

# Model Checking with **Maximal Causality Reduction**

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# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16159203/why-does-this-java-program-terminate-despite-that-apparently-it-shouldnt-and-d>

```
curPos = new Point(1,2);  
class Point { int x, y; }
```

Thread 1:

```
newPos = new  
Point(curPos.x+1, curPos.y+1);
```

Thread 2:

```
while (newPos != null)  
if (newPos.x+1 !=  
newPos.y)
```

**ERROR**

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Thread 1:

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Point(curPos.x+1, curPos.y+1);
```

Thread 2:

```
while (newPos != null)
```

```
if (newPos.x+1 !=
```

```
newPos.y)
```

**ERROR**

```
x=0  
y=0  
x=curPos.x+1  
y=curPos.y+1  
newPos = object
```

statements are out of program order

# Maximal Causality Reduction

- Open source: <https://github.com/parasol-aser/JMCR>
- Implementation
  - Java 8, multi-threading
  - The Z3 SMT solver
- Evaluation
  - Takes only two runs to find the error in  $< 1s$
  - **Orders of magnitude** more effective than partial order reduction and bounded model checking
  - Finding **new errors** (data races and NPEs) in extensively studied popular benchmarks

# 2007 Turing Award



Edmund Clarke



Allen Emerson



Joseph Sifakis

For their role in “*developing Model-Checking into a highly effective verification technology ...*”

# The Key Challenge: State Explosion

**ACM 2007 Turing Award**

**Edmund Clarke, Allen Emerson, and Joseph Sifakis**

**Model Checking: Algorithmic Verification and Debugging**

## **ACM Turing Award Citation**

In 1981, Edmund M. Clarke and E. Allen Emerson, working in the USA, and Joseph Sifakis working independently in France, authored seminal papers that founded what has become the highly successful field of Model Checking. This verification technology provides an algorithmic means of de-

precisely describe what constitutes correct behavior. This makes it possible to contemplate mathematically establishing that the program behavior conforms to the correctness specification. In most early work, this entailed constructing a formal proof of correctness. In contradistinction, Model Checking avoids proofs.

# The Key Challenge: State Explosion

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**ACM Turing**

In 1981, Edmund  
Clarke, in the USA,  
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of the book, which  
became the high  
ground in the field  
of algorithmic  
verification techn

## 4. **State Explosion** Challenges for the Future

The state explosion problem is likely to remain the major challenge in Model Checking. There are many directions for future research on this problem, some of which are listed below.

- Software Model Checking, in particular, combining Model Checking and Static Analysis

avior. This  
ly establish-  
correctness  
constructing  
tion, Model

# Two Classical Approaches

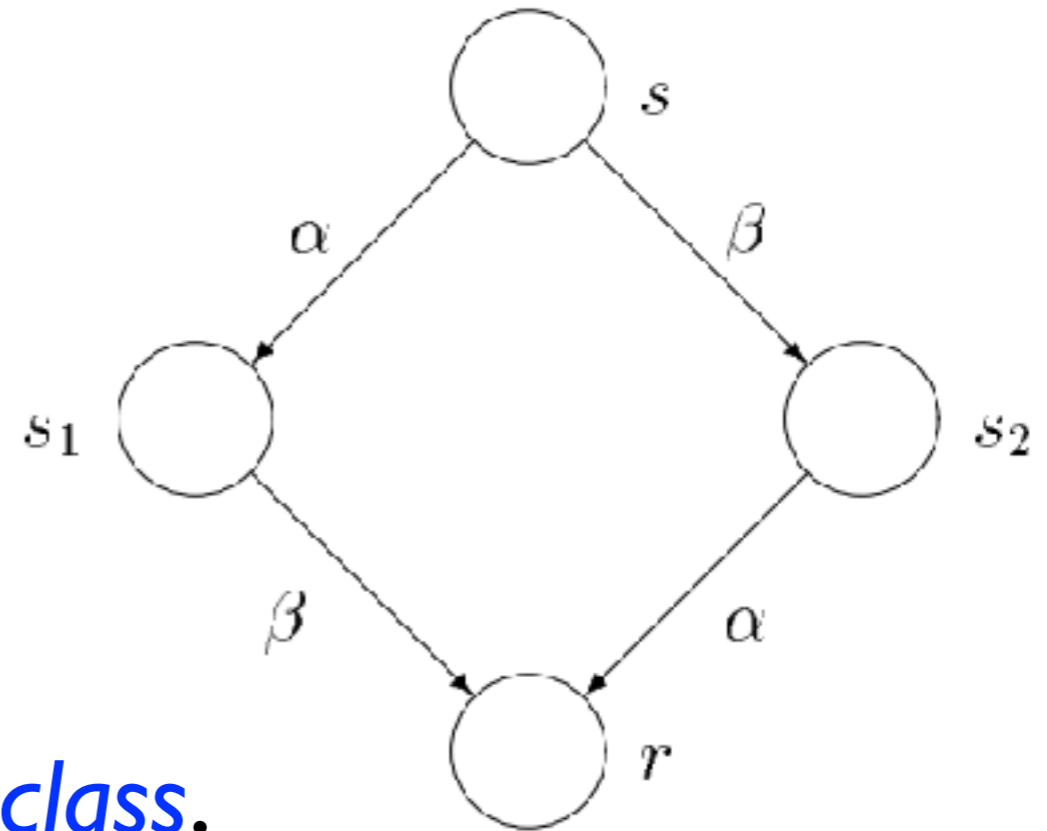
- **Partial Order Reduction** [2014 CAV Award] to Godefroid, Peled, Valmari, and Wolper
  - Reduce the size of the state space that needs to be searched
  - Exploit the *independence* between concurrently executed transitions, which result in the same state
- **Bounded Model Checking** Clarke, Biere, Raimi, Zhu (2001)
  - Limit the searched space to a certain bound



# Partial Order Reduction

The two sequences

- $s \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow s_1 \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow r$
- $s \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow s_2 \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow r$



belong to the *same equivalent class*.

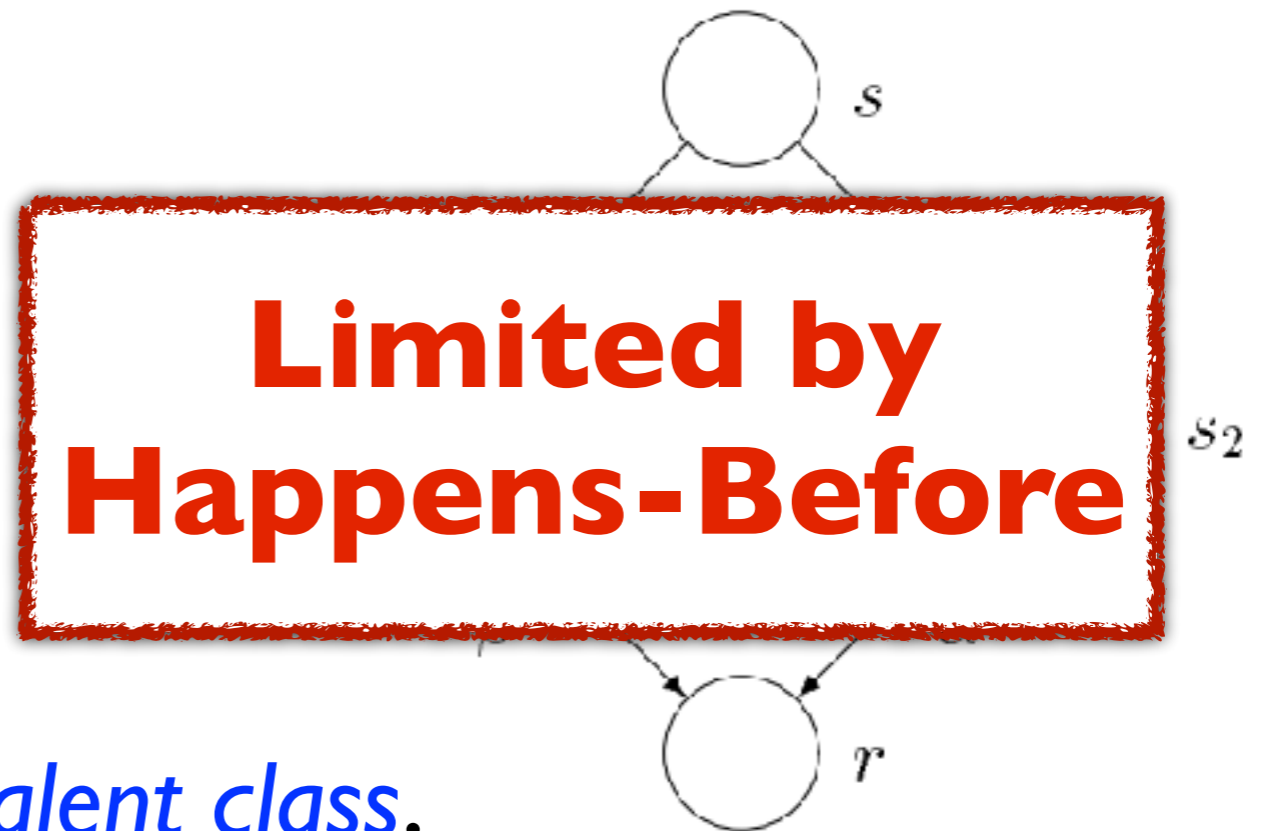
If the specification does not distinguish between these sequences, it is beneficial to consider *only one* with  $2 + 1$  states.

# Partial Order Reduction

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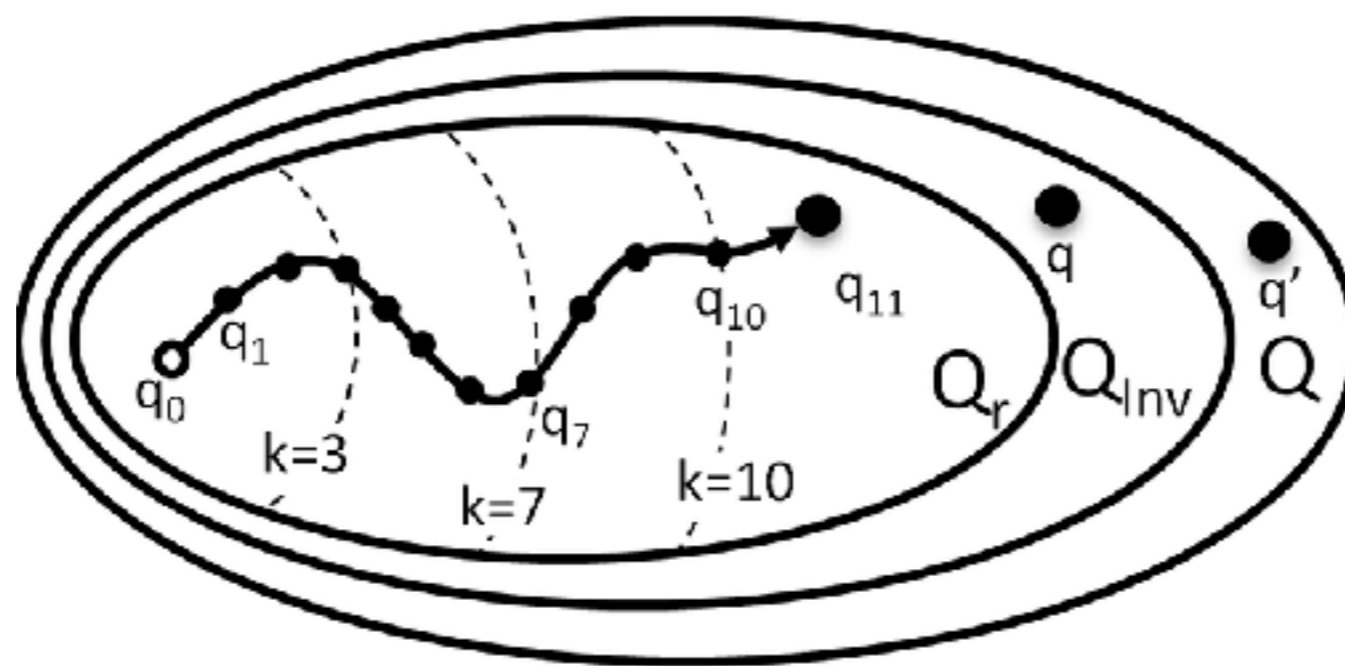
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If the specification does not distinguish between these sequences, it is beneficial to consider *only one* with  $2 + 1$  states.

# Bounded Model Checking

- Restrict search to states that are reachable from initial state within fixed number  $k$  of transitions

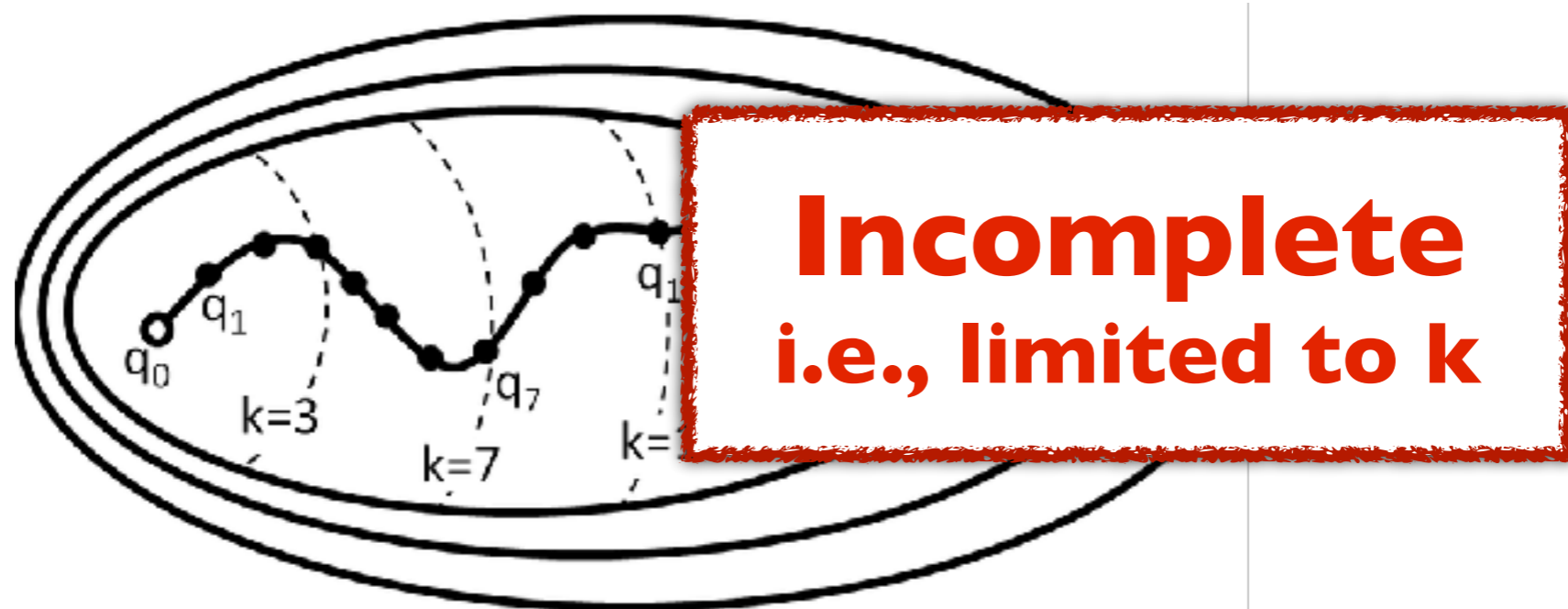


Can the given property fail in  $k$ -steps?



# Bounded Model Checking

- Restrict search to states that are reachable from initial state within fixed number  $k$  of transitions



Can the given property fail in  $k$ -steps?



# Example

initially  $x=y=0$

**T1**

*loop twice:*

```
1: lock(l)
2: x=1
3: y=1
4: unlock(l)
```

**T2**

*loop twice:*

```
5: lock(l)
6: x=0
7: unlock(l)
8: if(x>0)
9:   y++
10:  x=2
```

**T3**

*loop twice:*

```
11: if(x>1)
12:   if(y==3)
13:     Error
14:   else
15:     y=2
```

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*loop twice:*

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8: if( $x>0$ )  
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*loop twice:*

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13: **Error**  
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15:  $y=2$

T2T2T2 - T1T1T1T1 - T2T2T2T2 - T3T3T3 - T2T2T2T2 - T1T1 - T2T2T2T2 - T3T3

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7 thread context switches

# Example

initially  $x=y=0$

**T1**

*loop twice:*

**T2**

*loop twice:*

**T3**

*loop twice:*

DFS explores **3,293,931** runs

in an hour **without** finding the error

3:  $y=1$

4: unlock(l)

8: if( $x>0$ )

9:  $y++$

10:  $x=2$

13: **error**

14: else

15:  $y=2$

T2T2T2 - T1T1T1T1 - T2T2T2T2 - T3T3T3 - T2T2T2T2 - T1T1 - T2T2T2T2 - T3T3

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initially  $x=y=0$

## Bounded Model Checking

Bounding #thread preemptions

**77,322** executions  
**20** seconds

```
2: x-1
3: y=1
4: unlock(l)
7: unlock(l)
8: if(x>0)
9:   y++
10:  x=2
12:  if(y==3)
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## Partial Order Reduction

Based on happens-before

**3,782** executions  
**3** seconds

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## Partial Order Reduction

Based on happens-before

**3,782** executions  
**3** seconds

## Maximal Causality Reduction

**46** executions  
**2** seconds

# Example

initially  $x=y=0$

## Bounded Model Checking

Bounding #thread preemptions

**77,322** executions  
**20** seconds

## Partial Order Reduction

Based on happens-before

**Happens-Before  
Limitation**

## Maximal Causality Reduction

**46** executions  
**2** seconds

2:  $x=1$   
3:  $y=1$  +

7: unlock(l)  
8: if( $x>0$ )

12: if( $y==3$ )  
13: **Error**

# Happens-Before Limitation

Enforces dependence between conflicting reads and writes

**p:**  
**write x**

**q:**  
**write x**

**r:**  
**read x**

Happens-before: **six** non-redundant transitions

p.q.r p.r.q q.p.r q.r.p r.p.q r.q.p

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In fact: only **four** are non-redundant

p.q.r == q.r.p r.q.p == r.p.q

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In fact: only **four** are non-redundant **r is the only read**

p.q.r == q.r.p r.q.p == r.p.q



# Happens-Before Limitation

Enforces dependence between conflicting reads and writes

**p:**  
**write x**

**q:**  
**write x**

**r:**  
**read x**

Happens-before: **six** non-redundant transitions

If p and q write the same value, then only **two** non-redundant transitions:

$p.q.r == q.p.r == q.r.p == p.r.q$      $r.q.p == r.p.q$

# Example

initially  $x=y=0$

**T1**

*loop twice:*

```
1: lock(l)
2: x=1
3: y=1
4: unlock(l)
```

**T2**

*loop twice:*

```
5: lock(l)
6: x=0
7: loop N times lock(l)
8: if(x>0)
9:   y++
10: x=2
```

**T3**

*loop twice:*

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# Example

initially  $x=v=0$

## Bounded Model Checking

Bounding #thread preemptions

520,959 executions  
183 seconds

```
2:  $x=1$ 
3:  $y=1$ 
4: unlock(l)
      loop 10 times k(l)
8: if( $x>0$ )
9:    $y++$ 
10:   $x=2$ 
```

```
11: if( $x>1$ )
12:   if( $y==3$ )
13:     Error
14:   else
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# Example

initially  $x=v=0$

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```
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```

```
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## Partial Order Reduction

Based on happens-before

221,852 executions  
93 seconds

# Example

initially  $x=y=0$

## Bounded Model Checking

Bounding #thread preemptions

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```
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```

```
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```

## Partial Order Reduction

Based on happens-before

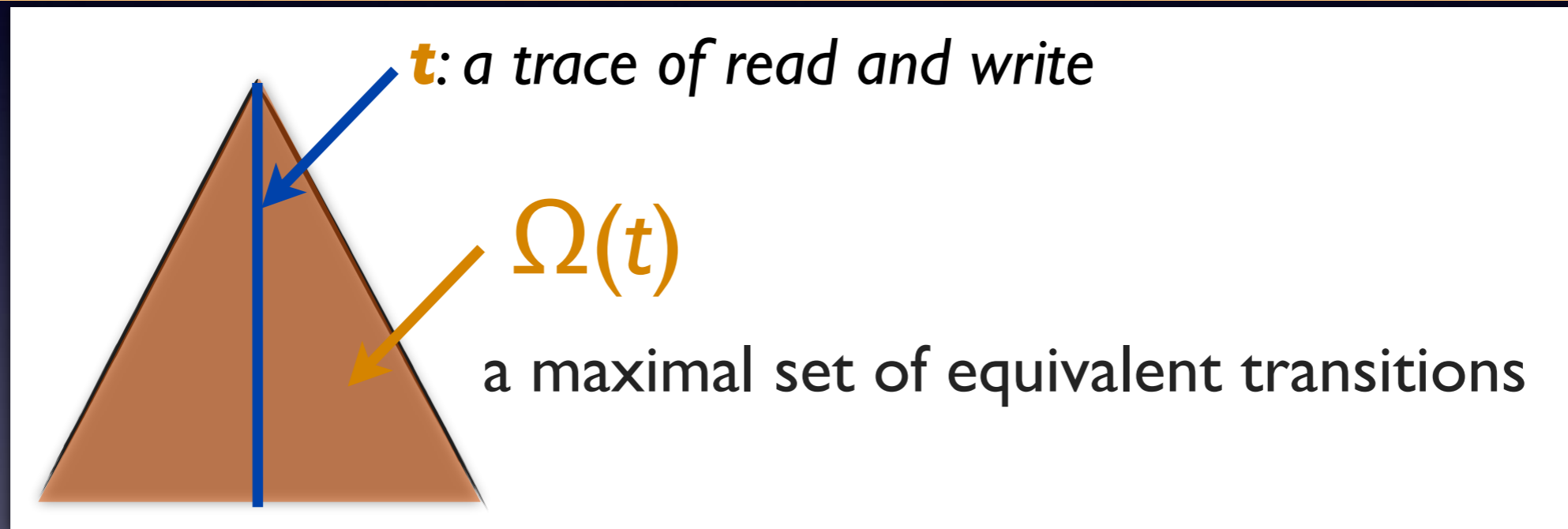
221,852 executions  
93 seconds

## Maximal Causality Reduction

50 executions  
4 seconds

# Maximal Causality Reduction

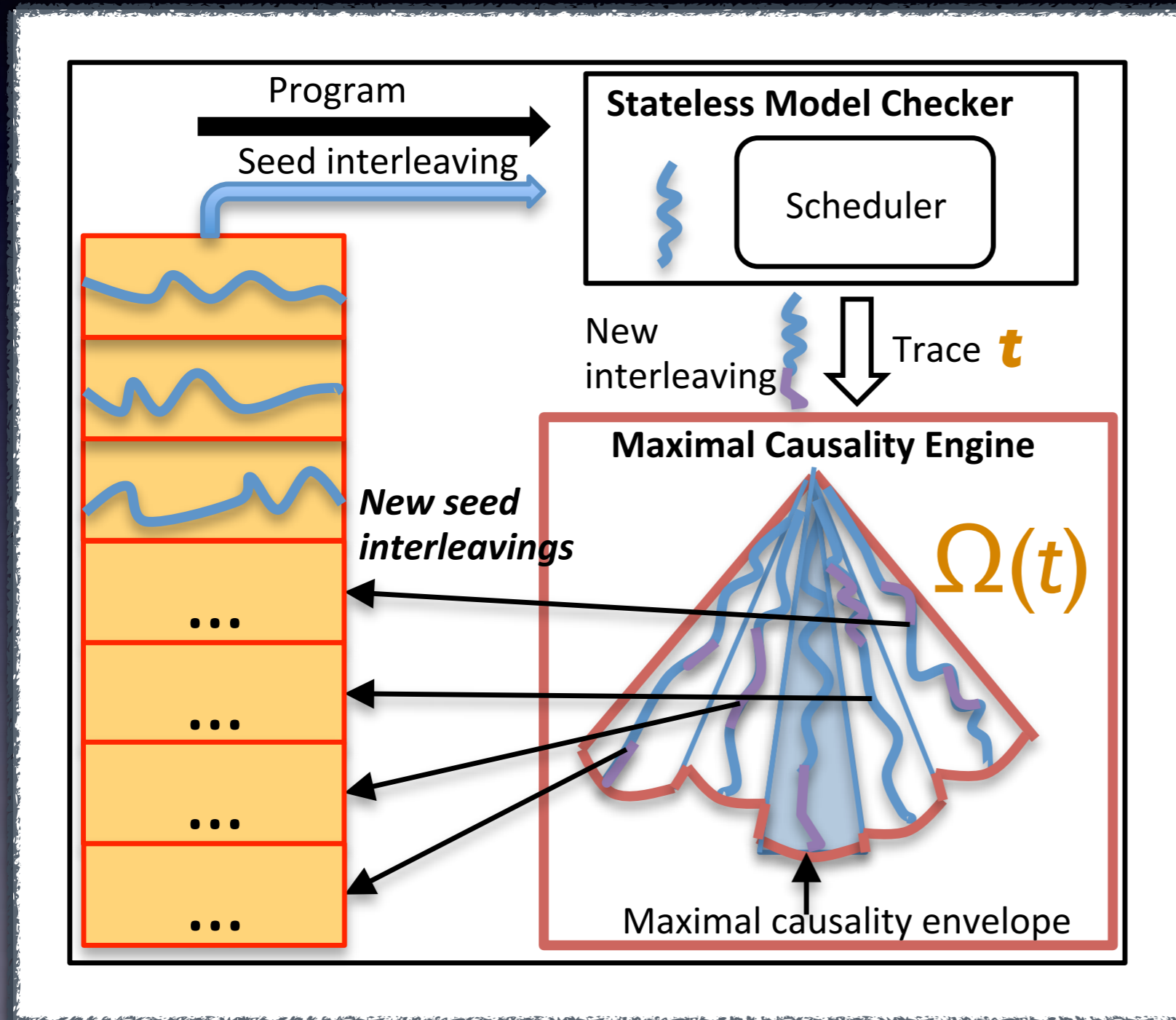
*Key idea:* characterizing redundant transitions with *maximal causality*



$\mathbf{t}$ : takes the *value of reads and writes* into consideration

$\Omega(\mathbf{t})$ : contains all transitions which all programs that can generate  $\mathbf{t}$  can also generate

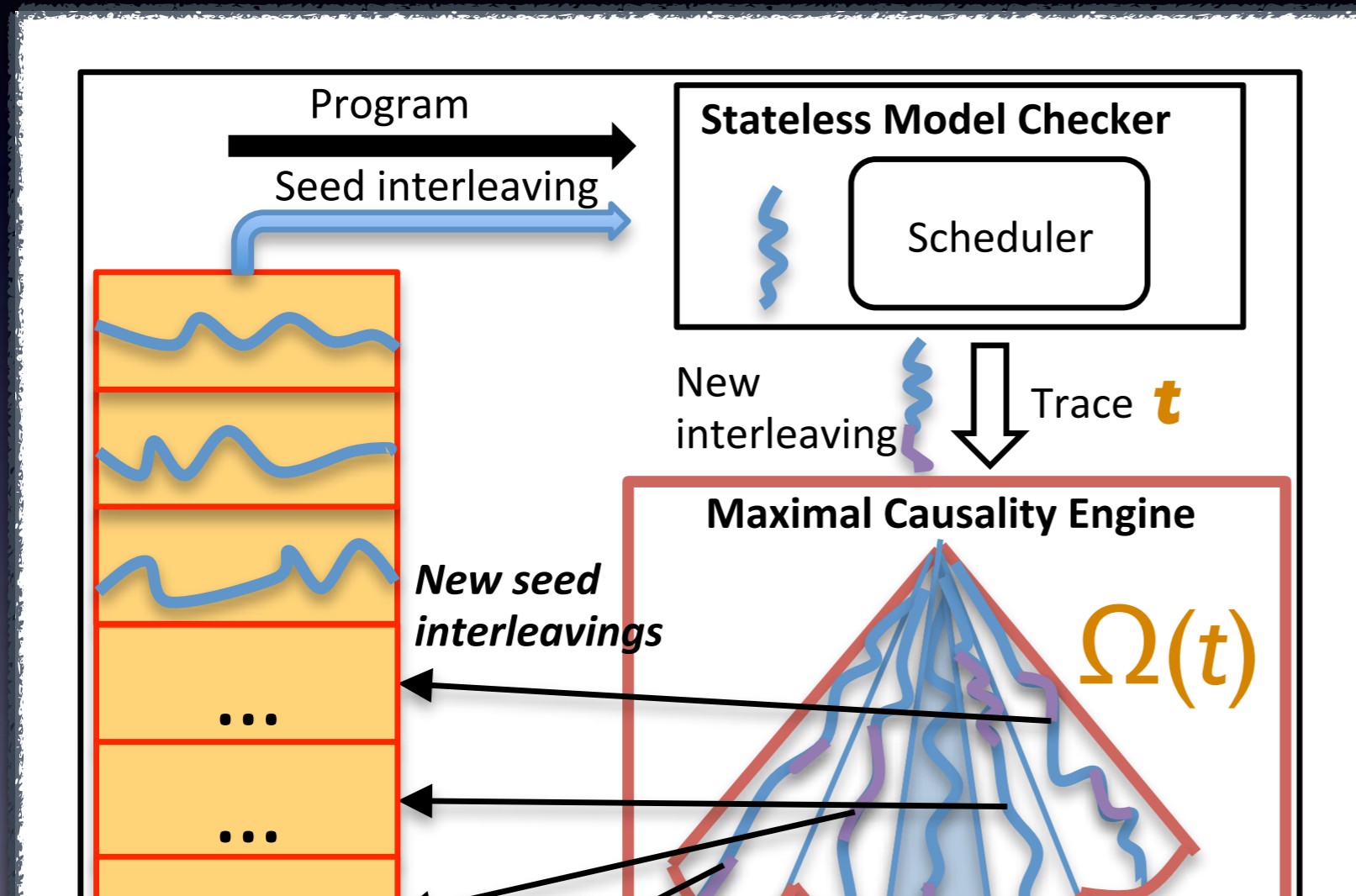
# Maximal Causality Reduction



1. Online tracing  $t$
2. Construct  $\Omega(t)$
3. Offline property checking with  $\Omega(t)$
4. Generate new seed interleavings with  $\Omega(t)$



# Maximal Causality Reduction



1. Online tracing  $t$
2. Construct  $\Omega(t)$
3. Offline property checking with  $\Omega(t)$
4. Generate new

**Seed interleaving:** an interleaving in  $\Omega(t)$  with at least one read forced to see a different value

*Following a seed interleaving will produce a new state*

# Maximal Causality Reduction

$N = 1, 2, \dots, 10$

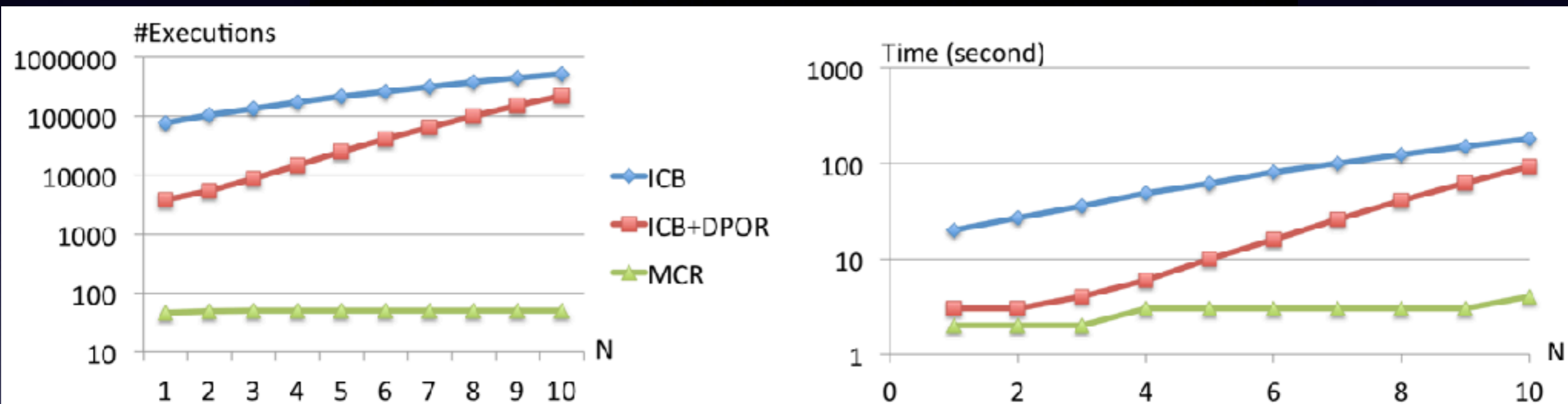
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*loop N times* (highlighted in orange) with an arrow pointing to line 3 of T1.

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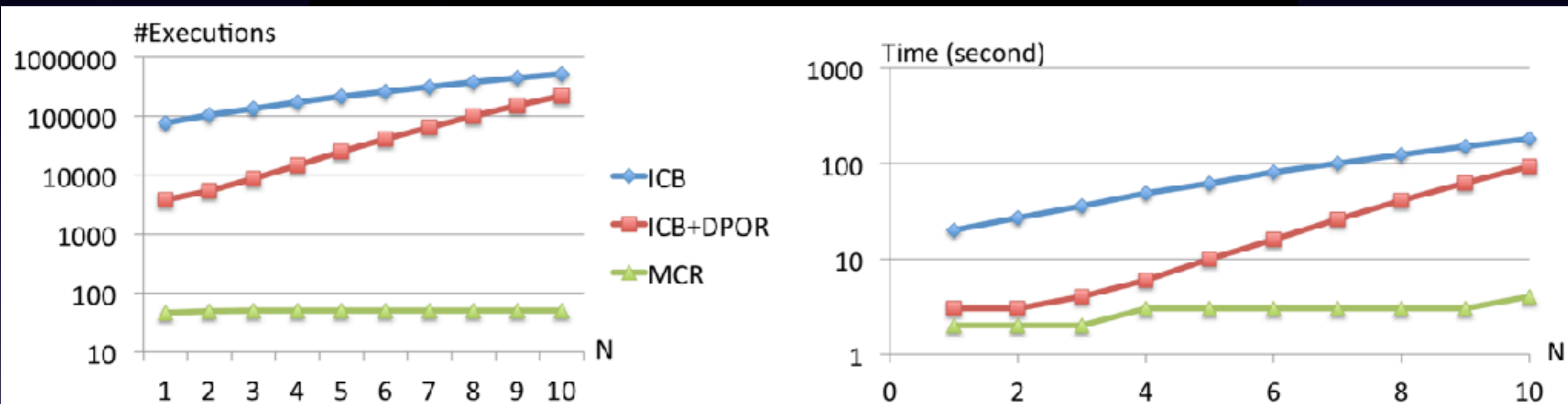
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```
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# Maximal Causality Reduction

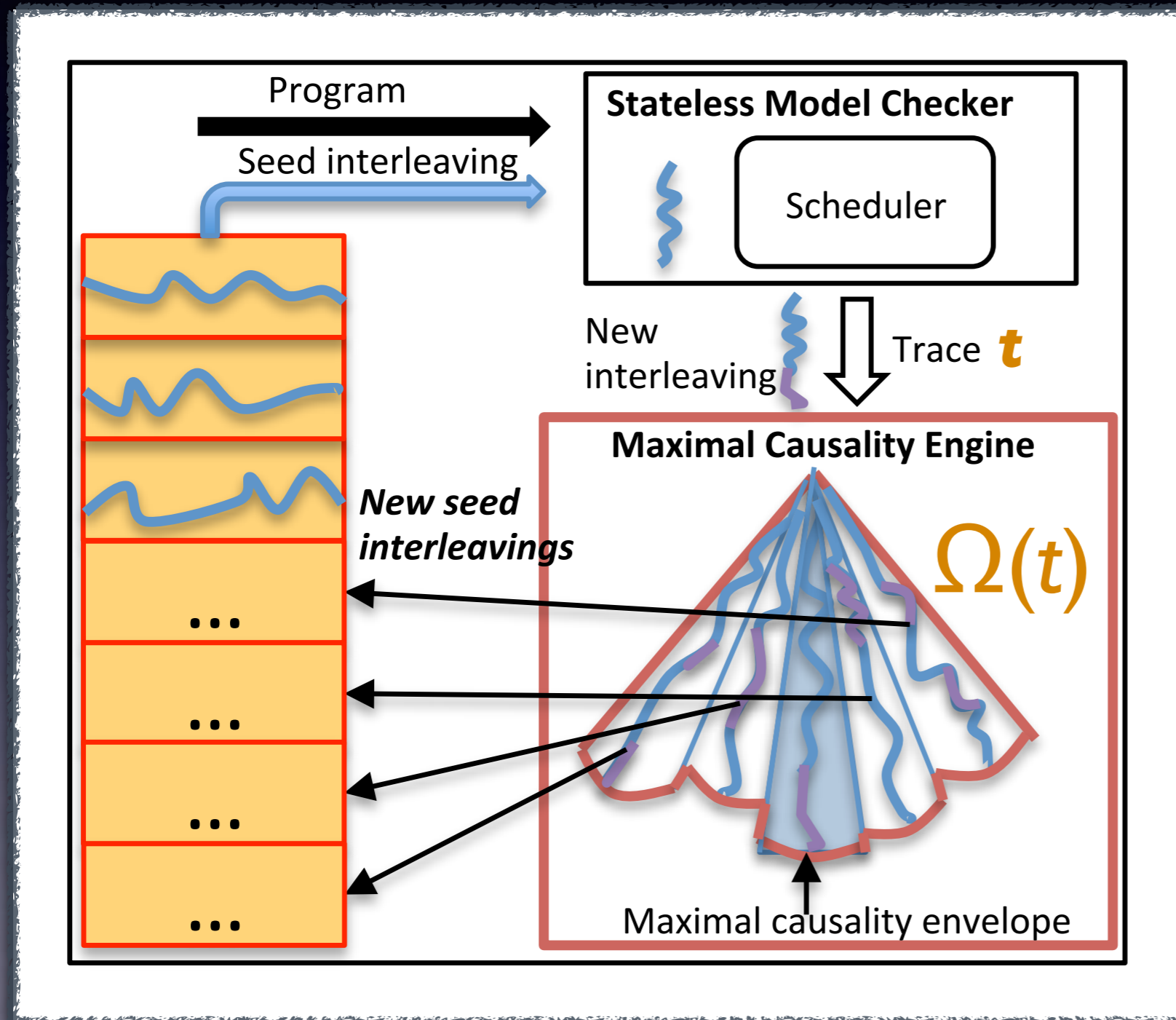
$N = 1, 2, \dots, 10$



**MCR is almost insensitive to N when  $N > 3$**

Reduced #explorations by BMC+POR  
by *two orders of magnitude*

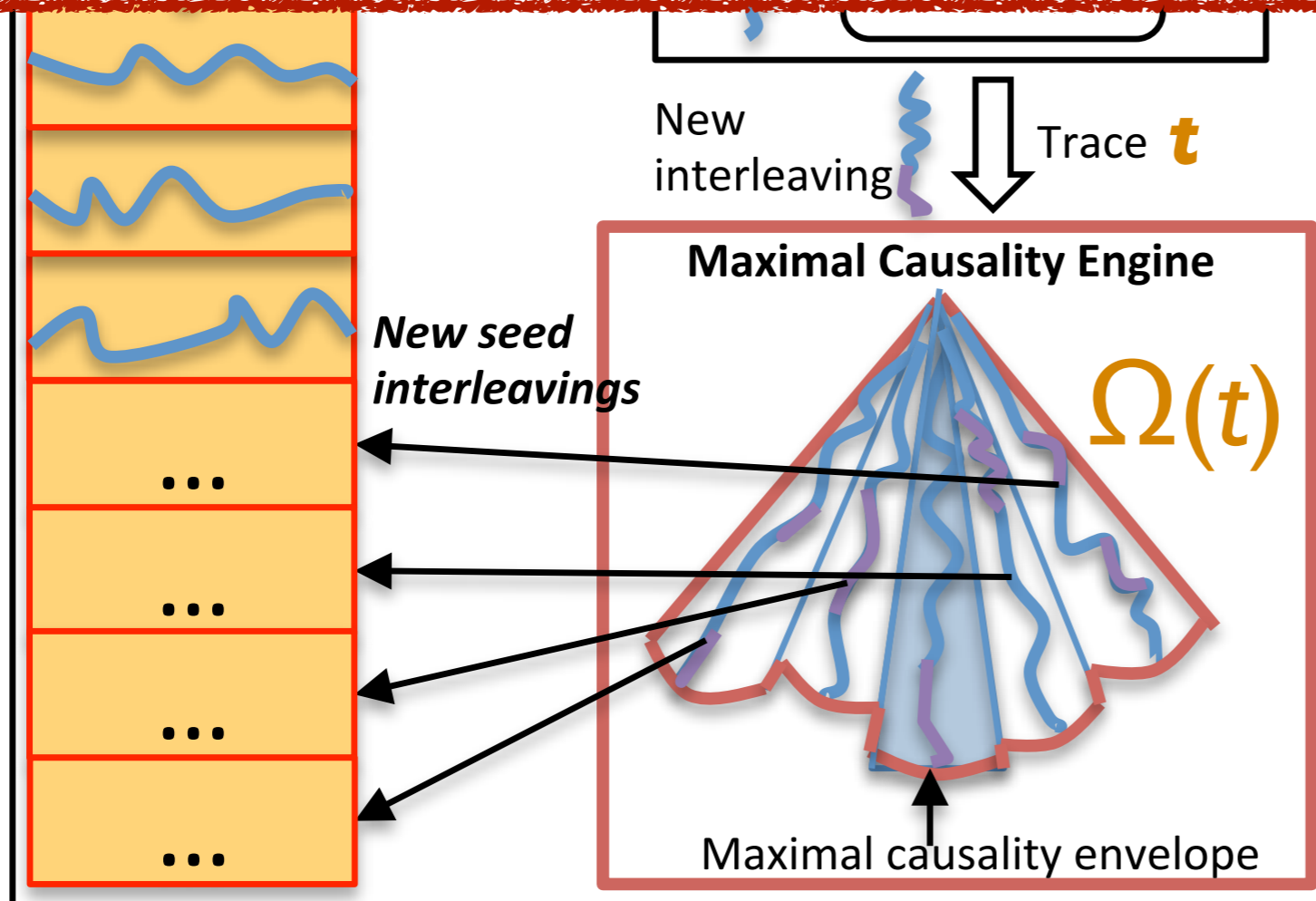
# Maximal Causality Reduction



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# Maximal Causality Reduction

## A constraint-based approach



2. Construct  $\Omega(t)$

3. Offline property checking with  $\Omega(t)$

4. Generate new seed interleavings with  $\Omega(t)$

# Constructing $\Omega(\mathbf{t})$

A constraint-based approach

Introduce an ORDER variable for each event in the trace  $\mathbf{t}$

*Must-happen-before constraints* ( $\Phi_{mhb}$ )

E.g.,  $O_1 < O_2$  if events  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are by the same thread, and  $e_1$  occurs before  $e_2$

*Lock-mutual-exclusion constraints* ( $\Phi_{lock}$ )

$$\bigwedge_{(e_a, e_b), (e_c, e_d) \in S_l} (O_{e_b} < O_{e_c} \vee O_{e_d} < O_{e_a})$$

*Data-validity constraints* ( $\Phi_{rw}$ )

$$\Phi_{rw}(e) \equiv \bigwedge_{r \in \text{reads}(e)} \Phi_{value}(r, value(r))$$

$$\Phi_{value}(r, v) \equiv \bigvee_{w \in W_v^x} (\Phi_{rw}(w) \wedge O_w < O_r \wedge (O_{w'} < O_w \vee O_r < O_{w'}))$$

$$\Phi_{rw} \equiv \bigvee_{e \in \tau} \Phi_{rw}(e)$$

# Constructing $\Omega(\mathbf{t})$

A constraint-based approach

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*Data-validity constraints* ( $\Phi_{rw}$ )

An event is feasible if every read that *must-happen-before* it in the trace  $\mathbf{t}$  returns the same value as that in  $\mathbf{t}$

$$\Phi_{rw} \equiv \bigvee_{e \in \tau} \Phi_{rw}(e)$$



# Generating Seed Interleavings

Main idea: enforce a read to see a new value

**for**  $r = \text{read}(t, x, v) \in \tau$  **do**

**for**  $w = \text{write}(\_, x, v') \in \tau \wedge v' \neq v$  **do**

$\Phi_{seed}(r, w) \equiv \Phi_{sync} \wedge \Phi_{rw}(r) \wedge \Phi_{rw}(w) \wedge \Phi_{value}(r, v')$

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$$\Phi_{seed}(r, w) \equiv \Phi_{sync} \wedge \Phi_{rw}(r) \wedge \Phi_{rw}(w) \wedge \Phi_{value}(r, v')$$

- Every seed interleaving is feasible and has at least one new event: *a read event that returns a new value*
- Termination: *when no new seed interleaving can be generated*

# Generating Seed Interleavings

Main idea: enforce a read to see a new value

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- Every **No seed interleaving is redundant** new  
even
- Termination: when no new seed interleaving can be generated

# Generating Seed Interleavings

Main idea: enforce a read to see a new value

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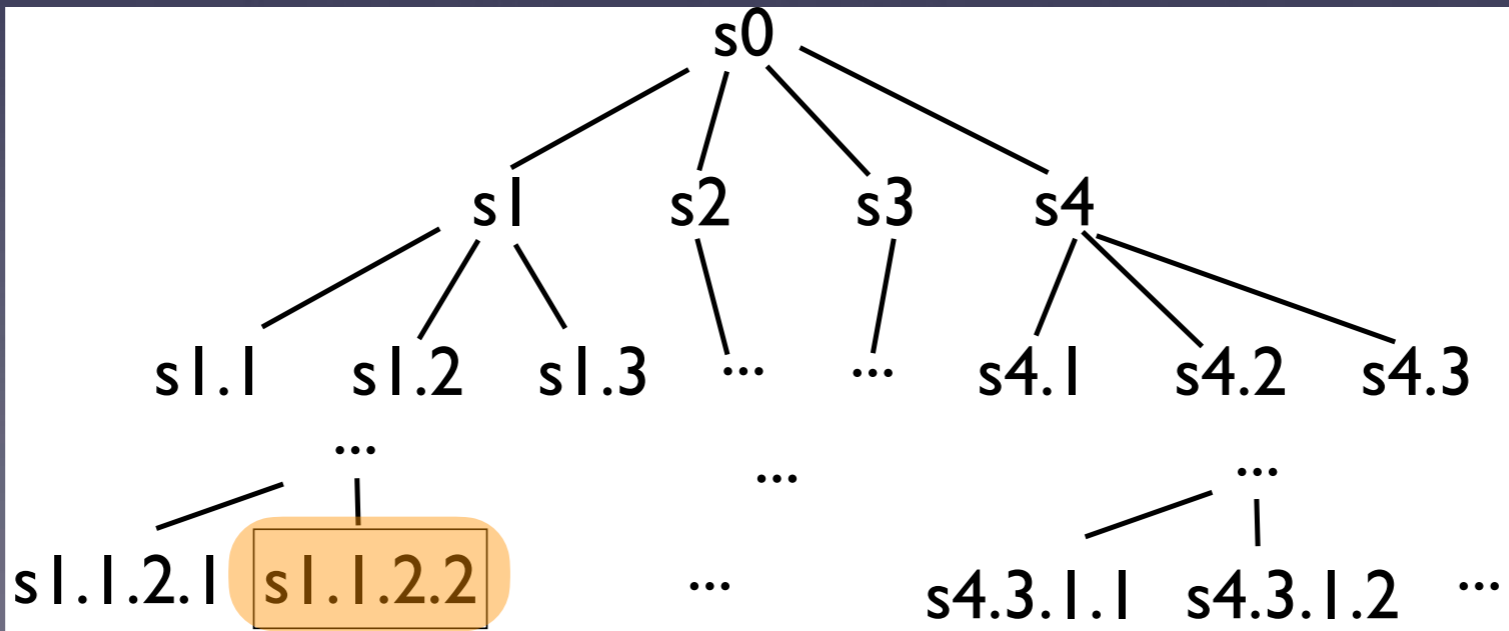
$$\Phi_{seed}(r, w) \equiv \Phi_{sync} \wedge \Phi_{rw}(r) \wedge \Phi_{rw}(w) \wedge \Phi_{value}(r, v')$$

- Every interleaving that satisfies the seed condition is a seed interleaving. **No seed interleaving is redundant**
- Terminating interleavings that do not satisfy the seed condition are not seed interleavings. **No seed interleaving is missed**

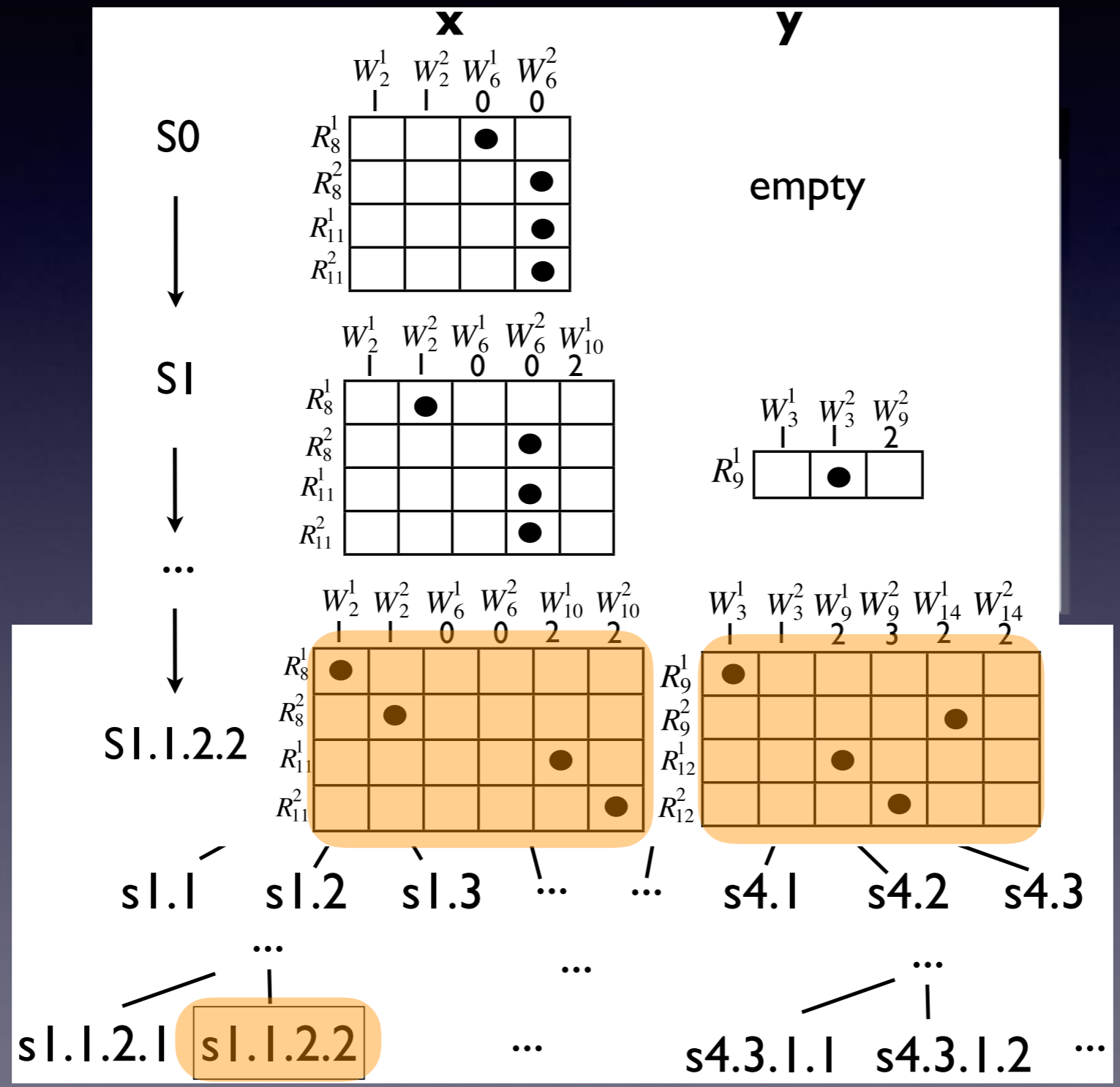
# Seed Interleaving Exploration

initially  $x=y=0$

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<i>loop twice:</i>	<i>loop twice:</i>	<i>loop twice:</i>
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# Seed Interleaving Exploration



# Checking Property Constraints

Checking assertions:

$$\Phi_{sync} \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{e \in R} \Phi_{rw}(e) \wedge v(e) \right) \wedge \phi_{assert}(R)$$

synchronization constraints

data-validity constraints

assertion formula over a set of reads

value returned by event  $e$

# Checking Property Constraints

Checking assertions:

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synchronization constraints

data-validity constraints

assertion formula over a set of reads

value returned by event  $e$

E.g., Null Pointer Deferences:

$$\Phi_{sync} \wedge \Phi_{rw}(e) \wedge (value(e) = NULL)$$



# Checking Property Constraints

Checking assertions:

$$\Phi_{sync} \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{e \in R} \Phi_{rw}(e) \wedge v(e) \right) \wedge \phi_{assert}(R)$$

value returned by event  $e$

synchronization constraints

data-validity constraints

assertion formula over a set of reads

E.g., Null Pointer Dereferences:

$$\Phi_{sync} \wedge \Phi_{rw}(e) \wedge (value(e) = NULL)$$

Checking data races:

$$\Phi_{sync} \wedge (O_{e_a} = O_{e_b}) \wedge \Phi_{rw}(e_a) \wedge \Phi_{rw}(e_b)$$

# Relaxed Memory Models

*Must-happen-before constraints ( $\Phi_{mhb}$ )*

Init:  $x=y=0$

thread 1:

$x = 1$  //a1

$a = y$  //a2

thread 2:

$y = 1$  //b1

$b = x$  //b2

Under SC:

$O_{a1} < O_{a2}$

$O_{b1} < O_{b2}$

Under TSO/PSO

$O_{a1}, O_{a2}, O_{b1}, O_{b2}$

# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16159203/why-does-this-java-program-terminate-despite-that-apparently-it-shouldnt-and-d>

*Init: x=1, y=2*

**T1**

1: T2.start()

2: z=0

3: x++

4: y++

5: z=1

6: T2.join()

**T2**

7: if (z==1)

8: ✗ assert(x+1==y)

# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

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*Init: x=1, y=2*

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1: T2.start()

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5: z=1

6: T2.join()

**T2**

7: if (z==1)

8: ~~x~~ assert(x+1==y)

## Read-Write Constraints

$$(R_z^7 = 0 \wedge O_7 < O_2) \vee (R_z^7 = W_z^5 \wedge O_5 < O_7 \wedge (O_2 < O_5 \vee O_7 < O_2))$$

## Memory Order Constraints

SC

$$O_1 < O_2 < O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} < O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x} < O_5 < O_6 \\ O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

## Path Constraints

$$R_z^7 = 1$$

PSO

$$O_1 < O_2 \quad O_5 < O_6 \\ O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} \quad O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x} \\ O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

## Failure Constraints

$$R_x^8 + 1! = R_y^8$$

# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16159203/why-does-this-java-program-terminate-despite-that-apparently-it-shouldnt-and-d>

Init:  $x=1, y=2$

**T1**

1: T2.start()

2:  $z=0$

3:  $x++$

4:  $y++$

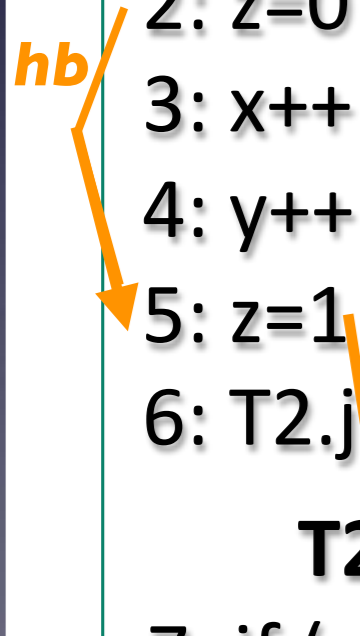
5:  $z=1$

6: T2.join()

**T2**

7: if ( $z==1$ )

8:  ~~$x$~~  assert( $x+1==y$ )



## Read-Write Constraints

$$(R_z^7 = 0 \wedge O_7 < O_2) \vee \text{match a read to a write}$$

$$(R_z^7 = W_z^5 \wedge O_5 < O_7 \wedge (O_2 < O_5 \vee O_7 < O_2))$$

## Memory Order Constraints

SC

$$O_1 < O_2 < O_3^{Rx} < O_3^{Wx} < O_4^{Rx} < O_4^{Wx} < O_5 < O_6 < O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

PSO

$$O_1 < O_2 \quad O_5 < O_6 \\ O_3^{Rx} < O_3^{Wx} \quad O_4^{Rx} < O_4^{Wx} \\ O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

## Path Constraints

$$R_z^7 = 1$$

## Failure Constraints

$$R_x^8 + 1! = R_y^8$$

# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16159203/why-does-this-java-program-terminate-despite-that-apparently-it-shouldnt-and-d>

Init:  $x=1, y=2$

**T1**

- 1: T2.start()
- 2:  $z=0$
- 3:  $x++$
- 4:  $y++$
- 5:  $z=1$
- 6: T2.join()

**T2**

- 7: if ( $z==1$ )
- 8:  ~~$x$~~  assert( $x+1==y$ )

Annotations: *hb* (orange arrow from line 3 to line 5), *PSO reordering* (green arrow from line 3 to line 5), *rf* (orange arrow from line 5 to line 7).

**Read-Write Constraints**  
 $(R_z^7 = 0 \wedge O_7 < O_2) \vee$  *match a read to a write*  
 $(R_z^7 = W_z^5 \wedge O_5 < O_7 \wedge (O_2 < O_5 \vee O_7 < O_2))$

**Memory Order Constraints**

**SC**  
 $O_1 < O_2 < O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} < O_4^{R_x}$   
 $< O_4^{W_x} < O_5 < O_6$   
 $O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$

**PSO**  
*execution should be allowed by the memory model*  
 $O_1 < O_2 \quad O_5 < O_6$   
 $O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} \quad O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x}$   
 $O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$

**Path Constraints**  
 $R_z^7 = 1$

**Failure Constraints**  
 $R_x^8 + 1! = R_y^8$

# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16159203/why-does-this-java-program-terminate-despite-that-apparently-it-shouldnt-and-d>

```

Init: x=1, y=2
T1
1: T2.start()
2: z=0
3: x++
4: y++
5: z=1
6: T2.join()
T2
7: if (z==1)
8: x assert(x+1==y)
    
```

*hb* (orange arrow from 3 to 5)

*PSO reordering* (green arrow from 3 to 5)

*rf* (orange arrow from 6 to 7)

*true* (orange arrow from 7 to 8)

*violate* (orange arrow from 8 to 7)

**Read-Write Constraints**  
 $(R_z^7 = 0 \wedge O_7 < O_2) \vee$  *match a read to a write*  
 $(R_z^7 = W_z^5 \wedge O_5 < O_7 \wedge (O_2 < O_5 \vee O_7 < O_2))$

**Memory Order Constraints**

**SC** *execution should be allowed by the memory model*  
 $O_1 < O_2 < O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} < O_4^{R_x}$   
 $< O_4^{W_x} < O_5 < O_6$   
 $O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$

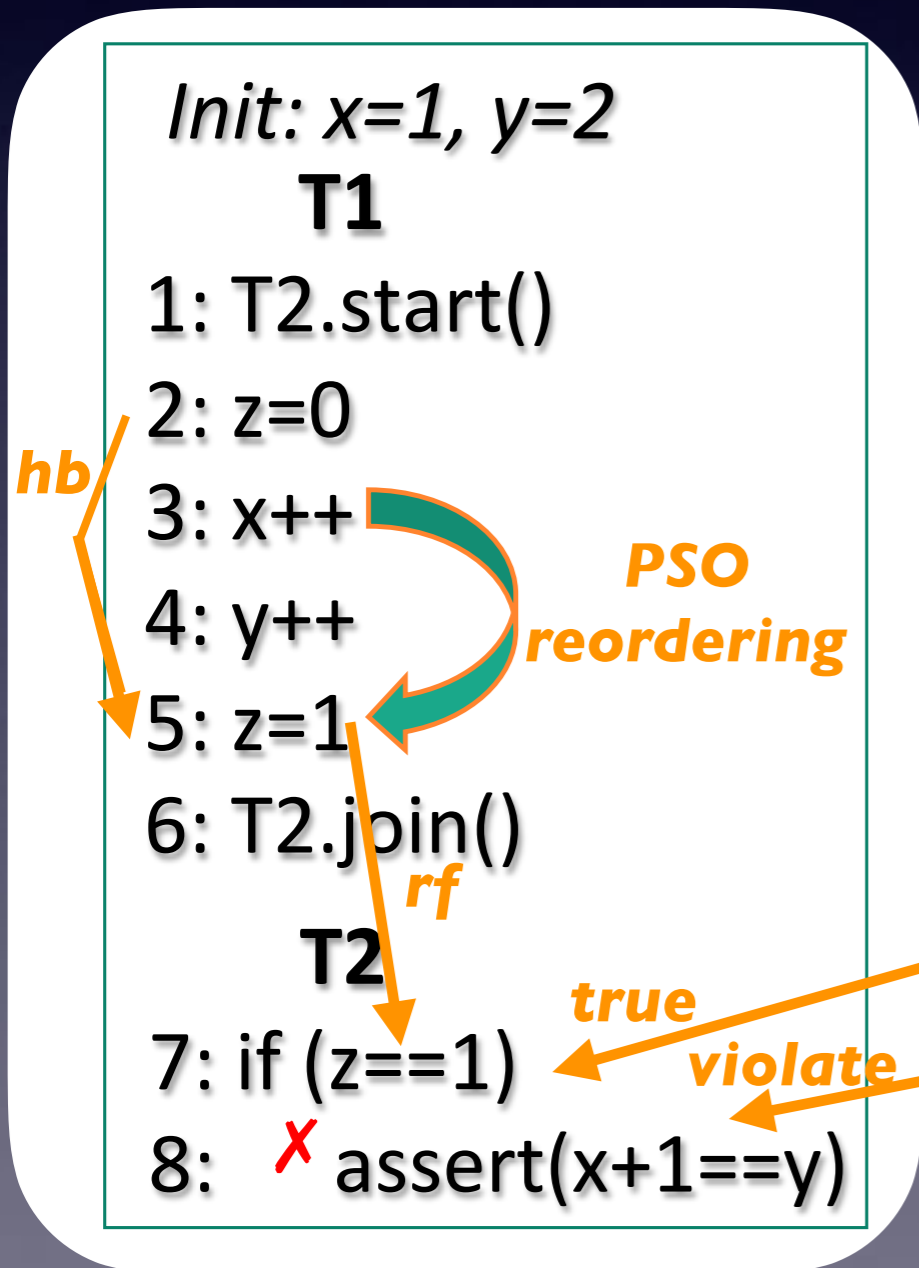
**PSO**  
 $O_1 < O_2 \quad O_5 < O_6$   
 $O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} \quad O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x}$   
 $O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$

**Path Constraints** *make the error happen*  
 $R_z^7 = 1$

**Failure Constraints**  
 $R_x^8 + 1! = R_y^8$

# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16159203/why-does-this-java-program-terminate-despite-that-apparently-it-shouldnt-and-d>



**Read-Write Constraints**  
 $(R_z^7 = 0 \wedge O_7 < O_2) \vee$  *match a read to a write*  
 $(R_z^7 = W_z^5 \wedge O_5 < O_7 \wedge (O_2 < O_5 \vee O_7 < O_2))$

**Memory Order Constraints**

**SC** *execution should be allowed by the memory model*  
 $O_1 < O_2 < O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} < O_4^{R_x}$   
 $< O_4^{W_x} < O_5 < O_6$   
 $O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$

**PSO**  
 $O_1 < O_2 \quad O_5 < O_6$   
 $O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} \quad O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x}$   
 $O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$

**Path Constraints** *make the error happen*  
 $R_z^7 = 1$

**Failure Constraints**  
 $R_x^8 + 1! = R_y^8$

Solution from the SMT solver:  
 $O_1=1, O_2=2, O_3=3, O_5=4, O_7=5, O_8=6, O_4=7$   
**Schedule: 1-2-3-5-7-8-4**



# A Real Bug – \$12 million loss of equipment

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/16159203/why-does-this-java-program-terminate-despite-that-apparently-it-shouldnt-and-d>

Init:  $x=1, y=2$

**T1**

1: T2.start()

2:  $z=0$

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4:  $y++$

5:  $z=1$

6: T2.join()

**T2**

7: if ( $z==1$ )

8:  $\times$  assert( $x+1==y$ )

## Read-Write Constraints

$$(R_z^7 = 0 \wedge O_7 < O_2) \vee (R_z^7 = W_z^5 \wedge O_5 < O_7 \wedge (O_2 < O_5 \vee O_7 < O_2))$$

## Memory Order Constraints

SC

$$O_1 < O_2 < O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} < O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x} < O_5 < O_6 < O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

## Path Constraints

$$R_z^7 = 1$$

PSO

$$O_1 < O_2 \quad O_5 < O_6 \\ O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} \quad O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x} \\ O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

## Failure Constraints

$$R_x^8 + 1 \neq R_y^8$$

Solution from the SMT solver:

$O_1=1, O_2=2, O_3=3, O_5=4, O_7=5, O_8=6, O_4=7$

Schedule: **1-2-3-5-7-8-4**

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Init:  $x=1, y=2$

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**T2**

7: if ( $z==1$ )

8:  $\times$  assert( $x+1==y$ )



## Read-Write Constraints

$$(R_z^7 = 0 \wedge O_7 < O_2) \vee (R_z^7 = W_z^5 \wedge O_5 < O_7 \wedge (O_2 < O_5 \vee O_7 < O_2))$$

## Memory Order Constraints

SC

$$O_1 < O_2 < O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} < O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x} < O_5 < O_6 \\ O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

PSO

$$O_1 < O_2 \quad O_5 < O_6 \\ O_3^{R_x} < O_3^{W_x} \quad O_4^{R_x} < O_4^{W_x} \\ O_7 < O_8^x < O_8^y$$

## Path Constraints

$$R_z^7 = 1$$

## Failure Constraints

$$R_x^8 + 1 \neq R_y^8$$

Solution from the SMT solver:

$O_1=1, O_2=2, O_3=3, O_5=4, O_7=5, O_8=6, O_4=7$

Schedule: **1-2-3-5-7-8-4**

# Finding Known Errors

Program	LoC	#Threads	#Events	#Executions (Total Time)		
				ICB	ICB+DPOR	MCR
Example	79	3	32	77322(20s)	3782(3s)	<b>46(2s)</b>
Account	373	5	51	111(0.2s)	20(0.2s)	<b>2(0.3s)</b>
Airline	136	6	67	669(1.8s)	19(0.8s)	<b>9(3s)</b>
Allocation	348	3	125	15(0.1s)	8(0.3s)	<b>2(0.3s)</b>
BubbleSort	175	5	133	592(1.2s)	400(2.7s)	<b>4(4.8s)</b>
MtList	5759	27	685	<b>OOM</b>	5173(290s)	<b>8(97s)</b>
MtSet	7086	22	724	<b>OOM</b>	5480(267s)	<b>21(159s)</b>
PingPong	388	6	44	648(3s)	37(0.5s)	<b>2(0.7s)</b>
Pool	10K	3	170	24(0.3s)	6(0.3s)	<b>3(0.4s)</b>
StringBuffer	1339	3	70	12(0.1s)	10(0.5s)	<b>2(0.4s)</b>

# Finding Known Errors

Program	LoC	#Threads	#Events	#Executions (Total Time)		
				ICB	ICB+DPOR	MCR
Example	79	3	32	77322(20s)	3782(3s)	<b>46(2s)</b>
Account	373	5	51	111(0.2s)	20(0.2s)	<b>2(0.3s)</b>
Airline	136	6	67	669(1.9s)	19(0.9s)	<b>9(3s)</b>

**MCR reduces #runs taken by BMC+POR by orders of magnitude!**

**MCR takes less time in half of the benchmarks**

Pool	10K	3	170	24(0.3s)	6(0.3s)	<b>3(0.4s)</b>
StringBuffer	1339	3	70	12(0.1s)	10(0.5s)	<b>2(0.4s)</b>

# State-space Exploration

program	Finished ✓ Timeout ■ OOM ✗			#Executions (Total Time)			#Race   #NPE		
	ICB	ICB+DP OR	MCR	ICB	ICB+DPO R	MCR	ICB	ICB+DPO R	MCR
Example	■	✓	✓	3.3M(1h)	26K(10s)	<b>50(2s)</b>	<b>7 0</b>	<b>10 0</b>	<b>10(0)</b>
Account	■	✓	✓	1.5M(1h)	875(2s)	<b>3(0.5s)</b>	<b>3(0)</b>	<b>3(0)</b>	<b>3(0)</b>
Airline	■	✓	✓	326K(1h)	3K(3.5s)	<b>8(4.5s)</b>	<b>0 0</b>	<b>0(0)</b>	<b>0(0)</b>
Allocation	✗	■	✓	-	1.4M(1h)	<b>30(5.6s)</b>	<b>0(0)</b>	<b>0(0)</b>	<b>0(0)</b>
BubbleSort	✗	■	■	-	327K(1h)	<b>14K(1h)</b>	<b>4(0)</b>	<b>6(0)</b>	<b>7 0</b>
MTList	✗	✗	■	-	-	<b>382(1h)</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>8 2*</b>
MTSet	✗	✗	■	-	-	<b>457(1h)</b>	<b>5 0</b>	<b>5 0</b>	<b>6 5*</b>
PingPong	■	■	✓	343K(1h)	973K(1h)	<b>413(13s)</b>	<b>6 1</b>	<b>7 1</b>	<b>7 1</b>
Pool	■	✓	✓	510K(1h)	1.5K(1.9s)	<b>3(0.9s)</b>	<b>0 0</b>	<b>0 0</b>	<b>0 0</b>
StringBuffer	■	✓	✓	1.3M(1h)	427(0.8s)	<b>3(0.4s)</b>	<b>0 0</b>	<b>0 0</b>	<b>0 0</b>

# State-space Exploration

program	Finished ✓ Timeout ■ OOM ✗			#Executions(Total Time)			#Race   #NPE		
	ICB	ICB+DP OR	MCR	ICB	ICB+DPO R	MCR	ICB	ICB+DPO R	MCR
<p><b>For most benchmarks, MCR finished in an hour</b>  <b>For half of the benchmarks, BMC+POR either</b>  <b>out of memory or did not finish in an hour</b></p>									
Allocation	✗	■	✓	-	1.4M(1h)	<b>30(5.6s)</b>	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
BubbleSort	✗	■	■	-	327K(1h)	<b>14K(1h)</b>	4(0)	6(0)	7 0
MList	✗	✗	■	-	-	<b>382(1h)</b>	1 0	1 0	8 2*
MSet	✗	✗	■	-	-	<b>457(1h)</b>	5 0	5 0	6 5*
PingPong	■	■	✓	343K(1h)	973K(1h)	<b>413(13s)</b>	6 1	7 1	7 1
Pool	■	✓	✓	510K(1h)	1.5K(1.9s)	<b>3(0.9s)</b>	0 0	0 0	0 0
StringBuffer	■	✓	✓	1.3M(1h)	427(0.8s)	<b>3(0.4s)</b>	0 0	0 0	0 0

# State-space Exploration

program	Finished ✓ Timeout ■ OOM ✗			#Executions(Total Time)			#Race   #NPE		
	ICB	ICB+DP OR	MCR	ICB	ICB+DPO R	MCR	ICB	ICB+DPO R	MCR
	■	■	✓	343K(1h)	973K(1h)	413(13s)	6 1	7 1	7 1
PingPong	■	■	✓	343K(1h)	973K(1h)	413(13s)	6 1	7 1	7 1
Pool	■	✓	✓	510K(1h)	1.5K(1.9s)	3(0.9s)	0 0	0 0	0 0
StringBuffer	■	✓	✓	1.3M(1h)	427(0.8s)	3(0.4s)	0 0	0 0	0 0

**For most benchmarks, MCR finished in an hour**  
**For half of the benchmarks, BMC+POR either out of memory or did not finish in an hour**

**MCR found 9 more data races and 7 more NPE than BMC+POR**

# TSO and PSO Results

Program	DPOR (rInspect)			MCR			#Executions Reduction		
	SC	TSO	PSO	SC	TSO	PSO	SC	TSO	PSO
Dekker	248	252	508	62	98	155	4.0X	2.6X	3.3X
Lamport	128	208	2672	14	91	102	9.1X	2.3X	29.4X
Bakery	350	1164	2040	77	158	165	4.5X	7.1X	12.4X
Peterson	36	95	120	13	18	19	2.8X	5.3X	6.3X
StackUnsafe	252	252	252	29	46	108	8.7X	5.5X	2.3X
RVExample	1959	-	-	57	64	70	34.4X	-	-
Example (N=1 to 4)	4	4	-	2	2	10	2.0X	2.0X	-
	105	105	-	43	43	89	2.4X	2.4X	-
	4282	4282	-	296	296	819	14.5X	14.5X	-
	14840	14840	-	2767	2767	8420	5.4X	5.4X	-
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>1118</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>10.4X</b>	<b>5.0X</b>	<b>10.9X</b>



# TSO and PSO Results

Program	DPOR (rInspect)			MCR			#Executions Reduction		
	SC	TSO	PSO	SC	TSO	PSO	SC	TSO	PSO
Dekker	248	252	508	62	98	155	4.0X	2.6X	3.3X
Lamport	128	208	2672	14	91	102	9.1X	2.3X	29.4X
Bakery	350	1164	2040	77	158	165	4.5X	7.1X	12.4X

**MCR explores 5X-10X fewer executions than POR for TSO and PSO memory models**

Example (N=1 to 4)	105	105	-	45	45	85	2.4X	2.4X	-
	4282	4282	-	296	296	819	14.5X	14.5X	-
	14840	14840	-	2767	2767	8420	5.4X	5.4X	-
<b>Avg.</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>1118</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>10.4X</b>	<b>5.0X</b>	<b>10.9X</b>

# Maximal Causality Reduction Parallelization

- MCR is for massive parallelization
  - Online exploration with different seed interleavings is parallel
  - In each iteration, multiple seed interleavings can be generated in parallel

***parfor*  $r = \text{read}(t, x, v) \in \tau$  **do****

***parfor*  $w = \text{write}(\_, x, v') \in \tau \wedge v' \neq v$  **do****

$\Phi_{seed}(r, w) \equiv \Phi_{sync} \wedge \Phi_{rw}(r) \wedge \Phi_{rw}(w) \wedge \Phi_{value}(r, v')$

# Results on Real Systems

program		ICB	ICB+DP OR	MCR	MCR- Parallel
Jigsaw	#Races	2	7	<b>20</b>	<b>38</b>
	#NPEs	1	2	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>
	#Runs	307 <b>(OOM)</b>	425 <b>(OOM)</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>769</b>
Weblech	#Races	4	4	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
	#NPEs	0	0	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
	#Runs	1229 <b>(OOM)</b>	1072 <b>(OOM)</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>3311</b>

# Results on Real Systems

program		ICB	ICB+DP OR	MCR	MCR- Parallel
	#Races	2	7	20	38
<p><b>Parallel-MCR explored many more states and detected many more data races and NPEs than MCR</b></p>					
	#Runs	(OOM)	(OOM)	32	769
Weblech	#Races	4	4	6	7
	#NPEs	0	0	1	1
	#Runs	1229 (OOM)	1072 (OOM)	185	3311

# Results on Real Systems

program		ICB	ICB+DP OR	MCR	MCR- Parallel
	#Races	2	7	20	38

**Parallel-MCR explored many more states and detected many more data races and NPEs than MCR**

**Found five new bugs (i.e., data races and NPEs)!**

Weblech	#Races	4	4	6	7
	#NPEs	0	0	1	1
	#Runs	1229 <b>(OOM)</b>	1072 <b>(OOM)</b>	185	3311

# References

- **ECOOP'17**: Shiyou Huang and Jeff Huang, "Speeding Up Maximal Causality Reduction with Static Dependency Analysis"
- **OOPSLA'16**: Shiyou Huang and Jeff Huang, "Maximal Causality Reduction for TSO and PSO"
- **PLDI'15**: Jeff Huang, "Stateless Model Checking Concurrent Programs with Maximal Causality Reduction"
- **PLDI'14**: Jeff Huang, Patrick Meredith and Grigore Rosu "Maximal Sound Predictive Race Detection with Control Flow Abstraction"

# Takeaway

- A new advance in Model-Checking
  - Maximal Causality Reduction (MCR)
- MCR dramatically improves scalability of BMC and POR
  - Minimal state-space exploration and embarrassingly parallel
- MCR open source
  - <https://github.com/parasol-aser/JMCR>