

# FORMAL METHODS

## LECTURE IV: COMPUTATION TREE LOGIC (CTL)

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Some material (text, figures) displayed in these slides is courtesy of:

M. Benerecetti, A. Cimatti, M. Fisher, F. Giunchiglia, M. Pistore, M. Roveri, R. Sebastiani.

# Summary of Lecture IV

- Computation Tree Logic: Intuitions.
- CTL: Syntax and Semantics.
- CTL in Computer Science.
- CTL and Model Checking: Examples.
- CTL Vs. LTL.
- CTL\*.

# Computation Tree logic Vs. LTL

- LTL implicitly quantifies *universally* over paths.  
 $\langle \mathcal{KM}, s \rangle \models \phi$  iff **for every path**  $\pi$  starting at  $s$   $\langle \mathcal{KM}, \pi \rangle \models \phi$
- Properties that assert the **existence of a path** cannot be expressed. In particular, properties which **mix existential and universal path quantifiers** cannot be expressed.
- The **Computation Tree Logic—CTL** solves these problems!
  - CTL explicitly introduces *path quantifiers*!
  - CTL is the natural temporal logic interpreted over Branching Time Structures.

# CTL at a glance

- CTL is evaluated over branching-time structures (Trees).
- CTL explicitly introduces *path quantifiers*:
  - All Paths:  $\Box$
  - Exists a Path:  $\Diamond$ .
- Every temporal operator ( $\Box$ ,  $\Diamond$ ,  $\bigcirc$ ,  $\mathcal{U}$ ) preceded by a path quantifier ( $\Box$  or  $\Diamond$ ).
- **Universal modalities:**  $\Box \Diamond$ ,  $\Box \Box$ ,  $\Box \bigcirc$ ,  $\Box \mathcal{U}$   
The temporal formula is true in **all** the paths starting in the current state.
- **Existential modalities:**  $\Diamond \Diamond$ ,  $\Diamond \Box$ ,  $\Diamond \bigcirc$ ,  $\Diamond \mathcal{U}$   
The temporal formula is true in **some** path starting in the current state.

- Computation Tree Logic: Intuitions.
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# CTL: Syntax

Countable set  $\Sigma$  of *atomic propositions*:  $p, q, \dots$  the set FORM of formulas is:

$$\varphi, \psi \rightarrow p \mid \top \mid \perp \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \psi \mid \varphi \vee \psi \mid$$

$$\boxed{P} \bigcirc \varphi \mid \boxed{P} \square \varphi \mid \boxed{P} \blacklozenge \varphi \mid \boxed{P} (\varphi \mathcal{U} \psi)$$

$$\blacklozenge P \bigcirc \varphi \mid \blacklozenge P \square \varphi \mid \blacklozenge P \blacklozenge \varphi \mid \blacklozenge P (\varphi \mathcal{U} \psi)$$

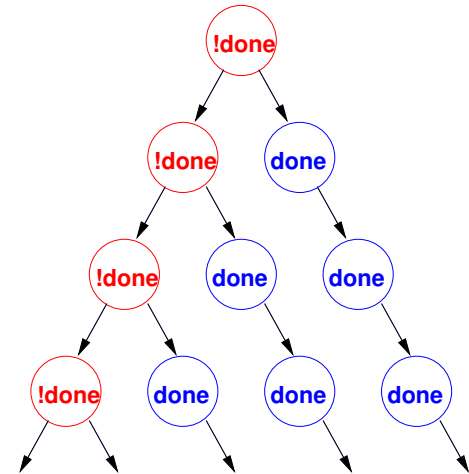
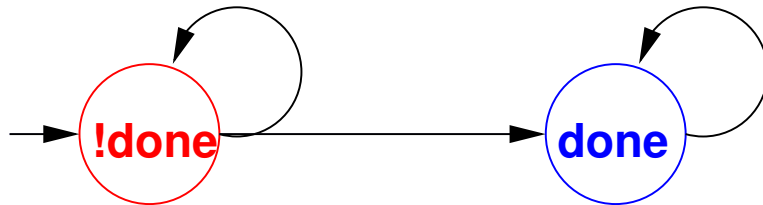
# CTL Alternative Notation

Alternative notations are used for temporal operators.

|            |                    |     |                                |
|------------|--------------------|-----|--------------------------------|
| $\diamond$ | $\rightsquigarrow$ | $E$ | there <b>E</b> xists a path    |
| $\square$  | $\rightsquigarrow$ | $A$ | in <b>A</b> ll paths           |
| $\diamond$ | $\rightsquigarrow$ | $F$ | sometime in the <b>F</b> uture |
| $\square$  | $\rightsquigarrow$ | $G$ | <b>G</b> lobally in the future |
| $\circ$    | $\rightsquigarrow$ | $X$ | ne <b>X</b> time               |

# CTL: Semantics

- We interpret our CTL temporal formulas over Kripke Models linearized as trees.



- Universal modalities ( $\Box$ ,  $\Box$ ,  $\Box$ ,  $\Box \mathcal{U}$ ): the temporal formula is true in **all** the paths starting in the current state.
- Existential modalities ( $\Diamond$ ,  $\Diamond$ ,  $\Diamond$ ,  $\Diamond \mathcal{U}$ ): the temporal formula is true in **some** path starting in the current state.



# CTL: Semantics (Cont.)

Let  $\Sigma$  be a set of atomic propositions. We interpret our CTL temporal formulas over Kripke Models:

$$\mathcal{KM} = \langle S, I, R, \Sigma, L \rangle$$

The semantics of a temporal formula is provided by the *satisfaction* relation:

$$\models : (\mathcal{KM} \times S \times \text{FORM}) \rightarrow \{\mathbf{true}, \mathbf{false}\}$$

# CTL Semantics: The Propositional Aspect

We start by defining when an atomic proposition is true at a state/time “ $s_i$ ”

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models p \quad \text{iff} \quad p \in L(s_i) \quad (\text{for } p \in \Sigma)$$

The semantics for the classical operators is as expected:

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \neg\varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, s_i \not\models \varphi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \varphi \wedge \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \varphi \text{ and } \mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \psi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \varphi \vee \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \varphi \text{ or } \mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \psi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \varphi \Rightarrow \psi \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{if } \mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \varphi \text{ then } \mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \psi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \top$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_i \not\models \perp$$

# CTL Semantics: The Temporal Aspect

Temporal operators have the following semantics where  $\pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots)$  is a generic path outgoing from state  $s_i$  in  $\mathcal{KM}$ .

|   |     |  |
|---|-----|--|
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \boxed{P} \bigcirc \varphi$            | iff | $\forall \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \mathcal{KM}, s_{i+1} \models \varphi$  |
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \diamond P \bigcirc \varphi$           | iff | $\exists \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \mathcal{KM}, s_{i+1} \models \varphi$  |
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \boxed{P} \square \varphi$             | iff | $\forall \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \forall j \geq i. \mathcal{KM}, s_j \models \varphi$  |
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \diamond P \square \varphi$            | iff | $\exists \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \forall j \geq i. \mathcal{KM}, s_j \models \varphi$  |
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \boxed{P} \diamond \varphi$            | iff | $\forall \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \exists j \geq i. \mathcal{KM}, s_j \models \varphi$  |
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \diamond P \diamond \varphi$           | iff | $\exists \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \exists j \geq i. \mathcal{KM}, s_j \models \varphi$  |
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \boxed{P} (\varphi \mathcal{U} \psi)$  | iff | $\forall \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \exists j \geq i. \mathcal{KM}, s_j \models \psi$ and<br>$\forall i \leq k < j : \mathcal{KM}, s_k \models \varphi$ |
| $\mathcal{KM}, s_i \models \diamond P (\varphi \mathcal{U} \psi)$ | iff | $\exists \pi = (s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots) \exists j \geq i. \mathcal{KM}, s_j \models \psi$ and<br>$\forall i \leq k < j : \mathcal{KM}, s_k \models \varphi$ |

# CTL Semantics: Intuitions

CTL is given by the standard boolean logic enhanced with temporal operators.

- **“Necessarily Next”**.  $\Box \bigcirc \varphi$  is true in  $s_t$  iff  $\varphi$  is true in every successor state  $s_{t+1}$
- **“Possibly Next”**.  $\Diamond_P \bigcirc \varphi$  is true in  $s_t$  iff  $\varphi$  is true in one successor state  $s_{t+1}$
- **“Necessarily in the future”** (or “Inevitably”).  $\Box \Diamond \varphi$  is true in  $s_t$  iff  $\varphi$  is inevitably true in **some**  $s_{t'}$  with  $t' \geq t$
- **“Possibly in the future”** (or “Possibly”).  $\Diamond_P \Diamond \varphi$  is true in  $s_t$  iff  $\varphi$  may be true in **some**  $s_{t'}$  with  $t' \geq t$

# CTL Semantics: Intuitions (Cont.)

- > “**Globally**” (or “always”).  $\Box \Box \varphi$  is true in  $s_t$  iff  $\varphi$  is true in **all**  $s_{t'}$  with  $t' \geq t$
- > “**Possibly henceforth**”.  $\Diamond \Box \varphi$  is true in  $s_t$  iff  $\varphi$  is possibly true henceforth
- > “**Necessarily Until**”.  $\Box (\varphi \mathcal{U} \psi)$  is true in  $s_t$  iff necessarily  $\varphi$  holds until  $\psi$  holds.
- > “**Possibly Until**”.  $\Diamond (\varphi \mathcal{U} \psi)$  is true in  $s_t$  iff possibly  $\varphi$  holds until  $\psi$  holds.

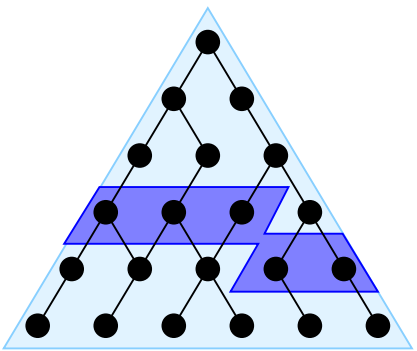
# CTL Semantics: Intuitions (Cont.)

finally  $P$

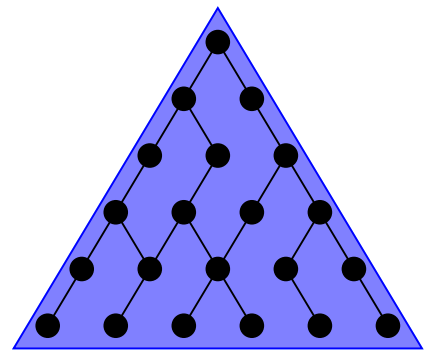
globally  $P$

next  $P$

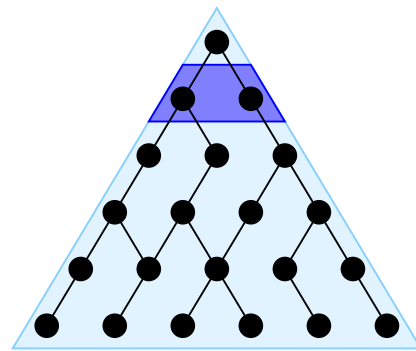
$P$  until  $q$



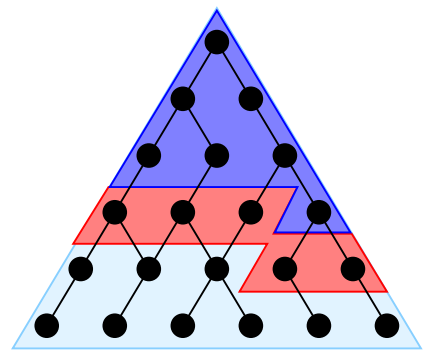
$AF P$



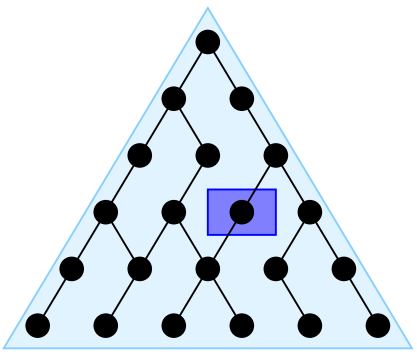
$AG P$



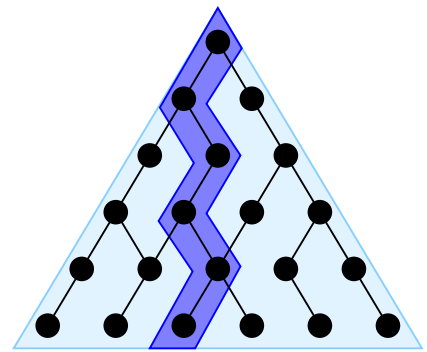
$AX P$



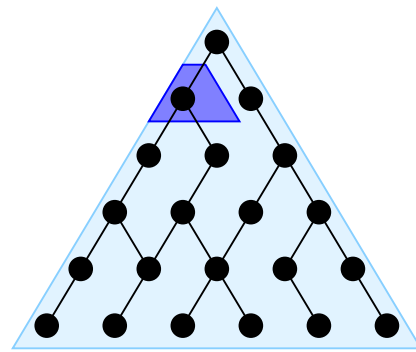
$A[P U q]$



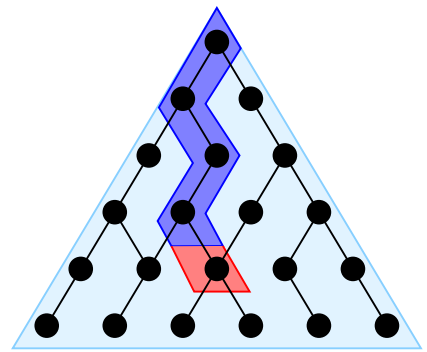
$EF P$



$EG P$



$EX P$



$E[P U q]$

# A Complete Set of CTL Operators

All CTL operators can be expressed via:  $\diamond_P \bigcirc, \diamond_P \square, \diamond_P \mathcal{U}$

- $\square_P \bigcirc \varphi \equiv \neg \diamond_P \bigcirc \neg \varphi$

- $\square_P \diamond \varphi \equiv \neg \diamond_P \square \neg \varphi$

- $\diamond_P \diamond \varphi \equiv \diamond_P (\top \mathcal{U} \varphi)$

- $\square_P \square \varphi \equiv \neg \diamond_P \diamond \neg \varphi \equiv \neg \diamond_P (\top \mathcal{U} \neg \varphi)$

- $\square_P (\varphi \mathcal{U} \psi) \equiv \neg \diamond_P \square \neg \psi \wedge \neg \diamond_P (\neg \psi \mathcal{U} (\neg \varphi \wedge \neg \psi))$

# Summary

- Computation Tree Logic: Intuitions.
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# Safety Properties

Safety:

“something bad will not happen”

Typical examples:

$$\boxed{P} \quad \boxed{\square} \neg (\text{reactor\_temp} > 1000)$$

$$\boxed{P} \quad \boxed{\square} \neg (\text{one\_way} \wedge \boxed{P} \bigcirc \text{other\_way})$$

$$\boxed{P} \quad \boxed{\square} \neg ((x = 0) \wedge \boxed{P} \bigcirc \boxed{P} \bigcirc \boxed{P} \bigcirc (y = z/x))$$

and so on.....

Usually:  $\boxed{P} \quad \boxed{\square} \neg \dots$

# Liveness Properties

Liveness:

“something good will happen”

Typical examples:

$\square \diamond rich$

$\square \diamond (x > 5)$

$\square \square (start \Rightarrow \square \diamond terminate)$

and so on.....

Usually:  $\square \diamond \dots$

# Fairness Properties

Often only really useful when scheduling processes, responding to messages, etc.

**Fairness:**

“something is successful/allocated infinitely often”

Typical example:

$\square \square (\square \blacklozenge \textit{enabled})$

Usually:  $\square \square \square \blacklozenge \dots$

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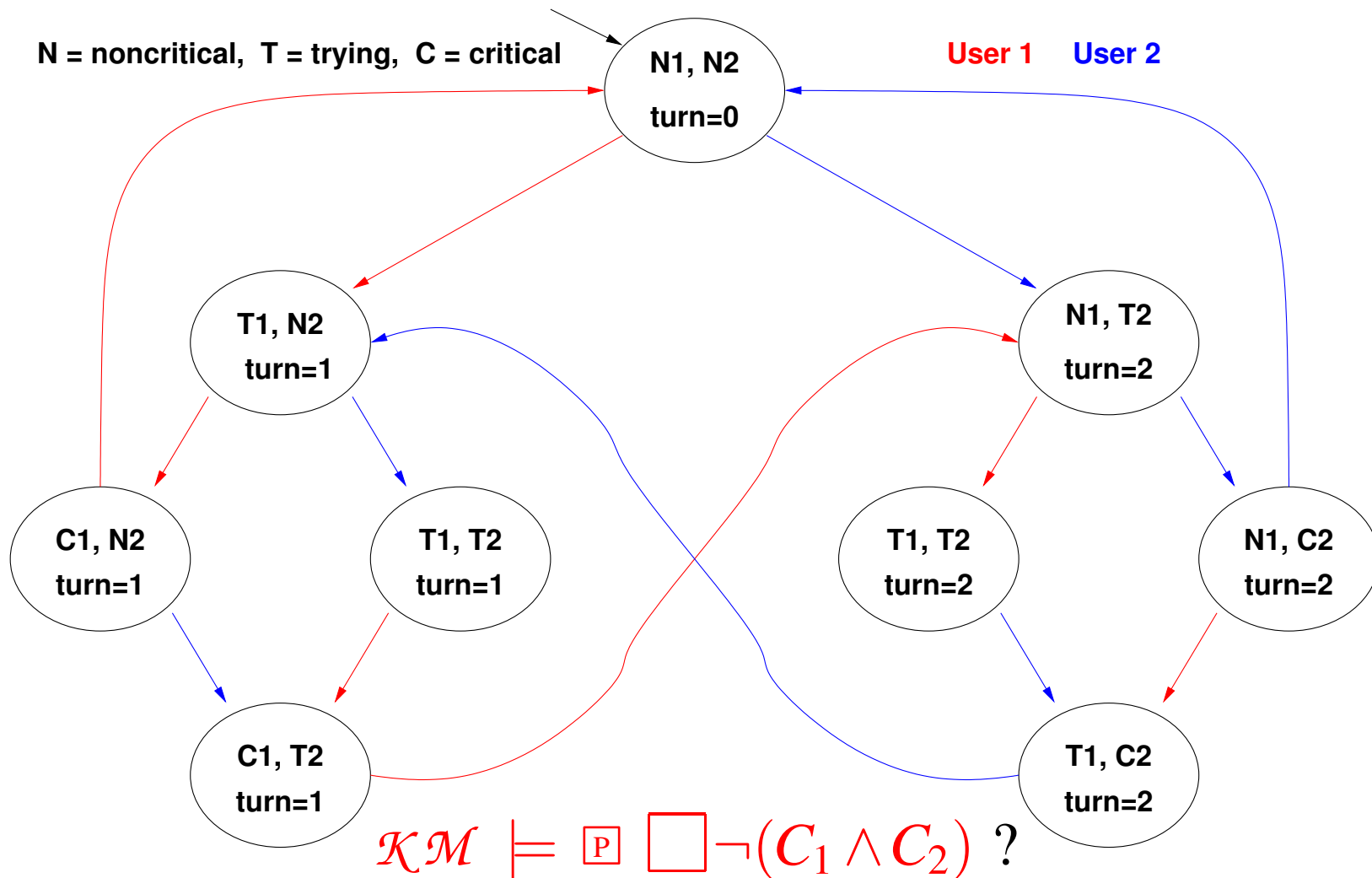
# The CTL Model Checking Problem

The CTL Model Checking Problem is formulated as:

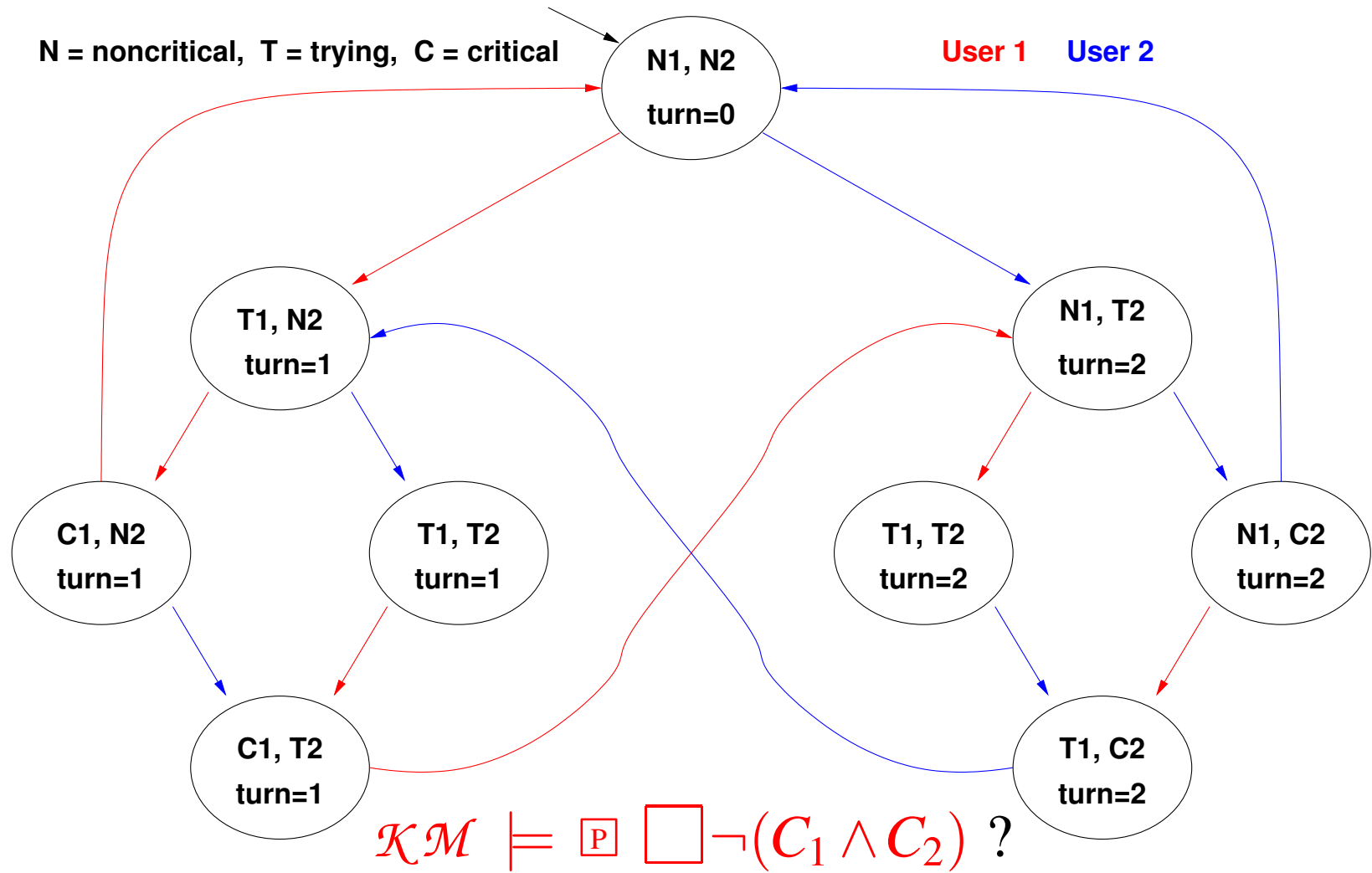
$$\mathcal{KM} \models \phi$$

Check if  $\mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \phi$ , for **every initial state**,  $s_0$ , of the Kripke structure  $\mathcal{KM}$ .

# Example 1: Mutual Exclusion (Safety)

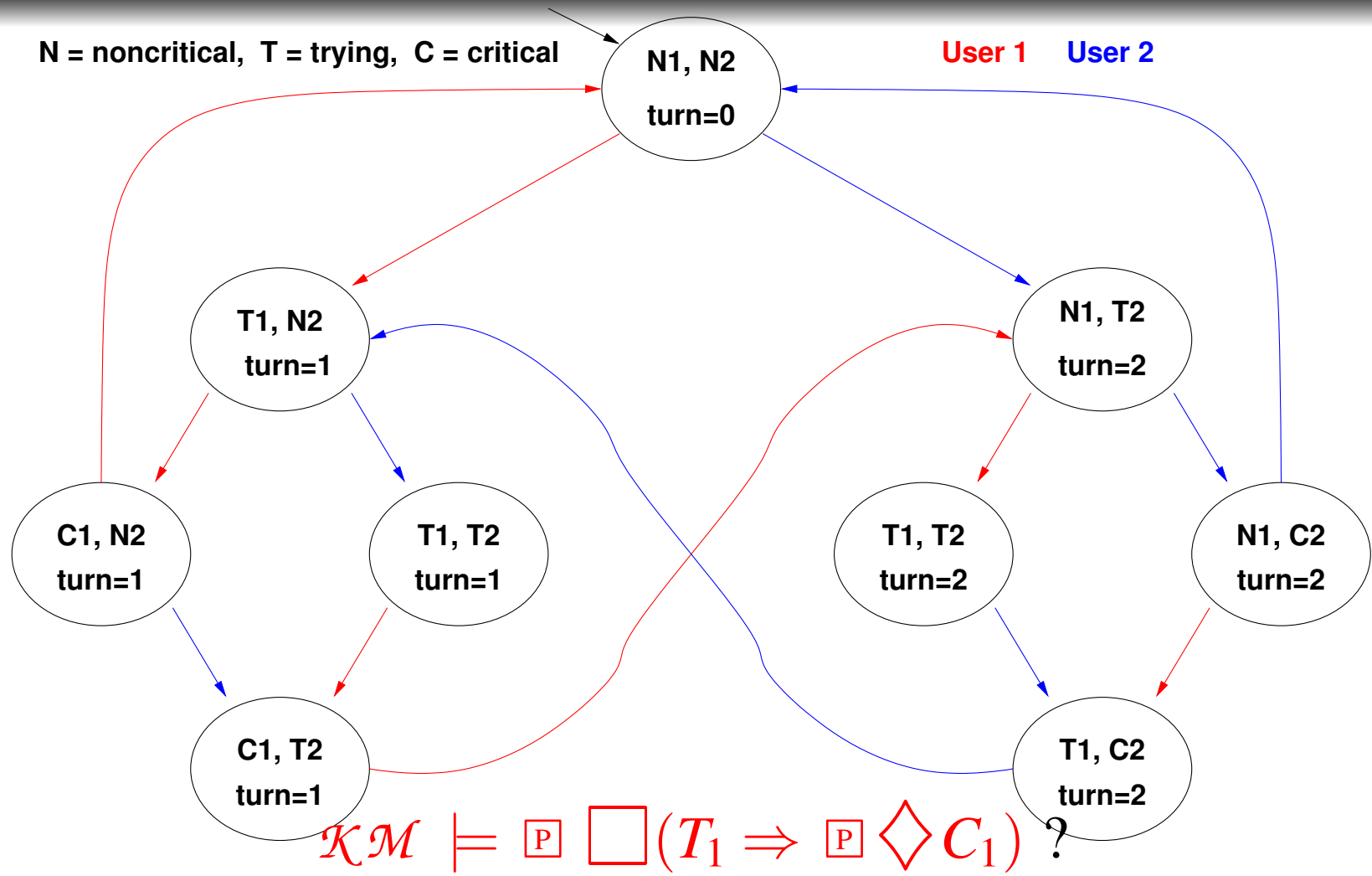


# Example 1: Mutual Exclusion (Safety)



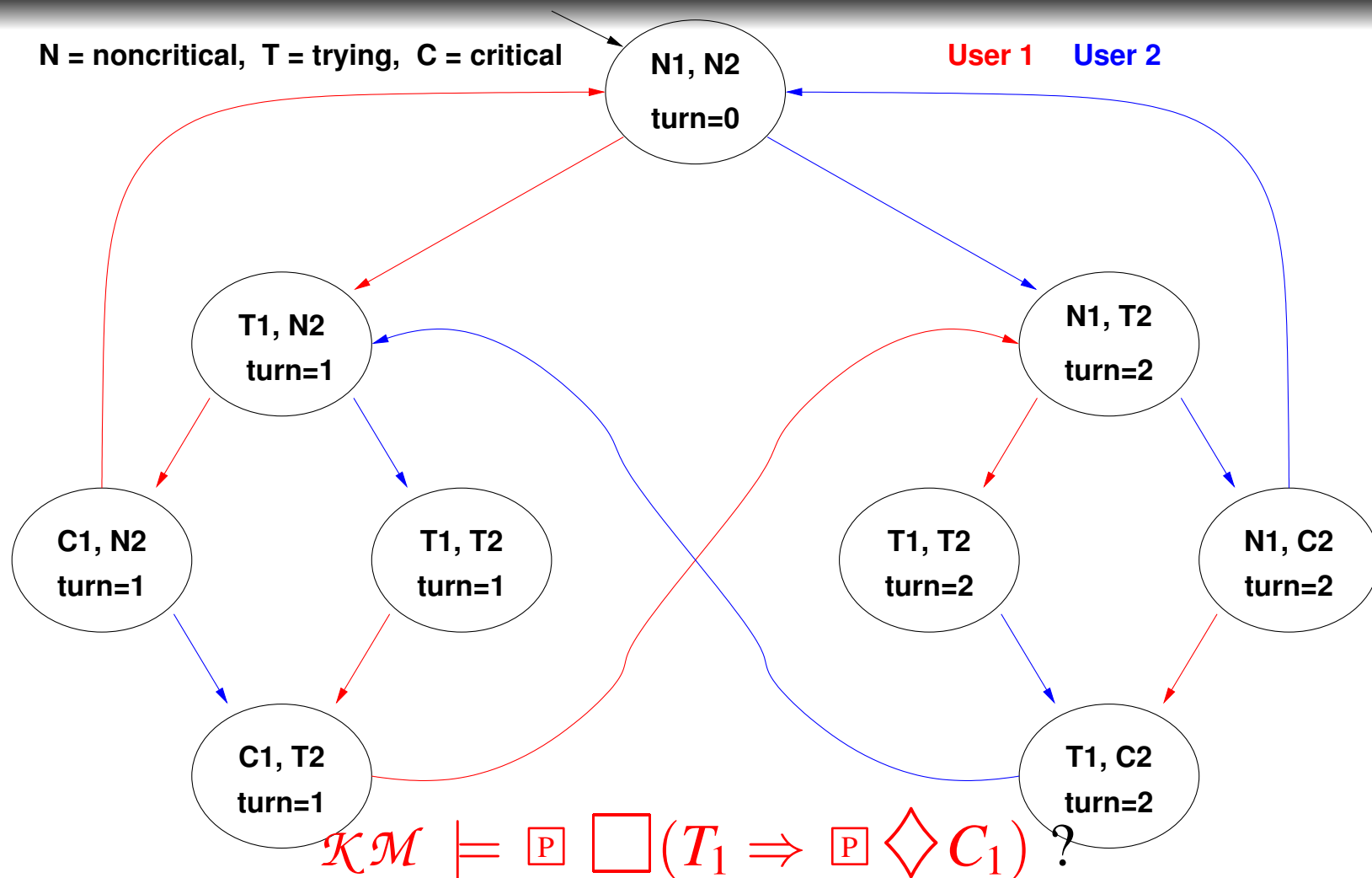
**YES:** There is no reachable state in which  $(C_1 \wedge C_2)$  holds!  
 (Same as the  $\Box \neg (C_1 \wedge C_2)$  in LTL.)

# Example 2: Liveness





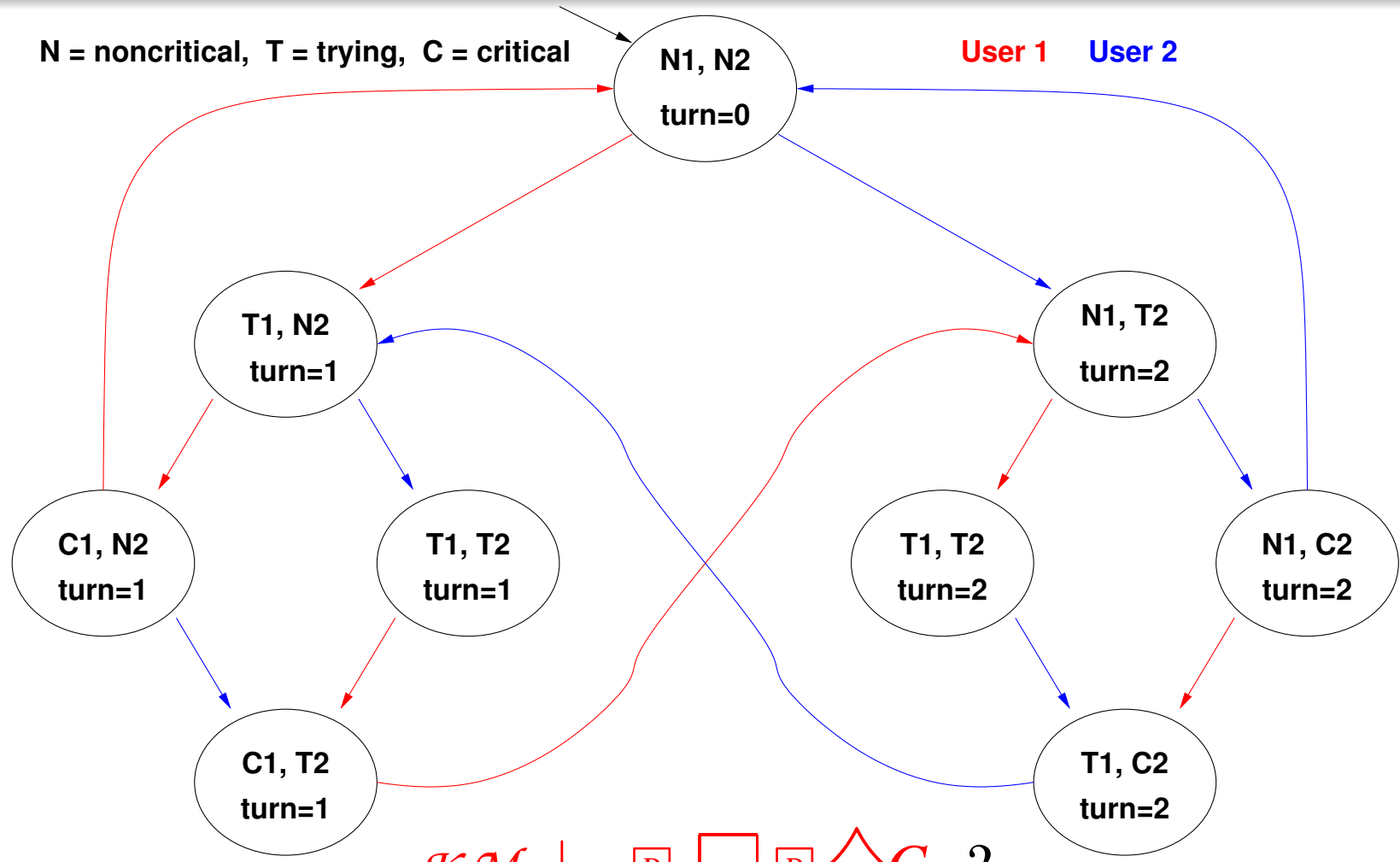
# Example 2: Liveness



**YES:** every path starting from each state where  $T_1$  holds passes through a state where  $C_1$  holds.

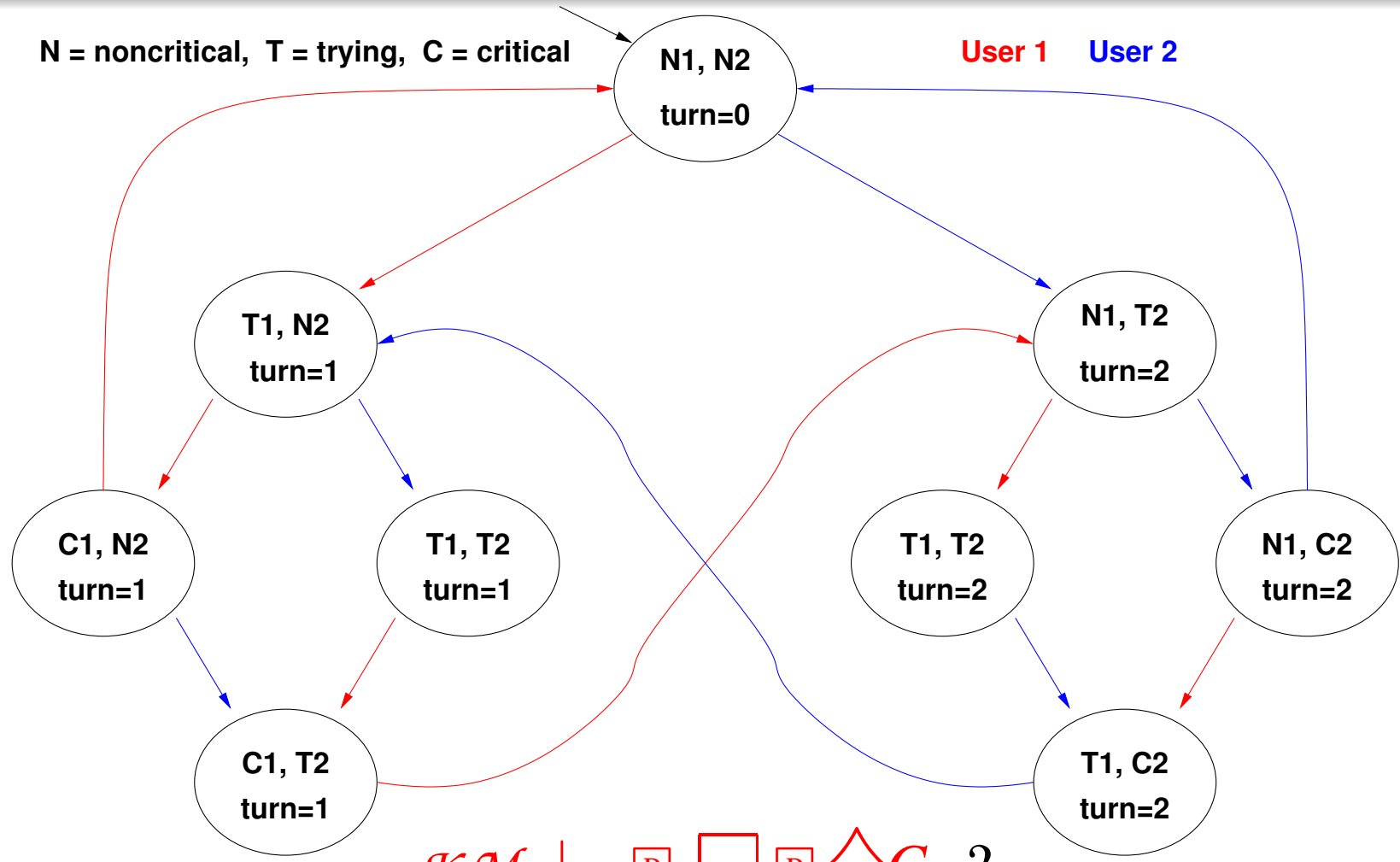
(Same as  $\Box (T_1 \Rightarrow \Diamond C_1)$  in LTL)

# Example 3: Fairness



$$\mathcal{KM} \models \square \square \square \diamond C_1 ?$$

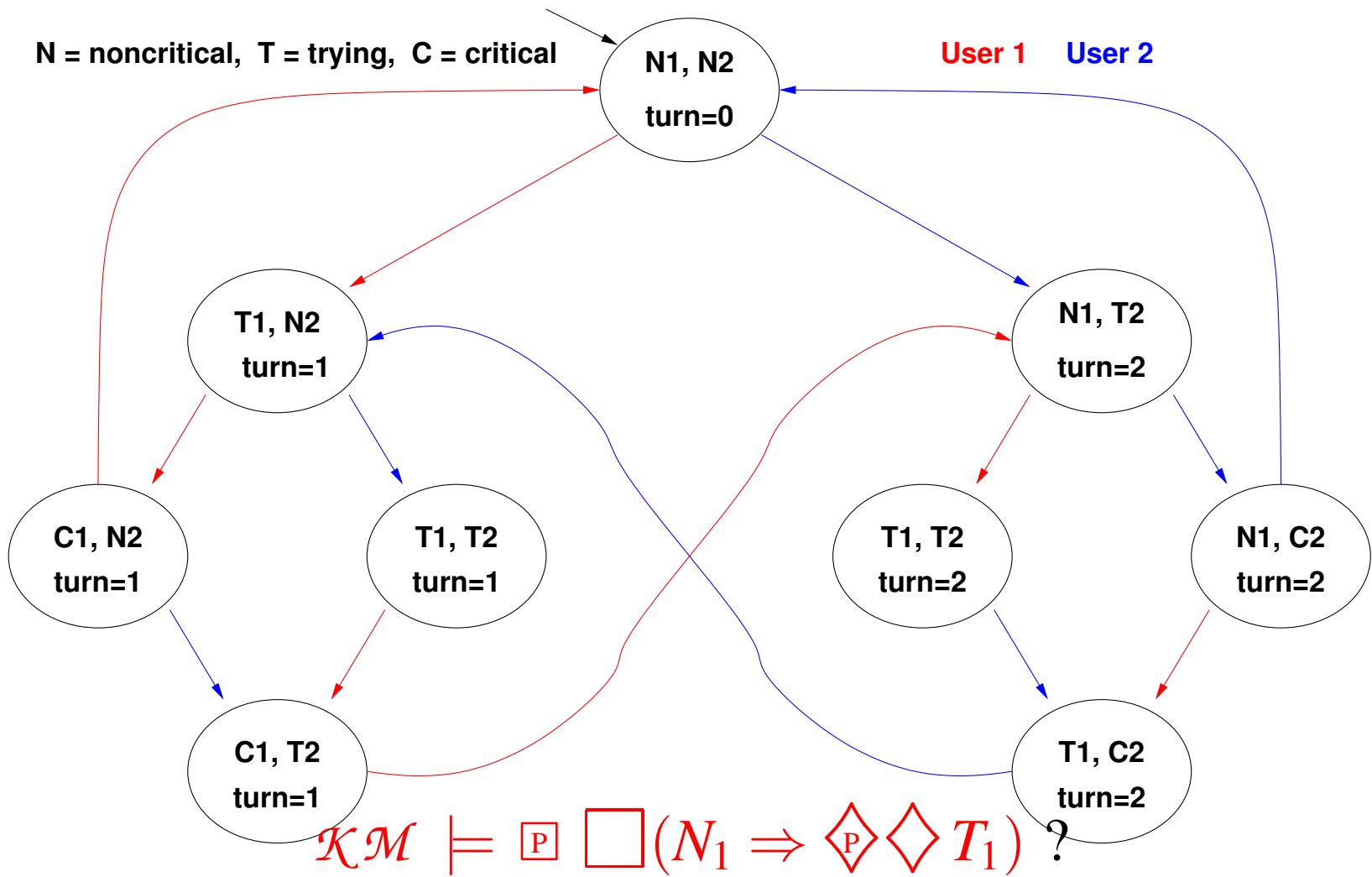
# Example 3: Fairness



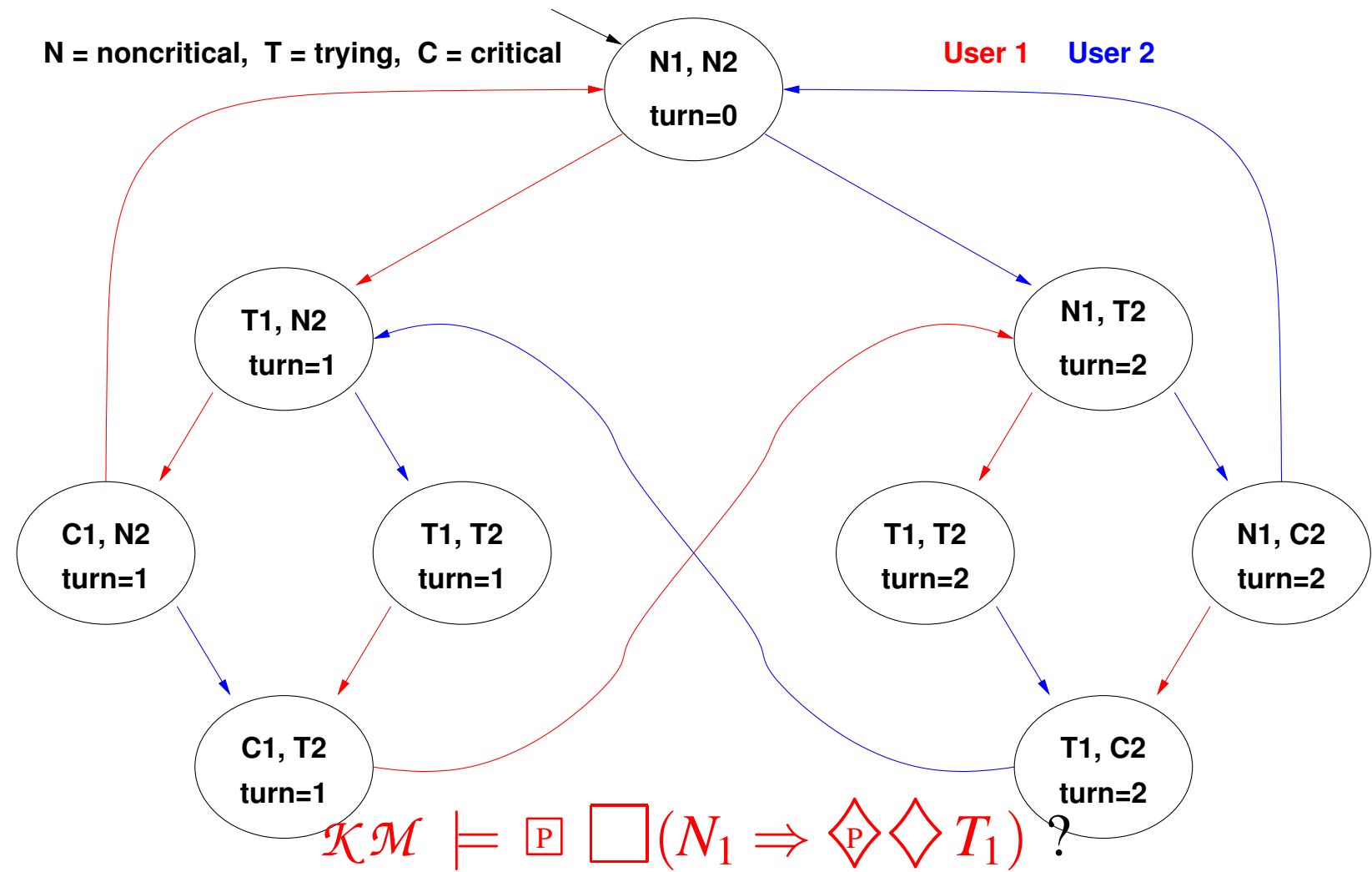
$$\mathcal{KM} \models \square \square \square \diamond C_1 ?$$

**NO:** e.g., in the initial state, there is the blue cyclic path in which  $C_1$  never holds! (Same as  $\square \diamond C_1$  in LTL)

# Example 4: Non-Blocking



# Example 4: Non-Blocking



**YES:** from each state where  $N_1$  holds there is a path leading to a state where  $T_1$  holds. (No corresponding LTL formulas)

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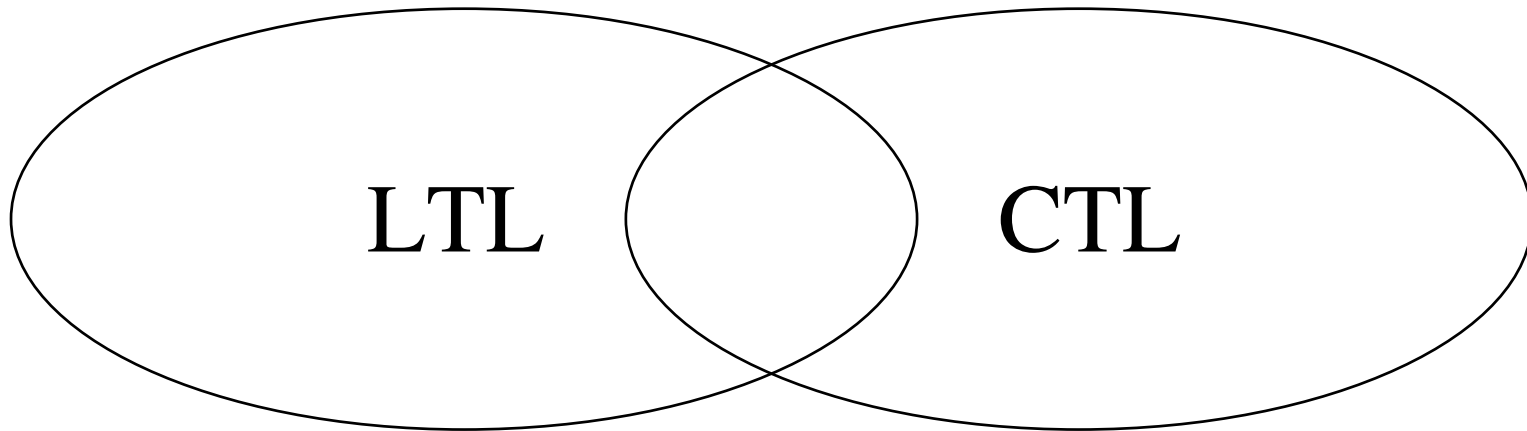
# LTL Vs. CTL: Expressiveness

- Many CTL formulas cannot be expressed in LTL (e.g., those containing paths quantified existentially)  
E.g.,  $\exists \square (N_1 \Rightarrow \exists \diamond \diamond T_1)$
- Many LTL formulas cannot be expressed in CTL  
E.g.,  $\square \diamond T_1 \Rightarrow \square \diamond C_1$  (Strong Fairness in LTL)  
i.e, formulas that select a *range* of paths with a property  
( $\diamond p \Rightarrow \diamond q$  Vs.  $\exists \square (p \Rightarrow \exists \diamond q)$ )
- Some formulas can be expressed both in LTL and in CTL (typically LTL formulas with operators of nesting depth 1)  
E.g.,  $\square \neg (C_1 \wedge C_2)$ ,  $\diamond C_1$ ,  $\square (T_1 \Rightarrow \diamond C_1)$ ,  $\square \diamond C_1$

# LTL Vs. CTL: Expressiveness (Cont.)

CTL and LTL have incomparable expressive power.

The choice between LTL and CTL depends on the application and the personal preferences.





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# The Computation Tree Logic CTL\*

- CTL\* is a logic that combines the expressive power of LTL and CTL.
- Temporal operators can be applied without any constraints.
- $\Box (\bigcirc \varphi \vee \bigcirc \bigcirc \varphi)$ .  
Along all paths,  $\varphi$  is true in the next state or the next two steps.
- $\blacklozenge (\Box \blacklozenge \varphi)$ .  
There is a path along which  $\varphi$  is infinitely often true.

# CTL\*: Syntax

Countable set  $\Sigma$  of atomic propositions:  $p, q, \dots$  we distinguish between *States Formulas* (evaluated on states):

$$\varphi, \psi \rightarrow p \mid \top \mid \perp \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \psi \mid \varphi \vee \psi \mid \\ \boxed{P} \alpha \mid \blacklozenge P \alpha$$

and *Path Formulas* (evaluated on paths):

$$\alpha, \beta \rightarrow \varphi \mid \\ \neg\alpha \mid \alpha \wedge \beta \mid \alpha \vee \beta \mid \\ \bigcirc \alpha \mid \square \alpha \mid \blacklozenge \alpha \mid (\alpha \text{ u } \beta)$$

The set of CTL\* formulas FORM is the set of state formulas.

# CTL\* Semantics: State Formulas

We start by defining when an atomic proposition is true at a state “ $s_0$ ”

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models p \quad \mathbf{iff} \quad p \in L(s_0) \quad (\text{for } p \in \Sigma)$$

The semantics for *State Formulas* is the following where  $\pi = (s_0, s_1, \dots)$  is a generic path outgoing from state  $s_0$ :

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \neg\varphi \quad \mathbf{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, s_0 \not\models \varphi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \varphi \wedge \psi \quad \mathbf{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \varphi \text{ and } \mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \psi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \varphi \vee \psi \quad \mathbf{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \varphi \text{ or } \mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \psi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \Diamond \alpha \quad \mathbf{iff} \quad \exists \pi = (s_0, s_1, \dots) \text{ such that } \mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \alpha$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \Box \alpha \quad \mathbf{iff} \quad \forall \pi = (s_0, s_1, \dots) \text{ then } \mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \alpha$$

# CTL\* Semantics: Path Formulas

The semantics for *Path Formulas* is the following where  $\pi = (s_0, s_1, \dots)$  is a generic path outgoing from state  $s_0$  and  $\pi^i$  denotes the suffix path  $(s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots)$ :

$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, s_0 \models \varphi$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \neg\alpha \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, \pi \not\models \alpha$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \alpha \wedge \beta \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \alpha \text{ and } \mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \beta$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \alpha \vee \beta \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \alpha \text{ or } \mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \beta$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \diamond\alpha \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists i \geq 0 \text{ such that } \mathcal{KM}, \pi^i \models \alpha$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \square\alpha \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall i \geq 0 \text{ then } \mathcal{KM}, \pi^i \models \alpha$$

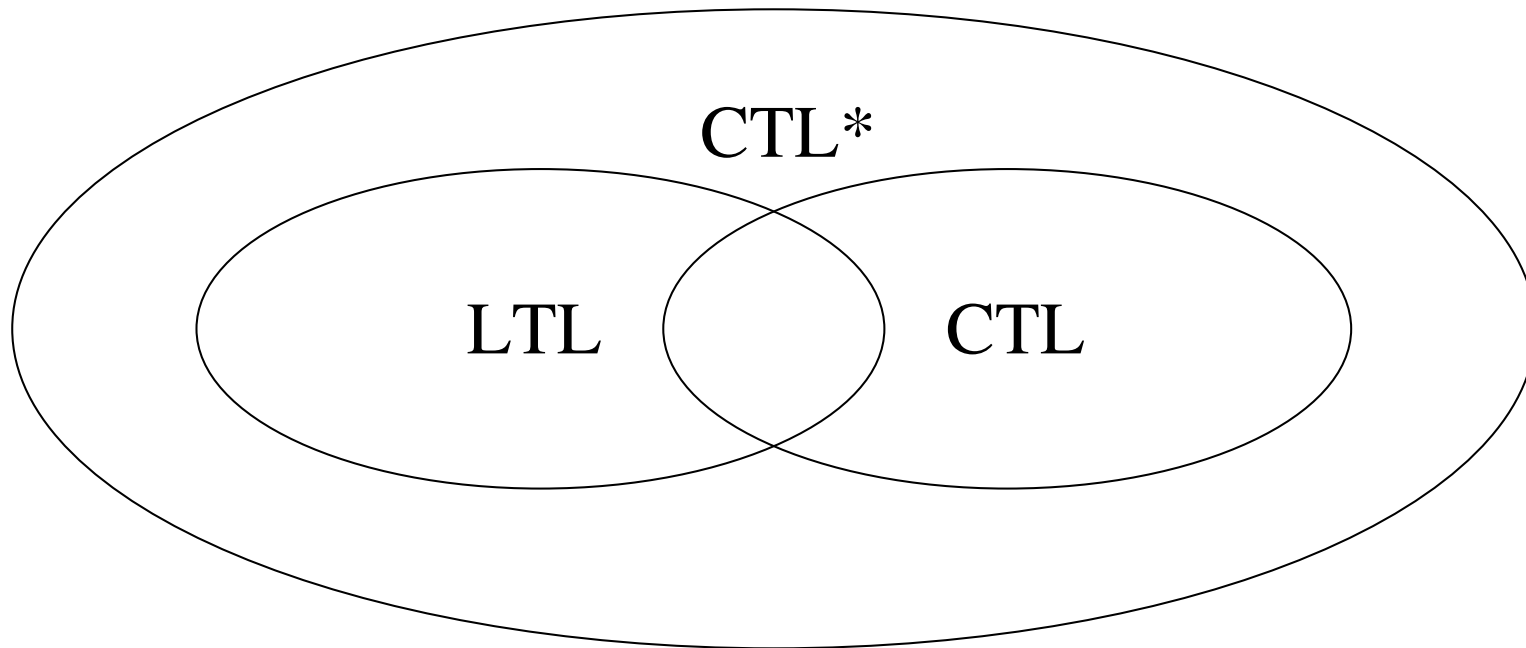
$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \bigcirc\alpha \quad \text{iff} \quad \mathcal{KM}, \pi^1 \models \alpha$$

$$\mathcal{KM}, \pi \models \alpha \text{ U } \beta \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists i \geq 0 \text{ such that } \mathcal{KM}, \pi^i \models \beta \text{ and } \forall j. (0 \leq j \leq i) \text{ then } \mathcal{KM}, \pi^j \models \alpha$$

# CTLs Vs LTL Vs CTL: Expressiveness

CTL\* subsumes both CTL and LTL

- >  $\varphi$  in CTL  $\implies$   $\varphi$  in CTL\* (e.g.,  $\Box (N_1 \implies \Diamond \Diamond T_1)$ )
- >  $\varphi$  in LTL  $\implies$   $\Box \varphi$  in CTL\* (e.g.,  $\Box (\Box \Diamond T_1 \implies \Box \Diamond C_1)$ )
- >  $LTL \cup CTL \subset CTL^*$  (e.g.,  $\Diamond (\Box \Diamond p \implies \Box \Diamond q)$ )



# CTL\* Vs LTL Vs CTL: Complexity

The following Table shows the Computational Complexity of checking *Satisfiability*

| <b>Logic</b> | <b>Complexity</b> |
|--------------|-------------------|
| LTL          | PSpace-Complete   |
| CTL          | ExpTime-Complete  |
| CTL*         | 2ExpTime-Complete |

# CTL\* Vs LTL Vs CTL: Complexity (Cont.)

The following Table shows the Computational Complexity of *Model Checking* (M.C.)

- Since M.C. has 2 inputs – the model,  $\mathcal{M}$ , and the formula,  $\varphi$  – we give two complexity measures.

| <b>Logic</b> | <b>Complexity w.r.t. <math> \varphi </math></b> | <b>Complexity w.r.t. <math> \mathcal{M} </math></b> |
|--------------|---|---|
| LTL          | PSpace-Complete                                 | P (linear)  |
| CTL          | P-Complete                                      | P (linear)  |
| CTL*         | PSpace-Complete                                 | P (linear)  |



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