

Quantitative verification techniques for probabilistic software

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Course overview

+ 3 sessions (Mon/Tue/Thur): 6 \times 50 minute lectures

- 1: Markov decision processes (MDPs)
- 2: Probabilistic LTL model checking
- 3: Compositional probabilistic verification
- 4: Abstraction, refinement and probabilistic software
- 5: Probabilistic timed automata (PTAs)
- 6: Software with time and probabilities
- For additional background material
 - and an accompanying list of references
 - see: <u>http://www.prismmodelchecker.org/lectures/</u>

Part 2

Probabilistic LTL model checking

Overview (Part 2)

- Linear temporal logic (LTL) for DTMCS/MDPs
- Strongly connected components (DTMCs)
- ω-automata (Büchi, Rabin)
- LTL model checking for DTMCs
- LTL model checking for MDPs

Limitations of PCTL

- PCTL, although useful in practice, has limited expressivity
 - essentially: probability of reaching states in X, passing only through states in Y (and within k time-steps)
- One useful approach: extend models with costs/rewards

 see last lecture
- Another direction: Use more expressive logics. e.g.:
 - LTL [Pnu77] (non-probabilistic) linear-time temporal logic
 - PCTL* [ASB+95,BdA95] which subsumes both PCTL and LTL
 - both allow temporal (path) operators to be combined
 - (in PCTL, P_{-p} [...] always contains a single temporal operator)

LTL – Linear temporal logic

- LTL syntax (path formulae only)
 - $\psi ::= true \mid a \mid \psi \land \psi \mid \neg \psi \mid X \psi \mid \psi \cup \psi$
 - where $a \in AP$ is an atomic proposition
 - usual equivalences hold: F φ \equiv true U φ , G φ \equiv \neg (F $\neg\varphi)$

• LTL semantics (for a path ω)

- $-\omega \models true$ always
- $\ \omega \vDash a \qquad \Leftrightarrow \ a \in L(\omega(0))$
- $\omega \vDash \psi_1 \land \psi_2 \qquad \Leftrightarrow \ \omega \vDash \psi_1 \text{ and } \omega \vDash \psi_2$
- $\omega \vDash \neg \psi \qquad \Leftrightarrow \omega \nvDash \psi$
- $\omega \vDash X \psi \qquad \Leftrightarrow \omega[1...] \vDash \psi$
- $\omega \vDash \psi_1 \cup \psi_2 \qquad \Leftrightarrow \ \exists k \ge 0 \text{ s.t. } \omega[k...] \vDash \psi_2 \land \forall i < k \ \omega[i...] \vDash \psi_1$

where $\omega(i)$ is i^{th} state of $\omega,$ and $\omega[i\ldots]$ is suffix starting at $\omega(i)$

LTL examples

- (F tmp_fail₁) \land (F tmp_fail₂)
 - "both servers suffer temporary failures at some point"
- GF ready
 - "the server always eventually returns to a ready-state"
- FG error
 - "an irrecoverable error occurs"
- G (req \rightarrow X ack)
 - "requests are always immediately acknowledged"

LTL for DTMCs and MDPs

- Same idea as PCTL: probabilities of sets of path formulae
 - for a state s of a DTMC and an LTL formula ψ :
 - $\Pr_{s}(\psi) = \Pr_{s} \{ \omega \in \mathsf{Path}_{s} \mid \omega \vDash \psi \}$
 - all such path sets are measurable [Var85]
 - and for an MDP: we have $Pr_s^{min}(\psi)$, $Pr_s^{max}(\psi)$ over adversaries
- A (probabilistic) LTL specification often comprises an LTL (path) formula and a probability bound
 - e.g. $P_{\geq 1}$ [GF ready] "with probability 1, the server always eventually returns to a ready-state"
 - e.g. $P_{\leq 0.01}$ [FG error] "with probability at most 0.01, an irrecoverable error occurs"
- PCTL* subsumes both LTL and PCTL
 - e.g. $P_{>0.5}$ [GF crit_1] \wedge $P_{>0.5}$ [GF crit_2]

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Strongly connected components

- Long-run properties of DTMCs rely on an analysis of their underlying graph structure (i.e. ignoring probabilities)
- Strongly connected set of states T
 - for any pair of states s and s' in T, there is a path from s to s', passing only through states in T
- Strongly connected component (SCC)
 - a maximally strongly connected set of states
 (i.e. no superset of it is also strongly connected)
- Bottom strongly connected component (BSCC)
 - an SCC T from which no state outside T is reachable from T

Example – (B)SCCs



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Fundamental property of DTMCs

• Fundamental property of (finite) DTMCs...

 With probability 1, a BSCC will be reached and all of its states visited infinitely often



- Formally:
 - \Pr_{s} { $\omega \in Path_{s} \mid \exists i \ge 0, \exists BSCC T such that$

 \forall j \geq i ω (i) \in T and \forall s' \subset T ω (k) - s' for infinitoly many

 \forall s' \in T $\omega(k) =$ s' for infinitely many k } = 1

LTL model checking for DTMCs

- LTL model checking for DTMCs relies on:
 - computing the probability $\text{Pr}_{\text{s}}(\psi)$ for LTL formula ψ
 - reduces to probability of reaching a set of "accepting" BSCCs
 - 2 simple cases: GF a and FG a...
- $Pr_s(GF a) = Pr_s(F T_{GFa})$
 - where T_{GFa} = union of all BSCCs containing some state satisfying a
- $Pr_s(FG a) = Pr_s(F T_{FGa})$
 - where T_{FGa} = union of all BSCCs containing only a-states
- To extend this idea to arbitrary LTL formula, we use ω-automata...



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Reminder - Finite automata

- A regular language over alphabet α
 - is a set of finite words $L \subseteq \alpha^*$ such that either:
 - L = L(E) for some regular expression E
 - L = L(A) for some nondeterministic finite automaton (NFA) A
 - L = L(A) for some deterministic finite automaton (DFA) A



- NFAs and DFAs have the same expressive power
 - we can always determinise an NFA to an equivalent DFA
 - (with a possibly exponential blow-up in size)

Büchi automata

- ω -automata represent sets of infinite words $L \subseteq \alpha^{\omega}$
 - e.g. Büchi automata, Rabin automata, Streett, Muller, ...
- A nondeterministic Büchi automaton (NBA) is...
 - a tuple $A = (Q, Q_{init}, \alpha, \delta, F)$ where:
 - **Q** is a finite set of states
 - $\mathbf{Q}_{init} \subseteq \mathbf{Q}$ is a set of initial states
 - α is an alphabet
 - δ : Q \times α \rightarrow 2^{Q} is a transition function
 - $\mathbf{F} \subseteq \mathbf{Q}$ is a set of "accept" states





NBA acceptance condition

- language L(A) for A contains $w \in \alpha^{\omega}$ if there is a corresponding run in A that passes through states in F infinitely often

ω-regular properties

- Consider a model, i.e. an LTS/DTMC/MDP/...
 - for example: DTMC $D = (S, s_{init}, P, Lab)$
 - where labelling Lab uses atomic propositions from set AP
- We can capture properties of these using $\omega\text{-}automata$
 - let $\omega \in Path_{D,s}$ be some infinite path in D
 - trace(ω) \in (2^{AP}) $^{\omega}$ denotes the projection of state labels of ω
 - i.e. trace($s_0s_1s_2s_3...$) = Lab(s_0)Lab(s_1)Lab(s_2)Lab(s_3)...
 - can specify a set of paths of D with an $\omega\text{-}automata$ over 2^{AP}
- Let Pr_{D,s}(A) denote the probability...
 - from state s in a discrete-time Markov chain D
 - of satisfying the property specified by automaton A
 - $\text{ i.e. } Pr_{D,s}(A) = Pr_{D,s} \left\{ \ \omega \in Path_{D,s} \ | \ trace(\omega) \in L(A) \ \right\}$

Example

- Nondeterministic Büchi automaton
 - for LTL formula FG a, i.e. "eventually always a"
 - for a DTMC with atomic propositions $AP = \{a, b\}$



We abbreviate this to just:



Büchi automata + LTL

- Nondeterministic Büchi automata (NBAs)
 - define the set of ω -regular languages
- $\cdot \omega$ -regular languages are more expressive than LTL
 - can convert any LTL formula ψ over atomic propositions AP
 - into an equivalent NBA A_{ψ} over 2^{AP}
 - i.e. $\omega \vDash \psi \Leftrightarrow trace(\omega) \in L(A_\psi)$ for any path ω
 - for LTL-to-NBA translation, see e.g. [VW94], [DGV99], [BK08]
 - worst-case: exponential blow-up from $|\psi|$ to $|A_{\psi}|$
- But deterministic Büchi automata (DBAs) are less expressive
 - e.g. there is no DBA for the LTL formula $\rm FG~a$
 - for probabilistic model checking, need deterministic automata
 - so we use deterministic Rabin automata (DRAs)

Deterministic Rabin automata

- A deterministic Rabin automaton is a tuple (Q,q_{init},α,δ,Acc):
 - **Q** is a finite set of states, $q_{init} \in Q$ is an initial state
 - α is an alphabet, $\delta : \mathbf{Q} \times \alpha \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}$ is a transition function
 - Acc = { (L_i, K_i) }_{i=1..k} \subseteq 2^Q \times 2^Q is an acceptance condition
- A run of a word on a DRA is accepting iff:
 - for some pair (L_i, K_i) , the states in L_i are visited finitely often and (some of) the states in K_i are visited infinitely often

- or in LTL:
$$\bigvee_{1 \le i \le k} (FG \neg L_i \land GFK_i)$$

- Example: DRA for FG a
 - acceptance condition is Acc = { ({q₀},{q₁}) }



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LTL model checking for DTMCs

- + LTL model checking for DTMC D and LTL formula ψ
- + 1. Construct DRA A_{ψ} for ψ
- 2. Construct product $D \otimes A$ of DTMC D and DRA A_{ψ}
- 3. Compute $Pr_{D,s}(\psi)$ from DTMC $D \otimes A$
- Running example:
 - compute probability of satisfying LTL formula $\psi = G \neg b \land GF a \text{ on:}$



Example – DRA

- DRA A_{ψ} for $\psi = G \neg b \land GF$ a is shown below
 - acceptance condition is $Acc = \{ (\{\}, \{q_1\}) \}$
 - (i.e. this is actually a deterministic Büchi automaton)



Product DTMC for a DRA

- We construct the product DTMC
 - for DTMC D and DRA A, denoted $D \otimes A$
 - D & A can be seen as an unfolding of D with states (s,q), where q records state of automata A for path fragment so far
 - since A is deterministic, $D \otimes A$ is a also a DTMC
 - each path in D has a corresponding (unique) path in D \otimes A
 - the probabilities of paths in D are preserved in D \otimes A
- Formally, for $D = (S, S_{init}, P, L)$ and $A = (Q, \alpha, \delta, q_{init}, \{(L_i, K_i)\}_{i=1..k})$
 - $D \otimes A$ is the DTMC (S×Q, (s_{init},q_{sinit}), P', L') where:

$$- q_{s_{init}} = \delta(q_{init}, L(s_{init}))$$

- P'((s₁, q₁), (s₂, q₂)) =
$$\begin{cases} P(s_1, s_2) & \text{if } q_2 = \delta(q_1, L(s_2)) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

– $I_i \in L'(s,q)$ if $q \in L_i$ and $k_i \in L'(s,q)$ if $q \in K_i$

Example – Product DTMC



Product DTMC $D \otimes A_{\psi}$

 $s_0 q_0$ s_0 satisfies neither a or b so we stay in q_0 in DRA A_{ψ} s_0 is initial state of DTMC D

Example – Product DTMC



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Example – Product DTMC



Product DTMC for a DRA

For DTMC D and DRA A

$$\mathsf{Pr}_{\mathsf{D},\mathsf{s}}(\mathsf{A}) = \mathsf{Pr}_{\mathsf{D}\otimes\mathsf{A},(\mathsf{s},\mathsf{q}_{\mathsf{S}})}(\vee_{1\leq i\leq k} (\mathsf{FG} \ \neg\mathsf{I}_i \land \mathsf{GF} \ \mathsf{k}_i))$$

- where
$$q_s = \delta(q_{init}, L(s))$$

Hence:

$$Pr_{D,s}(A) = Pr_{D\otimes A,(s,q_s)}(F T_{Acc})$$

- where T_{Acc} is the union of all accepting BSCCs in $D{\otimes}A$
- an accepting BSCC T of D \otimes A is such that, for some $1 \le i \le k$, no states in T satisfy I_i and some state in T satisfies k_i
- Reduces to computing BSCCs and reachability probabilities

Example: LTL for DTMCs

• Compute $Pr_{D,s_0}(G \neg b \land GF a)$ for DTMC D:



Example: LTL for DTMCs

DTMC D







Product DTMC $D \otimes A_{\psi}$



Example: LTL for DTMCs



DTMC D

DRA A_{ψ} for $\psi = G \neg b \wedge GF$ a



Product DTMC $D \otimes A_{u}$

 $Pr_{D,s_0}(\psi) = Pr_{D\otimes A_{\psi},(s_0,q_0)}(F T_1) = 3/4$



Complexity of LTL model checking

- + Complexity of model checking LTL formula ψ on DTMC D
 - is doubly exponential in $|\psi|$ and polynomial in $|\mathsf{D}|$
 - (for the algorithm presented in these lectures)
- Double exponential blow-up comes from use of DRAs
 - size of NBA can be exponential in $|\psi|$
 - and DRA can be exponentially bigger than NBA
 - in practice, this does not occur and $\boldsymbol{\psi}$ is small anyway
- Polynomial-time operations required on product model
 - BSCC computation linear in (product) model size
 - probabilistic reachability cubic in (product) model size
- In total: $O(poly(|D|, |A_{\psi}|))$
- Complexity can be reduced to single exponential in |ψ|
 see e.g. [CY88,CY95]

PCTL* model checking

- PCTL* syntax:
 - φ ::= true | a | $\varphi \land \varphi$ | $\neg \varphi$ | $P_{\sim p}$ [ψ]
 - $\psi ::= \varphi \mid \psi \land \psi \mid \neg \psi \mid X \psi \mid \psi \cup \psi$
- Example:
 - $P_{>p} [GF (send → P_{>0} [Fack])]$

PCTL* model checking algorithm

- bottom-up traversal of parse tree for formula (like PCTL)
- to model check P_{-p} [ψ]:
 - $\cdot\,$ replace maximal state subformulae with atomic propositions
 - · (state subformulae already model checked recursively)
 - $\cdot \,$ modified formula ψ is now an LTL formula
 - $\cdot\,$ which can be model checked as for LTL

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End components

- Consider an MDP M = (S, s_{init}, α_M , δ_M , L)
- A sub-MDP of M is a pair (T, δ_T) where:
 - $T \subseteq S$ is a (non-empty) subset of M's states
 - $-\delta_T(s) \subseteq \delta(s)$ for each $s \in T$
- which:
 - is closed under probabilistic branching, i.e.:
 - { s' | $\mu(s') > 0$ for some (a, μ) $\in \delta_T(s)$ } $\subseteq T$
- An end component of M is a strongly connected sub-MDP



End components

- For finite MDPs...
- For every end component, there is an adversary which, with probability 1, forces the MDP to remain in the end component and visit all its states infinitely often
- Under every adversary A, with probability 1 an end component will be reached and all of its states visited infinitely often



- (analogue of fundamental property of finite DTMCs)

Long-run properties of MDPs

- Maximum probabilities
 - $Pr_s^{max}(GF a) = Pr_s^{max}(F T_{GFa})$
 - where T_{GFa} is the union of sets T for all end components (T, δ_T) with $T \cap Sat(a) \neq \emptyset$
 - $Pr_s^{max}(FG a) = Pr_s^{max}(F T_{FGa})$
 - · where T_{FGa} is the union of sets T for all end components (T,δ_T) with $T\subseteq Sat(a)$
- Minimum probabilities
 - need to compute from maximum probabilities...
 - $Pr_s^{min}(GF a) = 1 Pr_s^{max}(FG \neg a)$
 - $Pr_s^{min}(FG a) = 1 Pr_s^{max}(GF \neg a)$

Example

- Model check: $P_{<0.8}$ [GF b] for s₀
- Compute Pr_{s0}^{max}(GF b)
 - $Pr_{s_0}^{max}(GF b) = Pr_{s_0}^{max}(F T_{GFb})$
 - T_{GFb} is the union of sets T for all end components with T \cap Sat(b) $\neq \emptyset$
 - Sat(b) = { s₄, s₆ }
 - $\ T_{GFb} = T_1 \cup T_2 \cup T_3 = \{ \ s_1, \ s_3 \ s_4, \ s_6 \ \}$
 - $Pr_{s_0}^{max}(F T_{GFb}) = 0.75$
 - $Pr_{s_0}^{max}(GF b) = 0.75$
- Result: $s_0 \models P_{<0.8}$ [GF b]



Automata-based properties for MDPs

- For an MDP M and automaton A over alphabet 2^{AP}
 - consider probability of "satisfying" language $L(A) \subseteq (2^{AP})^\omega$
 - $\ Pr_{M,s}^{\sigma}(A) = Pr_{M,s}^{\sigma} \left\{ \ \omega \in Path_{M,s}^{\sigma} \ | \ trace(\omega) \in L(A) \ \right\}$
 - $\ Pr_{M,s}^{max}(A) = \ sup_{\sigma \in Adv} \ Pr_{M,s}^{\sigma}(A)$
 - $\ \text{Pr}_{\text{M},\text{s}}^{\text{min}}(\text{A}) = \text{inf}_{\sigma \in \text{Adv}} \ \text{Pr}_{\text{M},\text{s}}^{\sigma}(\text{A})$
- Might need minimum or maximum probabilities
 - $-\text{ e.g. } s \vDash P_{\geq 0.99} \left[\ \psi_{good} \ \right] \Leftrightarrow Pr_{M,s}^{min}(\psi_{good}) \geq 0.99$
 - $\text{ e.g. s} \vDash P_{\leq 0.05} \left[\ \psi_{bad} \ \right] \Leftrightarrow Pr_{M,s}^{max}(\psi_{bad}) \leq 0.05$
- But, ψ -regular properties are closed under negation
 - as are the automata that represent them
 - so can always consider maximum probabilities...
 - $Pr_{M,s}^{max}(\psi_{bad})$ or 1 $Pr_{M,s}^{max}(\neg \psi_{good})$

LTL model checking for MDPs

- Model check LTL specification $P_{\sim p}$ [ψ] against MDP M
- 1. Convert problem to one needing maximum probabilities
 - e.g. convert $P_{>p}$ [ψ] to $P_{<1\text{-}p}$ [$\neg\psi$]
- 2. Generate a DRA for ψ (or $\neg \psi$)
 - build nondeterministic Büchi automaton (NBA) for ψ [VW94]
 - convert the NBA to a DRA [Saf88]
- 3. Construct product MDP M⊗A
- + 4. Identify accepting end components (ECs) of $M \otimes A$
- 5. Compute max. probability of reaching accepting ECs
 - from all states of the $\mathsf{D}{\otimes}\mathsf{A}$
- 6. Compare probability for (s, q_s) against p for each s

Product MDP for a DRA

- For an MDP M = (S, s_{init} , α_M , δ_M , L)
- and a (total) DRA A = (Q, q_{init} , α_A , δ_A , Acc)
 - where Acc = { (L_i, K_i) | $1 \le i \le k$ }

• The product MDP $M \otimes A$ is:

 $\begin{array}{l} - \text{ the MDP (S \times Q, (s_{init}, q_{s_{init}}), \alpha_M, \delta_{\otimes}, L_{\otimes}) \text{ where:} \\ q_{s_{init}} = \delta(q_{init}, L(s_{init})) \\ \delta_{\otimes}(s,q) = \{ (a,\mu^q) \mid (a,\mu) \in \delta_M(s) \} \\ \mu^q(s',q') = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mu(s') \quad \text{if } q' = \delta_A(q,L(s)) \\ 0 \qquad \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right. \end{array}$

 $I_i \in L_{\otimes}(s,q)$ if $q \in L_i$ and $k_i \in L_{\otimes}(s,q)$ if $q \in K_i$ (i.e. state sets of acceptance condition used as labels)

Product MDP for a DRA

For MDP M and DRA A

$$\Pr_{\mathsf{M},\mathsf{s}}^{\mathsf{max}}(\mathsf{A}) = \Pr_{\mathsf{M}\otimes\mathsf{A},(\mathsf{s},\mathsf{q}_{\mathsf{s}})}^{\mathsf{max}}(\bigvee_{1\leq i\leq k} (\mathsf{FG} \neg \mathbf{I}_{i} \land \mathsf{GF} k_{i}))$$

- where
$$q_s = \delta_A(q_{init}, L(s))$$

• Hence:

$$Pr_{M,s}^{max}(A) = Pr_{M \otimes A,(s,q_s)}^{max}(F T_{Acc})$$

- where T_{Acc} is the union of all sets T for accepting end components (T, δ_T) in D \otimes A
- an accepting end components is such that, for some $1 \le i \le k$:
 - · (s,q) $\vDash \neg I_i$ for all (s,q) $\in T$ and (s,q) $\vDash k_i$ for some (s,q) $\in T$
 - · i.e. $T \cap (S \times L_i) = \emptyset$ and $T \cap (S \times K_i) \neq \emptyset$

Example: LTL for MDPs

- Model check $P_{<0.8}$ [G $\neg b \land GF a$] for state s₀ in MDP M:
 - need to compute $Pr_{M,s_0}^{max}(G \neg b \land GF a)$



Example: LTL for MDPs

MDP M

DRA A_{ψ} for $\psi = G \neg b \wedge GF$ a





Product MDP M \otimes A_u





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LTL model checking for MDPs

+ Complexity of model checking LTL formula ψ on MDP M

- is doubly exponential in $|\psi|$ and polynomial in |M|
- unlike DTMCs, this cannot be improved upon

PCTL* model checking

- LTL model checking can be adapted to PCTL*, as for DTMCs

Maximal end components

- can optimise LTL model checking using maximal end components (there may be exponentially many ECs)
- **Optimal adversaries for LTL formulae**
 - e.g. memoryless adversary always exists for $Pr_{M,s}^{max}(GF a)$, but not for $Pr_{M,s}^{max}(FG a)$

Summary (Part 2)

- Linear temporal logic (LTL)
 - combines path operators; PCTL* subsumes LTL and PCTL
- ω -automata: represent ω -regular languages/properties
 - can translate any LTL formula into a Büchi automaton
 - for deterministic ω -automata, we use Rabin automata
- Long-run properties of DTMCs
 - need bottom strongly connected components (BSCCs)
- LTL model checking for DTMCs
 - construct product of DTMC and Rabin automaton
 - identify accepting BSCCs, compute reachability probability
- LTL model checking for MDPs
 - MDP-DRA product, reachability of accepting end components
- Next: Compositional probabilistic verification