



## Skolem Functions for Factored Formulas

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IIT Bombay<sup>1</sup> and CU Boulder<sup>2</sup>

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# Collaborators

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Ajith K. John



Shetal Shah



Supratik Chakraborty



Akshay S.

Skolem functions and their applications

CEGAR for Skolem functions

Experimental Results

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# Skolem Functions

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## Definition (Skolem functions)

Given a propositional function  $F(x, Y)$ , a **Skolem function** for  $x \in X$  in  $F(x, Y)$  is a function  $\psi(Y)$  such that

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2. Hence a Skolem function for  $x$  if  $\psi(y_1, y_2) = 1$ .
3. Are Skolem functions unique?

# Skolem Functions

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## Definition (Skolem function vector)

Given a propositional function  $F(X, Y)$ , a **Skolem function vector** for  $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  in  $F$  is a vector of functions  $\Psi = (\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n)$  such that

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Algorithm 1. SKOLEMGENERATION( $F(x_1, \dots, x_n, Y)$ ).

1. Input: Propositional formula  $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, Y)$
2. Output: Skolem function set  $\Psi = \{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n\}$
3. For  $i = 1$  to  $n$ 
  - 3.1  $\psi_i = \text{SKOLEMFUN}(F, x_i)$
  - 3.2  $F = \exists x_i F = F[x_i \mapsto \psi_i]$
4. Return  $\{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n\}$ .

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**Example 2.** Find a Skolem function vector  $(\psi_1, \psi_2)$  for  $(x_1, x_2)$  in formula  $F(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) = x_1 \wedge \overline{x_2} \wedge y_1 \wedge y_2$ .

# Our focus and applications

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## Skolem Generation for Factored Formulas

1. Given a propositional function  $F(X, Y)$  as conjunction of factors,

$$f^1(X_1, Y_1) \wedge f^2(X_2, Y_2) \cdots \wedge f^r(X_r, Y_r)$$

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Skolem function generation is a [key verification/synthesis problem](#) due to its applications in:

1. [Quantifier elimination](#), of course
2. Generating [certificates in Quantified Boolean Formula \(QBF\)](#) solving
3. [Program synthesis](#)
  - Combinatorial Sketching for Finite Programs [SLTB<sup>+</sup>06]
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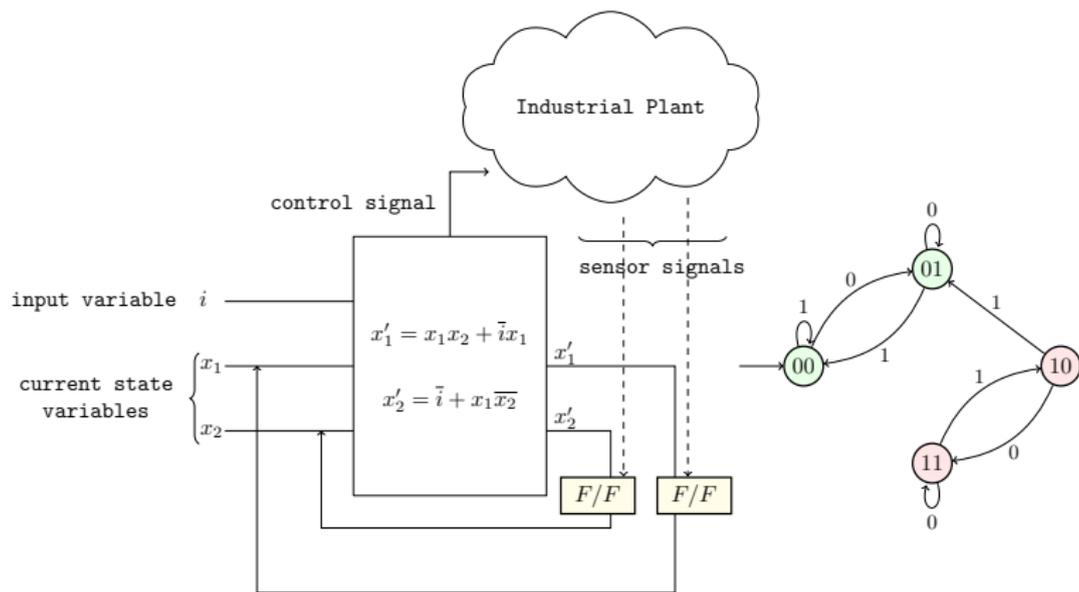
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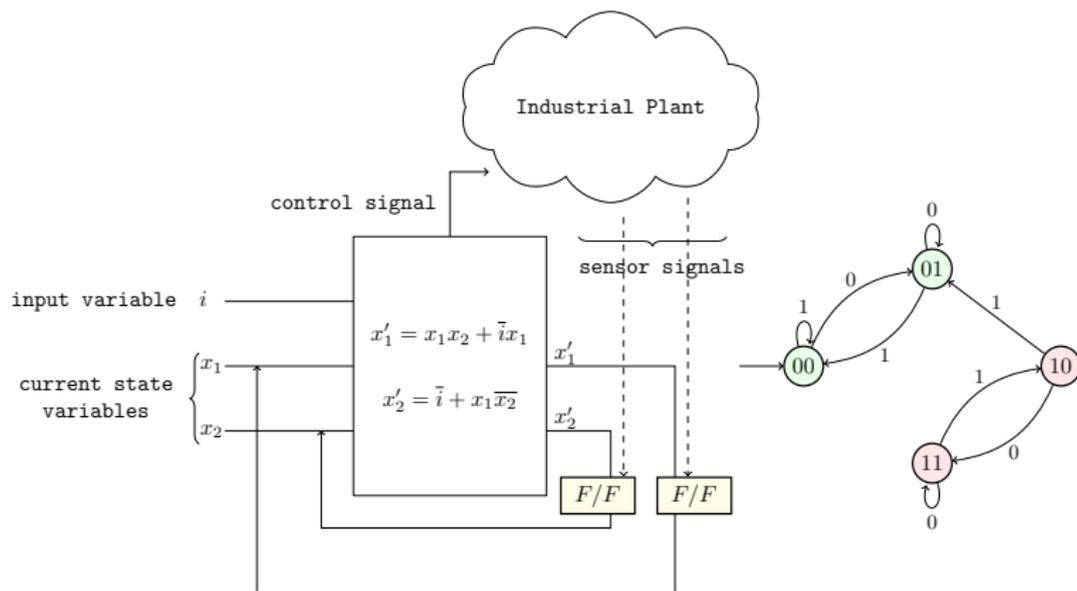
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# Plant Control Problem



1. How should the **primary input** of the controller be driven so that the controller transitions to a **desirable state in one step**, whenever possible?

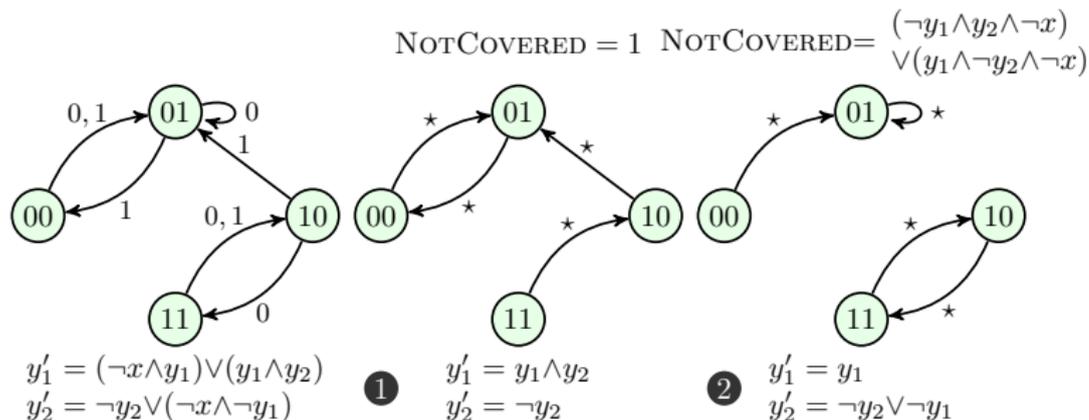
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1. How should the **primary input** of the controller be driven so that the controller transitions to a **desirable state in one step**, whenever possible?
2. **Solution:** Find Skolem function for the primary input variable:

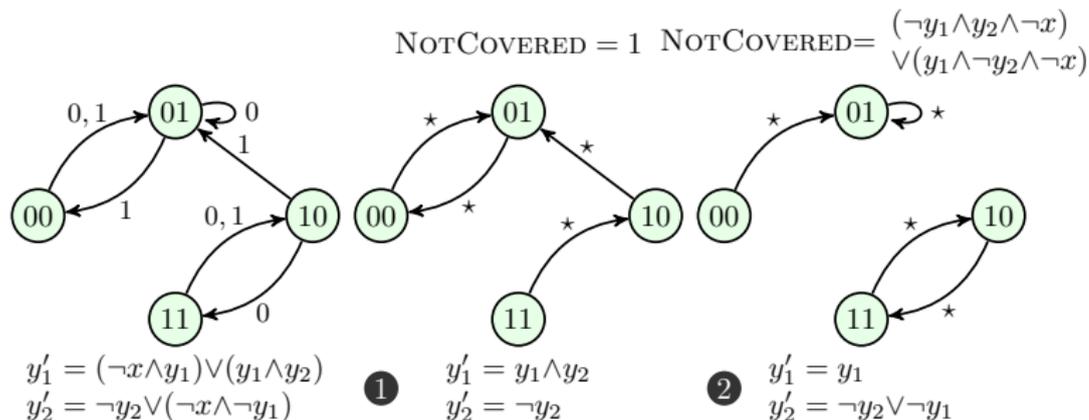
$$\exists x'_1 \exists x'_2 ((x'_1 = x_1x_2 + \bar{i}x_1) \wedge (x'_2 = \bar{i} + x_1\bar{x}_2) \wedge \text{Good}(x'_1, x'_2))$$

# Graph Decomposition Problem



1. Compute a **disjunctive decomposition** of implicitly specified state transition graphs of sequential circuits [Tri03, TCP08].

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2. **Solution:** Find Skolem function for the input variables  $X$  in:

$$\bigwedge_i \text{NOTCOVERED}_i(X, Y).$$

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1. Extract Skolem function from the proof of validity of  $\exists X F(X, Y)$ 
  - succinct Skolem functions if there exists a short proof of validity.

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3. Composition based approaches
  - Quantifier elimination via functional composition by Jiang [Jia09]
  - Techniques in Symbolic model checking by Trivedi [Tri03]
  - Work well for small-sized formulas
  - Compositions cause formula blow up and memory out

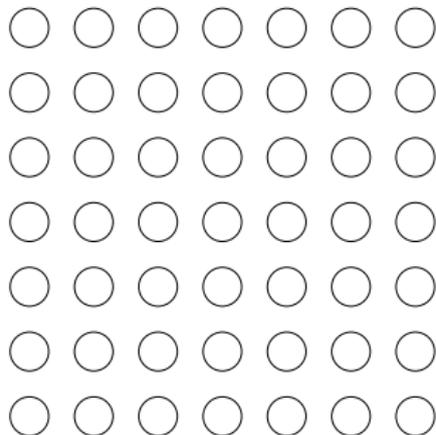
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**Find  $\psi(Y)$  such that  $\exists x F(x, Y) \equiv F(\psi(Y), Y)$ .**

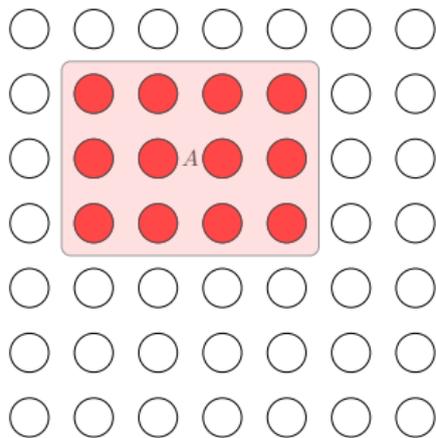
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— Set of All valuations to  $Y$ .

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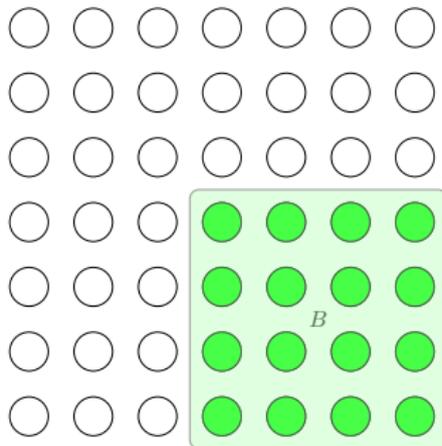
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—  $A(Y) = \text{Can't set } x \text{ to } 1 \text{ to satisfy } F = \neg F(x, Y)[x \mapsto 1]$

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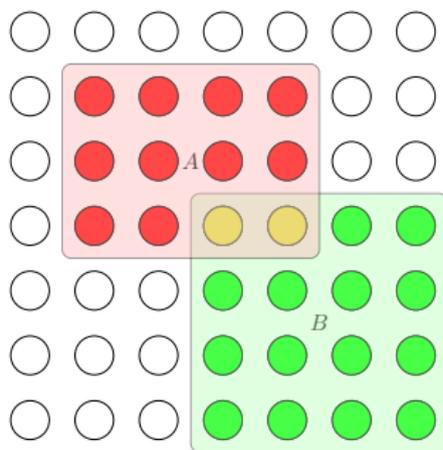
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—  $B(Y) =$  Can't set  $x$  to 0 to satisfy  $F = \neg F(x, Y)[x \mapsto 0]$

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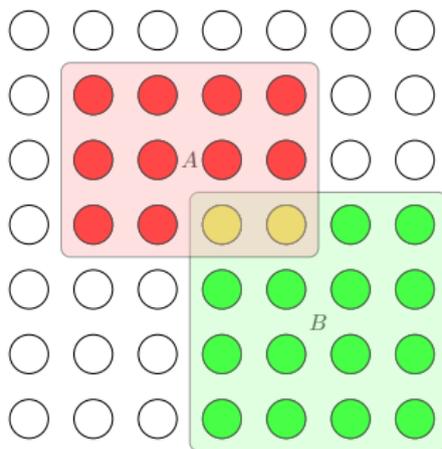
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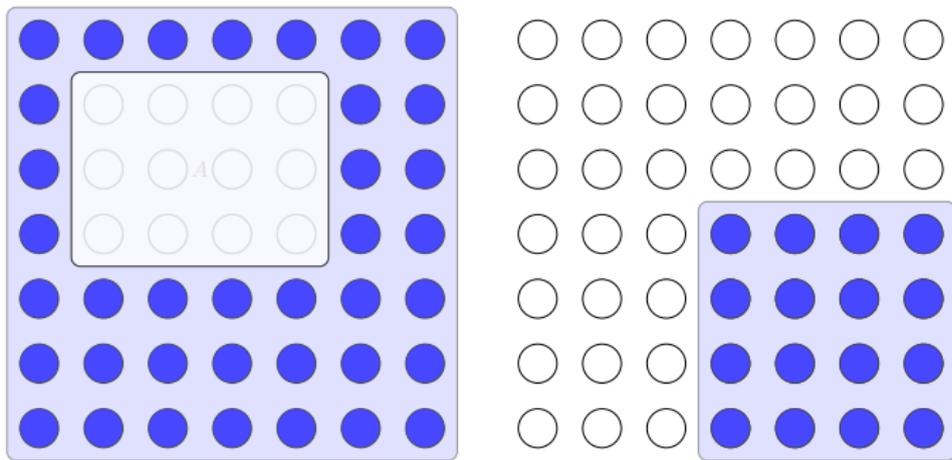
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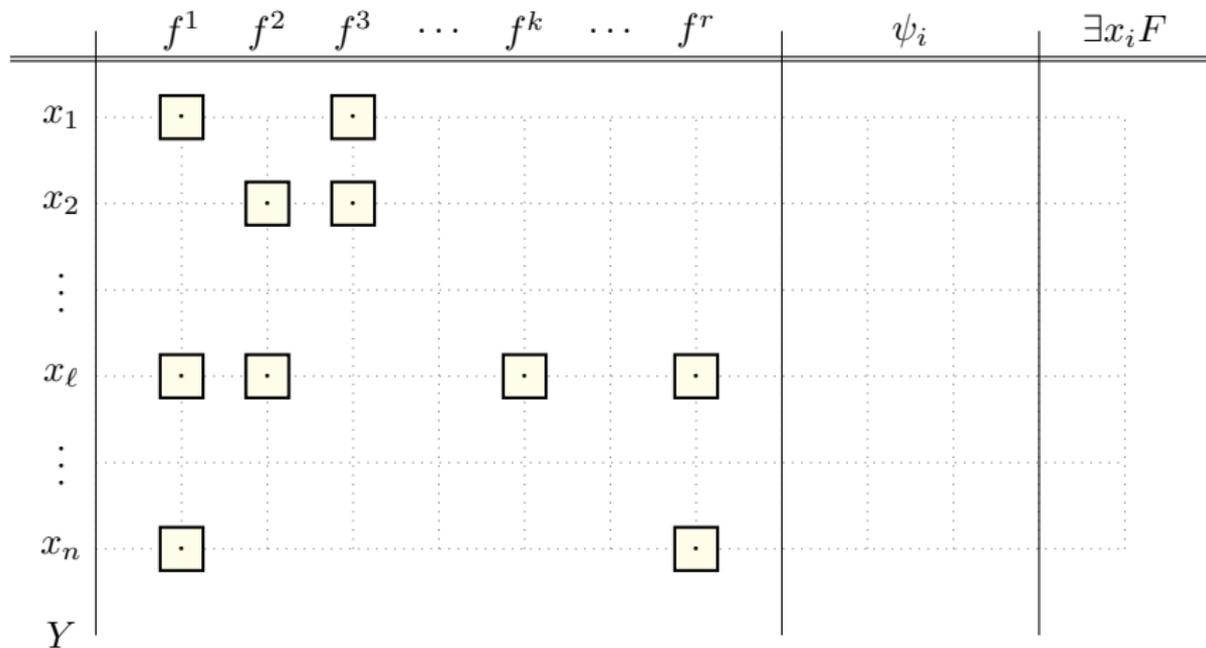
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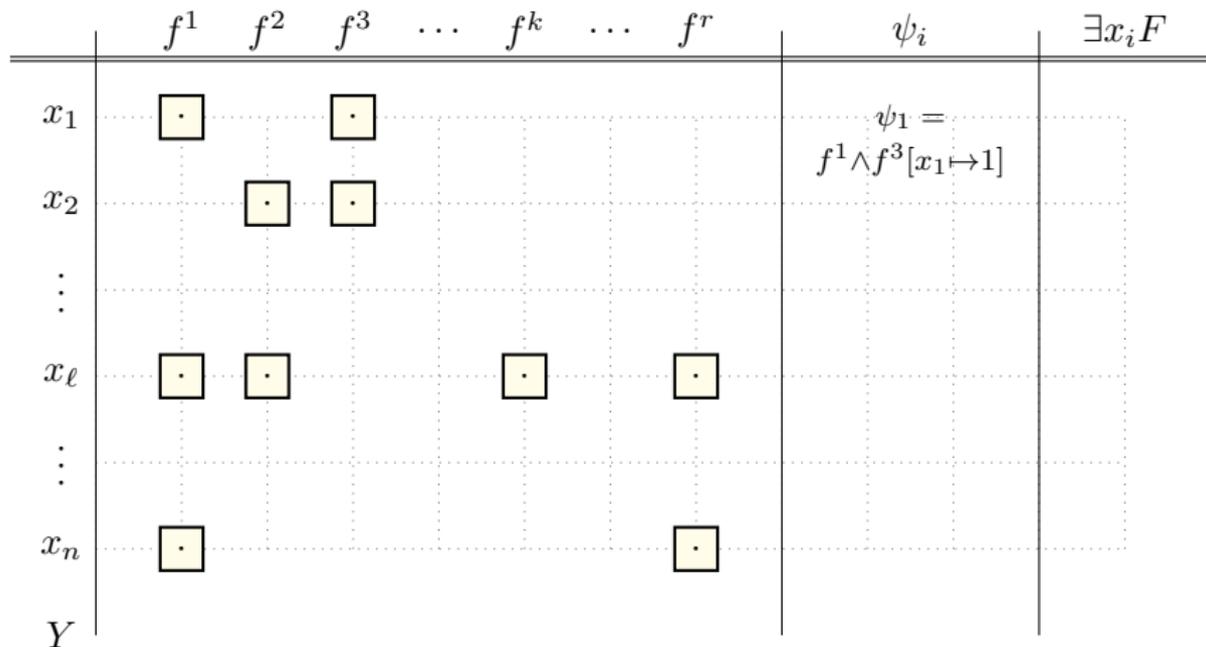


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- E.g.  $\neg A = F(x, Y)[x \mapsto 1] = F(1, Y)$
- and  $B = \neg F(x, Y)[x \mapsto 0] = \neg F(0, Y)$ .

# Monolithic Skolem Generation [Jia09, Tri03]



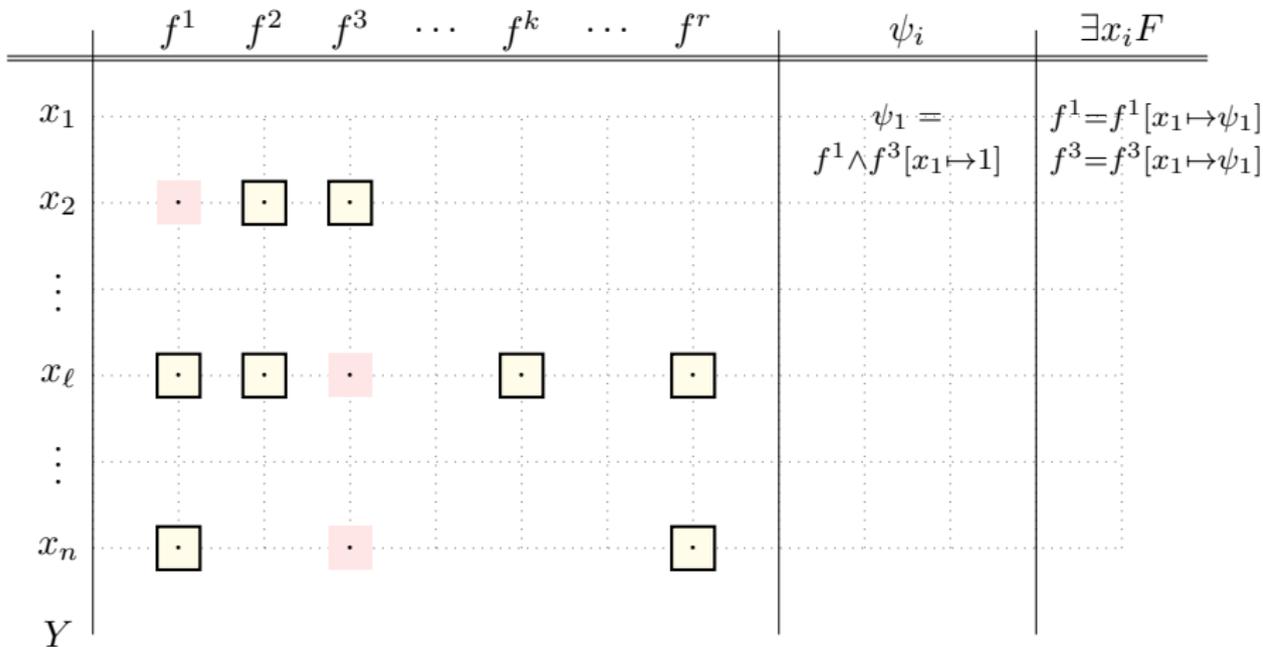
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	$f^1$	$f^2$	$f^3$	$\dots$	$f^k$	$\dots$	$f^r$	$\psi_i$	$\exists x_i F$
$x_1$	$\square \cdot$		$\square \cdot$					$\psi_1 =$ $f^1 \wedge f^3[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1]$ $f^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1]$
$x_2$		$\square \cdot$	$\square \cdot$						
$\vdots$									
$x_\ell$	$\square \cdot$	$\square \cdot$			$\square \cdot$		$\square \cdot$		
$\vdots$									
$x_n$	$\square \cdot$						$\square \cdot$		
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$x_2$	•	•	•					$\psi_2 =$ $f^1 \wedge f^2 \wedge f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	
$\vdots$									
$x_\ell$	•	•	•		•		•		
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$\vdots$								$\psi_2 =$	$f^j = f^j[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2]$
$x_\ell$	•	•	•		•		•	$f^1 \wedge f^2 \wedge f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	for $j = 1, 2, 3$
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$x_2$								$\psi_2 =$	$f^j = f^j[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2]$
								$f^1 \wedge f^2 \wedge f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	for $j = 1, 2, 3$
$\vdots$									
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$\vdots$									
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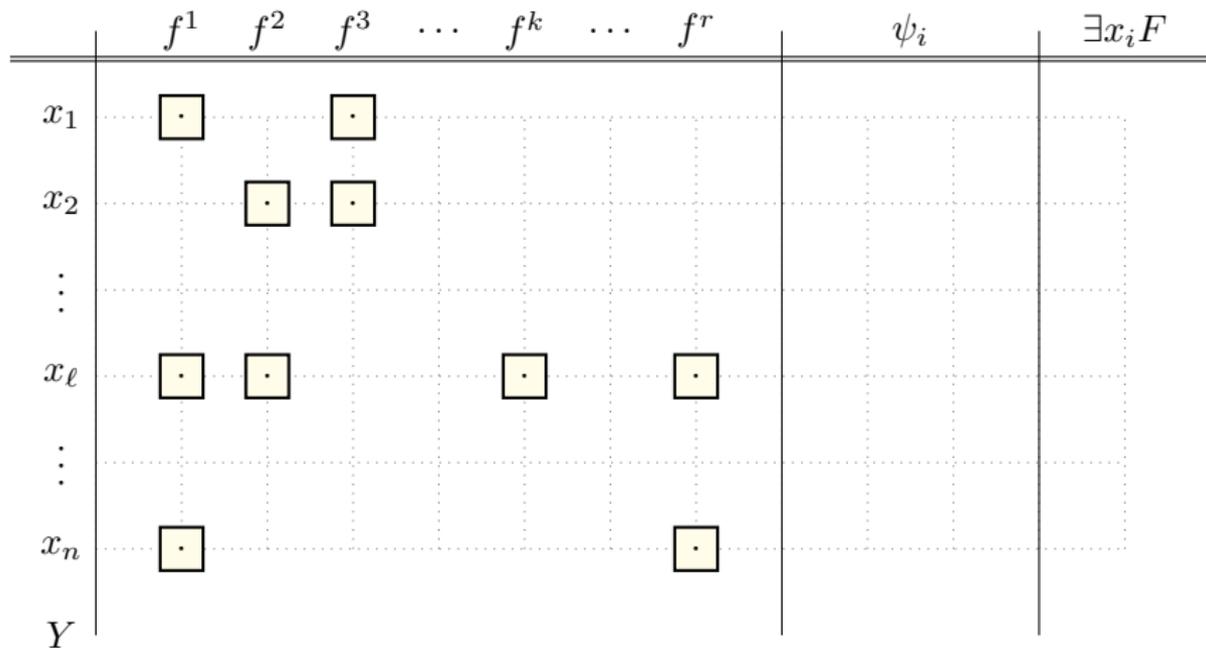
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								$f^1 \wedge f^3[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1]$
$x_2$								$\psi_2 =$	$f^j = f^j[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2]$
								$f^1 \wedge f^2 \wedge f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	for $j = 1, 2, 3$
$\vdots$									
$x_\ell$	□	□	□		□		□	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$\vdots$									
$x_n$	□	□	□				□		
$Y$									

# Monolithic Skolem Generation [Jia09, Tri03]

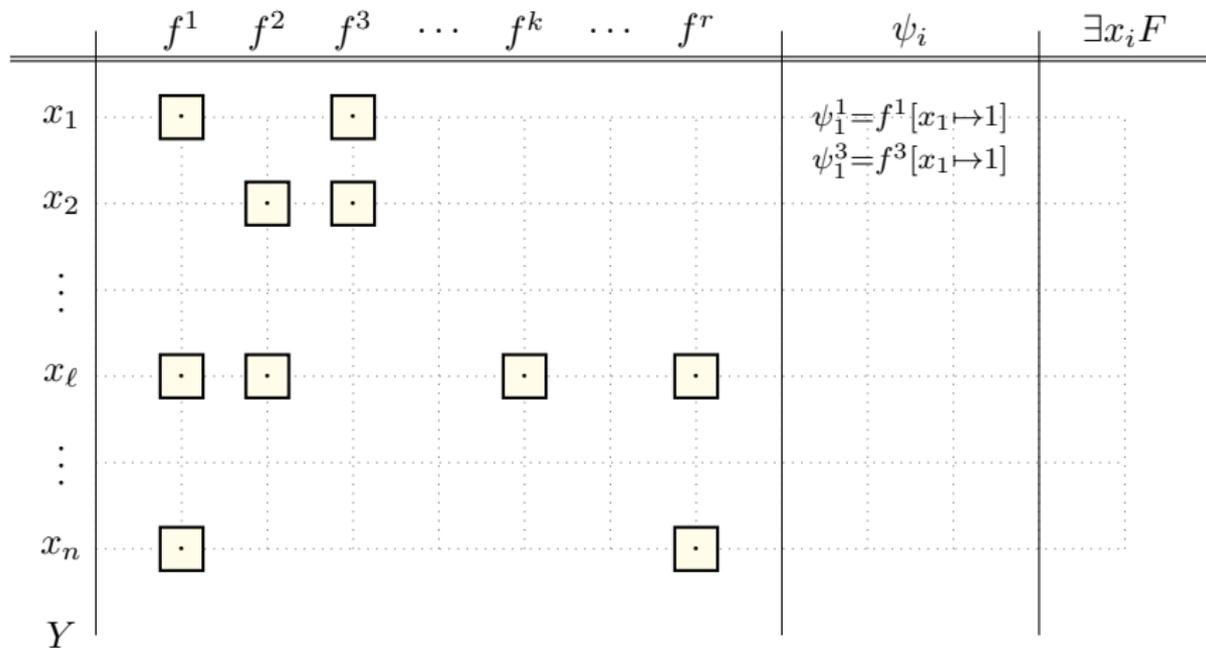
	$f^1$	$f^2$	$f^3$	$\dots$	$f^k$	$\dots$	$f^r$	$\psi_i$	$\exists x_i F$
$x_1$								$\psi_1 =$	$f^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1]$
								$f^1 \wedge f^3[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1]$
$x_2$								$\psi_2 =$	$f^j = f^j[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2]$
								$f^1 \wedge f^2 \wedge f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	for $j = 1, 2, 3$
$\vdots$									
$x_\ell$								$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$\vdots$									
$x_n$									
$Y$									

Blowup in sizes of factors after each quantifier elimination

# How to avoid such blowup



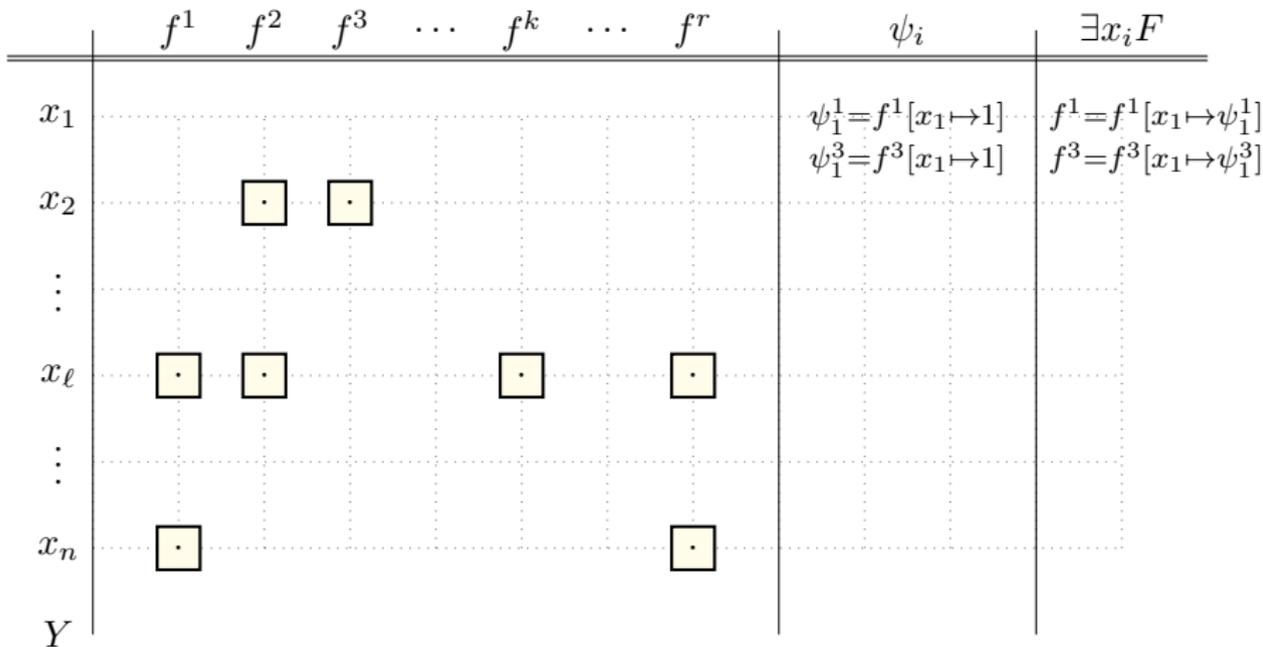
# How to avoid such blowup



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	$f^1$	$f^2$	$f^3$	$\dots$	$f^k$	$\dots$	$f^r$	$\psi_i$	$\exists x_i F$
$x_1$								$\psi_1^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1^1]$
$x_2$								$\psi_1^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1^3]$
$\vdots$									
$x_\ell$									
$\vdots$									
$x_n$									
$Y$									

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	$f^1$	$f^2$	$f^3$	$\dots$	$f^k$	$\dots$	$f^r$	$\psi_i$	$\exists x_i F$
$x_1$								$\psi_1^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1^1]$
$x_2$		•	•					$\psi_1^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1^3]$
$\vdots$								$\psi_2^2 = f^2[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	
$x_\ell$	•	•			•		•	$\psi_2^3 = f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	
$\vdots$									
$x_n$	•						•		
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	$f^1$	$f^2$	$f^3$	$\dots$	$f^k$	$\dots$	$f^r$	$\psi_i$	$\exists x_i F$
$x_1$								$\psi_1^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^1 = f^1[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1^1]$
$x_2$		•	•					$\psi_1^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto 1]$	$f^3 = f^3[x_1 \mapsto \psi_1^3]$
$\vdots$								$\psi_2^2 = f^2[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	$f^2 = f^2[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2^2]$
$x_\ell$	•	•			•		•	$\psi_2^3 = f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	$f^3 = f^3[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2^3]$
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$\vdots$								$\psi_2^2 = f^2[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	$f^2 = f^2[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2^2]$
$\vdots$								$\psi_2^3 = f^3[x_2 \mapsto 1]$	$f^3 = f^3[x_2 \mapsto \psi_2^3]$
$x_\ell$	□	□			□		□		
$\vdots$									
$x_n$	□						□		
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$\vdots$									
$x_\ell$	□	□			□		□	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
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$x_n$	□						□		
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$x_\ell$	□	□			□		□	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
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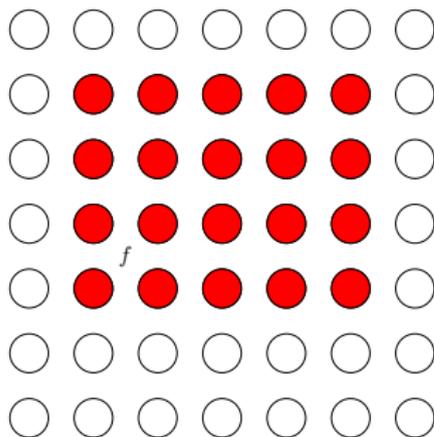
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- Abstraction of  $\exists x_i F$  and of  $\psi_i$

# Counterexample-Guided Abstraction Refinement

- Given propositional functions  $f(X)$  and  $g(X)$ , we say that  $f$  is an abstraction of  $g$  if

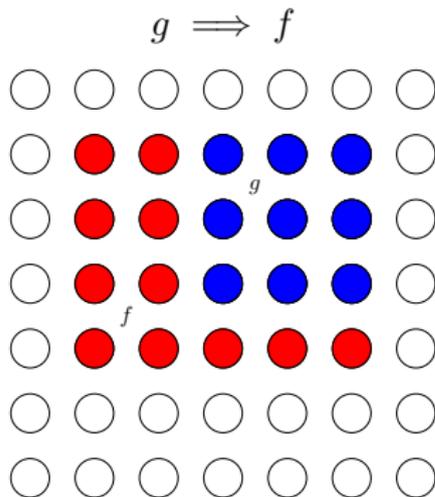
$$g \implies f$$



- We will also say that  $g$  is a refinement of  $f$ .

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## CEGAR: Contd

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- An **abstract Skolem function** is a function that is an abstraction of a **proper** Skolem function.
- An abstraction Skolem function may not be a proper Skolem function.
- Given a formula  $F(x_1, \dots, x_n, Y)$  and functions  $\Psi = \{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n\}$  how do we check if  $\Psi$  is a proper Skolem vector?

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- Simply check if the following formula  $\text{ISSKOLEM}(F, \Psi)$  is satisfiable:

$$F(X', Y) \wedge_{i=1}^n (x_i \iff \psi_i) \wedge \neg F(X, Y)$$

## CEGAR: Contd

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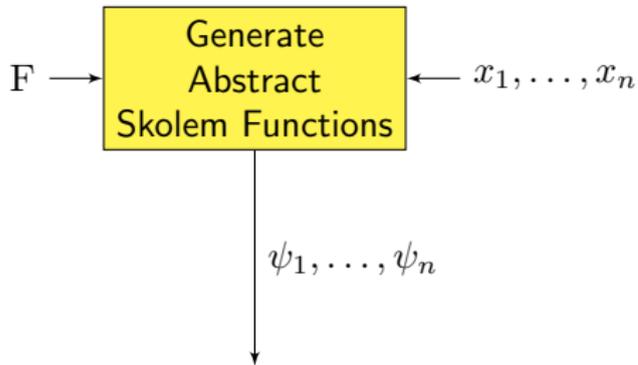
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- If this formula is **unsatisfiable**, then  $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n$  are proper Skolem functions for  $x_1, \dots, x_n$
- Otherwise, **satisfying assignment** helps us to refine Skolem function.

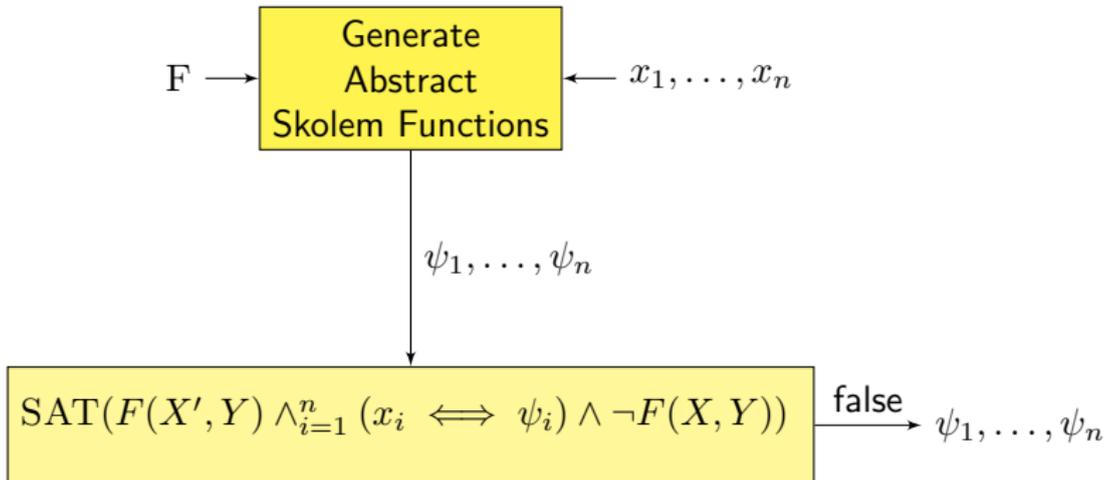
# CEGAR: Contd.

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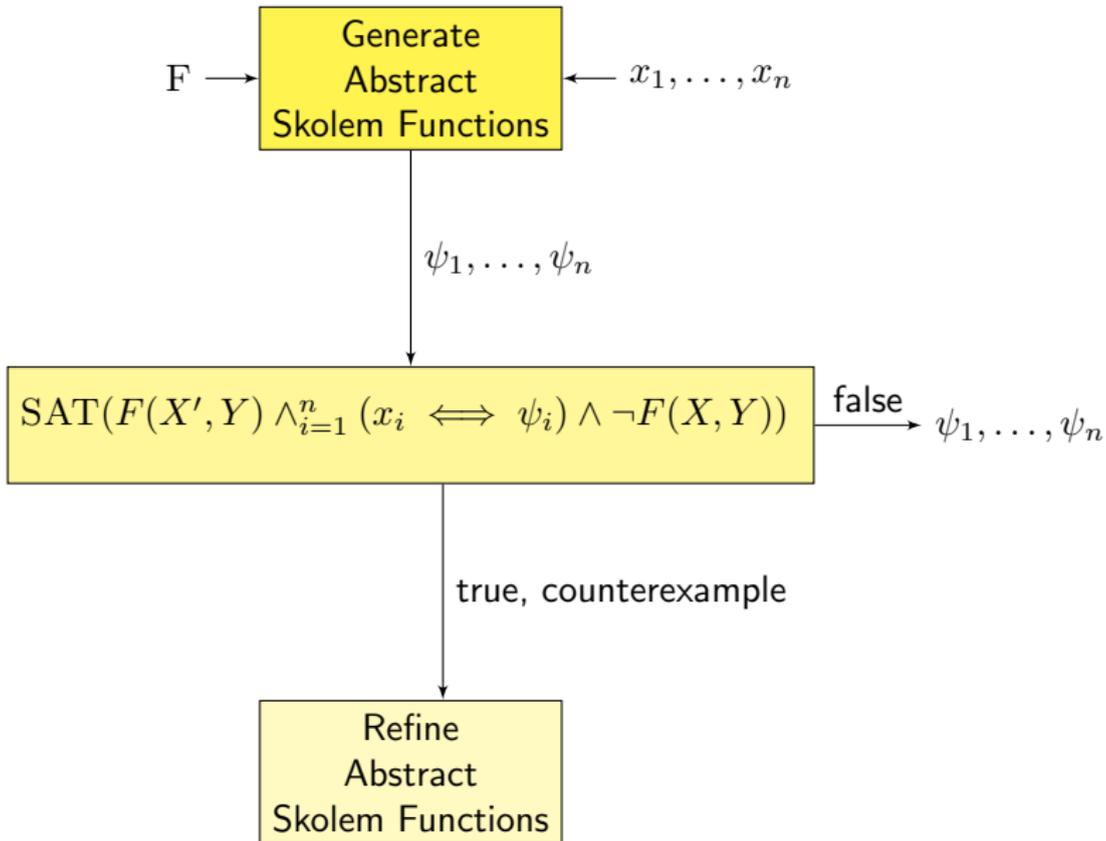


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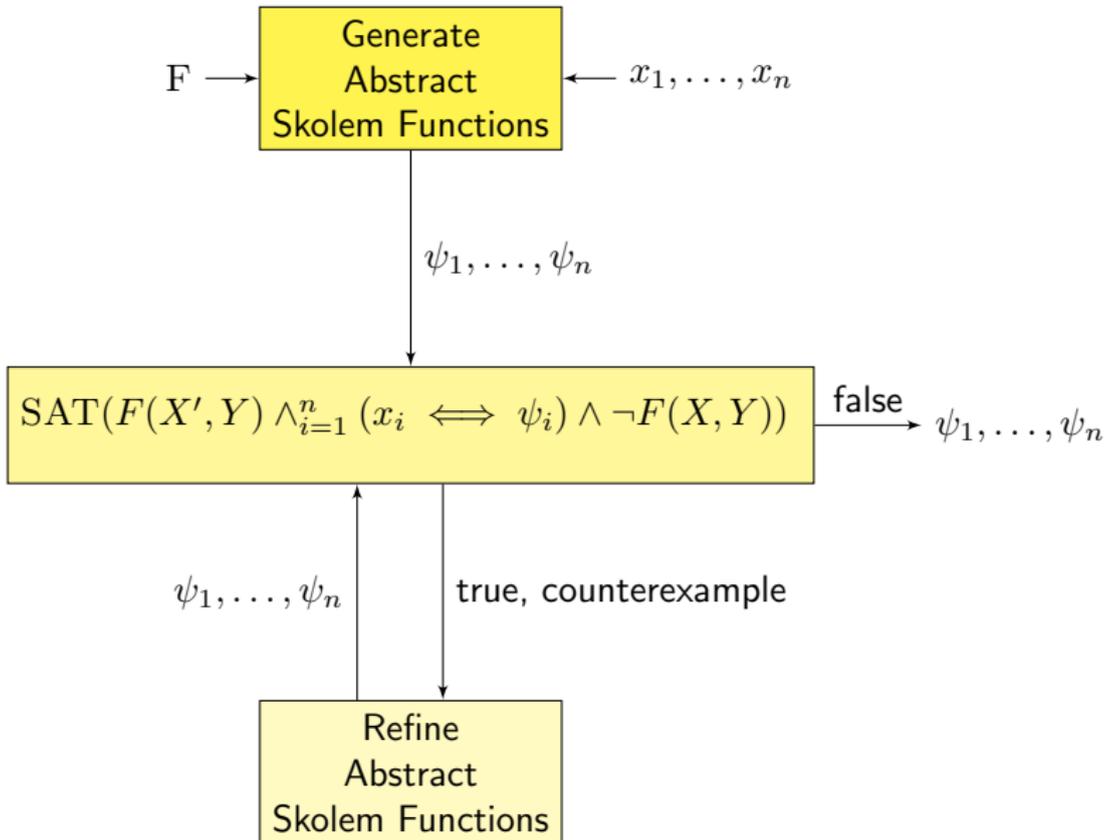
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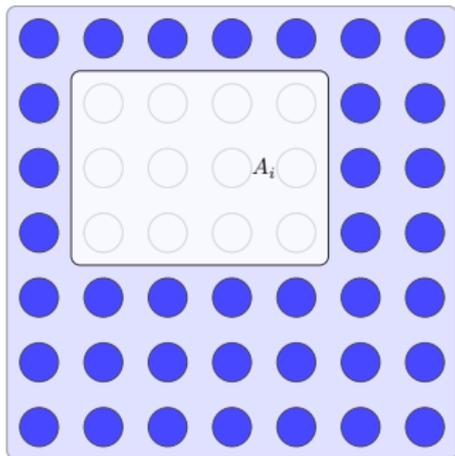


# CEGAR: Contd.



# Abstraction and Refinement

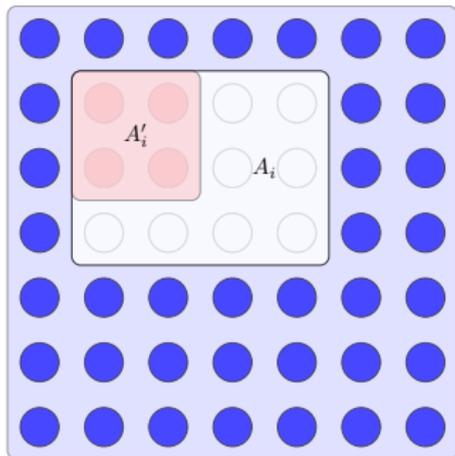
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1. Ideally when we need to compute Skolem function for  $x_i$  we need to have access to  $F_i = \exists x_1, \dots, x_{i-1} F$ .
2. Then, to compute Skolem function we can compute the set  $A_i = \neg F_i[x \mapsto 1]$  and a proper Skolem function would be  $\neg A$ .

$$A_i = \neg \exists x_1 \dots x_{i-1} F[x_i \mapsto 1] \text{ and } \psi_i = \neg A_i$$

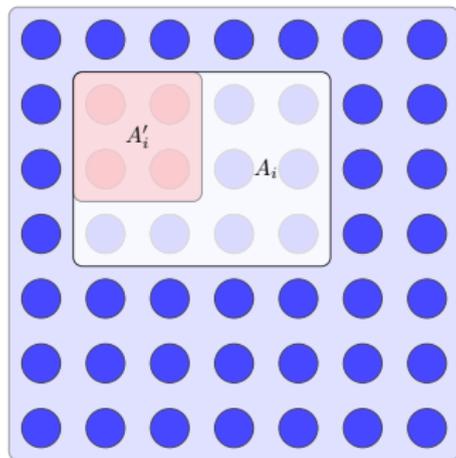
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4. Hence, the set  $A'_i$  computed using  $F'_i$  would be a refinement of the proper  $A_i$ .

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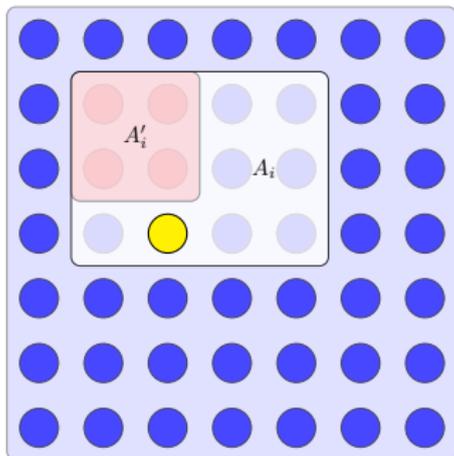


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5. This implies that the Skolem function computed as  $\neg A'_i$  will be an abstract Skolem function.

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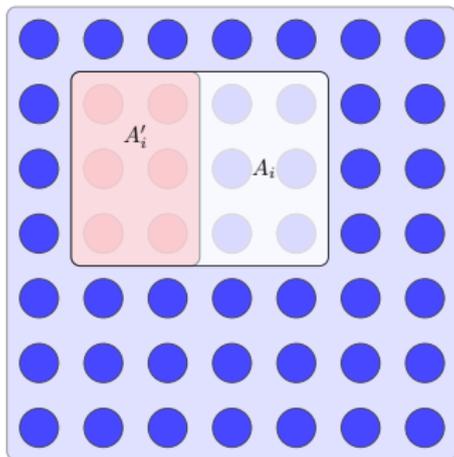


1. When we check if  $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n$  are proper Skolem functions, and we get a counterexample, it pinpoints a valuation for which abstract Skolem function returns 1 when it should not.

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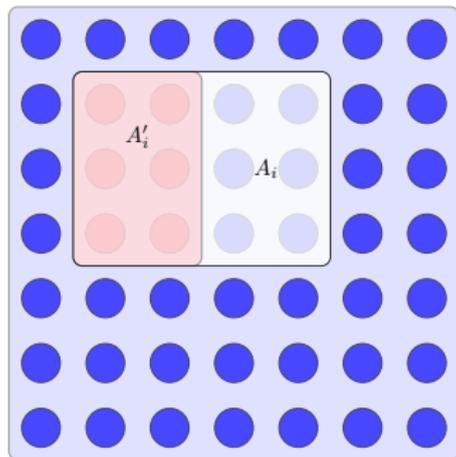


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3. CEGAR loop continues in this way until we find proper Skolem functions.

Skolem functions and their applications

CEGAR for Skolem functions

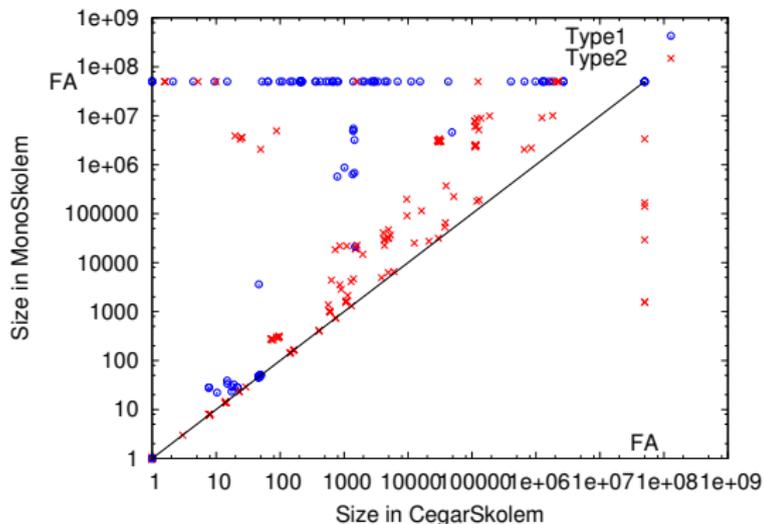
Experimental Results

# Benchmarks

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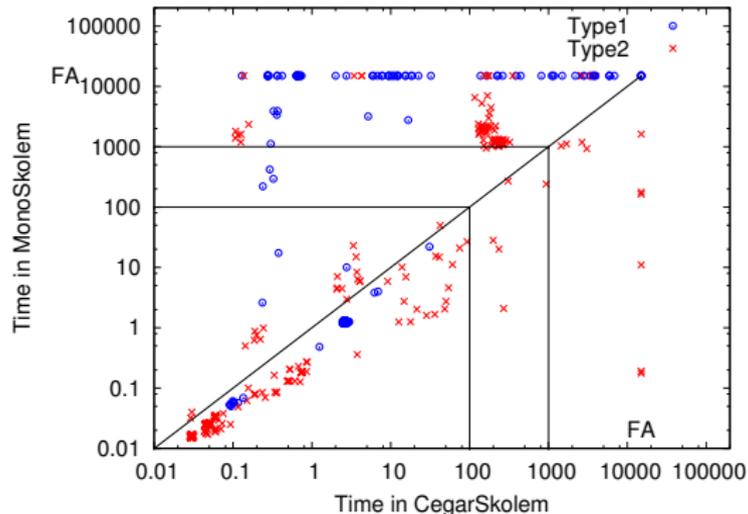
1. We compared the performance of the CEGAR based algorithm with
  - 1.1 an implementation of the monolithic algorithm
  - 1.2 The tool Bloqqer (a QRAT based Skolem function generation tool).
2. Our benchmarks were obtained by considering the disjunctive decomposition problem for sequential circuits from HWMCC10 benchmark suite
3. We divided our benchmarks into TYPE-1 formula where  $\exists XF(X, Y)$  is valid (160 benchmarks) and TYPE-2 formulas where  $\exists XF(X, Y)$  is not valid (264 benchmarks).
4. We used ABC library to represent and manipulate functions as AIGs and used default SAT solver provided by ABC (a variant of miniSAT).
5. We compared these algorithms with respect to Skolem function size and total time taken to generate Skolem functions
6. The maximum time and memory usage was restricted to 2 hours and 32GB.

# Monolithic Vs CEGAR: Size



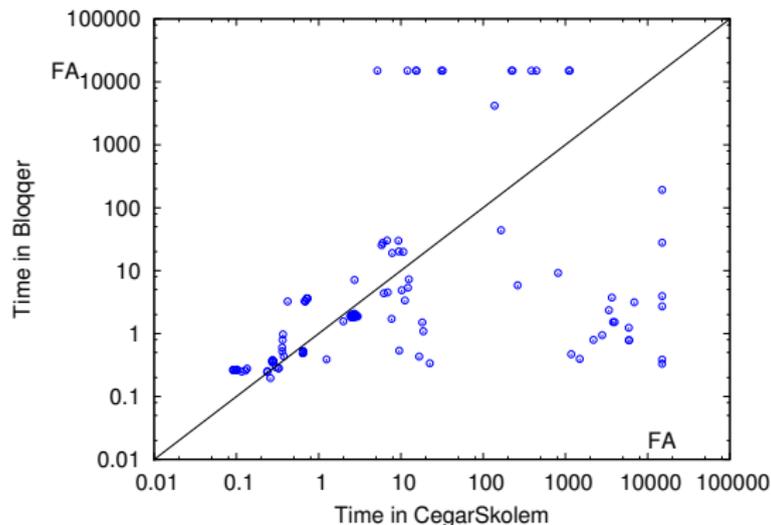
1. There is no instance on which CEGAR generates Skolem functions that are larger on average than Monolithic.

# Monolithic Vs CEGAR: Time



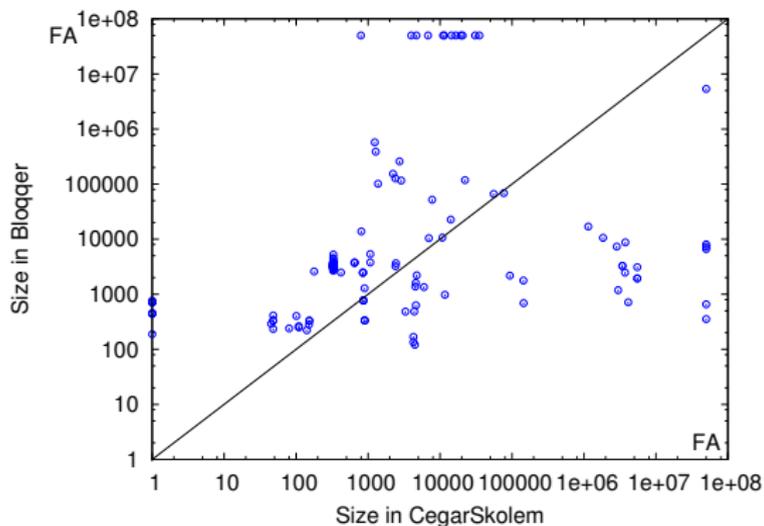
1. Due to repeated calls to SAT solver, CEGAR took more time than Monolithic, but for those examples total time in  $< 100$  seconds.
2. For timed between 100 and 300, Monolithic performed much worse taking more than 1000 seconds (due to large sizes of Skolem functions)
3. Monolithic timed out for 83 benchmarks, while CEGAR for 10

# Bloqqer Vs CEGAR: Time



1. Out of 160 TYPE-1 benchmarks Bloqqer generated Skolem functions for 148 benchmarks and gave NOT\_VERIFIED message for the remaining.
2. CEGAR was successful for 154 benchmarks.
3. For the benchmarks where Bloqqer gave NOT VERIFIED message, 8 of these 12 were large benchmarks with 1000+ factors and variables

# Bloqqer Vs CEGAR: Size



1. For the 142 common benchmarks, in majority of the cases (108/142) CEGAR generated smaller Skolem functions.

# Conclusion

---

1. Presented a **Counterexample guided abstraction refinement** based algorithm to generate Skolem functions for factored propositional formulas
2. Experiments show that for complex functions, our algorithm significantly outperformed two state-of-the-art algorithms
3. As a future work, we plan to explore integration with more efficient SAT-solvers, and refinement using multiple counter-examples in parallel.

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Thank you

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