Advanced model checking for verification and safety assessment

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Invited Lectures, University of Udine

Lecture 2

Lecture prepared in collaboration with

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Some slides borrowed from Cristian Mattarei, Marco Bozzano, Anthony Pires

Lecture 2

- Safety Assessment
 - Fault Extension
 - Fault Tree Computation
- Requirements Analysis
- Contract Based Design
- Contract-Based Safety Assessment
- Case-Studies
 - WBS
 - NASA
- Wrap-up

Safety Assessment

Alessandro Cimatti - Invited Lectures, UniUD

Safety Assessment

The **safety assessment process** provides a **methodology** to evaluate the design of systems, and to determine that the **associated hazards** have been properly addressed...

...and it should be planned to provide the **necessary assurance** that all relevant failure conditions have been **identified and considered.**

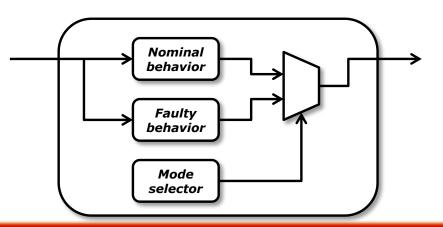
Aerospace Recommended Practice 4761 SAE International

Model-Based Safety Assessment (MBSA)

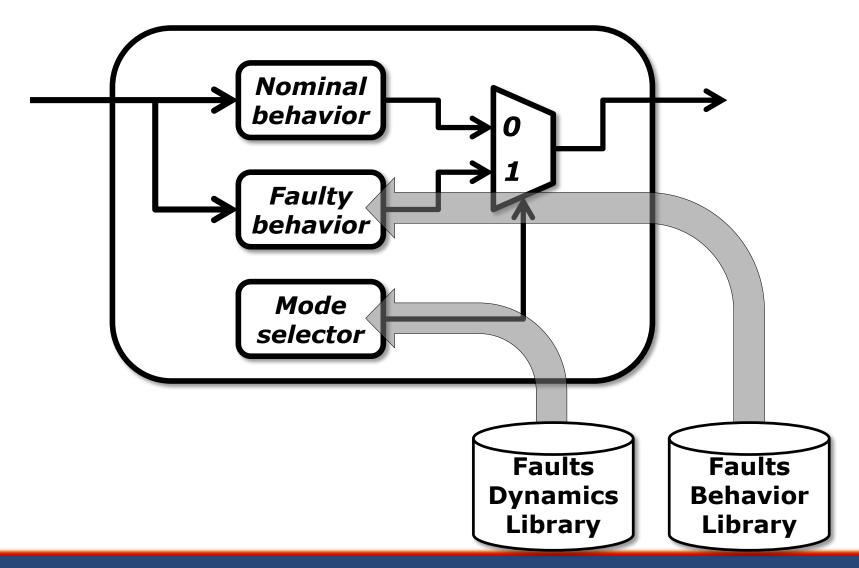
- Used for the evaluation of safety critical systems e.g., redundancy / fault tolerance
- The nominal system description is extended by allowing faulty behaviors (fault injection)
- Find all possible fault configurations that may cause the reachability of an unwanted condition (a.k.a. Top Level Event - TLE)
 - $Assume M \vDash \phi$
 - TLE $\coloneqq \neg \phi$
 - Bad states in case of invariant property
 - Generalized also to LTL

Model Extension

- From **nominal** $M \coloneqq \langle V, I, T \rangle$ to **extended** $M^X \coloneqq \langle V^X, I^X, T^X \rangle$ model, where $V \cup F \subseteq V^X$
- Extended model with disabled fault variables (i.e. set to FALSE) should have the same behavior as the nominal one
- Symbolic Fault Injection, additional behavior in parallel to the nominal one, selected via a mode selector:



Model-Based Fault Injection



Fault Injection:

•
$$\mathcal{M} \Longrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{[\mathcal{F}]}$$

Cutsets computation:

•
$$CS := \{ cs \in 2^{\mathcal{F}} \mid \mathcal{M}^X \land cs \not\models \varphi \}$$

Minimal cutsets computation:

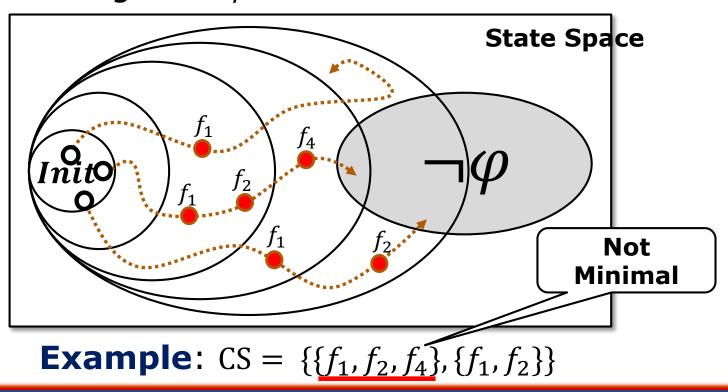
• $MCS := \{ cs \in CS \mid \exists cs' \in CS.cs' \subset cs \}$

Formula representing the minimal cutsets:

•
$$MCS^{\top} := \bigwedge_{cs \in MCS} \left(\bigvee_{f \in cs} (f = \top) \right)$$

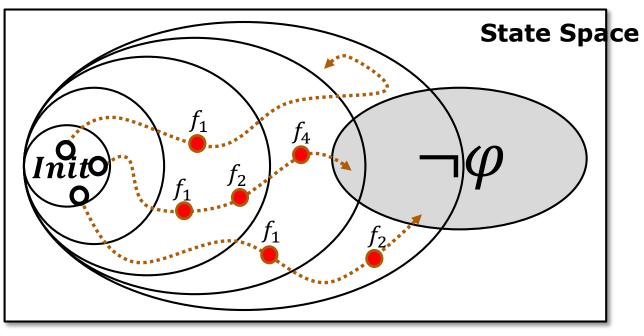
Minimal Cutsets Computation

Given an extended model $M^X \coloneqq \langle V^X, I^X, T^X \rangle$, find all **minimal** Faults Configurations FC (**Cutsets**) s.t. \exists trace π triggering FC and witnessing $M^X \not\models \varphi$

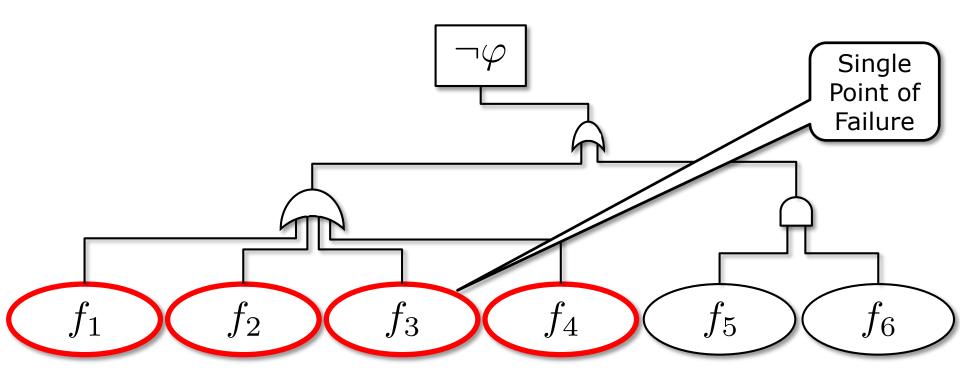


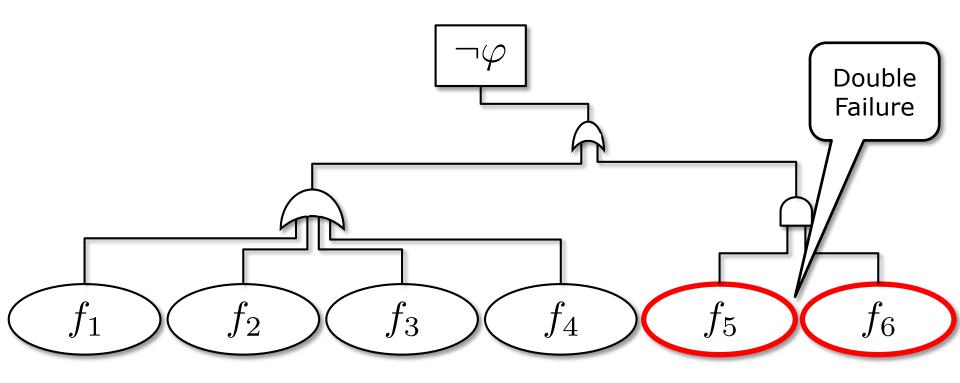
Minimal Cutsets Computation

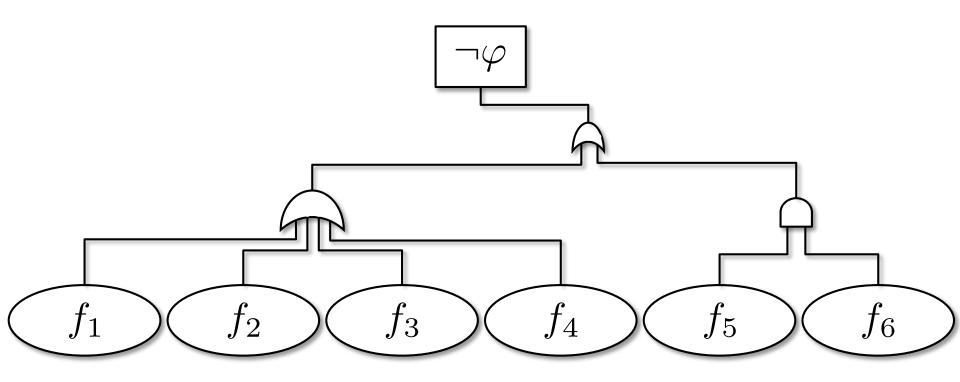
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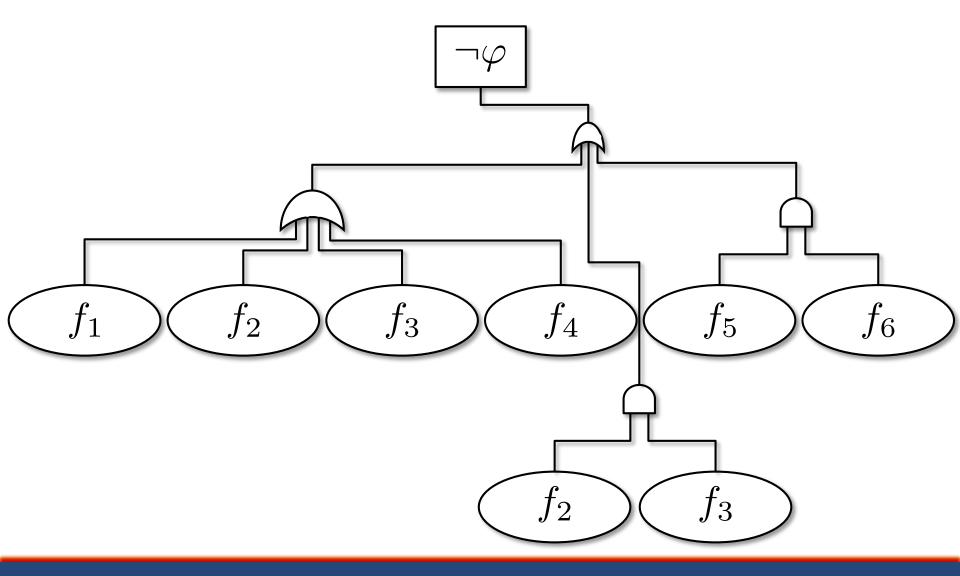


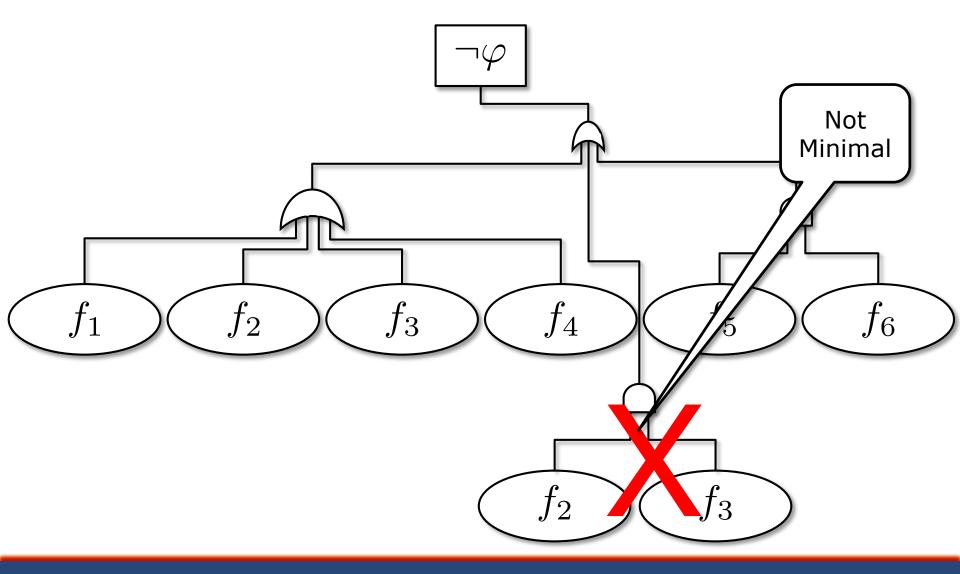
Example: MCS = $\{\{f_1, f_2\}\}$

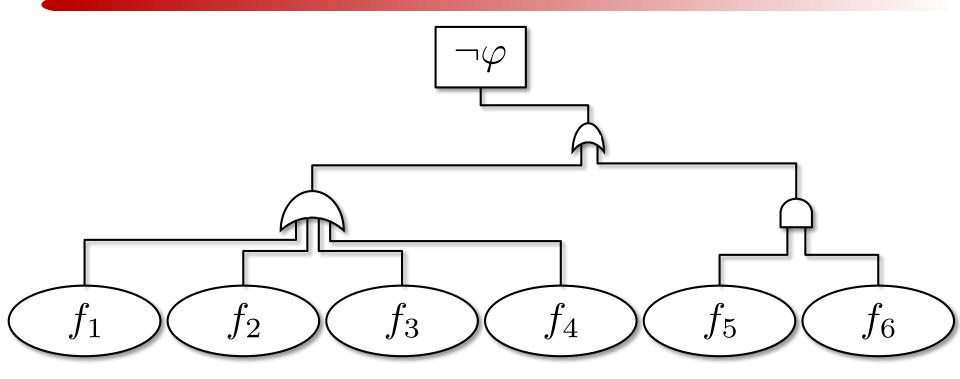




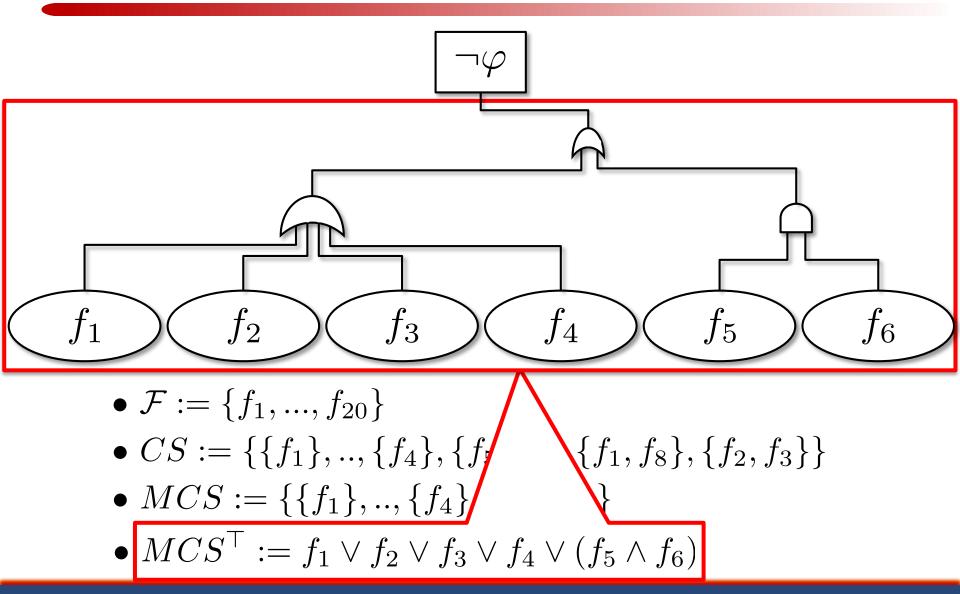








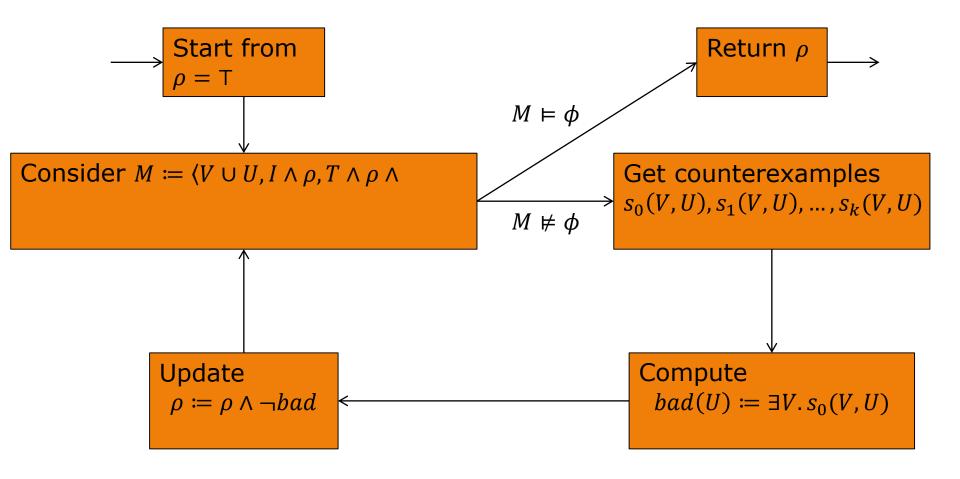
- $\mathcal{F} := \{f_1, ..., f_{20}\}$
- $CS := \{\{f_1\}, ..., \{f_4\}, \{f_5, f_6\}, \{f_1, f_8\}, \{f_2, f_3\}\}$
- $MCS := \{\{f_1\}, ..., \{f_4\}, \{f_5, f_6\}\}$
- $MCS^{\top} := f_1 \lor f_2 \lor f_3 \lor f_4 \lor (f_5 \land f_6)$



CS computation as parameter synthesis

- Parameter synthesis problem:
 - Transition system extended with parameters X: $\langle V, I, T, X \rangle$ such that
 - *I* is a formula over $V \cup X$
 - *T* is a formula over $V \cup X \cup V'$
 - Valuation γ of X induces a transition system $M_{\gamma} \coloneqq \langle V, \gamma(I), \gamma(T) \rangle$
 - Problem: find all γ such that $M_{\gamma} \models \phi$
 - Or dually find all γ such that $M_{\gamma} \neq \phi$
 - CS computation as parameter synthesis:
 - Faults \mathcal{F} as parameters
 - M^X as parametric transition system
 - Find all assignments to \mathcal{F} such that $M_{\gamma}^X \neq \phi$

Parameter synthesis



Exploiting IC3 incrementality

- At each iteration:
 - $I \coloneqq I \land \neg bad$
 - $\bullet \quad T \coloneqq T \land \neg bad$
- No need to restart from scratch
- IC3 can keep previous frames F_i
- Similarly, exploit incrementality in the underlying SAT/SMT solver

Requirements Analysis

Property correctness

- Standard problem: correctness of design against set of properties.
- Properties given as golden.
- Possible issues:
 - Properties wrongly formalized.
 - Properties may be abstract version of real requirements (to enable verification)
 - Set of properties incomplete.
- Same problems addressed by Requirements Engineering

Requirements engineering

- Old discipline (more than twenty years).
- Goal: precise and complete requirements.
- Many techniques on the different aspects:
 - management,
 - elicitation,
 - analysis,
 - validation.
- Why: errors in requirements take longer to find and correct than those inserted in later phases ⇒ higher cost
- More important in safety-critical application

Vayager and Galileo examples

- Lutz in 1993 analyzed the Voyager and the Galileo software errors uncovered during integration and testing.
 - Half errors were safety-related, half not.
- Most were functional faults: operating, conditional, or behavioral discrepancies with functional requirements.
- Primary cause (62% on Voyager, 79% on Galileo) is mis-understanding the requirements.

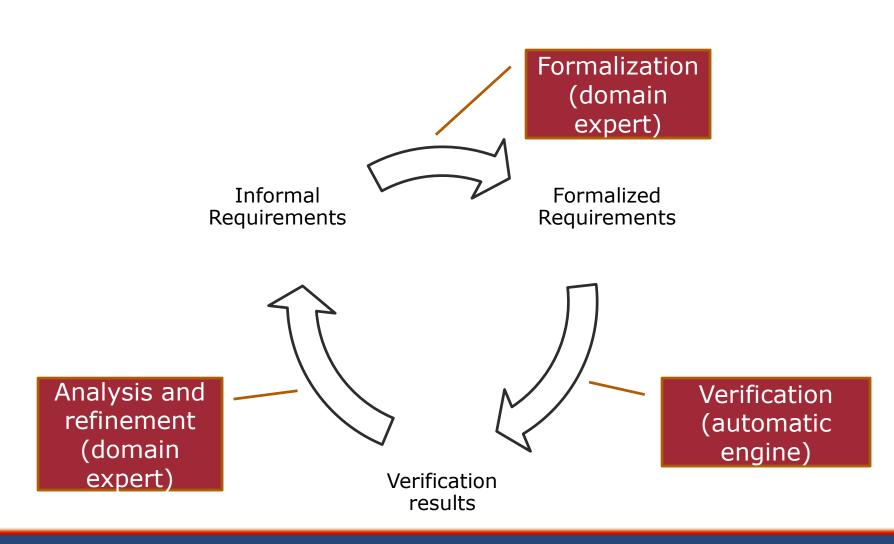




Standard Check List

- Analysis performed with a check list.
- Manual or automatic (based on linguistic techniques) to check if requirements are (IEEE Std 830-1993)
 - Complete: define all situations
 - Consistent: no contradictory statements
 - Correct: allow all and only desired behaviors
 - Modifiable: well structured, separation of concerns
 - Ranked: prioritized according to importance
 - Testable: specified tests
 - Traceable: identifier for each statement
 - Unambiguous: only one possible interpretation
 - Valid: all stakeholders must be able to understand, analyze and accept the requirement
 - Verifiable: ability to check design against the requirement.

Formal validation loop



Formal checks and feedback

- Formal properties capture the semantics of requirements
 - No model to refine the semantics of propositions
 - Requires rich property specification language
 - E.g. first-order temporal logic

Formal checks:

- Consistency: free of contradictions
- Scenario compatibility: desired behaviors are admitted
- Property entailment: undesired behaviors are not admitted
- Realizability: an implementation is possible
- Inherent vacuity: free of redundant/vacuous subformulas
- Completeness: every situation is constrained
- Formal feedback:
 - Traces: witnesses of consistency, compatibility, property violation
 - Cores: subset of inconsistent, incompatible, propertyentailing formulas

Reduction to Satisfiability

Check if requirements are:

- **consistent**, i.e. if they do not contain some contradiction
- not too strict, i.e. if they do allow some desired behavior ψ_d
- not too weak, i.e. if they rule out some undesired behavior ψ_u
- All reduced to satisfiability:
 - Consistency: $\Lambda_i \phi_i$
 - Admit desired behavior: $\Lambda_i \phi_i \wedge \psi_u$
 - Does not forbid undesired behavior: $\wedge_i \phi_i \wedge \psi_u$

Satisfiability procedure

- Reduce the problem to model checking
 - ϕ is satisfiable iff $M_U \not\models \neg \phi$
 - Where M_U is the universal model
- Use standard automata-theoretic approach to model checking
 - ϕ_A Boolean abstraction of ϕ replacing p(V) with Boolean v_p
 - M_{ϕ} obtained from M_{ϕ_A} by adding $\Lambda_p v_p \leftrightarrow p$

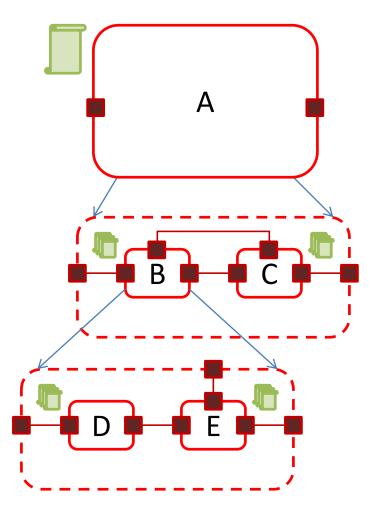
Contract Based Design

Component-based design

- So far, system seen as monolithic behavioral model
- A component can be defined as a unit of composition with contractually specified interfaces
 - Hides internal information
 - Defines interface to interact with the environment
- Component-based design ideal for
 - Separation of concerns
 - Independent development
 - Reuse of components
- First conceived for software, now popular also for system architectural design (SysML, AADL, AF3, Altarica, ...)

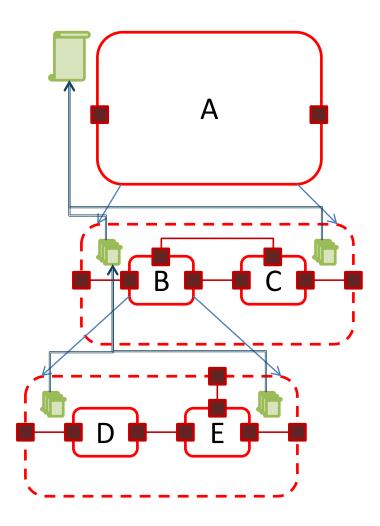
Specifying components with contracts

- Component hierarchically decomposed
- Requirements/properties specified at different levels of the hierarchy
- Contract: assumptions + guarantees
- Assumptions: properties expected to be satisfied by the environment
- Guarantees: properties expected to be satisfied by the component in response
- Correspond to pre/post conditions of standard SW contracts



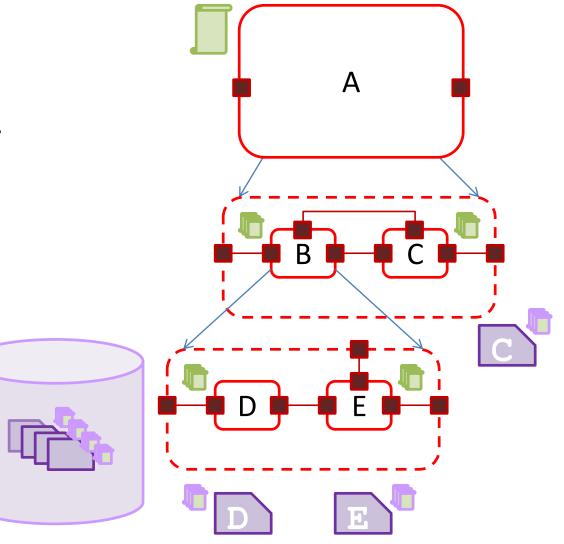
Stepwise refinement

- Specify components while designing
 - decomposing the specification based on the decomposition of the architecture
 - Early check of requirements
 - Ensure the correctness of the decomposition
 - Does the contract of A follow from the contracts of B and C?
 - Independent refinement:
 - Based on above check, B and C can be developed independently.

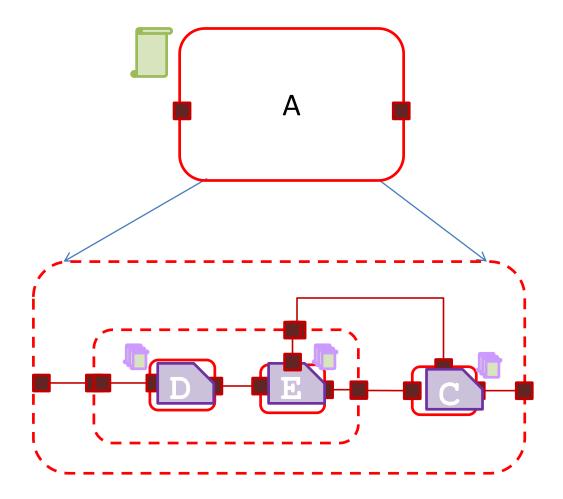


Component reuse

- Library of trusted components
- Implementation + contracts
- Pluggable?
 - compare contracts!



Compositional verification



Compositional verification techniques

- Compositional verification:
 - Prove properties of the components (for example, with model checking).
 - Combine components' properties to prove system's property without looking into the internals of the components (sometimes reduced to validity/satisfiability check for composition of properties).
- Formally: $\frac{S_1 \models P_1, S_2 \models P_2, \dots, S_n \models P_n}{\gamma_S(S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n) \models \gamma_P(P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n)} \qquad \gamma_P(P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n) \models P$ $\gamma_S(S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n) \models P$
- γ_P combines the properties depending on the connections used in γ_S
- E.g. synchronous case:

$$\gamma_P(P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n) = \rho_{\gamma_S}(P_1 \wedge P_2 \wedge \dots \wedge P_n)$$

• where ρ_{γ_s} is the renaming of symbols defined by the connections in γ_s .

Contract-based compositional

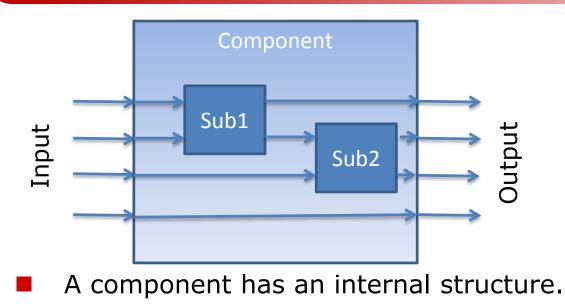
- Components interact with an environment.
 - Input/output data/events
 - Input controlled by environment, output controlled by component
- May be input enabled or possibly blocking.
- Blocking an input means constraining the environment.
 - The component can be used only in some environment (assumptions!)
- Compositional rule is not just an implication!
 - Guarantees of subcomponents must be stronger
 - Assumptions of subcomponents must be weaker
- Contract-based design requires a formal definition of components' syntax and semantics

Black-box component interface



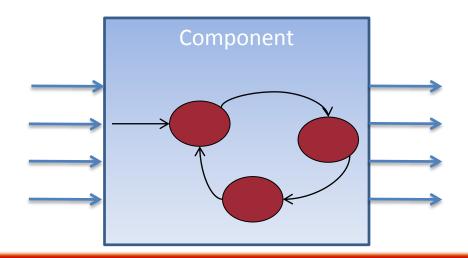
- A component interface defines boundary of the interaction between the component and its environment.
- Consists of:
 - Set of input and output ports (syntax)
 - Ports represent visible data and events exchanged with environment.
 - Set of traces (semantics)
 - Traces as sequences of events and assignments to data ports.

Glass-box component structure



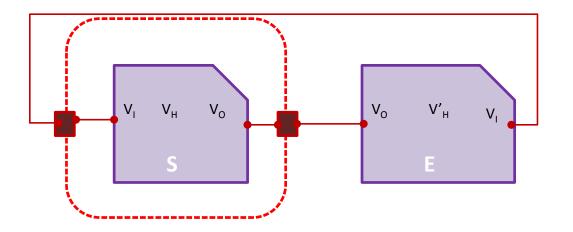
Architecture view:

- Subcomponents
- Inter-connections
- Delegations
- State-machine view:
 - Internal state
 - Internal transitions
 - Language over the ports



Implementation and Environment

- I_S: input ports of component S
- O_S : output ports of S
- $V_S = I_S \cup O_S$: all ports of S
- Implementation/environment of S: transition system $\langle V, I, T \rangle$ with $V_S \subseteq V$



Composite components and connections

- Components are composed to create composite components.
- Different kind of compositions:
 - Synchronous,
 - Asynchronous,
 - Synchronizations:
 - Rendez-vous vs. buffered;
 - Pairwise, multicast, broadcast, multicast with a receiver
- Connections map (general rule of architecture languages):
 - Input ports of the composite component
 - Output ports of the subcomponents
 Into
 - Output ports of the composite component
 - Input ports of the subcomponents.

Composite components and connections

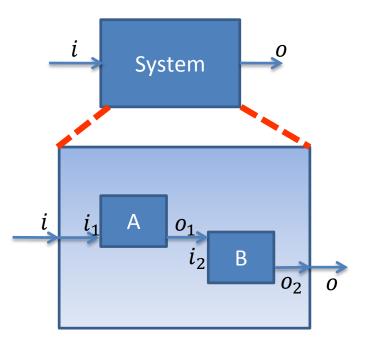
- *Sub_s*: subcomponents of *S*
- Connection

$$\begin{split} \gamma \colon & (O_S \cup \bigcup_{S' \in Sub_S} I_{S'}) \\ \to & (I_S \cup \bigcup_{S' \in Sub_S} O_{S'}) \end{split}$$

Example:

$$\psi(o) = o_2$$

$$\psi(i_2) = o_1$$



Composite components and connections

Standard synchronous product:

$$M_1 = \langle V_1, I_1, T_1 \rangle$$
 and $M_2 = \langle V_2, I_2, T_2 \rangle$

$$M_1 \times M_2 \coloneqq \langle V_1 \cup V_2, I_1 \wedge I_2, T_1 \wedge T_2 \rangle$$

• With connection γ :

$$M_1 \times_{\gamma} M_2 \coloneqq \langle \gamma(V_1 \cup V_2), \gamma(I_1 \wedge I_2), \gamma(T_1 \wedge T_2) \rangle$$

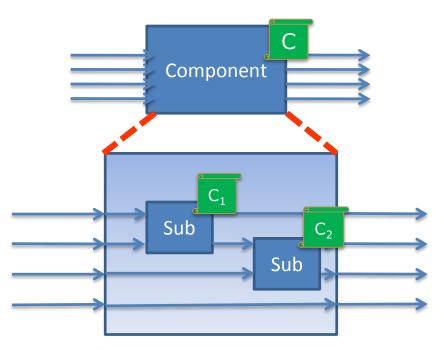
- Where
 - $\gamma(V) \coloneqq \{v | v \in V \setminus dom(\gamma) \text{ or } v = \gamma(w) \text{ for some } w \in V\}$
 - $\gamma(\phi) \coloneqq \phi[v \mapsto \gamma(v)]$
- Given implementations $M_1, ..., M_n$ for $Sub_S = S_1, ..., S_n$, and environment E
 - Composite implementation of *S*:
 - $M_1 \times_{\gamma} \dots \times_{\gamma} M_n$
 - Composite environment of S_i:
 - $M_1 \times_{\gamma} \dots \times_{\gamma} M_{j \neq i} \times_{\gamma} \dots \times_{\gamma} M_n \times_{\gamma} E$

LTL contracts

- A contract of component S is a pair $\langle A, G \rangle$ of LTL formulas over V_S
 - *A* is the assumption
 - G is the guarantee
- *Env* is a correct environment iff $Env \vDash A$
- Imp is a correct implementation iff $Imp \models A \rightarrow G$

Trace-based contract refinement

- The set of contracts $\{C_i\}$ refines *C* with the connection γ $(\{C_i\} \leq_{\gamma} C)$ iff for all correct implementations Imp_i of C_i and correct environment Env of *C*:
 - **1**. The composition of $\{Imp_i\}$ is a correct implementation of C.
 - 2. For all k, the composition of Env and $\{Imp_i\}_{i\neq k}$ is a correct environment of C_k .
- Verification problem:
 - check if a given refinement is correct (independently from implementations).



Proof obligations for contract refinement

Given
$$C_1 = \langle \alpha_1, \beta_1 \rangle, \dots, C_n = \langle \alpha_n, \beta_n \rangle, C = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$$

Proof obligations for $\{C_i\} \leq C$:

•
$$\gamma \left(\left(\Lambda_{1 \leq j \leq n} \left(\alpha_{j} \rightarrow \beta_{j} \right) \right) \rightarrow \left(\alpha \rightarrow \beta \right) \right)$$

• $\gamma \left(\left(\Lambda_{2 \leq j \leq n} \left(\alpha_{j} \rightarrow \beta_{j} \right) \right) \rightarrow \left(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha_{1} \right) \right)$
• ...
• $\gamma \left(\left(\Lambda_{1 \leq j \leq n, j \neq i} \left(\alpha_{j} \rightarrow \beta_{j} \right) \right) \rightarrow \left(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha_{i} \right) \right)$
• ...
• $\gamma \left(\left(\Lambda_{1 \leq j \leq n-1} \left(\alpha_{j} \rightarrow \beta_{j} \right) \right) \rightarrow \left(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha_{n} \right) \right)$

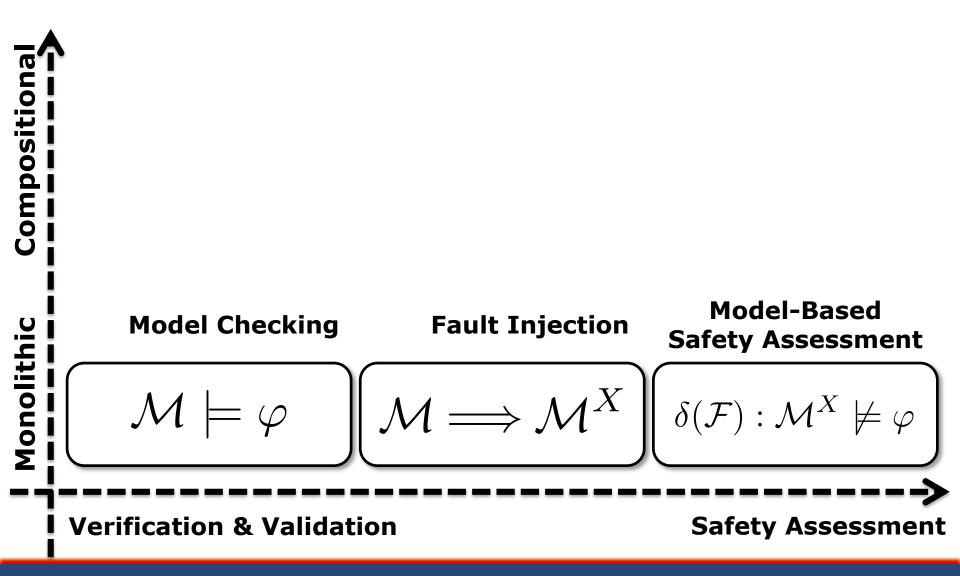
Theorem:
$$\{C_i\} \leq_{\gamma} C$$
 iff the proof obligations are valid. [CT12]

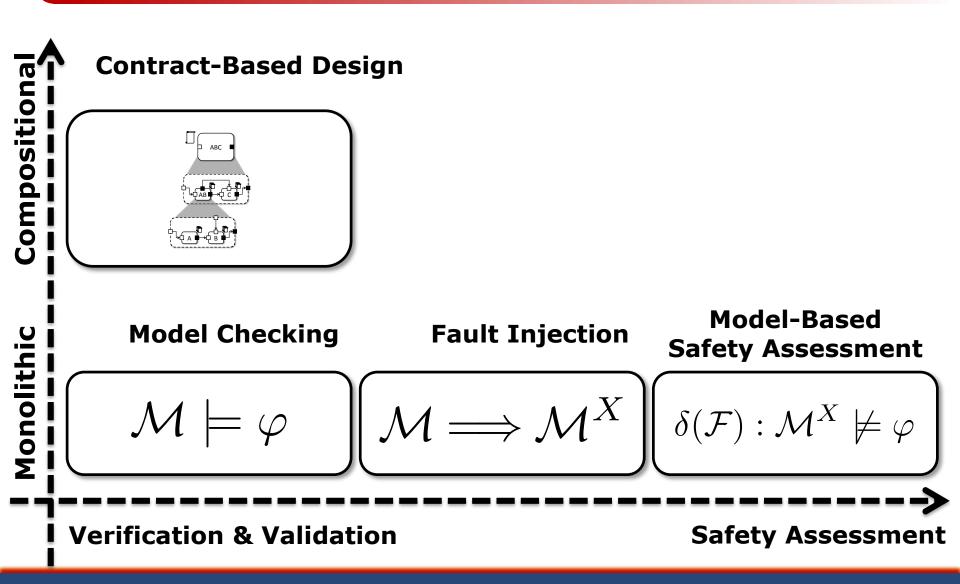
Assume-guarantee reasoning

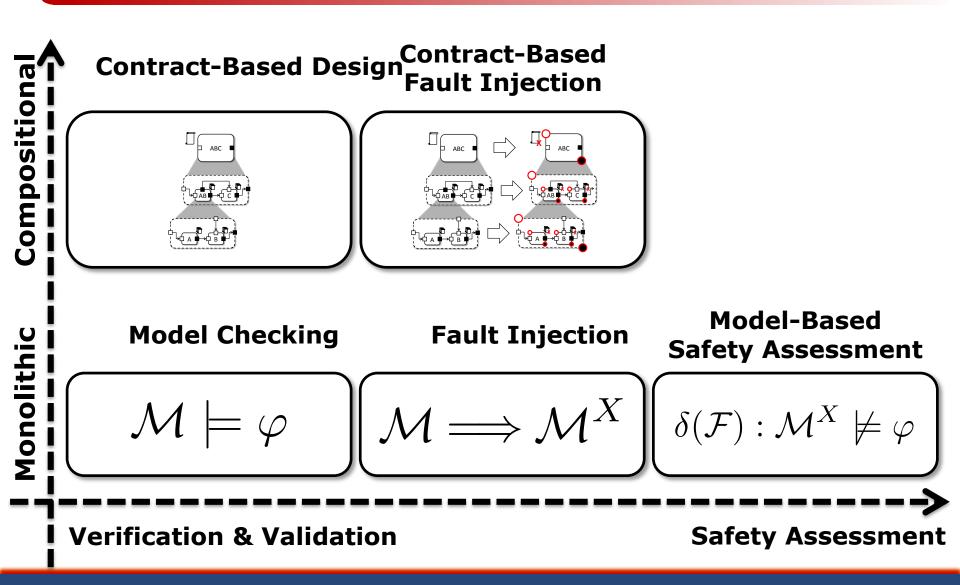
- Correspond to one direction of the contract refinement.
- Many works focused on finding the right assumption/guarantee.
 - E.g. how to break circularity?
 - $(G(A \to B) \land G(B \to A)) \Rightarrow G(A \land B)$ is false
 - Induction-based mechanisms

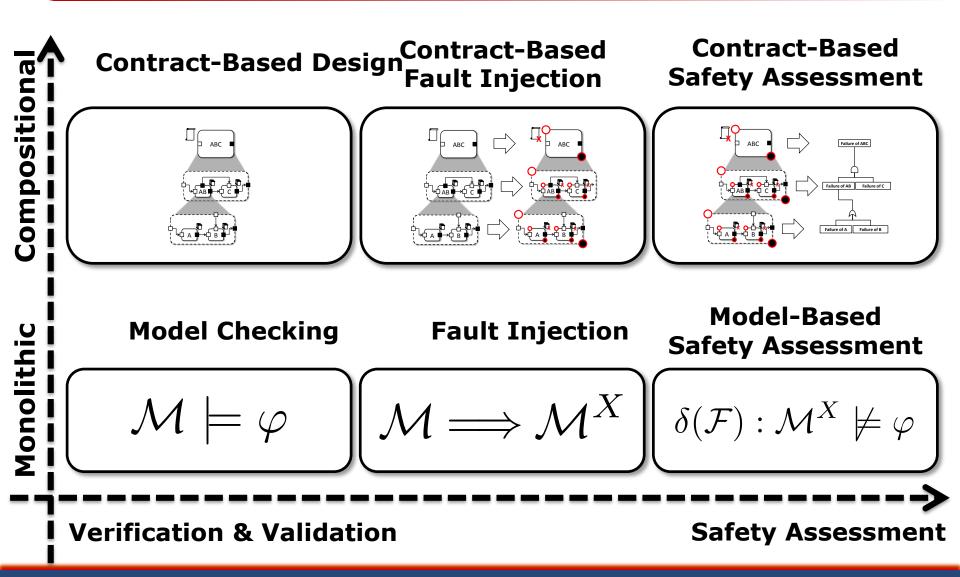
 $(B \land G(A \rightarrow XB) \land A \land G(B \rightarrow XA)) \Rightarrow G(A \land B)$ is true

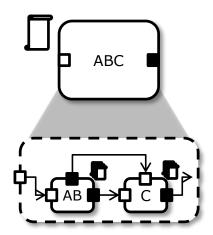
- Monolithic" safety assessment artifacts e.g., minimal cutsets, might be not easily understandable
- Need for more structured safety artifacts e.g., hierarchically organized fault trees
- Leverage the architectural decomposition of contract-based design
- Perform automated Safety Assessment on a Contract-Based system decomposition

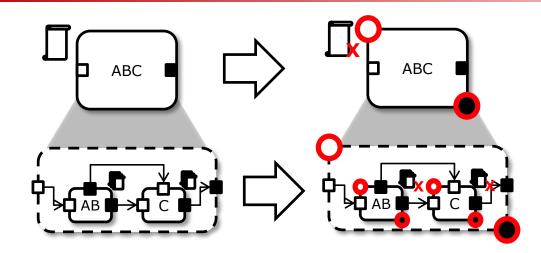




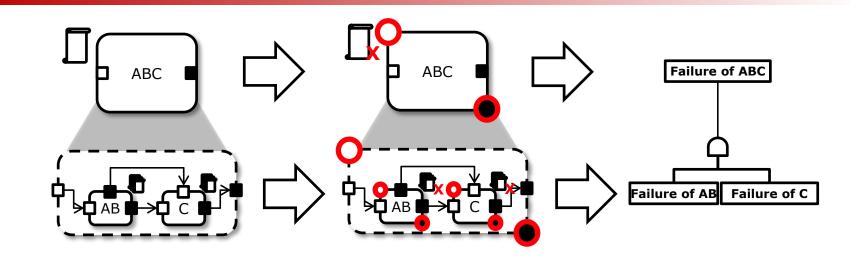




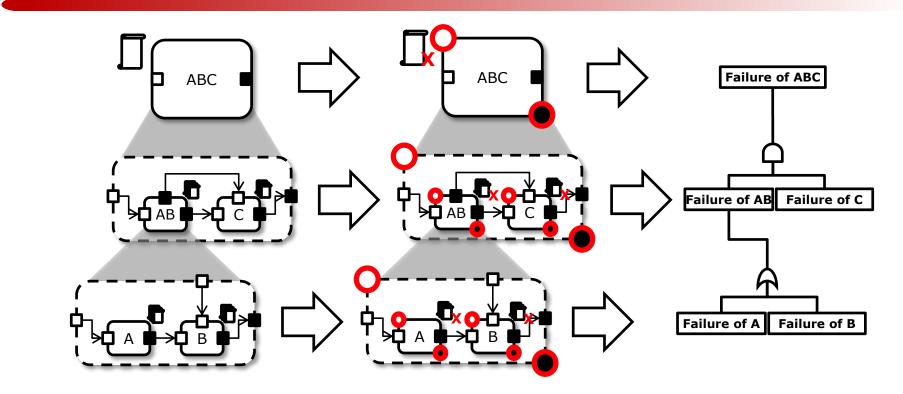




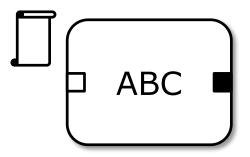
 Extension of contracts (fault injection) from a Contract-Based decomposition



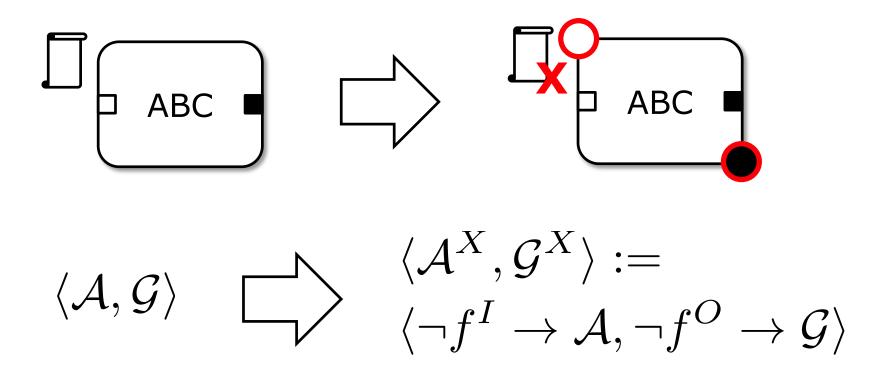
- Extension of contracts (fault injection) from a Contract-Based decomposition
- Automated Formal Safety Assessment i.e., Fault Tree Analysis



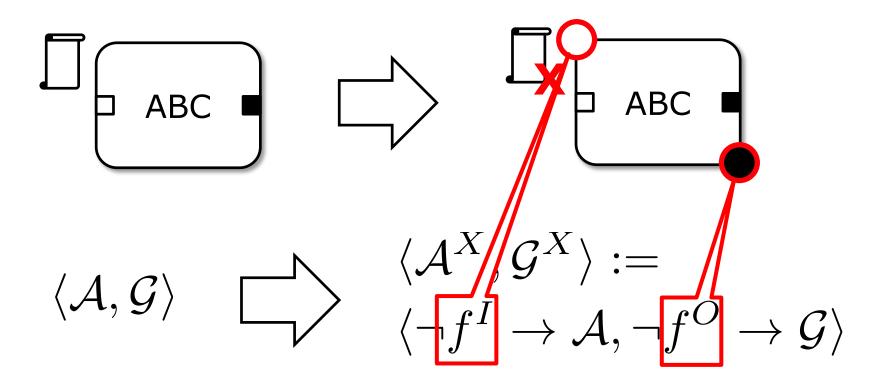
- Extension of contracts (fault injection) from a Contract-Based decomposition
- Automated Formal Safety Assessment i.e., Fault Tree Analysis
- Support for components refinement



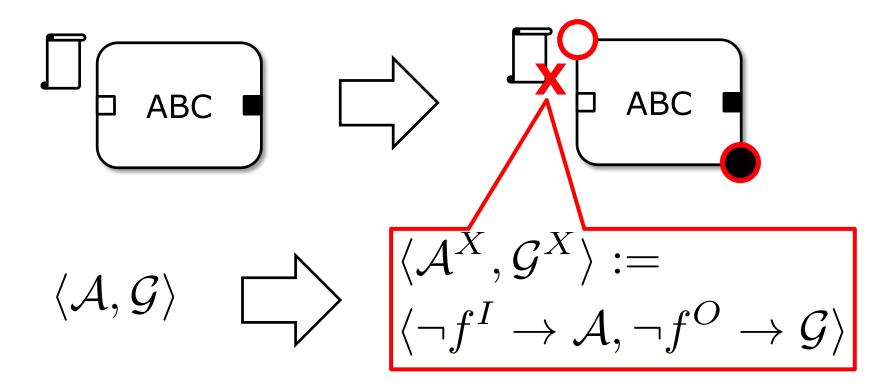
 $\langle \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{G}
angle$



- Additional input and output failure ports
- Contract extension

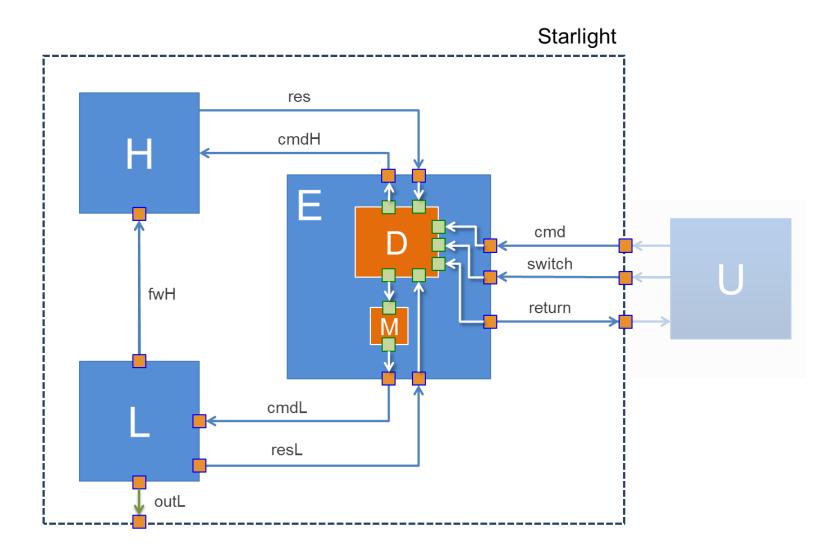


- Additional input and output failure ports
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- Additional input and output failure ports
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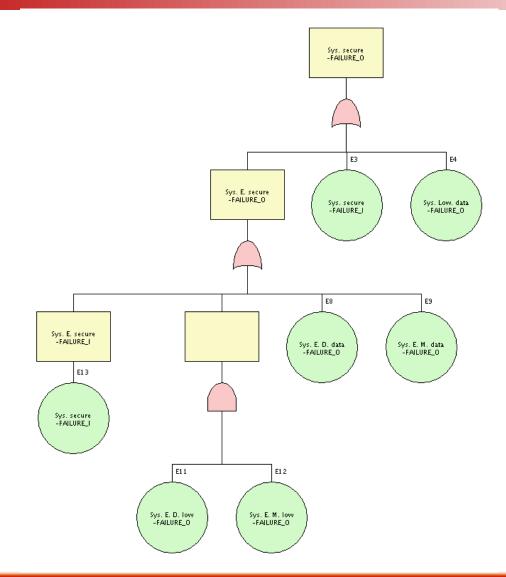
Starlight Example



Starlight reqs formalization

- Req-Sys-secure: No high-level data shall be sent by L to the external world.
 - Formal-Sys-secure: never is_high(last_data(outL))
- Req-User-secure: The user shall switch the dispatcher to high before entering high-level data.
 - Formal-User-secure: always ((is_high(last_data(cmd))) implies ((not switch_to_low) since switch_to_high))
- Proved system guarantess Formal-Sys-secure assuming Formal-User-secure.
- Req-Sys-safe: No single failure shall cause a loss of Req-Sys-secure.

Starlight fault tree for secure req



Case-Studies

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AIR6110 Wheel Braking System

Joint scientific study with Boeing

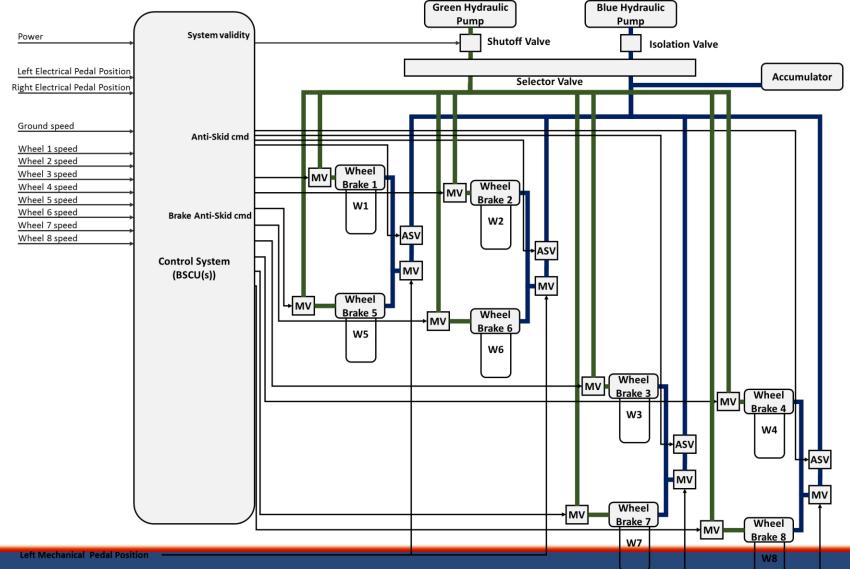
Context

- Aerospace systems become more complex and integrated
- Safety assessment process is critical
 - Evaluate whether a selected design is sufficiently robust with respect to the criticality of the system and faults occurrence
- Objectives:
 - Analyze the system safety through mathematical models and techniques
 - Demonstrate the usefulness and suitability of these techniques for improving the overall traditional development and supporting aircraft certification

Case study:

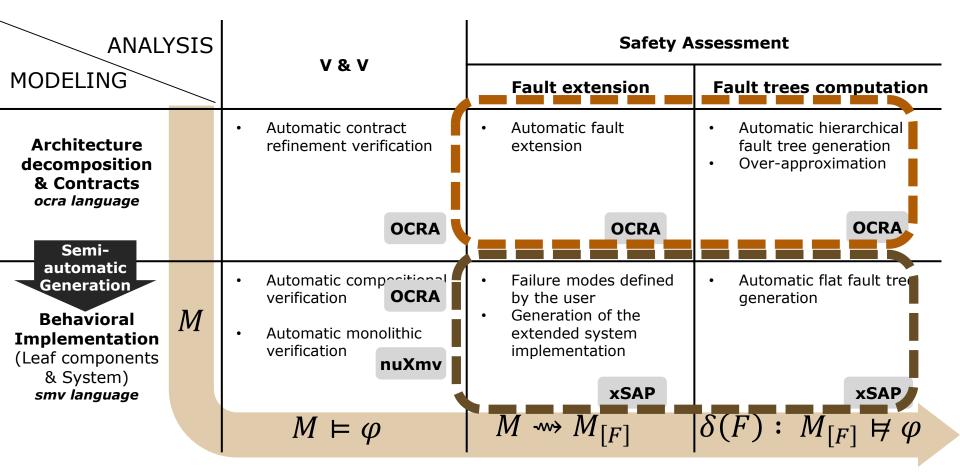
- Aerospace Information Report 6110:
 - Traditional Contiguous Aircraft/System Development Process Example
- Wheel Brake System of a fictional dual-engine aircraft
 - 300-350 passengers, 5h max of flight
 - 2 main landing gears (4 wheels each)

WBS: Overview



Right Mechanical Pedal Position

WBS: Adopted approach



WBS: Conclusion

- Results:
 - Cover the process described in AIR6110 with formal methods
 - Production of modular descriptions of 5 architectures variants
 - Analysis of their characteristics in terms of a set of requirements expressed as properties
 - Production of more than 3000 fault trees
 - Production of reliability measures
 - Detection of an unexpected flaw in the process
 - Detection of the wrong position of the accumulator earlier in the process

Lessons learned:

- Going from informal to formal allows highlighting the missing information of the AIR6110 to reproduce the process
- OCRA modular modeling allows a massive reuse of the design through architectures variant
- Automated and efficient engines as IC3 is a key factor
- MBSA is crucial in this context:
 - Automatic extension of the nominal model with faults
 - Automatic generation of artifacts eases the analysis and the architecture comparison in terms of safety

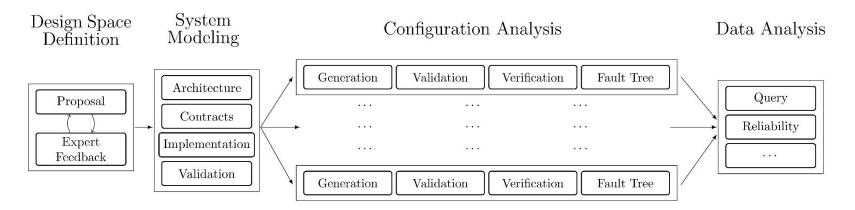
NASA NextGen Air Traffic Control

- Problem:
 - 4x airspace traffic in the next 20 years
 - Currently technology cannot scale
 - Need to increase automation, while preserving safety
- Apply Formal Methods to study the quality and Safety of many design proposals concerning the allocation of tasks between Air and Ground

Objective:

- Highlight Implicit assumptions
- Model and Study a design space with more than 1600 proposals
- Time-Frame: 12 Man-Month
- Joint project with NASA Ames and Langley

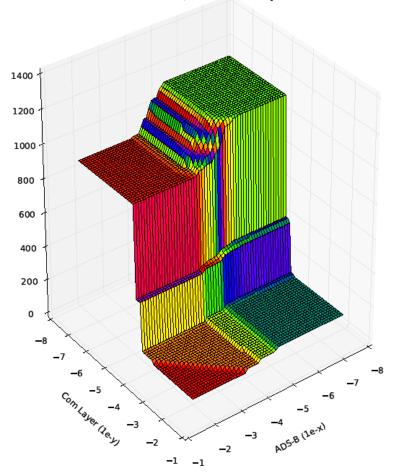
NextGen: Proposed Solution



- Identify dimensions of the design space
- Use a parametric model to encode all designs (symbolically)
- Unified design architecture makes it possible to push complexity into the leaf components
- Use contracts to validate components behavior
- Perform Model-Checking against interesting properties, and rank solutions based on their "quality"
- Perform Fault-Tree analysis to understand the resilience to faults

NextGen: Results

- Independently reproduced 2 known problems
- High-lighted a mismatch in requirements for one design proposal
- Results discussed and validated by NASA engineers
- Lessons Learned:
 - Model Validation is a key step
 - Technology is mature to tackle problems of realistic size
 - Lots of data: Need better ways to present complex results in an accessible way



Threshold=1e-04, Basic Probability=1e-08

Wrap-up

Alessandro Cimatti - Invited Lectures, UniUD

Lecture Summary

- Importance of Safety Assessment
- Contract-Based Design
 - Specify & Validate Requirement
 - Decompose Requirements onto Architecture
 - Implement Leaf components
 - Functional correctness guaranteed by Contract-Decomposition
- CBSA: Leverage contracts to perform Safety Assessment

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

- Model-Based Safety Assessment:
 - Marco Bozzano, Adolfo Villafiorita: Improving System Reliability via Model Checking: The FSAP/NuSMV-SA Safety Analysis Platform. SAFECOMP 2003: 49-62
 - Marco Bozzano, Alessandro Cimatti, Francesco Tapparo: Symbolic Fault Tree Analysis for Reactive Systems. ATVA 2007: 162-176
 - Marco Bozzano, Alessandro Cimatti, Alberto Griggio, Cristian Mattarei: Efficient Anytime Techniques for Model-Based Safety Analysis. CAV (1) 2015: 603-621
- Parameter Synthesis:
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Alberto Griggio, Sergio Mover, Alessandro Cimatti: Parameter synthesis with IC3. FMCAD 2013: 165-168

- Requirements Formalization and Validation:
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Marco Roveri, Alessandro Cimatti: Requirements Validation for Hybrid Systems. CAV 2009: 188-203
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Marco Roveri, Angelo Susi, Alessandro Cimatti: Validation of requirements for hybrid systems: A formal approach. ACM Trans. Softw. Eng. Methodol. 21(4): 22 (2012)
- Compositional Verification:
 - Kenneth L. McMillan: Circular Compositional Reasoning about Liveness. CHARME 1999: 342-345
 - Anubhav Gupta, Kenneth L. McMillan, Zhaohui Fu: Automated assumption generation for compositional verification. Formal Methods in System Design 32(3): 285-301 (2008)
 - Anvesh Komuravelli, Nikolaj Bjørner, Arie Gurfinkel, Kenneth L. McMillan: Compositional Verification of Procedural Programs using Horn Clauses over Integers and Arrays. FMCAD 2015: 89-96

- Contract-Based Design with Temporal Logics:
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Alessandro Cimatti: A Property-Based Proof System for Contract-Based Design. EUROMICRO-SEAA 2012: 21-28
 - Sebastian S. Bauer, Alexandre David, Rolf Hennicker, Kim Guldstrand Larsen, Axel Legay, Ulrik Nyman, Andrzej Wasowski: Moving from Specifications to Contracts in Component-Based Design. FASE 2012: 43-58
 - Darren D. Cofer, Andrew Gacek, Steven P. Miller, Michael W. Whalen, Brian LaValley, Lui Sha: Compositional Verification of Architectural Models. NASA Formal Methods 2012: 126-140
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Alessandro Cimatti: Contracts-refinement proof system for component-based embedded systems. Sci. Comput. Program. 97: 333-348 (2015)
 - Thi Thieu Hoa Le, Roberto Passerone, Ulrich Fahrenberg, Axel Legay: A tag contract framework for modeling heterogeneous systems. Sci. Comput. Program. 115-116: 225-246 (2016)
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Ramiro Demasi, Alessandro Cimatti: Tightening a Contract Refinement. SEFM 2016
 - Adrien Champion, Arie Gurfinkel, Temesghen Kahsai, Cesare Tinelli: CoCoSpec: A mode aware contract language. SEFM 2016

- Contract-Based Safety Assessment:
 - Marco Bozzano, Alessandro Cimatti, Cristian Mattarei, Alessandro Cimatti: Formal Safety Assessment via Contract-Based Design. ATVA 2014: 81-97
- Case Studies:
 - Marco Bozzano, Alessandro Cimatti, Anthony Fernandes Pires, D. Jones, G. Kimberly, T. Petri, R. Robinson, Alessandro Cimatti: Formal Design and Safety Analysis of AIR6110 Wheel Brake System. CAV (1) 2015: 518-535
 - Cristian Mattarei, Alessandro Cimatti, Marco Gario, Alessandro Cimatti, Kristin Y. Rozier: Comparing Different Functional Allocations in Automated Air Traffic Control Design. FMCAD 2015: 112-119
- Tools used in the course:
 - Alessandro Cimatti, Michele Dorigatti, Alessandro Cimatti: OCRA: A tool for checking the refinement of temporal contracts. ASE 2013: 702-705
 - Roberto Cavada, Alessandro Cimatti, Michele Dorigatti, Alberto Griggio, Alessandro Mariotti, Andrea Micheli, Sergio Mover, Marco Roveri, Alessandro Cimatti: The nuXmv Symbolic Model Checker. CAV 2014: 334-342
 - Benjamin Bittner, Marco Bozzano, Roberto Cavada, Alessandro Cimatti, Marco Gario, Alberto Griggio, Cristian Mattarei, Andrea Micheli, Gianni Zampedri: The xSAP Safety Analysis Platform. TACAS 2016: 533-539