

# Non-Sequential Theory of Distributed Systems

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## Lecturers

- \*  Benedikt Bollig (responsible)
- \*  Paul Gastin

## Dates

The lectures will take place on Wednesday, 13:15–15:45, in Bat. Sophie Germain, **room 1004**.

The first lecture is on Wednesday, 12th September 2018.

## Outline of the course

<b>1st Lecture</b>	12.09.2018	motivating examples, automata models of concurrent processes with data structures
<b>2nd Lecture</b>		operational semantics; graph semantics; MSO logic
<b>3rd Lecture</b>		expressive power of MSO logic; underapproximate verification
<b>4th Lecture</b>		special tree-width, decomposition game
<b>5th Lecture</b>		decision procedures via tree automata
<b>6th Lecture</b>		propositional dynamic logic (PDL)
<b>7th Lecture</b>		translation of PDL formulas into CPDS
<b>8th Lecture</b>		asynchronous automata
<b>9th Lecture</b>		revision and exercises
<b>Exam</b>		

## Lecture Notes

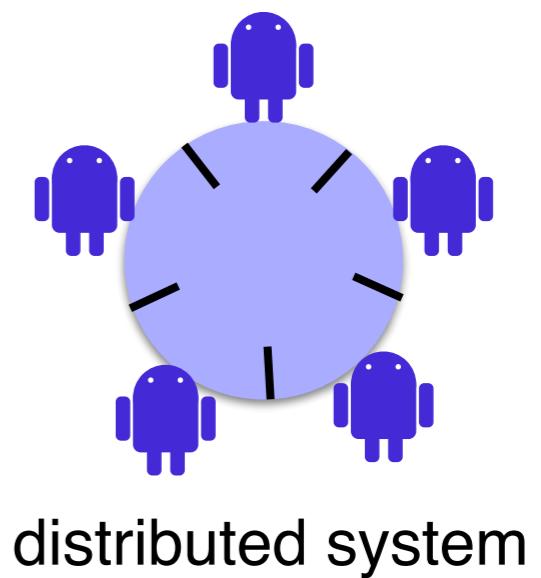
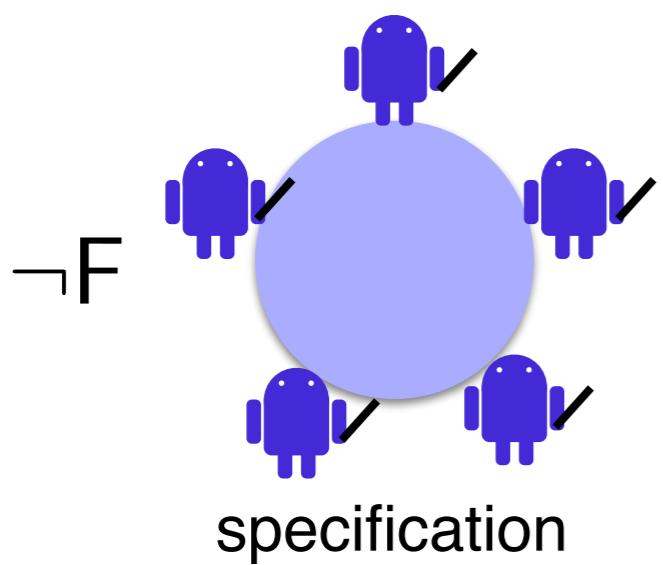
 [non-sequential.pdf](#) (version as of 31st October 2017, covering lectures 1–7)

## Prerequisites

Basic knowledge in Automata, Logics, Complexity.

While not mandatory, it is useful to know the basics of verification. See for instance the level 1 course 1–22 Basics of verification which can also be taken during M2.

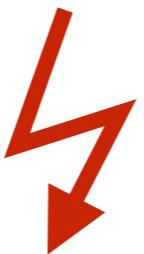
# Landscape & Objectives



# Landscape & Objectives

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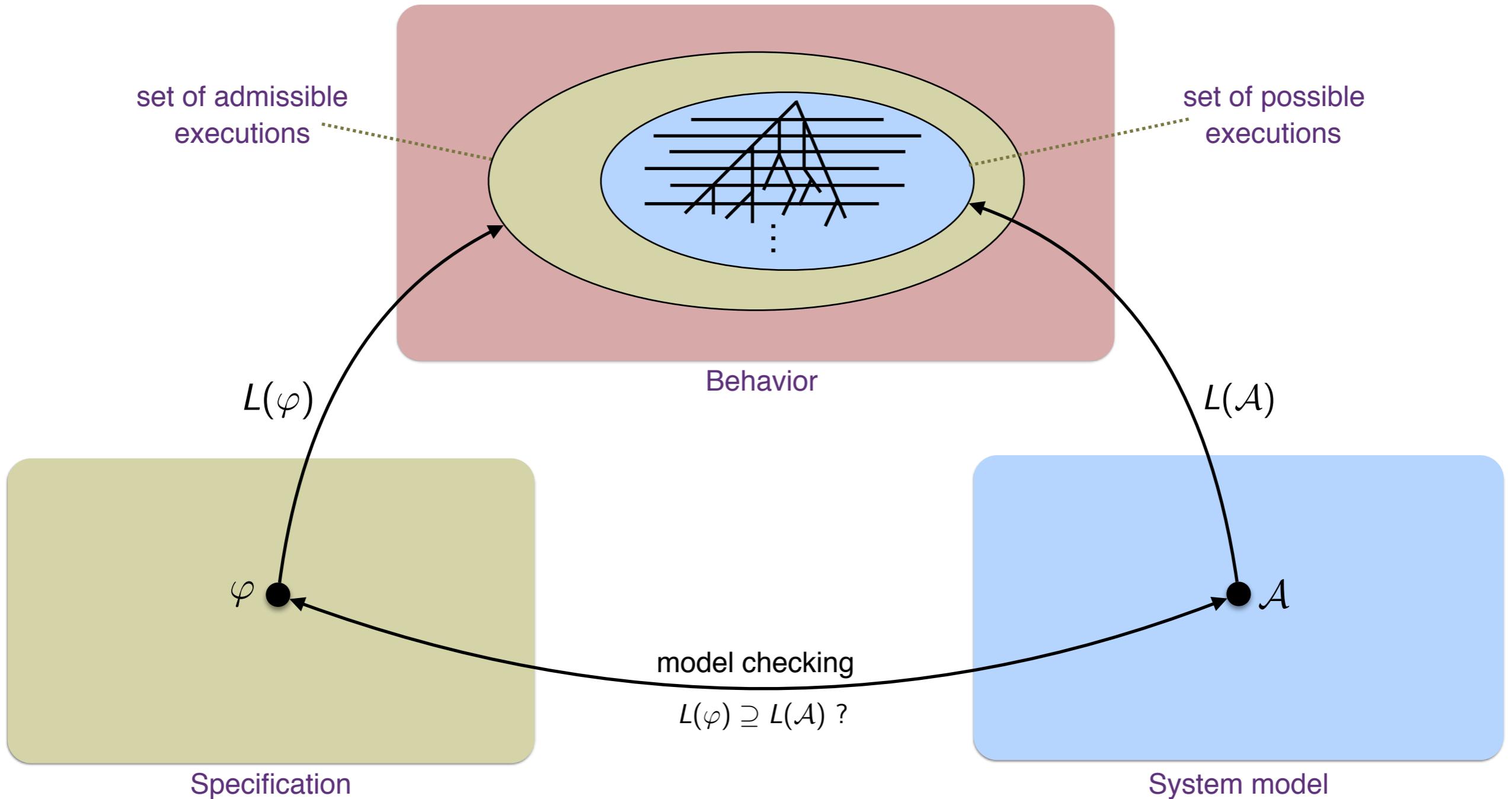
SPECIFICATION  
Specification



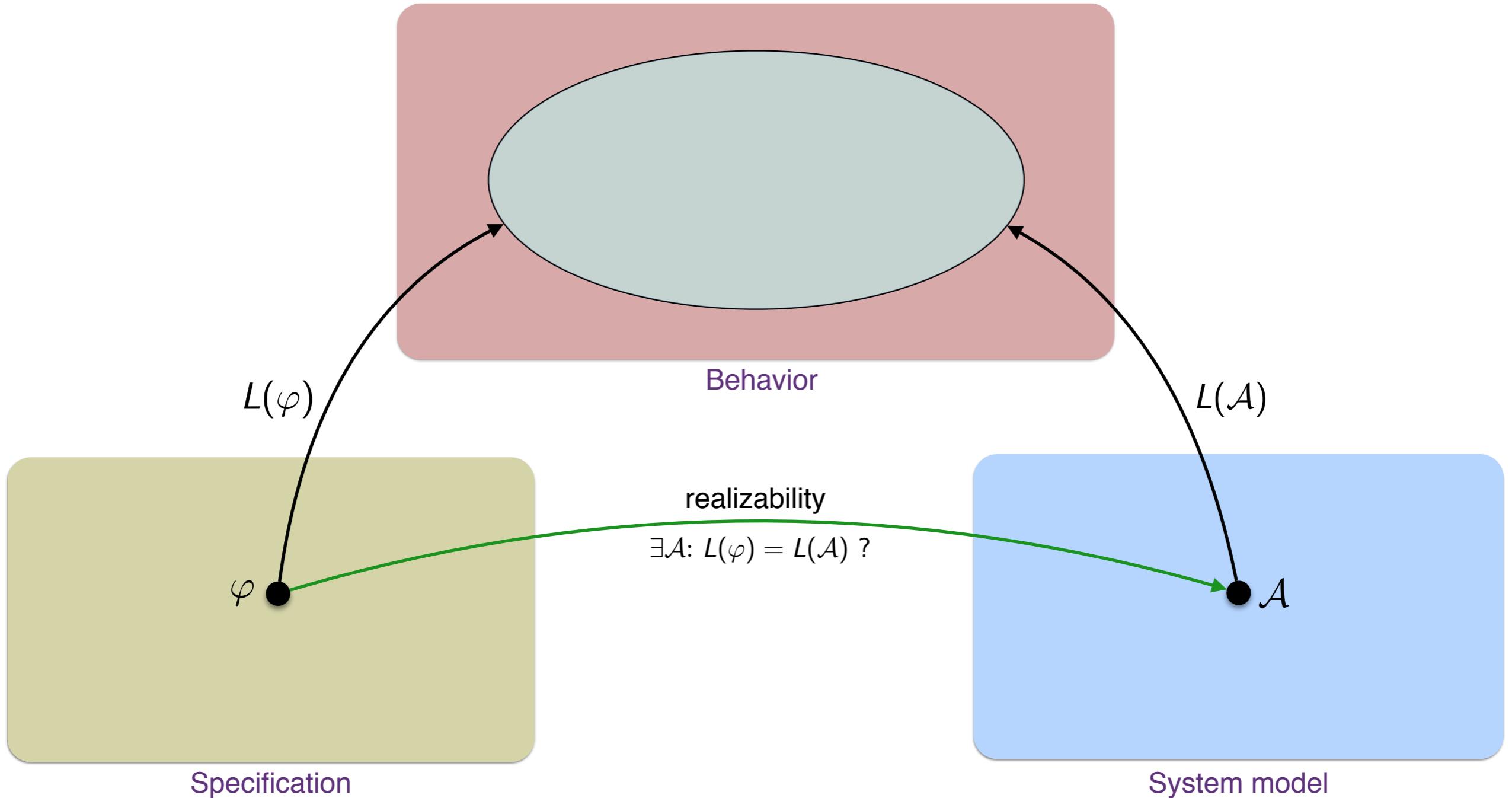
●  $\mathcal{A}$

System model

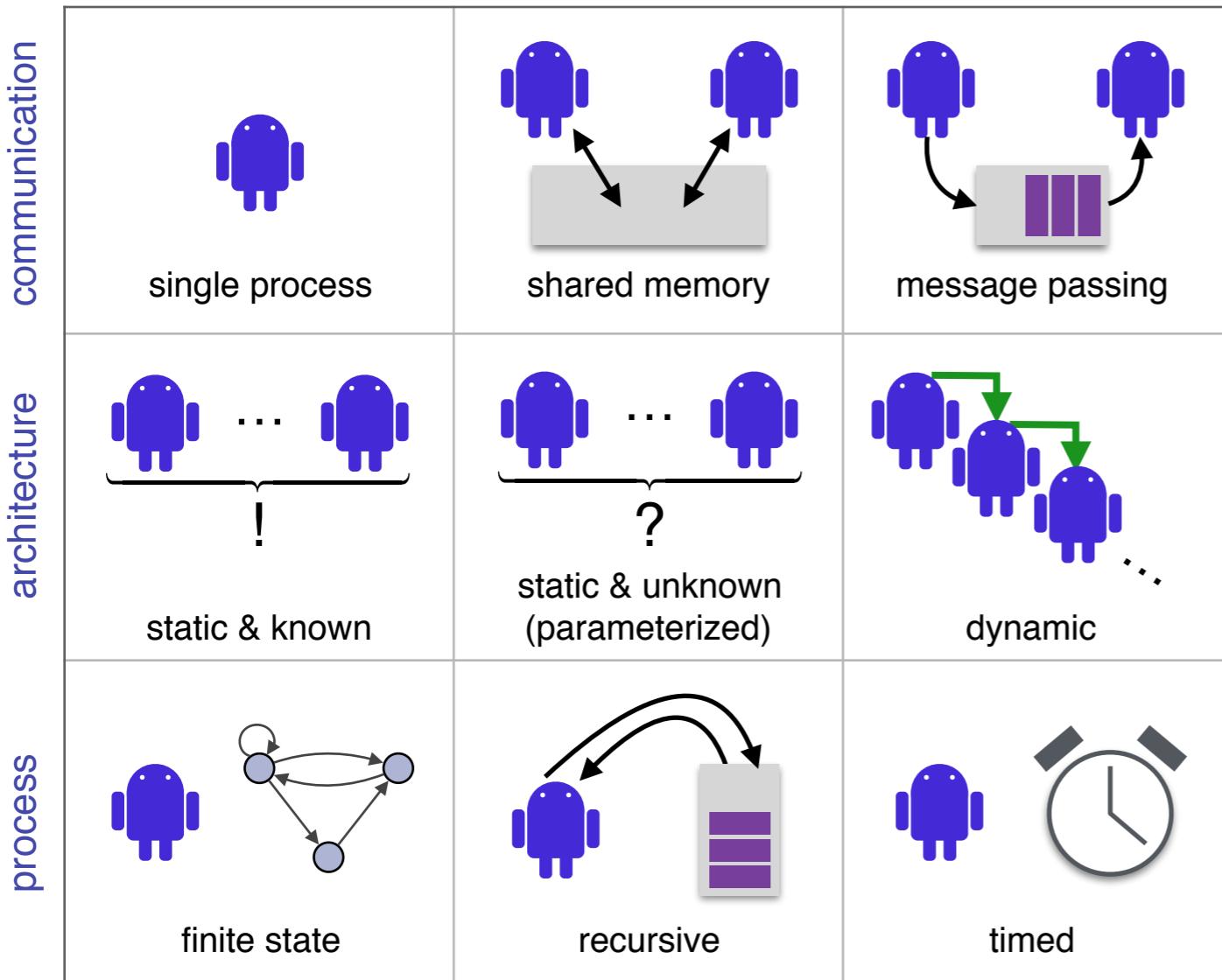
# Landscape & Objectives



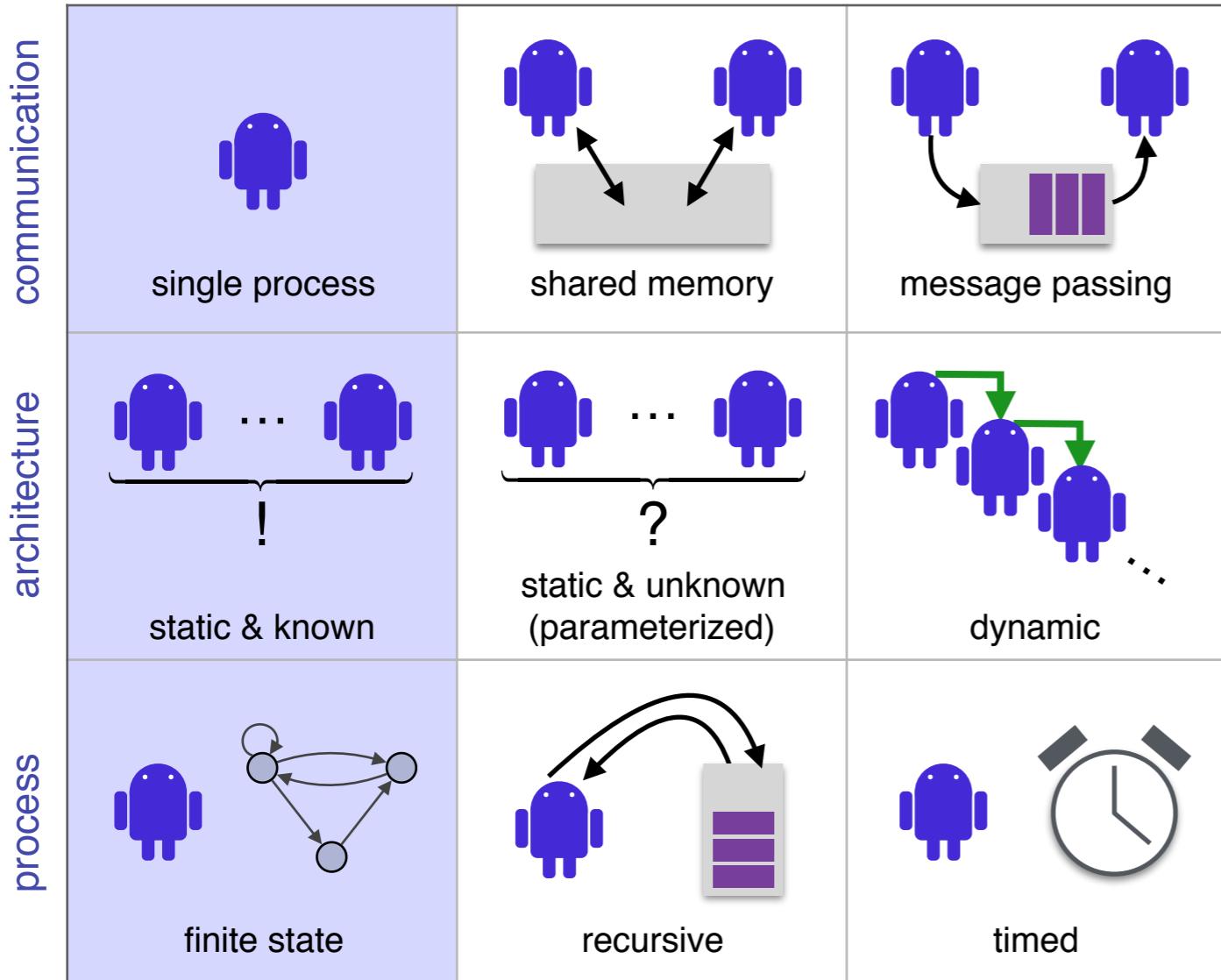
# Landscape & Objectives



# Various settings

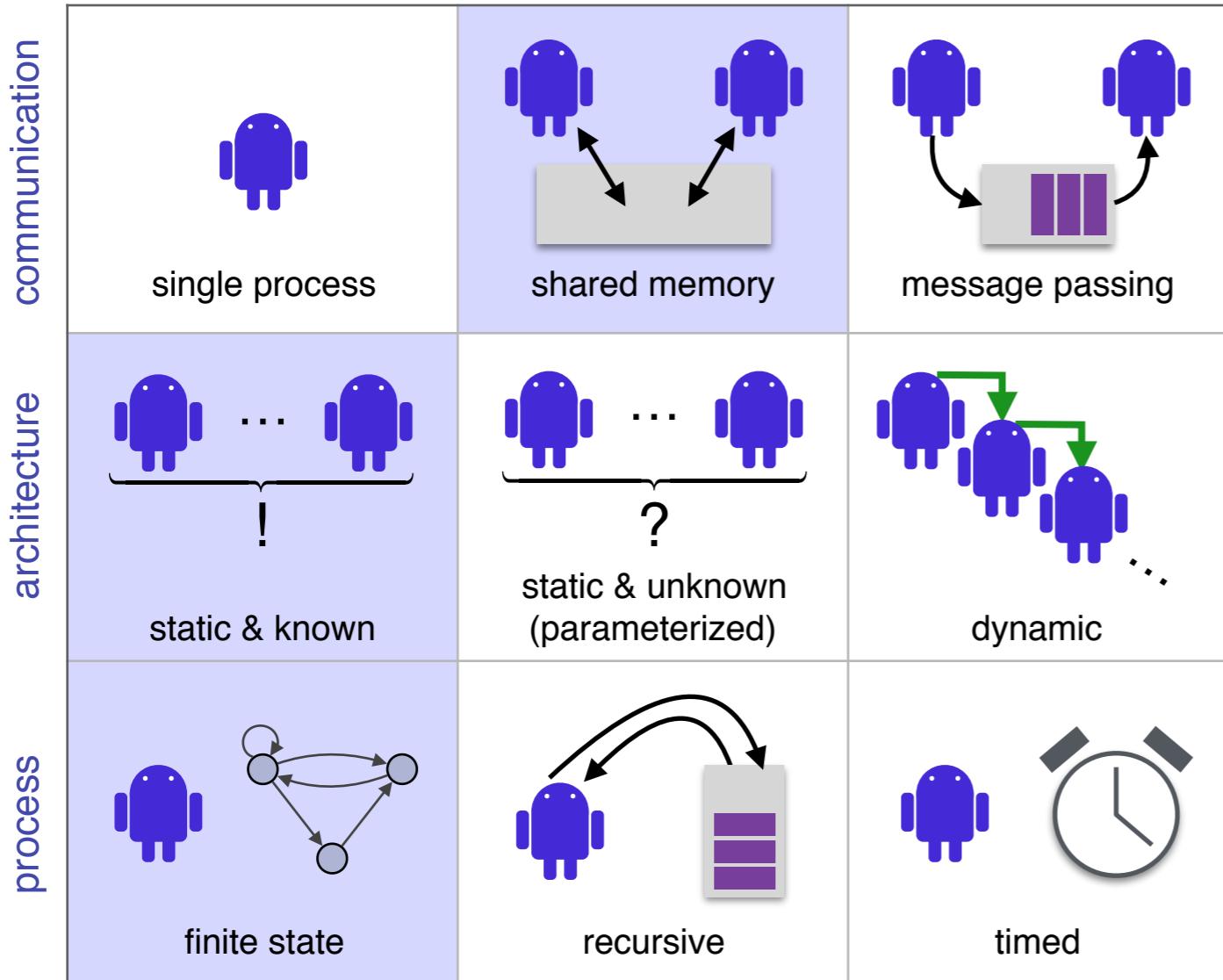


# Finite automata



- Behavior**
  - ▶ Words
- System model**
  - ▶ Finite automata
- Specification**
  - ▶ Linear-time temporal logic (LTL)
  - ▶ Monadic second-order logic (MSO)

# Asynchronous automata



## Behavior

- ▶ Mazurkiewicz traces  
[Mazurkiewicz '70s]

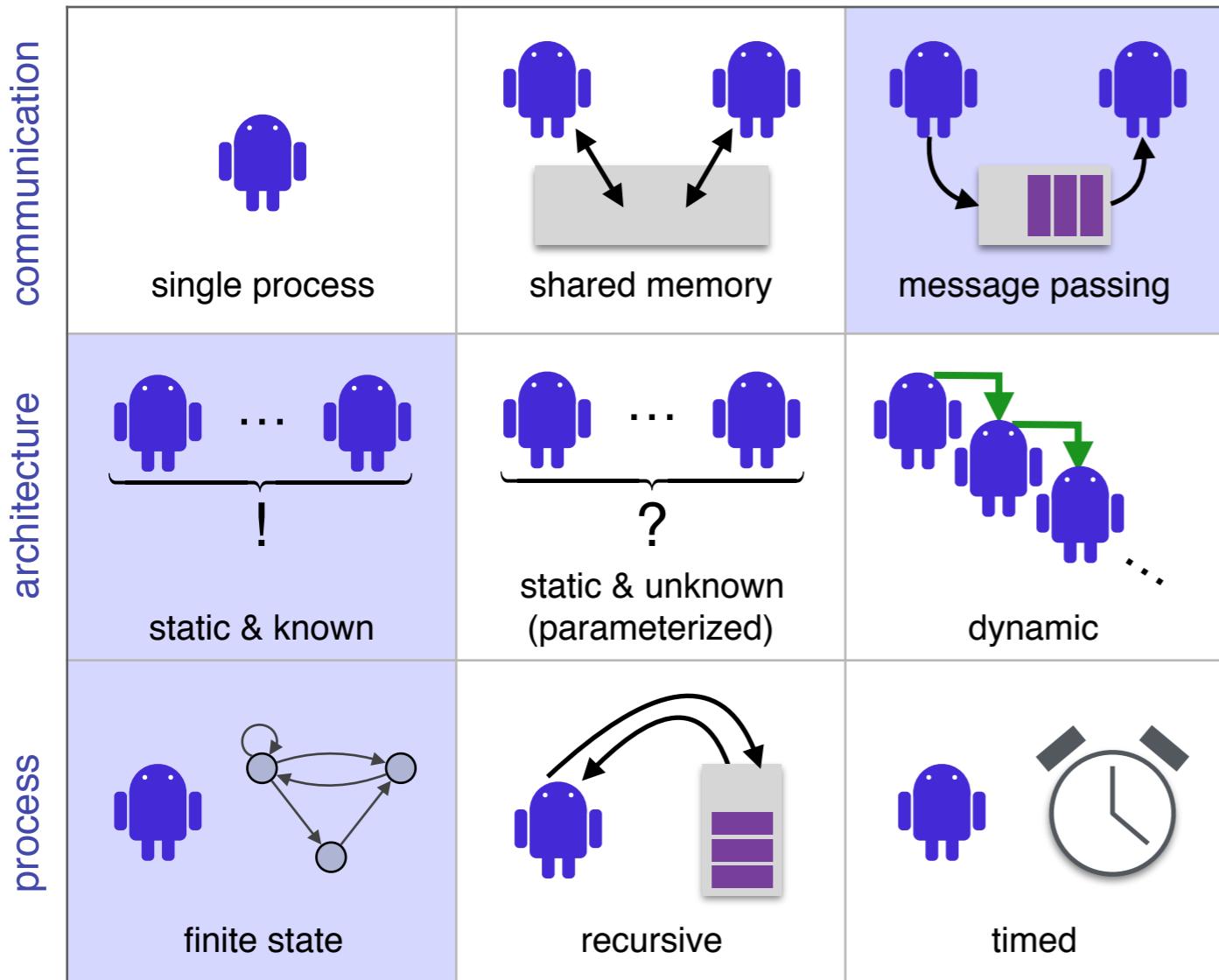
## System model

- ▶ Asynchronous automata  
[Zielonka '87]

## Specification

- ▶ Linear-time temporal logic (LTL)
- ▶ Monadic second-order logic (MSO)

# Communicating automata



## Behavior

- ▶ Message sequence charts

## System\_model

- ▶ Communicating automata  
[Brand-Zafiropulo '83]

## Specification

- ▶ Linear-time temporal logic (LTL)
- ▶ Monadic second-order logic (MSO)

# Multi-pushdown automata

communication	single process	shared memory	message passing
architecture	static & known	static & unknown (parameterized)	dynamic
process	finite state	recursive	timed

## Behavior

- ▶ (Multiply) Nested words

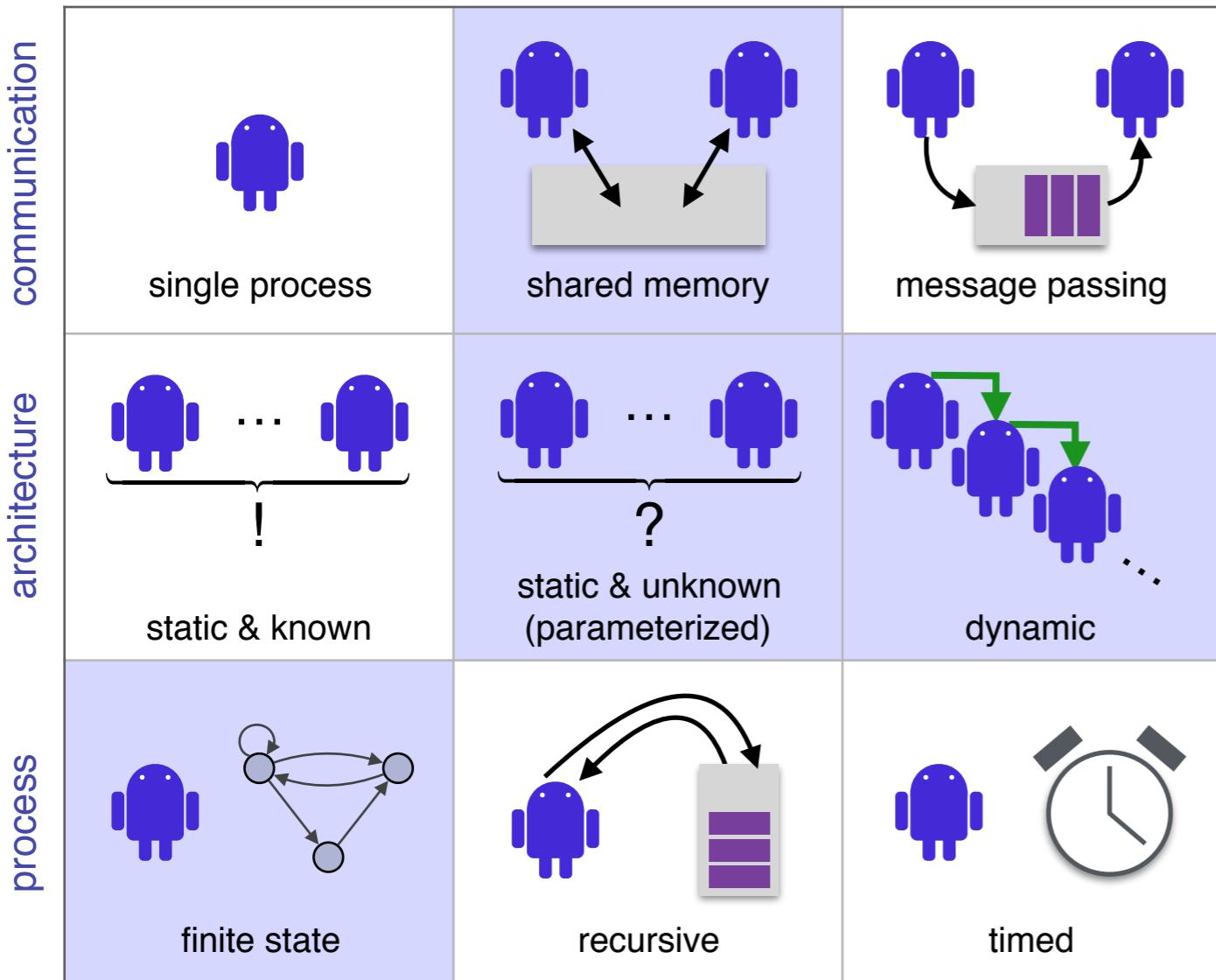
## System\_model

- ▶ Visibly multi-pushdown automata  
[Alur-Madhusudan '04]  
[La Torre-Madhusudan-Parlato '07]

## Specification

- ▶ Linear-time temporal logic (LTL)
- ▶ Monadic second-order logic (MSO)

# Data automata



## Behavior

- ▶ Data words (over infinite alphabet)

## System\_model

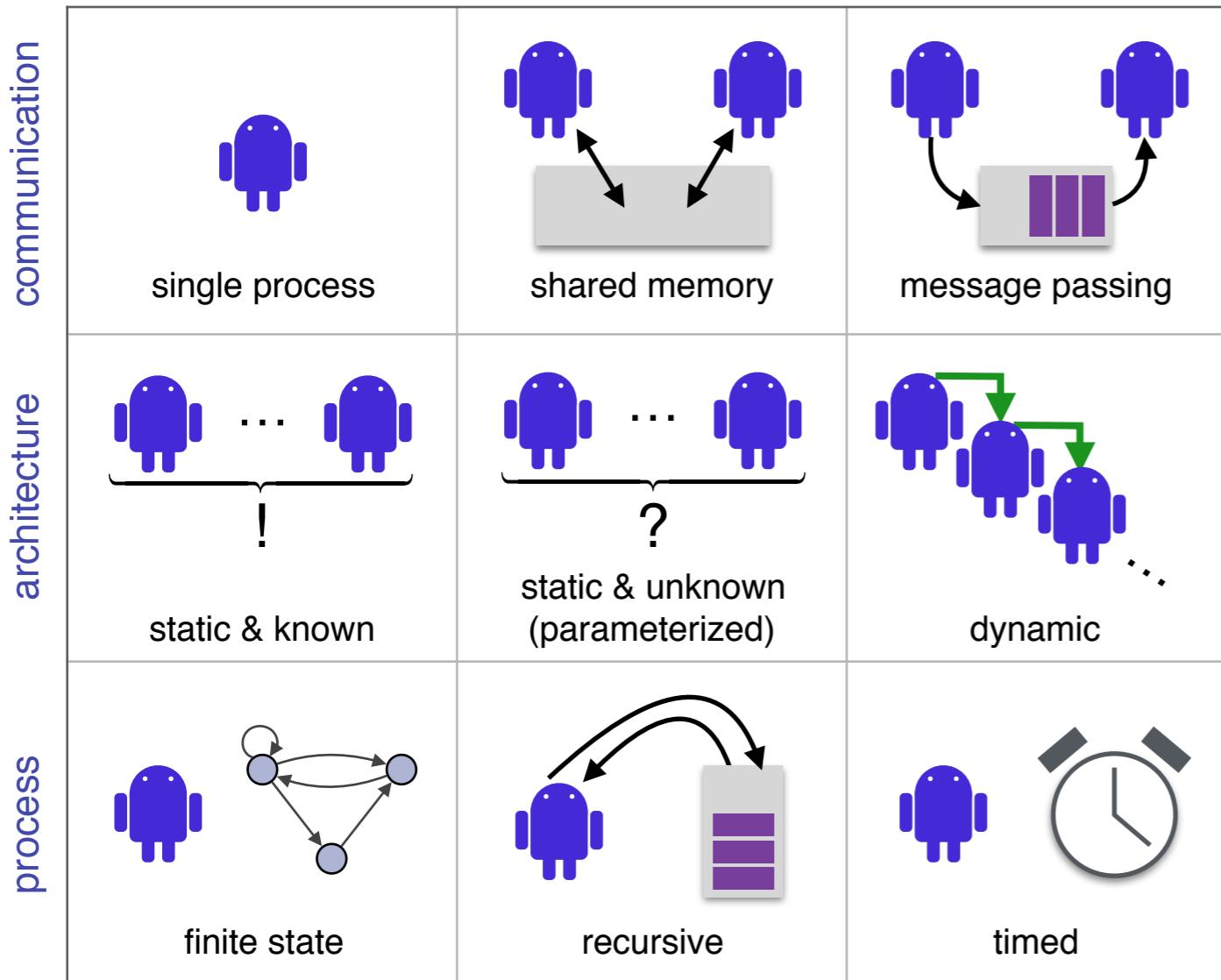
- ▶ Data/Class-memory automata
  - [Bojanczyk et al. '06]
  - [Björklund-Schwentick'07]

## Specification

- ▶ Linear-time temporal logic (LTL)
- ▶ Monadic second-order logic (MSO)

Many different models ...

# Graph automata



## Behavior

- ▶ Graphs/Partial orders

## System model

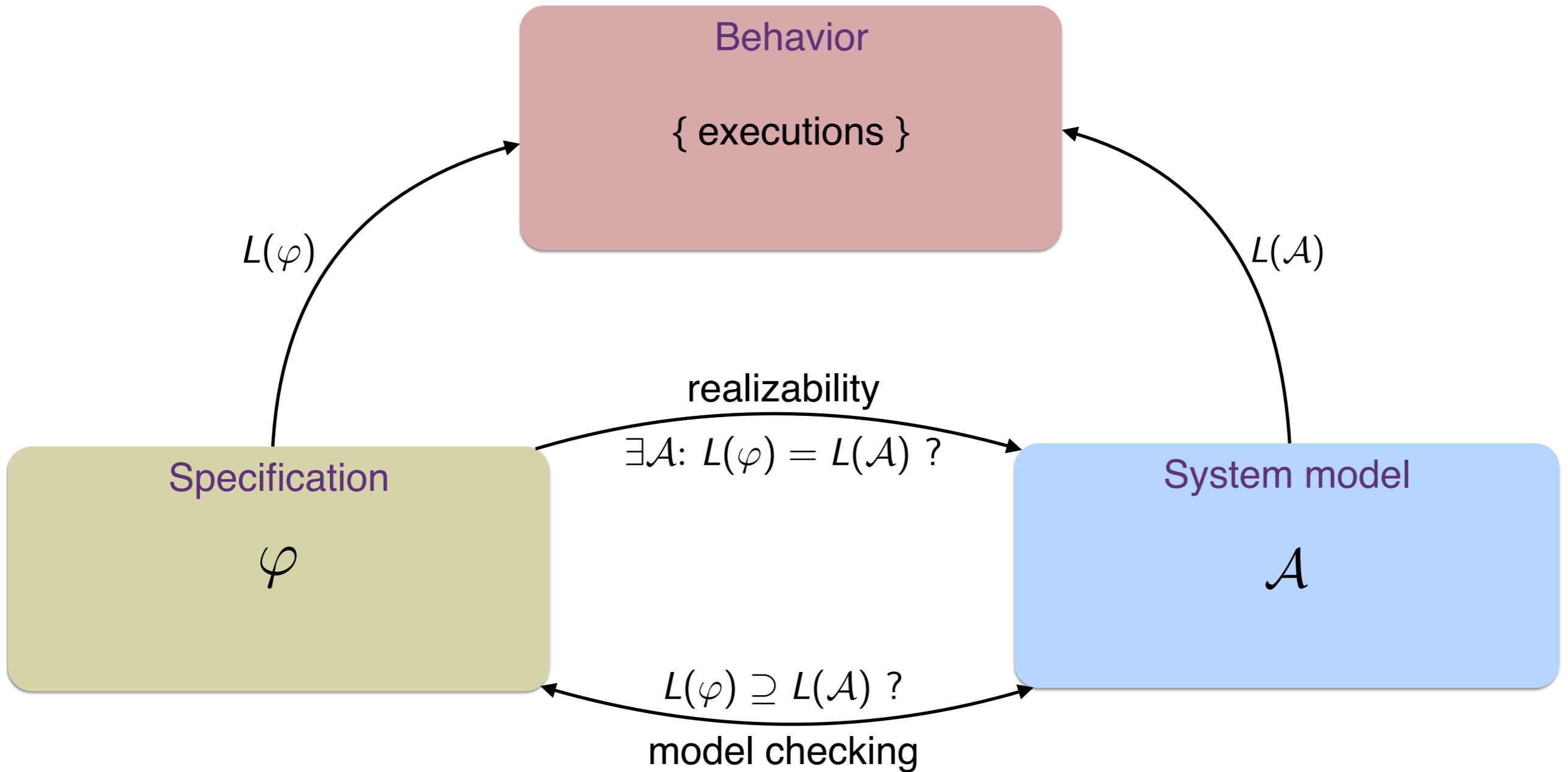
- ▶ Graph automata

## Specification

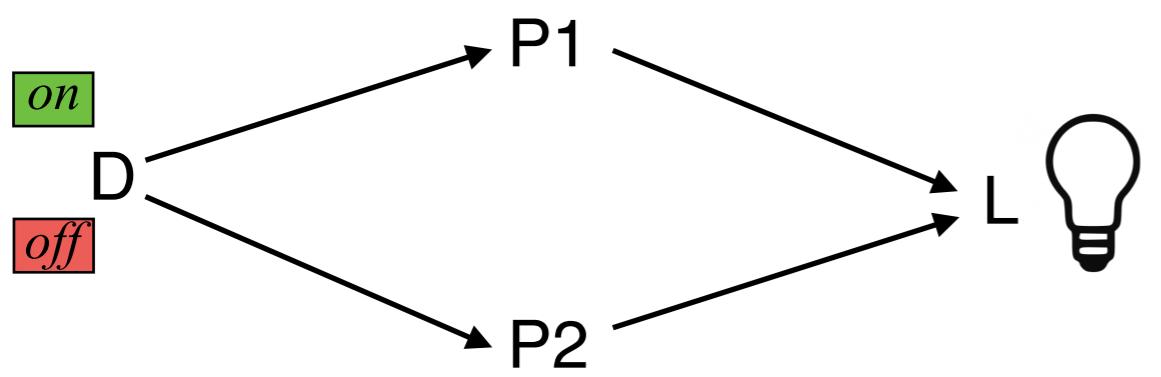
- ▶ Linear-time temporal logic (LTL)
- ▶ Monadic second-order logic (MSO)

... in a uniform framework.

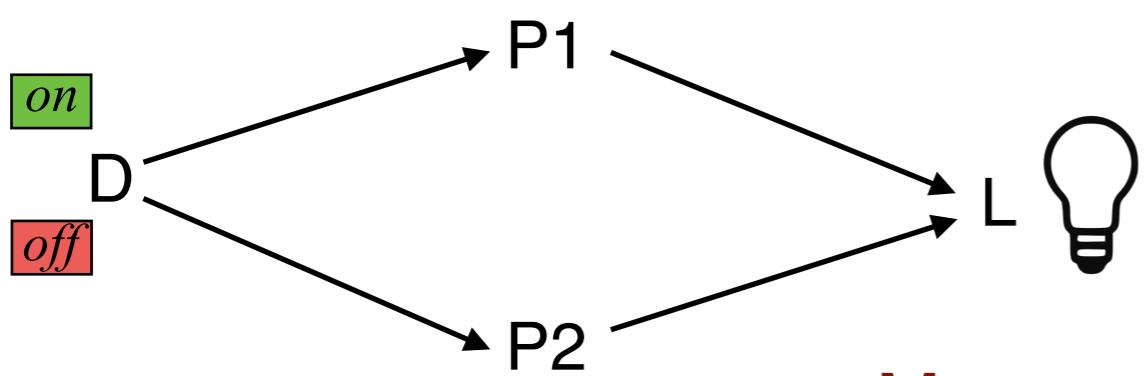
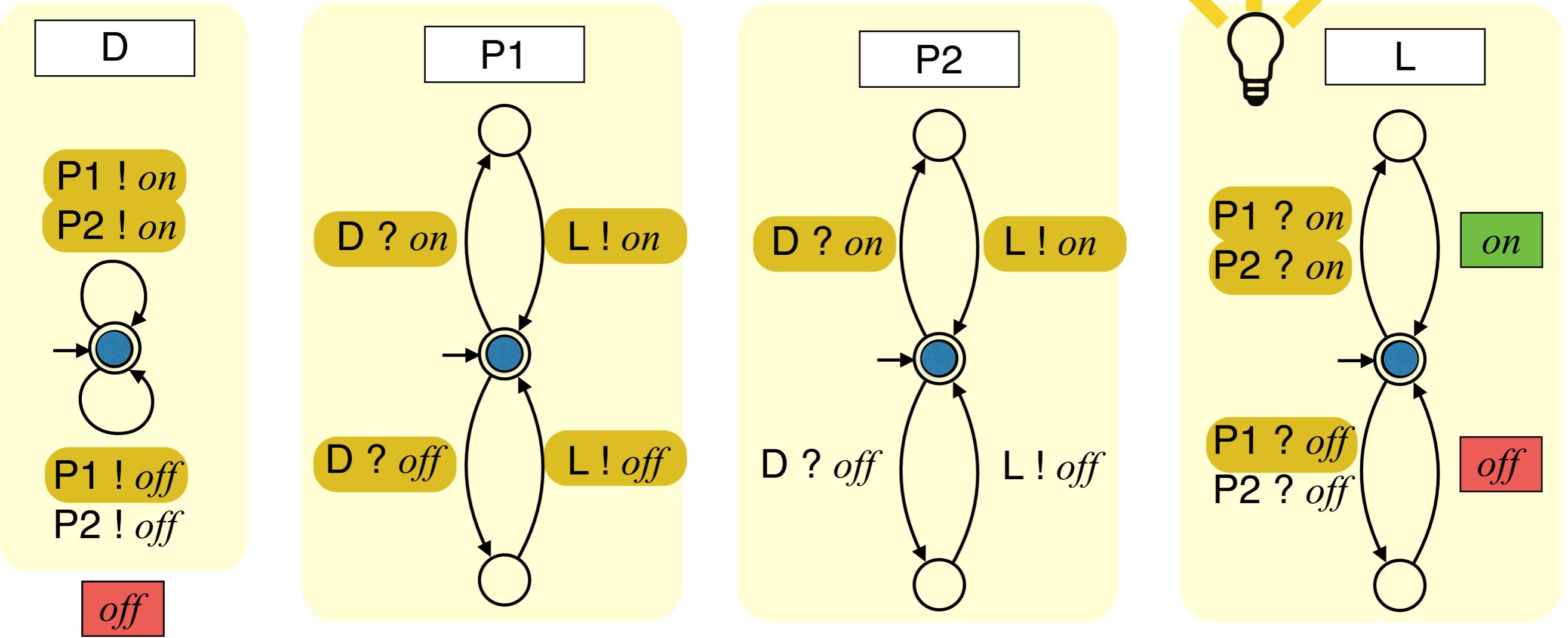
# Landscape & Objectives



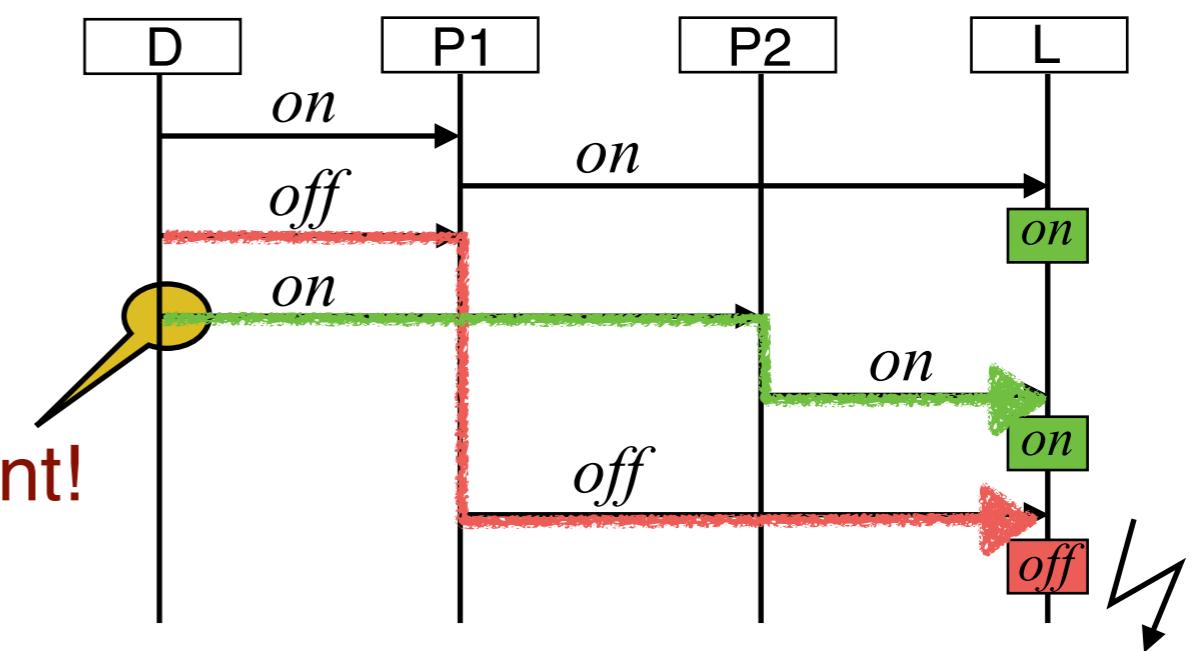
# Motivating examples



**synchronous communication**  
(rendez-vous, handshake)



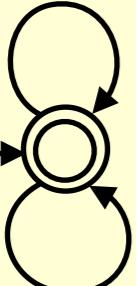
More recent!



Display is updated based on outdated information!

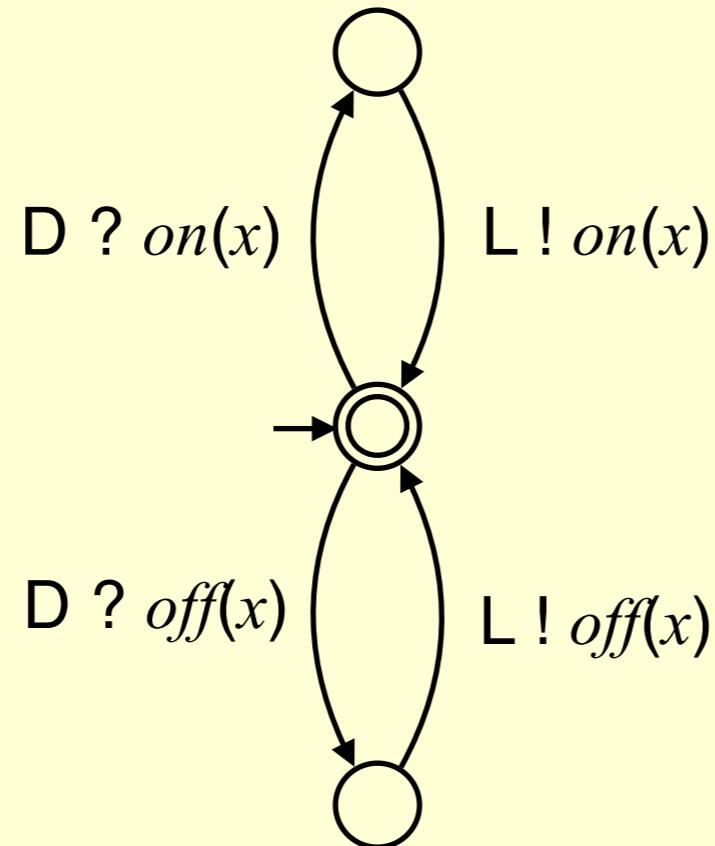
D

P1 !  $on(x:=x+1)$   
P2 !  $on(x:=x+1)$

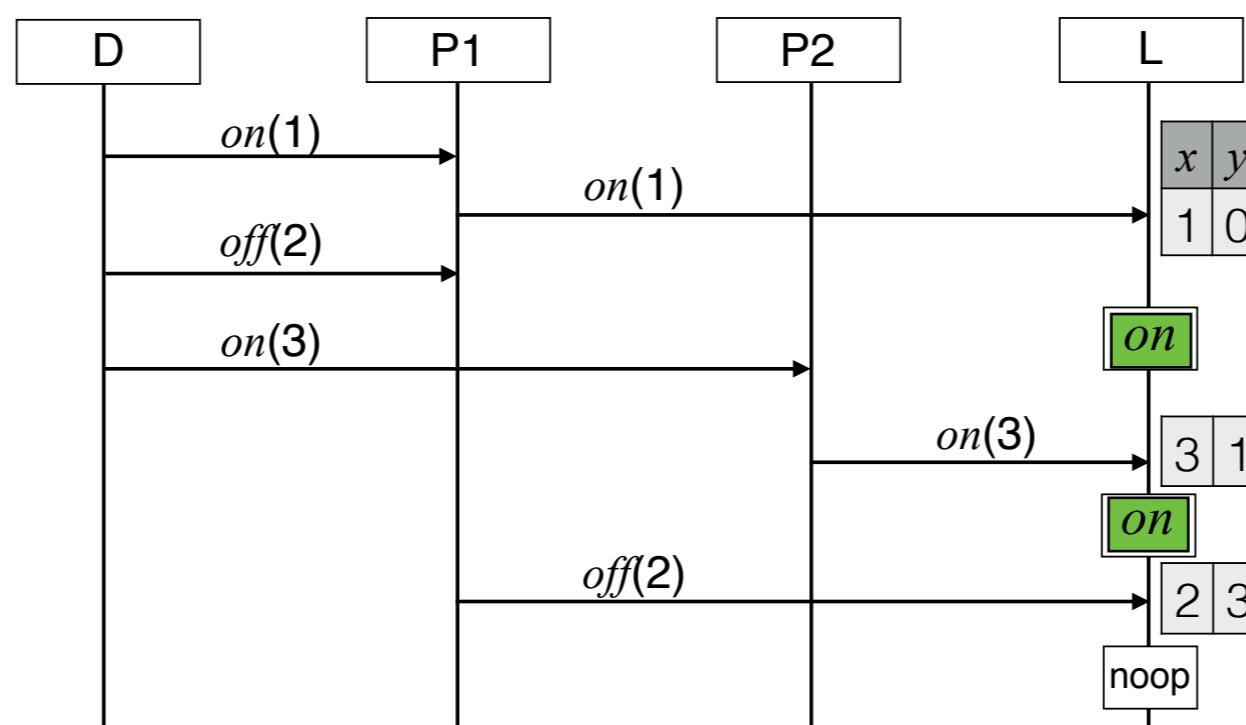
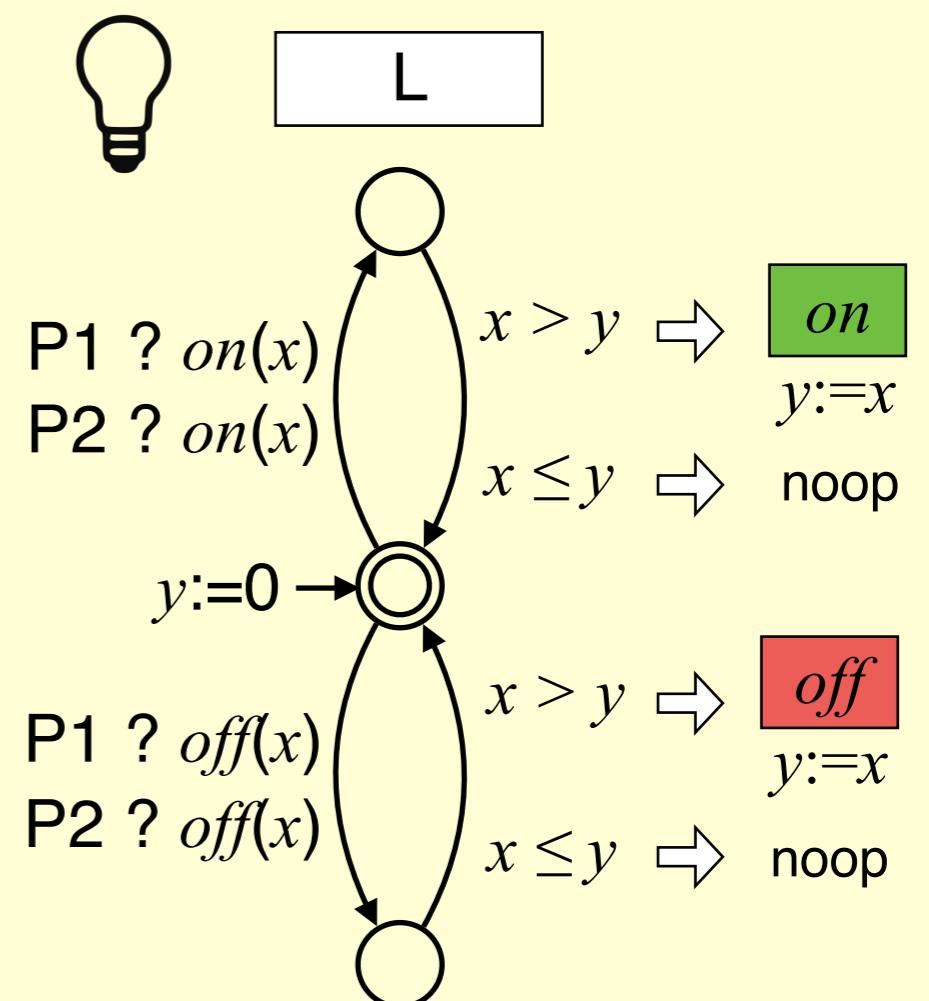
$x:=0 \rightarrow$  

P1 !  $off(x:=x+1)$   
P2 !  $off(x:=x+1)$

$P_i$



L



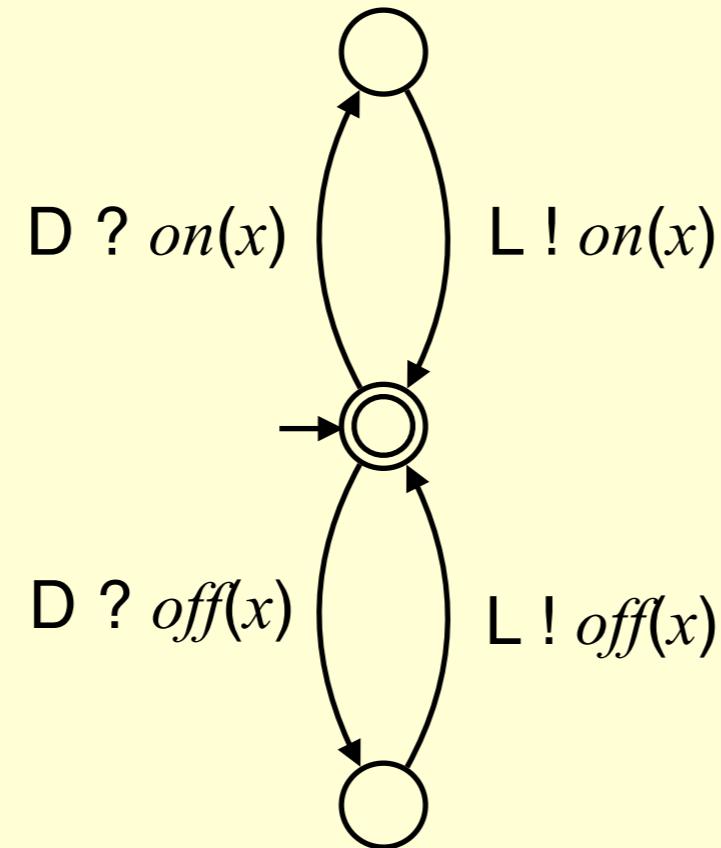
D

P1 !  $on(x:=x+1)$   
P2 !  $on(x:=x+1)$

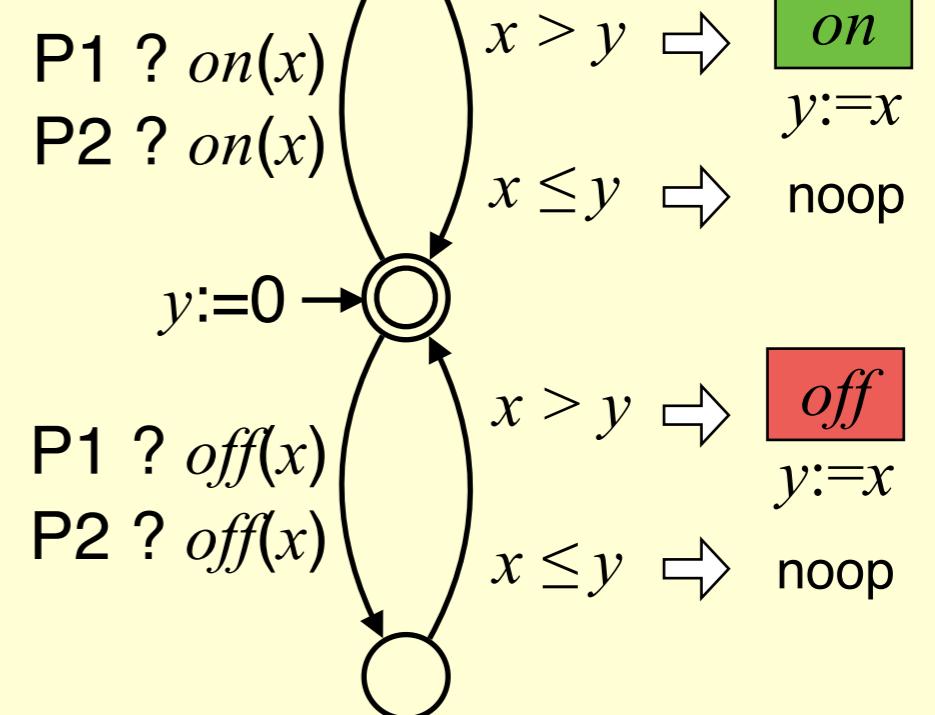
$x:=0 \rightarrow$

P1 !  $off(x:=x+1)$   
P2 !  $off(x:=x+1)$

$P_i$



L



Protocol is correct.

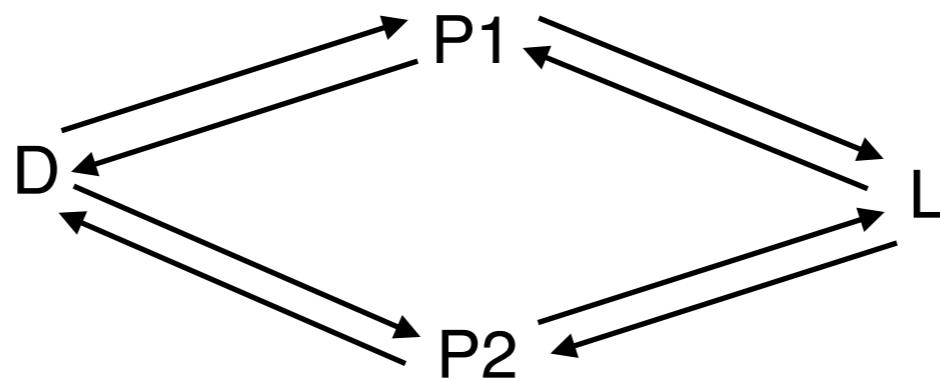
But unbounded counters are needed.

How about finite-state solution (i.e., with a bounded number of messages)?

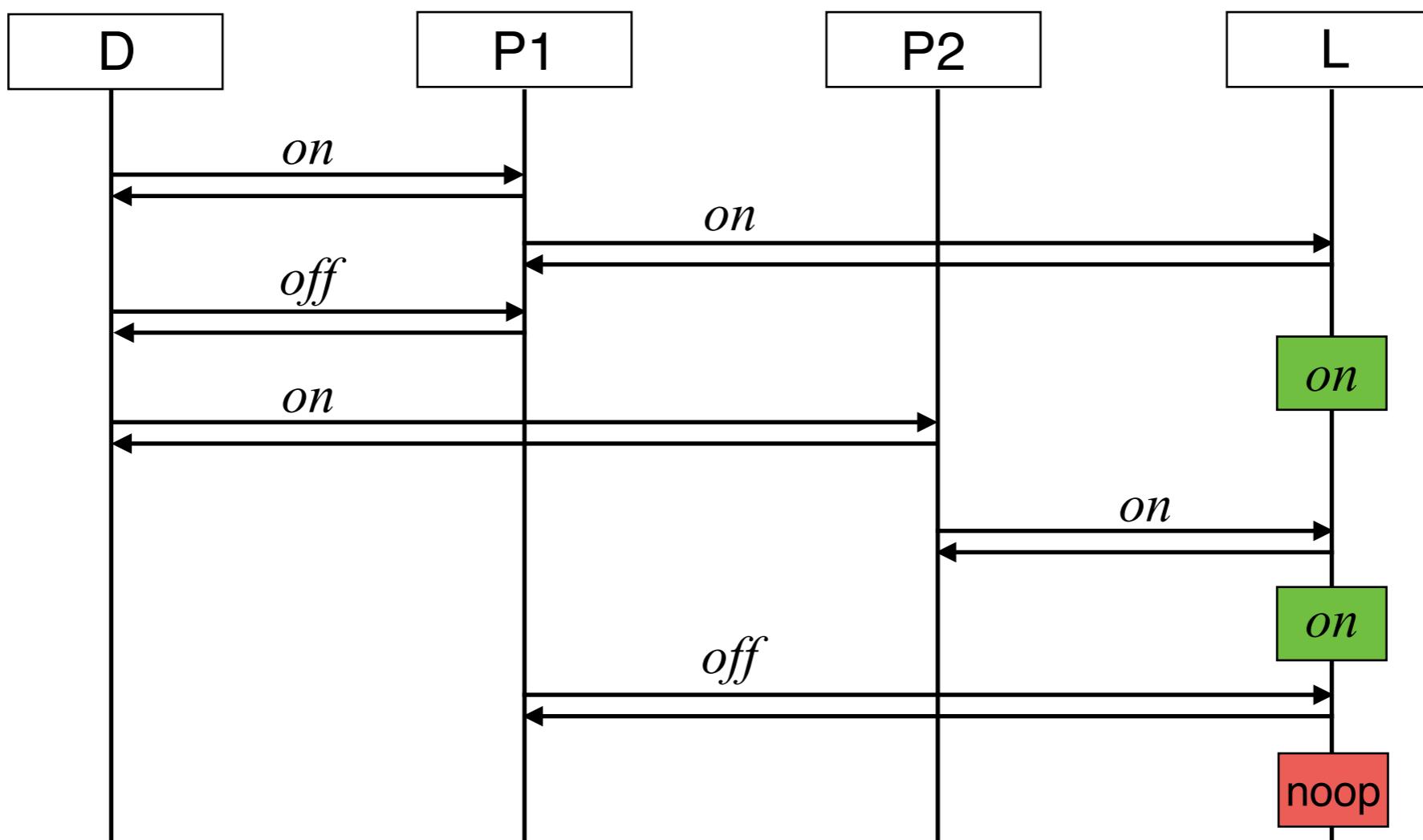
Difficult to design.

Impossible in our example (no « feedback »).

## A solution exists for:



... but it is still very difficult to obtain. (When can a time stamp be reused?)

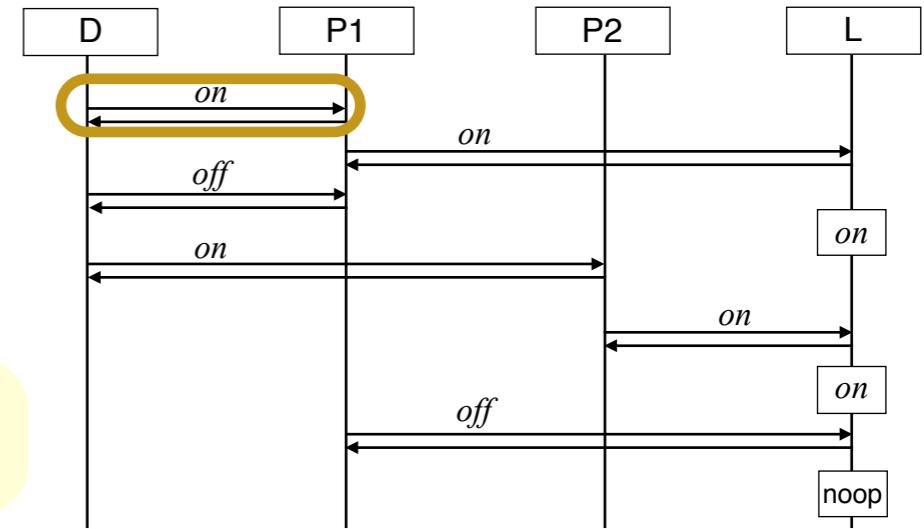


Is there an automatic way of synthesizing a distributed program from a specification?

$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{ \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle \} \\ \cup & \{ \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle \} \\ \cup & \{ on, off, noop \}\end{aligned}$$

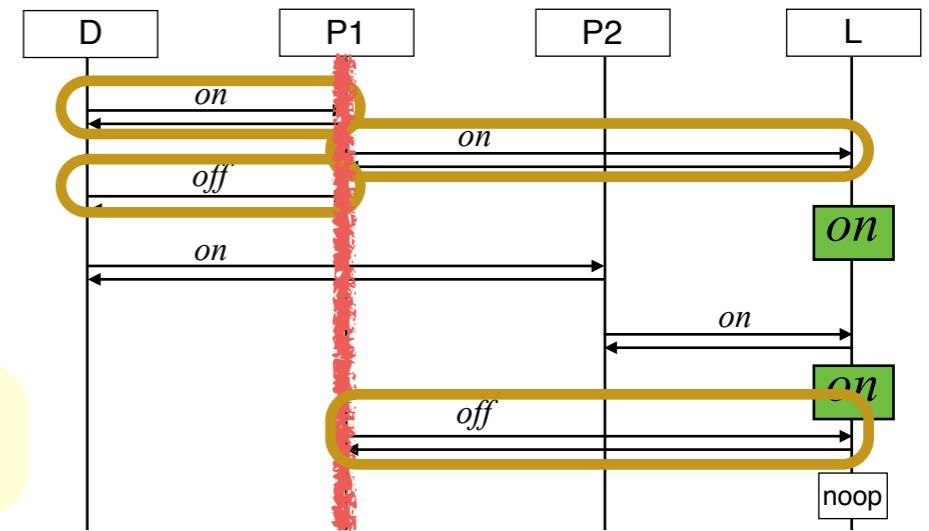
$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{on, off, noop\}\end{aligned}$$

$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



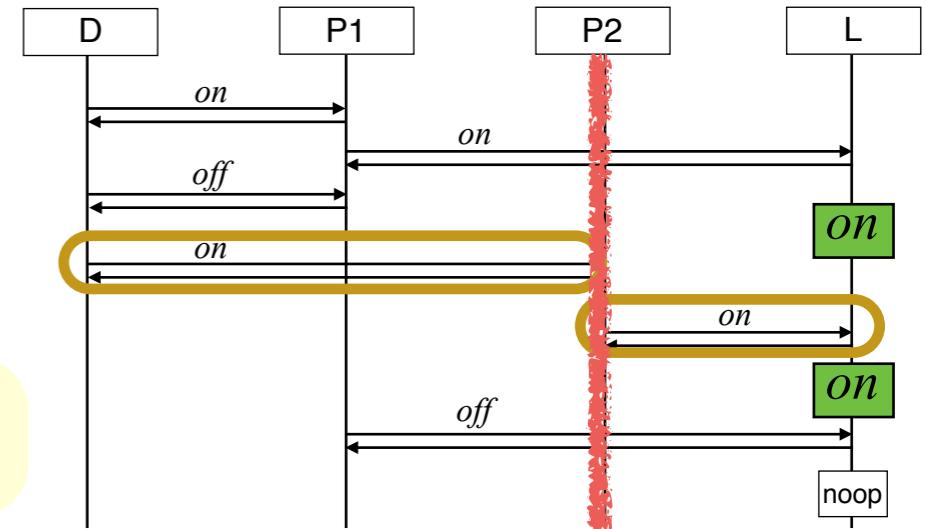
1. The projection to  $P1$  is in:

$$(\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle)^*.$$

$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{on, off, noop\}\end{aligned}$$

$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



1. The projection to  $P1$  is in:

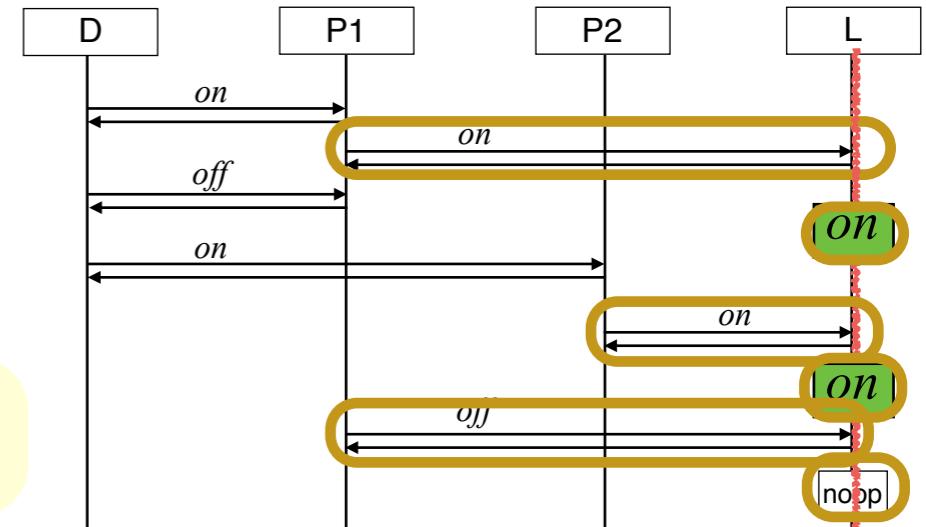
$$(\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle)^*.$$

2. Similarly for  $P2$ .

$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{on, off, noop\}\end{aligned}$$

$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



1. The projection to  $P1$  is in:

$$(\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle)^*.$$

2. Similarly for  $P2$ .

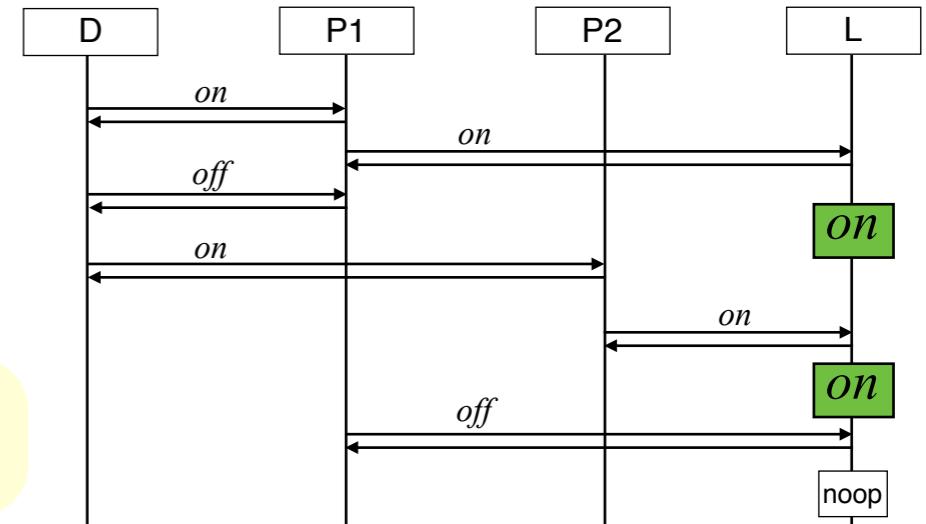
3. The projection to  $L$  is in:

$$\left( (\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle) (on + off + noop) \right)^*.$$

$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{on, off, noop\}\end{aligned}$$

$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



1. The projection to  $P1$  is in:

$$(\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle)^*.$$

2. Similarly for  $P2$ .

3. The projection to  $L$  is in:

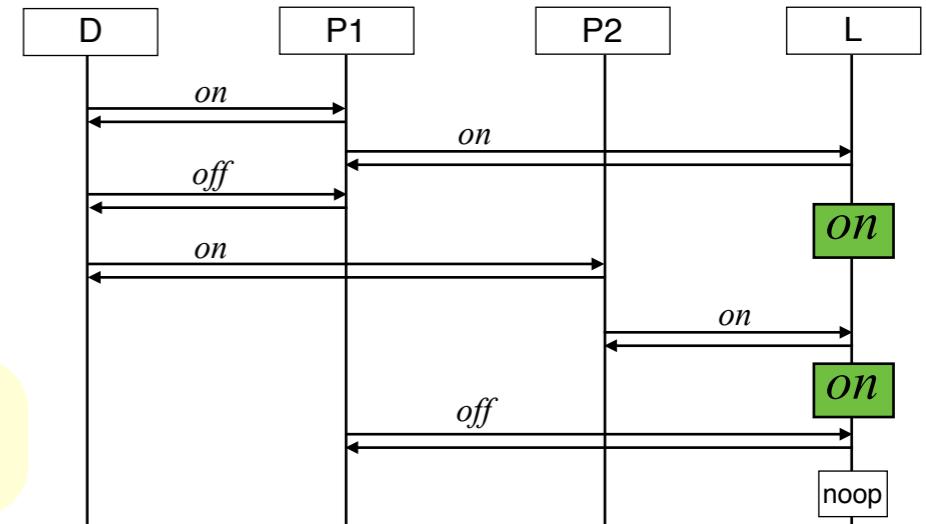
$$\left( (\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle) (on + off + noop) \right)^*.$$

4. The display is updated iff the last (previous) status message emitted by  $D$  that has already been followed by a forward was not yet followed by a corresponding update by  $L$ .

$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{on, off, noop\}\end{aligned}$$

$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



1. The projection to **P1** is in:

$$(\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle)^*.$$

2. Similarly for **P2**.

3. The projection to **L** is in:

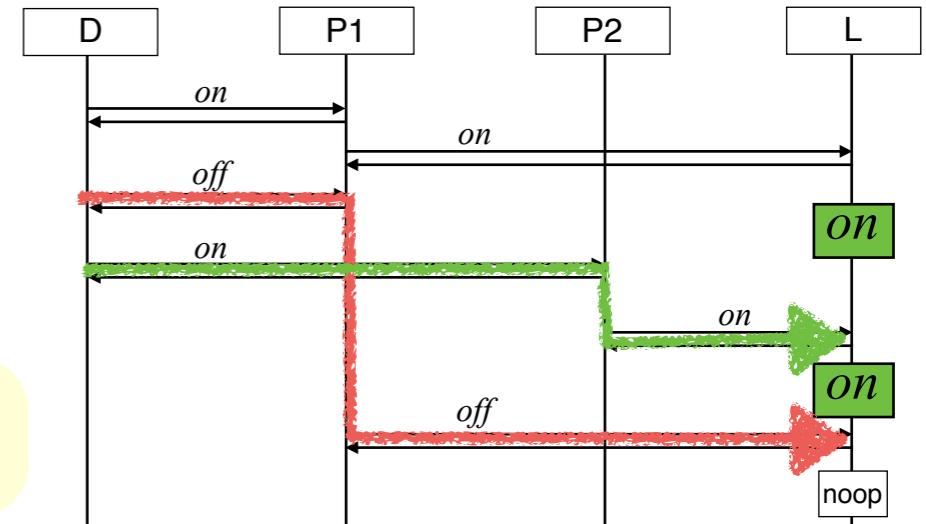
$$\left( (\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle) (on + off + noop) \right)^*.$$

4. The display is updated iff the last (previous) status message emitted by D that has already been followed by a forward was not yet followed by a corresponding update by L.

$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle\} \\ \cup & \{on, off, noop\}\end{aligned}$$

$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



1. The projection to  $P1$  is in:

$$(\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle)^*.$$

2. Similarly for  $P2$ .

3. The projection to  $L$  is in:

$$\left( (\langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle + \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle + \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle) (on + off + noop) \right)^*.$$

4. The display is updated iff the last (previous) status message emitted by  $D$  that has already been followed by a forward was not yet followed by a corresponding update by  $L$ .

Exercise: What are the words contained in  $L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$ ?

- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle off \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle noop \checkmark$

Exercise: What are the words contained in  $L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$ ?

- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle off \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle noop$  ✓
- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle on$  ✗

Exercise: What are the words contained in  $L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$ ?

- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle off \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle noop$  ✓
- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle on$  ✗
- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle on \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle off$  ✓

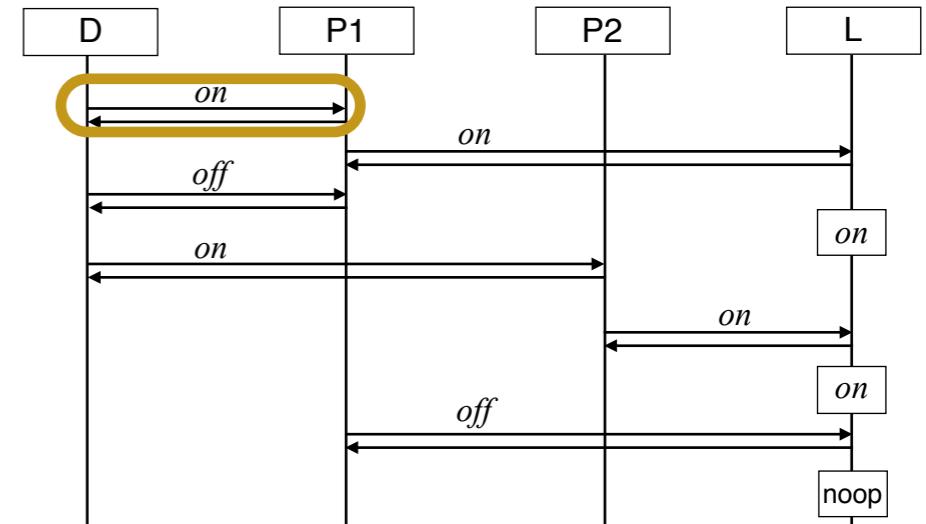
Exercise: What are the words contained in  $L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$ ?

- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle off \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle noop$  ✓
- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle on$  ✗
- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle on \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle off$  ✓
- $\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle off$  ✓

$$L_{spec} \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma = & \{ \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle, \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle \} \\ \cup & \{ \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle, \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle, \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle \} \\ \cup & \{ on, off, noop \}\end{aligned}$$

$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P1 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P2 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P1 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop$



### Observation:

- $L_{spec}$  is regular.
- $L_{spec}$  is closed under permutation rewriting of independent events.

Theorem [Zielonka 1987]:

Let  $L$  be a regular set of words that is closed under permutation rewriting of independent events. There is a deterministic finite-state distributed protocol that realizes  $L$ .

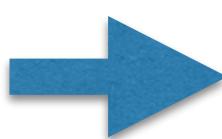
$L = (\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P2 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle)^*$  is not realizable.

4. The display is updated iff the last (previous) status message emitted by D that has already been followed by a forward was not yet followed by a corresponding update by L.

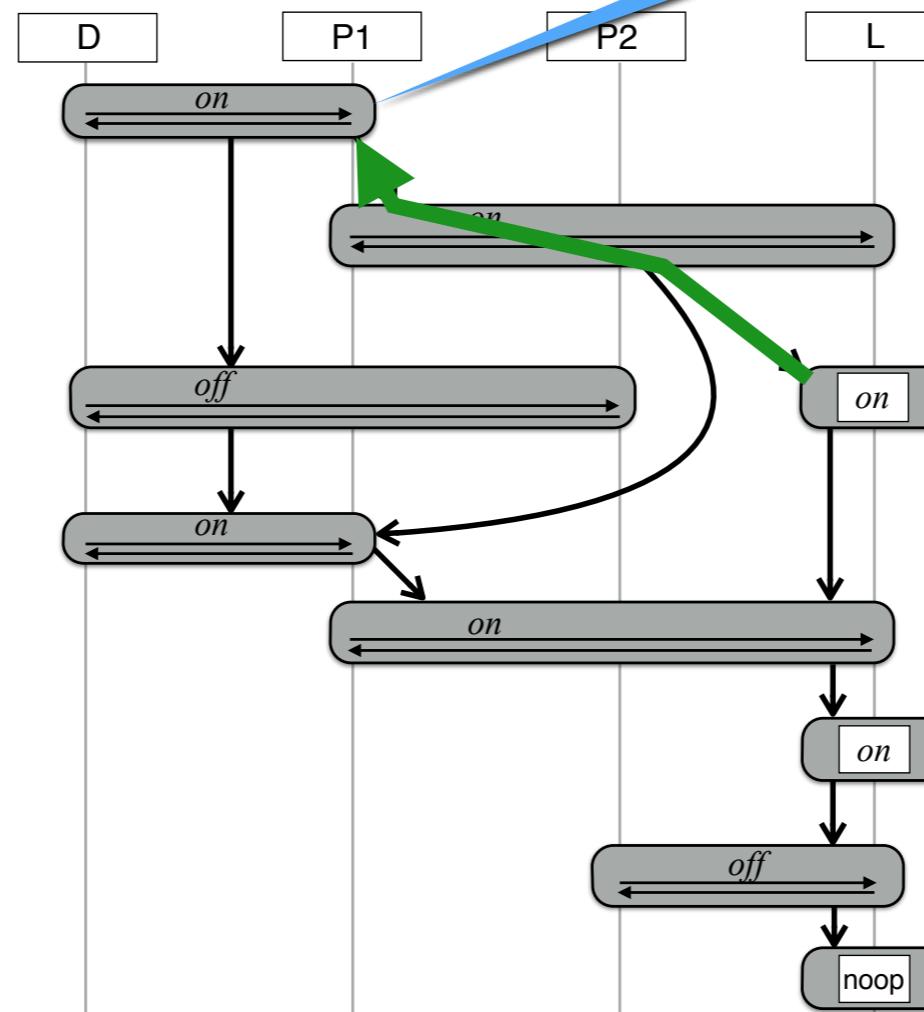
$$\langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle \langle D \xrightarrow{off} P2 \rangle on \langle D \xrightarrow{on} P1 \rangle \langle P1 \xrightarrow{on} L \rangle on \langle P2 \xrightarrow{off} L \rangle noop \in L_{spec}$$

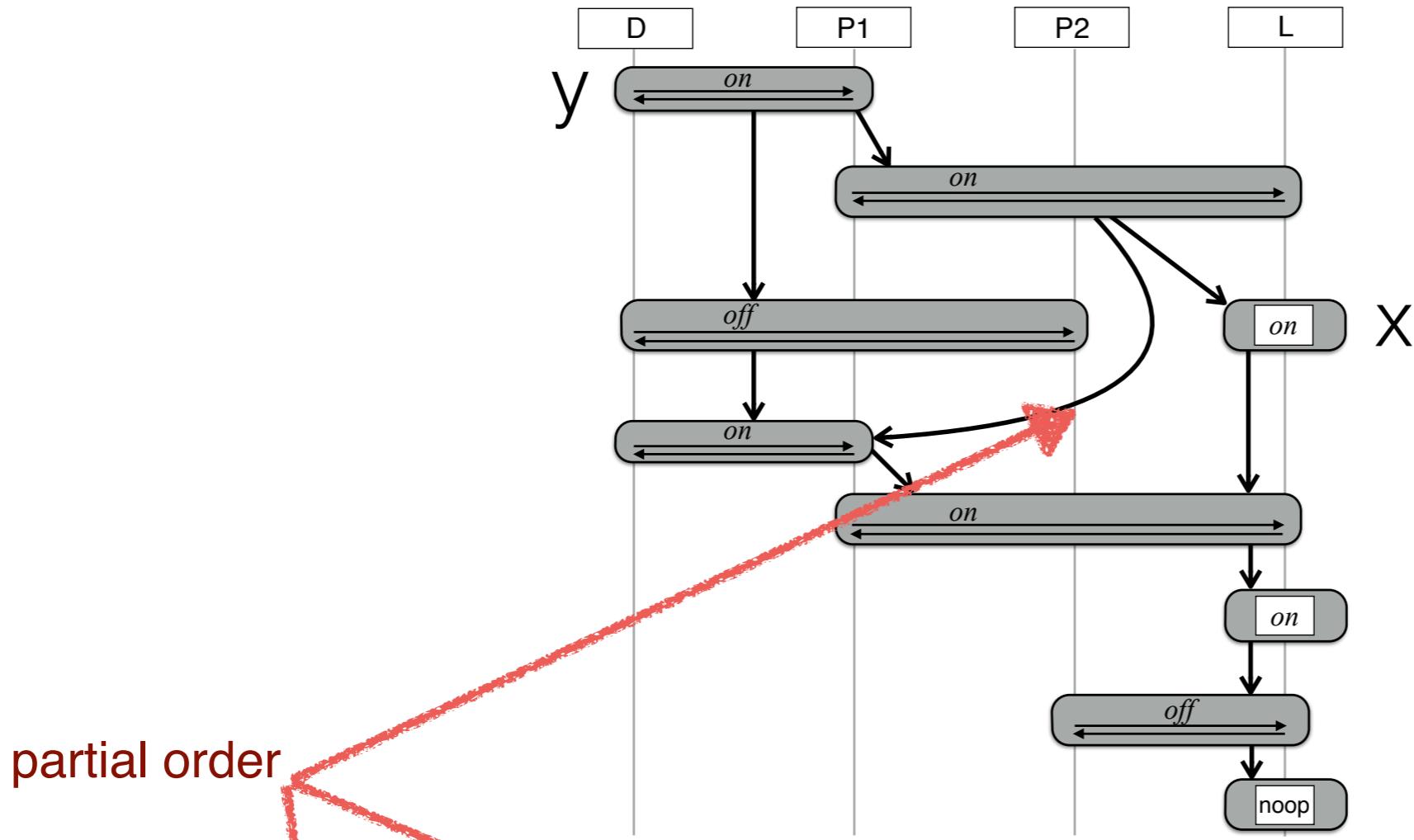
*no causal dependency*

last event in partial order



consider  
partial orders



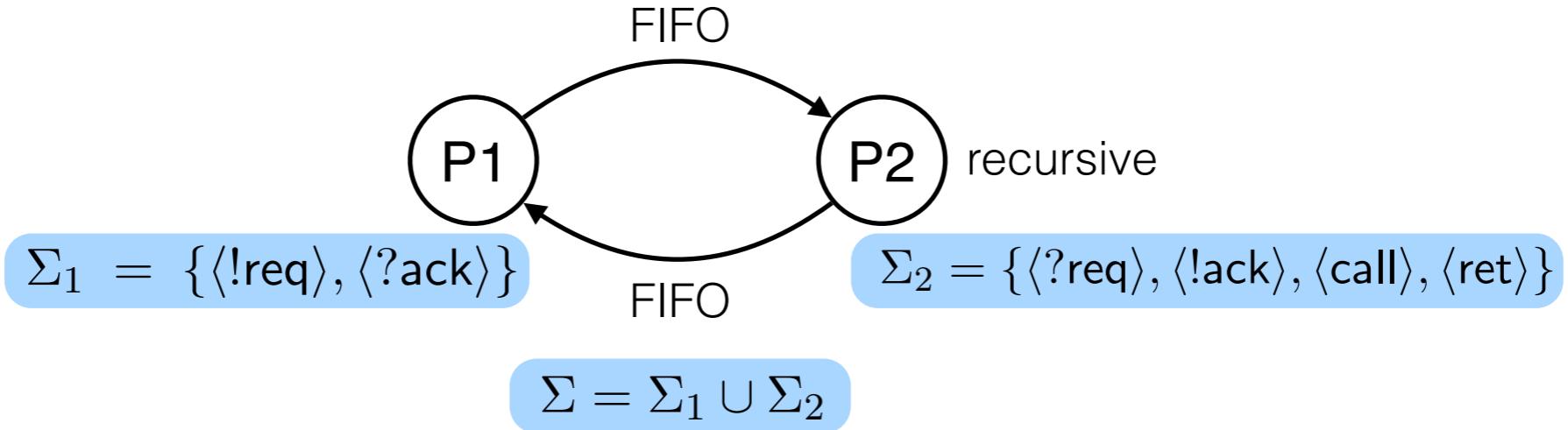


Theorem [Thomas 1990]:

*Let  $L$  be an MSO-definable set of partial orders. There is a finite-state distributed protocol that realizes  $L$ .*

“When  $L$  performs  $on$  ( $off$ , respectively), then the last (wrt.  $\leq$ ) status message sent by  $D$  should also be  $on$  ( $off$ , respectively). Moreover, a display operation should be  $noop$  iff there has already been an acknowledgement between the latest status message and that operation.”

Reasonig about recursive processes



Consider the following protocol:

- From time to time, P1 sends requests to P2.
- When receiving a request, P2 calls a procedure, which itself may call sub-procedures.
- When returning from the (outermost) procedure, P2 sends an acknowledgment to P1.

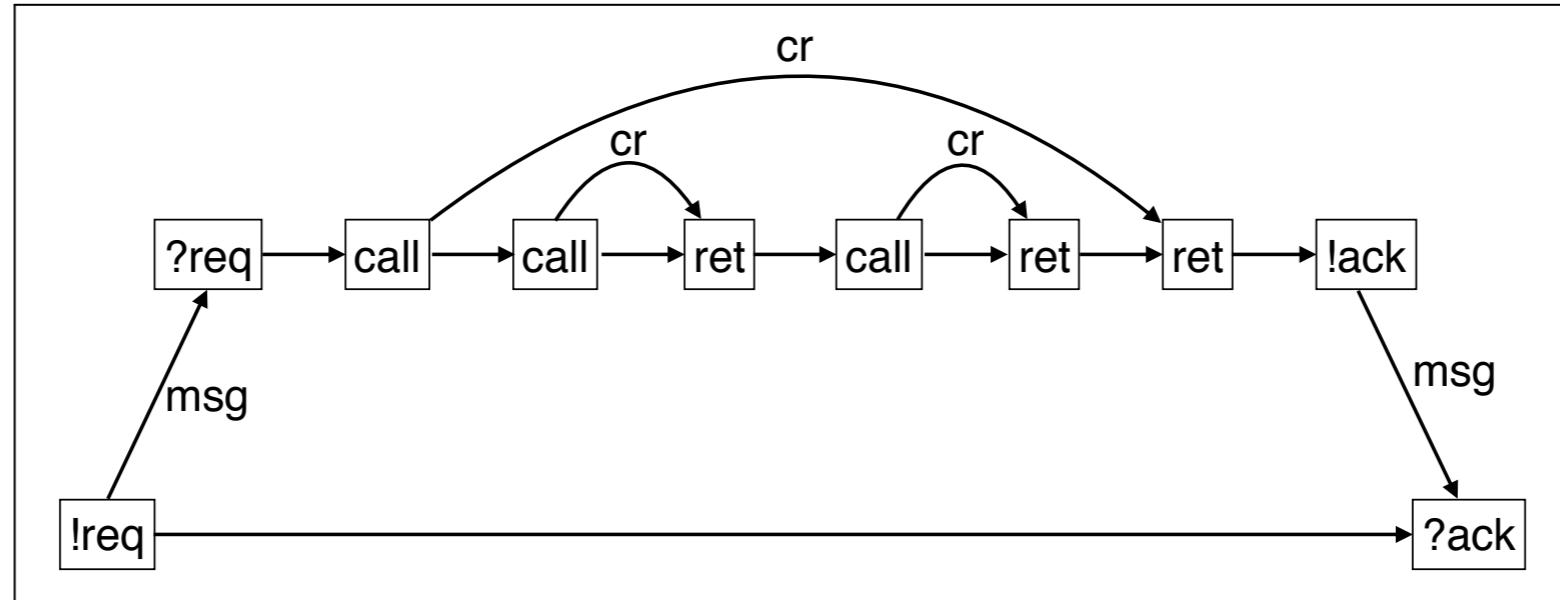
$\langle !\text{req} \rangle \langle ?\text{req} \rangle \langle \text{call} \rangle \langle \text{call} \rangle \langle \text{ret} \rangle \langle \text{call} \rangle \langle \text{ret} \rangle \langle \text{ret} \rangle \langle !\text{ack} \rangle \langle ?\text{ack} \rangle$  ✓

$\langle !\text{req} \rangle \langle ?\text{req} \rangle \langle \text{call} \rangle \langle \text{call} \rangle \langle \text{ret} \rangle \langle \text{call} \rangle \langle \text{ret} \rangle \langle !\text{ack} \rangle \langle ?\text{ack} \rangle \langle \text{ret} \rangle$  ✗

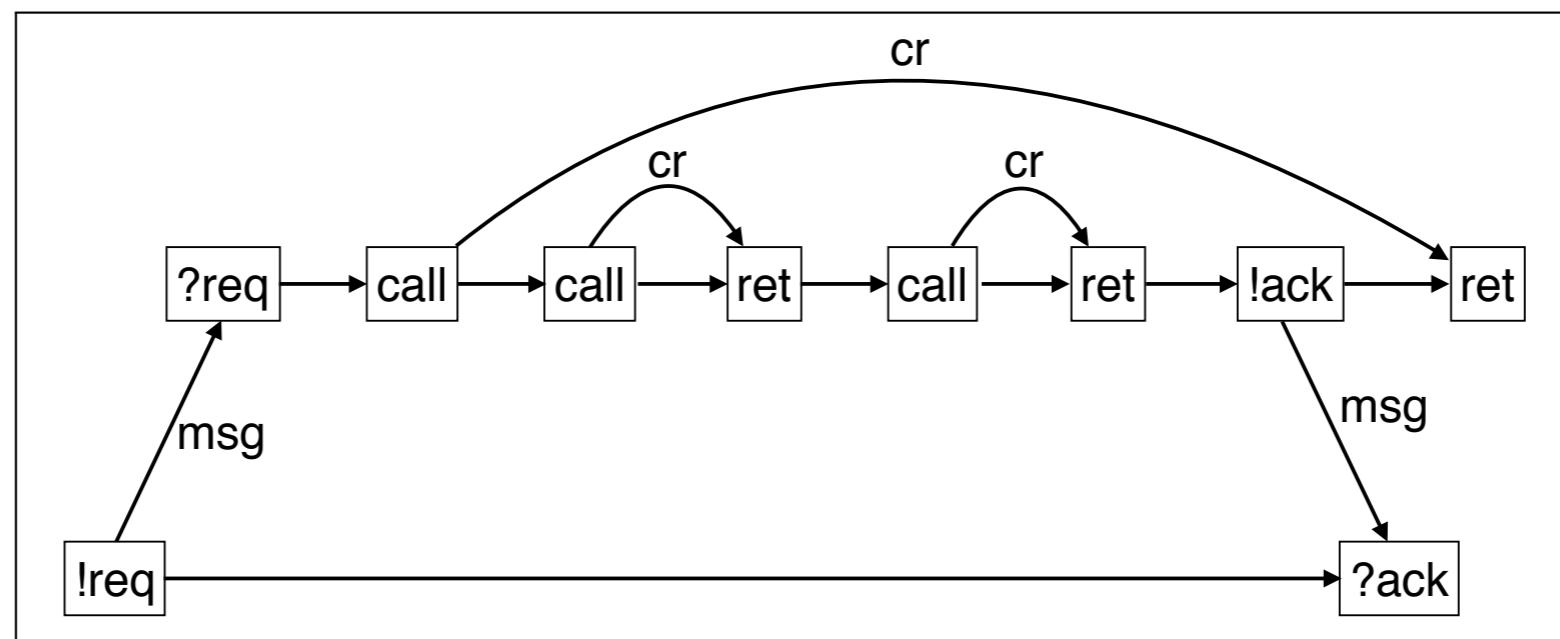
Is this a regular language? No!

So, what is a good specification language?

$\langle !req \rangle \langle ?req \rangle \langle call \rangle \langle call \rangle \langle ret \rangle \langle call \rangle \langle ret \rangle \langle ret \rangle \langle !ack \rangle \langle ?ack \rangle$  ✓



$\langle !req \rangle \langle ?req \rangle \langle call \rangle \langle call \rangle \langle ret \rangle \langle call \rangle \langle ret \rangle \langle !ack \rangle \langle ?ack \rangle \langle ret \rangle$  ✗



MSO formula  
over graphs

$$\forall x \langle ?req \rangle(x) \Rightarrow \exists y_1, y_2, z (x \rightarrow y_1 \wedge \text{cr}(y_1, y_2) \wedge y_2 \rightarrow z \wedge \langle !ack \rangle(z))$$

Let's be more formal ...