

The left side of the slide features a vertical arrangement of decorative elements. At the top is a pink butterfly. Below it is a white flower with a black center. Further down is a pink butterfly. At the bottom are several pink and white circular patterns, including a large pink circle with a black center, and a pink flower. The background is black with faint, light gray mandala-like patterns.

SAT-Based Model Checking Without Unrolling

Aaron R. Bradley



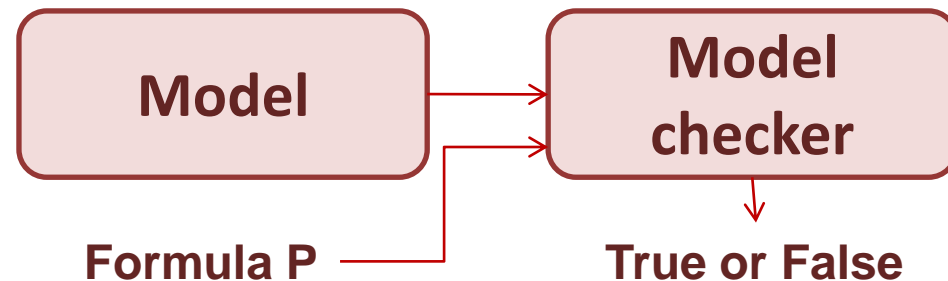
Outline

- Introduction to model checking
- Definitions
- Algorithm
- Conclusion
- References

Introduction (1/2)

Important part of formal verification

- What is model checking?
 - Objective : verify finite state systems formally.
 - Model **M** : finite state transition graph
 - Formula **P** : specification (temporal logic)
 - Check whether all reachable states s of M satisfy P , denoted **$M, s \models P$** .





Introduction (2/2)

- Types of model checking
 - BDD based
 - Too large for a great amount of variables
 - Variable ordering is time consuming
 - SAT based
 - Bounded Model Checking
 - Unbounded Model Checking
 - Unbounded symbolic model checking
 - Interpolation-based model checking (ITP)
 - SAT-based model checking without unrolling



Outline

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Definitions

Initial condition

transition relation

Next state

A set of Boolean variables

- **Finite-state transition system** $S : (\bar{x}, I(\bar{x}), T(\bar{x}, \bar{x}'))$

- **State** s : an assignment of \bar{x} .

$$s = x_1 x_2 \neg x_3$$

F-state : $S \models F$

- **Clause** : a disjunction of literals.

$$c = (x_1 + \neg x_3)$$

$$d = x_1 \subseteq c$$

Subclause $d \subseteq c$: The set of d 's literals is a subset of c 's.

- **Trace** s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots : $s_0 \models I$, $s_i, s'_{i+1} \models T$.

- **Safety property** $P(\bar{x})$: for the system S ,

P is **S-invariant** iff only P -states are reachable.

not invariant iff \exists a trace s_0, \dots, s_k such that $s_k \not\models P$

A state that appears in some traces is **reachable**.

$F(\bar{x})$: formula (can be seen as a set of states with variable $\in \bar{x}$)

Definitions

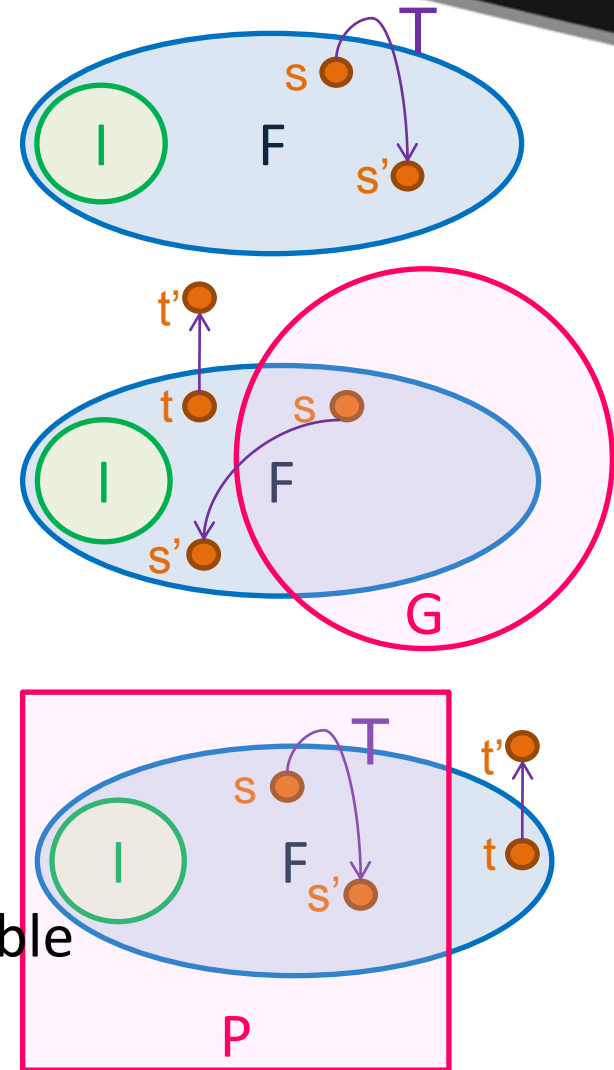
- $F(\bar{x})$ is **inductive** :
 - (1) initiation $I \Rightarrow F$
 - (2) consecution $F \wedge T \Rightarrow F'$
- $F(\bar{x})$ is **inductive relative** to $G(\bar{x})$:
 - (1) $I \Rightarrow F$
 - (2) $G \wedge F \wedge T \Rightarrow F'$
- $F(\bar{x})$ is **inductive strengthening** of P :
 - (1) $I \Rightarrow F \wedge P$
 - (2) $F \wedge P \wedge T \Rightarrow F' \wedge P'$

$$I \Rightarrow P$$

$$P \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$$

If F is a system \rightarrow only P -states are reachable

$\rightarrow P$ is **F-invariant**



Definitions

- **Inductive generalization** of a cube s : The process to find a **minimal inductive subclause** d of $\neg s$ (inductive relative to G)

(1) $d \subseteq \neg s$

subclause

(2) d is *inductive*. $I \Rightarrow d, d \wedge T \Rightarrow d'$

inductive

(3) d doesn't contain any *inductive* subclauses.

minimal

- How to find d :
 1. **down**: Let $d=c_0 = c$, check if $(I \Rightarrow d, G \wedge d \wedge T \Rightarrow d')$, d is inductive.
else let $d=c_1 = c_0 \cap \neg s$ (s : counterexample), iterate the process...
 2. **MIC**: $d \subseteq c$ is inductive but not necessarily minimal.
Let $d_1 = d$ (drop some literal), and call *down* to reduce its size.
If it fails, try a different literal until no literal can be dropped.

Example (1/3)

Counterexample

- Find minimal inductive subclause $d \subseteq \neg c$

- Assume $I = \{100\}$, $c = \{110\}$

Clauses(c) = $(xy\neg z)$

Clause($\neg c$) = $(\neg x + \neg y + z)$

- down*

Let $d = \neg c = \{000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 101, 111\} = (\neg x + \neg y + z)$

Check $(I \Rightarrow d) = \neg I + d = (\neg x + y + z) + (\neg x + \neg y + z) = T$

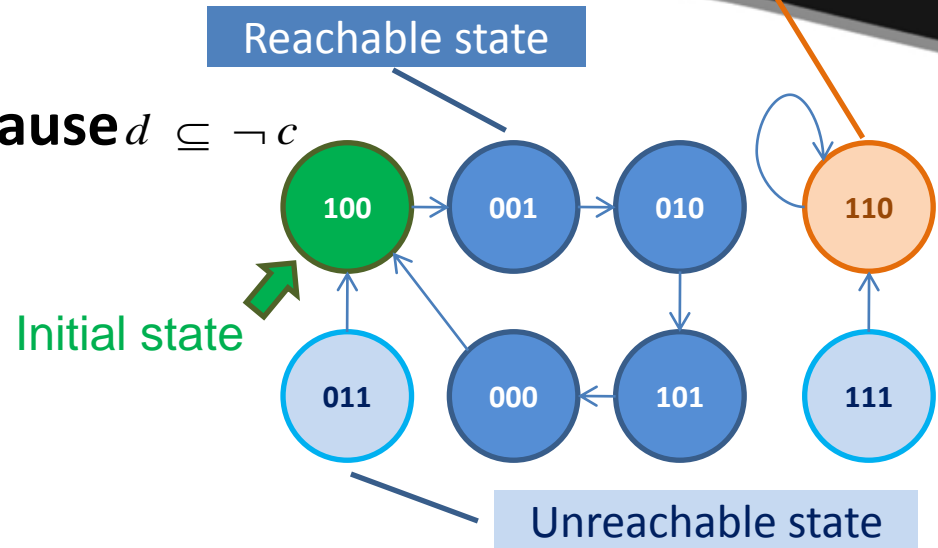
$(d \wedge T \Rightarrow d') = F \leftarrow$ there is a counterexample $s = \{111\}$ would exit d

Over-approximate

Let $d = d \cap \neg s = \{000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 101\} = (\neg x + \neg y)$

Check $(I \Rightarrow d) = \neg I + d = (\neg x + y + z) + (\neg x + \neg y) = T$

$(d \wedge T \Rightarrow d') = T$ return d



Example (2/3)

- MIC*

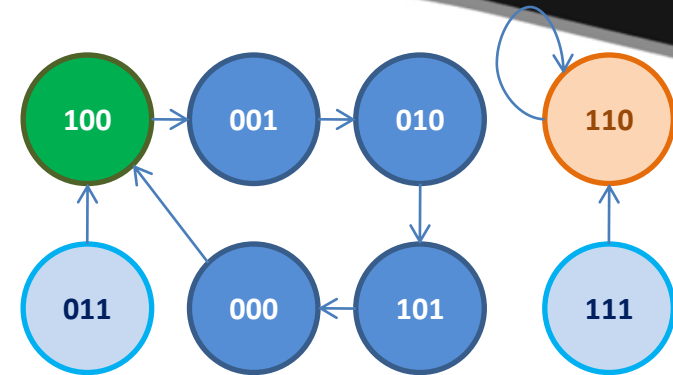
Let $d_1 = d$ (drop $\neg y$) = $\neg x$

call *down with Clause*($\neg c$) = $(\neg x + \neg y + z)$

Let $d = \neg x = \{000, 001, 010, 011\}$

Check $(I \Rightarrow d) = \neg I + d = (\neg x + y + z) + (\neg x) = F$ *return False*

$(d \wedge T \Rightarrow d') = F$



Example (3/3)

- MIC*

- Let $d_1 = d$ (drop $\neg x$) = $\neg y$

call *down with Clause*($\neg c$) = $(\neg x + \neg y + z)$

Let $d = \neg y = \{000, 001, 100, 101\}$

Check $(I \Rightarrow d) = \neg I + d = (\neg x + y + z) + (\neg y) = T$

$(d \wedge T \Rightarrow d') = F \leftarrow$ there is a counterexample $s = \{001\}$ would exit d

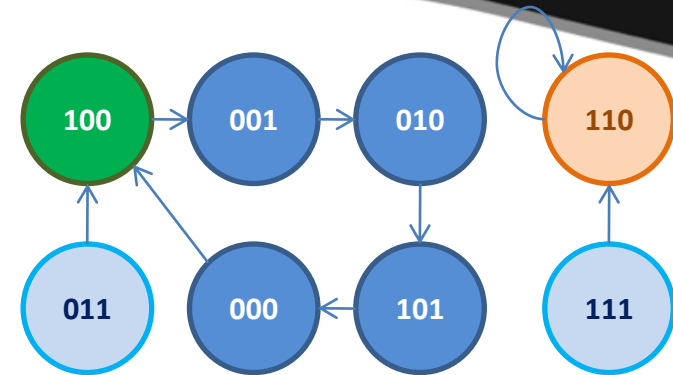
Let $d = d \cap \neg s = \{000, 100, 101\} = (\neg y)(x + y + \neg z) = (\neg y)(x + \neg z)$

Check $(I \Rightarrow d) = \neg I + d = (\neg x + y + z) + (\neg y)(x + \neg z) = T$

$(d \wedge T \Rightarrow d') = F \leftarrow$ there is a counterexample $s = \{100\}$ would exit d

Let $d = d \cap \neg s = \{000, 101\} \Rightarrow (I \Rightarrow d) = F$ return False

- $d = (\neg x + \neg y)$ is the minimal inductive subclause of c .





Outline

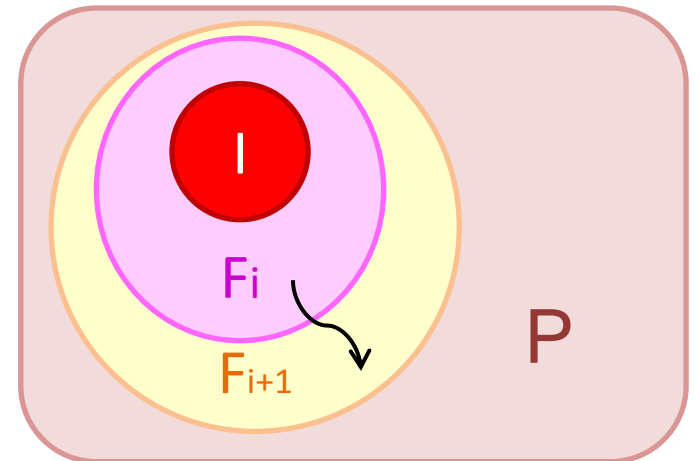
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Algorithm

- Input: a transition system S and a safety property P .
- Output: an **inductive strengthening** (if P is S -invariant)
or a **counterexample trace** (if P is not S -invariant)
- Core logical data structure

The algorithm incrementally refines and extends a sequence of formulas $F_0=I, F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k$ that are over-approximations of the sets of states reachable in at most 0, 1, 2, \dots , k steps. They obey the following properties:

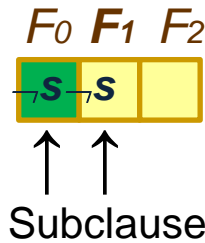
- (1) $I \Rightarrow F_0$
- (2) $F_i \Rightarrow F_{i+1}$
 $\text{clauses}(F_{i+1}) \subseteq \text{clauses}(F_i)$
- (3) $F_i \Rightarrow P$
- (4) $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$
for $0 \leq i \leq k$,



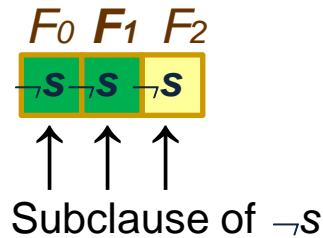
Computational Flow

- $F_0 = I$: the initial state set, check 0 or 1 step violation.
- $F_1 = P$: find 2 step violation from I $F_1 \wedge s \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg P'$
if $\neg s$ is inductive relative to F_i ($F_1 \wedge \neg s \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$), eliminate s by adding clauses($\neg s$) to record this information.

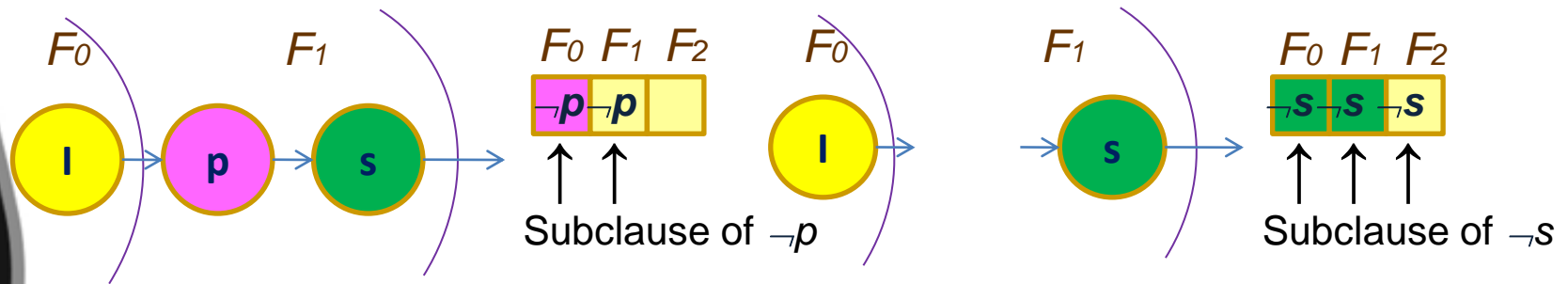
Ex. $i=0$



$i=1$



- Case[$i=0$]: $\neg s$ is not inductive relative to F_k , need to push.

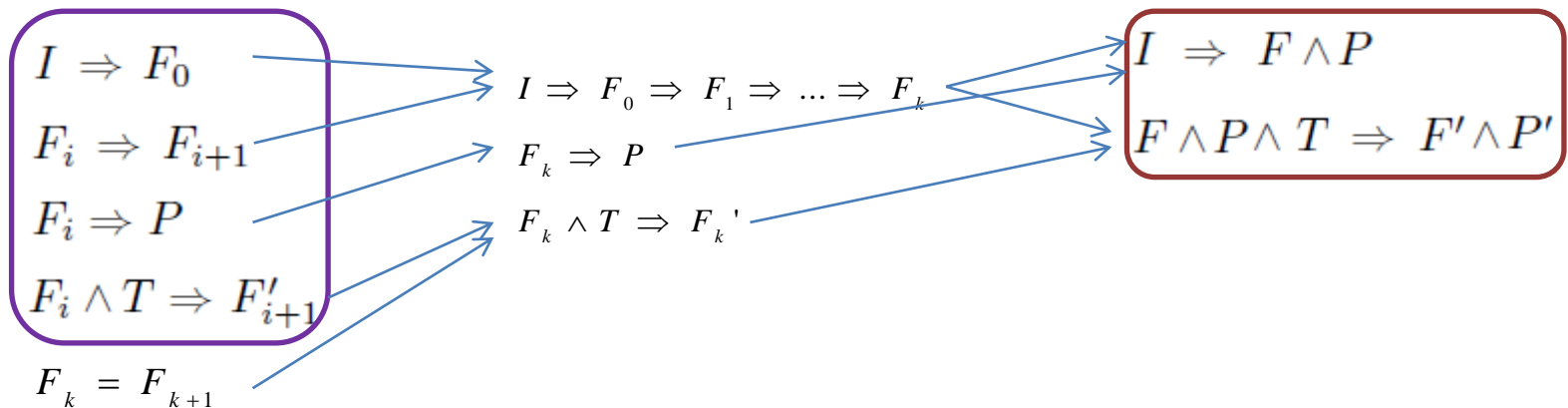


Computational Flow

- $F_2 = P$: find 3 step violation from $I \wedge F_2 \wedge s \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg P'$...
- If $F_{k+1} = F_k$, terminate the program and return true.
(P is inductive strengthening = P is invariant in this system)

Properties of F_i

Inductive strengthening



$$F_k = F_{k+1}$$

for $0 \leq i \leq k$,

Block Diagram

Make s inductive relative to F_k , so

Main function:
If P is S -invariant,
return true

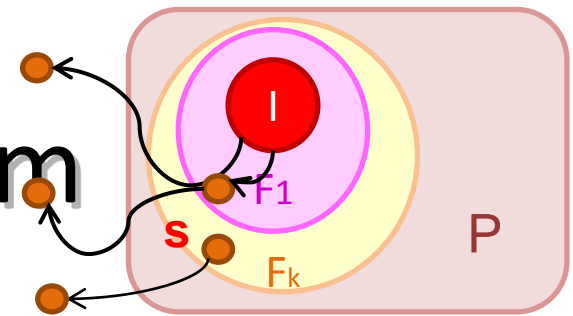
```

prove () {
  obvious violation
  for  $k = 1$  to ...
    check( $k$ )
    propagate( $k$ )
}
    
```

Ensure $F_{k+1} \Rightarrow P$

```

check ( $k$ ) {
  while  $F_k \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg P'$ 
     $s$  = the state lead
    to violation
     $i = \text{inductive}(s, k)$ 
    push( $\{i+1, s\}, k$ )
}
    
```



$F_0 \sim F_i$ cannot reach s .

```

inductive ( $s, k$ ) {
  Find  $\neg s$  is inductive
  relative to which  $F_i$ 
  (smallest  $i$ ), then add
  minimal subclause of
   $\neg s$  to  $F_0 \sim F_{i+1}$ , return  $i$ 
}
    
```

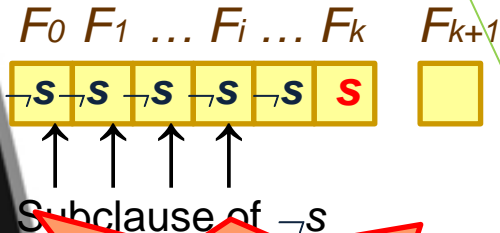
$F_{i+1} \sim F_k$ cannot reach s .

```

push ( $\{n, s\}, k$ ) {
  While(not all  $n$  of  $states > k$ )
  choose min  $n$ , if  $F_n \wedge T \Rightarrow s'$ 
     $p$  = predecessor of  $s$ 
     $m = \text{inductive}(p, k)$   $p \wedge T \Rightarrow s$ 
    add  $\{m+1, p\}$  to  $states$ 
  else
     $m = \text{inductive}(s, k)$ 
     $states \setminus \{n, s\} \cup \{m+1, s\}$ 
}
    
```

```

propagate ( $k$ ) {
  for  $i = 1$  to  $k$ 
     $\forall c \in clauses(F_i)$ 
    if  $c$  not in  $F_{i+1}$ 
      &  $F_i \wedge T \not\Rightarrow \neg c'$ 
      add  $c$  to  $F_{i+1}$ 
    If  $F_{i+1} = F_i$  return true
}
    
```



If $i < k-1$, F_k still contains s

Example (1/4)

- Example $I = \{000\}$, $P = \neg x + \neg y + \neg z$

prove() {

(0 or 1 step violation) // false

initialize // $F_0 = \{000\}$, $F_1 = F_2 = F_3 = \dots = P$

for // $k = 1$

check (k=1) {

while (F_1 will go to $\neg P$) // true

s = the state lead to violation // $s = \{111\}$

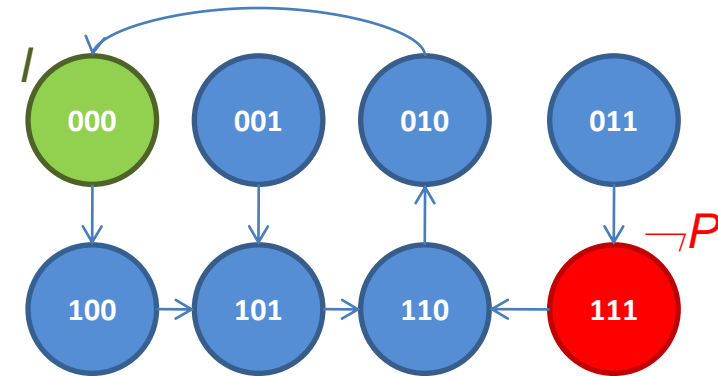
i = **inductive (s, k=1)** {

find $\neg s$ inductive relative to F_0

eliminate s in F_0, F_1 // $F_0 = \{000\}$, $F_1 = P \setminus \{111\}$

} // $i=0$

push ({n=1, s=111}, k=1)



```

prove () {
  obvious violation
  for  $k = 1$  to ...
    check( $k$ )
    propagate( $k$ )
}

```

```

check (k) {
  while  $F_k \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg P'$ 
     $s$  = the state lead
      to violation
     $i$  = inductive( $s, k$ )
    push( $\{i+1, s\}, k$ )
}

```

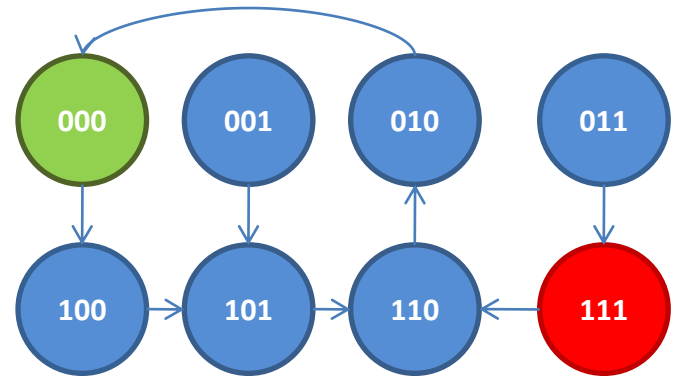
```

inductive (s, k) {
  Find  $\neg s$  is inductive
  relative to which  $F_i$ 
  (smallest  $i$ ), then add
  minimal subclause of
   $\neg s$  to  $F_0 \sim F_{i+1}$ , return  $i$ 
}

```

Example (2/4)

- Example $I = \{000\}$, $P = \neg x + \neg y + \neg z$



```
push ({n, s}, k) {
  While(not all n of states > k)
  choose min n, if  $F_n \wedge T \Rightarrow s'$ 
    p = predecessor of s
    m = inductive(p, k)  $p \wedge T \Rightarrow s$ 
    add {m+1, p} to states
  else
    m = inductive(s, k)
    states \ {n, s} U {m+1, s} }
```

```
push ({n=1, s=111}, k=1) {
```

```
  while (not all n > k) { // true, states = {1,111}
```

```
    choose {1, s}, if( $F_n \wedge T \Rightarrow s'$ ) // true
```

```
    p = predecessor of s // p = {011}
```

```
    m = inductive(p, k=1) {
```

```
      find  $\neg p$  inductive relative to  $F_1$ 
```

```
      eliminate s in  $F_0, F_1, F_2$ 
```

```
      //  $F_0 = \{000\}, F_1 = P \setminus \{111, 011\}, F_2 = P \setminus \{011\}$ 
```

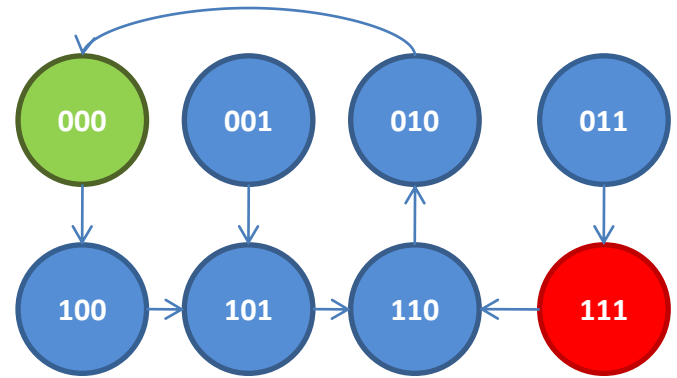
```
    } // m = 1
```

```
    add {2, p} to states // states = {1,111}, {2,011}
```

```
  }
```

Example (3/4)

- Example $I = \{000\}$, $P = \neg x + \neg y + \neg z$



```

push ({n, s}, k) {
  While(not all n of states > k)
  choose min n, if  $F_n \wedge T \Rightarrow s'$ 
     $p$  = predecessor of  $s$ 
     $m = \text{inductive}(p, k)$   $p \wedge T \Rightarrow s$ 
    add  $\{m+1, p\}$  to states
  else
     $m = \text{inductive}(s, k)$ 
    states  $\setminus \{n, s\} \cup \{m+1, s\}$ 
}

```

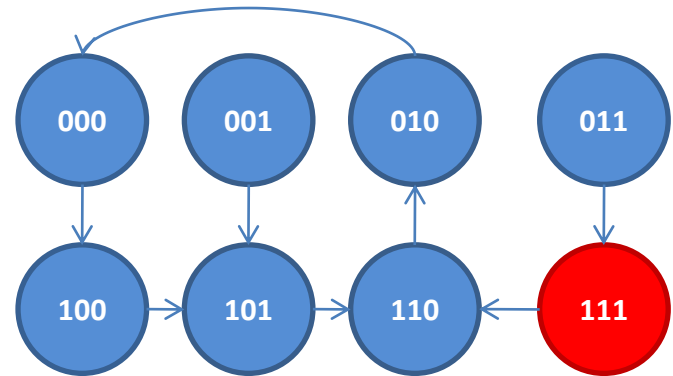
```

while (not all  $n > k$ ) // true, states = {1,111}, {2,011}
  choose {1, s}, if( $F_n \wedge T \Rightarrow s'$ ) // false, because  $F_1 = P \setminus \{111, 011\}$ 
  m = inductive (s, k=1) {
    find  $\neg s$  inductive relative to  $F_1$ 
    eliminate s in  $F_0, F_1, F_2$ 
    //  $F_0 = \{000\}, F_1 = P \setminus \{111, 011\}, F_2 = P \setminus \{111, 011\}$ 
  } // m = 1
  states  $\setminus \{1, s\} \cup \{2, s\}$  // states = {2,111}, {2,011}

```

Example (4/4)

- Example $I = \{000\}$, $P = \neg x + \neg y + \neg z$



```

push ({n, s}, k) {
  While(not all n of states > k)
  choose min n, if  $F_n \wedge T \Rightarrow s'$ 
    p = predecessor of s
    m = inductive(p, k)  $p \wedge T \Rightarrow s$ 
    add {m+1, p} to states
  else
    m = inductive(s, k)
    states \ {n, s} U {m+1, s} }
  
```

while (not all $n > k$) // false, states = {2,111}, {2,011}

// exit push

// $F_0 = \{000\}$, $F_1 = P \setminus \{111, 011\}$, $F_2 = P \setminus \{111, 011\}$

// $F_0 = \neg x \neg y \neg z$, $F_1 = \neg y + \neg z$, $F_2 = \neg y + \neg z$

propagate(1) {

for $i = 1$

for $c = (\neg y + \neg z)$ if(...) // false

if $F_{i+1} = F_i$ return true //true

}

```

propagate (k) {
  for i = 1 to k
     $\forall c \in clauses (F_i)$ 
    if c not in  $F_{i+1}$ 
      &  $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg c'$ 
      add c to  $F_{i+1}$ 
    If  $F_{i+1} = F_i$  return true}
  
```

```

prove () {
  obvious violation
  for k = 1 to ...
    check(k)
    propagate(k)
}
  
```

Prove return true $\rightarrow P$ is invariant ! (It cannot reach $\neg P$ state)



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Conclusion (1/2)

- Performance of ic3 in HWMCC'10
 - Incremental generation of stepwise-relative inductive clauses is a promising new approach to symbolic model checking.
 - It is amenable to simple yet effective parallelization.
- Future work :
 - How inductive clause generation can be used to accelerate finding counterexamples
 - Apply the ideas of stepwise-relative inductive generalization to an infinite-state setting.



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Reference

- Orna Grumberg and Helmut Veith , *25 years of model checking: history, achievements, perspectives*



Thanks for your attention.

