



# Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings for Quantifiers

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August 12, 2022  
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**CENTUR**

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Theory of Hybrid Systems Informatik 2

**RWTHAACHEN**  
UNIVERSITY



# Disclaimer & Acknowledgements



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Familiar with Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings?  
This works just as you would expect.



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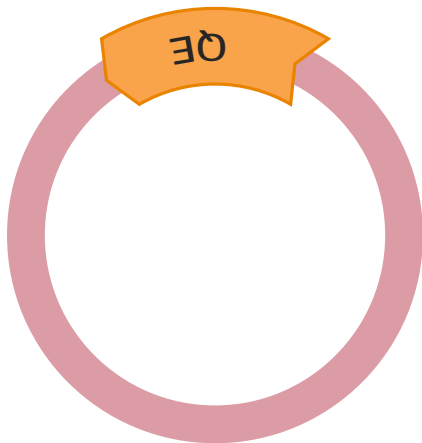
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Thanks to Dagstuhl Seminar 22072

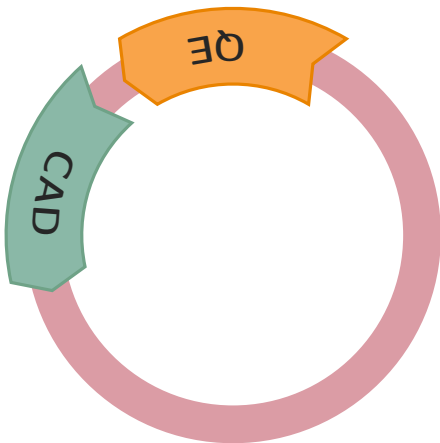


# The Circle of Life – NRA edition



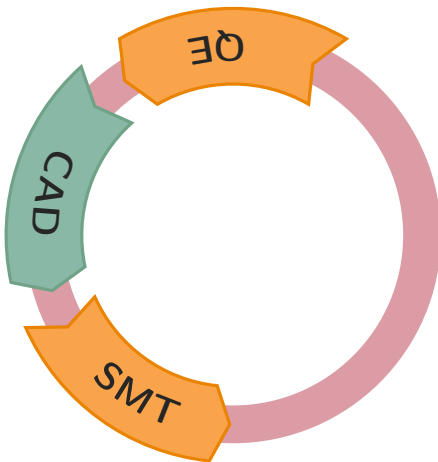


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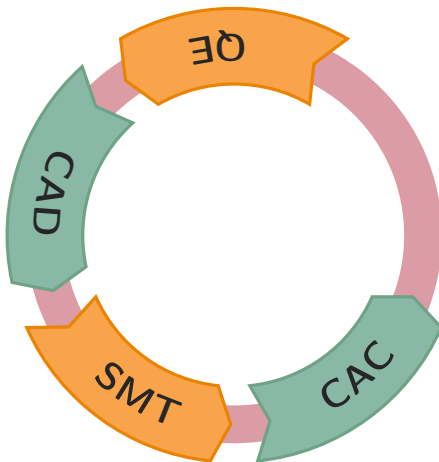
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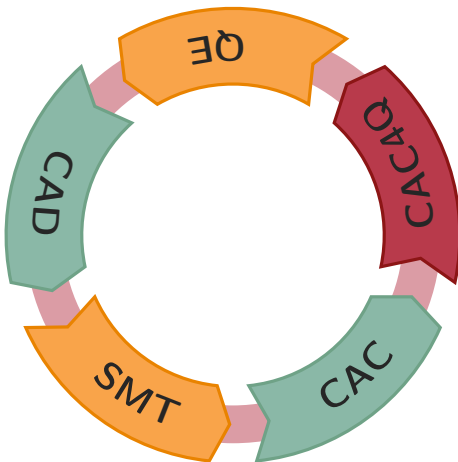


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# Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings

- ▶ **Guess** partial assignment

$$s_1 \times \cdots \times s_k \times s_{k+1}$$



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$$s \notin s_1 \times \cdots \times s_k \times (a, b)$$



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$$s \notin s_1 \times \cdots \times s_k \times (a, b)$$

- ▶ **Lift covering** to lower dimension

$$s_1 \times \cdots \times s_k \times \{(-\infty, a), [a, b], \dots (z, \infty)\} \rightarrow s_1 \times \cdots \times s_{k-1} \times (\alpha, \beta)$$



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- ▶ Eventually get **satisfying assignment** or a **covering in first dimension**

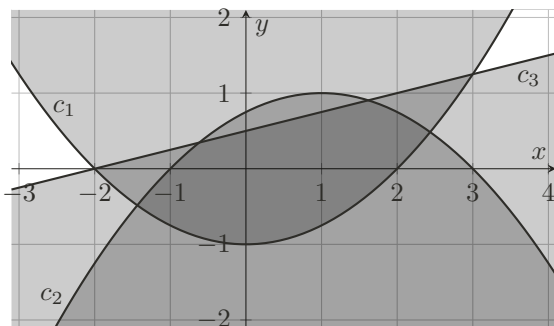
$$s = s_1 \times \cdots \times s_n \quad \text{OR} \quad s_1 \notin \{(-\infty, a), [a, b], \dots (z, \infty)\}$$

[Ábrahám et al. 2021] [Kremer et al. 2021]



## Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings – example

$$c_1 : 4 \cdot y < x^2 - 4 \quad c_2 : 4 \cdot y > 4 - (x - 1)^2 \quad c_3 : 4 \cdot y > x + 2$$

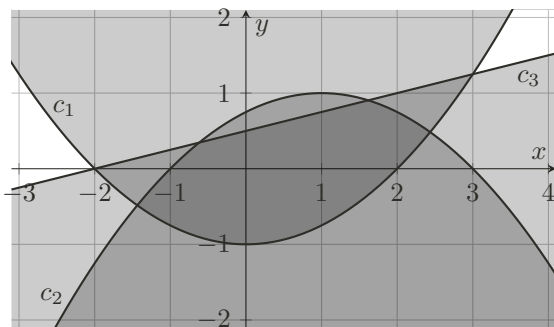




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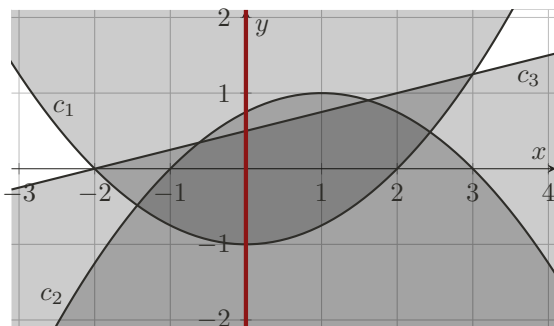






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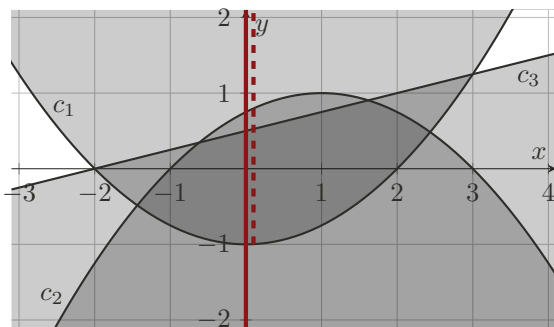


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Guess  $x \mapsto 0$



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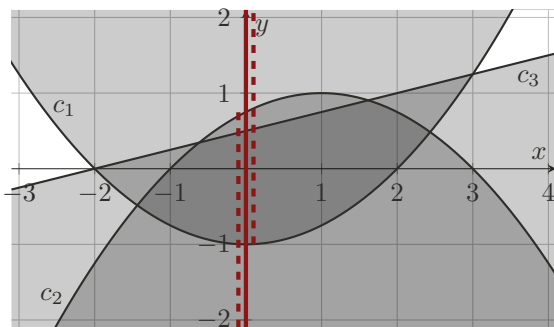
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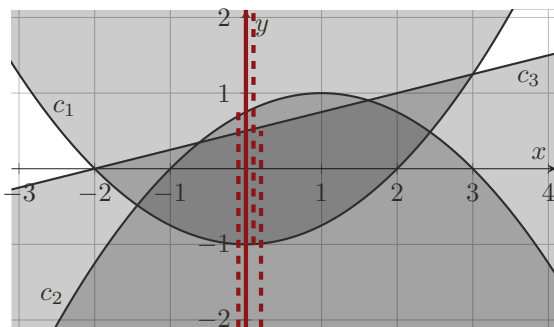
$$c_1 \rightarrow y \notin (-1, \infty)$$

$$c_2 \rightarrow y \notin (-\infty, 0.75)$$



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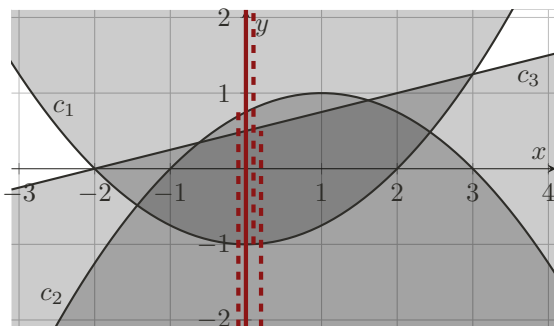
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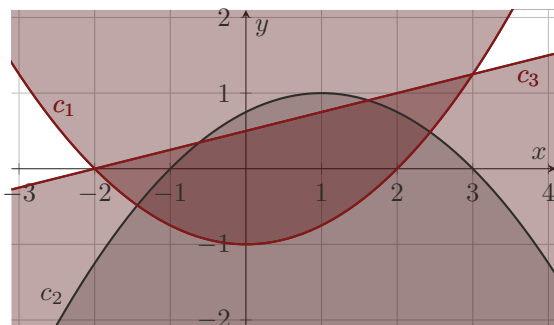
Construct covering

$$(-\infty, 0.5), (-1, \infty)$$



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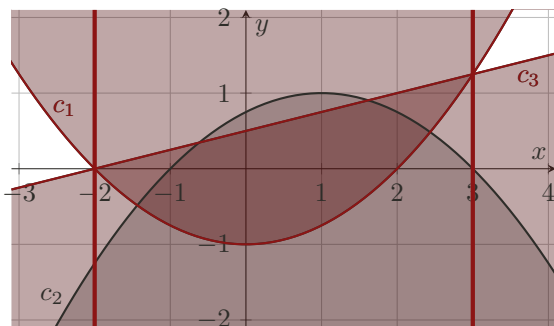
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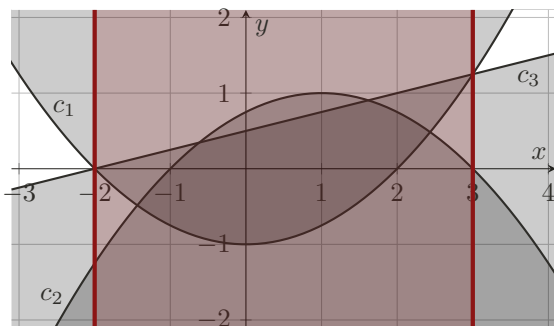
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$$x \notin (-2, 3)$$



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Construct covering

$$(-\infty, 0.5), (-1, \infty)$$

Construct interval for  $x$

$$x \notin (-2, 3)$$

New guess for  $x$





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We want to characterize both true and false regions of quantified formulae.



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Instead of a model return **satisfying interval with suitable characterization.**



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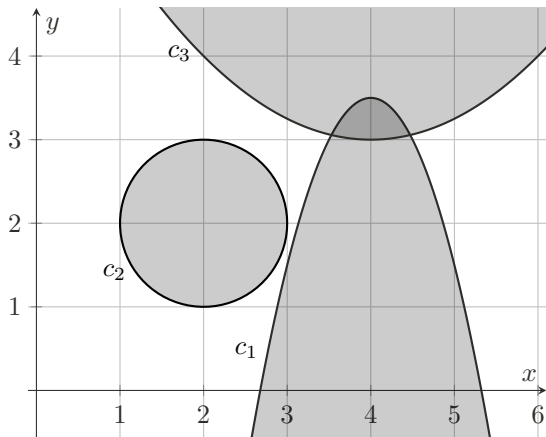
Challenges:

- ▶ Boolean structure?  
→ consider constraints of (suitable) implicants
- ▶ Model construction?  
→ reconstruct from characterization of true region.
- ▶ Interval in dimension zero?  
→ just a technicality, use  $\top, \perp$
- ▶ Termination guarantees?  
→ still the same



## Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings for Quantifiers

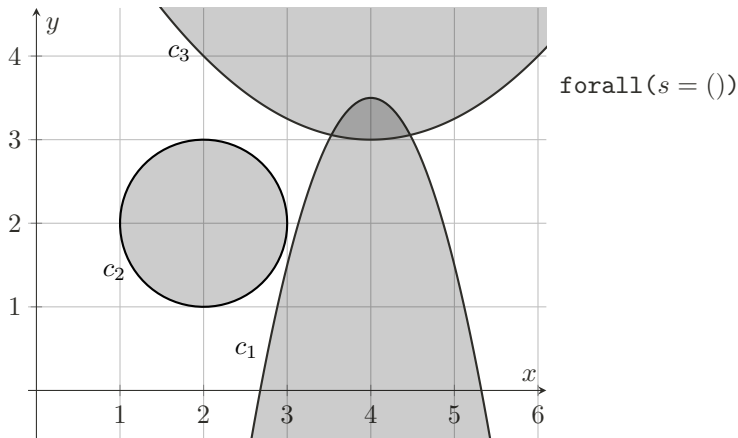
$$\forall x. \exists y. \quad y > 3.5 - 2(x-4)^2 \quad (x-2)^2 + (y-2)^2 - 1 > 0 \quad y < 3 + 0.25(x-4)^2$$





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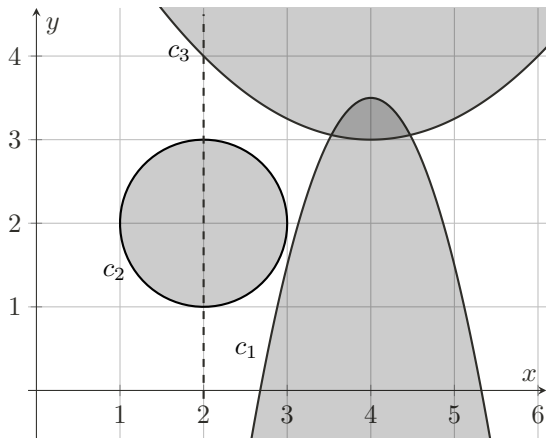
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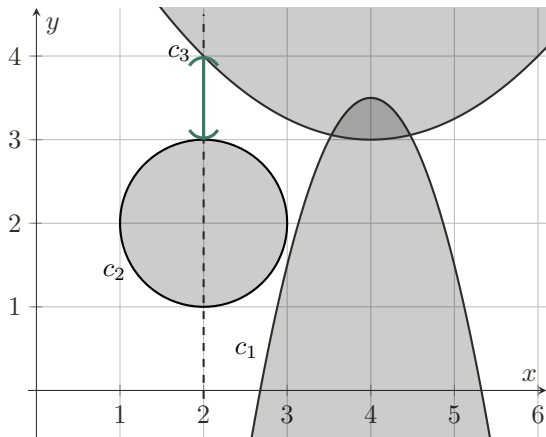


forall( $s = ()$ )  
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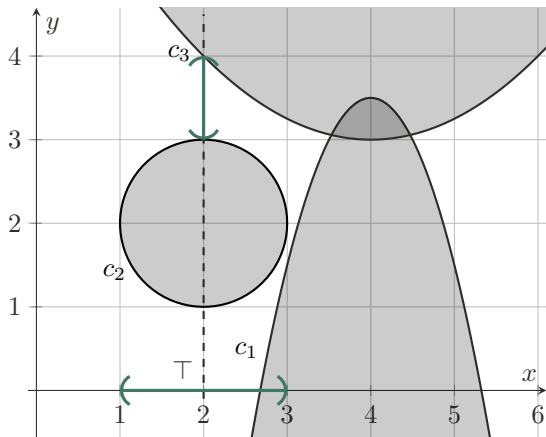


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forall(s = ())  
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SAT @ s = (2, 3.5)
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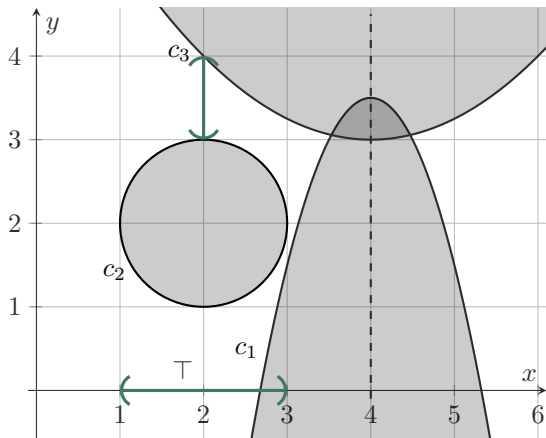
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forall(s = ())  
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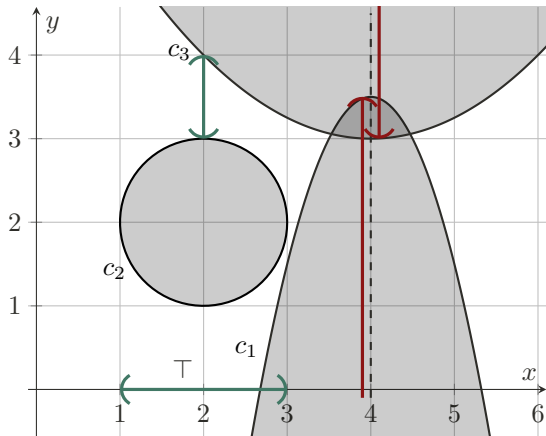


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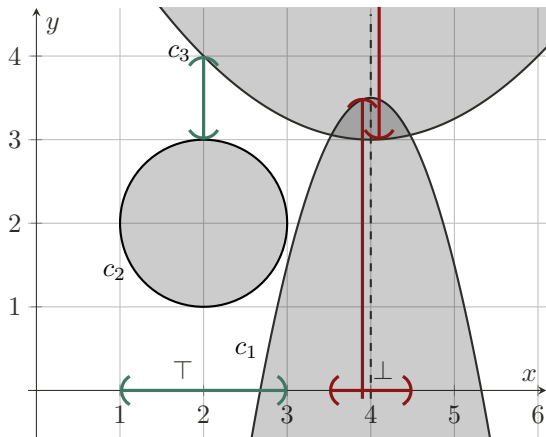


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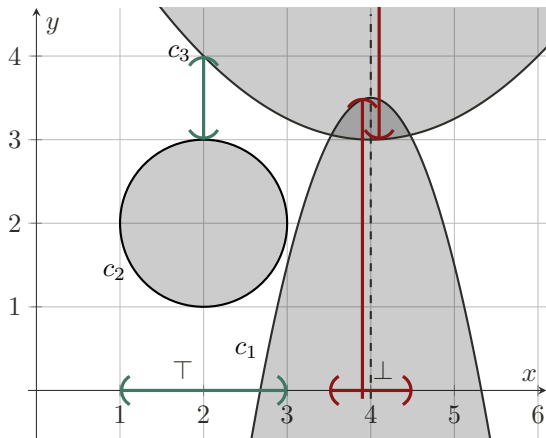


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UNSAT
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# Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings for QE

- ▶ Consider **free variables** first
- ▶ Use **previous approach** for bounded variables
- ▶ Collect **all SAT regions** for free variables
- ▶ Use **solution formula construction** from [Brown 1999]
- ▶ Return disjunction of all SAT regions



## Conclusion

- ▶ Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings can be adapted to quantifiers and QE
- ▶ It mostly works as you would think it does
- ▶ A number of subtle challenges
- ▶ Provides for a few nice generalizations
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Thank you for your attention!  
Any questions?



# References

- ▶ Erika Ábrahám, James H. Davenport, Matthew England, and Gereon Kremer. “Deciding the Consistency of Non-Linear Real Arithmetic Constraints with a Conflict Driven Search Using Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings”. In: *Journal of Logical and Algebraic Methods in Programming* 119 (2021), p. 100633. DOI: [10.1016/j.jlamp.2020.100633](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jlamp.2020.100633).
- ▶ Christopher W. Brown. “Solution Formula Construction for Truth Invariant CADs”. PhD thesis. University of Delaware, 1999. URL: <https://www.usna.edu/Users/cs/wcbrown/research/Thesis.html>.
- ▶ Gereon Kremer, Erika Ábrahám, Matthew England, and James H. Davenport. “On the Implementation of Cylindrical Algebraic Coverings for Satisfiability Modulo Theories Solving”. In: *SYNASC*. 2021. DOI: [10.1109/SYNASC54541.2021.00018](https://doi.org/10.1109/SYNASC54541.2021.00018).