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# Using Invariant Detection Mechanism in Black Box Inference

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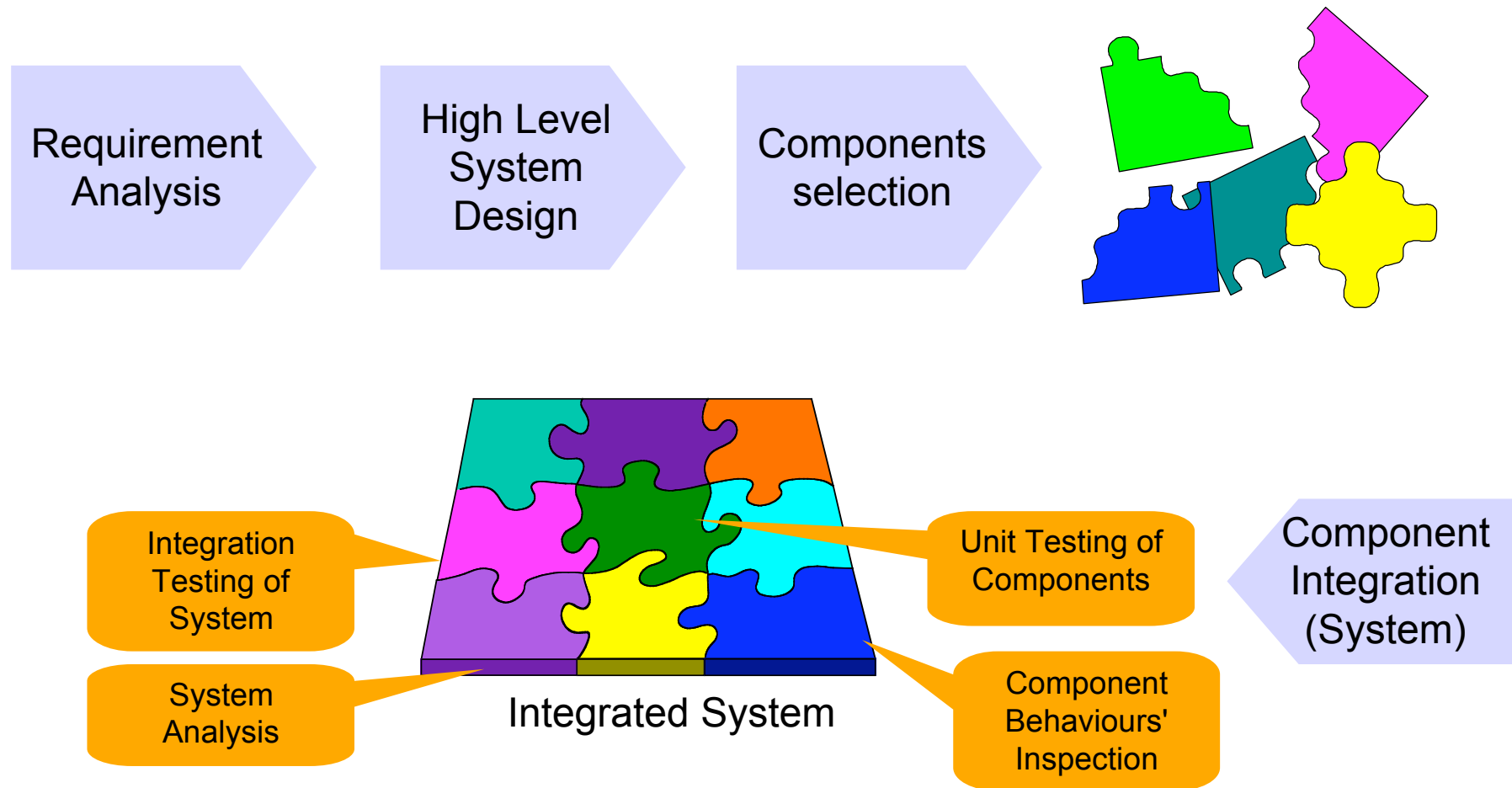
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Grenoble

Roland Groz  
*LIG/ENSIMAG*  
Grenoble



# Component Based Software Engineering

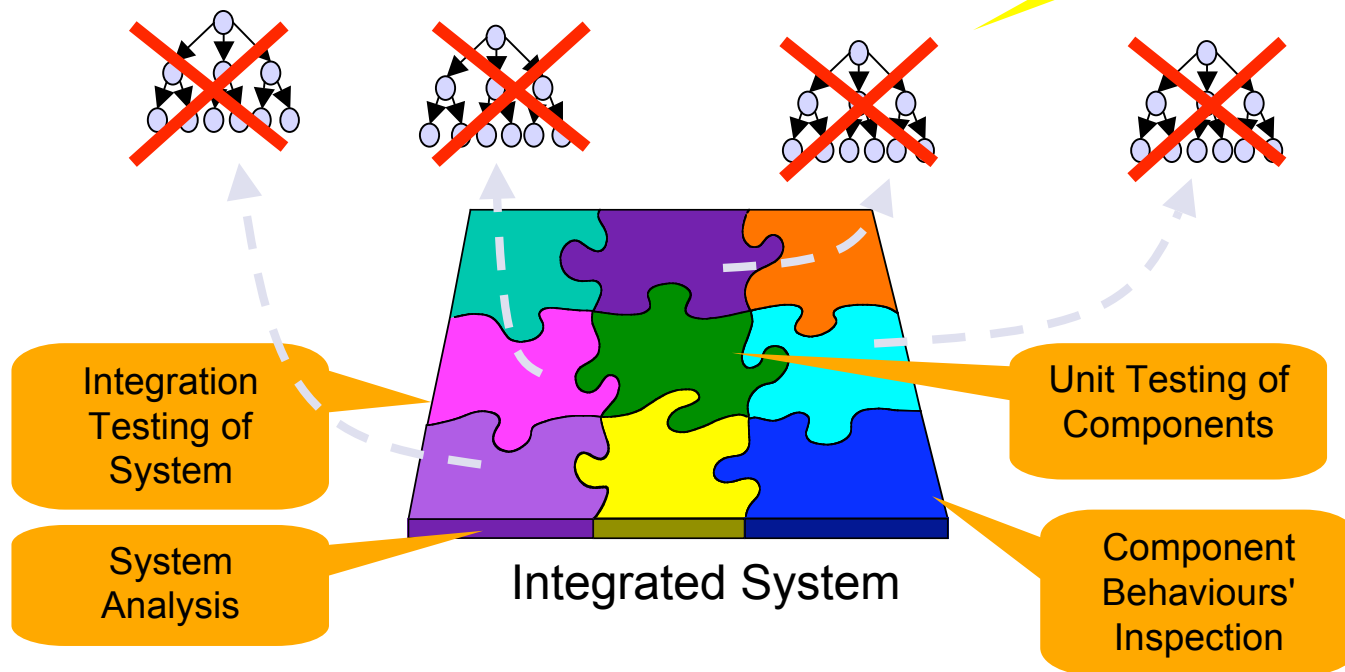


# General Approach for CBSE

- **Formal Techniques**

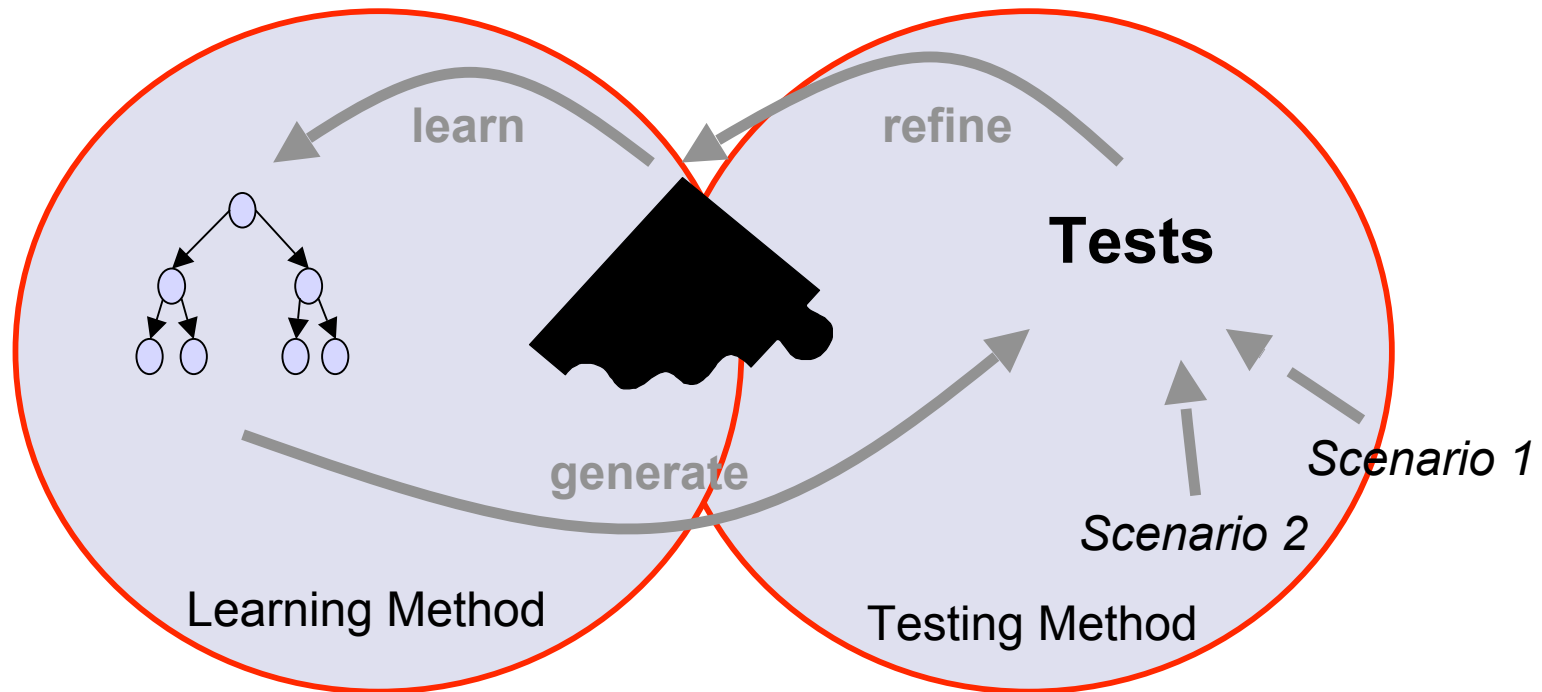
- Model Based Approach (MBT,...)
- Validation/Verification (Model Checking,...)

•No Formal Models  
•Incorrect/Partial Specs



# Our Approach

Incremental Inference of Black-Box Components to Support Integration Testing  
[M. Shahbaz, TAIC PART 2006]

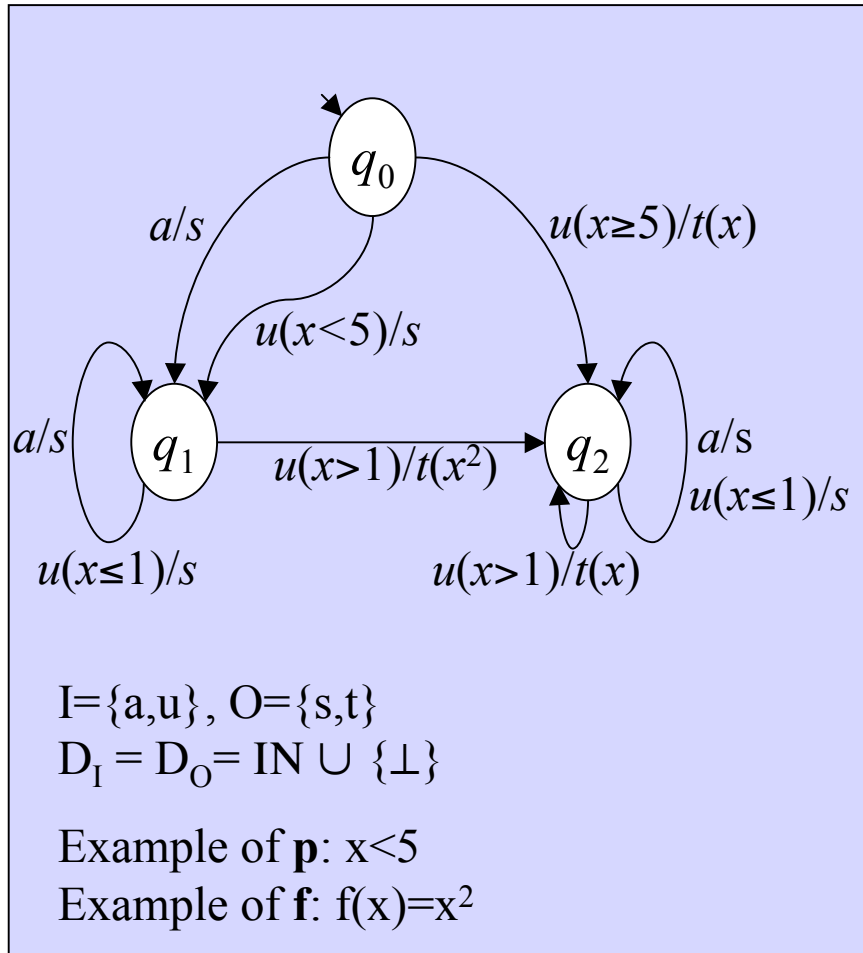


## ● Benefits

- Components are Reverse Engineered
- MBT/Verification Techniques can be applied on Inferred (partial) Models and can be refined incrementally

# Parameterized Model (PFSM)

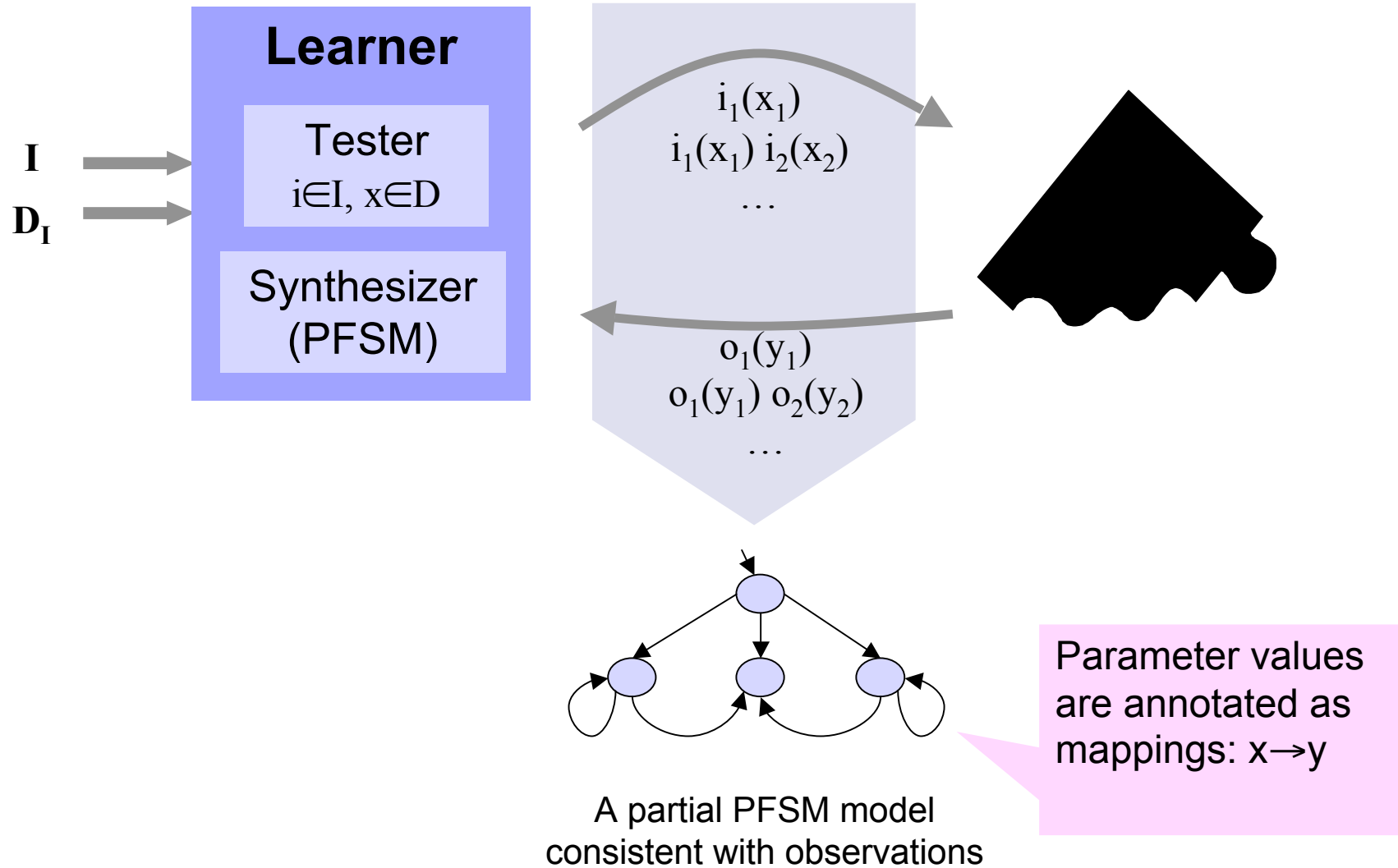
Learning and Integration of Parameterized Components through Testing  
 [M. Shahbaz, K. Li, R. Groz. TestCom 2007]



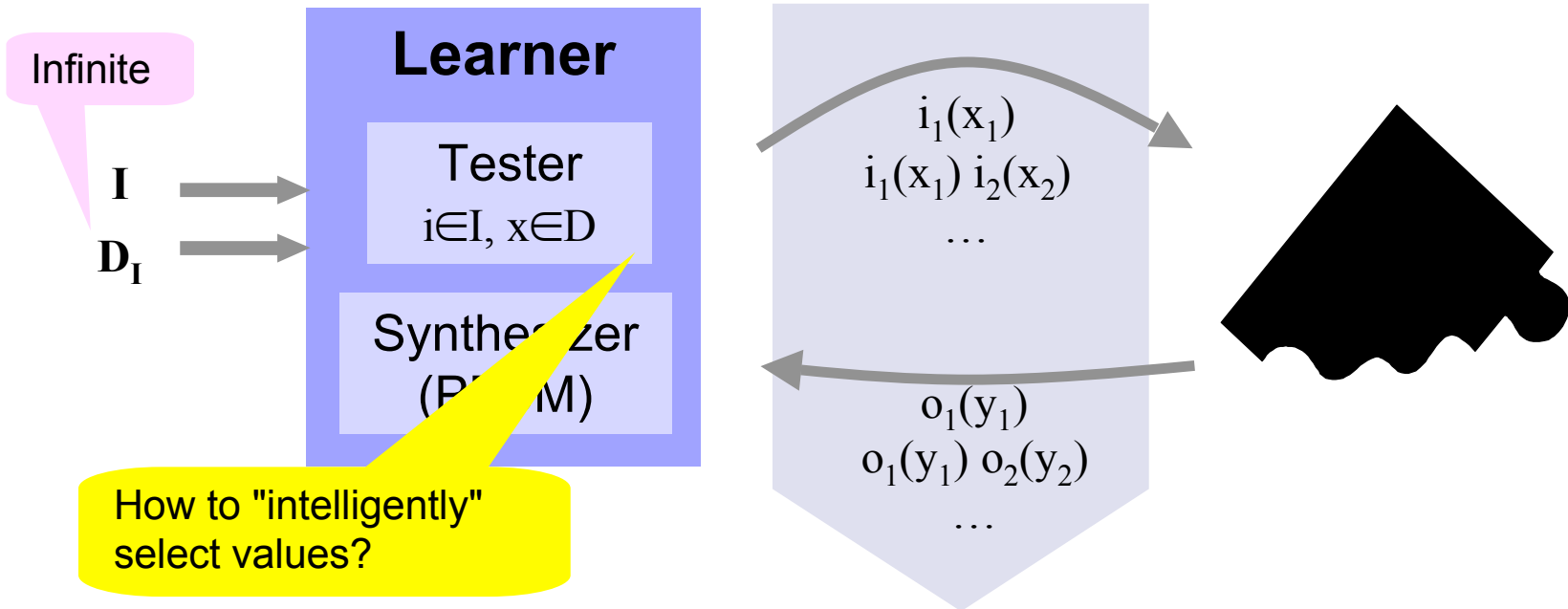
- Model:  $M = (Q, I, O, D_I, D_O, T, q_0)$   
 $Q$ : States,  $q_0$ : Initial State  
 $I$ : Input Set     $O$ : Output Set  
 $D_I$ : Parameter Domain for  $I$   
 (*Finite/Infinite*)  
 $t \in T = (q, q', i, o, p, f)$ ,  
 $p \subseteq D_I$  (predicate),  $f: p \rightarrow D_O$
- **Input Enabled:**  $\forall i(x) \exists t x \in p$
- **Deterministic:**  $p \cap p' = \emptyset$
- **Observable:**  $t \neq t' \Rightarrow o \neq o'$

# Learning Methodology

Learning and Integration of Parameterized Components through Testing  
[M. Shahbaz, K. Li, R. Groz. TestCom 2007]



# Problem Statement



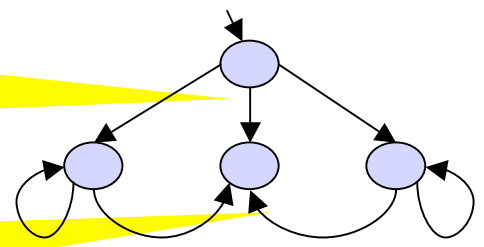
Infinite

$I$   
 $D_I$

How to "intelligently" select values?

Can we learn parameter functions from mappings?

Can we further refine models using different parameter values?



Parameter values are annotated as mappings:  $x \rightarrow y$

# Invariant Detection



- Invariant is a property that holds at certain points in a program, e.g.,  $x \neq 0$ ,  $5 \leq x \leq 10$ ,  $y = 2x + 1$ , etc
- Invariant detection has been an active research for many years
- Detection of likely invariants can be done by observing variable values during program execution and reporting properties and relationships over values
- Used in Program Comprehension, Documentation and Maintenance tasks
- Applied in white box testing framework



# Using Invariant Detection Mechanism

Using Invariant Detection Mechanism in Black Box Inference

[M. Shahbaz, R. Groz. ISOLA 2007] (to be appeared)

- Approach

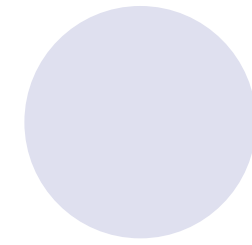
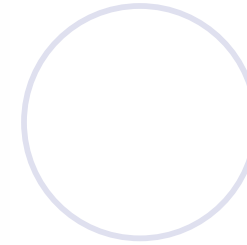
- Invariant Detection can be used in Black Box scenario, if enough data is available
- Detected Invariants can guide new tests and hence leading towards new iterations of the learning algorithm

- Method:

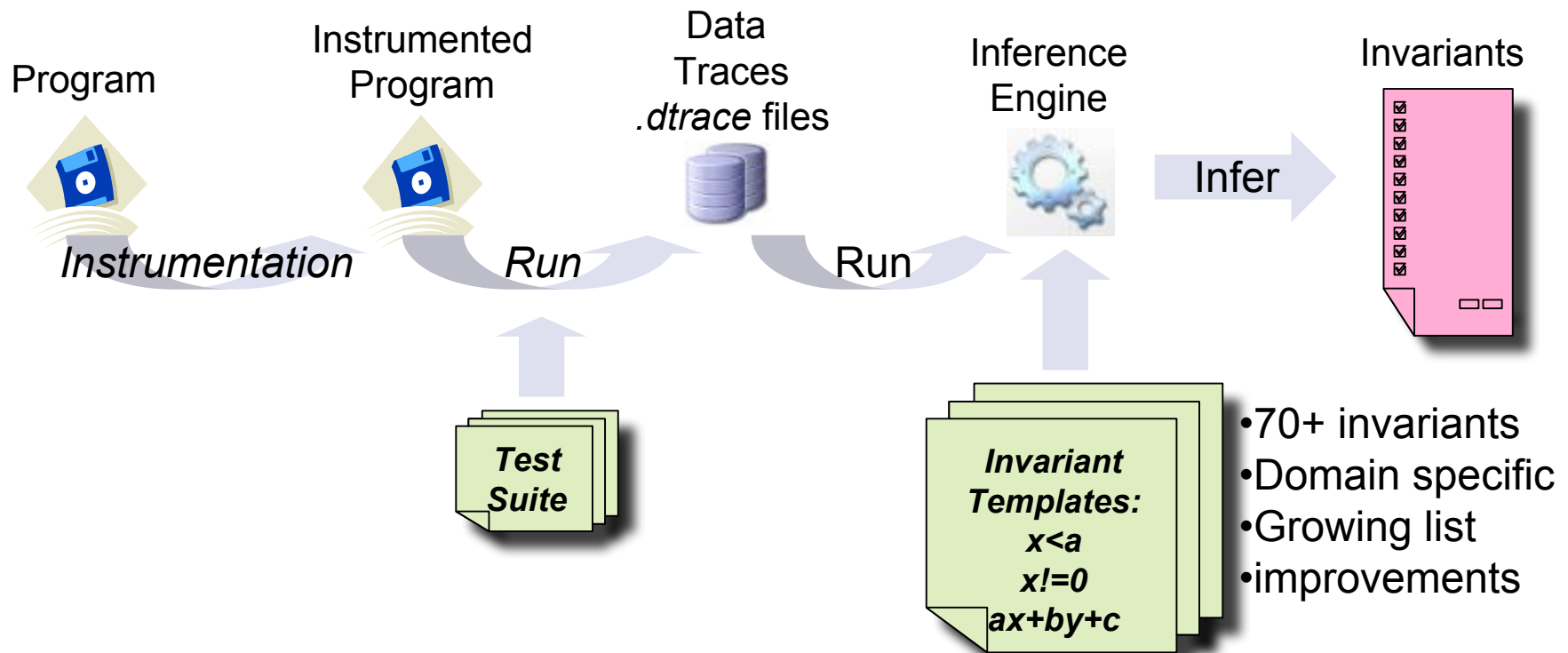
- Collect i/o traces from the initial run of the learning algorithm
- Detect invariant over parameter values in traces using existing tools
- Select parameter values guided by inferred invariants in the new learning iteration

# The Daikon System

## "dynamic conjectures"

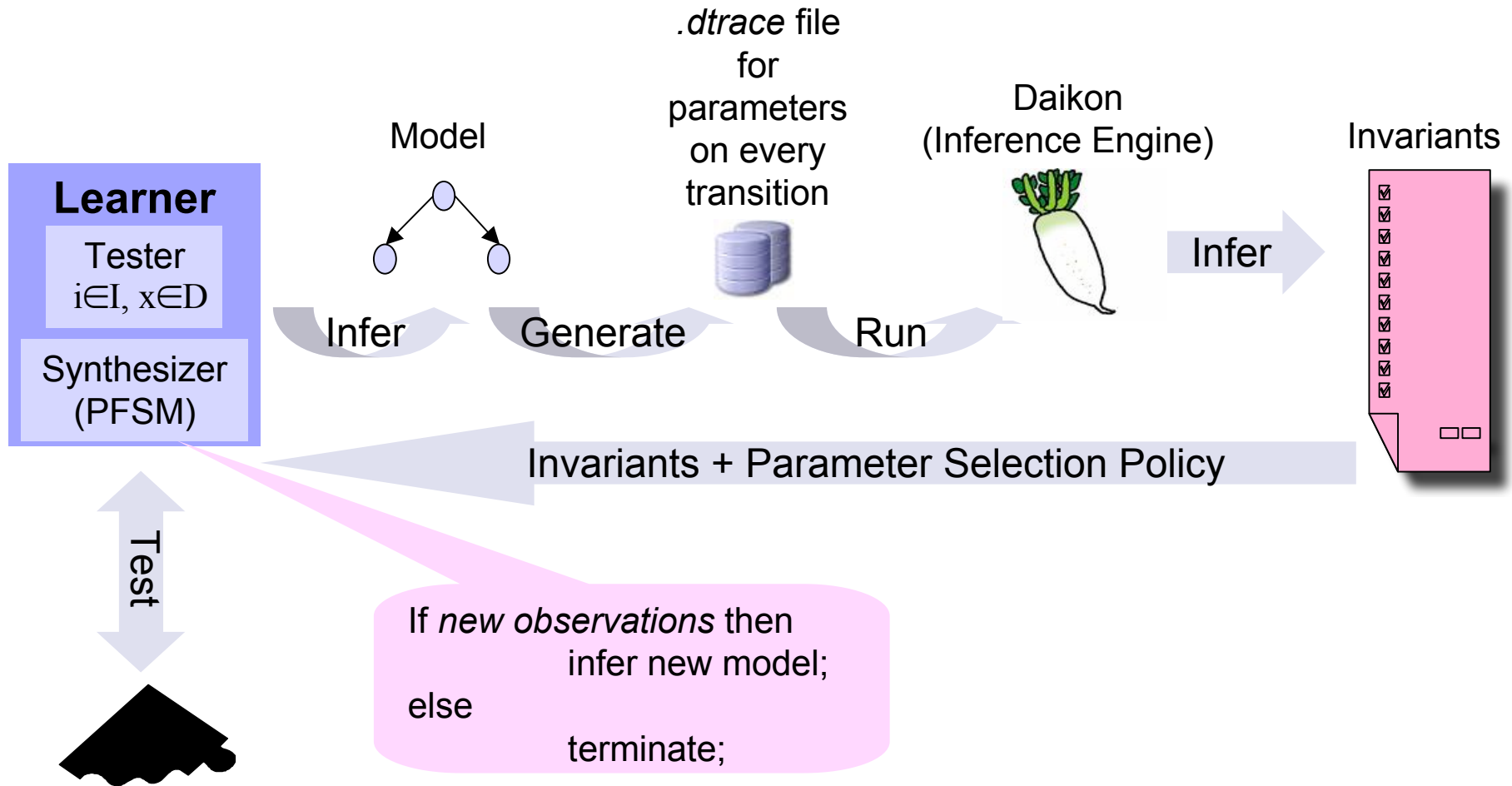


- Developed by M. Ernst (Uni. of Washington, 2000)
  - The Daikon system for dynamic detection of likely invariants.  
[Science of Computer Programming, 2006]



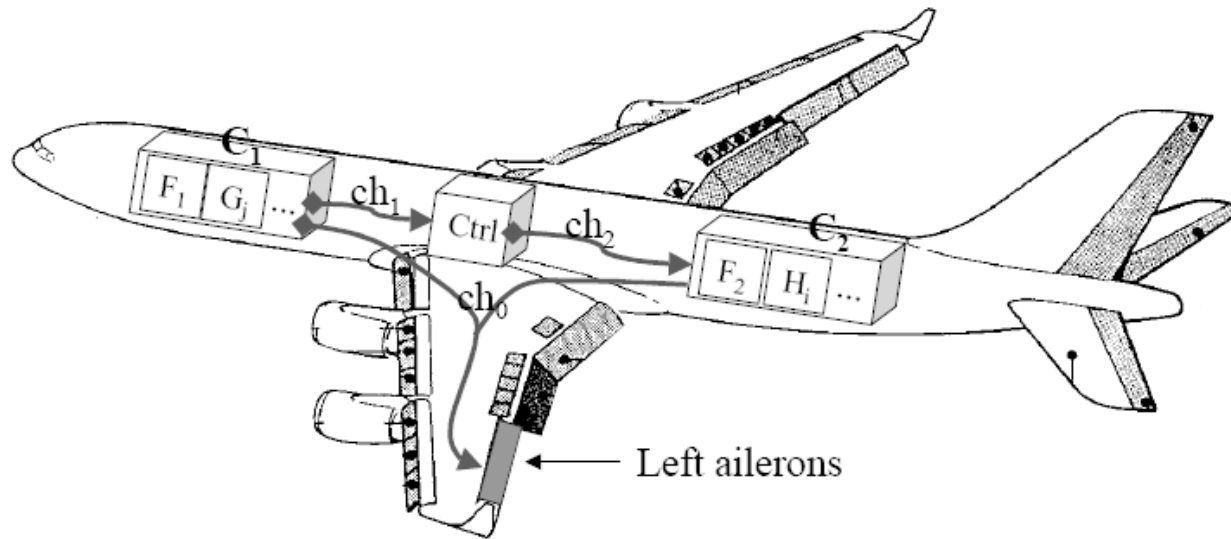
# Using Daikon in Black Box Inference

Using Invariant Detection Mechanism in Black Box Inference  
[M. Shahbaz, R. Groz. ISOLA 2007] (to be appeared)



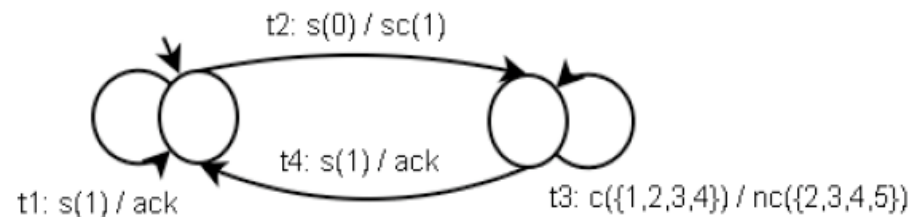
# Ailerons Controller

TPAP: an algebra of pre-emptive processes for verifying real-time systems  
 [J. Ermont, F. Boniol. Electr. Notes Theor. Comput. Sci., 65(6), 2002]



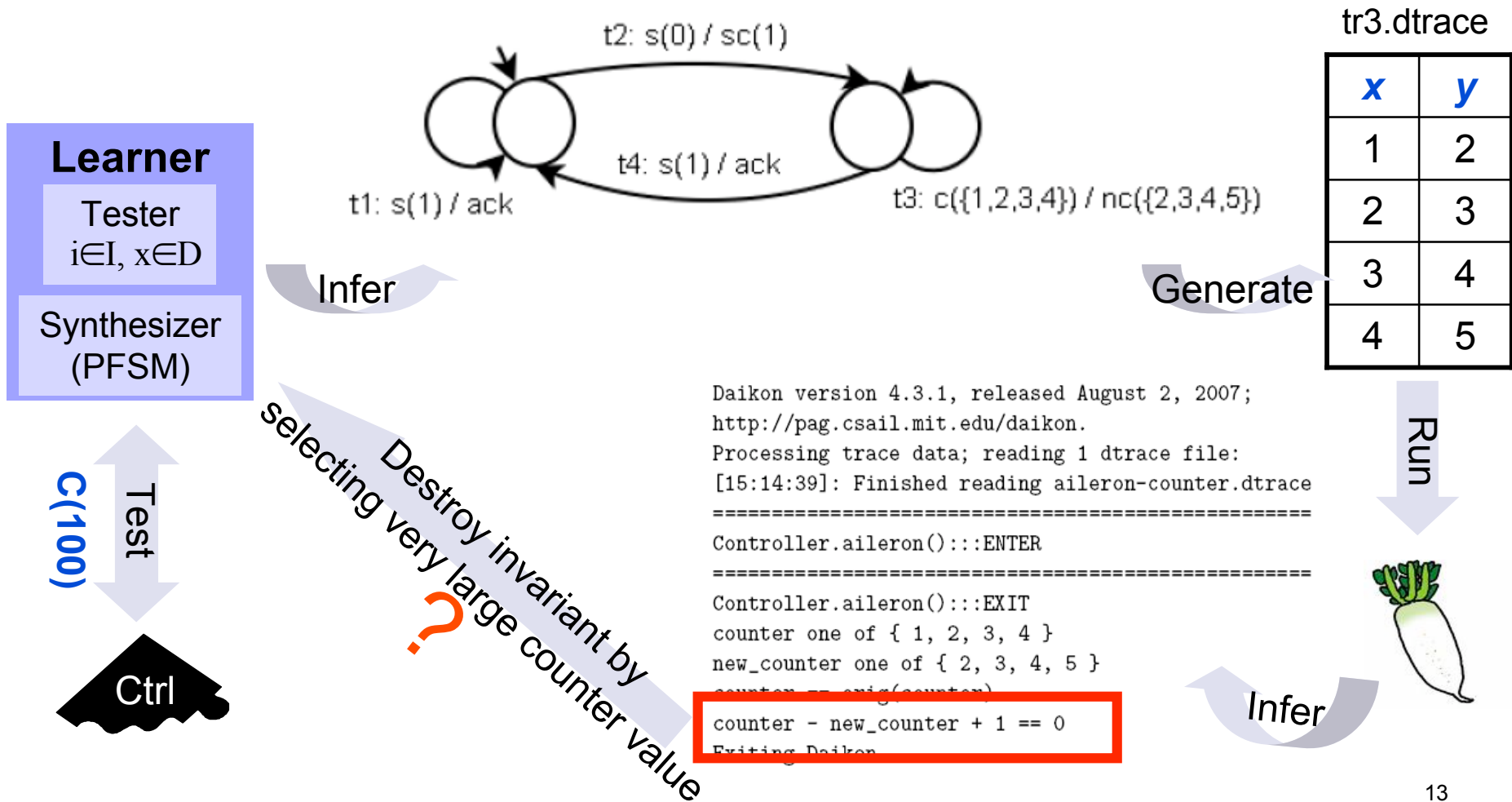
- $C_1$  sends periodically  $s(1)$  to  $Ctrl$
- $Ctrl$  sends  $ack$  to  $C_1$
- When  $Ctrl$  receives  $s(0)$ , sets a counter  $sc(1)$
- $Ctrl$  checks the counter  $c(x)$  periodically and increments  $x$  every time
- When counter exceeds for certain threshold,  $Ctrl$  sends  $Cmd$  to  $C_2$

## • Inference of Ctrl

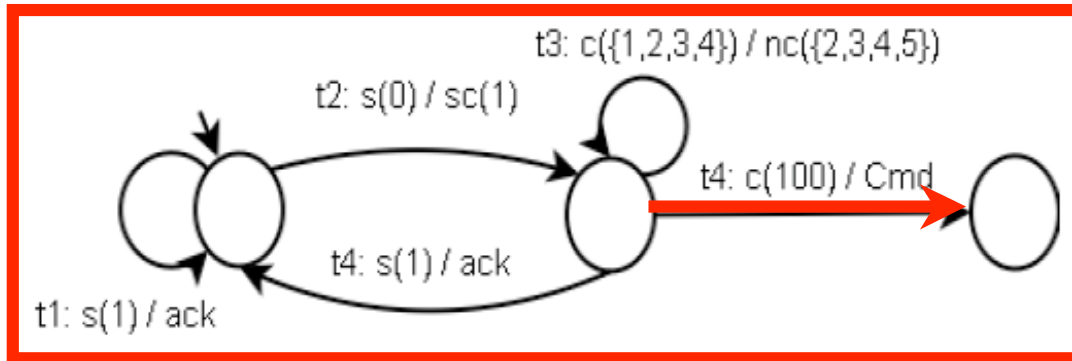


Generated from RALT

# Experiment



# Experiment



tr3.dtrace

x	y
1	2
2	3
3	4
4	5

Run



Infer

```

Daikon version 4.3.1, released August 2, 2007;
http://pag.csail.mit.edu/daikon.
Processing trace data; reading 1 dtrace file:
[15:14:39]: Finished reading aileron-counter.dtrace
=====
Controller.aileron():::ENTER
=====
Controller.aileron():::EXIT
counter one of { 1, 2, 3, 4 }
new_counter one of { 2, 3, 4, 5 }
counter == orig(counter)
counter - new_counter + 1 == 0
Exiting Daikon
    
```

**Learner**

Tester  
 $i \in I, x \in D$

Synthesizer  
 (PFM)

Infer

Generate

C(100)

Test

Ctrl

Destroy invariant by selecting very large counter value ?

# Conclusion



- The selection of parameter values in Black Box Inference is crucial
- The conjecture can be different if different sets of values are used in learning method
- Invariants can be detected from the component using observations in the preliminary iterations of the learning method
- Detected Invariants can guide the selection of parameter values in new iterations of the Learning Method
- Testing with new parameter values in the learning method can refine the conjecture incrementally

# Future Work



- Test Generation from Learned Invariants
- Study the limitations of the approach and improve the procedure
- Study other detectors, e.g.,
  - StInG (Stanford Invariant Generator)
  - DIDUCE (Dynamic Invariant Detection Union Checking Engine)
  - Agitator? (Commercial Tool)
- Implementation and connecting with RALT
- More examples.... less stupid 😊



Questions???

