

# *Real-Time Systems*

## *Lecture 14: Regions and Zones*

2017-12-21

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### Content

- **Motivation:**  
Sometimes, regions seem too fine-grained
- **Definition**
  - **Examples:** Zone or Not Zone
- **Zone-based Reachability Analysis**
  - The **basic algorithm**.
  - Building blocks:
    - **Post-operator**,
    - **subsumption check**
  - A **symbolic Post-operator**
- **Difference-Bounds-Matrices (DBMs)**
- **Discussion: Zones vs. Regions**

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# Zones

(Presentation following Fränzle (2007))

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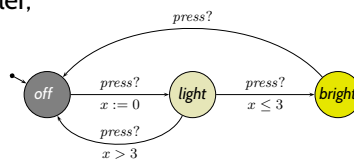
## Recall: Number of Regions

**Lemma 4.28.** Let  $X$  be a set of clocks,  $c_x \in \mathbb{N}_0$  the maximal constant for each  $x \in X$ , and  $c = \max\{c_x \mid x \in X\}$ . Then

$$(2c + 2)^{|X|} \cdot (4c + 3)^{\frac{1}{2}|X| \cdot (|X| - 1)}$$

is an **upper bound** on the **number of regions**.

- In the desk lamp controller,



many regions are reachable in  $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{L})$ , but we convinced ourselves that it's **actually** only important whether  $\nu(x) \in [0, 3]$  or  $\nu(x) \in (3, \infty)$ .

So: it seems like there are even **equivalence classes** of **undistinguishable regions** in certain timed automata.

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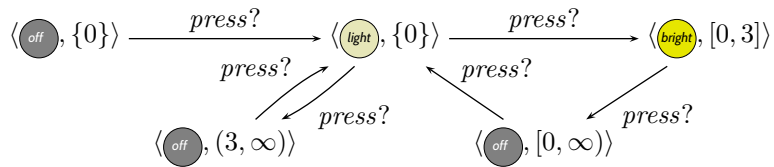
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## Wanted: Zones instead of Regions

- In  $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{L})$  we have transitions:
  - $\langle \text{light}, \{0\} \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{press?}} \langle \text{bright}, \{0\} \rangle, \langle \text{light}, \{0\} \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{press?}} \langle \text{bright}, (0, 1) \rangle,$
  - ...
  - $\langle \text{light}, \{0\} \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{press?}} \langle \text{bright}, (2, 3) \rangle, \langle \text{light}, \{0\} \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{press?}} \langle \text{bright}, \{3\} \rangle$
- Which seems to be a complicated way to write just:

$$\langle \text{light}, \{0\} \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{press?}} \langle \text{bright}, [0, 3] \rangle$$

- Can't we **constructively** abstract  $\mathcal{L}$  to:



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## What is a Zone?

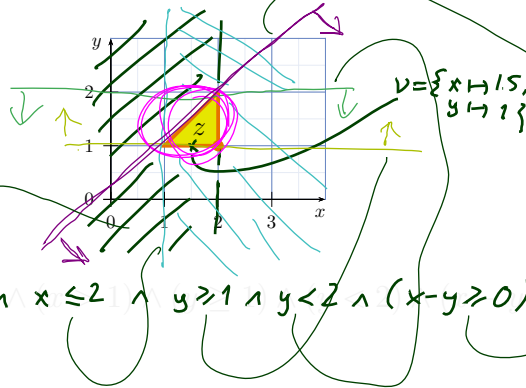
**Definition.** A **(clock) zone** is a set  $z \subseteq (X \rightarrow \text{Time})$  of valuations of clocks  $X$  such that there exists  $\varphi \in \Phi(X)$  with

$$\nu \in z \text{ if and only if } \nu \models \varphi.$$

**Example:**

is a clock zone by

$$\varphi = (x > 1 \wedge x \leq 2 \wedge y > 1 \wedge y < 2 \wedge (x - y \geq 0) \geq 0)$$



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## What is a Zone?

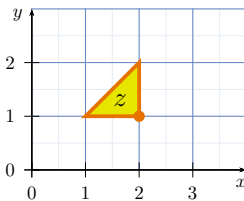
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$$\varphi = (x \leq 2) \wedge (x > 1) \wedge (y \geq 1) \wedge (y < 2) \wedge (x - y \geq 0)$$



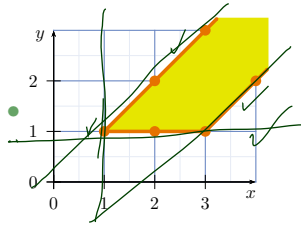
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- Note: Each clock constraint  $\varphi$  is a **symbolic representation** of a zone.
- But: There's no one-on-one correspondence between clock constraints and zones. The zone  $z = \emptyset$  corresponds to  $(x > 1 \wedge x < 1)$ ,  $(x > 2 \wedge x < 2)$ , ...

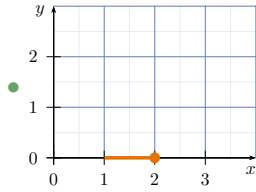
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## More Examples: Zone or Not?

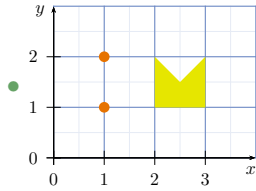
$z$  is a zone iff there is  $\varphi \in \Phi(X)$   
s.t.  $z = \{v \mid v \models \varphi\}$ .



YES  
 $x \geq 1 \wedge x-y \geq 0 \wedge x-y \leq 2 \wedge y \geq 1$



YES  
 $y \geq 0 \wedge y \leq 0 \wedge x > 1 \wedge x \leq 2 \quad (\sim (1,2) \cup \{2\})$



NO  
(not convex)

$z$  is zone  
 $\Rightarrow \exists r_1, \dots, r_n$  regions.  
 $z = \bigcup_{i=1}^n r_i$

$z = \bigcup_{i=1}^n r_i, \quad r_i$  region  
 $\not\Rightarrow z$  is zone

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## Content

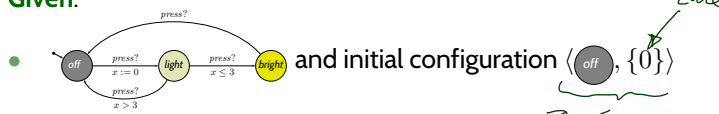
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# Zone-based Reachability Analysis

Given:



Assume a function

$$\text{Post}_e : (L \times \text{Zones}) \rightarrow (L \times \text{Zones})$$

such that  $\text{Post}_e(\langle l, z \rangle)$  yields the configuration  $\langle l', z' \rangle$  such that

- zone  $z'$  denotes exactly those clock valuations  $\nu'$ 
  - which are reachable from a configuration  $\langle l, \nu \rangle, \nu \in z$ ,
  - by taking edge  $e = (l, \alpha, \varphi, Y, l') \in E$ .

Then  $l \in L$  is reachable in  $\mathcal{A}$  if and only if

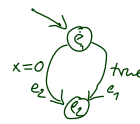
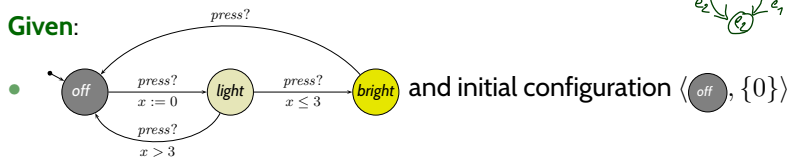
$$\text{Post}_{e_n}(\dots(\text{Post}_{e_1}(\langle l_{ini}, z_{ini} \rangle)\dots)) = \langle l, z \rangle$$

for some  $e_1, \dots, e_n \in E$  and some  $z$ .

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## Zone-based Reachability: In Other Words

Given:



$\langle l, \{0\} \rangle$

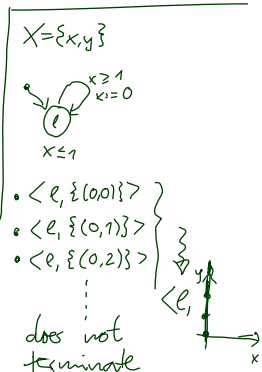
- $\text{Post}_{e_1}(\langle l, \{0\} \rangle)$ :  $\langle l_2, [0, \infty) \rangle$
- $\text{Post}_{e_2}(\langle l, \{0\} \rangle)$ :  $\langle l_2, \{0\} \rangle$

$z_2$

subsumption example

**Wanted:** A procedure to compute the set

- $\langle \text{light}, \{0\} \rangle$
- $\langle \text{bright}, [0, 3] \rangle$
- $\langle \text{off}, [0, \infty) \rangle$



- Set  $R := \{ \langle l_{ini}, z_{ini} \rangle \} \subset L \times \text{Zones}$
- Repeat
  - pick
    - a pair  $\langle l, z \rangle$  from  $R$  and
    - an edge  $e \in E$  with source  $l$
 such that  $\text{Post}_e(\langle l, z \rangle)$  is not already subsumed by  $R$
  - add  $\text{Post}_e(\langle l, z \rangle)$  to  $R$
 until no more such  $\langle l, z \rangle \in R$  and  $e \in E$  are found.

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- Set  $R := \{\langle \ell_{ini}, z_{ini} \rangle\} \subset L \times \text{Zones}$
  - Repeat
    - pick
      - a pair  $\langle \ell, z \rangle$  from  $R$  and
      - an edge  $e \in E$  with source  $\ell$
 such that  $\text{Post}_e(\langle \ell, z \rangle)$  is not already **subsumed** by  $R$
    - add  $\text{Post}_e(\langle \ell, z \rangle)$  to  $R$
- until no more such  $\langle \ell, z \rangle \in R$  and  $e \in E$  are found.

## Missing:

- Algorithm to effectively compute  $\text{Post}_e(\langle \ell, z \rangle)$  for a given configuration  $\langle \ell, z \rangle \in L \times \text{Zones}$  and an edge  $e \in E$ .
- Decision procedure for whether configuration  $\langle \ell', z' \rangle$  is **subsumed** by a given subset of  $L \times \text{Zones}$ .

**Note:** The algorithm in general **terminates only if** we apply **widening** to zones, that is, roughly, to take maximal constants  $c_x$  into account (not in lecture).

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## What is a Good "Post"?

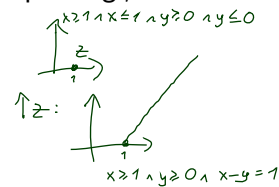
- If  $z$  is given by a constraint  $\varphi \in \Phi(X)$ , (write:  $z = \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket$ ) then the zone component  $z'$  of  $\text{Post}_e(\ell, z) = \langle \ell', z' \rangle$  should also be a constraint from  $\Phi(X)$ .
- (We want to **manipulate constraints**, not those unhandy sets of clock valuations.)

**Good news:** the following operations can be carried out by manipulating  $\varphi$ .

- (1) The **elapse time** operation:

$$\uparrow : \text{Zones} \rightarrow \text{Zones}$$

$$z \mapsto \{\nu + t \mid t \in \text{Time}\}$$



can be carried out **symbolically** as follows:

- Let  $z = \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket$ .
- Obtain  $\varphi'$  by removing all upper bounds  $x \leq c, x < c$ , from  $\varphi$  and adding diagonals.
- Then  $\llbracket \varphi' \rrbracket = z \uparrow$ .

This procedure defines  $\uparrow: \Phi(X) \rightarrow \Phi(X)$  (a function on **clock constraints!**), such that  $\llbracket \varphi \uparrow \rrbracket = z \uparrow$  if  $z = \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket$ .

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**Good news:** the following operations can be carried out by manipulating  $\varphi$ .

- (1) **elapse time:**  $\varphi \uparrow$  with  $\llbracket \varphi \uparrow \rrbracket = z \uparrow$  if  $z = \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket$ .
- (2) **zone intersection:** if  $z_1 = \llbracket \varphi_1 \rrbracket$  and  $z_2 = \llbracket \varphi_2 \rrbracket$ , then  $\llbracket \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \rrbracket = z_1 \cap z_2$ .
- (3) **clock reset:**

$$\begin{aligned} \cdot [\cdot := 0] & : \text{Zones} \times X \rightarrow \text{Zones} \\ (z, x) & \mapsto \{\nu[x := 0] \mid \nu \in z\} \end{aligned}$$

can be carried out **symbolically** by setting

$$\begin{aligned} \cdot [\cdot := 0] & : \Phi \times X \rightarrow \Phi \\ (\varphi, x) & \mapsto \underbrace{(x = 0) \wedge (\exists x. \varphi)}_{\kappa=0 \wedge (\exists \tilde{x}. \tilde{x}=x \wedge \tilde{x}=z)} \end{aligned}$$

using **clock hiding** (existential quantification);

$$\llbracket \exists x. \varphi \rrbracket = \{\nu \mid \text{there is } t \in \text{Time such that } \nu[x := t] \models \varphi\}$$

*This is Good News...*

...because given  $\langle \ell, z \rangle = \langle \ell, \llbracket \varphi_0 \rrbracket \rangle$  and  $e = (\ell, \alpha, \varphi, \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}, \ell') \in E$  we have

$$\text{Post}_e(\langle \ell, z \rangle) = \langle \ell', \llbracket \varphi_5 \rrbracket \rangle \quad (\text{symbolical: } \text{Post}_e(\langle \ell, \varphi_0 \rangle) = \langle \ell', \varphi_5 \rangle)$$

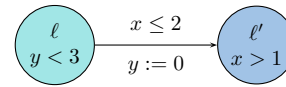
where

- $\varphi_1 = \varphi_0 \uparrow$   
let **time elapse** starting from  $\varphi_0$ :  
 $\varphi_1$  represents all valuations reachable by waiting in  $\ell$  for an arbitrary amount of time.
- $\varphi_2 = \varphi_1 \wedge I(\ell)$   
**intersect with invariant** of  $\ell$ :  $\varphi_2$  represents the “good” valuations reachable from  $\varphi_1$ .
- $\varphi_3 = \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi$   
**intersect with guard**: in  $\varphi_3$  are the reachable “good” valuations where  $e$  is enabled.
- $\varphi_4 = \varphi_3[y_1 := 0] \dots [y_n := 0]$   
**reset clocks**:  $\varphi_4$  are all possible outcomes of taking  $e$  from  $\varphi_3$ .
- $\varphi_5 = \varphi_4 \wedge I(\ell')$   
**intersect with invariant** of  $\ell'$ :  $\varphi_5$  are the “good” outcomes of taking  $e$  from  $\varphi_3$ .



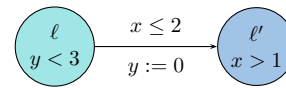
### Example

- $\varphi_1 = \varphi_0 \uparrow$  **let time elapse.**
- $\varphi_2 = \varphi_1 \wedge I(\ell)$  **intersect with invariant of  $\ell$**
- $\varphi_3 = \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi$  **intersect with guard**
- $\varphi_4 = \varphi_3[y_1 := 0] \dots [y_n := 0]$  **reset clocks**
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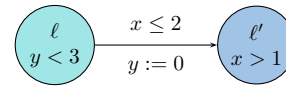
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- $\varphi_5 = \varphi_4 \wedge I(\ell')$  **intersect with invariant of  $\ell'$**



$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_0 &= 1 \leq y \leq 2 \\ &\wedge 1 \leq x \leq 3 \wedge x \geq y \end{aligned}$$

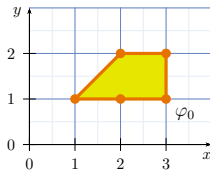
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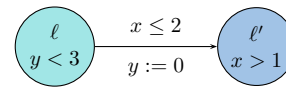
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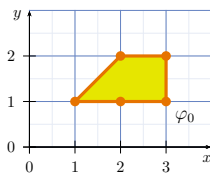


$$\varphi_0 = 1 \leq y \leq 2$$

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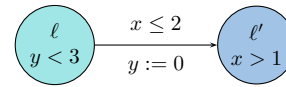
$$\varphi_1 = 1 \leq y \wedge 1 \leq x$$

$$\wedge x \geq y \wedge x \leq y + 2$$

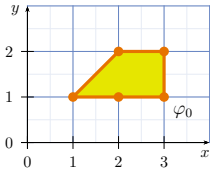


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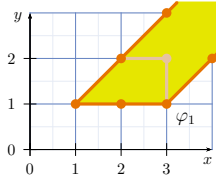
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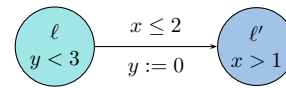


$$\varphi_1 = 1 \leq y \wedge 1 \leq x \wedge x \geq y \wedge x \leq y + 2$$

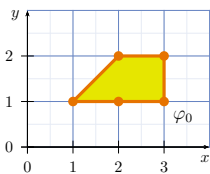


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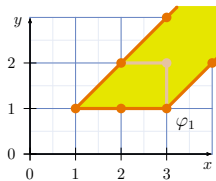
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$$\varphi_0 = 1 \leq y \leq 2 \wedge 1 \leq x \leq 3 \wedge x \geq y$$



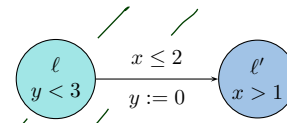
$$\varphi_1 = 1 \leq y \wedge 1 \leq x \wedge x \geq y \wedge x \leq y + 2$$



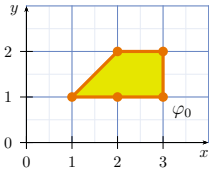
$$\varphi_2 = 1 \leq y < 3 \wedge 1 \leq x \wedge x \geq y \wedge x \leq y + 2$$

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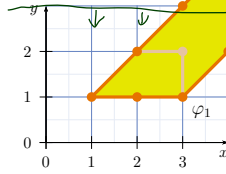
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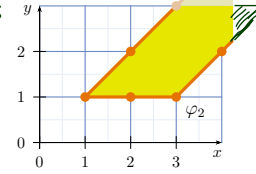
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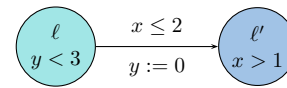


$$\varphi_2 = 1 \leq y < 3 \wedge 1 \leq x \wedge x \geq y \wedge x \leq y + 2$$

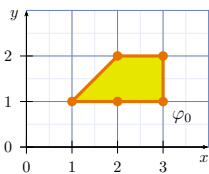


### Example

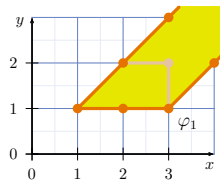
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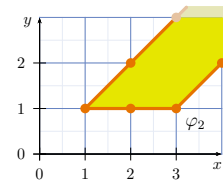
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$$\varphi_1 = 1 \leq y \wedge 1 \leq x \wedge x \geq y \wedge x \leq y + 2$$



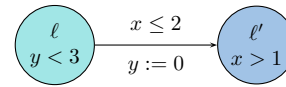
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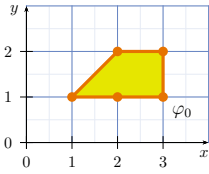
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### Example

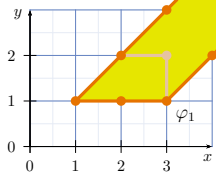
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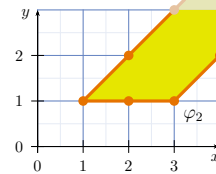
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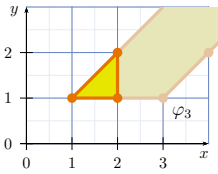
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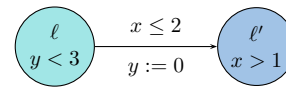


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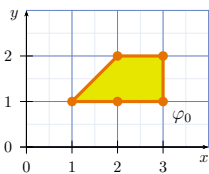
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### Example

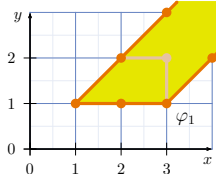
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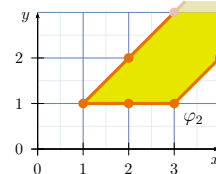
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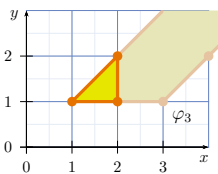
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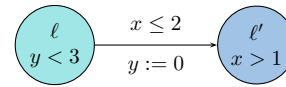
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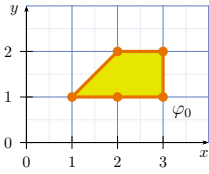
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### Example

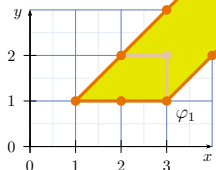
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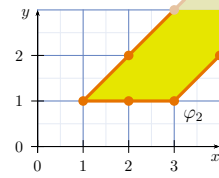
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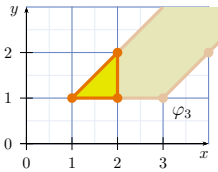
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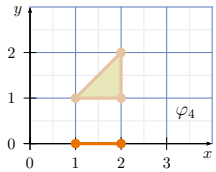
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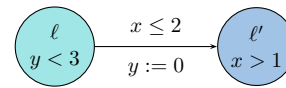


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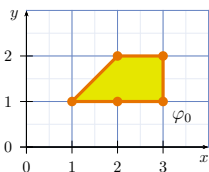
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### Example

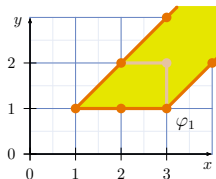
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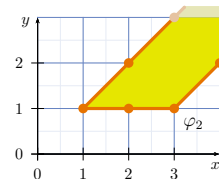
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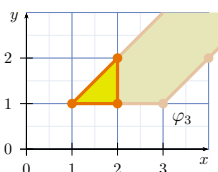
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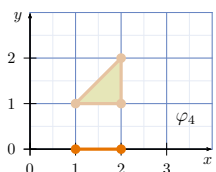
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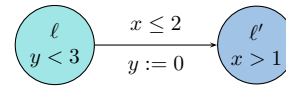
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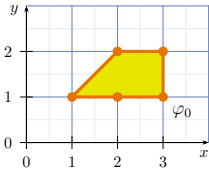
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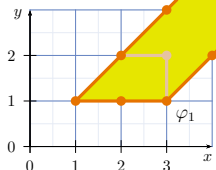
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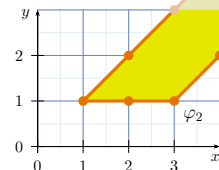
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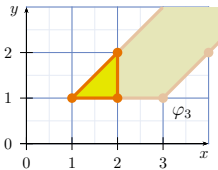
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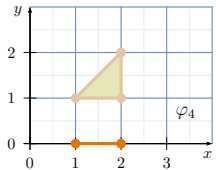
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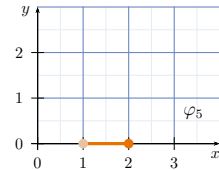
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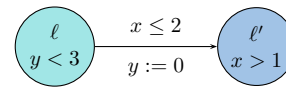


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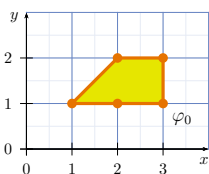
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### Example

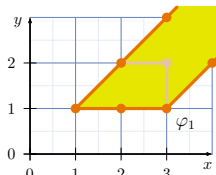
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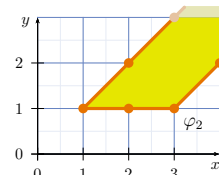
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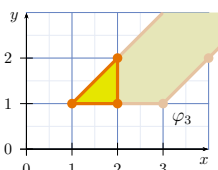
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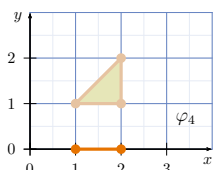
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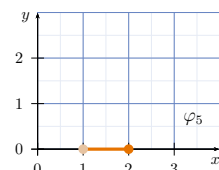
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$$\varphi_5 \iff 1 < x \leq 2 \wedge y = 0$$



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- **Motivation:**  
Sometimes, regions seem too fine-grained
- **Definition**
  - **Examples:** Zone or Not Zone
- **Zone-based Reachability Analysis**
  - The **basic algorithm.**
  - Building blocks:
    - **Post-operator,**
    - **subsumption check**
  - A **symbolic Post-operator** ✓
- **Difference-Bounds-Matrices (DBMs)**
- **Discussion: Zones vs. Regions**

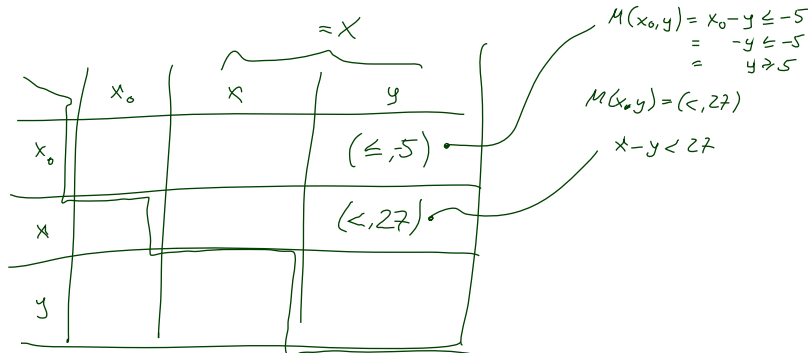
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## Difference Bound Matrices

- Given a finite set of clocks  $X$ , a **DBM** over  $X$  is a mapping

$$M : (X \dot{\cup} \{x_0\}) \times (X \dot{\cup} \{x_0\}) \rightarrow (\{<, \leq\} \times \mathbb{Z}) \cup \{<, \infty\}$$

- $M(x, y) = (\sim, c)$  encodes the conjunct  $x - y \sim c$  ( $x$  and  $y$  can be  $x_0$ ).



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- $M(x, y) = (\sim, c)$  encodes the conjunct  $x - y \sim c$  ( $x$  and  $y$  can be  $x_0$ ).
- If  $M$  and  $N$  are **DBMs encoding**  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  (representing zones  $z_1$  and  $z_2$ ), then we can efficiently compute  $M \uparrow, M \wedge N, M[x := 0]$  such that
  - all three are **again DBM**,
  - $M \uparrow$  **encodes**  $\varphi_1 \uparrow$ ,
  - $M \wedge N$  **encodes**  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ , and
  - $M[x := 0]$  **encodes**  $\varphi_1[x := 0]$ .
- And there is a **canonical form** of DBM.  
(Canonisation of DBM can be done in cubic time (**Floyd-Warshall** algorithm)).
- Thus: we can define our 'Post' on DBM, and let our algorithm run on DBM.

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## Content

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## Pros and cons

- **Zone-based**  
reachability analysis usually is explicit wrt. discrete locations:
  - maintains a list of location/zone pairs (or location/DBM pairs)
  - **confined wrt. size of discrete state space**
  - **avoids blowup by number of clocks and size of clock constraints through symbolic representation of clocks**
- **Region-based**  
analysis provides a finite-state abstraction,  
amenable to finite-state symbolic model-checking
  - **less dependent on size of discrete state space**
  - **exponential in number of clocks**

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- A **zone** is a **set of clock valuations** which can be characterised by a **clock constraint**.
- Each **zone** is a union of **regions**, not every union of **regions** is a **zone**.
- There is an **effectively computable** **Post-operation** for TA edges on **zones**.
  - based on: **time elapse, intersection, reset**
  - so there is a **fully symbolic decision procedure** for location reachability (if we ensure **termination** by **widening**)
  - even more convenient: using DBMs
    - since DBMs have a **normal form**
- For a **given model**, sometimes the **region-based** / sometimes the **zone-based** approach is faster.  
Not so many region-based tools are “on the market” these days.

## *References*

## *References*

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Fränze, M. (2007). Formale methoden eingebetteter systeme. Lecture, Summer Semester 2007, Carl-von-Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg.

Olderog, E.-R. and Dierks, H. (2008). *Real-Time Systems - Formal Specification and Automatic Verification*. Cambridge University Press.