



# **ETAPS Poster Book**

**Collection of posters presented at ETAPS 2024**

**Luxembourg, 6–12 April 2024**

# **ESOP 2024 Posters**

# Efficient Matching with Memoization for Regexes with Look-around and Atomic Grouping (ESOP'24)

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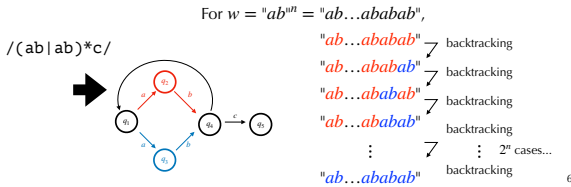
## ReDoS, efficient and extended regex matching

"Efficient Matching with Memoization for Regexes with Look-Ahead and Atomic Grouping," Hiroya Fujinami (NII, Tokyo) - 10 April, 2024

Catastrophic backtracking and ReDoS

### ReDoS: a vulnerability by regex matching

- Depth-first matching can lead to catastrophic backtracking. Catastrophic backtracking is non-linear time backtracking.
- Catastrophic backtracking is the reason for ReDoS (Regular Expression Denial of Service).



"Efficient Matching with Memoization for Regexes with Look-Ahead and Atomic Grouping," Hiroya Fujinami (NII, Tokyo) - 10 April, 2024

Requirements for matching implementation

### "Linear-time" and "easy to support extensions"

- A regex matching implementation we need is

Worst-case time complexity  
 linear  
 $O(|w|)$

To support extensions  
 (look-around, atomic grouping)  
 Easy

- Linear-time matching can be achieved by breadth-first matching.
- However, studies about extensions in breadth-first matching are few. In particular, atomic grouping has not been well studied.
- Then, we will introduce depth-first matching with memoization [Davis et al. S&P'21].

## Memoization for regex matching

Memoization

### Memoization and regex matching

- Memoization is a programming technique that makes recursive computations more efficient by recording arguments and the corresponding return values and reusing them.

- We can define a depth-first matching algorithm as a recursive function by the following signature (We show the entire definition later.)

$$\text{MATCH}_{\mathcal{A},w}: Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{\text{Failure}, \text{Success}(i) \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

- Therefore, we can apply memoization to depth-first matching.

Range of memoization tables

### Efficient memoization

$$\text{MATCH}_{\mathcal{A},w}: Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{\text{Failure}, \text{Success}(i) \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

- The type of memoization tables for MATCH is naively

$$M: Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{\text{Failure}, \text{Success}(i) \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

- The previous study [Davis et al., S&P'21] shows that recording only failures is sufficient for (non-extended) regex.

$$M: Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{\text{Failure}\}$$

- However, this optimized memo. table type does not work with extended regex. We will show examples of that later.

## Memoization for regex extensions (look-around and atomic grouping)

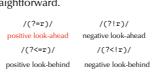
Look-around assertion

### Look-around: a.k.a. zero-width assertion

- There are four kinds of look-around assertions.
- $/(positive|negative) \text{ look-}(ahead|behind)/$
- For simplicity, we only discuss positive look-ahead in discussions of look-around. Adaptation to other look-around operators, such as negative look-behind, is straightforward.

Example:

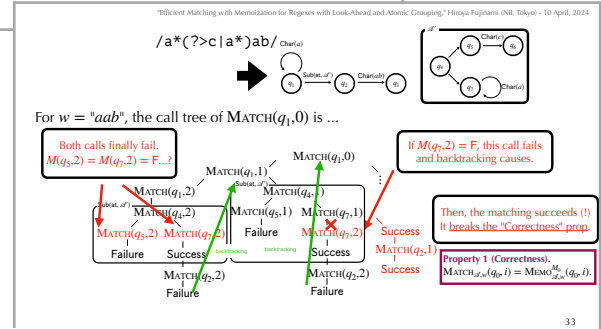
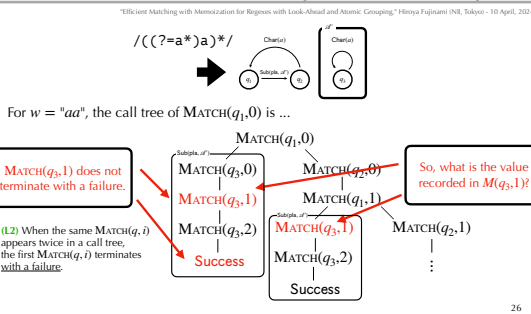
- $-/abc(?:=def)/.match("abcdef") == "abc"$
- $-/(?:=abcdef)abc/.match("abcdef") == "abc"$



Atomic grouping

### Atomic grouping: operator for backtracking

- Atomic grouping is an operator that controls backtracking.
- This discards remaining backtracking when the grouped regex is matched.
- Example:  $/(?>[ab])c/.match?("ac")$ , not  $match?("abc")$  atomic grouping
- not  $/(?>[ab])c/.match?(w)$  for  $w = "ab", "aab", "aaab", \dots$
- Typically, atomic grouping is used to prevent catastrophic backtracking.
- However, we believe it is valuable to support this extension for legacy systems.

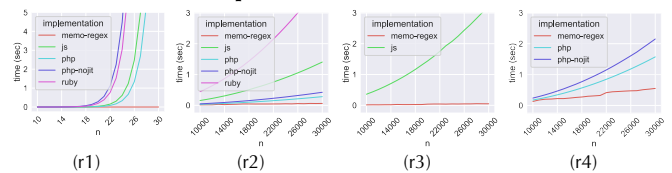


	Naive memoization	[Davis et al., S&P '21]	Our results
regex w/o extensions	$Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F, S(i) \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$	$Q_{\text{set}} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F\}$	$Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F\}$
w/ positive look-ahead	$Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F, S(i) \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$	$Q_{\text{set}} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F\}$	$Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F, S\}$
w/ atomic grouping	$Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F, S(i) \text{ for } i \in \mathbb{N}\}$	$Q_{\text{set}} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F\}$	$Q \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{F(j) \text{ for } j \in \{0, \dots, \nu(\mathcal{A})\}\}$ $\nu(\mathcal{A})$ is the maximum nesting depth of atomic groupings in $\mathcal{A}$ . Typically, $\nu(\mathcal{A}) \leq 1$ .

## Experiment results

Performance benchmark

### Experiment results



- Matching times grow  $O(2^n)$  in (r1) and  $O(n^2)$  in (r2-4) on other implementations, but on our implementation (memo-regex), they grow  $O(n)$  in all regexes.

- Then, we can confirm that our algorithm works effectively for ReDoS vulnerable regexes.

# A DENOTATIONAL APPROACH TO RELEASE/ACQUIRE CONCURRENCY

Authors: Yotam Dvir, Ohad Kammar, Ori Lahav

**Moggi semantics**  
effects denote monads

[Moggi 1991]



[BHN 2016]

**Brookes semantics**  
traces denote behaviors

[Brookes 1996]



[JPR 2012]  
For TSO

**Relaxed memory**  
weakly consistent  
concurrent shared state

**GOAL** Moggi-style Brookes semantics for the Release/Acquire relaxed memory model

Linear traces for a decentralized model

**NEW CHALLENGES AROUND**

First-class parallelism with causal propagation

More abstract and nuanced traces

More closure rules

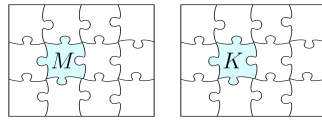
**Monad-based Denotational Semantics** [Moggi 1991]  
Modular framework for effectful semantics

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket [k := 1; m := 1] \rrbracket \parallel \langle m?, k? \rangle = \llbracket [k := 1; m := 1] \rrbracket \parallel \llbracket \langle m?, k? \rangle \rrbracket \\ & = (\llbracket [k := 1] \rrbracket \gg \lambda \langle \cdot \rangle. \llbracket [m := 1] \rrbracket) \parallel (\llbracket [m?] \rrbracket \gg \lambda v_m. \llbracket [k?] \rrbracket \gg \lambda v_k. \langle v_m, v_k \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

Built-in: higher-order functions & structural reasoning, e.g.  
K effect-free  $\implies \llbracket \text{if } K \text{ then } (M; N) \text{ else } (M; N') \rrbracket = \llbracket M; \text{if } K \text{ then } N \text{ else } N' \rrbracket$

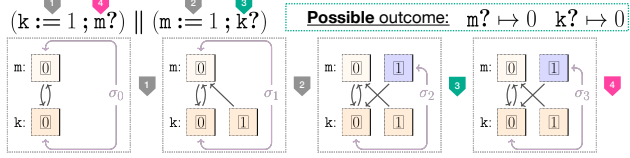
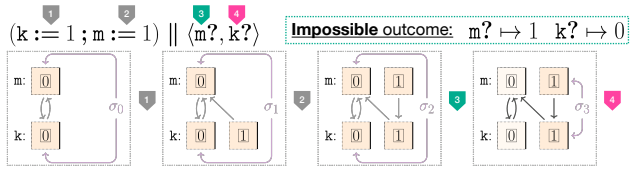
**Adequacy**  
 $\llbracket M \rrbracket \geq \llbracket K \rrbracket \implies M \rightarrow K$

**Abstraction**  
 $M \rightarrow K \implies \llbracket M \rrbracket \geq \llbracket K \rrbracket$



**Release/Acquire Interleaving Semantics** [KHLVD 2017]  
Fragment of the C/C++ model of causal propagation

**Memory:** msgs on timelines | **View:** accessible memory | **Threads** store/load views



RA state invariants, e.g.  
view  $\sigma$  point to msg  $\nu \implies \nu.\text{view} \leq \sigma$

Thread views in trees (first-class parallelism)

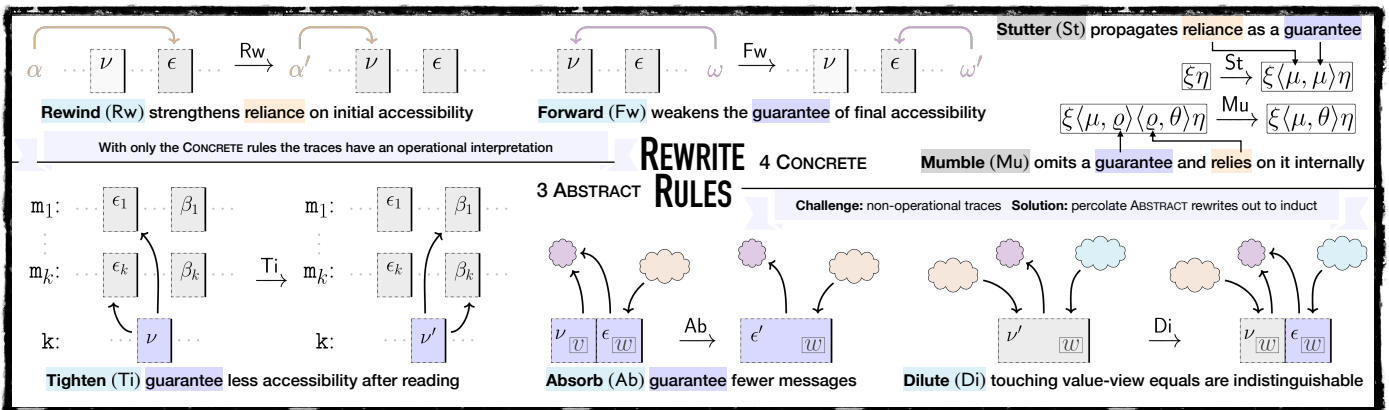
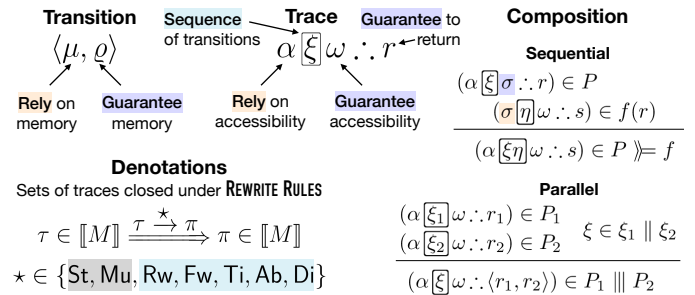
Admissible step: ADVANCE (pretend to load)

**JUSTIFIED TRANSFORMATIONS**

Laws of Parallel Programming

Symmetry	$M \parallel N \rightarrow \text{swap}(N \parallel M)$
Generalized Sequencing	$(\text{let } a = M_1 \text{ in } M_2) \parallel (\text{let } b = N_1 \text{ in } N_2) \rightarrow \text{match } M_1 \parallel N_1 \text{ with } (a, b). M_2 \parallel N_2$
<b>Eliminations</b>	
Irrelevant Read	$\ell?; \langle \cdot \rangle \rightarrow \langle \cdot \rangle$
Write-Write	$\ell := v; \ell := w \xrightarrow{\text{Ab}} \ell := w$
Write-Read	$\ell := v; \ell? \xrightarrow{\text{Ab}} \ell := v; v$
Write-FAA	$\ell := v; \text{FAA}(\ell, w) \xrightarrow{\text{Ab}} \ell := (v + w); v$
Read-Write	$\text{let } a = \ell? \text{ in } \ell := (a + v); a \rightarrow \text{FAA}(\ell, v)$
Read-Read	$\langle \ell?, \ell? \rangle \rightarrow \text{let } a = \ell? \text{ in } \langle a, a \rangle$
Read-FAA	$\langle \ell?, \text{FAA}(\ell, v) \rangle \rightarrow \text{let } a = \text{FAA}(\ell, v) \text{ in } \langle a, a \rangle$
FAA-Read	$\langle \text{FAA}(\ell, v), \ell? \rangle \rightarrow \text{let } a = \text{FAA}(\ell, v) \text{ in } \langle a, a + v \rangle$
FAA-FAA	$\langle \text{FAA}(\ell, v), \text{FAA}(\ell, w) \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{Ab}} \text{let } a = \text{FAA}(\ell, v + w) \text{ in } \langle a, a + v \rangle$
<b>Others</b>	
Irrelevant Read Introduction	$\langle \cdot \rangle \rightarrow \ell?; \langle \cdot \rangle$
Read to FAA	$\ell? \xrightarrow{\text{Di}} \text{FAA}(\ell, 0)$
Write-Read Deorder	$\langle \ell := v, \ell? \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{Ti}} (\ell := v) \parallel \ell? \quad (\ell \neq \ell')$
Write-Read Reorder	$(\ell := v); \ell? \xrightarrow{\text{Ti}} \text{fst } \langle \ell?, (\ell := v) \rangle \quad (\ell \neq \ell')$

**Trace-based Denotational Semantics** [Brookes 1996]  
Sequences of guarantees to/from the environment



## MAIN RESULTS

A denotational semantics for Release/Acquire based on linear traces that is:

Moggi + Brookes + RA

Standard (monad base, truly compositional)

Adequate (refinements are sound)

Abstract (supports known transformations)

[Moggi 1991] Moggi, E.: Notions of computation and monads, Inf. Comput.

[Brookes 1996] Brookes, S.D.: Full abstraction for a shared-variable parallel language, Inf. Comput.

[JPR 2012] Jagadeesan, R., Petri, G., Riley, J.: Brookes is relaxed, almost, FOSSACS

[KHLVD 2017] Kang, J., Hur, C., Lahav, O., Vafeiadis, V., Dreyer, D.: A promising semantics for relaxed-memory concurrency, POPL

[BHN 2016] Benton, N., Hofmann, M., Nigam, V.: Effect-dependent transformations for concurrent programs, PPDP



# **FASE 2024 Posters**

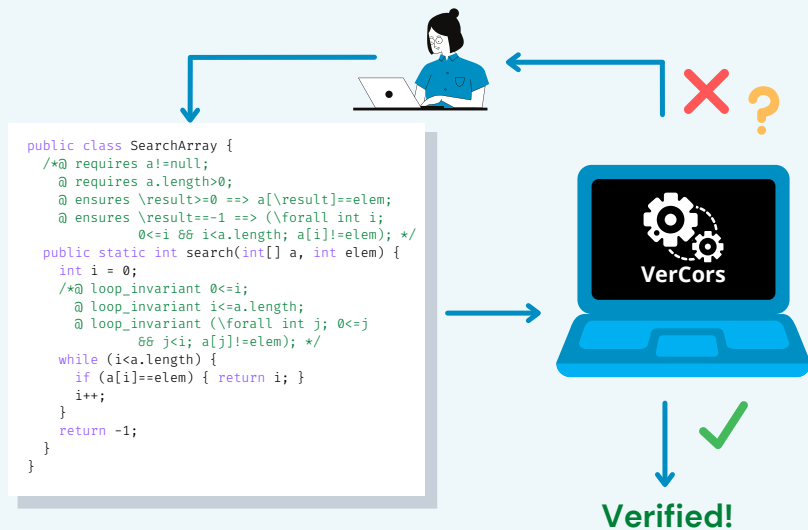
## Problem

Concurrency in systems can cause subtle bugs that are difficult to detect. As a result, concurrent systems are notoriously difficult to build. To help build **correct software**, we develop **VerCors**, a tool for the verification of concurrent and distributed software.



## How does it work?

- **Specification** describes the intended behaviour of the system
- The user provides the **program code** and **specifications** to VerCors
- **VerCors** determines whether the program is correct w.r.t. the specification using logical inference
- VerCors supports **multiple languages** including Java, C, CUDA and OpenCL!



## Achievements

- Verified **Parallel Nested DFS**, an important verification algorithm
- Case study with **Technolution** to detect bugs in their tunnel control software
- **VeyMont**: Given a verified program, generate a correct parallelised version
- **Alpinist**: Automatic transformation of specifications for GPU optimisations
- **VeSUV**: Automatic encoding of embedded systems designs written in SystemC into PVL

## What's next?

- Extend LLVM verification support with the **Pallas** project
- Generate specifications
- Apply VerCors to embedded & industrial systems
- Improve usability and scalability of the approach

To your project?

Want more?  
Scan me!

[utwente.nl/vercors](http://utwente.nl/vercors)

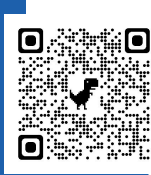


### Current collaborators

Marieke Huisman (Project lead), Lukas Armborst, Petra van den Bos, Pieter Bos, Paula Herber, Robert Mensing, Robert Rubbens, Alexander Stekelenburg, Ömer Şakar, Philip Tasche

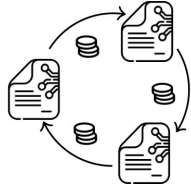
### Funding projects





## Smart Contracts

- programs running on blockchains.
- govern exchange of cryptocurrency.
- interact with other smart contracts.
- cannot be modified.
- their effects are permanent.



## Runtime Verification

- Monitors enforce desired transaction properties ( $P$ ).
- If  $P$  fails, the monitor fails the whole transaction. ❌
- If  $P$  holds, the transaction commits. ✅
- Improve the reliability of smart contracts. 🔍

## Problem

Transactions can depend on future transactions.  
Current blockchains force immediate decision (❌ or ✅).

## Solution: Future monitors

- State properties across multiple transactions. 🧠
- Delay transactions consolidation. ⏸️

## Monitors Hierarchy

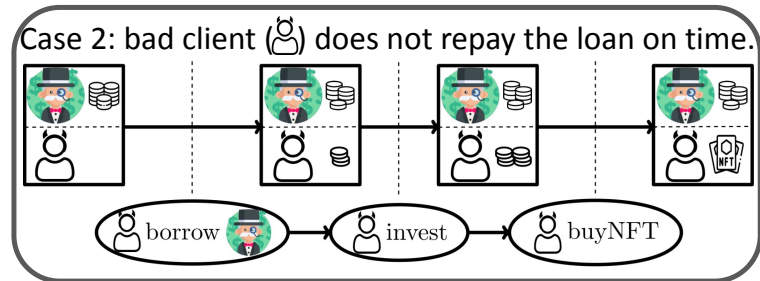
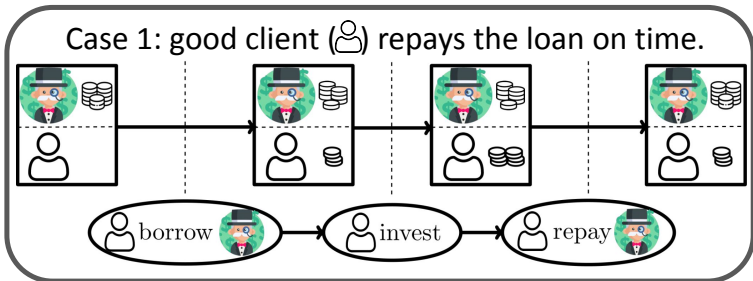
Present	Future
Global Monitors*	Global future monitors*
Multicontract monitors*	Multicontract future monitors*
Transaction monitors^	<b>Future monitors [this work]</b>
Operation Monitors^	*Future work ^Previous work

## Example: Multitransaction Flash Loan

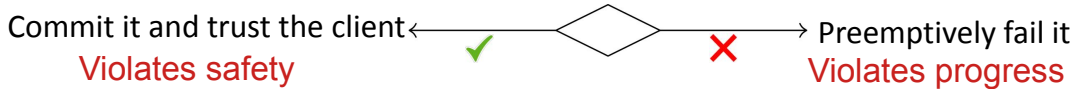
**Safety:** A loan is repaid to the lender 🧑‍🎓 within 2 transactions.

**Progress:** lenders always grant loans.

Current blockchains

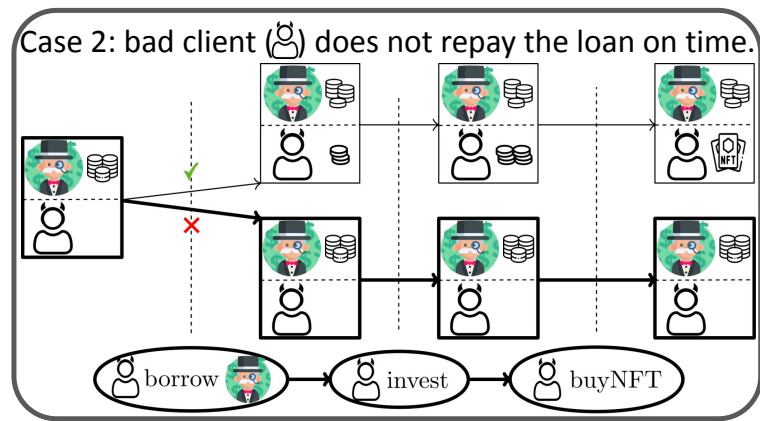
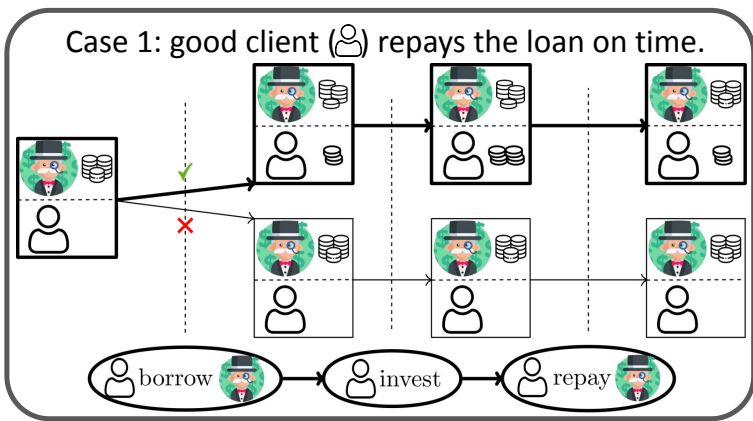


By the end of the borrowing transaction, the lender does not know in which case it is but must make a decision.



Future monitors 🧠 🔍

Delay transactions consolidation → branch the execution → allow differentiating the two cases.



Loan is repaid → borrowing transaction *commits* ✅  
↳ top branch consolidates.

Loan is not repaid → borrowing transaction *fails* ❌  
↳ bottom branch consolidates.

# **FoSSaCS 2024 Posters**

# A Resolution-Based Interactive Proof System for UNSAT

Philipp Czerner, Valentin Krasotin, Javier Esparza  
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 Technical University of Munich



↑ link to paper ↑

## Efficient Certification for UNSAT

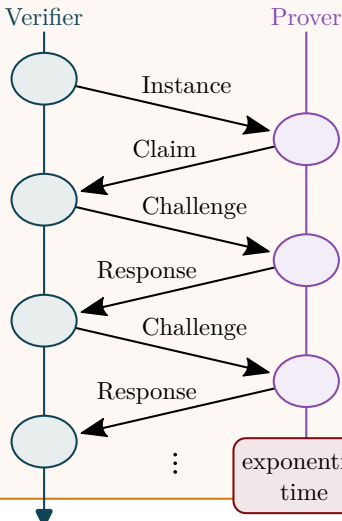
Full verification (proof of correctness for all inputs) is impractical for state-of-the-art SAT solvers. Certification instead checks the output as it is being produced. To be practical, the certificate checker must be efficient. Polynomially-sized non-interactive certificates do not exist for problems outside NP. For UNSAT, extended resolution proofs are used in practice. However, these can be exponentially long w.r.t. the input.

## Goal: Fast Certification via IP = PSPACE

The famous IP = PSPACE breakthrough in complexity theory [1,2] proves existence of efficient (i.e. polynomial-time) certification through interactive protocols (IPs) for any PSPACE problem, e.g. for UNSAT. But their algorithm to generate the interactive certificates is impractical. We try to adapt existing decision procedures in automated reasoning to also generate interactive certificates. The overhead of the interactive protocol must be bounded, compared to just executing the decision procedure.

## Interactive Protocols

Polynomial Verifier checks claims of unbounded, but untrusted, Prover



polynomial time

Our approach enables certification with polynomial time verification cost

## Davis-Putnam Procedure [3]

A decision procedure for SAT:

- 1 Pick a variable  $x$
- 2 Add all resolvents w.r.t.  $x$
- 3 Remove all clauses with  $x$  or  $\neg x$

$$\bigwedge_i (x \vee a_i) \wedge \bigwedge_j (\neg x \vee b_j) \wedge c \quad \bigwedge_{i,j} (a_i \vee b_j) \wedge c$$

pick  $x$

## Competitive IP

An IP is *competitive* with an algorithm  $A$  if

$$\frac{\text{time}(\text{IP}, x)}{\text{time}(A, x)} \in \mathcal{O}(\text{poly } |x|) \quad \forall \text{ inputs } x$$

Intuitively, instances that are practical to solve with  $A$  can be practically certified with the IP.

## Exploiting Arithmetisation

Arithmetisation is a fundamental technique for designing IPs. The idea is to assign a polynomial to each formula that extends its binary behaviour.

true $\rightarrow 1$	$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \rightarrow p_1 \cdot p_2$
false $\rightarrow 0$	$\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \rightarrow p_1 + p_2 - p_1 p_2$
$x \rightarrow x$	$\neg x \rightarrow 1 - x$

Prior IPs use a straightforward arithmetisation, e.g. the one shown above. However, it is unclear how to apply it to the Davis-Putnam Procedure.

Instead, we construct a competitive IP using a non-standard arithmetisation:

true $\rightarrow 0$	$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \rightarrow p_1 + p_2$
false $\rightarrow 1$	$\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \rightarrow p_1 \cdot p_2$
$x \rightarrow 1 - x$	$\neg x \rightarrow x^3$

## A Framework for Competitive IPs

We give a theoretical framework to construct competitive IPs for certain classes of UNSAT algorithms. This framework gives sufficient conditions that an arithmetisation is compatible with an algorithm. Given a compatible arithmetisation, we construct a competitive IP in a generic fashion.

A *macrostep algorithm* transforms the formula by applying a polynomial number of *macrosteps*.

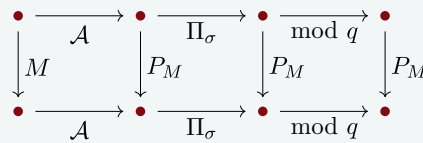
$$\varphi \xrightarrow{M_1} \varphi' \xrightarrow{M_2} \varphi'' \dots \rightarrow \text{false}$$

Each step maps the formula, s.t.  $\varphi \equiv \varphi' \equiv \dots \equiv \text{false}$

## Open Questions

- Implement further optimisations within this framework
- Adapt different decision procedures (e.g. DPLL)
- Exploit cryptographic assumptions
- Use multiple provers to certify resolution proofs directly

An arithmetisation  $\mathcal{A}$  is *compatible* with a macrostep algorithm if for every macrostep  $M$  there is a corresponding mapping on polynomials  $P_M$ .



The mapping  $P_M$  must additionally commute with partial evaluation  $\Pi_\sigma$  and remainder w.r.t. a prime  $q$ .

$(x \vee \neg y)$	$\xrightarrow{\mathcal{A}}$	$(1-x)y^3$	$\xrightarrow{y:=2}$	$8-8x$	$\xrightarrow{\text{mod } 7}$	$1-x$
$\wedge \neg x$		$+x^3$		$+x^3$		$+x^3$
		$\downarrow$		$\downarrow$		$\downarrow$
$\neg y$	$\xrightarrow{\mathcal{A}}$	$y^3$	$\xrightarrow{y:=2}$	$8$	$\xrightarrow{\text{mod } 7}$	$1$

Here,  $P_M(p) = p[x/0] \cdot p[x/1]$  works, but it fails for clauses without  $x$ . We use  $P_M(a_3x^3 + a_1x + a_0) = -a_3a_1 + a_1 + a_0$  instead, which works in general.

[1] Lund, Fortnow, Karloff, Nisan, 1990

[2] Shamir, 1992 [3] Davis, Putnam, 1960

# Tighter Construction of Tight Büchi Automata

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## Motivation

Tight automata are useful in

- LTL model checking for shortest counterexamples
- LTL synthesis for maximally satisfying strategies

Previous constructions [4, 3] of tight Büchi automata (BA) from Büchi automata have large raise of states in the worst case and there is a big gap between the lower and the upper bound. In the following,  $n$  is the number of states of an input automaton.

$$2^{\Omega(n)} \longleftarrow \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}((\sqrt{2n})^{2n})$$

## Preliminaries

- Lasso-shaped word  $u = vw^\omega$  is an infinite word composed from a finite prefix (stem) -  $v$  and from infinite repetition of a finite word (loop) -  $w$ .
- Each lasso-shaped word has infinitely many stems and loops, we define  $|\min SL(u)| = \min\{|vw| \mid u = vw^\omega\}$ .

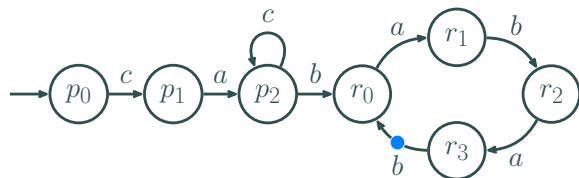
### Example

$$u = cb(abab)^\omega = c(ba)^\omega \Rightarrow |\min SL(u)| = |c| + |ba| = 3$$

- Transition-based Büchi automaton (TBA) is a type of  $\omega$ -automaton that contains a set of accepting transitions (we depict them with the blue mark  $\bullet$ ) and accepts an infinite word if there is a run (a sequence of transitions) over the word that passes an accepting transition infinitely often.

### Definition: Tight Transition-Based Büchi Automata

A TBA  $\mathcal{A}$  is *tight* iff for each lasso-shaped word  $u \in L(\mathcal{A})$  there exists an accepting lasso-shaped run  $\rho$  satisfying  $|\min SL(u)| = |\min SL(\rho)|$ .

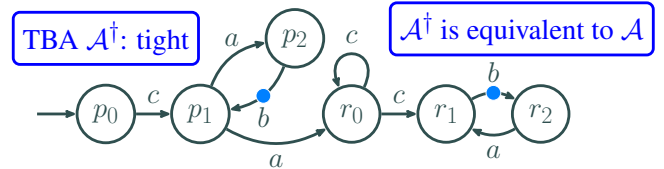


$$\begin{aligned} &\text{TBA } \mathcal{A}: \text{ not tight} \\ &\rho = p_0 \xrightarrow{c} p_1 \xrightarrow{a} p_2 \xrightarrow{b} (r_0 \xrightarrow{a} r_1 \xrightarrow{b} r_2 \xrightarrow{a} r_3 \xrightarrow{b} r_0)^\omega \\ &|\min SL(\rho)| = 7 \neq 3 = |\min SL(c(ab)^\omega)| \end{aligned}$$

## Main Results

We prove the following theorems:

- **Upper Bound:** For each TBA with  $n$  states, we can construct an equivalent tight TBA with at most  $\mathcal{O}(n! \cdot n^3)$  states.



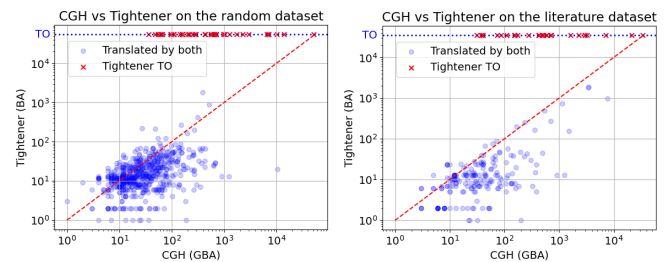
- **Tight TBA  $\rightarrow$  Tight BA:** For each tight TBA with  $n$  states, we can construct an equivalent tight BA with at most  $2n$  states.
- **Lower Bound:** For each  $n > 0$ , there is a BA with  $2n + 1$  states such that every equivalent tight TBA has at least  $\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$  states.
- **New Boundaries:** The resulting new boundaries for tight Büchi automata

$$2^{\Omega(n)} \prec \Omega\left(\frac{n-1}{2}!\right) \longleftrightarrow \mathcal{O}(n! \cdot n^3) \prec \mathcal{O}((\sqrt{2n})^{2n})$$

- **Practical reductions:** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a tight TBA and let  $\sqsubseteq$  be a good for quotienting [1] preorder. The reduced automaton  $\mathcal{A}/\sqsubseteq$  is tight.

## Implementation and Evaluation

Comparison of our tool Tightener against the only known implemented algorithm CGH [4] that constructs tight Büchi automata from LTL formulas (TO=timeout). Tightener uses Spot [2] to obtain a TBA from LTL formula. We measure the number of states of the resulting automata.



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# Checking History-Determinism is NP-hard for Parity Automata

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## 1 History-deterministic parity automata

**History-determinism.** Automata where nondeterminism can be resolved based on the prefix read so far. Equivalently, if Eve wins the corresponding HD game, proceeding in infinitely many rounds. In round  $i$ :

- Adam selects letter  $a_i$
- Eve selects transition  $q_i \xrightarrow{a_i} q_{i+1}$

**Eve's winning condition:** Eve's run is accepting if Adam's word is accepting.

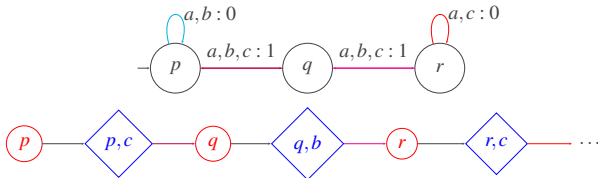


Figure 1: An HD Büchi automaton [3] and a play of history-determinism game on it. Eve's winning strategy in the HD game is to alternate between picking left and right transitions at the state  $q$ .

## 2 History of complexity of checking history-determinism

- Henzinger and Piterman, 2006 [5] - Can be decided in EXPTIME
- Kuperberg and Skrzypczak, 2015 [6] - As hard as solving Parity games, PTIME for coBüchi automata
- Bagnol and Kuperberg, 2018 [1] - PTIME for Büchi automata

## 3 NP-hardness: reduction from 2-dimensional parity games

**2-D parity games:** A game arena with each edge labelled by two natural numbers, forming two parity conditions  $\chi_1$  and  $\chi_2$ .

**Eve's winning condition:** If the  $\chi_1$  parity condition is satisfied, then the  $\chi_2$  parity condition is satisfied.

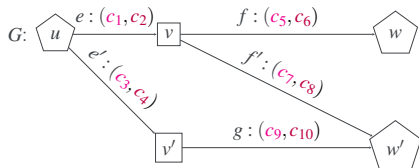


Figure 2: A snippet of a 2-D parity game. The pentagons represent Adam's vertices and the squares represent Eve's vertices.

Chatterjee, Henzinger and Piterman [4] have shown that deciding if Eve wins a 2-D parity game is NP-hard.

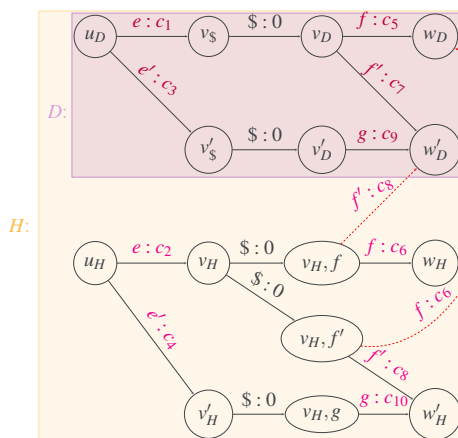


Figure 3: Reduction to simulation and checking history-determinism from 2-D parity game.

- $H$  simulates  $D$  if and only if Eve wins  $G$ .
- Theorem 1.** Deciding simulation between two parity automata is NP-complete. Good 2-D parity games: all paths that satisfy the  $\chi_2$  parity condition also satisfy  $\chi_1$ . Deciding if Eve wins a good 2-D parity game is NP-complete.
- $H$  is history-deterministic if and only if Eve wins  $G$ .
- Theorem 2.** Checking history-determinism is NP-hard for parity automata.

## 4 History-deterministic automata for model checking

**Language inclusion:** Given parity automata  $A$  and  $B$ , is  $L(A) \subseteq L(B)$ ? Deciding language inclusion is PSPACE-complete for nondeterministic parity automata.

If  $B$  is HD, however,  $L(A) \subseteq L(B)$  if and only if  $B$  simulates  $A$  [5].

**Simulation game.** The simulation game of  $A$  and  $B$  proceeds in infinitely many rounds. In round  $i$ :

- Adam selects letter  $a_i$
- Adam selects transition  $p_i \xrightarrow{a_i} p_{i+1}$  in  $A$ .
- Eve selects a transition  $q_i \xrightarrow{a_i} q_{i+1}$  in  $B$ .

**Eve's winning condition:** if Adam's run in  $A$  is accepting, Eve's run in  $B$  is accepting as well.

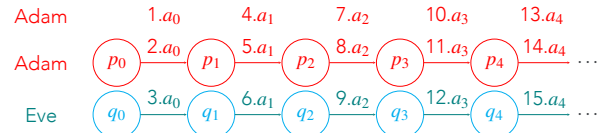


Figure 4: Order of moves in a simulation game. At the end of an infinite play, Adam constructs a word and run on that word, and Eve constructs a run on the same word as well.

Deciding simulation between two parity automata is in NP, but we show that we can do even better if  $B$  is history-deterministic.

**Theorem 3.** Given nondeterministic parity automaton  $A$  and HD parity automaton  $B$ , checking if  $L(A) \subseteq L(B)$  can be decided in quasi-polynomial time.

## 5 Open: how hard is recognising HD parity automata?

For a Büchi or coBüchi automaton, one can decide history-determinism in PTIME by solving the 2-token game.

**2-token game.** Played between Eve and Adam, and proceeds in infinitely many rounds. In round  $i$ :

- Adam selects letter  $a_i$
- Eve selects a transition  $q_i \xrightarrow{a_i} q_{i+1}$
- Adam selects two transitions  $p_i^1 \xrightarrow{a_i} p_{i+1}^1, p_i^2 \xrightarrow{a_i} p_{i+1}^2$ .

**Eve's winning condition:** Eve's run is accepting if either of Adam's two runs are accepting.

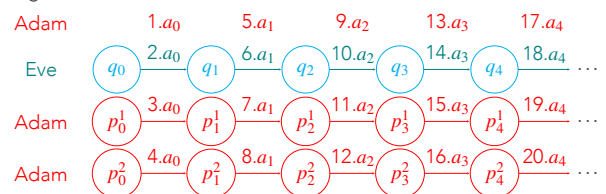


Figure 5: Order of moves in a 2-token game. At the end of an infinite play, Adam constructs a word and Eve and Adam construct one and two runs on that word respectively.

**2-token conjecture.** Eve wins the 2-token game on a parity automaton  $A$  if and only if  $A$  is history-deterministic [1].

The 2-token conjecture holds for Büchi [1] and coBüchi automata [2]. Assuming that the 2-token conjecture is true, we would only obtain a PSPACE-upper bound for the problem of deciding history-determinism.

**Open:** Given a parity automaton  $A$ , what is the complexity of deciding if Eve wins the 2-token game of  $A$ ? What is the complexity of deciding history-determinism of  $A$ ?

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# Symbolic Solution of Emerson-Lei Games for Reactive Synthesis

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## Overview

- ▶ Winning regions in various  $\omega$ -regular games are known to be nested fixpoints.
- ▶ **Emerson-Lei objectives** succinctly encode standard objectives.
- ▶ **Zielonka trees** characterize winning in Emerson-Lei games.

We show how to extract a nested fixpoint from any Zielonka tree, resulting in a *symbolic* fixpoint algorithm that solves Emerson-Lei games with  $n$  nodes,  $m$  edges and  $k$  colors in time  $\mathcal{O}(k! \cdot m \cdot n^3)$ .

This generalizes previous fixpoint algorithms for Büchi, parity, GR[1], Rabin and Streett games, recovering previous upper bounds on runtime.

## Emerson-Lei Games

Infinite-duration zero-sum games played by two players  $\exists$  and  $\forall$ :

$$G = (V = V_{\exists} \cup V_{\forall}, E \subseteq V \times V, \text{col} : V \rightarrow 2^C, \varphi) \quad \varphi \in \mathbb{B}(\mathbf{GF}(C))$$

Player  $\exists$  wins play  $\pi \subseteq V^{\omega}$  in  $G$  if and only if  $\text{col}[\pi] \models \varphi$

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi &= \mathbf{GF} f && \text{(Büchi)} \\ \varphi &= \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq k} \mathbf{GF} f_i && \text{(gen. Büchi)} \\ \varphi &= \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq k_1} \mathbf{GF} p_i \rightarrow \bigwedge_{1 \leq j \leq k_2} \mathbf{GF} q_j && \text{(GR[1])} \\ \varphi &= \bigvee_{i \text{ even}} \mathbf{GF} p_i \wedge \mathbf{FG} \bigwedge_{i < j \leq k} \neg p_j && \text{(parity)} \\ \varphi &= \bigvee_{1 \leq i \leq k} \mathbf{GF} e_i \wedge \mathbf{FG} \neg f_i && \text{(Rabin)} \\ \varphi &= \bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq k} (\mathbf{GF} r_i \rightarrow \mathbf{GF} g_i) && \text{(Streett)} \\ \varphi &= \bigvee_{U \in \mathcal{M}} \bigwedge_{i \in U} \mathbf{GF} f_i \wedge \mathbf{FG} \bigwedge_{j \notin U} \neg f_j && \text{(Müller for } \mathcal{U} \subseteq 2^C) \end{aligned}$$

Emerson-Lei games are determined, but not positional (e.g. Streett games).

## Zielonka Trees

Tree  $\mathcal{Z}_{\varphi}$  with vertices  $X$  labeled by  $l(X) \subseteq C$ , subject to certain maximality conditions. Vertex  $X$  is *green* if  $l(X)^c \models \varphi$  and *red* otherwise.

Require for all children  $Y, Y'$  of  $X$  in  $\mathcal{Z}_{\varphi}$ :

$X$  green  $\Leftrightarrow Y$  red,  $l(Y) \subseteq l(X)$ ,  $l(Y)$  and  $l(Y')$  are incomparable.

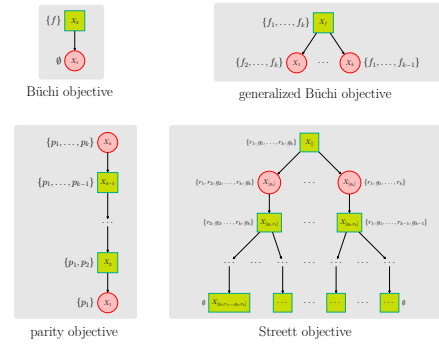
**Lemma:** The Zielonka tree  $\mathcal{Z}_{\varphi}$  has at most  $e \cdot |C|!$  vertices.

Play  $\pi = v_0 v_1 \dots$  induces *walk*  $\rho_{\pi}$  through Zielonka tree:

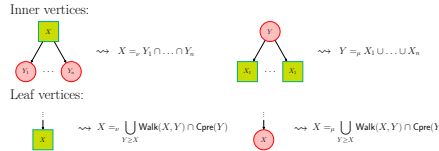
- ▶ start with  $v_0$  and left-most leaf in Zielonka tree;
  - ▶ at  $v_i$  and  $X$ , pick lowest ancestor  $Y$  of  $X$  s.t.  $\text{col}(v_i) \subseteq l(Y)$  and proceed with  $v_{i+1}$  and left-most leaf  $X'$  under  $Y$  that is to right of  $X$
- Dominating vertex:** topmost node that is seen infinitely often in  $\rho_{\pi}$ .

**Lemma:** Player  $\exists$  wins play  $\pi \Leftrightarrow$  dominating vertex in  $\rho_{\pi}$  is green.

## Zielonka Trees by Example



## Fixpoint Extraction – Building Blocks



where

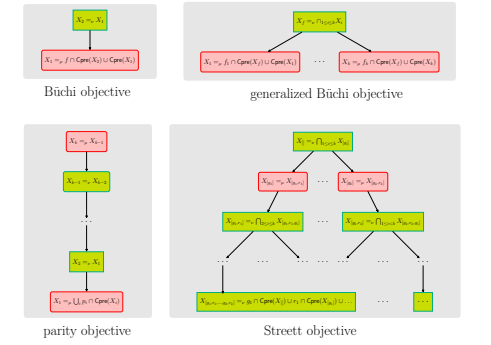
$\text{Walk}(X, Y) = \{v \in V \mid Y \text{ is lowest ancestor of } X \text{ s.t. } \text{col}(v) \subseteq l(Y)\}$   
for vertices  $X, Y$ , and  $\text{Cpre}$  encodes one-step attraction for player  $\exists$ .

## Main Result

**Theorem:** The solution of the extracted fixpoint equation system is the winning region in the corresponding Emerson-Lei game.

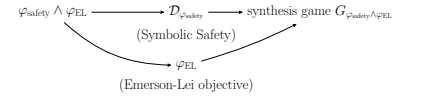
Solve equation systems by fixpoint iteration to solve Emerson-Lei games with  $n$  nodes and  $k$  colors *symbolically* in time  $\mathcal{O}(k! \cdot n^{3+2})$ . For simpler conditions, this recovers previous fixpoint iteration algorithms.

## Extracted Fixpoint Systems by Example



## Symbolic Reactive Synthesis

Reduction of **safety** and **EL** LTL formula  $\varphi_{\text{safety}} \wedge \varphi_{\text{EL}}$  (with  $\varphi_{\text{EL}} \in \mathbb{B}(\mathbf{GF}(C))$ ) to symbolic game:



Check realizability in time  $2^{\mathcal{O}(m \cdot \log m \cdot 2^m)}$ , where  $n = |\varphi_{\text{safety}}|$  and  $m = |\varphi_{\text{EL}}|$ .



More details and results in full paper: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2305.02793.pdf>



# Higher-Order Mathematical Operational Semantics

## Weak Applicative Similarity

**Cool Format**  
**Passive operators** are specified as  
 $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow t \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \xrightarrow{\Delta} t$

**Cool HO Specification** must have  
 $\frac{x_m \xrightarrow{\Delta} y_m}{f(x_1, \dots, x_m, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow t} \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_m, \dots, x_n) \xrightarrow{\Delta} t$

$\frac{x_m \xrightarrow{\Delta} x'_m}{f(x_1, \dots, x_m, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow t}$  or  $\frac{x_m \xrightarrow{\Delta} x'_m \quad x_m \xrightarrow{\Delta} x''_m}{f(x_1, \dots, x_m, \dots, x_n) \xrightarrow{\Delta} t}$   
 with  $x_m, x'_m \in \text{Vars}(t)$ , for non-passive  $f$

more abstractly

**Soundness**  
 Rules for **strong transitions**  $\rightarrow, \xrightarrow{\Delta}$  are sound for **weak transitions**  $\Rightarrow, \xRightarrow{\Delta}$ , e.g.:

$$\frac{t \rightarrow t'}{ts \rightarrow t's} \quad \frac{t \xrightarrow{\Delta} t'}{ts \xRightarrow{\Delta} t's}$$

yet more abstractly

**Lax-Bialgebra**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma\mu\Sigma & \xrightarrow{t} & \mu\Sigma & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\gamma}} & B(\mu\Sigma, \mu\Sigma) \\ \Sigma(\text{id}, \tilde{\gamma}) \downarrow & & \gamma \downarrow & & \uparrow B(\text{id}, \beta) \\ \Sigma(\mu\Sigma \times B(\mu\Sigma, \mu\Sigma)) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & B(\mu\Sigma, \Sigma^*(\mu\Sigma + \mu\Sigma)) & \xrightarrow{B(\text{id}, \Sigma^*V)} & B(\mu\Sigma, \Sigma^*\mu\Sigma) \end{array}$$

for some weak transition semantics  $\tilde{\gamma}: \mu\Sigma \rightarrow B(\mu\Sigma, \mu\Sigma)$

**Central Result: Compositionality for Free**  
 For suitably defined weak semantics  $\tilde{\gamma}$ , ensuing similarity relation  $\leq$  is a congruence

## Logical Predicates and Strong Normalization

**Liftings**  
 Reasoning with predicates requires **liftings**:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Pred}(C) & \xrightarrow{\Sigma} & \text{Pred}(C) & \text{Pred}(C)^{\text{op}} \times \text{Pred}(C) & \xrightarrow{\tilde{B}} & \text{Pred}(C) \\ |{-}| \downarrow & & |{-}| \downarrow & |{-}|^{\text{op}} \times |{-}| \downarrow & & |{-}| \downarrow \\ C & \xrightarrow{\Sigma} & C & C^{\text{op}} \times C & \xrightarrow{B} & C \end{array}$$

**Invariants**  
**Coalgebraic  $S$ -relative invariant**: for given predicate  $S \subseteq \mu\Sigma$ , such  $Q \subseteq \mu\Sigma$  that  
 $Q \leq \gamma^{-1}(\tilde{B}(S, Q))$

**Logical invariant = logical predicate** is a coalgebraic invariant relative to itself

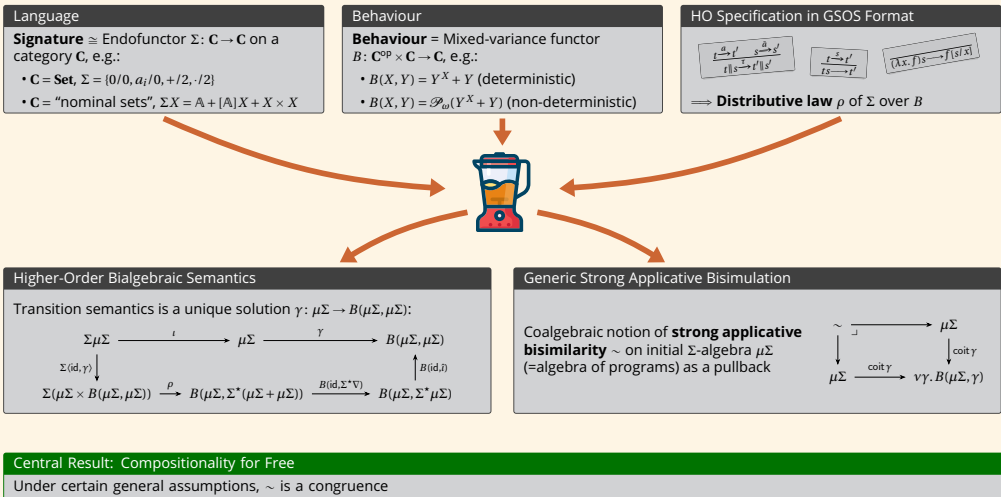
**Key Construction: Logical predicate over  $P$**   
 We define predicate transformer  $\square$ :  
 Given a program property  $P$ ,  $\square P$  is a canonical logical predicate, contained in  $P$

**Key Result: Induction up to  $\square$**   
**Induction up to  $\square$**  is a lightweight proof principle sound for well-behaved (**relatively flat**) HO Specifications, which isolates the non-trivial core from the boilerplate part of the proof:

- Prove  $\mu(\tilde{\Sigma}(\square P)) \Rightarrow P$
- By generalities:  $\mu(\tilde{\Sigma}(\square P)) \Rightarrow \square P$ , hence  $\top \Rightarrow \square P \Rightarrow P$

**Key Application: Strong Normalization**  
 $P(t) = \text{SN}(t) = \text{"all reductions } t \rightarrow t' \rightarrow \dots \text{ are finite"}$

## Higher-Order Abstract GSOS Categorical Framework for Higher-Order Operational Semantics



## Contextual Equivalence and Step-Indexing

**"Lazy" Contextual Preorder**  
**"Lazy" contextual preorder/equivalence** for programs of type  $\tau$  (w.r.t. convergence relation  $\Downarrow$ ):

$$t \lesssim_\tau s \text{ if } \forall t', \text{ contexts } C: t \rightsquigarrow t', C[t] \Downarrow \implies C[s] \Downarrow$$

$$t \approx_\tau s \text{ if } \forall t', \text{ contexts } C: t \rightsquigarrow t', C[t] \Downarrow \iff C[s] \Downarrow$$

E.g.  $f \lesssim_\tau \lambda x. fx$ , but  $f \not\approx_\tau \lambda x. fx$

**Ground Contextual Preorder**  
**Ground contextual preorder/equivalence** for programs of type  $\tau$  w.r.t. Booleans:

$$t \lesssim_\tau^{\text{bool}} s \text{ if } \forall \text{ contexts } C: t \rightsquigarrow \text{bool}, C[t] \Downarrow \implies C[s] \Downarrow$$

$$t \approx_\tau^{\text{bool}} s \text{ if } \forall \text{ contexts } C: t \rightsquigarrow \text{bool}, C[t] \Downarrow \iff C[s] \Downarrow$$

E.g.  $f \approx_\tau^{\text{bool}} \lambda x. fx$

more abstractly

more abstractly

**Abstract Contextual Preorder**  
 For a preorder  $O \subseteq \mu\Sigma \times \mu\Sigma$ , **contextual preorder** w.r.t.  $O$  is the greatest congruence  $\leq^O \subseteq O$  on  $\mu\Sigma$

**Abstract Step-Indexed Logical Relations**  
 For a relation  $R \subseteq \mu\Sigma \times \mu\Sigma$  on programs, by transfinite recursion:

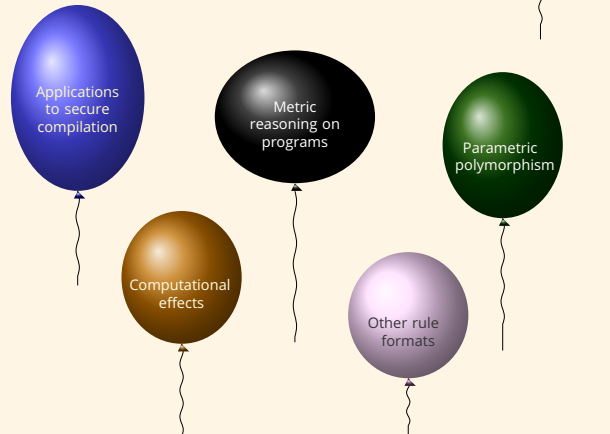
$$\square^0 R = R \quad \square^\alpha R = \bigwedge_{\beta < \alpha} \square^\beta R \quad \text{for limits ordinals } \alpha$$

$$\square^{\alpha+1} R = \square^\alpha R \wedge (\gamma \times \tilde{\gamma})^{-1}(\tilde{B}(\square^\alpha R, \square^\alpha R)) \quad \square^\alpha R = \bigwedge_{\beta < \alpha} \square^\beta R$$

**Central Result: Soundness of Abstract Logical Relation Method**

- Every  $\square^\alpha \top$  is a congruence
- $\square^\alpha \top$  is sound for contextual preorder

## Further Prospects



**References**

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# STOCHASTIC WINDOW MEAN-PAYOFF GAMES

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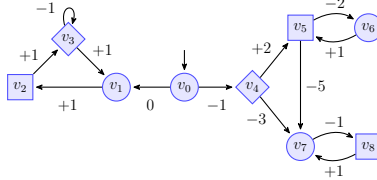
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## Setup

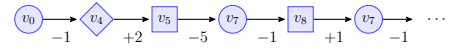
- Played by 2 players
  - player  $\circ$  (*system*)
  - player  $\square$  (*environment*)
- Played on a directed graph with no deadlocks
  - Vertices partitioned into  $(\circ, \square, \diamond)$
  - Probability distributions over out-edges of  $\diamond$
  - Edges have rational payoffs,  $w(e)$

## Example



## Gameplay

1. Place token on initial vertex  $v_{\text{init}}$ .
  2. If token is on  $\circ$ , then player  $\circ$  chooses an out-edge. If token is on  $\square$ , then player  $\square$  chooses an out-edge. If token is on  $\diamond$ , then an out-edge is chosen by the probability distribution.
  3. Move token along the chosen out-edge and go to step 2.
- A *play* is an infinite path in the arena.

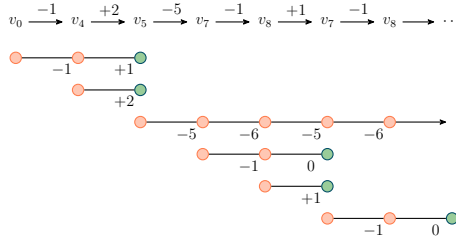


## Window mean-payoff objective $\text{WMP}(\ell)$

Given *window length*  $\ell \geq 1$ .

A play  $\pi$  satisfies  $\text{WMP}(\ell)$  if *eventually*, starting from every point in  $\pi$ , the mean-payoff becomes non-negative in at most  $\ell$  steps.

The objective of player  $\circ$  is to satisfy  $\text{WMP}(\ell)$ .  
The objective of player  $\square$  is to not satisfy  $\text{WMP}(\ell)$ .



## Strategies

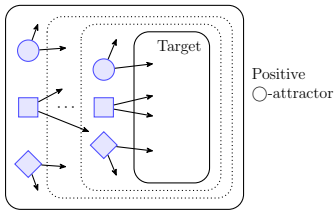
A function that reads the sequence of vertices seen so far, and returns the out-edge that the players should choose.

## Decision problem

Given  $0 \leq p \leq 1$ , does player  $\circ$  have a strategy to satisfy  $\text{WMP}(\ell)$  with probability at least  $p$ ?

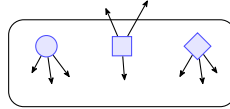
## Positive $\circ$ -attractor of a set

All vertices from which player  $\circ$  can ensure that the token eventually reaches the set with positive probability.



## Trap for player $\circ$

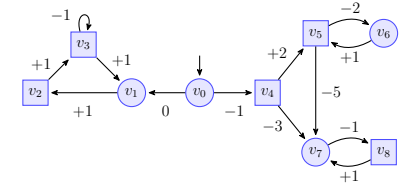
A subset from which player  $\square$  can ensure that the token never leaves.



Note: The complement of a positive  $\circ$ -attractor is a trap for player  $\circ$ .

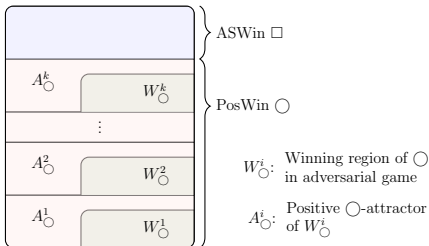
## Adversarial non-stochastic game

Game obtained by changing every  $\diamond$  to  $\square$ .

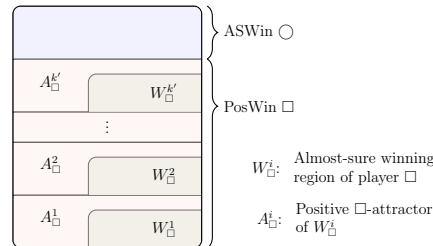


If player  $\circ$  wins in the adversarial game, then she surely wins in the original game.

## Positive winning ( $p > 0$ )



## Almost-sure winning ( $p = 1$ )



## Arbitrary $0 < p < 1$

Follow value class construction as illustrated in [2].

- *Guess* the probability  $p_v$  of player  $\circ$  satisfying  $\text{WMP}(\ell)$  from each vertex  $v$ .
- This yields a partition of vertices in the graph, called *value classes*.
- For each value class, check if the players almost-surely win the objective  $\text{WMP}(\ell) \cup \text{Reach}(\text{Bnd})$ .

## Memory

The *memory* of a strategy is the minimum number of states required to describe the strategy.  
Player 1 requires  $\ell$  memory.  
Player 2 requires  $|V| \cdot \ell$  memory.

## Results

- For the  $\text{WMP}(\ell)$  objective,
- positive winning winning is in P
  - almost-sure winning winning is in P
  - arbitrary  $p$  is in  $\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP}$

## References

- [1] K. Chatterjee, L. Doyen, M. Randour, and J-F. Raskin. "Looking at mean-payoff and total-payoff through windows". In: *Information and Computation* 242 (2015), pp. 25–52.
- [2] K. Chatterjee, T. A. Henzinger, and F. Horn. "Stochastic Games with Finitary Objectives". In: *MFCS*. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2009, pp. 34–54.

# TACAS 2024 Posters

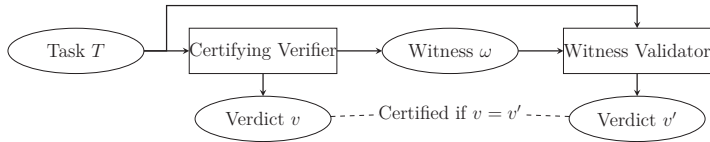


Zsófia Ádám, Dirk Beyer, Po-Chun Chien,  
Nian-Ze Lee, and Nils Sirrenberg

adamzsofi@edu.bme.hu, nils.sirrenberg@campus.lmu.de,  
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Presentation at TACAS 2024: 12:00, Thursday, April 11, Room: TBD

## CERTIFYING AND VALIDATING VERIFICATION



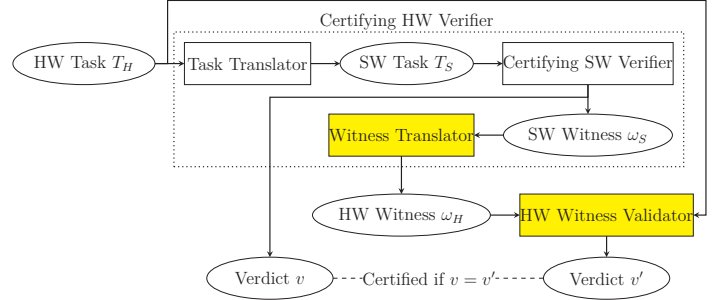
### Our Motivation

- Explainable and trustworthy HW verification (HV)
- SW verification (SV) techniques for HW

### Our Contributions

- A certifying HV framework using SV techniques
- A translator from SW witnesses to HW witnesses
- A witness validator for the BTOR2 HW modeling language [6]
- Complementing HV with certified results from SV

## CERTIFYING HV USING TRANSLATION AND SV



**BTOR2-CERT** instantiates the framework with BTOR2C [1] as frontend and SW verifiers that export GraphML witnesses [2] as backend.

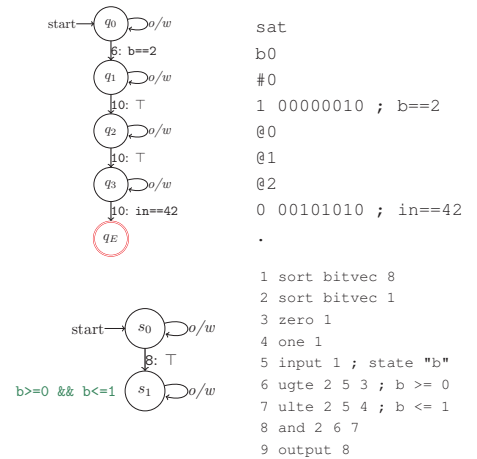
## HW-TO-SW TRANSLATION VIA BTOR2C [1]

```

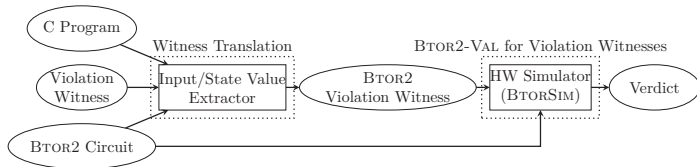
1 sort bitvec 8
2 sort bitvec 1
3 constd 1 42
4 constd 1 2
5 zero 1
6 state 1 ; a
7 state 1 ; b
8 input 1 ; in
9 init 1 6 4 ; a init to 2
10 init 1 7 5 ; b init to 0
11 eq 2 6 5 ; a == 0
12 eq 2 7 4 ; b == 2
13 eq 2 8 3 ; in == 42
14 and 2 11 12
15 and 2 13 14
16 bad 15
17 one 1
18 srl 1 6 17
19 xor 1 7 17
20 next 1 6 18
21 next 1 7 19

1 extern void abort(void);
2 extern unsigned char nondet_uchar();
3 void main() {
4     typedef unsigned char SORT_1;
5     SORT_1 a = nondet_uchar();
6     SORT_1 b = nondet_uchar();
7     a = 2;
8     b = 0; // Omit for unsafe version
9     for (;;) {
10        SORT_1 in = nondet_uchar();
11        if (a == 0 && b == 2 && in == 42) {
12            ERROR:
13            abort();
14        }
15        a = a >> 1;
16        b = b ^ 1;
17    }
18 }
    
```

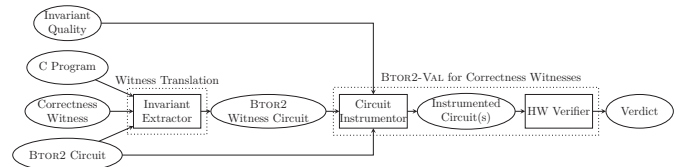
## WITNESS TRANSLATION



## VIOLATION WITNESS VALIDATION



## CORRECTNESS WITNESS VALIDATION



## SUMMARY OF EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

On 758 safe and 456 unsafe BTOR2 verification tasks, **BTOR2-CERT** achieved:

- Translation of all violation and 97 % correctness witnesses,
- Effective and efficient validation vs. compared validators, e.g., LIV [4] and CPA-w2T [3], and
- Certified bugs in 8 % of the unsafe tasks with CBMC [5] that HV overlooked

## INVARIANT QUALITY

Three user-defined quality levels for invariants:

- Invariant (containing all reachable states)
- Safe invariant (implying safety property)
- Safe and inductive invariant

## REFERENCES

- [1] Beyer, D., Chien, P.C., Lee, N.Z.: Bridging hardware and software analysis with BTOR2C: A word-level-circuit-to-C translator. In: Proc. TACAS. pp. 1–21. LNCS 13994 (2023)
- [2] Beyer, D., Dangl, M., Dietsch, D., Heizmann, M., Lemberger, T., Tautschnig, M.: Verification witnesses. ACM Trans. Softw. Eng. Methodol. 31(4), 57:1–57:69 (2022)
- [3] Beyer, D., Dangl, M., Lemberger, T., Tautschnig, M.: Tests from witnesses: Execution-based validation of verification results. In: Proc. TAP. pp. 3–23. LNCS 10889 (2018)
- [4] Beyer, D., Spiessl, M.: LIV: A loop-invariant validation using straight-line programs. In: Proc. ASE. pp. 2074–2077 (2023)
- [5] Clarke, E.M., Kröning, D., Lerda, F.: A tool for checking ANSI-C programs. In: Proc. TACAS. pp. 168–176. LNCS 2988 (2004)
- [6] Niemetz, A., Preiner, M., Wolf, C., Biere, A.: BTOR2, BTORMC, and BOOLECTOR 3.0. In: Proc. CAV. pp. 587–595. LNCS 10981 (2018)

## TRY BTOR2-CERT!



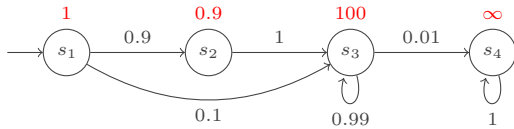
Artifact DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.10548597

# Accurately Computing Expected Visiting Times and Stationary Distributions in Markov Chains

Hannah Mertens, Joost-Pieter Katoen, Tim Quatmann, Tobias Winkler

## Expected Visiting Times (EVTs) [2]

- Describe the expected time a Markov chain spends in each state.
- Characterized as the unique solution of a linear equation system.
- Useful for obtaining reachability probabilities for multiple states, stationary distributions, and expected rewards.



## Contributions

- **Sound and scalable** algorithms for computing EVT.
- Optimized methods for computing stationary distributions and conditional expected rewards by leveraging EVT.
- An implementation in Storm [1].
- An experimental evaluation.



## Applications of EVT

### Reachability probabilities:

- Computing reachability probability of each BSCC reduces to EVT [2].
- One linear equation system instead of one per BSCC.

### Stationary distribution:

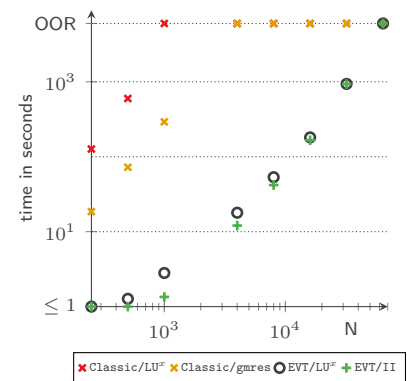
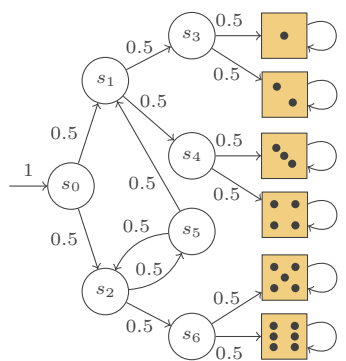
- Sound bounds on the stationary distribution via EVT.
- Significantly faster than existing techniques [3, 5].

### Conditional expected reward:

- Given the EVT, compute the expected rewards conditioned on reaching each BSCC.
- One linear equation system rather than one per BSCC.

## Uniform Distribution Generator

For a given parameter  $N \geq 1$ , we verify that Lumbruso's Fast Dice Roller [4] program produces a uniformly distributed output in  $\{1, \dots, N\}$  by computing the stationary distribution of the corresponding DTMC.



## Approximating EVT

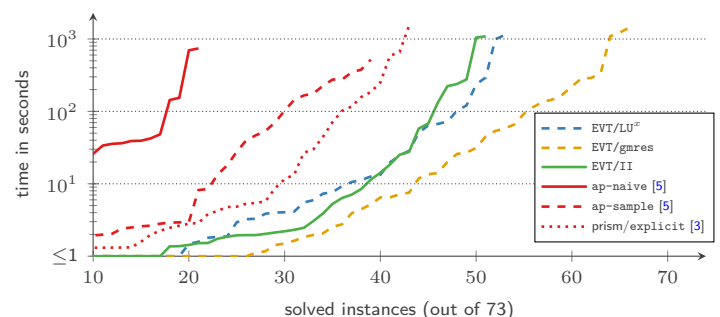
### Value iteration (VI):

- Characterize EVT as the fixed point of an operator.
- Iteratively apply the operator.
- Converges to the unique fixed point in the limit, but no sound stopping criterion.

### Interval iteration (II):

- Converge to the fixed point from *above and below*.
- Stop when the difference between under- and over-approximations is small enough  $\rightsquigarrow$  Sound precision guarantees.

## Computing Stationary Distributions via EVT

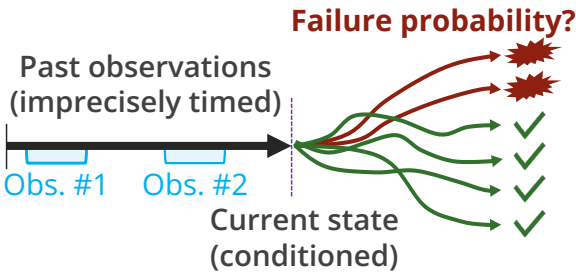


## References

- [1] Christian Hensel et al. "The Probabilistic Model Checker Storm". In: *Int. J. Softw. Tools Technol. Transf.* 2022.
- [2] J.G. Kemeny and J.L. Snell. *Finite Markov Chains*. Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics. 1976.
- [3] Marta Z. Kwiatkowska, Gethin Norman, and David Parker. "PRISM 4.0: Verification of Probabilistic Real-Time Systems". In: *CAV*. 2011.
- [4] Jérémie O. Lumbruso. "Optimal Discrete Uniform Generation from Coin Flips, and Applications". In: *CoRR* abs/1304.1916 (2013).
- [5] Tobias Meggendorfer. "Correct Approximation of Stationary Distributions". In: *TACAS*. 2023.

# CTMCs with Imprecisely Timed Observations

Thom Badings, Matthias Volk, Sebastian Junges, Mariëlle Stoelinga, Nils Jansen



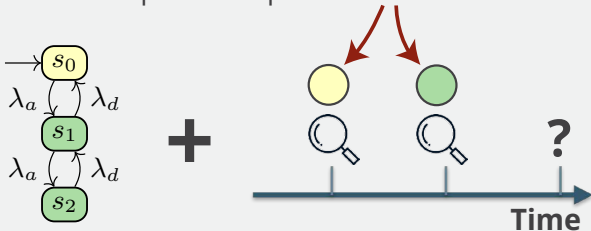
**We compute reachability probabilities\* for CTMCs, conditioned on a sequence of (imprecisely timed) observations.**

*\*and other measures, such as weighted reachability or rewards*

## 1. Motivation

### Continuous-time Markov chains (CTMCs)

- Stochastic processes subject to **random timing**
- Assumption: states are **observed as colors**
- System monitoring:** determine current state, based on a sequence of past **observations**



- Observation times might be **imprecisely known**
- Example: an inspection was done **last week**, but the **precise time is unknown**

### Main question

**How to compute the current state (and predict failures), if observation times are uncertain?**

## 2. Problem statement

- Sequence of timed observations ("evidence"), each of which consists of:
  - A **known color** (state label)
  - An **uncertain observation time** (e.g., interval)
- Fixing a **precise time** for every observation gives an **instance** of the imprecise evidence

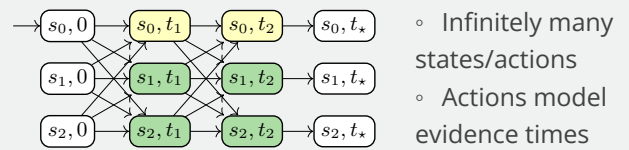


### Problem

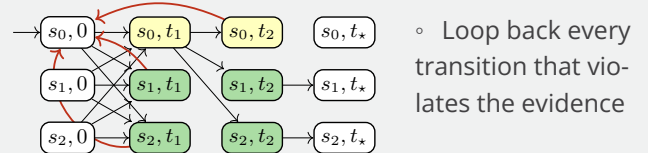
**Compute the maximum (weighted) probability of reaching a subset of (failed) states, over all instances of the evidence**

## 3. Our 3-step unfolding method

### 1. Unfold CTMC + evidence into an MDP

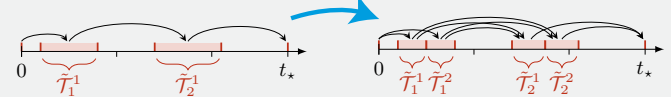


### 2. Condition unfolded MDP on the evidence



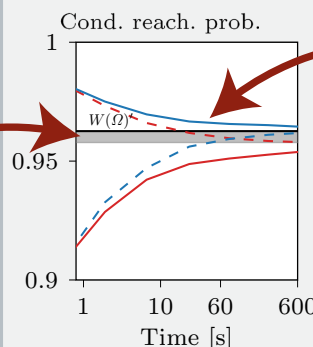
### 3. Abstract (infinite) MDP into (finite) interval MDP

- Each interval MDP state represents a **time interval**
- Iterative **abstraction refinement** by **splitting intervals**



## 4. Evaluation

- Implemented in the model checker Storm
- Tested on 5 CTMCs with 3 - 576 states
- Evidences with 2 - 15 observations



**Tight lower/upper bounds on conditional failure probability**

- Open challenges:
  - Tighter bounds for transient CTMC probabilities
  - Better refinement strategies
  - Improve analysis techniques for iMDPs (policy iteration)

**Check out our paper!**





# CESAR: Control Envelope Synthesis via Angelic Refinements

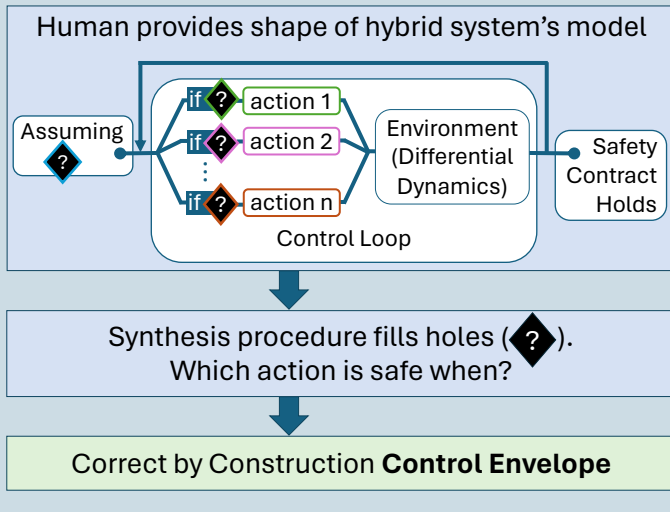
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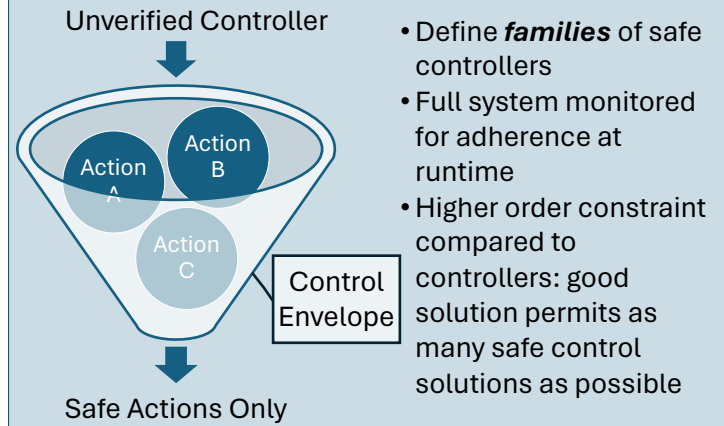
Stefan Mitsch  
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## 1 CESAR: Formally Justified Synthesis

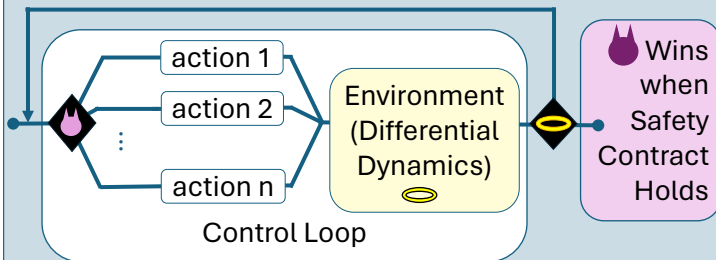


## 2 Control Envelopes



## 3 Characterize Solution Implicitly using Hybrid Systems Game Theory ...

- Differential Game Logic (dGL) formalizes how two adversarial agents Angel (♁) and Demon (♁) take decisions to attain win conditions
- Use agent decisions to characterize the behavior of optimal control ♁ in a maximally difficult environment ♁



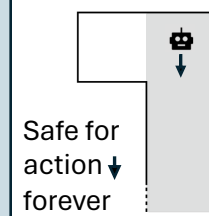
## 4 ... Then Extract an Explicit Solution

Reduce dGL formulas to solution formulas in propositional arithmetic using the axioms of dGL and **refinements**.

Refinements transform games to be easier to reduce yet harder for the controller to win.

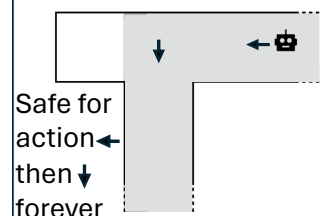
### One-Shot Unrolling

What if the controller can only run one action for unbounded time?



### Bounded Unrolling

What happens when the controller switches actions?



## 5 Evaluation: Varying Control Challenges

Benchmark	Synthesis Time (s)	Checking Time (s)	Optimal	Needs Unrolling	Non Solvable Dynamics
ETCS Train [1]	14	9	✓		
Sled	20	8	✓		
Intersection	49	44	✓		
Parachute [2]	46	8			✓
Curvebot	26	9			✓
Coolant	49	20	✓	✓	
Corridor	20	8	✓	✓	
Power Station	26	17	✓	✓	

CESAR automatically generates control conditions for all benchmarks.

Some benchmarks have non-solvable dynamics, some require a sequence of clever control actions to reach an optimal solution, and some have state-dependent fallbacks where the current state of the system determines which action is "safer".

[1] Platzer, A., Quesel, J.: European train control system: A case study in formal verification. In: Formal Methods and Software Engineering, 11th International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods, ICFEM 2009

[2] Fulton, N., Mitsch, S., Bohrer, R., Platzer, A.: Bellerophon: Tactical theorem proving for hybrid systems. In: Ayala-Rincon, M., Munoz, C.A. (eds.) ITP. LNCS, vol. 10499, pp. 207–224. Springer (2017).

## Problem

Verifying **optimised parallel** code is difficult because it

- uses **intricate** features that are hard to reason about.
- requires **precise** annotations that match the code, which is often harder than writing the code.

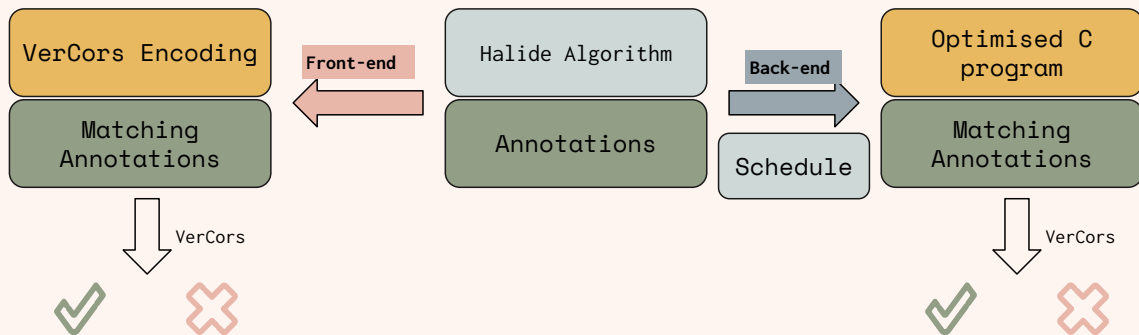


```

loop_invariant (W m, y: 0 ≤ A m1024 A y0252 A y0m7912: mem(blue_mly =
  y08110244), 12):
loop_invariant (W m, y: 0 ≤ A m1024 A y084924 A y0m89142: blue_mly =
  y078110244): m := (y110244)ep_iy1024417e_i1024421731;
loop_invariant (W wif, wof: 0 ≤ wof A wof452 A 0 ≤ wif A wif42; perm(blue_y((y0m
  89142)*1024wof*2wif), 11):
loop_invariant (W wif, wof: 0 ≤ wof A wof452 A 0 ≤ wif A wif42;
  blue_y((y0m89142)*1024wof*2wif) ==
  (p_i((y0m89142)*1024wof*2wif)ep_i((y0m89142)*1024wof*2wif)ep_i((y0m89142)*102
  4wof*2wif)124
  ep_i((y0m89142)*1024wof*2wif)126)ep_i((y0m89142)*1024wof*2wif)127)ep_i((y0m8
  9142)*1024wof*2wif)128)129;
ep_i((y0m89142)*1024wof*2wif)126)ep_i((y0m89142)*1024wof*2wif)127)ep_i((y0m8
  9142)*1024wof*2wif)128)129);
for (int x0 = 0; x0 < 512; x0++)
  int_x0 = mem_1512;
blue_y((mem_1512 * 2)) = ((blue_m1((L49 * 2)) + blue_m1((L49 * 2) + 1024)) * blue_m
  1((L49 * 2) + 1024)) / 32;
mem_1512 = mem_1512;
blue_y((mem_1512 * 2) + 1) = ((blue_m1((L50 * 2) + 1) + blue_m1((L50 * 2) + 1025)
  1 * blue_m1((L50 * 2) + 1024)) / 32;
  // for x0
  // for y0
  // blue_y
  // for y0
  mem_02;
  
```

## Idea

Use **Halide**, an existing DSL targeting the image & tensor domain.



1. The code is written in an **algorithm** part that captures the functionality.
2. Add **annotations** to the algorithm.
3. **Front-end approach:**
  - a. Encode the algorithm with matching annotations.
  - b. Verify with **VerCors**.
4. The algorithm is transformed using a **schedule**, producing optimised C code.
5. **Back-end approach:**
  - a. **HaliVer** produces matching annotations for the optimised code, using similar transformations as the Halide compiler.
  - b. Verify the optimised code using VerCors, proving **memory safety** and **functional correctness** properties.

**HaliVer**

## Results & Future work

### Results

- 8 different *algorithms*.
- 23 optimisation *schedules*.
- Without annotation effort proves **memory safety** for almost all programs.
- With annotation proves **functional correctness** properties.
- **Reduces** manual annotation effort by an order of magnitude.

### Future work

- Target **GPUs**.
- **Vectorisation** optimisation.
- Verify arbitrary bounds (leads to non-linear arithmetic).
- Add **Axiomatic Data Types** and user defined pure functions to annotation language.

### Contact info

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[cheops.win.tue.nl/](http://cheops.win.tue.nl/)

**Try it out yourself!**

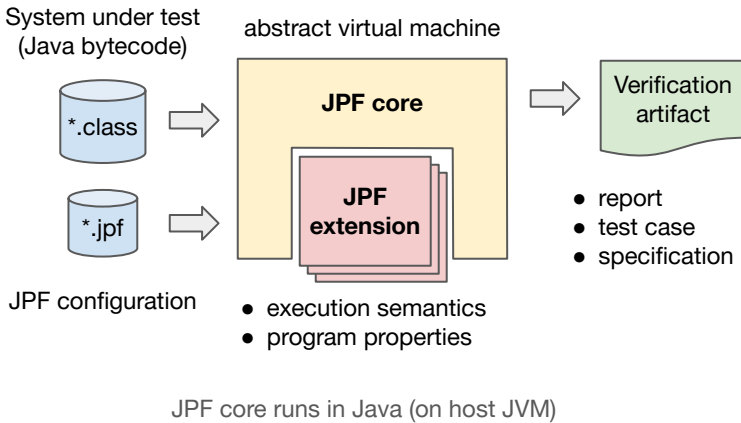
[github.com/sakehl/HaliVerExperiments](https://github.com/sakehl/HaliVerExperiments)



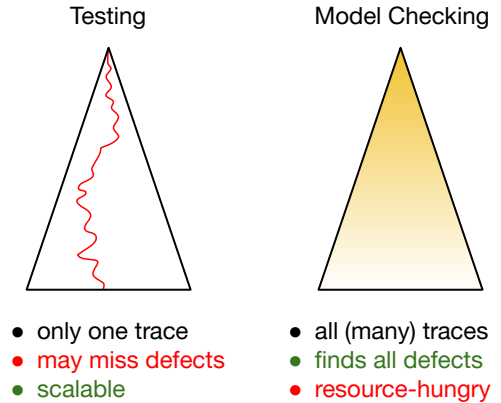
# JPF: From 2003 to 2023

Cyrille Artho, Pavel Parízek, Daohan Qu, Varadraj Galgali, Pu (Luke) Yi  
 KTH Royal Institute of Technology; Charles University; Nanjing University; Belgaum; Stanford University

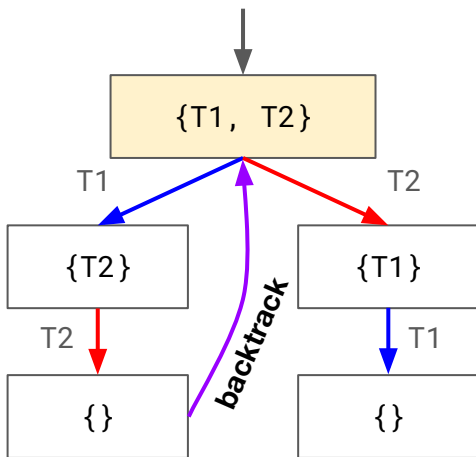
## JPF: A bytecode analysis framework



## Beyond Testing



## Software Model Checking



Strength: counterexample on failure

## JPF successes

- Reliability analysis of NASA software components
- Locking protocol analysis of real-time kernel
- Analysis of java.nio libraries
- Teaching concurrency in Master's courses
- Detection of flaky tests

## Challenges

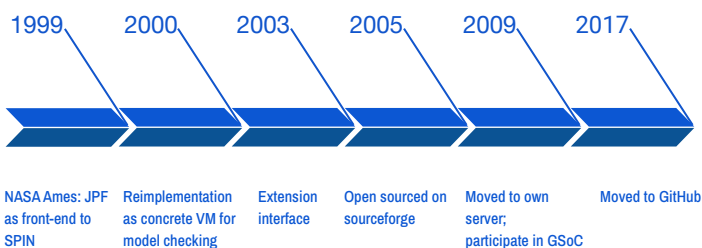
Native methods: `private native int encode(...)`  
`@MJI public int encode_Ljava_lang_...`

Bootstrap methods: `invokedynamic makeConcatWithConstants`  
`BootstrapMethods: REF_... makeConcatWith...`

Java version: 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 17

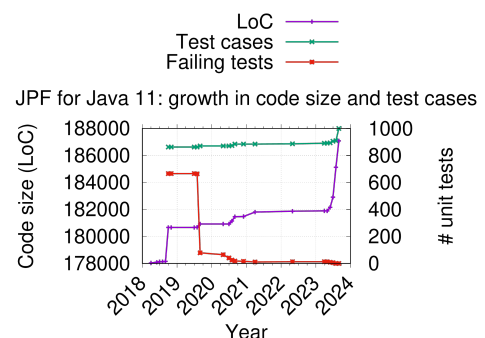
Generics, for-each (5); Annotations, bytecode changes (6); invokedynamic, varargs (7); Lambda expressions (8); Modules, compact strings, internal APIs (11); Records, sealed classes, ... (17)

## History of JPF



2005–today: Many extensions: Symbolic execution, native methods, analysis of networked software, analysis of Android apps

## JPF for Java 11 development



Thanks to Google Summer of Code!

<https://github.com/javapathfinder/jpf-core>



# Auction-Based Scheduling

Guy Avni<sup>1</sup>, Kaushik Mallik<sup>2</sup>, and Suman Sadhukhan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA), Klosterneuburg, Austria



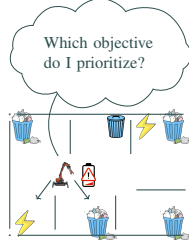
## Multi-objective Control Problems

Consider a robot in a workspace with the following two objectives:

- Reach trash cans (and empty them) whenever they are full.
- Reach a charging station before the robot's battery runs out.

The goal: Synthesize a policy for the robot that satisfies both objectives in every run (possibly infinite).

**Problem:** Given an environment model, like a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , and a pair of LTL objectives  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$  over  $V$ , with  $\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2 \neq \text{False}$ , synthesize a policy (for  $G$ , a policy is an infinite path) that satisfies  $\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$ .



Traditional monolithic approach: Synthesize a policy by treating  $\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$  as a single objective.  
Our decentralized approach: Synthesize local policies for  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$  and compose them at runtime.

Advantages of the decentralized approach:

- **Modularity.** If only one of the objectives changes, a recomputation of the policy for the other objective may be avoided.
- **Parallel computation.** The local policies, for the given objectives, can be created independently and in parallel—even by different parties.

## The Auction-Based Scheduling Framework

The composition of local policies is nontrivial, because the policies may disagree on their actions at any given time. Auction-based scheduling is a novel runtime policy-composition framework, where the policies participate in *auctions* (aka *biddings*) for the privilege of executing their favorite actions.

**Tenders: policies augmented with bidding capabilities.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and  $\phi$  be an arbitrary objective over  $V$ . We distinguish two types of policies, ones that select actions and ones that select bids:

- An *action policy* for  $\phi$  is a function  $\alpha : V^* \rightarrow V$  that chooses the next vertex for any given finite path. Applying  $\alpha$  repeatedly from an initial vertex generates an infinite path that satisfies  $\phi$ .
- A *bidding policy* is a function  $\beta : V \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  with the constraint that  $\beta(v, B) \leq B$  for every  $v, B$ . Intuitively,  $\beta(v, B)$  is the proposed bid if the current vertex is  $v$  and the current budget is  $B$ ; the constraint  $\beta(v, B) \leq B$  ensures that the bid does not exceed the budget.

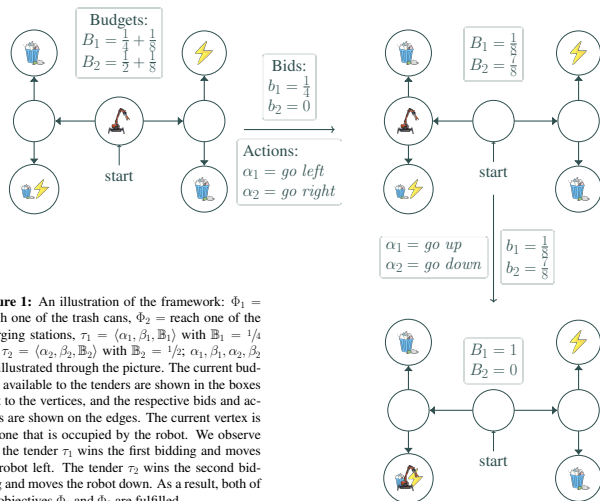
A tender  $\tau$  for  $\phi$  is a tuple  $\langle \alpha, \beta, \mathbb{B} \rangle$ , consisting of an action policy  $\alpha$  for  $\phi$ , a bidding policy  $\beta$ , and a real number  $\mathbb{B} \in [0, 1]$  called the *threshold budget*.

Each tender requires a sufficient initial budget to be able to bid correctly and “serve” the objective it was designed for. The threshold budget  $\mathbb{B}$  is the infimum of the set of sufficient initial budgets; a formal explanation of the role of  $\mathbb{B}$  will be provided in [∗]. The heart of our approach is the composition operation on two tenders:

**The composition of two tenders.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph,  $\tau_1 = \langle \alpha_1, \beta_1, \mathbb{B}_1 \rangle$  and  $\tau_2 = \langle \alpha_2, \beta_2, \mathbb{B}_2 \rangle$  be two tenders (for a pair of given objectives). The **pre-requisite** for the composition:  $\mathbb{B}_1 + \mathbb{B}_2 < 1$ . The composition generates an infinite path defined inductively as follows:

- Let  $v^0 \in V$  be the initial vertex, and  $B_1 > \mathbb{B}_1$  and  $B_2 > \mathbb{B}_2$  be the initial budgets allotted to  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$ , respectively, such that  $B_1 + B_2 = 1$  (feasible, because of the pre-requisite stated above).
- For each prefix  $v^0 \dots v^k \in V^*$  and for any current budgets  $B_1, B_2$ , let  $b_1 = \beta_1(v^k, B_1)$  and  $b_2 = \beta_2(v^k, B_2)$  be the two bids proposed by the respective tenders.
  - If  $b_1 > b_2$  then  $\tau_1$  wins the current round of auction, pays  $b_1$  to  $\tau_2$  so that  $B_1 := B_1 - b_1$  and  $B_2 := B_2 + b_1$  are the new budgets, and chooses  $v^{k+1} = \alpha_1(v^0 \dots v^k)$  as the next vertex.
  - If  $b_2 > b_1$  then  $\tau_2$  wins the current round of auction, pays  $b_2$  to  $\tau_1$  so that  $B_1 := B_1 + b_2$  and  $B_2 := B_2 - b_2$  are the new budgets, and chooses  $v^{k+1} = \alpha_2(v^0 \dots v^k)$  as the next vertex.
  - If  $b_1 = b_2$  then it is tie which is resolved in a predetermined way.

{∗} **The role of threshold budgets.** Let  $G$  be a graph and  $\phi$  be an objective. The threshold budget  $\mathbb{B}$  guarantees that there exist  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that the composition of the tender  $\tau = \langle \alpha, \beta, \mathbb{B} \rangle$  with any other tender  $\tau'$  (fulfilling the pre-requisite) generates an infinite path satisfying  $\phi$ .



**Figure 1:** An illustration of the framework:  $\Phi_1 =$  reach one of the trash cans,  $\Phi_2 =$  reach one of the charging stations,  $\tau_1 = \langle \alpha_1, \beta_1, \mathbb{B}_1 \rangle$  with  $\mathbb{B}_1 = 1/4$  and  $\tau_2 = \langle \alpha_2, \beta_2, \mathbb{B}_2 \rangle$  with  $\mathbb{B}_2 = 1/2$ ;  $\alpha_1, \beta_1, \alpha_2, \beta_2$  are illustrated through the picture. The current budgets available to the tenders are shown in the boxes next to the vertices, and the respective bids and actions are shown on the edges. The current vertex is the one that is occupied by the robot. We observe that the tender  $\tau_1$  wins the first bidding and moves the robot left. The tender  $\tau_2$  wins the second bidding and moves the robot down. As a result, both of the objectives  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$  are fulfilled.

## Decentralised Synthesis w/ Varying Degrees of Synchronization

**The decentralized synthesis problem:** Given a graph  $G$  and a pair of objectives  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$ , synthesize tenders  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$ , respectively for  $\Phi_1$  and  $\Phi_2$ , such that their composition fulfills  $\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$ .

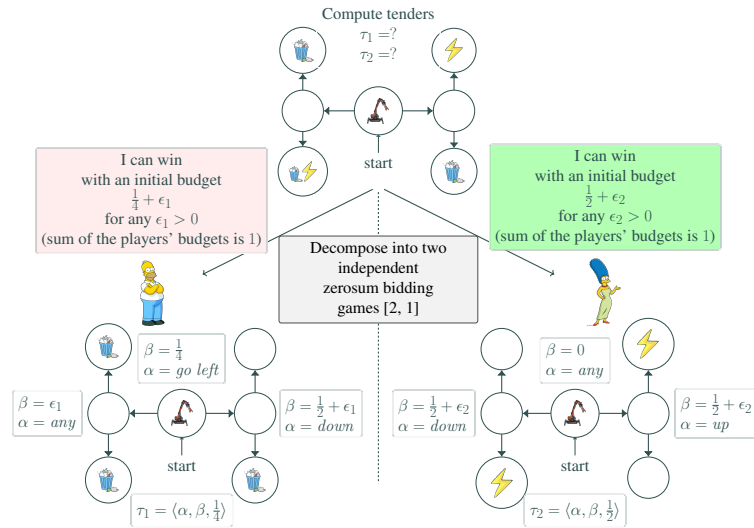
Ideally, the synthesis of  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  should be possible in isolation, without the knowledge of the other objective. In practice, this may not be always possible, because the pre-requisite  $\mathbb{B}_1 + \mathbb{B}_2 < 1$  may not be achievable. Luckily, the thresholds  $\mathbb{B}_1$  and  $\mathbb{B}_2$  can be lowered by incorporating some additional *assumptions* about the other tender. Based on the strength of the assumption, we consider three classes of decentralized synthesis problems; they are listed below in the order of strengths of the assumptions:

Strong < Assume-Admissible < Assume-Guarantee

### Strong Synthesis: Assume the Worst Case (Weakest Assumption)

**Advantage:** Complete modularity: Each tender remains valid no matter how the other objective is altered.

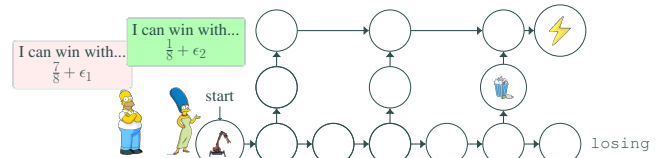
**Figure 2:** The gist of the algorithm for strong synthesis: We solve two independent zerosum bidding games on the same graph with the individual objectives. The solution of the respective game provides the respective tender. In the two bidding games, it can be shown that the protagonists—Homer and Marge—can win against any adversary with initial budgets strictly greater than  $1/4$  and  $1/2$ , respectively. Their respective winning strategies provide us the required  $\alpha_1, \beta_1, \alpha_2, \beta_2$ , and the thresholds  $1/4$  and  $1/2$  provide  $\mathbb{B}_1$  and  $\mathbb{B}_2$ , respectively. The strong synthesis is successful because  $\mathbb{B}_1 + \mathbb{B}_2 < 1$ .



**Theorem:** If strong synthesis generates a pair of tenders  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  with  $\mathbb{B}_1 + \mathbb{B}_2 < 1$ , then the composition of  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  fulfills  $\Phi_1 \wedge \Phi_2$ .

The following is an example where strong synthesis fails to generate tenders with  $\mathbb{B}_1 + \mathbb{B}_2 < 1$ .

**Figure 3:** Homer and Marge require initial budgets strictly larger than  $7/8$  and  $1/8$ , respectively. Therefore,  $\mathbb{B}_1 = 7/8$  and  $\mathbb{B}_2 = 1/8$ , and  $\mathbb{B}_1 + \mathbb{B}_2 \not< 1$ .



### Assume-Admissible Synthesis: Assume Rational (Admissible) Behavior

When strong synthesis fails, we may make the tenders aware of each other's objectives and let them assume that the other tender acts *rationally* towards its own objective. For example, in both local synthesis problems from Fig. 3, the players become aware that the vertex *losing* will not be visited by the other tender if it plays rationally. Therefore, *losing* can be removed from both games, lowering the amounts of required initial budgets (which become  $3/4 + \epsilon_1$  and  $0 + \epsilon_2$ , respectively).

**Advantage:** Modularity modulo unchanged rational behavior: Each tender  $\tau_i$  remains valid as long as the rational actions of the other tender  $\tau_{3-i}$  remain unchanged. In particular, if the other objective  $\Phi_{3-i}$  remains unchanged, the tender  $\tau_{3-i}$  can be swapped with a different tender  $\tau'_{3-i}$  (possibly implementing an alternate policy) and no adjustment in  $\tau_i$  will be needed.

**Theorem:** For every graph with maximum out-degree 2 and for every pair of  $\omega$ -regular objectives, assume-admissible synthesis will have non-empty solutions.

### Assume-Guarantee Synthesis: Assume Fulfillment of Contracts (Strongest Assumption)

When even assume-admissible synthesis fails, we can use assume-guarantee synthesis where the tenders are synchronized through pre-computed assume-guarantee contracts; the details can be found in the paper.

## References

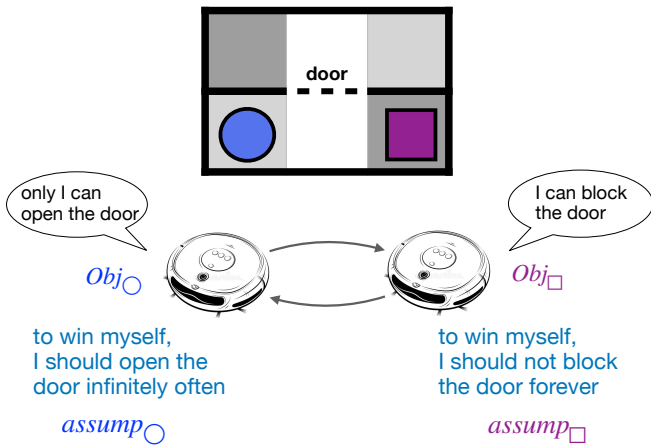
- [1] G. Avni and T. A. Henzinger. A survey of bidding games on graphs. In *Proc. 31st CONCUR*, volume 171 of *LIPICs*, pages 2:1–2:21. Schloss Dagstuhl - Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, 2020.
- [2] A. J. Lazarus, D. E. Loeb, J. G. Propp, W. R. Stromquist, and D. H. Ullman. Combinatorial games under auction play. *Games and Economic Behavior*, 27(2):229–264, 1999.

# Most General Winning Secure Equilibria

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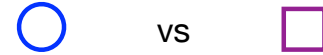
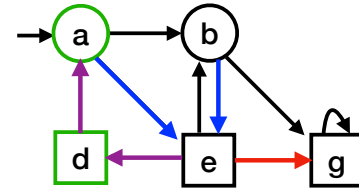
## Rational Robots in a Workspace



**Secure equilibrium** = cooperative strategy + punishment strategy  
 alternately use the middle passage      block the door forever

**How to generalize secure equilibria to have more flexibility for the systems?**

## Rational Players in a Graph Game

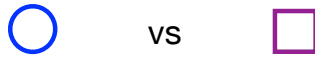
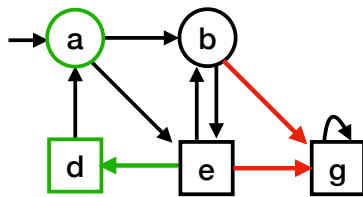


$Obj_O = \text{infinitely often } a$        $Obj_S = \text{infinitely often } d$

$Goal_O = (Obj_O, \neg Obj_S)$        $Goal_S = (Obj_S, \neg Obj_O)$

**Winning Secure equilibrium (WSE)**      cooperative + punishment  
 $(Str_O, Str_S)$       ..a → e + ..b → e  
 ▶  $(Str_O, Str_S) \models \text{both wins}$   
 ▶  $Str_O \models O \text{ loses} \Rightarrow S \text{ loses}$       ..e → d + ..e → g  
 ▶  $Str_S \models S \text{ loses} \Rightarrow O \text{ loses}$       ..d → a + ..d → a

## Generalizing Winning Secure Equilibria



$Obj_O = \text{infinitely often } a$        $Obj_S = \text{infinitely often } d$

$assump_O = \text{never } (b \rightarrow g)$        $assump_S = \text{never } (e \rightarrow g)$   
 $\wedge \text{inf } (e) \Rightarrow \text{inf } (e \rightarrow d)$

**Most General WSE**

$(\Psi_O, \Psi_S)$

- ▶  $\Psi_O \wedge \Psi_S \equiv Obj_O \wedge Obj_S$
- ▶ each  $\Psi_i$  is realizable by Player  $i$
- ▶ every  $(Str_O, Str_S)$  with  $Str_i \models \Psi_i$  forms a WSE

$\Psi_O = assump_O \wedge (assump_S \Rightarrow Obj_O)$

$\Psi_S = assump_S \wedge (assump_O \Rightarrow Obj_S)$

## Contribution

- most general WSE = collection of equilibria as **independently** realizable specifications
- **sound** and **efficient** but incomplete algorithm
- generalized to k-player games (even with **Env**)

## Future Works

- extend the notion to other equilibria, e.g., subgame-perfect equilibria
- quantitative settings





# Pareto Curves for Compositionally Model Checking String Diagrams of MDPs

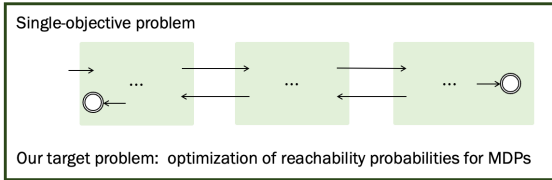
Kazuki Watanabe<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Marck van der Vegt<sup>3\*</sup>, Ichiro Hasuo<sup>1,2</sup>, Jurriaan Rot<sup>3</sup>, Sebastian Junges<sup>3</sup>

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Accepted in 30<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Tools and Algorithms for the Construction and Analysis of Systems (TACAS), 2024

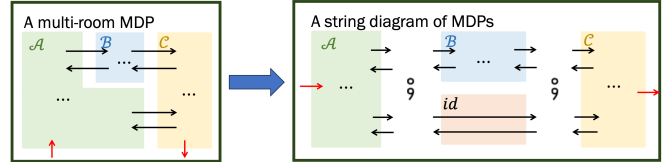
## Setting: Optimizing Reachability Probabilities of String Diagrams of MDPs Scheduler Synthesis + Its Performance Guarantee

Target problem



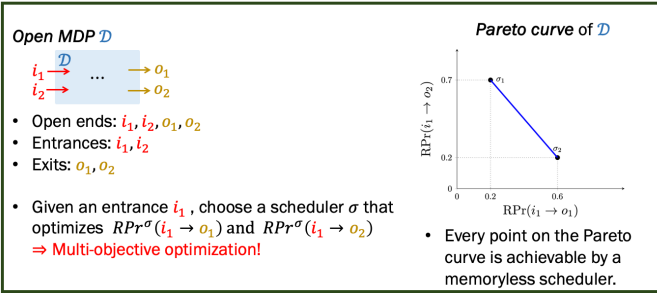
Overview: Compositional Formalism

String diagram of MDPs [Watanabe, Eberhart, Asada, Hasuo, CAV'23]  
 • A graphical expression with algebraic operations

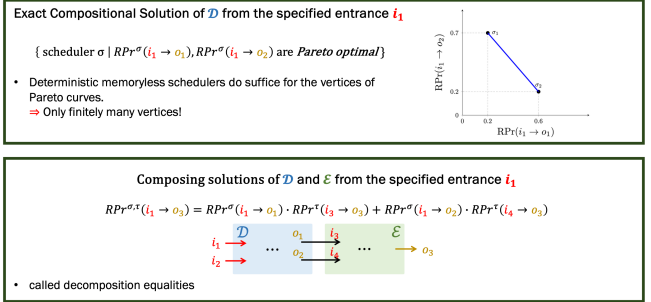


## Compositional Exact Algorithm for String Diagrams of MDPs

Open MDP [Watanabe+, CAV'23]



Overview: Compositional Exact Algorithm [Watanabe+, CAV'23]



## Main Contribution: Compositional Approximation Algorithm for String Diagrams of MDPs

Overview: Compositional Approximation Algorithm (New!)

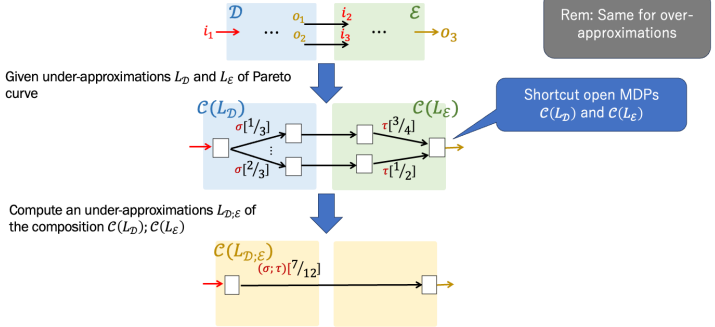
Problem on compositional exact algorithm:  
 • Exponentially many vertices on Pareto curves  
 ⇒ too costly to compute

Our Approach

Sound approximation  $(L, U)$  of Pareto curve

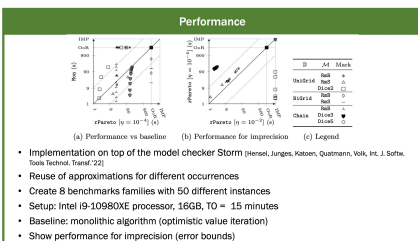


Composing Sound Approximations



## Experiments and Related Work:

Related Work



Discussion

Table 1: Benchmark details (time in s, MO=memory out, TO=time out)

D	M	[S]M	#A	[S]A	Non. Prec	Pareto ( $\eta = 10^{-2}$ )	Pareto ( $\eta = 10^{-1}$ )	Outs
ThiOr14500	Ball	1.1e+08	14	148582	MO	MO	MO	17
ThiOr14500	Ball	4.2e+08	14	148582	MO	MO	MO	17
ThiOr14500	Ball	6.3e+08	14	148582	MO	MO	MO	17
ThiOr14500	Ball	5.4e+07	14	74424	170	43	30	5
ThiOr14500	Ball	2.1e+08	14	42483	141	161	80	11
ThiOr14500	Ball	3.3e+08	14	74424	MO	MO	MO	46
ThiOr14500	Ball	1.8e+08	14	42483	141	161	80	11
ThiOr14500	Ball	2.1e+07	6	42483	258	24	30	11
ThiOr14500	Ball	8.3e+08	16	1332	16	1	1	1
ThiOr14500	Ball	3.4e+08	16	1332	145	1	1	1

- Baseline: monolithic (MO) and exact algorithm (Prec) [Watanabe et al., CAV'23]
- Overall, experiments show that our compositional approximation algorithm can solve a big MDP, where the number of state is more than  $10^8$
- Disadvantage: increasing number of exits can significantly worsen the performance ⇒ keeping number of objectives small is important for performance.

Compositional Approach for Sequential Composition ;

- Widely studied: [Barry et al., UCAI'11], [Jothimurugan et al., NeurIPS'21], [Junges & Spaan, CAV'22], [Neary et al., AAAI'22], [Watanabe et al., CAV'23], etc.
- Our approach: composing approximation of Pareto curves
- Many of them study expected rewards

Probabilistic Model Checking wrt. Parallel Composition ;

- Compositional model checking of parallel composition  $\mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{B}$
- Using Pareto curves for obtaining sound approximations
- Assume-guarantee "contracts" betw.  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  must be devised [Kwiatkowska et al., Inf. Comp. '13]

Sequential Value Iteration [Hahn & Hartmanns, SETTA'16], [Hartmanns et al., J. Autom. Reason. '20]

- Essentially rely on unidirectional composition
- Similar to the topological value iteration
- Our approach can work with bidirectional composition

## Abstract

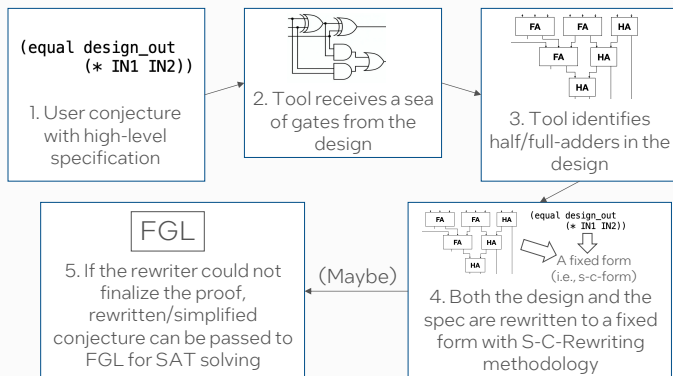
Formal verification of multipliers, especially industrial designs, is difficult. We use the **S-C-Rewriting** method to efficiently verify a variety of multiplier-centric hardware designs. This work presents a custom tool, **VeSCMul**, that packs this method and other tools for easy verification of RTL multipliers. VeSCMul is fully verified itself, very fast, and compatible with industrial designs.

## What is S-C-Rewriting?

- A custom term-rewriting method for multipliers: a set of rewrite rules convert both the RTL expressions and high-level specification to the same final form.
- Developed for industrial designs: method supports many configurations such as shifted, truncated, saturated outputs; multiply, multiply-add, dot product...
- Very fast & scales well: 64x64-bit multipliers are verified in seconds, 1024x1024-bit in minutes (much faster than any other method).
- Reliable verification results: soundness proofs are done through ACL2 theorem prover and programming language.
- Caveat: requires separation of multiplier's adder components from the rest of the circuit design components.

## What is VeSCMul?

VeSCMul is a tool that implements S-C-Rewriting, and an adder detection program for full automation. It works with other utilities to support verification of complex Verilog designs.



1. Based on target design, user states the conjecture to prove.
2. Included tools (ACL2's SV/SVTV) parses Verilog code and creates flattened symbolic simulation vectors.
3. As S-C-Rewriting depends on adder separation, the tool automatically finds and marks adders.
4. S-C-Rewriting is employed to rewrite both the design and spec to the same form.
5. If rewriting does not finalize the correctness proof, rewritten form may be passed to another tool (FGL) for finalizing the proof or counterexample generation.

## VeSCMul Demo

VeSCMul is open-source and distributed with public ACL2 (interactive theorem prover). Events to verify a 64x64-bit multiplier:

```
(include-book "projects/vescmul/top" :dir :system)

(vescmul-parse
 :name my-multiplier-example
 :file "DT_SB4_HC_64_64_multgen.sv"
 :topmodule "DT_SB4_HC_64_64")

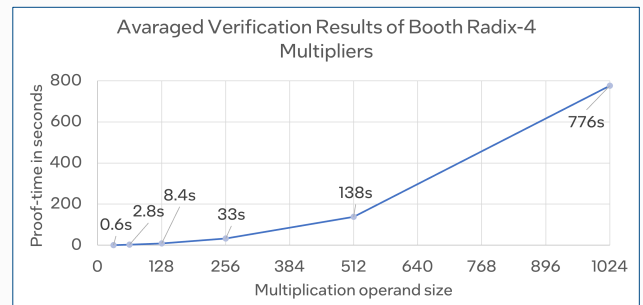
(vescmul-verify
 :name my-multiplier-example
 :concl (equal RESULT
              (loghead 128 (* (logext 64 IN1)
                             (logext 64 IN2))))))
```

- `include-book` event loads VeSCMul and required libraries.
- `vescmul-parse` event parses the target design.
- `vescmul-verify` event attempts to verify the conjecture. `RESULT` is 128-bit wide design output and should be signed multiplication of 64-bit wide inputs `IN1` and `IN2`. `logext` sign-extends, `*` multiplies, `loghead` truncates values. This proof event takes 1-2 seconds and runs fully automatically.

## Noteworthy Features

- Ability to state custom conjectures, supporting multiplier variants such as multiply-add, shifted/truncated outputs (vital for industrial designs)
- Fully automatic, only a fraction of target designs requiring manual intervention
- Integration into other verification flows, helpful during more complex tasks such as verification of floating-point designs
- The program itself is fully verified, delivering soundness guarantees of its results

## Results



- Tested with 1000s of different design configurations.
- Also got successful results in industrial designs, including verification flow of FP fused multiply-add. Tool helped notably cut down on verification time for new designs.
- Future work includes more testing and further improvements as needed.

# Provable Preimage Under-Approximation for Neural Networks

Xiyue Zhang, Benjie Wang and Marta Kwiatkowska  
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An **anytime, scalable and flexible** method for preimage approximation of neural networks, with application to **quantitative verification**.

## Background

Characterizing the preimage symbolically allows us to perform more complex analysis for a **wider class of properties** beyond local robustness, such as computing the proportion of inputs satisfying a property (quantitative verification) even if standard robustness verification fails.

## Methods

Preimage approximation with provable guarantees:

- Efficient** input bounding plane generation
- Refinement** algorithm with novel input-split and ReLU-split methods
- Optimization** of convex bounding functions for tighter preimage approximation

Symbolic lower/upper bounding functions from output to input:  $\underline{b} - \underline{A}x \leq f(x) \leq \bar{b} - \bar{A}x$

- under-approximation** in the form of polytope:

$$\{x \mid \underline{b} - \underline{A}x \geq 0\} \rightarrow \{x \mid f(x) \geq 0\}$$

Refinement via splitting plane

- split the domain into subdomains to derive **tighter** preimage polytope over the subdomain
- the preimage is the **union** of the polytopes

$$\bigcup_{k \in [1, N]} \{x : b_k - A_k x \geq 0\}$$

Refinement via naïve splitting is infeasible

Q1. How to **prioritize** which leaf **subregion** to split?

Region search strategy:  $\text{vol}(C_1) - \text{vol}(C_1') > \text{vol}(C_2) - \text{vol}(C_2')$

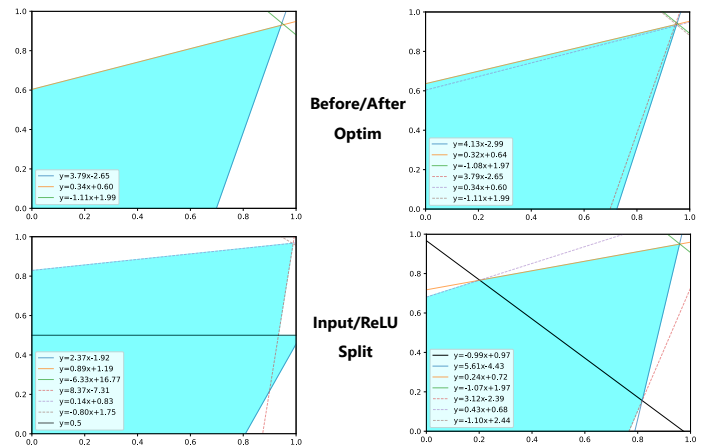
Q2. How to identify the best **splitting plane**?

Greedy method:  $\text{vol}(T(C_1)) + \text{vol}(T(C_2)) > \text{vol}(T(C_1')) + \text{vol}(T(C_2'))$

Optimize polytope volume via gradient descent

- The optimization problem over  $\alpha$  for K specifications

$$\max_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \int_{x \in C} \mathbb{1}_{\min_{i \in [1, K]} f_i(x, \alpha_i) \geq 0} dx$$



## Result 1: Comparison with SOTA methods

Models	Exact		Invprop		Our	
	#Poly	Time(s)	Time(s)	Cov(%)	#Poly	Time(s)
Vehicle Parking	10	3110.979	2.642	92.1	4	1.175
VCAS (avg.)	131	6363.272	-	-	12	11.281

$L_\infty$ attack	#Poly	Cov(%)	Time(s)	Patch attack	#Poly	Cov(%)	Time(s)
0.05	2	100.0	3.107	3 × 3(center)	1	100.0	2.611
0.07	247	75.2	121.661	4 × 4(center)	678	38.2	455.988
0.08	522	75.1	305.867	6 × 6(corner)	2	100.0	9.065
0.09	733	16.5	507.116	7 × 7(corner)	7	84.2	10.128

- Orders-of-magnitude improvement in **efficiency**
- Preimage in the form of **disjoint polytope union**
- Splitting method** designed for preimage abstraction
- Scalability** to high-dimensional inputs

## Result 2: Comparison with robustness verifiers

Task	$\alpha, \beta$ -CROWN		Our	
	Result	Time(s)	Cov(%)	#Poly Time(s)
Cartpole ( $\dot{\theta} \in [-1.642, -1.546]$ )	yes	3.349	100.0	1 1.137
Cartpole ( $\dot{\theta} \in [-1.642, 0]$ )	no	6.927	94.9	2 3.632
MNIST ( $L_\infty$ 0.026)	yes	3.415	100.0	1 2.649
MNIST ( $L_\infty$ 0.04)	unknown	267.139	100.0	2 3.019

- Provide **quantitative** results when the safety property does not hold.



Scan me for full text



## Quadratization: What?

Consider a system in  $\bar{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ :

$$\begin{cases} x'_1 = f_1(\bar{x}), \\ \dots \\ x'_n = f_n(\bar{x}), \end{cases} \quad \text{where } f_1, \dots, f_n \in \mathbb{C}[\bar{x}].$$

New variables  $y_1 = g_1(\bar{x}), \dots, y_m = g_m(\bar{x})$  are called **quadratization** if there exist  $h_1, \dots, h_{m+n} \in \mathbb{C}[\bar{x}, \bar{y}]$ ,  $\deg h_1, \dots, \deg h_{m+n} \leq 2$  such that

$$\begin{cases} x'_1 = h_1(\bar{x}, \bar{y}), \\ \dots \\ x'_n = h_n(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{cases} y'_1 = h_{n+1}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \\ \dots \\ y'_m = h_{n+m}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) \end{cases}$$

### Toy example

$$x' = x^4 \quad (\text{degree} = 4) \xrightarrow{\text{introduce } y := x^3} \begin{cases} x' = xy \\ y' = 3x'y^2 = 3x^6 \end{cases} \quad (\text{degree} \leq 2)$$

## Quadratization: Why?

- **Synthesis of chemical reaction networks:**  
 $\deg \leq 2 \iff$  bimolecular network
- **Reachability analysis:** explicit error bounds for Carleman linearization in the quadratic case.
- **Moder Order Reduction (MOR)**

## Research objectives

How to design a quadratization algorithm that preserves the **numerical** properties of the original system and ensures the **computational efficiency** of the algorithm.

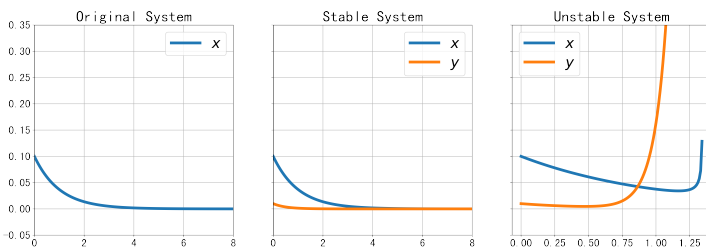


Figure 1. Plot of the following systems with initial condition  $X_0 = [x_0, y_0 - x_0^3] = [0.1, 0.01]$ .

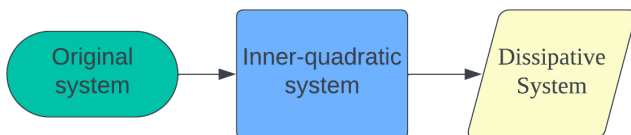
The third system is **unstable** and **diverges** in numerical integral!

Original:  $x' = -x + x^3 \iff$

Stable:  $\begin{cases} x' = -x + xy \\ y' = -2y + 2y^2 \end{cases} \iff$

Unstable:  $\begin{cases} x' = -x + xy \\ y' = -2y + 2y^2 + 12(y - x^2) = 10y - 12x^2 + 2y^2 \end{cases}$

## Our Methodology



We define a system of differential equations

$$x' = p(x), \tag{1}$$

where  $x = x(t) = (x_1(t), \dots, x_n(t))$  is a vector of unknown functions and  $p = (p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is a vector of  $n$ -variate polynomials  $p_1, \dots, p_n \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ .

**Definition 1 (Equilibrium).** For a polynomial ODE system (1), a point  $x^* \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is called an *equilibrium* if  $p(x^*) = 0$ .

**Definition 2 (Dissipativity).** An ODE system (1) is called *dissipative* at an equilibrium point  $x^*$  if all the eigenvalues of the Jacobian  $J(p)|_{x=x^*}$  of  $p$  and  $x^*$  have negative real part. It is known that a system which is dissipative at an equilibrium point  $x^*$  is *asymptotically stable* at  $x^*$ .

## Examples of our methods

Consider the following differential equation:

$$x' = -x(x-1)(x-2)$$

- **System's equilibria:** 0, 1, 2
- **Dissipative equilibria**  $x = 0$  and  $x = 2$

**Inner-quadratic quadratization:** introduce  $y = x^2$

$$\begin{cases} x' = -xy + 3x^2 - 2x, \\ y' = -2y^2 + 6xy - 4x^2 - \lambda(y - x^2) \end{cases}$$

**Dissipative quadratization:** append **stabilizer**  $h(x, y) = y - x^2$  into the inner-quadratic system with scalar parameter  $\lambda$

$$\Sigma_\lambda = \begin{cases} x' = -xy + 3x^2 - 2x, \\ y' = -2y^2 + 6xy - 4x^2 - \lambda(y - x^2) \end{cases}$$

Jacobian matrix of the above system:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} -y + 6x - 2 & -x \\ 6y + 2\lambda x - 8x & -4y - \lambda + 6x \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $\lambda = 1, 2, 4, 8, \dots$  we check the eigenvalues of its Jacobian at points (0, 0) and (2, 4):

$\lambda$	at (0, 0)	at (2, 4)
1	-2, -1	-2, <b>3</b>
2	-2, -2	-2, <b>2</b>
4	-2, -4	-2, <b>0</b>
8	-2, -8	-2, -4

Table 1. Eigenvalues of the Jacobian of  $\Sigma_\lambda$

## Applications

- Reachability analysis with Carleman linearization.
- Preserving bistability.
- Coupled Duffing oscillators.

## More information

- **Paper:** <https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.02508>
- **Code:** <https://github.com/yubocai-poly/DQbee>



Figure 2. Paper



Figure 3. Code



# Z3-Noodler: An Automata-based String Solver

Yu-Fang Chen<sup>1</sup>, David Chocholatý<sup>2</sup>, Vojtěch Havlena<sup>2</sup>,  
Lukáš Holík<sup>2</sup>, Ondřej Lengál<sup>2</sup>, and Juraj Sířč<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan    <sup>2</sup>Brno University of Technology, Brno, Czech Republic



## Highlight

- string solver for **quantifier-free theory of strings** (QF\_S, QF\_SLIA)
- based on SMT solver Z3 and heavily using **nondeterministic finite automata**
- **stabilization-based procedure** for (dis)equalities with lengths and regular constraints
- support of predicates/functions defined by SMT-LIB
- tailored for **regex-intensive** and **equation-intensive** formulae

## Motivation

```
let x = y.substring(1, y.length - 1);
let z = y.concat(x);
assert(x == z);
```

$x_0 = \text{substr}(y, 1, |y| - 1)$   
 $\wedge z_0 = y \cdot x_0$   
 $\wedge x_0 \neq z_0$

Symbolic execution of string programs

```
{action: deactivate,
resource: (a1, a2),
condition:
  {StringLike,
   s3:prefix, home*}}
```

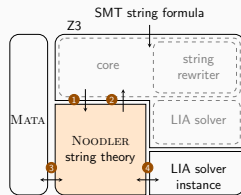
$A = \text{"deactivate"}$   
 $\wedge (R = \text{"a1"} \vee R = \text{"a2"})$   
 $\wedge \text{prefix} \in \text{home}^*$

Amazon cloud access control policies

## Architecture

- replacement of Z3's string theory
- **SMT-LIB format** of input formulae
- modified **string theory rewriter** (rules beneficial for the stabilization)

- 1 string theory **assignment** (conjunction of (dis)equalities, regular constraints, predicates)
- 2 **theory lemma** (including LIA constraints)
- 3 **Mata** library for efficient handling of NFAs
- 4 internal **LIA solver** for checking lengths constraints



## String Theory Core

### Axiom saturation

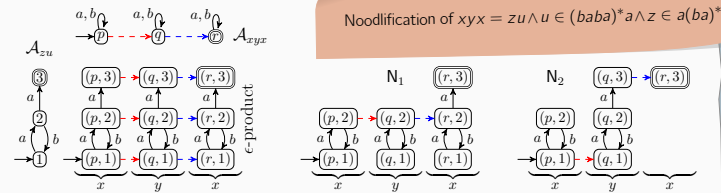
- length-aware string axioms:  $|t_1 \cdot t_2| = |t_1| + |t_2|$
- axioms for string predicates/functions:  $\neg \text{contains}(s, \text{"abc"})$  to  $s \notin \Sigma^* \text{abc} \Sigma^*$
- different saturation for predicates with concrete values

### Preprocessing

- transforming the string constraint to a **suitable form**
- tailored for the particular decision procedure
- simple equations converted to regular constraints
- smart **underapproximation**

### Decision procedures

- **stabilization-based procedure**
  - iterative **refinement** of variables' languages
  - based on **noodification** of NFAs representing variable languages
  - efficient **NFA operations in Mata**; eager **simulation-based reduction**
  - generation LIA constraints describing lengths of stable solutions
  - **lazy generation** of stable solutions
  - complete for **chain-free fragment**



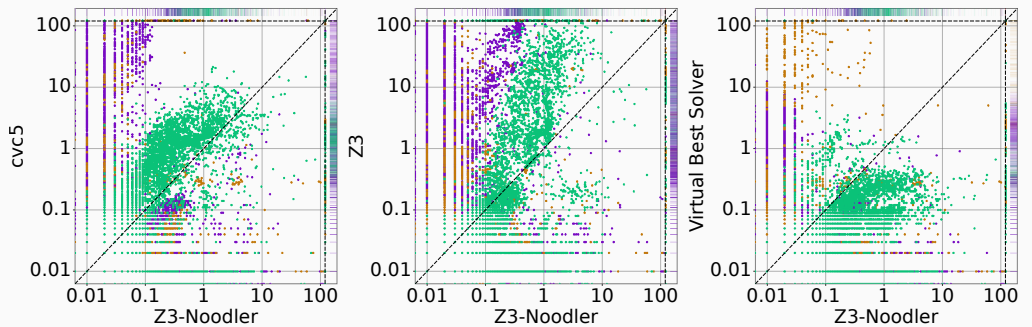
### Nielsen transformation

- **Nielsen graph** construction  $\rightsquigarrow$  **counter automaton** generation
- transition saturation of the counter automaton
- iterative generation of LIA formulae describing paths
- complete for **quadratic constraints** (no lengths and regular constraints)

## Experimental Evaluation

- benchmarks from **SMT-LIB** (QF\_S, QF\_SLIA)
- comparison with **SOTA solvers**
- Z3-Noodler v1.1 (TACAS'24 paper was v1.0)
- timeout 120s, memory limit 8 GiB
  - **Regex**, **Equations**, and **Predicates-small**

- Z3-Noodler **outperforms** other tools on **Regex** and **Equations**
- often **complementary** to other solvers
- great in a solver portfolio
- **extensions**
  - supports **string conversions** (v1.1)
  - support for `replace_all` is in making



## Detailed Results

Unsolved cases (smaller is better)

	Regex					Equations							Predicates-small				PyEx	
	Aut	Den	StrFuzz	Syg	Σ	Kal	Kep	Nom	Slent	Slog	Web	Woo	Σ	StrInt	Leet	StrSm		Σ
Included	15995	999	11618	343	28955	19432	587	1027	1128	1976	365	809	25324	16968	2652	1880	21500	23845
Unsupported	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	316	0	316	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Z3-Noodler</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>94</b>
cvc5	93	18	703	0	814	1	240	84	24	0	47	54	450	5	0	19	24	19
Z3	125	116	537	0	778	284	309	124	73	31	104	27	952	239	0	59	298	987
Z3str4	60	4	30	0	94	174	254	73	73	16	121	78	789	1102	4	60	1166	570
OSTRICH	<b>48</b>	6	218	0	272	288	387	0	126	6	74	53	934	1059	27	173	1259	12833
Z3str3RE	66	27	185	1	279	144	311	133	87	55	192	118	1040	3231	192	259	3682	17764
Z3-Noodler <sup>pr</sup>	86	1	1982	0	2069	508	575	0	6	0	45	256	1390	1627	29	692	2348	13362

## Tool

Available at GitHub

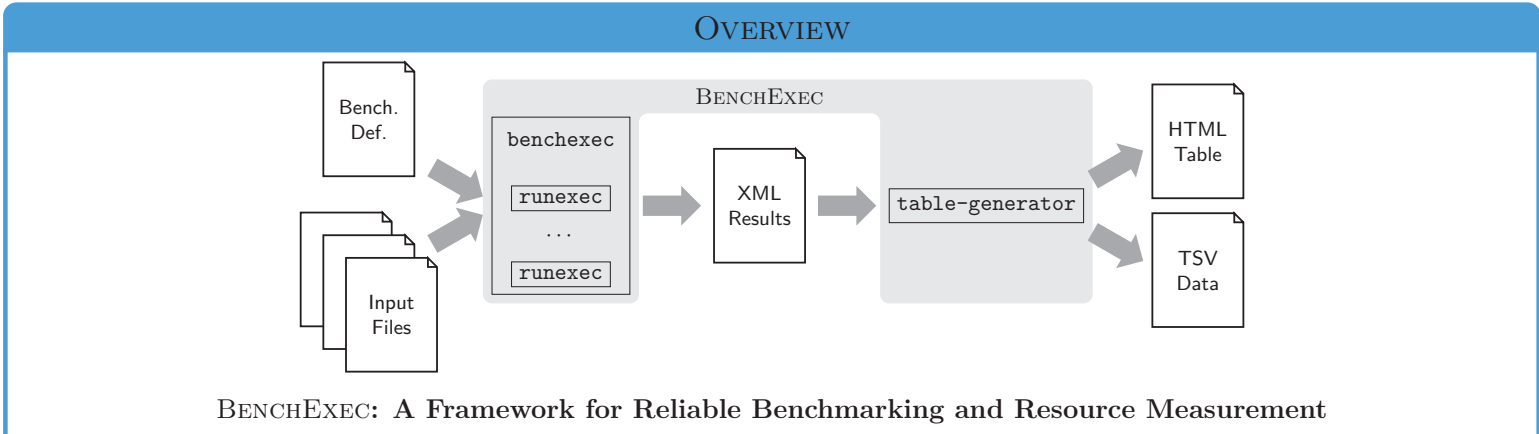


<https://github.com/VeriFIT/z3-noodler>

# **SV-COMP and Test-Comp Posters**



Dirk Beyer, Stefan Löwe, and Philipp Wendler

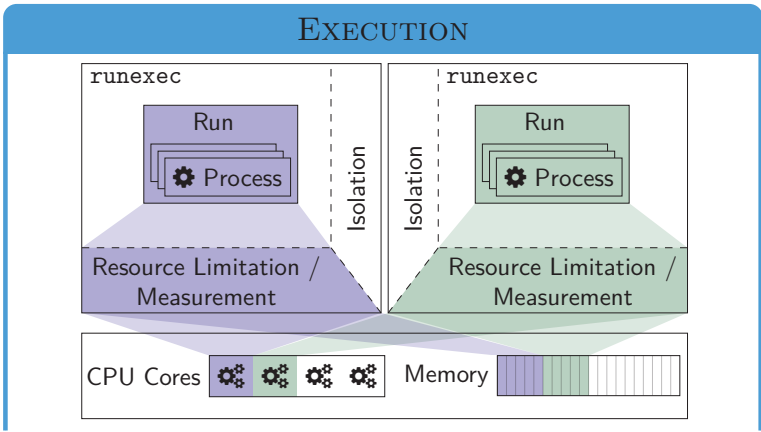


- ### BENCHMARKING REQUIREMENTS
1. Measure and Limit Resources Accurately
  2. Terminate Processes Reliably
  3. Assign Cores Deliberately
  4. Respect Nonuniform Memory Access
  5. Avoid Swapping
  6. Isolate Individual Runs

- ### SCOPE
- Linux systems
  - CPU-bound tool (negligible I/O)
  - No use of other resources such as GPUs
  - No networking / distributed execution
  - No user interaction
  - No malicious intent
- ⇒ **Great for solvers, verifiers, etc.!**

- ### USE CASES
- Low-level command for isolated, limited, and measured execution of a tool
  - Integration in other benchmarking frameworks via command line and Python API (**used by StarExec**)
  - Benchmarking with large number of runs
  - Competition execution (**used e.g. by SV-COMP since 2016**)
  - Regression testing

- ### TECHNIQUES AND FEATURES
- Benchmarking containers implemented with Linux features such as
- **Control groups (cgroups)** for resource limitation and measurements (compatible with cgroups v1 and v2)
  - **Namespaces** for isolation
  - **Overlay filesystem (overlayfs)** for intercepting file writes (same techniques as used by Docker, etc.)
- Parallel execution of tools
  - Automatic calculation of distribution of cores and memory regions
  - Knows about NUMA and hyper threading
  - Configurable file-system layout in container (hide directories, allow write access, etc.)



### TABLE-GENERATOR

- Combine results from several executions
- Define table layout
- Select and filter results
- Compute statistics
- Export raw data as TSV
- Generate interactive tables as stand-alone HTML files
- Quantile and scatter plots
- Live analysis of data

Interactive online example

### PAPER

- STTT 2017
- Open Access
- DOI 10.1007/s10009-017-0469-y
- Important aspects for benchmarking, hardware influence, how to present results, ...

### THANKS TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS!

Aditya Arora, Laura Bschor, Thomas Bunk, Montgomery Carter, Saransh Chopra, Andreas Donig, Karlheinz Friedberger, Peter Häring, Florian Heck, Hugo van Kemenade, George Karpenkov, Mike Kazantsev, Michael Lachner, Thomas Lemberger, Sebastian Ott, Stephan Lukaszcyk, Alexander von Rhein, Alexander Schremmer, Dennis Simon, Andreas Stahlbauer, Thomas Stieglmaier, Martin Yankov, Ilja Zakharov, and more (100 in total)!

### TOOL BENCHEXEC

- License Apache 2.0
- No root access required for benchmarking
- Available on PyPI and [github.com/sosy-lab/benchexec](https://github.com/sosy-lab/benchexec)

Daniel Baier, Dirk Beyer, Po-Chun Chien, Marek Jankola, Matthias Kettl, Nian-Ze Lee, Thomas Lemberger, Marian Lingsch-Rosenfeld, Martin Spiessl, Henrik Wachowitz, and Philipp Wendler

## CPACHECKER

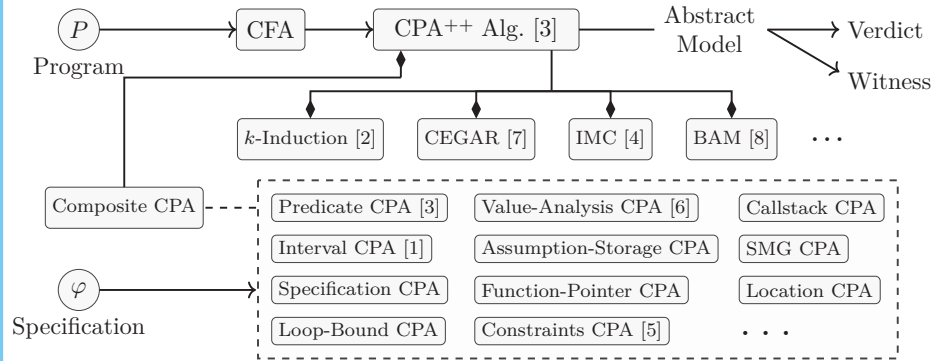


CPACHECKER is a modern and versatile framework for building software-verification analyses from well-known concepts that match the user's requirements.



cpachecker.sosy-lab.org

## OVERVIEW



## COMPETITION CONTRIBUTION

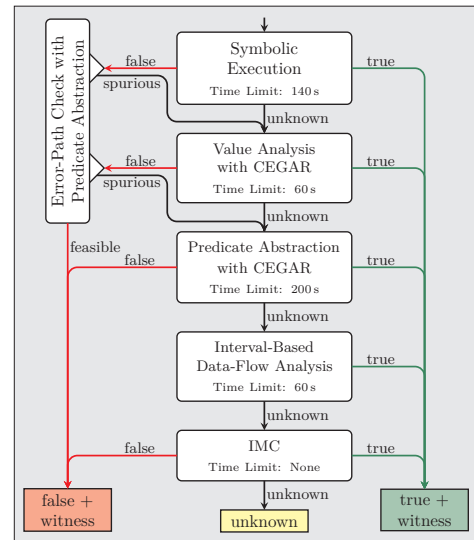
“CPACHECKER 2.3 with Strategy Selection” is our latest paper describing new developments and configurations used in SV-COMP 2024.

- Utilize strategy selection to predict a sequential portfolio of analyses
- Support all properties and categories of C programs
- 1st place in category *FalsificationOverall*
- 2nd place in category *Overall*
- 3rd place in category *ReachSafety*
- 17968 validated results in total (the most among all participants)
- Only 17 wrong results (0.06 % of all tasks)
- New and improved analyses for:
  - Reachability
  - Memory safety
  - Termination
  - Overflows
  - Data races

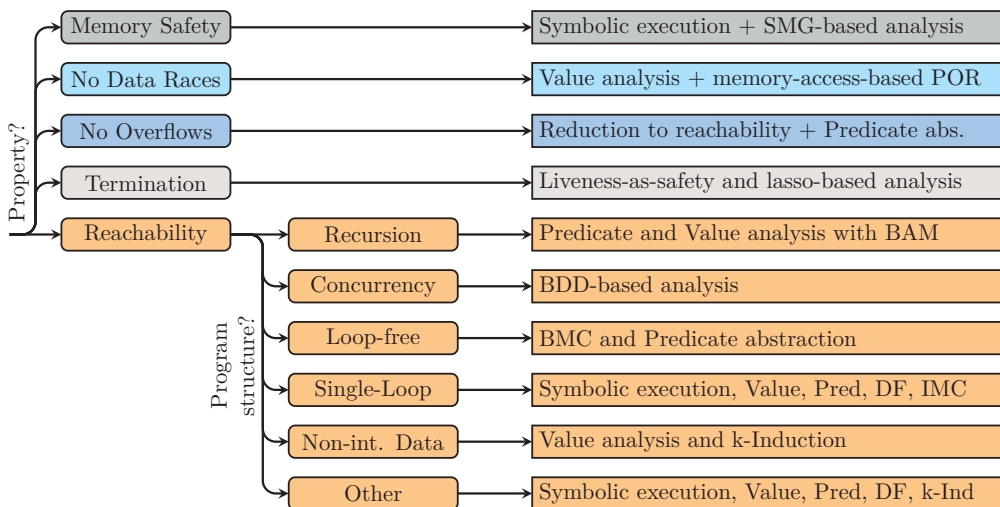


Paper available here

## CONFIG FOR REACHABILITY SINGLE-LOOP



## VERIFICATION STRATEGY FOR SV-COMP 2024



## CONTRIBUTORS

CPACHECKER is an open-source project, mainly developed by the Software and Computational Systems Lab at LMU Munich, and is used and extended by international associates from U Passau, U Oldenburg, U Paderborn, ISP RAS, TU Prague, TU Vienna, TU Darmstadt, and VERIMAG in Grenoble, along with several other universities and institutes.

We thank all contributors for their work on CPACHECKER.



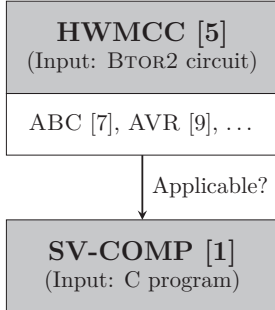
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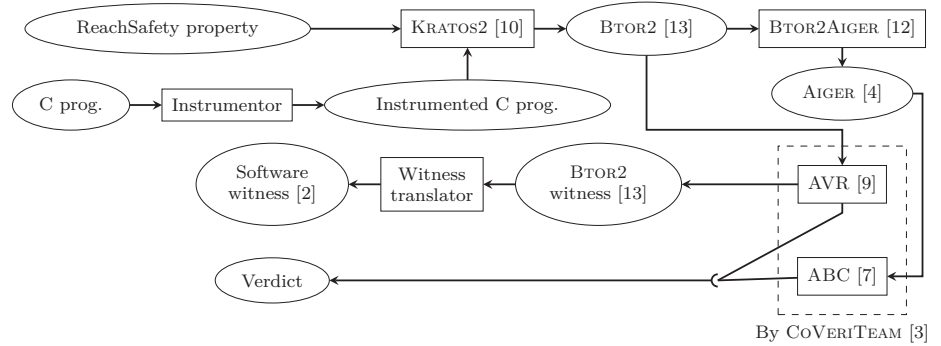




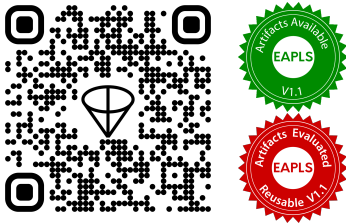
## MOTIVATION



## SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE



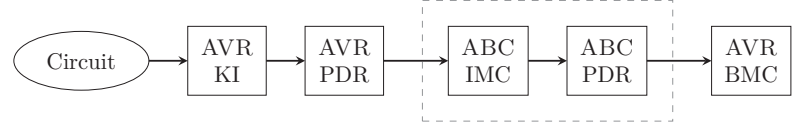
## TRY CPV!



Artifact DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.10063681

## STRATEGY FOR SV-COMP 2024

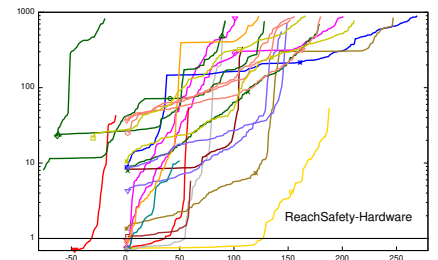
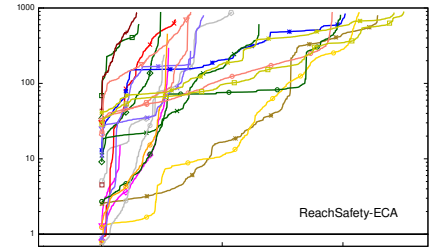
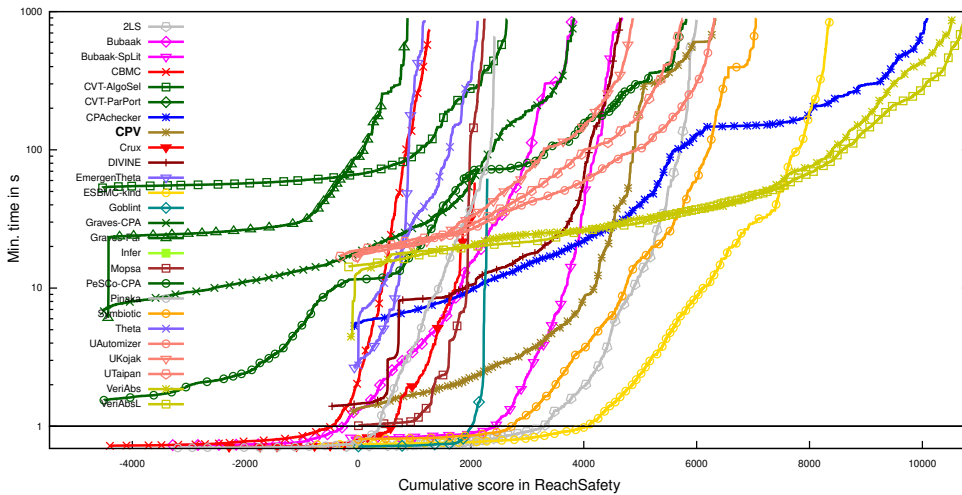
CPV runs a sequential portfolio consisting of property-directed reachability (PDR) [8], interpolation-based model checking (IMC) [11],  $k$ -induction (KI) [14], and bounded model checking (BMC) [6].



if BTOR2-to-AIGER translation succeeds

## EVALUATION RESULTS AT SV-COMP 2024

6th, 3rd, and 2nd place in *ReachSafety*, *ReachSafety-ECA*, *ReachSafety-Hardware*, respectively



## SUMMARY

- It is feasible to utilize sequential circuits as intermediate representations for software verification
- CPV can employ different hardware verifiers as the backend
- CPV competed well against other mature verifiers in SV-COMP
- Future work:
  - Support more verification properties (e.g., no-overflow and termination)
  - Export correctness witnesses
  - Incorporate more backend verifiers
  - Apply circuit optimization to improve the performance of verification

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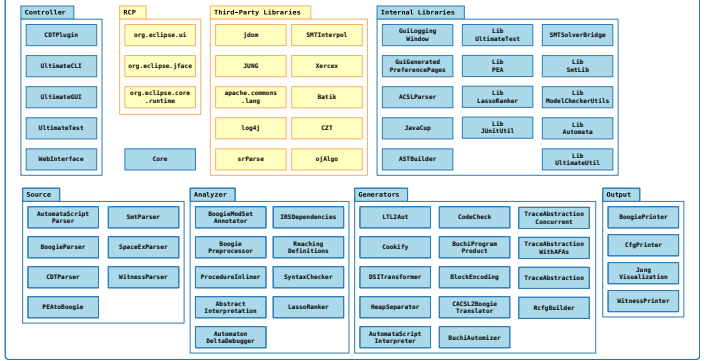
## Features

- Memory safety analysis
- Overflow detection
- Termination analysis using Büchi automata
- Nontermination analysis using geometric nontermination arguments
- LTL software model checking
- Bitprecise analysis
- IEEE 754 floating point analysis
- Error witnesses
- Correctness witnesses
- Error localization

## Techniques

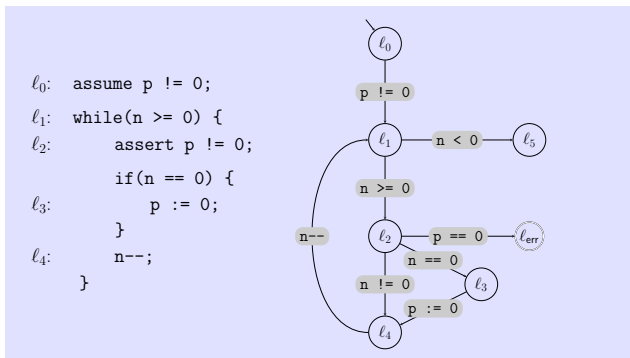
- On-demand trace-based decomposition
- Interprocedural analysis via nested word automata
- Theory-independent interpolation
- Refinement selection
- Configurable block encodings
- Multi SMT solver support
- Synthesis of ranking functions
- Efficient complementation of semi-deterministic Büchi automata
- (Nested word) automata minimization

## ULTIMATE program analysis framework

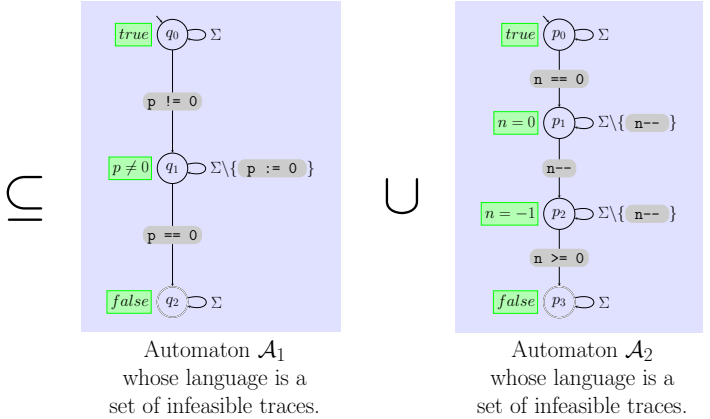


## Automata-theoretic proof of program correctness

Program  $\mathcal{P}$  is correct because each error trace is infeasible, i.e. the inclusion  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$  holds.



Program / automaton  $\mathcal{P}$  whose language is the set of error traces.

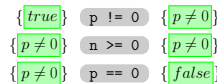


Automaton  $\mathcal{A}_1$  whose language is a set of infeasible traces.

Automaton  $\mathcal{A}_2$  whose language is a set of infeasible traces.

- Alphabet: set of program statements  $\Sigma = \{ p := 0, n < 0, n >= 0, p == 0, n == 0, n != 0, p := 0, n -- \}$
- The language of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the set of error traces.

In the first iteration, we analyze feasibility of the error trace  $\pi_1 = p := 0 \ n >= 0 \ p == 0$ .  $\pi_1$  is infeasible. Via interpolation, we obtain the following Hoare triples.



We construct the automaton  $\mathcal{A}_1$  such that its language is the set of all traces whose infeasibility can be shown using the predicates **true**, **p != 0**, and **false**.

- Analogously, in the second iteration the automaton  $\mathcal{A}_2$  is constructed.
- We check the inclusion  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$  and conclude that each error trace is infeasible and hence  $\mathcal{P}$  is correct.

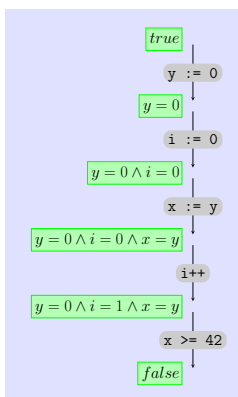
**Definition** Given an automaton  $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \delta, q_{init}, Q_{final})$  over the alphabet of program statements, we call a mapping that assigns to each state  $q \in Q$  a predicate  $\varphi_q$  a *Floyd-Hoare annotation for automaton  $\mathcal{A}$*  if the following implications hold.

$$\begin{aligned}
(q, \mathcal{t}, q') \in \delta &\implies \{\varphi_q\} \mathcal{t} \{\varphi_{q'}\} \text{ is a valid Hoare triple} \\
q = q_{init} &\implies \varphi_q = \text{true} \\
q \in Q_{final} &\implies \varphi_q = \text{false}
\end{aligned}$$

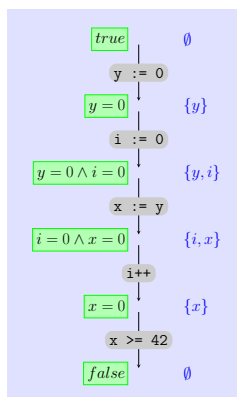
**Theorem** If an automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  has a Floyd-Hoare annotation, then  $\mathcal{A}$  recognizes a set of infeasible traces.

## Interpolation with unsatisfiable cores

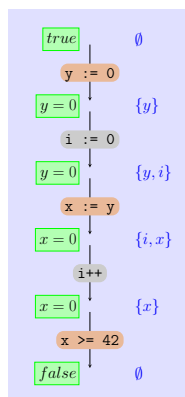
- Level 1: "interpolation" via
- strongest post



- Level 2: interpolation via
- strongest post
  - live variable analysis



- Level 3: interpolation via
- strongest post
  - live variable analysis
  - unsatisfiable cores



Algorithm (for level 3)

- Input: infeasible trace  $\mathcal{t}_1, \dots, \mathcal{t}_n$  and unsatisfiable core  $UC \subseteq \{\mathcal{t}_1, \dots, \mathcal{t}_n\}$ .
- Replace each statement that does not occur in UC by a skip statement or a havoc statement.
  - assignment statement  $x := t \rightsquigarrow \text{havoc } x$
- Compute sequence of predicates  $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_n$  iteratively using the strongest post predicate transformer *sp*.

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi_0 &:= \text{true} \\
\varphi_{i+1} &:= \text{sp}(\varphi_i, \mathcal{t}_{i+1})
\end{aligned}$$

- Eliminate each variable from predicate  $\varphi_i$  that is not live at position *i* of the trace.
- Output: sequence of predicates  $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_n$  which is a sequence of interpolants for the infeasible trace  $\mathcal{t}_1, \dots, \mathcal{t}_n$ .



# Ultimate GemCutter: Commutativity in Concurrent Program Verification

Dominik Klumpp, Daniel Dietsch, Matthias Heizmann, Frank Schüssele, Azadeh Farzan, Andreas Podelski

ultimate-pa.org

github.com/ultimate-pa/ultimate

## Commutativity Simplifies Proofs of Concurrent Programs

### Concurrent Program

$$\{x = y = i = j = 0\}$$

```

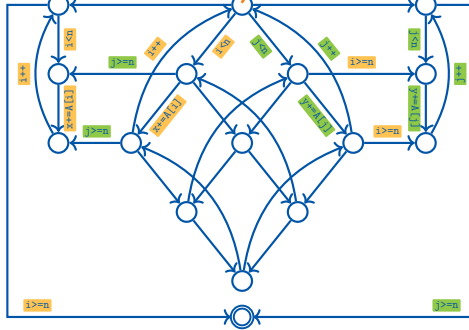
while (i < n) {
  x += A[i];
  i++;
}
while (j < n) {
  y += A[j];
  j++;
}

```

$$\{x = y\}$$

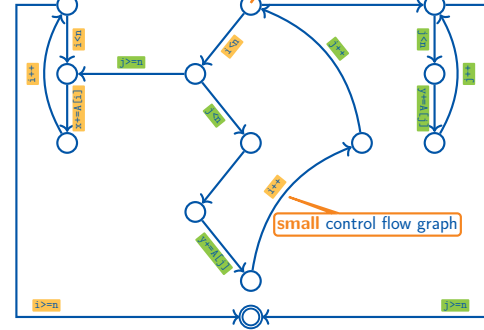
### All Interleavings

$$\text{complex invariant: } x = \sum_{k=0}^i A[k] \wedge y = \sum_{k=0}^j A[k] \wedge i \leq n \wedge j \leq n$$



### A Sound Reduction

$$\text{simple invariant: } x = y \wedge i = j$$



## Commutativity

Many pairs of statements **commute**:  
i.e., order of execution does not matter

**Example:**  $x += A[i]$   $y += A[j]$   $\sim$   $y += A[j]$   $x += A[i]$

Extension: **proof-sensitive commutativity**

**Example:**  $*x = 0$   $*y = 1$   $\sim$   $*y = 1$   $*x = 0$   
if we have proven that  $x \neq y$

swapping adjacent commuting statements  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  **equivalent** traces

## Reduction

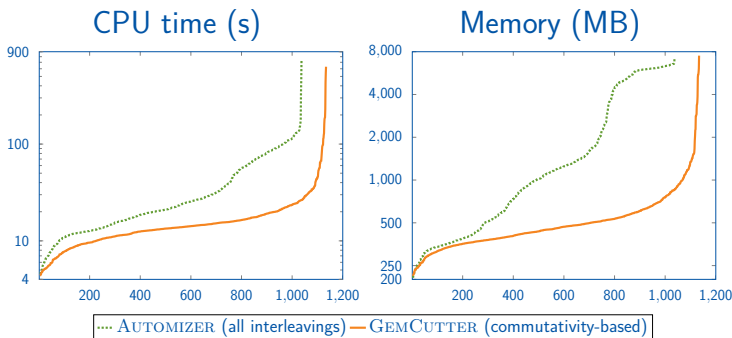
**representative subset** of program traces: at least one representative per equivalence class

## Soundness:

one trace correct  $\Rightarrow$  all equivalent traces correct  
correctness of reduction  $\Rightarrow$  correctness of program

## Performance

**Evaluation** shows significant advantages over a state-of-the-art verifier (Ultimate Automizer):



## Competitions:

- **SV-COMP'24:** 2<sup>nd</sup> place in *ConcurrencySafety*
- **SV-COMP'23:** 3<sup>rd</sup> place in *ConcurrencySafety*
- **SV-COMP'22:** 3<sup>rd</sup> place in *ConcurrencySafety*, 1<sup>st</sup> place in *NoDataRace (demo)*

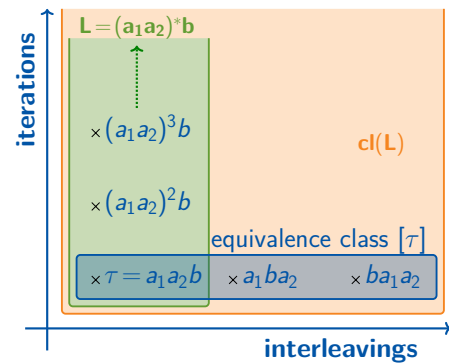
## Verification Principle

GemCutter **generalizes** from spurious counterexamples  $\tau$  to larger sets of correct traces:

### trace abstraction

generalizes across loop iterations to a set of traces  $L$

**commutativity** allows for generalization across interleavings to the set  $cl(L)$  of all equivalent traces



If  $cl(L)$  contains all program traces, the program is correct.  
**Equivalently:** If  $L$  contains all traces of a reduction, then the program is correct.

## Commutativity & Verification

choice of representatives affects proof simplicity

- **challenge:** select suitable representatives

choice of proof affects possible commutativity

- **challenge:** find useful *abstract* commutativity

partial order reduction algorithms speed up verification

- **challenge:** adapt classical POR algorithms

commutativity reasoning is widely applicable

- **challenge:** extend to more programs & properties

[SV-COMP'22] *Ultimate GemCutter and the Axes of Generalization*, Klumpp, Dietsch, Heizmann, Schüssele, Ebbinghaus, Farzan and Podelski, 2022

[PLDI'22] *Sound Sequentialization for Concurrent Program Verification*, Farzan, Klumpp and Podelski, 2022

[POPL'23] *Stratified Commutativity in Verification Algorithms for Concurrent Programs*, Farzan, Klumpp and Podelski, 2023

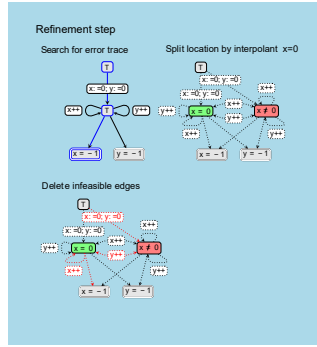
[POPL'24] *Commutativity Simplifies Proofs of Parameterized Programs*, Farzan, Klumpp and Podelski, 2024



# ULTIMATE KOJAK

## Features

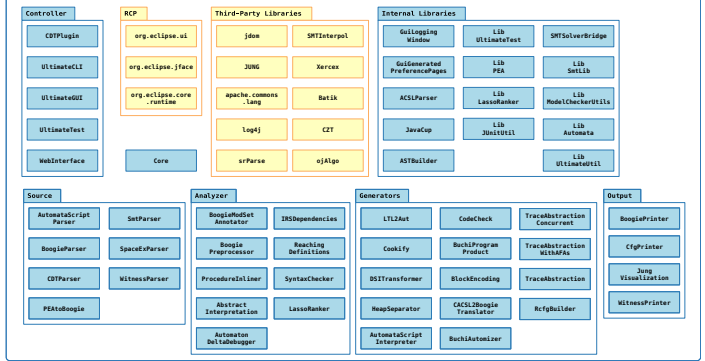
- Reachability analysis
- Memory safety analysis
- Bitprecise analysis
- IEEE 754 floating point analysis
- Error witnesses
- Correctness witnesses



## Techniques

- Abstraction refinement
- Configurable block encodings
- Multi SMT solver support
- Newton-style interpolation

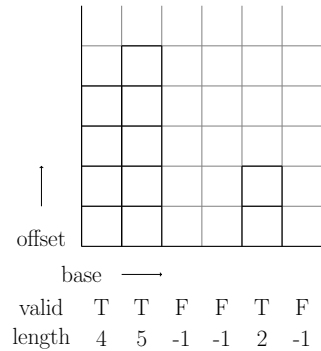
## ULTIMATE program analysis framework



## C memory model

Models dynamically allocated memory through Boogie arrays:

- **memory** - [int | pointer | bitvector8 | ...]: store memory contents
  - one array per used Boogie data type
  - two dimensional, a memory address has components "base" and "offset"
  - models disjointness of memory areas allocated by different malloc calls
- **valid**: store which base addresses are allocated
- **length**: store maximal offset at each base address
- "**\*p** is a valid pointer dereference"  $\iff \text{valid}[p.\text{base}] \wedge p.\text{offset} \leq \text{length}[p.\text{base}]$
- "Program has no memory leaks"  $\iff \text{valid} = \text{old}(\text{valid})$  at the end of **main**



## SMT solver integration

### Hoare triple checks

"Is  $\{P\} s \{Q\}$  a Hoare triple?"

Features:

- Simplify check if  $(\text{variables}(P) \cup \text{variables}(st)) \cap \text{variables}(Q) = \emptyset$ .
  - often blocked because  $P$ ,  $st$  and  $Q$  access the same array (but perhaps at different positions)
  - attempt to partition arrays via "alias analysis" (work in progress)
- Avoid checks with intricate predicates.
- Use incremental (push/pop) solver queries when possible, e.g., group checks that share the same precondition  $P$ .
- Abstract interpretation-based: Check if  $\text{post}^\#(P^\#, st) \sqsubseteq Q^\#$  holds in some abstract domain.
- Unify equivalent predicates.
- Cache Hoare triples and implication between predicates.

### Tree interpolation

- Interpolating solvers used by Ultimate: SMTInterpol, Z3
- Tree interpolation syntax example (procedures **foo**, **bar**):

```
(assert (! (..) :named foo-stm1))
(assert (! (..) :named foo-stm2))
(assert (! (..) :named bar-stm1))
(assert (! (..) :named bar-stm2))
(assert (! (..) :named foo-stm3))
(check-sat)
(get-interpolants (foo-stm1 foo-stm2 (bar-stm1 bar-stm2) foo-stm3))
```

### Interface

- Java interface (currently only SMTInterpol)
- SMTLib2 interface
- Solvers in use at SV-COMP 2018: SMTInterpol, Z3, MathSat, CVC4 as many as we can get!

## Newton-style interpolation

- Input: infeasible trace  $st_1, \dots, st_n$ , unsatisfiable core  $UC \subseteq \{st_1, \dots, st_n\}$
- Replace statements not in UC:
  - assume statement  $\psi \rightsquigarrow \text{skip}$
  - assignment statement  $x:=t \rightsquigarrow \text{havoc } x$
- Compute sequence of predicates  $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_n$  iteratively using strongest post operator  $\text{post}$ 

$$\varphi_0 := \text{true}$$

$$\varphi_{i+1} := \text{post}(\varphi_i, st_{i+1})$$
- Eliminate each variable from predicate  $\varphi_i$  that is not live at position  $i$  of the trace.
- Output: sequence of predicates  $\varphi_0, \dots, \varphi_n$  which is a sequence of interpolants for the infeasible trace  $st_1, \dots, st_n$

trace $\tau$	state assertions for $\tau$	interpolating trace $\tau^\#$	state assertions for $\tau^\#$
	$\varphi_0$ true		$\varphi_0$ true
$st_1$ <b>b:=a</b>	$\varphi_1$ $a = b$	<b>b:=a</b>	$\varphi_1$ $a = b$
$st_2$ <b>x:=0</b>	$\varphi_2$ $a = b \wedge x = 0$	<b>havoc x</b>	$\varphi_2$ $a = b$
$st_3$ <b>havoc p</b>	$\varphi_3$ $a = b \wedge x = 0$	<b>havoc p</b>	$\varphi_3$ $a = b$
$st_4$ <b>!a[p]</b>	$\varphi_4$ $a = b \wedge x = 0 \wedge a[p] = \text{false}$	<b>!a[p]</b>	$\varphi_4$ $a = b \wedge a[p] = \text{false}$
$st_5$ <b>a[p]:=true</b>	$\varphi_5$ $a = b[p := \text{true}] \wedge x = 0 \wedge a[p] = \text{true}$	<b>a[p]:=true</b>	$\varphi_5$ $a = b[p := \text{true}] \wedge a[p] = \text{true}$
$st_6$ <b>x:=x+1</b>	$\varphi_6$ $a = b[p := \text{true}] \wedge x = 1 \wedge a[p] = \text{true}$	<b>havoc x</b>	$\varphi_6$ $a = b[p := \text{true}] \wedge a[p] = \text{true}$
$st_7$ <b>a[p]:=false</b>	$\varphi_7$ $a = b \wedge x = 1 \wedge a[p] = \text{false}$	<b>a[p]:=false</b>	$\varphi_7$ $a = b \wedge a[p] = \text{false}$
$st_8$ <b>a!=b</b>	$\varphi_8$ false	<b>a!=b</b>	$\varphi_8$ false

## FEATURES

Table 2: Technologies and features that the test generators used

Tester	Bounded Model Checking	CEGAR	Evolutionary Algorithms	Explicit-Value Analysis	Floating-Point Arithmetics	Guidance by Coverage Measures	Predicate Abstraction	Random Execution	Symbolic Execution	Targeted Input Generation	Algorithm Selection	Portfolio
CETFUZZ <sup>new</sup>			✓								✓	
CoVeriTest		✓					✓					✓
ESBMC-KIND <sup>⊗</sup>	✓			✓	✓							
FDSE <sup>new</sup>						✓		✓	✓			
FIZZER <sup>new</sup>												
FuSeBMC	✓											✓
FuSeBMC-AI	✓											✓
HYBRIDTIGER <sup>⊗</sup>		✓					✓					
KLEE <sup>⊗</sup>												
KLEEF <sup>new</sup>												
LEGION <sup>⊗</sup>												
LEGION/SYMCC <sup>⊗</sup>				✓	✓	✓						
Owi <sup>new</sup>												
PRTEST												
RIZZER <sup>new</sup>												
SYMBIOTIC												✓
TRACERX	✓											
TRACERX-WP <sup>new</sup>												
UTestGen <sup>new</sup>		✓										✓
WASP-C <sup>⊗</sup>												

## RESULTS

Table 3: Quantitative overview over all results

Tester	Cover-Error 1173 tasks	Cover-Branches 2933 tasks	Overall 4106 tasks
cetfuzz <sup>new</sup>	226	2197	2258
CoVeriTest	462	4826	4806
ESBMC-kind <sup>⊗</sup>	195		
FDSE <sup>new</sup>	617	5132	5684
Fizzer <sup>new</sup>	583	<b>5146</b>	5538
FuSeBMC	<b>930</b>	<b>5478</b>	<b>7295</b>
FuSeBMC-AI	<b>926</b>	<b>5418</b>	<b>7248</b>
HybridTiger <sup>⊗</sup>	393	3987	4022
KLEE <sup>⊗</sup>	713	3023	4932
KLEEF <sup>new</sup>	655	4975	<b>5766</b>
Legion <sup>⊗</sup>		2896	
Legion/SymCC <sup>⊗</sup>	264	3381	3098
Owi <sup>new</sup>	256	2241	2420
PRTest	167	2980	2431
Rizzer <sup>new</sup>	555		
Symbiotic	<b>666</b>	3957	5245
TracerX	509	4435	4799
TracerX-WP <sup>new</sup>	322	1521	2315
UTestGen <sup>new</sup>	409	4195	4212
WASP-C <sup>⊗</sup>	532	2838	4009

## REFERENCES

Reference  
D. Beyer. Automatic testing of C programs: Test-Comp 2024. Springer, 2024

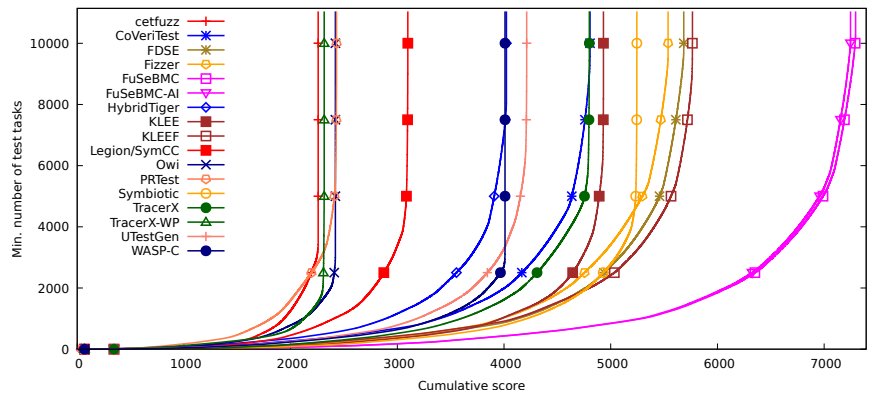
## PARTICIPANTS

Table 1: Competition candidates with tool references and representing jury members; <sup>new</sup> indicates first-time participants

Tester	Jury member	Affiliation
CETFUZZ <sup>new</sup>	Sumesh Divakaran	College of Eng. Trivandrum, India
CoVeriTest	Marie-Christine Jakobs	LMU Munich, Germany
ESBMC-KIND <sup>⊗</sup>	(hors concours)	–
FDSE <sup>new</sup>	Zhenbang Chen	National U. of Defense Techn., China
FIZZER <sup>new</sup>	Marek Trtik	Masaryk U., Brno, Czechia
FuSeBMC	Kaled Alshmrany	U. of Manchester, UK
FuSeBMC-AI	Mohannad Aldughaim	U. of Manchester, UK
HYBRIDTIGER <sup>⊗</sup>	(hors concours)	–
KLEE <sup>⊗</sup>	(hors concours)	–
KLEEF <sup>new</sup>	Yurii Kostyukov	Huawei, China
LEGION <sup>⊗</sup>	(hors concours)	–
LEGION/SYMCC <sup>⊗</sup>	(hors concours)	–
Owi <sup>new</sup>	Léo Andrès	OCamlPro / LMF, France
PRTEST	Thomas Lemberger	LMU Munich, Germany
RIZZER <sup>new</sup>	Adam Štafa	Masaryk U., Brno, Czechia
SYMBIOTIC	Martin Jonáš	Masaryk U., Brno, Czechia
TRACERX	Joxan Jaffar	National U. of Singapore, Singapore
TRACERX-WP <sup>new</sup>	Joxan Jaffar	National U. of Singapore, Singapore
UTestGen <sup>new</sup>	Max Barth	LMU Munich, Germany
WASP-C <sup>⊗</sup>	(hors concours)	–

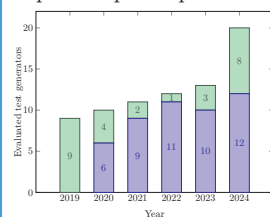
## FINAL SCORE

Figure 1: Quantile functions for category Overall.



## PARTICIPATION

Top: New participants



## REPORT



<https://test-comp.sosy-lab.org/2024/>

## RANKING

Table 4: Overview of the top-three test generators for each category (measurement values for CPU time and energy rounded to two significant digits)

Rank	Tester	Score	CPU Time (in h)
<b>Cover-Error</b>			
1	FuSeBMC	<b>930</b>	76
2	FuSeBMC-AI	926	68
3	SYMBIOTIC	666	5.2
<b>Cover-Branches</b>			
1	FuSeBMC	<b>5478</b>	2400
2	FuSeBMC-AI	5418	2300
3	FIZZER <sup>new</sup>	5146	1700
<b>Overall</b>			
1	FuSeBMC	<b>7295</b>	2500
2	FuSeBMC-AI	7248	2400
3	KLEEF <sup>new</sup>	5766	1700

