

Introduction

Modelling parallel systems

Linear Time Properties

Regular Properties

Linear Temporal Logic (LTL)

Computation Tree Logic

syntax and semantics of CTL



expressiveness of CTL and LTL

CTL model checking

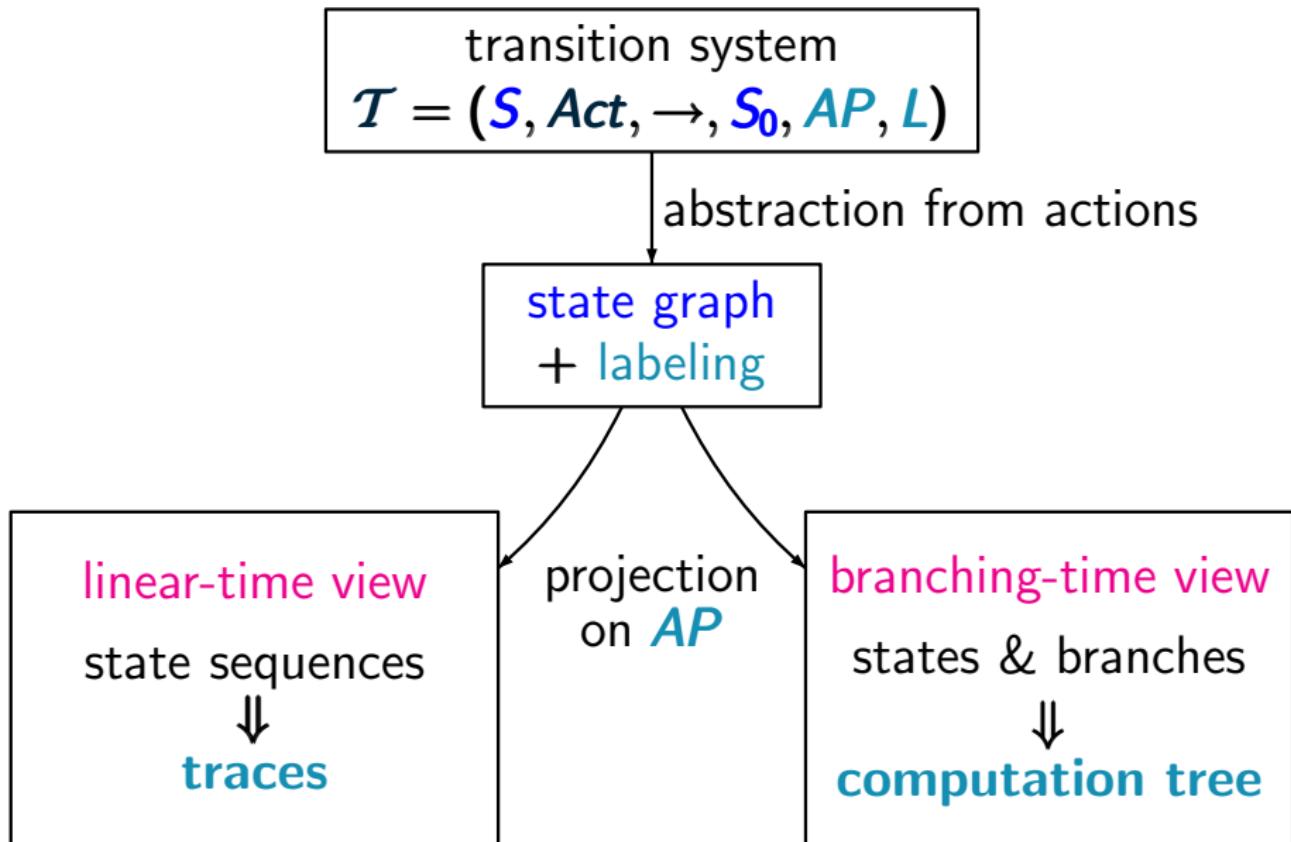
fairness, counterexamples/witnesses

CTL⁺ and CTL*

Equivalences and Abstraction

Linear vs branching time

CTLSS4.1-1



Computation tree

CTLSS4.1-1C

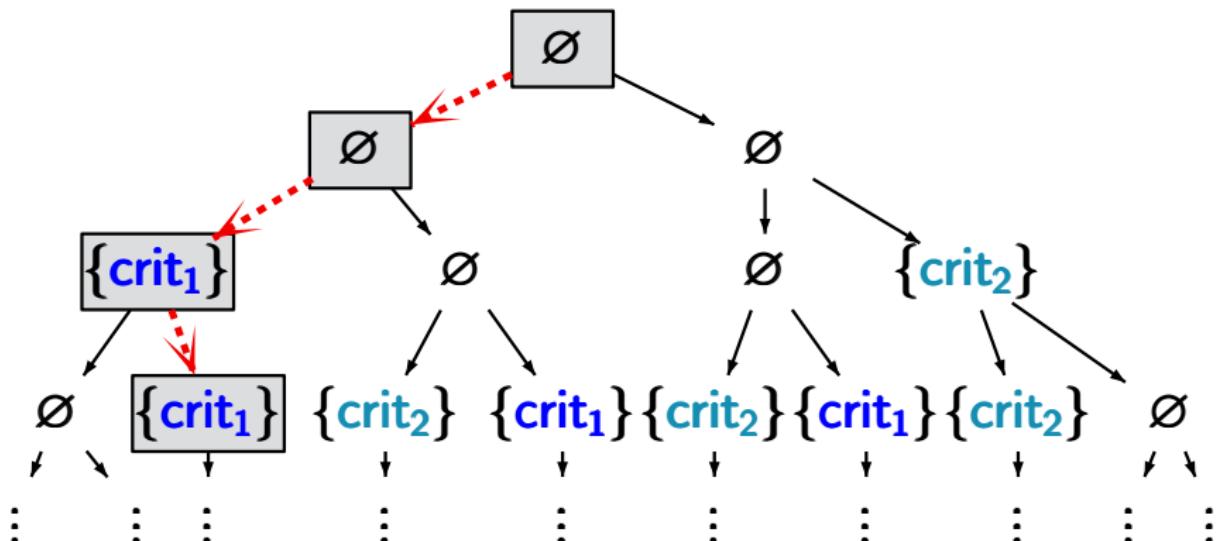
The computation tree of state s_0 in a transition system $\mathcal{T} = (S, Act, \rightarrow, s_0, AP, L)$ arises by:

- unfolding $\mathcal{T}_{s_0} = (S, Act, \rightarrow, s_0, AP, L)$ into a tree
- abstraction from the actions
- projection of the states s to their labels $L(s) \subseteq AP$

Example: computation tree

CTLSS4.1-1A

mutual exclusion with semaphore and $AP = \{\text{crit}_1, \text{crit}_2\}$:



path	$\langle nc_1, nc_2 \rangle$	$\langle wait_1, nc_2 \rangle$	$\langle crit_1, nc_2 \rangle$	$\langle crit_1, wait_2 \rangle$...
↓ trace	↓ \emptyset	↓ \emptyset	↓ $\{\text{crit}_1\}$	↓ $\{\text{crit}_1\}$...

Linear vs. branching time

CTLSS4.1-2

	linear time	branching time
behavior	path based traces	state based computation tree
temporal logic	LTL path formulas	CTL state formulas
model checking	PSPACE-complete $O(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \exp(\varphi))$	PTIME $O(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \Phi)$
impl. relation	trace inclusion trace equivalence PSPACE-complete	simulation bisimulation PTIME
fairness	can be encoded	requires special treatment

Computation Tree Logic (CTL)

CTLSS4.1-4

CTL (state) formulas:

$$\Phi ::= \text{true} \mid a \mid \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2 \mid \neg\Phi \mid \exists\varphi \mid \forall\varphi$$

CTL path formulas:

$$\varphi ::= \bigcirc\Phi \mid \Phi_1 \mathbin{\textsf{U}} \Phi_2$$

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eventually:

$$\exists\Diamond\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists(\text{true} \mathbin{\textup{\texttt{U}}} \Phi)$$

$$\forall\Diamond\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \forall(\text{true} \mathbin{\textup{\texttt{U}}} \Phi)$$

always:

$$\exists\Box\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ?$$

note: $\exists\neg\Diamond\neg\Phi$ is no **CTL** formula

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always:

$$\exists\Box\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\forall\neg\Diamond\neg\Phi$$

$$\forall\Box\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg\exists\neg\Diamond\neg\Phi$$

note: $\exists\neg\Diamond\neg\Phi$ is no **CTL** formula

CTL (state) formulas:

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CTL path formulas:

$$\varphi ::= \bigcirc\Phi \mid \Phi_1 \mathsf{U} \Phi_2 \mid \diamond\Phi \mid \square\Phi$$

mutual exclusion (safety) $\forall\square(\neg crit_1 \vee \neg crit_2)$

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“every request will be answered eventually”

$$\forall\Box(\text{request} \rightarrow \forall\Diamond\text{response})$$

Examples for CTL formulas

CTLSS4.1-3

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traffic lights

$$\forall \Box(\text{yellow} \rightarrow \forall \bigcirc \text{red})$$

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reset possibility

$$\forall\Box\exists\Diamond\text{start}$$

Examples for CTL formulas

CTLSS4.1-3

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mutual exclusion (safety) $\forall \square (\neg crit_1 \vee \neg crit_2)$

“every request will be answered eventually”

$$\forall \square (\text{request} \rightarrow \forall \diamond \text{response})$$

traffic lights

$$\forall \square (\text{yellow} \rightarrow \forall \bigcirc \text{red})$$

reset possibility

$$\forall \square \exists \diamond \text{start}$$

unconditional process fairness $\forall \square \forall \diamond crit_1 \wedge \forall \square \forall \diamond crit_2$

Alternative (standard) Syntax for CTL

E (exists)	there exists a path
A (forall)	for all paths
X (next)	in the next state
U (until)	(strong) (W,V,R...)
F (finally)	eventually
G (always)	generally

Examples

[mutual exclusion]

$$- \forall[](\neg \text{crit1} \vee \neg \text{crit2}) \quad AG(\neg \text{crit1} \vee \neg \text{crit2})$$

[every request will be answered eventually]

$$- \forall[](\text{request} \rightarrow \forall<\!\!> \text{response}) \quad AG(\text{request} \rightarrow AE \text{ response})$$

[traffic light]

$$- \forall[](\text{yellow} \rightarrow \forall \bigcirc \text{red}) \quad AG(\text{yellow} \rightarrow AX \text{ red})$$

[reset possibility]

$$- \forall[]\exists<\!\!> \text{start} \quad AG EF \text{ start}$$

define a satisfaction relation \models for CTL formulas over AP and a given TS $\mathcal{T} = (S, Act, \rightarrow, S_0, AP, L)$ without terminal states

- interpretation of **state formulas** over the **states**
- interpretation of **path formulas** over the **paths**
(infinite path fragments)

Recall: semantics of LTL

CTLSS4.1-LTL-SEMANTICS

for infinite path fragment $\pi = s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots$:

$\pi \models \text{true}$

$\pi \models a$ iff $s_0 \models a$, i.e., $a \in L(s_0)$

$\pi \models \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ iff $\pi \models \varphi_1$ and $\pi \models \varphi_2$

$\pi \models \neg \varphi$ iff $\pi \not\models \varphi$

$\pi \models \bigcirc \varphi$ iff $\text{suffix}(\pi, 1) = s_1 s_2 s_3 \dots \models \varphi$

$\pi \models \varphi_1 \bigcup \varphi_2$ iff there exists $j \geq 0$ such that

$\text{suffix}(\pi, j) = s_j s_{j+1} s_{j+2} \dots \models \varphi_2$ and

$\text{suffix}(\pi, k) = s_k s_{k+1} s_{k+2} \dots \models \varphi_1$ for $0 \leq k < j$

Satisfaction relation for path formulas

CTLSS4.1-11A

Let $\pi = s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots$ be an infinite path fragment.

$$\pi \models O\Phi \quad \text{iff} \quad s_1 \models \Phi$$

$$\pi \models \Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2 \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{there exists } j \geq 0 \text{ such that}$$

$$s_j \models \Phi_2$$

$$s_k \models \Phi_1 \text{ for } 0 \leq k < j$$

semantics of derived operators:

$$\pi \models \Diamond\Phi \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{there exists } j \geq 0 \text{ with } s_j \models \Phi$$

$$\pi \models \Box\Phi \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{for all } j \geq 0 \text{ we have: } s_j \models \Phi$$

Satisfaction relation for state formulas

CTLSS4.1-13

$s \models \text{true}$

$s \models a$ iff $a \in L(s)$

$s \models \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$ iff $s \models \Phi_1$ and $s \models \Phi_2$

$s \models \neg \Phi$ iff $s \not\models \Phi$

$s \models \exists \varphi$ iff there is a path $\pi \in \text{Paths}(s)$
s.t. $\pi \models \varphi$

$s \models \forall \varphi$ iff for each path $\pi \in \text{Paths}(s)$:
 $\pi \models \varphi$

satisfaction set for state formula Φ :

$$\text{Sat}(\Phi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{s \in S : s \models \Phi\}$$

Interpretation of CTL formulas over a TS

CTLSS4.1-13A

satisfaction of state formulas over a TS \mathcal{T} :

$$\mathcal{T} \models \Phi \text{ iff } S_0 \subseteq Sat(\Phi)$$

$$\text{iff } s_0 \models \Phi \text{ for all initial states } s_0 \text{ of } \mathcal{T}$$

where S_0 is the set of initial states

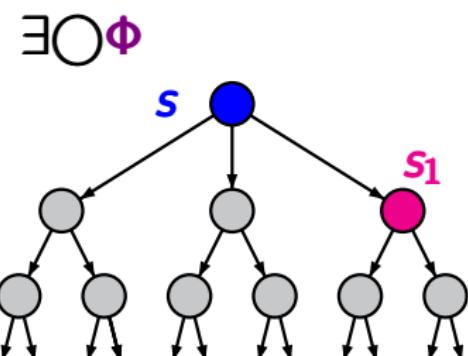
recall: $Sat(\Phi) = \{s \in S : s \models \Phi\}$

Semantics of the next operator

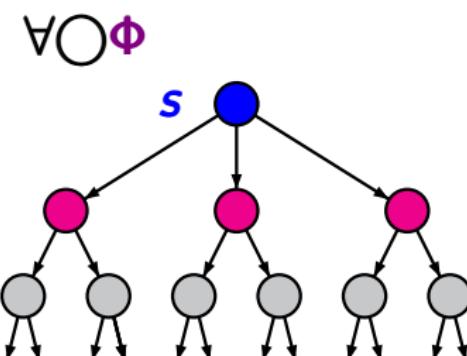
CTLSS4.1-8

$s \models \exists \bigcirc \Phi$ iff there exists $\pi = s s_1 s_2 \dots \in \text{Paths}(s)$
s.t. $\pi \models \bigcirc \Phi$, i.e., $s_1 \models \Phi$

$s \models \forall \bigcirc \Phi$ iff for all $\pi = s s_1 s_2 \dots \in \text{Paths}(s)$:
 $\pi \models \bigcirc \Phi$, i.e., $s_1 \models \Phi$



$$\text{Post}(s) \cap \text{Sat}(\Phi) \neq \emptyset$$

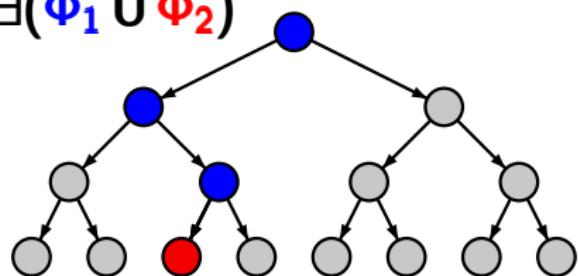


$$\text{Post}(s) \subseteq \text{Sat}(\Phi)$$

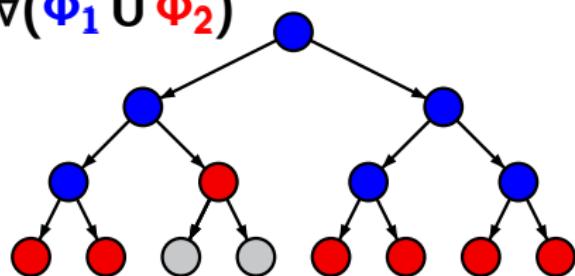
Semantics of until and eventually

CTLSS4.1-9

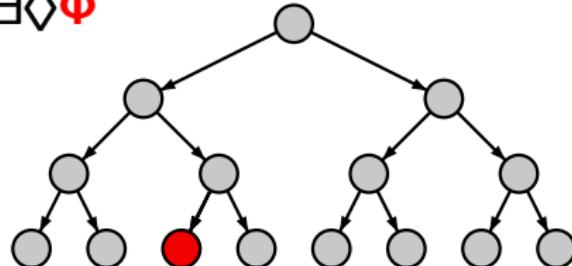
$\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)$



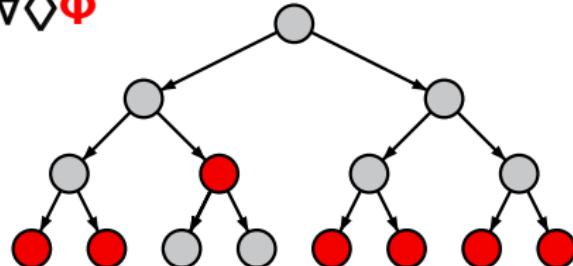
$\forall(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)$



$\exists \Diamond \Phi$



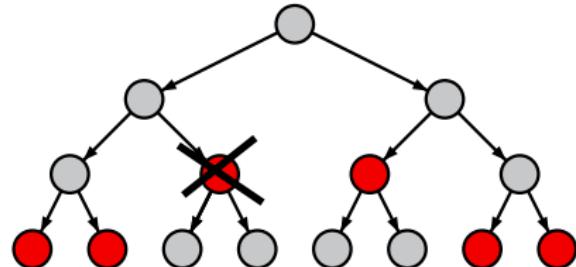
$\forall \Diamond \Phi$



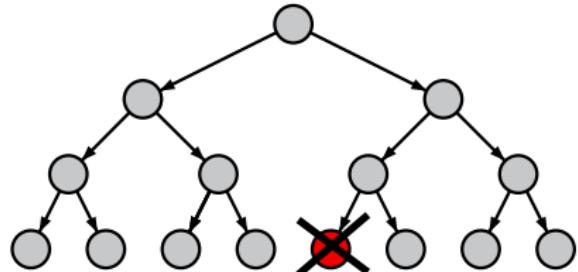
Semantics of eventually and always

CTLSS4.1-10

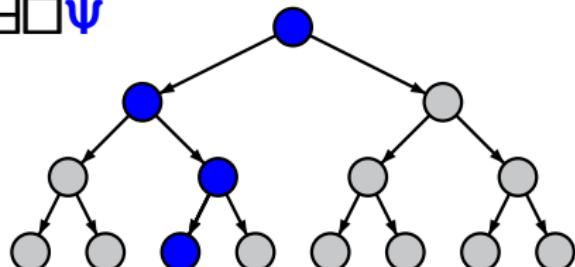
$\neg \Diamond A$



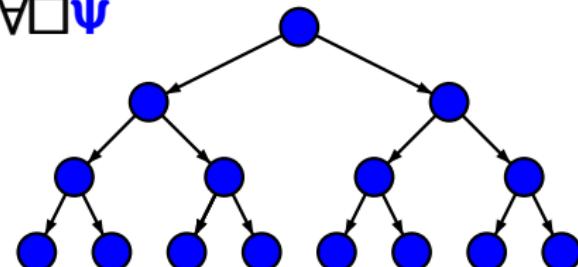
$\neg \exists \Diamond \Phi$



$\exists \Box \Psi$



$\forall \Box \Psi$



Specifying “infinitely often” in CTL

CTLSS4.1-INF-OFTEN.TEX

If s is a state in a TS and $a \in AP$ then:

$$s \models_{\text{CTL}} \forall \Box \Diamond a$$

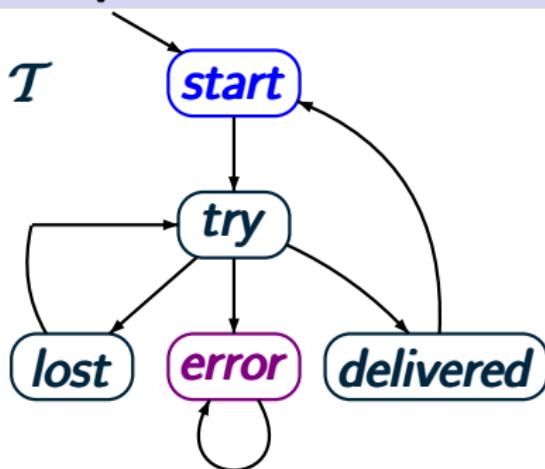
iff for all paths $\pi = s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots \in \text{Paths}(s)$:

$$\exists i \geq 0. \text{ s.t. } s_i \models a$$

iff $s \models_{\text{LTL}} \Box \Diamond a$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16

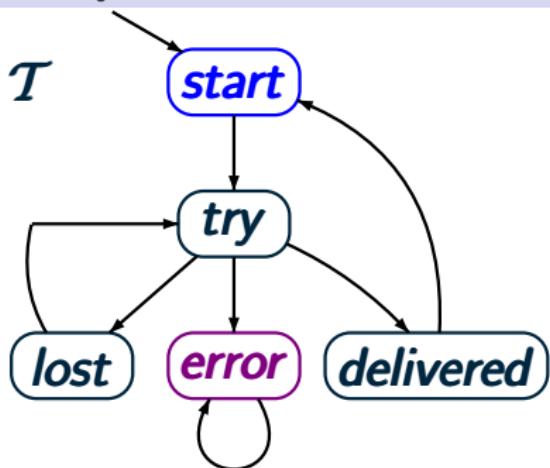


$T \models \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}$?

$$\Phi_1 = \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



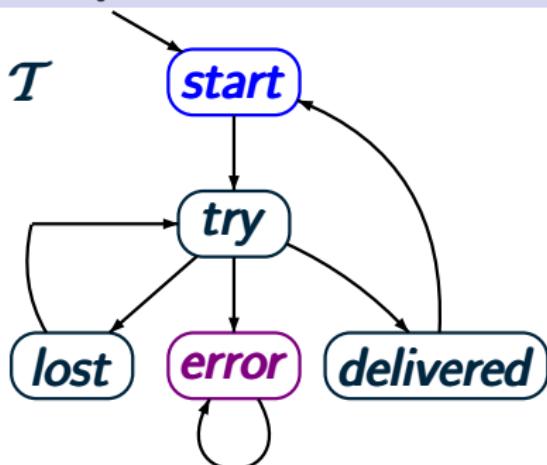
$T \models \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} ?$

$$\Phi_1 = \exists \Diamond \boxed{\forall \Box \neg \text{start}}$$

$$Sat(\forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{ \text{error} \}$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



$T \models \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} ?$

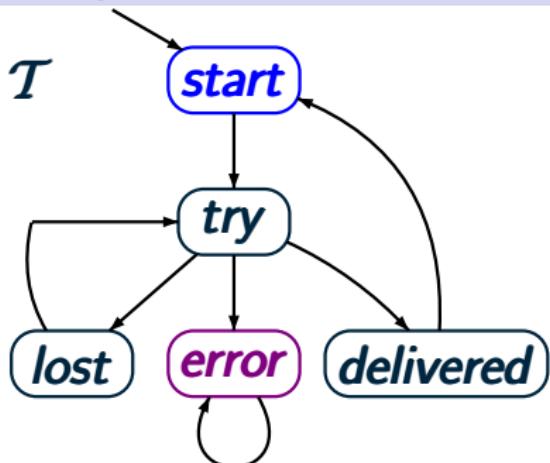
$$\Phi_1 = \exists \Diamond \boxed{\forall \Box \neg \text{start}} \rightsquigarrow \exists \Diamond \boxed{\text{error}}$$

$$Sat(\forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{ \text{error} \}$$

$$Sat(\exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = ?$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



$$T \models \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} \quad \checkmark$$

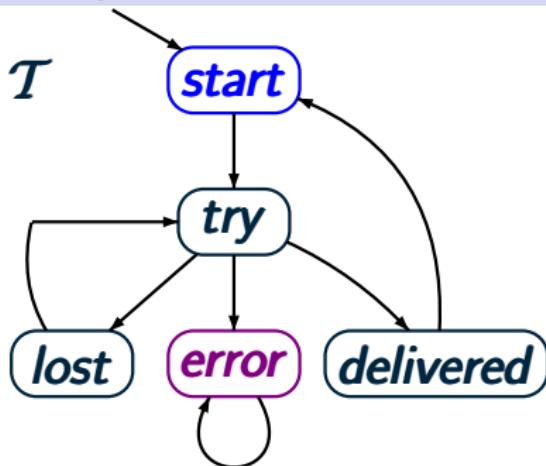
$$\Phi_1 = \exists \Diamond \boxed{\forall \Box \neg \text{start}} \rightsquigarrow \exists \Diamond \boxed{\text{error}}$$

$$Sat(\forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{ \text{error} \}$$

$$Sat(\exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = Sat(\exists \Diamond \text{error}) = \text{"all states"}$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



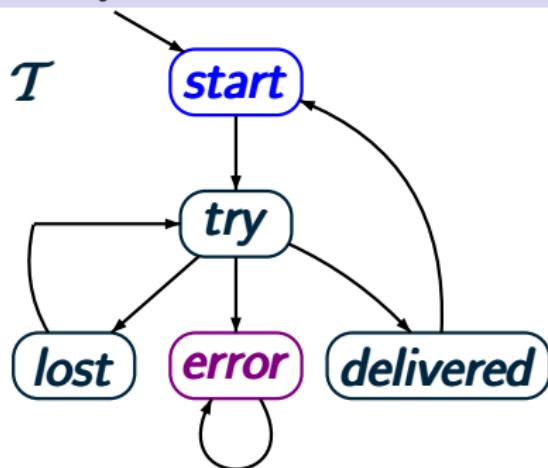
$T \models \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}$

$T \models \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} ?$

$$\Phi_2 = \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



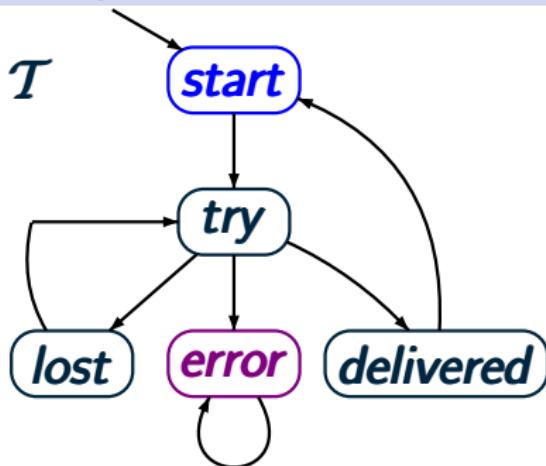
$$\begin{aligned}T \models \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} \\ T \models \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} ?\end{aligned}$$

$$\Phi_2 = \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \boxed{\forall \Box \neg \text{start}}$$

$$Sat(\forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}\}$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



$$T \models \exists \Diamond \Box \neg \text{start}$$

$$T \models \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \Box \neg \text{start} ?$$

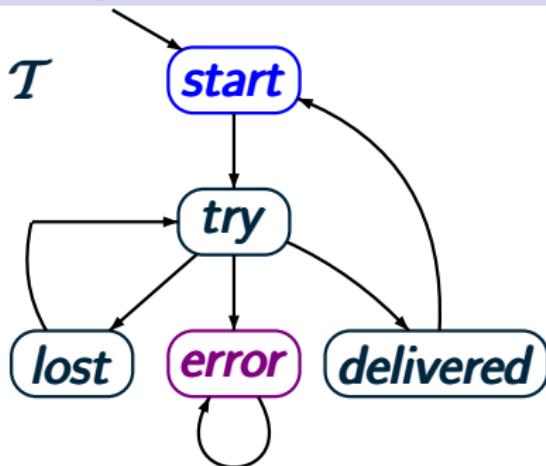
$$\Phi_2 = \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \Box \neg \text{start} \rightsquigarrow \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \text{error}$$

$$Sat(\forall \Diamond \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}\}$$

$$Sat(\exists \Diamond \forall \Diamond \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}, \text{try}\}$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



$$T \models \exists \Diamond \Box \neg \text{start}$$

$$T \models \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \Box \neg \text{start} ?$$

$$\Phi_2 = \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \Box \neg \text{start} \rightsquigarrow \forall \Diamond (\text{error} \vee \text{try})$$

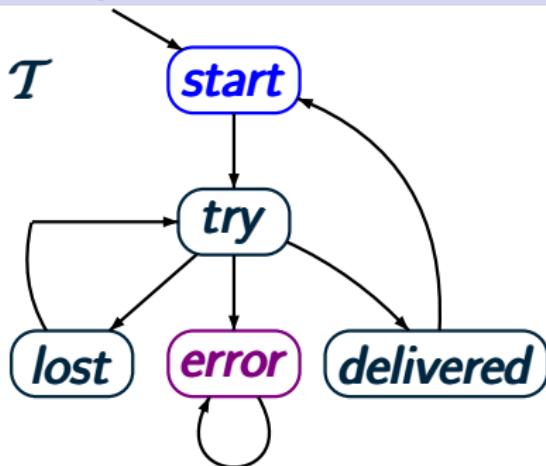
$$Sat(\forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}\}$$

$$Sat(\exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}, \text{try}\}$$

$$Sat(\forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \Box \neg \text{start}) = ?$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-16



$$T \models \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}$$

$$T \models \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\Phi_2 = \forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start} \quad \rightsquigarrow \forall \Diamond (\text{error} \vee \text{try})$$

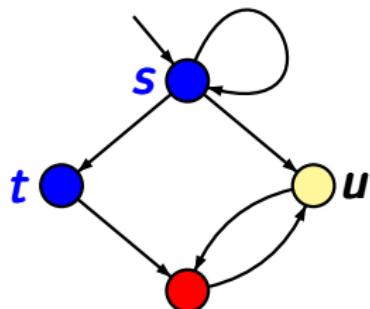
$$Sat(\forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}\}$$

$$Sat(\exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}, \text{try}\}$$

$$Sat(\forall \Diamond \exists \Diamond \forall \Box \neg \text{start}) = \{\text{error}, \text{lost}, \text{start}\}$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-18

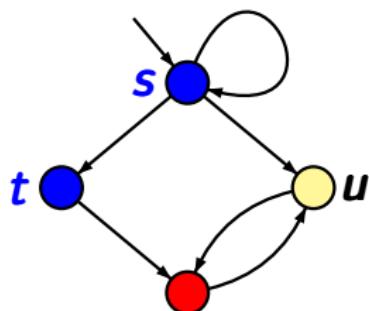


- $\hat{=} \{a\}$
- $\hat{=} \{b\}$
- $\hat{=} \emptyset$

$$\mathcal{T} \models \exists \Box \exists (a \cup b) \quad ?$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-18



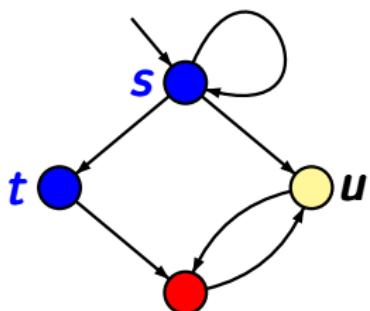
- $\hat{=} \{a\}$
- $\hat{=} \{b\}$
- $\hat{=} \emptyset$

$$\mathcal{T} \models \exists \Box \exists (a \cup b) \quad \checkmark \quad \text{as } sss\dots \models \Box \exists (a \cup b)$$

$$\mathcal{T} \models \exists ((\exists \bigcirc a) \cup b) \quad ?$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-18



$$\text{Blue circle} \hat{=} \{a\}$$

$$\text{Red circle} \hat{=} \{b\}$$

$$\text{Yellow circle} \hat{=} \emptyset$$

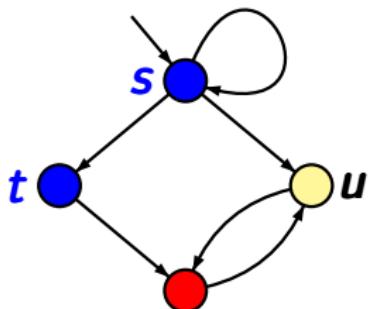
$$\mathcal{T} \models \exists \Box \exists (a \cup b) \quad \checkmark \quad \text{as } sss\dots \models \Box \exists (a \cup b)$$

$$\mathcal{T} \not\models \exists ((\exists \Diamond a) \cup b) \quad \text{as } t \not\models \exists \Diamond a, u \not\models \exists \Diamond a$$

$$\mathcal{T} \models \exists (a \cup \forall (\neg a \cup b)) \quad ?$$

Example: CTL semantics

CTLSS4.1-18

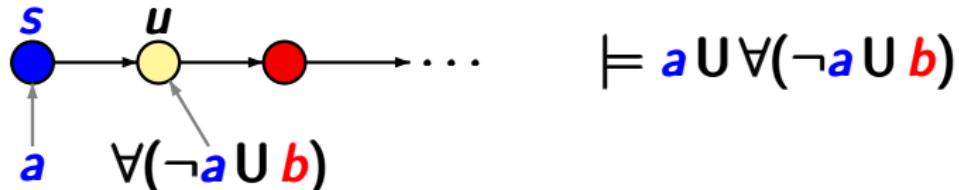


- $\hat{=} \{a\}$
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$$\mathcal{T} \models \exists \Box \exists (a \cup b) \quad \checkmark \quad \text{as } sss\dots \models \Box \exists (a \cup b)$$

$$\mathcal{T} \not\models \exists ((\exists \Diamond a) \cup b) \quad \text{as } t \not\models \exists \Diamond a, u \not\models \exists \Diamond a$$

$$\mathcal{T} \models \exists (a \cup \forall (\neg a \cup b)) \quad \checkmark$$



$$\models a \cup \forall (\neg a \cup b)$$

Correct or wrong?

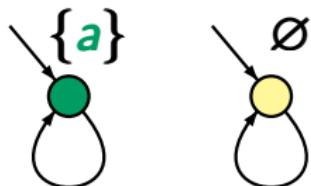
CTLSS4.1-19

Let \mathcal{T} be a transition system and Φ a CTL formula.
Is the following statement correct ?

$$\text{if } \mathcal{T} \not\models \neg\Phi \text{ then } \mathcal{T} \models \Phi$$

answer: no

transition system \mathcal{T} with 2 initial states:



$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T} &\not\models \exists \Box a \\ \mathcal{T} &\not\models \neg \exists \Box a\end{aligned}$$

Equivalence of CTL formulas

CTLSS4.1-22

$\Phi_1 \equiv \Phi_2$ iff for all transition systems \mathcal{T} :

$$\mathcal{T} \models \Phi_1 \iff \mathcal{T} \models \Phi_2$$

iff for all transition systems \mathcal{T} :

$$Sat(\Phi_1) = Sat(\Phi_2)$$

Examples:

$$\neg\neg\Phi \equiv \Phi$$

$$\neg(\Phi \wedge \Psi) \equiv \neg\Phi \vee \neg\Psi$$

⋮

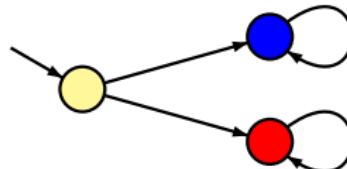
$$\neg\forall\Box\Phi \equiv \exists\Box\neg\Phi$$

Correct or wrong?

CTLSS4.1-23

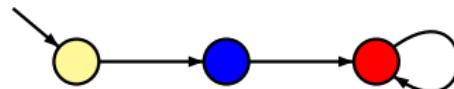
$$\exists \Diamond(a \wedge b) \equiv \exists \Diamond a \wedge \exists \Diamond b$$

wrong, e.g.,



$$\forall \Diamond(a \wedge b) \equiv \forall \Diamond a \wedge \forall \Diamond b$$

wrong, e.g.,



but:

$$\forall \Box(\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2) \equiv \forall \Box \Phi_1 \wedge \forall \Box \Phi_2$$

$$\exists \Diamond(\Phi_1 \vee \Phi_2) \equiv \exists \Diamond \Phi_1 \vee \exists \Diamond \Phi_2$$

Expansion laws

CTLSS4.1-26

$$\exists(\Phi \cup \Psi) \equiv \Psi \vee (\Phi \wedge \exists \circ \exists(\Phi \cup \Psi))$$

$$\forall(\Phi \cup \Psi) \equiv \Psi \vee (\Phi \wedge \forall \circ \forall(\Phi \cup \Psi))$$

$$\exists \Diamond \Psi \equiv \Psi \vee \exists \circ \exists \Diamond \Psi$$

$$\forall \Diamond \Psi \equiv \Psi \vee \forall \circ \forall \Diamond \Psi$$

$$\exists(\Phi \wedge \Psi) \equiv \Psi \vee (\Phi \wedge \exists \circ \exists(\Phi \wedge \Psi))$$

$$\forall(\Phi \wedge \Psi) \equiv \Psi \vee (\Phi \wedge \forall \circ \forall(\Phi \wedge \Psi))$$

$$\exists \Box \Phi \equiv \Phi \vee \exists \circ \exists \Box \Phi$$

$$\forall \Box \Phi \equiv \Phi \vee \forall \circ \forall \Box \Phi$$

Duality laws

CTLSS4.1-27

duality of \Box and \Diamond :

$$\forall \Box \Phi \equiv \neg \exists \Diamond \neg \Phi$$

$$\forall \Diamond \Phi \equiv \neg \exists \Box \neg \Phi$$

self-duality of \bigcirc :

$$\forall \bigcirc \Phi \equiv \neg \exists \bigcirc \neg \Phi$$

$$\exists \bigcirc \Phi \equiv \neg \forall \bigcirc \neg \Phi$$

duality of \mathbf{U} and \mathbf{W} , e.g.:

$$\forall (\Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi) \equiv \neg \exists ((\Phi \wedge \neg \Psi) \mathbf{W} (\neg \Phi \wedge \neg \Psi))$$

$$\equiv \neg \exists ((\neg \Psi) \mathbf{W} (\neg \Phi \wedge \neg \Psi))$$

$$\equiv \neg \exists ((\neg \Psi) \mathbf{U} (\neg \Phi \wedge \neg \Psi)) \wedge \neg \exists \Box \neg \Psi$$

Existential normalform for CTL

CTLSS4.1-28

For each **CTL** formula Ψ there is an equivalent **CTL** formula Φ built by

- operators of propositional logic
- the modalities $\exists\bigcirc$, $\exists\mathbf{U}$ and $\exists\Box$.

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi ::= & \text{ true } | \text{ a } | \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2 | \neg\Phi | \\ & \exists\bigcirc\Phi | \exists(\Phi_1 \mathbf{U} \Phi_2) | \exists\Box\Phi\end{aligned}$$

transformation $\Psi \rightsquigarrow \Phi$ relies on:

$$\forall\bigcirc\Psi \rightsquigarrow \neg\exists\bigcirc\neg\Psi$$

$$\forall(\Psi_1 \mathbf{U} \Psi_2) \rightsquigarrow \neg\exists(\neg\Psi_2 \mathbf{U} (\neg\Psi_1 \wedge \neg\Psi_2)) \wedge \neg\exists\Box\neg\Psi_2$$

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Equivalence of CTL and LTL formulas

COMPARISON4.2-1

Let Φ be a **CTL** formula and φ an **LTL** formula.

$\Phi \equiv \varphi$ iff for all transition systems \mathcal{T} and
all states s in \mathcal{T} :

$$s \models_{\text{CTL}} \Phi \iff s \models_{\text{LTL}} \varphi$$

CTL formula Φ	LTL formula φ
a	a
$\forall \bigcirc a$	$\bigcirc a$
$\forall(a \bigcup b)$	$a \bigcup b$

$$a, b \in AP$$

More examples

COMPARISON 4.2-1A

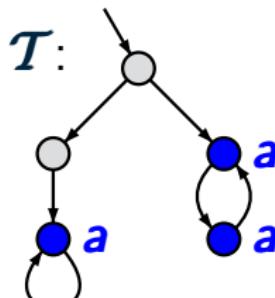
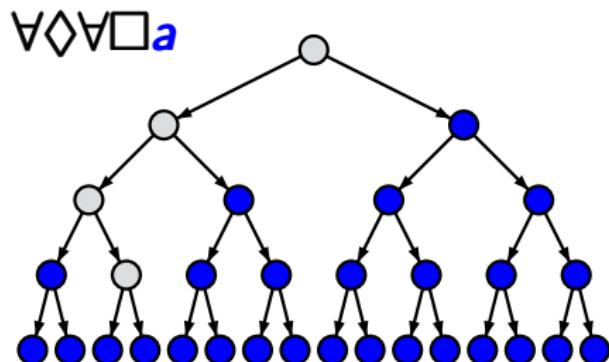
CTL formula Φ	LTL formula φ
a	a
$\forall \bigcirc a$	$\bigcirc a$
$\forall(a \bigcup b)$	$a \bigcup b$
$\forall \Box a$	$\Box a$
$\forall \Diamond a$	$\Diamond a$
$\forall(a \mathbin{\text{W}} b)$	$a \mathbin{\text{W}} b$
$\forall \Box \forall \Diamond a$	$\Box \Diamond a$
infinitely often a	

but: $\forall \Diamond \forall \Box a \not\equiv \Diamond \Box a$

The CTL formula $a\Diamond A \Box a$

$s \models A \Diamond \Box a$ iff on each path π from s
there is a state t with $t \models \forall \Box a$

i.e., all states in the computation tree of t fulfill a

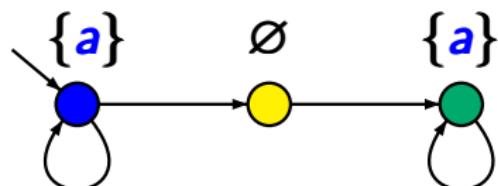


$$T \models \Box \Diamond A$$

$$\Diamond \Box a \not\equiv \forall \Diamond \forall \Box a$$

COMPARISON 4.2-3

transition system \mathcal{T}

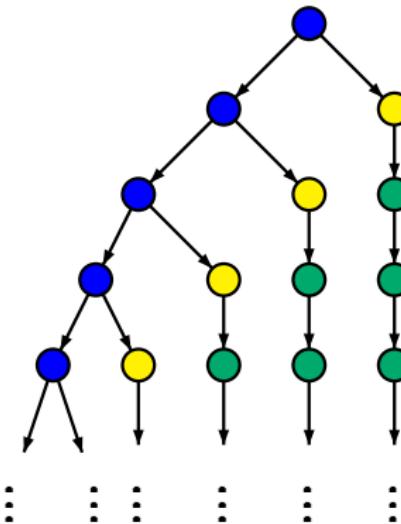


$$\mathcal{T} \models_{\text{LTL}} \Diamond \Box a$$

$$\mathcal{T} \not\models_{\text{CTL}} \forall \Diamond \forall \Box a$$

$$Sat(\forall \Box a) = \{\bullet\}$$

computation tree



From CTL to LTL, if possible

COMPARISON4.2-4

For each **CTL formula** Φ the following holds:

- either there is **no** equivalent LTL formula
- or $\Phi \equiv \varphi$
where φ is the **LTL formula** obtained from Φ
by removing of all path quantifiers \exists and \forall

without proof

$$\Phi = \forall \Diamond \forall \Box a$$



$$\varphi = \Diamond \Box a \not\equiv \Phi$$

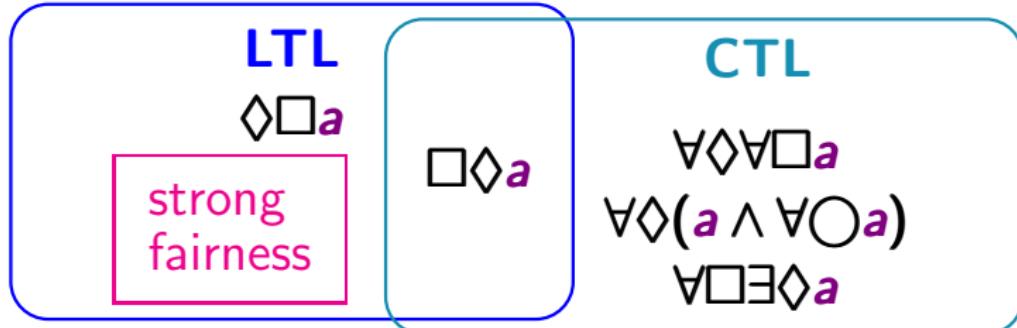
hence: there is no LTL formula equivalent to Φ

Expressiveness of LTL and CTL

COMPARISON 4.2-5

The expressive powers of **LTL** and **CTL** are incomparable

- The **CTL** formulas $\forall \Diamond(a \wedge \forall \bigcirc a)$, $\forall \Diamond \forall \Box a$ and $\forall \Box \exists \Diamond a$ have no equivalent LTL formula
- The **LTL** formula $\Diamond \Box a$ has no equivalent CTL formula



There is no **CTL** formula which is equivalent to the **LTL** formula $\Diamond\Box a$

Proof (sketch): provide sequences $(T_n)_{n \geq 0}$, $(T'_n)_{n \geq 0}$ of transition systems such that for all $n \geq 0$:

- (1) $T_n \not\models \Diamond\Box a$
- (2) $T'_n \models \Diamond\Box a$
- (3) T_n and T'_n satisfy the same **CTL** formulas length $\leq n$

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CTL model checking

CTLMC4.3-1

given: finite TS $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{S}, \text{Act}, \rightarrow, \mathcal{S}_0, AP, L)$
CTL formula Φ over AP
question: does $\mathcal{T} \models \Phi$ hold ?

idea:

- compute $Sat(\Phi) = \{s \in \mathcal{S} : s \models \Phi\}$
- check whether $\mathcal{S}_0 \subseteq Sat(\Phi)$

CTL model checking

CTLMC4.3-1

given: finite TS $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{S}, \text{Act}, \rightarrow, \mathcal{S}_0, AP, L)$

CTL formula Φ over AP

question: does $\mathcal{T} \models \Phi$ hold ?

inner subformulas first



FOR ALL subformulas Ψ of Φ DO

compute $Sat(\Psi)$

replace Ψ by a new atomic proposition a_Ψ

FOR ALL $s \in Sat(\Psi)$ DO add a_Ψ to $L(s)$ OD

OD

IF $\mathcal{S}_0 \subseteq Sat(\Phi)$ THEN output "yes"

ELSE output "no"

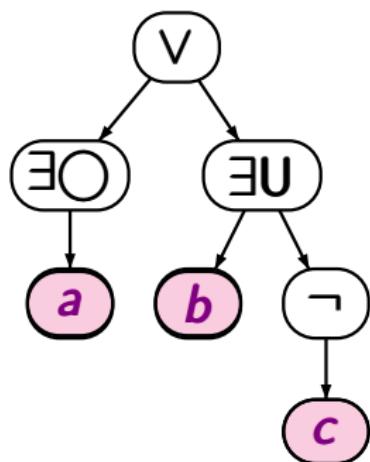
FI

Example: CTL model checking

CTL MC4.3-2

$$\Phi = \exists \bigcirc a \vee \exists(b \cup \neg c)$$

syntax tree for Φ



compute $Sat(a), Sat(b), Sat(c)$

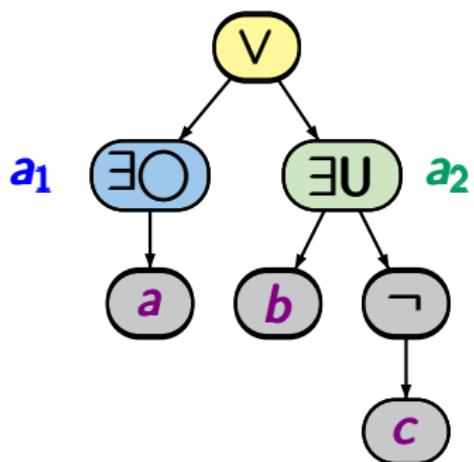
processed in
bottom-up fashion

Example: CTL model checking

CTLMC4.3-2

$$\Phi = \underbrace{\exists \bigcirc a}_{\Phi_1} \vee \underbrace{\exists(b \cup \neg c)}_{\Phi_2} \rightsquigarrow a_1 \vee a_2$$

syntax tree for Φ



processed in
bottom-up fashion

compute $Sat(a)$, $Sat(b)$, $Sat(c)$

$Sat(\Phi_1) = \dots = Sat(a_1)$

$Sat(\neg c) = S \setminus Sat(c)$

$Sat(\Phi_2) = \dots = Sat(a_2)$

replace Φ_1 with a_1

replace Φ_2 with a_2

$Sat(\Phi) = Sat(a_1) \cup Sat(a_2)$

CTL model checking

CTLMC4.3-3A

given: finite TS $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{S}, \text{Act}, \rightarrow, \mathcal{S}_0, AP, L)$
CTL formula Φ over AP

question: does $\mathcal{T} \models \Phi$ hold ?

method: regard in bottom-up manner all subformulas Ψ of Φ and compute their satisfaction sets

$$Sat(\Psi) = \{s \in \mathcal{S} : s \models \Psi\}$$

here: explanations for the case that Φ is
in **existential normal form**

analogous algorithms can be designed for standard CTL
(and the derived operators)

Recall: Existential normal form for CTL

CTL MC4.3-3

For each **CTL** formula there is an equivalent formula in **\exists -normal form**, i.e., a **CTL** formula with the basis modalities $\exists\bigcirc$, $\exists\mathbf{U}$, $\exists\Box$.

CTL formulas in \exists -normal form:

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi ::= & \text{ true } | \text{ a } | \neg\Psi | \Psi_1 \wedge \Psi_2 | \\ & \exists\bigcirc\Psi | \exists(\Psi_1 \mathbf{U} \Psi_2) | \exists\Box\Psi\end{aligned}$$

CTL formula \rightsquigarrow **CTL** formula in \exists -normal form

$$\forall\bigcirc\Phi \rightsquigarrow \neg\exists\bigcirc\neg\Phi$$

$$\forall(\Phi_1 \mathbf{U} \Phi_2) \rightsquigarrow \neg\exists(\neg\Phi_2 \mathbf{U} (\neg\Phi_1 \wedge \neg\Phi_2)) \wedge \neg\exists\Box\neg\Phi_2$$

Recursive computation of the satisfaction sets

CTLMC4.3-4

$$Sat(true) = S$$

$$Sat(a) = \{s \in S : a \in L(s)\}$$

$$Sat(\neg\Phi) = S \setminus Sat(\Phi)$$

$$Sat(\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2) = Sat(\Phi_1) \cap Sat(\Phi_2)$$

$$Sat(\exists \bigcirc \Phi) = \{s \in S : Post(s) \cap Sat(\Phi) \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$Sat(\exists (\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)) = \dots$$

$$Sat(\exists \Box \Phi) = \dots$$

treatment of $\exists \bigcup$ and $\exists \Box$:

via fixed point computation

Least fixed point characterization of $\exists \cup$

CTL MC4.3-5

$$\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2) \equiv \Phi_2 \vee (\Phi_1 \wedge \exists \circ \exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$$

$$Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)) = Sat(\Phi_2) \cup$$

$$\{s \in Sat(\Phi_1) : Post(s) \cap Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)) \neq \emptyset\}$$

satisfies the following conditions:

$$(1) \quad Sat(\Phi_2) \subseteq Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$$

$$(2) \quad \text{If } s \in Sat(\Phi_1) \text{ and } Post(s) \cap Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)) \neq \emptyset \\ \text{then } s \in Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$$

$Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$ is the **smallest set** s.t. (1) and (2) hold

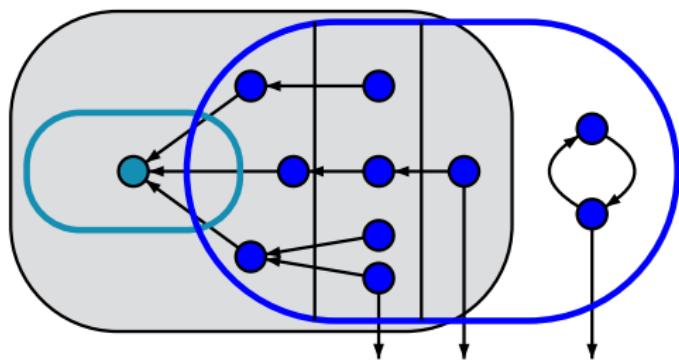
CTL model checking: until operator

CTLMC4.3-12

$$\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2) \equiv \Phi_2 \vee (\Phi_1 \wedge \exists \bigcirc \exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$$

$Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$ = least set T of states s.t.

$$Sat(\Phi_2) \cup \{s \in Sat(\Phi_1) : Post(s) \cap T \neq \emptyset\} \subseteq T$$



$$Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$$

CTL model checking: always operator

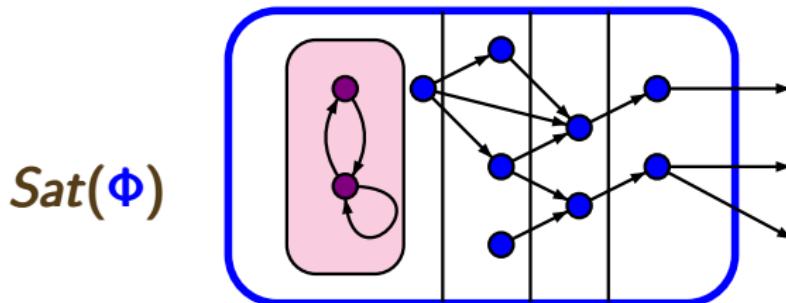
CTLMC4.3-16

$$\text{expansion law: } \exists \Box \Phi \equiv \Phi \wedge \exists \bigcirc \exists \Box \Phi$$

$Sat(\exists \Box \Phi)$ = greatest set T of states with

$$T \subseteq \{s \in Sat(\Phi) : Post(s) \cap T \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$T_0 := Sat(\Phi), \quad T_{n+1} := \{s \in T_n : Post(s) \cap T_n \neq \emptyset\}$$



Recursive computation of $Sat(\dots)$

CTL MC4.3-8

$$Sat(\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2) = Sat(\Phi_1) \cap Sat(\Phi_2)$$

$$Sat(\neg \Phi) = S \setminus Sat(\Phi)$$

$$Sat(\exists \bigcirc \Phi) = \{s \in S : Post(s) \cap Sat(\Phi) = \emptyset\}$$

$Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$ = smallest set T of states s.t.

- $Sat(\Phi_2) \subseteq T$
- $s \in Sat(\Phi_1)$ and $Post(s) \cap T \neq \emptyset \implies s \in T$

$Sat(\exists \Box \Phi)$ = greatest set V of states s.t.

- $V \subseteq Sat(\Phi)$
- $s \in V \implies Post(s) \cap V \neq \emptyset$

CTL model checking: treatment of $\exists U$

CTLMC4.3-14

compute $Sat(\exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2))$ via an
enumerative backward search

$T := Sat(\Phi_2)$ ← collects all states $s \models \exists(\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)$

$E := Sat(\Phi_2)$ ← set of states still to be expanded

WHILE $E \neq \emptyset$ DO

 select a state $s' \in E$ and remove s' from E

 FOR ALL $s \in Pre(s')$ DO

 IF $s \in Sat(\Phi_1) \setminus T$ THEN add s to T and E FI

 OD

OD

return T

complexity: $O(\text{size}(T))$

Computation of $Sat(\exists \Box \Phi)$

CTLMC4.3-18

$T := Sat(\Phi) \leftarrow$ organizes the candidates for $s \models \exists \Box \Phi$

$E := S \setminus T \leftarrow$ set of states to be expanded

WHILE $E \neq \emptyset$ DO

 pick a state $s' \in E$ and remove s' from E

 FOR ALL $s \in Pre(s')$ DO

 IF $s \in T$ and $Post(s) \cap T = \emptyset$ THEN

 remove s from T and add s to E

 FI

OD

return T

naïve implementation:
quadratic time complexity

Computation of $\text{Sat}(\exists \Box \Phi)$ using counters

CTLMC4.3-20

$T := \text{Sat}(\Phi); E := S \setminus T$

FOR ALL $s \in \text{Sat}(\Phi)$ DO $c[s] := |\text{Post}(s)|$ OD

loop invariant: $c[s] = |\text{Post}(s) \cap (T \cup E)|$ for $s \in T$

WHILE $E \neq \emptyset$ DO

pick a state $s' \in E$ and remove s' from E

FOR ALL $s \in \text{Pre}(s')$ DO

IF $s \in T$ THEN

$c[s] := c[s] - 1$

IF $c[s] = 0$ THEN

remove s from T and add s to E FI

FI

OD

complexity:
 $O(\text{size}(T))$

Recursive computation of $Sat(\dots)$

CTL MC4.3-8A

$$Sat(\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2) = Sat(\Phi_1) \cap Sat(\Phi_2)$$

$$Sat(\neg \Phi) = S \setminus Sat(\Phi)$$

$$Sat(\exists \bigcirc \Phi) = \{s \in S : Post(s) \cap Sat(\Phi) = \emptyset\}$$

$$Sat(\exists (\Phi_1 \cup \Phi_2)) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} T_n \text{ where}$$

$$T_0 = Sat(\Phi_2)$$

$$T_{n+1} = \{s \in Sat(\Phi_1) : Post(s) \cap T_n \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$Sat(\exists \Box \Phi) = \bigcap_{n \geq 0} V_n \text{ where}$$

$$V_0 = Sat(\Phi); \quad V_{n+1} = \{s \in V_n : Post(s) \cap V_n \neq \emptyset\}$$

CTL model checking: $\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot |\Phi|)$

LTL model checking: $\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \exp(|\varphi|))$

model complexity, i.e., for fixed specification:

CTL and **LTL**: $\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}))$

If $\Phi \equiv \varphi$ then “often” we have: $|\Phi| = \exp(|\varphi|)$

If $P \neq NP$ then there is a sequence $(\varphi_n)_{n \geq 0}$ of **LTL** formulas such that:

- $|\varphi_n| = \mathcal{O}(\text{poly}(n))$
- φ_n has an equivalent **CTL** formula, but no equivalent **CTL** formula of polynomial length

Proof. Let $\varphi_n = \neg\varphi'_n$. Then:

- $|\varphi_n| = |\varphi'_n| + 1 = \mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- φ_n has an equivalent **CTL** formula, e.g., $\neg\Phi'_n$

Suppose there is a **CTL** formula of polynomial length that is equivalent to φ_n . Then:

Hamilton path problem $\in P$ and $P = NP$

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counterexamples/witnesses, CTL⁺ and CTL^{*}

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LTL model checking problem:

PSPACE-complete and solvable in time

$$\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \exp(|\varphi|))$$

CTL model checking problem:

solvable in polynomial time (even PTIME-complete)

$$\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot |\Phi|)$$

LTL model checking problem:

PSPACE-complete and solvable in time

$$\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \exp(|\varphi|))$$

LTL with fairness: $\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \exp(|\varphi|) \cdot |\text{fair}|)$

CTL model checking problem:

solvable in polynomial time (even PTIME-complete)

$$\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot |\Phi|)$$

CTL with fairness: $\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot |\Phi| \cdot |\text{fair}|)$

Recall: LTL fairness assumptions

CTLFAIR4.4-2

are conjunctions of **LTL formulas** of the form

- unconditional fairness $\Box\Diamond\phi$
- strong fairness $\Box\Diamond\psi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\phi$
- weak fairness $\Diamond\Box\psi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\phi$

where ϕ, ψ are propositional formulas

Reduction of \models_{fair} to \models

$\mathcal{T} \models_{\text{fair}} \varphi$ iff $\pi \models \varphi$ for all fair paths π in \mathcal{T}
iff for all paths π in \mathcal{T} :
 $\pi \models \text{fair} \rightarrow \varphi$

conjunctions of “formulas” of the type

- unconditional fairness: $\Box\Diamond\Phi$
- strong fairness: $\Box\Diamond\Psi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\Phi$
- weak fairness: $\Diamond\Box\Psi \rightarrow \Box\Diamond\Phi$

where Ψ , Φ are CTL state formulas

note: CTL fairness assumptions

- are not CTL (state or path) formulas
- just a syntactic formalism to specify fairness assumptions

Satisfaction relation for CTL with fairness

CTLFAIR4.4-3

$s \models_{\text{fair}} \text{true}$

$s \models_{\text{fair}} a$ iff $a \in L(s)$

$s \models_{\text{fair}} \neg \Phi$ iff $s \not\models_{\text{fair}} \Phi$

$s \models_{\text{fair}} \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$ iff $s \models_{\text{fair}} \Phi_1$ and $s \models_{\text{fair}} \Phi_2$

$s \models_{\text{fair}} \exists \varphi$ iff there exists $\pi \in \text{Paths}(s)$ with
 $\boxed{\pi \models \text{fair}}$ and $\pi \models_{\text{fair}} \varphi$

$s \models_{\text{fair}} \forall \varphi$ iff for all $\pi \in \text{Paths}(s)$:

$\boxed{\pi \models \text{fair}}$ implies $\pi \models_{\text{fair}} \varphi$

e.g., $s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots \models \square \diamond \Phi$ iff $\exists^{\infty} i \geq 0$ s.t. $s_i \models \Phi$

Preprocessing of FairCTL model checking

CTLFAIR4.4-12A

given: finite transition system \mathcal{T}

CTL formula Φ in \exists -normal form

CTL fairness assumption fair , e.g.,

$$\text{fair} = \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq k} \square \Diamond \Psi_{i,1} \rightarrow \square \Diamond \Psi_{i,2}$$

question: does $\mathcal{T} \models_{\text{fair}} \Phi$ hold ?

preprocessing: apply a standard CTL model checker
to evaluate the CTL state subformulas of fair

- compute $\text{Sat}(\Psi_{i,1})$ and $\text{Sat}(\Psi_{i,2})$
- replace $\Psi_{i,1}$ and $\Psi_{i,2}$ with fresh atomic propositions b_i and c_i , respectively

Idea of FairCTL model checking

CTLFAIR4.4-12B

given: finite transition system \mathcal{T}

CTL formula Φ in \exists -normal form

CTL fairness assumption *fair*

question: does $\mathcal{T} \models_{\text{fair}} \Phi$ hold ?

1. ... preprocessing ...
2. Build the parse tree of Φ and process it in bottom-up-manner. Treatment of:
 - *true*, $a \in AP$, \wedge , \neg : as for standard CTL
 - $\exists \bigcirc$, $\exists \mathbf{U}$: via standard CTL model checking
 - $\exists \square$: via analysis of SCCs

CTL fairness assumptions: formulas similar to **LTL**

e.g., $\text{fair} = \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq k} (\square \lozenge \Psi_i \rightarrow \square \lozenge \Phi_i)$

CTL satisfaction relation with fairness:

$s \models_{\text{fair}} \exists \varphi$ iff there exists $\pi \in \text{Paths}(s)$ with
 $\pi \models \text{fair}$ and $\pi \models_{\text{fair}} \varphi$

model checking for **CTL** with fairness:

- $\exists \bigcirc, \exists \mathbf{U}, \forall \bigcirc, \forall \square$ via **CTL** model checker
- analysis of **SCCs** for $\exists \square, \forall \mathbf{U}$
- complexity: $\mathcal{O}(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot |\Phi| \cdot |\text{fair}|)$

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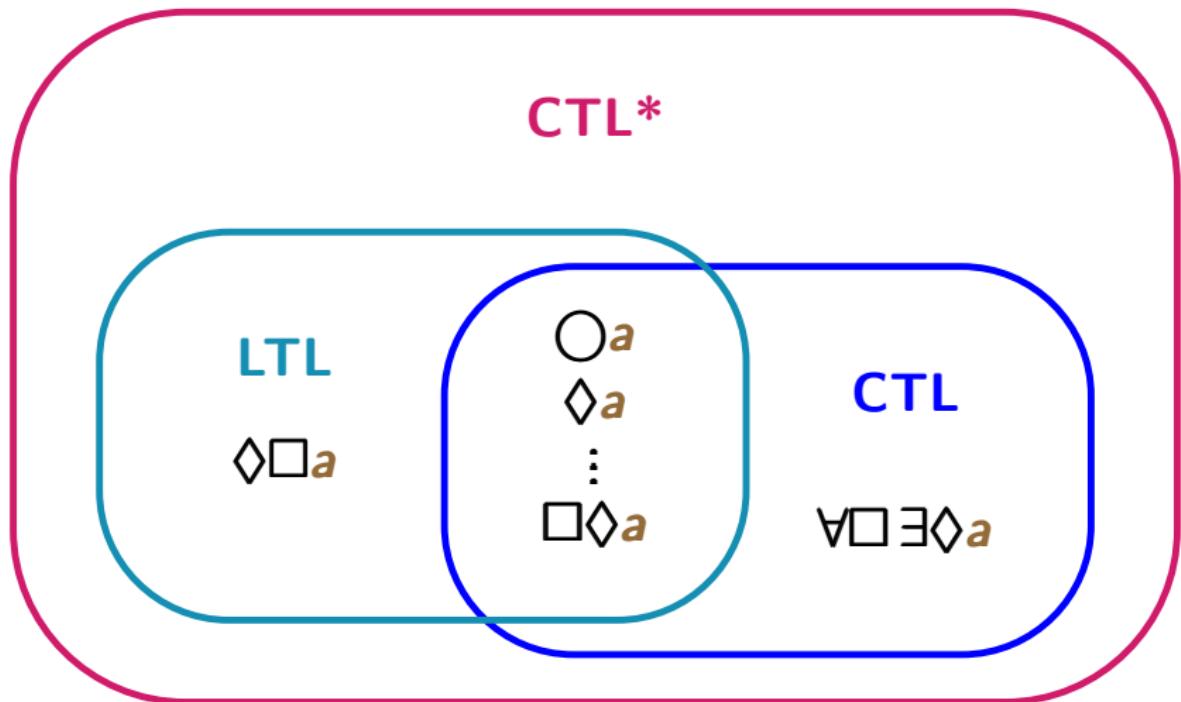
CTL⁺ and CTL*



Equivalences and Abstraction

Combining LTL and CTL \rightsquigarrow CTL*

CTLST4.6-1



state formulas:

$$\Phi ::= \text{true} \mid a \mid \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2 \mid \neg\Phi \mid \exists\varphi$$

path formulas:

$$\varphi ::= \Phi \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \neg\varphi \mid \bigcirc\varphi \mid \varphi_1 \mathbf{U} \varphi_2$$

derived operators:

- \vee , \rightarrow , etc.
- eventually, always as in **LTL**:

$$\Diamond\varphi = \text{true} \mathbf{U} \varphi, \quad \Box\varphi = \neg\Diamond\neg\varphi$$

- universal quantification: $\forall\varphi = \neg\exists\neg\varphi$

Let $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{S}, \mathbf{Act}, \rightarrow, \mathcal{S}_0, AP, L)$ be a transition system without terminal states.

define by structural induction:

- a satisfaction relation \models for states $s \in \mathcal{S}$ and CTL* state formulas
- a satisfaction relation \models for infinite path fragments π in \mathcal{T} and CTL* path formulas

Semantics of CTL* state formulas

CTLST4.6-2A

$s \models \text{true}$

$s \models a$ iff $a \in L(s)$

$s \models \neg \Phi$ iff $s \not\models \Phi$

$s \models \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$ iff $s \models \Phi_1$ and $s \models \Phi_2$

$s \models \exists \varphi$ iff there exists a path $\pi \in \text{Paths}(s)$
such that $\pi \models \varphi$



satisfaction relation \models
for **CTL*** path formulas

Semantics of CTL* path formulas

CTLST4.6-2B

let $\pi = s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots$ be an infinite path fragment in \mathcal{T}

$\pi \models \Phi$	iff	$s_0 \models \Phi$	
$\pi \models \neg \varphi$	iff	$\pi \not\models \varphi$	
$\pi \models \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$	iff	$\pi \models \varphi_1$ and $\pi \models \varphi_2$	
$\pi \models \bigcirc \varphi$	iff	$\text{suffix}(\pi, 1) \models \varphi$	
$\pi \models \varphi_1 \mathbf{U} \varphi_2$	iff	there exists $j \geq 0$ such that $\text{suffix}(\pi, j) \models \varphi_2$ $\text{suffix}(\pi, i) \models \varphi_1$ for $0 \leq i < j$	

$$\text{suffix}(\pi, k) = s_k s_{k+1} s_{k+2} \dots$$

Examples of CTL*-formulas

CTLST4.6-3

mutual exclusion:

safety $\forall \Box(\neg crit_1 \vee \neg crit_2)$

liveness $\forall \Box\Diamond crit_1 \wedge \forall \Box\Diamond crit_2$

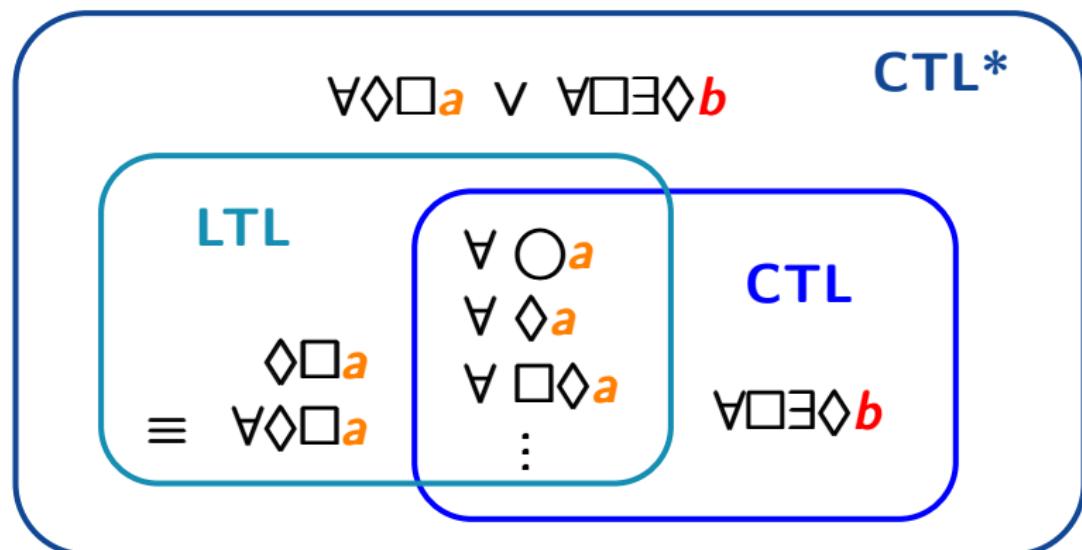
progress property, e.g., $\forall \Box(request \rightarrow \Diamond response)$

persistence property, e.g., $\forall \Diamond \Box a$

CTL* formulas with existential quantification, e.g.,
Hamilton path problem (for fixed initial state)

$$\exists (\bigwedge_{v \in V} (\Diamond v \wedge \Box(v \rightarrow \bigcirc \Box \neg v)))$$

- **CTL** is a sublogic of **CTL***
- **LTL** is a sublogic of **CTL***
- **CTL*** is more expressive than **LTL** and **CTL**



Equivalence of CTL*-formulas

CTLST4.6-15

$$\neg \exists \varphi \equiv \forall \neg \varphi \quad \text{e.g., } \neg \exists \Box \Diamond a \equiv \forall \Diamond \Box \neg a$$

$$\neg \forall \varphi \equiv \exists \neg \varphi \quad \text{e.g., } \neg \forall \Box \Diamond a \equiv \exists \Diamond \Box \neg a$$

$$\forall(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \equiv \forall \varphi_1 \wedge \forall \varphi_2$$

$$\exists(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \equiv \exists \varphi_1 \vee \exists \varphi_2$$

$$\text{but: } \forall(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) \not\equiv \forall \varphi_1 \vee \forall \varphi_2$$

$$\exists(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) \not\equiv \exists \varphi_1 \wedge \exists \varphi_2$$

$$\forall \Box \Diamond \varphi \equiv \forall \Box \forall \Diamond \varphi \quad \text{but: } \forall \Diamond \Box \varphi \not\equiv \forall \Diamond \forall \Box \varphi$$

$$\exists \Diamond \Box \varphi \equiv \exists \Diamond \exists \Box \varphi \quad \exists \Box \Diamond \varphi \not\equiv \exists \Box \exists \Diamond \varphi$$

CTL* model checking

CTLST4.6-24

given: finite TS $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{S}, \text{Act}, \rightarrow, \mathcal{S}_0, AP, L)$

CTL* formula Φ

question: does $\mathcal{T} \models \Phi$ hold ?

main procedure as for CTL:

```
FOR ALL subformulas  $\Psi$  of  $\Phi$  DO
    compute  $Sat(\Psi) = \{s \in \mathcal{S} : s \models \Psi\}$ 
OD
IF  $\mathcal{S}_0 \subseteq Sat(\Phi)$ 
    THEN return "yes"
ELSE return "no"
FI
```

Recursive computation of satisfaction sets

CTLST4.6-24A

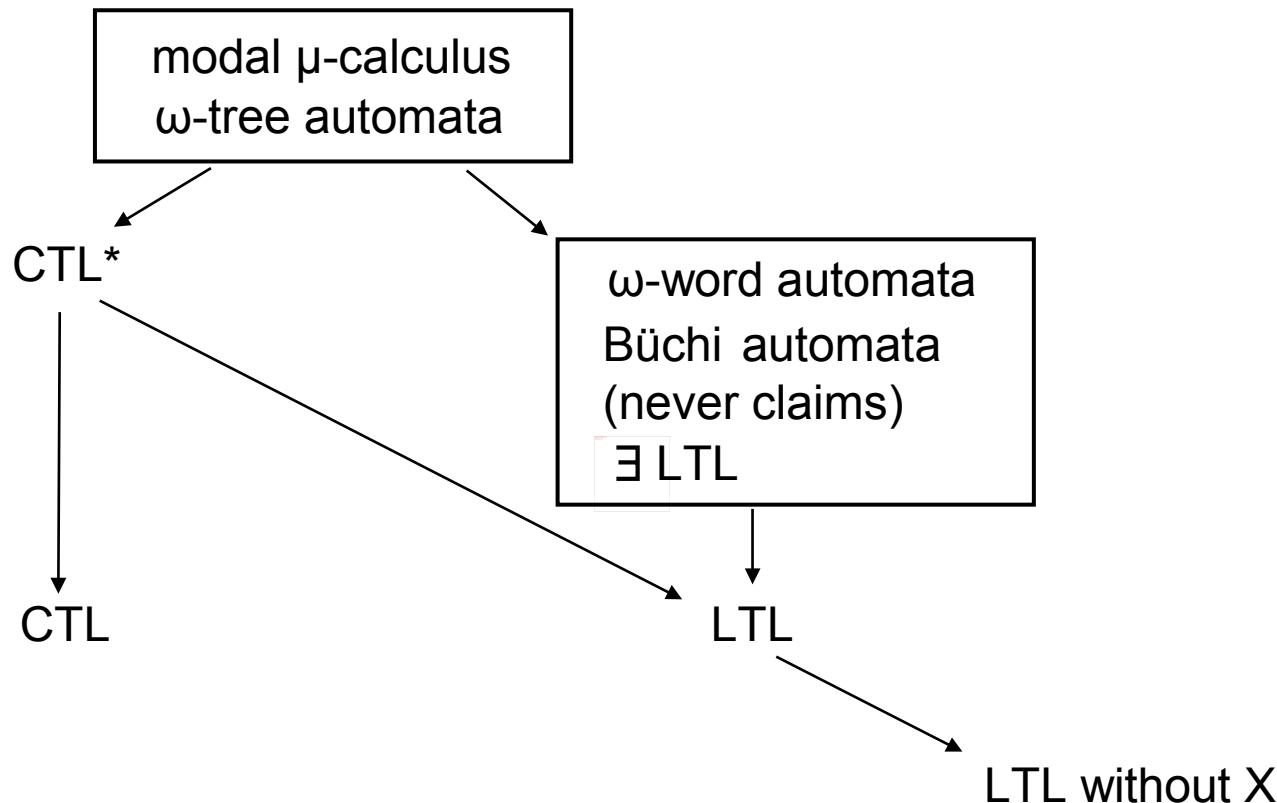
$$\left. \begin{array}{lcl} \text{Sat}(\text{true}) & = & S \\ \text{Sat}(a) & = & \{s \in S : a \in L(s)\} \\ \text{Sat}(\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2) & = & \text{Sat}(\Phi_1) \cap \text{Sat}(\Phi_2) \\ \text{Sat}(\neg\Phi) & = & S \setminus \text{Sat}(\Phi) \end{array} \right\} \text{as for CTL}$$
$$\left. \begin{array}{lcl} \text{Sat}(\forall \varphi) & = & \text{Sat}_{LTL}(\varphi) \\ \text{Sat}(\exists \varphi) & = & S \setminus \text{Sat}_{LTL}(\neg\varphi) \end{array} \right\} \text{using an LTL model checker}$$

Complexity of CTL/LTL/CTL* model checking

CTLST4.6-26

	CTL	LTL and CTL*
	PTIME- complete	PSPACE- complete
\models	$O(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \Phi)$	$O(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \exp(\varphi))$
\models_{fair}	$O(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \Phi \cdot \text{fair})$	$O(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}) \cdot \exp(\varphi) \cdot \text{fair})$
model complexity, i.e., for fixed formula: $O(\text{size}(\mathcal{T}))$		

Relationships among logics



same box means ‘equally expressive’

single arrow means ‘more expressive than’

no arrow means ‘expressiveness is not comparable’