

# CoasterX: A Case Study in Component-Driven Hybrid Systems Proof Automation

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# Roller Coasters are Safety-Critical Systems



Top Thrill



Steel Phantom



Mindbender



Joker's Jinx

Rollback



Phantom's Revenge

Head Injury



Fujin Raijin II

Derailment

[BLCP18]

# Formal Proofs in $d\mathcal{L}$ Ensure Safe Designs



Top Thrill

Rollback



Steel Phantom

**Head Injury**



$\text{Pre} \rightarrow [\textit{phys}]\text{Post}$



Mindbender

Derailment

[BLCP18]

*Identify:*

- Notion of safety *Post* ( $acc < acc_{hi}$ )

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$Pre \rightarrow [phys]Post$

*Identify:*

- Notion of safety  $Post$  ( $acc < acc_{hi}$ )
- Safe conditions  $Pre$  ( $v = v_0$ )

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$\Downarrow$   
 $Pre \rightarrow [phys]Post$

*Identify:*

- Notion of safety  $Post$  ( $acc < acc_{hi}$ )
- Safe conditions  $Pre$  ( $v = v_0$ )

*Verify physical plant* ( $\{x' = \dots, y' = \dots\}$ )

# Design Verification Supplements Simulation

Simulations typically used today [[XXLY12](#), [Wei15](#)]

Approach	Pro	Con
Simulate	Rich dynamics, easy	Low rigor+precision
Verify	High rigor+precision	Simple dynamics, <b>hard</b>

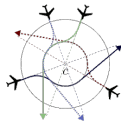
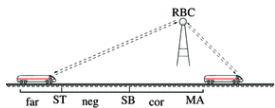


# Verifying Physical Designs is a Challenge

- How do we verify models at scale?
- How do we make verification accessible to non-experts?

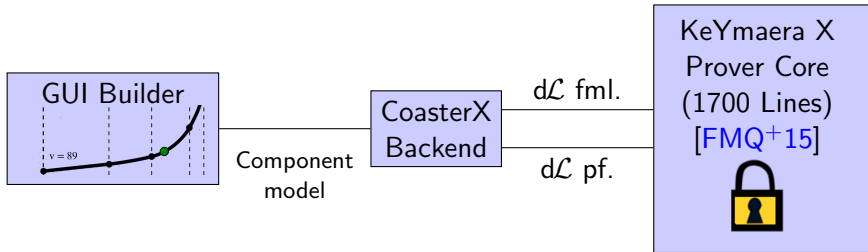


# Verifying Plant Designs is Important



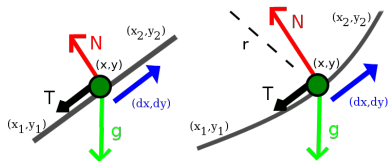


# Component-Driven Proof Automation Enables Design Verification



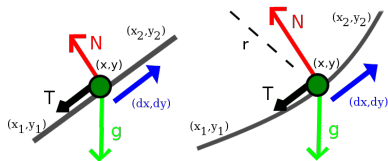
Goal	Solution
Accessible	High-level graphical modeling
Rigorous	Formal proof checked by small prover core
Scalable	Proof scales by exploiting component structure

# Track Sections are Components for Coasters

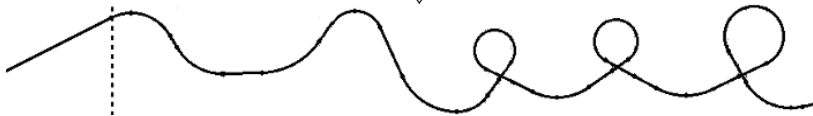


Generic Component

# Track Sections are Components for Coasters

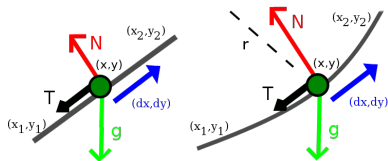


Generic Component



Automatic Composition

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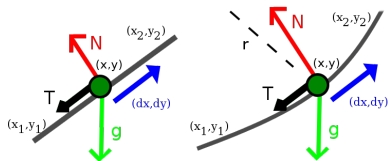


Generic Component

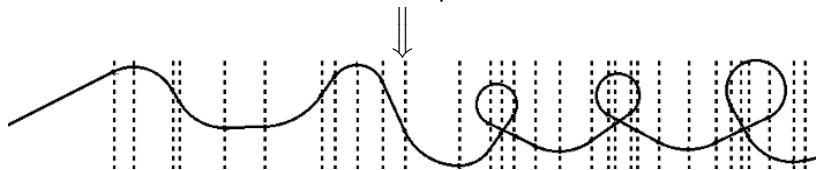


Automatic Composition

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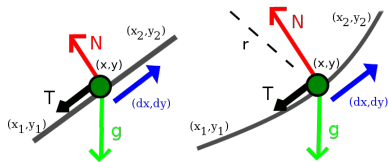


Generic Component



Automatic Composition

# Track Sections are Components for Coasters



Generic Component



Automatic Composition

## Background: d $\mathcal{L}$ Formulas

$P, Q ::= P \wedge Q \mid \neg P \mid \forall xP \mid \theta_1 \geq \theta_2 \mid [\alpha]P$

**Example:** Pre  $\rightarrow$  [*plant*]Post

Construct	Meaning
$P \wedge Q, \neg P, \forall xP$	First-order Logic
$\theta_1 \geq \theta_2$	Real arithmetic comparisons
$[\alpha]P$	Safety: After $\alpha$ runs, $P$ always holds

## Background: Hybrid Programs

$\alpha, \beta ::= \dots \mid \{x' = \theta \ \& \ P\} \mid \alpha \cup \beta \mid \alpha^*$

Construct	Meaning
$\{x' = \theta \ \& \ P\}$	Evolve $x$ at continuous rate $\theta$ <i>Evolution domain constraint</i> $P$ asserted continuously
$\alpha \cup \beta$	Choose either $\alpha$ or $\beta$ nondeterministically
$\alpha^*$	Loop $\alpha$ nondeterministically $n \geq 0$ times



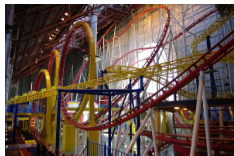
# Velocity and Acceleration Bounds are Fundamental



Rollback  
 $0 < v_{lo} \leq v$



Head Injury  
 $|a| \leq a_{hi}$



Derailment  
 $|a| \leq a_{hi}$

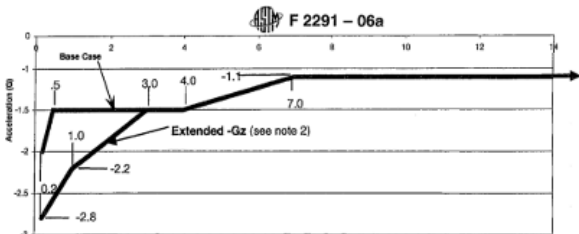
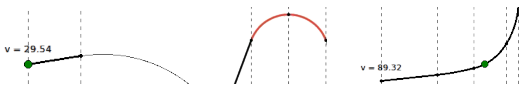


FIG. 9 Time Duration Limits for -Gz (Eyes Up)

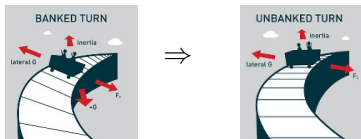
[AST17]

## Tracks are 2D

- 2D modeling greatly simplifies GUI



- Vertical and horizontal bounds only (no lateral bound)
- Ignores *banking*, *wind*, *roll resistance* (1-2%)



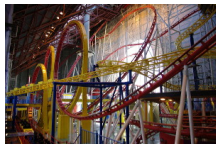
# Conservative Bound Suffices for Phantom



Top Thrill



Steel Phantom



Mindbender



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Phantom's Revenge



Fujin Raijin II

Rollback



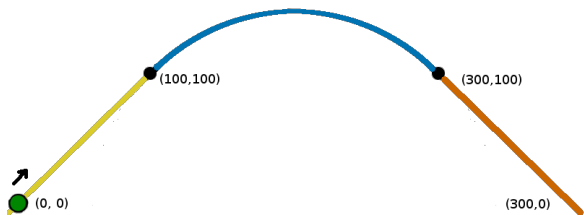
Head Injury



Derailment

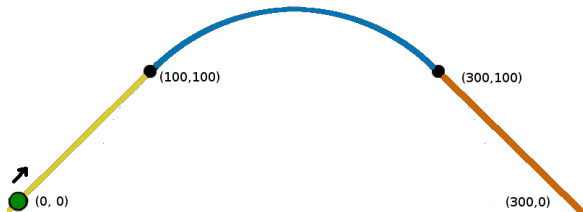


## Example



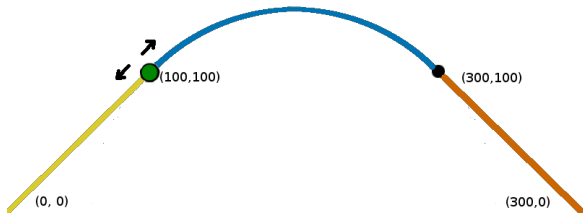
$$\begin{aligned} \text{plant} \equiv & \{ \{ \mathbf{x}' = \sqrt{2}/2 \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{y}' = \sqrt{2}/2 \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}' = -\sqrt{2}/2 \mathbf{g} \ \& \ 0 \leq x \leq 100 \} \\ & \cup \{ \mathbf{x}' = dx \ \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{y}' = dy, \mathbf{v}' = -dy \ \mathbf{g}, dx' = -dy \ \mathbf{v}/100\sqrt{2}, \\ & \quad dy' = dx \ \mathbf{v}/100\sqrt{2} \ \& \ 100 \leq x \leq 200 \} \\ & \cup \{ \mathbf{x}' = \sqrt{2}/2 \ \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{y}' = -\sqrt{2}/2 \ \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}' = \sqrt{2}/2 \ \mathbf{g} \ \& \ 200 \leq x \leq 300 \} \}^* \end{aligned}$$

## Example



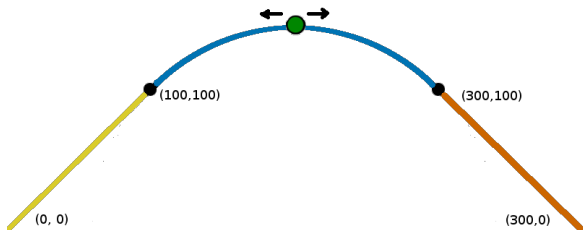
$$\begin{aligned} \text{plant} &\equiv \{ \{ \text{Line}(\dots) \ \& \ 0 \leq x \leq 100 \} \\ &\cup \{ \text{Arc}(\dots) \ \& \ 100 \leq x \leq 200 \} \\ &\cup \{ \text{Line}(\dots) \ \& \ 200 \leq x \leq 300 \} \}^* \end{aligned}$$

## Example



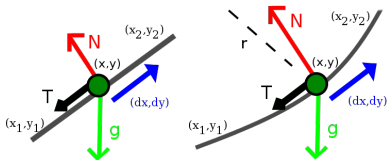
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# Individual Components are Modeled as ODEs



## Arc Segment:

$$\text{Arc} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x' = v \cdot dx, y' = v \cdot dy, v' = -dy \cdot g, \\ dx' = -dy \cdot v/r, dy' = dx \cdot v/r \\ \& \text{InBounds}(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)\}$$



# Concrete Parameters are Plugged in From GUI

## Line Segment:

$$\text{Line} \stackrel{\text{def}}{\equiv} \{x' = v \cdot dx, y' = v \cdot dy, v' = -dy \cdot g \\ \& \text{InBounds}(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)\}$$

$\Downarrow$ Subst

$$\text{Line}(1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\text{def}}{\equiv} \{x' = v \cdot 1, y' = v \cdot 0, v' = -0 \cdot g \\ \& \text{InBounds}(0, 100, 200, 200)\}$$

# Composition is Modeled with Discrete Programs

Let track sections  $sec_i$  be component instances:

$$sec_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{\equiv} \text{Line}(args_i) \text{ or } \text{Arc}(args_i)$$

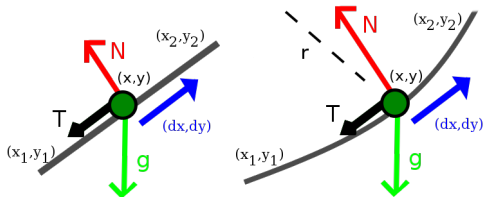
and system model  $\alpha$ :

$$\text{plant} \stackrel{\text{def}}{\equiv} (sec_1 \cup \dots \cup sec_n)^*$$

# Components Verified with Invariants and Solving

- Straight line is solvable, thus decidable.
- Arc needs invariant (energy conservation), proved manually:

$$E = E_0 \wedge \text{OnTrack} \rightarrow [\text{Arc}] (E = E_0 \wedge \text{OnTrack})$$



## Instantiation is Verified by Substitution

- Conceptually simple step
- Greatly improves performance (20x in some cases)

$$\text{Line} \stackrel{\text{def}}{\equiv} \{x' = v \cdot dx, y' = v \cdot dy, v' = -dy \cdot g \\ \& \text{InBounds}(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)\}$$

$\Downarrow_{\text{Subst}}$

$$\text{Line}(1, 0, \dots) \stackrel{\text{def}}{\equiv} \{x' = v \cdot 1, y' = v \cdot 0, v' = -0 \cdot g \\ \& \text{InBounds}(0, 100, 200, 200)\}$$

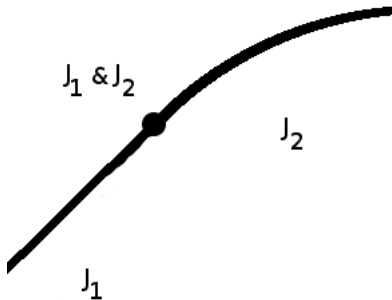
## Composition is Verified by Contract-Checking

- At boundary, invariants for both sections hold
- Checked with arithmetic solving + custom automation

**Example:**

$$J_1 \equiv (x = y)$$

$$J_2 \equiv (y^2 + (x - 200)^2 = 100^2)$$



# Analysis Distinguished 6 Safe/Unsafe Real Coasters



Top Thrill



Steel Phantom (**6.5g**)



Backyard



El Toro



Phantom's Revenge (**3.5g**)



Lil' Phantom

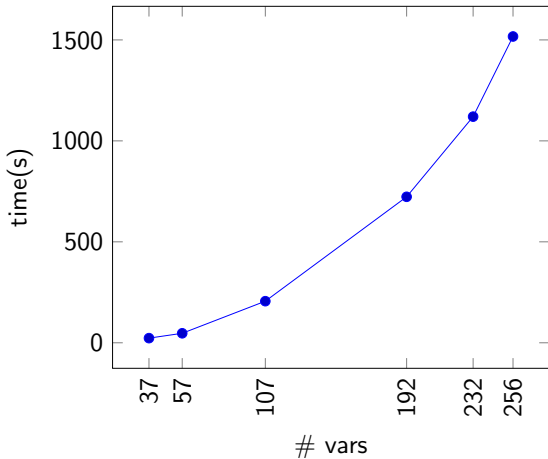
## This is the Largest $d\mathcal{L}$ Model Ever

### Stats:

	CoasterX Max		Previous Max (Est.)
Components	56	>	3
Fml size	52KB	>	6.5KB
Proof Steps	20M (29K w/ reuse)	>	100K

# Scalability is Quadratic

Runtime vs. Problem Size



(on a recent workstation)



## Component Verification Cost Sometimes Matters

Component	Time	# Steps
Line	<b>140s</b>	<b>900K</b>
Arc	$\approx 4.5s$	$\approx 12.5K$

Automatic proof (Line) vastly slower than manual proof (Arcs)

# Future Work

# Advanced Dynamical Models Answer Deeper Questions



Acceleration

$$|a| \leq a_{hi}$$



Rollback

$$0 < v_{lo} \leq v$$



Stuck

$$0 < v_{lo} \leq v$$

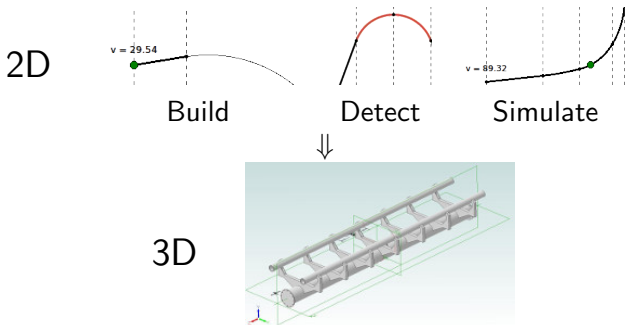


Friction



Wind

## Advanced 3D Design



3D Modeling support enables lateral bounds and banking support

# Rich Contracts Enable High-Impact Domains

- Transit networks: Contracts at intersections/switches
- Flight plans: Contracts at crossing points



Rail



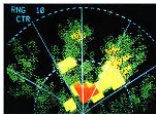
Road



UAV

# Coasters Support Pedagogical Mission

- 15-424 CPS Foundations: Fun applications motivate students
- Course feeds into undergraduate research
- Initial stages were Adriel + Xuean's 15-424 course project



GPWS



Chute



Pong



Coaster



Chess



Baseball

## Questions?



Top Thrill



Steel Phantom



Backyard



El Toro







Phantom's Revenge



Lil' Phantom

## References I

-  ASTM, *Standard Practice for Design of Amusement Rides and Devices*, Standard, ASTM Intl., Sep 2017.
-  Brandon Bohrer, Adriel Luo, Xuean Chuang, and André Platzer, *CoasterX: A case study in component-driven hybrid systems proof automation*, IFAC, 2018.
-  Nathan Fulton, Stefan Mitsch, Jan-David Quesel, Marcus Völp, and André Platzer, *KeYmaera X: An axiomatic tactical theorem prover for hybrid systems*, CADE (Berlin) (Amy Felty and Aart Middeldorp, eds.), LNCS, vol. 9195, Springer, 2015, pp. 527–538.
-  Nick Weisenberger, *Coasters 101: An engineer's guide to roller coaster design*, 2015.



## References II



Gening Xu, Hujun Xin, Fengyi Lu, and Mingliang Yang, *Kinematics and dynamics simulation research for roller coaster multi-body system*, Advanced Materials Research, vol. 421, Trans Tech Publications, 2012, pp. 276–280.