



# UNIVERSITÀ DI TRENTO

Formal Method Mod. 2 (Model Checking)  
Laboratory 7

Giuseppe Spallitta  
[giuseppe.spallitta@unitn.it](mailto:giuseppe.spallitta@unitn.it)

Università degli studi di Trento

April 28, 2021

# Outline

---

1. Introduction
2. nuXmv interactive shell
3. nuXmv Modeling
4. Modules
5. Homework



# History of nuXmv

## SMV

Symbolic Model Verifier developed by McMillan in 1993.

## NuSMV

Open-source symbolic model checker for SMV models. It has been developed by FBK, Carnegie Mellon University, University of Genoa and University of Trento.

## nuXmv

Extends NuSMV for infinite state and timed (since v2) systems.

Binary available for non-commercial or academic purposes only.

Developed and maintained by the Embedded Systems unit of FBK.



# Application of nuXvm

---

- ▶ nuXmv allows for the verification of:
  - ▶ *finite-state systems* through SAT and BDD based algorithms;
  - ▶ *infinite-state systems* (e.g. systems with *real* and *integer* variables) through SMT-based techniques running on top of **MathSAT5**;
  - ▶ *timed systems* (e.g. allows *clock* type) via reduction to infinite state model checking.
- ▶ nuXmv supports *synchronous* systems;
- ▶ *asynchronous* systems are no longer supported!



# Outline

---

1. Introduction
2. nuXmv interactive shell
3. nuXmv Modeling
4. Modules
5. Homework



# Interactive shell [1/3]

- ▶ `nuXmv -int` (or `NuSMV -int`) activates an interactive shell
- ▶ `help` shows the list of all commands (if a command name is given as argument, detailed information for that command will be provided).  
*note: option `-h` prints the command line help for each command.*
- ▶ `reset` resets the whole system (in order to read in another model and to perform verification on it).
- ▶ `read_model [-i filename]` sets the input model and reads it.
- ▶ `go, go_bmc, go_msat` initialize `nuXmv` for verification or simulation with a specific backend engine.

# Interactive shell [2/3]

- ▶ `pick_state [-v] [-a] [-r | -i]` picks a state from the set of initial states.
  - ▶ `-v` prints the chosen state.
  - ▶ `-r` picks a state from the set of the initial states randomly.
  - ▶ `-i` picks a state from the set of the initial states interactively.
  - ▶ `-a` displays all state variables (requires `-i`).
- ▶ `simulate [-p | -v] [-a] [-r | -i] -k N` generates a sequence of at most `N` transitions starting from the current state.
  - ▶ `-p` prints the changing variables in the generated trace;
  - ▶ `-v` prints changed and unchanged variables in the generated trace;
  - ▶ `-a` prints all state variables (requires `-i`);
  - ▶ `-r` at every step picks the next state randomly.
  - ▶ `-i` at every step picks the next state interactively.
- ▶ `print_current_state [-h] [-v]` prints out the current state.
  - ▶ `-v` prints all the variables.

# Interacting Shell [2/3] - Output Example

```
nuXmv > reset
nuXmv > read_model -i example01.smv ; go
nuXmv > pick_state -v; simulate -v
Trace Description: Simulation Trace
Trace Type: Simulation
-> State: 1.1 <-
  b0 = FALSE
***** Simulation Starting From State 1.1 *****
Trace Description: Simulation Trace
Trace Type: Simulation
-> State: 1.1 <-
  b0 = FALSE
-> State: 1.2 <-
  b0 = TRUE
-> State: 1.3 <-
  b0 = FALSE
-> State: 1.4 <-
  b0 = TRUE
-> State: 1.5 <-
  b0 = FALSE
-> State: 1.6 <-
  b0 = TRUE
...
...
```

# Interacting Shell [3/3]

- ▶ `goto_state state_label` makes `state_label` the current state (it is used to navigate along traces).
- ▶ `show_traces [-t] [-v] [-a | TN[.FS[:[TS]]]]` prints the trace *TN* starting from state *FS* up to state *TS*
  - ▶ `-t` prints the total number of stored traces
  - ▶ `-v` verbosely prints traces content;
  - ▶ `-a` prints all the currently stored traces
- ▶ `show_vars [-s] [-f] [-i] [-t] [-v]` prints the variables content and type
  - ▶ `-s` print state variables;
  - ▶ `-f` print frozen variables;
  - ▶ `-i` print input variables;
  - ▶ `-t` prints the number of variables;
  - ▶ `-v` prints verbosely;
- ▶ `quit` stops the program.

# Outline

---

1. Introduction

2. nuXmv interactive shell

3. nuXmv Modeling

Basic Types

Expressions

Transition Relation

Miscellany

Constraint Style Modeling

4. Modules

5. Homework



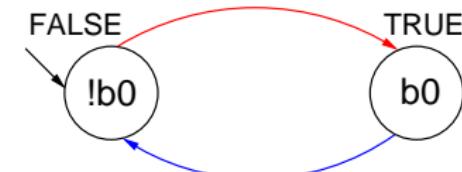
# First SMV model

- ▶ an SMV model is composed by a number of **modules**;
- ▶ each **module** can contain:
  - ▶ state variable declarations;
  - ▶ formulae defining the valid *initial states*;
  - ▶ formulae defining the *transition relation*;

## Example:

```
MODULE main
VAR
    b0 : boolean;

ASSIGN
    init(b0) := FALSE;
    next(b0) := !b0;
```



# Basic Types [1/3]

**boolean**: TRUE, FALSE, ...

```
x : boolean;
```

**enumerative**:

```
s : {ready, busy, waiting, stopped};
```

**bounded integers\*** (intervals):

```
n : 1..8;
```

\*: integer numbers must be within C/C++ INT\_MIN and INT\_MAX bounds



# Basic Types [2/3]

**integers**\*: -1, 0, 1, ...

n : integer;

**rationals**: 1.66, f'2/3, 2e3, 10e-1, ...

r : real;

**words**: used to model arrays of bits supporting bitwise logical and arithmetic operations.

- ▶ unsigned word[3] ;
- ▶ signed word[7] ;

\*: integer numbers must be within C/C++ INT\_MIN and INT\_MAX bounds



# Basic Types [3/3]

## arrays:

declared with a couple of lower/upper bounds for the index and a type

### VAR

```
-- array of 11 elements
x : array 0..10 of boolean;
-- array of 3 elements
y : array -1..1 of {red, green, orange};
-- array of array
z : array 1..10 of array 1..5 of boolean;
```

### ASSIGN

```
init(x[5]) := bool(1);
-- any value in the set
init(y[0]) := {red, green};
init(z[3][2]) := TRUE;
```

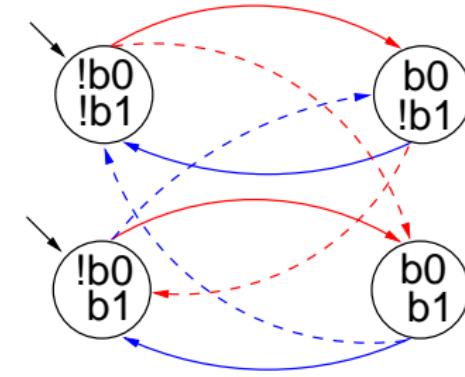
Array indexes *must be constants*;



# Adding a state variable

```
MODULE main
VAR
    b0 : boolean;
    b1 : boolean;

ASSIGN
    init(b0) := FALSE;
    next(b0) := !b0;
```



Remarks:

- ▶ the FSM is the result of the **synchronous** composition of the “subsystems” for  $b_0$  and  $b_1$
- ▶ the new state space is the cartesian product of the ranges of the variables.



# Initial States [1/2]

## Example:

```
init(x) := FALSE;      -- x must be FALSE
init(y) := {1, 2, 3}; -- y can be either 1, 2 or 3
```

```
init(<variable>) := <simple_expression>;
```

- ▶ constrains the **initial value** of **<variable>** to satisfy the **<simple\_expression>**;
- ▶ the **initial value** of an **unconstrained** variable can be any of those allowed by its domain;

## set of initial states

is given by the set of states whose variables satisfy **all** the **init() constraints** in a module.



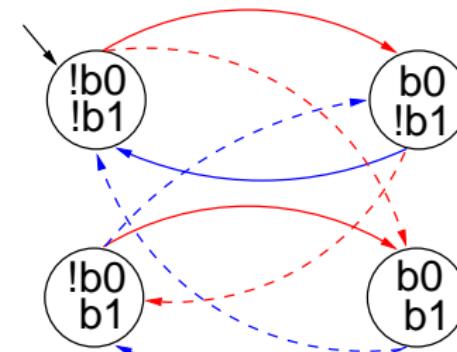
# Initial States [2/2]

Example:

```
MODULE main
VAR
    b0 : boolean;
    b1 : boolean;

ASSIGN
    init(b0) := FALSE;
    next(b0) := !b0;

    init(b1) := FALSE;
```



# Expressions [1/3]

- ▶ arithmetic operators:

+      -      \*      /      mod      - (unary)

- ▶ comparison operators:

=      !=      >      <      <=      >=

- ▶ logic operators:

&      |      xor      ! (not)      ->      <->

- ▶ bitwise operators:

«      »

- ▶ set operators: {v<sub>1</sub>, v<sub>2</sub>, ..., v<sub>n</sub>}

- ▶ in: tests a value for membership in a set (*set inclusion*)
- ▶ union: takes the union of 2 sets (*set union*)

- ▶ count operator: counts number of true *boolean* expressions

count(b<sub>1</sub>, b<sub>2</sub>, ..., b<sub>n</sub>)





# Expressions [2/3]

- ▶ case expression:

```
case
  c1  : e1;
  c2  : e2;
  ...
  TRUE : en;
esac
```

C/C++ equivalent:

```
if (c1) then e1;
else if (c2) then e2;
...
else en;
```

- ▶ if-then-else expression:

```
cond_expr ? basic_expr1 : basic_expr2
```

- ▶ conversion operators: `toint`, `bool`, `floor`, and

- ▶ `swconst`, `uwconst`: convert an integer to a signed and an unsigned word respectively.
- ▶ `word1` converts boolean to a single word bit.
- ▶ `unsigned` and `signed` convert signed word to unsigned word and vice-versa.



# Expressions [3/3]

- ▶ expressions in SMV do not necessarily evaluate to one value.  
In general, they can represent a set of possible values.

```
init(var) := {a,b,c} union {x,y,z};
```

- ▶ The meaning of `:=` in assignments is that the lhs can **non-deterministically** be assigned to any value in the set of values represented by the rhs.
- ▶ A constant `c` is considered as a syntactic abbreviation for `{c}` (the singleton containing `c`).



# Transition Relation [1/2]

## Transition Relation

specifies a constraint on the values that a variable can assume in the *next state*, given the value of variables in the *current state*.

`next(<variable>) := <next_expression>;`

- ▶ `<next_expression>` can depend both on “current” and “next” variables:

```
next(a) := { a, a+1 } ;  
next(b) := b + (next(a) - a) ;
```

- ▶ `<next_expression>` must evaluate to values in the domain of `<variable>`;
- ▶ the **next** value of an **unconstrained** variable evolves **non-deterministically**;





# Transition Relation [2/2]

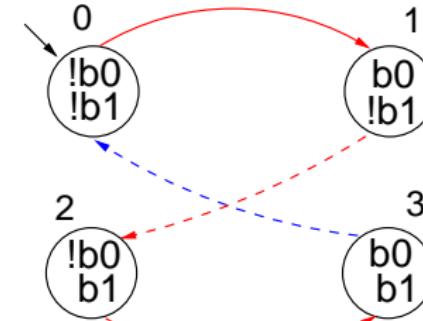
Example:

modulo-4 counter

```
MODULE main
VAR
    b0 : boolean;
    b1 : boolean;

ASSIGN
    init(b0) := FALSE;
    next(b0) := !b0;

    init(b1) := FALSE;
    next(b1) := case
        b0   : !b1;
        TRUE : b1;
    esac;
```



# Output Variable [1/2]

## output variable

A variable whose value deterministically depends on the value of other “current” state variables and for which no `init()` or `next()` are defined.

```
<variable> := <simple_expression>;
```

- ▶ `<simple_expression>` must evaluate to values in the domain of the `<variable>`.
- ▶ used to model *outputs* of a system;



# Output Variable [2/2]

Example:

MODULE main

VAR

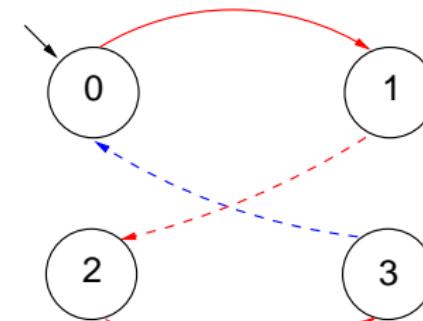
```
b0 : boolean;  
b1 : boolean;  
out : 0..3;
```

ASSIGN

```
init(b0) := FALSE;  
next(b0) := !b0;
```

```
init(b1) := FALSE;  
next(b1) := ((!b0 & b1) | (b0 & !b1));
```

```
out := toint(b0) + 2*toint(b1);
```



# Assignment Rules (:=)

- ▶ **single assignment rule** – each variable may be assigned only once; **Illegal** examples:

init(var) := ready;	var := ready;	next(var) := ready;
init(var) := busy;	var := busy;	var := busy;
<hr/>		
next(var) := ready;	init(var) := ready;	
next(var) := busy;	var := busy;	



# Assignment Rules (:=)

- ▶ **single assignment rule** – each variable may be assigned only once; **Illegal** examples:

init(var) := ready;	var := ready;	next(var) := ready;
init(var) := busy;	var := busy;	var := busy;
<hr/>		
next(var) := ready;	init(var) := ready;	
next(var) := busy;	var := busy;	

- ▶ **circular dependency rule** – a set of equations must not have “cycles” in its dependency graph, unless broken by delays; **Illegal** examples:

```
next(x) := next(y);      x := (x + 1) mod 2;      next(x) := x & next(x);  
next(y) := next(x);
```

**Legal** example:

```
next(x) := next(y);  
next(y) := y & x;
```





# DEFINE declarations

```
DEFINE <id> := <simple_expression>;
```

- ▶ similar to *C/C++ macro definitions*: each occurrence of the defined symbol is replaced with the body of the definition
- ▶ provide an alternative way of defining *output variables*:

## Example:

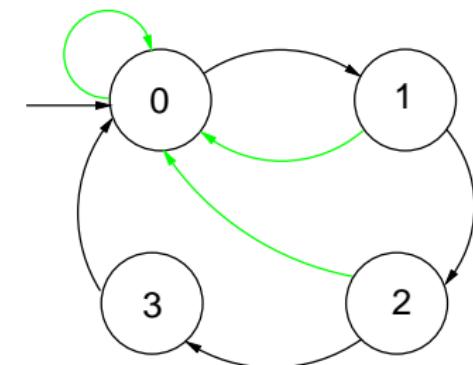
```
MODULE main
  VAR
    b0 : boolean;
    b1 : boolean;
  ASSIGN
    init(b0) := FALSE;
    next(b0) := !b0;
    init(b1) := FALSE;
    next(b1) := ((!b0 & b1) | (b0 & !b1));
  DEFINE
    out := toint(b0) + 2*toint(b1);
```



# Example: modulo 4 counter with reset

The counter can be reset by an external “uncontrollable” signal.

```
MODULE main
VAR
    b0 : boolean; b1 : boolean; reset : boolean;
ASSIGN
    init(b0) := FALSE;
    init(b1) := FALSE;
    next(b0) := case
        reset = TRUE : FALSE;
        reset = FALSE : !b0;
        esac;
    next(b1) := case
        reset : FALSE;
        TRUE : ((!b0 & b1) | (b0 & !b1));
        esac;
DEFINE
    out := toint(b0) + 2*toint(b1);
```



# Exercise 1

---

## Exercise:

simulate the system with nuXmv and draw the FSM.

```
MODULE main
VAR
    request : boolean;
    state    : { ready, busy };

ASSIGN
    init(state) := ready;
    next(state) :=
        case
            state = ready & request : busy;
            TRUE                  : { ready, busy };
        esac;
```



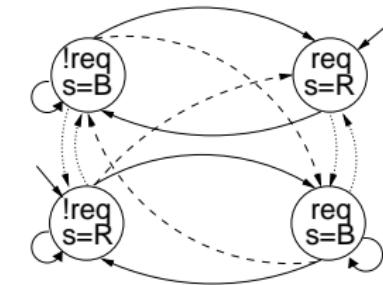
## Exercise 1

## Exercise:

simulate the system with nuXmv and draw the FSM

```
MODULE main
VAR
    request : boolean;
    state   : { ready, busy };
```

```
ASSIGN
  init(state) := ready;
  next(state) :=
    case
      state = ready & request : busy;
      TRUE                      : { ready, busy }
    esac;
```



# Constraint Style Modeling [1/4]

```
MODULE main
VAR
request : boolean; state : {ready,busy};
ASSIGN
init(state) := ready;
next(state) := case
    state = ready & request : busy;
    TRUE                  : {ready,busy};
esac;
```

Every program can be alternatively defined in a *constraint style*:

```
MODULE main
VAR
request : boolean; state : {ready,busy};
INIT
state = ready
TRANS
(state = ready & request) -> next(state) = busy
```

# Constraint Style Modeling [2/4]

- ▶ a model can be specified by zero or more constraints on:
  - ▶ *initial states*:  
`INIT <simple_expression>`
  - ▶ *transitions*:  
`TRANS <next_expression>`
  - ▶ *invariant states*:  
`INVAR <simple_expression>`
- ▶ constraints can be mixed with assignments;
- ▶ any propositional formula is allowed as constraint;
- ▶ not all **constraints** can be easily rewritten in terms of assignments!

`TRANS`

```
next(b0) + 2*next(b1) + 4*next(b2) =  
(b0 + 2*b1 + 4*b2 + tick) mod 8
```



# Constraint Style Modeling [3/4]

## assignment style

:

- ▶ by construction, there is always *at least one initial state*;
- ▶ by construction, all states have *at least one next state*;
- ▶ *non-determinism is apparent* (unassigned variables, set assignments...).



# Constraint Style Modeling [4/4]

## constraint style

:

- ▶ INIT constraints *can be inconsistent*  $\Rightarrow$  no initial state!
  - ▶ any specification (also SPEC 0) is vacuously true.
- ▶ TRANS constraints *can be inconsistent*:  $\Rightarrow$  deadlock state!

### Example:

```
MODULE main
VAR b : boolean;
TRANS b -> FALSE;
```

- ▶ **tip:** use check\_fsm to detect deadlock states
- ▶ *non-determinism is hidden:*  

```
TRANS (state = ready & request) -> next(state) = busy
```



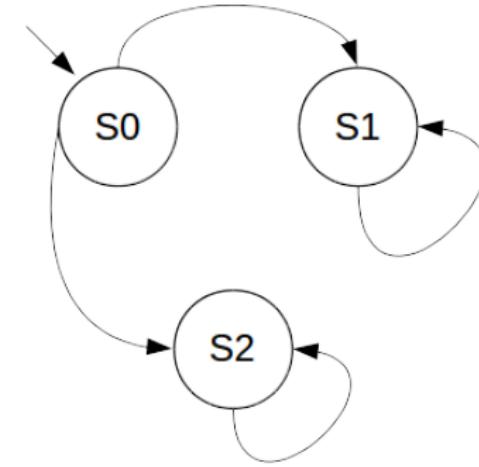
# Example: Constraint Style & Case

```
MODULE main()
VAR
    state : {S0, S1, S2};

DEFINE
    go_s1 := state != S2;
    go_s2 := state != S1;

INIT
    state = S0;

TRANS
case
    go_s1 : next(state) = S1;
    go_s2 : next(state) = S2;
esac;
```



► Q: does it correspond to the FSM?

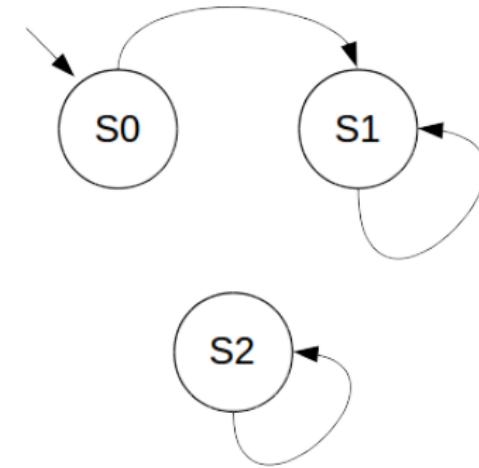
# Example: Constraint Style & Case

```
MODULE main()
VAR
    state : {S0, S1, S2};

DEFINE
    go_s1 := state != S2;
    go_s2 := state != S1;

INIT
    state = S0;

TRANS
case
    go_s1 : next(state) = S1;
    go_s2 : next(state) = S2;
esac;
```



- Q: does it correspond to the FSM? No: cases are evaluated in order!

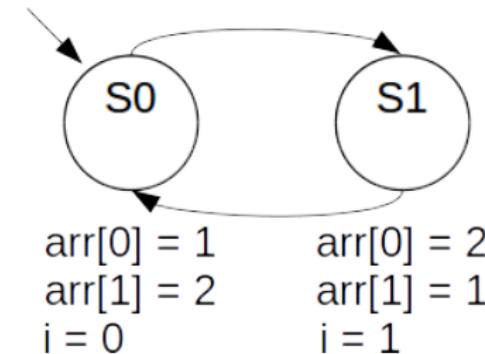
# Example: Constraint Style & Swap

```
MODULE main()
VAR
    arr: array 0..1 of {1,2};
    i : 0..1;
```

```
ASSIGN
    init(arr[0]) := 1;
    init(arr[1]) := 2;

    init(i) := 0;
    next(i) := 1-i;
```

```
TRANS
    next(arr[i]) = arr[1-i] &
    next(arr[1-i]) = arr[i];
```



► Q: does it correspond to the FSM?

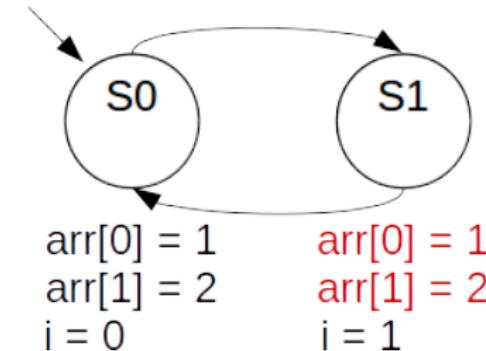
# Example: Constraint Style & Swap

```
MODULE main()
VAR
    arr: array 0..1 of {1,2};
    i : 0..1;

ASSIGN
    init(arr[0]) := 1;
    init(arr[1]) := 2;

    init(i) := 0;
    next(i) := 1-i;

TRANS
    next(arr[i]) = arr[1-i] &
    next(arr[1-i]) = arr[i];
```



- Q: does it correspond to the FSM? No: everything inside the `next()` operator is evaluated within the next state, indexes included!

# Outline

---

1. Introduction
2. nuXmv interactive shell
3. nuXmv Modeling
4. Modules
  - Modules Definition
  - Modules Composition
5. Homework



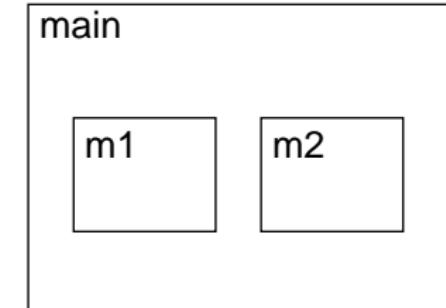
# Modules [1/3]

SMV program = main module + 0 or *more* other modules

- ▶ a module can be **instantiated** as a VAR in other modules
- ▶ dot notation for accessing variables that are **local** to a module instance (e.g., `m1.out`, `m2.out`).

Example:

```
MODULE counter
  VAR out: 0..9;
  ASSIGN next(out) :=
    (out + 1) mod 10;
MODULE main
  VAR m1 : counter; m2 : counter;
  sum: 0..18;
  ASSIGN sum := m1.out + m2.out;
```



# Modules [2/3]

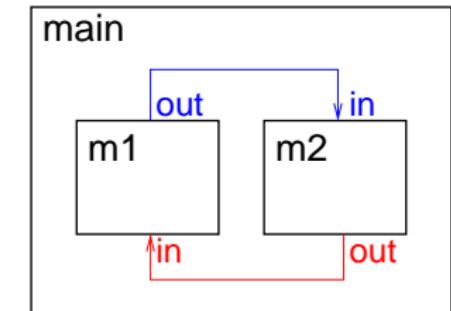
A module declaration can be *parametric*:

- ▶ a parameter is passed by reference;
- ▶ any expression can be used as parameter;

Example:

```
MODULE counter(in)
  VAR out: 0..9;
  ...
MODULE main
  VAR m1 : counter(m2.out);
  m2 : counter(m1.out);
  ...

```



# Modules [3/3]

- ▶ modules can be **composed**
- ▶ modules *without parameters and assignments* can be seen as simple **records**

## Example:

```
MODULE point
  VAR
    x: -10..10;
    y: -10..10;

  MODULE circle
    VAR
      center: point;
      radius: 0..10;

  MODULE main
    VAR c: circle;
    ASSIGN
      init(c.center.x) := 0;
      init(c.center.y) := 0;
      init(c.radius)   := 5;
```

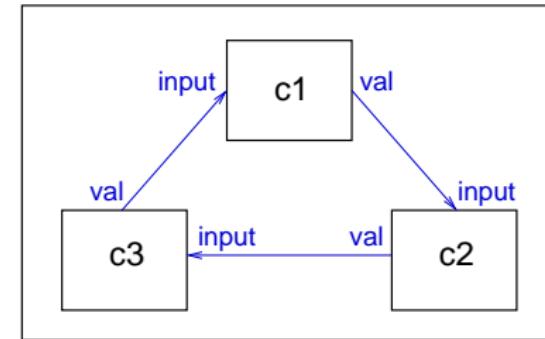


# Synchronous composition [1/2]

The composition of modules is **synchronous** by default:  
*all modules move at each step.*

```
MODULE cell(input)
VAR
    val : {red, green, blue};
ASSIGN
    next(val) := input;
```

```
MODULE main
VAR
    c1 : cell(c3.val);
    c2 : cell(c1.val);
    c3 : cell(c2.val);
```



# Synchronous composition [2/2]

A possible execution:

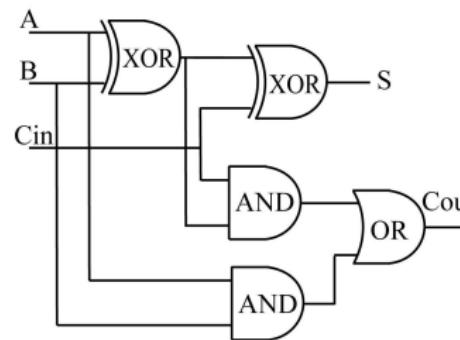
<i>step</i>	<i>c1.val</i>	<i>c2.val</i>	<i>c3.val</i>
0	red	green	blue
1	blue	red	green
2	green	blue	red
3	red	green	blue
4	...	...	...
5	red	green	blue



# Exercise: Adder [1/3]

## Exercise 7.1: implementing adder

Implement a binary adder that takes into account two 4-bits numbers and returns their sum using an output variable. Implement both a bit-adder and the general adder as two separate modules.



# Exercise: Adder [2/3]

```
MODULE bit-adder(in1, in2, cin)
VAR
    sum : boolean;
    cout : boolean;
ASSIGN
    next(sum) := (in1 xor in2) xor cin;
    next(cout) := (in1 & in2) | ((in1 xor in2) & cin);

MODULE adder(in1, in2)
VAR
    bit[0] : bit-adder(in1[0], in2[0], bool(0));
    bit[1] : bit-adder(in1[1], in2[1], bit[0].cout);
    bit[2] : bit-adder(in1[2], in2[2], bit[1].cout);
    bit[3] : bit-adder(in1[3], in2[3], bit[2].cout);
DEFINE
    sum[0] := bit[0].sum;
    sum[1] := bit[1].sum;
    sum[2] := bit[2].sum;
    sum[3] := bit[3].sum;
    overflow := bit[3].cout;
```



# Exercise: Adder [3/3]

```
MODULE main
  VAR
    in1 : array 0..3 of boolean;
    in2 : array 0..3 of boolean;
    a : adder(in1, in2);

  ASSIGN
    next(in1[0]) := in1[0]; next(in1[1]) := in1[1];
    next(in1[2]) := in1[2]; next(in1[3]) := in1[3];
    next(in2[0]) := in2[0]; next(in2[1]) := in2[1];
    next(in2[2]) := in2[2]; next(in2[3]) := in2[3];

  DEFINE
    op1 := toint(in1[0]) + 2*toint(in1[1]) + 4*toint(in1[2]) +
           8*toint(in1[3]);
    op2 := toint(in2[0]) + 2*toint(in2[1]) + 4*toint(in2[2]) +
           8*toint(in2[3]);
    sum := toint(a.sum[0]) + 2*toint(a.sum[1]) + 4*toint(a.sum[2]) +
           8*toint(a.sum[3]) + 16*toint(a.overflow);
```



# Outline

---

1. Introduction
2. nuXmv interactive shell
3. nuXmv Modeling
4. Modules
5. Homework



# Homework

## Homework 7.1: playing with Adder

- ▶ Simulate a random execution of the “adder” system;
- ▶ After how many steps the adder stores the computed final sum value? Is this number constant? Can you explain its behaviour?
- ▶ What happens if we initialize both sum and *cout* inside the bit-adder as FALSE? Can you explain which is the main difference with respect to the original algorithm?
- ▶ Can you modify the file in a simple way so that the sum is obtained after a single iteration? (PS: simple means you must modify/add less than 5 lines of code)
- ▶ Add a reset control which changes the values of the operands and restarts the computation of the sum



# Homework

## Homework 7.2: random calculator

Use nuXmv to create a "random" calculator: it creates two random arrays of 3 integers numbers in the range [1,10], then it randomly choose what operator apply for each pair of elements in the arrays (among sum, subtraction and multiplication) and store it in an output array of 3 elements called *res*. The results must be defined in 3 steps: in the first iteration you'll store the random operation between elements with index 0, in the second iteration the random operation between elements with index 1 and the same for the last index. Use an additional variable, *index*, to take into account this evolution.

