

CS:4350 Logic in Computer Science

Model Checking

Cesare Tinelli

Spring 2021



Credits

These slides are largely based on slides originally developed by **Andrei Voronkov** at the University of Manchester. Adapted by permission.

Outline

Model Checking

- Model Checking Problem

- Safety Properties and Reachability

- Symbolic Reachability Checking

Putting it All Together

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- express the desired properties of the system in temporal logic

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What is missing?

The Model Checking Problem

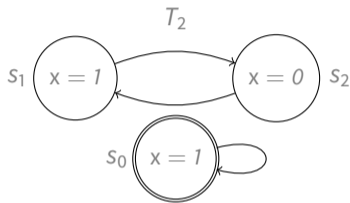
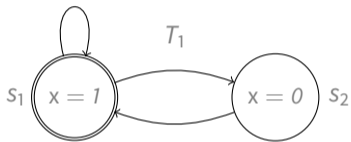
Given

1. a **symbolic representation** of a transition system
2. a **temporal formula** F

check if every (some) execution of the system satisfies this formula,
preferably **fully automatically**

Symbolic Representation and Transition Systems

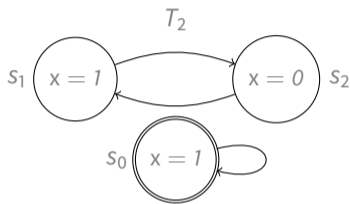
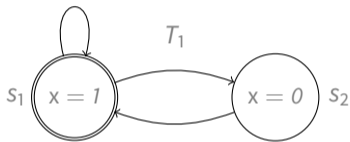
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T_1 and T_2 have the **same symbolic representation** but satisfy **different LTL formulas** (e.g., $\diamond \neg x$)

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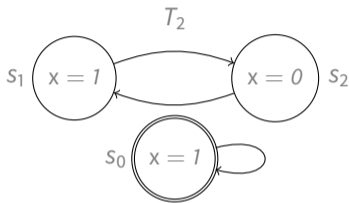
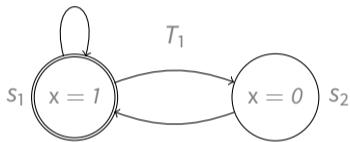


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This happens only if one of the transition systems has **two states with the same labelling function** (e.g., s_0 and s_1 in T_2)

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Such symbolic representations are **inadequate**: one cannot distinguish two different states by a state formula

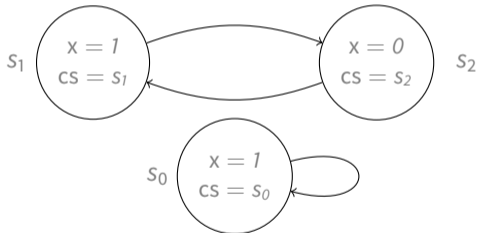
Making an Adequate Representation

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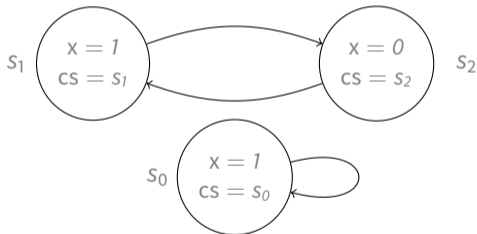
Example: One can add a **current state** variable cs with a unique value for each state



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We will assume that different states always have different labelings

Reachability and Safety Properties

Reachability property: expressed by a formula for the form

$$\diamond F$$

where F is a propositional formula¹

¹Could be a PLFD. Restriction to PL is for simplicity.

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Most common problems arising in model checking. They are dual to each other:

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Cannot reach an unsafe state iff all reachable states are safe

¹Could be a PLFD. Restriction to PL is for simplicity.

Reachability

Fix a transition system \mathbb{S} with transition relation T over states S

We write $s_0 \rightarrow s_1$ if $(s_0, s_1) \in T$, i.e., if there is a transition from state s_0 to state s_1

Let $s \in S$

- s is *reachable in n steps from a state $s_0 \in S$* if there exist states $s_1, \dots, s_n \in S$ such that $s_n = s$ and $s_0 \rightarrow s_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow s_n$
- $s \in S$ is *reachable from a state $s_0 \in S$* if s is reachable from s_0 in $n \geq 0$ steps
- $s \in S$ is *reachable in \mathbb{S}* if s is reachable from some initial state of \mathbb{S}

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Reachability Properties and Graph Reachability

Theorem 1

A reachability property $\diamond F$ holds on some computation path iff $s \models F$ for some reachable state s .

Reformulation of Reachability

Given

1. An *initial condition* I denoting the set of *initial states* of a transition system \mathbb{S}
2. A *final condition* F denoting a set of *final states*
3. A *transition formula* Tr denoting the transition relation of \mathbb{S}

is any final state reachable from an initial state?

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Note: this reformulation **does not use temporal logic**

Symbolic Reachability Checking

Main Idea: build a symbolic representation of the set of reachable states

Two main kinds of algorithm:

- forward reachability
- backward reachability

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Reachability as a Decision Problem

Let $\mathbf{x} = x_1, \dots, x_n$ be state variables

Given

1. a formula $I(\mathbf{x})$, the *initial condition*
2. a formula $F(\mathbf{x})$, the *final condition*
3. formula $T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$, the *transition formula*

is there a sequence of states s_0, \dots, s_n such that

1. $s_0 \models I(\mathbf{x})$
2. $(s_{i-1}, s_i) \models T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ for all $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$
3. $s_n \models F(\mathbf{x})$

Note that in this case s_n is reachable from s_0 in n steps

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Idea of Reachability-Checking Algorithms

Note: If a final state is reachable from an initial state, it is reachable (from an initial state) **in some number n of steps**

Approach: For given number $n \geq 0$, find a formula denoting the set of states reachable in n steps

If this formula is not satisfied in a final state, increase n and start again

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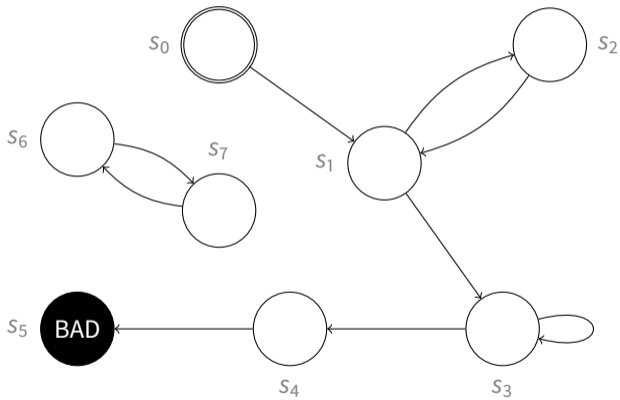
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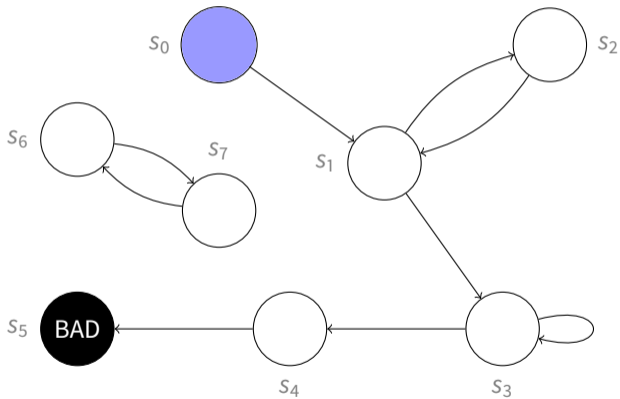
When does this process **terminate?**

Reachability in n steps



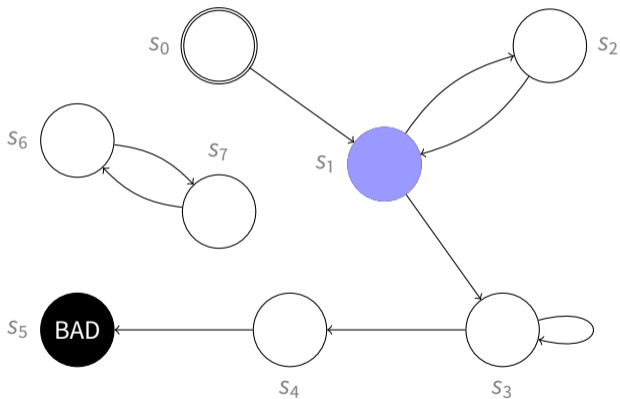
Reachability in n steps

Number of steps: 0



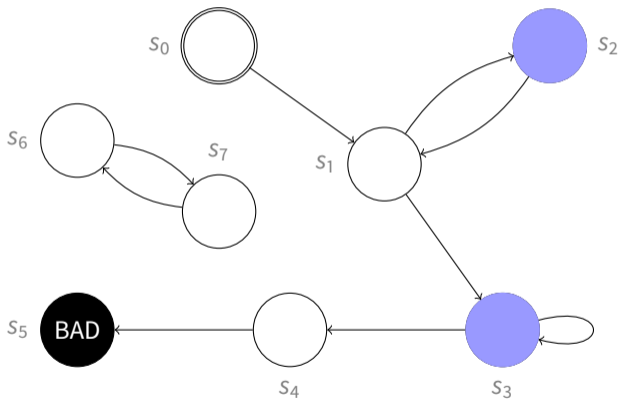
Reachability in n steps

Number of steps: 1



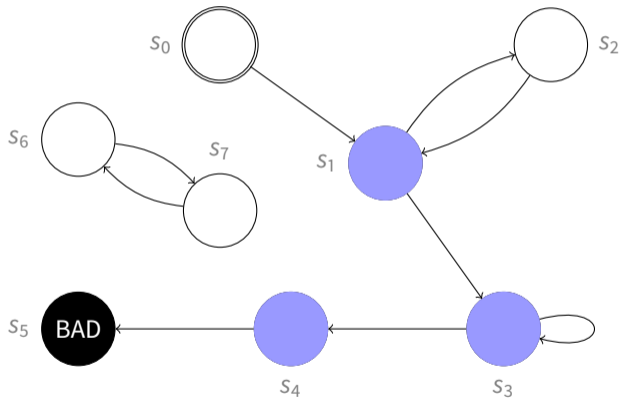
Reachability in n steps

Number of steps: 2



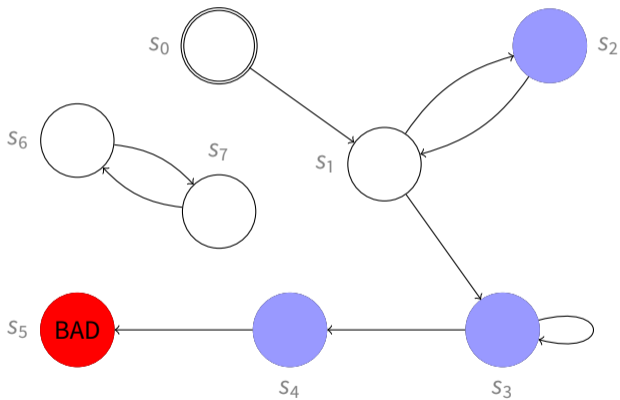
Reachability in n steps

Number of steps: 3



Reachability in n steps

Number of steps: 4



Simple Logical Analysis

Notation If $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ is a tuple of variables, $\exists \mathbf{z}F$ abbreviates $\exists z_1 \dots \exists z_n F$

Lemma 2

Let $C(\mathbf{x})$ symbolically represent a set of states S_C . The formula

$$FR(\mathbf{x}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists \mathbf{z}(C(\mathbf{z}) \wedge T(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}))$$

represents the set of states reachable from S_C in one step.

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Each formula R_n defined inductive as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_0(\mathbf{x}) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} I(\mathbf{x}) \\ R_{n+1}(\mathbf{x}) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists \mathbf{z}(R_n(\mathbf{z}) \wedge T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})) \end{aligned}$$

denotes the set of states **reachable in n steps**

Simple Forward Reachability Algorithm

procedure *FReach*(I, T, F)

input: formulas I, T, F

output: “yes” or no output

begin

$i := 0$

$R := I(x_0)$

loop

if $R \wedge F(x_i)$ is satisfiable **then return** “yes”

$R := R \wedge T(x_i, x_{i+1})$

$i := i + 1$

end loop

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How do we check the satisfiability of $R \wedge F(x_i)$?

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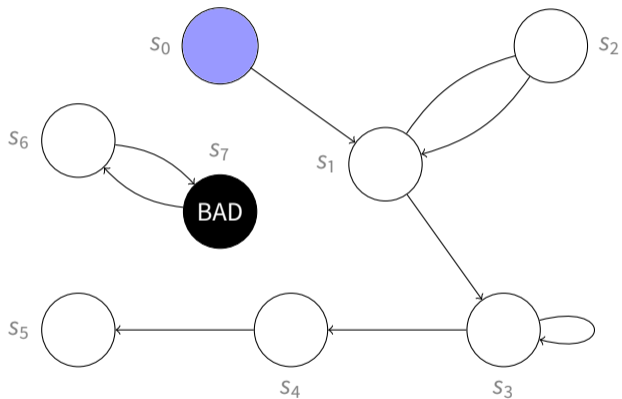
end loop

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How do we check the satisfiability of $R \wedge F(x_i)$? **Using SAT solvers!**

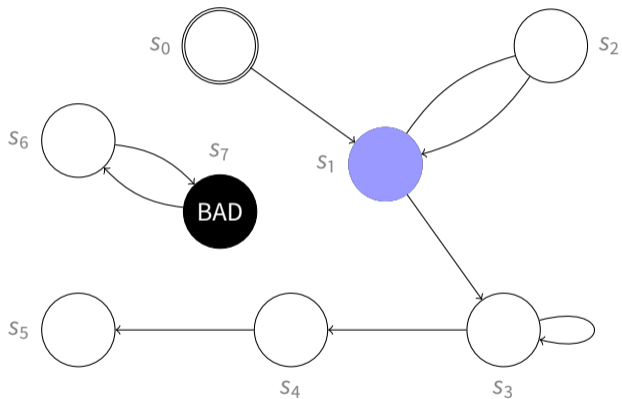
Termination

Number of steps: 0



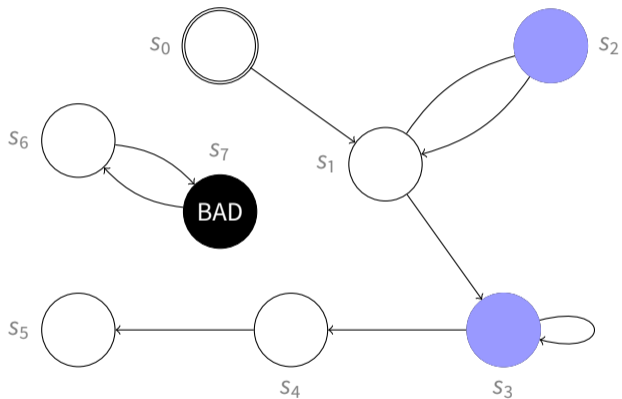
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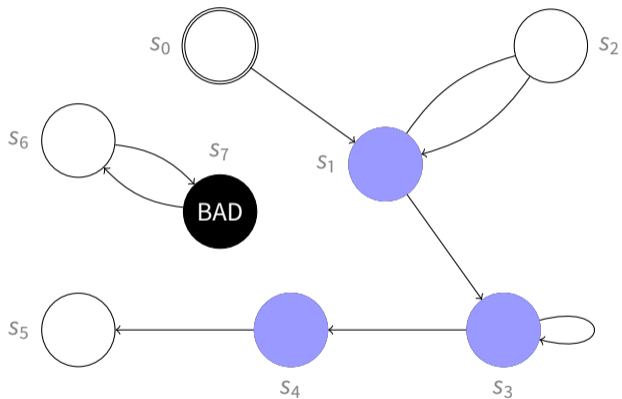
Termination

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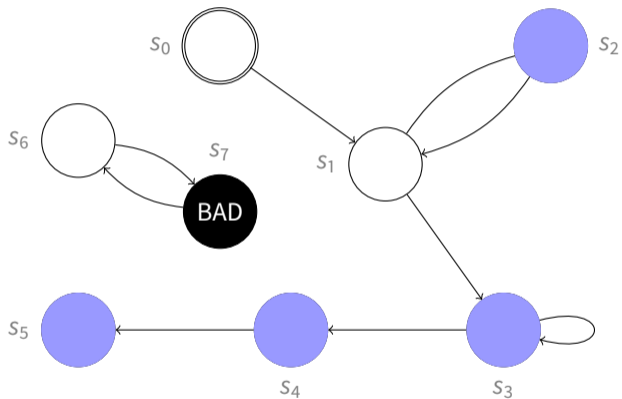
Termination

Number of steps: 3



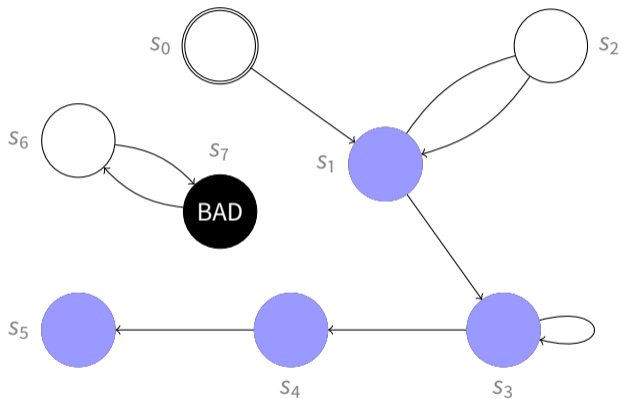
Termination

Number of steps: 4



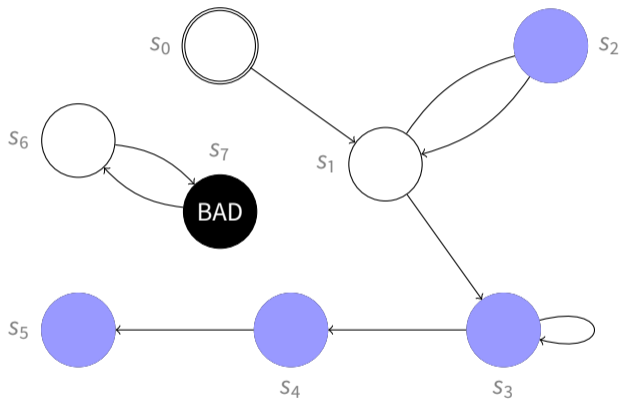
Termination

Number of steps: 5



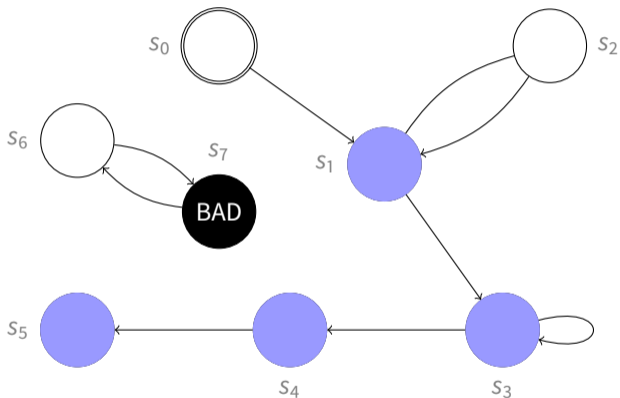
Termination

Number of steps: 6



Termination

Number of steps: 7



When no final state is reachable, the algorithm does not terminate!

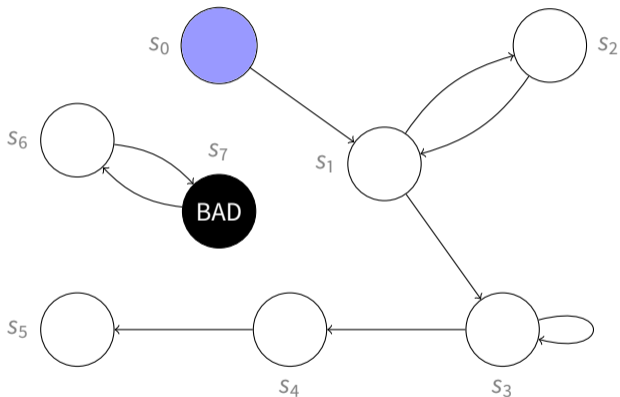
Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Define a sequence of formulas $R_{\leq n}$ for **reachability in at most n states**:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\leq 0}(\mathbf{x}) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} I(\mathbf{x}) \\ R_{\leq n+1}(\mathbf{x}) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} R_{\leq n}(\mathbf{x}) \vee \exists \mathbf{z}(R_{\leq n}(\mathbf{z}) \wedge T(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x})) \end{aligned}$$

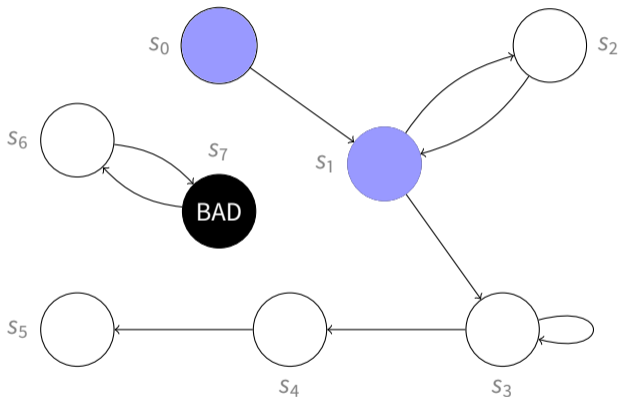
Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Number of steps: 0



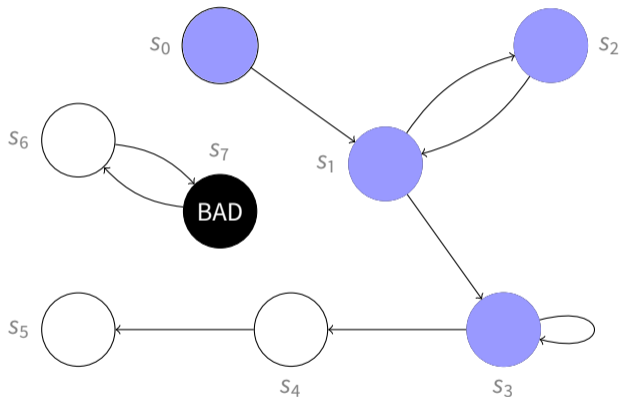
Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Number of steps: 1



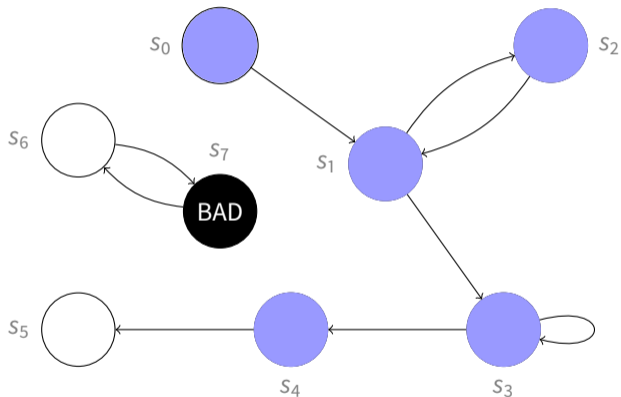
Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Number of steps: 2



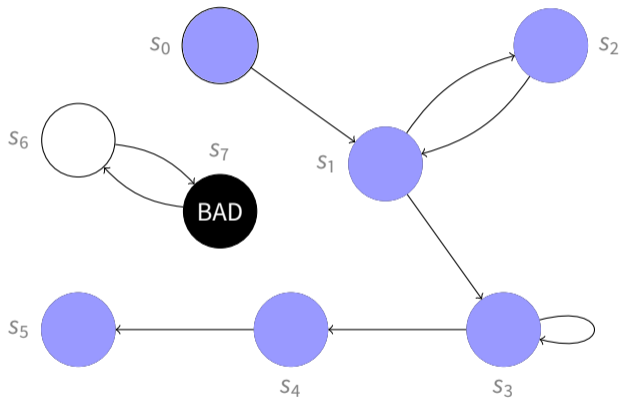
Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Number of steps: 3



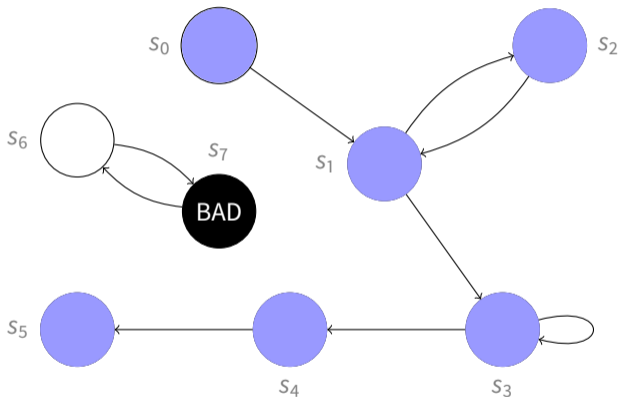
Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

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Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Number of steps: 5



Full set of reachable states has been determined

Termination

Let S_n the set of states reachable in $\leq n$ steps

Key properties for termination:

1. $S_i \subseteq S_{i+1}$ for all i
2. the state space is finite

Consequences:

- there is k such that $S_k = S_{k+1}$
- for such k we have $R_{\leq k}(x) \equiv R_{\leq k+1}(x)$

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Forward Reachability Algorithm

procedure $FReach(I, T, F)$

input: formulas I, T, F

output: “yes” or “no”

begin

$R(x) := I(x)$

loop

if $R(x) \wedge F(x)$ is satisfiable **then return** “yes”

$R'(x) := R(x) \vee \exists z(R(z) \wedge T(z, x))$

if $R(x) \equiv R'(x)$ **then return** “no”

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Conjunction and disjunction

Quantification

Satisfiability checking

Equivalence checking

Forward Reachability Algorithm

procedure $FReach(I, T, F)$

input: formulas I, T, F

output: “yes” or “no”

begin

$R(x) := I(x)$

loop

if $R(x) \wedge F(x)$ is satisfiable **then return** “yes”

$R'(x) := R(x) \vee \exists z(R(z) \wedge T(z, x))$

if $R(x) \equiv R'(x)$ **then return** “no”

$R(x) := R'(x)$

end loop

end

Implementation?

Use OBDDs and OBDD algorithms

Conjunction and disjunction

Quantification

Satisfiability checking

Equivalence checking

Main Issues with Forward Reachability Algorithms

Forward reachability behaves in the same way, **independently** of the set of final states

In other words, they are **not goal oriented**

Backward Reachability

Idea:

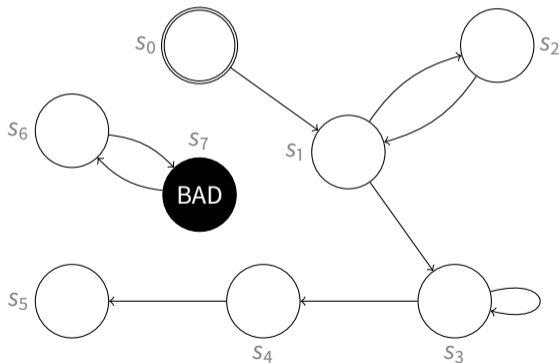
- instead of going forward in the state transition graph, go **backward**
- **swap initial and final states** and **invert the transition relation**

Backward Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Idea:

- instead of going forward in the state transition graph, go **backward**
- **swap initial and final states** and **invert the transition relation**

Number of backward steps: 0

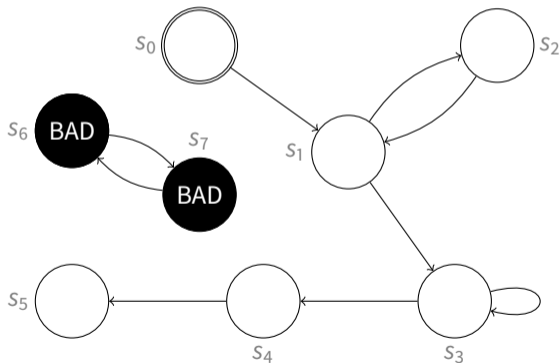


Backward Reachability in $\leq n$ steps

Idea:

- instead of going forward in the state transition graph, go **backward**
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Number of backward steps: 1

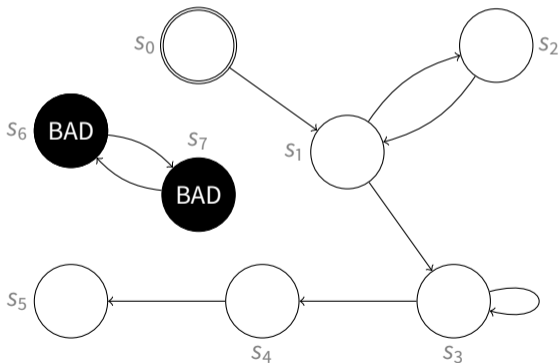


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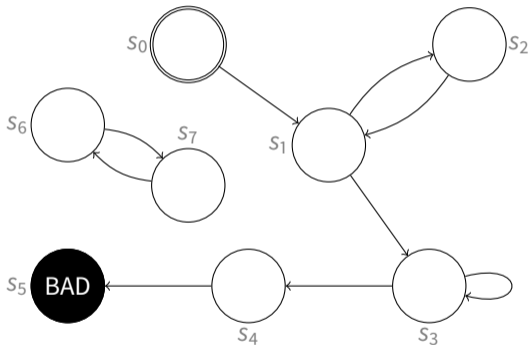
Number of backward steps: 1



Bad states unreachable!

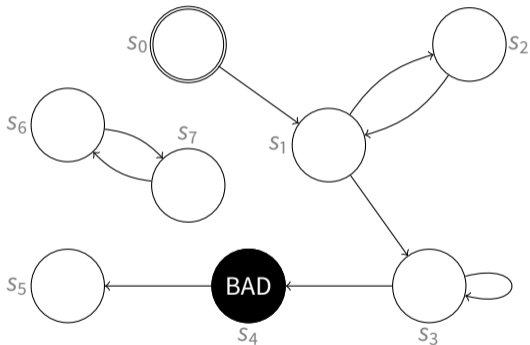
Backward Reachability in n steps

Number of backward steps: 0



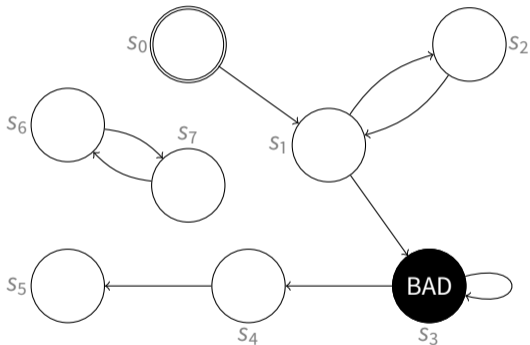
Backward Reachability in n steps

Number of backward steps: 1



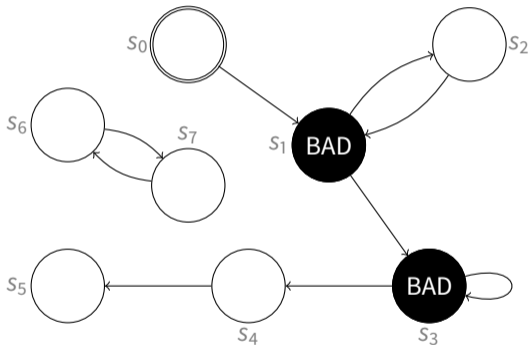
Backward Reachability in n steps

Number of backward steps: 2



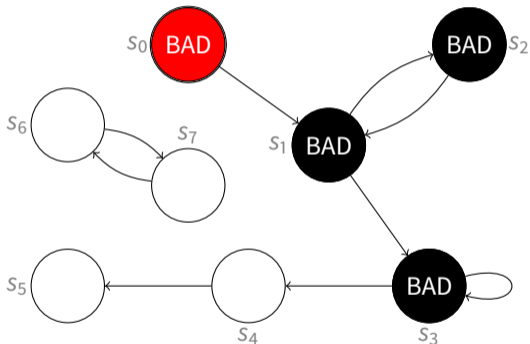
Backward Reachability in n steps

Number of backward steps: 3



Backward Reachability in n steps

Number of backward steps: 4



Bad states reachable!

Backward Reachability

S_0 is *backward reachable from F in n steps* if F is reachable from S_0 in n steps

Backward Reachability

S_0 is *backward reachable from F in n steps* if F is reachable from S_0 in n steps

Lemma 3

Let $C(\mathbf{x})$ symbolically represent a set of states S_C . The formula

$$BR(\mathbf{x}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists \mathbf{z}(T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) \wedge C(\mathbf{z}))$$

denotes the set of states backward reachable from S_C in *one step*.

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Same as the forward reachability algorithms, but

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Extensions of Model Checking

- There are model-checking algorithms for properties **other than reachability**
- there is a general model-checking algorithm for arbitrary LTL properties
- there are extensions of model-checking techniques for infinite-state systems

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- there are **extensions** of model-checking techniques for **infinite-state** systems
- they will **not** be considered in this course