

# Reasoning about nondeterminism in software

High Confidence Software and Systems 2012

**Eric Koskinen**

Research Scientist and Principal Investigator

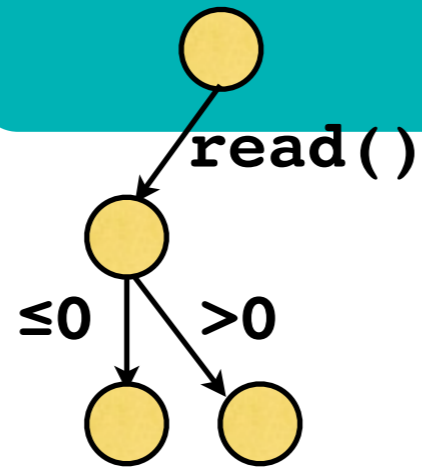
New York University

[ejk@cims.nyu.edu](mailto:ejk@cims.nyu.edu)

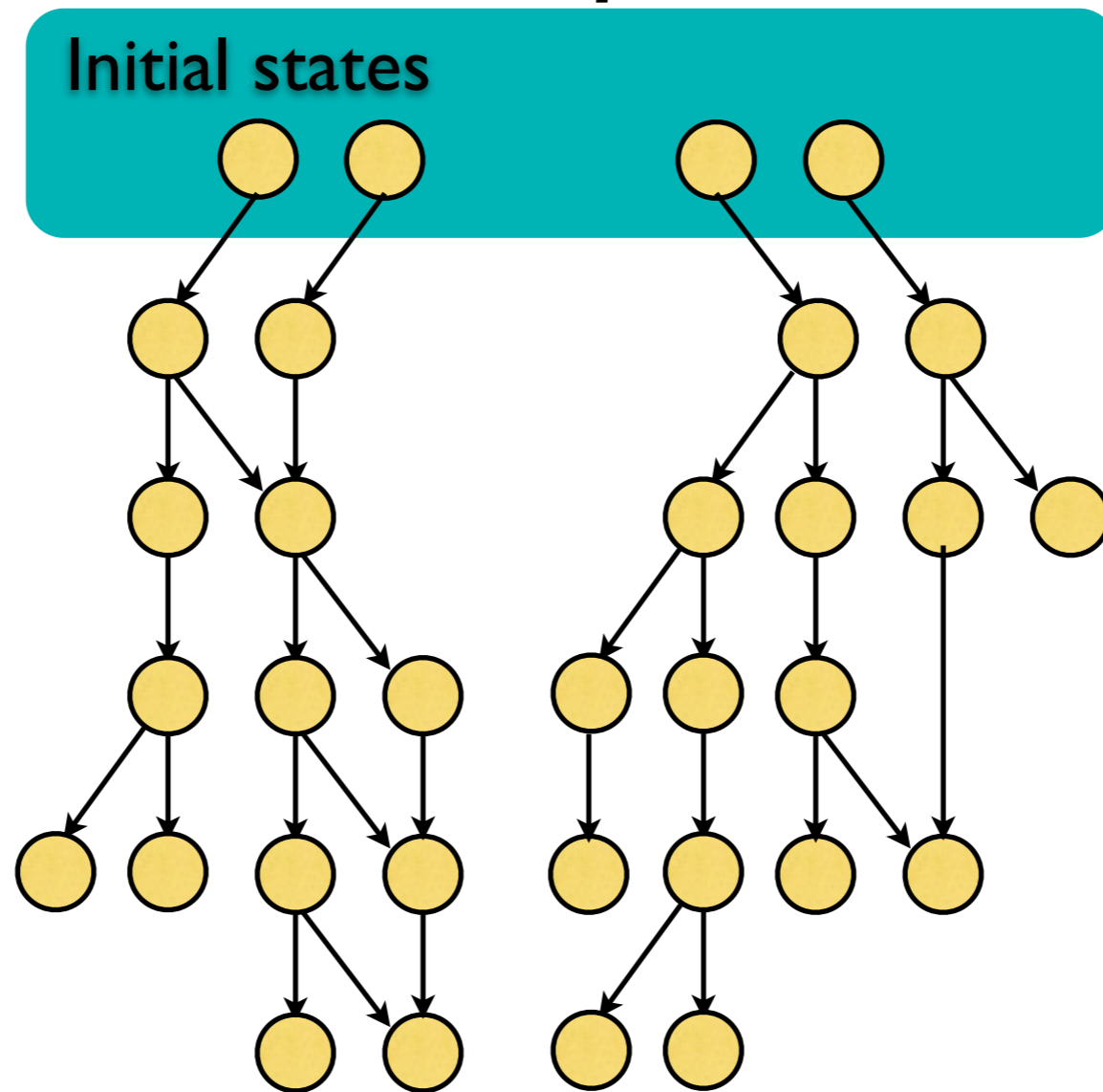
# *The behavior of software is often nondeterministic*

```
if (read(&buf)) {  
    computeA();  
} else {  
    computeB();  
}
```

Initial states



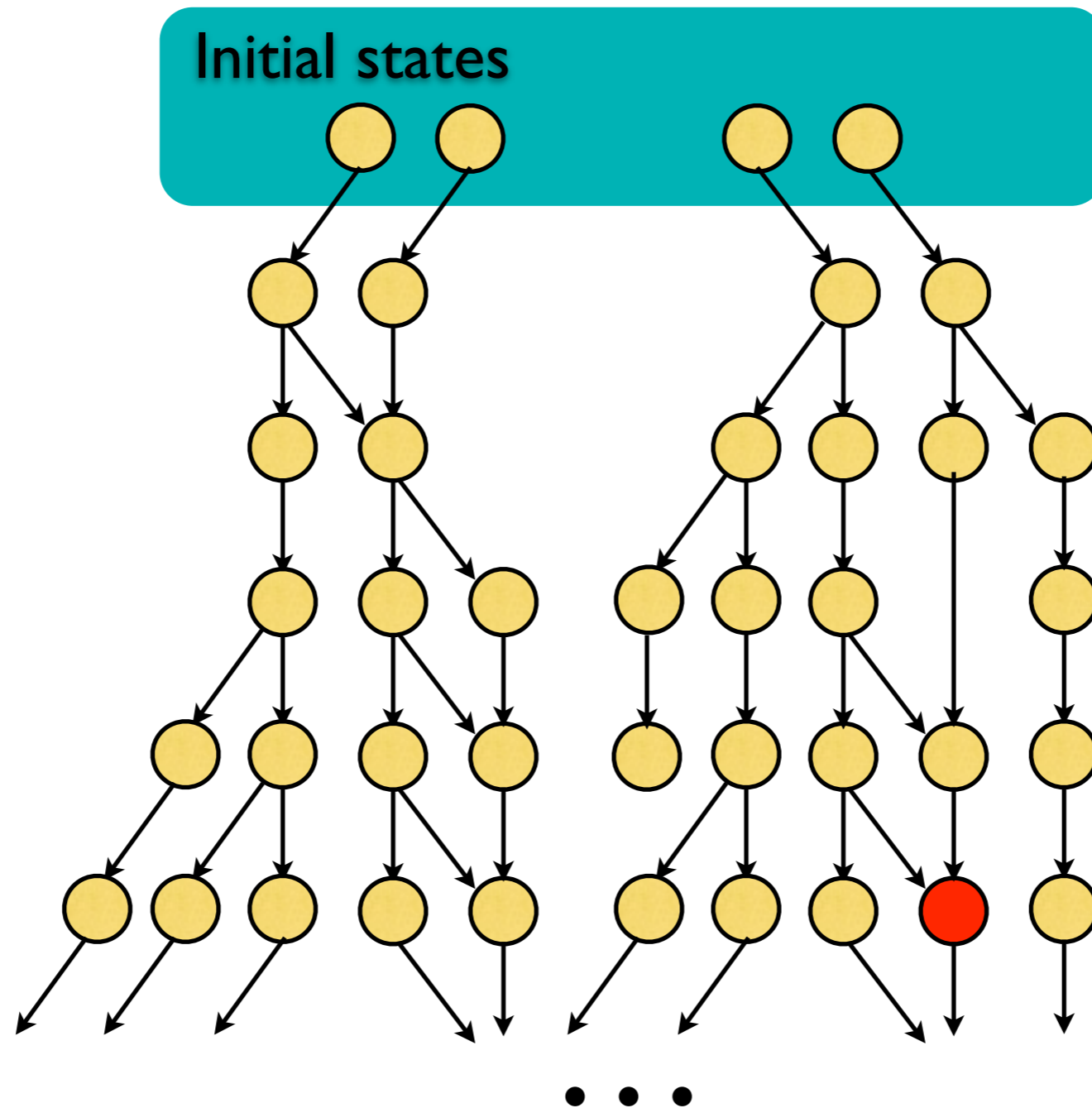
# Modern software systems have elaborate control-flow.





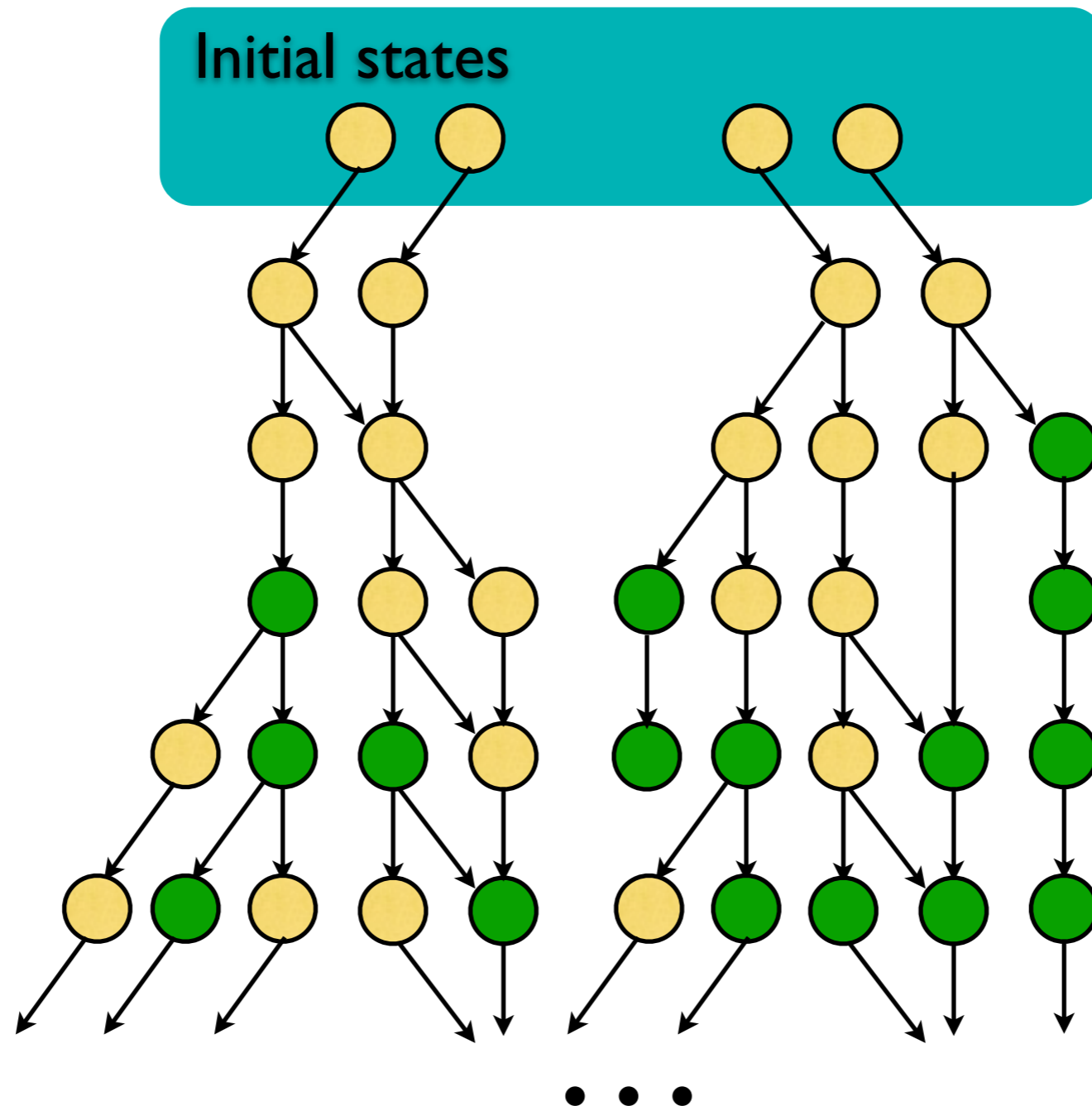


# Many important properties involve the **branching** behaviors of a program



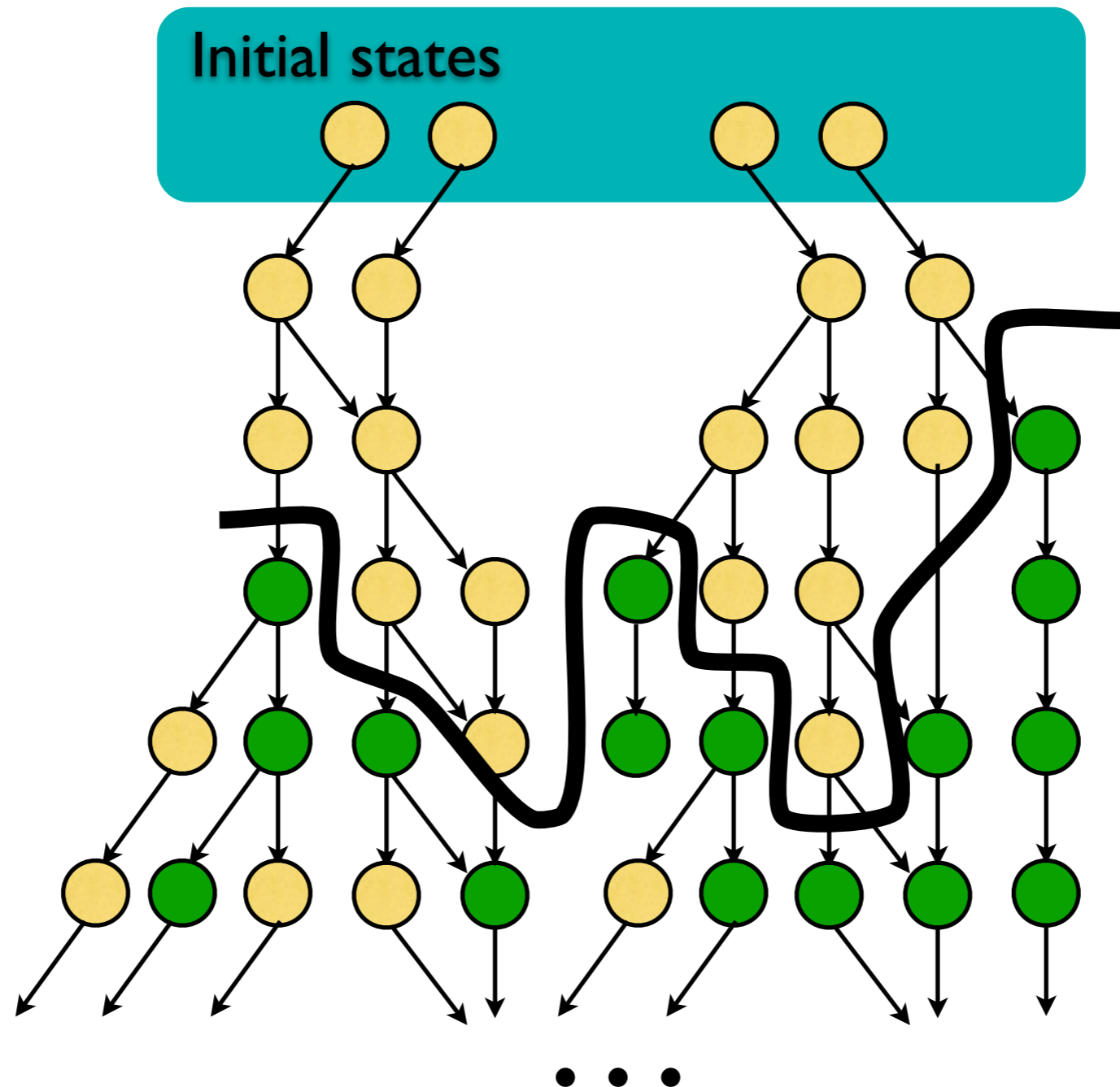
**Example:** does there exist a way to reach a red state? EF red

# Many important properties involve the **branching** behaviors of a program



**Example:** are you assured you will always reach a state from which point you can always be in a green state? AF (EG green)

# Many important properties involve the **branching** behaviors of a program



**Example:** are you assured you will always reach a state from which point you can always be in a green state? AF (EG green)

# ***branching***

Branching properties can be found  
in many temporal logics.

# ***branching***

## CTL

*Computation Tree Logic* [Clarke 1986]

- AF $p$  Across all paths, eventually reach  $p$
- EF $p$  There is a path that eventually reaches  $p$
- AG $p$  Across all paths,  $p$  always holds
- EG $p$  There is a path along which  $p$  always holds

# ***branching***

## CTL

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# branching

# CTL

Computation

AFp

Across all paths

EFp

There is a path

AGp

Across all paths

EGp

There is a path

## Temporal property verification as a program analysis task

Byron Cook<sup>1</sup>, Eric Koskinen<sup>2</sup>, and Moshe Vardi<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Microsoft Research and Queen Mary University of London

<sup>2</sup> University of Cambridge

<sup>3</sup> Rice University

**Abstract.** We describe a reduction from temporal property verification to a program analysis problem. We produce an encoding which, with the use of recursion and nondeterminism, enables off-the-shelf program analysis tools to naturally perform the reasoning necessary for proving temporal properties (*e.g.* backtracking, eventuality checking, tree counterexamples for branching-time properties, abstraction refinement, etc.). Using examples drawn from the PostgreSQL database server, Apache web server, and Windows OS kernel, we demonstrate the practical viability of our work.

### 1 Introduction

We describe a method of proving temporal properties of (possibly infinite-state) transition systems. We observe that, with subtle use of recursion and nondeterminism, temporal reasoning can be encoded as a program analysis task. The tasks necessary for reasoning about temporal properties (search, backtracking, eventuality checking, tree counterexamples, etc.) are then naturally performed by off-the-shelf program analysis tools.

CAV'11

# branching

Program	Property	Traditional Time(s)
Example from Sec. 2	AFAGp	2.32
Example from Fig. 8 of [15]	AG(p⇒AFq)	209.64
Toy acq/rel	AG(p⇒AFq)	103.48
Toy lin. arith. 1	p⇒AFq	126.86
Toy lin. arith. 2	p⇒AFq	<b>timeout</b>
PostgreSQL strsrv	AG(p⇒AFAGq)	<b>timeout</b>
PostgreSQL strsrv+bug	AG(p⇒AFAGq)	87.31
PostgreSQL pgarch	AFAGp	31.50
PostgreSQL dropbuf	AGp	<b>timeout</b>
PostgreSQL dropbuf	AG(p⇒AFq)	53.99
Apache child	AG(p⇒AGAFq)	<b>timeout</b>
Apache child accept liveness	AG(p⇒(AFa ∨ AFb))	685.34
Windows frag. 1	AG(p⇒AFq)	901.81
Windows frag. 2	AFAGp	16.47
Windows frag. 2+bug	AFAGp	26.15
Windows frag. 3	AFAGp	4.21
Windows frag. 4	AG(p⇒AFq)	<b>timeout</b>
Windows frag. 4	(AFp) ∨ (AFq)	1,223.96
Windows frag. 5	AG(p⇒AFq)	<b>timeout</b>
Windows frag. 6	AFAGp	149.41
Windows frag. 6+bug	AFAGp	6.06
Windows frag. 7	AGAFp	<b>timeout</b>
Windows frag. 8	FGp	<b>timeout</b>



# branching

Program	Property	Traditional	Our Approach
		Time(s)	Time(s)
Example from Sec. 2	AFAGp	2.32	1.98
Example from Fig. 8 of [15]	AG(p⇒AFq)	209.64	27.94
Toy acq/rel	AG(p⇒AFq)	103.48	14.18
Toy lin. arith. 1	p⇒AFq	126.86	34.51
Toy lin. arith. 2	p⇒AFq	<b>timeout</b>	6.74
PostgreSQL strsrv	AG(p⇒AFAGq)	<b>timeout</b>	9.56
PostgreSQL strsrv+bug	AG(p⇒AFAGq)	87.31	47.16
PostgreSQL pgarch	AFAGp	31.50	15.20
PostgreSQL dropbuf	AGp	<b>timeout</b>	1.14
PostgreSQL dropbuf	AG(p⇒AFq)	53.99	27.54
Apache child	AG(p⇒AGAFq)	<b>timeout</b>	197.41
Apache child accept liveness	AG(p⇒(AFa ∨ AFb))	685.34	684.24
Windows frag. 1	AG(p⇒AFq)	901.81	539.00
Windows frag. 2	AFAGp	16.47	52.10
Windows frag. 2+bug	AFAGp	26.15	30.37
Windows frag. 3	AFAGp	4.21	15.75
Windows frag. 4	AG(p⇒AFq)	<b>timeout</b>	1,114.18
Windows frag. 4	(AFp) ∨ (AFq)	1,223.96	100.68
Windows frag. 5	AG(p⇒AFq)	<b>timeout</b>	<b>timeout</b>
Windows frag. 6	AFAGp	149.41	59.56
Windows frag. 6+bug	AFAGp	6.06	22.12
Windows frag. 7	AGAFp	<b>timeout</b>	55.77
Windows frag. 8	FGp	<b>timeout</b>	5.24

all "A" properties

# branching

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**Extend beyond the universal fragment, include existential properties ...**

# ***branching***

## existential and universal

- **Planning**

Is there a position I can move to such that escape is possible?  
At any point system *could* terminate and when it does  $p$  holds.

# ***branching***

## existential and universal

- **Planning**

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- **Games**

Are there choices that I can make (“exists”) such that I will always outwit every move (“universal”) my opponent makes?

# ***branching***

## existential and universal

- **Planning**

Is there a position I can move to such that escape is possible?  
At any point system *could* terminate and when it does  $p$  holds.

- **Games**

Are there choices that I can make (“exists”) such that I will always outwit every move (“universal”) my opponent makes?

- **Security**

Can the system eventually repair itself after an intrusion?  
Is it possible that, no matter what inputs an attacker enters, the system can escape being compromised.

***branching***

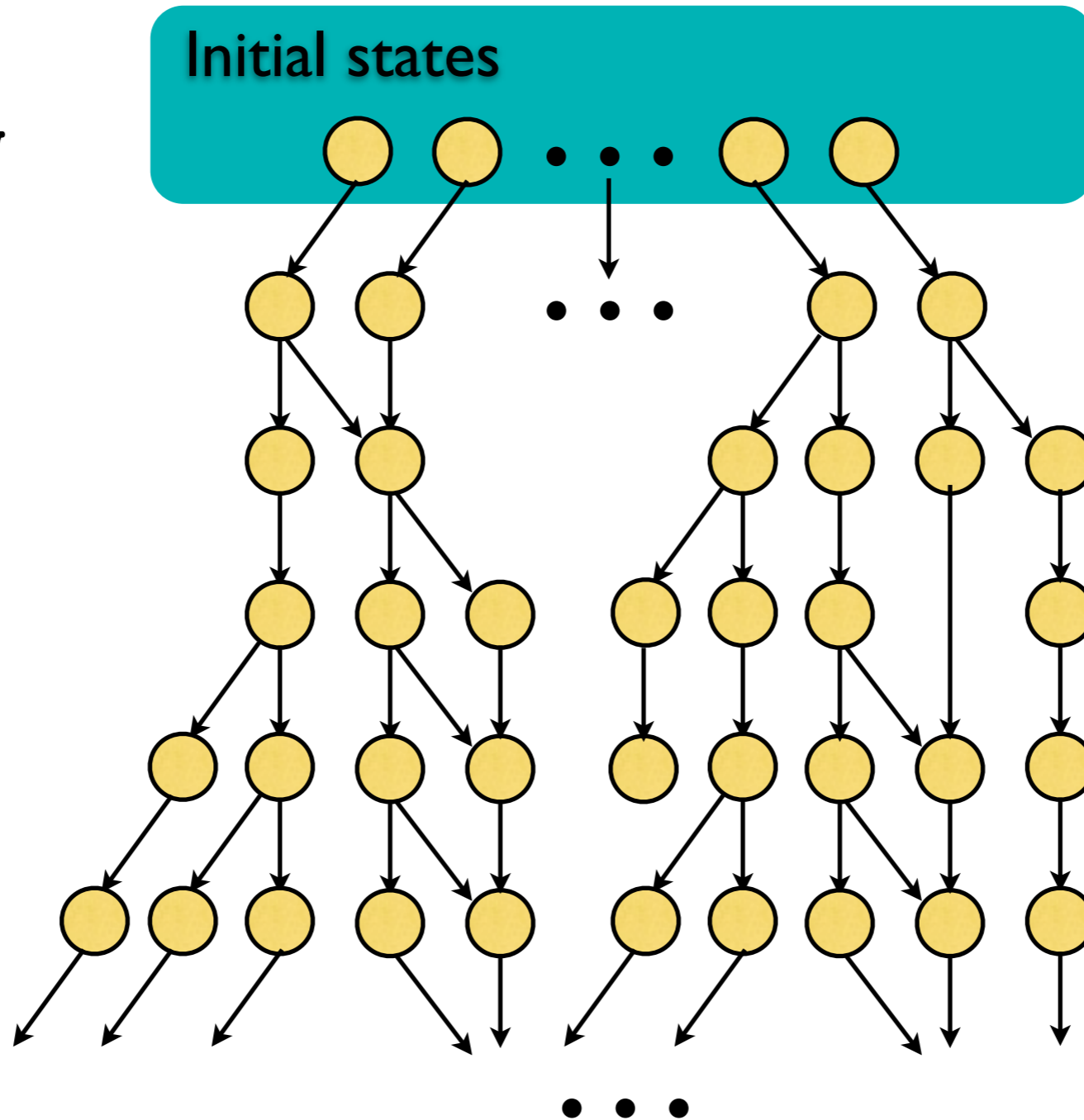
**existential and universal**



Can be treated similarly

# AG and EG (reachability)

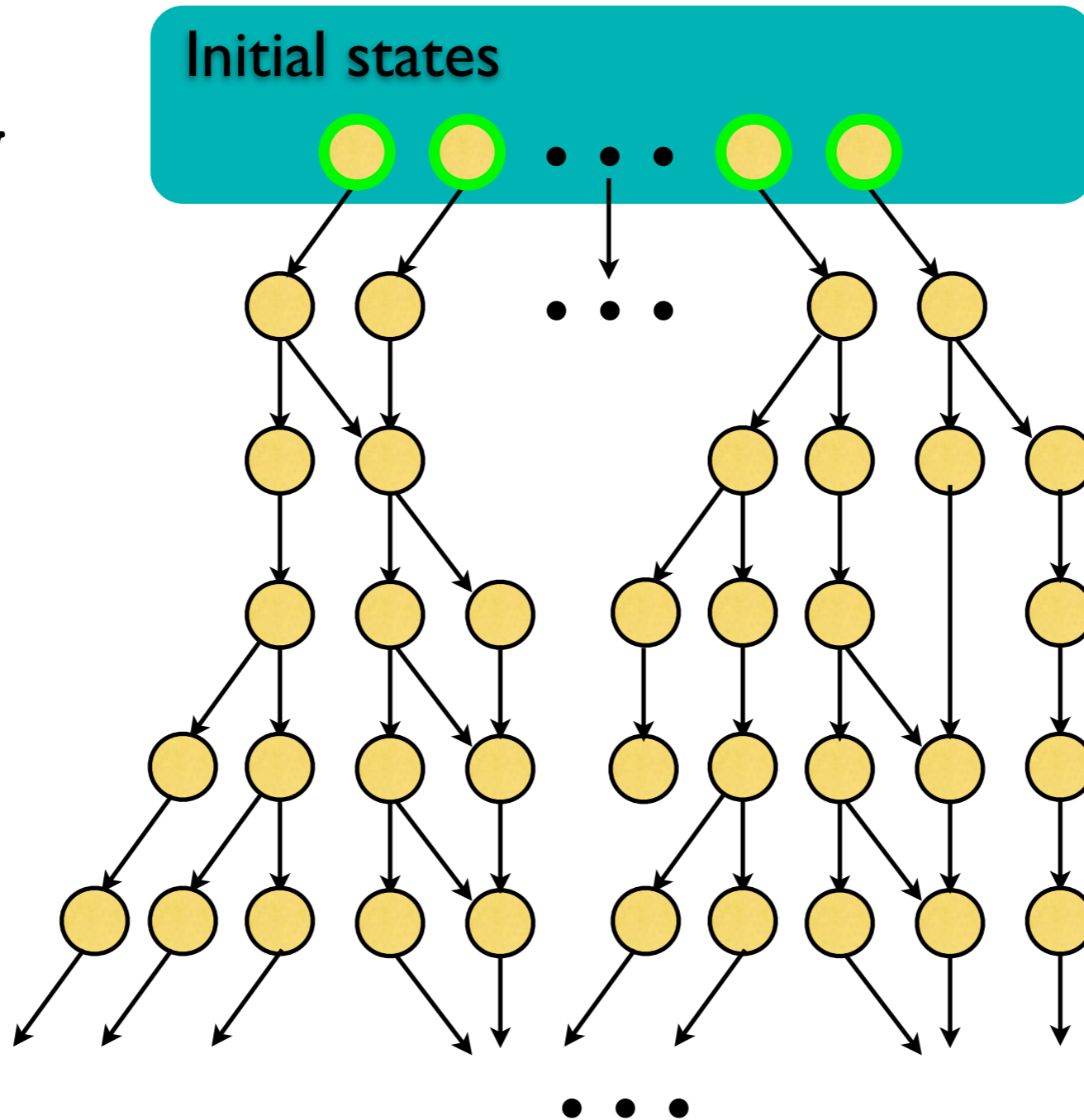
AG yellow





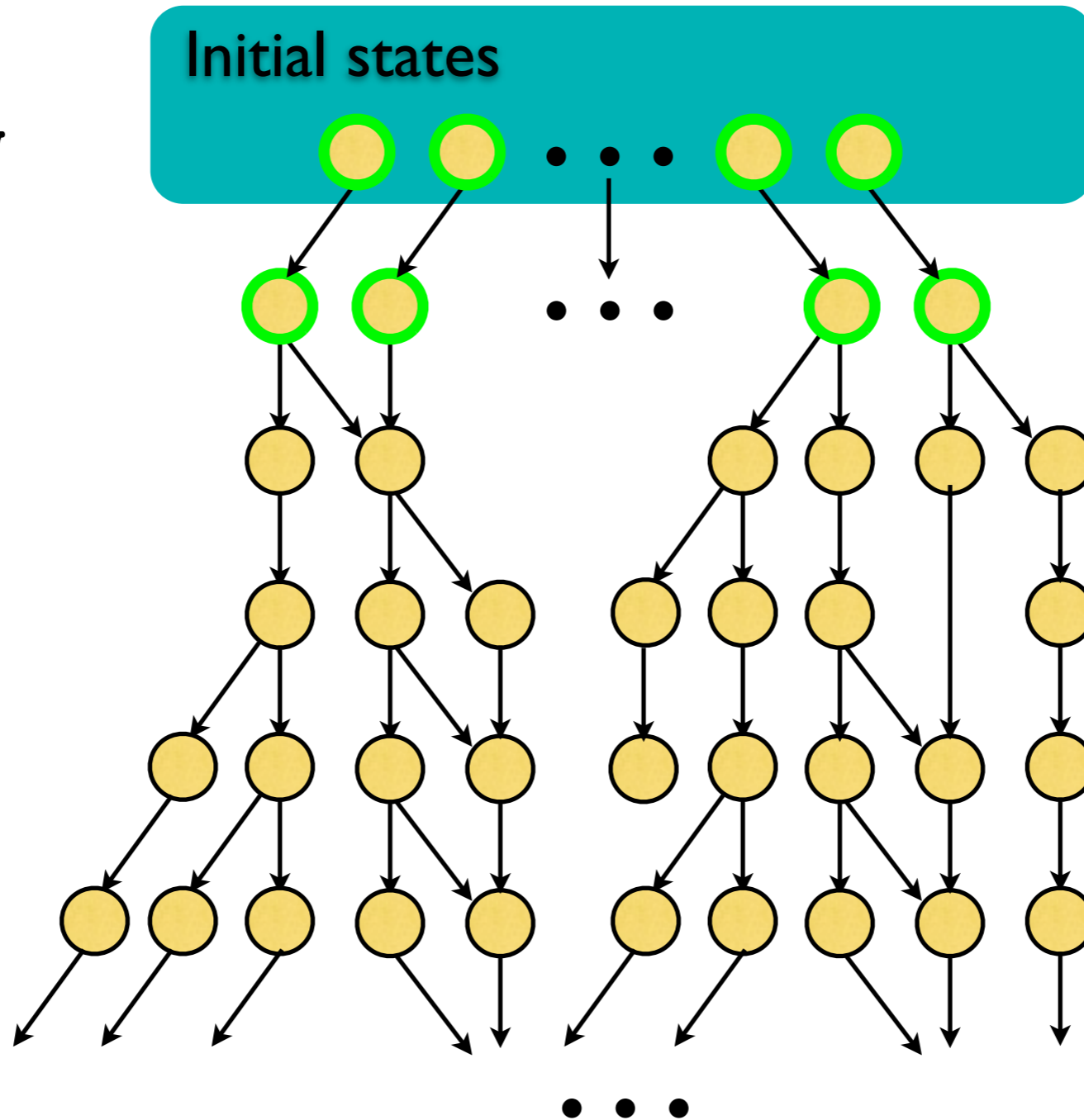
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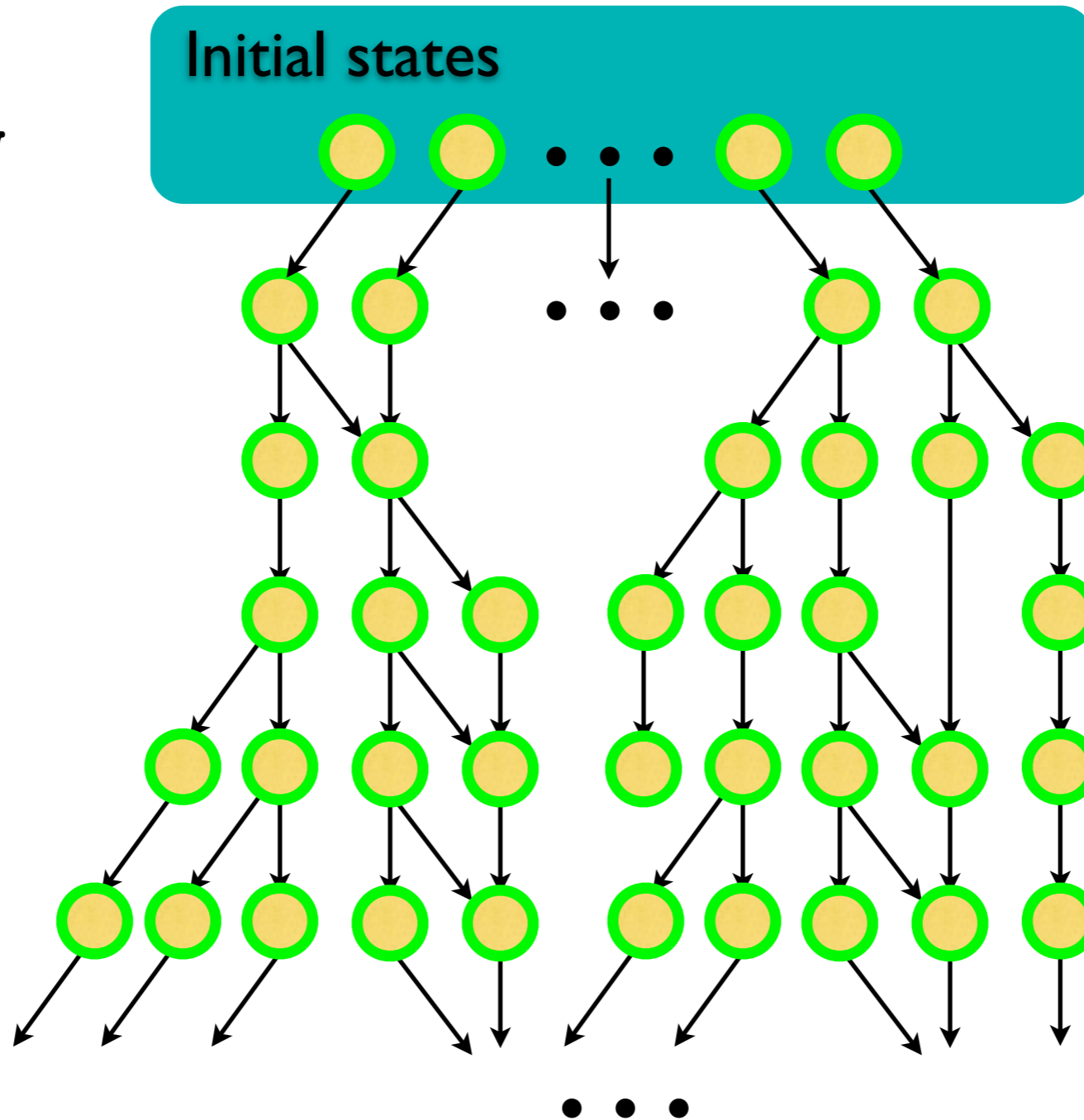
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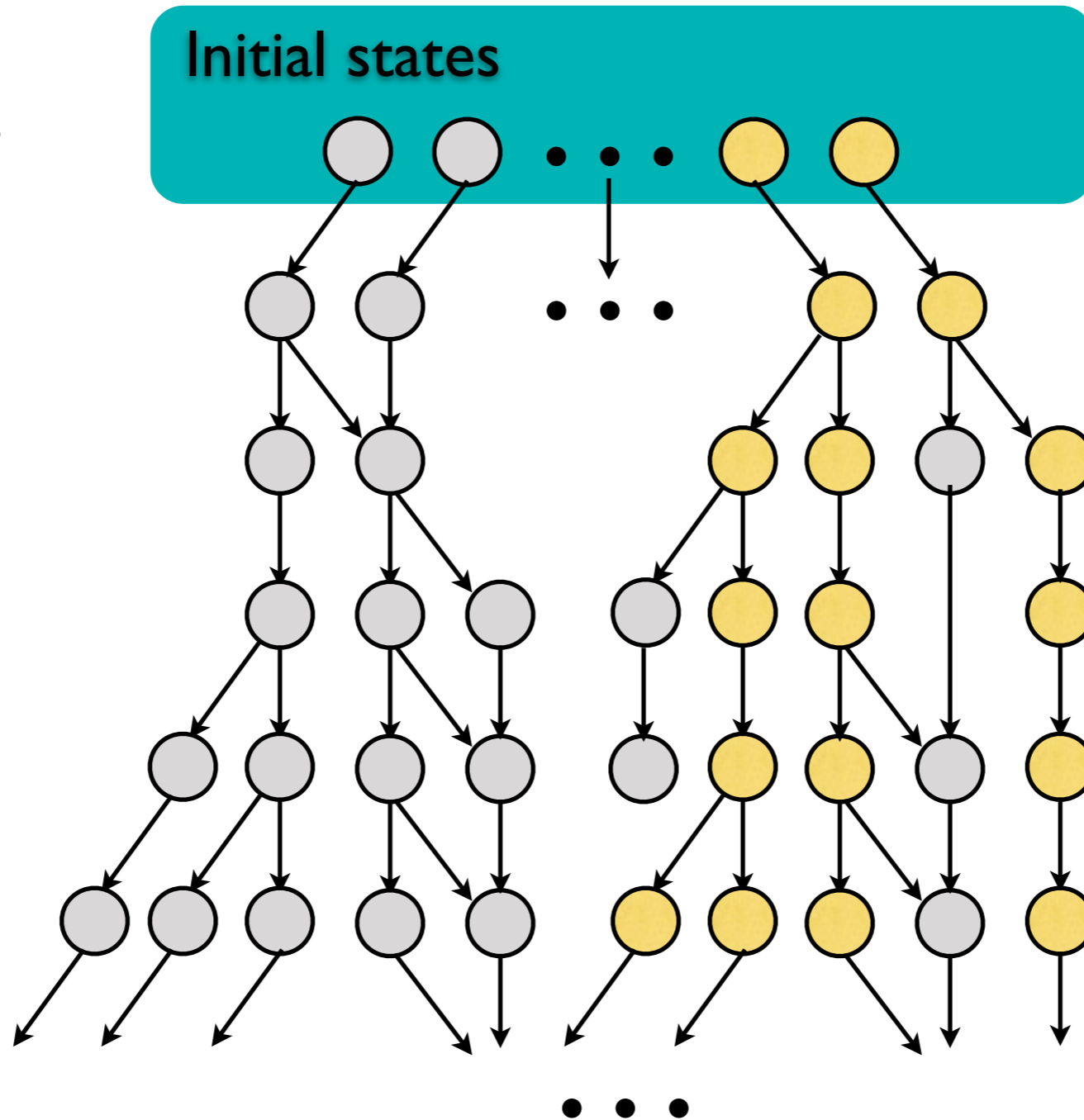
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AG yellow



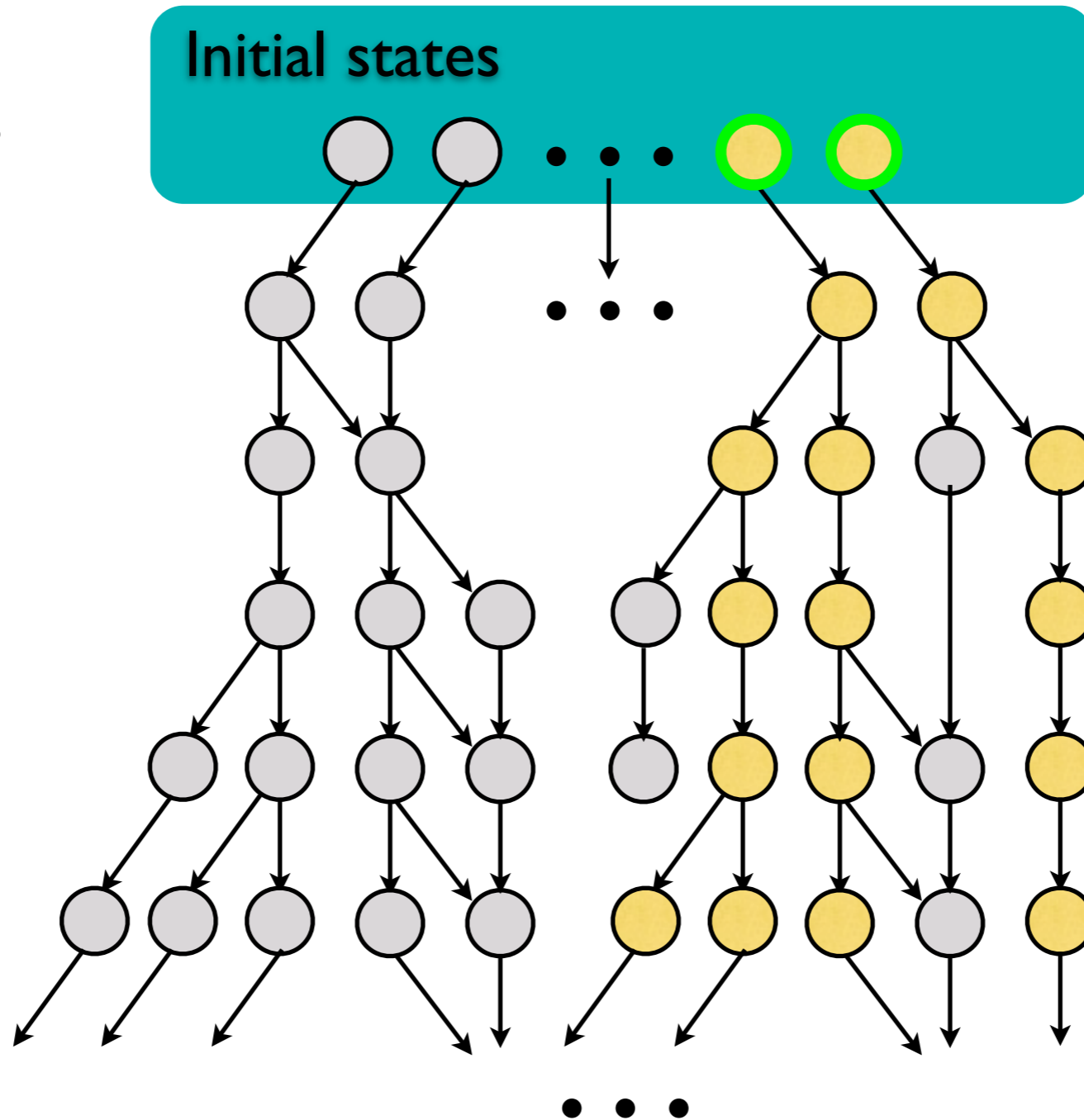
# AG and EG (reachability)

EG *yellow*



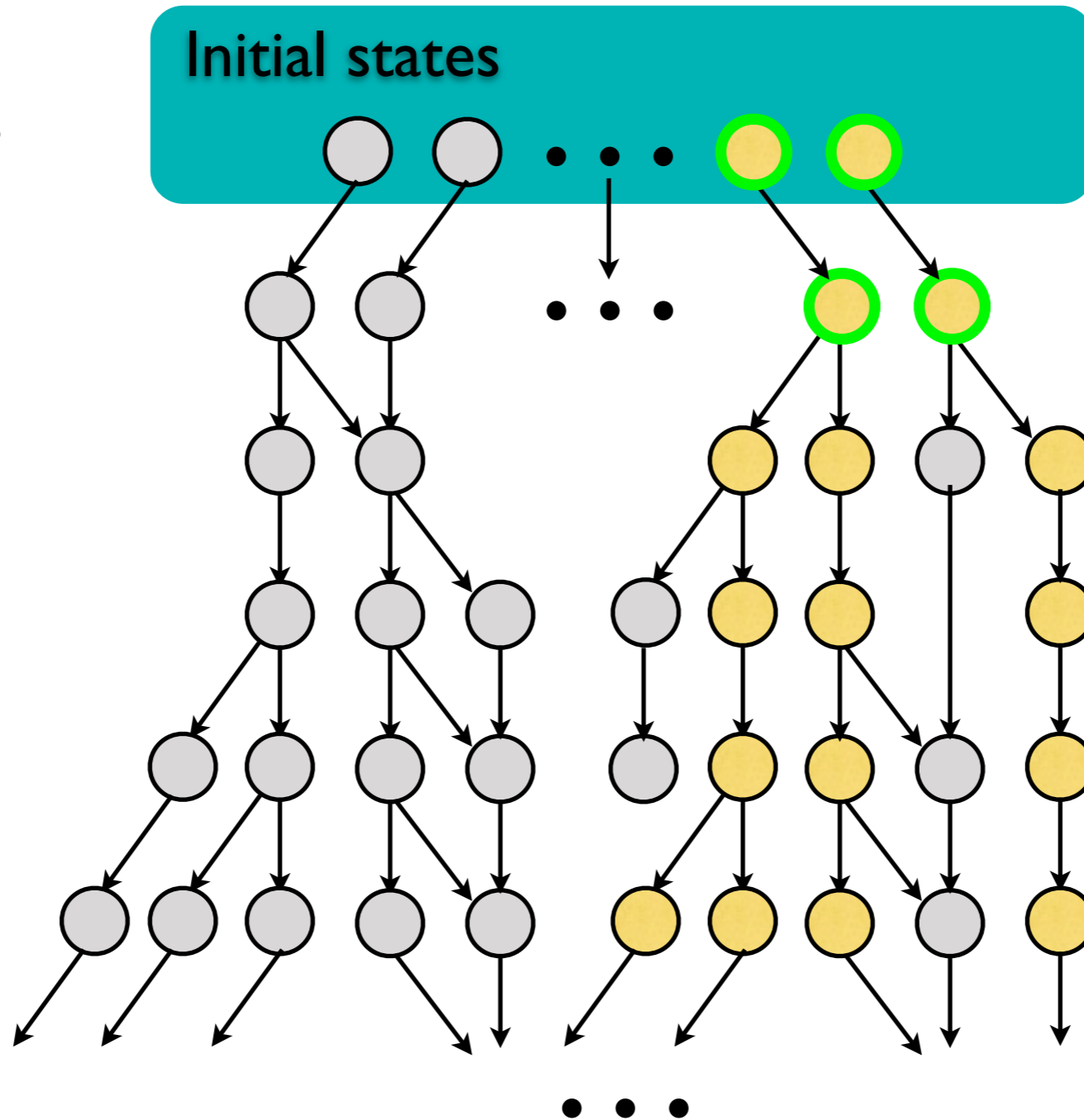
# AG and EG (reachability)

EG *yellow*



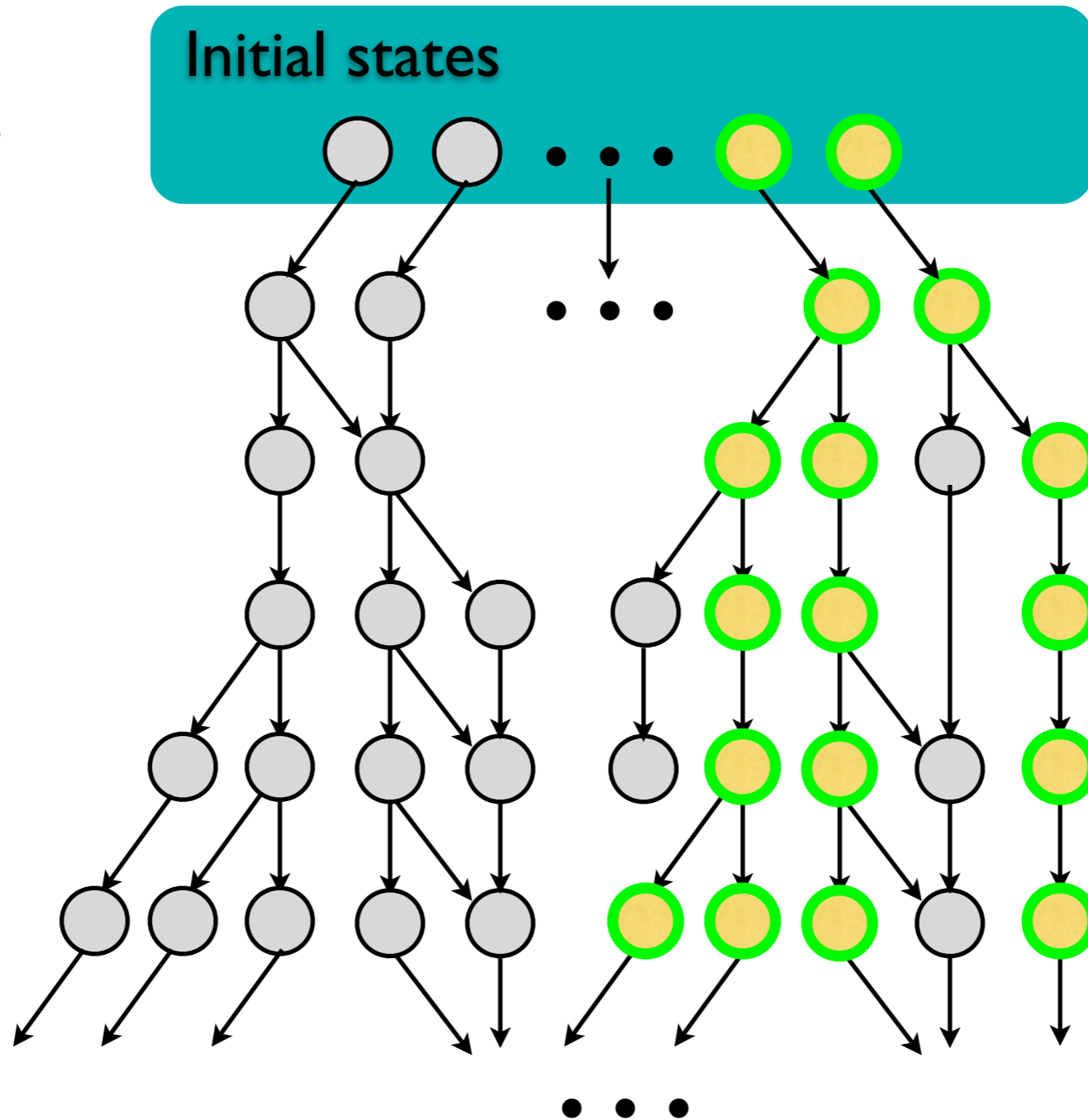
# AG and EG (reachability)

EG *yellow*



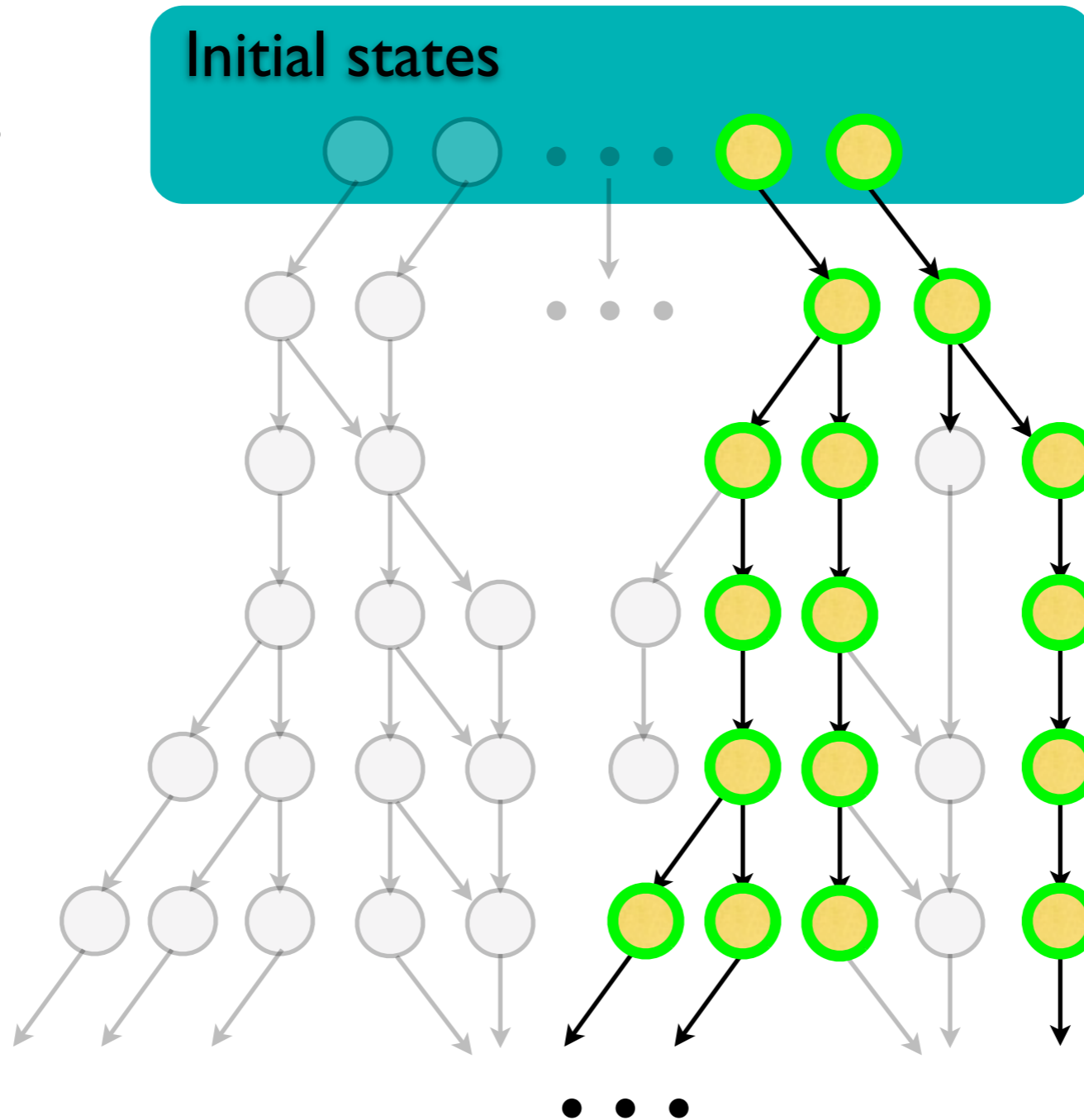
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EG *yellow*



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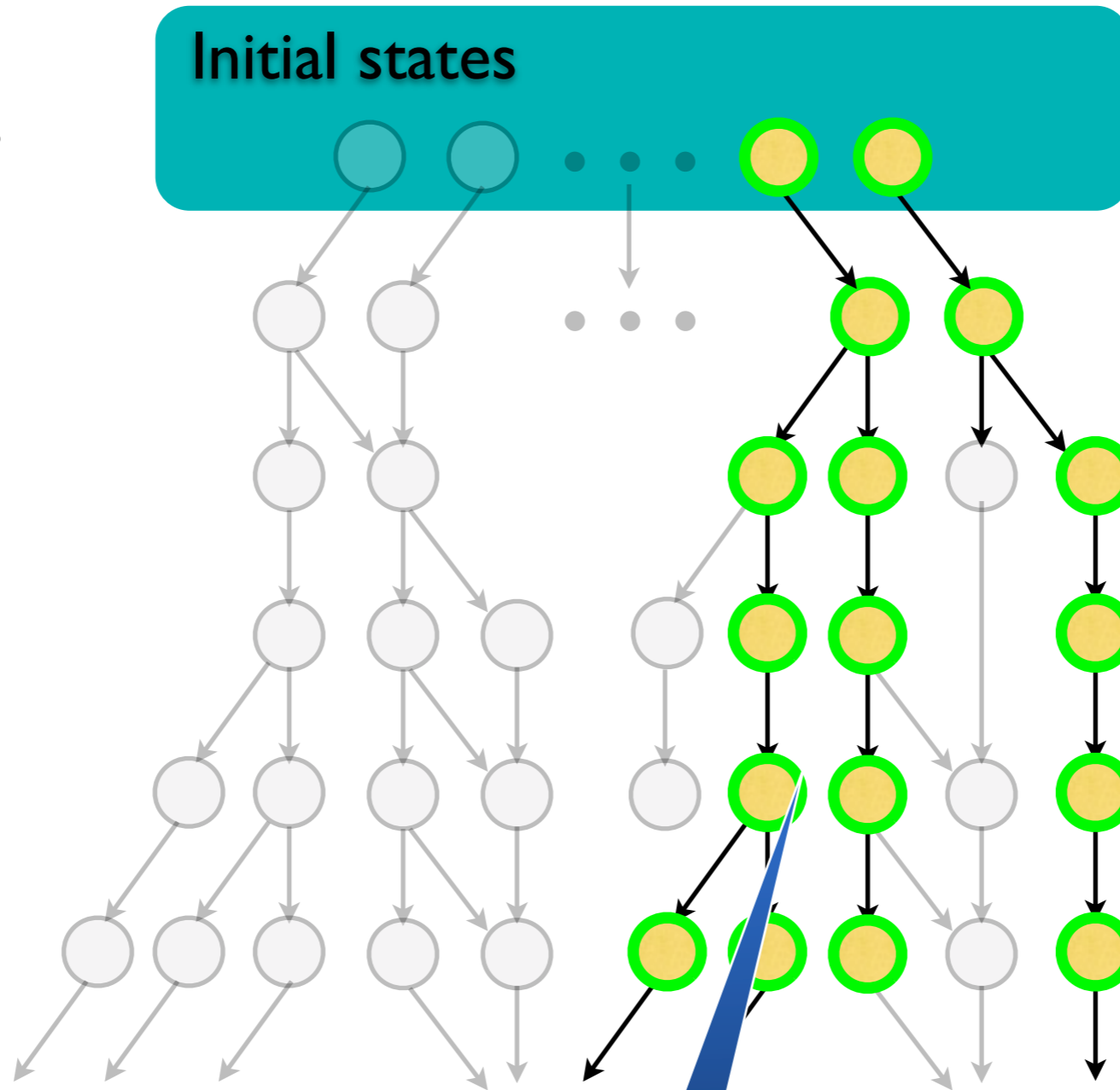
EG *yellow*





# AG and EG (reachability)

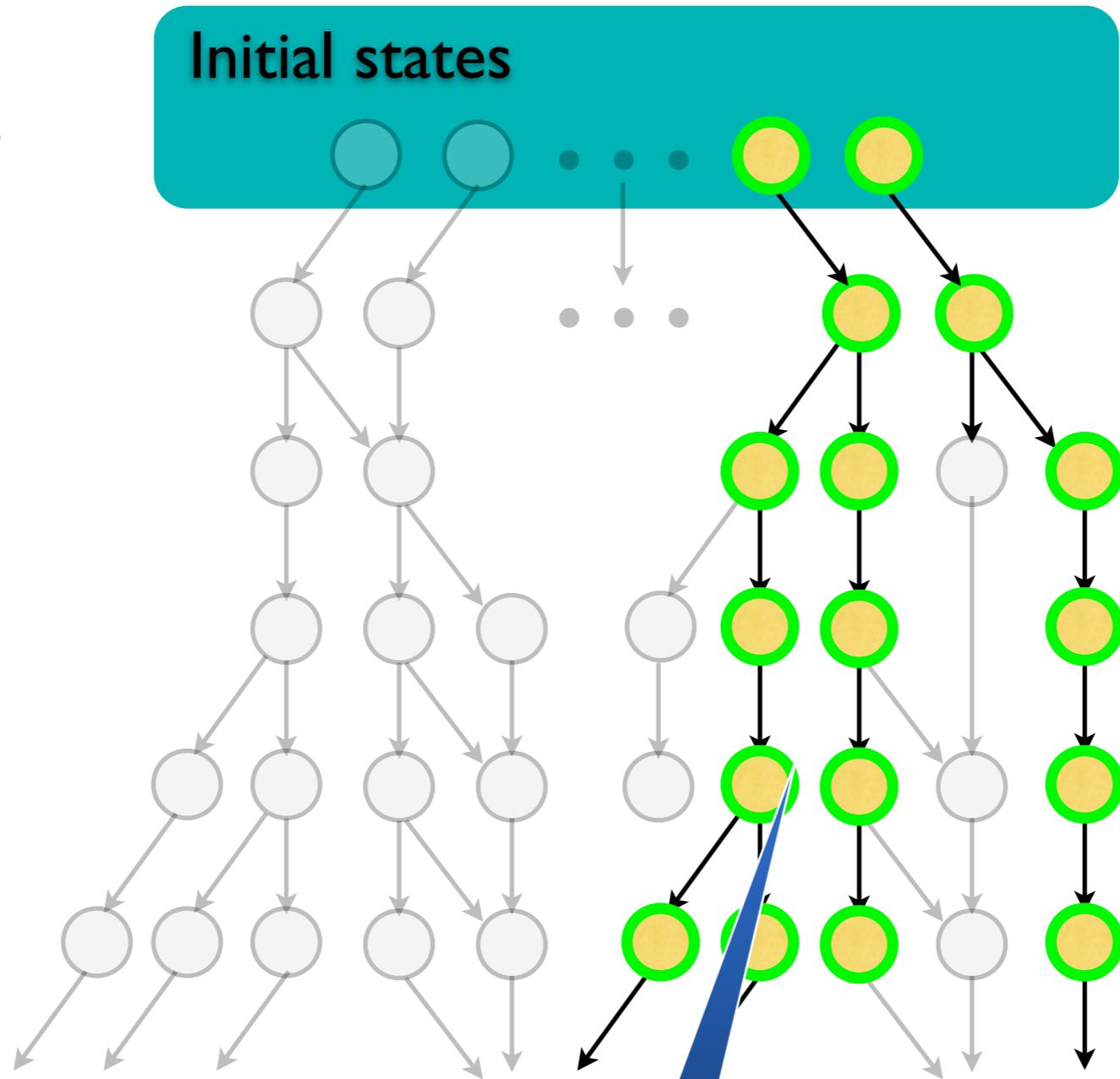
EG yellow



Looks like AG yellow

# AG and EG (reachability)

EG yellow

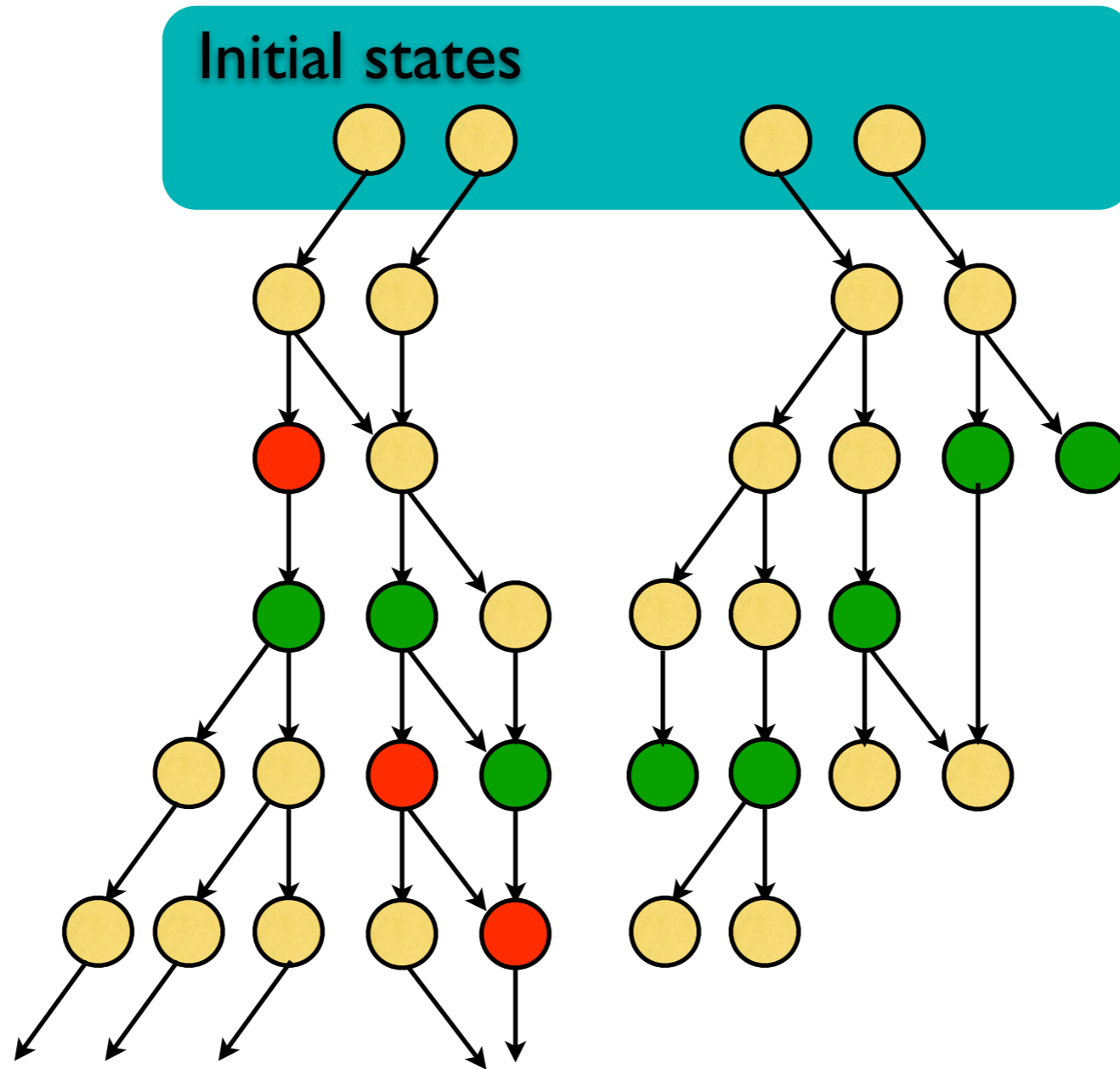


Looks like AG yellow

*Side Condition:*  
Recurrent set?

# AF and EF (termination)

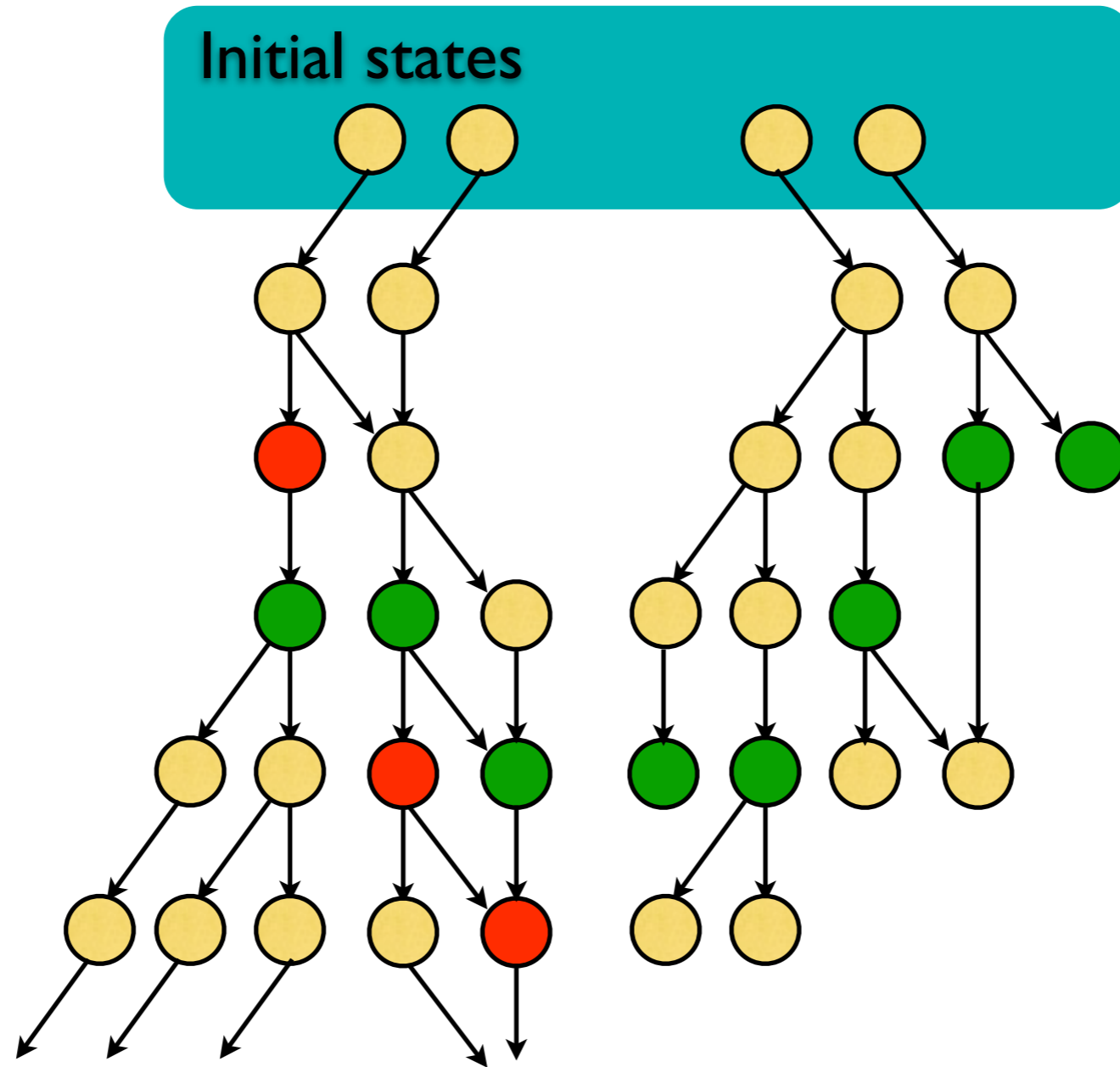
AF green





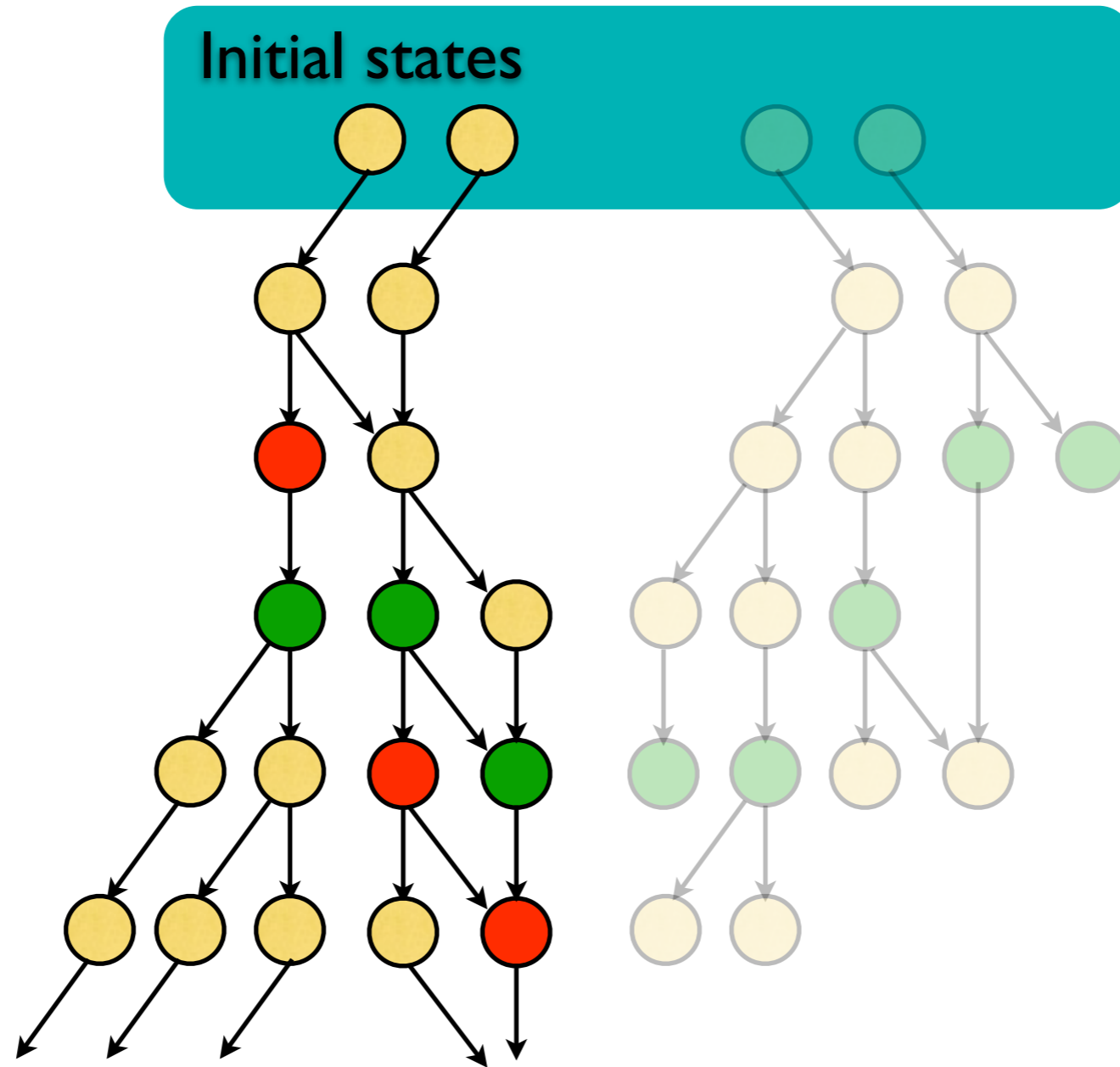
# AF and EF (termination)

EF red



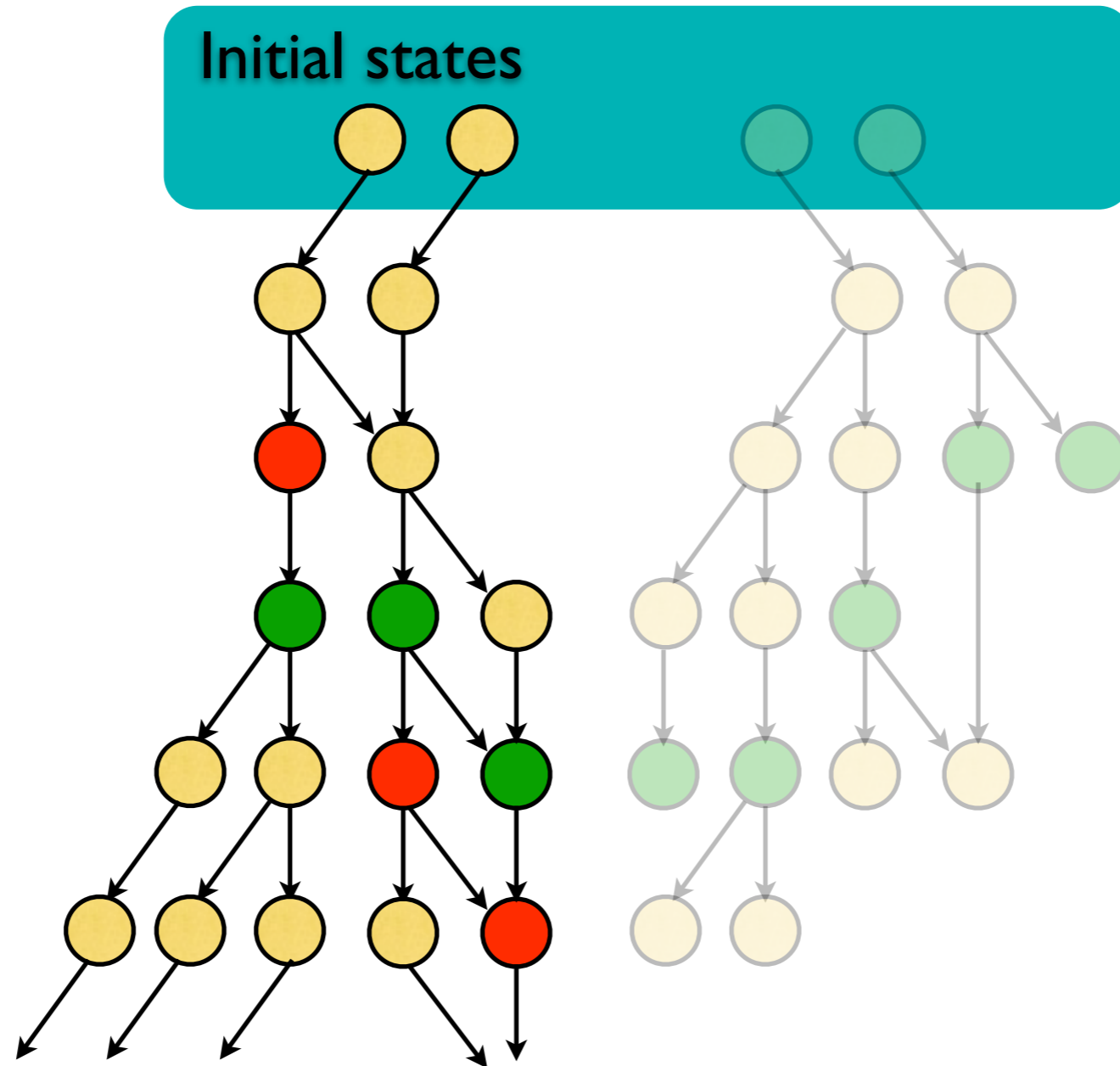
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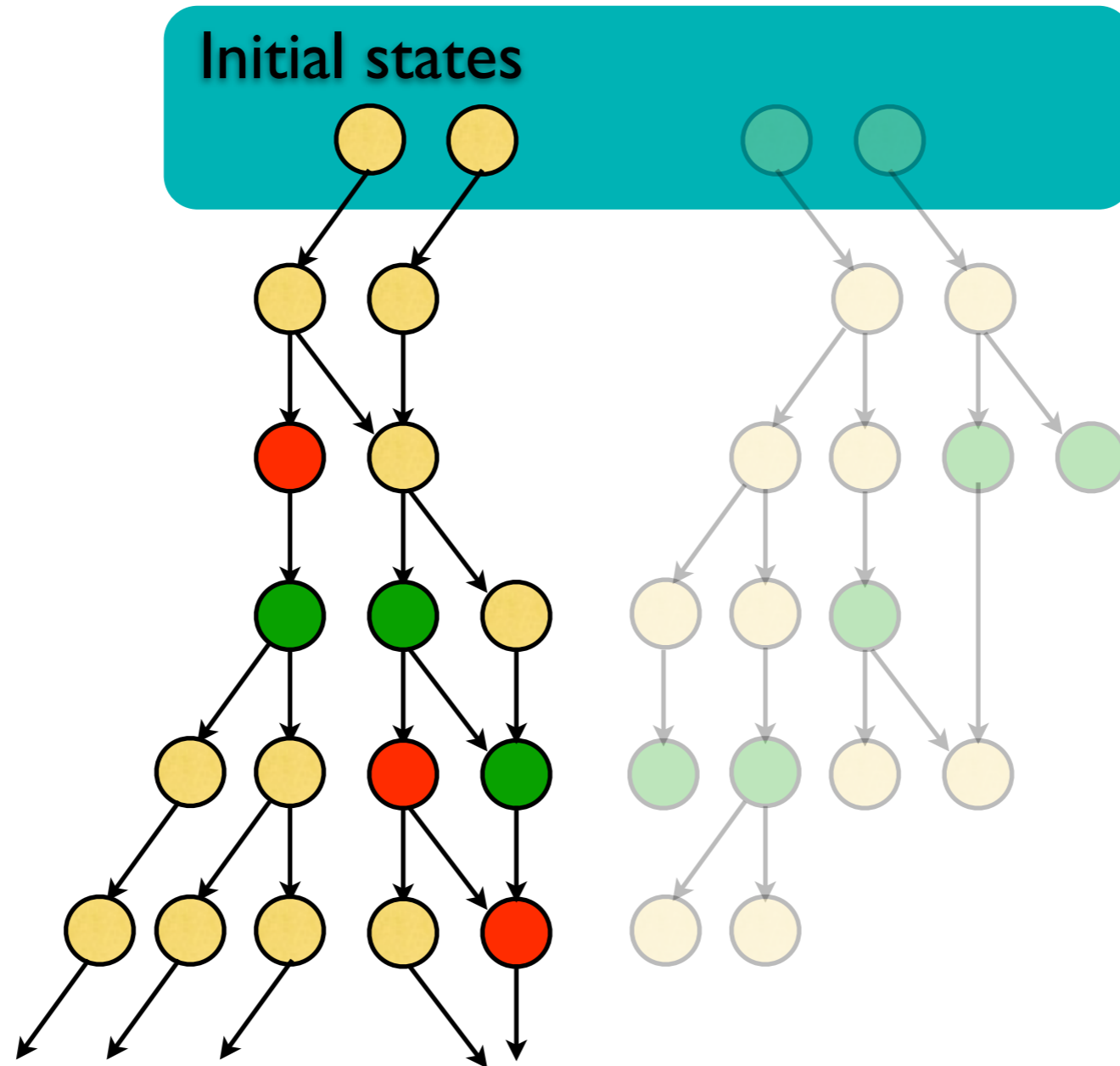
EF red



Looks like AF red

# AF and EF (termination)

EF red



Looks like AF red

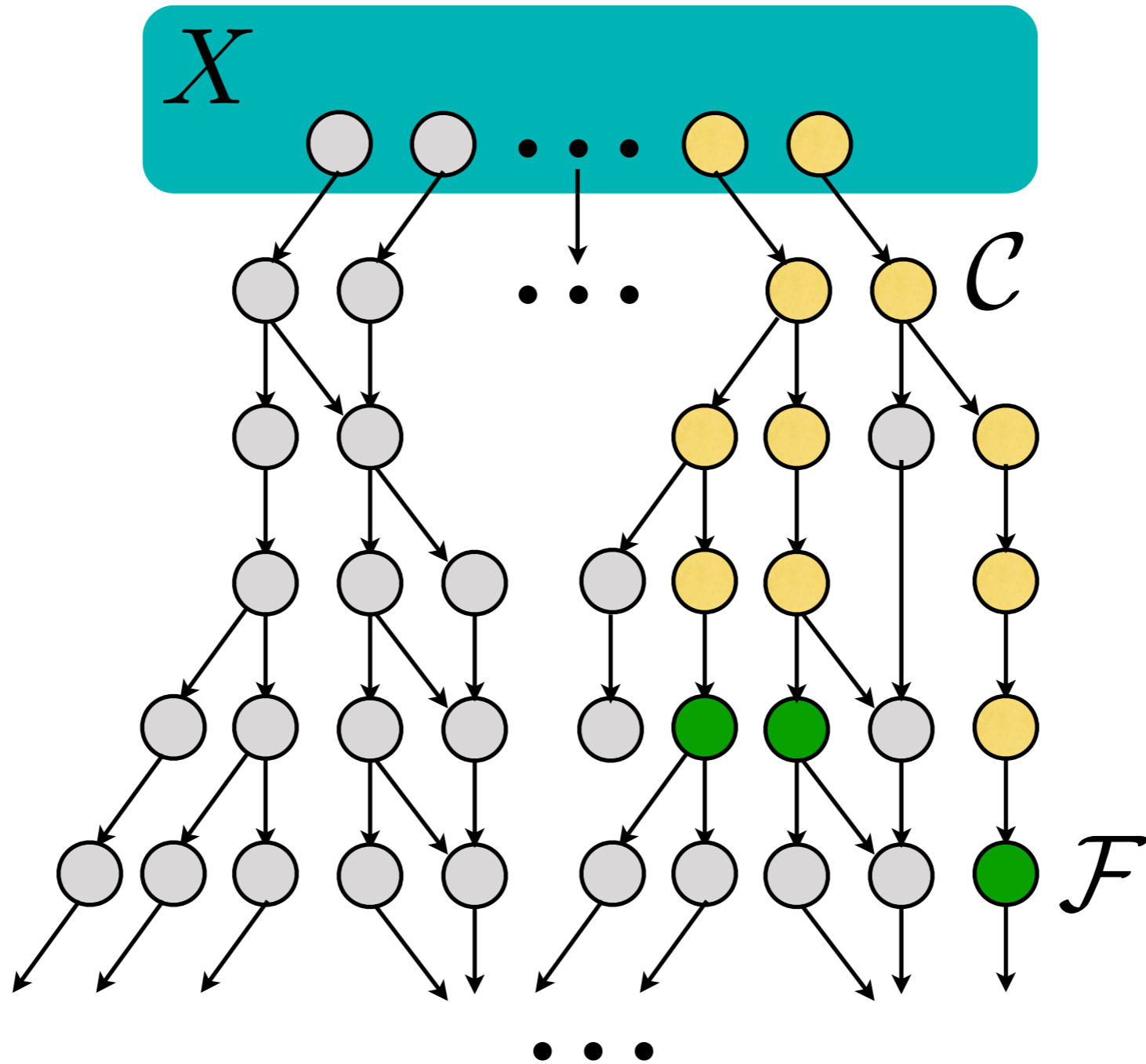
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Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly . . .

Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

EF green

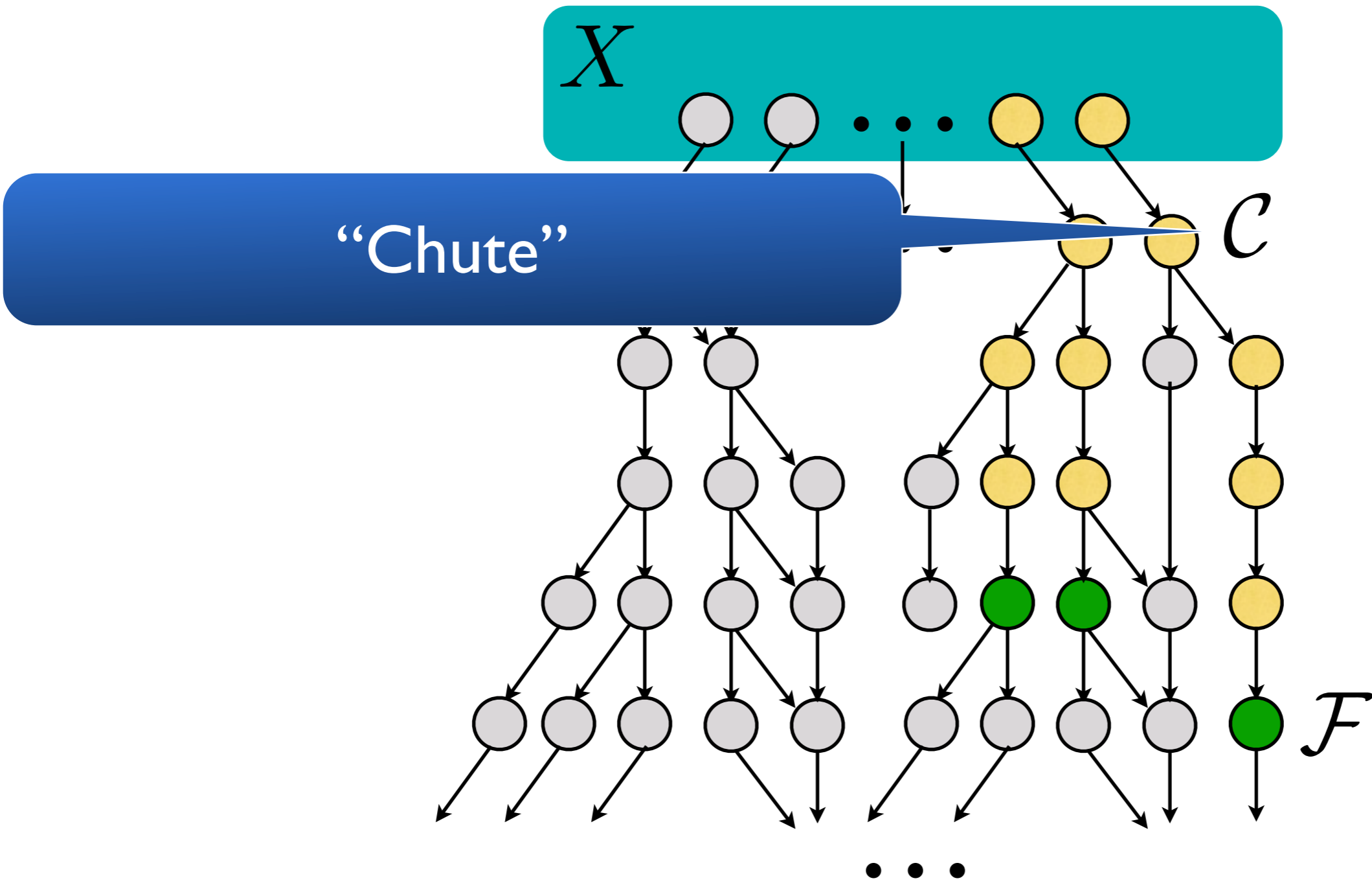


$$\mathcal{C} \equiv \{s \mid color(s) = \text{yellow}\}$$

$$\mathcal{F} \equiv \{s \mid color(s) = \text{green}\}$$

Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

EF green

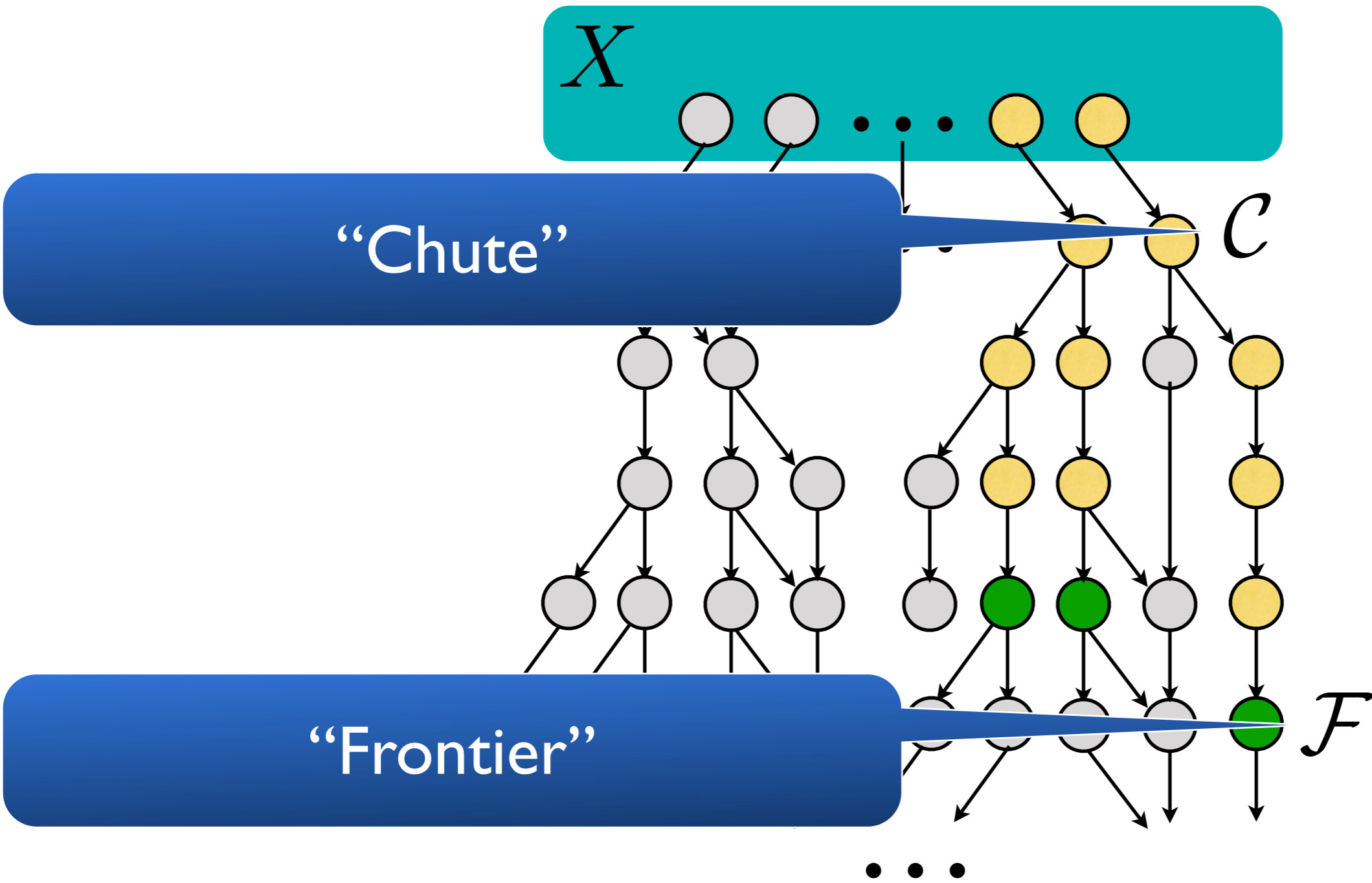


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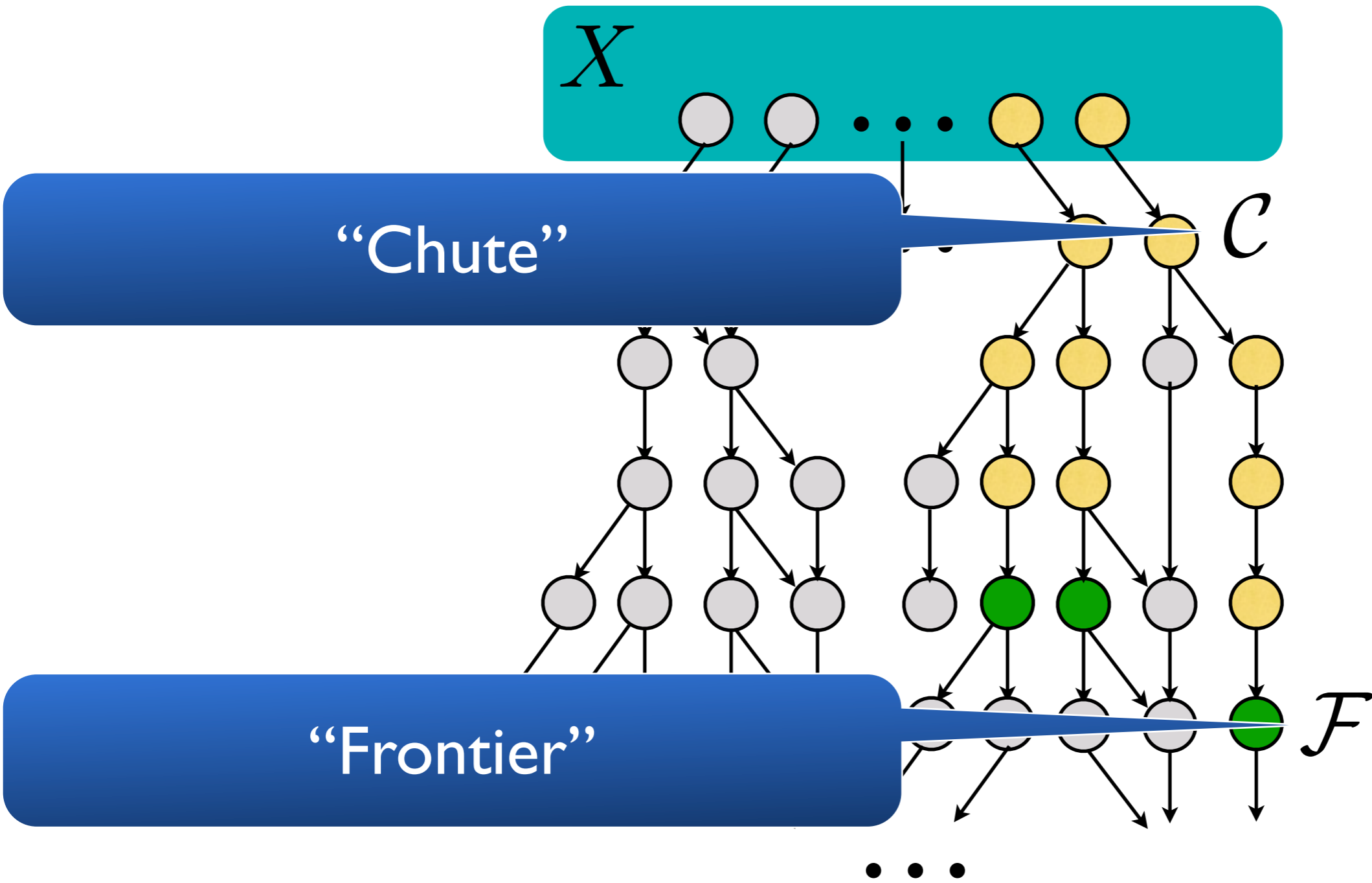


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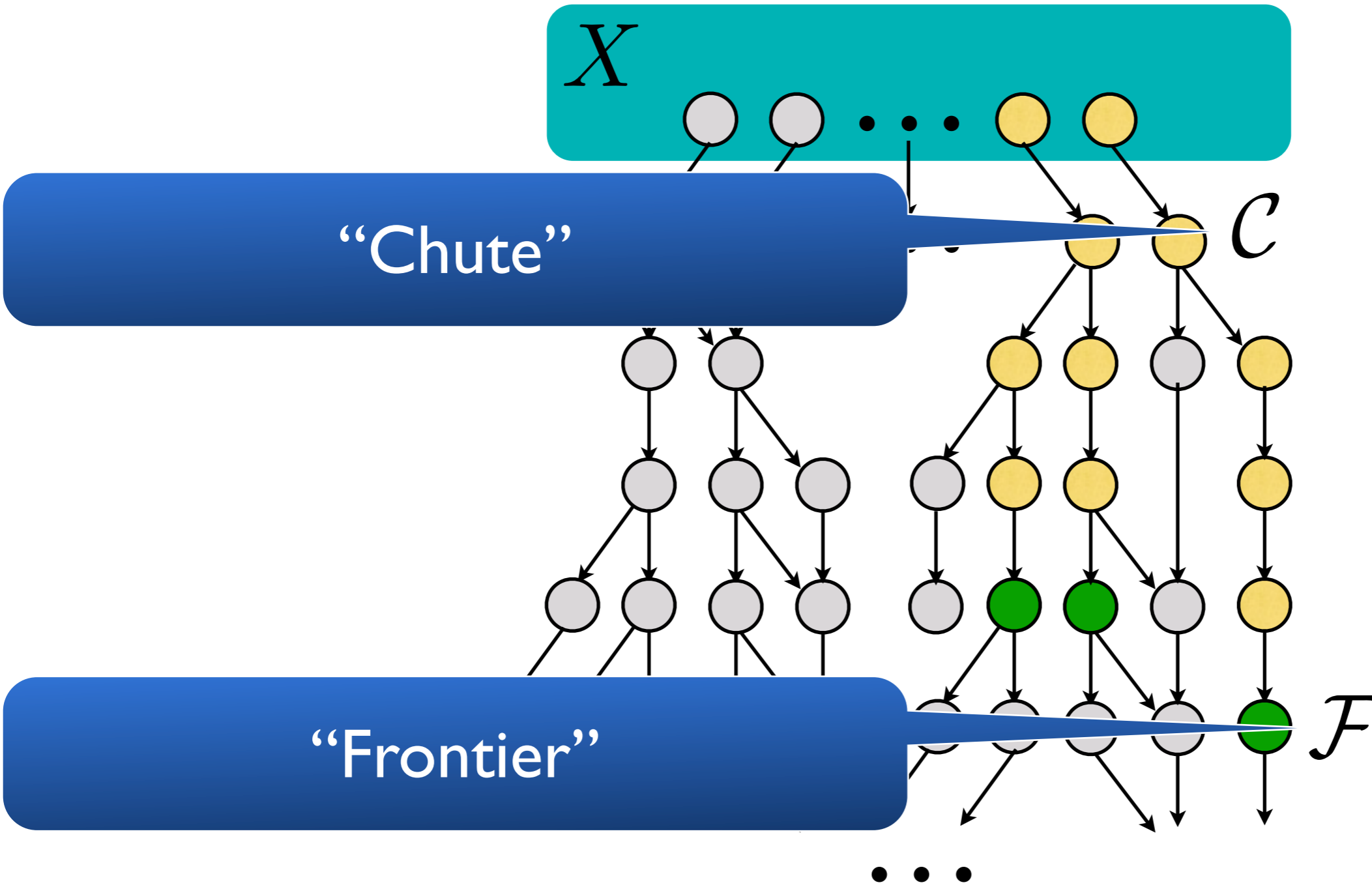
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For AFp, chute is simply  $S$

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EF green

**Characterization for CTL...**



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For AFp, chute is simply S

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$$X \vdash \Phi$$

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Set of states



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Property

Set of states

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$X \vdash \Phi$

Property

Set of states

## Standard CTL semantics

$R, s \models \alpha$	$\iff$	$s \in [[\alpha]]^S$
$R, s \models \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$	$\iff$	$R, s \models \Phi_1$ and $R, s \models \Phi_2$
$R, s \models \Phi_1 \vee \Phi_2$	$\iff$	$R, s \models \Phi_1$ or $R, s \models \Phi_2$
$R, s \models AF\Phi$	$\iff$	$\forall (s_0, s_1, \dots) \in \Pi(S, R, \{s\}). \exists i \geq 0. R, s_i \models \Phi$
$R, s \models EF\Phi$	$\iff$	$\exists (s_0, s_1, \dots) \in \Pi(S, R, \{s\}). \exists i \geq 0. R, s_i \models \Phi$
$R, s \models A[\Phi_1 W \Phi_2]$	$\iff$	$\forall (s_0, s_1, \dots) \in \Pi(S, R, \{s\}). (\forall i \geq 0. R, s_i \models \Phi_1) \vee (\exists j \geq 0. R, s_j \models \Phi_2)$
$R, s \models E[\Phi_1 W \Phi_2]$	$\iff$	$\exists (s_0, s_1, \dots) \in \Pi(S, R, \{s\}). (\forall i \geq 0. R, s_i \models \Phi_1) \vee (\exists j \geq 0. R, s_j \models \Phi_2)$

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Property

Set of states

$$I \vdash \Phi \iff \forall s \in I. s \models \Phi$$

### Standard CTL semantics

$R, s \models \alpha$	$\iff$	$s \in [\alpha]^S$
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$$\frac{X \subseteq \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket^S}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

$$\frac{X \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2}$$

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$$\frac{X = X_1 \cup X_2 \quad X_1 \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X_2 \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \vee \Phi_2}$$

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$$\frac{X = X}{X \vdash X}$$

Decompose temporal operators:

$\gamma ::= F\Phi \mid [\Phi W \Phi]$

$\Phi ::= \alpha \mid \Phi \vee \Phi \mid \Phi \wedge \Phi \mid A\gamma \mid E\gamma$

*Similar to CTL\**



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$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$

Second kind of judgement

Decompose temporal operators:

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$$\frac{X = X}{X \vdash \Phi}$$

$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

$$\frac{X, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \mathbf{A}\gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \mathbf{E}\gamma}$$

Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly.

$$X \vdash \Phi$$

$$\frac{X \subseteq [\alpha]^S}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

$X$

Side Condition:  
Recurrent set?

$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

$$\frac{X, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \mathbf{A}\gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \mathbf{E}\gamma}$$

# Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

$$X \vdash \Phi$$

$$\frac{X \subseteq [[\alpha]]^S}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

$$\frac{X \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2}$$

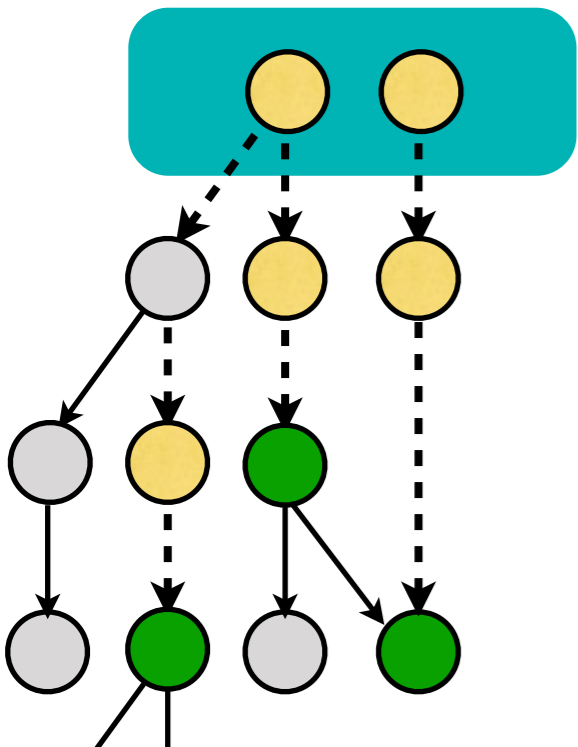
$$\frac{X = X}{X \vdash \Phi}$$

$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

$$\frac{X, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \forall \gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \exists \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \forall \Phi}$$



$$\frac{s \in X \quad (s, t) \in R \quad s \notin \mathcal{F} \quad s, t \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t)}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t) \quad (t, u) \in R \quad t \notin \mathcal{F} \quad u \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(t, u)}$$

**Walk**

Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

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$$\frac{X \subseteq [\alpha]^S}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

$$\frac{X \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2}$$

$$\frac{X = X}{X \vdash \Phi}$$

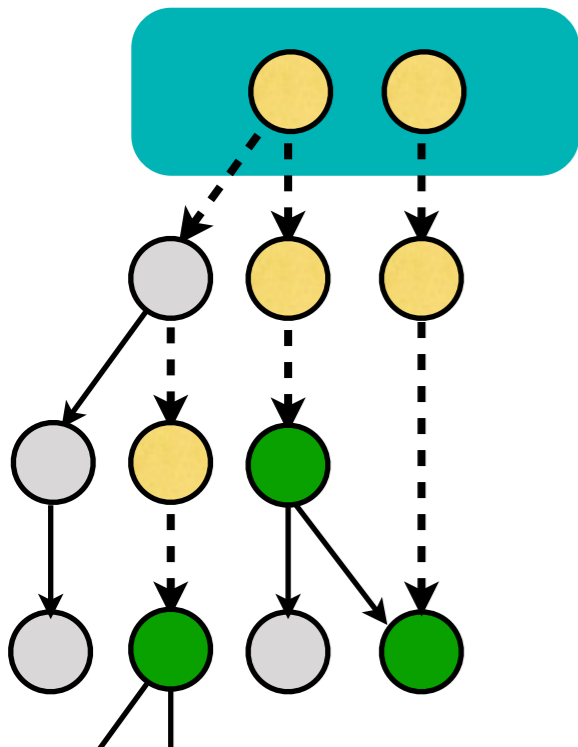
$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

Termination

$$\frac{X, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash A\gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash E\gamma}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash F\Phi}$$



$$\frac{s \in X \quad (s, t) \in R \quad s \notin \mathcal{F} \quad s, t \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t)}$$

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**Walk**

# Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

$$X \vdash \Phi$$

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$$\frac{X \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2}$$

$$\frac{X = X}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

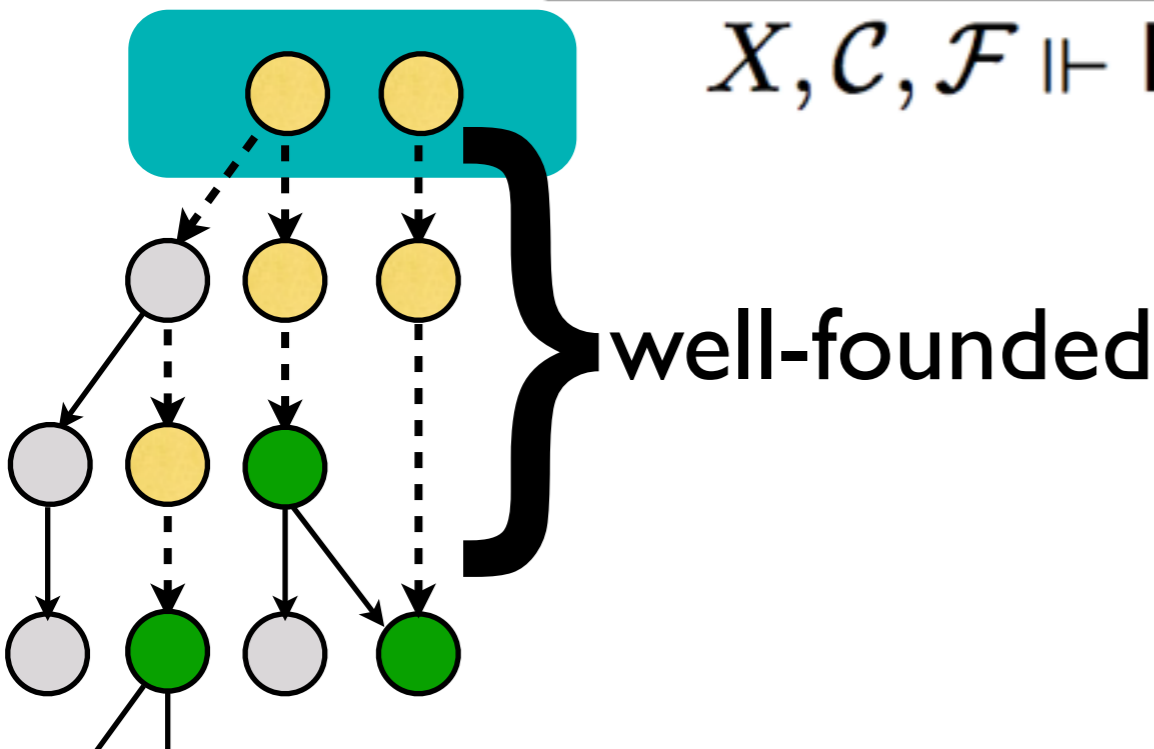
$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

Termination

$$\frac{X, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash A\gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash E\gamma}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash F\Phi}$$



$$\frac{s \in X \quad (s, t) \in R \quad s \notin \mathcal{F} \quad s, t \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t)}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t) \quad (t, u) \in R \quad t \notin \mathcal{F} \quad u \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(t, u)}$$

Walk



# Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

$$X \vdash \Phi$$

$$\frac{X \subseteq [\alpha]^S}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

$$\frac{X \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2}$$

$$\frac{X = X}{X \vdash \Phi}$$

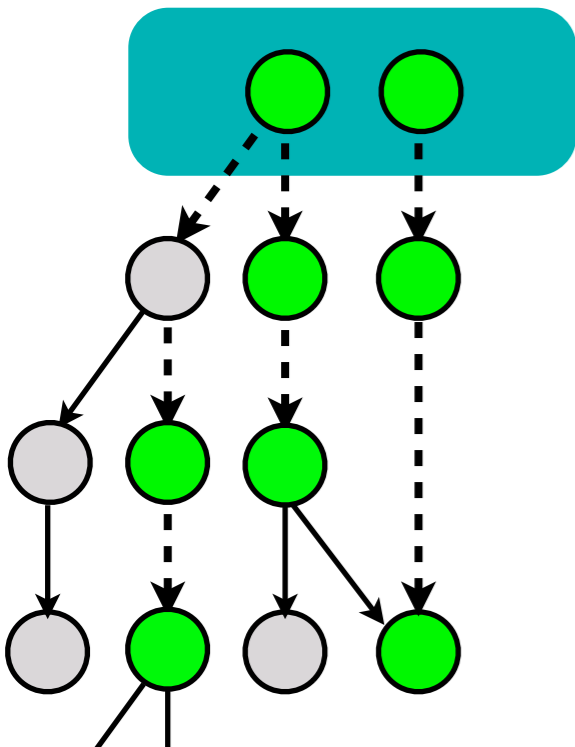
$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

$$\frac{X, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \forall \gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \exists \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \exists \Phi}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}|_1 \vdash \Phi_1 \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi_2}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash [\Phi_1 \text{ W } \Phi_2]}$$



$$\frac{s \in X \quad (s, t) \in R \quad s \notin \mathcal{F} \quad s, t \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t)}$$
  

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t) \quad (t, u) \in R \quad t \notin \mathcal{F} \quad u \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(t, u)}$$

**Walk**

# Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

$$X \vdash \Phi$$

$$\frac{X \subseteq [\alpha]^S}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

$$\frac{X \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2}$$

$$\frac{X = X}{X \vdash \Phi}$$

$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

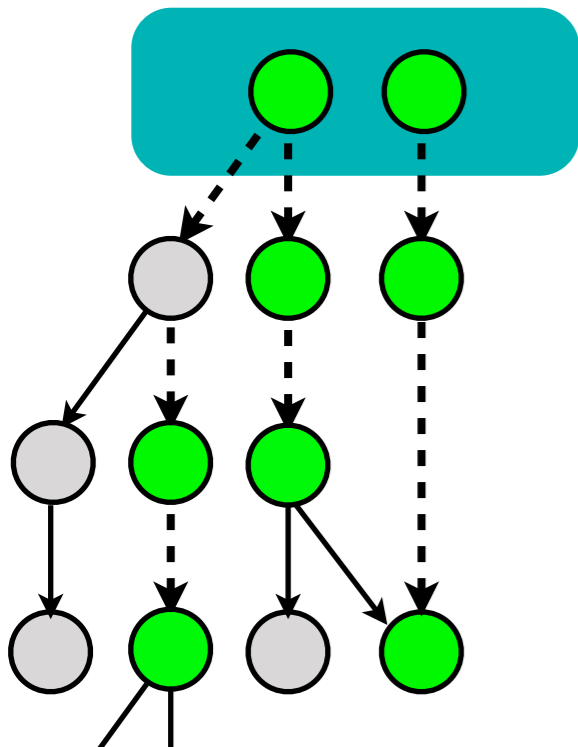
Safety

$$\frac{X, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \mathbf{A}\gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcf} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash \mathbf{E}\gamma}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \mathbf{F}\Phi}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} |_1 \vdash \Phi_1 \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi_2}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash [\Phi_1 \mathbf{W} \Phi_2]}$$



$$\frac{s \in X \quad (s, t) \in R \quad s \notin \mathcal{F} \quad s, t \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t)}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(s, t) \quad (t, u) \in R \quad t \notin \mathcal{F} \quad u \in \mathcal{C}}{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}(t, u)}$$

**Walk**



Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

$X \vdash \Phi$

$$\frac{X \subseteq [[\alpha]]^S}{X \vdash \alpha}$$

$$\frac{X \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2}$$

$$\frac{X = X_1 \cup X_2 \quad X_1 \vdash \Phi_1 \quad X_2 \vdash \Phi_2}{X \vdash \Phi_1 \vee \Phi_2}$$

$$\frac{X, S, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash A\gamma}$$

$$\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma}{X \vdash E\gamma}$$

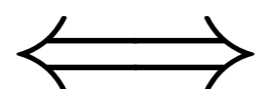
$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash F\Phi}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}}|_1 \vdash \Phi_1 \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \Phi_2}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash [\Phi_1 W \Phi_2]}$$

## Soundness and Completeness

Proof System

$I \vdash \Phi$



CTL semantics

$\forall s \in I. s \models \Phi$

# Treat **universal** and **existential** fragments similarly ...

$$X \vdash \Phi$$

$$X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \gamma$$

- *Sets-of-states* rather than singleton states
- Works well for infinite state spaces
- *Partition* rather than *enumerate* states
- Symbolic representations/overapproximations
- *We believe it will work well in practice...*

Side Condition:  
Recurrent set?

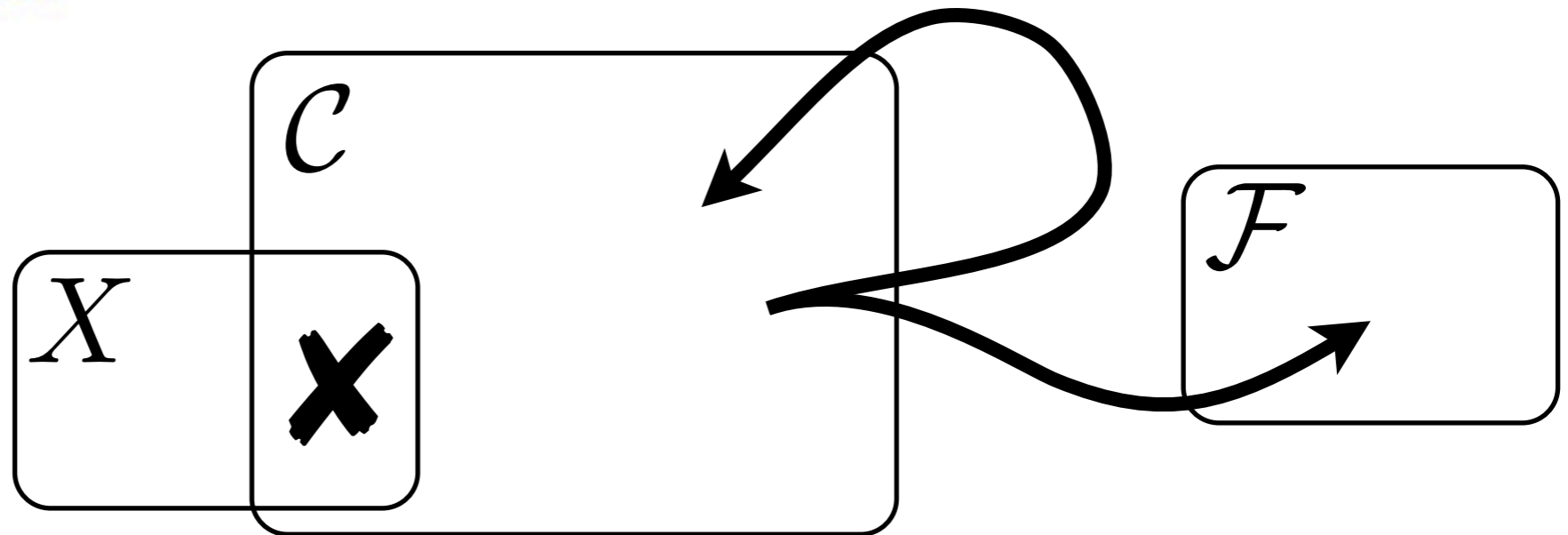
**Recurrence set.** For sets of states  $X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}$  and transition relation  $R$ , we say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a *recurrence set* with respect to  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  (denoted  $(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$  is rcr) provided either  $X \cap \mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  or both:

1.  $X \cap \mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$
2. For every  $x \in \mathcal{C}$ , there exists  $x'$  such that  $(x, x') \in R$  and  $x' \in \mathcal{F} \vee x' \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Side Condition:  
Recurrent set?

**Recurrence set.** For sets of states  $X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}$  and transition relation  $R$ , we say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a *recurrence set* with respect to  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  (denoted  $(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$  is rcr) provided either  $X \cap \mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  or both:

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Side Condition:  
Recurrent set?

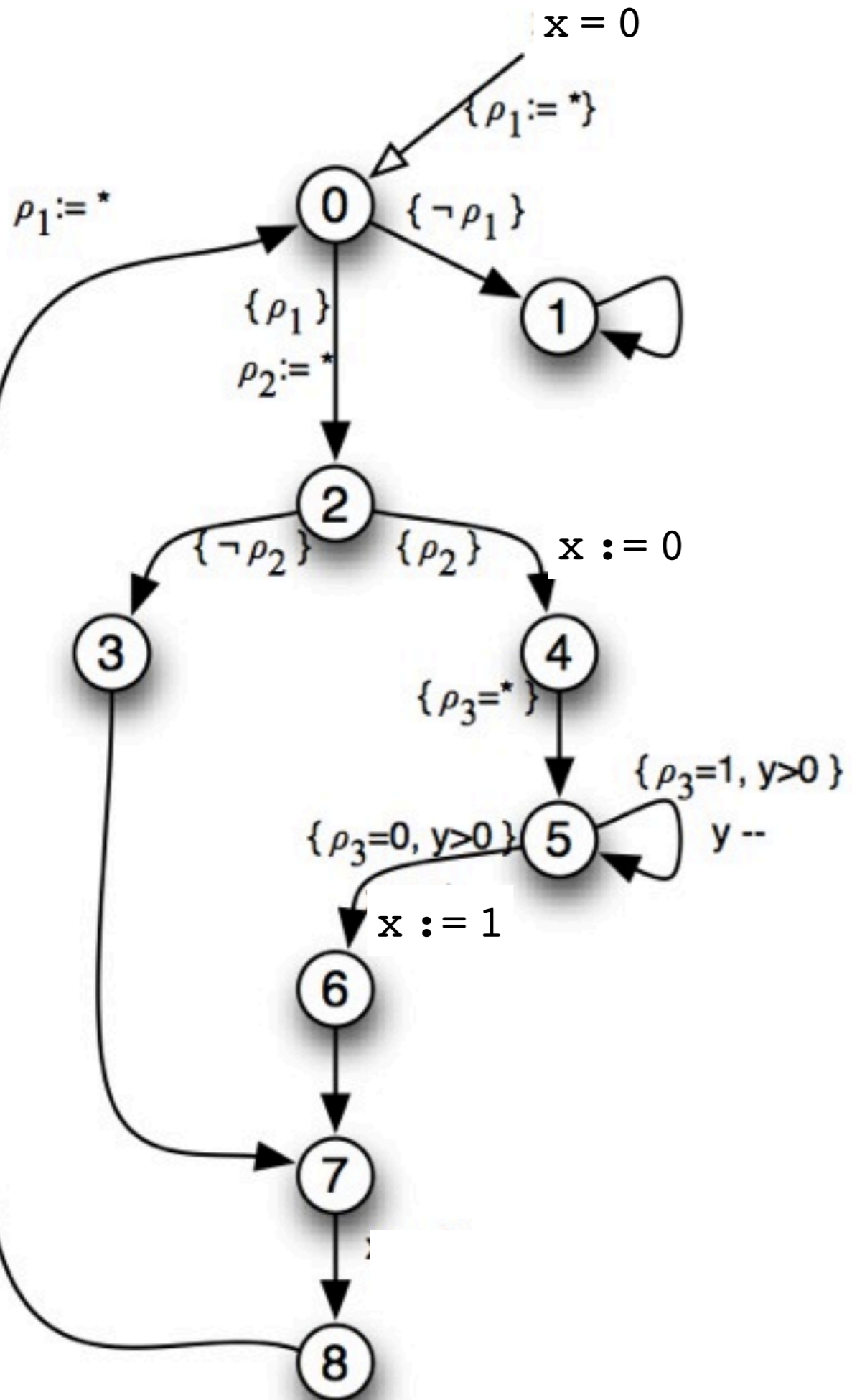
**Recurrence set.** For sets of states  $X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}$  and transition relation  $R$ , we say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a *recurrence set* with respect to  $X$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  (denoted  $(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F})$  is rcr) provided either  $X \cap \mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  or both:

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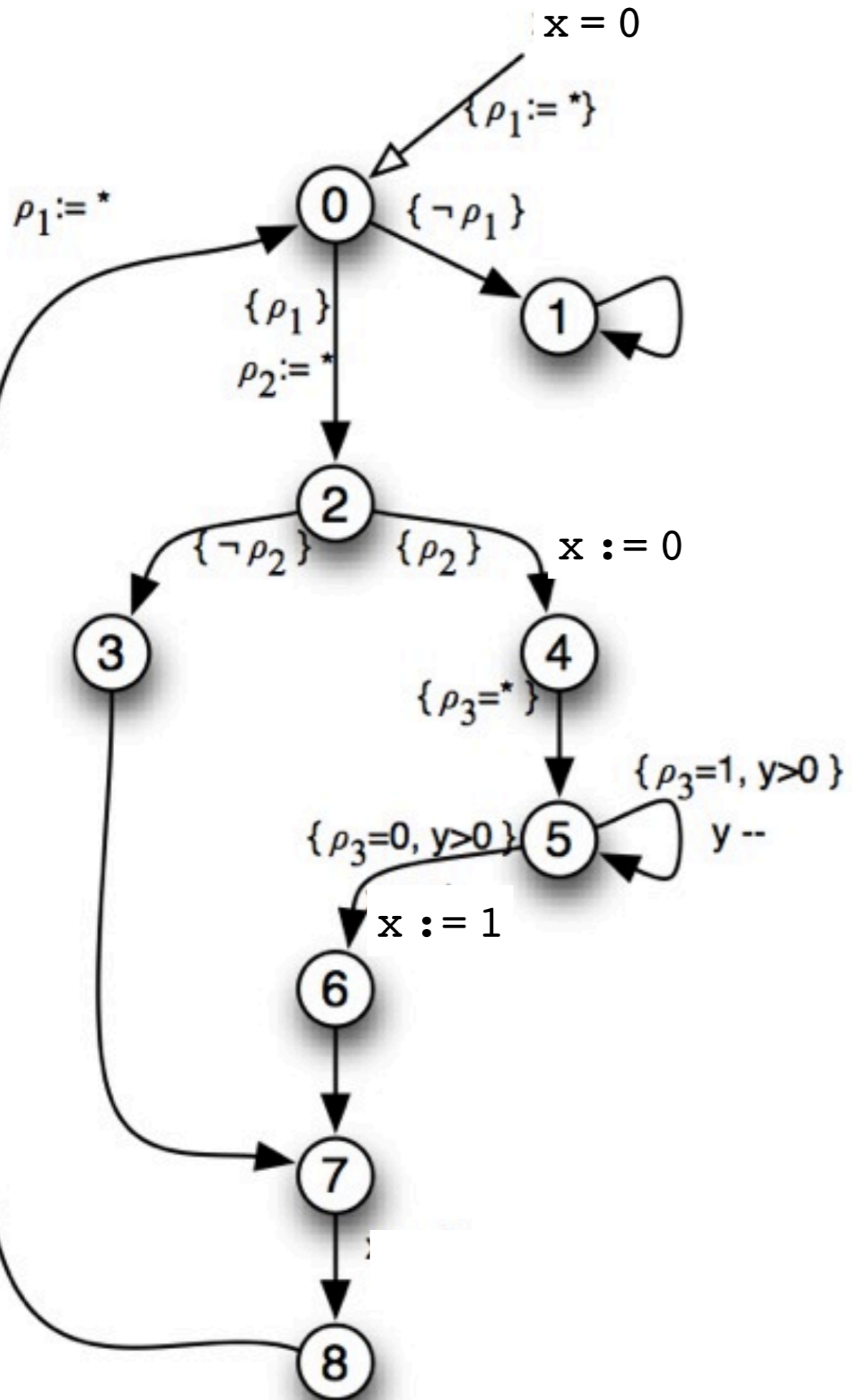
*In practice,*

$X$

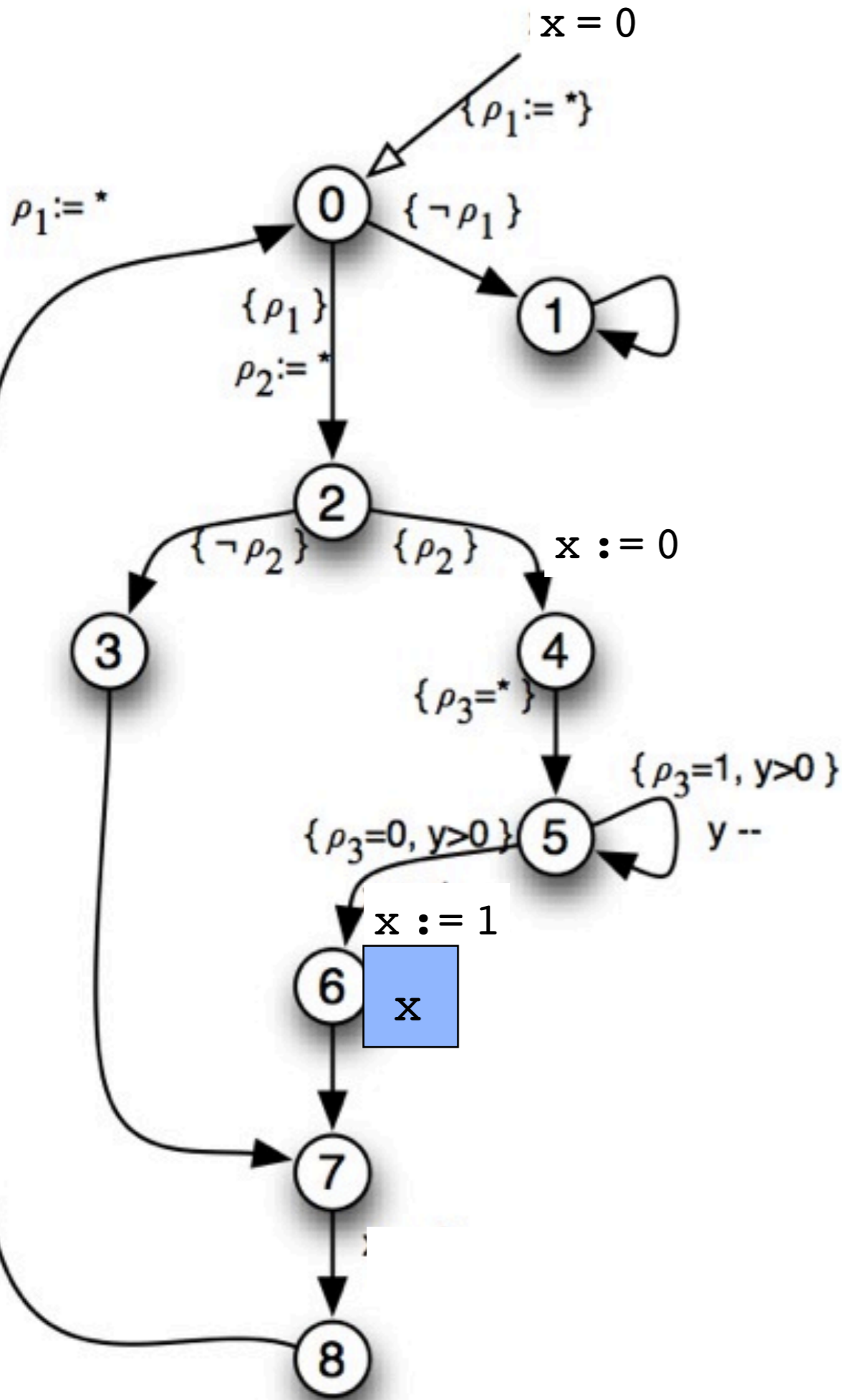
1. Guess an invariant  $I$  for chute  $\mathcal{C}$  (using, e.g., Octagon)
2. Check that  $I$  is recurrent set (using an SMT solver)



**EF (AF (EG x))**

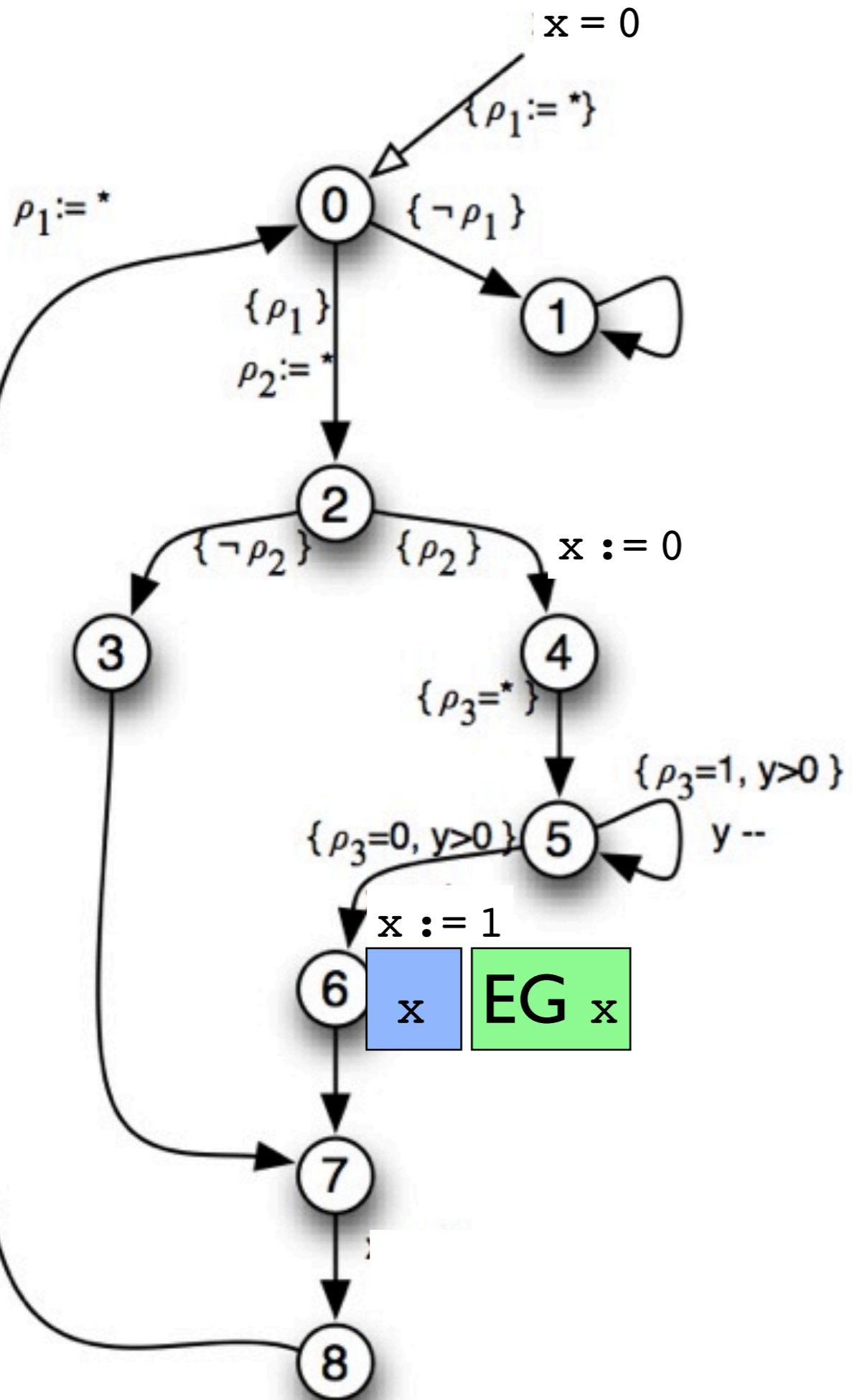


**EF (AF (EG x))**

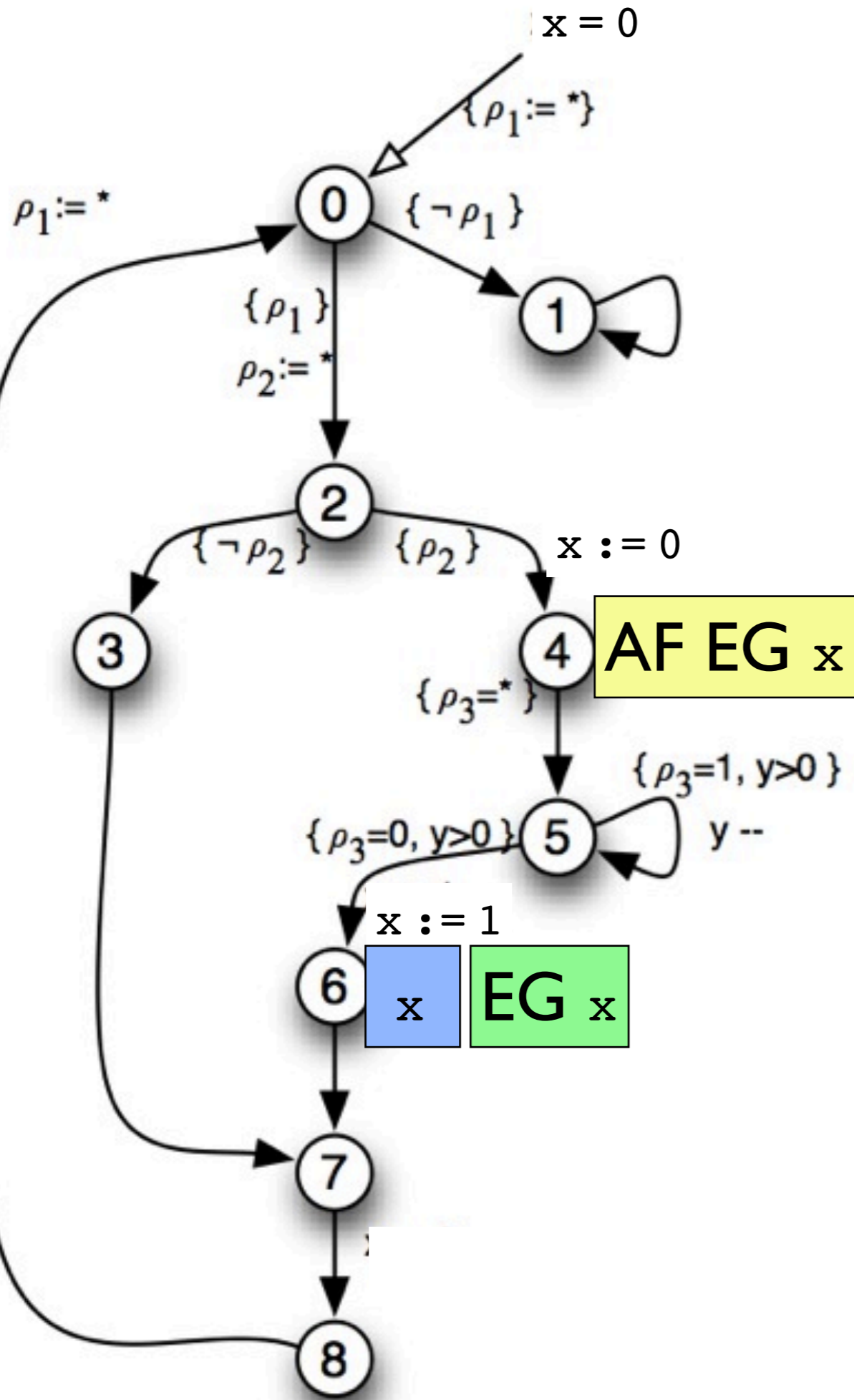


**EF (AF (EG x))**

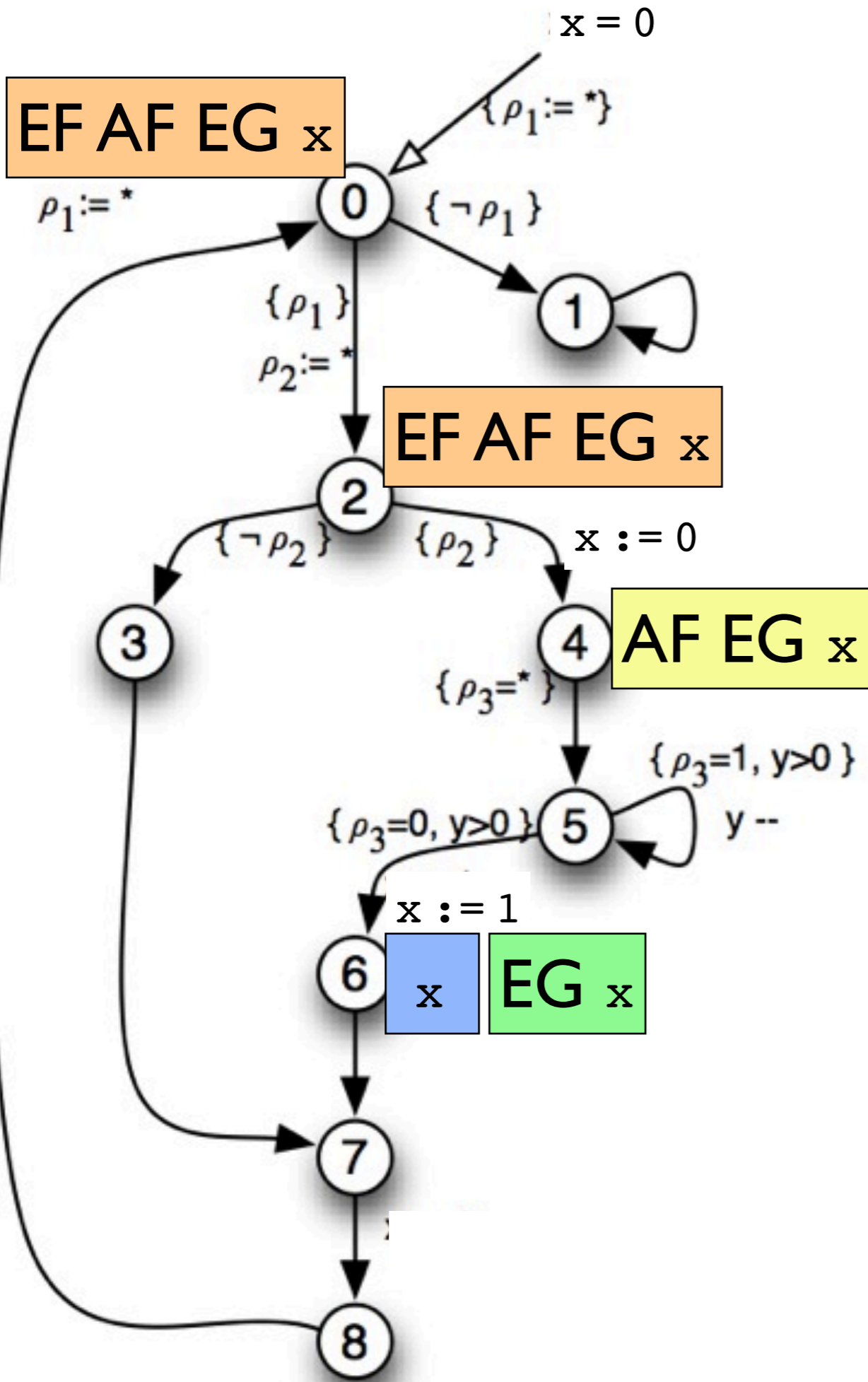




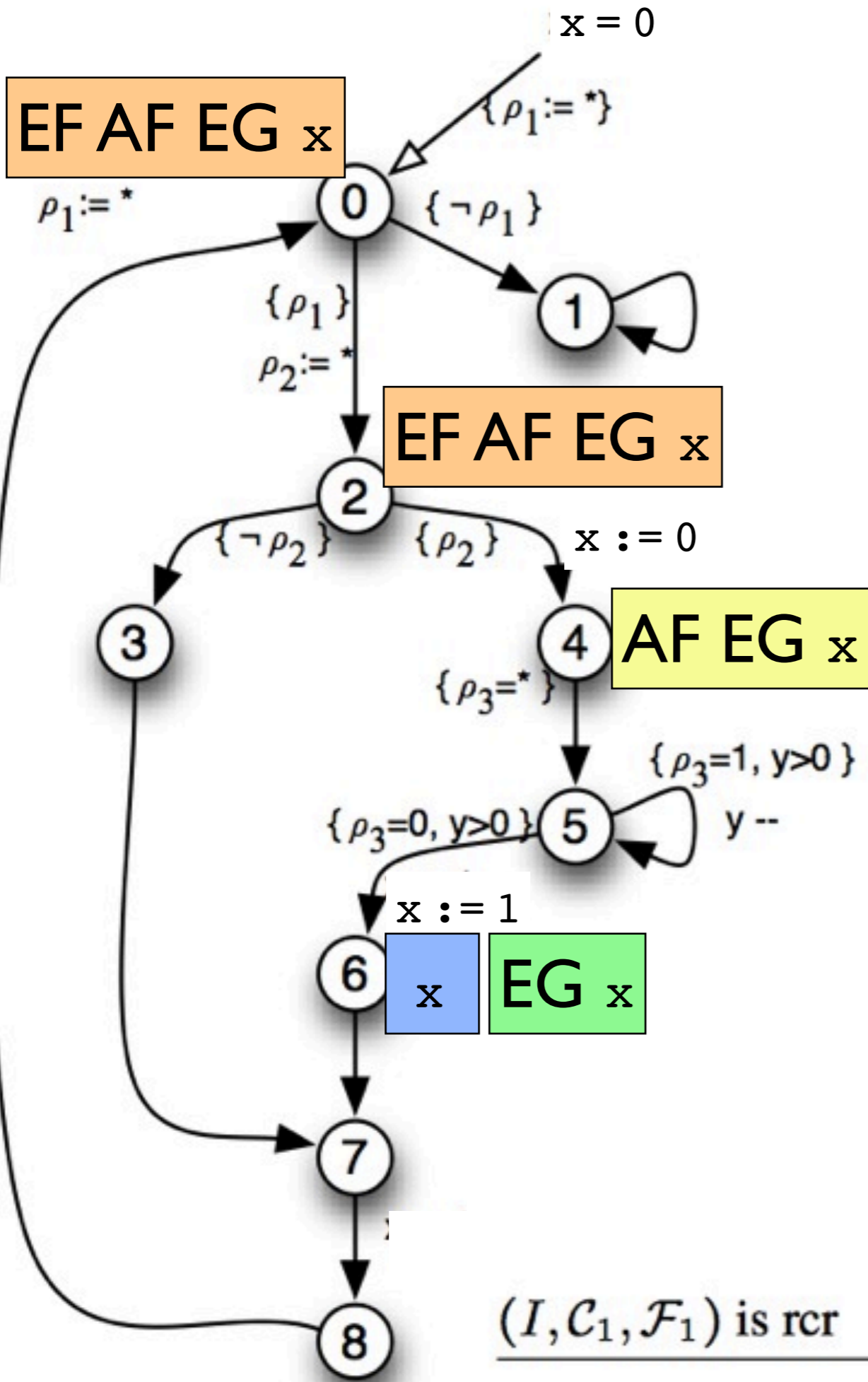
**EF (AF (EG x))**



**EF (AF (EG x))**



**EF (AF (EG x))**

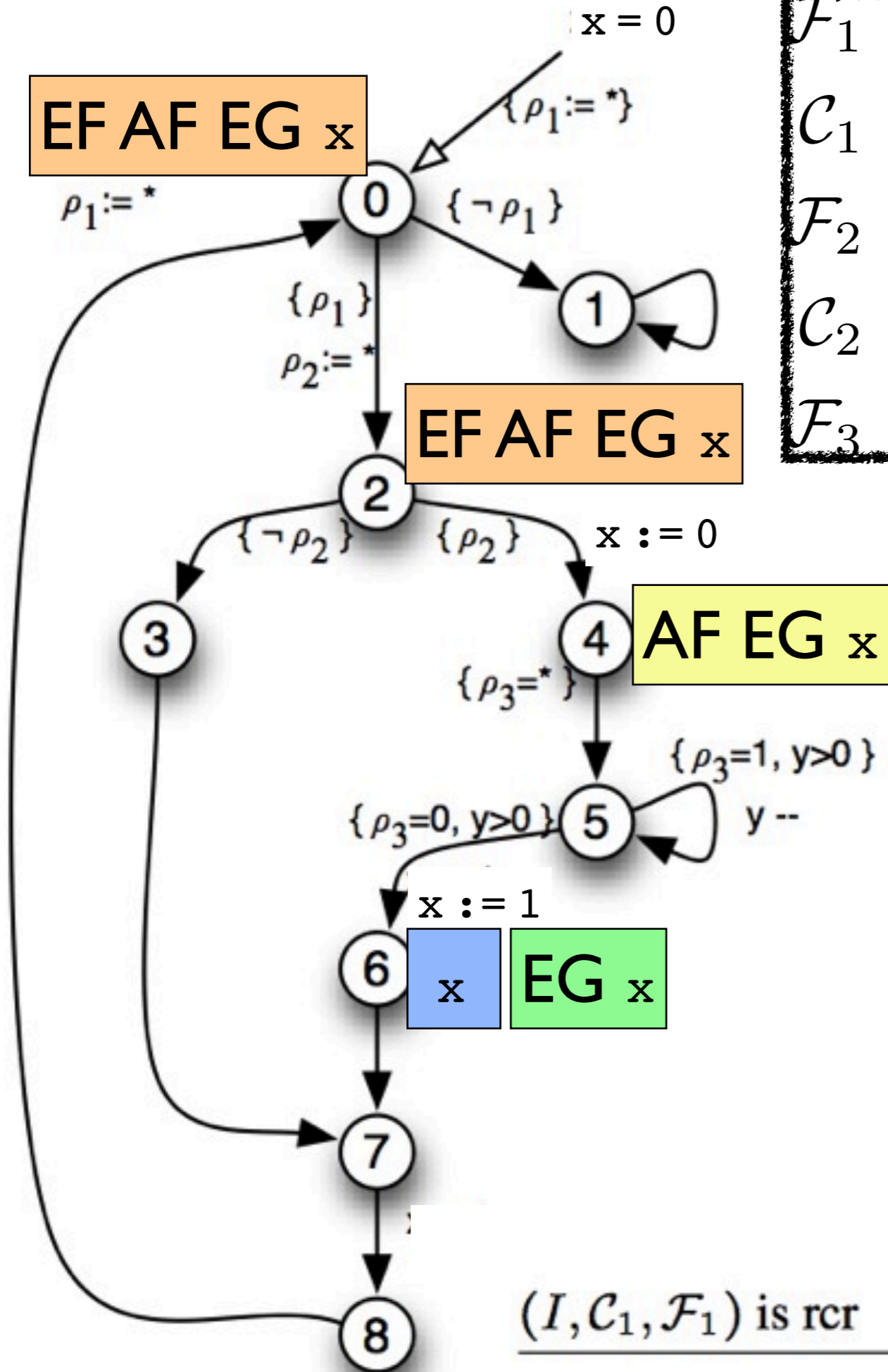


$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} \upharpoonright_1 \subseteq \llbracket p \rrbracket^S}{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} \upharpoonright_1 \vdash p} \\
 \frac{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} \upharpoonright_1 \vdash p}{\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp} \\
 \hline
 \frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp}{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEGp} \\
 \frac{\mathbf{W}_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp}{I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp} \\
 \frac{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp}{I \vdash EF AF EG p}
 \end{array}$$



**EF AF EG x**

$\rho_1 := *$



$\mathcal{F}_1 \equiv \text{pc} = 4$   
 $\mathcal{C}_1 \equiv \text{pc} = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_1 \wedge \text{pc} = 2 \Rightarrow \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_2 \equiv \text{pc} = 6$   
 $\mathcal{C}_2 \equiv \text{pc} = 2 \Rightarrow \neg \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_3 \equiv \text{true}$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \subseteq \llbracket p \rrbracket^S}{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}{\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp}$$

$$\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S} \text{ is w.f.}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEFGp}{\mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp}$$

$$\mathbf{W}_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1} \text{ is w.f.}$$

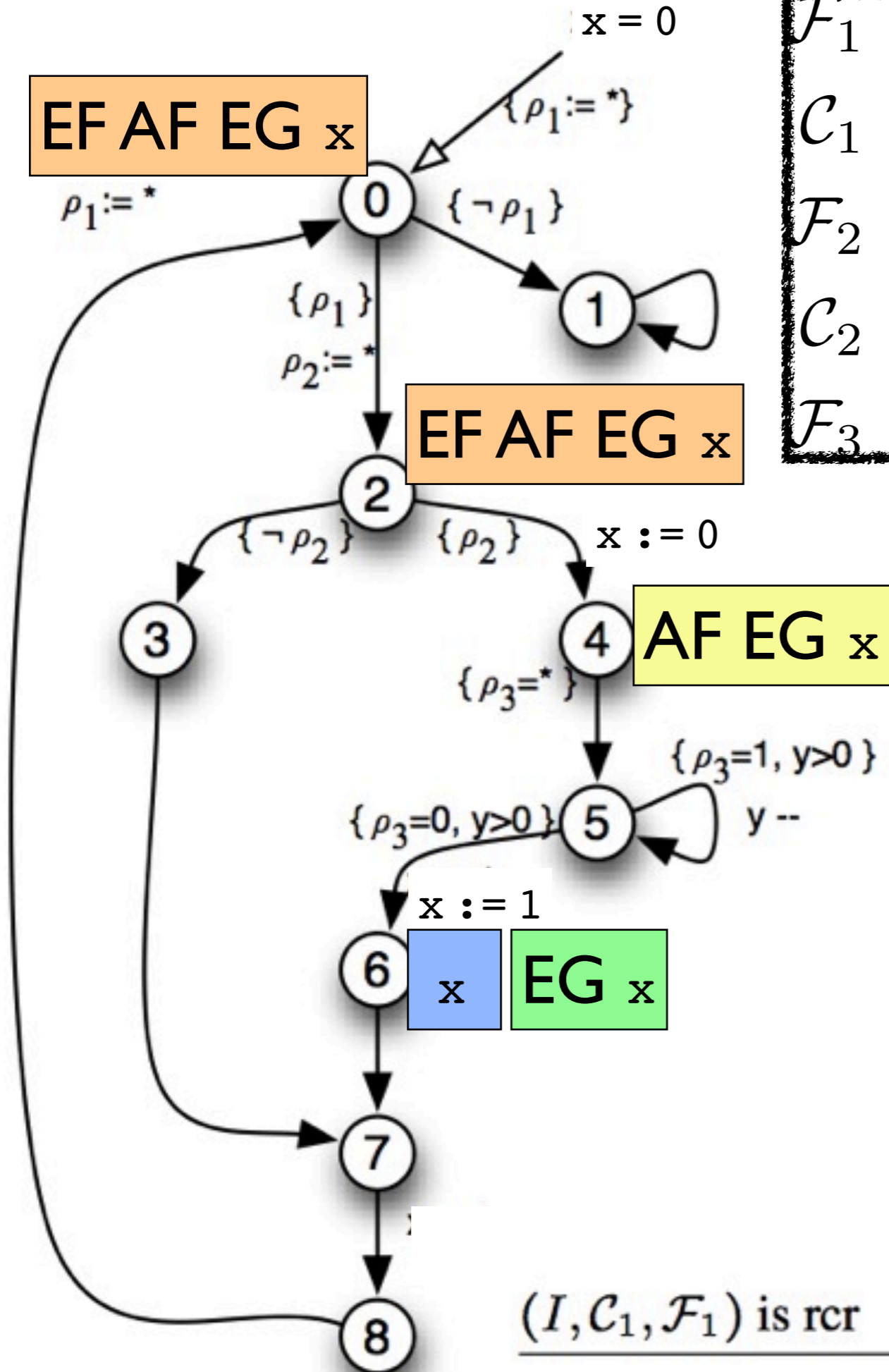
$$\frac{I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp}{I \vdash EF AF EG p}$$

$$\frac{(I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1) \text{ is rcr}}{I \vdash EF AF EG p}$$

$$I \vdash EF AF EG p$$

**EF AF EG x**

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$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \subseteq \llbracket p \rrbracket^S}{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}{\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp}$$

$$\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S} \text{ is w.f.}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp}{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEFGp}$$

$$\mathbf{W}_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1} \text{ is w.f.}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEFGp}{\mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1) \text{ is rcr}}{\mathcal{I} \vdash EFAFEGp}$$

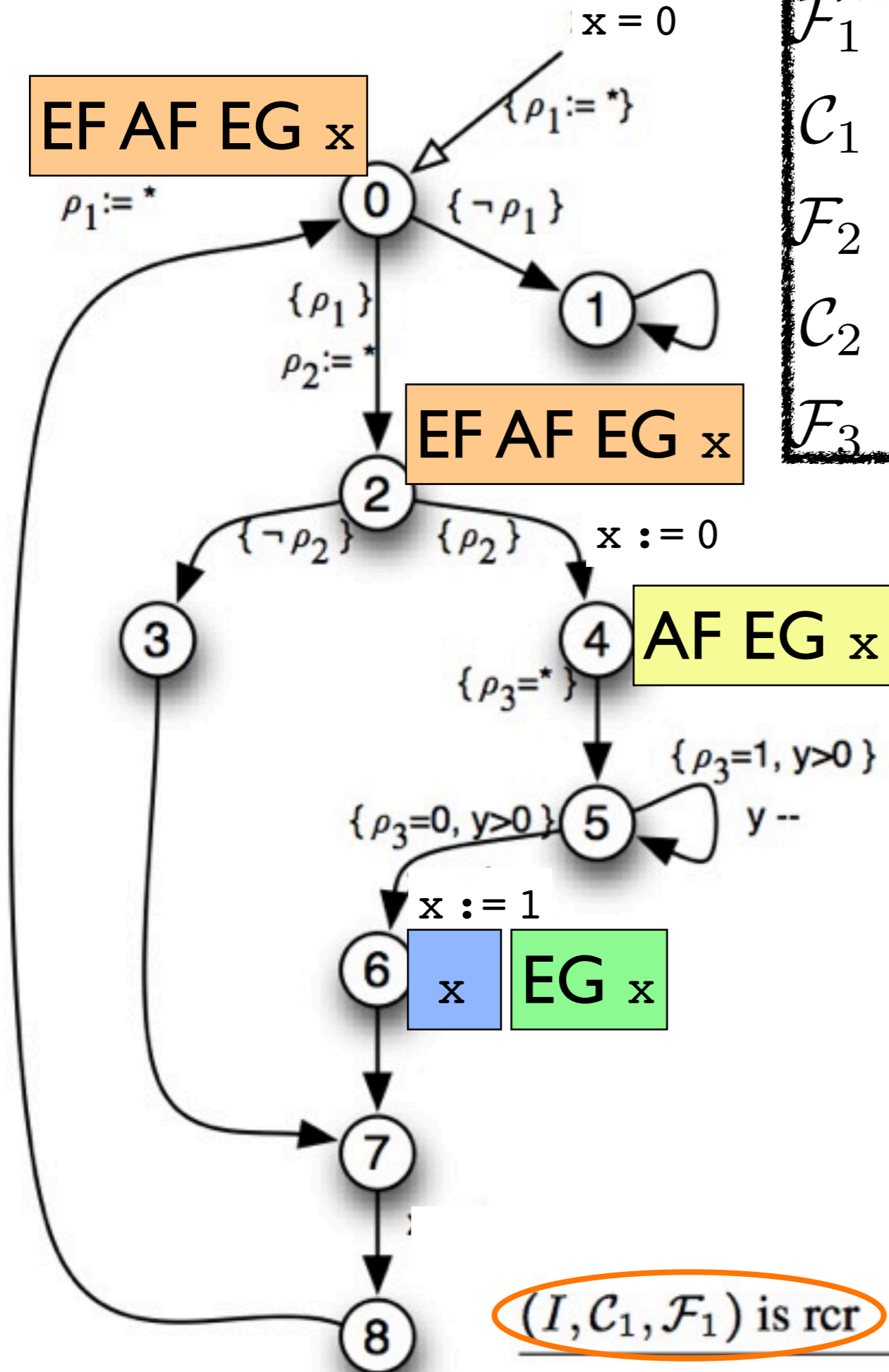
$$\frac{\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp}{\mathcal{I} \vdash EFAFEGp}$$

$$\mathcal{I} \vdash EFAFEGp$$



**EF AF EG x**

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$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \subseteq \llbracket p \rrbracket^S}{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}{\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp}$$

$$\mathbf{W}_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S} \text{ is w.f.}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEFGp}{\mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp}$$

$$\mathbf{W}_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1} \text{ is w.f.}$$

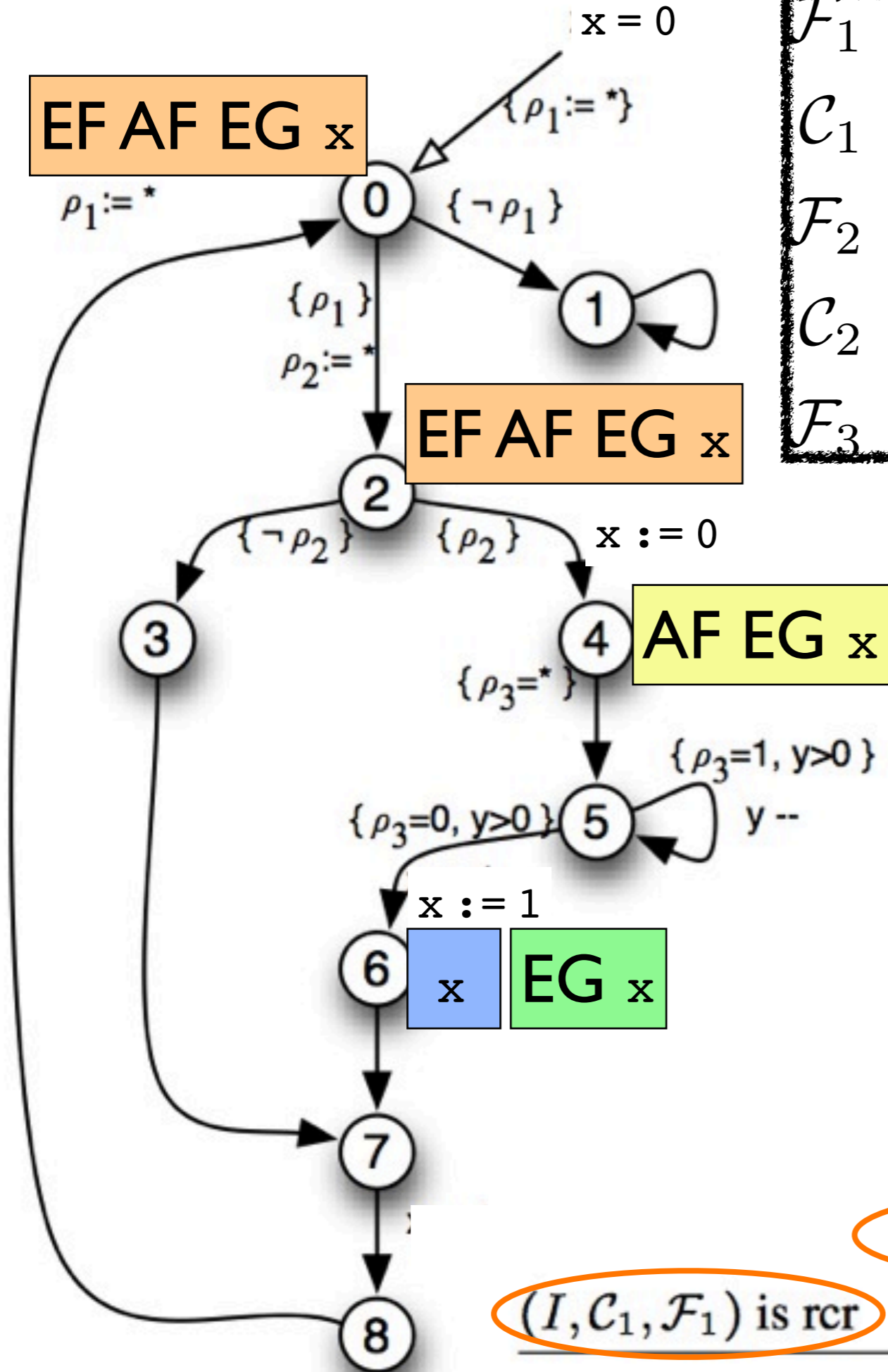
$$I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp$$

**$(I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1)$  is rcr**

$$I \vdash EF AF EG p$$

**EF AF EG x**

$\rho_1 := *$



$\mathcal{F}_1 \equiv pc = 4$   
 $\mathcal{C}_1 \equiv pc = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_1 \wedge pc = 2 \Rightarrow \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_2 \equiv pc = 6$   
 $\mathcal{C}_2 \equiv pc = 2 \Rightarrow \neg \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_3 \equiv \text{true}$

$$\frac{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \subseteq [p]^S}{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}$$

$$\frac{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}{\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp}$$

$$W_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S} \text{ is w.f.}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEGp}{\mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp}$$

$$W_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1} \text{ is w.f.}$$

$$(I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1) \text{ is rcr}$$

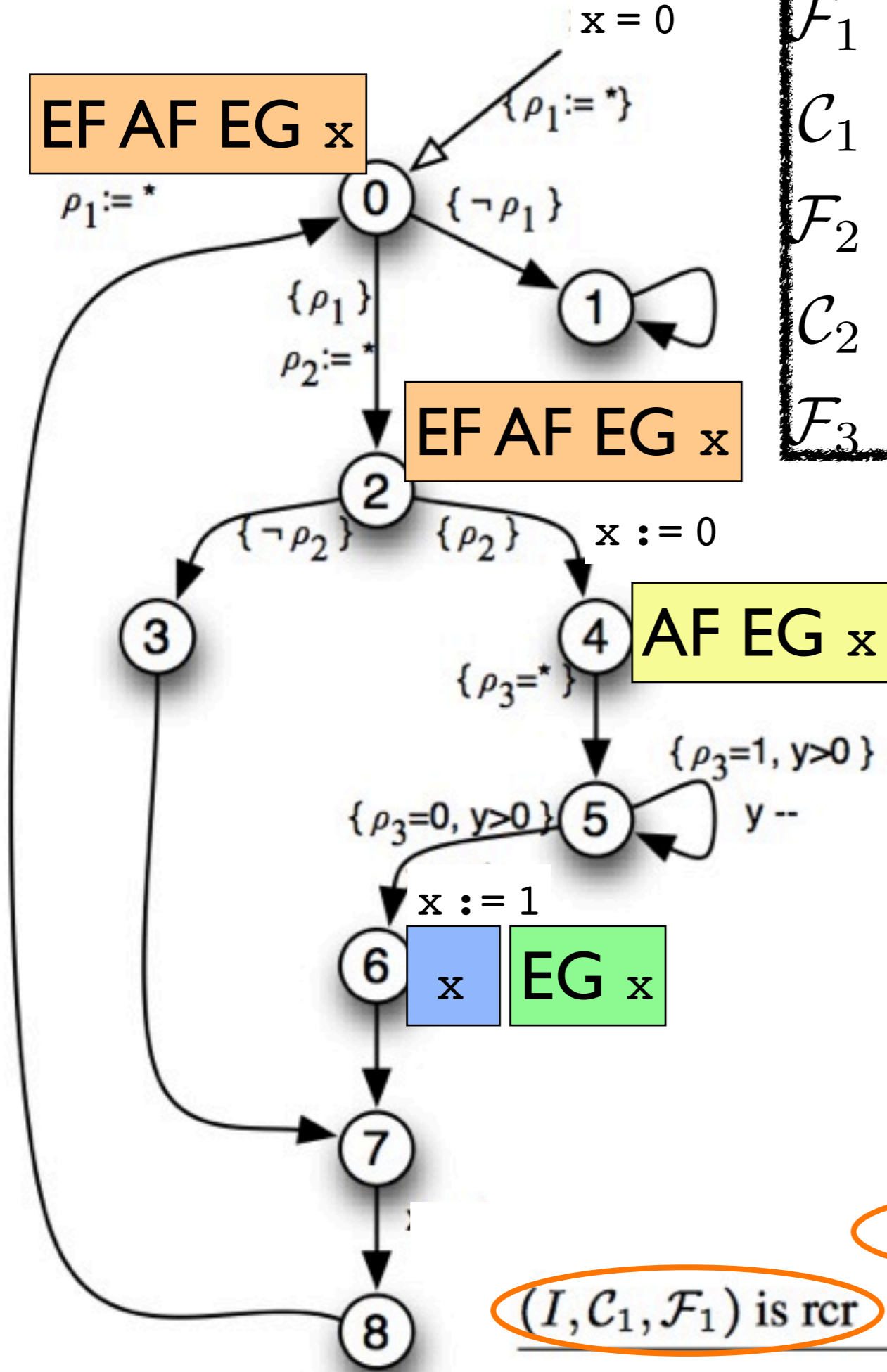
$$I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp$$

$$I \vdash EF AF EG p$$



**EF AF EG x**

$\rho_1 := *$



$\mathcal{F}_1 \equiv pc = 4$   
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$$\frac{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \subseteq [p]^S}{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}$$

$$\frac{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}{\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}$$

$(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3)$  is rcr

$W_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S}$  is w.f.

$\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp$

$\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEFGp$

$\mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp$

$W_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1}$  is w.f.

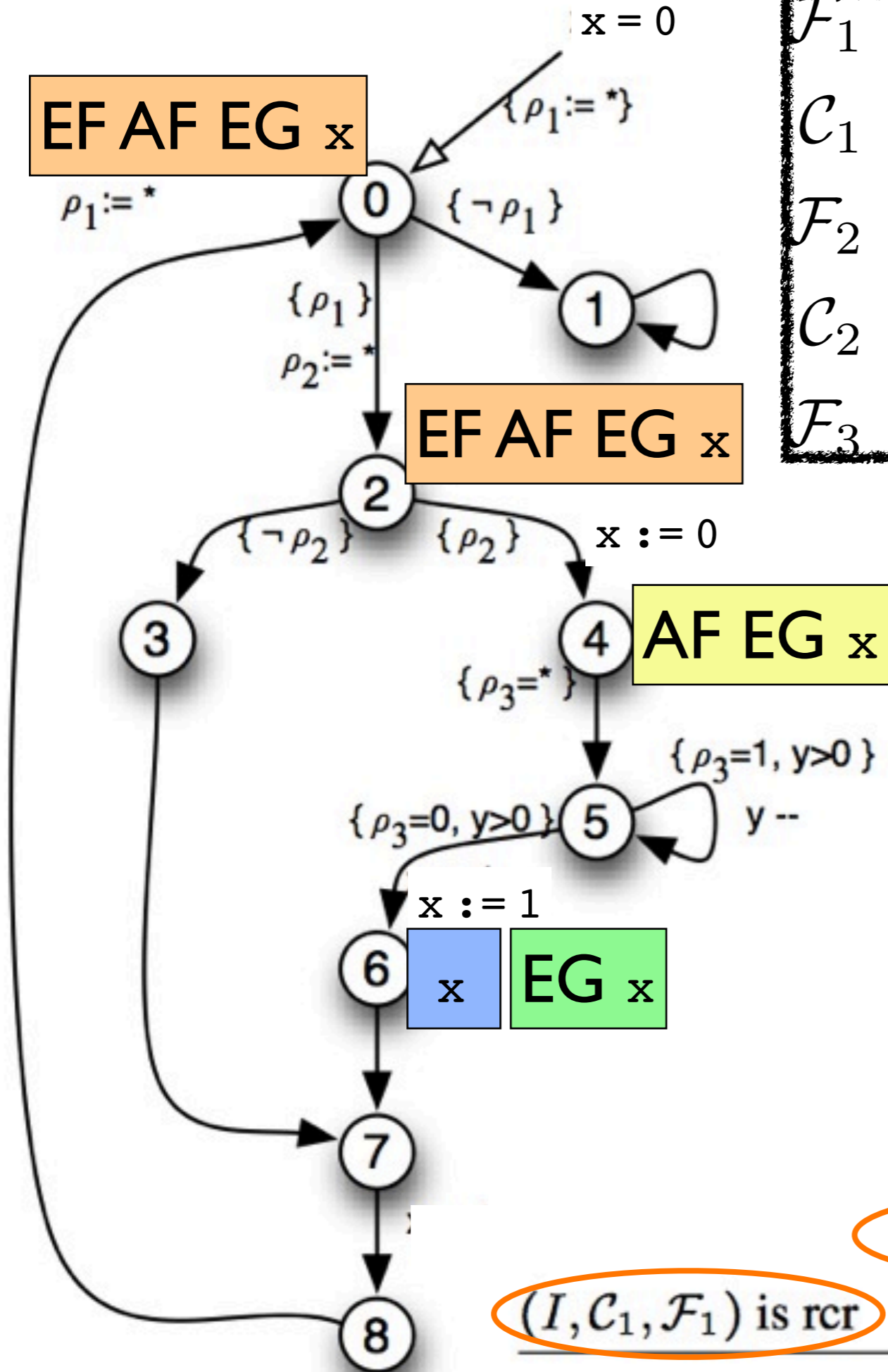
$I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp$

$(I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1)$  is rcr

$I \vdash EF AF EG p$

**EF AF EG x**

$\rho_1 := *$



$\mathcal{F}_1 \equiv pc = 4$   
 $\mathcal{C}_1 \equiv pc = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_1 \wedge pc = 2 \Rightarrow \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_2 \equiv pc = 6$   
 $\mathcal{C}_2 \equiv pc = 2 \Rightarrow \neg \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_3 \equiv \text{true}$

$$\frac{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \subseteq [p]^S}{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}$$

$$\frac{W_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} |_1 \vdash p}{\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}$$

$(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3)$  is rcr

$W_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S}$  is w.f.

$$\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEGp}{\mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp}$$

$W_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1}$  is w.f.

$(I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1)$  is rcr

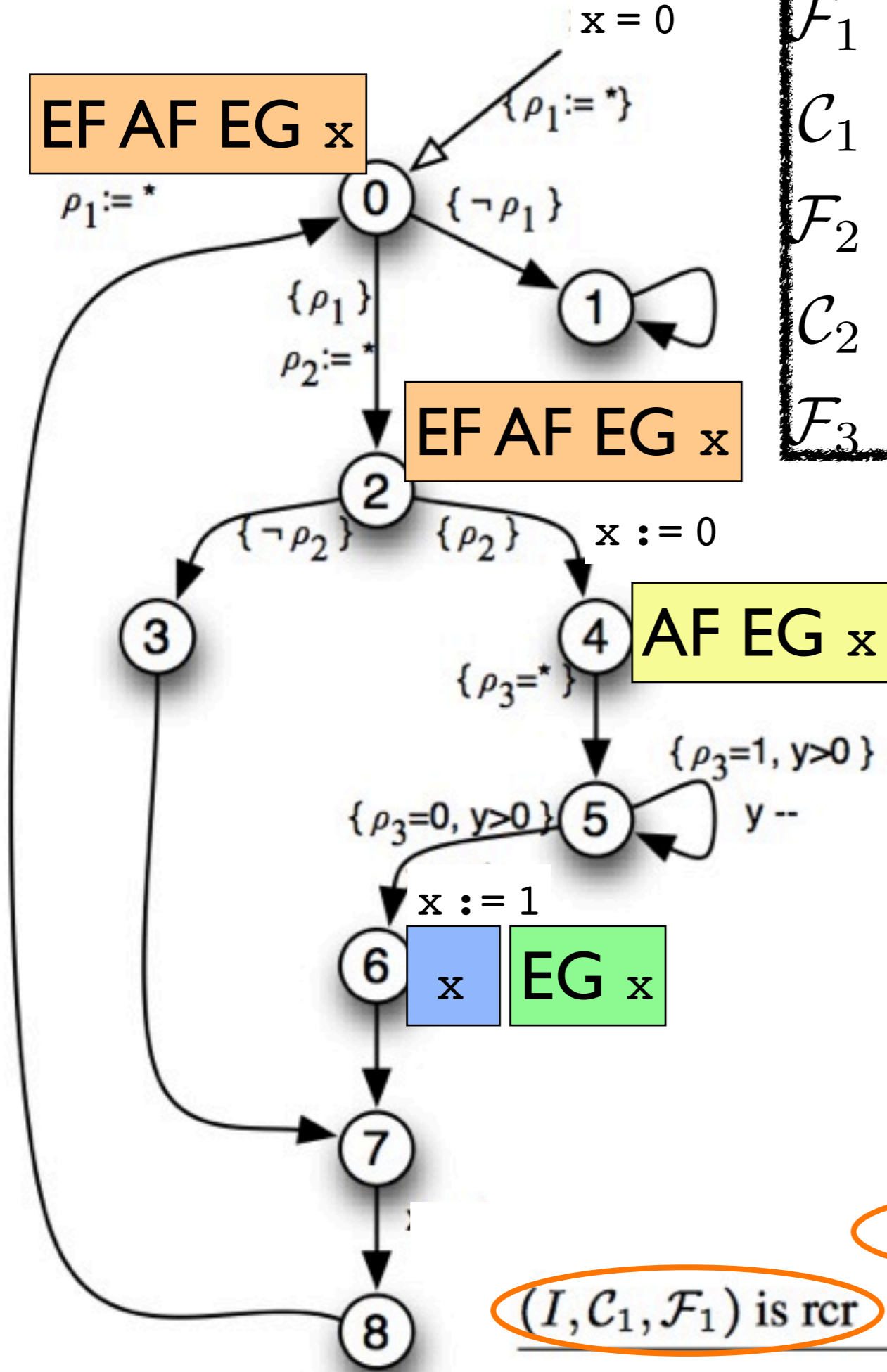
$$I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp$$

$$I \vdash EF AF EG p$$



**EF AF EG x**

$\rho_1 := *$



$\mathcal{F}_1 \equiv pc = 4$   
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 $\mathcal{F}_2 \equiv pc = 6$   
 $\mathcal{C}_2 \equiv pc = 2 \Rightarrow \neg \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_3 \equiv \text{true}$

$\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} \upharpoonright_1 \subseteq \llbracket p \rrbracket^S$

$\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} \upharpoonright_1 \vdash p$

$(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3)$  is rcr

$\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp$

$\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S}$  is w.f.

$\mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp$

$\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEFGp$

$\mathcal{W}_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1}$  is w.f.

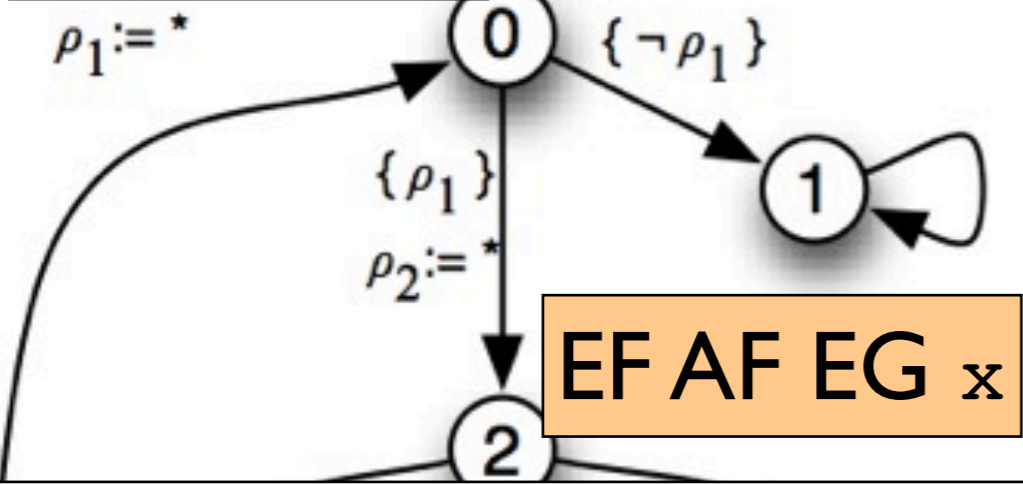
$\mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp$

$(I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1)$  is rcr

$I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp$

$I \vdash EF AF EG p$

EF AF EG x



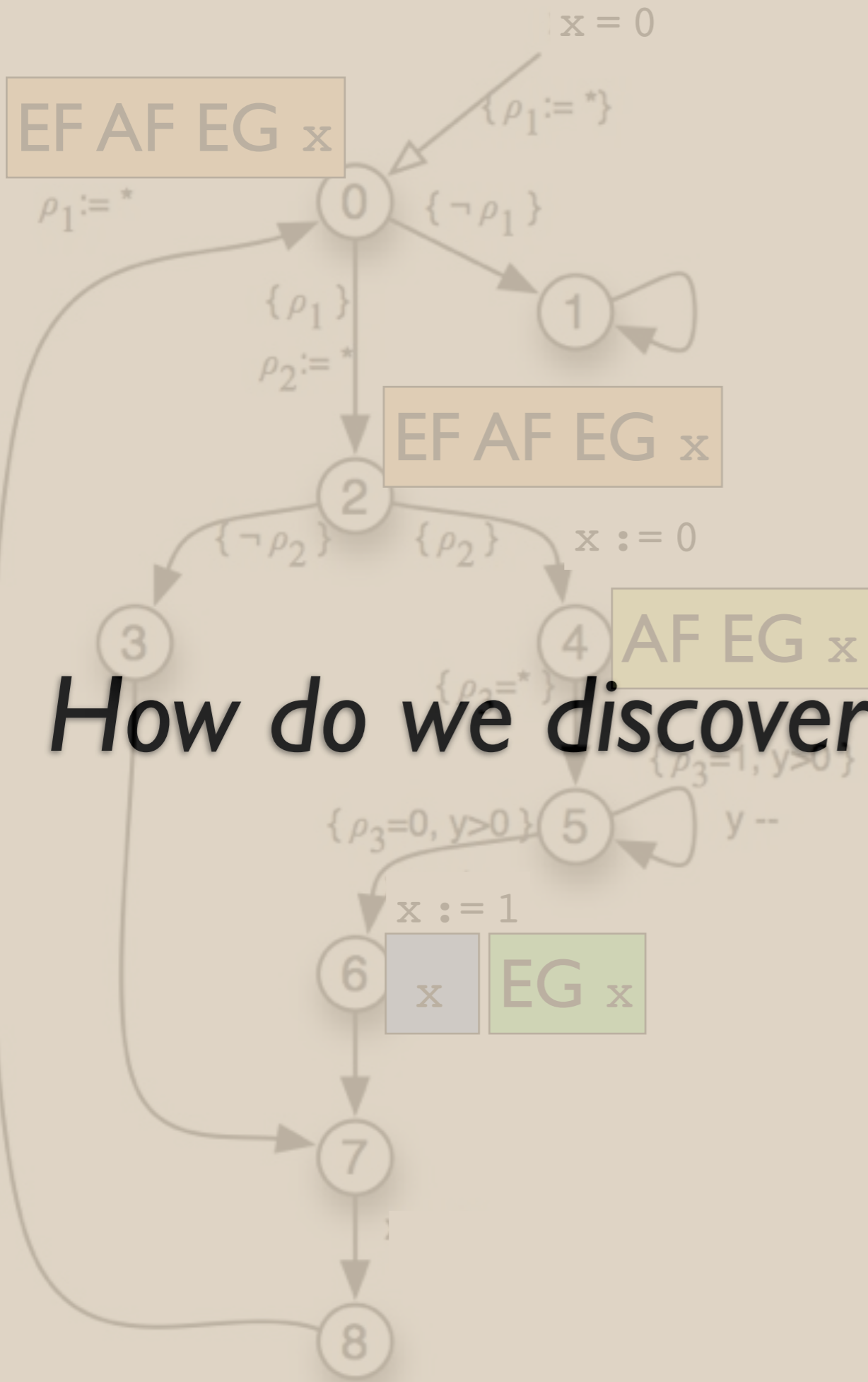
$\mathcal{F}_1 \equiv pc = 4$   
 $\mathcal{C}_1 \equiv pc = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_1 \wedge pc = 2 \Rightarrow \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_2 \equiv pc = 6$   
 $\mathcal{C}_2 \equiv pc = 2 \Rightarrow \neg \rho_2$   
 $\mathcal{F}_3 \equiv \text{true}$

- (Finite) derivation despite infinite state spaces
- *Partition* rather than *enumerate* states
- Symbolic representations/overapproximations
- *We believe it will work well in practice...*

$\subseteq [p]^S$   
 $1 \vdash p$   
 $3 \Vdash Gp$   
 $\vdash EGp$   
 $FEGp$   
 $EGp$

8

$(I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1) \text{ is rcr}$   
 $I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp$   
 $I \vdash EFAFEGp$



$\equiv pc = 4$   
 $\equiv pc = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_1 \wedge pc = 2 \Rightarrow \rho_2$   
 $\equiv pc = 6$   
 $\equiv pc = 2 \Rightarrow \neg \rho_2$   
 $\equiv \text{true}$

# How do we discover Frontiers and Chutes?

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} \mid_1 \vdash p}{\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{F}_2}^{\mathcal{F}_3, \mathcal{C}_2} \mid_1 \vdash p}}{(\mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3) \text{ is rcr} \quad \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \Vdash Gp}}{\mathcal{W}_{\mathcal{F}_1}^{\mathcal{F}_2, S} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F}_2 \vdash EGp}}{\mathcal{F}_1, S, \mathcal{F}_2 \Vdash FEFGp}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{W}_I^{\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{C}_1} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F}_1 \vdash AFEGp}{I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp}$$

$$\frac{I, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash FAFEGp}{I \vdash EF AF EG p}$$

EF AF EG x

$\rho_1 := *$

$x = 0$

$\{\rho_1 := *\}$

$\{\neg \rho_1\}$

$\{\rho_1\}$

$\rho_2 := *$

EF AF EG x

$\equiv pc = 4$

$\equiv pc = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_1 \wedge pc = 2 \Rightarrow \rho_2$

$\equiv pc = 6$

$\equiv pc = 2 \Rightarrow \neg \rho_2$

$\equiv \text{true}$

# How do we discover Frontiers and Chutes?

- Partition rather than enumerate states
- Symbolic representations/overapproximations
- We believe it will work well in practice...

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash [p]^S}{\Gamma \vdash p}$

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash Gp}{\Gamma \vdash EGp}$

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash EGp}{\Gamma \vdash FEGp}$

8

$\frac{\Gamma, C_1, \mathcal{F}_1 \Vdash \text{FAFEG}p}{\Gamma \vdash \text{EFAFEG}p}$

# Automation

How do we discover ***frontiers***?

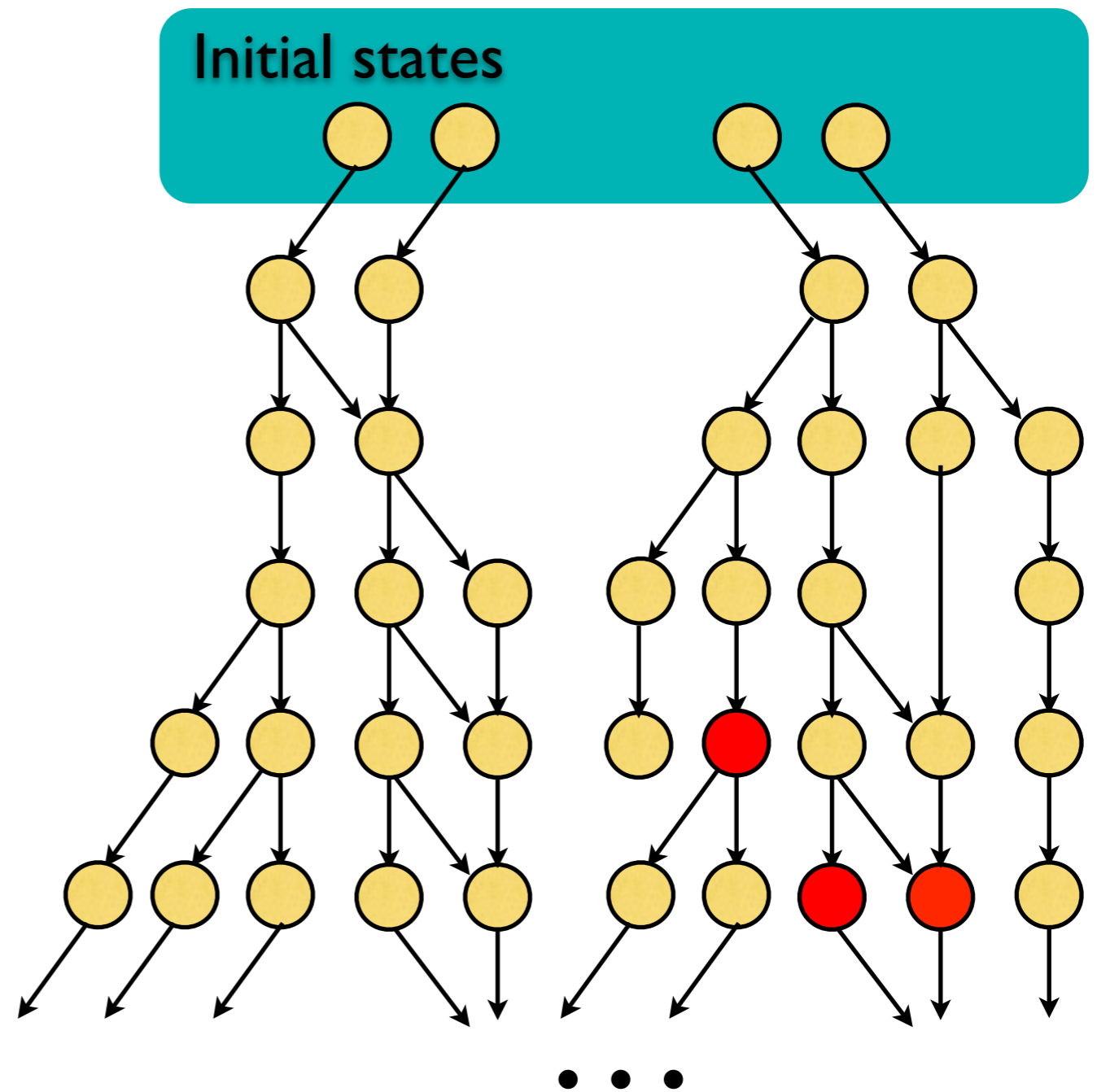
*(see our work in CAV 2011)*



# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

EF<sub>red</sub>



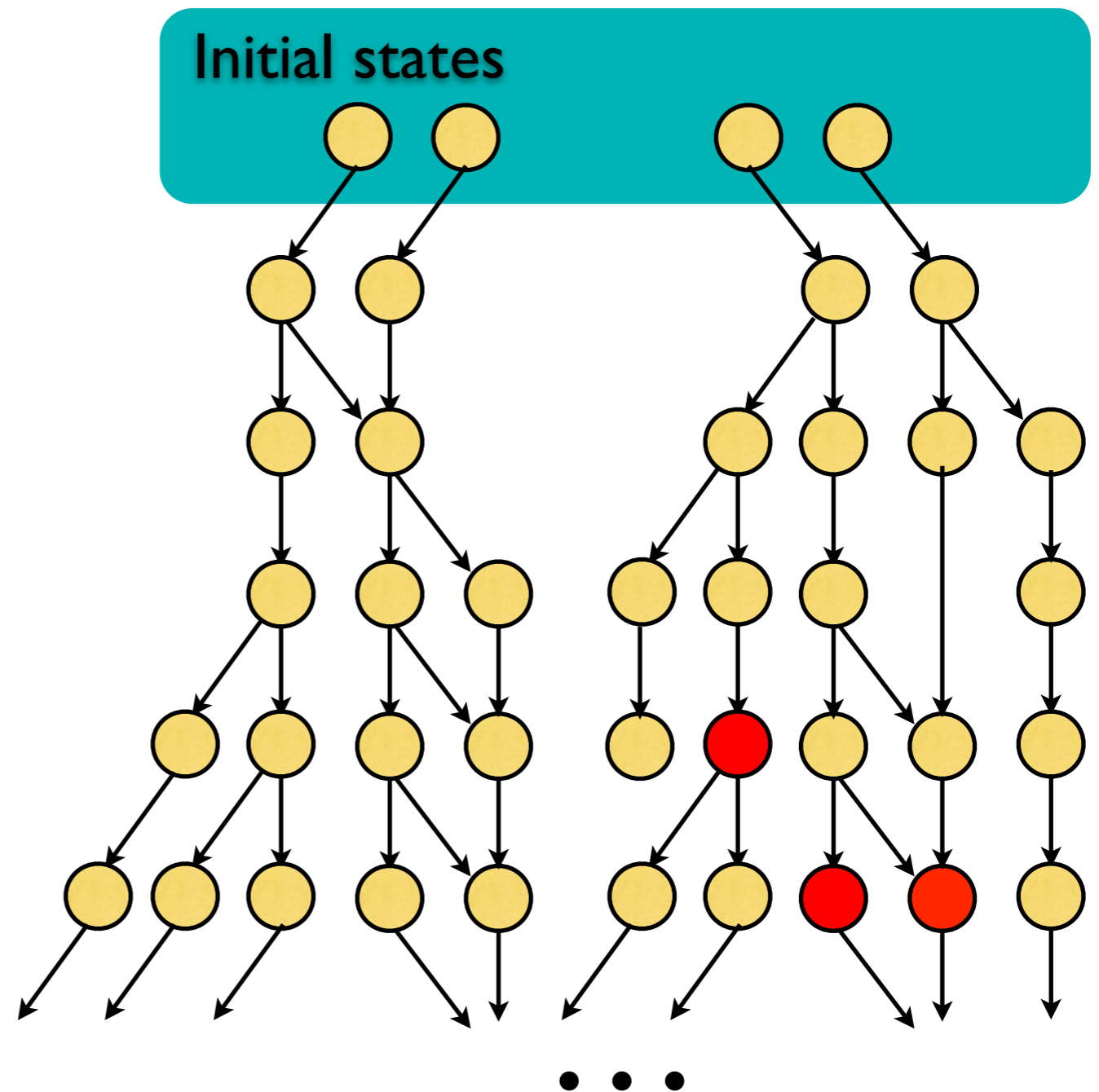


# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF red~~

AF red

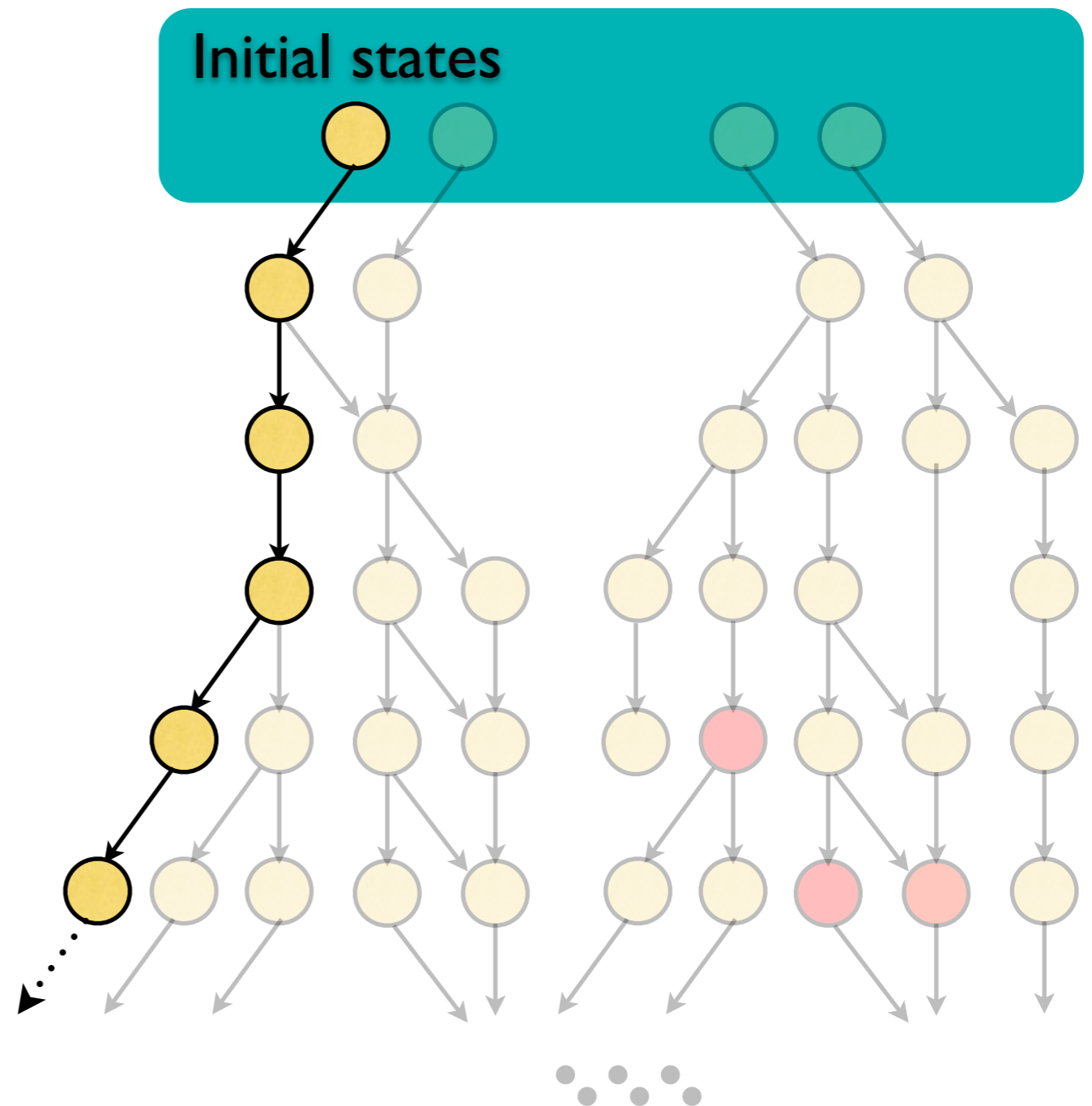


# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF red~~

AF red



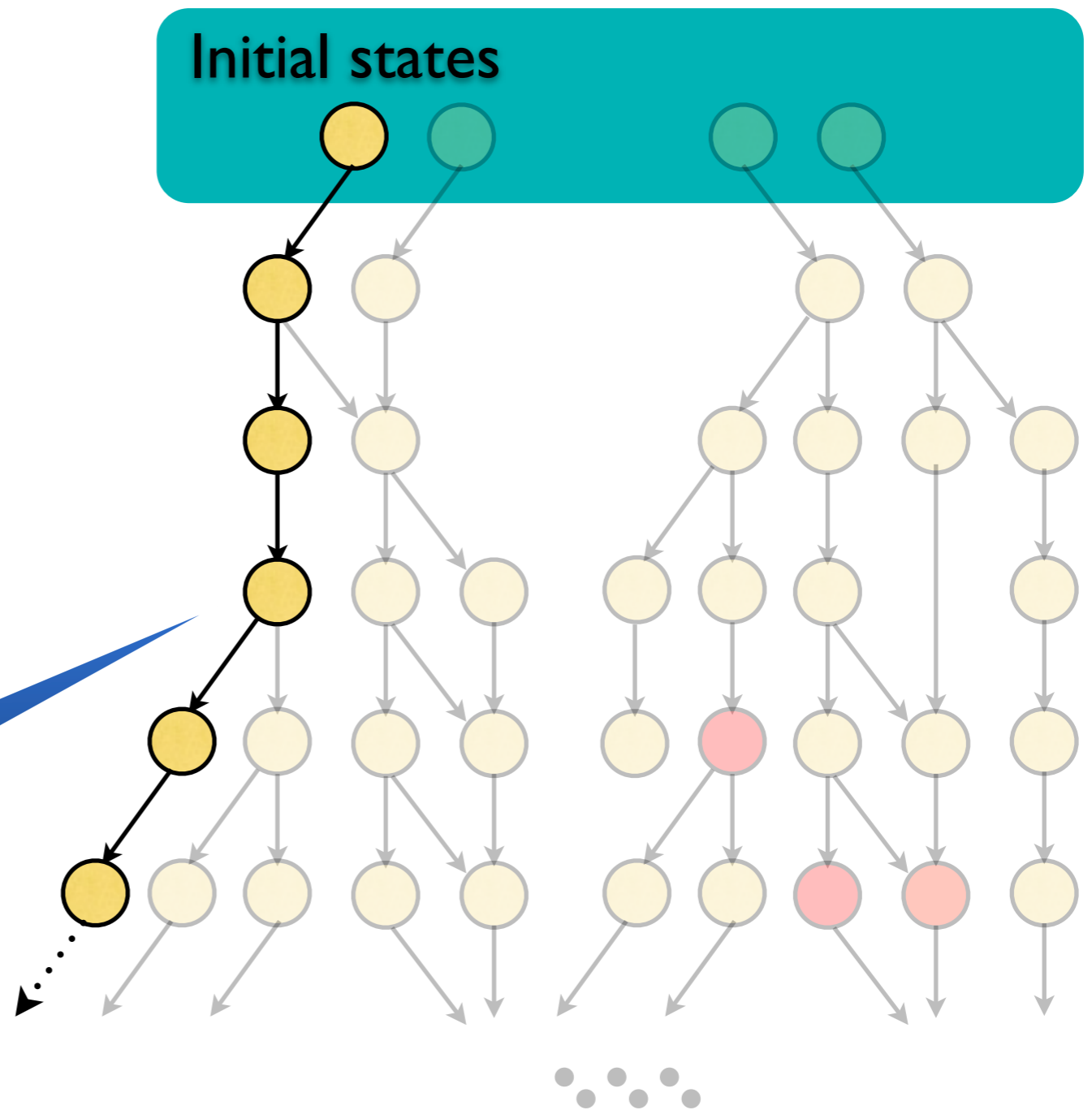
# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF red~~

AF red

Counterexample

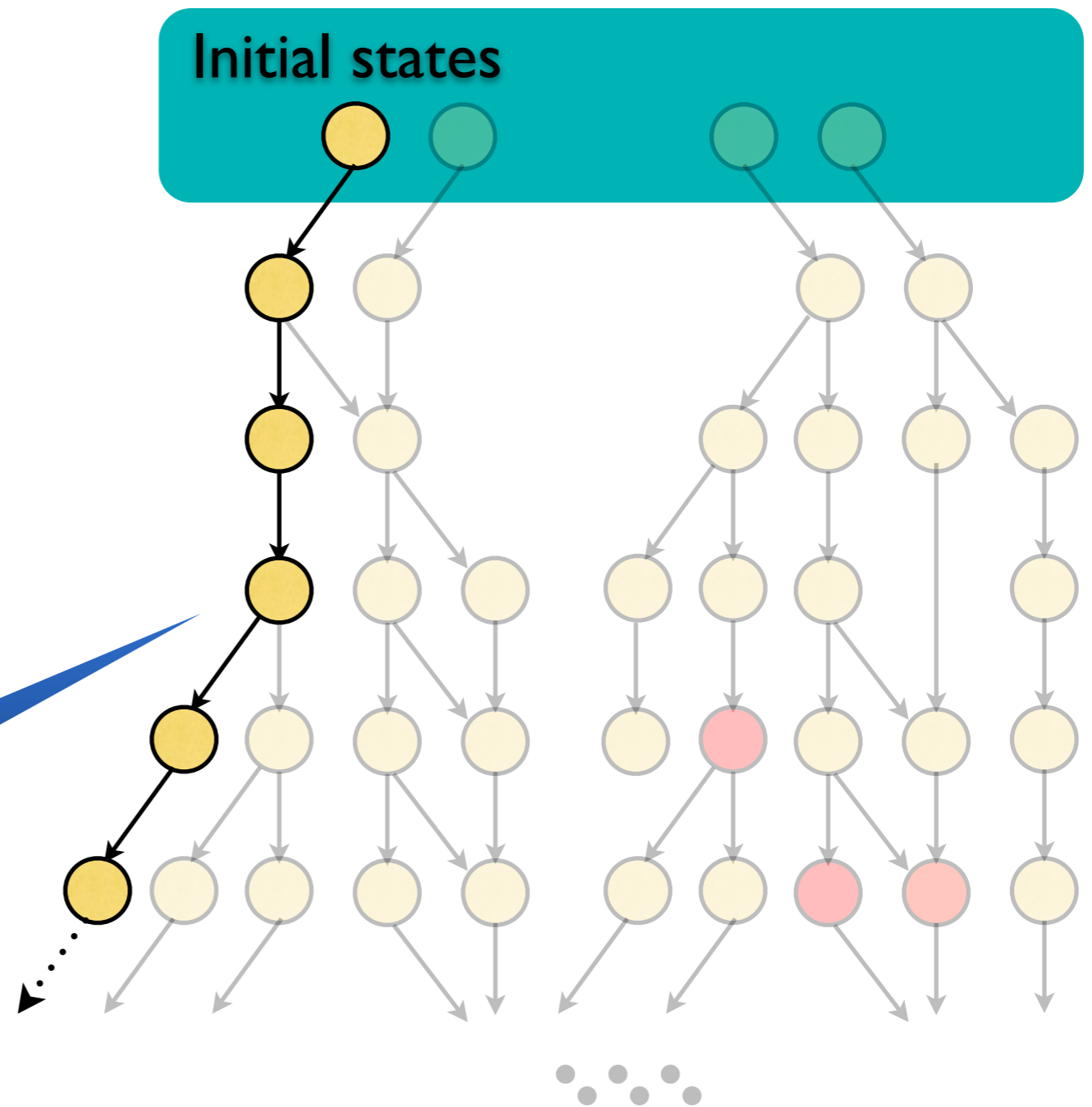


# Automation

How do we discover **chutes**?

~~EF red~~

AF red



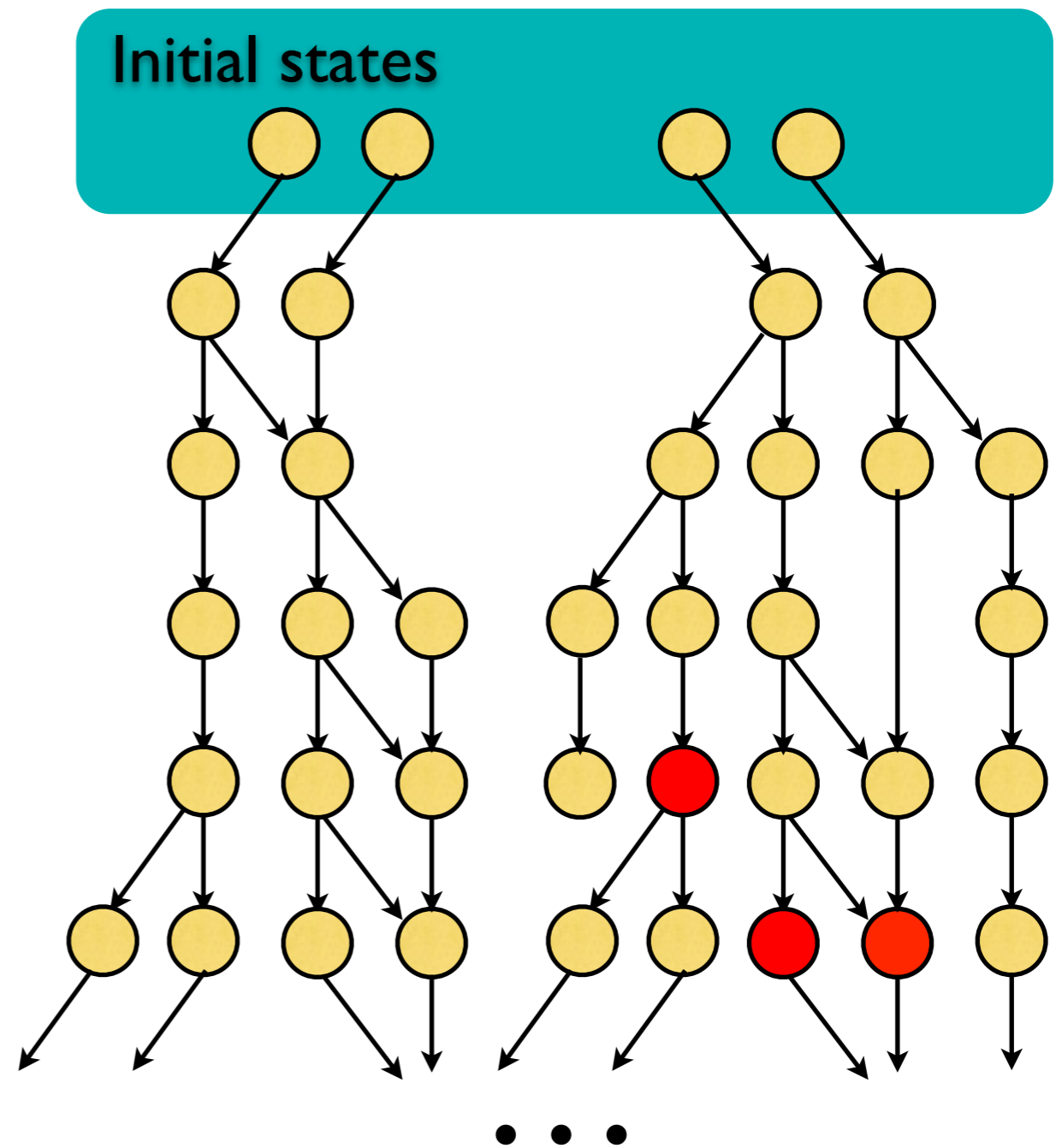
Counterexample

Remove this behavior!

# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

EF<sub>red</sub>

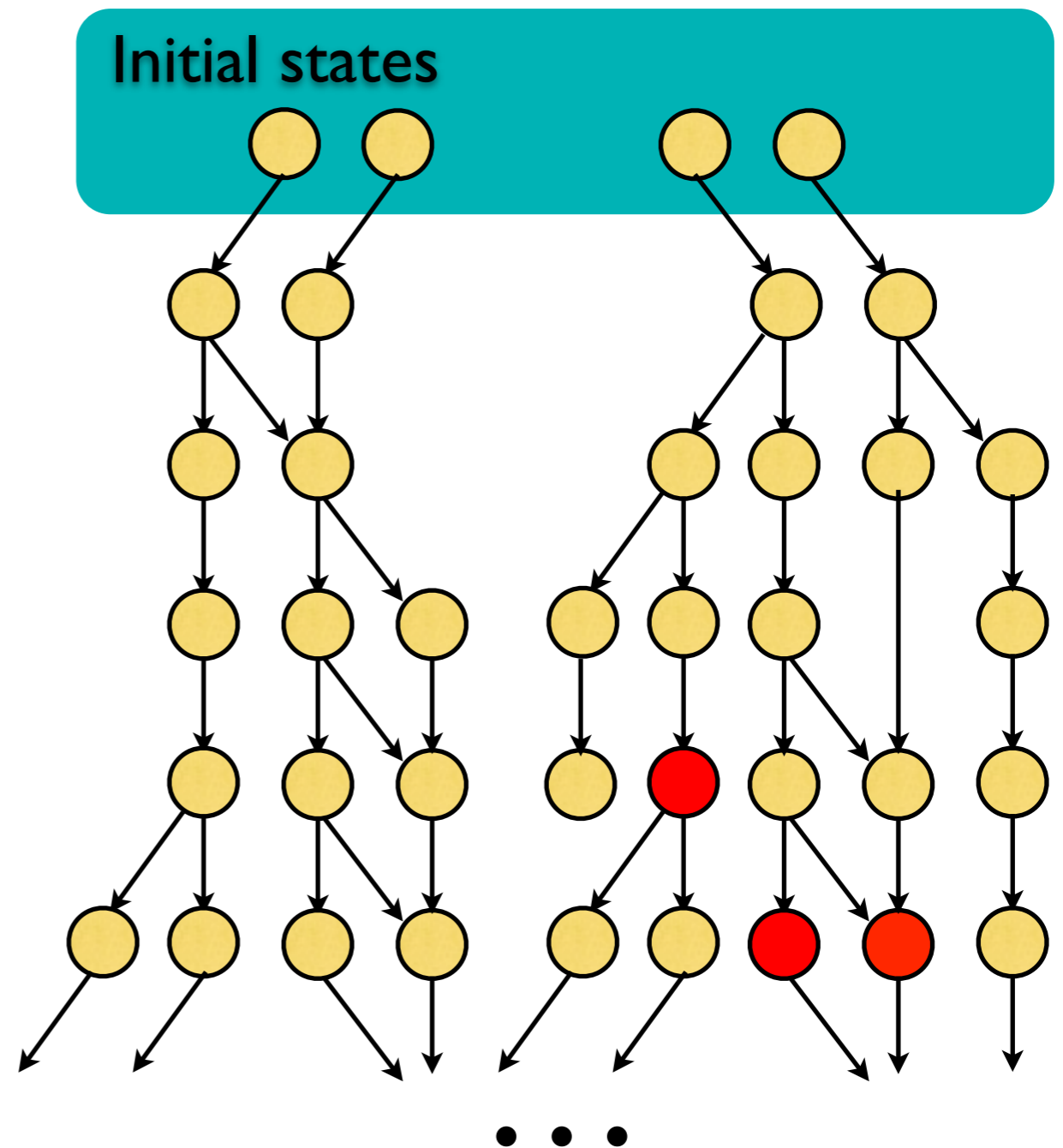


# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF red~~

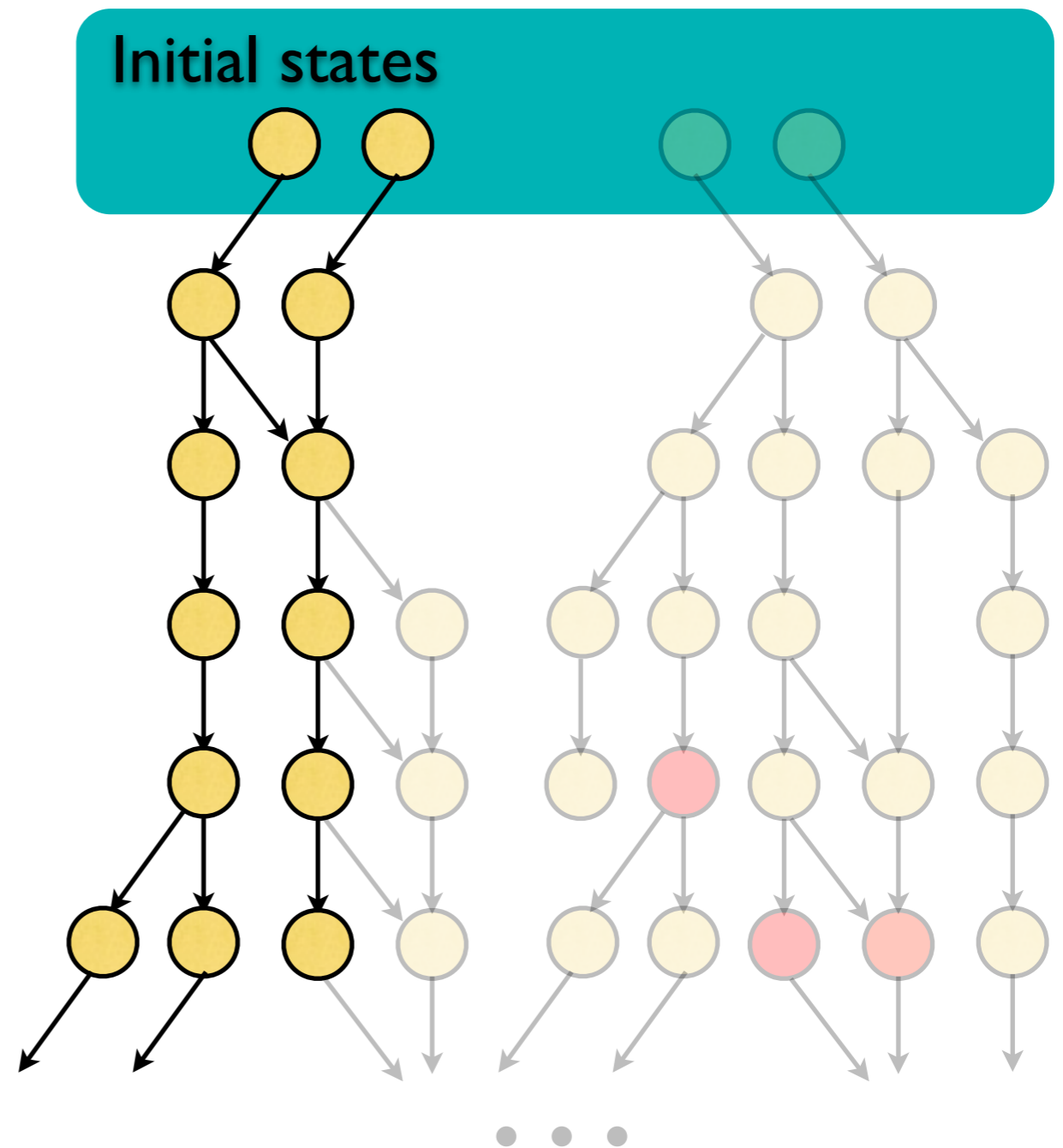
AF red



# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

EF<sub>red</sub>



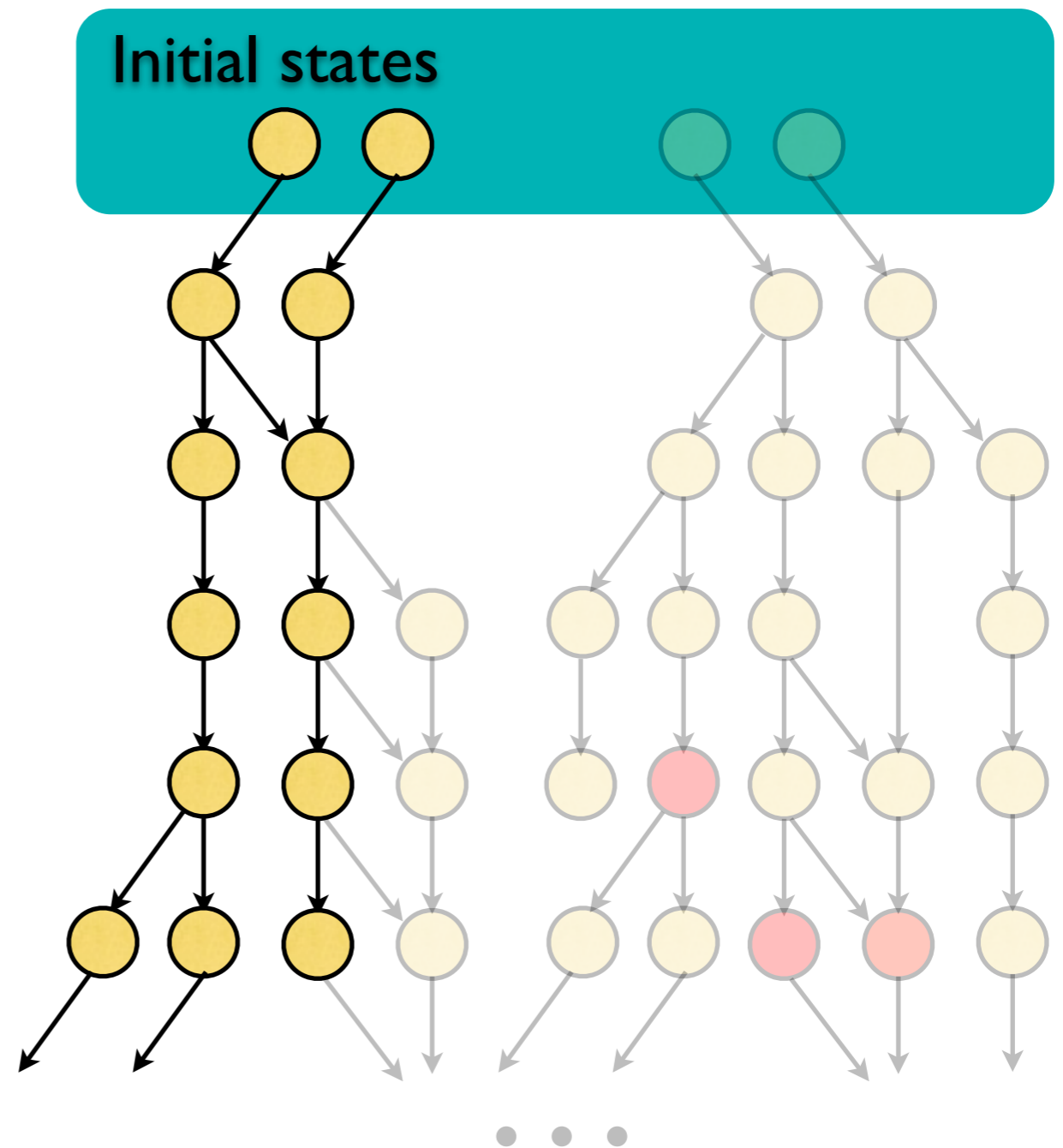


# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF red~~

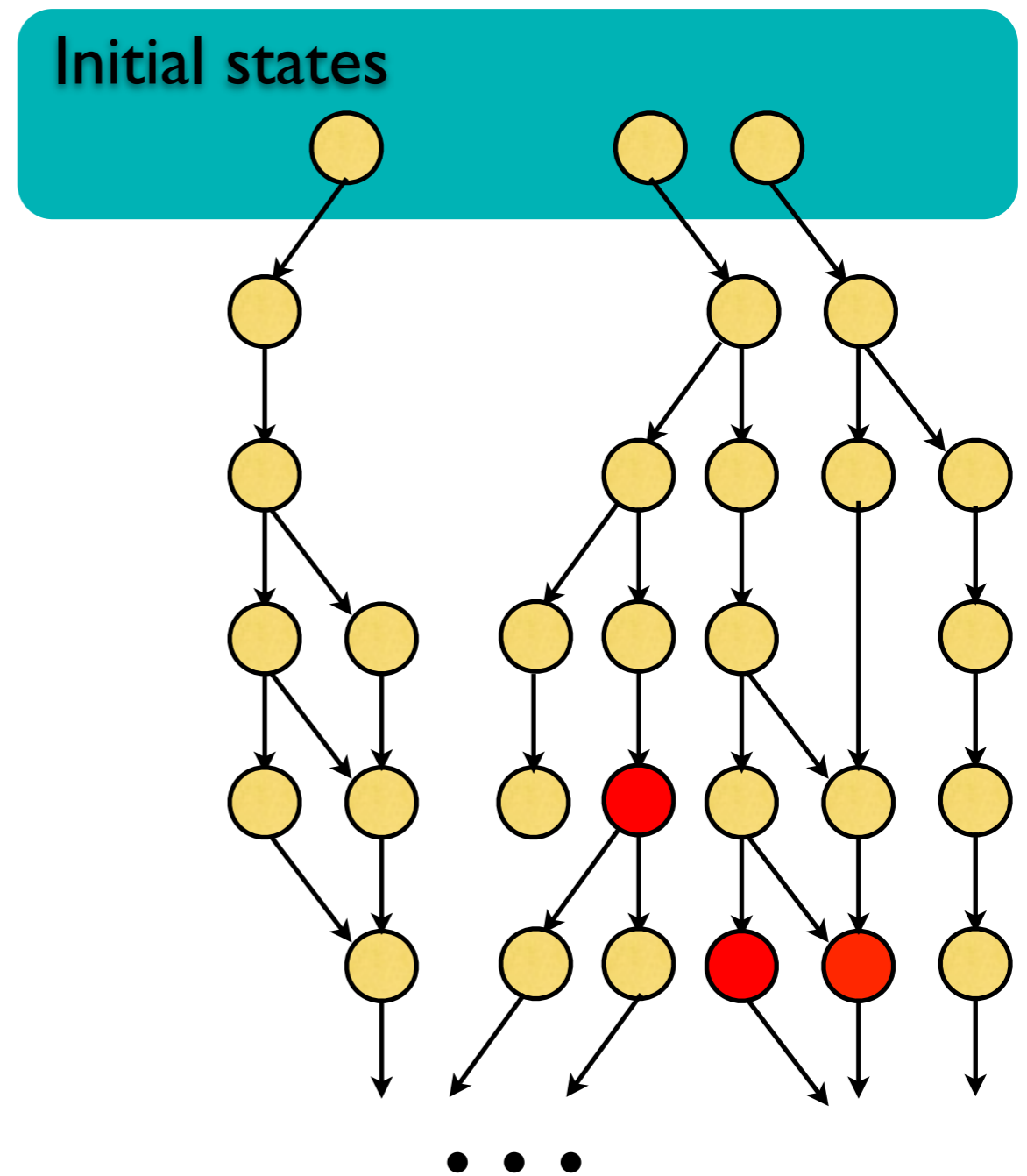
AF red



# Automation

How do we discover **chutes**?

EF<sub>red</sub>

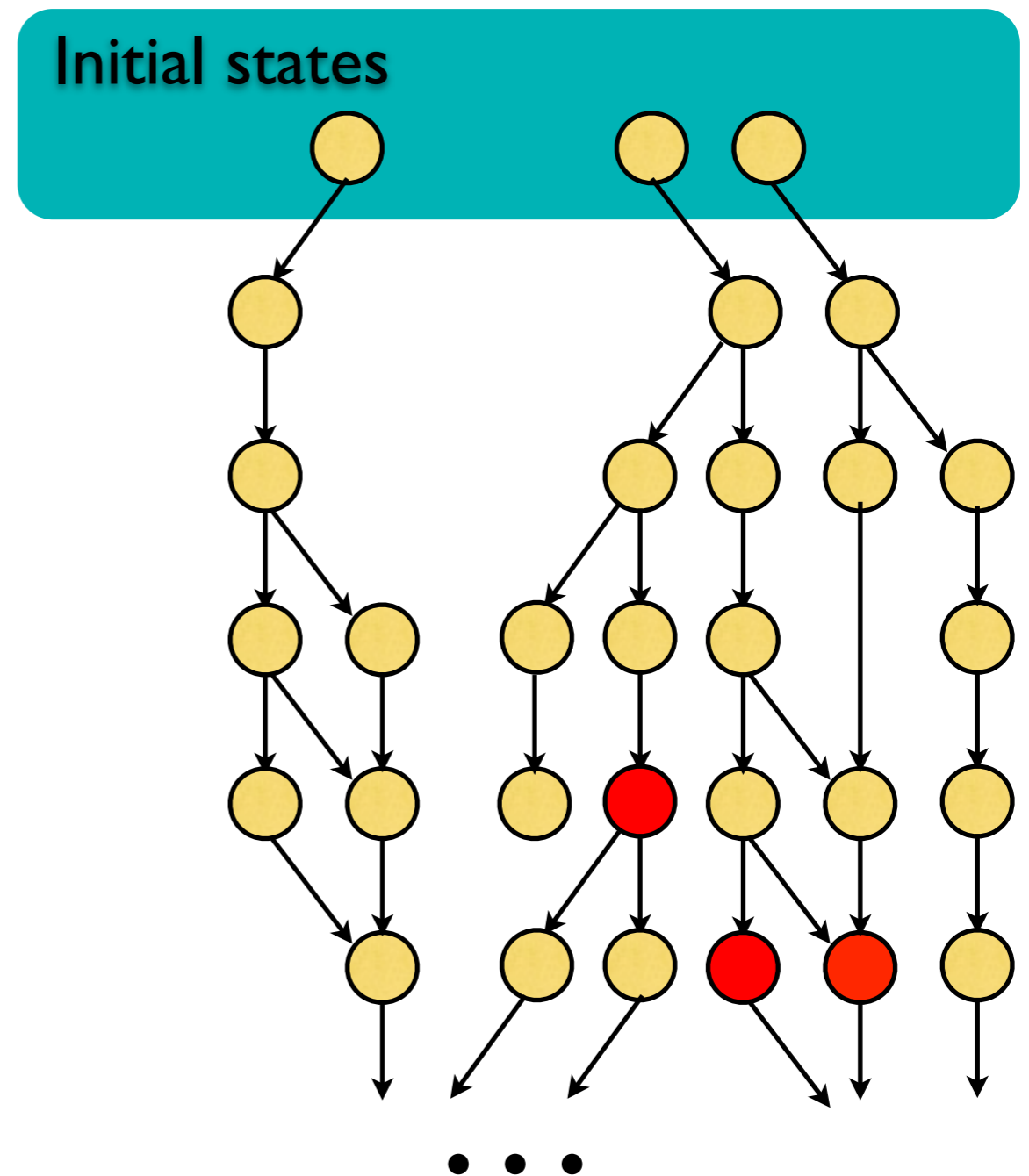


# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF red~~

AF red

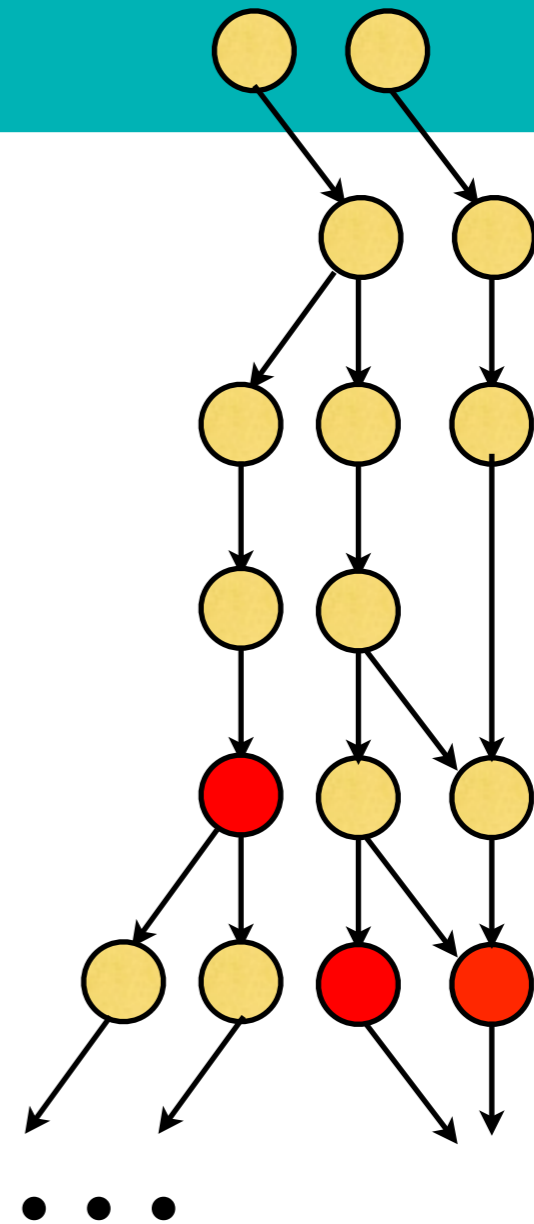


# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

$EF_{red}$

Initial states



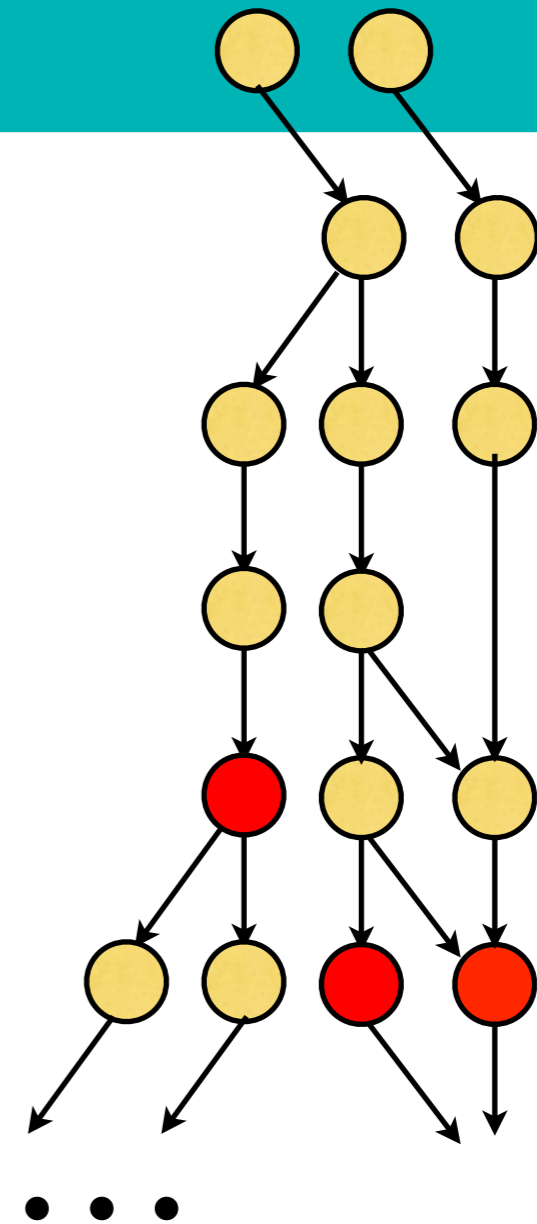
# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF red~~

AF red

Initial states



# Automation

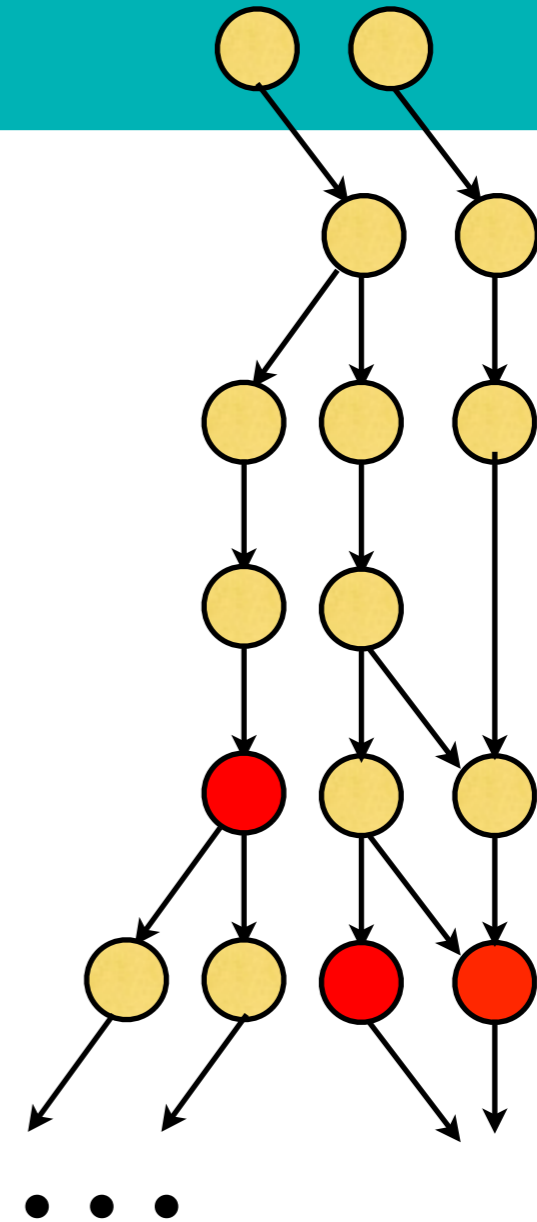
How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF<sub>red</sub>~~

AF<sub>red</sub>

AF<sub>red</sub> holds!

Initial states



# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

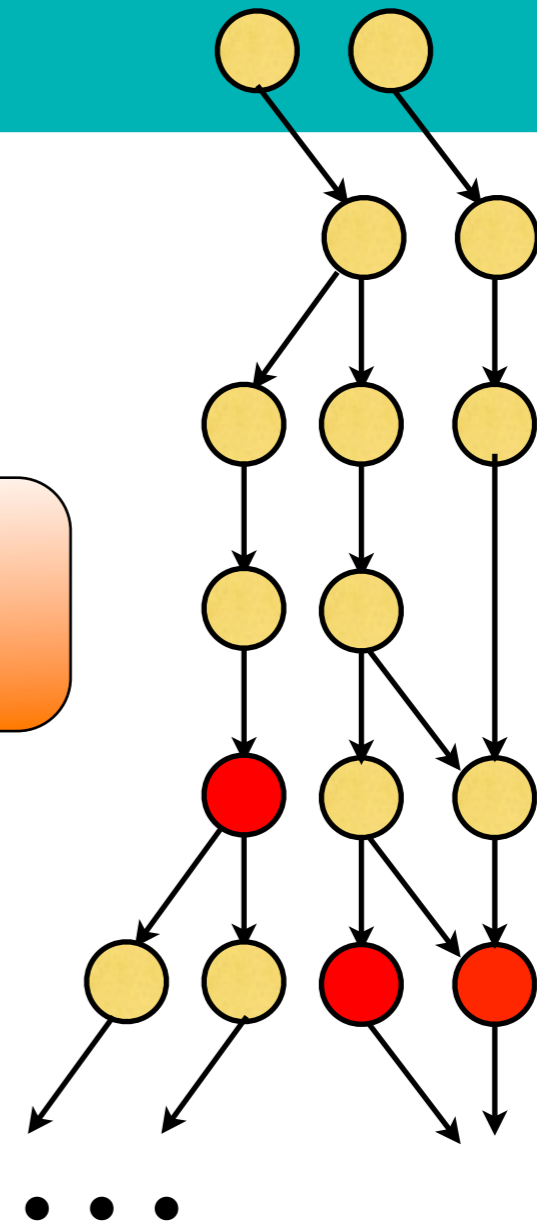
~~EF<sub>red</sub>~~

AF<sub>red</sub>

AF<sub>red</sub> holds!

Recurrent set.

Initial states





# Automation

How do we discover *chutes*?

~~EF<sub>red</sub>~~

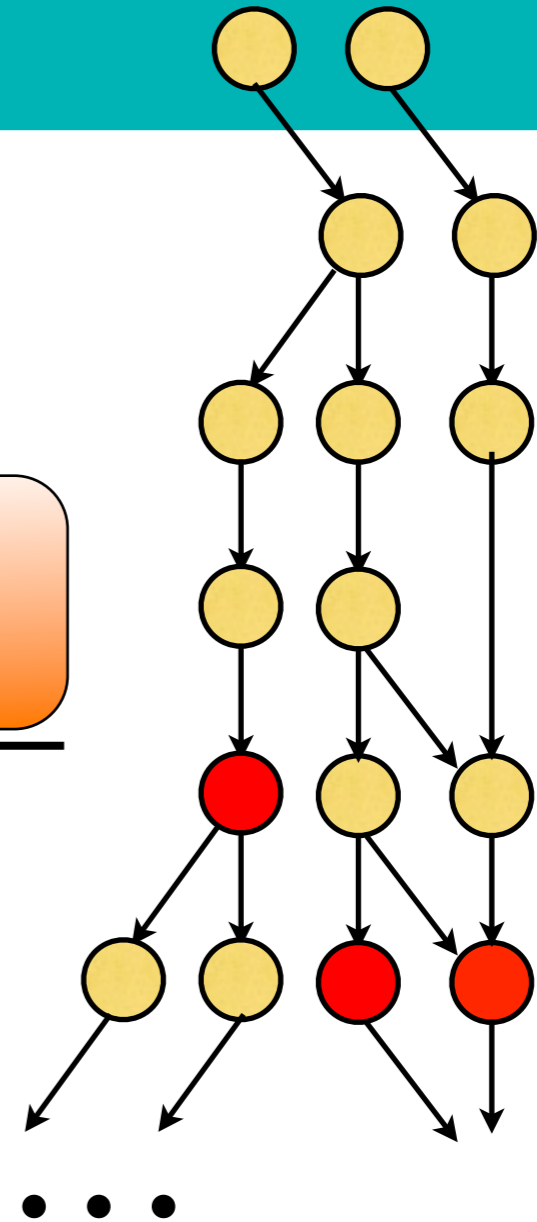
AF<sub>red</sub>

AF<sub>red</sub> holds!

Recurrent set.

EF<sub>red</sub>

Initial states



# Automation

How do we discover **chutes**?

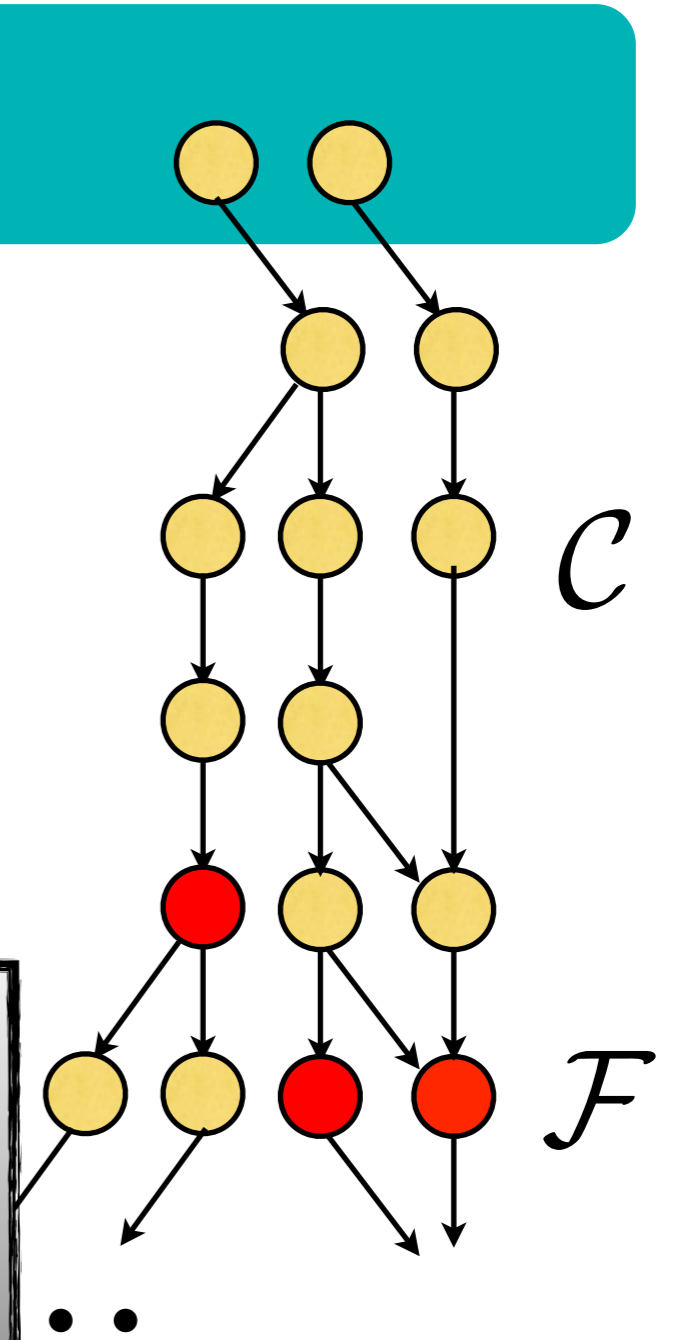
$EF_{red}$

Initial states

$X$

$\mathcal{C}$

$\mathcal{F}$



$$\frac{\frac{(X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}) \text{ is rcr} \quad \frac{\mathbf{W}_X^{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F}} \text{ is w.f.} \quad \mathcal{F} \vdash \text{red}}{X, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{F} \Vdash \mathcal{F} \text{ red}}}{X \vdash EF \text{ red}}}$$

# Automation

## Iterated refinement Algorithm

Prove( $P, \Phi$ ) :

**let**  $\Phi' = \Phi$  where replace “E” with “A” **in**

**loop**

**match** ( $P \vdash_{\forall} \Phi$ ) **with**

| Fail  $\chi$  in EG or EF  $\rightarrow$  eliminate  $\chi$

| Fail  $\chi$  in AG or AF  $\rightarrow$  **return** Fail

| Succeed  $\rightarrow$

**if** C's are recurrent, **return** Succeed

**else return** Fail

# Implementation

- *Input*: C program, CTL property
- CIL front-end, generate the CAV'11 encoding
- *Safety*: prove encoding “cannot return false” (SLAM or BLAST)
- *Termination (AF/EF)*:  
term. argument refinement via Terminator/ARMC
- *Recurrent sets (EF/EG)*: Octagon and SMT solver

# Implementation

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term. argument refinement via Terminator/ARMC
- *Recurrent sets (EF/EG)*: Octagon and SMT solver

***Work in progress . . .***

***End of talk :-)***

# More about me

## **Biography**

Research Scientist, Principal Investigator,  
Courant Institute (NYU)

PhD from University of Cambridge  
(Byron Cook, Mike Gordon)

ScM from Brown University  
(Maurice Herlihy)

Software Engineer at Amazon.com

## **Research**

*Thesis:* Temporal verification  
[CAV'11, POPL'11, FMSD'12]

Depth-bounded systems,  
Bound analysis [PLDI'09]

Concur: Transactional Memory  
[PPoPP08, SPAA08i, SPAA08ii]

Systems: Req Tracing [EuroSys08]