

Synthesizing Cardinality Invariants for Parameterized Systems

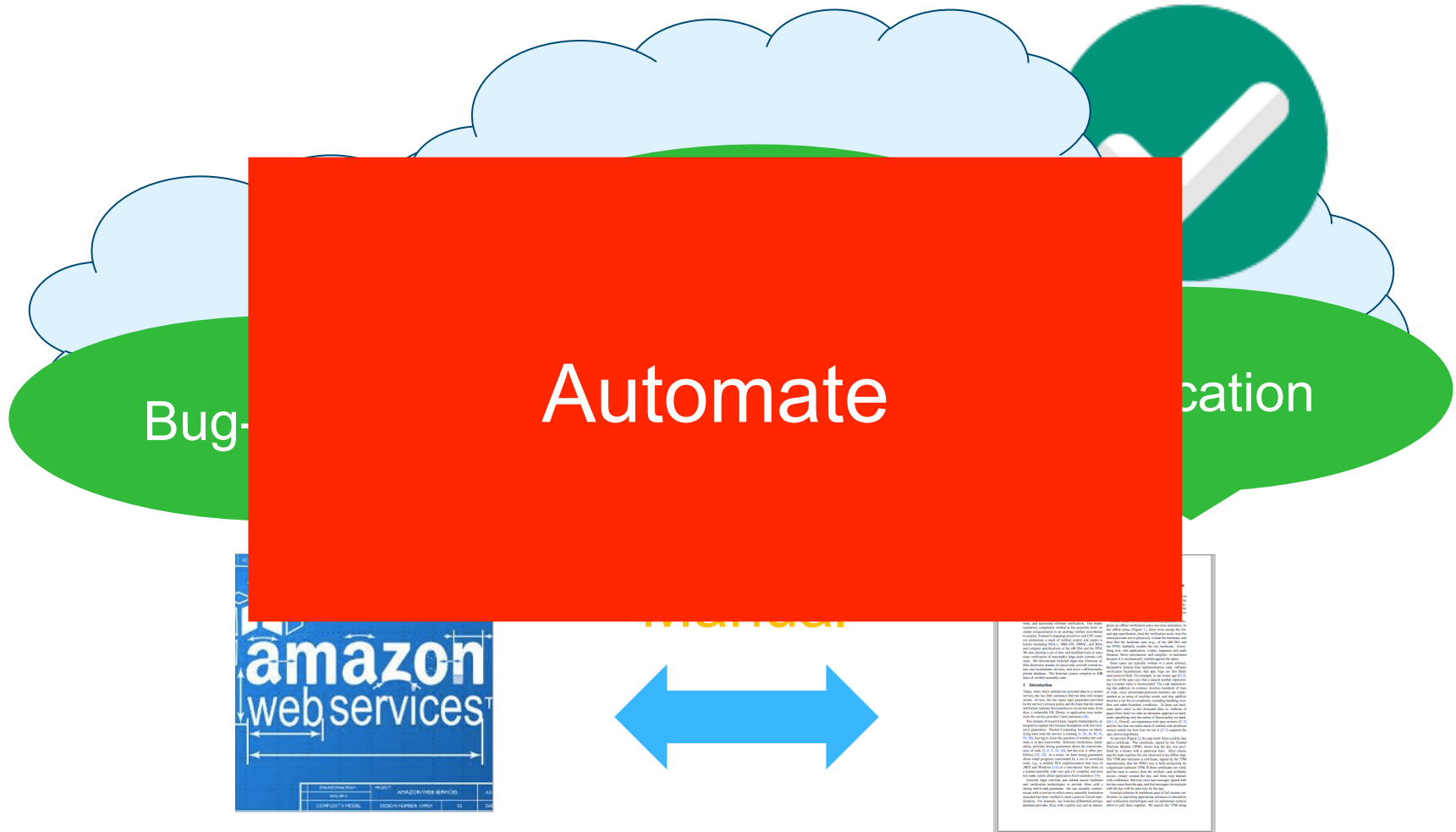
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Nikolaj Bjørner and Andrey Rybalchenko,
Microsoft Research

Consensus Protocols



Verification efforts:



How AWS uses formal methods.
CACM'15

Fleet: Proving Practical Distributed
Systems Correct.
SOSP'15

We need cardinalities

If the proposer receives the requested responses from a majority

Paxos
(ACM Sigact
News '01)

Cardinalities in
the description

if ($sCount_i \geq f + 1$) **then** $sFlag_i = true$
else $sFlag_i = false$

ASAP
(DISC'08)

26: T_p^r :
27: **if** $p = Coord(p, \phi)$ **and**
number of $\langle ack \rangle$ received $> n/2$ **then**
28: $ready_p := true$

Last Voting
(Distr. Computing'09)

We need cardinalities

Cardinalities in
the proof

Lemma 2.4.1
level j .

– j threads at

We need to reason about
cardinality.

g

A (very) simple example:

```
global int a=0;  
1:  a++;  
2:
```

If there is a
thread at
location 2,
then $a > 0$

Example: in logic

initial states:

$$\forall t: pc(t)=1 \wedge a=0$$

Local variables as functions

transition relation

$$pc(me)=1 \wedge pc':=pc(me \leftarrow 2) \wedge a'=a+1$$

primed = after transition

safety

$$pc(me)=2 \rightarrow a>0$$

Example: constraints

\exists

inv

$\forall t: pc(t)=1 \wedge a=0$

\rightarrow

inv(a,pc)

inv(a,pc)

\wedge

$pc(me)=1 \wedge$
 $pc':=pc(me \leftarrow 2) \wedge a'=a+1$

\rightarrow

inv(a',pc')

inv(a,pc)

\rightarrow

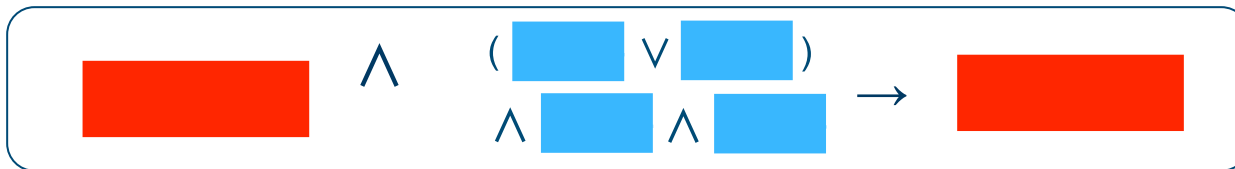
$pc(me)=2 \rightarrow a>0$

Restricting the search space:

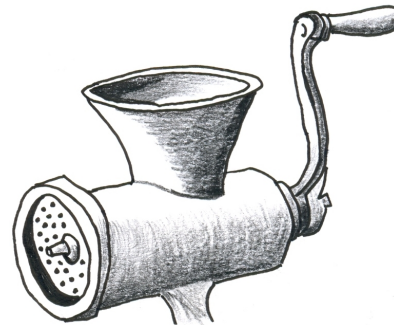
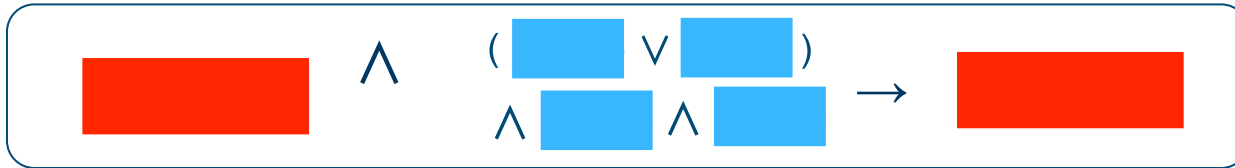
Predicate s
describes set

cardinality
free

inv \wedge inv(a,pc,k)



Solving:



$$\#\{t \mid pc(t) > 1\} \leq a$$

Example: checking the solution

$$\forall t: pc(t)=1 \wedge a=0$$



$$0 \leq 0$$

Set is empty

$$1 \leq a$$



$$pc(me)=2 \rightarrow a > 0$$

Set is non-empty

Example: point wise update

$\#\{t \mid pc(t) > 1\} \leq a$

\wedge

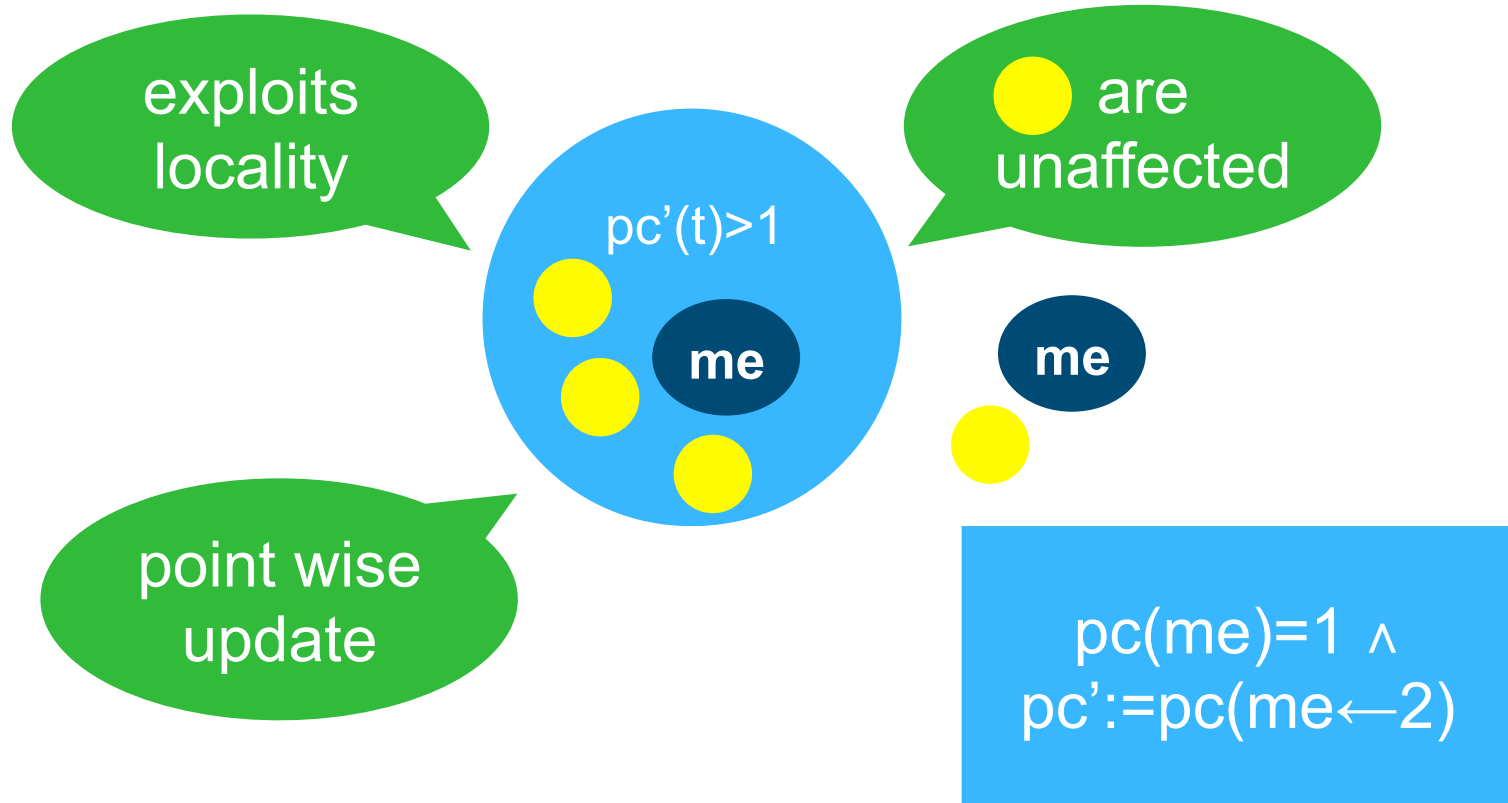
$pc(me) = 1$
 $\wedge pc' := pc(me \leftarrow 2) \wedge$
 $a' = a + 1$

\rightarrow

$\#\{t \mid pc'(t) > 1\} \leq a'$

How to
deal with
upd?

Example: point wise update



Example: finding the solution



Example: finding the solution

$$\#\{t \mid s(t)\}=k$$

Cardinality
-free

$$\forall t: pc(t)=1 \wedge a=0$$

\wedge

\rightarrow

$$\exists k \leq a \quad a$$

$$(\forall t: \neg s(t)) \rightarrow k \leq 0$$

k is a fresh
variable

Ship to
standard
solver

Complete
instantiation

Axioms: inequality

$$\#\{t \mid s(t)\} = k$$

$$\#\{t \mid p(t)\} = l$$

$$(\forall t: s(t) \rightarrow p(t)) \rightarrow k \leq l$$

Equality
comparison

Axioms: emptiness (derived)

$$\#\{t \mid s(t)\} = k$$

$$\#\{t \mid \text{false}\} = 0$$

$$(\forall t: \neg s(t)) \rightarrow k \leq 0$$

Axioms: strict inequality

$$\#\{t \mid s\} = k$$

$$\#\{t \mid p\} = l$$

$$\begin{aligned} &(\forall t: s(t) \rightarrow p(t)) \wedge \\ &(\exists t: \neg s(t) \wedge p(t)) \quad \rightarrow k < l \end{aligned}$$

Additional
witness

Axioms: update

Relatively
complete wrt.
Difference bound
constrains.

$$\#\{t \mid s(t)\} = k$$

$$p = s[g/f]$$

$$\#\{t \mid p(t)\} = l$$

$$g = f[me \leftarrow _]$$

$$l = k - s(me) + p(me)$$

We also do
Venn-
decomposition

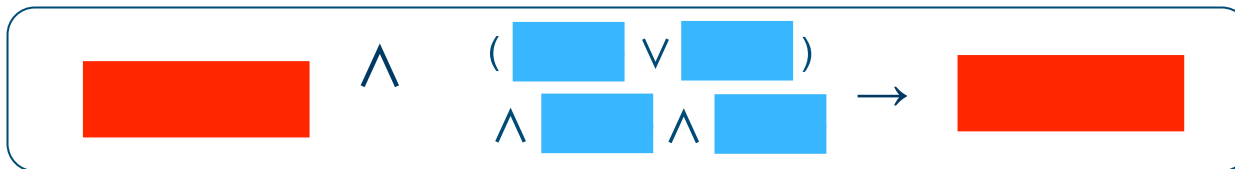
Assume
they
evaluate to
0 or 1

Adding quantifiers:

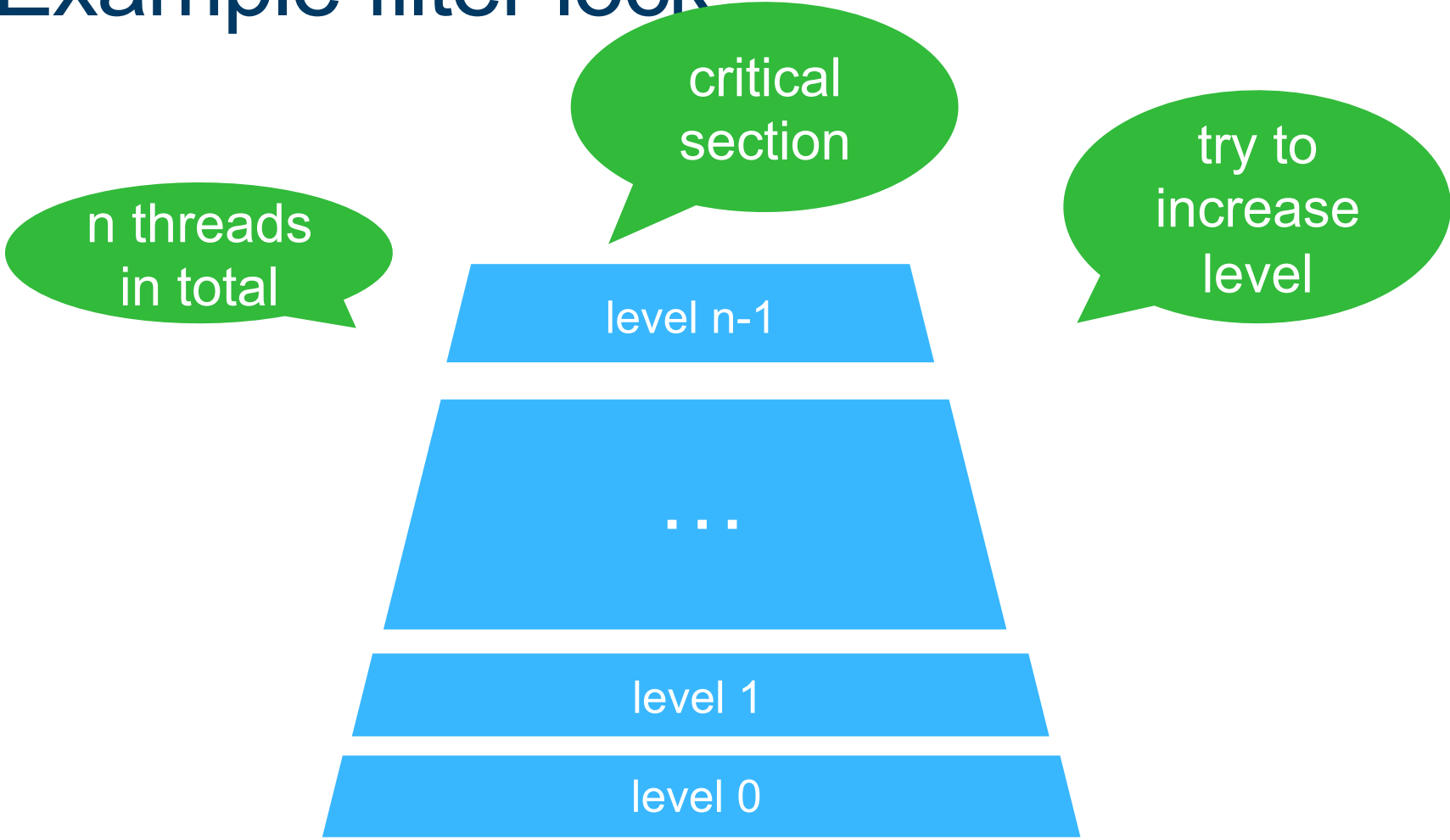
forall-
quantifier

\exists

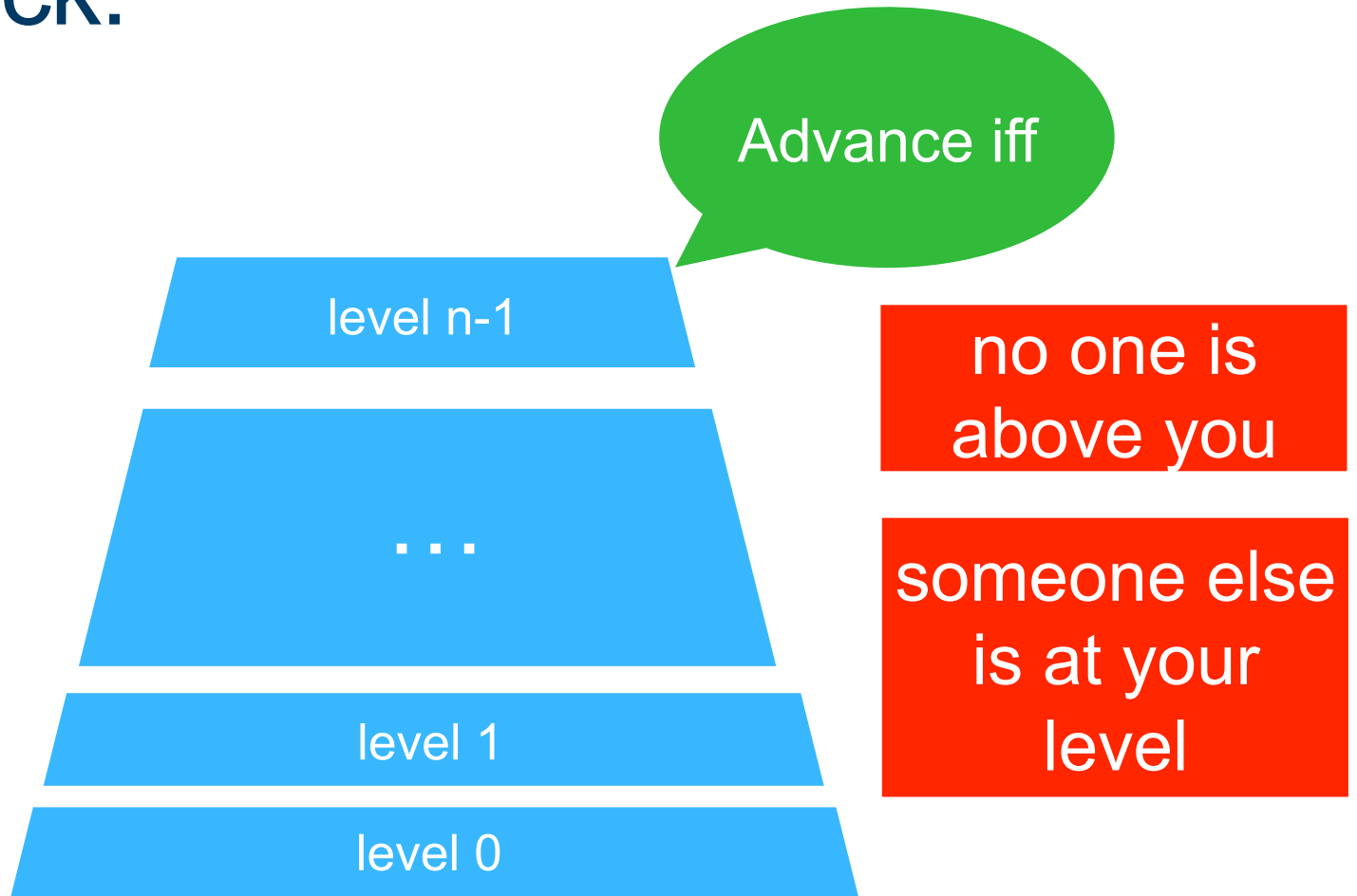
$$\forall q: \#\{t \mid p\} = k \wedge \text{inv}(a, pc, q, k)$$



Example filter lock:



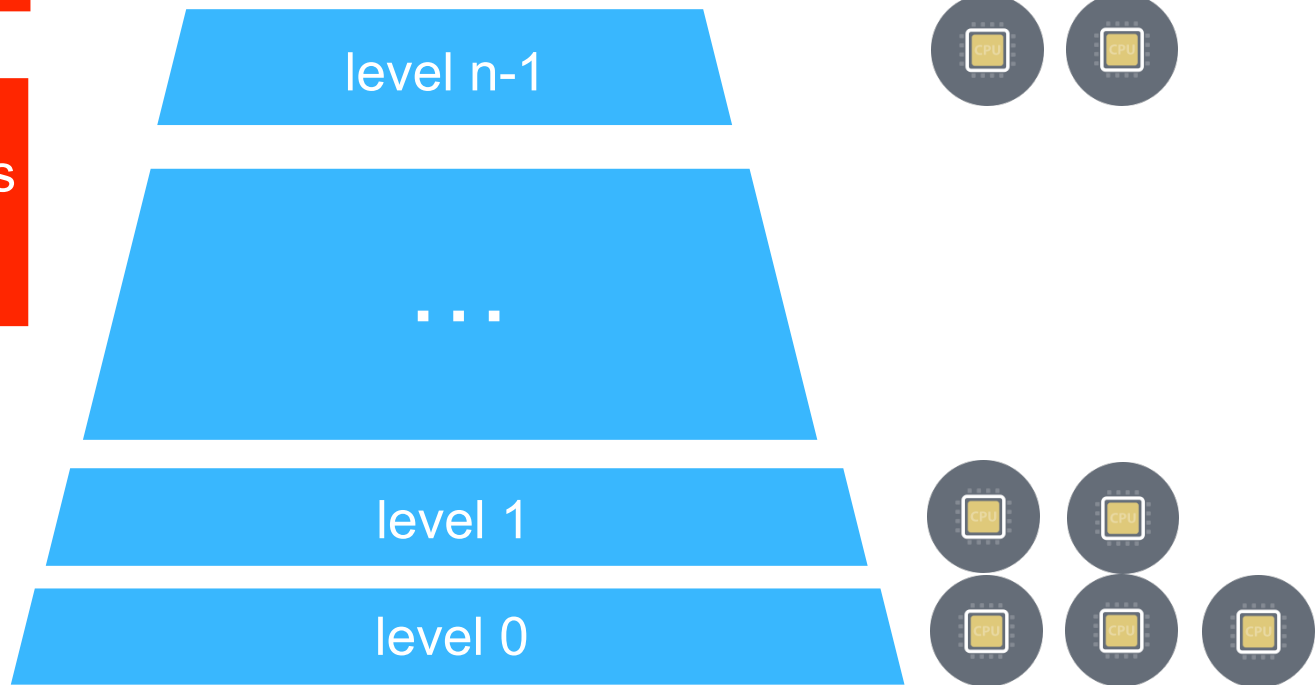
Filter lock:



Filter lock:

no one is above
you

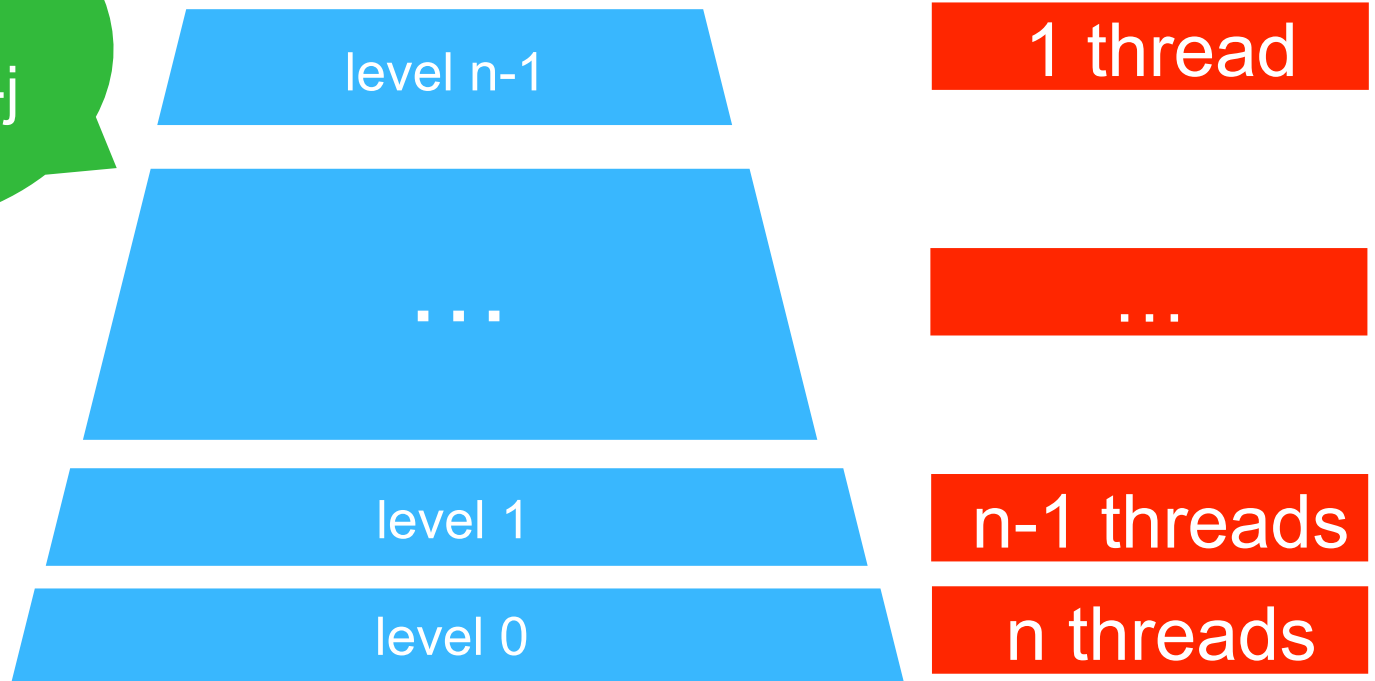
someone else is
at your level



Filter lock:

Mutual
exclusion

At level j
there are
at most $n-j$
threads



Filter lock in logic:

no one is above
you

someone else is
at your level



State
modelled as
function

$\#\{ t \mid lv(t) > lv(me) \}=0$

$\#\{ t \mid lv(t) = lv(me) \}>1$

Filter lock in logic:

$$\left(\#\{ t \mid lv(t) > lv(me) \} = 0 \quad \vee \quad \#\{ t \mid lv(t) = lv(me) \} > 1 \right) \\ \wedge \quad lv' := lv[me \leftarrow lv(me) + 1] \quad \wedge \quad \dots$$

Constraints on invariant:

\exists **inv(v)** :

$$\forall t: lv(t)=0 \wedge n \geq 2$$

\rightarrow

inv(v)

inv(v)

\wedge

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{[]} \vee \text{[]} \\ \wedge \text{[]} \wedge \text{[]} \end{array} \right)$$

\rightarrow

inv(v')

inv(v)

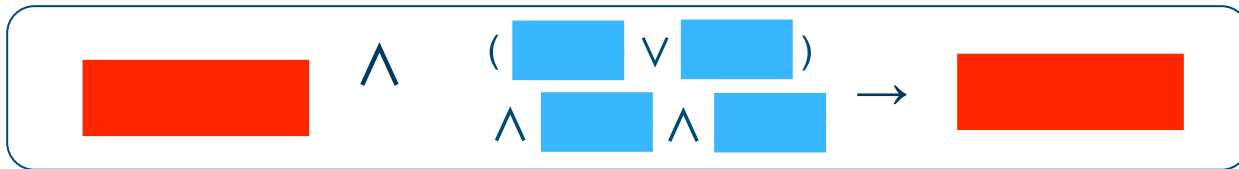
\rightarrow

$$\#\{ t \mid lv(t) = n-1 \} \leq 1$$

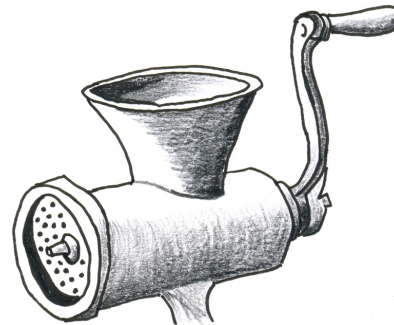
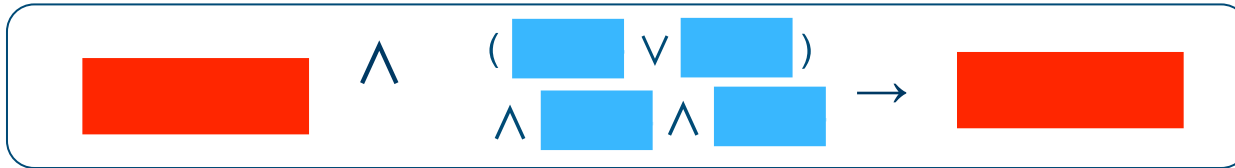
Restricting the search space:

$$\exists \forall q: \#\{t \mid p\} = k \wedge \text{inv}(v, q, k)$$

One forall-quantifier, one set



Solving:



Beyond scalar
counters

$$\forall q: 0 \leq q \leq n-1 \rightarrow \#\{t \mid lv(t) \geq q\} \leq n-q$$

Evaluation:

Quantifiers +
cardinalities

First to
automatically
verify

Program	Card	Property	Inferred cardinalities	Time
intro [21]	✓	$(\exists t : pc(t) = 2) \rightarrow b < a$	$\#\{t \mid pc(t) = 2\}$	1.2s
bluetooth [21]	✓	$(\exists t : pc(t) = 2) \rightarrow st = 0$	$\#\{t \mid pc(t) = 2\}$	1.6s
tree traverse [21]	✗	$leaves = nodes + 1$	-	4.2s
cache [59]	✓	$\#\{t \mid pc(t) = 3\} \leq 1$	$\#\{t \mid pc(t) \geq 3\}$	0.7s
garbage collection	✓	$\#\{t \mid 2 \leq pc(t) \leq 4\} \leq 1 \wedge m = 1$	$\#\{t \mid 2 \leq pc(t) \leq 4\}$	10.1s

Program	Property	Inferred cardinalities	Time
ticket lock [21]	$\#\{t \mid pc(t) = 3\} \leq 1$	$\#\{t \mid pc(t) = 3\}$	0.8s
filter lock [31]	$\#\{t \mid lv(t) = n - 1\} \leq 1$	$\#\{t \mid lv(t) \geq q\}$	27.5s
...	see Section 2	$\#\{t \mid x(t) = x(q)\}$	0.8s

Dragoi et al.
VMCAI'14

Can do
cardinalities, if
required

Evaluation

Quantifiers w/o cardinalities

Abdulla et al. CAV'07

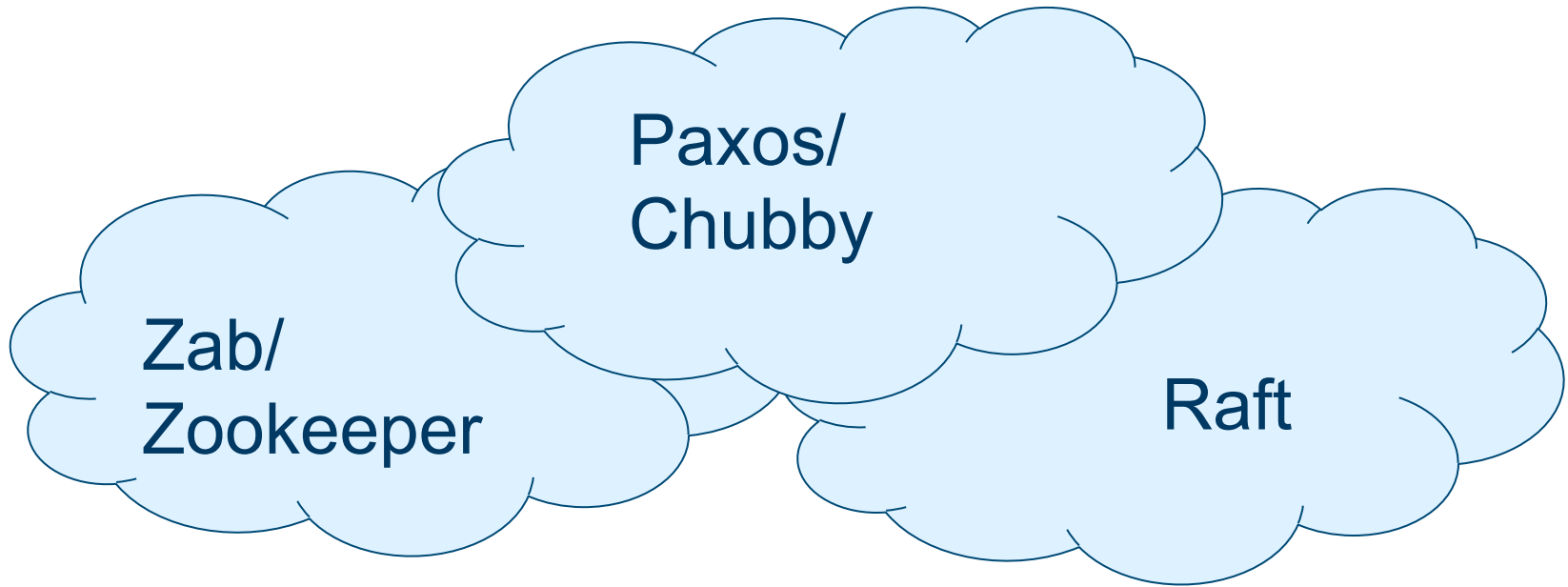
Program	Quantifiers	Time		
		#II	P	[1]
Simplified Bakery [1]	2	0.4s		
Lamport's Bakery [1]	2	0.5s		
Bogus Bakery [1]	2	0.6s		
Ticket Mutex [1]	2	0.5s		

Competitive when no cardinalities are needed

Sanchez et al. SAS'12

Program	Quantifiers	Time			
		#II	I[54]	P[54]	O[54]
barrier [54]	1	0.4s	0.1s	0.1s	0.1s
central barrier [54]	1	0.4s	0.1s	1.1s	6.2s
work stealing [22, 54]	1	0.5s	0.1s	0.1s	6.2s
dining philosophers [54]	0	8.2s	0.1s	6.3s	20s
robot 2x2 [54]	2	2.8s	0.2s	5.8s	1m45s
robot 2x3 [54]	2	16.1s	0.5s	16s	5m20s
robot 3x3 [54]	2	34.0s	0.9s	52s	19m28s
robot 4x4 [54]	2	TO	3.2s	5m3s	TO

What's with:



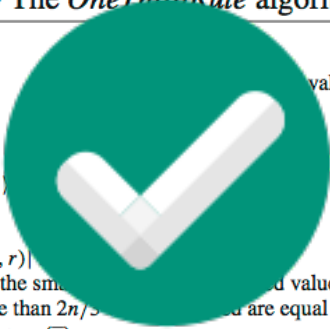
What's with:

#{...}

Encoding
of Paxos

Algorithm 9 The *OneThirdRule* algorithm

```
1: Initialization:
2:  $x_p := v_p$  {  $v_p$  is the initial value of  $p$  }
3: Round  $r$ :
4:  $S_p^r$  :
5: send  $\langle x_p \rangle$ 
6:  $T_p^r$  :
7: if  $|HO(p, r)| > n/3$  then
8:  $x_p :=$  the smallest value
9: if more than  $2n/3$  processes have equal to  $\bar{x}$  then
10: DECIDE( $\bar{x}$ )
```



Algorithm 8 The LastVoting algorithm

```
1: Initialization:
2:  $x_p \in V$ , initially  $v_p$  {  $v_p$  is the initial value of  $p$  }
3:  $vote_p \in V \cup \{?\}$ , initially ?
4:  $commit_p$  a Boolean, initially false
5:  $ready_p$  a Boolean, initially false
6:  $ts_p \in \mathbb{N}$ , initially 0
7: Round  $r = 4\phi - 3$ :
8:  $S_p^r$  :
9: send  $\langle x_p, ts_p \rangle$  to  $Coord(p, \phi)$ 
10:  $T_p^r$  :
11: if  $p = Coord(p, \phi)$  and
    number of  $\langle v, \theta \rangle$  received  $> n/2$  then
12: let  $\bar{\theta}$  be the largest  $\theta$  from  $\langle v, \theta \rangle$  received
13:  $vote_p :=$  one  $v$  such that  $\langle v, \bar{\theta} \rangle$  is received
14:  $commit_p :=$  true
15: Round  $r = 4\phi - 2$ :
16:  $S_p^r$  :
17: if  $p = Coord(p, \phi)$  and  $commit_p$  then
18: send  $\langle vote_p \rangle$  to all processes
19:  $T_p^r$  :
20: if received  $\langle v \rangle$  from  $Coord(p, \phi)$  then
21:  $x_p := v$ ;  $ts_p := \phi$ 
22: Round  $r = 4\phi - 1$ :
23:  $S_p^r$  :
24: if  $ts_p = \phi$  then
25: send  $\langle ack \rangle$  to  $Coord(p, \phi)$ 
26:  $T_p^r$  :
27: if  $p = Coord(p, \phi)$  and
    number of  $\langle ack \rangle$  received  $> n/2$  then
28:  $ready_p :=$  true
29: Round  $r = 4\phi$ :
30:  $S_p^r$  :
31: if  $p = Coord(p, \phi)$  and  $ready_p$  then
32: send  $\langle vote_p \rangle$  to all processes
33:  $T_p^r$  :
34: if received  $\langle v \rangle$  from  $Coord(p, \phi)$  then
35: DECIDE( $v$ )
36: if  $p = Coord(p, \phi)$  then
37:  $ready_p :=$  false
38:  $commit_p :=$  false
```

Questions?

Invariant: one third rule

$$\forall p: \text{dec}(p) \geq 0 \rightarrow$$
$$(\#\{ t \mid x(t)=x(p) \} > 2n/3 \wedge x(p) = \text{dec}(p))$$