

Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics, University of Udine

The Safety Fragment of Temporal Logics on Infinite Sequences

Lesson 12

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- ① Background
 - ① Regular and ω -regular languages
 - ② The First- and Second-order Theory of One Successor
 - ③ Automata over finite and infinite words
 - ④ Linear Temporal Logic
- ② The safety fragment of LTL and its theoretical features
 - ① Definition of Safety and Cosafety
 - ② Characterizations and Normal Forms
 - ③ Kupferman and Vardi's Classification



- ③ Recognizing safety
 - ① Recognizing safety Büchi automata
 - ② Recognizing safety formulas of LTL
 - ③ Construction of the automaton for the bad prefixes
- ④ Algorithms and Complexity
 - ① Satisfiability
 - ② Model Checking
 - ③ Reactive Synthesis
- ⑤ Succinctness and Pastification
 - ① Succinctness of Safety Fragments
 - ② Pastification Algorithms

IC3

Incremental Construction of Inductive Clauses of Indubitable Correctness



1969. Hoare's logic:

$$\phi P \psi$$

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1986. **Model checking** (fully automatic):

$$\mathcal{M}, \sigma \models \phi \quad \forall \text{ paths } \sigma$$

where \mathcal{M} is a representation of machine and ϕ is a temporal formula.

Edmund M. Clarke, E Allen Emerson, and A Prasad Sistla (1986). "Automatic verification of finite-state concurrent systems using temporal logic specifications". In: *ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS)* 8.2, pp. 244–263



(Symbolic) Transition System

- (Symbolic) Finite-state transition system $\mathcal{M} = (\bar{x}, I, T)$
 - \bar{x} is a set of state variables;
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$$\begin{aligned} s &= x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge x_3 \wedge \neg x_4 \wedge \neg x_5 \\ &= \langle 1, 0, 1, 0, 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$



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- a **trace** of the system is a sequence s_0, s_1, \dots such that $s_0 \models I$ and $s_i, s'_{i+1} \models T \forall i \geq 0$.



(Symbolic) Transition System

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- a clause c is a disjunction of literals. A subclause $d \subseteq c$ is a clause whose literals are a subset of c 's literals. It holds that:

$$d \Rightarrow c$$



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- Invariant property $P(\bar{x})$: **boolean formula** that asserts that only P -states are reachable.
- P is **\mathcal{M} -invariant** if $P(\bar{x})$ holds for system \mathcal{M} . If this is not the case, there exists a counterexample trace s_0, s_1, \dots, s_k such that $s_k \not\models P$.
 \Rightarrow reachability problem



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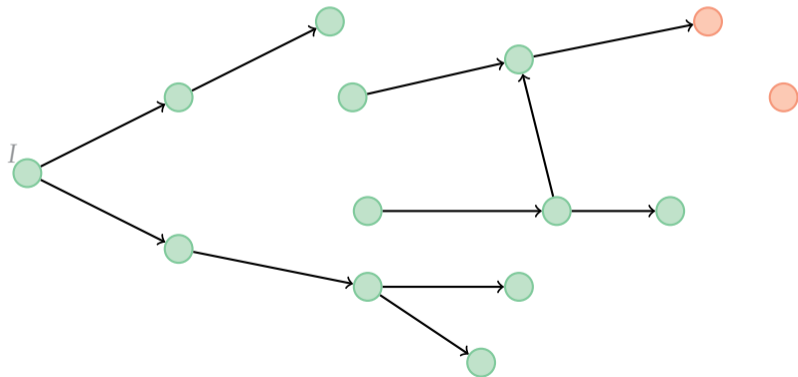
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3. Bounded Model Checking (BMC): unrolling of the transition relation;
Armin Biere et al. (1999). "Symbolic model checking without BDDs". In: *International Conference on Tools and Algorithms for the Construction and Analysis of Systems (TACAS)*. Springer, pp. 193–207

Symbolic Algorithms for Reachability



BDD-based backward algorithms

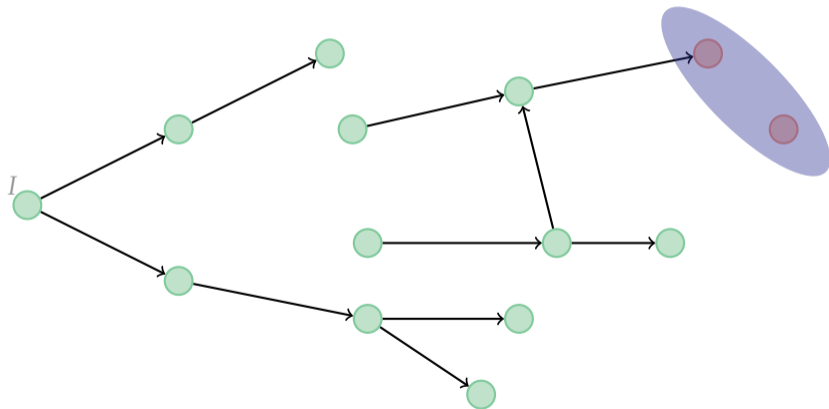
Start with $\neg P$ and proceed backward until fixpoint F . If the BDD for F contains an I -state, then a $\neg P$ -state is reachable: **counterexample trace**.





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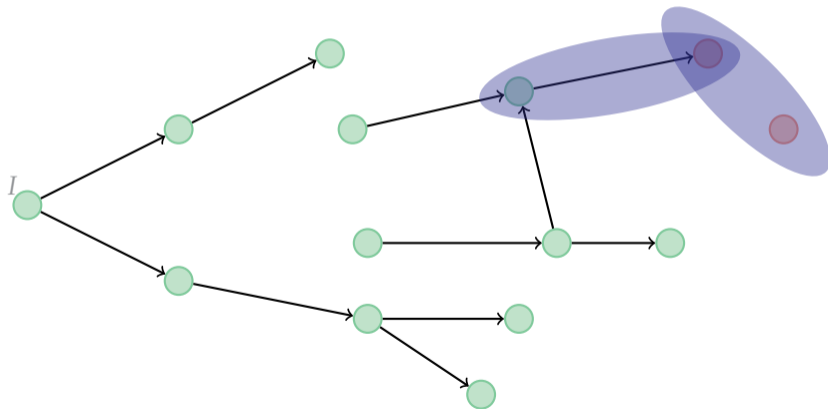
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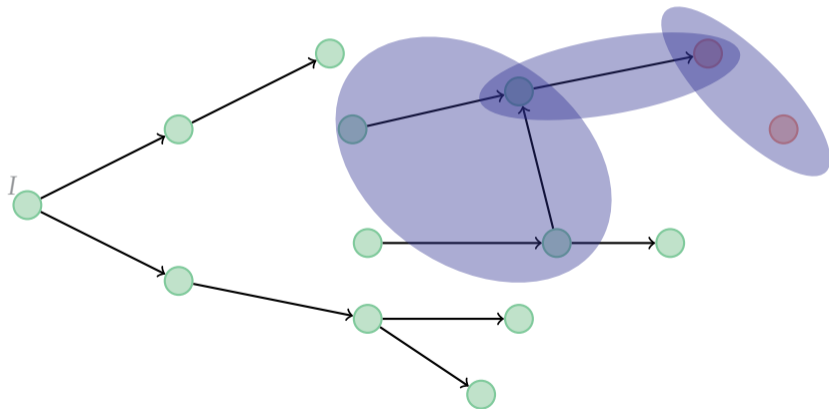
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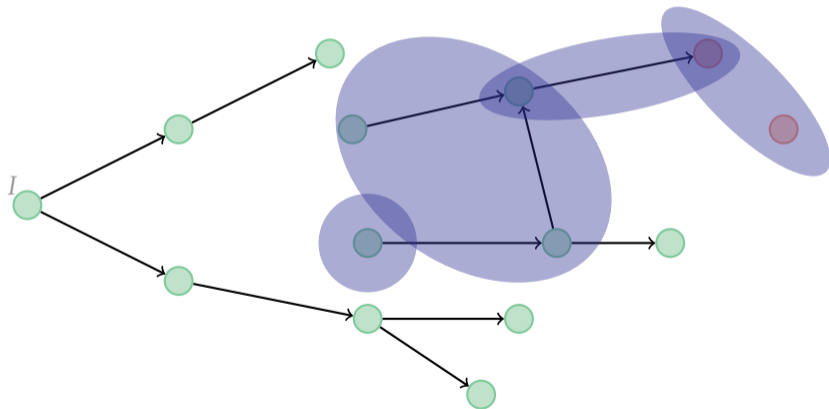
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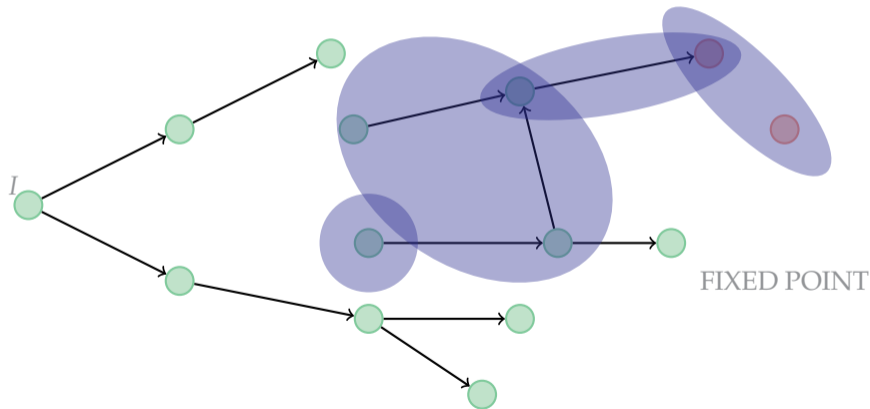
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BDDs are much more than a representation of a boolean formula.

Compressed truth tables: BDDs represent **all the models** of a boolean formula.

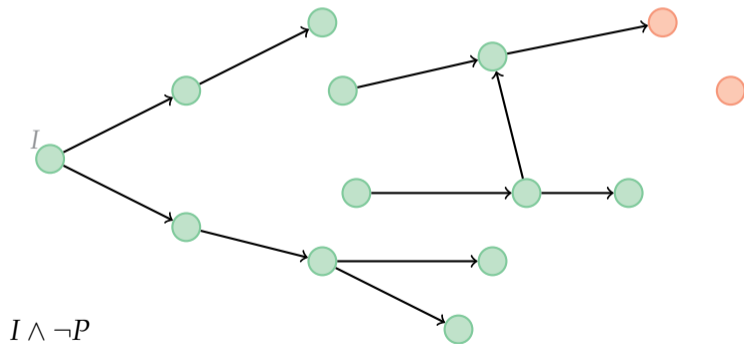
⇒ often too much large



At iteration k , check if $I \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T^i \wedge \neg P^k$ is SAT. If so, stop with a counterexample of length k .

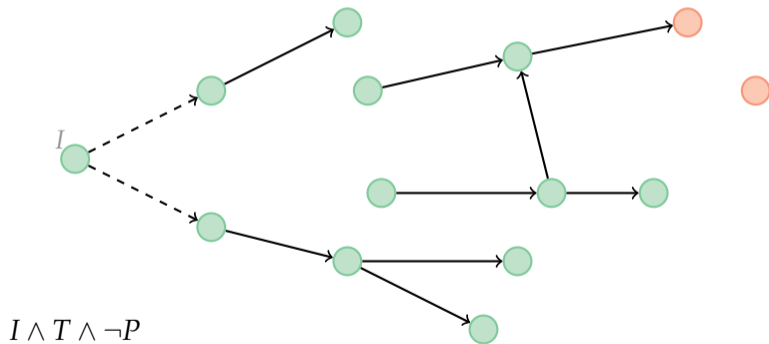


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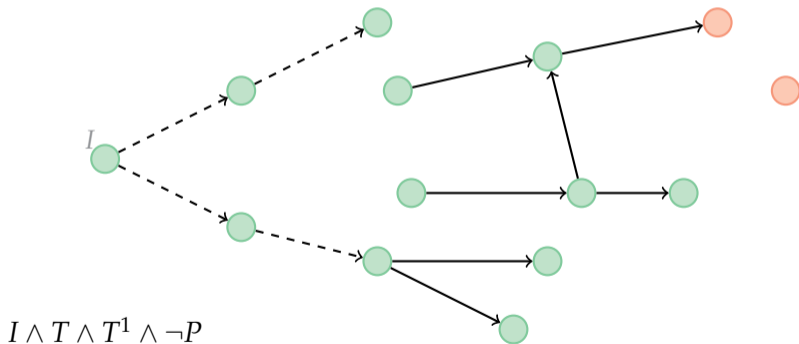


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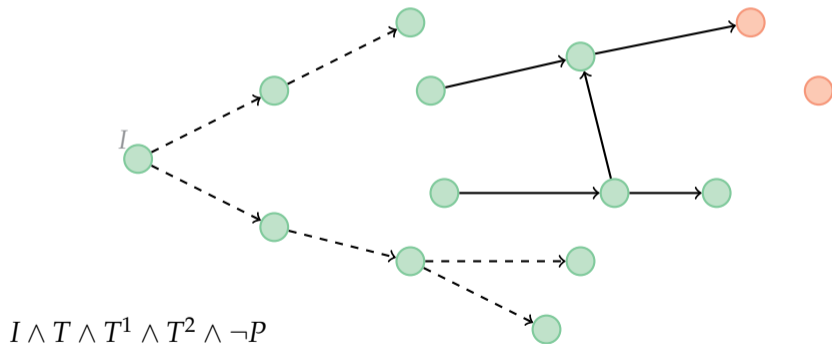


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- BMC looks for **counterexamples** of length k and increases k only if the formula of the current iteration is UNSAT;
- drawbacks:
 - in general it is not complete: we have to compute a big QBF to know the diameter of the graph;
 - it requires the **unrolling** of the transition relation:

$$I \wedge \left(T \wedge T^1 \wedge \dots \wedge T^{k-1} \right) \wedge \neg P^k$$

Both T and k can be very large: the formula can become too large for the SAT solver.

First Attempts to Incremental Inductive Verification



In order to prove that $P(x)$ is \mathcal{M} -invariant, one possibility is to check if P is **inductive**. With two SAT-solver calls, we check the **validity** of:

$$\text{(initiation)} \quad I \Rightarrow P$$

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- **Incremental proof:** look for a sequence of lemmata $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k = P$ such that ϕ_i is **inductive relative to** $\phi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \phi_{i-1}$, for all $1 < i \leq k$, i.e.,
 - $I \Rightarrow \phi_i$
 - $\phi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \phi_{i-1} \wedge \phi_i \wedge T \Rightarrow \phi'_i$



If consecution fails, then:

- **Monolithic approach:** look for a stronger assertion F such that $F \wedge P$ is inductive. $F \wedge P$ is called an **inductive strengthening**.
- **Incremental proof:** look for a sequence of lemmata $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k = P$ such that ϕ_i is **inductive relative to** $\phi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \phi_{i-1}$, for all $1 < i \leq k$, i.e.,
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It follows that $P \wedge \bigwedge_{i=1}^{k-1} \phi_i$ is an inductive strengthening.



Note that:

- both methods do *not* compute a formula R for the exact set of reachable states in \mathcal{M} ;



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- both methods do *not* compute a formula R for the exact set of reachable states in \mathcal{M} ;
- rather, they find a formula $F \wedge P$ that represents a larger set of states *all satisfying* $F \wedge P$:
 - \Rightarrow this F is a much smaller formula than R .



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Naïve algorithm for finding an inductive strengthening:

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- 1 if $err \wedge I$ is SAT, then stop: P is NOT invariant;



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At the end, the inductive strengthening (if any) will be:

$$P \wedge \bigwedge_{err \in CTI} \neg err$$



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Consider the program \mathcal{M}_1 :

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1   x,y := 1,1
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We establish the first **inductive incremental** lemma $\phi_1 := x \geq 0$:

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Now, $\phi_2 := y \geq 1$ is inductive **relative to** ϕ_1 :

- $x = 1 \wedge y = 1 \Rightarrow y \geq 1$
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We have found the inductive strengthening $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$, by means of an incremental proof.



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Limitation of incremental proofs

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Monolithic approach = worst case of incremental proofs.



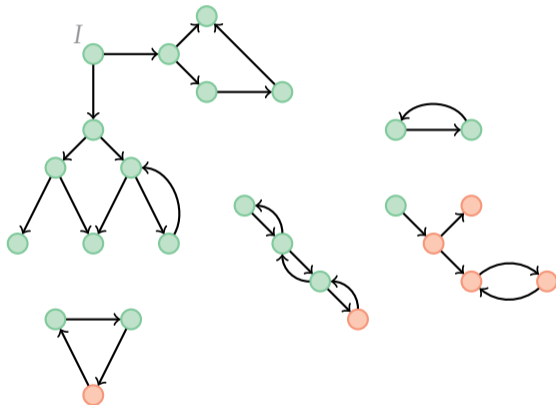
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- the core of the algorithm is the **generalization an error state**.

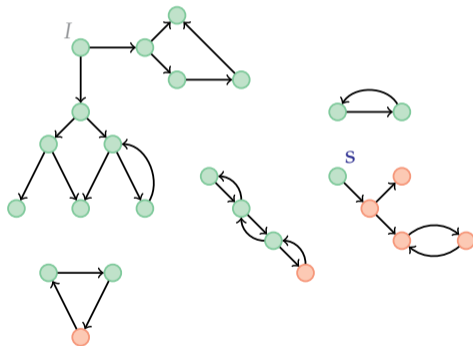


Check if P is inductive (relative to nobody). Check the validity of:

✓ $I \Rightarrow P$

✗ $P \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$

State s is a **CTL**.





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 - $\phi_1 \subseteq \neg s$; (*it excludes s*)
 - ϕ_1 is inductive (relative to nobody); (*it includes at least all the reachable states*)
 - ϕ_1 is minimal. (*it excludes the maximal number of non-reachable states*)
 - recall the nice property of clauses: if $c \subseteq d$ then $\llbracket c \rrbracket \subseteq \llbracket d \rrbracket$

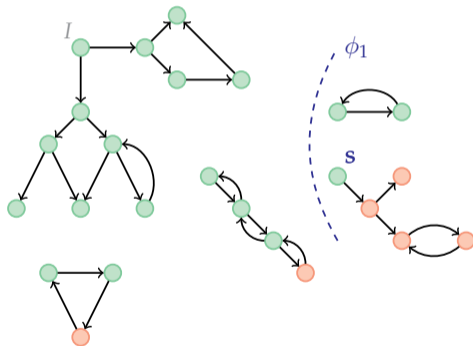


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 - recall the nice property of clauses: if $c \subseteq d$ then $\llbracket c \rrbracket \subseteq \llbracket d \rrbracket$
- if ϕ_1 does exist, it becomes the first **incremental lemma**.

ϕ_1 can be thought as a "boolean" cutting plane.

Which states are excluded by ϕ_1 ?

- (i) those who can reach s in one step
- (ii) states "similar" to s (they share with s the dropped literals).

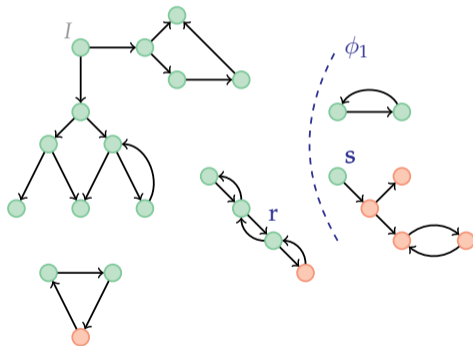


Check if P is inductive **relative to** ϕ_1 :

✓ $I \Rightarrow P$

✗ $\phi_1 \wedge P \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$

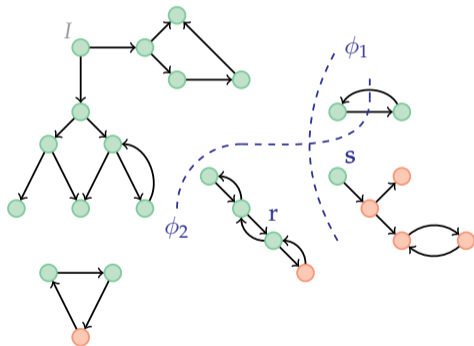
State r is a **CTI**.





- generalization of error state r :
 - $\phi_2 \subseteq \neg r$;
 - ϕ_2 is **inductive relative to ϕ_1** ;
 - ϕ_2 is minimal;
- ϕ_2 is the second **incremental lemma**.

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Why “inductive relative to”?

- it would have been correct to generate ϕ_2 inductive (relative to its own), but it's more than what we need;
 - at the end we will consider the AND of all the lemmata;



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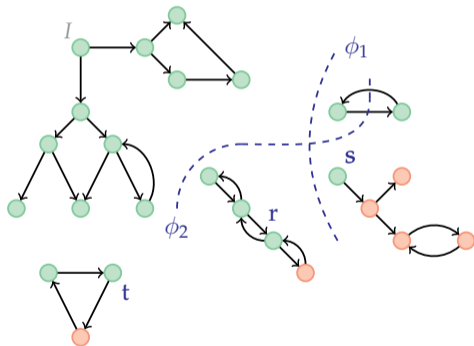
- it would have been correct to generate ϕ_2 inductive (relative to its own), but it's more than what we need;
 - at the end we will consider the AND of all the lemmata;
- in general, it is faster to generate “inductive relative to” clauses.
 - intuitively, we are considering many fewer states of the system.

Check if P is inductive **relative to** $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$:

✓ $I \Rightarrow P$

✗ $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \wedge P \wedge T \not\Rightarrow P'$

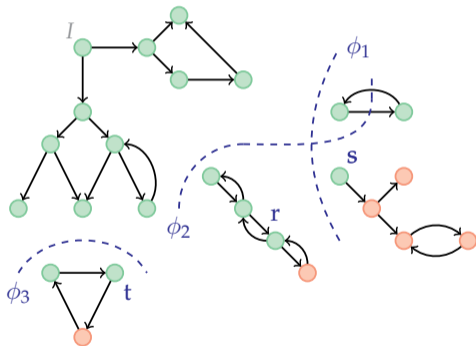
State t is a **CTI**.





- generalization of error state t :
 - $\phi_3 \subseteq \neg t$;
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 - ϕ_3 is minimal;
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Check if P is inductive **relative to** $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \wedge \phi_3$:

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- $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \wedge \phi_3 \wedge P$ is an inductive strengthening.
- P is \mathcal{M} -invariant.



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- **worst case**: we proceed with the monolithic technique;

$$P := P \wedge \neg s$$

- eventually,
 - either $I \wedge \neg P$ is SAT: P is not invariant;
 - or we find an inductive strengthening $P \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^n \phi_i$;



Complexity:

- it is on the convergence of the procedure, not on the calls to the SAT-solver as before;
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- each SAT-solver call is relatively small compared to those made by BMC.

Parallelization:

- straightforward; *"by simply using a randomized decision procedure to obtain the CTIs, each process is likely to analyze a different part of the state-space."*

Aaron R Bradley and Zohar Manna (2007). "Checking safety by inductive generalization of counterexamples to induction". In: *Formal Methods in Computer Aided Design (FMCAD'07)*. IEEE, pp. 173–180

IC3

Incremental Construction of Inductive Clauses of Indubitable Correctness



- FSIS sometimes enters a long search for the next relatively inductive clauses;
- IC3 de-emphasizes global information in favor of stepwise information: we will generate clauses that ensure that an error is unreachable up to some number of steps.



Sequence of **frames** $F_0(= I), F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k$:

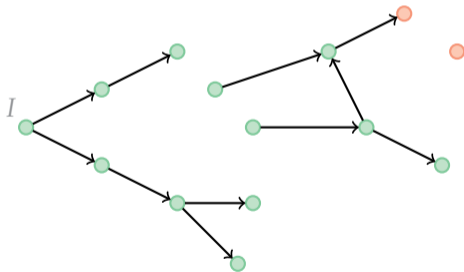
- each F_i is a set of clauses, *i.e.*, a CNF formula;
- each F_i is an over-approximation of the set of states reachable in at most k steps;
- the algorithm stops when $F_i \equiv F_{i+1}$. We will maintain the invariance that $\text{clauses}(F_{i+1}) \subseteq \text{clauses}(F_i)$: the equivalence check is simply a syntactic test: $F_i = F_{i+1}$.
- F_0 is a special frame always equal to I .



Check if there are counterexamples of length 0 or 1 with these two SAT-queries:

$$\times I \wedge \neg P$$

$$\times F_0(= I) \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$$





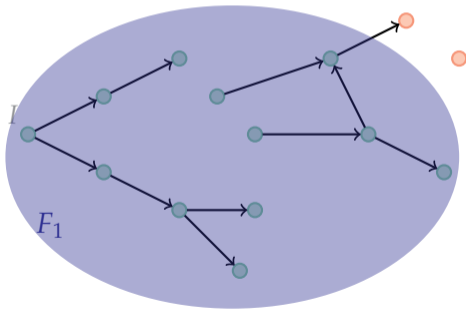
IC3 - 1st iteration

Check if there are counterexamples of length 0 or 1 with these two SAT-queries:

$$\times I \wedge \neg P$$

$$\times F_0(= I) \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$$

Since $F_0 \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$, we set $F_1 := P$. (over-approximation)





IC3 - 2nd iteration

At iteration k , check if $F_k \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$; in this case ($k = 1$):

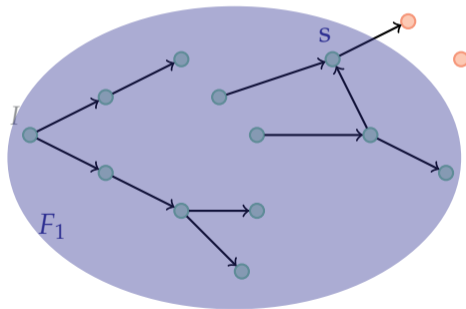
$$\checkmark \quad F_1 \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$$

i.e., there exists an F_k -state that leads in one step to an error state?

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IC3 - 2nd iteration (blocking phase)

At iteration $k(= 1)$, we check whether $\neg s$ is inductive relative to $F_{k-1} = (F_0 = I)$: ✓
⇒ error state s is **not** reachable in at least $k = 1$ step.



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We find a minimal $\phi_1 \subseteq \neg s$ such that ϕ_1 is inductive **relative to** $F_0(= I)$.

⇒ ϕ_1 excludes the error state s (and similar states) but contains at least all the states reachable in at most $k = 1$ steps.



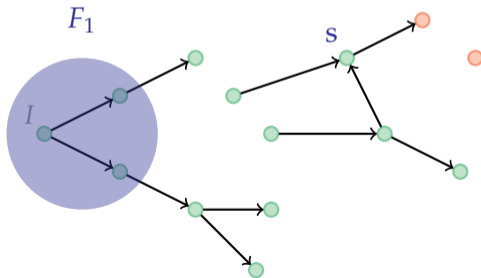
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We add ϕ_1 to all the previous frames. In this case $F_1 := F_0 \wedge \phi_1$.





We have found a CTI s such that $s \models F_k \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$.

\Rightarrow we want to **generalize** the error s or to prove that it's reachable from an initial state



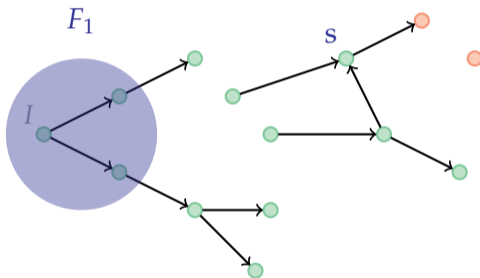
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if $\neg s$ is inductive relative to F_{k-1} , then generate a minimal subclause $c \subseteq \neg s$ inductive relative to F_{k-1} , *i.e.*, **c holds for at least all states reachable in i steps.**

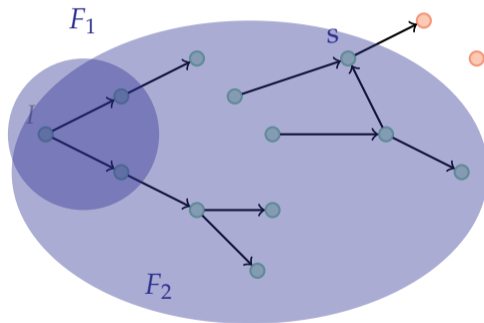
\Rightarrow add c to frames $F_0 \dots F_{k+1}$, *i.e.*, refine the over-approximations.

We create a new frame only when $F_k \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$ is valid.



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In this case, $F_1 \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$ is valid. We create a new frame $F_2 := P$.





Propagation phase: After creating a new frame $F_{k+1} := P$, we perform the **propagation phase**: we push forward the clause discovered in frame F_i for some i .



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$$F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow c'$$

If $c \notin \text{clauses}(F_{i+1})$, then set $F_{i+1} := F_{i+1} \cup \{c\}$

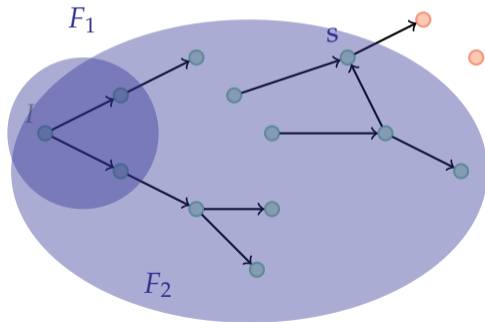
- \Rightarrow it propagates forward the errors
- \Rightarrow it helps the discovery of mutually inductive clauses



IC3 - 3rd iteration

Check if $F_2 \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$ (\checkmark): counterexample s .

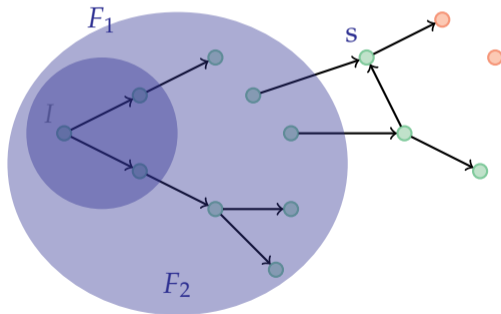
Check if $\neg s$ is inductive relative to F_1 : $\checkmark \Rightarrow$ error state s is **not** reachable for at least $k = 2$ steps.



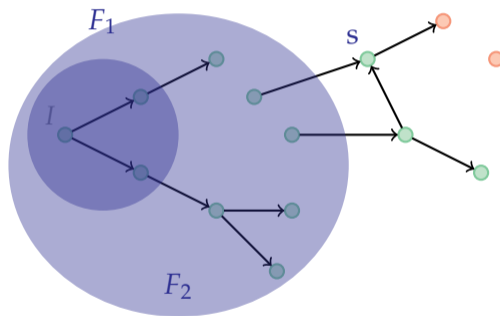
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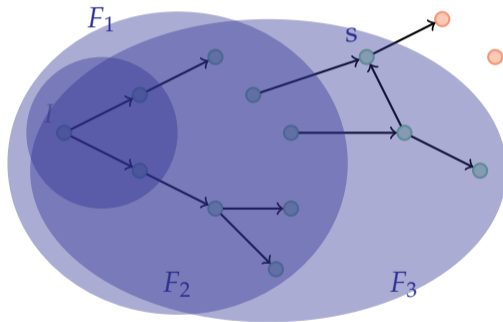
Blocking phase: find minimal subclause $\phi_2 \subseteq \neg s$ inductive relative to F_1 . Add ϕ_2 to frames F_0 and F_1 .



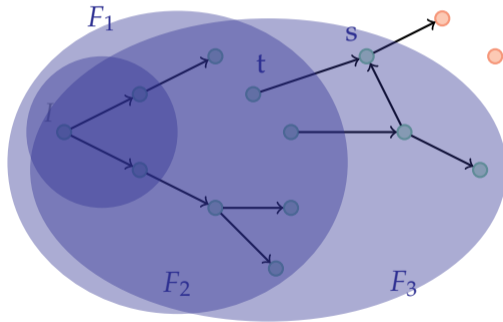
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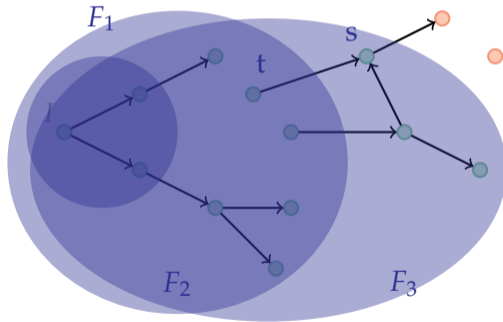


Again $F_3 \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$ (✓): counterexample s .
 But now $\neg s$ is **not** inductive relative to F_2



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But now $\neg s$ is **not** inductive relative to F_2 : error state s *could* be reachable in $k = 3$ steps ...





Instead of generating a clause that excludes s (it is possible), we call the algorithm **recursively** on the predecessor t of s

... remember that t could still be reachable as far as we know ...

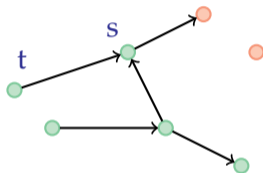
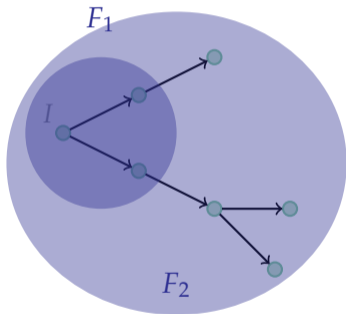


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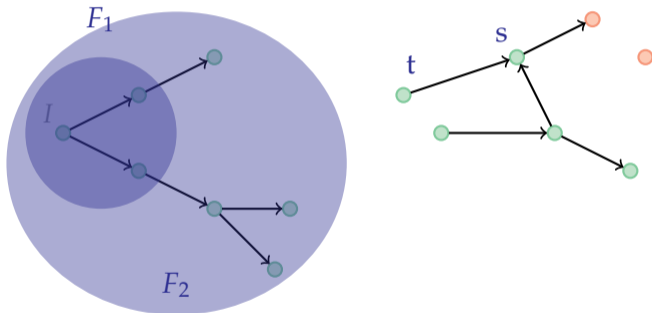
... remember that t could still be reachable as far as we know ...

" t is the **new** s " ;-)

We want to remove error state t from F_2 . $\neg t$ is inductive relative to F_1 : find min subclause $\phi_4 \subseteq \neg t$ and add it to F_1 and F_2 .

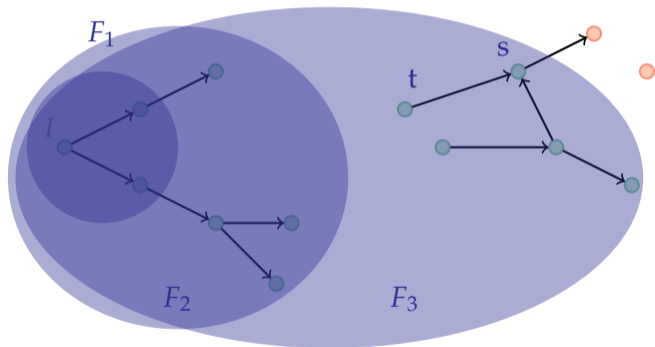


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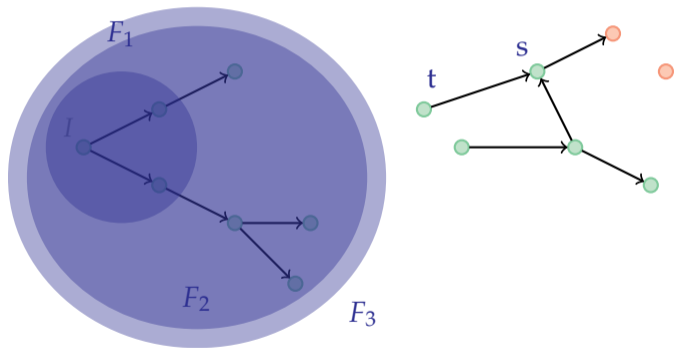


If in this process we go back with recursion until an initial state, then we would have found a **counterexample**.

Now error state s in frame F_3 can be generalized: find min clause $\phi_5 \subseteq \neg s$ inductive relative to F_2 .



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$F_2 = F_3$: IC3 terminates with **True**.



- FAIR: IC3 for ω -regular properties (e.g., LTL).
Aaron R Bradley, Fabio Somenzi, et al. (2011). “An incremental approach to model checking progress properties”. In: *2011 Formal Methods in Computer-Aided Design (FMCAD)*. IEEE, pp. 144–153
- IICTL: IC3 for CTL properties.
Zyad Hassan, Aaron R Bradley, and Fabio Somenzi (2012). “Incremental, inductive CTL model checking”. In: *International Conference on Computer Aided Verification*. Springer, pp. 532–547
- Infinite-state: software model checking via IC3.
Alessandro Cimatti and Alberto Griggio (2012). “Software model checking via IC3”. In: *International Conference on Computer Aided Verification*. Springer, pp. 277–293

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