

# Solving Temporal Problems using SMT: Weak Controllability

Alessandro Cimatti   **Andrea Micheli**   Marco Roveri

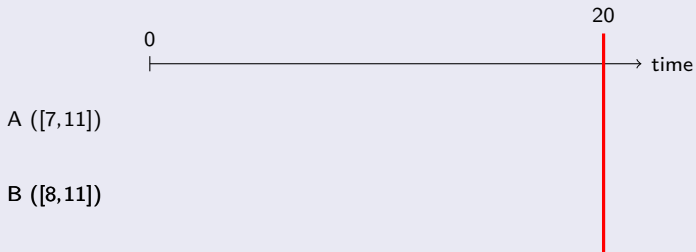
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# Temporal Problems with Uncertainty

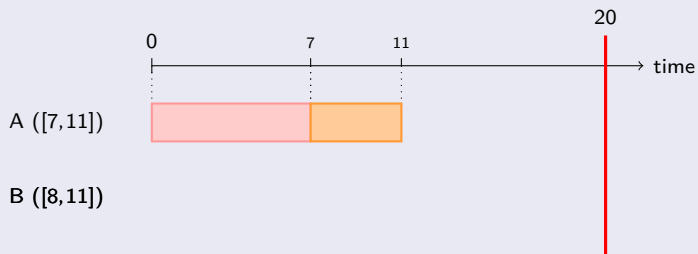
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## Activity View



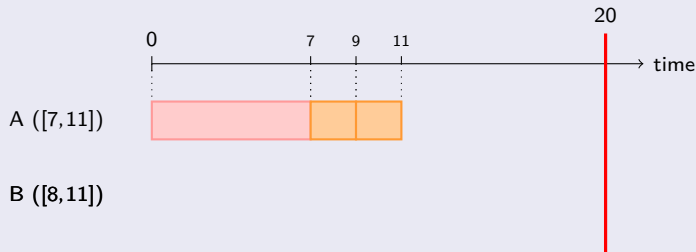
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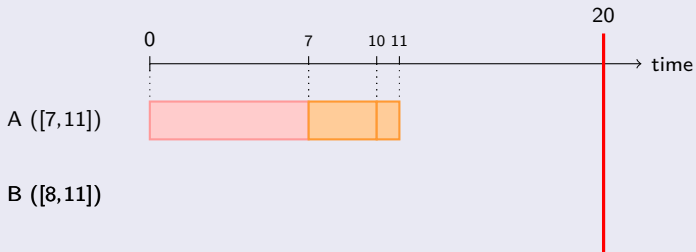
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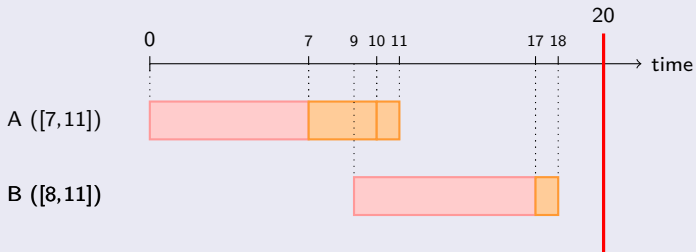
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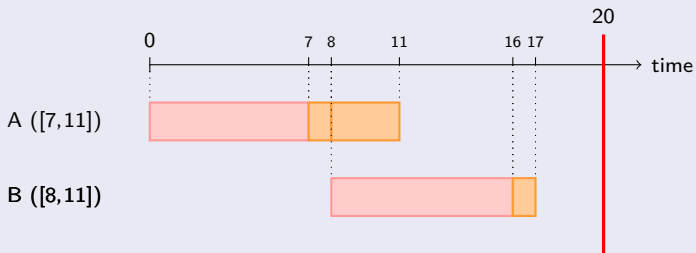
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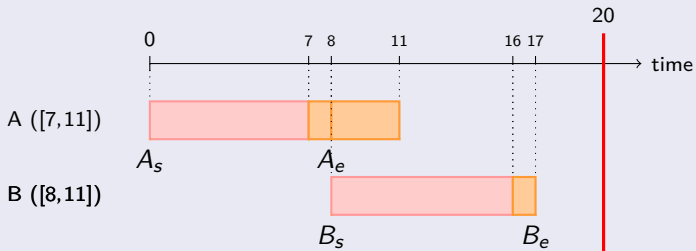
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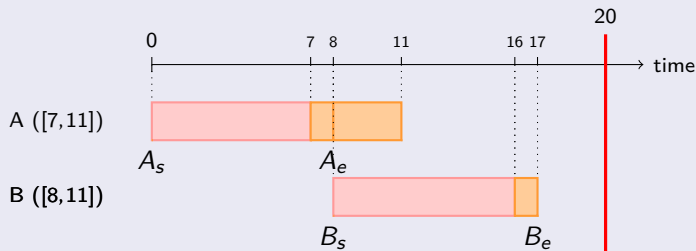
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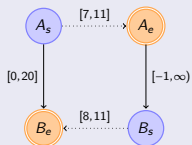


# Temporal Problems with Uncertainty

## Activity View



## Temporal Problem View



$A_s, B_s$  are **Controllable Time Points**

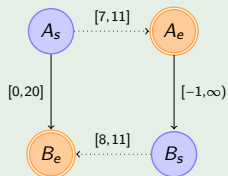
$A_e, B_e$  are **Uncontrollable Time Point**

→ represents **Free Constraints**

⋯→ represents **Contingent Constraints**

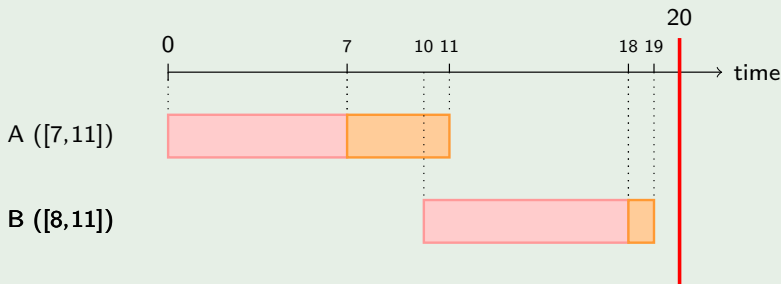
# Schedules

## Example



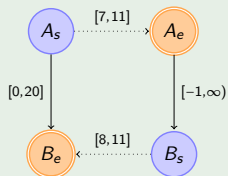
## Fixed Schedule (Strong Controllability)

- $start(A)$  at 0
- $start(B)$  at 10



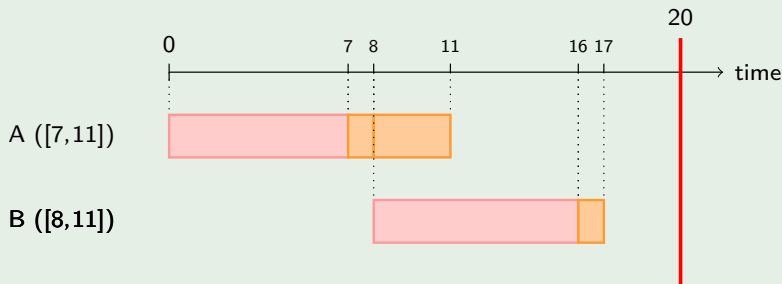
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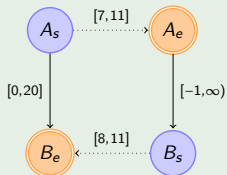
## Dynamic Schedule (Dynamic Controllability)

- $start(A)$  at 0
- $start(B)$  at  $A_e$



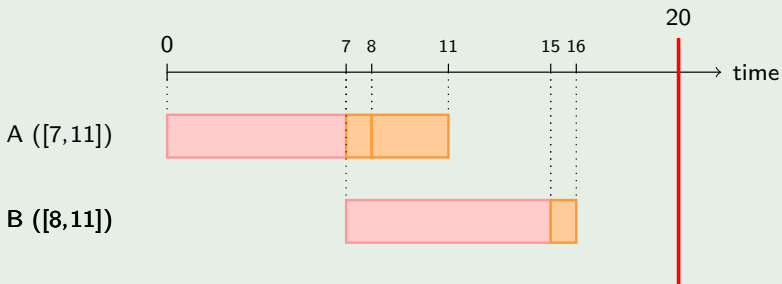
# Schedules

## Example



## Clairvoyant Schedule (Weak Controllability)

- $start(A)$  at 0
- $start(B)$  at  $A_e - 1$



# Constraint Taxonomy

## Notation

- $X_c$  is the set of *controllable time points*
- $X_u$  is the set of *uncontrollable time points*
- $C_c$  is the set of *contingent constraints*
- $C_f$  is the set of *free constraints*

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Type of constraint in $C_f$	Problem class
No disjunctions $(x_i - x_j) \in [l, u]$	STPU Simple Temporal Problem with Uncertainty
Interval disjunctions $(x_i - x_j) \in \bigcup_w [l_w, u_w]$	TCSPU Temporal Constraint Satisfaction Problem with Uncertainty
Arbitrary disjunctions $\bigvee_w ((x_{i_w} - x_{j_w}) \in [l_w, u_w])$	DTPU Disjunctive Temporal Problem with Uncertainty

# In this paper: Weak Controllability

## Definition

A Temporal Problem with Uncertainty is **Weakly Controllable** if and only if

$$\forall \vec{X}_u. \exists \vec{X}_c. (C_c(\vec{X}_c, \vec{X}_u) \rightarrow C_f(\vec{X}_c, \vec{X}_u))$$



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## Strategies

A (clairvoyant) winning strategy is a function  $f : \vec{X}_u \rightarrow \vec{X}_c$  such that

$$\forall \vec{X}_u. (C_c(f(\vec{X}_u), \vec{X}_u) \rightarrow C_f(f(\vec{X}_u), \vec{X}_u))$$

# Contributions

## ① Decision procedure for Weak Controllability

- Formalization in Linear Real Arithmetic logic
- Efficient encodings in Satisfiability Modulo Theory (*SMT*)
- Not discussed in this talk

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## ② Strategy extraction algorithms for *STPU*

- Algorithms for linear strategy extraction
- Proof of non-linear strategy in general
- Algorithms for piecewise linear strategy extraction

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Linear strategies
- 3 Piecewise linear strategies
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## Satisfiability Modulo Theory (*SMT*)

*SMT* is the problem of deciding satisfiability of a first-order Boolean combination of theory atoms in a given theory  $T$ .

A formula  $\phi$  is satisfiable if there exists a model  $\mu$  such that  $\mu \models \phi$ .

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$\exists y, z. (\forall x. (x > 0) \vee (y \geq x)) \wedge (z \geq y)$   
is satisfiable in the theory of real arithmetic because

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## Theories

*SMT* procedures support various theories.

In this work:

- *LRA* (*Linear Real Arithmetic*)
- *QF\_LRA* (*Quantifier-Free LRA*)



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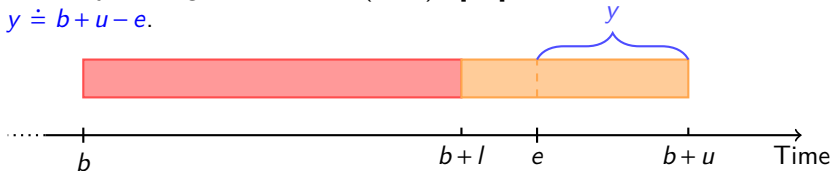
Weak Controllability definition immediately maps in *SMT* (*LRA*)

# Uncontrollability Isolation

Let  $e \in X_u$  and  $b \in X_c$ .

For every contingent constraint  $(e - b) \in [l, u]$ , we introduce an offset

$y \doteq b + u - e$ .

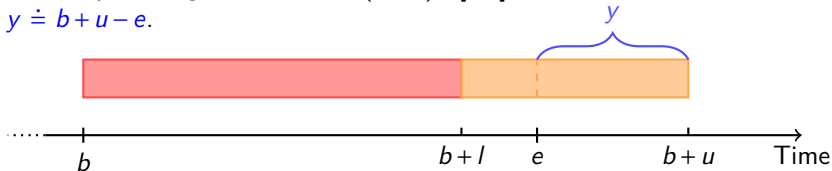


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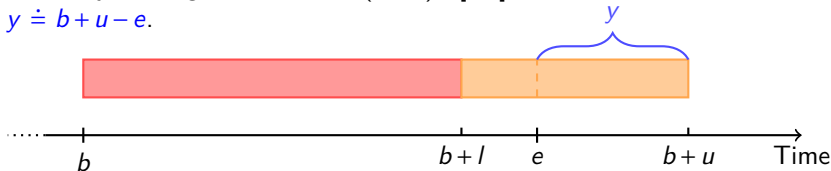
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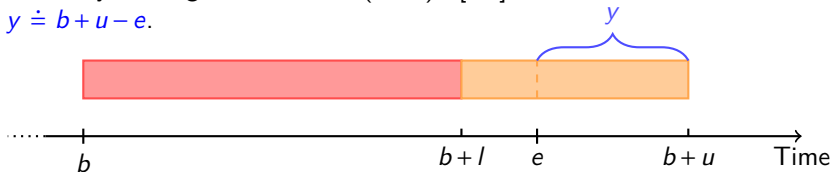
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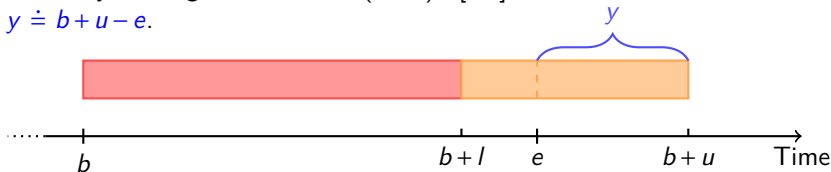
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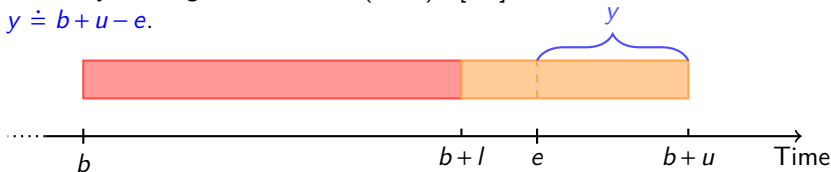
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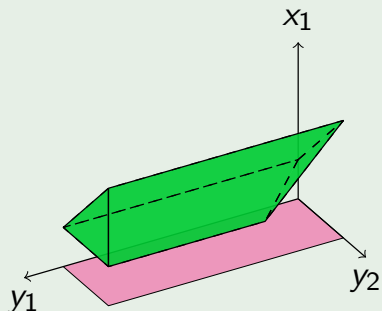
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- A winning strategy is now a function  $f: \vec{Y}_u \rightarrow \vec{X}_c$

## Strategies: Intuition

Given the solution space  $\mathbf{P}$ , in the space of  $\vec{X}_c$  and  $\vec{Y}_u$ , a strategy is a (possibly non-continuous) surface  $S$ , such that  $P \cap S$  projected in the space of  $\vec{Y}_u$  only, contains the polyhedron  $\Gamma(\vec{Y}_u)$ .

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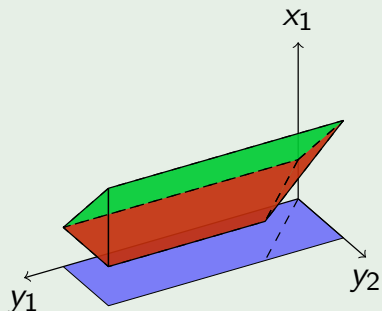




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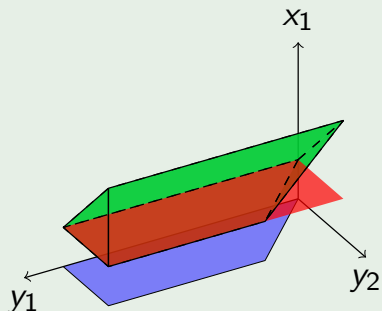
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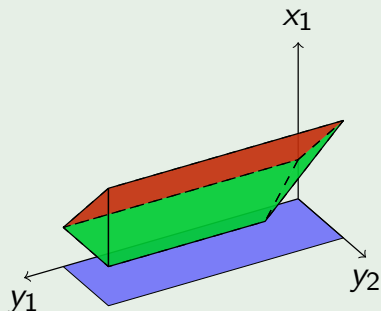
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### Example



If  $\mathbf{S}$  is a (hyper-)plane, the strategy is linear, i.e.

$$f(\vec{y}) \doteq A \cdot \vec{y} + \vec{b}$$

- 1 Preliminaries
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# Linearity is not enough

## Theorem

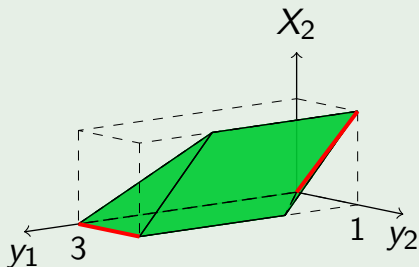
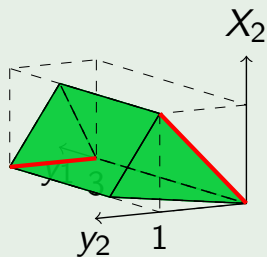
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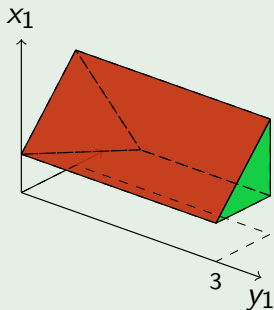
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## Example



# Encoding in *SMT* (*QF\_LRA*)

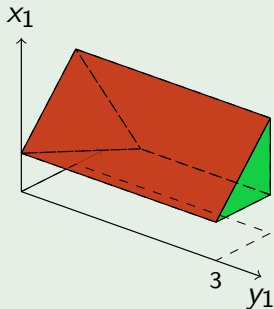
## (Another) Example



$$\Gamma(y_1, y_2) \doteq y_1 \geq 0 \wedge y_1 \leq 3 \wedge y_2 \geq 0 \wedge y_2 \leq 1$$

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$$\Gamma(y_1, y_2) \doteq y_1 \geq 0 \wedge y_1 \leq 3 \wedge y_2 \leq 1$$

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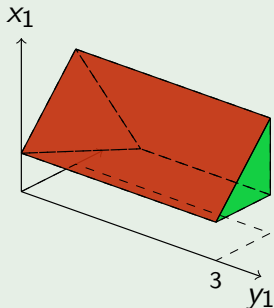
$$\exists a_1, a_2, b. \forall y_1, y_2.$$

$$\Gamma(y_1, y_2) \rightarrow \Psi(f(a_1, a_2, b), y_1, y_2)$$



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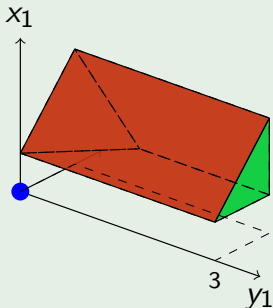
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$$Enc(a_1, a_2, c) \doteq$$

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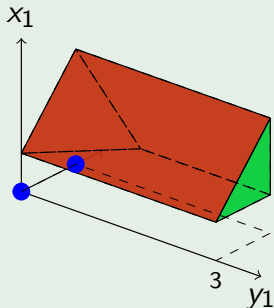
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$$Enc(a_1, a_2, c) \doteq \Psi(0a_1 + 0a_2 + b, 0, 0) \wedge$$

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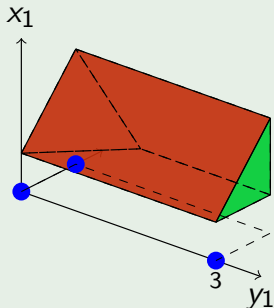
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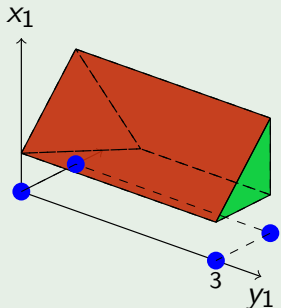
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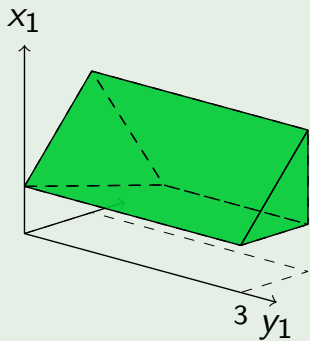
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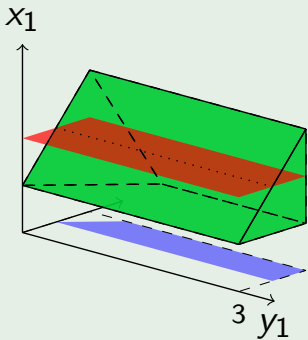
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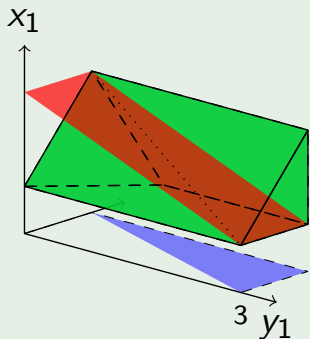


Observed uncontrollable offsets:

- $\emptyset$
- $\{y_1\}$
- $\{y_2\}$
- $\{y_1, y_2\}$

# Incremental Weakening

## Example



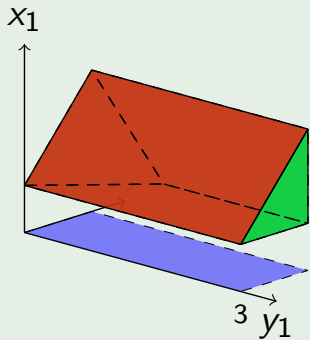
Observed uncontrollable offsets:

- $\emptyset$
- $\{y_1\}$
- $\{y_2\}$
- $\{y_1, y_2\}$



# Incremental Weakening

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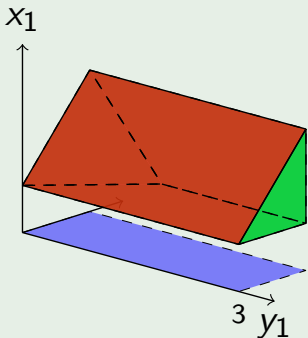


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## Intuition

If we do not observe the  $i$ -th variable, the  $i$ -th column in the matrix is filled with 0.

# Outline

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Linear strategies
- 3 Piecewise linear strategies**
- 4 Experimental Evaluation
- 5 Conclusion

# Definitions

## Piecewise linear strategies

$f$  is a piecewise linear strategy if it has the form

$$f(\vec{y}) \doteq \text{If } \phi_1(\vec{y}) \text{ then } A_1 \cdot \vec{y} + \vec{b}_1;$$

$$\text{If } \phi_2(\vec{y}) \text{ then } A_2 \cdot \vec{y} + \vec{b}_2;$$

...

$$\text{If } \phi_n(\vec{y}) \text{ then } A_n \cdot \vec{y} + \vec{b}_n;$$

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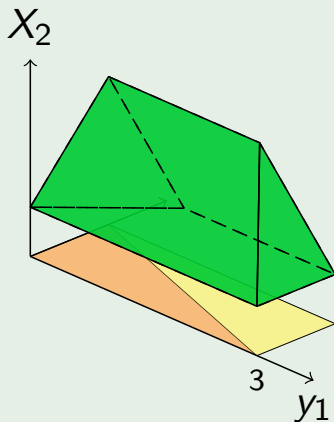
## Simplexes

An  $n$ -simplex is an  $n$ -dimensional polytope which is the convex hull of its  $n+1$  vertexes. E.g.

- 2-d → Triangle
- 3-d → Tetrahedron

# Enumerating all the maximal simplexes

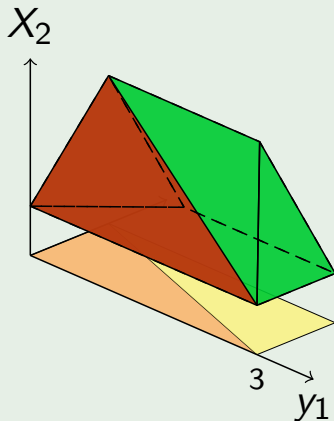
## (Another) Example



Strategy:

# Enumerating all the maximal simplexes

## (Another) Example

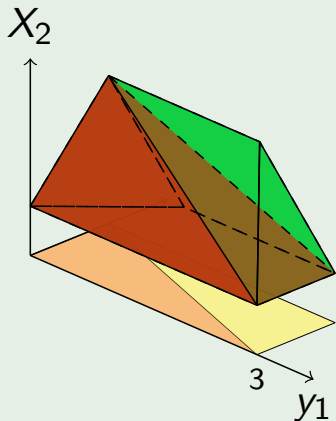


Strategy:

$$\text{If } y_2 \leq -\frac{1}{3}y_1 + 1 \text{ then } S_1;$$

# Enumerating all the maximal simplexes

## (Another) Example



Strategy:

$$\text{If } y_2 \leq -\frac{1}{3}y_1 + 1 \text{ then } S_1;$$

$$\text{If } y_2 > -\frac{1}{3}y_1 + 1 \text{ then } S_2;$$



# Lazy extraction

## Idea

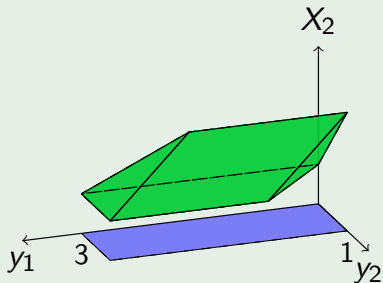
Pick a simplex  $R(\vec{Y}_u)$  in  $\Gamma(\vec{Y}_u)$ , find a linear strategy  $S(\vec{Y}_u)$  for  $R(\vec{Y}_u)$ , and remove the region where  $S(\vec{Y}_u)$  is applicable from  $\Gamma(\vec{Y}_u)$ . Iterate until  $\Gamma(\vec{Y}_u)$  is empty.

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## Example



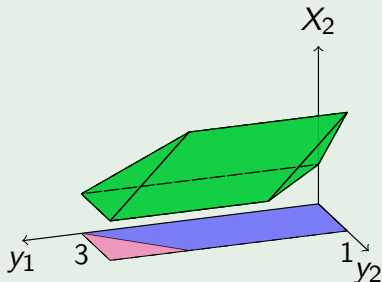
Strategy:

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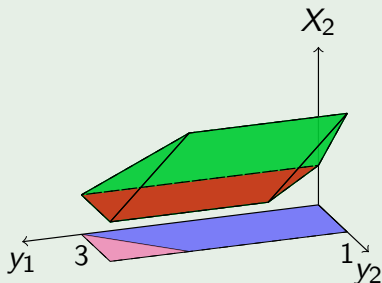
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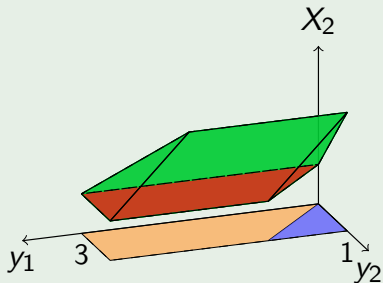
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## Example



Strategy:

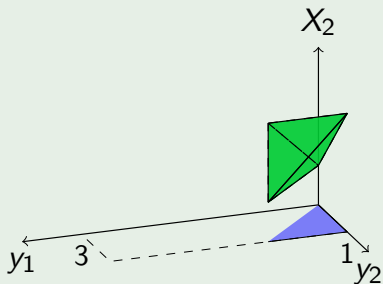
If  $y_1 \geq y_2$  then  $S_1$ ;

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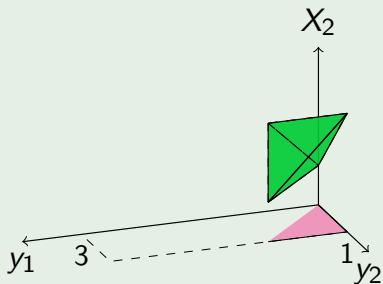
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Strategy:

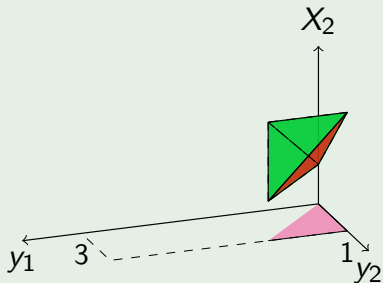
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## Example



Strategy:

If  $y_1 \geq y_2$  then  $S_1$ ;

If  $y_1 < y_2$  then  $S_2$ ;

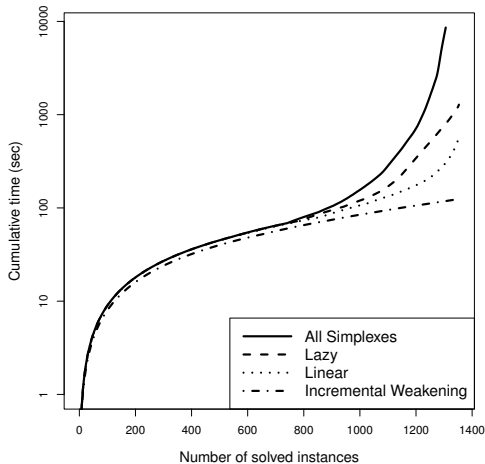


# Outline

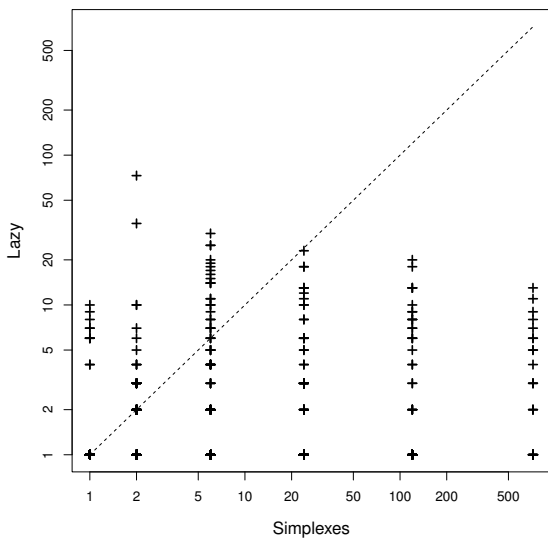
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# Scalability of strategy extraction algorithms

- Random instance generator derived from TSAT++ experiments
- Implementation
  - Python implementation
  - MathSAT5 API
- 4 algorithms
  - Linear
  - Incremental Weakening
  - All simplexes
  - Lazy
- 1354 weakly controllable instances admitting a linear strategy



# Extracted strategy size



# Outline

- 1 Preliminaries
- 2 Linear strategies
- 3 Piecewise linear strategies
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# Conclusions

## Contributions

- SMT-based approach for Weak Controllability in the general case
- Algorithms for *STPU* linear strategy extraction
- Proof of non-linear strategy existence
- Algorithms for *STPU* piecewise linear strategy extraction

# Conclusions

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- SMT-based approach for Weak Controllability in the general case
- Algorithms for *STPU* linear strategy extraction
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## Future works

- Cost function optimization  
(Considering trade-off between linearity and optimality)
- Dynamic Controllability

# Thanks

Thanks for your attention!