



# Formal Methods for Dynamic Systems

**殷翔**

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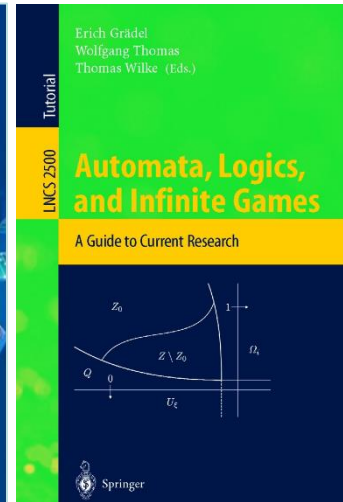
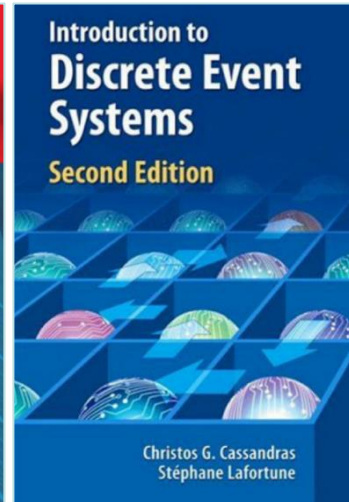
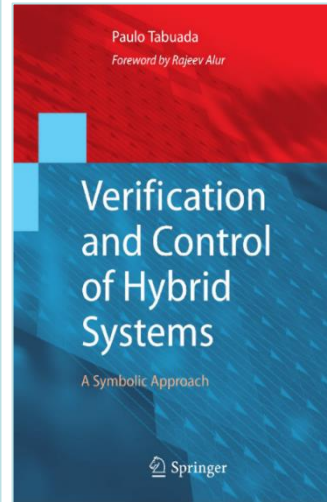
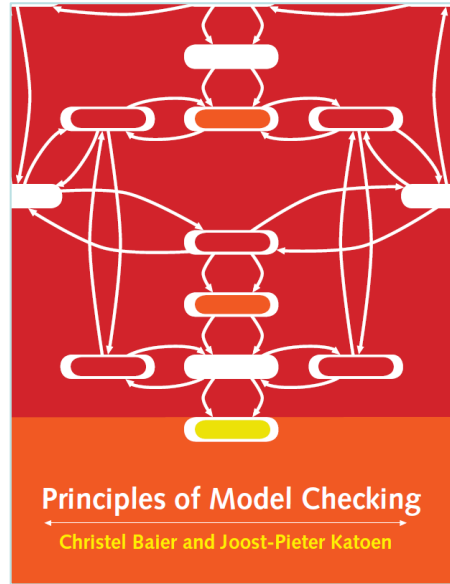
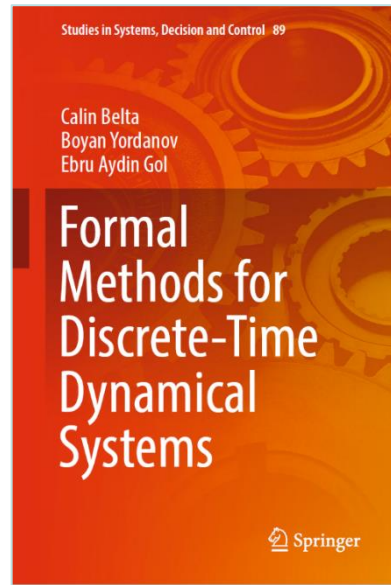
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**2021.07 厦门大学暑期课程**



# References



No required textbook, but you can read:

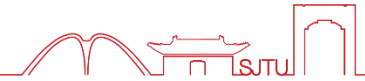
- “**Formal Methods for Discrete-Time Dynamical Systems**”, by Belta, Yordanov & Gol
- “**Principles of Model Checking**”, by Baier & Katoen
- “**Verification and Control of Hybrid Systems: A Symbolic Approach**”, by Tabuada
- “**Introduction to Discrete Event Systems**”, by Cassandras & Lafortune
- “**Automata, Logics and Infinite Games**”, by Gradel, Thomas & Wilke (Eds.)



# Introduction



# What is a Dynamic System



$$\mathcal{D}: \begin{cases} x_{t+1} = f(x_t, u_t, w_t) \\ y_t = g(x_t, u_t, v_t) \end{cases}$$

discrete-time dynamic system

$$\mathcal{D}: \begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t), w(t)) \\ y(t) = g(x(t), u(t), v(t)) \end{cases}$$

continuous-time dynamic system

- The system has a **state-space** that contains possibly infinite states
- The evolution of states is determined by a **dynamic function**
- The dynamic can be both physical laws or logic rules



Aircrafts



Robotics



Circuits

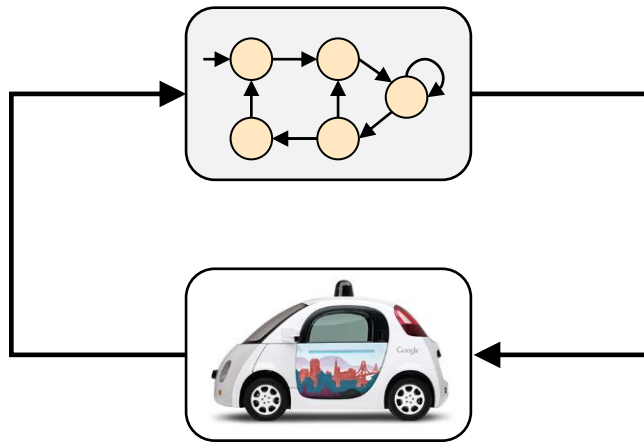


Program

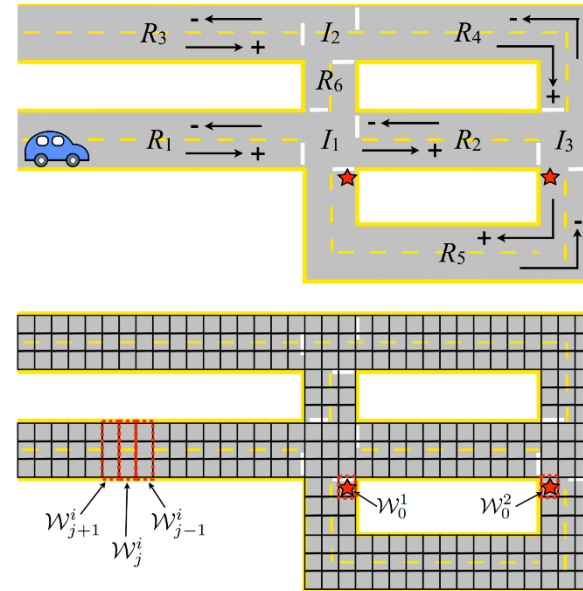


- **Classical analysis and design objectives for dynamic systems**
  - **controllability and observability analysis**
  - **stabilization and reference tracking**
  - **optimal control**
- **They are all about solving the differential equations and are about the “lower-level” dynamics of the system**
- **More dynamic systems are hybrid and the design objectives are more complicated and intelligent at the “high-level”**
  - **safety: avoid some logic error**
  - **liveness: eventually accomplish some tasks**
  - **security: some crucial information is not released**

# Autonomous Vehicles



$$\dot{x} = v, \dot{v} = a - kv^2$$



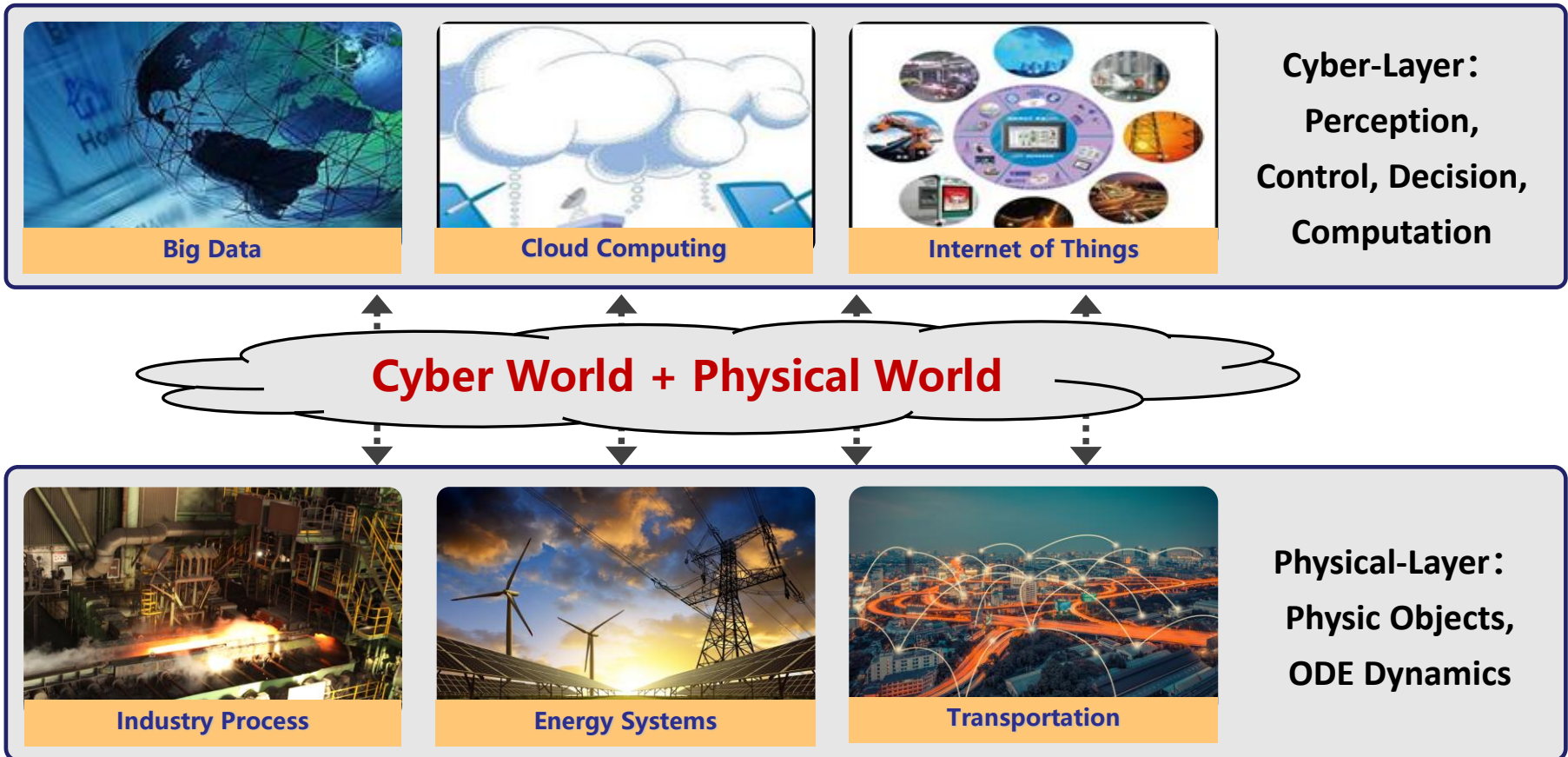
- There are many low-level point-to-point navigation/control algorithms
- Autonomous vehicles are also facing high-level decision/planning problems
- Go to region A before visiting region B
- Visit region A infinitely often without reaching region B
- React to dynamic environment and uncertainties: if see A, then do B

Picture From: Wongpiromsarn, Topcu & Murray, IEEE TAC, 2012

# Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)



Cyber-physical systems (CPS) integrate sensing, computation, control and networking into physical objects and infrastructure, connecting them to the internet and to each other. ---(NSF US)

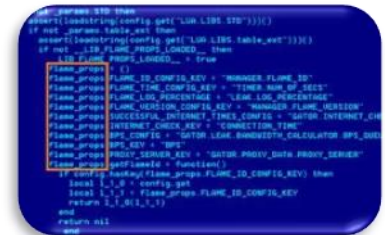


# Need Formal Methods



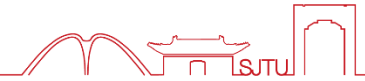
## Design Challenges in Control of CPS

- **Cyber-Physical Systems: Safety-Critical Infrastructures**
  - **Safety:** physical safety, functional safety, information security...
  - **Critical:** provide **100% guarantee!**
- **Cyber Controllers are Computational**
  - Logical and high level behaviors
- **CPS are very Complicated**
  - Fully automated design: **Correct-by-Construction**



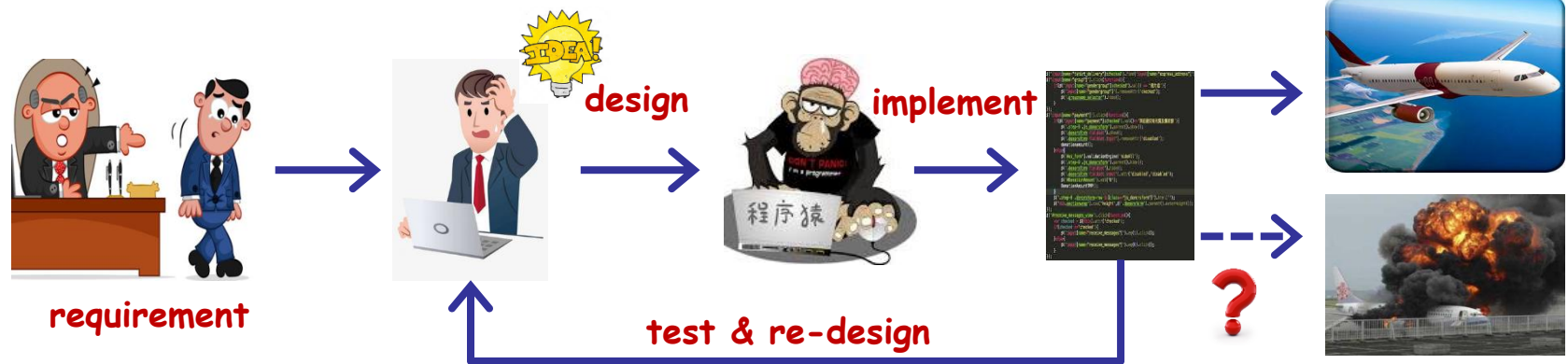


# Current Design Process



## Current Control Design Process for CPS

- given some spec by natural languages
- use engineering intuition/experience to come up with a solution
- extensive testing and iteration



## Problems

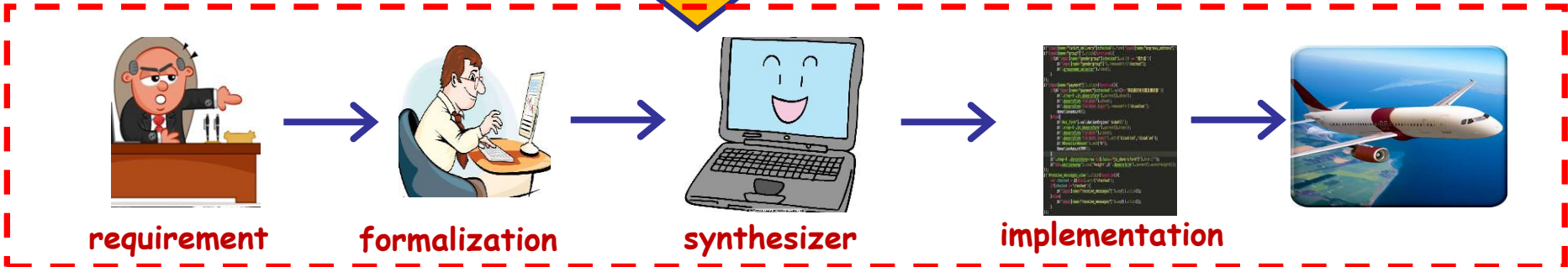
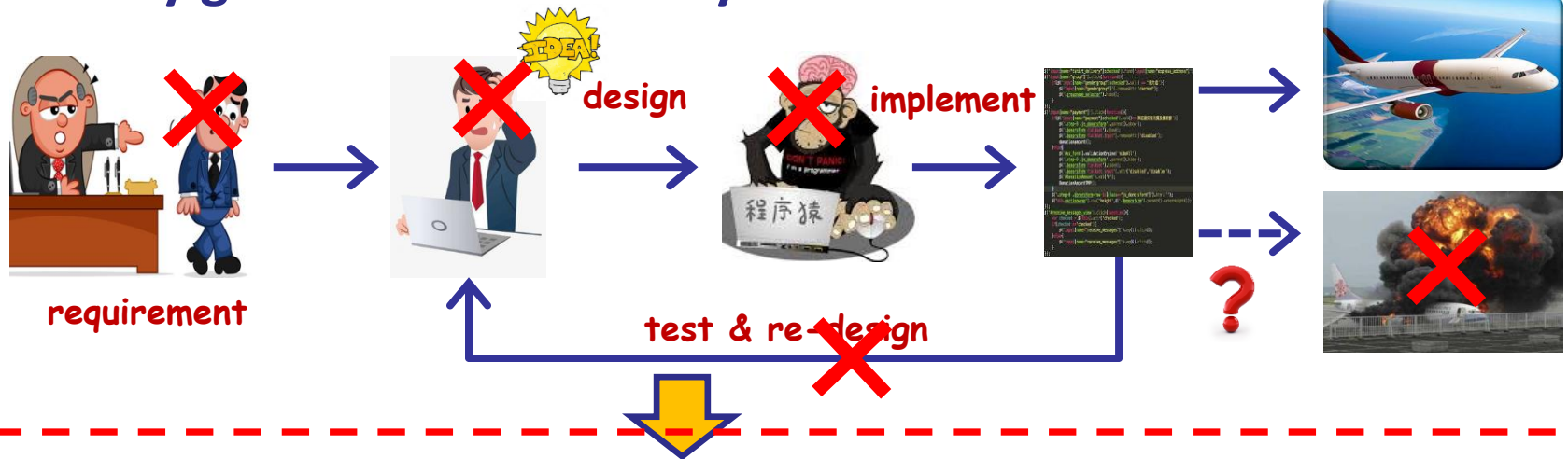
- not rigorous: Ad hoc approaches + lists of “if-then-else” rules
- little or no formal guarantees on correctness
- test & re-design: design period is very long

# Ideal Design Process



## Future Control Design Process for CPS (Hopefully!)

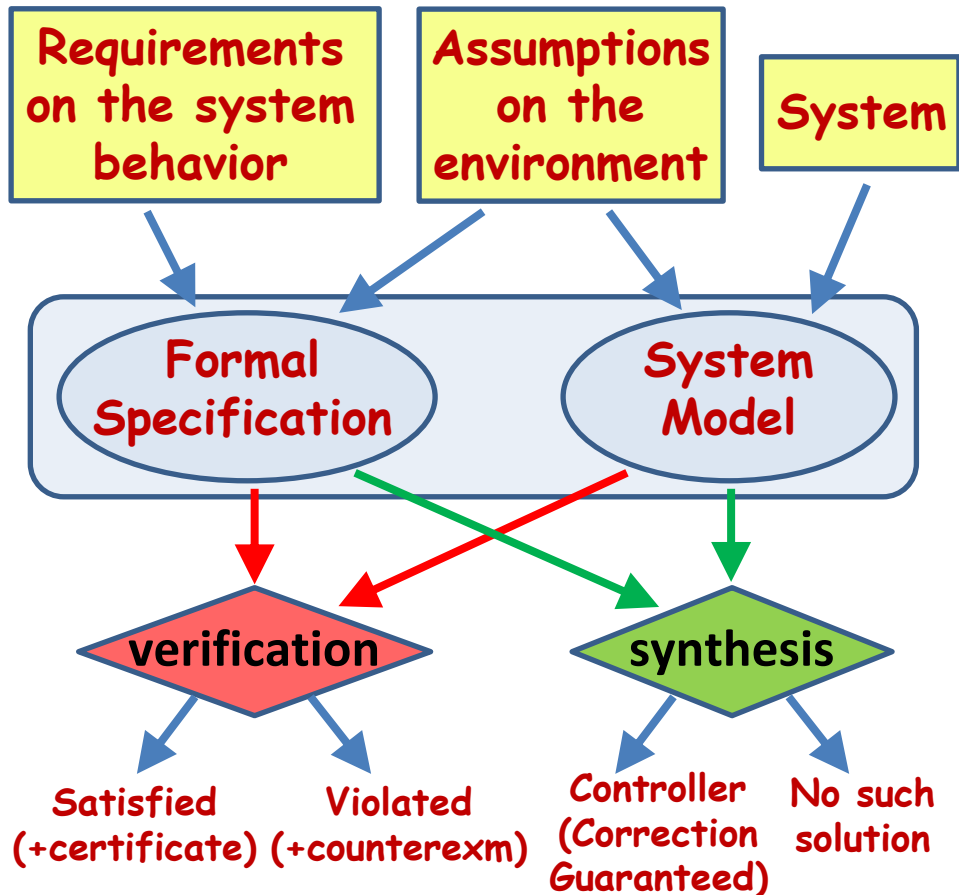
- rigorous requirement: no ambiguity
- fully automated: algorithmic process
- sequential design: no iteration
- safety guarantee: correct-by-construction



# Formal Methods: Two Basic Paradigms



## Formal Methods (Model-Based Approach)



## Formal Modeling

- Model: Transition Systems
- Specification: Formal Languages

## Verification (Analysis)

- Formal guarantee for spec

## Synthesis (Control Design)

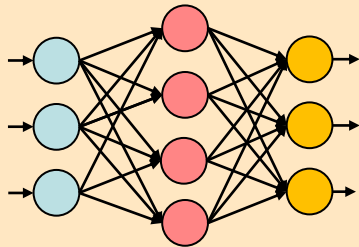
- Reactive to environment, e.g., controllability & observability
- **Correct-by-construction!**  
(No need to verify)

# Relationship with AI

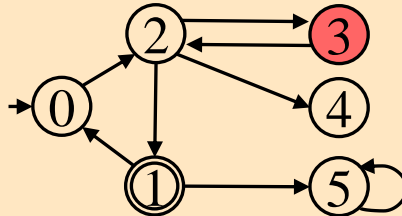


Formal reasoning & logic is the **Foundation of AI**

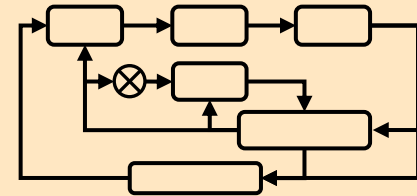
**Connectionism**



**Symbolicism**



**Actionism**



- AI is not just learning and neural networks
- Logics and formal reasoning are also important parts of AI
- Formal methods is closely related to dynamic systems

# You Will Learn in This Course



- How to **describe dynamic systems** using formal models
  - labeled transition systems
  - bisimulation and quotient-based abstraction
- How to **describe formal specifications/requirements**
  - linear-time properties
  - linear-temporal logics, computation tree logics (briefly)
- How to **formally verify** whether a model satisfies a specification
  - automata-based LTL model checking
  - finite-state automata, Büchi automata, Rabin automata
- How to **synthesize a reactive controller** to enforce a specification
  - game-based LTL controller synthesis
  - safety game, reachability game, Büchi game, Rabin game



## Set Theory

- **“belongs to”**  $\in$ ; **“subset”**  $\subseteq, \subset$ ; **“union”**  $\cup$ ; **“intersection”**  $\cap$
- **cartesian product:**  $A \times B = \{(a, b) : a \in A, b \in B\}$ , e.g.,  $\{1\} \times \{a, b\} = \{(1, a), (1, b)\}$
- **powerset:**  $2^A = \{x : x \subseteq A\}$ , e.g.,  $2^{\{a, b\}} = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$
- **cardinality:**  $|A|$  = number of elements in  $A$ , e.g.,  $|\{a, b, c\}| = 3$

## Propositional & Predicate Logics

- **“negation”**  $\neg$ ; **“and”**  $\wedge$ ; **“or”**  $\vee$ ; **“implies”**  $\rightarrow$  (note:  $a \rightarrow b \equiv \neg a \vee b$ )
- **quantifiers:** **“for all”**  $\forall$ ; **“there exists”**  $\exists$
- $(\exists x)(\forall y)[x \text{ loves } y] \rightarrow (\forall y)(\exists x)[x \text{ loves } y]$ ; this formula is always true
- $(\forall x)(\exists y)[x \text{ loves } y] \rightarrow (\exists y)(\forall x)[x \text{ loves } y]$ ; this formula is not always true

# Labeled Transition Systems



A labeled transition system (LTS) is a tuple

$$T = (X, U, \rightarrow, X_0, AP, L)$$

- $X$  is a set of **states**
- $U$  is a set of **inputs** (controls or actions)
- $\rightarrow \subseteq X \times U \times X$  is a **transition relation**
- $X_0 \subseteq X$  is a set of **initial states**
- $AP$  is a set of **atomic propositions**
- $L: X \rightarrow 2^{AP}$  is a **labeling function**

➤ For any  $(x, u, x') \in \rightarrow$ , we also write it as  $x \xrightarrow{u} x'$

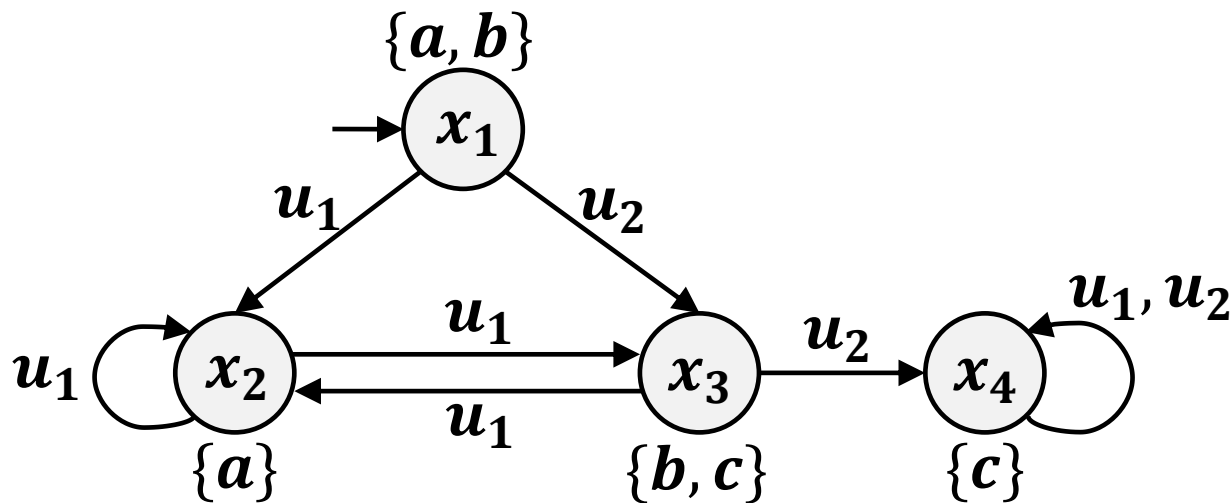
➤  $\rightarrow$  can also be considered as a partial function from  $X \times U$  to  $2^X$



# Graph Representation of LTS



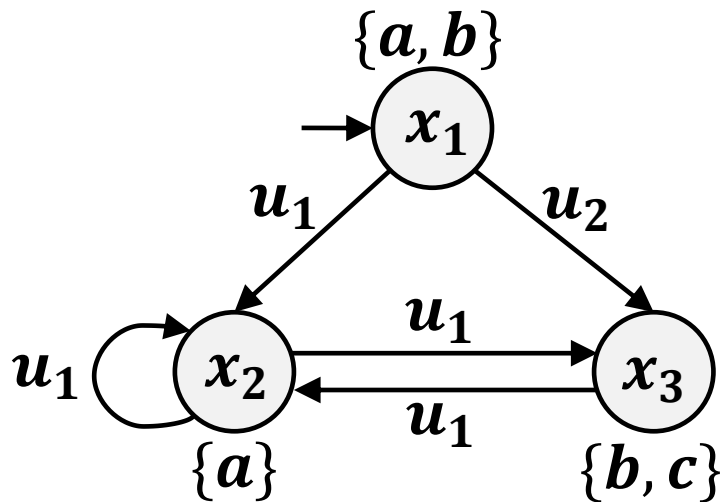
- $X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$
- $U = \{u_1, u_2\}$
- $\rightarrow = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (x_1, u_1, x_2), (x_1, u_2, x_3), (x_2, u_1, x_2), (x_2, u_1, x_3), \\ (x_3, u_1, x_2), (x_3, u_2, x_4), (x_4, u_1, x_4), (x_4, u_2, x_4) \end{array} \right\} \subseteq X \times U \times X$
- $X_0 = \{x_1\} \subseteq X$
- $AP = \{a, b, c\}$
- $L(x_1) = \{a, b\}$ ,  $L(x_2) = \{a\}$ ,  $L(x_3) = \{b, c\}$ ,  $L(x_4) = \{c\}$



# Successors & Predecessors



- **Successor states:**  $Post(x, u) = \{x' \in X: x \xrightarrow{u} x'\}$
- **Predecessor states:**  $Pre(x, u) = \{x' \in X: x' \xrightarrow{u} x\}$
- The dynamic of the system is **non-deterministic** in general, i.e.,  
 $|X_0| > 1$  or  $|Post(x, u)| > 1$
- Non-determinism can model **uncertainty** or **adversary**
- LTS is said to be **deterministic** if  $|X_0| = 1 \wedge |Post(x, u)| = 1, \forall x \in X, u \in U$

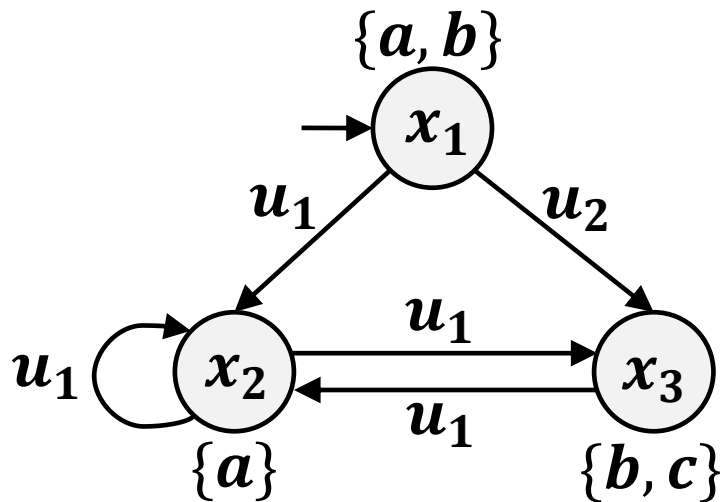


- $Post(x_1, u_1) = \{x_2\}, Post(x_2, u_1) = \{x_2, x_3\}$
- $Pre(x_2, u_1) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}, Pre(x_2, u_3) = \{x_1\}$
- Define  $Pre(x) = \cup_{u \in U} Pre(x, u); Post(x)$  the same
- $Post(x_2) = \{x_2, x_3\}, Pre(x_2) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$

# Dynamic of LTS



- **Input run:**  $u_1 u_2 \cdots u_n (\cdots)$
- **State run:**  $\rho = x_0 x_1 \cdots x_n (\cdots)$  such that  $x_0 \xrightarrow{u_1} x_1 \xrightarrow{u_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{u_n} x_n$
- **Trace:**  $L(\rho) = L(x_0) L(x_1) \cdots L(x_n) (\cdots)$
- All finite runs  $Run^f(T)$ ; all infinite runs  $Run(T)$
- All finite traces  $Trace^f(T)$ ; all infinite traces  $Trace(T)$
- **Note:** the state run or trace generated by an input run may not be unique

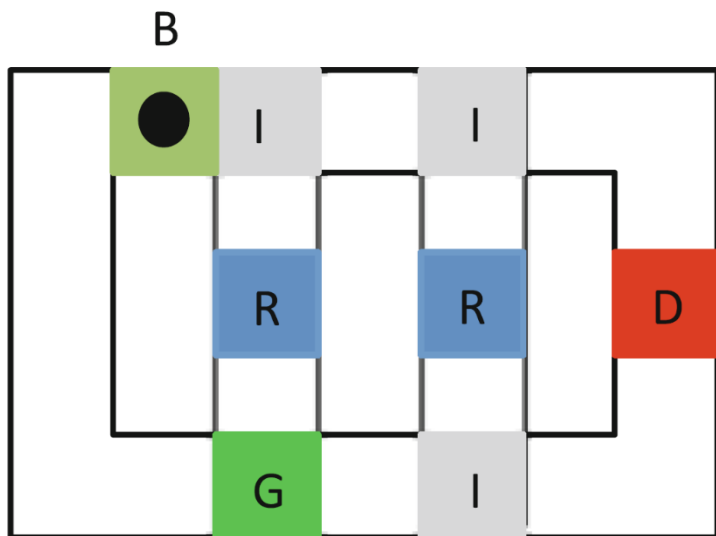


- **Input:**  $u_2 u_1 u_1$
- **Run:**  $x_1 \xrightarrow{u_2} x_3 \xrightarrow{u_1} x_2 \xrightarrow{u_1} x_3$  or  $x_1 \xrightarrow{u_2} x_3 \xrightarrow{u_1} x_2 \xrightarrow{u_1} x_2$
- **Trace:**  $\{a, b\}\{b, c\}\{a\}\{b, c\}$  or  $\{a, b\}\{b, c\}\{a\}\{a\}$
- **Infinite runs:**  $x_1(x_3 x_2)^\omega$  or  $x_1 x_3 x_2 x_3 (x_2)^\omega$
- $\omega$  means “repeat infinite times”

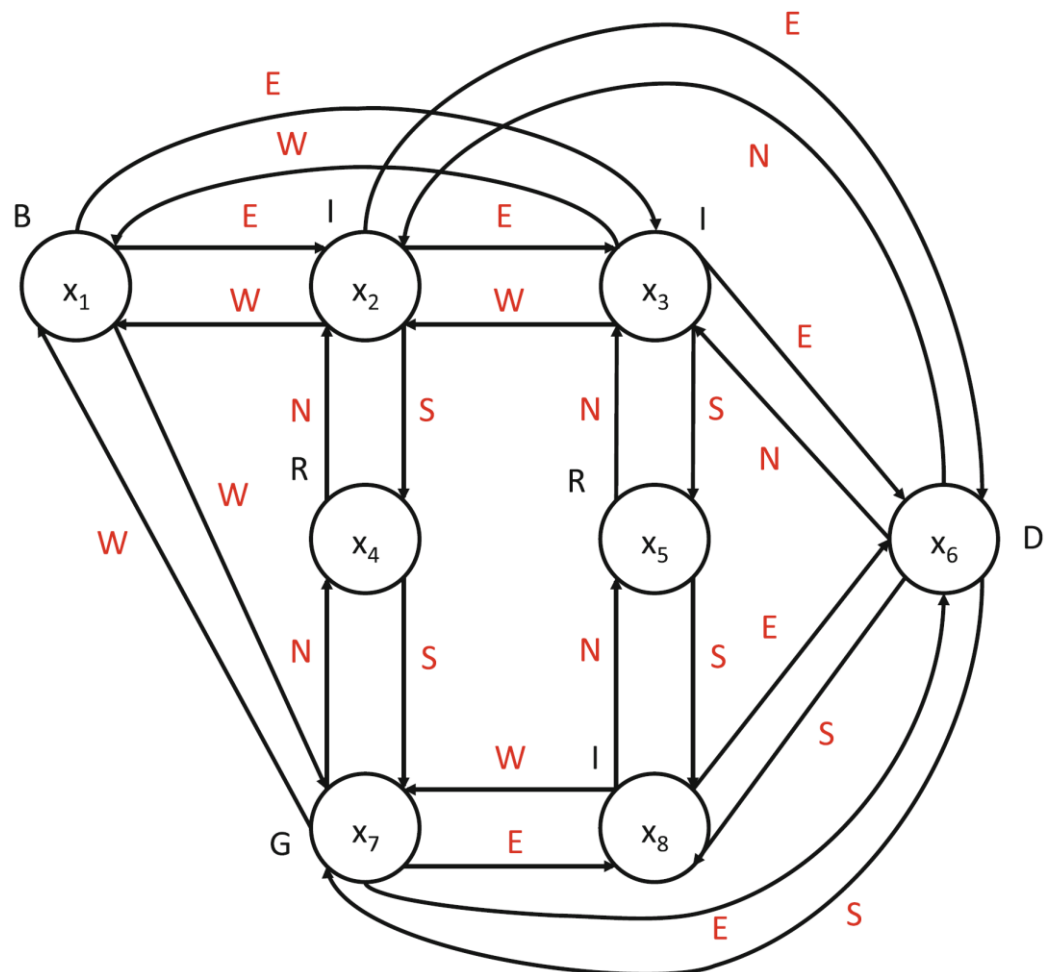
# LTS Example: Robot in a Grid-World



- **B**: base
- **I**: intersection
- **R**: recharge region
- **D**: dangerous region
- **G**: data gather region



A robot in an indoor space

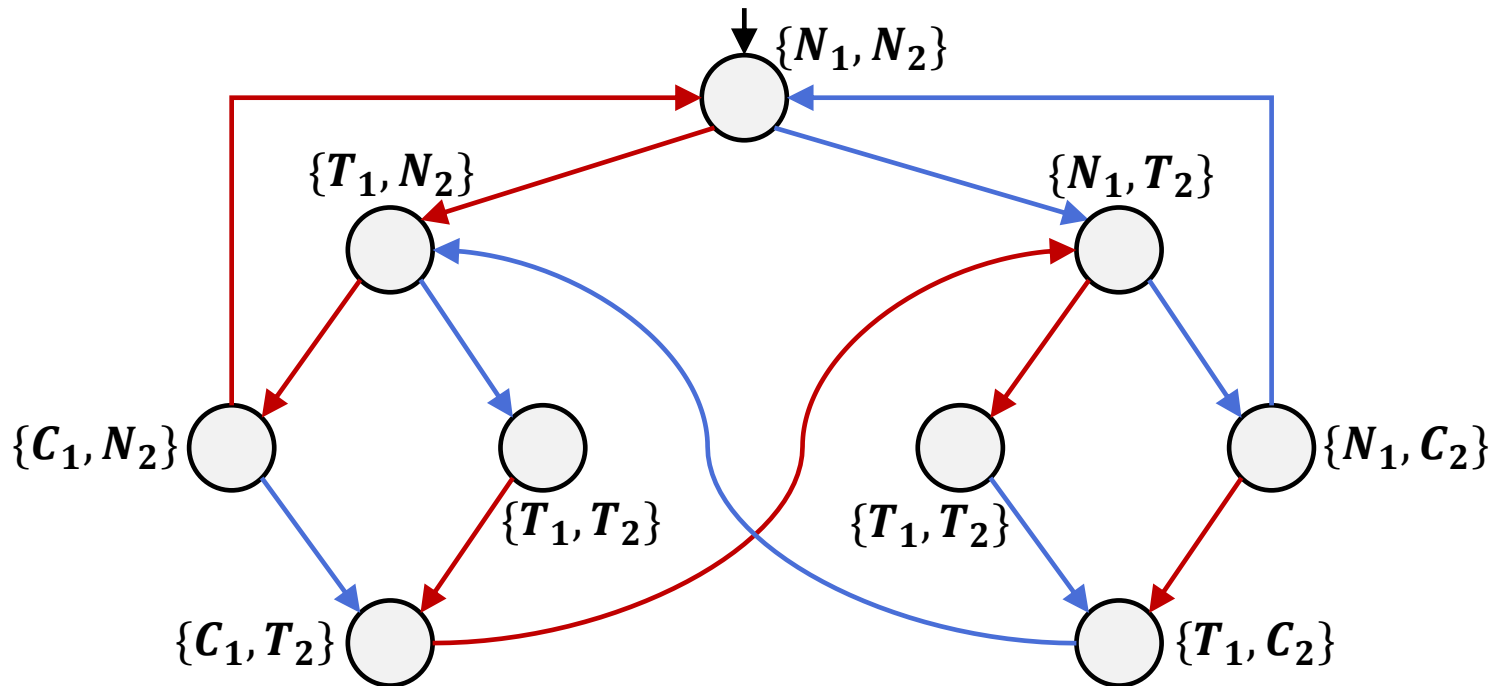


Corresponding LTS

# LTS Example: Mutually Exclusive Processes



- two processes sharing a resource (asynchronous)
- each process has a critical section in its code
- **non-critical state (N)** → **trying to enter critical state (T)** → **critical state (C)**
- only one process can be in its critical section at a time (mutual exclusion)



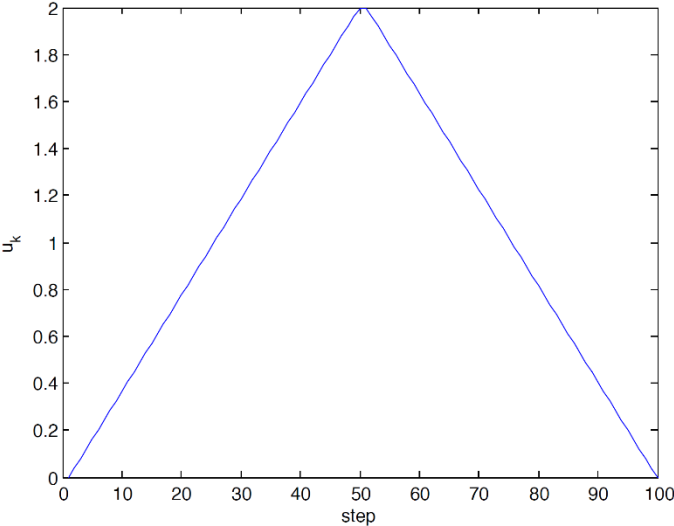
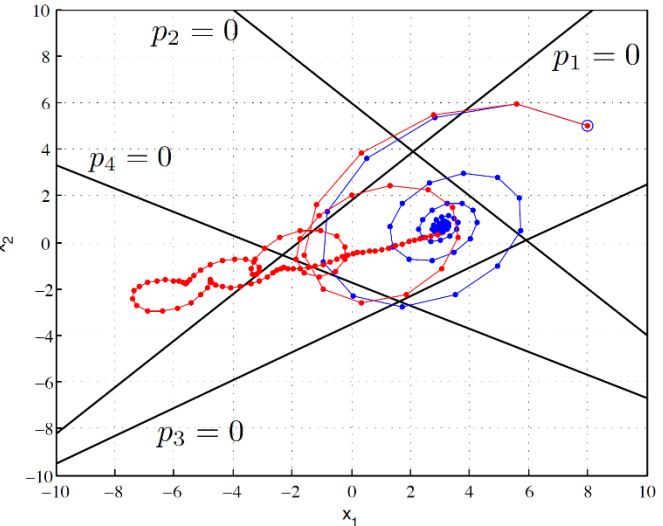
A possible mutually exclusive protocol represented by LTS

Process 1 Process 2

# LTS Example: Discrete Time Control System



- $\mathcal{D}$ :  $x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k + b$ , where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0.95 & -0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0.65 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $b = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ -1.3 \end{bmatrix}$
- ↕
- One-step embedding of  $\mathcal{D}$ :  $(X = \mathbb{R}^2, U = \mathbb{R}, \delta(x, u) = Ax_k + Bu_k + b)$



Use affine function to describe property

- $p$ :  $p_i(x) > 0$
- $z$ :  $p_i(x) = 0$
- $n$ :  $p_i(x) < 0$

- Input word:  $u_0 u_1 \dots u_{100}$  with  $u_k = 0.04k$  ( $k \leq 50$ ),  $u_k = -0.04k + 4$  ( $k \geq 50$ )
- State run:  $\begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5.60 \\ 5.95 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2.80 \\ 5.44 \end{bmatrix} \dots$
- Trace:  $(p, p, n, p)(p, p, n, p)(n, p, n, p) \dots$ , e.g.,  $p_1(x) = [1 \quad -1]x + 1.8$

# Composition of LTSs



- Building the LTS model directly for the entire system is very difficult
- In practice, a large system is **composed** by many components
- Components interact with each other by
  - some “private actions” can execute individually/asynchronously
  - some “common actions” need to execute synchronously
- **Monolithic Model = Local Modules + Synchronization Rules**



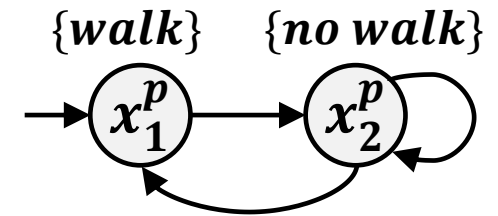
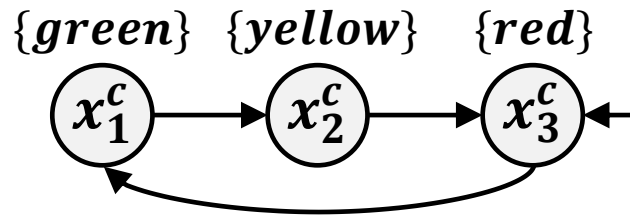
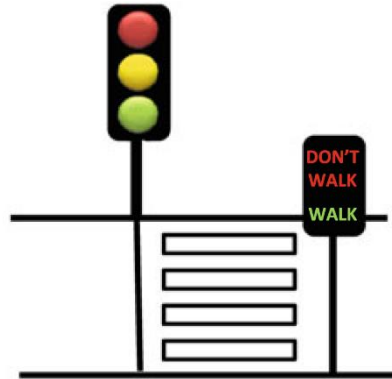
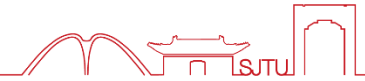
Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  be two LTSs, where  $T_i = (X_i, U_i, \rightarrow_i, X_{0,i}, AP_i, L_i)$ . The **product** of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  is a new LTS

$$T_1 \otimes T_2 = (X, U, \rightarrow, X_0, AP, L)$$

- $X = X_1 \times X_2$  with  $X_0 = X_{0,1} \times X_{0,2}$
- $U = U_1 \cup U_2$ ,  $AP = AP_1 \cup AP_2$ ,  $L(x_1, x_2) = L(x_1) \cup L(x_2)$
- $\rightarrow \subseteq X \times U \times X$  is defined by:
  - $u \in U_1 \cap U_2$ :  $(x_1, x_2) \xrightarrow{u} (x'_1, x'_2)$  iff  $x_1 \xrightarrow{u}_1 x'_1$  and  $x_2 \xrightarrow{u}_2 x'_2$
  - $u \in U_1 \setminus U_2$ :  $(x_1, x_2) \xrightarrow{u} (x'_1, x_2)$  iff  $x_1 \xrightarrow{u}_1 x'_1$
  - $u \in U_2 \setminus U_1$ :  $(x_1, x_2) \xrightarrow{u} (x_1, x'_2)$  iff  $x_2 \xrightarrow{u}_2 x'_2$



# Example: Traffic Lights

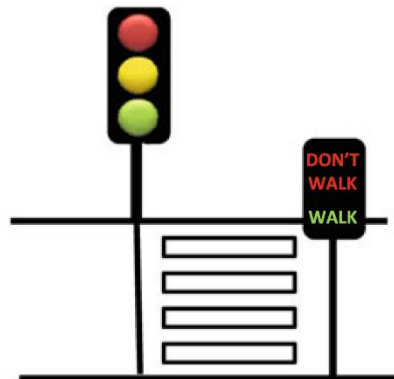


A pedestrian crossing system

Car light system  $T_c$

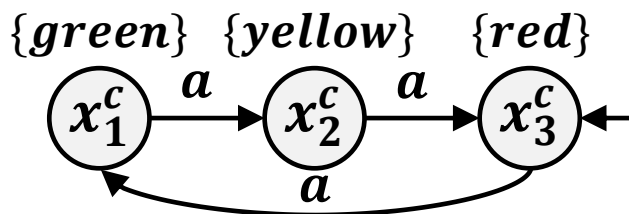
Pedestrian light system  $T_p$

# Example: Traffic Lights

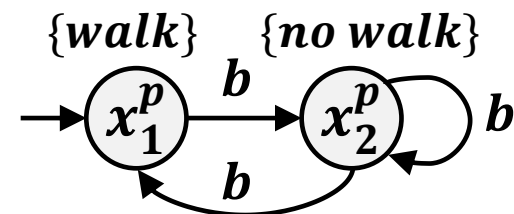


A pedestrian crossing system

## Case 1: Two lights are **fully asynchronized**



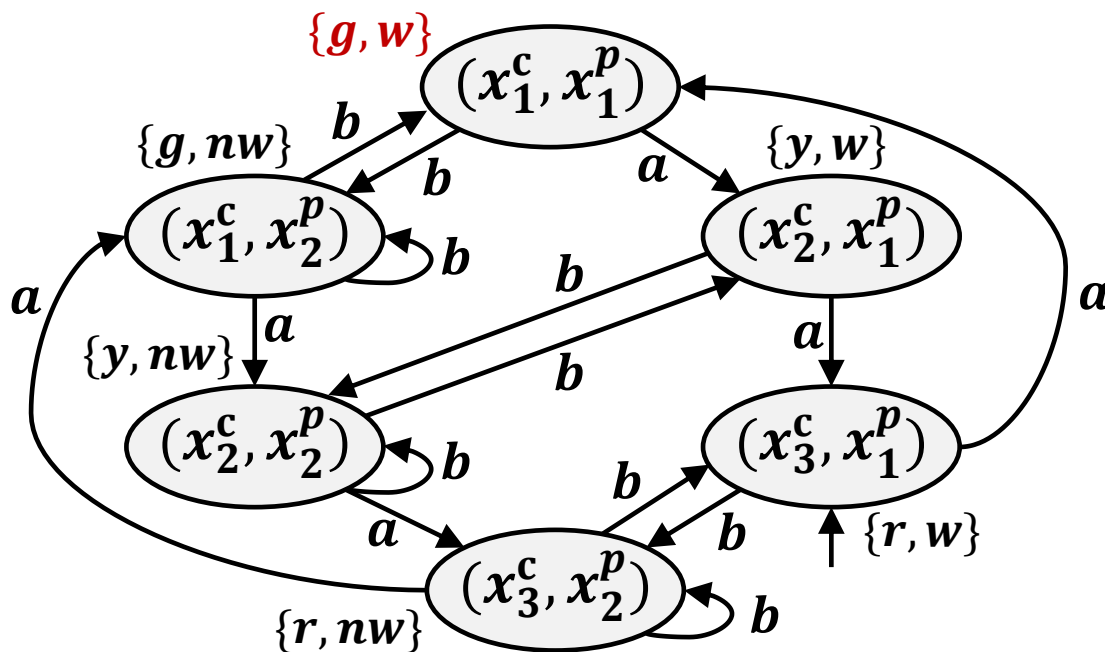
Car light system  $T_c$



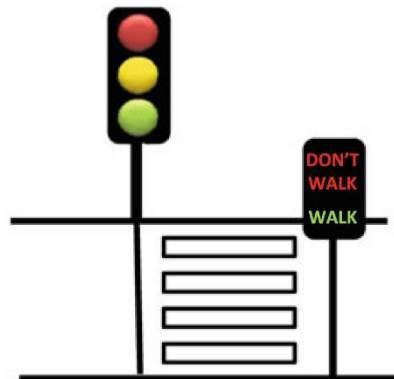
Pedestrian light system  $T_p$

Product system  $T_c \otimes T_p$

**Not safe due to  $\{g, w\}$ !**

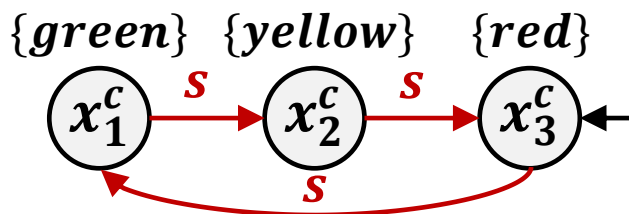


# Example: Traffic Lights

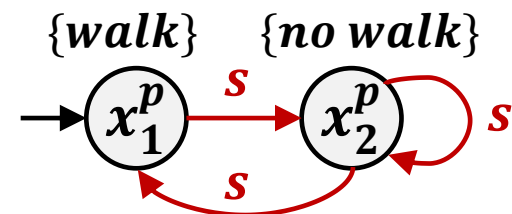


A pedestrian crossing system

## Case 2: Two lights are fully synchronized



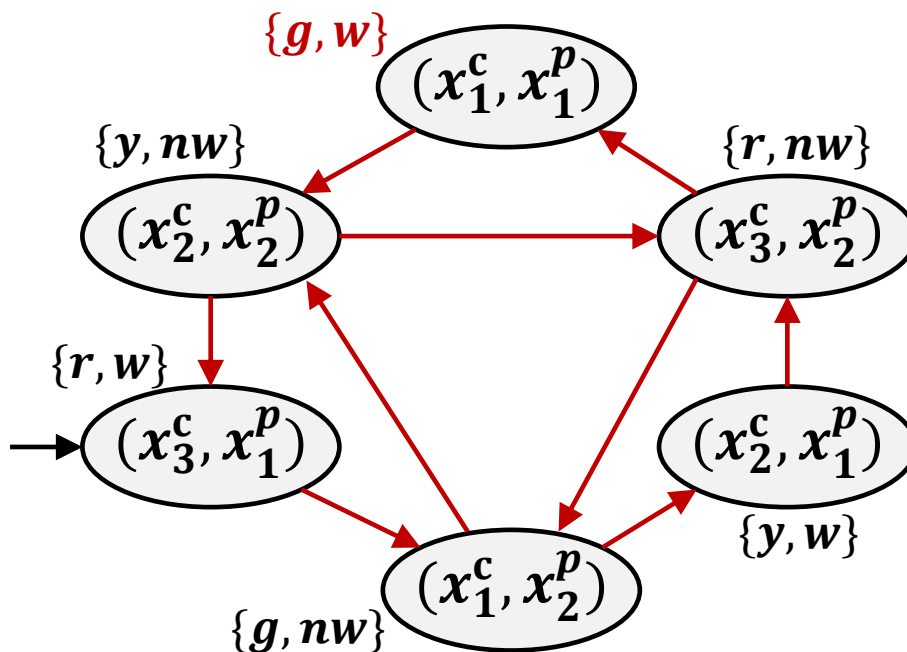
Car light system  $T_c$



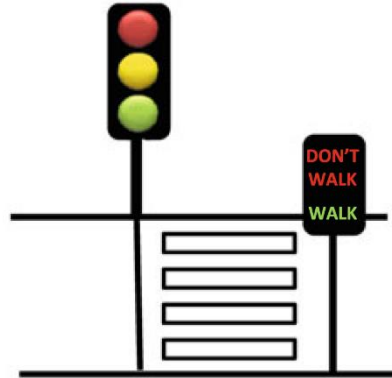
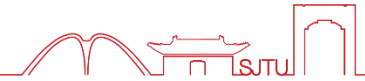
Pedestrian light system  $T_c$

Product system  $T_c \otimes T_p$

Not safe due to  $\{g, w\}$ !

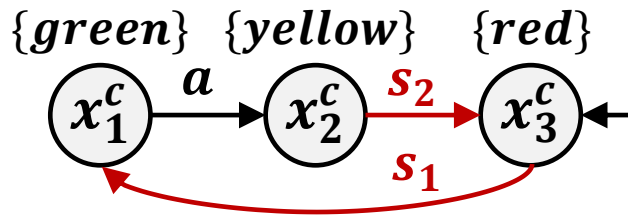


# Example: Traffic Lights

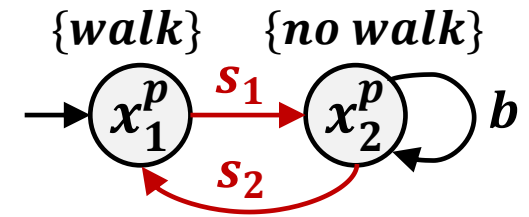


A pedestrian crossing system

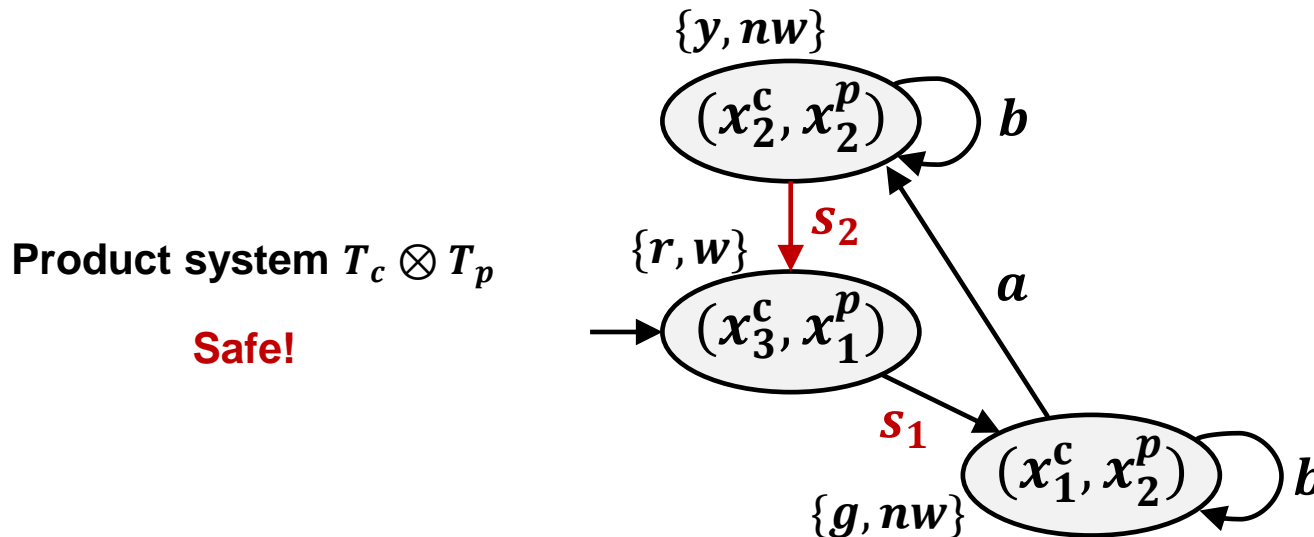
## Case 3: Two lights are partially synchronized



Car light system  $T_c$



Pedestrian light system  $T_c$



Product system  $T_c \otimes T_p$

Safe!

# Comments on Product Composition

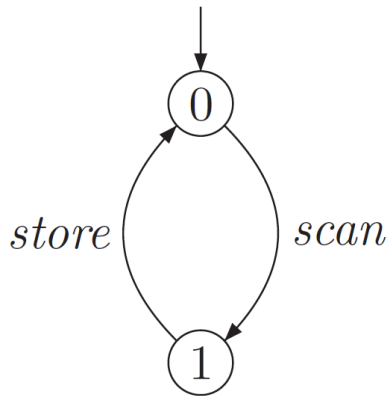


- Fully asynchronous system is essentially a “shuffle”
- Synchronization essentially restricts the behavior of each module
- Not all possible states are reachable in the product
- Synchronization can be physical, or by communication, or by control
- Controller can be a new component that synchronizes with the plant
- The state-space grows exponentially fast in the # of components
- “product” and “parallel” compositions are sometimes different in the literature; we do not distinguish explicitly here

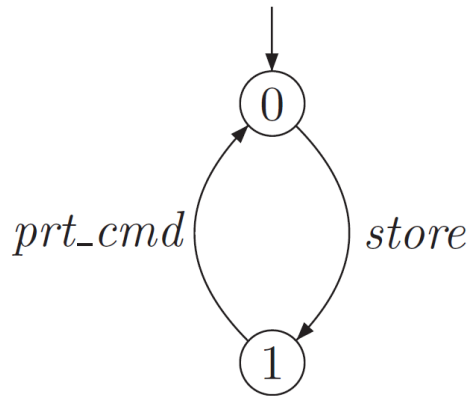


- **Dynamic system can be represented as an LTS**
- **“States” in LTS can be either physical locations or logical status**
- **Atomic propositions represent high-level properties of interest**
- **Large system is usually composed by local modules by product**
- **Product essentially captures how systems interact with each other**

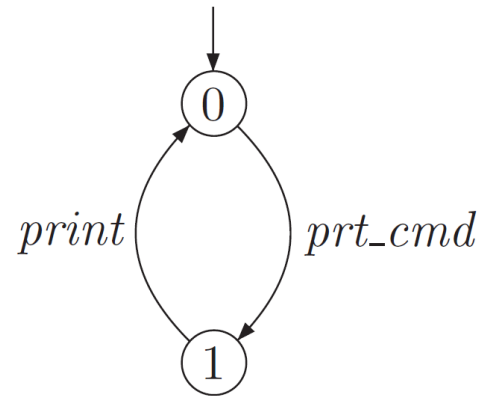
# Question



Bar Code Reader (BCR)



Book Program (BP)



Printer

- The **bar code reader** reads a bar code and communicates the data of the just scanned product to the **booking program**. On receiving such data, the booking program transmits the price of the article to the **printer** that prints the article Id together with the price on the receipt.
- **Question: Build the entire booking system  $BCR \otimes BP \otimes Printer = (BCR \otimes BP) \otimes Printer$**