

# On the Existence of Unions of Timed Scenarios

Neda Saeedloei

Towson University  
MD, USA

December 4, 2024

- 1 Background: Timed Scenarios
  - Semantics
  - Consistency
  - Distance Tables
  - Union of Timed Scenarios
  
- 2 Necessary and Sufficient Conditions for the Existence of Unions

# Background: Timed Scenarios

- A formal way of specifying behaviours of a real-time system
- A timed scenario specifies all the behaviours that:
  - share a particular sequence of events;
  - satisfy the constraints on the times between events.

# Scenarios: Example

$$\xi = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C})$$

$$\xi_1 = (a b c f, \{\tau_{0,1} \leq 5, \tau_{0,2} \leq 4\})$$

is represented by

$$\xi_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 5 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 4 \}; \\ 3 : f . \end{array}$$

# Semantics of Scenarios

$$\xi_1 \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 5 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 4 \}; \\ 3 : f . \end{array}}$$

$\llbracket \xi_1 \rrbracket$ : the set of behaviours that are allowed by  $\xi_1$

$$\llbracket \xi_1 \rrbracket = \{ (a, t_0)(b, t_1)(c, t_2)(f, t_3) \mid \begin{array}{l} t_0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq t_3 \wedge \\ t_1 - t_0 \leq 5 \wedge \\ t_2 - t_0 \leq 4 \} \end{array}$$

# Semantics of Scenarios

$$\xi_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 5 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 4 \}; \\ 3 : f . \end{array}$$

For  $i < j$ :  $t_{ij} = t_j - t_i$

$\llbracket \xi_1 \rrbracket$ : the set of behaviours that are allowed by  $\xi_1$

$$\llbracket \xi_1 \rrbracket = \{ (a, t_0)(b, t_1)(c, t_2)(f, t_3) \mid t_0 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq t_3 \wedge \\ t_{01} \leq 5 \wedge \\ t_{02} \leq 4 \}$$

# Consistency of Scenarios

A scenario  $\xi$  is *consistent* iff  $\llbracket \xi \rrbracket \neq \emptyset$ ; otherwise it is *inconsistent*.

Example:

$$\xi_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 5 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 4 \}; \\ 3 : f. \end{array}$$

$$\xi_2 \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \geq 2 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{12} \geq 2 \}; \\ 3 : f \{ \tau_{03} \leq 2 \}. \end{array}$$

$\xi_1$  is consistent, while  $\xi_2$  is inconsistent.

# Upper and Lower Bounds on Time Differences

$\xi$ : a consistent scenario of length  $n$

For  $0 \leq i < j < n$ :

$$m_{ij}^{\xi} = \min\{t_{ij}^{\mathcal{B}} \mid \mathcal{B} \in \llbracket \xi \rrbracket\}$$

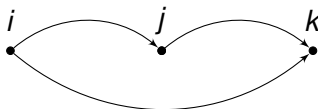
$$M_{ij}^{\xi} = \max\{t_{ij}^{\mathcal{B}} \mid \mathcal{B} \in \llbracket \xi \rrbracket\}$$

If there is no upper bound for some  $i$  and  $j$ , then  $M_{ij}^{\xi} = \infty$ .

Obviously  $0 \leq m_{ij} \leq t_{ij} \leq M_{ij} \leq \infty$ .



# Theorem



For  $0 \leq i < j < k \leq n$ :

$$m_{ij} + m_{jk} \leq m_{ik} \leq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} m_{ij} + M_{jk} \\ M_{ij} + m_{jk} \end{array} \right\} \leq M_{ik} \leq M_{ij} + M_{jk} \quad (1)$$

# Distance Tables

Another representation for the constraints of  $\xi$

$$\xi_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 5 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 4 \}; \\ 3 : f. \end{array}$$

$\mathcal{D}^{\xi_1}$

	1	2	3
0	(0, 5)	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )

$$l_{01} = 0$$

$$h_{01} = 5$$

# Stable Distance Tables

	1	2	3
0	(0, 5)	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )

A distance table of size  $n$  is *stable* iff

- $l_{ij} \leq h_{ij}$ , for all  $0 \leq i < j < n$
- for all  $0 \leq i < j < k < n$ ,

$$l_{ij} + l_{jk} \leq l_{ik} \leq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l_{ij} + h_{jk} \\ h_{ij} + l_{jk} \end{array} \right\} \leq h_{ik} \leq h_{ij} + h_{jk} \quad (2)$$

# Stable Distance Tables

$$\xi_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 5 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 4 \}; \\ 3 : f. \end{array}$$

$\mathcal{D}^{\xi_1}$  is not stable

$$h_{01} + l_{12} \leq h_{02}$$

$$5 + 0 \not\leq 4$$

$$l_{01} + h_{12} \leq h_{02}$$

$$0 + \infty \not\leq 4$$

$\mathcal{D}^{\xi_1}$	1	2	3
0	(0, 5)	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )

# Stabilizing Distance Tables

$$l_{ij} + l_{jk} \leq l_{ik} \leq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l_{ij} + h_{jk} \\ h_{ij} + l_{jk} \end{array} \right\} \leq h_{ik} \leq h_{ij} + h_{jk} \quad (2)$$

$$l_{ij} + l_{jk} > l_{ik} \longrightarrow l_{ik} := l_{ij} + l_{jk} \quad (R1)$$

$$l_{ik} > l_{ij} + h_{jk} \longrightarrow l_{ij} := l_{ik} - h_{jk} \quad (R2)$$

$$l_{ik} > h_{ij} + l_{jk} \longrightarrow l_{jk} := l_{ik} - h_{ij} \quad (R3)$$

$$l_{ij} + h_{jk} > h_{ik} \longrightarrow h_{jk} := h_{ik} - l_{ij} \quad (R4)$$

$$h_{ij} + l_{jk} > h_{ik} \longrightarrow h_{ij} := h_{ik} - l_{jk} \quad (R5)$$

$$h_{ik} > h_{ij} + h_{jk} \longrightarrow h_{ik} := h_{ij} + h_{jk} \quad (R6)$$

Apply iteratively!

- Low values increase and high values decrease.
- Termination: either (2) is satisfied or table becomes invalid i.e.,  $l_{ij} > h_{ij}$ , for some  $i < j$ .

# Stable Distance Tables

$$\xi_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 5 \}; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 4 \}; \\ 3 : f. \end{array}$$

$\mathcal{D}^{\xi_1}$  is not stable

$$h_{01} + l_{12} \leq h_{02}$$

$$5 + 0 \not\leq 4$$

$$h_{01} := h_{02} - l_{12} = 4 - 0$$

$$l_{01} + h_{12} \leq h_{02}$$

$$0 + \infty \not\leq 4$$

$$h_{12} := h_{02} - l_{01} = 4 - 0$$

$\mathcal{D}^{\xi_1}$	1	2	3
0	(0, 5)	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )
$\mathcal{D}_S^{\xi_1}$	1	2	3
0	(0, 4)	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )

# Properties of Stable Distance Tables

- The stable distance table is unique for a given scenario.
- If  $\mathcal{D}^\xi$  is stable, then each constraint in the table is tight:

$$l_{ij} = m_{ij}^\xi \text{ and } h_{ij} = M_{ij}^\xi.$$

- A stable table includes all the constraints that are implied by the initial set of constraints.
- **Semantically-equivalent scenarios have the same stable distance table.**

# Optimized Scenarios

- Minimal set of constraints
- Removal of any of the constraints would change the semantics



# Explicit Constraints

If  $\xi = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C})$  is an **optimized** scenario, then the members of  $\mathcal{C}$  are the **explicit** constraints.

$\eta$	0 : a ;						
	1 : b { $\tau_{01} \geq 6$ } ;						
	2 : c { $\tau_{02} \leq 8, \tau_{12} \geq 1$ } .						
	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 10px;">0</td> <td style="padding: 5px 10px;">(6, 7)    (7, 8)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 10px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 5px 10px;">(1, 2)</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	0	(6, 7)    (7, 8)	1	(1, 2)
1	2						
0	(6, 7)    (7, 8)						
1	(1, 2)						

- $\mathcal{D}_S^\eta = \{\tau_{01} \geq 6, \tau_{01} \leq 7, \tau_{02} \geq 7, \tau_{02} \leq 8, \tau_{12} \geq 1, \tau_{12} \leq 2\}$ .
- $\mathcal{C} = \{\tau_{01} \geq 6, \tau_{02} \leq 8, \tau_{12} \geq 1\}$  is the set of explicit constraints of  $\eta$ .

# Motivation

- $\xi$  and  $\eta$ :
  - two scenarios of length  $n$  with **the same sequence of events**,  $\mathcal{E}$
  - $\forall 0 \leq i < j < n \ I_{ij}^\xi \cap I_{ij}^\eta \neq \emptyset$  (all intervals intersect)

## Intersection

- The *intersection* of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  ( $\xi \cap \eta$ )
  - a scenario whose sequence of events is  $\mathcal{E}$  and
 
$$\mathcal{D}^{\xi \cap \eta}[i, j] = (\max(m_{ij}^\xi, m_{ij}^\eta), \min(M_{ij}^\xi, M_{ij}^\eta))$$
  - $[[\xi \cap \eta]] = [[\xi]] \cap [[\eta]]$

For example:



# Motivation

$$\llbracket \xi \cap \eta \rrbracket = \llbracket \xi \rrbracket \cap \llbracket \eta \rrbracket$$

For union, it is not always the case that

$$\llbracket \xi \cup \eta \rrbracket = \llbracket \xi \rrbracket \cup \llbracket \eta \rrbracket$$

Which makes it more interesting!

## Combination (Quasi-union)

- $\xi$  and  $\eta$ :
  - two scenarios of length  $n$  with **the same sequence of events**,  $\mathcal{E}$
  - $\forall 0 \leq i < j < n \ I_{ij}^{\xi} \cap I_{ij}^{\eta} \neq \emptyset$  (all intervals intersect)
- The *combination (quasi-union)* of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  ( $\xi \cup \eta$ )
  - a scenario whose sequence of events is  $\mathcal{E}$  and
  - $\mathcal{D}^{\xi \cup \eta}[i, j] = (\min(m_{ij}^{\xi}, m_{ij}^{\eta}), \max(M_{ij}^{\xi}, M_{ij}^{\eta}))$

For example:



# Combination (Quasi-union): Example

$$\xi \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 4 \}; \\ 2 : c. \end{array}$$

	1	2
0	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

$$\eta \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \geq 7 \}. \end{array}$$

	1	2
0	(0, $\infty$ )	(7, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

$$\xi \cup \eta \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b; \\ 2 : c. \end{array}$$

	1	2
0	(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

# Combination (Quasi-union)

$$[[\xi] \cup [\eta]] \subseteq [[\xi \uplus \eta]].$$

What about

$$[[\xi \uplus \eta]] \subseteq [[\xi] \cup [\eta]]?$$

# Zigzagging Behaviours

- $\xi$  and  $\eta$ : two consistent scenarios, such that
- $\xi \uplus \eta$  is defined.

$\llbracket \xi \uplus \eta \rrbracket = \llbracket \xi \rrbracket \cup \llbracket \eta \rrbracket \cup \mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$ , where

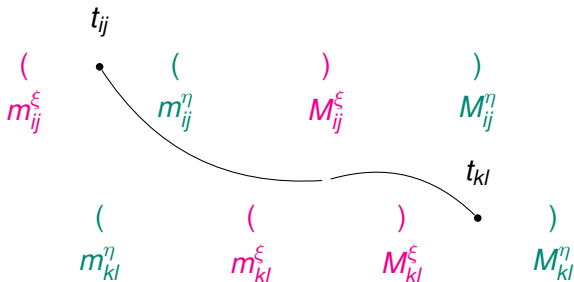
$\llbracket \xi \rrbracket \cap \mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) = \emptyset$  and

$\llbracket \eta \rrbracket \cap \mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) = \emptyset$ .

We call members of  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$  *zigzagging behaviours*.

# Zigzagging Behaviours

For example:



$$t_{ij} \in I_{ij}^{\xi} \setminus I_{ij}^{\eta}$$

$$t_{kl} \in I_{kl}^{\eta} \setminus I_{kl}^{\xi}$$



$\xi$  and  $\eta$ : two scenarios of length  $n$ ,  $\xi \uplus \eta$  defined.

If behaviour  $\mathcal{B}^Z \in \mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$  is such that

$$t_{ij}^{\mathcal{B}^Z} \in I_{ij}^\eta \setminus I_{ij}^\xi, t_{kl}^{\mathcal{B}^Z} \in I_{kl}^\xi \setminus I_{kl}^\eta \quad (i \neq k \vee j \neq l)$$

Then we say

$\mathcal{B}^Z$  zigzags *through*  $ij$  and  $kl$ .

## Zigzagging Behaviours: Example

$$\xi \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 4 \}; \\ 2 : c. \end{array}$$

	1	2
0	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

$$\eta \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \geq 7 \}. \end{array}$$

	1	2
0	(0, $\infty$ )	(7, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

$$\begin{array}{l} 0 : a; \\ 1 : b; \\ 2 : c. \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c|cc} & 1 & 2 \\ \hline 0 & (0, \infty) & (0, \infty) \\ 1 & & (0, \infty) \end{array}$$
 $\xi \uplus \eta$ 
 $\mathcal{B}^Z = (a, 0)(b, 5)(c, 6)$ 
 $t_{01} = 5 \in I_{01}^{\eta} \setminus I_{01}^{\xi}$ 
 $t_{02} = 6 \in I_{01}^{\xi} \setminus I_{01}^{\eta}$ 
 $\mathcal{B}^Z$  zigzags through 01 and 02.

# Union

If  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) = \emptyset$ ,  $\xi \uplus \eta$  becomes the *union* of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$ .

$$\llbracket \xi \cup \eta \rrbracket = \llbracket \xi \rrbracket \cup \llbracket \eta \rrbracket$$

# Union: Example

$$\gamma = \xi \cup \eta: \llbracket \gamma \rrbracket = \llbracket \xi \rrbracket \cup \llbracket \eta \rrbracket$$

$$\xi$$

0 : a ;
1 : b ;
2 : c { $\tau_{12} \leq 6$ } ;
3 : d { $\tau_{03} \geq 3$ } .

$$\eta$$

0 : a ;
1 : b { $\tau_{01} \leq 4$ } ;
2 : c { $\tau_{02} \leq 6$ } ;
3 : d .

$$\xi \cup \eta$$

0 : a ;
1 : b ;
2 : c { $\tau_{12} \leq 6$ } ;
3 : d .

	1	2	3
0	(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )	(3, $\infty$ )
1		(0, 6)	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )

	1	2	3
0	(0, 4)	(0, 6)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, 6)	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )

	1	2	3
0	(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, 6)	(0, $\infty$ )
2			(0, $\infty$ )

# Combination (Quasi-union)

## Theorem

Let  $\xi = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_1)$  and  $\eta = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_2)$  be two *optimized* scenarios of length  $n$  such that  $\xi \uplus \eta$  is defined.

If  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) \neq \emptyset$ , then, there exist

*a constraint*  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}_1$  of the form  $\tau_{ij} \sim a$

and

*a constraint*  $\beta \in \mathcal{C}_2$  of the form  $\tau_{kl} \sim b$  ( $ij \neq kl$ )

such that  $\alpha \notin \mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\beta \notin \mathcal{C}_1$ .

# Theorem: Example

$$\xi \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a ; \\ 1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 4 \} ; \\ 2 : c . \end{array}$$

$$\eta \quad \begin{array}{l} 0 : a ; \\ 1 : b ; \\ 2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \geq 7 \} . \end{array}$$

	1	2
0	(0, 4)	(0, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

	1	2
0	(0, $\infty$ )	(7, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

$$\mathcal{B}^Z = (a, 0)(b, 5)(c, 6)$$

$$t_{01} = 5 \in I_{01}^m \setminus I_{01}^\xi$$

$$t_{02} = 6 \in I_{01}^\xi \setminus I_{01}^m$$

$$\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) \neq \emptyset$$

therefore,

$$\alpha = \tau_{01} \leq 4, \beta = \tau_{02} \geq 7$$

## Combination (Quasi-union)

Recall the theorem:

Let  $\xi = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_1)$  and  $\eta = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_2)$  be two **optimized** scenarios of length  $n$  such that  $\xi \uplus \eta$  is defined.

If  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) \neq \emptyset$ , then, there exist

a constraint  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}_1$  of the form  $\tau_{ij} \sim a$

and

a constraint  $\beta \in \mathcal{C}_2$  of the form  $\tau_{kl} \sim b$  ( $ij \neq kl$ )

such that  $\alpha \notin \mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\beta \notin \mathcal{C}_1$ .

The theorem provides a **sufficient** condition for the existence of union: if  $\xi = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_1)$  and  $\eta = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_2)$  do not contain such an  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , then  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) = \emptyset$ .

## Combination (Quasi-union)

Recall the theorem:

Let  $\xi = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_1)$  and  $\eta = (\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{C}_2)$  be two **optimized** scenarios of length  $n$  such that  $\xi \uplus \eta$  is defined.

If  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) \neq \emptyset$ , then, there exist

a constraint  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}_1$  of the form  $\tau_{ij} \sim a$

and

a constraint  $\beta \in \mathcal{C}_2$  of the form  $\tau_{kl} \sim b$  ( $ij \neq kl$ )

such that  $\alpha \notin \mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\beta \notin \mathcal{C}_1$ .

But the condition is **not necessary**, in general:

if  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  contain such an  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , then  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$  might be empty.



## Combination (Quasi-union)

But the condition is **not necessary**, in general:

if  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  contain such an  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , then  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$  might be empty.

$\xi$	0 : a ;
	1 : b ;
	2 : c { $\tau_{02} \geq 7$ } .

	1	2
0	(0, $\infty$ )	(7, $\infty$ )
1		(0, $\infty$ )

$\eta$	0 : a ;
	1 : b { $\tau_{01} \leq 8$ } ;
	2 : c { $\tau_{02} \leq 10$ } .

	1	2
0	(0, 8)	(0, 10)
1		(0, 10)

$\alpha = \tau_{02} \geq 7$ , in  $\xi$

$\beta = \tau_{01} \leq 8$ , in  $\eta$

However, no behaviour in  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$ .

## *z\_pairs*

$\xi$  and  $\eta$ :  $\xi \not\subseteq \eta$ ,  $\eta \not\subseteq \xi$  and  $\xi \uplus \eta$  defined

$\alpha = \tau_{ij} \sim a$  in  $\xi$  (not in  $\eta$ )  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \sim b$  in  $\eta$  (not in  $\xi$ ) ( $i \neq k \vee j \neq l$ )

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  form a *z\_pair* if one of the following conditions holds:

①  $0 \leq k \leq i < j \leq l < n$  and

(a)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \geq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \geq b$ ,  $m_{ij}^\eta < a$ ,  $m_{kl}^\xi < b$ , or



## $z\_pairs$

$\xi$  and  $\eta$ :  $\xi \not\subseteq \eta$ ,  $\eta \not\subseteq \xi$  and  $\xi \uplus \eta$  defined

$\alpha = \tau_{ij} \sim a$  in  $\xi$  (not in  $\eta$ )  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \sim b$  in  $\eta$  (not in  $\xi$ ) ( $i \neq k \vee j \neq l$ )

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  form a  $z\_pair$  if one of the following conditions holds:

①  $0 \leq k \leq i < j \leq l < n$  and

(a)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \geq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \geq b$ ,  $m_{ij}^\eta < a$ ,  $m_{kl}^\xi < b$ , or

(b)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \geq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \leq b$ ,  $m_{ij}^\eta < a$ ,  $b < M_{kl}^\xi$ , and additionally

$$M_{ki}^{\xi \uplus \eta} + a + M_{jl}^{\xi \uplus \eta} > b, \text{ or}$$

(c)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \leq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \geq b$ ,  $a < M_{ij}^\eta$ ,  $m_{kl}^\xi < b$ , and additionally

$$m_{ki}^{\xi \uplus \eta} + a + m_{jl}^{\xi \uplus \eta} < b, \text{ or}$$

(d)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \leq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \leq b$ ,  $a < M_{ij}^\eta$ ,  $b < M_{kl}^\xi$ .



## z\_pairs

$\xi$  and  $\eta$ :  $\xi \not\subseteq \eta$ ,  $\eta \not\subseteq \xi$  and  $\xi \uplus \eta$  defined

$\alpha = \tau_{ij} \sim \mathbf{a}$  in  $\xi$  (not in  $\eta$ )  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \sim \mathbf{b}$  in  $\eta$  (not in  $\xi$ ) ( $i \neq k \vee j \neq l$ )

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  form a **z\_pair** if one of the following conditions holds:

①  $0 \leq i < k < j < l < n$  and

(a)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \geq \mathbf{a}$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \geq \mathbf{b}$ ,  $m_{ij}^\eta < \mathbf{a}$ ,  $m_{kl}^\xi < \mathbf{b}$ , and additionally

$$m_{ij}^{\xi \uplus \eta} - \mathbf{a} < \mathbf{b} - m_{kj}^{\xi \uplus \eta}, \text{ or}$$

(b)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \geq \mathbf{a}$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \leq \mathbf{b}$ ,  $m_{ij}^\eta < \mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} < M_{kl}^\xi$ , and additionally

$$\mathbf{a} + M_{jl}^{\xi \uplus \eta} > m_{ik}^{\xi \uplus \eta} + \mathbf{b}, \text{ or}$$

(c)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \leq \mathbf{a}$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \geq \mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{a} < M_{ij}^\eta$ ,  $m_{kl}^\xi < \mathbf{b}$ , and additionally

$$\mathbf{a} + m_{jl}^{\xi \uplus \eta} < M_{ik}^{\xi \uplus \eta} + \mathbf{b}, \text{ or}$$

(d)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \leq \mathbf{a}$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \leq \mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{a} < M_{ij}^\eta$ ,  $\mathbf{b} < M_{kl}^\xi$ , and additionally

$$M_{ij}^{\xi \uplus \eta} - \mathbf{a} > \mathbf{b} - M_{kj}^{\xi \uplus \eta}.$$



## $z\_pairs$

$\xi$  and  $\eta$ :  $\xi \not\subseteq \eta$ ,  $\eta \not\subseteq \xi$  and  $\xi \uplus \eta$  defined

$\alpha = \tau_{ij} \sim a$  in  $\xi$  (not in  $\eta$ )  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \sim b$  in  $\eta$  (not in  $\xi$ ) ( $i \neq k \vee j \neq l$ )

$\alpha$  and  $\beta$  form a  $z\_pair$  if one of the following conditions holds:

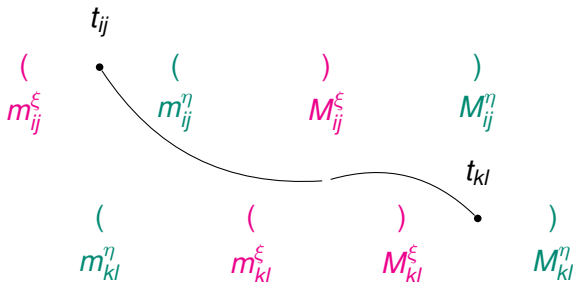
- ①  $0 \leq i < j \leq k < l < n$  and
- (a)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \geq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \geq b$ ,  $m_{ij}^\eta < a$ ,  $m_{kl}^\xi < b$ , or
  - (b)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \geq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \leq b$ ,  $m_{ij}^\eta < a$ ,  $b < M_{kl}^\xi$ , or
  - (c)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \leq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \geq b$ ,  $a < M_{ij}^\eta$ ,  $m_{kl}^\xi < b$ , or
  - (d)  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \leq a$ ,  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \leq b$ ,  $a < M_{ij}^\eta$ ,  $b < M_{kl}^\xi$ .



## $z\_pairs$

The conditions capture all the possibilities for  $I_{ij}^\eta \setminus I_{ij}^\xi \neq \emptyset$  and  $I_{kl}^\xi \setminus I_{kl}^\eta \neq \emptyset$ , to guarantee “there is room” for behaviours to zigzag through  $ij$  and  $kl$ .

The *additional* conditions specify certain relations that must hold between various minima and maxima in  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  for there to be zigzagging behaviours.



## $z\_pair$ Might Not Be Between Explicit Constraints

$0 : a$ $1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \geq 1 \}$ $2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 2 \}$ $3 : d$		1	2	3	$0 : a$ $1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 1 \}$ $2 : c \{ \tau_{12} \leq 1 \}$ $3 : d \{ \tau_{13} \geq 4 \}$		1	2	3	
		0	1	2			0	1	2	3
		(1, 2)	(1, 2)	(1, $\infty$ )			(0, 1)	(0, 2)	(4, $\infty$ )	(4, $\infty$ )
		1	(0, 1)	(0, $\infty$ )			1	(0, 1)	(4, $\infty$ )	(4, $\infty$ )
		2	(0, $\infty$ )	(0, $\infty$ )			2	(3, $\infty$ )	(3, $\infty$ )	(3, $\infty$ )
$\xi$					$\eta$					

- $\tau_{02} \leq 2$  of  $\xi$  and  $\tau_{13} \geq 4$  of  $\eta$  are different *explicit* constraints.
  - But they do not form a  $z\_pair$ :  
 case (2)(c) of definition of  $z\_pair$ :  
 However  $a = 2 \not\leq M_{02}^{\eta} = 2$ .

## $z\_pair$ Between Implied Constraints

$0 : a$ $1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \geq 1 \}$ $2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 2 \}$ $3 : d$	$\xi$	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">2</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">0</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">(1, 2)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">(1, 2)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">(1, <math>\infty</math>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">(0, 1)</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">(0, <math>\infty</math>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">(0, <math>\infty</math>)</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	0	(1, 2)	(1, 2)	(1, $\infty$ )	1		(0, 1)	(0, $\infty$ )	2			(0, $\infty$ )	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">2</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">0</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">(0, 1)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">(0, 2)</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">(4, <math>\infty</math>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">(0, 1)</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">(4, <math>\infty</math>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">(3, <math>\infty</math>)</td> </tr> </table>	1	2	3	0	(0, 1)	(0, 2)	(4, $\infty$ )	1		(0, 1)	(4, $\infty$ )	2			(3, $\infty$ )
1	2	3																															
0	(1, 2)	(1, 2)	(1, $\infty$ )																														
1		(0, 1)	(0, $\infty$ )																														
2			(0, $\infty$ )																														
1	2	3																															
0	(0, 1)	(0, 2)	(4, $\infty$ )																														
1		(0, 1)	(4, $\infty$ )																														
2			(3, $\infty$ )																														

$0 : a$
$1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \leq 1 \}$
$2 : c \{ \tau_{12} \leq 1 \}$
$3 : d \{ \tau_{13} \geq 4 \}$

$\eta$

$\tau_{02} \geq 1$  of  $\xi$  (an *implied* constraint) and  $\tau_{13} \geq 4$  of  $\eta$  form a  $z\_pair$ .



# A Necessary Condition for the Non-existence of Union

no union  $\equiv$  zigzagging  $\Rightarrow z\_pair$

## Theorem

$\xi$  and  $\eta$ : two scenarios of length  $n$ ,  $\xi \not\subseteq \eta$  and  $\eta \not\subseteq \xi$ ,  
 $\xi \uplus \eta$  is defined

If  $B^z \in \mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$  zigzags through some  $ij$  and  $kl$ , then  
 there exist  $\alpha = \tau_{ij} \sim a$  in  $\xi$  and  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \sim b$  in  $\eta$   
 such that  
 $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  form a  $z\_pair$ .

## Consequence of the Theorem

no union  $\equiv$  zigzagging  $\Rightarrow z\_pair$

if there is no  $z\_pair$  between scenarios  $\xi$  and  $\eta$ , then  $\mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta) = \emptyset$ , therefore  $\xi \cup \eta$  exists.

# A Sufficient Condition for the Non-existence of Union

$z\_pair \Rightarrow$  zigzagging  $\equiv$  no union

## Theorem

$\xi$  and  $\eta$ : two scenarios of length  $n$ ,  $\xi \not\subseteq \eta$ ,  $\eta \not\subseteq \xi$   
 $\xi \uplus \eta$  is defined

If there are

$\alpha = \tau_{ij} \sim a$  in  $\xi$  and  $\beta = \tau_{kl} \sim b$  in  $\eta$  such that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  form a  $z\_pair$ ,  
 then

there is a  $\mathcal{B}^z \in \mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$ , such that  $\mathcal{B}^z$  zigzags through  $ij$  and  $kl$ .

# The Consequence of the Theorem

$z\_pair \Rightarrow \text{zigzagging} \equiv \text{no union}$

if  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  have constraints that form a  $z\_pair$ , then  $\xi \cup \eta$  does not exist.

# Example

$0 : a ;$ $1 : b \{ \tau_{01} \geq 3 \} ;$ $2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \leq 7 \} .$	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;"></th> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;">1</th> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;">2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;">0</td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(3, 7)</math></td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(3, 7)</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(0, 4)</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		1	2	0	$(3, 7)$	$(3, 7)$	1		$(0, 4)$
	1	2								
0	$(3, 7)$	$(3, 7)$								
1		$(0, 4)$								
$\xi$										

$0 : a ;$ $1 : b ;$ $2 : c \{ \tau_{12} \geq 4 \} .$	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;"></th> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;">1</th> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;">2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;">0</td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(0, \infty)</math></td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(4, \infty)</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(4, \infty)</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		1	2	0	$(0, \infty)$	$(4, \infty)$	1		$(4, \infty)$
	1	2								
0	$(0, \infty)$	$(4, \infty)$								
1		$(4, \infty)$								
$\eta$										

$\xi \cup \eta$	$0 : a ;$ $1 : b ;$ $2 : c \{ \tau_{02} \geq 3 \} .$
-----------------	--

	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;"></th> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;">1</th> <th style="padding: 2px 10px;">2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;">0</td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(0, \infty)</math></td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(3, \infty)</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;">1</td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><math>(0, \infty)</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		1	2	0	$(0, \infty)$	$(3, \infty)$	1		$(0, \infty)$
	1	2								
0	$(0, \infty)$	$(3, \infty)$								
1		$(0, \infty)$								

$\mathcal{B}^z = (a, 0)(b, 1)(c, 4) \in \mathcal{Z}(\xi, \eta)$ :

$t_{01}^{\mathcal{B}^z} = 1 - 0 = 1 \notin I_{01}^{\xi}$  and  $t_{12}^{\mathcal{B}^z} = 4 - 1 = 3 \notin I_{12}^{\eta}$ .

According to the theorem  $z\_pair$  exist:  $\alpha = \tau_{01} \geq 3$  in  $\xi$  and  $\beta = \tau_{12} \geq 4$  in  $\eta$ .

**Union does not exist.**

## Summary of the Results

The existence of  $z\_pairs$  is both a necessary and sufficient condition for the non-existence of union:

$z\_pair \equiv \text{zigzagging} \equiv \text{no union}$

Therefore:

$\text{no } z\_pair \equiv \text{union exists}$

# Conclusions

- We investigate the conditions under which  $\llbracket \xi \rrbracket \cup \llbracket \eta \rrbracket$  can be represented by a single scenario, namely the union  $\xi \cup \eta$ .
- Our investigation reveals that in the presence of zigzagging behaviours the constraints of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  must satisfy certain additional criteria.
- Based on this observation we formulate a sufficient and necessary condition for the existence of the union.

Thank You!