

Imperial College  
London

**Assuring the Limits**  
in self-adaptable systems

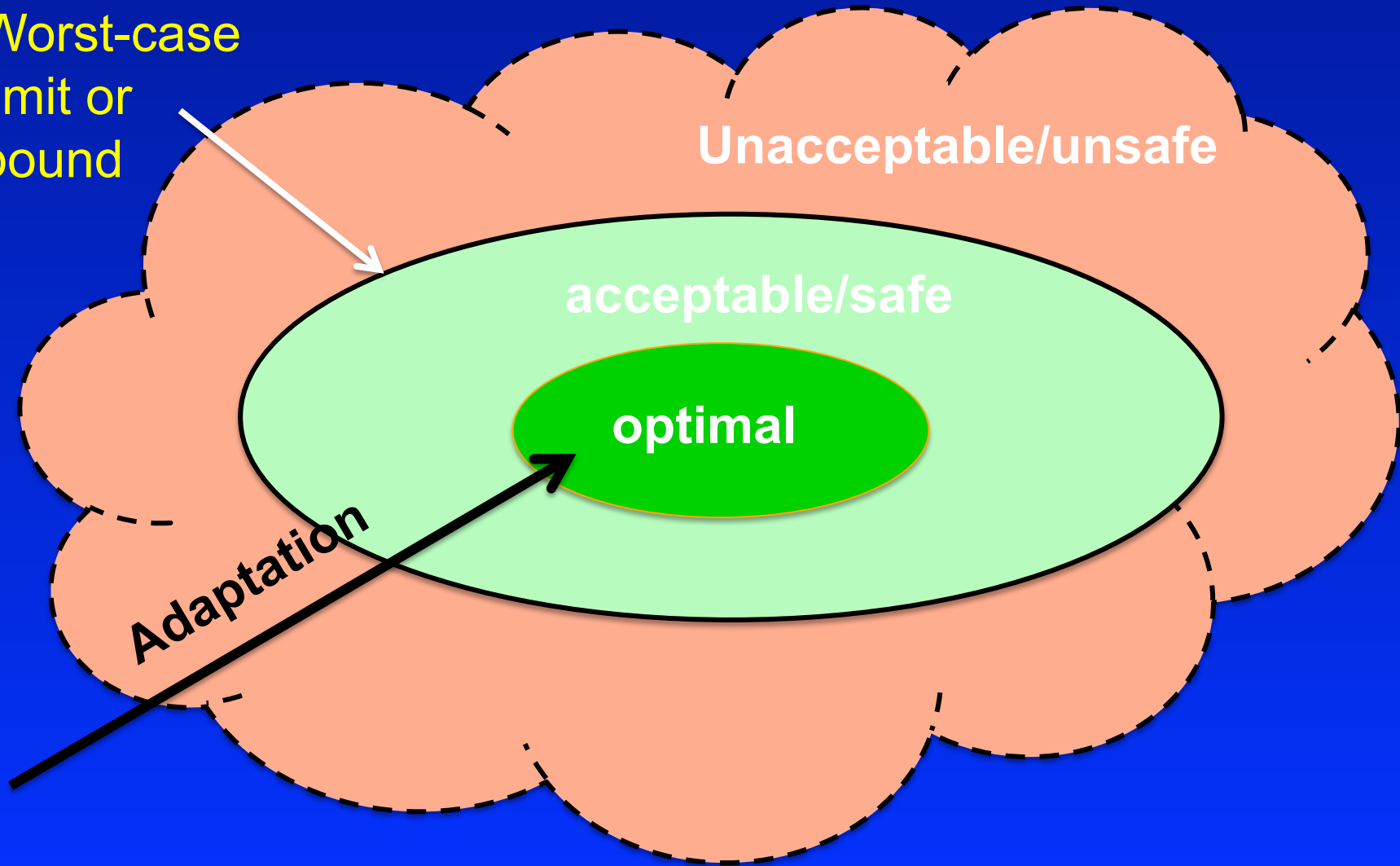
Jeff Magee

*SEAMS 2011*

# in general

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Worst-case  
limit or  
bound

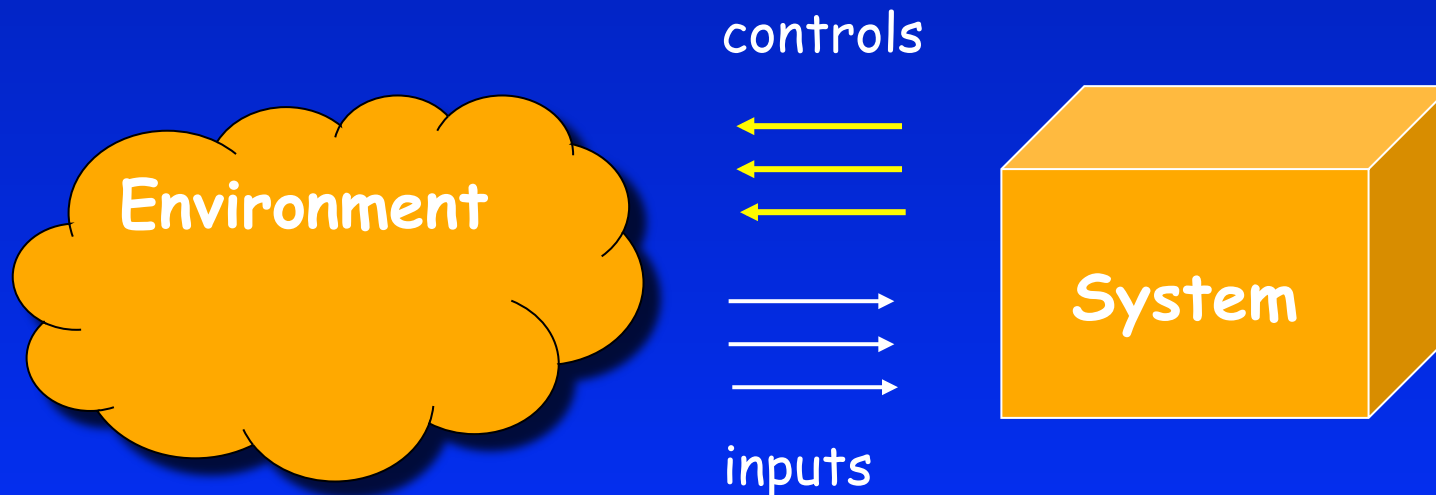


# an example

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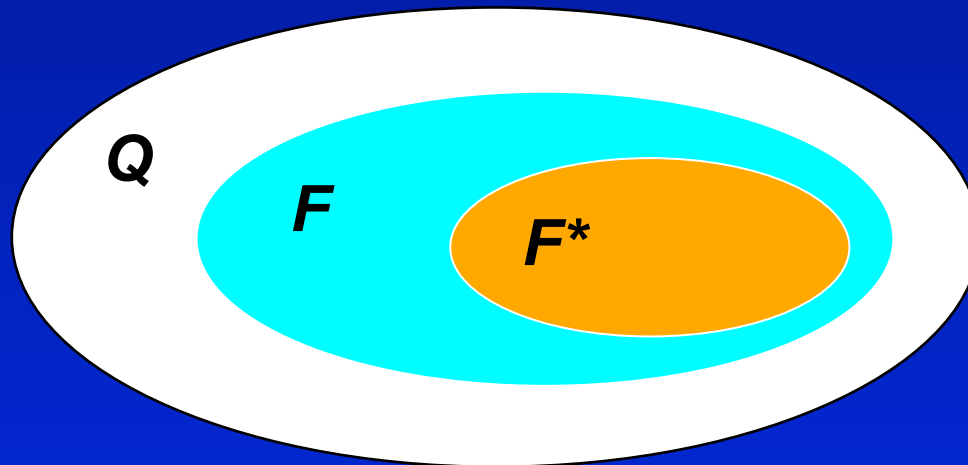
## Plan Synthesis

Consider plan as a winning strategy in an infinite two player game between the environment and the system such that goal  $G$  is always satisfied no matter what order of inputs from environment.



# plan synthesis\*

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*safety  
game*

$Q$  = set of states

$F$  = set of accepting states ( $G$  holds)

$F^*$  = set of winning states found iteratively  
such that transition out of  $F^*$  is via a  
controlled action.

\* *Symbolic Controller Synthesis...*, Asarin, Maler, Pnueli, 1989

# liveness

$$\left( \bigwedge_{i=1}^k \square S_i \right) \wedge \left( \bigwedge_{j=1}^m \square \diamond J_j^2 \rightarrow \bigwedge_{l=1}^n \square \diamond J_l^1 \right)$$

No Safety  
Violations!

Using Safety Game algorithm

$$\left( \bigwedge_{j=1}^m \square \diamond J_j^2 \rightarrow \bigwedge_{l=1}^n \square \diamond J_l^1 \right)$$

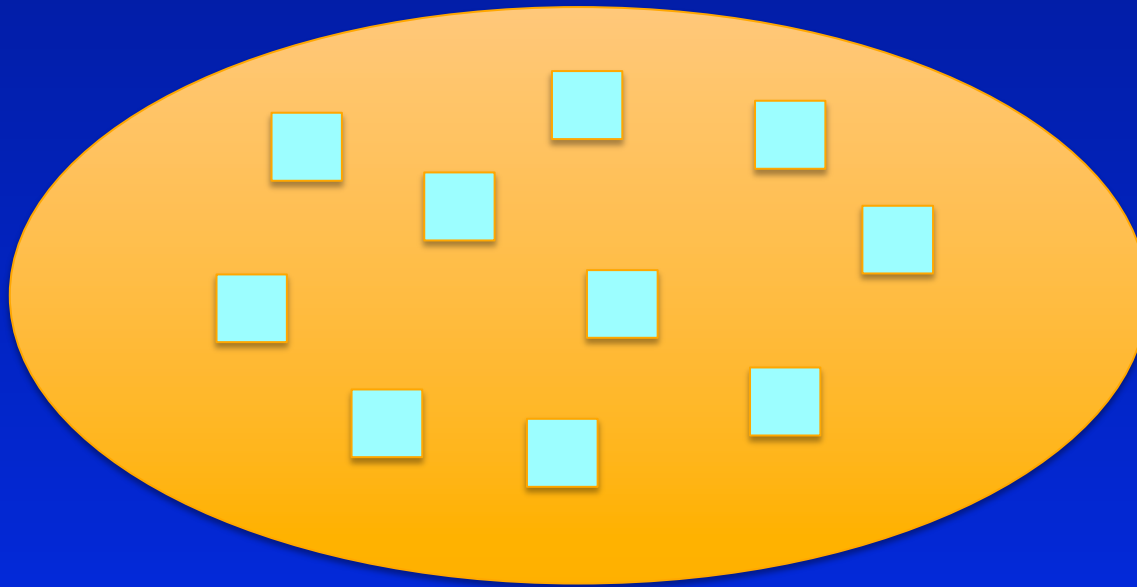
Liveness  
Assumptions

Liveness  
Guarantees

See "Synthesis of Live  
Behaviour Models for  
Fallible Domains", ICSE  
2011

# decentralised co-ordination

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Guaranteed bounds on global utility function\*

\* Alex Rogers, Alessandro Farinelli, Ruben Stranders, Nicholas R. Jennings:  
Bounded approximate decentralised coordination via the max-sum algorithm. *Artif. Intell.* 175(2): 730-759 (2011)

## the engineering challenge

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- “limits” cannot be an emergent property of self-adaptive systems
- must be engineered in a way so that worst-case limits are assured
- *by construction?*