

# Measuring Masking Fault-Tolerance

Pablo F. Castro, **Pedro R. D'Argenio**,  
Ramiro Demasi, Luciano Putruele



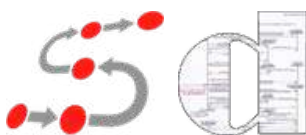
Dependable Systems dTime Talks  
October, 2020



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# Measuring Masking Fault-Tolerance

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# Motivation

```
module NOMINAL
```

```
  b : [0..1] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (b' = 0);
```

```
  [w1] true -> (b' = 1);
```

```
  [r0] b=0 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] b=1 -> true;
```

```
endmodule
```

Ideal  
behaviour

```
module FAULTY
```

```
  v : [0..3] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
```

```
  [w1] true -> (v' = 3);
```

```
  [r0] v<=1 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] v>=2 -> true;
```

```
  [fault] v<3 -> (v' = v+1);
```

```
  [fault] v>0 -> (v' = v-1);
```

```
endmodule
```

Redundancy

Behaviour of the  
implementation

A fault is **masked** when the occurrence of it have no observable consequences

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module NOMINAL
```

```
  b : [0..1] init 0;
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```
  [w0] true -> (b' = 0);
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```
  [w1] true -> (b' = 1);
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```
  [r0] b=0 -> true;
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  [r1] b=1 -> true;
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endmodule
```

```
module FAULTY
```

```
  v : [0..3] init 0;
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  [fault] v<3 -> (v' = v+1);
```

```
  [fault] v>0 -> (v' = v-1);
```

```
endmodule
```

- ❖ ¿Can an implementation mask all faults?

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```
module NOMINAL
```

```
  b : [0..1] init 0;
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  [w0] true -> (b' = 0);
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```

```
  [r0] b=0 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] b=1 -> true;
```

```
endmodule
```

```
module FAULTY
```

```
  v : [0..5] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
```

```
  [w1] true -> (v' = 5);
```

```
  [r0] v<=2 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] v>=3 -> true;
```

```
  [fault] v<5 -> (v' = v+1);
```

```
  [fault] v>0 -> (v' = v-1);
```

```
endmodule
```

- ❖ ¿Can an implementation mask all faults?

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```
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```

```
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```

```
endmodule
```

```
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```

```
  v : [0..5] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
```

```
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```

```
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```

```
  [fault] v<5 -> (v' = v+1);
```

```
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```

```
endmodule
```

- ❖ ¿Can an implementation mask all faults?
- ❖ Given two implementations ¿can we determine which is better on masking?

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```

❖ ¿Can an implementation mask all faults?

- ❖ Behavioural relation
- ❖ Game characterisation
- ❖ Algorithm

❖ Given two implementations ¿can we determine which is better on masking?

- ❖ Game based distance
- ❖ Algorithm
- ❖ Tool

# Strong Masking Simulation

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $A = \langle S, \Sigma, \rightarrow, s_0 \rangle$  and  $A' = \langle S', \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}, \rightarrow', s'_0 \rangle$  be two transition systems.  $A'$  is *strong masking fault-tolerant* with respect to  $A$  if there exists a relation  $\mathbf{M} \subseteq S \times S'$  between  $A$  and  $A'$  such that:

- (A)  $s_0 \mathbf{M} s'_0$ , and
- (B) for all  $s \in S, s' \in S'$  with  $s \mathbf{M} s'$  and all  $e \in \Sigma$  the following holds:
  - (1) if  $s \xrightarrow{e} t$  then  $\exists t' \in S' : s' \xrightarrow{e'} t' \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;
  - (2) if  $s' \xrightarrow{e'} t'$  then  $\exists t \in S : s \xrightarrow{e} t \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;
  - (3) if  $s' \xrightarrow{F} t'$  for some  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  then  $s \mathbf{M} t'$ .

If such a relation exists we say that  $A'$  is a *strong masking fault-tolerant implementation* of  $A$ , denoted by  $A \preceq_m A'$ .



Nominal:  
no faults

# Strong Masking Simulation

Implementation:  
has faults

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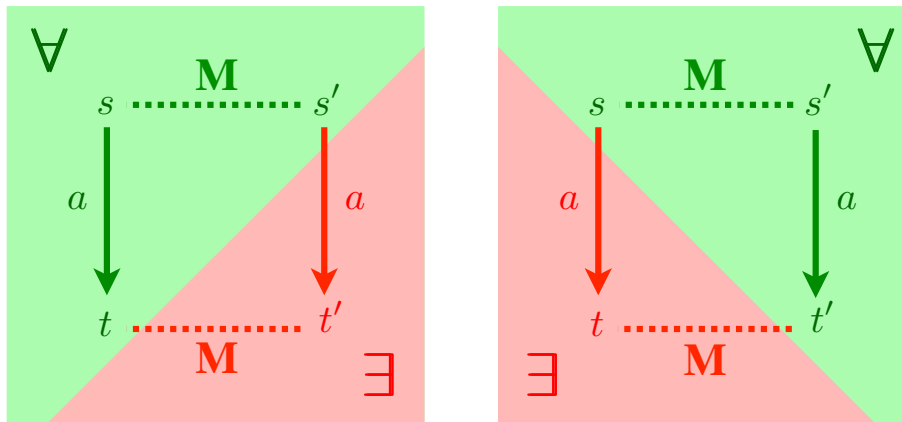
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Just like  
bisimulation

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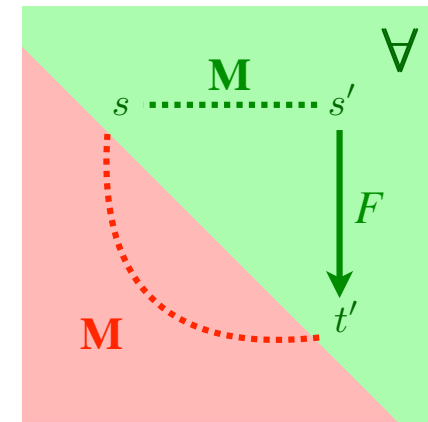
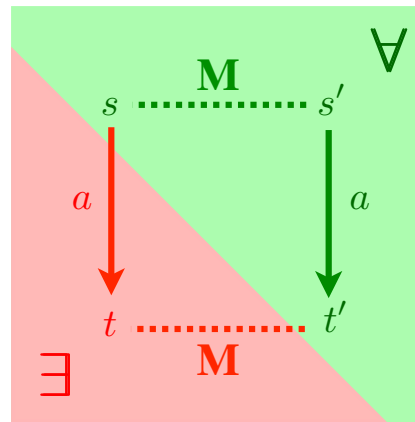
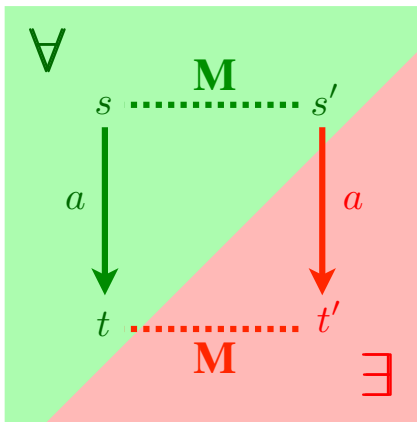
(1) if  $s \xrightarrow{e} t$  then  $\exists t' \in S' : s' \xrightarrow{e'} t' \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;

(2) if  $s' \xrightarrow{e'} t'$  then  $\exists t \in S : s \xrightarrow{e} t \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;

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Implementation:  
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(B) for all  $s \in S, s' \in S'$  with  $s \mathbf{M} s'$  and all  $e \in \Sigma$  the following holds:

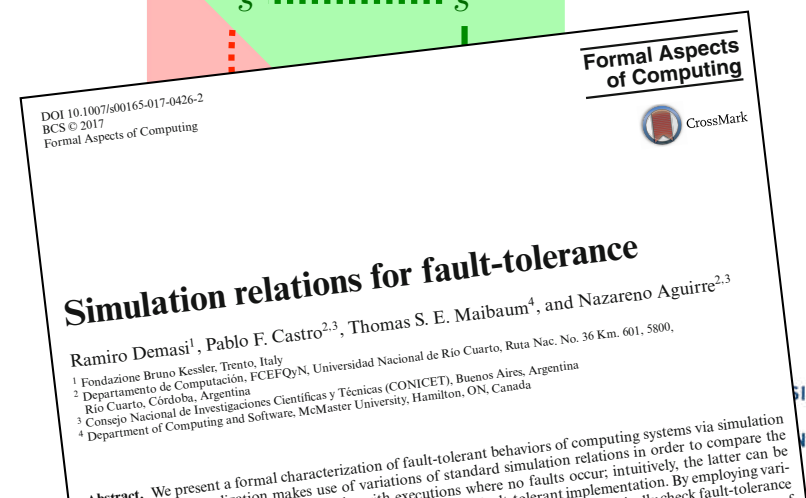
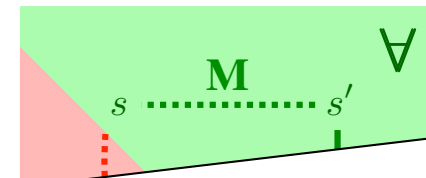
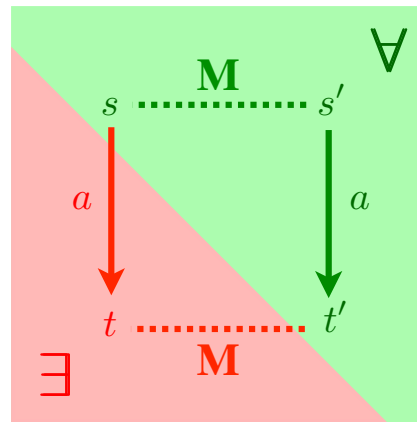
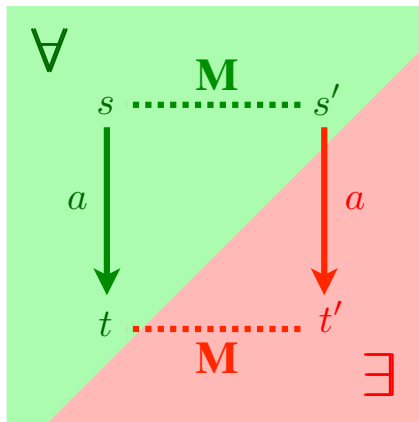
(1) if  $s \xrightarrow{e} t$  then  $\exists t' \in S' : s' \xrightarrow{e'} t' \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;

(2) if  $s' \xrightarrow{e'} t'$  then  $\exists t \in S : s \xrightarrow{e} t \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;

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Just like  
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If such a relation exists we say that  $A'$  is a *strong masking fault-tolerant implementation* of  $A$ , denoted by  $A \preceq_m A'$ .



# Strong Masking Simulation

```
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```

```
  b : [0..1] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (b' = 0);
```

```
  [w1] true -> (b' = 1);
```

```
  [r0] b=0 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] b=1 -> true;
```

```
endmodule
```

```
module FAULTY
```

```
  v : [0..3] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
```

```
  [w1] true -> (v' = 3);
```

```
  [r0] v<=1 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] v>=2 -> true;
```

```
  [fault] v<3 -> (v' = v+1);
```

```
  [fault] v>0 -> (v' = v-1);
```

```
endmodule
```

NOMINAL  $\not\sim_m$  FAULTY

# Strong Masking Simulation

```
module NOMINAL
```

```
  b : [0..1] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (b' = 0);
```

```
  [w1] true -> (b' = 1);
```

```
  [r0] b=0 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] b=1 -> true;
```

```
endmodule
```

```
module FAULTY_BOUNDED
```

```
  v : [0..3] init 0;
```

```
  f : [0..1] init 0;
```

```
  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
```

```
  [w1] true -> (v' = 3);
```

```
  [r0] v<=1 -> true;
```

```
  [r1] v>=2 -> true;
```

```
  [fault] (v<3) & (f<1) -> (v' = v+1) &  
                                (f' = f+1);
```

```
  [fault] (v>0) & (f<1) -> (v' = v-1) &  
                                (f' = f+1);
```

```
endmodule
```

$$\mathbf{M} = \{\langle b, (v, f) \rangle \mid 2b \leq v \leq 2b + 1\}$$

NOMINAL  $\preceq_m$  FAULTY\_BOUNDED

# Weak Masking Simulation

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $A = \langle S, \Sigma, \rightarrow, s_0 \rangle$  and  $A' = \langle S', \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}, \rightarrow', s'_0 \rangle$  be two transition systems with  $\Sigma$  possibly containing  $\tau$ .  $A'$  is *weak masking fault-tolerant* with respect to  $A$  if there is a relation  $\mathbf{M} \subseteq S \times S'$  between  $A$  and  $A'$  such that:

- (A)  $s_0 \mathbf{M} s'_0$
- (B) for all  $s \in S, s' \in S'$  with  $s \mathbf{M} s'$  and all  $e \in \Sigma \cup \{\tau\}$  the following holds:
  - (1) if  $s \xrightarrow{e} t$  then  $\exists t' \in S' : s' \xrightarrow{e'} t' \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;
  - (2) if  $s' \xrightarrow{e'} t'$  then  $\exists t \in S : s \xrightarrow{e} t \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;
  - (3) if  $s' \xrightarrow{F} t'$  for some  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  then  $s \mathbf{M} t'$ .

If such a relation exists, we say that  $A'$  is a *weak masking fault-tolerant implementation* of  $A$ , denoted by  $A \preceq_m^w A'$ .

# Equivalently Weak Masking Simulation

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $A = \langle S, \Sigma, \rightarrow, s_0 \rangle$  and  $A' = \langle S', \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}, \rightarrow', s'_0 \rangle$  be two transition systems with  $\Sigma$  possibly containing  $\tau$ .  $A'$  is *weak masking fault-tolerant* with respect to  $A$  if there is a relation  $\mathbf{M} \subseteq S \times S'$  between  $A$  and  $A'$  such that:

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- (B) for all  $s \in S, s' \in S'$  with  $s \mathbf{M} s'$  and all  $e \in \Sigma \cup \{\tau\}$  the following holds:
  - (1) if  $s \xrightarrow{e} t$  then  $\exists t' \in S' : s' \xrightarrow{e'} t' \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;
  - (2) if  $s' \xrightarrow{e'} t'$  then  $\exists t \in S : s \xrightarrow{e} t \wedge t \mathbf{M} t'$ ;
  - (3) if  $s' \xrightarrow{F'} t'$  for some  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  then  $s \mathbf{M} t'$ .

If such a relation exists, we say that  $A'$  is a *weak masking fault-tolerant implementation* of  $A$ , denoted by  $A \preceq_m^w A'$ .

Hence,  
every result for strong also applies to weak by  
replacing the strong transition relation by the  
weak one (except for faults)



# Masking Simulation Game

**Definition 3.5.** Let  $A = \langle S, \Sigma, \rightarrow, s_0 \rangle$  and  $A' = \langle S', \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}, \rightarrow', s'_0 \rangle$  two transition systems. The *strong masking game graph*  $\mathcal{G}_{A,A'} = \langle V^G, V_R, V_V, E^G, v_0^G \rangle$  for two players is defined as follows:

- $V^G = (S \times (\Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}^2 \cup \{\#\}) \times S' \times \{R, V\}) \cup \{v_{err}\}$
- The initial state is  $v_0^G = \langle s_0, \#, s'_0, R \rangle$ , where the Refuter starts playing
- The Refuter's states are  $V_R = \{(s, \#, s', R) \mid s \in S \wedge s' \in S'\} \cup \{v_{err}\}$
- The Verifier's states are  $V_V = \{(s, \sigma, s', V) \mid s \in S \wedge s' \in S' \wedge \sigma \in (\Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}^2)\}$

and  $E^G$  is the minimal set satisfying:

- $\{((s, \#, s', R), (t, \sigma^1, s', V)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s \xrightarrow{\sigma} t\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, \#, s', R), (s, \sigma^2, t', V)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}} : s' \xrightarrow{\sigma'} t'\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, \sigma^2, s', V), (t, \#, s', R)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s \xrightarrow{\sigma} t\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, \sigma^1, s', V), (s, \#, t', R)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s' \xrightarrow{\sigma'} t'\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, F^2, s', V), (s, \#, s', R))\} \subseteq E^G,$  for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}.$
- If there is no outgoing transition from some state  $v$ , then, we additionally assume  $(v, v_{err}) \in E^G$  and  $(v_{err}, v_{err}) \in E^G.$

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- $\{((s, \sigma^2, s', V), (t, \#, s', R)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s \xrightarrow{\sigma} t\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, \sigma^1, s', V), (s, \#, t', R)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s' \xrightarrow{\sigma'} t'\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, F^2, s', V), (s, \#, s', R))\} \subseteq E^G,$  for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}.$
- If there is no outgoing transition from some state  $v$ , then, we additionally assume  $(v, v_{err}) \in E^G$  and  $(v_{err}, v_{err}) \in E^G.$

# Masking Simulation Game

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- $\{((s, \sigma^2, s', V), (t, \#, s', R)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s \xrightarrow{\sigma} t\} \subseteq E^G,$
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# Masking Simulation Game

**Definition 3.5.** Let  $A = \langle S, \Sigma, \rightarrow, s_0 \rangle$  and  $A' = \langle S', \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}, \rightarrow', s'_0 \rangle$  two transition systems. The *strong masking game graph*  $\mathcal{G}_{A,A'} = \langle V^G, V_R, V_V, E^G, v_0^G \rangle$  for two players is defined as follows:

- $V^G = (S \times (\Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}^2 \cup \{\#\}) \times S' \times \{R, V\}) \cup \{v_{err}\}$
- The initial state is  $v_0^G = \langle s_0, \#, s'_0, R \rangle$ , where the Refuter starts playing
- The Refuter's states are  $V_R = \{(s, \#, s', R) \mid s \in S \wedge s' \in S'\} \cup \{v_{err}\}$
- The Verifier's states are  $V_V = \{(s, \sigma, s', V) \mid s \in S \wedge s' \in S' \wedge \sigma \in (\Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}}^2)\}$

and  $E^G$  is the minimal set satisfying:

- $\{((s, \#, s', R), (t, \sigma^1, s', V)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s \xrightarrow{\sigma} t\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, \#, s', R), (s, \sigma^2, t', V)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{F}} : s' \xrightarrow{\sigma}' t'\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, \sigma^2, s', V), (t, \#, s', R)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s \xrightarrow{\sigma} t\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, \sigma^1, s', V), (s, \#, t', R)) \mid \exists \sigma \in \Sigma : s' \xrightarrow{\sigma}' t'\} \subseteq E^G,$
- $\{((s, F^2, s', V), (s, \#, s', R))\} \subseteq E^G,$  for any  $F \in \mathcal{F}.$
- If there is no outgoing transition from some state  $v$ , then, we additionally assume  $(v, v_{err}) \in E^G$  and  $(v_{err}, v_{err}) \in E^G.$

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We are in the presence of a **masking simulation** iff the **Verifier has a winning strategy** (i.e. the Refuter is not able to lead the Verifier to the error state)

# Masking Simulation Game (Algorithm)

**Definition 3.9.** Given a strong masking game graph  $\mathcal{G}_{A,A'}$ , the sets  $U_i^j$  (for  $i, j \geq 0$ ) are defined as follows:

$$U_i^0 = U_0^j = \emptyset,$$

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$$U_{i+1}^{j+1} = \{v' \mid v' \in V_R \wedge \text{post}(v') \cap U_{i+1}^j \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$\cup \{v' \mid v' \in V_V \wedge \text{post}(v') \subseteq \bigcup_{i' \leq i+1, j' \leq j} U_{i'}^{j'} \wedge \text{post}(v') \cap U_{i+1}^j \neq \emptyset \wedge \text{pr}_1(v') \notin \mathcal{F}\}$$

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Furthermore,  $U^k = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} U_i^k$  and  $U = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} U^k$ .

Fix-point calculation

**Lemma 3.10.** *The Refuter has a winning strategy in  $\mathcal{G}_{A,A'}$  (or  $\mathcal{G}_{A,A'}^W$ ) iff  $v_0^G \in U$ .*

# Back to the example

```
module NOMINAL

  b : [0..1] init 0;

  [w0] true -> (b' = 0);
  [w1] true -> (b' = 1);
  [r0] b=0 -> true;
  [r1] b=1 -> true;

endmodule
```

Which solution  
is better?

```
module FAULTY
```

```
  v : [0..3] init 0;

  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
  [w1] true -> (v' = 3);
  [r0] v<=1 -> true;
  [r1] v>=2 -> true;
  [fault] v<3 -> (v' = v+1);
  [fault] v>0 -> (v' = v-1);
```

```
endmodule
```

```
module FAULTY
```

```
  v : [0..5] init 0;

  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
  [w1] true -> (v' = 5);
  [r0] v<=2 -> true;
  [r1] v>=3 -> true;
  [fault] v<5 -> (v' = v+1);
  [fault] v>0 -> (v' = v-1);
```

```
endmodule
```



# Back to the example

```
module NOMINAL

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endmodule
```

Which solution  
is better?

```
module FAULTY_BOUNDED
```

```
  v : [0..3] init 0;
  f : [0..1] init 0;

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  [r1] v>=2 -> true;
  [fault] (v<3) & (f<1) -> (v' = v+1) &
    (f' = f+1);
  [fault] (v>0) & (f<1) -> (v' = v-1) &
    (f' = f+1);
```

```
endmodule
```

```
module FAULTY_BOUNDED
```

```
  v : [0..5] init 0;
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  [w0] true -> (v' = 0);
  [w1] true -> (v' = 5);
  [r0] v<=2 -> true;
  [r1] v>=3 -> true;
  [fault] (v<3) & (f<2) -> (v' = v+1) &
    (f' = f+1);
  [fault] (v>0) & (f<2) -> (v' = v-1) &
    (f' = f+1);
```

```
endmodule
```

Add the counting artifact and  
check masking simulation

# Back to the example

Needless to say that this is an ad-hoc solution and prone to error

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module NOMINAL

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Which solution is better?

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```

```
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Add the counting artifact and check masking simulation

# Quantitative Masking Game

The **quantitative masking game**  $\mathcal{Q}_{A,A'}$  is defined by extending the masking game with the reward function

$$r((s, \sigma, s', X)) = \begin{cases} (1, 0) & \text{if } \sigma \in \mathcal{F} \\ (0, 0) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad r(v_{err}) = (0, 1)$$

Take a play  $\rho = \rho_0\rho_1\rho_2, \dots$  and let  $r(\rho_i) = (a_i, b_i)$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . We define the **masking payoff function** by:

$$f_m(\rho) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_n}{1 + \sum_{i=0}^n a_i}$$

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$$f_m(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v_{err} \text{ is not in } \rho \\ \frac{1}{\text{number of faults before } v_{err}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Quantitative Masking Game

The **masking distance** is defined by the value of the game:

$$\begin{aligned}\delta_m(A, A') &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{val}(\mathcal{Q}_{A, A'}) = \inf_{\pi_V \in \Pi_V} \sup_{\pi_R \in \Pi_R} f_m(\text{out}(\pi_R, \pi_V)) \\ &= \sup_{\pi_R \in \Pi_R} \inf_{\pi_V \in \Pi_V} f_m(\text{out}(\pi_R, \pi_V))\end{aligned}$$

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this equality  
is guaranteed by a  
theorem

Theorem:  $\delta_m(A, A') = 0$  iff  $A \preceq_m A'$

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indicates that the error state is reached after at most  $i-1$  faults



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indicates that the error state is reached after at most  $i-1$  faults

Furthermore,  $U^k = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} U_i^k$  and  $U = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} U^k$ .

Theorem:

$$\delta_m(A, A') = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\min\{i \mid v_0^G \in U_i^j\}} & \text{if } v_0^G \in U \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Everybody loves tables!

❖ Tool MaskD (developed by Luciano)

❖ Complexity (general):

$$\mathcal{O}(|E^G| * \log |V^G|)$$

❖ Weak case requires reflexive-transitive construction, so add

$$\mathcal{O}(\max(|S|, |S'|)^{2.3727})$$

❖ Complexity (deterministic)

$$\mathcal{O}(|E^G|)$$

Shortest weighted path

Case Study	Redundancy	Masking Distance	Time	Time(Det)
Redundant Memory Cell	3 bits	0.333	0.7s	0.6s
	5 bits	0.25	2.5s	1.9s
	7 bits	0.2	7.2s	5.7s
	9 bits	0.167	1m.4s	1m11s
	11 bits	0.143	28m27s	26m10s
N-Modular Redundancy	3 modules	0.333	0.6s	0.5s
	5 modules	0.25	1.2s	0.7s
	7 modules	0.2	5.6s	3.8s
	9 modules	0.167	2m55s	2m32s
	11 modules	0.143	75m17s	72m48s
Dining Philosophers	2 phils	0.5	0.6s	0.6s
	3 phils	0.333	1.9s	0.9s
	4 phils	0.25	5.9s	2.6s
	5 phils	0.2	25.3s	24.1s
	6 phils	0.167	19m.23s	11m39s
Byzantine Generals	3 generals	0.5	0.9s	–
	4 generals	0.333	17.1s	–
	5 generals	0.333	429m54s	–
Raft LRCC (5)	1 follower	0	0.7s	0.8s
	2 followers	0	5.6s	3.6s
	3 followers	0	49m.50s	37m.53s
BRP(1)	1 retransm.	0.333	0.7s	–
	5 retransm.	0.143	0.8s	–
	10 retransm.	0.083	1.3s	–
	20 retransm.	0.045	3.9s	–
	40 retransm.	0.024	4.8s	–
BRP(5)	1 retransm.	0.333	4.2s	–
	5 retransm.	0.143	4.8s	–
	10 retransm.	0.083	6.1s	–
	20 retransm.	0.045	8.7s	–
	40 retransm.	0.024	18.6s	–
BRP(10)	1 retransm.	0.333	4.7s	–
	5 retransm.	0.143	6.4s	–
	10 retransm.	0.083	10.1s	–
	20 retransm.	0.045	20.5s	–
	40 retransm.	0.024	1m.9s	–

# Measuring Masking Fault-Tolerance

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Ramiro Demasi, Luciano Putruele



Dependable Systems dTime Talks  
October, 2020

