

# Automatic Generation of Polynomial Invariants for System Verification

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# Plan of the Talk

- Introduction
  - Need for program verification
  - Invariants and abstract interpretation
  - Polynomial invariants

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- Introduction
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Equalities  
(with D. Kapur: ISSAC'04, SAS'04)
  - Related work
  - Abstract domain of ideals
  - Particular case: loops without nesting

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- Introduction
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Equalities
- Applications of Polynomial Equality Invariants
  - Imperative programs  
(with D. Kapur: ICTAC'04)
  - Petri nets  
(with R. Clarisó, J. Cortadella: ATPN'05)
  - Hybrid systems  
(with A. Tiwari: HSCC'05)

# Plan of the Talk

- Introduction
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Equalities
- Applications of Polynomial Equality Invariants
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Inequalities  
(with R. Bagnara, E. Zaffanella: SAS'05)
  - Abstract domain of polynomial cones

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- Introduction
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Equalities
- Applications of Polynomial Equality Invariants
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Inequalities
- Conclusions and Future Work

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- Critical systems
  - safety
  - security
  - ...



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Failure of the Ariane 5 launcher in 1996

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Failure of the Ariane 5 launcher in 1996

- Fundamental finding errors asap.
- Invariants are crucial for program verification!

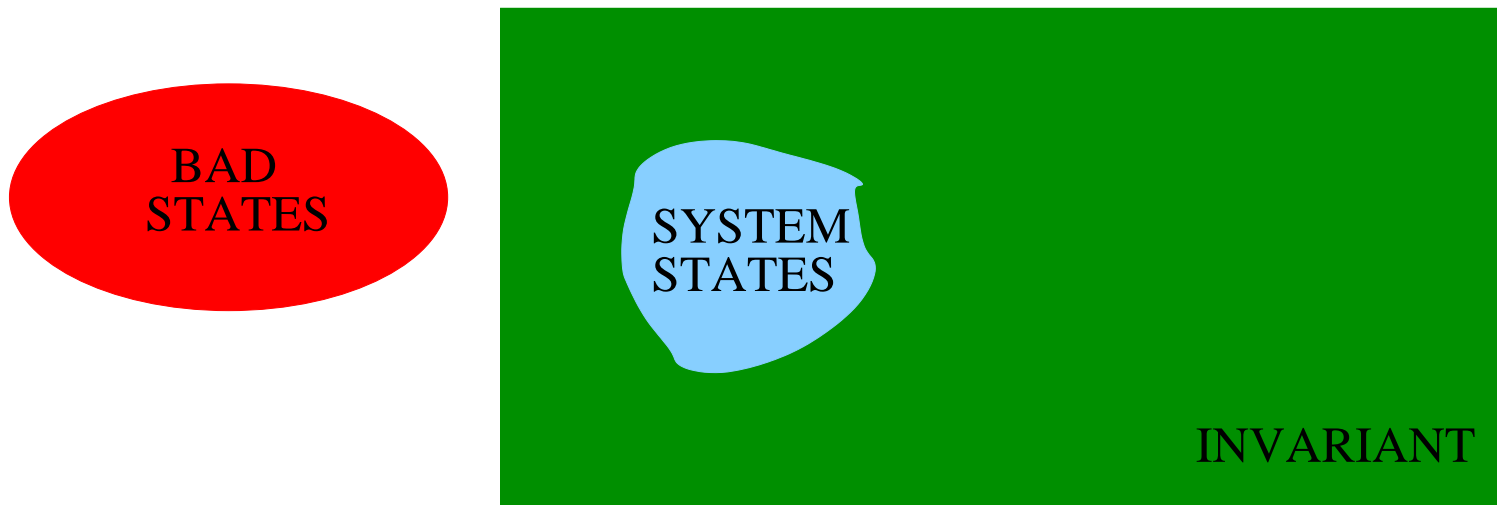
# Invariants in Verification



**CORRECTNESS OF THE SYSTEM:**

$$\text{SYSTEM STATES} \cap \text{BAD STATES} = \emptyset$$

# Invariants in Verification



**CORRECTNESS OF THE SYSTEM:**

$$\text{SYSTEM STATES} \cap \text{BAD STATES} = \emptyset$$

**SUFFICIENT CONDITION:**

$$\text{INVARIANT} \cap \text{BAD STATES} = \emptyset$$

# Overview of Abstract Interpretation

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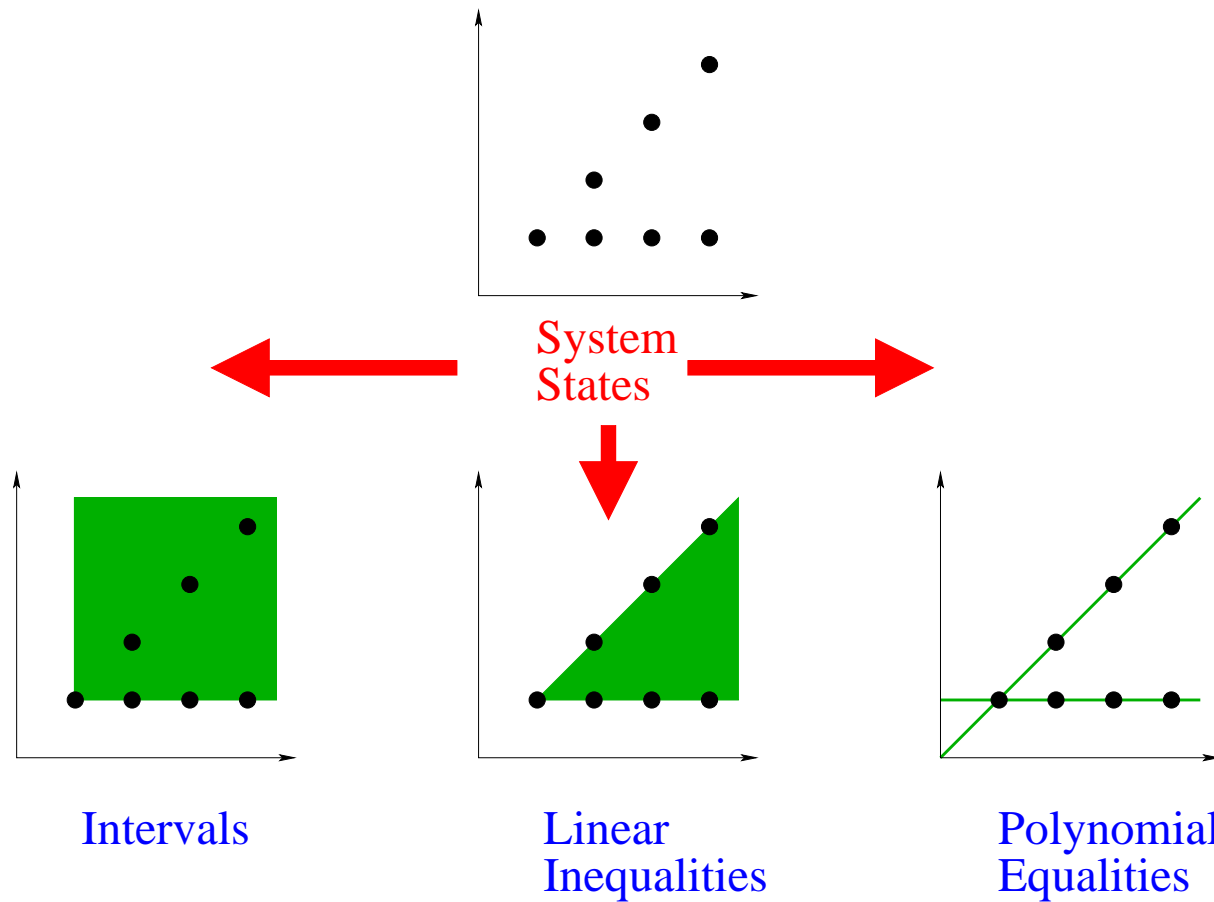
- polynomial equalities and inequalities

$$x = y^2 \quad (a + 1)^2 > b^2 \geq a^2$$



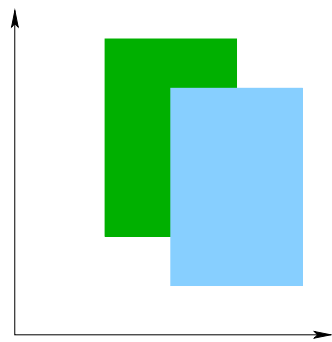
# Abstract Interpretation: Overapproximation

Sets of variable values overapproximated by **abstract values**



# Abstract Interpretation: Operations

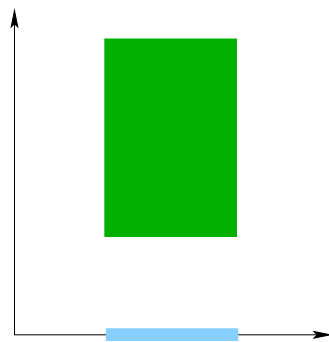
- **Invariants** computed by **symbolic execution** of the system with **abstract values**
- This requires **abstracting** concrete **operations** on states:



Image



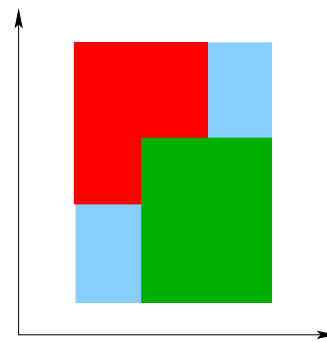
*assignments*



Projection



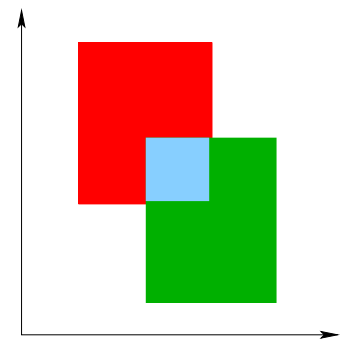
*assignments*



Union



*merging in loops  
and conditionals*



Intersection



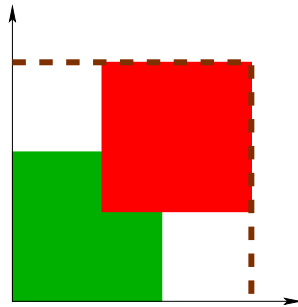
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# Abstract Interpretation: Extrapolation

- Termination is not guaranteed in general
- Widening operators ensure termination by extrapolating union

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# Why Care about Polynomial Invariants?

- **Linear invariants** used to verify many classes of systems:
  - Imperative programs
  - Logic programs
  - Hybrid systems
  - ...

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- **Linear invariants** used to verify many classes of systems:
  - Imperative programs
  - Logic programs
  - Hybrid systems
  - ...
- But some applications require **polynomial invariants**:

The abstract interpreter **ASTRÉE** employs **polynomial invariants** to verify absence of run-time errors in flight control software

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  - Related work
  - Abstract domain of ideals
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# Related Work (1)

- Iterative fixpoint approaches
  - Forward propagation
    - Rodríguez-Carbonell & Kapur 2004
    - Colón 2004
  - Backward propagation
    - Müller-Olm & Seidl 2004
- Constraint-based approaches
  - Sankaranarayanan & Sipma & Manna 2004

# Related Work (2)

Work	Restrictions	Conds =	Conds $\neq$	Complete
MOS, POPL'04	bounded deg	no	no	yes
SSM, POPL'04	fixed form	yes	no	no
MOS, IPL'04	fixed form	no	yes	yes
COL, SAS'04	bounded deg	yes	no	no
RCK, SAS'04	bounded deg	yes	yes	yes*
RCK, ISSAC'04	no restriction	no	no	yes

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 $polynomial = 0$  ,  $polynomial \neq 0$

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- **Implementation successfully applied** to many programs
- **Ideals of polynomials** represented by special finite bases of generators: **Gröbner bases**
- **Many tools** available manipulating ideals, Gröbner bases, e.g. **Macaulay 2, Maple**



# Ideals of Polynomials (1)

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- An **ideal** is a set of polynomials  $I$  such that
  - $0 \in I$
  - If  $p, q \in I$ , then  $p + q \in I$
  - If  $p \in I$  and  $q$  any polynomial,  $pq \in I$

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# Ideals of Polynomials (3)

- E.g. multiples of a polynomial  $p$ ,  $\langle p \rangle$ 
  - $0 = 0 \cdot p \in \langle p \rangle$
  - $q_1 \cdot p + q_2 \cdot p = (q_1 + q_2)p \in \langle p \rangle$
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- In general, ideal generated by  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ :

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- Hilbert's basis theorem: **all ideals are finitely generated**  
→ there is **finite representation** for ideals

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  - intersection:  $I \cap J$
- All operations implemented using **Gröbner bases**
- These are used in abstraction of concrete semantics

# Our Widening Operator

- Parametric widening  $I \nabla_d J$
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- Parametric widening  $I \nabla_d J$
- Based on taking polynomials of  $I \cap J$  of degree  $\leq d$
- Termination guaranteed

# Example

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$$F_0(I) = \langle 0 \rangle$$

$$F_1(I) = (\langle a \rangle + \langle I_0(a \leftarrow a') \rangle) \cap \mathbb{C}[a, b, c]$$

$$F_2(I) = (\langle b \rangle + \langle I_1(b \leftarrow b') \rangle) \cap \mathbb{C}[a, b, c]$$

$$F_3(I) = I_3 \nabla_2 (I_2 \cap I_6)$$

$$F_4(I) = \langle I_3 \rangle : \langle b - c \rangle$$

$$F_5(I) = I_4(a \leftarrow a - 2b - 1)$$

$$F_6(I) = I_5(b \leftarrow b - 1)$$

$$F_7(I) = \text{I}(\text{V}(I_3 + \langle b - c \rangle))$$

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In 6 steps found loop invariant:

$$a = b^2$$

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a := 0 ;  
b := 0 ;  
while b ≠ c do  
    a := a + 2b + 1 ;  
    b := b + 1;  
end while
```

# Overview of the Method

- $(a_n, b_n, c_n) \equiv$  **program state** after  $n$  loop iterations

$$\begin{cases} a_{n+1} = a_n + 2b_n + 1 \\ b_{n+1} = b_n + 1 \end{cases}, \begin{cases} a_0 = 0 \\ b_0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

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- **Program states** characterized by  $\exists n(a = n^2 \wedge b = n)$
- Quantifier elimination:  $b = n \implies a = b^2$  is loop invariant
- **Gröbner bases** can be used to eliminate **loop counters**

# Our Handling of Conditional Statements (1)

```
 $x := R;$   
 $y := 0;$   
 $r := R^2 - N;$   
while ? do  
  if ? then  
     $r := r + 2x + 1;$   
     $x := x + 1;$   
  else  
     $r := r - 2y - 1;$   
     $y := y + 1;$   
  end if  
end while
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Finding **intersection** of invariant **ideals**

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- Finding **common** invariants  $\equiv$   
Finding **intersection** of invariant **ideals**
- But this is **not sound!**

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- 2nd idea: take **intersection** as **initial condition** and **repeat**

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## Program

```
 $\bar{x} := \bar{\alpha};$   
while ? do  
   $\bar{x} := f(\bar{x});$   
  or  
   $\bar{x} := g(\bar{x});$   
end while
```

## Algorithm

```
 $I' := \langle 1 \rangle; I := \langle x_1 - \alpha_1, \dots, x_m - \alpha_m \rangle;$   
while  $I' \neq I$  do  
   $I' := I;$   
   $I := \bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} [ I(\bar{x} \leftarrow f^{-n}(\bar{x}))$   
     $\bigcap I(\bar{x} \leftarrow g^{-n}(\bar{x})) ];$   
end while
```

# Properties of our Algorithm

- No widening employed!
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- No widening employed!
  - Termination in  $n + 1$  steps, where  $n$  = number of variables
  - Correct and complete:  
finds all polynomial equality invariants
  - Implemented in Maple:
    1. Solving recurrences
    2. Eliminating variables
    3. Intersecting ideals
- } Gröbner bases



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Invariant polynomial equality:

$$x^2 - y^2 = r + N$$

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# Imperative Programs

**Pre:**  $\{ N \geq 1 \}$

$x := R; y := 0; r := R^2 - N;$

**Inv:**  $\{ N \geq 1 \wedge x^2 - y^2 = r + N \}$

**while**  $r \neq 0$  **do**

**if**  $r < 0$  **then**

$r := r + 2x + 1;$

$x := x + 1;$

**else**

$r := r - 2y - 1;$

$y := y + 1;$

**end if**

**end while**

**Post:**  $\{ x \neq y \wedge N \bmod (x - y) = 0 \}$

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**Inv:**  $\{ N \geq 1 \wedge x^2 - y^2 = r + N \}$

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**end if**

**end while**

**Post:**  $\{ x \neq y \wedge N \bmod (x - y) = 0 \}$

•  $N \geq 1 \implies$   
 $R^2 - 0^2 = (R^2 - N) + N$

# Imperative Programs

**Pre:**  $\{ N \geq 1 \}$

$x := R; y := 0; r := R^2 - N;$

**Inv:**  $\{ N \geq 1 \wedge x^2 - y^2 = r + N \}$

**while**  $r \neq 0$  **do**

**if**  $r < 0$  **then**

$r := r + 2x + 1;$

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- $N \geq 1 \wedge x^2 - y^2 = r + N \implies x \neq y \wedge N \bmod (x - y) = 0$



- Introduction
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Equalities
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  - Imperative programs
  - Petri nets
  - Hybrid systems
- Generation of Invariant Polynomial Inequalities
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# Petri Nets: Introduction

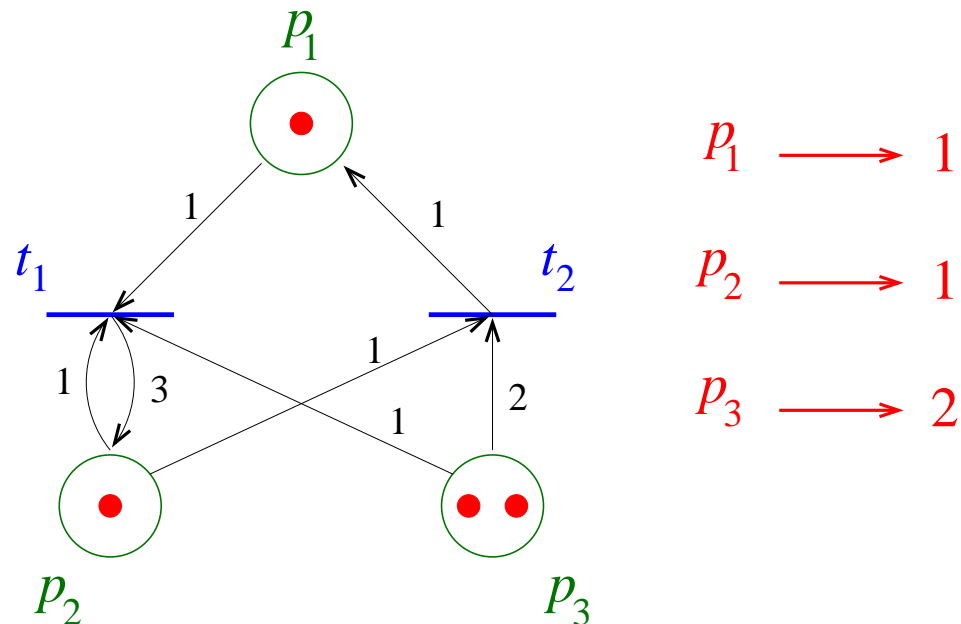
- **Petri nets:** mathematical model for studying systems
  - concurrency
  - parallelism
  - non-determinism

# Petri Nets: Introduction

- **Petri nets:** mathematical model for studying systems
  - concurrency
  - parallelism
  - non-determinism
- **Applications:**
  - Manufacturing and Task Planning
  - Communication Networks
  - Hardware Design

# Definitions

- A **Petri net** is a **bipartite directed** graph where:
  - **Nodes** partitioned into **places** ( $\circ$ ) and **transitions** ( $\parallel$ )
  - **Arcs** are labelled with **weights**
- A **marking** maps a number of tokens to each place



# Dynamics (1)

- Dynamics of a Petri net described by
  - initial marking
  - firing of transitions

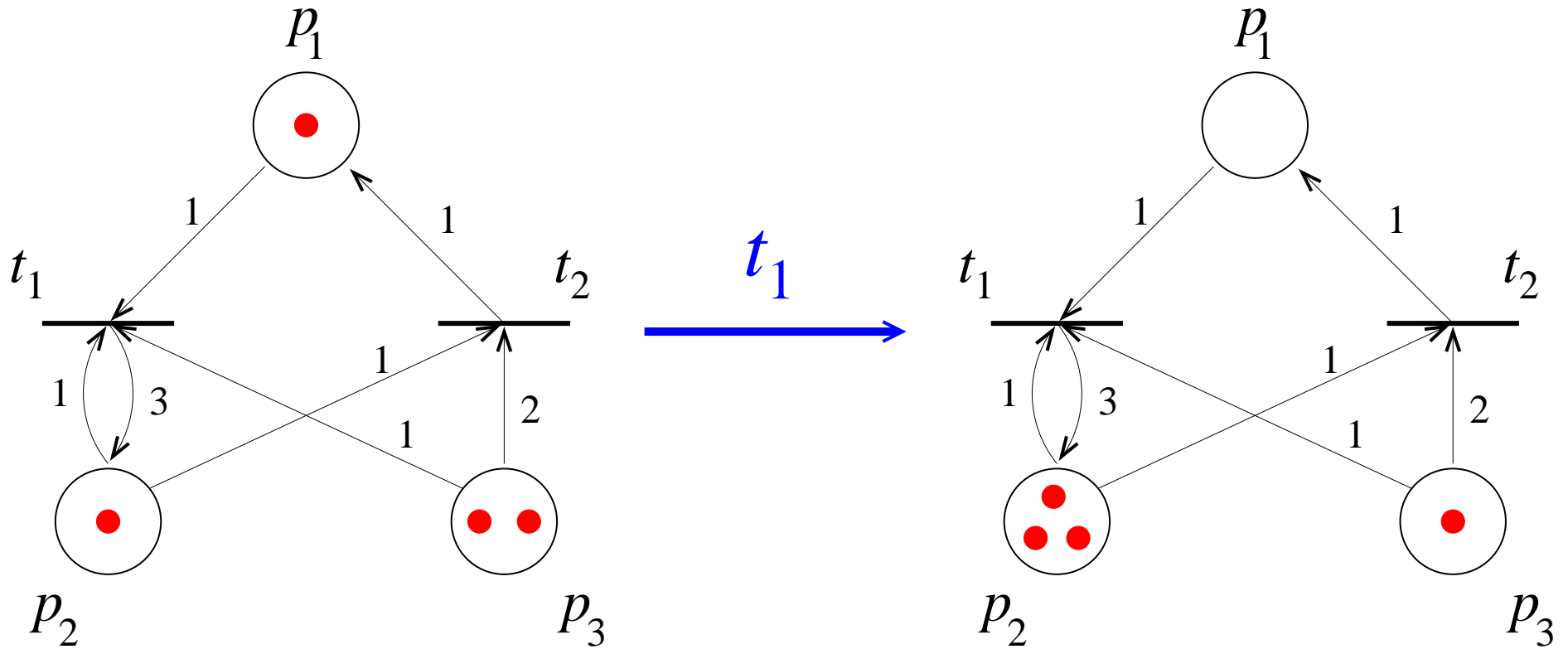
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- A transition is **enabled** if there are  $\geq$  tokens in each **input place** than indicated in the arcs
- When a transition is enabled, it can **fire**:  
the number of tokens indicated in the arcs is
  1. removed from input places
  2. added to output places

# Dynamics (2)



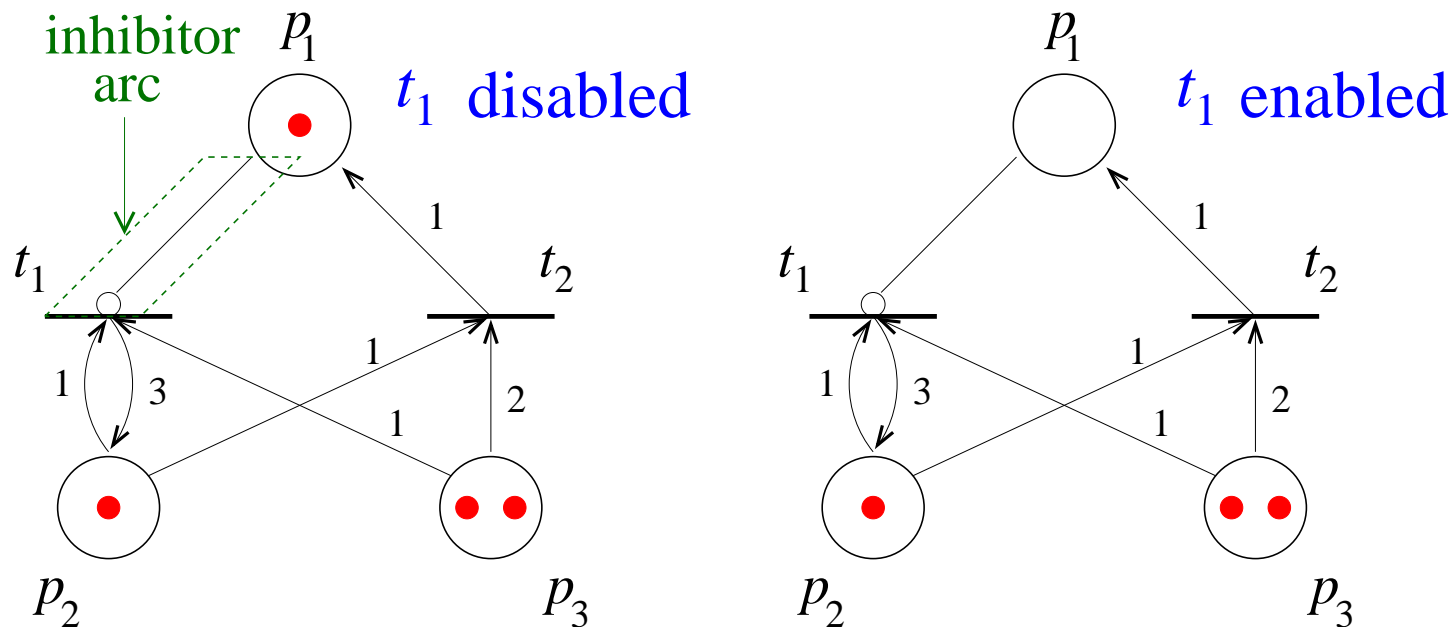


# Dynamics (3)

- Enabling of transitions may also depend on **inhibitor arcs**
- An **inhibitor arc** is an arc connecting place  $p$  to transition  $t$  so that **there cannot be tokens in  $p$**  for  $t$  to be enabled

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- Given a Petri net with an initial marking:
  - Invariant properties of reachable states ?
  - Any deadlocks ?

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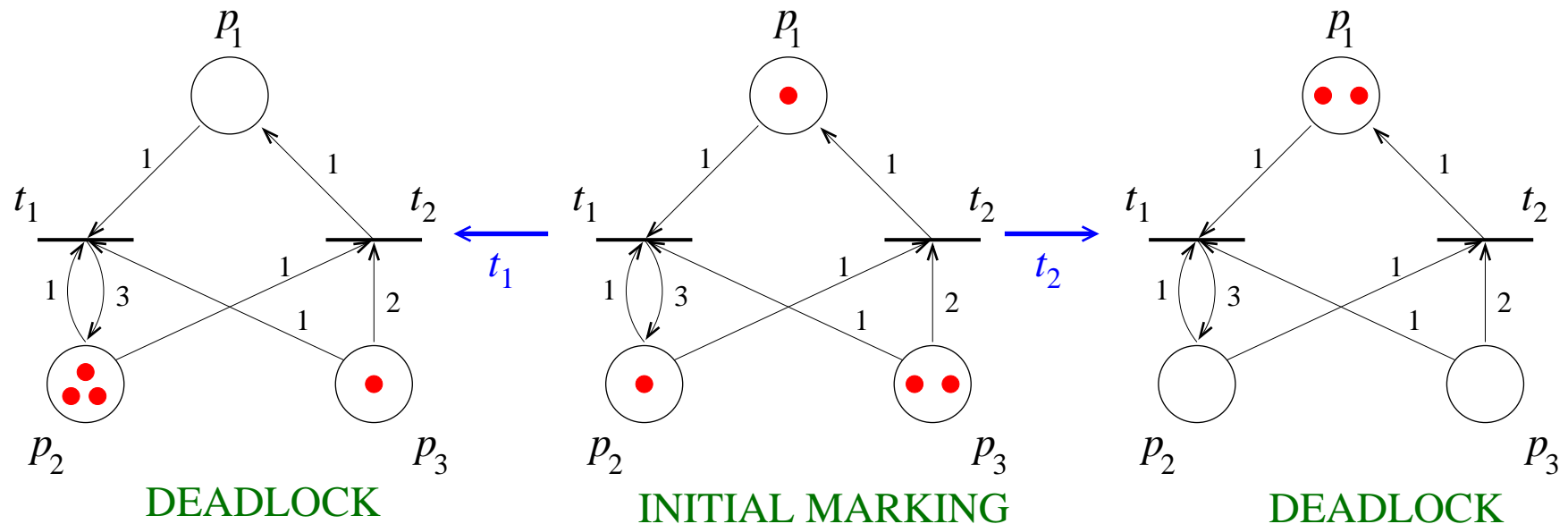
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- Enabling of a **transition** with **inhibitor place**  $p_i$ :  $x_i = 0$
- **Firing of a transition**
  - with **input place**  $p_i$  and **label**  $c_i$ :  $x_i := x_i - c_i$ ;
  - with **output place**  $p_i$  and **label**  $c_i$ :  $x_i := x_i + c_i$ ;

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- Abstract interpretation is applied to the loop program to obtain polynomial invariants of the Petri net

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- Example:



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$$Inv = \begin{cases} 5x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 - 10 & = 0 \\ 5x_3^2 + 2x_2 - 11x_3 & = 0 \\ x_2x_3 + 2x_3^2 - 5x_3 & = 0 \\ 5x_2^2 - 17x_2 + 6x_3 & = 0 \end{cases}$$

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- In general **overapproximation** of reach set is obtained

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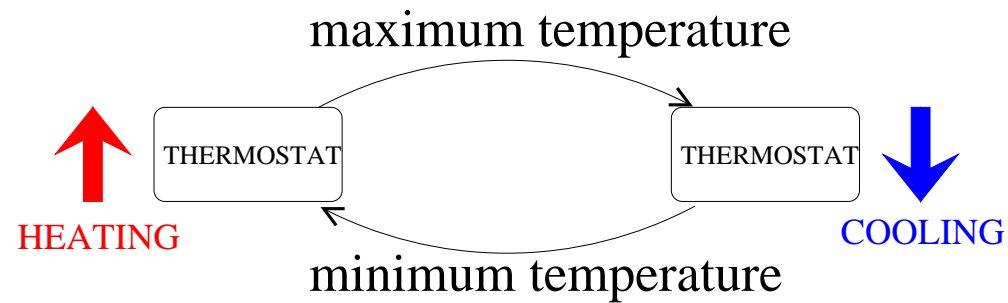


# Hybrid Systems: Introduction

- **Hybrid System:** discrete system in analog environment

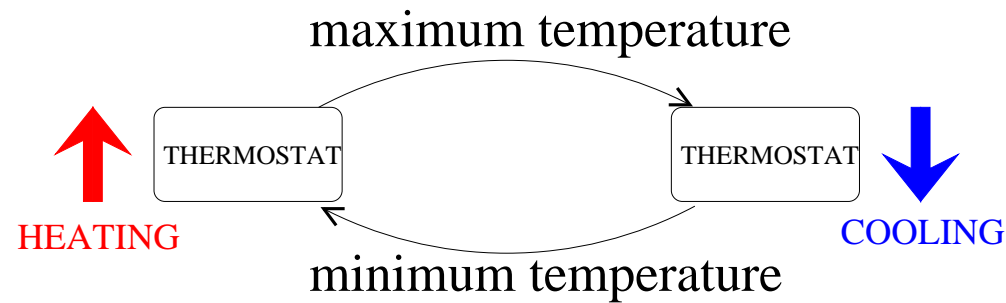
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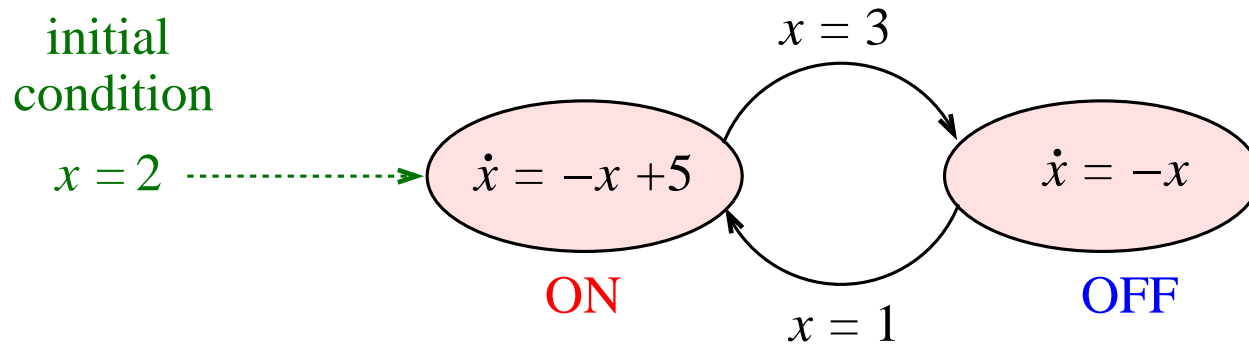
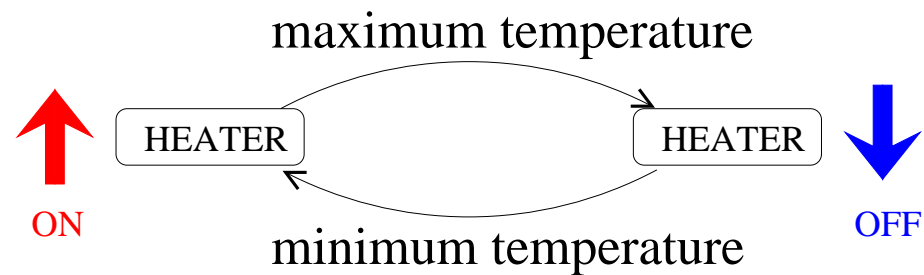
- A **robot controller** that changes the direction of movement if the robot is too close to a wall.

# Definition

- A **hybrid system** is a finite automaton with **real-valued variables** that **change continuously** according to a system of **differential equations** at each location

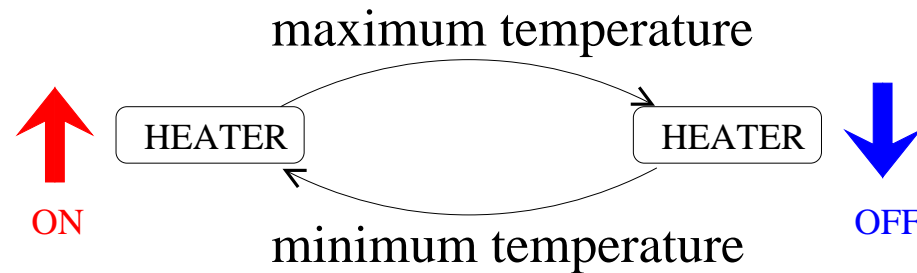
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- We restrict to **linear differential equations** at locations

# Dynamics (1)

- A **computation** is a sequence of states  
(discrete location, valuation of variables)

$$(l_0, x_0), (l_1, x_1), (l_2, x_2), \dots$$

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2. For each consecutive pair of states  $(l_i, x_i), (l_{i+1}, x_{i+1})$ :
  - Discrete transition: there is a transition of the automaton  $(l_i, l_{i+1}, \rho)$  such that  $(x_i, x_{i+1}) \models \rho$

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  - **Discrete transition**: there is a transition of the automaton  $(l_i, l_{i+1}, \rho)$  such that  $(x_i, x_{i+1}) \models \rho$
  - **Continuous evolution**: there is a trajectory going from  $x_i$  to  $x_{i+1}$  along the flow determined by the differential equation  $\dot{x} = Ax + B$  at location  $l_i = l_{i+1}$

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- **Goal:** generate **invariant polynomial** equalities
  - We know how to deal with **discrete systems**
  - How to handle **continuous evolution?**
- **Problem:**  
computing polynomial invariants of linear systems of differential equations

# Form of the Solution

Solution to  $\dot{x} = Ax + B$  can be expressed as polynomials in  $t$ ,  $e^{\pm at}$ ,  $\cos(bt)$ ,  $\sin(bt)$ , where  $\lambda = a + bi$  are eigenvalues of matrix  $A$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{v}_x \\ \dot{v}_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x & = & x^* + 2 \sin(t/2) v_x^* + (2 \cos(t/2) - 2) v_y^* \\ y & = & y^* + (-2 \cos(t/2) + 2) v_x^* + 2 \sin(t/2) v_y^* \\ v_x & = & \cos(t/2) v_x^* - \sin(t/2) v_y^* \\ v_y & = & \sin(t/2) v_x^* + \cos(t/2) v_y^* \end{cases}$$

# Elimination of Time

**Idea:** eliminate terms depending on  $t$  from solution:

- transform solution into polynomials using new variables
- eliminate by means of Gröbner bases using auxiliary equations

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$$\begin{cases} x &= x^* + 2zv_x^* + (2w - 2)v_y^* \\ y &= y^* + (-2w + 2)v_x^* + 2zv_y^* \\ v_x &= wv_x^* - zv_y^* \\ v_y &= zv_x^* + wv_y^* \end{cases} \quad \text{SOLUTION}$$

INITIAL CONDITIONS

$$\begin{cases} v_x^* &= 2 \\ v_y^* &= -2 \end{cases}$$

AUXILIARY EQUATIONS

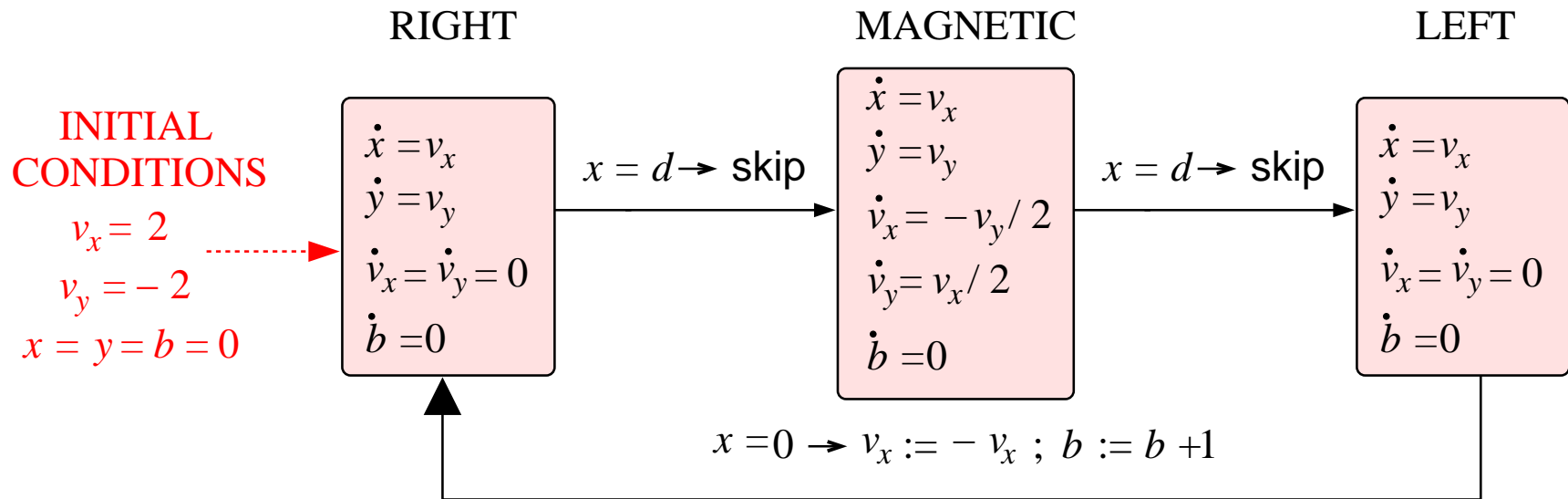
$$\begin{cases} w^2 + z^2 &= 1 \end{cases}$$



$$v_x^2 + v_y^2 = 8 \quad (\text{conservation of energy})$$



# Example



$$\text{RIGHT} \rightarrow v_y = -2 \wedge v_x = 2 \wedge 2db - 8b + y + x = 0$$

$$\text{MAGNETIC} \rightarrow x - 2v_y - d = 4 \wedge v_x^2 + v_y^2 = 8 \wedge 2v_x + y + 2db - 8b + d = 4$$

$$\text{LEFT} \rightarrow v_y = -2 \wedge v_x = -2 \wedge 2db - 8b + y - x = 8$$

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# Drawing a Parallel from Equalities

Linear equalities

[Karr'76]



Polynomial equalities

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[Colon'04]

Linear inequalities

[Cousot & Halbwachs'78]



Polynomial inequalities

[Bagnara & Rodríguez-Carbonell  
& Zaffanella'05]

# From Linear to Polynomial Equalities

$a := 0 ;$

$b := 0 ;$

$c := 1 ;$

**while** ? **do**

$a := a + 1 ;$

$b := b + c ;$

$c := c + 2 ;$

**end while**

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Loop invariant

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# From Linear to Polynomial Equalities

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 $c := 1 ;$   
 $s := 0 ;$  ←
```

**while** ? **do**

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**end while**

Introduce new variable  $s$   
standing for  $a^2$

Extend program with new  
variable  $s$

$$a := 0 \rightarrow s := 0$$

$$a := a + 1 \rightarrow s := s + 2a + 1$$

# From Linear to Polynomial Equalities

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 $b := 0 ;$   
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 $s := 0 ;$   
 $\{ b = s \wedge c = 2a + 1 \}$   
while ? do  
  
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     $b := b + c ;$   
     $c := c + 2 ;$   
     $s := s + 2a + 1 ;$   
end while
```

Loop invariant  
 $\{ b = a^2 \wedge c = 2a + 1 \}$   
is more precise



# From Linear to Polynomial Inequalities

{ Pre :  $b \geq 0$  }

$a := 0$  ;

**while**  $(a + 1)^2 \leq b$  **do**

$a := a + 1$  ;

**end while**

{ Post :  $(a + 1)^2 > b \wedge b \geq a^2$  }

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**Linear** analysis **cannot** deal with  
the quadratic condition

$$(a + 1)^2 \leq b$$

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Loop invariant {  $a \geq 0 \wedge b \geq 0$  }  
not precise enough

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Loop invariant

{  $b \geq a^2 \wedge \dots$  }

enough to prove partial  
correctness

# Linearization of Polynomial Constraints

- Abstract values = sets of constraints
- Given a degree bound  $d$ , all terms  $x^\alpha$  with  $\deg(x^\alpha) \leq d$  are considered as **different** and **independent variables**

# Vector Spaces $\leftrightarrow$ Polynomial Cones

polynomial = 0

- $\forall$  polynomial  $p, p \sim p = 0$
- Vector space = set of polynomials closed under

$$\overline{0 = 0}$$

$$p = 0 \quad q = 0 \quad \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\underline{\lambda p + \mu q = 0}$$

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polynomial  $\geq 0$

- $\forall$  polynomial  $p, p \sim p \geq 0$
- Polynomial cone = set of polynomials closed under

$$\overline{1 \geq 0}$$

$$p \geq 0 \quad q \geq 0 \quad \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}_+$$

$$\underline{\lambda p + \mu q \geq 0}$$



# Explicitly Adding Other Inference Rules

polynomial = 0

$$p = 0 \quad \deg(pq) \leq d$$

---

$$pq = 0$$

# Explicitly Adding Other Inference Rules

polynomial = 0

$$\frac{p = 0 \quad \deg(pq) \leq d}{pq = 0}$$

polynomial  $\geq 0$

$$\frac{p = 0 \quad \deg(pq) \leq d}{pq = 0}$$
$$\frac{p \geq 0 \quad q \geq 0 \quad \deg(pq) \leq d}{pq \geq 0}$$

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- Designed a **new abstract domain** for generating **invariant polynomial inequalities** based on **polynomial cones**

# Future Work

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- ...
- But I am now working on something different:  
**Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT)**  
See <http://www.barcelogic.org>

Thank you!