



ALLOY*: General-Purpose Higher-Order Relational Constraint Solver

Aleksandar Milicevic, Joseph P. Near,
Eunsuk Kang, Daniel Jackson
{aleks,jnear,eskang,dnj}@csail.mit.edu

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ALLOY*: a more powerful version of the alloy analyzer



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alloy: general-purpose relational specification language

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typical uses of the alloy analyzer

- bounded software verification → but no software synthesis
- analyze safety properties of event traces → but no liveness properties
- find a safe full configuration → but not a safe partial conf
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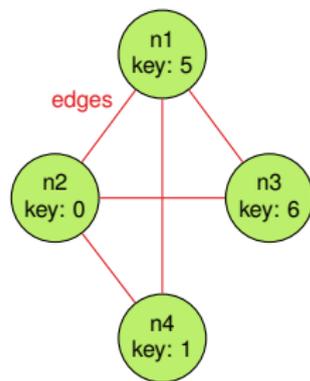
ALLOY*

- capable of **automatically** solving arbitrary **higher-order** formulas

First-Order Vs. Higher-Order: clique

first-order: finding a graph and a **clique** in it

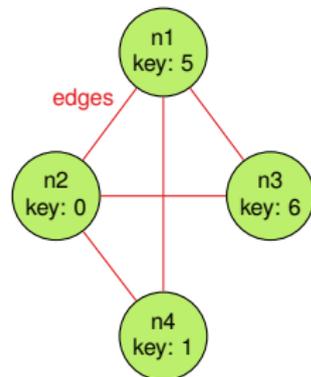
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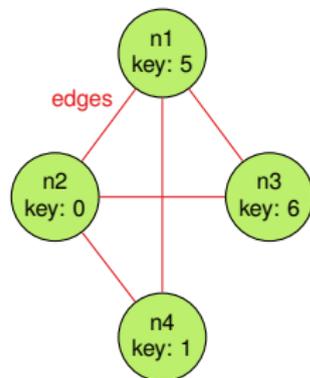


sig Node { key: **one Int** }

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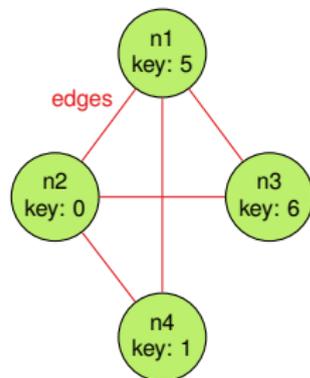


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run {  
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```

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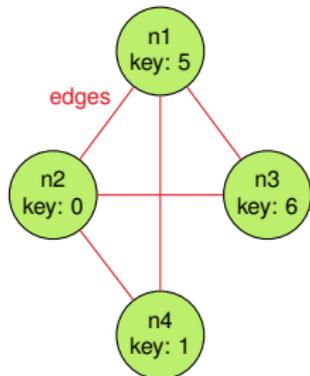
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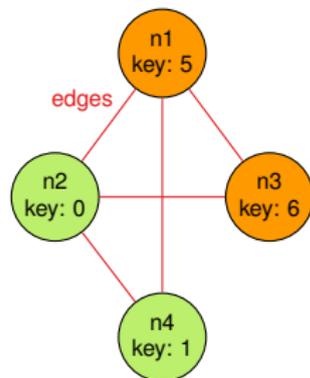
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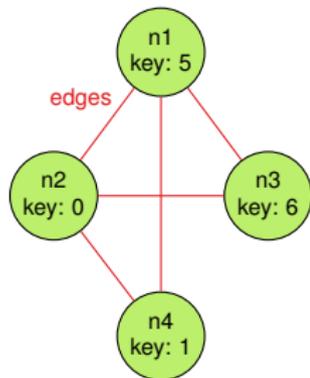
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- Alloy Analyzer**: automatic, bounded, relational constraint solver
- a **solution** (automatically found by Alloy): **clqNodes** = $\{n_1, n_3\}$

First-Order Vs. **Higher-Order**: **maxClique**

higher-order: finding a graph and a **maximal clique** in it

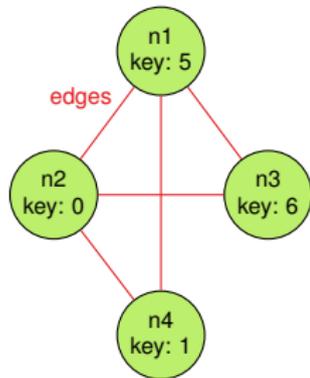
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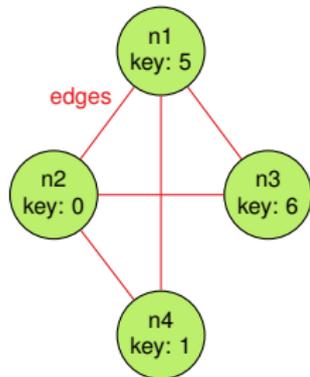


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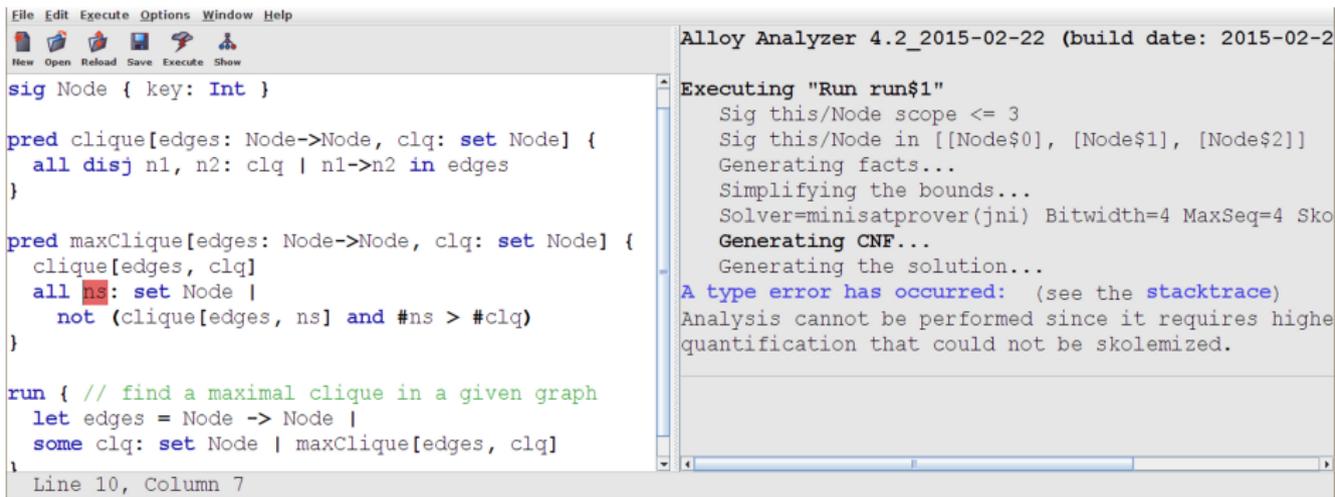
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expressible but not solvable in Alloy!



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New Open Reload Save Execute Show

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run { // find a maximal clique in a given graph
  let edges = Node -> Node |
  some clq: set Node | maxClique[edges, clq]
}

Line 10, Column 7
```

```
Alloy Analyzer 4.2_2015-02-22 (build date: 2015-02-22)

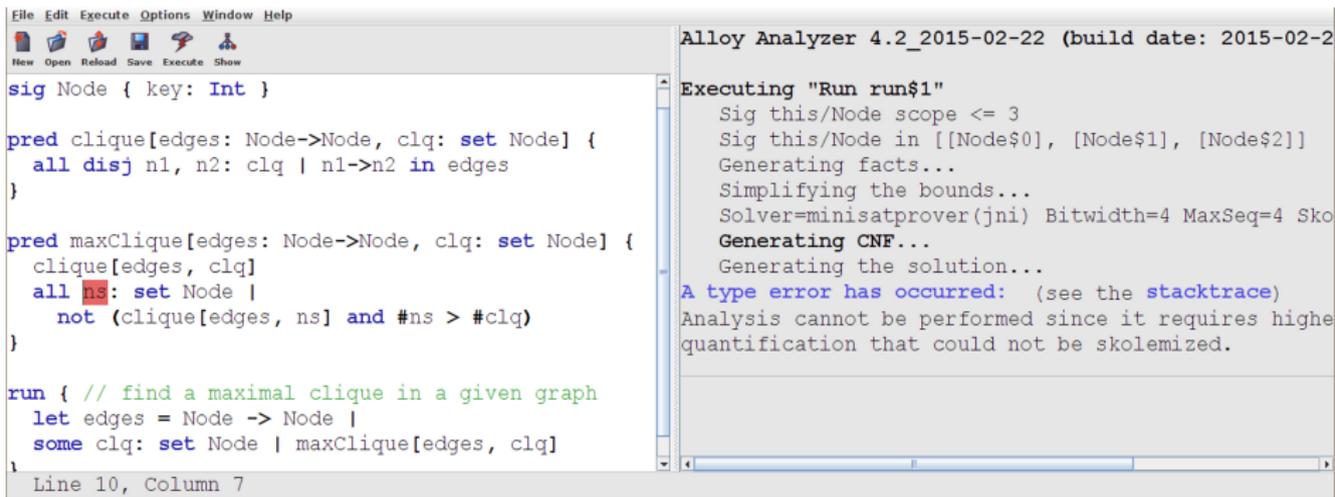
Executing "Run run$1"
  Sig this/Node scope <= 3
  Sig this/Node in [[Node$0], [Node$1], [Node$2]]
  Generating facts...
  Simplifying the bounds...
  Solver=minisatprover(jni) Bitwidth=4 MaxSeq=4 Sko
  Generating CNF...
  Generating the solution...
  A type error has occurred: (see the stacktrace)
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- **definition** of higher-order (as in Alloy):
 - **quantification** over **all sets** of atoms

Solving **maxClique** Vs. Program **Synthesis**

program synthesis

find some program AST s.t.,
for all possible values of its inputs
its specification holds

```
some program: ASTNode |  
  all env: Var -> Val |  
    spec[program, env]
```

maxClique

find some set of nodes s.t., it is a clique and
for all possible other sets of nodes
not one is a larger clique

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how do existing program synthesizers work?

CEGIS: A Common Approach for Program Synthesis

original synthesis formulation

```
run { some prog: ASTNode | all env: Var -> Val | spec[prog, env] }
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Counter-Example Guided Inductive Synthesis [Solar-Lezama, ASPLOS'06]

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1. search: find *some* program and *some* environment s.t. the spec holds, i.e.,

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- verification: check if \$prog holds for *all* possible environments:

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check { all env: Var -> Val | spec[$prog, env] }
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Done if verified; else, a concrete *counterexample* \$env is returned as witness.

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3. induction: *incrementally* find a new program that *additionally* satisfies \$env:

```
run { some prog: ASTNode |  
    some env: Var -> Val | spec[prog, env] and spec[prog, $env] }
```

If UNSAT, return no solution; else, go to 2.

ALLOY* **key insight**

CEGIS can be applied to solve **arbitrary higher-order** formulas

generality

- solve **arbitrary** higher-order formulas
- no **domain-specific** knowledge needed

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- key solver features for **efficient** implementation:
 - *partial instances*
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wide applicability (in contrast to specialized synthesizers)

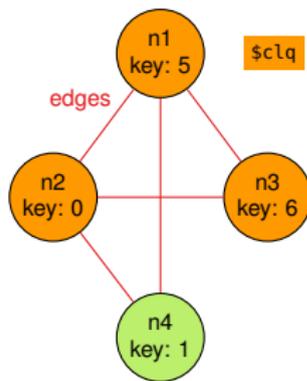
- program synthesis: SyGuS benchmarks
- security policy synthesis: Margrave
- solving graph problems: max-cut, max-clique, min-vertex-cover
- bounded verification: Turán's theorem

Generality: Nested Higher-Order Quantifiers

```
fun keysum[nodes: set Node]: Int {  
  sum n: nodes | n.key  
}
```

```
pred maxMaxClique[edges: Node->Node, clq: set Node] {  
  maxClique[edges, clq]  
  all ns: set Node |  
    not (maxClique[edges, clq2] and  
        keysum[ns] > keysum[clq])  
}
```

```
run maxMaxClique for 5
```



Executing "Run maxMaxClique for 5"

```
Solver=minisat(jni) Bitwidth=5 MaxSeq=5 SkolemDepth=3 Symmetry=20  
13302 vars. 831 primary vars. 47221 clauses. 66ms.
```

Solving...

```
[Some4All] started (formula, bounds)
```

```
[Some4All] candidate found (candidate)
```

```
[Some4All] verifying candidate (condition, pi) counterexample
```

```
|- [OR] solving splits (formula)
```

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|- [OR] trying choice (formula, bounds) unsat
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```
[Some4All] searching for next candidate (increment)
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```
[Some4All] verifying candidate (condition, pi) success (#cand = 3)
```

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```
Instance found. Predicate is consistent. 490ms.
```


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 2. **decompose** arbitrary formula into **known idioms**
 - FOL : first-order formula
 - OR : disjunction
 - $\exists\forall$: higher-order top-level \forall quantifier (not skolemizable)
 3. **solve** using the following decision procedure
 - FOL : solve directly with Kodkod (first-order relational solver)
 - OR : solve each disjunct separately
 - $\exists\forall$: apply CEGIS

ALLOY* Implementation **Caveats**

```
some prog: Node |  
  acyclic[prog]  
all eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |  
  semantics[eval] implies spec[prog, eval]
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```
∃∀(conj: $prog in Node and acyclic[$prog],  
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- enforced using *bounds*

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- ? *what if the increment formula is not first-order*
- optimization 1: use its weaker “first-order version”

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*“for all possible eval,
if the semantics hold then the spec
must hold”*

vs.

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↓
candidate search

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↓
a valid candidate **doesn't** have to
satisfy the **semantics** predicate!

X

ALLOY* Optimization

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*“for all eval that satisfy the semantics,
the spec must hold”*

- logically **equivalent**, **but**, when “for” implemented as CEGIS:

```
pred synth[prog: Node] {  
  all eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |  
    semantics[eval] implies spec[prog, eval]  
}
```

↓
candidate search

```
some prog: Node |  
  some eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |  
    semantics[eval] implies spec[prog, eval]
```

↓
a valid candidate **doesn't** have to
satisfy the **semantics** predicate!



```
pred synth[prog: Node] {  
  all eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) when semantics[eval]  
    spec[prog, eval]  
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```

↓
candidate search

```
some prog: Node |  
  some eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) when semantics[eval] |  
    spec[prog, eval]
```

↓
a valid candidate **must satisfy** the
semantics predicate!



ALLOY* **Evaluation**

evaluation goals

evaluation goals

1. scalability on classical higher-order graph problems
 - ? does ALLOY* scale beyond “toy-sized” graphs

evaluation goals

1. scalability on classical higher-order graph problems

? does ALLOY* scale beyond “toy-sized” graphs

2. applicability to program synthesis

? **expressiveness**: how many SyGuS benchmarks can be written in ALLOY*

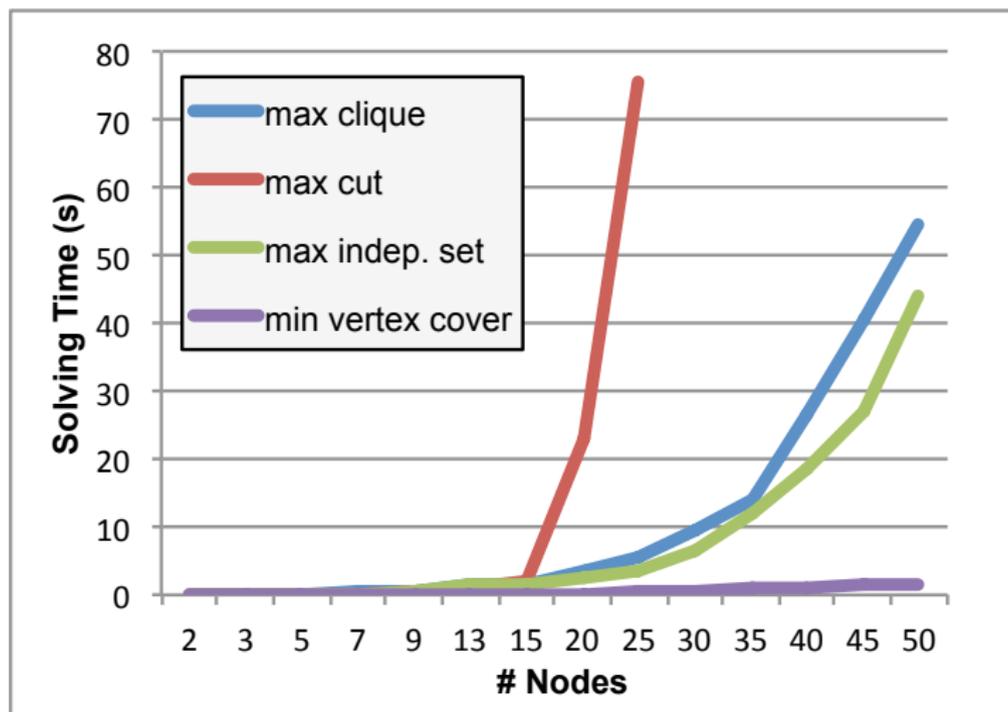
? **power**: how many SyGuS benchmarks can be solved with ALLOY*

? **scalability**: how does ALLOY* compare to other synthesizers

evaluation goals

1. scalability on classical higher-order graph problems
 - ? does ALLOY* scale beyond “toy-sized” graphs
2. applicability to program synthesis
 - ? expressiveness: how many SyGuS benchmarks can be written in ALLOY*
 - ? power: how many SyGuS benchmarks can be solved with ALLOY*
 - ? scalability: how does ALLOY* compare to other synthesizers
3. benefits of the two optimizations
 - ? do ALLOY* optimizations improve overall solving times

Evaluation: **Graph** Algorithms



expressiveness

- we extended Alloy to support bit vectors
- we encoded **123/173** benchmarks, i.e., all except “ICFP problems”
 - **reason** for **skipping** ICFP: 64-bit bit vectors (not supported by Kodkod)
 - (aside) not one of them was solved by any of the competition solvers

Evaluation: Program **Synthesis**

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power

- ALLOY* was able to solve **all** different **categories** of benchmarks
 - integer benchmarks, bit vector benchmarks, let constructs, synthesizing multiple functions at once, multiple applications of the synthesized function

Evaluation: Program **Synthesis**

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power

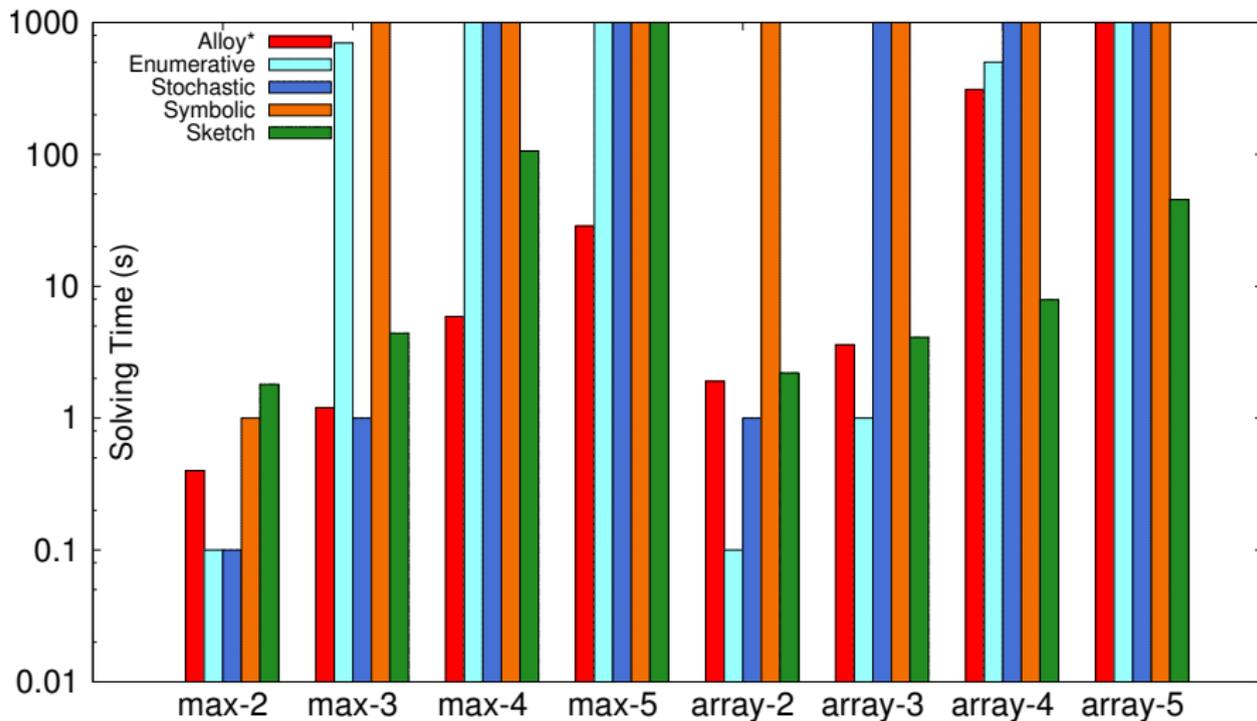
- ALLOY* was able to solve **all** different **categories** of benchmarks
 - integer benchmarks, bit vector benchmarks, let constructs, synthesizing multiple functions at once, multiple applications of the synthesized function

scalability

- many of the 123 benchmarks are either too easy or too difficult
 - not suitable for scalability comparison
- we primarily used the integer benchmarks
- we also picked a few bit vector benchmarks that were too hard for all solvers

Evaluation: Program **Synthesis**

scalability comparison (integer benchmarks)



Evaluation: Program **Synthesis**

scalability comparison (select bit vector benchmarks)

- benchmarks
 - parity-AIG-d1: full parity circuit using AND and NOT gates
 - parity-NAND-d1: full parity circuit using AND always followed by NOT

Evaluation: Program **Synthesis**

scalability comparison (select bit vector benchmarks)

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scalability comparison (select bit vector benchmarks)

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Evaluation: Program **Synthesis**

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```
parity-AIG-d1
sig AIG extends BoolNode {
  left, right: one BoolNode
  invLhs, invRhs, invOut: one Bool
}
pred aig_semantics[eval: Node->(Int+Bool)] {
  all n: AIG |
    eval[n] = ((eval[n.left] ^ n.invLhs) &&
              (eval[n.right] ^ n.invRhs)
              ) ^ n.invOut
run synth for 0 but -1..0 Int, exactly 15 AIG
```

```
parity-NAND-d1
sig NAND extends BoolNode {
  left, right: one BoolNode
}
pred nand_semantics[eval: Node->(Int+Bool)] {
  all n: NAND |
    eval[n] = !(eval[n.left] &&
                eval[n.right])
}
run synth for 0 but -1..0 Int, exactly 23 NAND
```

Evaluation: Program **Synthesis**

scalability comparison (select bit vector benchmarks)

- benchmarks
 - parity-AIG-d1: full parity circuit using AND and NOT gates
 - parity-NAND-d1: full parity circuit using AND always followed by NOT
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run synth for 0 but -1..0 Int, exactly 15 AIG
```

solving time w/ partial ordering: 20s
solving time w/o partial ordering: 80s

parity-NAND-d1

```
sig NAND extends BoolNode {
  left, right: one BoolNode
}
pred nand_semantics[eval: Node->(Int+Bool)] {
  all n: NAND |
    eval[n] = !(eval[n.left] &&
                eval[n.right])
}
run synth for 0 but -1..0 Int, exactly 23 NAND
```

solving time w/ partial ordering: 30s
solving time w/o partial ordering: ∞

Evaluation: Benefits of ALLOY* Optimizations

	base	w/ optimizations
max2	0.4s	0.3s
max3	7.6s	0.9s
max4	t/o	1.5s
max5	t/o	4.2s
max6	t/o	16.3s
max7	t/o	163.6s
max8	t/o	987.3s
array-search2	140.0s	1.6s
array-search3	t/o	4.0s
array-search4	t/o	16.1s
array-search5	t/o	485.6s

	base	w/ optimizations
turan5	3.5s	0.5s
turan6	12.8s	2.1s
turan7	235.0s	3.8s
turan8	t/o	15.0s
turan9	t/o	45.0s
turan10	t/o	168.0s

ALLOY* **Conclusion**

ALLOY* is

- **general** purpose constraint solver
- capable of efficiently solving **arbitrary higher-order** formulas
- **sound** & **complete** within given bounds



ALLOY* Conclusion

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higher-order and alloy historically

- bit-blasting higher-order quantifiers: attempted, deemed intractable
- previously many ad hoc mods to alloy
 - aluminum, razor, staged execution, ...

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why is this important?

- accessible to wider audience, encourages new applications
- potential **impact**
 - abundance of tools that build on Alloy/Kodkod, for testing, program analysis, security, bounded verification, executable specifications, ...

ALLOY* Conclusion

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Thank You!

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<http://alloy.mit.edu/alloy/hola>

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 - abundance of tools that build on Alloy/Kodkod, for testing, program analysis, security, bounded verification, executable specifications, ...

First-Order Vs. Higher-Order: clique

first-order: finding a **clique** in a graph

First-Order Vs. Higher-Order: clique

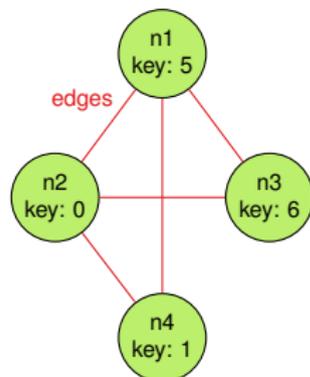
first-order: finding a **clique** in a graph

```
pred clique[edges: Node->Node, clq: set Node] {  
  all disj n1, n2: clq | n1->n2 in edges // every two nodes in 'clq' are connected  
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First-Order Vs. Higher-Order: clique

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run { // find a clique in a given graph  
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}
```



First-Order Vs. Higher-Order: clique

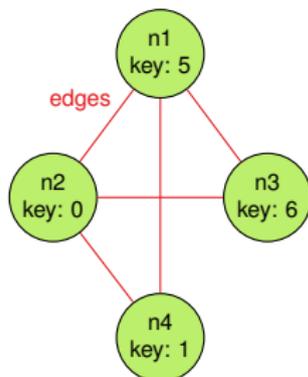
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```

Alloy encoding:

N1: { n_1 } | **N2:** { n_2 } | **N3:** { n_3 } | **N4:** { n_4 }

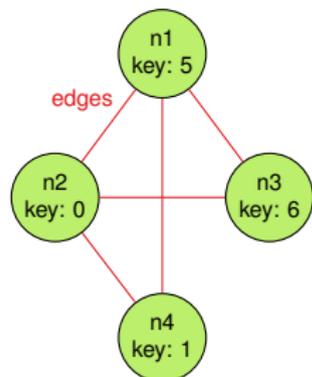
atoms



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N1: {n1} | **N2:** {n2} | **N3:** {n3} | **N4:** {n4}

atoms

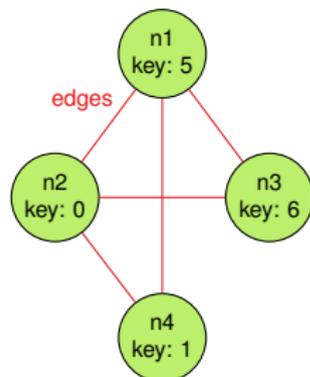
Node: {n1, n2, n3, n4}
key: {(n1 → 5), (n2 → 0), (n3 → 6), (n4 → 1)}
edges: {(n1 → n2), (n1 → n3), (n1 → n4), (n2 → n3), (n2 → n4),
(n2 → n1), (n3 → n1), (n4 → n1), (n3 → n2), (n4 → n2)}

fixed relations

First-Order Vs. Higher-Order: clique

first-order: finding a **clique** in a graph

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  some clq: set Node | clique[edges, clq]  
}
```



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atoms

Node: { n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4 }

key: { $(n_1 \rightarrow 5), (n_2 \rightarrow 0), (n_3 \rightarrow 6), (n_4 \rightarrow 1)$ }

edges: { $(n_1 \rightarrow n_2), (n_1 \rightarrow n_3), (n_1 \rightarrow n_4), (n_2 \rightarrow n_3), (n_2 \rightarrow n_4),$
 $(n_2 \rightarrow n_1), (n_3 \rightarrow n_1), (n_4 \rightarrow n_1), (n_3 \rightarrow n_2), (n_4 \rightarrow n_2)$ }

fixed relations

clq: {}, { n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4 }

relations to be solved

lower bound

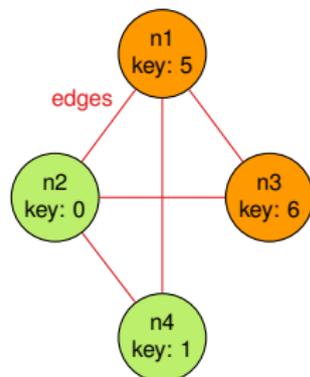
upper bound

→ **set of nodes: efficiently translated to SAT**
(one bit for each node)

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fixed
relations

clq: {}, { n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4 }

relations
to be solved

lower bound

upper bound

→ **set of nodes: efficiently translated to SAT**
(one bit for each node)

- a **solution** (automatically found by Alloy): **clq** = { n_1, n_3 }

First-Order Vs. **Higher**-Order: maxClique

higher-order: finding a **maximal clique** in a graph

First-Order Vs. **Higher**-Order: maxClique

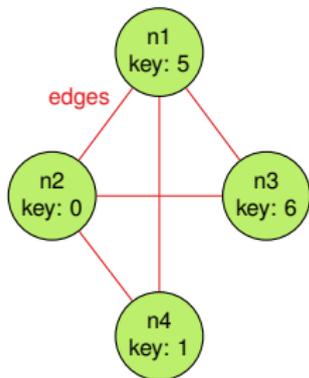
higher-order: finding a **maximal clique** in a graph

```
pred maxClique[edges: Node->Node, clq: set Node] {  
  clique[edges, clq]  
  all ns: set Node |  
    not (clique[edges, ns] and #ns > #clq)  
}
```

First-Order Vs. **Higher**-Order: maxClique

higher-order: finding a **maximal clique** in a graph

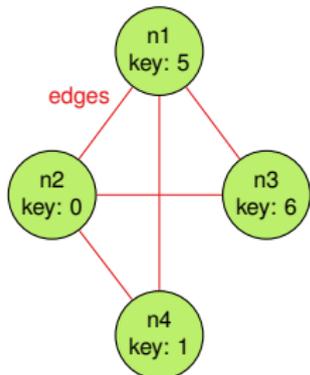
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}  
  
run { // find a maximal clique in a given graph  
  let edges = n1->n2 + n1->n3 + ... |  
  some clq: set Node | maxClique[edges, clq]  
}
```



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}
run { // find a maximal clique in a given graph
  let edges = n1->n2 + n1->n3 + ... |
  some clq: set Node | maxClique[edges, clq]
}
```



expressible but not solvable in Alloy!

```
Alloy Analyzer 4.2_2015-02-22 (build date: 2015-02-22)
sig Node { key: Int }
pred clique[edges: Node->Node, clq: set Node] {
  all disj n1, n2: clq | n1->n2 in edges
}
pred maxClique[edges: Node->Node, clq: set Node] {
  clique[edges, clq]
  all ns: set Node |
    not (clique[edges, ns] and #ns > #clq)
}
run { // find a maximal clique in a given graph
  let edges = Node -> Node |
  some clq: set Node | maxClique[edges, clq]
}
Line 10, Column 7
```

Executing "Run run\$1"

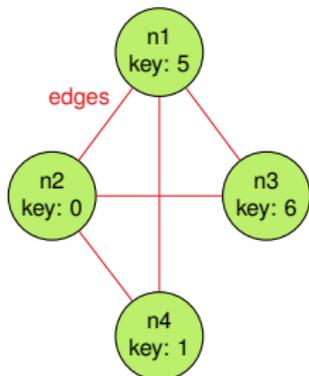
- Sig this/Node scope <= 3
- Sig this/Node in [[Node\$0], [Node\$1], [Node\$2]]
- Generating facts...
- Simplifying the bounds...
- Solver=minisatprover(jmi) Bitwidth=4 MaxSeq=4 Sko
- Generating CNF...
- Generating the solution...

A type error has occurred: (see the [stacktrace](#))
Analysis cannot be performed since it requires higher quantification that could not be skolemized.

First-Order Vs. **Higher**-Order: maxClique

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}
```

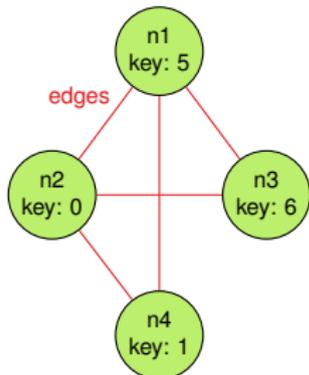


- **definition** of higher-order (as in Alloy):
 - **quantification** over **all sets** of atoms

First-Order Vs. **Higher**-Order: maxClique

higher-order: finding a **maximal clique** in a graph

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```

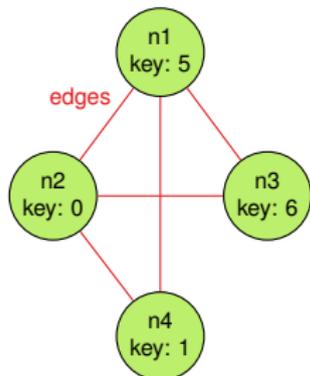


- **definition** of higher-order (as in Alloy):
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- maxClique: check all possible sets of nodes and ensure not one is a clique larger than clq

First-Order Vs. **Higher**-Order: maxClique

higher-order: finding a **maximal clique** in a graph

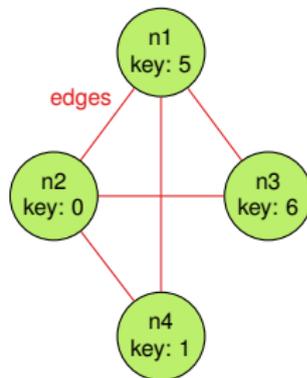
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- **definition** of higher-order (as in Alloy):
 - **quantification** over **all sets** of atoms
- maxClique: check all possible sets of nodes and ensure not one is a clique larger than clq
- ✗ number of bits required for direct encoding to SAT: $2^{\#Node}$

Solving maxClique: Idea

```
run {  
  some clq: set Node |  
    clique[edges, clq] and  
  all ns: set Node |  
    not (clique[edges, ns] and #ns > #clq)  
}
```

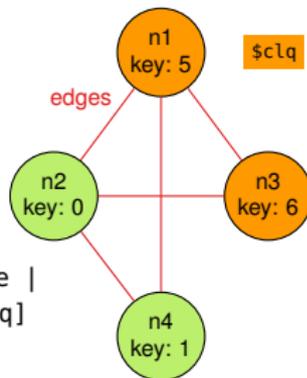


intuitive iterative algorithm

Solving maxClique: Idea

```
run {  
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      not (clique[edges, ns] and #ns > #clq)  
}
```

```
some clq: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, clq]
```



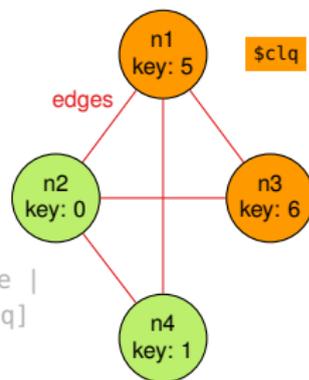
intuitive iterative algorithm

1. **find** some clique \$clq

Solving maxClique: Idea

```
run {  
  some clq: set Node |  
    clique[edges, clq] and  
    all ns: set Node |  
      not (clique[edges, ns] and #ns > #clq)  
}
```

```
some clq: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, clq]
```



```
some ns: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, ns] and #ns > 2
```

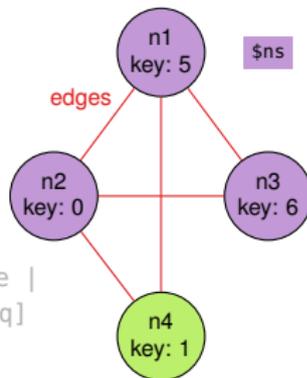
intuitive iterative algorithm

1. **find** some clique \$clq
2. **check** if \$clq is maximal
↔ find some clique \$ns > \$clq from step 1
– if not found: return \$clq

Solving maxClique: Idea

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run {  
  some clq: set Node |  
    clique[edges, clq] and  
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}
```

```
some clq: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, clq]
```



intuitive iterative algorithm

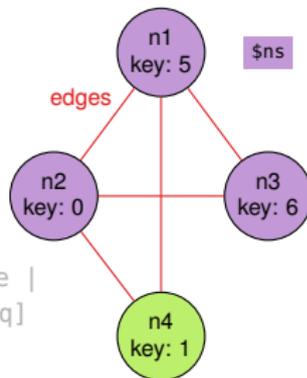
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↔ find some clique \$ns > \$clq from step 1
– if not found: return \$clq

```
some ns: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, ns] and #ns > 2
```

Solving maxClique: Idea

```
run {  
  some clq: set Node |  
    clique[edges, clq] and  
    all ns: set Node |  
      not (clique[edges, ns] and #ns > #clq)  
}
```

```
some clq: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, clq]
```



intuitive iterative algorithm

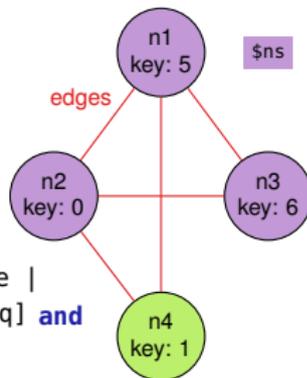
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3. **assert** that every new \$clq must be \geq than \$ns from step 2;
goto step 1

```
some ns: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, ns] and #ns > 2
```

Solving maxClique: Idea

```
run {  
  some clq: set Node |  
    clique[edges, clq] and  
    all ns: set Node |  
      not (clique[edges, ns] and #ns > #clq)  
}
```

```
some clq: Set Node |  
  clique[edges, clq] and  
  #clq >= 3
```



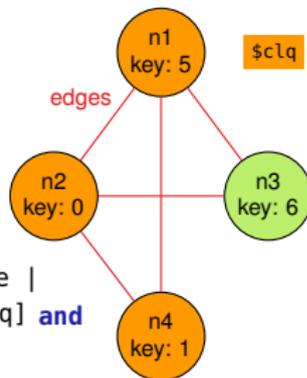
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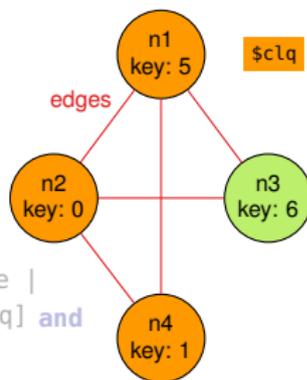
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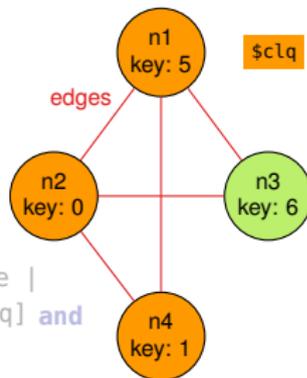
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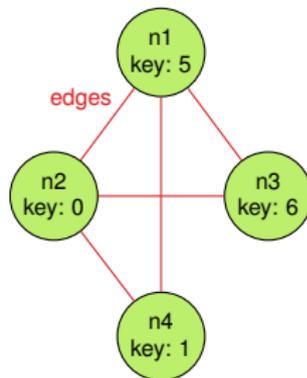
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```
some ns: Set Node |  
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UNSAT → return $clq
```

Solving maxClique: Idea

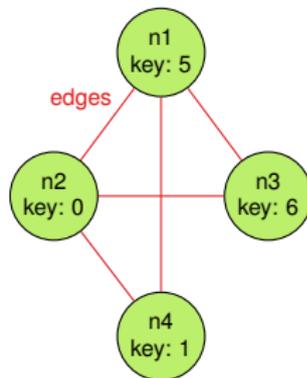
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intuitive iterative algorithm

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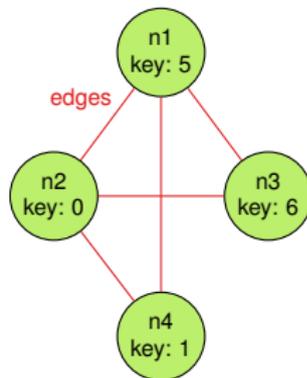


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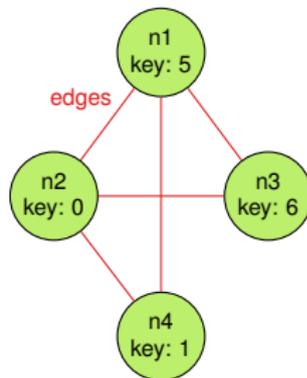


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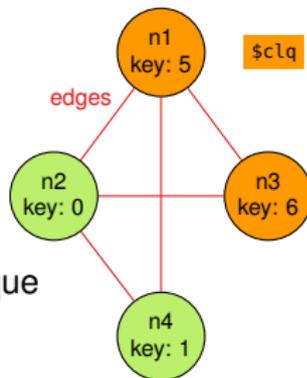
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find **candidate** clique



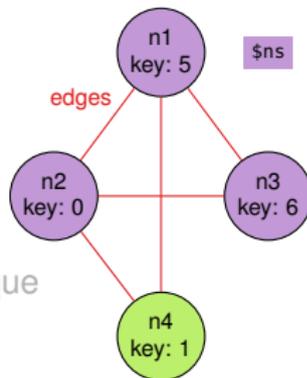
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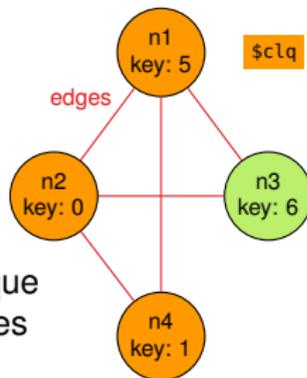
verify \$clq (is it maximal?)

→ counterexample: \$ns

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find **candidate** clique
with at least 3 nodes



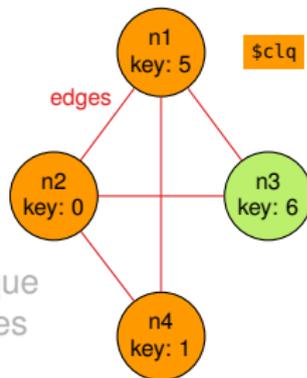
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CEGIS: A Common Approach for Program Synthesis

original synthesis formulation

```
run { some prog: ASTNode | all env: Var -> Val | spec[prog, env] }
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Counter-Example Guided Inductive Synthesis [Solar-Lezama, ASPLOS'06]

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1. search: find *some* program and *some* environment s.t. the spec holds, i.e.,

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Done if verified; else, a concrete *counterexample* \$env is returned as witness.

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```

Done if verified; else, a concrete *counterexample* \$env is returned as witness.

3. induction: *incrementally* find a new program that *additionally* satisfies \$env:

```
run { some prog: ASTNode |  
    some env: Var -> Val | spec[prog, env] and spec[prog, $env] }
```

If UNSAT, return no solution; else, go to 2.

Program **Synthesis** with ALLOY*

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AST nodes

```
abstract sig Node {}  
abstract sig IntNode, BoolNode extends Node {}  
abstract sig Var extends IntNode {}
```

```
sig ITE extends IntNode {  
  cond: one BoolNode,  
  then: one IntNode,  
  elsen: one IntNode  
}
```

```
sig GTE extends BoolNode {  
  left: one IntNode,  
  right: one IntNode  
}
```

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}
```

program semantics

```
fact acyclic {
  all x: Node | x !in x.^(cond+then+elsen+left+right)
}

pred semantics[eval: Node -> (Int+Bool)] {
  all n: IntNode | one eval[n] and eval[n] in Int
  all n: BoolNode | one eval[n] and eval[n] in Bool
  all n: ITE |
    eval[n.cond] = True implies
    eval[n.then] = eval[n] else eval[n.elsen] = eval[n]
  all n: GTE |
    eval[n.left] >= eval[n.right] implies
    eval[n] = True else eval[n] = False
}
```

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  all n: GTE |
    eval[n.left] >= eval[n.right] implies
    eval[n] = True else eval[n] = False
}
```

generic synthesis predicate

```
// for all 'eval' relations for which the
// semantics hold, the spec must hold as well
```

```
pred synth[root: Node] {
  all env: Var -> one Int |
    some eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |
      env in eval and
      semantics[eval] and
      spec[root, eval]
}
```

Program **Synthesis** with ALLOY*

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  all n: GTE |
    eval[n.left] >= eval[n.right] implies
    eval[n] = True else eval[n] = False
}
```

spec for max2 (the only benchmark-specific part)

```
one sig X, Y extends Var {}

// the result is equal to either X or Y and
// is greater or equal than both
pred spec[root: Node, eval: Node -> (Int+Bool)] {
  (eval[root] = eval[X] or eval[root] = eval[Y]) and
  (eval[root] >= eval[X] and eval[root] >= eval[Y])
}
```

ALLOY* Execution: **Example**

1. candidate search

```
facts[] and
some prog: Node |
all env: Var -> one Int |
  some eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |
    env in eval and
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```

```
// converted to Proc
 $\exists \forall$ (conj: facts[] and $prog in Node,
  // used for search
  eQuant: some env | some eval ...,
  // used for verification
  aQuant: all env | some eval ...)
```

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```
not(all env: Var -> one Int |
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    spec[$prog, eval])
```

implemented as
"partial instance"

ALLOY* Execution: Example

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```
// NNF + skolemized
$env in Node -> Int
all eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |
  !($env in eval) or
  !semantics[eval] or
  !spec[$prog, eval]
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  aQuant: all env | some eval ...)
```

2. verification

```
not(all env: Var -> one Int |
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    env in eval      and
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```

implemented as
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```
// NNF + skolemized
$env in Node -> Int
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```
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ALLOY* Execution: Example

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```
// NNF + skolemized
$env in Node -> Int
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```
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eQuant: some eval ...,
// used for verification
aQuant: all eval ...)
```

implemented as
"partial instance"

3. induction

```
facts[] and
some prog: Node |
  some env: Var -> one Int |
    (some eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |
      env in eval && semantics[eval] && spec[prog, eval]) and
    (some eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |
      $env_cex in eval && semantics[eval] && spec[prog, eval])
```

- body of *aQuant* from step 1 with env replaced by the concrete value (\$env_cex) from step 2
- implemented using "incremental solving"

Semantics: General Idea

1. convert formula to Negation Normal Form (NNF)
 - boolean connectives left: \wedge , \vee , \neg
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 - FOL : first-order formula
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4. solve using the following decision procedure
 - FOL : solve directly with Kodkod (first-order relational solver)
 - OR : solve each disjunct separately
 - $\exists\forall$: apply CEGIS

Semantics: Formula **Decomposition**

```
type Proc = FOL(form: Formula) // first-order formula
| OR(disjs: Proc list) // list of disjuncts (at least some should be higher-order)
|  $\exists\forall$ (conj: FOL, // first-order conjuncts (alongside the higher-order  $\forall$  quantifier)
    allForm: Formula, // original  $\forall x.f$  formula
    existsProc: Proc) // translation of the dual  $\exists$  formula ( $\mathcal{T}(\exists x.f)$ )
```

Semantics: Formula **Decomposition**

```
type Proc = FOL(form: Formula) // first-order formula
| OR(disjs: Proc list) // list of disjuncts (at least some should be higher-order)
|  $\exists\forall$ (conj: FOL, // first-order conjuncts (alongside the higher-order  $\forall$  quantifier)
    allForm: Formula, // original  $\forall x.f$  formula
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$\mathcal{T} : \text{Formula} \rightarrow \text{Proc}$ // translates arbitrary formula to a tree of Procs

let $\mathcal{T} = \lambda(f). \cdot$

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```
let  $\mathcal{T} = \lambda(f).$ 
```

```
    let  $f_{nnf} = \text{skolemize}(\text{nnf}(f))$ 
```

- convert to NNF and skolemize

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```

```
  match  $f_{nnf}$  with
```

```
  |  $\neg f_s$      $\rightarrow$  FOL( $f_{nnf}$ )
```

translating negation

- negation can be only in leaves
- \Rightarrow must be first-order

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let $f_{nnf} = \text{skolemize}(\text{nnf}(f))$

match f_{nnf} **with**

 | $\neg f_s$ \rightarrow FOL(f_{nnf})

 | $\exists x \cdot f_s$ \rightarrow **fail** "can't happen"

translating the \exists quantifier

- there can't be top-level \exists quantifiers after skolemization

Semantics: Formula **Decomposition**

```
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          | OR(disjs: Proc list) // list of disjuncts (at least some should be higher-order)
          |  $\exists$ V(conj: FOL, // first-order conjuncts (alongside the higher-order  $\forall$  quantifier)
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```

```
  |  $\exists x.f_s$     $\rightarrow$  fail "can't happen"
```

```
  |  $\forall x.f_s$     $\rightarrow$  let  $p = \mathcal{T}(\exists x.f_s)$ 
```

```
    if ( $x.\text{mult} = \text{SET}$ ) ||  $\neg(p \text{ is FOL})$ 
```

```
       $\exists \forall(\text{FOL}(\text{true}), f_{nnf}, p)$ 
```

```
    else
```

```
      FOL( $f_{nnf}$ )
```

translating the \forall quantifier

- translate the dual \exists formula first (where the \exists quantifier will be skolemizable)
- if multiplicity of this \forall quantifier is SET or the dual is **not** first-order
 - then: f_{nnf} is higher-order
→ create $\exists \forall$ node
 - else: f_{nnf} is first-order
→ create FOL node

Semantics: Formula **Decomposition**

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                if ( $x.\text{mult} = \text{SET}$ ) ||  $\neg(p \text{ is FOL})$ 
                   $\exists \forall(\text{FOL}(\text{true}), f_{nnf}, p)$ 
```

```
                else
```

```
                  FOL( $f_{nnf}$ )
```

```
  |  $f_1 \vee f_2$  → OR( $[\mathcal{T}(f_1), \mathcal{T}(f_2)]$ )
```

translating disjunction

- translate both disjuncts
- skolemization through disjunction is not sound → must create OR node (and later solve each side separately)
- optimization: only if $f_1 \vee f_2$ is first-order as a whole, then it is safe to return $\text{FOL}(f_1 \vee f_2)$

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match f_{nnf} **with**

 | $\neg f_s$ → FOL(f_{nnf})

 | $\exists x.f_s$ → **fail** "can't happen"

 | $\forall x.f_s$ → **let** $p = \mathcal{T}(\exists x.f_s)$
 if ($x.\text{mult} = \text{SET}$) || $\neg(p \text{ is FOL})$
 $\exists\forall(\text{FOL}(\text{true}), f_{nnf}, p)$

else

 FOL(f_{nnf})

 | $f_1 \vee f_2$ → OR($[\mathcal{T}(f_1), \mathcal{T}(f_2)]$)

 | $f_1 \wedge f_2$ → $\mathcal{T}(f_1) \wedge \mathcal{T}(f_2)$

translating conjunction

- translate both conjuncts
- compose the two resulting Procs

FOL \wedge FOL → FOL

FOL \wedge OR → OR

FOL \wedge $\exists\forall$ → $\exists\forall$

OR \wedge OR → OR

OR \wedge $\exists\forall$ → OR

$\exists\forall$ \wedge $\exists\forall$ → $\exists\forall$

Semantics: Formula **Evaluation**

$S : \text{Proc} \rightarrow \text{Instance option}$

let $S = \lambda(p) \cdot$

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match p **with**

| FOL \rightarrow *solve p.form*

Semantics: Formula **Evaluation**

$\mathcal{S} : \text{Proc} \rightarrow \text{Instance option}$

let $\mathcal{S} = \lambda(p) \cdot$

match p **with**

| FOL \rightarrow *solve* $p.form$

| OR \rightarrow ... // apply \mathcal{S} to each Proc in $p.disj$; return the first solution found

Semantics: Formula Evaluation

$S : \text{Proc} \rightarrow \text{Instance option}$

```
let S = λ(p) ·
  match p with
  | FOL → solve p.form
  | OR  → ... // apply S to each Proc in p.disj; return the first solution found
  | ∃∀  → let p_cand = p.conj ∧ p.existsProc
         match S(p_cand) with
         | None           → None // no candidate solution found ⇒ return UNSAT
         | Some(cand)     → // candidate solution found ⇒ proceed to verify the candidate
                           match S(ℳ(¬p.allForm)) with // try to falsify cand ⇒ must run S against the cand instance
                           | None           → Some(cand) // no counterexample found ⇒ cand is the solution
                           | Some(cex)      → let q = p.allForm
                                             // encode the counterexample as a formula: use only the body of the ∀ quant.
                                             // in which the quant. variable is replaced with its concrete value in cex
                                             let f_cex = replace(q.body, q.var, eval(cex, q.var))
                                             // add the counterexample encoding to the candidate search condition
                                             S(p_cand ∧ ℳ(f_cex))
```

Semantics: Formula Evaluation

$S : \text{Proc} \rightarrow \text{Instance option}$

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```

partial instance

encode *cand* as partial instance

Semantics: Formula Evaluation

$S : \text{Proc} \rightarrow \text{Instance option}$

let $S = \lambda(p) \cdot$

match p **with**

| FOL \rightarrow *solve* $p.\text{form}$

| OR \rightarrow ... // apply S to each Proc in $p.\text{disj}$; return the first solution found

| $\exists \forall$ \rightarrow **let** $p_{\text{cand}} = p.\text{conj} \wedge p.\text{existsProc}$

match $S(p_{\text{cand}})$ **with**

| None \rightarrow None // no candidate solution found \Rightarrow return UNSAT

| Some(cand) \rightarrow // candidate solution found \Rightarrow proceed to verify the candidate

match $S(\mathcal{T}(\neg p.\text{allForm}))$ **with** // try to falsify $\text{cand} \Rightarrow$ must run S against the cand instance

| None \rightarrow Some(cand) // no counterexample found \Rightarrow cand is the solution

| Some(cex) \rightarrow **let** $q = p.\text{allForm}$

// encode the counterexample as a formula: use only the body of the \forall quant.
// in which the quant. variable is replaced with its concrete value in cex

let $f_{\text{cex}} = \text{replace}(q.\text{body}, q.\text{var}, \text{eval}(\text{cex}, q.\text{var}))$

// add the counterexample encoding to the candidate search condition

$S(p_{\text{cand}} \wedge \mathcal{T}(f_{\text{cex}}))$

partial instance

encode cand as partial instance

counterexample encoding

no domain-specific knowledge necessary

Semantics: Formula Evaluation

S : Proc \rightarrow Instance **option**

```
let  $S = \lambda(p) \cdot$   
  match  $p$  with  
  | FOL  $\rightarrow$  solve  $p.form$   
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  |  $\exists \forall$   $\rightarrow$  let  $p_{cand} = p.conj \wedge p.existsProc$   
    match  $S(p_{cand})$  with  
    | None  $\rightarrow$  None // no candidate solution found  $\Rightarrow$  return UNSAT  
    | Some( $cand$ )  $\rightarrow$  // candidate solution found  $\Rightarrow$  proceed to verify the candidate  
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      | None  $\rightarrow$  Some( $cand$ ) // no counterexample found  $\Rightarrow$   $cand$  is the solution  
      | Some( $cex$ )  $\rightarrow$  let  $q = p.allForm$   
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        // in which the quant. variable is replaced with its concrete value in  $cex$   
        let  $f_{cex} = replace(q.body, q.var, eval(cex, q.var))$   
        // add the counterexample encoding to the candidate search condition  
         $S(p_{cand} \wedge \mathcal{T}(f_{cex}))$ 
```

partial instance

encode $cand$ as partial instance

counterexample encoding

no domain-specific knowledge necessary

incremental solving

add $\mathcal{T}(f_{cex})$ to the existing $S(p_{cand})$ solver

Optimization 1: Domain Constraints

problem: domain for `eval` too unconstrained

```
pred synth[root: Node] {  
  all eval: Node -> (Int+Bool) |  
    semantics[eval] implies spec[root, eval]  
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→ candidate search condition:

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- a valid candidate **doesn't** have to **satisfy** the **semantics** predicate!

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- although logically correct, takes too many steps to converge

*“for all possible eval,
if the semantics hold then the
spec must hold”*

vs.

*“for all eval that satisfy the semantics,
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*“for all possible eval,
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the spec must hold”*

solution: add new syntax for domain constraints

```
pred synth[root: Node] {  
  all eval: Node -> (Int+Bool)  
  when semantics[eval] |  
    spec[root, eval]  
}
```

Domain Constraints Semantics

first-order logic semantics

`all x: X when dom[x] | body[x]` \iff `all x: X | dom[x] implies body[x]`

`some x: X when dom[x] | body[x]` \iff `some x: X | dom[x] and body[x]`

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De Morgan's Laws (consistent with classical logic)

`not (all x: X when dom[x] | body[x])` \iff `some x: X when dom[x] | not body[x]`

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changes to the ALLOY* semantics

- converting higher-order \forall to \exists : $\forall x. f \rightarrow \exists x. f$ (domain constraints stay with x)
- encoding a counterexample as a formula: in

`let $f_{cex} = \text{replace}(q.\text{body}, q.\text{var}, \text{eval}(cex, q.\text{var}))$`

`$q.\text{body}$` is expanded according to the first-order semantics above

Optimization 2: **First-Order Increments**

problem: search space too big, counterexamples not focused

```
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→

- quantifies over evaluations of Nodes instead of only Vars
- counterexamples encode entire eval relation, instead of only values of variables

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- quantifies over evaluations of Nodes instead of only Vars
- counterexamples encode entire eval relation, instead of only values of variables

idea: rewrite the synth predicate to separate env from eval

```
pred synth[root: Node] {  
  all env: Var -> one Int |  
    some eval: Node -> (Int+Bool)  
    when env in eval && semantics[eval] |  
      spec[root, eval]  
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- nested CEGIS loops ✓
- higher-order counterexample encoding
→ cannot use incremental solving ✗

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- nested CEGIS loops ✓
- higher-order counterexample encoding
→ cannot use incremental solving ✗

solution: force counterexample encodings to be first order

First-Order Increments Semantics

- always translate the counterexample encoding formula to FOL

$$\mathcal{S}(p_{cand} \wedge \mathcal{T}(fcex))$$

↓

$$\mathcal{S}(p_{cand} \wedge \mathcal{T}_{fo}(fcex))$$

First-Order Increments Semantics

- always translate the counterexample encoding formula to FOL

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{S}(p_{cand} \wedge \mathcal{T}(fcex)) \\ & \quad \downarrow \\ & \mathcal{S}(p_{cand} \wedge \mathcal{T}_{fo}(fcex)) \end{aligned}$$

- apply the same idea of flipping \forall to \exists to implement \mathcal{T}_{fo}

```
//  $\mathcal{T}_{fo} : \text{Formula} \rightarrow \text{FOL}$   
let  $\mathcal{T}_{fo}(f) = \text{match } p = \mathcal{T}(f) \text{ with}$   
    | FOL  $\rightarrow p$   
    |  $\exists\forall \rightarrow p.conj \wedge \mathcal{T}_{fo}(p.existsProc)$   
    | OR  $\rightarrow \text{FOL}(\text{reduce } \vee, (\text{map } \mathcal{T}_{fo}, p.disjs).form)$ 
```

First-Order Increments Semantics

- always translate the counterexample encoding formula to FOL

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    |  $\exists\forall \rightarrow p.\text{conj} \wedge \mathcal{T}_{fo}(p.\text{existsProc})$   
    | OR  $\rightarrow \text{FOL}(\text{reduce } \vee, (\text{map } \mathcal{T}_{fo}, p.\text{disjs}).\text{form})$ 
```

- \mathcal{T}_{fo} produces **strictly less constrained** encoding

First-Order Increments Semantics

- always translate the counterexample encoding formula to FOL

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{S}(p_{cand} \wedge \mathcal{T}(fcex)) \\ \downarrow \\ \mathcal{S}(p_{cand} \wedge \mathcal{T}_{fo}(fcex)) \end{array}$$

- apply the same idea of flipping \forall to \exists to implement \mathcal{T}_{fo}

```
//  $\mathcal{T}_{fo} : \text{Formula} \rightarrow \text{FOL}$   
let  $\mathcal{T}_{fo}(f) = \text{match } p = \mathcal{T}(f) \text{ with}$   
    | FOL  $\rightarrow p$   
    |  $\exists \forall \rightarrow p.conj \wedge \mathcal{T}_{fo}(p.existsProc)$   
    | OR  $\rightarrow \text{FOL}(\text{reduce } \vee, (\text{map } \mathcal{T}_{fo}, p.disjs).form)$ 
```

- \mathcal{T}_{fo} produces **strictly less constrained** encoding
- potential trade-off:
 - efficient incremental solving vs.
 - more CEGIS iterations (due to weaker encoding)