

# COL:750

## Foundations of Automatic Verification

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Course Webpage



<https://priyanka-golia.github.io/teaching/COL-750/index.html>

Consider a Kripke structure over propositional variables  $\{a, b, c\}$  with states  $s_0, \dots, s_7$  corresponding to the 8 possible valuations of these variables. Start state is  $s_0$ .

The transition relation is

$$T(a, b, c, a', b', c') = (a' \leftrightarrow b) \wedge (b' \leftrightarrow c)$$

for each state  $s_i$ , the binary representation of  $i$  gives the truth values of  $a, b, c$  that is,  $L(s_i)$  is the corresponding set of literals.

For example —  $L(s_0) = \neg a, \neg b, \neg c$

For example —  $L(s_4) = a, \neg b, \neg c$

Check if the Kripke structure satisfies

$\forall \square \neg a \vee \neg b \vee \neg c$  using BMC for  $k = 3$ .

$$T(a, b, c, a', b', c') = (a' \leftrightarrow b) \wedge (b' \leftrightarrow c) \quad k = 3, \quad \forall \square \neg a \vee \neg b \vee \neg c$$

$$\text{CheckSAT}((\neg a_0 \wedge \neg b_0 \wedge \neg c_0) \wedge (a_1 \leftrightarrow b_0) \wedge (b_1 \leftrightarrow c_0) \wedge (a_2 \leftrightarrow b_1) \wedge (b_2 \leftrightarrow c_1) \wedge (a_3 \leftrightarrow b_2) \wedge (b_3 \leftrightarrow c_2) \\ \wedge ((a_1 \wedge b_1 \wedge c_1) \vee (a_2 \wedge b_2 \wedge c_2) \vee (a_3 \wedge b_3 \wedge c_3)))$$

SAT - <

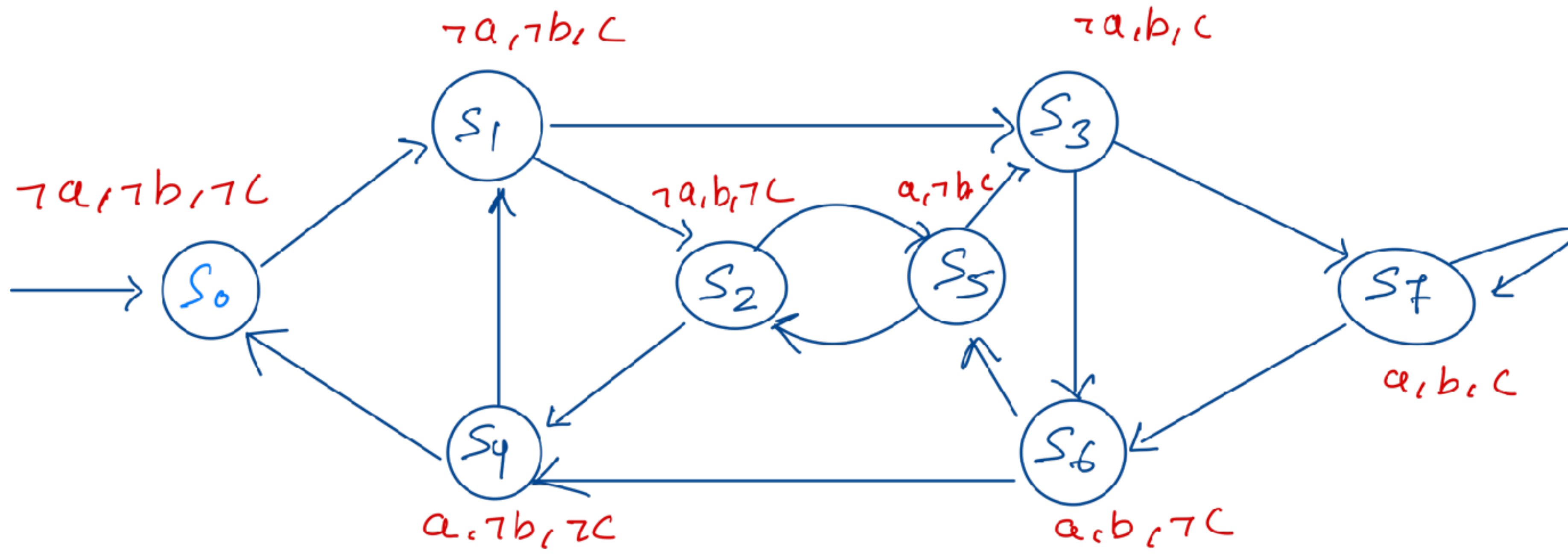
$$a_0 = 0, b_0 = 0, c_0 = 0, a_1 = 0, b_1 = 0, c_1 = 1, a_2 = 0, b_2 = 1, c_2 = 1, a_3 = 1, b_3 = 1, c_3 = 1 >$$

$$\langle S_0, S_1, S_3, S_7 \rangle$$

Notice we didn't need to draw the state diagram!

Now, think about the case when we have 100/1000/10,000 variables, number of states  $2^{|\text{Vars}|}$  — in this storing and working with state diagram is not right!

Hence, SAT solvers will be useful



$$T(a, b, c, a', b', c') = (a' \leftrightarrow b) \wedge (b' \leftrightarrow c)$$

$$\forall \square \neg a \vee \neg b \vee \neg c$$

# Bounded Model Checking with SAT (BMC)

Diameter of M

Given a model M, the diameter of M is a completeness threshold for any property of the form  $\forall \square p$

Safety properties — something always holding.

Counterexample —  $(\exists \diamond \neg p)$  can we find a bad state in k step?

For Safety property, d is a completeness threshold.

# Bounded Model Checking with SAT (BMC)

Diameter of M The diameter of a Kripke structure is the longest shortest path between any two reachable states. Formally:

$$\text{Diameter}(M) = \underset{\forall s, s' \in T}{\text{Max}} \text{ShortestPathLength}(s, s')$$

How to check if  $K \stackrel{?}{\geq} d$ ?

State  $s$  is reachable in  $j$  steps:

$$R_j(s) = \exists s_0, \dots, s_j \ s . t . \ s_j \wedge I(s_0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{j-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1})$$

$K$  is greater than or equal to Diameter  $d$  if

$$\forall s : R_{k+1}(s) \rightarrow \exists j \leq k \ R_j(s)$$

For all states, does there exists a path of length at most  $k$ ?

Computationally hard problem — requires QBF calls.

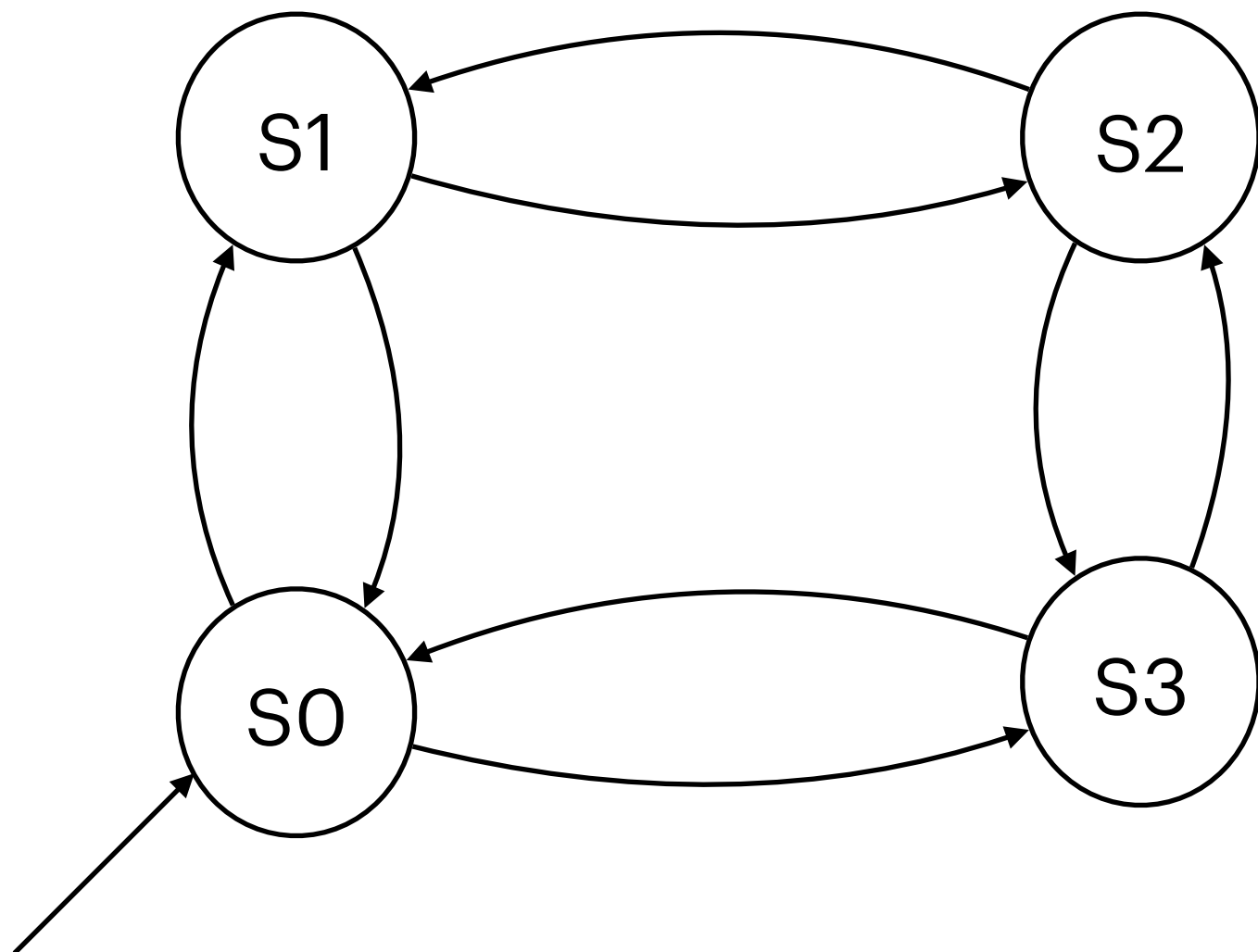
# Bounded Model Checking with SAT (BMC)

Recurrence Diameter: the longest length of a path starting from the initial state **without repeating any state**.

$rd$  is the longest loop-free path in  $M$ .

Recurrence Diameter ( $rd$ ) is an upper bound for the diameter  $d$ .

$$d = 2 \quad rd = 3$$



This means that after  $rd$  steps, either:

All reachable states have been visited.

Any further steps must repeat a previously visited state.

# Bounded Model Checking with SAT (BMC)

Recurrence Diameter: the longest length of a path starting from the initial state **without repeating any state**

$rd$  is the longest loop-free path in  $M$ .

Recurrence Diameter ( $rd$ ) is an upper bound for the diameter  $d$ .

How to check if  $K \stackrel{?}{\geq} rd$

1. To ensure the path remains acyclic, we need to enforce that no two states along the path are the same:

$$1. \quad \forall s_0, \dots, s_k : I(s_0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \rightarrow \bigvee_{l=0}^{k-1} \bigvee_{j=l+1}^k s_l = s_j$$

Expensive SAT call.

Smallest  $k$  for which this is UNSAT is  $\geq rd$

# Bounded Model Checking with SAT (BMC)

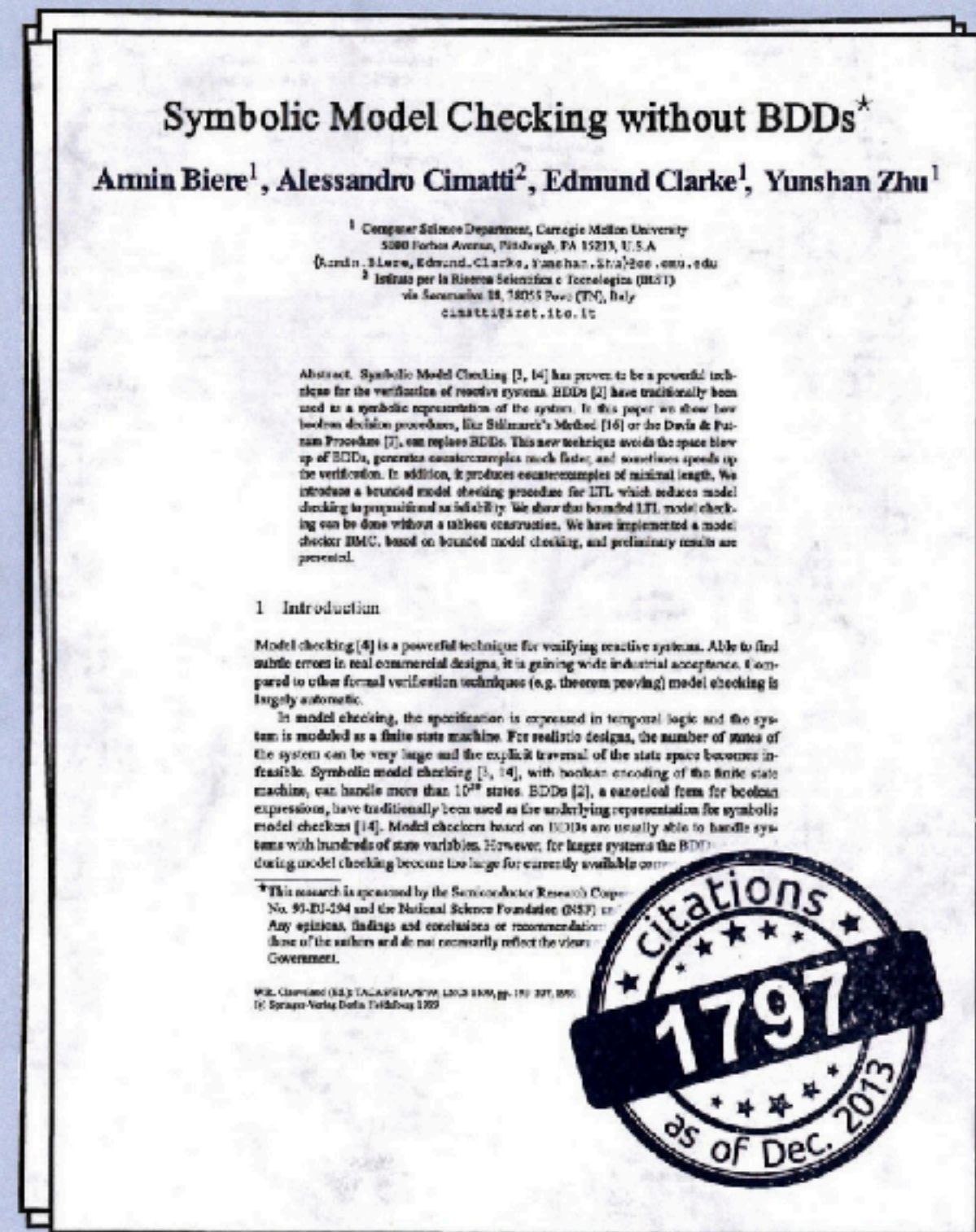
General idea:

Fix a  $K$

1. Convert transition system to propositional encoding — unroll for path length  $k$
2. Convert temporal formula along the states to propositional encoding for  $k$  length
3. Using SAT Solvers look for counterexamples
4. Found a counterexample :  
Return counterexample
5. Else:  
 $K = K + 1$
6. At some point, check if  $K \stackrel{?}{\geq} rd$  Return True, Else:  $K = K + 1$  For safety property.

# AWARD

Most influential paper  
in the first 20 years of TACAS



**extensions to completeness**  
diameter checking,  
k-induction,  
interpolation –  
SAT based model checking without unrolling:  
IC3

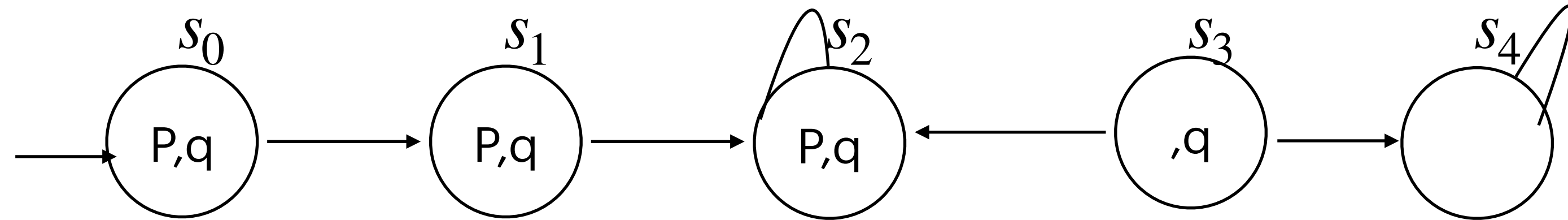
April 8th 2014, Grenoble

*W. R. Cleveland II*  
*Steve Zuck*  
*Kim Leusser*

**Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.

Often the completeness threshold is very large.

Exploring techniques that requires fewer unwinding.



$$M \models \forall \square p \quad M \models \forall \square q$$

Induction principles —

To prove the claim  $Q(n)$  for all values of some parameter  $n$ .

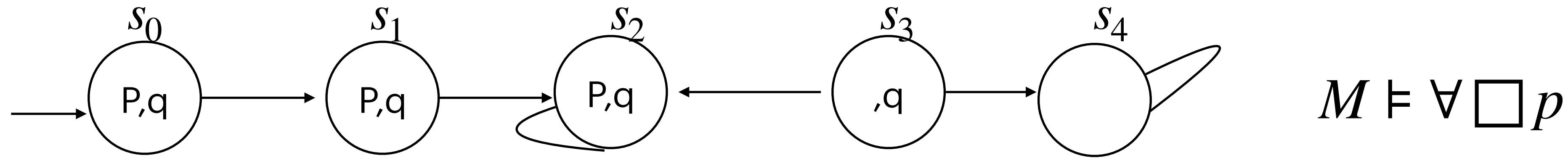
We need to show the  
validity of these cases

Base case —  $Q(0)$

Inductive step case —  $Q(n-1) \rightarrow Q(n)$

# Induction

For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.



Induction principles

To prove  $\forall \square p$ , we prove that  $p(\pi(n))$  holds for  $\forall n$

Given  $M$ ,  $\pi$  denotes a path in  $M$ .

$i^{th}$  state in  $\pi$  is  $\pi(i)$ .

$p(\pi(i))$  is to denote that property  $p$  holds in state  $\pi(i)$

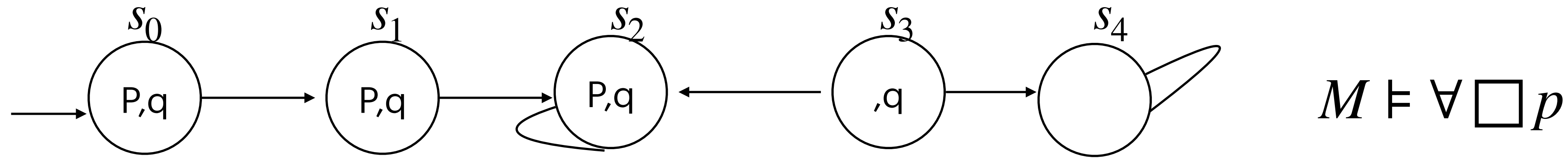
Idea — base case (initial states).  $p(s_0)$  holds.

Inductive step. Assuming  $p(\pi(n - 1))$  holds,  $p(\pi(n))$  must hold.

all the states labelled with  $p$ , that is,  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  All the states where  $p(\pi(n - 1))$  holds!

$p(\pi(n))$  must hold true, which will be successor of  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\} - \{1, 2, \dots\}$

**Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.



To prove  $\forall \square p$ , we prove that  $p(\pi(n))$  holds for  $\forall n$

Idea — base case (initial states).  $p(s_0)$  holds.

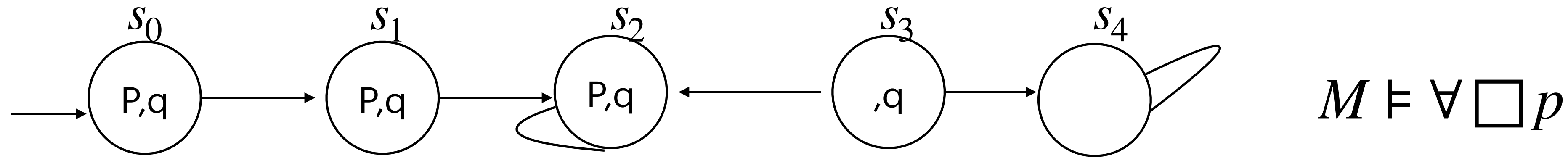
Inductive step.  $p(\pi(n - 1))$  holds, states labelled with p, that is,  $\{0,1,2\}$

$p(\pi(n))$  must hold true, which will be successor of  $\{0,1,2\} - \{1,2\}$

Validity of the base case and inductive step?

Validity of  $F \equiv \neg F$  being UNSAT.

**Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.



To prove  $\forall \square p$ , we prove that  $p(\pi(n))$  holds for  $\forall n$

For base case, check satisfiability of

$$s_o \wedge \neg p(s_o) \quad \forall s_o \in I \quad (p_o \wedge q_o) \wedge \neg p_o$$

If this is UNSAT, then all initial state satisfy p.

Inductive case — observation  $T(\pi(n - 1), \pi(n))$  holds.

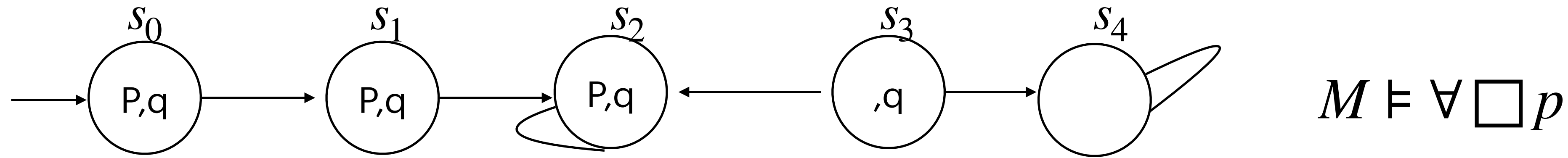
Let  $s$  be the states in  $\pi(n - 1)$

Let  $s'$  be the states in  $\pi(n)$

Validity of  $p(s) \wedge T(s, s') \rightarrow p(s')$

CheckSAT( $p(s) \wedge T(s, s') \wedge \neg p(s')$ )

**Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.



To prove  $\forall \square p$ , we prove that  $p(\pi(n))$  holds for  $\forall n$

Inductive case — observation  $T(\pi(n - 1), \pi(n))$  holds.

Let  $s$  be the states in  $\pi(n - 1)$       Let  $s'$  be the states in  $\pi(n)$

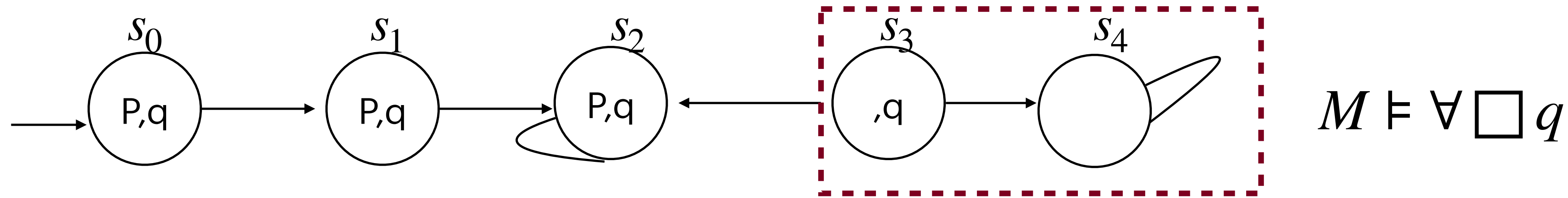
Validity of  $p(s) \wedge T(s, s') \rightarrow p(s')$       CheckSAT( $p(s) \wedge T(s, s') \wedge \neg p(s')$ )  $\forall s \in S, \text{ s.t. } P(s)$

Inductive steps — any reachable state in model M

CheckSAT( $(p_0 \wedge \neg p'_1) \vee (p_1 \wedge \neg p'_2) \vee (p_2 \vee \neg p'_3) \wedge T$ )

# Induction

For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.



To prove  $\forall \square q$ , we prove that  $q(\pi(n))$  holds for  $\forall n$

Base case:  $q_0 \wedge \neg q_0$  UNSAT

Inductive case:  $((q_0 \wedge \neg q'_1) \vee (q_1 \wedge \neg q'_2) \vee (q_2 \wedge \neg q'_2) \vee (q_3 \wedge \neg q'_4) \vee (q_3 \wedge \neg q'_2)) \wedge T$  SAT

$M \stackrel{?}{\models} \forall \square q$

Inductive step case  $\neg q(\pi(n - 1)) \rightarrow q(\pi(n))$

Inductive case also deals with unreachable states

**K-Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.

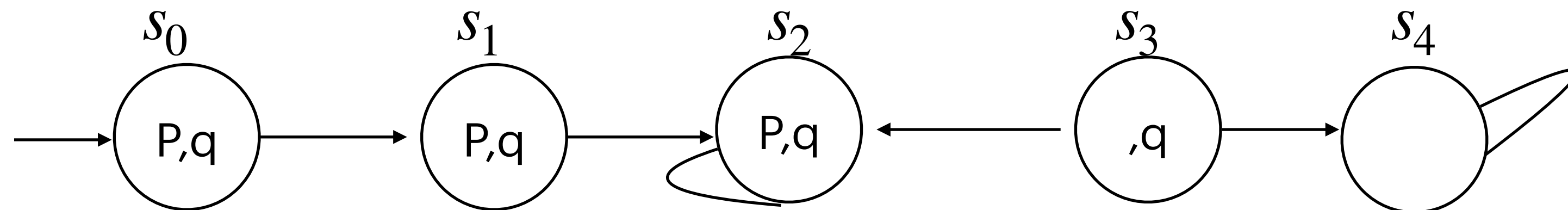
we strengthen the criterion for base case, and weaken the criterion for step case.

Input  $K, M, F/P$

Base case —  $p(0) \wedge \dots \wedge p(K - 1)$

Step case —  $p(n - K) \wedge \dots \wedge p(n - 1) \rightarrow p(n)$

Any path with  $k$  states labelled with  $p$ ,  
is followed by a state labelled with  $p$ .



$M \models \forall \square q \quad K = 2$

**K-Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.

Base case —  $p(0) \wedge \dots \wedge p(K - 1)$  Step case —  $p(n - K) \wedge \dots \wedge p(n - 1) \rightarrow p(n)$

Base case — property holds in K states starting from initial state Same as BMC

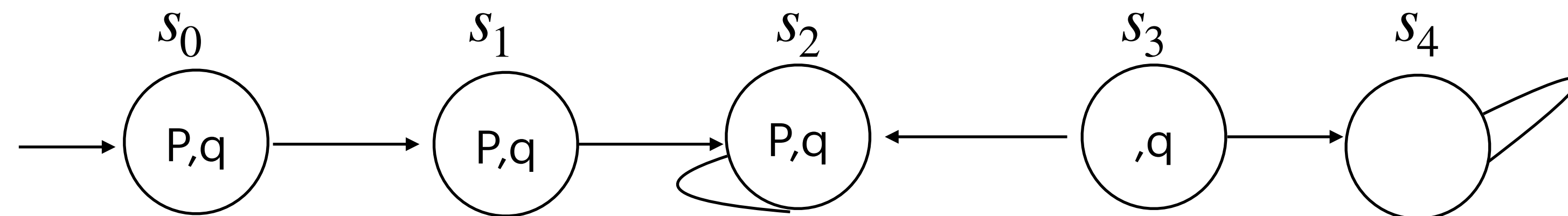
Property q holds true in  $\{0,1\}$

Inductive step — we need to consider all paths with two states.

Property q holds true in  $\{0,1\}, \{1,2\}, \{2,2\}, \{3,2\}$

For each of these paths, q holds in their successor

Property q holds true in  $\{2\}$



$M \models \forall \square q$

$K = 2$

**K-Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.

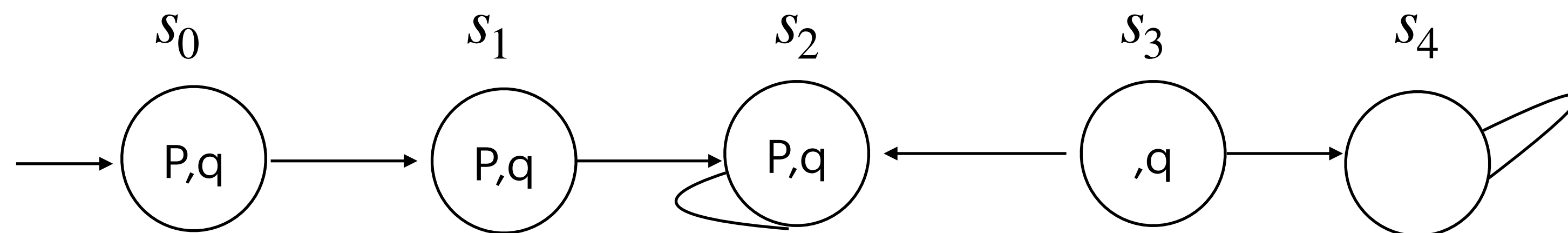
Base case —  $p(0) \wedge \dots \wedge p(K - 1)$       Step case —  $p(n - K) \wedge \dots \wedge p(n - 1) \rightarrow p(n)$

Base case — property holds in K states starting from initial state Same as BMC

$$M_k \wedge \neg p_k$$

Inductive step — we need to consider all paths with K states.

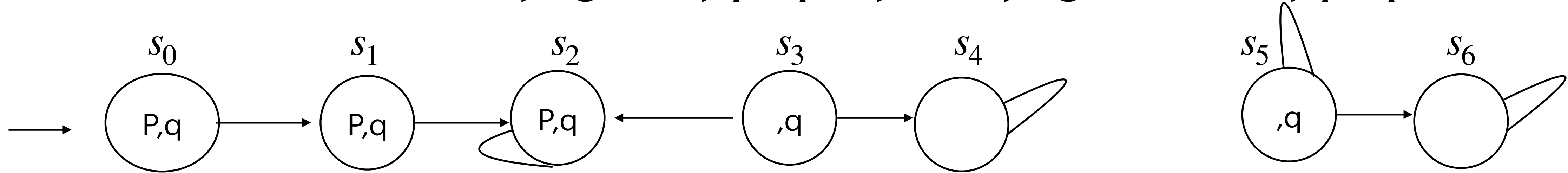
$$\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} ((p(s_i)) \wedge \neg p(s_k))$$



$$M \models \forall \square q$$

$$K = 2$$

**K-Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.



$$M \stackrel{?}{\models} \forall \square q$$

Neither of the two states are initial states  
Nor are they reachable from an initial state.

$$\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} ((p(s_i)) \wedge \neg p(s_k)) \quad \text{This should be UNSAT!}$$

No, irrespective of K, this is SAT

$$s_0 \mapsto 5, \dots, s_{k+1} \mapsto 5, s_k \mapsto 6$$

Therefore, to obtain completeness — we need to add  $\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} \bigwedge_{j=i+1}^k s_i \neq s_j$

Ensuring simple path

**K-Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.

Base case — property holds in K states starting from initial state

$$M_k \wedge \neg p_k \equiv I(s_o) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \wedge \neg p_k$$

Same as BMC

Inductive step — we need to consider all paths with K states.

$$\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} T(s_i, s_{i+1}) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} ((p(s_i)) \wedge \neg p(s_k) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} \bigwedge_{j=i+1}^k s_i \neq s_j$$

- If Base case is SAT, return counterexample.
- If Inductive case is UNSAT, return True.
- Otherwise, increase K and continue.

# **K-Induction** For verifying safety property/ verifying reachability properties.

k-induction extends the capabilities of BMC by not only detecting counterexamples within a bounded number of steps but also proving the absence of such counterexamples, thereby establishing the validity of properties over unbounded executions

## Observations

1. We do not need to know the exact reachable states, as long as we can guarantee they meet the property .
2. Beginning of “Property directed” techniques — which is associated with a family of techniques that build inductive invariants automatically

Property Directed Reachability (PDR) is another name for IC3 (Incremental Construction of Inductive Clauses for Indubitable Correctness).

The phrase “property directed” refers to how IC3 works — it constructs inductive invariants incrementally, guided by the property being verified.