

# Incremental Construction of Inductive Clauses for Indubitable Correctness

## or simply: IC3 A Simplified Description

Based on “SAT-Based Model Checking without Unrolling”

Aaron Bradley, [VMCAI 2011](#)

“Efficient Implementation of Property Directed Reachability”

Niklas Een, Alan Mishchenko, Robert Brayton, [FMCAD 2011](#)

# Safety Properties

**Safety property:**  $AG\ p$

“ $p$  holds in **every reachable state** of the system”

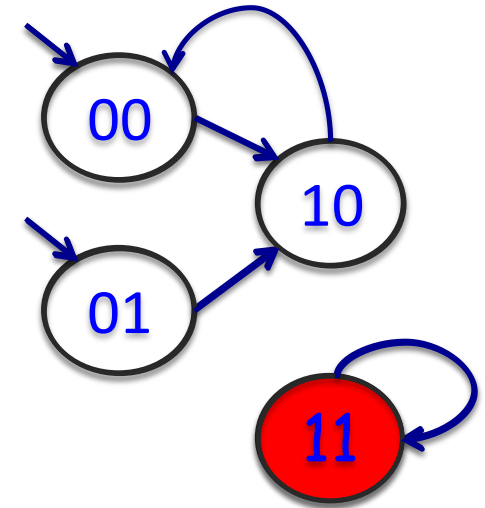
Using automata-theoretic methods, model checking of all safety properties reduces to checking  $AG\ p$

**Reachability:** Does the transition system have a **finite run** ending in a state **satisfying  $\neg p$**  ?

# Modeling with Propositional Formulas

**Finite-state system** modeled as  $(V, \text{INIT}, T)$ :

- $V$  – finite set of Boolean **variables**
  - Four states  $\rightarrow$  Boolean variables:  $v_1 v_2$
- $\text{INIT}(V)$  – describes the set of initial states
  - $\text{INIT} = \neg v_1$
- $T(V, V')$  – describes the set of transitions
  - $T = (v_1' \leftrightarrow \neg v_1 \vee (v_1 \wedge v_2)) \wedge (v_2' \leftrightarrow (v_1 \wedge v_2))$



state =  
valuation to  
variables

**Property:**

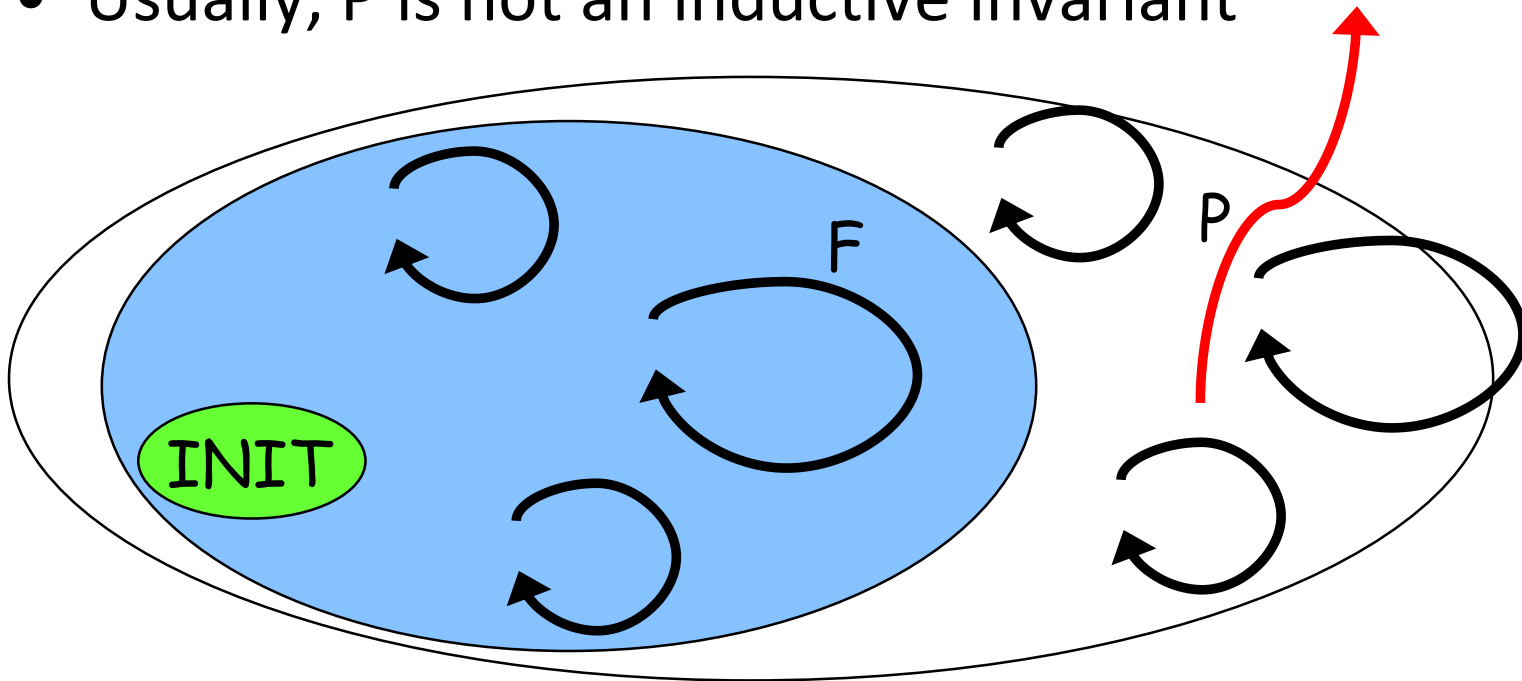
- $p(V)$  - describes the set of states satisfying  $p$ 
  - $p = \neg v_1 \vee \neg v_2$  ( Bad =  $\neg p = v_1 \wedge v_2$  )

# Induction for proving AG P

- The simple case: P is an **inductive invariant**
  - $\text{INIT}(V) \Rightarrow P(V)$
  - $P(V) \wedge T(V, V') \Rightarrow P(V')$
- $P(V')$  – the value of P in the next state

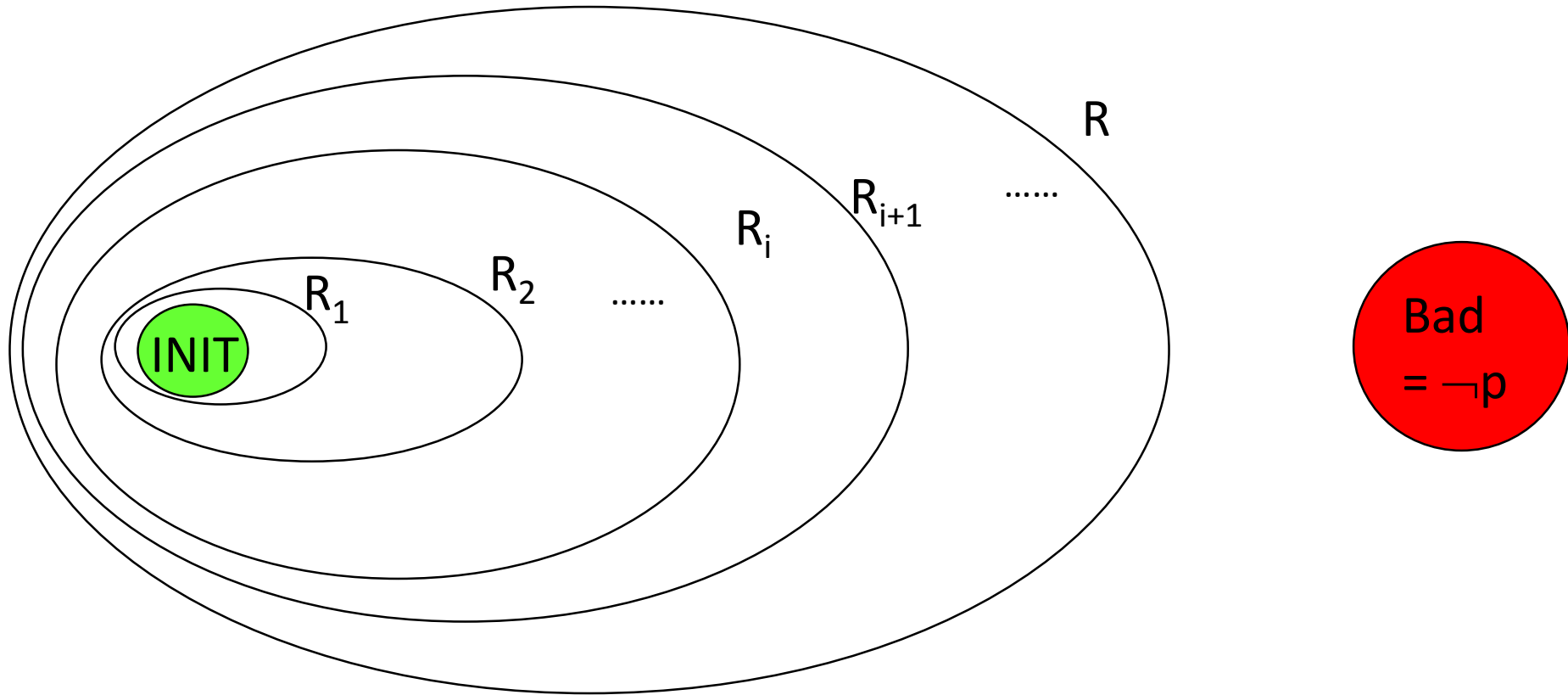
# Induction for proving $AG\ P$

- Usually,  $P$  is not an inductive invariant



- BUT – a stronger inductive invariant  $F$  may exist
  - $INIT \Rightarrow F$
  - $F \wedge T \Rightarrow F'$
  - $F \Rightarrow P$

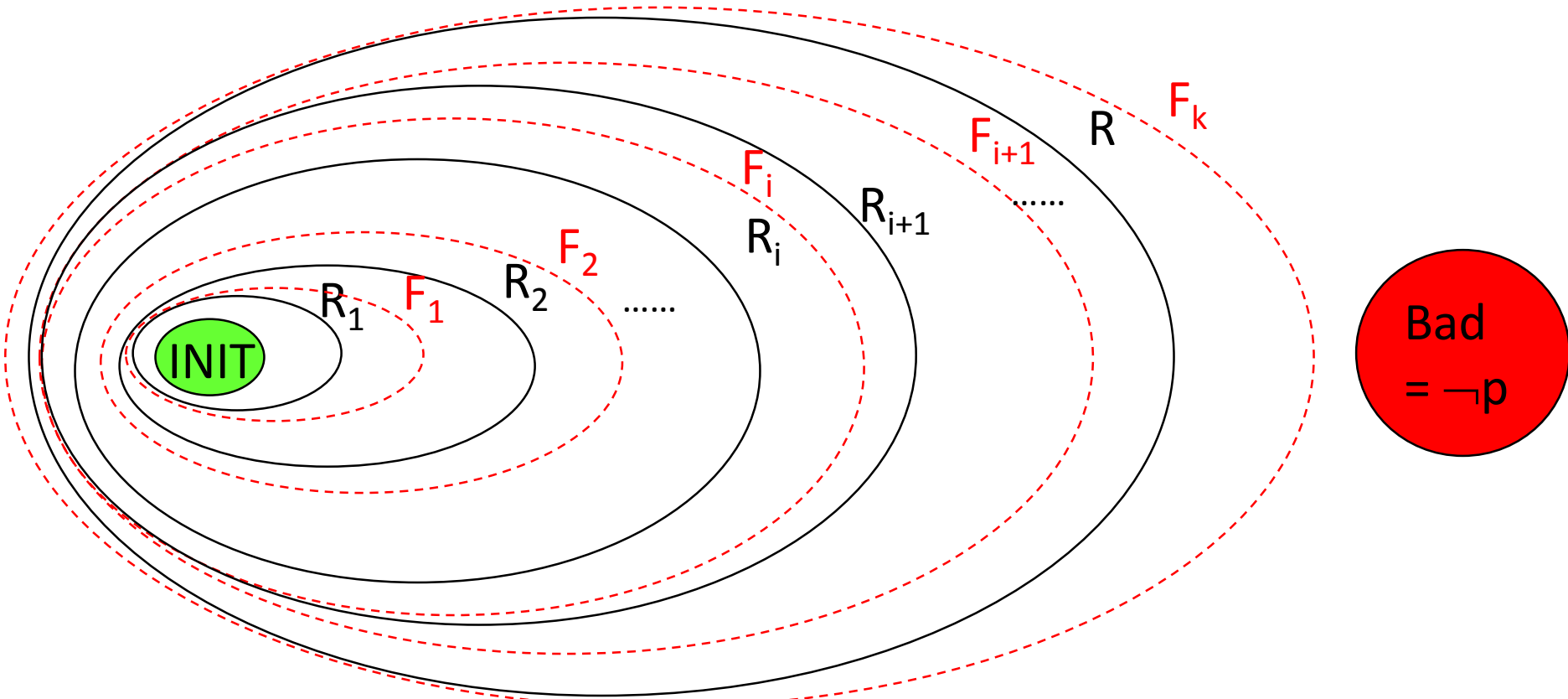
# Invariant Inference by Forward Reachability



$$R_{i+1}(V') \equiv R_i(V') \vee \exists V (R_i(V) \wedge T(V, V')) \quad = R_i \vee \text{Img}(R_i, T)$$

$R$  is the strongest inductive invariant

# Invariant Inference by Approximate Reachability



$$F_{i+1}(V') \Leftarrow F_i(V) \wedge T(V, V')$$

If  $F_{k+1} \equiv F_k$  then  $F_k$  is an inductive invariant

# IC3 (Bradley, VMCAI 2010)

- IC3 = Incremental Construction of Inductive Clauses for Indubitable Correctness
- The Goal: Find an Inductive Invariant stronger than P
  - Recall: F is an inductive invariant stronger than P if
    - $INIT \Rightarrow F$
    - $F \wedge T \Rightarrow F'$
    - $F \Rightarrow P$
- by learning relatively inductive facts (incrementally)
- In a property directed manner
  - Also called “Property Directed reachability” (PDR)



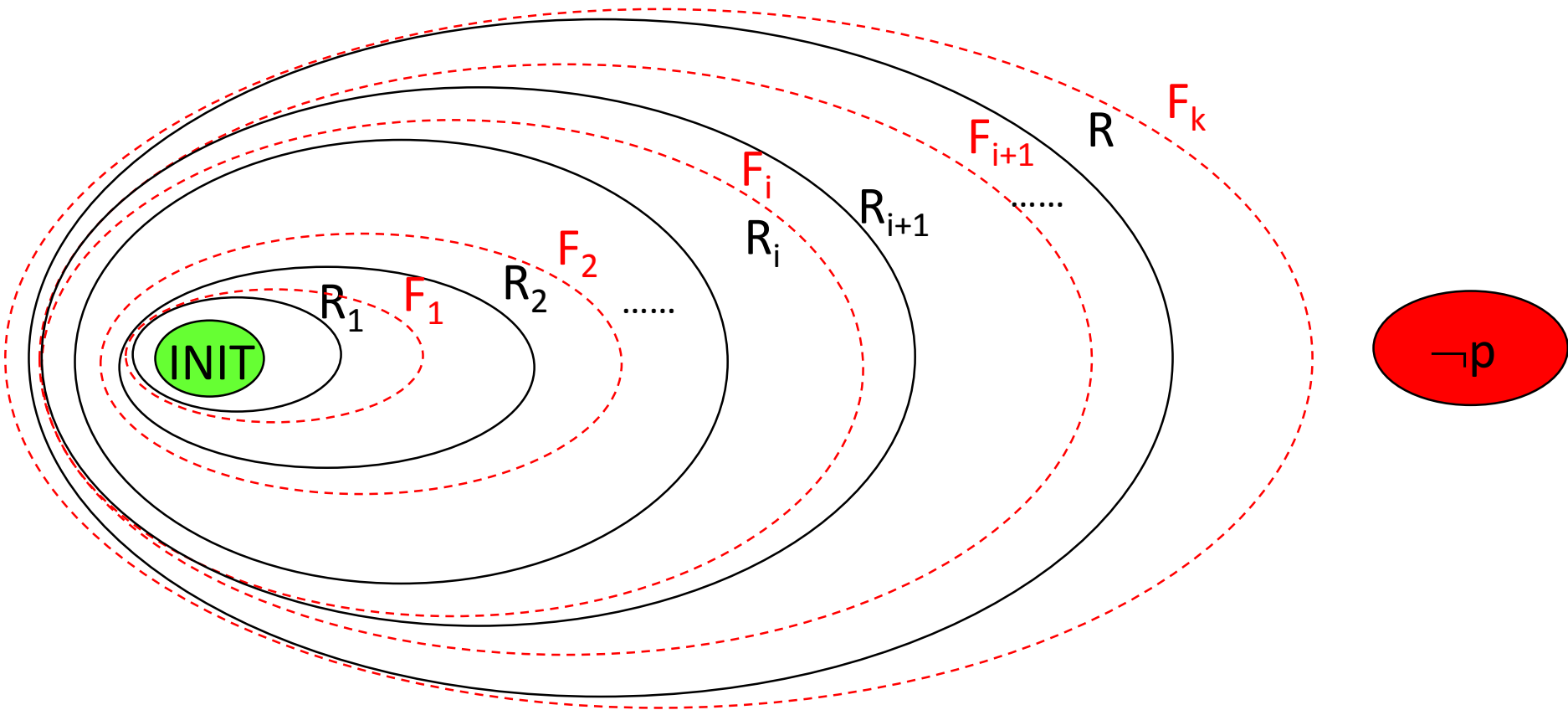
# What Makes IC3 Special?

- All previous SAT-based approaches require unrolling of the transition relation  $T$ 
  - Searching for an inductive invariant
  - Unrolling used to strengthen the invariant
- IC3 performs no unrolling
  - strengthens by learning relatively inductive facts locally

# IC3 Basics

- Iteratively compute Over-Approximated Reachability Sequence (**OARS**)  $\langle F_0, F_1, \dots, F_{k+1} \rangle$  s.t.
  - $F_0 = \text{INIT}$
  - $F_i \Rightarrow F_{i+1}$                        $F_i \subseteq F_{i+1}$
  - $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$               Simulates one forward step
  - $F_i \Rightarrow P$                                $p$  is an invariant up to  $k+1$
- $F_i$  - CNF formula given as a set of clauses
- $F_i$  over-approximates  $R_i$
- If  $F_{i+1} \Rightarrow F_i$  then **fixpoint**

# OARS



$$F_{i+1}(V') \Leftarrow F_i(V) \wedge T(V, V')$$

If  $F_{k+1} \equiv F_k$  then  $F_k$  is an inductive invariant

# IC3 Basics (cont.)

- $c$  is **inductive relative to  $F$**  if
  - $\text{INIT} \Rightarrow c$
  - $F \wedge c \wedge T \Rightarrow c'$
- **Notation:**
  - cube  $s$ : conjunction of literals
    - $v_1 \wedge v_2 \wedge \neg v_3$  - Represents a state
  - $s$  is a cube  $\Rightarrow \neg s$  is a **clause** (DeMorgan)

# IC3 - Initialization

OARS:

- $F_0 = \text{INIT}$
- $F_i \Rightarrow F_{i+1}$
- $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$
- $F_i \Rightarrow P$

- Check satisfiability of the two formulas:

- $\text{INIT} \wedge \neg P$

- $\text{INIT} \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$

- If at least one is **satisfiable**: cex found

- If both are **unsatisfiable** then:

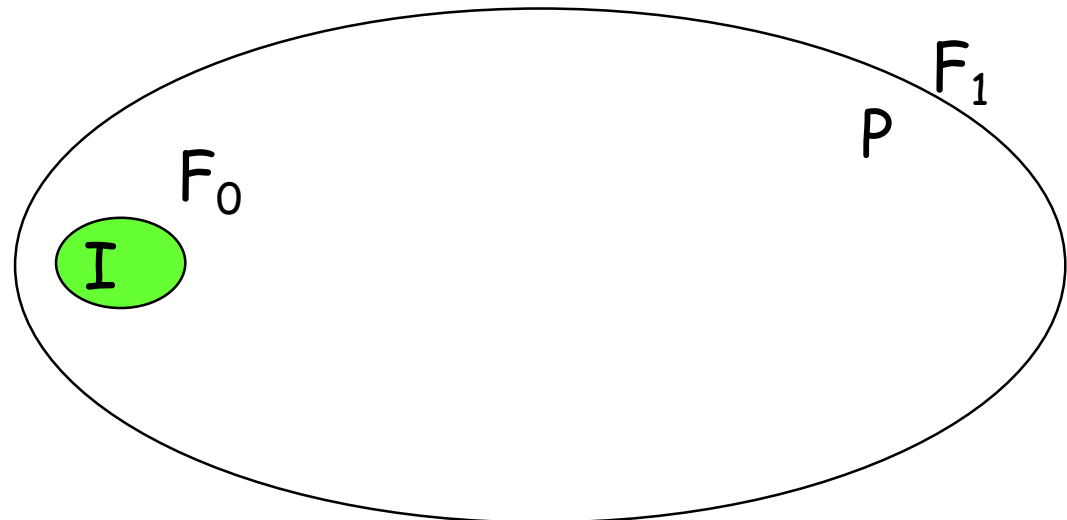
- $\text{INIT} \Rightarrow P$

- $\text{INIT} \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$

- Therefore

- $F_0 = \text{INIT}, F_1 = P$

- $\langle F_0, F_1 \rangle$  is an OARS

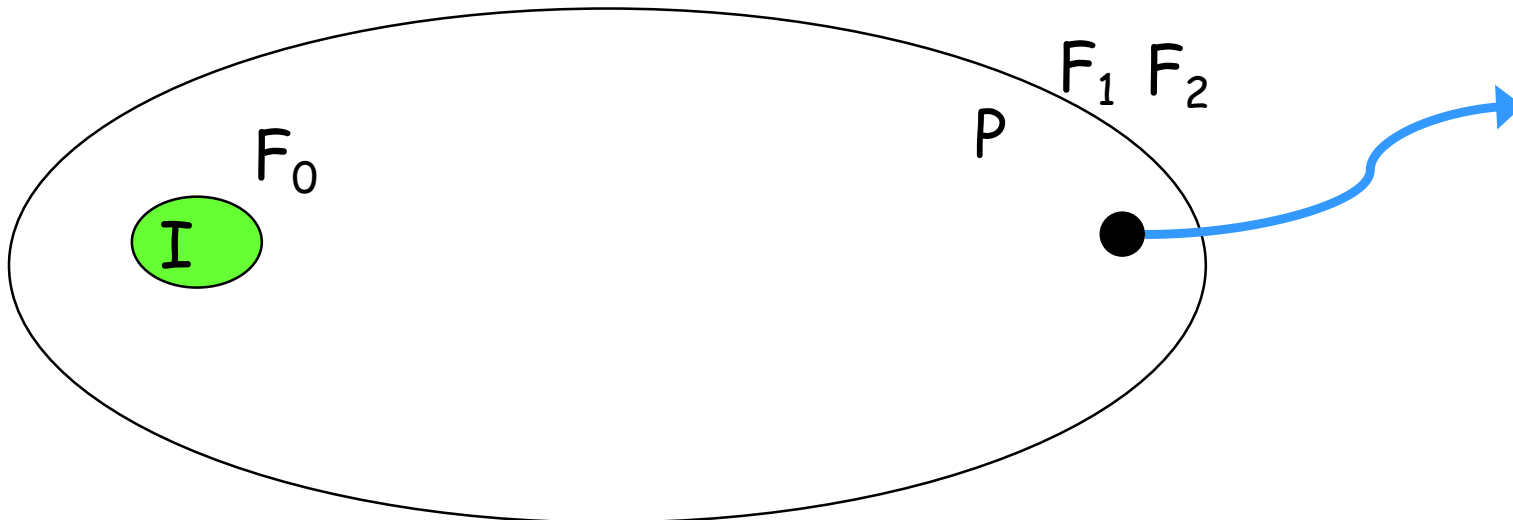


# IC3 - Iteration

- Our OARS contains  $F_0$  and  $F_1$
- Initialize  $F_2$  to  $P$ 
  - If  $P$  is an inductive invariant – done! 😊
  - Otherwise:  $F_1 \wedge T \not\Rightarrow F'_2$   
 $\Rightarrow F_1$  should be strengthened

OARS:

- $F_0 = \text{INIT}$
- $F_i \Rightarrow F_{i+1}$
- $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$
- $F_i \Rightarrow P$

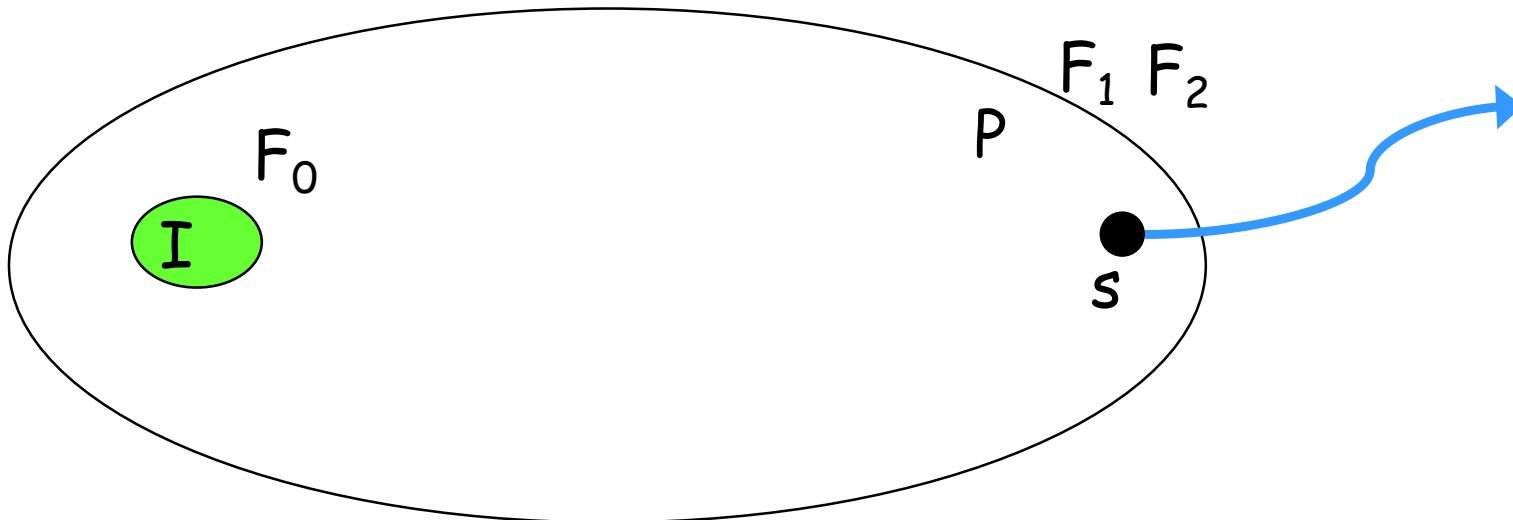


# IC3 - Iteration

OARS:

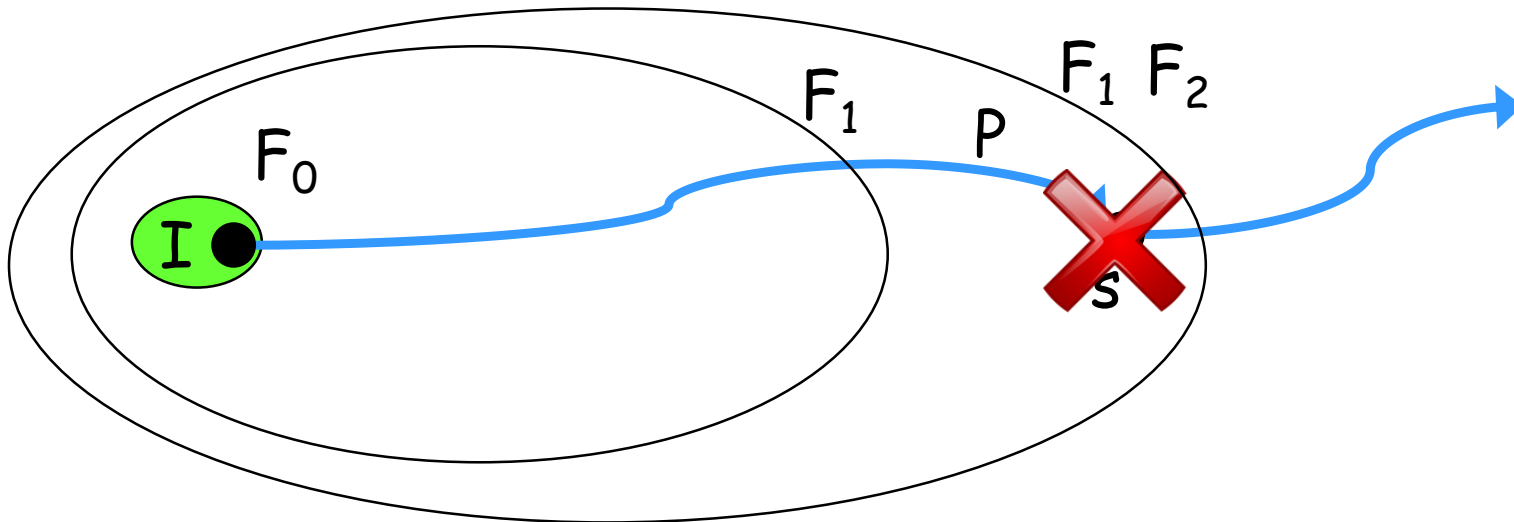
- $F_0 = \text{INIT}$
- $F_i \Rightarrow F_{i+1}$
- $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$
- $F_i \Rightarrow P$

- If  $P$  is not an inductive invariant
  - $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  is satisfiable
  - From the satisfying assignment get a state  $s$  that can reach the bad states



# IC3 - Iteration

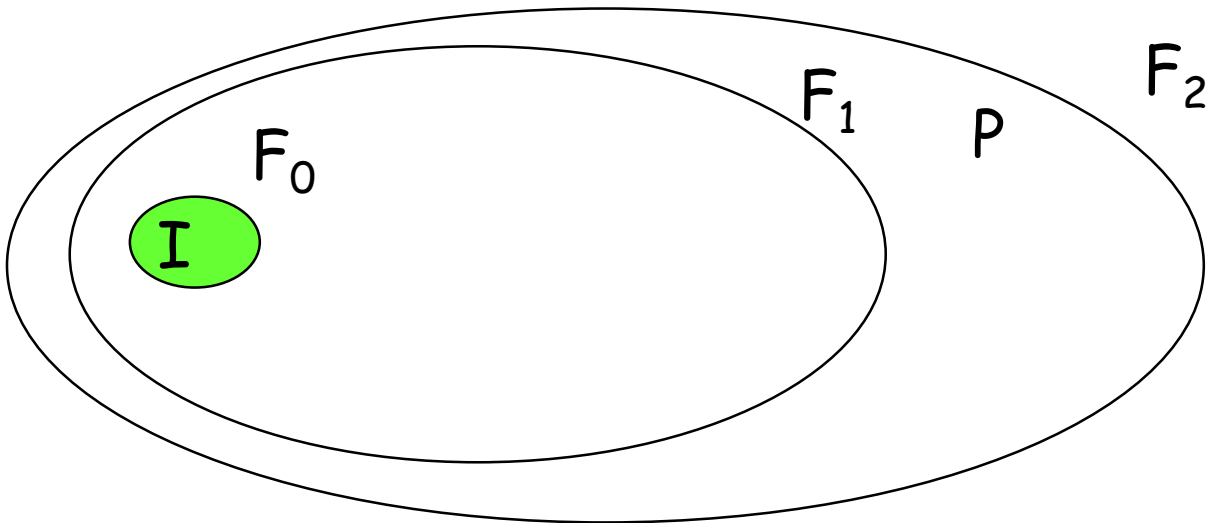
- Is  $s$  reachable in one transition from the previous set?
  - backward search: Check  $F_0 \wedge T \wedge s'$
  - If satisfiable,  $s$  is reachable from  $F_0$ : **CEX**
  - Otherwise, block  $s$ , i.e. remove it from  $F_1$ 
    - $F_1 = F_1 \wedge \neg s$





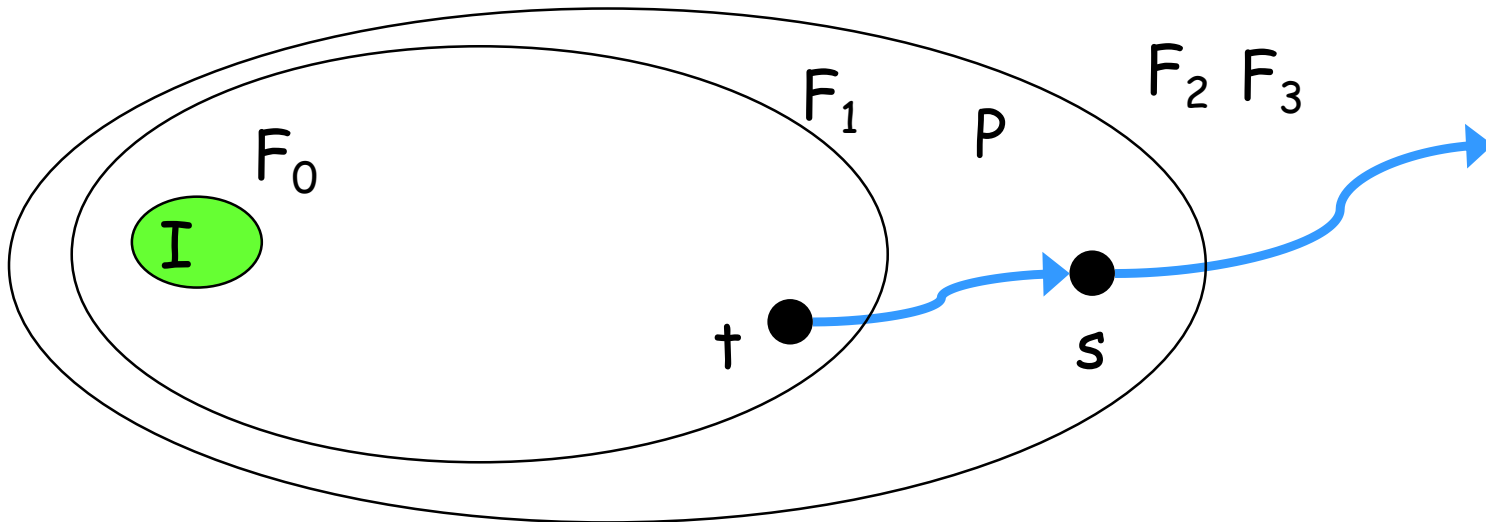
# IC3 - Iteration

- Iterate this process until  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  becomes unsatisfiable
  - $F_1 \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$  holds
    - $(F \wedge T \wedge \neg P')$  unsat IFF  $(F \wedge T \Rightarrow P')$  valid
  - $\langle F_0, F_1, F_2 \rangle$  is an OARS



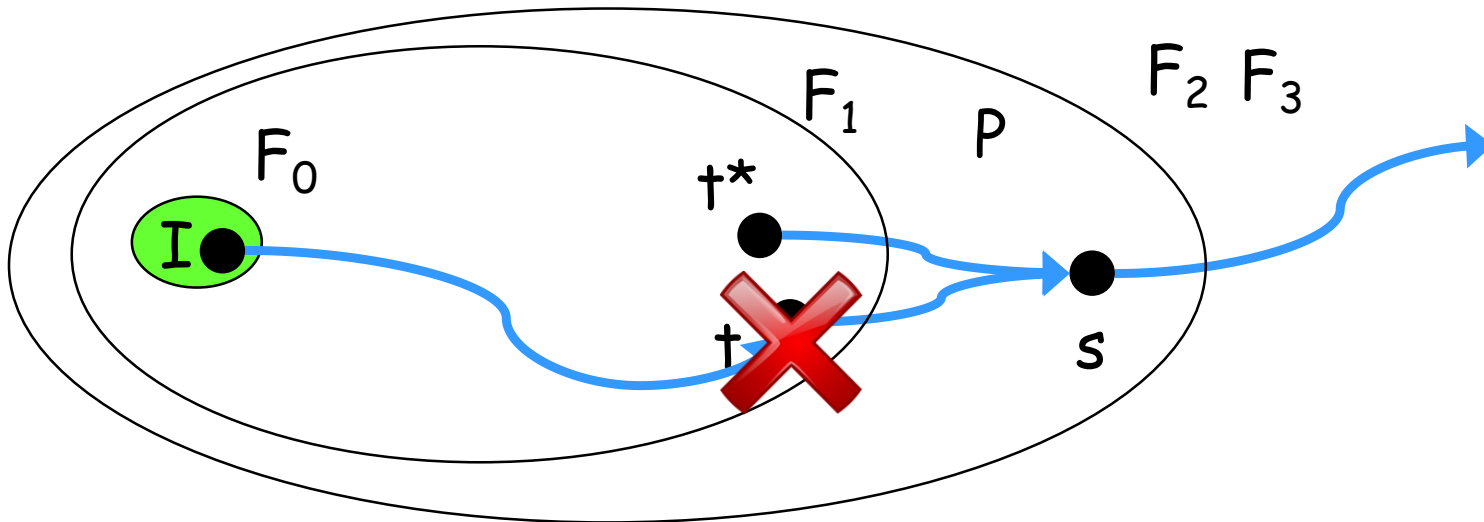
# IC3 - Iteration

- New iteration, initialize  $F_3$  to  $P$ , check  $F_2 \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$ 
  - If satisfiable, get  $s$  that can reach  $\neg P$
  - Now check if  $s$  can be reached from  $F_1$  by  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge s'$
  - **If it can be reached, get  $t$  and try to block it**



# IC3 - Iteration

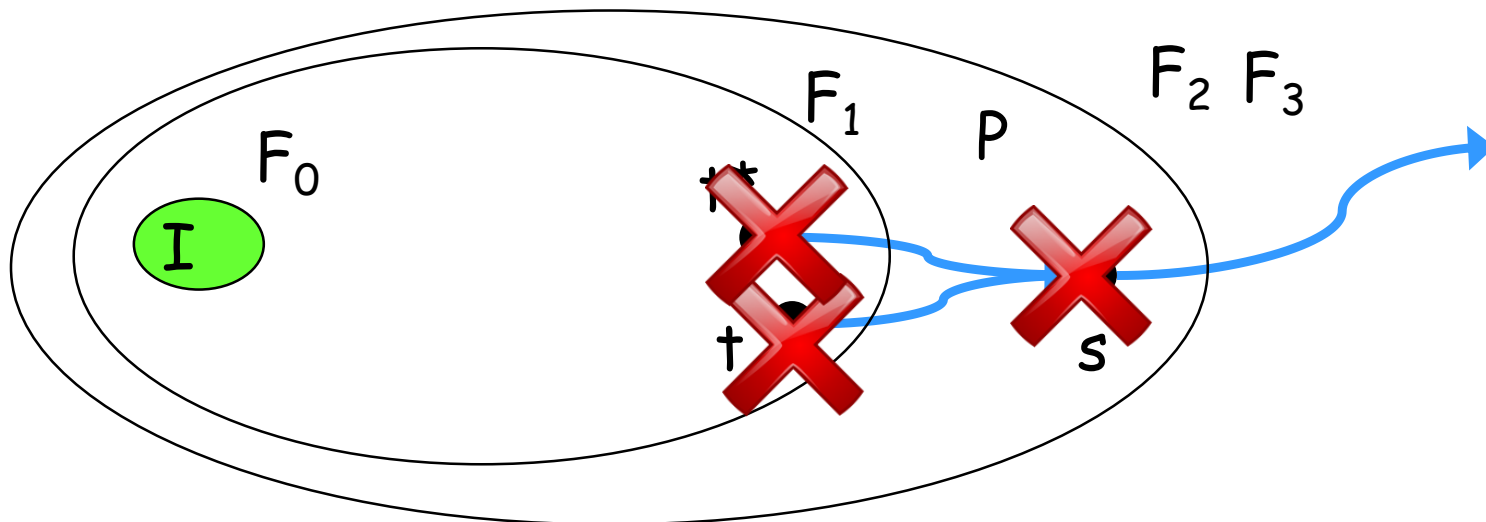
- To block  $t$ , check  $F_0 \wedge T \wedge t'$ 
  - If satisfiable, a CEX
  - If not,  $t$  is blocked, get a “new”  $t^*$  by  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge s'$  and try to block  $t^*$



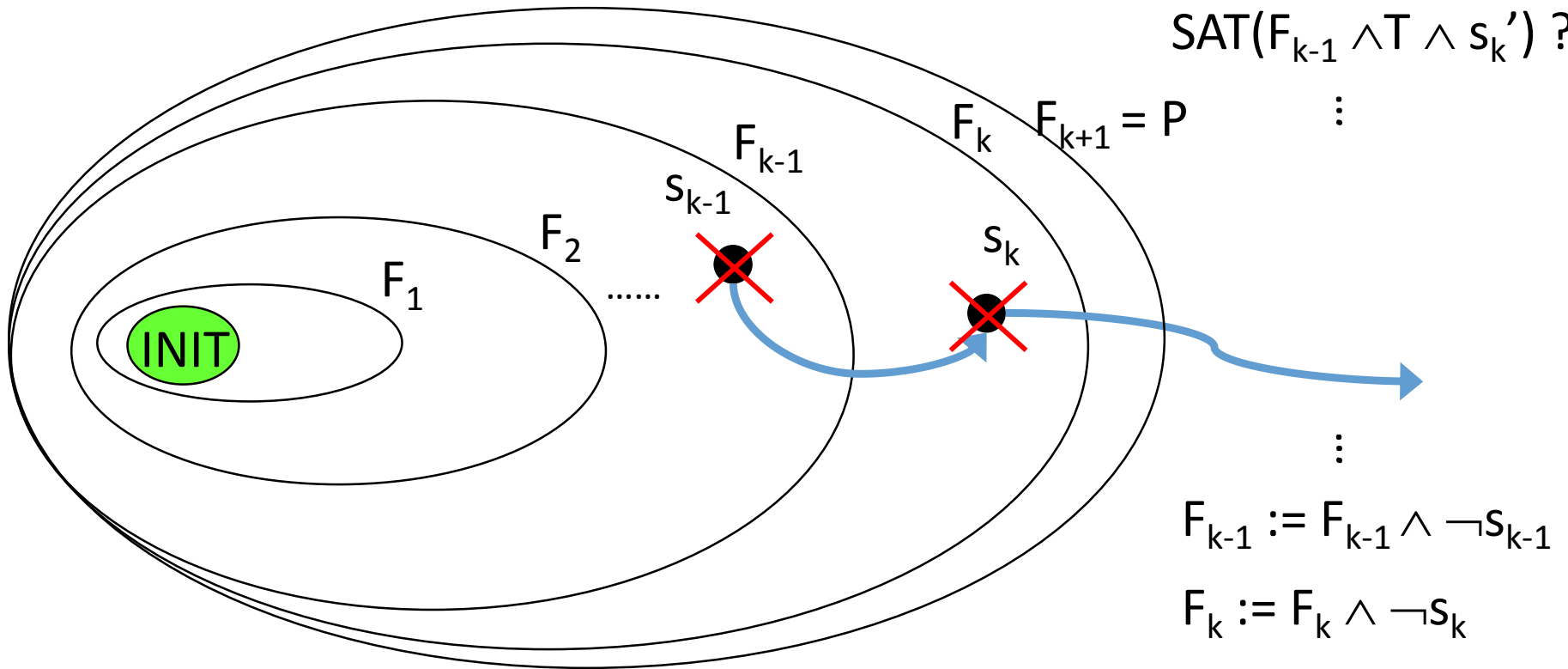
# IC3 - Iteration

- When  $F_1 \wedge T \wedge s'$  becomes unsatisfiable
  - $s$  is blocked, get a “new”  $s^*$  by  $F_2 \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  and try to block  $s^*$

.....You get the picture 😊



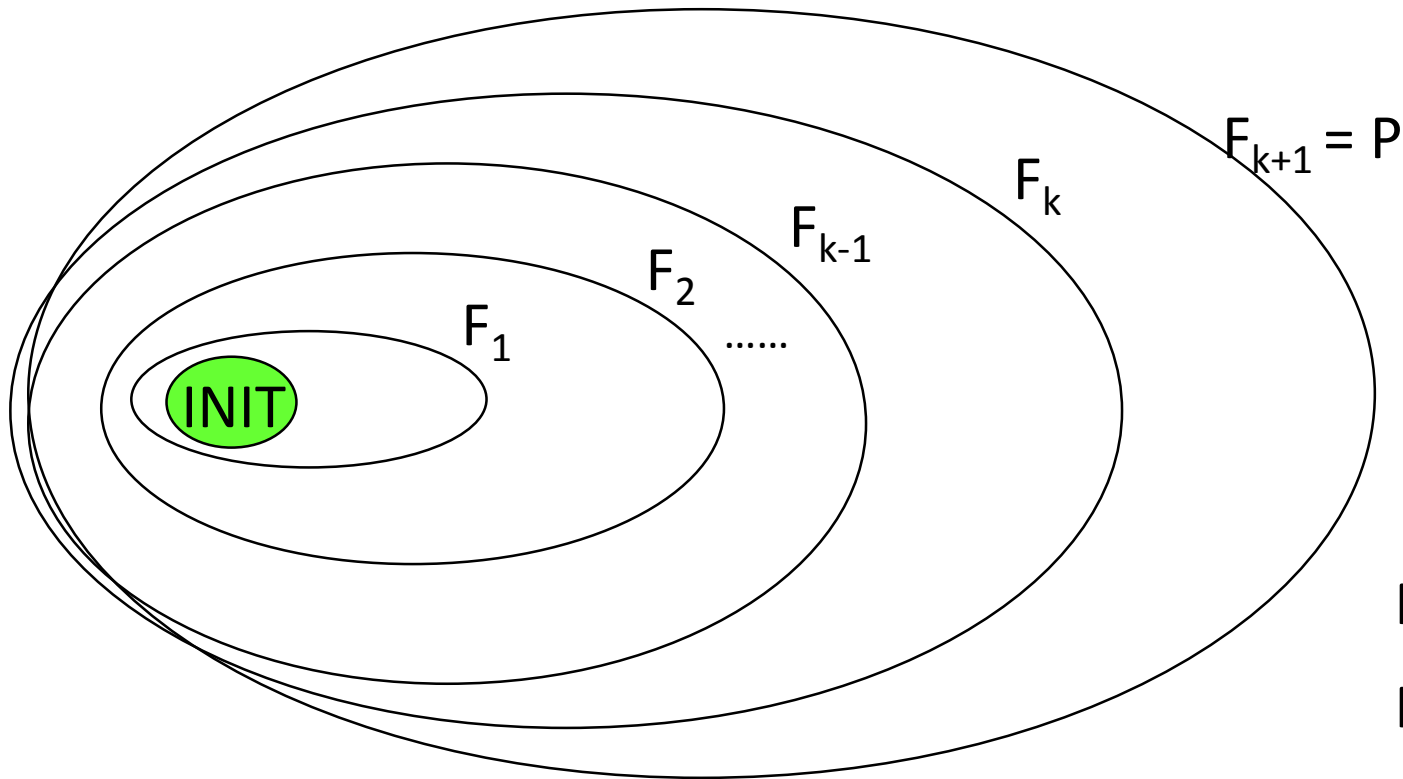
# General Iteration



If  $s_k$  is reachable (in  $k$  steps): counterexample

If  $s_k$  is unreachable: strengthen  $F_k$  to exclude  $s_k$

# General Iteration



$$\vdots$$
$$F_{k-1} := F_{k-1} \wedge \neg S_{k-1}$$
$$F_k := F_k \wedge \neg S_k$$

Until  $F_k \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  is unsatisfiable  
i.e.  $F_k \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$

# IC3 - Iteration

- Given an OARS  $\langle F_0, F_1, \dots, F_k \rangle$ , define  $F_{k+1} = P$
- Apply a backward search
  - Find predecessor  $s_k$  in  $F_k$  that can reach a bad state
    - $F_k \wedge T \not\Rightarrow P'$  ( $F_k \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  is sat)
  - If none exists, move to next iteration
  - If exists, try to find a predecessor  $s_{k-1}$  to  $s_k$  in  $F_{k-1}$ 
    - $F_{k-1} \wedge T \not\Rightarrow \neg s_k'$  ( $F_{k-1} \wedge T \wedge s_k'$  is sat)
  - If none exists,  $s_k$  can be removed from  $F_k$ 
    - $F_k := F_k \wedge \neg s_k$
  - Otherwise: Recur on  $(s_{k-1}, F_{k-1})$ 
    - We call  $(s_{k-1}, k-1)$  a proof obligation
- If we reach INIT, a CEX exists

# That Simple?

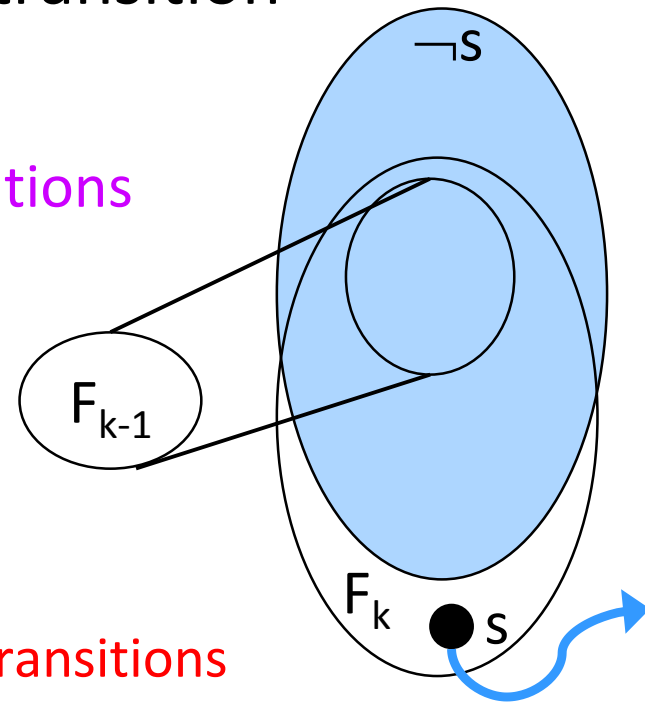
- Looks simple
- But this “simple” does NOT work
- Simple = State Enumeration
  - Too many states...
- Are we enumerating states?
  - No – removing more than one state at a time
  - But, yes (when IC3 doesn't perform well)



# Generalization

Try to deduce a general fact from a blocked state

- $s$  in  $F_k$  can reach a bad state in one transition
- But  $F_{k-1} \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$  holds
  - Therefore  $s$  is not reachable in  $k$  transitions
  - $F_k := F_k \wedge \neg s$
- We want to generalize this fact
  - $s$  is a single state
  - Goal: learn a stronger fact
    - Find a set of states, unreachable in  $k$  transitions



# Generalization

- We know  $F_{k-1} \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$

- And,  $\neg s$  is a clause

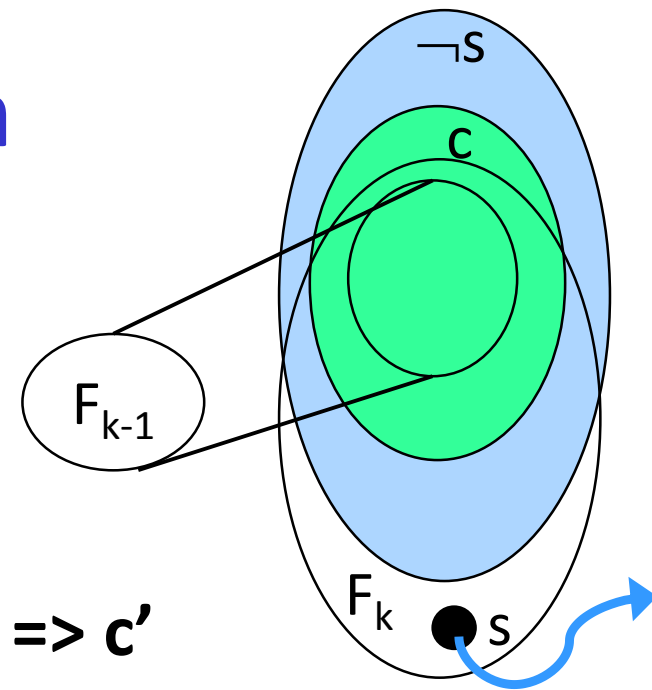
- Generalization:

Find a sub-clause  $c \subseteq \neg s$  s.t.  $F_{k-1} \wedge T \Rightarrow c'$

- Sub clause means less literals
- Less literals implies less satisfying assignments
  - $(a \vee b)$  vs.  $(a \vee b \vee c)$
- $c \Rightarrow \neg s$  i.e.  $c$  is a stronger fact

- $F_k := F_{k-1} \wedge c$

- More states are removed from  $F_k$ , making it stronger/more precise (closer to  $R_k$ )

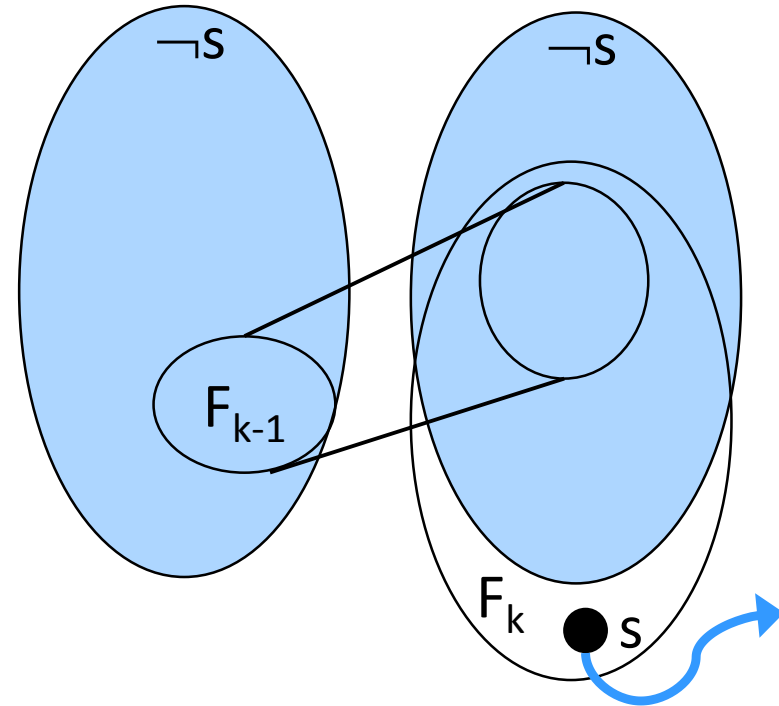


# Generalization

- How do we find a sub-clause  $c \subseteq \neg s$  s.t.  $F_{k-1} \wedge T \Rightarrow c'$ ?
- Trial and Error
  - Try to remove literals from  $\neg s$  while  $F_{k-1} \wedge T \wedge \neg c'$  remains unsatisfiable
- Use the UnSAT Core
  - $F_{k-1} \wedge T \wedge s'$  is unsatisfiable
  - Conflict clauses can also be used

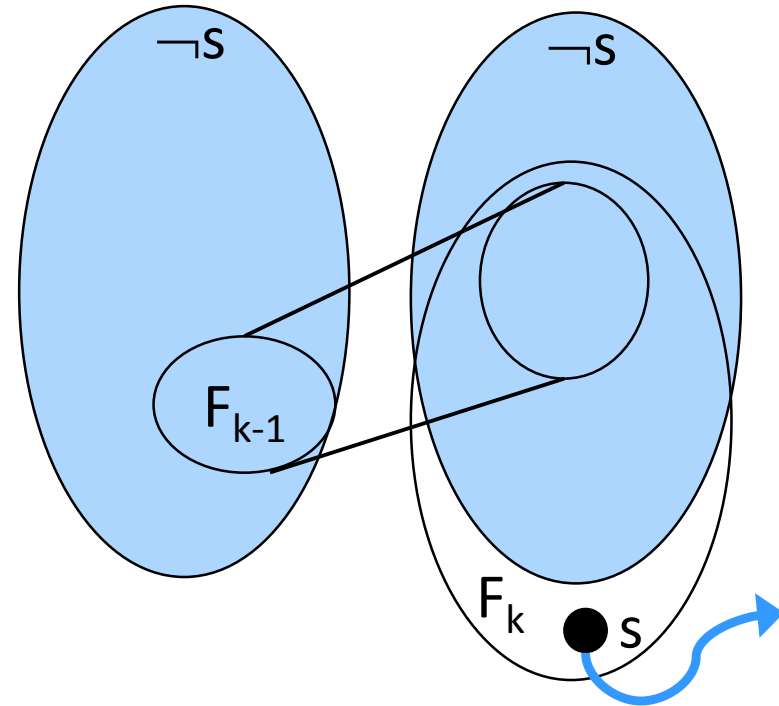
# Observation 1

- Assume a state  $s$  in  $F_k$  can reach a bad state in a number of transitions
- Important Fact:  $s$  is not in  $F_{k-1}$  (!!)
  - $F_{k-1} \wedge T \Rightarrow F_k$
  - $F_k \Rightarrow P$
  - If  $s$  was in  $F_{k-1}$  we would have found it in an earlier iteration
- Therefore:  $F_{k-1} \Rightarrow \neg s$



# Observation 1

- Assume a state  $s$  in  $F_k$  can reach a bad state in a number of transitions
- Therefore:  $F_{k-1} \Rightarrow \neg s$
- Assume  $F_{k-1} \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$  holds
  - $s$  is **not** reachable in  $k$  transitions
- So, this is equivalent to  $F_{k-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$
- Further  $\text{INIT} \Rightarrow \neg s$ 
  - Otherwise, CEX!  
( $\text{INIT} \not\Rightarrow \neg s$  IFF  $s$  is in INIT)
- This looks familiar!
  - $\neg s$  is inductive relative to  $F_{k-1}$



# Inductive Generalization

- We now know that  $\neg s$  is inductive relative to  $F_{k-1}$
- And,  $\neg s$  is a clause
- Inductive Generalization:  
Find sub-clause  $c \subseteq \neg s$  s.t.  
$$F_{k-1} \wedge c \wedge T \Rightarrow c' \text{ (and INIT} \Rightarrow c)$$
  - Stronger inductive fact
- $F_k := F_{k-1} \wedge c$ 
  - It may be the case that  $F_{k-1} \wedge T \Rightarrow F_k$  no longer holds
    - Why?

# Inductive Generalization

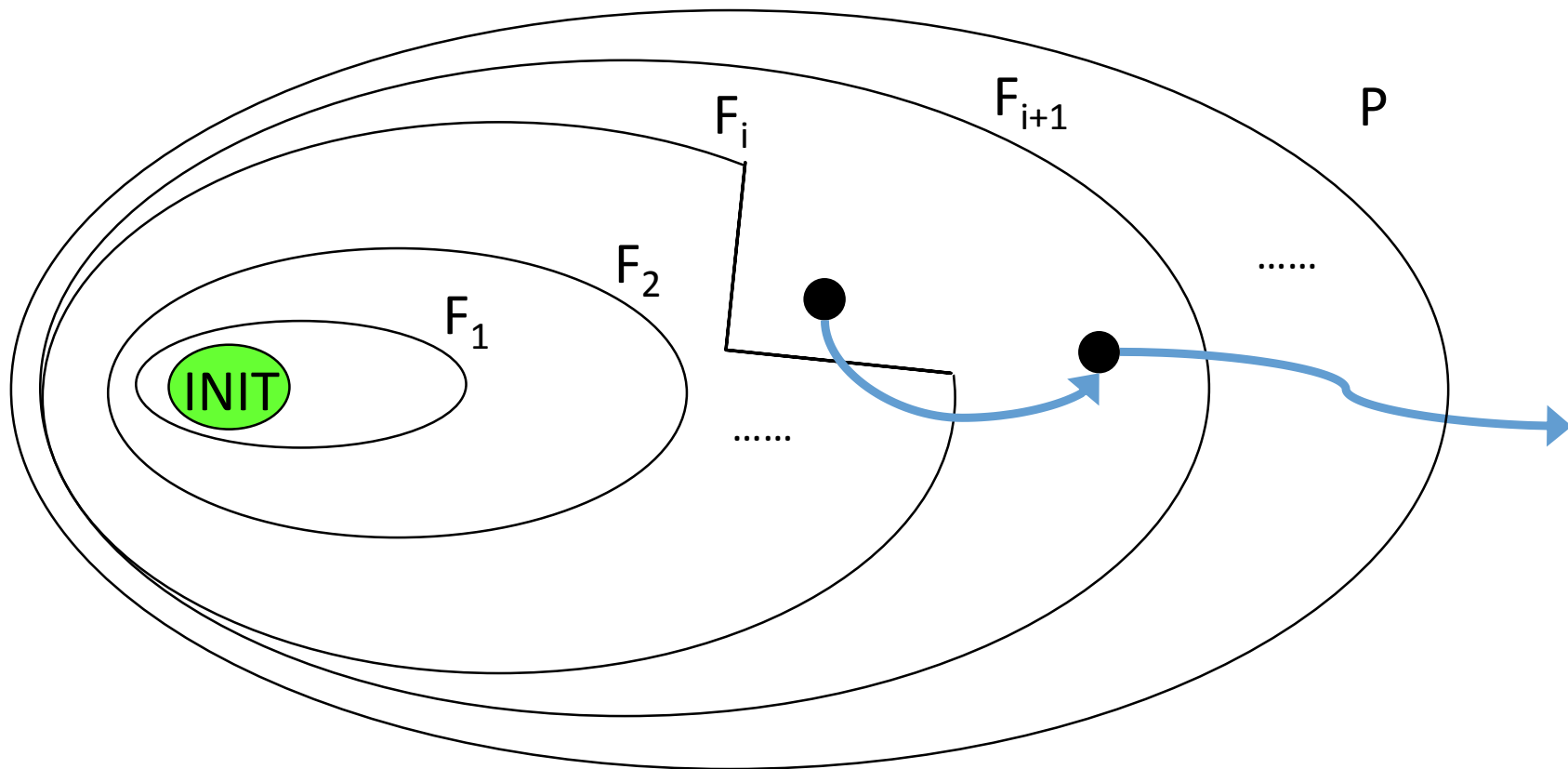
- $F_{k-1} \wedge c \wedge T \Rightarrow c'$  and  $\text{INIT} \Rightarrow c$  hold
- $F_k := F_k \wedge c$
- $c$  is also inductive relative to  $F_{k-1}, F_{k-2}, \dots, F_0$ 
  - Add  $c$  to all of these sets
  - $F_i^* = F_i \wedge c$
- $F_i^* \wedge T \Rightarrow F_{i+1}^*$  holds

# Observation 2

- Assume state  $s$  in  $F_i$  can reach a bad state in a number of transitions
- $s$  is also in  $F_j$  for  $j > i$  ( $F_i \Rightarrow F_j$ )
  - a longer CEX may exist
  - $s$  may not be reachable in  $i$  steps, but it may be reachable in  $j$  steps
- If  $s$  is blocked in  $F_i$ , it must be blocked in  $F_j$  for  $j > i$ 
  - Otherwise, a CEX exists



# Push Forward



# Push Forward

- Suppose  $s$  is removed from  $F_i$ 
  - by conjoining a sub-clause  $c$
  - $F_i = F_i \wedge c$
- $c$  is a clause learnt at level  $i$
- try to push  $c$  forward for  $j > i$ 
  - If  $F_j \wedge c \wedge T \Rightarrow c'$  holds
    - $c$  is inductive in level  $j$
    - $F_{j+1} = F_{j+1} \wedge c$
  - Else:  $s$  was not blocked at level  $j > i$ 
    - Add a proof obligation  $(s,j)$
    - If  $s$  is reachable from INIT in  $j$  steps, CEX!

# IC3 – Key Ingredients

- Backward Search
  - Find a state  $s$  that can reach a bad state in a number of steps
  - $s$  may not be reachable (over-approximations)
- Block a State
  - Do it efficiently, block more than  $s$ 
    - Generalization
- Push Forward
  - An inductive fact at frame  $i$ , may also be inductive at higher frames
  - If not, a longer CEX is found

# IC3 – High Level Alg

If  $\text{INIT} \wedge \neg P$  is SAT return false; // CEX

If  $\text{INIT} \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  is SAT return false; // CEX

OARS =  $\langle \text{INIT}, P \rangle$ ; //  $\langle F_0, F_1 \rangle$

k=1

while (OARS.is\_fixpoint() == false) do

    extend(OARS); //  $F_{k+1} = P$

    while ( $F_k \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  is SAT) do

        s = get\_state();

        If (block\_state(s, k) == false) // recursive function

            return false; // CEX

    push\_forward();

    k = k+1

return valid;

$F_i$  represented by set of clauses.  
Check implication by set inclusion

# IC3 – Alternative Description

If  $\text{INIT} \wedge \neg P$  is SAT return false; // CEX

If  $\text{INIT} \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  is SAT return false; // CEX

OARS =  $\langle \text{INIT}, P \rangle$ ; //  $\langle F_0, F_1 \rangle$

k=1

while (OARS.is\_fixpoint() == false) do

~~extend(OARS); //  $F_{k+1} = P$~~      $F_{k+1} = \text{true}$

~~while ( $F_k \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$  is SAT) do~~    while ( $F_{k+1} \wedge \neg P$  is SAT) do

    s = get\_state();

    If (block\_state(s, k) == false) // recursive function

      return false; // CEX

  push\_forward();

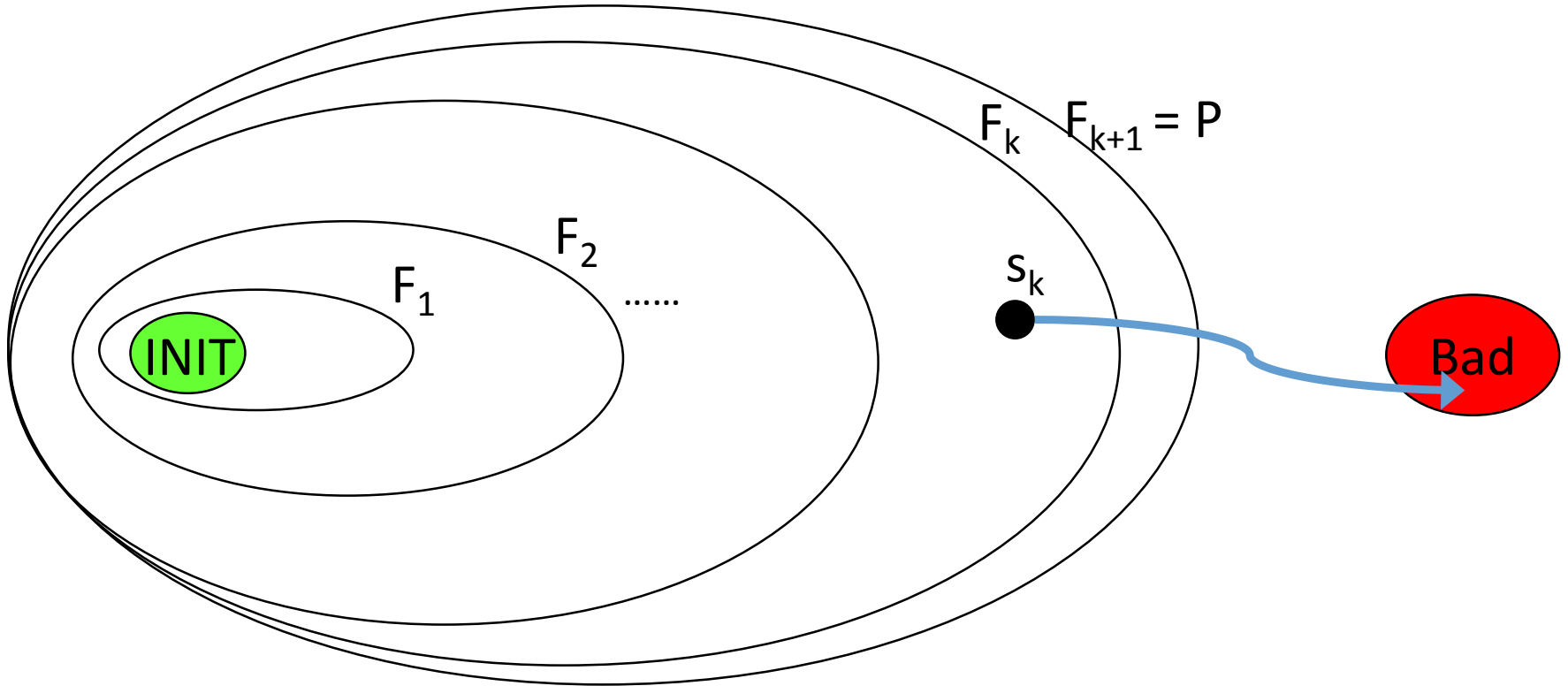
  k = k+1

return valid;

$F_i$  represented by set of clauses.  
Check implication by set inclusion

# General Iteration

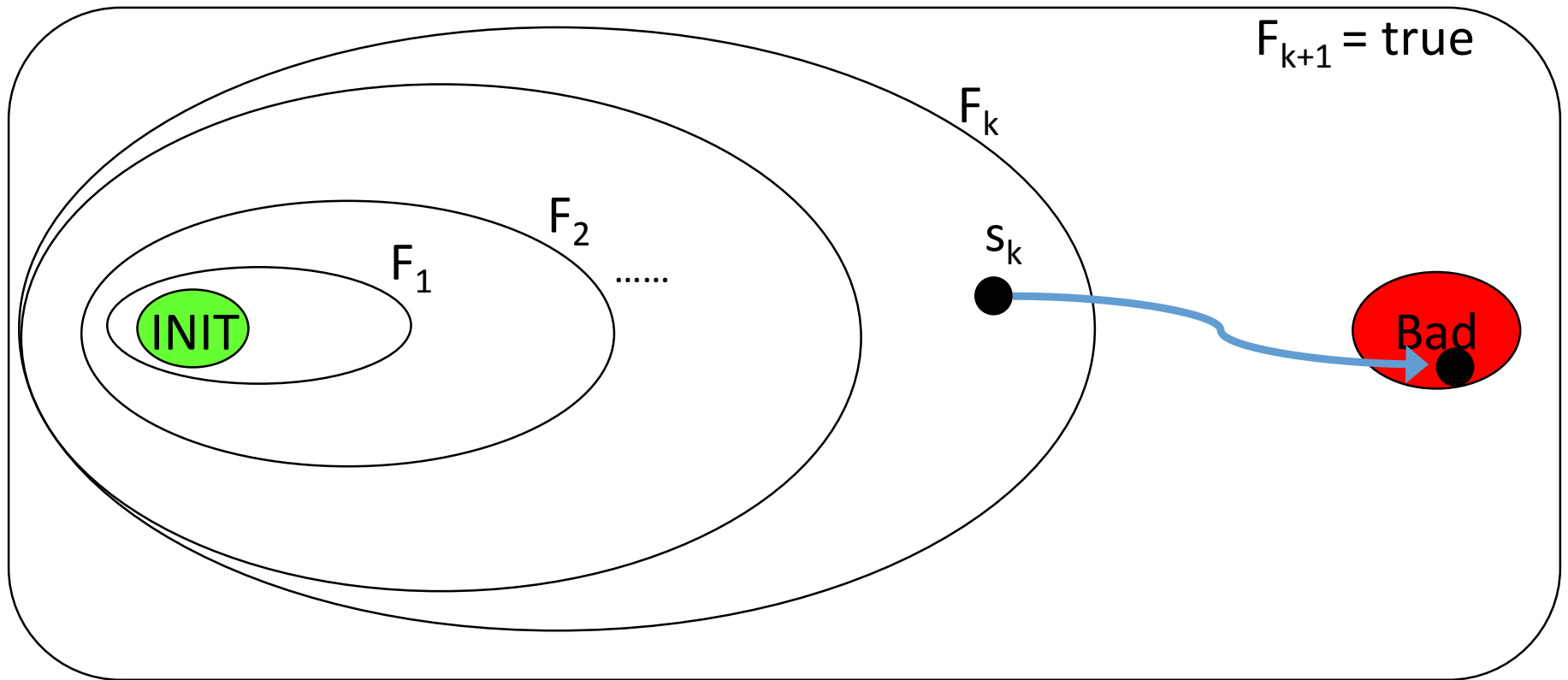
$\text{SAT}(F_k \wedge T \wedge \neg P')$  ?



# General Iteration: Alternative

$\text{SAT}(F_{k+1} \wedge \neg P')$  ?

$\text{SAT}(F_k \wedge T \wedge s')$  ?



# Correctness



# PDR vs. CEGAR

## CEGAR:

- computes **strongest** inductive invariant (least fixpoint) with respect to **given abstraction**
  - Invariant computation is **not** property guided
  - But the abstraction and refinement are property guided
- Requires **abstract transformer**
- Requires refinement mechanism that reveals new predicates (e.g., **interpolation**)
- Counterexample analysis uses **unrolling** of TR

# What About Infinite State Systems?

- Use first-order logic instead of propositional logic

# Filter Example

{ h is a list }

```
void filter(Node h){
  Node i:=h; j:=null;
  while (i ≠ null){
    if ¬C(i) then {
      if i = h then h:=i.n
      else j.n:=i.n;
    }
    else j:=i;
    i:=i.n;
  }
}
```

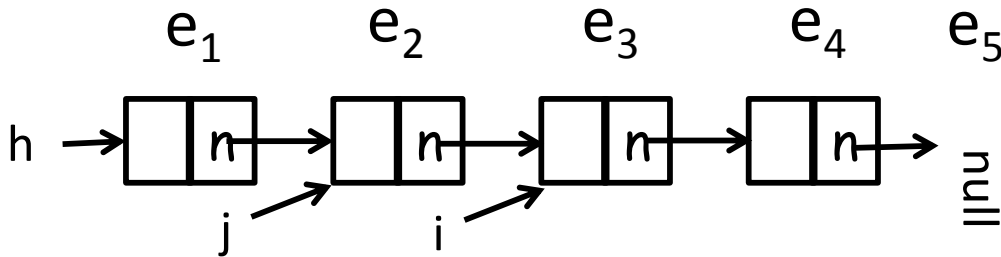
{ post-condition: all C-elements were removed, other remained while preserving original order }

# From Programs to Logic

- Vocabulary:

$$V = \langle \underbrace{h, i, j, \text{null}}_{\text{constants}}, \underbrace{n(\cdot, \cdot), C(\cdot)}_{\text{relations}} \rangle$$

Program state:



first-order structure

$$D = \{e_1, \dots, e_5\}$$

$$I(h) = e_1$$

$$I(i) = e_3$$

$$I(j) = e_2$$

$$I(\text{null}) = e_5$$

$$I(n) = \{(e_1, e_2), (e_2, e_3), \dots\}$$

# Filter Example: Assertions

$\{H = h \wedge \forall x,y. n^*(x,y) \leftrightarrow L(x,y) \}$

```
void filter(Node h){
  Node i:=h; j:=null;
  while (i ≠ null){
    if ¬C(i) then {
      if i = h then h:=i.n
      else j.n:=i.n;
    }
    else j:=i;
    i:=i.n;
  }
}
```

$V = \langle h, i, j, \text{null},$   
 $n(\cdot, \cdot), C(\cdot),$   
 $H, L(\cdot, \cdot) \rangle$

Auxiliary symbols

$\{ \forall z. h \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h,z) \rightarrow C(z)$

$\forall z. L(H,z) \wedge C(z) \rightarrow n^*(h,z)$

$\forall x,y. L(H,x) \wedge L(x,y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x,y) \}$

# From Programs to Transition Systems

- Transition relation:  
first-order formula  $TR(V, V')$  describing loop body
- Initial and Bad states:  
first-order formulas  $Init(V)$ ,  $Bad(V)$

# Filter Example

$\{H = h \wedge \forall x,y. n^*(x,y) \leftrightarrow L(x,y) \}$

```
void filter(Node h){  
  Node i:=h; j:=null;  
  while (i  $\neq$  null){  
    if  $\neg$ C(i) then {  
      if i = h then h:=i.n  
      else j.n:=i.n;  
    }  
    else j:=i;  
    i:=i.n;  
  }  
}
```

$\{ \forall z. h \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h,z) \rightarrow C(z) \}$

$\forall z. L(H,z) \wedge C(z) \rightarrow n^*(h,z)$

$\forall x,y. L(H,x) \wedge L(x,y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x,y) \}$

# Filter Example

```
void filter(Node h){
```

```
  Node i:=h; j:=null;
```

```
  {  $H = h \wedge i=h \wedge j = \text{null} \wedge \forall x,y. n^*(x,y) \leftrightarrow L(x,y)$  }
```

```
  } Init(V)
```

```
  while (i  $\neq$  null){
```

```
    if  $\neg C(i)$  then {
```

```
      if  $i = h$  then  $h:=i.n$ 
```

```
      else  $j.n:=i.n$ ;
```

```
    }
```

```
    else  $j:=i$ ;
```

```
     $i:=i.n$ ;
```

```
  }
```

```
  } TR(V,V')
```

```
{  $i = \text{null} \rightarrow \forall z. h \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h,z) \rightarrow C(z)$ 
```

```
   $\forall z. L(H,z) \wedge C(z) \rightarrow n^*(h,z)$ 
```

```
   $\forall x,y. L(H,x) \wedge L(x,y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x,y)$  }
```

```
} P(V)
```



# From Programs to Transition Systems

$$H = h \wedge \forall x,y. n^*(x,y) \leftrightarrow L(x,y)$$

$$\forall z. h \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h,z) \rightarrow C(z)$$

$$\forall z. L(H,z) \wedge C(z) \rightarrow n^*(h,z)$$

$$\forall x,y. L(H,x) \wedge L(x,y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x,y)$$

Problems:

- FOL + transitive closure is undecidable
- McCarthy assignment rule for wlp does not work for heap manipulations  $x.n := e$

# Reachability Predicates

- Use  $n^*$  instead of  $n$ :

$$V = \langle h, i, j, \text{null}, n^*(\cdot, \cdot), C(\cdot) \rangle$$

- Axiomatize  $n^*$ :

Acyclicity + reflexivity  
Transitivity  
linearity

$$\Gamma_{\text{linOrd}} = \forall \alpha, \beta: n^*(\alpha, \beta) \wedge n^*(\beta, \alpha) \leftrightarrow \alpha = \beta \wedge$$

$$\forall \alpha, \beta, \gamma: n^*(\alpha, \beta) \wedge n^*(\beta, \gamma) \rightarrow n^*(\alpha, \gamma) \wedge$$

$$\forall \alpha, \beta, \gamma: n^*(\alpha, \beta) \wedge n^*(\alpha, \gamma) \rightarrow (n^*(\beta, \gamma) \vee n^*(\gamma, \beta))$$

Effectively Propositional (EPR)

- Satisfiability is decidable
- Finite model property

# Filter Example

```
void filter(Node h){
```

```
  Node i:=h; j:=null;
```

```
  {  $H = h \wedge i=h \wedge j = \text{null} \wedge \forall x,y. n^*(x,y) \leftrightarrow L(x,y)$  }
```

} Init(V)

```
  while (i  $\neq$  null){
```

```
    if  $\neg C(i)$  then {
```

```
      if  $i = h$  then  $h:=i.n$ 
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```
      else  $j.n:=i.n$ ;
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```
    }
```

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    else  $j:=i$ ;
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     $i:=i.n$ ;
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  }
```

} TR(V,V')

```
{  $i = \text{null} \rightarrow \forall z. h \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h,z) \rightarrow C(z)$ 
```

```
   $\forall z. L(H,z) \wedge C(z) \rightarrow n^*(h,z)$ 
```

```
   $\forall x,y. L(H,x) \wedge L(x,y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x,y)$  }
```

} P(V)

# Filter Example

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void filter(Node h){
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  {  $H = h \wedge i=h \wedge j = \text{null} \wedge \forall x,y. n^*(x,y) \leftrightarrow L(x,y)$  }
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  while {I} (i  $\neq$  null){
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```

```
   $\forall x,y. L(H,x) \wedge L(x,y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x,y)$  }
```

} P(V)

# Inductive Invariants

- Setting
  - $V$  – relational vocabulary
  - $TR(V, V')$  – transition relation
  - $Init(V)$  – initial states
  - $Bad(V)$  – bad states (determined by assertions)
- $I(V)$  is an inductive invariant if:
  - $Init \Rightarrow I$
  - $I(V) \wedge TR(V, V') \Rightarrow I(V')$
  - $I \Rightarrow \neg Bad$
- Infer inductive invariant with PDR (IC3)

# Universal Property Directed Reachability

- Given:  $V$ ,  $TR(V, V')$ ,  $Init(V)$ ,  $Bad(V)$
- UPDR searches for inductive invariant  $I(V)$  in the form of a universal formula

$$\underbrace{\forall \bar{x} (I_{1,1}(\bar{x}) \vee \dots \vee I_{1,1}(\bar{x}))}_{\text{Clause / lemma}} \wedge \dots \wedge \forall \bar{x} (I_{n,1}(\bar{x}) \vee \dots \vee I_{n,m}(\bar{x}))$$

- iteratively infers universal lemmas until fixpoint

# IC3 General Iteration

$$F_i := F_i \wedge \neg \sigma_i$$

$$F_{i-1} := F_{i-1} \wedge \neg \sigma_{i-1}$$

⋮

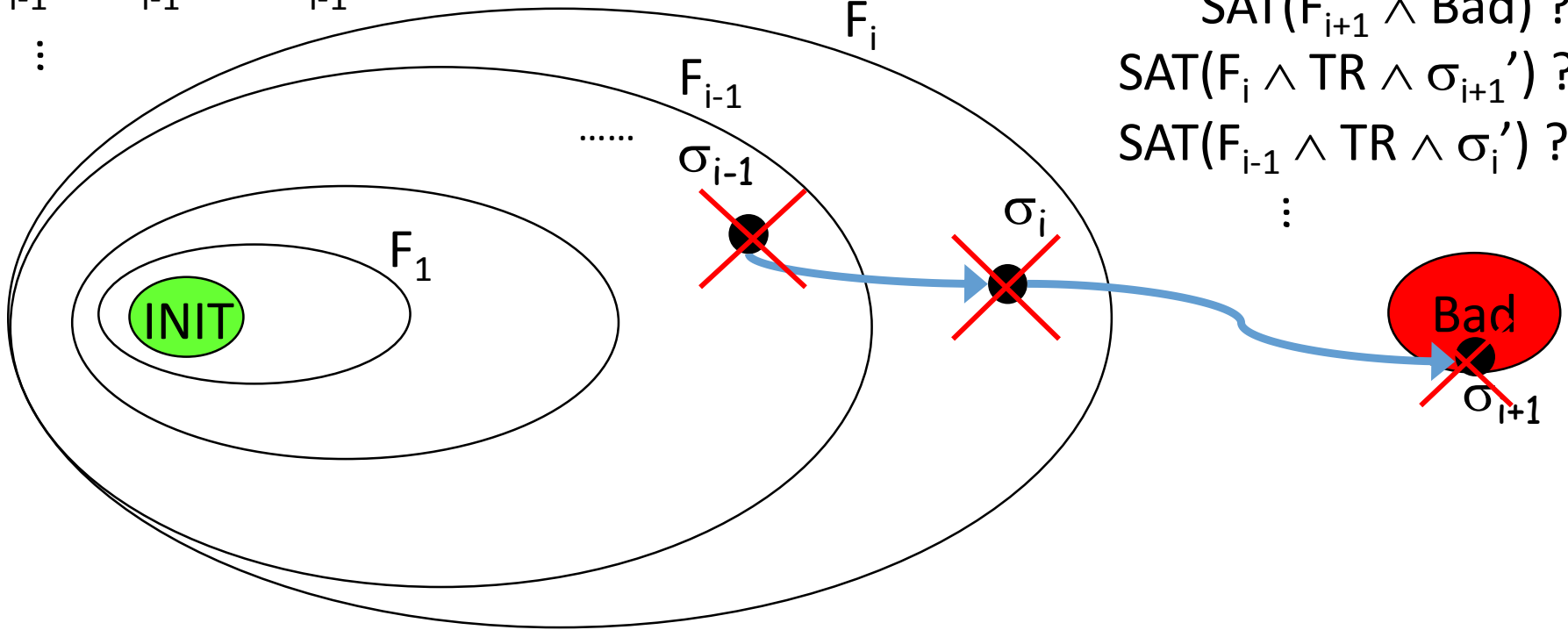
~~$$F_{i+1} := F_{i+1} \wedge \neg \sigma_{i+1}$$~~

$$\text{SAT}(F_{i+1} \wedge \text{Bad}) ?$$

$$\text{SAT}(F_i \wedge \text{TR} \wedge \sigma_{i+1}') ?$$

$$\text{SAT}(F_{i-1} \wedge \text{TR} \wedge \sigma_i') ?$$

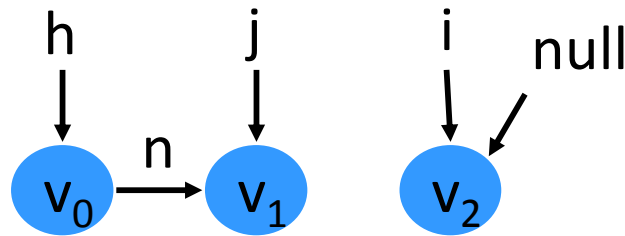
⋮



But now  $\sigma$  is not a formula!

# Universal PDR (UPDR)

- “bad state”  $\sigma$  is a **finite** first-order model
  - use  $\text{Diag}(\sigma)$  as an abstraction of  $\sigma$  :



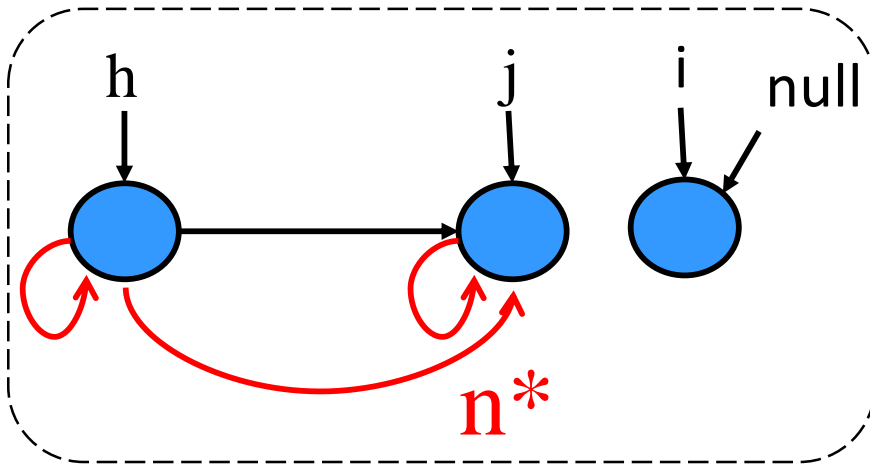
$$\begin{aligned} \exists x_0, x_1, x_2. & x_0 \neq x_1 \wedge x_0 \neq x_2 \wedge x_1 \neq x_2 \wedge \\ & h = x_0 \wedge j = x_1 \wedge i = x_2 \wedge \text{null} = x_2 \wedge \\ & n^*(x_0, x_0) \wedge n^*(x_1, x_1) \wedge n^*(x_2, x_2) \wedge n^*(x_0, x_1) \wedge \\ & \neg n^*(x_0, x_2) \wedge \neg n^*(x_1, x_0) \wedge \dots \end{aligned}$$

$\sigma' \models \text{Diag}(\sigma)$  iff  $\sigma$  is a sub-structure of  $\sigma'$

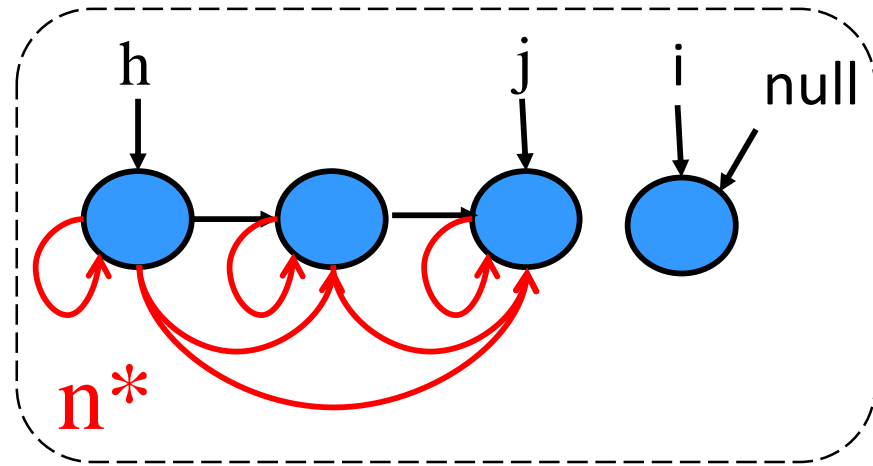


# Diagrams as Abstractions

- $\sigma' \models \text{Diag}(\sigma)$  iff  $\sigma$  is a sub-structure of  $\sigma'$

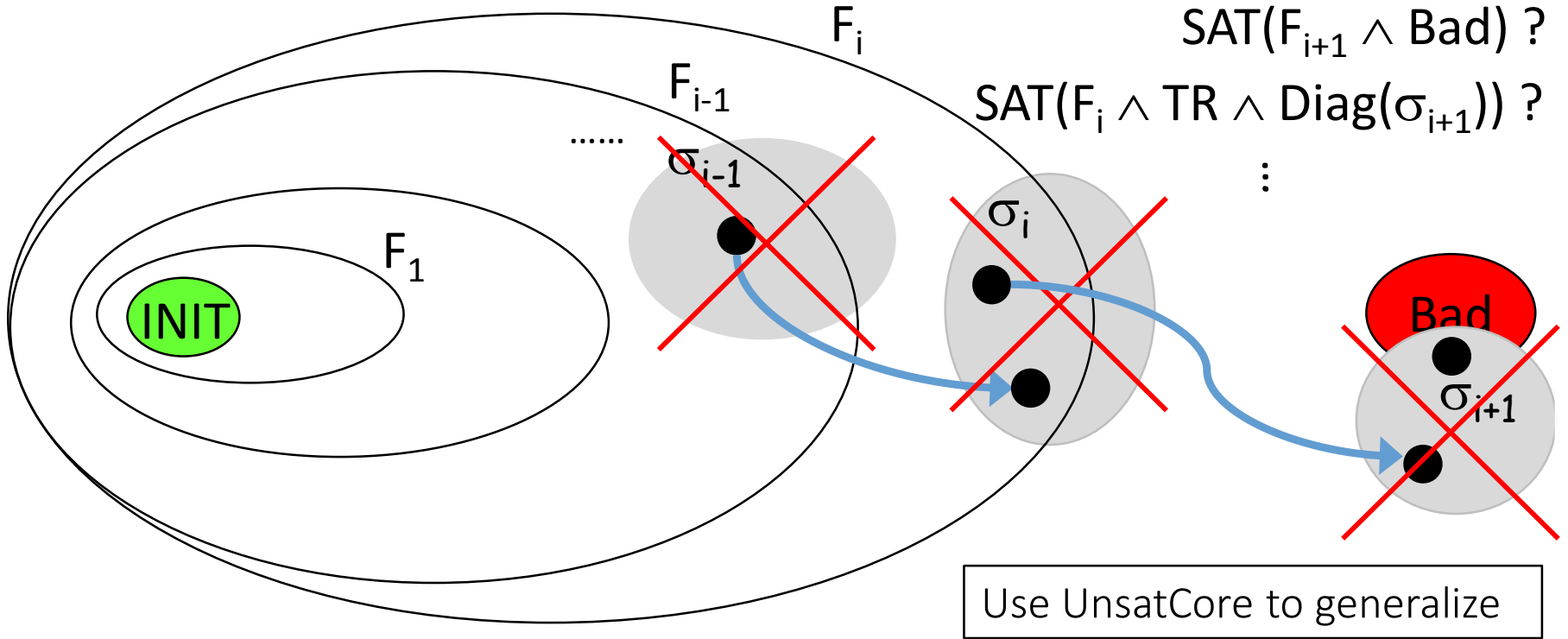


$\sigma$



$\sigma'$

# UPDR



If  $\text{Diag}(\sigma_{i+1})$  is reachable from  $F_i$ : continue backwards

If  $\text{Diag}(\sigma_j)$  is unreachable from  $F_{j-1}$ :  $F_j := F_j \wedge \neg \text{Diag}(\sigma_j)$

# Why Diagrams?

- If there exists a universal inductive invariant  $I$  and  $\sigma_j$  is a “bad state”, then  
*all* states in  $\text{Diag}(\sigma_j)$  are unreachable from Init
  - Blocking will succeed

- $F_j := F_j \wedge \underbrace{\neg \text{Diag}(\sigma_j)}_{\text{universal clause}}$

$\Rightarrow F_1, F_2, \dots$  are **universal** formulas

# More Intuition

- If there exists a universal inductive invariant:

$$I = \underbrace{\forall \bar{x} (I_{1,1}(\bar{x}) \vee \dots \vee I_{1,1}(\bar{x}))}_{\text{Clause / lemma}} \wedge \dots \wedge \forall \bar{x} (I_{n,1}(\bar{x}) \vee \dots \vee I_{n,m}(\bar{x}))$$

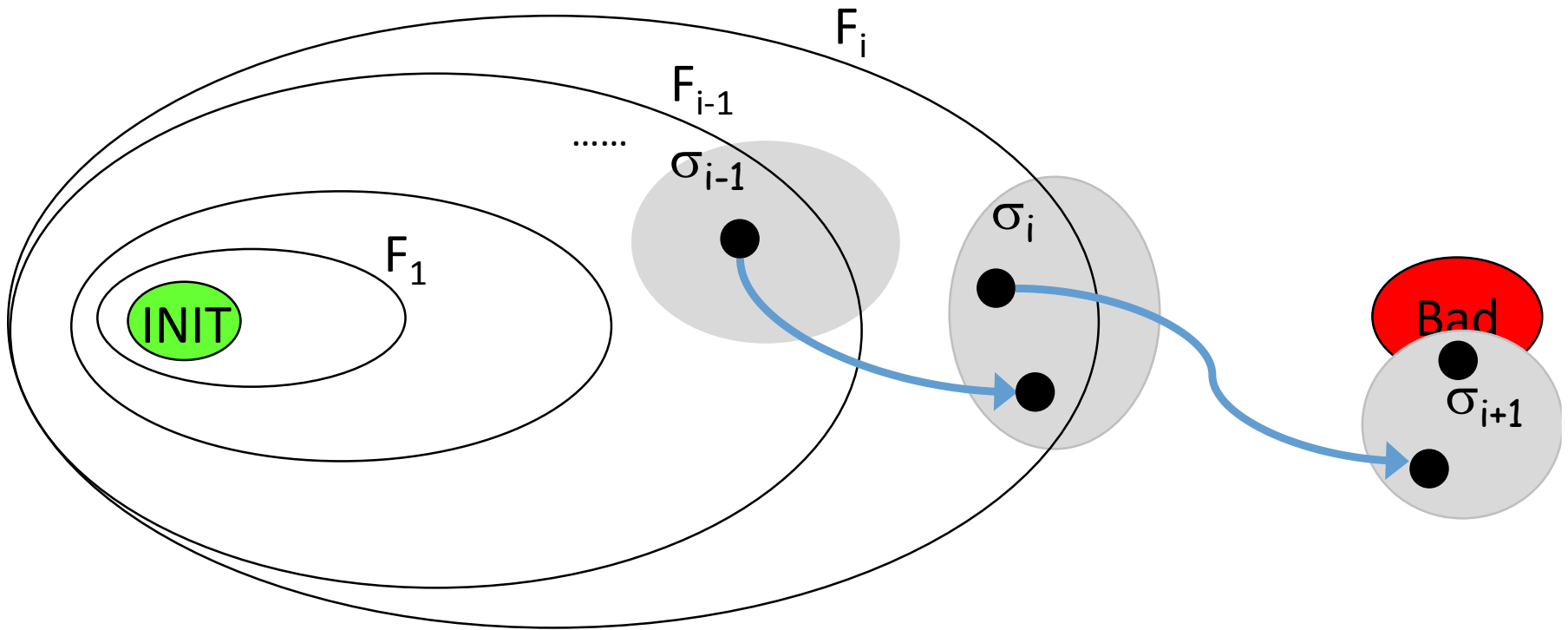
Then:

$$\neg I \equiv \underbrace{\exists \bar{x} (\neg I_{1,1}(\bar{x}) \wedge \dots \wedge \neg I_{1,1}(\bar{x})) \vee \dots \vee \exists \bar{x} (\neg I_{n,1}(\bar{x}) \wedge \dots \wedge \neg I_{n,m}(\bar{x}))}_{\text{Cube}}$$

UPDR tries to generate and block cex models that “cover” all cubes in  $\neg I$

# UPDR: Possible Outcomes

- Fixpoint: **universal inductive invariant found**
- Abstract counterexample:



# UPDR: Possible Outcomes (cont.)

- Fixpoint: **universal inductive invariant found**
- Abstract counterexample:
  - Check if spurious using bounded model checking
    - If concrete counterexample found:
      - **program is unsafe**
    - If counterexample is spurious:
      - **Unknown whether the program is safe, but**
      - **No universal inductive invariant exists**
- Divergence

# Filter Example

```
void filter(Node h){
```

```
  Node i:=h; j:=null;
```

```
  {  $H = h \wedge i=h \wedge j = \text{null} \wedge \forall x,y. n^*(x,y) \leftrightarrow L(x,y)$  }
```

} Init(V)

```
  while {I} (i  $\neq$  null){
```

```
    if  $\neg C(i)$  then {
```

```
      if  $i = h$  then  $h:=i.n$ 
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    }
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```
    else  $j:=i$ ;
```

```
     $i:=i.n$ 
```

```
  }
```

} TR(V,V')

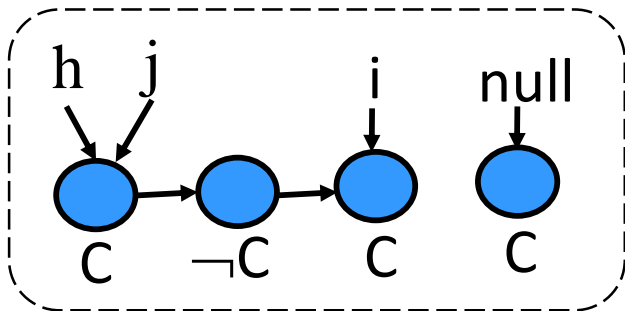
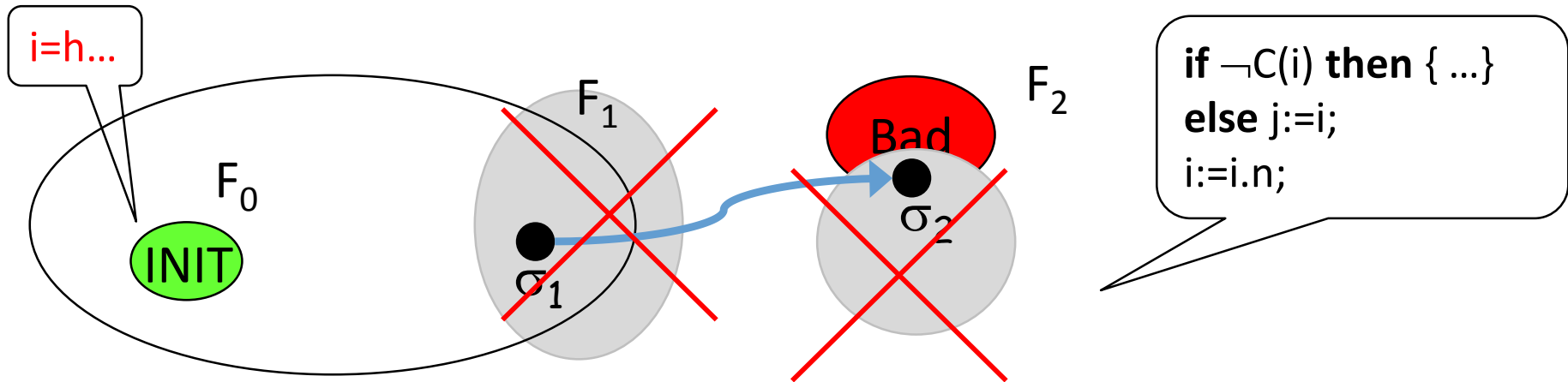
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{  $i = \text{null} \rightarrow \forall z. h \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h,z) \rightarrow C(z)$ 
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```
   $\forall z. L(H,z) \wedge C(z) \rightarrow n^*(h,z)$ 
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```
   $\forall x,y. L(H,x) \wedge L(x,y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x,y)$  }
```

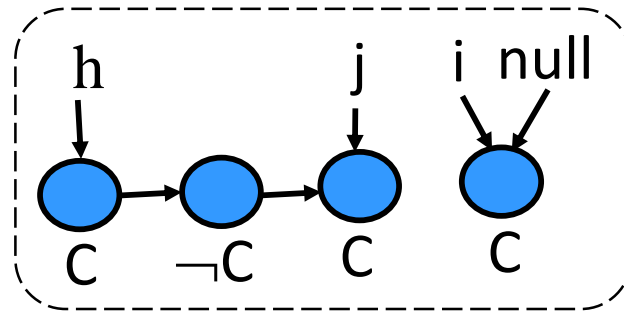
} P(V)

# Filter Example: Frame 2



$$\neg \exists x. (j \neq x \wedge \neg n^*(i, x) \wedge n^*(j, x))$$

$$\equiv \forall x. (j = x \vee n^*(i, x) \vee \neg n^*(j, x))$$



$$\forall x. (i \neq \text{null} \vee n^*(i, x) \vee \neg n^*(h, x) \vee h = x)$$

$$\text{Bad} = i = \text{null} \wedge \neg (\forall z. h \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h, z) \rightarrow C(z))$$

$$\forall z. L(H, z) \wedge C(z) \rightarrow n^*(h, z)$$

$$\forall x, y. L(H, x) \wedge L(x, y) \wedge C(x) \wedge C(y) \rightarrow n^*(x, y)$$



# Inferred Invariant

- $i \neq h \wedge i \neq \text{null} \rightarrow n^*(j; i)$
- $i \neq h \rightarrow C(h)$
- $n^*(h, j) \vee i \neq j$
- $\forall x. i \neq h \wedge n^*(j, x) \wedge x \neq j \rightarrow n^*(i, x)$
- $i \neq h \rightarrow C(j)$
- $\forall x. x = h \vee j = \text{null} \vee \neg n^*(h, x) \vee \neg n^*(h, j) \vee \neg C(j)$
- $\forall x. j \neq \text{null} \wedge n^*(h, x) \wedge x \neq h \wedge \neg C(x) \rightarrow n^*(j, x)$

# Summary

## Property Directed Reachability

- SAT-based
- Performs local reasoning, no unrolling
- Complete for finite state systems
- No need for predefined predicates