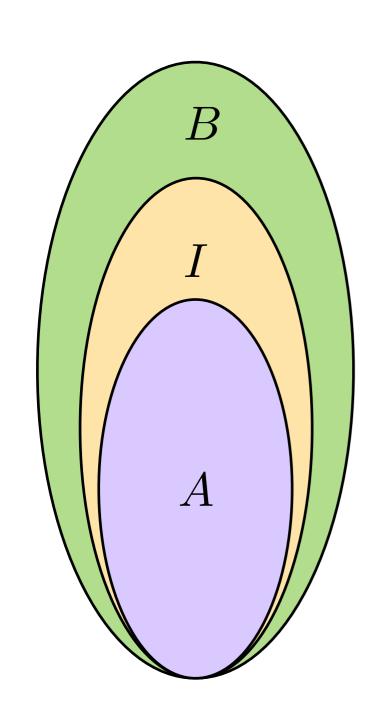
Interpolation: Theory and Applications

Vijay D'Silva Google Inc., San Francisco

UC Berkeley 2016

1	A Brief History of Interpolation
2	Verification with Interpolants
3	Interpolant Construction
4	Further Reading and Research

Craig Interpolants

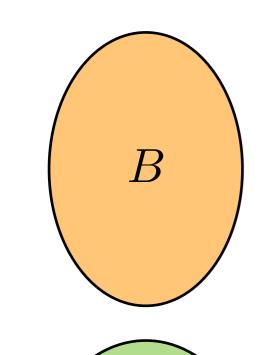


For two formulae A and B such that A implies B, a *Craig interpolant* is a formula I such that

- 1. A implies I, and
- 2. I implies B, and
- 3. the non-logical symbols in I occur in A and in B.

$$P \wedge (P \implies Q) \implies Q \implies R \implies Q$$

Reverse Interpolants or "Interpolants"



For a contradiction $A \wedge B$, a reverse interpolant is a formula I such that

- 1. A implies I, and
- 2. $I \wedge B$ is a contradiction, and
- 3. the non-logical symbols in I occur in A and in B.

Note: In classical logic, $A \implies B$ is valid exactly if $A \land \neg B$ is a contradiction.

In the verification literature, "interpolant" usually means "reverse interpolant."



International Business Machines Corporation 2050 Rt 52 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 845-892-5262

October 7, 2008

Dear Andreas,

I would like to congratulate Cadence Research Labs on their 15th Anniversary. In these 15 years, Cadence Research Labs has worked at several frontiers of Electronic Design Automation. They focus on hard problems that when solved significantly push the state of the art forward. They found novel solutions to system, synthesis and formal verification problems.

Formal verification is the process of exhaustively validating that a logic entity behaves correctly. In contrast to testing-based approaches, which may expose flaws though generally cannot yield a proof of correctness, the exhaustiveness of formal verification ensures that no flaw will be left unexposed. Formal verification is thus a critical technology in many domains, being essential to safety-critical applications and

Model checking algorithms are widely used for verifying hardware and software models. CRL has pioneered numerous fundamental ideas and algorithms to this field, including "interpolation" as a satisfiability-based proof method which is often dramatically faster and more scalable than prior proof techniques. CBL researchers invented numerous novel methods to automatically reduce the domain of a verification problem through "abstracting" it based upon unsatisfiability proofs. These techniques have substantially increased the scalability of formal verification of complex hardware designs.

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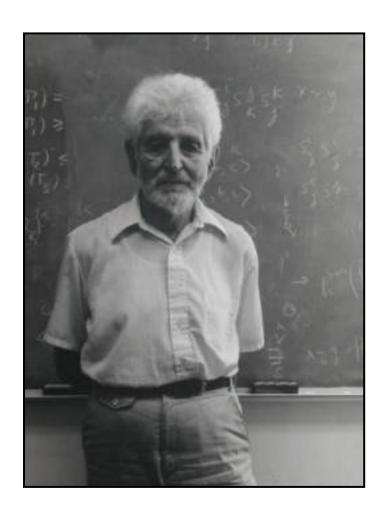
CRL researchers have not only used logic optimizations to speed up formal verification algorithms, but are now also applying them to sequential optimization. Sequential synthesis has long been a holy grail in logic optimization. A large part of the design space remains untapped unless one can reliably and effectively optimize and verify in the sequential domain. Recent progress from CRL shows that there is some promise we can tap into this some time in the not too distant future.

Leon

Leon Stok Director, Electronic Design Automation IBM Corporation

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Craig's Interpolation Lemma (1957)



William Craig in 1988
http://sophos.berkelev.edu/interpolations/

THE JOURNAL OF SYMBOLIC LOGIC VOLUME 22, Number 3, Sept. 1957

LINEAR REASONING. A NEW FORM OF THE HERBRAND-GENTZEN THEOREM.

WILLIAM CRAIG

1. Introduction. In Herbrand's Theorem [2] or Gentzen's Extended Hauptsatz [1], a certain relationship is asserted to hold between the structures of A and A', whenever A *implies* A' (i.e., $A \supset A'$ is valid) and moreover A is a conjunction and A' an alternation of first-order formulas in prenex normal form. Unfortunately, the relationship is described in a roundabout way, by relating A and A' to a quantifier-free tautology. One purpose

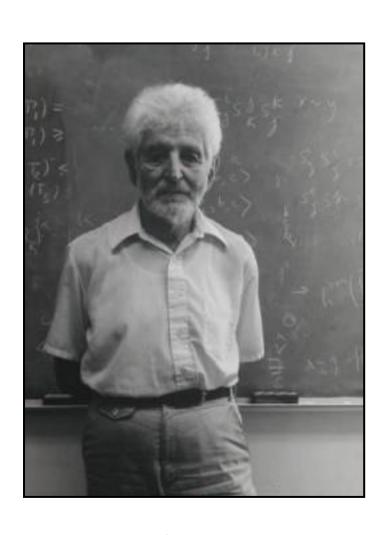
THE JOURNAL OF SYMBOLIC LOGIC Volume 22, Number 3, Sept, 1957

THREE USES OF THE HERBRAND-GENTZEN THEOREM IN RELATING MODEL THEORY AND PROOF THEORY

WILLIAM CRAIG

1. Introduction. One task of metamathematics is to relate suggestive but nonelementary modeltheoretic concepts to more elementary proof-theoretic concepts, thereby opening up modeltheoretic problems to proof-theoretic methods of attack. Herbrand's Theorem (see [8] or also [9],

Craig's Interpolation Lemma (1957)



property. That is, if $A \implies B$ is valid, then a Craig interpolant exists.

Lemma. First-order logic has the interpolation

William Craig in 1988
http://sophos.berkeley.edu/interpolations/

A High-Level View of the Proof

"The intuitive idea for Craig's proof of the Interpolation Theorem rests on the completeness theorem for FOL, in the form of the equivalence of validity with provability in a suitable system of axioms and rules of inference. By "suitable" here is meant one in which there is a notion of a direct proof for which if Phi implies Psi is provable then there is a direct proof of Psi from Phi. One would expect that in such a proof, the relation symbols of Phi that are in Psi would not disappear in the middle. Such systems were devised by Herbrand (1930) and Gentzen (1934); Hilbert-style systems enlarged by the axioms and rules of the epsilon-calculus can also serve this purpose.

Feferman, Harmonious Logic: Craig's Interpolation Theorem and Its Descendants, 2008

Another Perspective on the Interpolation Theorem

"Important results have many things to say. At first sight, the Interpolation Theorem of Craig (1957) seems a rather technical result for connoisseurs inside logical meta-theory. But over the past decades, its broader importance has become clear from many angles. In this paper, I discuss my own current favourite views of interpolation: no attempt is made at being fair or representative. First, I discuss the **entanglement of inference and vocabulary** that is crucial to interpolation. Next, I move to the role of interpolants in facilitating **generalized inference across different models**. Then I raise the perhaps surprising issue of 'what is the right formulation of Craig's Theorem?', high-lighting the existence of non-trivial options in formulating meta-theorems.

...

Finally, I discuss the 'end of history'. Craig's Theorem is about the last significant property of first-order logic that has come to light. Is there something deeper going on here, and if so, can we prove it?"

-- Johan van Benthem, The Many Faces of Interpolation, 2008

Interpolation In Mathematical Logic



- Simpler proofs of known properties: Beth definability, Robinson's theorem.
- Interpolant structure: Lyndon Interpolation theorems (1959).
- Preservation under homomorphisms (connections to finite-model theory).
- Many-sorted and Infinitary logics: Feferman '68, '74, Lopez-Escobar '65, Barwise '69, Stern '75, Otto '00.
- Model theoretic characterizations: Makowsky '85 for a survey.
- Amalgamation and algebraic characterization
- Guarded fragment: Hoogland, Marx, Otto '00
- Modal and fixed point logics: Ten Cate '05,
- Uniform interpolation: Pitt '92, Visser '96, d'Agostino, Hollenberg '00

Interpolation In Complexity and Proof Theory

1957 1980 2000 2010 1960 1970 1990

1971

1971, Cook. The Complexity of Theorem Proving Procedures

Proceedings Third Annual ACM Sympo Day. The Complexity of Theorem-Proving Procedures heary of Computing Stephen A. Cook University of Toronto

It is shown that any recognition problem solved by a polynomial time-bounded nondeterministic Turing machine can be "reduced" to the problem of determining whether a given propositional formula is a tautology. Here "reduced" means, roughly speaking, that the first problem can be solved deterministically in polynomial time provided an oracle is available for solving the second. From this notion of reducible, polynomial degrees of difficulty are defined, and it is shown that the problem of determining tautologyhood has the same polynomial degree as the problem of determining whether the first of two given graphs is isomorphic to a subgraph of the second. Other examples are discussed. A method of measuring the complexity of proof procedures for the predicate calculus is introduced and discussed.

Throughout this paper, a set of strings means a set of strings on some fixed, large, finite alphabet Σ . This alphabet is large enough to include symbols for all sets described here. All Turing machines are deterministic recognition devices, unless the contrary is explicitly stated.

Tautologies and Polynomial Re-Reducibility.

Let us fix a formalism for the propositional calculus in which formulas are written as strings on Σ . Since we will require infinitely many proposition quire infinitely many proposition symbols (atoms), each such symbol will consist of a member of E followed by a number in binary notation to distinguish that symbol. Thus a formula of length can only have about n/logn distinct function and predicate symbols. The logical connectives are § (and), v (or), and ¬(not).

The set of tautologies (denoted by {tautologies}) is a

certain recursive set of strings on this alphabet, and we are interested in the problem of finding a good lower bound on its possible recognition times. We provide no such lower bound here, but theorem I will give evidence that {tautologies} is a difficult set to recognize, since many apparently difficult problems can be reduced to determining tautologyhood. By reduced we mean, roughly speaking, that if tautologhod could be decided instantly (by an "oracle") then these problems could be decided in polynomial time. In order to make this notion precise, we introduce query machines, which are like Turing machines with oracles in [1].

A <u>query machine</u> is a multitape Turing machine with a distinguished tape called the <u>query tape</u>, and three distinguished states called three distinguished states called the query state, yes state, and no state, respectively. If M is a query machine and T is a set of strings, then a T-computation of M in which initially M is in the initial state and has an input string w on its input tape, and each time M assumes the query state there is a string u on the query tape, and the next state M assumes is the yes state if ueT and the no state if ueT. We think of an "oracle", which knows T, placing M in the yes state or no state.

Definition

A set S of strings is P-reducible (P for polynomial) to a set T of strings iff there is some query machine M and a polynomial Q(n) such that for each input string w, the T-computation of M with input w halts within Q(|w|) steps (|w| is the length of w), and ends in an accepting state iff weS.

It is not hard to see that P-reducibility is a transitive relation. Thus the relation E on

Proof Content. For any language $A \in NP$ and $n \in N$, one can construct in polynomial time a formula

$$F_n(x_1,\ldots,x_n,y_1,\ldots,y_{p(n)})$$

in propositional logic such that for all $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$

$$x \in A \iff \exists y.F_n(x,y) = true$$

Wednesday, March 30, 16

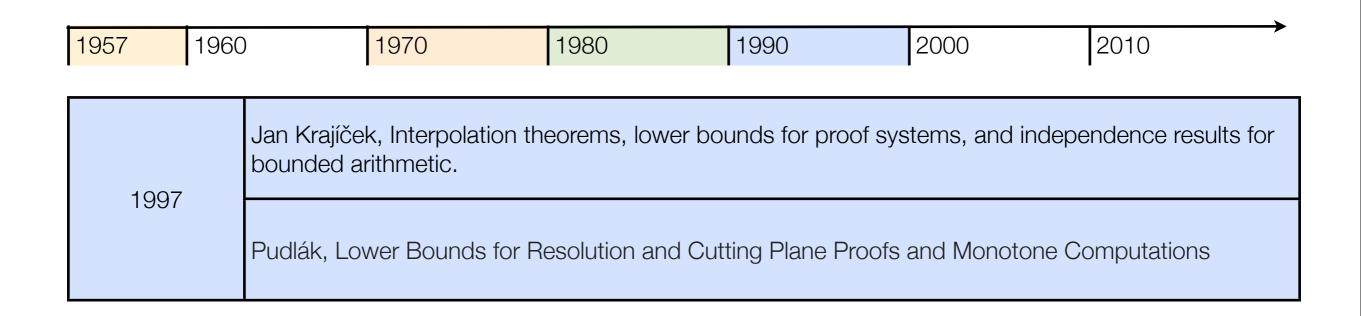
Interpolation and Complexity Theory

<mark>1957</mark> 1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
1971	1971, Cook. The Comple	xity of Theorem	n Proving Procedure	es	
1982	Mundici, NP and Craig's Interpolation Theorem (pub. 1984)				
1983	Mundici, A Lower bound	for the complex	kity of Craig's Interp	oolants in Senten	tial Logic

Theorem. (Mundici, 1982) At least one of the following is true.

- 1. P = NP.
- 2. NP \neq coNP.
- 3. For F and G in propositional logic, such that $F \implies G$, an interpolant is not computable in time polynomial in the size of F and G.

Interpolation and (Proof) Complexity Theory



A proof system \vdash has feasible interpolation if, whenever there is a short refutation of $A \land B$, the interpolant is computable in polynomial time in the size of the proof.

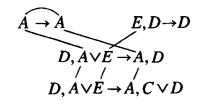
Lemma If there is a resolution refutation of size n for a formula $A \wedge B$, there is an interpolant of circuit size 3n that is computable in time n.

Interpolation and (Proof) Complexity Theory

 1957
 1960
 1970
 1980
 1990
 2000
 2010

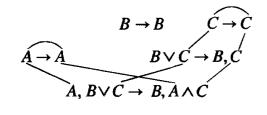
1997

Carbone, Interpolants, Cut Elimination and Flow Graphs for the Propositional Calculus



Notice that a given proof may controllowing very simple proof:

and the two logical flows for it



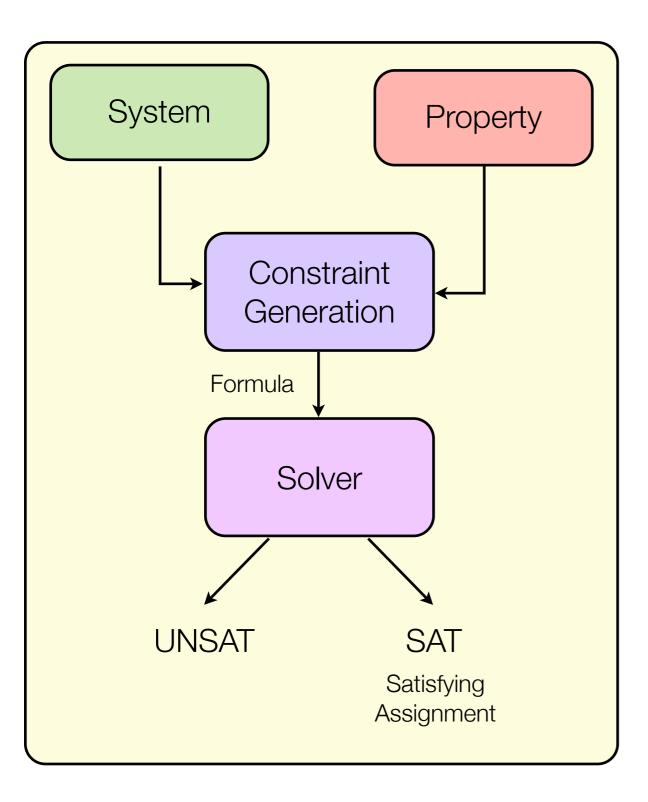
Combinatorial description of how information flows in a proof. Interpolants eliminate certain flows and preserve others. The "relevant" information is preserved.

Interpolants in Automated Reasoning

1957	0 1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
1995	Huang, Constructin	g Craig Interpolation I	Formulas. (OTTEF	R)	
2001	Amir, McIlraith, Parti	tion-Based Logical R	easoning.		
2003	McMillan, Interpolati	on and SAT-Based M	lodel Checking.		
2004	Henziger, Jhala, Maj	umdar,McMillan, Abst	tractions from Pro	ofs	
2005	McMillan, An Interpo	olating Theorem Prove	er		

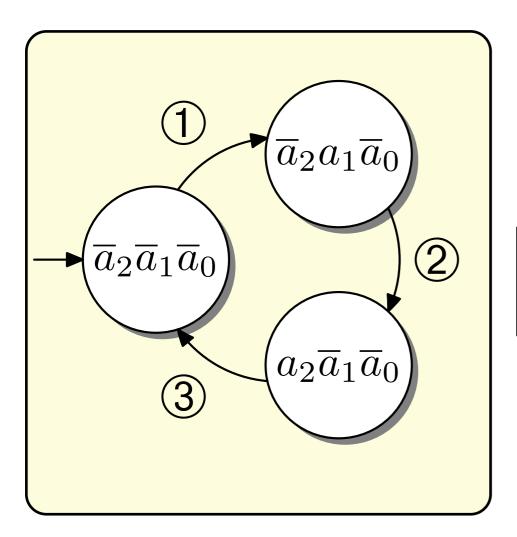
1	A Brief History of Interpolation
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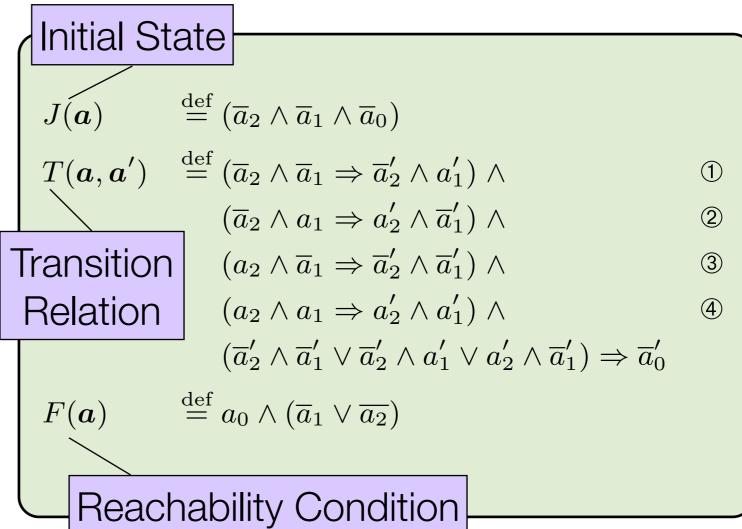
Systems Analysis with SAT/SMT Solvers



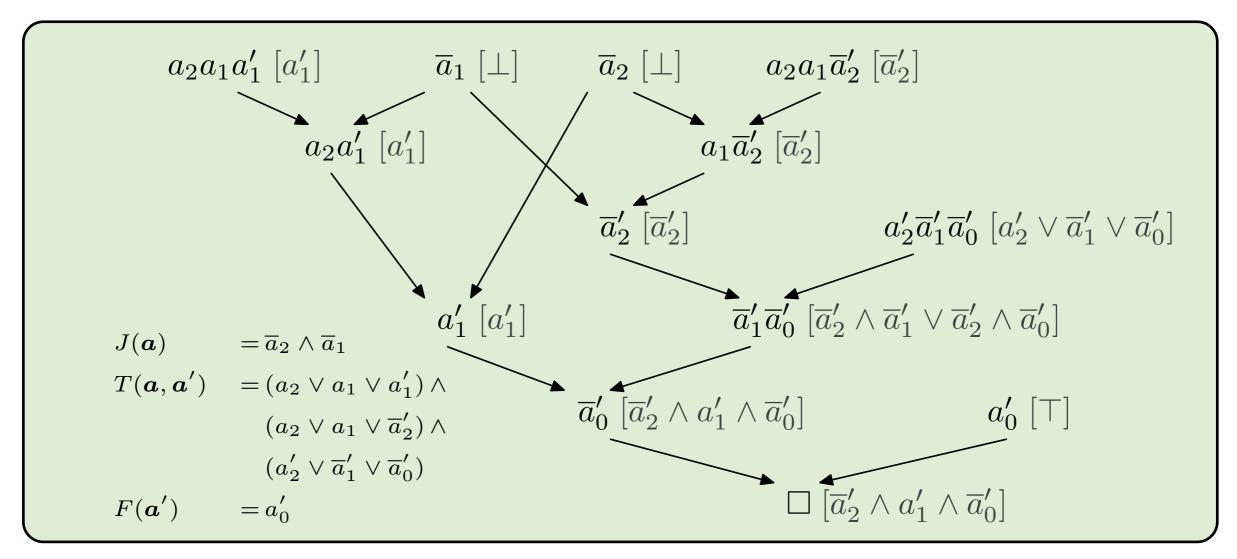
- Bounded Model Checking and Symbolic Execution generate formulae encoding bounded executions.
- Can we generate invariants?
- Can we explore deeper executions without running out of memory?
- Can we avoid exploring redundant system behaviours?

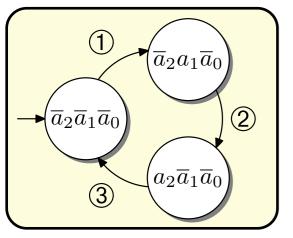
A Simple Binary Counter





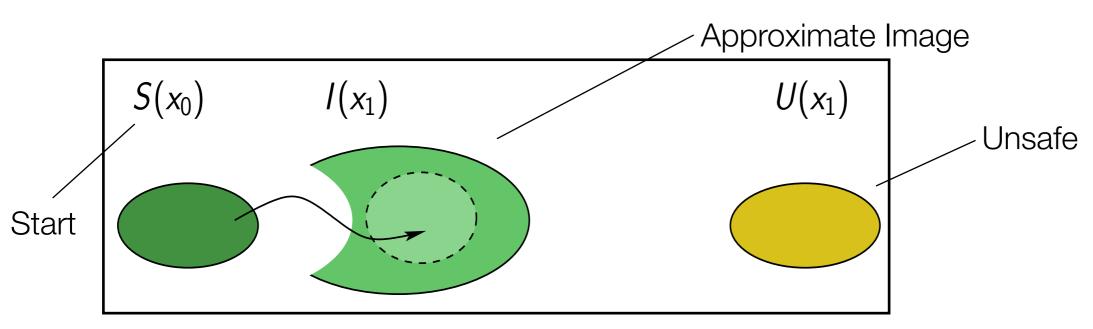
A Refutation and Its Interpolant

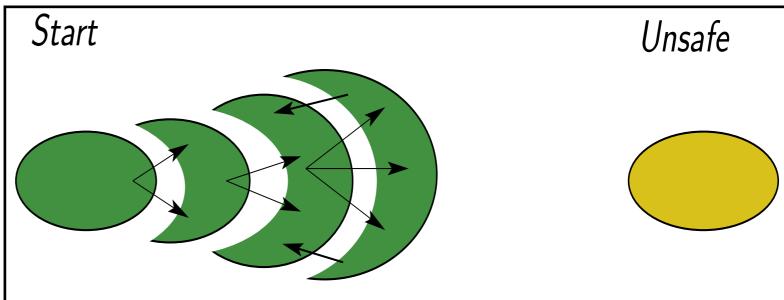




The interpolant, in this case is the image. In general, interpolants for an appropriately constructed formula are overapproximations of images.

Reachability with Interpolants

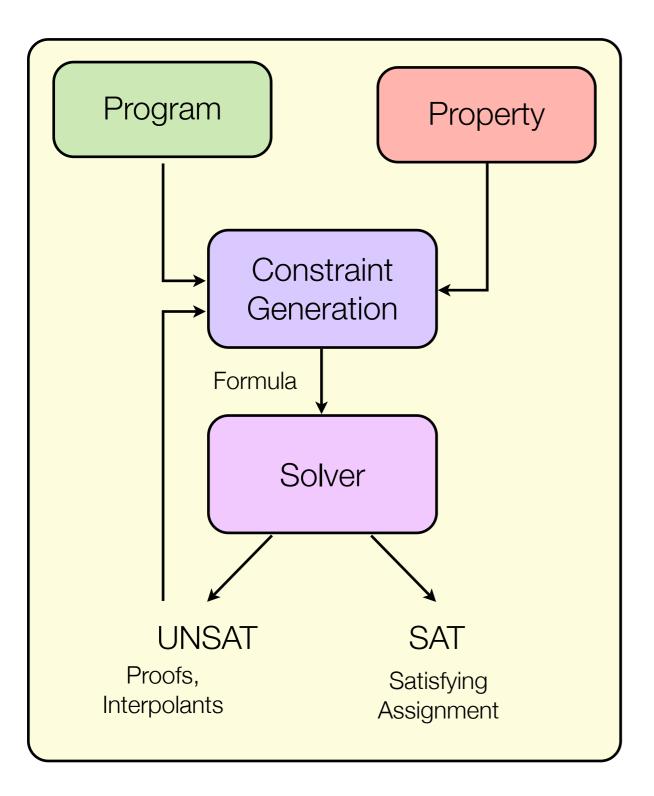




Algorithm: Compute images till a fixed point is reached.

Image of $Qx: \exists x: Q(x) \land T(x,x')$

Interpolation Slogans



- A poor person's quantifier elimination
- A separator between two regions of a search space
- A summary of why a boundedproperty holds occurs
- An approximate image operator
- A relevance heuristic that articulates the core reason for a proof

Bounded Execution as a Formula

```
int x = i;
int y = j;
while (foo()) {
// Code that does not
// modify 'x' or 'y'.
    x = y + 1;
    y = x + 1;
if (i = j \&\& x <= 10)
assert(y <= 10);
```

```
int x0=i;
int y0 = j;
x1 = y0 + 1
y1 = x0 + 1;
x2 = y1 + 1
y2 = x1 + 1;
x3 = y2 + 1
y3 = x2 + 1;
if (i = j \&\&
   x3 <= 10) {
  if (y3 > 10)
      Err:// ERROR
REACHED
```

Bounded Execution and Interpolants

```
int x0=i;
int y0 = j;
x1 = y0 + 1
y1 = x0 + 1;
x2 = y1 + 1
y2 = x1 + 1;
x3 = y2 + 1
y3 = x2 + 1;
if (i = j \&\&
    x3 <= 10) {
  if (y3 > 10)
      Err:// ERROR
REACHED
```

$$x_2 = i + 2 \land y_2 = j + 2$$

- Symbolic representation of the states reachable after two iterations
- Image computation for program statements typically requires quantifier elimination in that theory.

Another Interpolant

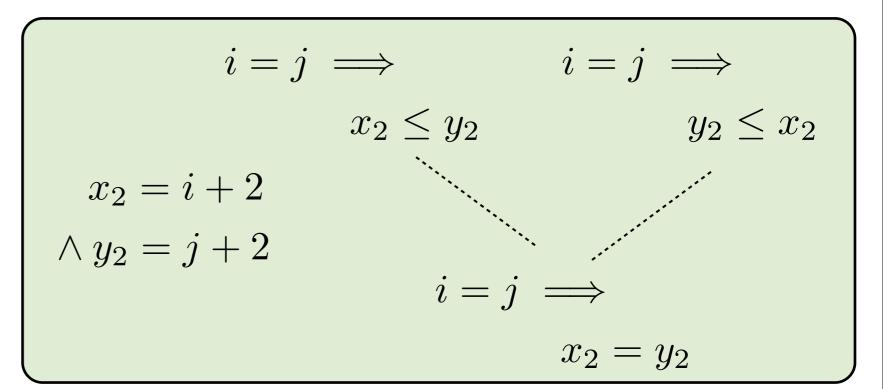
```
int x = i;
int y = j;
while (foo()) {
// Code that does not
// modify 'x' or 'y'.
    x = y + 1;
    y = x + 1;
}
if (i = j && x <= 10)
assert(y <= 10);</pre>
```

$$i = j \implies x_2 \le y_2$$

- Potential loop invariant
- Invariant computation often requires fixed point computation, quantifier elimination, or even both.

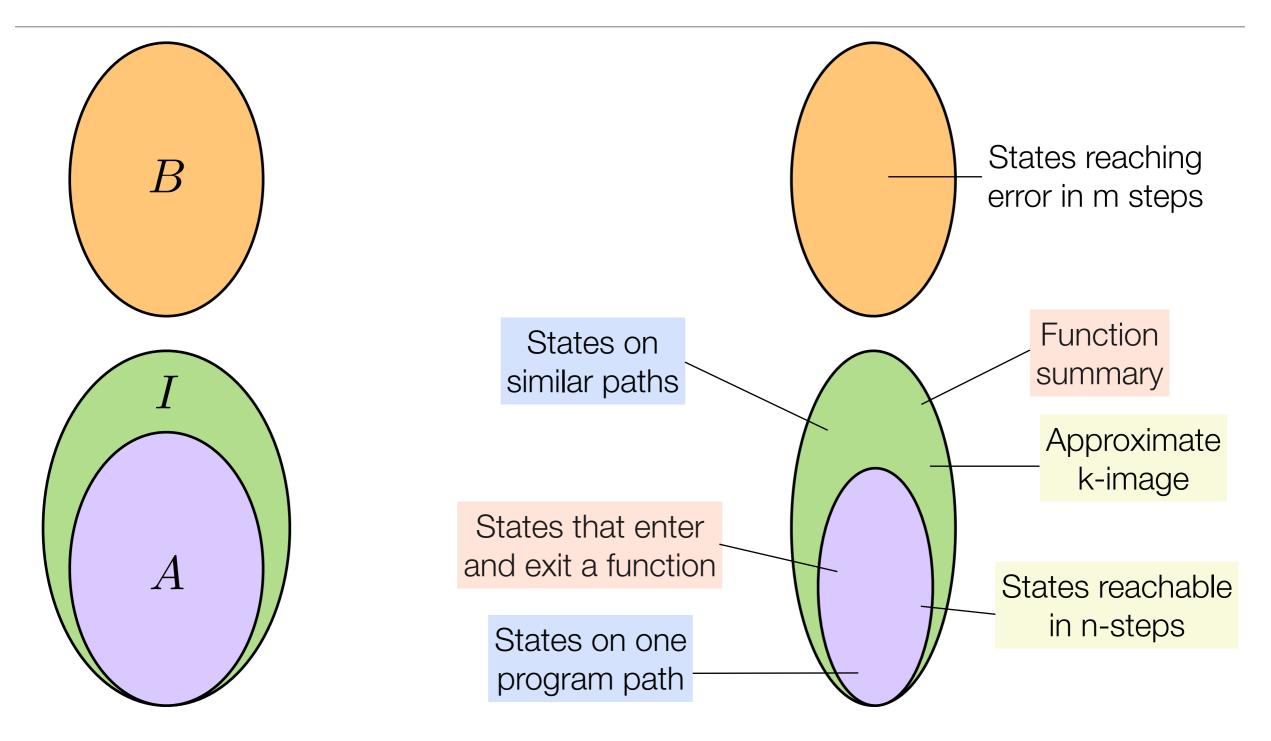
A Space of Interpolants

```
int x0=i;
int y0 = j;
x1 = y0 + 1
y1 = x0 + 1;
x2 = y1 + 1
y2 = x1 + 1;
x3 = y2 + 1
y3 = x2 + 1;
if (i = j \&\&
                        B
    x3 <= 10) {
  if (y3 > 10)
      Err:// ERROR
```



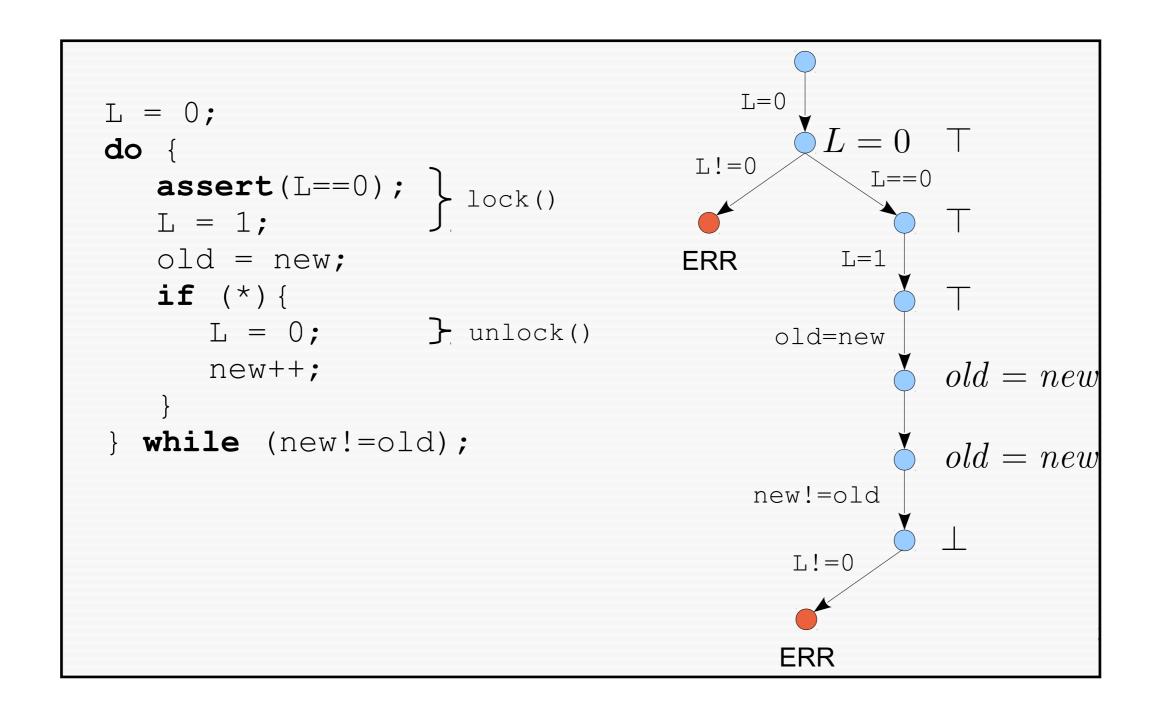
- Multiple interpolants exist.
- They differ in size, logical strength, symbols, etc.
- The ideal one depends on the problem

Approximation of States with Interpolants



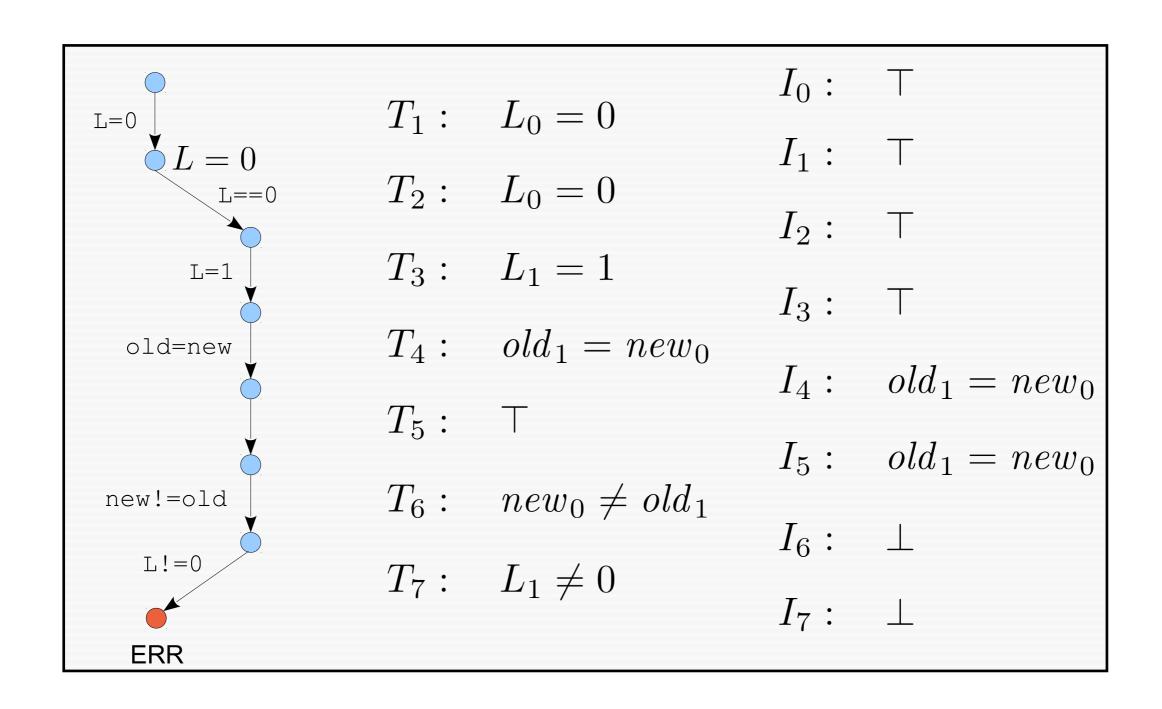
The challenge is to encode these constraints and respect the vocabulary condition

Abstract Reachability Tree Construction



Example: McMillan 2006, Graphic Ruemmer '14

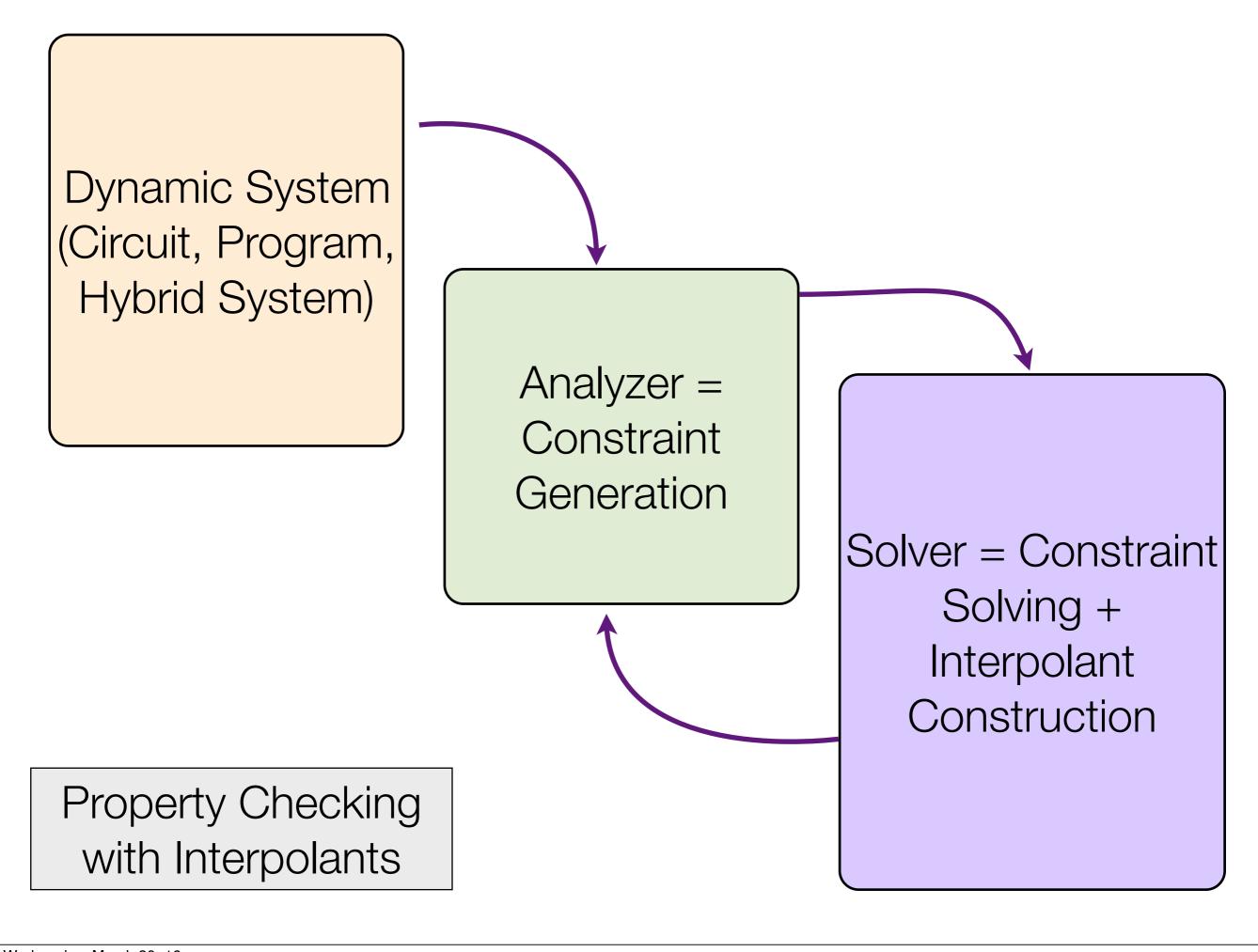
Sequence Interpolants from Reachability Tree

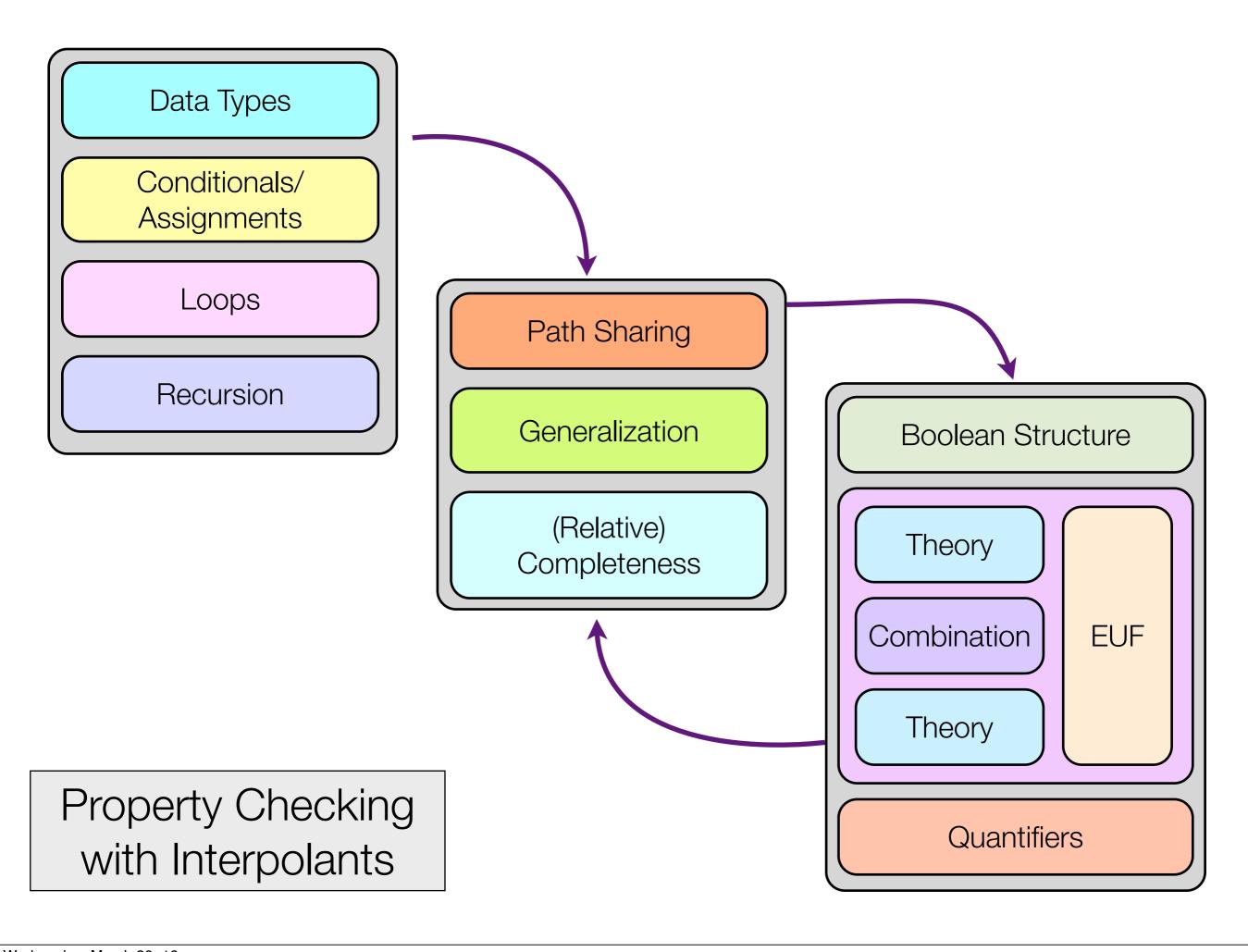


Example: McMillan 2006, Graphic Ruemmer '14

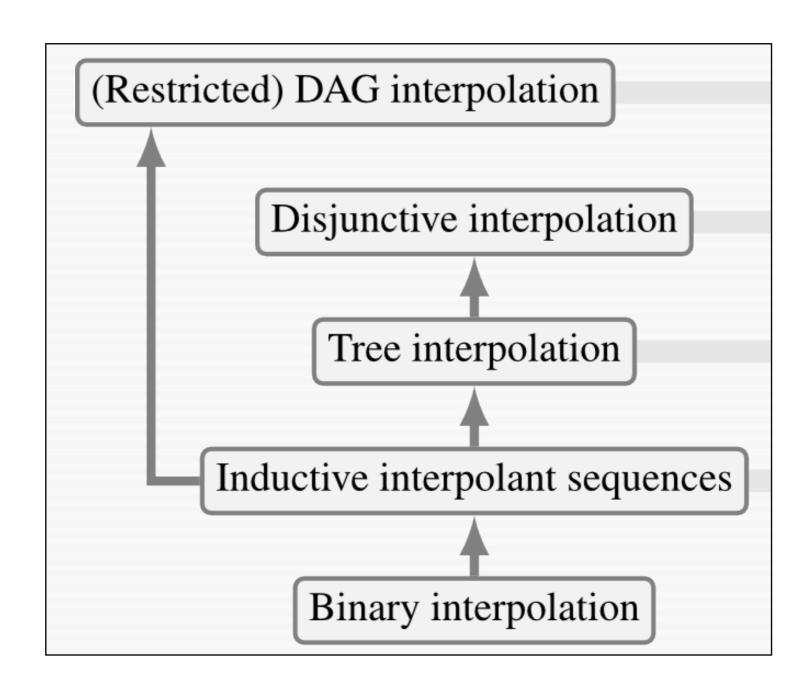
Abstract Reachability Construction

- Interpolants Decorate Positions on the Reachability Tree
- They denote state that are reached at those points
- A covering check is used to determine if all states at some location have been visited
- More complicated than predicate abstraction or fixed point computation due to non-monotonicity of interpolant construction

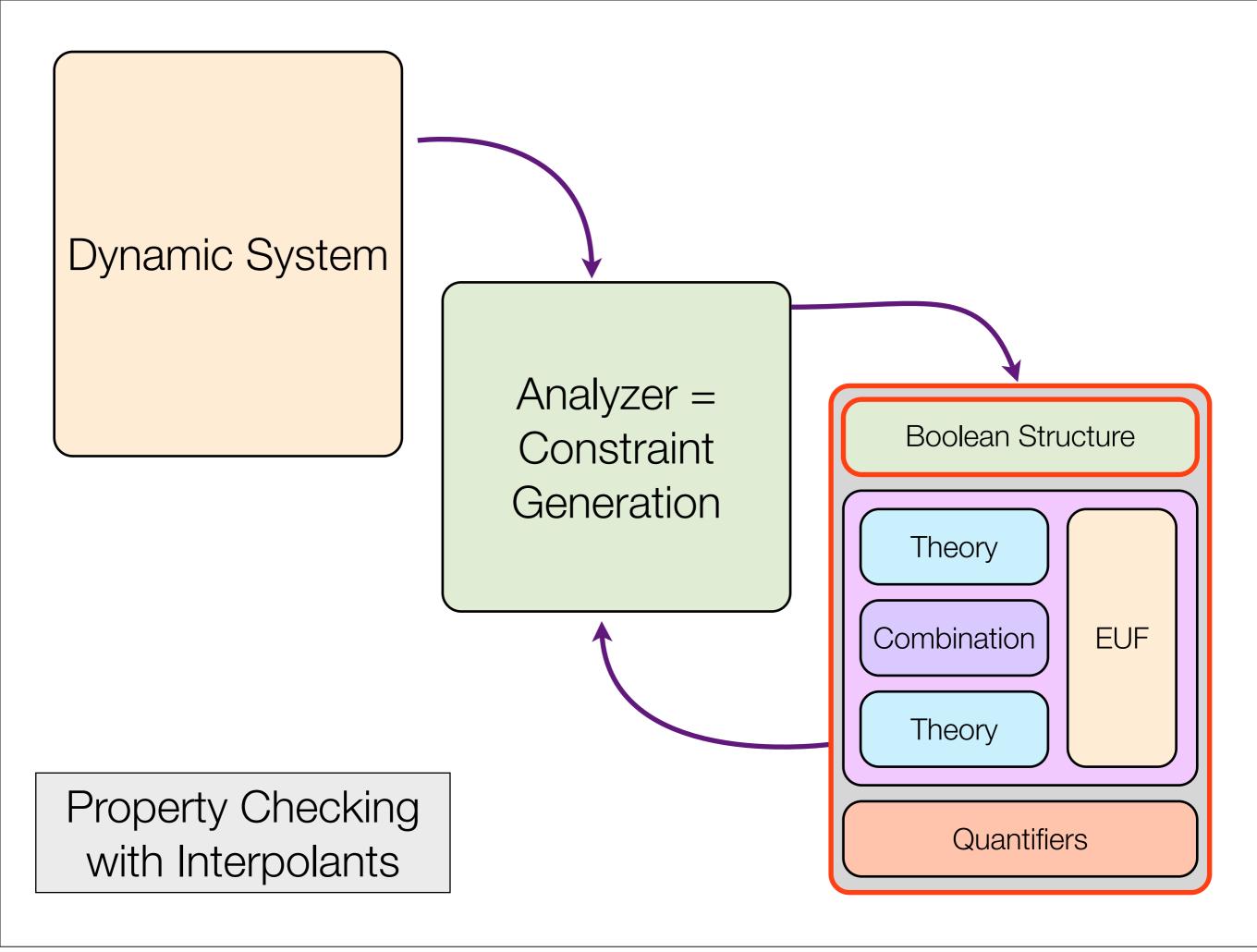




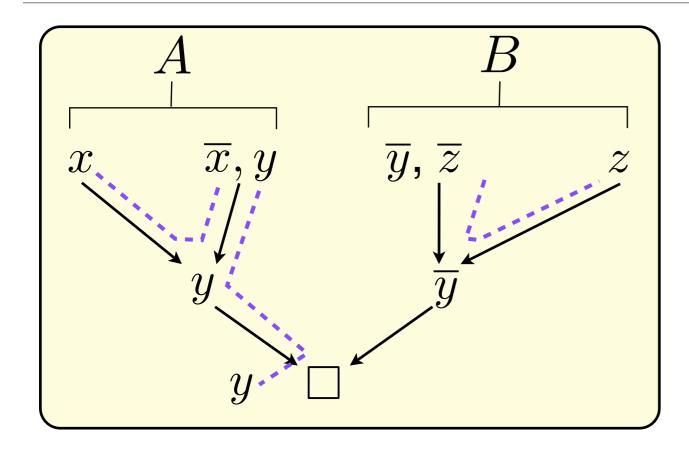
Generalizations of Classical Interpolants

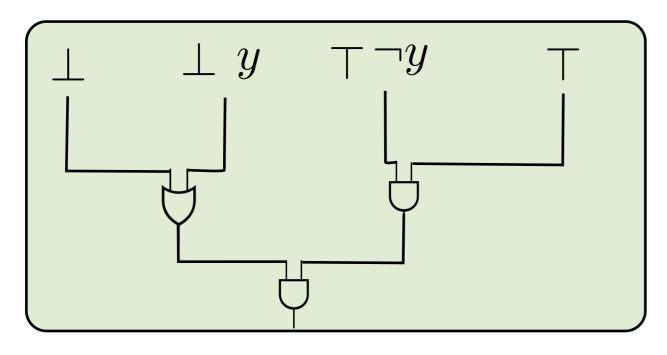


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Flows in Resolution Proofs

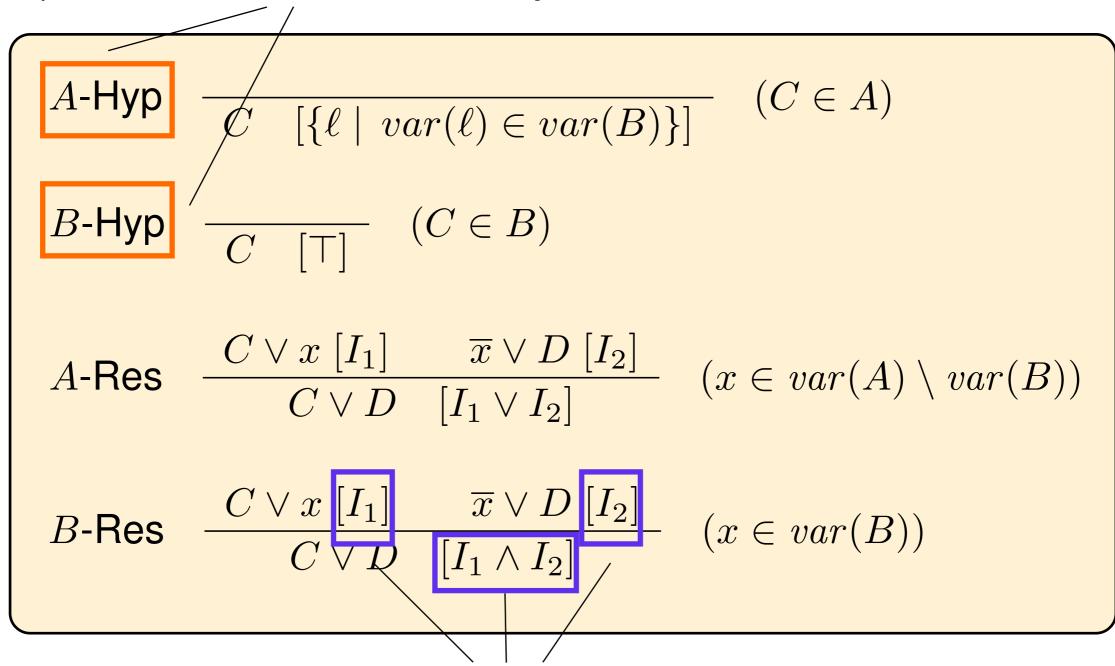




- Literals flow around in the proof
- Literals with opposite polarity cancel each other
- Propositional interpolant construction can be viewed as controlling initial inputs and gating the flows using a circuit
- Want to let shared variables flow through the A-part and restrict flow from the B-part.

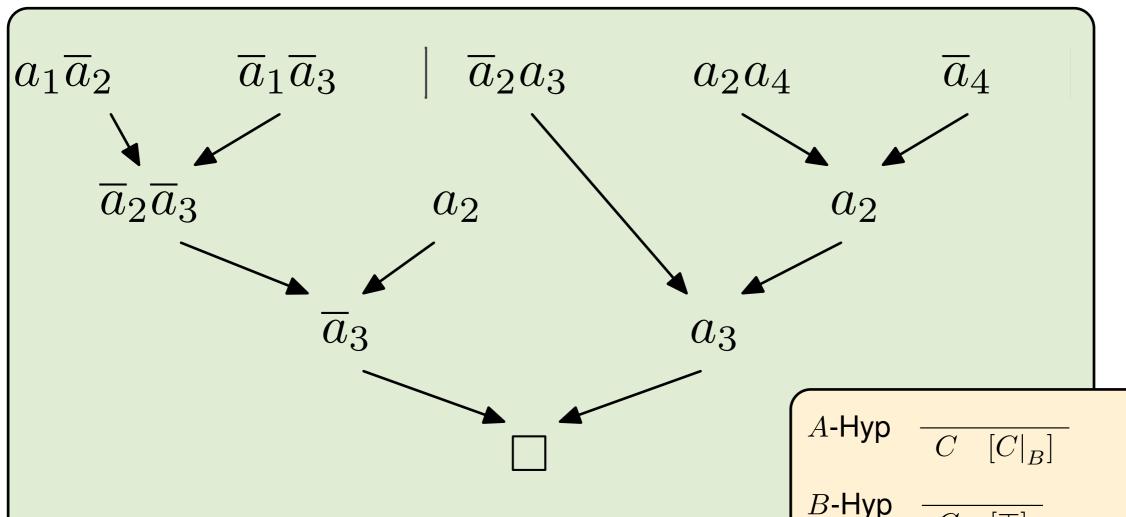
Interpolating Proof Rules

Split rules based on vocabulary



Annotate formulae with Partial Interpolants

Applying Interpolating Proof Rules



$$A = (a_1 \vee \overline{a}_2) \wedge (\overline{a}_1 \vee \overline{a}_3) \wedge a_2$$

$$B = (\overline{a}_2 \vee a_3) \wedge (a_2 \vee a_4) \wedge \overline{a}_4$$

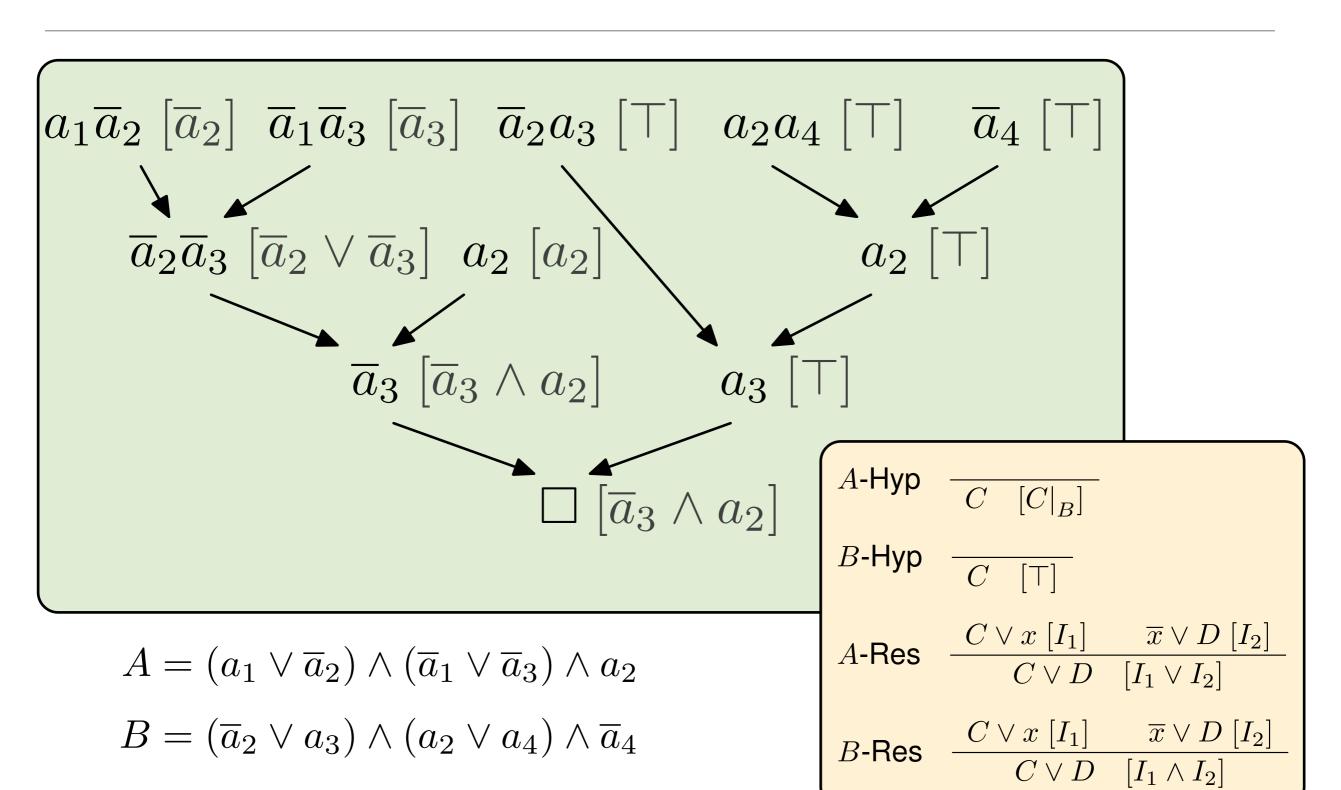
$$I =$$

$$B\text{-Hyp} \quad \overline{C} \quad [C|_B]$$

$$A\text{-Res} \quad \frac{C \vee x \ [I_1]}{C \vee D} \quad \overline{x} \vee D \ [I_2]}{C \vee D} \quad [I_1 \vee I_2]$$

$$B\text{-Res} \quad \frac{C \vee x \ [I_1]}{C \vee D} \quad \overline{x} \vee D \ [I_2]}{C \vee D} \quad [I_1 \wedge I_2]$$

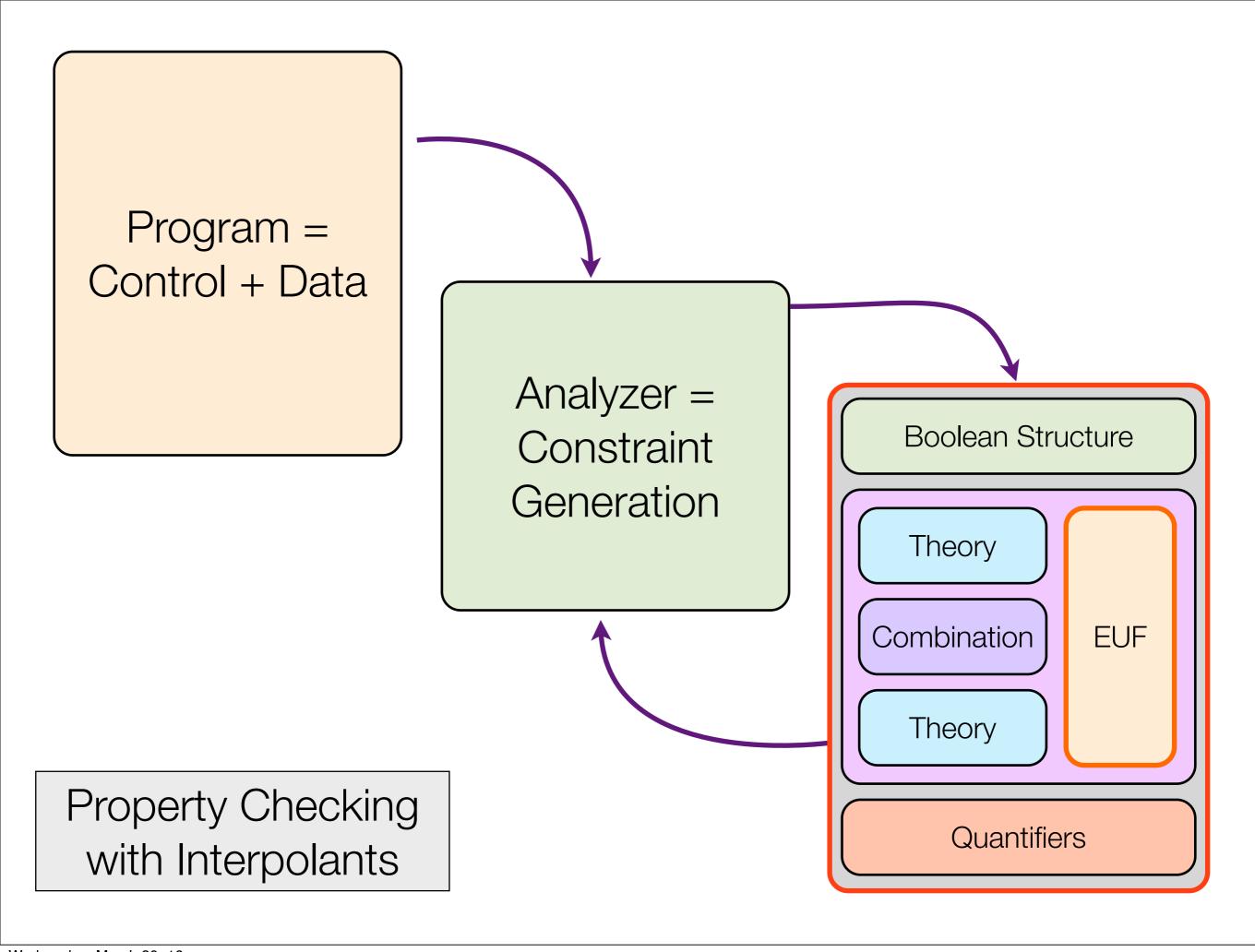
Applying Interpolating Proof Rules



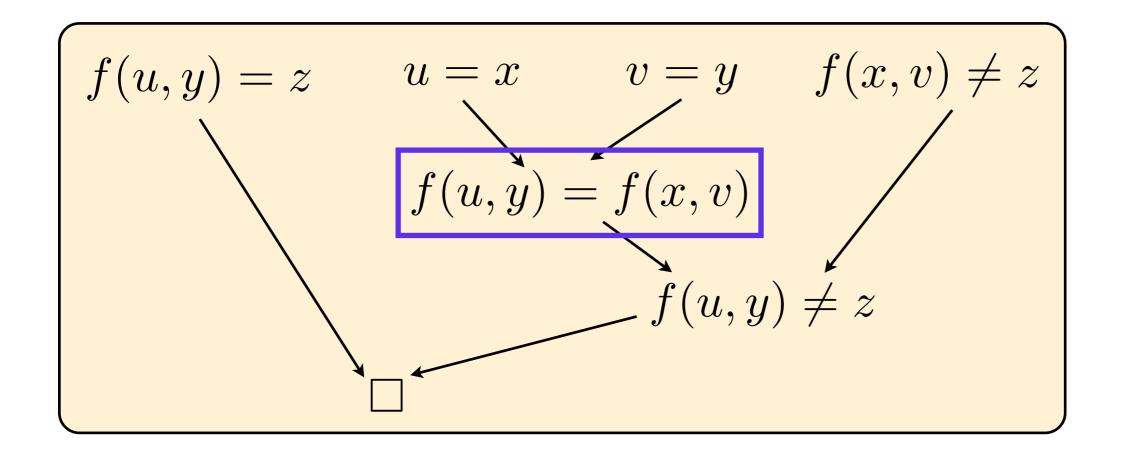
 $I = \overline{a}_3 \wedge a_2$

McMillan's Interpolation System

Theorem. The partial interplant labelling the empty clause is an interplant for A and B.



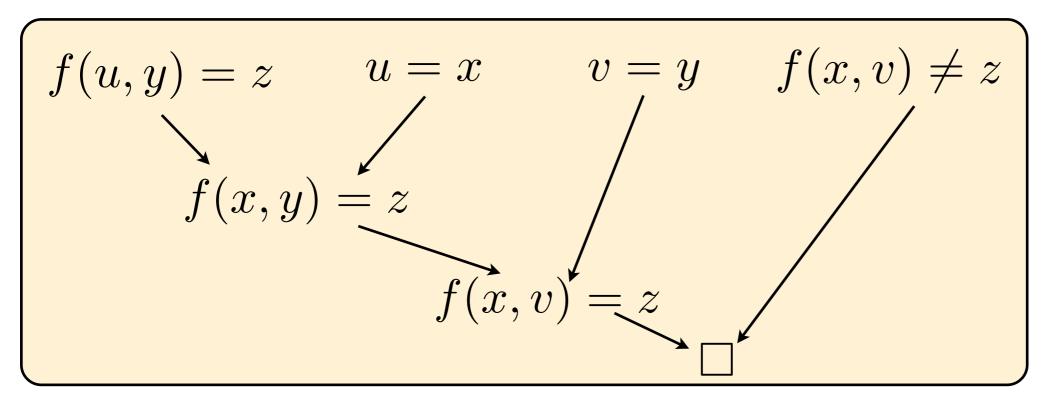
Equality Proofs



$$A = u = x \land f(u, y) = z$$
$$B = v = y \land f(x, v) \neq z$$
$$I = f(x, y) = z$$

- Deduced literals may not be in A or in B
- New terms may use non-shared symbols
- Interpolant may be over terms not in the proof

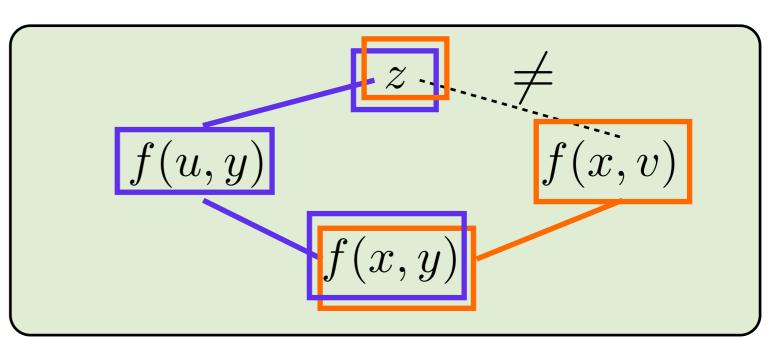
Coloured Congruence Graphs



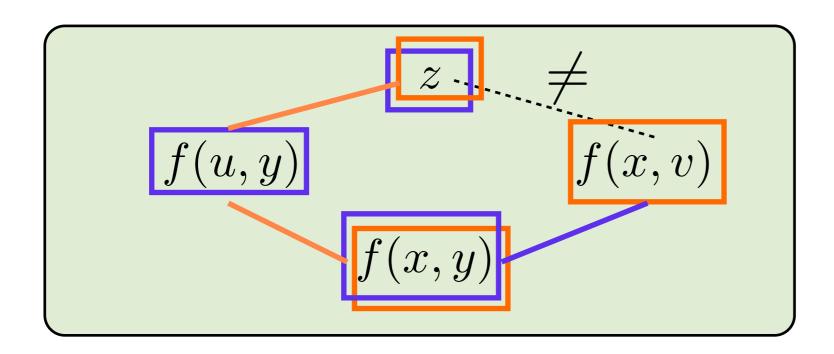
$$A = u = x \land f(u, y) = z$$

$$B = v = y \land f(x, v) \neq z$$

$$I = f(x, y) = z$$



Interpolation from Coloured Congruence Graphs



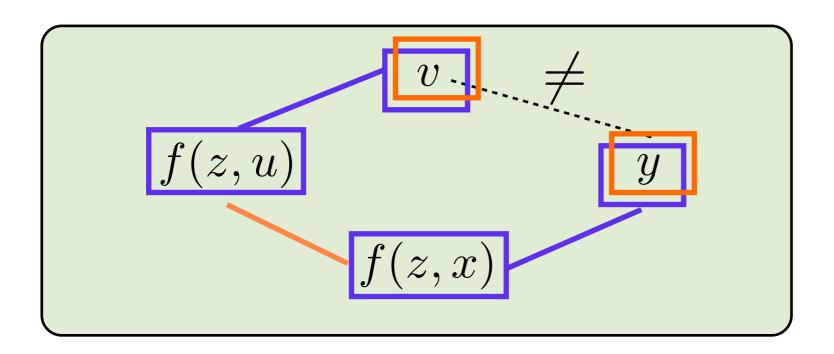
$$A = u = x \land f(u, y) = z$$

$$B = v = y \land f(x, v) \neq z$$

$$I = f(x, y) = z$$

- Modify graph to be colourable
- Take summaries A-paths by endpoints that are over the shared vocabulary
- Summarize B-paths as premises for Asummaries

Interpolation with B-Premises



$$A = v = f(z, u) \land y = f(z, x)$$

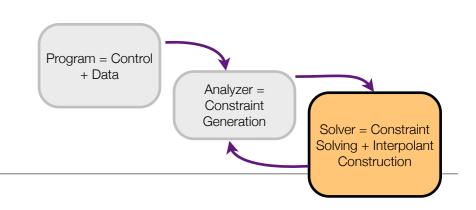
$$B = u = x \land v \neq y$$

$$I = u = x \implies v = y$$

- Mixes A and B reasoning
- Endpoints of B-reasoning paths are antecedents of implications for A
- Implication introduced by combination of congruence and shared reasoning

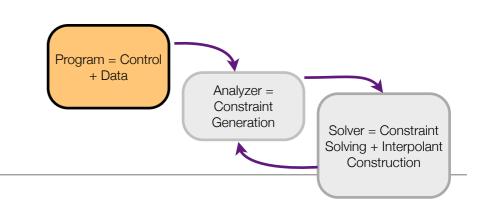
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4				

Interpolation and SMT



1957	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
1995	Huang, Const	ructing Craig In	terpolation Formu	las. (OTTER)	20	005 to present
2001	Amir, McIlraith	n, Partition-Base	ed Logical Reason	ing.	 <u>-</u>	for theories: numeric, strings, arrays, etc.
2003	McMillan, Inte	rpolation and S	AT-Based Model (Checking.	Interpolation combinations	for equality and theory s.
200	Henziger, Jha	la,Majumdar,Mo	cMillan, Abstractio	ns from Proofs	Quantified in	terpolants.
2005	McMillan, An	Interpolating Th	eorem Prover		Sequence, tr interpolants.	ree and DAG

Analysis with Interpolants

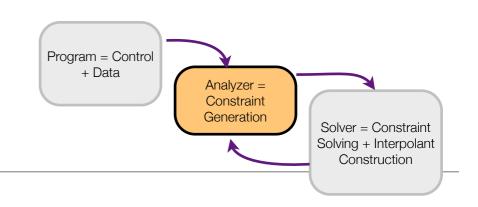


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1957	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010

2003	McMillan, Interpolation and SAT-Based Model Checking.
2004	Henzinger, Jhala, Majumdar, McMillan, Abstraction from Proofs.
2006	McMillan, Lazy Abstraction with Interpolants
2009	Vizel, Grumberg, Interpolation-Sequence Based Model Checking
2010	Heizmann, Hoenicke, Podelski, Nested Interpolants
2012	Albarghouthi, Gurfinkel, Chechik, Whale: An Inteprolation-Based Algorithm for Inter-Procedural Verification

2006 onwards				
Loops	Interpolant Sequence			
Recursion	Tree Interpolant			
Multiple Paths	DAG Interpolant			
Frameworks	Horn Clauses			

Analysis of Interpolants



1957	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010		
2006	Jhala, McMillan,	A Practical ar	nd Complete App	roach to Predica	te Refinement.	Theory Independent		
2010	D. Kroening, Pur	andare, Weis	senbacher, Interp	olant Strength.		Drop soitional Logic		
2012	Rollini, Sery, Sha	rygina. Levera	aging Interpolant	Strength in Mode	el Checking.	Propositional Logic		
2012	Alberti, Brutomes Interpolants for A		Ranise, Sharygin	a, Lazy Abstracti	on with			
2013	Albarghouthi, Mo	cMillan, Beaut	iful Interpolants.					
2013	Ruemmer, Subo	tic, Exploring	Interpolants.					

Further Reading: Propositional Interpolants

1995	Huang, Constructing Craig Interpolation Formulas. (OTTER)
1997	Jan Krajíček, Interpolation theorems, lower bounds for proof systems, and independence results for bounded arithmetic.
1997	Pudlák, Lower Bounds for Resolution and Cutting Plane Proofs and Monotone Computations
2003	McMillan, Interpolation and SAT-Based Model Checking.
2006	Yorsh, Musuvathi, A Combination Method for Generating Interpolants.
2009	Biere, Bounded Model Checking (in Handbook of Satisfiability).
2010	D. Kroening, Purandare, Weissenbacher. Interpolant Strength.

Further Reading: Equality Interpolants

1996	Fitting, First-Order Logic and Automated Theorem Proving
2005	McMillan, An Interpolating Theorem Prover
2006	Yorsh, Musuvathi, A Combination Method for Generating Interpolants.
2009	Fuchs, Goel, Grundy, Krstic, Tinelli, Ground Interpolation for the Theory of Equality.
2014	Bonacina, Johansson, Interpolation Systems for Ground Proofs in Automated Reasoning

Interpolation in Theories

2005	McMillan. Interpolating Theorem Prover	LA(Q)
2006	Kapur, Majumdar, Zarba, Interpolation for Data Structures	Datatype theories
2007	Rybalchenko, Sofronie-Stokkermans, Constraint Solving for Interpolation	LA(Q)
2008	Cimatti, Griggio, Sebastiani, Efficient Interpolant Generation in Satisfiability Modulo Theories	LA(Q), DL(Q), UTVPI
2008	Jain, Clarke, Grumberg, Efficient Craig Interpolation for Linear Diophantine (dis)Equations and Linear Modular Equations	LDE, LME
2009	Cimatti, Griggio, Sebastiani, Interpolant Generation for UTVPI	UTVPI
2011	Griggio, Effective Word-Level Interpolation for Software Verification	Bit-Vectors

Interpolation in Theory Combinations

2005	McMillan. Interpolating Theorem Prover	LA(Q) over EUF over Bool
2005	Yorsh and Musuvathi, A Combination Method for Generating Interpolants	Nelson-Oppen
2009	Cimatti, Griggio, Sebastiani, Efficient Generation of Craig Interpolants in Satisfiability Modulo Theories	Delayed Theory Combination
2009	Goel, Krstic, Tinelli, Ground Interpolation for Combined Theories	Proof transformation
2012	Kovacs, Voronkov, Playing in the Gray Area of Proofs	Proof Transformation