

# Robustness issues in timed models

Nicolas Markey

LSV, CNRS & ENS Cachan, France

(based on joint works with Patricia Bouyer, Erwin Fang, Pierre-Alain Reynier, Ocan Sankur)  
(also starring Martin De Wulf, Laurent Doyen, Jean-François Raskin)

QAPL'14 – Grenoble, France



# Modelling real-time systems

## Signals from GPS (global positioning system)

satellites are combined with readings from tachometers, altimeters and gyroscopes to provide more accurate positioning than is possible with GPS alone

## Radar sensor

Ultrasonic sensors may be used to measure the position of objects very close to the vehicle, such as curbs and other vehicles when parking

Source: The Economist

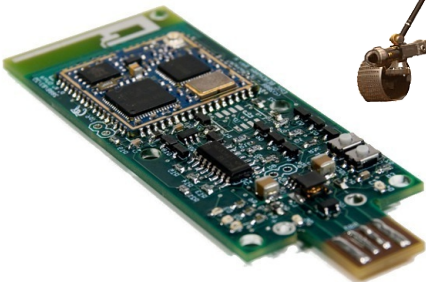
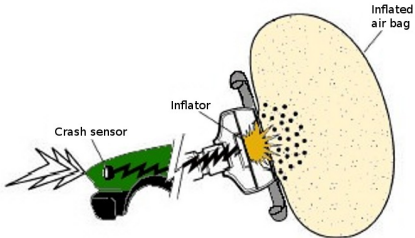
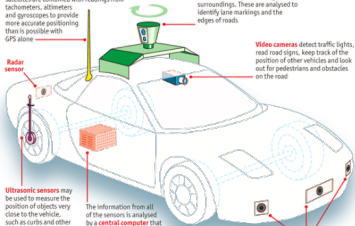
## Lidar (light detection and ranging)

sensors bounce pulses of light off the surroundings. These are analysed to identify lane markings and the edges of roads

Video cameras detect traffic lights, read road signs, keep track of the position of other vehicles and look out for pedestrians and obstacles on the road

Radar sensors monitor the position of other vehicles nearby. Such sensors are already used in adaptive cruise-control systems

The information from all of the sensors is analysed by a central computer that manipulates the steering, accelerator and brakes. Its software must understand the rules of the road, both formal and informal



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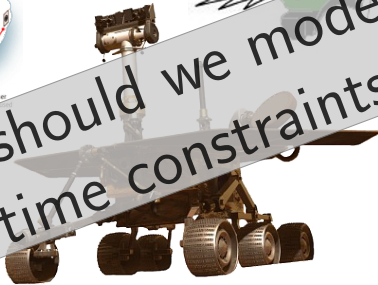
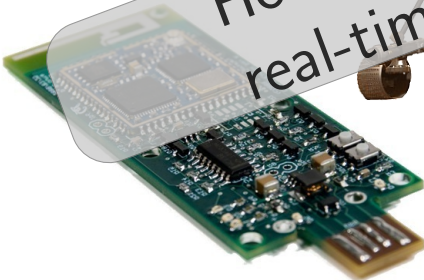
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Inflated air bag

Inflator

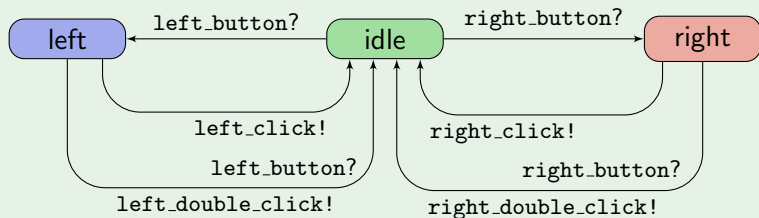
Crash sensor

How should we model real-time constraints?



# Reasoning about real-time systems

## Example (A computer mouse)



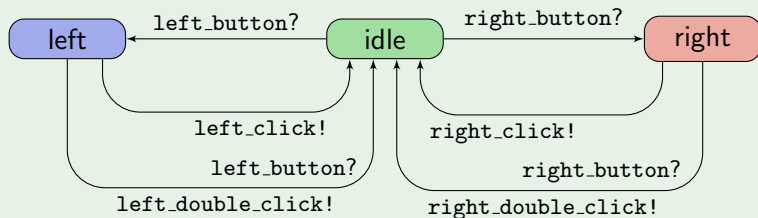
# Reasoning about real-time systems

## Timed automata [AD90]

A **timed automaton** is made of

- a transition system,

## Example (A computer mouse)



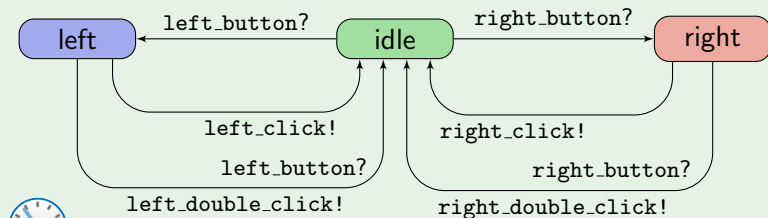
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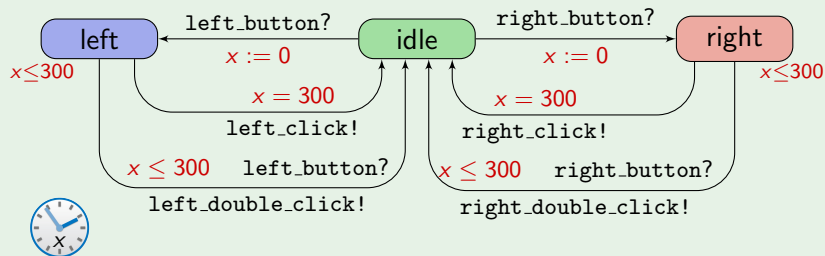
# Reasoning about real-time systems

## Timed automata [AD90]

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## Example (A computer mouse)



## Discrete-time semantics

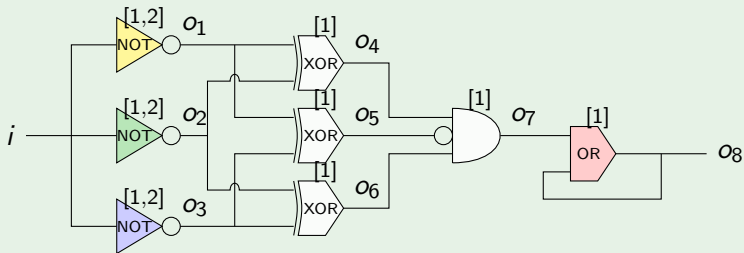
**...because computers are digital!**



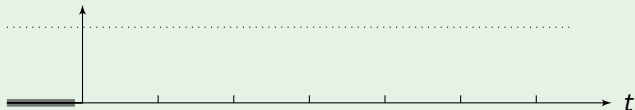
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Example ([Alur91])



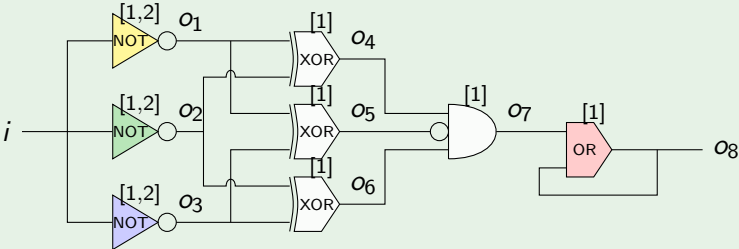
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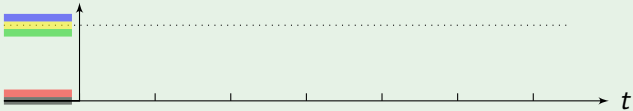
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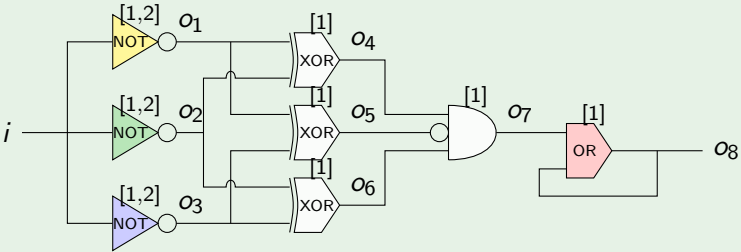
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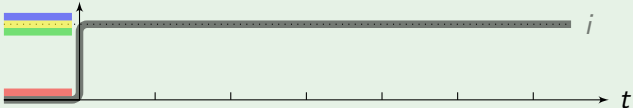
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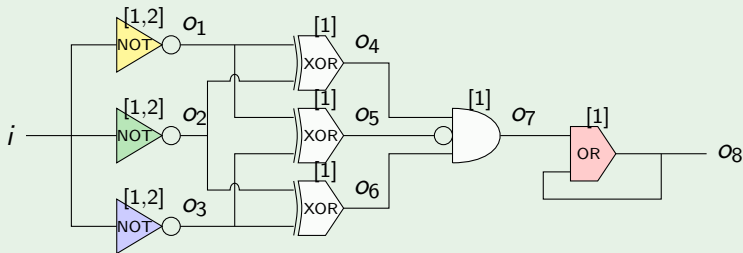
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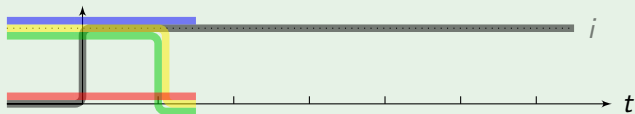
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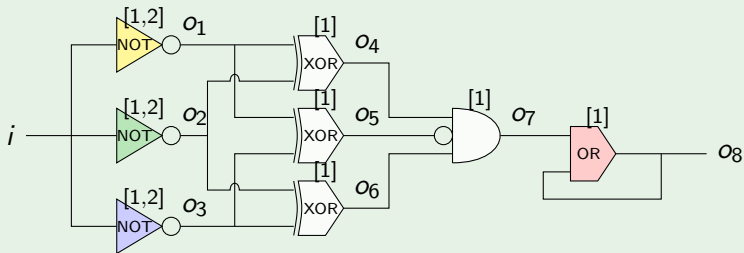
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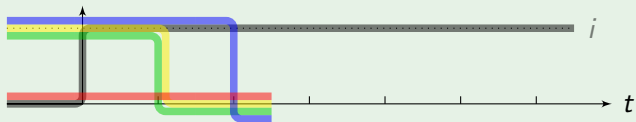
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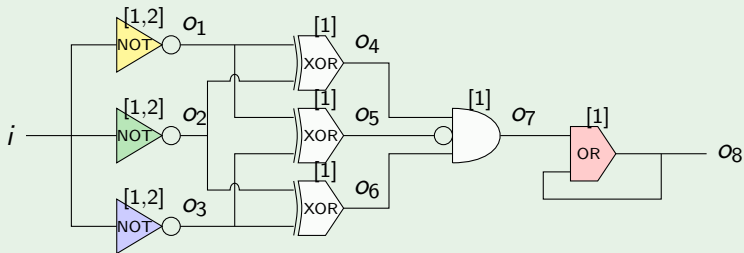
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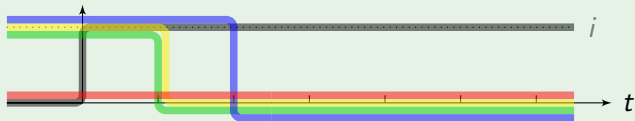
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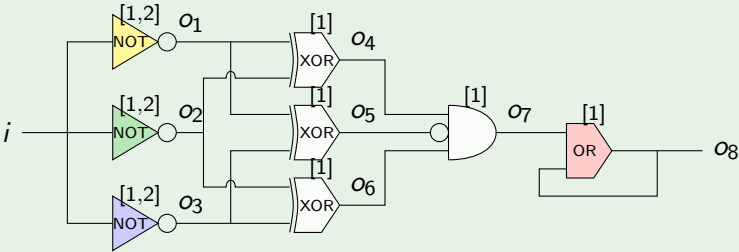
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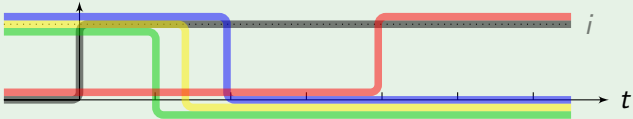
# Discrete-time semantics

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## Example ([Alur91])



- under continuous-time, the output can change to 1:



## Continuous-time semantics

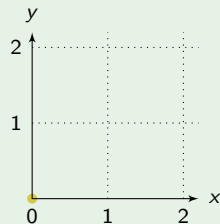
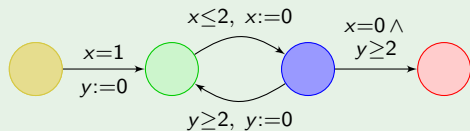
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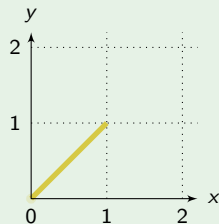
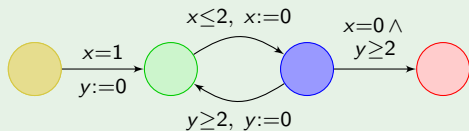
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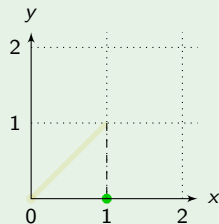
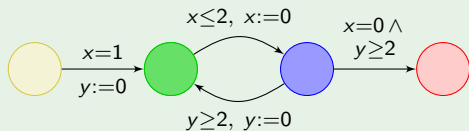
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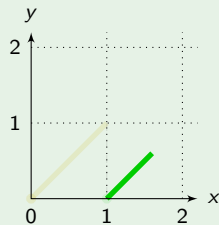
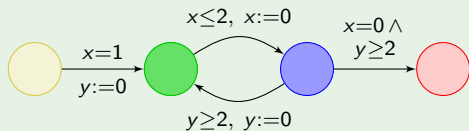
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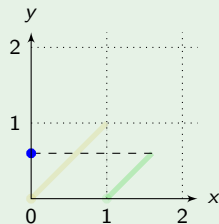
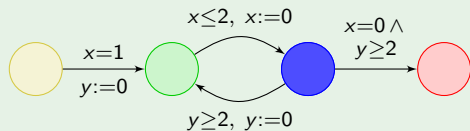
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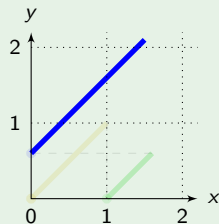
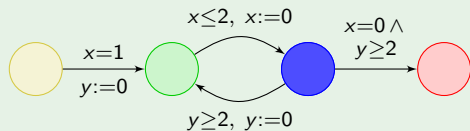
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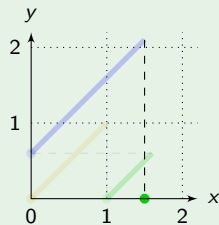
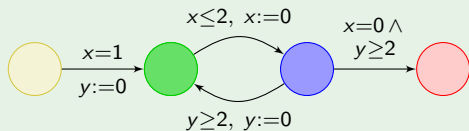
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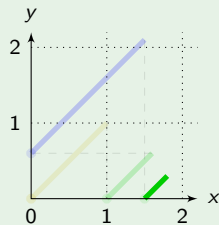
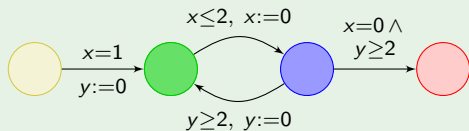
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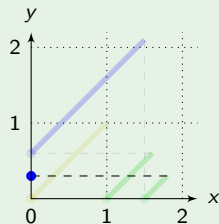
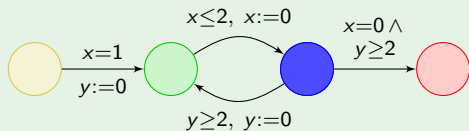




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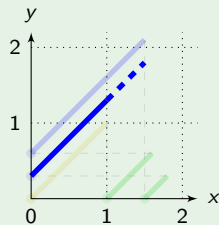
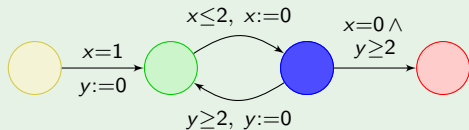
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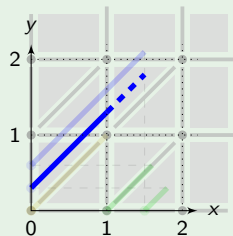
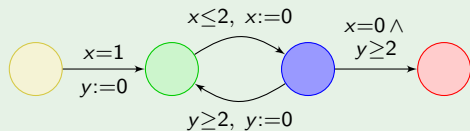
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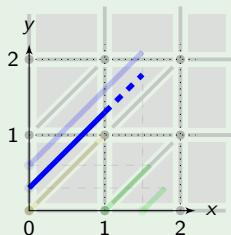
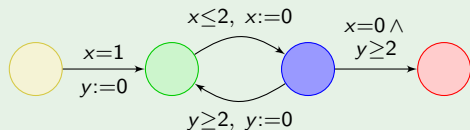
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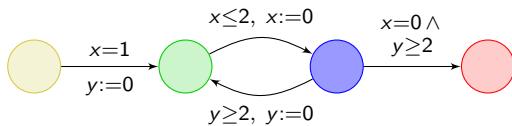
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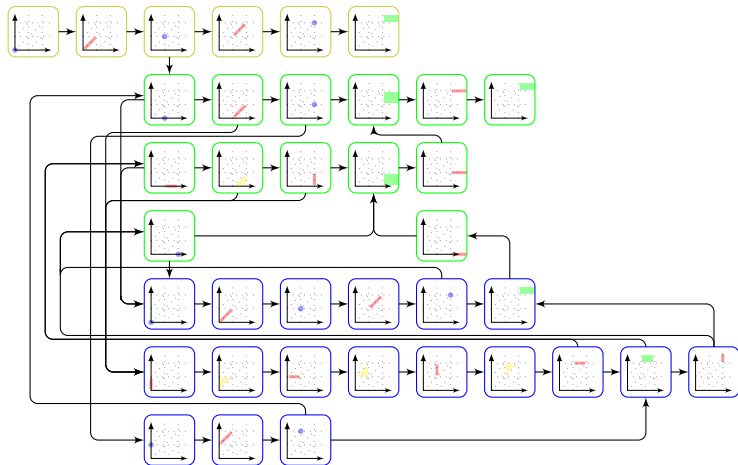
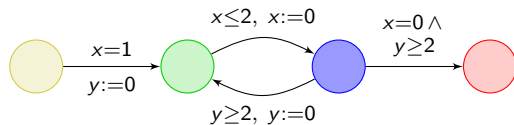
Theorem ([AD90,ACD93, ...])

*Reachability in timed automata is decidable (as well as many other important properties).*

## Regions and zones



# Regions and zones

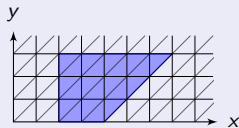


# Regions and zones

## Zones

Zones are a **coarser abstraction**:

$$(x \geq 2) \wedge (0 \leq y \leq 3) \wedge (x - y \leq 4)$$

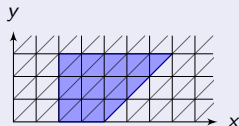


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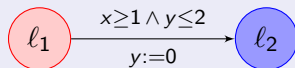
Representation as DBM:

$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ x \\ y \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & -2 & 0 \\ +\infty & 0 & 4 \\ 3 & +\infty & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{array} \equiv \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ x \\ y \end{array} \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 7 & 0 & 4 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{array}$$



# Regions and zones

## Zones

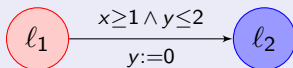


The predecessors of  $(l_2, x \leq 3 \wedge y - x \leq 0)$  are computed as

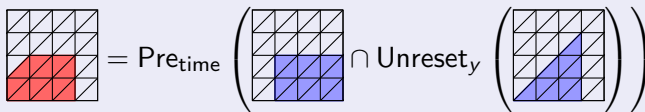
$\begin{matrix} \text{4x4 grid} \\ \text{bottom-left 3x3 shaded red} \end{matrix} = \text{Pre}_{\text{time}} \left( \begin{matrix} \text{4x4 grid} \\ \text{bottom-right 3x3 shaded blue} \end{matrix} \cap \text{Unreset}_y \left( \begin{matrix} \text{4x4 grid} \\ \text{diagonal shaded blue} \end{matrix} \right) \right)$

# Regions and zones

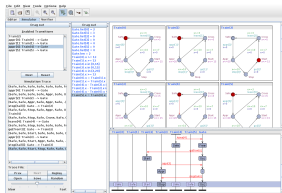
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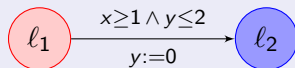


↪ efficient implementations

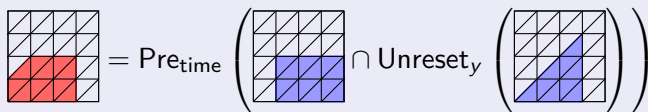


# Regions and zones

## Zones



The predecessors of  $(l_2, x \leq 3 \wedge y - x \leq 0)$  are computed as



~> efficient implementations

~> successful applications



BANG & OLUFSEN



# Outline of the talk

- 1 Discrete time vs. dense time
- 2 From models to implementations
- 3 Checking robust safety
  - Enlarging clock constraints
  - Shrinking clock constraints
- 4 Checking robust controllability
  - Parametrized perturbations
  - Permissive strategies
- 5 Conclusions and future works

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# From models to implementations

## Example: Patriot anti-ballistic-missile failure

25 February 1991, during Gulf war.

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### Problem: clock drift

Internal clock incremented by  $1/10$  every  $1/10$  s.

```
x=0.1,x:=0  
clock+=0.1
```



# From models to implementations

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### Problem: clock drift

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Clock stored in 24-bit register:

$x=0.1, x:=0$   
 $\text{clock}+=0.1$

$$\frac{1}{10} - \left\langle \frac{1}{10} \right\rangle_{24 \text{ bit}} \simeq 10^{-7}$$



After 100 hours, the total drift was 0.34 seconds.  
The incoming missile could not be destroyed.



# From models to implementations

## the continuous-time semantics is a mathematical idealization

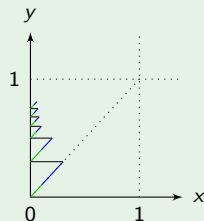
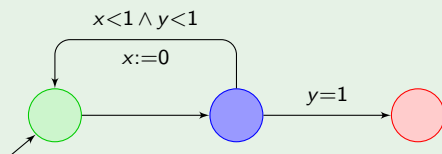
- it assumes **zero-delay transitions**;
- it assumes **infinite precision** of the clocks;
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**Example (Zeno behaviors)**

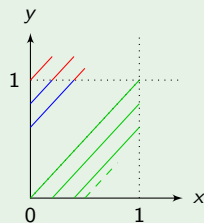
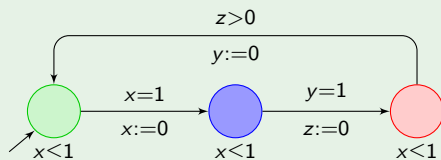


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**Example (Converge phenomena)**

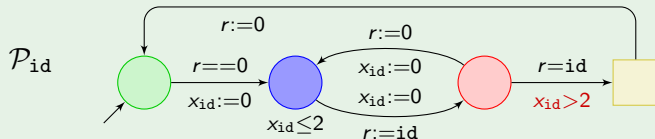


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### Example (Strict timing constraints)



When  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  run in parallel (sharing variable  $r$ ), the state where both of them are in  $\square$  is not reachable.

This property is lost when  $x_{id} > 2$  is replaced with  $x_{id} \geq 2$ .

# From models to implementations

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## Parametrized semantics

- **parametrized discrete-time semantics:**  
Does there exist a time step  $\delta$  (*sampling rate*) under which the system behaves correctly?

# From models to implementations

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Does the system behave correctly under continuous-time semantics with imprecisions up to some  $\delta$ ?

# Outline of the talk

- 1 Discrete time vs. dense time
- 2 From models to implementations
- 3 Checking robust safety**
  - Enlarging clock constraints
  - Shrinking clock constraints
- 4 Checking robust controllability
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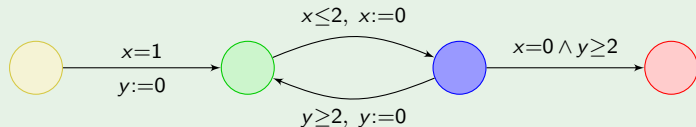
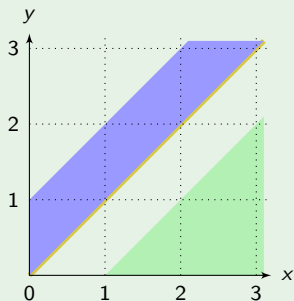
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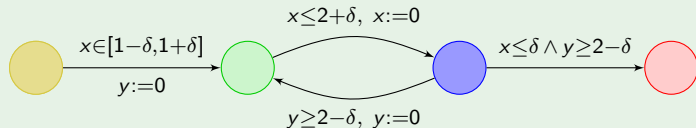
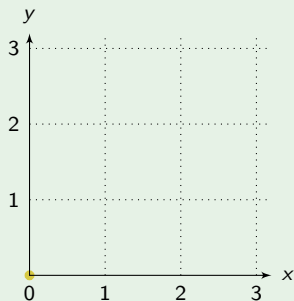
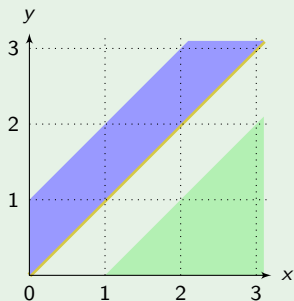
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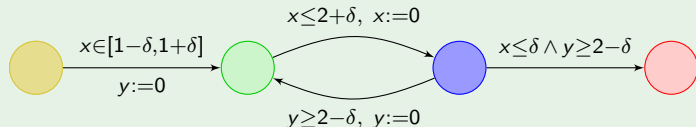
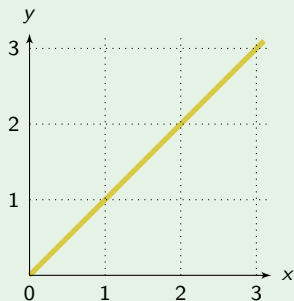
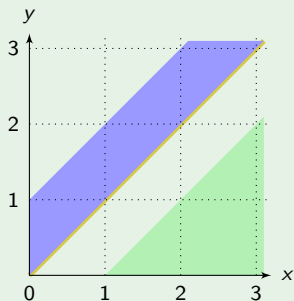
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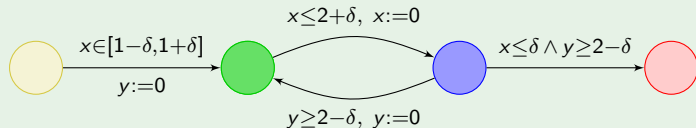
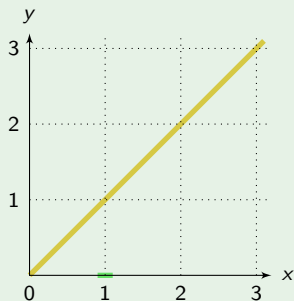
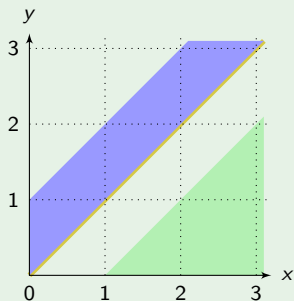
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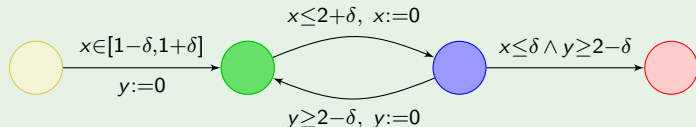
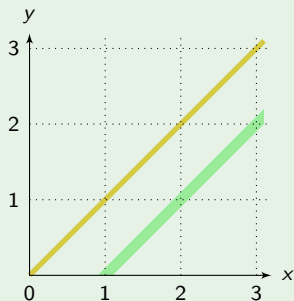
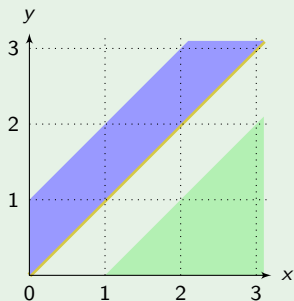
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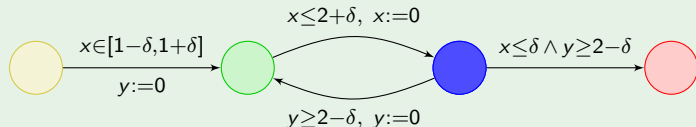
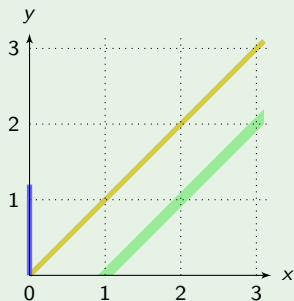
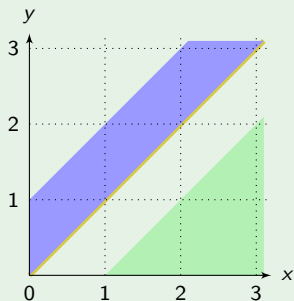
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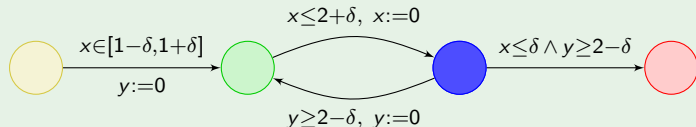
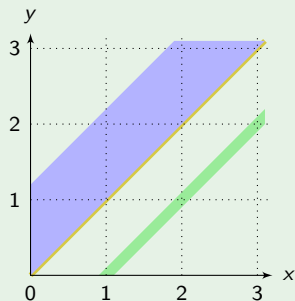
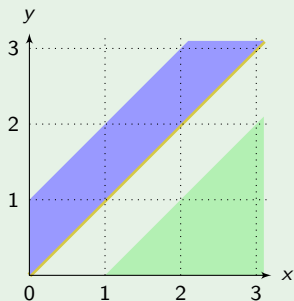
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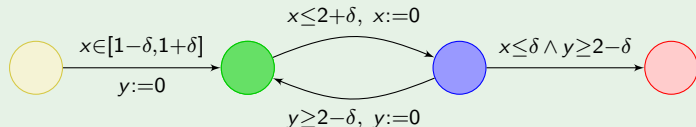
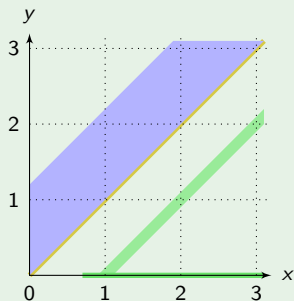
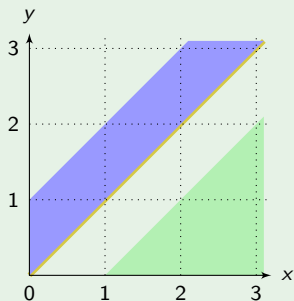




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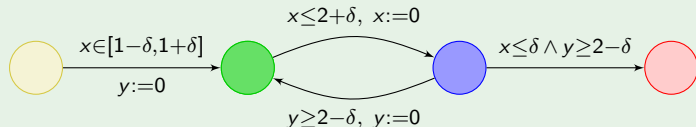
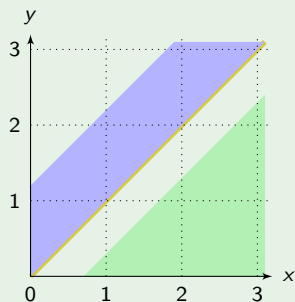
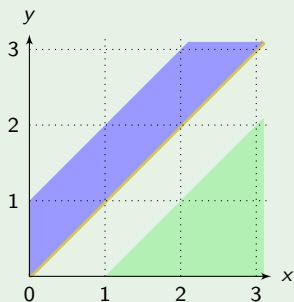
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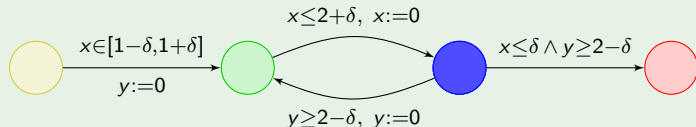
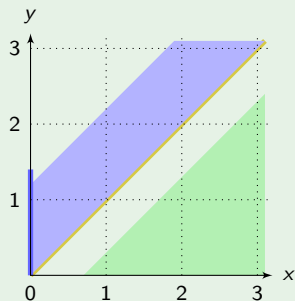
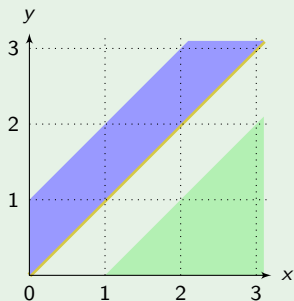
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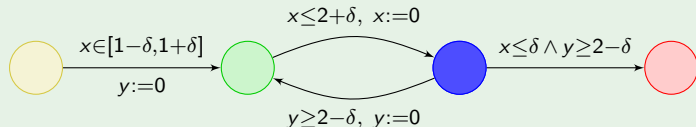
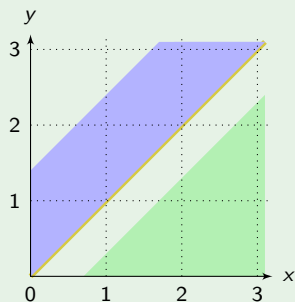
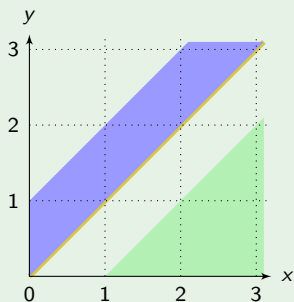
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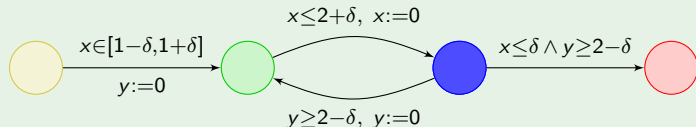
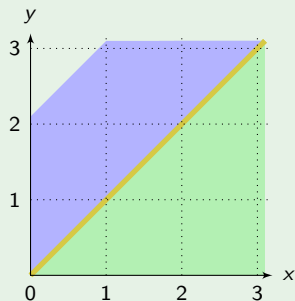
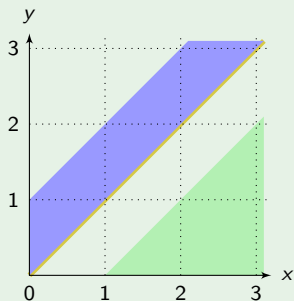
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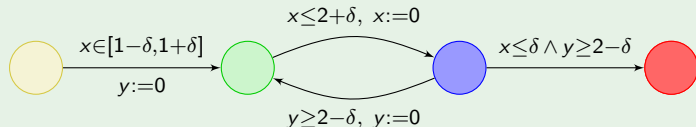
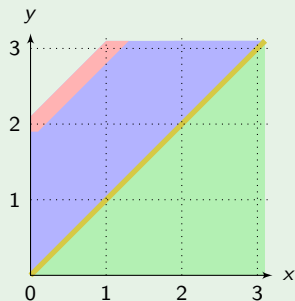
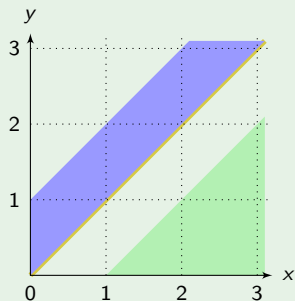
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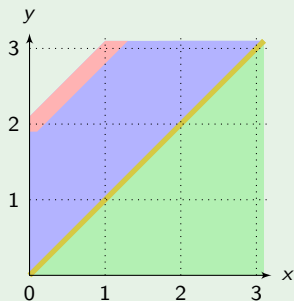
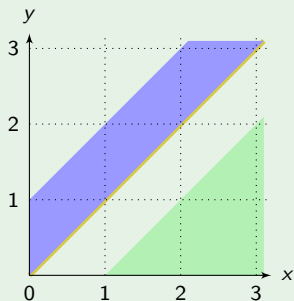
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Theorem ([Pur98,DDMR04])

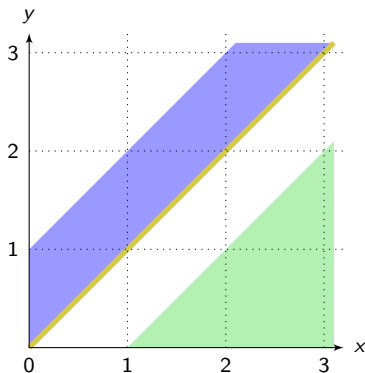
*Parametrized robust safety is decidable.*

## Extended region automaton

For any location  $\ell$  and any two regions  $r$  and  $r'$ , if

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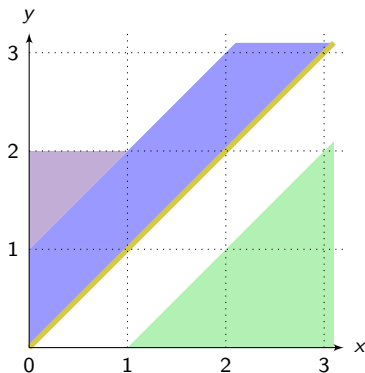


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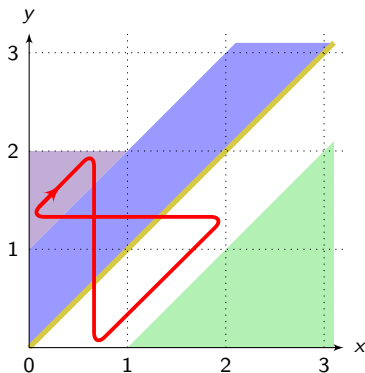


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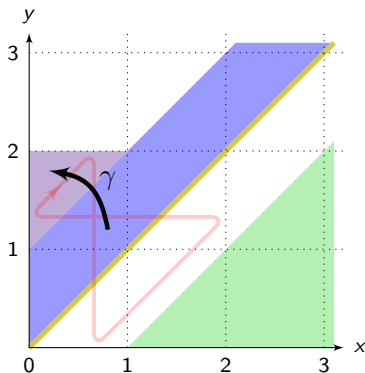


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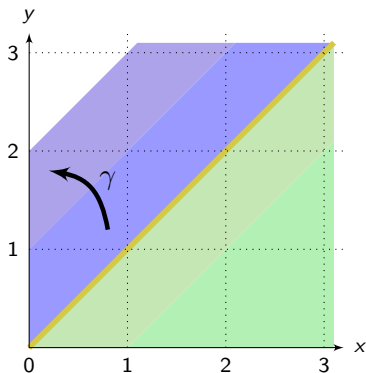


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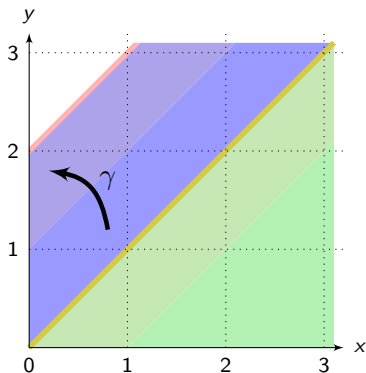


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**Shrinking turns constraints  $[a, b]$  into  $[a + \delta, b - \delta]$ .**

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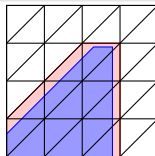
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Main tools: parametrized shrunk DBMs  
max-plus fixpoint equations





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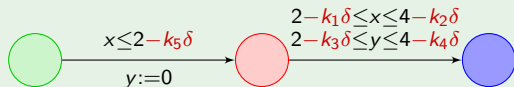
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↪ prototype tool:

<http://www.lsv.ens-cachan.fr/Software/shrinktech/>

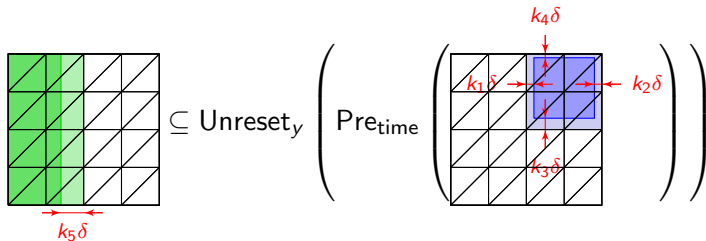
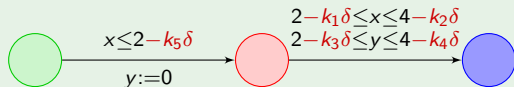
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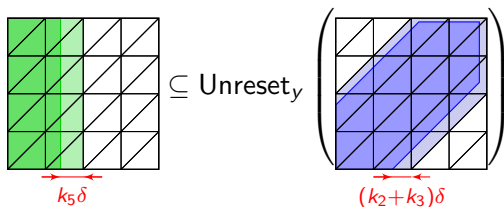
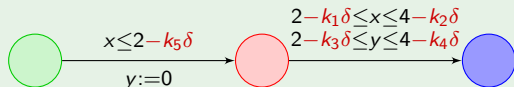
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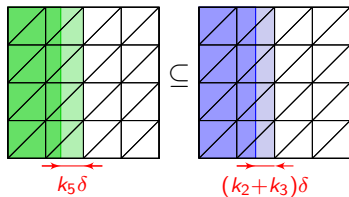
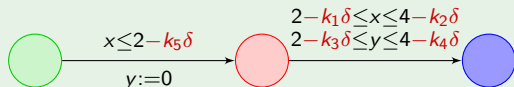
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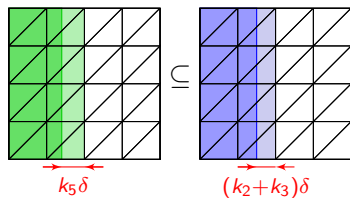
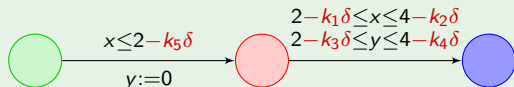
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$\leadsto k_5 = \max(k_5, k_2 + k_3)$

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# Game-based approach to robustness

## Solving robust reachability

- Player 1 proposes a **delay**  $d$  and a **transition**  $t$ ;
- **transition**  $t$  is taken after some **delay** in  $[d - \delta, d + \delta]$  chosen by Player 2.





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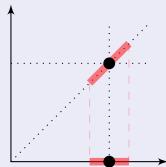
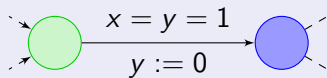
## Theorem ([BMS12,SBMR13])

Robust *reachability* is EXPTIME-complete in the *loose semantics*.

Robust *reachability* and *repeated reachability* are PSPACE-complete in the *strict semantics*.

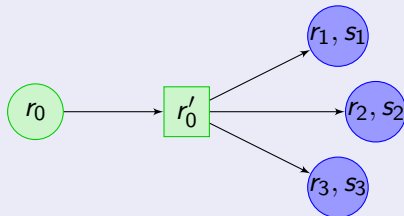
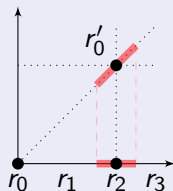
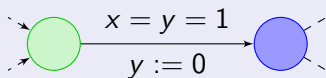
# Shrunk DBMs for the loose semantics

Extend the region automaton into a 2-player turn-based game

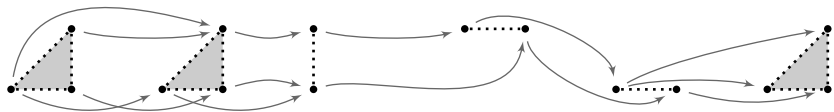
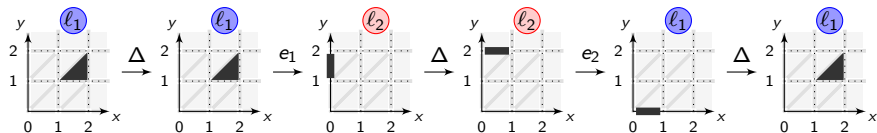
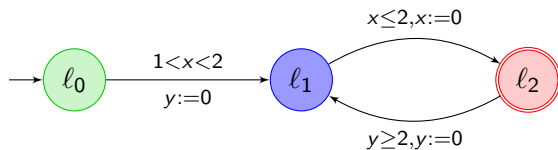


# Shrunk DBMs for the loose semantics

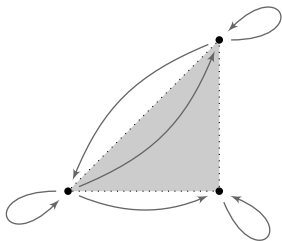
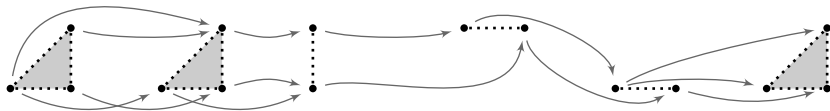
Extend the region automaton into a 2-player turn-based game



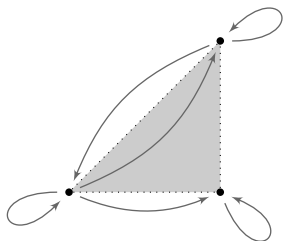
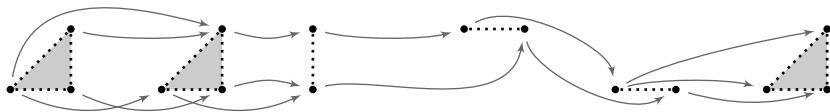
# Orbit graphs for the strict semantics



# Orbit graphs for the strict semantics



## Orbit graphs for the strict semantics

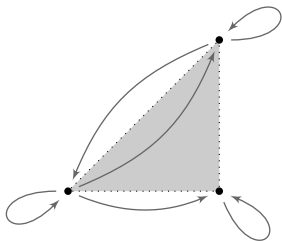
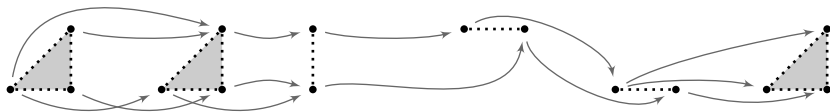


### Definition

A cycle  $\pi$  is forgetful if its orbit graph is strongly connected.

A cycle  $\pi$  is aperiodic if  $\pi^k$  is forgetful, for all  $k$ .

# Orbit graphs for the strict semantics



## Definition

A cycle  $\pi$  is forgetful if its orbit graph is strongly connected.

A cycle  $\pi$  is aperiodic if  $\pi^k$  is forgetful, for all  $k$ .

## Theorem

*The automaton is robustly controllable if, and only if, it has a reachable aperiodic cycle.*



# Synthesizing permissive strategies

## Permissive strategies

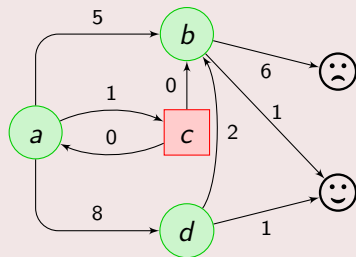
Permissive strategies can propose **several moves** rather than a single one.

# Synthesizing permissive strategies

## Permissive strategies

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In the untimed setting... [BDMR09, BMOU11]

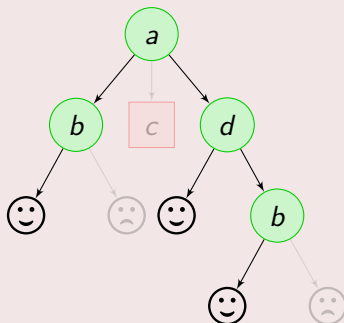
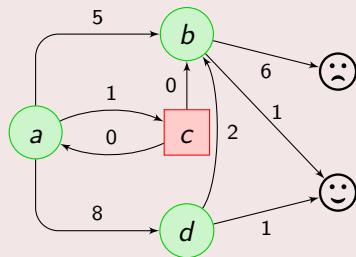


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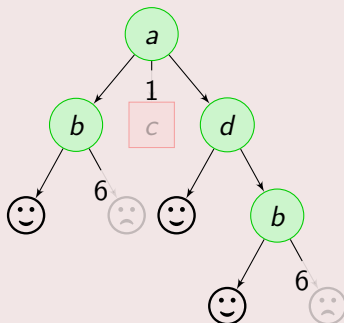
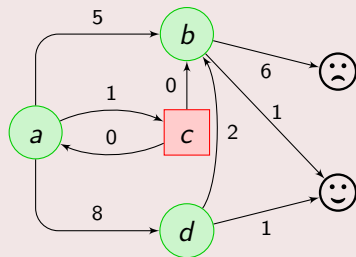


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# Synthesizing permissive strategies

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## In the timed setting...

Permissive strategies propose **intervals of delays**.

Our setting:

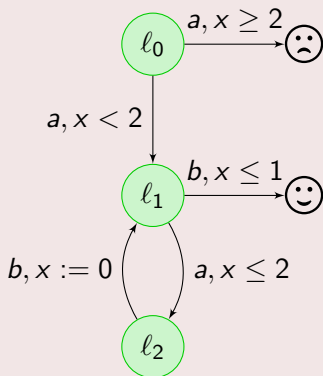
the **penalty** assigned to interval  $[a, b]$  is  $1/(b - a)$ .

# Synthesizing permissive strategies

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## In the timed setting...

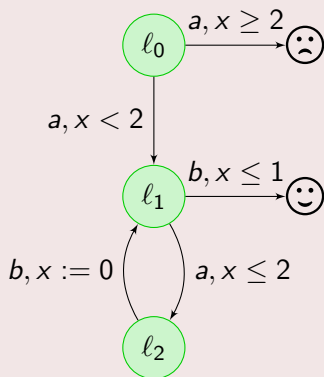


# Synthesizing permissive strategies

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Permissive strategies can propose **several moves** rather than a single one.

## In the timed setting...



## Possible (memoryless) strategy:

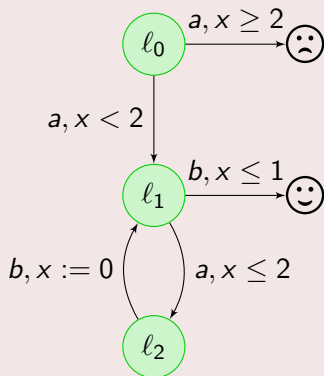
- in  $l_0$ , play  $(a, [0, 2))$ ;
- in  $l_1$ :
  - if  $x \leq 1$ , play  $(b, [0, 1 - x])$ ;
  - otherwise, play  $(a, [0, 2 - x])$ ;
- in  $l_2$ , play  $(b, [0, +\infty))$

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  - in  $l_2$ , play  $(b, [0, +\infty))$
- $\rightsquigarrow$  **penalty =  $+\infty$**

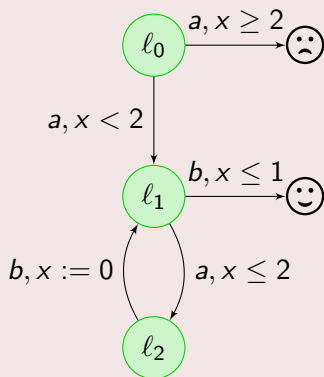


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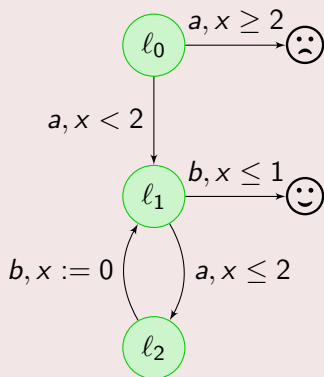
- in  $l_0$ , play  $(a, [0, 1])$ ;
- in  $l_1$ :
  - if  $x = 0$ , play  $(b, [0, 1])$ ;
  - otherwise, play  $(a, [0, 2 - x])$ ;
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# Synthesizing permissive strategies

## Permissive strategies

Permissive strategies can propose **several moves** rather than a single one.

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~> **penalty = 1**

# Synthesizing permissive strategies

## Permissive strategies

Permissive strategies can propose **several moves** rather than a single one.

## In the timed setting...

### Theorem

*For one-clock timed games:*

- *Memoryless optimal-penalty strategies exist.*
- *They can be computed in polynomial time.*

# Outline of the talk

- 1 Discrete time vs. dense time
- 2 From models to implementations
- 3 Checking robust safety
  - Enlarging clock constraints
  - Shrinking clock constraints
- 4 Checking robust controllability
  - Parametrized perturbations
  - Permissive strategies
- 5 Conclusions and future works

# Conclusion and challenges

## Conclusions

Robustness issues identified long ago...

Several attempts, but **no satisfactory solution** yet!

# Conclusion and challenges

## Conclusions

Robustness issues identified long ago...

Several attempts, but **no satisfactory solution** yet!

## Challenges and open questions

- **symbolic algorithms**;
- **measuring robustness**, using distances between automata;  
~> link between “syntactic distance” and “semantic distance”
- **probabilistic approach** to robustness;  
~> evaluate expected time before a new state is visited.
- investigate **robustness in weighted timed automata**;  
~> energy constraints;  
~> imprecision on cost rates;
- synthesis of **robust strategies**.