Formal Methods: Module II: Model Checking Ch. 07: **SAT-Based Model Checking**

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M.S. in Computer Science, Mathematics, & Artificial Intelligence Systems Academic year 2020-2021

last update: Thursday 6th May, 2021, 11:31

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Outline



SAT-based Model Checking: Generalities

- Bounded Model Checking
 - Intuitions
 - General Encoding
 - Relevant Subcases
 - An Example
 - Computing Upper Bounds
 - Discussion
- Inductive reasoning on invariants (aka "K-Induction")
 - K-Induction
 - An Example



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4 Exercises

• Key problems with BDD's:

- they can explode in space
- A possible alternative:
 - Propositional Satisfiability Checking (SAT)
 - SAT technology is very advanced

• Advantages:

- reduced memory requirements
- limited sensitivity: one good setting, does not require expert users
- much higher capacity (more variables) than BDD based techniques
- Various techniques: Bounded Model Checking (BMC), K-induction, Interpolant-based, IC3/PDR,...

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Key Ideas:

BMC: look for counter-example paths of increasing length k

\implies oriented to finding bugs

- K-Induction: look for an induction proofs of increasing length k
 oriented to prove correctness
- BMC [resp. K-induction]: for each k, build a Boolean formula that is satisfiable [resp. unsatisfiable] iff there is a counter-example [resp. proof] of length k
 - can be expressed using $k \cdot |\mathbf{s}|$ variables
 - formula construction is not subject to state explosion
- satisfiability of the Boolean formulas is checked by a SAT solver
 - can manage complex formulae on several 100K variables
 - returns satisfying assignment (i.e., a counter-example)
 - exploit incrementality

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Ingredients:

Assume states represented by an array s of n Boolean variables

- a system written as a Kripke structure $M := \langle I(s), R(s, s') \rangle$
- a property f written as a LTL formula
- an integer $k \ge 0$ (bound)

Problem

Is there an execution path π of *M* of length *k* satisfying the temporal property *f*?

 $M \models_k \mathbf{E} f$

Note: *f* is the negation of the property in the LTL model checking problem $M \models \neg f$, and π is a counter-example of length k (bug).

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Equivalent to the satisfiability problem of a Boolean formula $[[M, f]]_k$ defined as follows:

$$\begin{split} & [[M, f]]_k & := \quad [[M]]_k \wedge [[f]]_k \\ & [[M]]_k & := \quad I(s^0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} R(s^i, s^{i+1}), \\ & [[f]]_k & := \quad (\neg \bigvee_{l=0}^k R(s^k, s^l) \wedge \ [[f]]_k^0) \vee \bigvee_{l=0}^k (R(s^k, s^l) \wedge \ {}_l[[f]]_k^0), \end{split}$$

- The vector s of propositional variables is replicated k+1 times s⁰, s¹, ..., s^k
- [M]_k encodes the fact that the k-path is an execution of M
- [[f]]_k encodes the fact that the k-path satisfies f

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The Encoding [cont.]

The encoding for a formula f with k steps, $[[f]]_k$ is the disjunction of

• The constraints needed to express a model without loopback:

 $(\neg(\bigvee_{l=0}^k \boldsymbol{R}(\boldsymbol{s}^k, \boldsymbol{s}^l)) \land [[f]]_k^0)$

- $[[f]]_k^i$, $i \in [0, k]$: encodes the fact that f holds in s^i under the assumption that $s^0, ..., s^k$ is a no-loopback path
- The constraints needed to express a given loopback, for all possible points of loopback:
 - $I[[f]]_k^i$, $i \in [0, k]$: encodes the fact that f holds in s^i under the assumption that $s^0, ..., s^k$ is a path with a loopback from s^k to s^l

The Encoding [cont.]

The encoding for a formula *f* with *k* steps, [[*f*]]_k is the disjunction of
The constraints needed to express a model without loopback:

- $(\neg(\bigvee_{l=0}^{k} R(s^{k}, s^{l})) \land [[f]]_{k}^{0})$
 - $[[f]]_k^i$, $i \in [0, k]$: encodes the fact that f holds in s^i under the assumption that $s^0, ..., s^k$ is a no-loopback path
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 - ${}_{I}[[f]]_{k}^{i}$, $i \in [0, k]$: encodes the fact that *f* holds in s^{i} under the assumption that $s^{0}, ..., s^{k}$ is a path with a loopback from s^{k} to s^{l}

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- The constraints needed to express a given loopback, for all possible points of loopback:

 $\bigvee_{l=0}^k (R(s^k, s^l) \land {}_l[[f]]^0_k)$



I[[*f*]]^{*i*}_{*k*}, *i* ∈ [0, *k*]: encodes the fact that *f* holds in *sⁱ* under the assumption that *s*⁰, ..., *s^k* is a path with a loopback from *s^k* to *s^l*

The Encoding of $[[f]]_k^i$ and ${}_l[[f]]_k^i$

f	[[f]] ⁱ .	
, ,		
ρ	<i>p</i> _i	<i>p</i> _i
$\neg p$	$\neg p_i$	$\neg p_i$
$h \wedge g$	$[[h]]'_k \wedge [[g]]'_k$	$I[[h]]'_k \wedge I[[g]]'_k$
$h \lor g$	$[[h]]_k^i \vee [[g]]_k^i$	$I[[h]]_{k}^{i} \vee I[[g]]_{k}^{i}$
Xg	$[[g]]_{k}^{i+1}$ if $i < k$	$\int [[g]]_k^{i+1} \text{if } i < k$
	\perp otherwise.	$\left[\left[g\right]\right]_{k}^{\prime}$ otherwise.
Gg	1	$\bigwedge_{j=\min(i,l)}^{k} I[[g]]_{k}^{j}$
Fg	$\bigvee_{j=i}^{k} [[g]]_{k}^{j}$	$\bigvee_{j=\min(i,l)}^{k} I[[g]]_{k}^{j}$
h U g	$\bigvee_{j=i}^{k} \left(\left[[g] \right]_{k}^{j} \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^{j-1} \left[[h] \right]_{k}^{n} \right)$	$\bigvee_{j=i}^k \left(\left[\left[g \right] \right]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^{j-1} \left[\left[h \right] \right]_k^n \right) \lor$
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	$\left \bigvee_{j=l}^{i-1} \left(I[[g]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^k I[[h]]_k^n \wedge \bigwedge_{n=l}^{j-1} I[[h]]_k^n \right) \right $
h R g	$\bigvee_{j=i}^k \left(\left[[h] \right]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^j \left[[g] \right]_k^n \right)$	$\bigwedge_{j=min(i,l)}^{k} {}^{\prime} [[g]]_{k}^{j} \lor$
		$\bigvee_{j=i}^k \left(\left[\left[h \right] \right]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^j \left[\left[g \right] \right]_k^n \right) \lor$
		$\bigvee_{j=l}^{i-1} \left(I[[h]]_k^j \wedge \bigwedge_{n=i}^k I[[g]]_k^n \wedge \bigwedge_{n=l}^j I[[g]]_k^n \right)$

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Important: incremental encoding

if done for increasing value of k, then it suffices that $[[M, f]]_k$ is:

 $I(s^0) \wedge igwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} \left(R(s^i,s^{i+1}) \wedge
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- f := Fp, s.t. p Boolean:
 is there a reachable state in which p holds?
- a finite path can show that the property holds



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Relevant Subcase: Gp

- *f* := **G***p*, s.t. *p* Boolean: is there a path where *p* holds forever?
- We need to produce an infinite behaviour, with a finite number of transitions
- We can do it by imposing that the path loops back

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Relevant Subcase: **GF***q* (fair states)

• *f* := **GF***q*, s.t. *q* Boolean: does q hold infinitely often?

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Subcase Combination: $\mathbf{GF}q \wedge \mathbf{F}p$ (fair reachability)

- f := GFq \lapha Fp, s.t. p, q Boolean: provided that q holds infinitely often, is there a reachable state in which p holds?
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• $[[M, f]]_k$ is: $I(s^0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} R(s^i, s^{i+1}) \wedge \bigvee_{j=0}^k p_j \wedge \bigvee_{l=0}^k \left(R(s^k, s^l) \wedge \bigvee_{j=l}^k q^j \right)$

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• System M:

- $I(x) := \neg x[0] \land \neg x[1] \land x[2]$
- Correct R: $R(x, x') := (x'[0] \leftrightarrow x[1]) \land (x'[1] \leftrightarrow x[2]) \land (x'[2] \leftrightarrow 0)$
- Bugged R: $R(x, x') := (x'[0] \leftrightarrow x[1]) \land (x'[1] \leftrightarrow x[2]) \land (x'[2] \leftrightarrow 1)$
- Property: $\mathbf{F}(\neg x[0] \land \neg x[1] \land \neg x[2])$

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 - Correct *R*: $R(x, x') := (x'[0] \leftrightarrow x[1]) \land (x'[1] \leftrightarrow x[2]) \land (x'[2] \leftrightarrow 0)$
 - Bugged R: $R(x, x') := (x'[0] \leftrightarrow x[1]) \land (x'[1] \leftrightarrow x[2]) \land (x'[2] \leftrightarrow 1)$
- Property: $\mathbf{F}(\neg x[0] \land \neg x[1] \land \neg x[2])$
- BMC Problem: is there an execution π of \mathcal{M} of length k s.t. $\pi \models \mathbf{G}((x[0] \lor x[1] \lor x[2]))$?





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k=0: L₀ L_1 $x_{1}[1]$ $x_{1}[2]$ x_1 x_2 x_0 $\begin{array}{ll} I: & (\neg x_0[0] \land \neg x_0[1] \land x_0[2]) \land \\ \bigvee_{l=0}^{0} L_l: & (((x_0[0] \leftrightarrow x_0[1]) \land (x_0[1] \leftrightarrow x_0[2]) \land (x_0[2] \leftrightarrow 1))) \land \\ \bigwedge_{l=0}^{0} (x \neq 0): & ((x_0[0] \lor x_0[1] \lor x_0[2])) \end{array}$ \implies UNSAT: unit propagation: $\neg x_0[0], \neg x_0[1], x_0[2]$ \implies loop violated













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Outline

1

SAT-based Model Checking: Generalities

Bounded Model Checking

- Intuitions
- General Encoding
- Relevant Subcases
- An Example
- Computing Upper Bounds
- Discussion
- Inductive reasoning on invariants (aka "K-Induction")
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4) Exercises

Basic bounds for k

Theorem [Biere et al. TACAS 1999]

Let *f* be a LTL formula. $M \models Ef \iff M \models_k Ef$ for some $k \le |M| \cdot 2^{|f|}$.



Note: [Biere et al. TACAS 1999] use " $M \models Ef$ " as "there exists a path of M verifying f", so that $M \not\models \neg f \iff M \models Ef$

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- $|M| \cdot 2^{|f|}$ is always a bound of k.
 - |M| huge!
 - \implies not so easy to compute in a symbolic setting.
- \implies need to find better bounds!

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Other bounds for k

ACTL & ECTL

- ACTL is a subset of CTL in which "A…" (resp. "E…") sub-formulas occur only positively (resp. negatively) in each formula. (e.g. AG(p → AGAFq))
- Many frequently-used LTL properties ¬f have equivalent ACTL representations A¬f'
 - e.g. $Xq \iff AXq$, $Gq \iff AGq$, $Fq \iff AFq$, $pUq \iff A(pUq)$, $GFq \iff AGAFq$, $G(p \rightarrow GFq) \iff AG(p \rightarrow AGAFq)$
- ECTL is a subset of CTL in which "E..." (resp. "A...") sub-formulas occur only positively (resp. negatively) in each formula. (e.g. EF(p ∧ EFEG¬q))
- ECTL is the dual subset of ACTL: $\phi \in ECTL \iff \neg \phi \in ACTL$.

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Theorem [Biere et al. TACAS 1999]

Let *p* be a Boolean formula and *d* be the diameter of *M*. Then $M \models EFp \iff M \models_k EFp$ for some $k \le d$.

Theorem [Biere et al. TACAS 1999]

Let *f* be an ECTL formula and *d* be the recurrence diameter of *M*. Then $M \models Ef \iff M \models_k Ef$ for some $k \le d$.

The diameter

Definition: Diameter

Given *M*, the diameter of *M* is the smallest integer *d* s.t. for every path $s_0, ..., s_{d+1}$ there exist a path $t_0, ..., t_l$ s.t. $l \le d$, $t_0 = s_0$ and $t_l = s_{d+1}$.

- Intuition: if u is reachable from v, then there is a path from v to u
 of length d or less.
- \Rightarrow it is the maximum distance between two states in *M*.

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$$\underbrace{\bigwedge_{i=0}^{d} T(s_i, s_{i+1})}_{s_0, \dots, s_{d+1} \text{ is a path}} \xrightarrow{\rightarrow} \underbrace{ \left(t_0 = s_0 \land \bigwedge_{i=0}^{d-1} T(t_i, t_{i+1}) \land \bigvee_{i=0}^{d} t_i = s_{d+1} \right)}_{t_0, \dots, t_i \text{ is another path from } s_0 \text{ to } s_{d+1} \text{ for some } i }$$

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Incomplete technique:

- if you find all formulas unsatisfiable, it tells you nothing
- computing the maximum k (diameter) possible but extremely hard
- Very efficient for some problems (typically debugging)
- Lots of enhancements
- Current symbolic model checkers embed a SAT based BMC tool

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Efficiency Issues in Bounded Model Checking

Incrementality:

• exploit the similarities between problems at k and k + 1

- Simplification of encodings
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 - And-Inverter Graphs (AIG)
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 - \Rightarrow feasible only on very particular subcases

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Other Successful SAT-based MC Techniques

- Inductive reasoning on invariants (aka "K-Induction")
- Counter-example guided abstraction refinement (CEGAR) [Clarke et al. CAV 2002]
- Interpolant-based MC [Mc Millan, TACAS 2005]
- IC3/PDR

[Bradley, VMCAI 2011]

• ...

For a survey see e.g.

[Amla et al., CHARME 2005, Prasad et al. STTT 2005].

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Inductive Reasoning on Invariants

Invariant: "GGood", Good being a Boolean formula

(i) If all the initial states are good,(ii) and if from good states we only go to good states then the system is correct for all reachable states

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(i) If all the initial states are good • $l(s^0) \rightarrow Good(s^0)$ is valid (i.e. its negation is unsatisfiable) • $(Good(s^{k-1}) \land R(s^{k-1}, s^k)) \rightarrow Good(s^k)$ is valid

Note

"($l(s^0) \land \neg Good(s^0)$)" is step-0 incremental BMC encoding for **F** \neg *Good*.

(i) If all the initial states are good

• $I(s^0) \rightarrow Good(s^0)$ is valid (i.e. its negation is unsatisfiable)

- $(\mathrm{ii})~\mathrm{if}$ from good states we only go to good states
 - (Good(s^{k-1}) ∧ R(s^{k-1}, s^k)) → Good(s^k) is valid (i.e. its negation is unsatisfiable)
 - then the system is correct for all reachable states ⇒ Check for the (un)satisfiability of the Boolean formulas

 $(I(s^0) \land \neg Good(s^0)); \ (Good(s^{k-1}) \land R(s^{k-1},s^k)) \land \neg Good(s^k))$

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Strengthening of Invariants

• Problem: Induction may fail because of unreachable states:

if (Good(s^{k-1}) ∧ R(s^{k-1}, s^k)) → Good(s^k) is not valid, this does not mean that the property does not hold
 both s^{k-1} and s^k might be unreachable



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Solution (once you know you cannot reach $\neg Good$ in up to 1 step):

• increase the depth of induction

 $(Good(s^{k-2}) \land R(s^{k-2}, s^{k-1}) \land Good(s^{k-1}) \land R(s^{k-1}, s^k) \land \neg (s^{k-2} = s^{k-1}))
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• force loop freedom with $\neg(s^i = s^j)$ for every $i \neq j$ s.t. $i, j \leq k$

• performed after step-1 BMC step returns "unsat": $I(s^0) \land (R(s^0, s^1) \land Good(s^0)) \land \neg Good(s^1)$

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- repeat for increasing values of the gap 1, 2, 3, 4,
- intuition: increasingly tighten the constraint for "spurious" counterexamples: a spurious counterexample must be a chain $s_{k-n}, ..., s_k$ of unreachable and different states s.t. $\neg Good(s_k)$ and $R(s_i, s_{i+1}), \forall i$.
- dual to –and interleaved with– bounded model checking steps
- K-Induction steps can be shifted (k ^{def} = 0) to share the subformulas: ∧^{k-1}_{i=0} (R(sⁱ, sⁱ⁺¹) ∧ Good(sⁱ)) ∧ ¬Good(s^{k-2})

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- repeat for increasing values of the gap 1, 2, 3, 4,
- intuition: increasingly tighten the constraint for "spurious" counterexamples: a spurious counterexample must be a chain s_{k-n}, ..., s_k of unreachable and different states s.t. ¬Good(s_k) and R(s_i, s_{i+1}), ∀i.
- dual to –and interleaved with– bounded model checking steps
- K-Induction steps can be shifted (k ^{def} = 0) to share the subformulas: ∧^{k-1}_{i=0} (R(sⁱ, sⁱ⁺¹) ∧ Good(sⁱ)) ∧ ¬Good(s^{k-2})
K-Induction Algorithm [Sheeran et al. 2000]

Algorithm

Given:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \textit{Base}_n & := & \textit{I}(\textbf{s}_0) \land \bigwedge_{i=0}^{n-1} (\textit{R}(\textbf{s}_i, \textbf{s}_{i+1}) \land \varphi(\textbf{s}_i)) \land \neg \varphi(\textbf{s}_n) \\ \textit{Step}_n & := & \bigwedge_{i=0}^n (\textit{R}(\textbf{s}_i, \textbf{s}_{i+1}) \land \varphi(\textbf{s}_i)) \land \neg \varphi(\textbf{s}_{n+1}) \\ \textit{Unique}_n & := & \bigwedge_{0 \le i \le j \le n} \neg (\textbf{s}_i = \textbf{s}_{j+1}) \end{array}$$

1.function CHECK_PROPERTY
$$(I, R, \varphi)$$
2.for $n := 0, 1, 2, 3, ...$ do3.if $(DPLL(Base_n) == SAT)$ 4.then return PROPERTY_VIOLATED;5.else if $(DPLL(Step_n \land Unique_n) == UNSAT)$ 6.then return PROPERTY_VERIFIED;7.end for;

 \Rightarrow reuses previous search if DPLL is incremental!!

K-Induction Algorithm [Sheeran et al. 2000]

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2.	for <i>n</i> := 0, 1, 2, 3, do
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4.	then return PROPERTY_VIOLATED;
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⇒ reuses previous search if DPLL is incremental!!

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- 2 Bounded Model Checking
 - Intuitions
 - General Encoding
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 - Discussion

Inductive reasoning on invariants (aka "K-Induction")
 K-Induction

An Example

Exercises





• System *M*:

- $I(x) := (\neg x[0] \land \neg x[1] \land \neg x[2])$
- $R(x, x') := ((x'[0] \leftrightarrow x[1]) \land (x'[1] \leftrightarrow x[2]) \land (x'[2] \leftrightarrow 0))$
- Property: $\mathbf{G} \neg x[0]$

• System *M*:

- $I(x) := (\neg x[0] \land \neg x[1] \land \neg x[2])$
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- Property: $\mathbf{G} \neg x[0]$

Init (BMC Step 0): ((¬x⁰[0] ∧ ¬x⁰[1] ∧ ¬x⁰[2]) ∧ x⁰[0]) ⇒ unsat
 K-Induction Step 1:

 $(\neg x^0[0] \land ((x^1[0] \leftrightarrow x^0[1]) \land (x^1[1] \leftrightarrow x^0[2]) \land (x^1[2] \leftrightarrow 0))) \ \land x^1[0]$

 $\Rightarrow \text{ (partly by unit-propagation)} \\ \text{sat: } \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \neg x^0[0], \quad x^0[1], \quad x^0[2], \\ x^1[0], \quad x^1[1], \quad \neg x^1[2] \end{array} \right\} \\ \Rightarrow \text{ not proved}$

Remark

Both { $\neg x^0[0]$, $x^0[1]$, $x^0[2]$)} and { $x^1[0]$, $x^1[1]$, $\neg x^1[2]$ } are non-reachable.

- Init (BMC Step 0): $((\neg x^0[0] \land \neg x^0[1] \land \neg x^0[2]) \land x^0[0]) \Longrightarrow$ unsat
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Both { $\neg x^0[0]$, $x^0[1]$, $x^0[2]$)} and { $x^1[0]$, $x^1[1]$, $\neg x^1[2]$ } are non-reachable.

・ロット (雪) (ヨ) (ヨ)

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 $\{\neg x^{0}[0], \neg x^{0}[1], x^{0}[2]\}, \{\neg x^{1}[0], x^{1}[1], \neg x^{1}[2]\}, \text{ and } \{x^{2}[0], \neg x^{2}[1], \neg x^{2}[2]\} \text{ are non-reachable.}$

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- \implies (unit-propagation) { x^3 [0], x^2 [1], x^1 [2]}
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 K-Induction
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Given the symbolic representation of a FSM *M*, expressed in terms of the two Boolean formulas: $I(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg x \land y$, $T(x, y, x', y') \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x' \leftrightarrow (x \leftrightarrow \neg y)) \land (y' \leftrightarrow \neg y)$, and the LTL property: $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg \mathbf{F}(x \land y)$,

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1. Write a Boolean formula whose solutions (if any) represent executions of *M* of length 2 which violate φ .

1

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Solution: The question corresponds to the Bounded Model Checking problem $M \models_2 \mathbf{E} \mathbf{F} f$, s.t. $f(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \land y)$. Thus we have:

> $\neg X_0 \wedge V_0$ $((x_0 \wedge y_0))$ $(X_1 \wedge Y_1)$ $(X_2 \wedge V_2))$

 $\wedge // I(x_0, y_0) \wedge$ \vee // (f(x₀, y₀) \vee \vee // $f(x_1, y_1) \vee$ $// f(x_2, v_2)$

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 $\begin{array}{ccccc} \neg x_0 \wedge y_0 & & & // \ I(x_0, y_0) \wedge \\ (x_1 \leftrightarrow (x_0 \leftrightarrow \neg y_0)) \wedge (y_1 \leftrightarrow \neg y_0) & \wedge & // \ T(x_0, y_0, x_1, y_1) \wedge \\ (x_2 \leftrightarrow (x_1 \leftrightarrow \neg y_1)) \wedge (y_2 \leftrightarrow \neg y_1) & \wedge & // \ T(x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2) \wedge \\ ((x_0 \wedge y_0) & \vee & // \ (f(x_0, y_0) \vee \\ (x_1 \wedge y_1) & \vee & // \ f(x_1, y_1) \vee \\ (x_2 \wedge y_2)) & & // \ f(x_2, y_2)) \end{array}$

2. Is there a solution? If yes, find the corresponding execution; if no, show why. [Solution: Yes: $\{\neg x_0, y_0, x_1, \neg y_1, x_2, y_2\}$, corresponding to the execution: $(0, 1) \rightarrow (1, 0) \rightarrow (1, 1)$]

- 3. From the solutions to question #1 and #2 we can conclude that:
 - (a) $M \models \varphi$
 - (b) $M \not\models \varphi$
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4. What are the diameter and the recurrence diameter of this system?

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