# NSWI101: SYSTEM BEHAVIOUR MODELS AND VERIFICATION 6. SYMBOLIC CTL MODEL CHECKING

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#### Symbolic CTL model checking using

- OBDD
- Iattices
- fixpoints

## **MODEL CHECKING**





Property specification

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Property specification



- *Lattice L* is structure consisting of partially ordered set S of elements where every two elements have
  - unique supremum (least upper bound or join) and
  - unique infimum (greatest lower bound or meet)
- Set *P*(*S*) of all subsets of *S* forms complete lattice
- Each element  $E \in L$  can also be thought as predicate on S
- Greatest element of L is S ( $\top$ , true)
- Least element of *L* is  $\emptyset$  ( $\bot$ , false)
- $\tau : P(S) \mapsto P(S)$  is called predicate transformer

# EXAMPLE: SUBSET LATTICE OF {1, 2, 3, 4}







#### Let $\tau : P(S) \mapsto P(S)$ be predicate transformer

• 
$$au$$
 is monotonic  $\equiv Q \subseteq R \implies au(Q) \subseteq au(R)$ 

• Q is fixpoint of 
$$\tau \equiv \tau(Q) = Q$$



**function** LFP( $\tau$  : PredicateTransformer): Predicate

$$Q := false$$

$$Q' := \tau(Q)$$
while  $Q \neq Q'$  do
$$Q := Q'$$

$$Q' := \tau(Q)$$
end while
$$return(Q)$$
end function

Function Gfp differs just in initialization Q := true

#### **EXAMPLE OF FIXPOINTS**





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- We identify CTL formula f with set/predicate  $\{s|M, s \models f\}$  in P(S)
- EG and EU may be characterized as least or greatest fixpoints of an appropriate predicate transformer:
  - EG  $q = \nu Z.(q \wedge EX Z)$
  - $E[p \cup q] = \mu Z.(q \vee (p \wedge EXZ))$
- The same holds for EF, AG, AF, AU, however, those operators can be expressed using EG, EU
- Intuitively:
  - least fixpoints correspond to eventualities
  - greatest fixpoints correspond to properties that should hold forever





$$\begin{split} \mathsf{M}, \mathsf{s}_{\mathsf{o}} &\models \mathsf{E}\mathsf{G}\,\mathsf{q} \\ \mathsf{E}\mathsf{G}\,\mathsf{q} &= \nu \mathsf{Z}.(\mathsf{q} \land \mathsf{E}\mathsf{X}\,\mathsf{Z}) \\ \tau(\mathsf{Z}) &= \{\mathsf{s}:\mathsf{s} \models \mathsf{q} \land (\exists \mathsf{t}:\mathsf{s} \to \mathsf{t} \land \mathsf{t} \in \mathsf{Z})\} \end{split}$$

#### **EU AS FIXPOINT**





$$\begin{split} &M, s_{o} \models \mathsf{E}[p \cup q] \\ &\mathsf{E}[p \cup q] = \mu Z. (q \lor (p \land \mathsf{EX} Z)) \\ &\tau(Z) = \{s : s \models q\} \lor \{s : s \models p \land (\exists t : s \to t \land t \in Z)\} \end{split}$$



Explicit model checking—e.g., Spin—is linear in size of generated state space

- usually exponential in size of input model
- resulting in state space explosion

Symbolic model checking operates on sets of states in each step of algorithm

can mitigate state-space-explosion impact substantially



QBFs are useful in symbolic CTL model checking

Quantification does not introduce greater expressive power:

• 
$$\exists x f \equiv f|_{x=\perp} \lor f|_{x=\top}$$

• 
$$\forall x f \equiv f|_{x=\perp} \wedge f|_{x=\top}$$



General approach identical to explicit model checking

- decomposing formula into sub-formulae
- identifying sets of states satisfying particular sub-formulae

Computing states satisfying particular formula types based on manipulation with OBDDs



Computing OBDD(f) for formula f depends on top-most operand

- note that only  $\neg$ ,  $\land$ ,  $\lor$ , EX, EG, and EU are needed, others can be eliminated
- $f \in AP$ : return OBDD defined for f
- $f: \neg g, f \land g, \text{ or } f \lor g$ : use logical operation upon OBDD
  - described in previous lecture
- $f = EXg: OBDD \text{ for } \exists \langle v' \rangle (o(\langle v' \rangle) \land R(\langle v \rangle, \langle v' \rangle))$ 
  - $o(\langle v \rangle)$  stands for OBDD representing states satisfying formula g
- $f = E[f \cup g]$ : compute least fixpoint  $E[f \cup g] = \mu Z.(g \lor (f \land EXZ))$ 
  - using LfP procedure
- f = EG f: compute greatest fixpoint  $EG f = \nu Z.(f \wedge EX Z)$ 
  - using GfP procedure









$$AF x = \neg EG (\neg x)$$

$$|$$

$$EG (\neg x)$$

$$|$$

$$\neg x$$

$$|$$

$$x$$





OBDD for states satisfying *x*:









- We have OBDD for states satisfying ¬x and now, we can proceed to EG (¬x) and compute OBDD for it.
- We compute greatest fixpoint of predicate transformer: EG ( $\neg x$ ) :  $\nu Z$ .( $\neg x \land EXZ$ ).
  - computation starts with trivial OBDD for  $\top$  (Z).
  - single step:  $Z = \neg x \land (\exists x'_o, x'_1 : Z' \land TR)$ 
    - Z' denotes OBDD Z where all variables get primed ( $x \rightarrow x'$ )
  - if Z changes, repeat previous step, otherwise fixpoint reached and computation is over



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We have OBDD for states satisfying EG  $(\neg x)$  and now, we can trivially compute its negation  $\neg$ EG  $(\neg x) = AF x$ . This corresponds to states oo and 10 of Kripke structure.





- During symbolic CTL model checking, all operation performed just upon OBDDs as application of logical operations and fixpoint computations.
- Usually highly efficient comparing to explicit model checking.