

# NSWI101: SYSTEM BEHAVIOUR MODELS AND VERIFICATION

## 4. COMPUTATIONAL TREE LOGIC

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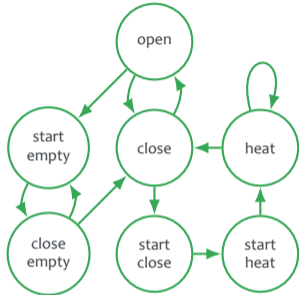
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Department of  
Distributed and  
Dependable  
Systems



- Computational Tree Logic (CTL)
- CTL model checking
- Comparison of CTL and LTL

# MODEL CHECKING



System model

**AG (start → AF heat)**

Property specification



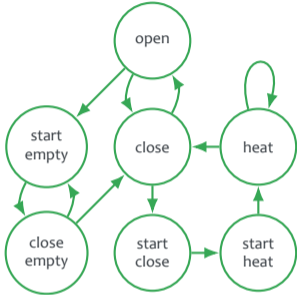
Model Checker



Property satisfied

Property violated

# MODEL CHECKING



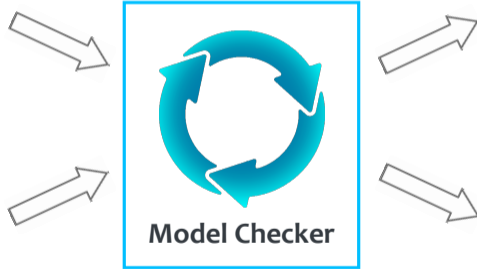
System model

**CTL**

**AG (start → AF heat)**

Property specification

## Model Checking



Property satisfied

Property violated

Another temporal logic, differing from LTL in expressive power  
*Computational tree* refers to ability to properties of computational subtrees  
(branching)

- as opposed to LTL that considers particular paths in isolation

The semantic model similar to LTL – also defined upon infinite paths of Kripke structure

## CTL SYNTAX

Let  $AP$  be set of atomic propositions (Boolean variables).

CTL formulae are finite expressions created by following rules:

- $\top, \perp, p \in AP$  are CTL formulae

If  $\varphi, \psi$  are CTL formulae, then the following are also CTL formulae:

- $AX \varphi$
- $AF \varphi$
- $AG \varphi$
- $A[\varphi U \psi]$
- $EX \varphi$
- $EF \varphi$
- $EG \varphi$
- $E[\varphi U \psi]$

Operators  $X, F, G, U$  have similar meaning as in LTL

Quantifiers  $A, E$  refer to paths – “all paths” vs. “exists path”

Let  $M = (S, R, L)$  be Kripke structure

- $\langle s \rightarrow t \rangle$  denotes transition from state  $s$  to state  $t$
- $\langle s_0 \longrightarrow \rangle$  denotes infinite path  $\langle s_0 \rightarrow s_1 \rightarrow s_2 \rightarrow \dots \rangle$  starting at state  $s_0$

## CTL SEMANTICS

$$(M, s \models \top) \wedge (M, s \not\models \perp)$$

$$(M, s \models p) \Leftrightarrow (p \in L(s))$$

$$(M, s \models \neg\varphi) \Leftrightarrow (M, s \not\models \varphi)$$

$$(M, s \models \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \Leftrightarrow ((M, s \models \varphi_1) \vee (M, s \models \varphi_2))$$

$$(M, s \models \text{AX } \varphi) \Leftrightarrow (\forall \langle s \rightarrow t \rangle (M, t \models \varphi))$$

$$(M, s \models \text{EX } \varphi) \Leftrightarrow (\exists \langle s \rightarrow t \rangle (M, t \models \varphi))$$

$$(M, s \models \text{AG } \varphi) \Leftrightarrow (\forall \langle s_0 \longrightarrow \rangle \forall i \geq 0 : M, s_i \models \varphi)$$

$$(M, s \models \text{EG } \varphi) \Leftrightarrow (\exists \langle s_0 \longrightarrow \rangle \forall i \geq 0 : M, s_i \models \varphi)$$

$$(M, s \models \text{AF } \varphi) \Leftrightarrow (\forall \langle s_0 \longrightarrow \rangle \exists i \geq 0 : M, s_i \models \varphi)$$

$$(M, s \models \text{EF } \varphi) \Leftrightarrow (\exists \langle s_0 \longrightarrow \rangle \exists i \geq 0 : M, s_i \models \varphi)$$

$$(M, s \models \text{A}[\varphi_1 \text{ U } \varphi_2]) \Leftrightarrow (\forall \langle s_0 \longrightarrow \rangle \exists i \geq 0 : (M, s_i \models \varphi_2) \wedge (\forall (j < i) (M, s_j) \models \varphi_1))$$

$$(M, s \models \text{E}[\varphi_1 \text{ U } \varphi_2]) \Leftrightarrow (\exists \langle s_0 \longrightarrow \rangle \exists i \geq 0 : (M, s_i \models \varphi_2) \wedge (\forall (j < i) (M, s_j) \models \varphi_1))$$

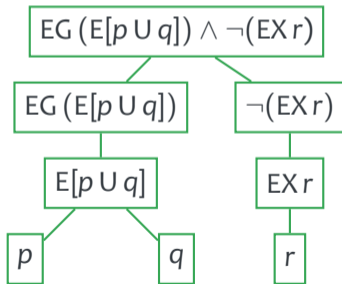


Based on identifying states of model satisfying sub-formulae of property formula:

1. Create derivation tree of property formula.
2. In bottom-up manner identify all states of model satisfying sub-formula associated with each node of derivation tree.

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CTL formula can be transformed to contain just  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ , EG, EX, and EU operators

Various algorithms for identification of states satisfying particular sub-formulae exist

- **explicit model checking** – explicit representation of each state in memory
- **symbolic model checking** – representing sets of states by Boolean formulae

Identification of states satisfying particular sub-formulae:

- operators  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ , and EX are trivial
- operators EG and EU require more complex algorithms

```
function CHECKEU( $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ )  
   $T := \{s : \varphi_2 \in \text{label}(s)\}$   
  for all  $s \in T$  do  
     $\text{label}(s) := \text{label}(s) \cup \{E[\varphi_1 \cup \varphi_2]\}$   
  end for  
  while  $T \neq \{\}$  do  
    choose  $s \in T$ ;  $T := T \setminus \{s\}$   
    for all  $t : R(t, s)$  do  
      if  $E[\varphi_1 \cup \varphi_2] \notin \text{label}(t) \wedge \varphi_1 \in \text{label}(t)$  then  
         $\text{label}(t) := \text{label}(t) \cup \{E[\varphi_1 \cup \varphi_2]\}$   
         $T := T \cup \{t\}$   
      end if  
    end for  
  end while  
end function
```

## EXPLICIT CTL MODEL CHECKING: EG OPERATOR

```
function CHECKEG( $\varphi_1$ )  
   $S' := \{s : \varphi_1 \in \text{label}(s)\}$   
   $\text{SCC} = \{C : C \text{ is non-trivial SCC of } S'\}$   
   $T := \bigcup_{C \in \text{SCC}} \{s : s \in C\}$   
  for all  $s \in T$  do  
     $\text{label}(s) := \text{label}(s) \cup \{\text{EG } \varphi_1\}$   
  end for  
  while  $T \neq \{\}$  do  
    choose  $s \in T$ ;  $T := T \setminus \{s\}$   
    for all  $t : t \in S' \wedge R(t, s)$  do  
      if  $\text{EG } \varphi_1 \notin \text{label}(t)$  then  
         $\text{label}(t) := \text{label}(t) \cup \{\text{EG } \varphi_1\}$   
         $T := T \cup \{t\}$   
      end if  
    end for  
  end while  
end function
```

Computing states satisfying particular sub-formulae:

- CheckEU:  $O(|S| + |R|)$
- CheckEG:  $O(|S| + |R|)$ 
  - Finding strongly connected components using Tarjan algorithm:  $O(|S'| + |R'|)$
- EX:  $O(|S| + |R|)$
- negation and conjunction:  $O(|S|)$
- $\varphi$  contains at most  $|\varphi|$  different sub-formulae

**Total time complexity:**  $O(|\varphi| * (|S| + |R|))$

CTL and LTL are incomparable

- there are properties of one logic not expressible in the other one
- difference stems from their different semantics – while CTL captures sub-trees of computational tree, LTL considers each path in isolation
- both are useful, each in different settings

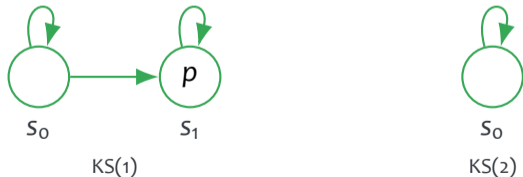


**Theorem:** There is no LTL formula equivalent to CTL formula  $AG (EF p)$ .

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**Proof:**

1. For contradiction assume there exists LTL formula  $\varphi$  equivalent to  $AG (EF p)$ .
2. State  $s_0$  of  $KS(1)$  satisfies  $AG (EF p)$ . Therefore,  $s_0$  satisfies  $\varphi$ .
3. Since  $\varphi$  is satisfied in  $s_0$ , path looping in  $s_0$  also satisfies it.
4. Therefore, state  $s_0$  of  $KS(2)$  also satisfies  $\varphi$ .
5. Since  $AG (EF p)$  and  $\varphi$  are equivalent, state  $s_0$  of  $KS(2)$  also satisfies  $AG (EF p)$ , which is contradiction.



**Theorem:** There is no CTL formula equivalent to LTL formula  $F(G p)$ .

- in particular it is not equivalent to  $AF(AG p)$

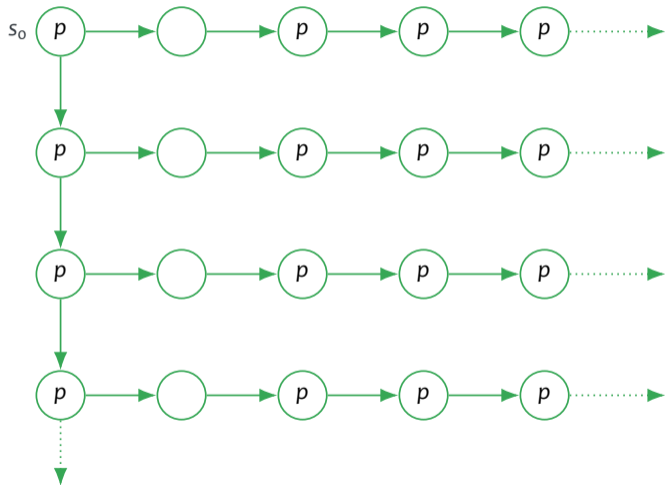
**Theorem:** There is no CTL formula equivalent to LTL formula  $F(G p)$ .

- in particular it is not equivalent to  $AF(AG p)$

**Proof:**

- Consider Kripke structure below whose state  $s_0$  satisfies  $F(G p)$ , but does not satisfy  $AF(AG p)$ .

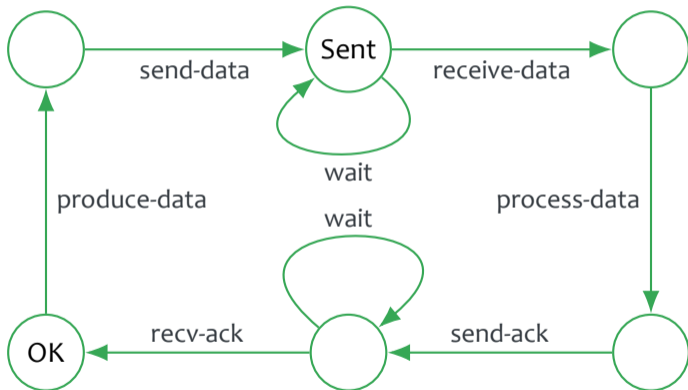




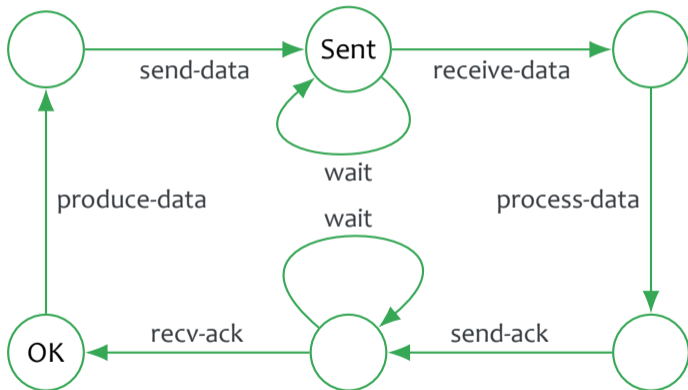
$M, s_0 \models F(Gp)$

$M, s_0 \not\models AF(AGp)$

Consider producer and consumer communicating over reliable network:



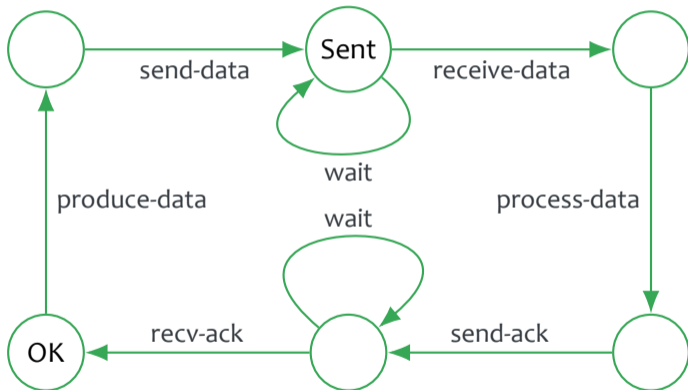
Consider producer and consumer communicating over reliable network:



Is this CTL formula satisfied in “OK” state?

$AG(Sent \implies AF(OK))$

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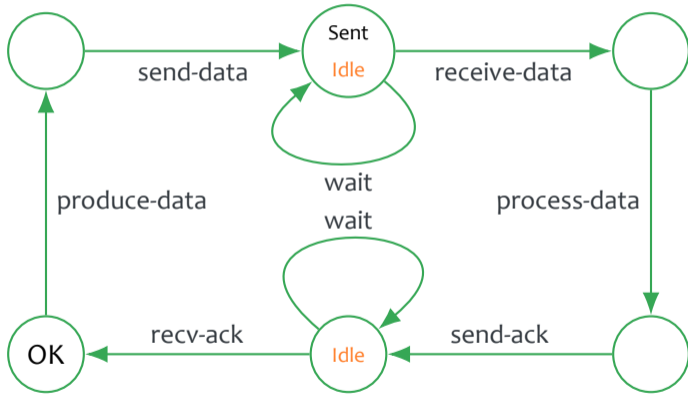
$AG (Sent \implies AF (OK))$

**No!** Paths infinitely looping in “waiting” states violate it.



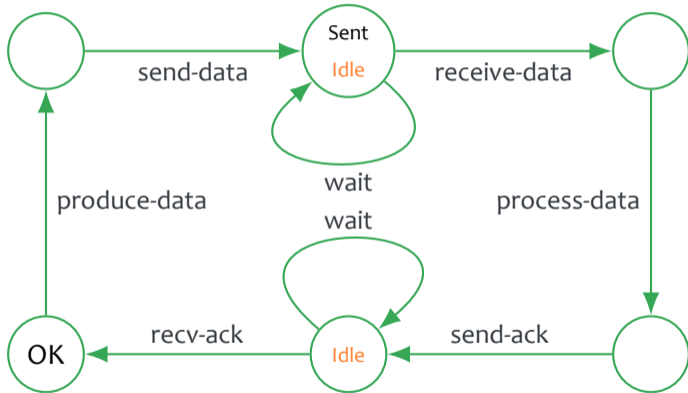
# FAIRNESS CONSTRAINTS

We can define *fairness constraint* to avoid this types of failures:



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Introducing new AP **Idle**

Specifying *fairness constraint* as  $\neg \text{Idle}$

When model checking,  
only *fair paths*  
considered – those  
containing infinitely  
many fair states.

# FAIRNESS CONSTRAINTS

Fair paths: introducing new atomic proposition *fair*:

- *fair* is true in state  $s \leftrightarrow$  there exists fair path starting in  $s$
- $M, s \models_F EG \text{ true}$
- Determining fair paths and deciding upon EG  $p$  formulae
  
- $M, s \models_F p \leftrightarrow M, s \models p \wedge \text{fair}$
- $M, s \models_F EX \varphi \leftrightarrow M, s \models EX (\varphi \wedge \text{fair})$
- $M, s \models_F E[\varphi U \psi] \leftrightarrow M, s \models E[\varphi U (\psi \wedge \text{fair})]$

Complexity of CTL and LTL explicit model checking differs a bit:

- CTL:  $O(|M| * |\varphi|)$
- LTL:  $O(|M| * 2^{|\varphi|})$

Both linear in size of model, LTL exponential in size of formula

- practically negligible difference as formula is usually much smaller than model