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# Model Checking

Linear Temporal Logic, Part 2

[Baier & Katoen, Chapter 5.1]

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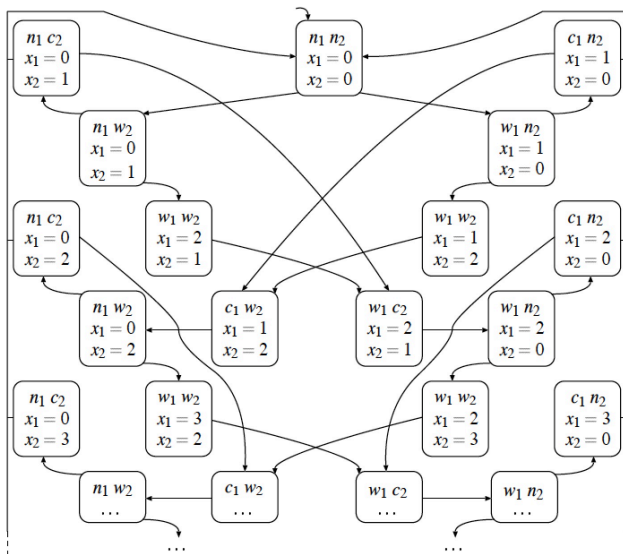
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Radboud University, 2025

Credit to the slides: Prof. Dr. Dr.h.c. Joost-Pieter Katoen

**What is a model?**

# What is a model?



**Do transition systems have  
any practical use?**

**How do we specify  
properties?**

# Summary

- Transition systems are a general formal model to capture real life (programing) problems
- Mind the state space explosion!
- LT properties are finite sets of infinite words over  $2^{AP}$  (= traces)
- An invariant requires a condition  $\Phi$  to hold in any reachable state
- Each trace refuting a safety property has a finite prefix causing this
  - invariants are safety properties with bad prefix  $\Phi^*(\neg\Phi)$ $\Rightarrow$  safety properties constrain **finite** behaviours

# Is There a Proper Logic to Define Properties?

**Who would tell an  
engineer to write regular  
expressions for bad  
prefixes?**



# LTL Syntax

## Recap: LTL syntax

BNF grammar for LTL formulas with proposition  $a \in AP$ :

$$\varphi ::= \text{true} \mid a \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \neg \varphi \mid \underbrace{\text{O}\varphi \mid \varphi_1 \text{U} \varphi_2}_{\text{temporal}}$$

$l_1 l_1 l_1 \underline{l_2}$

$l_2$

# LTL Syntax

## Recap: LTL syntax

BNF grammar for LTL formulas with proposition  $a \in AP$ :

$$\varphi ::= \text{true} \mid a \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \neg \varphi \mid \bigcirc \varphi \mid \varphi_1 \mathbf{U} \varphi_2$$

- Propositional logic

- $a \in AP$

atomic proposition

- $\neg \varphi$  and  $\varphi \wedge \psi$

negation and conjunction

- Temporal modalities

- $\bigcirc \varphi$

neXt state fulfills  $\varphi$

- $\varphi \mathbf{U} \psi$

$\varphi$  holds Until a  $\psi$ -state is reached

Linear Temporal Logic (LTL) is a logic to describe LT properties

## Recap: Derived Operators

$$\varphi \vee \psi \equiv \neg(\neg\varphi \wedge \neg\psi)$$

$$\varphi \Rightarrow \psi \equiv \neg\varphi \vee \psi$$

$$\varphi \Leftrightarrow \psi \equiv (\varphi \Rightarrow \psi) \wedge (\psi \Rightarrow \varphi)$$

$$\varphi \oplus \psi \equiv (\varphi \wedge \neg\psi) \vee (\neg\varphi \wedge \psi)$$

$$\text{true} \equiv \varphi \vee \neg\varphi$$

$$\text{false} \equiv \neg\text{true}$$

## Recap: Derived Operators

$$\varphi \vee \psi \equiv$$

$$\varphi \Rightarrow \psi \equiv$$

$$\varphi \Leftrightarrow \psi \equiv$$

$$\varphi \oplus \psi \equiv$$

$$\text{true} \equiv$$

$$\text{false} \equiv$$

$$\diamond \varphi \equiv$$

“some time in the future”

*“eventually”  
“finally”*

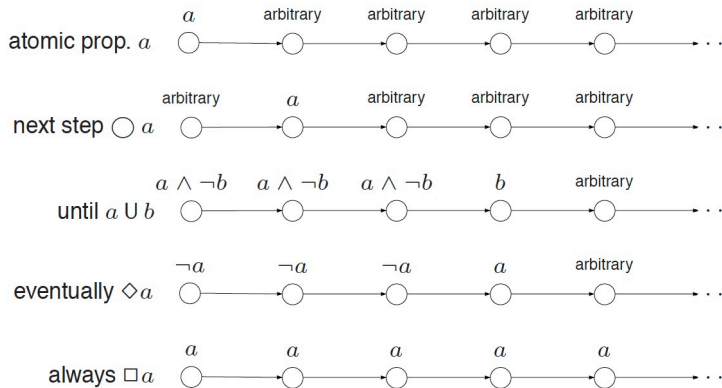
$$\square \varphi \equiv$$

“from now on forever”

precedence order: the unary operators bind stronger than the binary ones.

$\neg$  and  $\bigcirc$  bind equally strong.  $\bigcup$  takes precedence over  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ , and  $\Rightarrow$

# Recap: Intuitive Semantics



## Example: Traffic Light Properties

- The traffic light becomes green eventually:

◇ *green*

## Example: Traffic Light Properties

- The traffic light becomes green eventually:
- Once *red*, the light cannot become *green* immediately:

$\Diamond$  *green*

$$\Box (\textit{red} \Rightarrow \neg \bigcirc \textit{green})$$

## Example: Traffic Light Properties

- The traffic light becomes green eventually:  $\Diamond green$
- Once red, the light cannot become green immediately:

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- Once red, the light becomes green eventually:  $\Box (red \Rightarrow \Diamond green)$



## Example: Traffic Light Properties

$a \quad O a \vee b$

- The traffic light becomes green eventually:  $\Diamond green$
- Once red, the light cannot become green immediately:

$$\Box (red \Rightarrow \neg \bigcirc green)$$

- Once red, the light becomes green eventually:  $\Box (red \Rightarrow \Diamond green)$
- Once red, the light always becomes green eventually after being yellow for some time inbetween:

$$\Box (red \Rightarrow \bigcirc (red \vee (yellow \wedge \bigcirc (yellow \vee green))))$$

- 1 LTL Equivalence
- 2 LTL Model Checking
- 3 Summary

**Definition: LTL equivalence**

LTL formulas  $\varphi, \psi$  (both over  $AP$ ) are **equivalent**:

$$\varphi \equiv_{LTL} \psi \quad \text{if and only if} \quad Words(\varphi) = Words(\psi).$$

If it is clear from the context that we deal with LTL-formulas, we simply write  $\varphi \equiv \psi$ .

Equivalently:

$$\varphi \equiv_{LTL} \psi \text{ iff } \left( \text{for all transition systems } TS : TS \models \varphi \text{ iff } TS \models \psi \right).$$

# Duality and Idempotence

Duality:

$$\neg \Box \varphi \equiv \Diamond \neg \varphi$$

$$\neg \Diamond \varphi \equiv \Box \neg \varphi$$

$$\neg \bigcirc \varphi \equiv \bigcirc \neg \varphi$$

# Duality and Idempotence

Duality:

$$\neg \Box \varphi \equiv \Diamond \neg \varphi$$

$$\neg \Diamond \varphi \equiv \Box \neg \varphi$$

$$\neg \bigcirc \varphi \equiv \bigcirc \neg \varphi$$

Idempotence:

$$\Box \Box \varphi \equiv \Box \varphi$$

$$\Diamond \Diamond \varphi \equiv \Diamond \varphi$$

$$\varphi \cup (\varphi \cup \psi) \equiv \varphi \cup \psi$$

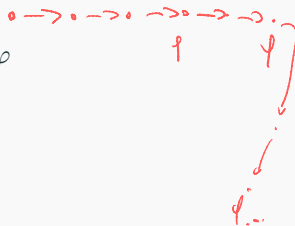
$$(\varphi \cup \psi) \cup \psi \equiv \varphi \cup \psi$$

# Absorption and Distributive

Absorption:

$$\diamond \square \diamond \varphi \equiv \square \diamond \varphi$$

$$\square \diamond \square \varphi \equiv \diamond \square \varphi$$



# Absorption and Distributive

**Absorption:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Diamond \Box \Diamond \varphi &\equiv \Box \Diamond \varphi \\ \Box \Diamond \Box \varphi &\equiv \Diamond \Box \varphi\end{aligned}$$

**Distributive:**

$$\begin{aligned}\bigcirc(\varphi \cup \psi) &\equiv (\bigcirc \varphi) \cup (\bigcirc \psi) \\ \Diamond(\varphi \vee \psi) &\equiv \Diamond \varphi \vee \Diamond \psi \\ \Box(\varphi \wedge \psi) &\equiv \Box \varphi \wedge \Box \psi\end{aligned}$$

# Absorption and Distributive

Absorption:

$$\Diamond \Box \Diamond \varphi \equiv \Box \Diamond \varphi$$

$$\Box \Diamond \Box \varphi \equiv \Diamond \Box \varphi$$

Distributive:

$$\bigcirc (\varphi \cup \psi) \equiv (\bigcirc \varphi) \cup (\bigcirc \psi)$$

$$\Diamond (\varphi \vee \psi) \equiv \Diamond \varphi \vee \Diamond \psi$$

$$\Box (\varphi \wedge \psi) \equiv \Box \varphi \wedge \Box \psi$$

$$\Box (\varphi \vee \psi)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \varphi & \varphi & \psi & \varphi & \psi & \psi & \end{array}$$

$$(\Box \varphi) \vee (\Box \psi)$$

but .....

$$\Box (\varphi \cup \psi) \neq (\Box \varphi) \cup (\Box \psi)$$

$$\Diamond (\varphi \wedge \psi) \neq \Diamond \varphi \wedge \Diamond \psi$$

$$\Box (\varphi \vee \psi) \neq \Box \varphi \vee \Box \psi$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow & \rightarrow \\ \varphi & \varphi & \varphi & \psi & \psi & \psi & \psi \\ \hline \Box \varphi & & & \Box \psi & & & \end{array}$$



# Weak Until

## Definition: the weak-until-operator

The **weak-until** (or: unless) operator is defined by

$$\varphi W \psi = (\varphi U \psi) \vee \Box \varphi.$$

In contrast to until, weak until does not require to establish  $\psi$  eventually

$\neg, \neg, \neg, \dots$   
 $\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$

# Weak Until

## Definition: the weak-until-operator

The **weak-until** (or: unless) operator is defined by

$$\varphi W \psi = (\varphi U \psi) \vee \Box \varphi.$$

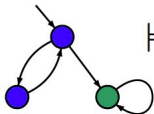
In contrast to until, weak until does not require to establish  $\psi$  eventually

Until  $U$  and weak until  $W$  are **dual**:

$$\neg(\varphi U \psi) \equiv (\varphi \wedge \neg\psi) W (\neg\varphi \wedge \neg\psi)$$

$$\neg(\varphi W \psi) \equiv (\varphi \wedge \neg\psi) U (\neg\varphi \wedge \neg\psi)$$

# Example

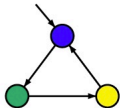


$\models aWb$

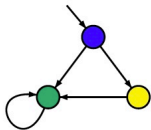
$\bullet \hat{=} \{a\}$

$\bullet \hat{=} \{b\}$

$\bullet \hat{=} \emptyset$



$\models aWb$  (even  $aUb$ )

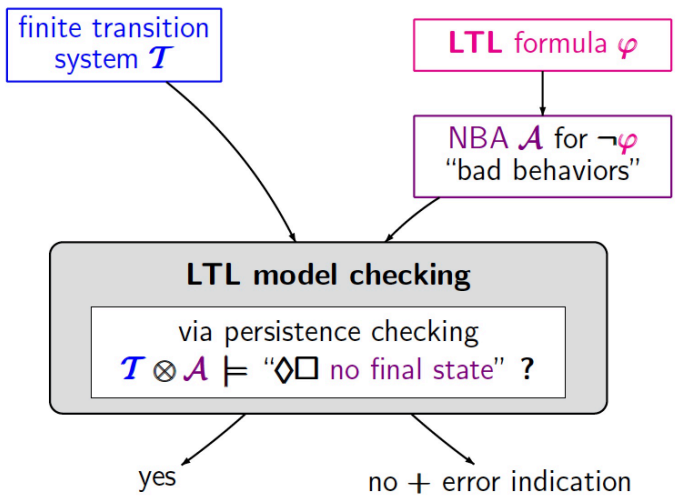


$\not\models aWb$

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**Can We Do LTL Model  
Checking?**

# Automata-Based LTL Model Checking



- 1 LTL Equivalence
- 2 LTL Model Checking
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- Linear temporal logic (LTL) is a logic to succinctly describe LT properties
- LTL-formulas are equivalent iff they describe the same LT properties