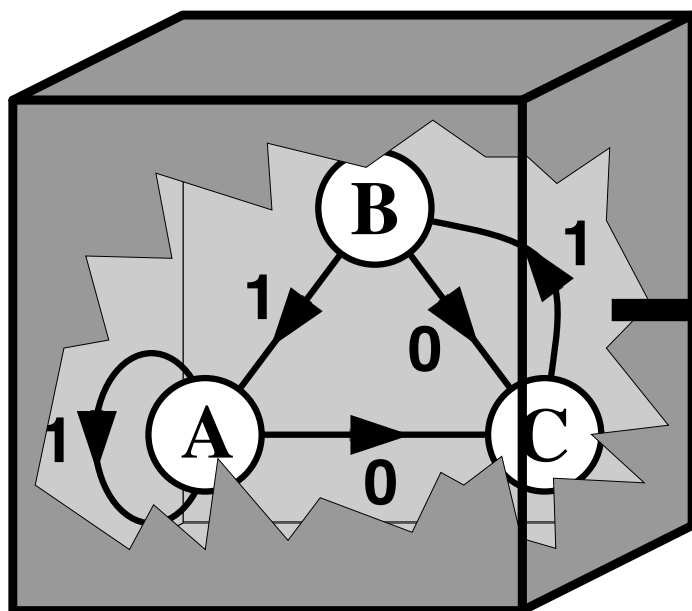


# Complexity

Jim Crutchfield & Ryan James  
Complexity Sciences Center  
Physics Department  
University of California at Davis

Complex Systems Summer School  
Santa Fe Institute  
St. Johns' College, Santa Fe, NM  
9-24 June 2011

# You Are Here

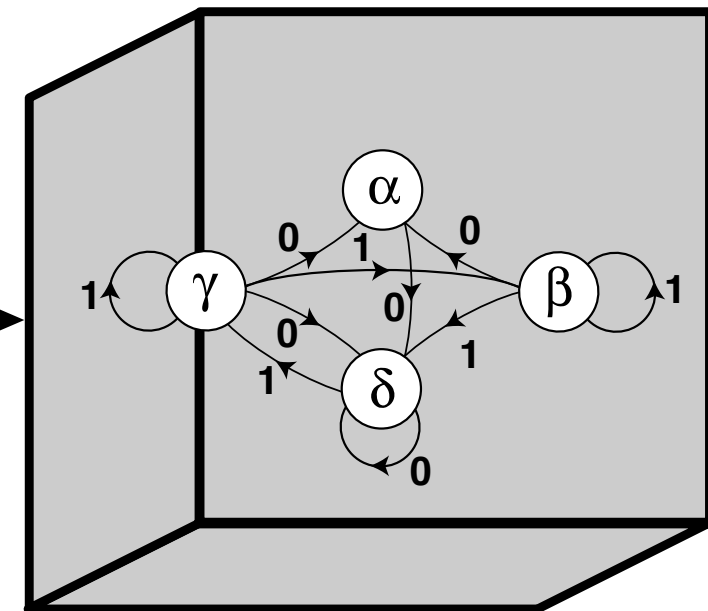


**System**

**Instrument**

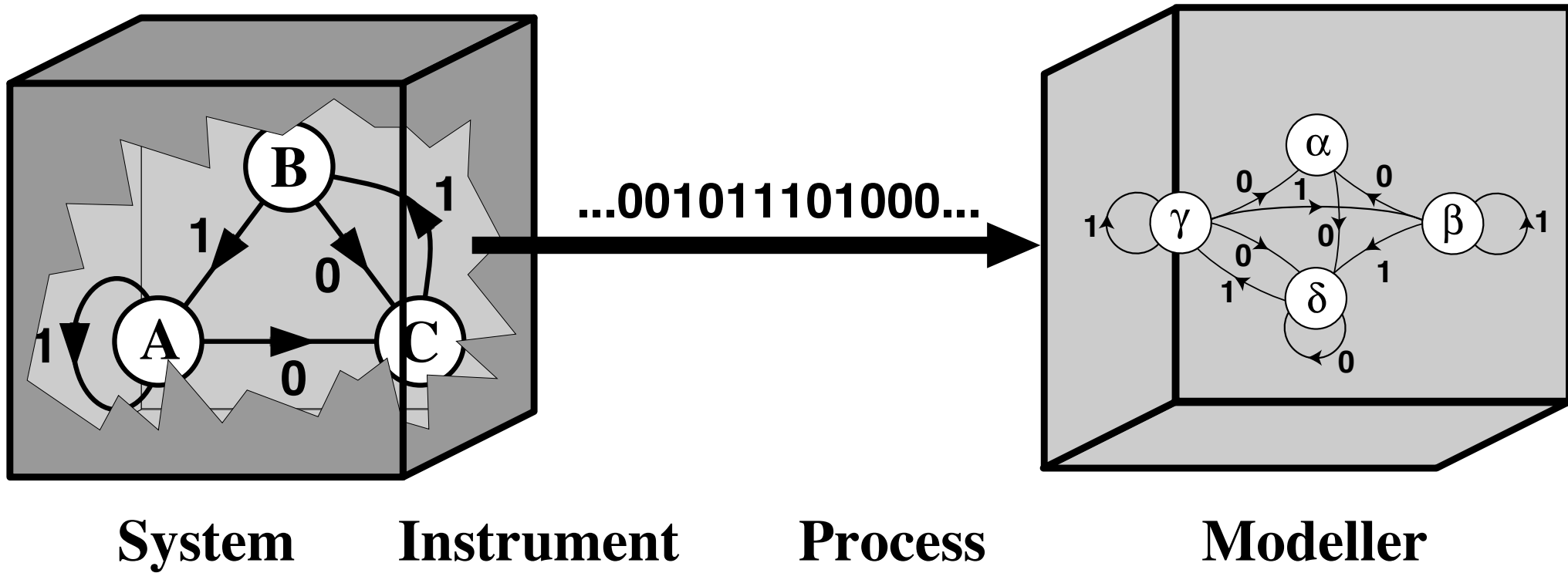
...001011101000...

**Process**



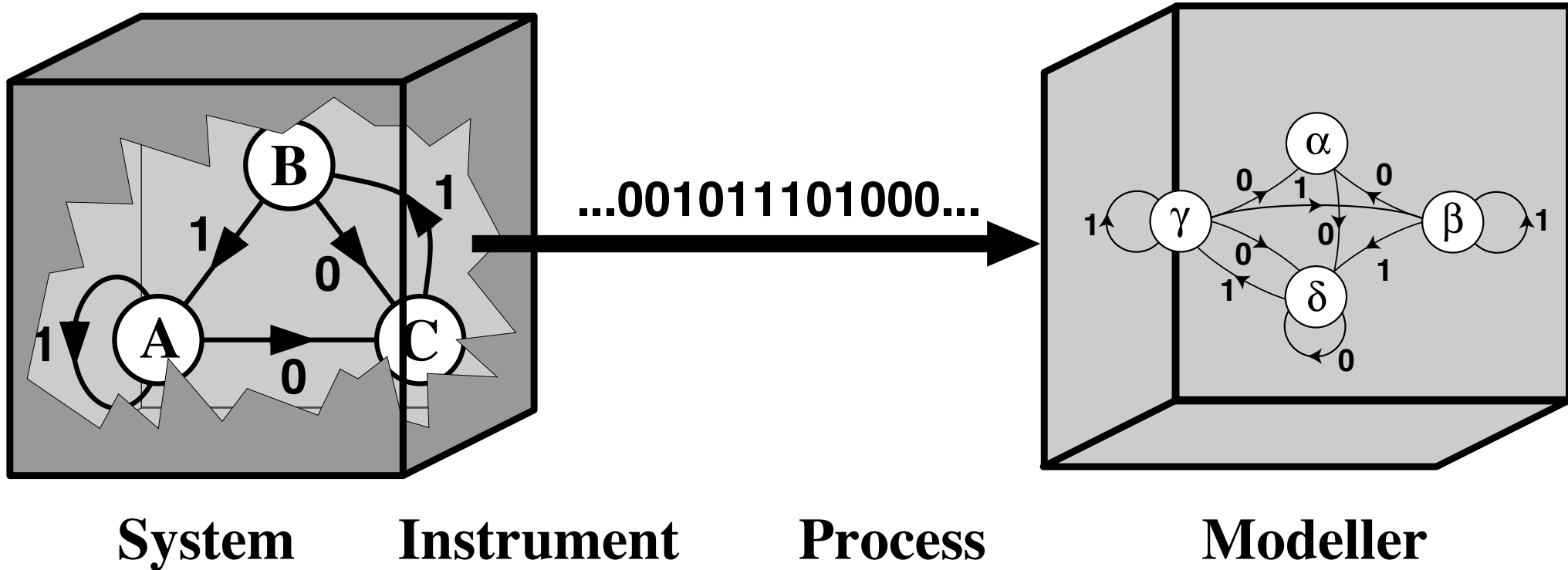
**Modeller**

## The Learning Channel

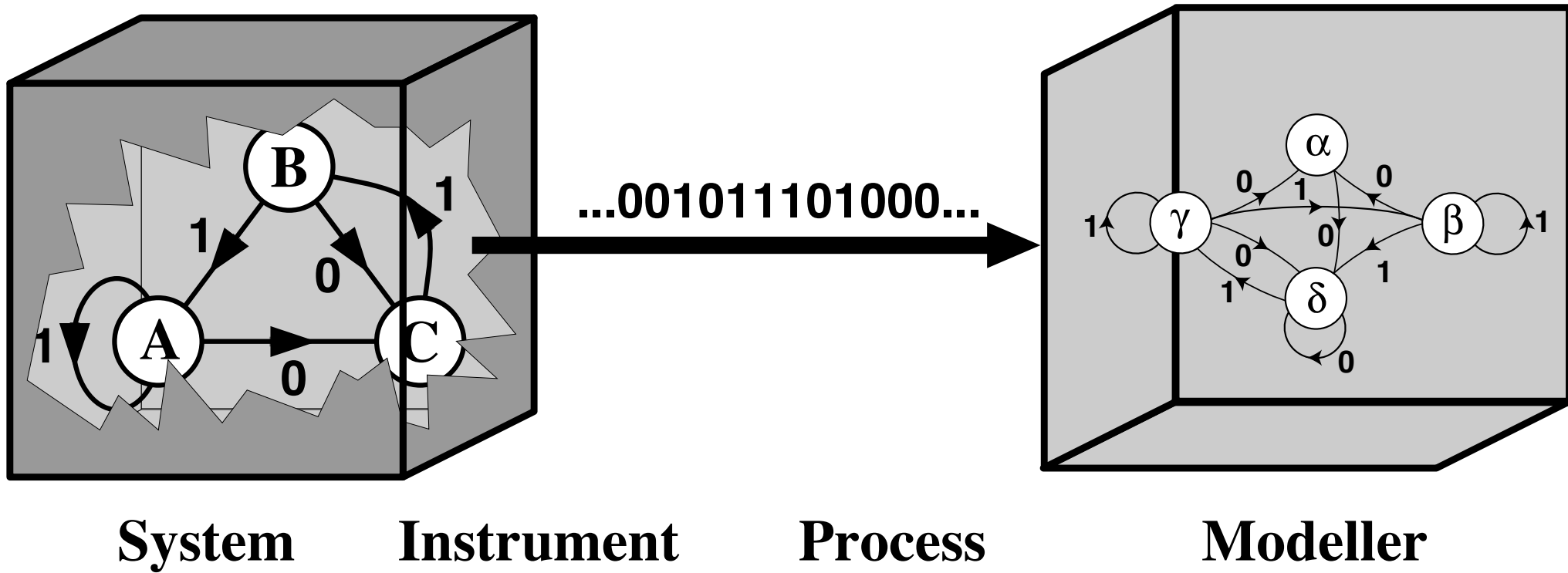


## The Learning Channel

# You Will Soon Be Here

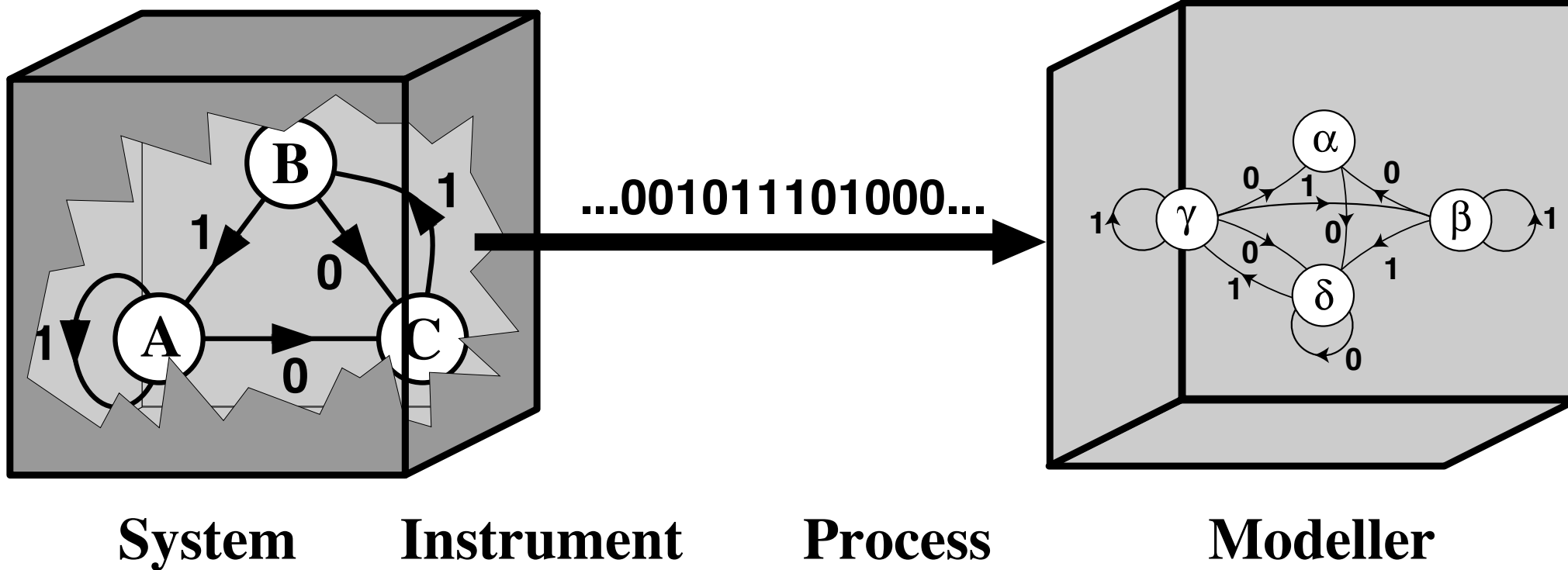
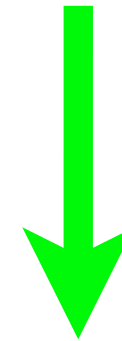


## The Learning Channel



## The Learning Channel

# In Two Weeks



## The Learning Channel

# Complexity

## Outline:

### Lecture 1 (Thursday):

Processes

Information Theory: Basic and Processes

### Lecture 2 (Friday):

Structure

Measures of Complexity

Applications

# Complexity

## References? Many, for example:

Stanislaw Lem, *Chance and Order*, New Yorker **59** (1984) 88-98.

T. Cover and J. Thomas, *Elements of Information Theory*,  
Wiley, Second Edition (2006) Chapters 1 - 7.

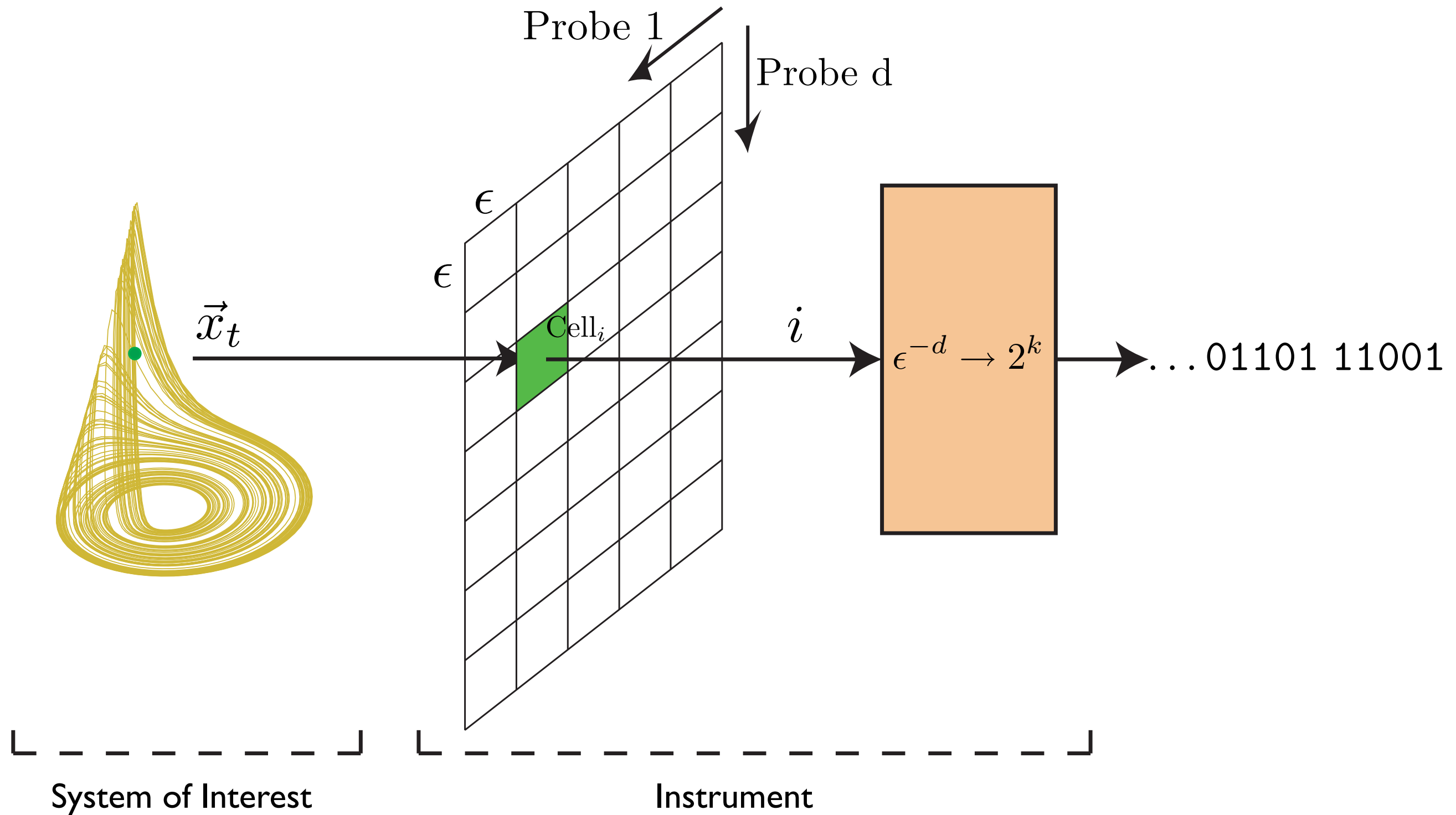
M. Li and P.M.B. Vitanyi, *An Introduction to Kolmogorov Complexity and its Applications*,  
Springer, New York (1993).

J. P. Crutchfield and D. P. Feldman,  
“Regularities Unseen, Randomness Observed: Levels of Entropy Convergence”, CHAOS  
**13:1** (2003) 25-54.

J. P. Crutchfield, C. J. Ellison, and J. R. Mahoney,  
“Time's Barbed Arrow: Irreversibility, Crypticity, and Stored Information”,  
Physical Review Letters **103:9** (2009) 094101.



# Processes and Their Models ...



## Measurement Channel

# Complexity: Processes and their Models

Previous Dynamics Lectures:

When measurements are faithful  
study infinite discrete sequences  
to learn about continuous-state dynamical system.

Now:

1. Processes
2. Information
3. Complexity

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Measurement Theory ...

Main questions now:

How do we characterize the resulting process?

Measure degrees of unpredictability & randomness.

What correlational structure is there?

How do we build a model from the process itself?

How much can we reconstruct about the  
hidden internal dynamics?

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Stochastic Processes:

**Chain** of random variables:

$$\overleftrightarrow{S} \equiv \dots S_{-2} S_{-1} S_0 S_1 S_2 \dots$$

Random variable:  $S_t$

Alphabet:  $\mathcal{A}$

Realization:

$$\dots s_{-2} s_{-1} s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots ; s_t \in \mathcal{A}$$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Stochastic Processes:

Chain of random variables:  $\overleftrightarrow{S} = \overleftarrow{S}_t \overrightarrow{S}_t$

**Past:**  $\overleftarrow{S}_t = \dots S_{t-3} S_{t-2} S_{t-1}$

**Future:**  $\overrightarrow{S}_t = S_t S_{t+1} S_{t+2} \dots$

**L-Block:**  $S_t^L \equiv S_t S_{t+1} \dots S_{t+L-1}$

**Word:**  $s_t^L \equiv s_t s_{t+1} \dots s_{t+L-1} \in \mathcal{A}^L$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Stochastic Processes ...

**Process:**

$$\Pr(\vec{S}) = \Pr(\dots S_{-2}S_{-1}S_0S_1S_2\dots)$$

**Sequence (or word) distributions:**

$$\{\Pr(S_t^L) = \Pr(S_t S_{t+1} \dots S_{t+L-1}) : S_t \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

**Process:**

$$\{\Pr(S_t^L) : \forall t, L\}$$

**Consistency conditions:**

$$\Pr(S_t^{L-1}) = \sum_{S_{t+L-1}} \Pr(S_t^L) \qquad \Pr(S_{t+1}^{L-1}) = \sum_{S_t} \Pr(S_t^L)$$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Types of Stochastic Process:

### Stationary process:

$$\Pr(S_t S_{t+1} \dots S_{t+L-1}) = \Pr(S_0 S_1 \dots S_{L-1})$$

Assume stationarity, unless otherwise noted.

Notation: Drop time indices.

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Types of Stochastic Process ...

### Uniform Process:

Equal-length sequences occur with same probability

$$U^L : \Pr(s^L) = 1/|\mathcal{A}|^L$$

### Example: Fair coin

$$\mathcal{A} = \{H, T\}$$

$$\Pr(H) = \Pr(T) = 1/2$$

$$\Pr(s^L) = 2^{-L}$$



# Processes and Their Models ...

## Types of Stochastic Process ...

### Independent, Identically Distributed (IID) Process:

$$\Pr(\vec{S}) = \dots \Pr(S_t) \Pr(S_{t+1}) \Pr(S_{t+2}) \dots$$

$$\Pr(S_t) = \Pr(S_\tau), \quad \forall t, \tau$$

### Example: Biased coin

$$\Pr(H) = p$$

$$\Pr(T) = 1 - p = q$$

$$\Pr(s^L) = p^n q^{L-n}$$

Number of heads in sequence:  $n$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Types of Stochastic Process ...

### Markov Process:

$$\Pr(\vec{S}) = \dots \Pr(S_{t+1}|S_t)\Pr(S_{t+2}|S_{t+1})\Pr(S_{t+3}|S_{t+2}) \dots$$

### Example: No Consecutive 0s (Golden Mean Process)

$$\mathcal{A} = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\Pr(0|0) = 0$$

$$\Pr(1|0) = 1$$

$$\Pr(0|1) = 1/2$$

$$\Pr(1|1) = 1/2$$

**Not Noisy Period-2 Process: GMP @ L = 4 has 0110.**

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Types of Stochastic Process ...

### Hidden Markov Process:

Internal Order-R Markov Process:  $\Pr(\vec{S})$

$$\Pr(S_t | \dots S_{t-2} S_{t-1}) = \Pr(S_t | S_{t-R} \dots S_{t-1})$$

$$s_t \in \mathcal{A}$$

Observed via a function of the internal sequences

$$\vec{Y} = f(\vec{S})$$

Measurement alphabet:  $y_t \in \mathcal{B}$

Measurement random variables:  $\vec{Y} = \dots Y_{-2} Y_{-1} Y_0 Y_1 \dots$

Observation process:  $\Pr(\vec{Y} | \vec{S})$

Observed process:  $\Pr(\vec{Y})$

Block Distribution:  $\Pr(Y^L)$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Types of Stochastic Process ...

### Hidden Markov Process ...

#### Example: The **Even Process**

Internal Process: Golden Mean

$$s_t \in \{0, 1\}$$

Observation Process:  $y_t \in \{a, b\}$

$$Y_t = f(S_{t-1}S_t)$$

$$y_t = \begin{cases} a, & s_{t-1}s_t = 11 \\ b, & s_{t-1}s_t = 01 \text{ or } 10 \end{cases}$$

$$\overleftrightarrow{s} = 1101110111101011111011\dots$$

$$\overleftrightarrow{y} = .\text{abbaabbbaaabbbaaaabba}\dots$$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes:

### Markov chain model of a Markov process:

**States:**  $v \in \mathcal{A} = \{1, \dots, k\}$

$$\overleftrightarrow{V} = \dots V_{-2} V_{-1} V_0 V_1 \dots$$

**Transition matrix:**  $T_{ij} = \Pr(v_{t+1} | v_t) \equiv p_{vv'}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & \cdots & p_{1k} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{k1} & \cdots & p_{kk} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Stochastic matrix:**  $\sum_{i=1}^k T_{ij} = 1$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

### Markov chain ...

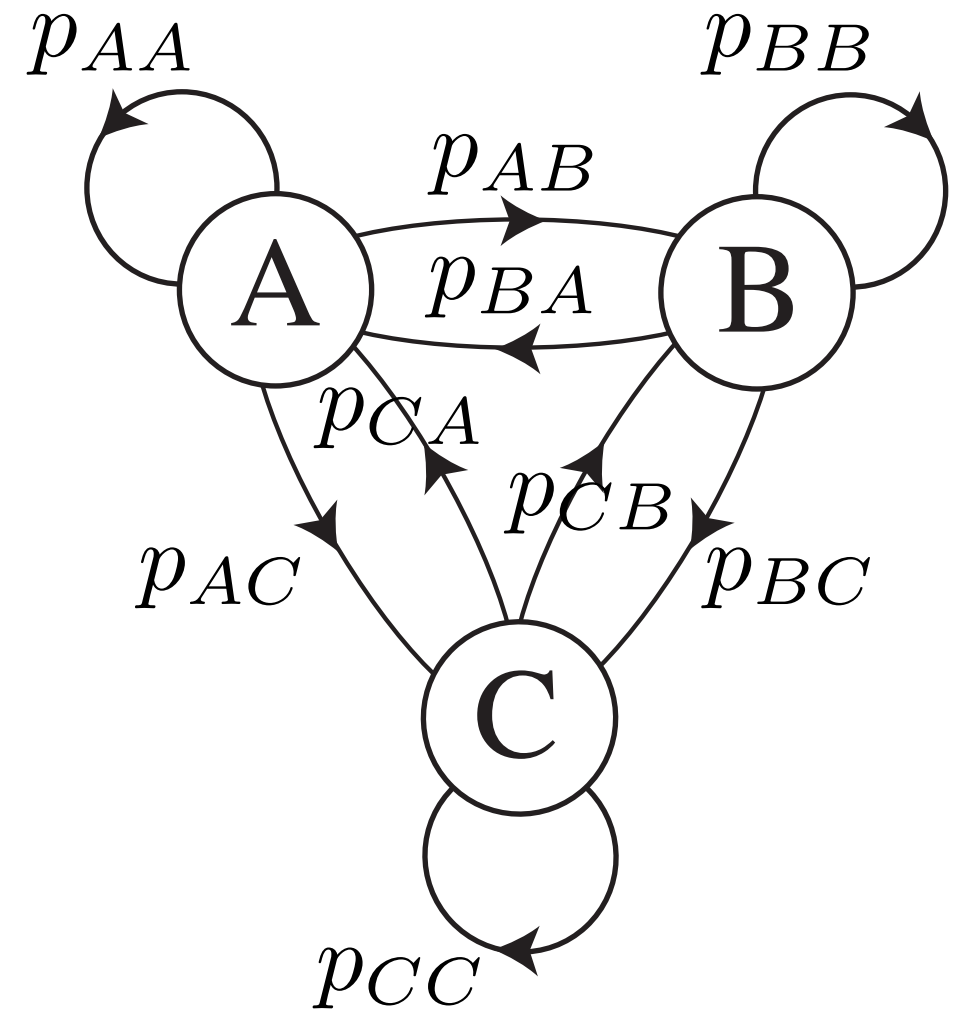
Example:  $\mathcal{A} = \{A, B, C\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} p_{AA} & p_{AB} & p_{AC} \\ p_{BA} & p_{BB} & p_{BC} \\ p_{CA} & p_{CB} & p_{CC} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p_{AA} + p_{AB} + p_{AC} = 1$$

$$p_{BA} + p_{BB} + p_{BC} = 1$$

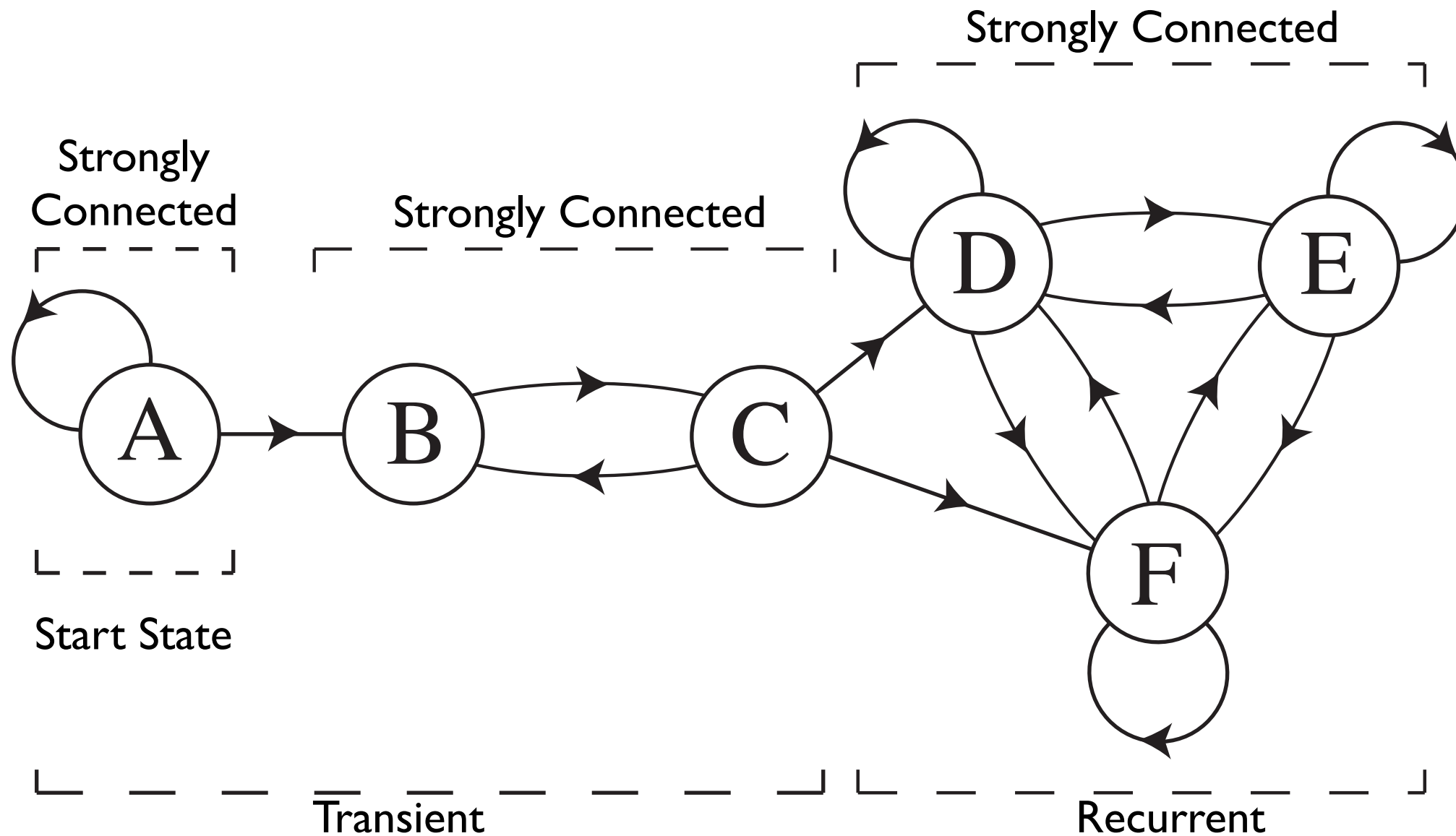
$$p_{CA} + p_{CB} + p_{CC} = 1$$



# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

### Kinds of state:



# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

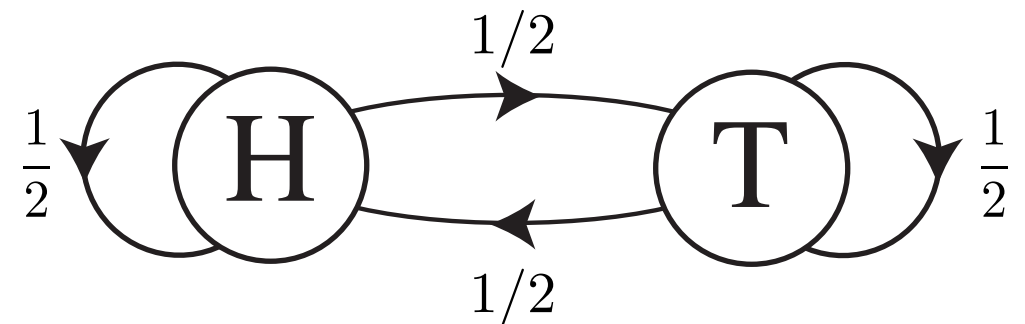
Example:

Fair Coin:  $\mathcal{A} = \{H, T\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\pi = (1/2, 1/2)$$

$$\Pr(H) = \Pr(T) = 1/2$$





# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

Fair Coin ...

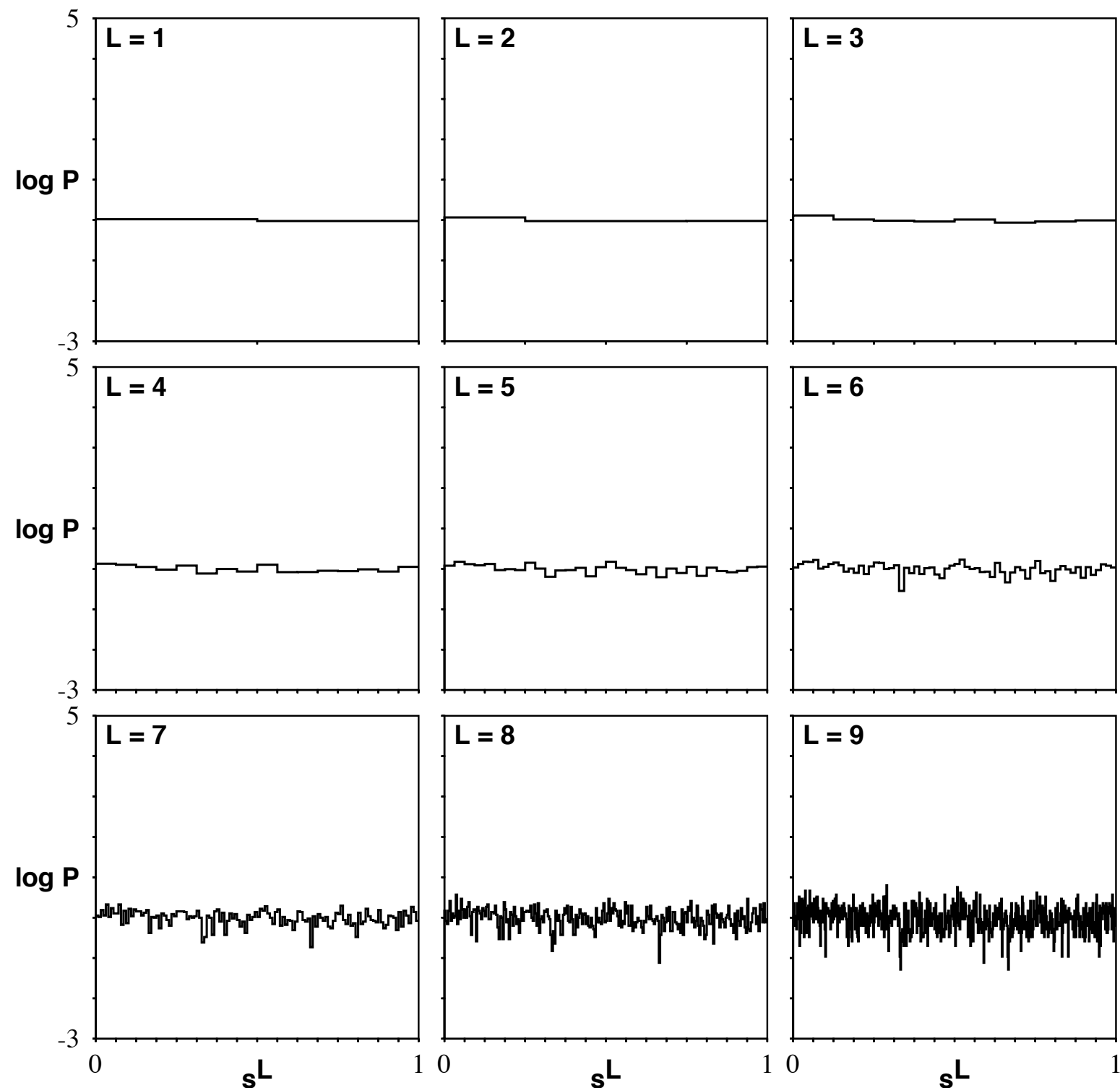
Sequence Distribution:  $\Pr(v^L) = 2^{-L}$

Word as binary fraction:

$$s^L = s_1 s_2 \dots s_L$$

$$“s^L” = \sum_{i=1}^L \frac{s_i}{2^i}$$

$$s^L \in [0, 1]$$



# Processes and Their Models ...

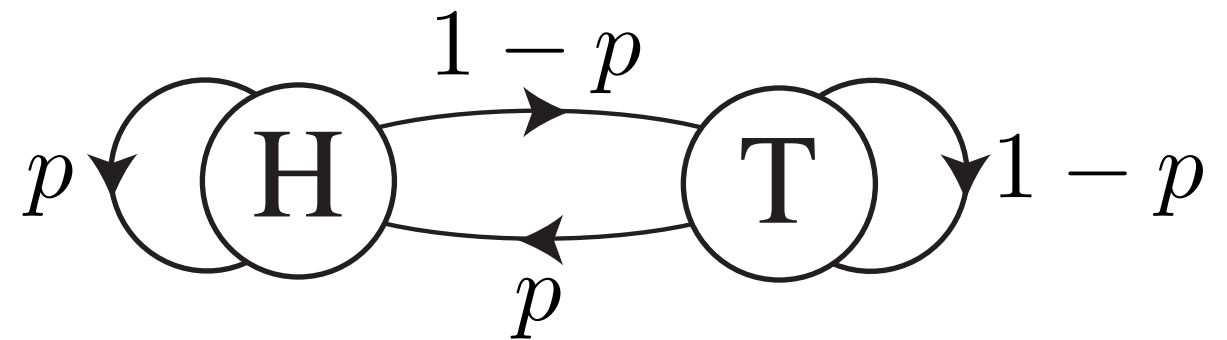
## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

Biased Coin:  $\mathcal{A} = \{H, T\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} p & 1 - p \\ p & 1 - p \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\pi = (p, 1 - p)$$



# Processes and Their Models ...

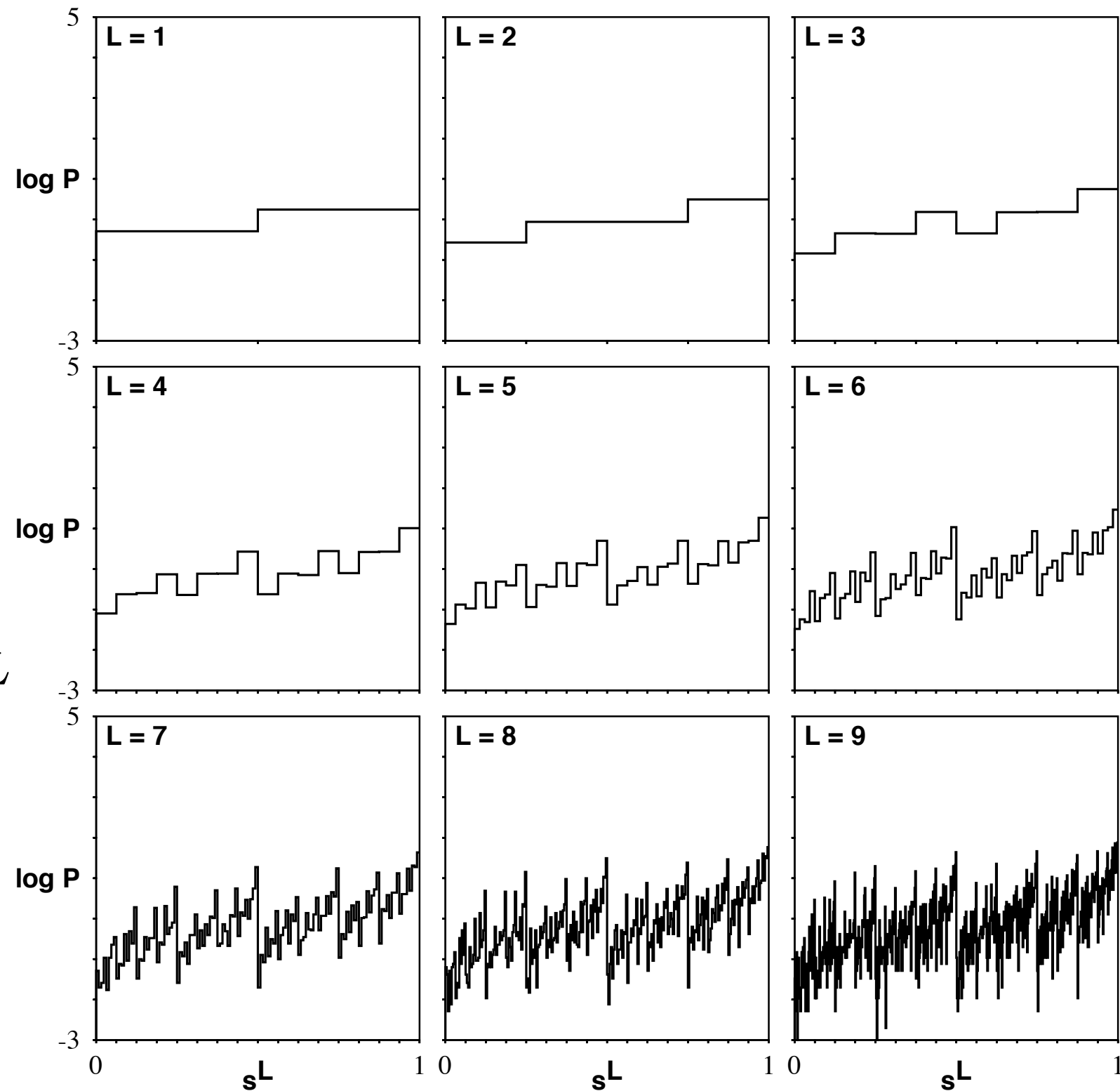
## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:  
Biased Coin ...

Sequence Distribution:

$$\Pr(s^L) = p^n (1 - p)^{L-n},$$

$n$  = Number  $H$ s in  $s^L$



# Processes and Their Models ...

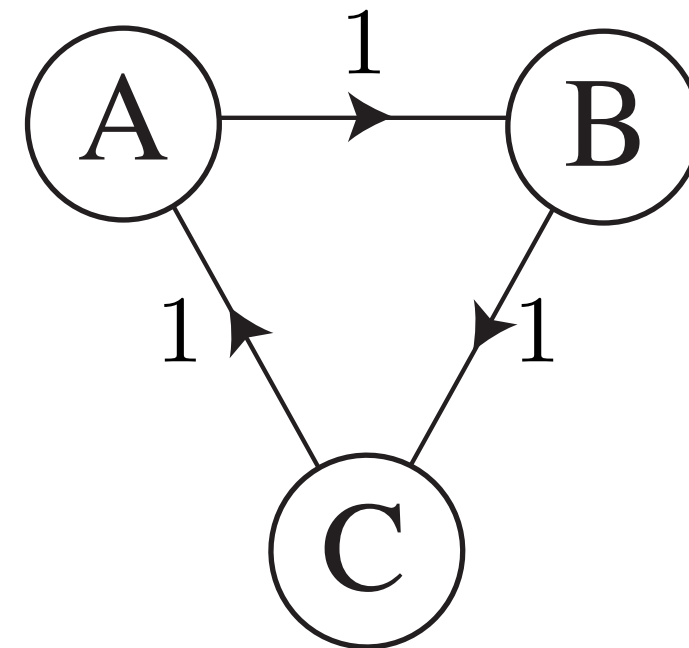
## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

Periodic:  $\mathcal{A} = \{A, B, C\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\pi = \left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) \quad \text{Careful!}$$



Sequence distribution:

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(B) = \Pr(C) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Pr(AB) = \Pr(BC) = \Pr(CA) = \frac{1}{3} \quad \Pr(s^2) = 0 \quad \text{otherwise}$$

$$\Pr(ABC) = \Pr(BCA) = \Pr(CAB) = \frac{1}{3} \quad \Pr(s^3) = 0 \quad \text{otherwise}$$

# Processes and Their Models ...

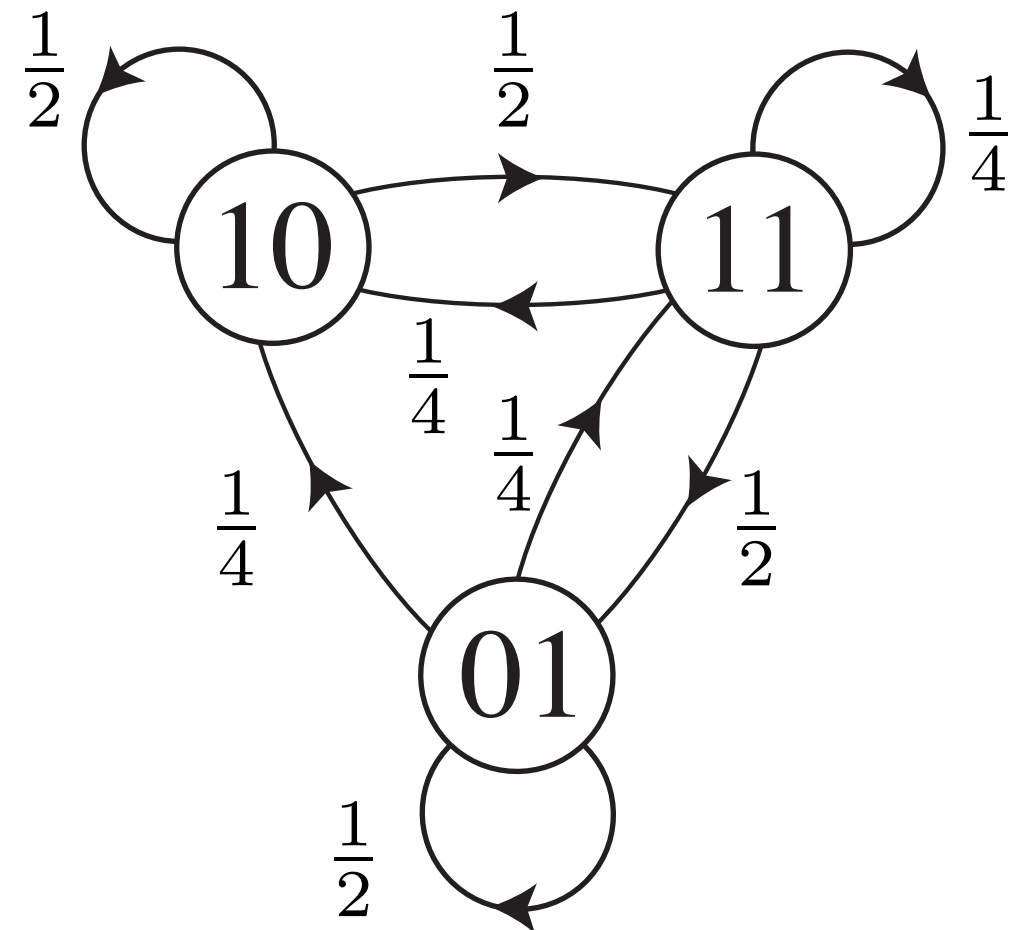
## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

Golden Mean over 2-Blocks:  $\mathcal{A} = \{10, 01, 11\}$

$$T = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 10 & 01 & 11 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$\pi = \left( \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right)$$



# Processes and Their Models ...

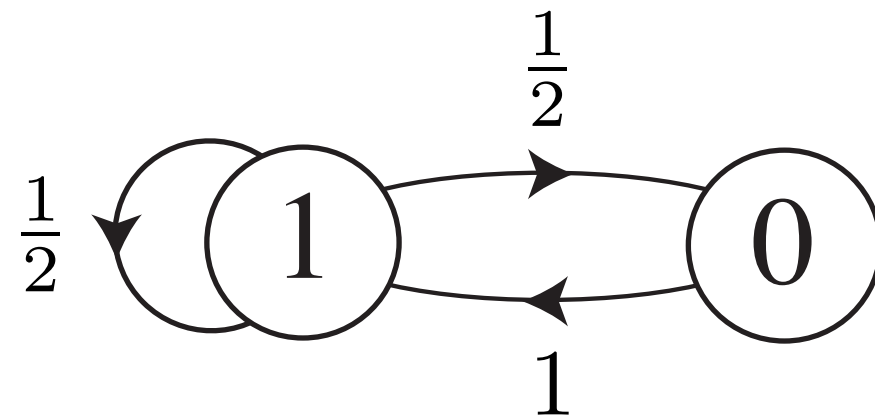
## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example ...

Golden Mean over 1-Blocks:  $\mathcal{A} = \{0, 1\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\pi = \left( \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right)$$



Also an order-1 Markov chain. Minimal order.

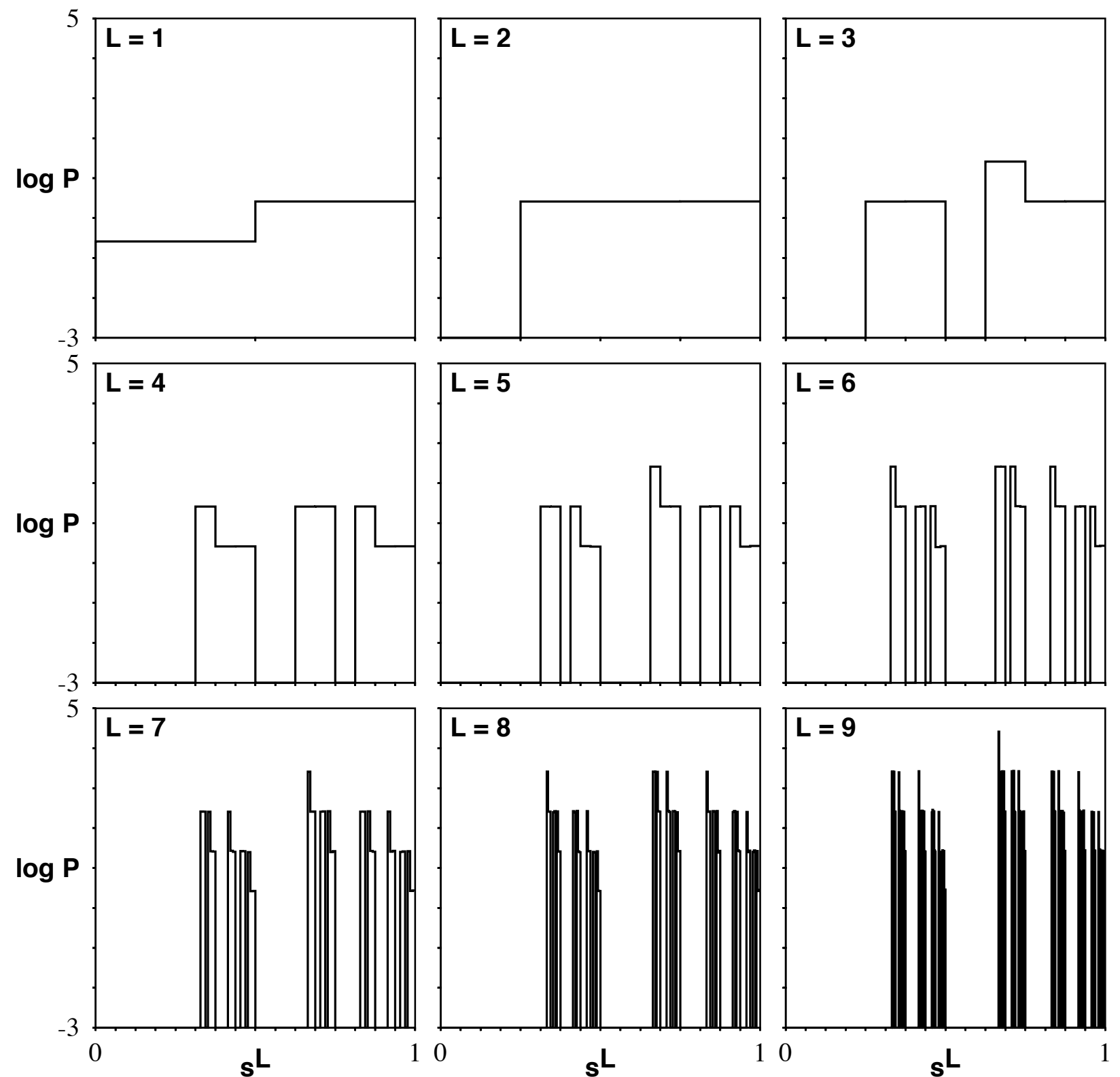
Previous model and this:

Different **presentations** of the Golden Mean Process

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:  
Golden mean:



# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

### Two Lessons:

Structure in the behavior:  $\text{supp } \Pr(s^L)$

Structure in the distribution of behaviors:  $\Pr(s^L)$



# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

### Hidden Markov Models of Processes:

Internal states:  $v \in \mathcal{A}$

Transition matrix:  $T = \Pr(v'|v), v, v' \in \mathcal{A}$

Observation: Symbol-labeled transition matrices

$$T^{(s)} = \Pr(v', s|v), s \in \mathcal{B}$$

$$T = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{B}} T^{(s)}$$

Stochastic matrices:

$$\sum_j T_{ij} = \sum_j \sum_s T_{ij}^{(s)} = 1$$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

### Hidden Markov Models ...

**Internal state distribution:**  $\vec{p}_V = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k)$

**Evolve internal distribution:**  $\vec{p}_n = \vec{p}_0 T^n$

**State sequence distribution:**  $v^L = v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots v_{L-1}$

$$\Pr(v^L) = \pi(v_0) p(v_1 | v_0) p(v_2 | v_1) \dots p(v_{L-1} | v_{L-2})$$

**Observed sequence distribution:**  $s^L = s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots s_{L-1}$

$$\Pr(s^L) = \sum_{v^L \in \mathcal{A}^L} \pi(v_0) p(v_1, s_1 | v_0) p(v_2, s_2 | v_1) \dots p(v_{L-1}, s_{L-1} | v_{L-2})$$

No longer 1-1 map between internal & observed sequences:  
Multiple state sequences can produce *same* observed sequence.

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

### Hidden Markov Models ...

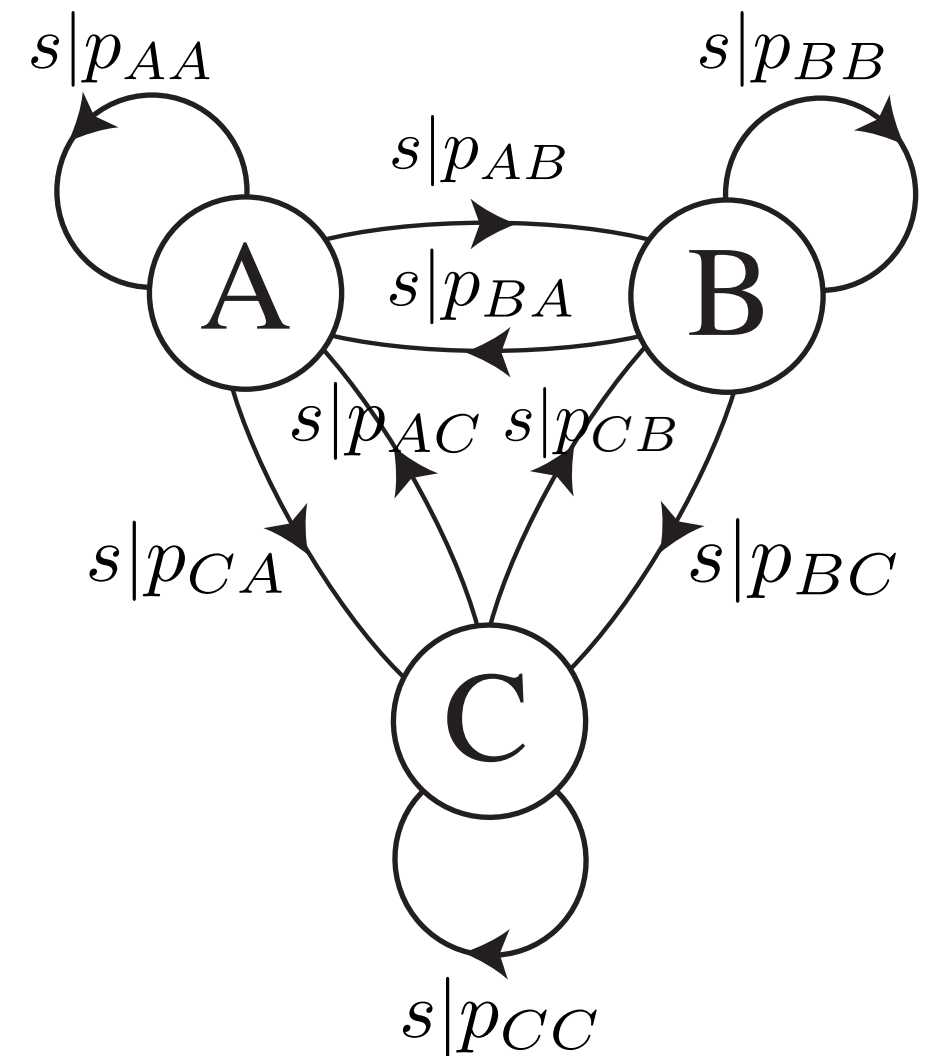
Internal:  $\mathcal{A} = \{A, B, C\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} p_{AA} & p_{AB} & p_{AC} \\ p_{BA} & p_{BB} & p_{BC} \\ p_{CA} & p_{CB} & p_{CC} \end{pmatrix}$$

Observed:  $\mathcal{B} = \{0, 1\}$

$$T^{(s)} = \begin{pmatrix} p_{AA;s} & p_{AB;s} & p_{AC;s} \\ p_{BA;s} & p_{BB;s} & p_{BC;s} \\ p_{CA;s} & p_{CB;s} & p_{CC;s} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$p_{AA} = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{B}} p_{AA;s}$$



symbol | transition probability

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

### Types of Hidden Markov Model:

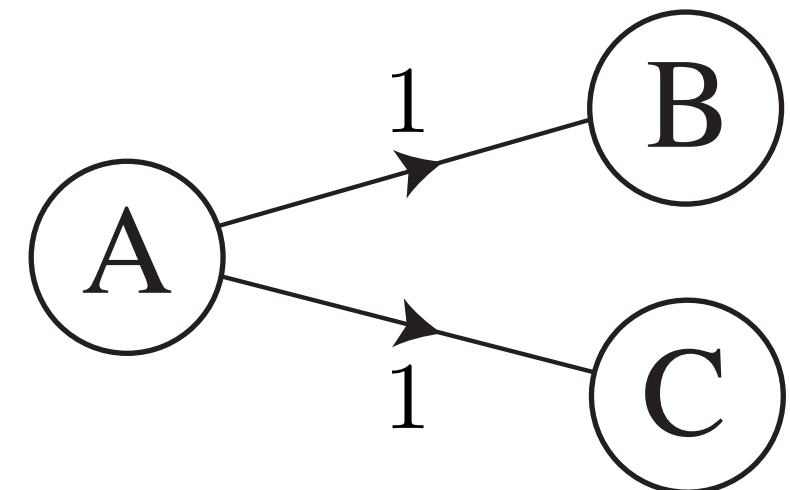
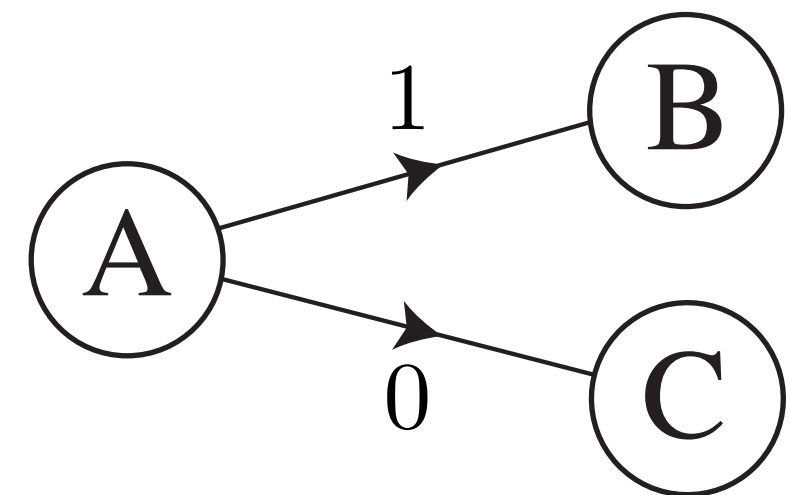
“**Unifilar**”: current state + symbol “determine” next state

$$\Pr(v'|v, s) = \begin{cases} 1 \\ 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Pr(v', s|v) = p(s|v)$$

$$\Pr(v'|v) = \sum_{s \in \mathcal{A}} p(s|v)$$

“**Nonunifilar**”: no restriction



Multiple internal edge paths can generate same observed sequence.

# Processes and Their Models ...

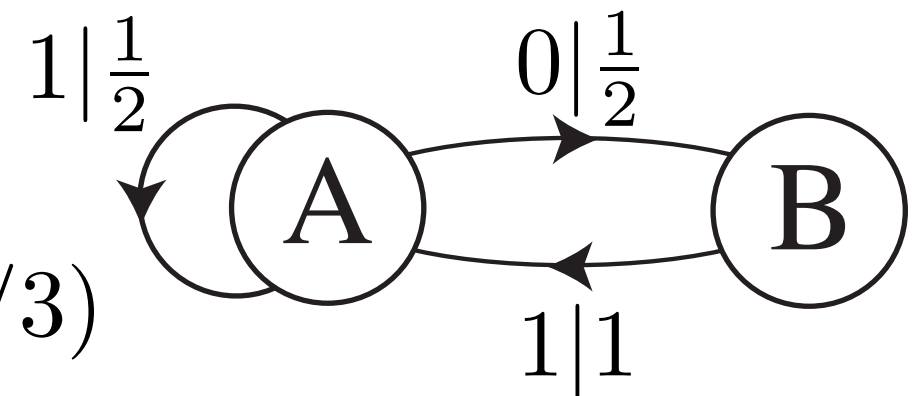
## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

Golden Mean Process as a unifilar HMM:

Internal:  $\mathcal{A} = \{A, B\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \pi_V = (2/3, 1/3)$$



Observed:  $\mathcal{B} = \{0, 1\}$

$$T^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad T^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Initial ambiguity only: At most 2-to-1 mapping

$$BA^n = 1^n$$

$$AA^n = 1^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sync'd: } s = 0 &\Rightarrow v = B \\ s = 1 &\Rightarrow v = A \end{aligned}$$

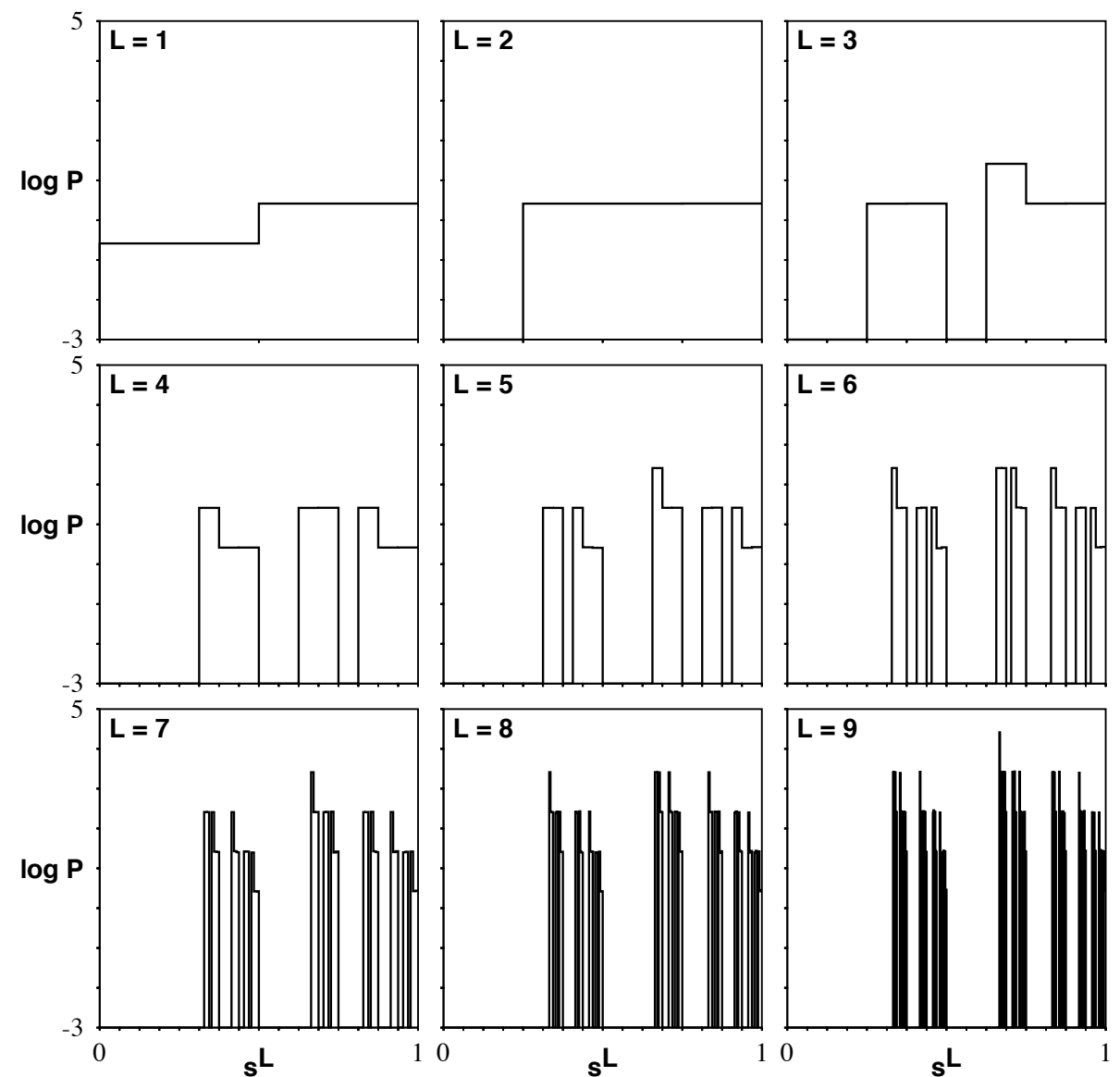
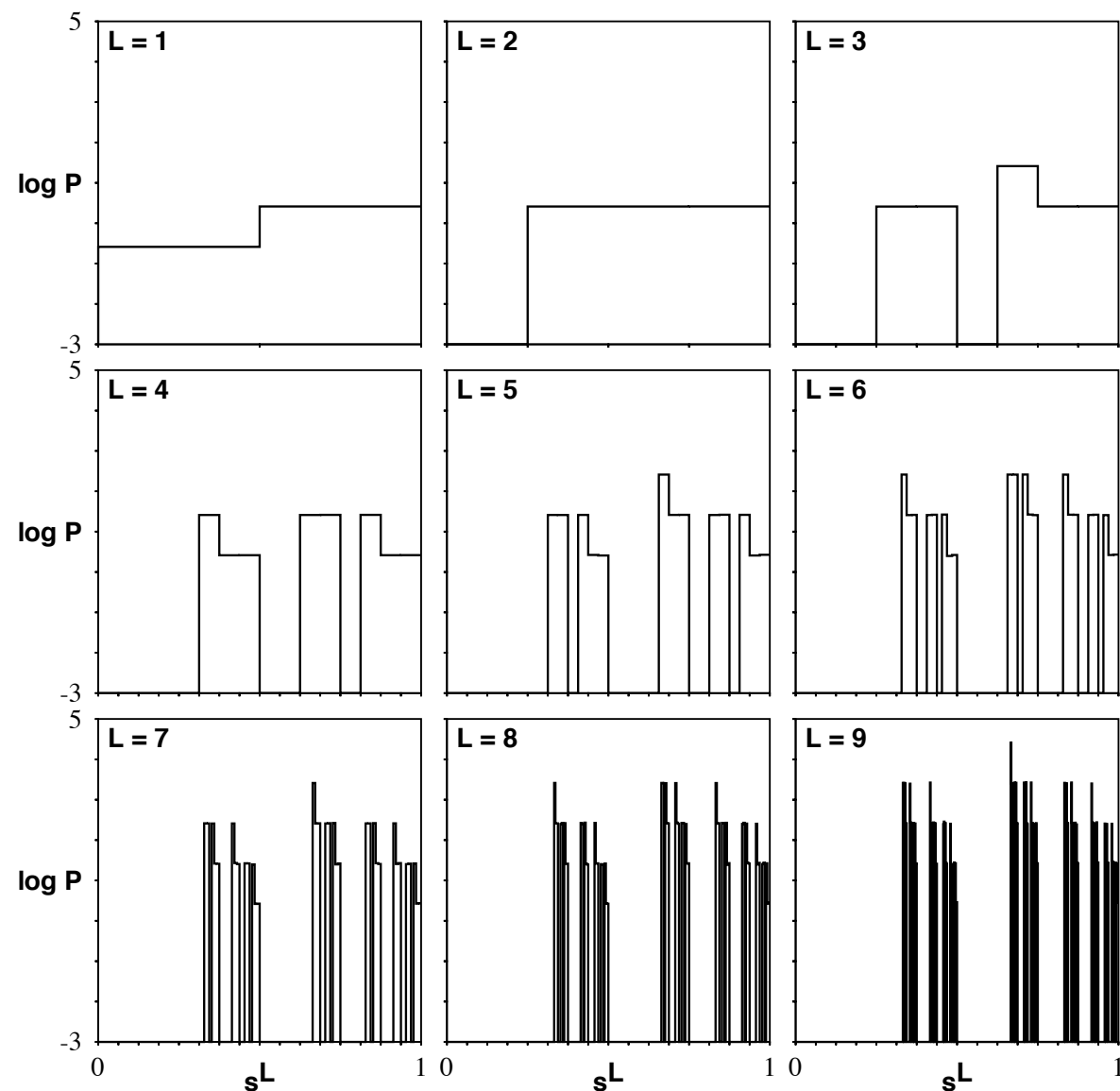
**Irreducible forbidden words:**  $\mathcal{F} = \{00\}$

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

Golden Mean Process ... Sequence distributions:  
Internal state sequences      Observed sequences  
( $A = 1; B = 0$ )



Same!

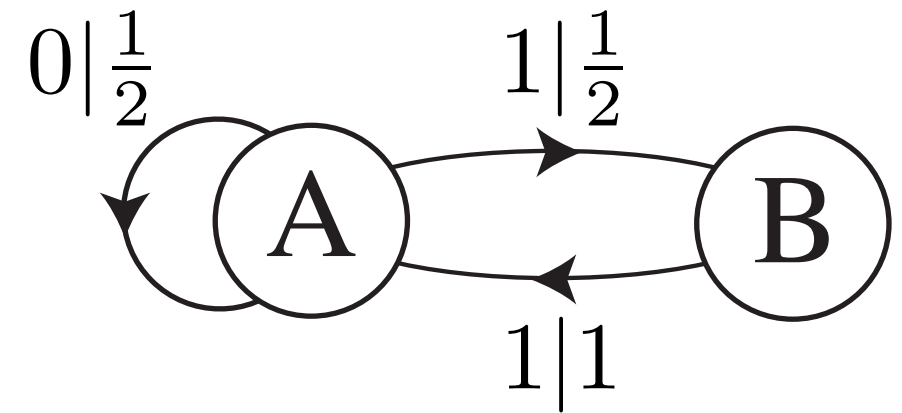
# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

Even Process as a unifilar HMM:

Internal (= GMP):  $\mathcal{A} = \{A, B\}$



$$T = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \pi_V = (2/3, 1/3)$$

Observed:  $\mathcal{B} = \{0, 1\}$

$$T^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad T^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v^L = \dots AAB AAB ABA A \dots$$

$$s^L = \dots 011011110 \dots \quad s^L = \{\dots 01^{2n}0 \dots\}$$

Irreducible forbidden words:  $\mathcal{F} = \{010, 01110, 0111110, \dots\}$

**No finite-order Markov process can model the Even process!**

**Lesson: Finite Markov Chains are a subset of HMMs.**

# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

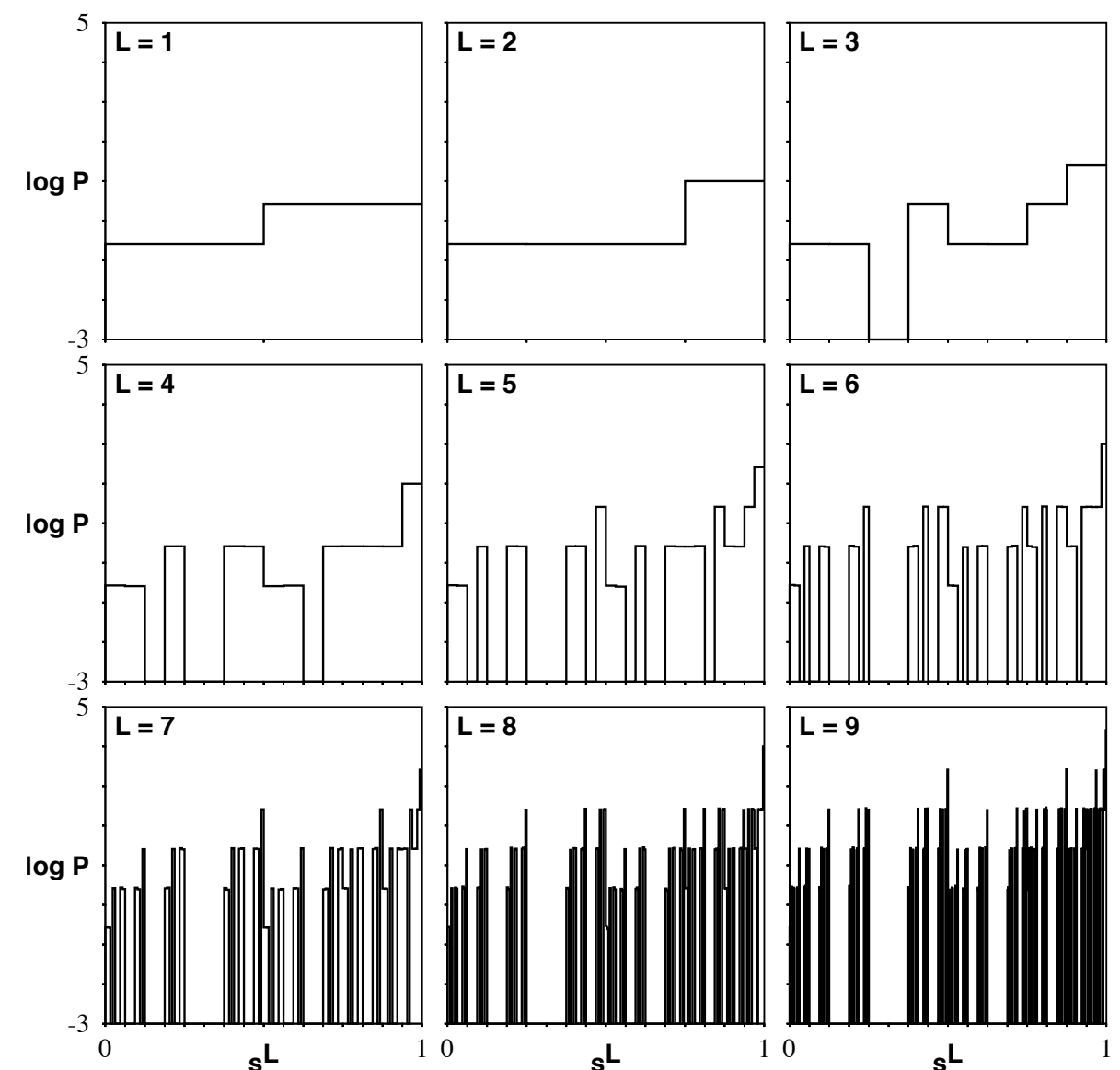
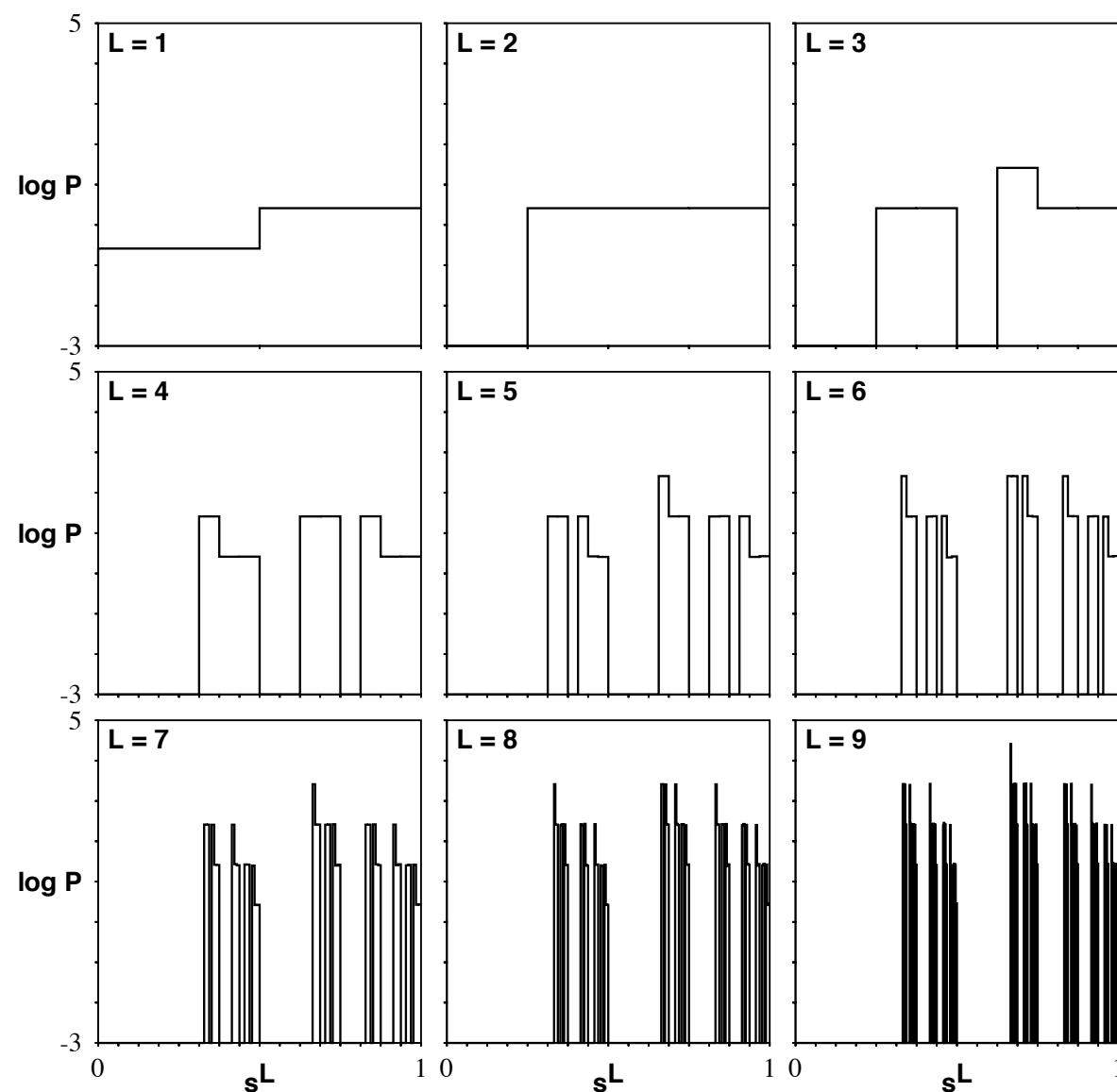
Even Process ...

Sequence distributions:

Internal states (= GMP)

Observed sequences

( $A = 1; B = 0$ )



**Rather different!**



# Processes and Their Models ...

## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

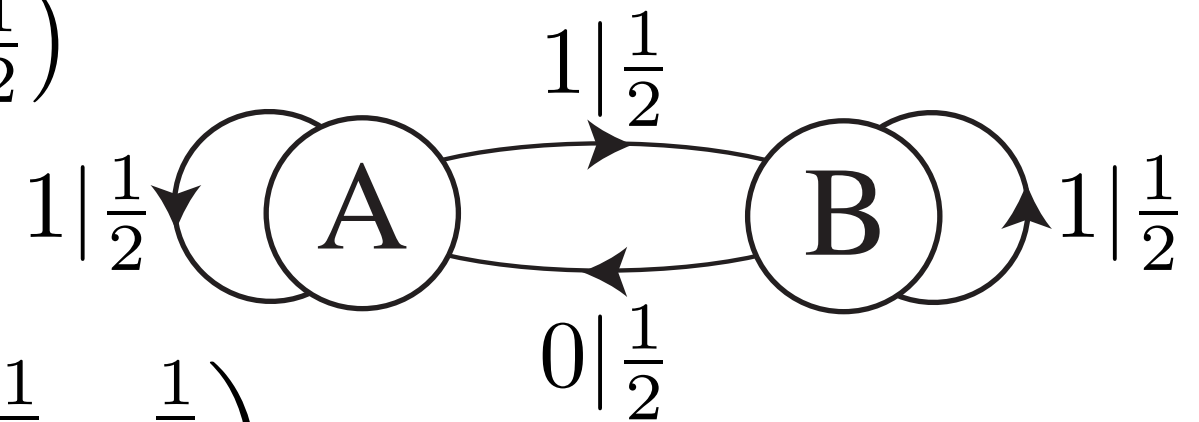
**Simple Nonunifilar Source:**

Internal (= Fair Coin):  $\mathcal{A} = \{A, B\}$

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \pi_V = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Observed:  $\mathcal{B} = \{0, 1\}$

$$T^{(0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad T^{(1)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$



Many to one:  $11111111 \Leftarrow \begin{cases} AAAAAAAAAA\dots \\ AB BBB BBB\dots \\ AAB BBB BBB\dots \\ AAAB BBB BBB\dots \\ \dots \\ BBB BBB BBB\dots \end{cases}$

Is there a unifilar HMM presentation of the observed process?

# Processes and Their Models ...

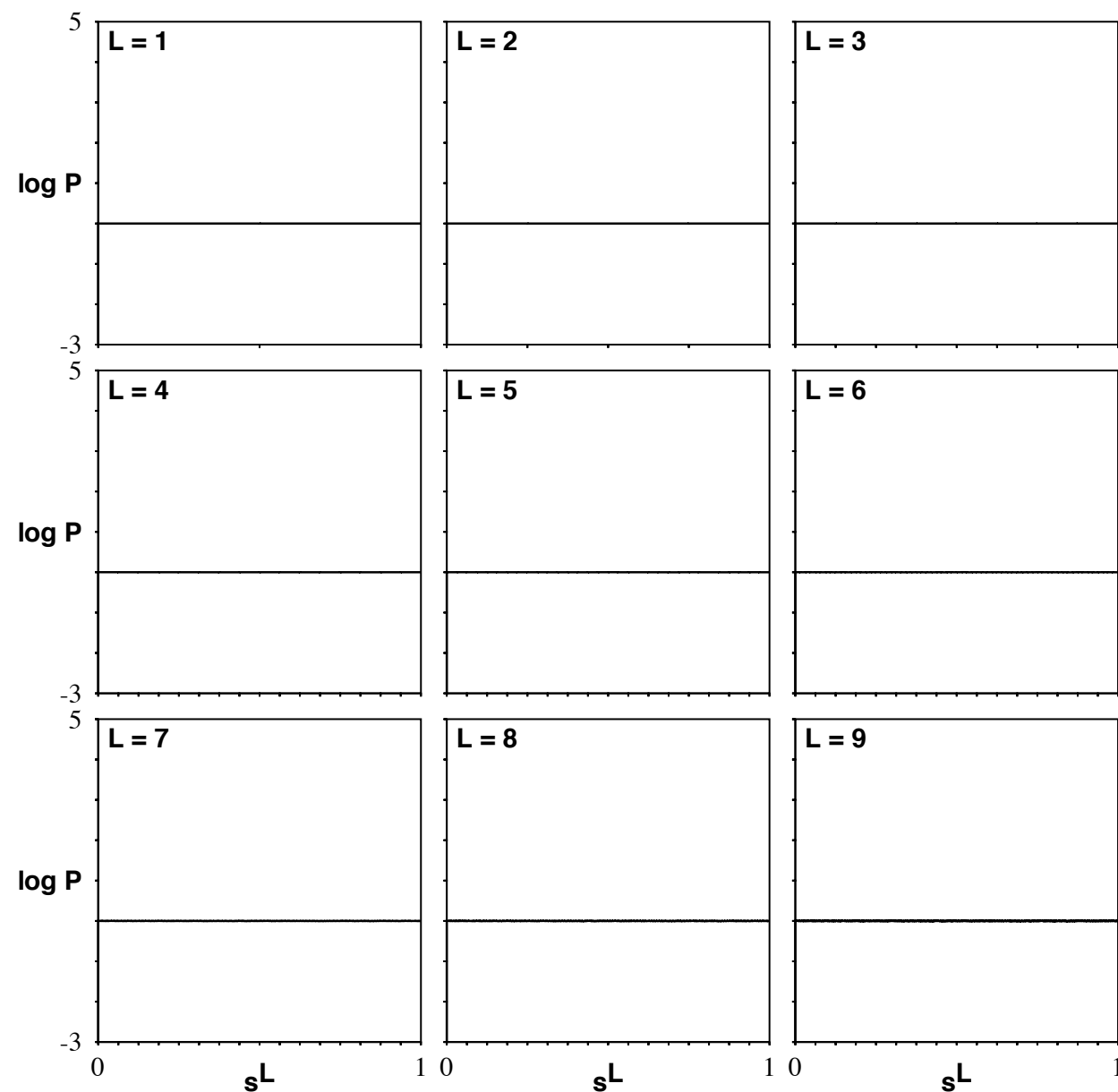
## Models of Stochastic Processes ...

Example:

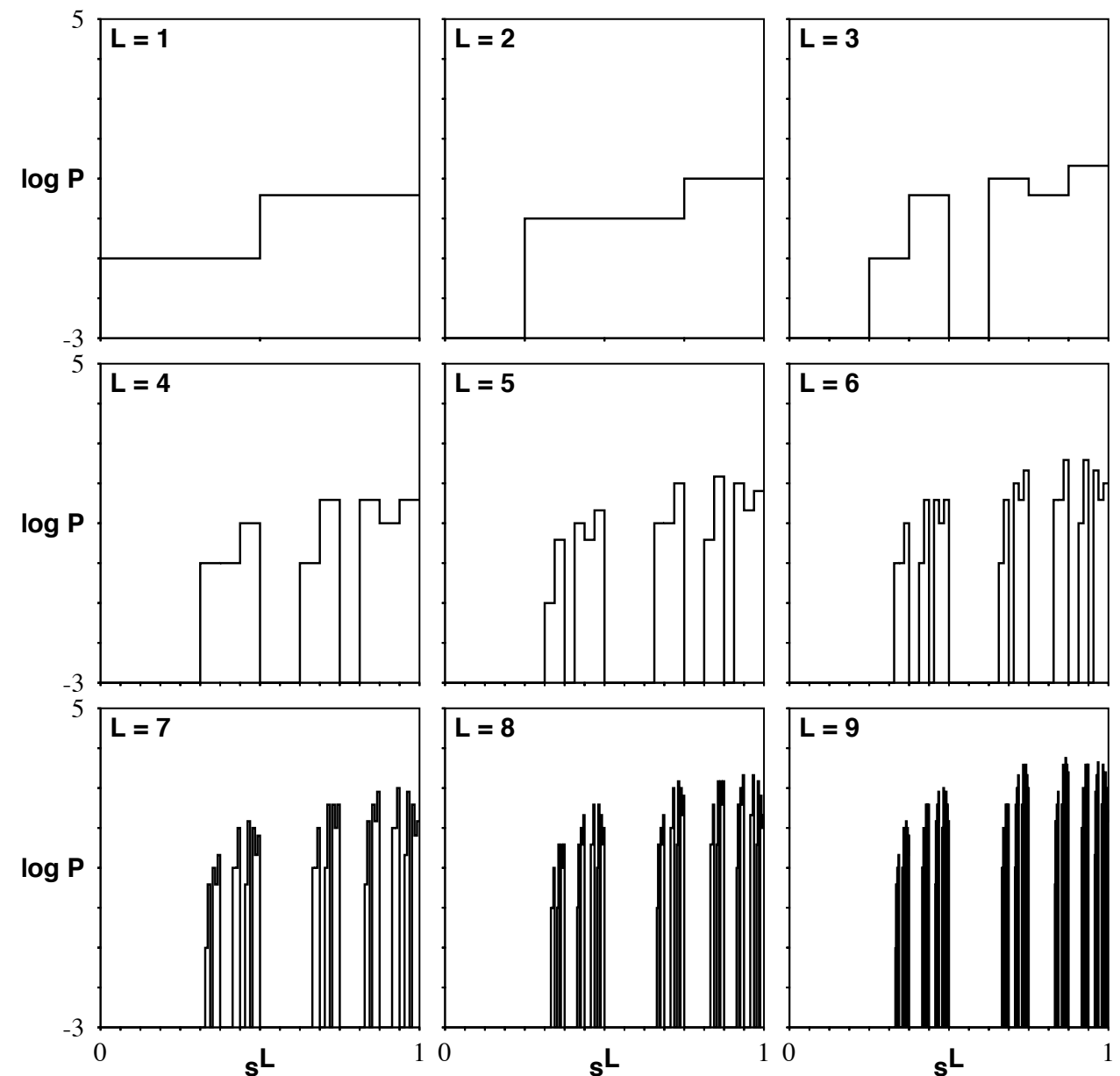
Simple Nonuniform Process ...

Internal states (= Fair coin)

( $A = 1; B = 0$ )



Observed sequences



# Processes and Their Models ...

## Next lectures: “Complexity Module”

1. Information theory for general stochastic processes

2. Measures of complexity

3. Optimal models and how to build them

4. Applications

### Labs:

Track these topics closely.

Ryan will describe.

Work through them on your own.