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COUNTEREXAMPLE GUIDED CONTROL

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Motivation

- Consider 2 player games:
system (player 1) vs. environment (player 2)
- Transition systems model the **interaction** between a system and the environment
- Model checker can check these transition systems for **control**

Motivation



Very large
transition system



Solving such systems is
practically infeasible

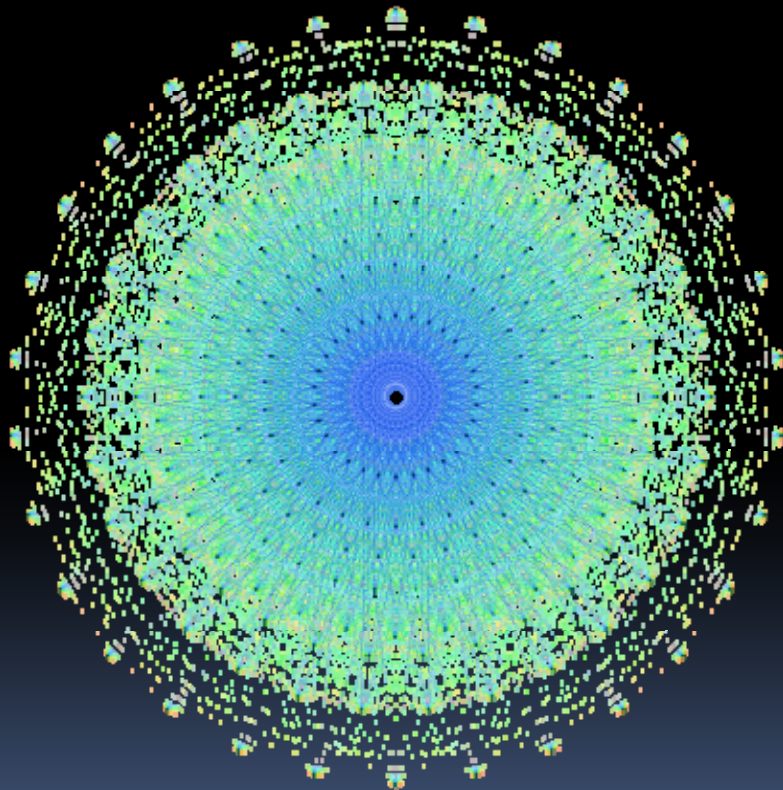


Motivation

Imagine a program component with variables over **unbounded data domains** (e.g. integers).

How would a transition system of such a program look like?

Motivation



Infinite transition system



No direct application of our finite state algorithms possible



What should we do?

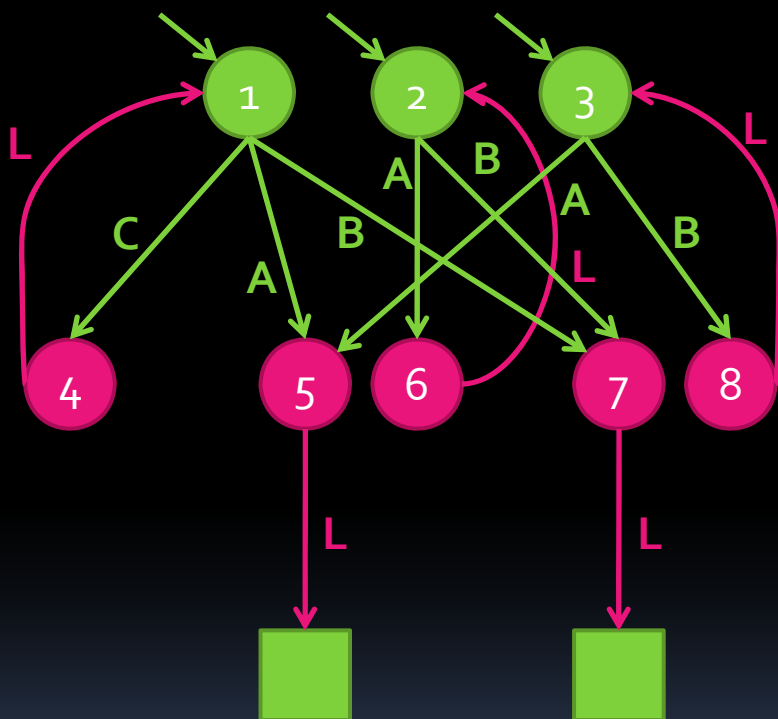
Is there a possibility for a
automatic simplification
of such transition systems?



Lets see...



Two-player game structure



Φ : set of propositions

Λ : set of labels

$\mathcal{G} = (V_1, V_2, \delta, P)$:

V_1 : player 1 nodes

V_2 : player 2 nodes

$(V = V_1 \cup V_2)$

δ : $\delta \subseteq V \times \Lambda \times V$

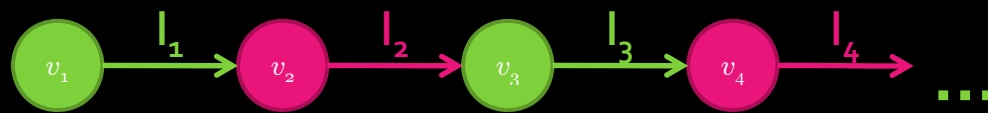
P : $V \rightarrow 2^\Phi$

init: $init \in \Phi$



Runs and strategies

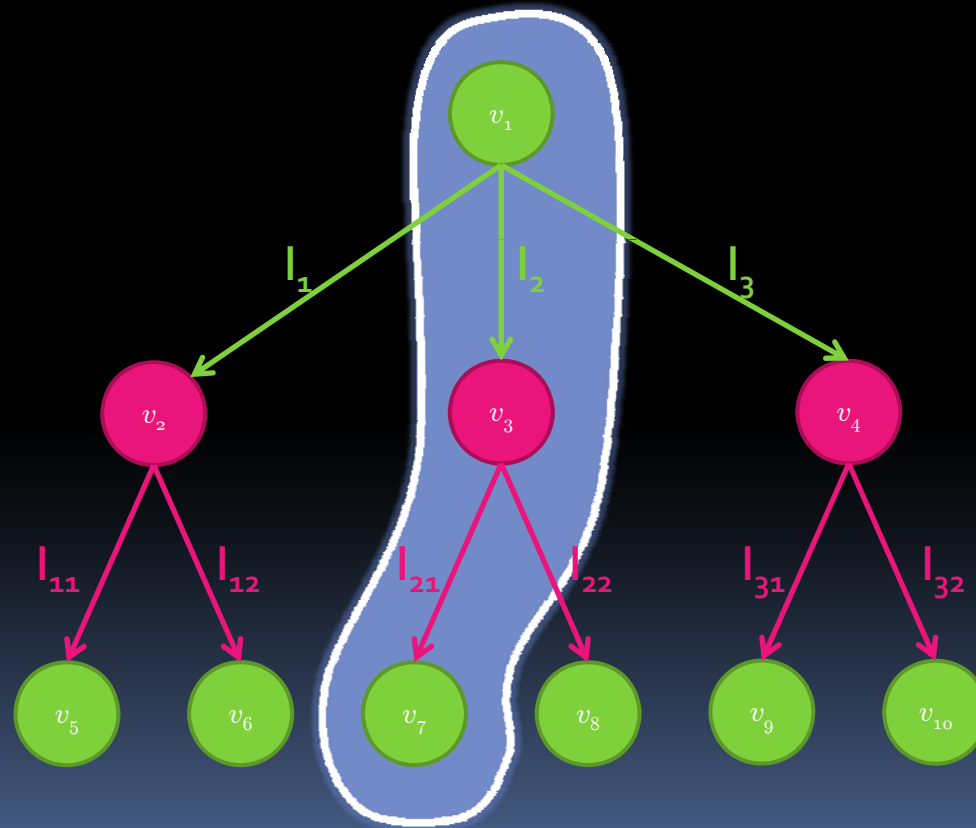
- **Run**: v_1
finite or infinite **sequence** $v_1 v_2 v_3 \dots$ of states



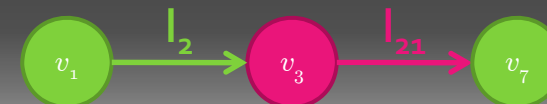
- **Strategy** for player i : function $f_i: V^* \cdot V_i \rightarrow \Lambda$

Outcome

- Outcome for strategies f_1 and f_2 : $\Omega_{f_1, f_2}(v)$

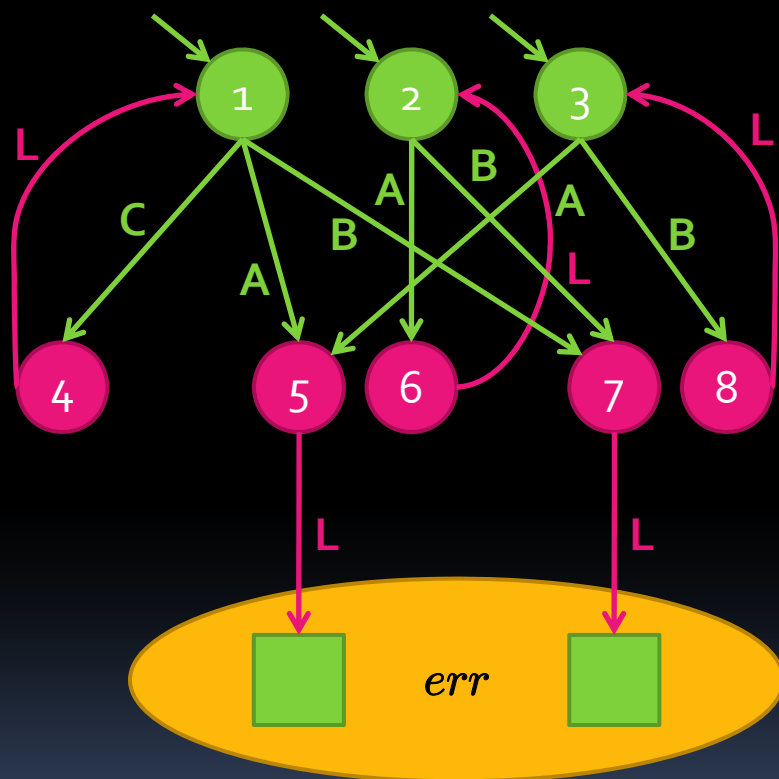


Possible outcome:





Two-player safety game



safety game (\mathcal{G}, φ) :

\mathcal{G} : game structure

φ : LTL formula over Φ

φ has the form $\square \overline{err}$

Goal of player 1:

Avoid states which satisfy
err



Winning / spoiling strategies

- Let Π_1 be the set of runs where player 1 wins
 - Infinite run that never visits an error state

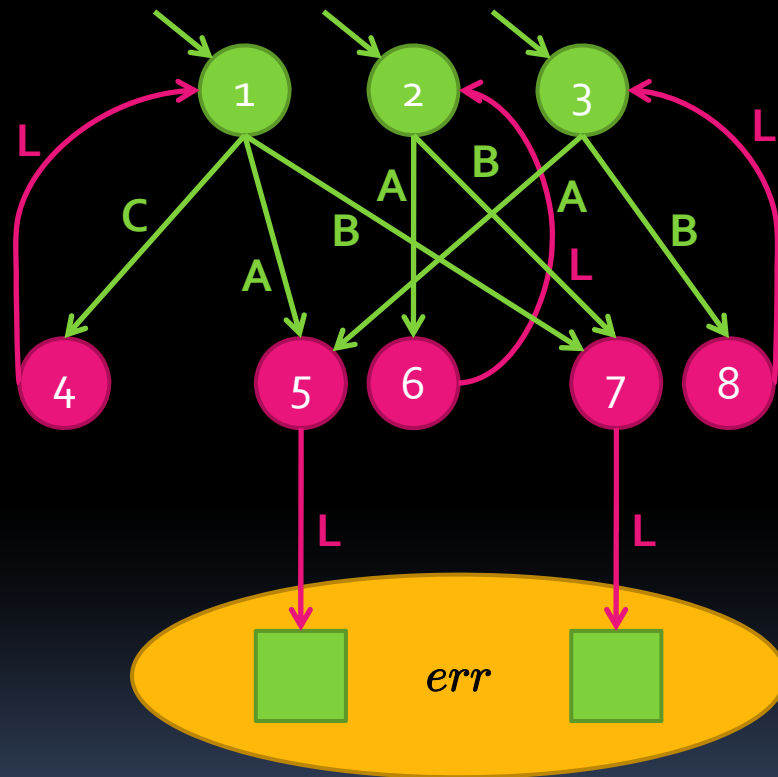
- Strategy f_1 is **winning for player 1** if for all strategies f_2 of player 2 and all initial states v :

$$\Omega_{f_1, f_2}(v) \subseteq \Pi_1$$

- Strategy f_2 is **spoiling for player 2** if for all strategies f_1 of player 1 and a initial state v :

$$\Omega_{f_1, f_2}(v) \not\subseteq \Pi_1$$

Example: Winning strategy



Winning strategy for player 1:

- At state 1 she plays C
- At state 2 she plays A
- At state 3 she plays B



Problem

Game graph might be

- Very large
 - solving the game is **practically infeasible**
- Infinite
 - Algorithms for **finite state** case cannot be **applied directly**





The solution: abstraction

Obtain a simplification of the game which is

1. **less expensive** to solve

⇒ smaller / finite state space

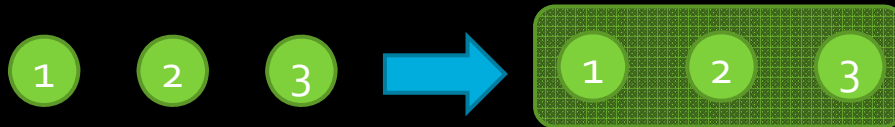
2. **sound**

⇒ if player 1 wins the abstract game he wins also the concrete game

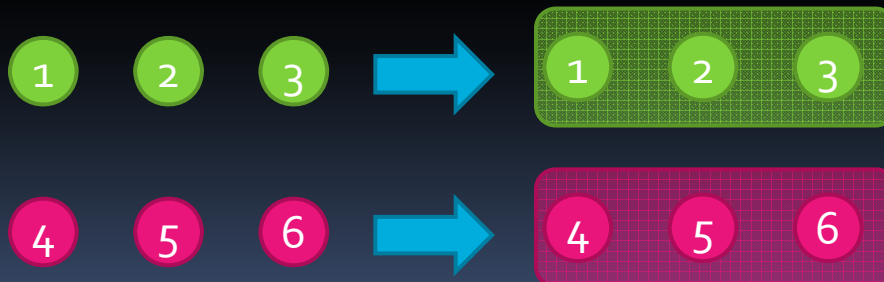


Abstract states

1. An abstract state $v^\alpha \in V^\alpha$ represents a set $\llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket \subseteq V$ of concrete states



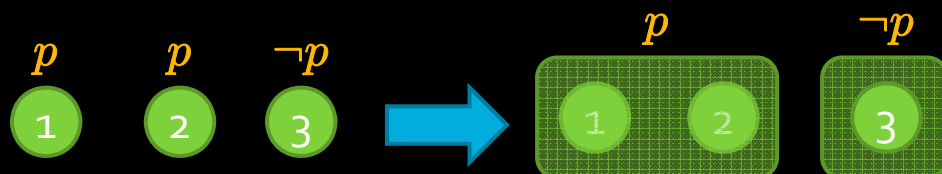
2. Player structure is preserved:



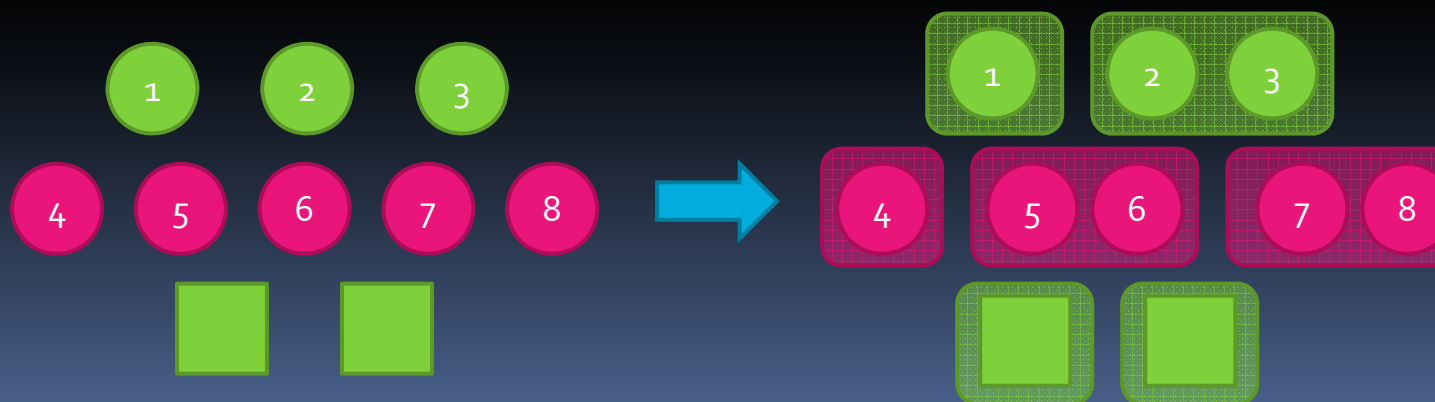


Abstract states

(3) Propositions are preserved:



(4) The abstract states cover the whole concrete state space:





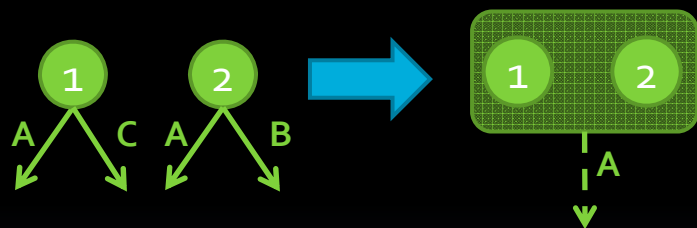
How to ensure soundness?

- Restrict the power of player 1
 - ⇒ Player 1 has **fewer** moves in the abstraction
- Increase the power of player 2
 - ⇒ Player 2 has **more** moves in the abstraction



Abstract moves for player 1

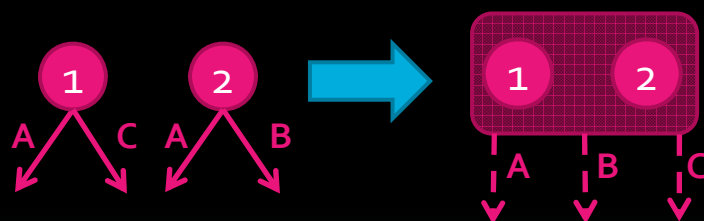
From each abstract v^α player 1 state **only moves** are allowed **which could be played from each** concrete state $v \in \llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket$:





Abstract moves for player 2

From each abstract v^α player 2 state **all moves** are allowed **which could be played from a concrete** state $v \in \llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket$:





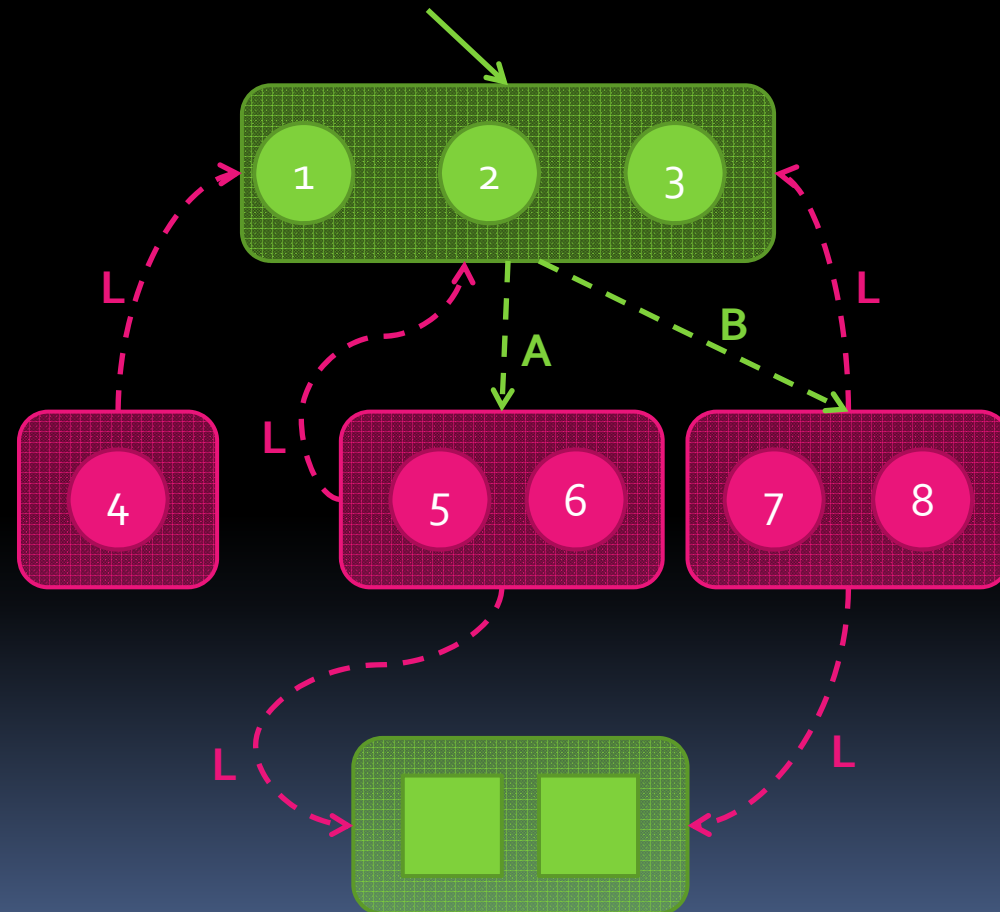
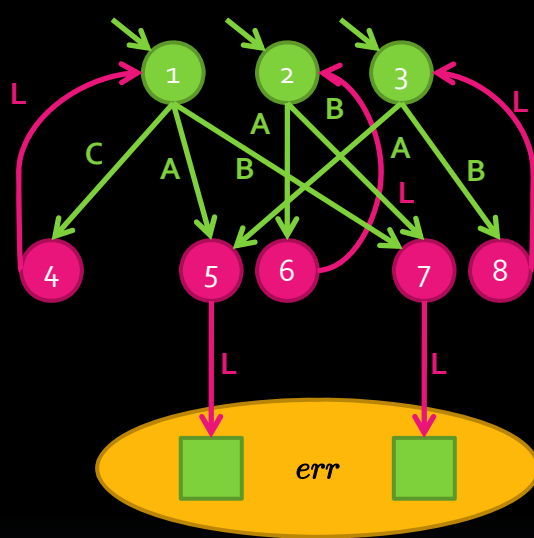
Abstraction

Abstraction for a game structure \mathcal{G} :

game structure $\mathcal{G}^\alpha = (V_1^\alpha, V_2^\alpha, \delta^\alpha, P^\alpha)$

and a **concretization function** $[[\cdot]] : V^\alpha \rightarrow 2^V$

Example: abstraction





Question

If player 1 wins $(\mathcal{G}^\alpha, \varphi)$ she wins also (\mathcal{G}, φ)

But what if player 2 has a **spoiling strategy** for $(\mathcal{G}^\alpha, \varphi)$?

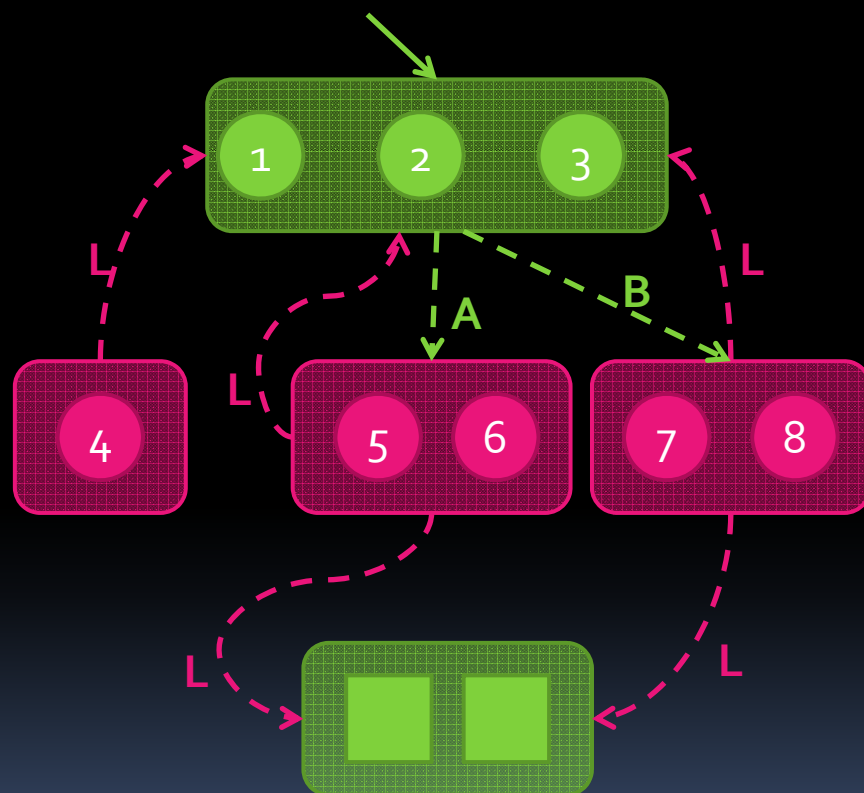




Counterexample

- Spoiling strategy for player 2 = **counterexample** that player 1 can't win the game
- **Genuine** counterexample corresponds to one in the concrete game
- **Spurious** counterexample arises due coarseness of the abstraction

Example: Spurious counterexample



Spoiling strategy for player 2:

- At state $\{5,6\}$ she plays $L \Rightarrow$ error state
- At state $\{7,8\}$ she plays $L \Rightarrow$ error state



Counterexample

We want to:

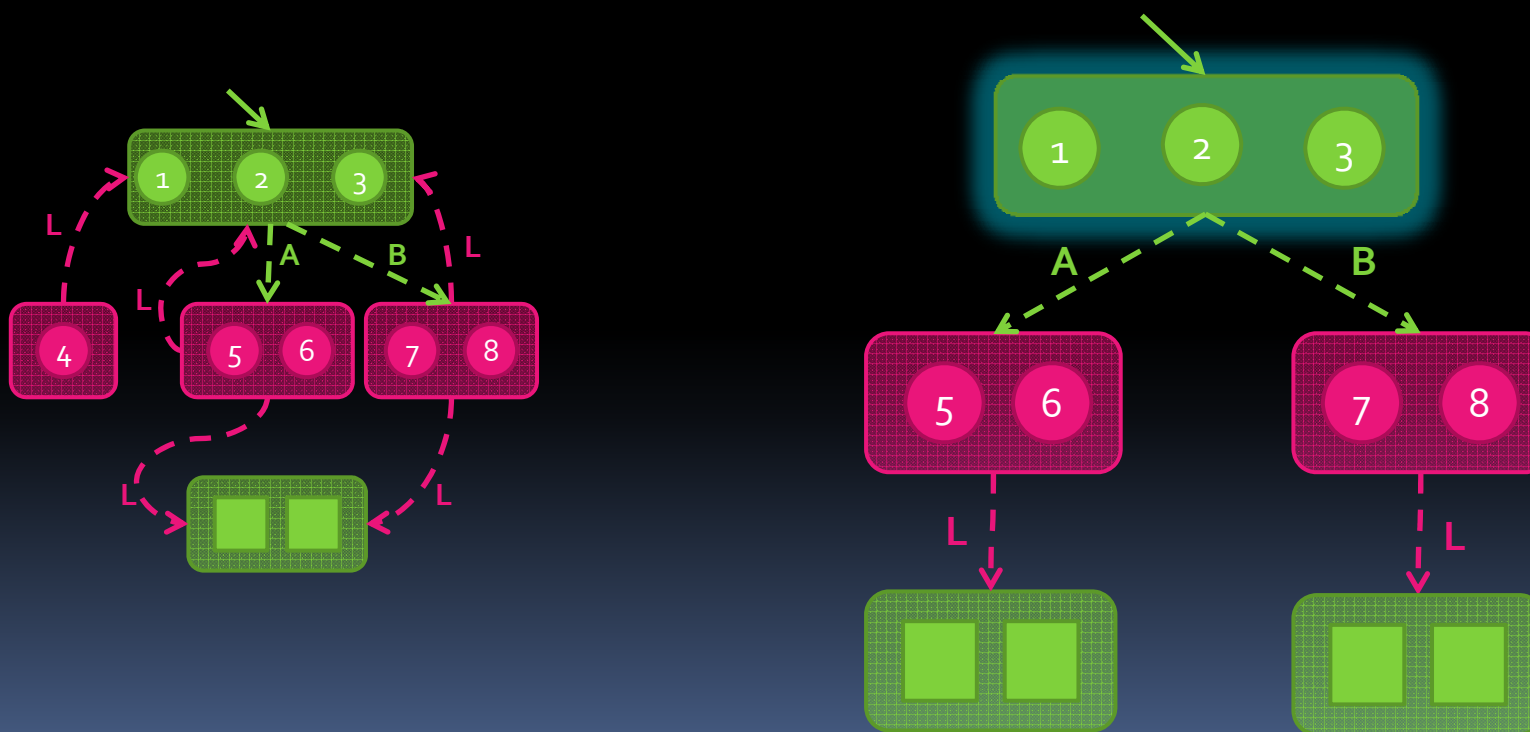
- **Determine** whether a counterexample is genuine
- **Automatically refine** the abstraction to rule out a spurious counterexample

Counterexamples are **represented** by finite labeled trees: **Abstract counterexample tree (ACT)**



Abstract counterexample trees (ACT)

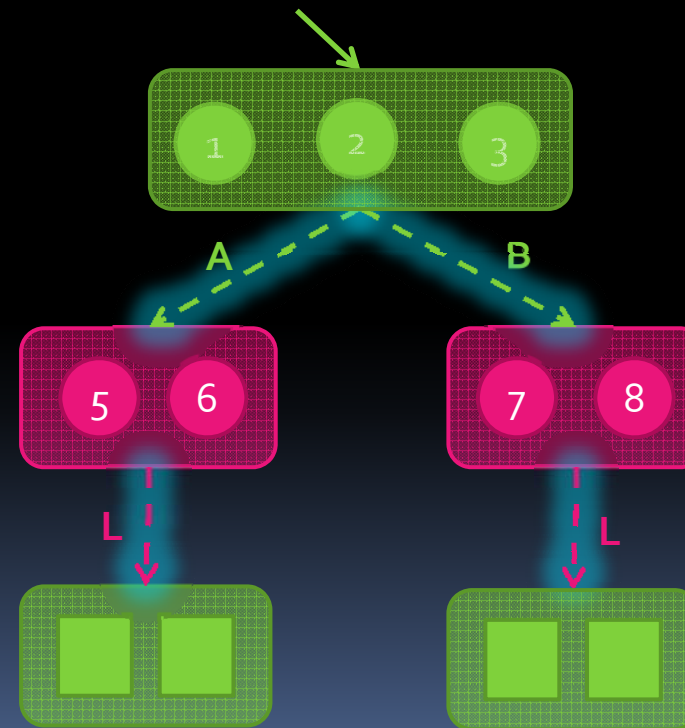
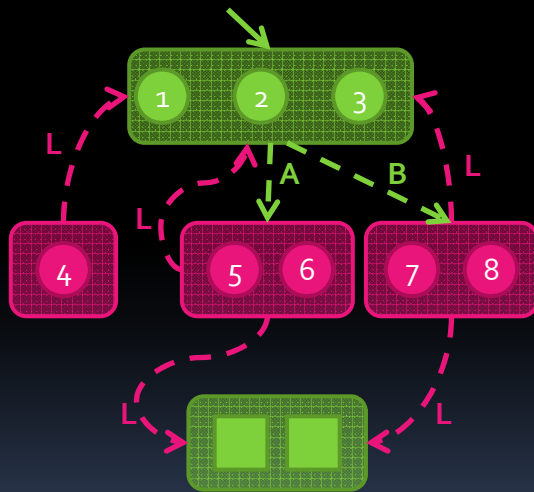
Root labeled by $v^\alpha \Rightarrow \llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket \subseteq [init]$





Abstract counterexample trees (ACT)

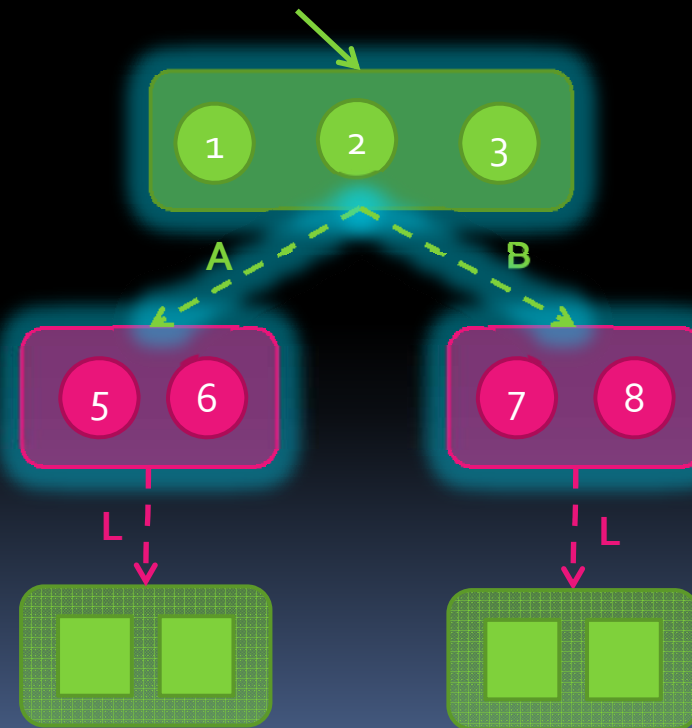
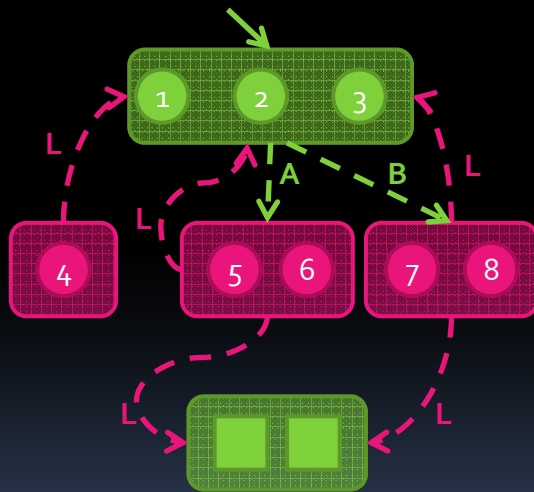
$$n': w^\alpha \text{ l-child of } n: v^\alpha \Rightarrow \delta^\alpha(v^\alpha, l, w^\alpha)$$





Abstract counterexample trees (ACT)

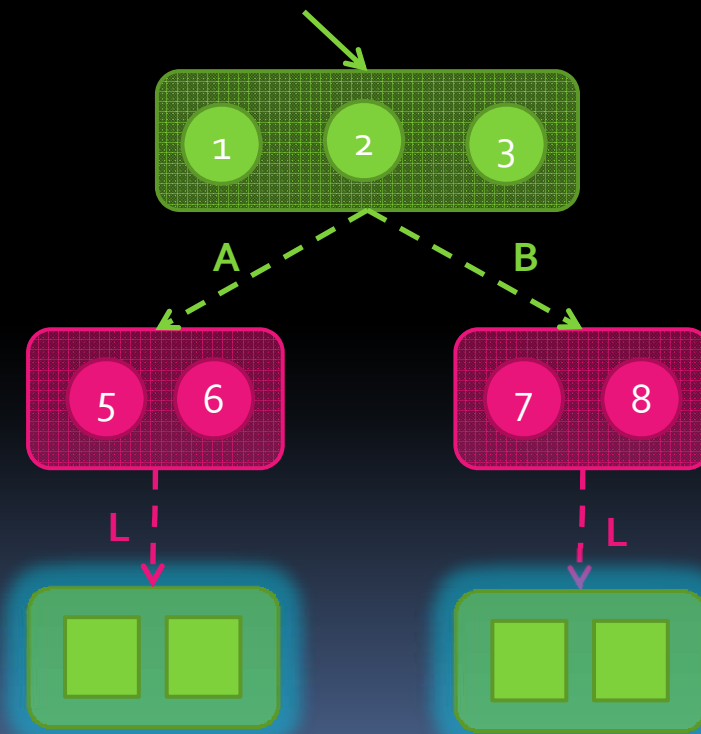
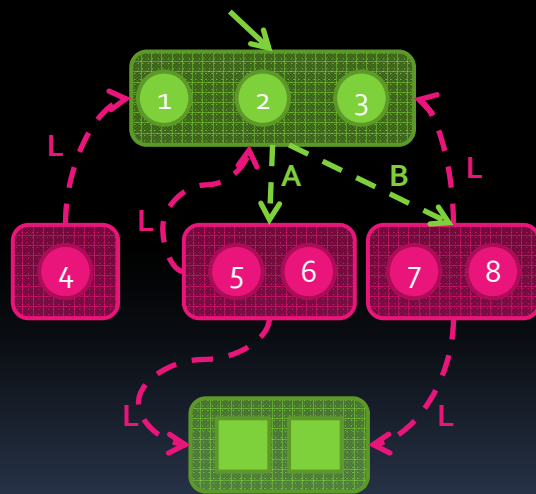
n : v^α non-leaf player 1 node \Rightarrow
for each $l \in L^\alpha(v^\alpha)$ n has at least one l -child





Abstract counterexample trees (ACT)

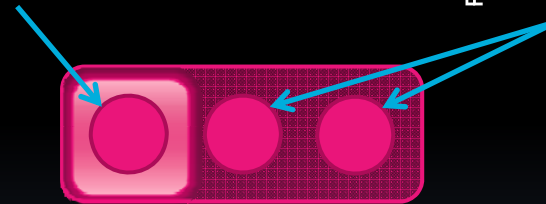
Leaf labeled by v^α : $L^\alpha(v^\alpha) = \emptyset$ or $\llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket \subseteq [err]$





Analyze a counterexample

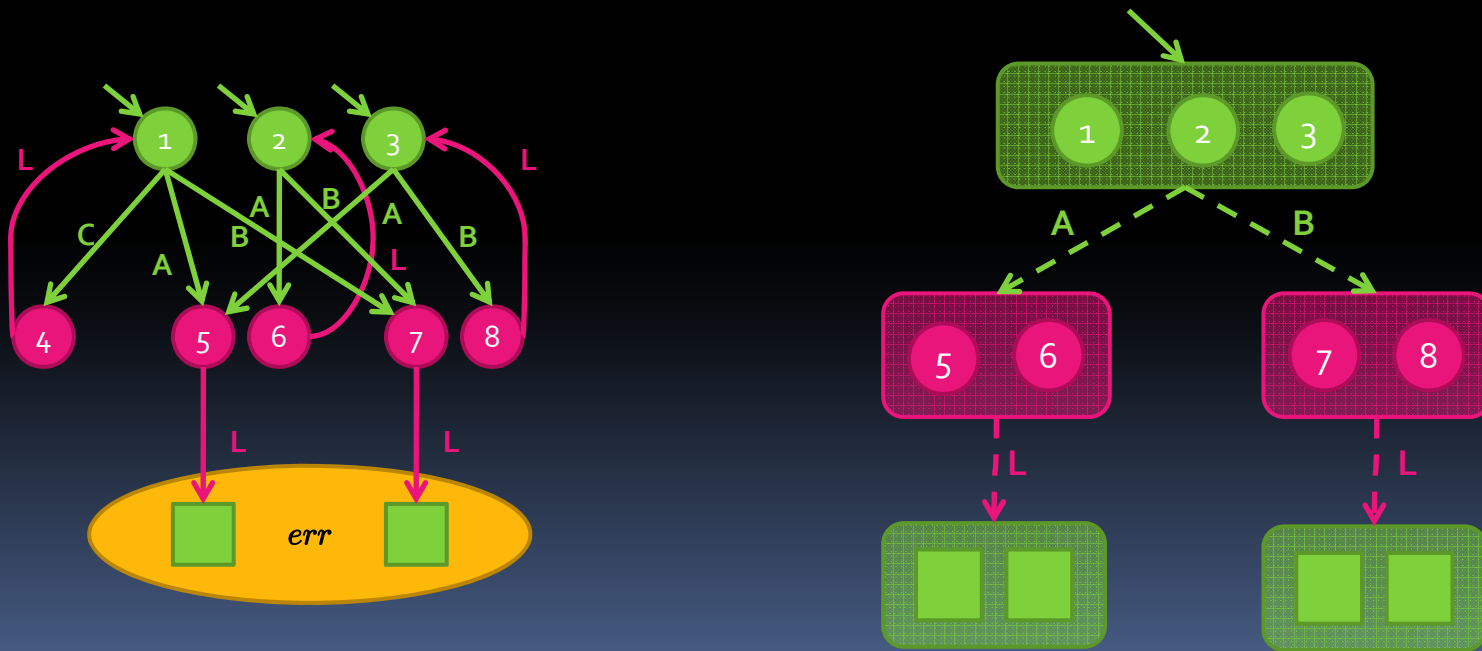
- Concrete node $v \in \llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket$ is part of a spoiling strategy
 \Rightarrow A **successor** of v is part of a spoiling strategy
- Divide each v^α in a **good** set r and a **bad** set $\llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket \setminus r$



- ACT T^α is genuine iff its **root** contains a **non-empty** good set

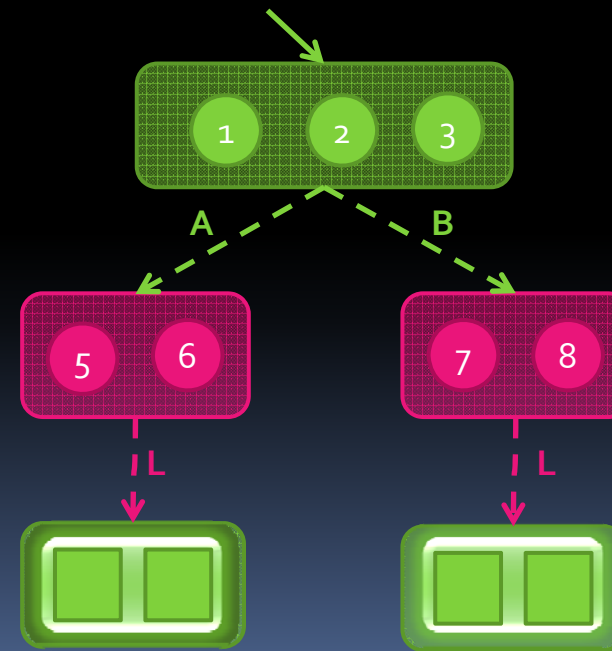
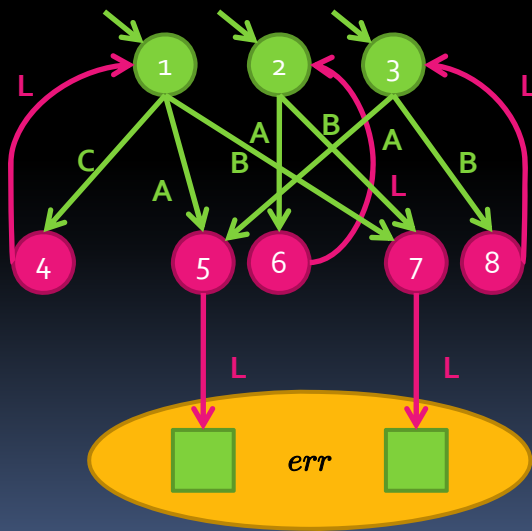
Analyze a counterexample

Annotate each node n of a given ACT T^α with r (**Focusing**) under following rules:



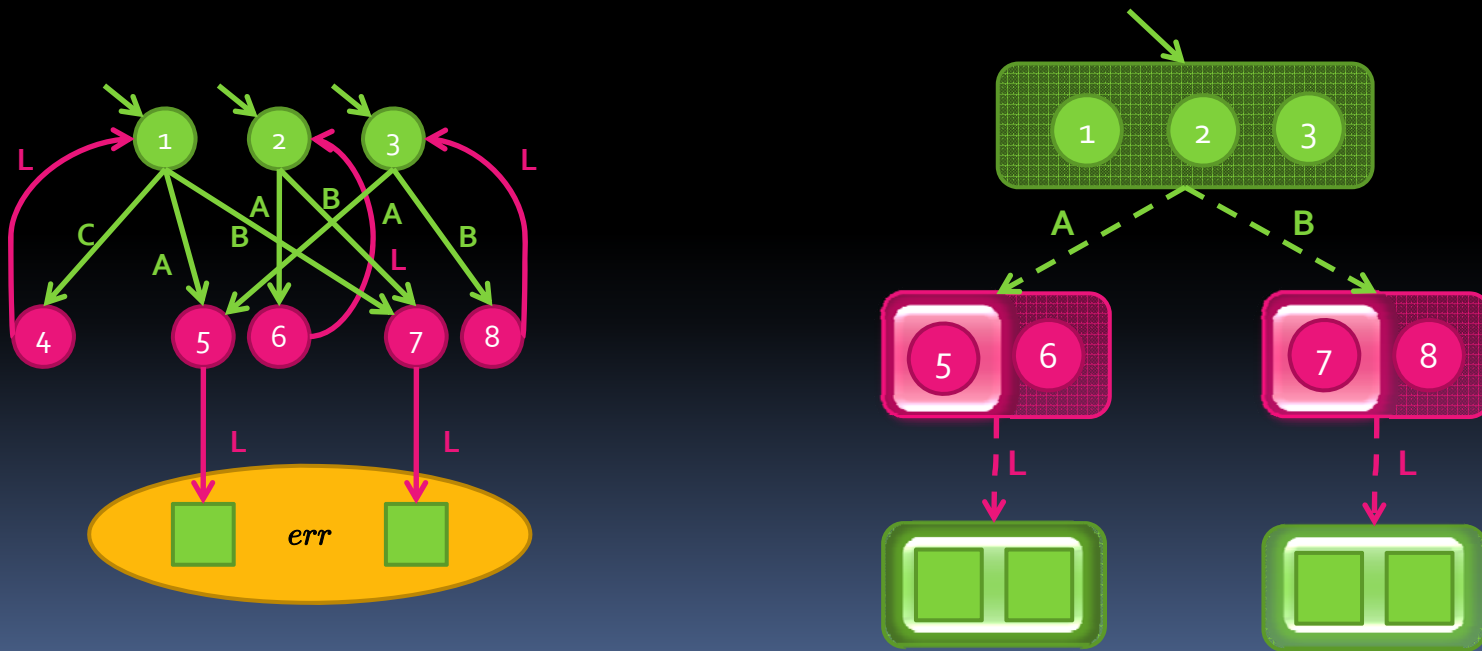
Analyze a counterexample

Node is a **leaf**: $r = \llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket$



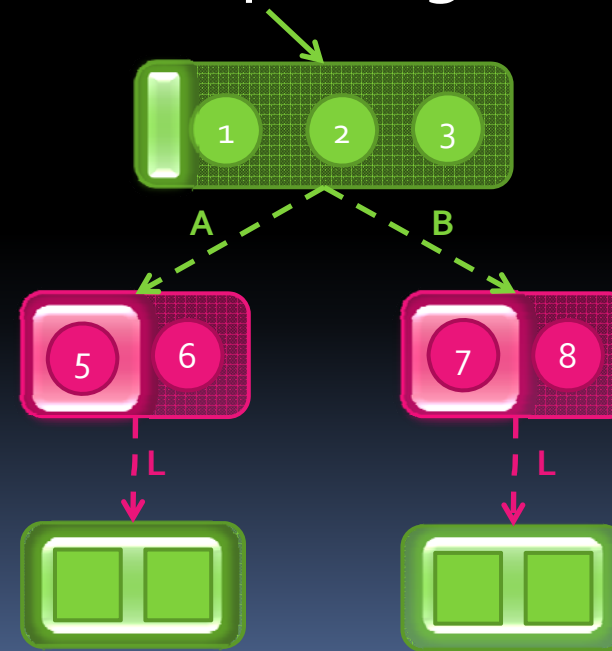
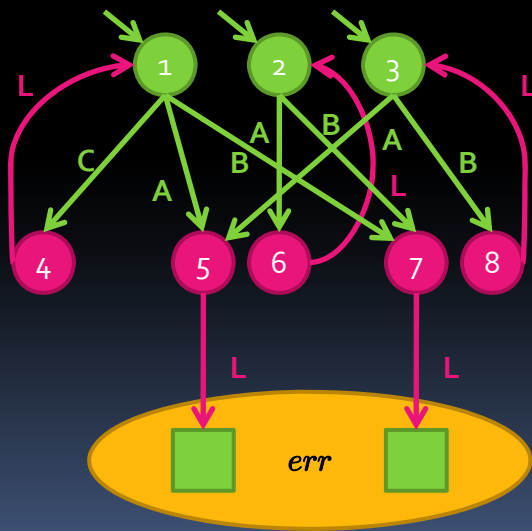
Analyze a counterexample

Node is a **player 2 state**: $v \in r$ if there is successor of v from where player 2 can spoil



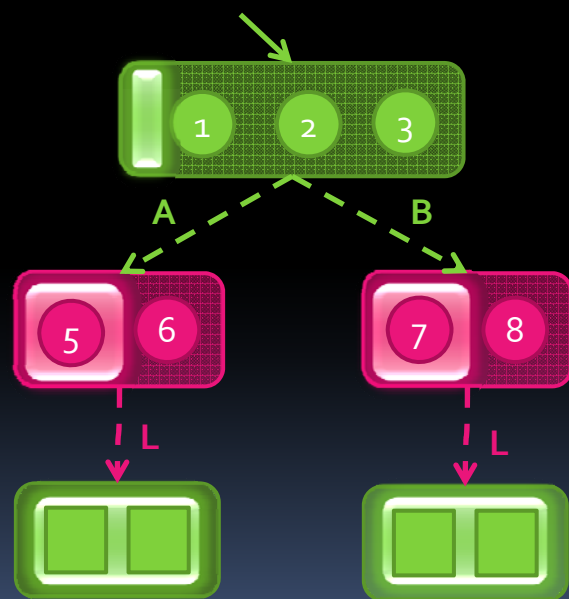
Analyze a counterexample

Node n is a non leaf **player 1 state**: $v \in r$
if all moves of v are also outgoing edges of n
and for every edge of n there is a spoiling succ. of v



Abstraction refinement

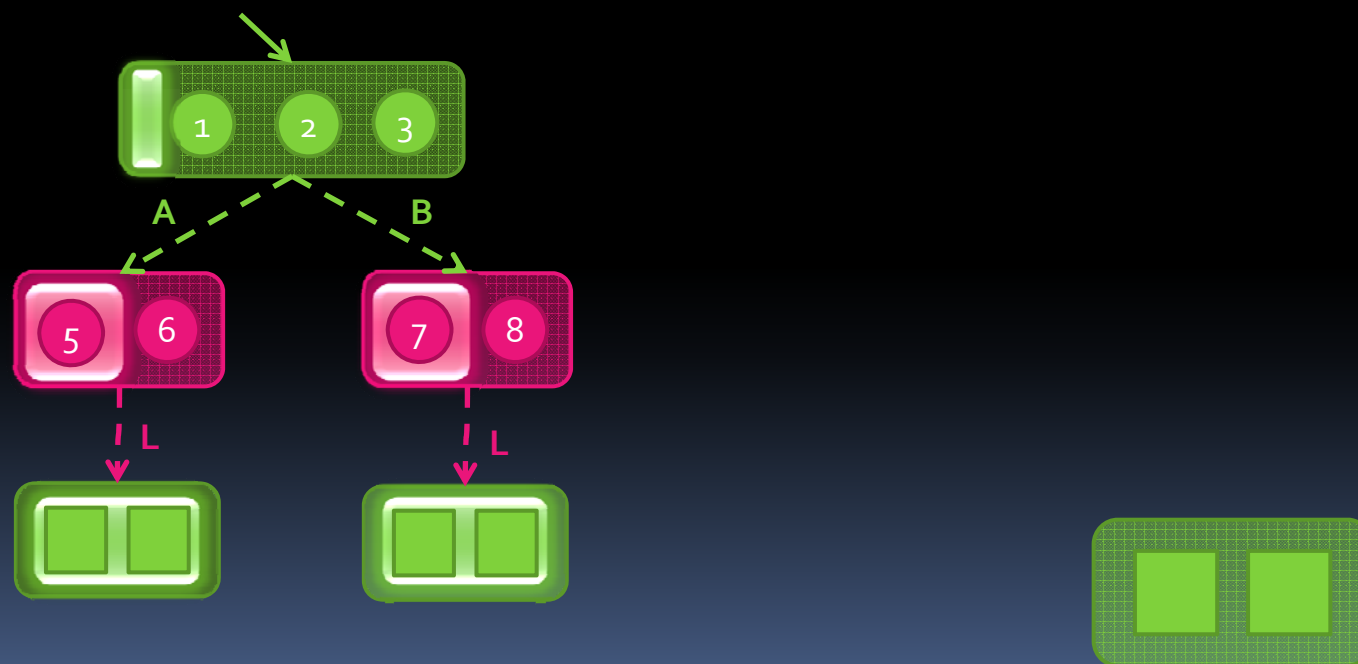
Use the annotated ACT T^α to refine the abstraction (**Shattering**):





Abstraction refinement

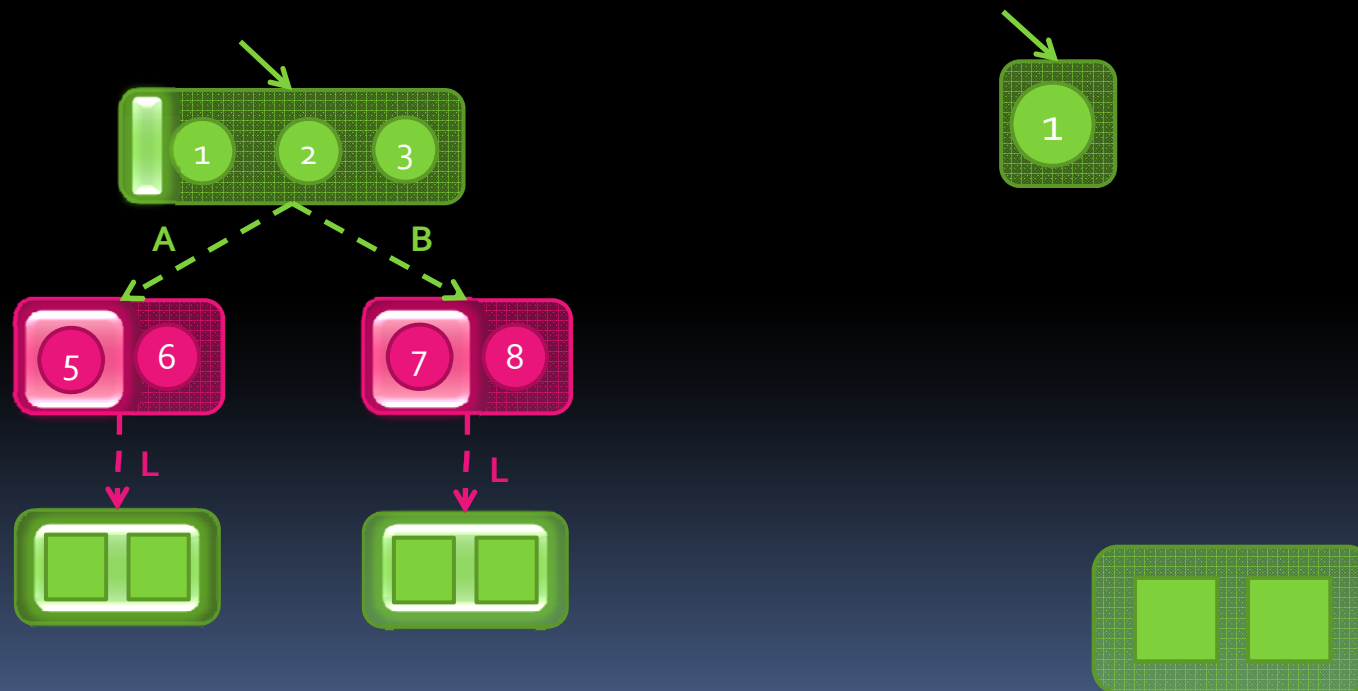
Split **player 1 nodes** in the good set $\{r\}$





Abstraction refinement

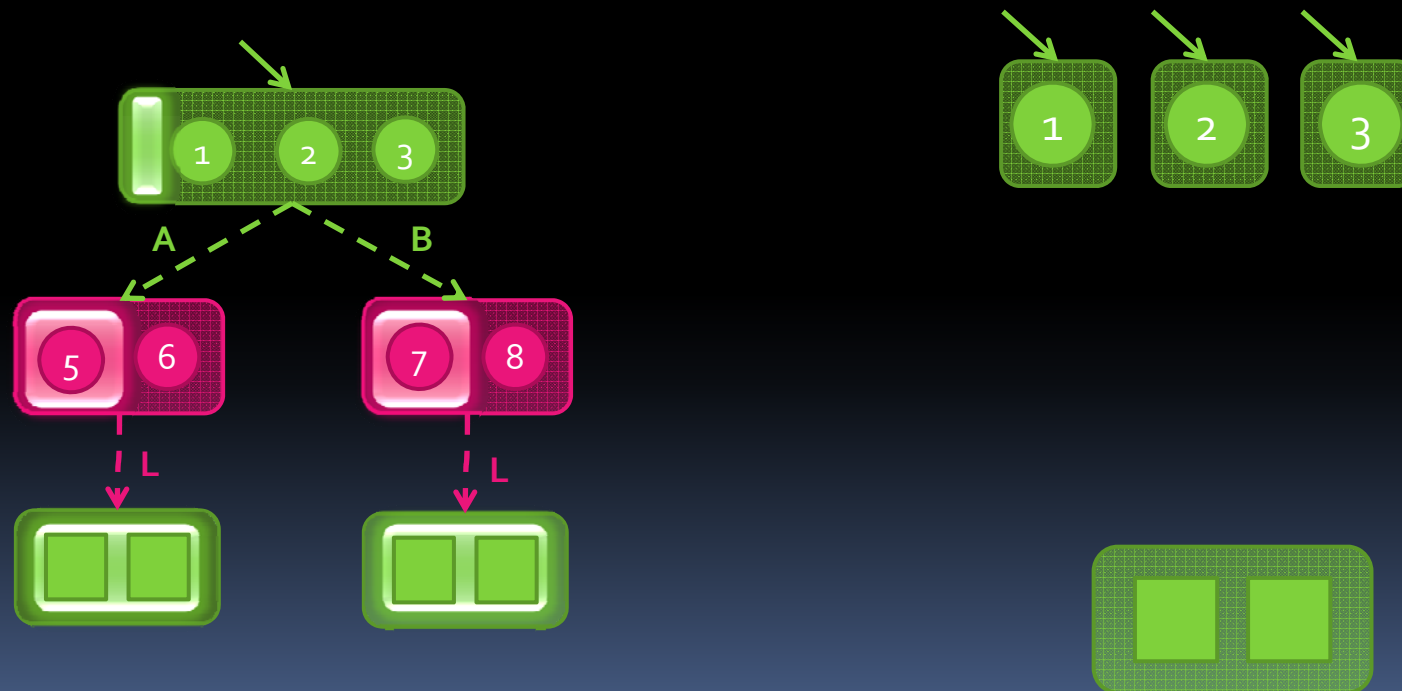
Split **player 1 nodes** in bad sets of nodes which have moves which are no edges of n





Abstraction refinement

Split **player 1 nodes** in bad sets of nodes which have a move such that the succ. is not in a good set

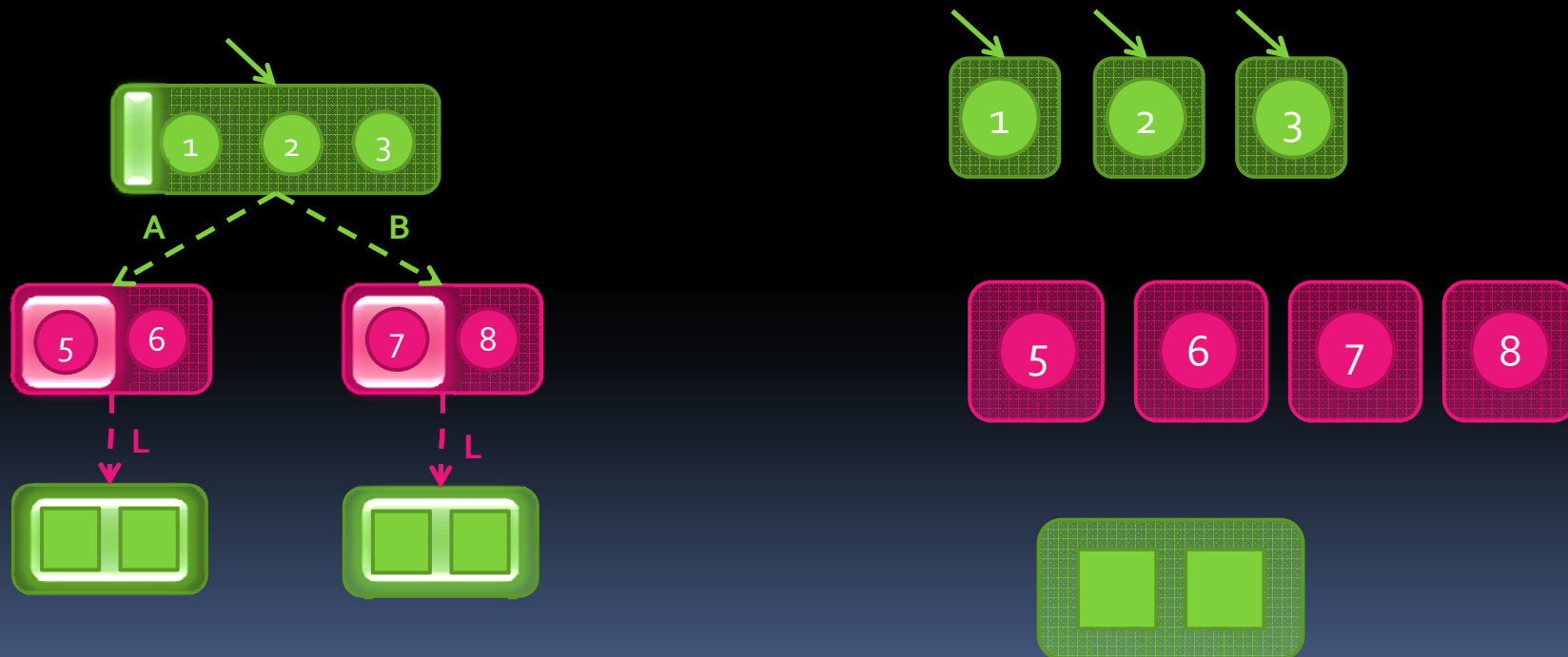




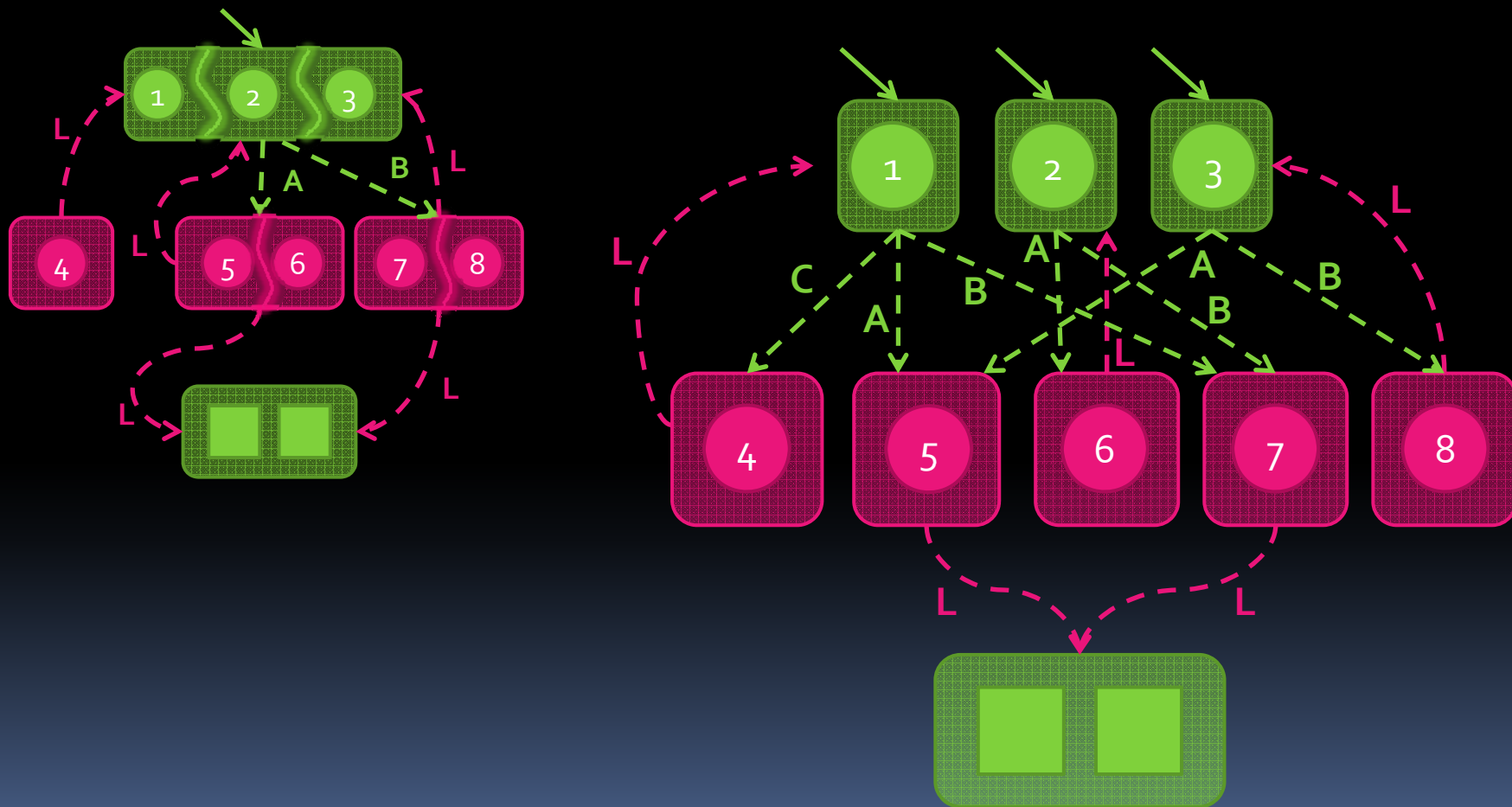
Abstraction refinement

Split player 2 in the good set $\{r\}$ and the bad set

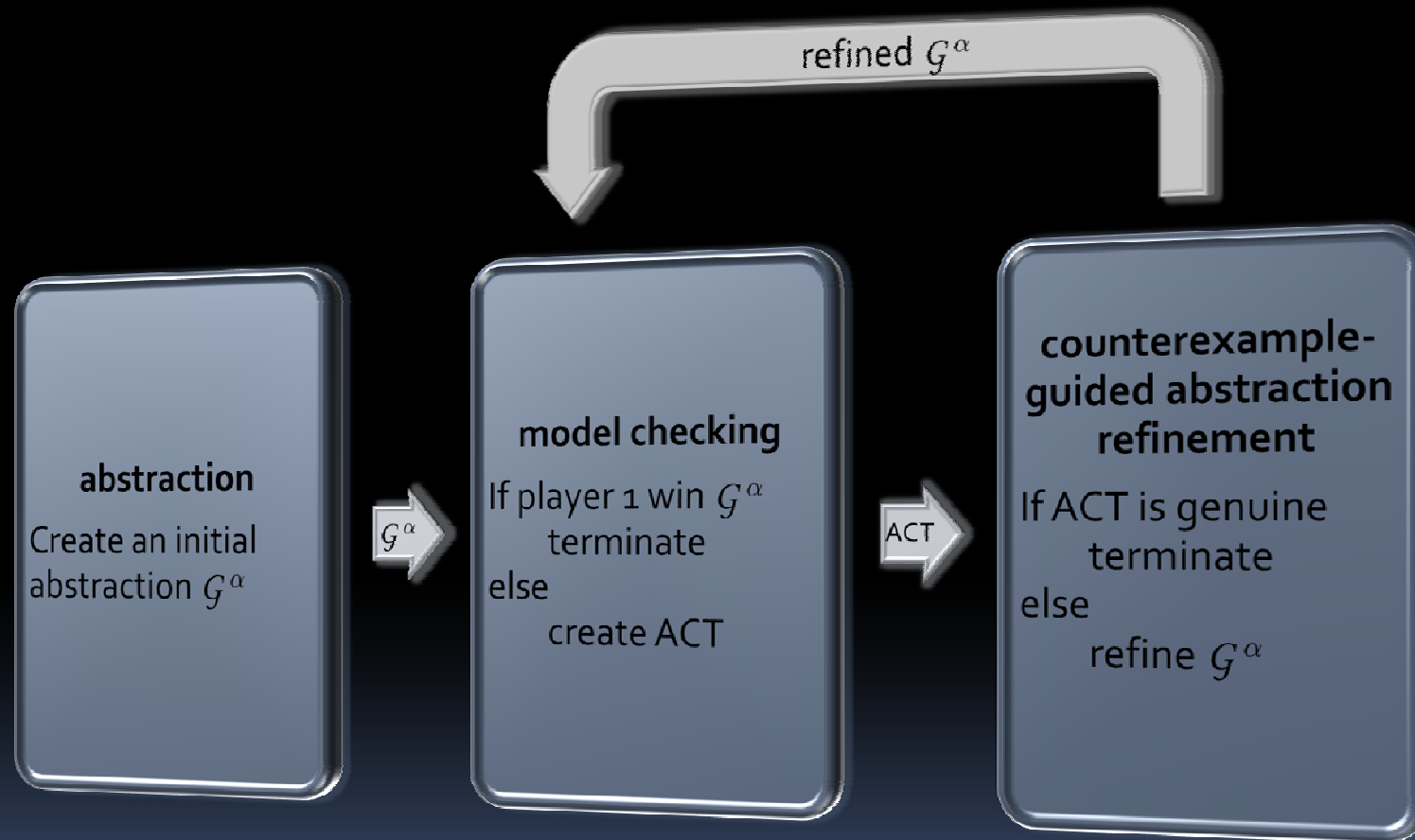
$$\llbracket v^\alpha \rrbracket \setminus r$$



Example: refined Abstraction



Counterexample-Guided Controller Synthesis



Termination



Bad news:

The refinement loop may not terminate in general for infinite state games

Good news:

Termination is guaranteed for finite games and certain state equivalences with finite index



Conclusion

- Abstraction **reduces the state space**
- **Sound abstraction**: ensures that if player 1 wins the abstract game he wins also the concrete game
- **Automatic refinement** guided by spurious spoiling strategies
- Can be **extended** to arbitrary ω -regular objectives

References



1. T. Henzinger, R. Jhala, and R. Majumdar. Counterexample-guided control. In Proc. 30th Int. Colloquium on Automata, Languages, and Programming (ICALP), volume 2719 of LNCS, pages 886--902, 2003.