

# Side Channel Analysis Using a Model Counting Constraint Solver and Symbolic Execution

Tevfik Bultan

Computer Science Department

University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Joint work with:

Abdulgaki Aydin, Lucas Bang, UCSB

Corina Pasareanu, Quoc-Sang Phan, CMU, NASA

# Verification Laboratory (VLab)

## University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)



- VLab: Research on automated verification, program analysis, formal methods, software engineering, computer security
- Recent research: String analysis, Model counting constraint solvers, Side channel analysis, Data model verification, Web application verification and security
- Always looking for talented and hard working graduate students!

## Publications most closely related to this talk

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- ▶ “String Analysis for Side Channels with Segmented Oracles.” Lucas Bang ,Abdulbaki Aydin , Quoc-Sang Phan, Corina S. Pasareanu ,Tevfik Bultan, FSE’16.
- ▶ “Automata-based Model Counting for String Constraints.” Abdulbaki Aydin, Lucas Bang, Tevfik Bultan, CAV’15.

# Quantitative Information Flow Problem

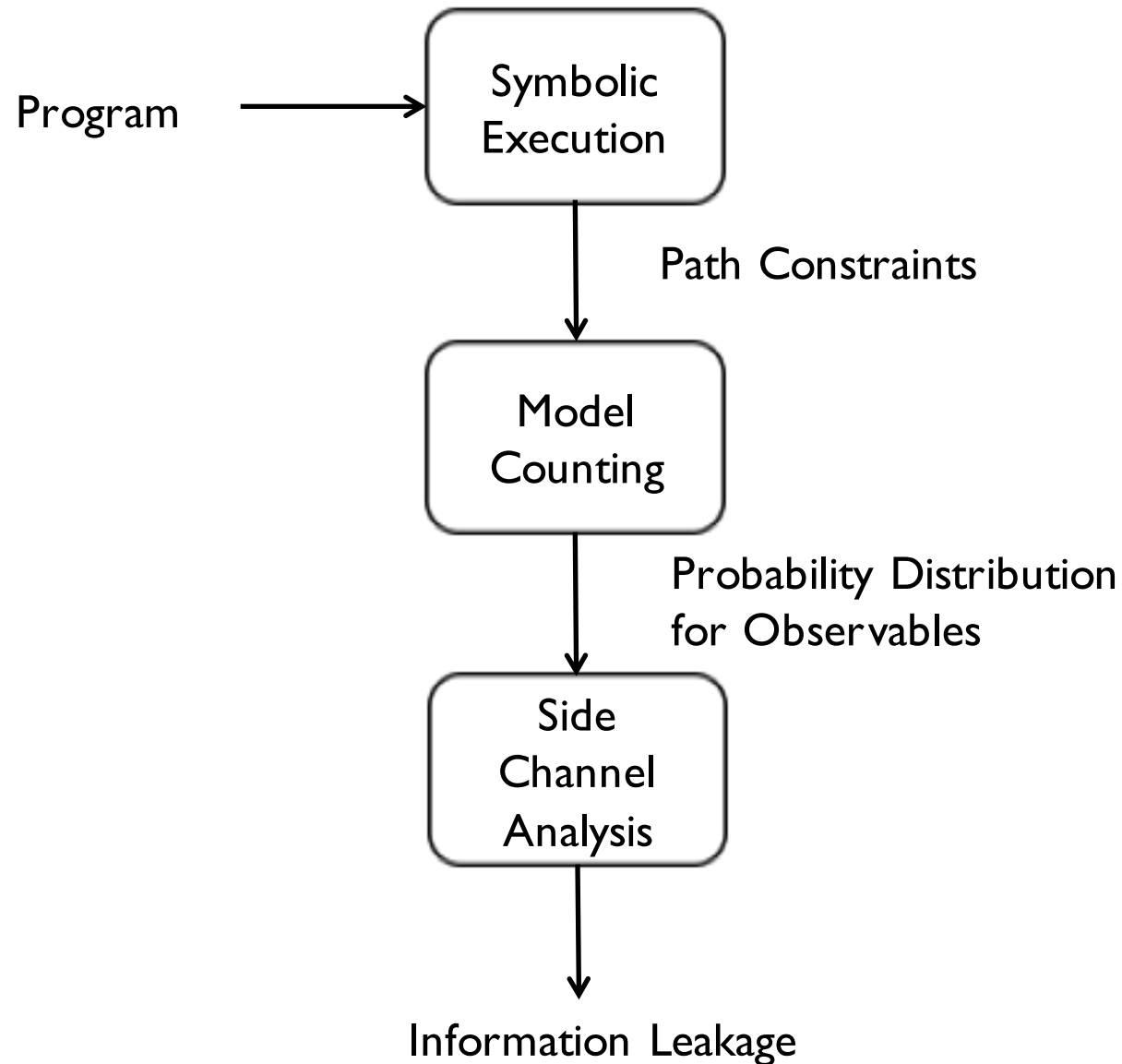
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Given a program and a secret that the program accesses:

Figure out how much information is leaked about the secret by observing the behavior of the program

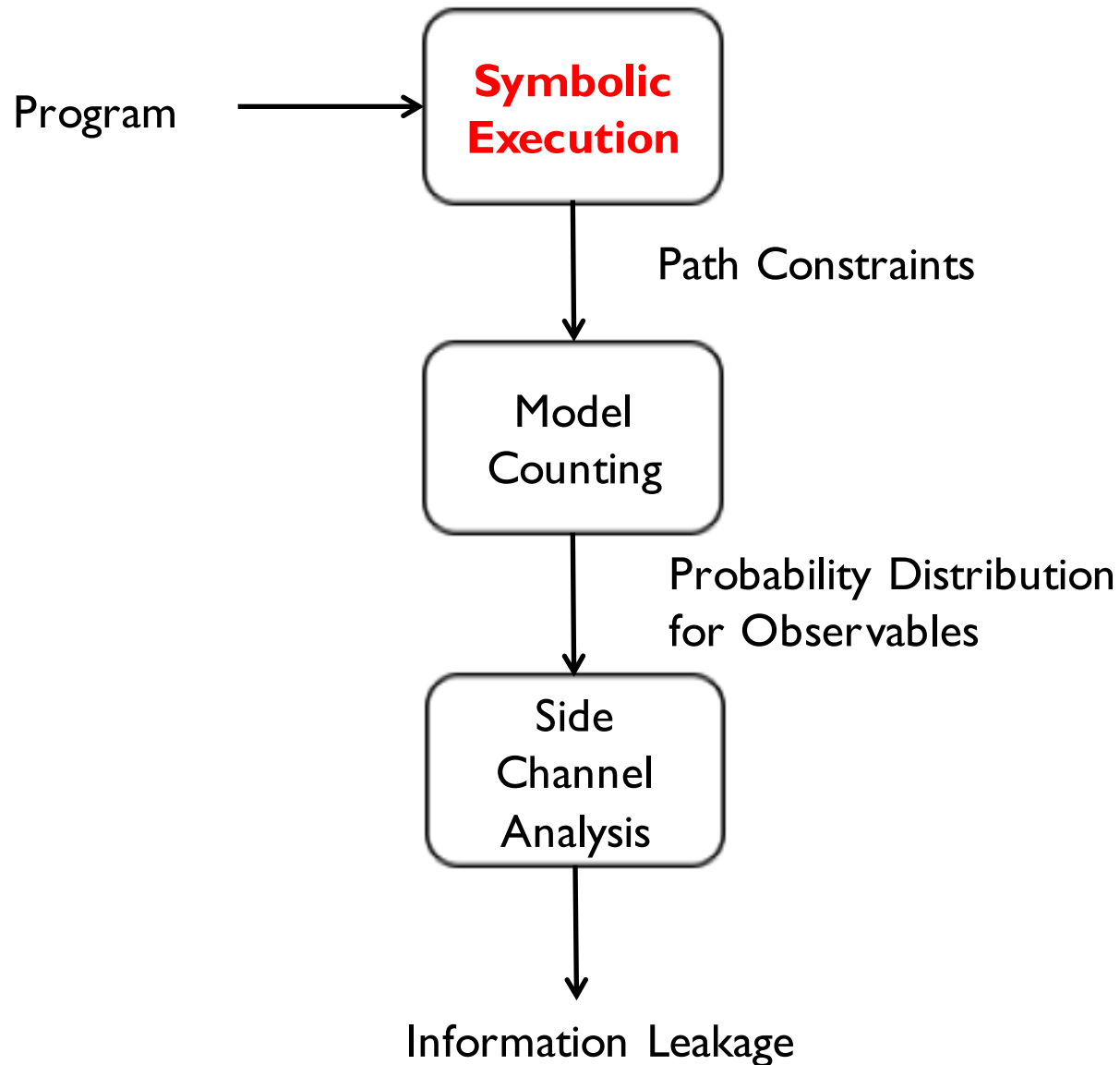
# Overview

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# Overview

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# A 4-digit PIN Checker

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```
bool checkPIN(guess[])  
for(i = 0; i < 4; i++)  
    if(guess[i] != PIN[i])  
        return false  
return true
```

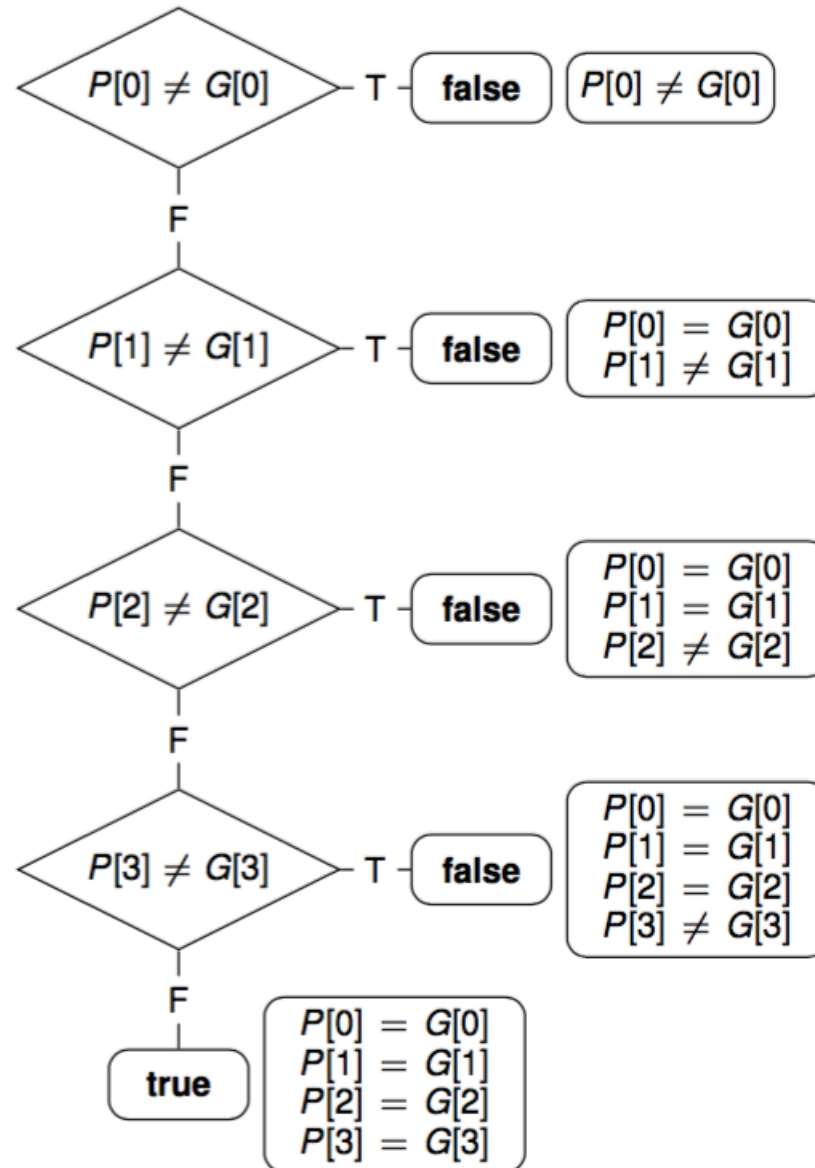
*P*: PIN, *G*: guess



# Symbolic Execution of PIN Checker

```
bool checkPIN(guess[])  
for(i = 0; i < 4; i++)  
    if(guess[i] != PIN[i])  
        return false  
return true
```

*P*: PIN, *G*: guess





# Probabilistic Symbolic Execution

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Can we determine the probability of executing a program path?

- ▶ Let  $PC_i$  denote the path constraint for a program path
- ▶ Let  $|PC_i|$  denote the number of possible solutions for  $PC_i$
- ▶ Let  $|D|$  denote the size of the input domain
- ▶ Assume uniform distribution over the input domain
- ▶ Then the probability of executing that program path is:

$$p(PC_i) = |PC_i| / |D|$$



# Probabilistic Symbolic Execution of PIN Checker

- ▶ Assume binary 4 digit PIN, P and G each have 4 bits
- ▶  $|D| = 2^8 = 256$

i	0	1	2	3	4
$PC_i$	$P[0] \neq G[0]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] \neq G[1]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] \neq G[2]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] \neq G[3]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] = G[3]$
$ PC_i $					
$p_i$					

- ▶  $p(PC_i) = |PC_i| / |D|$

# Probabilistic Symbolic Execution of PIN Checker

- ▶ Assume binary 4 digit PIN, P and G each have 4 bits
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$ PC_i $	128				
$p_i$	1/2				

- ▶  $p(PC_i) = |PC_i| / |D|$

# Probabilistic Symbolic Execution of PIN Checker

- ▶ Assume binary 4 digit PIN, P and G each have 4 bits
- ▶  $|D| = 2^8 = 256$

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$ PC_i $	128	64			
$p_i$	1/2	1/4			

- ▶  $p(PC_i) = |PC_i| / |D|$

# Probabilistic Symbolic Execution of PIN Checker

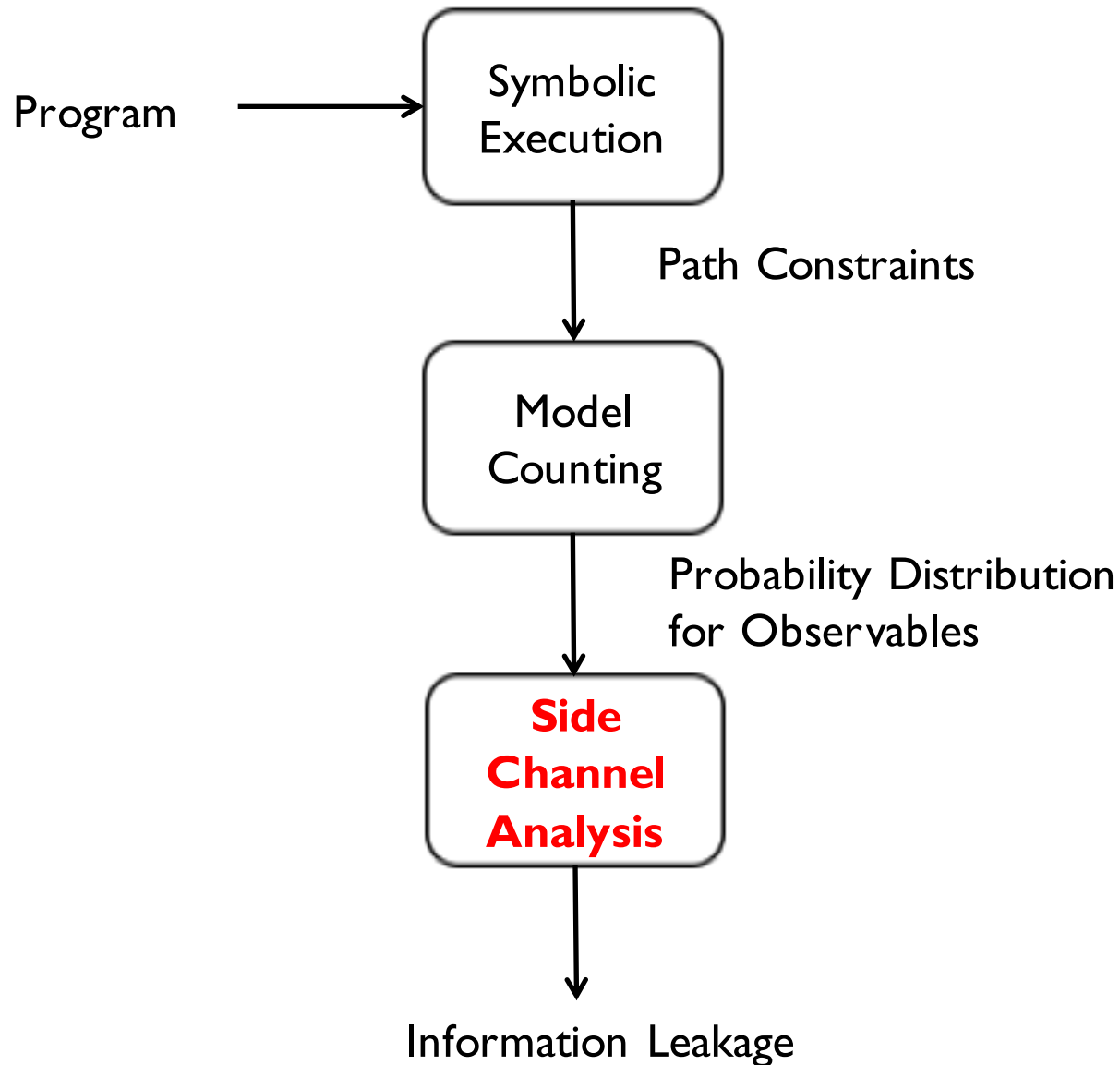
- ▶ Assume binary 4 digit PIN, P and G each have 4 bits
- ▶  $|D| = 2^8 = 256$

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$PC_i$	$P[0] \neq G[0]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] \neq G[1]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] \neq G[2]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] \neq G[3]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] = G[3]$
$ PC_i $	128	64	32	16	16
$p_i$	1/2	1/4	1/8	1/16	1/16

- ▶ Probability that an adversary can guess a prefix of length i in one guess is given by  $p_i$

# Overview

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# Information Leakage

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- ▶ Note that any PIN checker leaks information about the secret (secret is the pin value  $P$ )
- ▶ When an adversary tries a guess  $G$  there are two scenarios:
  - If  $G$  matches  $P$  then adversary learns the PIN
  - If  $G$  does not match  $P$ , then the adversary learns that the PIN value is not  $G$
- ▶ This is due to the public output of the PIN checker
  - This is called the **main channel**
- ▶ However, there may be other observations one can make about the PIN checker that reveals more information about  $P$



# Information Leakage

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- ▶ An adversary may observe more than just the public output of a program, such as
  - execution time
  - memory usage
  - file size
  - network package size
- ▶ There may be information leakage about the secret from these observable values
- ▶ These are called **side channels**

# Entropy: Quantifying Information Leakage

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- ▶ How can we quantify information leakage?
- ▶ Shannon Entropy

$$H = \sum p_i \log \frac{1}{p_i} = E \left[ \log \frac{1}{p_i} \right]$$

- ▶ Intuition:
- ▶ The **expected** amount of **information gain** (i.e., the expected amount of surprise) expressed in terms of **bits**

# Entropy: Quantifying Information Leakage

$$H = \sum p_i \log \frac{1}{p_i} = E \left[ \log \frac{1}{p_i} \right]$$

- ▶ Entropy example:
- ▶ Seattle weather in December: Always raining
- ▶  $p_{\text{rain}} = 1, p_{\text{sun}} = 0$
- ▶ Entropy:  $H = 0$
  
- ▶ San Francisco weather in December: Coin flip
- ▶  $p_{\text{rain}} = 1/2, p_{\text{sun}} = 1/2$
- ▶ Entropy:  $H = 1$
  
- ▶ Santa Barbara weather in December: Almost always beautiful:
- ▶  $p_{\text{rain}} = 1/10, p_{\text{sun}} = 9/10$
- ▶ Entropy:  $H = 0.496$

# Information Leakage via Side Channels

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- ▶ Side channels produce a set of observables that partition the secret:  $\mathcal{O} = \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_m\}$

- ▶ By computing the probability of observable values we can compute the entropy:

$$\mathcal{H}(P) = - \sum_{i=1, m} p(o_i) \log_2(p(o_i))$$

- ▶ We can compute the probability of observable values using model counting:

the probability of observing  $o_i$  is:

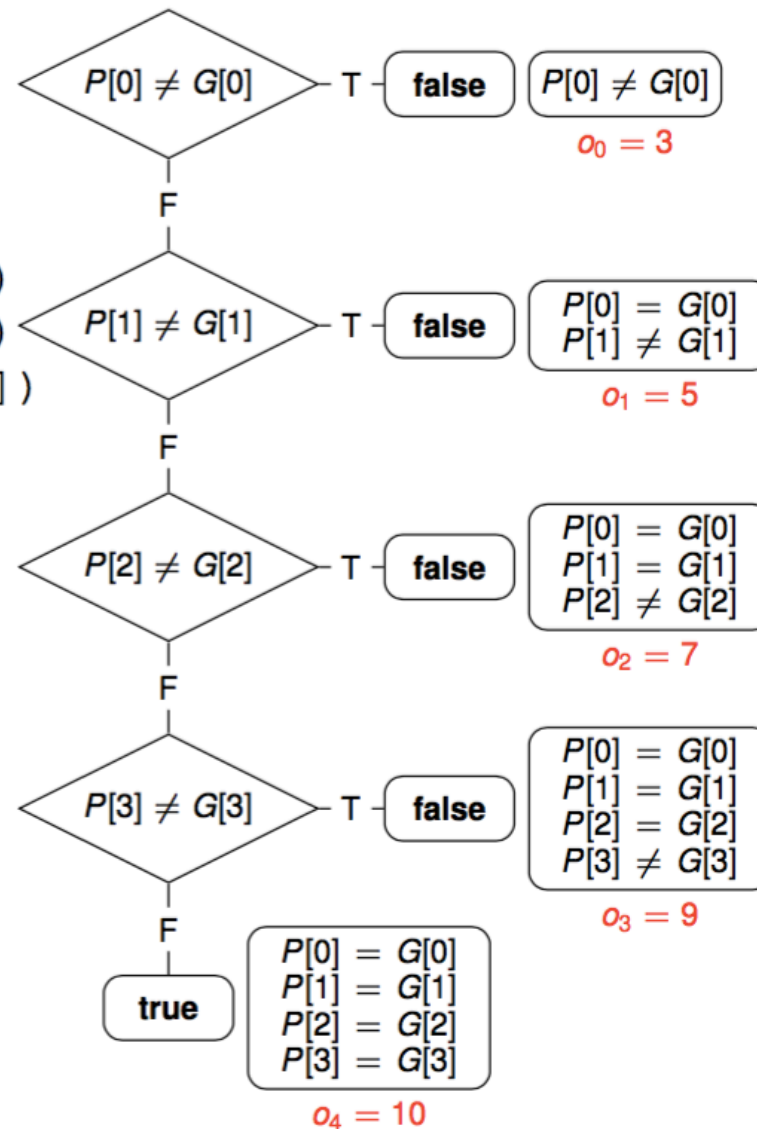
$$p(o_i) = \frac{\sum_{\text{cost}(\pi_j)=o_i} \#(PC_j(h, l))}{\#D}$$

# Symbolic Execution of PIN Checker

```
bool checkPIN(guess[])  
for(i = 0; i < 4; i++)  
    if(guess[i] != PIN[i])  
        return false  
return true
```

$P$ : PIN,  $G$ : guess

$o_i$  = lines of code



# Probabilistic Symbolic Execution of PIN Checker

- ▶ Assume binary 4 digit PIN, P and G each have 4 bits
- ▶  $|D| = 2^8 = 256$

i	0	1	2	3	4
$PC_i$	$P[0] \neq G[0]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] \neq G[1]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] \neq G[2]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] \neq G[3]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] = G[3]$
return	false	false	false	false	true
$ PC_i $	128	64	32	16	16
$p_i$	1/2	1/4	1/8	1/16	1/16
$o_i$	3	5	7	9	10

# Information Leakage

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$PC_i$	$P[0] \neq G[0]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] \neq G[1]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] \neq G[2]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] \neq G[3]$	$P[0] = G[0]$ $P[1] = G[1]$ $P[2] = G[2]$ $P[3] = G[3]$
return	false	false	false	false	true
$ PC_i $	128	64	32	16	16
$p_i$	1/2	1/4	1/8	1/16	1/16
$o_i$	3	5	7	9	10

$$H = \sum p_i \log \frac{1}{p_i} = 1.8750$$

- ▶ H: The expected amount of information gain by the adversary



# A secure PIN checker

```
public verifyPassword (guess[])
  matched = true
  for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++)
    if (guess[i] != PIN[i])
      matched = false
    else
      matched = matched
  return matched
```

- ▶ Only two observables (just the main channel, no side channel):  $o_0$ : does not match,  $o_1$ : full match
- ▶  $p(o_0) = 15/16$ ,  $p(o_1) = 1/16$
- ▶  $H_{\text{secure}} = 0.33729$

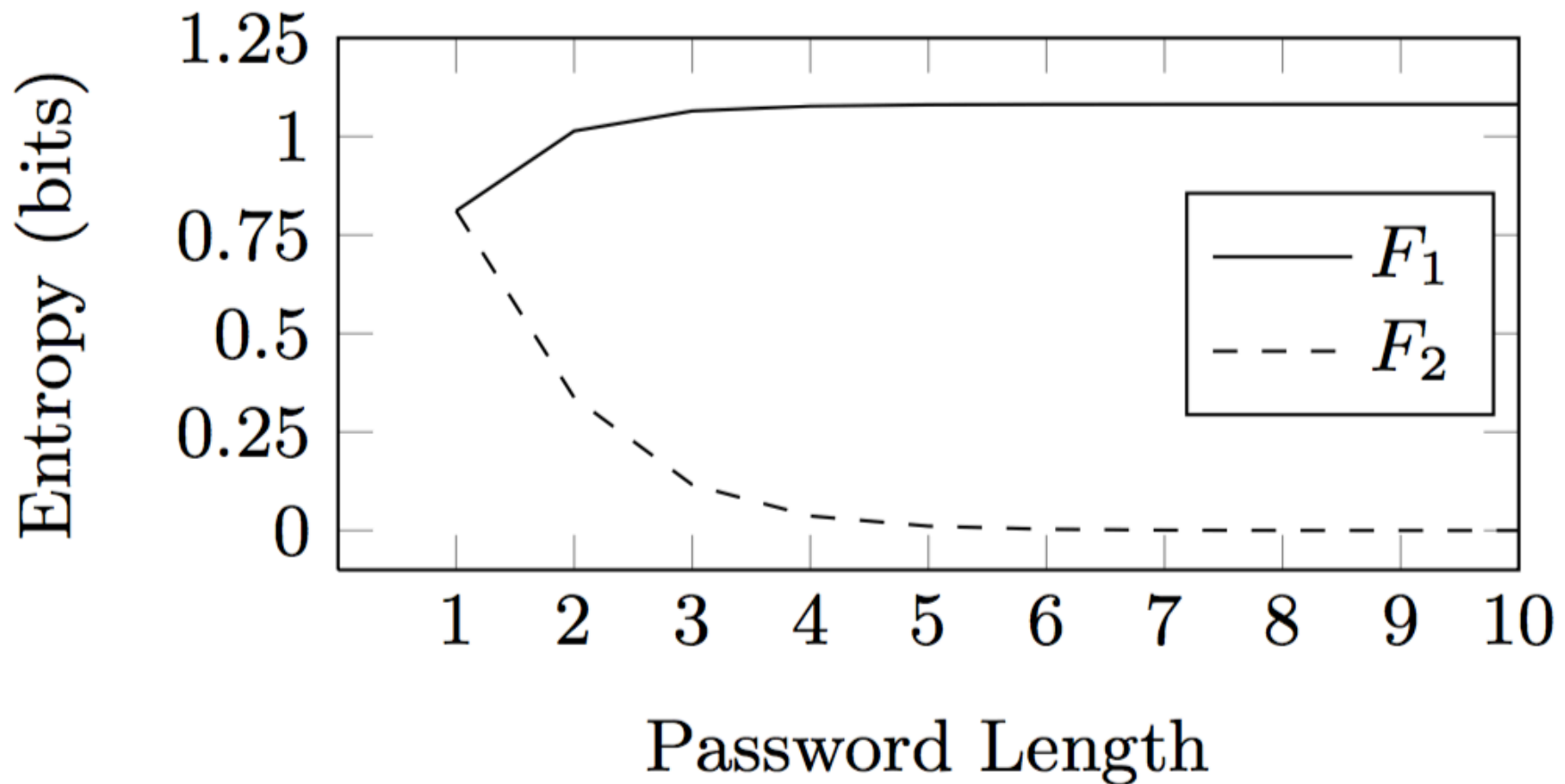
# Secure vs. insecure PIN checker

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- ▶ Given a PIN of length  $L$  where each PIN digit has  $K$  values
- ▶ Secure PIN checker
  - ▶  $K^L$  guesses in the worst case
  - ▶ Example: 16 digit password where each digit is ASCII  
 $128^{16}$  tries in the worst case, which would take a lot of years
- ▶ Insecure PIN checker
  - ▶ A **prefix attack** that determines each digit one by one starting with the leftmost digit
  - ▶ Example: 16 digit password where each digit is ASCII  
 $128 \times 16$  tries in the worst case, which would not take too much time

# Secure vs. insecure PIN checker

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# Not just a toy example

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Vulnerabilities that are similar to the simple PIN example happen in real software systems

## Timing Side Channels

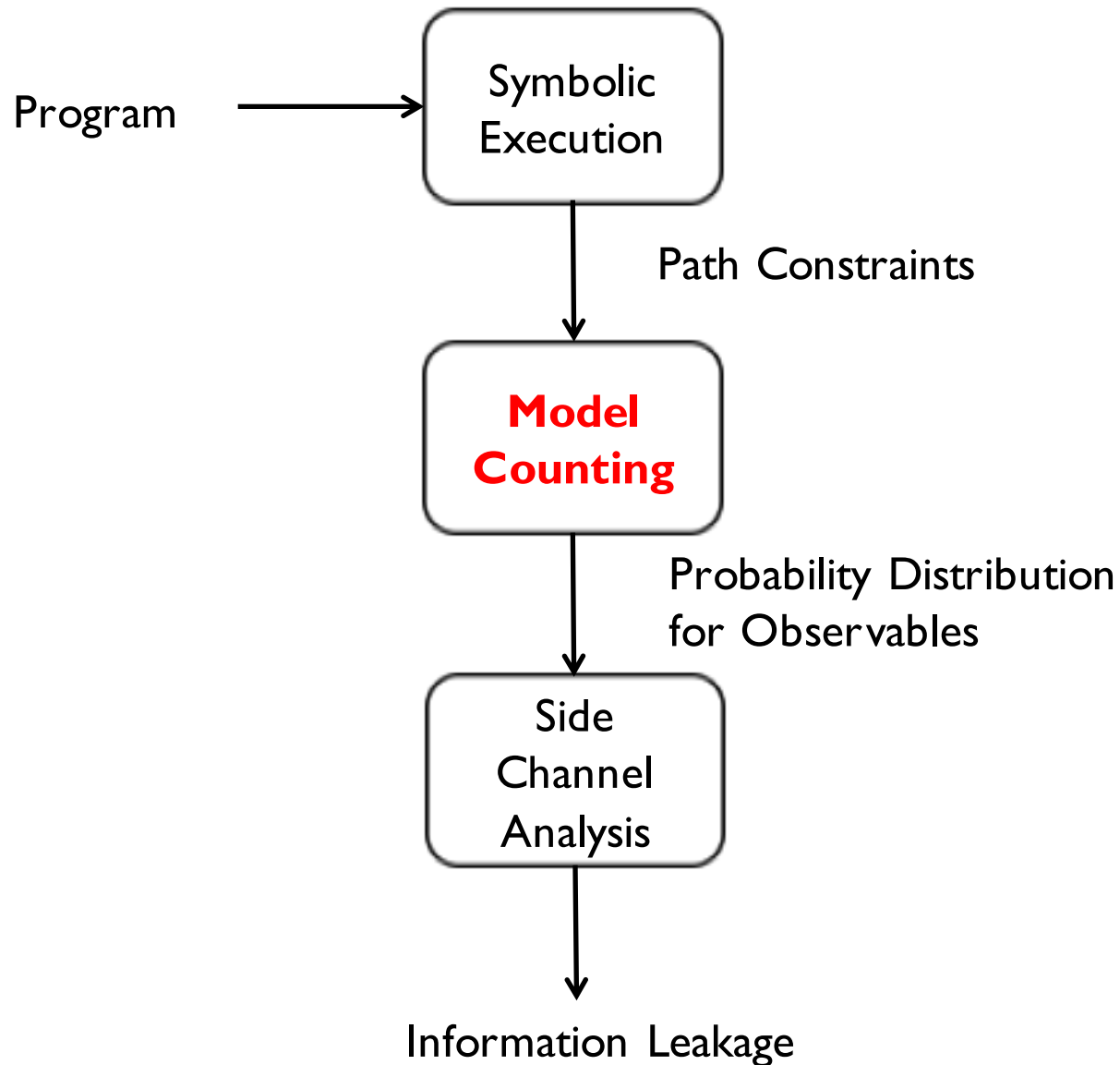
- ▶ HMAC keys: Google Keyczar Library, Xbox 360
- ▶ Authorization Frameworks: OAuth, OpenID
- ▶ Java's `Array.equals`, `String.equals`
- ▶ C's `memcmp`

## Network Packet Size Side Channel

- ▶ Compression Ratio Infoleak Made Easy (CRIME)

# Overview

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# Model Counting String Constraint Solver

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## INPUT

string  
constraint:

$C$

**Automata-Based  
model Counting  
string constraint  
solver  
(ABC)**

## OUTPUT

counting  
function:

$f_c$

← length bound:  $k$

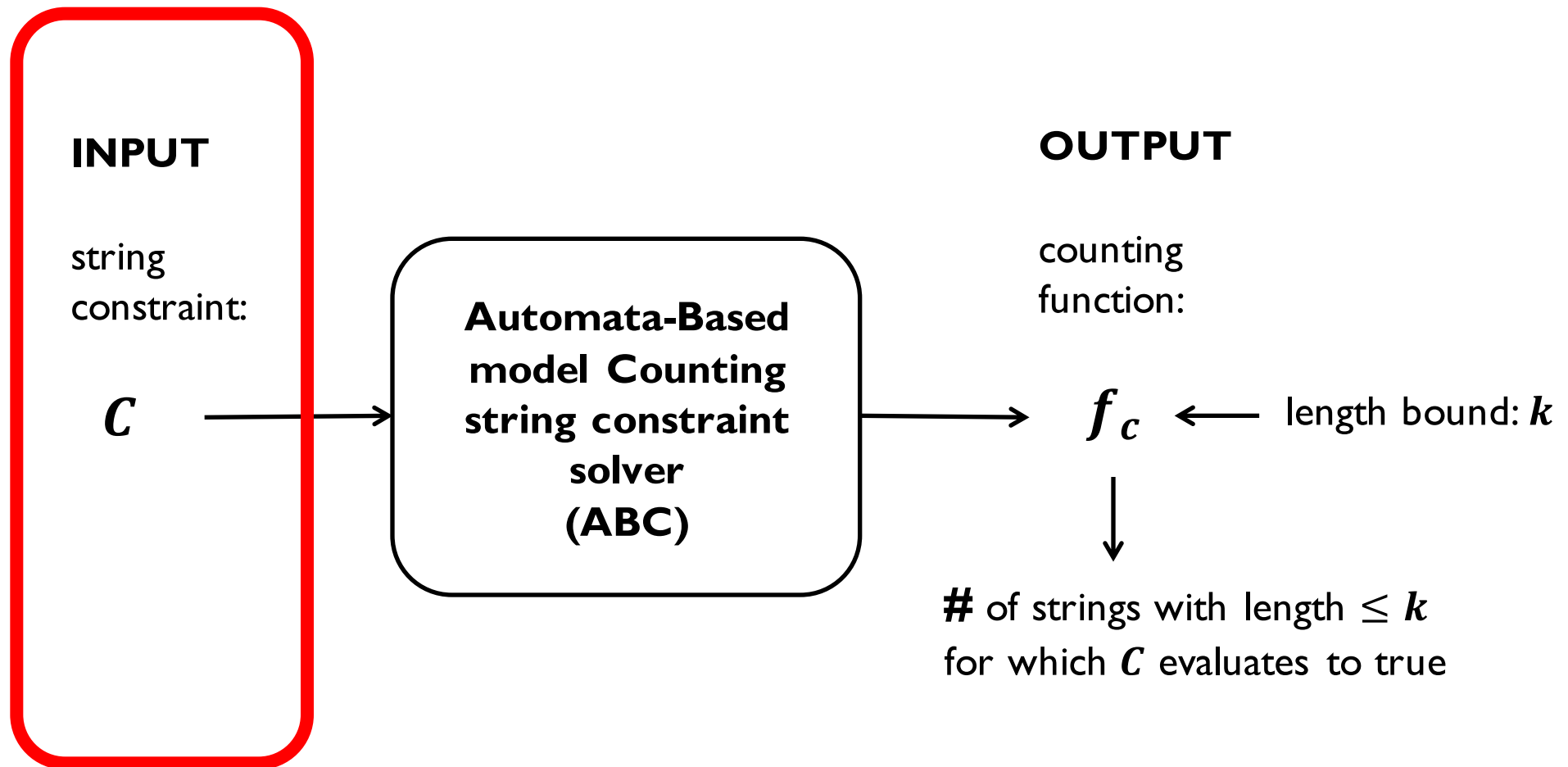


# of strings with length  $\leq k$   
for which  $C$  evaluates to true

# Automata Based Counter (ABC)

## A Model Counting String Constraint Solver

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# String Constraint Language

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$C \rightarrow bterm$

$bterm \rightarrow v \mid true \mid false$   
|  $\neg bterm \mid bterm \wedge bterm \mid bterm \vee bterm \mid (bterm)$   
|  $sterm = sterm$   
|  $match(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $contains(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $begins(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $ends(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $iterm = iterm \mid iterm < iterm \mid iterm > iterm$

$iterm \rightarrow v \mid n$   
|  $iterm + iterm \mid iterm - iterm \mid iterm \times n \mid (iterm)$   
|  $length(sterm) \mid toint(sterm)$   
|  $indexof(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $lastindexof(sterm, sterm)$

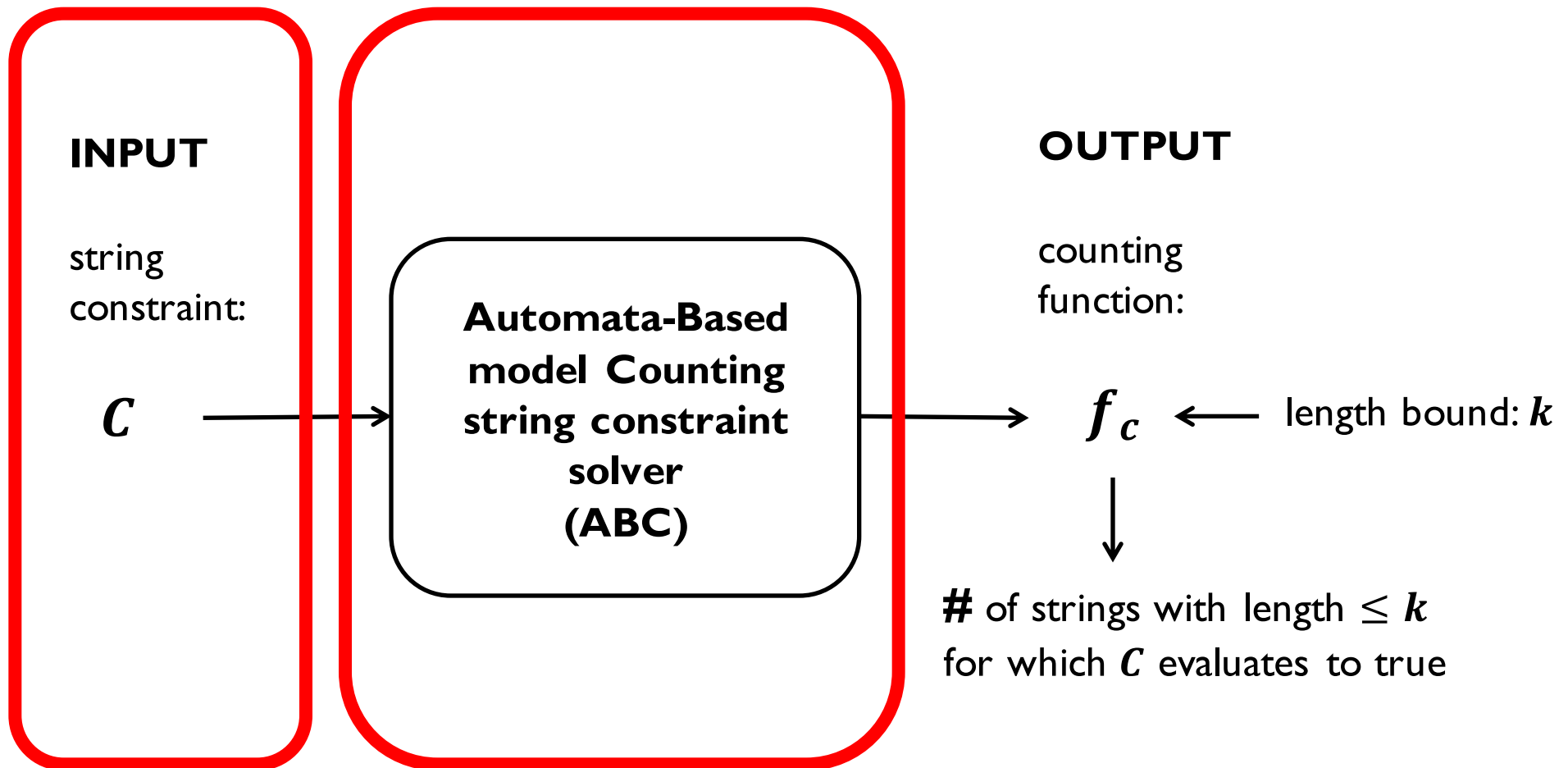
$sterm \rightarrow v \mid \varepsilon \mid s$   
|  $sterm.sterm \mid sterm|sterm \mid sterm^* \mid (sterm)$   
|  $charat(sterm, iterm) \mid tostring(iterm)$   
|  $toupper(sterm) \mid tolower(sterm)$   
|  $substring(sterm, iterm, iterm)$   
|  $replacefirst(sterm, sterm, sterm)$   
|  $replacelast(sterm, sterm, sterm)$   
|  $replaceall(sterm, sterm, sterm)$

# Example String Expressions

	String Expression	Constraint Language
Java	<code>s.length()</code>	<code>length(s)</code>
	<code>s.isEmpty()</code>	<code>length(s) == 0</code>
	<code>s.startsWith(t,n)</code>	$0 \leq n \wedge n \leq  s  \wedge$ <code>begins(substring(s,n, s ),t)</code>
	<code>s.indexOf(t,n)</code>	<code>indexof(substring(s,n, s ),t)</code>
	<code>s.replaceAll(p,r)</code>	<code>replaceall(s,p,r)</code>
PHP	<code>strrpos(s, t)</code>	<code>lastindexof(s,t)</code>
	<code>substr_replace(s, t,i,j)</code>	<code>substring(s,0,i).t.substring(s,j, s )</code>
	<code>strip_tags(s)</code>	<code>replaceall(s,("&lt;a&gt;" "&lt;p&gt;" ...), "")</code>
	<code>mysql_real_escape_string(s)</code>	<code>...replaceall(s, replaceall(s, "\\ ", "\\\\"), ""'", "\\ '") ...</code>

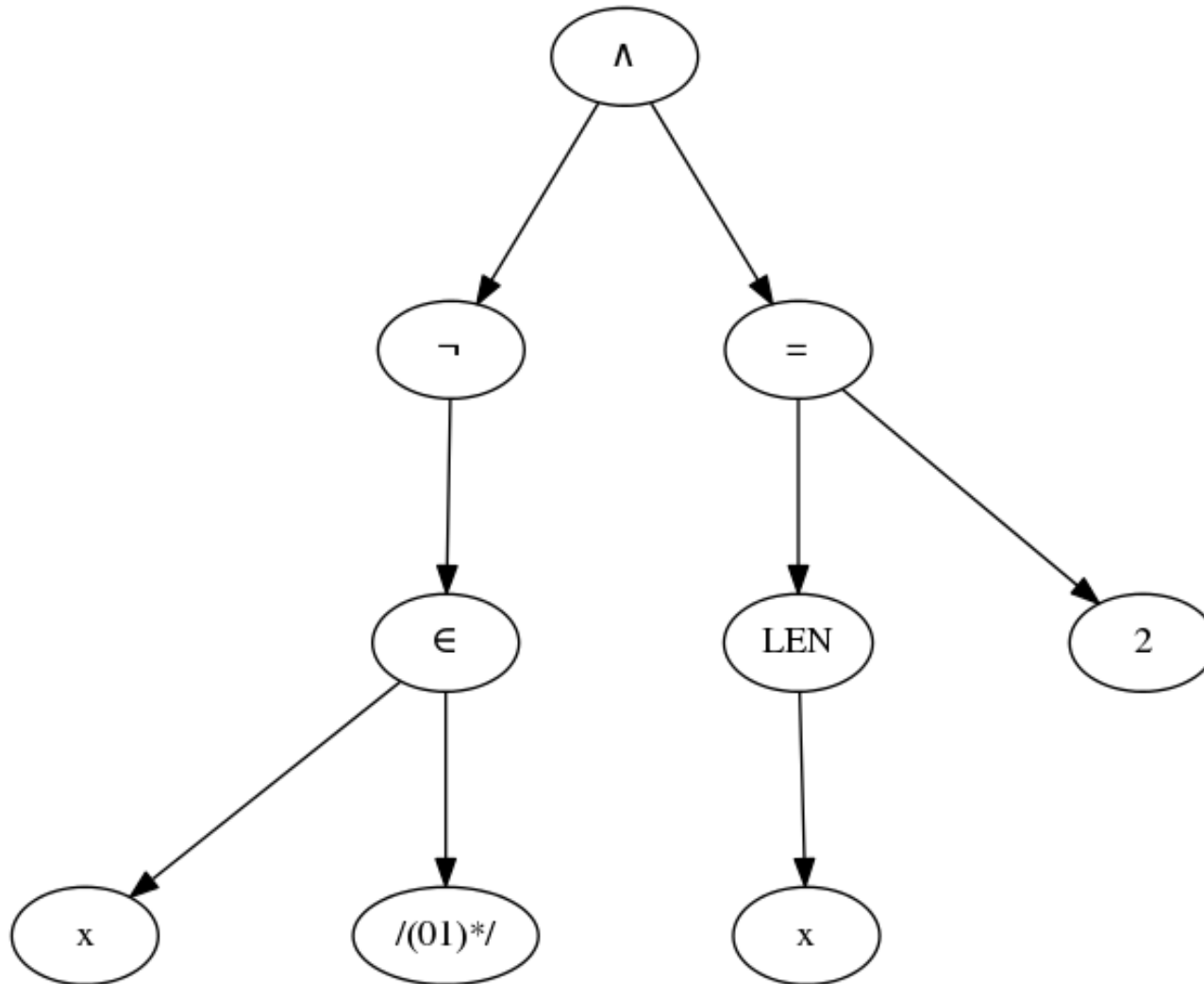
# Model Counting String Constraint Solver

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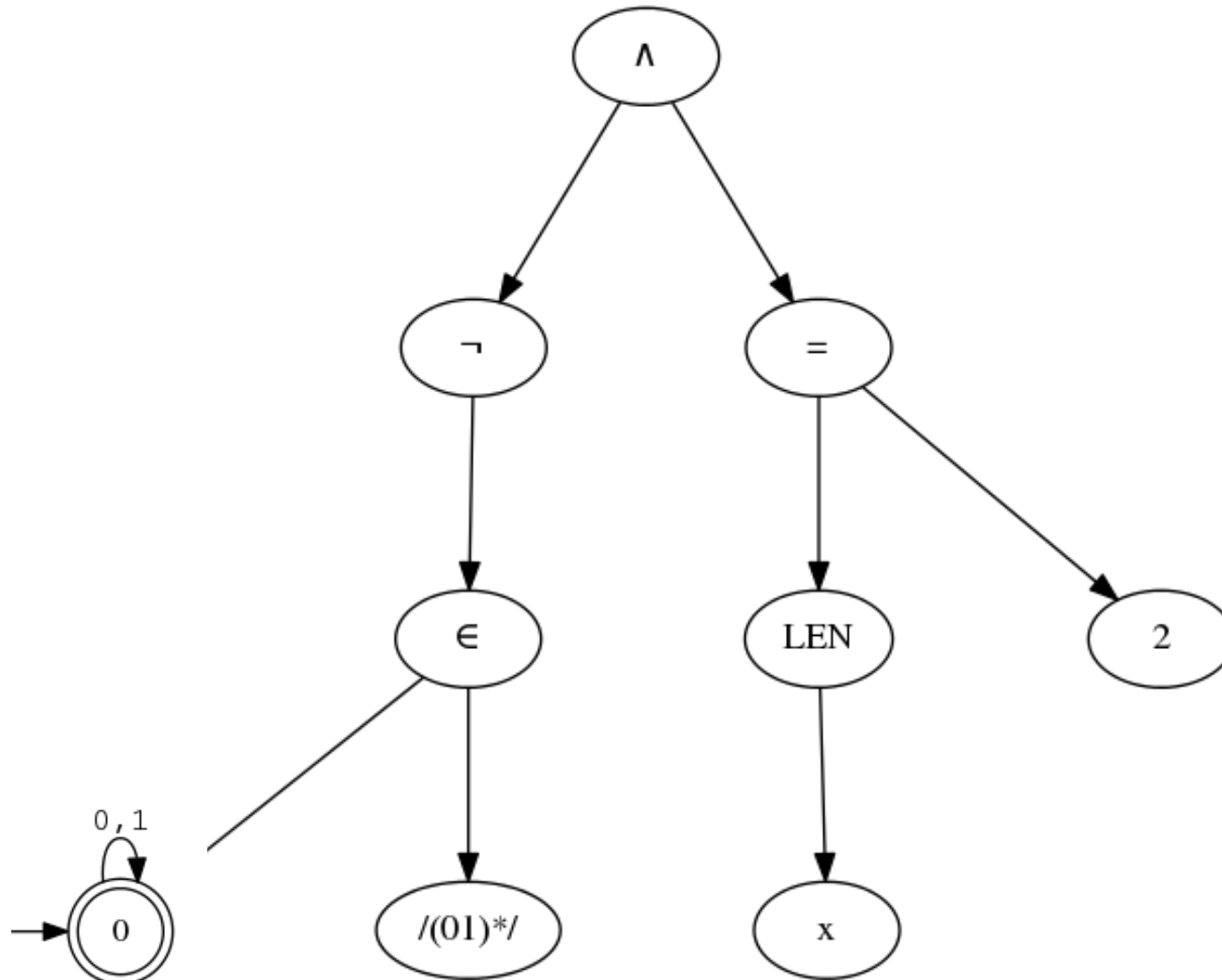
# String Automata Construction

$$C \equiv \neg(x \in (01)^*) \wedge \text{LEN}(x) = 2$$



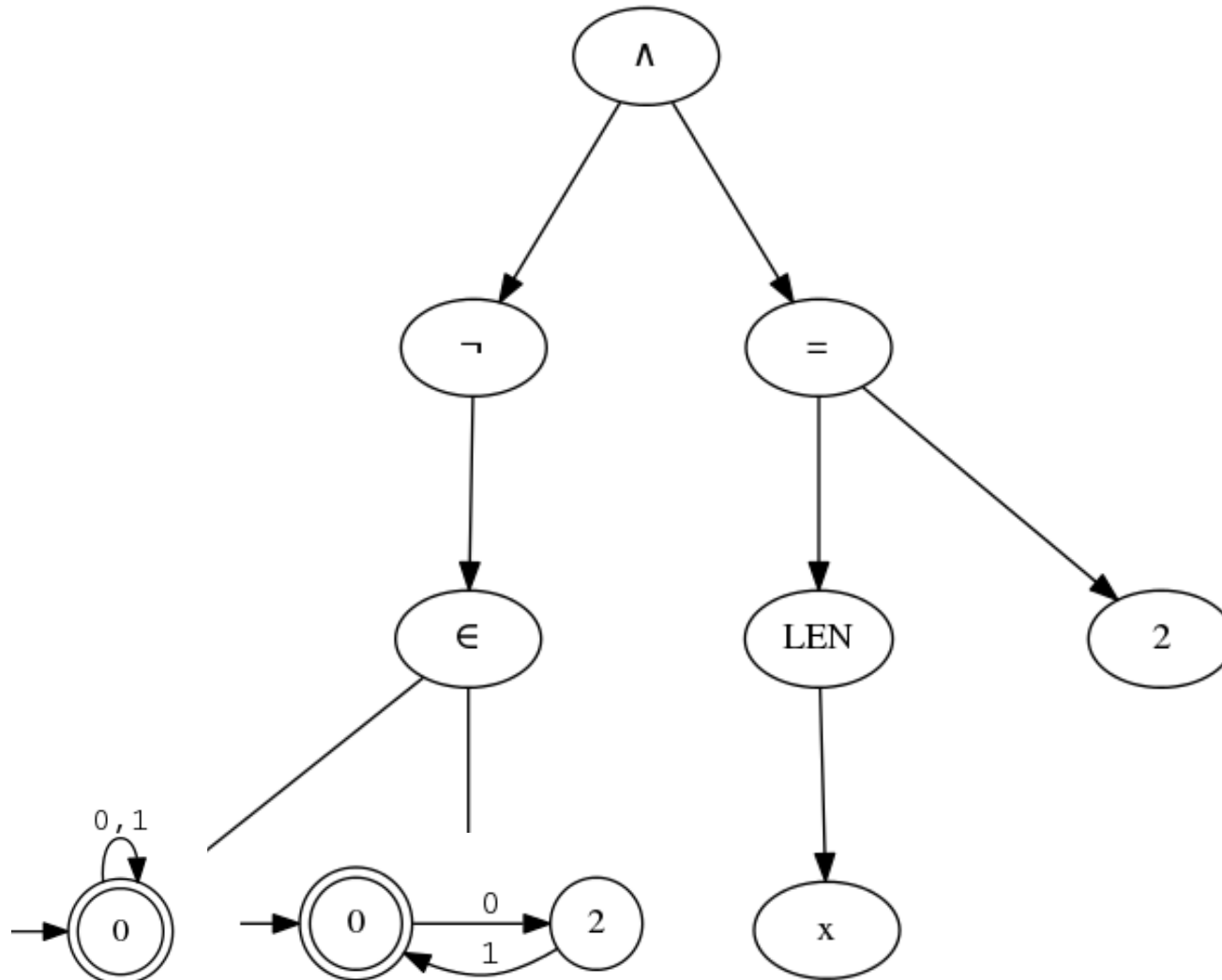
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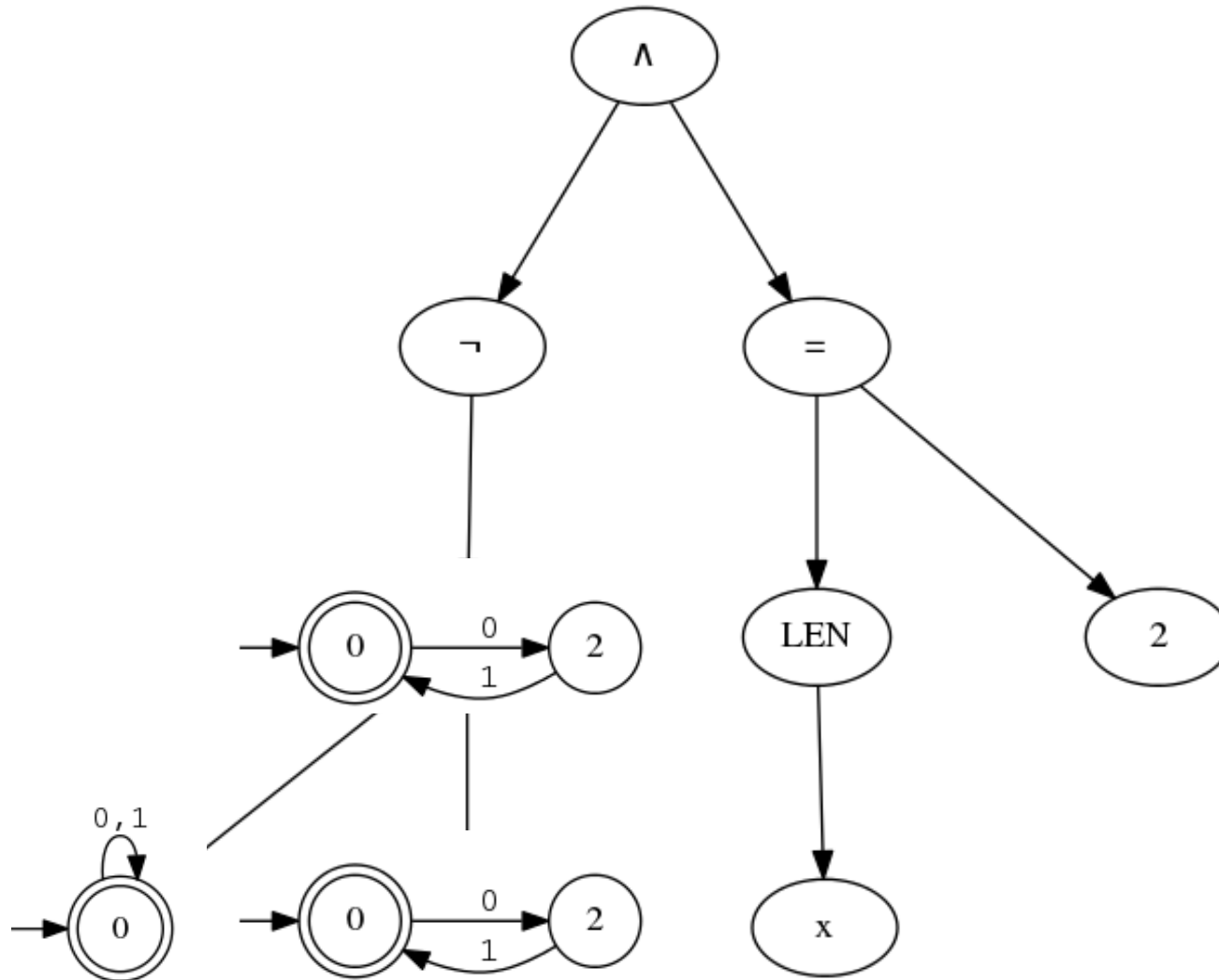
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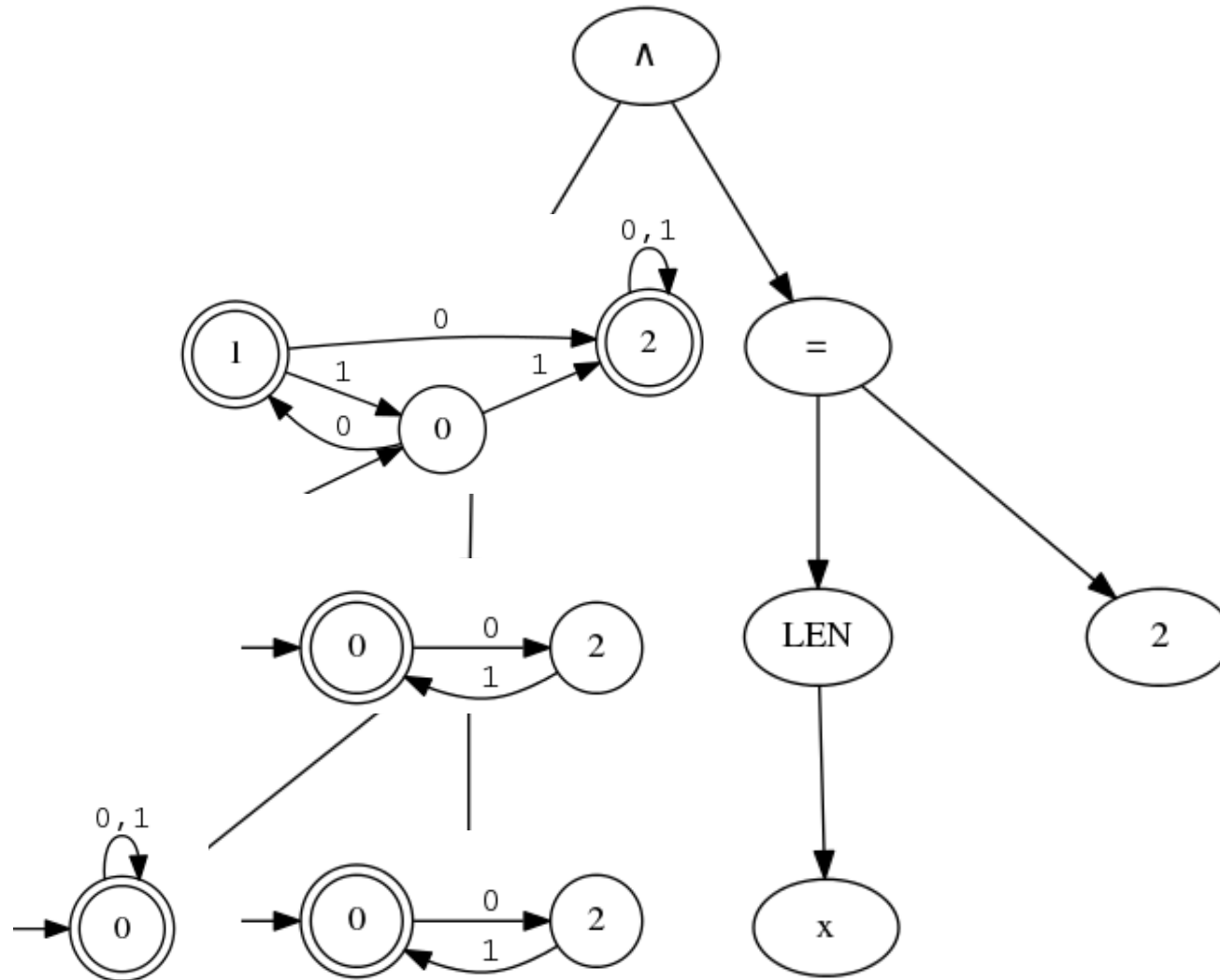
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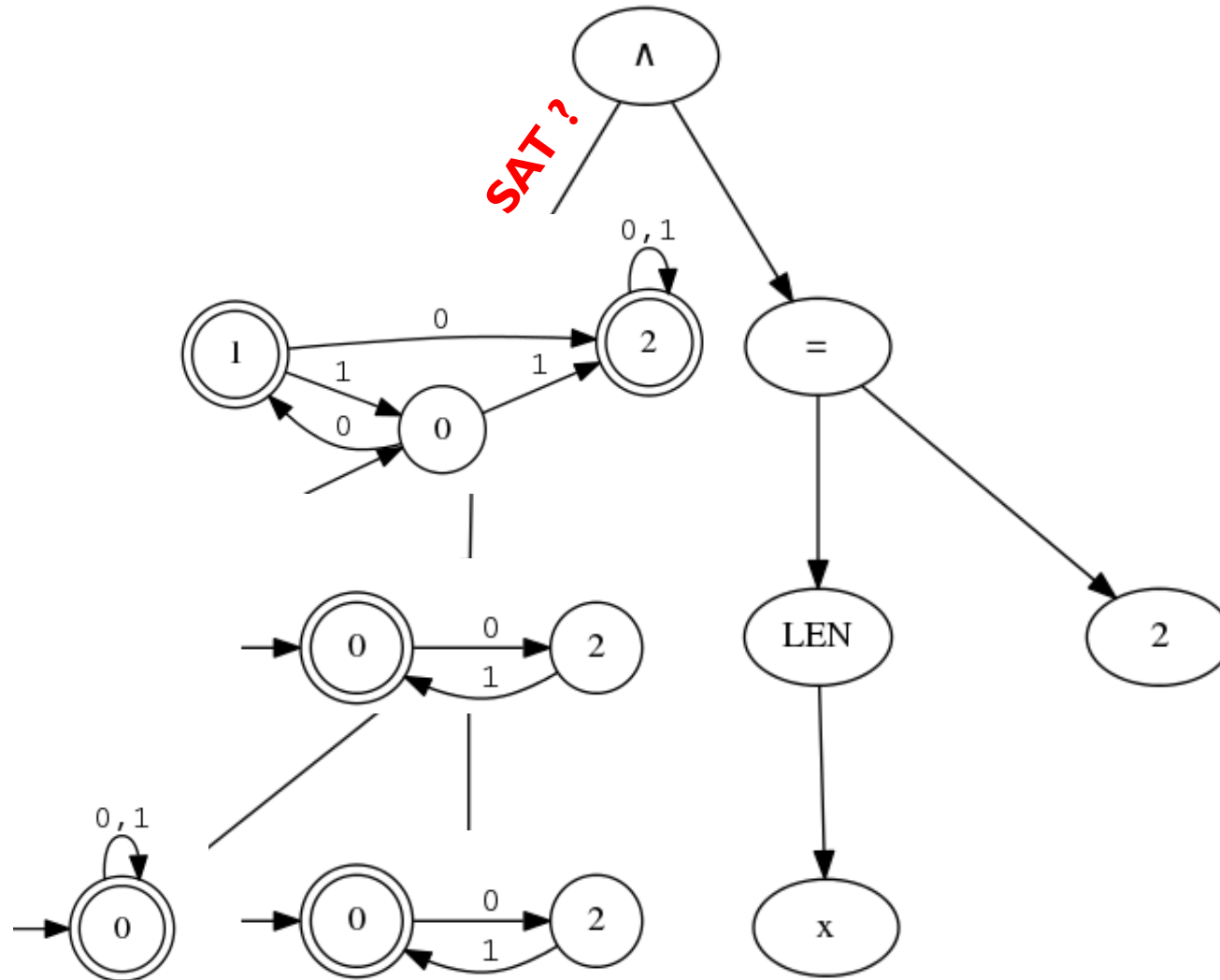
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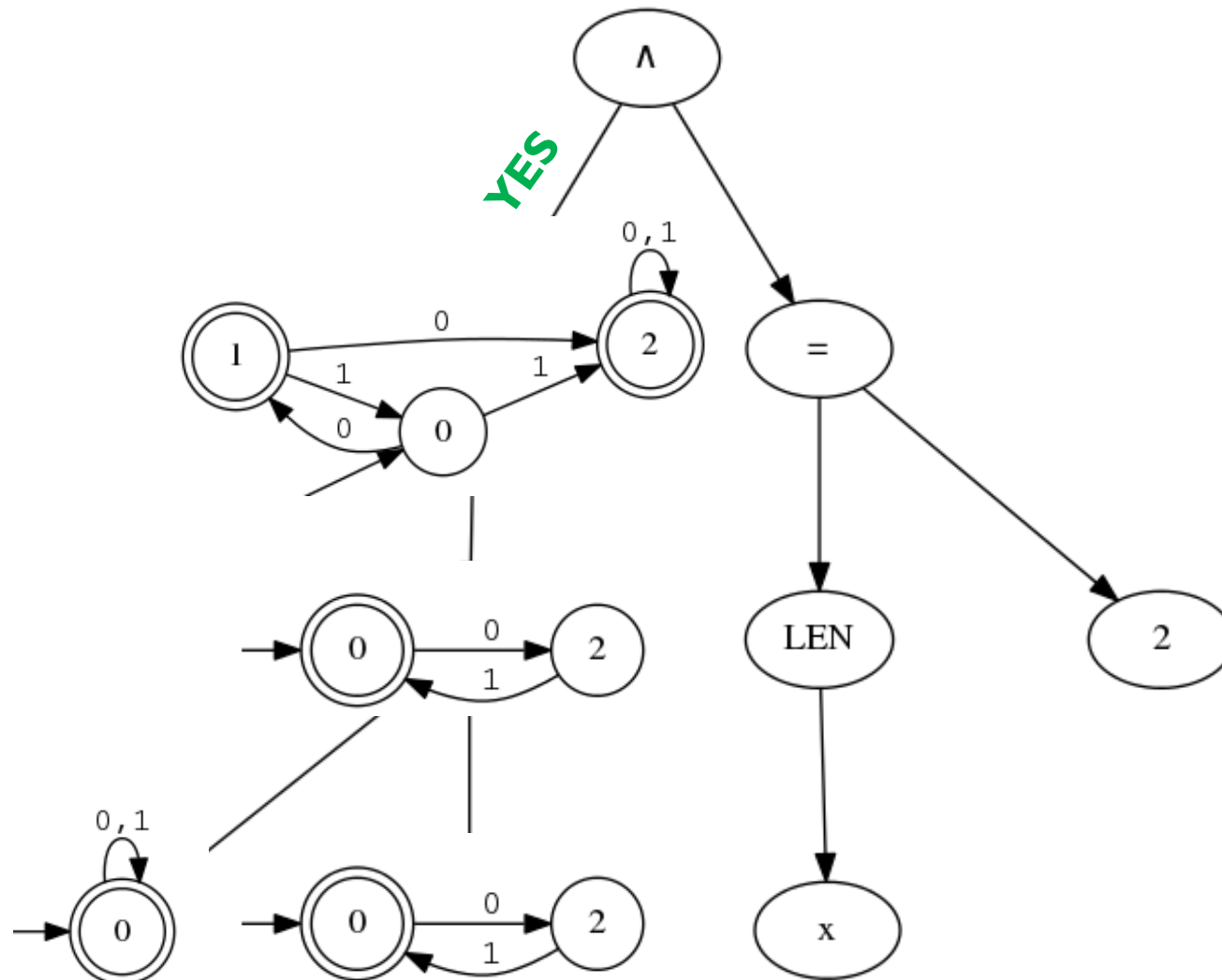
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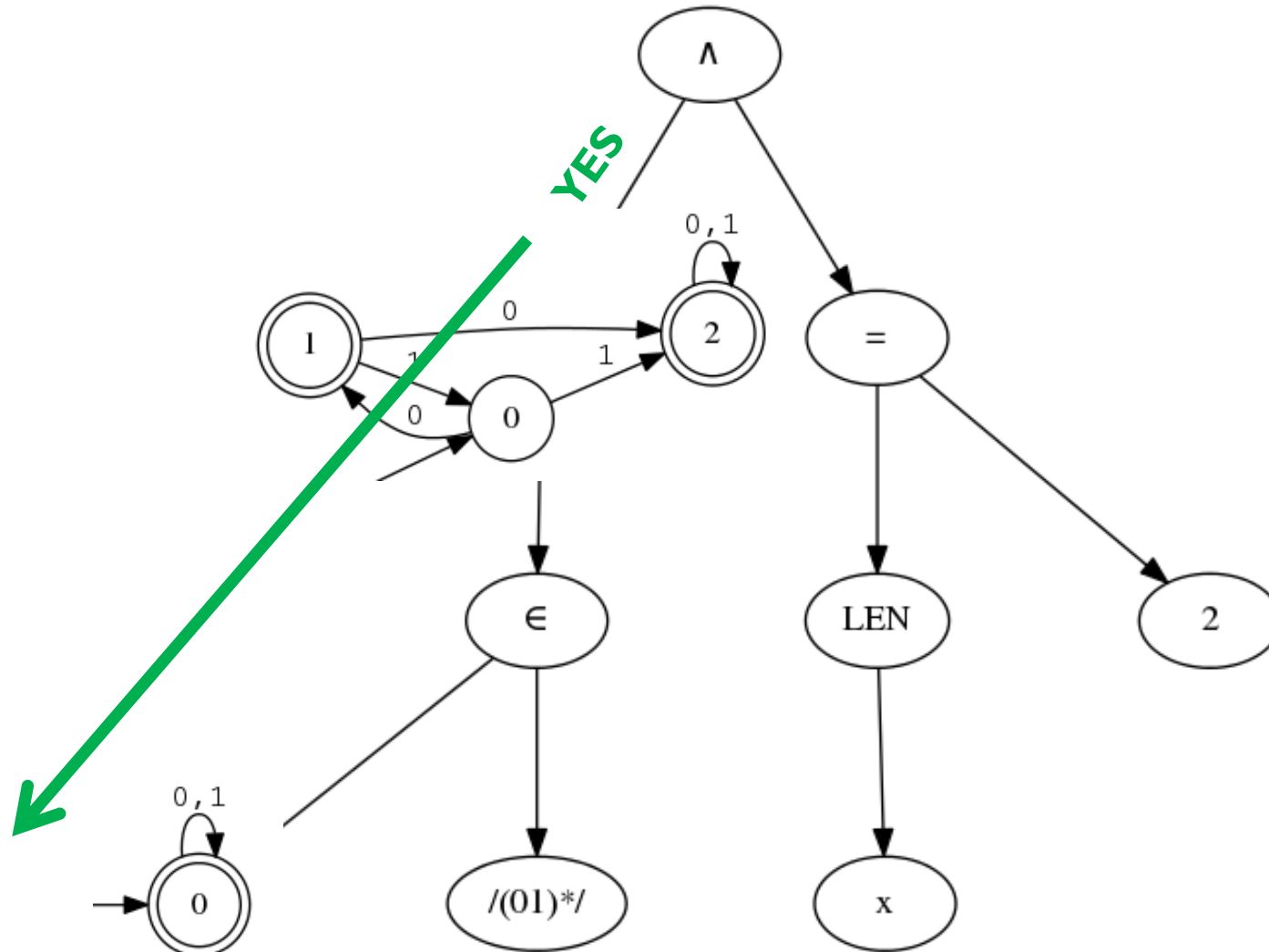
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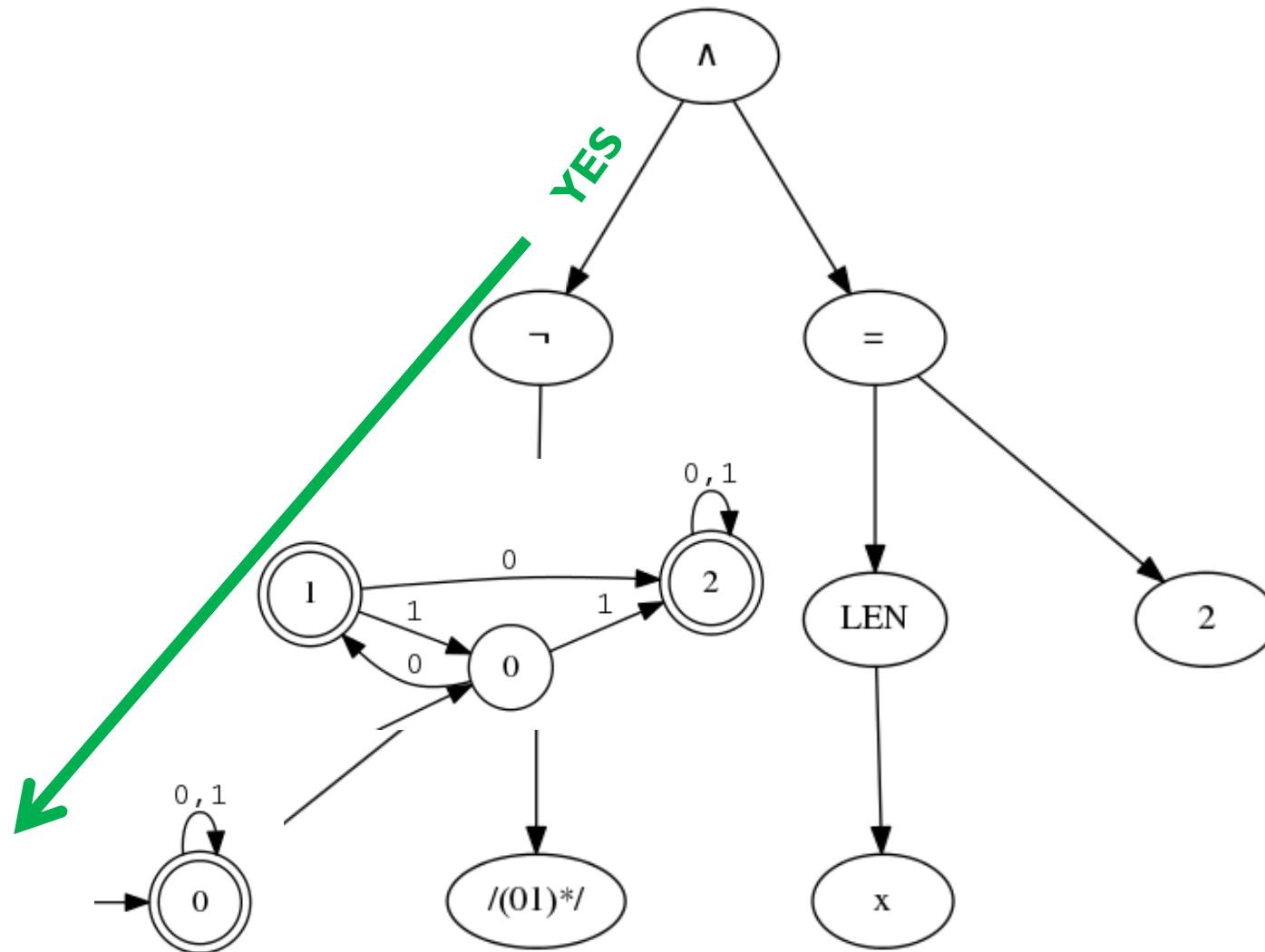
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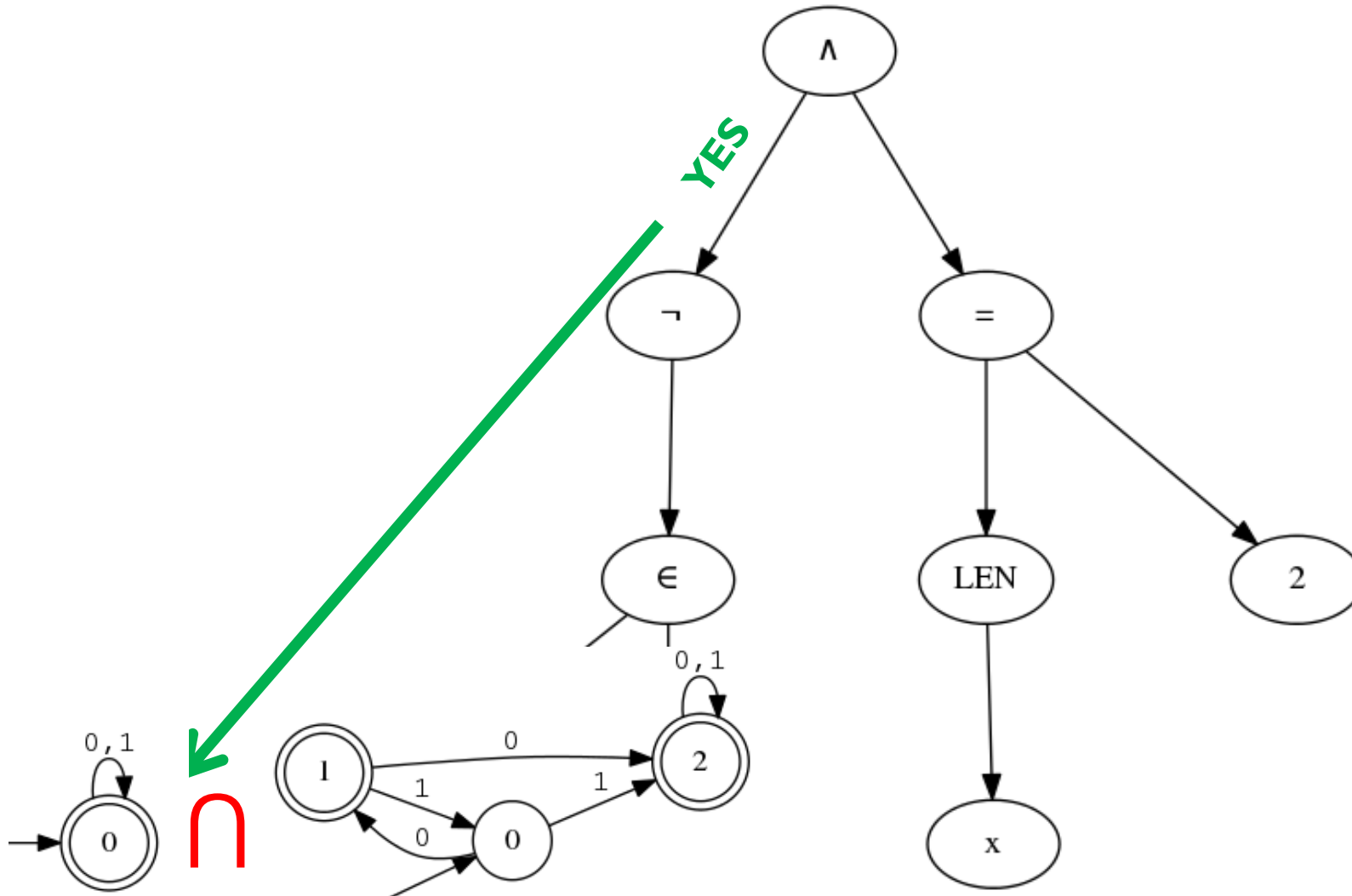
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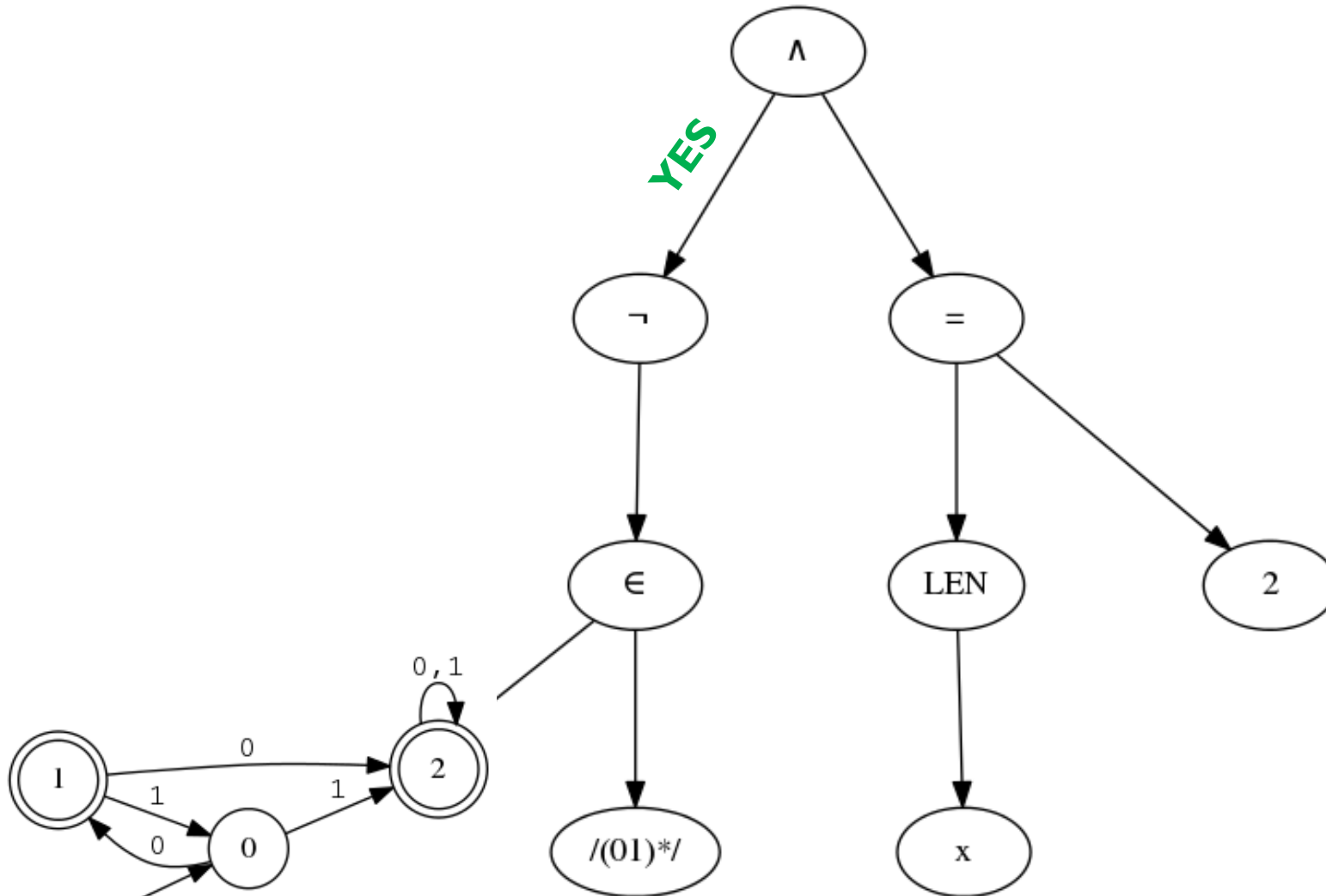
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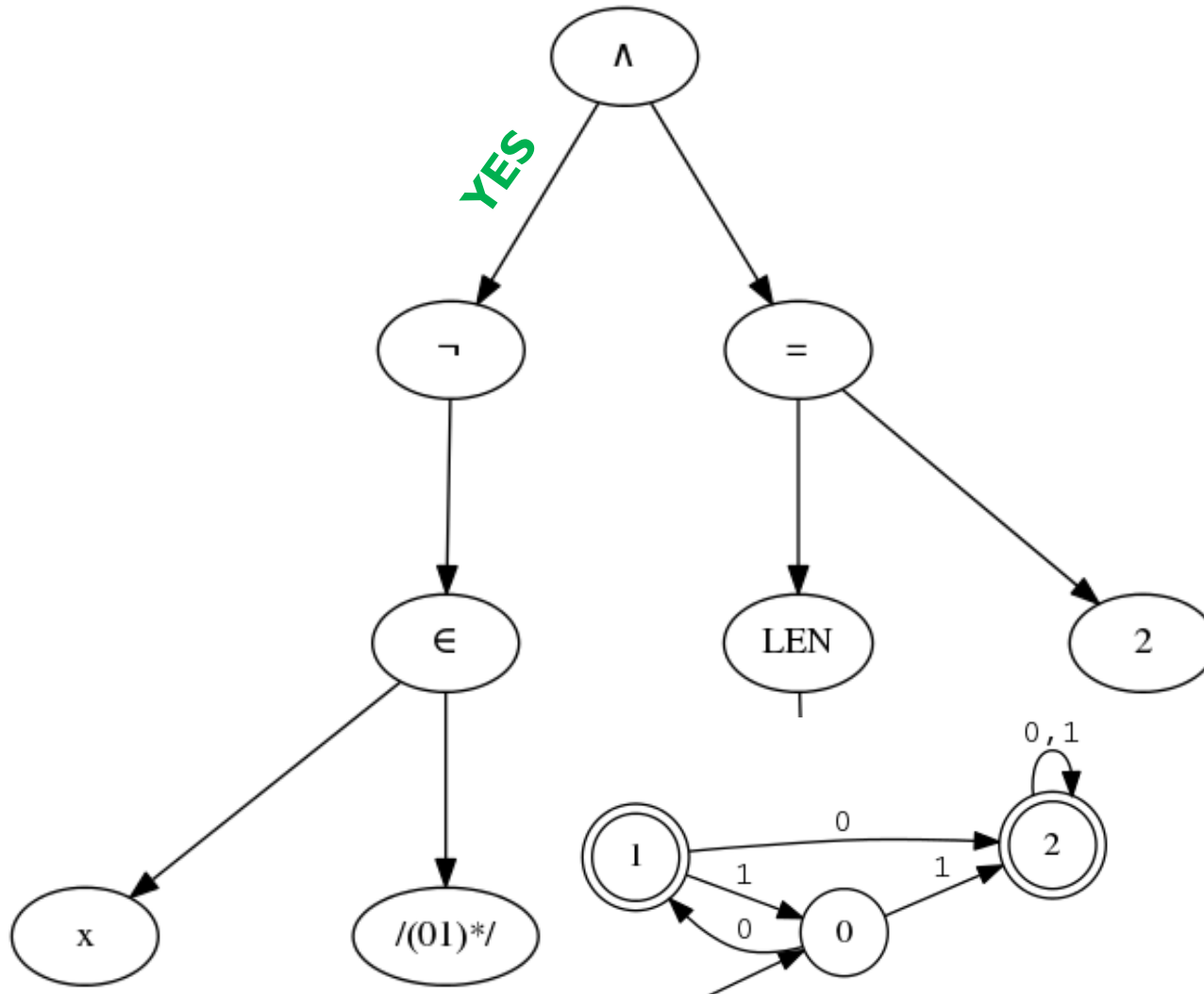
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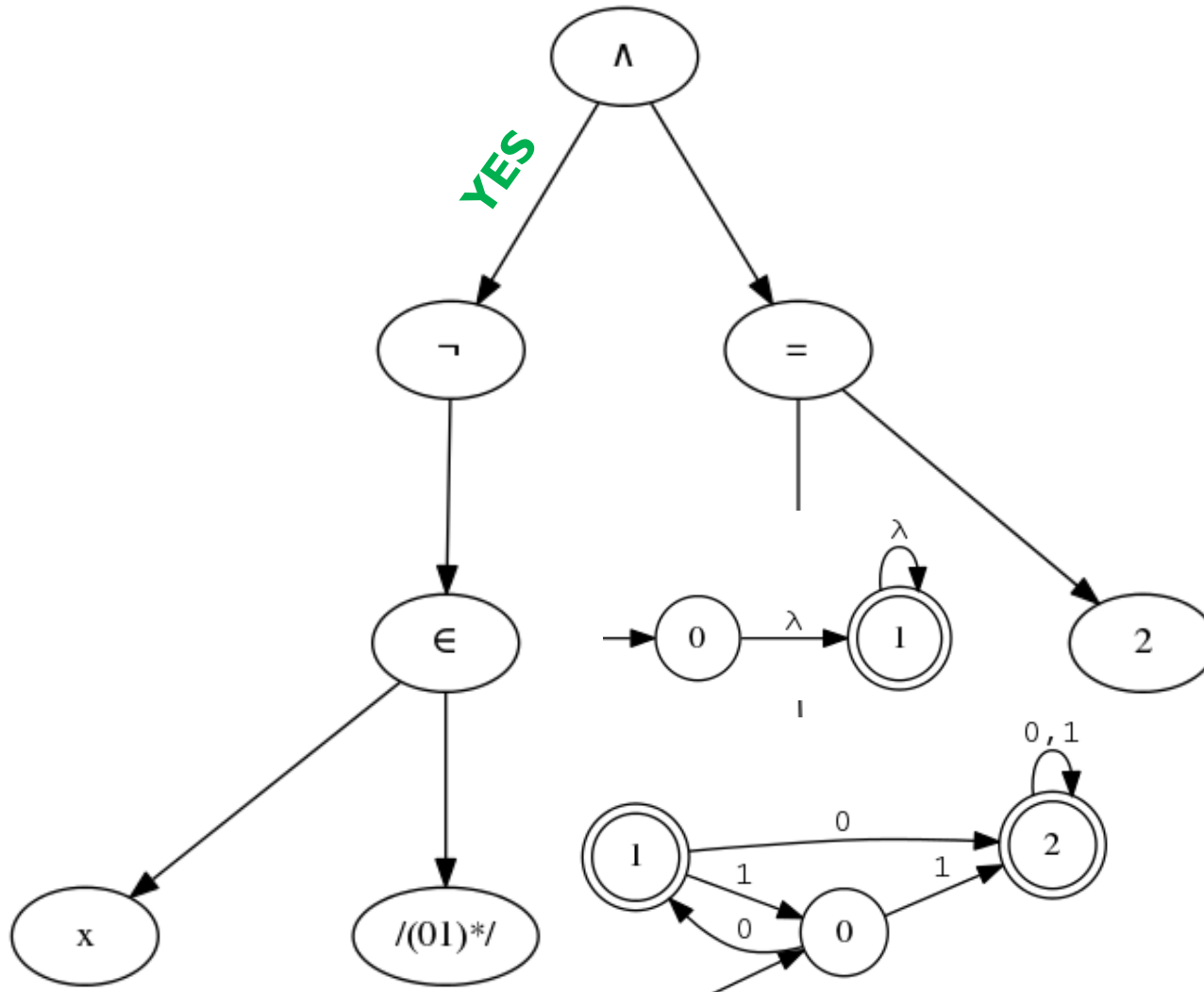
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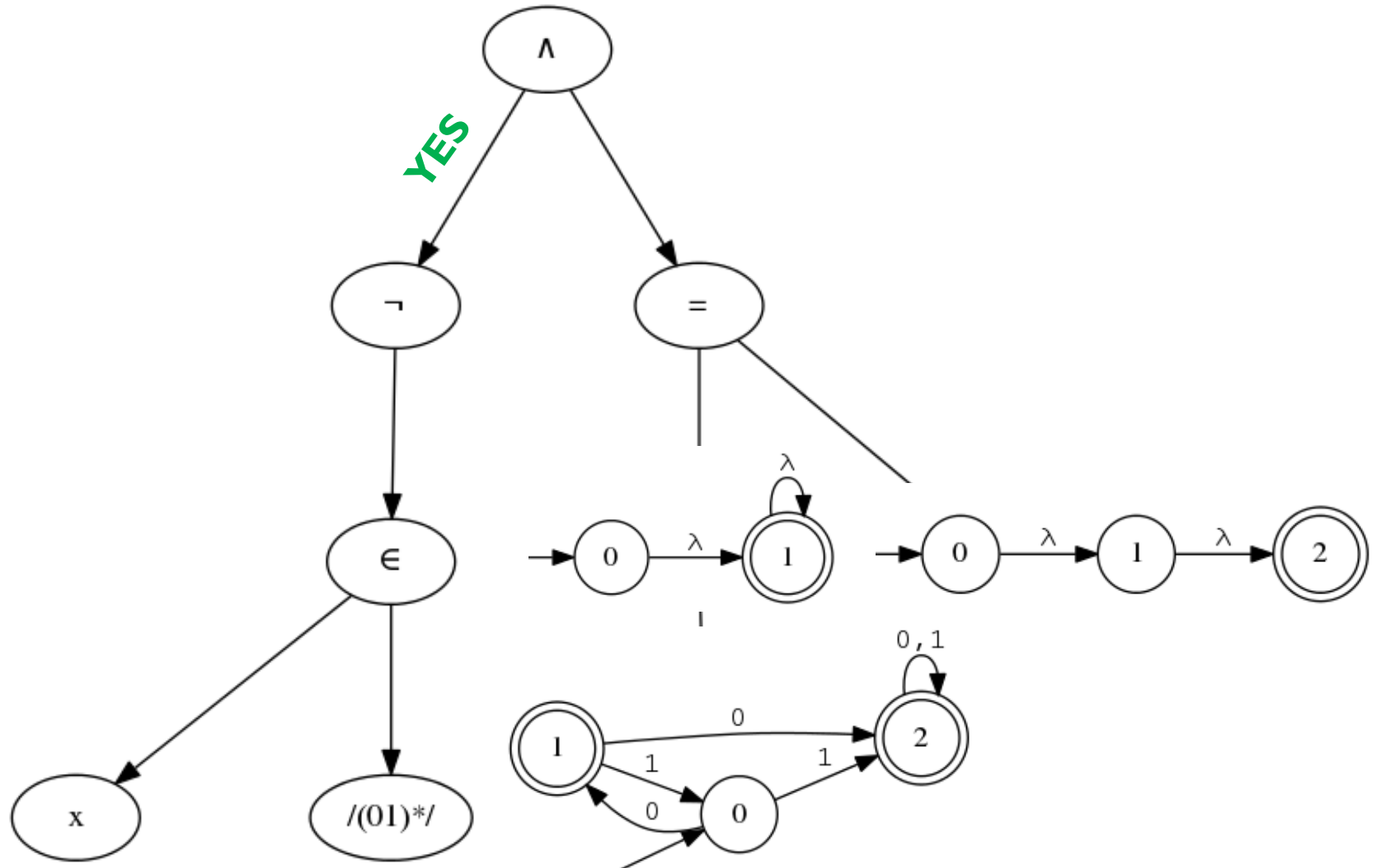
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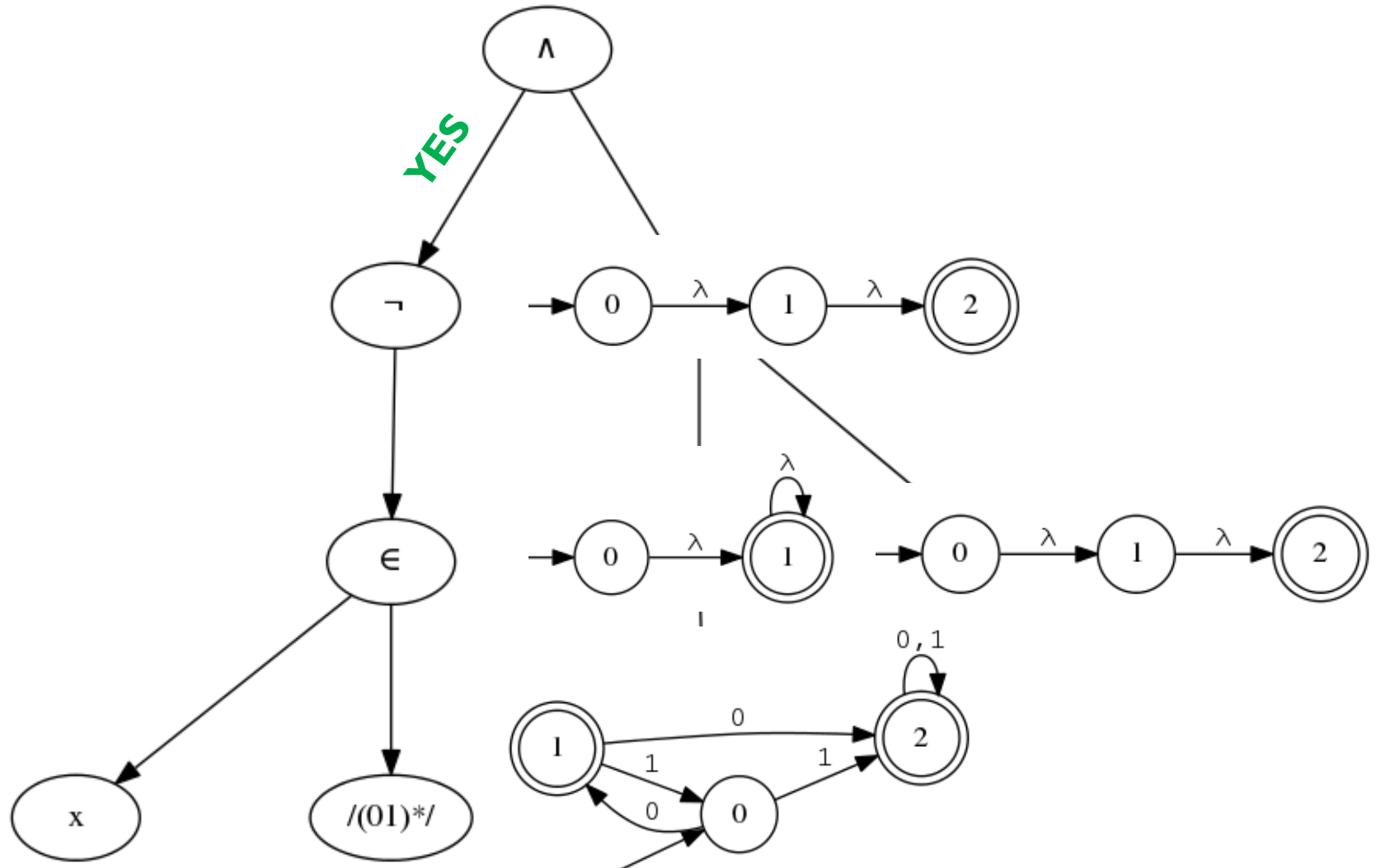
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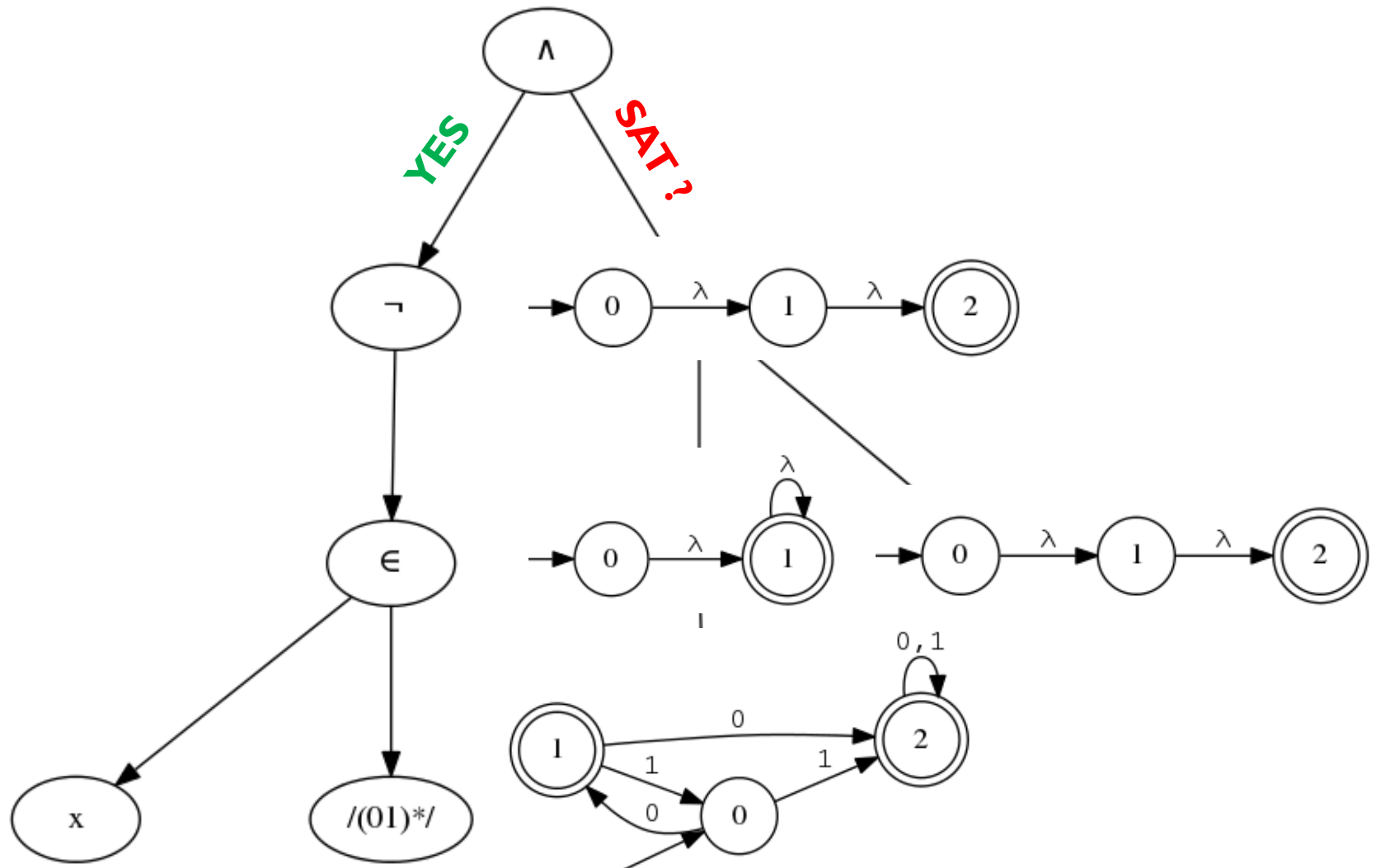
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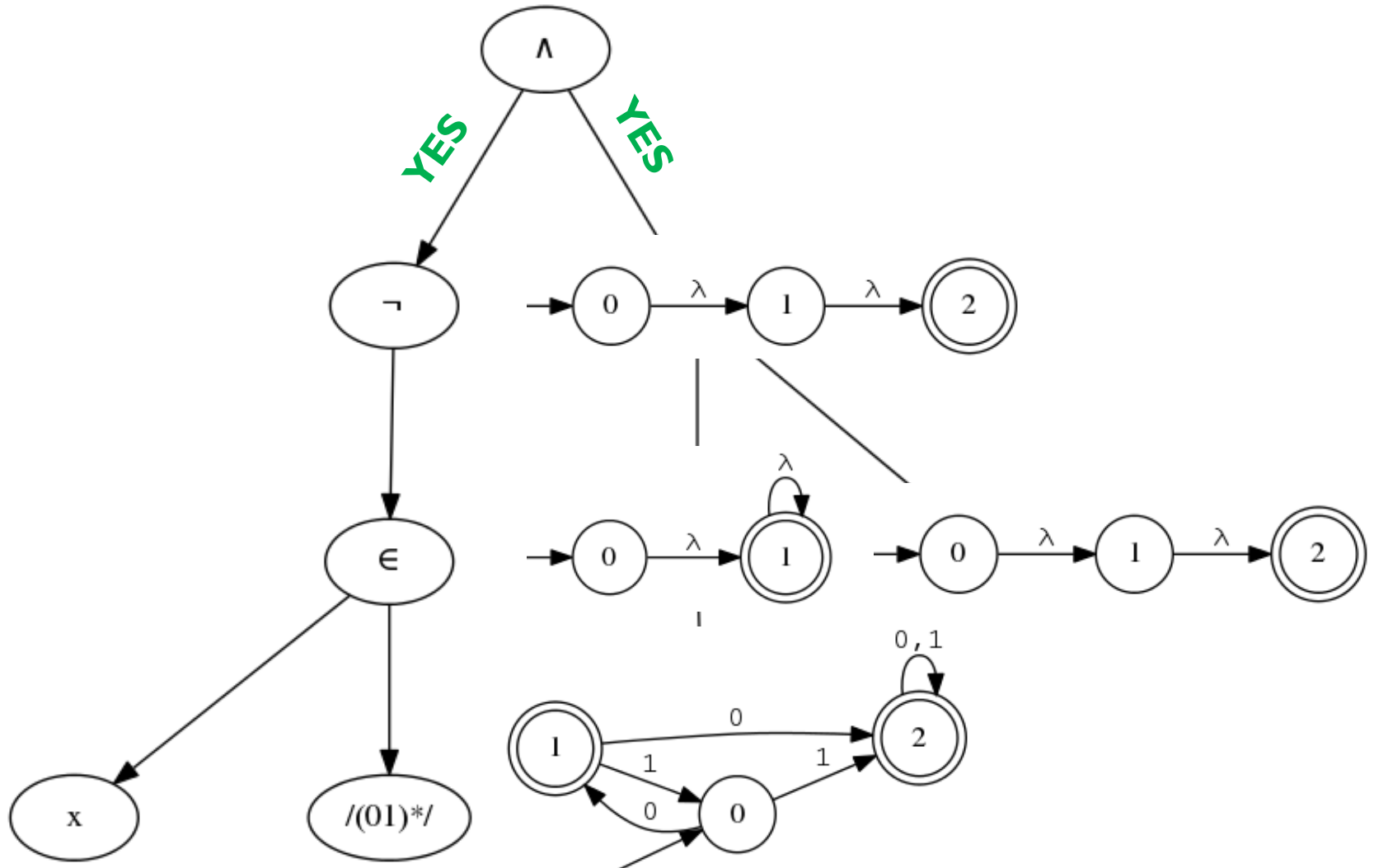
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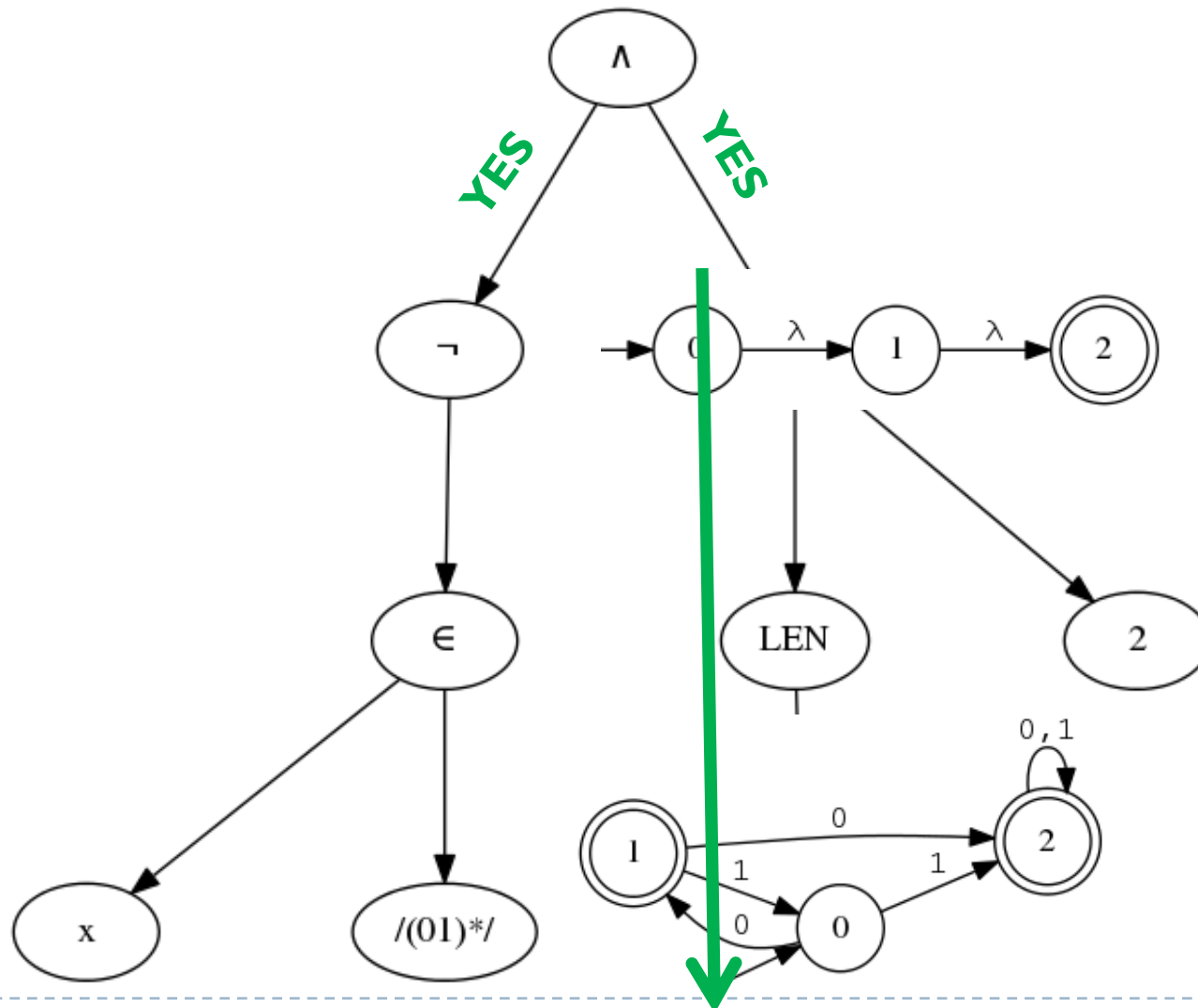
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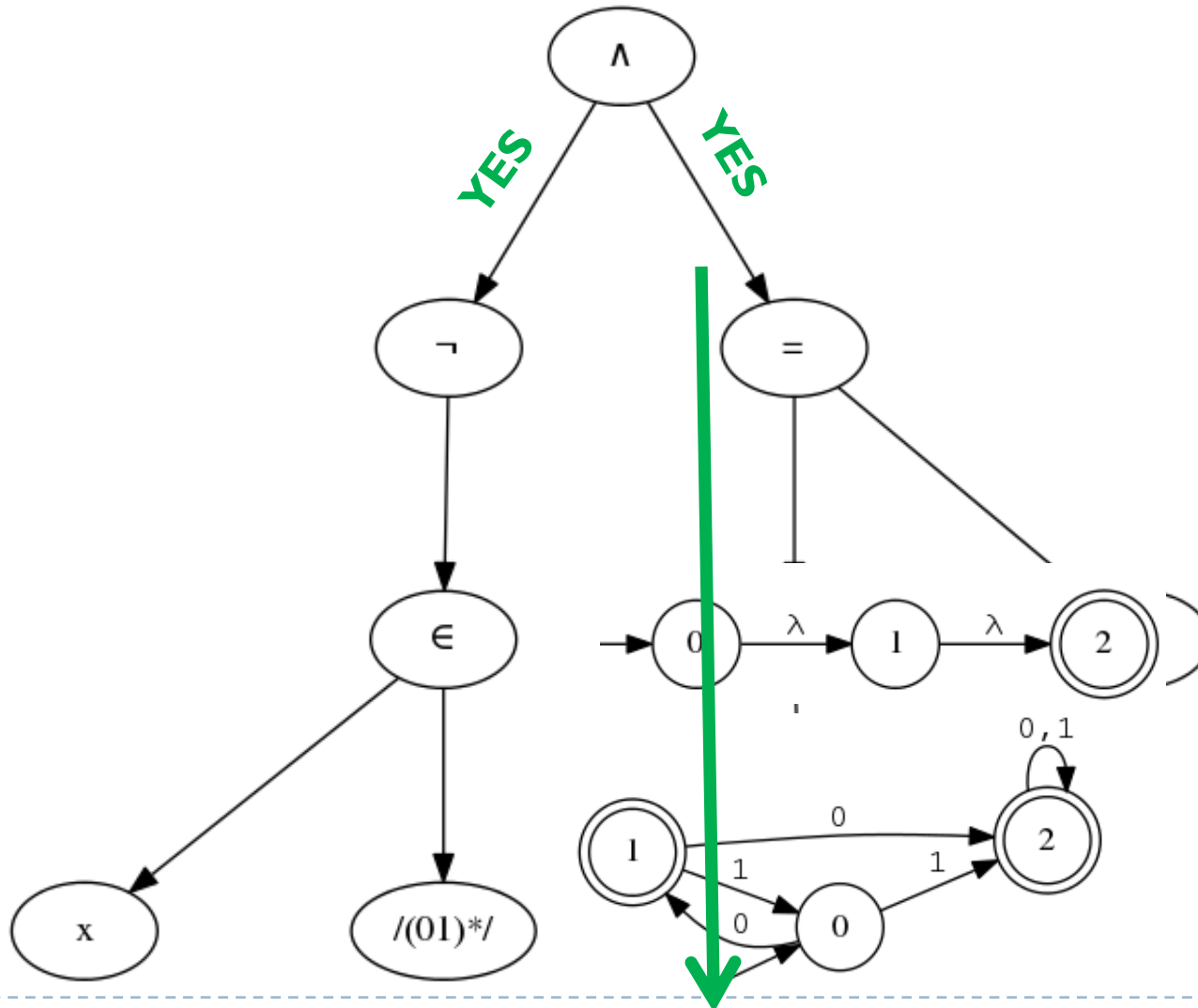
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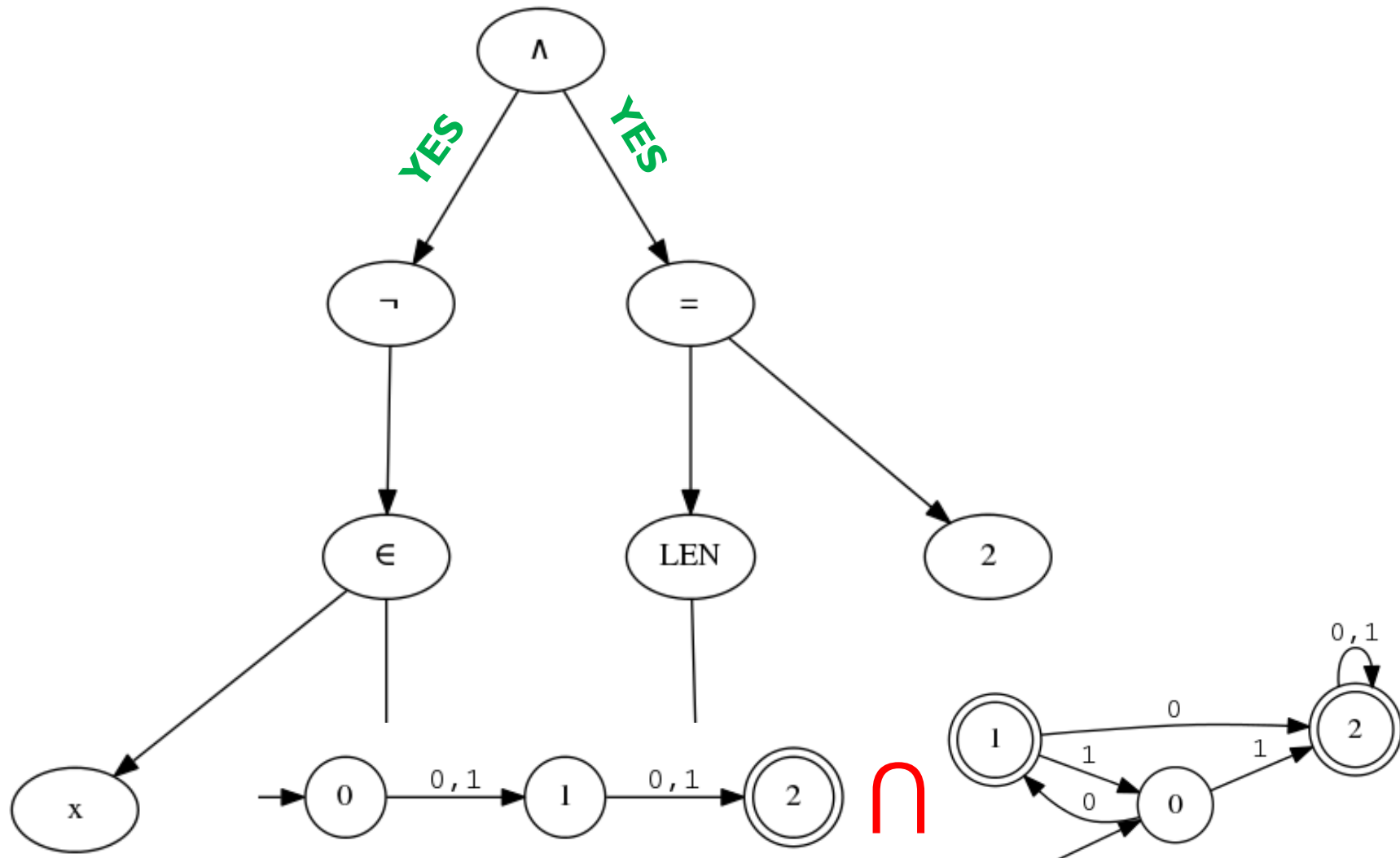
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# String Automata Construction

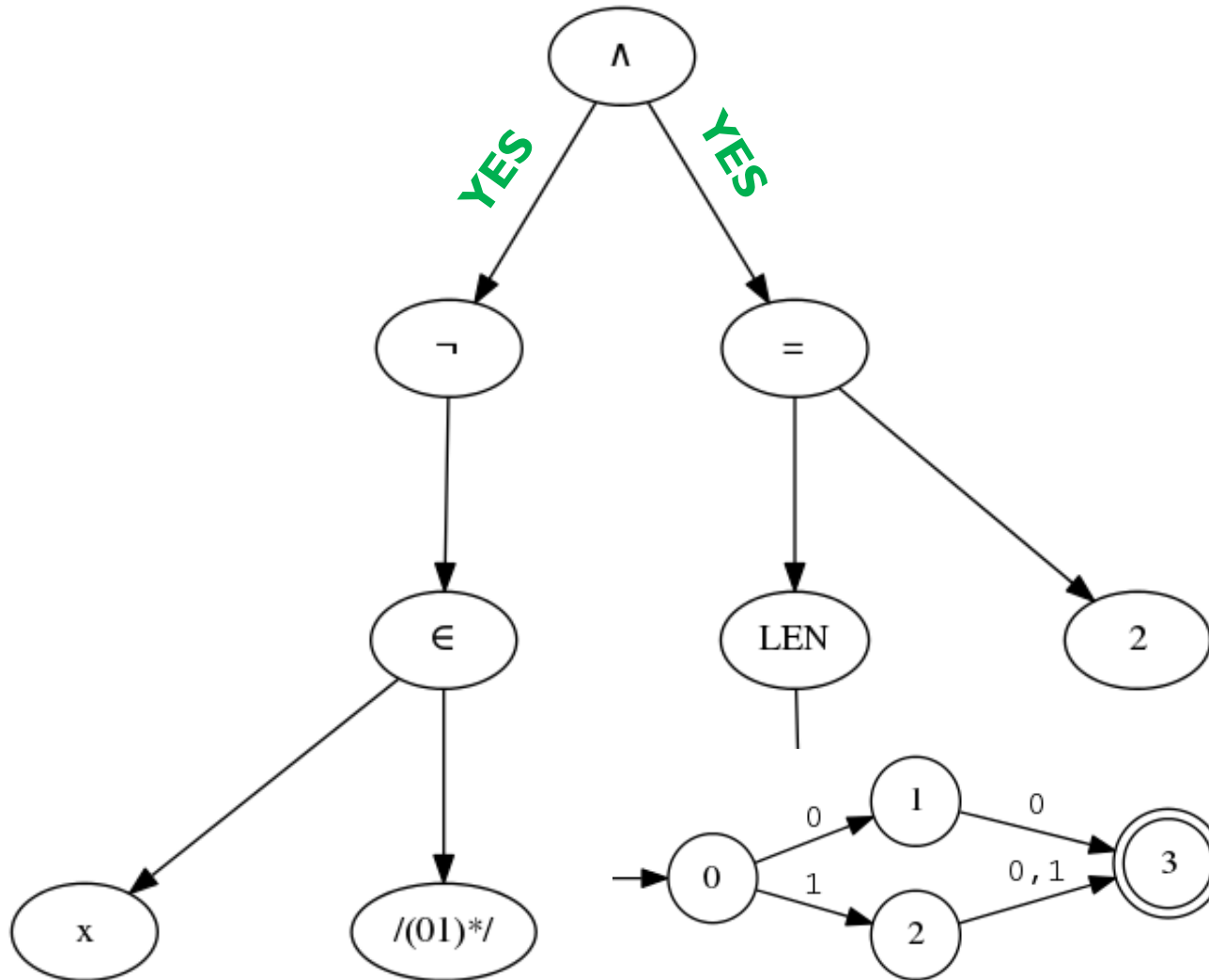
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# String Automata Construction

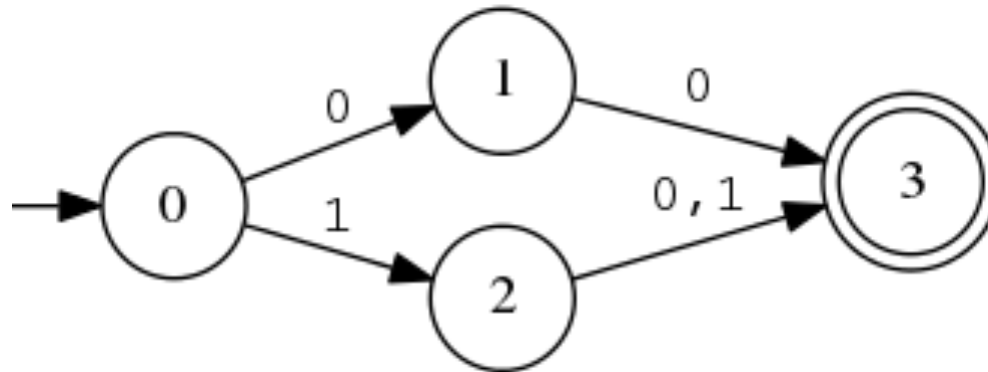
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# String Automata Construction

---

$$C \equiv \neg(x \in (01)^*) \wedge LEN(x) = 2$$



00, 10, 11

# Integer Constraints

$C \longrightarrow bterm$

$bterm \longrightarrow v \mid true \mid false$   
|  $\neg bterm \mid bterm \wedge bterm \mid bterm \vee bterm \mid (bterm)$   
|  $sterm = sterm$   
|  $match(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $contains(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $begins(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $ends(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $iterm = iterm \mid iterm < iterm \mid iterm > iterm$

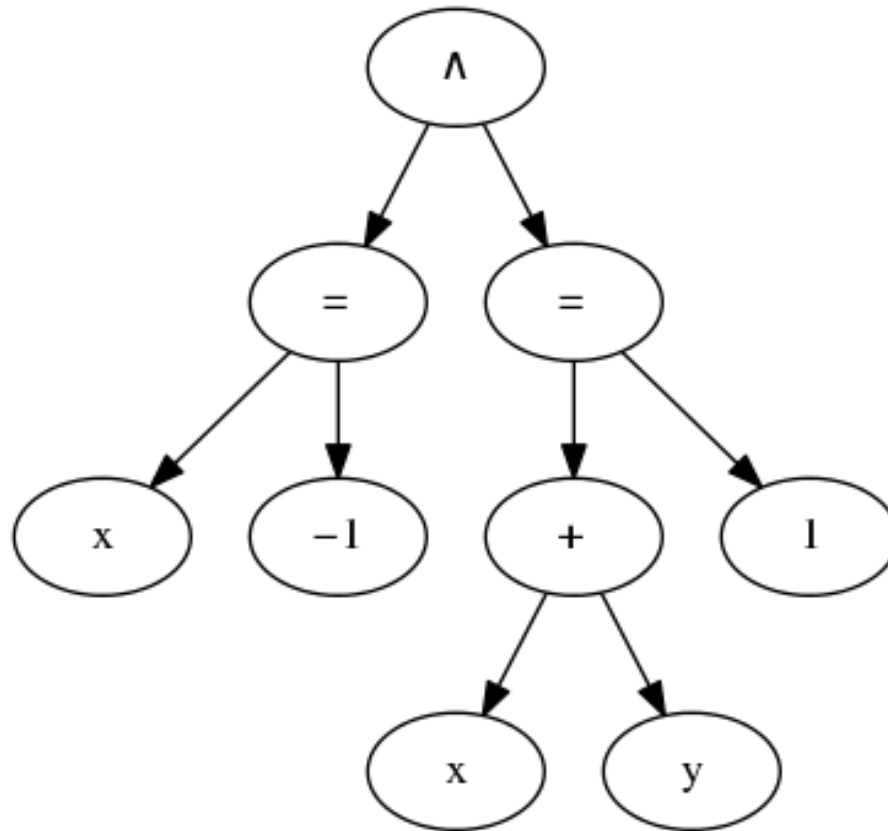
$iterm \longrightarrow v \mid n$   
|  $iterm + iterm \mid iterm - iterm \mid iterm \times n \mid (iterm)$   
|  $length(sterm) \mid toint(sterm)$   
|  $indexof(sterm, sterm)$   
|  $lastindexof(sterm, sterm)$

$sterm \longrightarrow v \mid \varepsilon \mid s$   
|  $sterm.sterm \mid sterm|sterm \mid sterm^* \mid (sterm)$   
|  $charat(sterm, iterm) \mid tostring(iterm)$   
|  $toupper(sterm) \mid tolower(sterm)$   
|  $substring(sterm, iterm, iterm)$   
|  $replacefirst(sterm, sterm, sterm)$   
|  $replacelast(sterm, sterm, sterm)$   
|  $replaceall(sterm, sterm, sterm)$

# Integer Automata Construction

---

$$C \equiv x = -1 \wedge x + y = 1$$



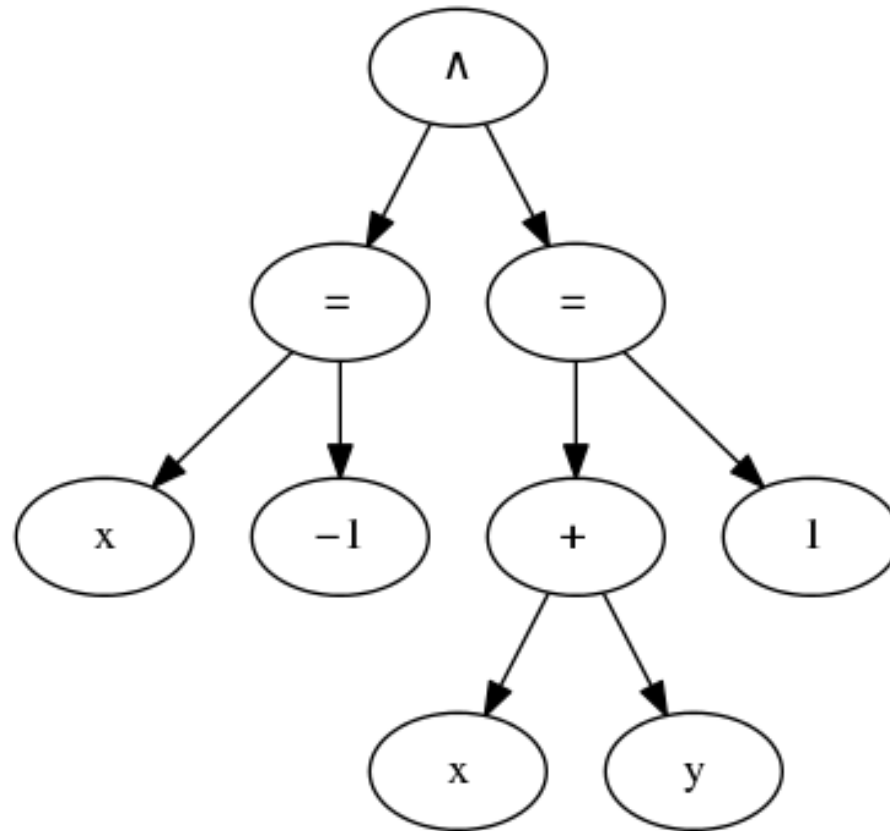
# Integer Automata Construction

---

$$C \equiv x = -1 \wedge x + y = 1$$

$$C_1 \equiv x + 0 * y + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow [1 \ 0 \ 1]$$

$$C_2 \equiv x + y - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow [1 \ 1 \ -1]$$



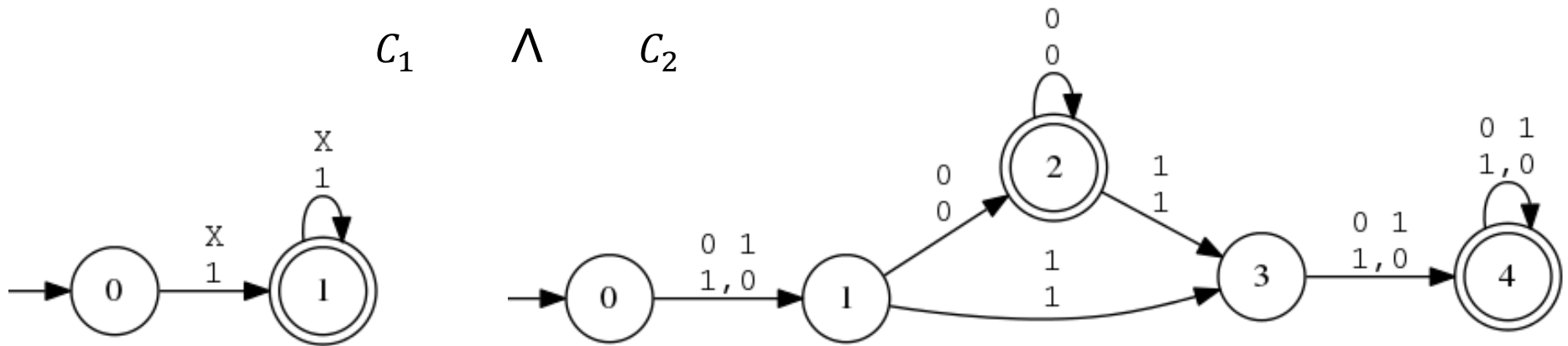
# Integer Automata Construction

$$C \equiv x = -1 \wedge x + y = 1$$

$$C_1 \equiv x + 0 * y + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow [1 \ 0 \ 1]$$

$$C_2 \equiv x + y - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow [1 \ 1 \ -1]$$

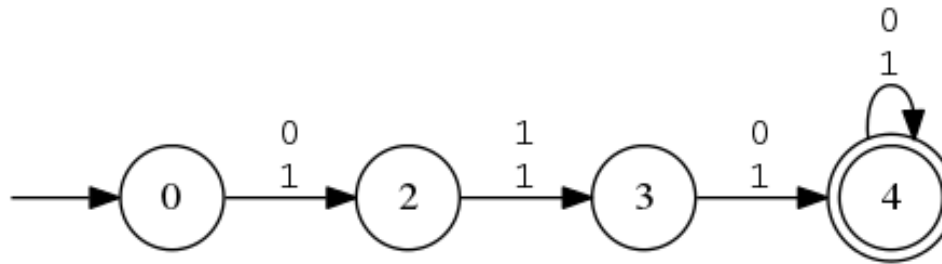
$C_1 \quad \wedge \quad C_2$



- ▶ Using automata construction techniques described in:  
C. Bartzis and Tevfik Bultan. Efficient symbolic representations for arithmetic constraints in verification. *Int. J. Found. Comput. Sci.*, 2003

# Integer Automata Construction

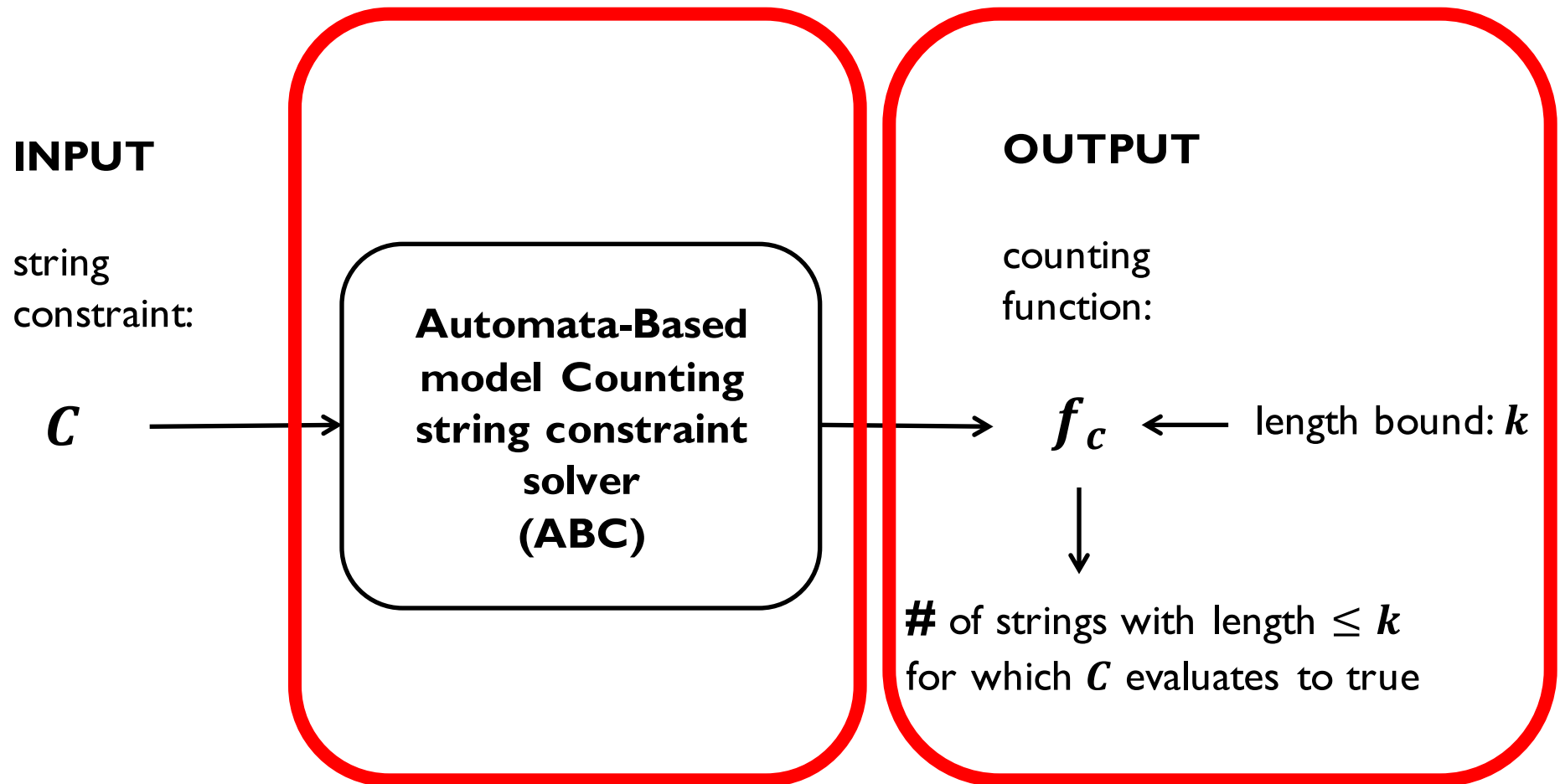
$$C \equiv x = -1 \wedge x + y = 1$$



$$(111, 010) = (-1, 2)$$

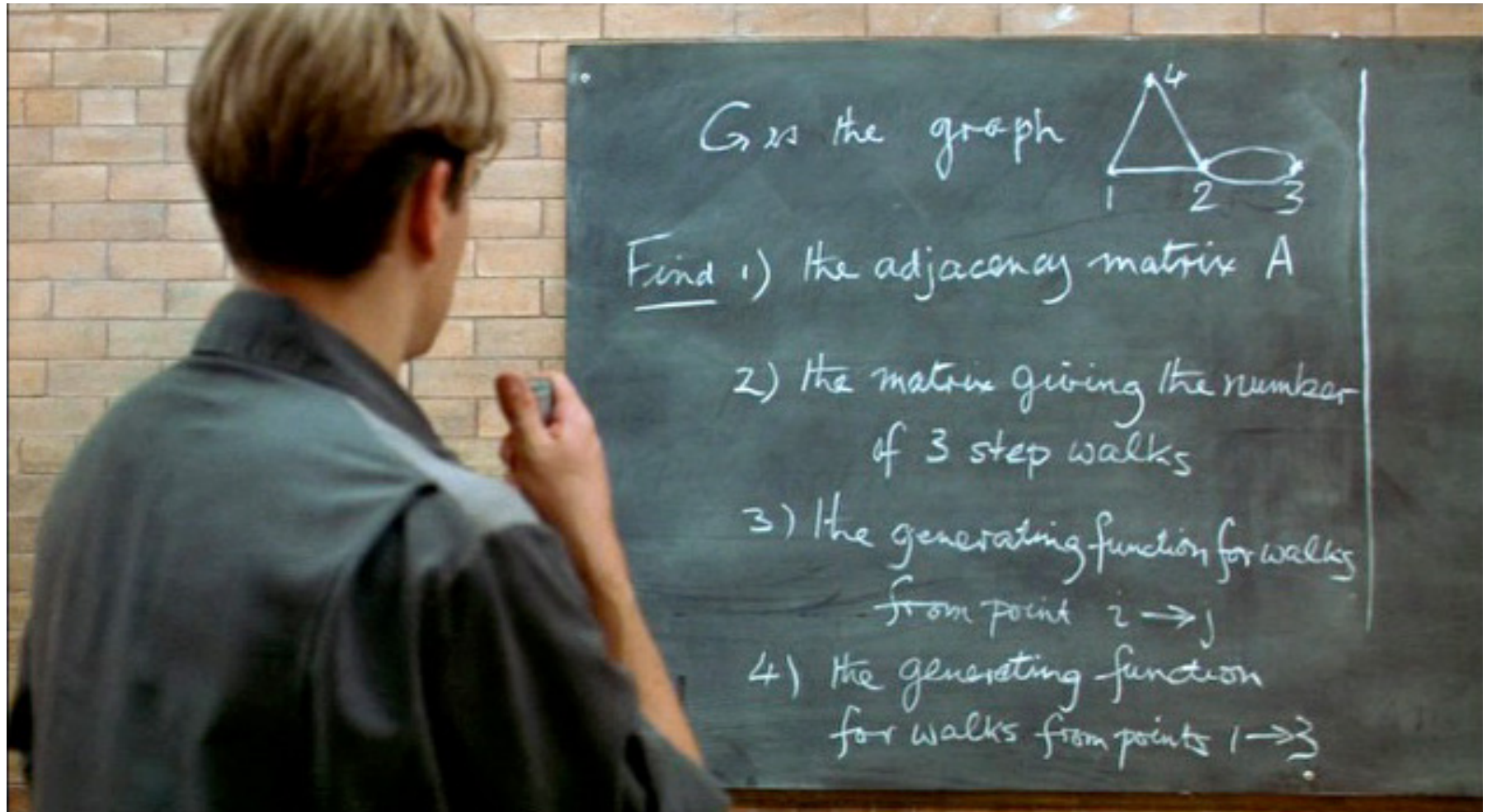
- ▶ Conjunction and disjunction is handled by automata product, negation is handled by automata complement

# Model Counting String Constraints Solver



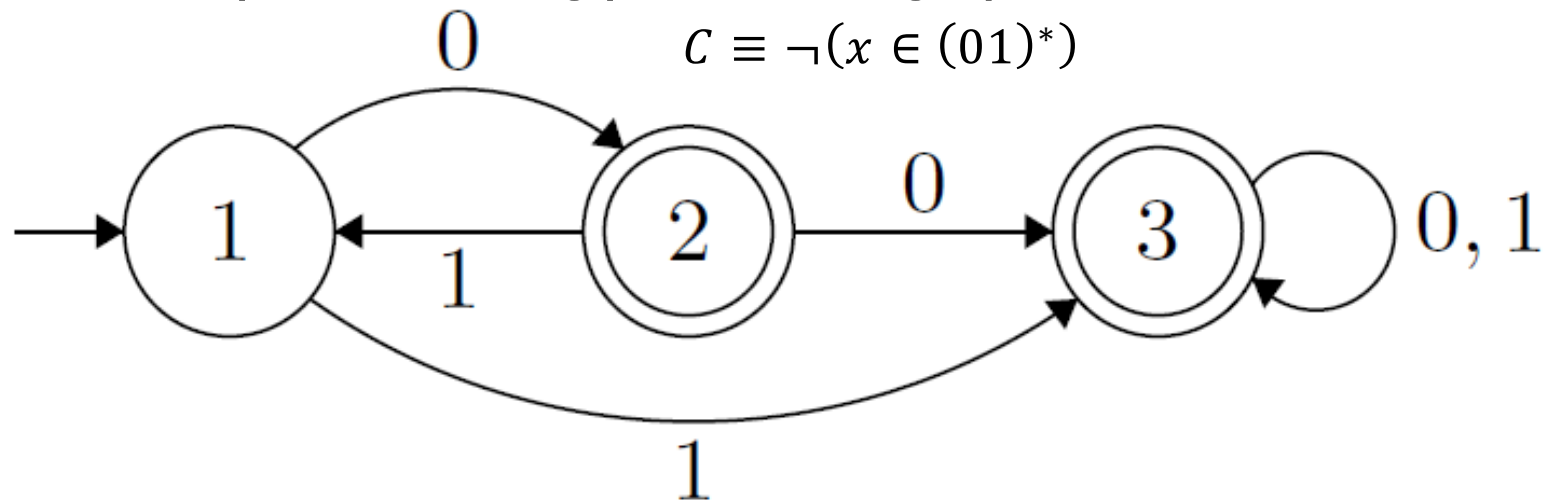


# Can you solve it Will Hunting?



# Automata-based Model Counting

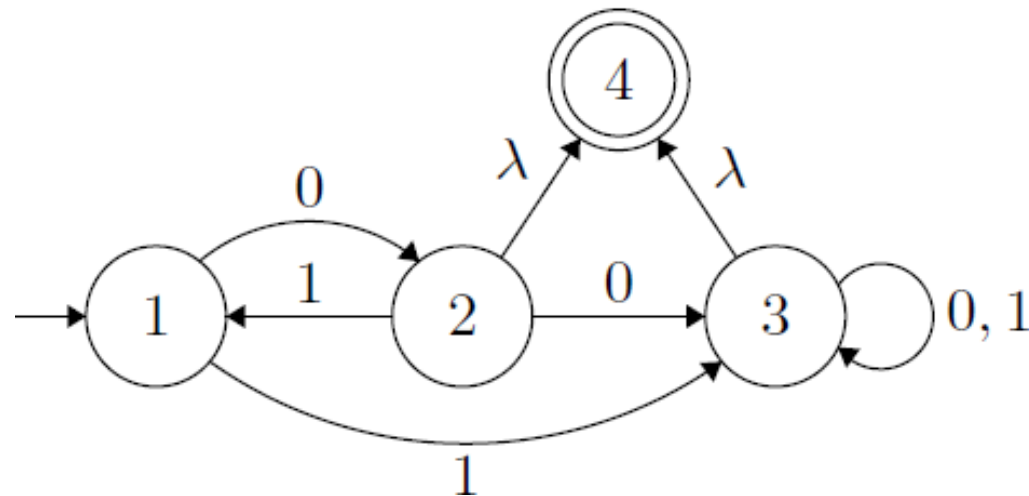
- ▶ Converting constraints to automata reduces the model counting problem to path counting problem in graphs



- ▶ We will generate a function  $f(k)$ 
  - ▶ Given length bound  $k$ , it will count the number of paths with length  $k$ .
  - ▶  $f(0) = 0, \{\}$
  - ▶  $f(1) = 2, \{0,1\}$
  - ▶  $f(2) = 3, \{00,10,11\}$

# Path Counting via Matrix Exponentiation

$$C = \neg(x \in (01)^*)$$



$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, T^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, T^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 7 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 7 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, T^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 15 & 8 \\ 1 & 0 & 15 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 16 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f(0) = 0$$

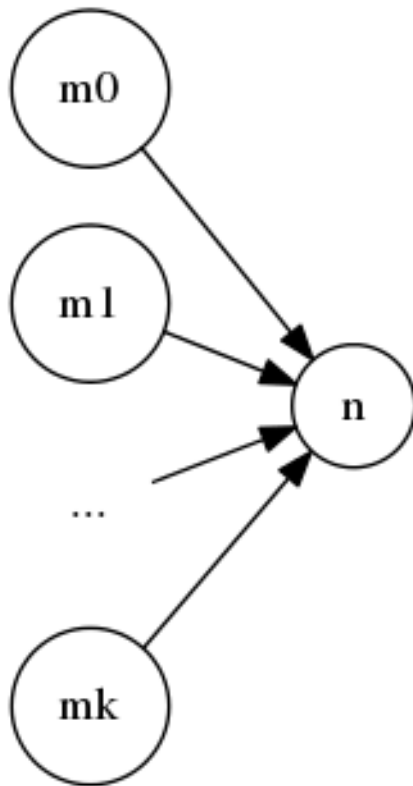
$$f(1) = 2$$

$$f(2) = 3$$

$$f(3) = 8$$

# Path Counting via Recurrence Relation

---



$$f(n, k) = \sum_{(m,n) \in E} f(m, k-1)$$

$$f(0,0) = 1$$

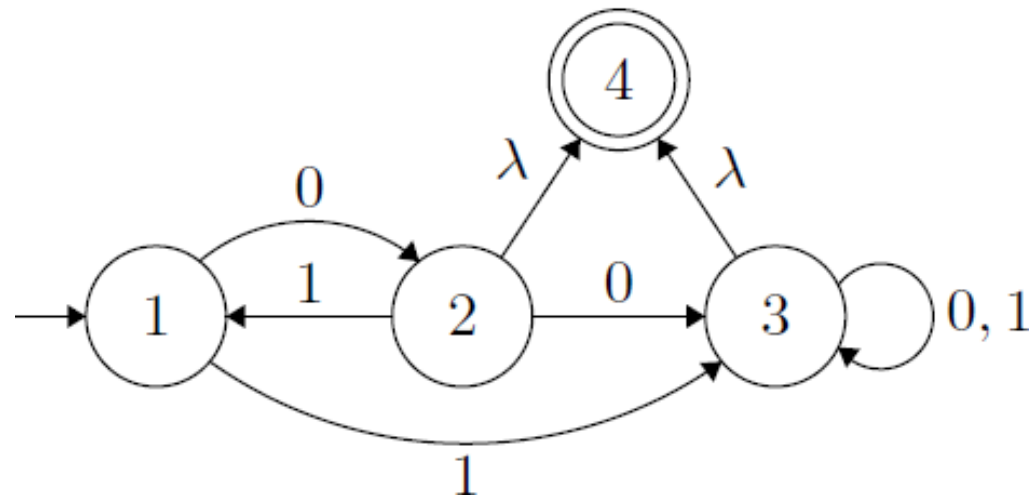
$$f(1,0) = 0$$

$$f(2,0) = 0$$

...

$$f(i, 0) = 0$$

# Path Counting via Recurrence Relation



$$f(4, k) = f(2, k - 1) + f(3, k - 1)$$

$$f(3, k) = f(1, k - 1) + f(2, k - 1) + f(3, k - 1)$$

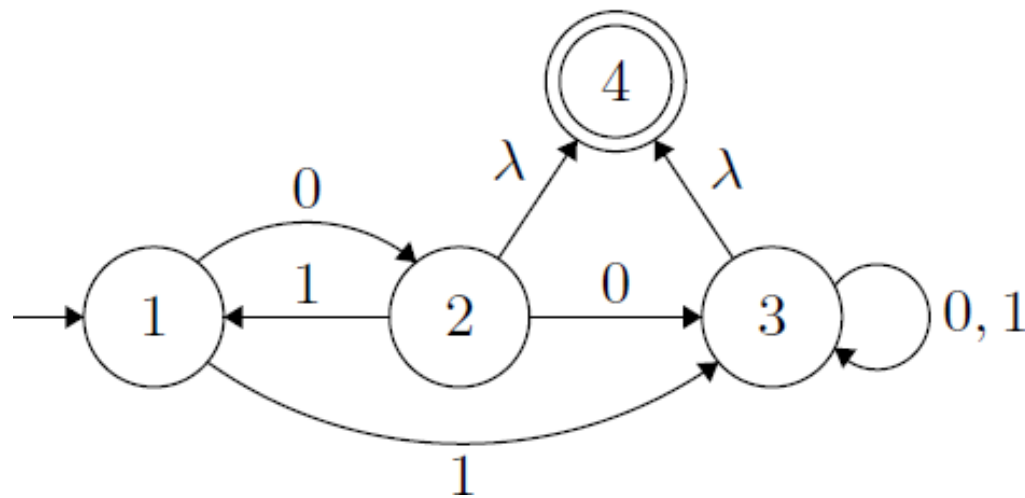
$$f(2, k) = f(1, k - 1)$$

$$f(1, k) = f(2, k - 1)$$

$$f(1, 0) = 1, f(2, 0) = 0, f(3, 0) = 0, f(4, 0) = 0$$

# Path Counting via Recurrence Relation

- ▶ We can solve system of recurrence relations for final node

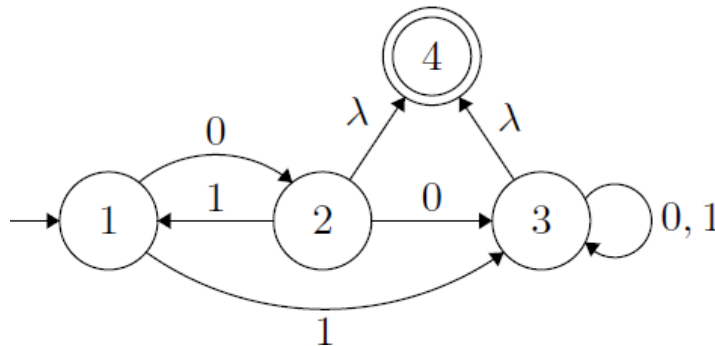


$$f(0) = 0, f(1) = 2, f(2) = 3$$

$$f(k) = 2f(k-1) + f(k-2) - 2f(k-3)$$

# Counting Paths via Generating Functions

- We can compute a generating function,  $g(z)$ , for a DFA from the associated matrix



$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$g(z) = (-1)^n \frac{\det(I - zT: n+1, 1)}{z \times \det(I - zT)} = \frac{2z - z^2}{1 - 2z - z^2 + 2z^3}$$

# Counting Paths via Generating Functions

---

$$g(z) = \frac{2z - z^2}{1 - 2z - z^2 + 2z^3}$$

- ▶ Each  $f(i)$  can be computed by Taylor expansion of  $g(z)$

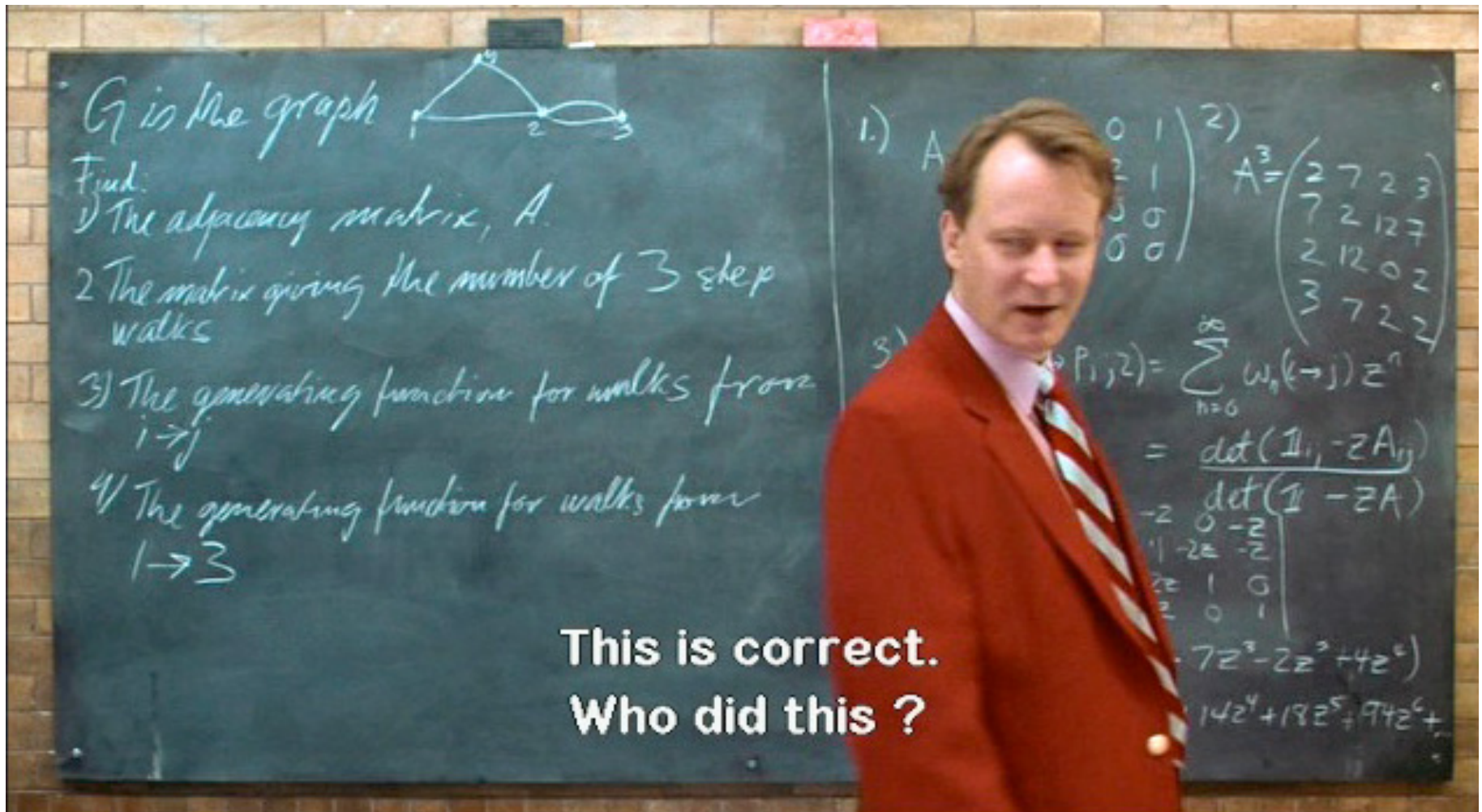
$$g(z) = \frac{g(0)}{0!} z^0 + \frac{g^{(1)}(0)}{1!} z^1 + \frac{g^{(2)}(0)}{2!} z^2 + \dots + \frac{g^{(n)}(0)}{n!} z^n + \dots$$


$$g(z) = 0z^0 + 2z^1 + 3z^2 + 8z^3 + 15z^4 + \dots$$

$$g(z) = f(0)z^0 + f(1)z^1 + f(2)z^2 + f(3)z^3 + f(4)z^4 + \dots$$



# Good job Will Hunting!



$G$  is the graph 

Find:

- 1) The adjacency matrix,  $A$ .
- 2) The matrix giving the number of 3 step walks
- 3) The generating function for walks from  $i \rightarrow j$
- 4) The generating function for walks from  $1 \rightarrow 3$

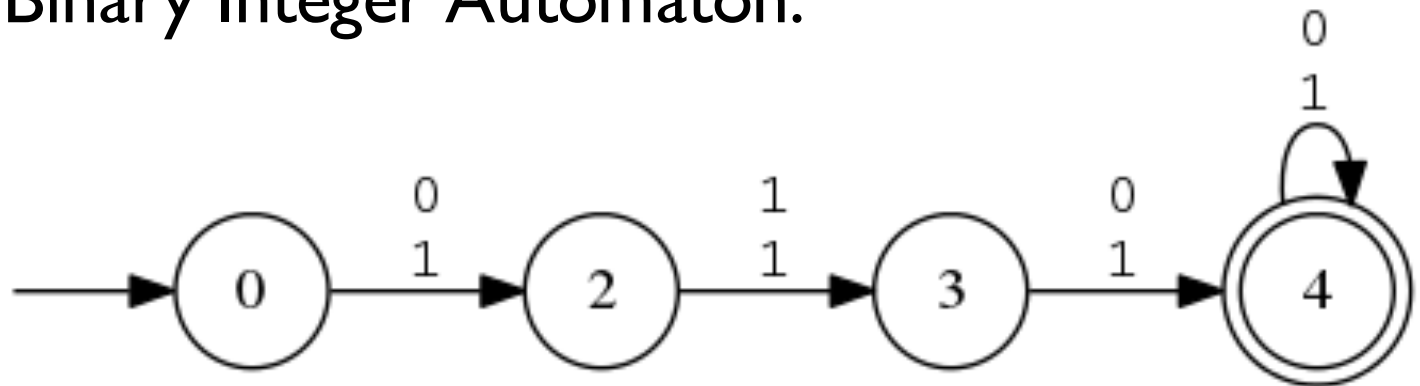
1.)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  2.)  $A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 7 & 2 & 3 \\ 7 & 2 & 12 & 7 \\ 2 & 12 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 7 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

3.)  $P_{ij}(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} w_n(i \rightarrow j) z^n$   
 $= \frac{\det(I_{ij} - zA_{ij})}{\det(I - zA)}$   
 $= \frac{\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -z & 0 \\ -z & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}{\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -z & 0 \\ -z & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} = \frac{1 - z^2}{1 - 7z^2 - 2z^3 + 4z^4}$   
 $= 14z^4 + 19z^5 + 94z^6 + \dots$

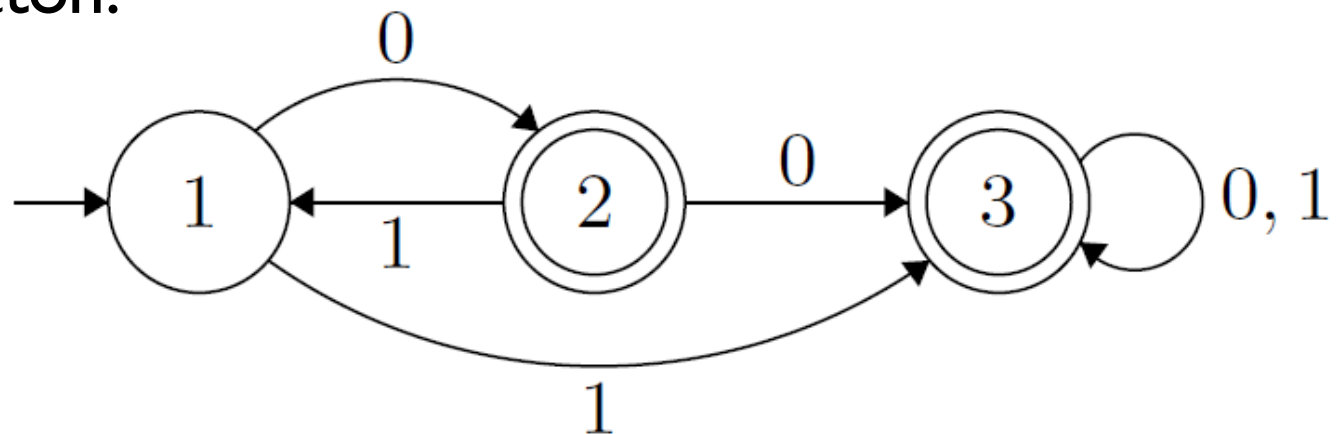
**This is correct.  
Who did this ?**

# Applicable to Both Automata

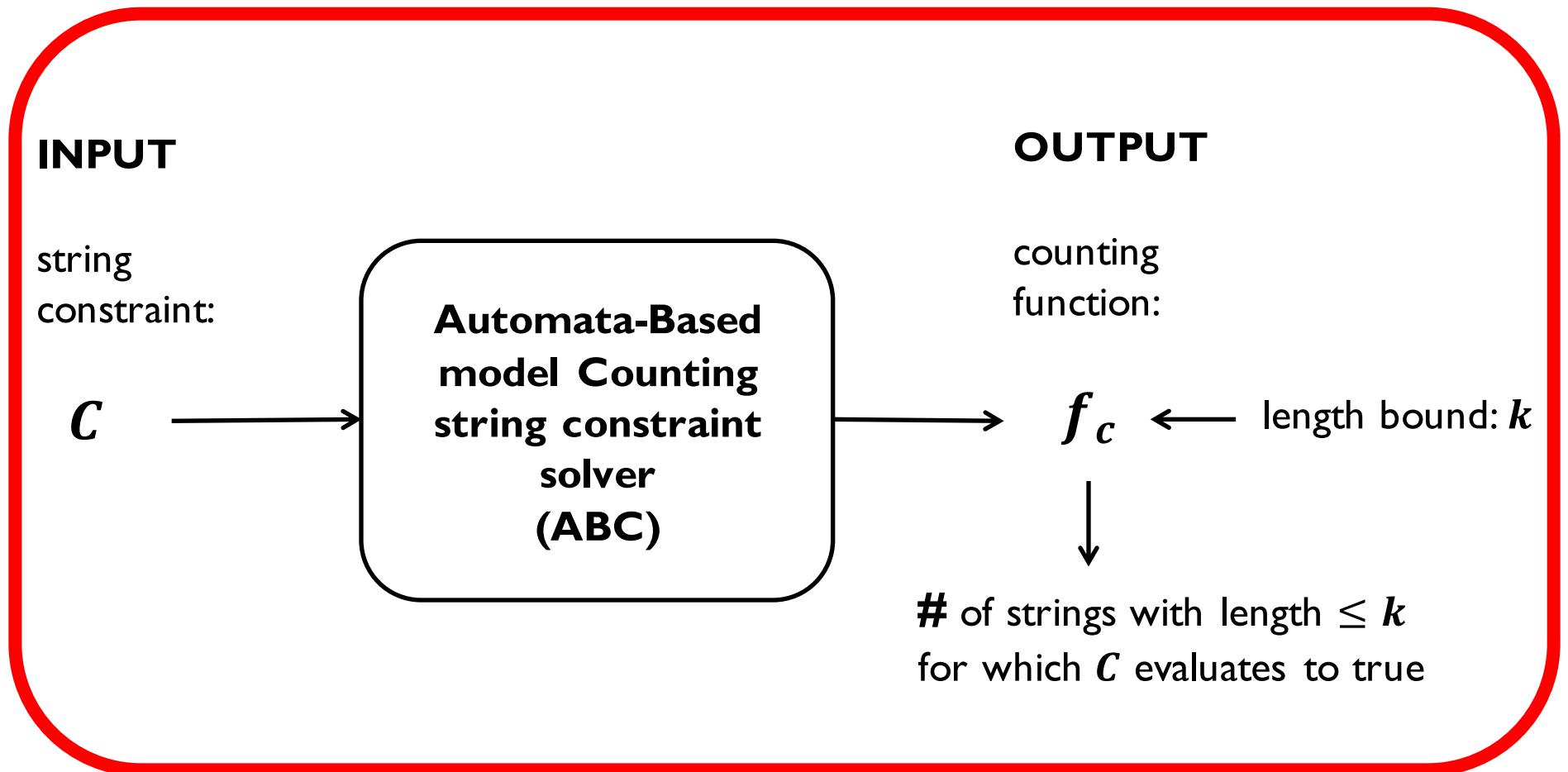
## ► Multi-track Binary Integer Automaton:



## ► String Automaton:

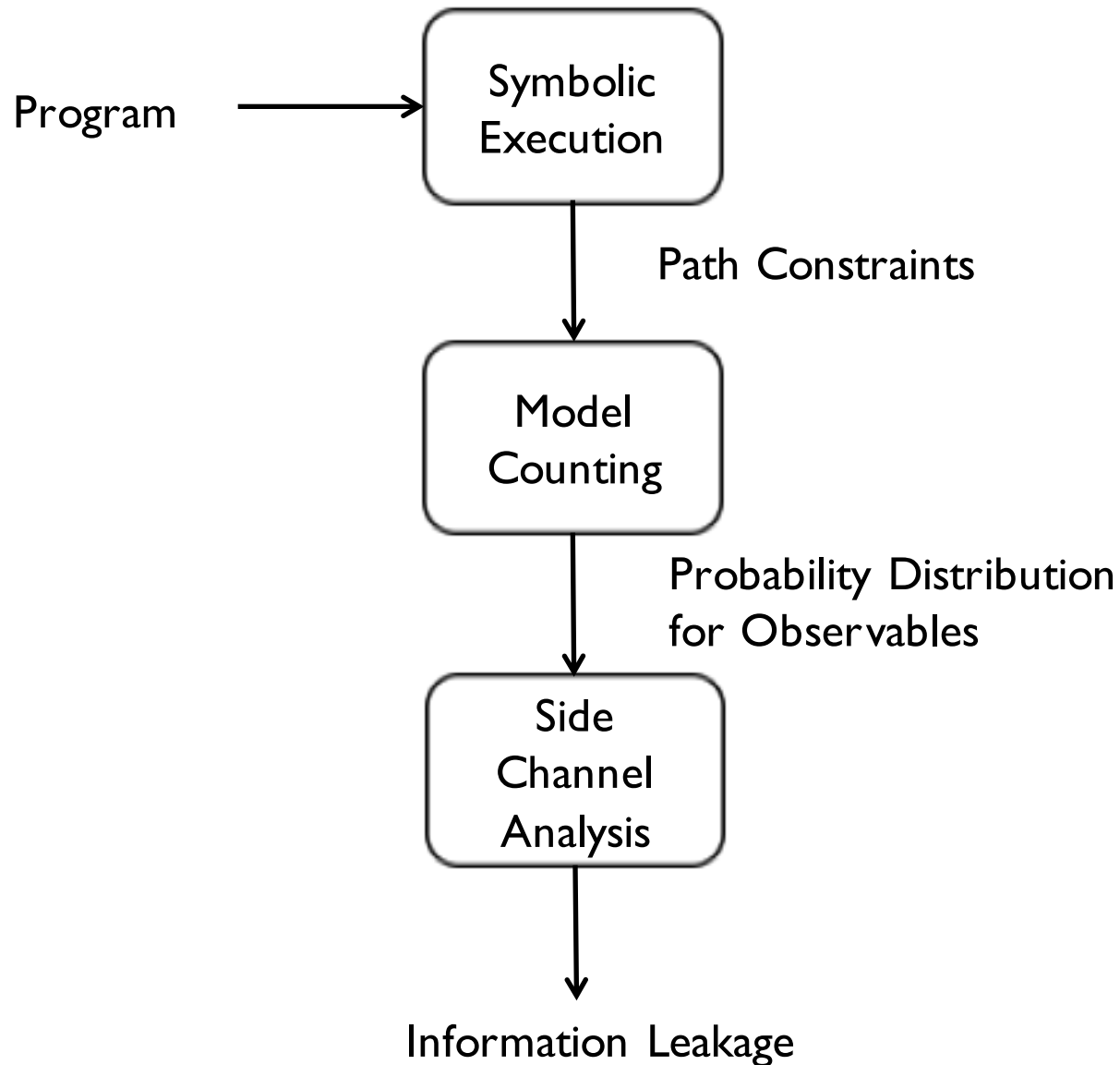


# Model Counting String Constraints Solver



# Overview

---



# A case study

---

- A web service with a database that contains restricted & unrestricted employee IDs
- Supports SEARCH & INSERT queries
- Question: Is there a side channel in time that a third party can determine the value of a single restricted ID in the database



# Code Inspection

---

- Using code inspection we identified that the SEARCH and INSERT operations are implemented in:

```
class UDPServerHandler
```

```
method channelRead0
```

```
switch case 1: INSERT
```

```
switch case 8: SEARCH
```



# SPF Driver

---

```
public class Driver {
    public static void main(String[] args){
        BTree tree = new BTree(10);
        CheckRestrictedID checker = new CheckRestrictedID();
        // create two concrete unrestricted ids
        int id1 = 64, id2 = 85;
        tree.add(id1, null, false);
        tree.add(id2, null, false);
        // create one symbolic restricted id
        int h = Debug.makeSymbolicInteger("h");
        Debug.assume(h!=id1 && h!=id2);
        tree.add(h, null, false);
        checker.add(h);
        UDPServerHandler handler = new UDPServerHandler(tree, checker);
        int key = Debug.makeSymbolicInteger("key");
        handler.channelRead0(8, key); // send a search query with
        // with search range 50 to 100
    }
}
```



# SPF Output

>>>>> There are 5 path conditions and 5 observables

cost: 9059

(assert (<= h 100))

(assert (> h 85))

(assert (> h 64))

(assert (not (= h 85)))

(assert (not (= h 64)))

Count = 15

cost: 8713

(assert (<= h 85))

(assert (> h 64))

(assert (not (= h 85)))

(assert (not (= h 64)))

Count = 20

cost: 7916

(assert (> h 100))

(assert (> h 85))

(assert (> h 64))

(assert (not (= h 85)))

(assert (not (= h 64)))

Count = 923

cost: 8701

(assert (>= h 50))

(assert (<= h 64))

(assert (not (= h 85)))

(assert (not (= h 64)))

Count = 14

cost: 7951

(assert (< h 50))

(assert (<= h 64))

(assert (not (= h 85)))

(assert (not (= h 64)))

Count = 50

PC equivalence class model counting results.

Cost: 9059	Count: 15	Probability: 0.014677
Cost: 8713	Count: 20	Probability: 0.019569
Cost: 7916	Count: 923	Probability: 0.903131
Cost: 8701	Count: 14	Probability: 0.013699
Cost: 7951	Count: 50	Probability: 0.048924

Domain Size: 1022

Single Run Leakage: 0.6309758112933285



# Observation & Proposed Attack

---

- ▶ SEARCH operation:

***takes longer when the secret is within the search range***  
(9059, 8713, 8701 byte code instructions)

as opposed to the case when the secret is out of the search range (7916, 7951 byte code instructions)

- ▶ Proposed attack:

Measure the time it takes for the search operation to figure out if there is a secret within the search range.



# Attack

---

- Binary search on the ranges of the IDs
- Send two search queries at a time and compare their execution time.
- Refine the search range based on the result.

```
min= 0; max=MAX_ID      //assume MAX_ID is a power of 2
while ( min < max )
{
    half = (max-min-1)/2;
    if (time(search(min.. min+half-1) > time(search(min+half .. max)))
        max = min+half-1;
    else
        min = min+half;
}
```



# Attack Output

---

Running [0,40000000] at 0.  
Comparing 467821 vs 612252...  
Running [20000000,40000000] at 2.  
Comparing 400377 vs 333665...  
Running [20000000,30000000] at 4.  
Comparing 200603 vs 237025...  
Running [25000000,30000000] at 6.  
Comparing 163564 vs 115072...  
Running [25000000,27500000] at 8.  
Comparing 95736 vs 37388...  
Running [25000000,26250000] at 10.  
Comparing 85305 vs 30118...  
Running [25000000,25625000] at 12.  
Comparing 22765 vs 72958...  
Running [25312500,25625000] at 14.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 19353...  
Running [25312500,25468750] at 16.  
Comparing 517 vs 2147483647...  
Running [25390625,25468750] at 18.  
Comparing 317 vs 2147483647...  
Running [25429687,25468750] at 20.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 302...  
Running [25429687,25449218] at 22.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 287...  
Running [25429687,25439452] at 24.  
Comparing 336 vs 2147483647...

Running [25434569,25439452] at 26.  
Comparing 300 vs 2147483647...  
Running [25437010,25439452] at 28.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 265...  
Running [25437010,25438231] at 30.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 328...  
Running [25437010,25437620] at 32.  
Comparing 280 vs 2147483647...  
Running [25437315,25437620] at 34.  
Comparing 293 vs 2147483647...  
Running [25437467,25437620] at 36.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 281...  
Running [25437467,25437543] at 38.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 613...  
Running [25437467,25437505] at 40.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 258...  
Running [25437467,25437486] at 42.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 291...  
Running [25437467,25437476] at 44.  
Comparing 362 vs 2147483647...  
Running [25437471,25437476] at 46.  
Comparing 311 vs 2147483647...  
Running [25437473,25437476] at 48.  
Comparing 2147483647 vs 2147483647...  
Checking oracle for:25437474...true  
Checking oracle for:25437475...false

# Multi-Run Analysis

---

- The side channel analysis I discussed so far is for analyzing a single execution of a program
- Can we do model multi-run analysis?
- Adversary runs the program on multiple inputs one after another
- Can we determine the amount of information leakage in such a scenario?



# Multi-Run Analysis

---

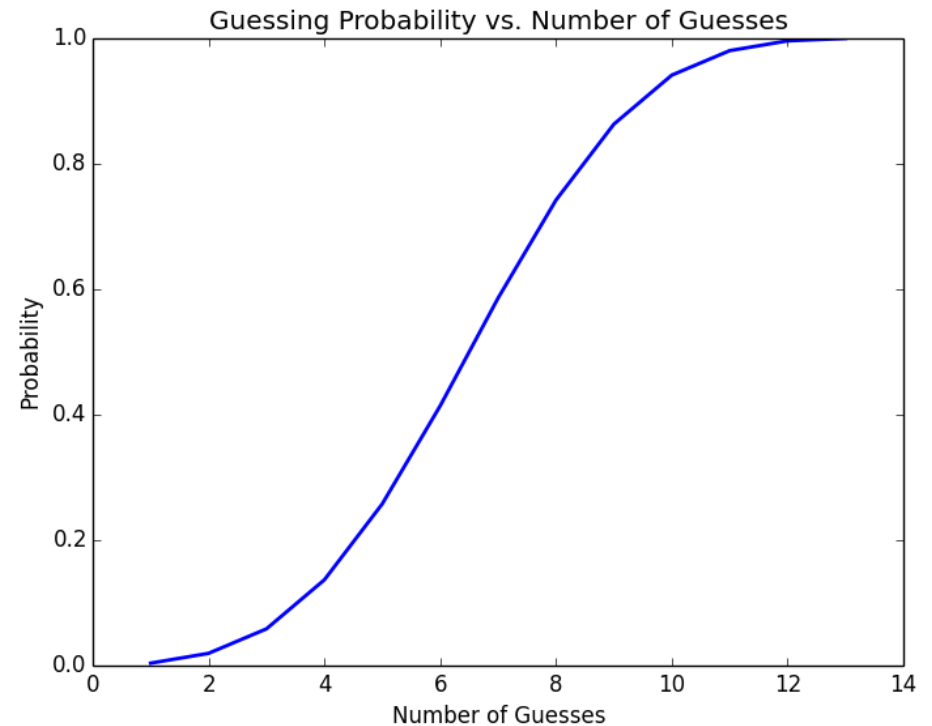
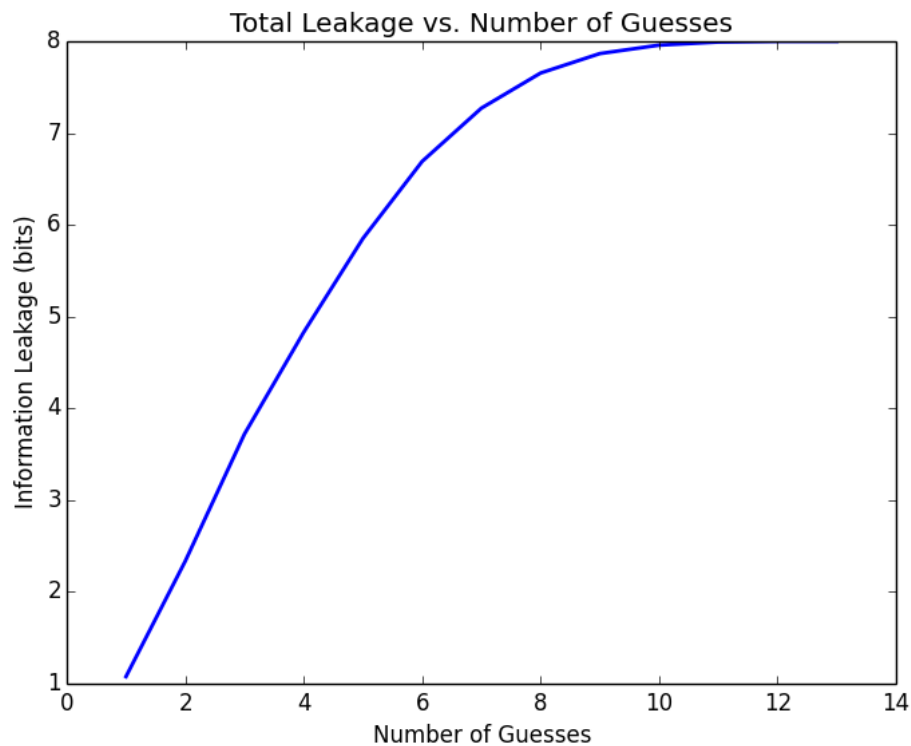
- For multi-run analysis we need an adversary model
  - Adversary behavior influences the analysis
- It would make sense to calculate the leakage for the best adversary
- For a class of side channels called “segmented oracles” we can use symbolic execution and entropy calculation from a single run to compute the change in the entropy for multiple runs
- This can be used to automatically compute how many tries it will take to reveal the secret.



# Results for Password Check

---

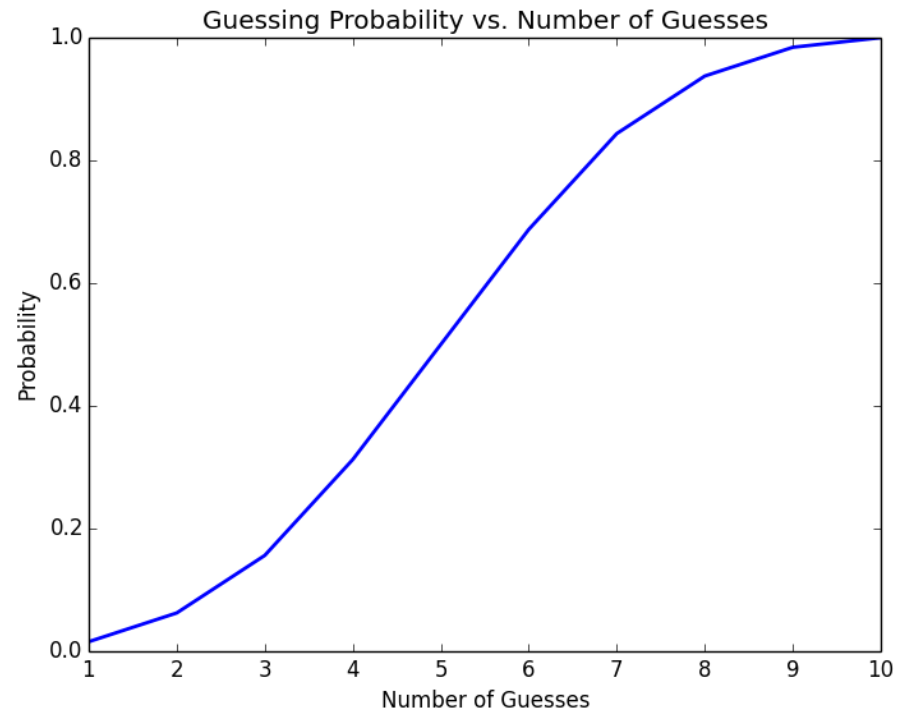
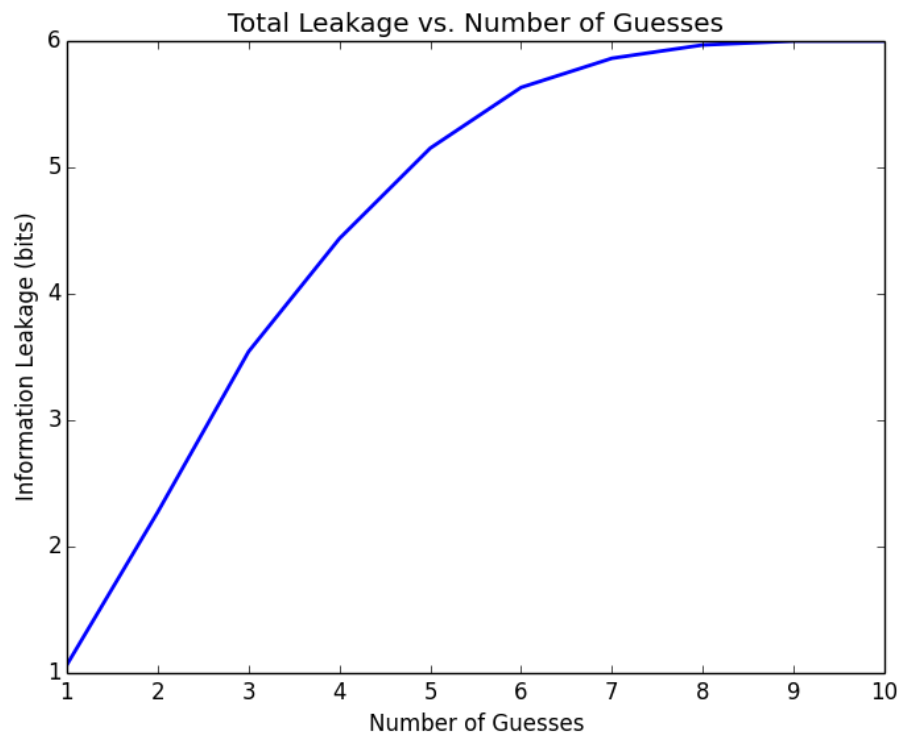
Results for 4 segments with 4 values (8 bits of information)



# Results for CRIME

---

Results for 3 segments with 4 values (6 bits of information)



# Noisy Observations

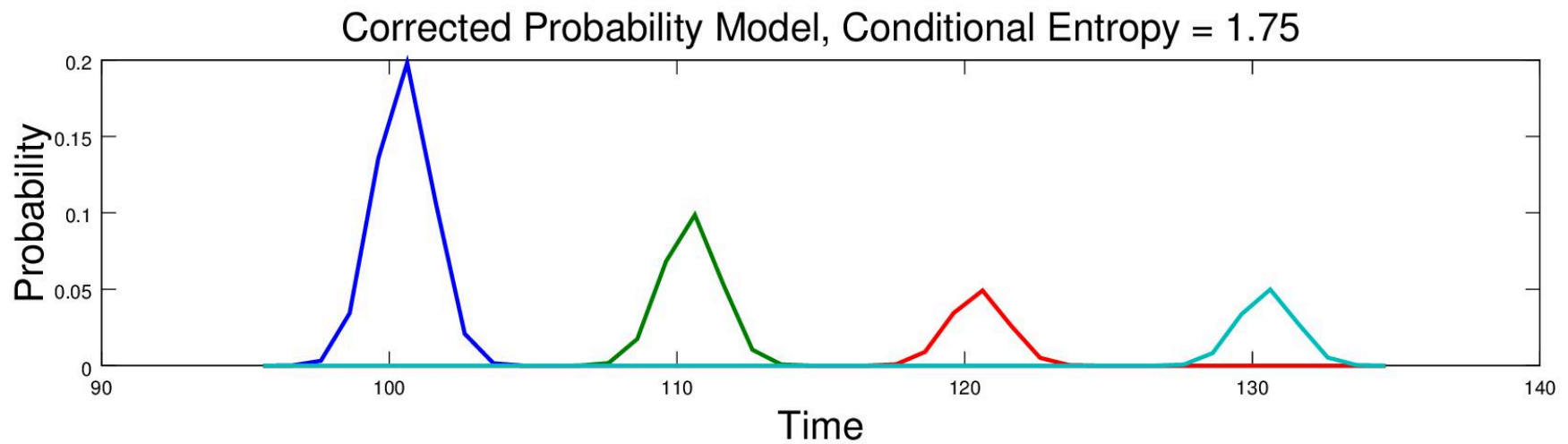
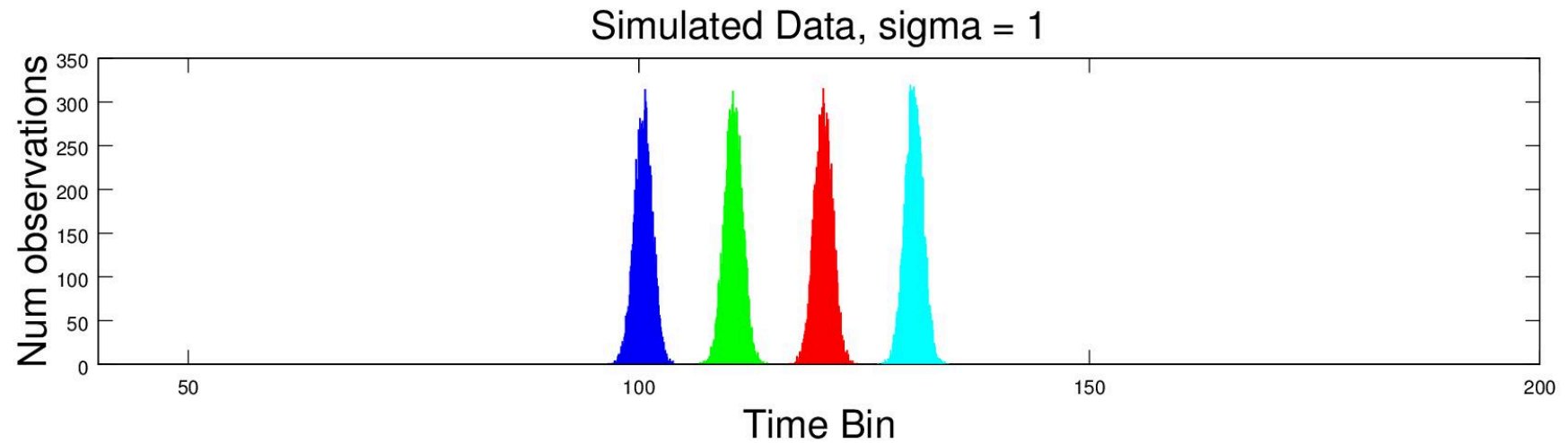
---

- ▶ Entropy computations we have shown so far do not take observation noise into account
- ▶ One approach we are investigating to handle noise:
  - Assume a noise distribution (for example normal distribution)
  - Run fuzzing to observe parameters of the distribution (mean and standard deviation)
  - Update entropy calculations using the noise model



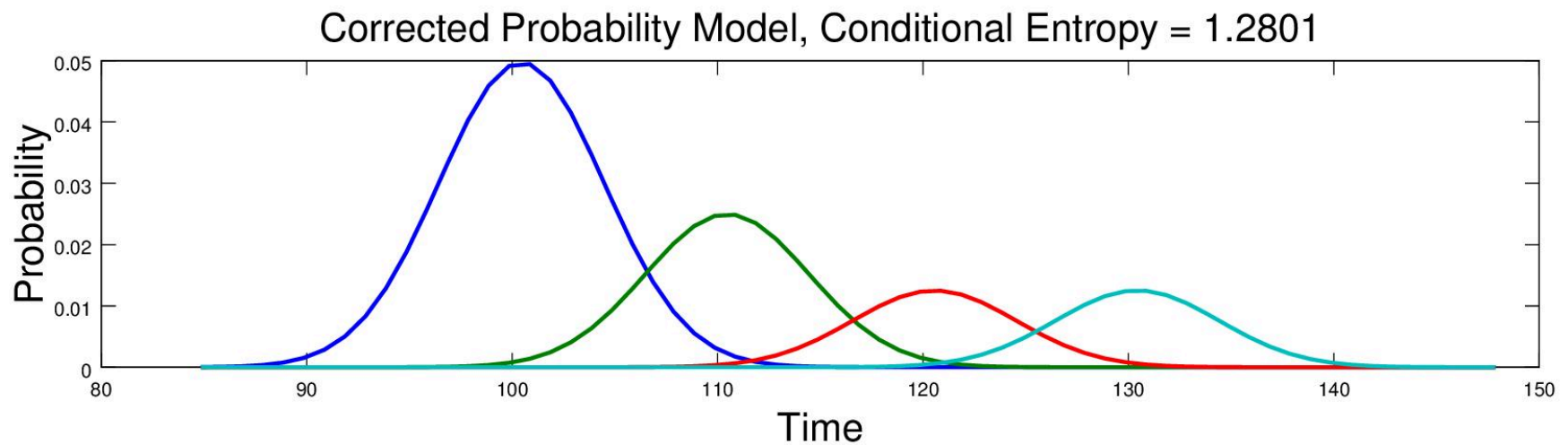
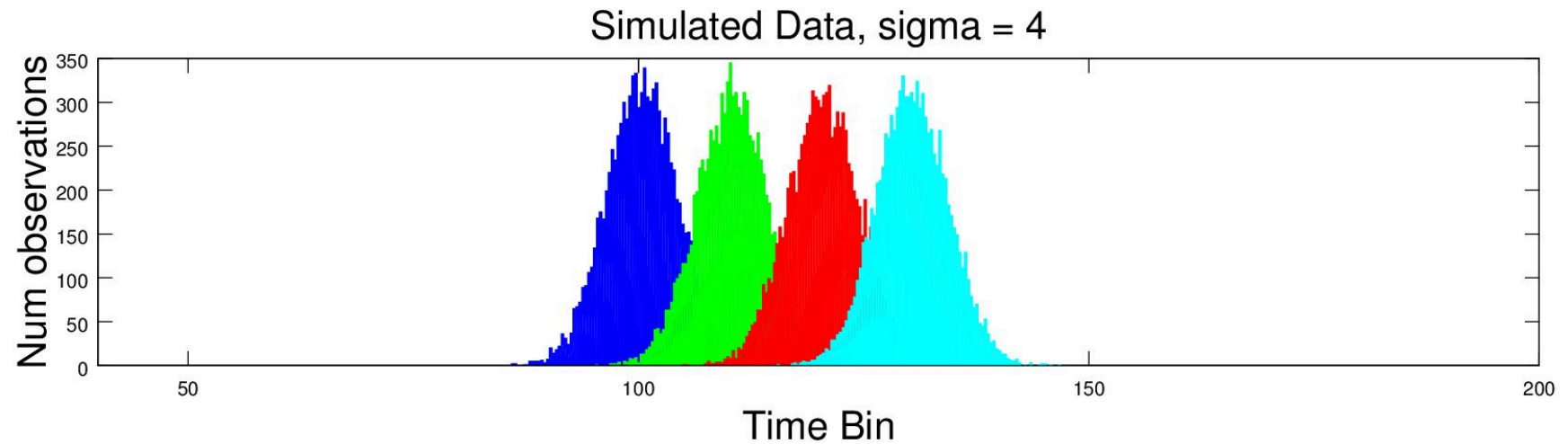
# Noisy Observation Simulation

---



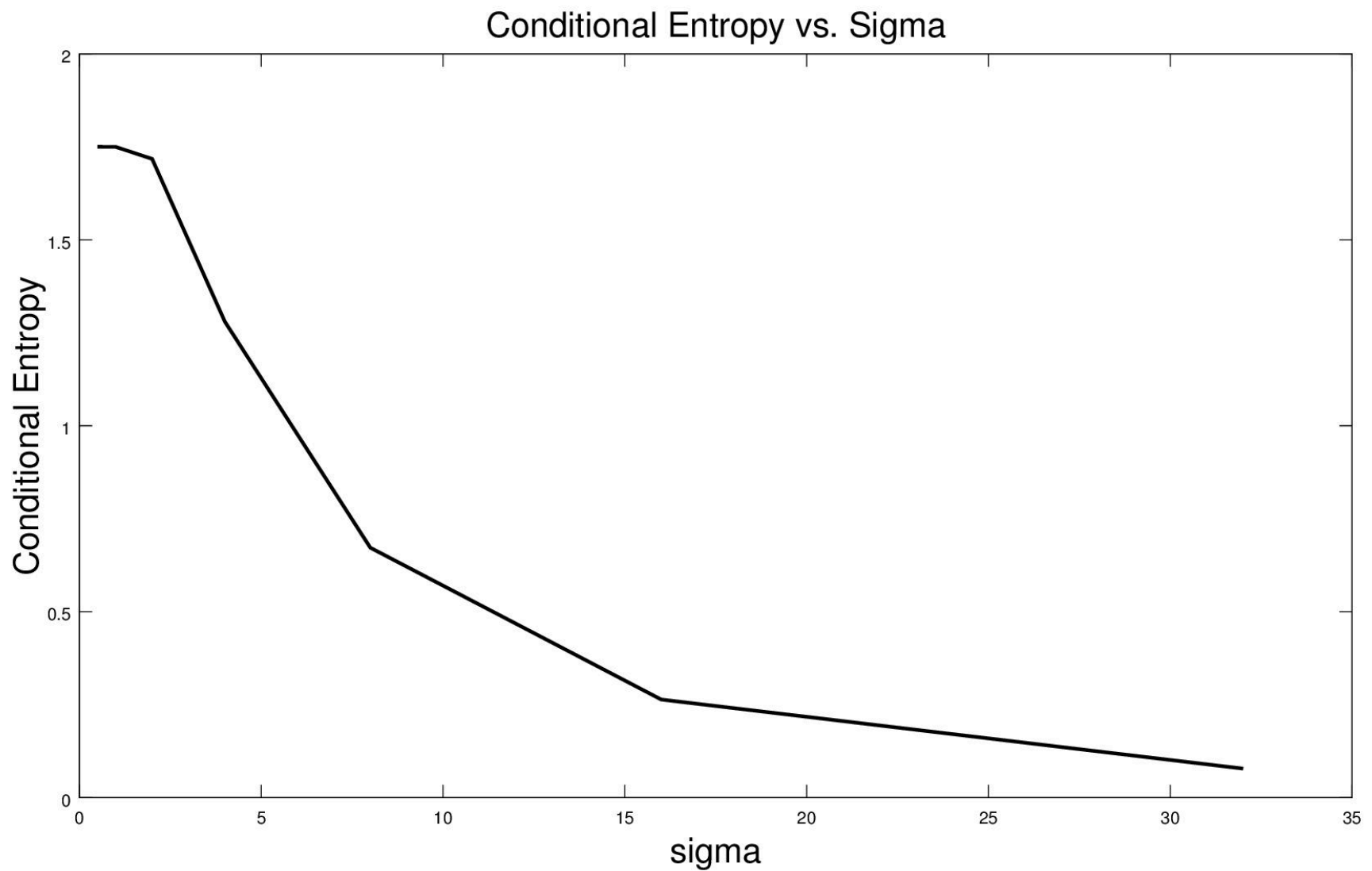
# Noisy Observation Simulation

---



# Entropy vs. Noise

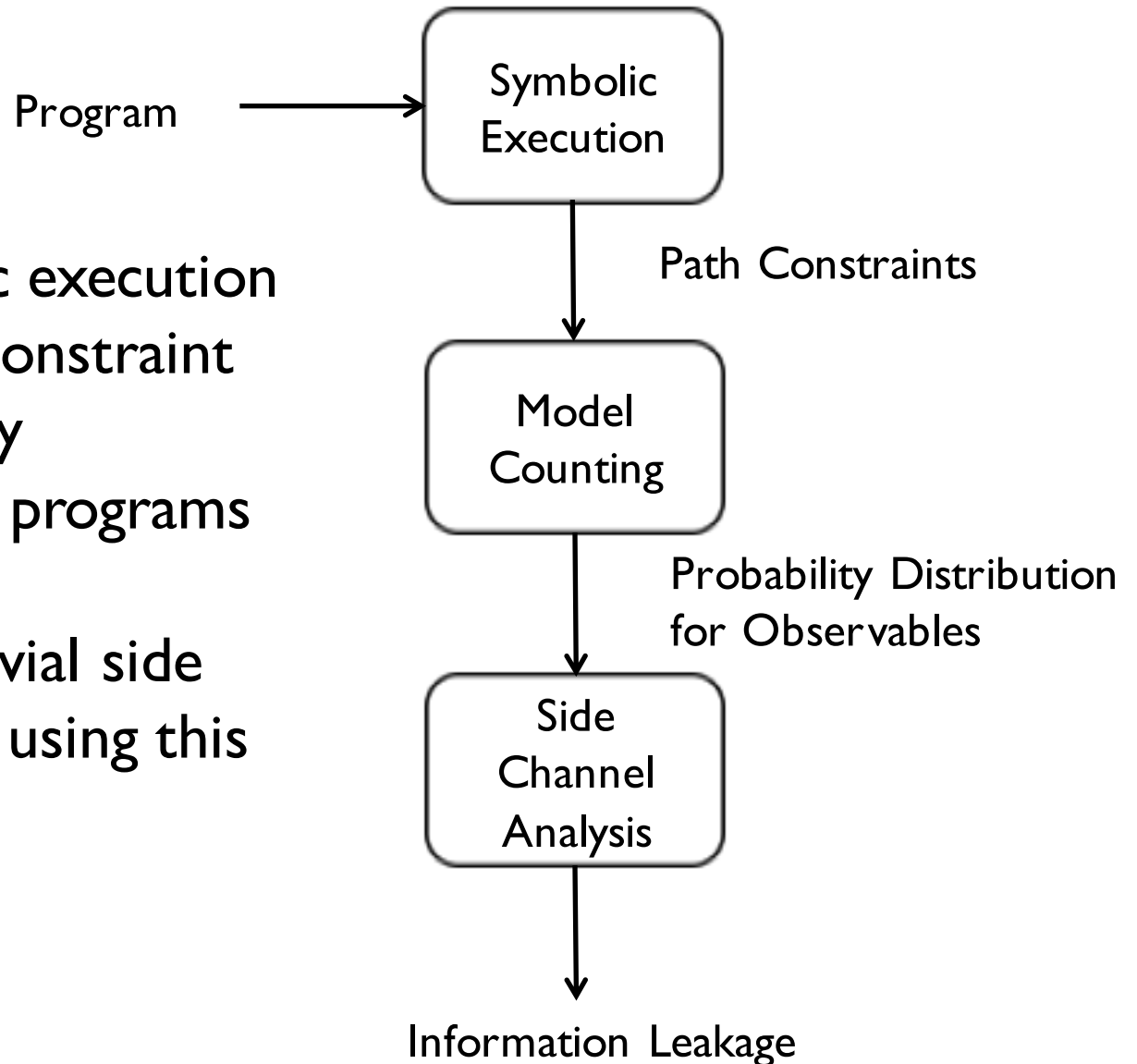
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# Conclusions

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- By combining symbolic execution with model counting constraint solvers we can quantify information leakage in programs
- We can detect non-trivial side channel vulnerabilities using this approach



# Current & Future Work

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- ▶ More efficient model counting
- ▶ More expressive model counting
- ▶ Handling noise in observations
- ▶ Attack synthesis

# Related work: Quantitative Information Flow

- ▶ Geoffrey Smith. "On the Foundations of Quantitative Information Flow." FOSSACS 2009:288-302
- ▶ Pasquale Malacaria. "Assessing security threats of looping constructs." POPL 2007:225-235
- ▶ David Clark, Sebastian Hunt, Pasquale Malacaria. "A static analysis for quantifying information flow in a simple imperative language." Journal of Computer Security 15(3):321-371 (2007)
- ▶ Jonathan Heusser, Pasquale Malacaria. "Quantifying information leaks in software." ACSAC 2010:261-269
- ▶ Quoc-Sang Phan, Pasquale Malacaria, Oksana Tkachuk, Corina S. Pasareanu. "Symbolic quantitative information flow." ACM SIGSOFT Software Engineering Notes 37(6):1-5 (2012)
- ▶ Quoc-Sang Phan, Pasquale Malacaria, Corina S. Pasareanu, Marcelo d'Amorim. "Quantifying information leaks using reliability analysis." SPIN 2014:105-108
- ▶ Stephen McCamant, Michael D. Ernst. "Quantitative information flow as network flow capacity." PLDI 2008:193-205
- ▶ Michael Backes, Boris Köpf, Andrey Rybalchenko. "Automatic Discovery and Quantification of Information Leaks." IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy 2009:141-153
- ▶ Shuo Chen, Rui Wang, XiaoFeng Wang, Kehuan Zhang. "Side-Channel Leaks in Web Applications: A Reality Today, a Challenge Tomorrow." IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy 2010:191-206
- ▶ Goran Doychev, Dominik Feld, Boris Köpf, Laurent Mauborgne, Jan Reineke. "CacheAudit: A Tool for the Static Analysis of Cache Side Channels." USENIX Security 2013:431-446

# Related work: Model Counting

---

- ▶ SMC: “A Model Counter For Constraints Over Unbounded Strings.” Loi Luu, Shweta Shinde, Prateek Saxena.
- ▶ Latte, Barvinok: “A Polynomial Time Algorithm for Counting Integral Points in Polyhedra When the Dimension Is Fixed.” Alexander I. Barvinok
- ▶ “Effective lattice point counting in rational convex polytopes.” Jesús A. De Loera<sup>b</sup>, Raymond Hemmecke<sup>b</sup>, Jeremiah Tauzera, Ruriko Yoshida<sup>b</sup>.
- ▶ “From Weighted to Unweighted Model Counting.” Supratik Chakraborty, Dror Fried, Kuldeep S. Meel, Moshe Y. Vardi.
- ▶ “Algorithmic Improvements in Approximate Counting for Probabilistic Inference.” From Linear to Logarithmic SAT Calls Supratik Chakraborty, Kuldeep S. Meel, Moshe Y. Vardi.
- ▶ “Approximate Probabilistic Inference via Word-Level Counting.” Supratik Chakraborty, Kuldeep S. Meel, Rakesh Mistry, Moshe Y. Vardi