
Reachability Analysis for Hybrid Dynamic Systems*

Olaf Stursberg

Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology
Technische Universität München

* Thanks to: Matthias Althoff, Edmund M. Clarke, Ansgar Fehnker, Bruce H.Krogh
Sven Lohmann, Tina Paschedag, Michael Theobald

Contents

- Hybrid Dynamic Systems: Motivation and Definition
- Principles of Reachability Analysis
- Abstractions in Computing Reachable Sets
- Verification based on Reachability Analysis
- Extension to Uncertain Hybrid Systems
- Reachable Sets in Controller Design
- Optimization using Abstractions
- Conclusions

Motivation for Modeling by Hybrid Dynamic Systems

Hybrid Dynamic Systems (HDS):

„Discrete event system equipped with continuous-valued dynamics“

✓ „Continuous dynamics enriched by discontinuities (switching, jumps)“

Examples:

(a) Walking humanoid robots



- x_i : joint positions, velocities, ...
- z_i : ground contact situation

[Ulbrich et al., TUM]

(b) Autonomously driving cars



[Wünsche et al., UniBW]

- x_i : distances, velocities, ...
- z_i : driving modes (gears; accelerating, braking, ...)

$$x_i \in \mathbb{R}, z_i \in \mathbb{N}$$

Motivation for Modeling by Hybrid Dynamic Systems

Examples (ctd.):

(c) Manufacturing plants



*hierarchical,
distributed
heterogenous
control*

[Zäh et al., TUM]

- x_i : work piece positions, robot arm control , ...
- z_i : processing status, resource conditions, ...)

$$x_i \in IR, z_i \in IN$$

(d) Chemical processing systems



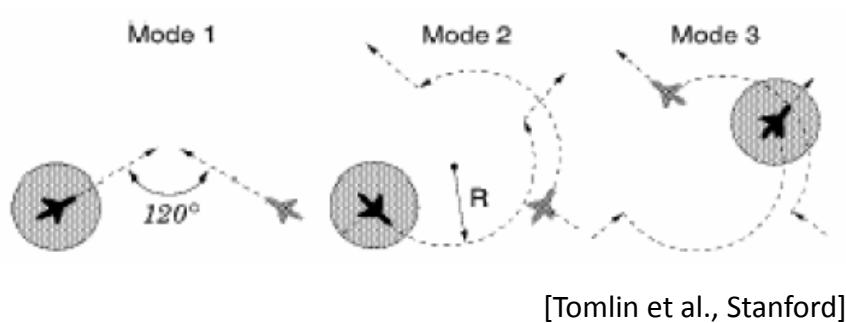
[BASF]

- x_i : temperature, levels, concentrations, ...
- z_i : production phase, actuator state, ...)

Motivation for Modeling by Hybrid Dynamic Systems

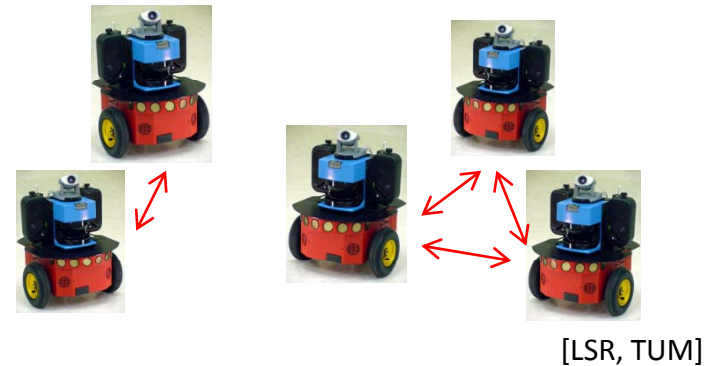
Examples (ctd.):

(e) Air conflict resolution



- x_i : speed, orientation, ...
- z_i : flight mode, (cruise, conflict resolution)

(f) Multi robot systems



- x_i : position, speed, ...
- z_i : communication topology, formation, ...

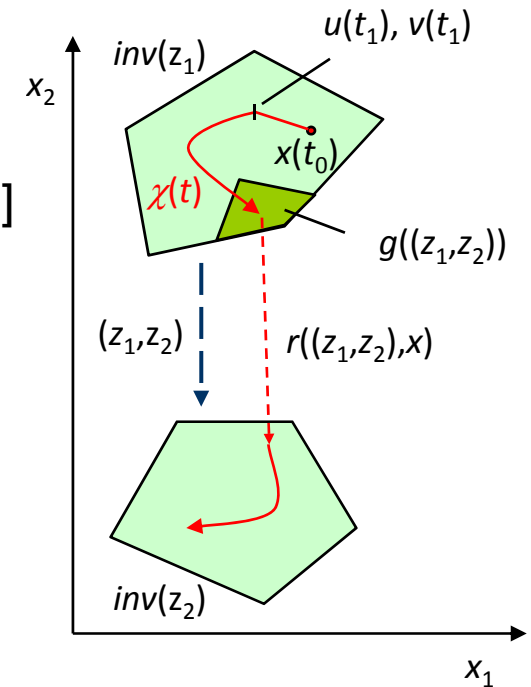
$$x_i \in \mathbb{R}, z_i \in \mathbb{N}$$

Hybrid Dynamic Systems: Syntax

Hybrid Automaton:

$$HA = (X, U, V, Z, inv, \Theta, g, r, f)$$

- Continuous states: $x \in X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$
- Continuous inputs: $u \in U = [u_1^-, u_1^+] \times \dots \times [u_{n_u}^-, u_{n_u}^+]$
- Discrete inputs: $v \in V = \{v_1, \dots, v_{n_d}\}, v_j \in \mathbb{R}^{n_v}$
- Discrete states (locations): $Z = \{z_1, \dots, z_{n_z}\}$
- Invariants: $inv : Z \rightarrow 2^X$
- Transitions: $(z_1, z_2) \in \Theta \subseteq Z \times Z$
- Transition guards: $g : \Theta \rightarrow 2^X$
- Reset functions: $r : \Theta \times X \rightarrow X$
- Continuous dynamics: $f : Z \times X \times U \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_x}$, such that: $\dot{x} = f(z, x, u, v)$



Hybrid Dynamic Systems: Semantics

Set of event times: $T = \{t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots\}$

Input trajectories: $\phi_u = (u_0, u_1, \dots) \in \Phi_u$,

$\phi_v = (v_0, v_1, \dots) \in \Phi_v$

with inputs u_k, v_k on $t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}[$

Hybrid States: $s_k \in (z_k, x_k) \in \mathcal{S}$ with:

$x_k = x(t_k), z_k = z(t_k)$

Feasible execution for given s_0, ϕ_u, ϕ_v :

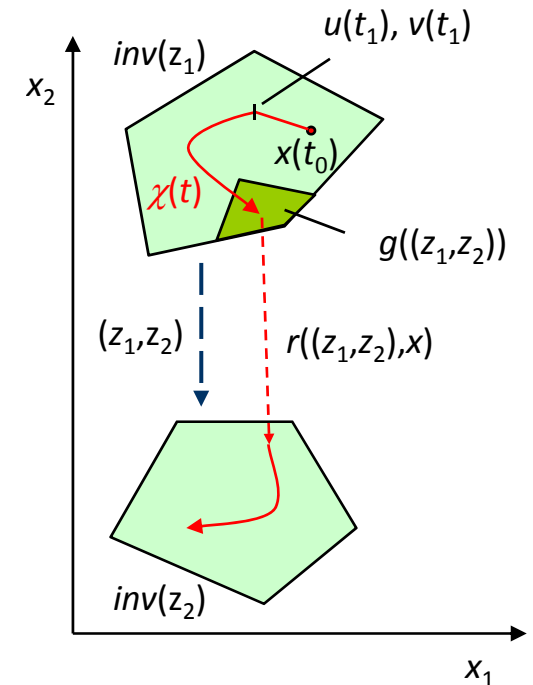
$\phi_s = (s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots)$ with s_k from:

(i) contin. evolution: $\chi(0) = x_k$ and $\chi(t)$ is unique solution of ODEs for $t \in [0, \tau]$;

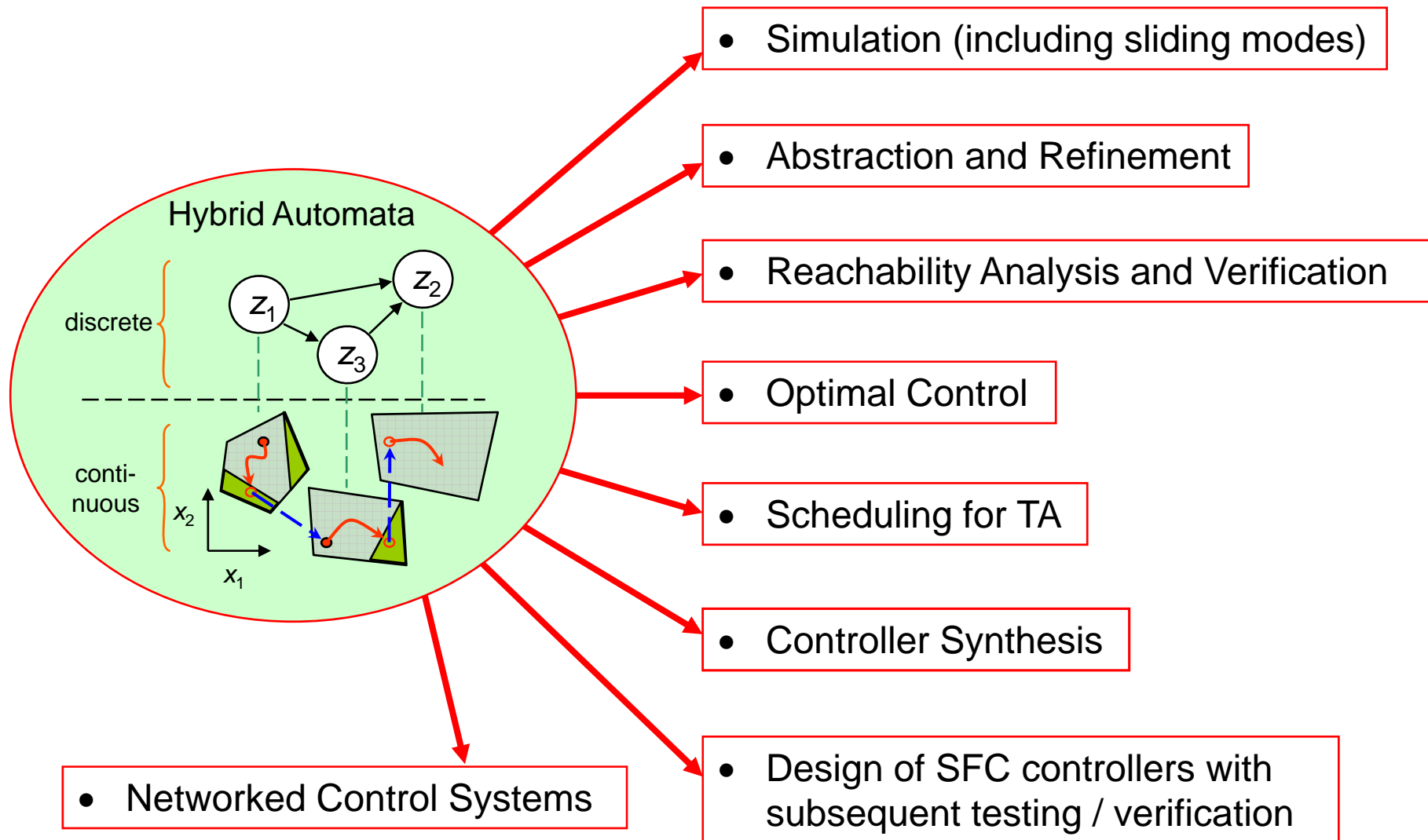
$\chi(t) \in \text{inv}(z_k)$, (optional: $\chi(t) \notin g((z_k, \bullet))$ für $t < \tau$)

(ii) transition: $(z_k, z_{k+1}) \in \Theta$, $\chi(\tau) \in g((z_k, z_{k+1}))$ and

$x_{k+1} = r((z_k, z_{k+1}), \chi(\tau)) \in \text{inv}(z_{k+1})$



Investigations for Hybrid Dynamic Systems



Design Tasks for HDS using Reachability Computation

(a) Verification:

- given:
- plant P of type HA
 - controller C of type HA
 - specification γ
(e.g. safety: $AG \neg S_{unsafe}$)

show that: $P \parallel C \models \gamma$

if false, redesign C

(b) Controller Synthesis:

- given:
- plant P of type HA
 - specification γ
(goal attainment: $AF S_{target}$)

generate C such that:

$$P \parallel C \models \gamma$$

(c) Optimal Control:

- given:
- plant P of type HA
 - goal and safety spec. γ
 - performance measure ψ

compute C such that:

$$\min_{\phi_u, \phi_v} \psi$$

$$\text{s.t.: } P \parallel C \models \gamma$$

Reachable Set Computation for HDS

Def.: Reachable Set of HA

given:

- initialization $S_0 \subset S$,
- sets of input trajectories Φ_U, Φ_V

$$R := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s \in S \mid \exists s_0 \in S_0, \phi_U \in \Phi_U, \\ \phi_V \in \Phi_V : s \text{ is reached along} \\ \text{any } \phi_S \in \Phi_S \end{array} \right\}$$

Assumption: $M := P \parallel C$, i.e. M is autonomous (Φ_U, Φ_V restricted by C)

Standard algorithm for computing R :

$S_0 := \{z_0\} \times X_0, k := 0$

$D := S_0, R := \emptyset$

WHILE ($D \neq \emptyset$) Termination?

$k := k + 1$

$R := R \cup D$

$S_k := \text{Reach}(D)$

$D := S_k \setminus R$

END

step k :
 - transition
 - time step

The Challenge

Problem: scales badly in most respects!

- infinitely many executions of M must be analyzed
- reachable sets have to be represented efficiently
- set intersection, subtraction, and union must be computable

In contrast:

For finite state automata $A = (Z, z_0, \Theta)$, the reachable set:

$R := \{z_k \in Z \mid \exists z_0 \in Z_0 : (z_0, z_1) \in \Theta, \dots, (z_{k-1}, z_k) \in \Theta\}$ is efficiently computable.

[Verification of $A \models \gamma$ successfully reported for systems with $|Z| \approx 10^{20}$.]

Approach:

- Use of abstractions A of HA
- Consider the specification of analysis, synthesis, or optimization for computing R → reduce use of *Reach*, \cup , \setminus

Abstraction-Based Reachability Analysis: Principle

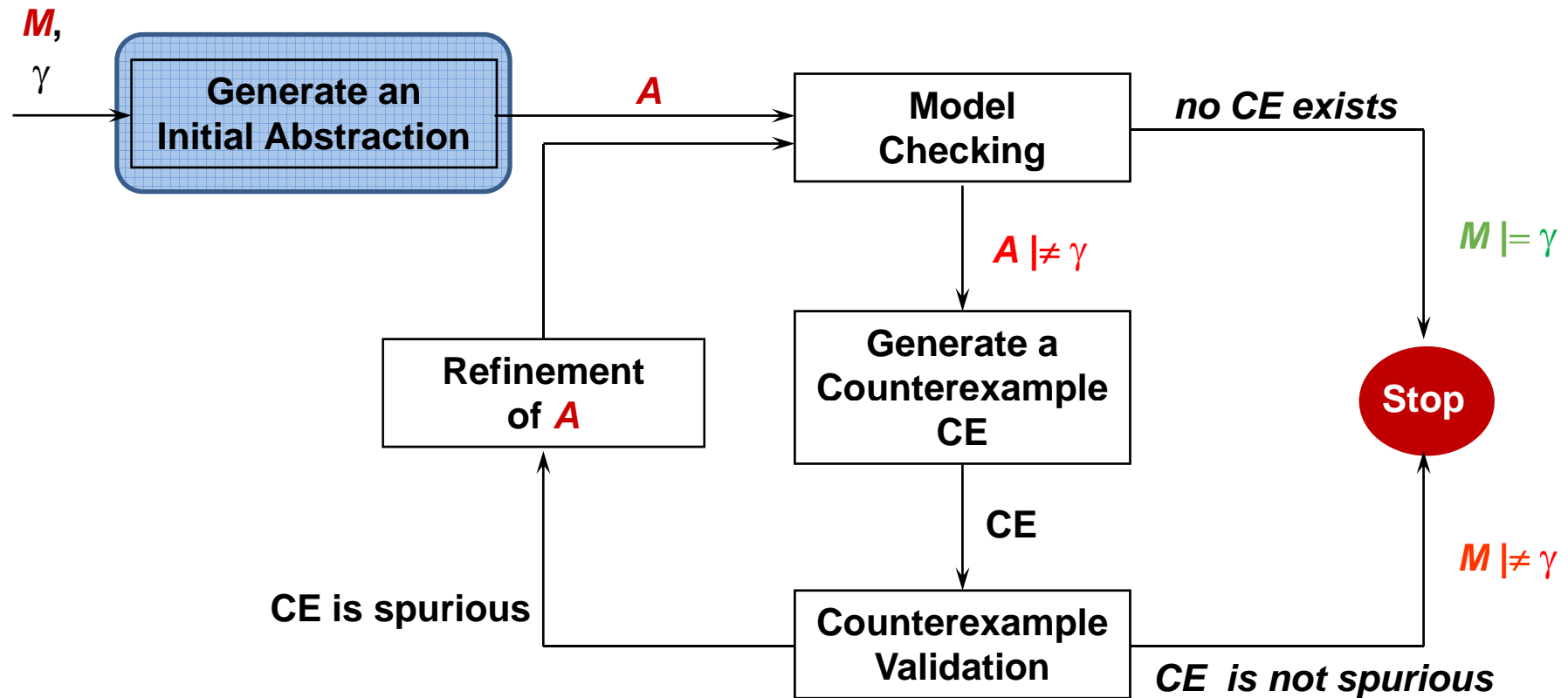
Objective: identify evolutions of M that potentially violate γ based on abstractions A and evaluate $Reach(D)$ only for these evolutions!

- Principle:**
- Generate a **discrete abstraction** A of the hybrid model M (A : state transition system)
 - Determine **counterexamples** (CEs) for A as evolutions of M that potentially violate the specification (CE: run of A that connects the initial and critical state)
 - **(In-)Validate** CE for M
 - if CE is invalid, add details to A (**refinement**)

Assumption: let γ denote a safety specification:

$$\text{given } S_{unsafe} \subset S: \neg \exists (s_0 \in S_0, \phi_s \in \Phi_s) : (z, \chi(\tau)) \in S_{unsafe}$$

Abstraction-Based Reachability Analysis: Principle

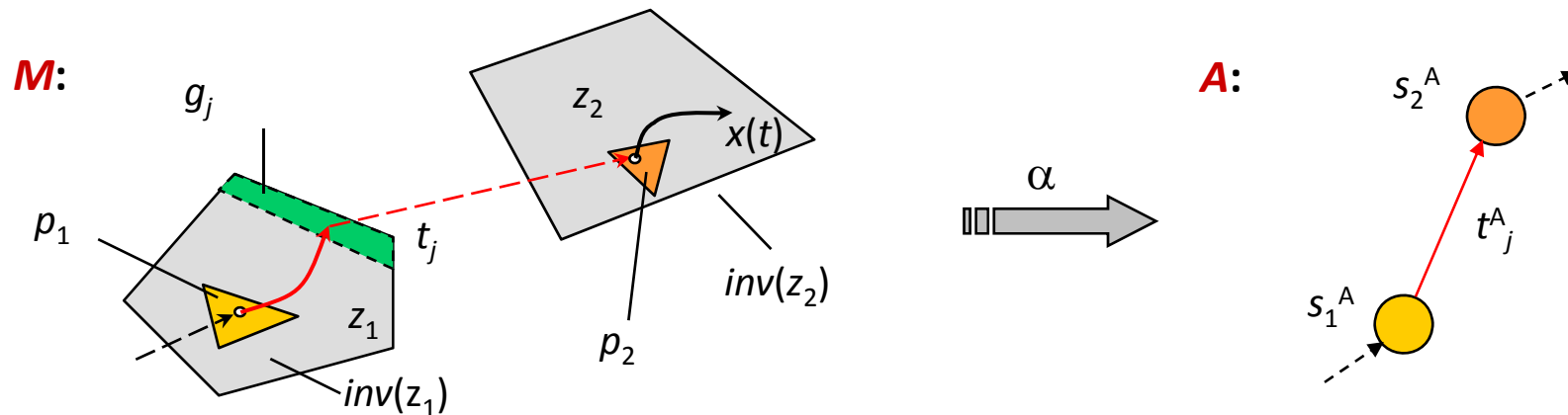


[for discrete automata: Clarke et al., 2000]

Initial Abstraction

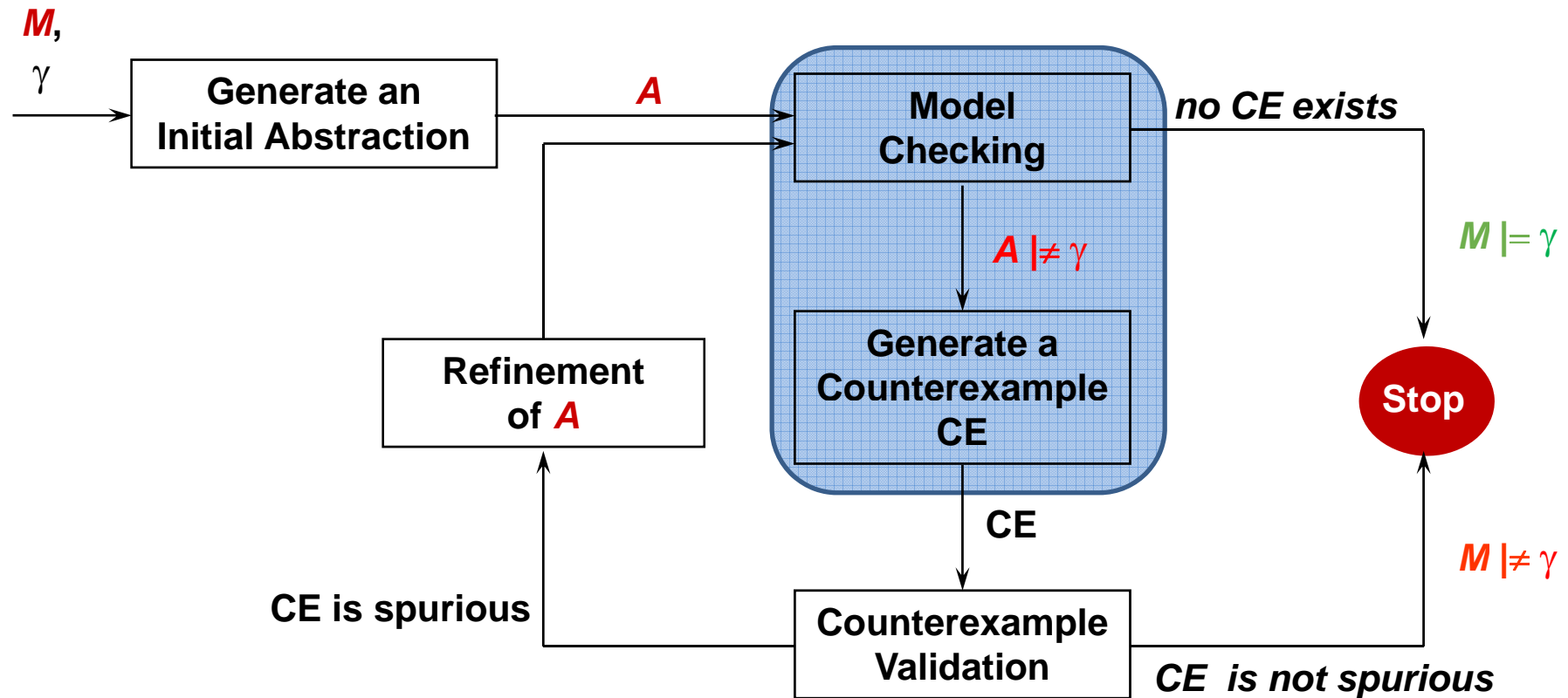
Abstract away the continuous part of M , retain the discrete dynamics:

- a state in A represents a location in M (exception: initial location)
- one transition in A for each transition in M



- A is a simple state transition system: $A = (S^A, s_0^A, \Theta^A)$
- A is an *abstraction*:
 - contains all evolutions of M
 - can contain additional behaviors

Abstraction-Based Reachability Analysis: Principle

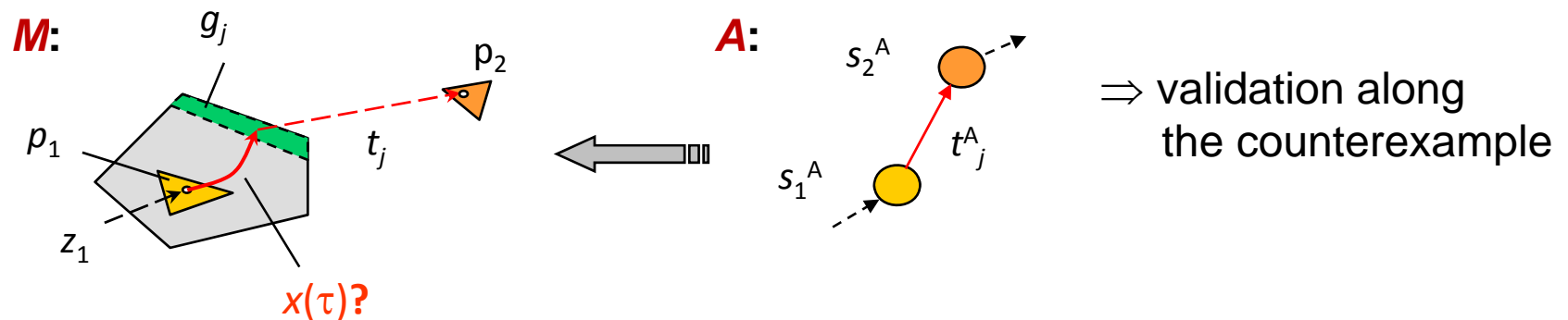


Model Checking and Counterexamples

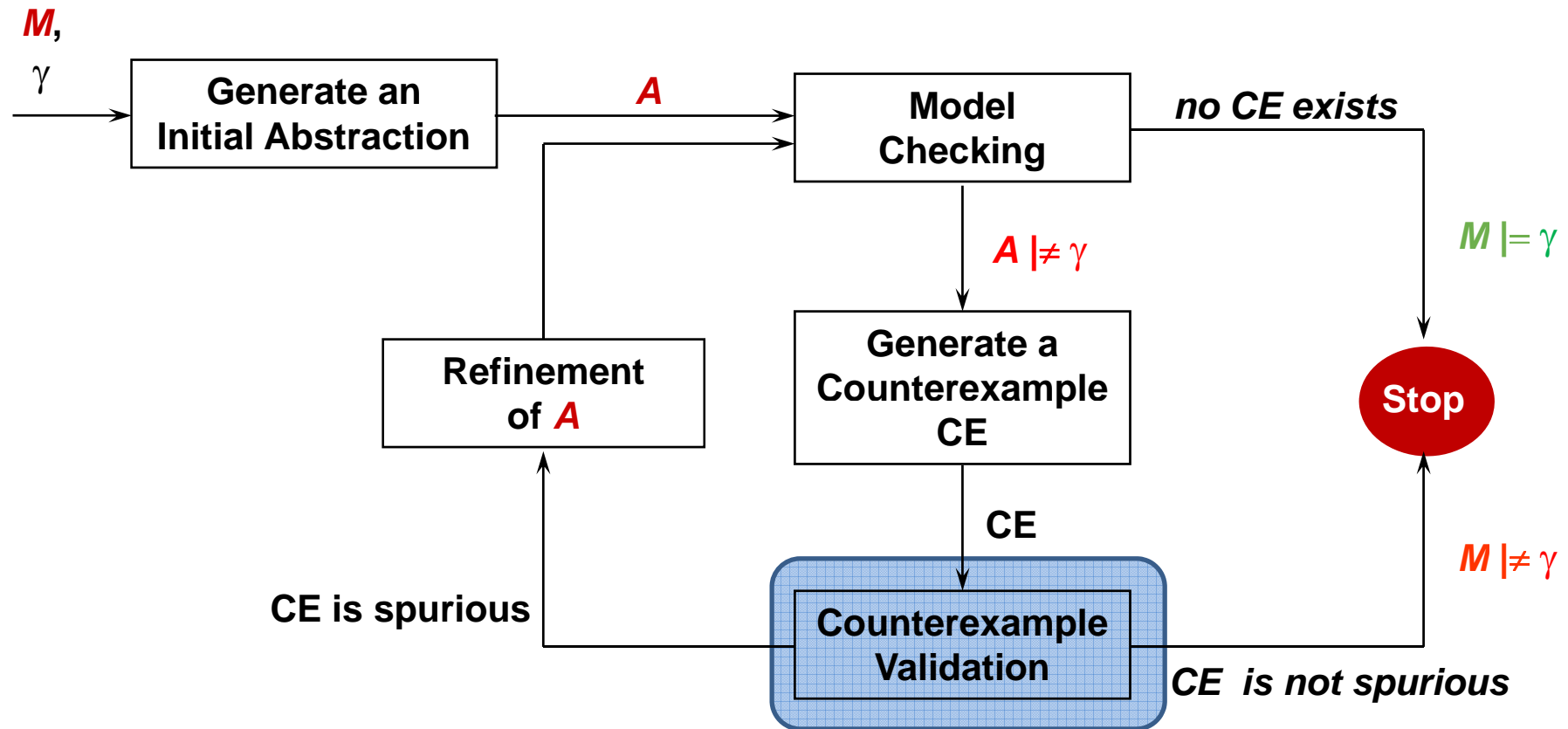
- Standard model checking for FSA can be applied (breadth-first search for S^A starting from s^A_0)
- if γ is violated, i.e., a critical state s^A_f is reachable:

counterexample (CE): $(s^A_0, s^A_1, \dots, s^A_f)$

Question: Does a corresponding evolution exist for M ?



Abstraction-Based Reachability Analysis: Principle

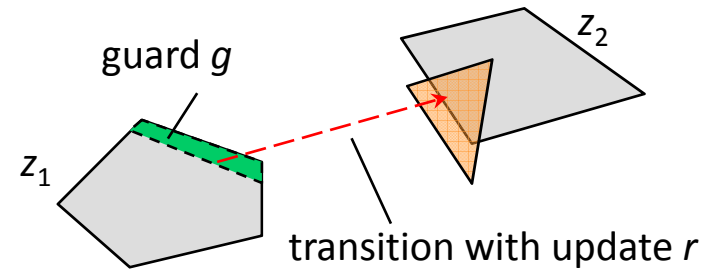


Validation of Counterexamples (1)

VM1: Intersection Check

transition of A is invalid if:

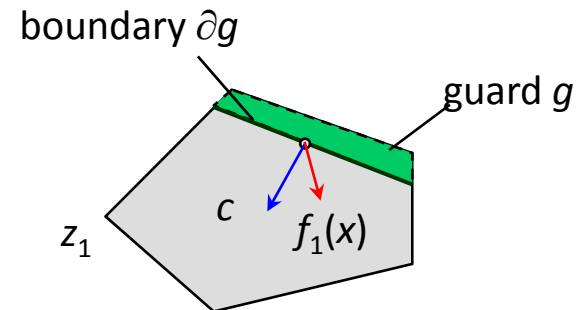
$$r_j(x) \notin \text{inv}(z_2) \quad \forall x \in g_j$$



VM2: Gradient Check

determine gradient on the guard boundaries

$$\text{transition of } A \text{ is invalid if: } \min_{x \in \partial g} (c^T \cdot f(x)) > 0$$

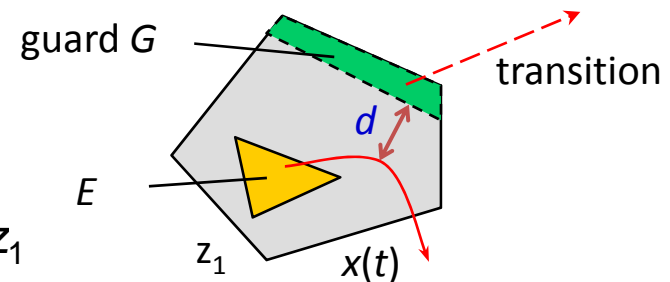


VM3: Connectivity Check

$$\text{transition of } A \text{ is invalid if: } \min\{d\} > 0$$

$$x_0 \in E$$

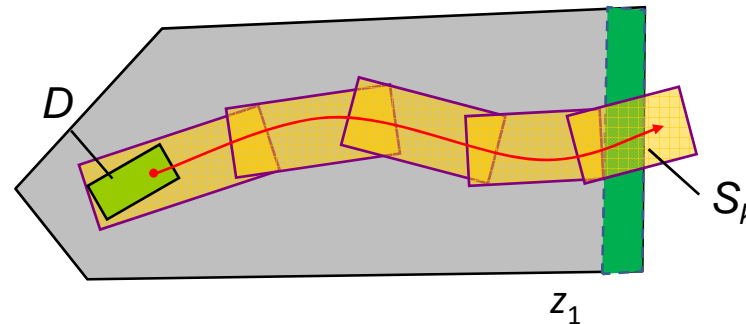
s.t. dynamics of HA in z_1



Validation of Counterexamples (2)

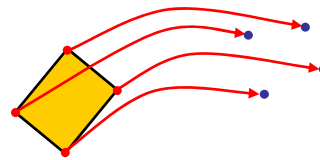
VM4: Flowpipe Approximation

computation of $S_k = \text{Reach}(D)$:

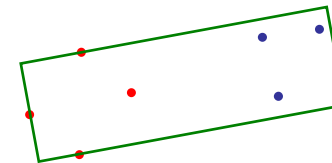


for each segment:

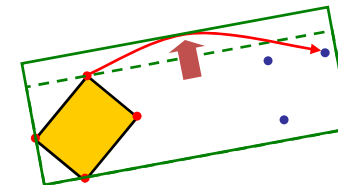
(1) simulate vertices for a timestep



(2) determine an oriented hyper-rectangle
(orientation from sample covariance matrix)

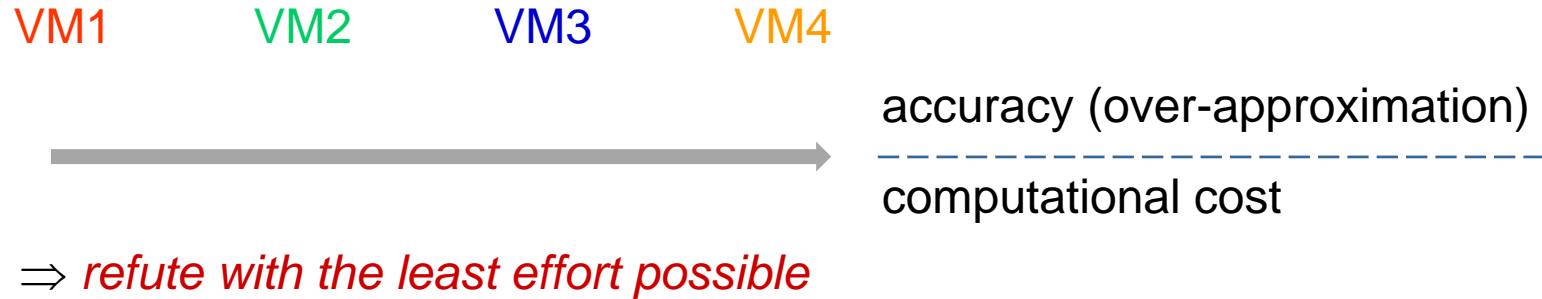


(3) enlarge hull (nonlinear optimization with embedded simulation)

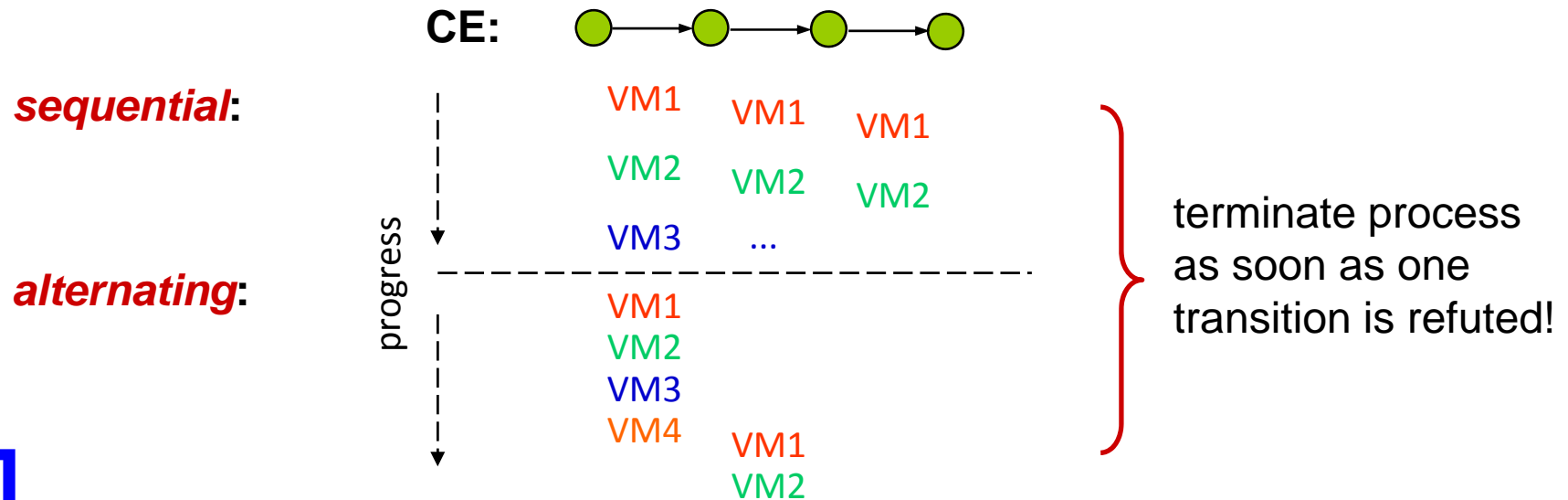


Validation of Counterexamples (3)

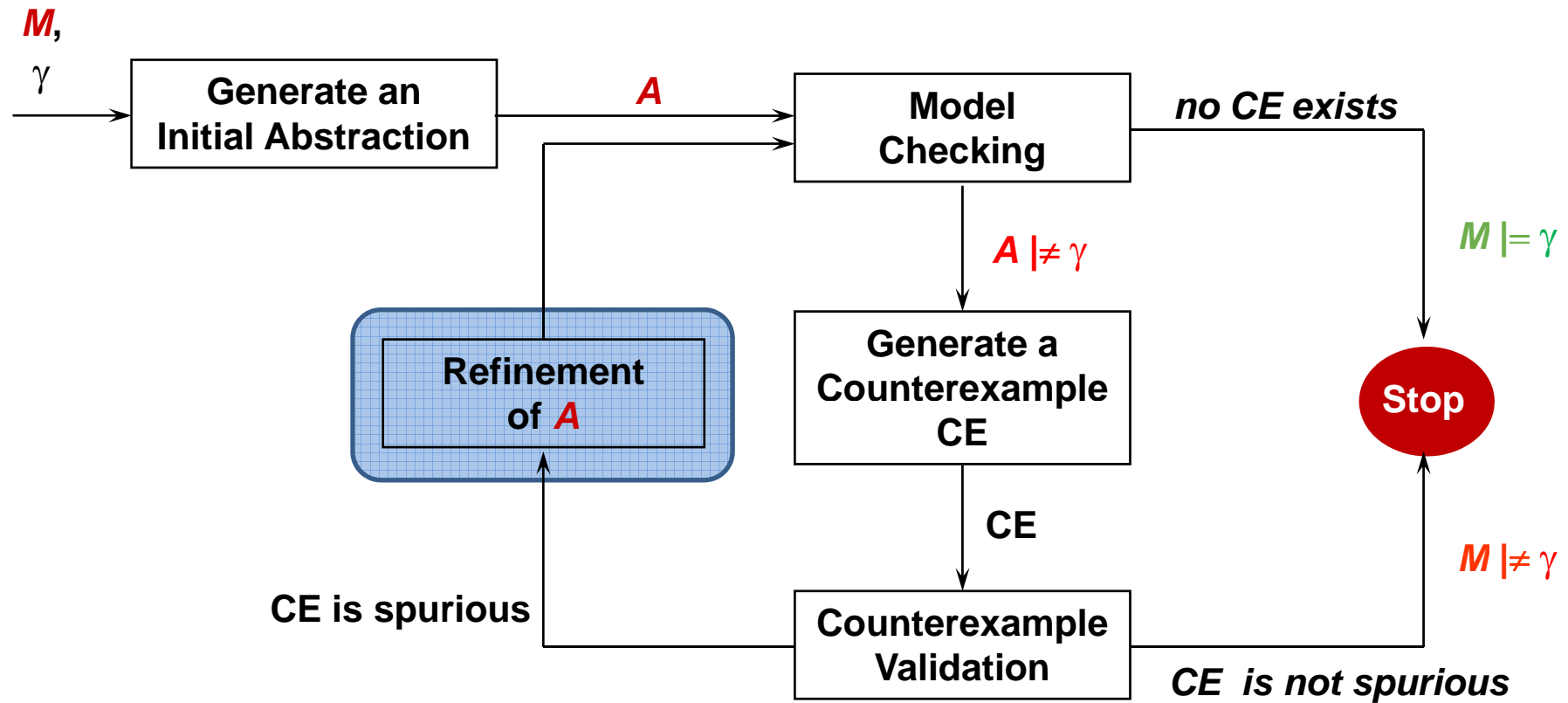
Four methods to refute the existence of counterexamples:



Application mode:



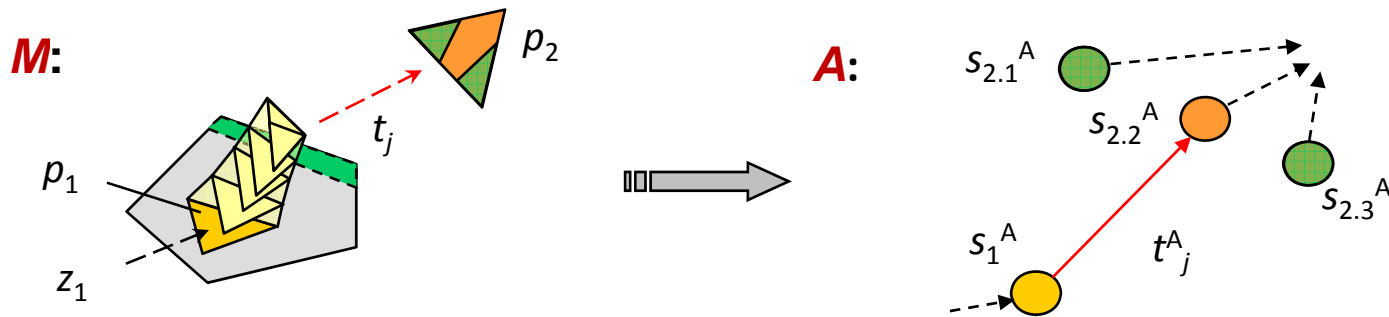
Abstraction-Based Reachability Analysis: Principle



Refinement of A

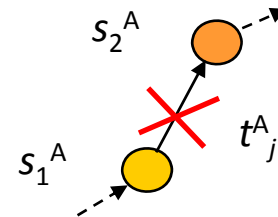
Refinement based on the flowpipe approximation:

If $x(\tau)$ exists, i.e. the transition $s_1^A \rightarrow s_2^A$ is validated, the automaton A is refined by splitting s_2^A :



Purging of A :

If $x(\tau)$ does not exist, the corresponding transition is removed from A , and the method proceeds with a new CE.

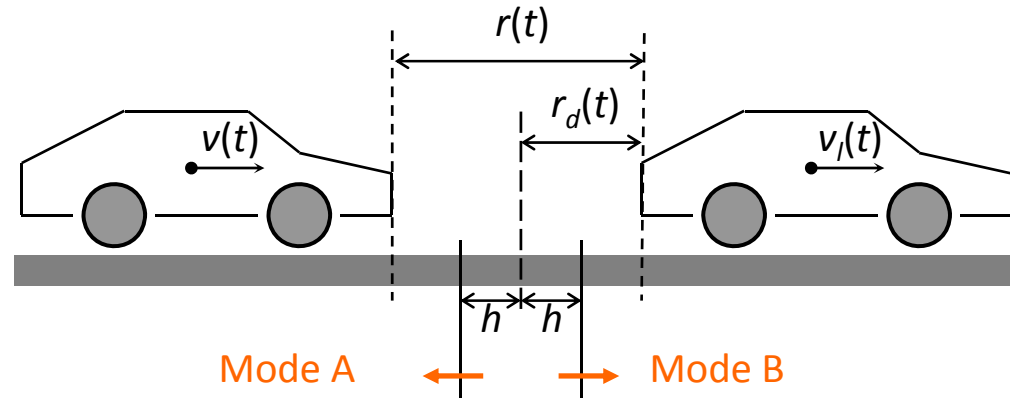


Example: Verification of a Cruise Controller (1)

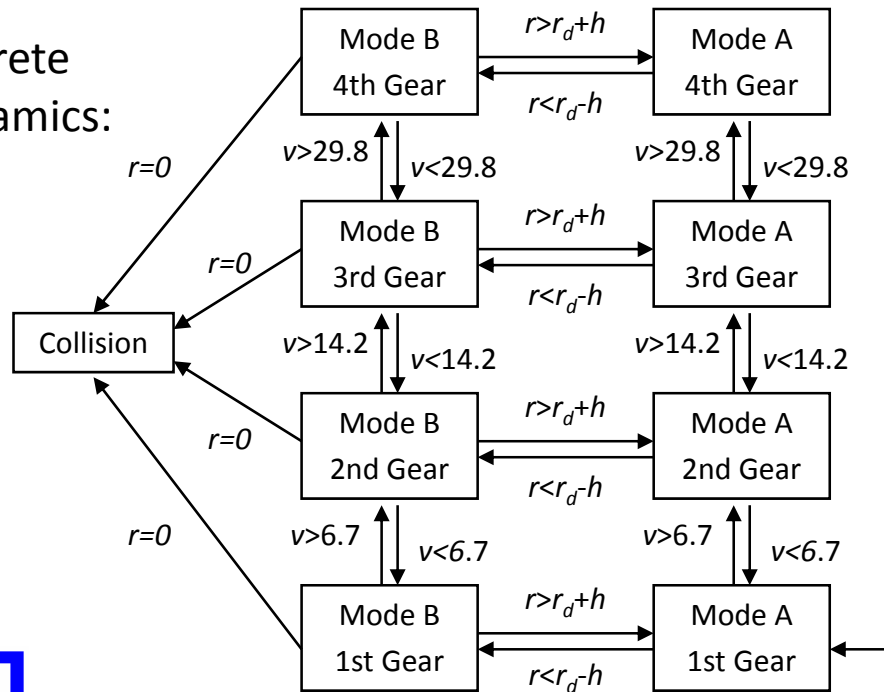
Control objectives:

- **Mode A:** constant speed
- **Mode B:** distance control

Safety specification γ : $\neg(r < r_{critical})$



Discrete Dynamics:



Continuous Dynamics:

- in „Collision“: $\dot{r} = 0, \dot{v} = 0$

- else:

$$\dot{r} = v_I - v$$

$$\dot{v} = \min \left(\max \left(0, \frac{a_d + 3.5}{a_{par} + 3.5}, 1 \right) \cdot (a_{par} + 3.5) - 3.5 \right)$$

$$a_d = f(\text{Mode}, v, v_d, v_I, r), \quad a_{par} = f(\text{gear})$$

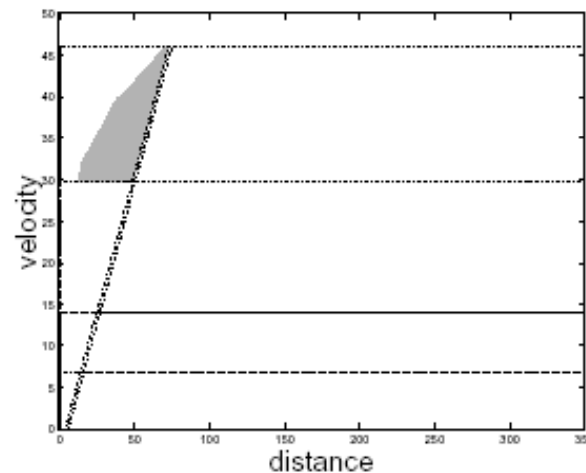
Example: Verification of a Cruise Controller (2)

Verification for given parametrization:

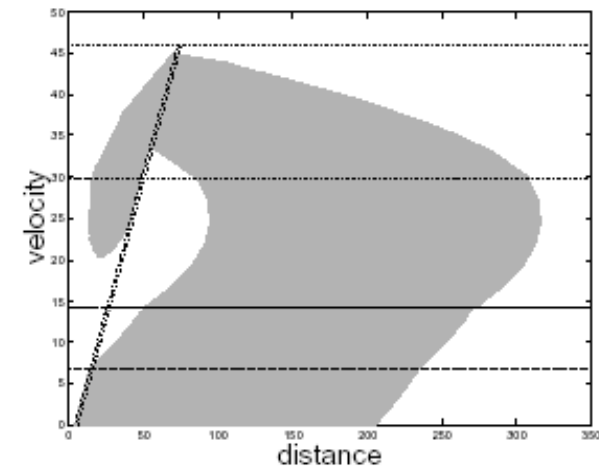
- 10 counterexamples
- VM4 (reachable set computation) only applied once
- final abstract model A : 11 states
- computation time: < 10 seconds on a standard PC

Result: $\neg(r < r_{critical})$ does hold

Reachable sets:



abstraction-based



complete R -computation

Extension to Stochastic Verification

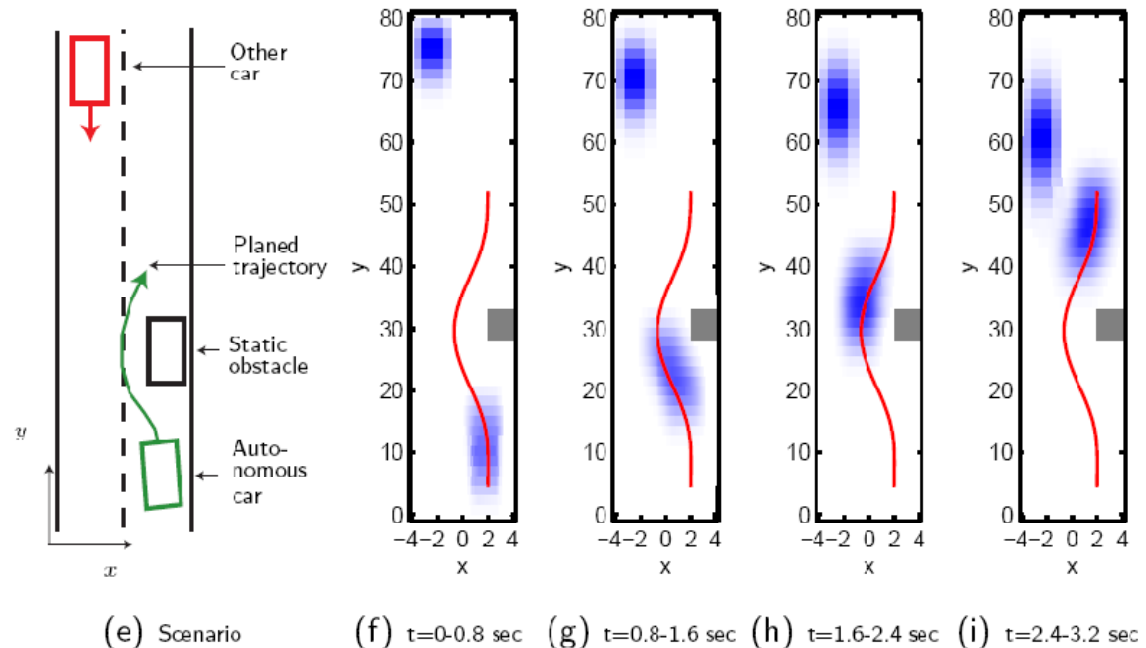


Context:

iterative online verification of driving strategies for autonomous cars

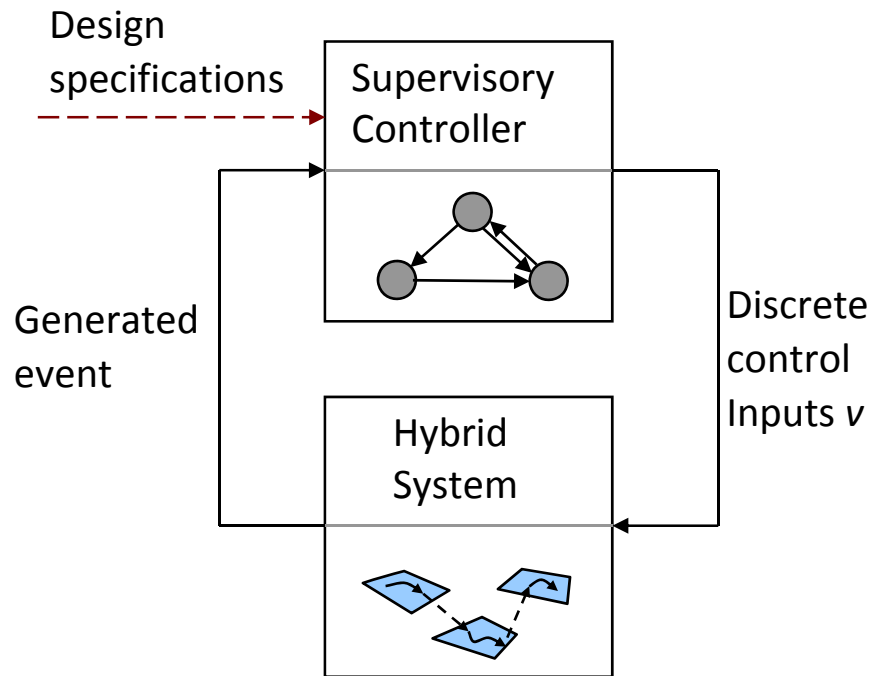
Method:

- hybrid model with uncertain dynamics: $\dot{x} = [H]_{z_i} \cdot x + [v]_{z_i}$
- reachable set computation based on zonotopes
- abstraction into Markov chains
- computation of collision probabilities



Computation time: 0.88 seconds for 3.2 seconds in real time using Matlab on a notebook processor (1.66 GHz).

Synthesis of Supervisory Controllers



Modification of *HA*:

- no continuous inputs u
- discrete input v changes only when a transition is taken
- if $x(t)$ enters g , the transition must be taken before g is left

Given sets (one z_i , compact in X)

- initial set: S_0
- forbidden sets: $S_{F,i}$
- goal set: S_G

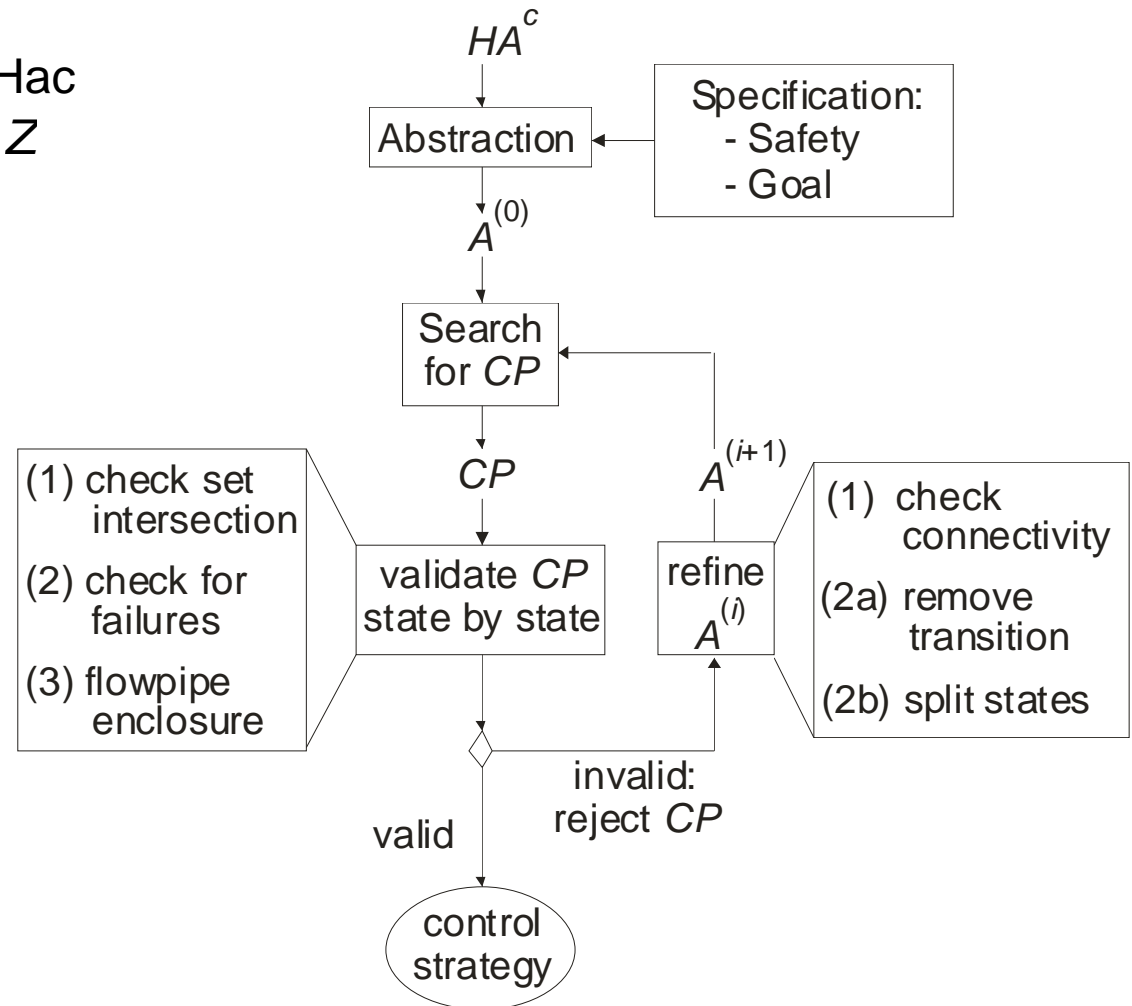
Synthesis Problem:

compute $\phi_v = (v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots)$ such that any $(z_0, x_0) \in S_0$ is driven into S_G by a feasible run of *HA* that never encounters any $s \in S_F = \bigcup_i S_{F,i}$

Abstraction-Based Synthesis: Principle

Principle:

- rewrite HA into closed system Hac by considering any $v \in V_z, z \in Z$
 - use an **abstract model** to identify promising evolutions: *candidate paths CP*
 - **validate** CP for the original model with lowest possible computational effort
 - if necessary: **refine** the abstract model for the next iteration
- a validated CP represents a proper control strategy



Abstraction and Candidate Paths

Abstract Model: $A^{(0)} = (S^A, s_0^A, \Theta^A)$

represents the discrete dynamics of HA^c (as in verification)

Candidate Path: $CP = (s_0^A, s_1^A, \dots, s_p^A)$ with $s_0^A \in S_0^A$, $s_p^A \in S_G^A$ and $s_k^A \notin S_F^A$
for all $k \in \{0, \dots, p\}$

search for CP : standard forward breadth-first algorithm

→ returns one of the shortest candidate paths existing for $A^{(0)}$

Validation (1)

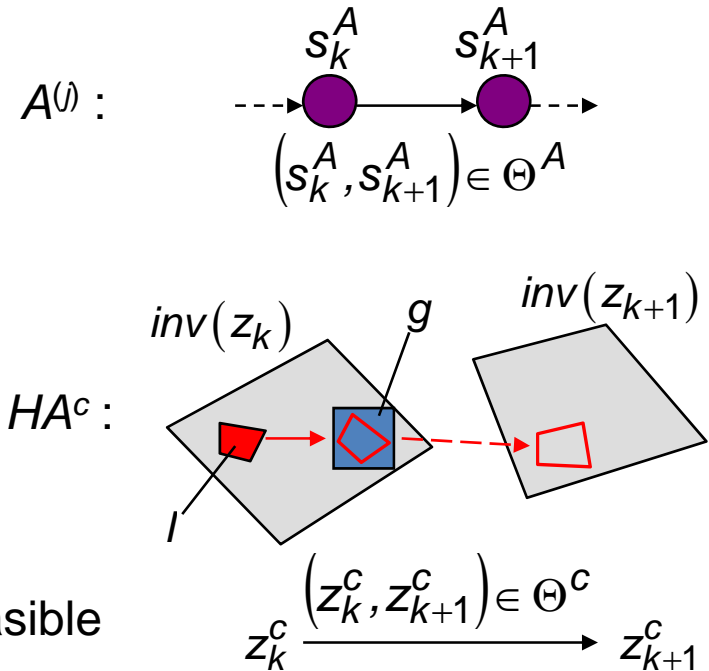
Check for any pair (s_k^A, s_{k+1}^A) of CP whether it realizes a feasible control action for HA^c :

$I \subset inv(z_k)$ - set of continuous states represented by s_k^A

- \Rightarrow any state $x \in I$ must be transferred into $inv(z_{k+1}^c)$ by:
- (i.) continuous evolution
 - (ii.) transition and reset

Validation procedure: determine with an as small effort as possible that the control action is **not** feasible

- (1) intersection check
- (2) search for invalidating trajectories
- (3) flowpipe enclosure



stricter condition, higher computational effort

Validation (2)

(1.) Intersection Check: control action is invalid, if no $x \in g\left(\left(z_k^c, z_{k+1}^c\right)\right)$ is mapped into $inv\left(z_{k+1}^c\right)$ by $r\left(\left(z_k^c, z_{k+1}^c\right), x\right)$

(2.) Search for invalidate trajectories:

target set T : subset of $g\left(\left(z_k^c, z_{k+1}^c\right)\right)$ that is mapped into $inv\left(z_{k+1}^c\right)$ by the reset.
control action is invalid, if any $x(t_f) \notin T$ is found during solving:

$$\max_{x_0 \in I} \|x(t_f) - x_{cent,g}\|_2$$

with the terminal state $x(t_f)$ determined by numeric simulation as:

- (a) $x(t_f) \in T$
- (b) $x(t_f) \in g\left(\left(z_k^c, z_q^c\right)\right)$ with $z_q^c \neq z_{k+1}^c$
- (c) $x(t_f) \in F$
- (d) $x(t_f) \notin inv\left(z_k^c\right)$ and $x(t_f^-) \in inv\left(z_k^c\right)$
- (e) $x(t) \in inv\left(z_k^c\right)$ and $t_{\max} < t < t_f^*$

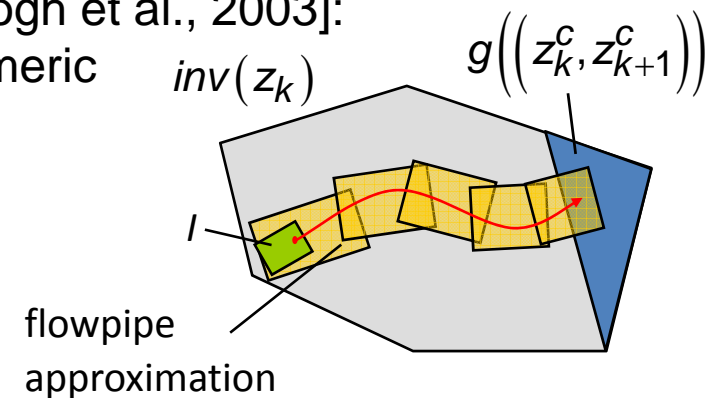
invalidating cases

Validation (3)

(3.) Flowpipe enclosure:

over-approximation of the continuous set reachable inside of $inv(z_k^c)$ starting from I

- series of oriented hyper-rectangles [Krogh et al., 2003]:
each hyper-rectangle computed by numeric simulation embedded into optimization



control action is invalid, if the flowpipe does not completely lead into the set $g((z_k^c, z_{k+1}^c))$

- if a control action is invalid, refute $CP!$
- if a control action is valid: continue with the next step of CP .

Refinement of A

$A^{(j)}$ is refined to $A^{(j+1)}$ in the following cases:

(1) if the intersection check shows that $(z_k^C, z_{k+1}^C) \in \Theta^C$ can never be taken, the corresponding transition (s_k^A, s_{k+1}^A) is removed from \hat{E} .

(2) if the other two validation methods show that (s_k^A, s_{k+1}^A) is invalid, it can not be removed from Θ^A immediately.

[Krogh et al., 2003: optimization-based method to show that $(z_k^C, z_{k+1}^C) \in \Theta^C$ cannot occur]

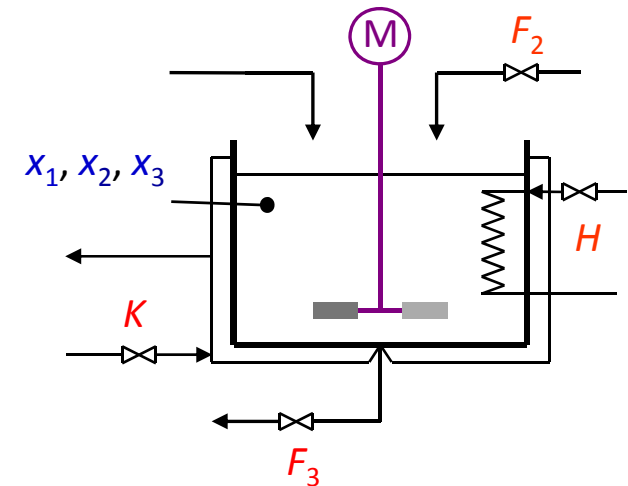
(3) if flowpipe approximation validates a control action, state splitting can be used optionally:

- new abstract state for the reachable subset of $inv(z_{k+1}^C)$
- transition set Θ^A modified according to the reachability result
- can be advantageous to (in-)validate a CP computed later

Application: Chemical Reactor

Continuous chemical liquid-phase reactor:

- exothermic reaction of two components
- state variables: x_1 (level), x_2 (temperature), x_3 (concentration)
- inputs: F_2 (flow), F_3 (flow), K (cooling), H (heating)
16 possible combinations of values
- hybrid automaton:
 - 12 locations (32 for HA^c), 22 transitions
 - dynamics for $x_1 < 0.8$:



for $x_1 \geq 0.8$:

$$\dot{x}_1 = k_1 + F_2 + F_3, \quad \dot{x}_2 = \frac{k_2(k_3 - x_2) + F_2(k_4 - x_2)}{x_1} + k_5 K(k_6 - x_2) \left(\frac{k_7}{x_1} + k_8 \right), \quad \dot{x}_3 = (k_9 - (k_{10} + F_2)x_3) / x_1$$

$$\dot{x}'_2 = \dot{x}_2 + k_{11}(k_{12} - x_2)(k_{13} - k_{14} / x_1)H$$

for $(0, k_{15}, k_{16}) \cdot x \geq k_{17}$:

$$\dot{x}''_2 = \dot{x}'_2 + x_3(k_{18} + k_{19}x_2^2), \quad \dot{x}'_3 = \dot{x}_3 + k_{20} \cdot \exp(k_{21} / x_2)$$

Application: Chemical Reactor

Task: find ϕ_V for start-up from S_0 into nominal operation S_G
(S_0 : reactor empty and cold; S_G : high level, temperature, and yield)

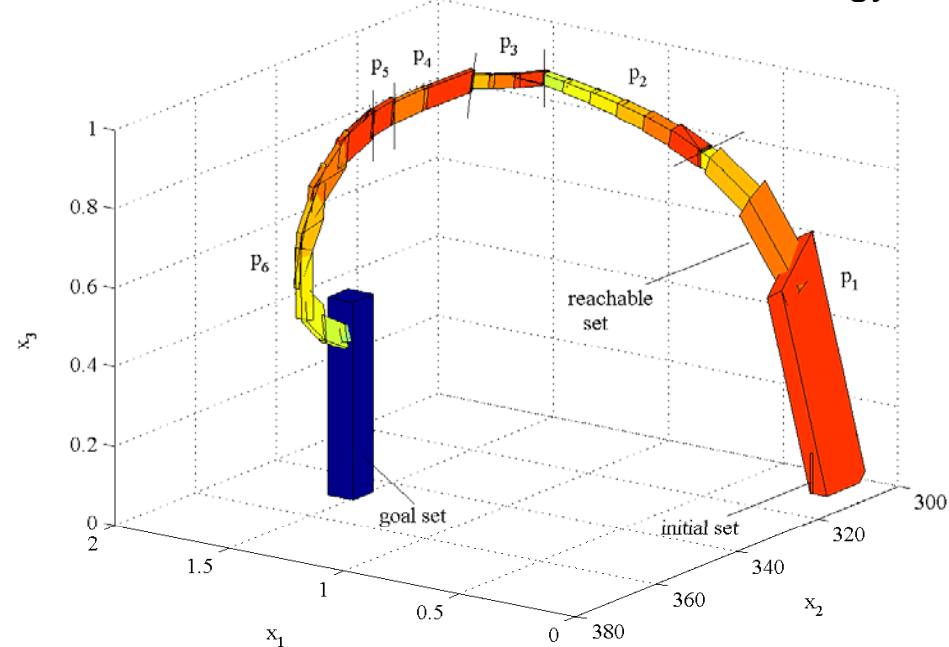
Control synthesis:

- 17th CP: feasible strategy
- six phases p_1 to p_6 :

$$\begin{array}{c} V_{p1} \\ \downarrow \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \downarrow \\ V_{p6} \end{array}$$

- 16 CP invalidated by the 2nd validation method
- obtained in approx. 4 minutes on a standard PC (P4-1.5GHz)

reachable set for the control strategy:



Abstraction-Based Optimal Control of HDS

Model: *HA* as defined initially, but transitions are taken deterministically

- Sets:
- initial states: $s_0 \in S_0$ with $z_0 \in Z, x_0 \in \text{inv}(z_0)$
 - goal states: $s_G \in S_G$ with $z_G \in Z, x_G \in \text{inv}(z_G)$
 - unsafe states: $S_F = \{S_{F,1}, \dots, S_{F,p}\}$

Performance criterion ψ with the number of event times $n_e = |\phi_s|$:

$$J(z, x, u, v) = \sum_{k=1}^{n_e-1} \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_k} L(x, u, v) dt + \sum_{k=1}^{n_e-2} c_{disc}(z_{k-1}, z_k)$$

Hybrid optimal control problem:

$$\min_{\phi_u, \phi_v} J(z, x, u, v)$$

subject to : ϕ_u, ϕ_v lead to a feasible run of *HA*

$$s_0 \in S_0, s(t_f) \in S_G, s(t) \notin S_F \quad \forall t \in [t_0, t_f]$$

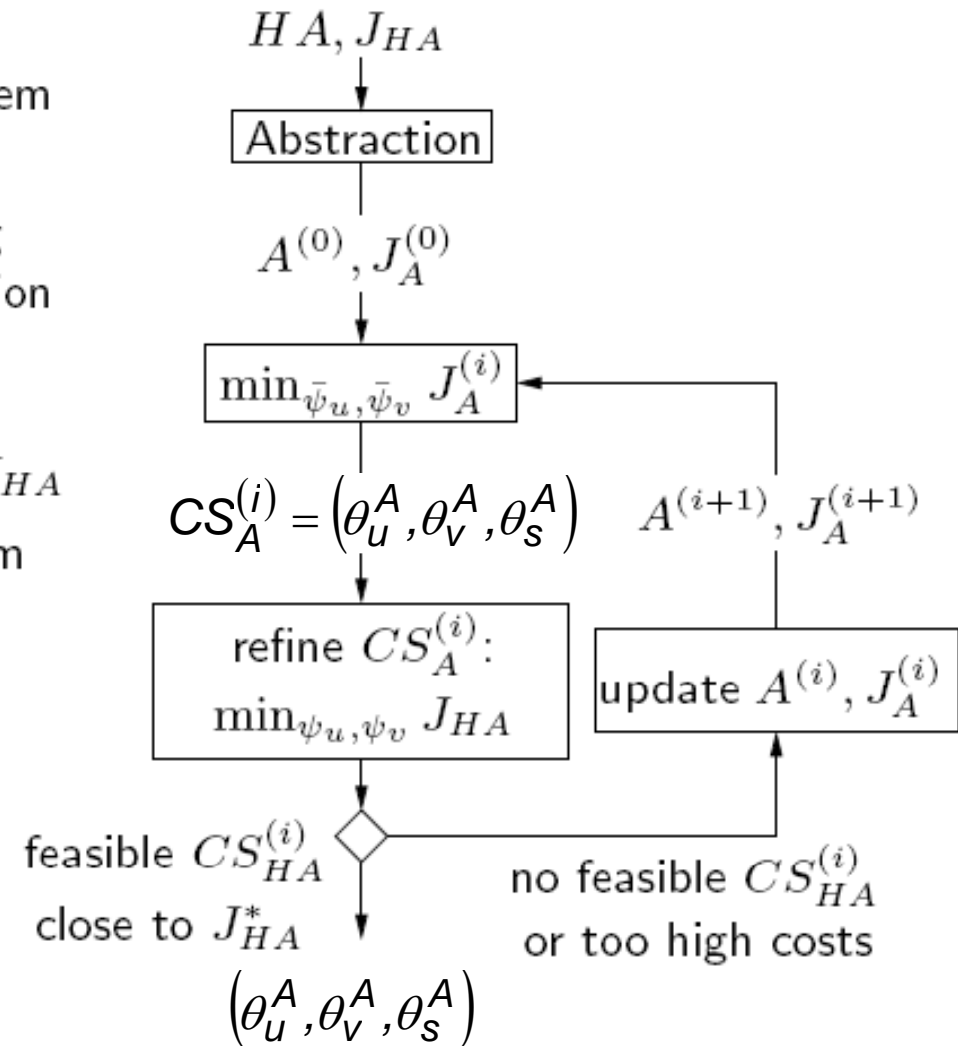
Scheme of Abstraction-Based Optimal Control

Idea:

- simplify hybrid optimal control problem by abstraction
- use reachability analysis for updating the abstracted model and cost function

Steps:

- (1) define abstraction maps for HA & J_{HA}
- (2) solve abstracted optimization problem
- (3) refine to trajectories of HA by reduced optimization problem
- (4) evaluate trajectory in terms of original costs
- (5) update abstract model and cost criterion iteratively



Conclusions and Future Work

- Modeling with HA useful for a wide range of applications
- Computation of R is the core of many design techniques for HA
- Reachability analysis is computationally costly: use of abstractions can reduce the load
- Choice of abstraction (preserved property, degree of detail) is crucial
[use of A such that it encodes discrete dynamics of HA is not always a suitable choice]

Future work:

- Extend verification to other specifications γ than safety
- Improve efficiency of computation with respect to n
- Use hierarchies of abstractions
- Include model uncertainties and robustness