

- **The Naive Approach**
  - “using SMV to model-check software”
- **Abstraction and Model-Checking**
- **Automatic Abstraction Refinement**
- **Yasm: Tool Demo**
- **Conclusion**



## Software Model-Checking with YASM: A Tutorial

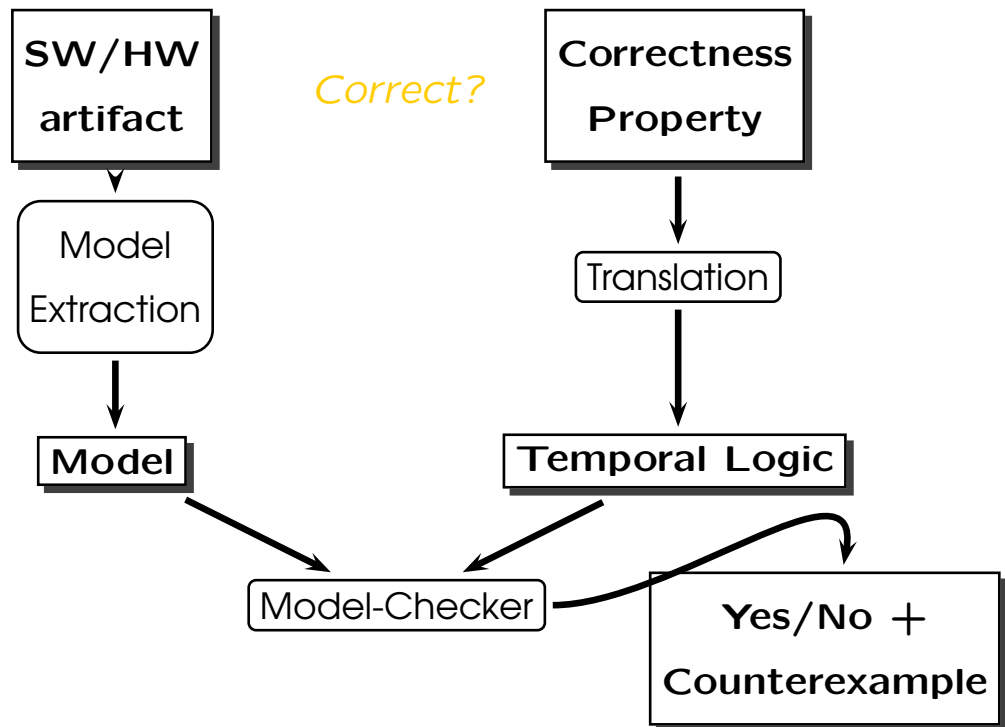
Arie Gurfinkel

{arie}@cs.toronto.edu.

University of Toronto



# Overview of Model-Checking



4

## SoftMC: The Naive Approach

### ■ Input:

- Program:

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1:}  
6:}
```

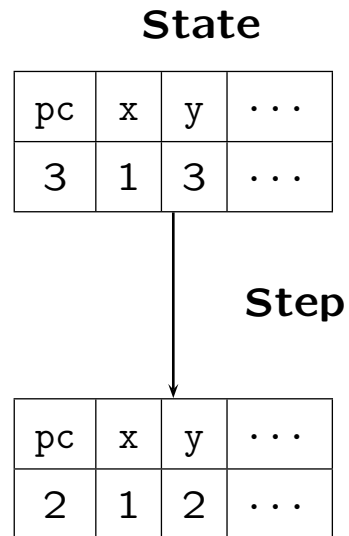
- Property: is line P1 reachable?

### ■ Output: Yes/No

3

# From Programs to Models

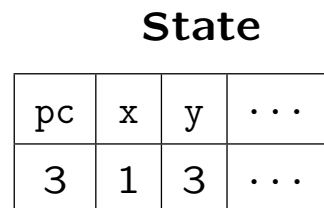
```
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3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```



5

# From Programs to Models

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
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2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
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6:}
```



5

# Representing Transition Relation

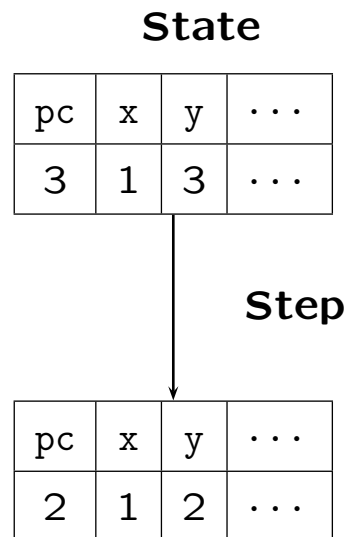
```
void main (void) {  
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   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

$pc = 1 \wedge x' = 2 \wedge y' = 2 \wedge pc' = 2 \vee$   
 $pc = 2 \wedge y > 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 4 \vee$   
 $pc = 2 \wedge y \leq 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 3 \vee$   
 $pc = 3 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y - 1 \wedge pc' = 2 \vee$   
 $pc = 4 \wedge x = 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 5 \vee$   
 $pc = 4 \wedge x \neq 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 6 \vee$   
 $pc = 6 \wedge x = x' \wedge y = y' \wedge pc' = 6$



## From Programs to Models

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```



**Property:**  $EF (pc = 5)$



# Computing Reachability

Computation for  $EF(pc = 5)$

| Stage <sub>0</sub> | Stage <sub>1</sub>                            | Stage <sub>2</sub>  |
|--------------------|---|---|
| $pc = 5$           | Stage <sub>0</sub> $\vee$<br>$pre[P](pc = 5)$ | Stage <sub>1</sub> $\vee$<br>$pre[P](Stage_1)$                                    |
| $pc = 5$           | $pc = 5 \vee$<br>$pc = 4 \wedge x = 2$        | $pc = 5 \vee$<br>$pc = 4 \wedge x = 2 \vee$<br>$pc = 2 \wedge x = 2 \wedge y > 2$ |



7

## Representing Transition Relation

void main (void) {

|      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| 1: i | $pc = 1 \wedge x' = 2 \wedge y' = 2 \wedge pc' = 2 \vee$                 |        |
| 2: v | $pc = 2 \wedge y > 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 4 \vee$    | $\vee$ |
| 3:   | $pc = 2 \wedge y \leq 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 3 \vee$ | $\vee$ |
| 4: i | $pc = 3 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y - 1 \wedge pc' = 2 \vee$             | $\vee$ |
| 5:   | $pc = 4 \wedge x = 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 5 \vee$    | $\vee$ |
| 6:}  | $pc = 4 \wedge x \neq 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge pc' = 6 \vee$ |        |
|      | $pc = 6 \wedge x = x' \wedge y = y' \wedge pc' = 6$                      |        |



6

# Partitioning Transitions by CFG

| $(pc, pc')$ | value                                  |
|-------------|--|
| (1, 2)      | $x' = 2 \wedge y' = 2$                 |
| (2, 4)      | $y > 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y$    |
| (2, 3)      | $y \leq 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y$ |
| (3, 2)      | $x' = x \wedge y' = y - 1$             |
| (4, 5)      | $x = 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y$    |
| (4, 6)      | $x \neq 2 \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y$ |
| (6, 6)      | $x' = x \wedge y' = y$                 |

.....9

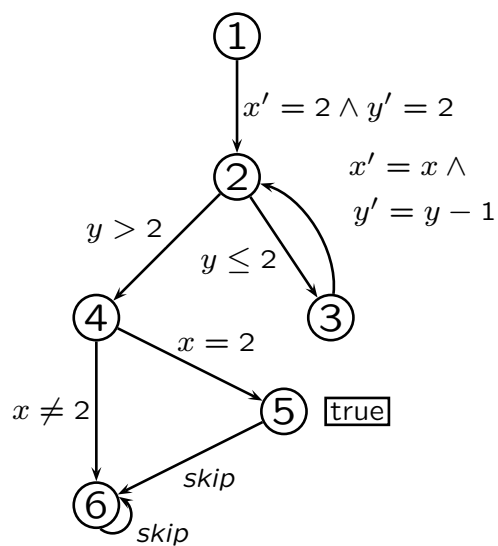
# Partitioning State Sets by CFG

| Stage <sub>2</sub>                 | $pc$ | value                |
|------------------------------------|------|----------------------|
| $pc = 5 \vee$                      | 1    | false                |
| $pc = 4 \wedge x = 2 \vee$         | 2    | $x = 2 \wedge y > 2$ |
| $pc = 2 \wedge x = 2 \wedge y > 2$ | 3    | false                |
|                                    | 4    | $x = 2$              |
|                                    | 5    | true                 |
|                                    | 6    | false                |

.....8

# MC with Partitioned Representation

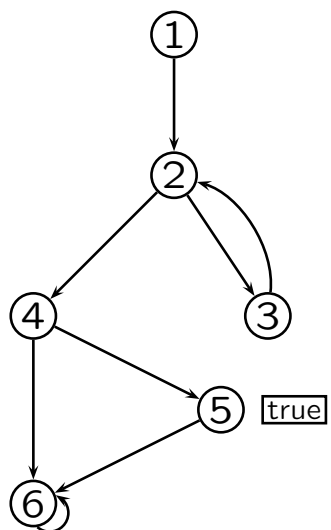
Stage<sub>0</sub>



..... 10

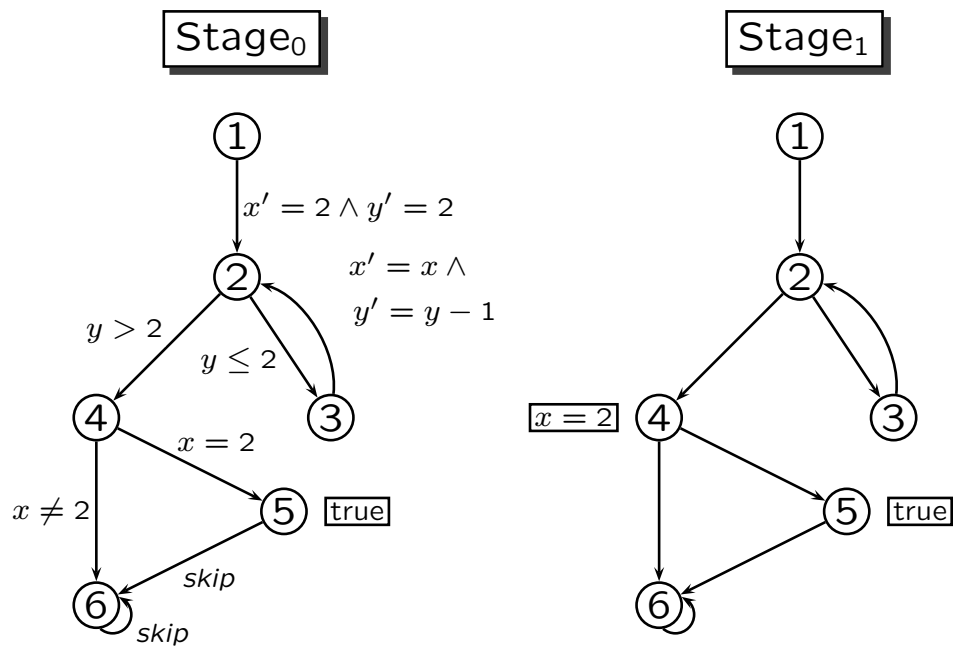
# MC with Partitioned Representation

Stage<sub>0</sub>

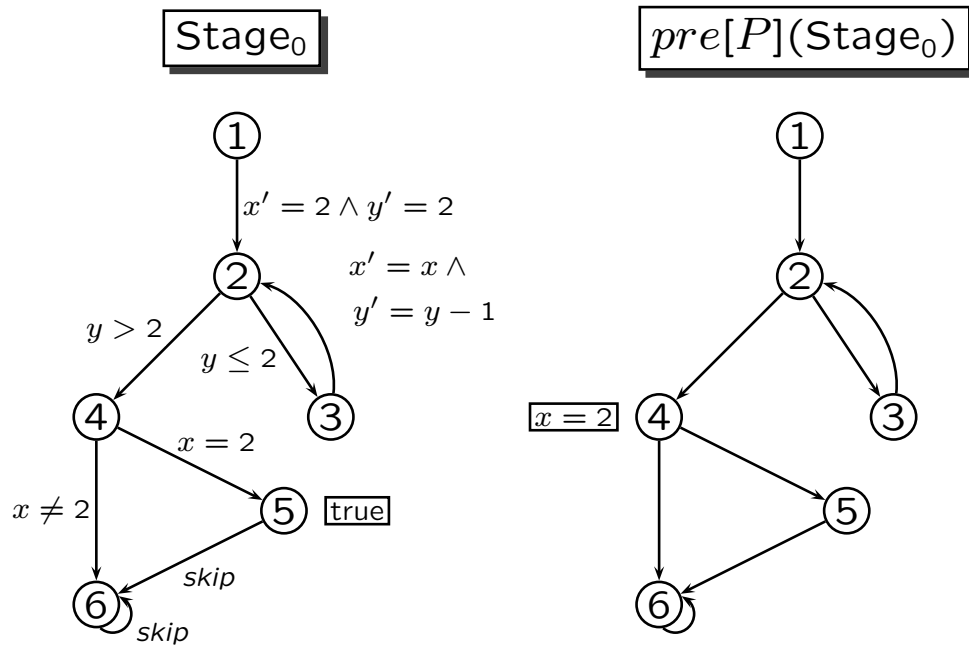


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# MC with Partitioned Representation



# MC with Partitioned Representation



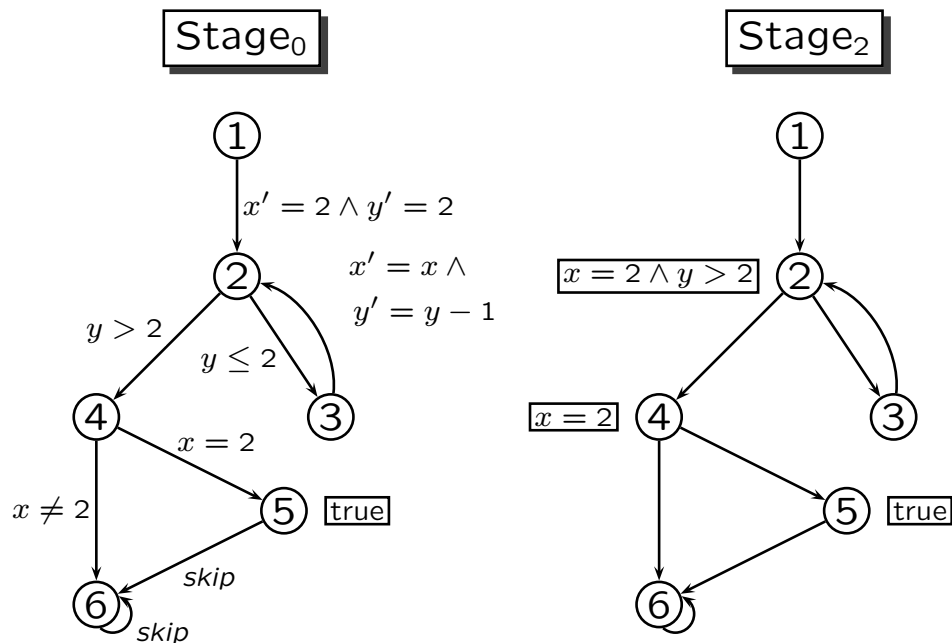


# Will This Work?

- **Advantage:**
  - operate on one statement at a time
- **But . . . the number of states at each program point is too large**
  - program with  $n$  bits requires  $2^n$  states
    - one int variable:  $2^{32}$  states,
    - two int vars:  $2^{64}$  states,
    - . . .
- **Do we always need that many states?!**

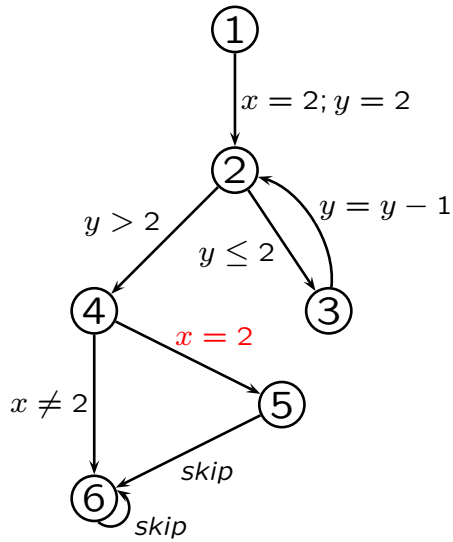
11

## MC with Partitioned Representation

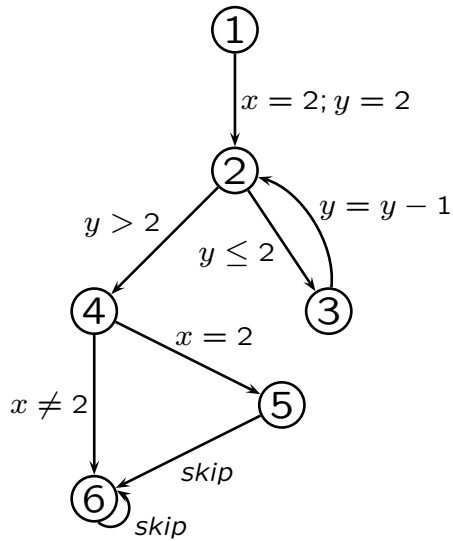


10

# Deciding Reachability Manually



# Deciding Reachability Manually



# Predicate Abstraction

## ■ Input:

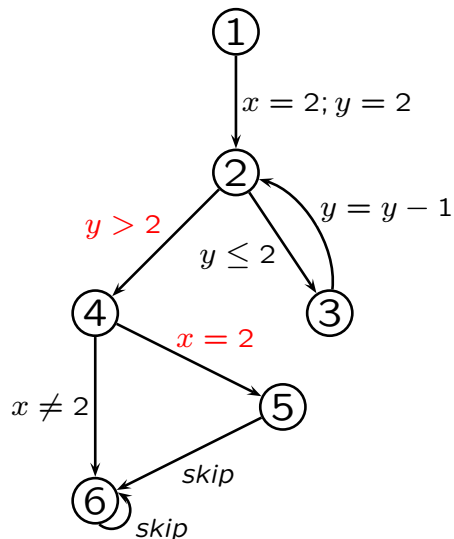
- a finite set of predicates  $\Phi$
- a program  $P$

## ■ Output: Predicate Program

- an approximate description of  $P$  using only the predicates from  $\Phi$

13

# Deciding Reachability Manually



12

# Approximating a Single Statement

- Describe the behavior of the statement using only a fixed set of predicates

approximating  $y = y - 1$  using  $x = 2$

$$x = 2 \Rightarrow x' = 2 \quad x \neq 2 \Rightarrow x' \neq 2$$

approximating  $y = y - 1$  using  $y \leq 2$

$$y \leq 2 \Rightarrow y' \leq 2 \quad ? \Rightarrow y' > 2$$

14

## Predicate Abstraction

### Original

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

### Abstract

```
void main (void) {  
1: (x=2) := T,  
   (y<=2) := T;  
2: while (y<=2)  
3:   {(y<=2) := (y<=2)? T : *;  
   (x=2) := (x=2);}  
4: if (x=2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

13

# Approximation: The Algorithm

## ■ Input:

- a set of predicates  $\Phi$
- a program statement  $f_{oo}$
- a target predicate  $\varphi'$

## ■ Output:

- a pair  $(pos, neg)$  of formulas over  $\Phi$ , s.t.

$$pos \wedge f_{oo} \Rightarrow \varphi'$$

$$neg \wedge f_{oo} \Rightarrow \neg\varphi'$$

15

# Approximating a Single Statement

- Describe the behavior of the statement using only a fixed set of predicates

approximating  $y = y - 1$  using  $x = 2$

approximating  $y = y - 1$  using  $\{x = 2, y \leq 2\}$

$$x = 2 \wedge y \leq 2 \Rightarrow x' = 2 \wedge y' \leq 2$$

$$x \neq 2 \wedge y \leq 2 \Rightarrow x' \neq 2 \wedge y' \leq 2$$

$$? \Rightarrow x' = 2 \wedge y' > 2$$

$$? \Rightarrow x' \neq 2 \wedge y' > 2$$

14

# Example: Statement Abstraction

## Input:

- $\Phi = \{y \leq 2, x = 2\}$
- statement  $y := y - 1$  (or  $x' = x \wedge y' = y - 1$ )
- target predicate  $\varphi' = (y' \leq 2)$

## Output

- $\text{res} = (y \leq 2 \wedge x = 2) \vee (y \leq 2 \wedge x \neq 2)$

16

# Approximation: The Algorithm

## Input:

- a set of predicates  $\Phi$
- a program statement  $\text{foo}$
- a target predicate  $\varphi'$

## Output:

- a pair  $(\text{pos}, \text{neg})$  of predicates such that:
  - $\text{pos} \wedge \text{foo} \Rightarrow \varphi'$
  - $\text{neg} \wedge \text{foo} \Rightarrow \neg \varphi'$

### The Algorithm

**Input:**  $\Phi, \varphi', \text{foo}$

$\text{res} := \text{false}$

**for all**  $\text{conj} \in \text{conj}(\Phi)$  **do**

**if**  $(\text{conj} \wedge \text{foo} \Rightarrow \varphi')$  **then**

$\text{res} := \text{res} \vee \text{conj}$

**end if**

**end for**

15

# Example: Statement Abstraction

## ■ Input:

- $\Phi = \{y \leq 2, x = 2\}$
- statement  $y := y - 1$  (or  $x' = x \wedge y' = y - 1$ )
- target predicate  $\varphi' = (y' \leq 2)$

## ■ Output

- $\text{res} = (y \leq 2 \wedge x = 2) \vee (y \leq 2 \wedge x \neq 2)$

## ■ Complexity

- 2 execution per each predicate
- $O(2^n)$  calls to decision procedure per execution

..... 16

# Example: Statement Abstraction

## ■ Input:

- $\Phi = y \leq 2 \wedge x = 2 \wedge$   
 $y' = y - 1 \wedge x' = x \Rightarrow y' \leq 2$
- statement
- target

## ■ Output

- $\text{res} = (y \leq 2 \wedge x = 2) \vee (y \leq 2 \wedge x \neq 2)$

..... 16

# Approximation: The End Result

**Before**

foo

**After**

$p_0 := (pos_0, neg_0),$   
 $p_1 := (pos_1, neg_1),$   
 $\vdots$   
 $p_n := (pos_n, neg_n)$

---

$y := y - 1$

$x = 2 := (x = 2, x \neq 2),$   
 $y \leq 2 := (y \leq 2, \text{false})$

.....

# Approximation: The End Result

**Before**

foo

**After**

$p_0 := (pos_0, neg_0),$   
 $p_1 := (pos_1, neg_1),$   
 $\vdots$   
 $p_n := (pos_n, neg_n)$

.....



# Predicate Program

## Original

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

## Abstract

$$\Phi = \{x = 2\}$$

```
void main (void) {  
1: (x=2) := T;  
2: while (*)  
3:   {(x=2) := (x=2);}  
4: if (x=2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

..... 18

# Predicate Program

## Original

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

## Abstract

$$\Phi = \{\}$$

```
void main (void) {  
1: ;  
2: while (*)  
3:   { ; }  
4: if (*)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

..... 18

# Handling Unknowns

- Treat “unknown” as non-deterministic (over-approximation)
  - suited for proving unreachability
- Treat “unknown” as abort (under-approximation)
  - suited for proving reachability
- Fix the model-checker (Yasm)
  - treat “unknown” as unknown
  - works for proving both reachability and unreachability

19

## Predicate Program

**Original**

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

**Abstract**

$$\Phi = \{x = 2, y \leq 2\}$$

```
void main (void) {  
1: (x=2) := T,  
   (y<=2) := T;  
2: while (y<=2)  
3:   {(y<=2) := (y<=2)? T : *;  
   (x=2) := (x=2);}  
4: if (x=2)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

18

# Partial Pre-Image Computation

- **Partial Statement:**  $P$   
 $x = 2 := (x = 2, x \neq 2),$   
 $y \leq 2 := (y \leq 2, \text{false})$

- **Set of States:**  $\varphi$

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| true                    | false                 |
| $x = 2 \wedge y \leq 2$ | $x \neq 2 \vee y > 2$ |

- **Result of pre-image computation:**  $pre[P](\varphi)$

|                         |            |                      |
|-------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| true                    | false      | unknown              |
| $x = 2 \wedge y \leq 2$ | $x \neq 2$ | $x = 2 \wedge y > 2$ |

21

## Representing Unknowns

- **Representing approximate sets of states**
  - a set  $S$  such that  
 $(x = 2 \wedge y \leq 2) \in S, \quad (x \neq 2) \notin S,$   
 $x = 2 \wedge y > 2$  unknown
  - represented by 2 formulas

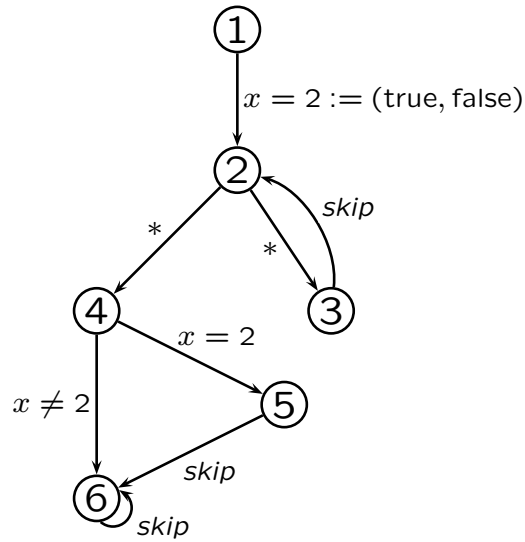
|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| true                 | false      |
| $x = 2 \wedge y > 2$ | $x \neq 2$ |

- **Representing an approximate transition relation**

- similar to sets of states

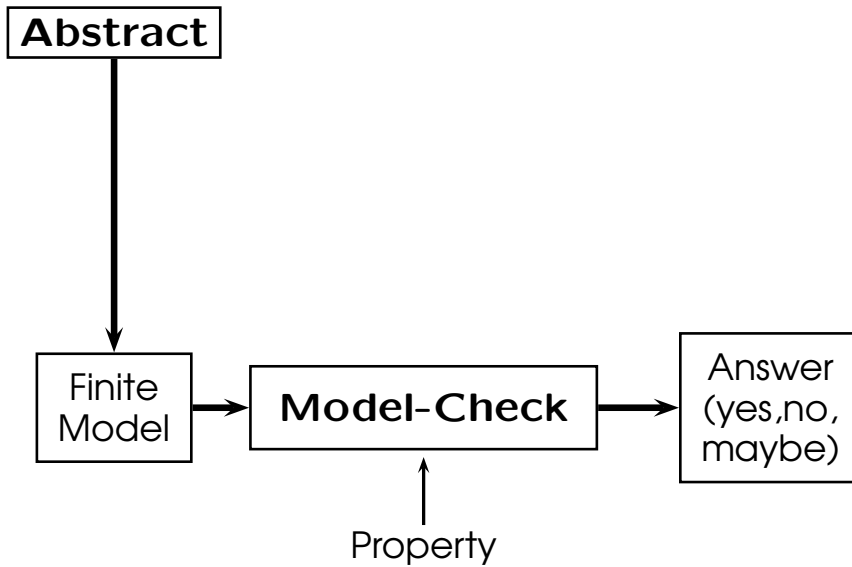
20

# Where Do Predicates Come From?



## Abstraction: Summary

foo.c + predicates



# Predicate Program

## Original

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1;}  
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```

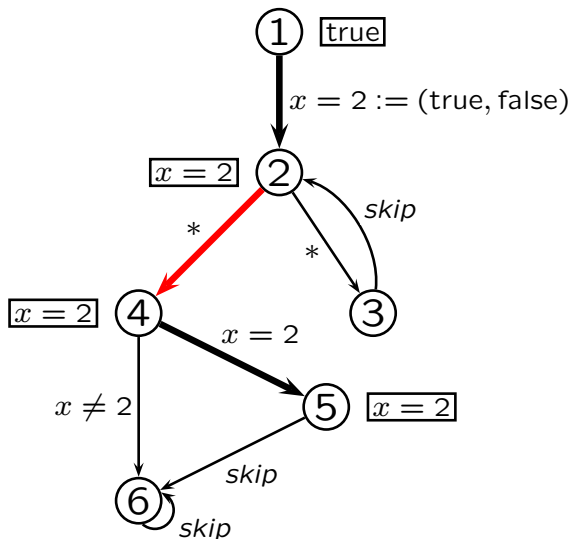
## Abstract

$\Phi = \{ \}$

```
void main (void) {  
1: ;  
2: while (*)  
3:   { ; }  
4: if (*)  
5:   {P1;}  
6:}
```

24

## Where Do Predicates Come From?



23

# Predicate Program

## Original

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
4: if (x == 2)  
5:   {P1:}  
6:}
```

## Abstract

$$\Phi = \{x = 2, y \leq 2\}$$

```
void main (void) {  
1: (x=2) := T,  
   (y<=2) := T;  
2: while (y<=2)  
3:   {(y<=2) := (y<=2)? T : *;  
   (x=2) := (x=2);}  
4: if (x=2)  
5:   {P1:}  
6:}
```

24

# Predicate Program

## Original

```
void main (void) {  
1: int x = 2;  
   int y = 2;  
2: while (y <= 2)  
3:   {y = y - 1;}  
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```

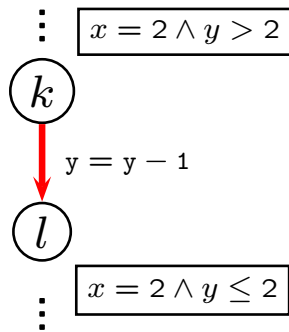
## Abstract

$$\Phi = \{x = 2\}$$

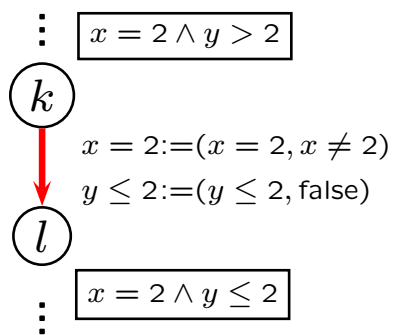
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void main (void) {  
1: (x=2) := T;  
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6:}
```

24

# Another Example

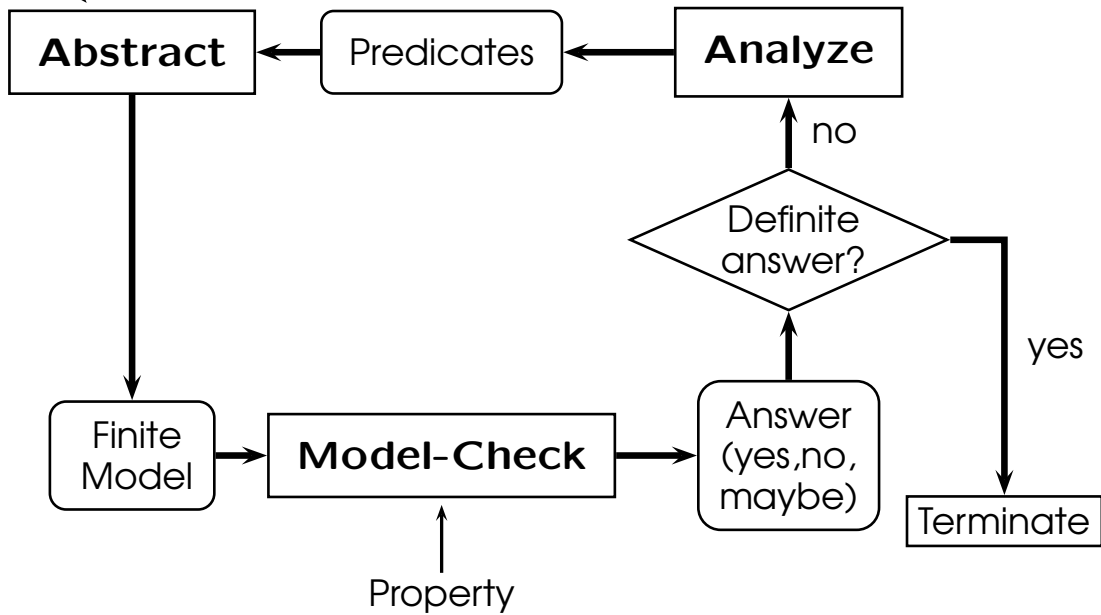


# Another Example



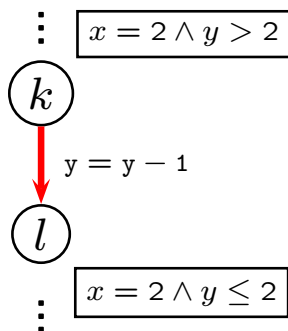
# Abstraction Refinement Cycle

foo.c + predicates



26

## Another Example



- The result is unknown because...

$$y > 2 \wedge (y = y - 1) \not\Rightarrow y' \leq 2$$

$$y > 2 \wedge (y = y - 1) \not\Rightarrow y' > 2$$

- Idea:

look at the precondition for  $y' \leq 2$

$$wp[y = y - 1](y \leq 2) = y \leq 3$$

- Solution:

add  $y \leq 3$  and repeat

25



# Demo

28

## YASM: The Tool

- **Abstract**
  - several abstraction strategies
  - uses CVCLite (Stanford + NYU)
- **Model-Check**
  - symbolic multi-valued model-checker
  - based on CUDD (Colorado)
- **Analyze**
  - based on proof-like counterexamples
  - several strategies to complement abstraction

27

- **Scalability**
  - size: about 5,000 LOC
  - time: from minutes to an hour
- **Major Bottleneck: The Front End**
  - limited support for arrays, structures, pointers, etc. . .
- **New version**
  - optimized for reachability properties
  - success with 50,000 LOC (OpenSSH)
  - supports recursive functions
  - more to come. . .

## Other Software Model-Checkers

- **Symbolic (BDD)**
  - SLAM (Microsoft Research)
  - BLAST (Berkley)
- **Symbolic (SAT)**
  - MAGIC (CMU + SEI)
  - CBMC (CMU)
- **Explicit State**
  - VeriSoft (Lucent)
  - JavaPathFinder (NASA)
  - Zing (Microsoft Research)
  - Bogor (Kansas State)

Thank You

32

## Current Research Directions

- **Abstract**
  - time vs precision trade-offs
  - abstraction reuse
  - combining with other abstract domains
- **Model-Check**
  - incremental analysis
  - concurrency
  - progress and termination analysis
- **Analyze**
  - new techniques for predicate discovery
  - improvements for liveness properties

31

## Static Analysis vs Software Model-Checking

|            | Static Analysis   | Model-Checking |
|------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Goal       | Software Analysis |                |
| Properties | hard-coded        | temporal logic |
| Deployment | compilers         | testing        |
| Focus      | time              | result         |

**Software MC is a form of Static Analysis**

## Static Analysis vs Software Model-Checking

|            | Static Analysis   | Model-Checking |
|------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Goal       | Software Analysis |                |
| Properties | hard-coded        | temporal logic |
| Deployment | compilers         | testing        |
| Focus      | time              | result         |