

Combining Model-Based Testing and Machine Learning

Roland GROZ

Université Grenoble Alpes (COMUE),

LIG (Laboratoire d'Informatique de Grenoble)

France



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In a nutshell:

- *Model-based testing...*



- when writing a model is *not an option* !



Testing a system is somehow LEARNING
the behaviour of a system

*Problem: test orderly to learn correct &
“complete” behaviour*



Outline

- Motivation: why learning ?
- ML & Soft. Engineering
- Seminal algorithm: L^* (Angluin 87)
- Enhancements for various issues
 - Counter-example processing
 - Tree-based (quotient algo)
 - No Reset
 - Integration
 - EFSM
- Related work

Soft. Engineering trends

■ MDE & MBT

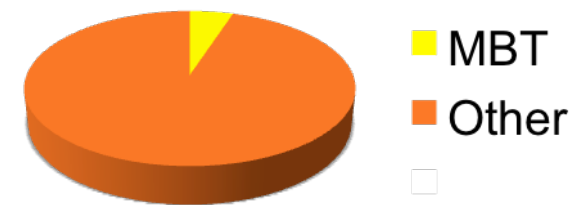
- Growing trend in some industries (e.g. embedded)
- Derive design, code and tests (MBT)
- Models = 1st class citizens

TAROT 😊

■ Non formal (e.g. Agile)

- Dominant & growing trend
- Absence of (formal) models
- Or pb maintaining spec <-> model
- Often Test Driven Dvt (TDD)

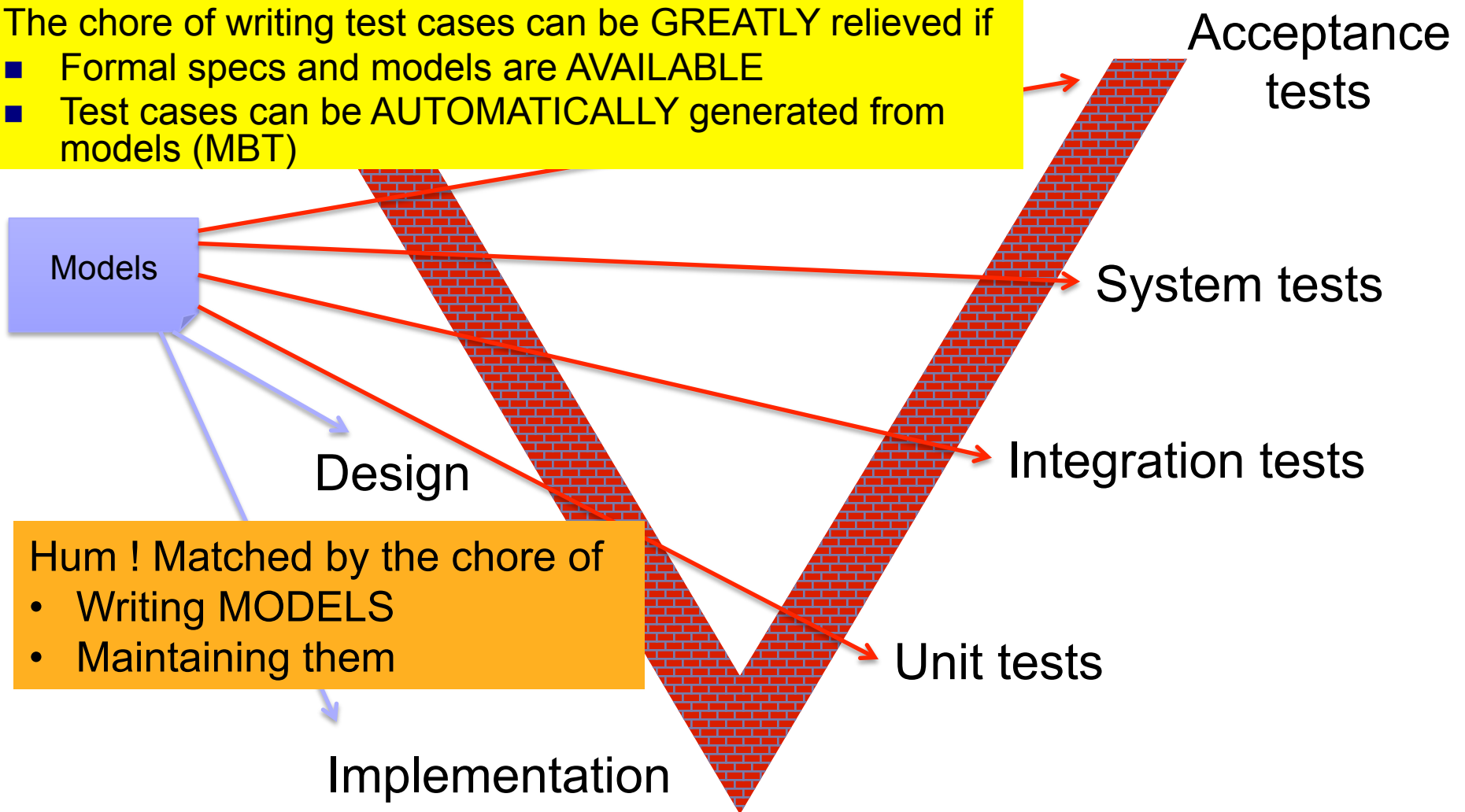
Rest of the world ☹️



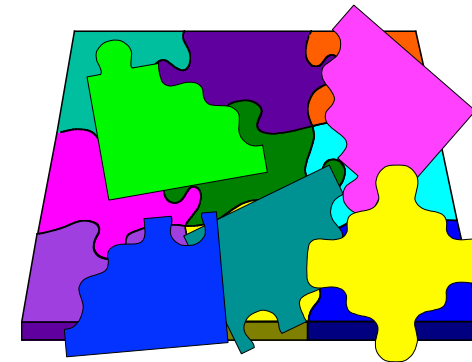
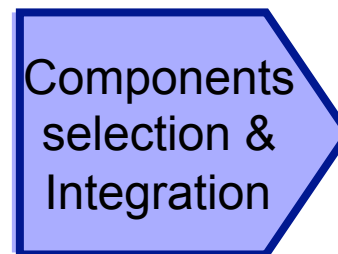
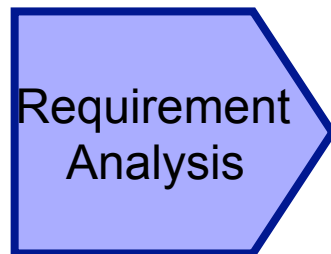
MBT in software development

The chore of writing test cases can be GREATLY relieved if

- Formal specs and models are AVAILABLE
- Test cases can be AUTOMATICALLY generated from models (MBT)



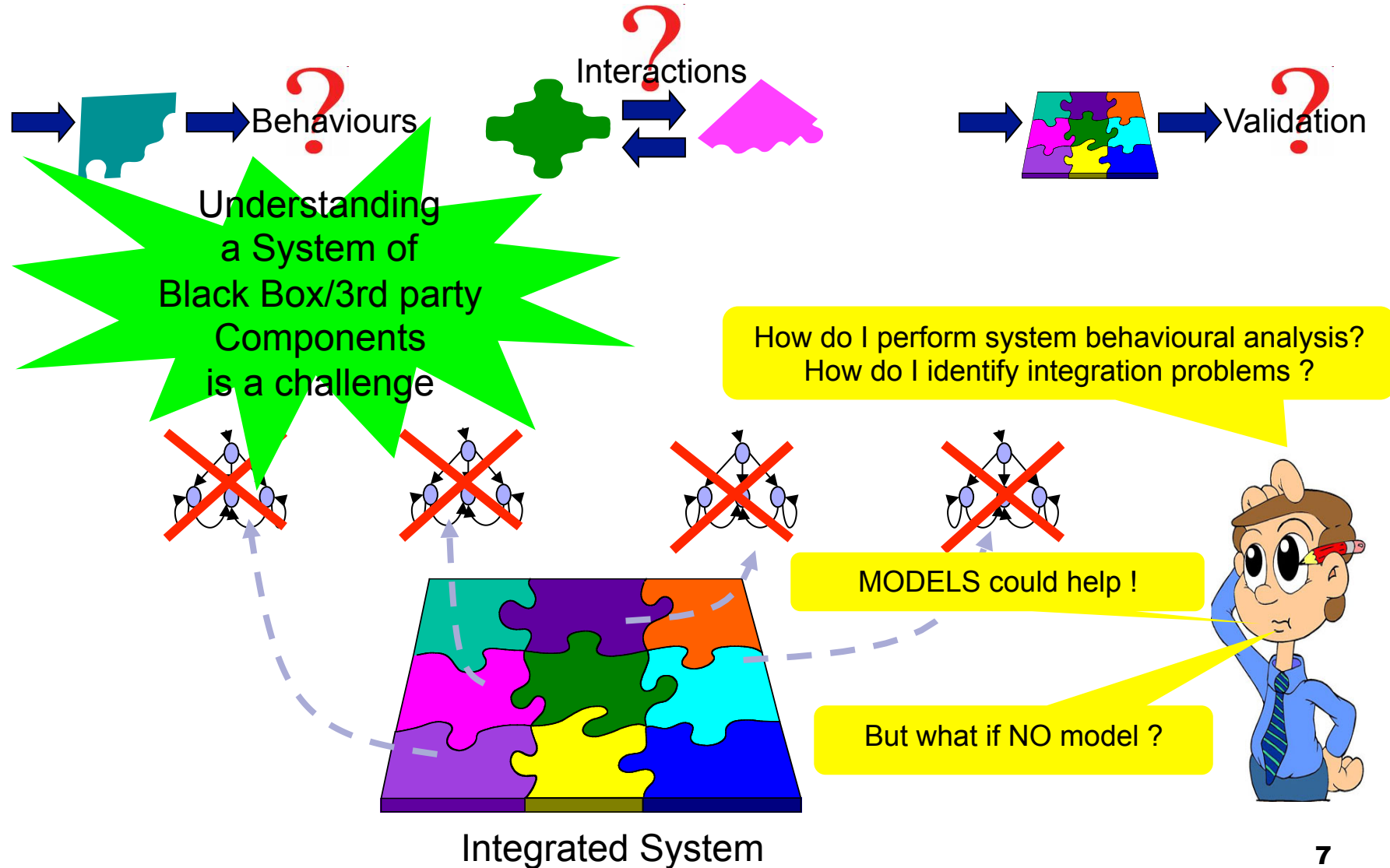
Component Based Software Engineering




Integrated System

- Rapid Development
- Reuse Components
- Reduce cost
- Flexibility
- Ease of integration

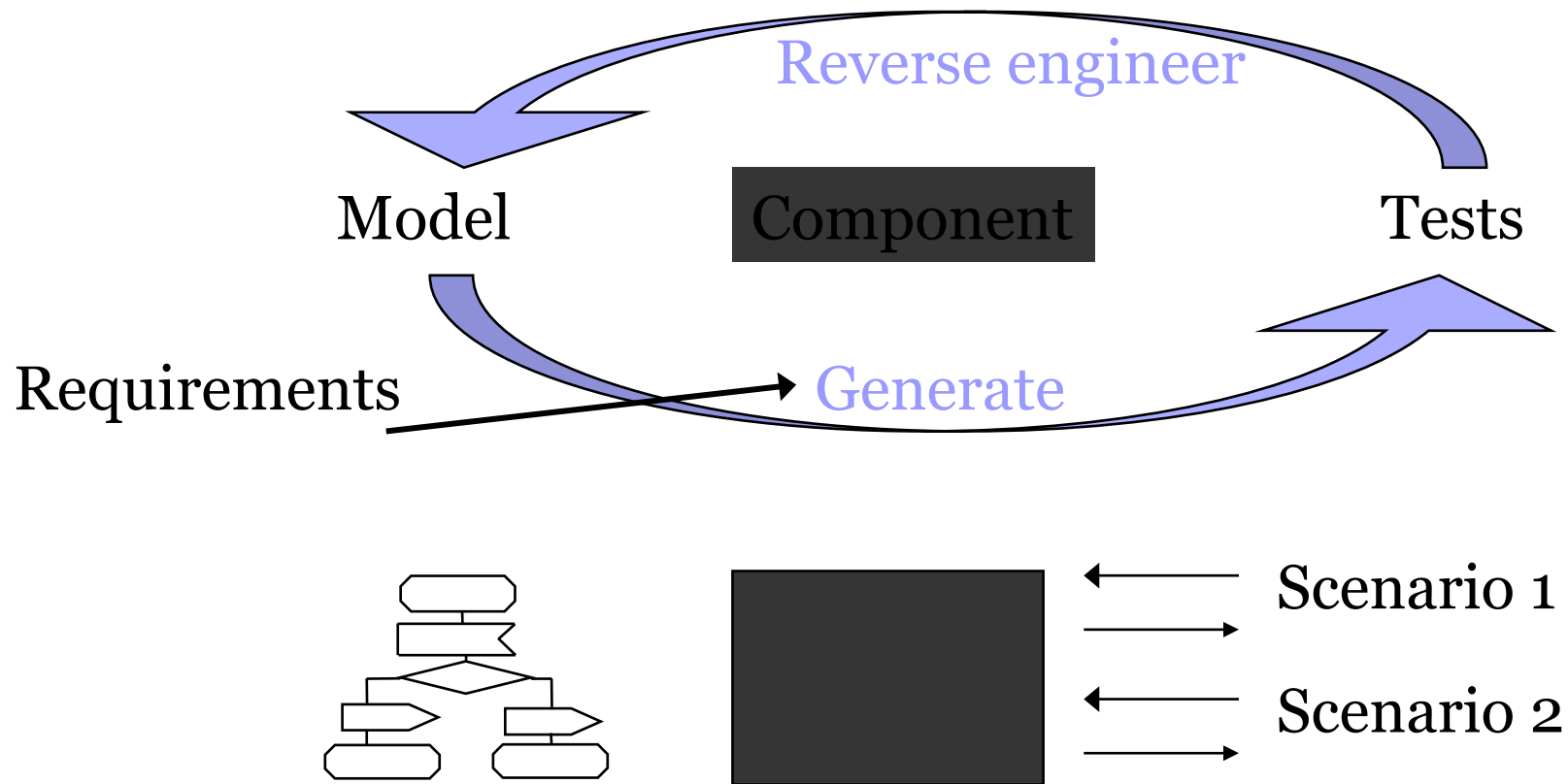
Typical Issues in System Dvt



MDE & MBT in the reverse

- MDE assumption
 - Start from model, formal spec
 - Models = 1st class citizens 😊
- Test Driven Development (XP, Agile...)
 - Tests are spec: 1st class citizens
 - Formal models ? No way ! 😞 No time...
- Proposed approach
 - Derive models from tests, & combine with MBT
 - = **LEARN** models from tests
 - **CHALLENGE: Reconcile**
Test-Driven (or code-driven) dvt  *with Models*

Principle



Partial, incremental and approximate models



Main Technical Goals

- Reverse Engineering

- Understanding the behaviours of the black box components
 - by deriving the *formal models* of the components/system
 - Can also serve documentation purposes (tests for doc)

- System Validation

- Being able to derive new systematic tests
- Analyzing the system for anomalies
 - by model checking (wrt properties)
 - by developing a *framework for integration testing* of the system of black box components

Objections

Answers



- Model is derived from bugged components
 - *Derived tests will consider bug=feature*
- Incremental: stopping criterion ?

- Unit vs system
 - Combining model-checking & learning
 - Integration testing will reveal errors
- Tunable approximated model of system
- Key notion: counter-examples





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Various types of Machine Learning

- Artificial Intelligence (& datamining)
 - Ability to infer rules, recognize patterns
 - Learning from samples
 - E.g. neural networks
- Two major techniques (among others)
 - Statistical inference from collection of data -> e.g. Weka tool in (data) testing



- *Grammatical inference of language from theoretical computer science*



Pioneering inference in SoftEng

- [Peled 1999] Black Box Checking
 - Using L^* + Vasilievski's W-method for Model Checking BB components
- [Steffen, Hagerer 2002] Model generation by Regular extrapolation
 - Applied to testing of telecom switch
- Picked up from 2003 by Dortmund, NASA, Uppsala, Grenoble, Nijmegen, KTH...



Learning languages from samples

"Learning from given positive/negative samples"

- Finding a minimum DFA (Deterministic Finite Automaton) is NP-HARD
 - Complexity of automaton identification from given data. [E. Gold 78]
- Even a DFA with no. of states polynomially larger than the no. of states of the minimum is NP-Complete
 - The minimum consistent DFA problem cannot be approximated within any polynomial. [Pitt & Warmuth 93]
- Probably Approximately Correct (PAC)
 - A theory of the learnable. [L.G. Valiant 84]

Passive Learning

Active learning (Query learning)

■ Active Learning

- "Learning from Queries": inference algorithm can query an oracle of the language

- **Angluin's Algorithm L^* [Angluin 87]**
 - Reference algorithm
 - Two types of queries: membership, equivalence
 - Learns Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA) in polynomial time

- Applied in formal Software Engineering
 - Black Box Checking [Peled 99]
 - Learning and Testing Telecom Systems [Steffen 02-03]
 - Protocol Testing [Shu & Lee 08]
 - ...



Dana Angluin
Yale University

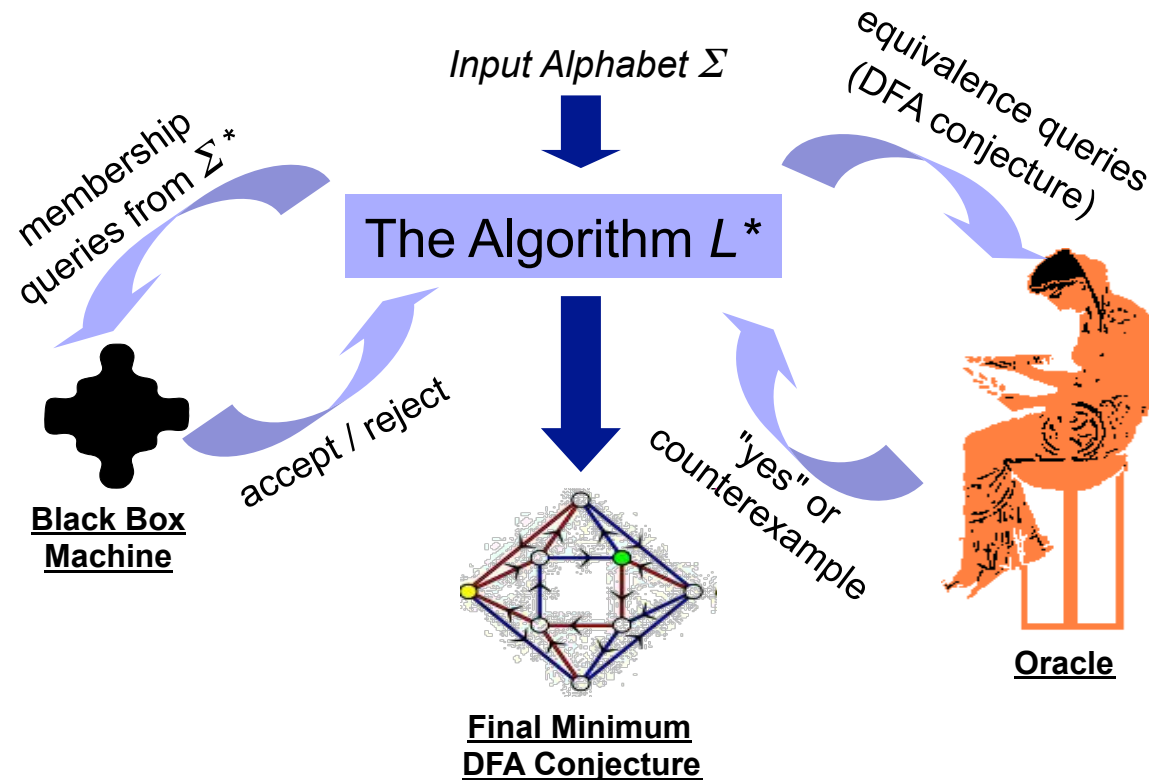
Active Learning



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Concept of the Regular Inference (Angluin's Algorithm L^*)



Assumptions:

- The input alphabet Σ is known
- Machine can be reset

Complexity : $O(|\Sigma| m n^2)$

- $|\Sigma|$: the size of the input alphabet
- n : the number of states in the actual machine
- m : the length of the longest counterexample

Our Context of Inference (testing s/w)

- Components having I/O behaviors
- I/O are structurally complex (parameters)
- Formidable size of input sets

Test Strategies and heuristics
 Learned Models can be used to generate tests to find discrepancies

Input Alphabet Σ

The Algorithm L^*



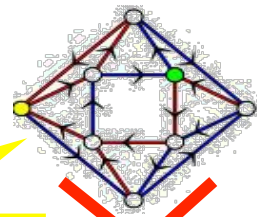
System of Communicating Black Box Components

me... queries



Black Box Machine

accept / reject



Final DFA Conjecture

"yes" or counterexample



Oracle

Enhanced State Machine Models
 Mealy Machines
 Parameterized Machines
 More adequate for complex systems
 DFAs may result in transition blow up

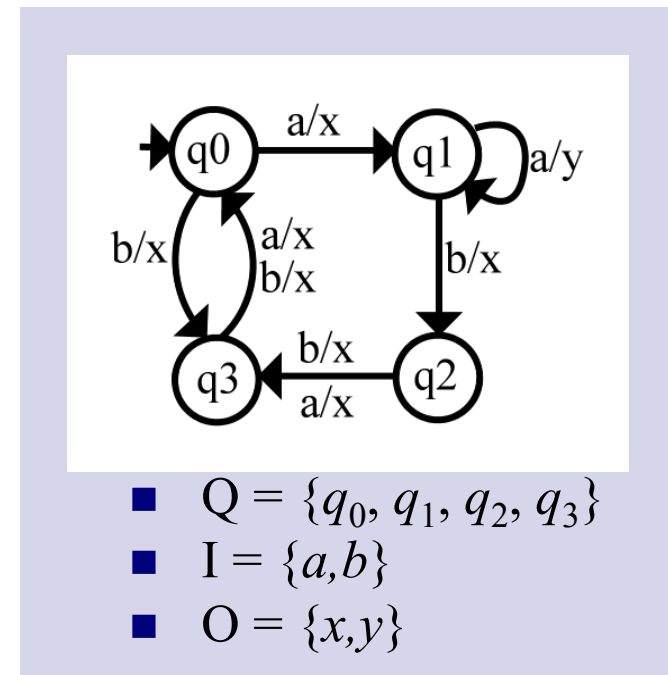
Preliminaries

- **Mealy Machine:** $M = (Q, I, O, \delta, \lambda, q_0)$

- Q : set of states
- I : set of input symbols
- O : set of output symbols
- δ : transition function
- λ : output function
- q_0 : initial state

- Input Enabled

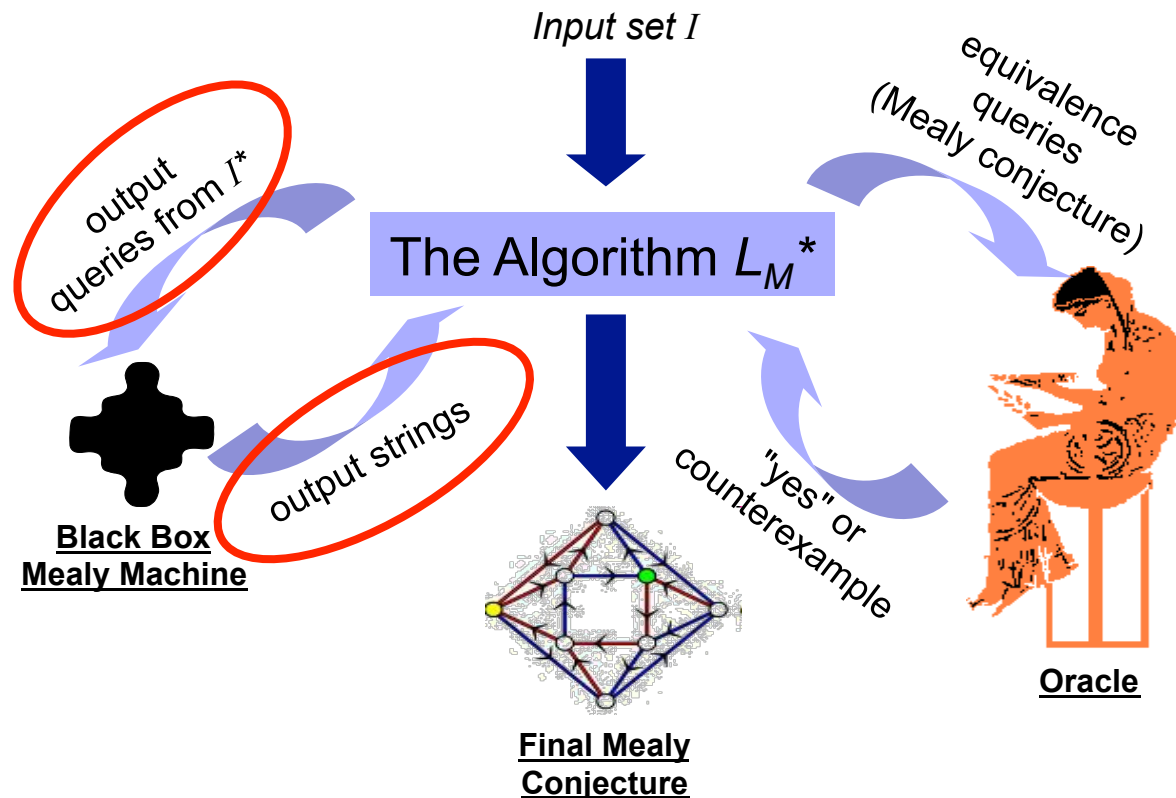
- $\text{dom}(\delta) = \text{dom}(\lambda) = Q \times I$



Running example

Mealy Machine Inference Algorithm

The Algorithm L_M^*



Assumptions:

- The input set I is known
- Machine can be reset
- For each input, the corresponding output is observable

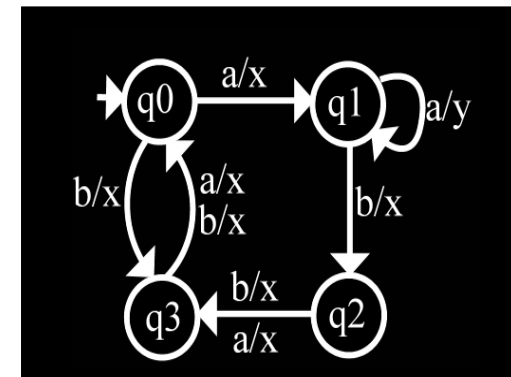
Basic principles of L_M^* algorithm

Discriminating sequences

		a	b
S (span seq for) States	ϵ	x	x
	a	y	x
S . I lookahead tail state id	b	x	x
	aa	y	x
	ab	x	x

Build queries
row.col
submit row.col ->
record output <-
for col

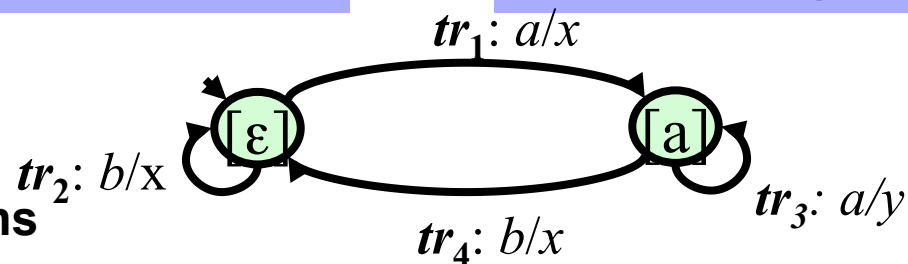
$I = \{a, b\}$



Observation Table

Black Box Mealy Machine Component

Conjecture:
minimal FSM
consistent with observations



• ϵ is an empty string

Mealy Machine Inference Algorithm L_M^* (1/6)

Initialization

		E_M	
		a	b
S_M	ϵ	x	x
	a	y	x
$S_M \cdot I$	b	x	x

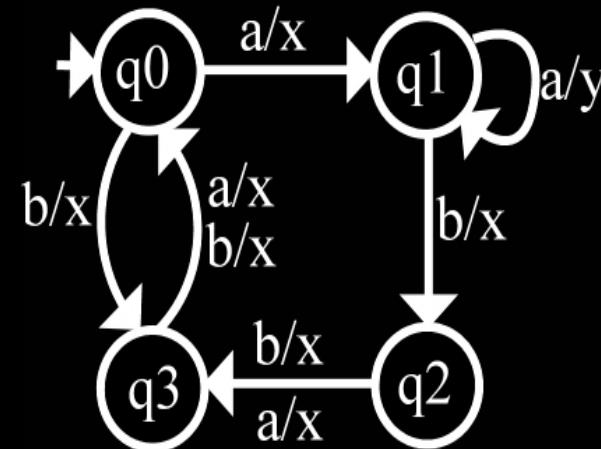
Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M)

Initialization

- $S_M = \epsilon$
- $E_M = I$

• ϵ is an empty string

$I = \{a, b\}$



Black Box Mealy Machine Component

Output Queries:

$s \cdot e$, $s \in (S_M \cup S_M \cdot I)$, $e \in E_M$

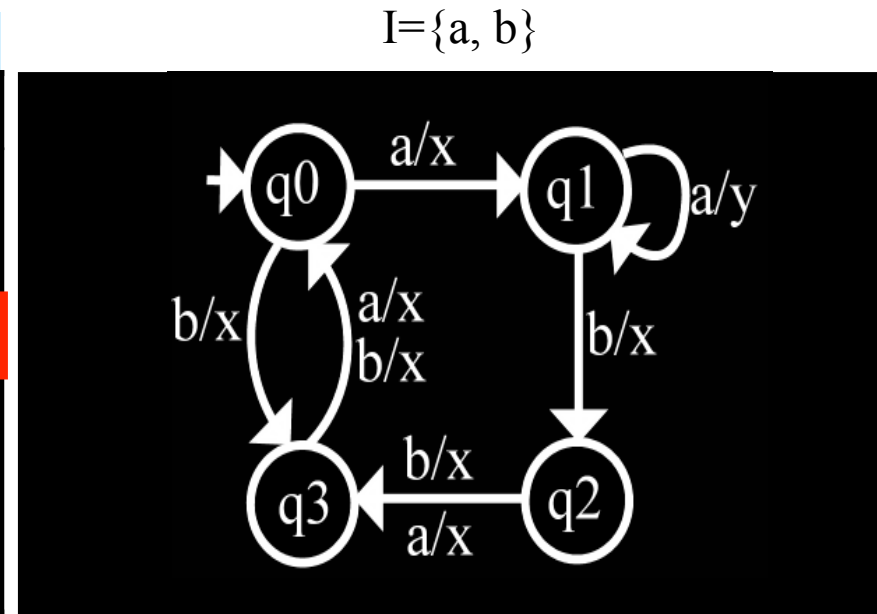
- $= a/x$

Mealy Machine Inference Algorithm L_M^* (2/6)

Concept: Closed

		E_M	
		a	b
S_M	ϵ	x	x
$S_M \cdot I$	a	y	x
	b	x	x
	aa	y	x
	ab	x	x

Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M)



Black Box Mealy Machine Component

Concepts:

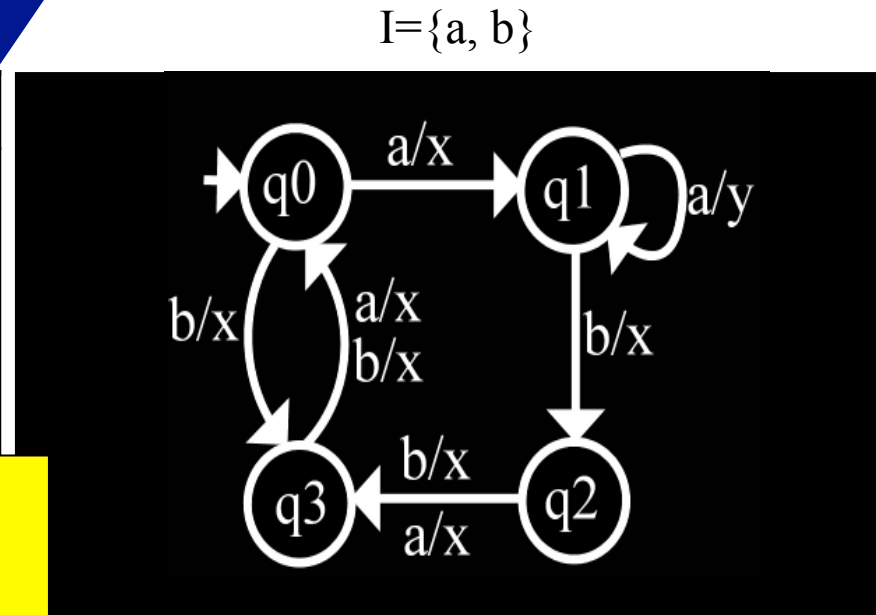
- Closed : All the rows in $S_M \cdot I$ must be equivalent to the rows in S_M
 - Same behaviour = known state
- Consistency

• ϵ is an empty string

Mealy Machine Inference Algorithm L_M^* (3/6)

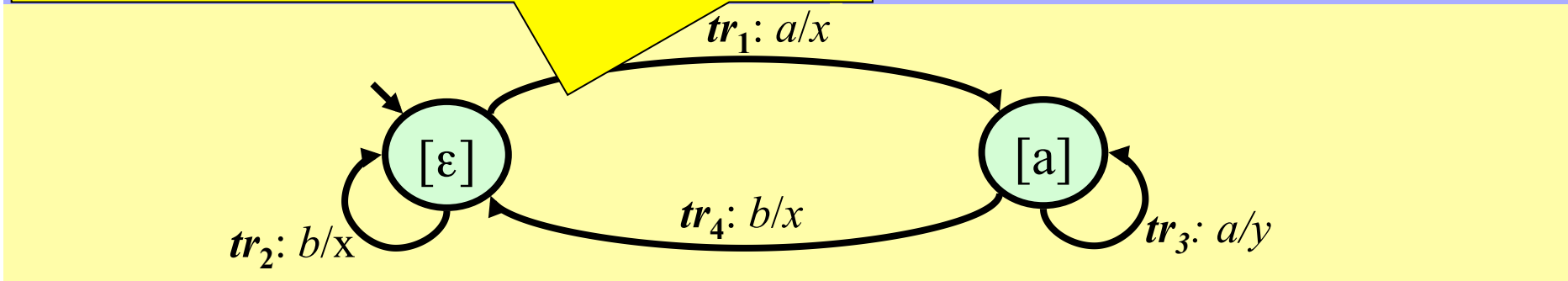
Making Conjecture

		E_M	
		a	b
S_M	ϵ	x	x
	a	y	x
$S_M \cdot I$	b	x	x
	aa	y	x



Counterexample:
a b a b b a a
 component's response: x x x x x x **y**
 conjecture's response: x x x x x x **x**

Black Box Mealy Machine Component



Mealy Machine Inference Algorithm L_M^* (4/6)

Processing Counterexamples

		E_M	
		a	b
S_M	ϵ	x	x
	a	y	x
$S_M \cdot I$	b	x	x
	aa	y	x
	ab	x	x

Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M)

Counterexample: a b a b b a a

Method:

Add all the prefixes of the counterexample to S_M



	a	b
ϵ	x	x
a	y	x
ab	x	x
aba	x	x
abab	x	x
ababb	x	x
ababba	x	x
ababbaa	y	x
aa	y	x
b	x	x
abb	x	x
abaa	x	x
ababa	y	x
ababbb	x	x

Mealy Machine Inference Algorithm L_M^* (5/6)

Concept: Consistency

	a	b	
ϵ	x	x	xy
a	y	x	yy
ab	x	x	xx
aba	x	x	xx
abab	x	x	xy
ababb	x	x	xx
ababba	x	x	xy
ababbaa	y	x	yy
aa	y	x	yy
b	x	x	xx
abb	x	x	xx
abaa	x	x	xy
ababa	y	x	yy
ababbb	x	x	xy

Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M)

Concepts:

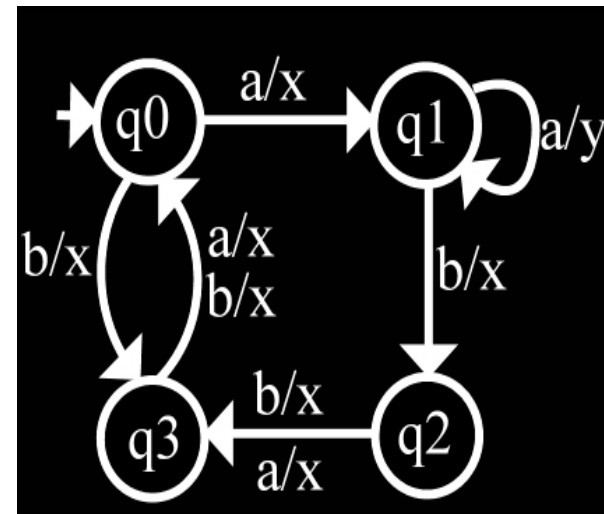
- Closed
- Consistency : All the successor rows of the equivalent rows must also be equivalent
- First inconsistency
 - ϵ and **ab** look similar... but not $\epsilon.a$ and **ab.a**
- Later inconsistency:
 - **ab** and **aba**, but not **aba** and **abaa**
- ...

Mealy Machine Inference Algorithm L_M^* (6/6)

Termination: Conjecture = Black Box

	a	b	aa	aaa	baa
ϵ	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
a	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx
ab	x	x	xx	xyy	xxxx
aba	x	x	xx	xxx	xxxxy
abab	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx
ababb	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ababba	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ababbaa	x	x	xx	xyy	xxxx
b	x	x	xx	xyy	xxxx
aa	x	x	xx	xyy	xxxx
abb	x	x	xx	xxx	xxxxy
abaa	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx
ababa	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ababbb	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ababbab	x	x	xx	xyy	xxxx
ababbaaa	x	x	xx	xyy	xxxx
ababbaab	x	x	xx	xxx	xxxx

*Final Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M)
after processing counterexample
according to L_M^**



Complexity : $O(|\Sigma| m n^2)$

- $|\Sigma|$: the size of the input alphabet
- n : the number of states in the actual machine
- m : the length of the longest counterexample



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Other algorithms derived from L^*

- Counter-example processing

- Rivest & Schapire (1993)

- Do not add prefixes (avoid compatibility check)

- Dichotomic search for discriminating suffix

- Complexity falls to $O(|\Sigma|n^2 + n \log m)$

- But flawed (Balcazar 97)

- Corrected by Shahbaz, Irfan and Groz (2009):

- Suffix1by1

- Only membership queries

- Howar: Zulu competition at ICGI 2010

Processing Counterexamples avoiding consistency checks

Counterexample
a ~~b~~ **a** b b a a

Add all the suffixes to E_M

	a	b
ϵ	x	x
a	y	x
b	x	x
aa	y	x
ab	x	x

Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M) before processing counterexample

	a	b	aa	baa	bbaa	abbaa
ϵ	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy	xxxxxx
a	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx	yxxxx
b	x	x	xx	xyy	xxxx	xxxxxy
aa	y	x	xx	xxx	xxxxy	xxxxxx
ab	x	x	yy	xxx	xxxx	yxxxx

Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M) after processing counterexample

All rows remain inequivalent (inconsistency never occurs)

Comparison of the two Methods

Total Output Queries in L_M^+ : 64

		b	aa	baa	bbaa	abbaa
ϵ	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy	xxxxxx
a	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx	yxxxx
b	x	x	xx	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ab	x	x	xx	xxx	xxxxy	xxxxxx
aa	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx	yxxxx
ba	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy	xxxxxx
bb	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy	xxxxxx
aba	x	x	xx	xy	xxx	xxxxy
abb	x	x	xx	xy	xxx	xxxxy

*Final Observation Table (S_M, E_M, T_M)
after processing counterexample
according to L_M^+*

Total Output Queries in L_M^* : 86

a	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx
ab	x	x	xx	xy	xxxx
aba	x	x	xx	xxx	xxxxy
abab	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx
ababba	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ababbba	x	x	xx	xy	xxxx
b	x	x	xx	xy	xxxx
aa	x	x	xx	xy	xxxx
abb	x	x	xx	xxx	xxxxy
abaa	y	x	yy	xxx	xxxx
ababa	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ababbb	x	x	xy	xxx	xxxxy
ababbab	x	x	xx	xy	xxxx
ababbbaa	x	x	xx	xy	xxxx
ababbbaab	x	x	xx	xxx	xxxx

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according to L_M^**



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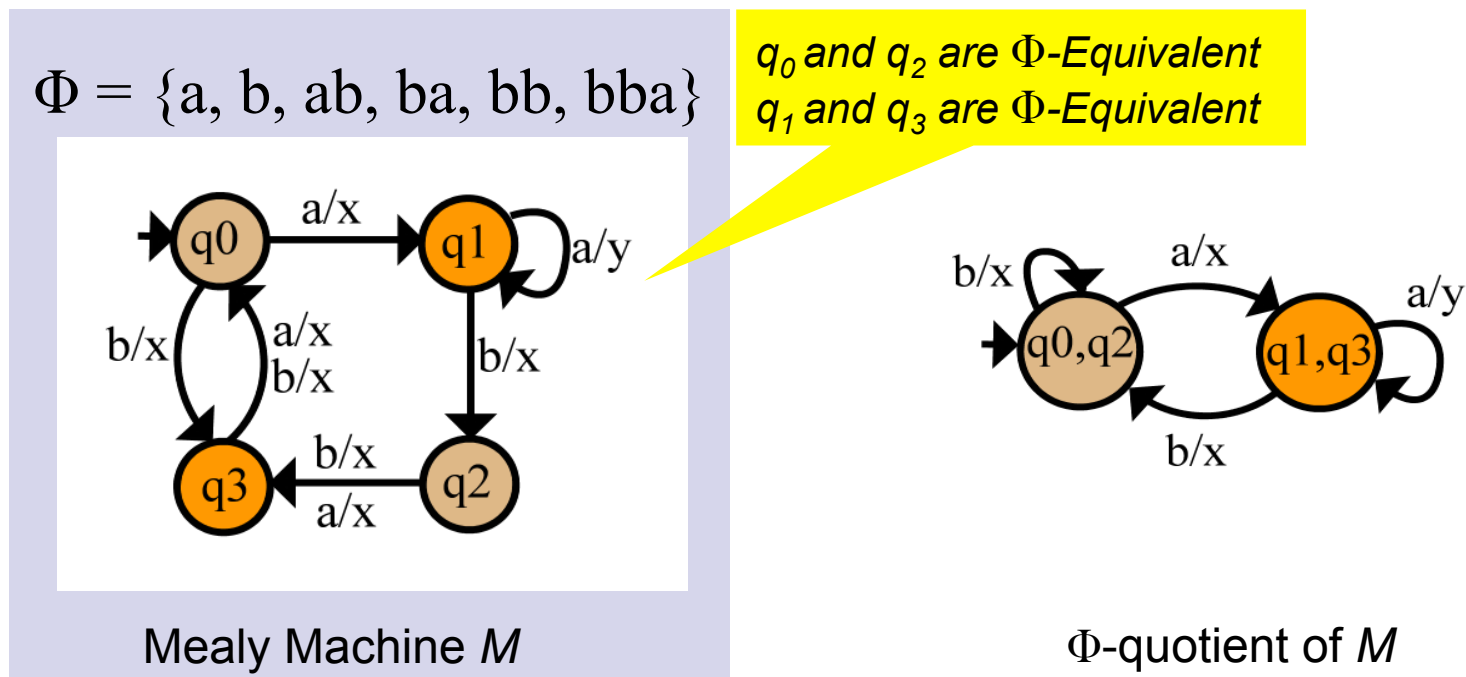


Other active learning algorithms

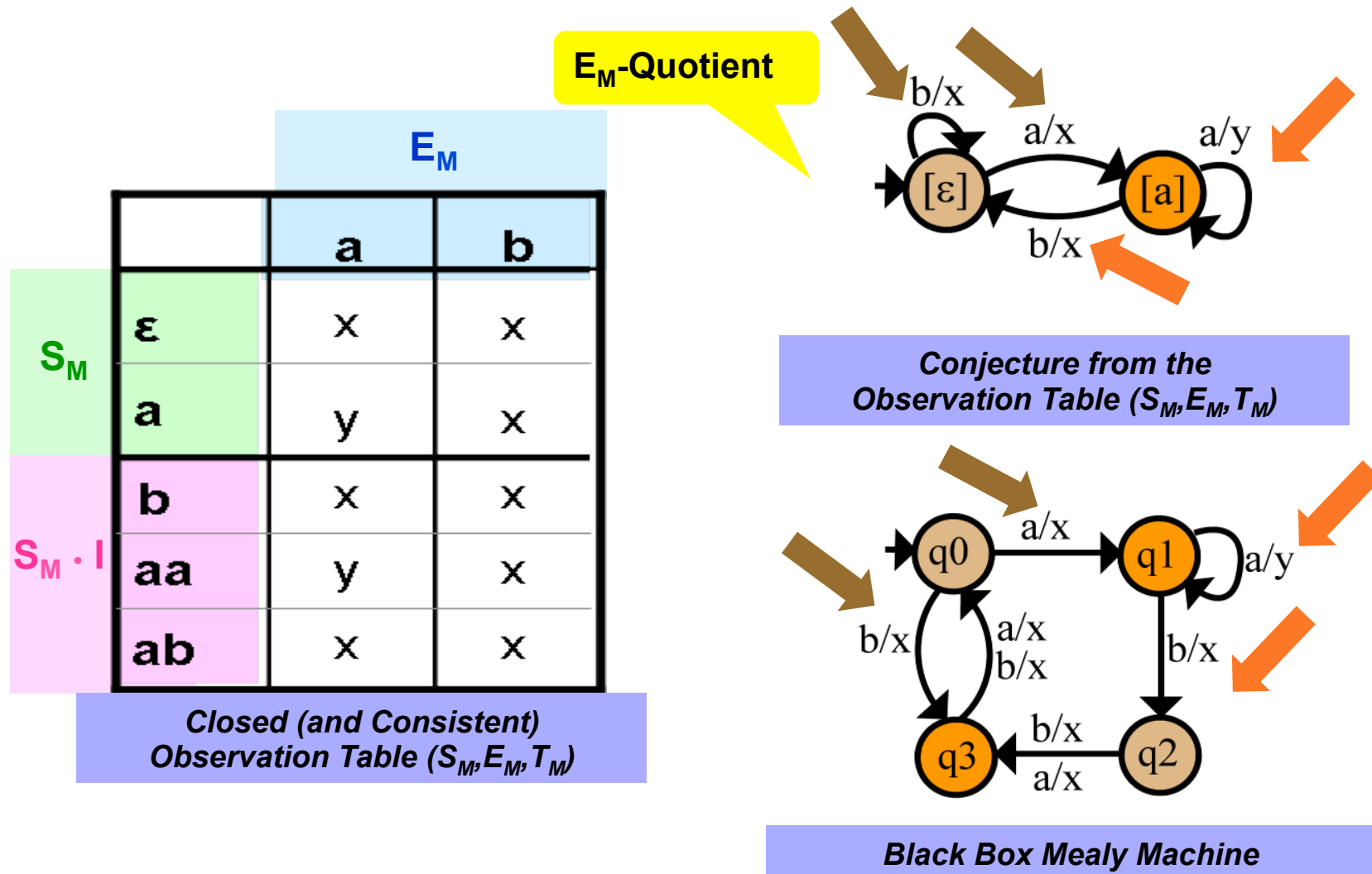
- Other data structures: trees vs tables
 - Kearns & Vazirani (1994): binary tree
 - $O(|\Sigma|n^3 + nm)$
 - Z-quotient: tree & quotient automata
 - Petrenko, Li, Groz (HASE 2014)
 - TTT
 - Isberner, Howar, Steffen (RV 2014)

Mealy Machine Quotients

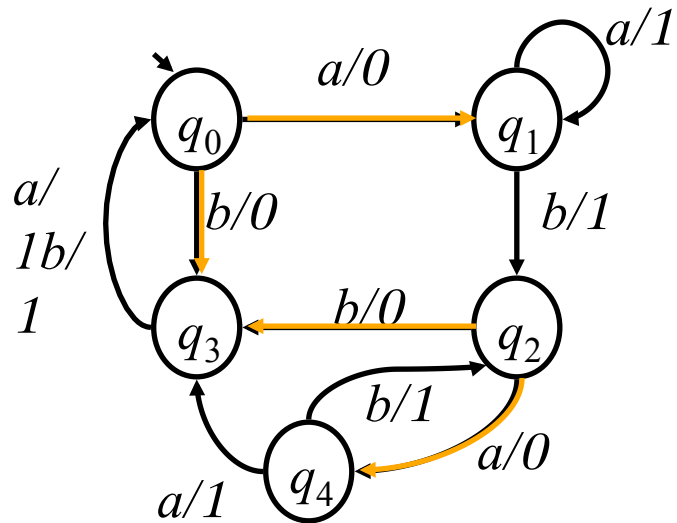
- Let Φ be a set of strings from I then
 - the states $s1$ and $s2$ are Φ -equivalent if they produce same outputs for all the strings in Φ
 - A quotient based upon Φ -equivalence is called Φ -quotient



Relation between the Conjecture and the Black Box Machine



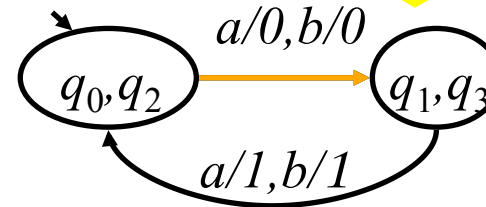
Initial k-Quotient



Machine M

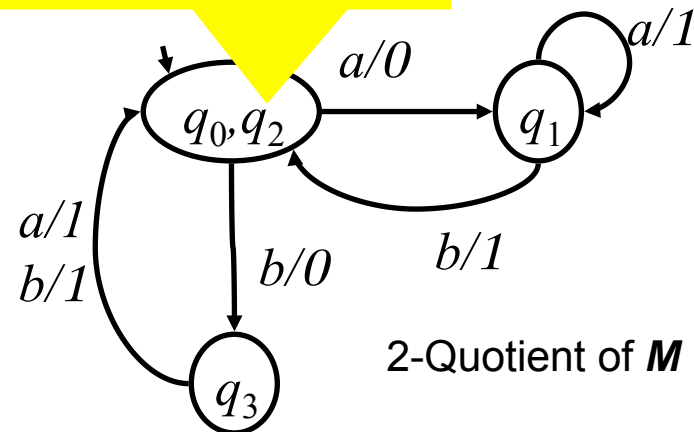
$3\text{-Quotient}(M) \equiv M$

q_0 and q_2 are 1-Equivalent: $a/0, b/0$
 q_1 and q_3 are 1-Equivalent: $a/1, b/1$



1-Quotient of M

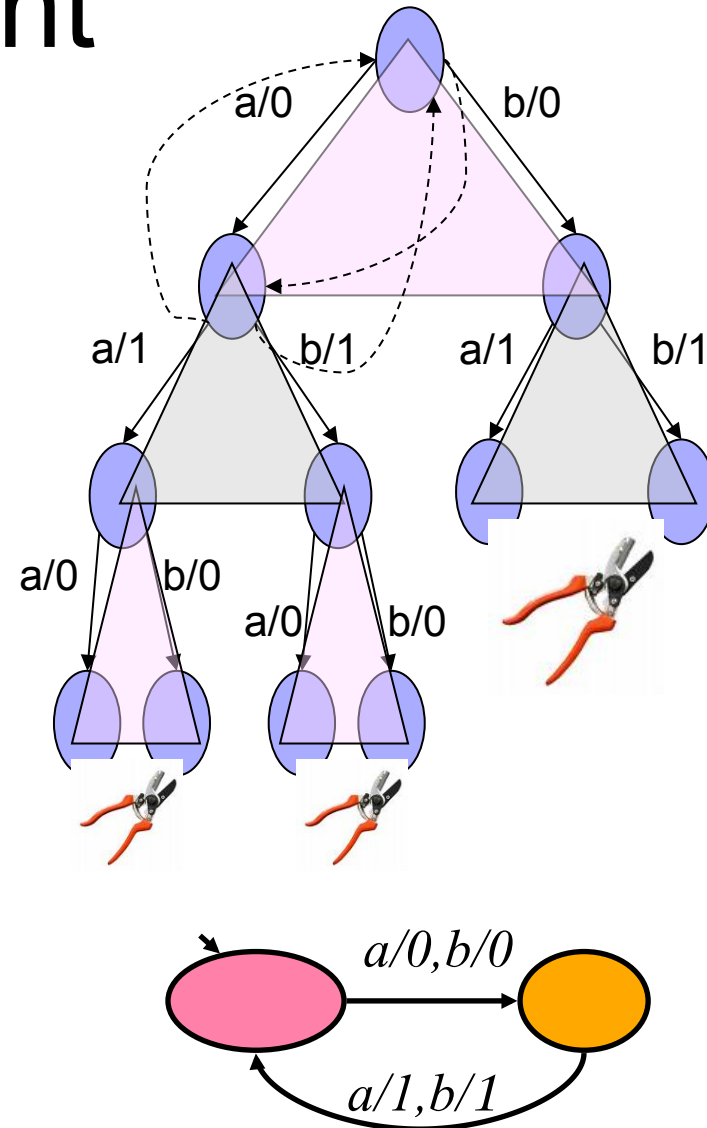
q_0 and q_2 are still 2-Equivalent
 q_1 and q_3 are 2-Disting. $a/1$ $a/?$



2-Quotient of M

Inferring a k-quotient (example with $k=1$)

- BFS exploration of traces of increasing length
- Pruning under node k -equiv to another one
- Final step: merging node when trace included, and redirecting transitions



Groz, Li, Petrenko, Shahbaz TestCom 2008

Extended to arbitrary Σ -quotients $\Sigma \subseteq I^$*

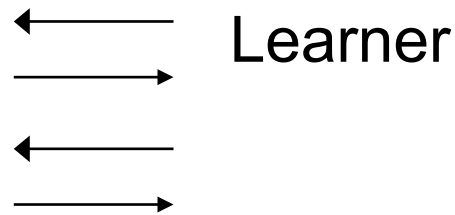
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Motivational example

- Reverse-engineer models of Web applications to detect security vulnerabilities
- E-Health app provided by Siemens as a Virtual Machine



- single I/O RTT over LAN: < 1 ms
- reset=reboot VM: ~1 minute

- Timewise: reset is $O(10^5)$ RTT in example
- Many systems CANNOT be reset AT ALL.



Key difficulties when no reset

- How can we know in which state seq is applied ?
- No backtrack possible to check other sequence
- Losing track: we no longer know from where we apply an input
 - → localizer procedure

Can we infer a Black-Box machine without reset?

Problem, assumptions, *result*

Groz, Simao et al 2015

- Known bound N on nb of states: $n \leq N$
- Known W -set for BB
 - $\text{Card}(W) = p$

Algo: polynomial in N

$\ll O(f N^{p+2})$ bound

but mean $O(f N^{1.9})$ for $p=2$

Stronger assumptions

Rivest & Schapire 1993

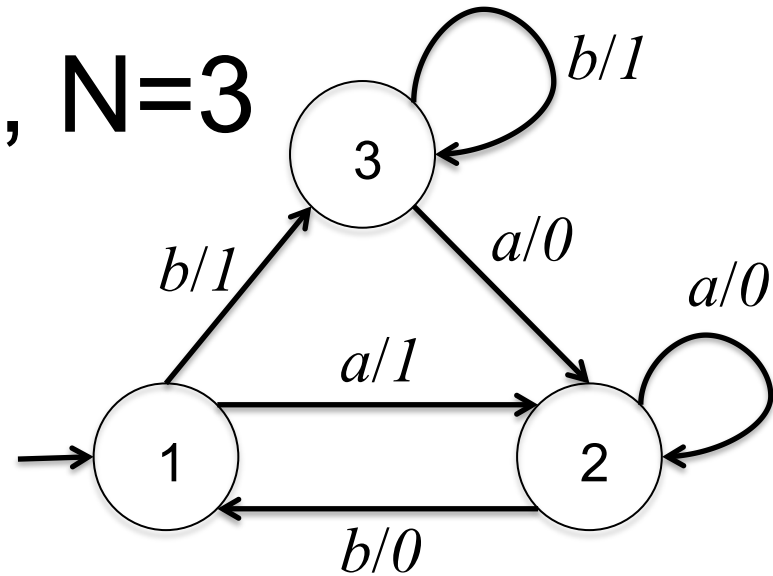
- Oracle knows BB, can answer yes or no
- Oracle can provide CE
 - $|\text{Largest CE}| = m$
- Known Homing Sequence for BB

Algo: polynomial in n

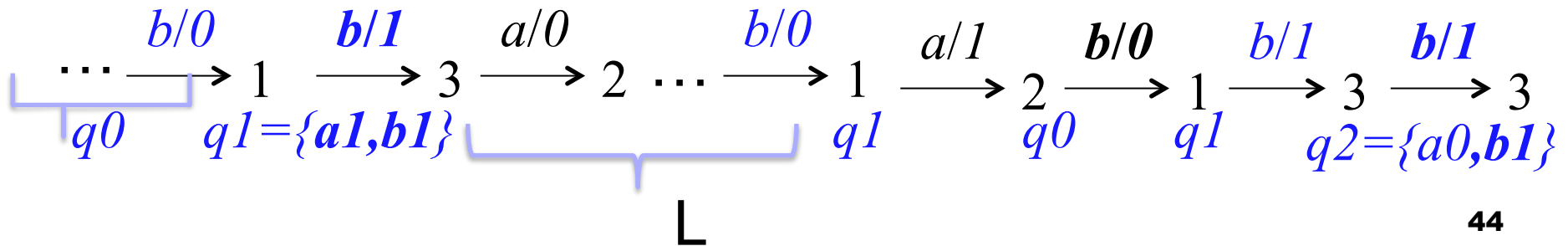
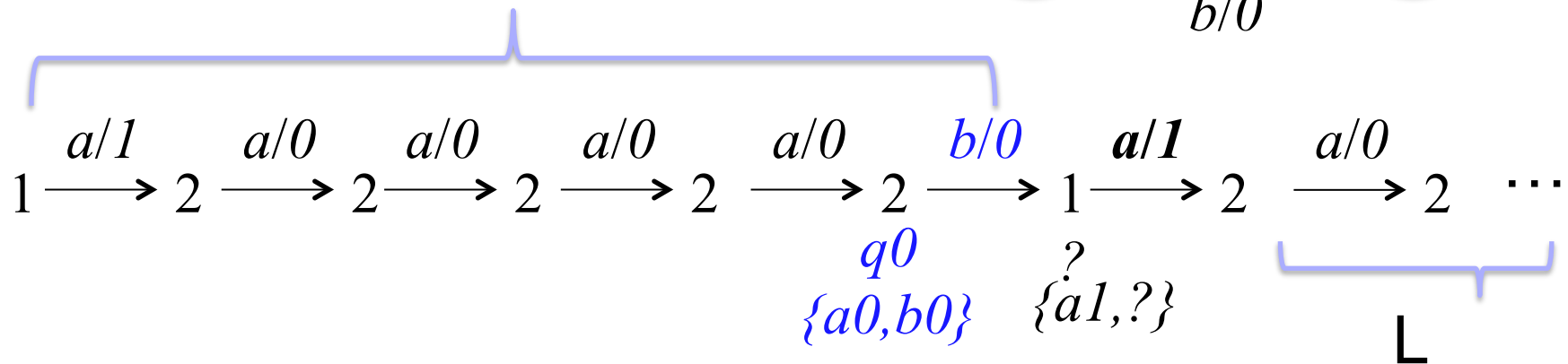
$\sim O(f m n^3)$

Lower practical complexity for $p \leq 2$

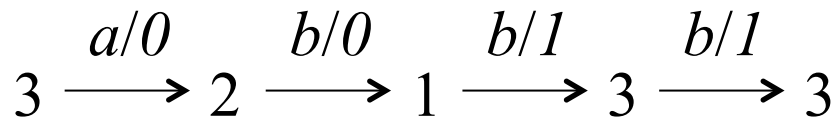
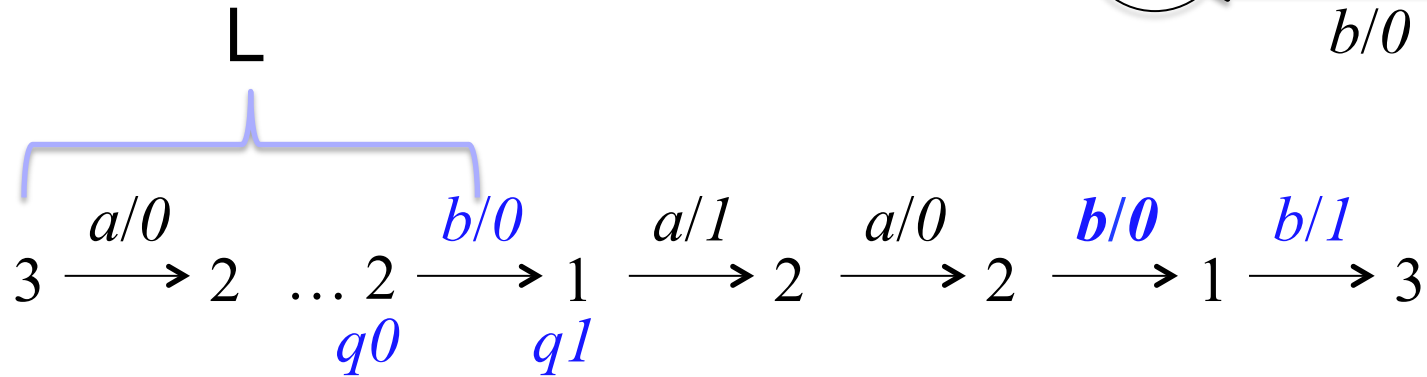
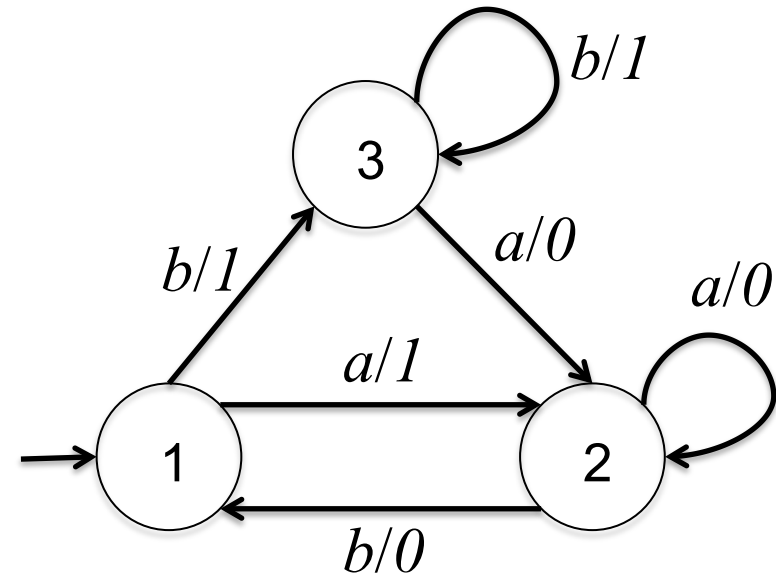
Example: $W = \{a, b\}$, $N=3$



Localizer seq. $L = a^5b$



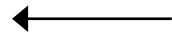
Example (end)



It pays off to learn without reset !



← Learner



- single I/O RTT over LAN: <1ms

- reset=reboot VM: ~1minute

finite state

Cost of single reset ~sequence of 10^5 inputs

- If we know W of 2 elements, it is FASTER to learn WITHOUT reset !
- If we know W of 3 elements, it may still pay off depending on number and length of queries



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- Enhancements for various issues
 - Counter-example processing
 - No Reset
 - Integration
 - EFSM
- Related work

Integration testing

■ Popular issues

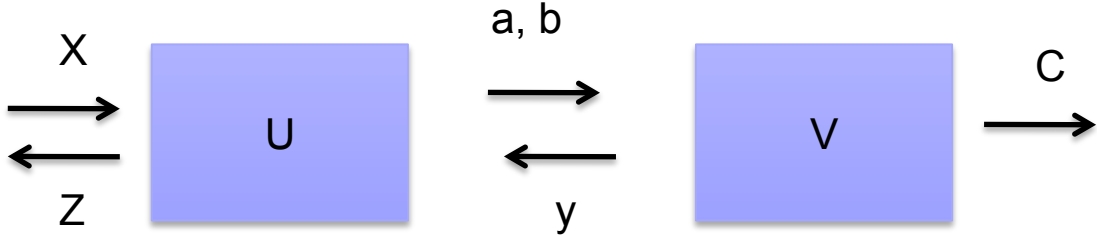
- Architecture, testability
- Integration order, stubbing
- Interoperability testing

No formal models ☹️

■ *Combining integration with Model Learning* 😊

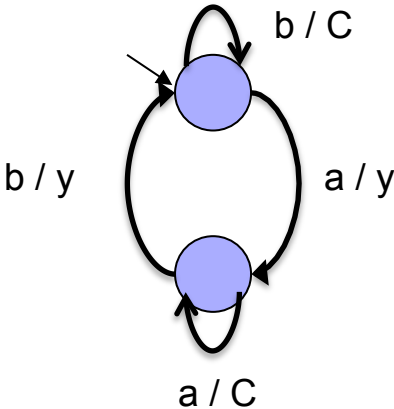
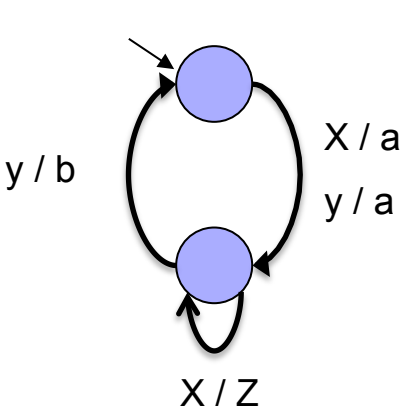
- Unit learning (1st approach)*
- Deriving integration tests from combined learned models*

Integration exposes models



Component U: $I_U = \{X, y\}$

Component V: $I_V = \{a, b\}$



Composed Model:

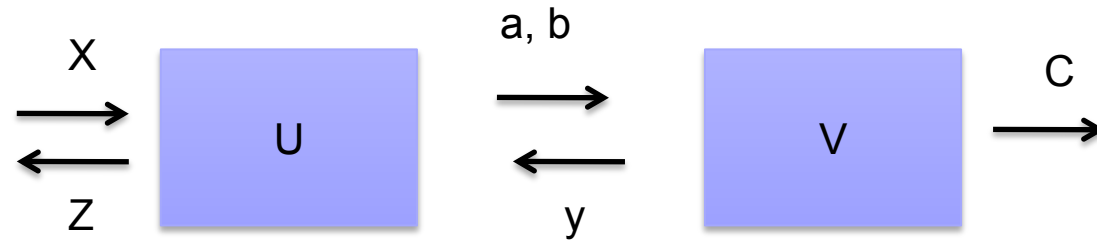
X a y b y a y b y a y ... Livelock !



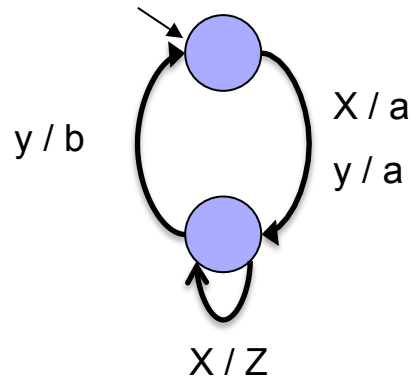
Analysing the problem

- Artefact ?
 - Possibly: models are approximate
- Check sequence on real system
 1. If Livelock confirmed: report error
 2. If Real sequence differ: counter example

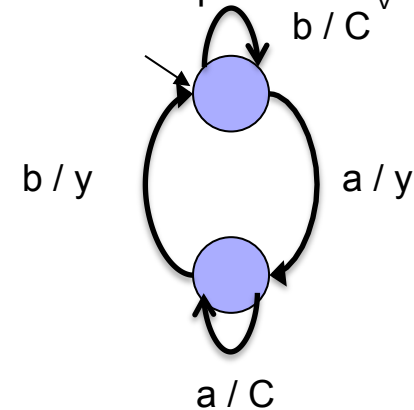
Integration provides counter-examples



Component U: $I_U = \{X, y\}$



Component V: $I_V = \{a, b\}$

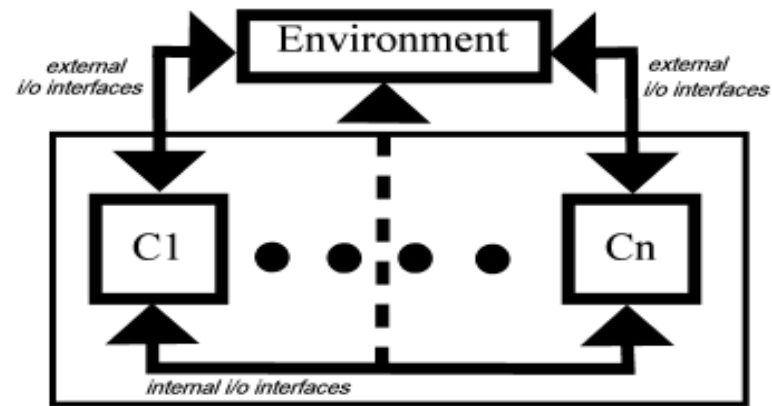


Composed Model: X a y b y a y b y a y ... Livelock !

Real : X a y b y a y b y **b C**

-> Refine U model with (projected) counter-example

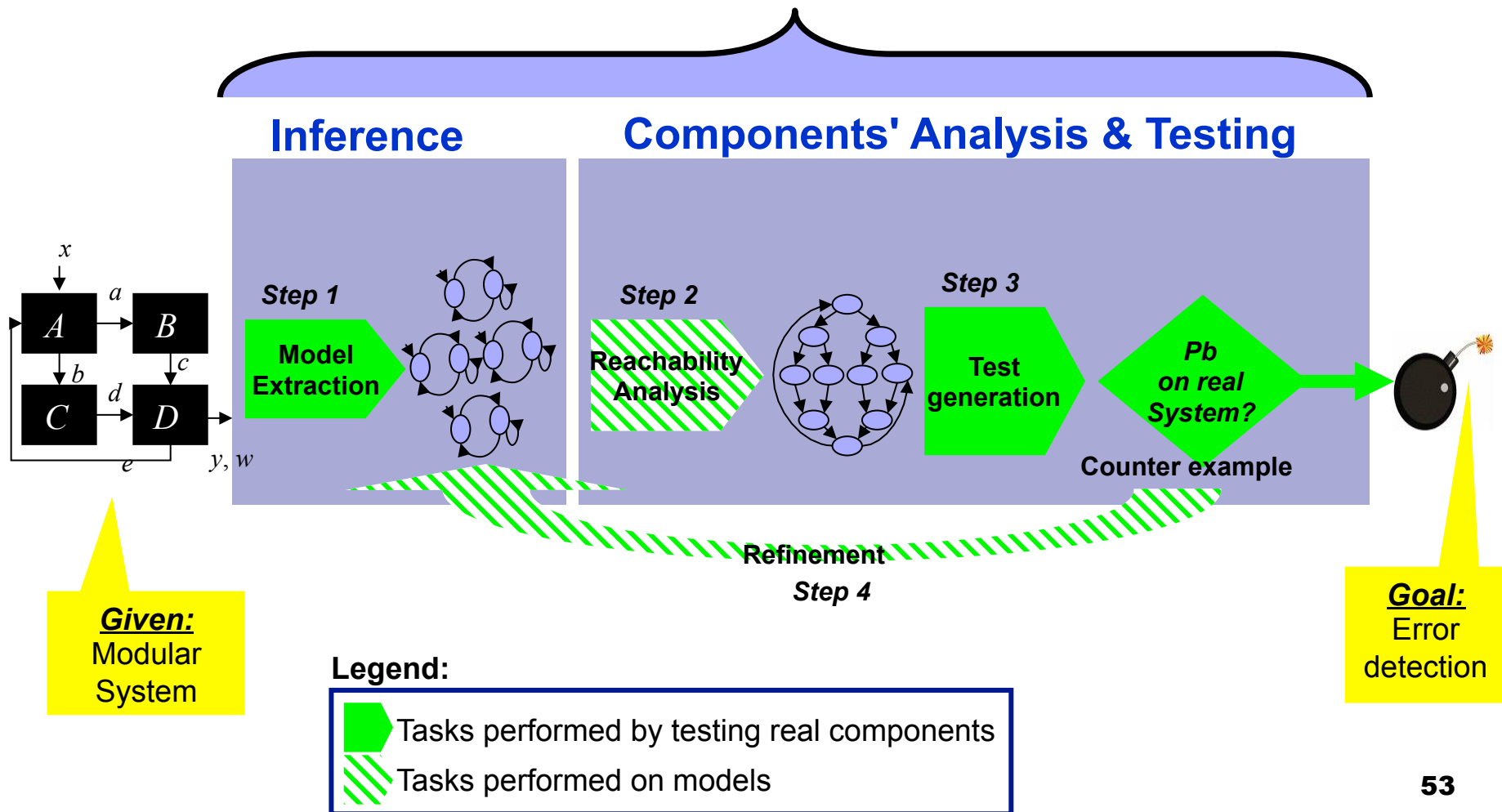
System architecture & assumptions



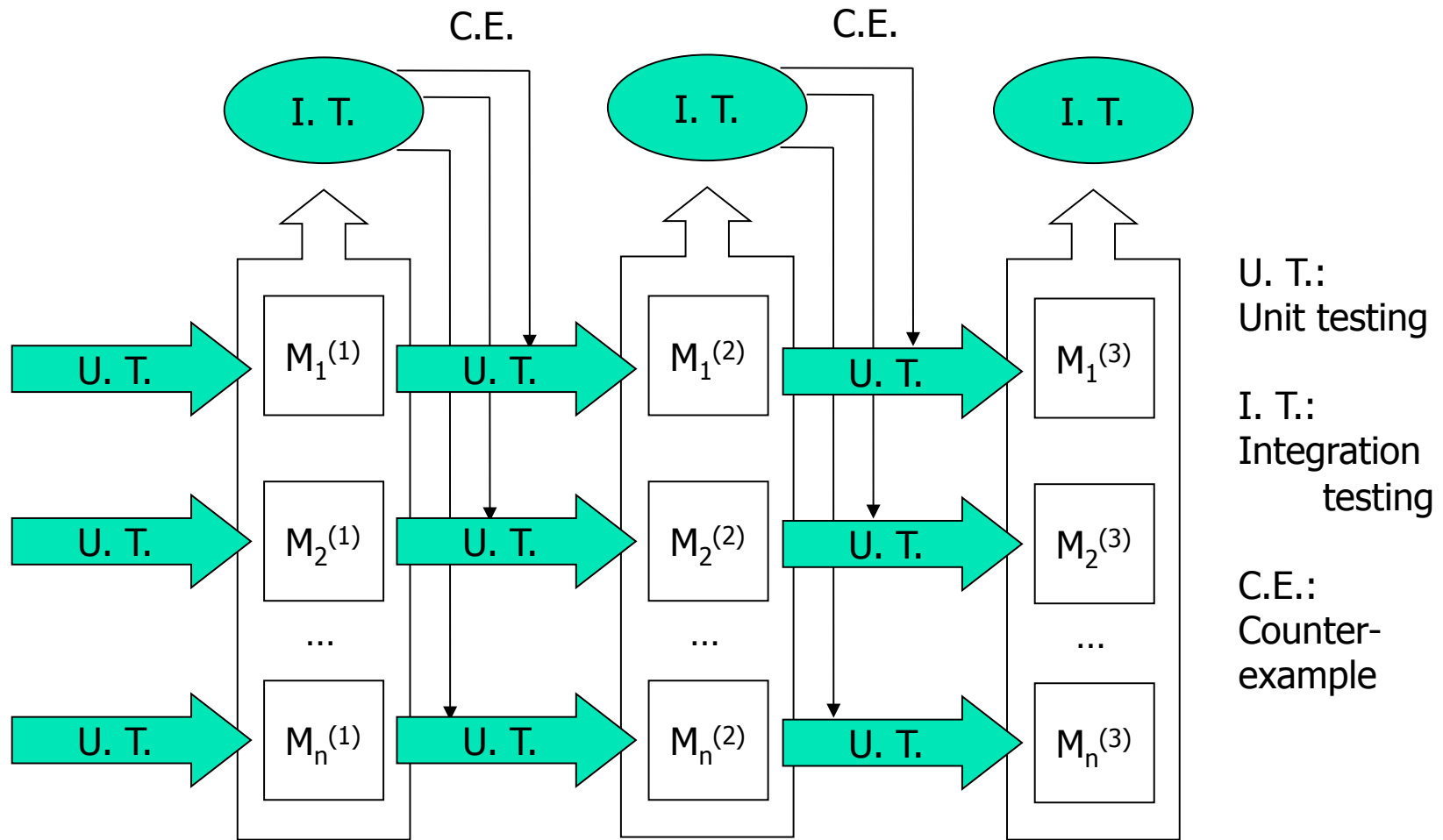
- System of communicating Mealy Machine Components
- Components are deterministic and input-enabled
- System has *External* and *Internal* i/o interfaces
 - External interface is controllable
 - External and Internal interfaces are observable
- Single Message in Transit and Slow Environment

Overview (simplified)

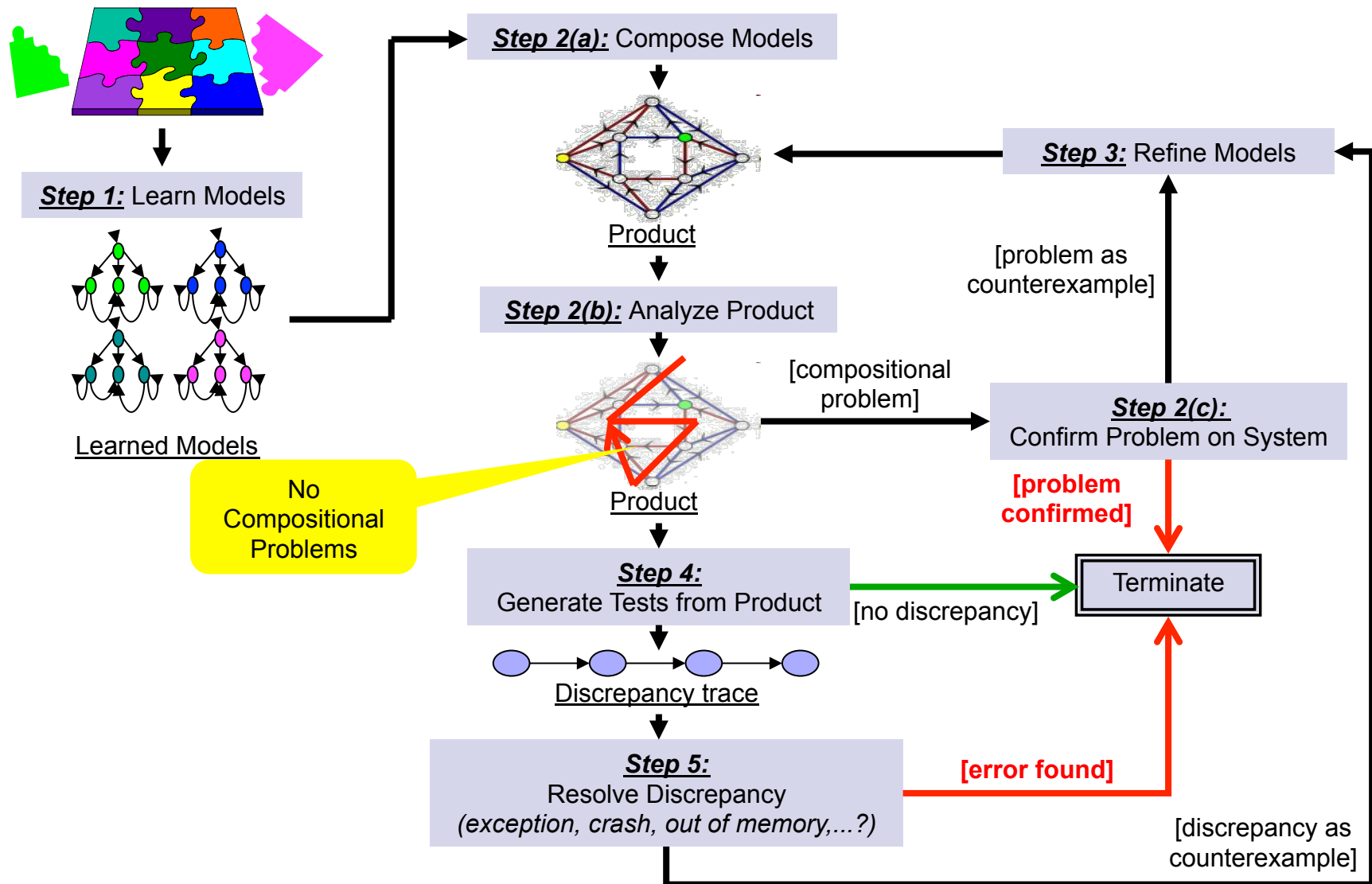
Verification



Iterations



Learning & Testing Framework





Outline

- Motivation: why learning ?
- ML & Soft. Engineering
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Learning extended FSM

- Dealing with boolean variables
 - Th. Berg, B. Jonsson & H. Raffelt FASE 2006
- Parameterized inputs/outputs
 - no var, arbitrary I/O functions: Shahbaz 2007
 - Var. with equality: Berg, Jonsson... 2008
- With variables
 - Register automata: Howar et al VMCAI 2012
 - With Data Mining inference of guards and output functions: Li, Hossen, Groz

Combining state & data inference

- Connecting to Daikon tool, for dynamic invariant detection

- Shahbaz ISOLA 2007

Daikon: inductive inference of functions from samples

$y=f(x)$

M. Ernst (U. Washington)



- Weka & FSM inference

- Dury & Petrenko: security of Web interface

- Li & Groz: EFSM inference

Weka: data mining toolset, clustering (U. Waikato)



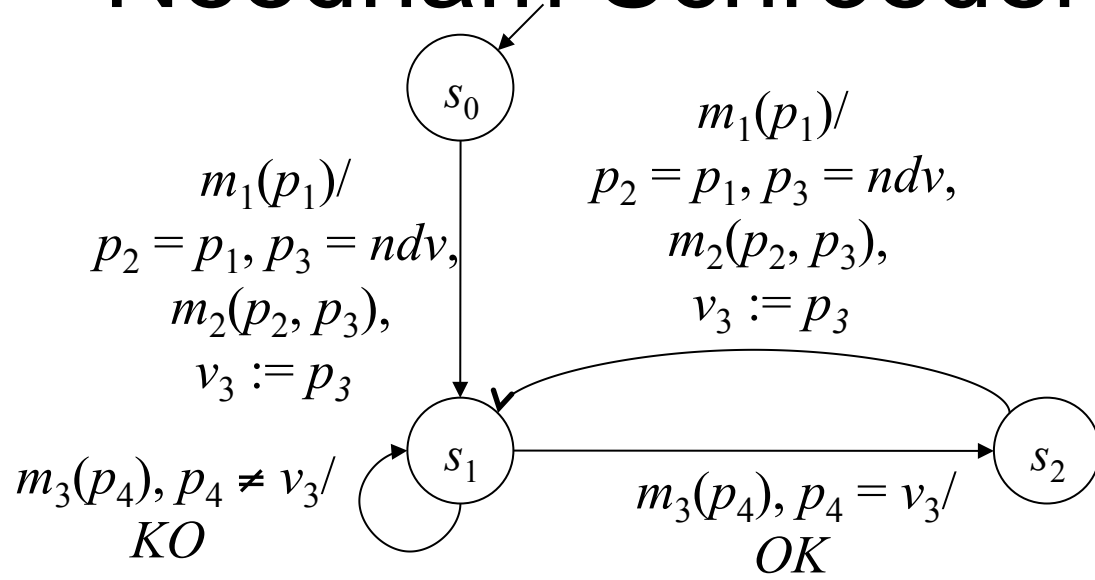


Inferring for security

- Input parameters critical (e.g. Cross site scripting...)
- Storing past values: cookies, session IDs
- Non-deterministic values: nonces

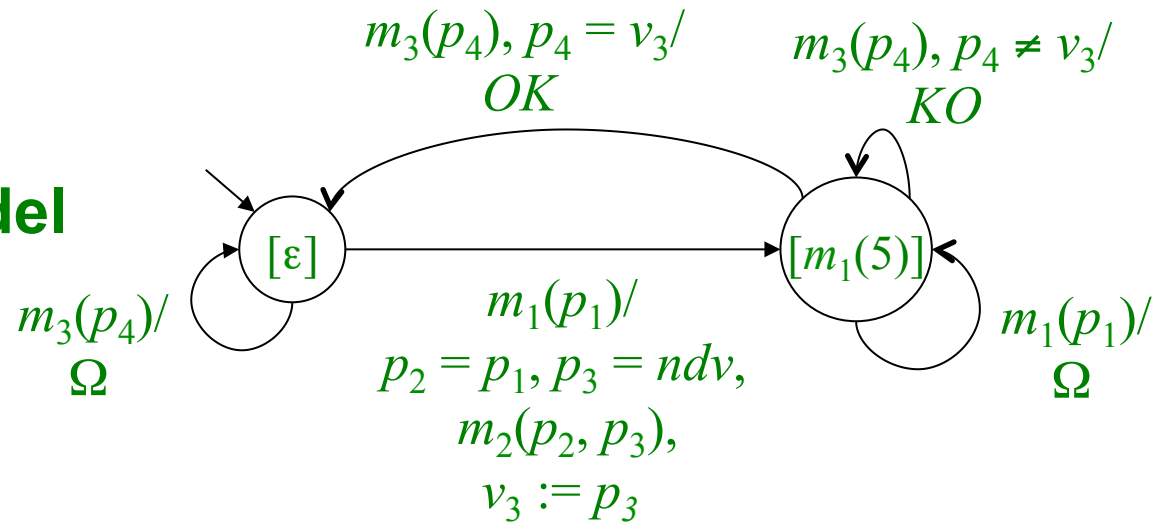
- Model: Extended FSM with ND values, and storage

Needham Schroeder authentication



Extended FSM model of NSPK Responder

Inferred EFSM model



State inference // data inference

	m_1	m_1
ε	$(5, m_2)$ (ndv_3, m_2)	$(10, \Omega)$ (ndv_3, Ω)
$m_1(5)$	$(5, \Omega),$ (ndv_3, Ω)	$(10, KO)$ (ndv_3, OK)
$m_3(10)$	$(5, m_2)$ (ndv_3, m_2)	$(10, \Omega)$ (ndv_3, Ω)
$m_1(5)$ $m_1(5)$	$(5, \Omega),$ (ndv_3, Ω)	$(10, KO)$ (ndv_3, OK)
$m_1(5)m_3(10)$	$(5, \Omega),$ (ndv_3, Ω)	$(10, KO)$ (ndv_3, OK)

	m_1	m_1
ε	$(5, (0, 0, 0, 0)$ $\rightarrow (5, ndv)),$ $(0, (0, 0, 0, 0)$ $\rightarrow (0, ndv))$	$(10, (0, 0, 0, 0)$ $\rightarrow \omega),$ $(0, (0, 0, 0, 0)$ $\rightarrow \omega)$
$m_1(5)$		
$m_3(10)$	$(5, (0, 0, 0, 10)$ $\rightarrow (5, 600)),$ $(0, (0, 0, 0, 10)$ $\rightarrow (0, 800))$	$(10, (0, 0, 0,$ $10) \rightarrow \omega),$ $(0, (0, 0, 0, 10)$ $\rightarrow \omega)$
$m_1(5)$ $m_1(5)$	$(5, (5, 5, 900,$ $0) \rightarrow \omega),$ $(0, (5, 5, 110,$ $0) \rightarrow \omega)$	$(10, (5, 5, 120,$ $0) \rightarrow \omega),$ $(130, (5, 5,$ $130, 0) \rightarrow \omega)$
$m_1(5)m_3(10)$	$(5, (5, 5, 140,$ $10) \rightarrow \omega),$ $(150, (5, 5,$ $150, 10) \rightarrow \omega),$	$(10, (5, 5, 150,$ $10) \rightarrow \omega),$ $(160, (5, 5,$ $160, 10) \rightarrow \omega)$



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Related work

■ Active learning in Soft. Eng/Testing

- D. Peled (Bar-Ilan): Black Box Checking (1999)
- C. Pašareanu (NASA): Assume-Guarantee Proof(2008)
- B. Steffen, H. Raffelt (Dortmund): Dynamic Testing via Automata Learning (2003-2007)
- D. Lee & G. Shu (Ohio 2007): Security protocol testing
- B. Jonsson, T. Berg (Uppsala): Register automata
- K. Meinke (KTH): Learning Based Testing (& model checking), Congruence on Abstract Data Types
- F. Vaandrager, S. Verwer (Nijmegen): Smartcard



Related work

- Many other approaches

- Specification mining, becoming popular

- May assume code available, often passive

- Typical papers:

- Ammons (POPL 2002) coined the word

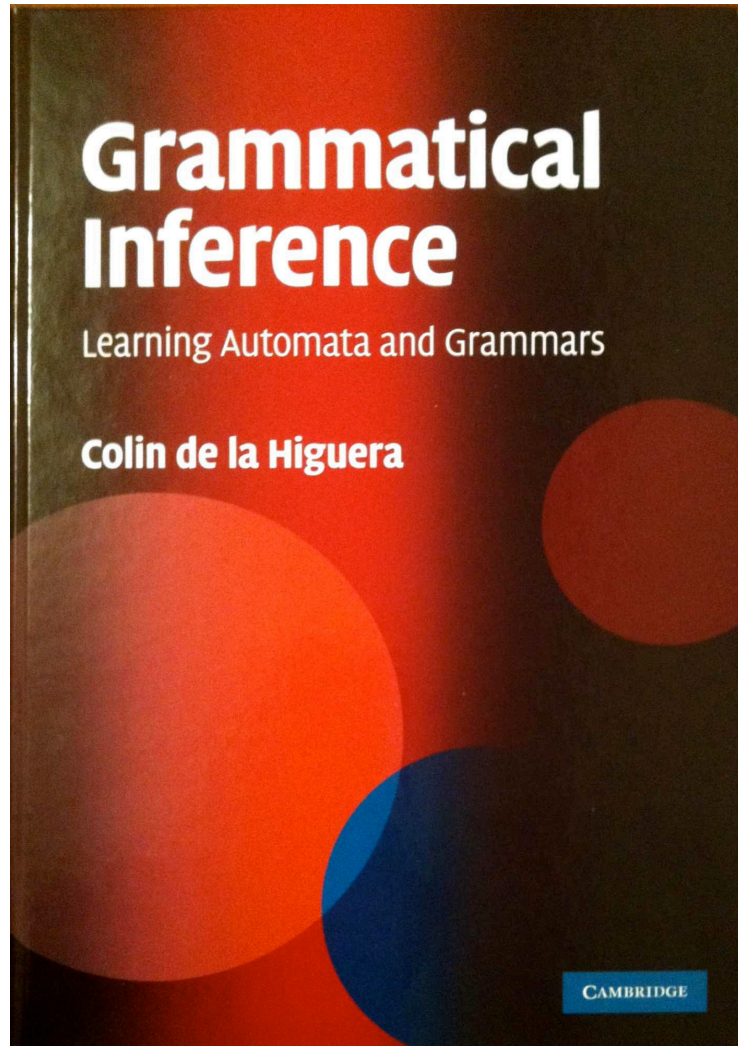
- Lorenzoli, Mariani, Pezze (ICSE 2008)

- Bertolino, Inverardi (FSE 2009)

- Use of (statistical) Machine Learning in testing

- E.g. for test data classification & partition refinement (Briand 2008)

Reference book on learning automata



- For machine learning in general:
 - Many references,
 - e.g. A. Cornéjuols & L. Miclet
- No book as yet for Software Testing & machine learning
 - Planned April 2017 (Springer): outcome of Dagstuhl seminar 2016