

Automata Theory Meets Approximate Dynamic Programming: Optimal Control with Temporal Logic Constraints

**Ivan Papusha¹ Jie Fu² Ufuk Topcu¹
Richard Murray³**

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²Worcester Polytechnic Institute

³California Institute of Technology

A Synthesis Problem

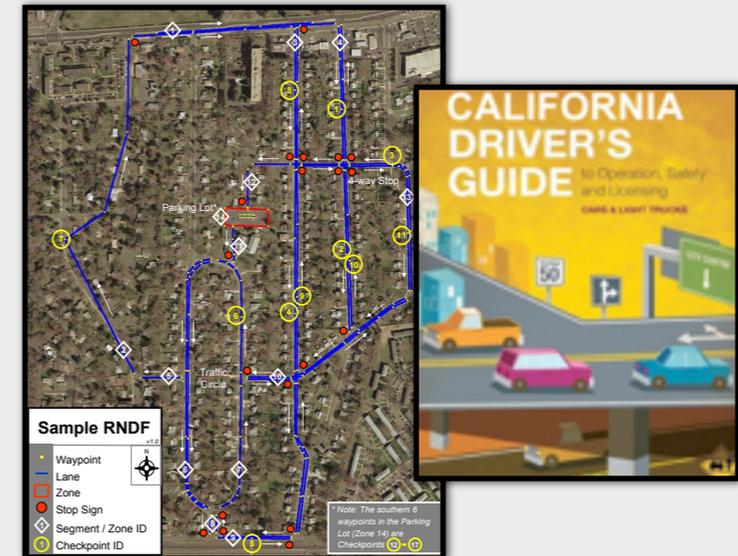
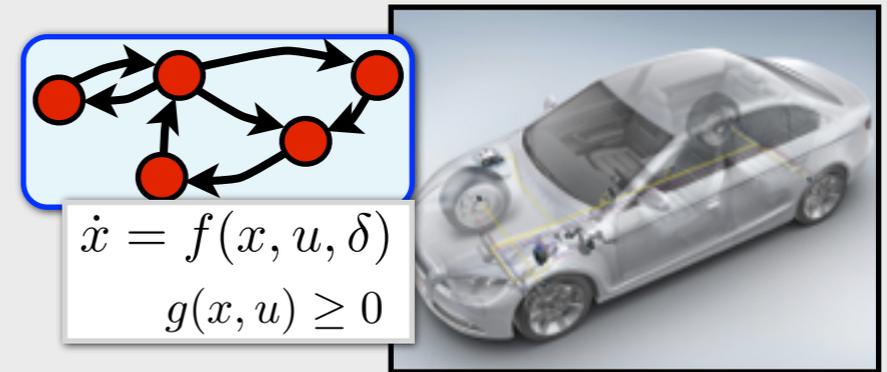
Given:

- **System model**

- both continuous & discrete evolution
- actuation limitations
- modeling uncertainties & disturbances

- **Specifications**

- high-level requirements
- optimality criteria



Automatically synthesize a control protocol that

- manages the system behavior and
- is **provably correct** with respect to the specifications and **optimal**.

Detour: Specifying Behavior with Temporal Logic

(only a dialect in a large family of languages)

**Propositional
Logic**

+

**Temporal
Operators**

\wedge (and)

\vee (or)

\rightarrow (implies)

\neg (not)

\diamond (eventually)

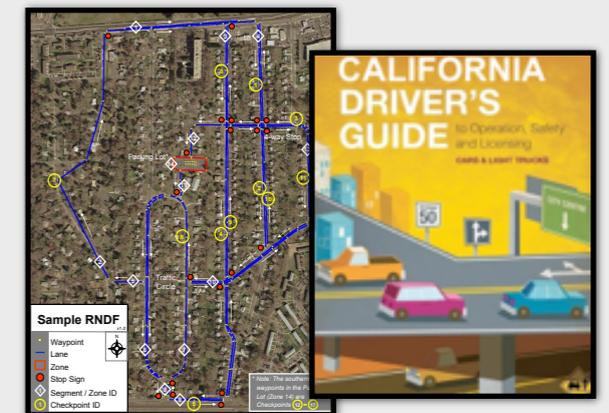
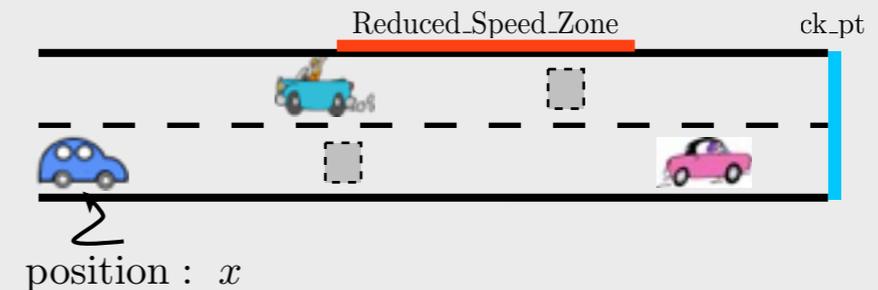
\square (always)

\mathcal{U} (until)

Detour: Specifying Behavior with Temporal Logic

(only a dialect in a large family of languages)

Propositional Logic + Temporal Operators	\wedge (and) \vee (or) \rightarrow (implies) \neg (not)
	\diamond (eventually) \square (always) \mathcal{U} (until)



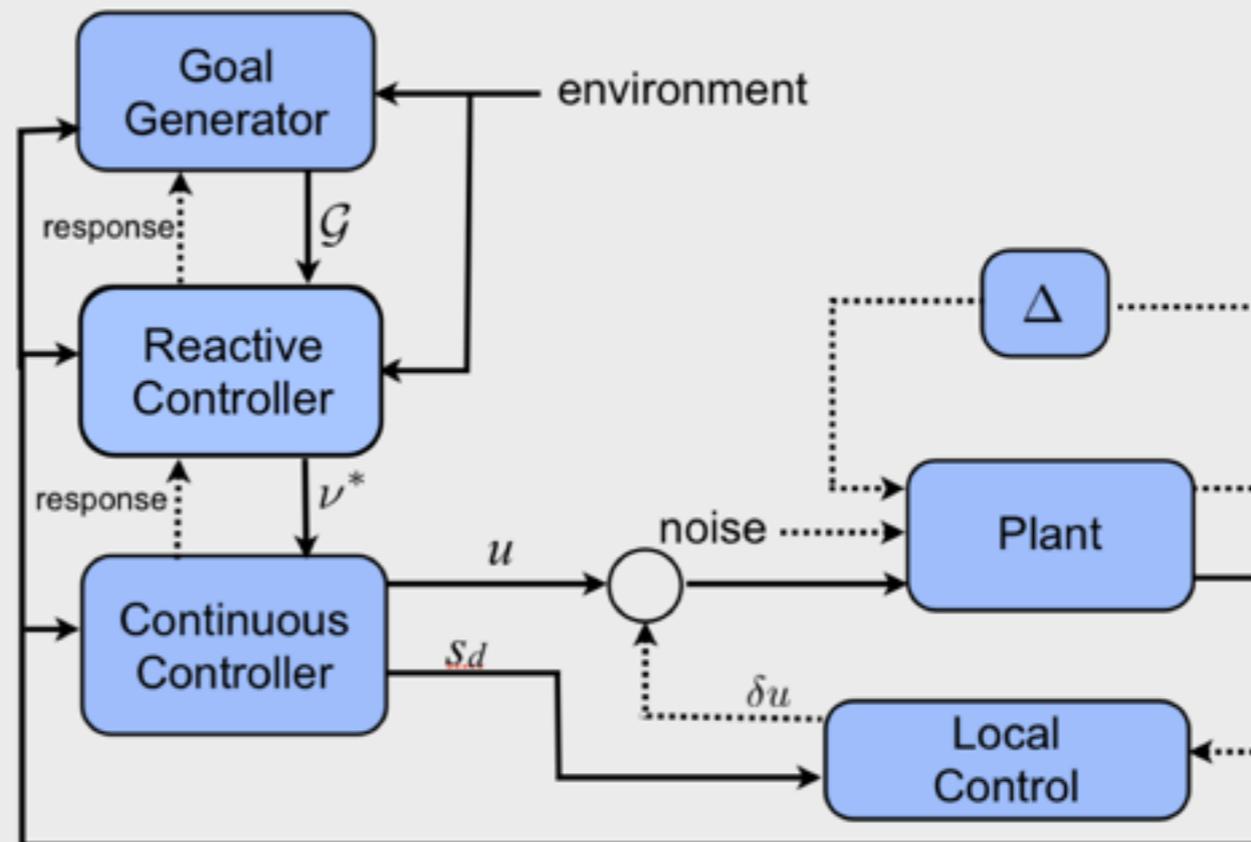
Traffic rules:

- No collision $\square (\text{dist}(x, \text{Obs}) \geq X_{\text{safe}} \wedge \text{dist}(x, \text{Loc}(\text{Veh})) \geq X_{\text{safe}})$
- Obey speed limits $\square ((x \in \text{Reduced_Speed_Zone}) \rightarrow (v \leq v_{\text{reduced}}))$
- Stay in travel lane unless blocked
- Intersection precedence & merging, stop line, passing,...

Goals:

- Eventually visit the check point $\diamond (x = \text{ck_pt})$
- Every time check point is reached, eventually come to start $\square ((x = \text{ck_pt}) \rightarrow \diamond (x = \text{start}))$

A widely explored approach



A widely explored approach

Different views

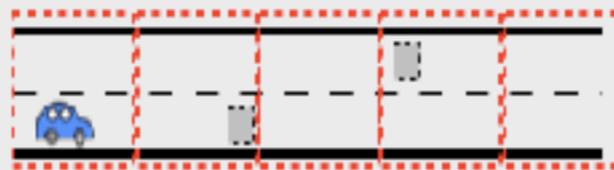
Multi-scale models

Synthesis method

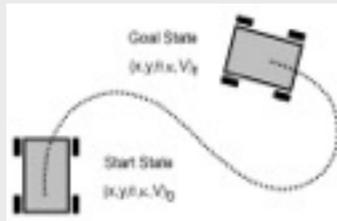
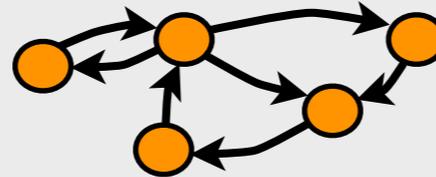
Control protocol



long-horizon specifications



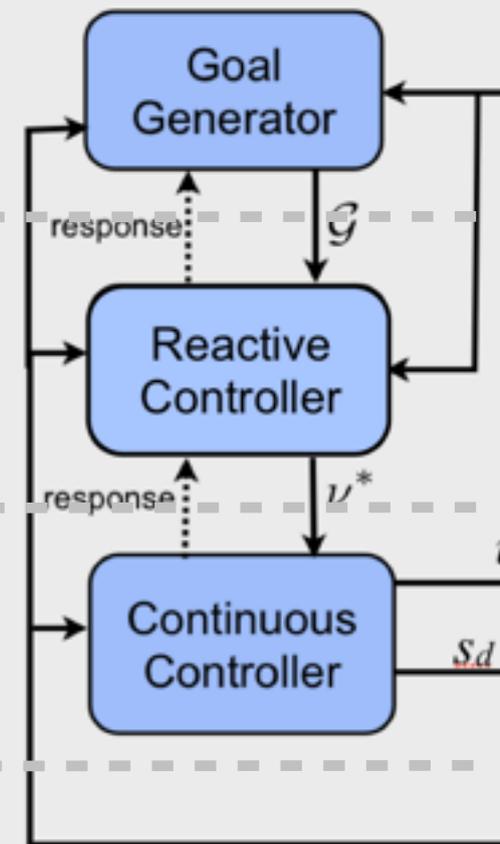
short-horizon specifications



constraints on continuous state + input

$$x_{t+1} = f(x_t, w_t, u_t)$$

$$x \in \mathcal{X}, u \in \mathcal{U}, w \in \mathcal{W}$$



A widely explored approach

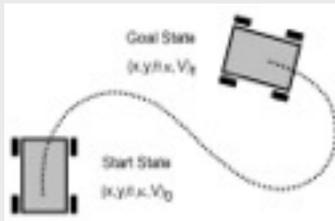
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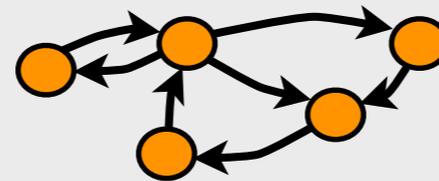
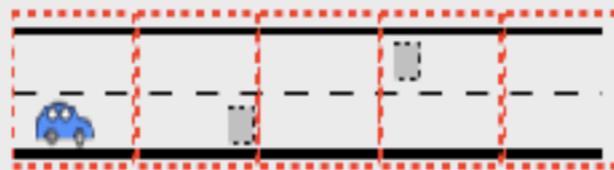


short-horizon specifications



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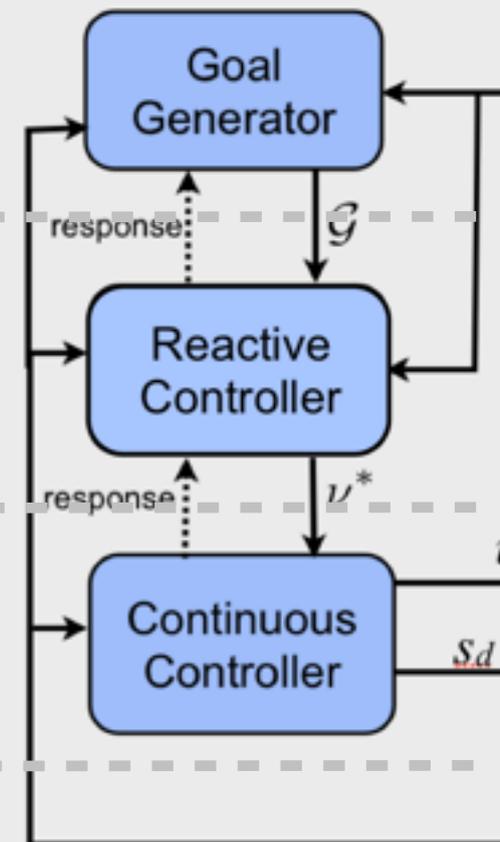
Synthesis method

Iterative graph search

Two-player, turn-based graph game

Constrained, finite-horizon optimal control

Control protocol



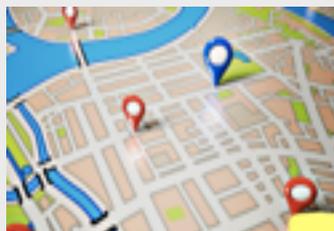
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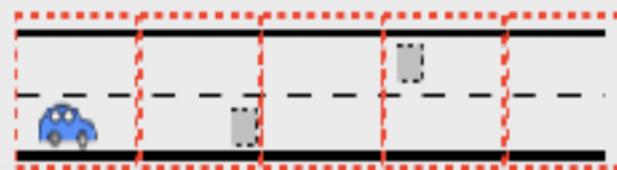
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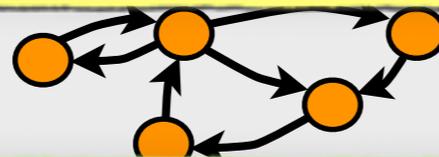


Iterative graph search

Abstraction with "simulation" relation



short-horizon specifications



two-player, turn-based graph game

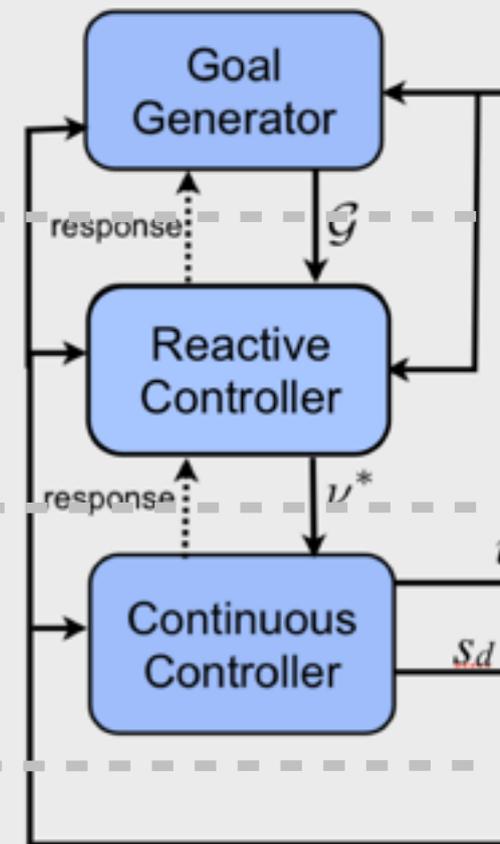
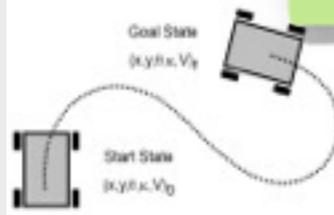
(Finite-state) abstraction with "simulation" relation

constraints on continuous state + input

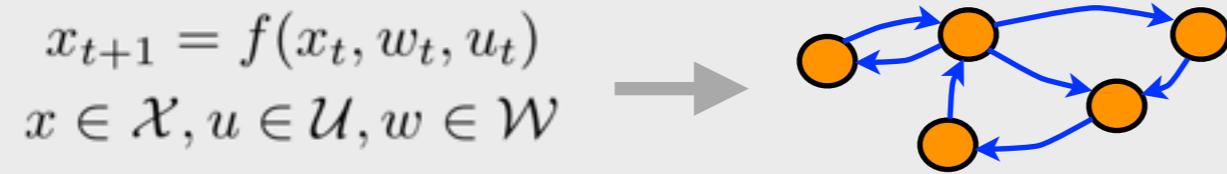
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Constrained, finite-horizon optimal control



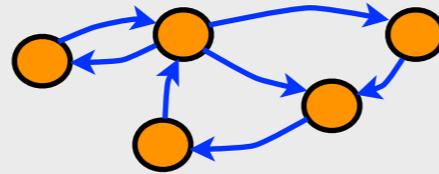
Finite-state abstraction with “simulation” relations



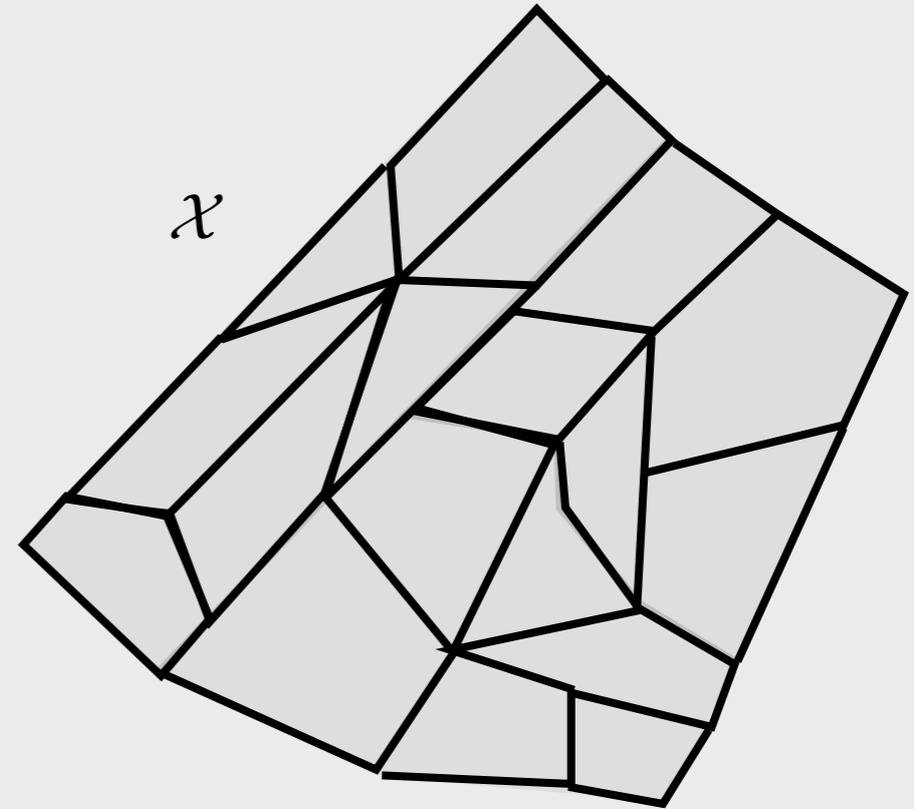
**Every discrete transition can be “executed”
under the continuous dynamics**

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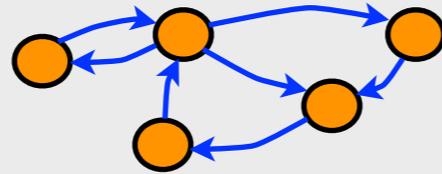


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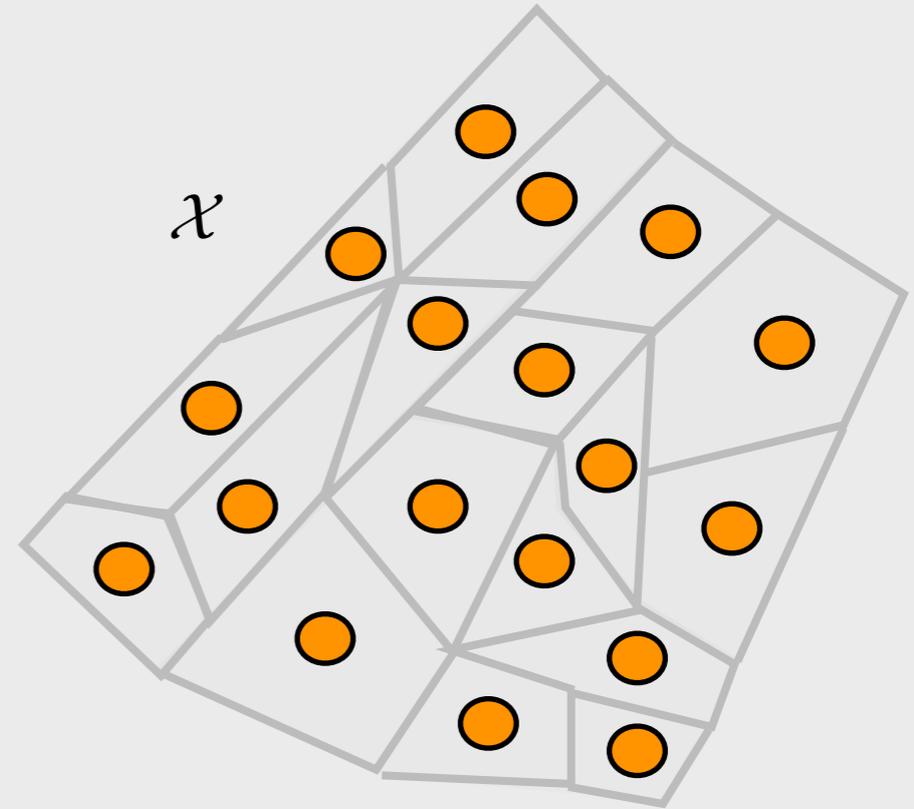


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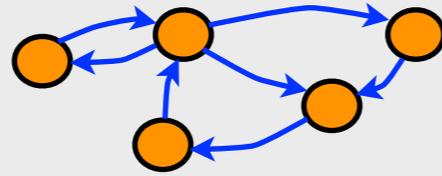


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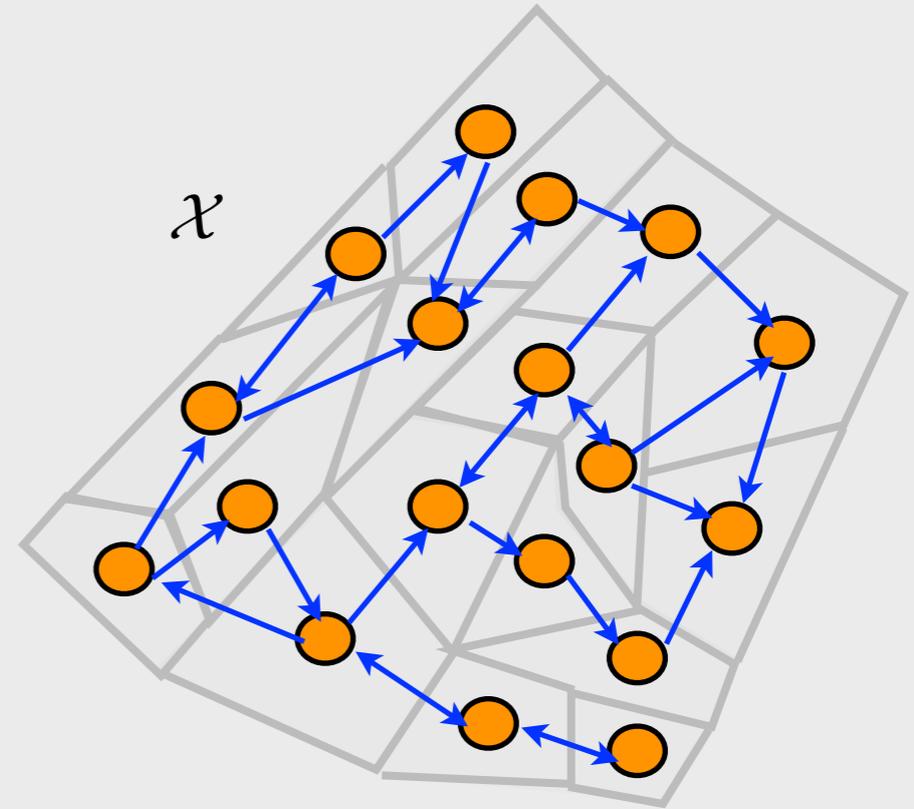


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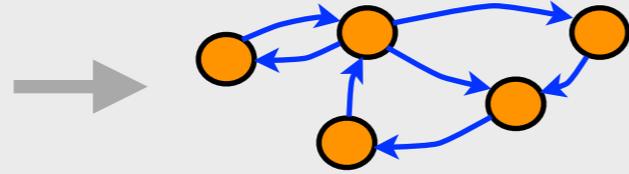


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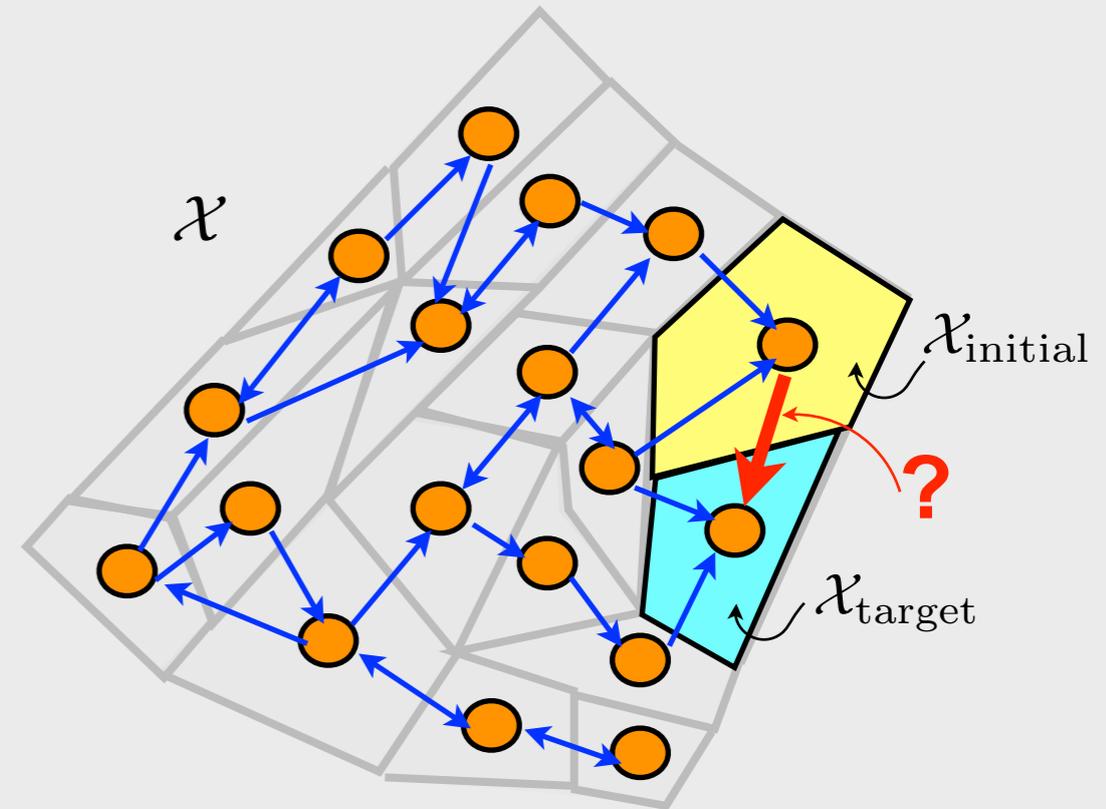


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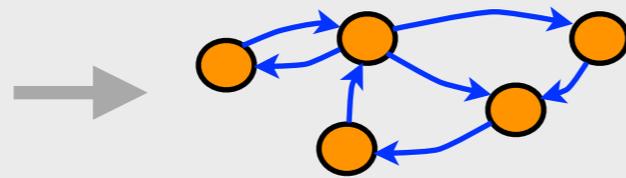
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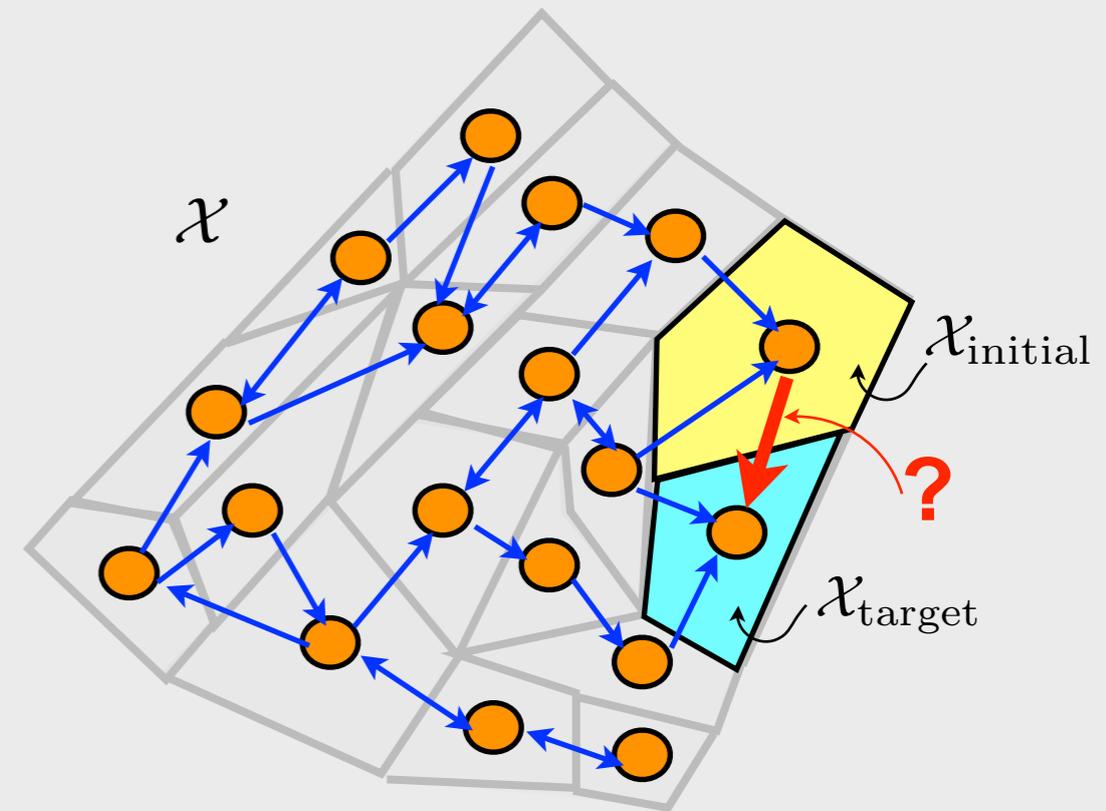
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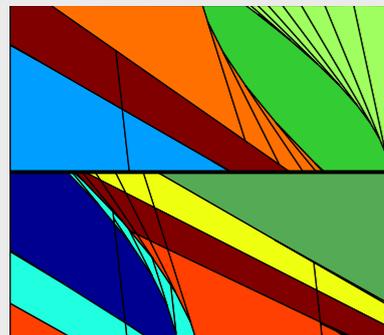
Every discrete transition can be “executed” under the continuous dynamics



Why is discretization not necessarily a good idea?

Practically:

Complex partitions are needed.



Theoretically:

Finite yet humongous discrete state spaces may be needed.

$$2^{2^{\dots 2^p}}$$

Representations and Algorithms for Finite-State Bisimulations of Linear Discrete-Time Control Systems

Andrew Lamperski

An alternative to explicit discretization:
no explicit discretization

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no explicit discretization

CDC 2016

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An alternative to explicit discretization:
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CDC 2016

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TAC 2015

**Automata Theory Meets Barrier Certificates:
Temporal Logic Verification of Nonlinear Systems**

Tichakorn Wongpiromsarn^{*} Ufuk Topcu[†] Andrew Lamperski[‡]

Problem statement

Given

System model

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

$$x(t) \in \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, \quad u(t) \in \mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$$

continuous time, continuous state
with assumptions on f for existence,
uniqueness and Zeno-freeness of solutions

Problem statement

Given

System model

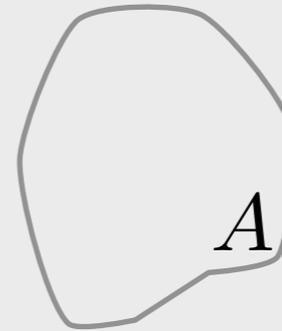
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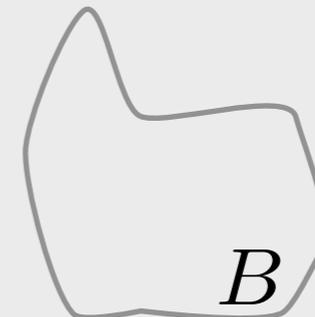
Labeling function $L : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \Sigma = 2^{\mathcal{AP}}$

(what properties hold at a given state?)

$$L(x) = \{x \in A\}$$



$$L(x) = \{x \in C\}$$



$$L(x) = \{x \in B\}$$

\mathcal{X}

Problem statement

Given

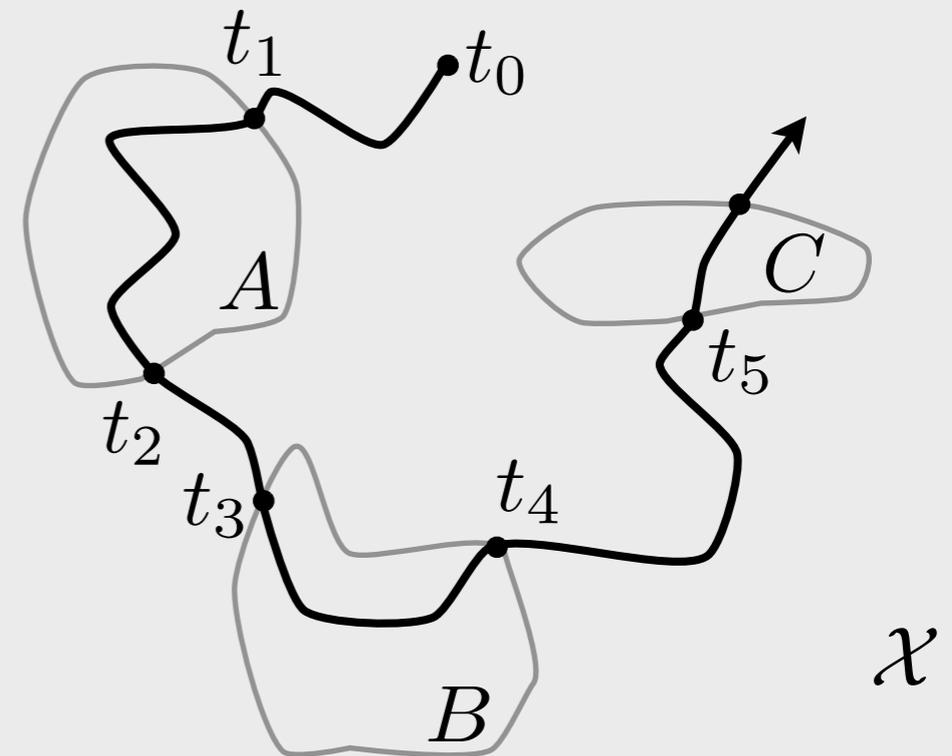
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$$0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N = T$$

$$L(x(t)) = L(x(t_k)), t_k \leq t < t_{k+1}$$

$$L(x(t_k^-)) \neq L(x(t_k^+))$$

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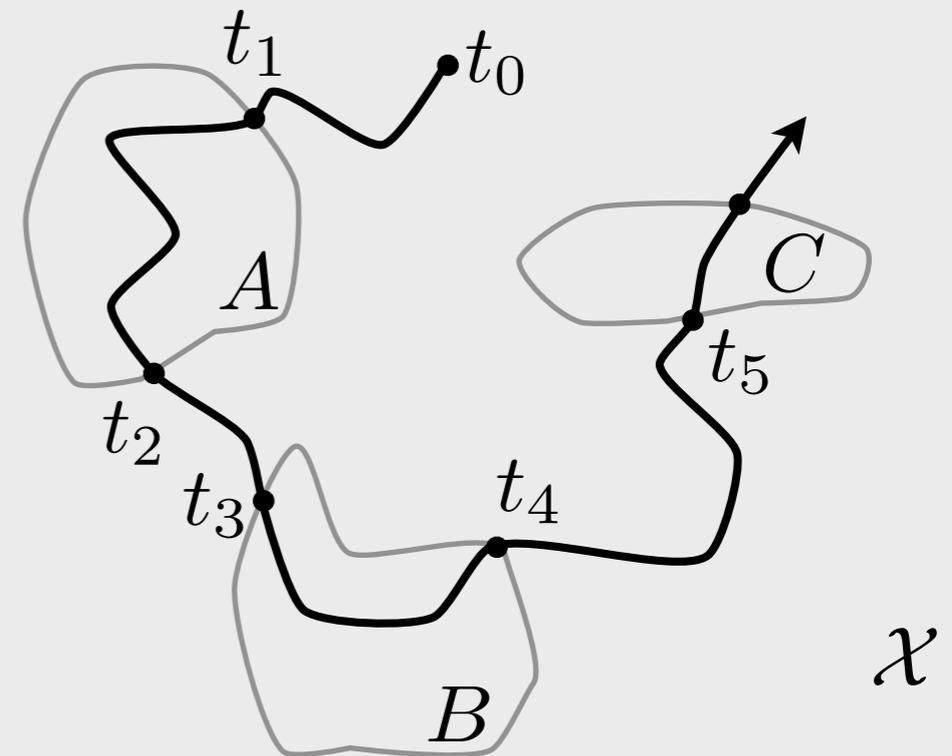
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“discrete” behavior: $\mathbb{B}(\phi(x_0, [0, T], u)) = \sigma_0 \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{N-1} \in \Sigma^*$

with $\sigma_k = L(x(t_k))$

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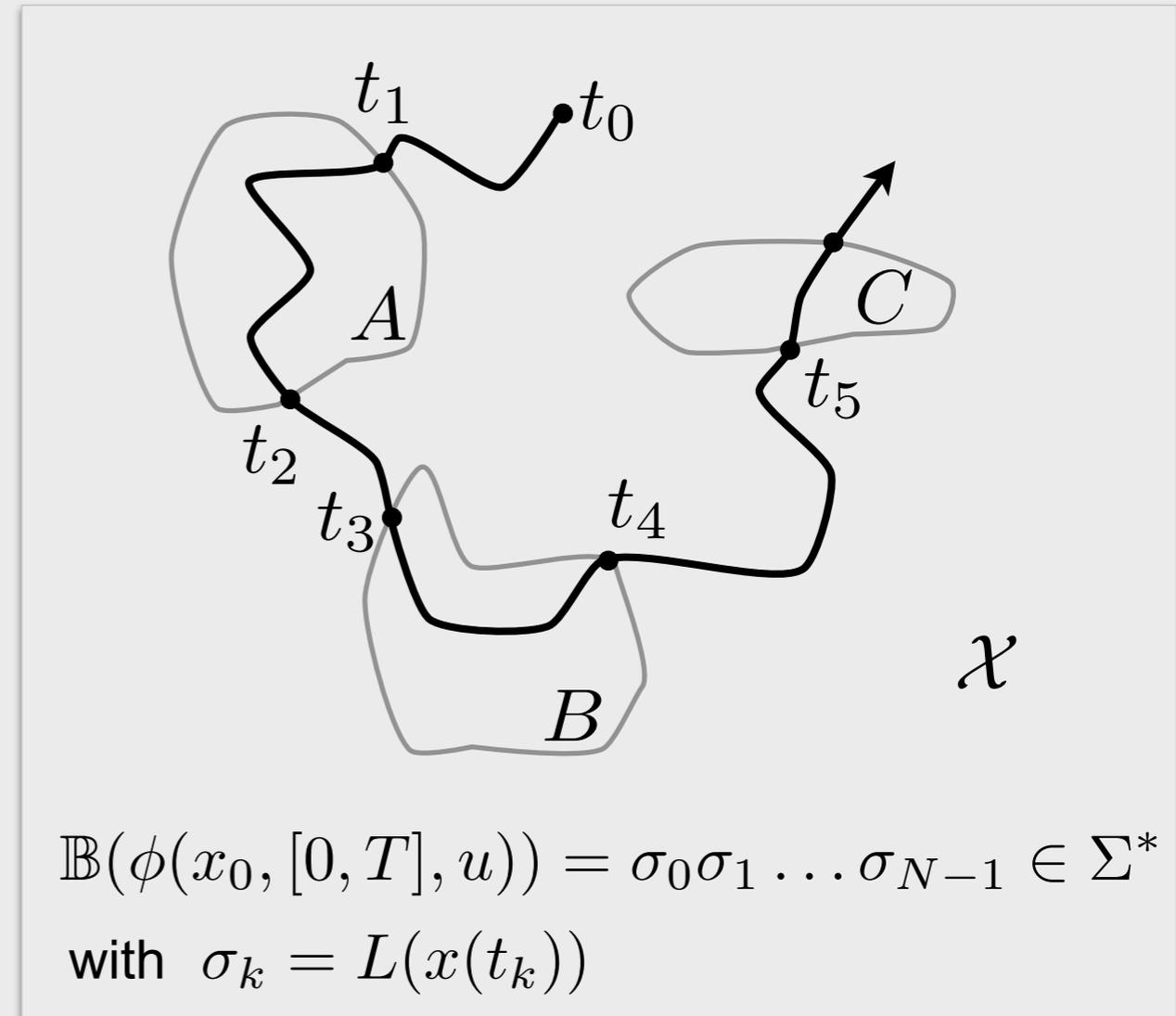
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(what properties hold at a given state?)

Co-safe temporal logic specification φ

(every satisfying word has a finite “good” prefix)

A final state $x_f \in \mathcal{X}$ and a final time T .

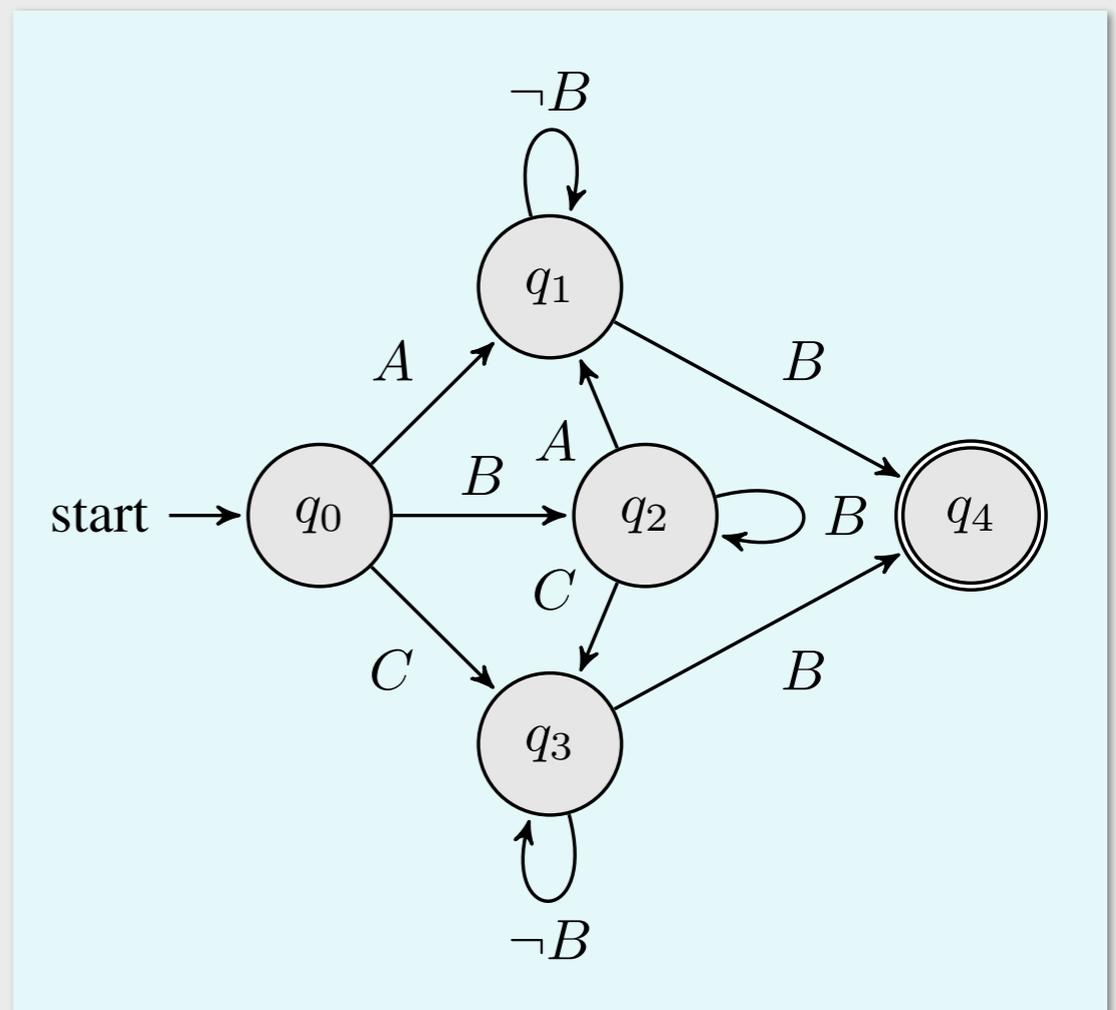


De-tour: Automaton representation for temporal logic

$$(A \rightarrow \Diamond B) \wedge (C \rightarrow \Diamond B) \wedge (\Diamond A \vee \Diamond C)$$

Machine-interpretable representation of all words that satisfy the corresponding temporal logic formula

Deterministic finite automata are sufficient for co-safe linear temporal logic formulas

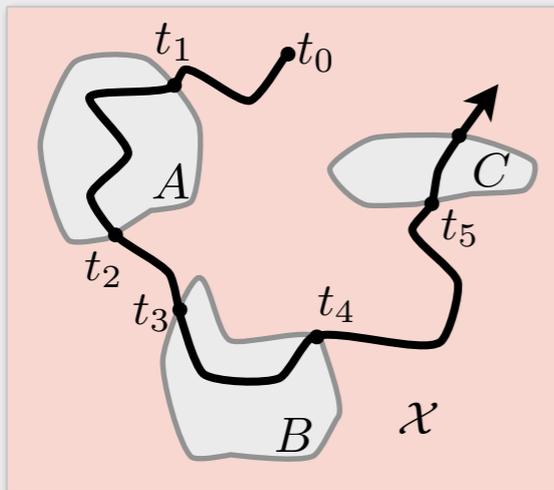


Problem statement (2)

Model

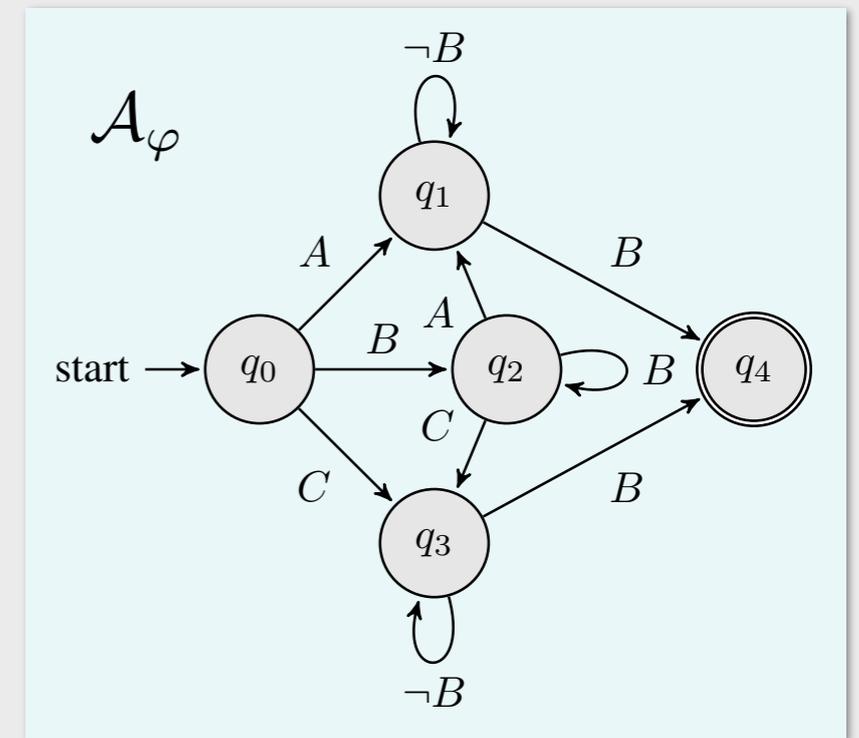
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+

Specification φ

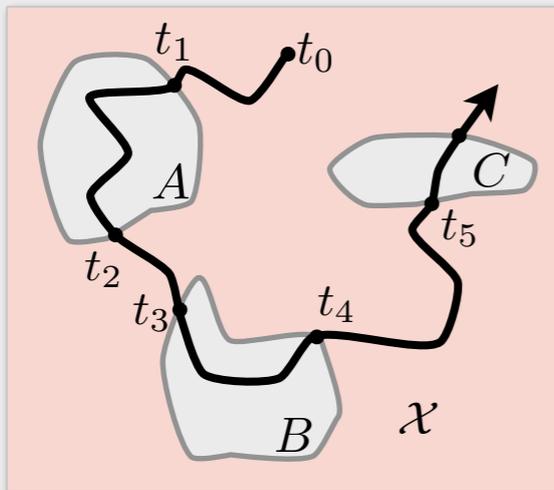


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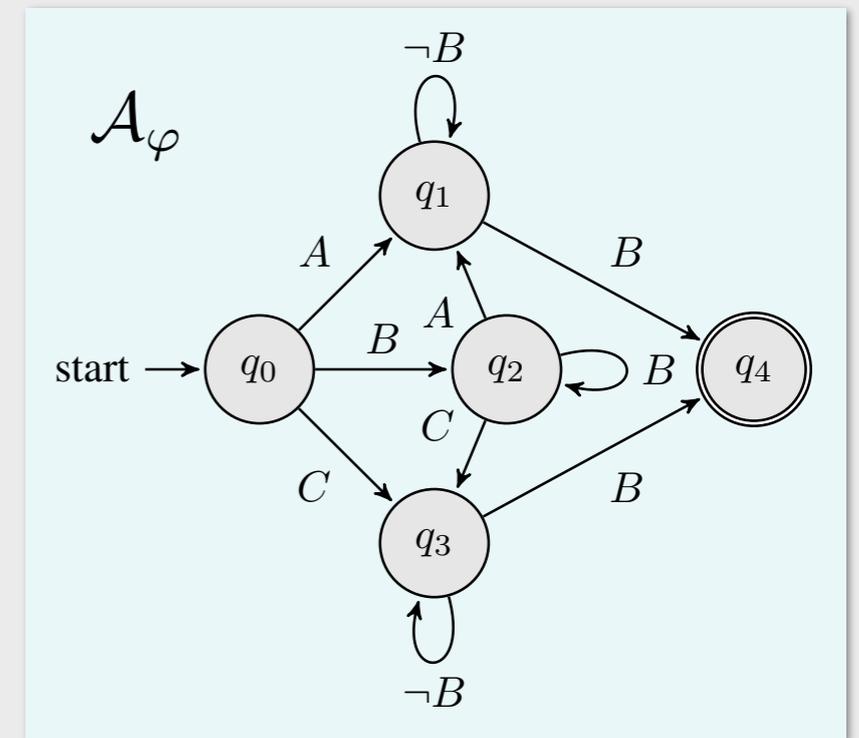
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+

Specification φ



Compute a control law u that minimizes

$$\int_0^T \ell(x(\tau), u(\tau)) d\tau + \sum_{k=0}^N s(x(t_k), q(t_k^-), q(t_k^+))$$

ℓ : loss function
 s : cost of mode transition

subject to $x(T) = x_f$ and

$$\mathbb{B}(\phi(x_0, [0, T], u)) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_\varphi).$$

all discrete behavior
satisfies the specification

Related work

$$\int_0^T \ell(x(\tau), u(\tau)) d\tau$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, u), \quad x(0) = x_0 \\ x(t) &\in \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, \quad u(t) \in \mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \end{aligned}$$

Temporal logic specification

$$(A \rightarrow \diamond B) \wedge (C \rightarrow \diamond B) \wedge (\diamond A \vee \diamond C)$$

restrict to simple specifications

make it a formal methods problem

Related work

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Temporal logic specification

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restrict to simple specifications

Hedlund & Rantzer

(optimal control for hybrid systems
+ convex dynamic programming)

Xu & Antsaklis

(optimal control for switched systems)

Kariotoglou, et al.

(approximate dynamic programming
for stochastic reachability)

make it a formal methods problem

Habets & Belta

Wongpiromsarn, et al.

Wolff, et al.

Fainekos, et al.

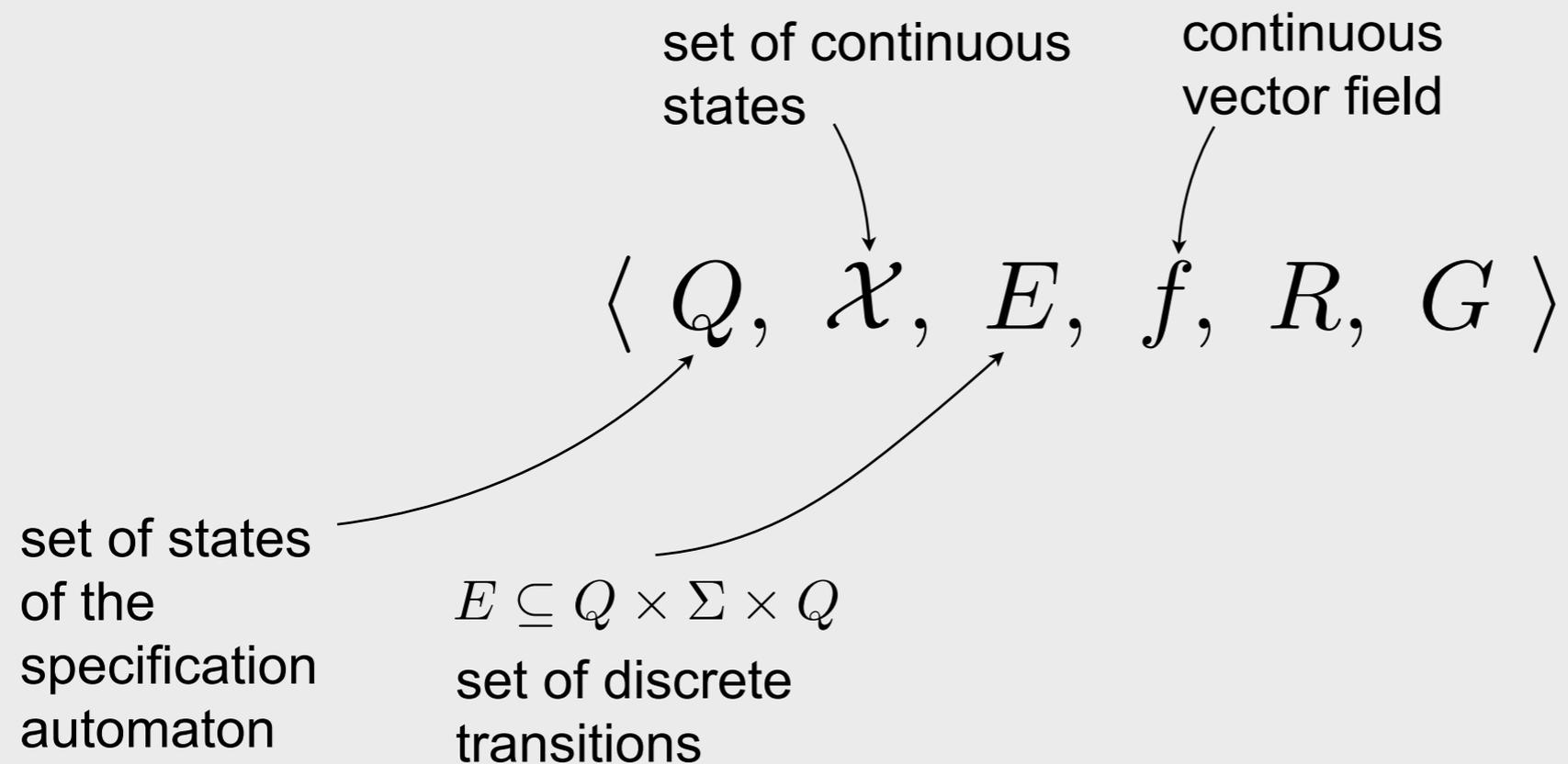
Product hybrid system

The problem can be formulated as a dynamic programming problem over a **product hybrid system**:

$$\langle Q, \mathcal{X}, E, f, R, G \rangle$$

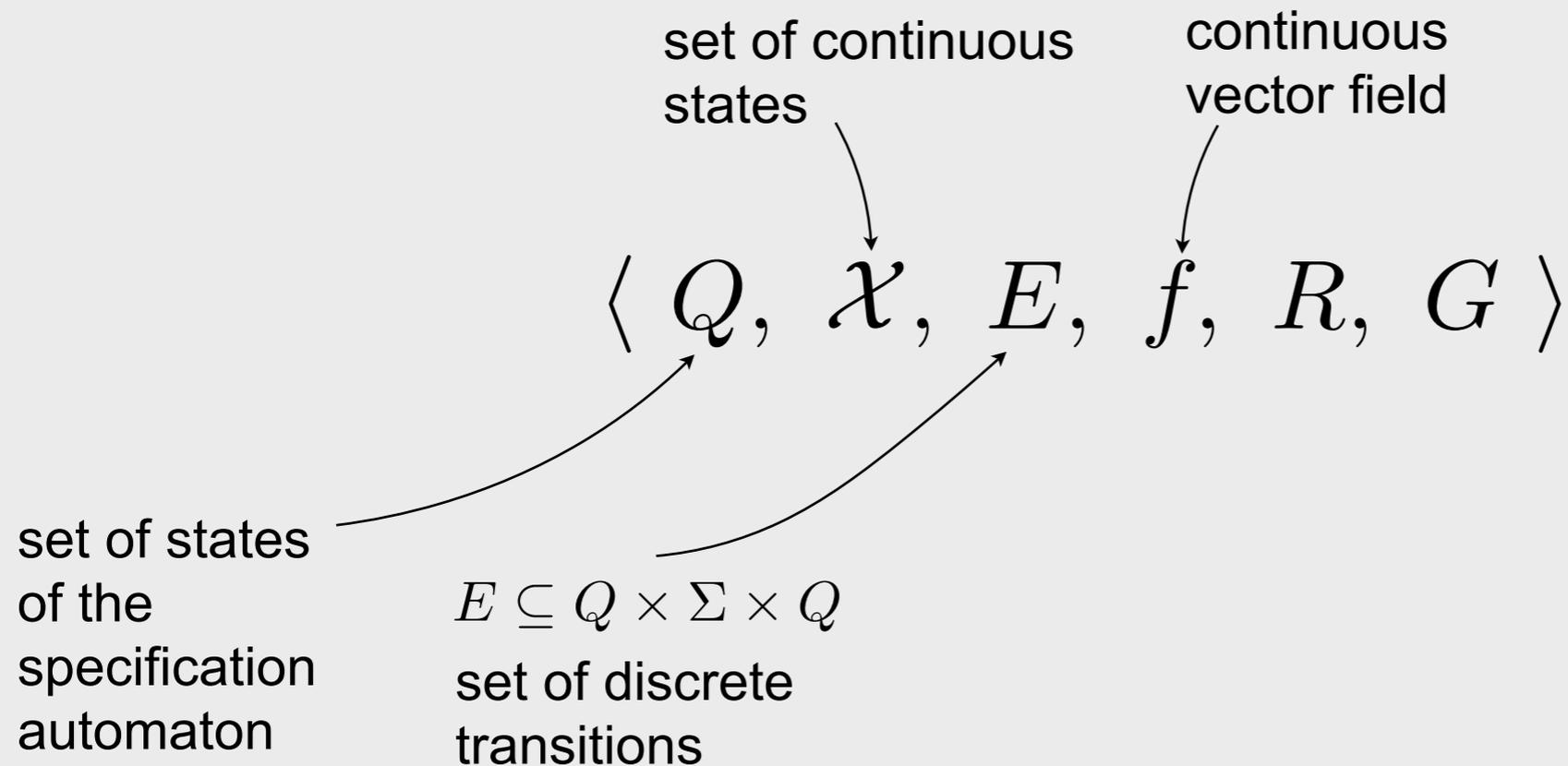
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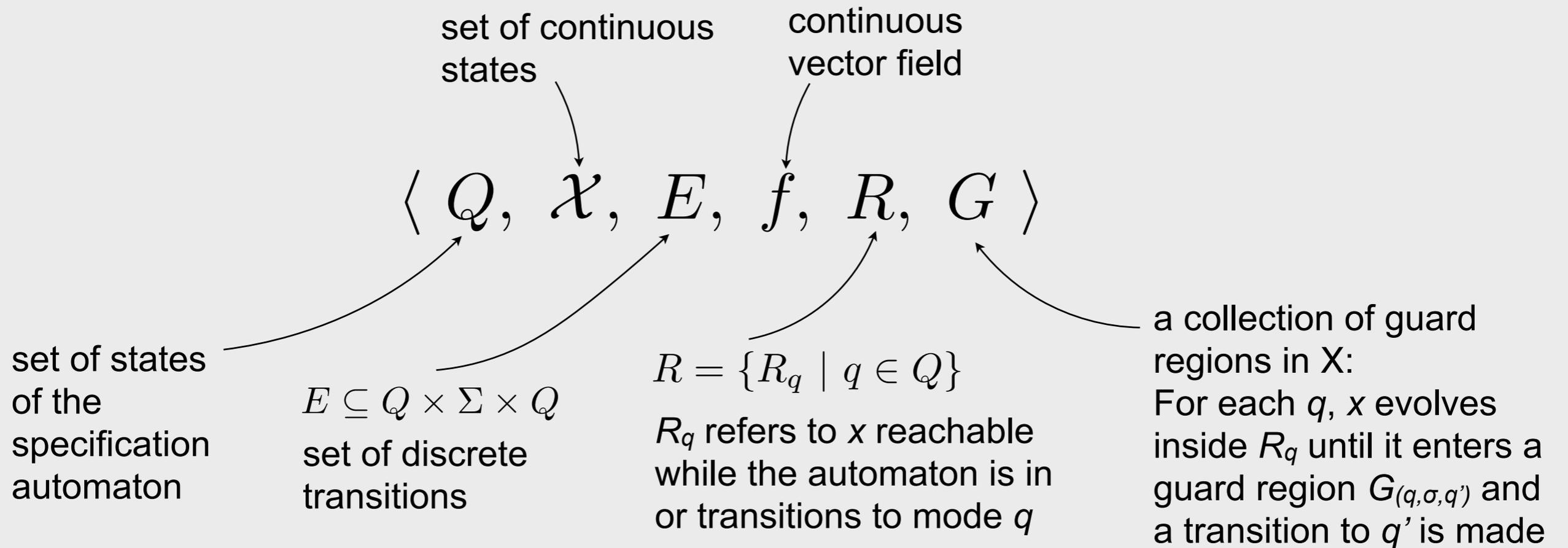
The problem can be formulated as a dynamic programming problem over a **product hybrid system**:



- The continuous state x evolves according to the vector field.
- The evolution of the discrete state q is governed by the automaton.
- A discrete transition is triggered when x crosses a boundary between two labeled regions.

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Dynamic programming formulation

Hybrid Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equations over the product space

V^* : optimal cost-to-go subject to the specifications

$$0 = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ \frac{\partial V^*(x, q)}{\partial x} \cdot f(x, u) + \ell(x, u) \right\}$$
$$\forall x \in R_q, \forall q \in Q$$

$$V^*(x, q) = \min_{q'} \{V^*(x, q') + s(x, q, q')\}$$
$$\forall x \in G_e, \forall e = (q, \sigma, q') \in E$$

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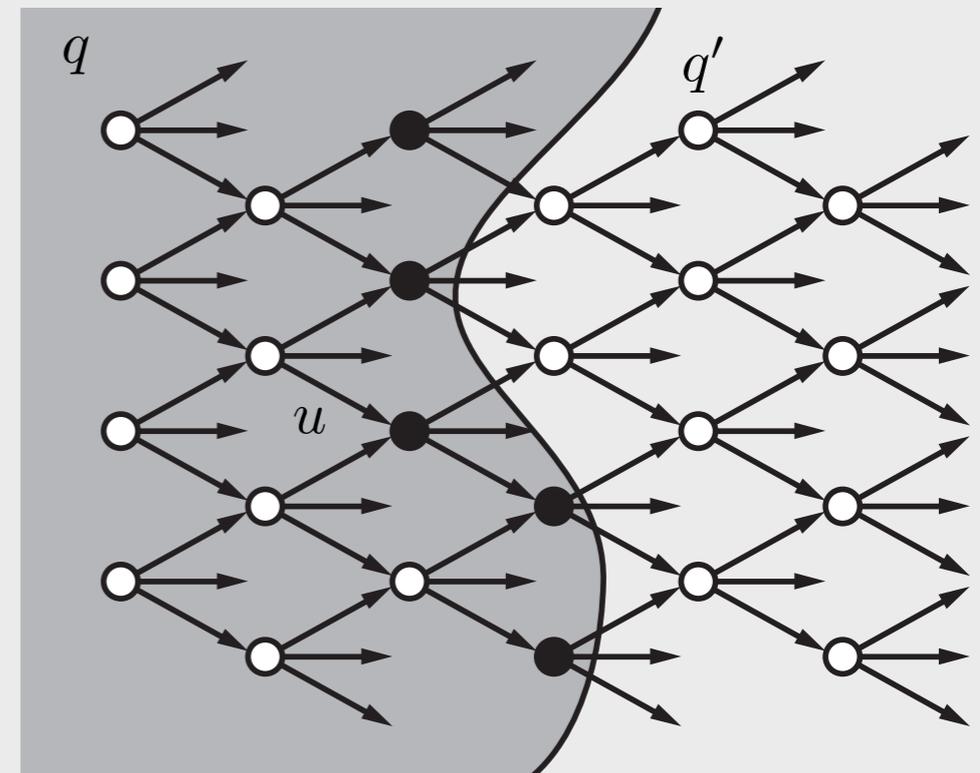
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Over discrete transitions:

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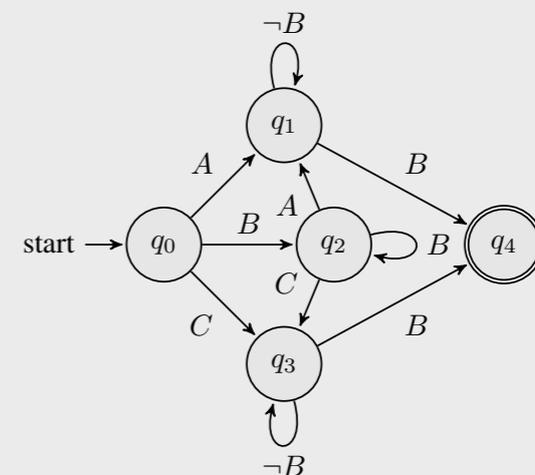
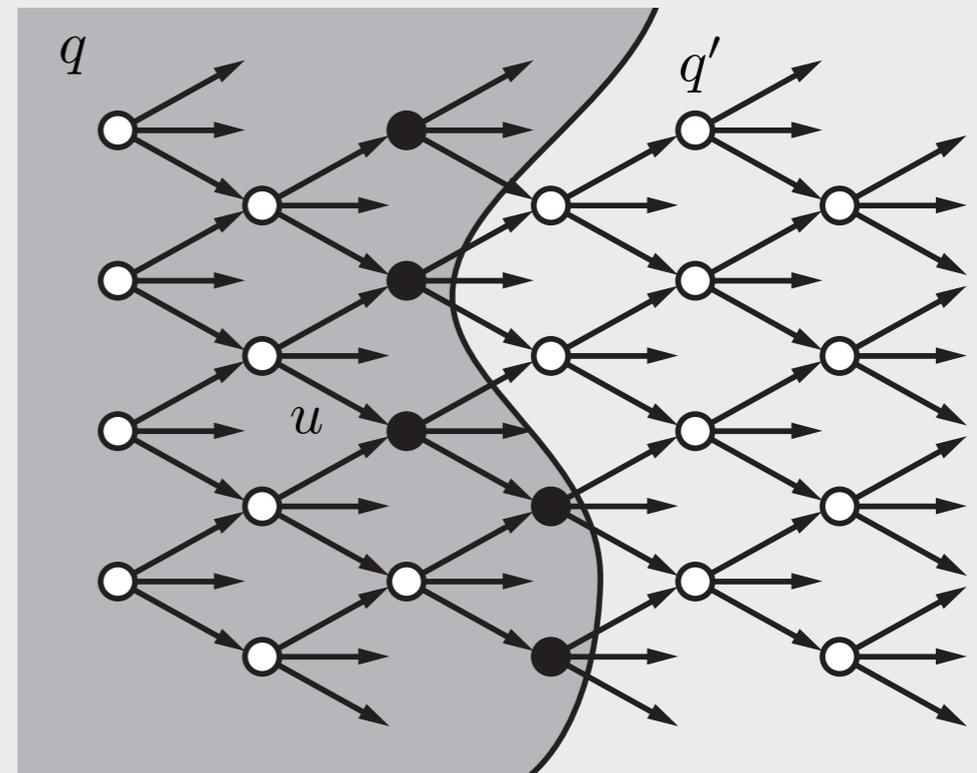
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$$V^*(x, q) = \min_{q'} \{ V^*(x, q') + s(x, q, q') \}$$

$$\forall x \in G_e, \forall e = (q, \sigma, q') \in E$$

At the “terminal” state:

$$0 = V^*(x_f, q_f), \quad \forall q_f \in F$$



(Toward computable) lower bounds on the optimal cost

$$0 \leq \frac{\partial V(x, q)}{\partial x} \cdot f(x, u) + \ell(x, u) \quad \forall x \in R_q, \forall u \in \mathcal{U}, \forall q \in Q$$

$$0 \leq V(x, q') - V(x, q) + s(x, q, q') \quad \forall x \in G_e, \forall e = (q, \sigma, q') \in E$$

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V: approximate value function

A function V that satisfies the above conditions is an under-estimator for the optimal value function V^* :

$$V(x_0, q_0) \leq V^*(x_0, q_0)$$

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compare to $0 = \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ \frac{\partial V^*(x, q)}{\partial x} \cdot f(x, u) + \ell(x, u) \right\} \quad \forall x \in R_q, \forall q \in Q$

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Intuition from purely discrete version:

$$V^* = \mathbb{T}V^*$$

$$V \leq \mathbb{T}V \Rightarrow V \leq V^*$$

Approximate value function and approximately optimal control law

Parametrize V with pre-specified basis functions ϕ :

$$V(x, q) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_q} w_{i,q} \phi_{i,q}(x)$$

basis:
function of x ,
indexed by q

Search for approximate value function that maximizes $V(x_0, q_0)$.

(one of the many scalarizations)

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Search for approximate value function that maximizes $V(x_0, q_0)$.

(one of the many scalarizations)

Given V , an approximately optimal control law:

$$u(x, q) = \arg \min_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ \frac{\partial V(x, q)}{\partial x} \cdot f(x, u) + \ell(x, u) \right\}$$

Mode switchings are autonomous, driven by the evolution of x .

Search for approximate value function

Linear system: $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t), \quad x(0) = x_0,$

Quadratic continuous cost: $\ell(x, u) = x^T Qx + u^T Ru, \quad Q \succeq 0, \quad R \succ 0$

Constant switching cost: $s(x, q, q') = \xi \cdot \mathbb{I}(\{(q, q') \mid q \neq q'\})$

For each $q \in Q$, parametrize V by P_q, r_q, t_q : $V(x, q) = x^T P_q x + 2r_q^T x + t_q$

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$\max_{P_q, r_q, t_q} V(x_0, q_0) = x_0^T P_{q_0} x_0 + 2r_{q_0}^T x_0 + t_{q_0}$ subject to

$$0 \leq \begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} A^T P_q + P_q A + Q & P_q B & A^T r_q \\ B^T P_q & R & B^T r_q \\ r_q^T A & r_q^T B & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ u \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \forall x \in R_q, \forall u \in \mathcal{U}, \forall q \in Q$$

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semi-infinite optimization problem

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Solving the semi-infinite optimization problem

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 \end{aligned}$$

For quadratically representable R_q , G_e and U ,

- (1) use the S-procedure to resort to finite sufficient conditions for the semi-infinite constraints
- (2) translate into a semidefinite program

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“S-procedure”

$$\begin{array}{c}
 M_0, M_1 : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\
 \boxed{M_1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow M_0 \geq 0} \\
 \uparrow \\
 \boxed{\exists \lambda \geq 0 \text{ s.t.}} \\
 \boxed{M_0(\zeta) - \lambda M_1(\zeta) \geq 0 \quad \forall \zeta}
 \end{array}$$

Solving the semi-infinite optimization problem

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 & \max_{P_q, r_q, t_q} V(x_0, q_0) = x_0^T P_{q_0} x_0 + 2r_{q_0}^T x_0 + t_{q_0} \quad \text{subject to} \\
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Are R_q and G_e quadratically representable?

- Can be decided based on the atomic propositions in the specification.

Example

Linear quadratic system

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$Q = I, \quad R = 1, \quad \xi = 1,$$

$$x_f = (0, 0)$$

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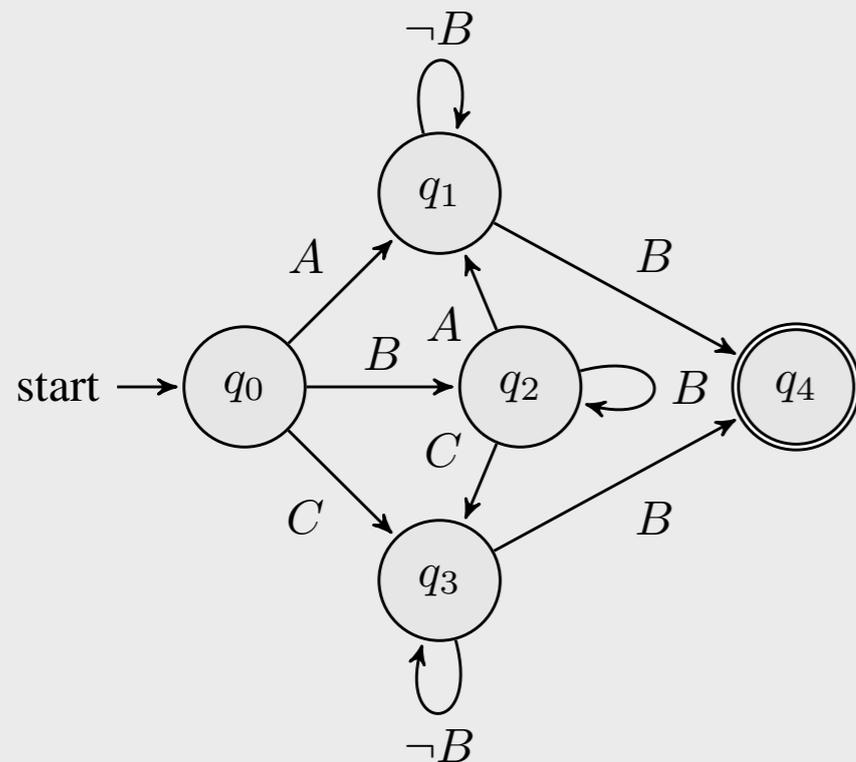
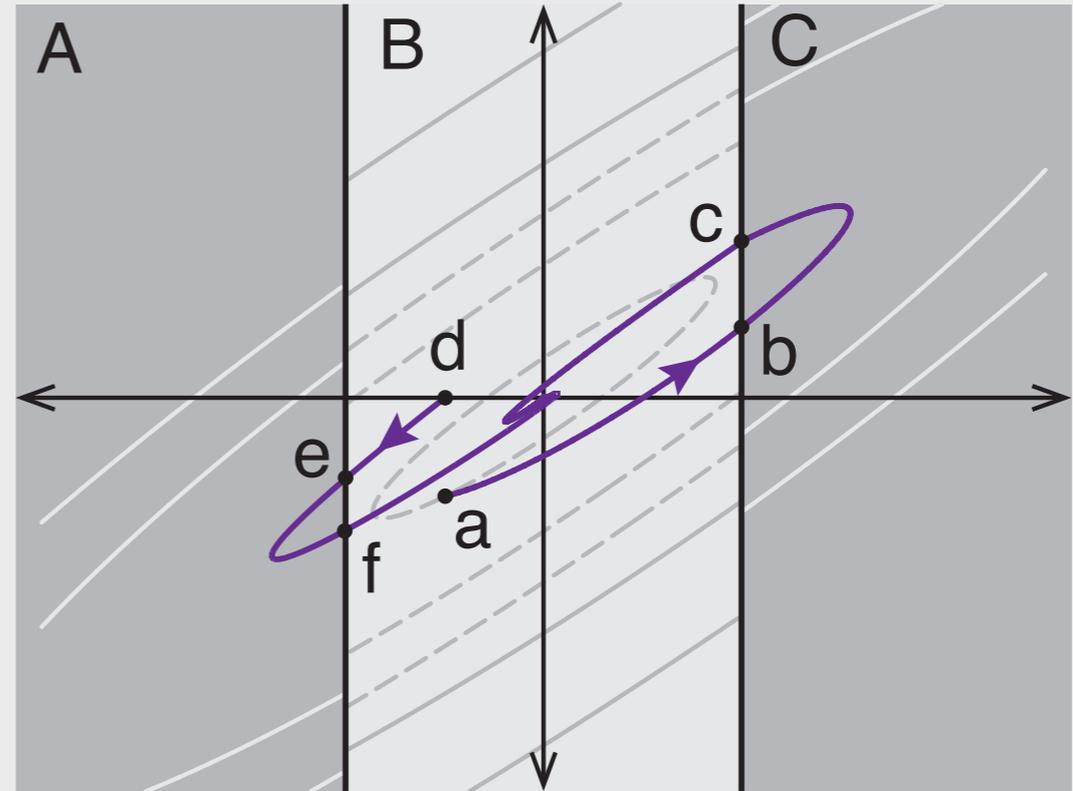
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Specification

$$(A \rightarrow \diamond B) \wedge (C \rightarrow \diamond B) \wedge (\diamond A \vee \diamond C)$$



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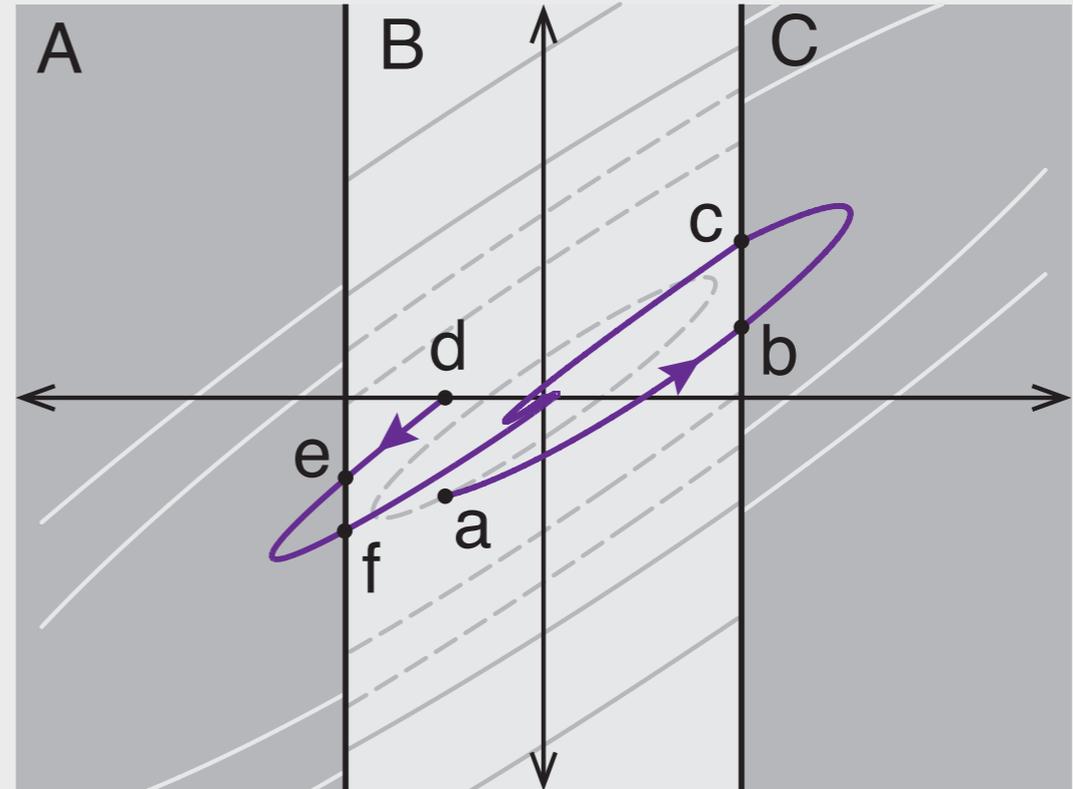
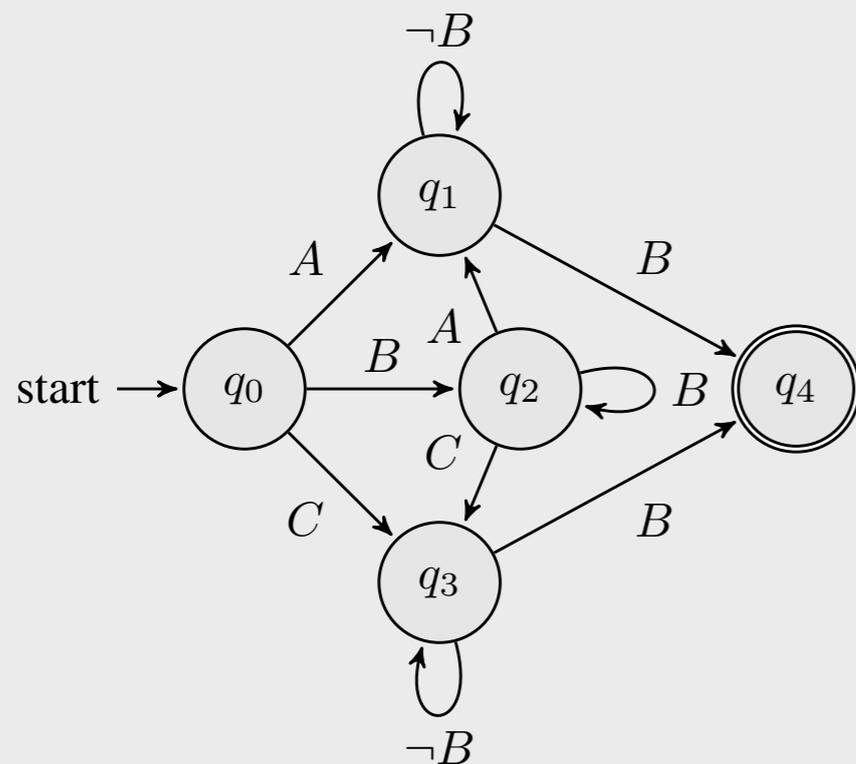
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Compare the spectra of the closed-loop matrix in different modes

$$A_q^{cl} = A - BR^{-1}B^T P_q^*$$

$$\lambda(A_{q_0}^{cl}) = \{0.786 \pm 1.144i\}$$

$$\lambda(A_{q_4}^{cl}) = \{-1 \pm i\}$$

Summary

No need for explicit finite abstraction
(w.r.t. the dynamics)

No need for expensive reachability
calculations

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“Can we synthesize temporal-logic-
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with **50 continuous states?**”

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Conservatism — S-procedure and basis selection

Policy is approximately optimal (bounds on sub optimality possible!)

Only co-safe temporal logic specifications (at this point)

What is next?

usual
suspects

Demonstrate scalability

Reduce conservatism

Extend to broader classes dynamics — hybrid, nonlinear,...

Expand the family of specifications

new
opportunities

Open up a broad set of new problems to ideas from controls and optimization

**Automata Theory Meets Approximate Dynamic Programming:
Optimal Control with Temporal Logic Constraints**

Ivan Papusha[†] Jie Fu* Ufuk Topcu[‡] Richard

**Automata Theory Meets Barrier Certificates:
Temporal Logic Verification of Nonlinear Systems**

Tichakorn Wongpiromsarn* Ufuk Topcu[†] Andrew Lamperski[‡]