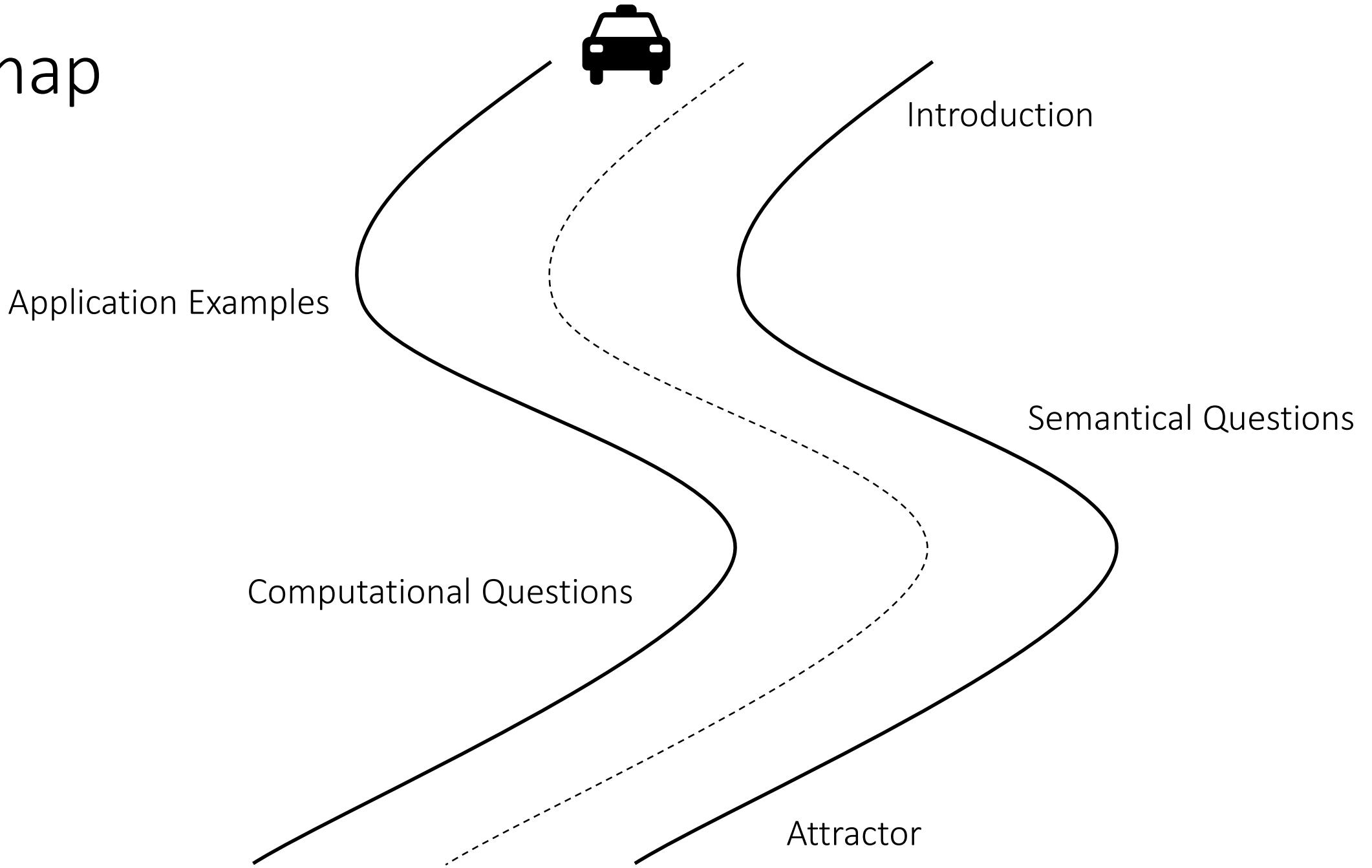


Modeling and Solving Weighted Bipolar Argumentation Problems

Tutorial at the 42nd German Conference on Artificial Intelligence (KI 2019)
Nico Potyka

Roadmap



Introduction

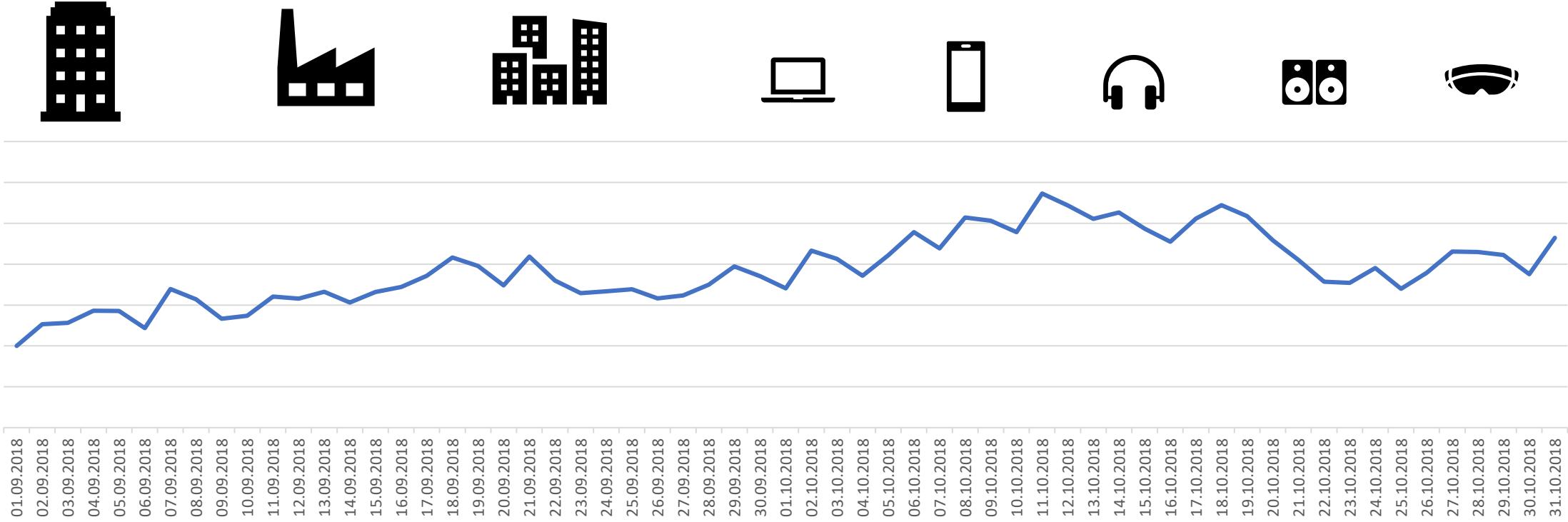
Application Examples

Semantical Questions

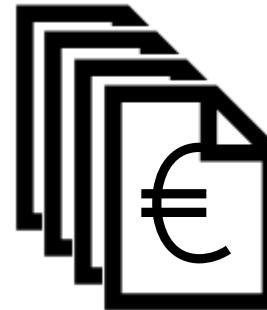
Computational Questions

Attractor





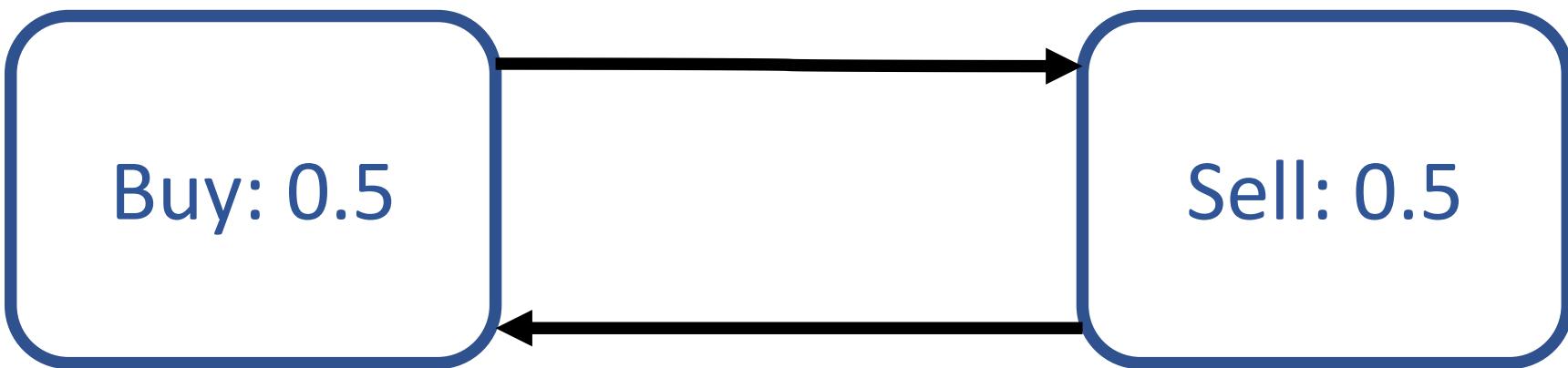
Buy?

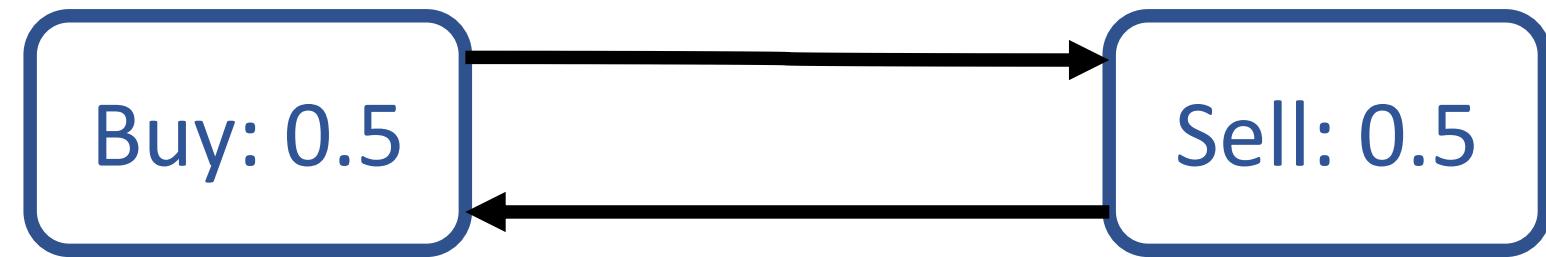


Sell?

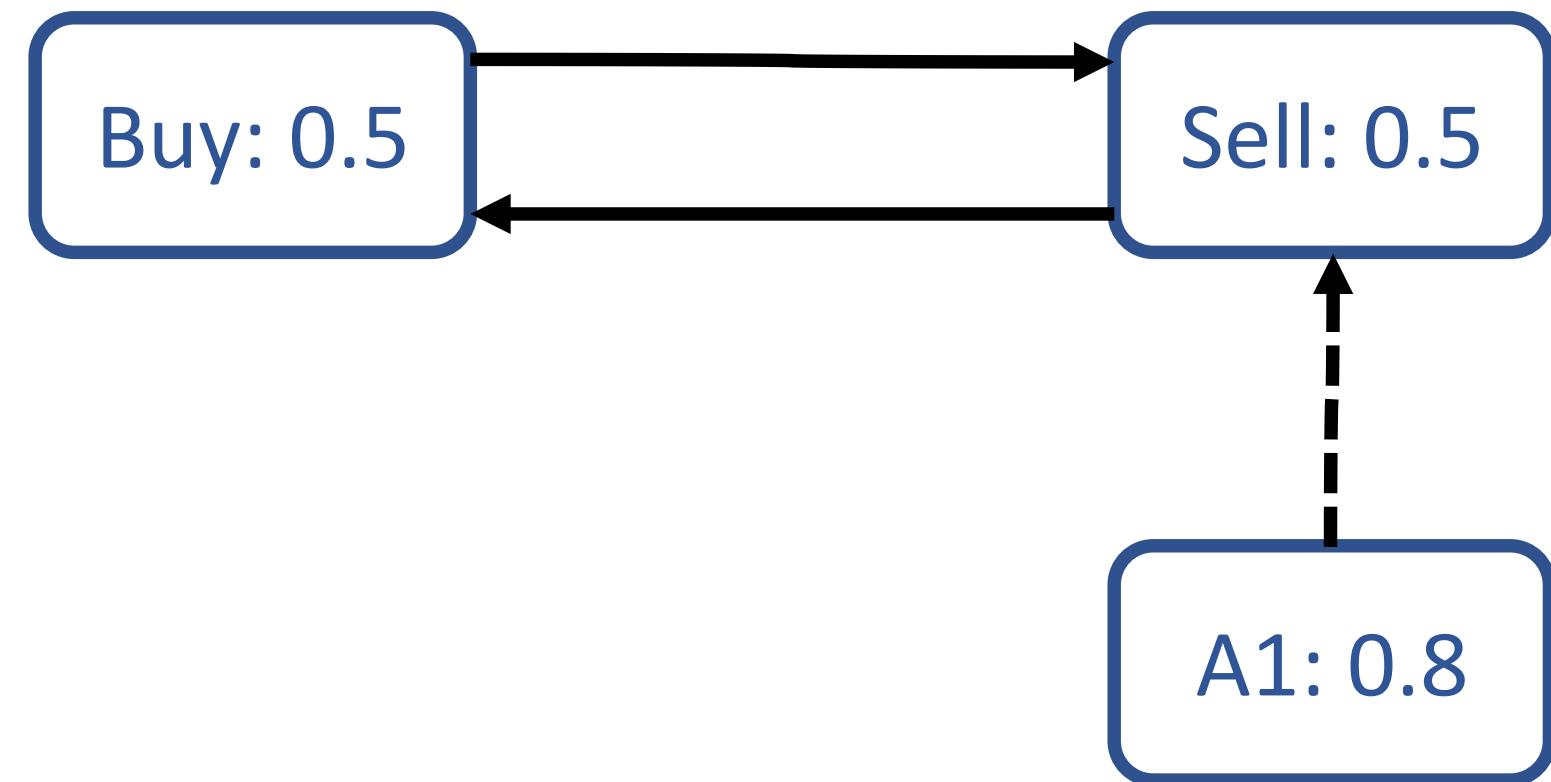
Buy: 0.5

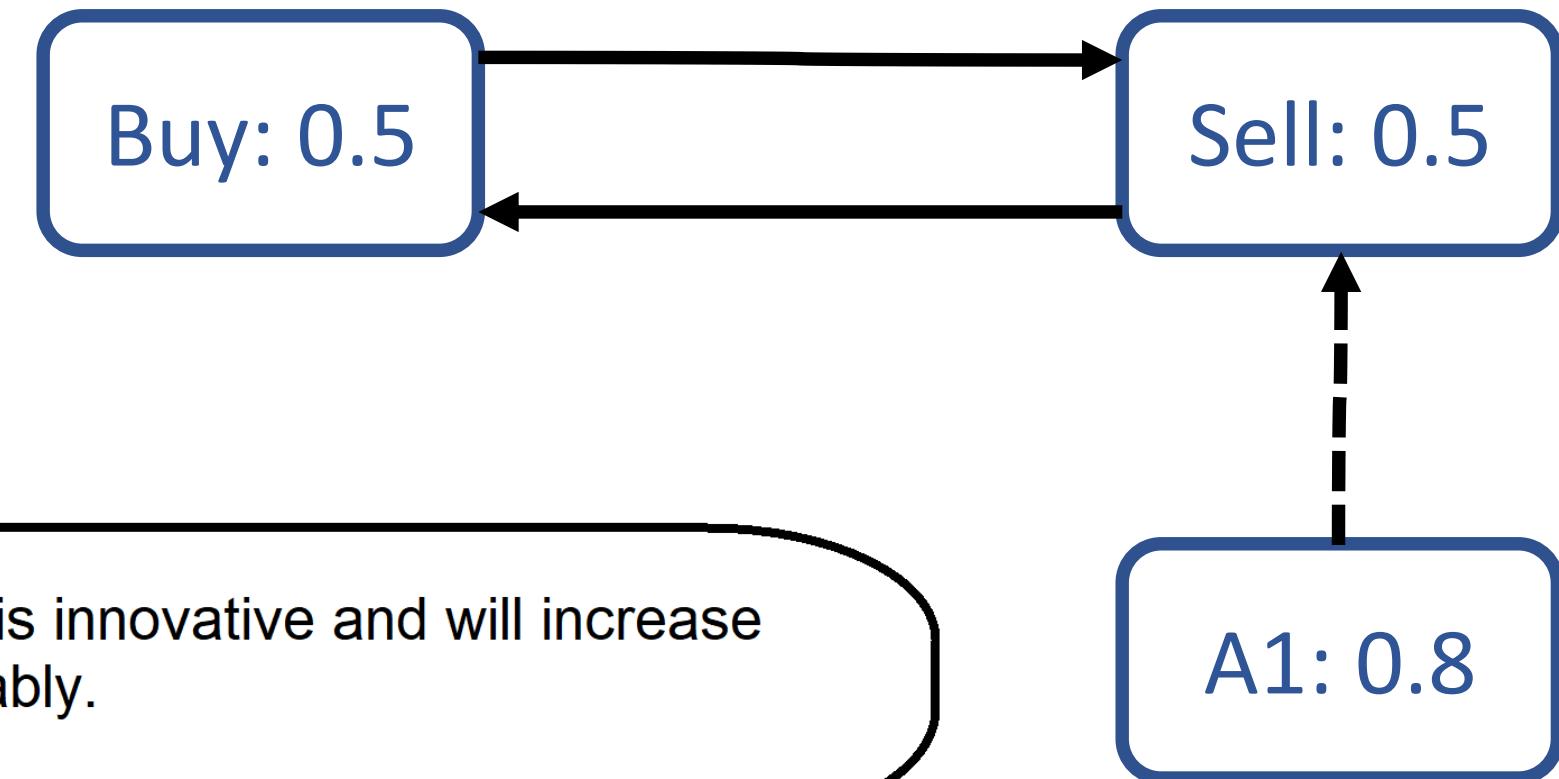
Sell: 0.5

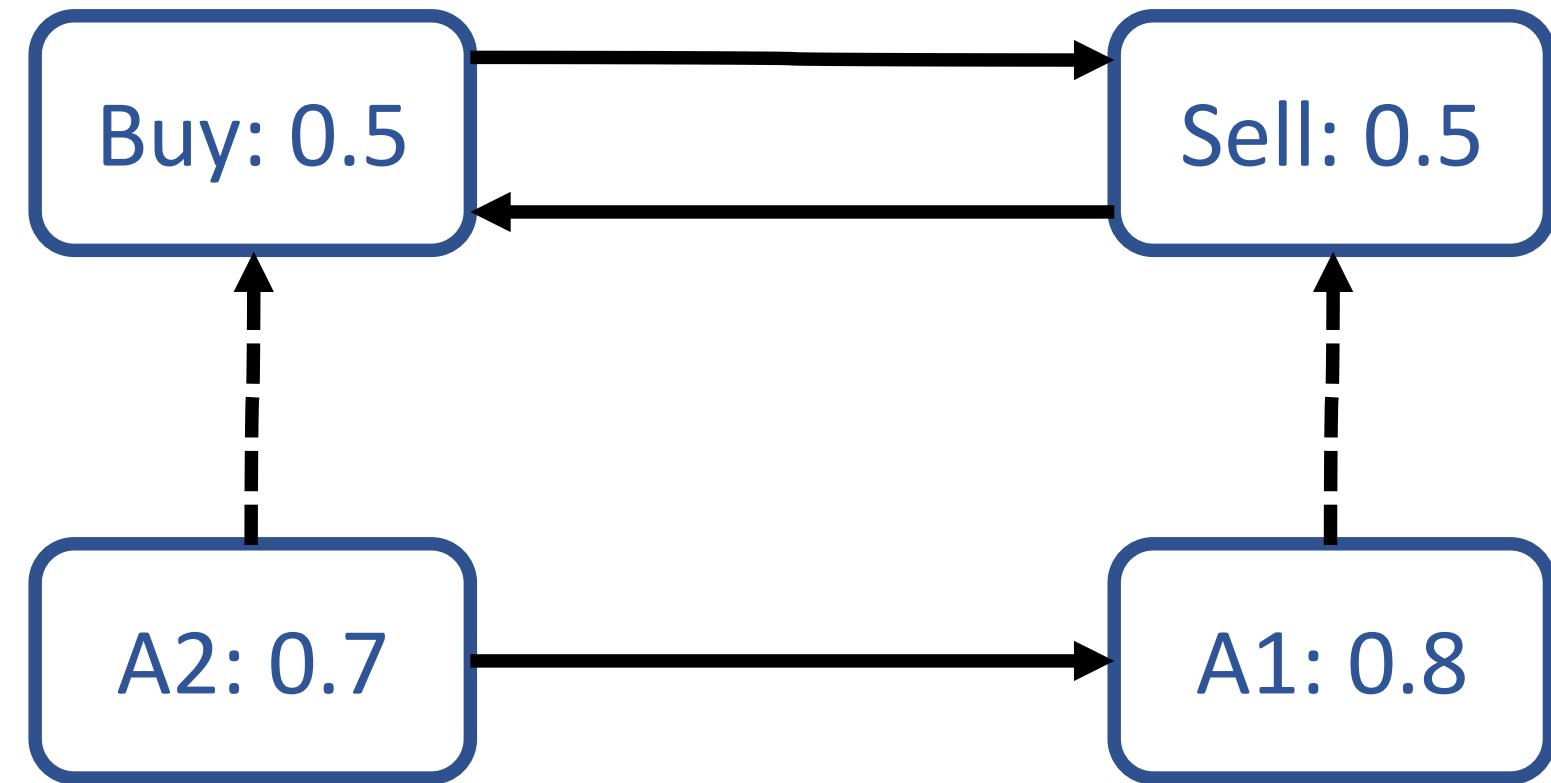


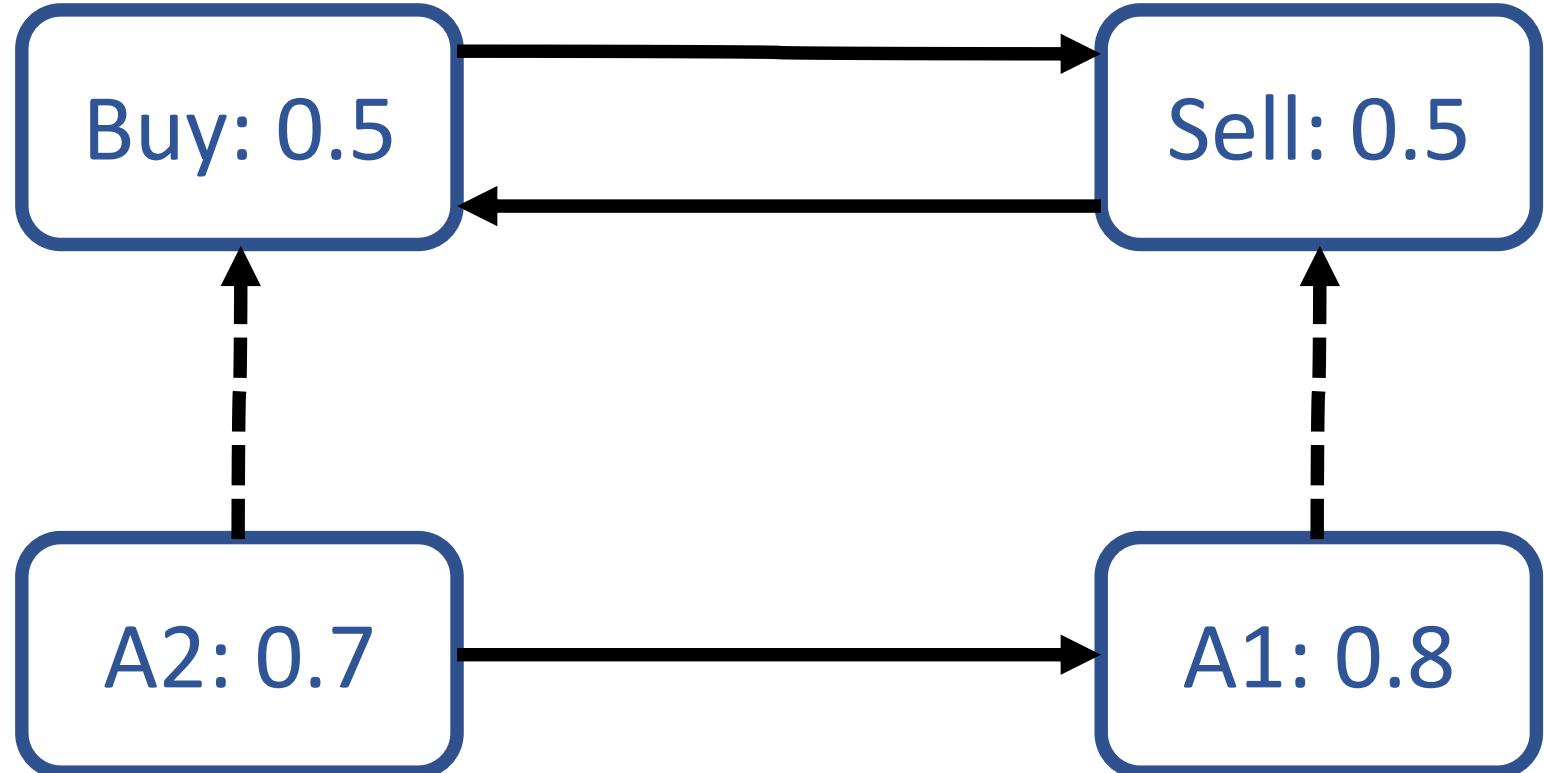


Development of new phone was too expensive.
They will have to cut down R&D and will not stay competitive in future.

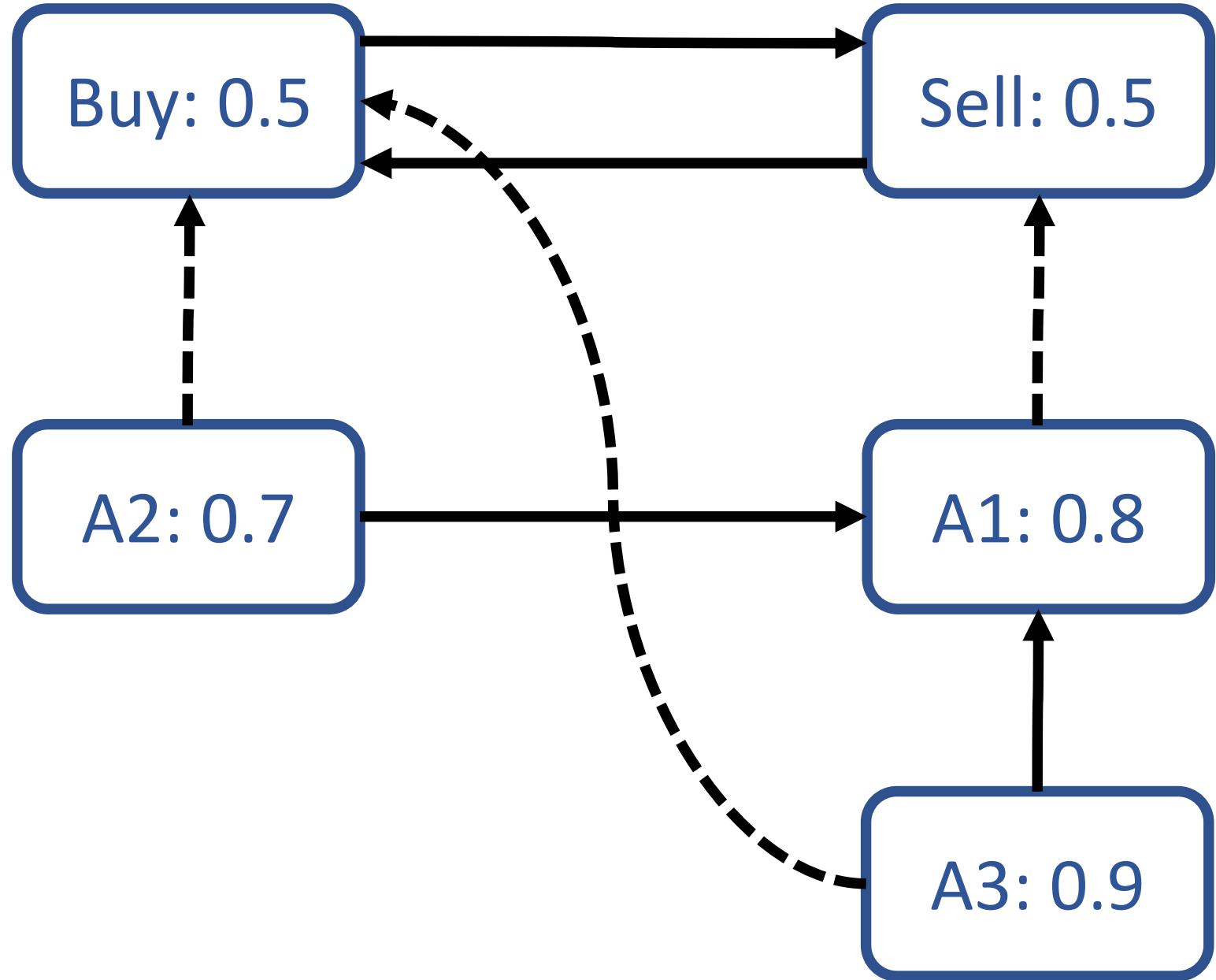






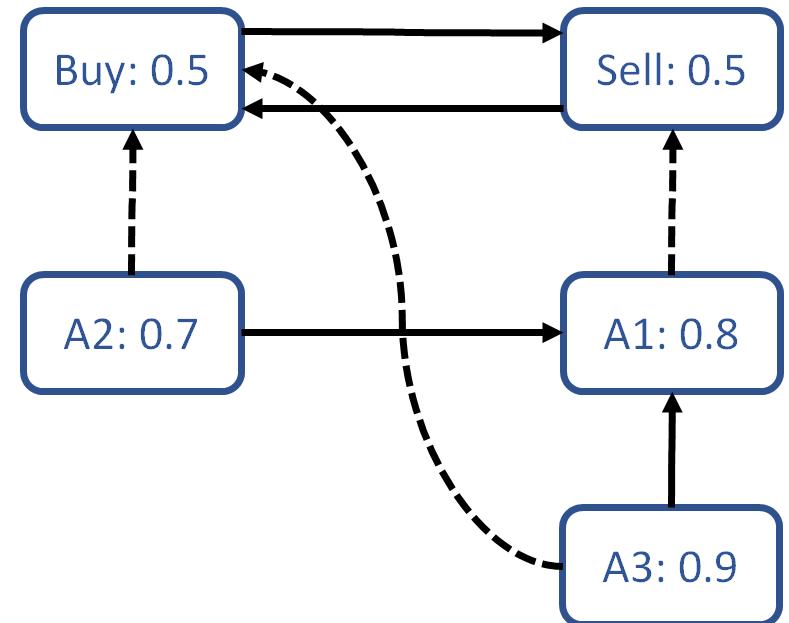


Investment in R&D is far beyond competitors' investment.
Company is likely to become market leader.



Weighted Bipolar Argumentation Graph (BAG)

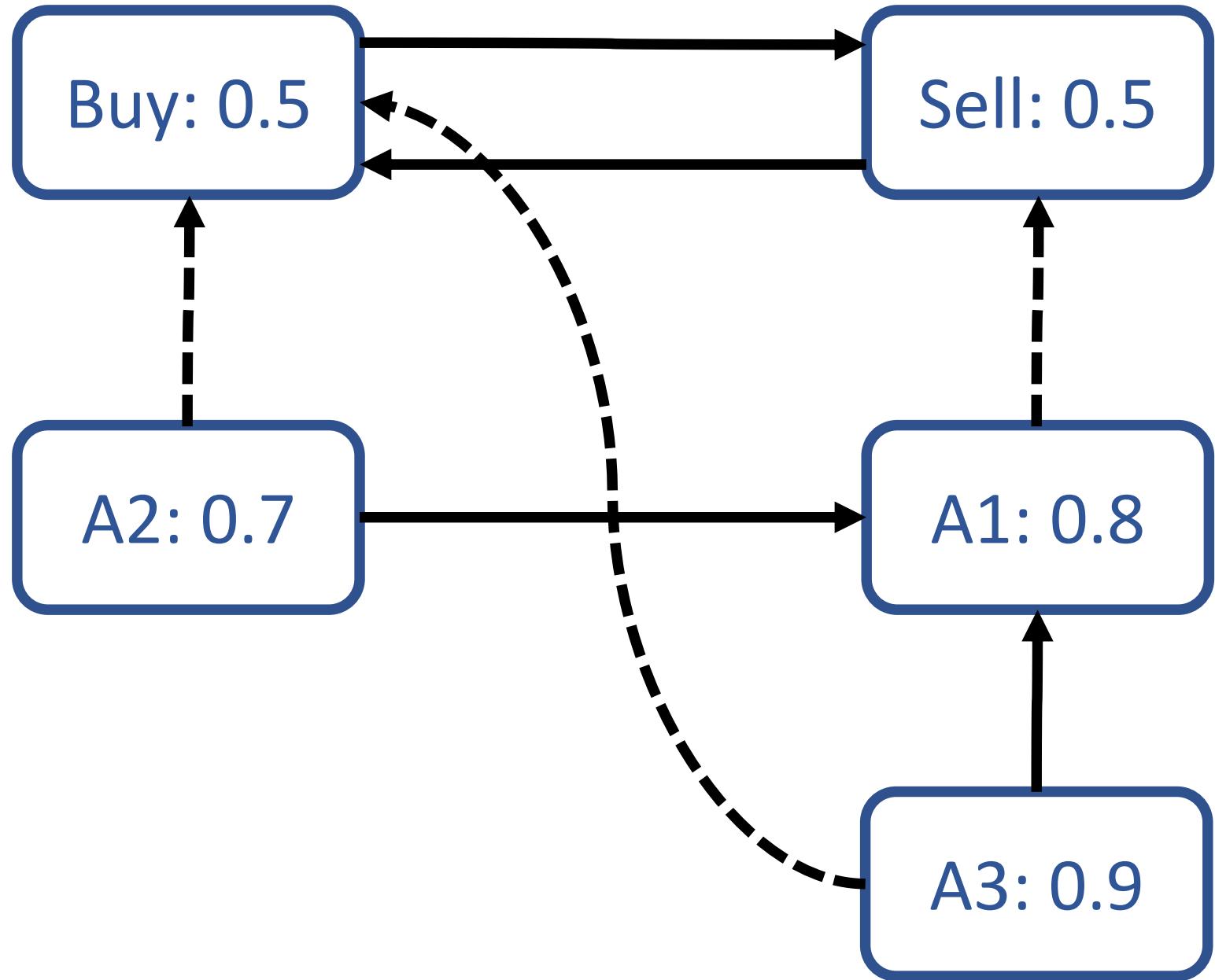
- Set of arguments
- Initial weights
- Attack and support relation

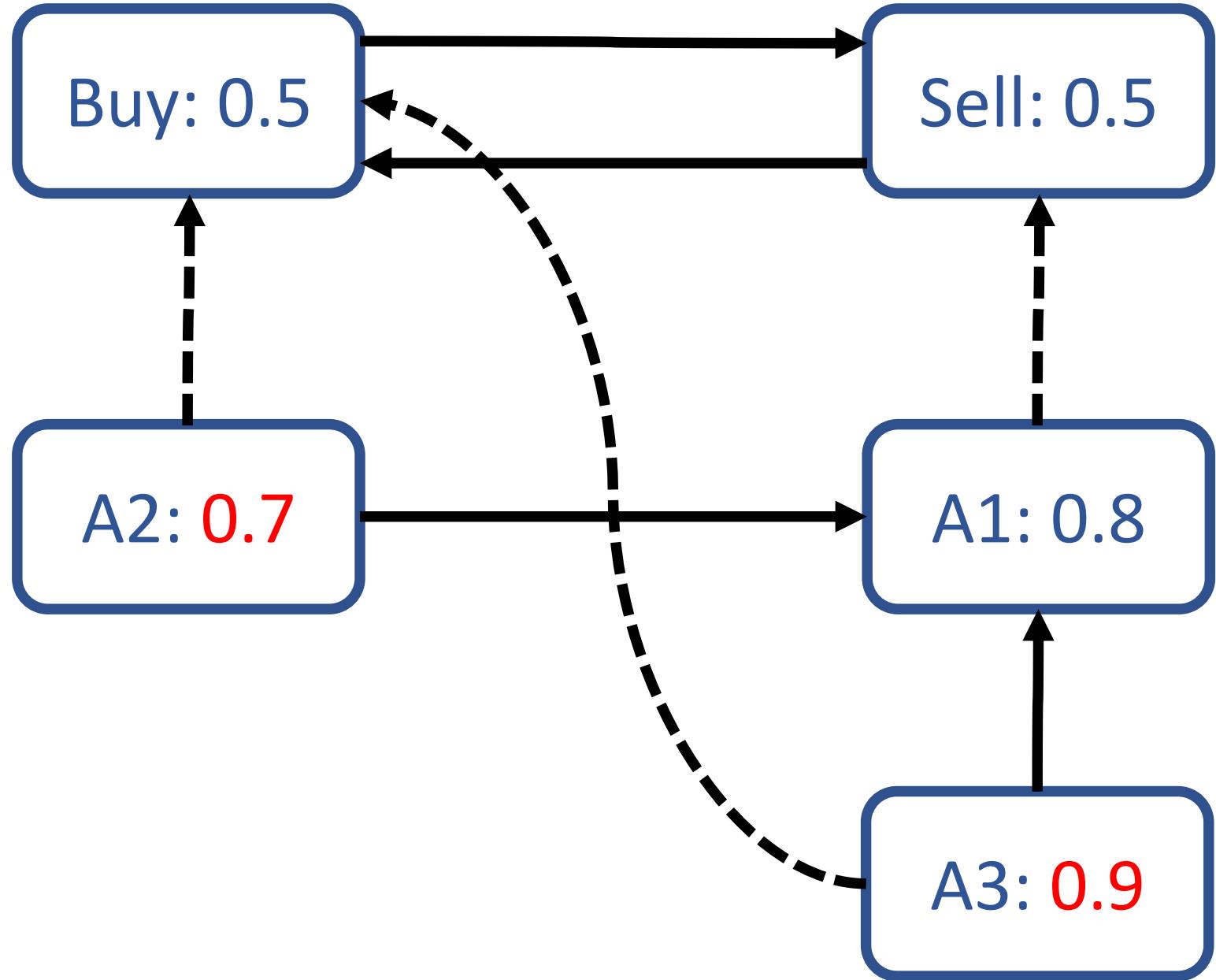


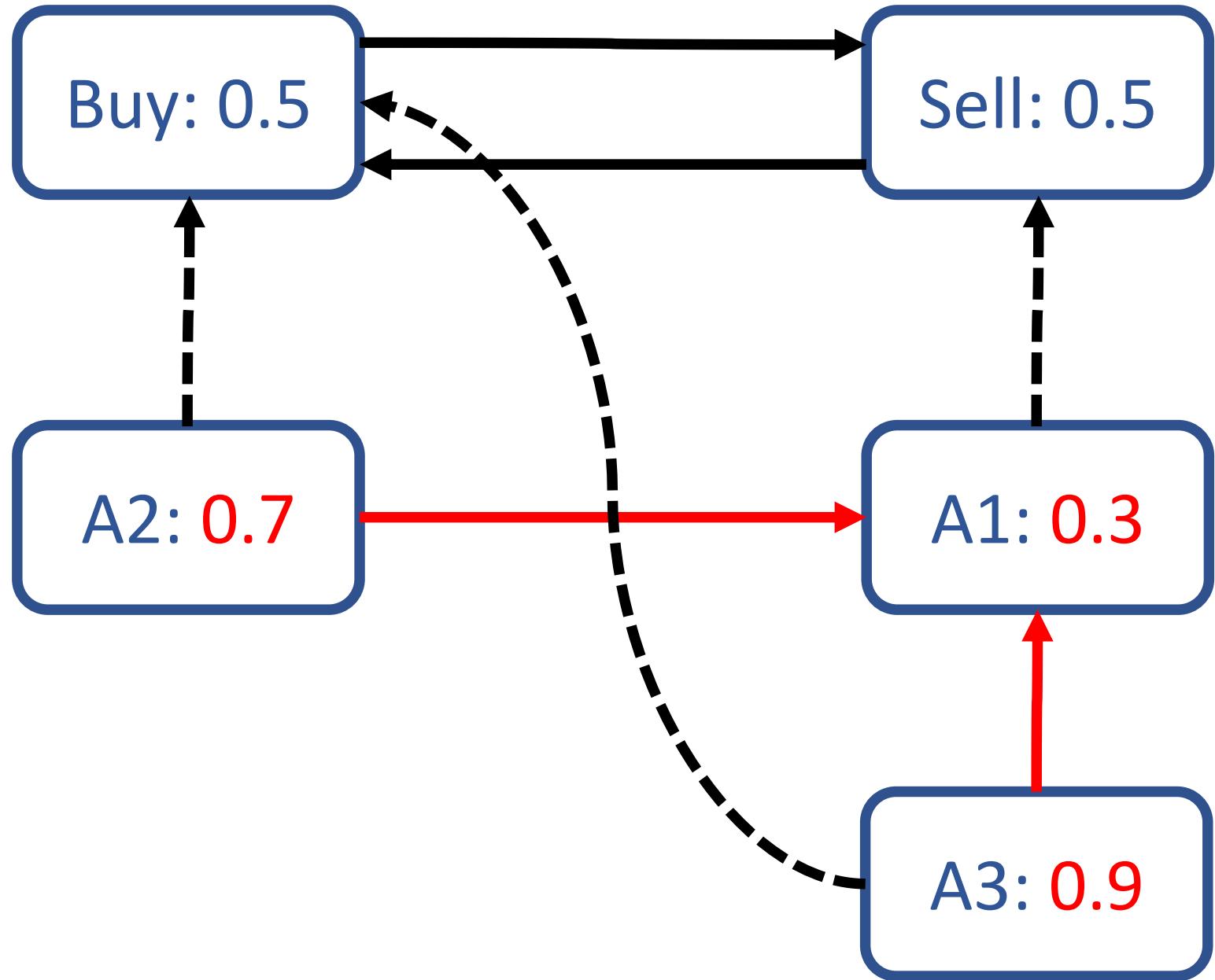
Semantics: define final strength of arguments based on

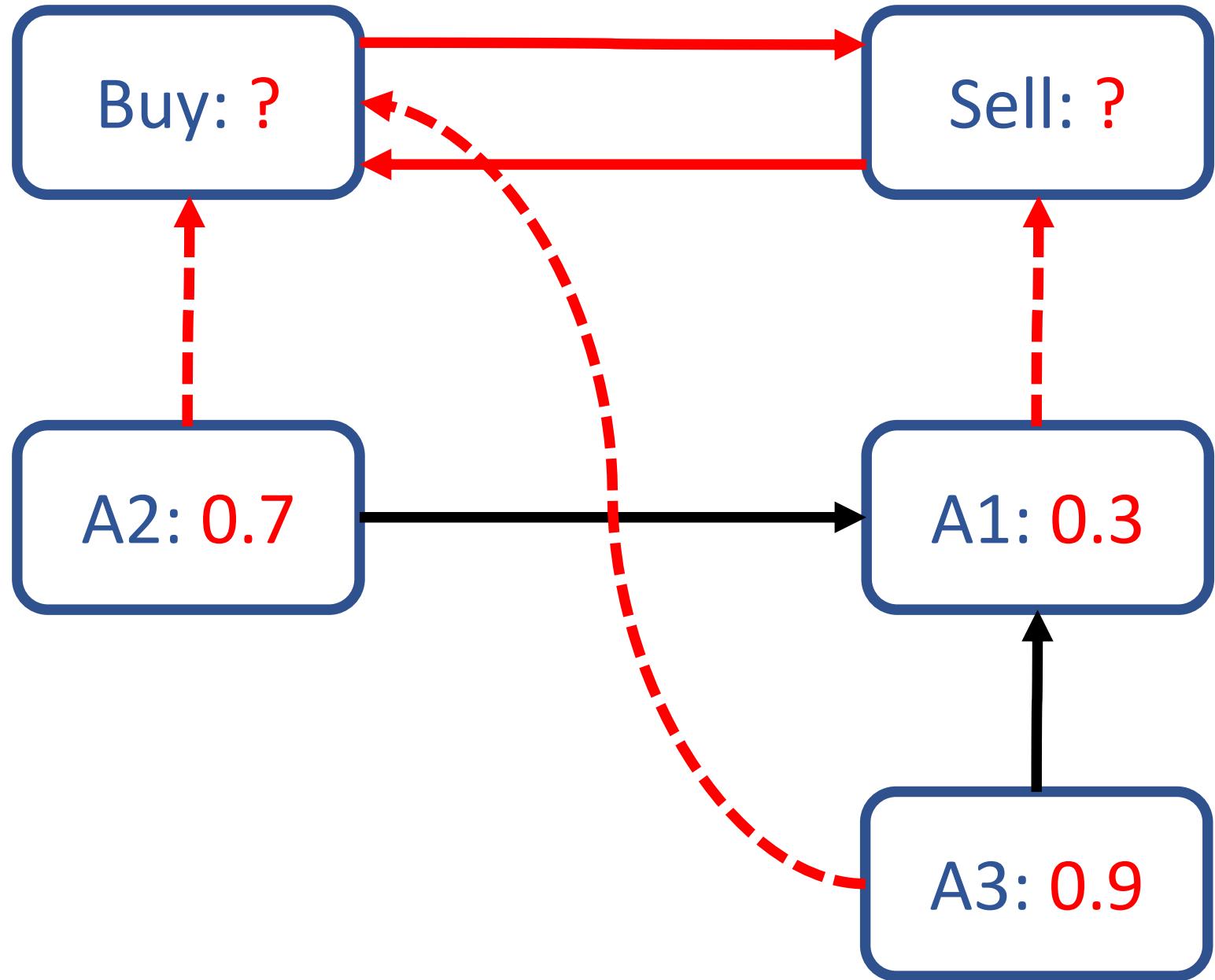
- Initial weights and
- Strength of parents

$$s(i) = f(w(i), \text{Parents}(i))$$





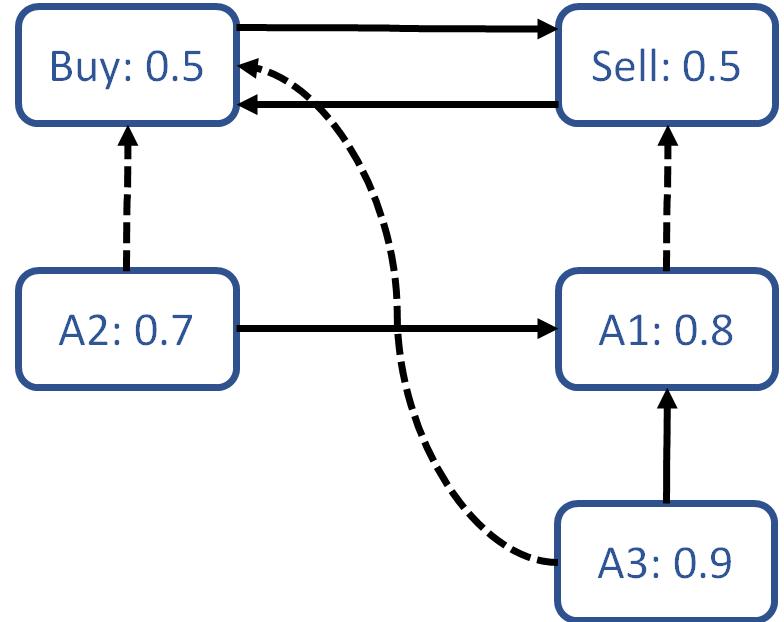




Computing Strength Values in Acyclic BAGs

- Compute topological ordering
- Evaluate arguments in order

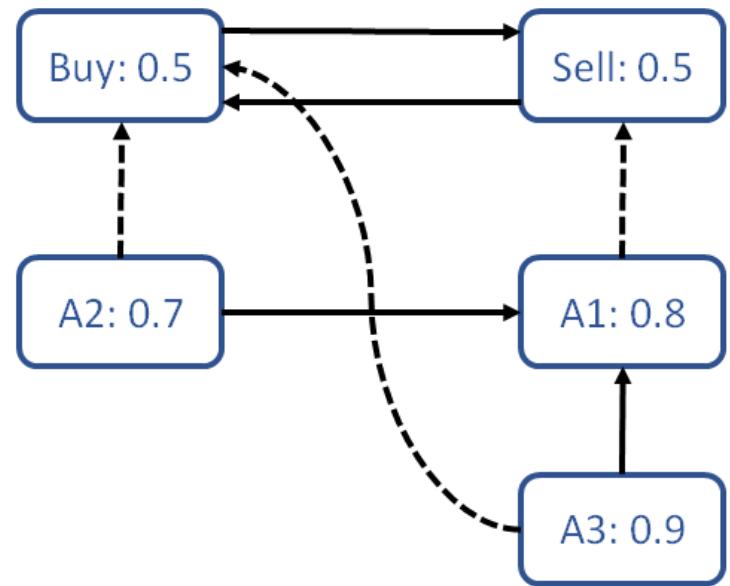
$$s(i) = f(w(i), \text{Parents}(i))$$



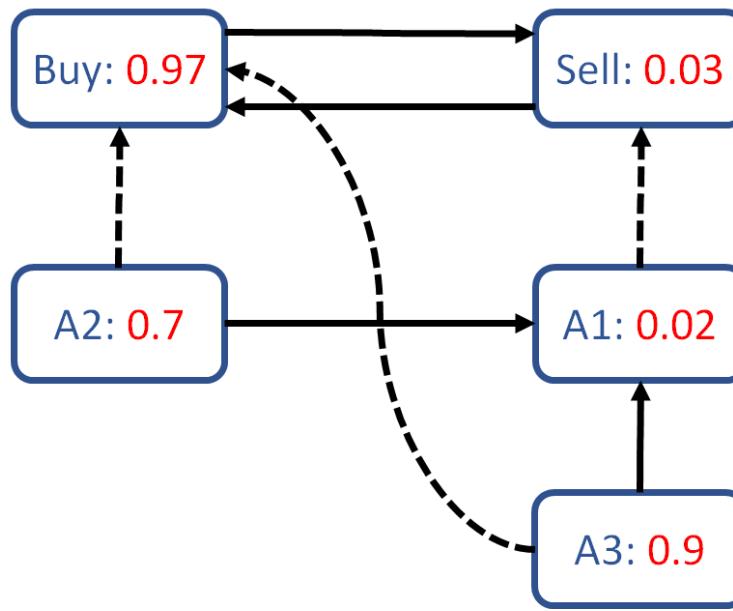
Computing Strength Values in Cyclic BAGs

- Set initial strength values to initial weights
- Update by applying update formula to all arguments simultaneously
- Repeat until process converges

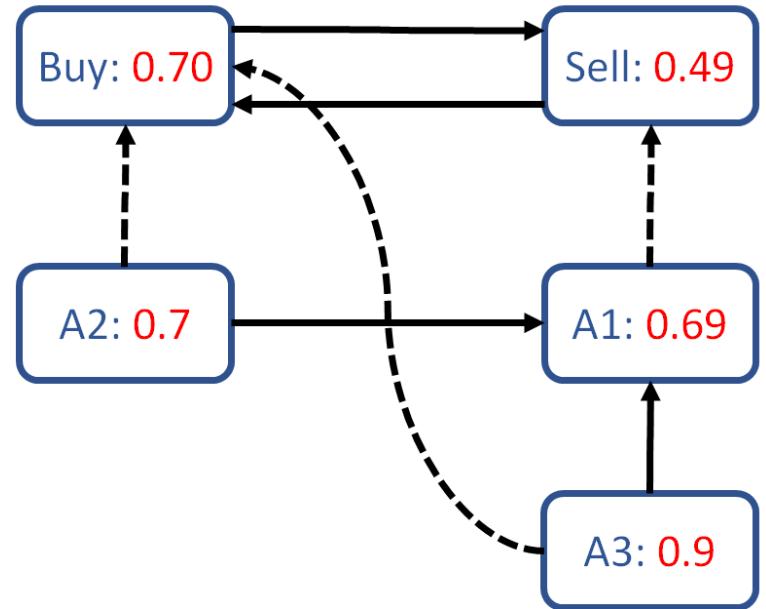
Initial Weights



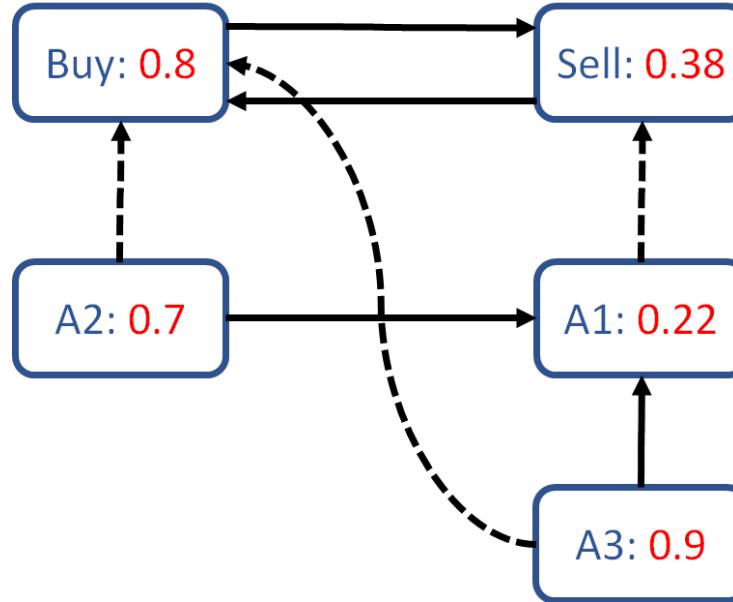
DF-QuAD

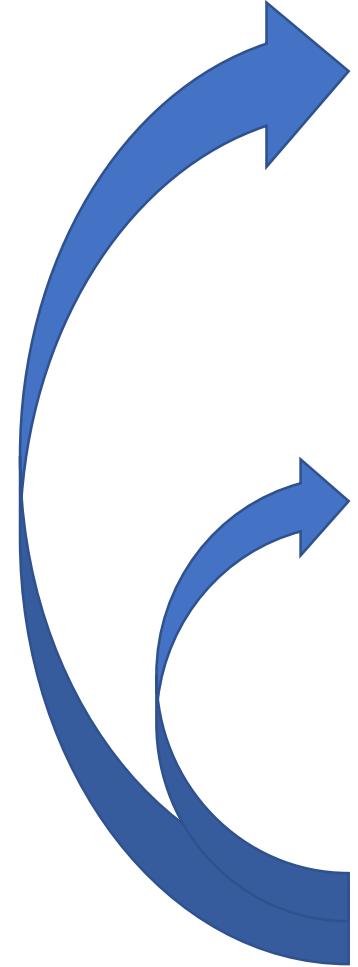


Euler- based



Quadratic Energy





Semantical Questions

- What properties should final strength values satisfy?
- How can we satisfy these properties?



Computational Questions

- Does update process converge in cyclic BAGs?
- What is the computational performance/ complexity?

Applications

- Social Media Analysis
- Decision Support
- Explainable AI

Application Examples

Computational Questions

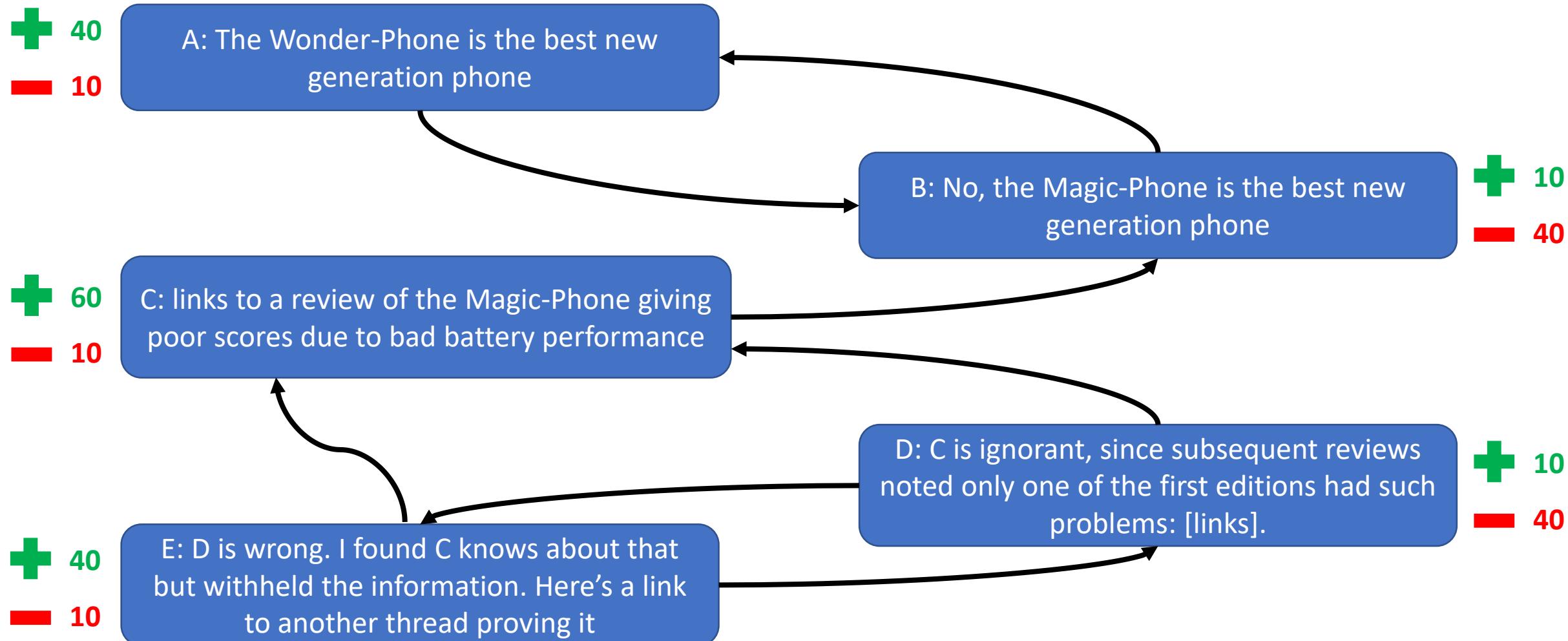
Introduction

Semantical Questions

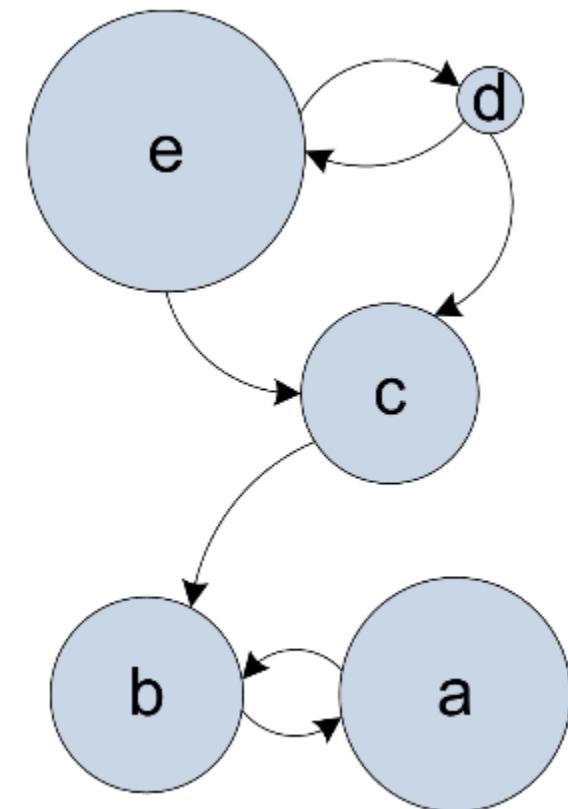
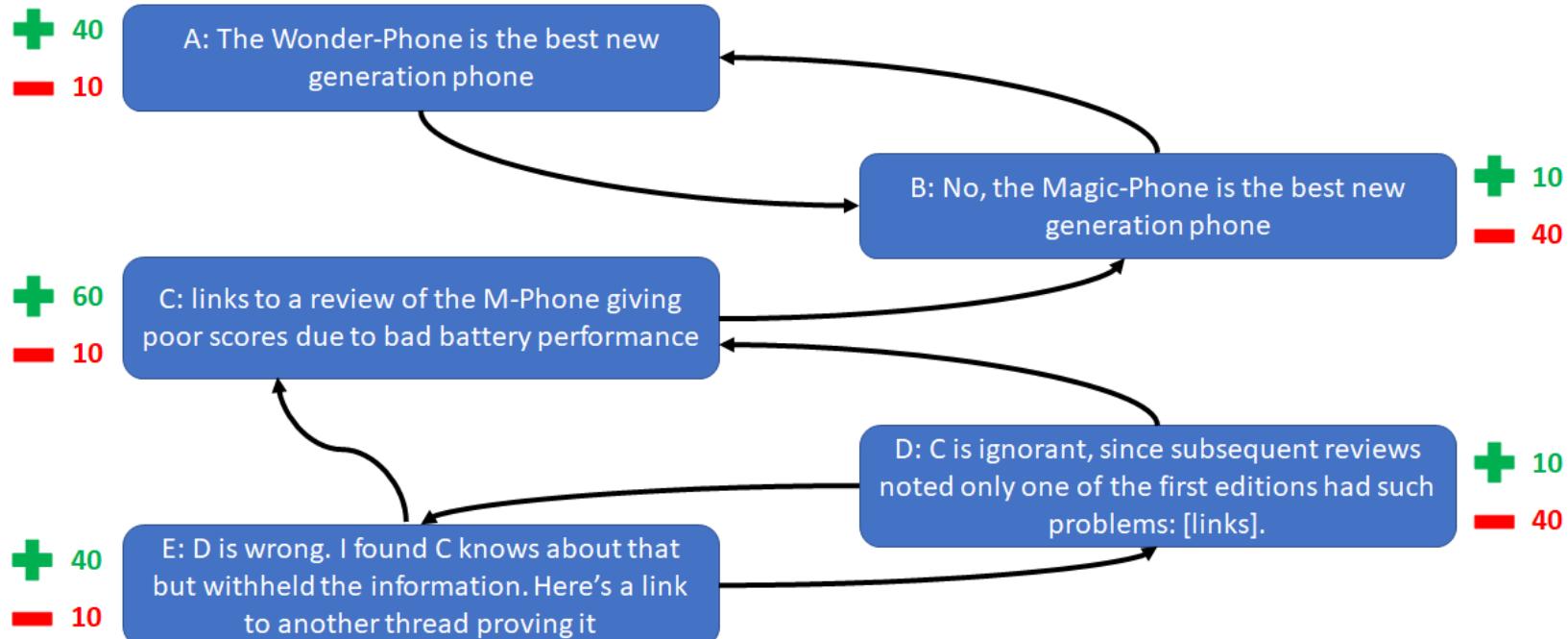
Attractor



Social Media Analysis (Leite & Martins 2011)



Social Media Analysis (Leite & Martins 2011)

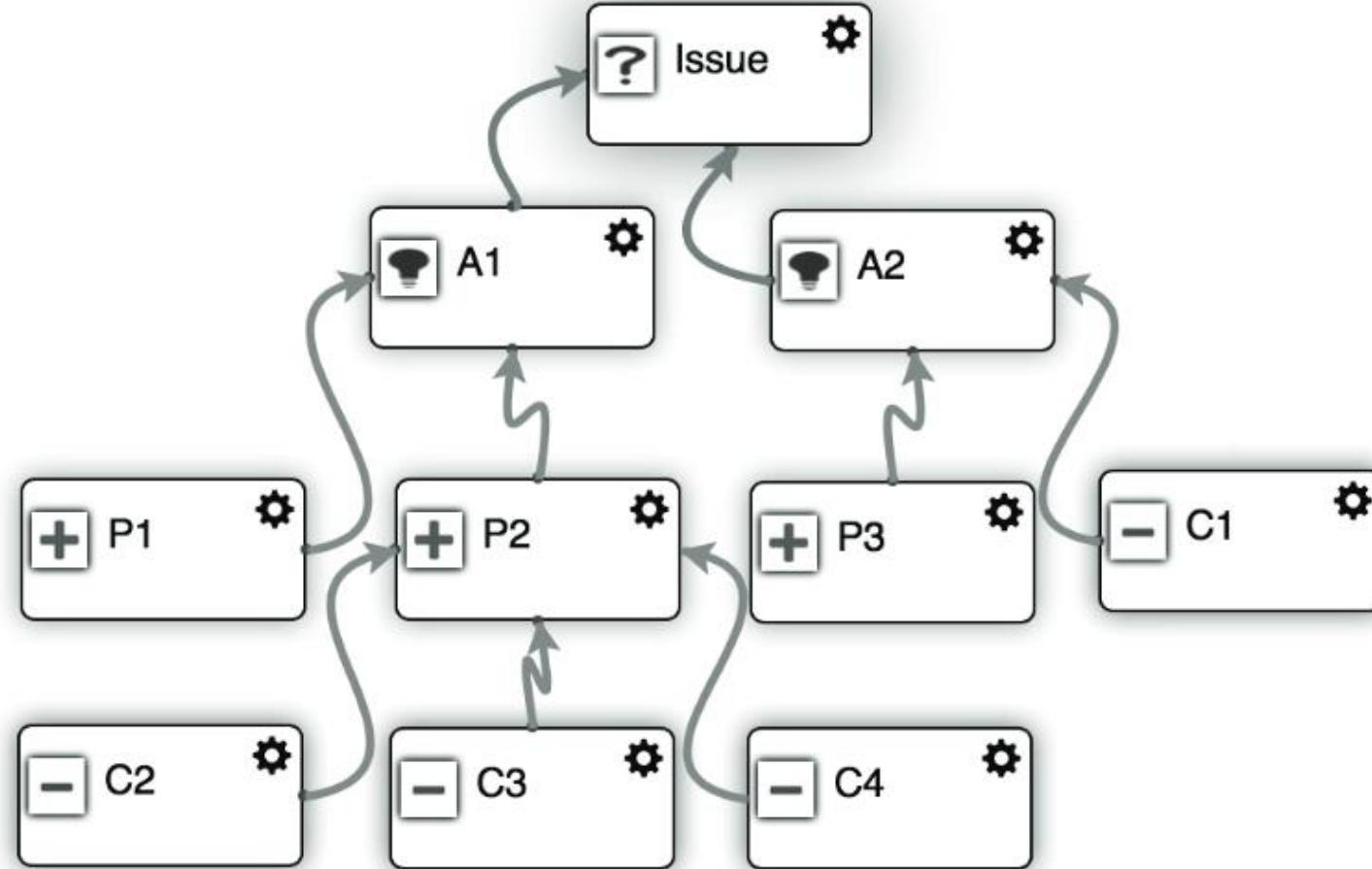


Decision Support (Rago et al. 2016)

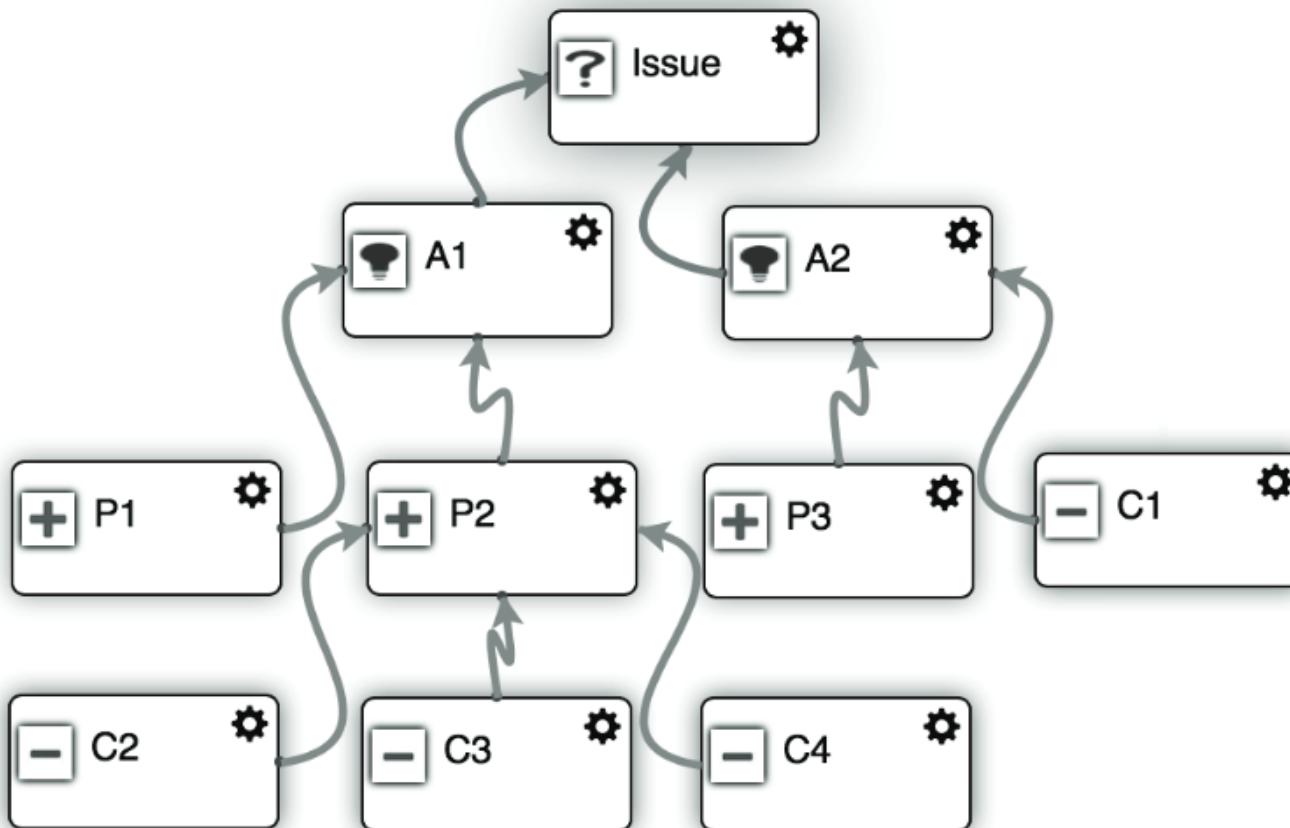
Issue

Alternatives

Pro and Con
Arguments



Decision Support (Rago et al. 2016)



Issue: How to spend council's budget?

A1: Build a new cycle path.

A2: Repair current infrastructure.

P1: Cyclists complain of dangerous roads.

P2: A path would enhance the council's green image.

P3: Potholes have caused several accidents recently.

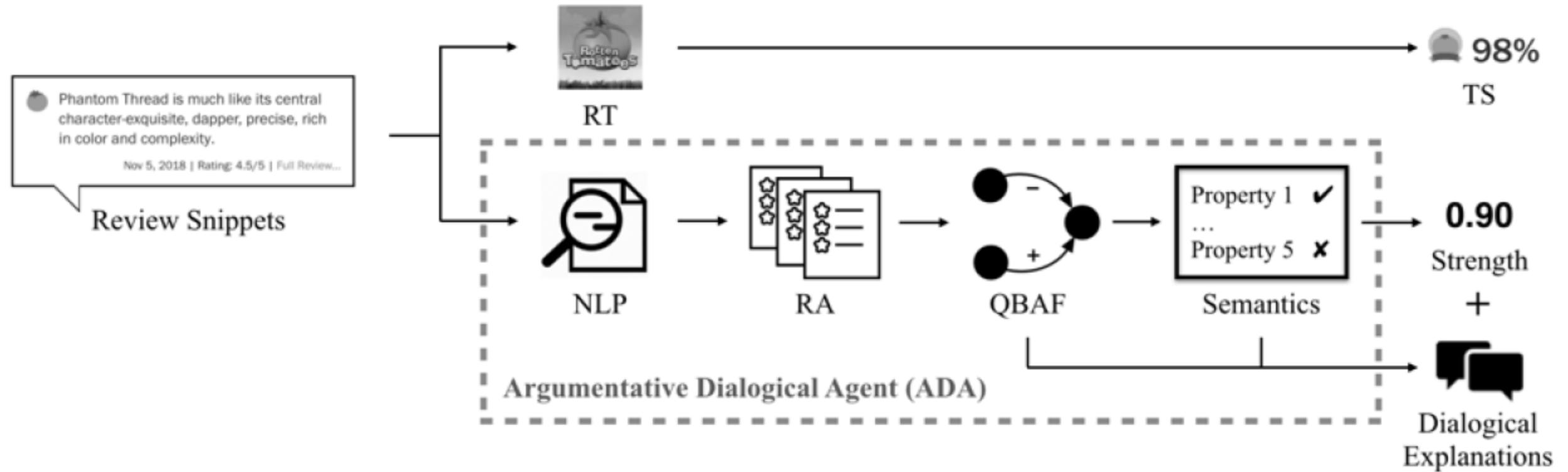
C1: Significant disruptions to traffic would occur.

C2: Environmentalists are a fraction of the population.

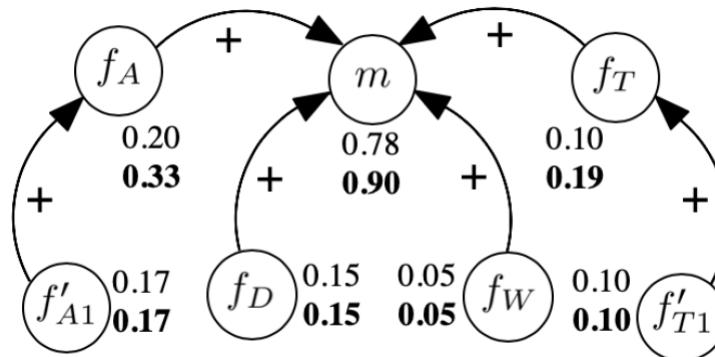
C3: Recent policies already enhance this green image.

C4: Donors do not see the environment as a priority.

Explainable Review Aggregation (Cocarascu et al. 2019)



Explainable Review Aggregation (Cocarascu et al. 2019)



user: Why was *Phantom Thread* highly rated?

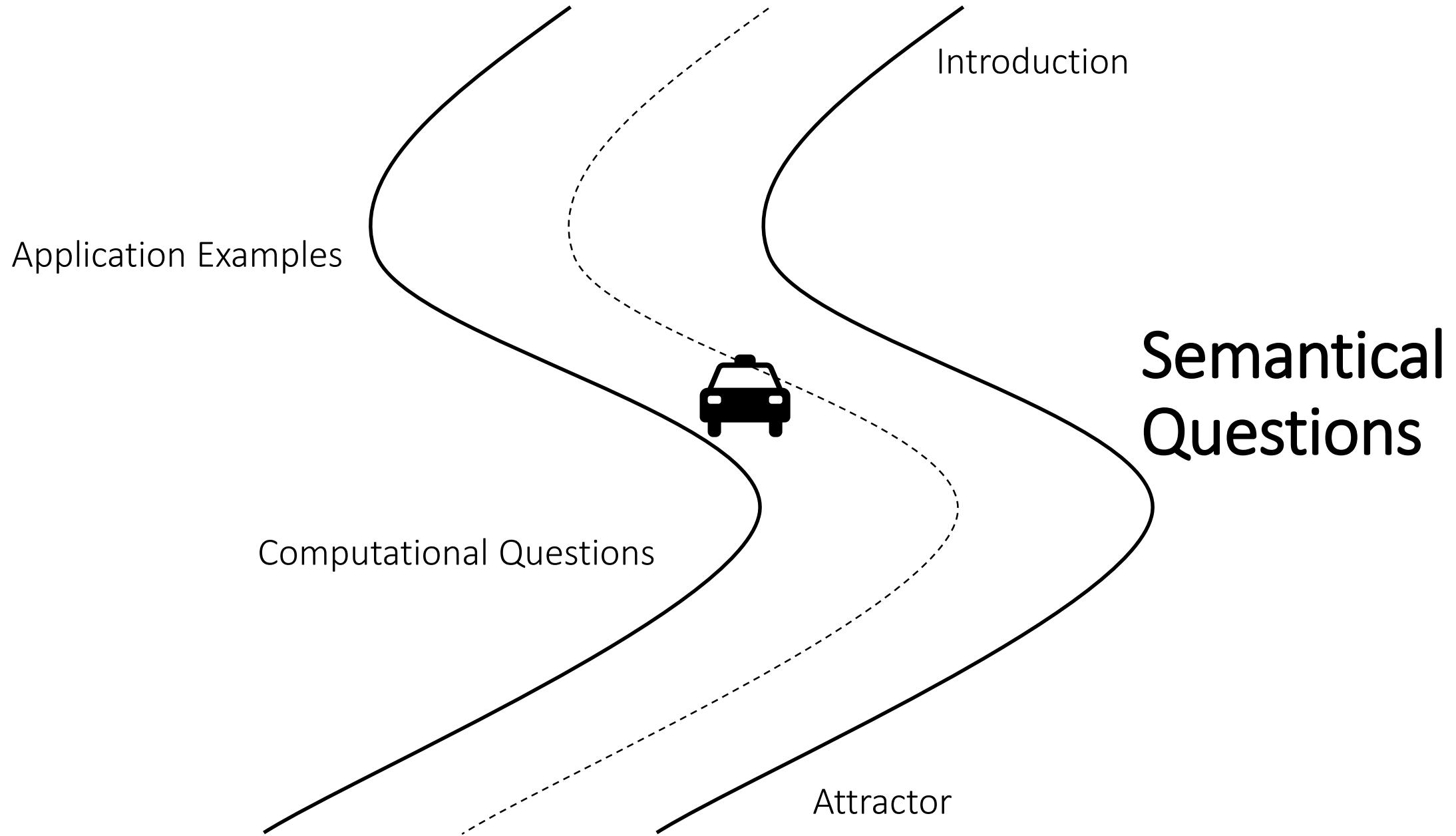
ADA: This movie was highly rated because the acting was great.

user: Why was the acting considered to be great?

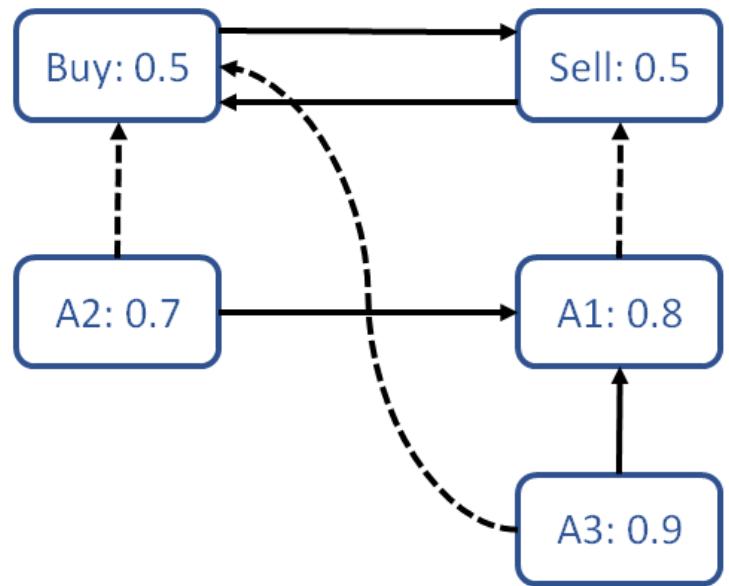
ADA: The acting was considered to be great because Daniel Day-Lewis was great.

user: What did critics say about Daniel Day-Lewis being great?

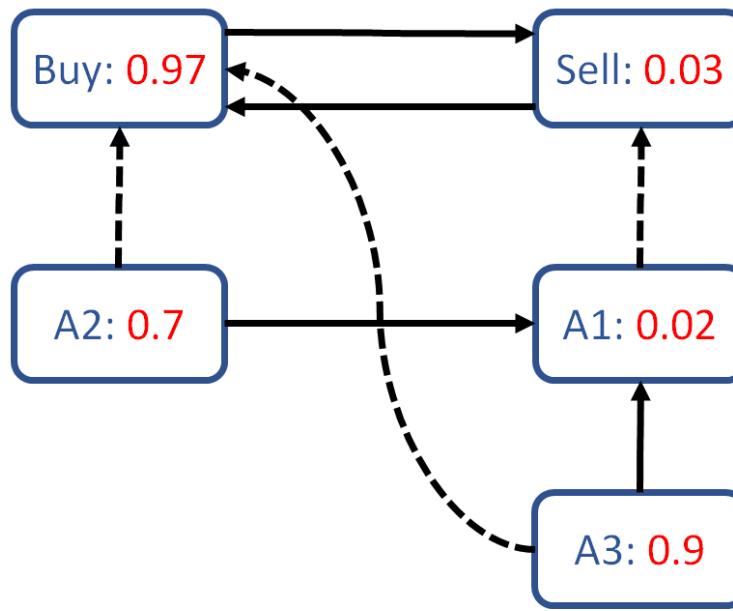
ADA: "...Daniel Day-Lewis remains our greatest actor..."



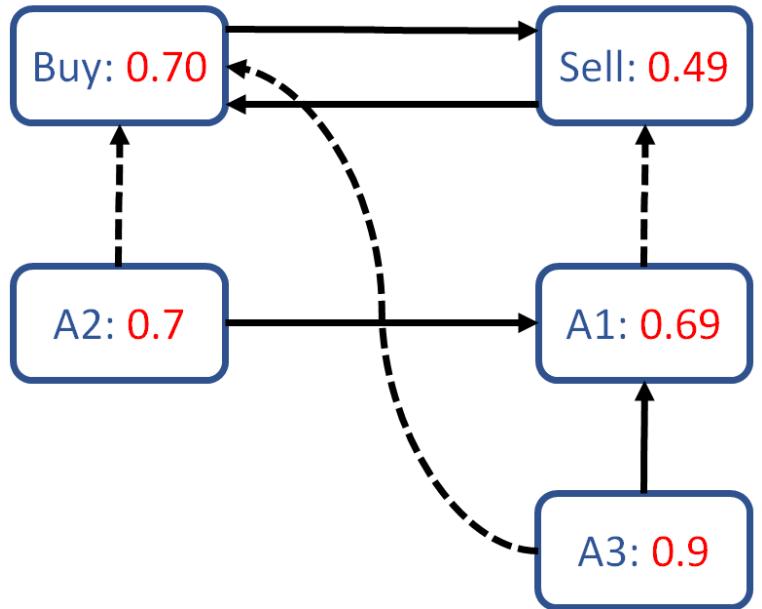
Initial Weights



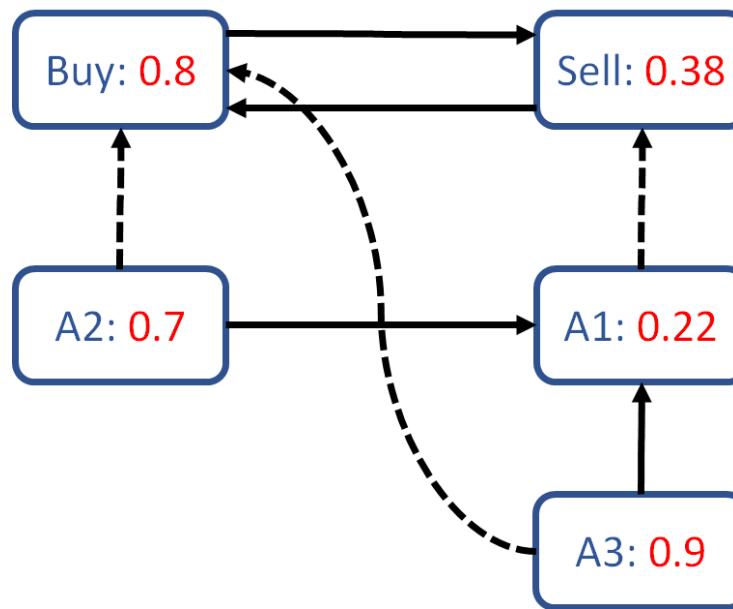
DF-QuAD



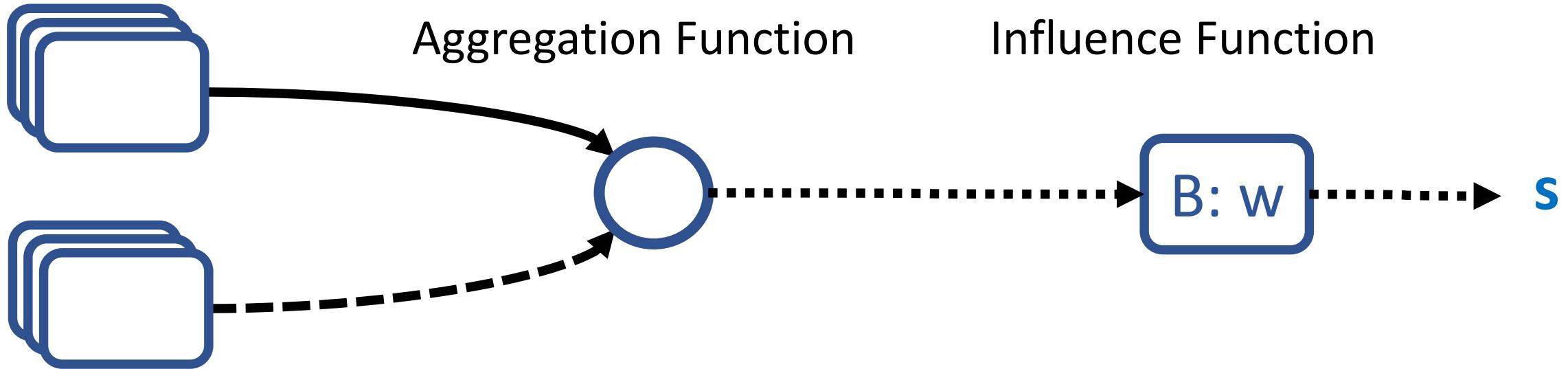
Euler- based



Quadratic
Energy



Modular Semantics (Mossakowski, Neuhaus 2018)



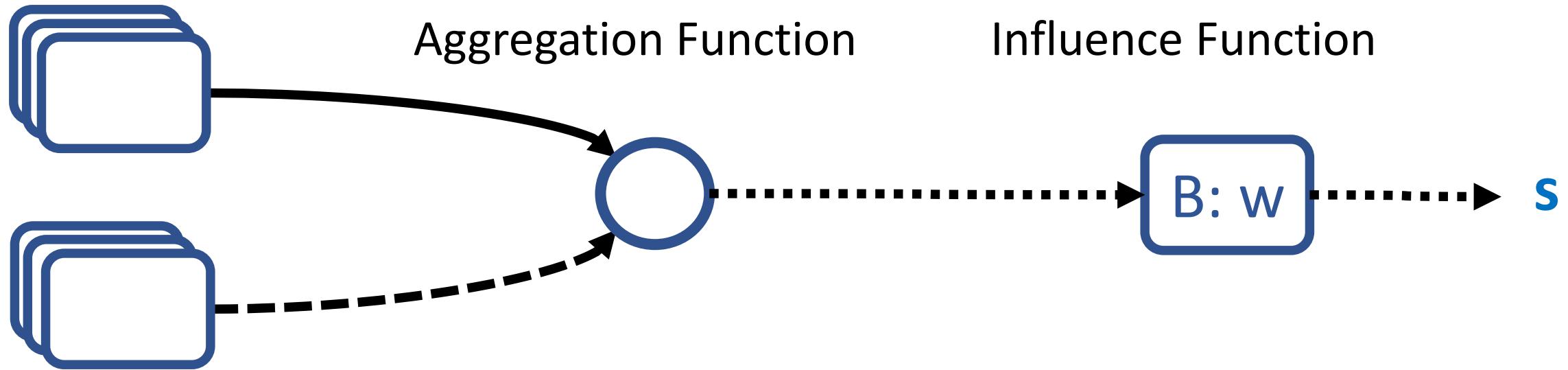
- Similar ideas have been considered before
 - Local Gradual Valuations (Amgoud et al. 2008)
 - Semantic Frameworks (Leite, Martins 2011)

Mossakowski, T., & Neuhaus, F.. Modular semantics and characteristics for bipolar weighted argumentation graphs. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1807.06685*. 2018.

Amgoud, L., Cayrol, C., Lagasquie-Schiex, M. C., & Livet, P. On bipolarity in argumentation frameworks. *International Journal of Intelligent Systems*, 23(10), 1062-1093. 2008.

Leite, J., & Martins, J. Social abstract argumentation. In *Twenty-Second International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2011)*. 2011.

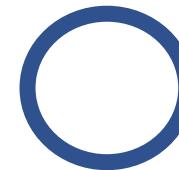
DF-QuAD (*Rago et al. 2016*)



- *Aggregation:* $a = \prod_{i \in Att(B)} (1 - s_i) - \prod_{i \in Sup(B)} (1 - s_i)$
- *Influence:* $s = \begin{cases} w + w \times a & \text{if } a < 0 \\ w + (1 - w) \times a & \text{else} \end{cases}$

Some Special Cases: No Parents

Aggregation Function



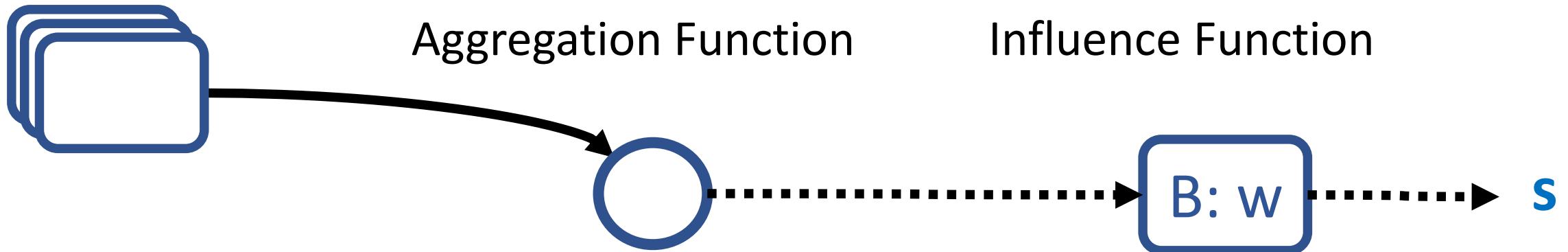
Influence Function



s

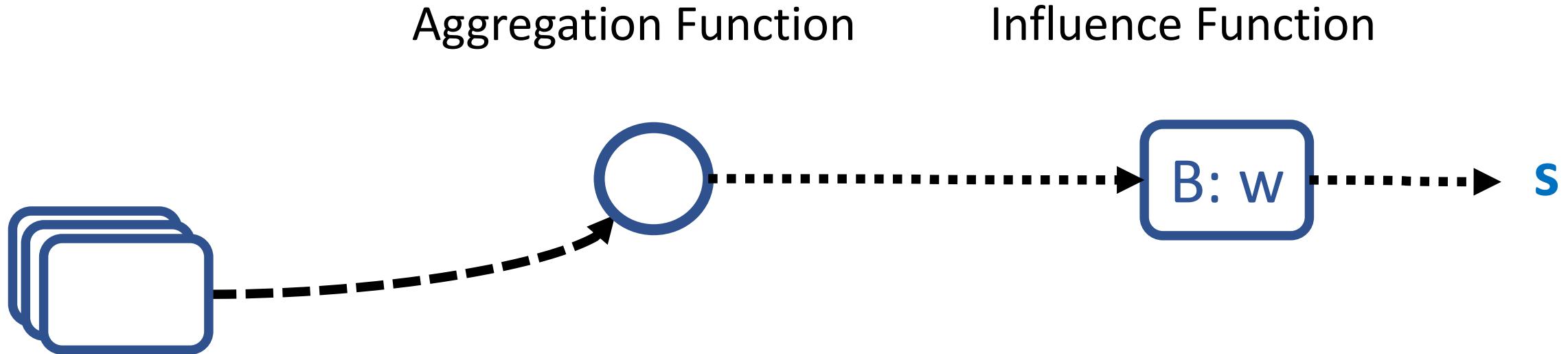
- *Aggregation:* $a = 1 - 1 = 0$
- *Influence:* $s = w$

Some Special Cases: No Supporters

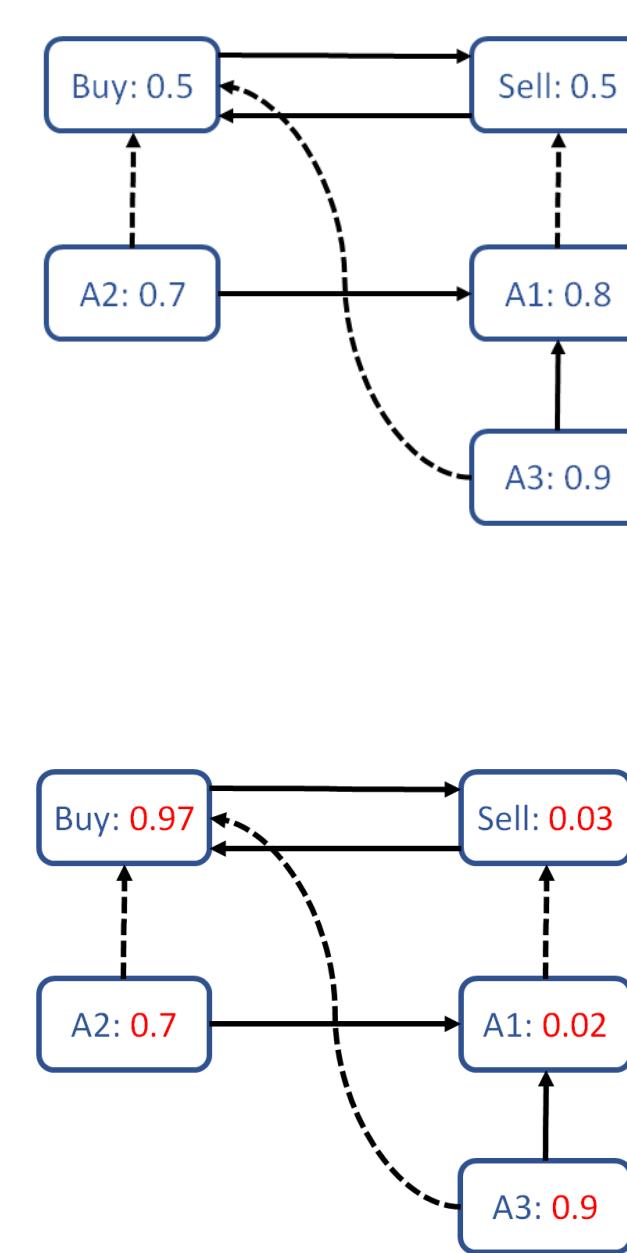
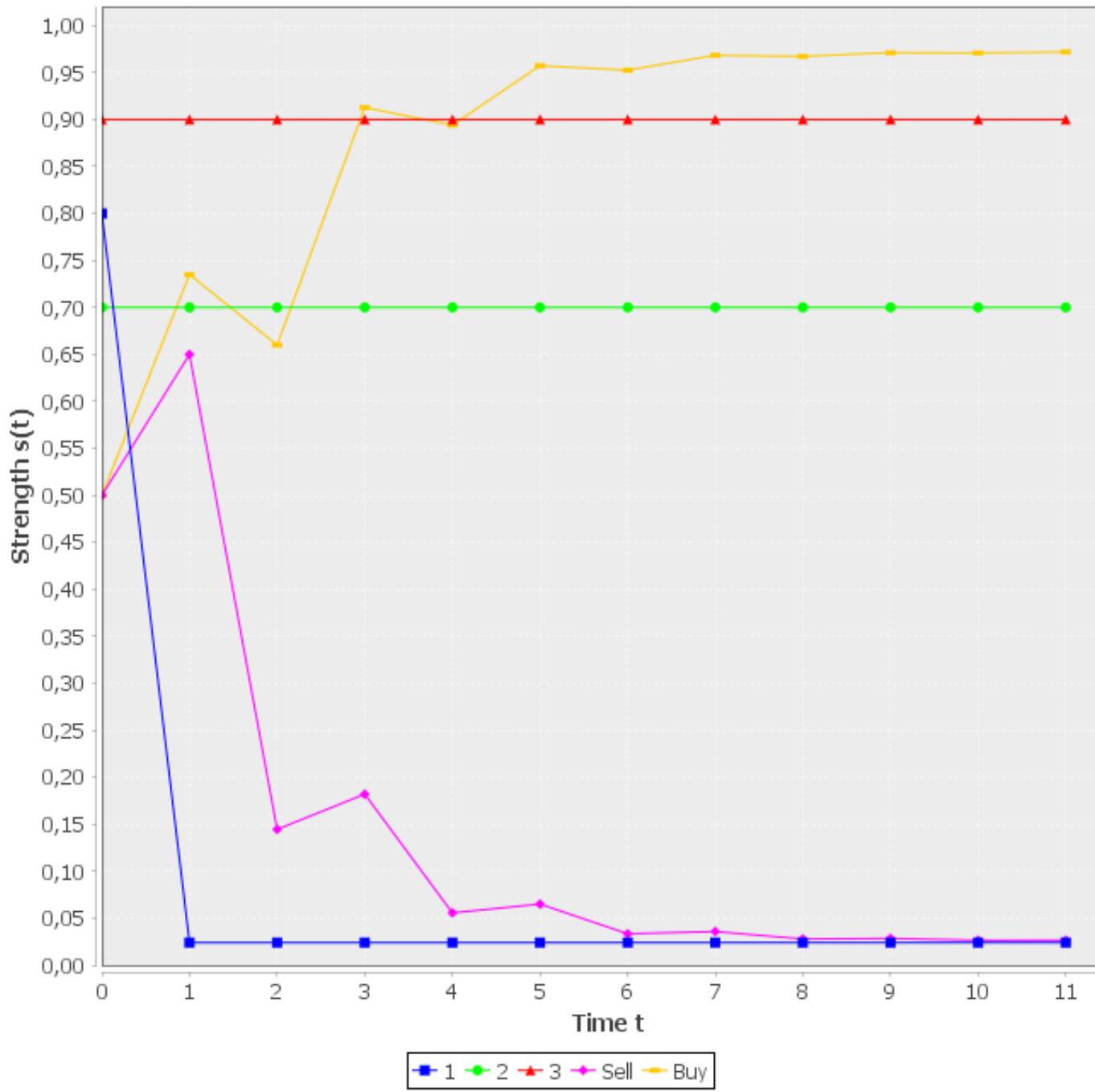


- *Aggregation:* $a = \prod_{i \in Att(B)} (1 - s_i) - 1 \leq 0$
- *Influence:* $s = w + w \times a \leq w$

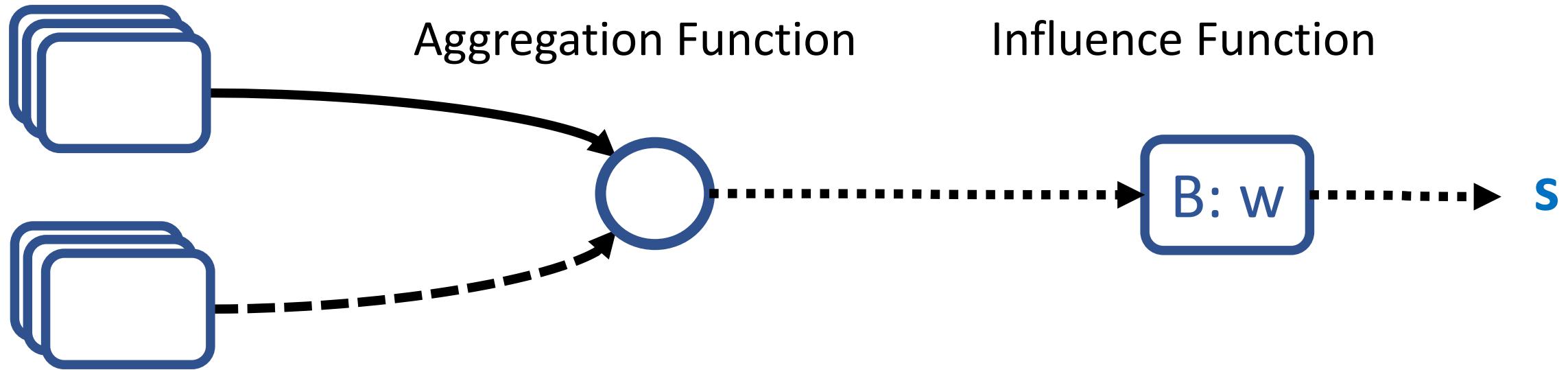
Some Special Cases: No Attackers



- *Aggregation:* $a = 1 - \prod_{i \in \text{sup}(B)} (1 - s_i) \geq 0$
- *Influence:* $s = w + (1 - w) \times a \geq w$

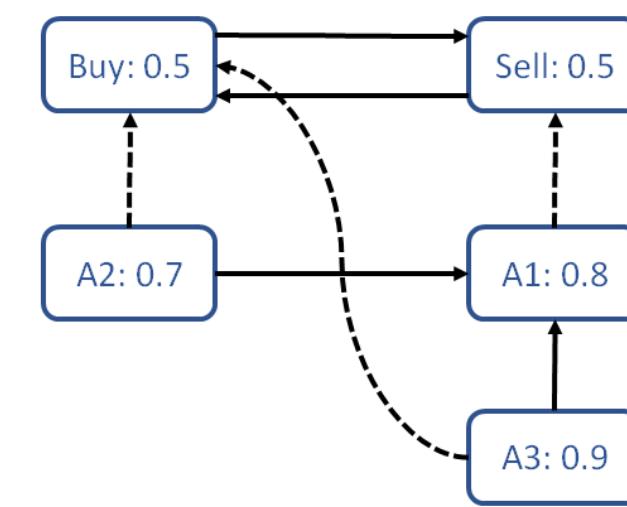
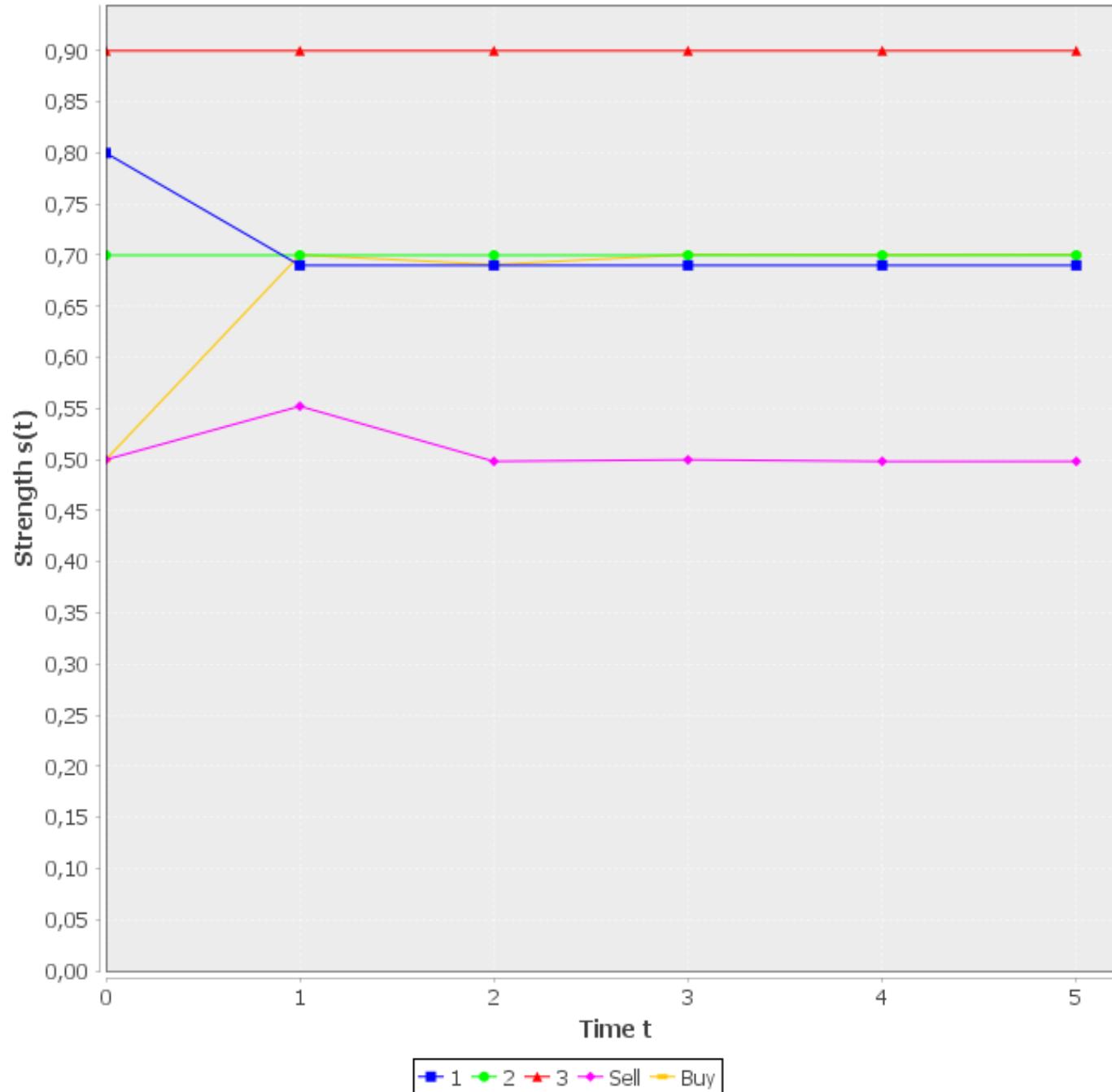


Euler-based Semantics (Amgoud, Ben-Naim 2017)

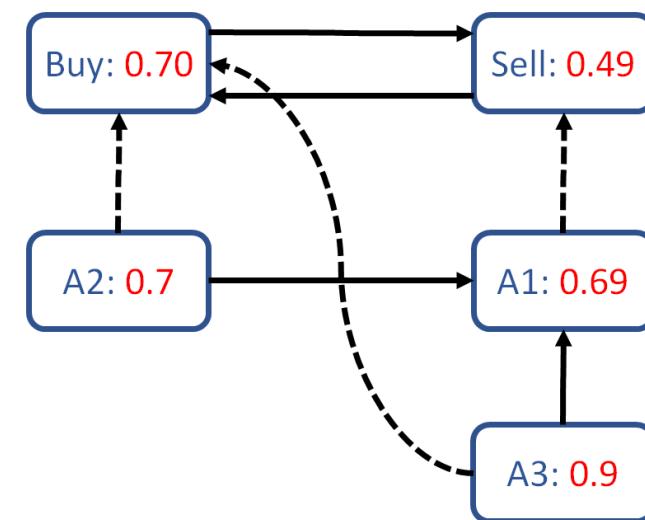


- *Aggregation:* $a = \sum_{i \in Sup(B)} s_i - \sum_{i \in Att(B)} s_i$

- *Influence:* $s = 1 - \frac{1 - w^2}{1 + w \times e^a}$

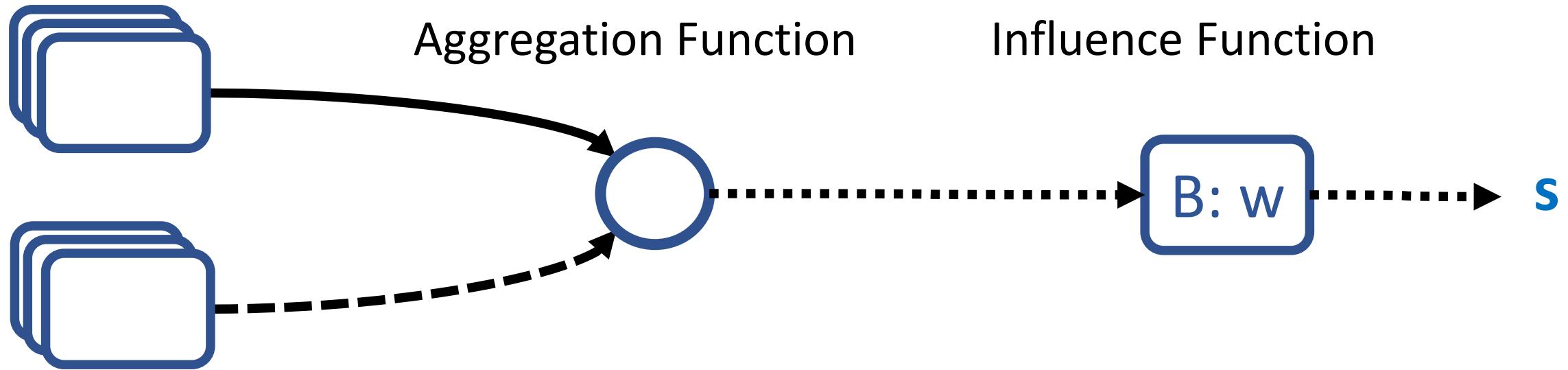


**Initial
Weights**



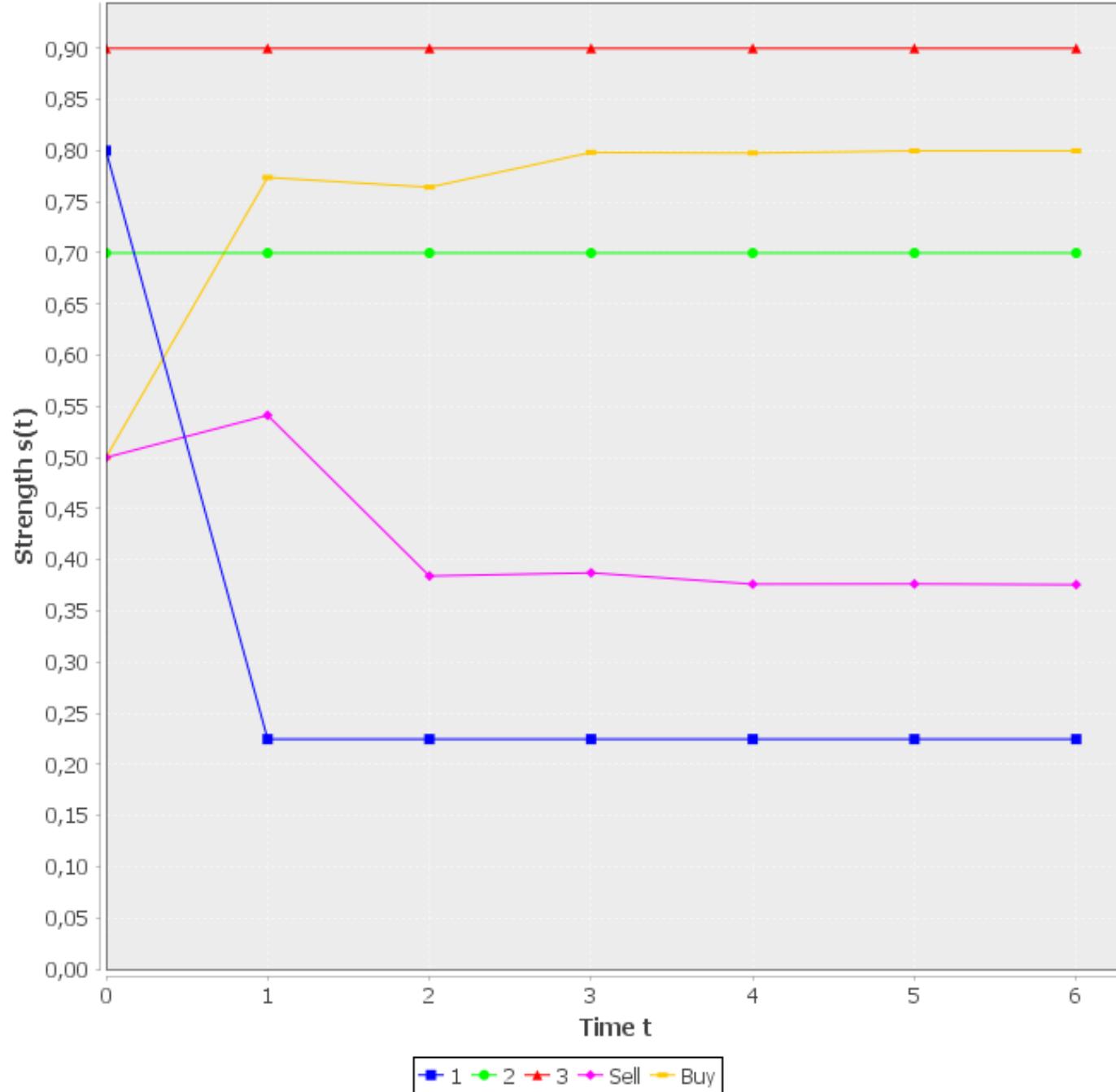
**Euler-
based**

Quadratic-energy Model (KR 2018)

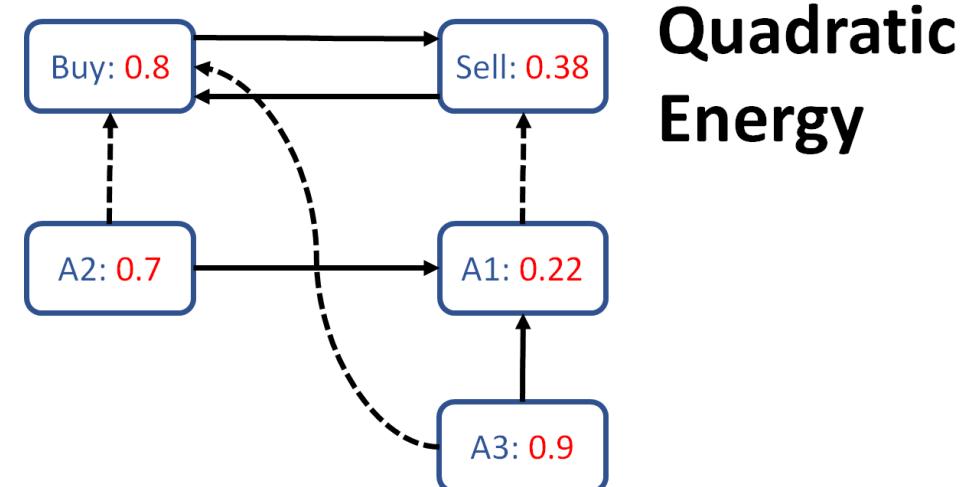


- *Aggregation:* $a = \sum_{i \in Sup(B)} s_i - \sum_{i \in Att(B)} s_i$

- *Influence:* $s = \begin{cases} w + (1 - w) \times \frac{a^2}{1 + a^2} & \text{if } a > 0 \\ w - w \times \frac{a^2}{1 + a^2} & \text{else} \end{cases}$



Initial Weights



Quadratic Energy

Aggregation Functions

- *Product:* $\prod_{i \in Att(B)} (1 - s_i) - \prod_{i \in Sup(B)} (1 - s_i)$
- *Sum:* $\sum_{i \in Sup(B)} s_i - \sum_{i \in Att(B)} s_i$
- *Top:* $\max \{s_i : i \in Sup(B)\} - \max \{s_i : i \in Att(B)\}$

Influence Functions

- *Linear(k)*:
$$\begin{cases} w + \frac{w}{k} \times a & \text{if } a < 0 \\ w + \frac{1-w}{k} \times a & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- *Euler-based*: $1 - \frac{1-w^2}{1+w \times e^a}$

- *qmax(k)*:
$$\begin{cases} w + \frac{1-w}{k} \times \frac{a^2}{1+a^2} & \text{if } a > 0 \\ w - \frac{w}{k} \times \frac{a^2}{1+a^2} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Semantical Desiderata

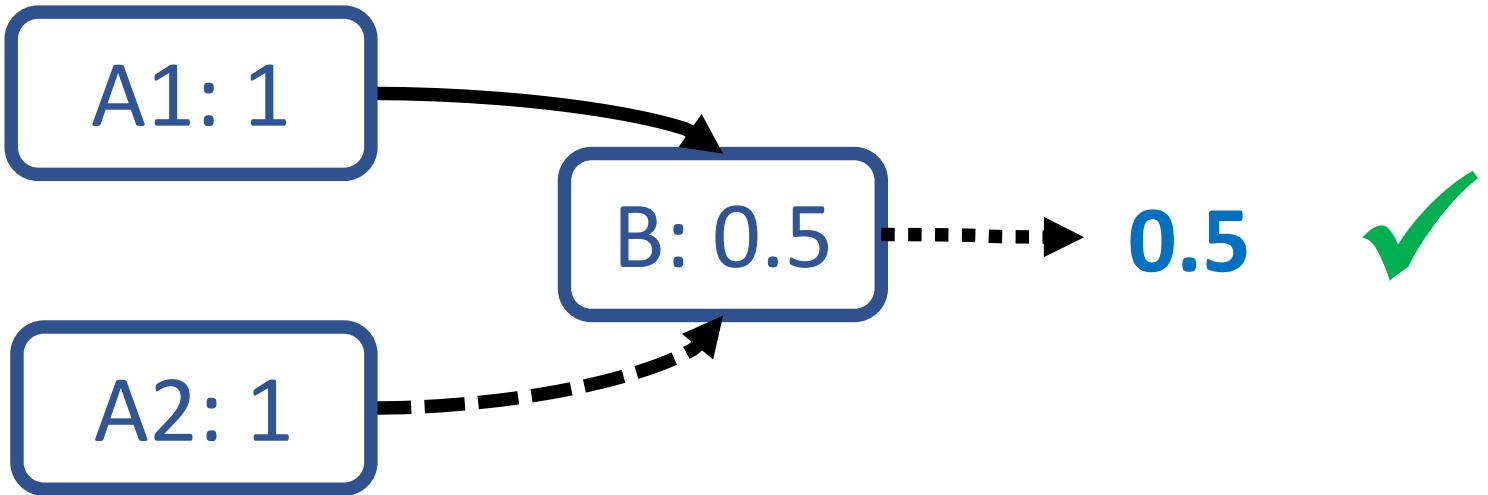
- *Equivalence*
 - *Neutrality*
 - *Dummy*
 - *Maximality/ Minimality*
 - *Strengthening/ Weakening*
 - *Void Precedence*
 - *Triggering*
 - *Counting*
 - *Proportionality*
 - ...
-
- (*Baroni et al. 2018*) showed that most properties can be broken down to two fundamental principles called **Balance** and **Monotonicity**

Balance (Intuition)



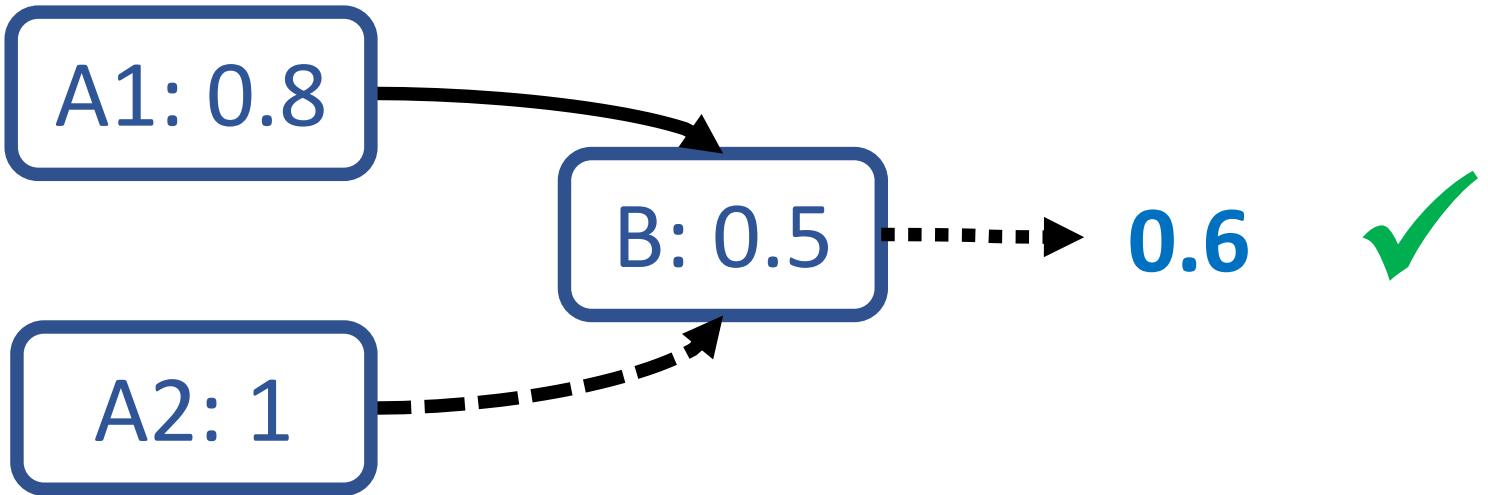
- 1. If attackers and supporters are „equally strong“, strength should be equal to initial weight*
- 2. If attackers are „stronger (weaker) than“ supporters, strength should be smaller (larger)*

Balance: DF-QuAD



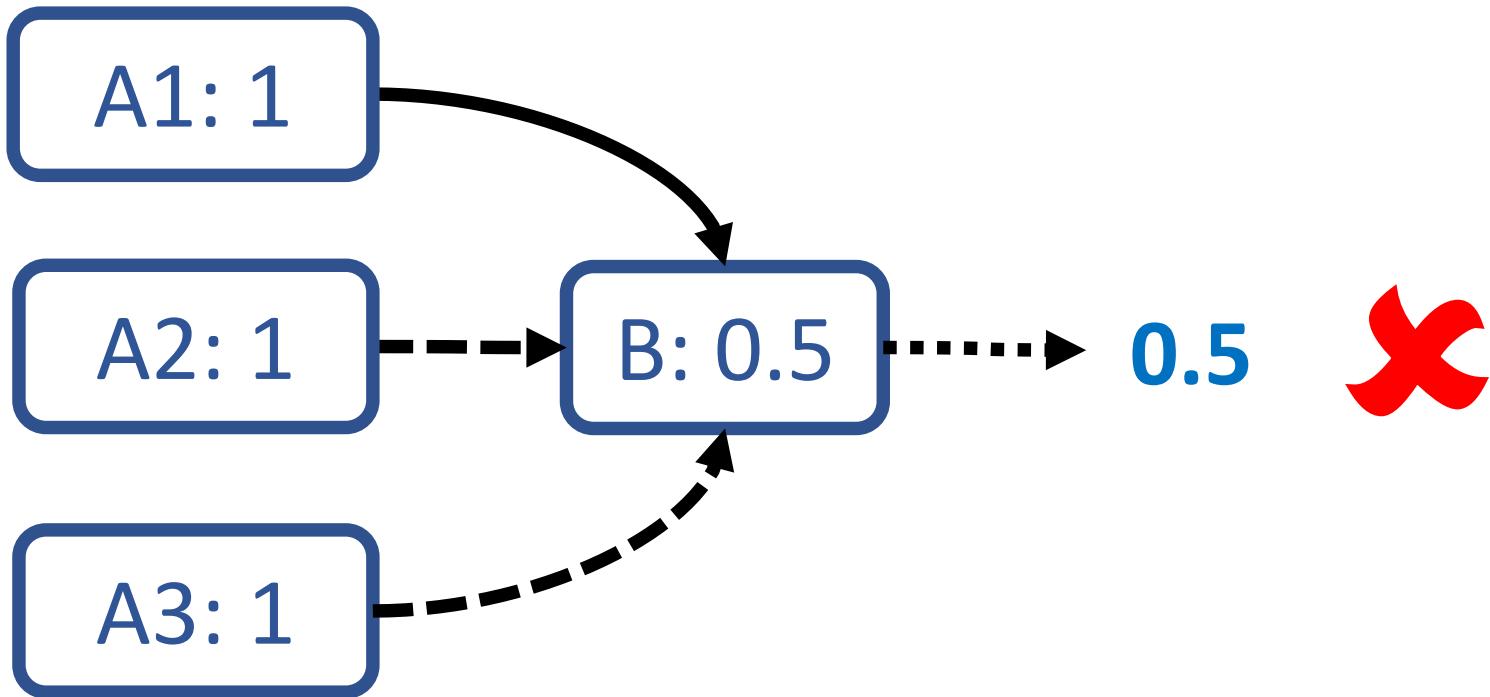
- *Aggregation:* $a = (1 - 1) - (1 - 1) = 0$
- *Influence:* $s = 0.5 + (1 - 0.5) \times 0 = 0.5$

Balance: DF-QuAD



- *Aggregation:* $a = (1 - 0.8) - (1 - 1) = 0.2$
- *Influence:* $s = 0.5 + (1 - 0.5) \times 0.2 = 0.6$

Balance: DF-QuAD



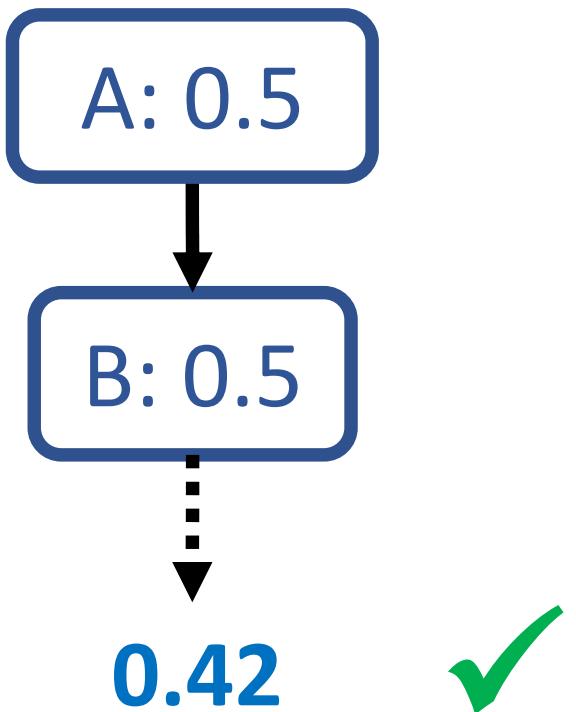
*Product Aggregation
and Top Aggregation
can violate balance*

- *Aggregation:* $a = (1 - 1) - (1 - 1) \times (1 - 1) = 0$
- *Influence:* $s = 0.5 + (1 - 0.5) \times 0 = 0.5$

Monotonicity (Intuition)

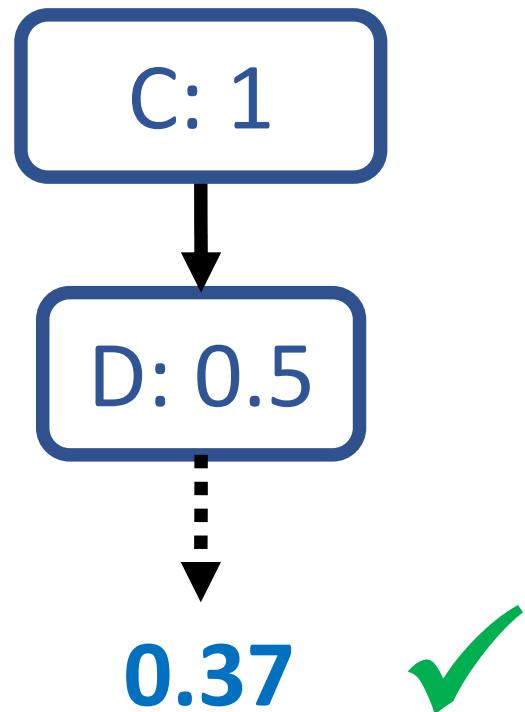
1. If the „*same impact*“ (in terms of initial weight, attack and support) acts on A1 and A2, then they should have the same strength.
2. If the impact on A1 is „*more positive*“, then it should have a larger strength than A2.

Monotonicity: Euler-based Semantics



- $a = -0.5$

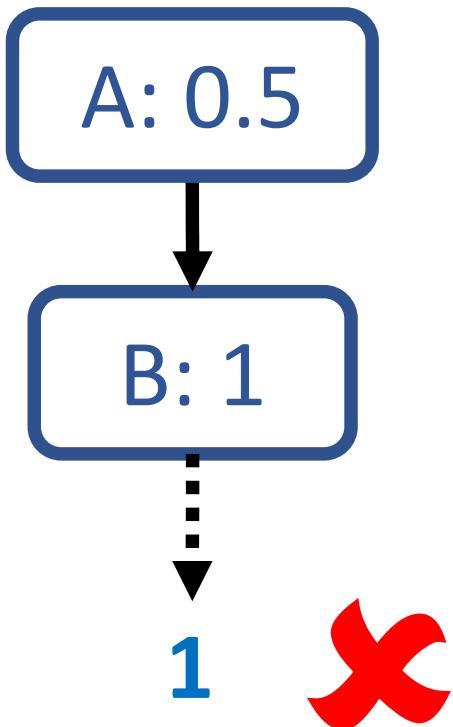
- $s = 1 - \frac{1 - 0.5^2}{1 + 0.5 \times \exp(-0.5)} \approx 0.42$



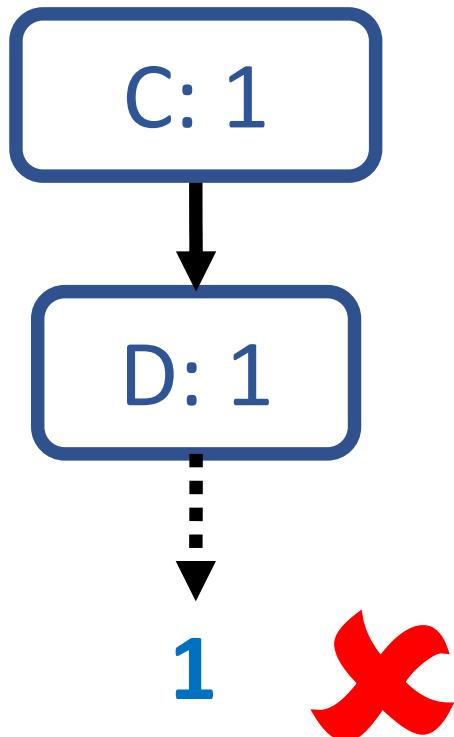
- $a = -1$

- $s = 1 - \frac{1 - 0.5^2}{1 + 0.5 \times \exp(-1)} \approx 0.37$

Monotonicity: Euler-based Semantics



*Euler-based Influence
violates monotonicity
in boundary cases*



- $a = -0.5$

$$\bullet s = 1 - \frac{1 - 1^2}{1 + 1 \times \exp(-0.5)} = 1$$

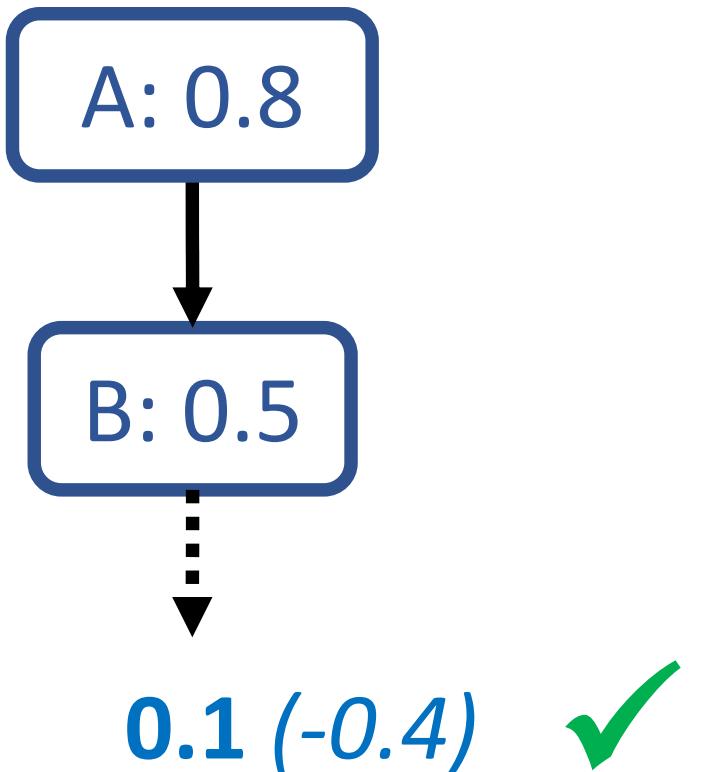
- $a = -1$

$$\bullet s = 1 - \frac{1 - 1^2}{1 + 1 \times \exp(-1)} = 1$$

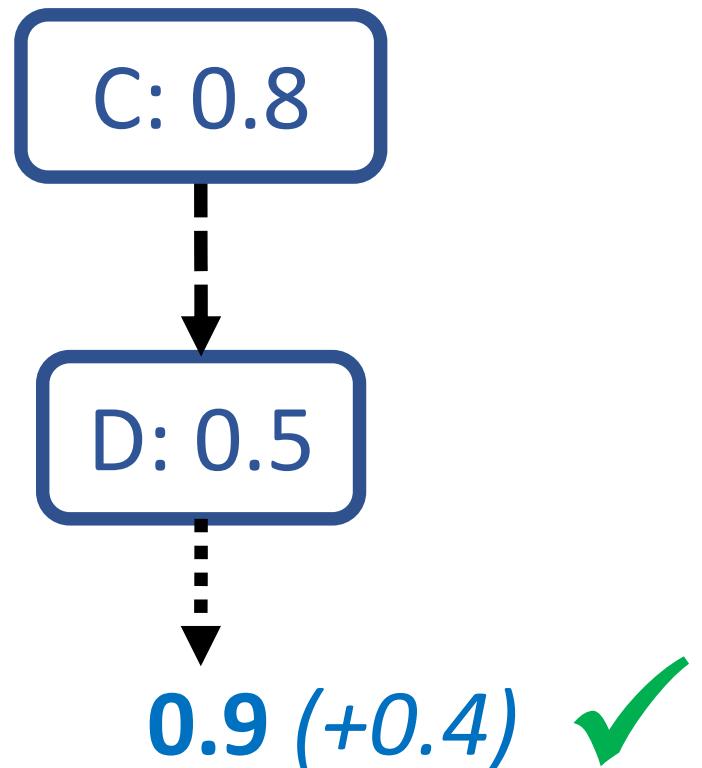
Beyond Balance and Monotonicity (AAMAS 2019)

- **Duality:** Attack and support should behave „in a dual manner“
- **Open-Mindedness:** strength should become arbitrarily close to 0 (1) if we keep adding „strong“ attackers (supporters)

Duality: DF-QuAD

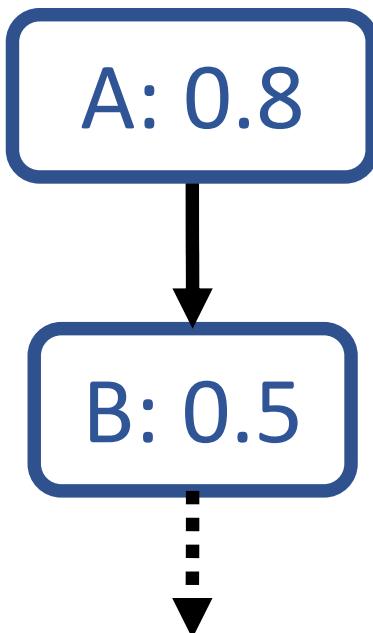


- $a = (1 - 0.8) - 1 = -0.8$
- $s = 0.5 - 0.5 \times 0.8 = 0.1$



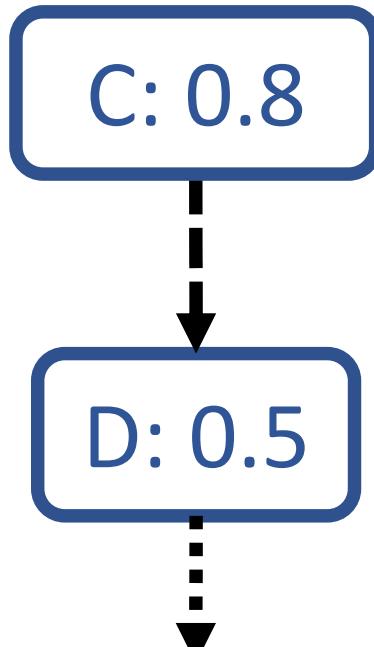
- $a = 1 - (1 - 0.8) = 0.8$
- $s = 0.5 + (1 - 0.5) \times 0.8 = 0.9$

Duality: Euler-based



*Euler-based Influence
can violate Duality*

0.39 (-0.11) ✗



0.65 (+0.15) ✗

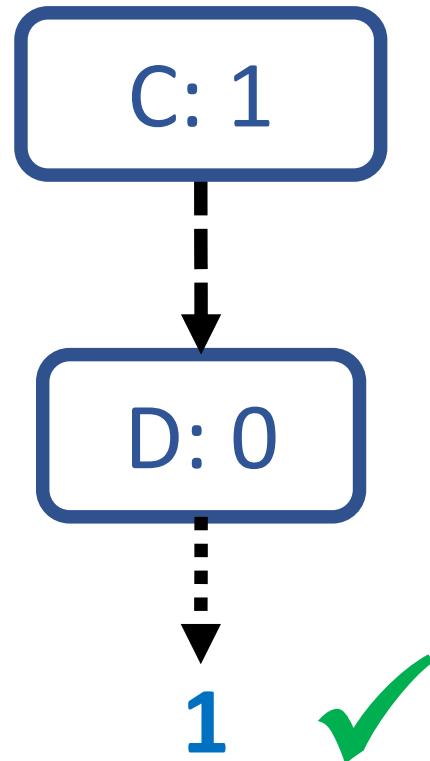
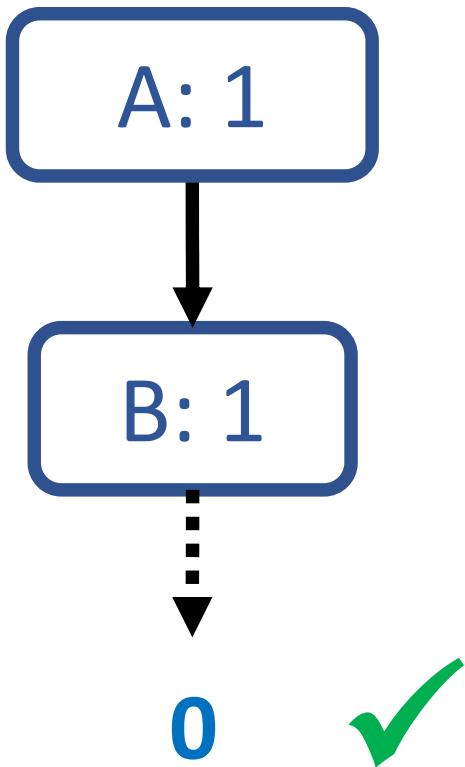
- $a = -0.8$

$$\bullet s = 1 - \frac{1 - 0.5^2}{1 + 0.5 \times \exp(-0.8)} = 0.39$$

- $a = 0.8$

$$\bullet s = 1 - \frac{1 - 0.5^2}{1 + 0.5 \times \exp(-0.8)} = 0.65$$

Open-Mindedness: DF-QuAD



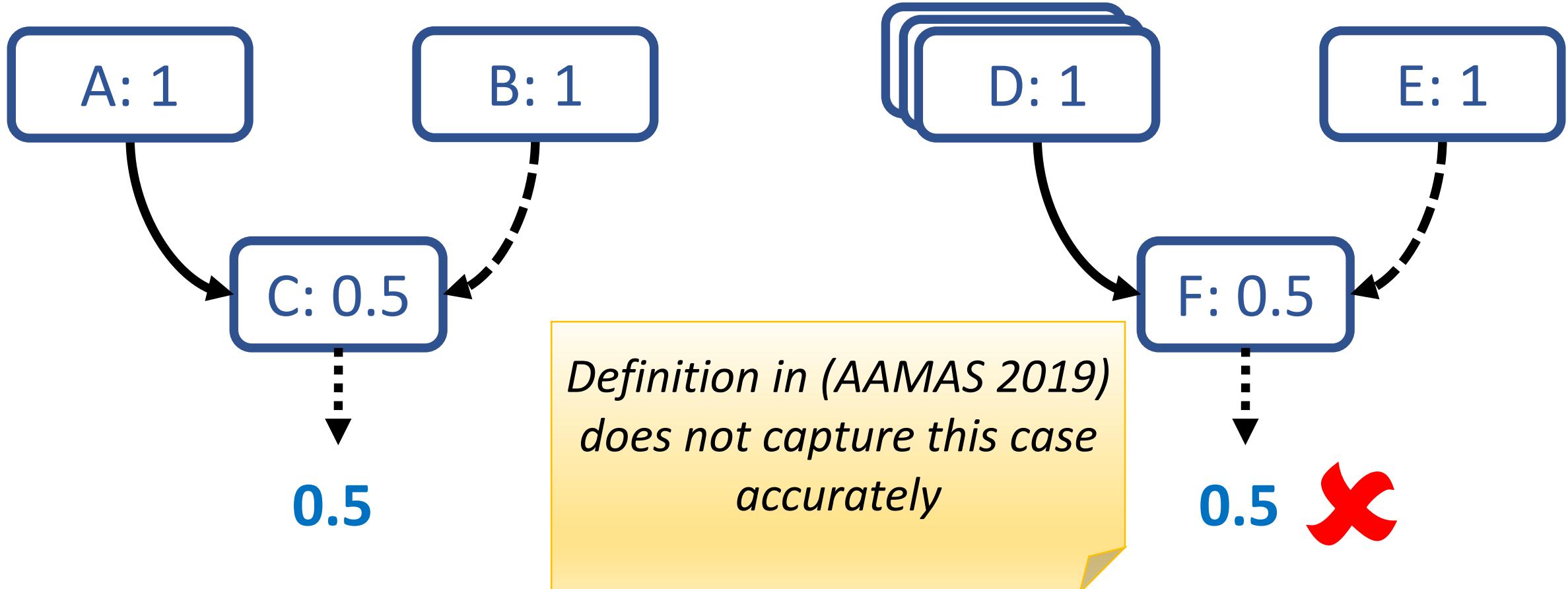
- $a = (1 - 1) - 1 = -1$

- $s = 1 - 1 \times 1 = 0$

- $a = 1 - (1 - 1) = 1$

- $s = 0 + (1 - 0) \times 1 = 1$

Open-Mindedness: DF-QuAD



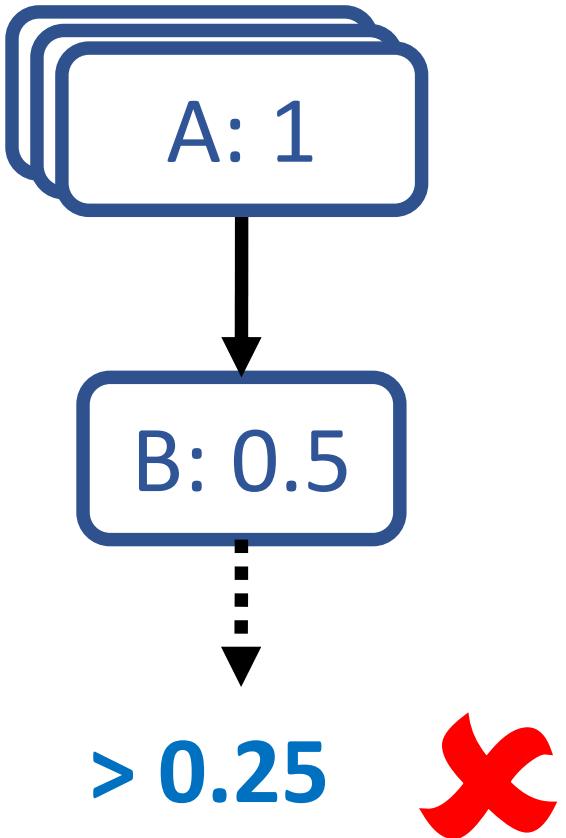
- $a = 0 - 0 = 0$

- $s = 0.5 - 0.5 \times 0 = 0$

- $a = 0 - 0 = 0$

- $s = 0.5 + (1 - 0.5) \times 0 = 0.5$

Open-Mindedness: Euler-based



*Euler-based Influence can
violate Open-Mindedness*

- $a = -n \rightarrow -\infty$

- $s = 1 - \frac{1 - 0.5^2}{1 + 0.5 \times \exp(-n)} > 0.25$

Summary: Potential Semantical Problems

Aggregation Function	Balance	Monotonicity	Duality	Open-Mindedness
Product	(✗)	(✗)		(✗)
Sum				
Top	(✗)	(✗)		(✗)

Influence Function	Balance	Monotonicity	Duality	Open-Mindedness
Linear				
Euler-based		(✗)	✗	✗
qmax				

Aggregation/ Influence Function	Balance	Monotonicity	Duality	Open-Mindedness
Sum/ qmax	✓	✓	✓	✓

Some Further Readings about Weighted Semantics

- *Attack-only Graphs*

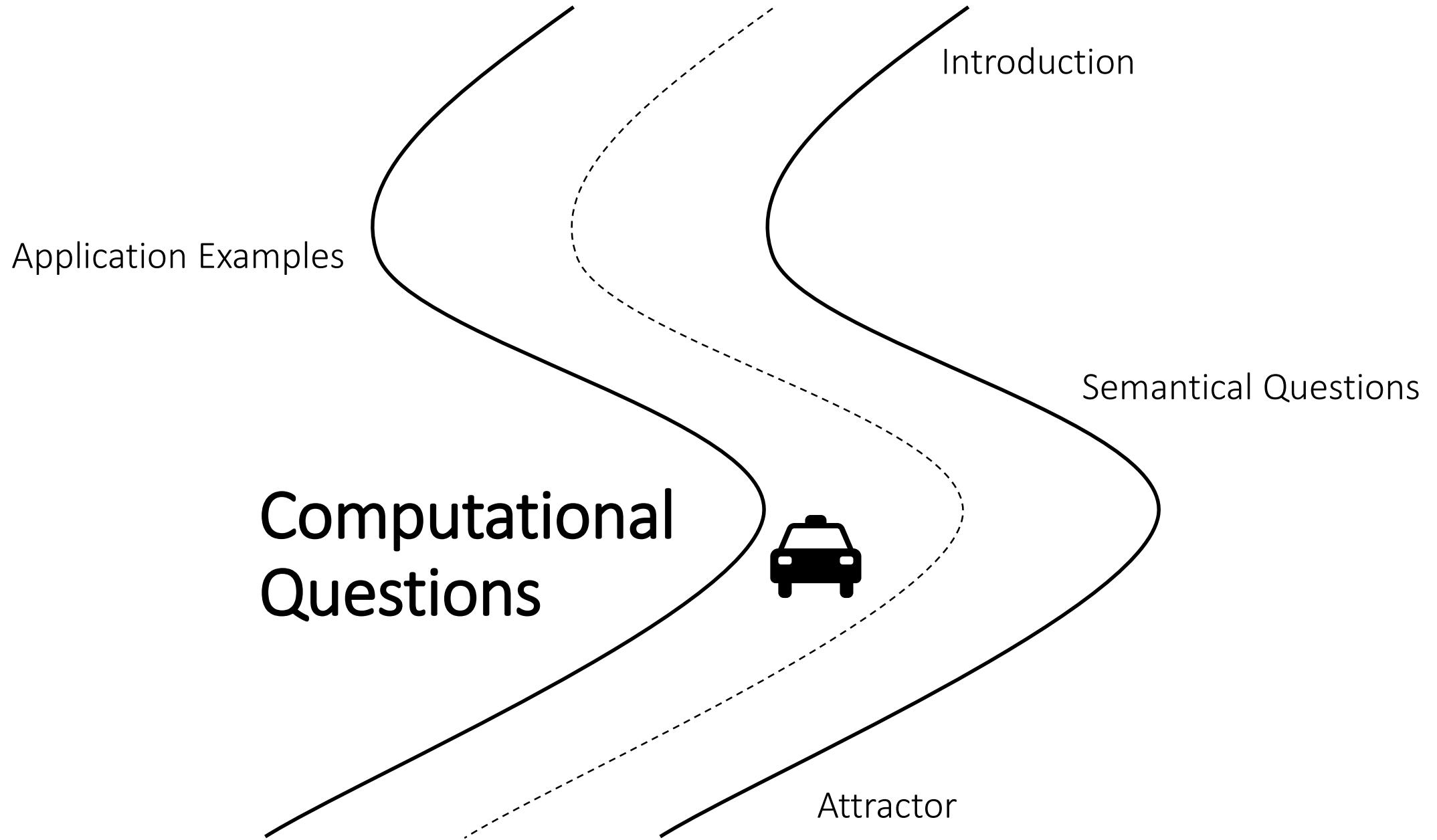
Amgoud, L., Ben-Naim, J., Doder, D., & Vesic, S. Acceptability Semantics for Weighted Argumentation Frameworks. In Twenty-Sixth International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2017). 2017.

- *Support-only Graphs*

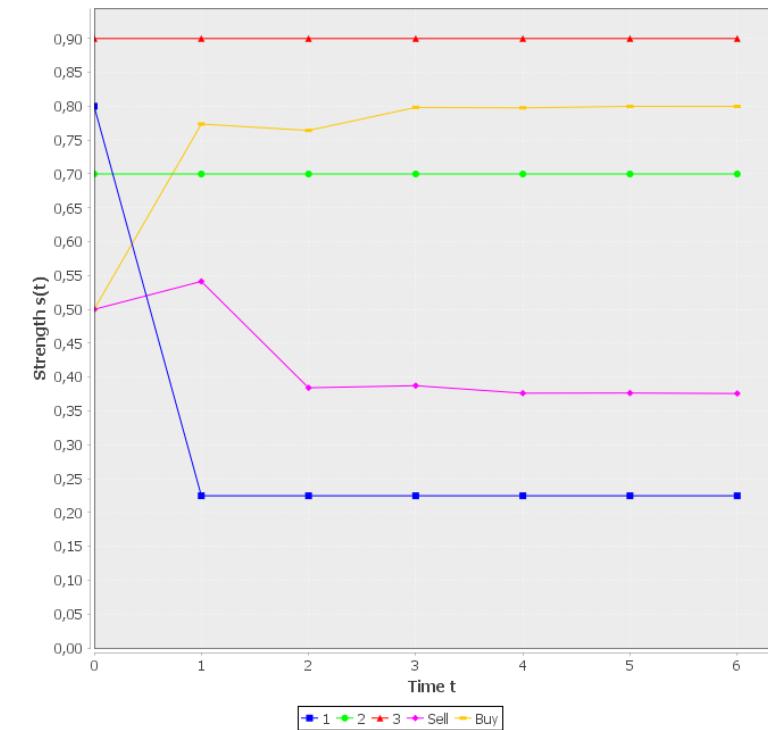
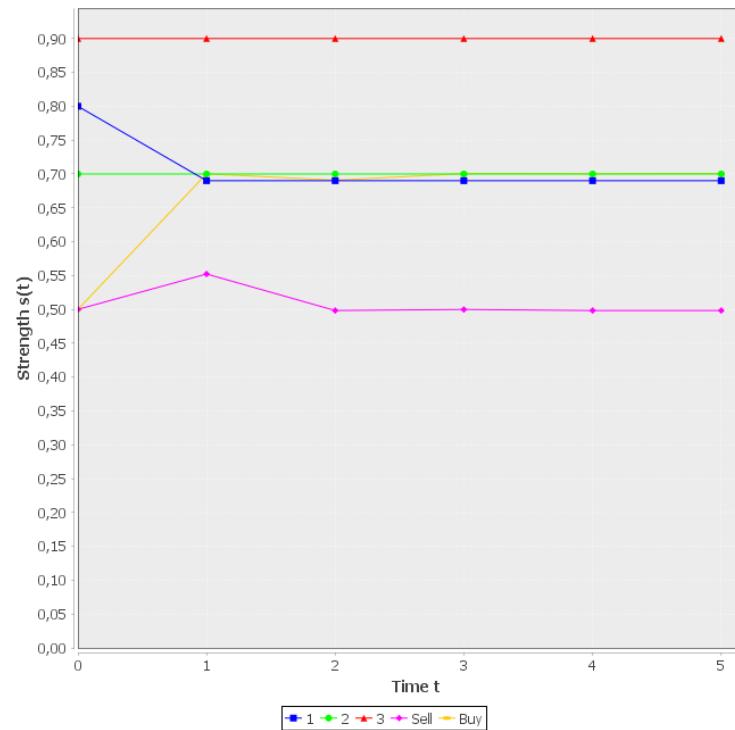
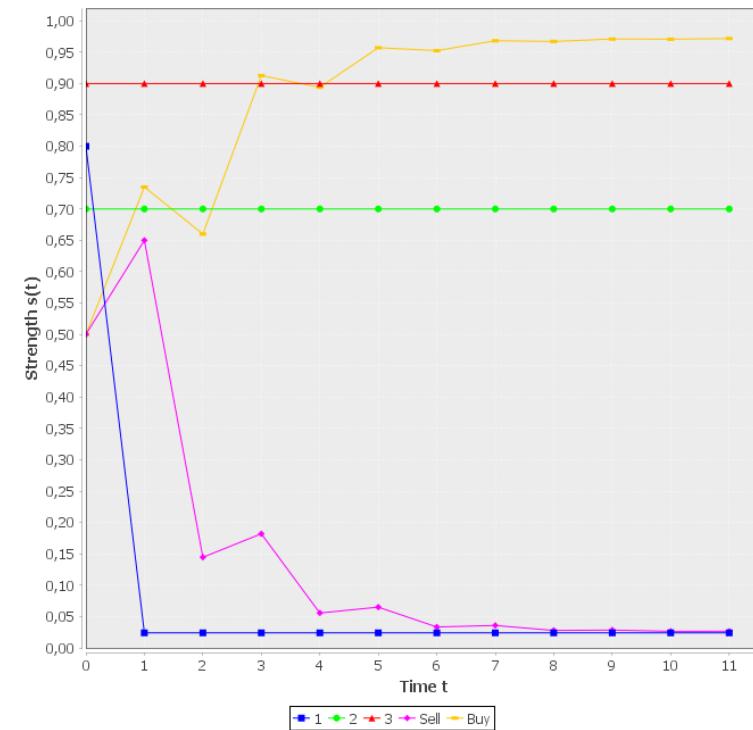
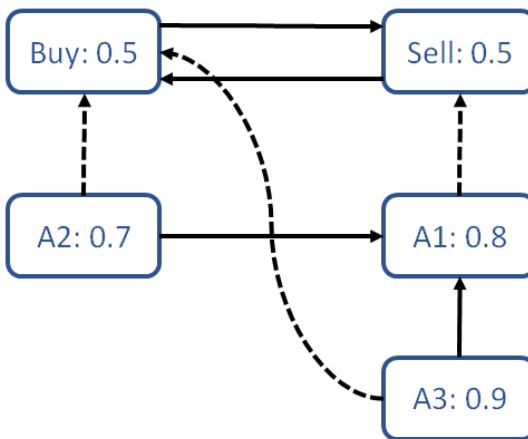
Amgoud, L., & Ben-Naim, J. Evaluation of arguments from support relations: Axioms and semantics. In Twenty-Fifth International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2016). 2016.

- *Bipolar Graphs*

Baroni, P., Romano, M., Toni, F., Aurisicchio, M., & Bertanza, G. Automatic evaluation of design alternatives with quantitative argumentation. Argument & Computation, 6(1), 24-49. 2015.



Initial Weights



Computing Strength Values

$i \leftarrow 0$

Initialization with

FOR $a = 1, \dots, n$

initial weights

$$s^{(i)}(a) = w(a)$$

DO

$$i \leftarrow i + 1$$

Update strength values

FOR $a = 1, \dots, n$

simultaneously until

$$s^{(i)}(a) = f(w(a), \text{Parents}(a), s^{(i-1)}(a))$$

convergence

UNTIL $|s^{(i)} - s^{(i-1)}| < \varepsilon$

$$s \leftarrow s^{(i)}$$

Depth in Acyclic BAGs

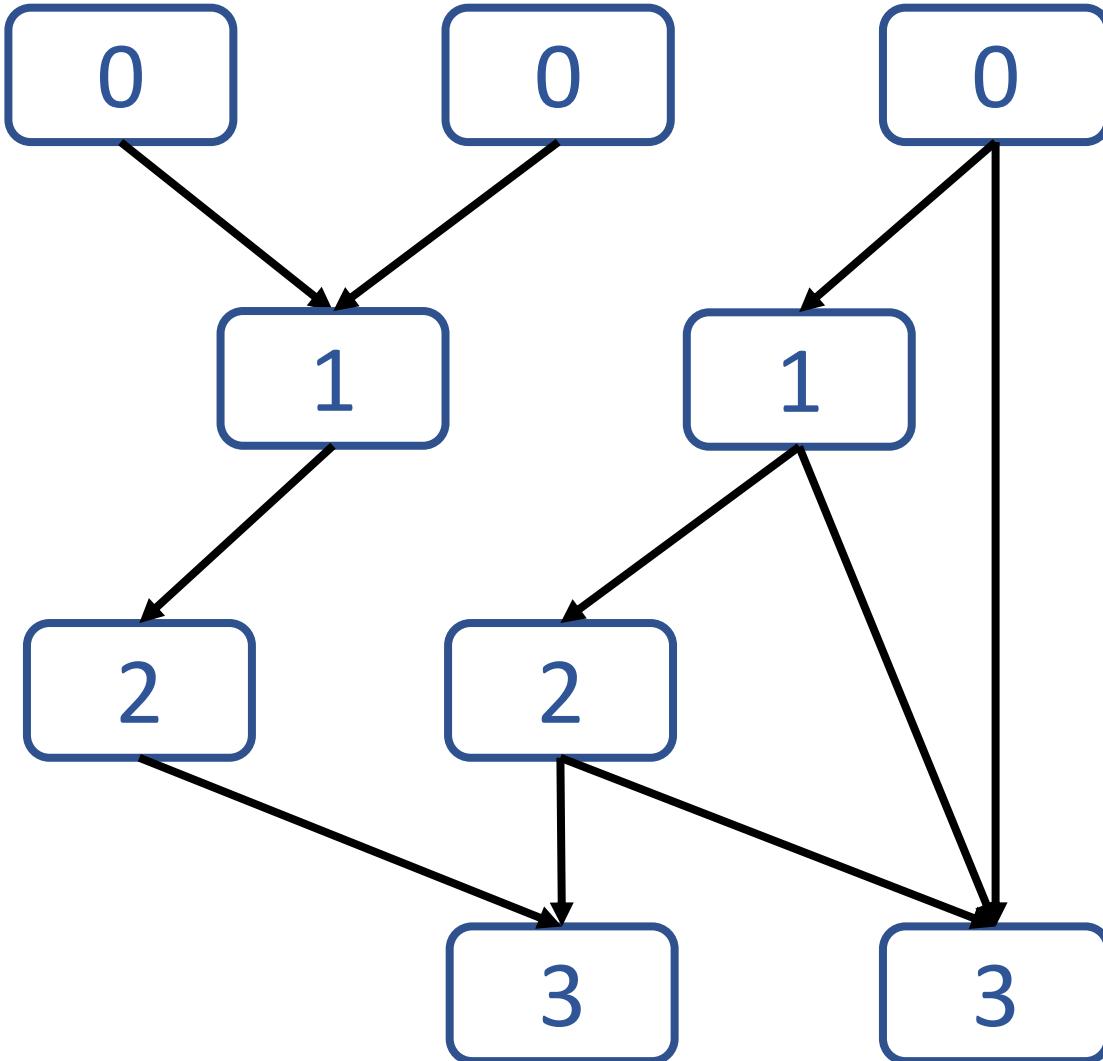
Depth(i) is defined as

0

$1 + \max \{ \text{depth}(j) : j \in \text{Parents}(i) \}$

if $\text{Parents}(i) = \emptyset$

else



Convergence in Acyclic BAGs

Lemma

If $\text{depth}(A)=d$, then strength of A remains unchanged after iteration i.

Theorem

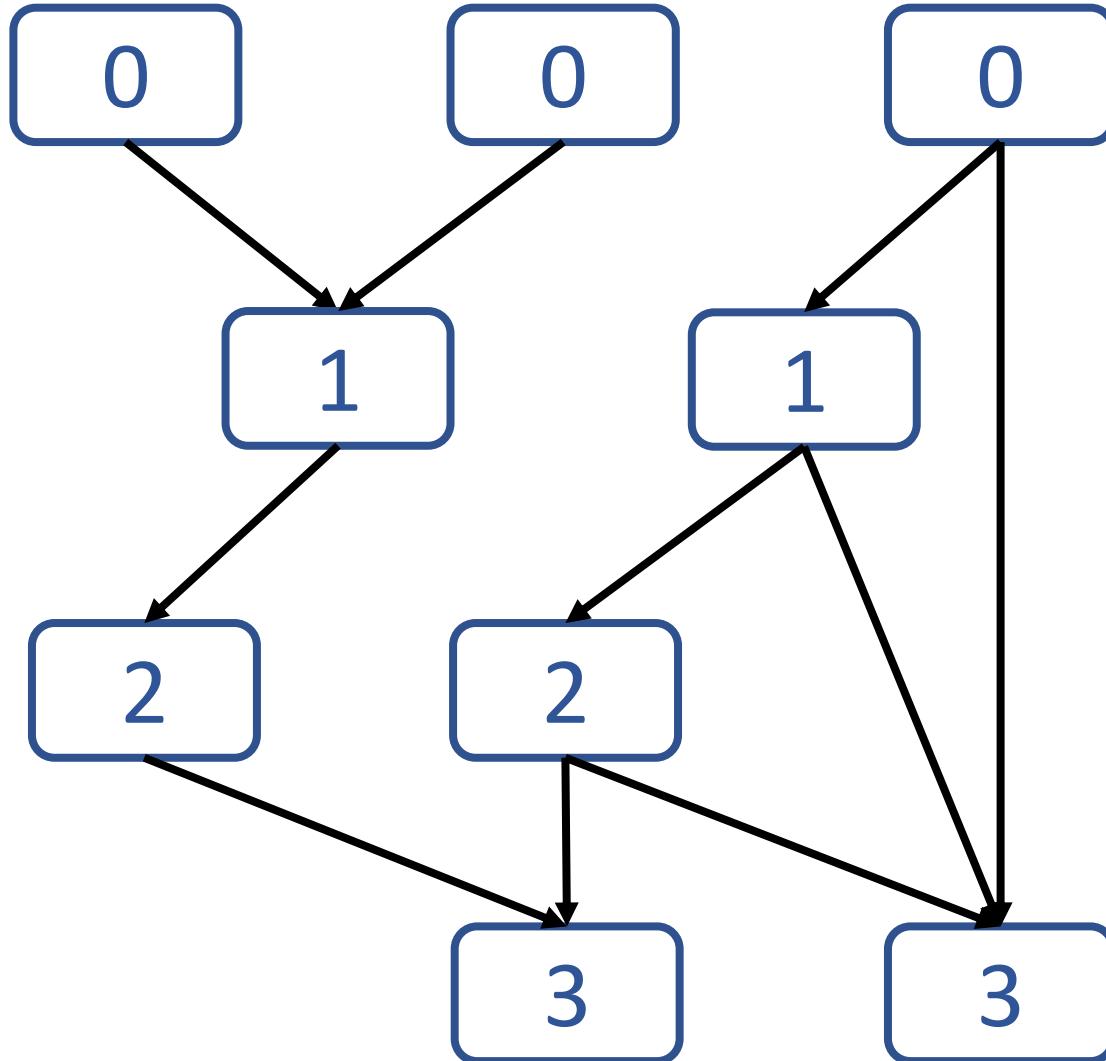
In acyclic BAGs, strength values converge in $n-1$ iterations.

$O(n^2)$ updates

Theorem

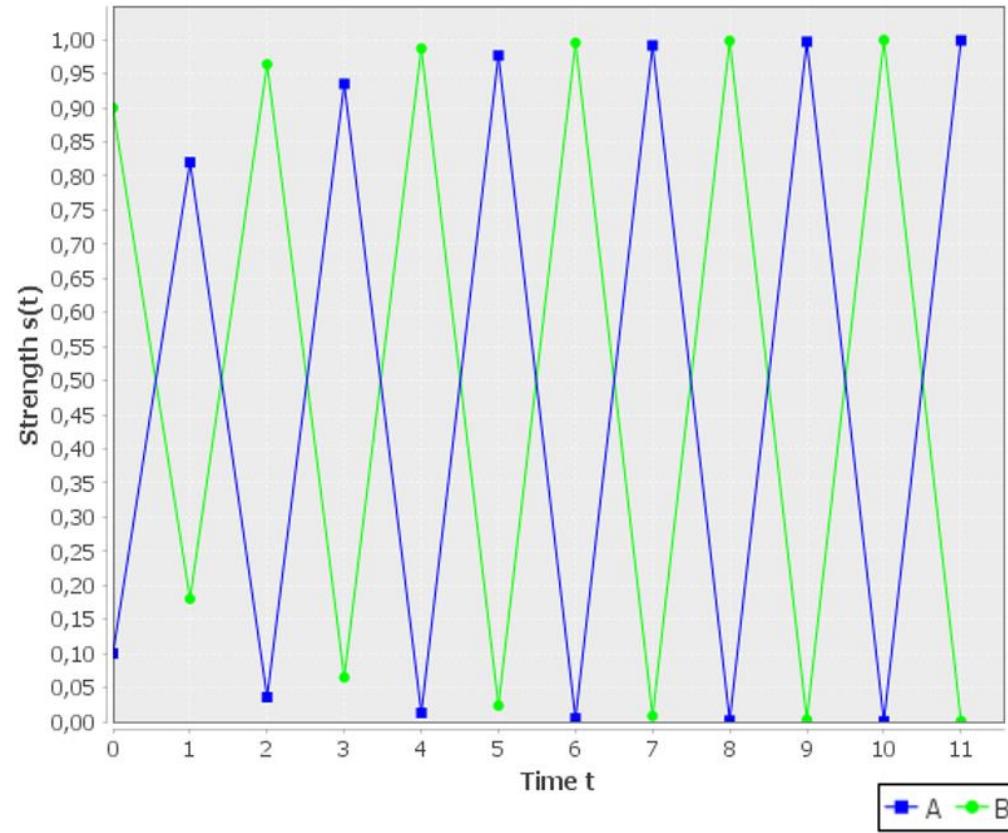
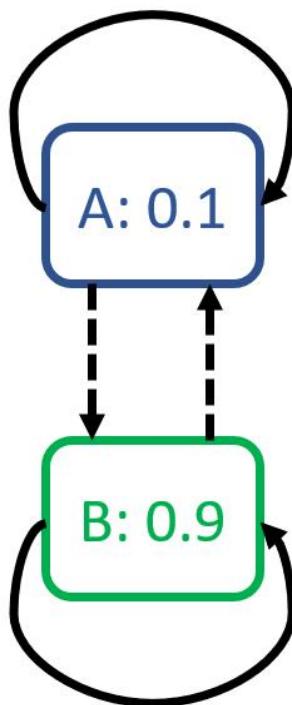
Computing strength values once according to topological ordering yields the same result.

$O(n+m)$ for ordering
+ $O(n)$ updates

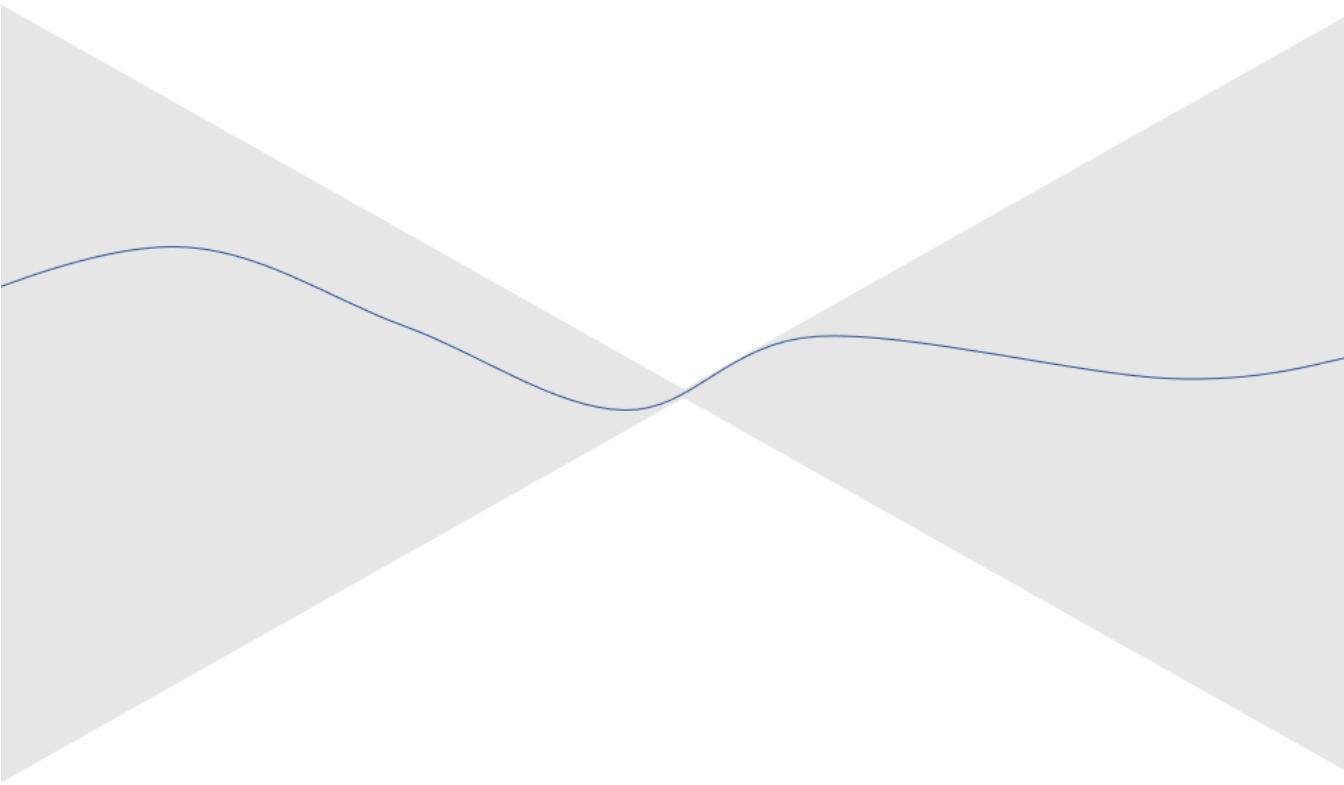


Convergence in Cyclic BAGs

- In cyclic BAGs, algorithm may not converge (Mossakowski, Neuhaus 2018)



Digression: Lipschitz Continuity



- Lipschitz-continuous: „function does not grow faster than some linear function“
there is some λ such that $|f(x_1) - f(x_2)| \leq \lambda \times |x_1 - x_2|$ for all x_1, x_2
- λ is called Lipschitz-constant

Convergence in Cyclic BAGs

- *Sufficient conditions for converge can be derived assuming*
 - *bounded derivatives (Mossakowski, Neuhaus 2018) or, more general,*
 - *Lipschitz-continuity (AAMAS 2019)*

Theorem (AAMAS 2019)

If semantics is contractive, that is,

1. aggregation function has Lipschitz-constant λ_1 ,
2. influence function has Lipschitz-constant λ_2 ,
3. $\lambda_1 \times \lambda_2 < 1$,

then the algorithm is guaranteed to converge.

Convergence up to D digits after $O(C(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \times D)$ iterations

Some Lipschitz Constants

Aggregation Function	λ
Product	max. indegree of any argument in BAG
Sum	max. indegree of any argument in BAG
Top	≤ 2

Influence Function	λ
Linear(k)	$\frac{1}{k} \max \{w(i), 1 - w(i) : i = 1, \dots, n\}$
Euler-based	0.25
qmax(k)	$\frac{1}{k} \max \{w(i), 1 - w(i) : i = 1, \dots, n\}$

Some Convergence Guarantees

Semantics	Aggregation	Influence	Sufficient Conditions
(Mossakowski, Neuhaus 2018)	Top	Euler-based	Always
DF-QuAD ($k=1$)	Product	Linear(k)	Max. indegree $< k$
Euler-based	Sum	Euler-based	Max. indegree < 4
Quadratic Energy ($k=1$)	Sum	$q_{\max}(k)$	Max. indegree $< \frac{k}{p}$

Convergence Guarantees vs. Open-Mindedness



Aggregation	Influence	k=0	k=1	k=10	k=100
Top	Euler	0.9	0.862	0.862	0.862
Addition	Euler	0.9	0.862	0.811	0.811
Top	qmax(1)	0.9	0.498	0.498	0.498
Addition	qmax(1)	0.9	0.498	0.012	0.001
Top	qmax(5)	0.9	0.873	0.873	0.873
Addition	qmax(5)	0.9	0.873	0.213	0.004

Convergence Guarantees vs. Open-Mindedness

Lemma (AAMAS 2019)

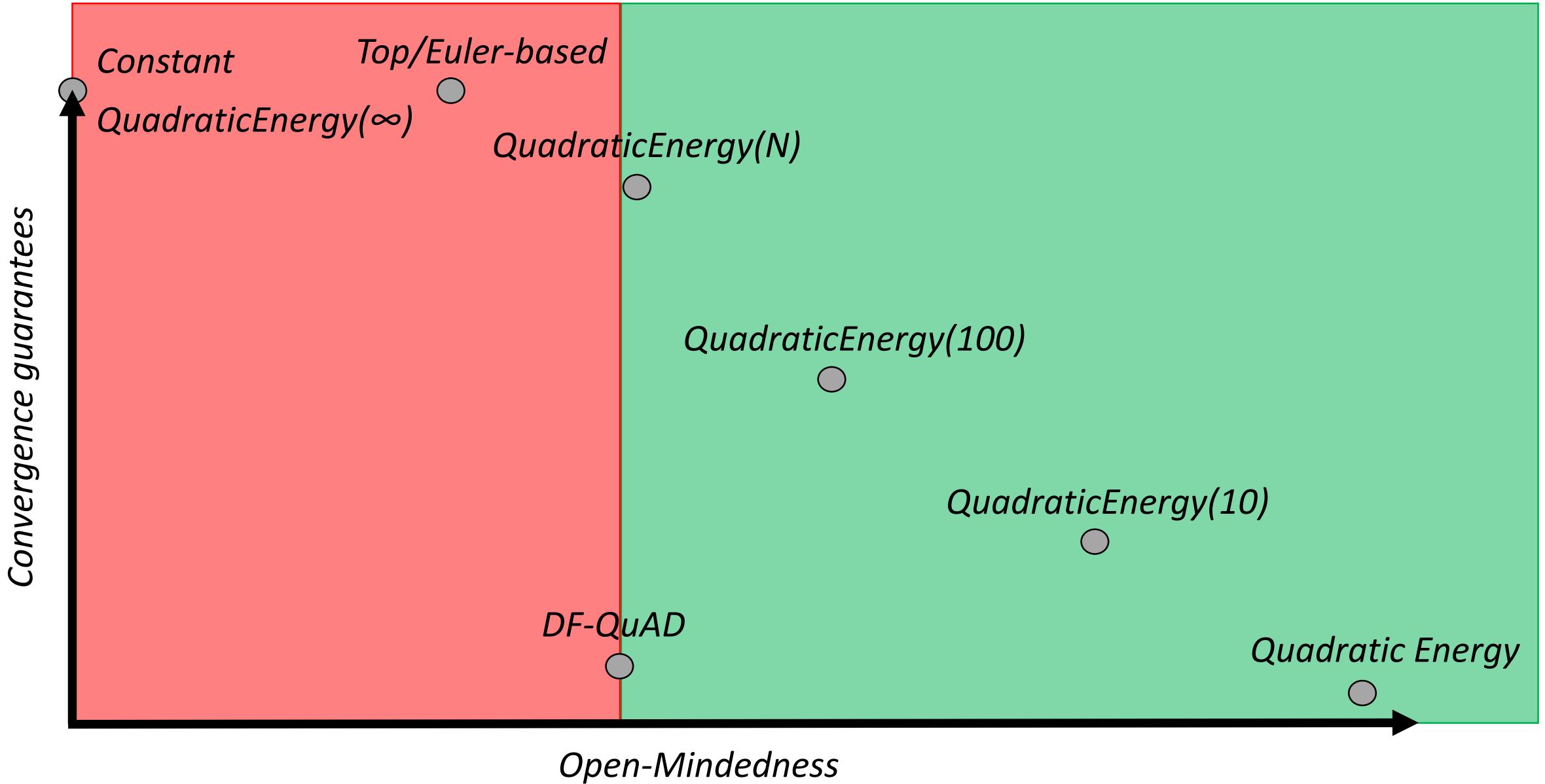
If semantics is defined by

1. aggregation function that maps to $[-B, B]$,
 2. combination function with Lipschitz-constant λ ,
- then $|s(i) - w(i)| \leq \lambda \times B$.

Aggregation Function	Range
Product	$[-1, 1]$
Sum	$(-\infty, \infty)$
Top	$[-1, 1]$

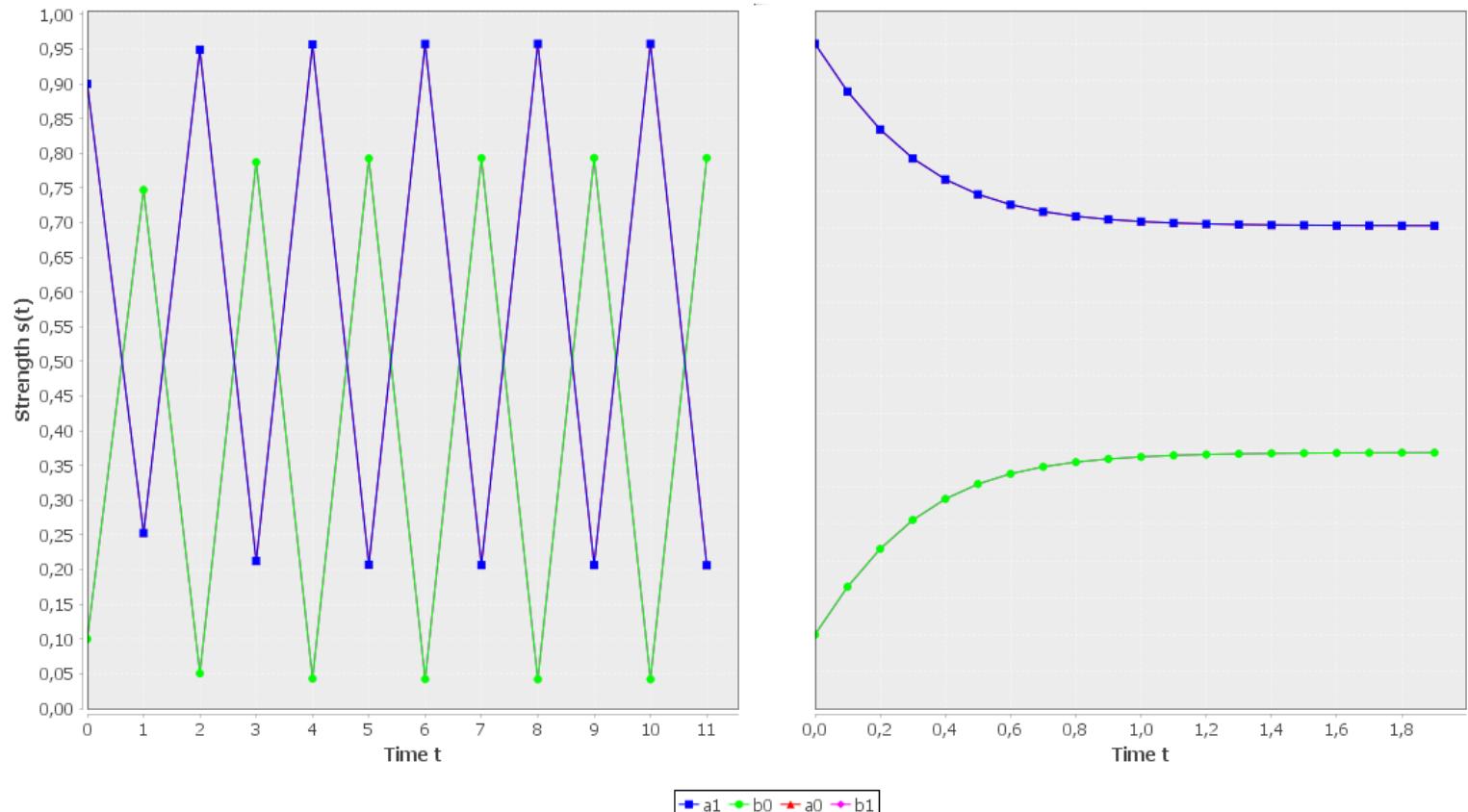
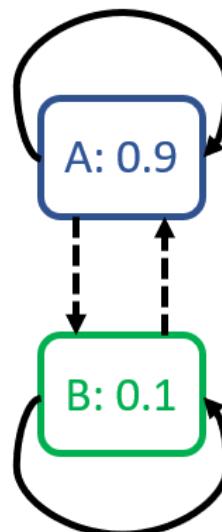
Influence Function	λ
Linear(k)	$\geq \frac{1}{2k}$
Euler-based	$\frac{1}{4}$
qmax(k)	$\geq \frac{1}{2k}$

Convergence Guarantees vs. Open-Mindedness



Improving Guarantees by Continuation

- (Discrete) semantics can be seen as coarse approximations of continuous semantics (KR2014)
- Continuizing semantics can solve divergence problems without loosing open-mindedness

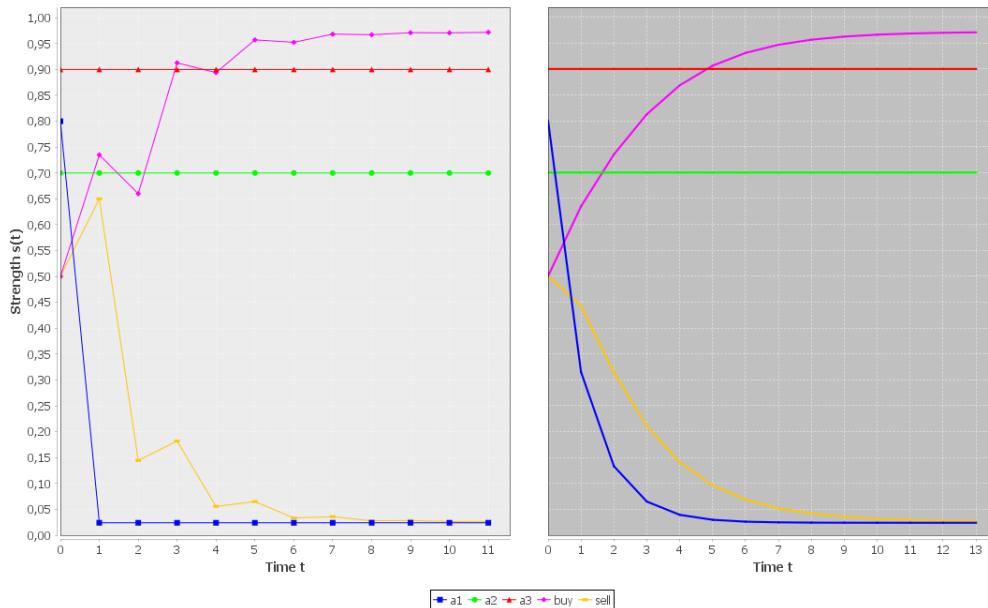
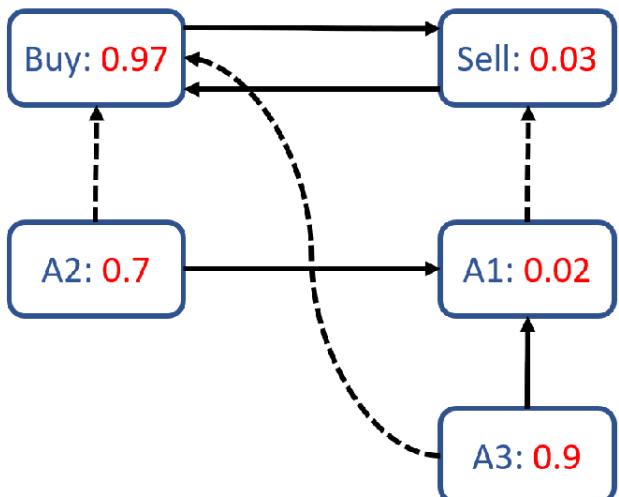


Improving Guarantees by Continuization

Theorem (AAMAS 2019)

If semantics is contractive (satisfies convergence conditions), continuized semantics converges to the same strength values.

Empirically, convergence in subquadratic time.



Convergence Guarantees for Continuized Semantics

- *Support-only: yes (mon. increasing and bounded from above)*
- *Attack-only: probably (hand-waving argument)*
- *Bipolar: maybe (neither proof idea nor counterexamples are known)*

Some Further Readings about Computational Issues

- *Fixed points in Social Abstract Argumentation*

Leite, J., & Martins, J. *Social abstract argumentation*. In *Twenty-Second International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2011)*. 2011.

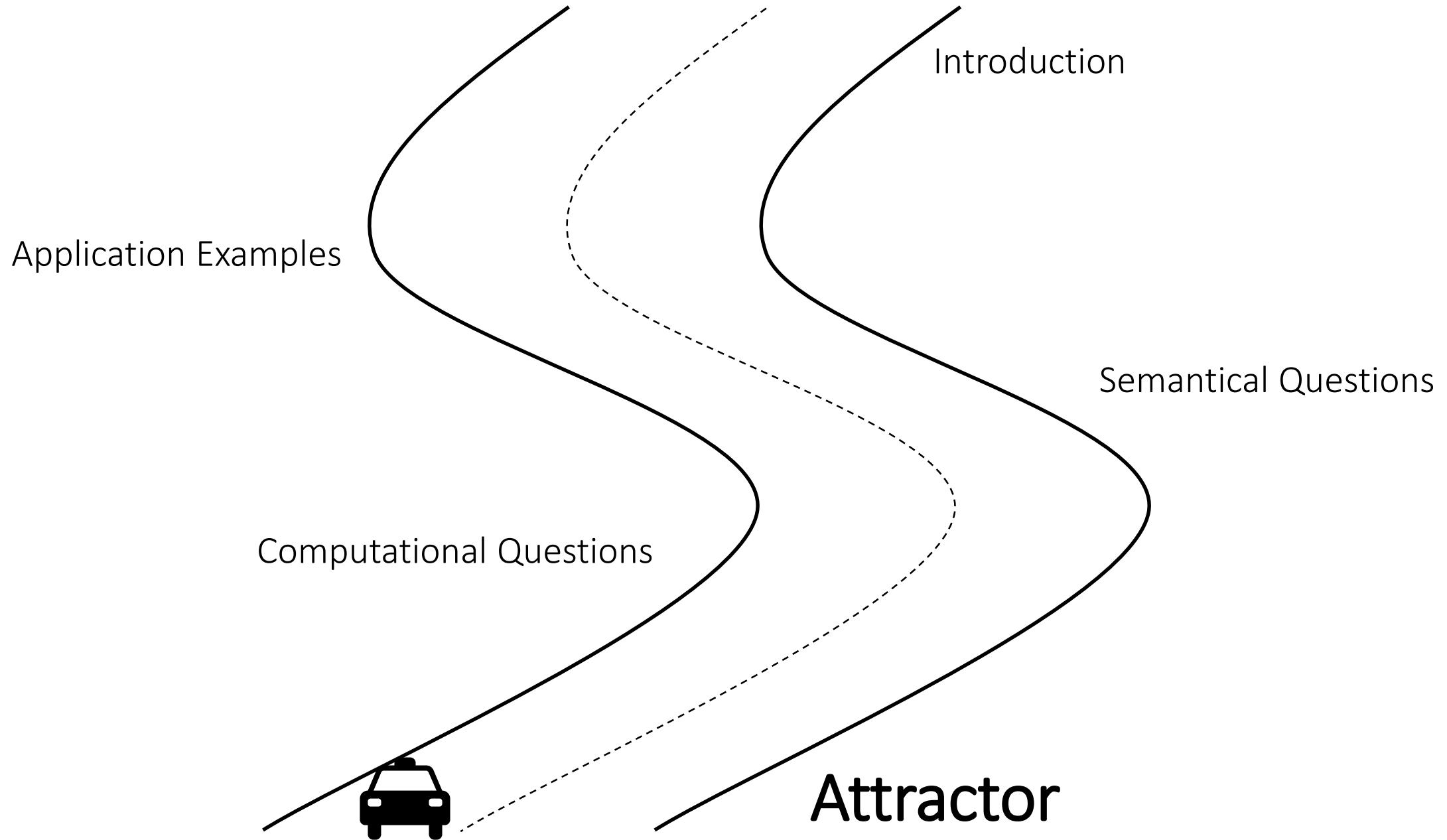
Amgoud, L. et al. *A note on the uniqueness of models in social abstract argumentation*. arXiv preprint arXiv:1705.03381.

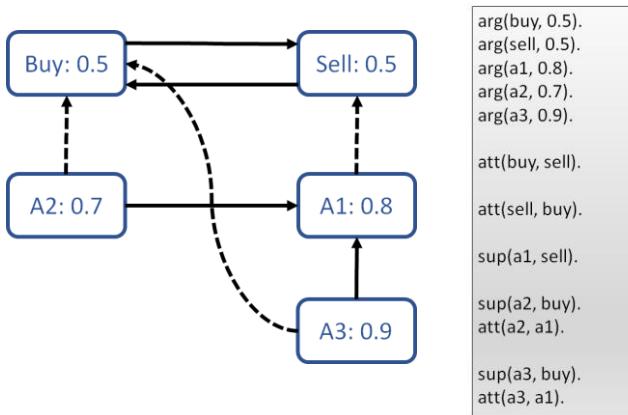
- *Convergence of Discrete Semantics in Attack-only Graphs*

Amgoud, L., & Doder, D. *Gradual Semantics Accounting for Varied-Strength Attacks*. In *Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Autonomous Agents and MultiAgent Systems (AAMAS 2019)*. 2019.

- *High-Level Introduction to Continuous Semantics*

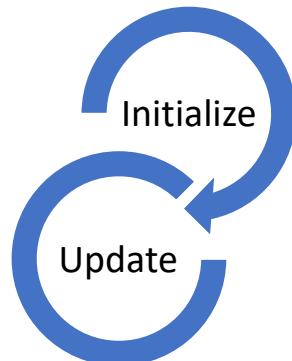
Potyka, N. (2018). *A Tutorial for Weighted Bipolar Argumentation with Continuous Dynamical Systems and the Java Library Attractor*. *17th International Workshop on Non-Monotonic Reasoning (NMR 2018)*. 2018.





BAG

Semantics



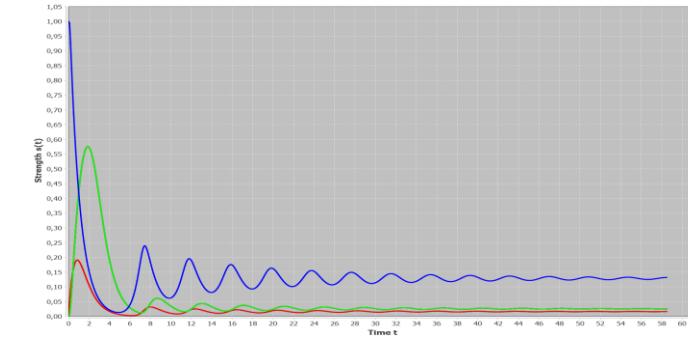
Algorithm



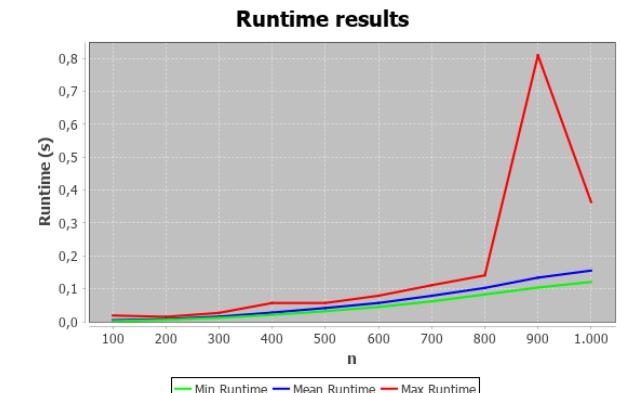
Visualizations

Strength Values

Performance



Quadratic Energy Model, RK4
Time: 58.50000000000056
Argument [name=A, weight=1.0, strength=0.13207533031881255]
Argument [name=C0, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B0, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C1, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=C2, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B1, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C3, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B2, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C4, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B3, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C5, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B4, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C6, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B5, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C7, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B6, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C8, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B7, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=C9, weight=0.0, strength=0.025578304880260305]
Argument [name=B8, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]
Argument [name=B9, weight=0.0, strength=0.0165011155428222]



arg(buy, 0.5).
arg(sell, 0.5).
arg(a1, 0.8).
arg(a2, 0.7).
arg(a3, 0.9).

att(buy, sell).

att(sell, buy).

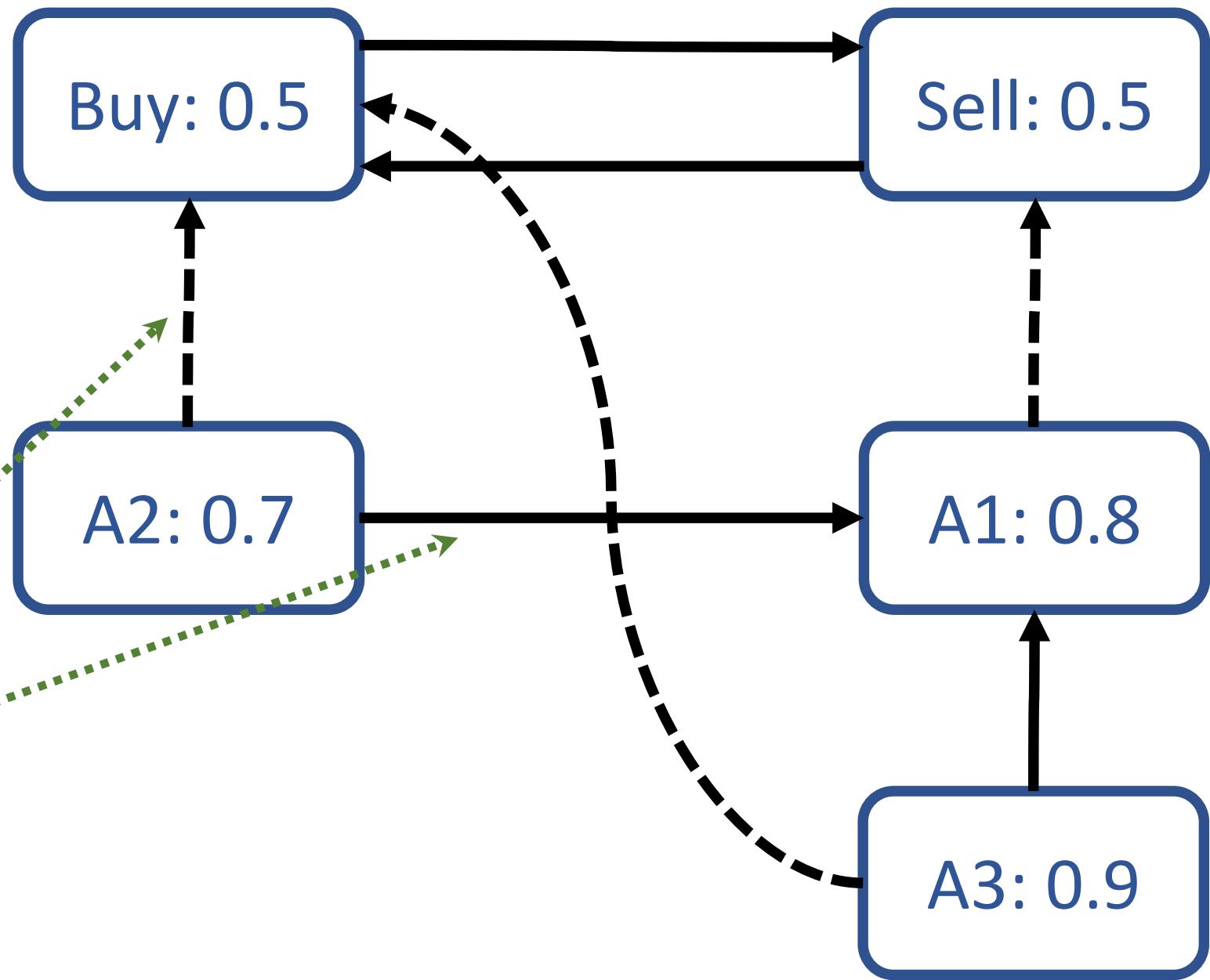
sup(a1, sell).

sup(a2, buy).

att(a2, a1).

sup(a3, buy).

att(a3, a1).



Solving Weighted Argumentation Problems

```
AbstractDynamicArgumentationSystem ads = new ContinuousDFQuADModel();
```

Select Semantics

```
AbstractIterativeApproximator approximator = new RK4(ads);  
ads.setApproximator(approximator);
```

Select Algorithm

```
BAGFileUtils fileUtils = new BAGFileUtils();  
BAG bag;
```

Use utility tools to read BAG

```
try {
```

```
    bag = fileUtils.readBAGFromFile(new File("files/PresentationBAG.bag"));  
    ads.setBag(bag);  
    ads.approximateSolution(10e-3, 10e-4, true);
```

Step
size

ϵ

Info

```
}
```

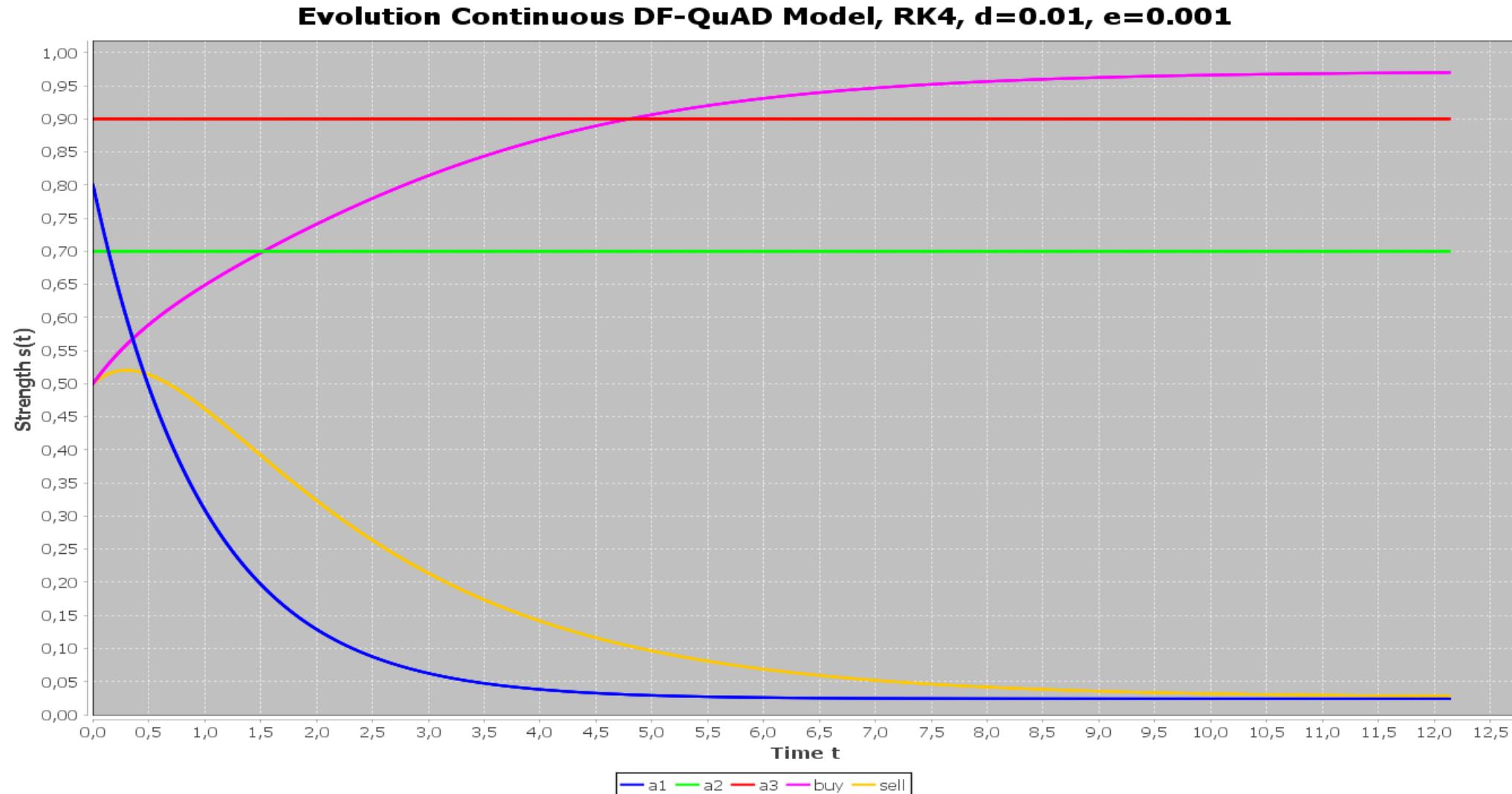
```
catch (Exception e) {
```

```
    e.printStackTrace();
```

```
}
```

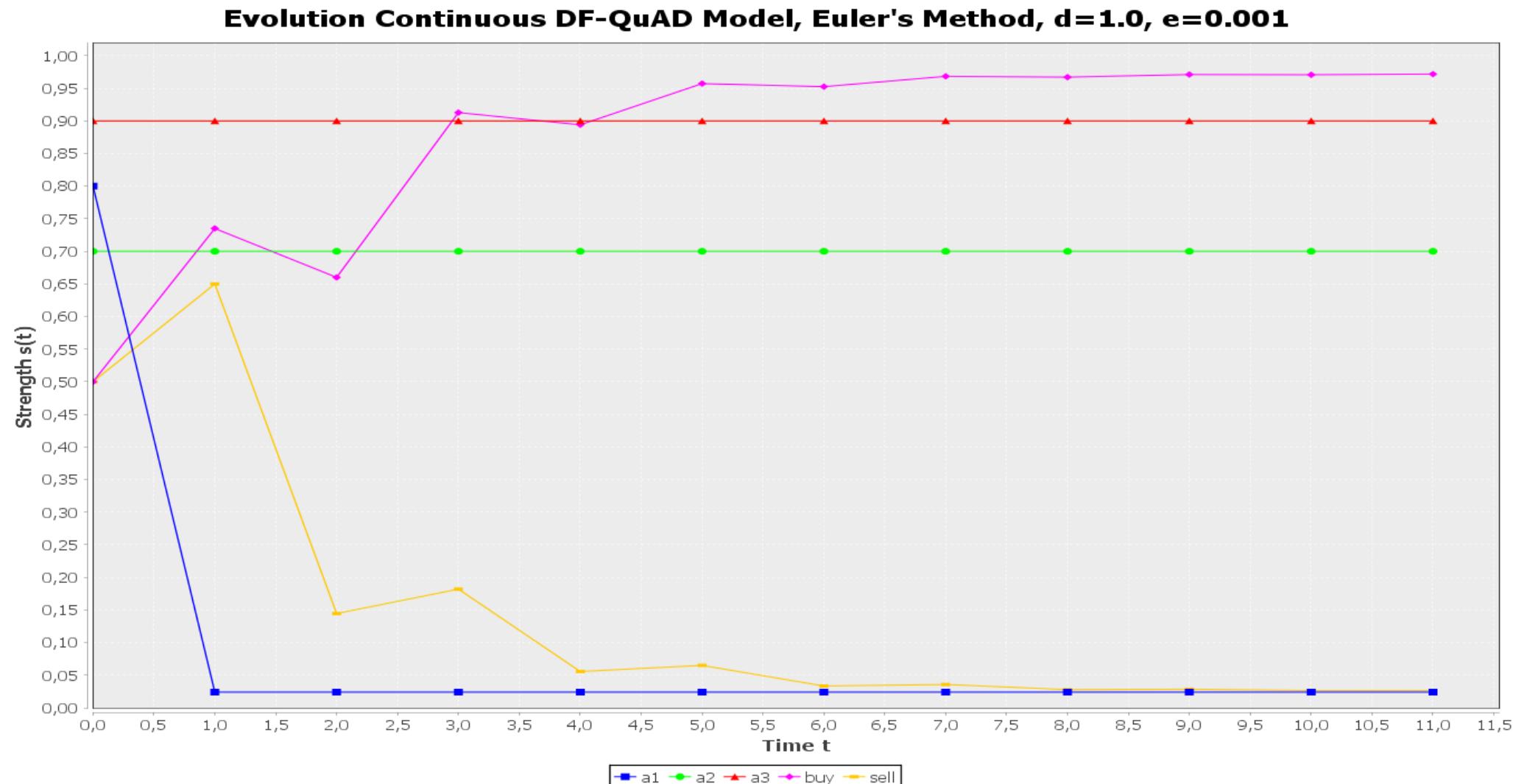
```
ads.setApproximator(new PlottingRK4(ads));
ads.approximateSolution(10e-3, 10e-4, true);
```

Generate visualizations with JFreeChart



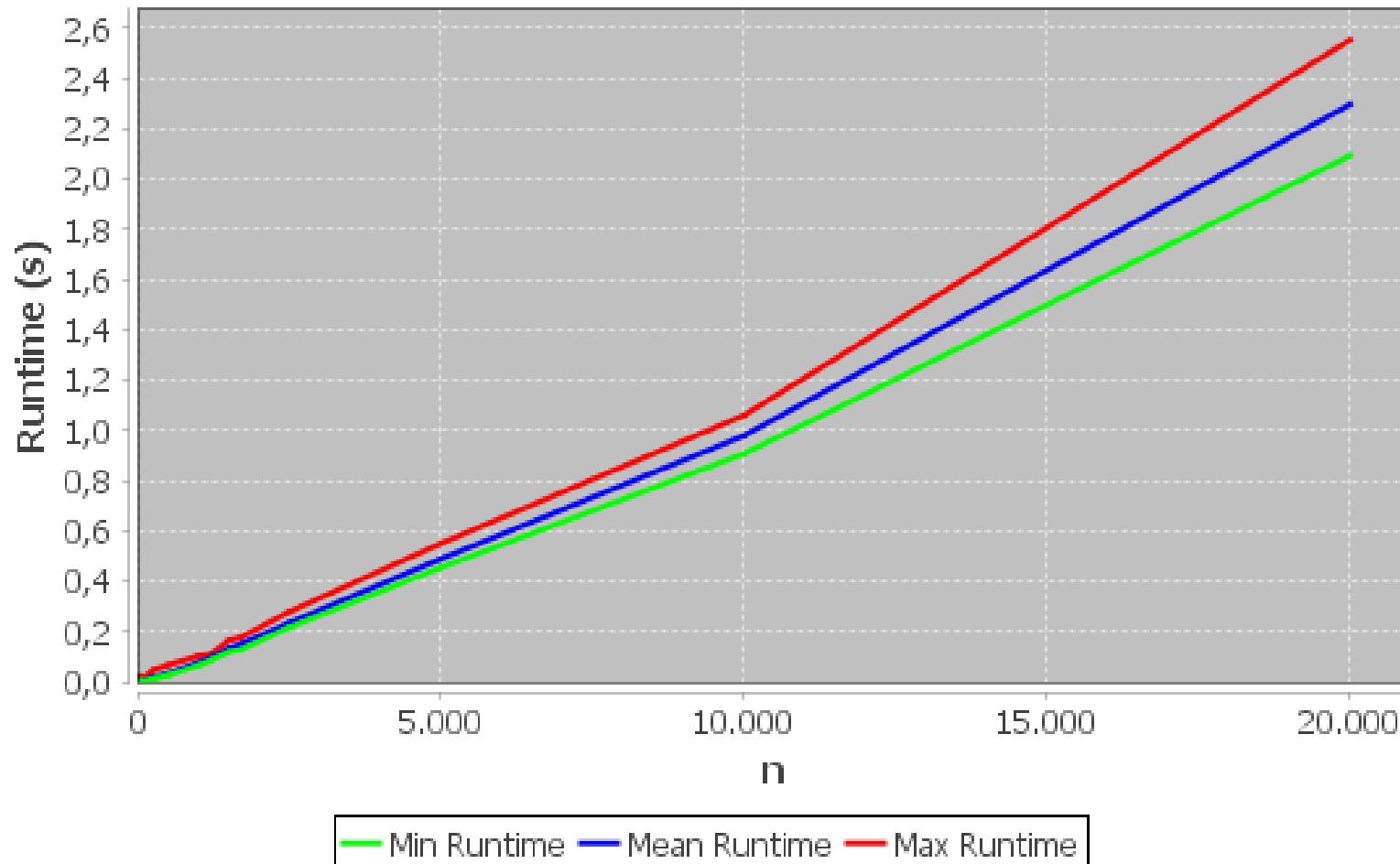
```
ads.setApproximator(new PlottingEulersMethod(ads));  
ads.approximateSolution(1, 10e-4, true);
```

Simulate Discrete Semantics using
Euler's Method (KR 2018)

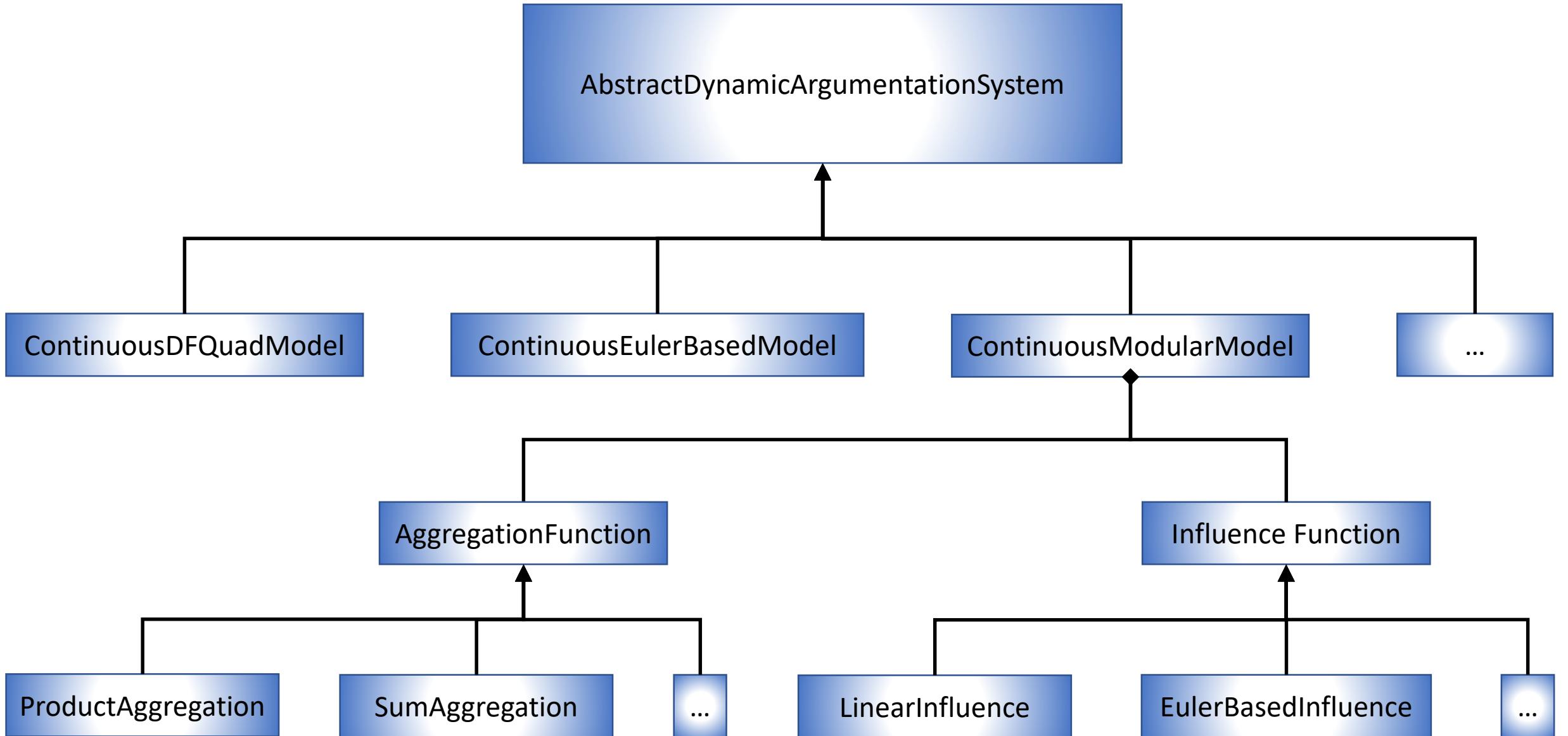


```
BenchmarkUtils benchmark = new BenchmarkUtils();
File benchmarkDirectory = new File("files/networks/barabasi");
QuadraticEnergyModel qas = new QuadraticEnergyModel();
benchmark.runBenchmark(benchmarkDirectory, qas);
```

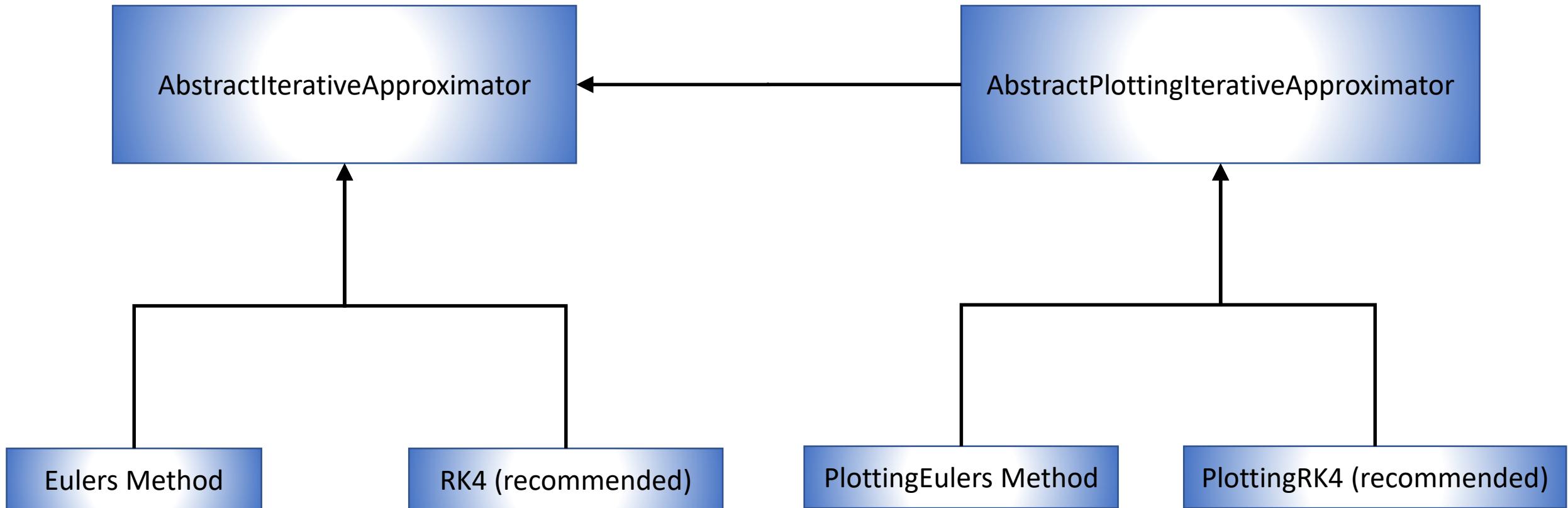
Perform Benchmarks



Using and Adding Semantics



Using and Adding Algorithms



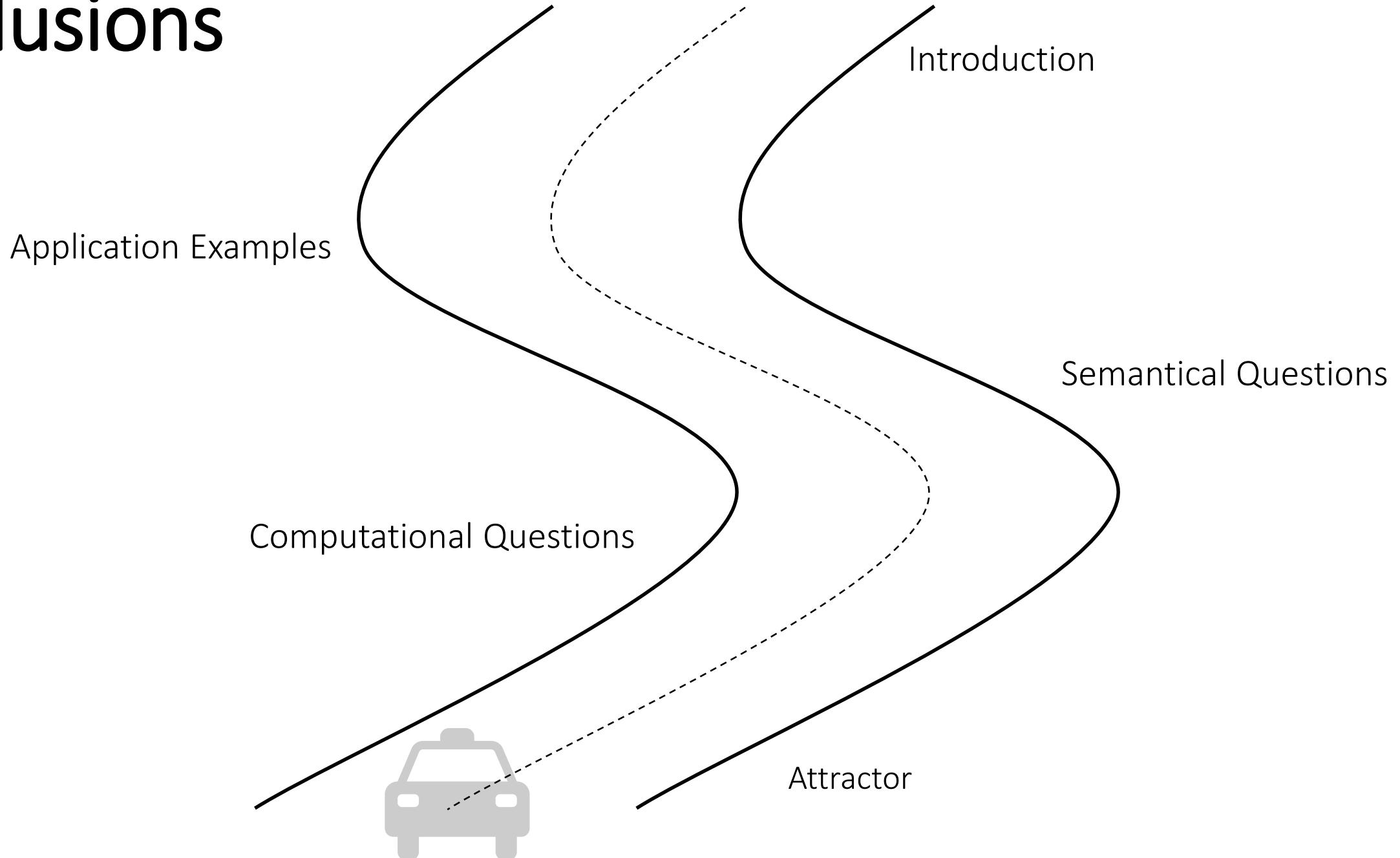
Documentation

- *Tutorial Article*

Potyka, N. (2018). *A Tutorial for Weighted Bipolar Argumentation with Continuous Dynamical Systems and the Java Library Attractor*. 17th International Workshop on Non-Monotonic Reasoning (NMR 2018). 2018.

- *Javadoc*

Conclusions



Weighted Bipolar Argumentation

- Computationally efficient tool for
 - *Social Media Analysis*
 - *Decision Problems*
 - *Explainable AI*
- *Some interesting research questions*
 - *convergence guarantees*
 - *learning BAGs from data*
 - *empirical investigation of semantical properties*
 - *new applications*
 - ...