



IC3 Software Model Checking on Control Flow Automata

Tim Lange¹ Martin R. Neuhäuser² Thomas Noll¹

¹ Software Modeling and Verification Group, RWTH Aachen

² Siemens AG

FMCAD 2015 at Austin, TX, USA, September 29, 2015

Introduction

Outline

Introduction

Preliminaries

Original IC3

Related Work

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Conclusion

Introduction

Motivation

Lifting to software model checking

- IC3 had a deep impact in hardware model checking
- Showed much better performance than CEGAR and BMC
- Nowadays employed in most major hardware model checking tools

Challenges

- Domain in hardware model checking finite (bit-level)
- How to handle infinite state spaces?
- How to encode finite control flow?

Preliminaries

Outline

Introduction

Preliminaries

Original IC3

Related Work

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Conclusion

Control Flow Automaton (CFA)

A CFA $\mathcal{A} = (L, G, l_0, l_E)$ consists of a set of **locations** $L = \{0, \dots, n\}$ and edges in $G \subseteq L \times QFFO \times L$ labeled with **quantifier-free** first-order formulas, an **initial location** l_0 , and an **error location** l_E .

Transition formula

Given two locations $l_1, l_2 \in L$, we define the **transition formula**

$$T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_2} = \begin{cases} (pc = l_1) \wedge t \wedge (pc' = l_2) & , \text{ if } (l_1, t, l_2) \in G \\ false & , \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Relative Inductivity

[Bra11]

Given a transition formula $T = \bigvee_{(l_1, t, l_2) \in G} T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_2}$, a formula φ is **inductive relative** to another formula ψ if

$$\psi \wedge \varphi \wedge T \Rightarrow \varphi'$$

is valid.

Edge-Relative Inductivity

Given a CFA A and locations $l_1, l_2 \in L$, a formula φ is **inductive edge-relative** to another formula ψ if

$$\psi \wedge \varphi \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_2} \Rightarrow \varphi'$$

is valid.

[Bra11] Aaron R. Bradley. "SAT-Based Model Checking without Unrolling". In: VMCAI. 2011, pp. 70–87

A **region** $r = (l, s)$ is a pair consisting of location l and formula s . The set of corresponding formulas for r is given as $\{\varphi \mid \varphi \equiv (pc = l \wedge s)\}$. Similarly, for $\neg r$ corresponding formulas are defined as $\{\varphi \mid \varphi \equiv \neg(pc = l \wedge s)\}$.

Edge-Relative Inductive Regions

Assume two regions $r_1 = (l_1, s_1)$, $\neg r_2 = \neg(l_2, s_2)$, we can reduce edge-relative inductivity of $\neg r_2$ to r_1 to

$$\begin{aligned} s_1 \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_2} &\Rightarrow \neg s_2' && , \text{ if } l_1 \neq l_2 \\ s_1 \wedge \neg s_2 \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_2} &\Rightarrow \neg s_2' && , \text{ if } l_1 = l_2 \end{aligned}$$

[Hen+02] Thomas A. Henzinger et al. "Lazy abstraction". In: POPL. 2002, pp. 58–70

Original IC3

Outline

Introduction

Preliminaries

Original IC3

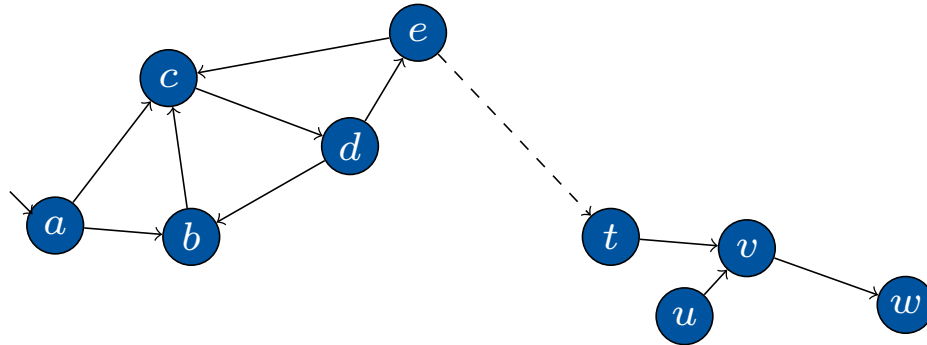
Related Work

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Conclusion

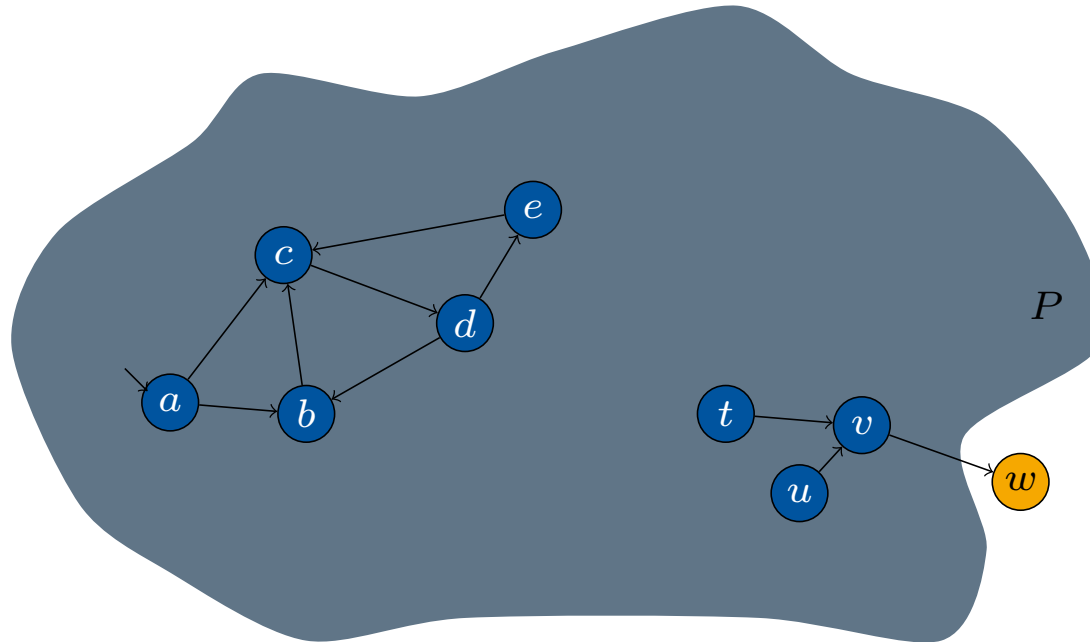
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$



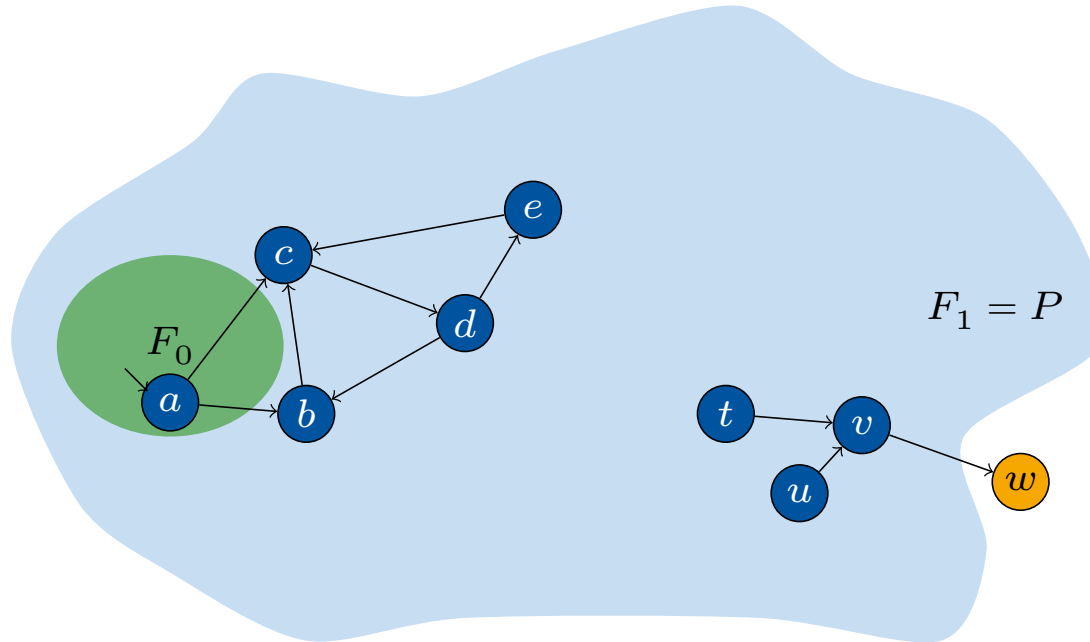
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



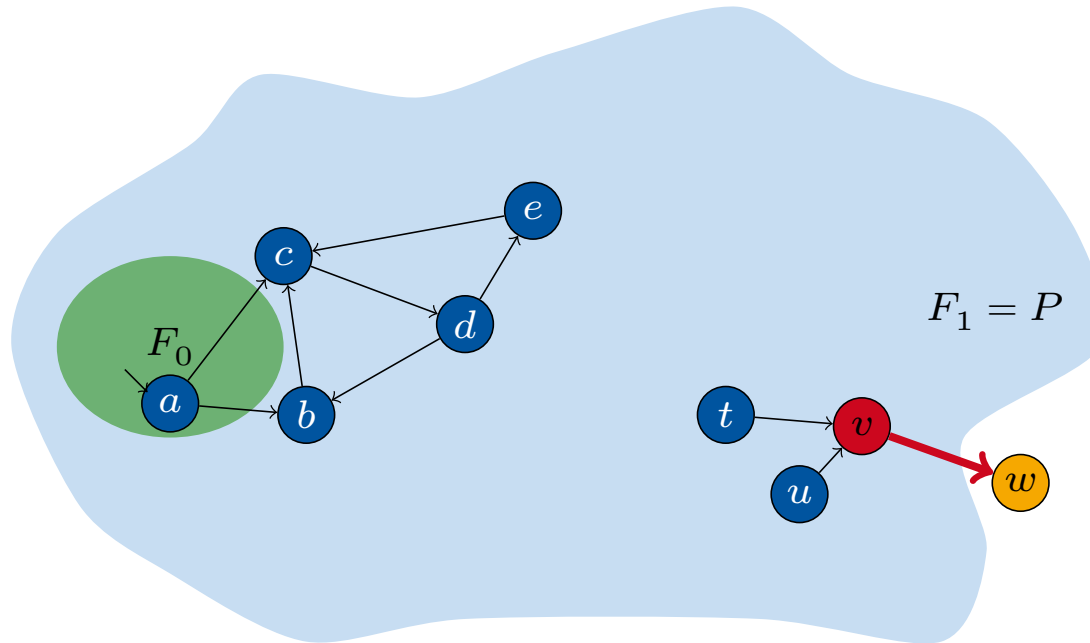
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



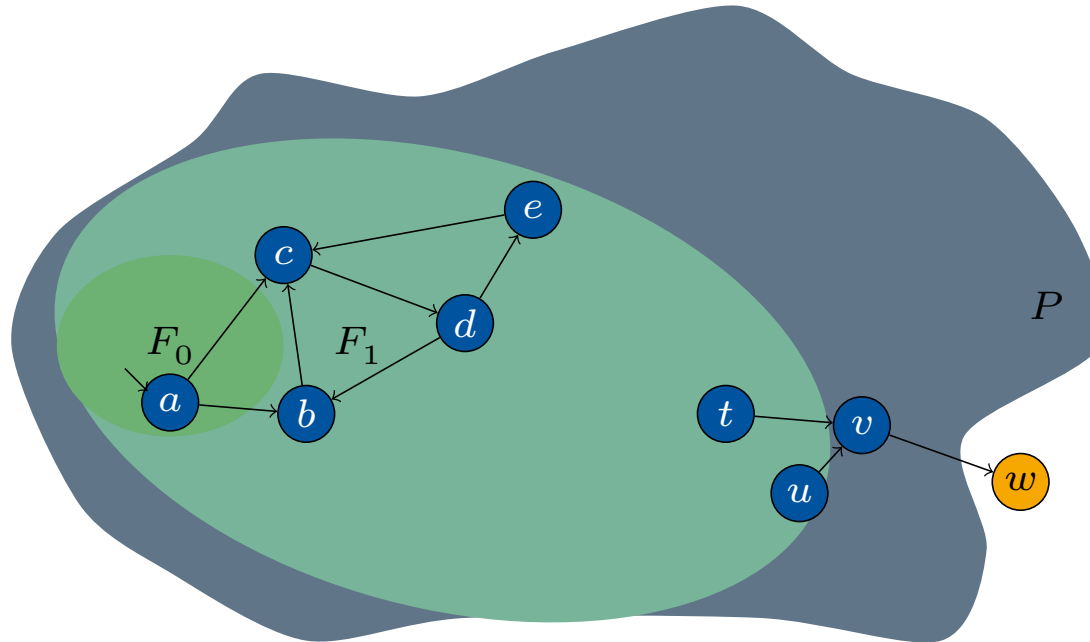
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



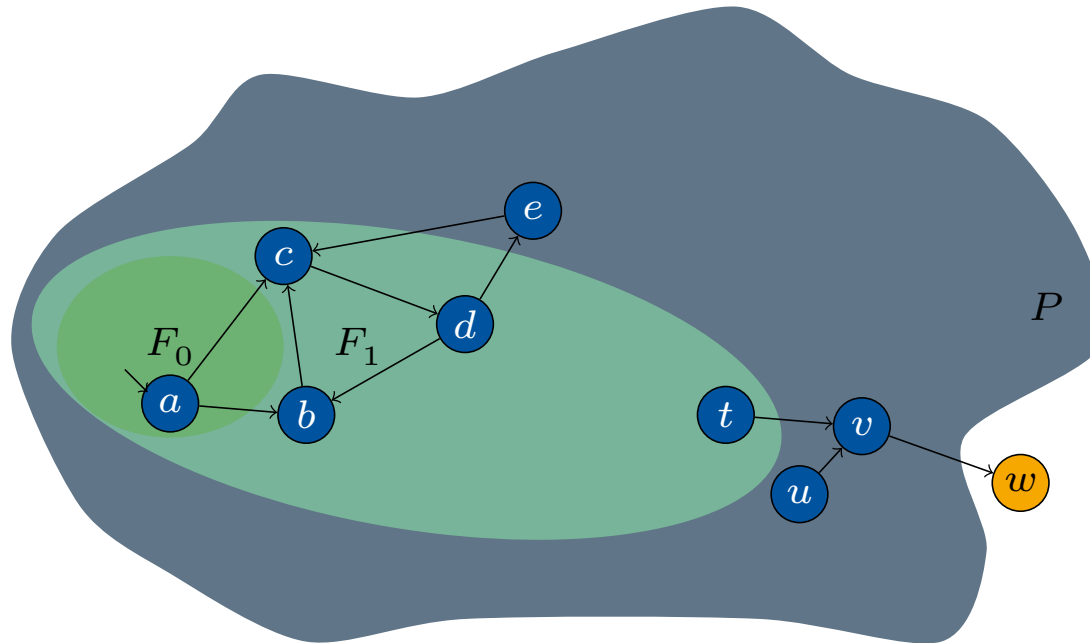
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



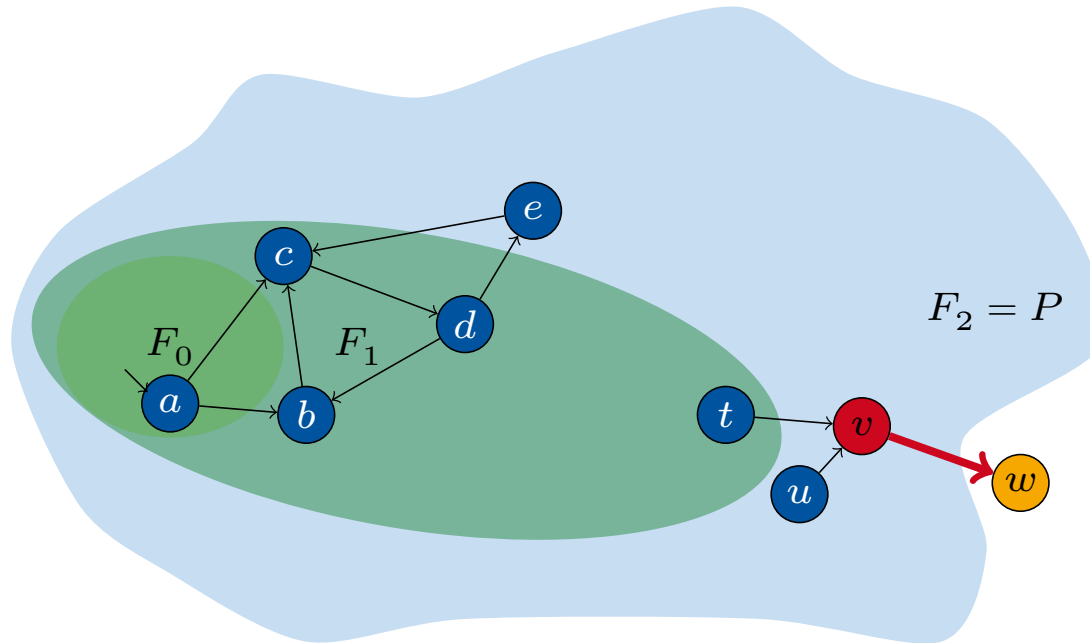
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



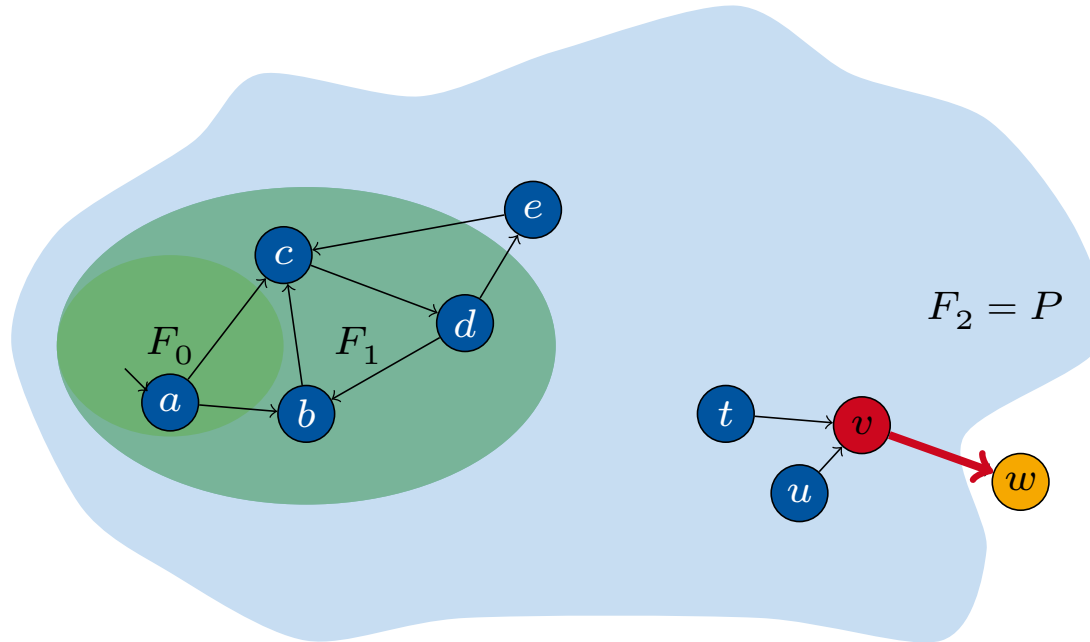
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



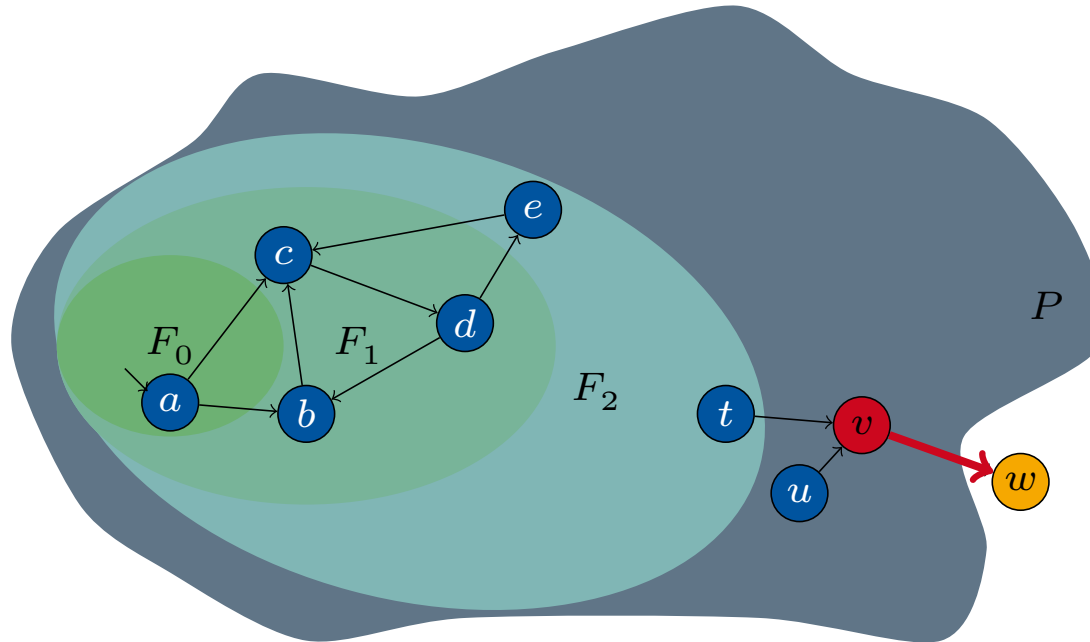
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



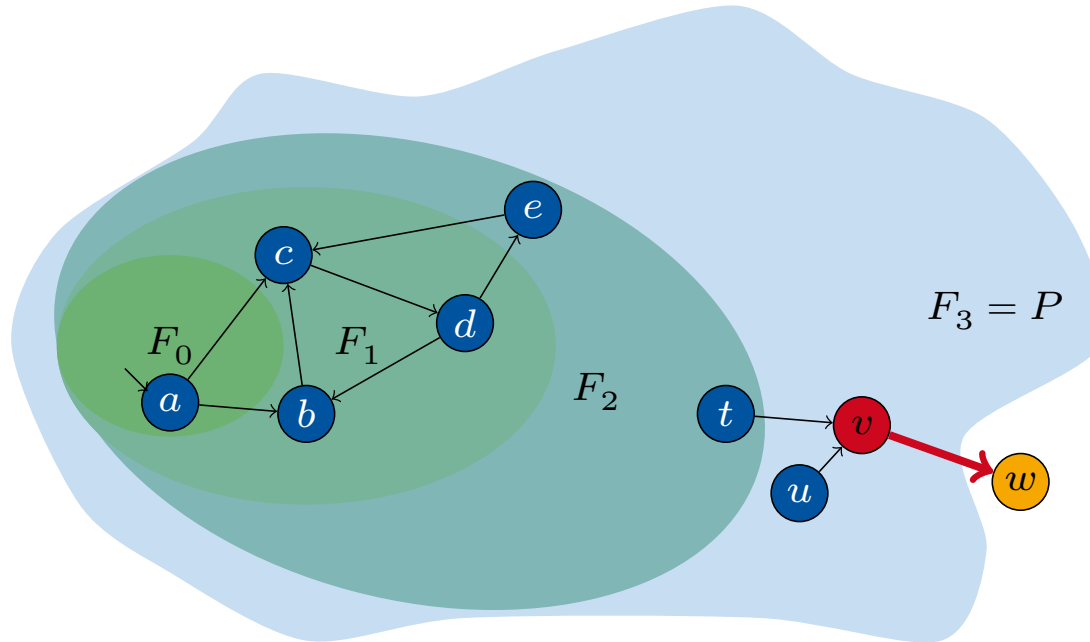
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



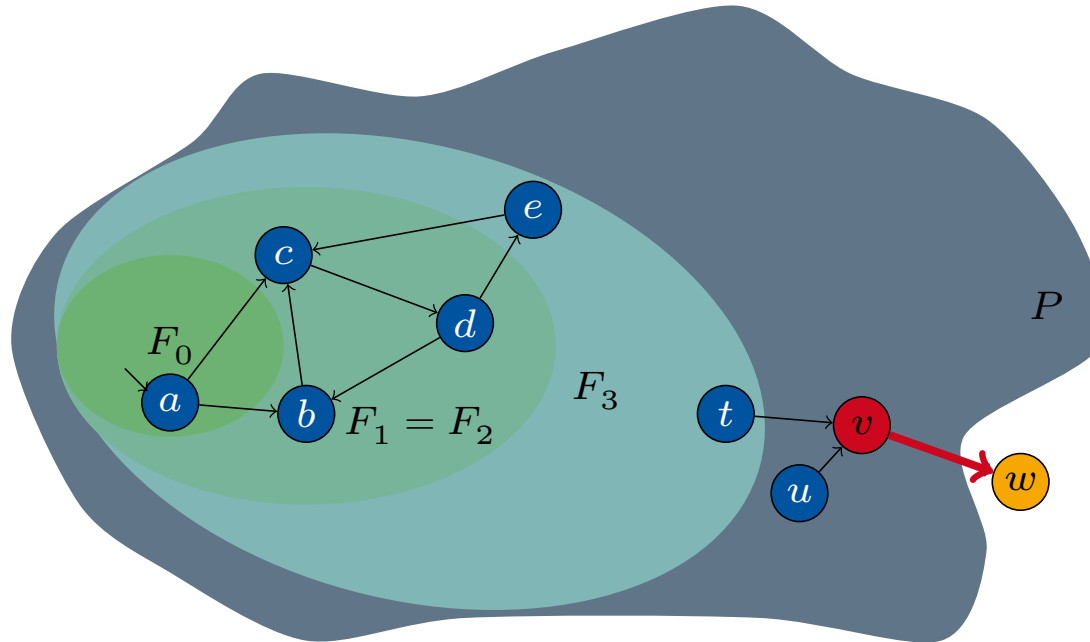
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



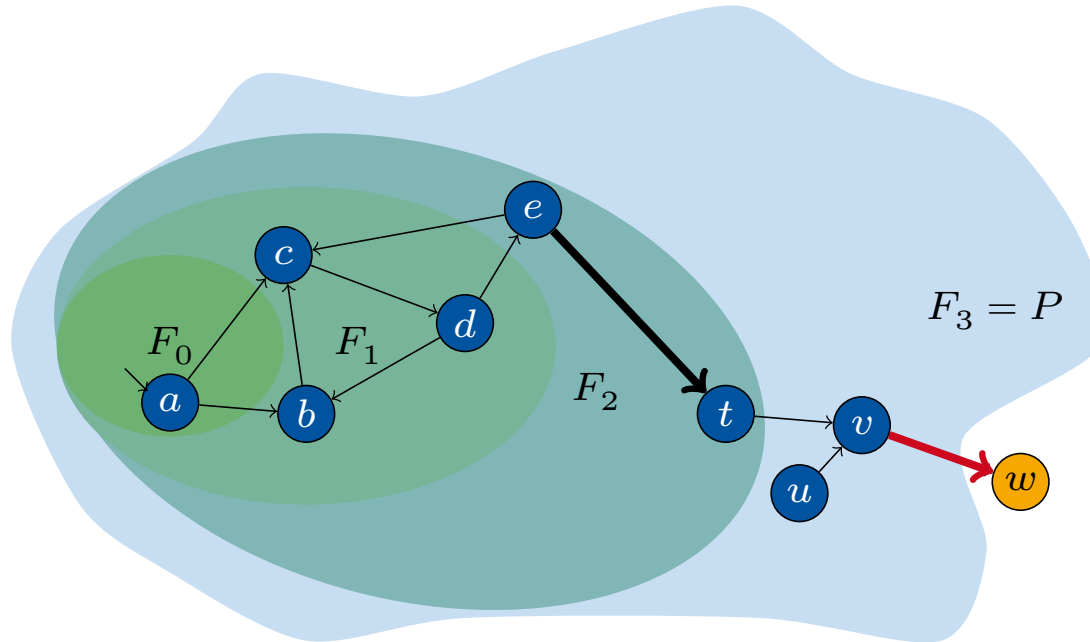
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



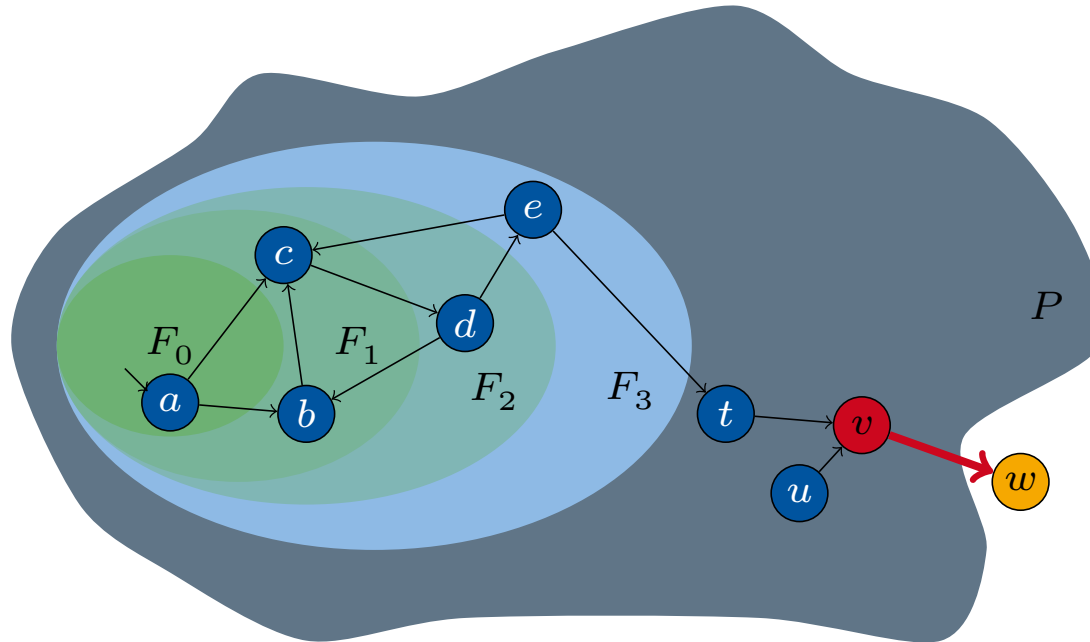
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



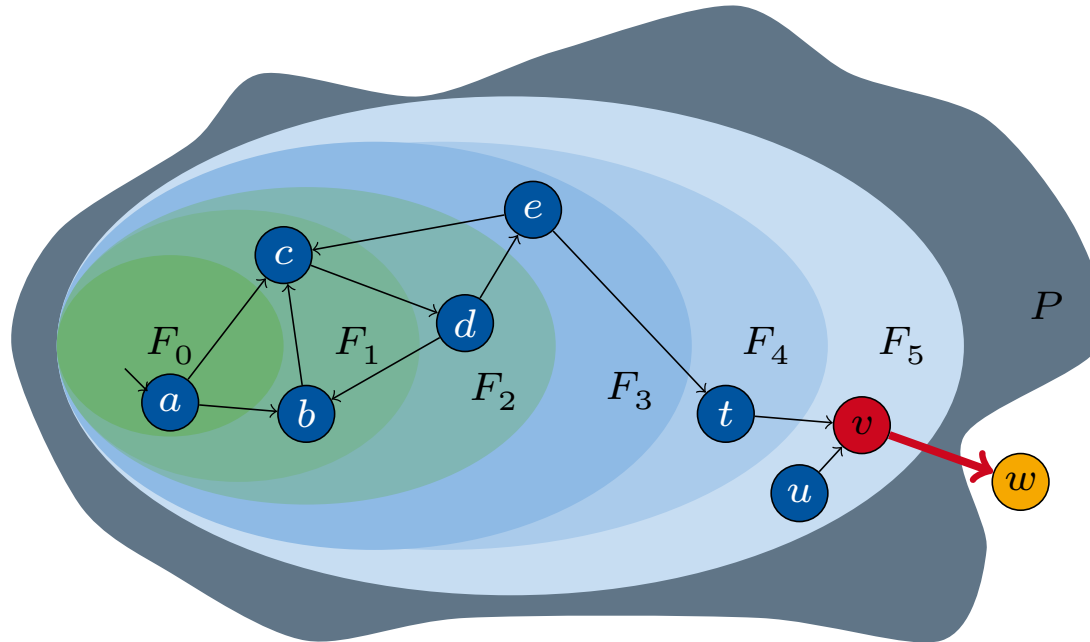
Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



Original IC3

Consider the transition system $\mathcal{M} = (X, I, T)$ and the property $P(X)$.



Related Work

Outline

Introduction

Preliminaries

Original IC3

Related Work

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Conclusion

Related Work

Abstract reachability tree (ART) unrolling

[CG12]

Unroll ART, search error path and refute (similarly to blocking phase of IC3).

Bit-blasting

[WK13]

Encode variables as bit-vectors and use bit-blasting with bit-level IC3.

Implicit Abstraction

[Cim+14]

Express abstract transitions without explicitly computing the abstract system.

Predicate Abstraction

[BBW14]

Use predicate abstraction and refine predicates based on CTIs.

[CG12] Alessandro Cimatti and Alberto Griggio. "Software Model Checking via IC3". In: *CAV*. 2012, pp. 277–293

[WK13] Tobias Welp and Andreas Kuehlmann. "QF BV model checking with property directed reachability". In: *DATE*. 2013, pp. 791–796

[Cim+14] Alessandro Cimatti et al. "IC3 Modulo Theories via Implicit Predicate Abstraction". In: *TACAS*. 2014, pp. 46–61

[BBW14] Johannes Birgmeier, Aaron R. Bradley, and Georg Weissenbacher. "Counterexample to Induction-Guided Abstraction-Refinement (CTIGAR)". In: *CAV*. 2014, pp. 831–848

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Outline

Introduction

Preliminaries

Original IC3

Related Work

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Conclusion

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

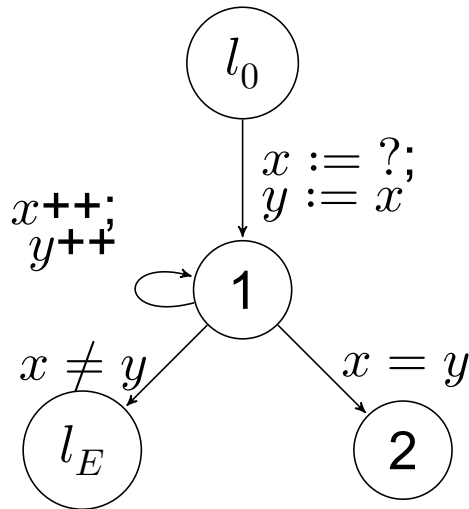
Idea

- Encoding of control flow using special pc variable **not efficient** [CG12]
- **Extraction** of control flow **advantageous**
- Instead of unrolling into ART apply IC3 **directly on CFA**
- For **every location** in the CFA construct frames F_0, \dots, F_k
- Frames represent **overapproximations** of i -step reachability **in location**
- Explicit control flow locations allow to take **only single transitions** into account

[CG12] Alessandro Cimatti and Alberto Griggio. "Software Model Checking via IC3". In: CAV. 2012, pp. 277–293

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



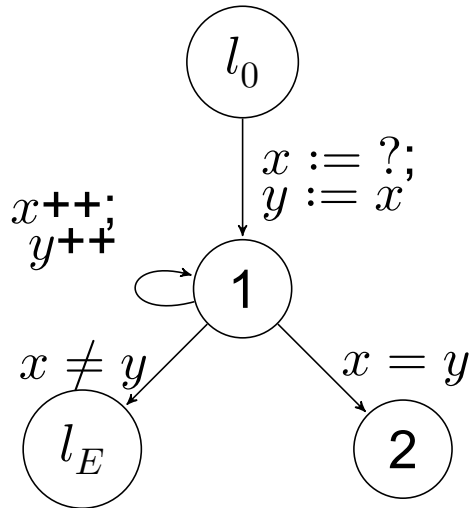
Initial location: l_0

Error location: l_E

Terminating location: 2

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example

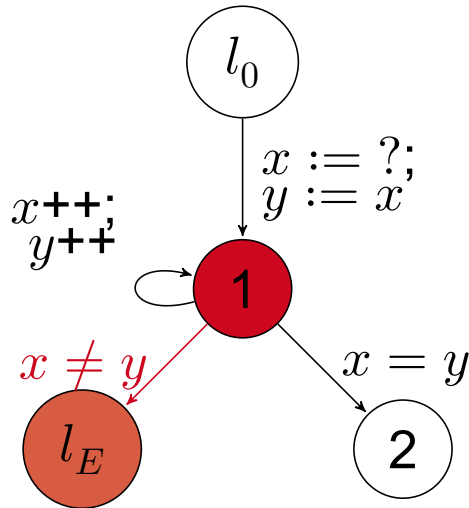


Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

$i \backslash l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	true

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



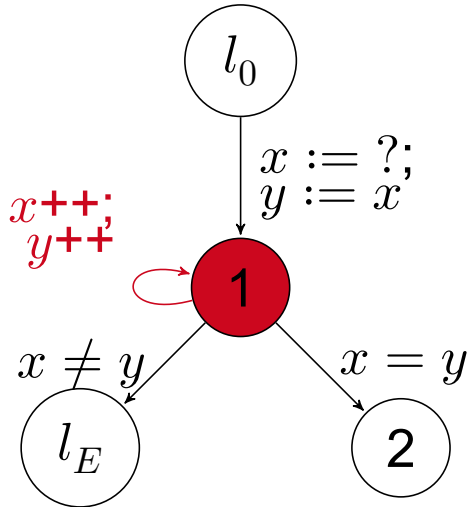
Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

$i:$ \ $l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	true

CTI $(1, x \neq y)$, level 1

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

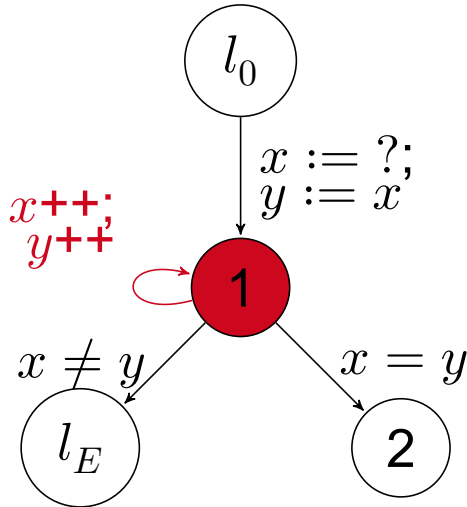
$i:$ \ $l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	true

CTI $(1, x \neq y)$, level 1

$SAT(F_{(0,1)} \wedge \neg(x \neq y) \wedge T_{1 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

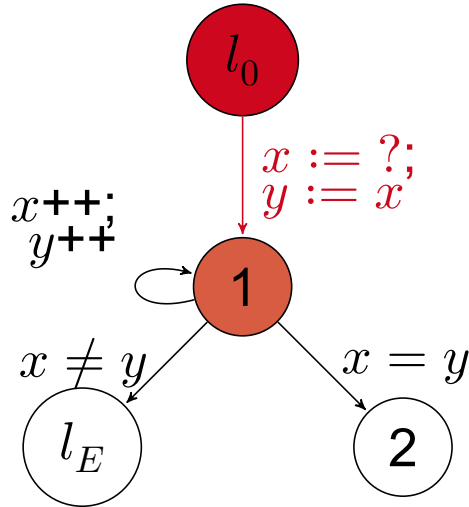
$i:$ \ $l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	true

CTI $(1, x \neq y)$, level 1

$SAT(F_{(0,1)} \wedge \neg(x \neq y) \wedge T_{1 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$ ✗

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

$i:$ \ $l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	true

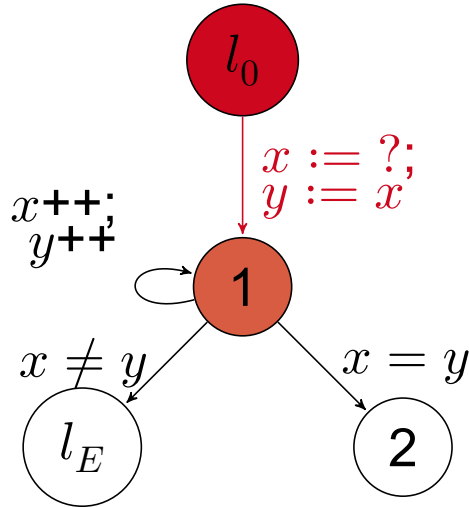
CTI $(1, x \neq y)$, level 1

$SAT(F_{(0,1)} \wedge \neg(x \neq y) \wedge T_{1 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$ ✗

$SAT(F_{(0,l_0)} \wedge T_{l_0 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

$l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	true

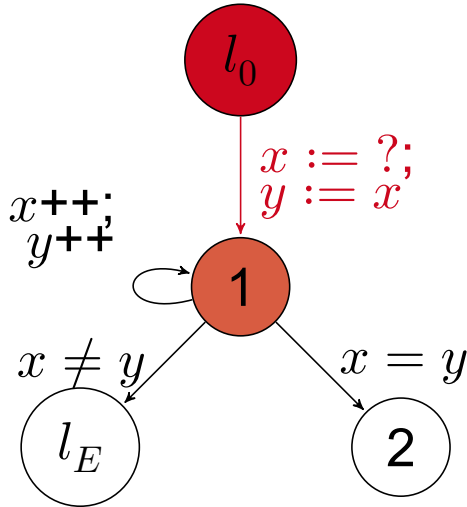
CTI (1, $x \neq y$), level 1

$SAT(F_{(0,1)} \wedge \neg(x \neq y) \wedge T_{1 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$ **X**

$SAT(F_{(0,l_0)} \wedge T_{l_0 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$ **X**

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

$i \backslash l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	$x = y$

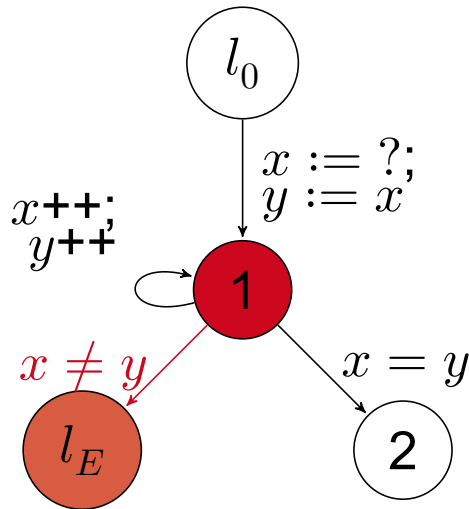
CTI (1, $x \neq y$), level 1

$SAT(F_{(0,1)} \wedge \neg(x \neq y) \wedge T_{1 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$ **X**

$SAT(F_{(0,l_0)} \wedge T_{l_0 \rightarrow 1} \wedge x' \neq y')$ **X**

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example

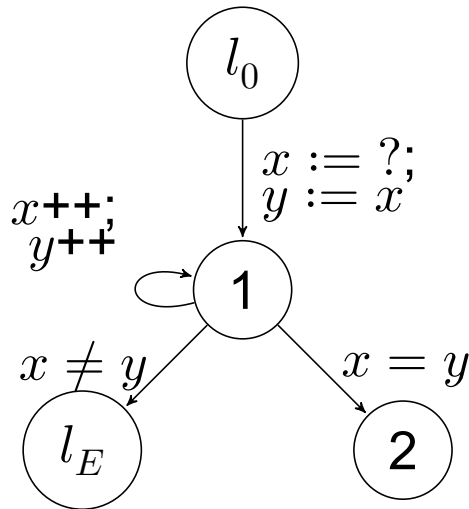


Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

$i \backslash l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	$x = y$

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Example



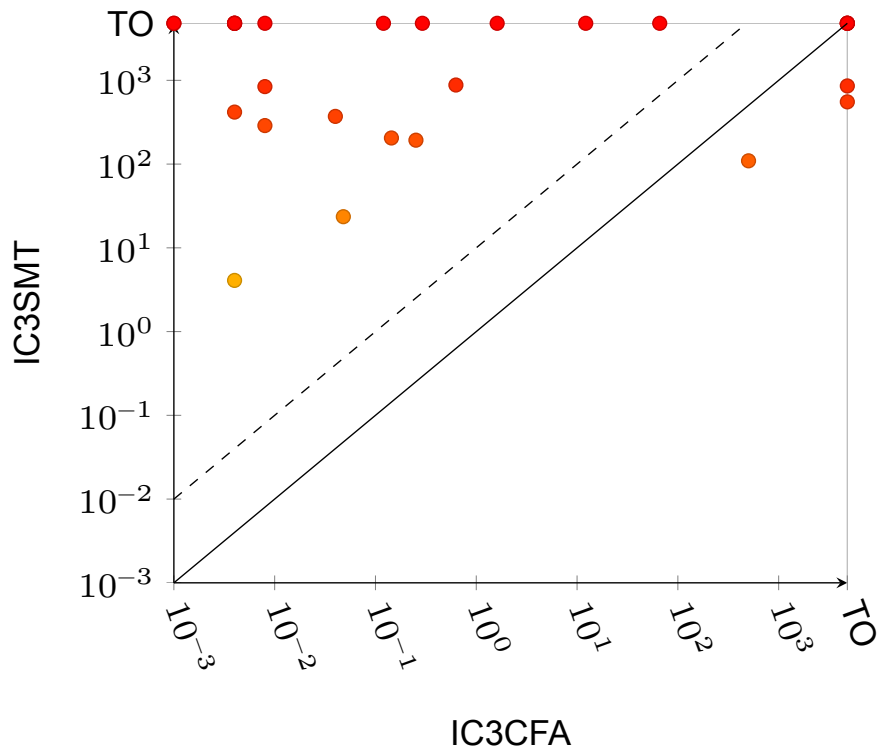
Frames $F_{(i,l)}$

$i \backslash l:$	l_0	1
0	true	false
1	true	$x = y$
2	true	$x = y$

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Evaluation

28 benchmarks from SVCOMP & device drivers, subset of [CG12].



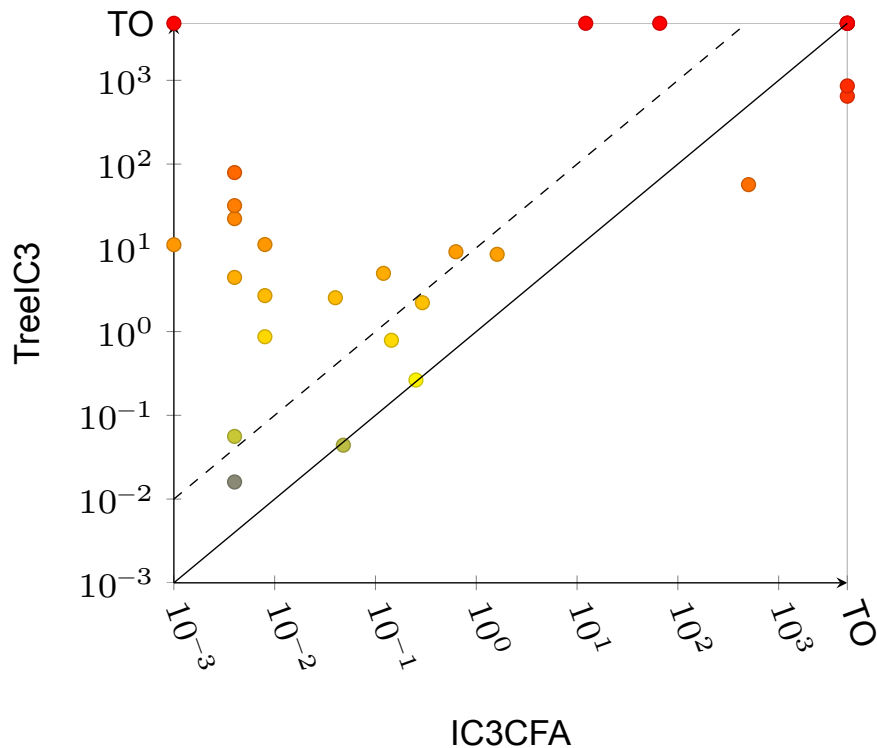
Algorithm	solved	solve time	total time
IC3SMT	13/28	6328s	24328s
IC3CFA	22/28	584s	7784s

[CG12] Alessandro Cimatti and Alberto Griggio. "Software Model Checking via IC3". In: CAV. 2012, pp. 277–293

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Evaluation

28 benchmarks from SVCOMP & device drivers, subset of [CG12].



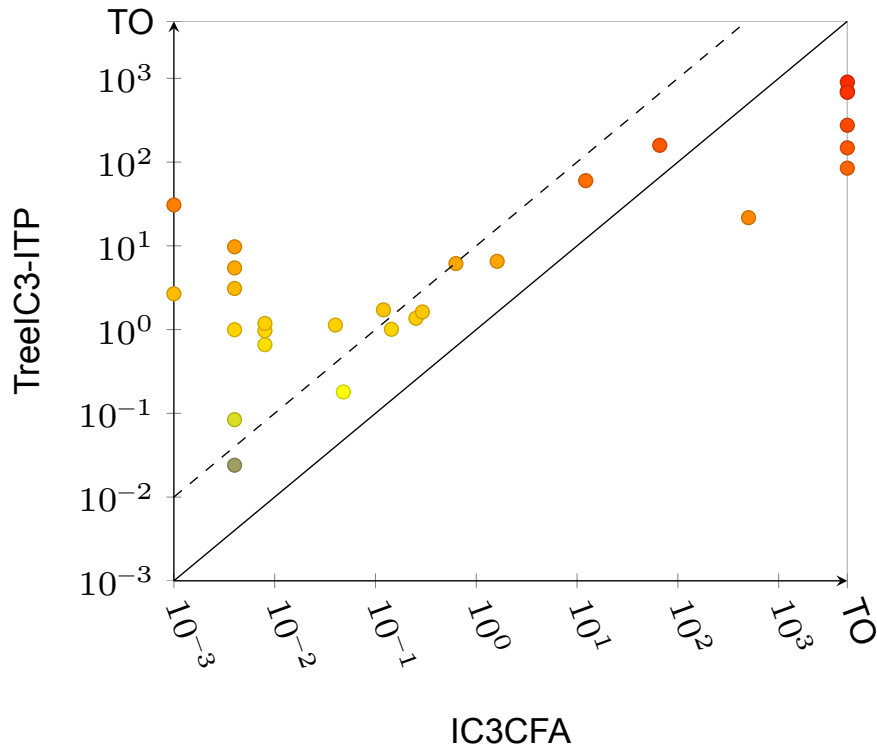
Algorithm	solved	solve time	total time
TreeIC3	21/28	1752s	10152s
IC3CFA	22/28	584s	7784s

[CG12] Alessandro Cimatti and Alberto Griggio. "Software Model Checking via IC3". In: CAV. 2012, pp. 277–293

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Evaluation

28 benchmarks from SVCOMP & device drivers, subset of [CG12].



Algorithm	solved	solve time	total time
TreeIC3-ITP	28/28	3107s	3107s
IC3CFA	22/28	584s	7784s

[CG12] Alessandro Cimatti and Alberto Griggio. "Software Model Checking via IC3". In: CAV. 2012, pp. 277–293

Conclusion

Outline

Introduction

Preliminaries

Original IC3

Related Work

IC3 on Control Flow Automata

Conclusion

Conclusion

Contributions

Small SMT queries

Through inspection of only specific transitions, we can use a single edge formula instead of giving the whole transition relation to the solver.

No unrolling







By using F_i frames in every location of the CFA, we can operate on the CFA exclusively. Thus no need for unrolling the CFA.

Stronger relative inductivity

When considering self-loops we can use the stronger relative inductivity that is used in the original IC3.

Conclusion

References

-  [Johannes Birgmeier, Aaron R. Bradley, and Georg Weissenbacher. "Counterexample to Induction-Guided Abstraction-Refinement \(CTIGAR\)". In: CAV. 2014, pp. 831–848.](#)
-  [Aaron R. Bradley. "SAT-Based Model Checking without Unrolling". In: VMCAI. 2011, pp. 70–87.](#)
-  [Alessandro Cimatti and Alberto Griggio. "Software Model Checking via IC3". In: CAV. 2012, pp. 277–293.](#)
-  [Alessandro Cimatti et al. "IC3 Modulo Theories via Implicit Predicate Abstraction". In: TACAS. 2014, pp. 46–61.](#)
-  [Thomas A. Henzinger et al. "Lazy abstraction". In: POPL. 2002, pp. 58–70.](#)
-  [Tobias Welp and Andreas Kuehlmann. "QF BV model checking with property directed reachability". In: DATE. 2013, pp. 791–796.](#)