

Introduction to Formal Methods

Chapter 05: Symbolic CTL Model Checking

Roberto Sebastiani

DISI, Università di Trento, Italy – roberto.sebastiani@unitn.it
URL: <http://disi.unitn.it/rseba/DIDATTICA/fm2020/>
Teaching assistant: Enrico Magnago – enrico.magnago@unitn.it

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Outline

- 1 Motivations
- 2 Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams
- 3 Symbolic representation of systems
- 4 Symbolic CTL Model Checking
- 5 A simple example
- 6 Symbolic CTL M.C: efficiency issues
- 7 Exercises

The Main Problem of CTL M.C. State Space Explosion

- **The bottleneck:**
 - Exhaustive analysis may require to store all the states of the Kripke structure, and to explore them one-by-one
 - The state space may be exponential in the number of components and variables
(E.g., 300 Boolean vars \implies up to $2^{300} \approx 10^{100}$ states!)
 - State Space Explosion:
 - too much memory required
 - too much CPU time required to explore each state
- **A solution: Symbolic Model Checking**

Symbolic Model Checking

Symbolic representation:

- manipulation of **sets of states** (rather than single states);
- sets of states represented by **formulae in propositional logic**;
 - set cardinality not directly correlated to size
- expansion of **sets of transitions** (rather than single transitions);

Symbolic Model Checking [cont.]

- two main symbolic techniques:
 - Binary Decision Diagrams (BDDs)
 - Propositional Satisfiability Checkers (SAT solvers)
- Different model checking algorithms:
 - Fix-point Model Checking (historically, for CTL)
 - Fix-point Model Checking for LTL (conversion to fair CTL MC)
 - Bounded Model Checking (historically, for LTL)
 - Invariant Checking
 - ...

Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams (OBDDs)

[Bryant, '85]

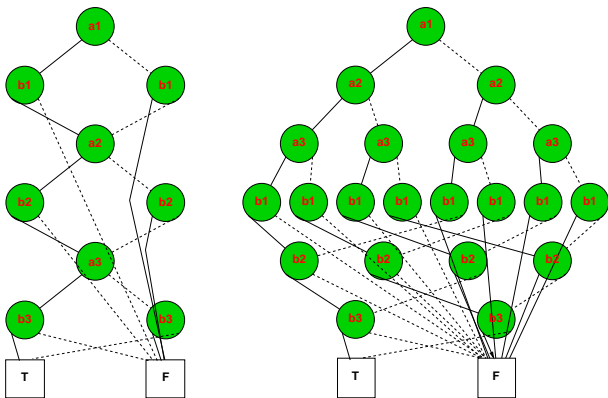
Canonical representation of Boolean formulas

- “If-then-else” binary direct acyclic graphs (DAGs) with one root and two leaves: **1**, **0** (or \top , \perp ; or \top , F)
- **Variable ordering** A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n imposed a priori.
- Paths leading to **1** represent **models**
Paths leading to **0** represent **counter-models**

Note

Some authors call them **Reduced** Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams (**ROBDDs**)

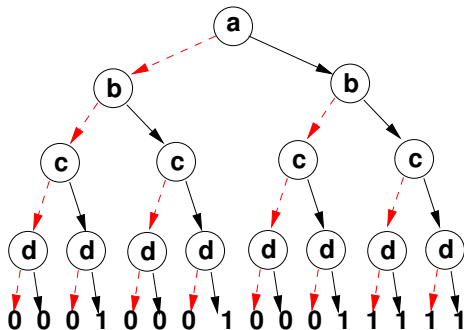
OBDD - Examples



OBDDs of $(a_1 \leftrightarrow b_1) \wedge (a_2 \leftrightarrow b_2) \wedge (a_3 \leftrightarrow b_3)$ with different variable orderings

Ordered Decision Trees

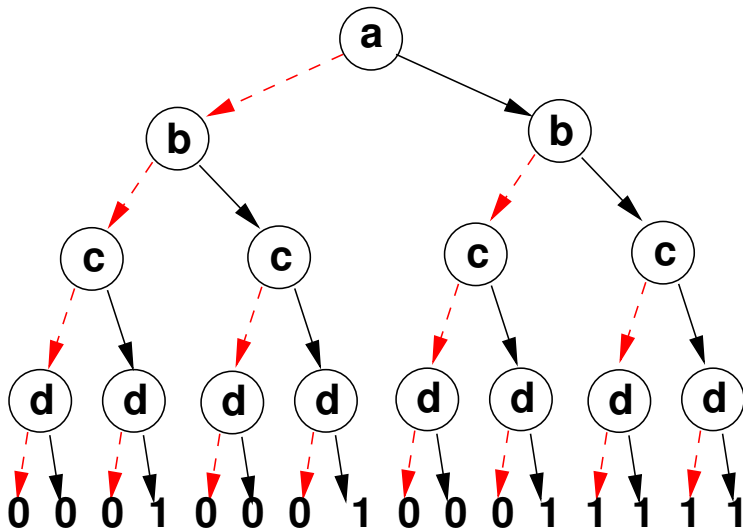
- **Ordered Decision Tree**: from root to leaves, variables are encountered always in the same order
- Example: Ordered Decision tree for $\varphi = (a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)$



From Ordered Decision Trees to OBDD's: reductions

- Recursive applications of the following **reductions**:
 - **share subnodes**: point to the same occurrence of a subtree (via **hash consing**)
 - **remove redundancies**: nodes with same left and right children can be eliminated (“if A then B else B ” \implies “ B ”)

Reduction: example



Recursive structure of an OBDD

Assume the variable ordering A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n :

$$OBDD(\top, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) = 1$$

$$OBDD(\perp, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) = 0$$

$$OBDD(\varphi, \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}) = \begin{array}{l} \text{if } A_1 \\ \text{then } OBDD(\varphi[A_1|\top], \{A_2, \dots, A_n\}) \\ \text{else } OBDD(\varphi[A_1|\perp], \{A_2, \dots, A_n\}) \end{array}$$

Incrementally building an OBDD

- $obdd_build(\top, \{\dots\}) := 1$,
- $obdd_build(\perp, \{\dots\}) := 0$,
- $obdd_build(A_i, \{\dots\}) := ite(A_i, 1, 0)$,
- $obdd_build(\neg\varphi, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}) :=$
 $apply(\neg, obdd_build(\varphi, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}))$
- $obdd_build((\varphi_1 \text{ op } \varphi_2), \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}) :=$
 $reduce($
 $apply(\text{ op},$
 $obdd_build(\varphi_1, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}), \text{ op } \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow\}$
 $obdd_build(\varphi_2, \{A_1, \dots, A_n\})$
 $))$

“ $ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp)$ ” is “If A_i Then φ_i^\top Else φ_i^\perp ”

Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

- $apply(op, O_i, O_j) := (O_i \text{ op } O_j)$ **if** $(O_i, O_j \in \{1, 0\})$
- $apply(\neg, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp)) :=$
 $ite(A_i, apply(\neg, \varphi_i^\top), apply(\neg, \varphi_i^\perp))$
- $apply(op, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp), ite(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)) :=$
if $(A_i = A_j)$ **then** $ite(A_i, apply(op, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_j^\top),$
 $apply(op, \varphi_i^\perp, \varphi_j^\perp))$
if $(A_i < A_j)$ **then** $ite(A_i, apply(op, \varphi_i^\top, ite(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)),$
 $apply(op, \varphi_i^\perp, ite(A_j, \varphi_j^\top, \varphi_j^\perp)))$
if $(A_i > A_j)$ **then** $ite(A_j, apply(op, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp), \varphi_j^\top),$
 $apply(op, ite(A_i, \varphi_i^\top, \varphi_i^\perp), \varphi_j^\perp))$

$op \in \{\wedge, \vee, \rightarrow, \leftrightarrow\}$

Incrementally building an OBDD (cont.)

- Ex: build the obdd for $A_1 \vee A_2$ from those of A_1, A_2 (order: A_1, A_2):

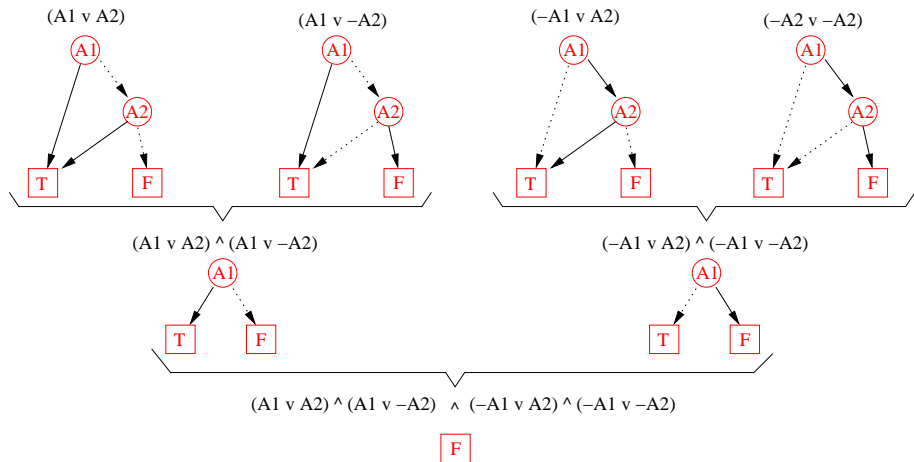
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{apply}(\vee, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \perp)}^{A_1}, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp)}^{A_2}) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \text{apply}(\vee, \top, \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \perp)), \text{apply}(\vee, \perp, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))
 \end{aligned}$$

- Ex: build the obdd for $(A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$ from those of $(A_1 \vee A_2), (A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$ (order: A_1, A_2):

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{apply}(\wedge, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp))}^{(A_1 \vee A_2)}, \overbrace{\text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \top))}^{(A_1 \vee \neg A_2)}), \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \text{apply}(\wedge, \top, \top), \text{apply}(\wedge, \text{ite}(A_2, \top, \perp), \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \top))) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \text{apply}(\wedge, \top, \perp), \text{apply}(\wedge, \perp, \top))) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \text{ite}(A_2, \perp, \perp)) \\
 = & \text{ite}(A_1, \top, \perp)
 \end{aligned}$$

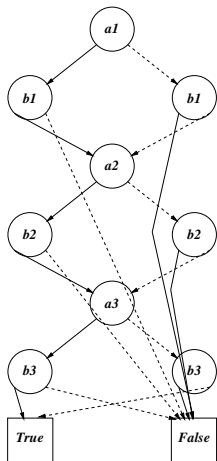
OBDD incremental building – example

$$\varphi = (A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (A_1 \vee \neg A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee A_2) \wedge (\neg A_1 \vee \neg A_2)$$



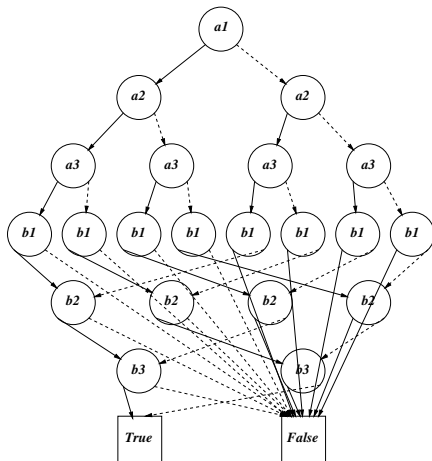
Critical choice of variable Orderings in OBDD's

$$(a_1 \leftrightarrow b_1) \wedge (a_2 \leftrightarrow b_2) \wedge (a_3 \leftrightarrow b_3)$$



Linear size

Roberto Sebastiani



Exponential size

OBDD's as canonical representation of Boolean formulas

- An OBDD is a **canonical representation** of a Boolean formula: once the variable ordering is established, equivalent formulas are represented by the same OBDD:

$$\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \varphi_2 \iff \text{OBDD}(\varphi_1) = \text{OBDD}(\varphi_2)$$

- equivalence check requires **constant time!**
 \implies validity check requires constant time! ($\varphi \leftrightarrow \top$)
 \implies (un)satisfiability check requires constant time! ($\varphi \leftrightarrow \perp$)
- the set of the paths from the root to 1 represent all the **models** of the formula
- the set of the paths from the root to 0 represent all the **counter-models** of the formula

Exponentiality of OBDD's

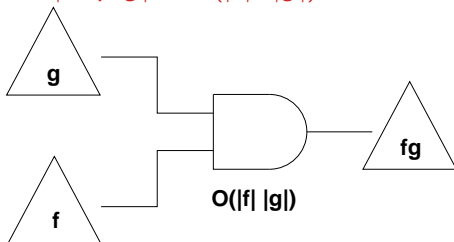
- The size of OBDD's may grow exponentially wrt. the number of variables in worst-case
- Consequence of the canonicity of OBDD's (unless $P = co-NP$)
- Example: there exist no polynomial-size OBDD representing the electronic circuit of a bitwise multiplier

Note

The size of intermediate OBDD's may be bigger than that of the final one (e.g., inconsistent formula)

Useful Operations over OBDDs

- the **equivalence check** between two OBDDs is simple
 - are they the same OBDD? (\implies constant time)
- the size of a **Boolean composition** is up to the product of the size of the operands: $|f \text{ op } g| = O(|f| \cdot |g|)$



Boolean quantification

Shannon's expansion:

- If v is a Boolean variable and f is a Boolean formula, then

$$\exists v.f := f|_{v=0} \vee f|_{v=1}$$

$$\forall v.f := f|_{v=0} \wedge f|_{v=1}$$

- v does no more occur in $\exists v.f$ and $\forall v.f$!!
- Multi-variable quantification: $\exists(w_1, \dots, w_n).f := \exists w_1 \dots \exists w_n.f$

- Intuition:

- $\mu \models \exists v.f$ iff exists $tvalue \in \{\top, \perp\}$ s.t. $\mu \cup \{v := tvalue\} \models f$

- $\mu \models \forall v.f$ iff forall $tvalue \in \{\top, \perp\}$, $\mu \cup \{v := tvalue\} \models f$

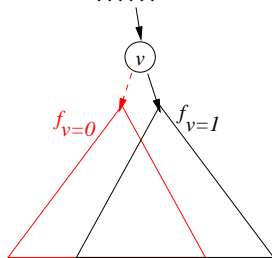
- Example: $\exists b, c. ((a \wedge b) \vee (c \wedge d)) = a \vee d$

Note

Naive expansion of quantifiers to propositional logic may cause a blow-up in size of the formulae

OBDD's and Boolean quantification

- OBDD's handle quantification operations quite efficiently
 - if f is a sub-OBDD labeled by variable v , then $f|_{v=1}$ and $f|_{v=0}$ are the "then" and "else" branches of f



⇒ lots of sharing of subformulae!

OBDD – summary

- **Factorize** common parts of the search tree (DAG)
- Require setting a **variable ordering** a priori (**critical!**)
- **Canonical representation** of a Boolean formula.
- Once built, logical operations (satisfiability, validity, equivalence) immediate.
- Represents **all** models and counter-models of the formula.
- Require **exponential space** in worst-case
- **Very efficient** for some practical problems (circuits, symbolic model checking).

Symbolic Representation of Kripke Structures

- **Symbolic representation:**
 - sets of states as their characteristic function (Boolean formula)
 - provide logical representation and transformations of characteristic functions
- **Example:**
 - three state variables x_1, x_2, x_3 :
 $\{000, 001, 010, 011\}$ represented as “first bit false”: $\neg x_1$
 - with five state variables x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 :
 $\{00000, 00001, 00010, 00011, 00100, 00101, 00110, 00111, \dots, 01111\}$ still represented as “first bit false”: $\neg x_1$

Kripke Structures in Propositional Logic

- Let $M = (S, I, R, L, AF)$ be a Kripke structure
- States $s \in S$ are described by means of **an array V of Boolean state variables**.
- A **state** is a **truth assignment** to each atomic proposition in V .
 - 0100** is represented by the formula $(\neg x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge \neg x_3 \wedge \neg x_4)$
 - we call $\xi(s)$ the formula representing the state $s \in S$
(Intuition: $\xi(s)$ holds iff the system is in the state s)
- A set of states $Q \subseteq S$ can be represented by (any formula which is logically equivalent to) the formula $\xi(Q)$:

$$\bigvee_{s \in Q} \xi(s)$$

(Intuition: $\xi(Q)$ holds iff the system is in one of the states $s \in Q$)

- Bijection between models of $\xi(Q)$ and states in Q

Remark

- every propositional formula is a (typically very compact) representation of the set of assignments satisfying it
- Any formula equivalent to $\xi(Q)$ is a representation of Q
 \implies Typically Q can be encoded by much smaller formulas than $\bigvee_{s \in Q} \xi(s)$!
- Example: $Q = \{ 00000, 00001, 00010, 00011, 00100, 00101, 00110, 00111, \dots, 01111 \}$ represented as “first bit false”: $\neg x_1$

$$\bigvee_{s \in Q} \xi(s) = \left. \begin{array}{l} (\neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3 \wedge \neg x_4 \wedge \neg x_5) \vee \\ (\neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3 \wedge \neg x_4 \wedge x_5) \vee \\ (\neg x_1 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_3 \wedge x_4 \wedge \neg x_5) \vee \\ \dots \\ (\neg x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_3 \wedge x_4 \wedge x_5) \end{array} \right\} 2^4 \text{ disjuncts}$$

Symbolic Representation of Set Operators

One-to-one correspondence between sets and Boolean operators

- Set of all the states: $\xi(S) := \top$
- Empty set : $\xi(\emptyset) := \perp$
- Union represented by disjunction:
 $\xi(P \cup Q) := \xi(P) \vee \xi(Q)$
- Intersection represented by conjunction:
 $\xi(P \cap Q) := \xi(P) \wedge \xi(Q)$
- Complement represented by negation:
 $\xi(S/P) := \neg \xi(P)$

Symbolic Representation of Transition Relations

- The transition relation R is a set of pairs of states: $R \subseteq S \times S$
- A transition is a pair of states (s, s')
- A new vector of variables V' (the next state vector) represents the value of variables after the transition has occurred
- $\xi(s, s')$ defined as $\xi(s) \wedge \xi(s')$ (Intuition: $\xi(s, s')$ holds iff the system is in the state s and moves to state s' in next step)
- The transition relation R can be (naively) represented by

$$\bigvee_{(s,s') \in R} \xi(s, s') = \bigvee_{(s,s') \in R} (\xi(s) \wedge \xi(s'))$$

Note

Each formula equivalent to $\xi(R)$ is a representation of R

\implies Typically R can be encoded by a much smaller formula than

$$\bigvee_{(s,s') \in R} \xi(s) \wedge \xi(s')!$$

Example: a simple counter

```
MODULE main
```

```
VAR
```

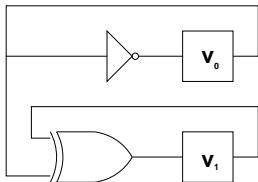
```
  v0      : boolean;
  v1      : boolean;
  out     : 0..3;
```

```
ASSIGN
```

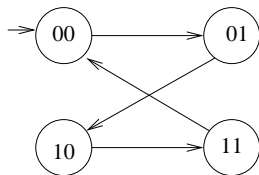
```
  init(v0) := 0;
  next(v0) := !v0;
```

```
  init(v1) := 0;
  next(v1) := (v0 xor v1);
```

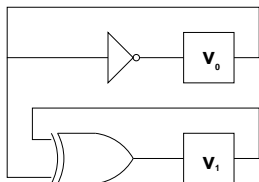
```
  out := toint(v0) + 2*toint(v1);
```



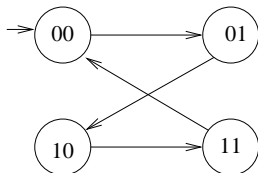
v_1	v_0	v_1'	v_0'
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0



Example: a simple counter [cont.]



v_1	v_0	v'_1	v'_0
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0

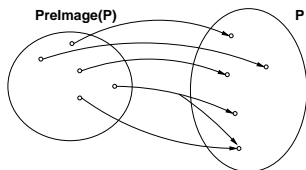


$$\xi(R) = (v'_0 \leftrightarrow \neg v_0) \wedge (v'_1 \leftrightarrow v_0 \oplus v_1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{(s,s') \in R} \xi(s) \wedge \xi(s') = & (\neg v_1 \wedge \neg v_0 \wedge \neg v'_1 \wedge v'_0) \vee \\ & (\neg v_1 \wedge v_0 \wedge v'_1 \wedge \neg v'_0) \vee \\ & (v_1 \wedge \neg v_0 \wedge v'_1 \wedge v'_0) \vee \\ & (v_1 \wedge v_0 \wedge \neg v'_1 \wedge \neg v'_0) \end{aligned}$$

Pre-Image

- (Backward) pre-image of a set:



Evaluate one-shot all transitions ending in the states of the set

- Set theoretic view:

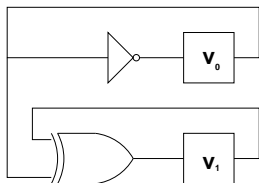
$$\text{PreImage}(P, R) := \{s \mid \text{for some } s' \in P, (s, s') \in R\}$$

- Logical view: $\xi(\text{PreImage}(P, R)) := \exists V'. (\xi(P)[V'] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V'])$

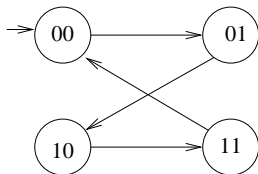
- μ over V is s.t $\mu \models \exists V'. (\xi(P)[V'] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V'])$ iff,
for some μ' over V' , we have: $\mu \cup \mu' \models (\xi(P)[V'] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V'])$,
i.e., $\mu' \models \xi(P)[V']$ and $\mu \cup \mu' \models \xi(R)[V, V']$

- Intuition: $\mu \iff s, \mu' \iff s', \mu \cup \mu' \iff \langle s, s' \rangle$

Example: simple counter



v_1	v_0	v'_1	v'_0
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0

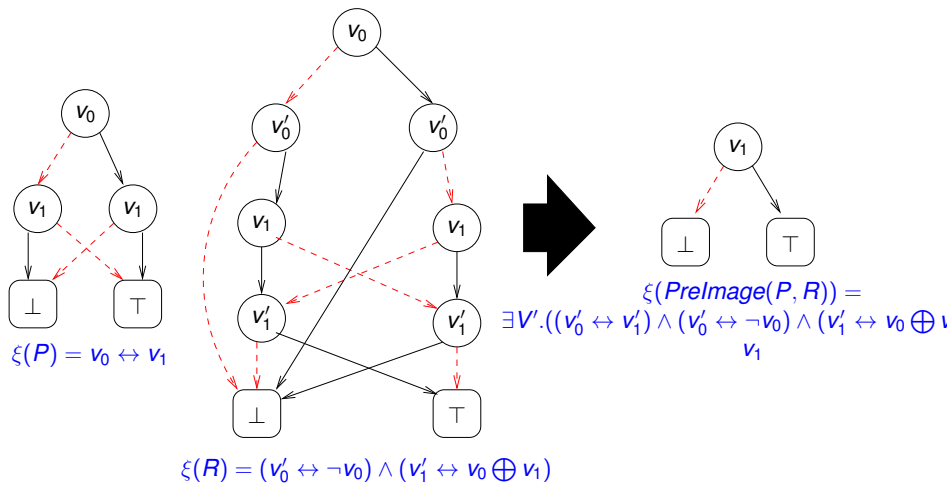


$$\xi(R) = (v'_0 \leftrightarrow \neg v_0) \wedge (v'_1 \leftrightarrow v_0 \oplus v_1)$$

$$\xi(P) := (v_0 \leftrightarrow v_1) \text{ (i.e., } P = \{00, 11\})$$

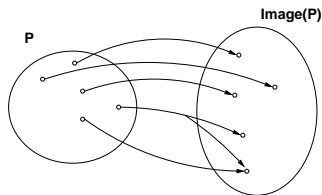
$$\begin{aligned} \xi(\text{PreImage}(P, R)) &= \\ \exists V'. (\xi(P)[V'] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V']) &= \\ \exists v'_0 v'_1. ((v'_0 \leftrightarrow v'_1) \wedge (v'_0 \leftrightarrow \neg v_0) \wedge (v'_1 \leftrightarrow v_0 \oplus v_1)) &= \\ \underbrace{(\neg v_0 \wedge v_0 \oplus v_1)}_{v'_0=T, v'_1=T} \vee \underbrace{\perp}_{v'_0=T, v'_1=\perp} \vee \underbrace{\perp}_{v'_0=\perp, v'_1=T} \vee \underbrace{(v_0 \wedge \neg(v_0 \oplus v_1))}_{v'_0=\perp, v'_1=\perp} &= \\ v_1 \text{ (i.e., } \{10, 11\}) & \end{aligned}$$

Pre-Image [cont.]



Forward Image

- Forward image of a set:



Evaluate one-shot all transitions from the states of the set

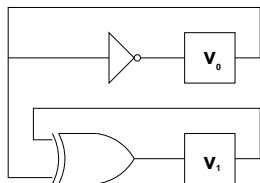
- Set theoretic view:

$$Image(P, R) := \{s' \mid \text{for some } s \in P, (s, s') \in R\}$$

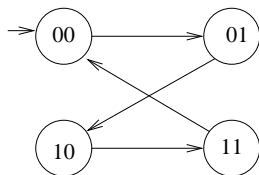
- Logical Characterization:

$$\xi(Image(P, R)) := \exists V'. (\xi(P)[V] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V'])$$

Example: simple counter



v_1	v_0	v'_1	v'_0
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0

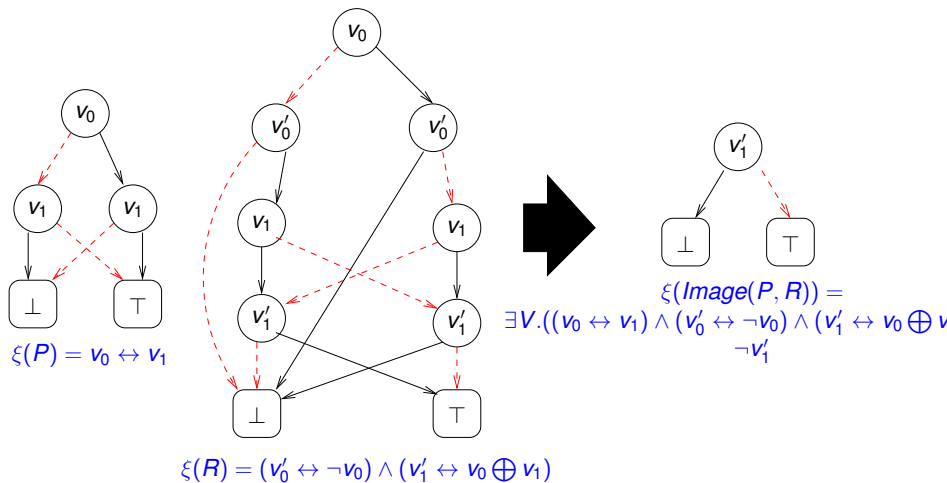


$$\xi(R) = (v'_0 \leftrightarrow \neg v_0) \wedge (v'_1 \leftrightarrow v_0 \oplus v_1)$$

$$\xi(P) := (v_0 \leftrightarrow v_1) \text{ (i.e., } P = \{00, 11\})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \xi(\text{Image}(P, R)) &= \exists V. (\xi(P)[V] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V']) \\ &= \exists V. ((v_0 \leftrightarrow v_1) \wedge (v'_0 \leftrightarrow \neg v_0) \wedge (v'_1 \leftrightarrow v_0 \oplus v_1)) \\ &= \dots \\ &= \neg v'_1 \text{ (i.e., } \{00, 01\}) \end{aligned}$$

Forward Image [cont.]



Application of the Transition Relation

- Image and PreImage of a set of states S computed by means of **quantified Boolean formulae**
- The whole set of transitions can be fired (either forward or backward) in **one logical operation**
- The symbolic computation of PreImage and Image provide the primitives for symbolic search of the state space of FSM's

Symbolic CTL model checking

- Problem: $M \models \varphi?$,
 - $M = \langle S, I, R, L, AP \rangle$ being a Kripke structure and
 - φ being a CTL formula
- Solution: represent I and R as Boolean formulas $\xi(I), \xi(R)$ and encode them as OBDDs, and
- Apply fix-point CTL M.C. algorithm:
 - using OBDDs to represent sets of states and relations,
 - using OBDD operations to handle set operations
 - using OBDD quantification technique to compute PreImages

General Schema

Assume φ written in terms of \neg , \wedge , **EX**, **EU**, **EG**

- A general M.C. algorithm (**fix-point**):

- (i) represent I and R as Boolean formulas $\xi(I)$, $\xi(R)$
- (ii) for every $\varphi_i \in \text{Sub}(\varphi)$, find $\xi([\varphi_i])$
- (iii) Check if $\xi(I) \rightarrow \xi([\varphi])$

Subformulas $\text{Sub}(\varphi)$ of φ are checked bottom-up

- $\xi([\varphi_i])$ computed directly, without computing $[\varphi_i]$ explicitly!!!
 - **Boolean operators** handled directly by OBDDs
 - **next temporal operators EX**: handled by symbolic PreImage computation
 - **other temporal operators EG, EU**: handled by fix-point symbolic computation

Symbolic Denotation of a CTL formula $\varphi: \xi([\varphi])$

$$\xi([\varphi]) := \xi(\{s \in S : M, s \models \varphi\})$$

$$\xi([\text{false}]) = \perp$$

$$\xi([\text{true}]) = \top$$

$$\xi([\rho]) = \rho$$

$$\xi([\neg\varphi_1]) = \neg\xi([\varphi_1])$$

$$\xi([\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2]) = \xi([\varphi_1]) \wedge \xi([\varphi_2])$$

$$\xi([\mathbf{EX}\varphi]) = \exists V'. (\xi([\varphi])[V'] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V'])$$

$$\xi([\mathbf{EG}\beta]) = \nu Z. (\xi([\beta]) \wedge \xi([\mathbf{EX}Z]))$$

$$\xi([\mathbf{E}(\beta_1 \mathbf{U} \beta_2)]) = \mu Z. (\xi([\beta_2]) \vee (\xi([\beta_1]) \wedge \xi([\mathbf{EX}Z]))$$

Notation: if X_1 and X_2 are OBDDs and op is a Boolean operator, we write “ $X_1 \text{ op } X_2$ ” for “ $\text{reduce}(\text{apply}(op, X_1, X_2))$ ”

General M.C. Procedure

```

OBDD Check(CTL_formula  $\beta$ ) {
  if (In_OBDD_Hash( $\beta$ ))
    return OBDD_Get_From_Hash( $\beta$ );
  case  $\beta$  of
    true:      return obdd_true;
    false:     return obdd_false;
     $\neg\beta_1$ :   return  $\neg$  Check( $\beta_1$ );
     $\beta_1 \wedge \beta_2$ : return (Check( $\beta_1$ )  $\wedge$  Check( $\beta_2$ ));
    EX $\beta_1$ :    return PreImage(Check( $\beta_1$ ));
    EG $\beta_1$ :    return Check_EG(Check( $\beta_1$ ));
    E( $\beta_1 \mathbf{U} \beta_2$ ): return Check_EU(Check( $\beta_1$ ), Check( $\beta_2$ ));
}
  
```


Prelmage

```
OBDD Prelmage(OBDD X) {  
    return  $\exists V'. (X[V'] \wedge \xi(R)[V, V'])$ ;  
}
```

Check_EG

```
OBDD Check_EG(OBDD X) {  
  Y' := X; j := 1;  
  repeat  
    Y := Y'; j := j + 1;  
    Y' := Y  $\wedge$  PreImage(Y);  
  until (Y'  $\leftrightarrow$  Y);  
  return Y;  
}
```

Check_EU

```
OBDD Check_EU(OBDD  $X_1, X_2$ ) {  
   $Y' := X_2; j := 1;$   
  repeat  
     $Y := Y'; j := j + 1;$   
     $Y' := Y \vee (X_1 \wedge \text{PreImage}(Y));$   
  until ( $Y' \leftrightarrow Y$ );  
  return  $Y;$   
}
```

CTL Symbolic Model Checking – Summary

- Based on fixed point CTL M.C. algorithms
- Kripke structure encoded as Boolean formulas (OBDDs)
- All operations handled as (quantified) Boolean operations
- **Avoids building the state graph explicitly**
- reduces dramatically the state explosion problem
⇒ problems of up to 10^{120} states handled!!

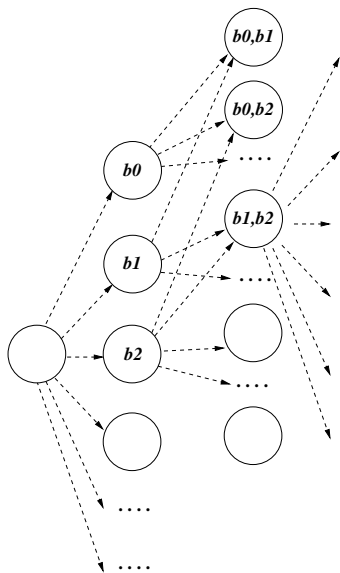
A simple example

```
MODULE main
VAR
  b0 : boolean;
  b1 : boolean;
  ...
ASSIGN
  init(b0) := 0;
  next(b0) := case
    b0 : 1;
    !b0 : {0,1};
  esac;
  init(b1) := 0;
  next(b1) := case
    b1 : 1;
    !b1 : {0,1};
  esac;
```

A simple example [cont.]

- N Boolean variables b_0, b_1, \dots
- Initially, all variables set to 0
- Each variable can pass from 0 to 1, but not vice-versa
- 2^N states, all reachable
- (Simplified) model of a student career behaviour.

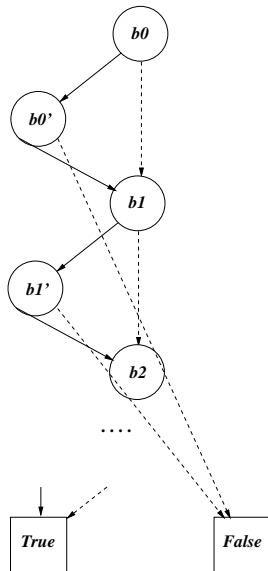
A simple example: FSM



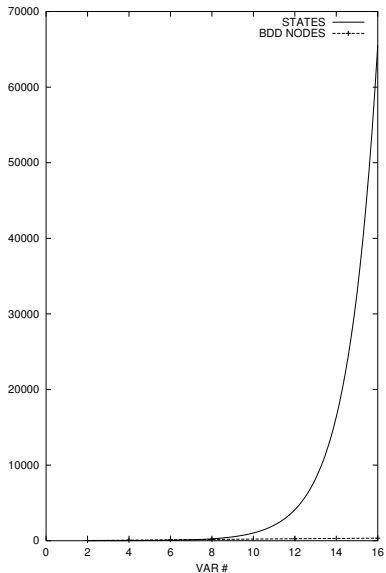
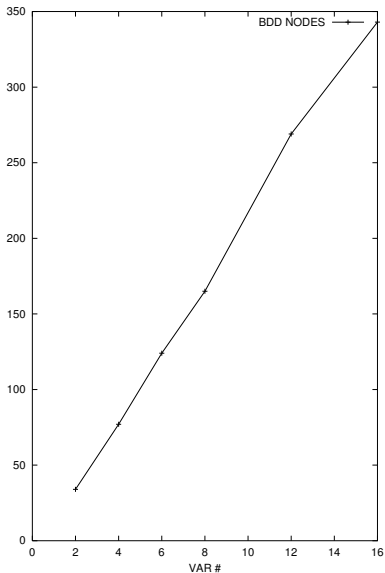
(transitive trans. omitted)

2^N STATES

$O(2^N)$ TRANSITIONS

A simple example: $OBDD(\xi(R))$  $2N + 2$ NODES

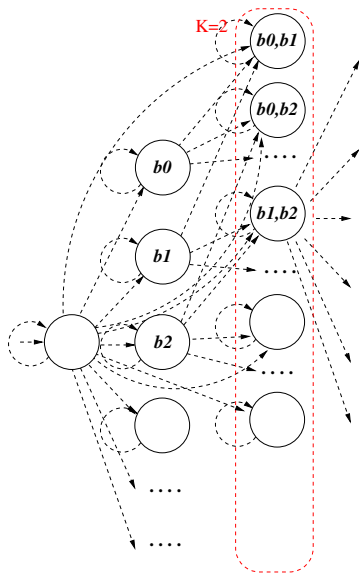
A simple example: states vs. OBDD nodes [NuSMV.2]



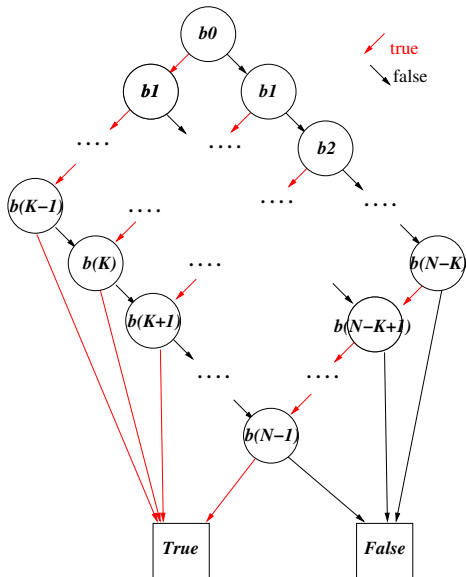
A simple example: reaching K bits true

- Property $\mathbf{EF}(b_0 + b_1 + \dots + b_{(N-1)} \geq K)$ ($K \leq N$)
(it may be reached a state in which K bits are true)
- E.g.: “it is reachable a state where K exams are passed”

A simple example: FSM

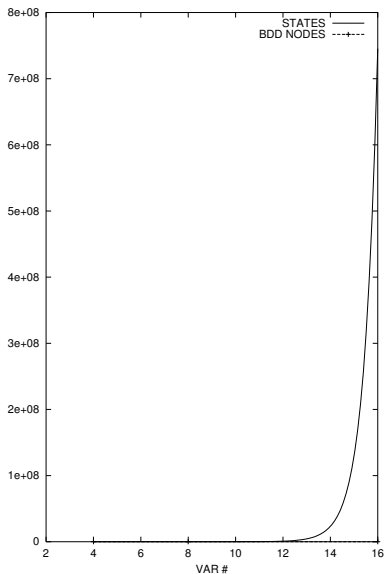
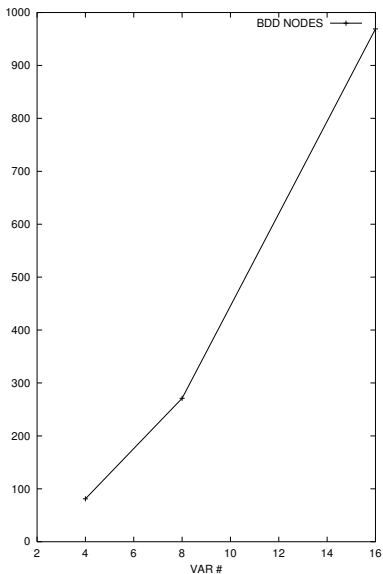


$$\binom{N}{K} + \binom{N}{K+1} + \dots + \binom{N}{N}$$

A simple example: $OBDD(\xi(\varphi))$ 

$(N - K + 1) \cdot K + 2$ NODES

A simple example: states vs. OBDD nodes [NuSMV.2]



Back to OBDDs: Efficiency Issues

OBDD packages provides efficient basis for Symbolic Model Checking:

- unique representant for each OBDD via hash tables
- complement-based representation of negation
- memoizing partial computations
- garbage collection mechanisms
- variable reordering algorithms, dynamic activation
- specialized algorithms for relational products for Image/PreImage computations

Symbolic Model Checkers

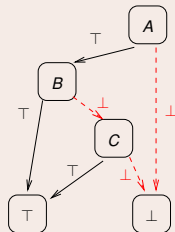
- Most hardware design companies have their own Symbolic Model Checker(s)
 - Intel, IBM, Motorola, Siemens, ST, Cadence, ...
 - very advanced tools
 - proprietary technology!
- On the academic side
 - CMU SMV [McMillan]
 - VIS [Berkeley, Colorado]
 - Bwolen Yang's SMV [CMU]
 - NuSMV [CMU, IRST, UNITN, UNIGE]
 - ...

Ex: OBDDs

Let $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A \wedge (B \vee C))$ and $\varphi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. \varphi$. Using the variable ordering “A, B, C”, draw the OBDD corresponding to the formulas φ and φ' .

$\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (A \wedge (B \vee C))$

[Solution:



]

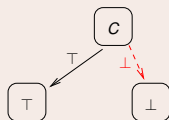
Ex: OBDDs (cont.)

$$\varphi' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))$$

[Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varphi' &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists A. \forall B. \varphi \\
 &= \forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))[A := \top] && \vee (\forall B. (A \wedge (B \vee C))[A := \perp] \\
 &= \forall B. (B \vee C) && \vee \forall B. \perp \\
 &= ((B \vee C)[B := \top] \quad \wedge \quad (B \vee C)[B := \perp]) && \vee \perp \\
 &= (\top && \wedge \quad C) \\
 &= C
 \end{aligned}$$

which corresponds to the following OBDD:



]

Ex: Symbolic CTL Model Checking

Given the following finite state machine expressed in NuSMV input language:

```

MODULE main
VAR v1 : boolean; v2 : boolean;
INIT (!v1 & !v2)
TRANS (next(v1) <-> !v1) & (next(v2) <-> (v1<->v2))
  
```

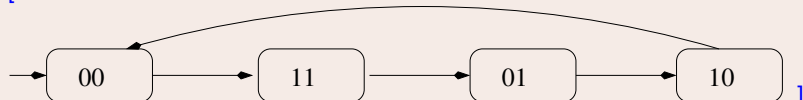
and consider the property $P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (v_1 \wedge v_2)$. Write:

- the Boolean formulas $I(v_1, v_2)$ and $T(v_1, v_2, v'_1, v'_2)$ representing respectively the initial states and the transition relation of M .

[Solution: $I(v_1, v_2)$ is $(\neg v_1 \wedge \neg v_2)$, $T(v_1, v_2, v'_1, v'_2)$ is $(v'_1 \leftrightarrow \neg v_1) \wedge (v'_2 \leftrightarrow (v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2))$]

- the graph representing the FSM. (Assume the notation “ $v_1 v_2$ ” for labeling the states: e.g. “10” means “ $v_1 = 1, v_2 = 0$ ”.)

[Solution:



1

Ex: Symbolic CTL Model Checking (cont.)

- the Boolean formula representing symbolically **EXP**. [The formula must be computed symbolically, not simply inferred from the graph of the previous question!]

[Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{EX}(P) &= \exists v'_1, v'_2. (T(v_1, v_2, v'_1, v'_2) \wedge P(v'_1, v'_2)) \\
 &= \exists v'_1, v'_2. ((v'_1 \leftrightarrow \neg v_1) \wedge (v'_2 \leftrightarrow (v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2))) \wedge \underbrace{(v'_1 \wedge v'_2)}_{\Rightarrow v'_1=T, v'_2=T}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \underbrace{v'_1=T, v'_2=T}_{(\neg v_1 \wedge \neg v_2) \vee \perp \vee \perp \vee \perp} \\
 &= (\neg v_1 \wedge \neg v_2)
 \end{aligned}$$

.]

Ex: Symbolic CTL Model Checking

Given the following finite state machine expressed in NuSMV input language:

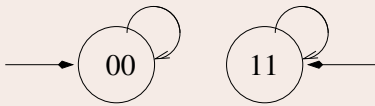
```
VAR    v1 : boolean;  v2 : boolean;
INIT   init(v1) <-> init(v2)
TRANS  (v1 <-> next(v2)) & (v2 <-> next(v1));
```

write:

- the Boolean formulas $I(v_1, v_2)$ and $T(v_1, v_2, v'_1, v'_2)$ representing the initial states and the transition relation of M respectively.

[Solution: $I(v_1, v_2)$ is $(v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2)$, $T(v_1, v_2, v'_1, v'_2)$ is $(v_1 \leftrightarrow v'_2) \wedge (v_2 \leftrightarrow v'_1)$]

- the graph representing the FSM. (Assume the notation " $v_1 v_2$ " for labeling the states. E.g., "10" means " $v_1 = 1, v_2 = 0$ ".)



Ex: Symbolic CTL Model Checking (cont.)

- the Boolean formula $R^1(v'_1, v'_2)$ representing the set of states which can be reached after exactly 1 step.

NOTE: this must be computed symbolically, not simply deduced from the graph of question b).

[Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R^1(v'_1, v'_2) &= \exists v_1, v_2. (I(v_1, v_2) \wedge T(v_1, v_2, v'_1, v'_2)) \\
 &= \exists v_1, v_2. ((v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2) \wedge (v_1 \leftrightarrow v'_2) \wedge (v_2 \leftrightarrow v'_1)) \\
 &= ((v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2) \wedge (v_1 \leftrightarrow v'_2) \wedge (v_2 \leftrightarrow v'_1))[v_1 = \perp, v_2 = \perp] \vee \\
 &\quad ((v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2) \wedge (v_1 \leftrightarrow v'_2) \wedge (v_2 \leftrightarrow v'_1))[v_1 = \perp, v_2 = \top] \vee \\
 &\quad ((v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2) \wedge (v_1 \leftrightarrow v'_2) \wedge (v_2 \leftrightarrow v'_1))[v_1 = \top, v_2 = \perp] \vee \\
 &\quad ((v_1 \leftrightarrow v_2) \wedge (v_1 \leftrightarrow v'_2) \wedge (v_2 \leftrightarrow v'_1))[v_1 = \top, v_2 = \top] \\
 &= (\neg v'_1 \wedge \neg v'_2) \vee \perp \vee \perp \vee (v'_1 \wedge v'_2) \\
 &= (\neg v'_1 \wedge \neg v'_2) \vee (v'_1 \wedge v'_2) \\
 &= (v'_1 \leftrightarrow v'_2)
 \end{aligned}$$

.]