

# Hyperproperties

Hadar Frenkel, January 13, 2025

# Introduction to Temporal Hyperproperties

Hadar Frenkel, January 13, 2025

# Motivation

# Is Our Program Correct?

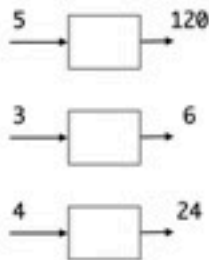


# Is Our Program Correct?

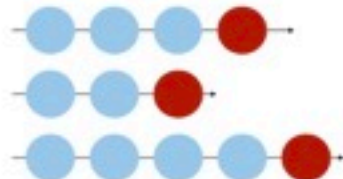
Trace Properties  
allowed behaviours



Functional correctness



Termination



# Correctness is not Enough

Systems can be correct but still not:

Secure

Fair

Robust

...



SPECTRE



MELTDOWN

# Correctness is not Enough

Systems can be correct but still not:

Secure

Fair

Robust

...



What is the set of  
properties  
the system should satisfy?

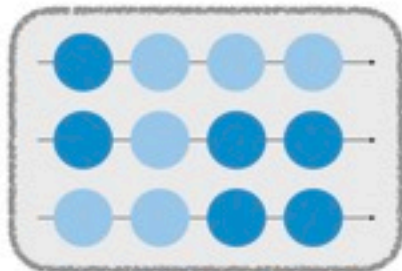
# Hyperproperties

System properties

Relate multiple executions



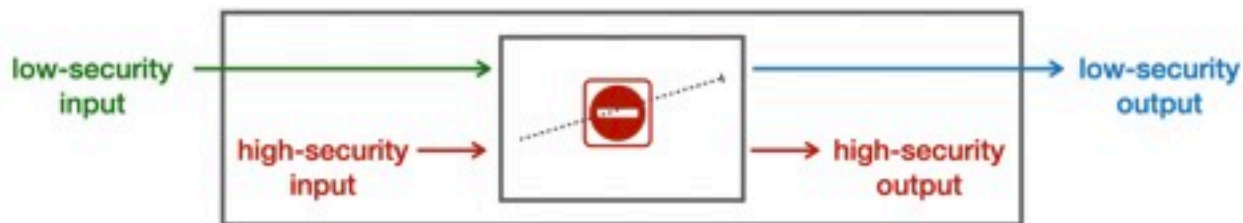
Information-flow  
security



# Example: Noninterference

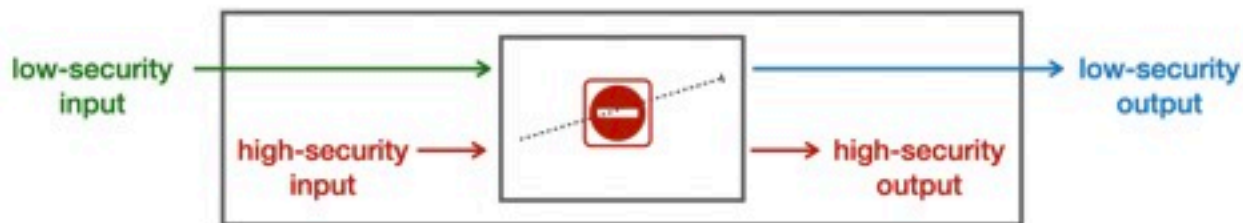


# Example: Noninterference



Low-security output can only depend on low-security input

# Example: Noninterference



Low-security output can only depend on low-security input

For every two executions:  
if they agree on low-security input then  
they agree on low-security output

# Hyperproperties

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Relate multiple executions



Information-flow

# Hyperproperties

System properties

Relate multiple executions



Information-flow



Knowledge

# Hyperproperties

System properties

Relate multiple executions



Information-flow



Knowledge



Fairness

# Hyperproperties

System properties

Relate multiple executions



Information-flow



Knowledge



Fairness



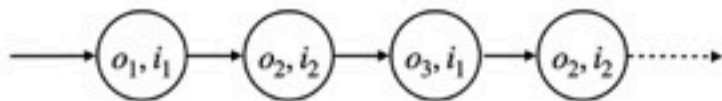
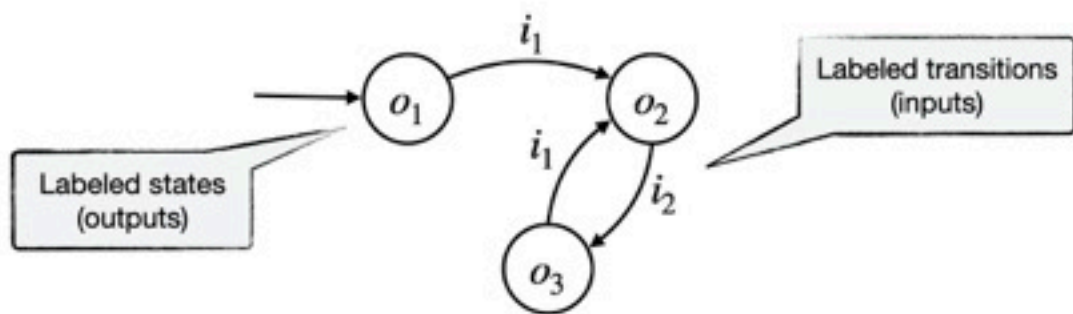
Robustness

**Hyperproperties are important!**  
**Let's verify them**

# Outline

- ✦ Trace properties & Hyperproperties
- ✦ HyperLTL - a logic for temporal hyperproperties
- ✦ Some interesting properties in HyperLTL
- ✦ HyperLTL model-checking
- ✦ HyperLTL satisfiability
- ✦ Beyond HyperLTL and security

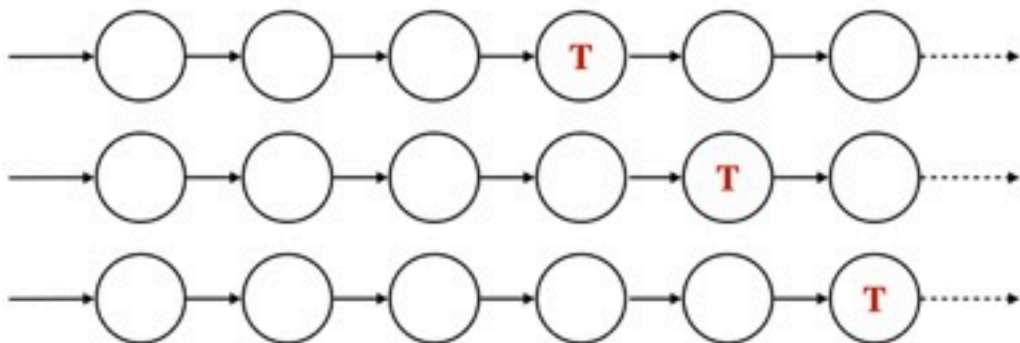
# Setting



Execution:  
(infinite)  
sequence of  
input-output

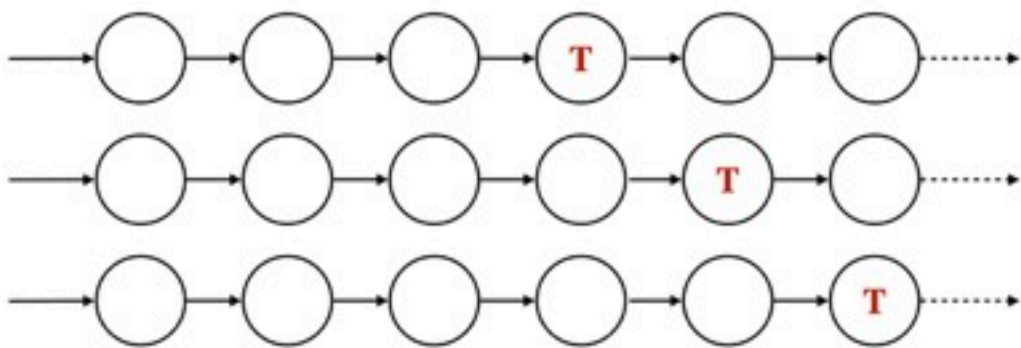
# Trace Properties

"All executions  
reach **T**"



# Trace Properties

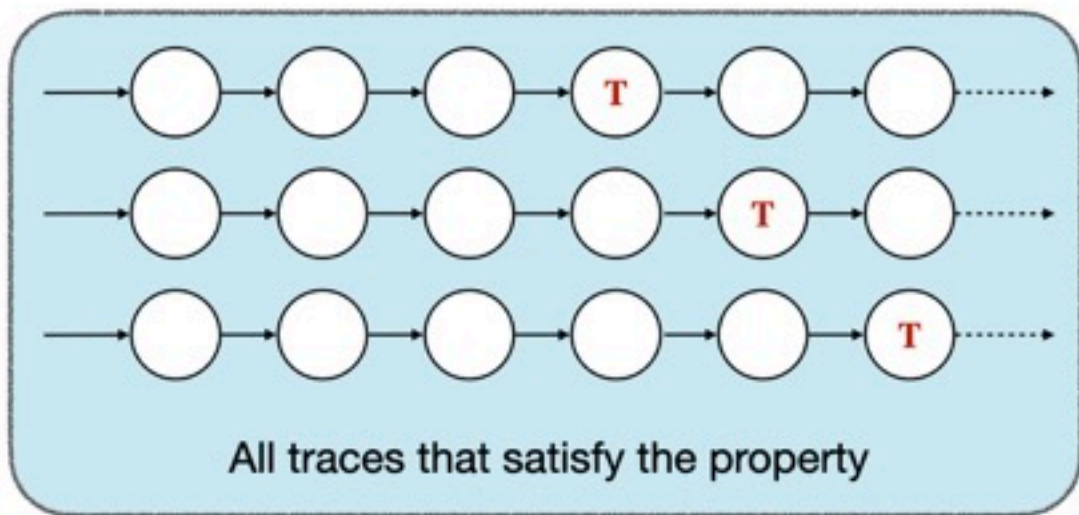
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We can look at  
each trace  
separately and  
verify the  
property

# Trace Properties

"All executions reach **T**"

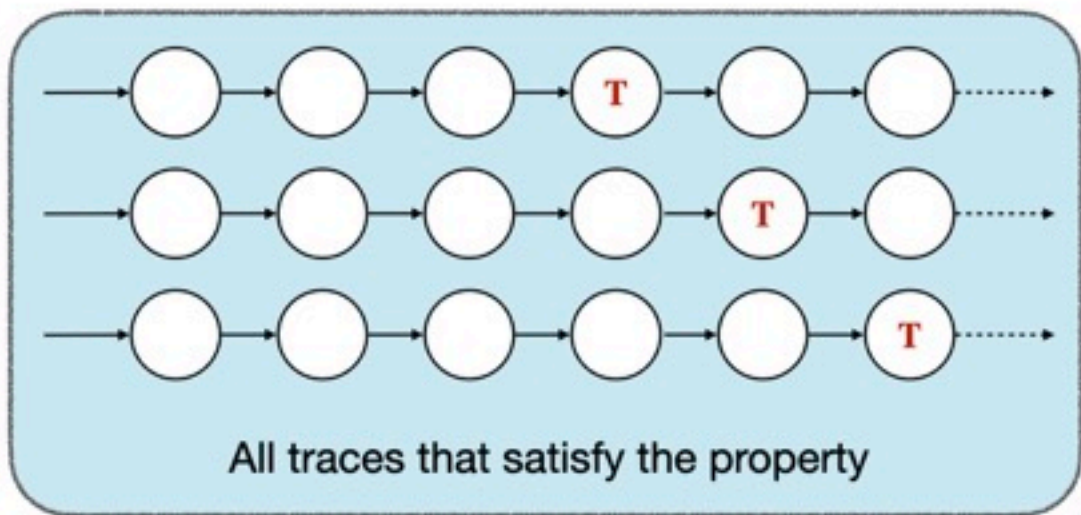


We can look at each trace separately and verify the property

# Trace Properties

"All executions reach **T**"

?  
 $\pi \in$



We can look at each trace separately and verify the property

# Hyperproperties

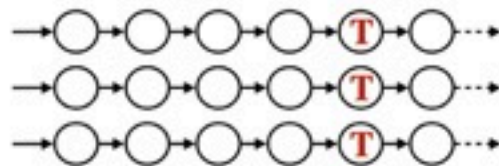
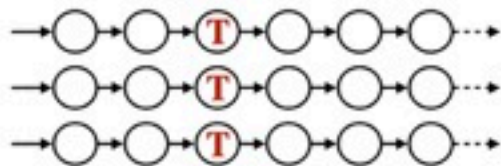
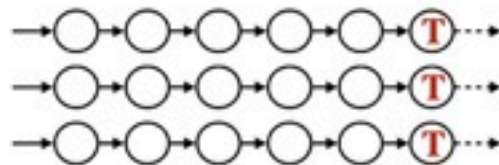
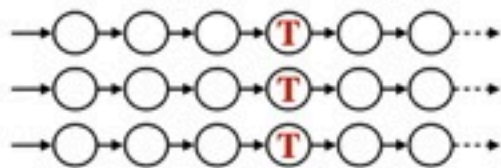
“All executions reach  
**T at the same time**”

We have to compare  
different executions

# Hyperproperties

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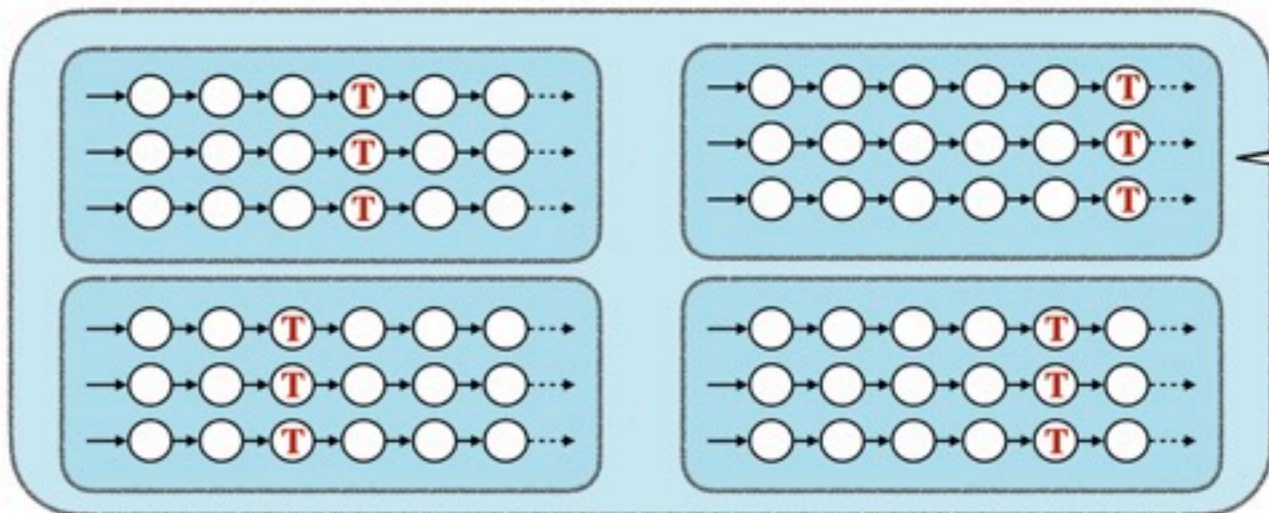


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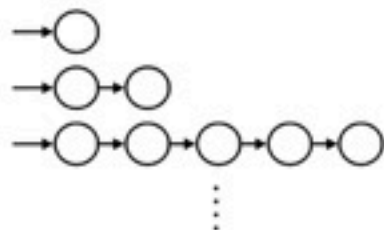
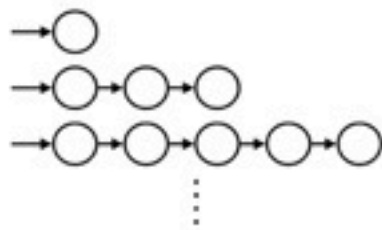
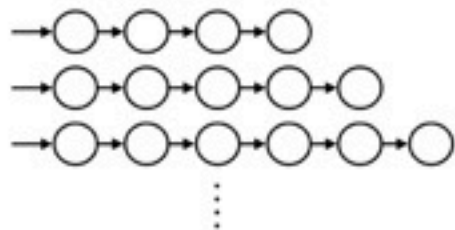
?  
 $M \in$



System  
properties

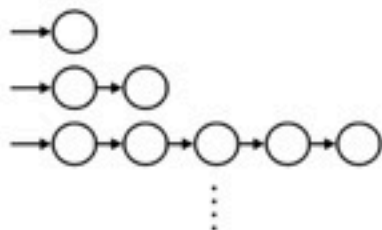
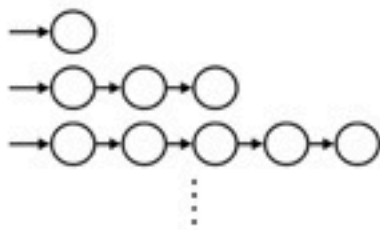
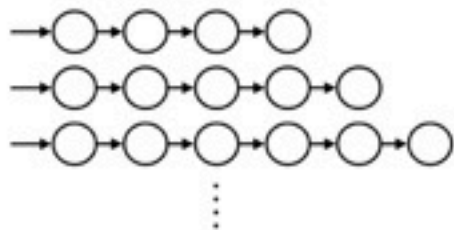
# Hyperproperties, Example 2

All infinite languages



# Hyperproperties, Example 2

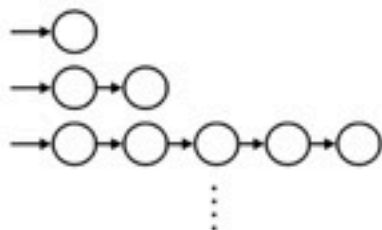
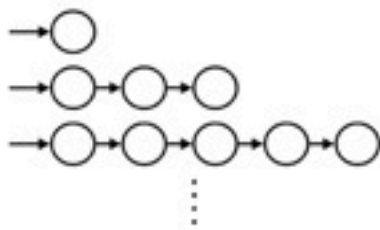
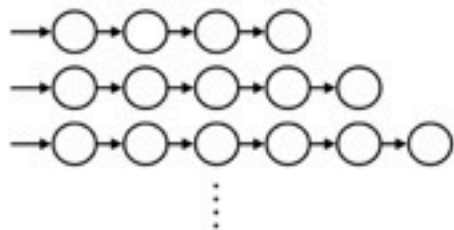
All infinite languages



for every trace  
exists a longer trace

# Hyperproperties, Example 2

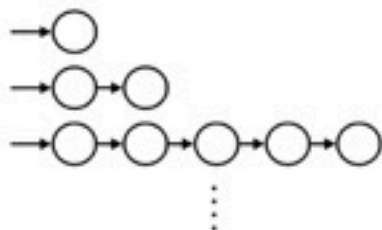
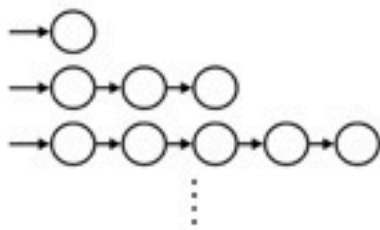
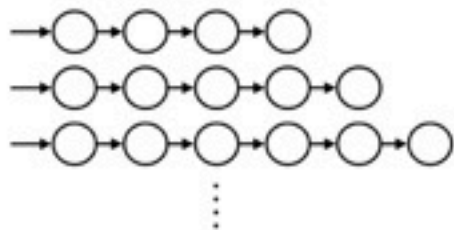
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for every trace  
exists a longer trace  
&  
exists at least one trace

# Hyperproperties, Example 2

All infinite languages



for every trace  
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Quantification  
over traces!

# LTL

$\psi := a \mid \neg\psi \mid \psi \wedge \psi \mid \bigcirc\psi \mid \psi \cup \psi'$

$\psi$  holds at the next step

$\psi$  holds until  $\psi'$  holds

temporal operators  
describe behavior through time:

$\diamond\psi$  –  $\psi$  eventually holds

$\square\psi$  –  $\psi$  holds all the time (globally)

# HyperLTL

$$\psi := a_\pi \mid \neg\psi \mid \psi \wedge \psi \mid \bigcirc\psi \mid \psi \cup \psi'$$

$$\varphi := \exists\pi. \varphi \mid \forall\pi. \varphi \mid \psi$$

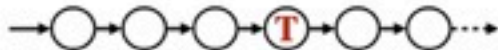
trace variable

# HyperLTL Example

“All executions reach  
**T** at the same time”

$$\exists \pi. \neg T_\pi U (T_\pi \wedge \bigcirc \square \neg T_\pi)$$

$T$  holds exactly once on  $\pi$

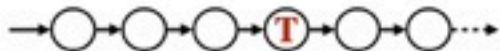


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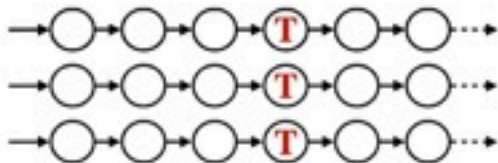
$T$  holds exactly once on  $\pi$



$\wedge$

$$\forall \pi'. \diamond (T_{\pi} \wedge T_{\pi'})$$

For all other traces  $\pi'$ ,  $T$  holds at  
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# HyperLTL Example

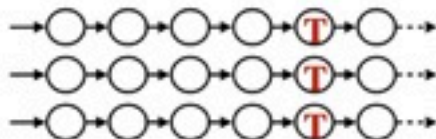
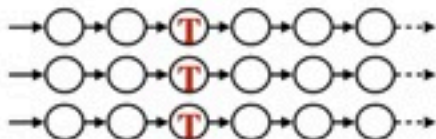
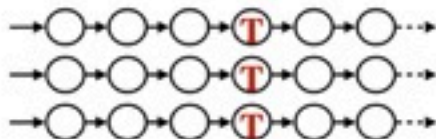
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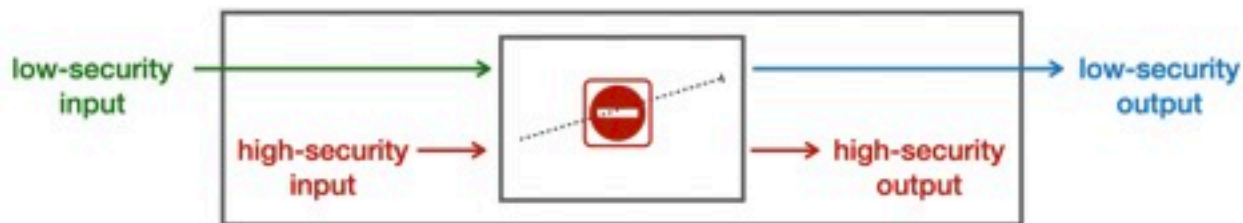
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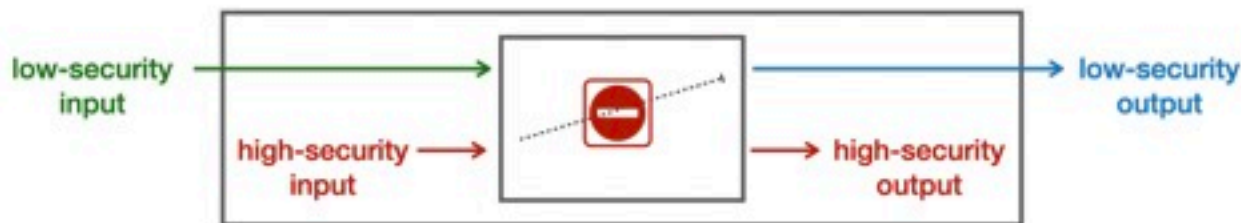
# Example: Noninterference



Low-security output can only depend on low-security input

For every two executions:  
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# Example: Noninterference



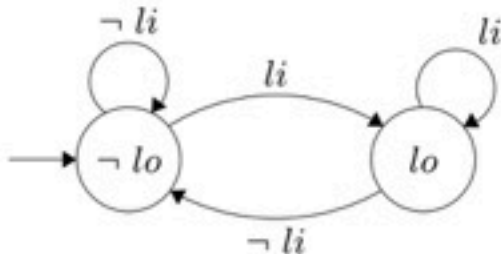
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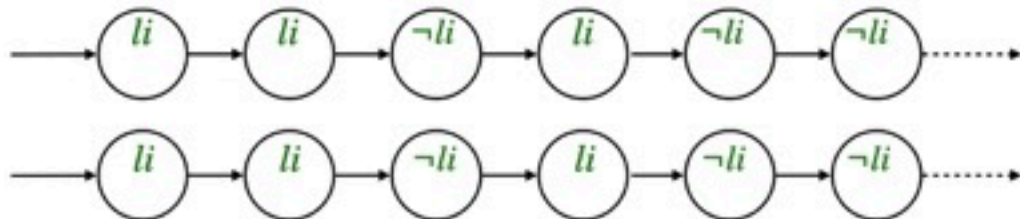
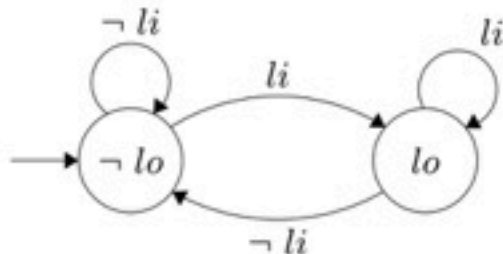
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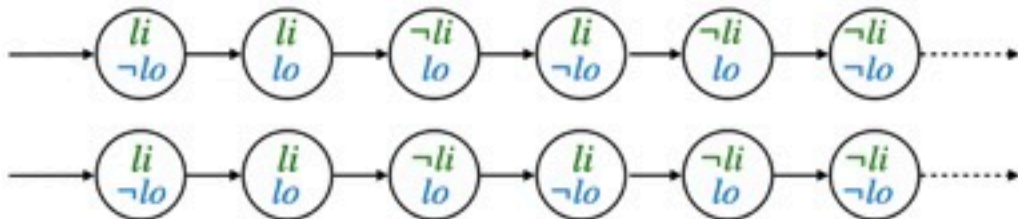
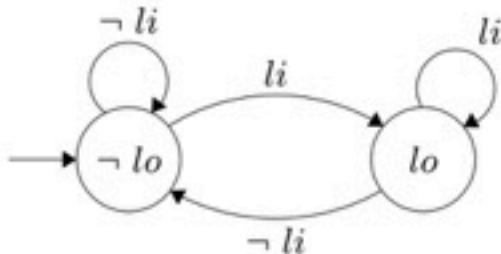
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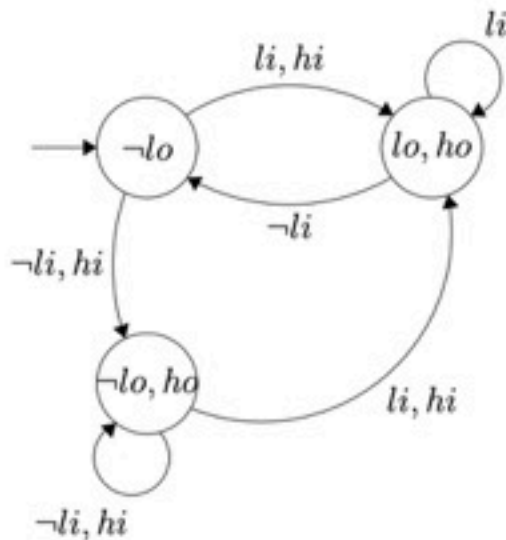
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# Example: Noninterference

$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'}) \rightarrow \square (low - out_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - out_{\pi'})$



Systems can be more complex and include high-security variables

But our examples will remain simple

# Outline

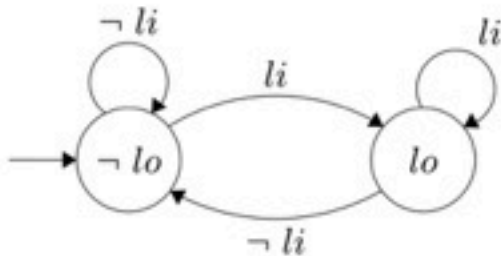
- ✦ Trace properties & Hyperproperties
- ✦ HyperLTL - a logic for temporal hyperproperties
- ✦ Some interesting properties in HyperLTL
- ✦ HyperLTL model-checking
- ✦ HyperLTL satisfiability
- ✦ Beyond HyperLTL and security

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  - ✦  $\exists^*$ -HyperLTL
  - ✦  $\forall^*$ -HyperLTL
  - ✦ Quantifier alternation
- ✦ HyperLTL satisfiability
- ✦ Beyond HyperLTL and security

# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

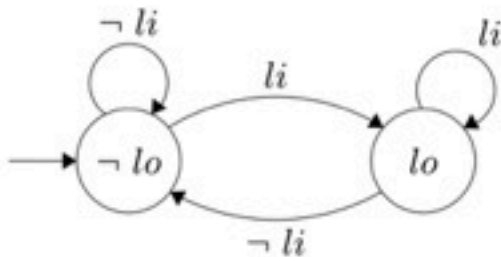
$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \Box (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$



# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \Box (low - in_\pi \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

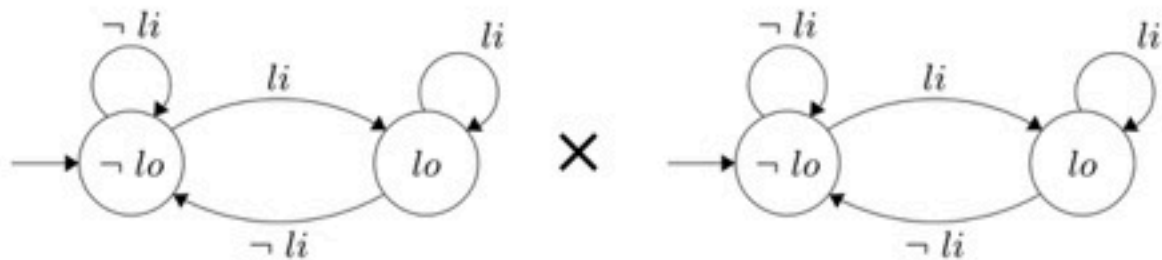
Look for witness traces



# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \Box (low - in_\pi \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

Look for witness traces in the composed system

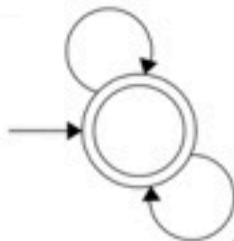


# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

## HyperLTL to an Automaton

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

$\langle li, li' \rangle$



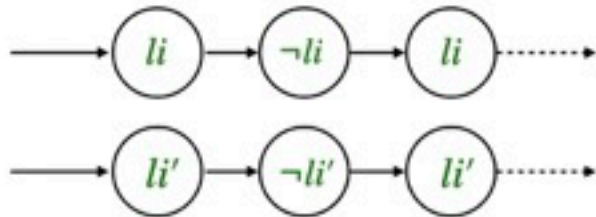
$\langle \neg li, \neg li' \rangle$

2 quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$   
k quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma^k$

# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

## HyperLTL to an Automaton

$\langle li, li' \rangle, \langle \neg li, \neg li' \rangle, \langle li, li' \rangle, \dots$

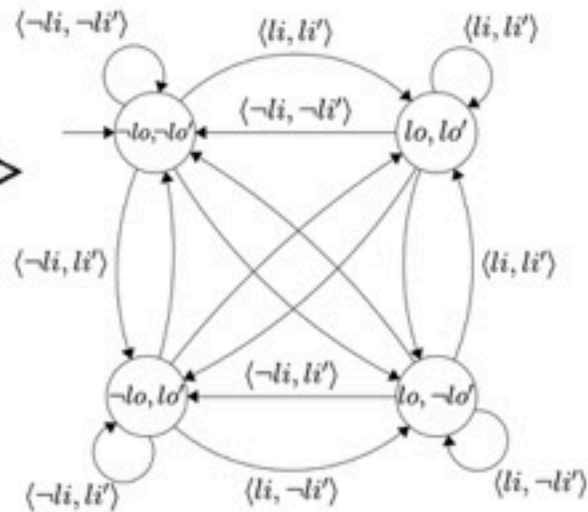


2 quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$   
k quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma^k$

Traces over k-tuples of letters  
represent k traces

# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

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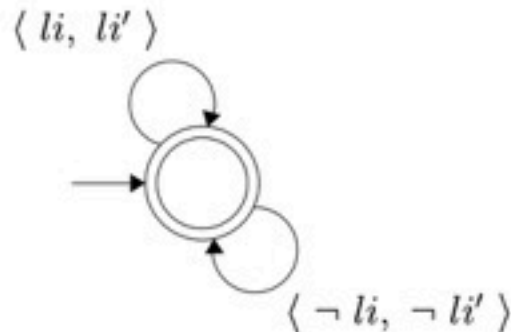
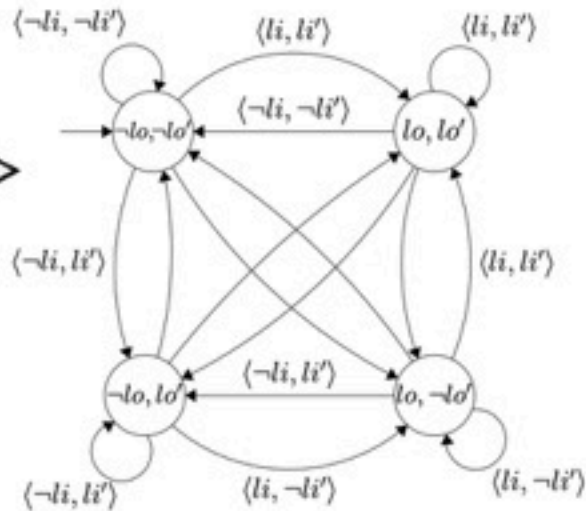


Self-compose the system  
(k times)

# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \Box (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

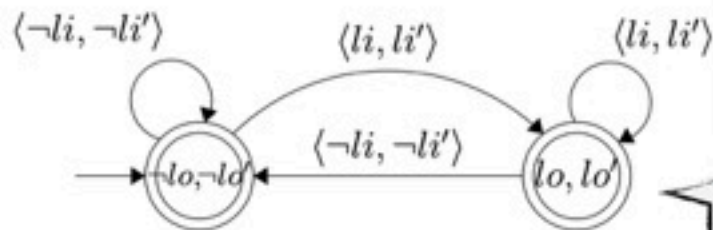
Self-compose the system  
(k times)



Intersect with the inner formula  
automaton, to find witness  
traces

# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \Box (low - in_\pi \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$



Intersection of the inner formula  
and the 2-slef composition of  
the system

Test for emptiness

# Model-Checking $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

$$\exists \pi_1 \dots \exists \pi_k. \psi$$

1.  $A_\psi$  – an automaton for the inner formula  $\psi$ , over k-tuples of letters
2.  $M_k$  – a k self-composition of the system
3. Intersect  $A_\psi \cap M_k$  and check for emptiness
4. A k-trace in  $A_\psi \cap M_k$  represents the witness traces  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k$

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# Model-Checking $\forall^*$ HyperLTL

$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'}) \rightarrow \square (low - out_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - out_{\pi'})$

# Model-Checking $\forall^*$ HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

2 quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$

This time we are looking for **violation**

# Model-Checking $\forall^*$ HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

2 quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \diamond (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow \neg low - in_{\pi'})$$

This time we are looking for **violation**

# Model-Checking $\forall^*$ HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

2 quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi'. \diamond (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow \neg low - in_{\pi'})$$

This time we are looking for **violation**

This looks familiar...

# Model-Checking $\forall^*$ HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi_1 \dots \forall \pi_k. \psi$$

1. Negate the formula —  $\exists \pi_1 \dots \exists \pi_k. \neg \psi$
2.  $A_{\neg \psi}$  — an automaton for the inner formula  $\neg \psi$ , over k-tuples of letters
3.  $M_k$  — a k self-composition of the system
4. Intersect  $A_{\neg \psi} \cap M_k$  and check for emptiness
5. A k-trace in  $A_{\neg \psi} \cap M_k$  represents the counterexample traces  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_k$

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# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

## Generalized Noninterference

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi' \exists \pi'' . \square (high - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow high - in_{\pi''}) \wedge \square (low - out_{\pi'} \leftrightarrow low - out_{\pi''})$$

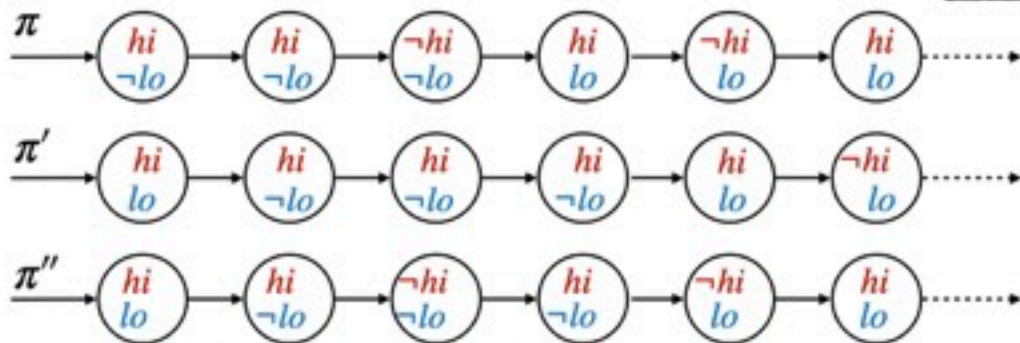
For every two traces  
there exists a third trace  
that agrees with one on the high-security inputs,  
and with the other on the low-security outputs

# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

## Generalized Noninterference

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi' \exists \pi'' . \square (high - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow high - in_{\pi''}) \wedge \square (low - out_{\pi'} \leftrightarrow low - out_{\pi''})$$

For every two traces  
there exists a third trace  
that agrees with one on the high-security inputs,  
and with the other on the low-security outputs

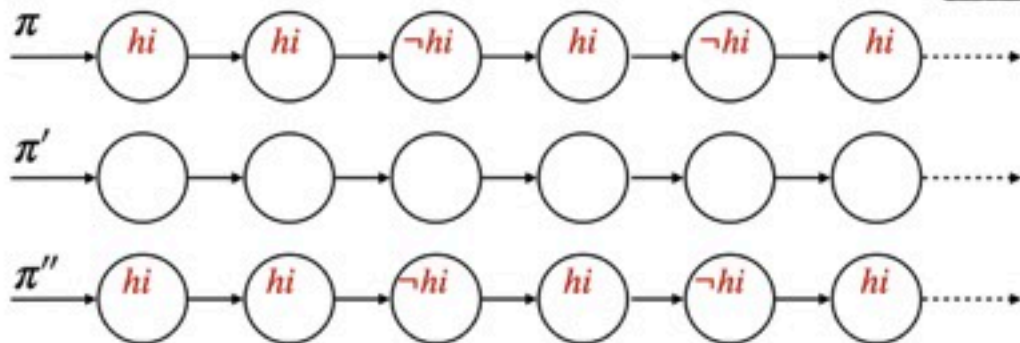


# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

## Generalized Noninterference

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi' \exists \pi'' . \square (high - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow high - in_{\pi''}) \wedge \square (low - out_{\pi'} \leftrightarrow low - out_{\pi''})$$

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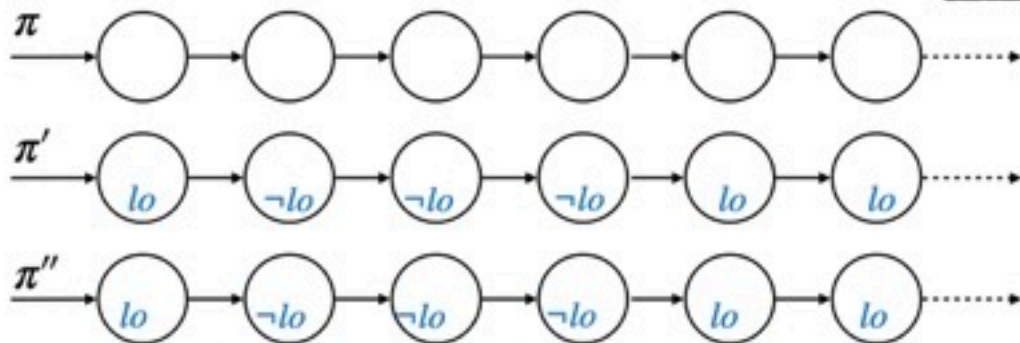


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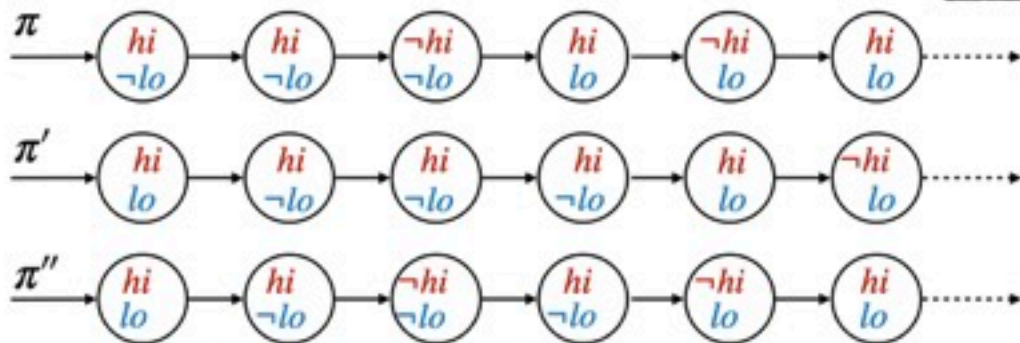


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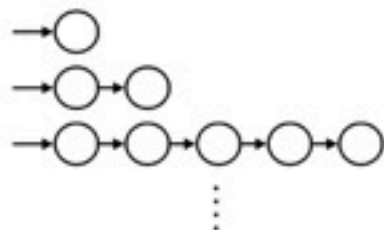
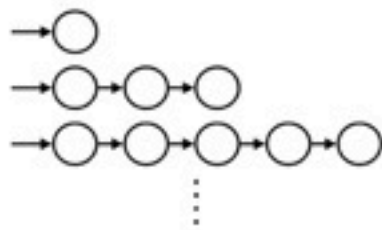
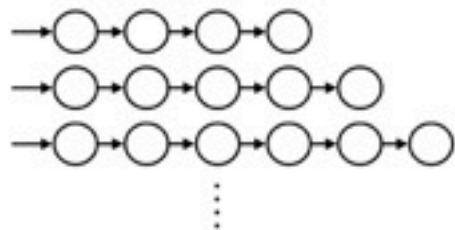
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# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

All infinite languages

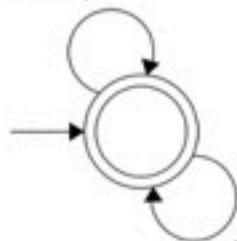


for every trace  
exists a longer trace  
&  
exists at least one trace

# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi \exists \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

$\langle li, li' \rangle$



$\langle \neg li, \neg li' \rangle$

2 quantifiers, alphabet is  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$

Construct automaton for the inner formula

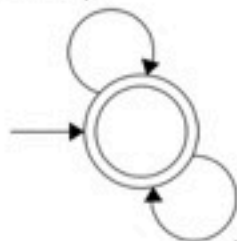
# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi \exists \pi'. \square (low - in_{\pi} \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

We cannot directly use negation since we have two types of quantifiers

Integrate the quantifier into the construction

$\langle li, li' \rangle$



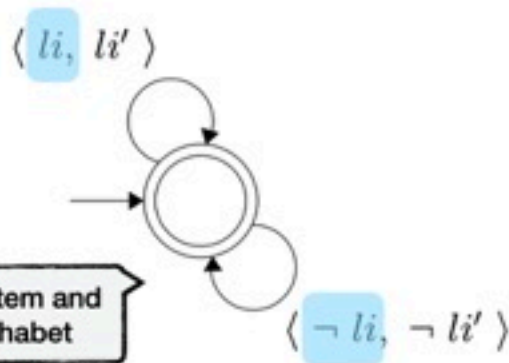
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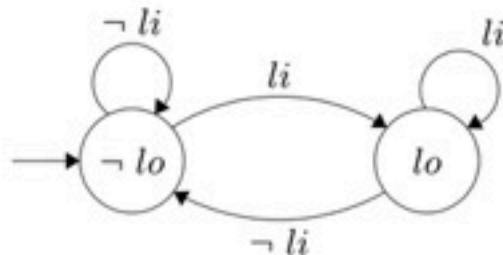
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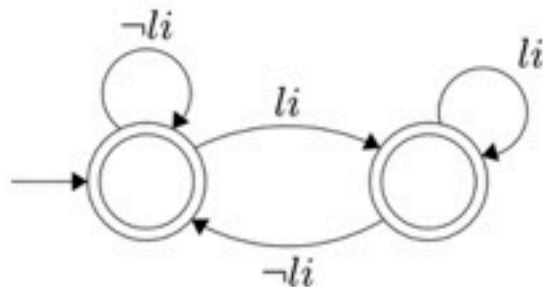
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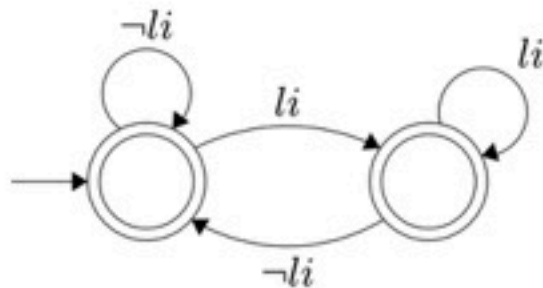
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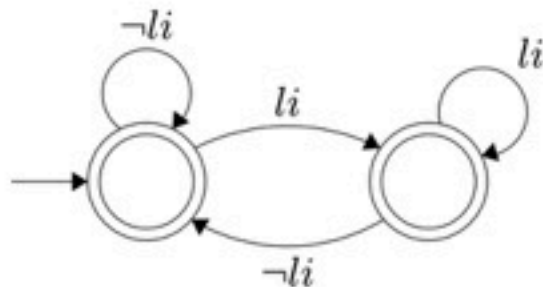


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$\forall$  quantifier –  
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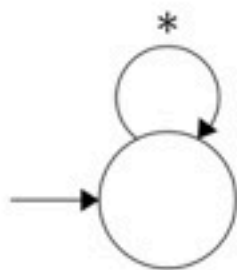
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Complement the automaton

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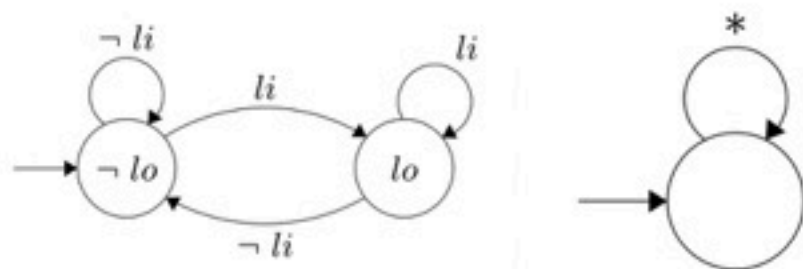
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# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

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Intersect with the system to find a violation trace

All traces for which there exists a trace such that...

$\forall$  quantifier – looking for a violation

Complement the automaton

# Model-Checking $\forall \exists$ HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi_1 \exists \pi_2 . \psi$$

1.  $A_\psi$  – an automaton for the inner formula  $\psi$ , over 2-tuples of letters
2.  $M_k$  – a k self-composition of the system
3. Intersect  $A_\psi \cap M_k$
4.  $A'$  – Perform alphabet reduction to receive all traces  $\pi_1$  for which there exists a trace  $\pi_2$  for which...
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HyperLTL model-checking is  
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Inner formula into a non-deterministic Büchi automaton:  
Exponential in the size of the inner formula

Every alternation:  
Exponential in the size of the previous automaton

# Model-Checking HyperLTL

$\forall^* \exists^* \forall^* \exists^* . \psi$

Each alternation requires  
complementation

Each alternation adds one  
exponent

HyperLTL model-checking is  
tower-exponential

Most properties do not require  
more than 1 alternation

Multiple alternations are very  
non-intuitive

# Demonstration

**Hyperproperties are Important  
But Hard!**

# Outline

- ✦ Trace properties & Hyperproperties
- ✦ HyperLTL - a logic for temporal hyperproperties
- ✦ Some interesting properties in HyperLTL
- ✦ HyperLTL model-checking
  - ✦  $\exists^*$ -HyperLTL
  - ✦  $\forall^*$ -HyperLTL
  - ✦ Quantifier alternation
- ✦ HyperLTL satisfiability
- ✦ Beyond HyperLTL and security

# Satisfiability of HyperLTL

# Satisfiability of LTL

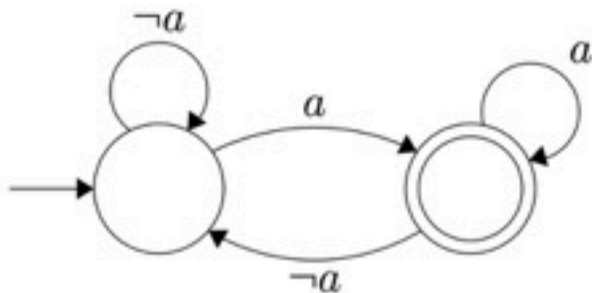
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$\Box \Diamond a$

Emptiness test



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a  
baa

ab  
aa

bba  
bb

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baa

ab
aa

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bba
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ab
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bba
bb

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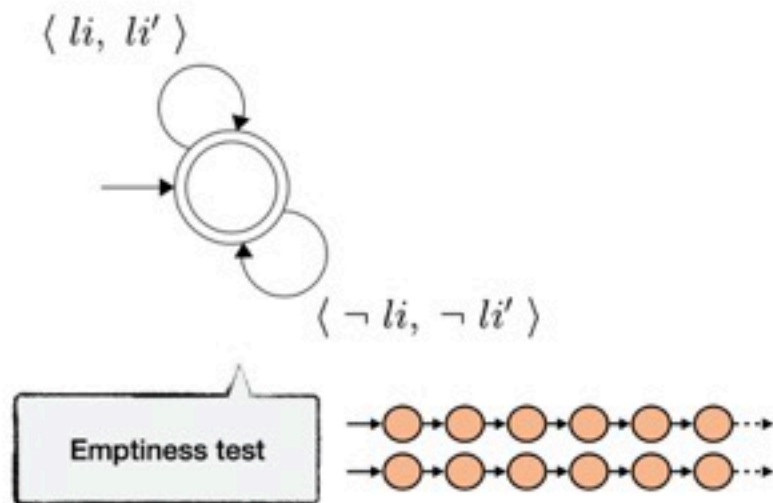
bbaabbbbaa
bbaabbbbaa

# Satisfiability of $\exists^*$ HyperLTL

$$\exists \pi \exists \pi' . \Box (low - in_\pi \leftrightarrow low - in_{\pi'})$$

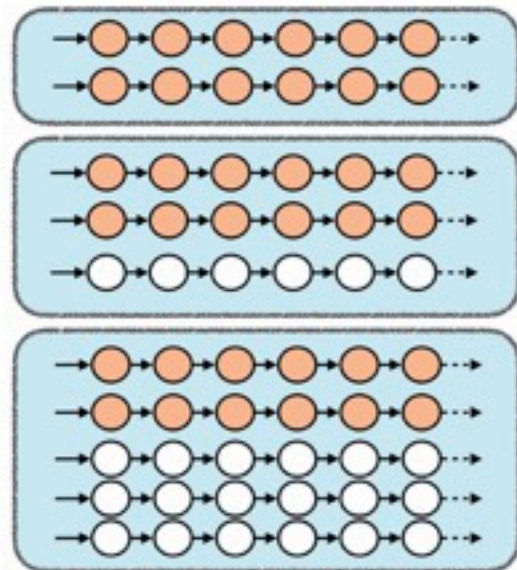
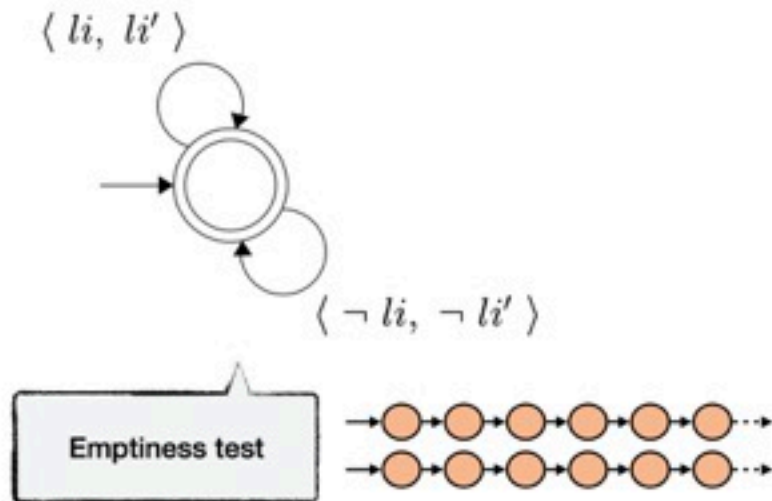
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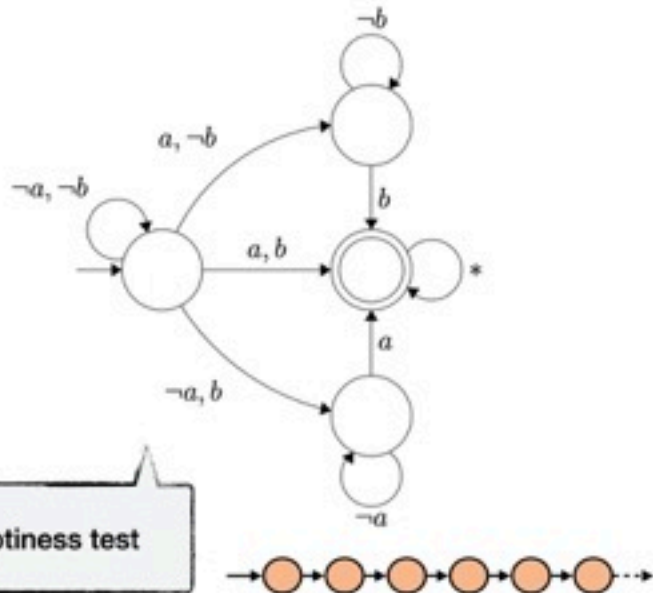
$$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. \diamond a_\pi \wedge \diamond b_{\pi'}$$

If this holds, then it's true also for  $\pi = \pi'$

It is enough to consider singleton models

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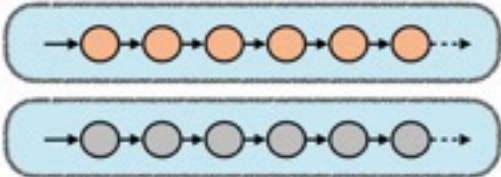
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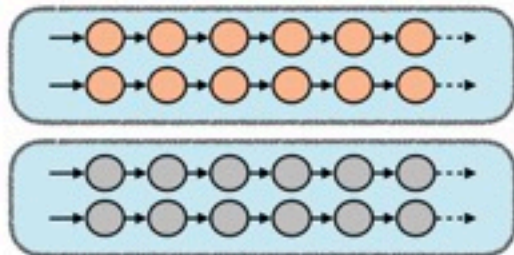
$$\exists \pi \exists \pi' \forall \pi'' . \Diamond a_\pi \wedge \Diamond b_{\pi'} \wedge \Diamond c_{\pi''}$$



Consider all possible assignments for  $\pi''$

$$\begin{aligned} \exists \pi \exists \pi' . (\Diamond a_\pi \wedge \Diamond b_{\pi'} \wedge \Diamond c_\pi) \\ \wedge (\Diamond a_\pi \wedge \Diamond b_{\pi'} \wedge \Diamond c_{\pi'}) \end{aligned}$$

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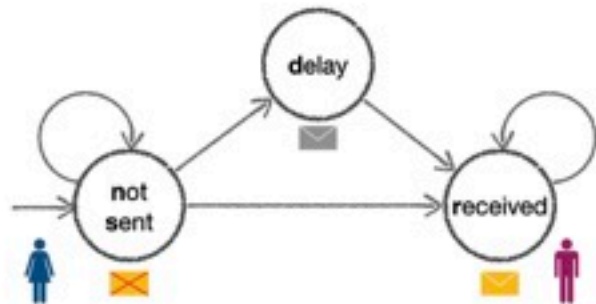
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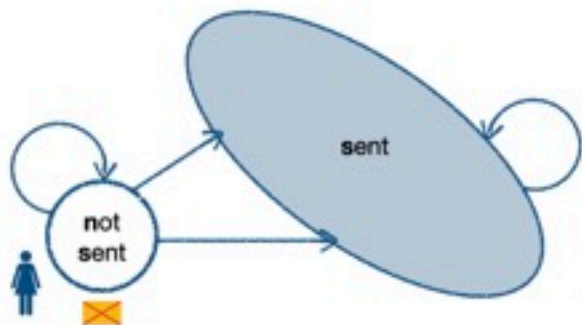
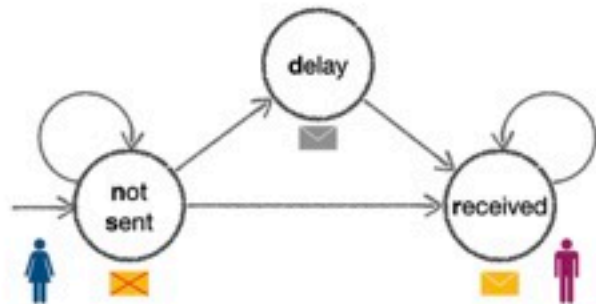
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# **Knowledge and Common Knowledge in Multi-Agent Systems**

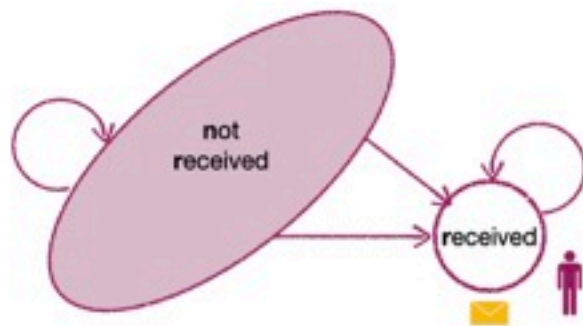
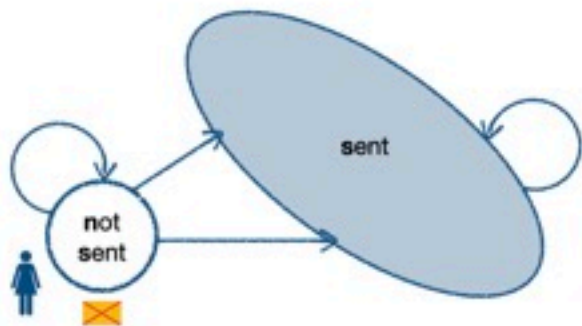
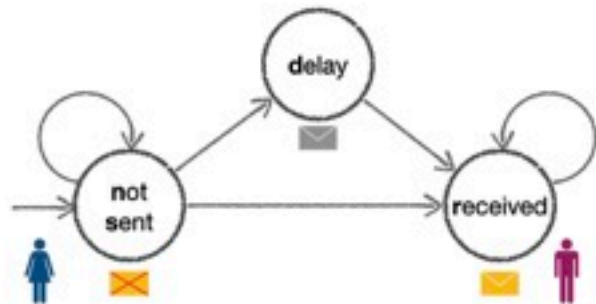
# Example: Knowledge



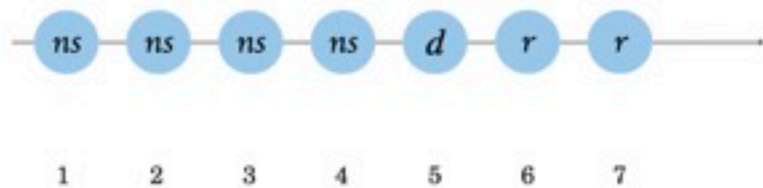
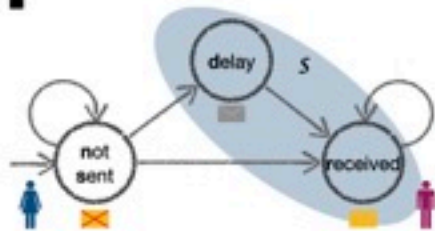
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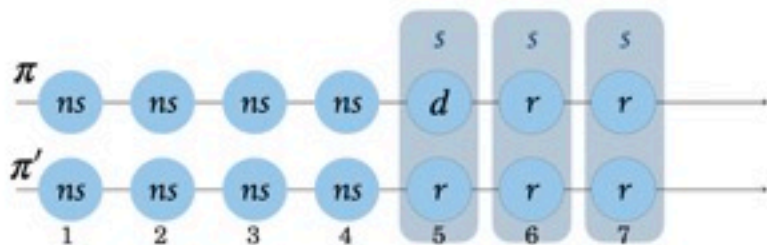
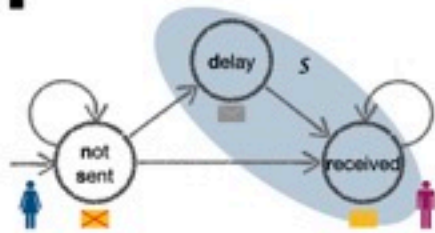


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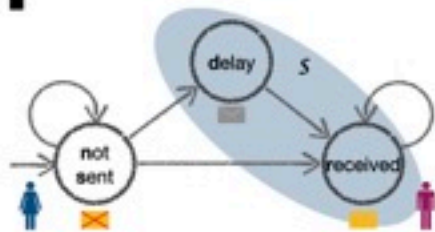
at time 7  knows  $r$ ?

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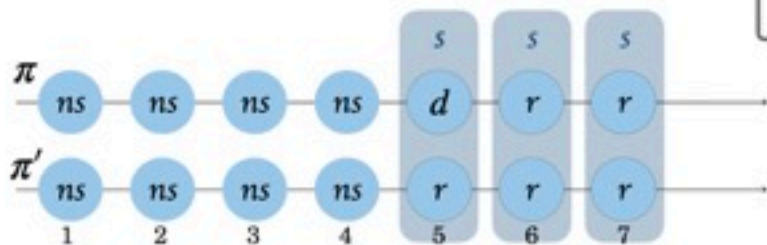
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## Hyperproperty

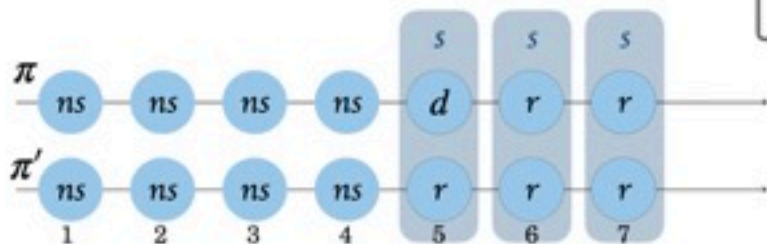
for every trace  $\pi'$   
that  $\downarrow$  cannot distinguish from  $\pi$   
until time 7  
 $r$  holds at time 7



at time 7  $\downarrow$  knows  $r$ ?

# Knowledge in HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. (\pi \equiv_{\downarrow} \pi') \rightarrow \bigcirc^7 r_{\pi'}$$



## Hyperproperty

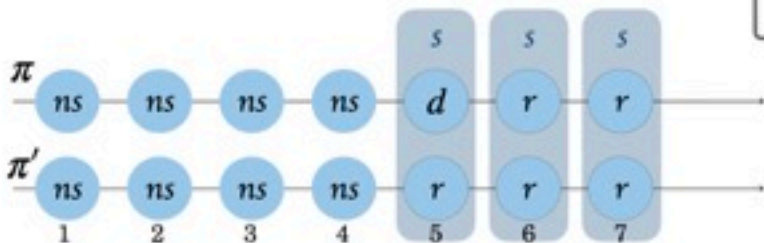
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# Knowledge in HyperLTL

$$\forall \pi \forall \pi'. (\pi \equiv_{\downarrow} \pi') \rightarrow \bigcirc^7 r_{\pi'}$$

$$\bigwedge_{i=1..7} \bigcirc^i ((ns_{\pi} \leftrightarrow ns_{\pi'}) \wedge (s_{\pi} \leftrightarrow s_{\pi'}))$$

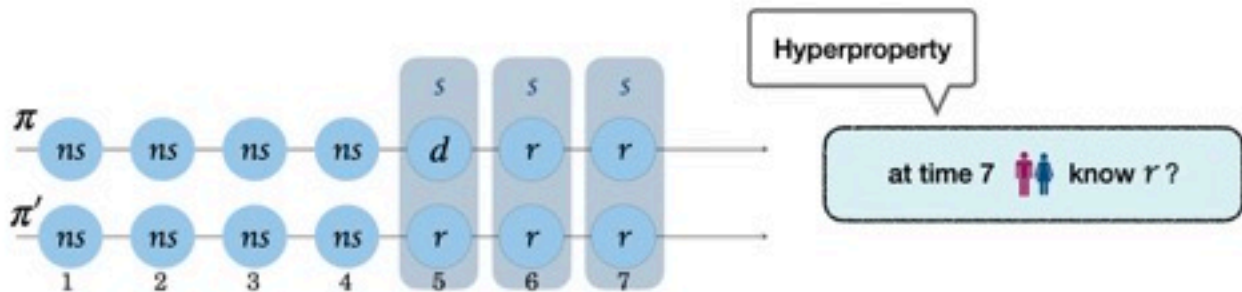
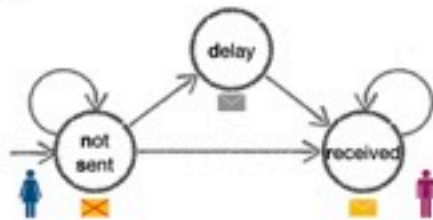


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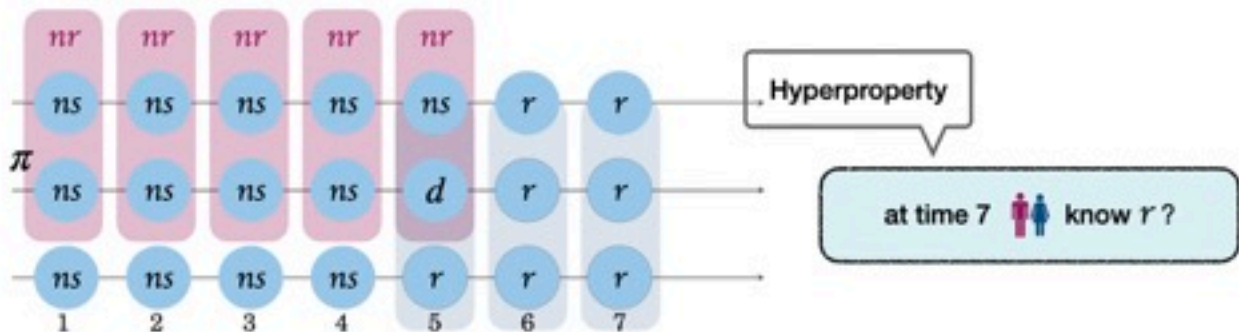
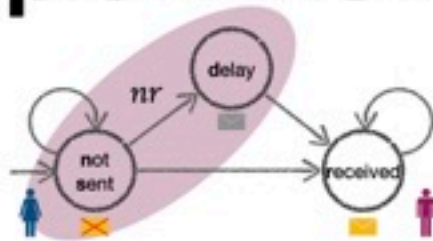
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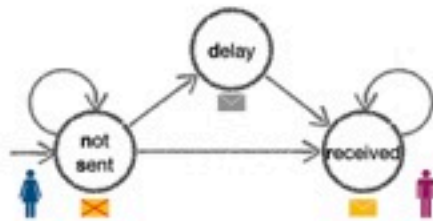
# Example: Knowledge





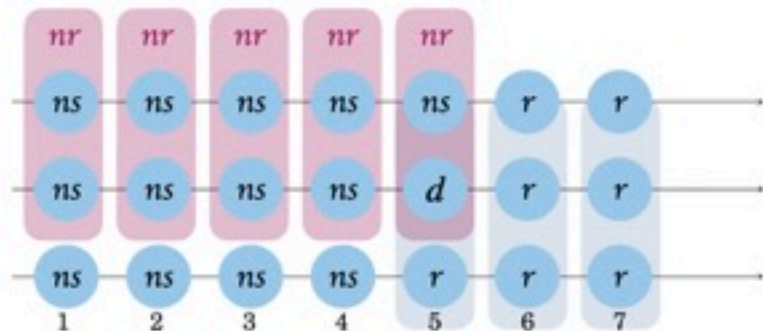
# Example: Knowledge



# Example: Common Knowledge



$r$  is common knowledge  
at time 7 among  ?



# Common Knowledge

$\varphi$  common knowledge



*Reasoning About Knowledge.* Fagin, Halpern, Moses, Vardi (MIT Press 1995)

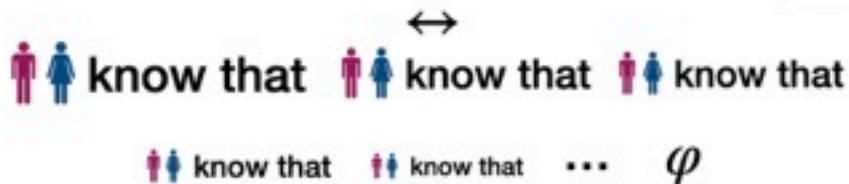
*Common Knowledge and Update in Finite Environments.* van der Meyden (Inf. Comput. 1998)

*Knowledge and common knowledge in a distributed environment.* Halpern and Moses (JACM 1990)

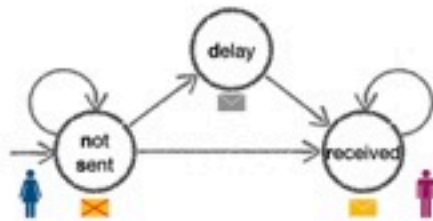
# Common Knowledge



$\varphi$  common knowledge

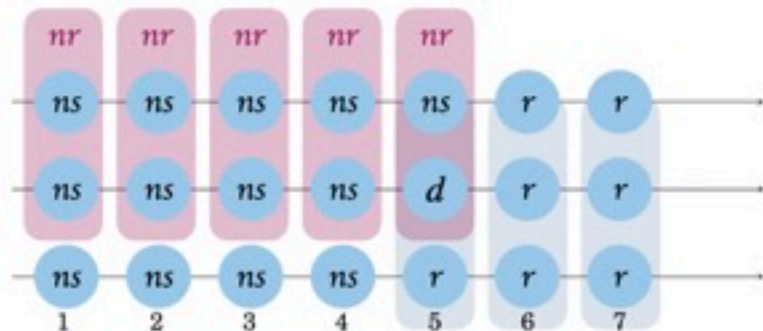
first-order trace  
quantification is not  
enough



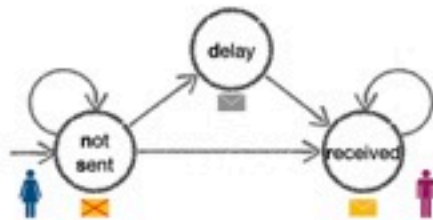
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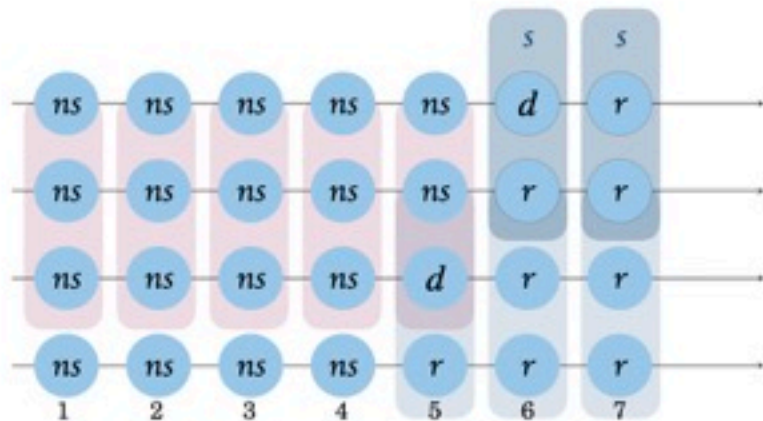
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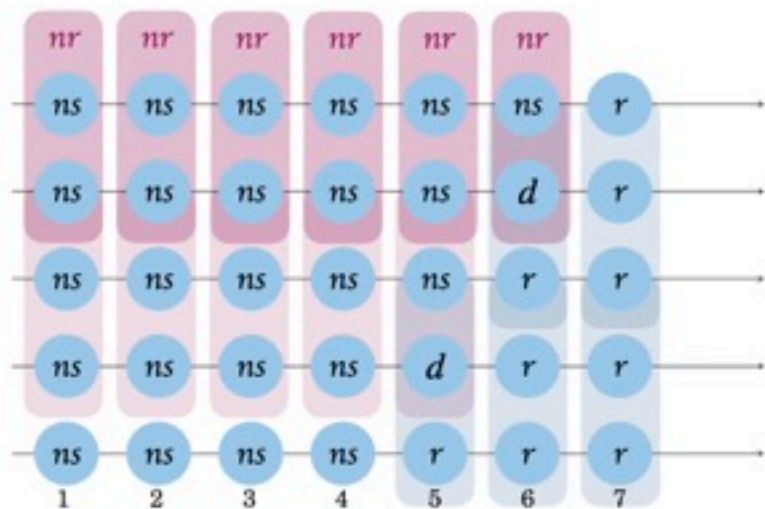
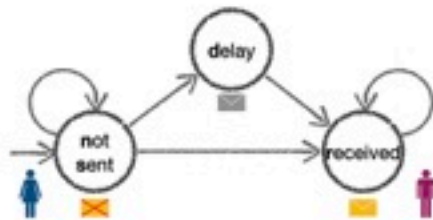
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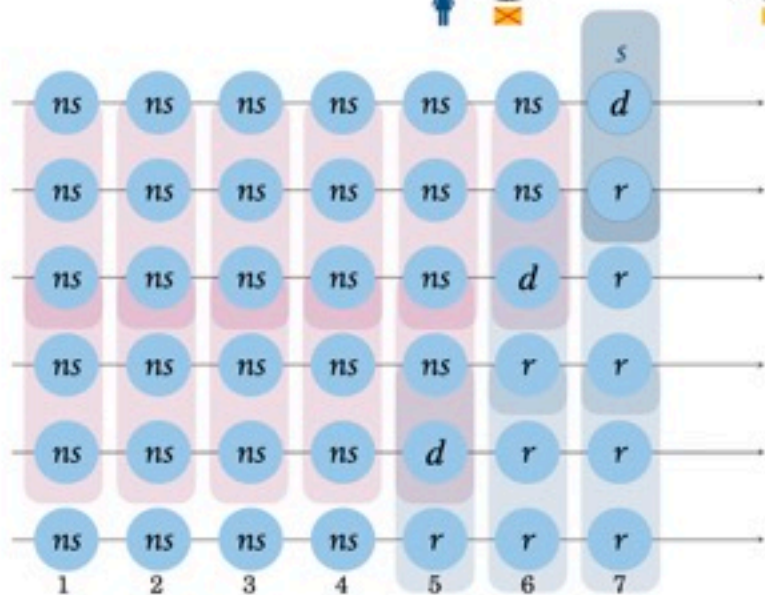
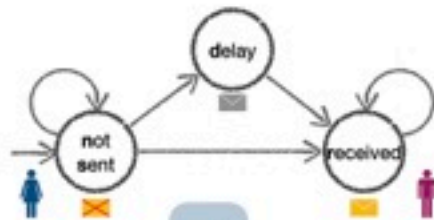


# Example: Common Knowledge



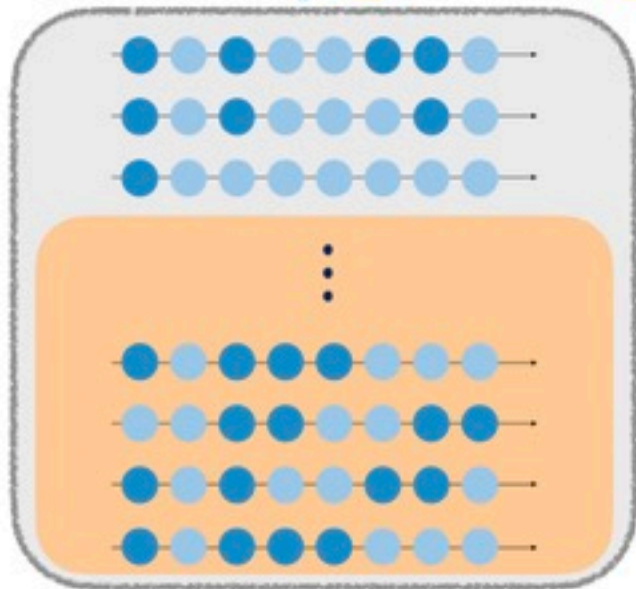
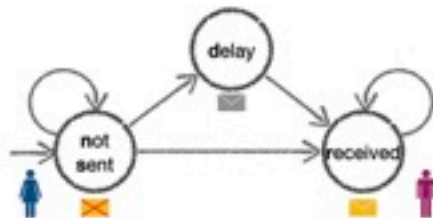
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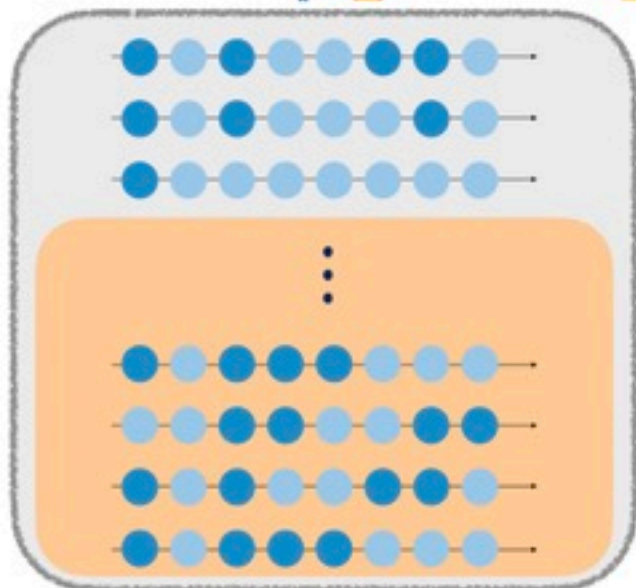
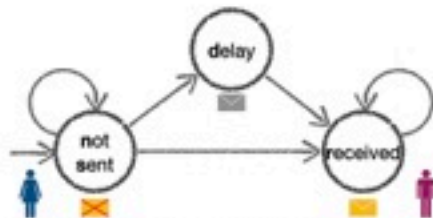
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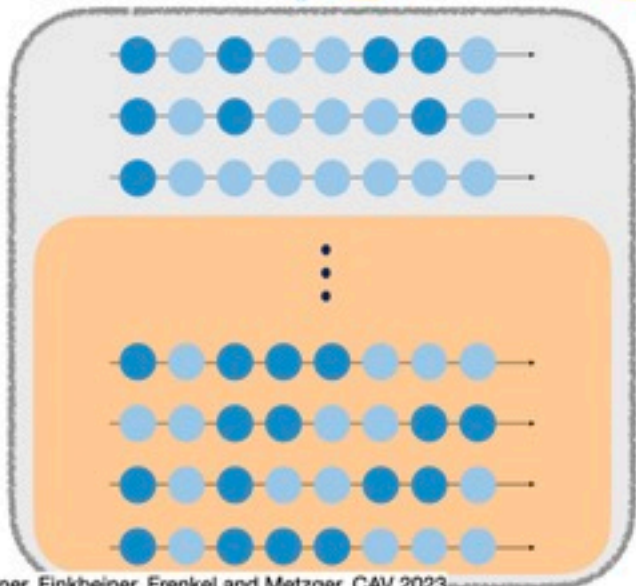
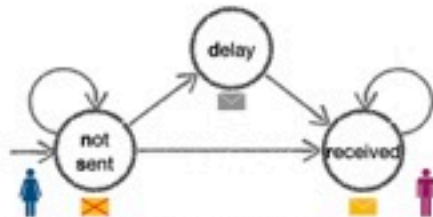
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all indistinguishable traces
2. Verify the desired property on  $X$   
 $r$  eventually holds

# Example: Common Knowledge



Hyper<sup>2</sup>LTL  
Quantification over sets of traces

HyperLTL is not enough!

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# Outline

- ✦ Trace properties & Hyperproperties
- ✦ HyperLTL - a logic for temporal hyperproperties
- ✦ Some interesting properties in HyperLTL
- ✦ HyperLTL model-checking
  - ✦  $\exists^*$ -HyperLTL
  - ✦  $\forall^*$ -HyperLTL
  - ✦ Quantifier alternation
- ✦ HyperLTL satisfiability
- ✦ Beyond HyperLTL and security

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Initially for information-flow, but not only

We need new formalisms to express  
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And verification algorithms...

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Can be used in practice  
when there are not too  
many quantifier  
alternations