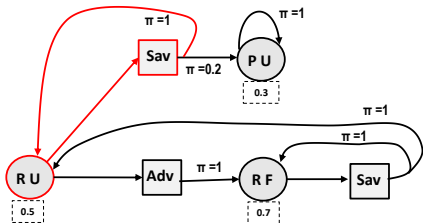
$$\begin{matrix} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 1 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Policy

$\Delta$	<i>RU</i>	<i>PU</i>	<i>RF</i>
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# Finite possibilistic Markov decision processes



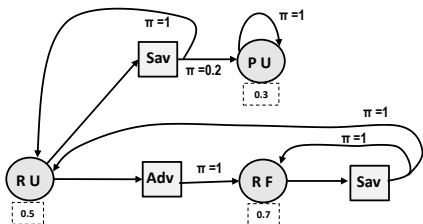
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- With  $E = 2$ ,  $\delta_1$  has 3 trajectories:
  - $\tau_1 = (RU, Sav, PU, Stay, PU)$
  - $\tau_2 = (RU, Sav, RU, Sav, PU)$
  - $\tau_3 = (RU, Sav, RU, Sav, RU)$ .

# Possibilistic decision criteria



$$u_{opt}(\delta_1, RU) = ?$$

$\tau_1$	0.5	0.2	0.3	1	0.3
$\tau_2$	0.5	1	0.5	0.2	0.3
$\tau_3$	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5

## Possibilistic qualitative utilities [Dubois et Prade, 1995; R. Sabbadin, 2001]

- Optimistic qualitative utility:

$$\delta_1 \succeq_{u_{opt}} \delta_2 \Leftrightarrow u_{opt}(\delta_1, s_0) \geq u_{opt}(\delta_2, s_0)$$

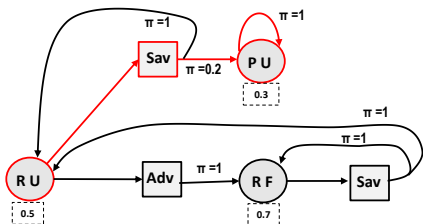
$$u_{opt}(\delta, s_0) = \max_{\tau} \min\{\pi(\tau|s_0, \delta), \mu(\tau)\}$$

- Pessimistic qualitative utility:

$$\delta_1 \succeq_{u_{pes}} \delta_2 \Leftrightarrow u_{pes}(\delta_1, s_0) \geq u_{pes}(\delta_2, s_0)$$

$$u_{pes}(\delta, s_0) = \min_{\tau} \max\{1 - \pi(\tau|s_0, \delta), \mu(\tau)\}$$

# Possibilistic decision criteria



$$u_{opt}(\delta_1, RU) = ?$$

$\tau_1$	$\mu$	$\pi$	$\mu$	$\pi$	$\mu$	0.2
	0.5	0.2	0.3	1	0.3	
$\tau_2$	0.5	1	0.5	0.2	0.3	
$\tau_3$	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	

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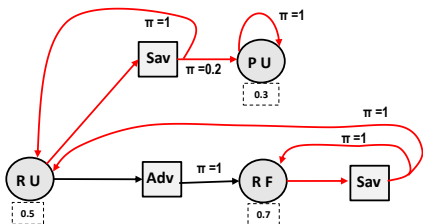
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	$\mu$	$\pi$	$\mu$	$\pi$	$\mu$	
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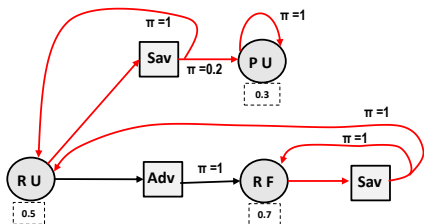
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# Possibilistic decision criteria



$$u_{opt}(\delta_1, RU) = 0.5$$

	$\mu$	$\pi$	$\mu$	$\pi$	$\mu$	
$\tau_1$	0.5	0.2	0.3	1	0.3	0.2
$\tau_2$	0.5	1	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.2
$\tau_3$	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5
						↓
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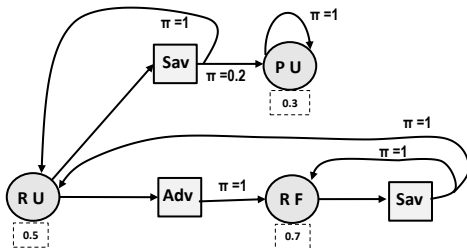
# Possibilistic value iteration algorithm

- Repeat modifications **possibilistic value functions** iteratively:

- $$u_{opt}(s) = \max_{a \in A_s} \max_{s' \in S} \min(\pi(s'|s, a), u_{opt}(s'))$$

- $$u_{pes}(s) = \max_{a \in A_s} \min_{s' \in S} \max(1 - \pi(s'|s, a), u_{pes}(s'))$$

⇒ Choosing, for each state, an action that maximizes the utility  $u_{opt}(s)$  or  $u_{pes}(s)$  until:



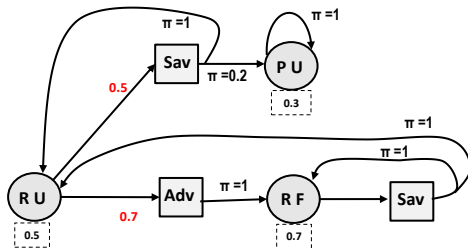
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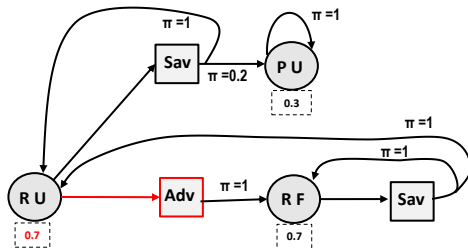
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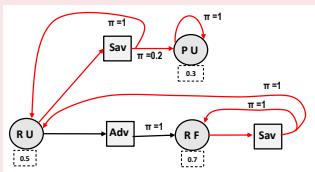
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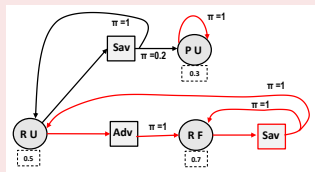
# Limitations of Possibilistic qualitative utilities

## Drowning effect



$$\begin{matrix} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_3 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 1 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} 0.2 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.5 \end{matrix}$$

$$u_{opt}(\delta_1) = u_{pes}(\delta_1) = 0.5$$



$$\begin{matrix} \tau_4 \\ \tau_5 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 1 & 0.7 & 1 & 0.7 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.7 & 1 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{matrix}$$

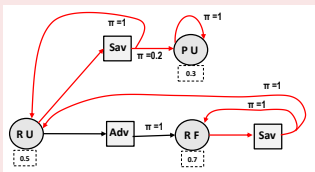
$$u_{opt}(\delta_2) = u_{pes}(\delta_2) = 0.5$$

- $\tau_4, \tau_5 \gg \tau_1$
- $\tau_4, \tau_5 \gg \tau_2$
- $\tau_4 \gg \tau_3$

Two policies are **undistinguished** although they give **different consequences** in some possible trajectories

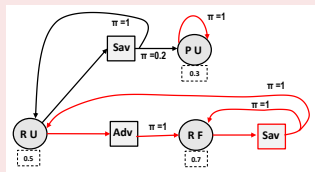
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- $\tau_4, \tau_5 \gg \tau_1$
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- $\tau_4 \gg \tau_3$

Possibilistic utilities may fail to satisfy the **Pareto efficiency**

# Objectives

## Build efficient criteria

- Find a refinement  $\succ_x$  of  $\succ_{U_{opt}}$  s.t. :

$$\forall \delta_1, \delta_2 \in \Delta, \delta_1 \succ_{U_{opt}} \delta_2 \Rightarrow \delta_1 \succ_x \delta_2$$

- The  $\succ_x$  have to satisfy the principle of **Pareto efficiency**
- Compute optimal policies in possibilistic MDPs using these refinements

# Lexicographic comparisons in non-sequential decision problems [Fargier and Sabbadin, 2005]

## Refinement of max and min on vectors

- Lmax and lmin comparisons of vectors:

$$\vec{u} = (3, 2, 4), \vec{v} = (1, 2, 4)$$

1. Order the two vectors:

- lmax:  $\vec{u} = (3, 2, 4)$        $\vec{v} = (1, 2, 4)$

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# Lexicographic comparisons in non-sequential decision problems [Fargier and Sabbadin, 2005]

## Refinement of max and min on vectors

- Lmax and Lmin comparisons of vectors:

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## Refinement of max and min on vectors

- Lmax and lmin comparisons of **vectors**:

$$\vec{u} = (3, 2, 4), \vec{v} = (1, 2, 4)$$

1. Order the two vectors
2. Compare the two vectors element by element:
  - lmax:  $\vec{u} = (4, 3, 2) \succ_{lmax} \vec{v} = (4, 2, 1)$
  - lmin:  $\vec{u} = (2, 3, 4) \succ_{lmin} \vec{v} = (1, 2, 4)$

# Lexicographic comparisons in non-sequential decision problems [Fargier and Sabbadin, 2005]

- Policy: a matrix of trajectories

$$\begin{array}{l} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_3 \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 1 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Main results

## Lexicographic refinements of possibilistic utilities in MDPs

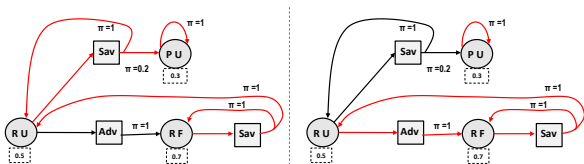
Lexicographic criteria on matrices of trajectories:

- **lmax(lmin)**: refines  $U_{opt}$
- **lmin(lmax)**: refines  $U_{pes}$

## Proposition

- Lexicographic comparisons:
  - satisfy the principle of **Pareto efficiency**
  - satisfy the **strict monotonicity** property
  - satisfy **transitivity**

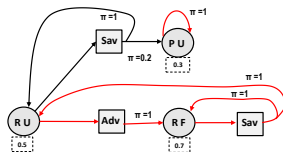
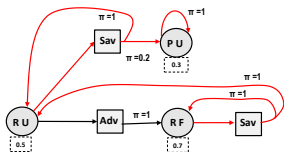
# Lexicographic comparisons of matrices of trajectories



$$\begin{matrix} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_3 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 & 1 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 & 1 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \delta_1$$

$$\begin{matrix} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_3 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 1 & 0.7 & 1 & 0.7 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 0.7 & 1 & 0.5 \\ e & e & e & e & e \end{pmatrix} \delta_2$$

# Lexicographic comparisons of matrices of trajectories



- Order the elements of trajectories in increasing order

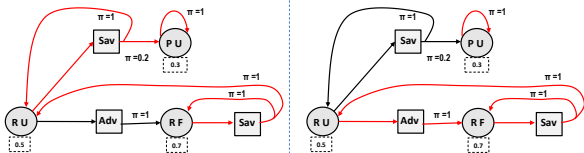
$$\begin{matrix} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_3 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 1 \\ 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\delta_1$ 

$$\begin{matrix} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_3 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.7 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\ e & e & e & e & e \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\delta_2$

# Lexicographic comparisons of matrices of trajectories

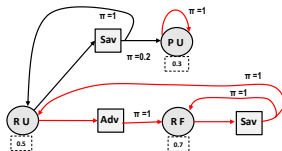
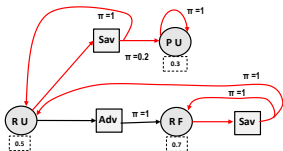


- 1 Order the elements of trajectories in increasing order
- 2 Order the trajectories in decreasing order

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \tau_3 \\
 \tau_2 \\
 \tau_1
 \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 & 1 \\
 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 \\
 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 1
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \tau_1 \\
 \tau_2 \\
 \tau_3
 \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 0.5 & 0.7 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\
 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\
 e & e & e & e & e
 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\delta_1$ 
 $\delta_2$

# Lexicographic comparisons of matrices of trajectories



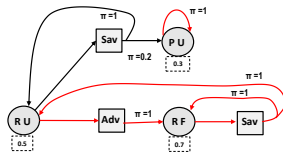
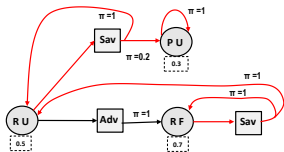
- 1 Order the elements of trajectories in increasing order
- 2 Order the trajectories in decreasing order

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \tau_3 \\
 \tau_2 \\
 \tau_1
 \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 u_{opt} & & & & & \\
 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 & 1 & \\
 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 & \\
 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 1 & 
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \tau_1 \\
 \tau_2 \\
 \tau_3
 \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 u_{opt} & & & & & \\
 0.5 & 0.7 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 & \\
 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 & \\
 e & e & e & e & e & 
 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\delta_1$ 
 $\delta_2$



# Lexicographic comparisons of matrices of trajectories

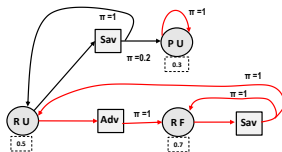
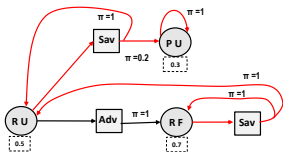


- 1 Order the elements of trajectories in increasing order
- 2 Order the trajectories in decreasing order
- 3 Compare the sets item by item

$$\tau_3 \begin{pmatrix} \text{uopt} \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 & 1 \\ \tau_2 \\ 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 \\ \tau_1 \\ 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \delta_1$$

$$\tau_1 \begin{pmatrix} \text{uopt} \\ 0.5 & 0.7 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\ \tau_2 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\ \tau_3 \\ e & e & e & e & e \end{pmatrix} \delta_2$$

# Lexicographic comparisons of matrices of trajectories



- 1 Order the elements of trajectories in increasing order
- 2 Order the trajectories in decreasing order
- 3 Compare the sets item by item

$$\delta_2 \succ_{\text{Imax}(\text{Imin})} \delta_1$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \tau_3 \\
 \tau_2 \\
 \tau_1
 \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 \text{uopt} & & & & \\
 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 & 1 \\
 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 1 \\
 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.5 & 1
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \tau_1 \\
 \tau_2 \\
 \tau_3
 \end{array}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 \text{uopt} & & & & \\
 0.5 & 0.7 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\
 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.7 & 1 & 1 \\
 e & e & e & e & e
 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\delta_1$ 
 $\delta_2$

# Finite-horizon lexicographic-value iteration algorithm

---

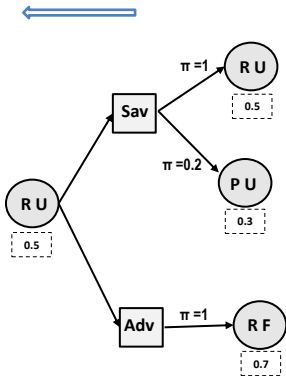
**Algorithm 1: Lmax(lmin)-value iteration**

---

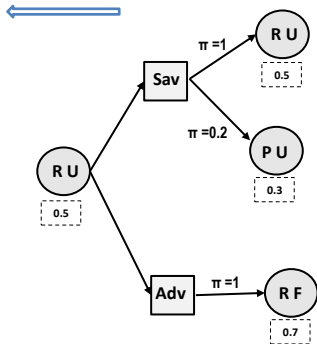
```
Data: A possibilistic MDP and an horizon  $E$   
 $\delta^*$ , the policy built by the algorithm, is a global variable  
1 //  $\delta$  a global variable starts as an empty set  
Result: Computes and returns  $\delta^*$  for MDP  
2 begin  
3    $t \leftarrow 0$ ;  
4   foreach  $s \in S$  do  $U^t(s) \leftarrow ((\mu(s)))$ ;  
5   foreach  $s \in S, a \in A_s$  do  $TU_{s,a} \leftarrow T_{s,a} \times ((\mu(s')), s' \in succ(s, a))$ ;  
6   repeat  
7      $t \leftarrow t + 1$ ;  
8     foreach  $s \in S$  do  
9        $Q^* \leftarrow ((0))$ ;  
10      foreach  $a \in A$  do  
11         $Future \leftarrow (U^{t-1}(s'), s' \in succ(s, a))$ ; // Gather the  
          matrices provided by the successors of  $s$ ;  
12         $Q(s, a) \leftarrow (TU_{s,a} \times Future)^{lmaxlmin}$ ;  
13        if  $Q^* \leq^{lmaxlmin} Q(s, a)$  then  $Q^* \leftarrow Q(s, a)$ ;  $\delta^t(s) \leftarrow a$ ;  
14         $U^t(s) \leftarrow Q^*(s, \delta^t(s))$   
15    until  $t == E$ ;  
16     $\delta^*(s) \leftarrow argmax_a Q(s, a)$   
17    return  $\delta^*$ ;
```

---

# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithm

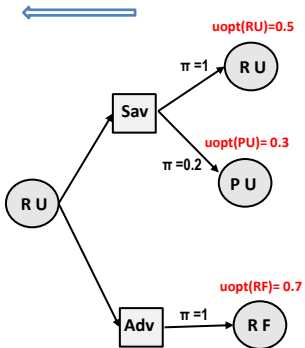


The best act (Sav or Adv) w.r.t uopt ?

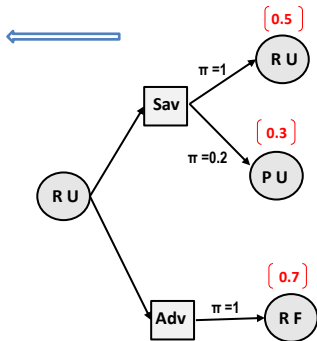


The best act (Sav or Adv) w.r.t lmax(lmin) ?

# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithm

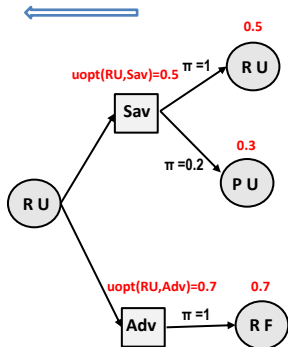


The best act (Sav or Adv) w.r.t  $u_{opt}$  ?

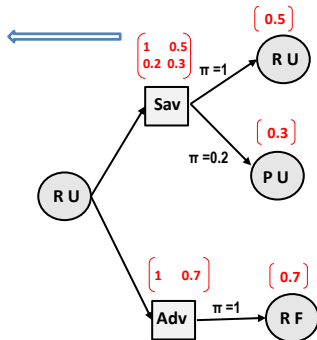


The best act (Sav or Adv) w.r.t  $l_{max}(l_{min})$  ?

# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithm

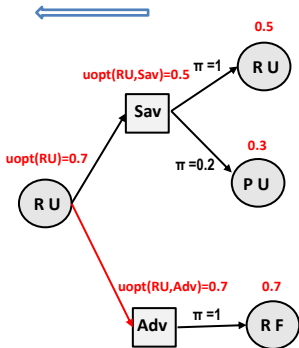


The best act (Sav or Adv) w.r.t  $uopt$  ?

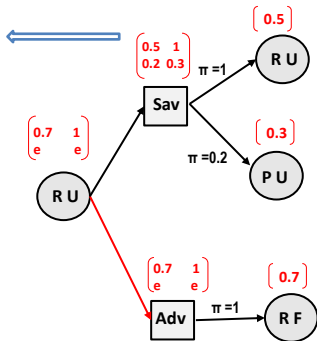


The best act (Sav or Adv) w.r.t  $Imax(lmin)$  ?

# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithm



The best act is Adv

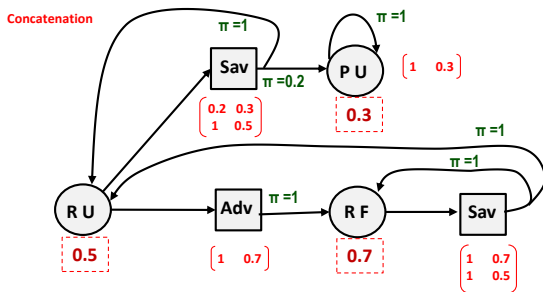


The best act is Adv

# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
- Number of iteration is fixed in advance

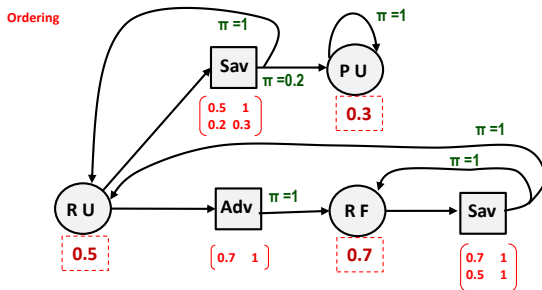




# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

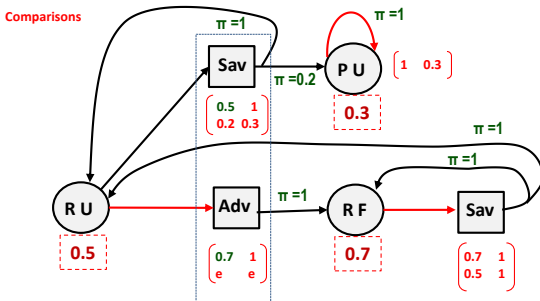
- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
- Number of iteration is fixed in advance



# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

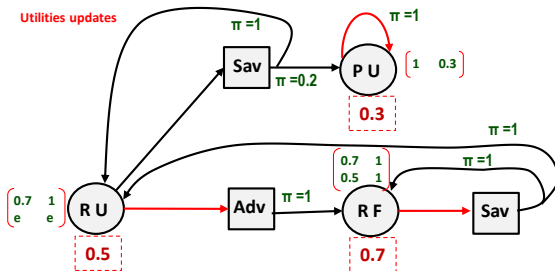
- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
- Number of iteration is fixed in advance



# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

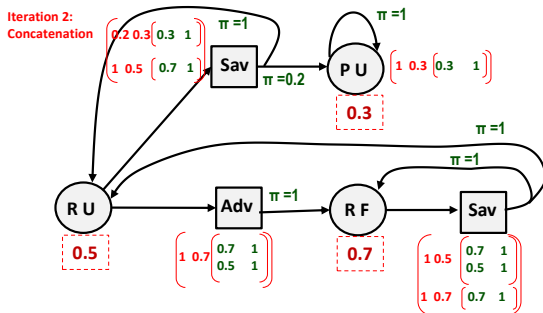
- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
- Number of iteration is fixed in advance



# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

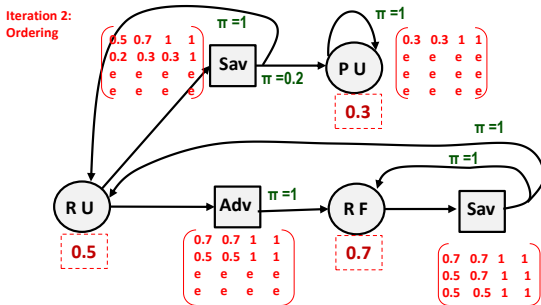
- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
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# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

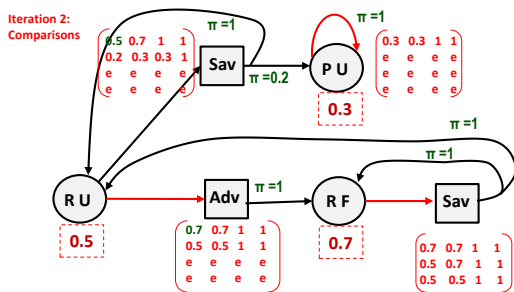
- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
- Number of iteration is fixed in advance



# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

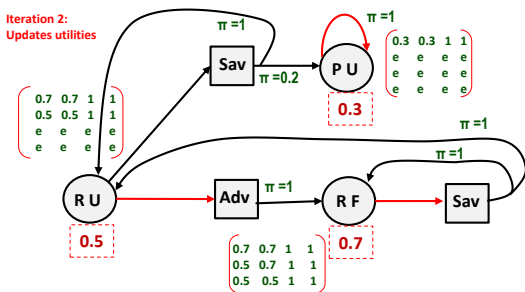
- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
- Number of iteration is fixed in advance



# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Finite-horizon case

- Updates utilities of each state represented with a finite matrix of trajectories
- Number of iteration is fixed in advance

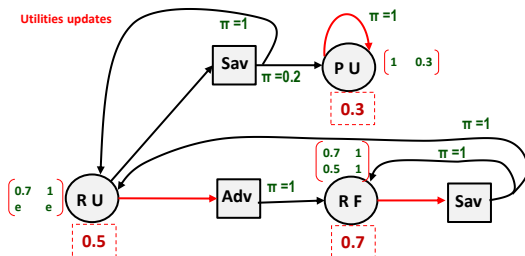


# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Unbounded lexicographic value iteration

- Complexity:  $O(|S| \cdot |A| \cdot |E| \cdot b^E)$

### Example with Lmax(lmin)

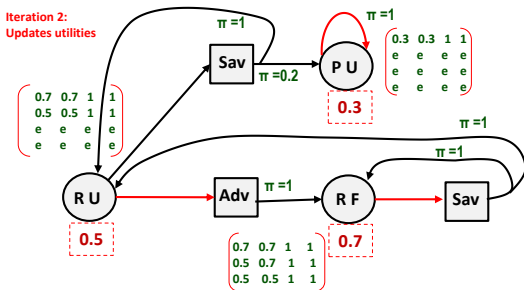




# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Unbounded lexicographic value iteration

- Complexity:  $O(|S| \cdot |A| \cdot |E| \cdot b^E)$

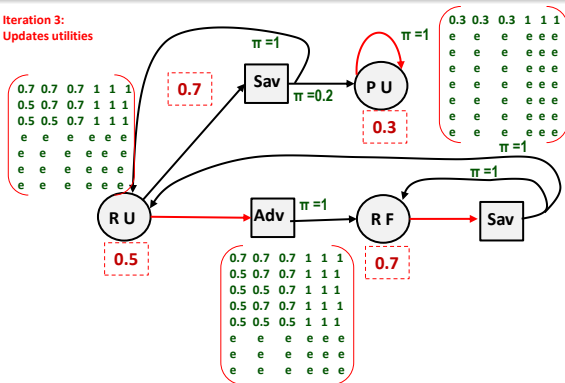


# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Unbounded lexicographic value iteration

- Complexity:  $O(|S| \cdot |A| \cdot |E| \cdot b^E)$

Iteration 3:  
Updates utilities



# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Bounded lexicographic value iteration

- Restriction size of matrices to  $(l,c)$  lines and columns:
  - $l > 1$  and  $c > 1$
  - $\geq l_{\max} l_{\min}, 1, 1$  corresponds to  $\succeq_{opt}$
  - $\geq l_{\max} l_{\min}, +\infty, +\infty$  corresponds to  $\geq l_{\max} l_{\min}$
- Complexity:  $O(|E| \cdot |S| \cdot |A| \cdot (l \cdot c) \cdot b \log((l \cdot c) \cdot b))$

$$\begin{matrix} \tau_3 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_1 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{uopt} \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \end{matrix} & 1 & 1 \\ \begin{matrix} 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 \end{matrix} & 0.5 & 1 \\ \begin{matrix} 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.3 \end{matrix} & 0.5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\delta_1$

$l=2$   
 $c=3$

$$\begin{matrix} \tau_1 \\ \tau_2 \\ \tau_3 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{uopt} \\ 0.5 & 0.7 & 0.7 \end{matrix} & 1 & 1 \\ \begin{matrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.7 \end{matrix} & 1 & 1 \\ e & e & e & e & e \end{pmatrix}$$

$\delta_2$

# Lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

## Bounded lexicographic value iteration

- Restriction size of matrices to  $(l,c)$  lines and columns:
  - $l > 1$  and  $c > 1$
  - $\geq lmaxlmin,1,1$  corresponds to  $\succeq_{opt}$
  - $\geq lmaxlmin,+\infty,+\infty$  corresponds to  $\geq lmaxlmin$
- Complexity:  $O(|E| \cdot |S| \cdot |A| \cdot (l \cdot c) \cdot b \log((l \cdot c) \cdot b))$

$$\tau_1 \begin{pmatrix} u_{opt} \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ \tau_2 \\ 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\delta_1$ 
 $l=2$   
 $c=3$ 

$$\tau_1 \begin{pmatrix} u_{opt} \\ 0.5 & 0.7 & 0.7 \\ \tau_2 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.7 \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\delta_2$

# Finite-horizon lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

---

## Algorithm 2: Bounded-Lmax(lmin)-value iteration

---

**Data:** A possibilistic MDP and an horizon  $E$   
 $\delta^*$ , the policy built by the algorithm, is a global variable

1 //  $\delta$  a global variable starts as an empty set

**Result:** Computes and returns  $\delta^*$  for MDP

```

2 begin
3    $t \leftarrow 0$ ;
4   foreach  $s \in S$  do  $U^t(s) \leftarrow ((\mu(s)))$ ;
5   foreach  $s \in S, a \in A_s$  do  $TU_{s,a} \leftarrow T_{s,a} \times ((\mu(s')), s' \in succ(s, a))$ ;
6   repeat
7      $t \leftarrow t + 1$ ;
8     foreach  $s \in S$  do
9        $Q^* \leftarrow ((0))$ ;
10      foreach  $a \in A$  do
11         $Future \leftarrow (U^{t-1}(s'), s' \in succ(s, a))$ ; // Gather the
           matrices provided by the successors of  $s$ ;
12         $Q(s, a) \leftarrow [(TU_{s,a} \times Future)^{lmaxlmin}]_{l,c}$ ;
13        if  $Q^* \leq_{lmaxlmin} Q(s, a)$  then  $Q^* \leftarrow Q(s, a)$ ;  $\delta^t(s) \leftarrow a$ ;
14       $U^t(s) \leftarrow Q^*(s, \delta^t(s))$ 
15   until  $t == E$ ;
16    $\delta^*(s) \leftarrow argmax_a Q(s, a)$ 
17   return  $\delta^*$ ;

```

---

# Infinite-horizon lexicographic-value iteration algorithms

---

## Algorithm 3: Infinite-horizon-Lmax(lmin)-value iteration

---

**Data:** A possibilistic MDP and an horizon  $E$   
 $\delta^*$ , the policy built by the algorithm, is a global variable  
 1 //  $\delta$  a global variable starts as an empty set.  
**Result:** Computes and returns  $\delta^*$  for MDP

```

2 begin
3    $t \leftarrow 0$ ;
4   foreach  $s \in S$  do  $U^t(s) \leftarrow ((\mu(s)))$ ;
5   foreach  $s \in S, a \in A_s$  do  $TU_{s,a} \leftarrow T_{s,a} \times ((\mu(s')), s' \in succ(s,a))$ ;
6   repeat
7      $t \leftarrow t + 1$ ;
8     foreach  $s \in S$  do
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12          matrices provided by the successors of  $s$ ;
13         $Q(s,a) \leftarrow [(TU_{s,a} \times Future)^{tmaxlmin}]_{l,c}$ ;
14        if  $Q^* \leq tmaxlmin Q(s,a)$  then  $Q^* \leftarrow Q(s,a)$ ;  $\delta^t(s) \leftarrow a$ ;
15         $U^t(s) \leftarrow Q^*(s, \delta^t(s))$ 
16      until  $(U^t)_{l,c}^{tmaxlmin} == (U^{t-1})_{l,c}^{tmaxlmin}$ ;
17       $\delta^*(s) \leftarrow argmax_a Q(s,a)$ 
18    return  $\delta^*$ ;
  
```

---

# Pessimistic lexicographic criterion ( $I_{\min}(I_{\max})$ )

- Same results and algorithms
- Trajectories :  $\tau(\mu_0, 1-\rho_{i_1}, \mu_1, 1-\pi_2, \dots, 1-\pi_{E-1}, \mu_E)$

$\tau_1 \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 1-0.2 & 0.3 & 1-1 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$ $\tau_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 1-1 & 0.5 & 1-0.2 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}$ $\tau_3 \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 1-1 & 0.5 & 1-1 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}$ <p style="text-align: center;"><math>\delta_1</math></p>	$\tau_1 \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 1-1 & 0.7 & 1-1 & 0.7 \end{pmatrix}$ $\tau_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 1-1 & 0.7 & 1-1 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}$ $\tau_3 \begin{pmatrix} e & 1-e & e & 1-e & e \end{pmatrix}$ <p style="text-align: center;"><math>\delta_2</math></p>
---	---

# Experimental protocol

## Objective

- Evaluation of possibilistic Markov decision processes:
  - **Unbounded** value iteration algorithm ( $UL - VI$ )
  - **Bounded** value iteration algorithm ( $BL - VI$ ) with different values of  $(l, c)$
- Comparative study of evaluation algorithms (Solutions, CPU time)

## Data

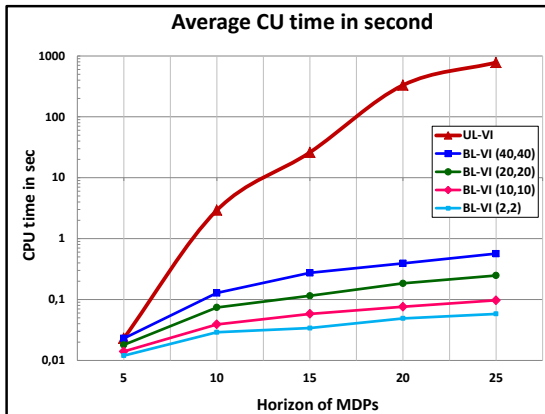
- 100 Possibilistic MDPs **randomly generated**
- $|S| = 25$  and  $|A_s| = 4$
- **Values of utilities** and **conditional possibilities** of decisions are chosen randomly



# Experimental results

## Execution CPU time

- *BL – VI* is obviously faster than *UL – VI*



# Experimental results

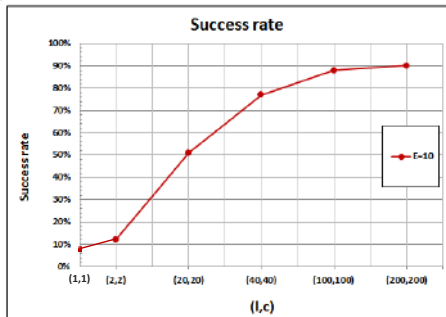
## Pairwise success rate

*Success*  $\frac{BL-VI}{UL-VI}$ : Percentage of solutions provided w.r.t  $BL - VI$  that are optimal w.r.t.  $UL - VI$ :

- the higher *Success*  $\frac{BL-VI}{UL-VI}$ : the more important effectiveness of cutting matrices
- the lower *Success*  $\frac{BL-VI}{UL-VI}$ : the more important drowning effect

## Results

- $BL - VI$  provides good approximation (when  $(l, c)$  increase)



# Experimental results

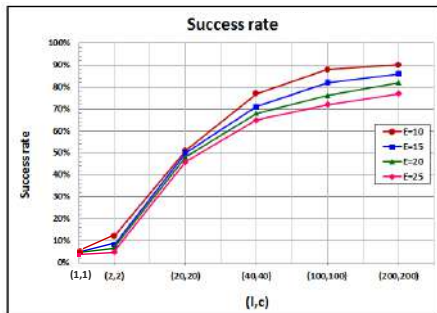
## Pairwise success rate

$\text{Success} \frac{BL-VI}{UL-VI}$ : Percentage of solutions provided w.r.t  $BL - VI$  that are optimal w.r.t.  $UL - VI$ :

- the lower  $\text{Success} \frac{BL-VI}{UL-VI}$ : the more important drowning effect
- the higher  $\text{Success} \frac{BL-VI}{UL-VI}$ : the more important effectiveness of cutting matrices

## Results

- $BL - VI$  provides good approximation (when  $(l, c)$  increase)



# Conclusion & Future work

## Conclusion

- Extend lexicographic refinements to **possibilistic Markov decision processes**
- Escape the **drowning effect** of possibilistic utilities in policies
- Propose lexicographic **value iteration** algorithm

## Future work

- Simulation based algorithms (Reinforcement learning)
- Solve lexico-possibilistic **Influence diagrams**

Thank you for your attention

# Lexicographic comparisons and Expected utility: Example

## Drowning effect

Two policies are **undistinguished** although they give **different consequences** in some possible trajectories

## Possibilistic utilities may fail to satisfy the Pareto efficiency

$\forall \delta, \delta' \in \Delta$ , if:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \forall D \in \text{Common}(\delta^1, \delta^2), \delta_D^1 \succ_O \delta_D^2 \\ \exists D \in \text{Common}(\delta_D^1, \delta_D^2), \delta_D^1 \succ_O \delta_D^2 \end{array} \right\} \text{ then } \delta^1 \succ_O \delta^2$$

- $\text{Common}(\delta, \delta')$ : set of decision nodes for both  $\delta$  and  $\delta'$
- $\delta_D$ : is the restriction of  $\delta$  to the subtree rooted in  $D$ .

## Possibilistic utilities do not satisfy the property of strict monotonicity

$$\forall \delta_1, \delta_2, \delta_3 \in \Delta, \text{ a criterion } O: \quad \delta_1 \succ_O \delta_2 \iff \delta_1 + \delta_3 \succ_O \delta_2 + \delta_3$$

# Lexicographic comparisons

## lexicographic comparisons on trajectories

- $\tau \succeq_{lmin} \tau'$  iff  $(\mu_0, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_E, \mu_E) \succeq_{lmin} (\mu'_0, \pi'_2, \dots, \pi'_E, \mu'_E)$
- $\tau \succeq_{lmax} \tau'$  iff  $(\mu_0, 1 - \pi_1, \dots, 1 - \pi_E, \mu_E) \succeq_{lmax} (\mu'_0, 1 - \pi'_1, \dots, 1 - \pi'_E, \mu'_E)$

## lexicographic comparisons on policies

- $\delta \succeq_{lmax(lmin)} \delta'$  iff  $\forall i, \tau_{\mu(i)} \sim_{lmin} \tau'_{\mu(i)}$  or  $\exists i^*, \forall i < i^*, \tau_{\mu(i)} \sim_{lmin} \tau'_{\mu(i)}$  and  $\tau_{\mu(i^*)} \succ_{lmin} \tau'_{\mu(i^*)}$
- $\delta \succeq_{lmin(lmax)} \delta'$  iff  $\forall i, \tau_{\sigma(i)} \sim_{lmax} \tau'_{\sigma(i)}$  or  $\exists i^*, \forall i < i^*, \tau_{\sigma(i)} \sim_{lmax} \tau'_{\sigma(i)}$  and  $\tau_{\sigma(i^*)} \succ_{lmax} \tau'_{\sigma(i^*)}$

# Lexicographic comparisons and Expected utility

## Transformation function

- Transformation of a possibilistic DT into a probabilistic one using:  
 $\phi : L \rightarrow [0, 1]$  s.t.  $\phi(0_L) = 0$  and  $\phi(1_L) = 1$ 
  - $EU_{opt}$  refines  $u_{opt}$
  - $EU_{pes}$  refines  $u_{pes}$

## Result

- $C_{h,b} : \forall \alpha, \alpha' \in L, \alpha > \alpha' : \phi(\alpha)^{h+1} > b^h \phi(\alpha')$
- $\forall DT$ ,  $C_{h,b}$  is Sufficient condition to get:

$$\delta_1 >_{u_{opt}} \delta_2 \Rightarrow \delta_1 >_{EU_{opt}} \delta_2, \forall (\delta_1, \delta_2) \in \Delta$$

$$\delta_1 \succeq_{lmax(lmin)} \delta_2 \iff \delta_1 \succeq_{EU_{opt}} \delta_2, \forall (\delta_1, \delta_2) \in \Delta$$