

Efficient Manipulation of Logical Formulas as Decision Diagrams

Milán Mondok, Vince Molnár

Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary

Supported by the **UNKP-23-3-I-BME-8** New National Excellence Program of the Ministry for Culture and Innovation from the source of the National Research, Development and Innovation Fund



**Critical Systems
Research Group**

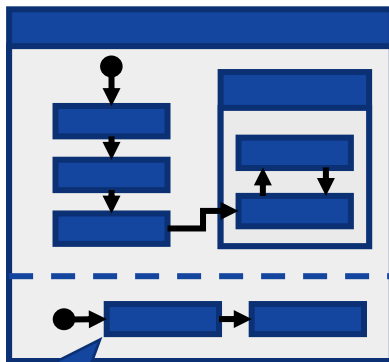
Motivation

- Heterogeneous **system models**
 - **Mix of multiple high-level languages**
 - **SysMLv2**: new OMG systems modeling language



Motivation

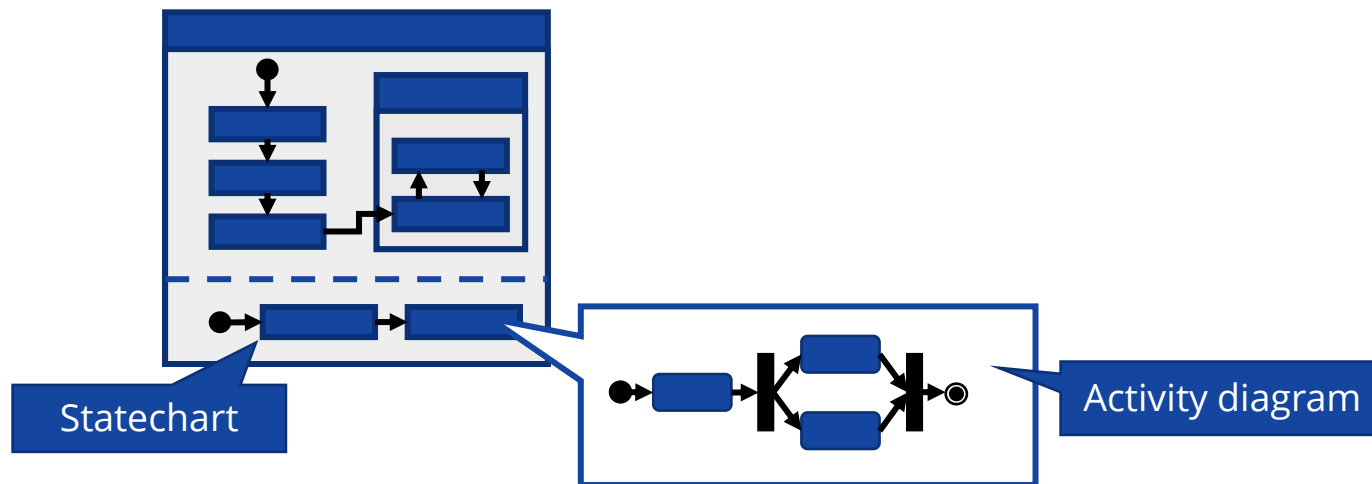
- Heterogeneous **system models**
 - Mix of multiple **high-level** languages
 - **SysMLv2**: new OMG systems modeling language



Statechart

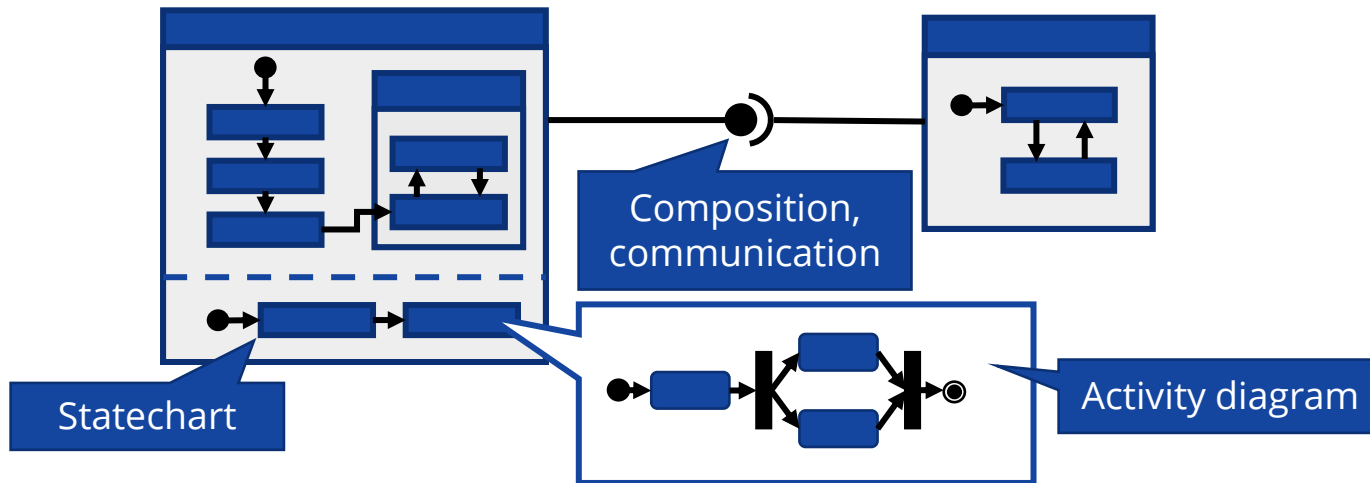
Motivation

- Heterogeneous system models
 - Mix of multiple high-level languages
 - SysMLv2: new OMG systems modeling language



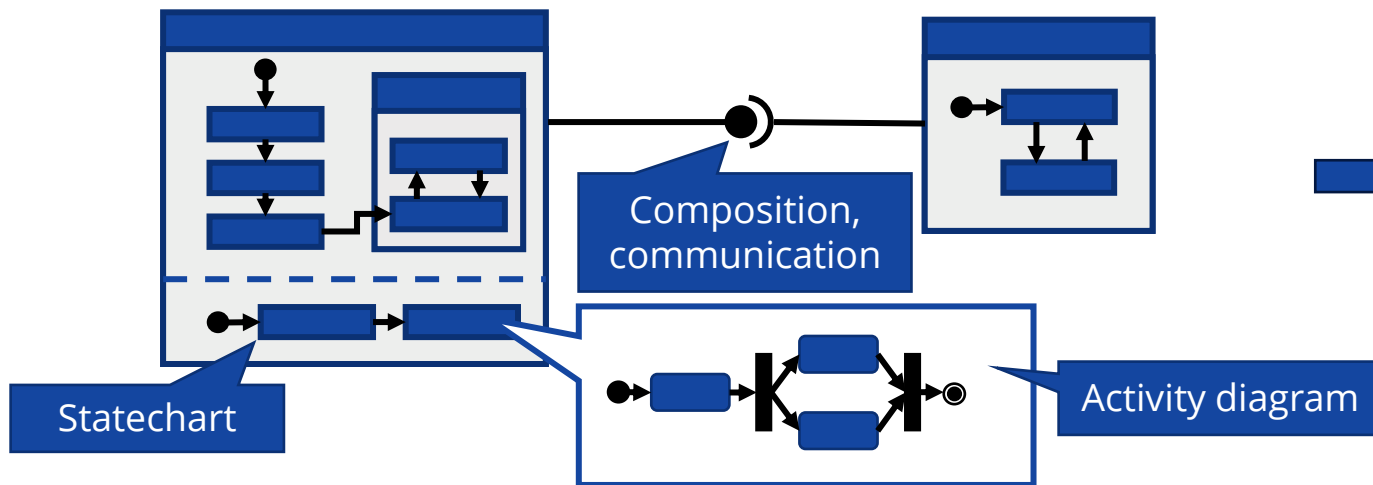
Motivation

- Heterogeneous **system models**
 - Mix of multiple **high-level** languages
 - **SysMLv2**: new OMG systems modeling language



Motivation

- Heterogeneous **system models**
 - Mix of multiple **high-level** languages
 - **SysMLv2**: new OMG systems modeling language



Initial states

$$I: x = 0$$

Transition relation

$$T: (x < 5 \wedge x' = x + 1) \vee (x \geq 5 \wedge x' = x)$$

SMT formulas

→ Transformed to an **SMT-based** representation



Model-Based Testing of Asynchronously Communicating Distributed Controllers, **Bence Graics et al**, FACS 2023

Motivation

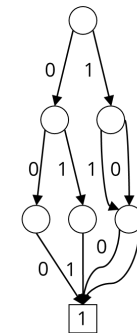
- **Async** behavior
 - Several asynchronously coupled **components**
 - Communication via e.g. message queues

Motivation

- **Async** behavior
 - Several asynchronously coupled **components**
 - Communication via e.g. message queues
 - **Decision-diagram**-based model checkers
 - (Generalized) **Saturation** algorithm
 - Proved efficient for Petri Nets



Extensions and generalization of the saturation algorithm in model checking, **Vince Molnár**, PhD Thesis, 2019

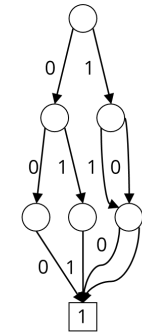


Motivation

- **Async** behavior
 - Several asynchronously coupled **components**
 - Communication via e.g. message queues
 - **Decision-diagram**-based model checkers
 - (Generalized) **Saturation** algorithm
 - Proved efficient for Petri Nets



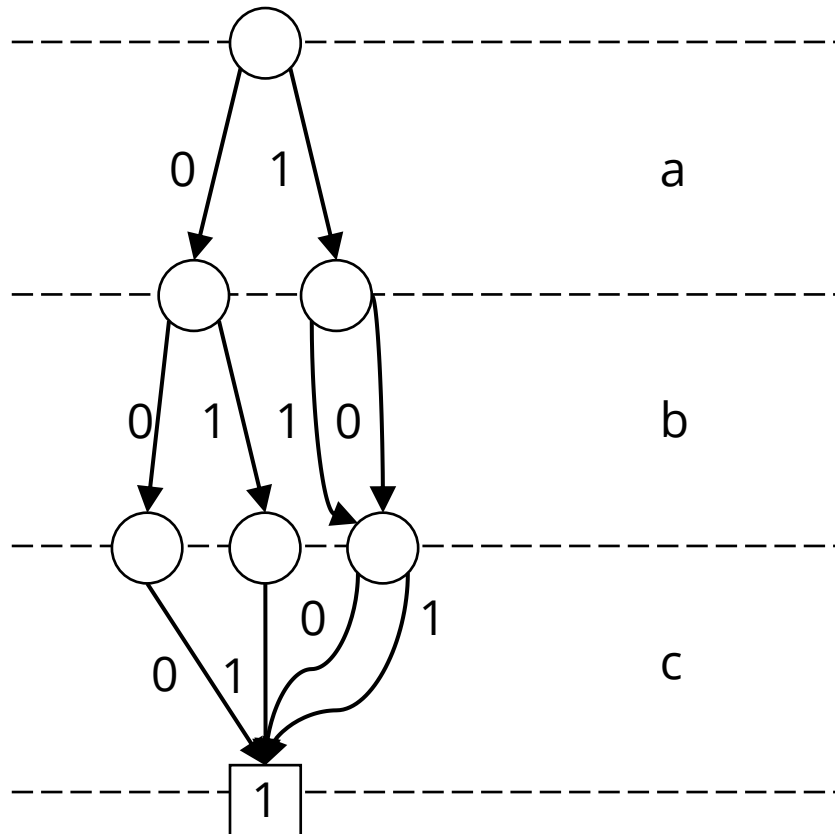
Extensions and generalization of the saturation algorithm in model checking, **Vince Molnár**, PhD Thesis, 2019



Goal: Exploit the advantages of **decision-diagram**-based algorithms (e.g., saturation) on **SMT-based** model representations

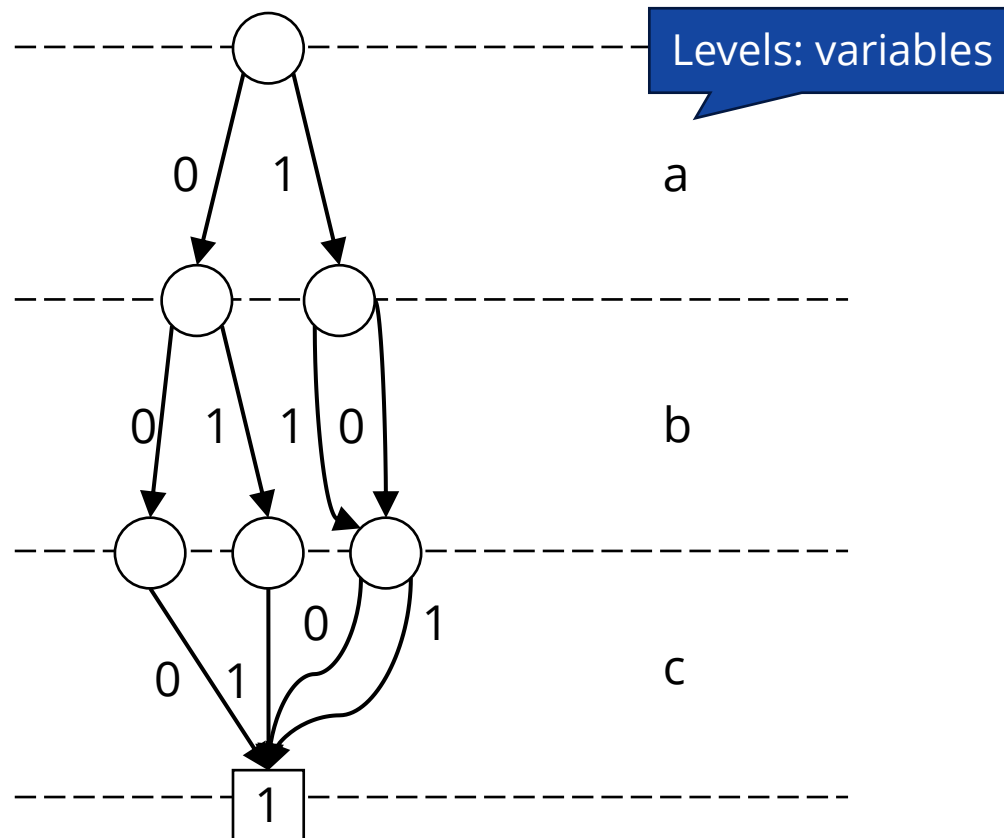
Decision diagrams

- Compact representation of a **set of vectors**



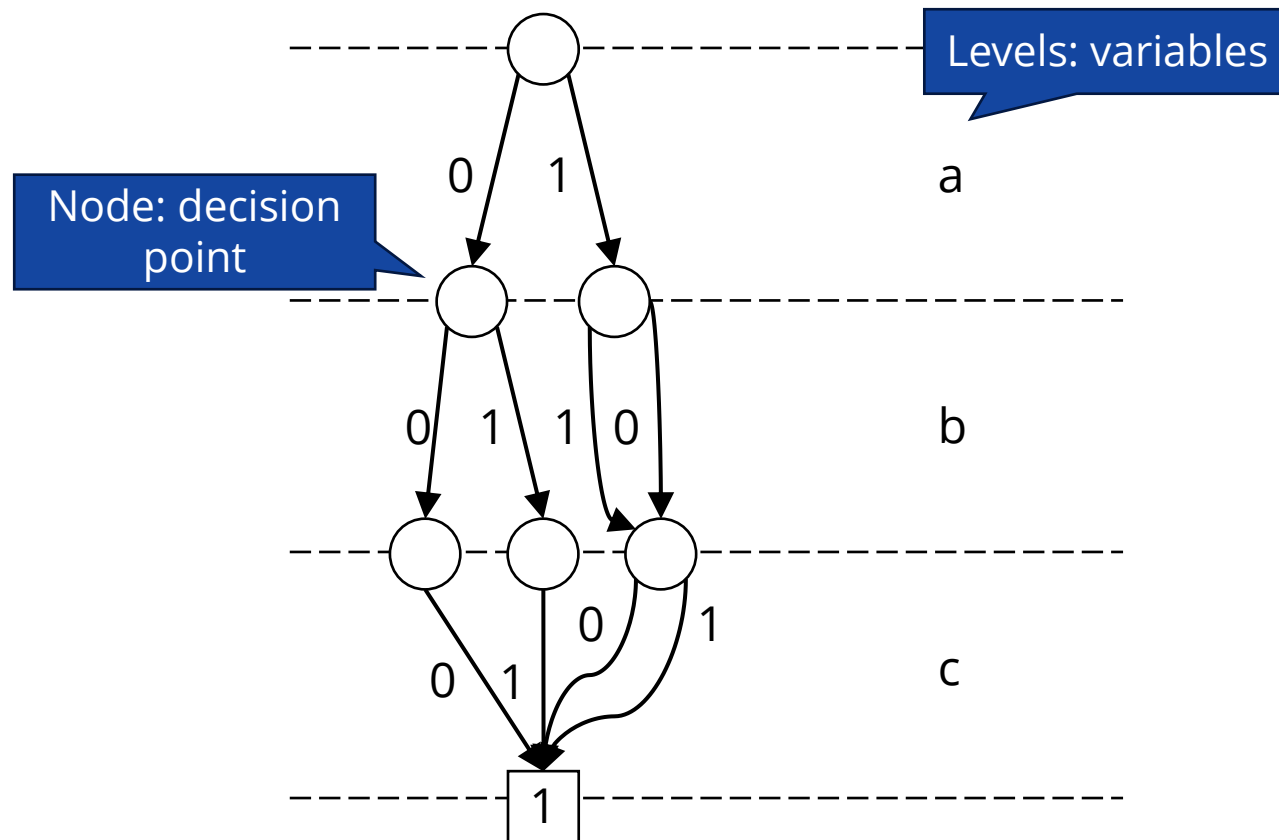
Decision diagrams

- Compact representation of a **set of vectors**



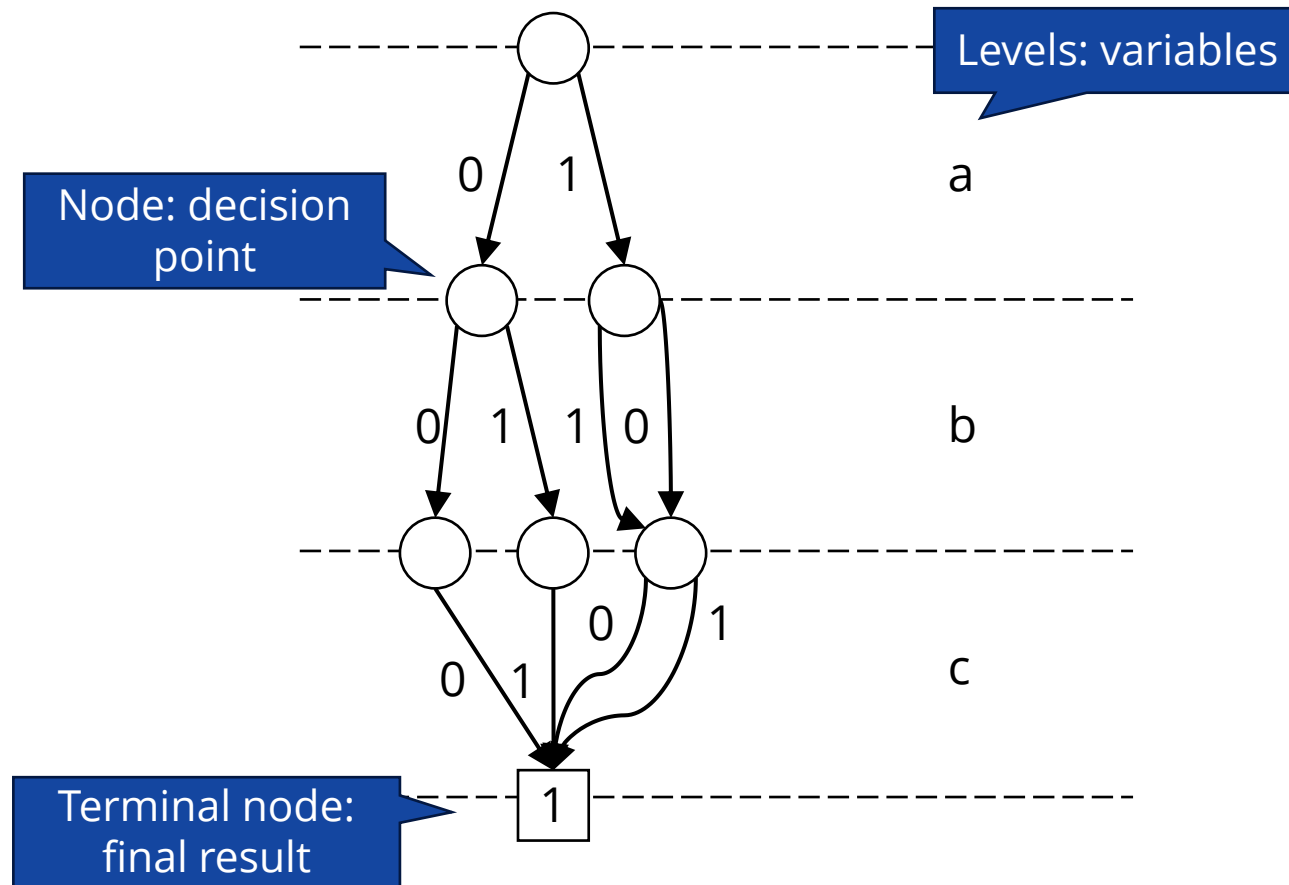
Decision diagrams

- Compact representation of a **set of vectors**



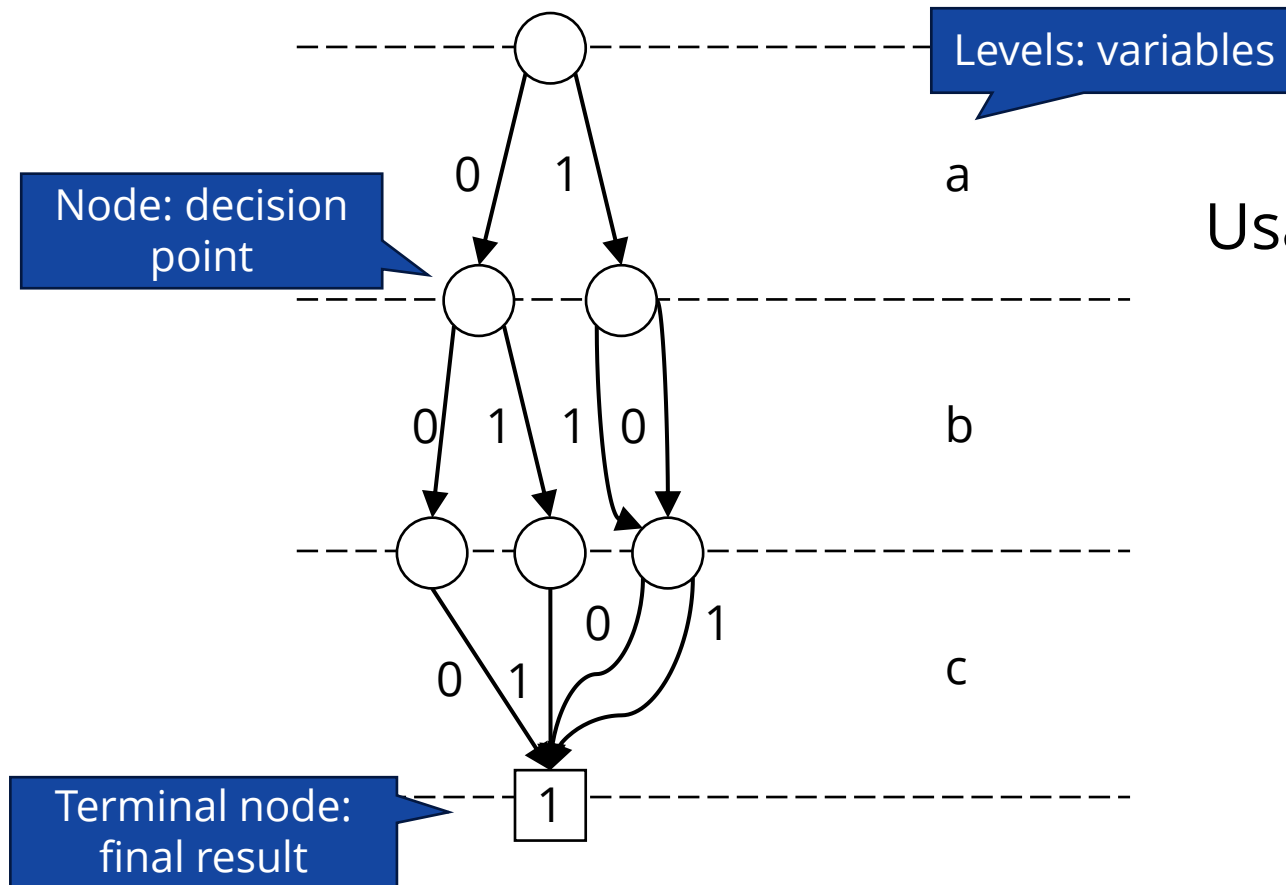
Decision diagrams

- Compact representation of a **set of vectors**



Decision diagrams

- Compact representation of a **set of vectors**



Usage for **model checking**:

- Encode states with k levels
- Encode transitions with $2k$ levels
- Model step: **relational product**
→ Calculate fixed point

level i : x
level $i+1$: x'

Decision diagram from SMT formula?

- One possible way: [enumerate](#) all solutions first

Decision diagram from SMT formula?

- One possible way: [enumerate](#) all solutions first

$$x > 0 \wedge x < 4$$

SMT formula

Decision diagram from SMT formula?

- One possible way: **enumerate** all solutions first

$x > 0 \wedge x < 4$  $\{ (x=1), (x=2), (x=3) \}$

SMT formula

Enumerated
solutions

Decision diagram from SMT formula?

- One possible way: **enumerate** all solutions first

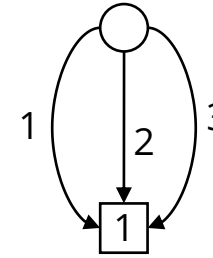
$x > 0 \wedge x < 4$

SMT formula



$\{(x=1), (x=2), (x=3)\}$

Enumerated
solutions



Decision
diagram

Decision diagram from SMT formula?

- One possible way: **enumerate** all solutions first

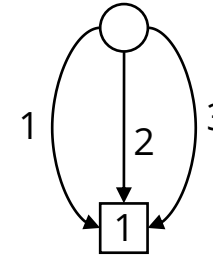
$x > 0 \wedge x < 4$

SMT formula



$\{(x=1), (x=2), (x=3)\}$

Enumerated solutions



Decision diagram

- **Problem:** formula might have **too many** solutions → can't enumerate
 - Too many variables
 - Transition relation might be **infinitely large**

For example, $x' = x + 1$

Decision diagram from SMT formula?

- One possible way: **enumerate** all solutions first

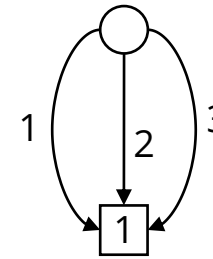
$x > 0 \wedge x < 4$

SMT formula



$\{(x=1), (x=2), (x=3)\}$

Enumerated solutions

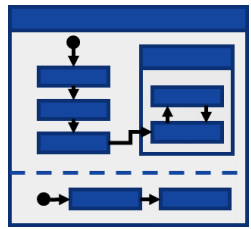


Decision diagram

- **Problem:** formula might have **too many** solutions \rightarrow can't enumerate
 - Too many variables
 - Transition relation might be **infinitely large** For example, $x' = x + 1$

How to represent **general** transition relations given as **SMT formulas**?

Overview



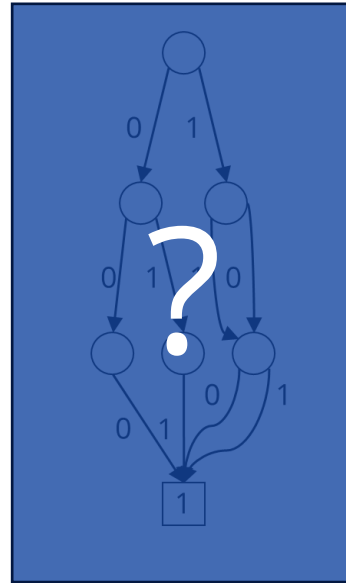
Input model



I: $x = 0$

T: $(x < 5 \wedge x' = x + 1)$
 $\vee (x \geq 5 \wedge x' = x)$

SMT formulas



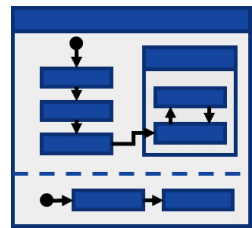
Decision diagrams



Symbolic
model checker



Overview

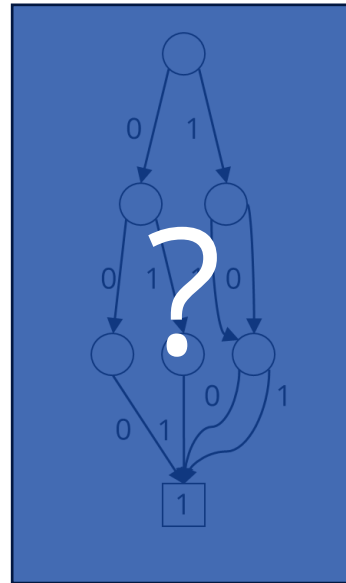


Input model



I: $x = 0$
T: $(x < 5 \wedge x' = x + 1)$
 $\vee (x \geq 5 \wedge x' = x)$

SMT formulas



Decision diagrams

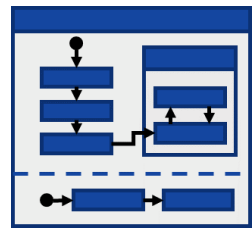


Symbolic
model checker



Goal: Exploit the advantages of **decision-diagram**-based algorithms (e.g., saturation) on **SMT-based model** representations

Overview

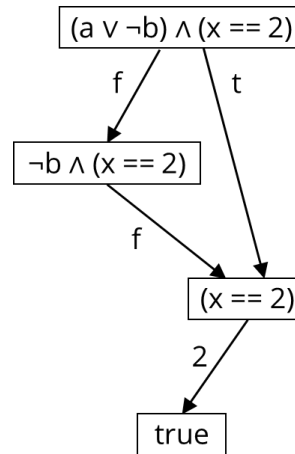


Input model



I: $x = 0$
T: $(x < 5 \wedge x' = x + 1) \vee (x \geq 5 \wedge x' = x)$

SMT formulas



Substitution diagrams



Symbolic
model checker



Goal: Exploit the advantages of **decision-diagram**-based algorithms (e.g., saturation) on **SMT-based model** representations

Substitution diagram

Substitution diagram

$(x > 2)$

SMT formula

Substitution diagram

$(x > 2)$

SMT formula

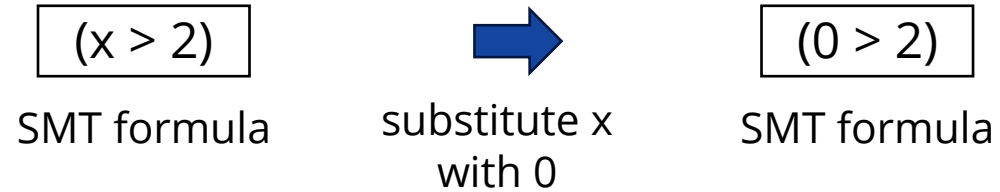


substitute x
with 0

$(0 > 2)$

SMT formula

Substitution diagram



Observation: SMT formulas and the **variable substitution** operation span a structure that is similar to decision diagrams

SMT formulas → Nodes

Variable substitution → Edges



Controlling SAT/SMT solvers with decision diagrams to support abstraction-based model checking
Almási Nóra, BME VIK TDK 2020

Substitution diagram

Node: SMT formula

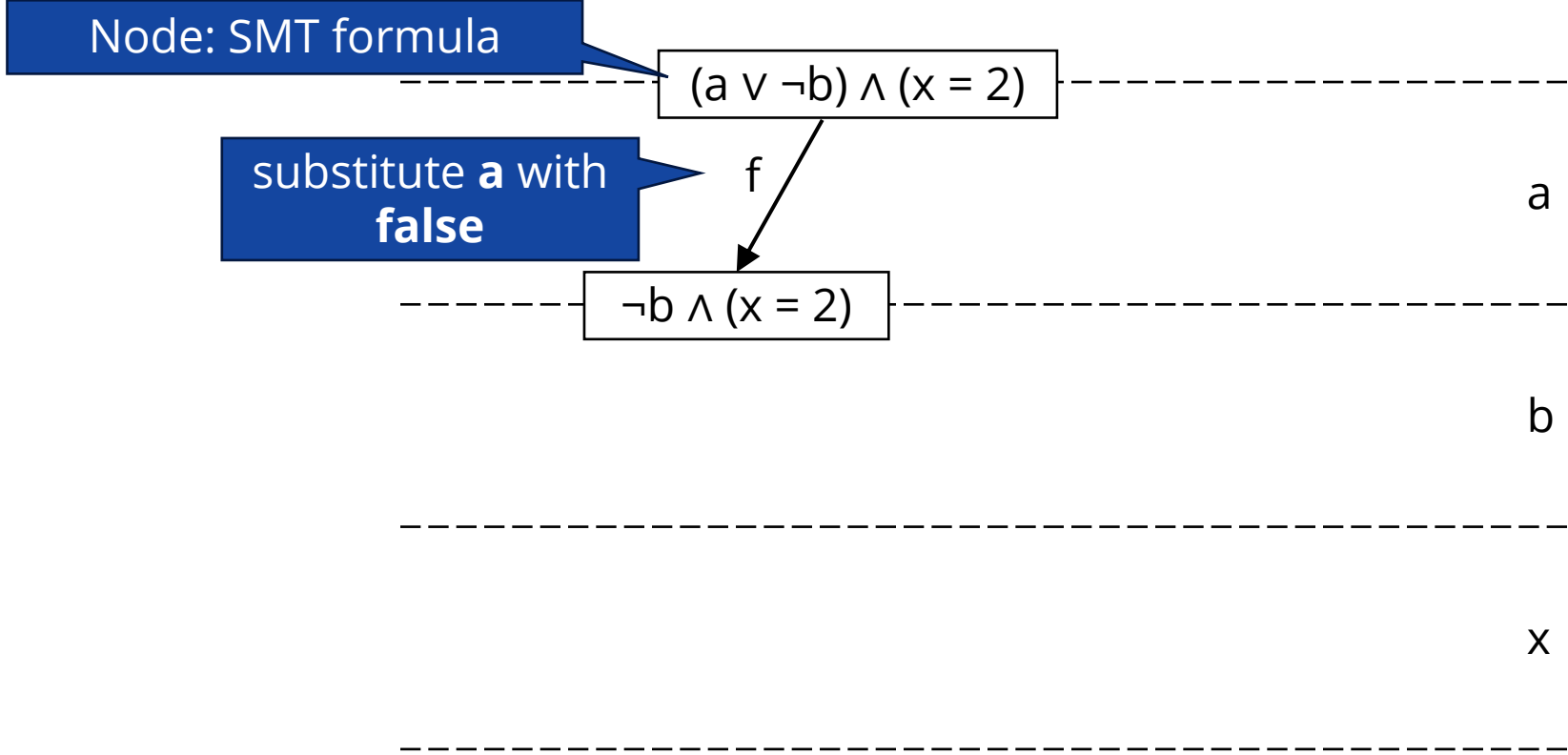
$(a \vee \neg b) \wedge (x = 2)$

a

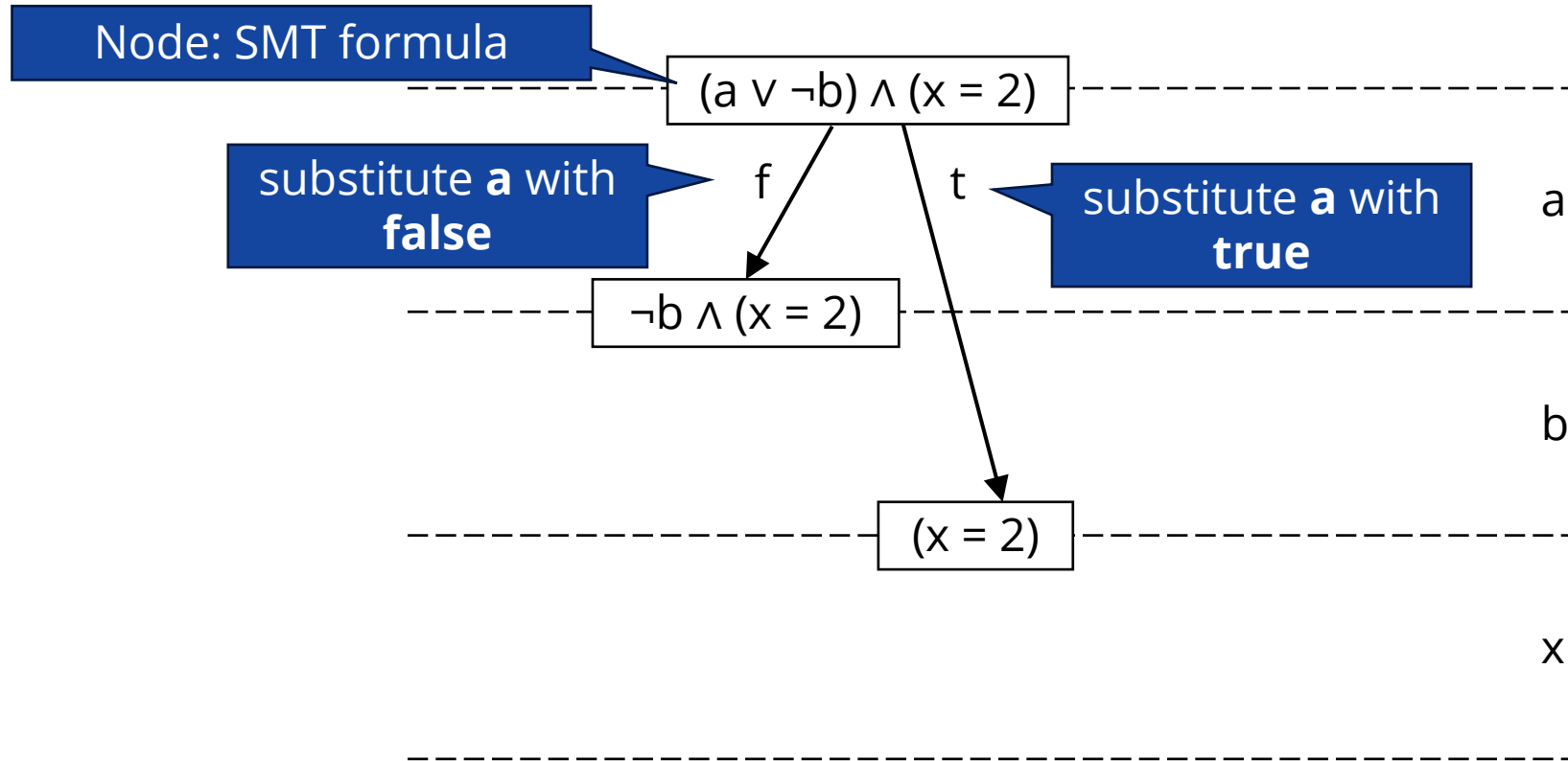
b

x

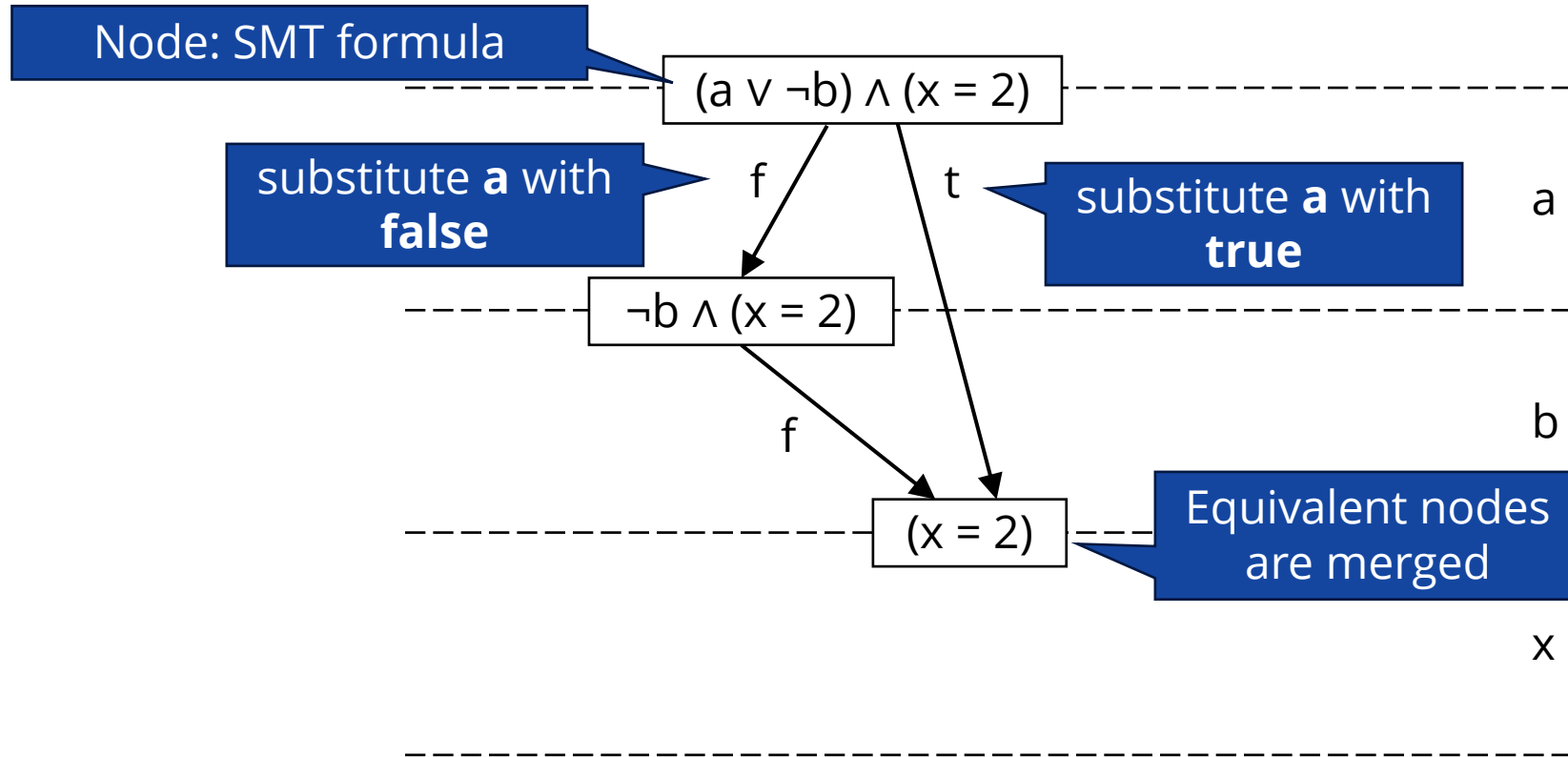
Substitution diagram



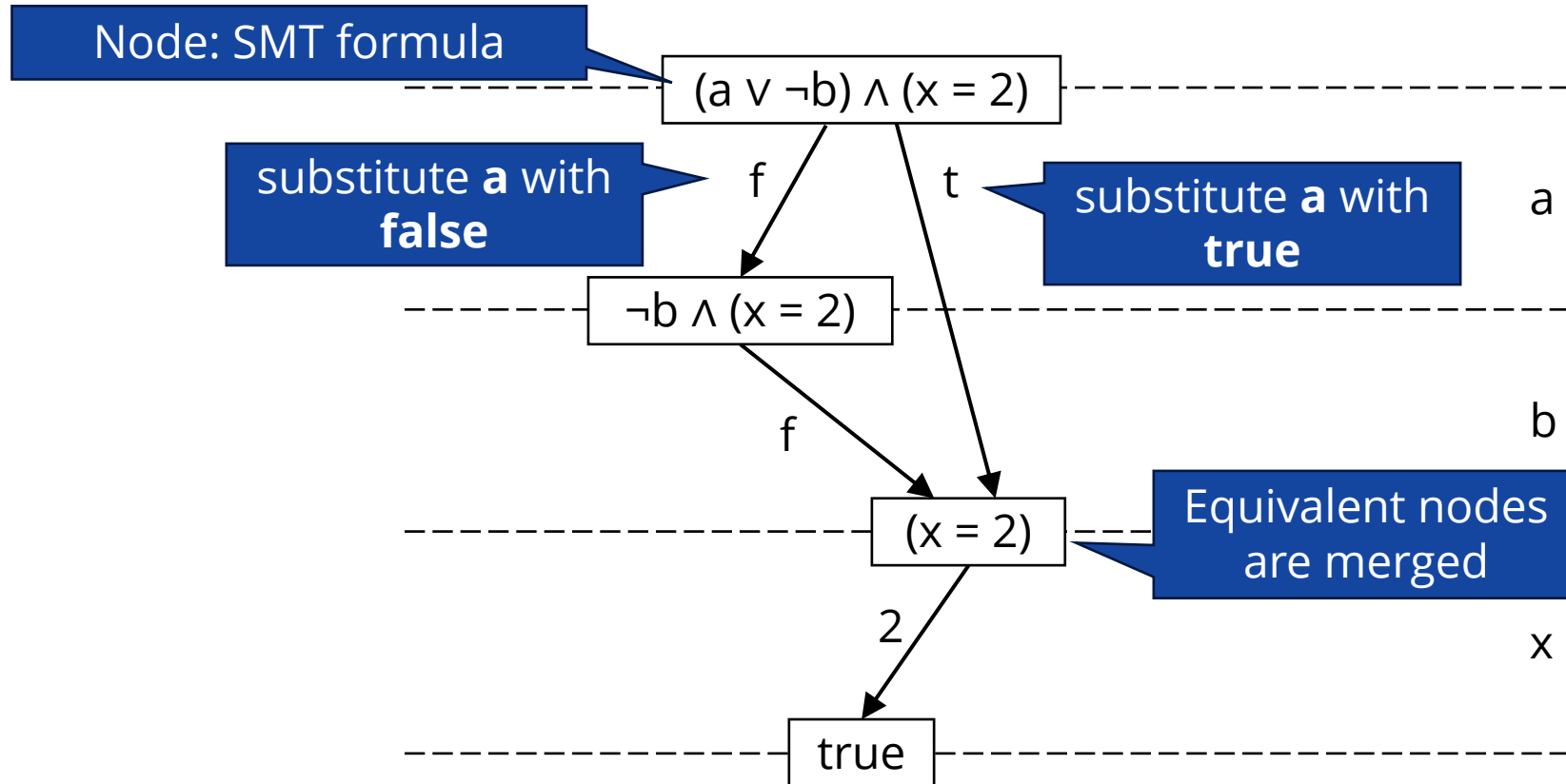
Substitution diagram



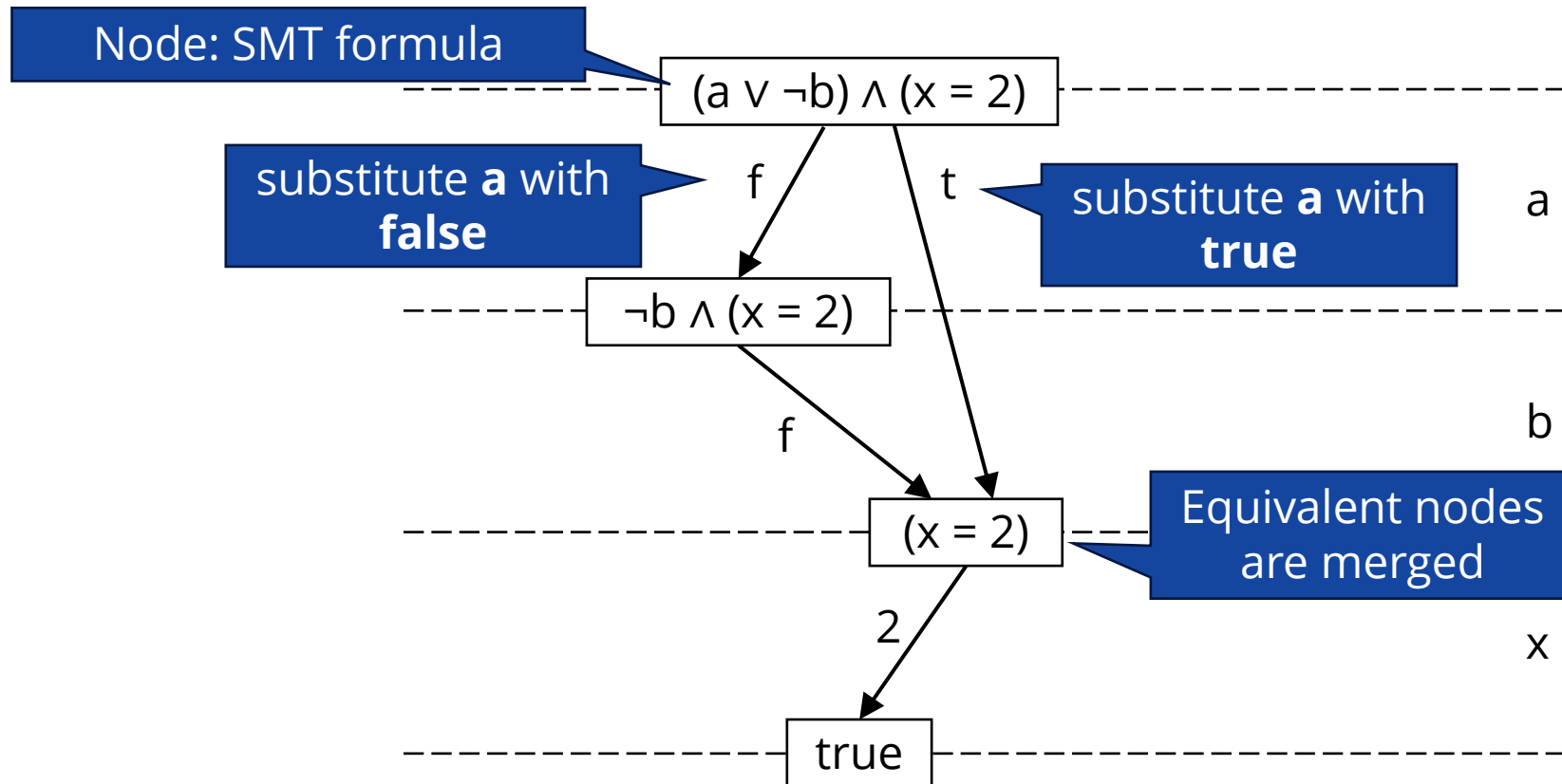
Substitution diagram



Substitution diagram



Substitution diagram



Lazy evaluation: presence of edges and children evaluated only when queried!

syntactically or with an **SMT-solver**

Model checking with substitution diagrams

Model checking with substitution diagrams

Initial states

$$I: (x = 0) \wedge (y = 1)$$

Model checking with substitution diagrams

Initial states

$$I: (x = 0) \wedge (y = 1)$$

$$T: (x' = x + 1) \wedge (y' = y)$$

Transition
relation

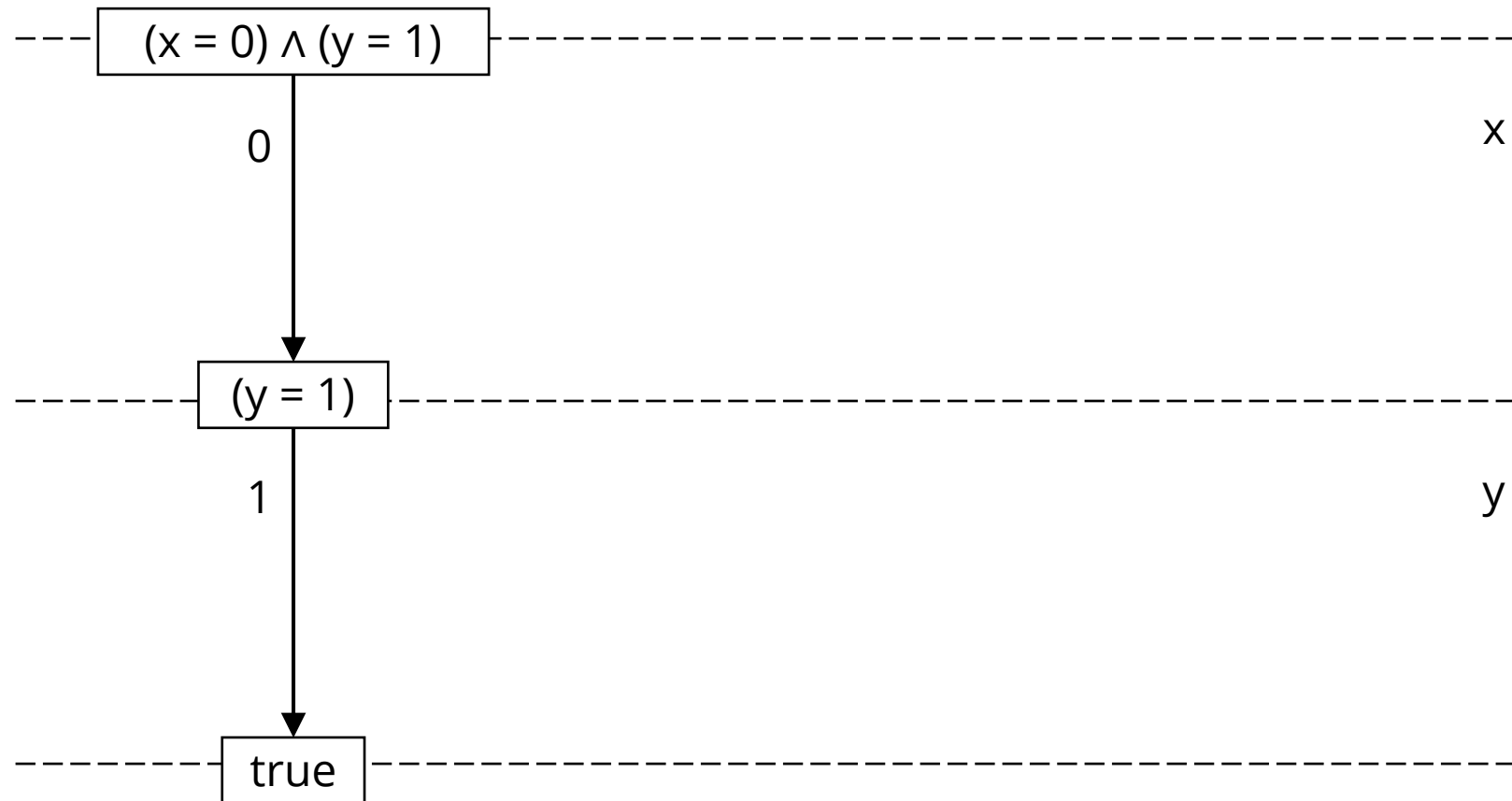
Model checking with substitution diagrams

Initial states

I: $(x = 0) \wedge (y = 1)$

T: $(x' = x + 1) \wedge (y' = y)$

Transition relation



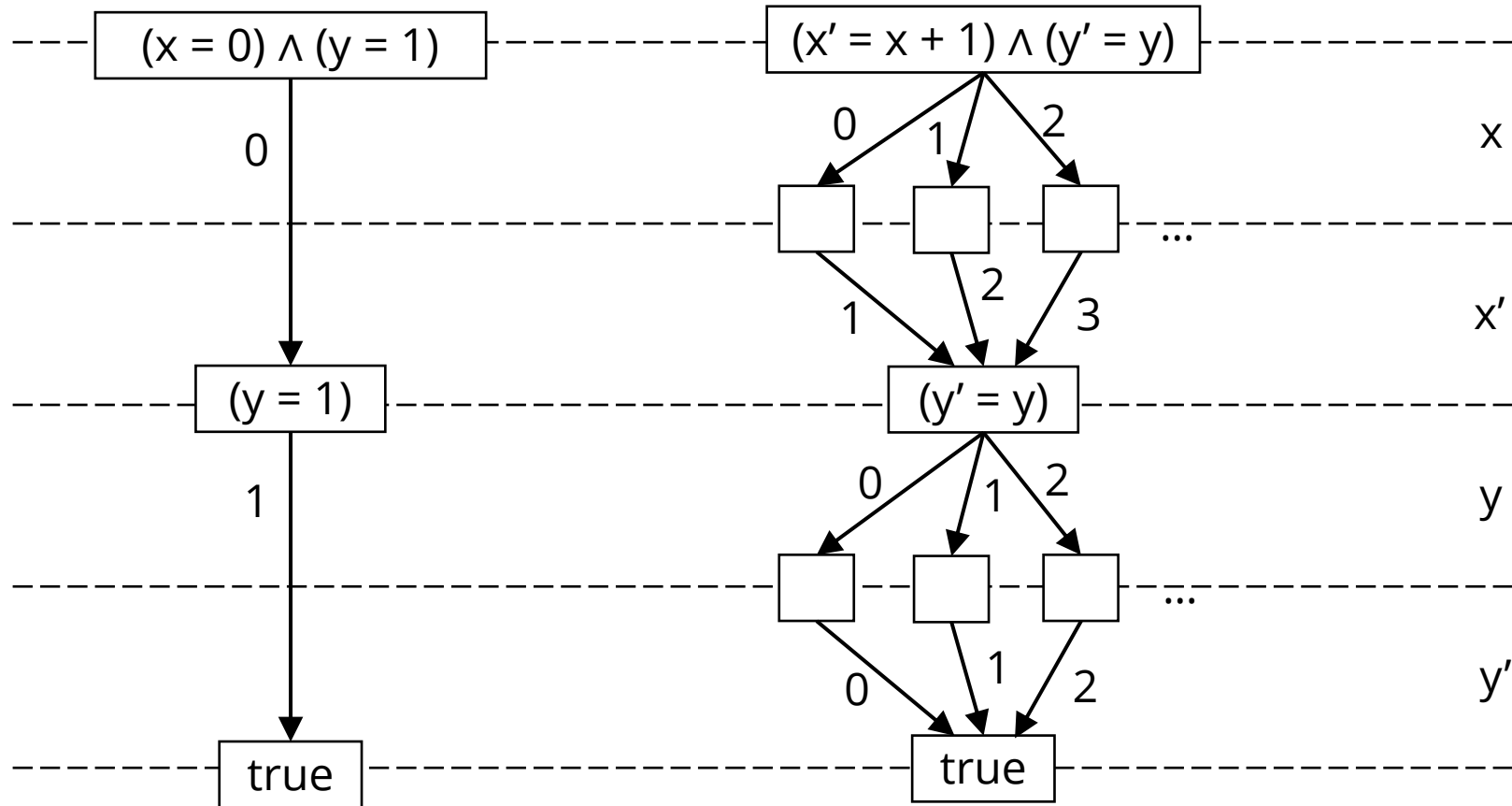
Model checking with substitution diagrams

Initial states

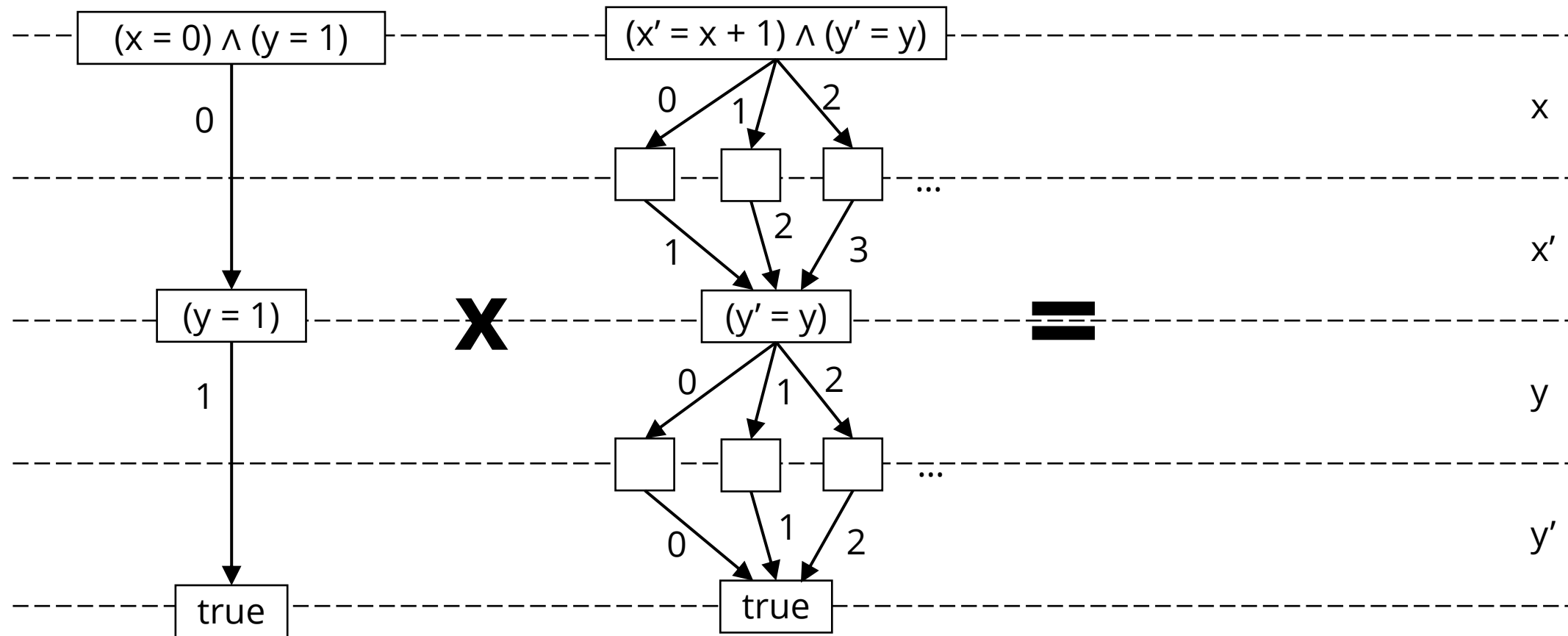
$$I: (x = 0) \wedge (y = 1)$$

$$T: (x' = x + 1) \wedge (y' = y)$$

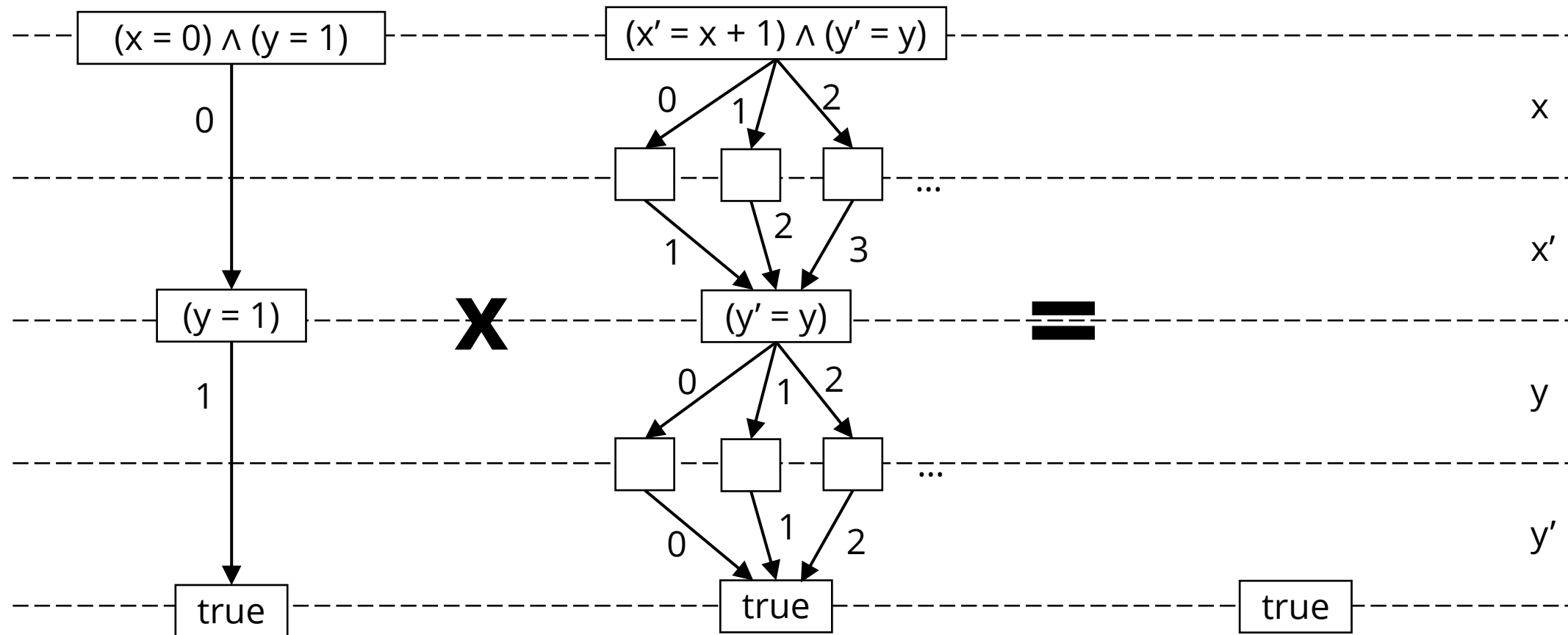
Transition relation



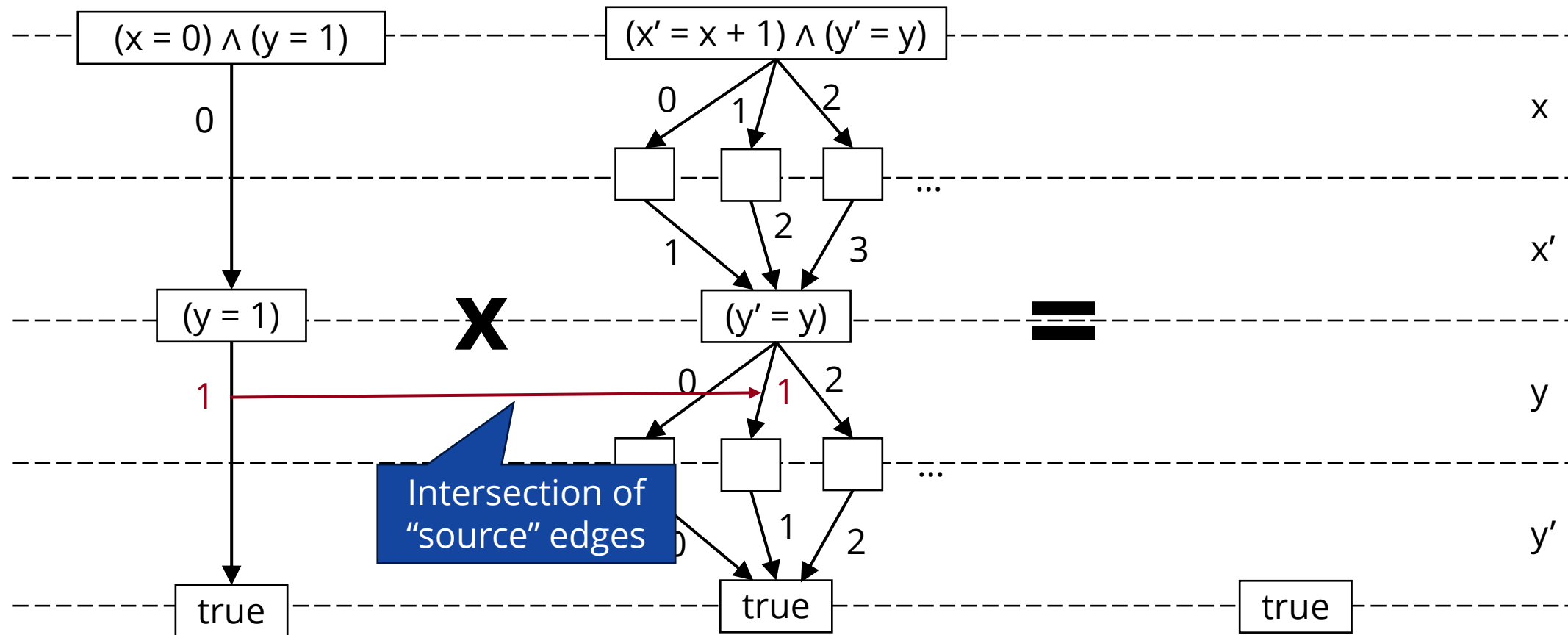
Relational product: model step



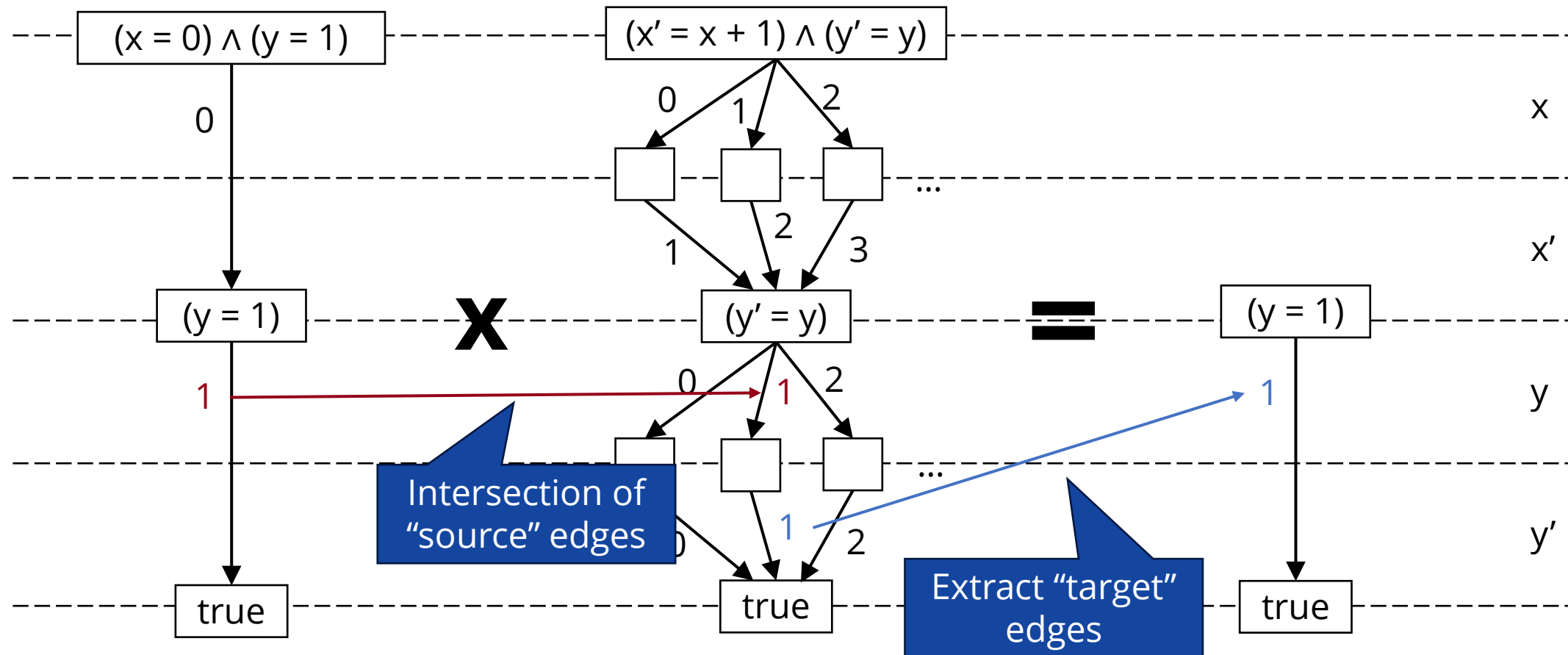
Relational product: model step



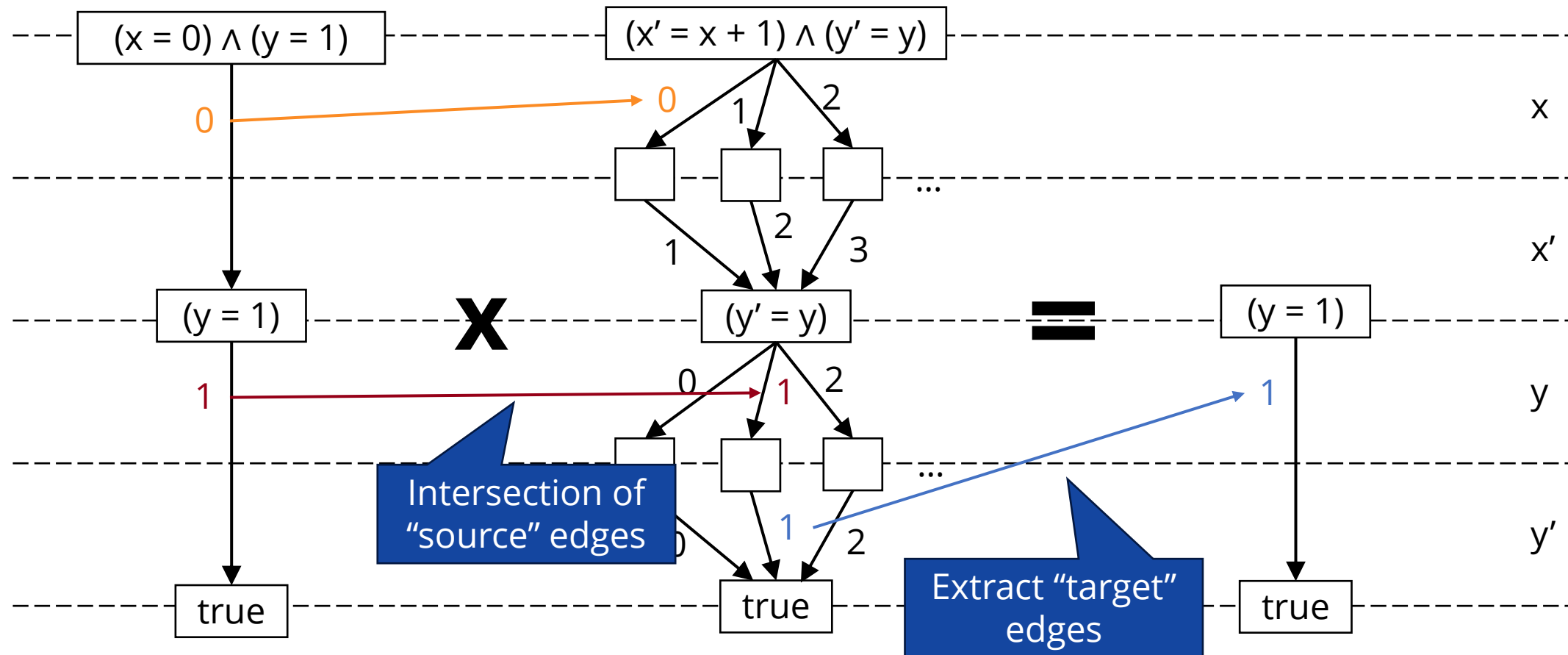
Relational product: model step



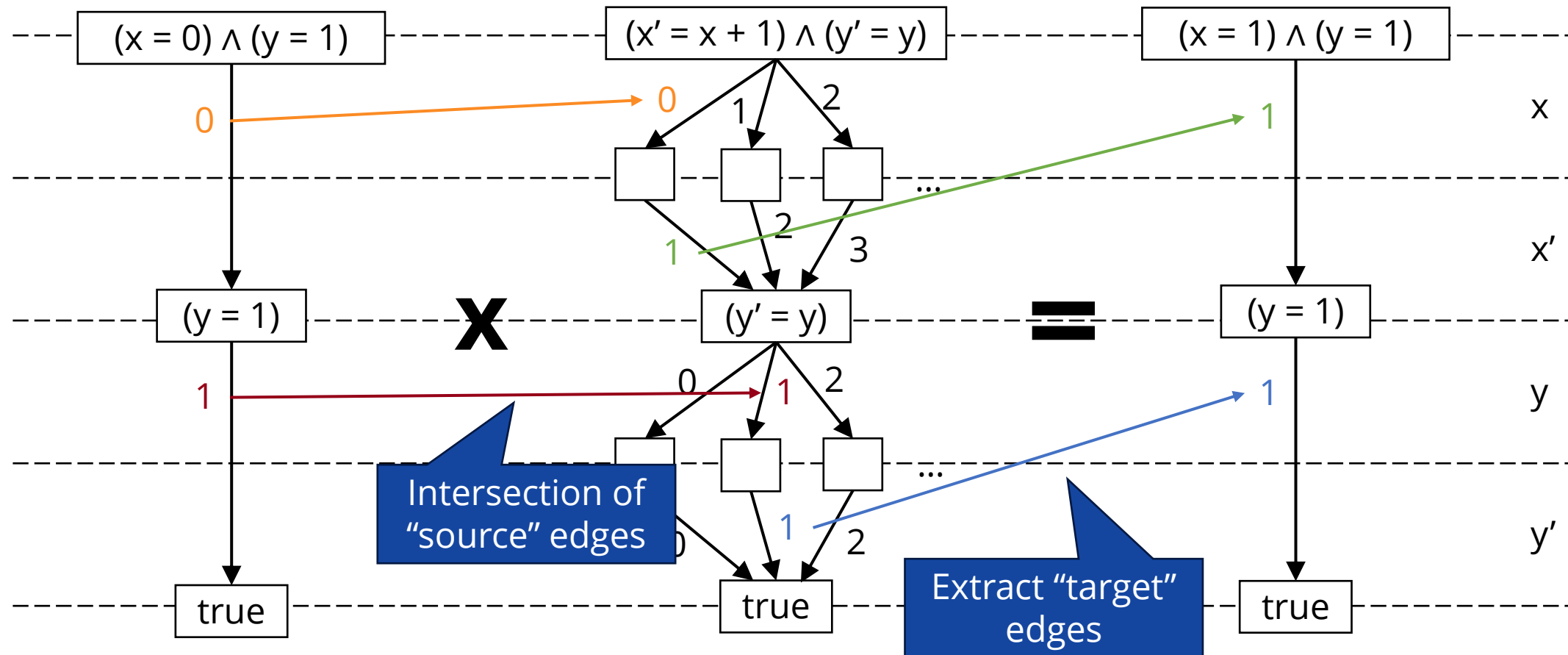
Relational product: model step



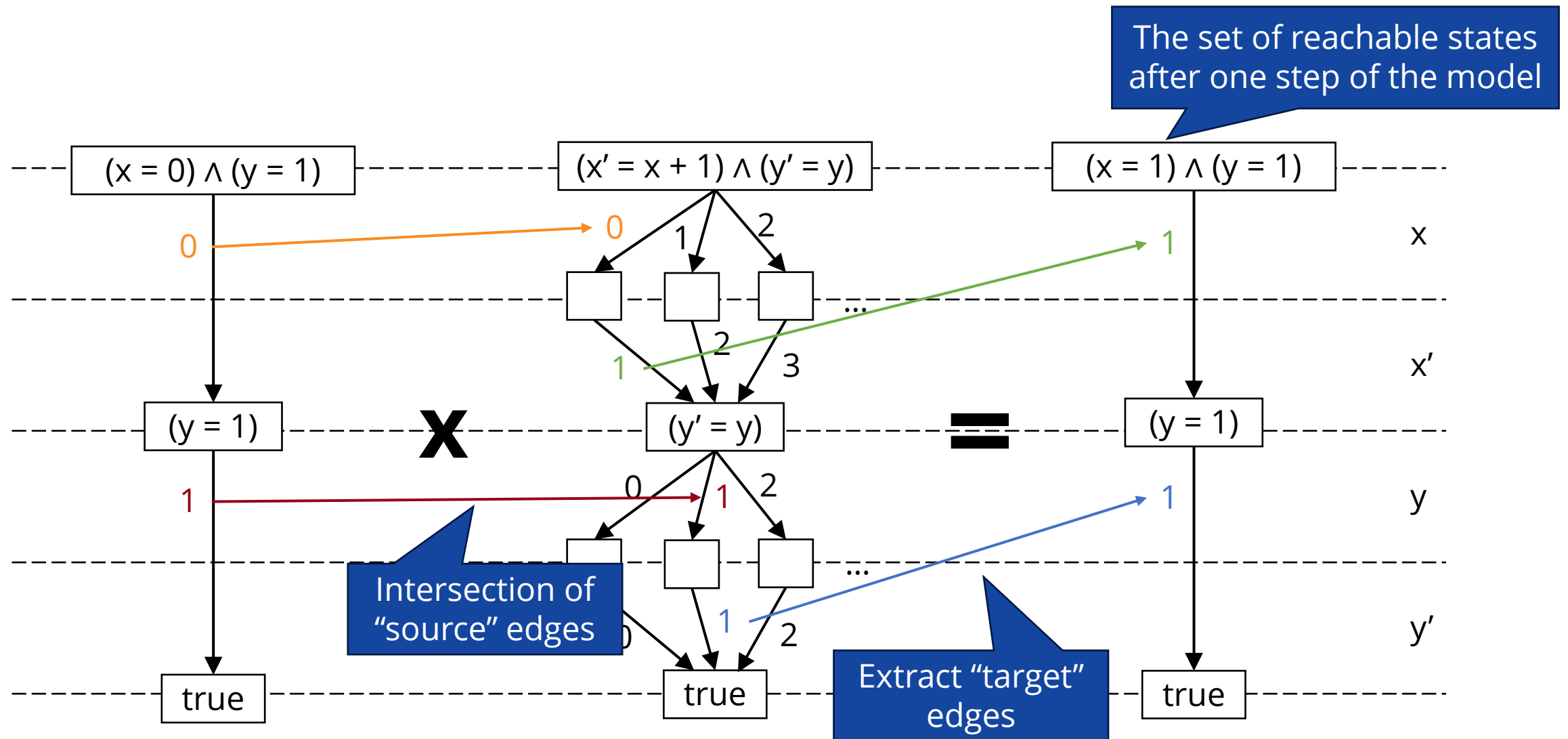
Relational product: model step



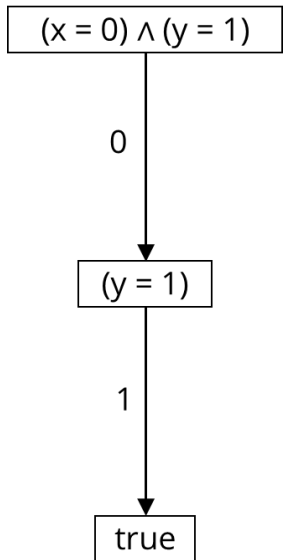
Relational product: model step



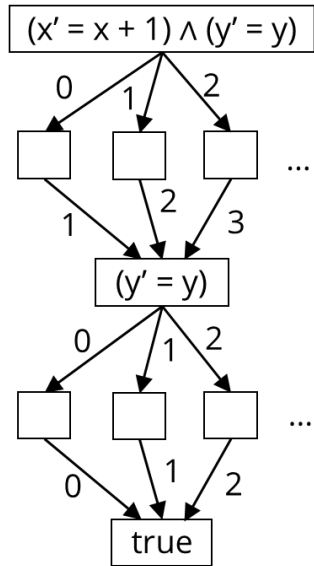
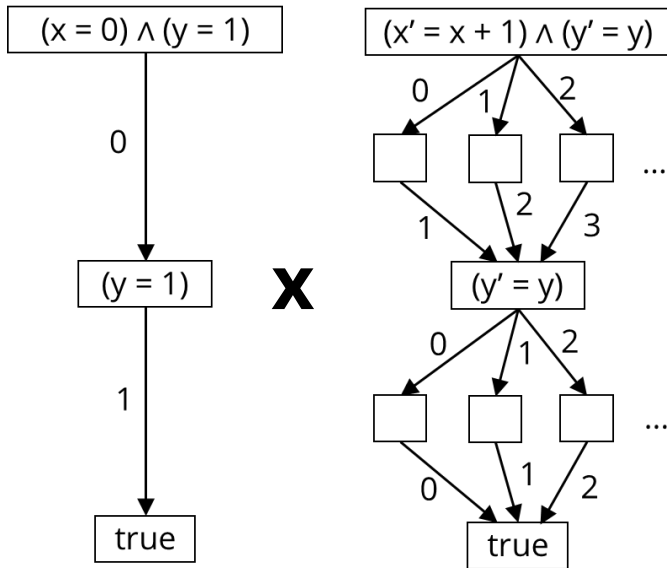
Relational product: model step



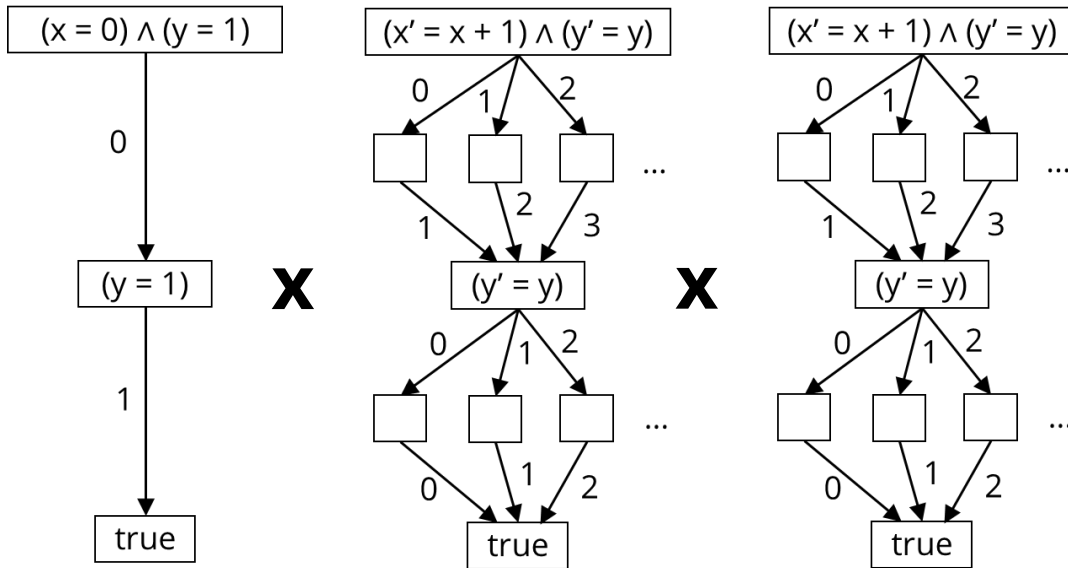
Fixed point calculation



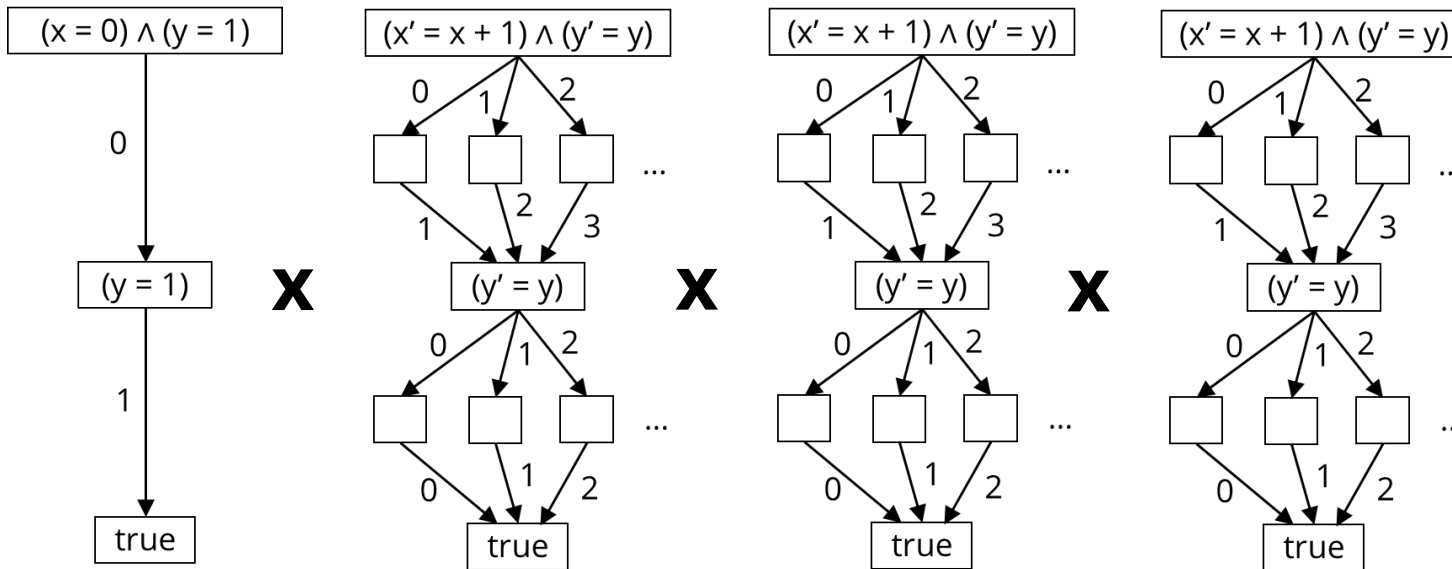
Fixed point calculation



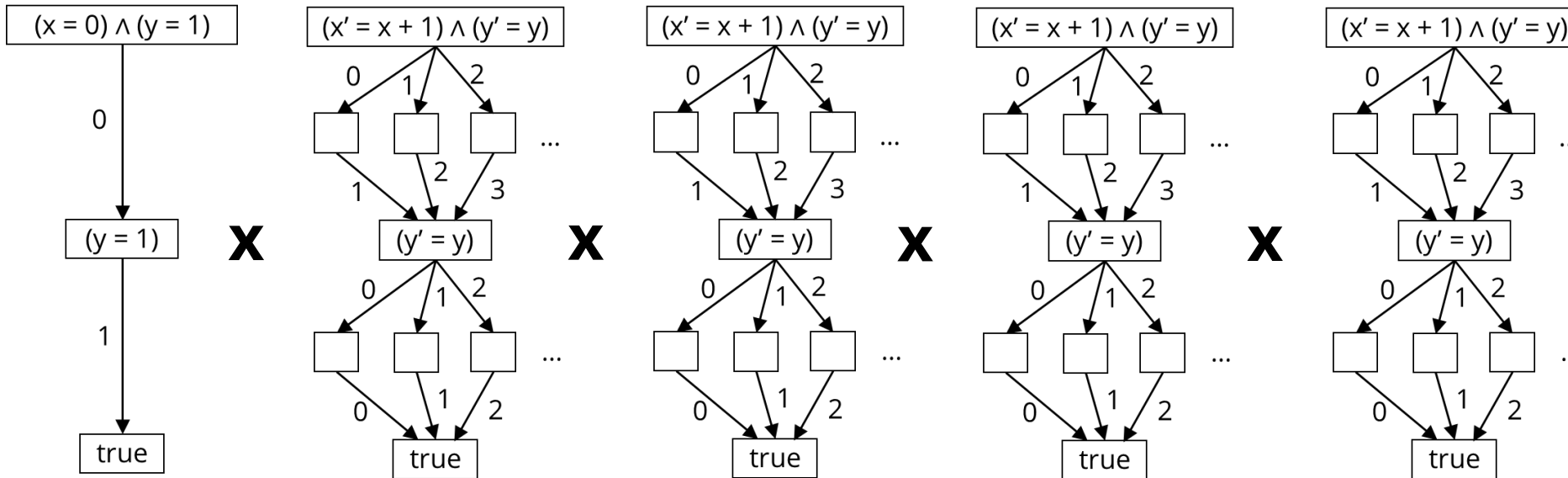
Fixed point calculation



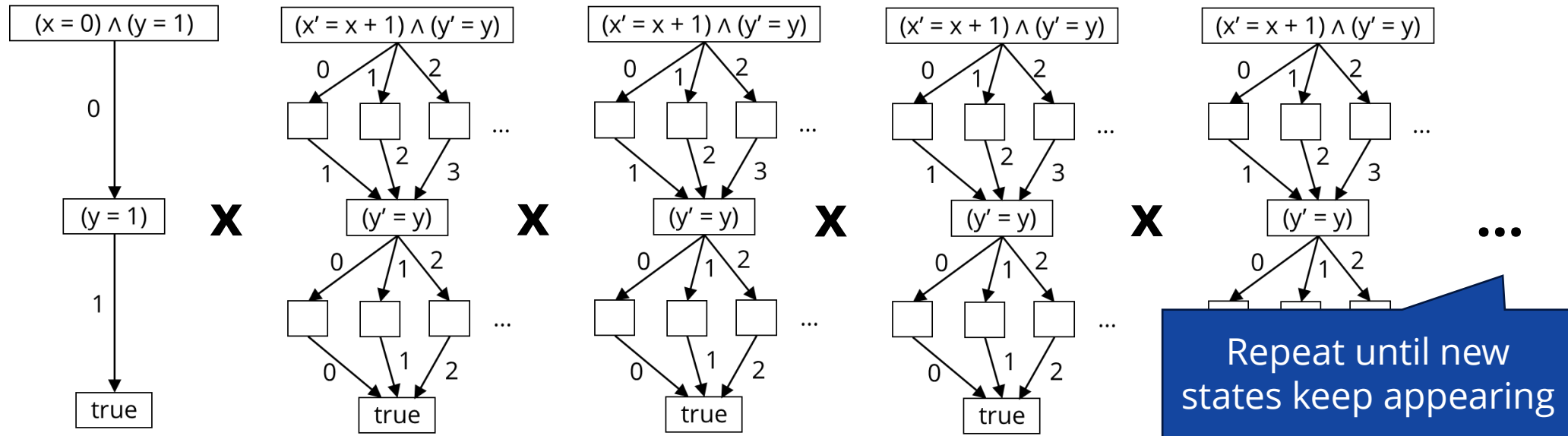
Fixed point calculation



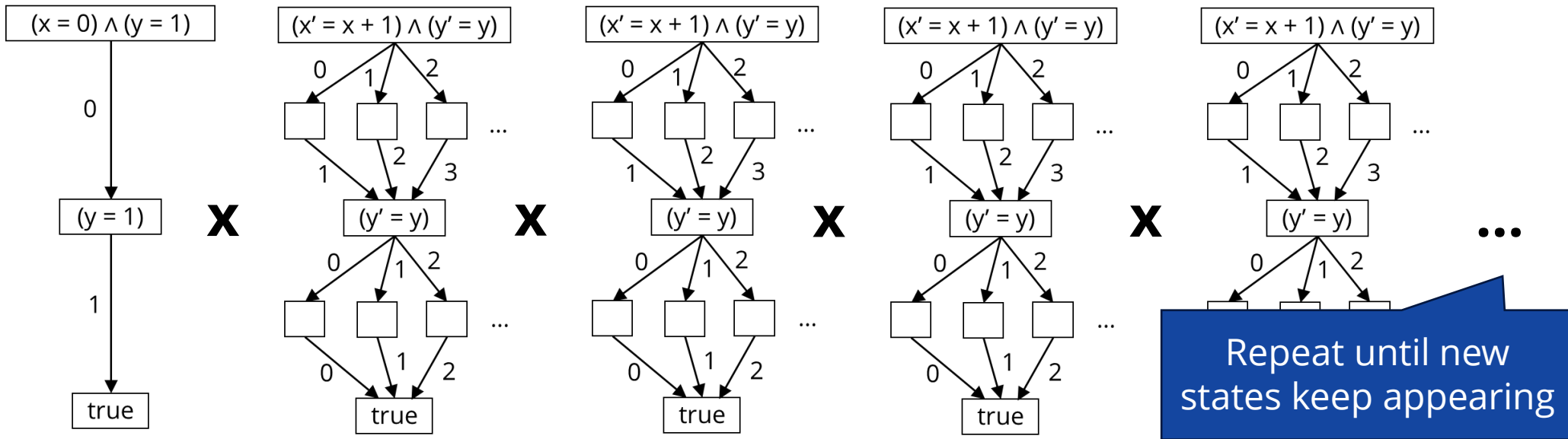
Fixed point calculation



Fixed point calculation



Fixed point calculation



Many possible algorithms: BFS, Saturation

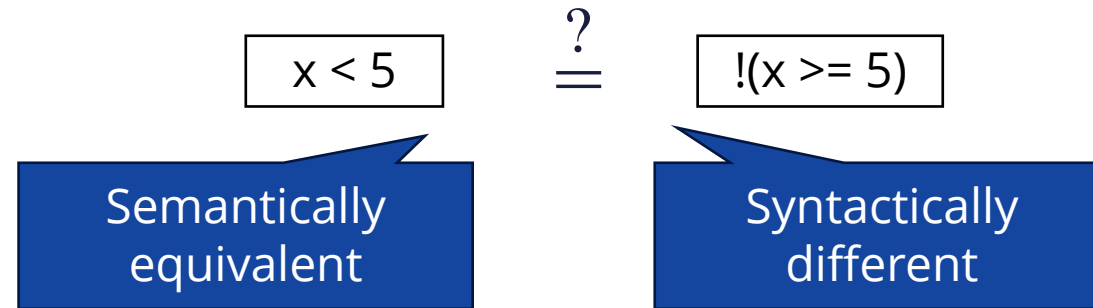
Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- When should we **merge** two nodes?

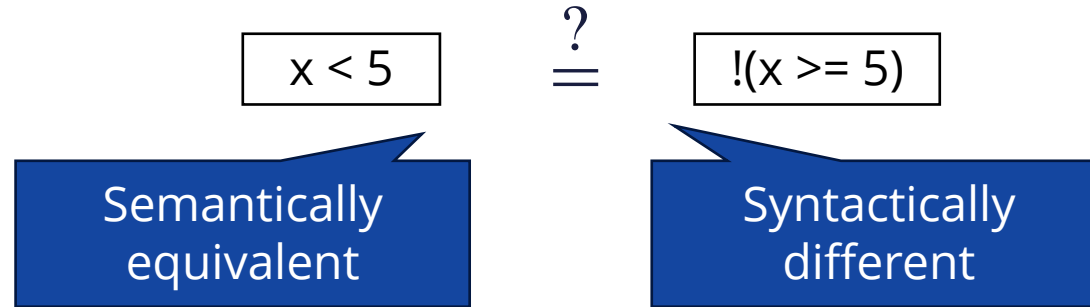
Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- When should we **merge** two nodes?



Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

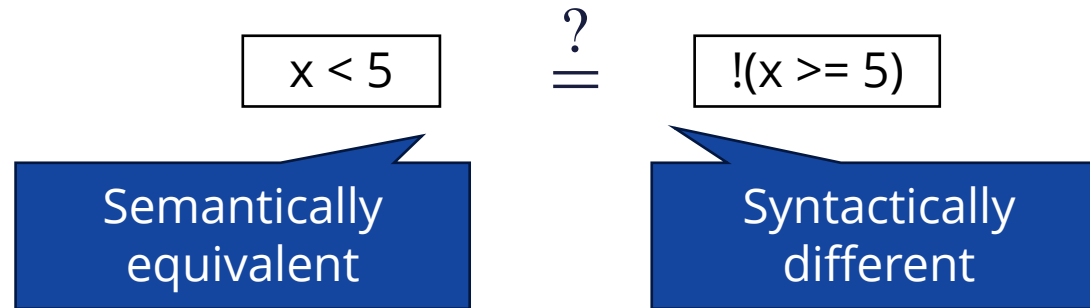
- When should we **merge** two nodes?



- Decision diagrams: **semantic** equivalence More precise → smaller diagrams

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

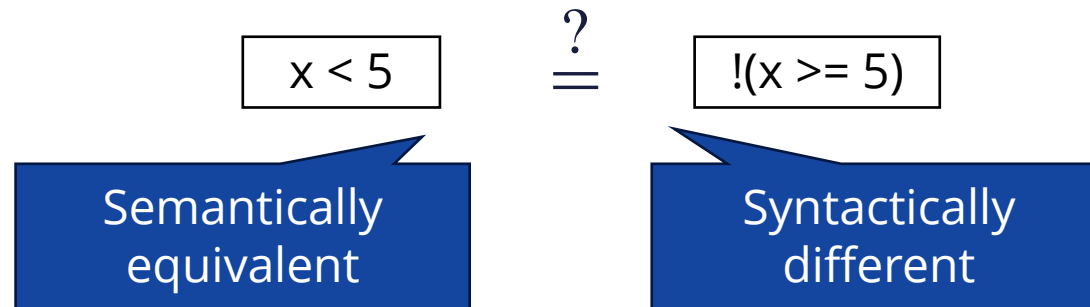
- When should we **merge** two nodes?



- Decision diagrams: **semantic** equivalence More precise → smaller diagrams
- Would be **too costly** for SMT formulas: **solver required**

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- When should we **merge** two nodes?



- Decision diagrams: **semantic** equivalence More precise → smaller diagrams
- Would be **too costly** for SMT formulas: **solver required**
- **Compromise**: **syntactic** equivalence + normal form **transformation**

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- **Compromise:** syntactic equivalence + normal form transformation

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- **Compromise:** syntactic equivalence + normal form transformation
 - Replaces appearances of substituted variable with a constant

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- **Compromise:** syntactic equivalence + normal form transformation
 - Replaces appearances of substituted variable with a constant
 - Removes unnecessary operands

$$\boxed{\varphi \wedge \text{true}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{\varphi}$$

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- **Compromise:** syntactic equivalence + normal form transformation
 - Replaces appearances of substituted variable with a constant
 - Removes unnecessary operands

$$\boxed{\varphi \wedge \text{true}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{\varphi}$$

- Replaces operations expressible using other operations

$$\boxed{x < 5} \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{!(x \geq 5)}$$

Syntactic vs semantic equivalence

- **Compromise:** syntactic equivalence + normal form transformation
 - Replaces appearances of substituted variable with a constant
 - Removes unnecessary operands

$$\boxed{\varphi \wedge \text{true}} \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{\varphi}$$

- Replaces operations expressible using other operations

$$\boxed{x < 5} \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{!(x \geq 5)}$$

- Entirely syntactic, no solver used → lightweight

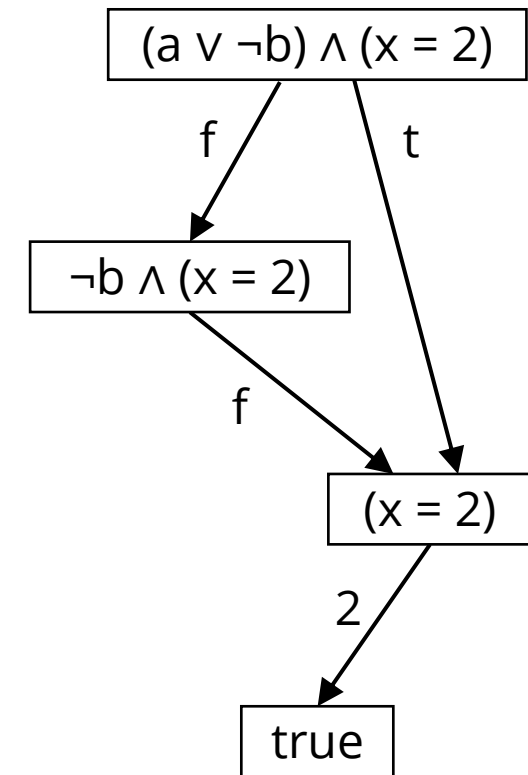
Summary

New data structure: **substitution diagram**

- Decision diagram structure from **SMT formulas**
- **Lazy** evaluation
- **Syntactically** equivalent nodes are merged
 - Lightweight **normal form** transformation
- Implemented in the **Theta** model checker
 - Reachability analysis
 - github.com/ftsrg/theta



Enables the use of **decision-diagram**-based (e.g., saturation) algorithms on **SMT-based** model representations



Evaluation

- How good is our **normal form** transformation?

Evaluation

- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Compare node count of **decision diagrams** vs **substitution diagrams**

Evaluation

- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Compare node count of **decision diagrams** vs **substitution diagrams**
- 10000 **randomly generated** transition systems

Evaluation

- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Compare node count of **decision diagrams** vs **substitution diagrams**
 - 10000 **randomly generated** transition systems
 - 10000 SMT formulas

Evaluation

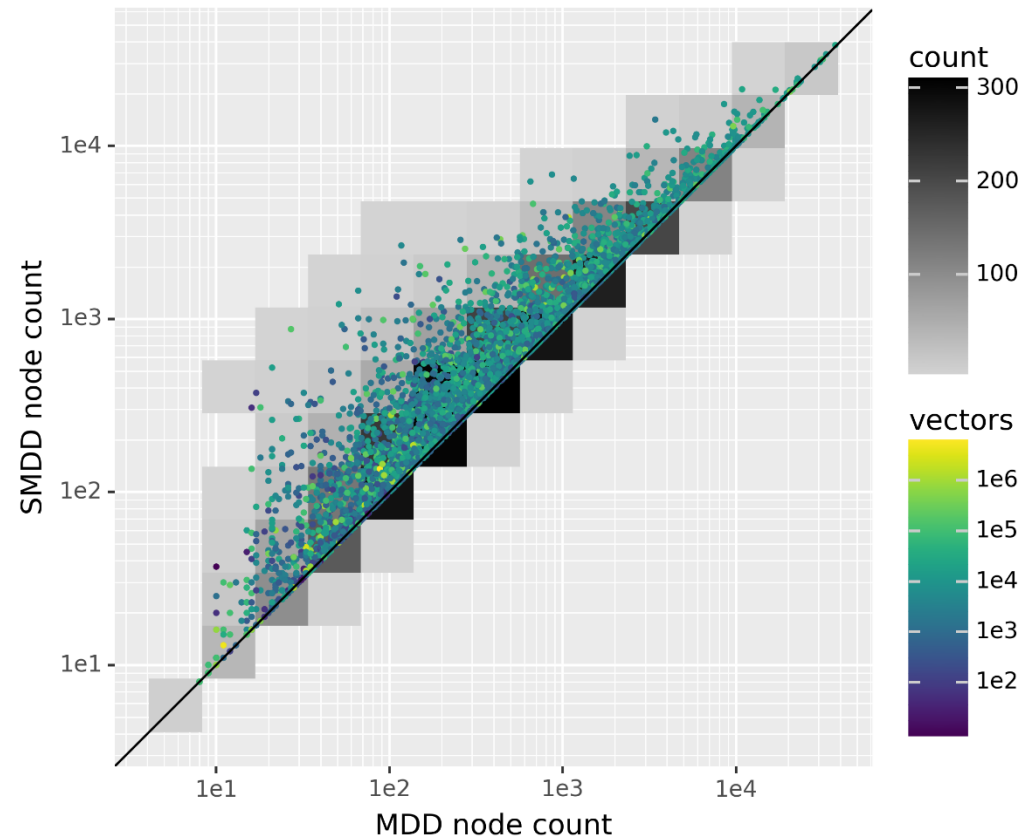
- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Compare node count of **decision diagrams** vs **substitution diagrams**
 - 10000 **randomly generated** transition systems
 - 10000 SMT formulas
 - **3789 satisfiable formulas**

Evaluation

- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Compare node count of **decision diagrams** vs **substitution diagrams**
 - 10000 **randomly generated** transition systems
 - 10000 SMT formulas
 - **3789 satisfiable formulas**
 - Build decision and substitution diagrams from these formulas and calculate node counts

Evaluation

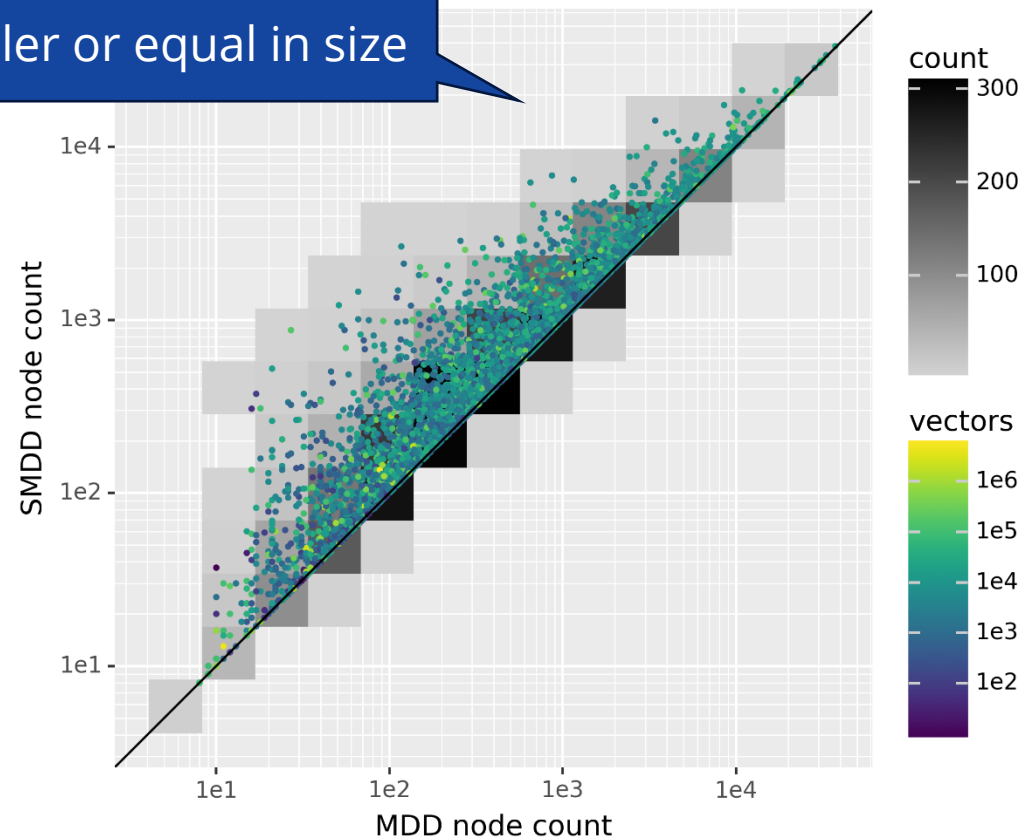
- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Node count comparison on **3789** randomly generated SMT formulas



Evaluation

- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Node count comparison on **3789** randomly generated SMT formulas

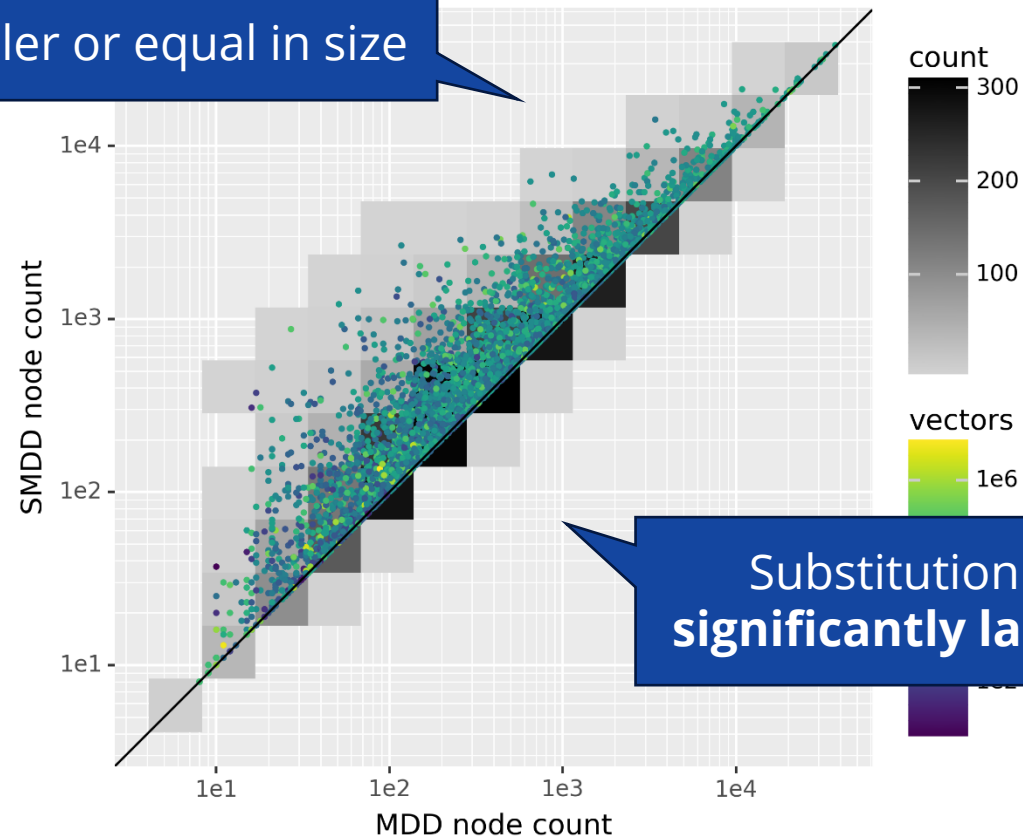
MDD is always smaller or equal in size



Evaluation

- How good is our **normal form** transformation?
 - Node count comparison on **3789** randomly generated SMT formulas

MDD is always smaller or equal in size



Substitution diagram is **not significantly larger** in most cases