

Lecture # 17 State Space Explosion

```
MODULE main

VAR

x: boolean;
```

Transition system of above NuSMV program has 2 states

x=FALSE and x=TRUE

```
MODULE main
```

VAR

x: boolean;

y: boolean;

Transition system of above NuSMV program has 4 states

x=FALSE

x=FALSE

x=TRUE

x=TRUE

y=FALSE

y=TRUE

y=FALSE

y=TRUE

```
MODULE main
VAR
    x: boolean;
        boolean;
    input: sys();
MODULE sys()
VAR
    state: { s1, s2, s3, s4, s5 };
```

If NuSMV program has 10 boolean variables, transition system will have 2¹⁰ states!

If NuSMV program has 10 module variables, each of which has 10 states, the transition system will have 10¹⁰ states!

Tackling state space explosion

- ► Efficient data structures: Binary Decision Diagrams
- Abstraction: Interpret model with fewer variables relevant to property
- Partial order reduction: for asynchronous systems, combining several interleavings
- Composition: Break verification into simpler verification problem
- Bounded model-checking: Unroll transition system upto a fixed length of paths