

Developing an Open-Source, State-of-the-Art Symbolic Model-Checking Framework for the Model-Checking Research Community

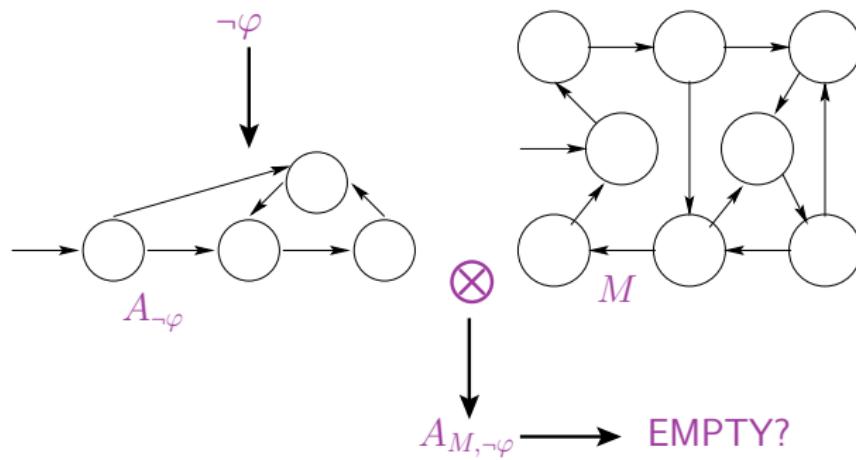
Kristin Yvonne Rozier

Iowa State University



April 23, 2024

Automata-Theoretic Approach to Model Checking¹



¹ Vardi, Wolper, LICS, 1986

Evolution of Model-Checking Algorithms

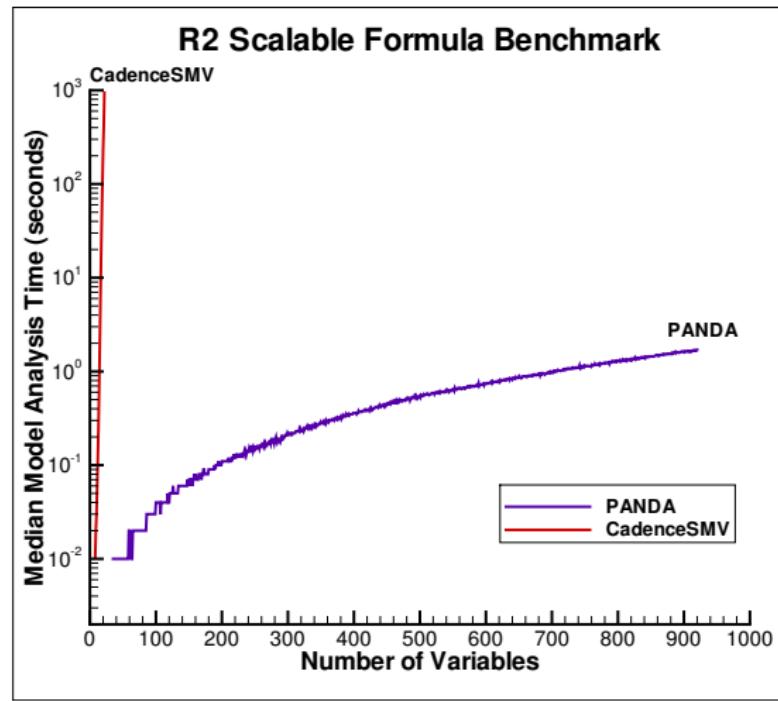
- ① BDD-based
- ② SAT-based / bounded model checking
- ③ IC3 / k-liveness

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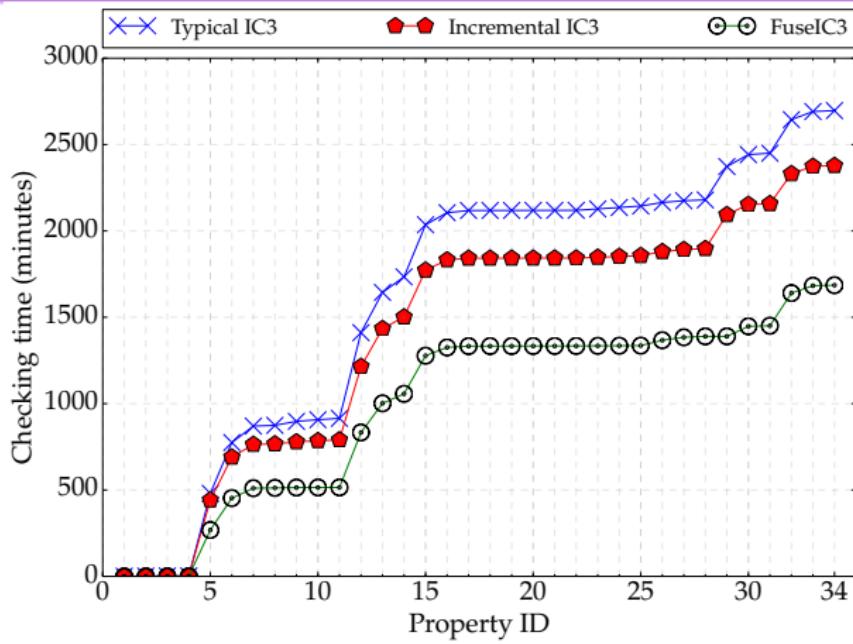
Symbolic model checking progressed from bit-level to word level

The Problem²



² K.Y.Rozier and M.Y.Vardi, "A Multi-Encoding Approach for LTL Symbolic Satisfiability Checking," FM 2011.

FuseIC3: An Algorithm for Checking Large Design Spaces³



Model checking 34 formulas over 1,620 models is 5.48x faster

³Rohit Dureja and Kristin Yvonne Rozier. "FuseIC3: An Algorithm for Checking Large Design Spaces." In Formal Methods in Computer-Aided Design (FMCAD), IEEE/ACM, Vienna, Austria, October 2–6, 2017. 

The Major Problems

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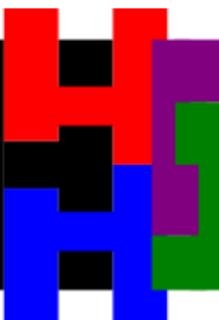
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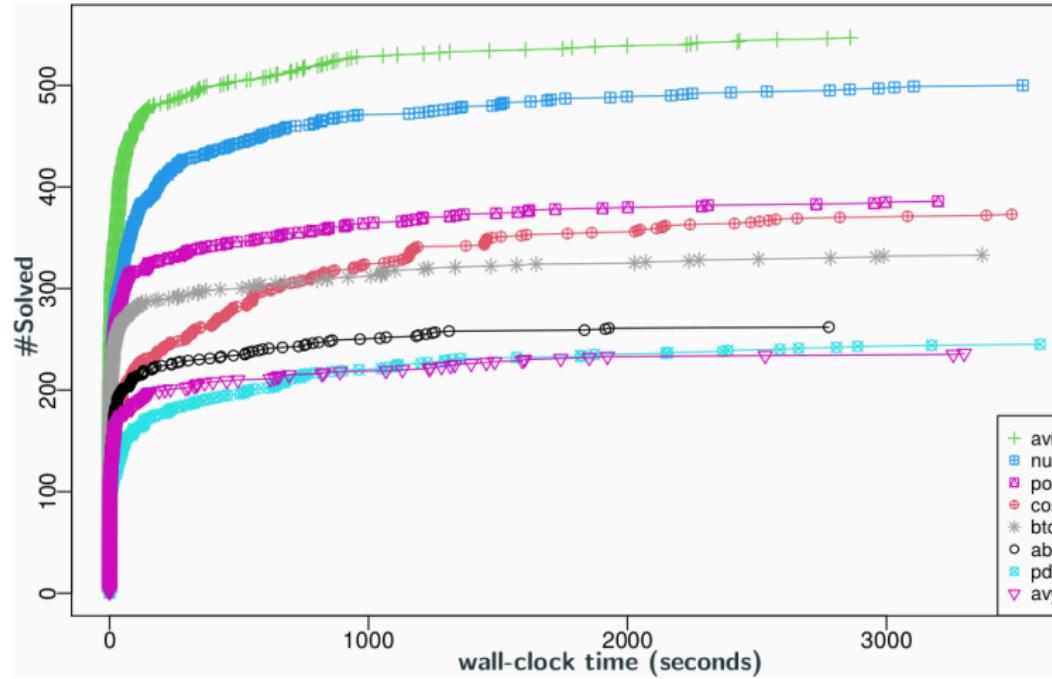
How do we do better?

HWMCC: Hardware Model Checking Competition (2020)



Word-level
reasoning

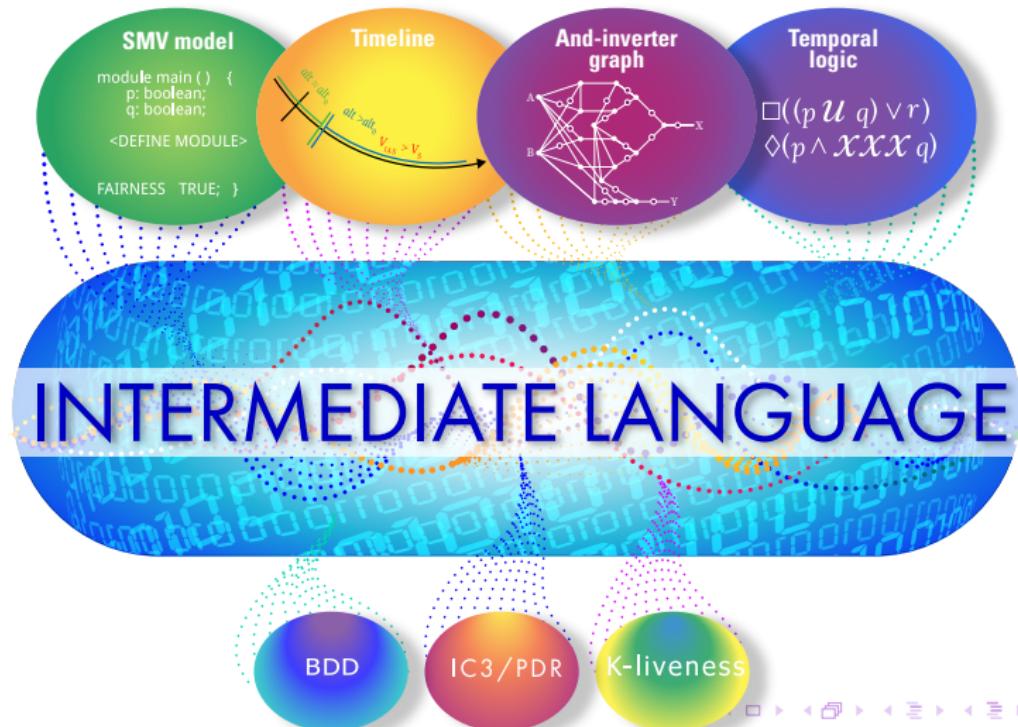
BTOR2



The Problem Continues...

- nuXmv, CadenceSMV, others are **closed source**
- ABC, HWMCC tools are **limited to low-level modeling languages**
- No **open-source, research-enabling connection** between:
 - Rich modeling languages with real-world benchmark models
 - State-of-the-art back-end MC algorithms

MoXI: Model eXchange Interlingua



Goals for Intermediate Language

- Allow adding a **modeling language** via **translation to/from MoXI**
- Allow adding an **MC algorithm** via **translation to/from MoXI**
- MoXI is efficient/accessible so as to **encourage usage in future MCs**
- MoXI: suitable for on-going **community standard**

Basis for MoXI as the Intermediate Language

- “**Best of**” **previous work**: SMT-LIB, VMT-LIB-Iowa, VMT-LIB-FBK, SAL/Sally, Cryptol, OCRA, synchronous reactive components, . . .
- Relatively **simple**, but **complete**
- **Easy to parse**
- Allow **different encodings** (from/to higher/lower levels)

Core Design Team

Investigators:



K.Y. Rozier



Natarajan Shankar



Cesare Tinelli



Moshe Vardi

Students:



Laura Gamboa Guzman



Chris Johannsen



Yi Lin

Technical Advisory Board (TAB)

Rajeev Alur (Univ of Pennsylvania)

Clark Barrett (Stanford)

Dirk Beyer (LMU Munich)

Armin Biere (Albert-Ludwigs Univ)

Nikolaj Bjorner (Microsoft Research)

Dimitra Giannakopoulou (Amazon)

Alberto Griggio (FBK)

Orna Grumberg (Technion)

Aarti Gupta (Princeton)

Arie Gurfinkel (Univ of Waterloo)

Ahmed Irfan (SRI)

John Matthews (Intel)

Ken McMillan (UT Austin)

Alan Mishchenko (Berkeley)

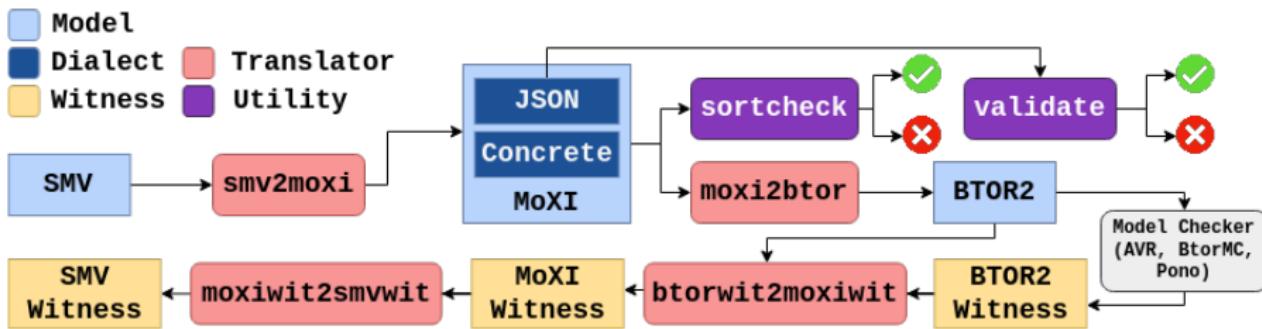
Karem Sakallah (Univ of Michigan)

Bernhard Steffen (TU Dortmund)

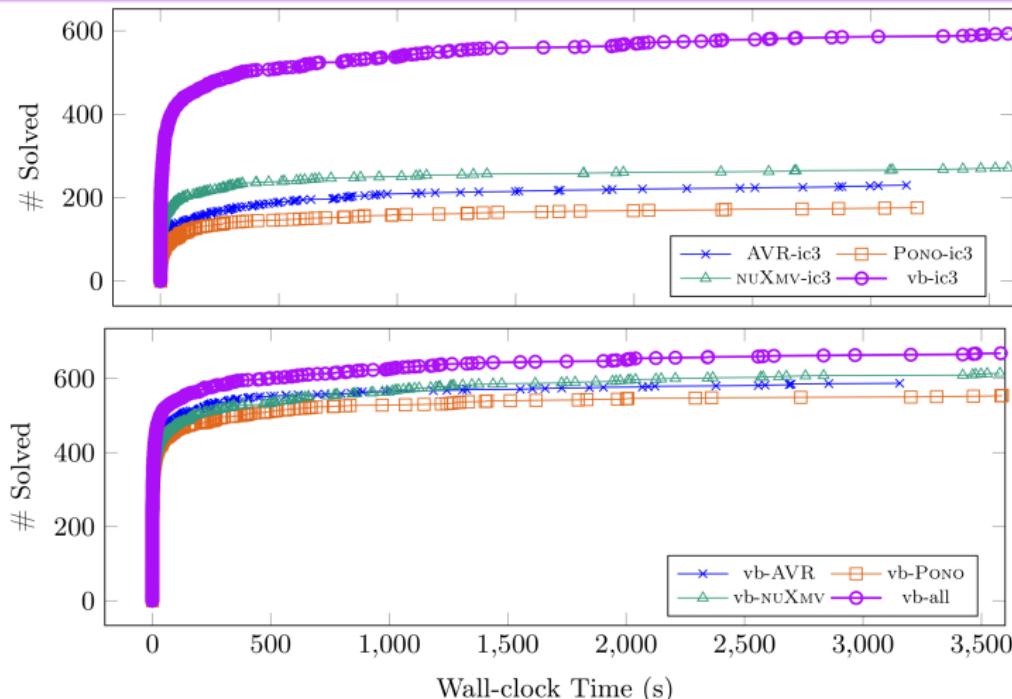
Aaron Tomb (Amazon)

Stefano Tonetta (FBK)

Building the First Translators⁴



⁴ C. Johannsen, K. Nukala, R. Dureja, A. Irfan, N. Shankar, C. Tinelli, M. Y. Vardi, K. Y. Rozier. "Symbolic Model-Checking Intermediate-Language Tool Suite." CAV 2024.

960 QF_BV & QF_ABV benchmarks (nuXmv release)⁵

⁵ K. Y. Rozier, R. Dureja, A. Irfan, C. Johannsen, K. Nukala, N. Shankar, C. Tinelli, M. Y. Vardi. "MoXI: An Intermediate Language for Symbolic Model Checking." SPIN 2024.

Join the Conversation!

OSSyM

Technical Information

CAV 2024

Workshop Agenda

Organizational Information

July
23rd
2024

The OSSyM workshop aims to introduce the progress to-date on this collaborative effort and involve the full international research community to reduce barriers to developing new model-checking algorithms and research platforms. The workshop will include tutorials and feedback from the international Model Checking Technical Advisory Board on a design for an extensible framework centering on an intermediate language that will unify popular front-end modeling languages with state-of-the-art back-end model-checking tools.

Open-Source, State-of-the-Art
Symbolic Model-Checking Framework
for the Model-Checking Research Community

Project Links

Home: <https://modelchecker.temporallogic.org>

GitHub Organization: <https://modelchecker.github.io/>

MoXI Language Definition:

<https://github.com/ModelChecker/IL/blob/main/description.md>

CAV 2024 Workshop: OSSyM:

<https://laboratory.temporallogic.org/ossym/>

FMCAD 2023 Workshop:

<https://github.com/ModelChecker/FMCAD23-Tutorial>

SPIN 2024 paper: MoXI semantics:

<https://research.temporallogic.org/papers/SPIN2024.pdf>

CAV 2024 tool paper: MoXI translators:

<https://research.temporallogic.org/papers/CAV2024.pdf>

artifact: <https://zenodo.org/records/10946779>



Summary

The time has come for model-checking community standards

- **Participate:** email list, language design feedback, community forum: **OSSyM@CAV 2024**
- Available Now: **SMV** \leftrightarrow **MoXI** \leftrightarrow **BTOR2**
- **Contribute** future translators:
 - Your Modeling Language \leftrightarrow **MoXI**
 - **MoXI** \leftrightarrow Your Back-end MC Algorithm
 - **MoXI** \leftrightarrow Your Proof Assistant
- **Optimize! Extend! Benchmark! Compare! Research!**

modelchecker.temporallogic.org

