

# Buiding LTL Model Checkers using Transition-based Generalized Büchi Automata

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SUMo+CompoNet 2011  
21 June 2011



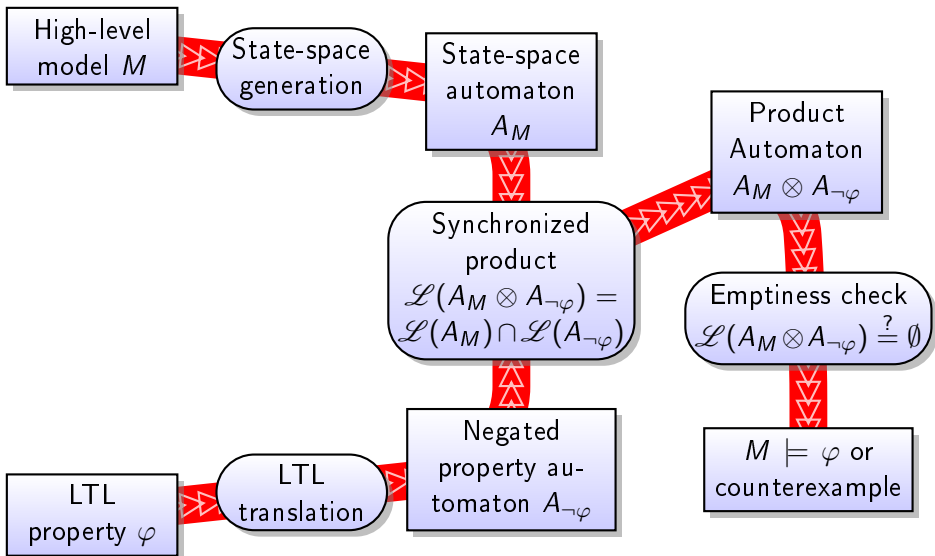
High-level  
model  $M$

Need a **model-checking tool**  
for your **custom formalism**?

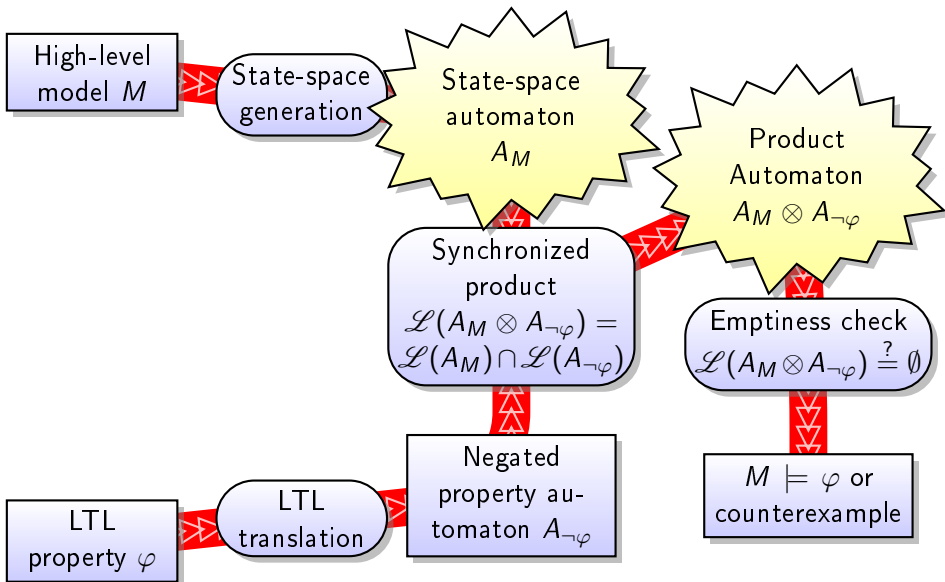
LTL  
property  $\varphi$

$M \models \varphi$  or  
counterexample

# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking



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model  $M$

On-the-fly generation  
of state-space automaton  
 $A_M$

Product  
Automaton  
 $A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi}$

Synchronized  
product  
 $\mathcal{L}(A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi}) =$   
 $\mathcal{L}(A_M) \cap \mathcal{L}(A_{\neg\varphi})$

Emptiness check  
 $\mathcal{L}(A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi}) \stackrel{?}{=} \emptyset$

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# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking

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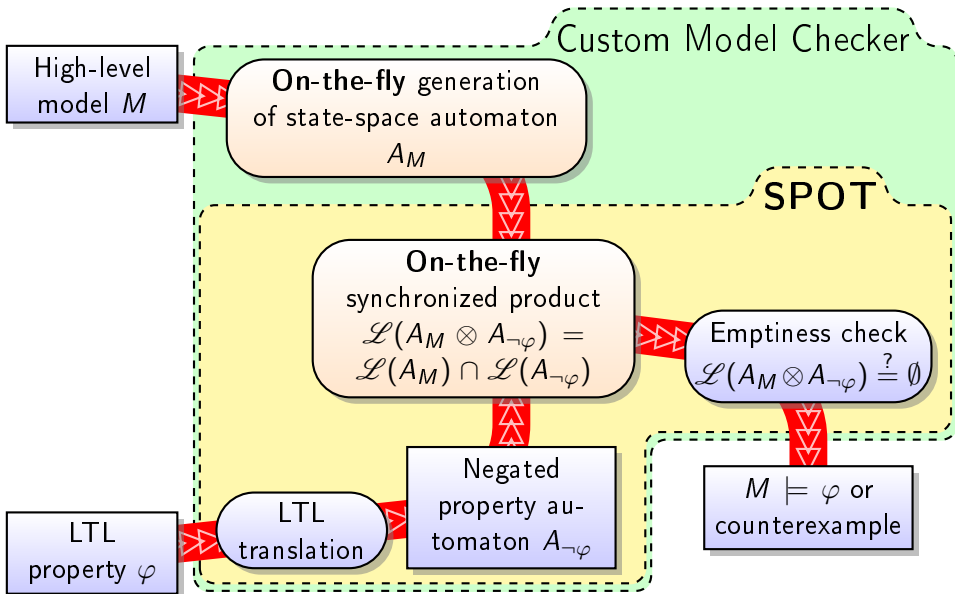
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# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking



# Some (active) Frameworks for LTL Model Checking

**JavaPathFinder** Java. Model checking of Java bytecode. LTL verification possible using Büchi automata.  
<http://babelfish.arc.nasa.gov/trac/jpf/>

**DiVinE** C++. Büchi automata. Focus on parallel model checking.  
<http://divine.fi.muni.cz/>

**LTSmin** C. Büchi automata. Various input formalisms are supported thanks to a simple state-space interface.  
<http://fmt.cs.utwente.nl/tools/ltsmin/>

**Spot** C++. Transition-based Generalized Automata. An abstract state-space interface, but less input formalisms implemented.  
<http://spot.lip6.fr/>



# The Spot Library

<http://spot.lip6.fr/>

- A C++ model checking library started in 2003
- Cornerstone: Transition-based Generalized Büchi Automata
- Features several algorithms to combine and build your own model checker
  - 4 algorithms to translates LTL into Büchi automata
  - 5 emptiness-check algorithms (with many variants)
  - 2 Büchi complementation algorithms
  - simplifications for formulas and automata
- We mostly use it to evaluate different algorithms and to develop new model checking techniques
- other people usually use Spot just to translate LTL formulas into Büchi Automata (thanks to Rozier & Vardi)

# This talk...

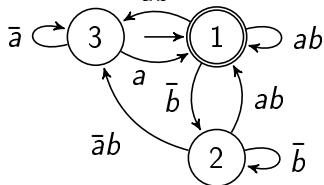
- 1 Why do we prefer to use **transition-based** and **generalized** Büchi automata?
- 2 Why is Spot's translation fast and good?
- 3 How we reused the Spot architecture to experiment some hybrid (explicit/symbolic) approaches.

# Transition-based Generalized Acceptance Conditions

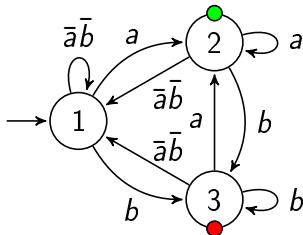
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Transition-based Generalized Acceptance Conditions**
- 3 Translating LTL into (TG)BA efficiently
- 4 Hybrid State-Space Generation
- 5 Conclusion

# Different Kinds of Büchi Automata ( $GF a \wedge GF b$ )

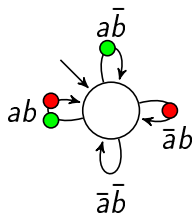
Büchi Automaton



Generalized Büchi Automaton

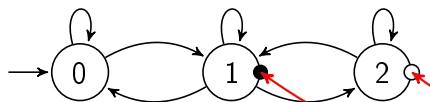


Transition-based Generalized Büchi Automaton



- Same expressive power.
- Converting BA to GBA, or GBA to TGBA, is trivial.
- The opposite direction requires a degeneralization.
- (T)GBA occur naturally when translating LTL.

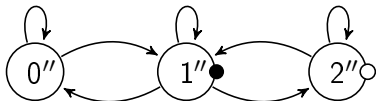
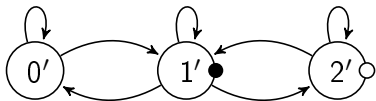
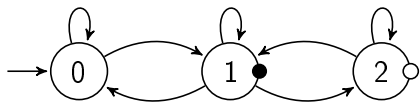
# Degeneralization (from GBA to BA)



Textbook degeneralization:

- GBA with  $n$  states  $m$  acceptance sets  $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_m$

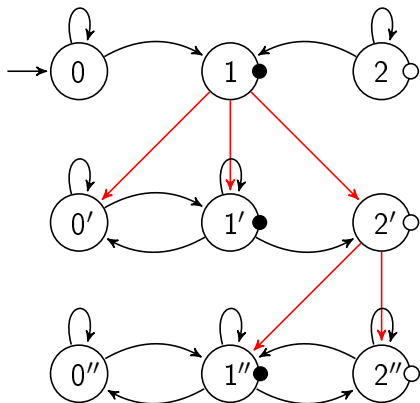
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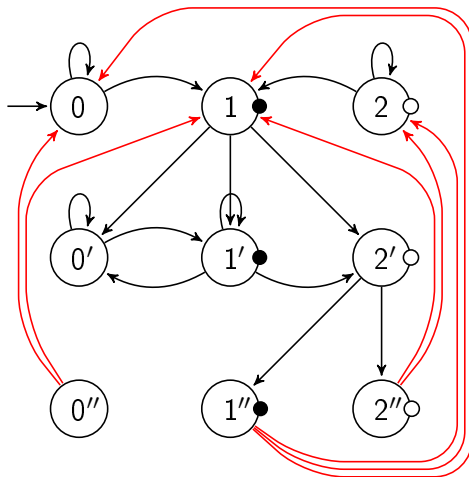
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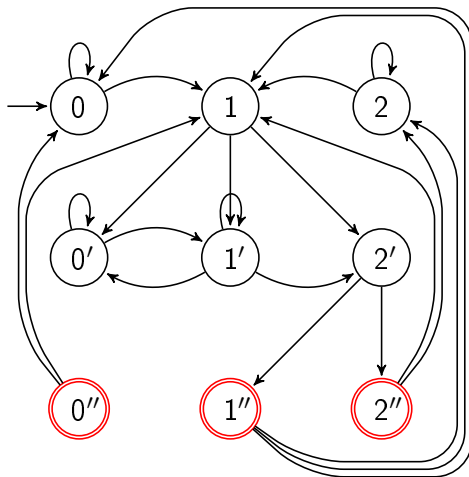


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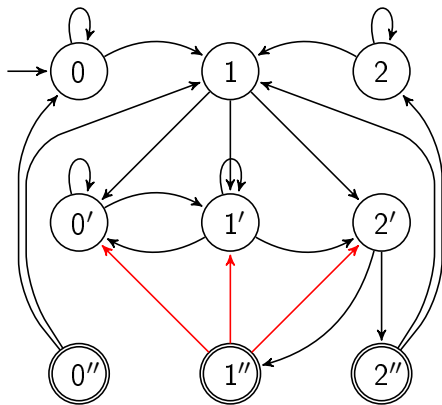
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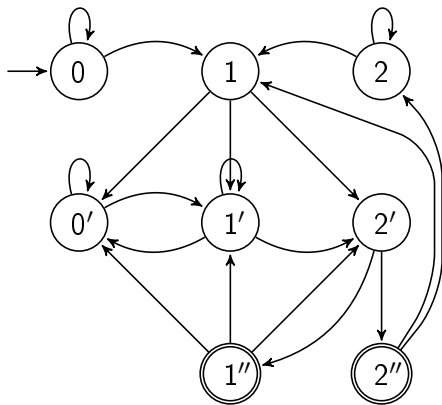
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## Usual optimization:

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- Duplicate  $m + 1$  times
- Level  $i$  redirects outputs from  $F_i \cap F_{i+1} \cap \dots \cap F_j$  to  $j + 1$
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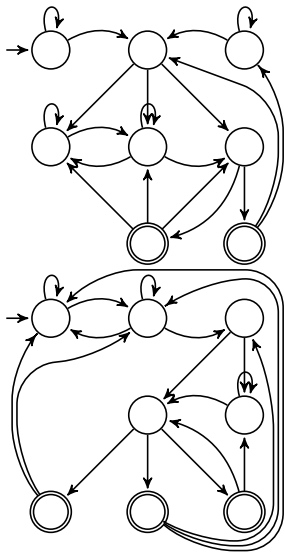


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- Level  $m + 1$  is accepting
- Prune unreachable states

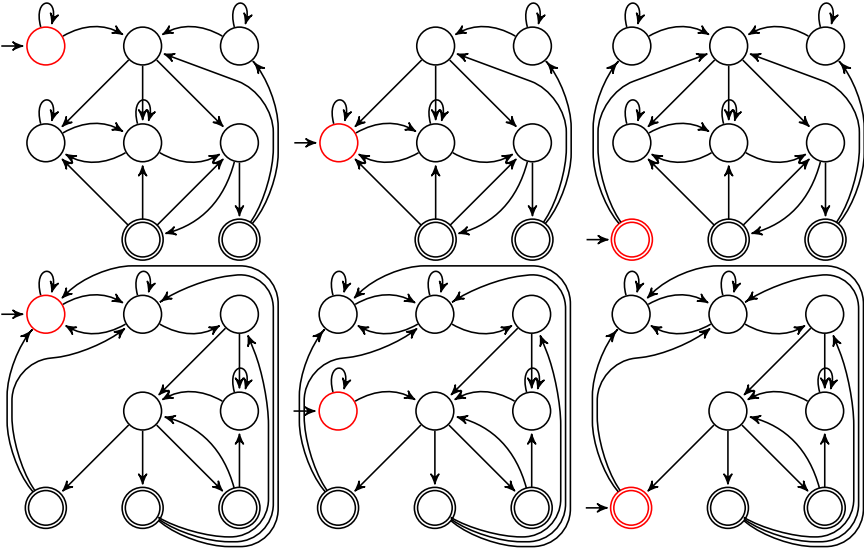
# Degeneralization Options

$m!$  orders of acceptance sets



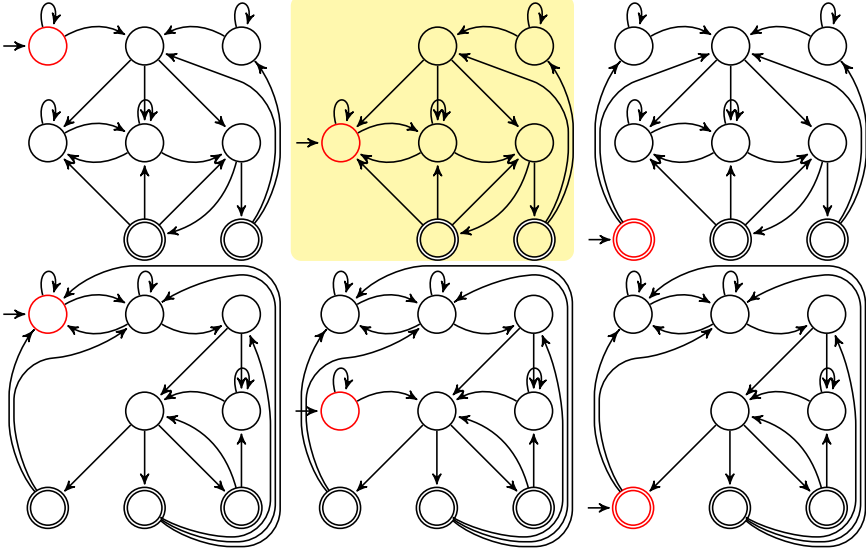
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$m!$  orders of acceptance sets and  $m + 1$  possible initial states



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# Degeneralization in Spot

- Not needed.
- We have two emptiness-check algorithms that will work with TGBA directly. (Couvreur et al.; 2005)



J.-M. Couvreur, A. Duret-Lutz, and D. Poitrenaud. On-the-fly emptiness checks for generalized Büchi automata. In Proc. of SPIN'05, vol. 3639 of LNCS, pp. 143–158. Springer

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In case a degeneralization is nonetheless required:

- It is performed on-the-fly, so only one order and one initial state are tried.
- Heuristic to select the order based on the subformulas they are associated to.
- Heuristic to select the initial state based on the acceptance sets of its self loops.



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# Translating LTL into (TG)BA efficiently

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Transition-based Generalized Acceptance Conditions
- 3 Translating LTL into (TG)BA efficiently**
  - Goals: Size and Speed
  - Core Translation: Tableau using BDDs
  - Improving Determinism with BDDs and WDBA
  - Results
- 4 Hybrid State-Space Generation
- 5 Conclusion

# Translation of Litterature Formulas

Cumulated sizes of automata for 188 formulas from the litterature

Products with a random state-space of 200 states

		$\Sigma A_{\neg\varphi} $		$\Sigma A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi} $	
		st.	tr.	st.	tr.
BA	Spin 6.1.0 (☠×9)	1 572	7 214	311 032	20 924 268
	LTL2BA 1.1	1 080	3 646	215 717	12 766 425
	Modella 1.5.9 (☢×1)	1 394	4 576	274 881	10 960 064
	Spot 0.7.1	834	2 419	166 579	8 749 162
	Spot 0.7.1 det.	834	2 419	165 677	6 258 605
	Spot 0.7.1 WDBA	773	2 166	153 535	5 657 125
TGBA	Spot 0.7.1	757	2 089	151 185	7 573 811
	Spot 0.7.1 det.	757	2 089	150 445	5 696 034
	Spot 0.7.1 WDBA	705	1 886	140 100	5 156 767



= 15min timeout



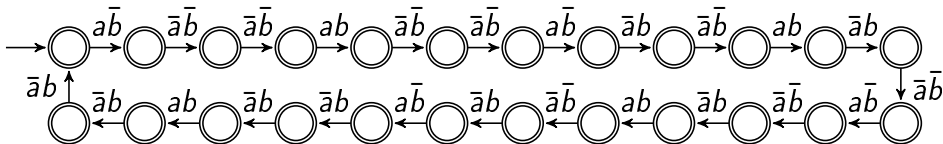
= bogus translation

Produce more **deterministic** aut.

WDBA minimization when applicable

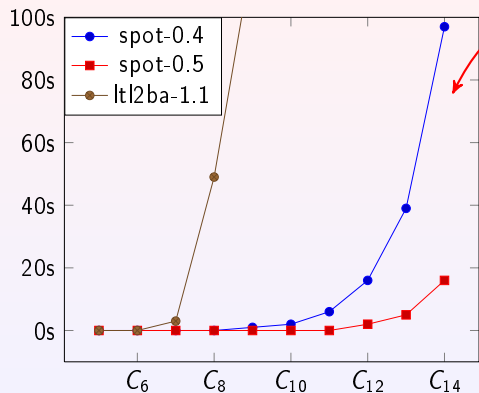
# Rozier & Vardi's Scalability Experiment (1/2)

- An LTL formula  $C_n$  encoding the values of a  $n$ -bit counter.
- E.g.  $C_3 = ((a \wedge (\mathbf{G}(a \rightarrow (\mathbf{X}(\neg a \wedge \mathbf{X}(\neg a \wedge \mathbf{X} a)))))) \wedge ((\neg b) \wedge \mathbf{X}(\neg b \wedge \mathbf{X} \neg b)) \wedge (\mathbf{G}((a \wedge \neg b) \rightarrow (\mathbf{X}((\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} b) \wedge (((\neg a) \wedge (b \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} b) \wedge ((\neg b) \rightarrow (\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \neg b)))) \mathbf{U} a)))) \wedge (\mathbf{G}((a \wedge b) \rightarrow (\mathbf{X}((\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \neg b) \wedge ((b \wedge (\neg a) \wedge \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \neg b) \mathbf{U} (a \vee ((\neg a) \wedge (\neg b) \wedge (\mathbf{X}((\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} b) \wedge (((\neg a) \wedge (b \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} b) \wedge ((\neg b) \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X} \neg b)) \mathbf{U} a))))))))))$
- $C_3$  can be encoded by a  $n2^n$ -state automaton that accepts
  - $a$ : 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 ... repeated infinitely.
  - $b$ : 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 ... repeated infinitely.



K. Y. Rozier and M. Y. Vardi. LTL satisfiability checking. In Proc. of SPIN'07, vol. 4595 of LNCS, pp. 149–167. Springer

# Rozier & Vardi's Scalability Experiment (2/2)



Time to translate  $C_n$  into BA

Other explicit translators are off the chart:

- Modella 1.5.9 took 5:47 minutes to compute  $C_4$  and ran out of memory on  $C_5$ .

- Spin 6.1.0 took more than 11 hours to translate  $C_1$  into a 33-state automaton with 447 transitions (instead of 2 states and 2 transitions). Many transitions having unsatisfiable guards such as “((!b) && (a) && (b))”.

All experiments done on an Intel Core2 Q9550 @2.83GHz with 8GB of RAM.

# Approaches for Translating LTL to Büchi

**Combinatoric approaches** Consider the set  $S$  of all subformulas of  $\varphi$ .  
Use  $2^S$  as set of states for the automaton, connect as appropriate.  
The exponential blowup is in the definition. Easy to implement symbolically using BDD.

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**Tableau constructions** Rewrite  $\varphi$  as a tree whose branches represent satisfiable conjunctions. Use these branches to deduce possible successors. Simple. Exponential blowup during the constructions of branches.



# Tableau Construction for LTL

$$\rightarrow (\mathbf{X} a) \wedge (b \mathbf{U} \neg a)$$

- 1 Label the initial state by the formula to translate



J.-M. Couvreur. On-the-fly verification of linear temporal logic. In Proc. of FM'99, vol. 1708 of LNCS, pp. 253–271. Springer

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Boolean formula                  LTL formula

Since  $f \mathbf{U} g = g \vee (f \wedge \mathbf{X}(f \mathbf{U} g))$  we have:

$$(\mathbf{X} a) \wedge (b \mathbf{U} \neg a) = (\neg a \wedge \mathbf{X} a) \vee (b \wedge (\mathbf{X} a) \wedge \mathbf{X}(b \mathbf{U} \neg a))$$



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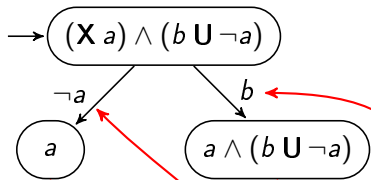
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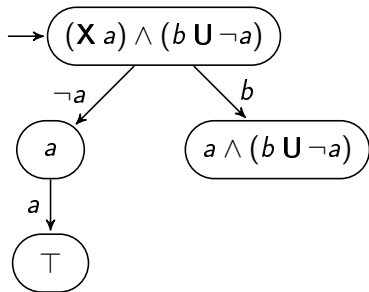
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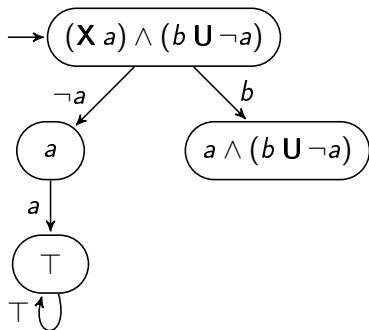
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$$a = a \wedge \mathbf{X} \top$$



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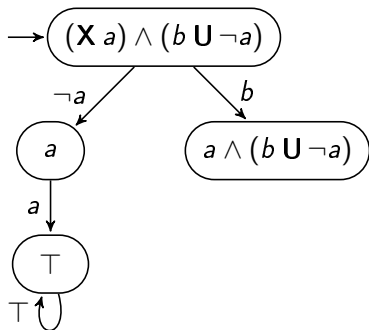
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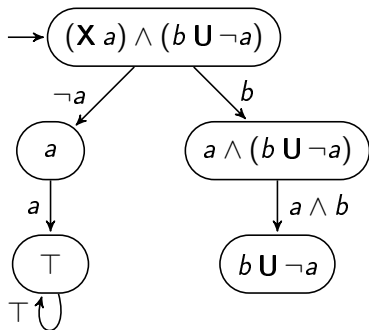
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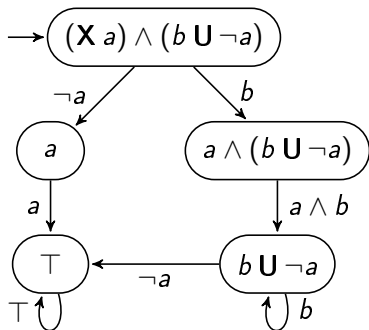
$$a = a \wedge \mathbf{X} \top; \quad \top = \top \wedge \mathbf{X} \top; \quad a \wedge (b \mathbf{U} \neg a) = a \wedge b \wedge \mathbf{X}(b \mathbf{U} \neg a)$$



J.-M. Couvreur. On-the-fly verification of linear temporal logic. In Proc. of FM'99, vol. 1708 of LNCS, pp. 253–271. Springer



# Tableau Construction for LTL



- 1 Label the initial state by the formula to translate
- 2 Rewrite each state label  $\varphi$  as

$$\bigvee_i \beta_i \wedge \mathbf{X} \psi_i$$

Then connect  $\varphi$  to each  $\psi_i$  using  $\beta_i$  as label

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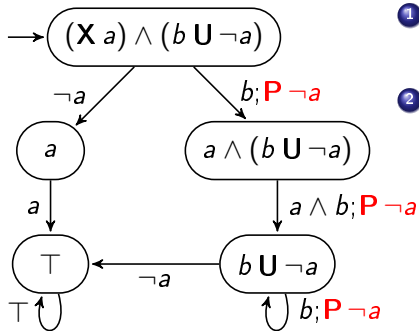
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$$b \mathbf{U} \neg a = (a \wedge \mathbf{X} \top) \vee (b \wedge \mathbf{X}(b \mathbf{U} \neg a))$$



J.-M. Couvreur. On-the-fly verification of linear temporal logic. In Proc. of FM'99, vol. 1708 of LNCS, pp. 253–271. Springer

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Then connect  $\varphi$  to each  $\psi_i$  using  $\beta_i$  as label and  $\{\mathbf{P} \gamma_{ij}\}_j$  as promises

Since  $f \mathbf{U} g = g \vee (f \wedge \mathbf{X}(f \mathbf{U} g) \wedge \mathbf{P} g)$  we have:

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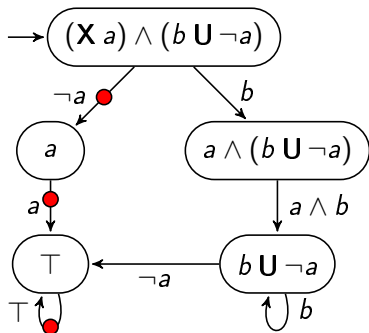
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J.-M. Couvreur. On-the-fly verification of linear temporal logic. In Proc. of FM'99, vol. 1708 of LNCS, pp. 253–271. Springer

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Then connect  $\varphi$  to each  $\psi_i$  using  $\beta_i$  as label and  $\{\mathbf{P} \gamma_{ij}\}_j$  as promises

3 Create Büchi acceptance sets complementing each promise

Since  $f \mathbf{U} g = g \vee (f \wedge \mathbf{X}(f \mathbf{U} g) \wedge \mathbf{P} g)$  we have:

$$(\mathbf{X} a) \wedge (b \mathbf{U} \neg a) = (\neg a \wedge \mathbf{X} a) \vee (b \wedge \mathbf{X}(a \wedge (b \mathbf{U} \neg a)) \wedge \mathbf{P} \neg a)$$

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J.-M. Couvreur. On-the-fly verification of linear temporal logic. In Proc. of FM'99, vol. 1708 of LNCS, pp. 253–271. Springer

# Implementing the Translation with BDDs (1/2)

$$r(\top) = \top$$

$$r(\perp) = \perp$$

$$r(p) = \text{Var}[p]$$

$$r(\neg p) = \neg \text{Var}[p]$$

$$r(f \vee g) = r(f) \vee r(g)$$

$$r(f \wedge g) = r(f) \wedge r(g)$$

$$r(\neg(f \vee g)) = r(\neg f) \wedge r(\neg g)$$

$$r(\neg(f \wedge g)) = r(\neg f) \vee r(\neg g)$$

$$r(\mathbf{X} f) = \text{Next}[f]$$

$$r(\neg \mathbf{X} f) = \text{Next}[\neg f]$$

$$r(f \mathbf{U} g) = r(g) \vee (r(f) \wedge \text{Next}[f \mathbf{U} g] \wedge P[g])$$

$$r(\neg(f \mathbf{U} g)) = r(\neg g) \wedge (r(\neg f) \vee \text{Next}[\neg(f \mathbf{U} g)])$$

# Implementing the Translation using BDDs (2/2)

$$\begin{aligned} & r((\mathbf{X} a) \wedge (b \mathbf{U} \neg a)) \\ = & r(\mathbf{X} a) \wedge r(b \mathbf{U} \neg a) \\ = & \text{Next}[a] \wedge (r(\neg a) \vee (P[\neg a] \wedge r(b) \wedge \text{Next}[b \mathbf{U} \neg a])) \\ = & \text{Next}[a] \wedge (\neg \text{Var}[a] \vee (P[\neg a] \wedge \text{Var}[b] \wedge \text{Next}[b \mathbf{U} \neg a])) \end{aligned}$$

# Implementing the Translation using BDDs (2/2)

$$\begin{aligned} & r((X a) \wedge (b U \neg a)) \\ = & r(X a) \wedge r(b U \neg a) \\ = & \text{Next}[a] \wedge (r(\neg a) \vee (P[\neg a] \wedge r(b) \wedge \text{Next}[b U \neg a])) \\ = & \text{Next}[a] \wedge (\neg \text{Var}[a] \vee (P[\neg a] \wedge \text{Var}[b] \wedge \text{Next}[b U \neg a])) \end{aligned}$$

This BDD is then massaged into an irredundant sum of products:

$$= (\neg \text{Var}[a] \wedge \text{Next}[a]) \vee (\text{Var}[b] \wedge \text{Next}[a] \wedge \text{Next}[b U \neg a] \wedge P[\neg a])$$



S. Minato. Fast generation of irredundant sum-of-products forms from binary decision diagrams. In Proc. of SASIMI'92, pp. 64–73

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# BDD Gains (1/2): Automatic Simplifications

- Trivial simplifications of dead branches:
- Less trivial simplifications: e.g.  $\neg((a \mathbf{U} b) \vee (b \mathbf{U} c))$ .



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Tableau rules give four immediate successors:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\neg a) \wedge (\neg b) \wedge (\neg c) \\ \vee & (\neg a) \wedge (\neg b) \wedge (\neg c) \wedge \mathbf{X} \neg(b \mathbf{U} c) \\ \vee & (\neg b) \wedge (\neg c) \wedge (\mathbf{X} \neg(a \mathbf{U} b)) \\ \vee & (\neg b) \wedge (\neg c) \wedge (\mathbf{X} \neg(a \mathbf{U} b)) \wedge \mathbf{X} \neg(b \mathbf{U} c) \end{aligned}$$

BDD rewritings give two successors:

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg \text{Var}[b] \wedge (\neg \text{Var}[a] \vee \text{Next}[\neg(a \mathbf{U} b)]) \\ & \wedge \neg \text{Var}[c] \wedge (\neg \text{Var}[b] \vee \text{Next}[\neg(b \mathbf{U} c)]) \end{aligned}$$

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BDD rewritings give two successors:

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## BDD Gains (2/2): Automatic Quotienting

BDD rewritings give us an equivalence relation between LTL formulas. For instance we have

$$\begin{aligned} & r(\neg((a \mathbf{U} b) \vee (b \mathbf{U} c))) \\ &= \neg \text{Var}[b] \wedge \neg \text{Var}[c] \wedge (\neg \text{Var}[a] \vee \text{Next}[\neg(a \mathbf{U} b)]) \\ & r(\neg((a \mathbf{U} b) \vee c)) \\ &= \neg \text{Var}[b] \wedge \neg \text{Var}[c] \wedge (\neg \text{Var}[a] \vee \text{Next}[\neg(a \mathbf{U} b)]) \end{aligned}$$

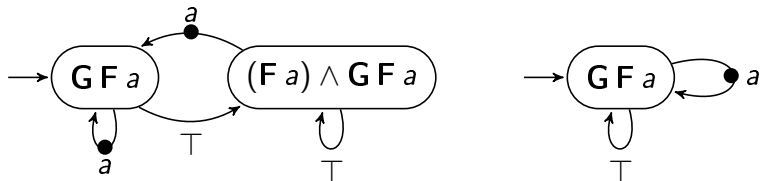
therefore  $\neg((a \mathbf{U} b) \vee (b \mathbf{U} c)) = \neg((a \mathbf{U} b) \vee c)$

Instead of identifying automaton states with LTL formulas, let's identify them with their BDD rewritings. This gives us a quotient automaton for free.

# Example of “Automatic Quotienting”

$$r(\mathbf{G F a}) = (((\text{Next}[\mathbf{F a}] \wedge P[a]) \vee \text{Var}[a]) \wedge \text{Next}[\mathbf{G F a}])$$

$$r(\mathbf{F a} \wedge \mathbf{G F a}) = (((\text{Next}[\mathbf{F a}] \wedge P[a]) \vee \text{Var}[a]) \wedge \text{Next}[\mathbf{G F a}])$$



Could we produce something *more deterministic*?

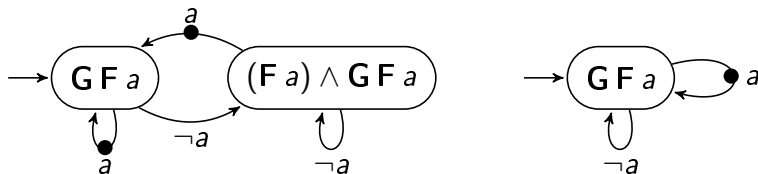
# Improving Determinism (1/2)

Let's improve the determinism of the previous construction by checking how different variable assignments influence destinations:

$$r(\mathbf{GF} a) = ((\text{Next}[\mathbf{F} a] \wedge P[a]) \vee \text{Var}[a]) \wedge \text{Next}[\mathbf{GF} a]$$

$$r(\mathbf{GF} a) \wedge \text{Var}[a] = \text{Var}[a] \wedge \text{Next}[\mathbf{GF} a]$$

$$r(\mathbf{GF} a) \wedge \neg \text{Var}[a] = \neg \text{Var}[a] \wedge \text{Next}[\mathbf{F} a] \wedge P[a] \wedge \text{Next}[\mathbf{GF} a]$$



## Improving Determinism (2/2)

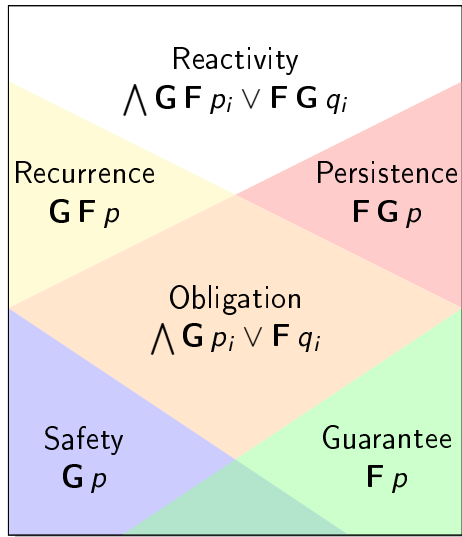
If we have  $n$  atomic properties ( $\text{Var}[a], \text{Var}[b], \dots$ ), there are  $2^n$  assignments to consider.

However:

- The structure of the BDD helps to ignore useless assignments.
- Assignments share many branches in the BDD, so the cache will help.
- Small number of atomic properties in practice
- Runtime roughly equivalent on random formulas

Experiment on 188 LTL formulas from the literature applied to random graphs: 0.4% less states, **25% less transitions** in the product.

# Temporal Hierarchy



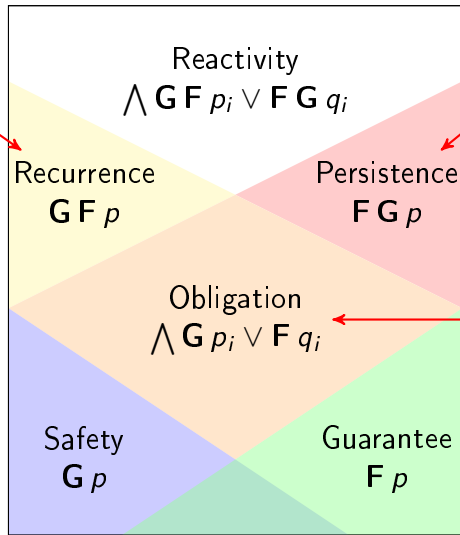
 Z. Manna and A. Pnueli. A hierarchy of temporal properties. In Proc. of PODC'90, pp. 377–410. ACM



# Temporal Hierarchy

Deterministic  
Büchi Automata

Weak Büchi  
Automata



Weak Det.  
Büchi Aut.  
(WDBA)



I. Černá and R. Pelánek. Relating hierarchy of temporal properties to model checking. In Proc. of MFCS'03, vol. 2747 of LNCS, pp. 318–327. Springer

# Dealing with Obligation Properties

- 118 out of the 188 formulas (62%) are obligations properties
- WDBA can be minimized in a same way as DFAs (Löding; 2001)
- Dax et al. (2007) show how to minimize any automaton that can be expressed as a WDBA. In Spot this algorithm takes a TGBA and output a WDBA when the minimization is applicable
- Although converting to a minimal WDBA incurs a determinization, the number of states seldom increases



C. Löding. Efficient minimization of deterministic weak  $\omega$ -automata. Information Processing Letters, 79(3):105–109, 2001



C. Dax, J. Eisinger, and F. Klaedtke. Mechanizing the powerset construction for restricted classes of  $\omega$ -automata. In Proc. of ATVA'07, vol. 4762 of LNCS. Springer

# Translation of Litterature Formulas

Cumulated sizes of automata for 188 formulas from the litterature

Products with a random state-space of 200 states

		$\Sigma A_{\neg\varphi} $		$\Sigma A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi} $	
		st.	tr.	st.	tr.
BA	Spin 6.1.0 (☠×9)	1 572	7 214	311 032	20 924 268
	LTL2BA 1.1	1 080	3 646	215 717	12 766 425
	Modella 1.5.9 (☢×1)	1 394	4 576	274 881	10 960 064
	Spot 0.7.1	834	2 419	166 579	8 749 162
	Spot 0.7.1 det.	834	2 419	165 677	6 258 605
	Spot 0.7.1 WDBA	773	2 166	153 535	5 657 125
TGBA	Spot 0.7.1	757	2 089	151 185	7 573 811
	Spot 0.7.1 det.	757	2 089	150 445	5 696 034
	Spot 0.7.1 WDBA	705	1 886	140 100	5 156 767



= 15min timeout



= bogus translation

Produce more **deterministic** aut.

WDBA minimization when applicable

# Cross-Comparison of Translations

One-to-one comparisons of who yielded less transitions in the products  $A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi}$  for 188 LTL formulas  $\varphi$  from the literature.

			(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
BA	Spin 6.1.0	(1)	0	14	34	10	0	1	0	0	1
	LTL2BA 1.1	(2)	113	0	83	9	0	6	2	0	5
	Modella 1.5.9	(3)	150	96	0	47	4	5	35	1	2
	Spot 0.7.1	(4)	160	137	105	0	0	14	0	0	14
	Spot 0.7.1 det.	(5)	176	170	125	107	0	20	94	0	20
	Spot 0.7.1 WDBA	(6)	175	165	135	122	44	0	110	44	0
TGBA	Spot 0.7.1	(7)	170	153	117	36	15	28	0	0	14
	Spot 0.7.1 det.	(8)	176	170	128	109	36	51	107	0	20
	Spot 0.7.1 WDBA	(9)	175	166	138	124	75	33	122	44	0

E.g.: translation (9) strictly dominates translation (3) in 138 cases out of 188.

The converse occurs twice.

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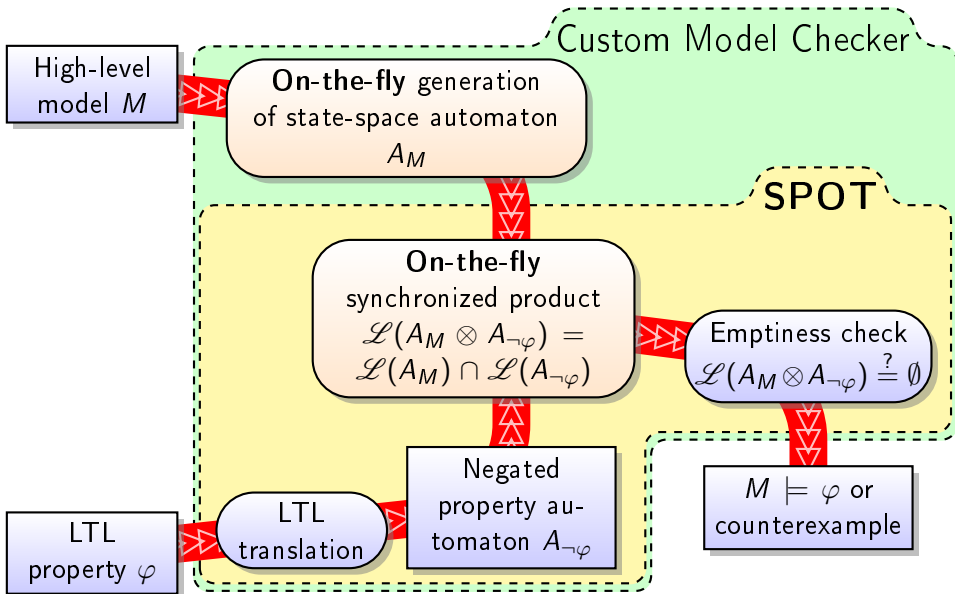
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# Hybrid State-Space Generation

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Transition-based Generalized Acceptance Conditions
- 3 Translating LTL into (TG)BA efficiently
- 4 Hybrid State-Space Generation**
- 5 Conclusion

# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking





# Third-Party Interfaces

- CheckPN (LIP6, Paris; FR)
- GreatSPN (Univ. Turino; IT)
- DiVinE (Masaryk Univ., Brno; CZ) modified by the LTSmin team (Univ. Twente; NL)
- ITS Tools (LIP6, Paris; FR)

# Hybrid Approaches with ITS Tools

Common to the three approaches:

- Using SDDs to represent sets of states.
- Build a graph of sets of states, and model check this graph.

**Symbolic Observation Graph (SOG)** Stuttering-insensitive prop.

- Gather all states whose valuation do not change the propositions observed by the property.

**Symbolic Observation Product (SOP)** Stuttering-insensitive prop.

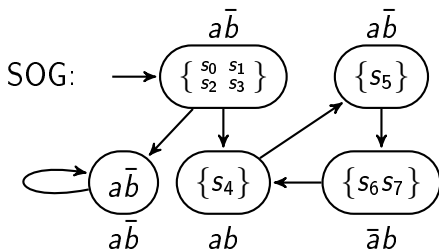
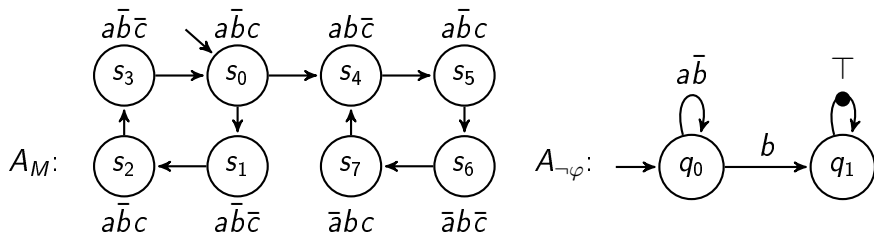
- Gather all states whose valuation do not change the propositions observed by the property automaton **at the current point**.

**Self-Loop Aggregating Product (SLAP)** Full LTL

- Gather all states compatible with the self-loops of the property automaton **at the current point**.

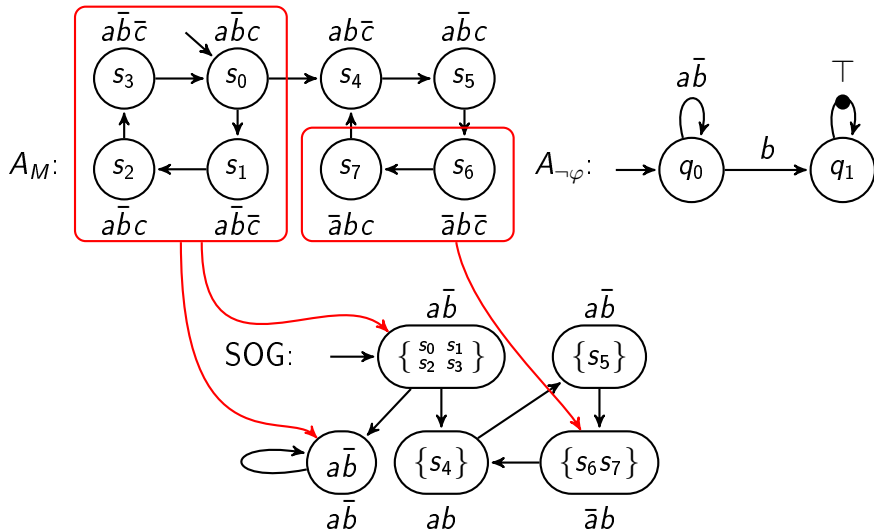
Joint work with D. Poitrenaud, Y. Thierry-Mieg, and K. Klai.  
[http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl\\_bench.html](http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl_bench.html)

# Symbolic Observation Graph




 K. Klai and D. Poitrenaud. MC-SOG: An LTL model checker based on symbolic observation graphs. In Proc. Proc. of Petri Nets'08, vol. 5062 of LNCS, pp. 288–306. Springer

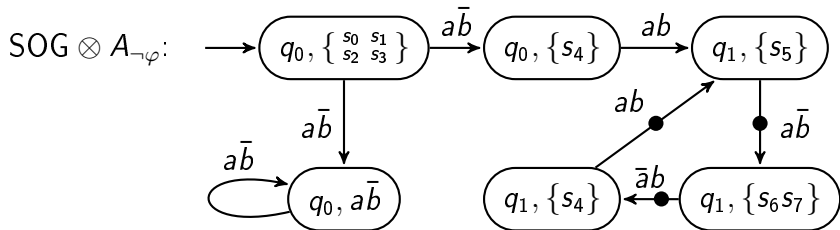
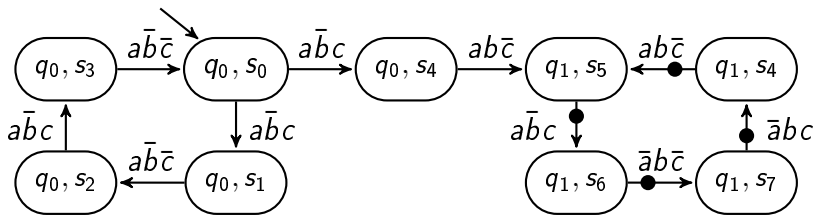
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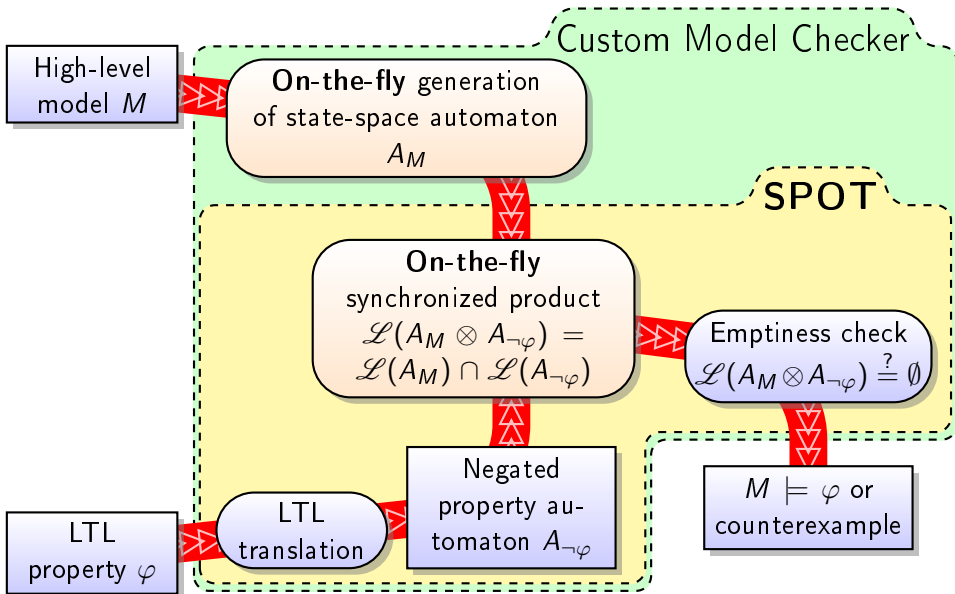
# Product Sizes: Kripke vs. SOG

$A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi}$ :



K. Klai and D. Poitrenaud. MC-SOG: An LTL model checker based on symbolic observation graphs. In Proc. Proc. of Petri Nets'08, vol. 5062 of LNCS, pp. 288–306. Springer

# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking



# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking

High-level  
model  $M$

Custom Model Checker

Dynamic and **on-the-fly** generation  
of an automaton  $D$  such that  
 $\mathcal{L}(D) = \emptyset \iff \mathcal{L}(A_M \otimes A_{\neg\varphi}) = \emptyset.$

SPOT

Emptiness check  
 $\mathcal{L}(D) \stackrel{?}{=} \emptyset$

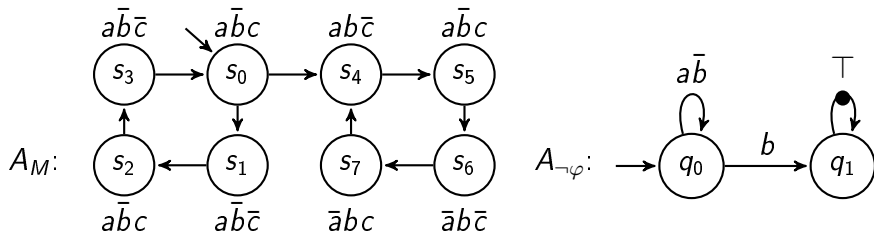
LTL  
property  $\varphi$

LTL  
translation

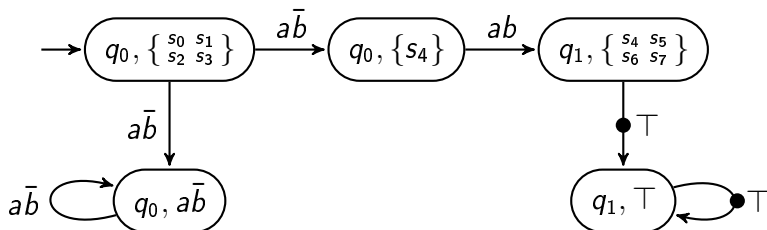
Negated  
property au-  
tomaton  $A_{\neg\varphi}$

$M \models \varphi$  or  
counterexample

# Symbolic Observation Product



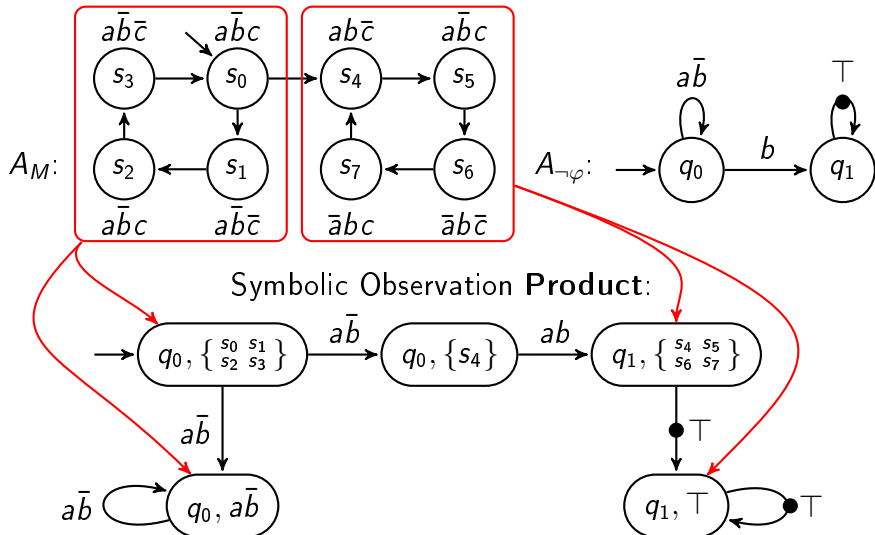
## Symbolic Observation Product:



Joint work with D. Poitrenaud, Y. Thierry-Mieg, and K. Klai.  
[http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl\\_bench.html](http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl_bench.html)

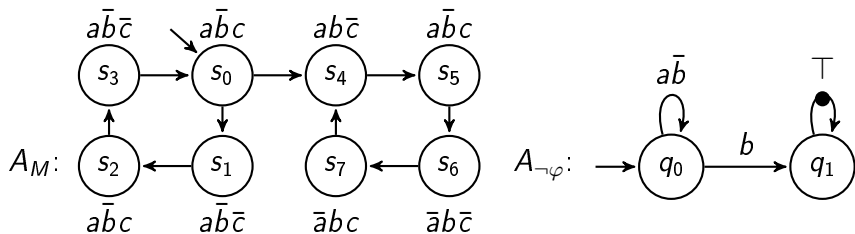


# Symbolic Observation Product

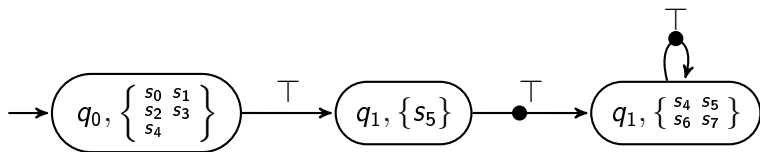


Joint work with D. Poitrenaud, Y. Thierry-Mieg, and K. Klai.  
[http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl\\_bench.html](http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl_bench.html)

# Self-Loop Aggregation Product



Self-Loop Aggregation Product:




Joint work with D. Poitrenaud, Y. Thierry-Mieg, and K. Klai.  
[http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl\\_bench.html](http://move.lip6.fr/software/DDD/ltl_bench.html)

# Cross-Comparison of Aggregation Methods

One-to-one comparisons of who yielded less transitions in the “products”, on 3093 experiments (toy models with random verified formulas)

	BCZ	SOG	SOP	SLAP
BCZ	0	0	0	8
SOG	2825	0	8	142
SOP	2908	692	0	165
SLAP	3032	2931	2909	0

E.g.: SLAP strictly dominates SOG in 2931 cases out of 3093 ... the converse occurs 142 times.

 A. Biere, E. M. Clarke, and Y. Zhu. Multiple state and single state tableaux for combining local and global model checking. In *Correct System Design*, vol. 1710 of LNCS, pp. 163–179. Springer, 1999

# Conclusion

## TGBA

- They are small
- They represent weak fairness properties ( $\bigwedge \mathbf{G F } p_i$ ) naturally

## LTL translation

- It is efficient and simple to implement
- Using BDD is important (for speed and determinism)
- Building WDBA when possible is often a good idea (not always)
- Try it on-line: <http://spot.lip6.fr/ltl2tgba.html>

## New products

- Two new hybrid approaches: SOP and SLAP
- The Spot architecture allows easy experimentation of such ideas

- Support for PSL (Property Specification Language)  
Essentially LTL + rational operators.  
`{ 1[*]; init; busy[=2]; done } [] -> (!init U bell)`
- Simulation-based reductions (for TGBA)
- Testing Automata