

# Symbolic Model Checking with Z3

**Problem Symbolic Model Checking.** Consider the transition system  $\mathcal{M} = (S, R, I)$ :

- $S = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  is the set of states,
- $I = \{0\}$  is the set of initial states,
- $R = \{(0, 1), (0, 2), (1, 3), (2, 3), (3, 3)\}$  defines the transition relation,
- $AP = \{p\}$  is the set of atomic propositions, and
- $L$  is the labeling function with  $L(0) = L(1) = L(2) = \emptyset$ , and  $L(3) = \{p\}$ .

Let's use two boolean variables  $x$  and  $y$  to encode the states of this transition system.

- State 0:  $\neg x \wedge \neg y$
- State 1:  $x \wedge \neg y$
- State 2:  $\neg x \wedge y$
- State 3:  $x \wedge y$

Complete the following tasks:

- Draw the transition diagram for  $\mathcal{M}$ .
- Write a Boolean logic formula that represents the set of initial states,  $I$ .
- Write a Boolean logic formula for the set of states that correspond to property  $p$ .
- Write a Boolean logic formula that represents the transition relation,  $R$ .
- Draw the BDD for the transition relation  $R$ . Use variable ordering  $x, x', y, y'$ .
- Compute  $EX\ p$  using the boolean encoding described above by writing a python-Z3 program that encodes the logical definition of  $EX\ p$ . Take a look at the provided example code from the lecture for inspiration.
- What is the resulting expression returned by running Z3 on your query?
- The result of your query should be an expression that corresponds to the set of states satisfying  $EX\ p$ . Which states (i.e. state numbers) from the original transition system does this expression encode? Does this match the answer you would get if you performed the explicit  $EX$  algorithm for CTL model checking that we learned earlier in the semester? (Hint: it should!)
- Bonus Exploration.** We showed how all of the other CTL operations can be expressed recursively using  $EX$ . For example  $EG\ p \equiv p \wedge EX\ EG\ p$ . In the slides, we showed (via example only) that repeatedly applying  $EX$  and simplifying in the right way would converge to  $EG\ \phi$  (or whatever other operator we were computing). Can you write a python function for  $EG$ ,  $EF$  and possibly other operators that just uses a function that computes  $EX$ ?