

BACHELOR THESIS

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PROPERTY DIRECTED REACHABILITY  
IN ULTIMATE

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# Declaration

I hereby declare, that I am the sole author and composer of my thesis and that no other sources or learning aids, other than those listed, have been used. Furthermore, I declare that I have acknowledged the work of others by providing detailed references of said work.

I hereby also declare, that my Thesis has not been prepared for another examination or assignment, either wholly or excerpts thereof.

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Jonas Werner

# Abstract

foo bar

# Zusammenfassung

foo bar aber auf deutsch

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# 1 Introduction

SAT-based model-checking is a useful technique for both software and hardware verification. Most modern model-checkers are based on interpolation [1]. Recently a novel hardware verification algorithm was devised by Aaron Bradley [2] called **IC3**. Because it was so new, it came as a surprise that it won third place in the hardware model-checking competition (HWMCC) at CAV 2010 [3].

The model-checking method behind **IC3** is called *Property Directed Reachability*, *PDR* for short, which is not based on interpolation but on backward-search. It tries to find inductive invariants by constructing an over-approximation of reachable states. During this construction, possible counter-examples are disproved using Boolean SAT queries. Because this approach turned out to be very efficient for hardware verification, it could be interesting for software verification as well.

ULTIMATE [4] is a software analysis framework consisting of multiple plugins that perform steps of a program analysis, like parsing source code, transforming programs from one representation to another, or analyse programs. ULTIMATE already has analysis-plugins using different model-checking techniques like trace abstraction [9] or lazy interpolation [10]. The goal of this Bachelor's Thesis is to implement a new analysis-plugin that uses PDR on software in ULTIMATE and to compare it with the other existing techniques.

## 2 Related Work

Because hardware verification is limited to propositional logic, we need techniques to lift PDR from bit level to first-order logic formulas used in software, for that there are two other important approaches:

The first ever approach of using PDR on first-order formulas came in 2012 by Cimatti and Griggio in [6] who proposed exploiting the partitioning of a program's state space, by unwinding the program's control flow graph into an Abstract Reachability Tree where each node is coupled with a location and a first-order formula, resulting in a so called explicit-symbolic approach. Possible counterexample traces are disproved by computing under-approximations of predecessors.

Another possible way is proposed by Hoder and Bjørner in [7] operating on an abstract transition system derived from the program. A non-linear variant of PDR is used, so that counterexamples unfold into trees that can be recursively generalized until either proven or disproved.



## 3 PDR Background

In the following I will describe the basic principle behind PDR as a hardware-checker as used in IC3, therefore we use only boolean variables.

### 3.1 Preliminaries

First some preliminary definitions and notations:

A *literal* is a variable or its negation, e.g.,  $x$  or  $\bar{y}$

A *clause* is a disjunction of literals, e.g.,  $x \vee \bar{y}$

A *cube* is a conjunction of literals, e.g.,  $x \wedge \bar{y}$

Therefore, the negation of a cube is a clause.  $\overline{(x \wedge \bar{y})} \equiv (\bar{x} \vee y)$

A *boolean transition system* is a tuple  $S = (X, I, T)$  where  $X$  is a finite set of boolean variables,  $I$  is a cube representing the *initial state*, and  $T$  is a propositional formula over variables in  $X$  and  $X' = \{x \in X \mid x' \in X'\}$ , called transition relation, that describes updates to the variables.

For example, consider the transition system  $U = (X, I, T)$  where

- $X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$
- $I = \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$
- $T = (x_1 \vee \neg x'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)$

With transition graph:

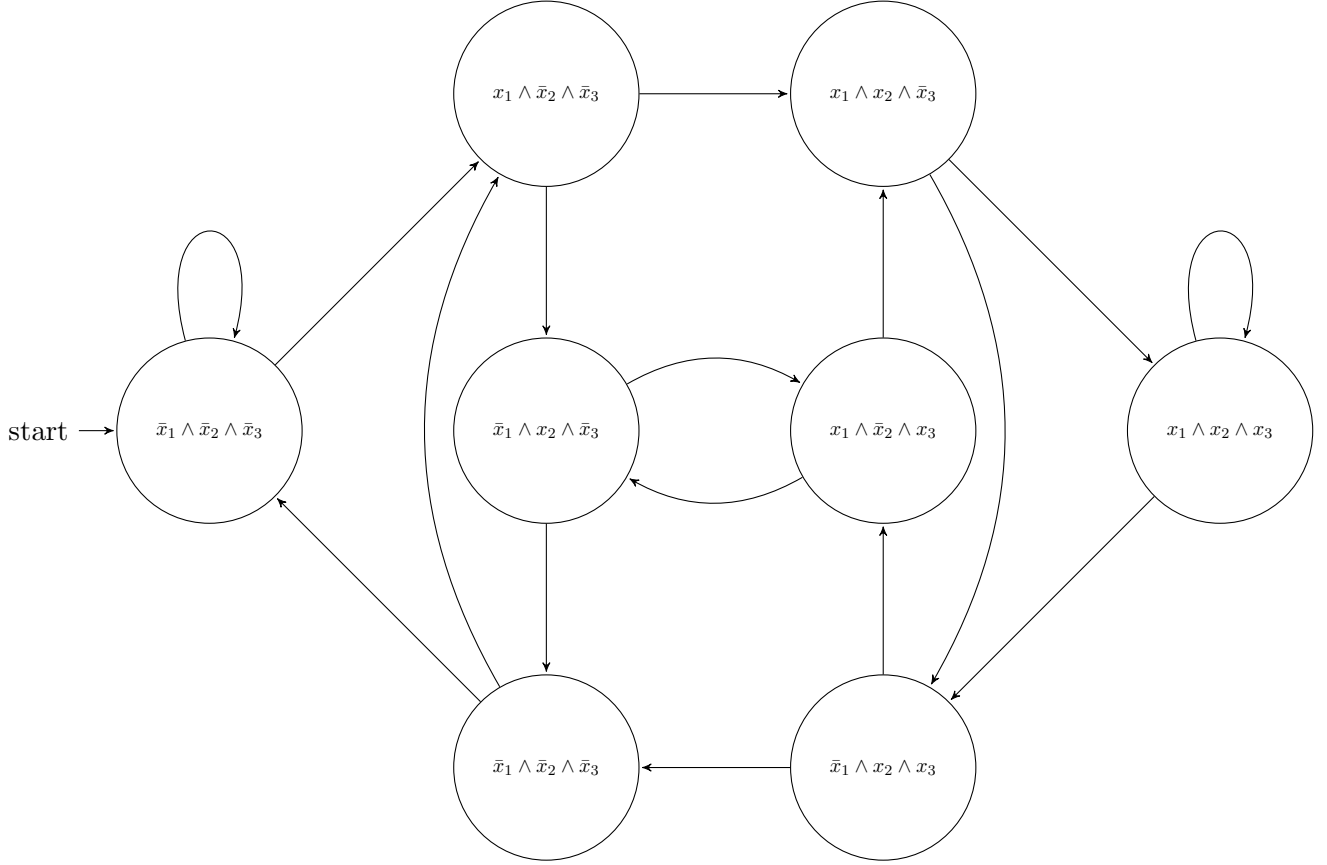


Figure 3.1: Transition Graph of  $U$

Given a propositional formula  $\phi$  over  $X$  we get a *primed formula*  $\phi'$  by replacing each variable with its corresponding variable in  $X'$ .

A *state* in  $S$  is a cube containing each variable from  $X$  with a boolean valuation of it. For each possible valuation there is a corresponding state, resulting in  $2^{|X|}$  states in  $S$ .

Like we see in the graph of  $U$  we have  $2^{|X|} = 2^3 = 8$  states.

A *transition* from one state  $s$  to another state  $q$  exists if the conjunction of  $s$ , the transition relation, and  $q'$  is satisfiable.

For example in  $U$  the transition between the initial state  $I = \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$  and state  $r = x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$  exists because

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_I \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2') \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2') \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3') \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x_3')}_T \wedge \underbrace{x_1' \wedge \bar{x}_2' \wedge \bar{x}_3'}_{r'}$$

is satisfiable.

Given a propositional formula  $P$  over  $X$ , called *property*, we want to verify that every state in  $S$  that is reachable from  $I$  satisfies  $P$  such that,  $P$  describes a set of *good states*, conversely  $\bar{P}$  represent a set of *bad states*.

Regarding  $U$ , let  $P = \bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3$  be given, making  $\bar{P} = x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3$  a bad state. We can use PDR to show that either  $\bar{P}$  is unreachable from  $I$  or that there exists a sequence of transitions leading to  $\bar{P}$  as counter-example.

## 3.2 Algorithm

A PDR-based algorithm tries to prove that a transition system  $S = (X, I, T)$  satisfies a given property  $P$  by trying to find a formula  $F$  over  $X$  with the following qualities:

- (1)  $I \Rightarrow F$
- (2)  $F \wedge T \Rightarrow F'$
- (3)  $F \Rightarrow P$

$F$  is called an *inductive invariant*.

To calculate an inductive invariant, PDR uses *frames* which are cubes of clauses representing an over-approximation of reachable states in at most  $i$  transitions from  $I$ .

PDR maintains a sequence of frames  $[F_0, \dots, F_k]$ , called a *trace*, it is organized so that it fulfills the following characteristics:

- (I)  $F_0 = I$
- (II)  $F_{i+1} \subseteq F_i$ , therefore  $F_i \Rightarrow F_{i+1}$
- (III)  $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$
- (IV)  $F_i \Rightarrow P$

Now to the algorithm itself:

Start with checking for a *0-counter-example*, that means checking if  $I \Rightarrow P$ , by testing whether the formula  $I \wedge \bar{P}$  is satisfiable. If it is, then  $I$  is a 0-counter-example, the algorithm terminates. If the formula is unsatisfiable, initialize the first frame  $F_0 = I$ , fulfilling (I), and moving on.

Let  $[F_0, F_1, \dots, F_k]$  be the current trace.

The algorithm repeats the following three phases until termination:

### 1. Next Transition

Check whether the next state is a good state meaning  $F_k \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$  is valid, by testing the satisfiability of  $F_k \wedge T \wedge \bar{P}'$

- If the formula is *satisfiable*, for each satisfying assignment  $\vec{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{|X|}, x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_{|X'|})$  get a new bad state  $a = x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \dots \wedge x_{|X|}$  and create tuple  $(a, k)$ , this tuple is called a *proof-obligation*.
- If the formula is *unsatisfiable*, continue with the next phase.

## 2. Blocking-Phase

If there are proof-obligations:

Take proof-obligation  $(b, i)$  and try to block the bad state  $b$  by checking if frame  $F_{i-1}$  can reach  $b$  in one transition, i.e., test  $F_{i-1} \wedge T \wedge b'$  for satisfiability.

- If the formula is *satisfiable*, it means that  $F_i$  is not strong enough to block  $b$ . For each satisfying assignment  $\vec{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{|X|}, x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_{|X'|})$  get a new bad state  $c = x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \dots \wedge x_{|X|}$  creating the new proof-obligation  $(c, i - 1)$ .
- If the formula is *unsatisfiable*, strengthen frame  $F_i$  with  $\bar{b}$  meaning  $F_i = F_i \wedge \bar{b}$ , blocking  $b$  at  $F_i$

This continues recursively until either a proof-obligation  $(d, 0)$  is created proving that there exists a counter-example terminating the algorithm, or there is no proof-obligation left.

## 3. Propagation-Phase

Add a new frame  $F_{k+1} = P$  and propagate clauses from  $F_k$  forward, meaning for all clauses  $c$  in  $F_k$  check  $F_k \wedge T \wedge \bar{c}'$  for satisfiability. If that formula is unsatisfiable, strengthen  $F_{k+1}$  with  $c$ :  $F_{k+1} = F_{k+1} \wedge c$ , else do nothing and continue with the next clause. Because of this phase rule (II) is fulfilled.

After propagating all possible clauses, if  $F_{k+1} \equiv F_k$  the algorithm found a fixpoint and terminates returning that  $P$  always holds with  $F_k$  being the inductive invariant.

To illustrate the procedure further consider the pseudo-code:

---

**Algorithm 1** PDR-prove

---

```
1: procedure PDR-PROVE( $I, T, P$ )
2:   check for 0-counter-example
3:   trace.push(new frame(I))

4:   loop
5:     while  $\exists$  cube  $c$ , s.t. trace.last()  $\wedge T \wedge c'$  is SAT and  $c \Rightarrow \bar{P}$  do
6:       recursively block proof-obligation( $c$ , trace.size() - 1)
7:       and strengthen the frames of the trace.
8:       if a proof-obligation( $p$ , 0) is generated then
9:         return false ▷ counter-example found

10:     $F_{k+1} = \text{new frame}(P)$ 
11:    for all clause  $c \in \text{trace.last()}$  do
12:      if trace.last()  $\wedge T \wedge c'$  is UNSAT then
13:         $F_{k+1} = F_{k+1} \wedge c$ 
14:      if trace.last()  $== F_{k+1}$  then
15:        return true
16:    trace.push(Fk+1)
```

---

### 3.3 Examples

#### 3.3.1 With Failing Property

To show an application of the algorithm reconsider the example transition system  $U = (X, I, T)$  where

- $X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$
- $I = \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$
- $T = (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2') \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2') \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3') \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x_3')$

and the property:

- $P = \bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3$  with bad state  $\bar{P} = x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3$

We now want to verify whether  $P$  holds or if there is a counter-example.

#### 1. Step: Check for 0-Counter-Example

We need to make sure that  $I \Rightarrow P$ , we do that by testing if  $I \wedge \bar{P}$  is satisfiable:

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_I \wedge \underbrace{x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3}_{\bar{P}}$$

The formula is unsatisfiable meaning there is no 0-counter-example, we continue by initializing  $F_0 = I$

## 2. Step: First Transition

Check if  $F_0 \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$ , by testing if  $F_0 \wedge T \wedge \bar{P}'$  is satisfiable:

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_0} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_1 \wedge x'_2 \wedge x'_3}_{\bar{P}'}$$

Which it is not because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge x'_2$  is unsatisfiable. We do not generate a proof-obligation so we can skip the blocking-phase and continue on with the propagation-phase.

## 3. Step: First Propagation-Phase

Initialize  $F_1 = P$

Check each clause  $c$  in  $F_0$  for  $F_0 \wedge T \wedge \bar{c}'$  to strengthen  $F_1$ .

- $c = \bar{x}_1$

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_0} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_1}_{\bar{c}'}$$

Satisfiable with  $(\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_3, x'_1, \bar{x}'_2, \bar{x}'_3)$   
 $\rightarrow$  Do not add  $\bar{x}_1$  to  $F_1$ .

- $c = \bar{x}_2$

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_0} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_2}_{\bar{c}'}$$

Unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge x'_2$  is not satisfiable  
 $\rightarrow$  Add  $\bar{x}_2$  to  $F_1$   
 $\rightarrow F_1 = P \wedge \bar{x}_2$ .

- $c = \bar{x}_3$

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_0} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_3}_{\bar{c}'}$$

Unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge x'_3$  is not satisfiable

→ Add  $\bar{x}_3$  to  $F_1$

→  $F_1 = P \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$

With that the first propagation-phase is done resulting in

$$F_1 = (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$$

and because  $F_1 \neq F_0$  we continue.

#### 4. Step: Second Transition

Check if  $F_1 \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$  by testing  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \bar{P}'$  for satisfiability:

$$\underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_1} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_1 \wedge x'_2 \wedge x'_3}_{\bar{P}'}$$

Which is unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge x'_3$  is not satisfiable. We do not generate a proof-obligation so we continue with the second propagation-phase.

#### 5. Step: Second Propagation-Phase

Initialize  $F_2 = P$

Check each clause  $c$  in  $F_1$  for  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \bar{c}'$  to strengthen  $F_2$ . We skip  $P$ , as it is already part of  $F_2$ .

This works exactly as in the 3. step:

- $c = \bar{x}_2$

$$\underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_1} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_2}_{\bar{c}'}$$

Satisfiable with  $(x_1, \bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_3, x'_1, x'_2, \bar{x}'_3)$

→ Do not add  $\bar{x}_2$  to  $F_2$

- $c = \bar{x}_3$

$$\underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_1} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_3}_{\bar{c}'}$$

Unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge x'_3$  is not satisfiable.

→ Add  $\bar{x}_3$  to  $F_2$

→  $F_2 = P \wedge \bar{x}_3$

That concludes the second propagation-phase resulting in

$$F_2 = (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge \bar{x}_3$$

and because  $F_2 \neq F_1$  we continue.

### 6. Step: Third Transition Step

Check  $F_2 \wedge T \Rightarrow \bar{P}'$  by testing  $F_2 \wedge T \wedge \bar{P}'$  for satisfiability

$$\underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_1 \wedge x'_2 \wedge x'_3}_{\bar{P}'}$$

This time  $F_2 \wedge T \wedge \bar{P}'$  is satisfiable with assignment  $(\underbrace{x_1, x_2, \bar{x}_3}_s, x'_1, x'_2, x'_3)$ , we get the new bad state  $s = x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$ , and generate a proof-obligation  $(s, 2)$ , which we now try to block in the blocking-phase.

### 7. Step: First Blocking-Phase

Try to block proof-obligation  $(s, 2)$  by checking if  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge s'$  is satisfiable.

$$\underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_1} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_1 \wedge x'_2 \wedge \bar{x}'_3}_{s'}$$

This is again satisfiable with assignment  $(\underbrace{x_1, \bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_3}_q, x'_1, x'_2, \bar{x}'_3)$ , we get the bad state  $q = x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$  and generate a new proof-obligation  $(q, 1)$ .



Try to block proof-obligation  $(q, 1)$  by checking if  $F_0 \wedge T \wedge q'$  is satisfiable.

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_{F_0} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2') \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2') \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3') \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x_3')}_{T} \wedge \underbrace{x_1' \wedge \bar{x}_2' \wedge \bar{x}_3'}_{q'}$$

This too is satisfiable with assignment  $(\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_3, x_1', \bar{x}_2', \bar{x}_3')$ , we get the bad state

$I = x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$  and generate a new proof-obligation  $(I, 0)$ .

With that we have found a counter-example, resulting in the termination of the algorithm returning the counter-example trace:

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_I \rightarrow \underbrace{x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_q \rightarrow \underbrace{x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_s \rightarrow \underbrace{x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3}_{\bar{P}}$$

Assume proof-obligation  $(s, 2)$  would have been blocked, meaning  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge s'$  was unsatisfiable, then we would have updated  $F_2 = F_2 \wedge \bar{s}$  making absolutely sure that  $s$  is not reachable, every future proof-obligation containing  $s$  would have been blocked by  $F_2$ .

### 3.3.2 With Passing Property

To show a transition system with an inductive invariant consider  $B = (X, I, T)$  where

- $X = \{x_1, x_2\}$
- $I = \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$
- $T = (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_1) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_1) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_2)$

and transition graph:

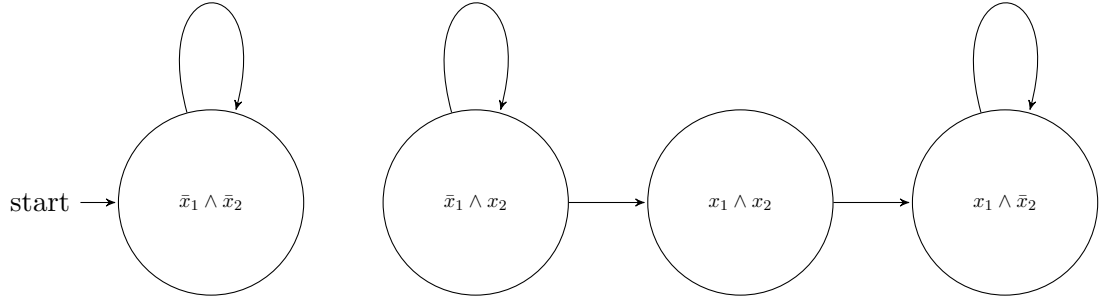


Figure 3.2: Transition Graph of  $B$

Now given the property  $P = \bar{x}_1 \vee x_2$ , we want to check whether the bad state  $\bar{P} = x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$  is reachable:

#### 1. Step: Check for 0-Counter-Example

Check for 0-counter-example to verify  $I \Rightarrow P$  by testing  $I \wedge \bar{P}$  for satisfiability:

$$\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$$

The formula is unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge x_1$  that means there is no 0-counter-example.

#### 2. Step: First Transition

Initialize  $F_0 = I$  and check if  $F_0 \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$  by testing  $F_0 \wedge T \wedge \bar{P}'$  for satisfiability:

$$\underbrace{\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2}_{F_0} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_1) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_1) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_2)}_T \wedge \underbrace{x'_1 \wedge \bar{x}'_2}_{\bar{P}'}$$

Which is unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x'_1) \wedge \bar{x}'_1$  is not satisfiable. We generate no proof-obligation and continue with the propagation-phase.

### 3. Step: First Propagation-Phase

Initialize  $F_1 = P$

For each clause  $c$  in  $F_0$  check  $F_0 \wedge T \wedge \bar{c}'$  for satisfiability to strengthen  $F_1$ .

- $c = \bar{x}_1$

$$\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge T \wedge x'_1$$

Unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x'_1) \wedge \bar{x}'_1$  is not satisfiable.

→ Add  $\bar{x}_1$  to  $F_1$

→  $F_1 = P \wedge \bar{x}_1$

- $c = \bar{x}_2$

$$\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge T \wedge x'_2$$

Unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge x'_2$  is not satisfiable.

→ Add  $\bar{x}_2$  to  $F_1$

→  $F_1 = P \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$

That concludes the propagation-phase resulting in

$$F_1 = (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$$

and because  $F_1 \neq F_0$  we continue.

### 4. Step: Second Transition

Check if  $F_1 \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$  by testing  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \bar{P}'$  for satisfiability:

$$(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge T \wedge x'_1 \wedge \bar{x}'_2$$

Which is unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_1) \wedge x'_1$  is not satisfiable. We again do not generate a proof-obligation, so that we continue with the second propagation-phase.

### 5. Step: Second Propagation-Phase

Initialize  $F_2 = P$

For every clause  $c$  in  $F_1$  check  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \bar{c}'$  for satisfiability, again skipping  $P$ .

- $c = \bar{x}_1$

$$(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge T \wedge x'_1$$

Unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_1) \wedge x'_1$  is not satisfiable

→ Add  $\bar{x}_1$  to  $F_2$

→  $F_2 = P \wedge \bar{x}_1$

- $c = \bar{x}_2$

$$(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge T \wedge x'_2$$

Unsatisfiable because  $\bar{x}_2 \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge x'_2$  is not satisfiable.

→ Add  $\bar{x}_2$  to  $F_2$

→  $F_2 = P \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$

With that the second propagation-phase ends, resulting in

$$F_2 = (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \equiv F_1$$

The algorithm terminates returning that the property always holds and  $(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \bar{x}_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2$  being an inductive invariant.

## 3.4 Possible Improvements

The most time consuming part of the algorithm is the solving of SAT-queries, the larger the query the more time it takes. To improve this there are several ways to keep SAT-queries small:

- *Generalization of States*

Blocking one state at a time is ineffective.

When blocking a state  $s$  do not add  $\bar{s}$  but try to find and add a cube  $c \subseteq \bar{s}$ .

Most modern SAT-solver not only return unsatisfiable but also a reason for it, either by an UNSAT-core or through a final conflict-clause. Both of them deliver information about which clauses were actually used in the proof. To find a  $c$  just remove unused clauses of  $s$ .

- *Ternary Simulation*

To reduce proof-obligations it is possible to eliminate not needed state variables by checking a satisfying assignment using ternary simulation.

Ternary logic extends the binary logic by introducing a new valuation:  $X$ , called unknown, and new rules:

$$\begin{aligned}(X \wedge false) &= false, \\ (X \wedge true) &= X, \\ (X \wedge X) &= X, \\ \bar{X} &= X\end{aligned}$$

To remove state variables, set one variable at a time to  $X$  and try to transition to a next state using the transition relation, the variable is needed if  $X$  propagates into the next state, if it does not remove the variable from the proof-obligation.

Reconsider the prior example's first blocking phase resulting in the proof-obligation( $q, 1$ ) with bad state  $q = x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3$ , we now want to reduce that proof-obligation using ternary simulation:

First of all, the transition formula:

$$\underbrace{x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_q \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T$$

Now set  $x_1 = X$ :

$$\underbrace{X \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge \bar{x}_3}_q \wedge \underbrace{(X \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T$$

$(X \vee \bar{x}'_2)$  is unknown meaning that  $x_1$  is needed.

Now set  $x_2 = X$ :

$$\underbrace{x_1 \wedge X \wedge \bar{x}_3}_q \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (X \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (X \vee x'_3)}_T$$

$(X \vee \bar{x}'_3)$  is unknown meaning that  $x_2$  is needed as well.

Now set  $x_3 = X$ :

$$\underbrace{x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2 \wedge X}_q \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}'_2) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x'_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}'_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee x'_3)}_T$$

Because there is no clause being unknown,  $x_3$  can be removed from the proof-obligation. We get the reduced proof-obligation( $x_1 \wedge \bar{x}_2, 1$ )

## 4 PDR as Software Checker

We see that PDR is a useful hardware-model checking technique. If we want to use it on software, we need to *lift* the algorithm from bit-level propositional logic to first-order logic. There are multiple ways to do that, the following approach is based on the technique described in [8].

To use PDR on software we first need some new definitions and other preliminaries.

### 4.1 Preliminaries

A control flow graph (CFG)  $\mathcal{A} = (X, L, G, \ell_0, \ell_E)$  is a tuple, consisting of a finite set of variables  $X$ , a finite set of locations  $L$ , a finite set of transitions  $G \subseteq L \times FO \times L$ ,  $FO$  being a quantifier free first-order logic formula over variables in  $X$  and  $X' = \{x \in X \mid x' \in X'\}$ , an initial location  $\ell_0 \in L$ , and an error location  $\ell_E \in L$ .

For example consider the CFG  $\mathcal{A} = (X, L, G, \ell_0, \ell_E)$  where

- $X = \{x\}$
- $L = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_E\}$
- $G = \{(\ell_0, x' := 0, \ell_1), (\ell_1, x' := x + 1, \ell_2), (\ell_2, x = 1, \ell_E), (\ell_2, x \neq 1, \ell_3)\}$

with the graph:

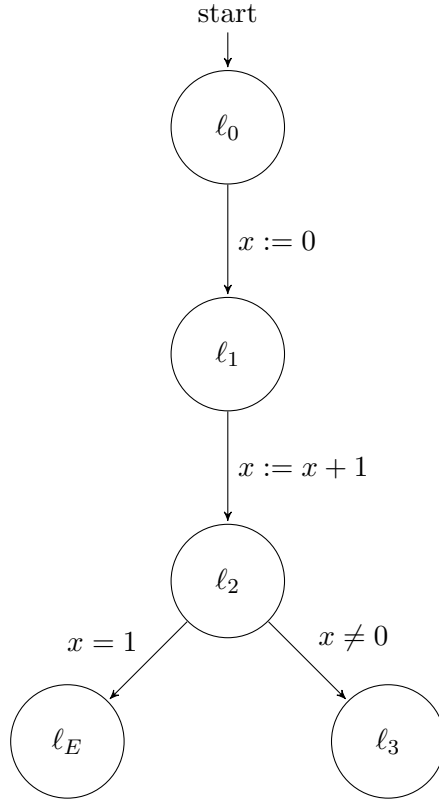


Figure 4.1: Graph of  $\mathcal{A}$

The transition formula  $T_{\ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_2}$  from one location  $\ell_1$  to another location  $\ell_2$  is defined as:

$$T_{\ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_2} = \begin{cases} (\ell_1, t, \ell_2), & (\ell_1, t, \ell_2) \in G \\ false, & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Resulting in the global transition formula:

$$T = \bigvee_{(\ell_1, t, \ell_2) \in G} T_{\ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_2}$$

The lifted algorithm no longer works on boolean transition systems but on CFGs. It tries to prove whether  $\ell_E$  is reachable, by finding a feasible path from  $\ell_0$  to  $\ell_E$ .

## 4.2 Lifted Algorithm

There are four main differences between bit-level PDR and lifted PDR:

- Instead of a global set of Frames  $[F_0, \dots, F_k]$  assign each program location  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_E\}$  a local set of frames  $[F_{0,\ell}, \dots, F_{k,\ell}]$ . Each frame is now a cube of first-order formulas. As there are now multiple traces, proof-obligations get extended by another parameter, lifted proof-obligations are tuples  $(t, \ell, i)$  where  $t$  is a first-order formula,  $\ell$  describes the location where  $t$  has to be blocked, and  $i$  is a frame number, called level in the lifted algorithm.
- Because the states in a CFG are no formulas, the lifted algorithm no longer blocks states but transitions, there are no bad states only bad transitions.
- Because of the structure of the CFA, it is already known which states lead to the error location, as it is easy to extract the transitions in  $G$  that have  $\ell_E$  as target, making the next transition phase, that was used to find proof-obligations before, obsolete.  
If there exists a transition to  $\ell_E$  there will be an initial proof-obligation in each iteration of the algorithm, making the blocking-phase no longer optional.
- The propagation-phase is slimmed, it only checks for termination. In the phase the algorithm checks the frames to find a level  $i$  where all locations have a fixpoint, meaning  $F_{i,\ell} = F_{i-1,\ell}$  for every location  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_E\}$ ,  $i$  is called a global fixpoint position. There is no more propagating formulas forward.

*In more detail:*

Given a CFG  $\mathcal{A} = (X, L, G, \ell_0, \ell_E)$  we want to check if  $\ell_E$  is reachable:

Again start with checking for a 0-counter-example, this is easily done by looking at  $\ell_0$ . If  $\ell_0 = \ell_E$  terminate and return that  $\ell_E$  is indeed reachable, if  $\ell_0 \neq \ell_E$  initialize level 0 frames for all locations  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_0, \ell_E\}$  as **false**, and for  $\ell_0$  as **true**.

Let  $k$  be the current level, so that each location  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_E\}$  has frames  $[F_{0,\ell}, \dots, F_{k,\ell}]$ . The algorithm repeats the following phases:

#### 1. Next Level

Initialize for each  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_E\}$  a new frame  $k + 1$  as **true**.

For each location  $\ell \in L$  where  $(\ell, t, \ell_E) \in G$  generate an initial proof-obligation  $(t, \ell, k)$ .

#### 2. Blocking-Phase

If there are proof-obligations:

Take proof-obligation  $(t, \ell, i)$  with the lowest  $i$  and check for each predecessor location  $\ell_{pre}$  if the formula:

$$F_{i-1,\ell_{pre}} \wedge T_{\ell_{pre} \rightarrow \ell} \wedge t'$$



is satisfiable.

- If it is *satisfiable*, it means that  $t$  could not be blocked at  $\ell$  on level  $i$ , generate an new proof-obligation  $(p, \ell_{pre}, i - 1)$  where  $p$  is the weakest precondition of  $t$ .
- If the formula is *unsatisfiable*, strengthen each frame  $F_{j,\ell}$ ,  $j \leq i$  with  $\bar{t}$ , meaning  $F_{j,\ell} = F_{j,\ell} \wedge \bar{t}$ , blocking  $t$  at  $\ell$  on level  $i$ .

This continues recursively until either a proof-obligation  $(d, \ell, 0)$  is generated, proving that there exists a feasible path to  $\ell_E$  terminating the algorithm, or there is no proof-obligation left.

### 3. Propagation-Phase

Check the frames if there exists a global fixpoint position  $i$  where

$$F_{i-1,\ell} = F_{i,\ell}$$

for every location  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_E\}$ .

If there is such an  $i$  the algorithm terminates returning that  $\ell_E$  is not reachable.

To illustrate the lifted algorithm further consider the updated pseudo-code:

---

**Algorithm 2** lifted-PDR-prove

---

```
1: procedure LIFTED-PDR-PROVE( $L, G$ )
2:   check for 0-counter-example
3:    $\ell_0.trace.push(new\ frame(true))$ 
4:   for all  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_0, \ell_E\}$  do
5:      $\ell.trace.push(new\ frame(false))$ 
6:    $level := 0$ 

7:   loop
8:     for all  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_E\}$  do
9:        $\ell.trace.push(new\ frame(true))$ 
10:     $level := level + 1$ 
11:    get initial proof-obligations

12:    while  $\exists$  proof-obligation  $(t, \ell, i)$ , do
13:      Recursively block proof-obligation
14:      if a proof-obligation  $(p, \ell, 0)$  is generated then
15:        return false

16:    for  $i = 0; i \leq level; i := i + 1$  do
17:      for  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_E\}$  do
18:        if  $\ell.trace[i] \neq \ell.trace[i - 1]$  then
19:          break
20:    return true
```

---

## 4.3 Example

### 4.3.1 Reachable Error State

To show an application of the lifted algorithm reconsider the example from earlier, we have CFA  $\mathcal{A} = (X, L, G, \ell_0, \ell_E)$  where

- $X = \{x\}$
- $L = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_E\}$
- $G = \{(\ell_0, x := 0, \ell_1), (\ell_1, x := x + 1, \ell_2), (\ell_2, x = 1, \ell_E), (\ell_2, x \neq 1, \ell_3)\}$

We now want to verify whether  $\ell_E$  is reachable using the lifted algorithm:

#### 1. Step: Check for 0-Counter-Example

Is  $\ell_0 = \ell_E$ ?

No, we continue with initializing level 0 by adding to each  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_0, \ell_E\}$  a new frame  $F_{0,\ell} = false$ , for  $\ell_0$  add  $F_{0,\ell_0} = true$ :

location \ level	0
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	<i>false</i>
$\ell_2$	<i>false</i>
$\ell_3$	<i>false</i>

## 2. Step: Next Level

Initialize new frames for level 1 as **true**:

location \ level	0	1
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_2$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_3$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>

To generate the initial proof-obligations, check  $G$  and take the transitions where  $\ell_E$  is the target.

There is one transition  $(\ell_2, x = 1, \ell_E)$ , that means we have to block  $x = 1$  at  $\ell_2$  on level 1

→ proof-obligation  $(x = 1, \ell_2, 1)$

## 3. Step: First Blocking Phase

We need to block the initial proof-obligation  $(x = 1, \ell_2, 1)$ . Let  $\ell_{pre}$  be a predecessor of  $\ell_2$ , we need to check the formula  $F_{0,\ell_{pre}} \wedge T_{\ell_{pre} \rightarrow \ell_2} \wedge x' = 1$  for satisfiability. As there is only one predecessor  $\ell_1$  we test:

$$\underbrace{false}_{F_{0,\ell_1}} \wedge \underbrace{x' := x + 1}_{T_{\ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_2}} \wedge x' = 1$$

Which is unsatisfiable

→ Add  $\overline{(x = 1)} \equiv x \neq 1$  to  $F_{0,\ell_2}$  and  $F_{1,\ell_2}$ , blocking  $x = 1$  at  $\ell_2$  on level 1.

location \ level	0	1
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_2$	$false \wedge x \neq 1$	$true \wedge x \neq 1$
$\ell_3$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>

Because there are no proof-obligations left we continue with the propagation-phase.

#### 4. Step: First Propagation-Phase

Check if there exists a global fixpoint position  $i$  where

$$F_{i-1,\ell} = F_{i,\ell}$$

for every location  $\ell \in L \setminus \{l_E\}$ .

→ There is no such  $i$ , we continue with the next level.

#### 5. Step: Next Level

Initialize new frames for level 2 as **true**:

location \ level	0	1	2
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_2$	$false \wedge x \neq 1$	$true \wedge x \neq 1$	<i>true</i>
$\ell_3$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>

Again generate the initial proof-obligation which is the same as before but on level 2 now:

→ proof-obligation  $(x = 1, \ell_2, 2)$

#### 6. Step: Second-Blocking Phase

We need to block the proof-obligation  $(x = 1, \ell_2, 2)$  by testing

$$\underbrace{true}_{F_{1,\ell_1}} \wedge \underbrace{x' := x + 1 \wedge x' = 1}_{T_{\ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_2}}$$

for satisfiability. Which is satisfiable with  $p = (x = 0)$ . Because  $p$  being also the weakest precondition, we generate a new proof-obligation  $(p, \ell_1, 1)$ , meaning we need to block  $p$  at location  $\ell_1$  on level 1.

Take the new proof-obligation  $(x = 0, \ell_1, 1)$  and check

$$\underbrace{true}_{F_{0,\ell_0}} \wedge \underbrace{x' := 0}_{T_{\ell_0 \rightarrow \ell_1}} \wedge \underbrace{x' = 0}_{p'}$$

for satisfiability.

Which is valid, with **true** being the weakest precondition, we generate the new proof-obligation  $(true, \ell_0, 0)$  and because this obligation is on level 0 we terminate, stating that  $\ell_E$  is reachable by the counter-example trace:

$$\ell_0 \rightarrow \ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_2 \rightarrow \ell_E$$

### 4.3.2 Unreachable Error State

To show a CFA with an unreachable error state consider  $\mathcal{B} = (X, L, G, \ell_0, \ell_E)$  where

- $X = \{x, y\}$
- $L = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_E\}$
- $G = \{(\ell_0, x' := 0 \wedge y' := x', \ell_1), (\ell_1, x' := x + 1 \wedge y' := y + 1, \ell_1), (\ell_1, x = y, \ell_2), (\ell_1, x \neq y, \ell_E)\}$

with graph:

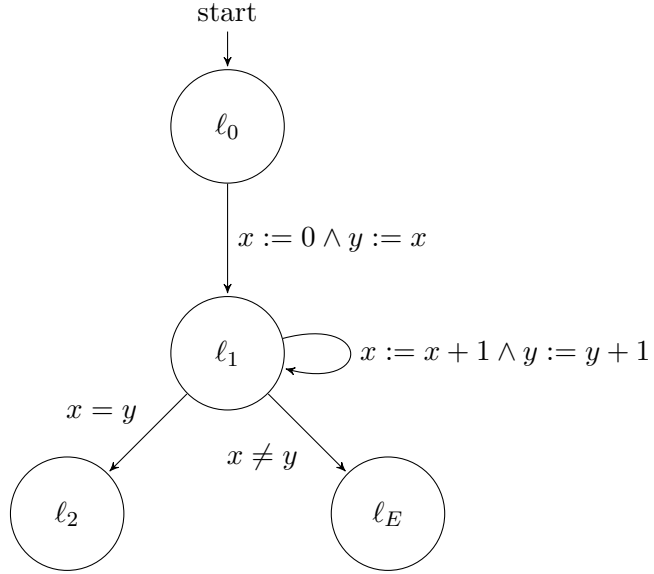


Figure 4.2: Graph of  $\mathcal{B}$

We now want to check whether  $\ell_E$  is reachable, using the lifted algorithm:

#### 1. Step: Check for 0-Counter-Example

Is  $\ell_0 = \ell_E$ ?

No, we continue with initializing level 0 by adding to each  $\ell \in L \setminus \{\ell_0, \ell_E\}$  a new frame  $F_{0,\ell} = false$ , for  $\ell_0$  add  $F_{0,\ell_0} = true$ .

location \ level	0
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	<i>false</i>
$\ell_2$	<i>false</i>

## 2. Step: Next Level

Initialize new frames for level 1 as **true**:

location \ level	0	1
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_2$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>

Generate the initial proof-obligations:

There is only one transition leading to  $\ell_E$ ,  $(\ell_1, x \neq y, \ell_E)$

→ proof-obligation  $(x \neq y, \ell_1, 1)$ .

## 3. Step: First Blocking Phase

To block the proof-obligation  $(x \neq y, \ell_1, 1)$  check each predecessor of  $\ell_1$ :

- predecessor:  $\ell_0$

$$\underbrace{true}_{F_{0,\ell_0}} \wedge \underbrace{x' := 0 \wedge y' := x' \wedge x' \neq y'}_{T_{\ell_0 \rightarrow \ell_1}}$$

Which is unsatisfiable

→ Add  $\overline{(x \neq y)} \equiv x = y$  to  $F_{0,\ell_1}$  and  $F_{1,\ell_1}$ :

location \ level	0	1
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	<i>false</i> $\wedge x = y$	<i>true</i> $\wedge x = y$
$\ell_2$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>

- predecessor:  $\ell_1$

$$\underbrace{false \wedge x = y}_{F_{0,\ell_1}} \wedge \underbrace{x' := x + 1 \wedge y' := y + 1' \wedge x' \neq y'}_{T_{\ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_1}}$$

Which is unsatisfiable as well

→ Because  $x = y$  has already been added to  $F_{0,\ell_1}$  and  $F_{1,\ell_1}$  we move on.

As there are no proof-obligations left, we continue with the first propagation-phase.

#### 4. Step: First Propagation-Phase

Check if there exists a global fixpoint position  $i$  where

$$F_{i-1,\ell} = F_{i,\ell}$$

for every location  $\ell \in L \setminus \{l_E\}$ .

→ There is no such  $i$ , we continue with the next level.

#### 5. Step: Next Level

Initialize new frames for level 2 as **true**:

location \ level	0	1	2
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	$false \wedge x = y$	$true \wedge x = y$	<i>true</i>
$\ell_2$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>

Again generate the initial proof-obligation which is the same as before but on level 2 now:

→ proof-obligation  $(x \neq y, \ell_1, 2)$

#### 6. Step: Second Blocking Phase

To block proof-obligation  $(x \neq y, \ell_1, 2)$  we check the predecessors of  $\ell_1$ :

- predecessor:  $\ell_0$

$$\underbrace{true}_{F_{1,\ell_0}} \wedge \underbrace{x' := 0 \wedge y' := x' \wedge x' \neq y'}_{T_{\ell_0 \rightarrow \ell_1}}$$

Which is unsatisfiable

→ Add  $\overline{(x \neq y)} \equiv x = y$  to  $F_{0,\ell_1}$ ,  $F_{1,\ell_1}$  and  $F_{2,\ell_1}$ :

location \ level	0	1	2
$\ell_0$	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>
$\ell_1$	$false \wedge x = y$	$true \wedge x = y$	$true \wedge x = y$
$\ell_2$	<i>false</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>true</i>



- predecessor:  $\ell_1$

$$\underbrace{true \wedge x = y}_{F_{1,\ell_1}} \wedge \underbrace{x' := x + 1 \wedge y' := y + 1 \wedge x' \neq y'}_{T_{\ell_1 \rightarrow \ell_1}}$$

Which is unsatisfiable as well

→ Because  $x = y$  has already been added to  $F_{0,\ell_1}$ ,  $F_{1,\ell_1}$ , and  $F_{2,\ell_1}$  we move on.

As there are no proof-obligations left, we continue with the second propagation-phase

## 7. Step: Second Propagation-Phase

level \ location	0	1	2
$\ell_0$	$true$	$true$	$true$
$\ell_1$	$false \wedge x = y$	$true \wedge x = y$	$true \wedge x = y$
$\ell_2$	$false$	$true$	$true$

We see that level 1 equals level 2 on all locations, with that we found global fixpoint position  $i = 2$ , the formulas at that position are the inductive invariants proving that  $\ell_E$  is not reachable.

## 4.4 Possible Improvements

As shown above, lifting PDR from bit-level to control flow graphs is possible. The problem of large, time consuming queries to the solver remain however. Is it possible to lift the improvements of the bit-level algorithm too?

*Ternary Simulation* cannot be used on first-order formulas making it impossible to use it to reduce lifted proof-obligations.

Different generalization techniques are possible:

- *Syntactical Analysis*  
Given a cube  $c$  remove  $a \subseteq c$ , if no variable of  $a$  is assigned in  $T$  and

1.  $a$  is already contained in a frame, or
2. there exists an **assume**  $a$  in  $T$

- *Weakest Precondition*

The definition of the lifted algorithm above already contains an improvement, using weakest preconditions to find predecessors. Instead of generating multiple proof-obligations for each individual predecessor state, the weakest precondition covers all of them in a single one.

- *Using the Disjunctive Normal Form*

After transforming the weakest precondition into its disjunctive normal form, each cube can be considered as a separate smaller proof-obligation, saving time on larger formulas.

- *Using Interpolation*

**TODO** We are using interpolation on frames and pos not on traces.

## 5 Implementation in Ultimate

### 5.1 Ultimate

Ultimate program analysis framework, based on *plugins* that can be executed one after another to form *toolchains* which can perform various tasks. A big advantage of this modularity is that it is relatively easy to implement new toolchains as a lot of plugins can be reused creating much less overhead. There are five types of plugins:

- Source plugins define a file-to-model transformation
- Analyzer plugins take a model as input and modifies it
- Generator plugins have a similar functionality as Analyzer plugins but they can additionally produce new models
- Output plugins do not produce or modify anything, they write models into files
- The last plugin cannot be used in toolchains per say, they act more like a library providing additional functionality to other plugins

### 5.2 Implementation

To implement PDR in Ultimate we chose to implement a new library plugin *Library-PDR*, that is used in the generator plugin *traceabstraction*.

## **6 Evaluation**

## **7 Future Work**

### **7.1 Implementation of Further Improvements**

#### **7.1.1 Generalization**

#### **7.1.2 Procedures**

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