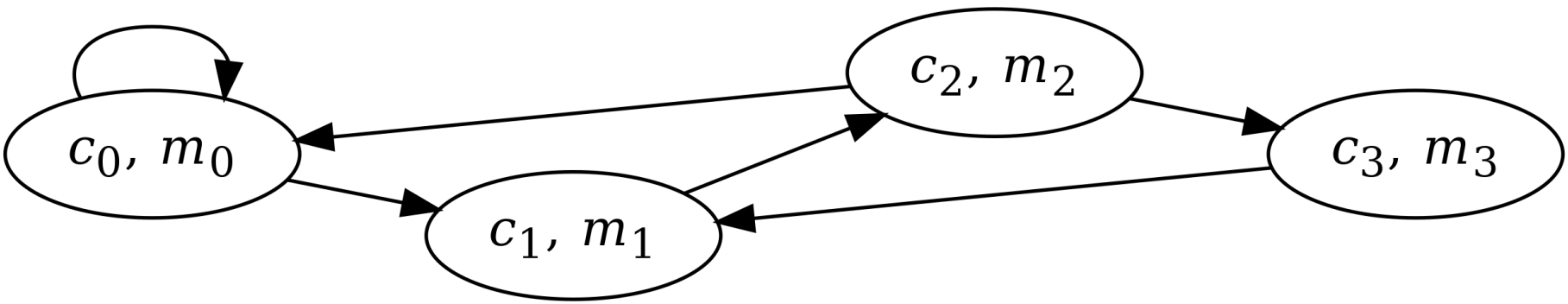
Soundness of Cyclic Proofs in KeY

KeY Symposium 2023

Daniel Drodt
TU Darmstadt



Introduction

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- Calculus of KeY must be sound
  - Otherwise proof does not guarantee anything

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- Incorrect contracts can be verified
  - A soundness hole

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One Rule of KeY Is Not Properly Proven Sound

- Incorrect contracts can be verified
  - A soundness hole

We explore the underlying problem and discuss possible solutions.

The Problem
Rule useMethodContract

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Rule useMethodContract allows usage of contract $(\psi_{pre}, \psi_{post}, ...)$:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{U}(\psi_{pre} \land wellFormed(\mathsf{heap}) \land paramsInRange), \Delta \quad \Gamma \vdash \mathcal{U}\mathcal{V}(\psi_{post} \land wellFormed(h) \land ... \land \mathsf{exc} \doteq \mathtt{null} \rightarrow \langle \pi \mathsf{x} = \mathtt{res}; \omega \rangle \varphi), \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{U} \langle \pi \mathsf{x} = \mathsf{se.m}(\mathsf{a}_1, ..., \mathsf{a}_n); \omega \rangle \varphi, \Delta}$$

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- The proof now depends on this contract

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- useMethodContract was proven sound...

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This Does Not Cover Recursion

- Circular reasoning
- Termination is not ensured

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The Problem

Rule useMethodContractTotal

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Rule useMethodContract**Total** covers recursion:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{U}(\psi_{pre} \land wellFormed(\mathsf{heap}) \land paramsInRange \land term \prec \mathtt{mby}), \Delta \quad \Gamma \vdash \mathcal{UV}(\psi_{post} \land wellFormed(h) \land \ldots \land \mathtt{exc} \doteq \mathtt{null} \rightarrow \langle \pi \mathtt{x} = \mathtt{res}; \omega \rangle \varphi), \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{U} \langle \pi \mathtt{x} = \mathtt{se.m}(\mathtt{a}_1, \ldots, \mathtt{a}_n); \omega \rangle \varphi, \Delta}$$

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- `mby` is the termination witness

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- mby is the termination witness
- Soundness has not been shown
  - Are there theoretical issues?
  - Are there practical limitations or edge cases?

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Recursion

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```
/*@ normal_behavior
  @ requires num >= 0;
  @ measured_by num;
  @ ensures \result == 0;
  @*/
int m(int num) {
  if (num == 0)
    return 0;
  return m(num - 1);
}
```


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- Method m depends only on itself

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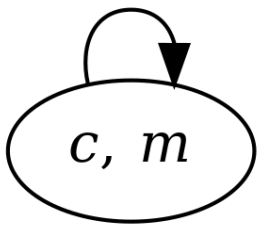
  - Need termination witness num
- The proof is trivial
- No additional data needed
- Method m depends only on itself
- We model the dependency in a graph:



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Mutual Recursion

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/*@ normal_behavior
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- We can verify `m1` and `m2` separately

Mutual Recursion

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- Depend on each other

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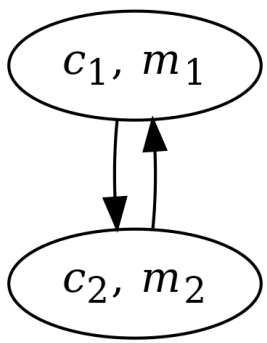
- We can verify `m1` and `m2` separately
- Depend on each other
- Recursion is still bounded by `num`
- We have mutual recursion
- More complex cycle:



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Mutual Recursion

Unsound Proofs

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- KeY allows verification of `m1`

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- KeY allows verification of `m1`
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  - KeY loses information about dependencies

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When is the rule application sound?

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Cyclic Dependencies

...and their soundness

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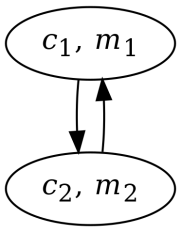

Problem

- Cyclic dependencies; units depending on themselves

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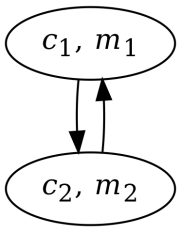

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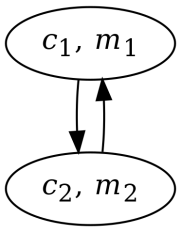

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Intuitive Solution

When the cycle (recursion) is bounded, we can allow it

Modeling Proof Dependencies

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Contract Dependency Graph

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Modeling Proof Dependencies

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- Vertices are pairs of contracts *c* and methods *m*

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Modeling Proof Dependencies

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- Vertices are pairs of contracts c and methods m
- Arc from (c_1, m_1) to (c_2, m_2) iff proof for (c_1, m_1) depends on (c_2, m_2)

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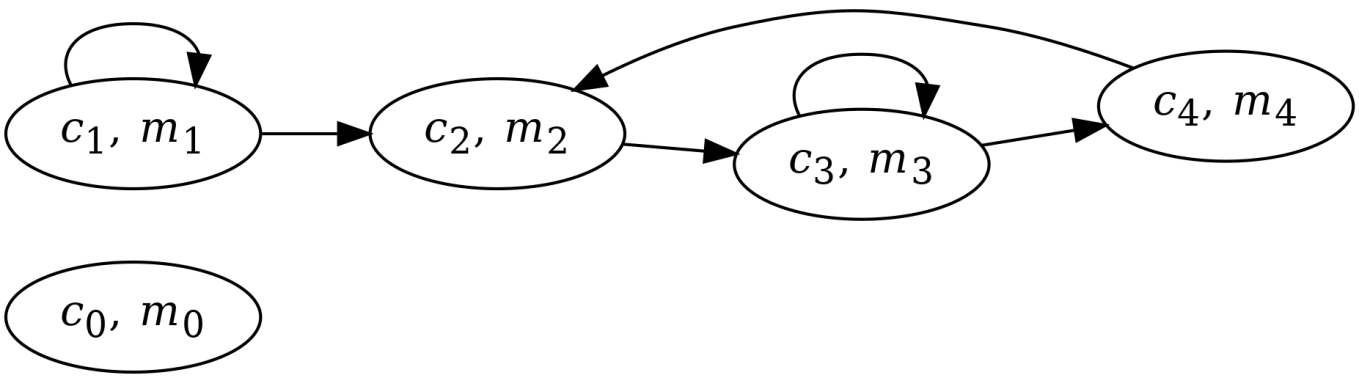

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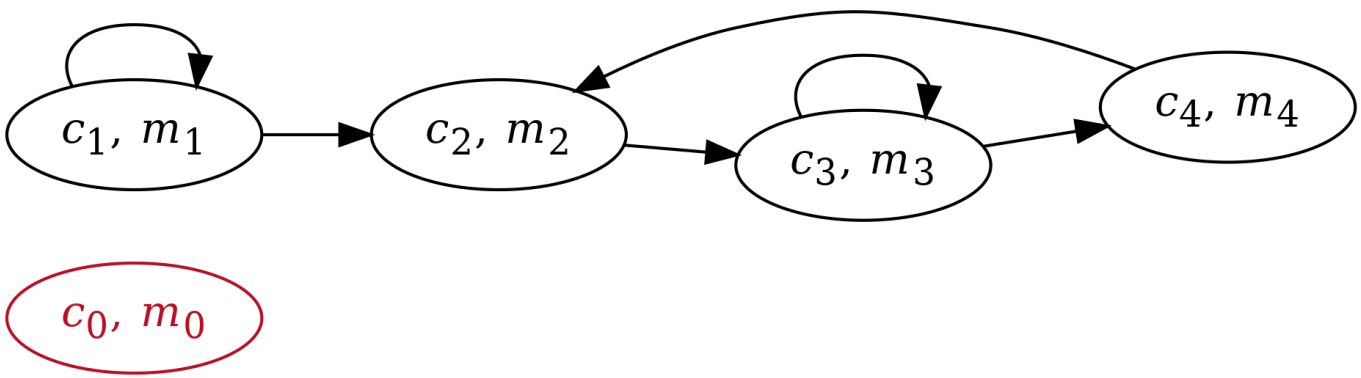

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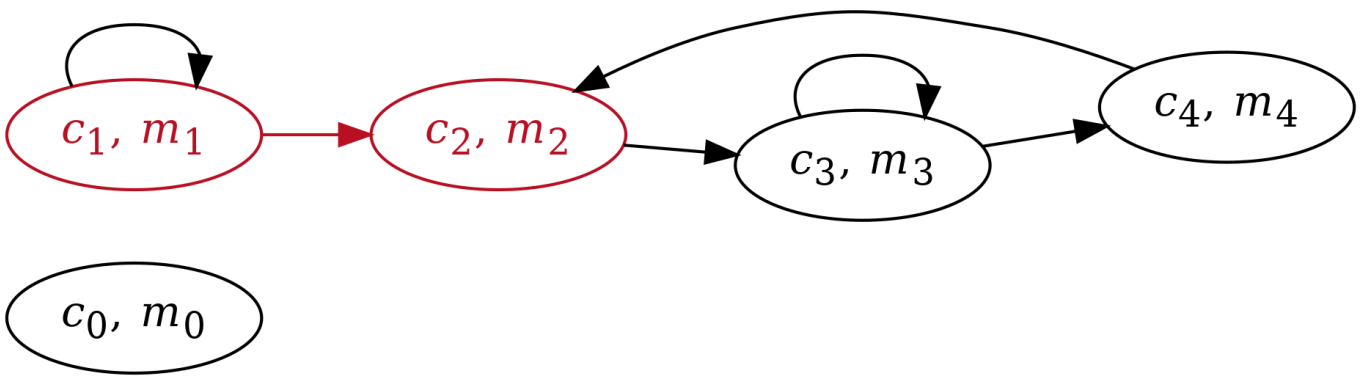

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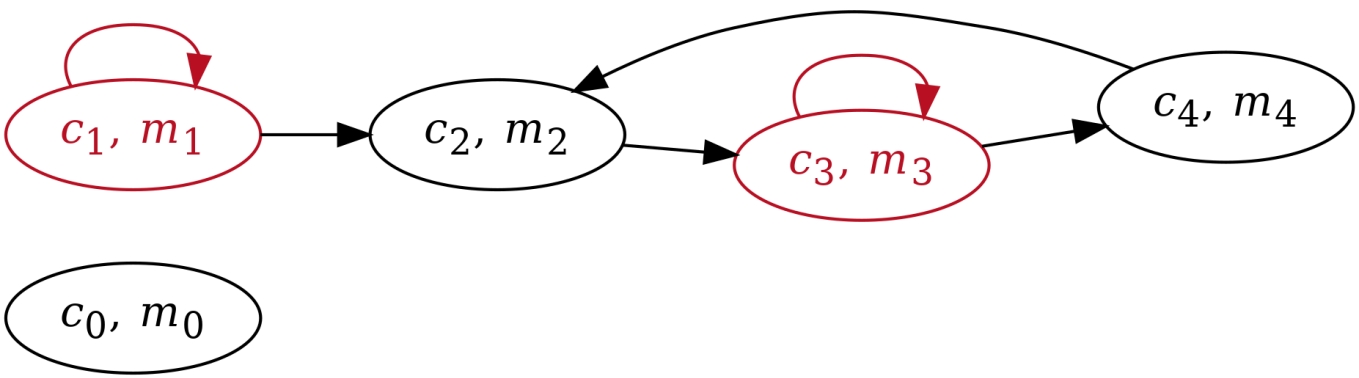

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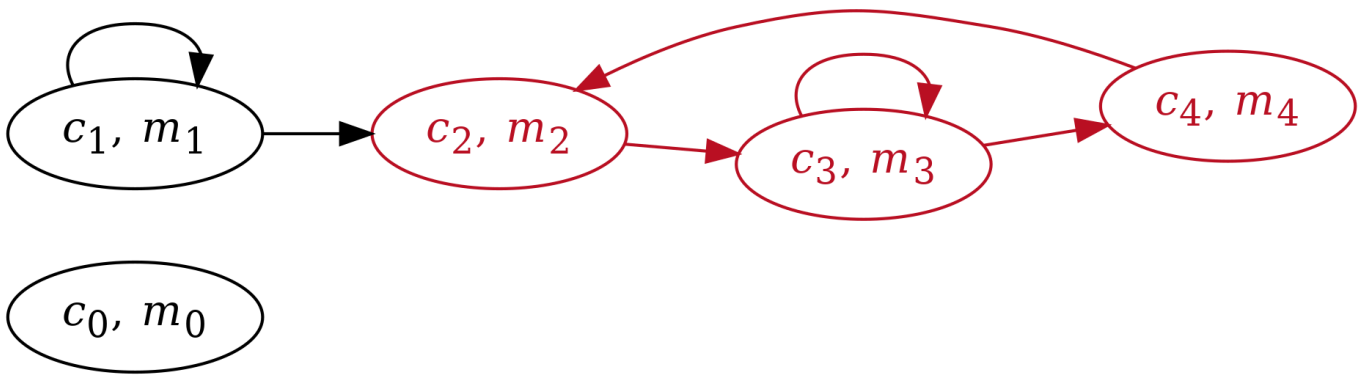

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Terminating Cycle Theory

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Terminating Graphs

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  - It contains no arc or
  - Every contract has termination witness

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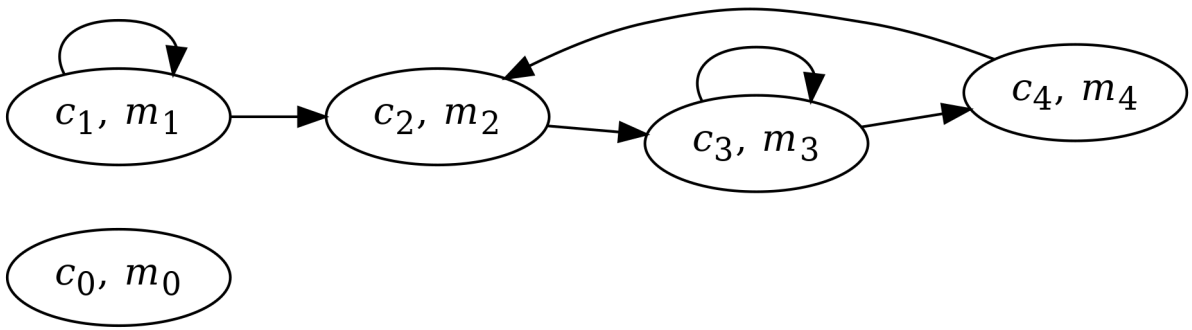

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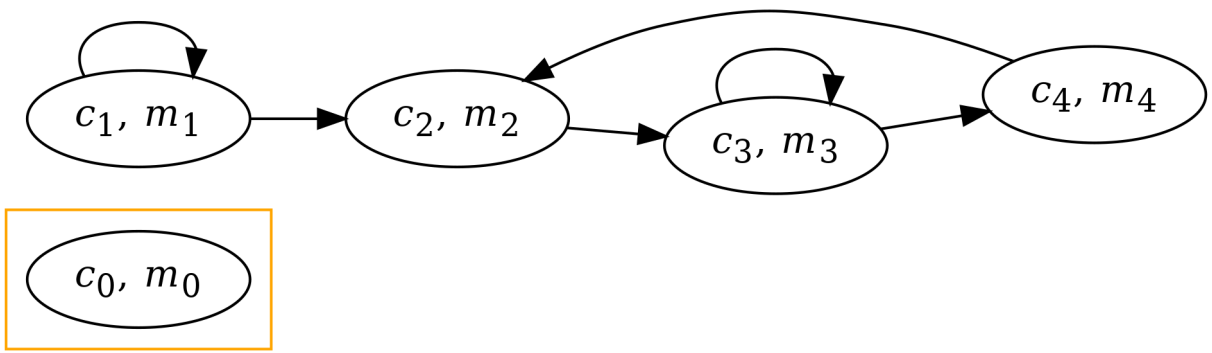

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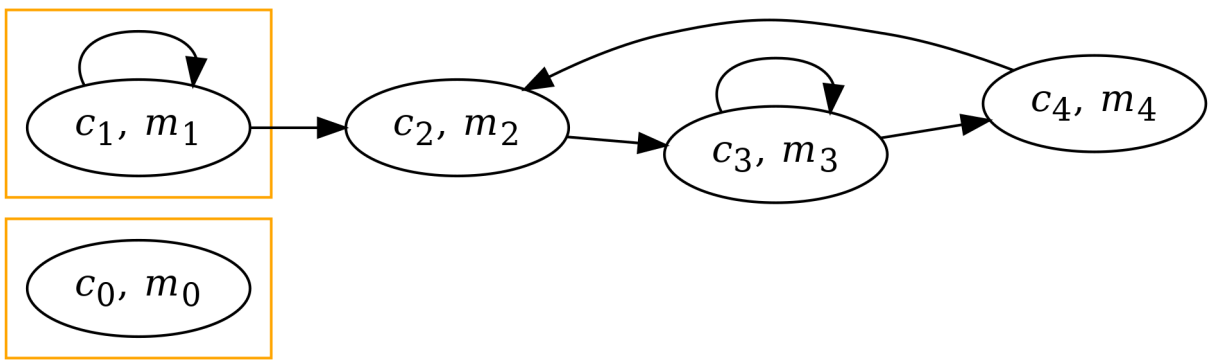

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Terminating Cycle Theory

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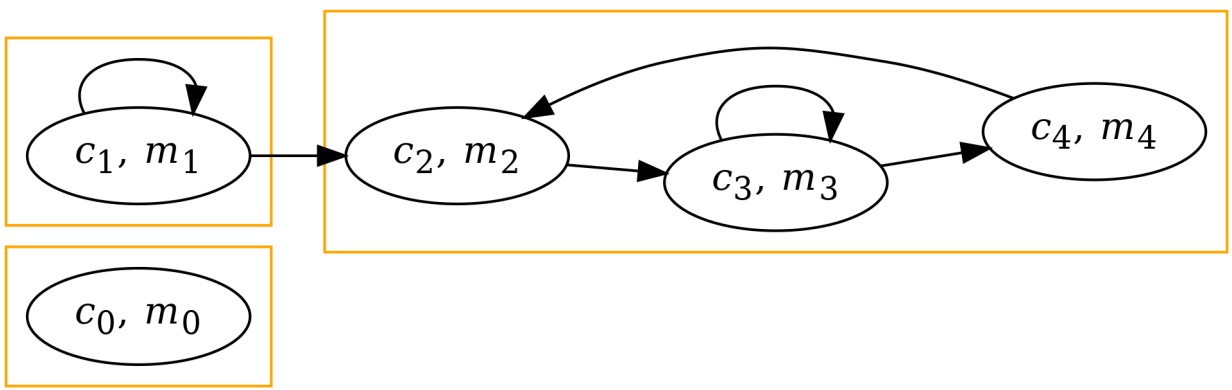
Terminating Graphs

- Strongly connected component is terminating iff
  - It contains no arc or
  - Every contract has termination witness
- Graph is called terminating iff every strongly connected component is terminating



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Terminating Cycle Theory
Application

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Restriction to Rule Applications

Only permit rule applications that result in a terminating Contract Dependency Graph

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Terminating Cycle Theory
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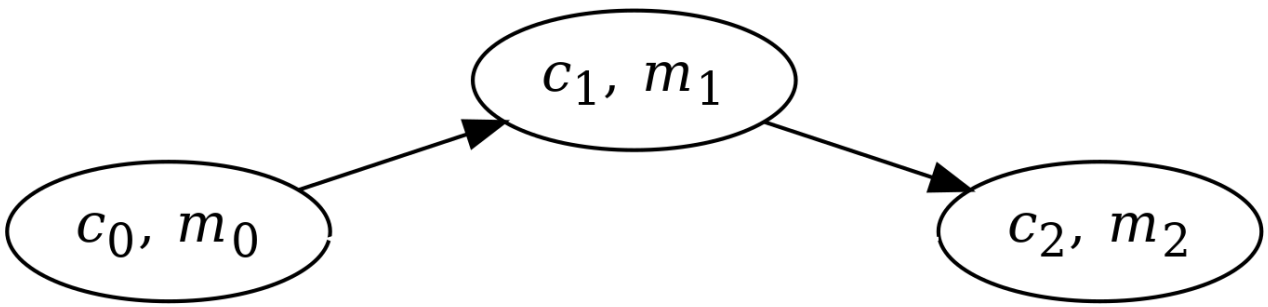

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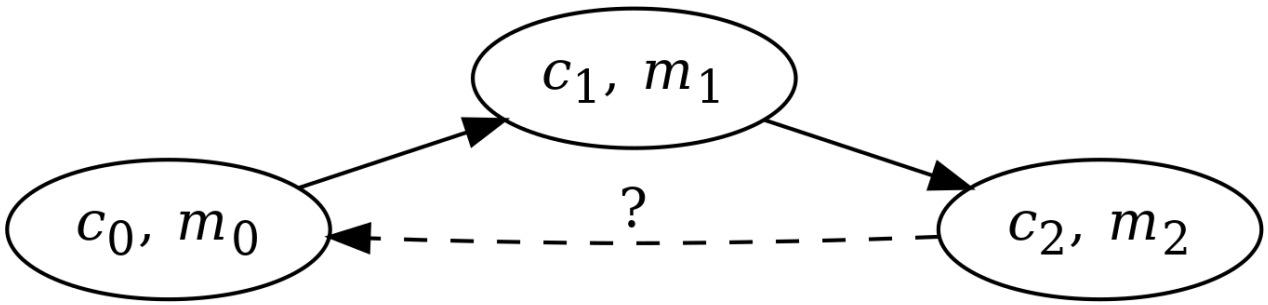

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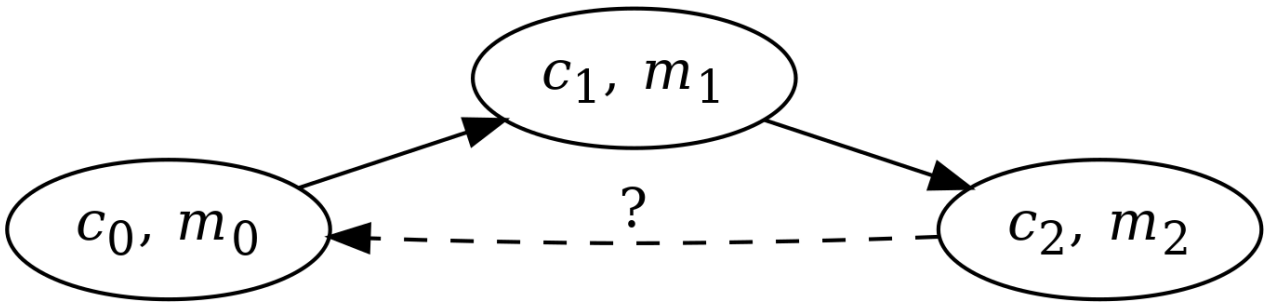

- Restriction has been proven to ensure soundness
- Not too restrictive

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Implementation

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Existing Checks

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Implementation

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Existing Checks

- Similar to the restriction above
- Constructs (a subgraph of) the Contract Dependency Graph

Implementation

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- Constructs (a subgraph of) the Contract Dependency Graph
- Only considers loaded proofs
- Prone to (accidental) exploits

Implementation

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Implementation

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We need to have persistent information of the global proof state!

Implementation
Original Approach

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KeY has no notion of “project”

Per-Folder Dependencies

- Persistent, but no “project”

Implementation
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Implementation
Original Approach

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KeY has no notion of “project”

Per-Folder Dependencies

- Persistent, but no “project”
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- When loading folder, parsing Java, creating environment, ...
  - Create dependency repository, load dependency files

Implementation
Original Approach

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KeY has no notion of “project”

Per-Folder Dependencies

- Persistent, but no “project”
- Dependency information independent of environments and proofs
- When loading folder, parsing Java, creating environment, ...
  - Create dependency repository, load dependency files
- Dependency files contain
  - Dependencies of all proofs of a folder
  - Hashes of contract and method

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Dependency Files

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```
"/path/to/folder/MyClass1.java" {
}

"/path/to/folder/MyClass2.java" {
  "MyClass2[m1(int)].JML normal_behavior ..."|-217247427|-979473634 {
    "MyClass1[helper()].JML normal..."|102592814|280909408
  }
  "MyClass2[helper()].JML normal_behavior ..."|40138075|-7495401875 {
    "MyClass2[helper()].JML normal_behavior ..."|102592814|280909408
    "MyClass2[m2()].JML normal_behavior ..."|4910046826|-184653318
  }
}
```


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Current Implementation Plan

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Shortcomings of Dependency Files

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Current Implementation Plan

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Shortcomings of Dependency Files

- Sensible compromise to change little of KeY's structure

Current Implementation Plan

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Shortcomings of Dependency Files

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- Similar files are necessary/helpful for better proof management

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Current Implementation Plan

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Introducing KeY Projects

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Current Implementation Plan

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Introducing KeY Projects

- What approaches and tools exist?
- How to implement this?

Current Implementation Plan

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Introducing KeY Projects

- What approaches and tools exist?
- How to implement this?

⇒ Bachelor thesis/project in cooperation with KIT

Conclusion

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Conclusion

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- Theoretical foundation for cyclic dependencies ✓
  - Provided proper proof of intuitive solution ✓

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Overall: Improve correctness of KeY and increase trust in proofs

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Thank you for your attention!