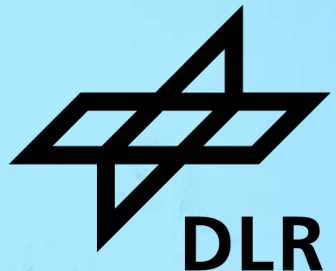


# TOWARDS THE USAGE OF WINDOW COUNTING CONSTRAINTS IN THE SYNTHESIS OF REACTIVE SYSTEMS TO REDUCE STATE SPACE EXPLOSION

Linda Feeken, Martin Fränzle

GandALF 2024, 20.06.2024



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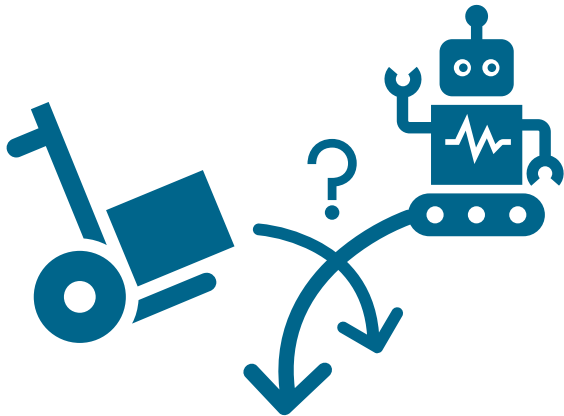


# Synthesis of Reactive Systems



## Short Introduction

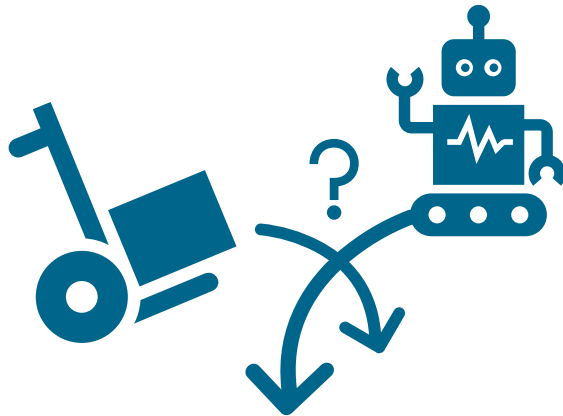
System interacts with environment



# Synthesis of Reactive Systems

## Short Introduction

System interacts with environment



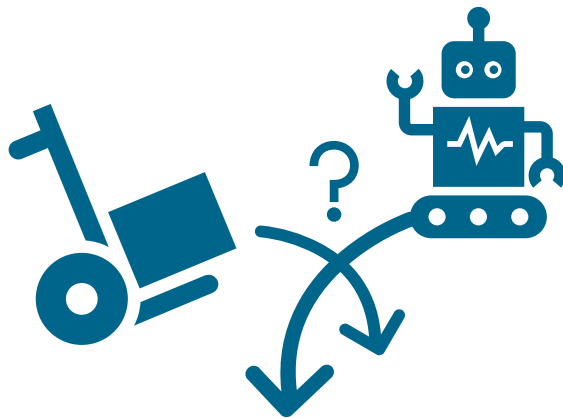
Strategies compliant with system specification



# Synthesis of Reactive Systems

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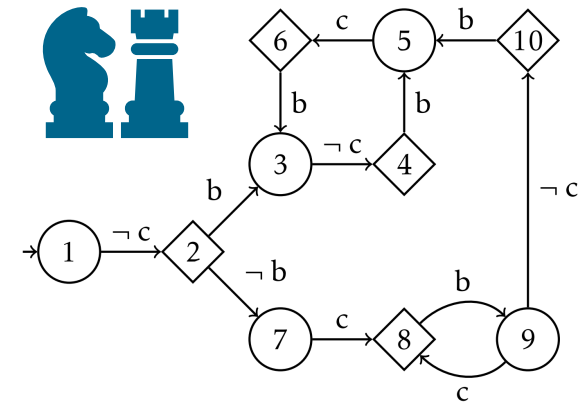
System interacts with environment



Strategies compliant with system specification



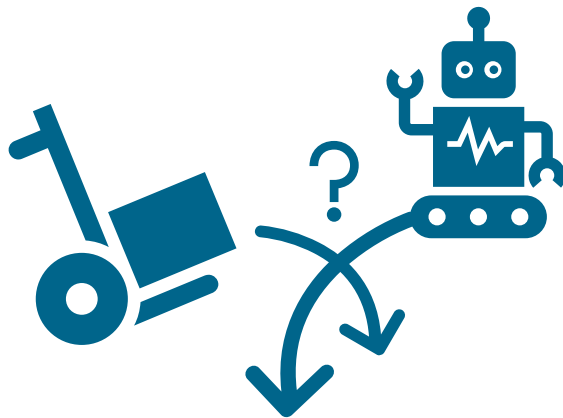
Game-theoretic approach



# Synthesis of Reactive Systems

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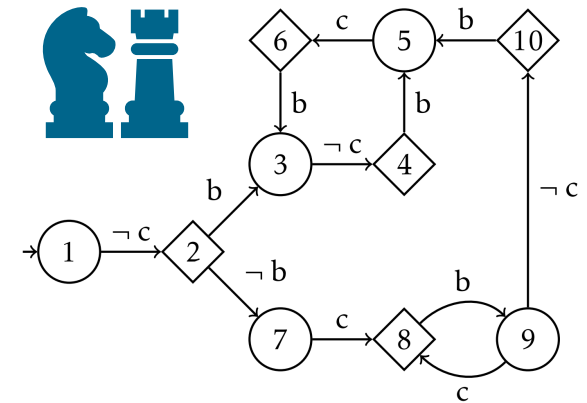
System interacts with environment



Strategies compliant with system specification



Game-theoretic approach



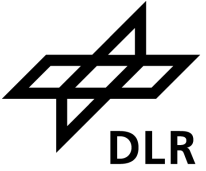
Here:

- Two-player finite-state game with infinite plays
- Specification given as combination of window counting constraints and explicit game graph

# TOWARDS THE USAGE OF WINDOW COUNTING CONSTRAINTS IN THE SYNTHESIS OF REACTIVE SYSTEMS TO REDUCE STATE SPACE EXPLOSION



# State Space Explosion



## Standard synthesis procedure overview





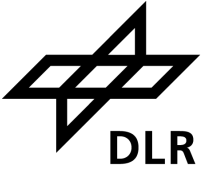
# State Space Explosion

## Standard synthesis procedure overview



**Expensive procedure!**  
(computational time, memory)  
Resulting automaton is significantly bigger than specification! State space explosion!

# State Space Explosion



## Related Work to deal with state space explosion

Synthesis Input:  
Specification

Synthesis Procedure

Synthesis Output:  
Strategy

# State Space Explosion



## Related Work to deal with state space explosion

Synthesis Input:  
Specification

Synthesis Procedure

Synthesis Output:  
Strategy

Restriction to specifications  
of a special form, e.g.:

- GR(1) [1]
- Safety LTL [2]

[1] Piterman, Nir, Amir Pnueli, and Yaniv Sa'ar. "Synthesis of reactive (1) designs." *Verification, Model Checking, and Abstract Interpretation: 7th International Conference, VMCAI 2006, Charleston, SC, USA, January 8-10, 2006. Proceedings 7*. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2006.

[2] Zhu, Shufang, et al. "A symbolic approach to safety LTL synthesis." *Hardware and Software: Verification and Testing: 13th International Haifa Verification Conference, HVC 2017, Haifa, Israel, November 13-15, 2017, Proceedings 13*. Springer International Publishing, 2017.

# State Space Explosion



## Related Work to deal with state space explosion

Synthesis Input:  
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Synthesis Procedure

Synthesis Output:  
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Restriction to specifications  
of a special form, e.g.:

- GR(1)
- Safety LTL

Tackling the internal representation  
of the problem, e.g.:

- Safrless approaches, e.g. [3]
- Symbolic approaches, e.g. [4]

[3] Kupferman, Orna, and Moshe Y. Vardi. "Safrless decision procedures." *46th Annual IEEE Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS'05)*. IEEE, 2005.

[4] Filiot, Emmanuel, Naiyong Jin, and Jean-François Raskin. "An antichain algorithm for LTL realizability." *Computer Aided Verification: 21st International Conference, CAV 2009, Grenoble, France, June 26-July 2, 2009. Proceedings 21*. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2009.

# State Space Explosion



## Related Work to deal with state space explosion

Synthesis Input:  
Specification

Synthesis Procedure

Synthesis Output:  
Strategy

Restriction to specifications of a special form, e.g.:

- GR(1)
- Safety LTL

Tackling the internal representation of the problem, e.g.:

- „Safrasless“ approaches
- Symbolic approaches

Restriction of the strategy size, e.g.:

- Bounded synthesis, e.g. [5]
- Lazy synthesis [6]

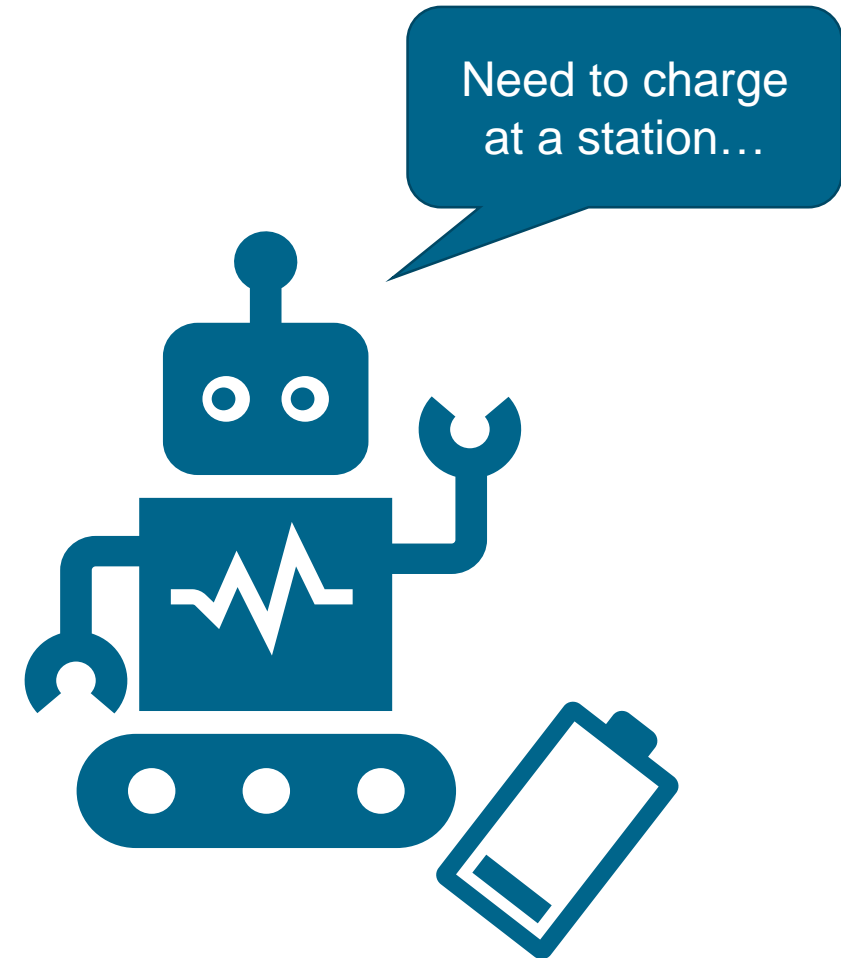
[5] Schewe, Sven, and Bernd Finkbeiner. "Bounded synthesis." *International symposium on automated technology for verification and analysis*. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2007.

[6] Finkbeiner, Bernd, and Swen Jacobs. "Lazy synthesis." *International Workshop on Verification, Model Checking, and Abstract Interpretation*. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2012.

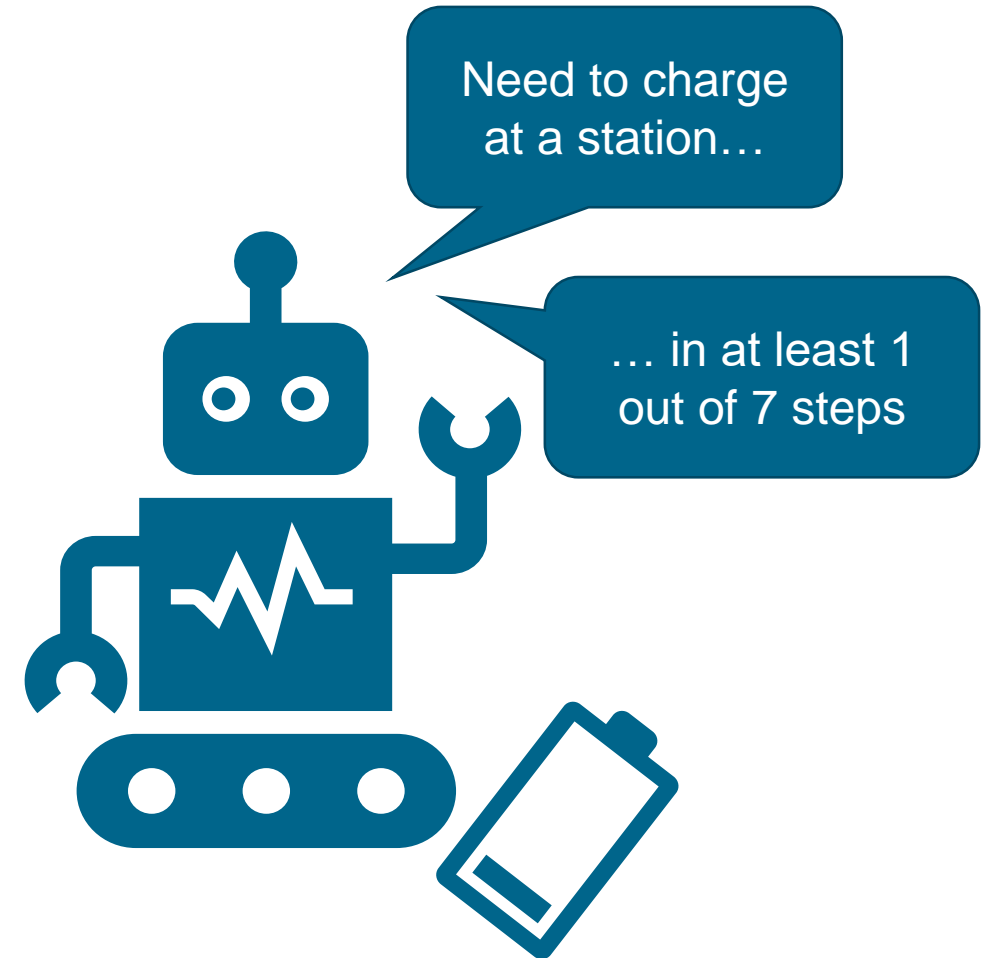
TOWARDS THE USAGE OF  
**WINDOW COUNTING CONSTRAINTS**  
IN THE SYNTHESIS OF REACTIVE  
SYSTEMS TO REDUCE STATE SPACE  
EXPLOSION



# Window Counting Constraints



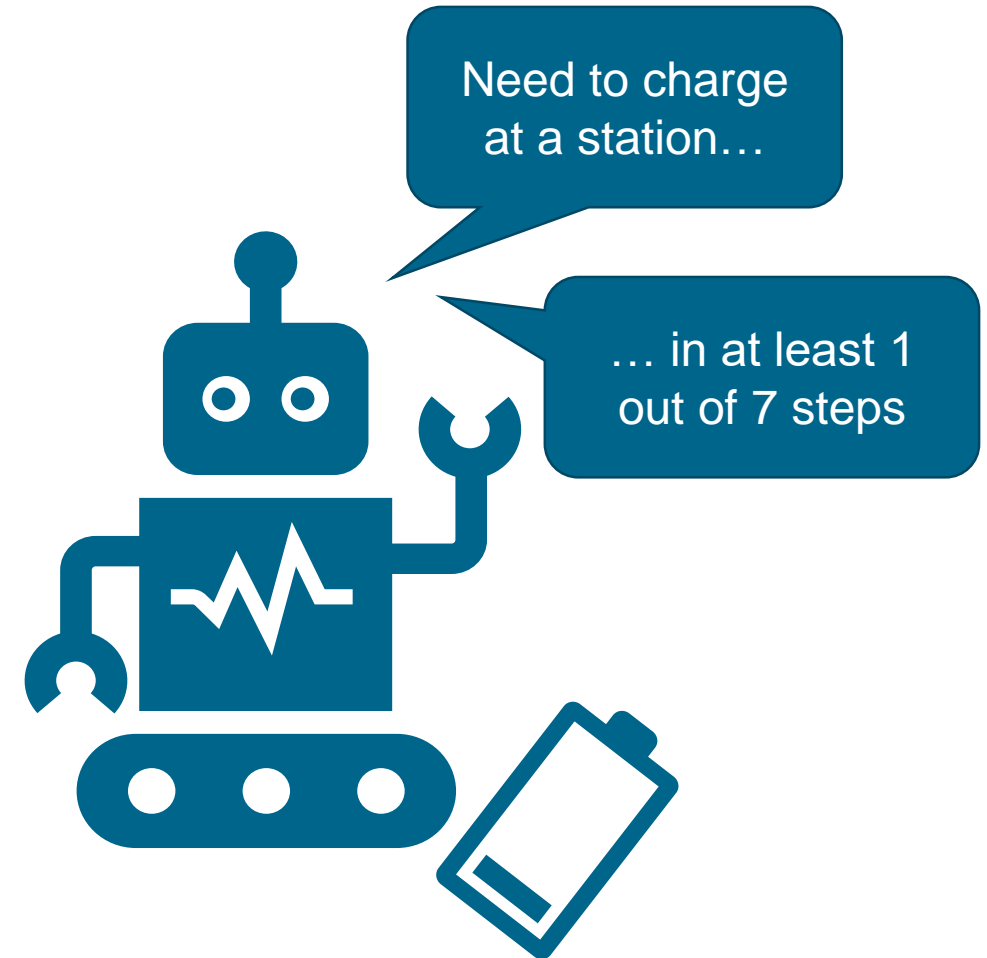
# Window Counting Constraints





# Window Counting Constraints

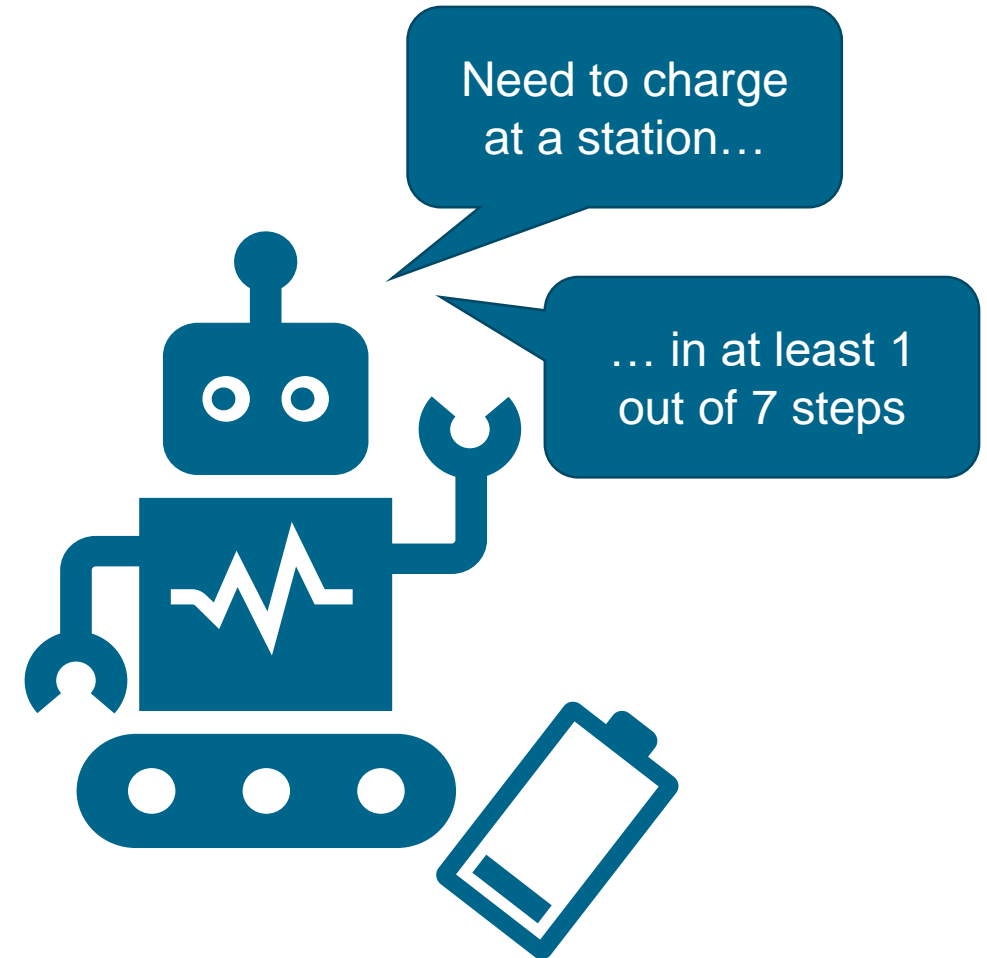
*„The system plays an action  $c$  at least  $k$  times out of  $l$  turns.“*



# Window Counting Constraints

*„The system plays an action  $c$  at least  $k$  times out of  $l$  turns.“*

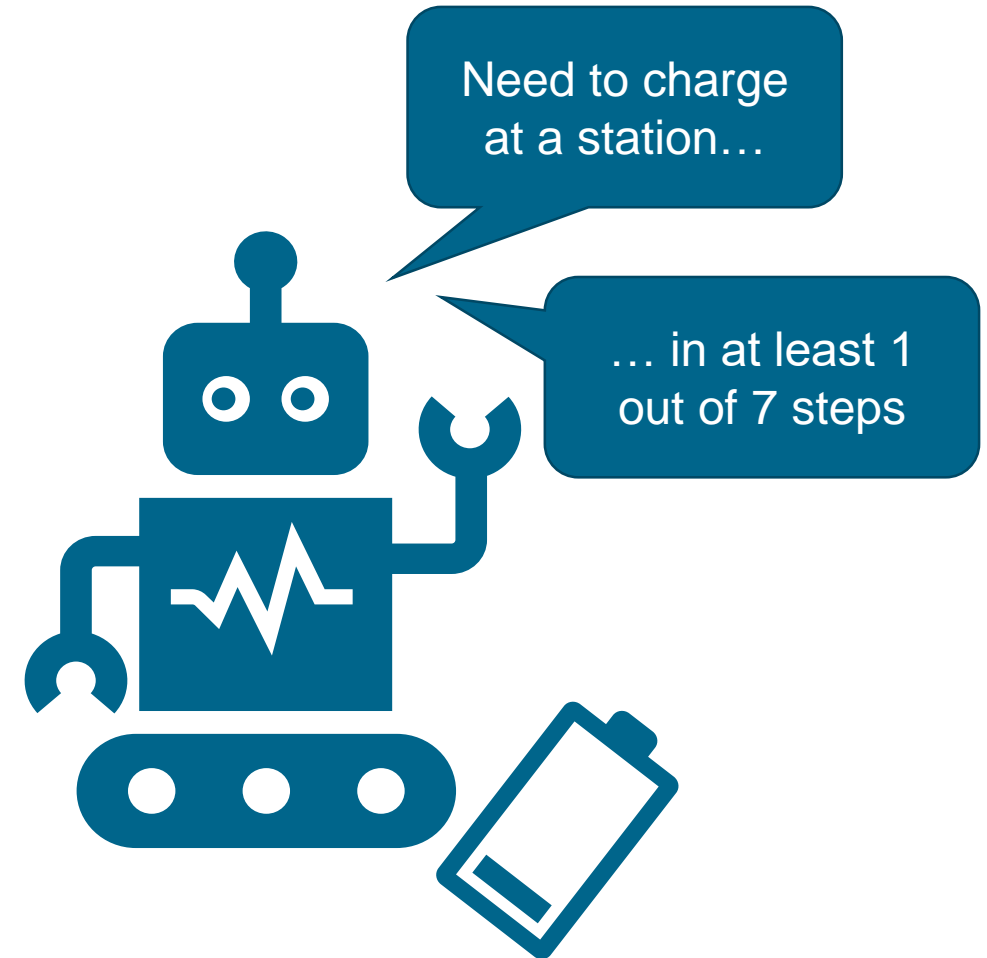
- „at most“ instead of „at least“ possible



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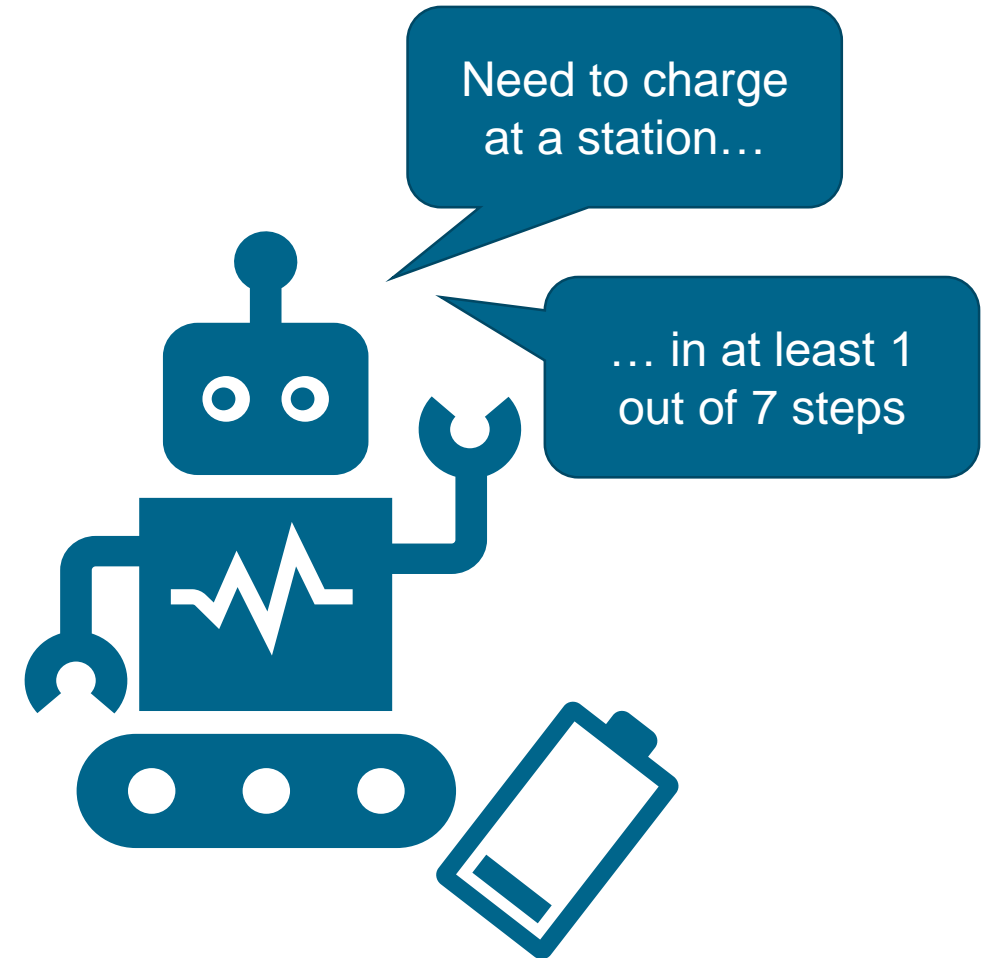
- „at most“ instead of „at least“ possible
- Constraint holds globally („sliding window“)  
...bbcbbbbbbcbccccbbbc...  
 $c$  at least 1 times out of 7 ✓



# Window Counting Constraints

„The system plays an action  $c$  at least  $k$  times out of  $l$  turns.“

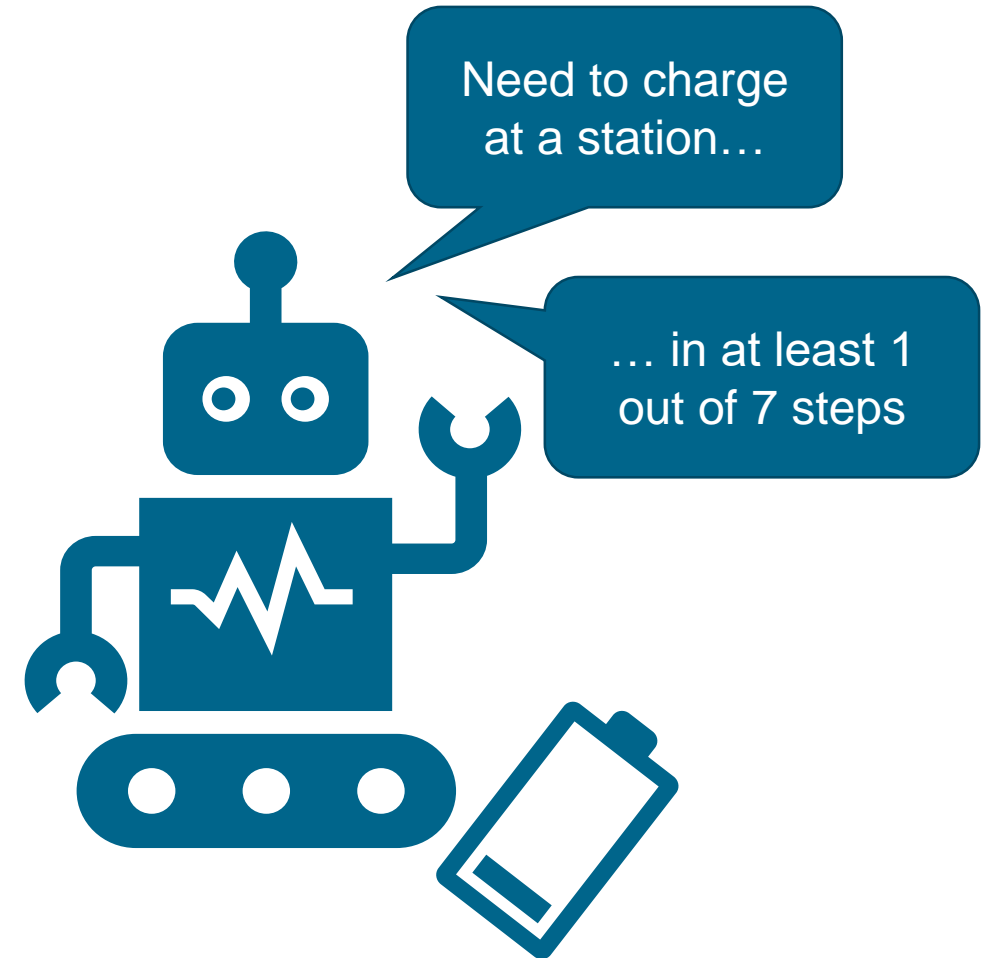
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... $bb$  $cb$  $bb$  $cb$  $bb$  $bb$  $cb$  $bb$  $cc$  $cb$  $bb$  $c$ ...  
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„The system plays an action  $c$  at least  $k$  times out of  $l$  turns.“

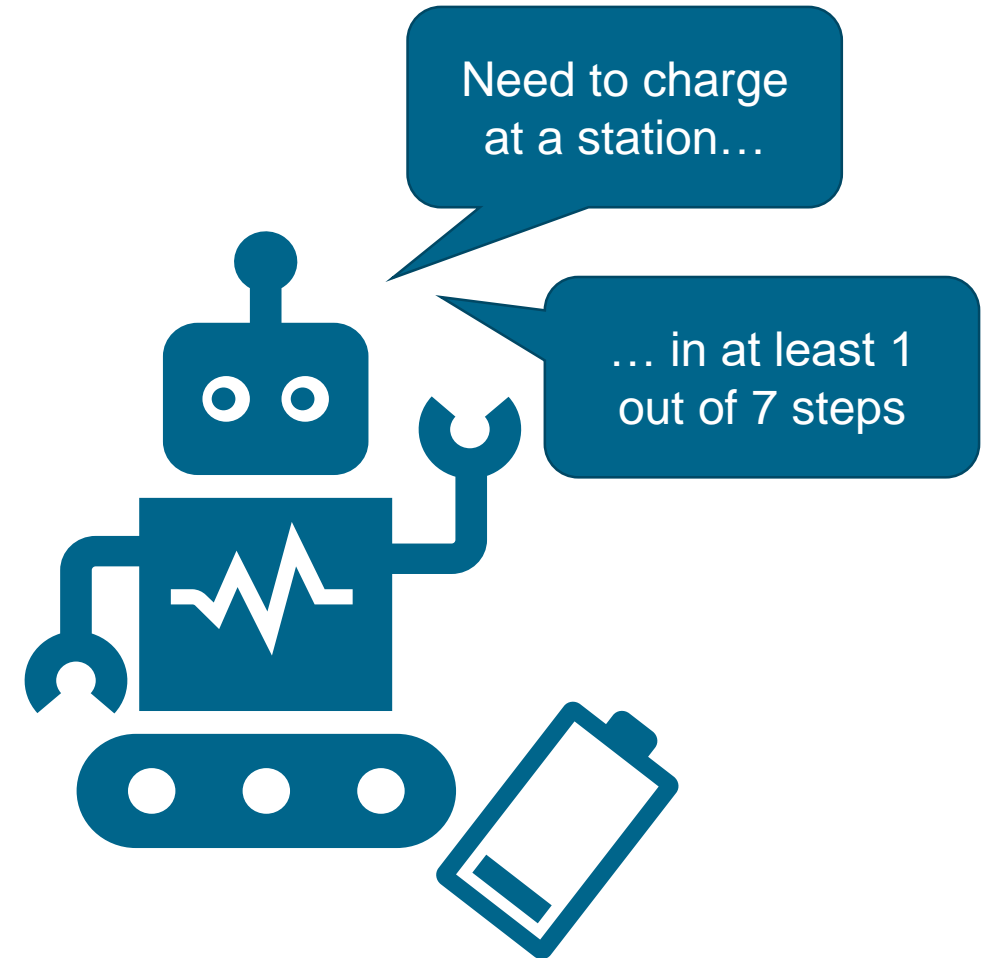
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...*bb**cb**bb**cb**bb**bb**bb**cb**bb**cccc**bb**bc*...  
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# Window Counting Constraints

„The system plays an action  $c$  at least  $k$  times out of  $l$  turns.“

- „at most“ instead of „at least“ possible
- Constraint holds globally („sliding window“)  
... $bb$  $cb$  $bb$  $cb$  $bb$  $bb$  $cb$  $bb$  $cccc$  $bb$  $bc$ ...  
 $c$  at least 1 times out of 7 ✓



# Synthesis with counting constraints in a nutshell



...bbcb**bbcb**bbbbbcbcbcccbbbc...  
 $c$  at least 1 times out of 7 ✓



...bbcb**bbcb**bbbbb**b**cbcbcccbbbc...  
 $c$  at least 1 times out of 8 ✓

„length“  $l$   
of the  
counting  
constraint

- A strategy that satisfies „The system plays an action  $c$  at least  $k$  times out of  $l$  turns.“ also satisfies „The system plays an action  $c$  at least  $k$  times out of  $m$  turns.“ for each  $m > l$  (“monotone property”).

# Synthesis with counting constraints in a nutshell



...*bbcb**bbcb**bbcb*...  
*c* at least 1 times out of 7 ✓



...*bbcb**bbcb**bbcb*...  
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„length“ *l*  
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- A strategy that satisfies „The system plays an action *c* at least *k* times out of *l* turns.“ also satisfies „The system plays an action *c* at least *k* times out of *m* turns.“ for each  $m > l$  (“monotone property”).
- Use information on winnable states for shorter constraint length for reducing size of required graphs!



# Synthesis with counting constraints in a nutshell



...*bbcb**bbcb**bbcb*...  
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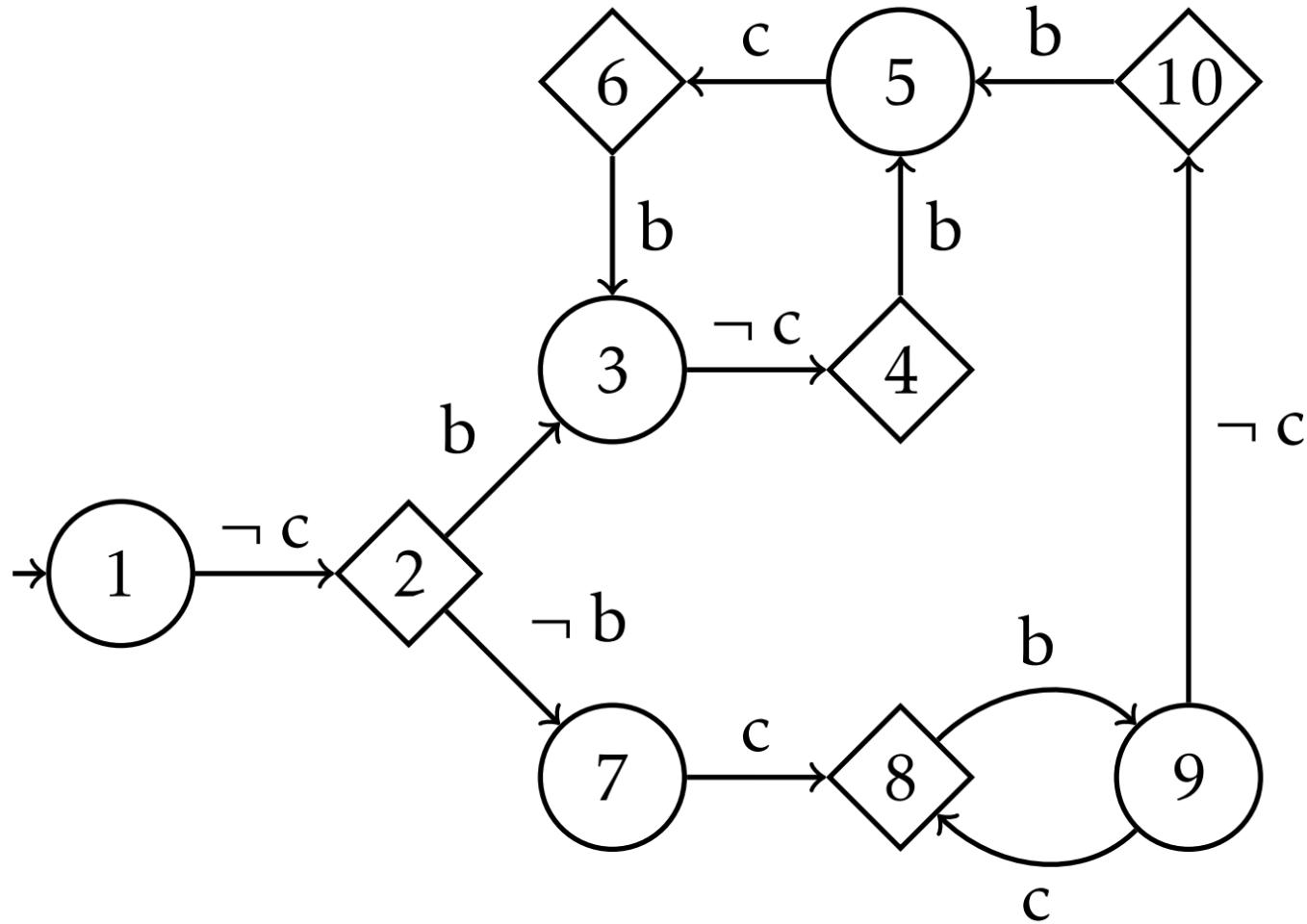
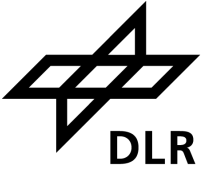
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- Use information on winnable states for shorter constraint length for reducing size of required graphs!
- Synthesis with iteration over counting constraint length

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



*EGO* plays *c* at least 1 time in 7 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example

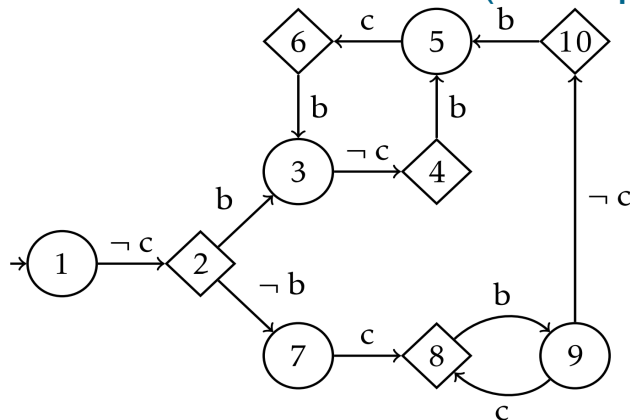


## Example

## Algorithm

- In: - *EGO* plays *c* at least *k* time in *l* turns.
- finite two-player game graph

## Intermediate Results (Example)



*EGO* plays *c* at least 1 time in 7 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



## Example

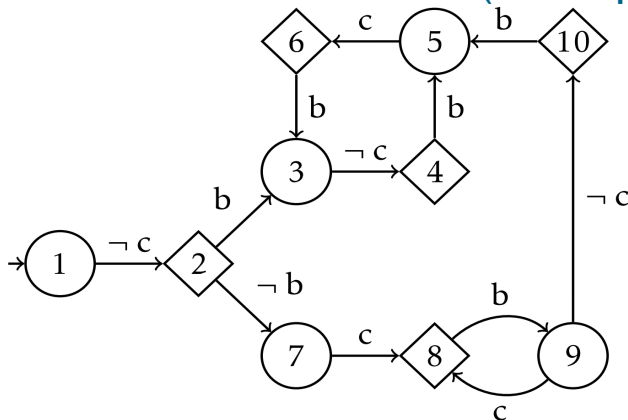
## Algorithm

In: - *EGO* plays *c* at least *k* time in *l* turns.  
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$$l' \leftarrow k$$

*EGO* plays *c* at least 1 time in 1 turn.

## Intermediate Results (Example)

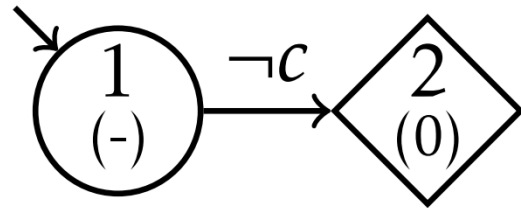


*EGO* plays *c* at least 1 time in 7 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



## Example



*EGO* plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 1 turn.

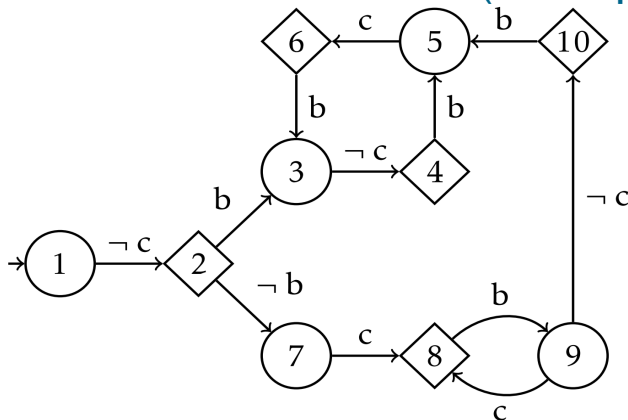
## Algorithm

- In: - *EGO* plays  $c$  at least  $k$  time in  $l$  turns.
- finite two-player game graph

$$l' \leftarrow k$$

(partly) construct game graph with memory  $l'$

## Intermediate Results (Example)

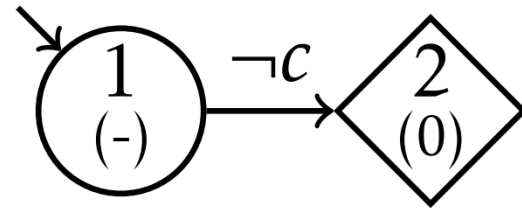


*EGO* plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



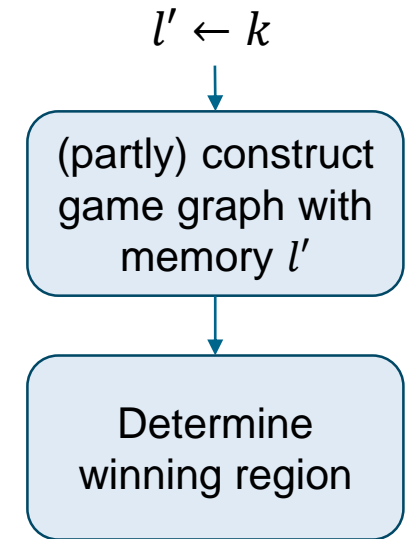
## Example



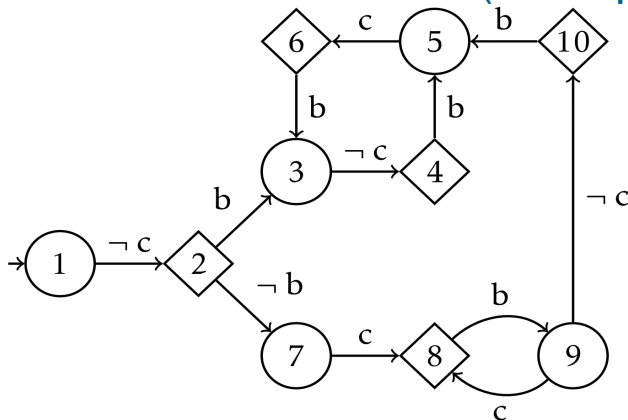
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## Intermediate Results (Example)

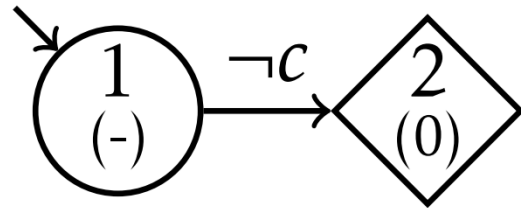


EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



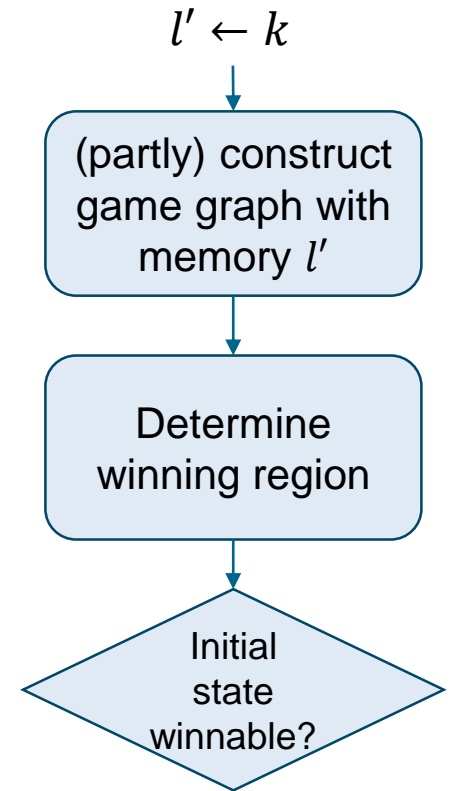
## Example



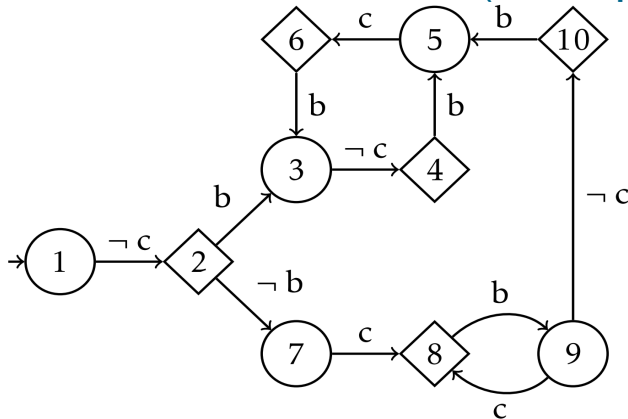
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## Intermediate Results (Example)

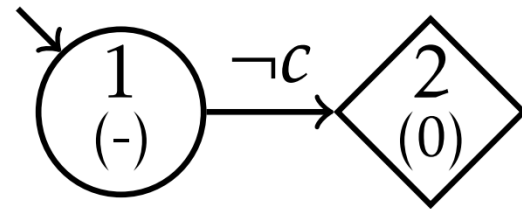


EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



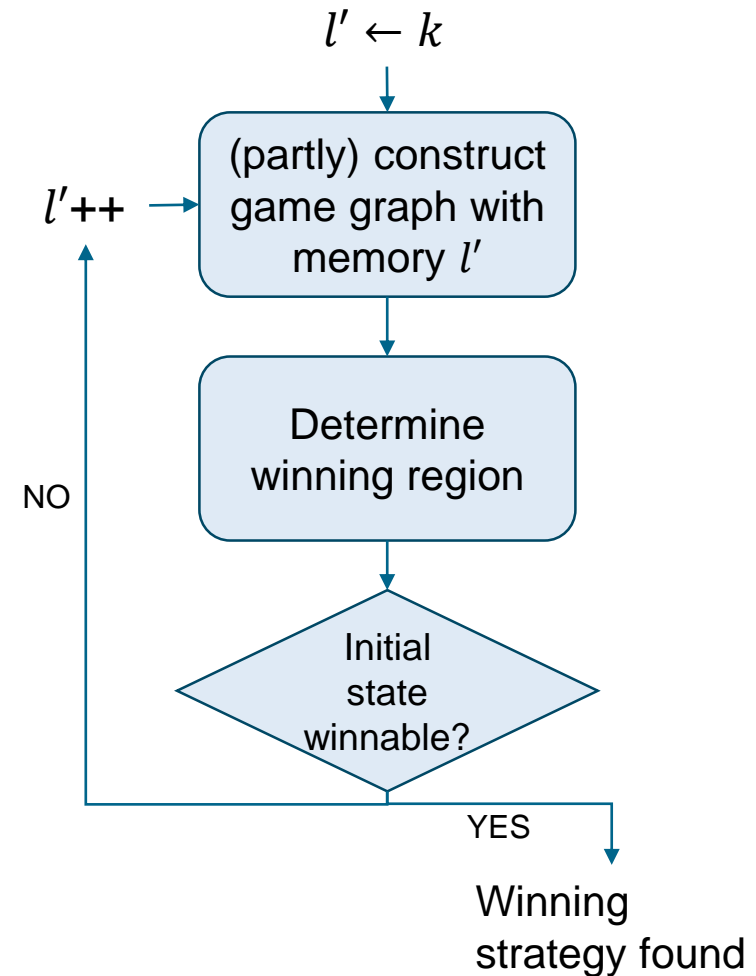
## Example



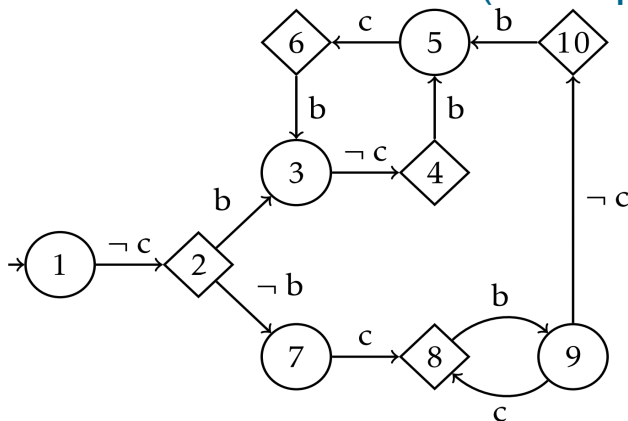
EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 1 turn.

## Algorithm

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## Intermediate Results (Example)



EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.



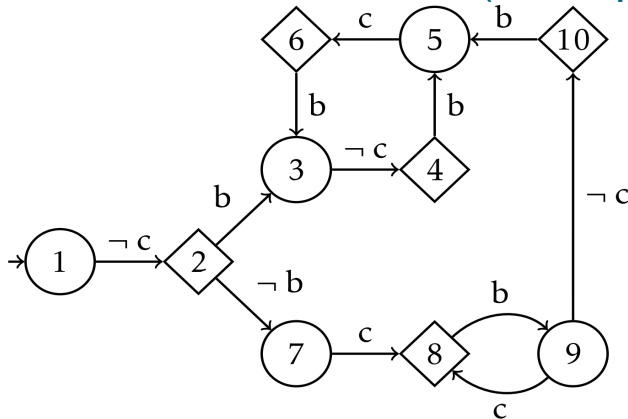
# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



## Example

*EGO* plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 2 turns.

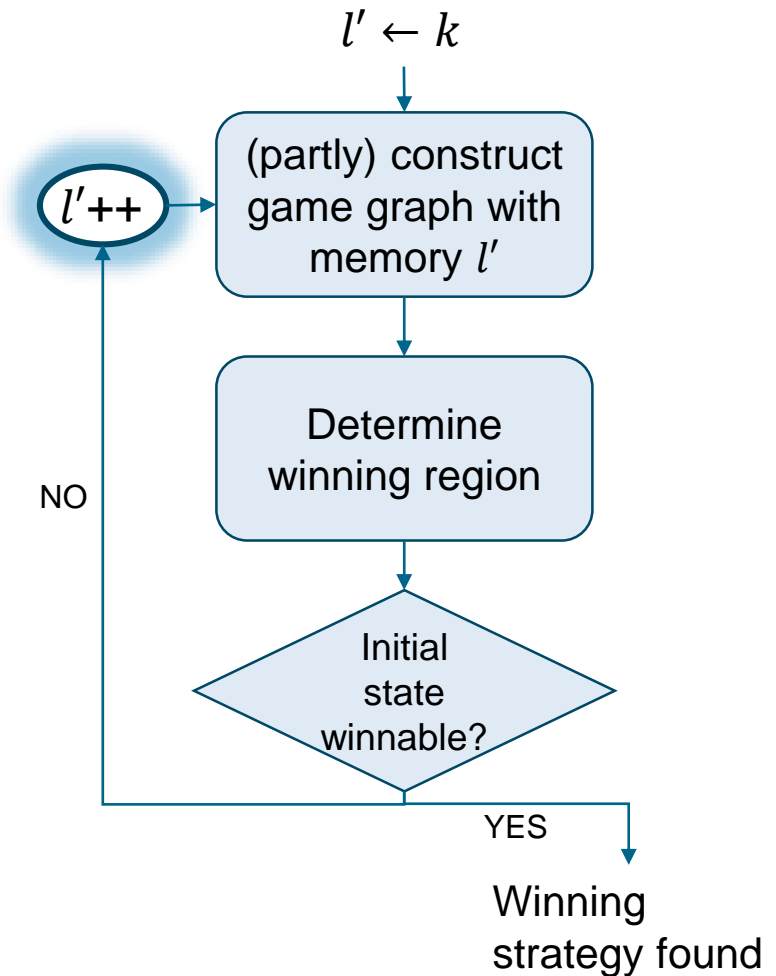
## Intermediate Results (Example)



*EGO* plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

## Algorithm

In: - *EGO* plays  $c$  at least  $k$  time in  $l$  turns.  
 - finite two-player game graph

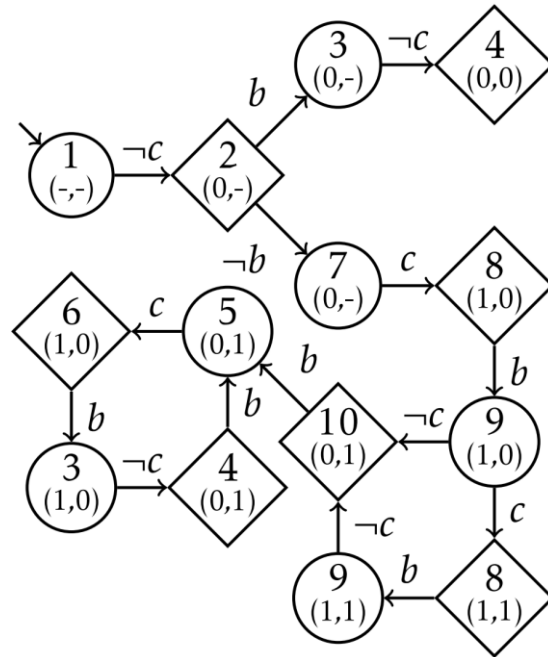


# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



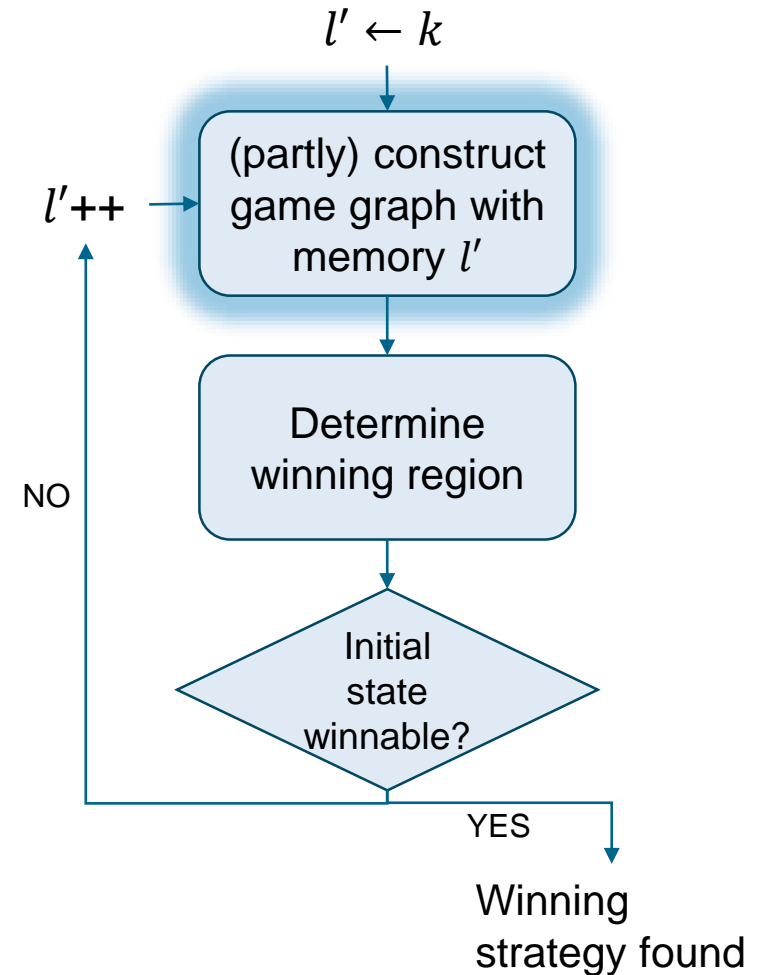
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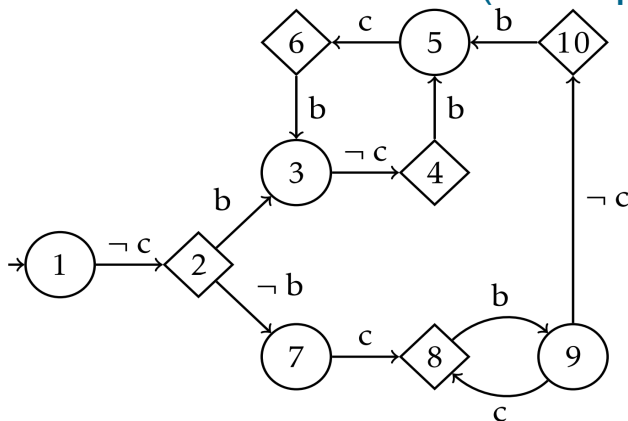


## Algorithm

In: - EGO plays  $c$  at least  $k$  time in  $l$  turns.  
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## Intermediate Results (Example)



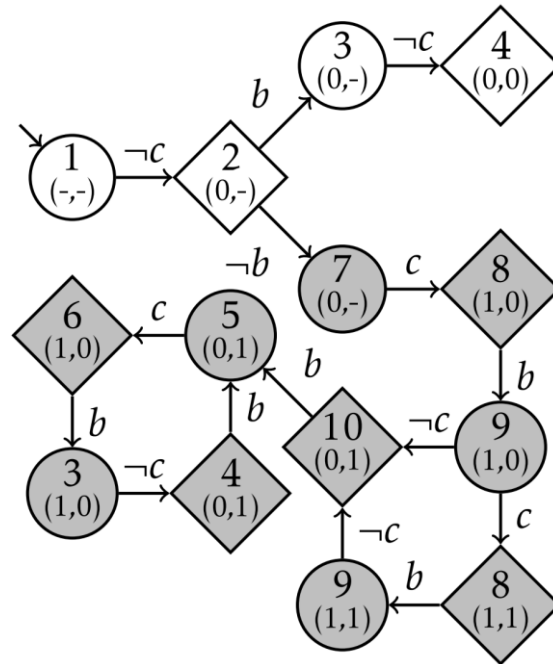
EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



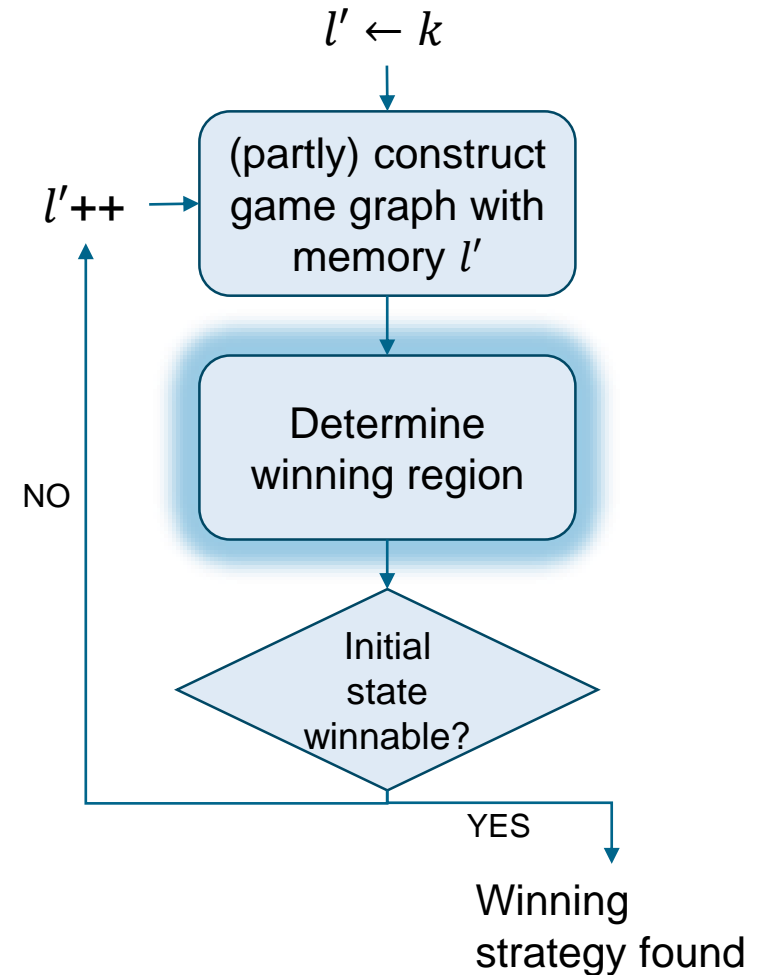
## Example

EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 2 turns.

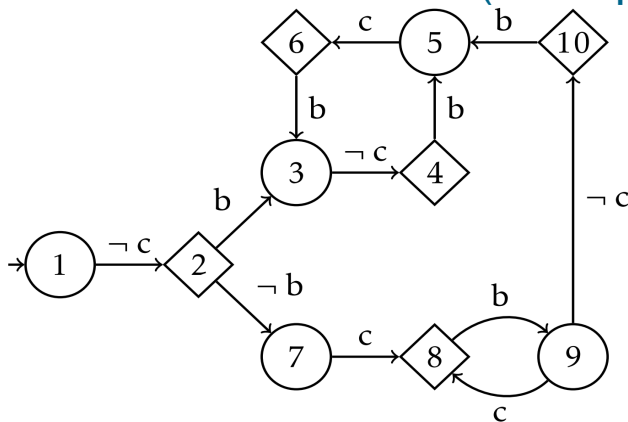


## Algorithm

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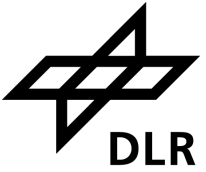


## Intermediate Results (Example)



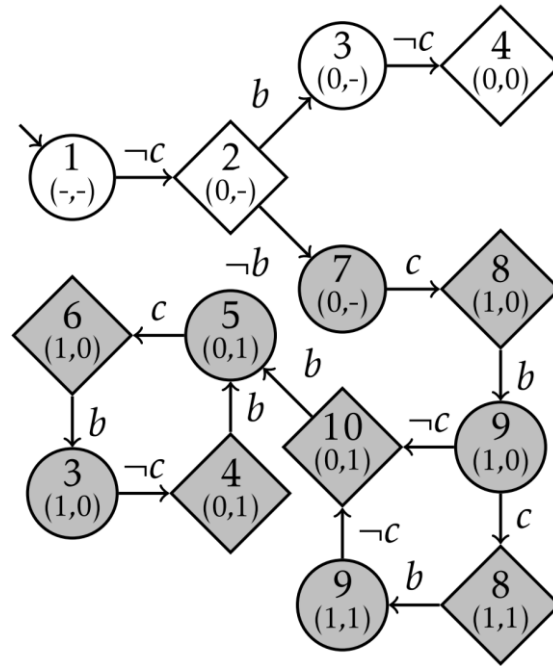
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# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example

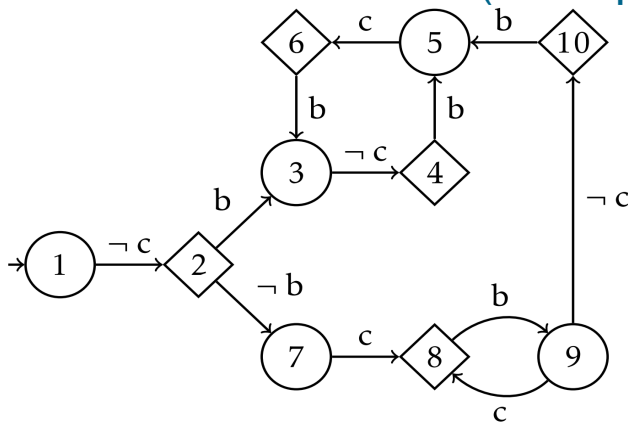


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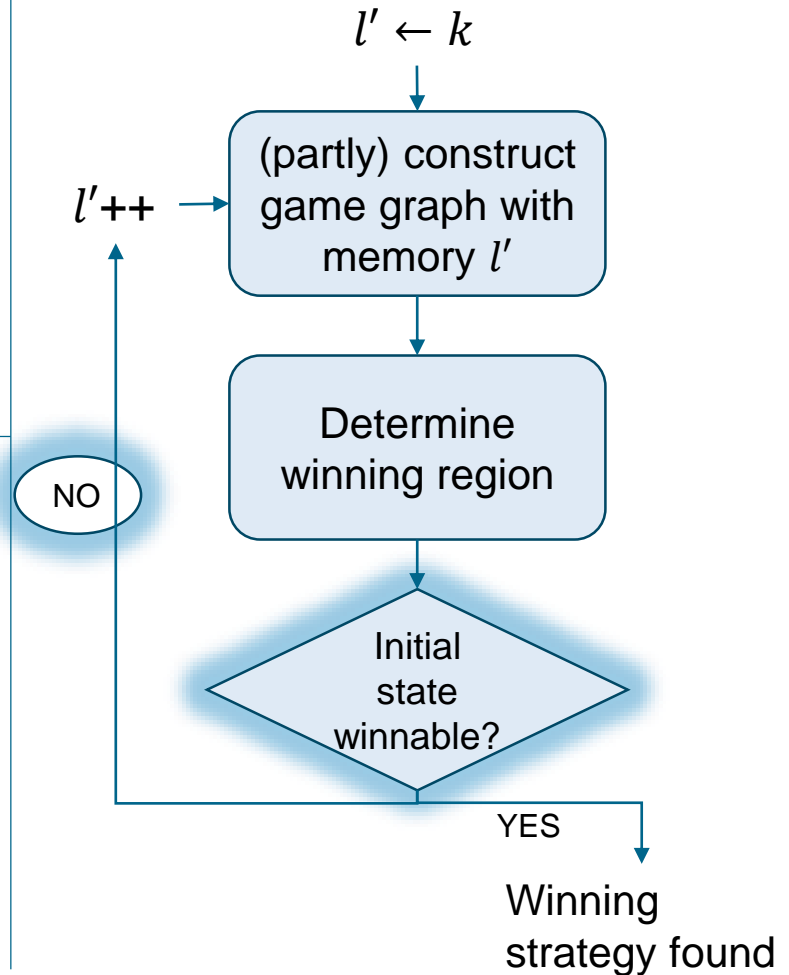
## Intermediate Results (Example)



EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

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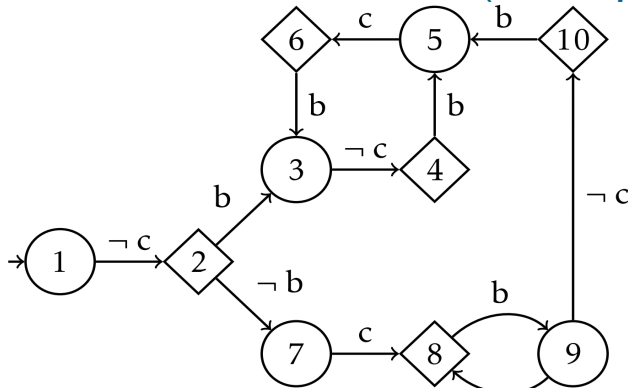
# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



## Example

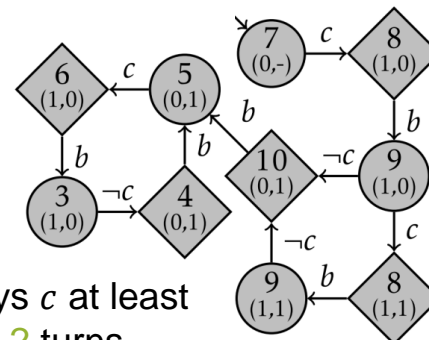
*EGO* plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 3 turns.

## Intermediate Results (Example)



*EGO* plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

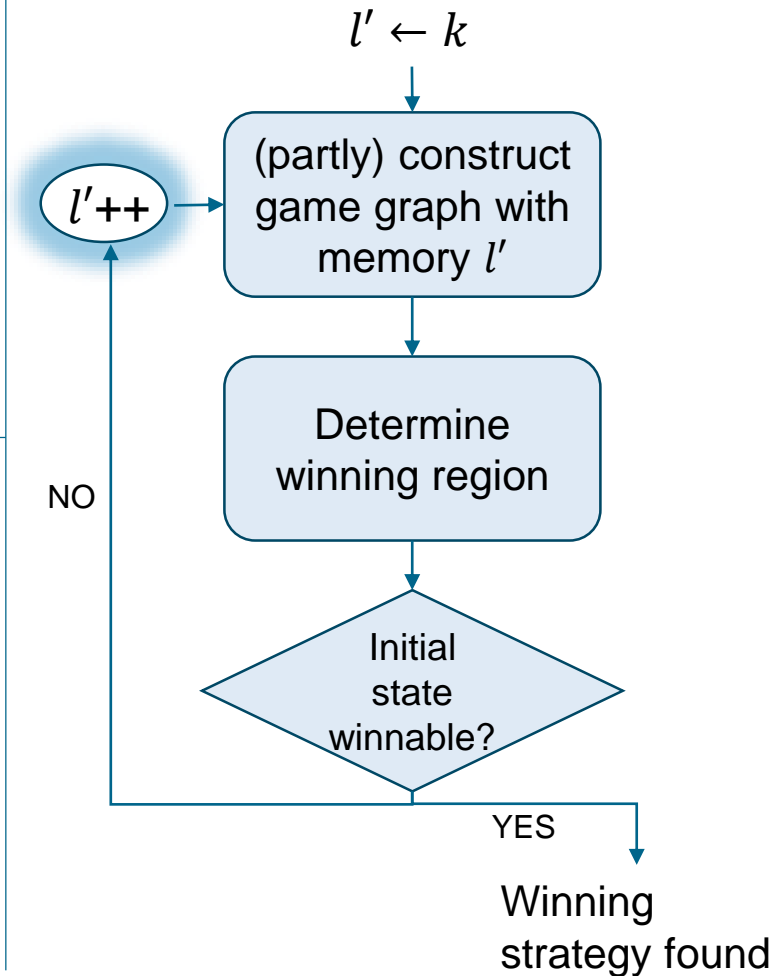
## Winning region of iteration 2



*EGO* plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 2 turns.

## Algorithm

- In: - *EGO* plays  $c$  at least  $k$  time in  $l$  turns.
- finite two-player game graph

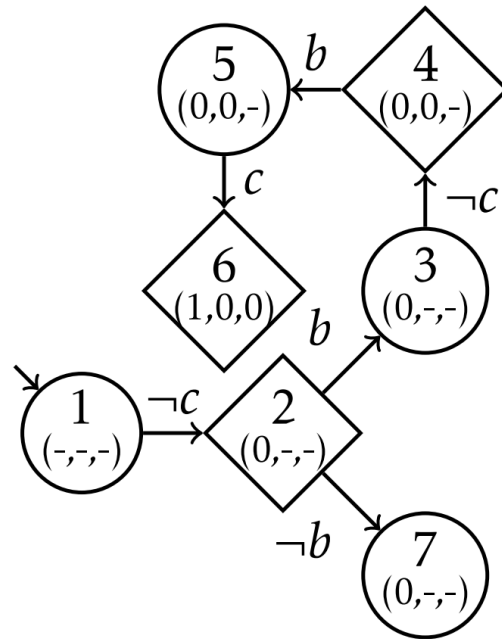


# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



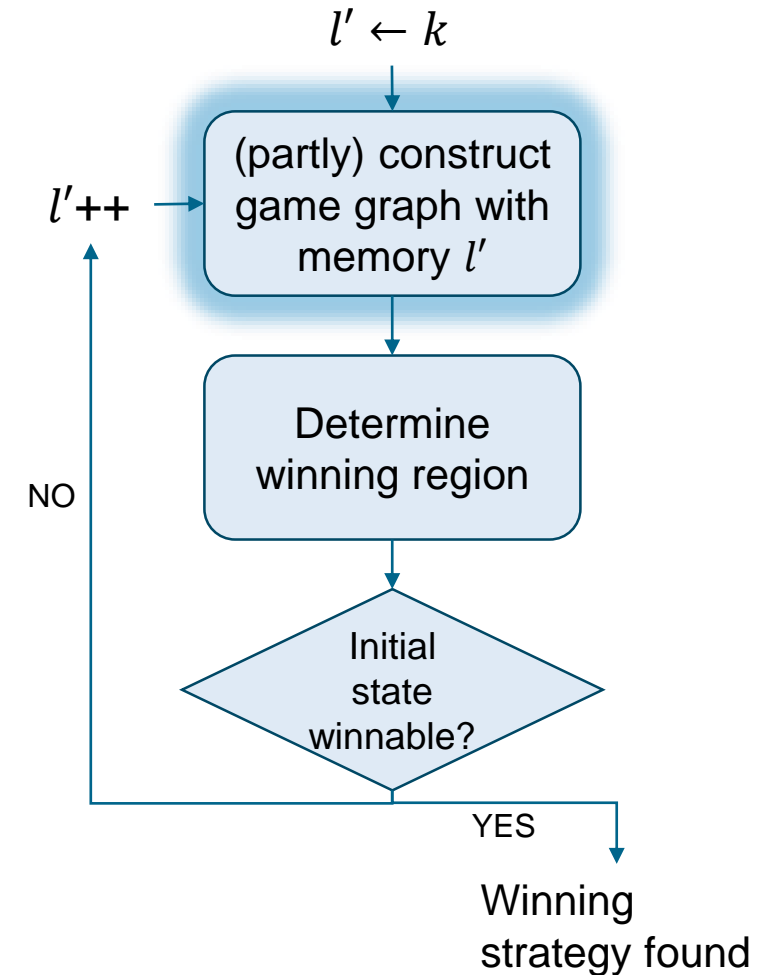
## Example

EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 3 turns.

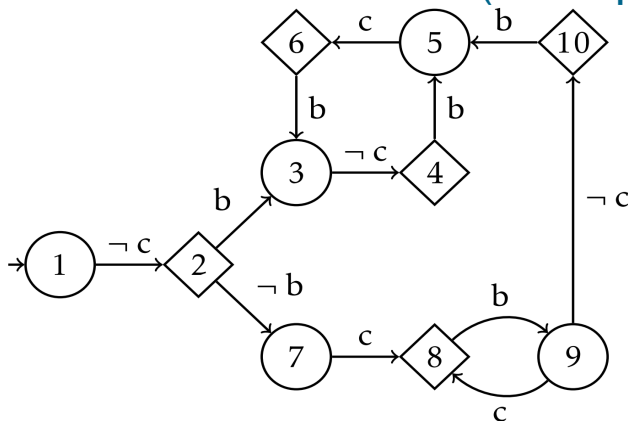


## Algorithm

In: - EGO plays  $c$  at least  $k$  time in  $l$  turns.  
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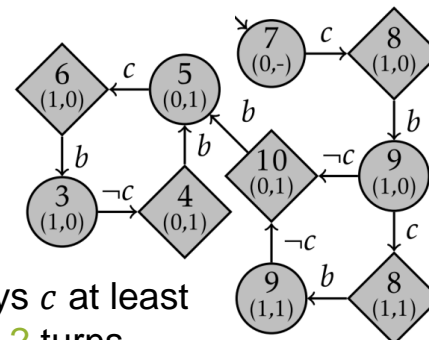


## Intermediate Results (Example)



EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

## Winning region of iteration 2



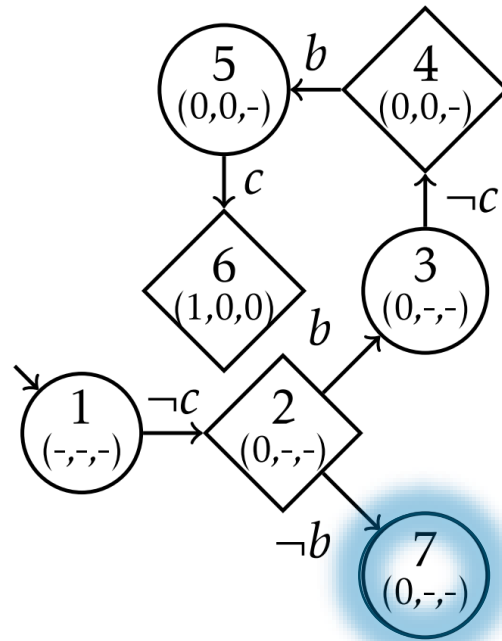
EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 2 turns.

# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



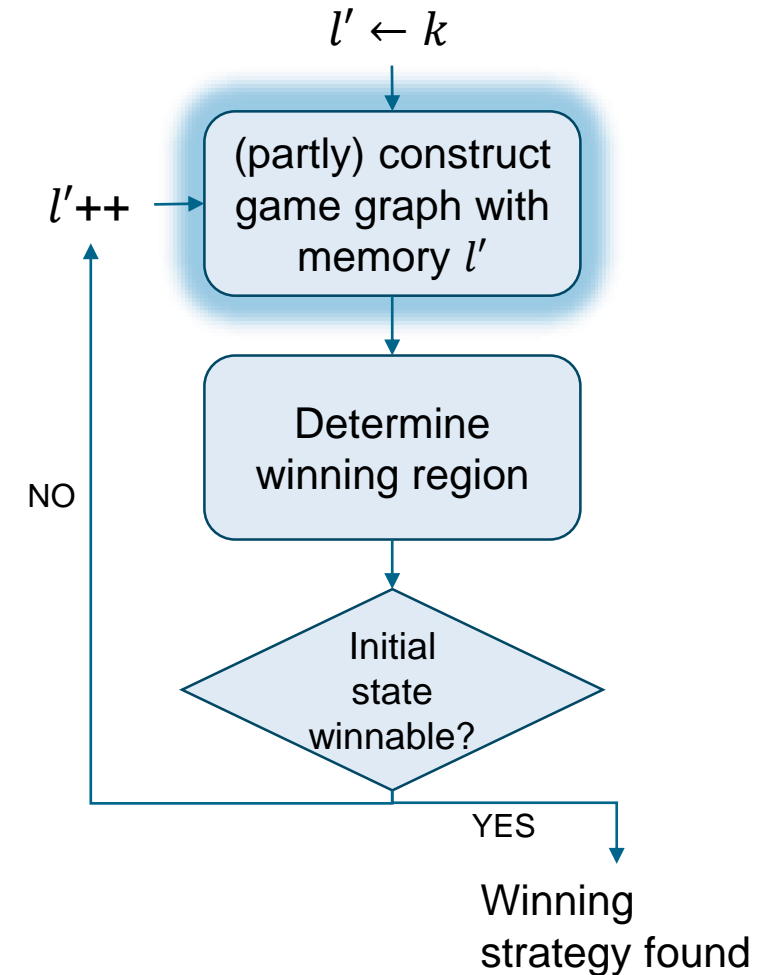
## Example

EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 3 turns.

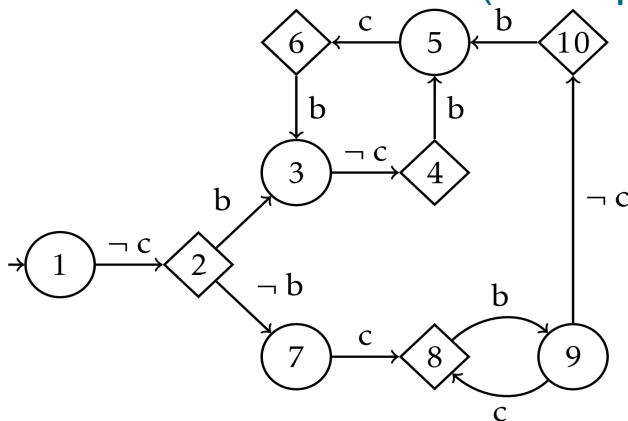


## Algorithm

In: - EGO plays  $c$  at least  $k$  time in  $l$  turns.  
 - finite two-player game graph

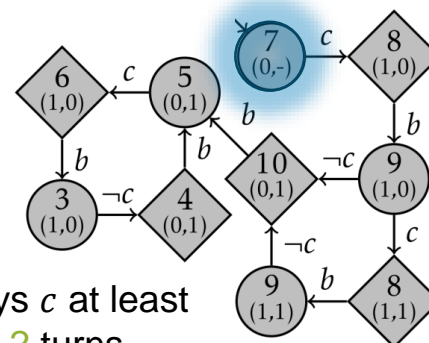


## Intermediate Results (Example)



EGO plays  $c$  at least 1 time in 7 turns.

## Winning region of iteration 2



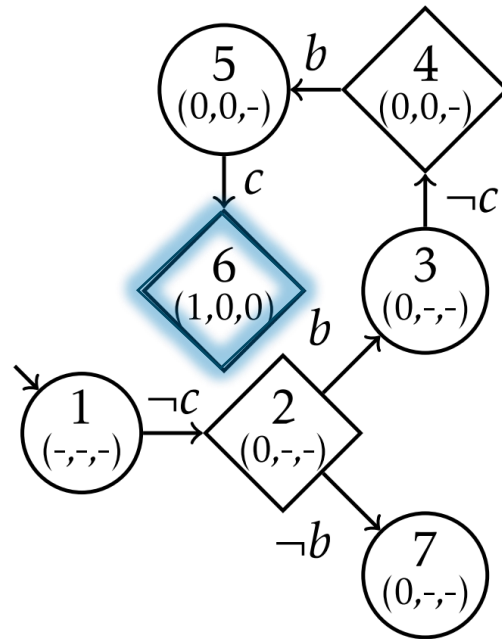
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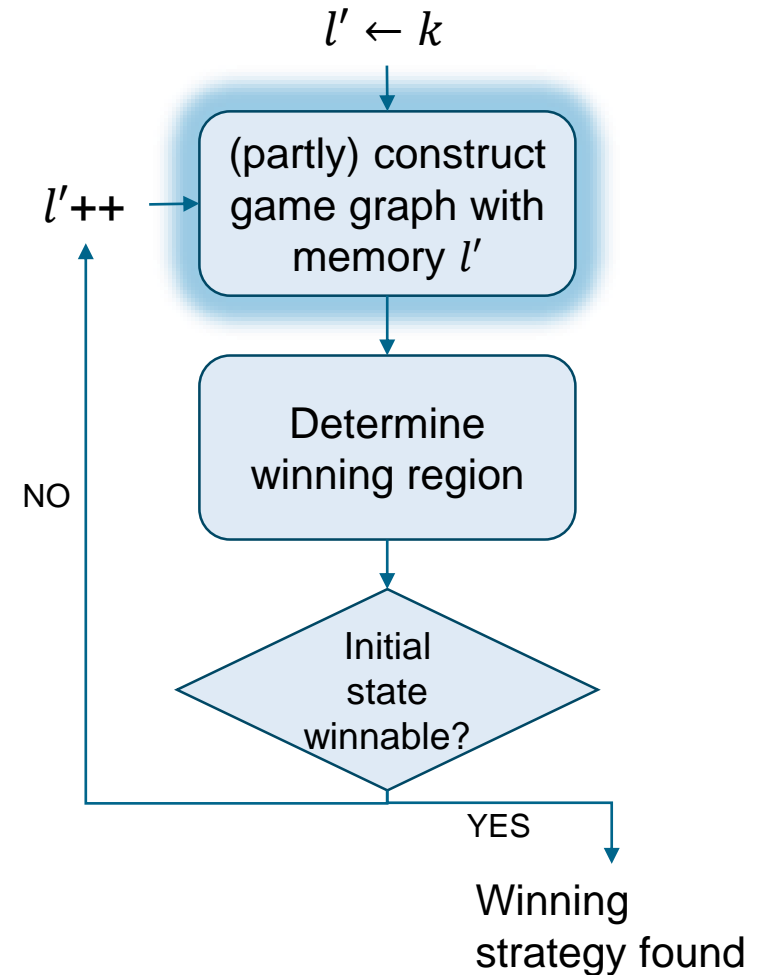
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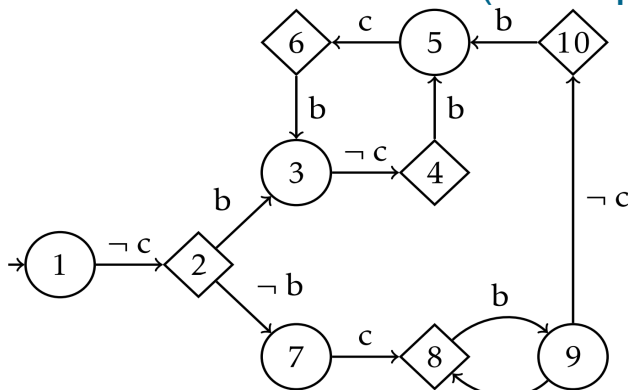


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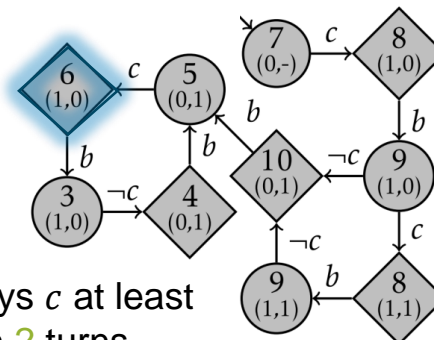


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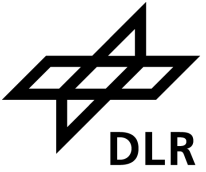
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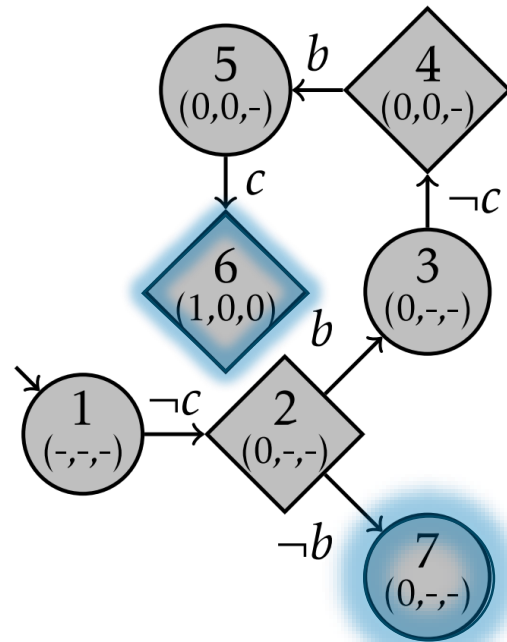


# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



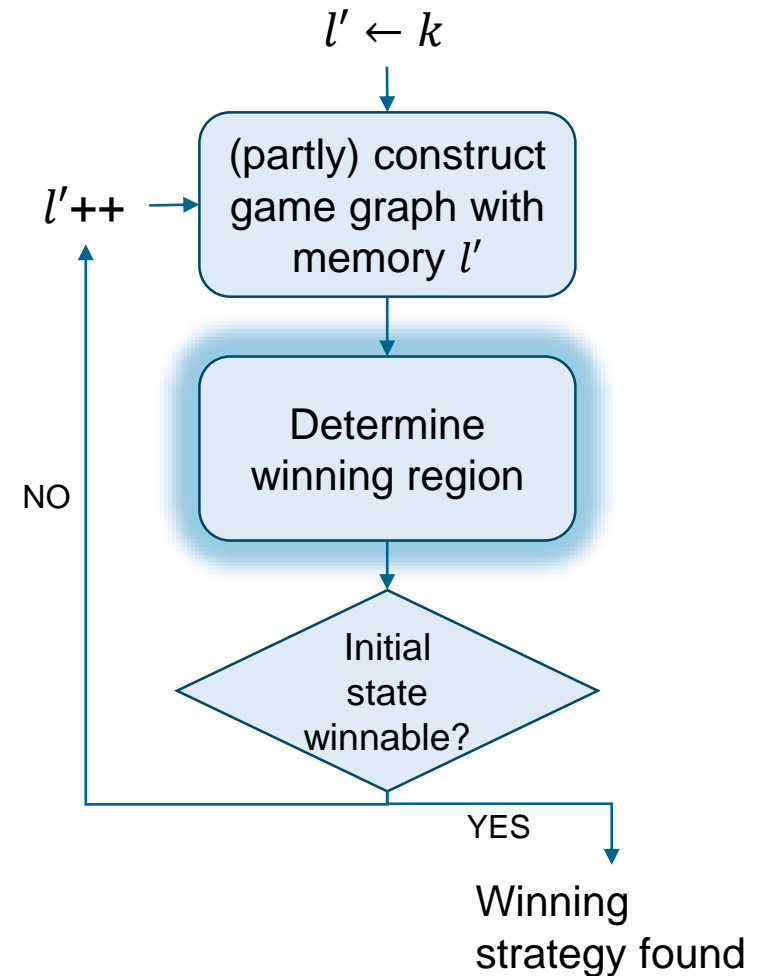
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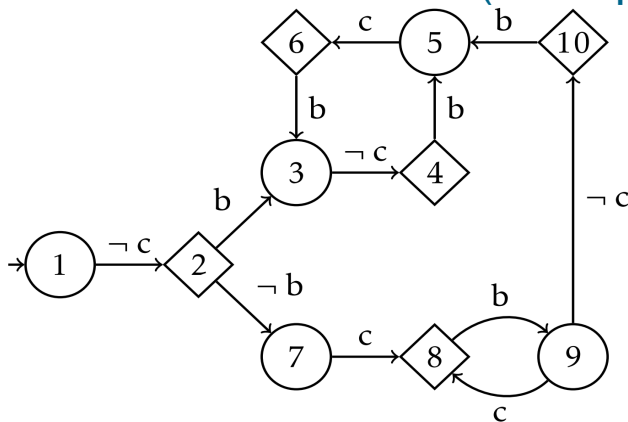


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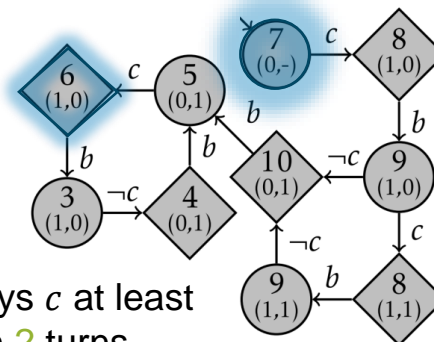


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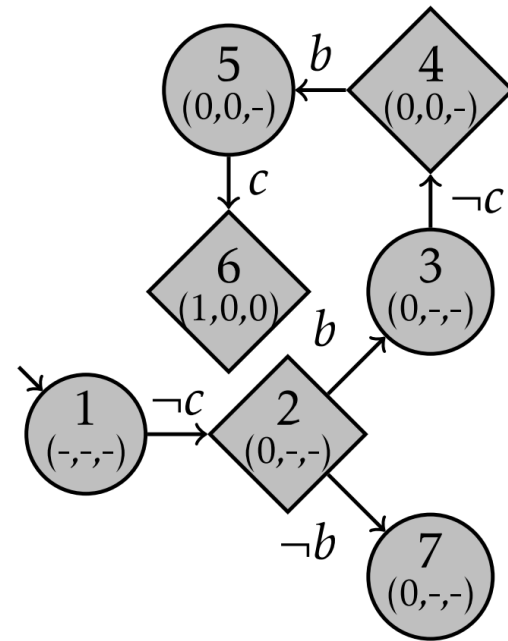
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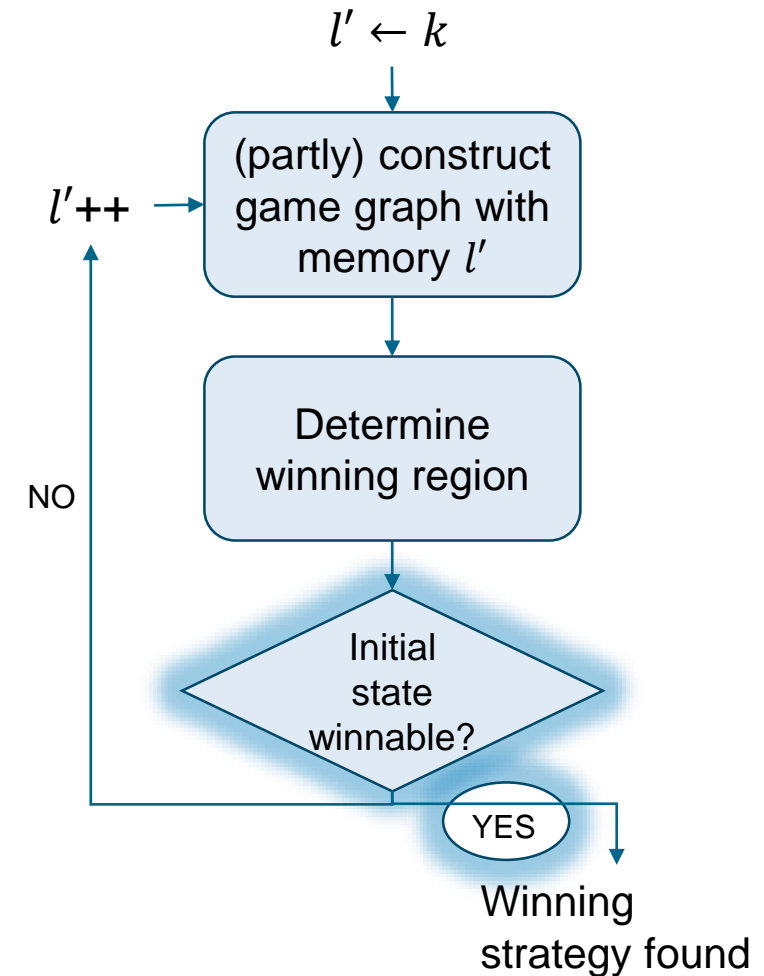
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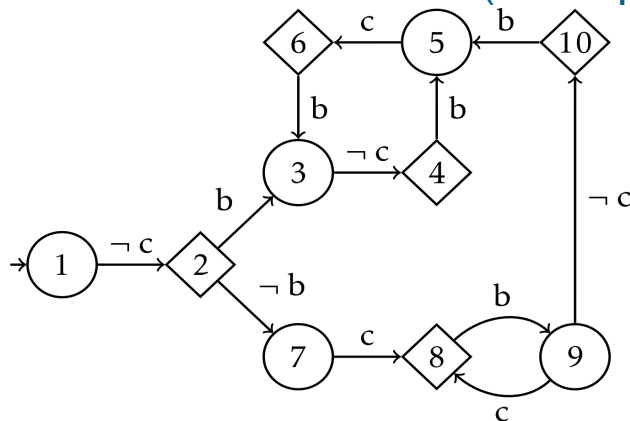


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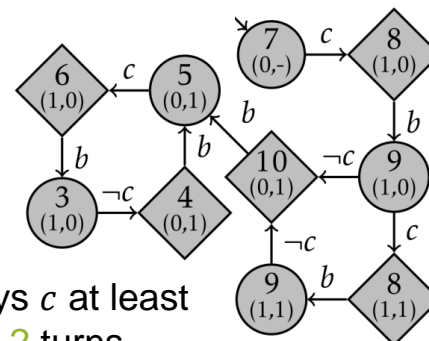


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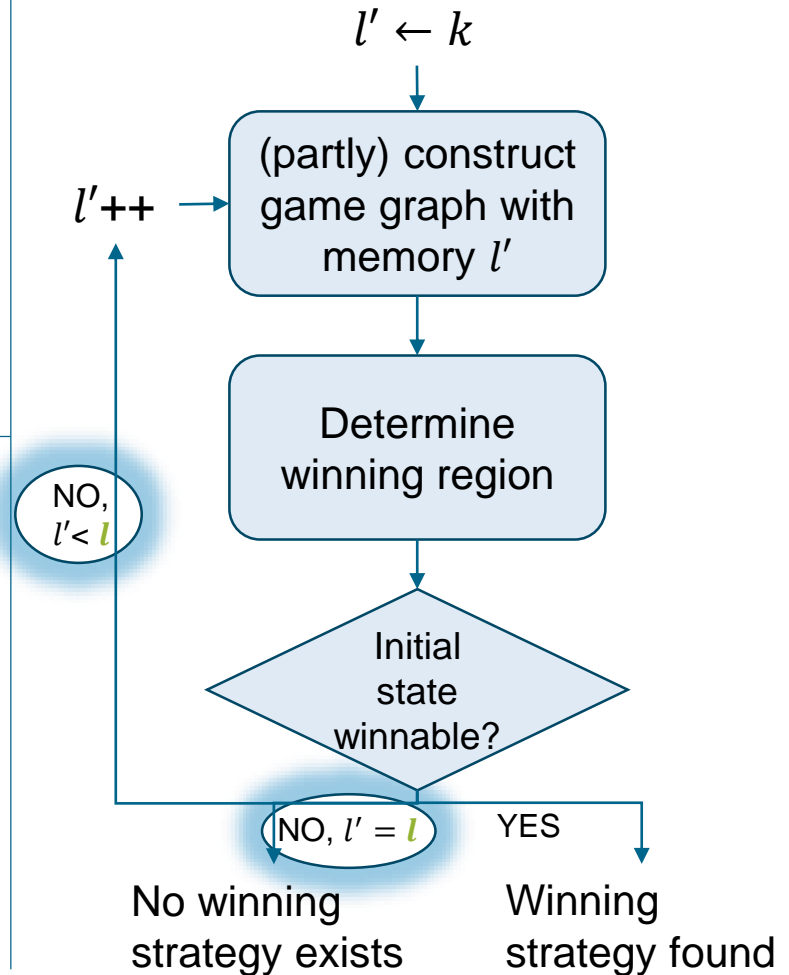
# Synthesis with Counting Constraints - Example



## Example

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## Intermediate Results (Example)

# Experimental Results



Setting:

- Counting constraint „The system plays  $c$  at least 3 times in 10 turns.“
- Game graph with 1.8M states & 2.7M transitions

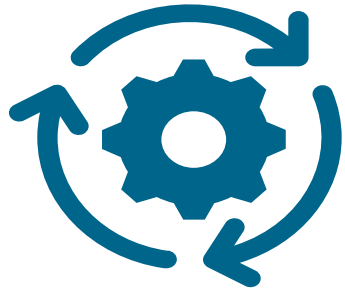
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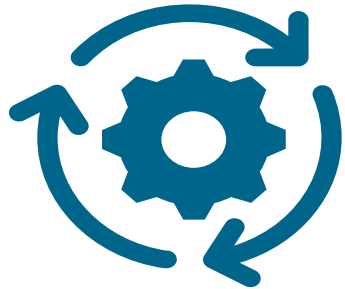
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Reduction of time for synthesis



4 times  
faster

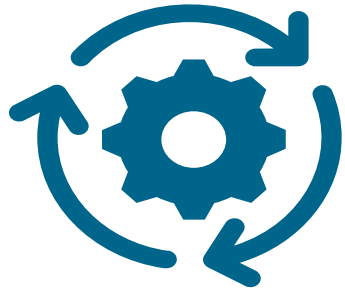
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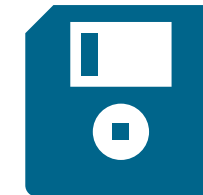


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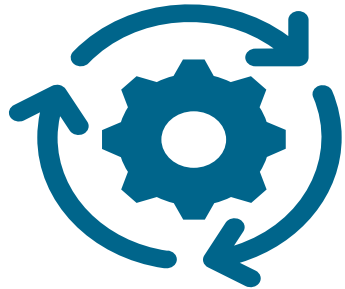
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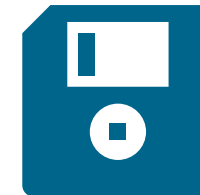


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- Synthesis with successively enlarged counting constraints & incomplete graph construction shows great potential
- Proof of concept successful



## Towards cooperative games

- Consider counting constraints on behaviour of the second player
- Level of cooperation and synchronisation between players to be determined

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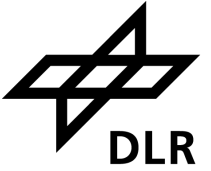
## Combination of various counting constraints

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## Symbolic representation

- Avoid explicit representation of states in game graph
- Comparison of explicit and symbolic synthesis

# Conclusion



## Challenge

- Efficiency of synthesis algorithms for reactive systems

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## Approach

- Exploitation of specific properties in the specification, namely: monotony in counting constraints
- Successive increase of constraint length
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- Experimental results show promising savings in computational time & memory
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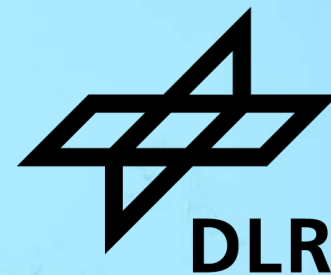
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**Thanks for your  
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Questions are welcome!



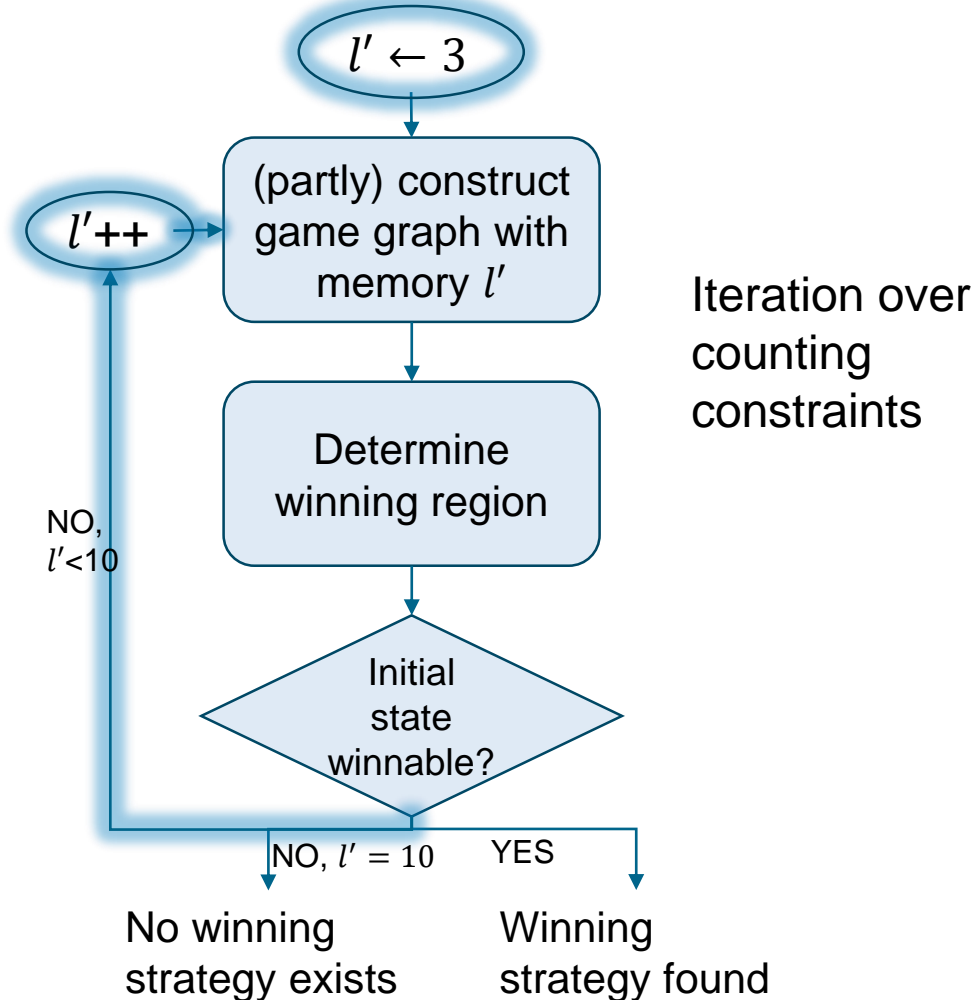
# BACKUP



# Comparison for the Experiment



- In: - *EGO* plays *c* at least 3 time in **10** turns.  
- finite two-player game graph



- In: - *EGO* plays *c* at least 3 time in **8** turns.  
- finite two-player game graph

