

Reachability Preservation Based Parameter Synthesis for Timed Automata

Étienne André¹, Giuseppe Lipari², Hoang Gia Nguyen¹, Youcheng Sun³

¹LIPN, Université Paris 13, Sorbonne Paris Cité, CNRS, France

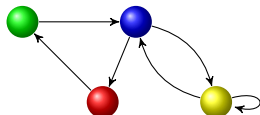
²CRISTAL – UMR 9189, Université de Lille, USR 3380 CNRS, France

³Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy



Context: Formal Verification of Timed Systems

■ Model checking



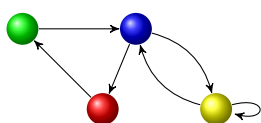
A **model** of the system

● is unreachable

A **property** to be satisfied

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?

$$\models$$

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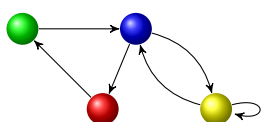
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A **property** to be satisfied

■ Question: does the model of the system **satisfy** the property?

Yes



No



Counterexample

Beyond Model Checking: Parameter Synthesis

- Timed systems are characterized by a **set of timing constants**
 - “The packet transmission lasts for **50 ms**”
 - “The sensor reads the value every **10 s**”
- Verification for **one** set of constants does not usually guarantee the correctness for other values
- Challenges
 - **Numerous verifications**: is the system correct for any value within $[40; 60]$?
 - **Optimization**: until what value can we increase **10**?
 - **Robustness** [Markey, 2011]: What happens if **50** is implemented with **49.99**?

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- **Parameter synthesis**
 - Consider that timing constants are unknown constants (**parameters**)
 - Find **good values** for the parameters

Outline

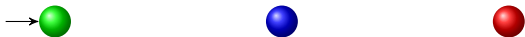
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- 2 Reachability Preservation using PRP
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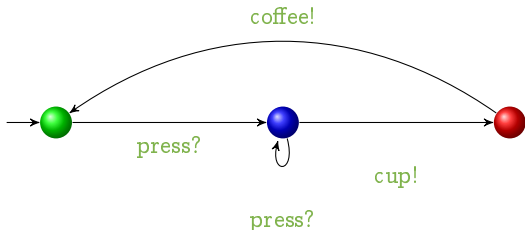
Timed Automaton (TA)

- Finite state automaton (sets of *locations*)



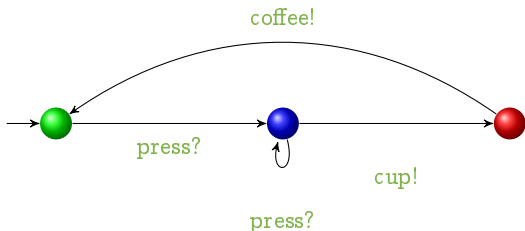
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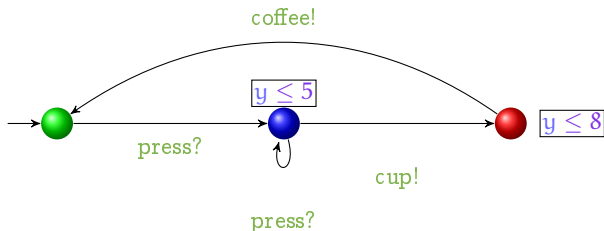
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- Finite state automaton (sets of **locations** and **actions**) augmented with a set X of **clocks** [Alur and Dill, 1994]
 - Real-valued variables evolving linearly at the same rate



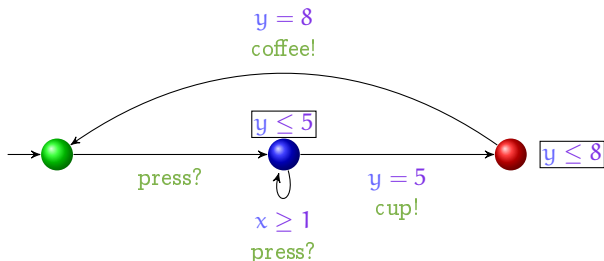
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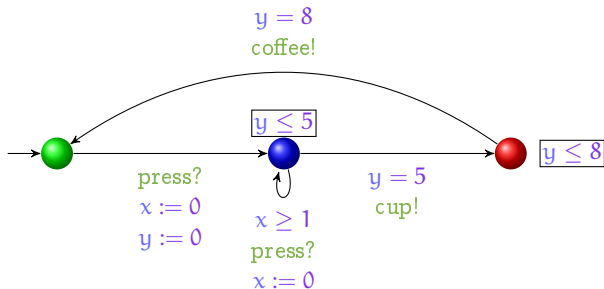
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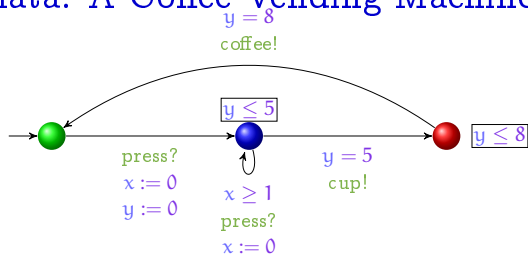


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 - Clock **reset**: some of the clocks can be set to 0 at each transition

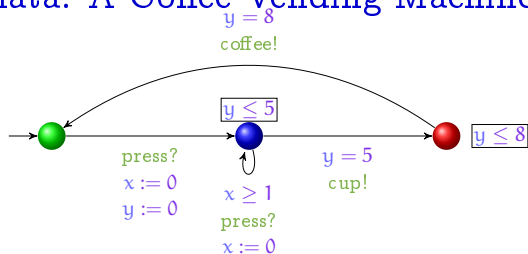


Timed Automata: A Coffee Vending Machine



- Examples of concrete runs

Timed Automata: A Coffee Vending Machine



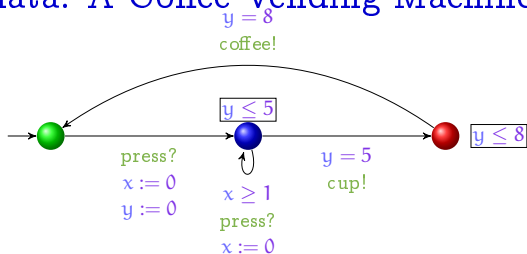
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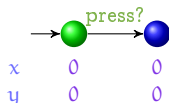
x 0
 y 0

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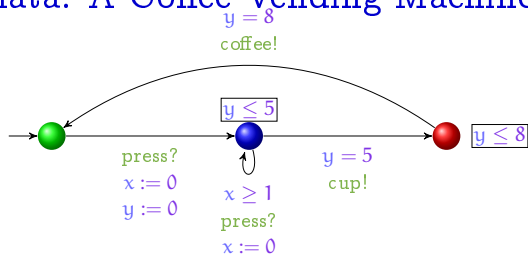


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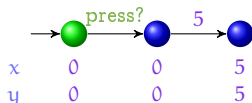


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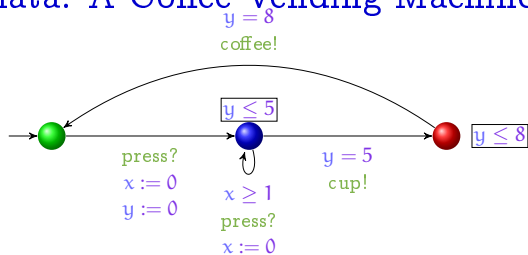


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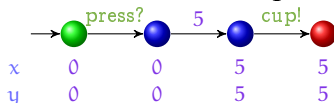


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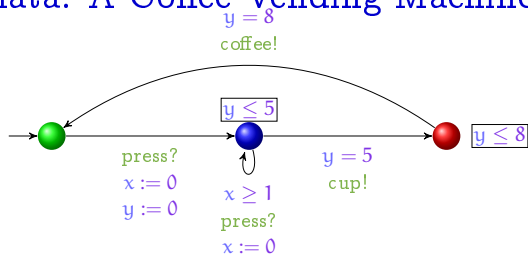


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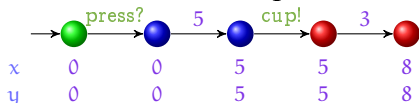


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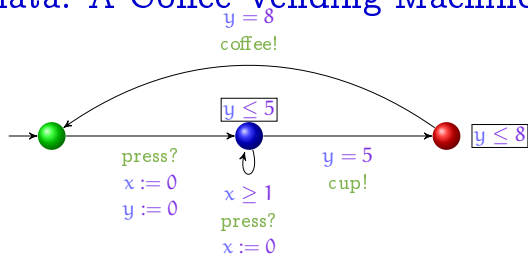


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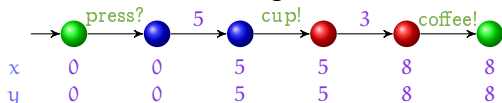


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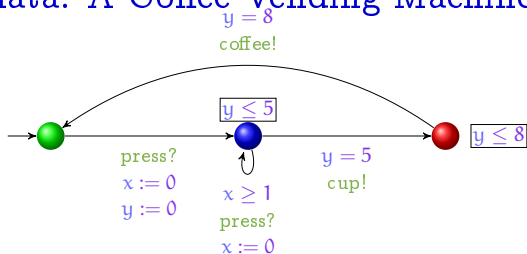


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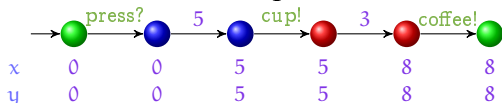


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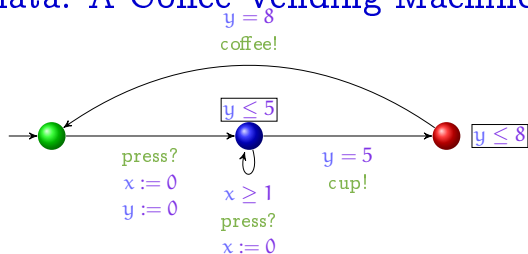
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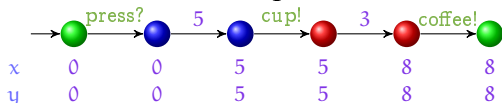


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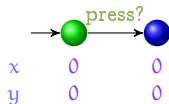


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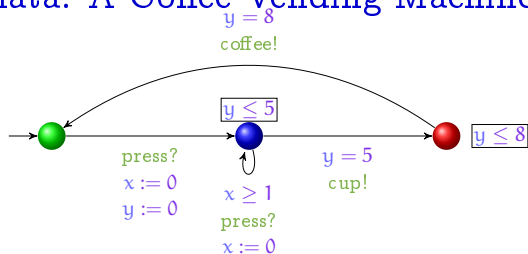
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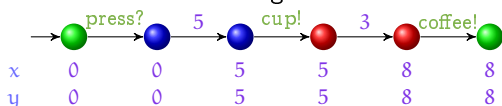


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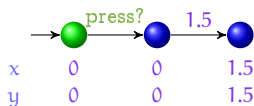


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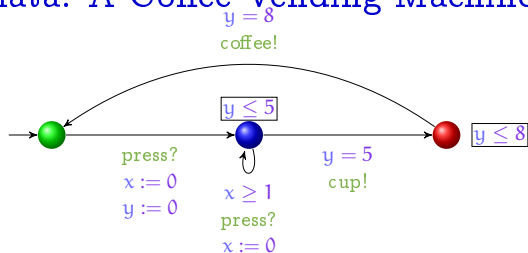
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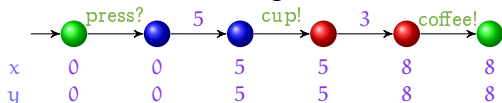


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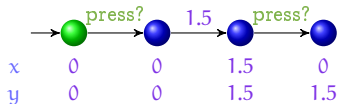


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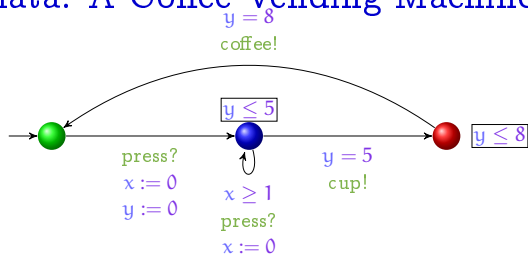
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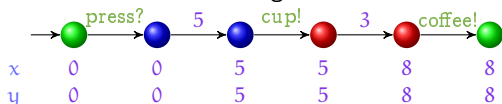


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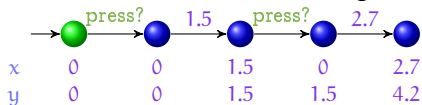


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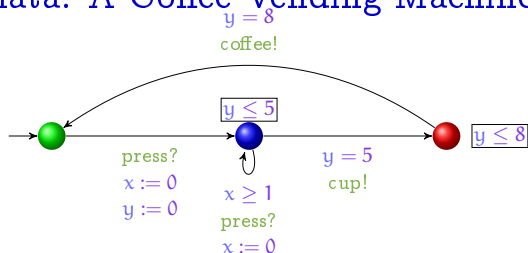
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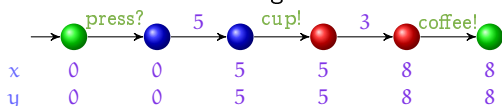


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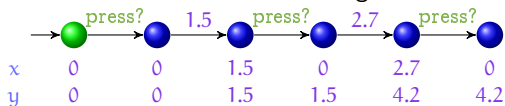


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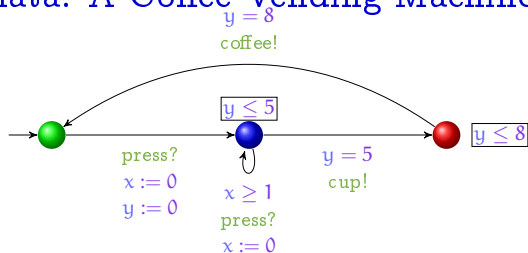
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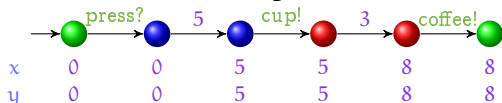


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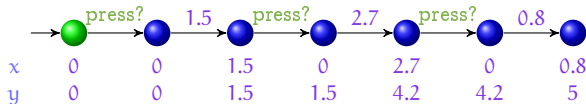


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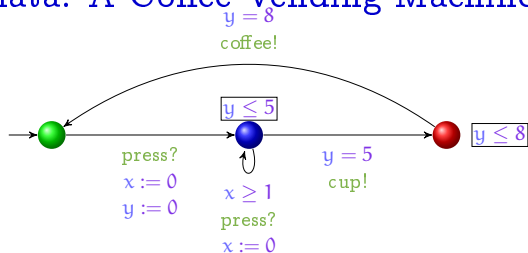
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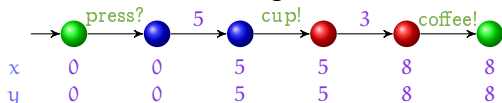


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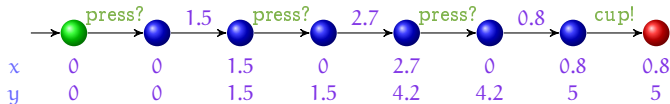


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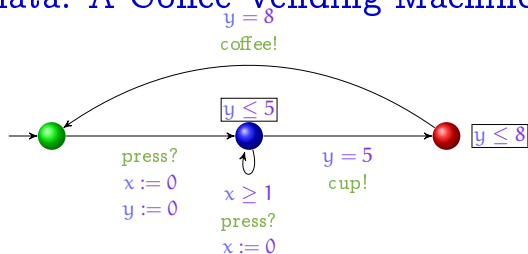
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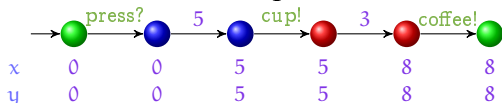


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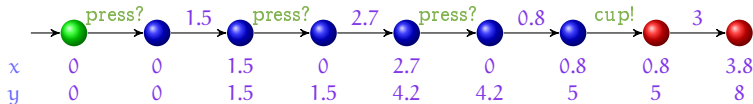


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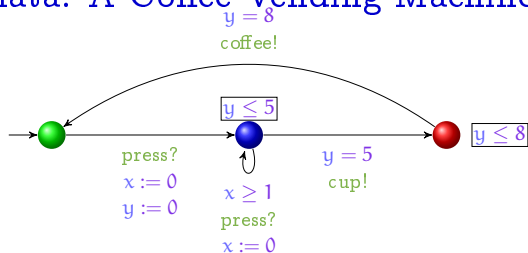
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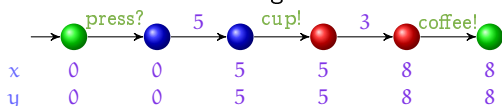


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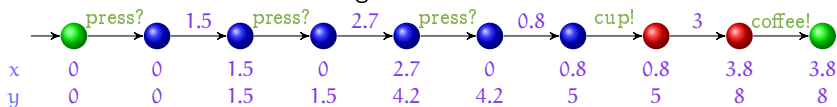


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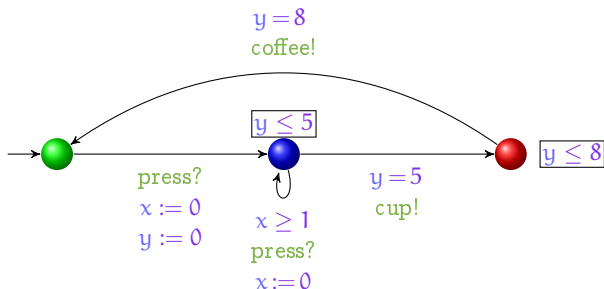


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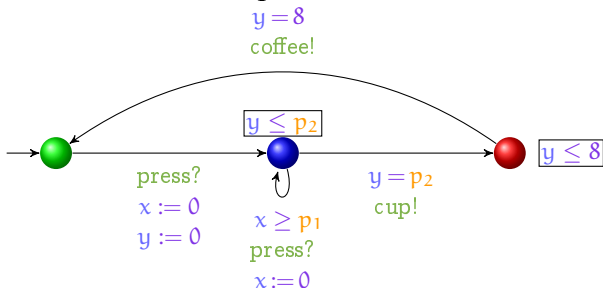
Parametric Timed Automaton (PTA)

- Timed automaton (sets of locations, actions and clocks)



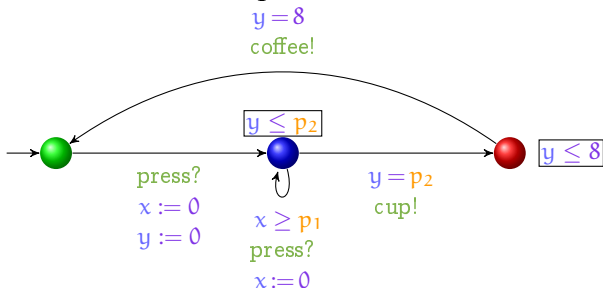
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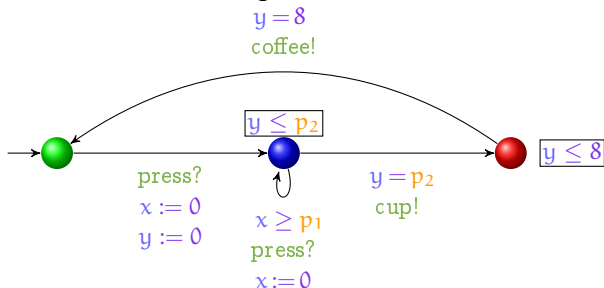


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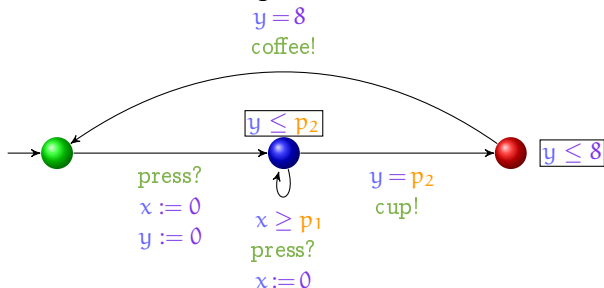
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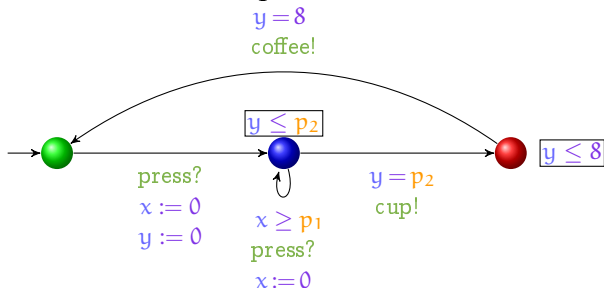
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Valuation of a PTA

- A valuation π of all the parameters of \mathcal{P} is called a **point**
- Given a PTA \mathcal{A} and a point π , we denote by $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$ the (non-parametric) timed automaton where all parameters are valuated by π

Objective: Reachability Synthesis

Problem (EF-emptiness)

Let \mathcal{A} be a PTA. Is the set of parameter valuations π such that $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$ reaches \mathcal{L}_{bad} empty?

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Previous Works

- Semi-algorithm **EFsynth** proposed in [[Alur et al., 1993](#)]
- Synthesis of **integer** parameter valuations
 - Enumerative terminating algorithm for 2 subclasses of PTA (“L-PTA and U-PTA”) [[Bozzelli and La Torre, 2009](#)]
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 - For rational-valued parameter valuations
 - 😊 ... and that can be distributed

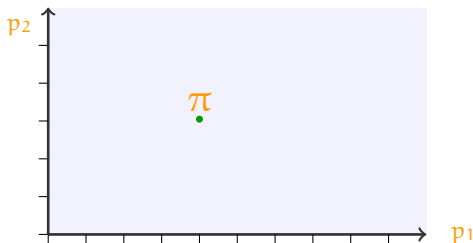
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Reachability Preservation

Key idea

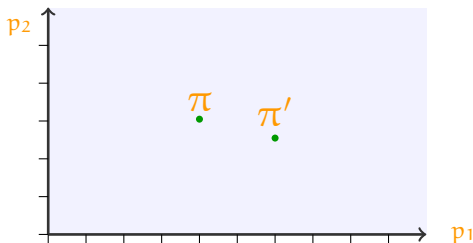
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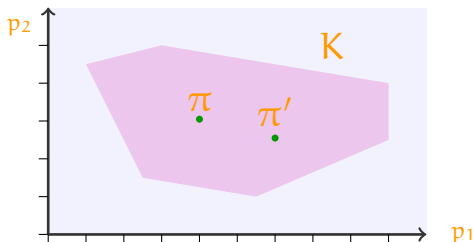
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Reachability Preservation: Undecidability

Problem (PREACH-emptiness)

Let \mathcal{A} be a PTA, and π a parameter valuation. Does there exist $\pi' \neq \pi$ such that $\mathcal{A}[\pi']$ preserves the reachability of \perp_{bad} in $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$?

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Theorem

PREACH-emptiness is undecidable.

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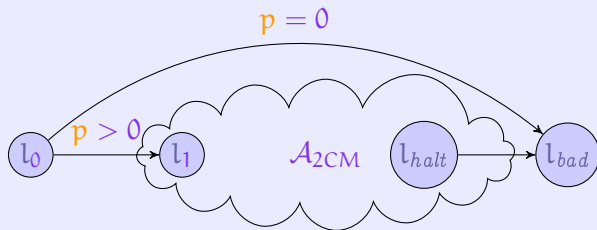
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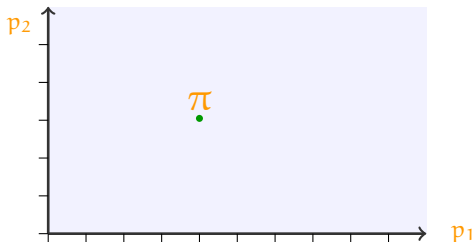


PRP: Parametric Reachability Preservation

Input: parameter valuation π

Output: constraint K such that

- 1 $\pi \models K$, and
- 2 $\forall \pi' \models K$, $\mathcal{A}[\pi']$ preserves the reachability of l_{bad} in $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$



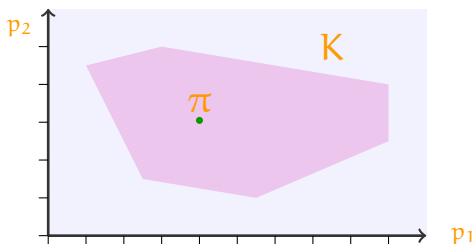
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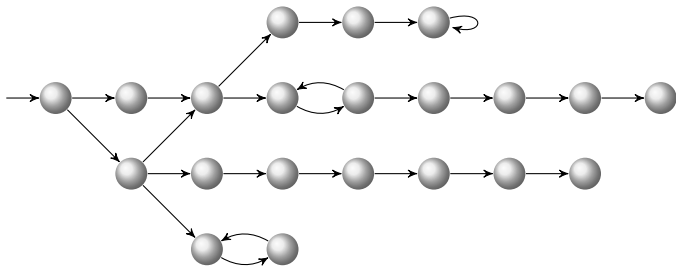


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PRP: Case 1

As long as l_{bad} is not met...

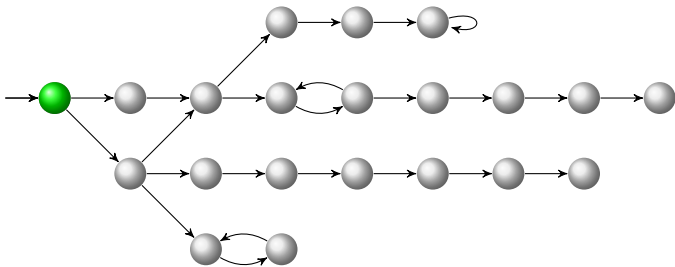
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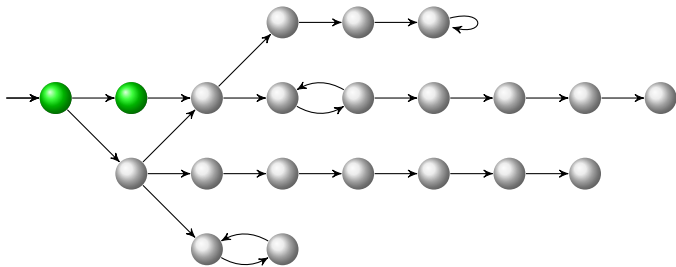
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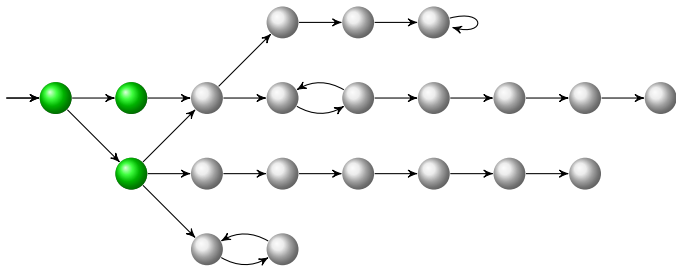
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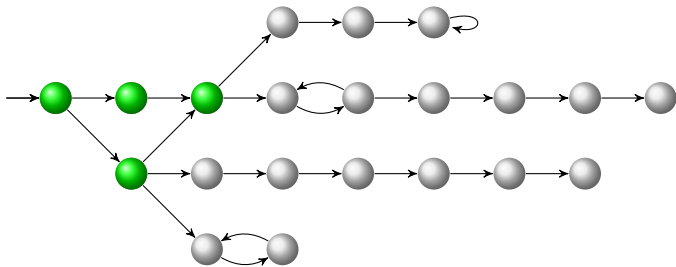
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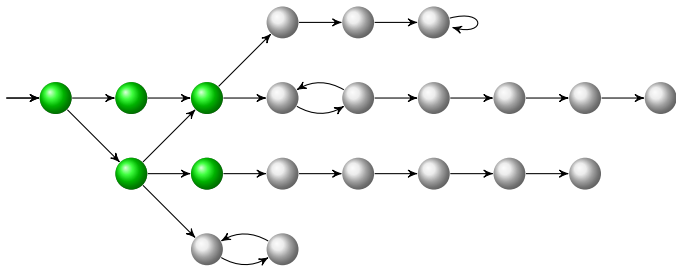
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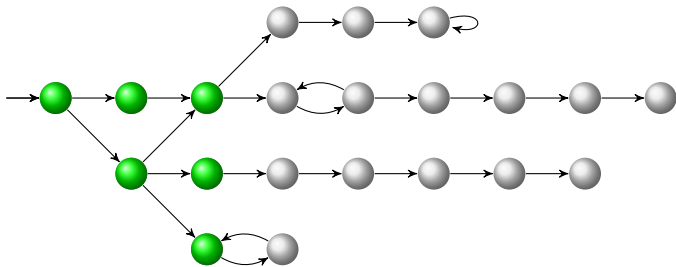
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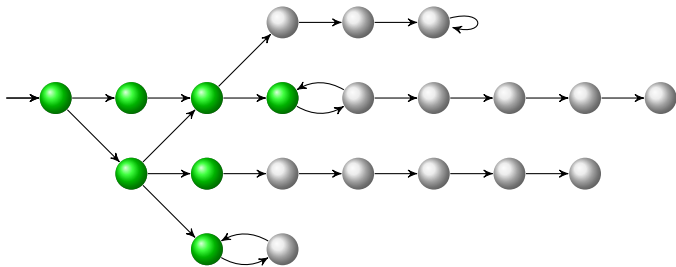
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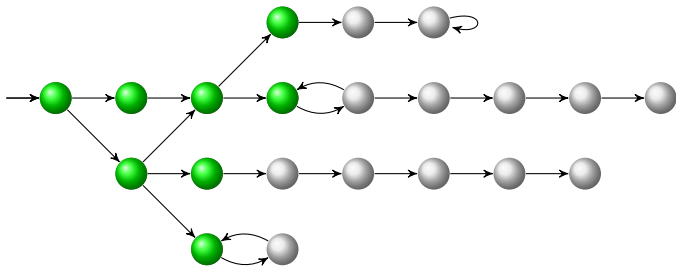
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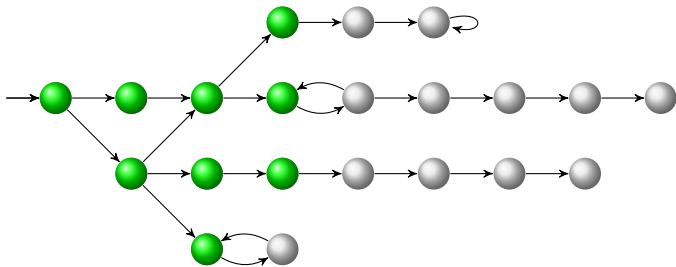
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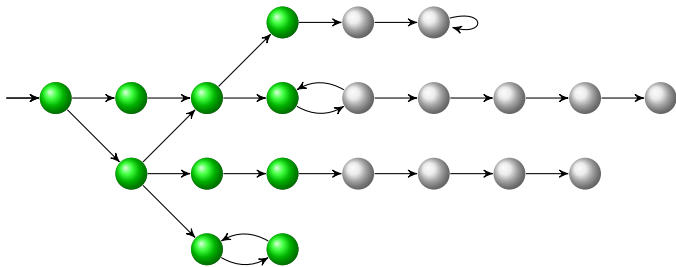
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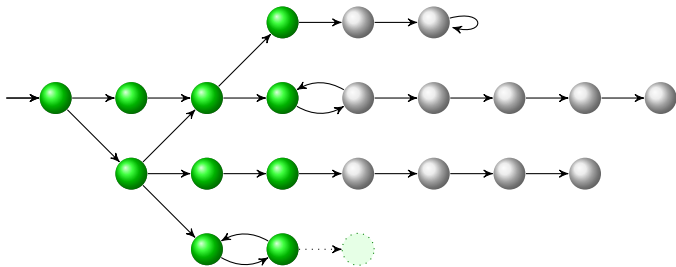
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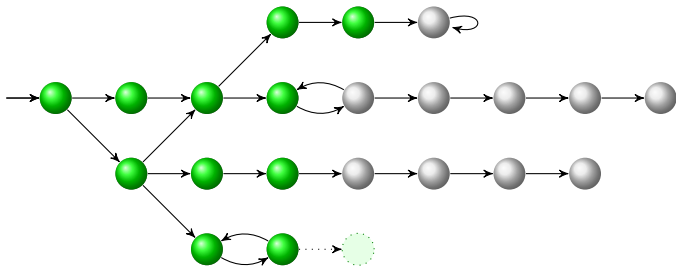
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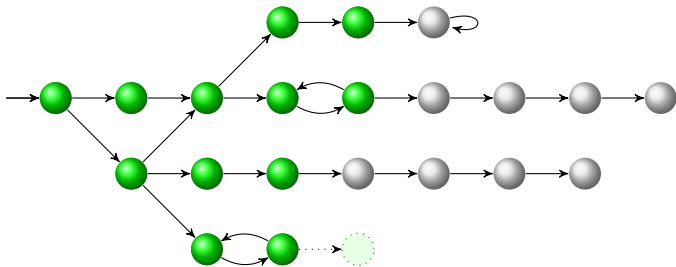
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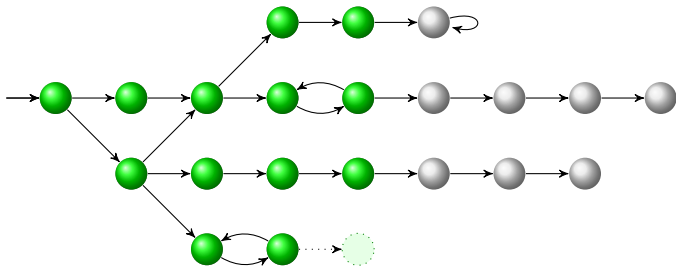
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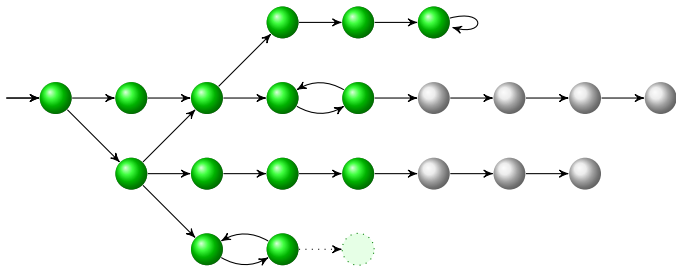
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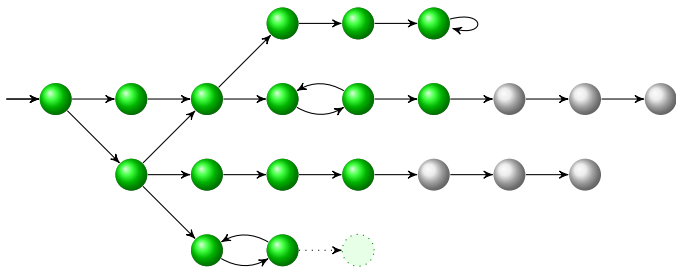
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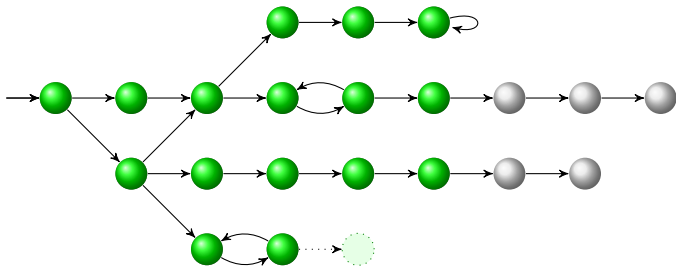
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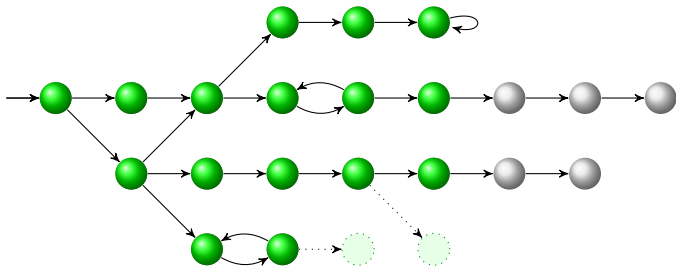
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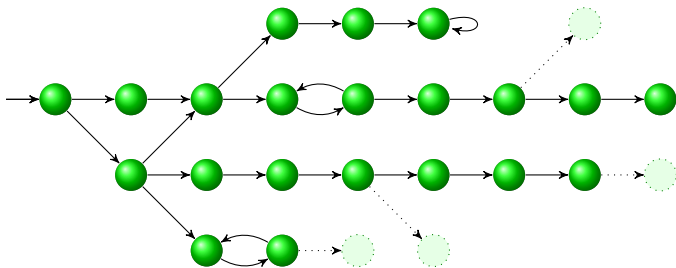
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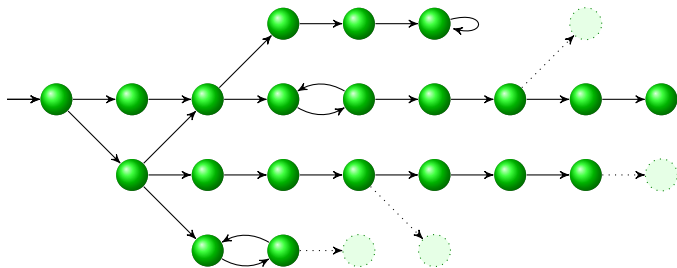
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When no successors, and if l_{bad} was never met:

- return $\neg \text{dashed} \wedge \dots \wedge \neg \text{dashed}$
- Ensures a subset of the behaviors of $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$, and hence **guarantees the unreachability of l_{bad}**

PRP: Case 1 (Remark)

Questions

How do we know the possible behaviors of $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$?

How do we know that a symbolic state of \mathcal{A} corresponds to a behavior of $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$?

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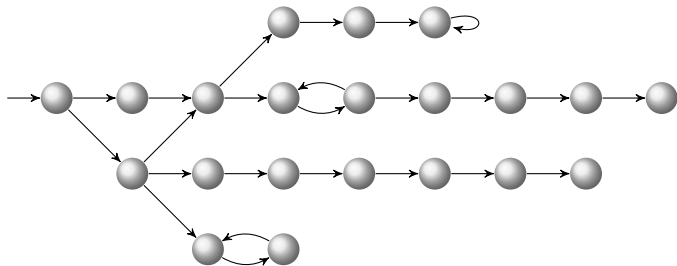
Trick

A symbolic state (l, C) corresponds to a behavior of $\mathcal{A}[\pi]$ iff $\pi \models C$.

PRP: Case 2

When l_{bad} is met, switch to an **EFsynth**-like algorithm...

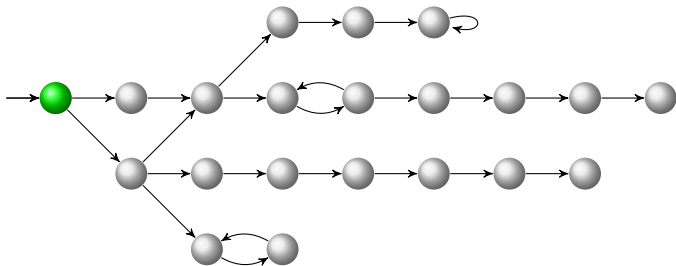
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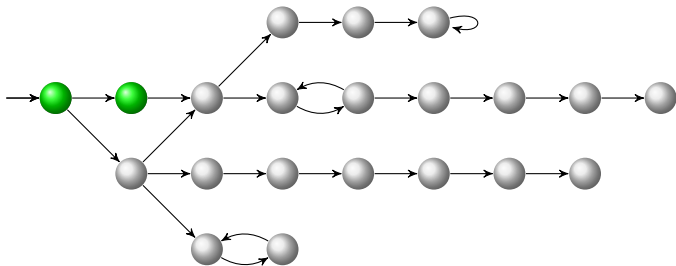
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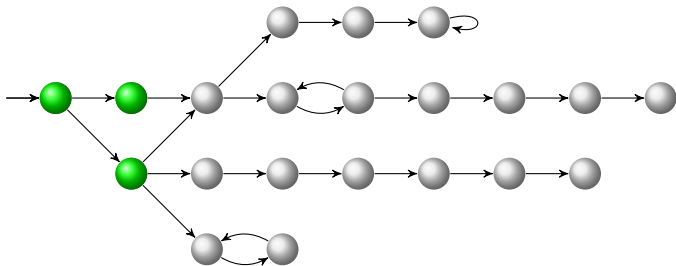
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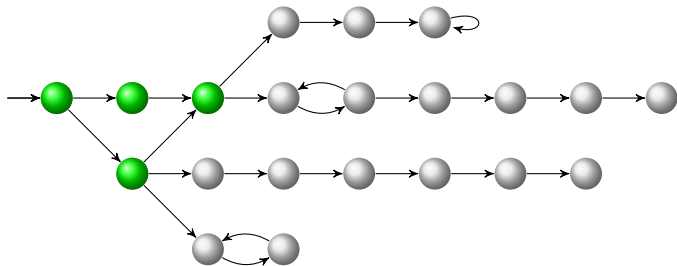
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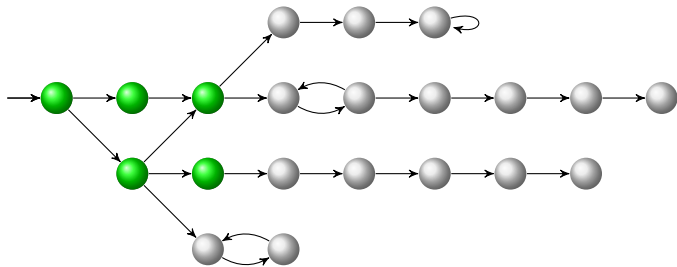
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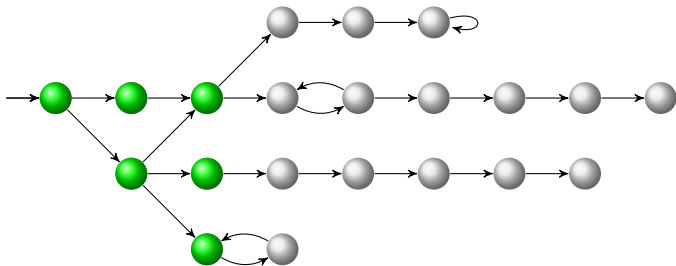
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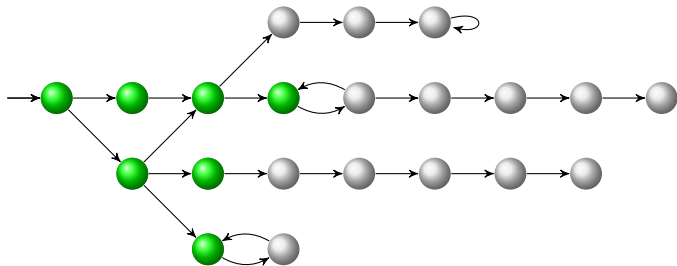
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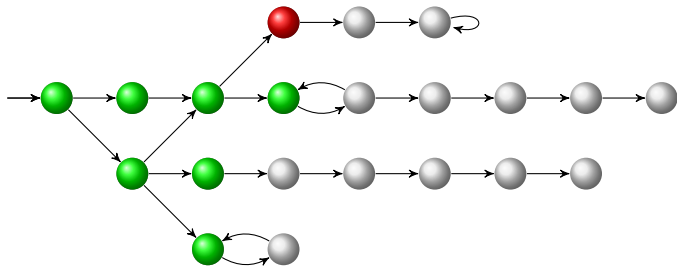
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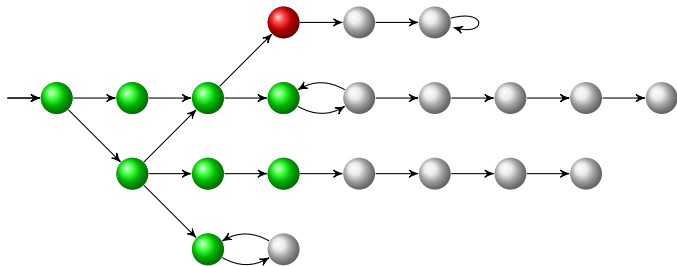
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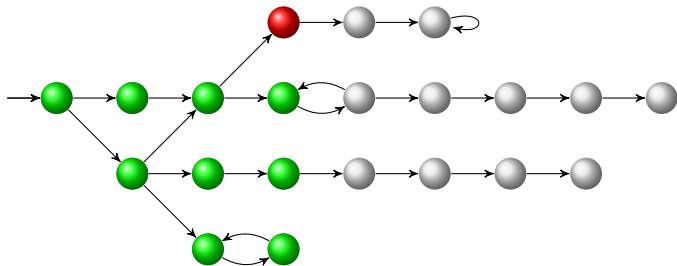
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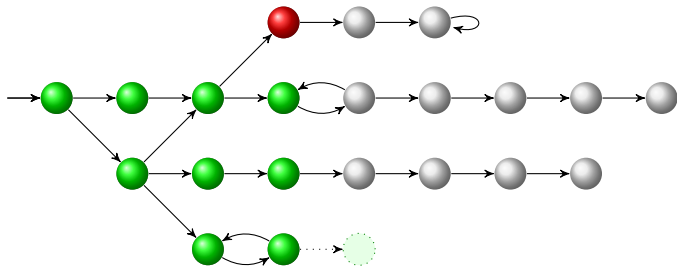
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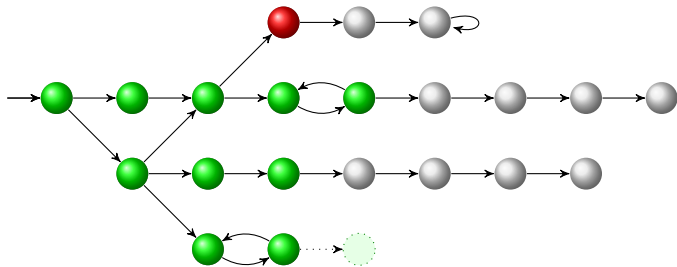
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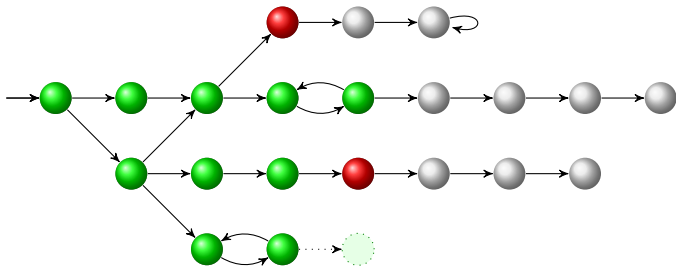
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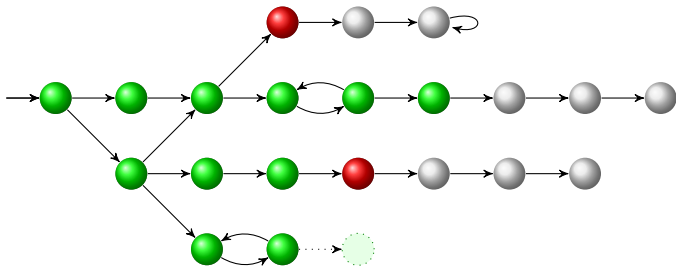
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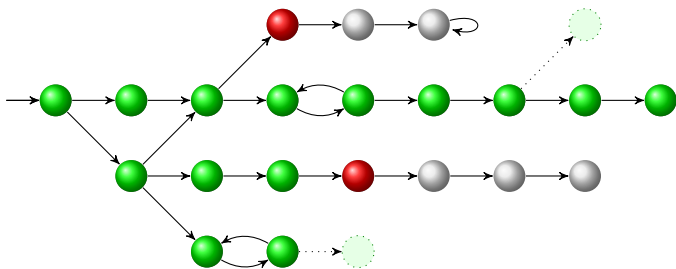
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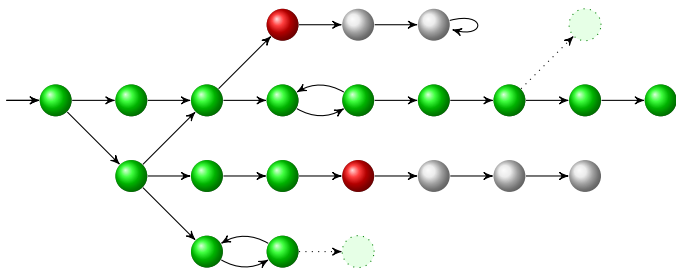
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When no successors, and if l_{bad} was met:

- return $\bullet \vee \dots \vee \bullet$
- Guarantees the reachability of l_{bad}

PRP: Early termination

Recall that PREACH-emptiness is undecidable
Hence PRP may not terminate.

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Hence PRP may not terminate.

Proposition (Early termination)

*If $\text{PRP}(\mathcal{A}, \pi)$ does not terminate and is interrupted (e.g., after a timeout), the result is still a valid under-approximation **provided** \perp_{bad} has been reached.*

This is also true for EFsynth (in any case)

Outline

- 1 Parametric Timed Automata
- 2 Reachability Preservation using PRP
- 3 EF-Synthesis Using PRPC**
- 4 Experiments
- 5 Conclusion and Perspectives

Perform EF-synthesis using PRP

Input: parameter bounded domain V

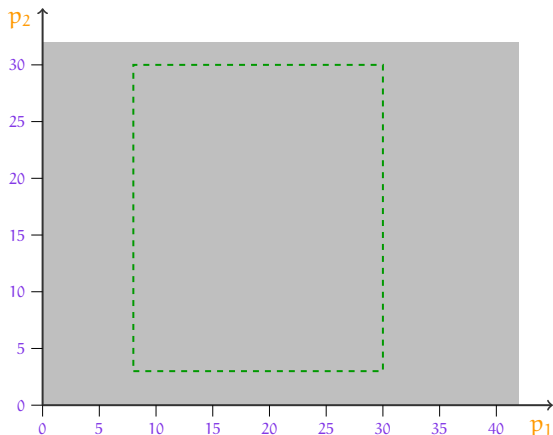
Output: constraints on the parameter such that l_{bad} is / is not reachable in \mathcal{A}

- The idea: reuse the “behavioral cartography” of parametric timed automata [André and Fribourg, 2010]
- Iterate on integer points, and call PRP on each point not covered by a constraint
 - If no termination: **break**, and keep result if possible (i.e., if l_{bad} is reachable in this analysis)

PRPC: Reusing the Behavioral Cartography

Partition the domain V into constraints where the reachability of l_{bad} is uniform

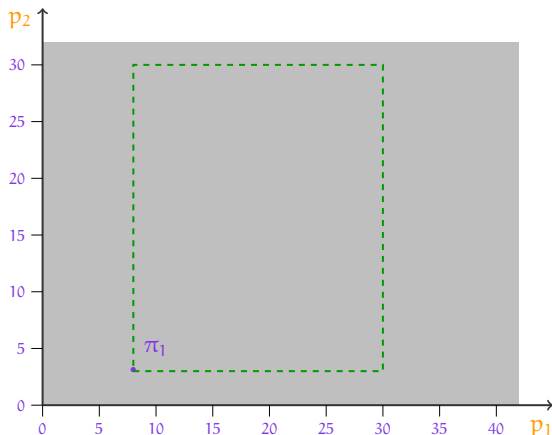
Method: done by calling PRP on **integer points** (parameter valuations) sequentially



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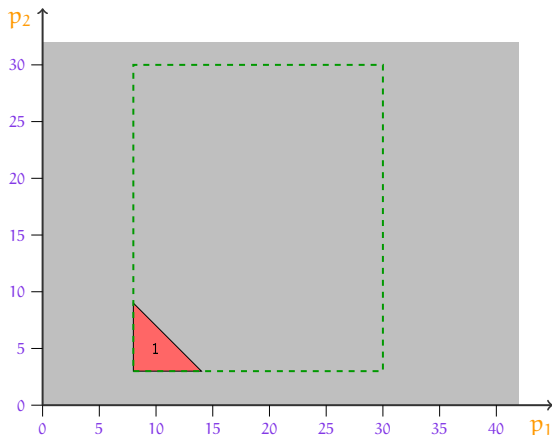
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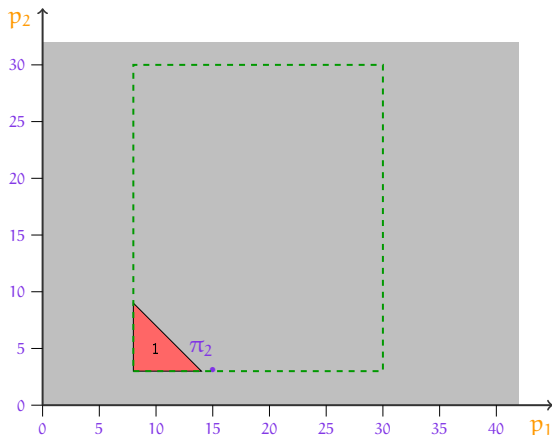
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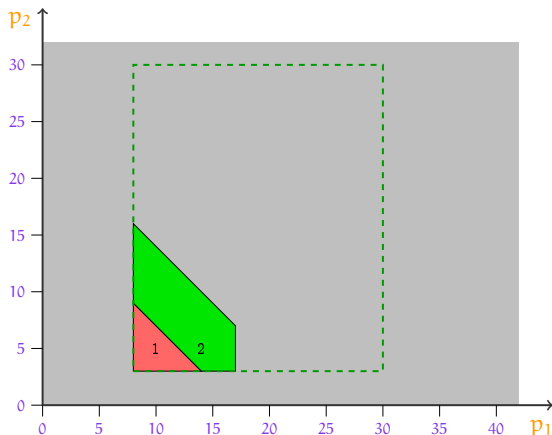
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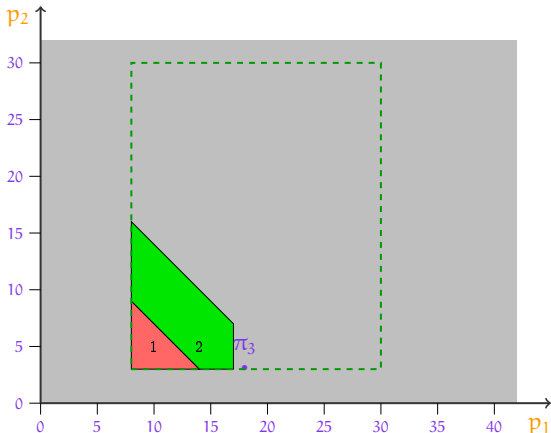
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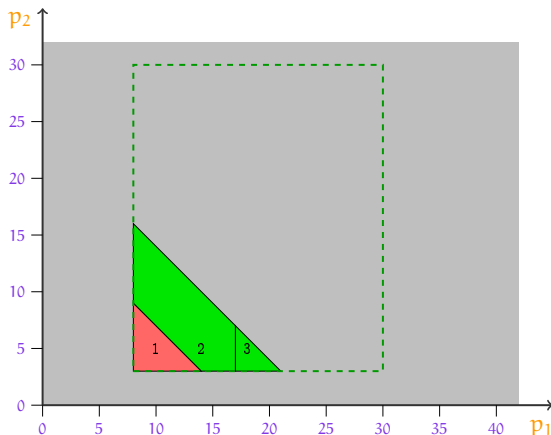
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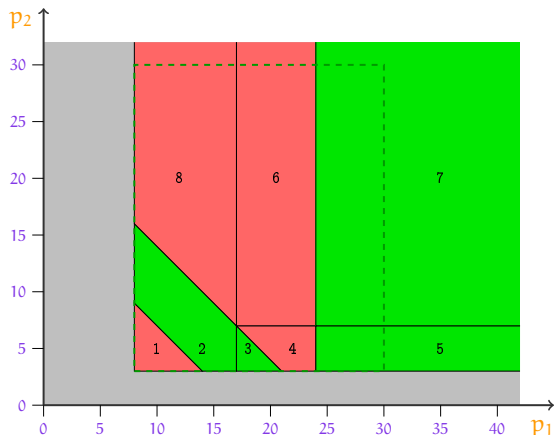
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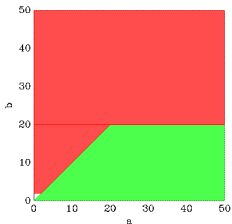
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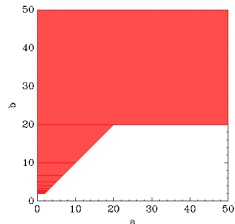
Result: “interval” under-approximation

- PRPC synthesizes:
 - An under-approximation of the bad constraints (reaching l_{bad})
 - An under-approximation of the good constraints (avoiding l_{bad})
- EFSynth synthesizes:
 - An under-approximation of the bad constraints

⇒ The result of PRPC is more valuable than EFSynth, at least when EFSynth does not terminate and is interrupted



PRPC



EFSynth

Towards Distributed Parameter Synthesis

Idea

Calling sequentially PRP on various integer points in a bounded parameter domain looks like something that can be easily distributed.

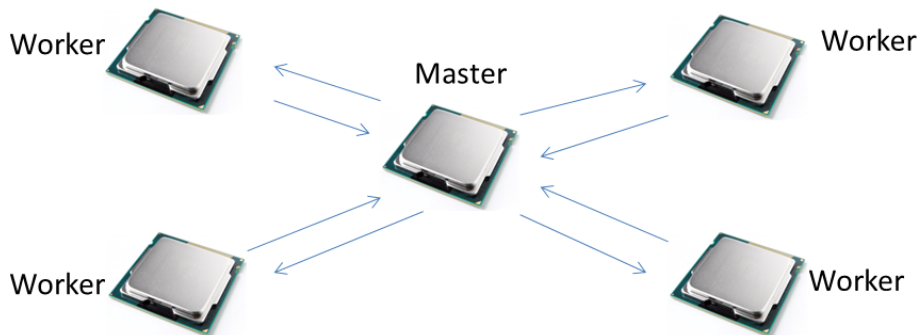
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Calling sequentially PRP on various integer points in a bounded parameter domain looks like something that can be easily distributed.

Reuse the distributed algorithms to compute the behavioral cartography of parametric timed automata [A., Coti, Evangelista, 2014]

Master Worker Scheme



Master-Worker distribution scheme:

- **Workers:** ask the master for a point, calls PRP on that point, and send the result (constraint) to the master
- **Master:** is responsible for smart repartition of data between the workers
 - (Note: not trivial at all)

Dynamic Decomposition of BC

Most efficient distributed algorithm for BC (so far!):

“Domain decomposition” scheme

[work in progress]

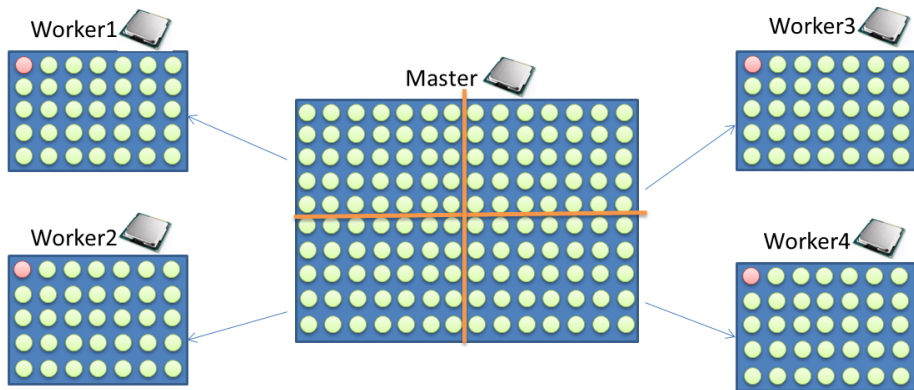
■ Master

- 1 initially splits the parameter domain into **subdomains** and send them to the workers
- 2 when a worker has completed its subdomain, the master splits another subdomain, and sends it to the idle worker

■ Workers

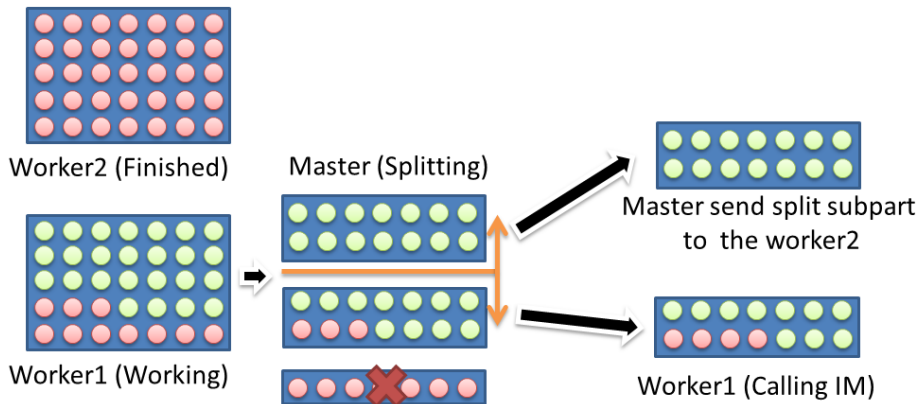
- 1 receives the subdomain from the master
- 2 calls **PRP** on the points of this subdomain
- 3 sends the results (list of constraints) back to the master
- 4 asks for more work

Domain Decomposition: Initial Splitting



- Prevent to choose close points
- Prevent bottleneck phenomenon at the master side
 - Master only responsible for gathering constraints and splitting subdomains

Domain Decomposition: Dynamic Splitting



- Master can **balance workload** between workers

Outline

- 1 Parametric Timed Automata
- 2 Reachability Preservation using PRP
- 3 EF-Synthesis Using PRPC
- 4 Experiments**
- 5 Conclusion and Perspectives

Implementation in IMITATOR

- IMITATOR [A., Fribourg, Kühne, Soulat, 2012]
 - 26,000 lines of OCaml code
 - Development started in 2009... in Hilton Pasadena!
 - Relies on the PPL library for operations on polyhedra [Bagnara et al., 2008]
 - Available under the GNU-GPL license
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<http://www.imitator.fr/>

PRPC: experiments

Case study	X	V	EFsynth	BC	PRPC	PRPC distr(12)
\mathcal{A}_1	2	2,601	0.401*	TO	0.078*	0.050*
Sched1	13	6,561	TO	TO	1,595	219
Sched2.50.0	6	3,321	9.25	990	14.55	4.77
Sched2.50.2	6	3,321	662	TO	213	84
Sched2.100.0	6	972,971	21.4	2,093	116	10.1
Sched2.100.2	6	972,971	3,757	TO	4,557	1,543
Sched5	21	1,681	352	TO	TO	917
SPSMALL	11	3,082	7.49	587	118	11.2

IMITATOR version: 2.6.2, build 845

* experiment run using `-depth-limit 10` (does not terminate in general)

Experiments available at <http://www.imitator.fr/static/NFM15/>

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Summary

PRP

- Given a parameter valuation π and a location l_{bad} , outputs a dense set of parameter valuations around π that preserve the (un)reachability of l_{bad}

PRPC

- Computes an under-approximated set of parameter valuations reaching / not reaching l_{bad}
- Can be distributed
- Often outperforms [EFsynth](#), especially when distributed

Perspectives






- Improvement: always return both good and bad constraints (for both [PRP](#) and [EFsynth](#))
- Combine with integer hull to ensure termination [[Jovanović et al., 2014](#)]
 - At least for integer valuations
- Combine with multi-core techniques [[Laarman et al., 2013](#)]
- Verify the communication scheme in the distributed IMITATOR for an arbitrary number of nodes
 - Using parametric verification techniques?

Perspectives

- Improvement: always return both good and bad constraints (for both [PRP](#) and [EFsynth](#))
- Combine with integer hull to ensure termination [[Jovanović et al., 2014](#)]
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- Combine with multi-core techniques [[Laarman et al., 2013](#)]
- Verify the communication scheme in the distributed IMITATOR for an arbitrary number of nodes
 - Using parametric verification techniques?
- Extend to compositional verification

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Additional explanation

PRP: The Algorithm

Algorithm 1: PRP(\mathcal{A}, π)

input : PTA \mathcal{A} of initial state s_0 , parameter valuation π

output : Constraint over the parameters

```

1  $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  $S_{new} \leftarrow \{s_0\}$ ;  $Bad \leftarrow \text{false}$ ;  $K_{good} \leftarrow \top$ ;  $K_{bad} \leftarrow \perp$ ;  $i \leftarrow 0$ 
2 while true do
3   foreach  $\pi$ -incompatible state  $(l, C)$  in  $S_{new}$  do
4      $S_{new} \leftarrow S_{new} \setminus \{(l, C)\}$ 
5     if  $Bad = \text{false}$  then
6       Select a  $\pi$ -incompatible inequality  $J$  in  $C \downarrow_P$  (i.e., s.t.  $\pi \not\models J$ )
7        $K_{good} \leftarrow K_{good} \wedge \neg J$ 
8   foreach bad state  $(l_{bad}, C)$  in  $S_{new}$  do
9      $Bad \leftarrow \text{true}$ ;  $K_{bad} \leftarrow K_{bad} \vee C \downarrow_P$ ;  $S_{new} \leftarrow S_{new} \setminus \{(l_{bad}, C)\}$ 
10  if  $S_{new} \subseteq S$  then
11    if  $Bad = \text{true}$  then return  $K_{bad}$  else return  $K_{good}$ ;
12   $S \leftarrow S \cup S_{new}$ ;  $S_{new} \leftarrow \text{Succ}(S_{new})$ ;  $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 

```

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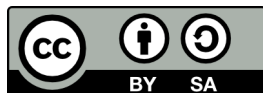
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