

# Execution-time opacity control for timed automata

GT SCALP / Vérification 2024

IRCICA

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<sup>3</sup>IRIF, Université Paris Cité

- Ensure security of real time systems
- Side-channel attacks: using non-algorithmic weaknesses (timing information, power consumption, electromagnetic leakage, sound... )

# Context

pwd

b a g u e t t e

attempt

b a g e l

# Context

pwd

b

a

g

u

e

t

t

e

attempt

b

a

g

e

l

# Context

pwd

b a g u e t t e

attempt

b a g e l

# Context

pwd

b a g u e t t e

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pwd

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attempt

b a g e l

# Context

pwd    b   a   g   u   e   t   t   e

attempt    b   a   g   e   l

→ Execution time is proportional to the number of consecutive correct characters.

# Context

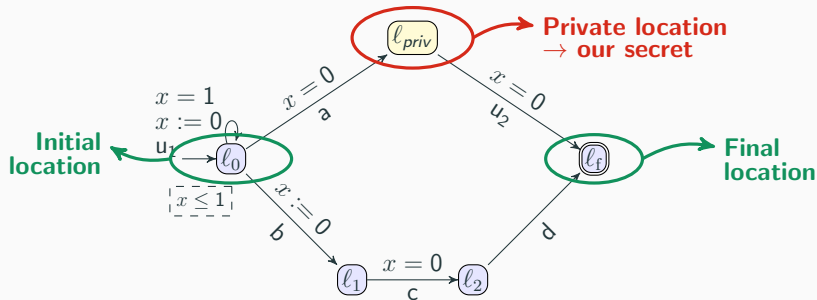
- Ensure security of real time systems
- Side-channel attacks: using non-algorithmic weaknesses (timing information, power consumption, electromagnetic leakage, sound... )
- The attacker: external observer who only knows execution time
- Our objective: keep a secret

# Model & Problem

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# Timed Automaton (TA)

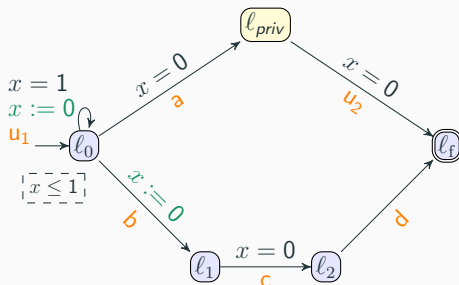
Timed automaton : finite automaton with clocks



Locations

# Timed Automaton (TA)

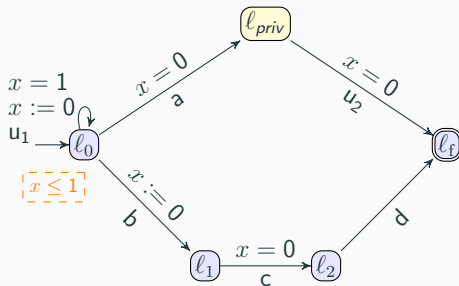
Timed automaton : finite automaton with clocks



Transitions: actions and reset

# Timed Automaton (TA)

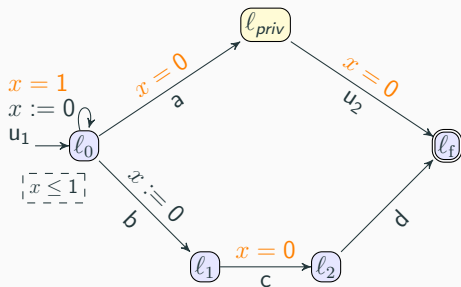
Timed automaton : finite automaton with clocks



Invariants

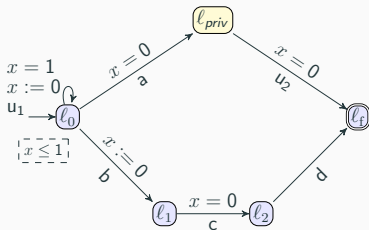
# Timed Automaton (TA)

Timed automaton : finite automaton with clocks

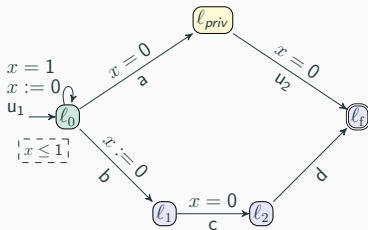


Guards

# Timed automata and runs



# Timed automata and runs



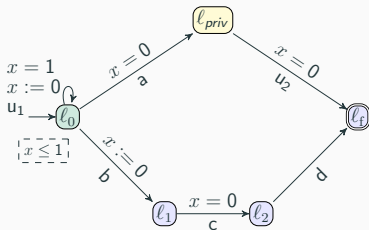
$\ell_0$

$x = 0$

$t = 0$

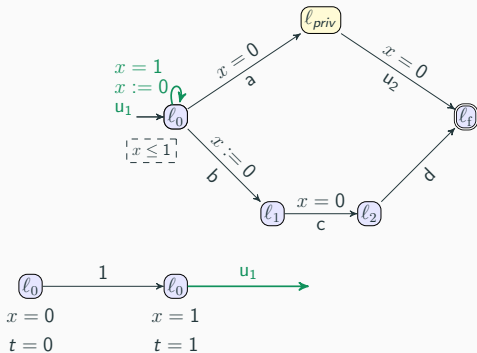
$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0)$$

# Timed automata and runs



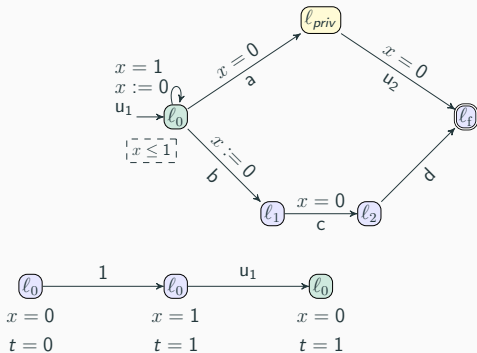
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# Timed automata and runs



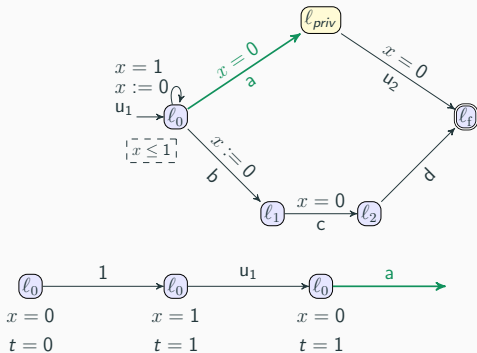
$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1}$$

# Timed automata and runs



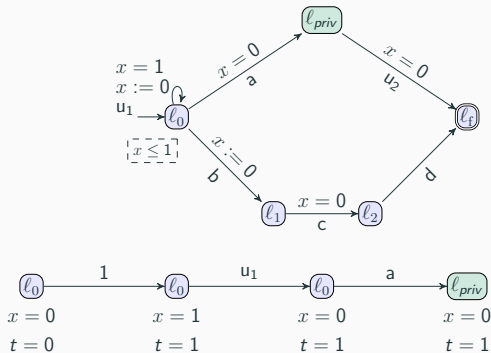
$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0)$$

# Timed automata and runs



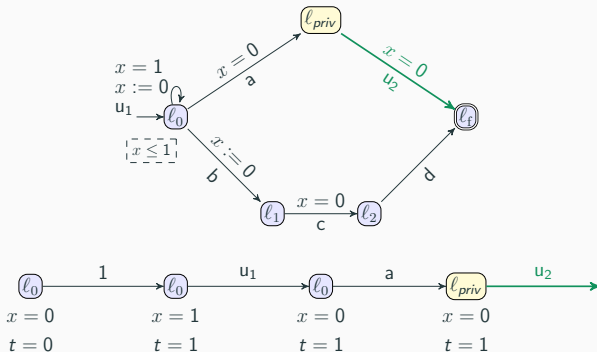
$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a}$$

# Timed automata and runs



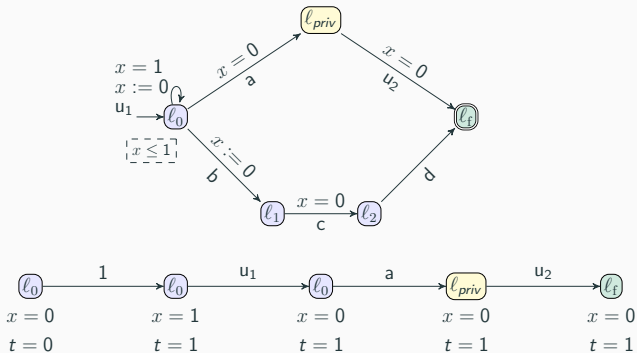
$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0)$$

# Timed automata and runs



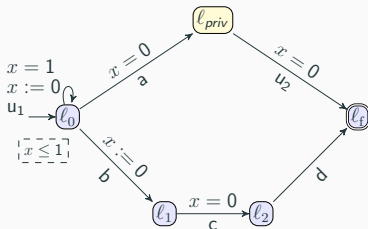
$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2}$$

# Timed automata and runs



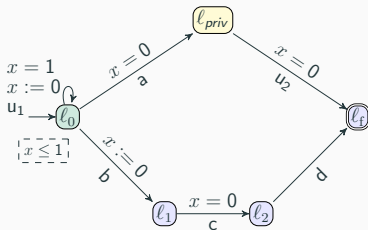
$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

# Timed automata and runs



$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

# Timed automata and runs



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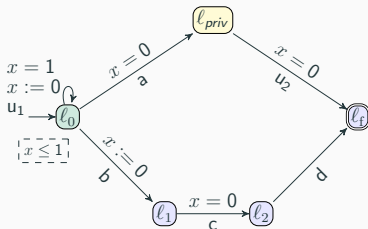
$\ell_0$

$x = 0$

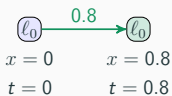
$t = 0$

$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0)$$

# Timed automata and runs

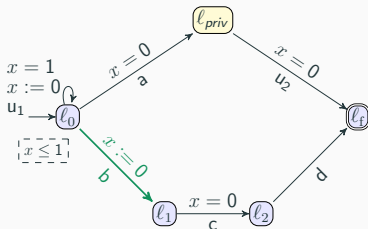


$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

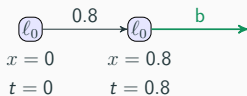


$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0)$$

# Timed automata and runs

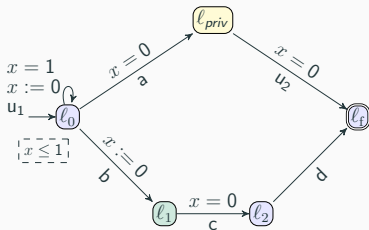


$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

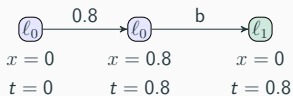


$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b}$$

# Timed automata and runs

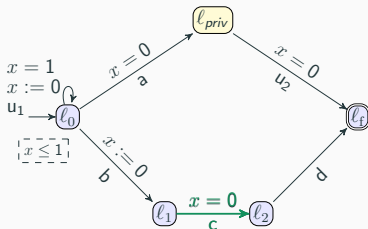


$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

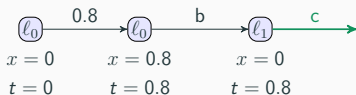


$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0)$$

# Timed automata and runs

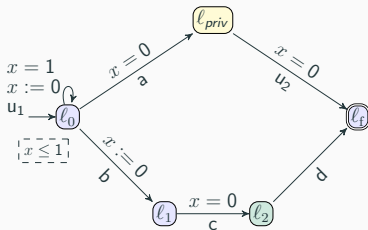


$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

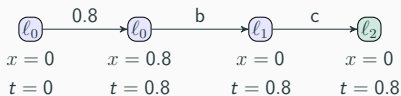


$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0) \xrightarrow{0, c}$$

# Timed automata and runs

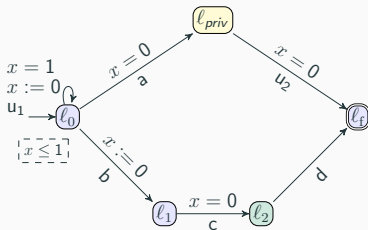


$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

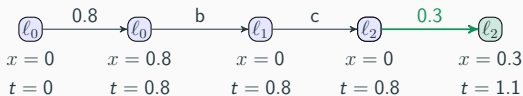


$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0) \xrightarrow{0, c} (\ell_2, 0)$$

# Timed automata and runs

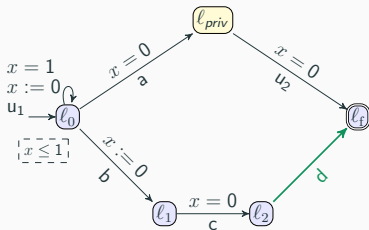


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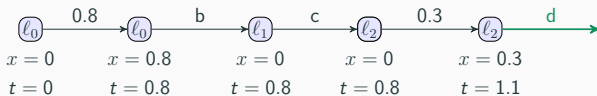


$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0.8) \xrightarrow{0, c} (\ell_2, 0.8)$$

# Timed automata and runs

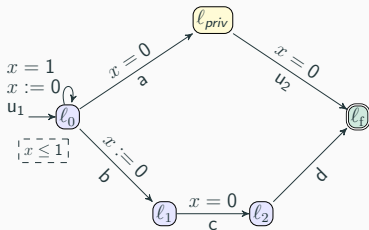


$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_1) = 1$$

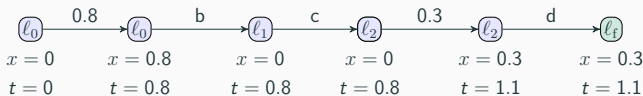


$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0) \xrightarrow{0, c} (\ell_2, 0) \xrightarrow{0.3, d}$$

# Timed automata and runs

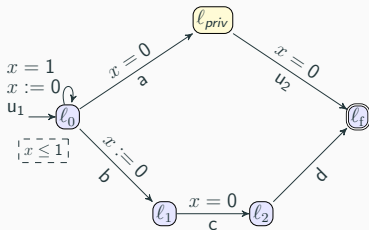


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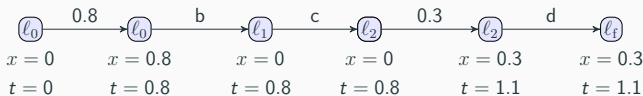


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# Timed automata and runs

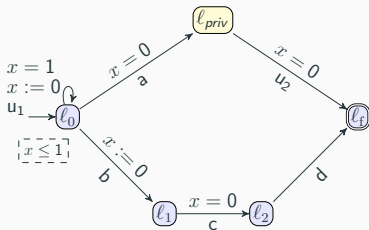


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$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0) \xrightarrow{0, c} (\ell_2, 0) \xrightarrow{0.3, d} (\ell_f, 0.3) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_2) = 1.1$$

# Timed automata and runs



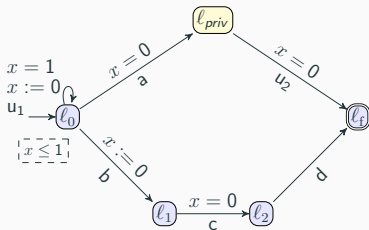
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**Private run**

$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0) \xrightarrow{0, c} (\ell_2, 0) \xrightarrow{0.3, d} (\ell_f, 0.3) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_2) = 1.1$$

**Public run**

# Timed automata and runs



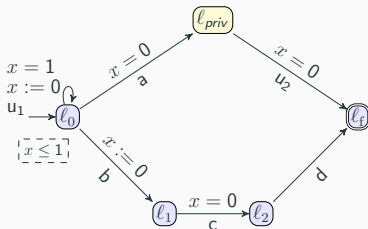
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**Private run (visiting  $\ell_{priv}$ )**

$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0) \xrightarrow{0, c} (\ell_2, 0) \xrightarrow{0.3, d} (\ell_f, 0.3) \quad \text{dur}(\rho_2) = 1.1$$

**Public run (avoiding  $\ell_{priv}$ )**

# Timed automata and runs



$$\rho_1 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{1, u_1} (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0, a} (\ell_{priv}, 0) \xrightarrow{0, u_2} (\ell_f, 0)$$

**Private run (visiting  $\ell_{priv}$ )**

$$dur(\rho_1) = 1$$

Private duration

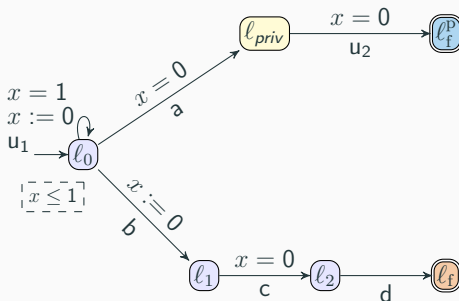
$$\rho_2 = (\ell_0, 0) \xrightarrow{0.8, b} (\ell_1, 0) \xrightarrow{0, c} (\ell_2, 0) \xrightarrow{0.3, d} (\ell_f, 0.3)$$

**Public run (avoiding  $\ell_{priv}$ )**

$$dur(\rho_2) = 1.1$$

Public duration

# Duplicated Timed Automaton



Last location is sufficient to discriminate private and public runs.

# Execution-time opacity

**Private durations**

=

**Public durations**

# Execution-time opacity

**Private durations**

=

**Public durations**

Is a given system opaque? Decidable<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>*Configuring Timing Parameters to Ensure Execution-Time Opacity in Timed Automata*, André et al., TiCSA 2023

# Execution-time opacity control

Private durations

=

Public durations

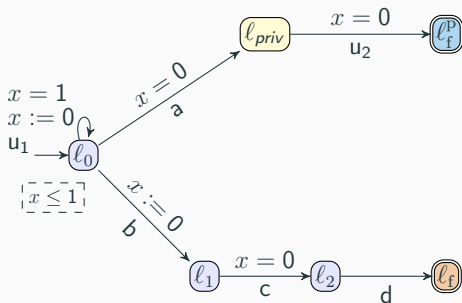
Is a given system opaque? Decidable<sup>1</sup>

→ **Can we make a given system opaque?**

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<sup>1</sup>*Configuring Timing Parameters to Ensure Execution-Time Opacity in Timed Automata*, André et al., TiCSA 2023

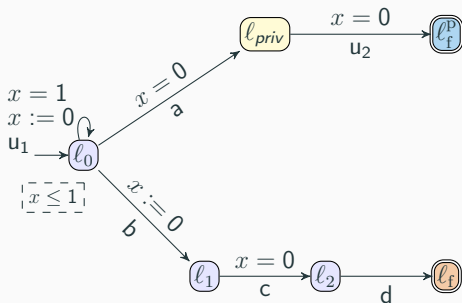
# A strategy to make it opaque



**Private durations**

$\mathbb{N}$

# A strategy to make it opaque



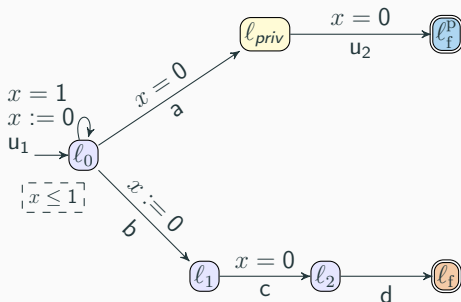
**Private durations**

$\mathbb{N}$

**Public durations**

$\mathbb{R}^+$

# A strategy to make it opaque



Private durations

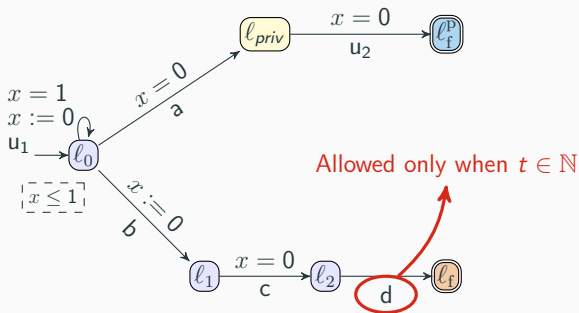
$\mathbb{N}$

Non-opaque

Public durations

$\mathbb{R}^+$

# A strategy to make it opaque



Private durations

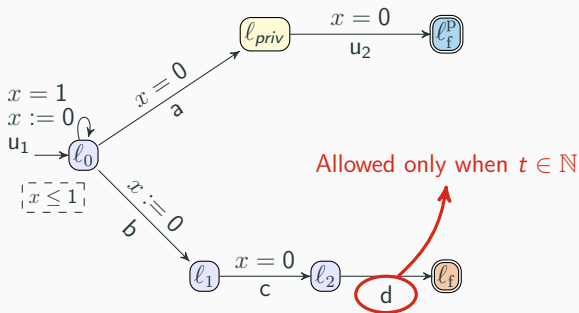
$\mathbb{N}$

Non-opaque

Public durations

$\mathbb{R}^+$

# A strategy to make it opaque



**Private durations**

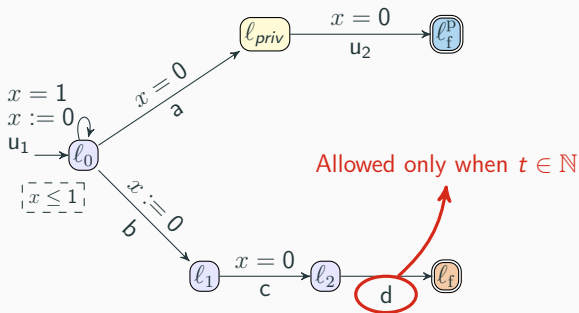
$\mathbb{N}$

Non-opaque

**Public durations**

$\mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \mathbb{N}$

# A strategy to make it opaque



Private durations

$\mathbb{N}$

Opaque :-)

Public durations

~~$\mathbb{R}^+$~~   $\mathbb{N}$

## Controllable / uncontrollable actions

In actions set:

- controllable actions:  
can be enabled and disabled at runtime
- uncontrollable actions: always available

## Strategy

A function allowing at each time a set of possible actions

$$\sigma : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow 2^{\Sigma_c}$$

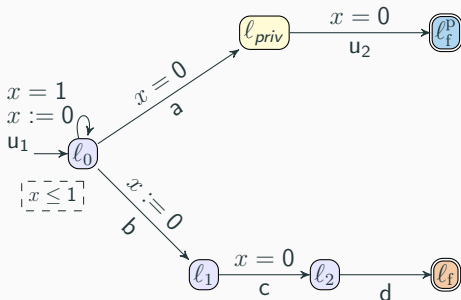
# Controller

Actions

$$\Sigma = \Sigma_c \uplus \Sigma_u$$

$$\Sigma_u = \{u_1, u_2\}$$

$$\Sigma_c = \{a, b, c, d\}$$



Strategy:

$$\sigma(\tau) = \begin{cases} \{a, b, c, d\} & \text{for } \tau \in \mathbb{N} \\ \{a, b, c\} & \text{for } \tau \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

## Our approach

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# Our approach

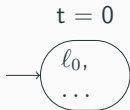
## Intuition

Build an automaton where each state represents a set of reachable states at a given time.

# Our approach

## Intuition

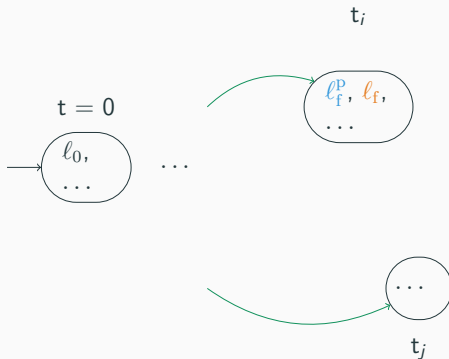
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# Our approach

## Intuition

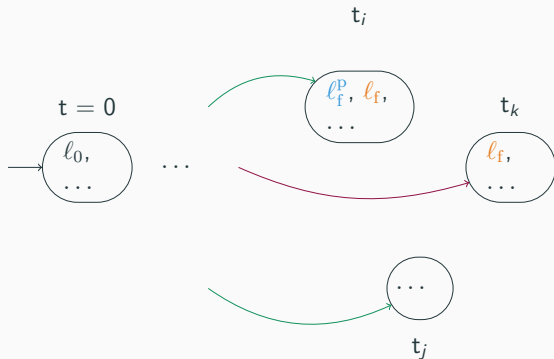
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# Our approach

## Intuition

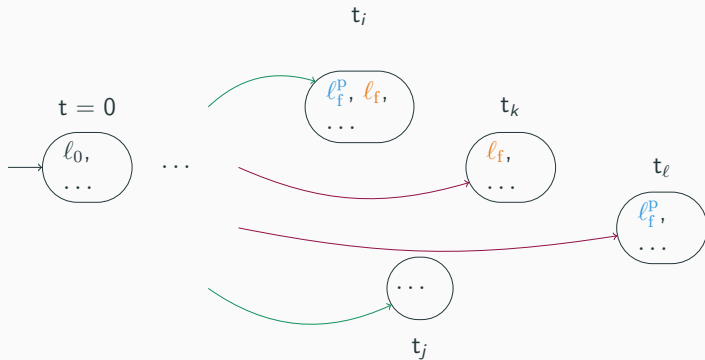
Build an automaton where each state represents a set of reachable states at a given time.



# Our approach

## Intuition

Build an automaton where each state represents a set of reachable states at a given time.



# Region abstraction

## Problem

Continuous time  $\rightarrow$  Infinite number of configurations

Discretize the time



# Region abstraction

## Problem

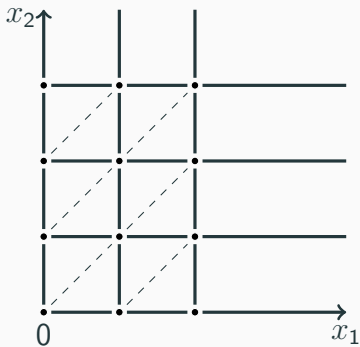
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Discretize the time



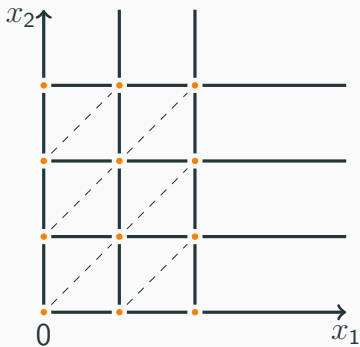
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



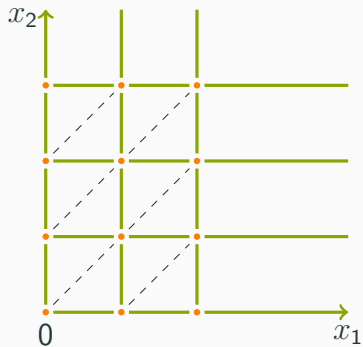
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



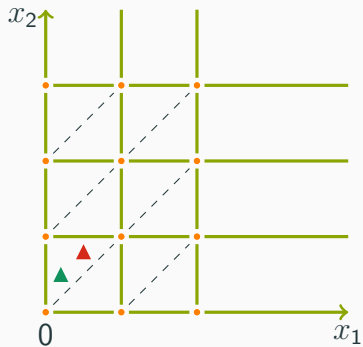
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



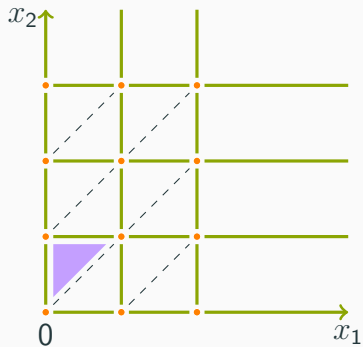
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



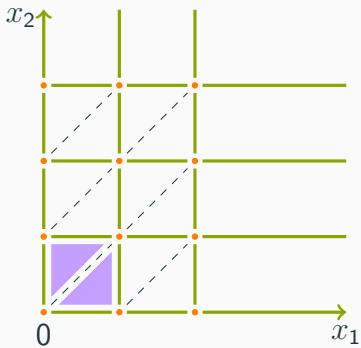
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



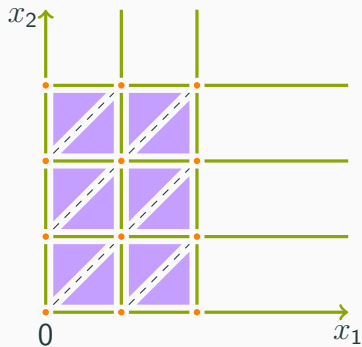
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



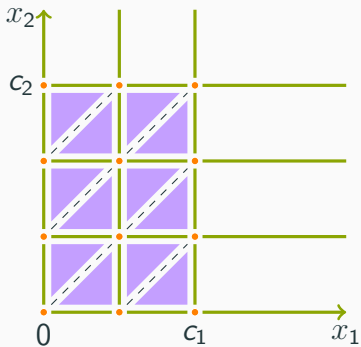
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



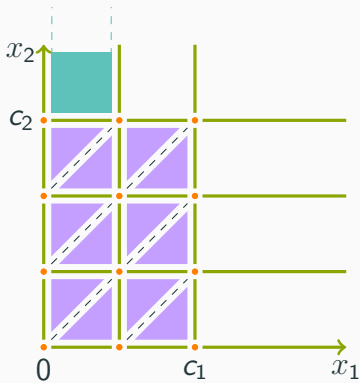
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



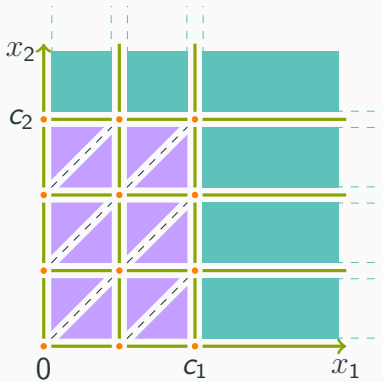
# Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



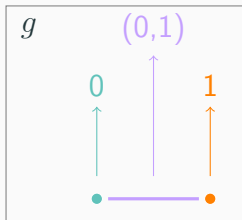
## Region abstraction

With 2 clocks:



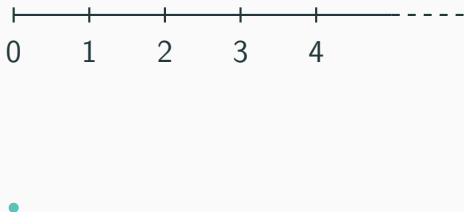
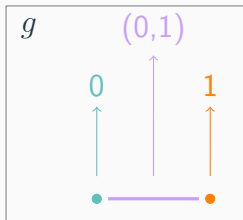
# Abstraction of elapsed time

Add clock  $g$  that represents the global time.



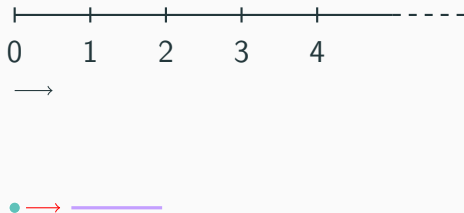
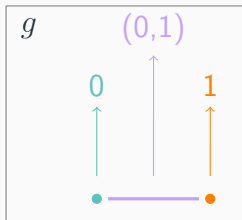
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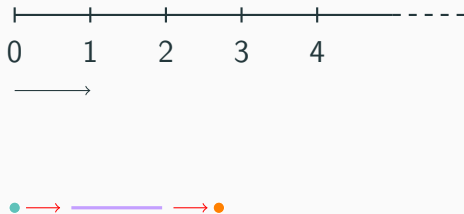
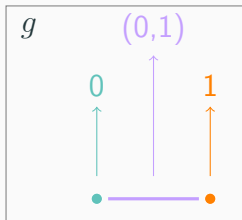
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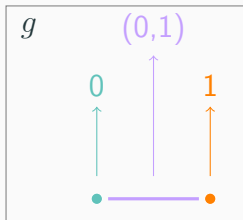
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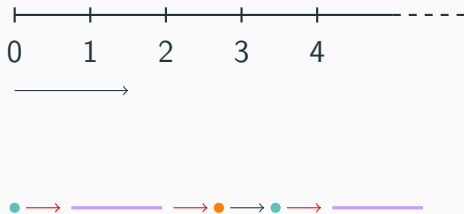
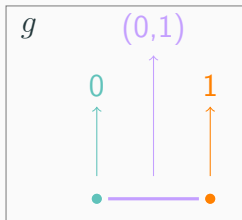
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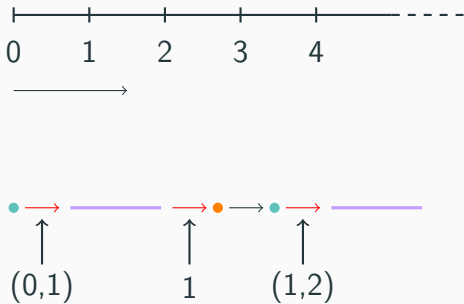
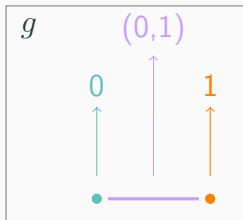
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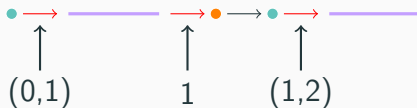
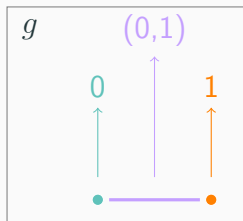
# Abstraction of elapsed time

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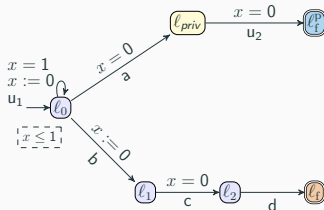
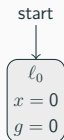
# Abstraction of elapsed time

Add clock  $g$  that represents the global time.

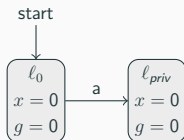


$\rightarrow \rightarrow = 1$  time unit

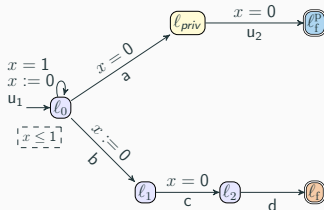
# Region automaton with global time



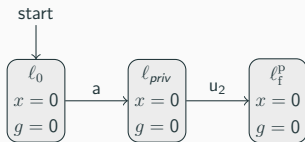
# Region automaton with global time



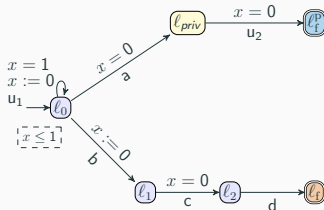
→ no time



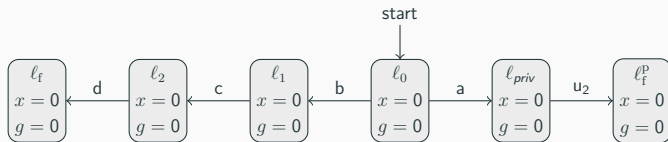
# Region automaton with global time



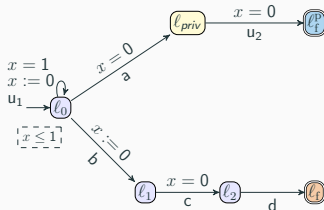
→ no time



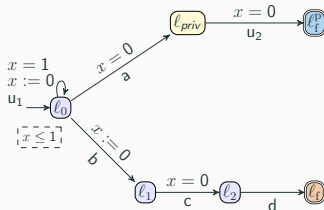
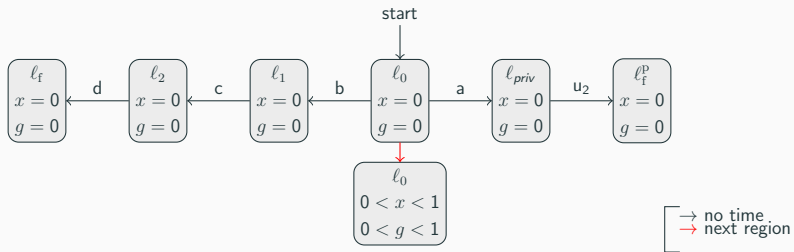
# Region automaton with global time



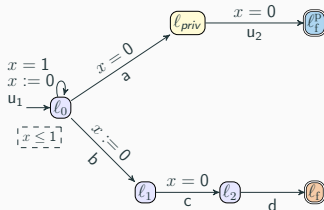
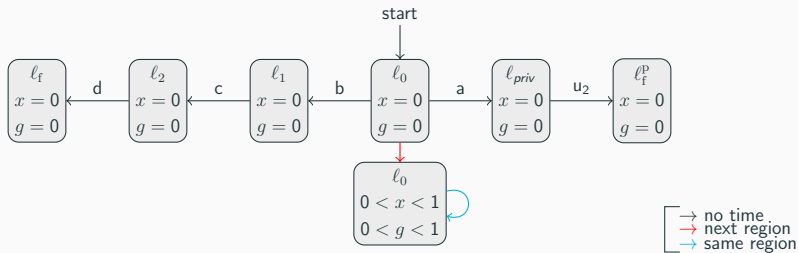
→ no time



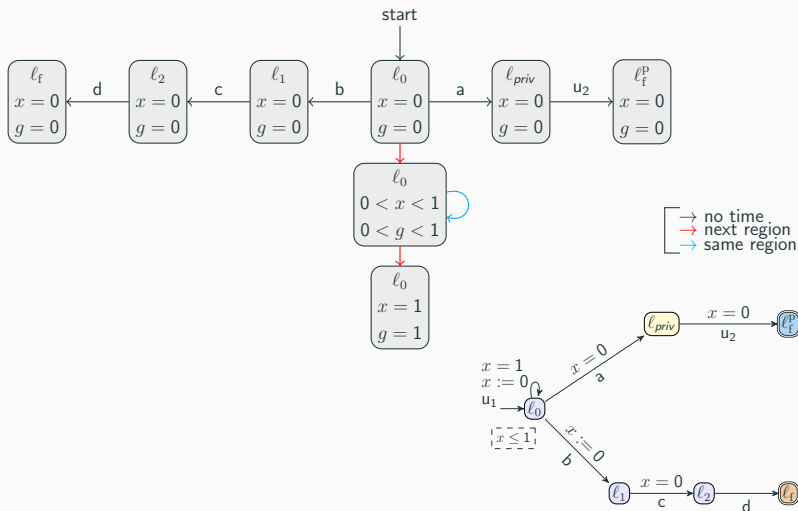
# Region automaton with global time



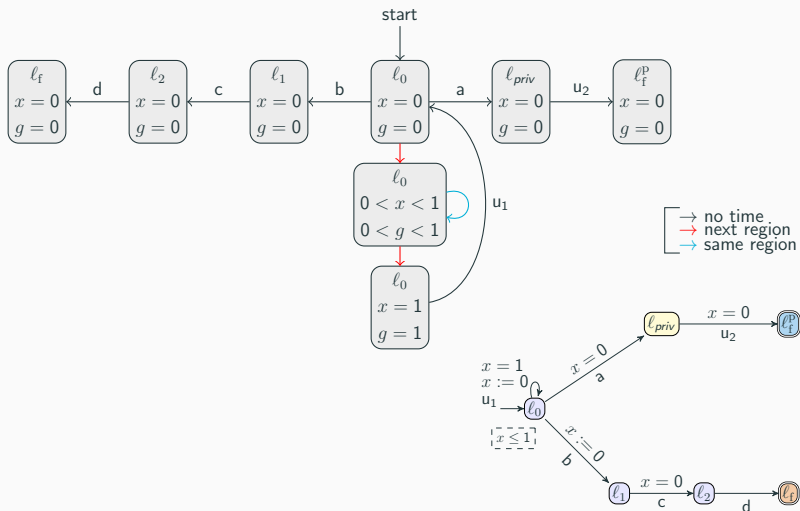
# Region automaton with global time



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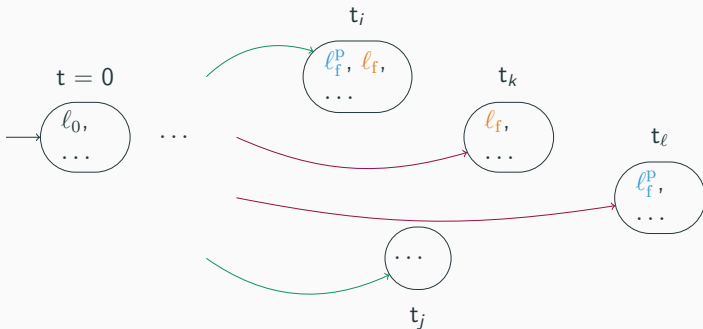
# Region automaton with global time



# Our approach

## Intuition

Build an automaton where each **belief** represents a set of reachable states for a given time.

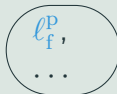
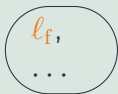


# Beliefs

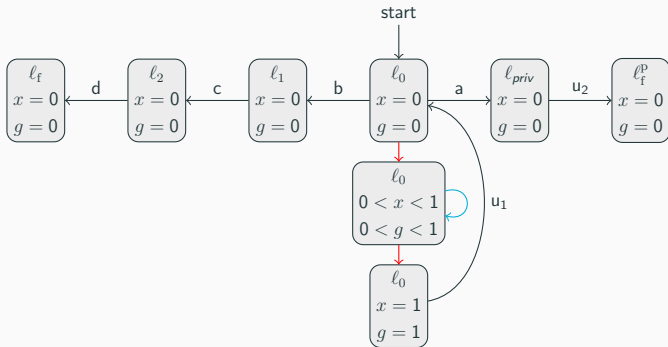
## Belief

A belief is a set of regions.

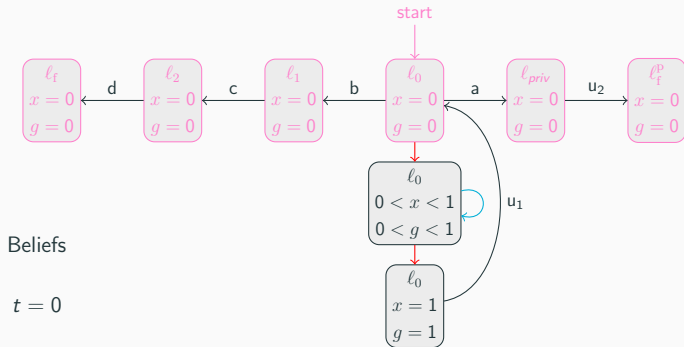
## Bad belief for opacity



# Beliefs



# Beliefs

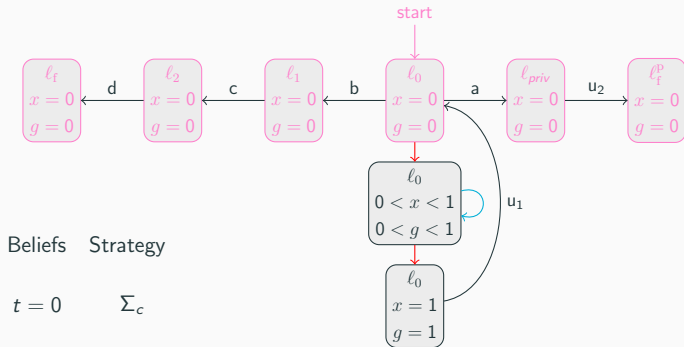


Beliefs

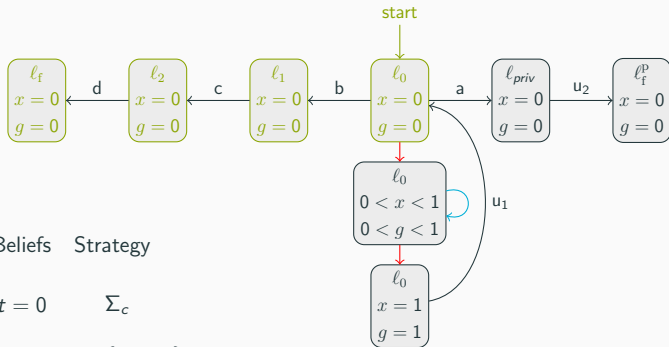
$B_0$

$t = 0$

# Beliefs



# Beliefs



Beliefs    Strategy

$B_0^{\Sigma_c}$

$t = 0$

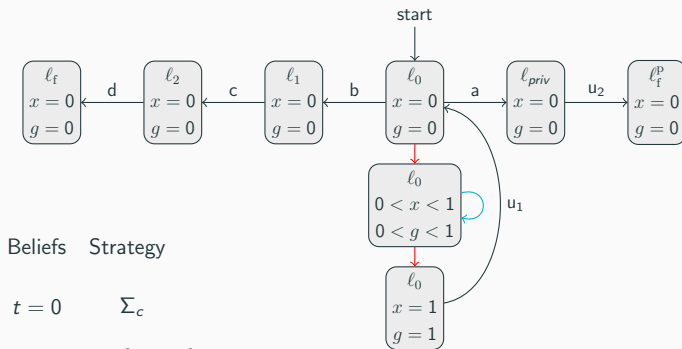
$\Sigma_c$

$B_0^{\{b,c,d\}}$

$t = 0$

$\{b, c, d\}$

# Beliefs



Beliefs    Strategy

$B_0^{\Sigma_c}$

$t = 0$      $\Sigma_c$

$B_0^{\{b,c,d\}}$

$t = 0$      $\{b, c, d\}$

...

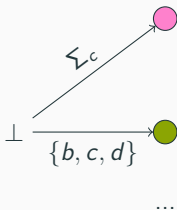
Beliefs depend on the available actions and the past.

# Automaton of beliefs

An automaton where:

- each *state*: a belief
- each *transition*: a strategy and an elapsed time

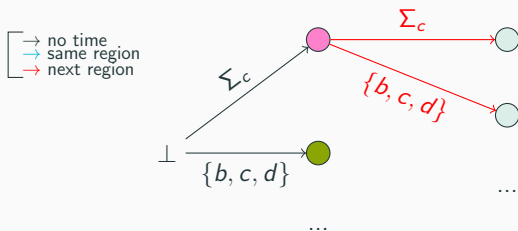
[  
→ no time  
→ same region  
→ next region  
]



# Automaton of beliefs

An automaton where:

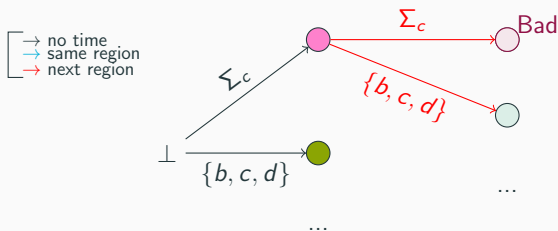
- each *state*: a belief
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# Automaton of beliefs

An automaton where:

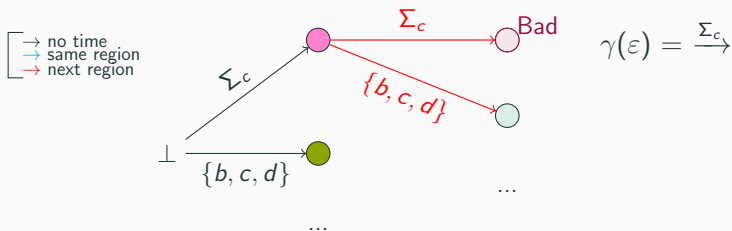
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# Find a b-strategy

## b-strategy $\gamma$

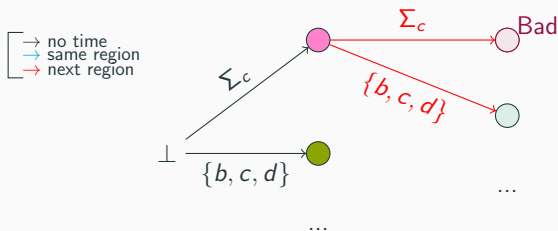
For a sequence of transitions in the automaton of beliefs, a b-strategy returns the next transition to take.



# Find a b-strategy

## b-strategy $\gamma$

For a sequence of transitions in the automaton of beliefs, a b-strategy returns the next transition to take.



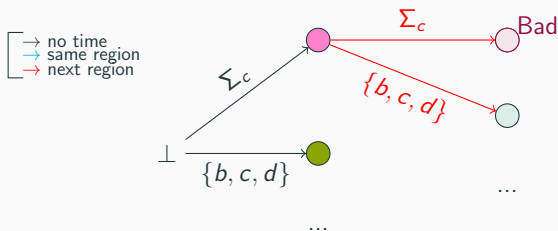
$$\gamma(\varepsilon) = \Sigma_c \rightarrow$$

$$\gamma(\Sigma_c \rightarrow) = \xrightarrow{\{b, c, d\}}$$

# Find a b-strategy

## b-strategy $\gamma$

For a sequence of transitions in the automaton of beliefs, a b-strategy returns the next transition to take.



$$\gamma(\varepsilon) = \Sigma_c$$

$$\gamma(\xrightarrow{\Sigma_c}) = \xrightarrow{\{b, c, d\}}$$

$$\gamma(\xrightarrow{\Sigma_c} \xrightarrow{\{b, c, d\}}) = \xrightarrow{\{a, b\}}$$

...

There is a strategy<sup>1</sup> to make a TA opaque

$\Leftrightarrow$

There is a b-strategy on the automaton of beliefs

---

<sup>1</sup>a finitely-varying strategy

# Results

There is a strategy<sup>1</sup> to make a TA opaque



There is a b-strategy on the automaton of beliefs

Building a controller for opacity



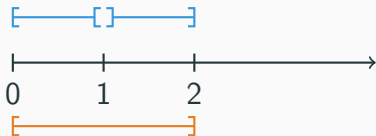
Solving a one-player safety game on a finite arena

---

<sup>1</sup>a finitely-varying strategy

# So accurate?

Private durations



Public durations

**Can the attacker really see this violation?**

→ Other opacities allowing different types of *ponctual* violations.

# Conclusion & Perspectives

- Variants of opacity:
  - Full, weak and existential opacities
  - Robust opacities
  - others?

# Conclusion & Perspectives

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# Conclusion & Perspectives

- Variants of opacity:
  - Full, weak and existential opacities
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- Non finetely-varying strategies
- Quantified opacity
- High complexity, but implementation?

**Thank you!**