



ES
EMBEDDED
SYSTEMS



FONDAZIONE
BRUNO KESSLER

Advanced model checking for verification and safety assessment

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Invited Lectures on Advanced Verification

Part 1

Lectures prepared in collaboration with

Stefano Tonetta and Marco Gario

Slides on IC3 borrowed from Alberto Griggio (VTSA'15)

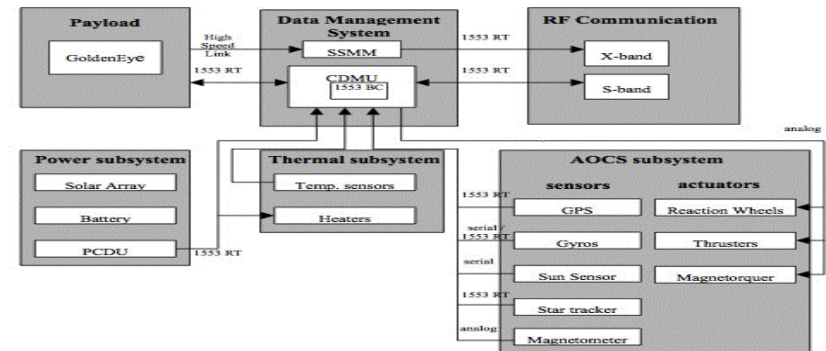
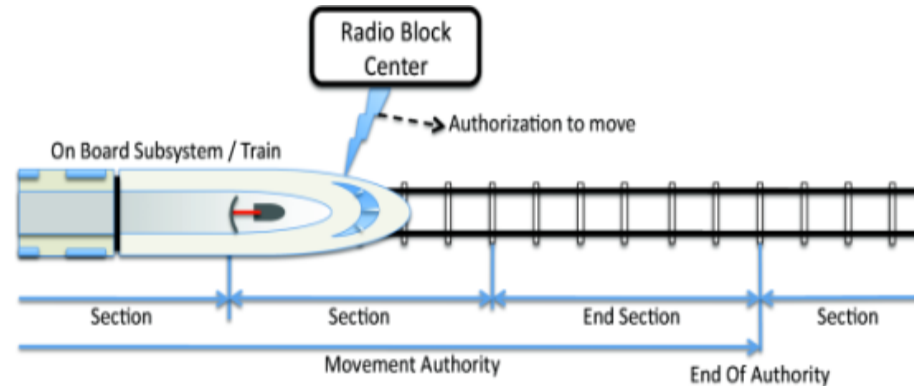
Outline

- Motivation
- Finite-State Model Checking
 - Invariant Checking
 - IC3
 - LTL Checking
- Infinite-State Model Checking
- Wrap-up

Motivation

Embedded Safety-Critical Systems

- Embedded with software to deliver intelligent:
 - Transportation
 - Communication
 - Automation
- Across domains:
 - Railways
 - Avionics
 - Automotive
 - Space
 - Health
- Key properties and challenges:
 - Interaction of components
 - Decomposition of services
 - Safety requirements



Model-based system engineering

- **Models** used for system requirements, architectural design, analysis, validation and verification
- Different system-level analysis (safety, reliability, performance, ...)
- Formal methods as back-end
 - **Formal specification** to assign models a rigorous mathematical semantics
 - **Formal verification** to prove the properties on the models.
- Design models translated into input for verification engine
- Requirements formalized into properties
- Model checking appealing because integrated as push-button

AIR6110 Wheel Braking System

- Joint scientific study with Boeing
- Aerospace Information Report 6110:
 - Traditional Aircraft/System Development Process Example
- Wheel Brake System of a fictional dual-engine aircraft
- Objectives:
 - Analyze the system safety through formal techniques
 - Demonstrate the usefulness and suitability of formal techniques for improving the overall traditional development and supporting aircraft certification

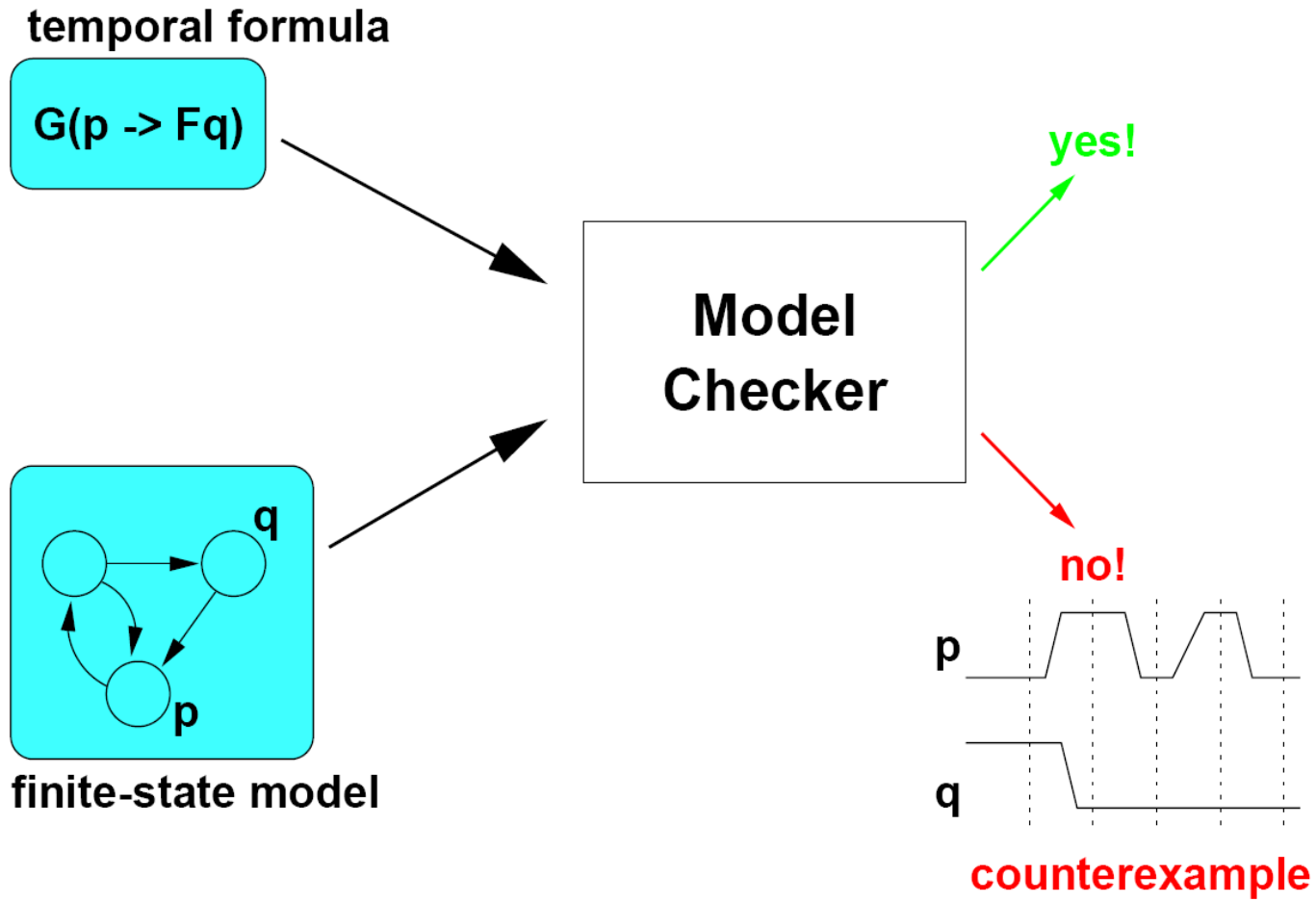
NASA NextGen Air Traffic Control

- Joint project with NASA Ames and Langley
- Allocation of tasks between Aircraft and Ground
 - Model and Study a design space with more than 1600 configurations
- Objectives:
 - Apply Formal Methods to study the quality and Safety of many design proposals
 - Highlight Implicit assumptions

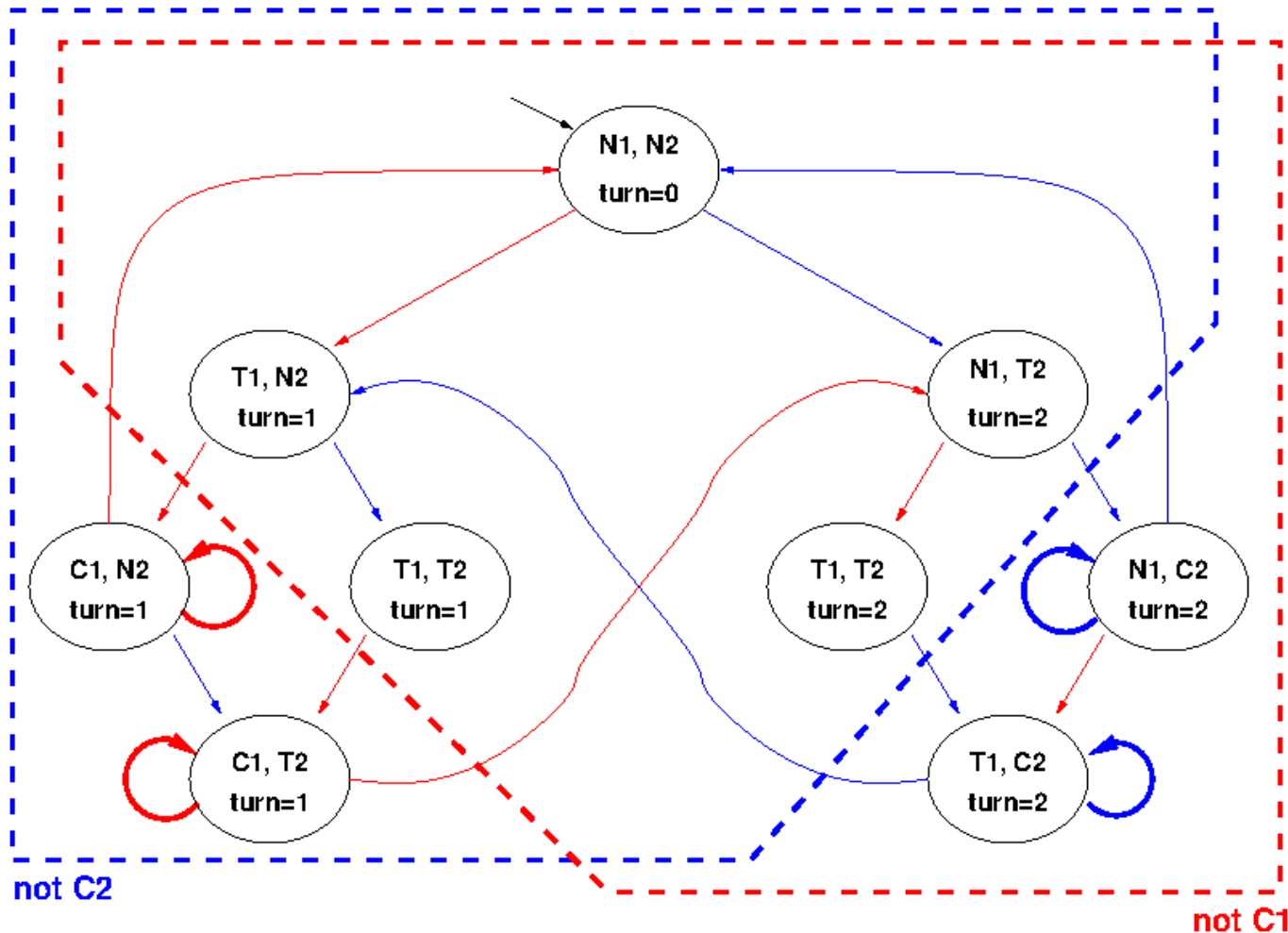
Finite-State Model Checking

Invariant Checking

Model checking



Mutual exclusion example



N: non-critical
T: trying
C: critical

User1
User2

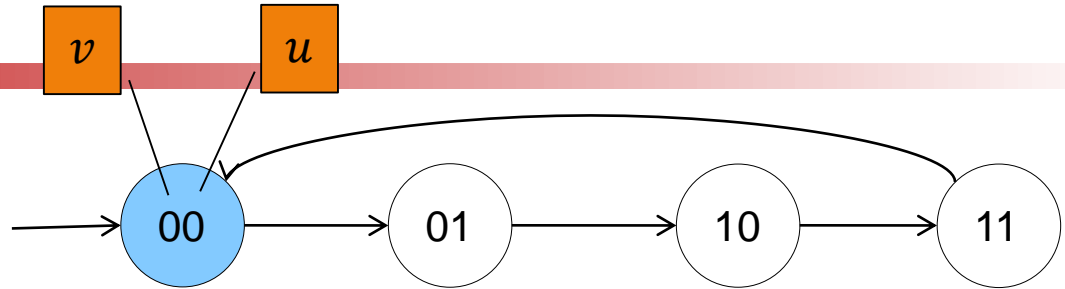
Property:
always
not C1 or not C2
i.e.
(C1 and C2)
is not reachable

Symbolic representation

- Symbolic Boolean **variables** $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ to represent the state space
- A **state** is an assignment to the variables
- Symbolic **formulas** used to represent:
 - Set of states: $\phi(V) \equiv \{s \mid s \models \phi\}$
 - Abuse of notation $s \in \phi$ iff $s \models \phi$
 - Set of transitions: $\phi(V, V') \equiv \{\langle s, s' \rangle \mid \langle s, s' \rangle \models \phi\}$
 - Where the variables $V' = \{v'_1, \dots, v'_n\}$ represent next state variables
- A **transition system** is a tuple $\langle V, I, T \rangle$ where:
 - V is the set of variables
 - The set of initial states represented by the formula $I(V)$
 - The transition relation represented by the formula $T(V, V')$

Example

- $V := \{u, v\}$
- $I := \neg u \wedge \neg v$
- $T := u' \leftrightarrow \neg u \wedge v' \leftrightarrow (u \text{ xor } v)$

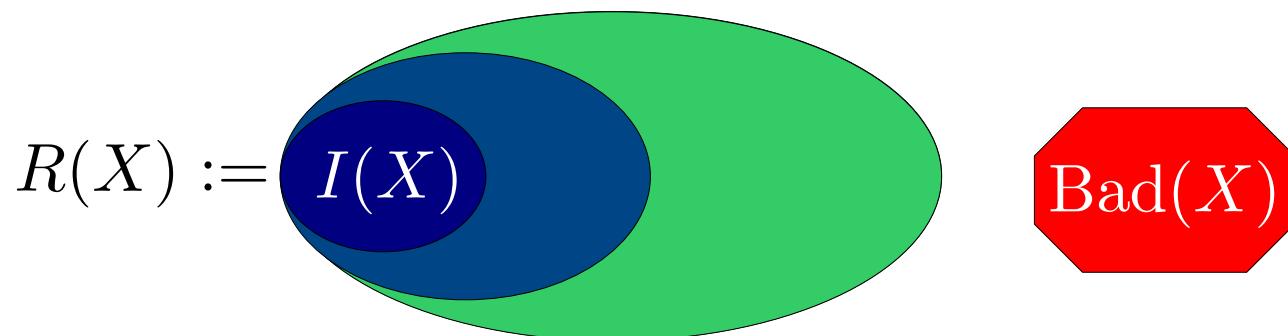


Invariant properties

- A **path** of the system S is a sequence s_0, s_1, \dots, s_k of states such that $s_0 \models I$ and for all $i, 0 \leq i < k$, $s_i, s_{i+1} \models T$
- A state s is **reachable** iff there exists a path s_0, s_1, \dots, s_k such that $s = s_k$
- A formula $P(V)$ is an **invariant** iff for all paths s_0, s_1, \dots, s_k , for all $i, s_i \models P$
- Equivalent to say that no state in $\neg P$ is reachable

Forward reachability checking

- Forward image computation:
 - Compute all states reachable from Q in one transition:
$$FwdImg(Q) := \exists V(Q(V) \wedge T(V, V'))[V / V']$$
- Prove that a set of states Bad is **not reachable**:
 - Start from initial states: $R := I$
 - Apply $FwdImg$ iteratively: $oldR := R; R := FwdImg(R) \cup R$
 - until fixpoint $oldR = R$

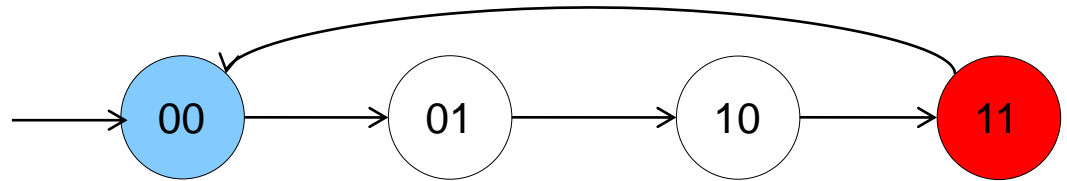


Bounded Model Checking

- Reachability encoded into a satisfiability problem
$$I(V_0) \wedge T(V_0, V_1) \wedge T(V_1, V_2) \wedge \cdots \wedge T(V_{k-1}, V_k) \wedge Bad(V_k)$$
- The formula is sat iff there exists a path of length k that reaches Bad
- Checked for increasing values of k
- Exploited incrementality of SAT solvers
- Finite-state space \Rightarrow a completeness threshold K exists
 - If unsat for all $k \leq K$ then Bad is not reachable
 - K is typically very large \Rightarrow unfeasible to reach in practice

Example

- $V := \{u, v\}$
- $I := \neg u \wedge \neg v$
- $T := u' \leftrightarrow u \wedge v' \leftrightarrow (u \text{ xor } v)$



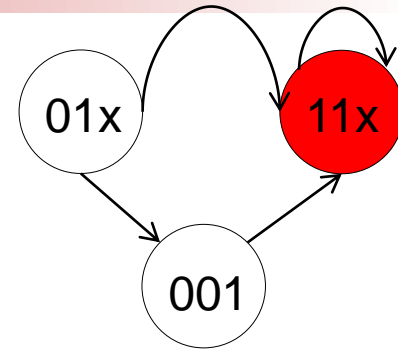
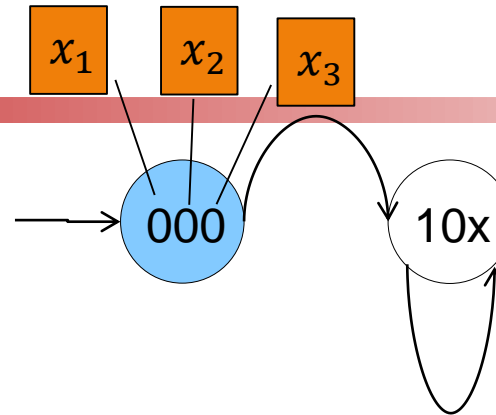
- $Bad := u \wedge v$
- BMC:
 - $(\neg u_0 \wedge \neg v_0) \wedge (u_0 \wedge v_0)$ UNSAT
 - $(\neg u_0 \wedge \neg v_0) \wedge (u_1 \leftrightarrow u_0 \wedge v_1 \leftrightarrow (u_0 \text{ xor } v_0)) \wedge (u_1 \wedge v_1)$ UNSAT
 - ...
 - $(\neg u_0 \wedge \neg v_0) \wedge (u_1 \leftrightarrow u_0 \wedge v_1 \leftrightarrow (u_0 \text{ xor } v_0))$
 $(u_2 \leftrightarrow u_1 \wedge v_2 \leftrightarrow (u_1 \text{ xor } v_1)) \wedge$
 $(u_3 \leftrightarrow u_2 \wedge v_3 \leftrightarrow (u_2 \text{ xor } v_2)) \wedge (u_3 \wedge v_3)$
SAT

Induction and K-induction

- Induction
 - Base case: check if the initial state satisfies P (invariant)
 - Inductive case: check if the transitions preserve the invariant
$$P(V) \wedge T(V, V') \models P(V')$$
 - We say P is inductive invariant
- K-induction
 - Base case: check if all initial path satisfies P (invariant) up to k steps
 - Inductive case: check if every path of $k + 1$ steps preserve the invariant
$$P(V_0) \wedge T(V_0, V_1) \wedge P(V_1) \wedge T(V_1, V_2) \wedge \dots \wedge P(V_{k-1}) \wedge T(V_{k-1}, V_k) \models P(V_k)$$
 - Strengthened with simple path condition to avoid repeating states
 - We say P is k -inductive invariant
- Typically however P is not (k -)inductive
 - ⇒ find Inv such that Inv is inductive invariant and $Inv \models P$

Example

- $V := \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$
- $I := \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$
- $Bad := x_1 \wedge x_2$
- $P := \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$
- Inductive?
 - No
- k-inductive?
 - Yes for k=3
- Inductive invariant?



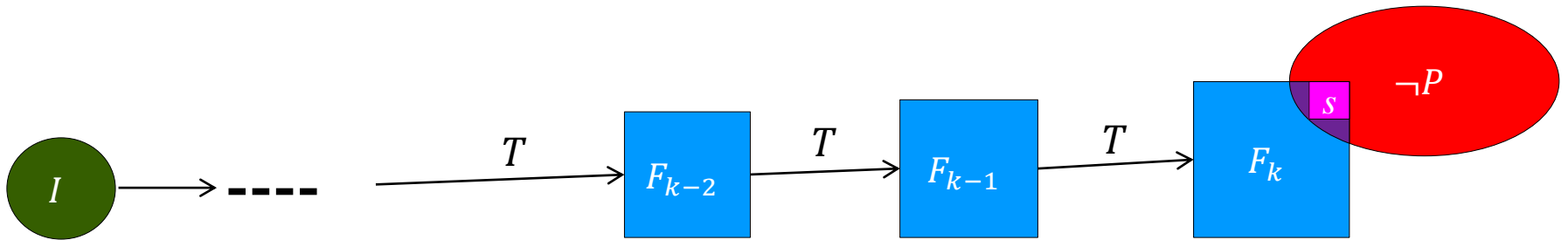
Finite State Model- Checking

IC3

IC3

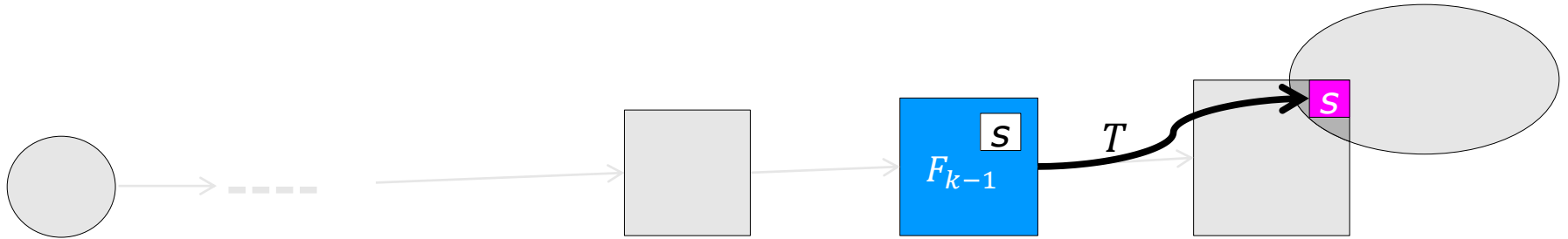
- Very successful SAT-based model checking algorithm
- Based on induction
 - Given a symbolic transition system and invariant property P , build an inductive invariant F s.t. $F \models P$
- Inductive invariant built incrementally
 - Trace of formulas $F_0 \equiv I, F_1, \dots, F_k$ s.t:
 - for $i > 0$, F_i is a set of clauses, overapproximation of states reachable in up to i steps
 - $F_{i+1} \subseteq F_i$ (so $F_i \models F_{i+1}$)
 - $F_i \wedge T \models F'_{i+1}$
 - For all $i < k, F_i \models P$
- Strengthen formulas until $F_k = F_{k+1}$
- Exploiting efficient SAT solvers

A (very) high level view of IC3



- **Blocking phase:** incrementally strengthen trace until $F_k \models P$
 - Get **bad cube** s

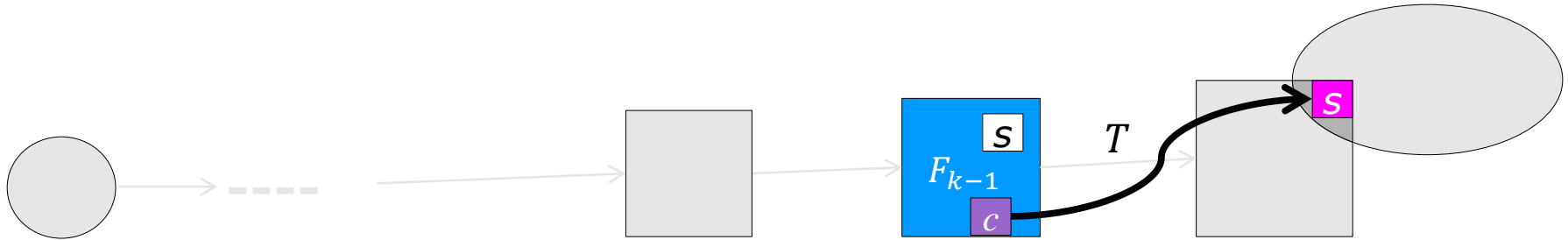
A (very) high level view of IC3



- **Blocking phase:** incrementally strengthen trace until $F_k \models P$
 - Get **bad cube** s
 - Call SAT solver on $F_{k-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \wedge s'$
(i.e., check if $F_{k-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \models \neg s'$)

Check if $\neg s$ is **inductive relative** to F_{k-1}

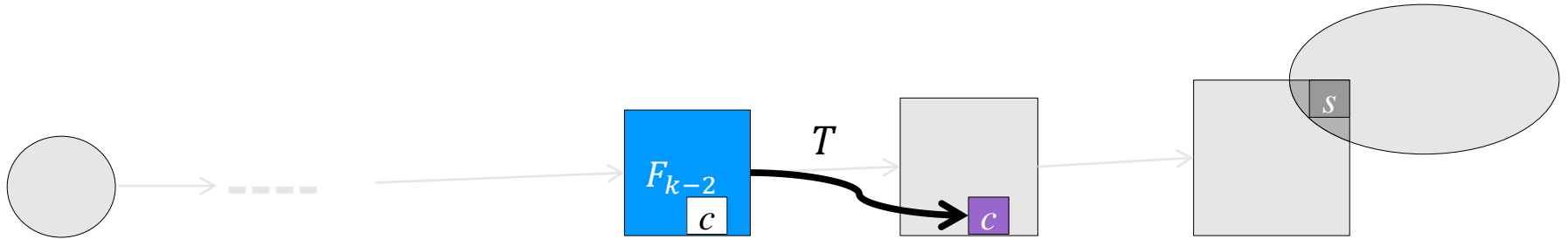
A (very) high level view of IC3



- **Blocking phase:** incrementally strengthen trace until $F_k \models P$
 - Get **bad cube** s
 - Call SAT solver on $F_{k-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \wedge s'$
 - **SAT:** s is reachable from F_{k-1} in 1 step
 - Get a **cube** c in the preimage of s and try (recursively) to prove it unreachable from F_{k-2}, \dots
 - c is a **counterexample to induction** (CTI)

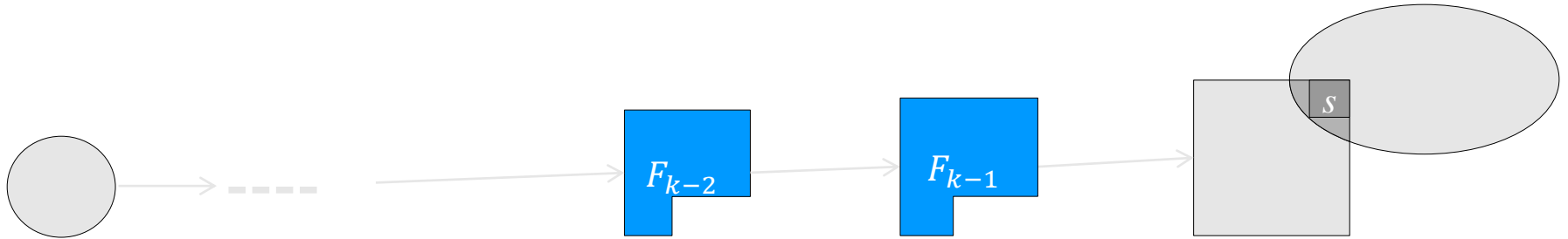
If I is reached, a counterexample to P is found

A (very) high level view of IC3



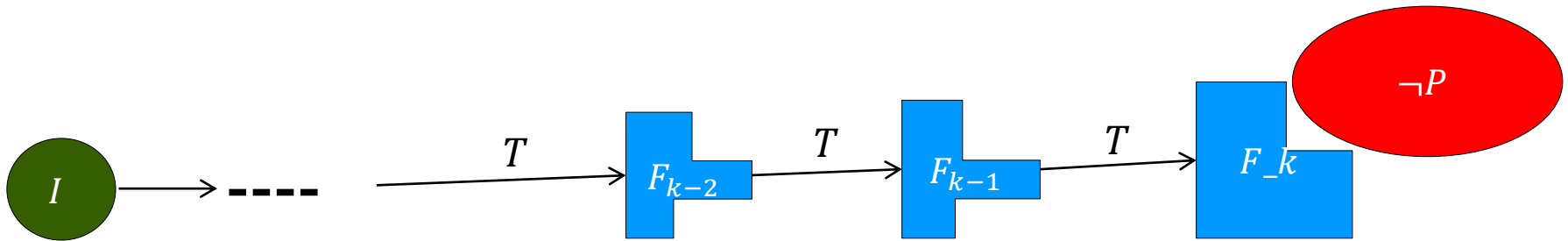
- **Blocking phase:** incrementally strengthen trace until $F_k \models P$
 - Get **bad cube** s
 - Call SAT solver on $F_{k-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \wedge s'$
 - **UNSAT:** $\neg s$ is inductive relative to F_{k-2}
 - **Generalize** c to g and **block** by adding $\neg g$ to $F_{i-1}, F_{i-2}, \dots, F_1$

A (very) high level view of IC3



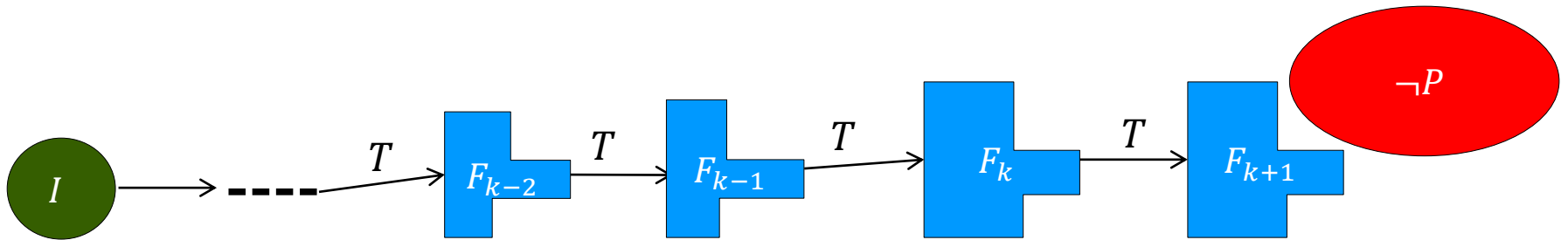
- **Blocking phase:** incrementally strengthen trace until $F_k \models P$
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A (very) high level view of IC3



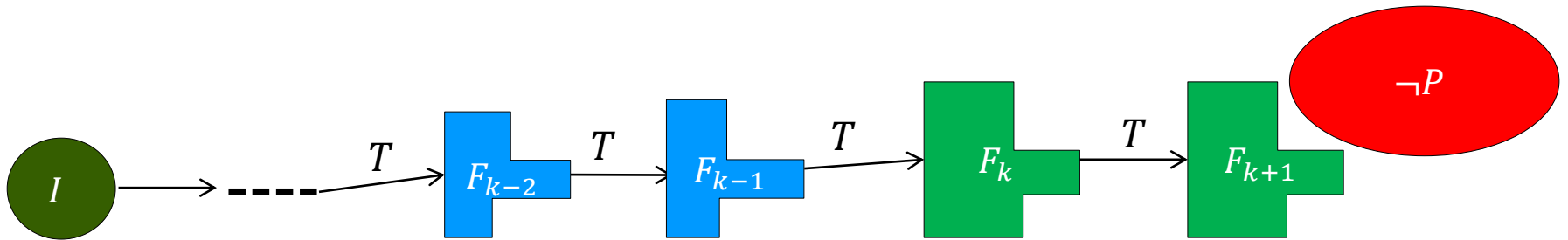
- **Propagation**: extend trace to F_{k+1} and push forward clauses
 - For each i and each clause $c \in F_i$:
 - Call SAT solver on $F_i \wedge T \wedge \neg c'$
 - If **UNSAT**, add c to F_{i+1}

A (very) high level view of IC3



- **Propagation:** extend trace to F_{k+1} and push forward clauses
 - For each i and each clause $c \in F_i$:
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A (very) high level view of IC3



- **Propagation:** extend trace to F_{k+1} and push forward clauses
 - For each i and each clause $c \in F_i$:
 - Call SAT solver on $F_i \wedge T \wedge \neg c'$
 - If **UNSAT**, add c to F_{i+1}
 - If $F_i \equiv F_{i+1}$, P is proved,
 - otherwise start another round of blocking and propagation

Inductive Clause Generalization

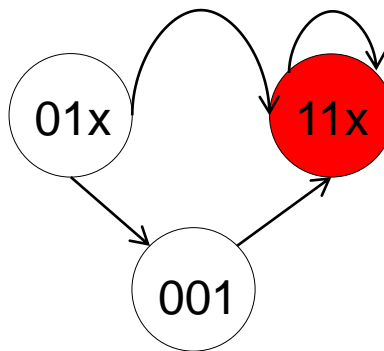
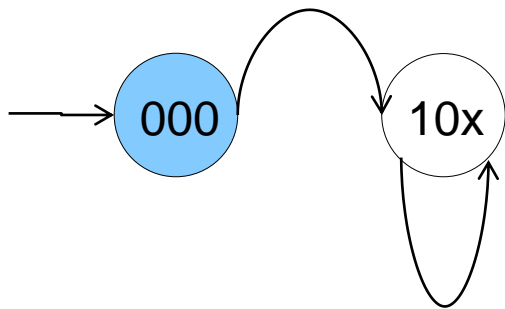
- Crucial step of IC3
- Given a relatively inductive clause $c \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{l_1, \dots, l_n\}$
- compute a **generalization** $g \subseteq c$ that is still inductive

$$F_{i-1} \wedge T \wedge g \models g' \quad (1)$$

- Drop literals from c and check that (1) still holds
 - Accelerate with unsat cores returned by the SAT solver
 - Using SAT under assumptions
- However, make sure the base case still holds
 - If $I \not\models c \setminus \{l_j\}$, then l_j cannot be dropped

Example

No counterexamples of length 0



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

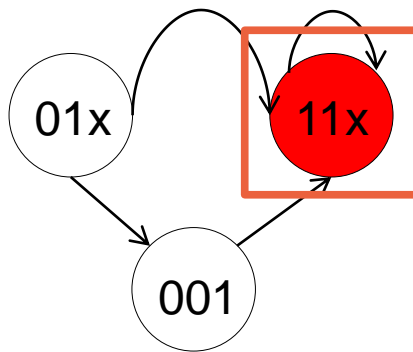
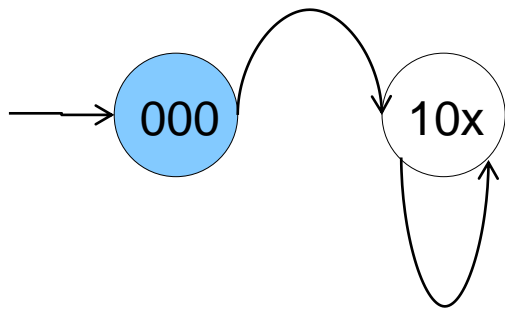
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \top$$

[borrowed and adapted from F. Somenzi]

Example

Get bad cube $c = x_1 \wedge x_2$ in $F_1 \wedge \neg P$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

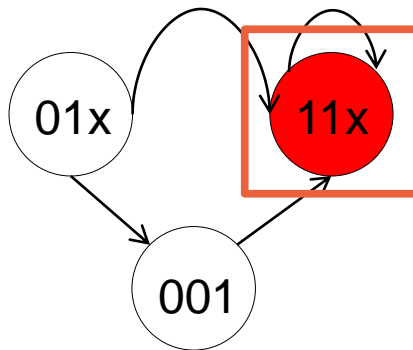
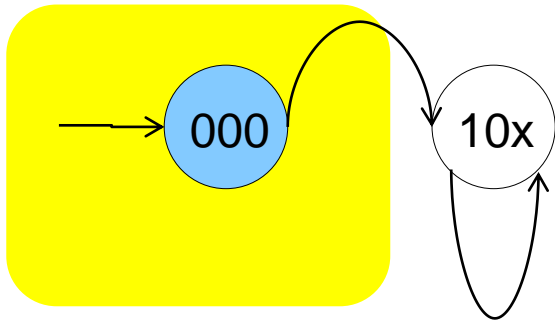
$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \top$$

Example

Is $\neg c$ inductive relative to F_0 ? $F_0 \wedge T \wedge \neg c \models \neg c'$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

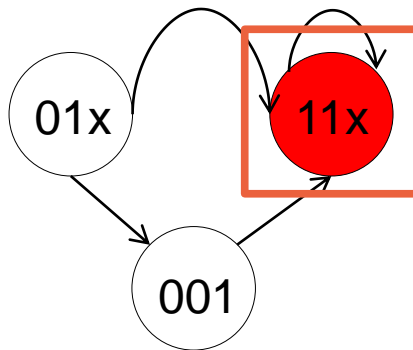
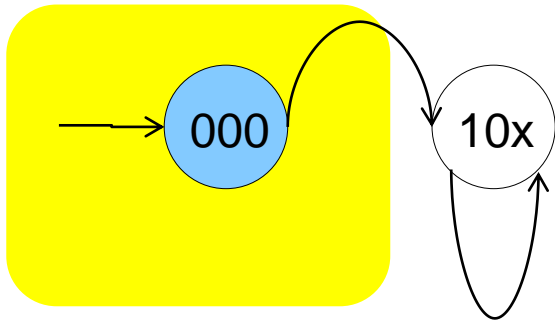
$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \top$$

Example

Yes, generalize $\neg c = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

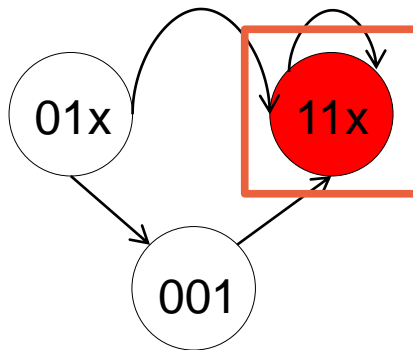
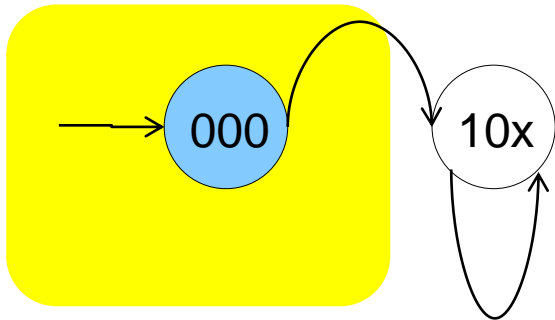
$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

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Example

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$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

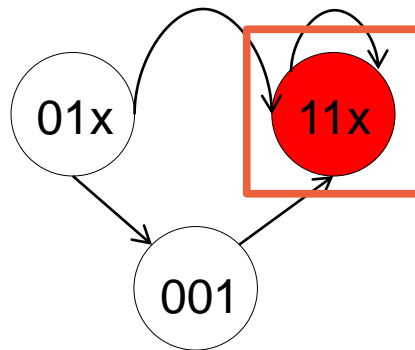
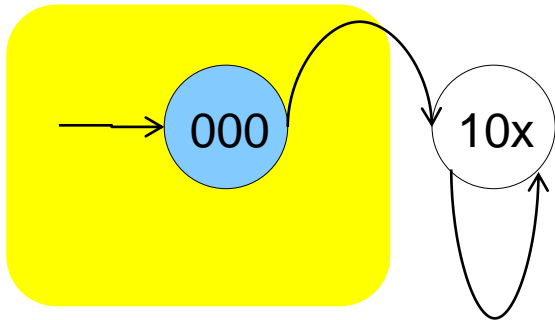
$$F_1 = \top$$

Try dropping $\neg x_2$

$$F_0 \wedge T \wedge \neg x_1 \not\models \neg x'_1$$

Example

Yes, generalize $\neg c = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

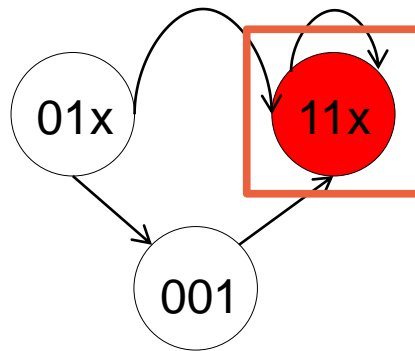
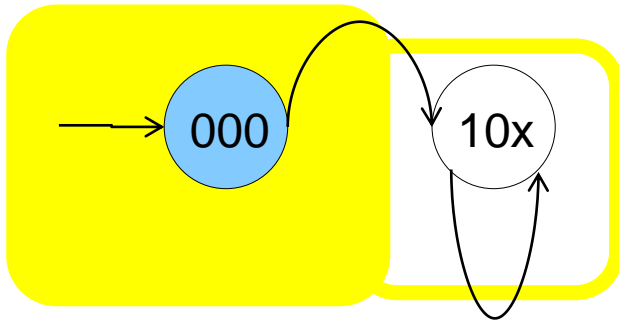
$$F_1 = \top$$

Try dropping $\neg x_1$

$$F_0 \wedge T \wedge \neg x_2 \models \neg x'_2$$

Example

Yes, generalize $\neg c = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

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$$F_0 = I$$

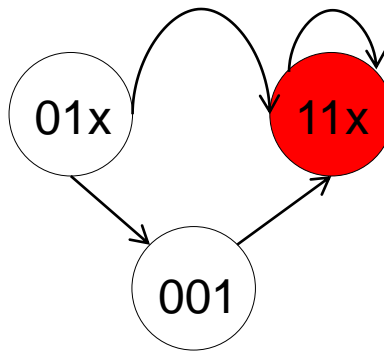
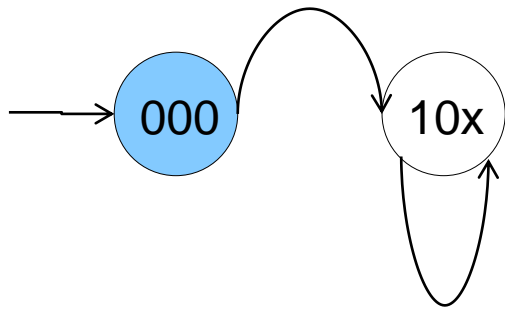
$$F_1 = \top$$

Try dropping $\neg x_1$

$$F_0 \wedge T \wedge \neg x_2 \models \neg x'_2$$

Example

Update F_1



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

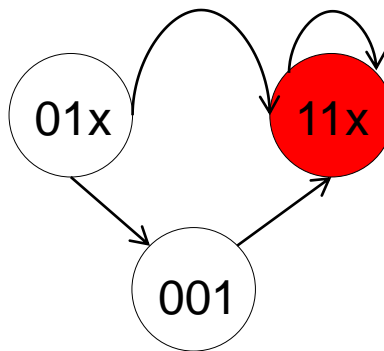
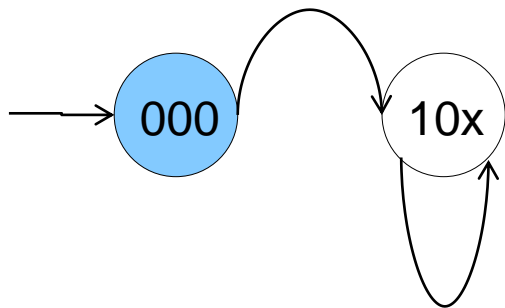
$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

Example

Blocking done for F_1 . Add F_2 and propagate forward



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

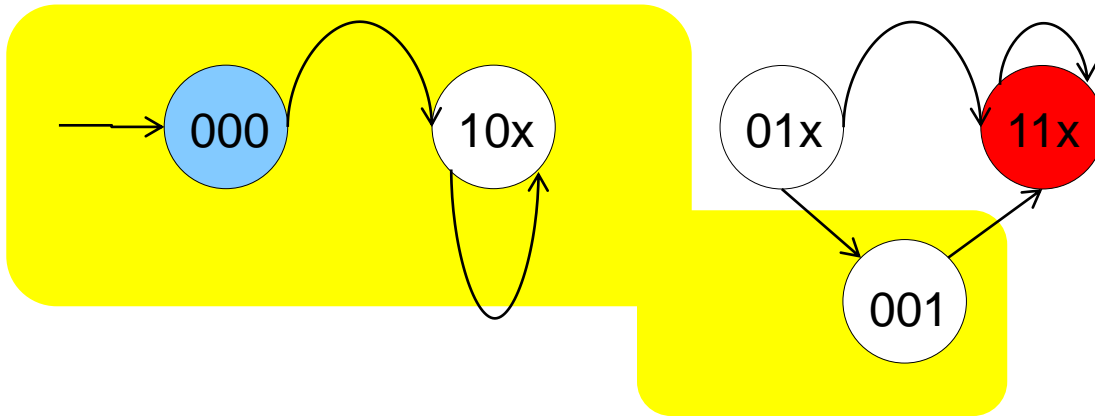
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

No clause propagates from F_1 to F_2



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

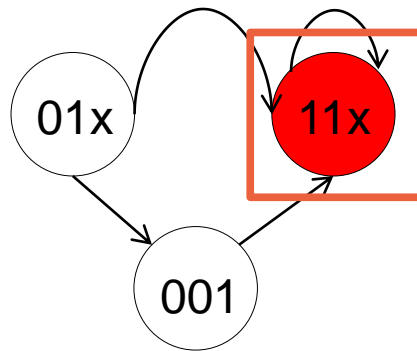
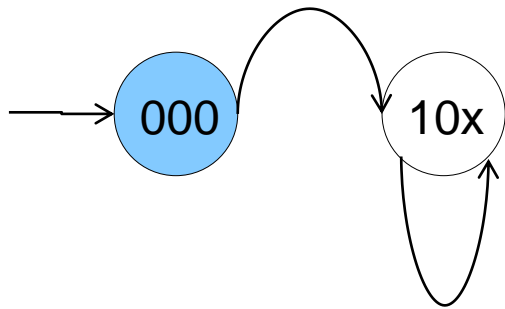
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

Get bad cube $c = x_1 \wedge x_2$ in $F_2 \wedge \neg P$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

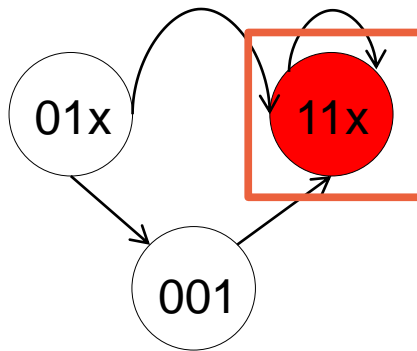
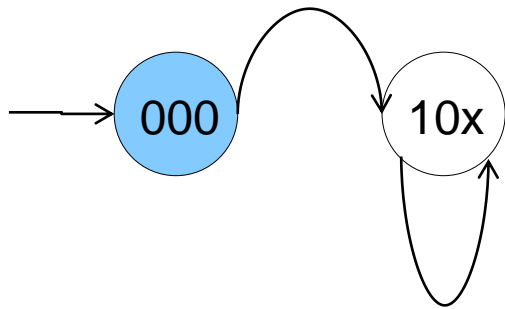
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

Is $\neg c$ inductive relative to F_1 ? $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \neg c \models \neg c'$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

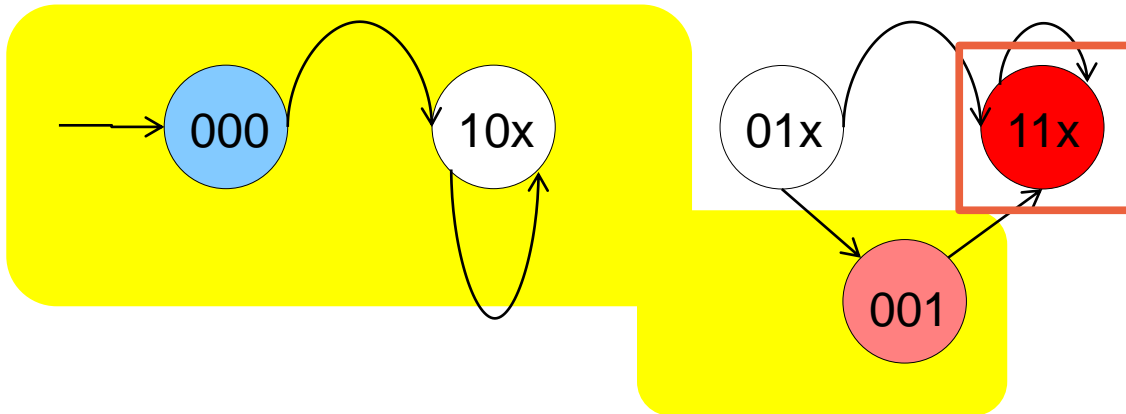
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

No, found CTI $s = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge x_3$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

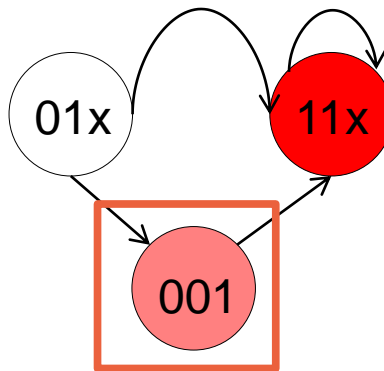
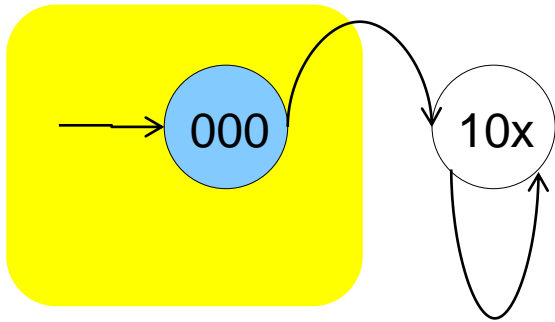
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

Try blocking $\neg s$ at level 0: $F_0 \wedge T \wedge \neg s \models \neg s'$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

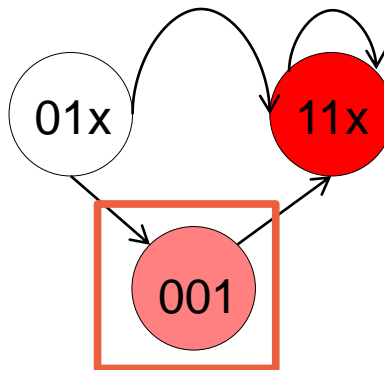
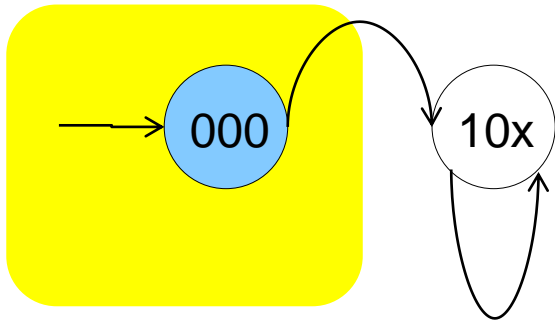
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

Yes, generalize $\neg s = x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

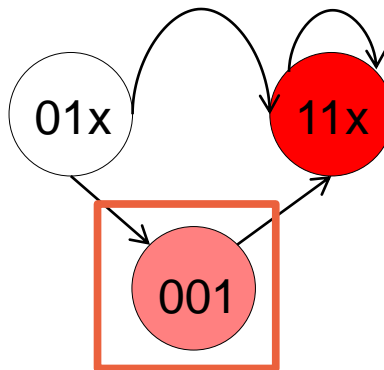
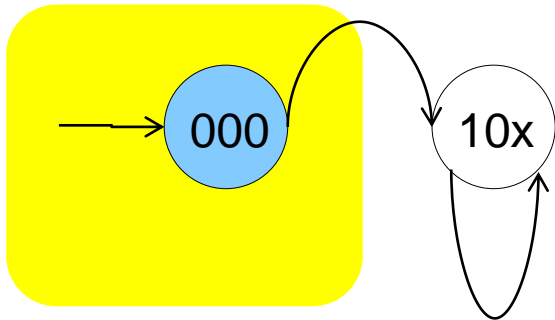
$$F_2 = \top$$

Try dropping x_1

$$F_0 \wedge T \wedge x_2 \vee \neg x_3 \not\models x'_2 \vee \neg x'_3$$

Example

Yes, generalize $\neg s = x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

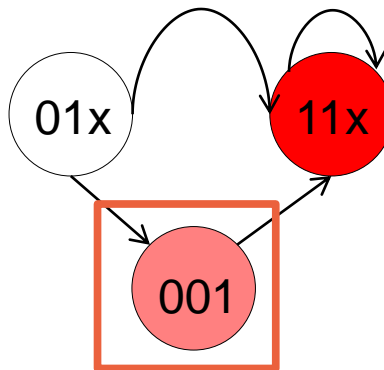
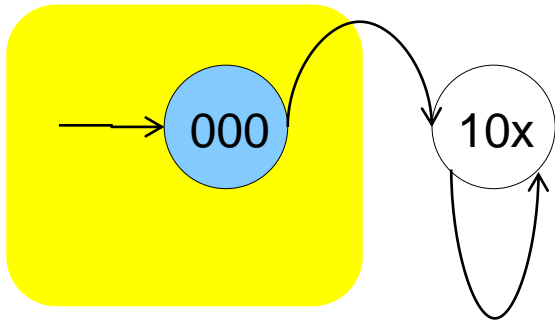
$$F_2 = \top$$

Try dropping x_2

$$F_0 \wedge T \wedge x_1 \vee \neg x_3 \models x'_1 \vee \neg x'_3$$

Example

Yes, generalize $\neg s = x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2$$

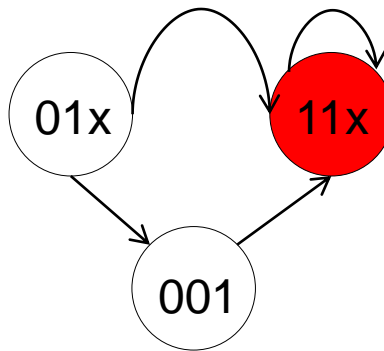
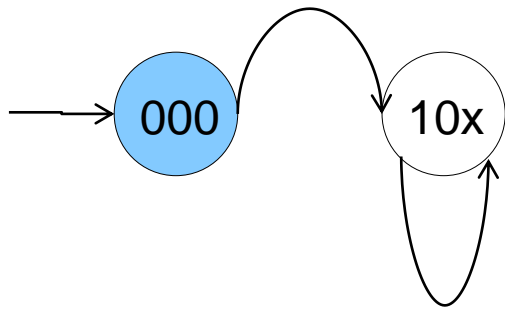
$$F_2 = \top$$

Try dropping x_3

$$I \not\models x_1$$

Example

Update F_1



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

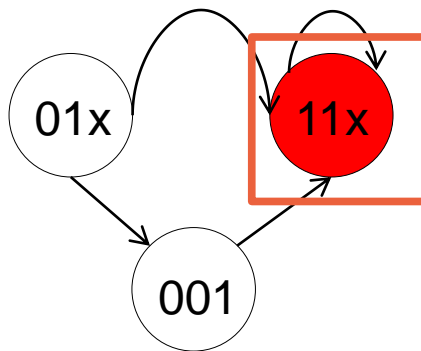
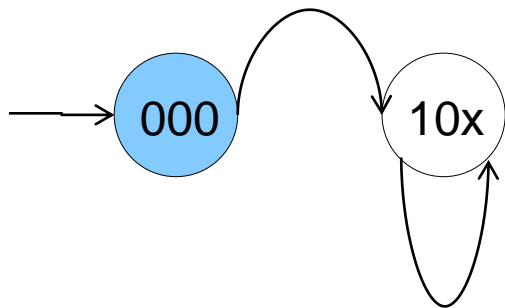
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

Return to the original bad cube c



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

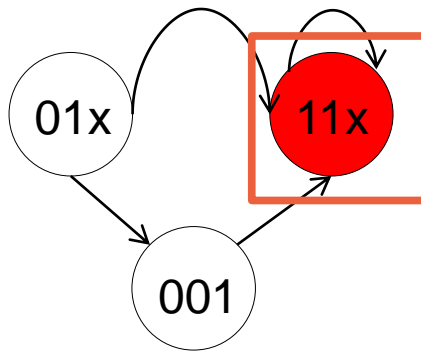
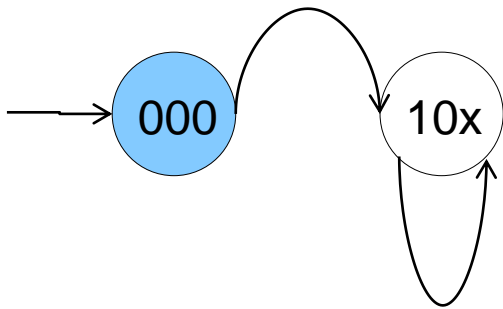
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

Is $\neg c$ inductive relative to F_1 ? $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \neg c \models \neg c'$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

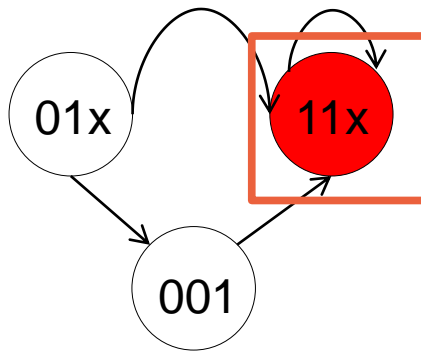
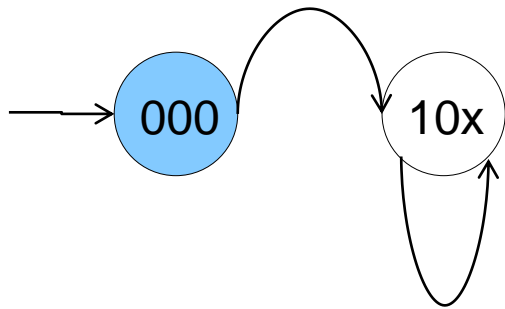
$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_2 = \top$$

Example

Yes, generalize $\neg c = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

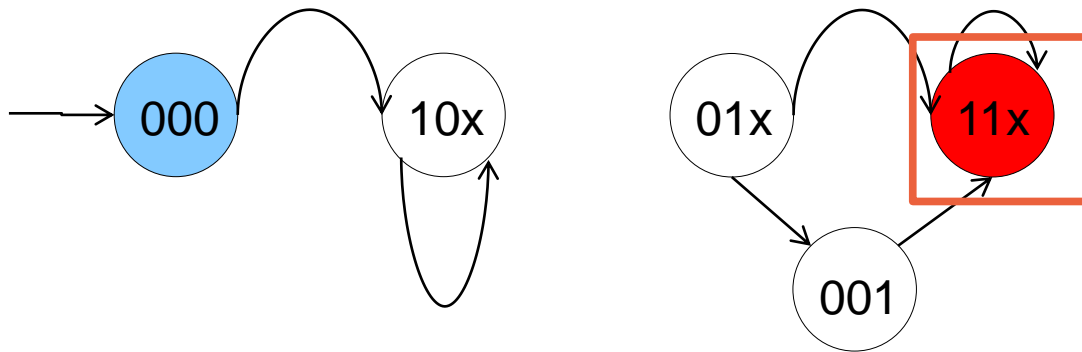
$$F_2 = \top$$

Try dropping $\neg x_1$

$$F_1 \wedge T \wedge \neg x_2 \models \neg x'_2$$

Example

Update F_2 and add new frame F_3



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

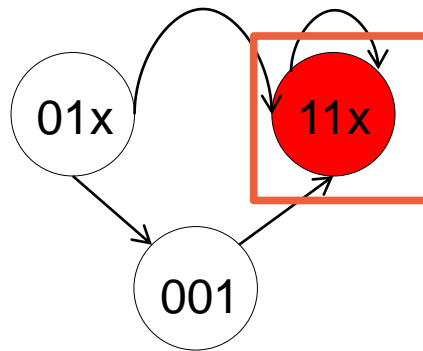
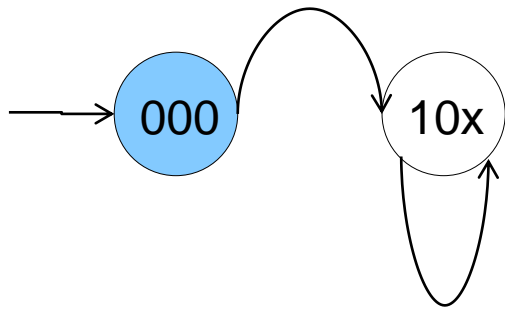
$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_2 = \neg x_2$$

$$F_3 = \top$$

Example

Perform forward propagation



From F_1 to F_2 :

$$F_1 \wedge T \models (x'_1 \vee \neg x'_3)$$

$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

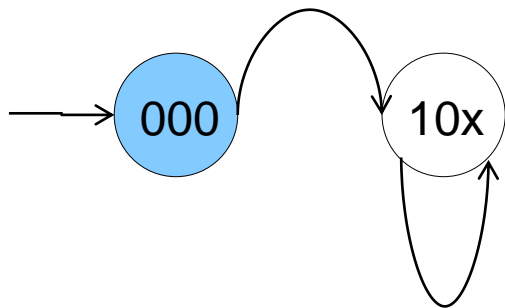
$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_2 = \neg x_2$$

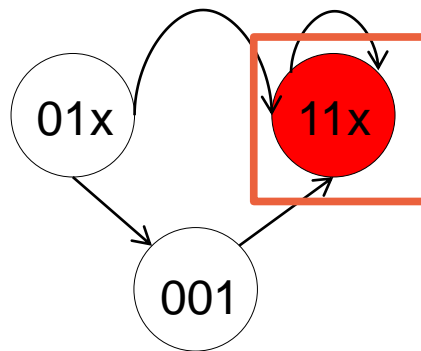
$$F_3 = \top$$

Example

Perform forward propagation



Found fixpoint!



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

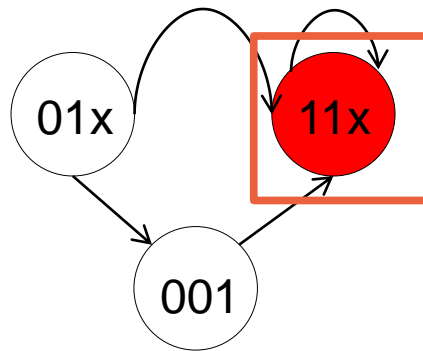
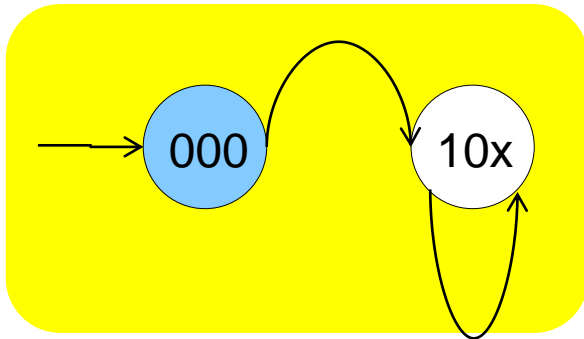
$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_2 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_3 = \top$$

Example

Perform forward propagation



$$I = \neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3$$

$$P = \neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2$$

$$F_0 = I$$

$$F_1 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_2 = \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

$$F_3 = \top$$

Inductive invariant:

$$F_1 \equiv F_2 \equiv \neg x_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3)$$

Finite State Model- Checking

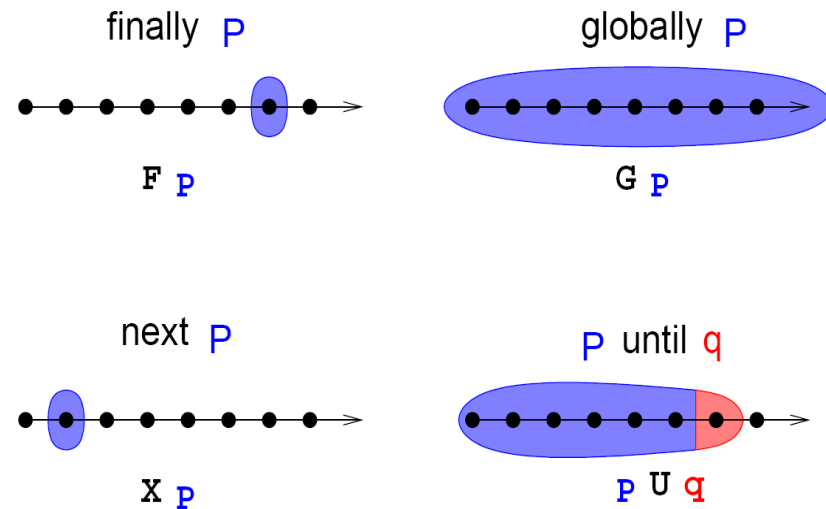
Liveness Checking

Linear Temporal Logic

- Linear models: state sequences (traces)
- Built over set of atomic propositions AP
- LTL is the smallest set of formulas such that:
 - any atomic proposition $p \in AP$ is an LTL formula
 - if ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 are LTL formulas,
then $\neg\phi_1, \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$ and $\phi_1 \vee \phi_2$ are LTL formulas
 - if ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 are LTL formulas,
then $X\phi_1, F\phi_1, G\phi_1$ and $\phi_1 U \phi_2$ are LTL formulas

LTL semantics

- Semantics defined for every trace, for every $i \in \mathbb{N}$.
- ◆ Given an infinite trace $\pi = s_0, s_1, \dots$
 - $\pi, i \models p$ iff $s_i \models p$
 - Standard definition for \neg, \wedge, \vee
 - $\pi, i \models X\phi$ iff $s_{i+1}, s_{i+2}, \dots \models \phi$
 - $\pi, i \models \phi_1 U \phi_2$ iff there exists $j \geq i$, $\pi, j \models \phi_2$ and for all $k, i \leq k < j$, $\pi, k \models \phi_1$
 - $\pi, i \models F\phi$ iff there exists $j \geq i$, $\pi, j \models \phi$
 - $\pi, i \models G\phi$ iff for all $j \geq i$, $\pi, j \models \phi$
- $M \models \phi$ iff $M, \pi, 0 \models \phi$ for every trace π of M .



LTL examples

- Gp “always p ” – like invariant (if we assume deadlock freedom)
- $G(p \rightarrow Fq)$ “ p is always followed by q ” - reaction
- $G(p \rightarrow Xq)$ “whenever p holds, q is set to true” – immediate reaction
- GFp “infinitely many times p ” – fairness
- FGp “eventually permanently p ”
- $G(speed_above_limit \rightarrow (brake \ U \ \neg speed_above_limit))$

LTL verification

- Given an LTL property ϕ , build a transition system $M_{\neg\phi}$ with a **fairness condition** $f_{\neg\phi}$, such that

$$M \times M_{\neg\phi} \models FG \neg f_{\neg\phi}$$

- FG requires a doubly-nested fixpoint
- SAT-based approaches typically reduce the problem to safety

Liveness2safety

- Based on the existence of a **lasso-shaped counterexample**, with $f_{\neg\phi}$ at least once in the loop
- **liveness to safety** transformation: **absence of lasso-shaped counterexamples as an invariant property**
 - Duplicate the state variables $V_{copy} := \{v_c \mid v \in V\}$
 - Non-deterministically save the current state
 - Remember when $f_{\neg\phi}$ in extra state var *triggered*
 - Invariant: $G \neg (V = V_{copy} \wedge \text{triggered})$

K-liveness

- Simple but effective technique for LTL verification of finite-state systems
- Key insight: $M \times M_{\neg\phi} \models FG\neg f_{\neg\phi}$ iff there exists k such that $f_{\neg\phi}$ **is visited at most k times**
 - Again, a safety property
- K-liveness: increase k incrementally
 - Liveness checking as a sequence of safety checks
- Using IC3 as safety checker
 - Exploits the highly incremental nature of IC3

Wrapping up...

- Motivations
- Finite-State Model Checking
 - From BDD-based to SAT-based
- Invariant Checking
 - IC3
- LTL Checking
 - BMC: traces as models, found with SAT checks
 - Liveness to safety
 - Proving limit for violations to fairness

Infinite State Model-Checking

Infinite State Transition System

- Same definition as before: $\langle V, I, T \rangle$
- First-order instead of propositional formulas:
 - Signature: set Σ of constant, functional, and relational symbols
 - Structure: a domain D and interpretation \mathcal{I} of the symbols in the signature
 - Theory: set \mathcal{T} of axioms (a model of \mathcal{T} is a structure that satisfy \mathcal{T})
- Some constant symbols are used as the variables of the transition system
 - They have a flexible interpretation that varies along time
 - The other symbols are rigid
- In the following \models implicitly means $\models_{\mathcal{T}}$, i.e. is restricted to the models of a given theory

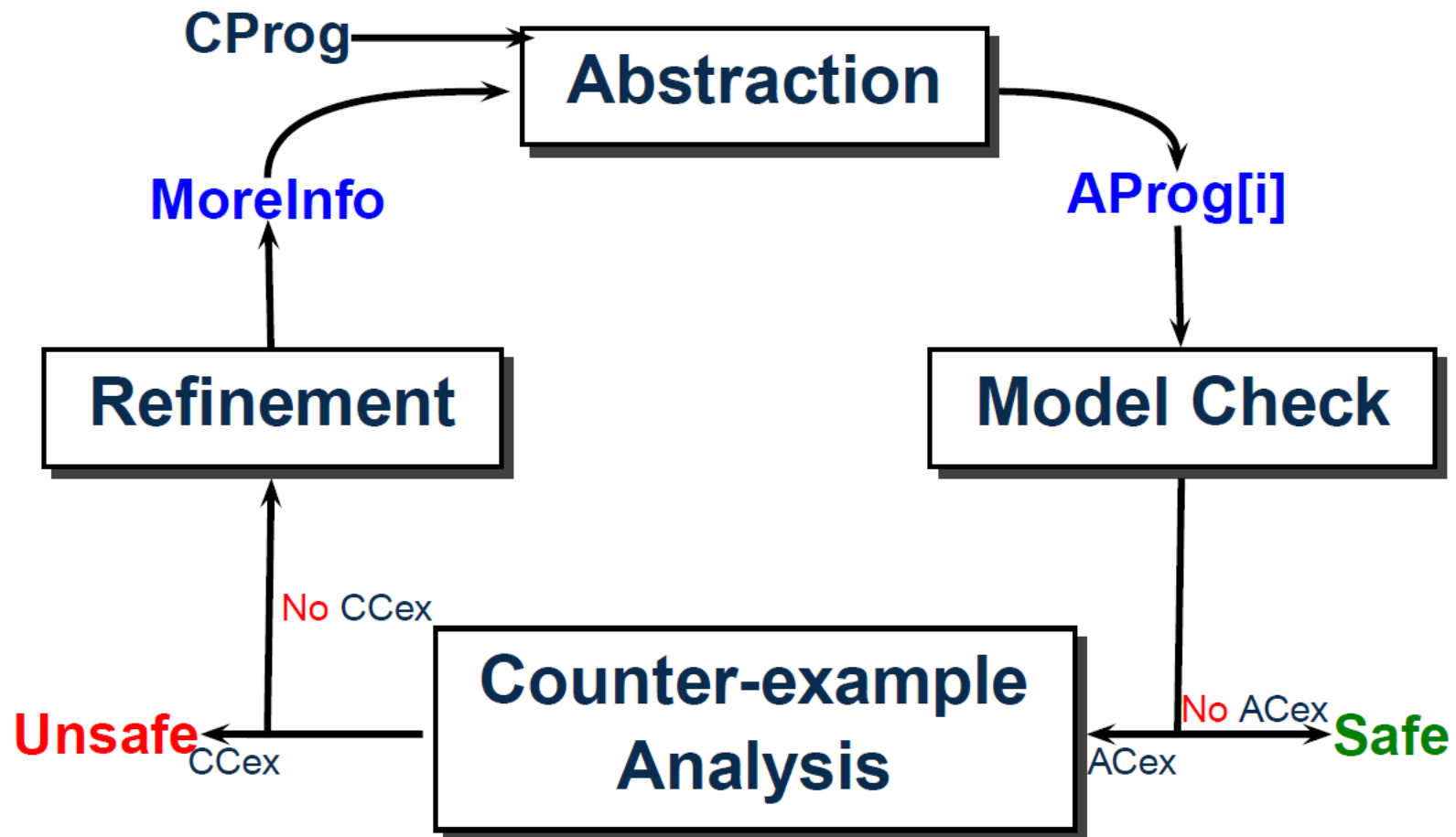
Example

- $V := \{x, y\}$
- $I := y \leq x$
- $T := (x' = x + 1) \wedge (y' \leq y)$
- $\Sigma := \{x, y, 0, 1, +, \leq, \dots\}$
- $\mathcal{T} := \text{theory of reals}$
- $y \leq x \wedge T \models_{\mathcal{T}} y' \leq x'$

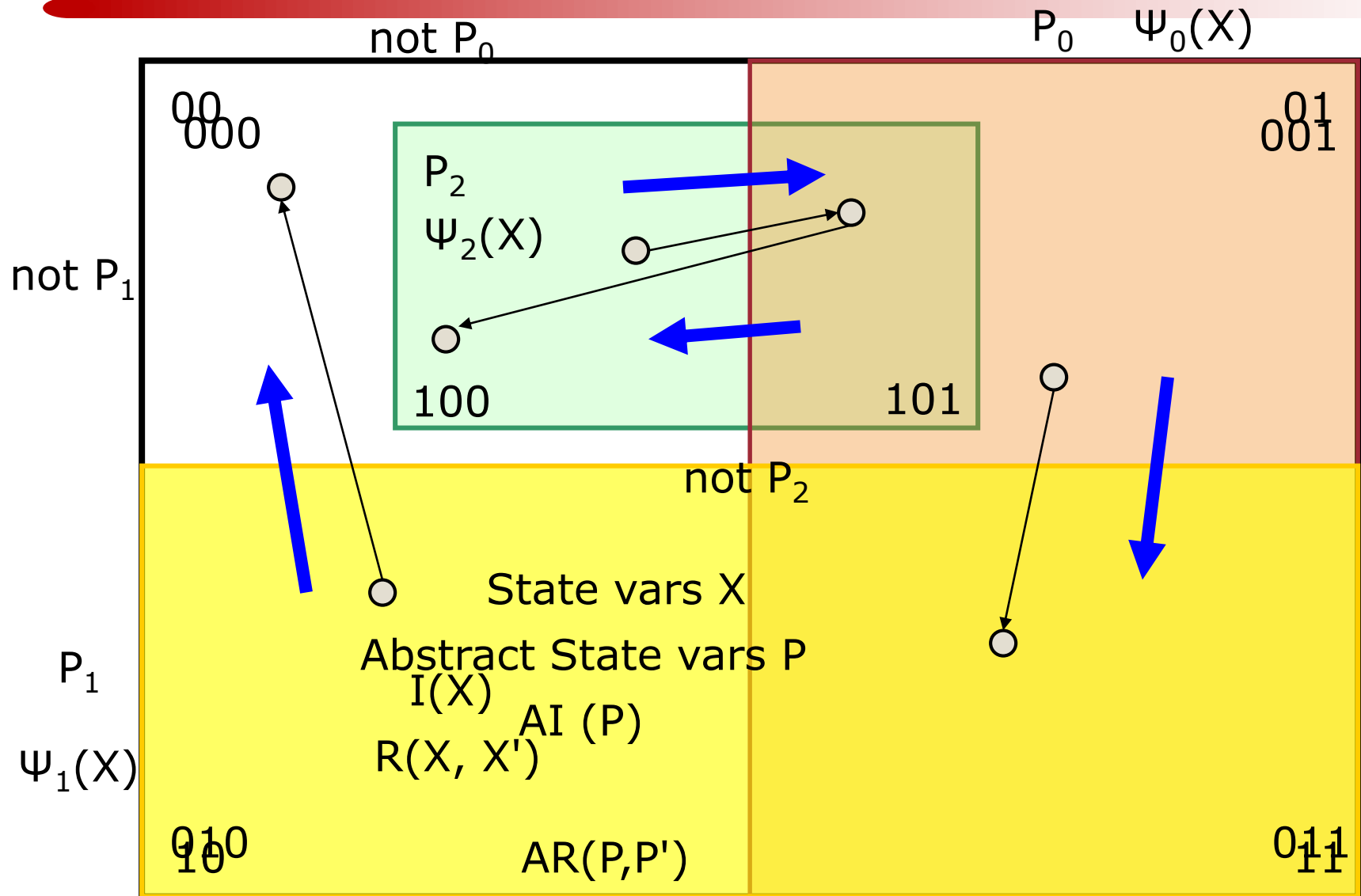
From SAT to SMT

- Previous algorithms assume to have a solver for the satisfiability of formulas
- First developed for finite-state systems with the support of SAT solvers
- SAT solvers substituted by **Satisfiability Modulo Theory (SMT)** solvers:
 - Satisfiability for decidable fragments of first-order logic
 - SAT solver used to enumerate Boolean models
 - Integrated with decision procedure for specific theories, e.g., theory of real linear arithmetic
- Search algorithms applied to infinite-state systems (although in general undecidable)
- Lift to SMT straightforward for **BMC and k-induction**
- Not for **IC3**:
 - Requires alternative **effective generalization**

Counter-Example Guided Abstraction-Refinement (CEGAR)

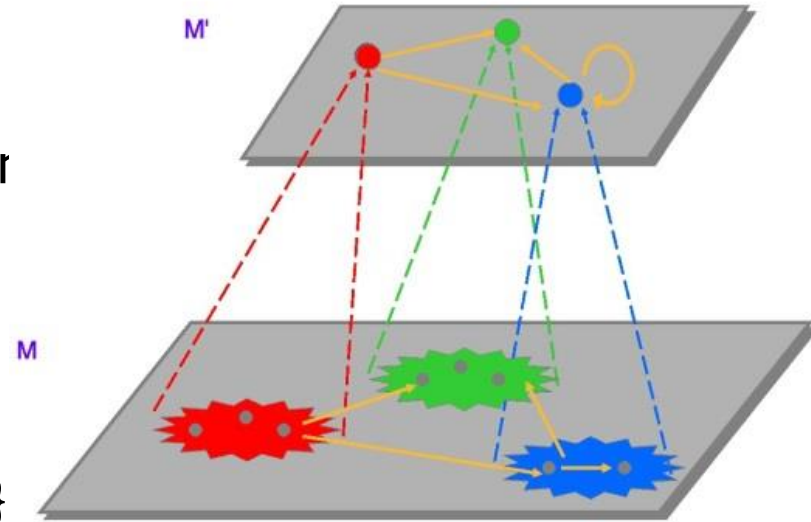


Predicate abstraction



Predicate Abstraction

- Reduction to finite-state MC
- Predicates \mathbb{P} over concrete variables to define the abstraction
- Abstract state space given by Boolean variables, one for each predicate $\hat{V} = \{v_p \mid p \in \mathbb{P}\}$
- Abstract state $\alpha(s) = \{v_p \mid s(p) = \top\}$



- Abstract transition iff there exists a concrete transition between two corresponding concrete states

$$\hat{T} = \{\langle \hat{s}, \hat{s}' \rangle \mid \exists s, s', \alpha(s) = \hat{s}, \alpha(s') = \hat{s}', T(s, s')\}$$

- Transitions computed with ALLSMT:

$$\hat{T}(\hat{V}, \hat{V}') = \exists V, V' (T(V, V') \wedge \bigwedge_{p \in \mathbb{P}} v_p \leftrightarrow p(V) \wedge \bigwedge_{p \in \mathbb{P}} v'_p \leftrightarrow p(V'))$$

Interpolation

An interpolant for an unsatisfiable formula

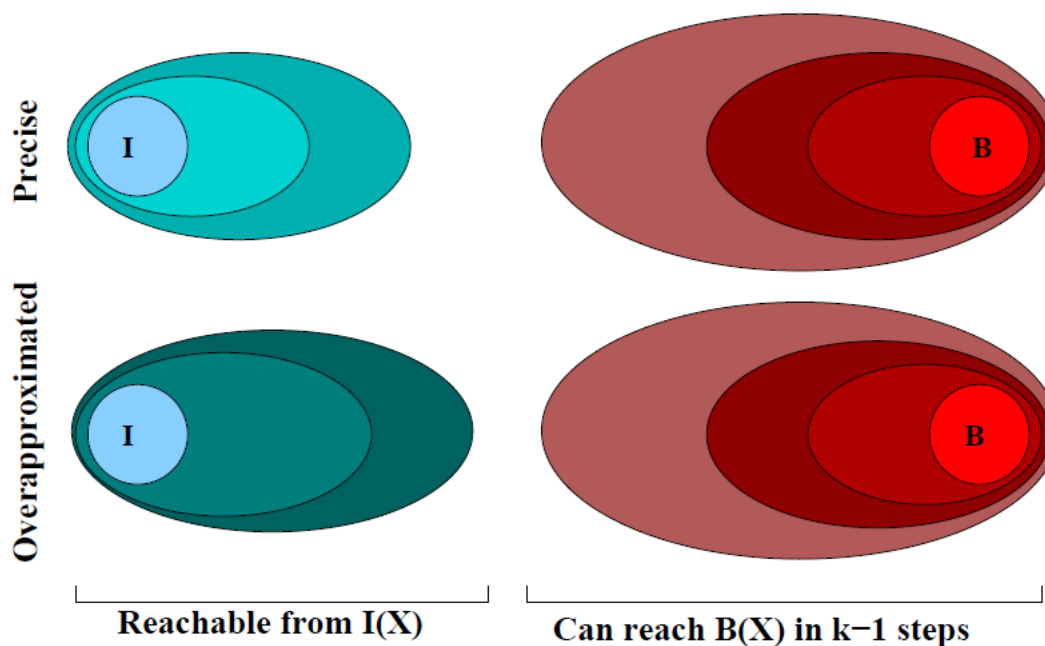
$$\Phi_1(X, Y) \wedge \Phi_2(Y, Z)$$

is a formula $ltp(Y)$ such that:

- $\Phi_1(X, Y) \rightarrow ltp(Y)$
- $ltp(Y) \wedge \Phi_2(Y, Z)$ is unsatisfiable

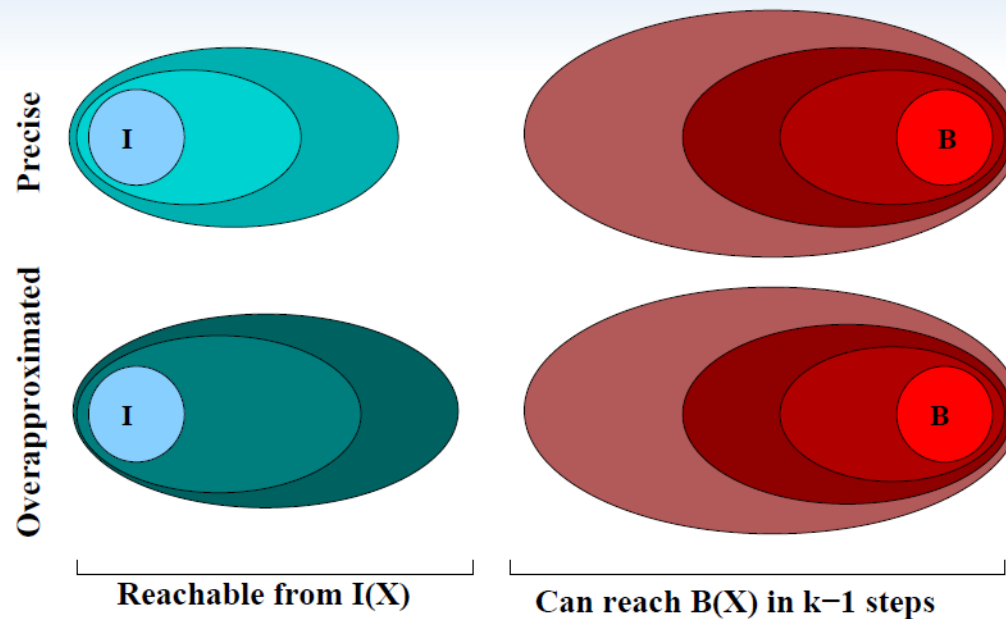
Interpolation-based model checking

$$\overbrace{I(X_0) \wedge R(X_0, X_1)}^{\Phi_1(X_0, X_1)} \underbrace{\wedge}_{ltp(X_1)} \overbrace{R(X_1, X_2) \dots \wedge R(X_{k-1}, X_k) \wedge B(X_k)}^{\Phi_2(X_1, \dots, X_k)}$$



$$ltp(X_1) = ltp(R, I(X_0), k)$$

Interpolation-based model checking



- Precise reachability
 - $\mathcal{R}_0 = I$
 - $\mathcal{R}_i = \text{Img}(R, \mathcal{R}_{i-1}) \cup \mathcal{R}_{i-1}$
- Interpolation based reachability
 - $ltp_0 = I(X_1)$
 - $ltp_i = ltp(R, ltp_{i-1}, k) \cup ltp_{i-1}$

Abstraction Refinement

- Abstract traces are **overapproximations**
 - Spurious counterexamples can be generated
- Standard abstraction refinement techniques based on interpolation
 - Sequence of abstract states $\hat{s}_0, \hat{s}_1, \dots, \hat{s}_k$
 - SMT check on

$$\hat{s}_0(V_0) \wedge T(V_0, V_1) \wedge \hat{s}_1(V_1) \wedge T(V_1, V_2) \wedge \dots \wedge T(V_{k-1}, V_k) \wedge \hat{s}_k(V_k)$$

- If unsat, compute sequence of interpolants for

$$[\hat{s}_0(V_0) \wedge T(V_0, V_1) \wedge \dots \wedge T(V_{i-1}, V_i)]$$

$$[\hat{s}_i(V_i) \wedge T(V_i, V_{i+1}) \wedge \dots \wedge T(V_{k-1}, V_k) \wedge \hat{s}_k(V_k)]$$

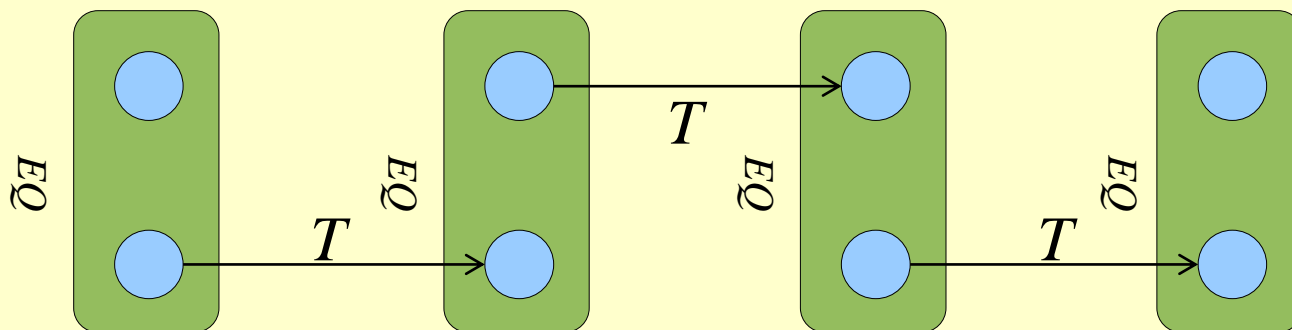
using the same UNSAT proof (called **sequence interpolants**)

- Add all the predicates in the interpolants to \mathbb{P}

Implicit Predicate Abstraction

- Abstract version of BMC and k-induction, avoiding explicit computation of the abstract transition relation
 - By embedding the abstraction in the SMT encoding
 - $EQ(V_1, V_2) := \bigwedge_{p \in \mathbb{P}} p(V_1) \leftrightarrow p(V_2)$
- The abstract unrolling is

$$T(V_0, \bar{V}_1) \wedge EQ(\bar{V}_1, V_1) \wedge T(V_1, \bar{V}_2) \wedge EQ(\bar{V}_2, V_2) \wedge T(V_2, V_3) \wedge \dots$$



Infinite State Model-Checking

IC3 with Implicit Abstraction

IC3 with Implicit Abstraction

- Integrate the idea of Implicit Abstraction within IC3
- Use abstract transition relation
- Learn clauses only over predicates
- Use abstract relative induction check:

$$\begin{aligned} & AbsRelInd(F, T, c, \mathbb{P}) \\ & := F(V) \wedge c(V) \wedge T(V, \overline{V}) \wedge \bigwedge_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \left(p(V') \leftrightarrow p(\overline{V}) \right) \wedge \neg c(V') \end{aligned}$$

- If **UNSAT** \Rightarrow inductive strengthening as in the Boolean case
- No theory-specific technique needed

IC3 with Implicit Abstraction

- Integrate the idea of Implicit Abstraction within IC3
- Use abstract transition relation
- **Learn clauses only over predicates**
- Use abstract relative induction check:

$$\begin{aligned} & AbsRelInd(F, T, c, \mathbb{P}) \\ & := F(V) \wedge c(V) \wedge T(V, \overline{V}) \wedge \bigwedge_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \left(p(V') \leftrightarrow p(\overline{V}) \right) \wedge \neg c(V') \end{aligned}$$

- If **SAT** \Rightarrow abstract predecessor from the SMT model
- No preimage needed

Example

- $T := (2x'_1 - 3x_1 \leq 4x'_2 + 2x_2 + 3) \wedge (3x_1 - 2x'_2 = 0)$
- $\mathbb{P} := \{(x_1 - x_2 \geq 4), (x_1 < 3)\}$
- $s := \neg(x_1 - x_2 \geq 4) \wedge (x_1 < 3)$
- $AbsRelInd(\emptyset, T, \neg s, \mathbb{P}) = T(V, \bar{V}') \wedge \neg s(V) \wedge s(V') \wedge$
 $(x_1 - x_2 \geq 4) \leftrightarrow (\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2 \geq 4) \wedge (x_1 < 3) \leftrightarrow (\bar{x}_1 < 3)$
- $AbsRelInd(\emptyset, T, s, \mathbb{P})$ is SAT
- Compute a predecessor from SMT model:

$$\mu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x_1 \mapsto 0, x_2 \mapsto 1\}$$

$$\neg(x_1 - x_2 \geq 4) \wedge (x_1 < 3)$$

Abstraction refinement

- Abstract counterexample check can use incremental SMT
- **Abstraction refinement is *fully incremental***
- No restart from scratch
- Can keep all the clauses of F_1, \dots, F_k
- Refinements monotonically strengthen T

$$T_{new} := T_{old} \wedge \bigwedge_{p \in new \mathbb{P}} \left(p(V) \leftrightarrow p(\overline{V}) \right) \wedge \left(p(V') \leftrightarrow p(\overline{V}') \right)$$

- All IC3 invariants on F_1, \dots, F_k are preserved
 - $F_{i+1} \subseteq F_i$ (so $F_i \models F_{i+1}$)
 - $F_i \wedge T \models F'_{i+1}$
 - For all $i < k, F_i \models P$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Check base case: $\text{Init} \models \text{Property}$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Get bad cube
 - SMT check $F_1 \wedge \neg P$
 - SAT with model $\mu := \{c = 0, d = 3\}$
 - Evaluate predicates wrt. μ
 - Return
 $s := \{\neg(d = 1), \neg(c \geq d), (d > 2), \neg(c > d)\}$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d

- Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
- Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
- Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$

- Rec. block s

- Check

$AbsRelInd(F_0, T, \neg s, \mathbb{P})$

$\equiv Init \wedge (\bar{c} = c + d) \wedge (\bar{d} = d + 1)$

$\wedge (d' = 1 \leftrightarrow \bar{d} = 1) \wedge (c' \geq d' \leftrightarrow \bar{c} \geq \bar{d})$

$\wedge (d' > 2 \leftrightarrow \bar{d} > 2) \wedge (c' > d' \leftrightarrow \bar{c} > \bar{d}) \wedge \neg s \wedge s'$

- Predicates \mathbb{P}

$(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$

- Trace

- $F_0 := Init$

- $F_1 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Rec. block s
 - Check $AbsRelInd(F_0, T, \neg s, \mathbb{P})$: UNSAT
 - Generalize: $\{\neg(d > 2)\}$
 - Update $F_1 := F_1 \wedge \neg(d > 2)$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := Init$
 - $F_1 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Forward propagation
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 - $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_2 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Get bad cube at 2
 - $s := \{\neg(d = 1), \neg(c \geq d), (d > 2), \neg(c > d)\}$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 - $(d = 1), (c \geq d), (d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_2 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Recursively block s
 - ...
 - Update $F_1 := F_1 \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - ...
 - Update $F_2 := F_2 \wedge (c \geq d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 - $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_2 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Forward propagation
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 - $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_3 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Get cube at 3
 - $s := \{\neg(d = 1), \neg(c \geq d), (d > 2), \neg(c > d)\}$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 - $(d = 1), (c \geq d), (d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_3 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Recursively block s
 - *AbsRelInd* is sat
 - SMT model:
 $\mu := \{c = 0, d = 2, c' = 0, d = 3, \bar{c} = 2, \bar{d} = 3\}$
 - Abstract predecessor:
 $\{\neg(d > 2), \neg(c > d), \neg(d = 1), \neg(c \geq d)\}$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_3 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Recursively block c
 - ...
 - Reached level 0, abstract cex:
 $s_0 := \neg(d > 2), \neg(c > d), (d = 1), (c \geq d)$
 $s_1 := \neg(d > 2), \neg(c > d), \neg(d = 1), (c \geq d)$
 $s_2 := \neg(d > 2), \neg(c > d), \neg(d = 1), \neg(c \geq d)$
 $s := \neg(d = 1), \neg(c \geq d), (d > 2), \neg(c > d)$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_3 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Check abstract counterexample
$$s_0(V_0) \wedge T(V_0, V_1) \wedge s_1(V_1) \wedge T(V_1, V_2) \wedge s_2(V_2) \wedge T(V_2, V_3) \wedge s(V_3)$$

UNSAT
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
$$(d = 1), (c \geq d), (d > 2), (c > d)$$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := Init$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_3 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Check abstract counterexample
- Extract new predicates from sequence interpolants:
$$d \geq 2, d \geq 3$$
- Update \mathbb{P}
 - Predicates \mathbb{P}
 $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 $(d > 2), (c > d),$
 $(d \geq 2), (d \geq 3)$
 - Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$
 - $F_3 := \top$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Update abstract Trans
- Resume IC3 from level 3
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
 - $(d = 1), (c \geq d),$
 - $(d > 2), (c > d),$
 - $(d \geq 2), (d \geq 3)$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2) \wedge F_3$
 - $F_3 := (d = 1) \vee (d \geq 2) \wedge \neg(c \geq d) \wedge F_4$
 - $F_4 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Update abstract Trans
- Resume IC3 from level 3
- ...
- Forward propagation
$$F_2 \wedge \hat{T}_{\mathbb{P}} \models (c' \geq d') \vee \neg(d' \geq 2)$$
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
$$(d = 1), (c \geq d),$$
$$(d > 2), (c > d),$$
$$(d \geq 2), (d \geq 3)$$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2) \wedge F_3$
 - $F_3 := (d = 1) \vee (d \geq 2) \wedge \neg(c \geq d) \wedge F_4$
 - $F_4 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$

Example

- System with 2 state vars c and d
 - Init: $(d = 1) \wedge (c \geq d)$
 - Trans: $(c' = c + d) \wedge (d' = d + 1)$
 - Property: $(d > 2) \rightarrow (c > d)$
- Update abstract Trans
- Resume IC3 from level 3
- ...
- Forward propagation
$$F_2 \wedge \hat{T}_{\mathbb{P}} \models (c' \geq d') \vee \neg(d' \geq 2)$$
- Fixpoint \Rightarrow Property is true
- Predicates \mathbb{P}
$$(d = 1), (c \geq d),$$
$$(d > 2), (c > d),$$
$$(d \geq 2), (d \geq 3)$$
- Trace
 - $F_0 := \text{Init}$
 - $F_1 := \neg(d > 2) \wedge (c \geq d) \wedge F_2$
 - $F_2 := F_3 := (c \geq d) \vee \neg(d \geq 2) \wedge (d = 1) \vee (d \geq 2) \wedge \neg(c \geq d) \wedge F_4$
 - $F_4 := (c > d) \vee \neg(d > 2)$

Infinite State Model-Checking

Liveness Checking

LTL from Finite to Infinite

- Use first-order predicates instead of propositions:
 - $G(x \geq a \wedge x \leq b)$
 - $GF(x = a) \wedge GF(x = b)$
- Predicates interpreted according to specific theory
- “next” variables to express changes/transitions:
 - $G(x' = x + 1)$
 - $G(a' - a \leq b)$
- BMC
 - Add encoding of lasso-shape and fairness
 - Sound for finding traces, but not complete
 - The only counterexample may be not lasso-shape
- K-liveness
 - No change
 - Sound to prove properties, but not complete
 - Property may hold, but fairness can be visited an unbounded number of times

Liveness to Safety for Infinite States

- Unsound for infinite-state systems
 - Not all counterexamples are lasso-shaped

$$I(S) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x = 0) \quad T(S) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x' = x + 1) \quad \varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{FG}(x < 5)$$

- Liveness to safety with Implicit Abstraction
 - Apply the l2s transformation to the abstract system
 - Save the values of the predicates instead of the concrete state
 - Do it on-the-fly, tightly integrating l2s with IC3
 - Sound but incomplete
 - When abstract loop found, simulate in the concrete and refine
 - Might still diverge during refinement
 - Intrinsic limitation of state predicate abstraction

Wrap-up

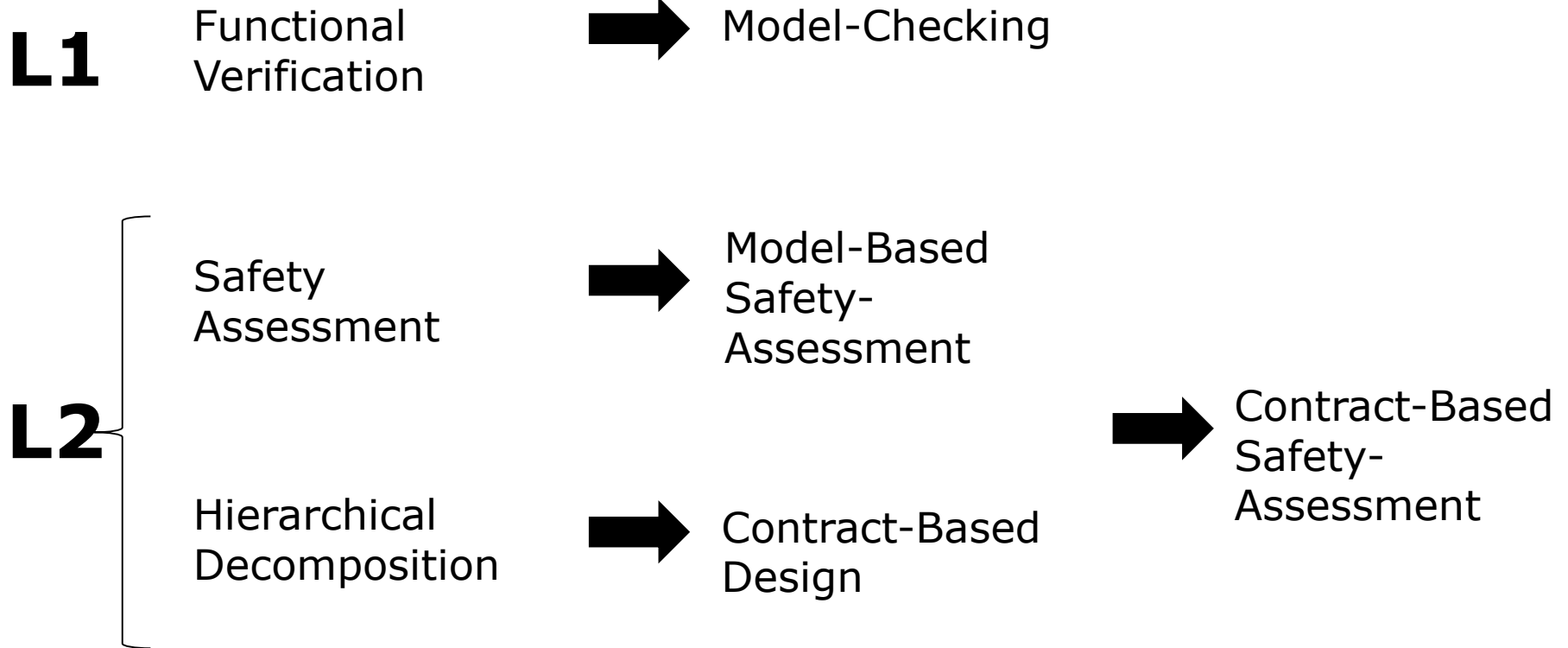
Lecture Summary

- Overview of SAT-based model checking techniques
- Details on IC3, as currently the prominent algorithm
- Liveness reduced to safety
- Lifting SAT-based MC to SMT
 - For invariant checking
 - Easy for BMC and k-induction
 - Predicate abstraction to reduce to finite-state MC
 - Implicit abstraction to avoid explicit computation of abstract state space
 - Implicit abstraction to lift IC3 to SMT
 - For liveness
 - BMC and K-liveness sound but not complete
 - Liveness2safety on abstract state space

Not covered

- Other MC approaches: BDD-Based, Interpolation, ...
- Other Properties: CTL, PSL, termination, epistemic, ...
- Other kind of systems
 - Continuous-time/hybrid systems
 - Probabilistic Systems
 - Software (control-flow graphs)
 - ...

Next lecture



Readings

A list of suggested readings on the topics of the course. The list is not meant to be complete.

- Model checking:
 - Edmund M. Clarke, Orna Grumberg, Doron A. Peled: Model Checking. The MIT Press, 1999
 - Kenneth L. McMillan: Symbolic Model Checking. Kluwer, 1993
 - Christel Baier, Joost-Pieter Katoen: Principles of Model Checking. The MIT Press, 2008
- Bounded Model Checking:
 - Armin Biere, Alessandro Cimatti, Edmund M. Clarke, Ofer Strichman, Yunshan Zhu: Bounded model checking. Advances in Computers 58: 117-148 (2003)

Readings

- K-induction:
 - Mary Sheeran, Satnam Singh, Gunnar Stålmarmark: Checking Safety Properties Using Induction and a SAT-Solver. FMCAD 2000: 108-125
 - Niklas Eén, Niklas Sörensson: Temporal induction by incremental SAT solving. Electr. Notes Theor. Comput. Sci. 89(4): 543-560 (2003)
- IC3 for Finite-State Transition Systems:
 - Aaron R. Bradley: SAT-Based Model Checking without Unrolling. VMCAI 2011: 70-87
 - Fabio Somenzi, Aaron R. Bradley: IC3: where monolithic and incremental meet. FMCAD 2011: 3-8
 - Aaron R. Bradley: Understanding IC3. SAT 2012: 1-14
 - Krystof Hoder, Nikolaj Bjørner: Generalized Property Directed Reachability. SAT 2012: 157-171

Readings

- LTL Model Checking:
 - Amir Pnueli: The Temporal Logic of Programs. FOCS 1977: 46-57
 - Moshe Y. Vardi: An Automata-Theoretic Approach to Linear Temporal Logic. Banff Higher Order Workshop 1995: 238-266
 - Edmund M. Clarke, Orna Grumberg, Kiyoharu Hamaguchi: Another Look at LTL Model Checking. Formal Methods in System Design 10(1): 47-71 (1997)
- Liveness to safety:
 - Armin Biere, Cyrille Artho, Viktor Schuppan: Liveness Checking as Safety Checking. Electr. Notes Theor. Comput. Sci. 66(2): 160-177 (2002)
 - Yi Fang, Kenneth L. McMillan, Amir Pnueli, Lenore D. Zuck: Liveness by Invisible Invariants. FORTE 2006: 356-371
 - Koen Claessen, Niklas Sörensson: A liveness checking algorithm that counts. FMCAD 2012: 52-59

Readings

- K-Induction for Infinite-State Systems:
 - Leonardo Mendonça de Moura, Harald Rueß, Maria Sorea: Bounded Model Checking and Induction: From Refutation to Verification (Extended Abstract, Category A). CAV 2003: 14-26
 - Temesghen Kahsai, Cesare Tinelli: PKind: A parallel k-induction based model checker. PDMC 2011: 55-62
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Sergio Mover, Alessandro Cimatti: SMT-based scenario verification for hybrid systems. Formal Methods in System Design 42(1): 46-66 (2013)
 - Jonathan Laurent, Alwyn Goodloe, Lee Pike: Assuring the Guardians. RV 2015: 87-101

Readings

- Interpolation-based Model Checking:
 - Kenneth L. McMillan: Interpolation and SAT-Based Model Checking. CAV 2003: 1-13
 - Kenneth L. McMillan: Applications of Craig Interpolants in Model Checking. TACAS 2005: 1-12
 - Kenneth L. McMillan: Lazy Abstraction with Interpolants. CAV 2006: 123-136
- Liveness to Safety for Infinite-State Systems:
 - Viktor Schuppan, Armin Biere: Liveness Checking as Safety Checking for Infinite State Spaces. Electr. Notes Theor. Comput. Sci. 149(1): 79-96 (2006)
 - Andreas Podelski, Andrey Rybalchenko: Transition predicate abstraction and fair termination. ACM Trans. Program. Lang. Syst. 29(3) (2007)
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Alberto Griggio, Sergio Mover, Alessandro Cimatti: Verifying LTL Properties of Hybrid Systems with K-Liveness. CAV 2014: 424-440

Readings

- Implicit Abstraction:
 - Stefano Tonetta: Abstract Model Checking without Computing the Abstraction. FM 2009: 89-105
- IC3 for Infinite-State Systems:
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Alberto Griggio: Software Model Checking via IC3. CAV 2012: 277-293
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Alberto Griggio, Sergio Mover, Alessandro Cimatti: IC3 Modulo Theories via Implicit Predicate Abstraction. TACAS 2014: 46-61
 - Johannes Birgmeier, Aaron R. Bradley, Georg Weissenbacher: Counterexample to Induction-Guided Abstraction-Refinement (CTIGAR). CAV 2014: 831-848
 - Yakir Vizel, Arie Gurfinkel: Interpolating Property Directed Reachability. CAV 2014: 260-276
 - Nikolaj Bjørner, Arie Gurfinkel: Property Directed Polyhedral Abstraction. VMCAI 2015: 263-281