# Model Checking 

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## Outline

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- $\mu$-Calculus: Syntax, Semantic, and Naive Model-Checking Algorithm
- $\mu$-Calculus: Alternation Depth and Improved Model-Checking Algorithm
- $\mu$-Calculus: Games for Model-Checking
- Summary


## Model-Checking for Different Logics



## $\mu$-calculus

- Very expressive
$\Rightarrow$ many logics can be translated into $\mu$-calculus
- Efficient (parallel) model-checking algorithms
- Based upon fixpoints
- Not very human-readable
use $\mu$-calculus mainly for model-checking of other logics and not for direct specification


## Fixpoints

Let $\tau: D \rightarrow D$ be a function over some domain $D$

- $d \in D$ is fixpoint of $\tau$ iff $\tau(d)=d$
- Not every function has a fixpoint
- Some functions have more than one fixpoint

Let $D$ be equipped with a partial order $\leqslant$

- $d$ is least fixpoint of $\tau(\operatorname{lfp}(\tau))$ iff $\tau(d)=d$ and $d \leqslant e$ for all other fixpoints $e$ of $\tau$
- $d$ is greatest fixpoint of $\tau(g f p(\tau))$ iff $\tau(d)=d$ and $e \leqslant d$ for all other fixpoints $e$ of $\tau$


## Monotone Functions

Let $D$ be a domain with partial order $\leqslant$.

- A function $\tau: D \rightarrow D$ is monotone iff $d \leqslant e \Rightarrow \tau(d) \leqslant \tau(e)$


## Examples:

- $x^{2}$ is monotone over the naturals, but not over the integers
- For $D=2^{S}, \leqslant=\subseteq$, and arbitrary $Y \in D$, i.e., $Y \subseteq S$ :
- $\tau_{1}(X)=X \cap Y$ is monotone
- $\tau_{2}(X)=X \cup Y$ is monotone
- $\tau_{3}(X)=D \backslash X$ is not monotone
- Remark:
- $\tau_{1}, \tau_{2}$ have both least and greatest fixpoints
- $\tau_{3}$ does not have a single fixpoint if $S \neq \varnothing$


## Existence and Computation of Fixpoints

Theorem (Knaster, Tarski)
Let $S$ be a finite set, let $D=2^{S}$ be ordered by $\subseteq$, let $\tau: D \rightarrow D$.
If $\tau$ is monotone then

- $\operatorname{lfp}(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(\varnothing)$
- $\operatorname{gfp}(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(S)$


## Proof



## Summary of Fixpoints

- $X$ is fixpoint of $\tau$ iff $\tau(X)=X$
- Function $\tau: 2^{S} \rightarrow 2^{S}$ is monotone iff $X \subseteq Y$ implies $\tau(X) \subseteq \tau(Y)$ (union and intersection are monotone, complement is not monotone)
- If $S$ is finite and $\tau$ monotone then $\tau$ has least and greatest fixpoint:
- $\operatorname{Ifp}(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(\varnothing)$
- $\operatorname{gfp}(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(S)$


## A Small Change in Transition Systems

Transition systems may now have labeled edges:
A transition system TS is a tuple

$$
(S, A c t, \rightarrow, I, A P, L)
$$

where

- $S$ is a set of states
- Act is a set of actions
- $\rightarrow \subseteq S \times A c t \times S$ is a transition relation
- $I \subseteq S$ is a set of initial states
- $A P$ is a set of atomic propositions
- $L: S \rightarrow 2^{A P}$ is a labeling function


## Example

## $\mu$-Calculus

Let $T S=(S, A c t, \rightarrow, I, A P, L)$ be a transition system.
Let $\mathcal{V}=\{x, y, \ldots\}$ be a set of variables (ranging over sets of states)
Definition ( $\mu$-Calculus Syntax)
A formula of the $\mu$-calculus ( $L_{\mu}$-formula) has one of the following forms:

- $p$ where $p \in A P$
- $\varphi \wedge \psi, \varphi \vee \psi, \neg \varphi$
- $\langle a\rangle \varphi$ where $a \in A c t$
- $[a] \varphi$ where $a \in$ Act
there is an a-successor satisfying $\varphi$ all a-successors satisfy $\varphi$
- $x$ where $x \in \mathcal{V}$
- $\mu x . \varphi$ where $x \in \mathcal{V}$
- $\nu x . \varphi$ where $x \in \mathcal{V}$
least fixpoint greatest fixpoint

In last two cases, $x$ may only occur in $\varphi$ under an even number of negations
Binding priority: $\{\neg,\langle\cdot\rangle,[\cdot]\} \sqsupset\{\wedge, \vee\} \sqsupset\{\mu, \nu\}$

## $\mu$-Calculus

Let $T S=(S, A c t, \rightarrow, I, A P, L)$ be a transition system.
Let $\mathcal{V}=\{x, y, \ldots\}$ be a set of variables (ranging over sets of states).
Let $\alpha: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow 2^{S}$ be a variable assignment
Definition ( $\mu$-Calculus Semantic)
For each $L_{\mu}$-formula and variable assignment define the satisfiability set as

- $\llbracket p \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\{s \mid p \in L(s)\}$
- $\llbracket \varphi \wedge \psi \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha} \cap \llbracket \psi \rrbracket_{\alpha}$
- $\llbracket \varphi \vee \psi \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha} \cup \llbracket \psi \rrbracket_{\alpha}$
- $\llbracket \neg \psi \rrbracket_{\alpha}=S \backslash \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha}$
- $\llbracket\langle a\rangle \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\left\{s \mid\right.$ there is $s \xrightarrow{a} t$ and $\left.t \in \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha}\right\}$
- $\llbracket[a] \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\left\{s \mid\right.$ whenever $s \xrightarrow{a} t$ then $\left.t \in \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha}\right\}$
- $\llbracket x \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\alpha(x)$
- $\llbracket \mu x . \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\operatorname{lfp}(\tau)$ where $\tau: 2^{S} \rightarrow 2^{S}, \tau(X)=\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha[x:=X]}$
- $\llbracket \nu x . \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha}=\operatorname{gfp}(\tau)$ where $\tau: 2^{S} \rightarrow 2^{S}, \tau(X)=\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha[x:=X]}$


## A Note on Well-Definedness

- Example:

For $\mu x . \neg x$ obtain $\tau(X)=S \backslash X \Rightarrow$ no Ifp $\Rightarrow$ no $\llbracket \mu x . \neg x \rrbracket_{\alpha}$
However, $\mu x . \neg x$ is not a $L_{\mu}$-formula
( $x$ occurs under an odd number of negations)

- Semantic is well-defined iff both
- $\operatorname{Ifp}(\tau)$ and
- $\operatorname{gfp}(\tau)$
exist where $\tau$ is defined as $\tau(X)=\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\alpha[x:=X]}$
- Requirement of even number of negations ensures that $\tau$ is monotone!
$\Rightarrow$ Knaster \& Tarski ensures that both $\operatorname{Ifp}(\tau)$ and $g f p(\tau)$ exist
$\Rightarrow$ Semantic is well-defined


## Model-Checking for the $\mu$-Calculus

- A $L_{\mu}$-formula is closed iff it does not contain free variables
$\Rightarrow$ For closed formulas $\alpha$ is not required
$\Rightarrow$ Define model relation for closed formulas:

$$
T S \models \varphi \quad \text { iff } \quad I \subseteq \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket
$$

Naive Model-Checking Algorithm:

- Just compute $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket$ by directly applying the definition of the semantics in a top-down way
- To compute fixpoints use Knaster \& Tarski
- $\operatorname{Ifp}(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(\varnothing)$
- $g f p(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(S)$
- Model-Checking for $\mu$-calculus boils down to simple set operations

Naive MC-Algorithm for the $\mu$-Calculus

Input:
A closed $L_{\mu}$-formula $\varphi$ and a transition system $T S=(S, A c t, \rightarrow, I, A P, L)$
Output: The boolean value of $T S \models \varphi$ Global variable: $\alpha: \mathcal{V}(\varphi) \rightarrow 2^{S}$
function model_check $(\varphi)$ return $I \subseteq \operatorname{sem}(\varphi)$
procedure reset $(x)$
if $x$ is $\mu$-variable then $\alpha(x):=\varnothing$ else $\alpha(x):=S$

Naive MC-Algorithm for the $\mu$-Calculus
function $\operatorname{sem}(\varphi)$
case $\varphi$ of
$x$ : return $\alpha(x)$
$p: \operatorname{return}\{s \mid p \in L(s)\}$
$\neg \psi$ : return $S \backslash \operatorname{sem}(\psi)$
$\psi_{1} \wedge \psi_{2}:$ return $\operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{1}\right) \cap \operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{2}\right)$
$\psi_{1} \vee \psi_{2}:$ return $\operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{1}\right) \cup \operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{2}\right)$
$\langle a\rangle \psi:$ return $\{s \mid \exists s \xrightarrow{a} t, t \in \operatorname{sem}(\psi)\}$
$[a] \psi:$ return $\{s \mid \forall s \xrightarrow{a} t: t \in \operatorname{sem}(\psi)\}$
Qx. $\psi$ :
reset $(x)$
while true do
$\mathrm{U}:=\alpha(x)$
$\mathrm{V}:=\operatorname{sem}(\psi)$
if $\mathrm{U}=\mathrm{V}$ then return U else $\alpha(x):=\mathrm{V}$

## Example

Computing $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket$ for $\varphi=\mu x .[b] \nu y . x \vee\langle a\rangle y$ and the following TS.


|  | $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket$ | $\alpha(x)$ | $\llbracket[b] \nu y . x \vee\langle a\rangle y \rrbracket_{\alpha}$ | $\llbracket \nu y \cdot x \vee\langle a\rangle y \rrbracket_{\alpha}$ | $\alpha(y)$ | $\llbracket x \vee\langle a\rangle y \rrbracket_{\alpha}$ | $\llbracket\langle a\rangle y \rrbracket_{\alpha}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 2 | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 3 | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| 4 | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Hence, $\llbracket \varphi \rrbracket=\{1,2,3,4\}$ and $T S \models \varphi$.
Complexity of naive algorithm:

$$
\mathcal{O}\left((|T S| \cdot|\varphi|)^{|\mathcal{V}(\varphi)|}\right)
$$

## Encoding of Logics into $\mu$-Calculus

Theorem
Every CTL-formula can be translated into a closed $L_{\mu}$-formula.
Proof.
W.I.o.g. all transitions are labeled by "a" (CTL cannot distinguish these)

- $\operatorname{AX} \varphi \rightsquigarrow[a] \varphi$
- $\operatorname{EX} \varphi \rightsquigarrow\langle a\rangle \varphi$
- $\mathrm{A} \varphi \mathrm{U} \psi \rightsquigarrow \mu x . \psi \vee(\varphi \wedge[a] x)$
- $\mathrm{E} \varphi \cup \psi \rightsquigarrow \mu x . \psi \vee(\varphi \wedge\langle a\rangle x)$
- $\mathrm{AG} \varphi \rightsquigarrow \nu \times . \varphi \wedge[a] x$

Problem: Resulting complexity is exponential, although CTL-model checking has linear complexity.

## Example

Computing $\llbracket \mu x . \varphi_{x} \rrbracket$ for the following TS where

$$
\begin{aligned}
\varphi_{x} & =q \vee\langle a\rangle \mu y \cdot \varphi_{y} \\
\varphi_{y} & =p \wedge\langle a\rangle(x \vee y)
\end{aligned}
$$



Complexity of improved algorithm:

$$
\mathcal{O}\left((|T S| \cdot|\varphi|)^{?}\right)
$$

## Positive Normal Form

$L_{\mu}$-formula $\varphi$ is in positive normal form (PNF) iff every variable is bound at most once and " $\neg$ " only occurs before propositions $p$
Theorem
Every closed $L_{\mu}$-formula can be translated into positive normal form.
Proof.

- $\neg(\varphi \wedge \psi) \rightsquigarrow \neg \varphi \vee \neg \psi$
- $\neg(\varphi \vee \psi) \rightsquigarrow \neg \varphi \wedge \neg \psi$
- $\neg(\neg \varphi) \rightsquigarrow \varphi$
- $\neg\langle a\rangle \varphi \rightsquigarrow[a] \neg \varphi$
- $\neg[a] \varphi \rightsquigarrow\langle a\rangle \neg \varphi$
- $\neg \mu x . \varphi \rightsquigarrow \nu x . \neg \varphi[x / \neg x]$
- $\neg \nu x . \varphi \rightsquigarrow \mu x . \neg \varphi[x / \neg x]$
- $\neg x$ does not occur due to "even number of negations"-condition


## Example

## Improved MC-Algorithm for the $\mu$-Calculus [Emerson,Lei]

Input:
A closed $L_{\mu}$-formula $\varphi$ in PNF and a transition system $T S=(S, I, \ldots, L)$
Output: $\quad$ The boolean value of $T S \models \varphi$
Global variables: $\alpha: \mathcal{V}(\varphi) \rightarrow 2^{S}$
Valid $\subseteq \mathcal{V}(\varphi) \quad / / x \in$ Valid implies $\alpha(x)=\llbracket Q x . \varphi_{x} \rrbracket_{\alpha}$
function model_check( $\varphi$ )
Valid $:=\varnothing$
for all $x \in \mathcal{V}(\varphi)$ do $\operatorname{reset}(x)$
return $I \subseteq \operatorname{sem}(\varphi)$
procedure reset $(x)$
if $x$ is $\mu$-variable then $\alpha(x):=\varnothing$ else $\alpha(x):=S$

## Improved MC-Algorithm for the $\mu$-Calculus [Emerson, Lei]

 function $\operatorname{sem}(\varphi)$case $\varphi$ of
$x$ : return $\alpha(x)$
$p: \operatorname{return}\{s \mid p \in L(s)\}$
$\neg p:$ return $\{s \mid p \notin L(s)\}$
$\psi_{1} \wedge \psi_{2}:$ return $\operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{1}\right) \cap \operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{2}\right)$
$\psi_{1} \vee \psi_{2}:$ return $\operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{1}\right) \cup \operatorname{sem}\left(\psi_{2}\right)$
$\langle a\rangle \psi: \operatorname{return}\{s \mid \exists s \xrightarrow{a} t, t \in \operatorname{sem}(\psi)\}$
$[a] \psi:$ return $\{s \mid \forall s \xrightarrow{a} t: t \in \operatorname{sem}(\psi)\}$
Qx. $\psi$ : if $x \in$ Valid then return $\alpha(x)$ else while true do
$\mathrm{U}:=\alpha(x) ; \mathrm{V}:=\operatorname{sem}(\psi)$
if $U=V$ then
Valid $:=$ Valid $\cup\{x\}$; return $U$
else

$$
\alpha(x):=V ; \operatorname{touch}(Q x . \psi)
$$

## Improved MC-Algorithm for the $\mu$-Calculus [Emerson,Lei]

procedure touch $\left(Q^{\prime} x . \varphi_{x}\right)$
Valid $:=$ Valid $\backslash\left\{y \mid Q y . \varphi_{y} \in \mathcal{S} u b\left(\varphi_{x}\right), x \in \mathcal{F} \mathcal{V}\left(\varphi_{y}\right)\right\}$
Reset $:=\left\{y \mid Q y . \varphi_{y} \in \mathcal{S u b}\left(\varphi_{x}\right), x \in \mathcal{F} \mathcal{V}\left(\varphi_{y}\right), Q \neq Q^{\prime}\right\}$
while $z \in\left\{z \mid \exists y \in \operatorname{Reset}, Q z . \varphi_{z} \in \mathcal{S} u b\left(\varphi_{y}\right), \mathcal{F} \mathcal{V}\left(\varphi_{z}\right) \cap\right.$ Reset $\left.\neq \varnothing\right\}$ do
Reset $:=$ Reset $\cup\{z\}$
for all $y \in$ Reset do reset $(y)$
Valid := Valid $\backslash$ Reset

- $\mathcal{F V}(\varphi)$ is the set of free variables of $\varphi$
- $\mathcal{S u b}(\varphi)$ is the set of sub-formulas of $\varphi$
- $\varphi_{x}$ is the unique formula which is the argument of " $Q x$."


## Illustration of touch

## Example

Computing $\llbracket \nu z . \varphi_{z} \rrbracket$ for the following TS where

$$
\begin{aligned}
\varphi_{z} & =z \wedge\langle a\rangle \mu x \cdot \varphi_{x} \\
\varphi_{x} & =q \vee\langle a\rangle \mu y \cdot \varphi_{y} \\
\varphi_{y} & =p \wedge\langle a\rangle(x \vee y)
\end{aligned}
$$



## Complexity of the Algorithm

Definition (Alternation Depth)
Variable $x$ depends on $y$ in $\varphi\left(x \prec_{\varphi} y\right)$ iff $\varphi$ contains subformula $Q x . \psi$ and $y$ is a free variable of $\psi$.

The alternation depth of a formula $\varphi$ in PNF is defined as $\operatorname{ad}(\varphi)=n$ where $n$ is the largest number such that $x_{1} \prec_{\varphi} \cdots \prec_{\varphi} x_{n}$ and the type of $x_{i}$ is different to the type of $x_{i+1}$ for every $i<n$.

A formula with $\operatorname{ad}(\varphi) \leqslant 1$ is called alternation free.

## Theorem

The algorithm of Emerson and Lei is sound and has complexity

$$
\mathcal{O}\left((|T S| \cdot|\varphi|)^{\operatorname{ad}(\varphi)}\right) .
$$

Efficient implementations available using binary decision diagrams (BDDs)

## Example

$$
\begin{aligned}
a d(q \vee\langle a\rangle p) & = \\
a d(\mu x \cdot q \vee\langle a\rangle(\mu y \cdot p \wedge\langle a\rangle(x \vee y))) & = \\
\operatorname{ad}(\nu z . z \wedge\langle a\rangle(\mu x \cdot q \vee\langle a\rangle \mu y \cdot p \wedge\langle a\rangle(x \vee y))) & = \\
a d(\mu x \cdot[b] \nu y \cdot x \vee\langle a\rangle y) & = \\
a d(\nu x \cdot \mu y \cdot y \wedge x \wedge(\nu z \cdot z) \wedge \nu u \cdot(u \wedge x)) & = \\
a d(\nu x \cdot \mu y \cdot y \wedge x \wedge(\nu z . z) \wedge \nu u \cdot(u \wedge y)) & =
\end{aligned}
$$

## Proof of Soundness

One crucial point is to use a stronger variant of Knaster-Tarski:
Theorem (Variant of Knaster-Tarski)
Let $S$ be a finite set, let $D=2^{S}$ be ordered by $\subseteq$, let $\tau: D \rightarrow D$.
If $\tau$ is monotone then

- $\operatorname{Ifp}(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(T)$ if $T \subseteq \tau^{k}(\varnothing)$ for some $k$
- $\operatorname{gfp}(\tau)=\tau^{|S|}(T)$ if $T \supseteq \tau^{k}(S)$ for some $k$

Then the soundness of the algorithm can be proven by induction on $\varphi$ using the following invariants:

## Encoding of Logics into $\mu$-Calculus

Theorem
Every CTL-formula can be translated into an alternation free $L_{\mu}$-formula.
Proof.

- ...
- $\mathrm{E} \varphi \mathrm{U} \psi \rightsquigarrow \mu x . \psi \vee(\varphi \wedge\langle a\rangle x)$
- $\mathrm{AG} \varphi \rightsquigarrow \nu x . \varphi \wedge[a] x$

Resulting formula has only trivial dependencies $x \prec x$.
$\Rightarrow$ CTL-model checking via $\mu$-calculus has linear and hence, optimal complexity

## Theorem

Every CTL*-formula can be translated into a $L_{\mu}$-formula with alternation depth 2 .

## Overview

Current approach:

- Formula $\rightsquigarrow L_{\mu}$-formula $\rightsquigarrow$ PNF $\rightsquigarrow$ Emerson Lei MC (BDDs)
- Global approach - whole transition system required and processed

Upcoming approach:

- Formula $\rightsquigarrow L_{\mu}$-formula $\rightsquigarrow$ PNF $\rightsquigarrow$ MC based on Games
- Sequential algorithm for alternation free formulas
- Local approach - only parts of transition system required, on-the-fly
- Parallel algorithm for alternation free formulas
- (Not shown: algorithm for formulas with alternation depth 2 )

Obtain efficient model-checker for $\mu$-calculus, CTL, CTL*, ...

## Overview of Games for Model-Checking

1. PNF $\rightsquigarrow$ graph
2. Graph $\times$ transition sytem $\rightsquigarrow$ game graph
3. Model-checking $=$ determining winner of game
4. Bottom-up sequential algorithm to determine winner
5. Top-down sequential algorithm to determine winner
6. Parallelization

## 1. From closed $L_{\mu^{\prime}}$-formula in PNF to graph

- First write down a given formula $\varphi$ as a tree where
- Each formula has as successors its direct subformulas
- $\neg p$ is seen as an atomic formula
- Then obtain a graph by adding edges from each $x$ to $Q x . \varphi_{x}$
$\Rightarrow$ Nodes of the graph are $\mathcal{S u b}(\varphi)$ where duplicates are allowed (e.g., node $p \wedge p$ has two successors $p$, each $p$ being a separate node)
$\varphi$ alternation free: Partition graph into components $Q_{1}, \ldots, Q_{n}$ such that
- Each $Q_{i}$ has only edges to $Q_{i} \cup Q_{i+1} \cup \cdots \cup Q_{n}$
- Each $Q_{i}$ contains only $\mu$-formulas or only $\nu$-formulas (then we call $Q_{i} \mu$-component or $\nu$-component)

Algorithm: Perform SCC decomposition, then merge singleton nodes into adjoint component

## Example

## 2. PNF + Transition System = Game Graph

Two player games:

- Players $\forall$ belard and $\exists$ loise
- Game graph is directed graph where nodes are called configurations The set of configurations $C$ is partitioned into $C=C_{\forall \text { belard }} \uplus C_{\exists l o i s e}$
- A play is infinite or maximal finite sequence of configurations

$$
c_{0} \hookrightarrow c_{1} \hookrightarrow c_{2} \hookrightarrow \ldots
$$

If $c_{i} \in C_{\forall \text { belard }}$ then $\forall$ belard can choose $c_{i+1}$, same for $\exists$ loise

Here:

- Game graph for $T S=\left(S, A c t, \rightarrow, I=\left\{s_{0}\right\}, A P, L\right)$ and $\varphi$ has configurations $C=S \times \mathcal{S u b}(\varphi)$, initial configuration $c_{0}=\left(s_{0}, \varphi\right)$ (similar to tabular of Emerson Lei algorithm, but here only reachable part has to be computed! $\Rightarrow$ on-the-fly algorithm)
- $\forall$ belard wants to show $s \notin \llbracket \psi \rrbracket$, ヨloise wants to show $s \in \llbracket \psi \rrbracket$


## Game Graph

The edges of the game graph are determined as follows:

1. If $c=\left(s, \psi_{1} \wedge \psi_{2}\right)$ then $\forall$ belard can move to $\left(s, \psi_{1}\right)$ or $\left(s, \psi_{2}\right)$
2. If $c=(s,[a] \psi)$ then $\forall$ belard can move to $(t, \psi)$ for some $s \xrightarrow{a} t$
3. If $c=(s, \nu x . \psi)$ then the successor is $(s, \psi)$
4. If $c=(s, x)$ then the successor is $\left(s, Q x \cdot \varphi_{x}\right)$
5. If $c=\left(s, \psi_{1} \vee \psi_{2}\right)$ then $\exists$ loise can move to $\left(s, \psi_{1}\right)$ or $\left(s, \psi_{2}\right)$
6. If $c=(s,\langle a\rangle \psi)$ then $\exists$ loise can move to $(t, \psi)$ for some $s \xrightarrow{a} t$
7. If $c=(s, \mu x . \psi)$ then the successor is $(s, \psi)$
8. If $c=(s, p)$ or $c=(s, \neg p)$ then the play is finished

Configurations in cases 1-4 belong to $\forall$ belard, cases 5-8 belong to $\exists$ loise (in cases $3,4,7,8$ this is not important, as there is no choice)


## Playing a Game

Given a play $c_{0} \hookrightarrow c_{1} \hookrightarrow \ldots$ there are two possibilities:

- If play is finite, $c_{n}=(s, \psi)$ is last configuration then $\forall$ belard wins iff
- $\psi=\langle a\rangle \chi \quad$ (since there is no successor by maximality of play)
- $\psi=p$ and $p \notin L(s)$ or $\psi=\neg p$ and $p \in L(s)$

In all other finite plays ヨloise wins

- $\forall$ belard/ $\exists$ loise wins an infinite play iff the maximal subformula that is visited infinitely often is a $\mu / \nu$-formula


## Strategies

A strategy $\mathcal{S t r}$ of a player is a function which takes an initial part of a play which ends in a configuration which belongs to that player and returns the configuration where the player wants to move to. Formally:

Str : $C^{*} C_{\text {player }} \rightarrow C \cup\{\perp\}$ such that for all $c_{0} \ldots c_{n} \in C^{*} C_{\text {player }}:$

- If $\operatorname{Str}\left(c_{0} \ldots c_{n}\right) \in \mathcal{C}$ then $c_{n} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{S} \operatorname{tr}\left(c_{0} \ldots c_{n}\right)$ is allowed move
- If $\mathcal{S t r}\left(c_{0} \ldots c_{n}\right)=\perp$ then $c_{n}$ has no successor

Note that a strategy of player uniquely determines all moves of that player for any given play; we then speak of a $\mathcal{S}$ tr-play

A strategy $\mathcal{S}$ tr of a player is a winning strategy if for each $\mathcal{S}$ tr-play that player is the winner

A strategy $\mathcal{S}$ tr is positional, if $\mathcal{S}$ tr only considers the last configuration, i.e., $\operatorname{Str}: C_{\text {player }} \rightarrow C \cup\{\perp\}$

## Example Strategies

## 3. Model Checking by Games

Theorem (Stirling)
For each formula $\varphi$ and each transition system TS:

- if $T S \models \varphi$ then $\exists$ loise has a positional winning strategy
- if TS $\not \vDash \varphi$ then $\forall$ belard has a positional winning strategy

Algorithmic approach for model checking

- Color configuration of game-graph by green/red if $\exists$ loise/ $\forall$ belard has winning strategy when starting from that configuration
- $T S \models \varphi$ iff color of $c_{0}$ is green


## 4. Bottom-Up Coloring

We only consider alternation free formulas
Remember: Then graph for formula (and also game-graph) can be partitioned into components $C_{1}, \ldots, C_{n}$ such that

- all components have only $\mu$-formulas or only $\nu$-formulas
- all edges of $C_{i}$ lead to $C_{i} \cup \cdots \cup C_{n}$

Thus, every play starting in $C_{i}$ will either

1. leave $C_{i}$ and continue in some $C_{i+k}, k>0$
2. reach a terminal configuration in $C_{i}$
(terminal configuration $=$ configuration without successors)
3. stay in $C_{i}$ forever

In case 1, the winner can be determined by the color of the configuration that is visited first in $C_{i+k}$
In case 2, the terminal configuration specifies the winner In case $3, \forall$ belard $/ \exists$ loise wins iff $C_{i}$ is $\mu / \nu$-component

## 4. Bottom-Up Coloring

Hence, perform the following coloring process:

- every terminal configuration $c$ is colored by red if the play $c$ is won by $\forall$ belard and by green, otherwise
- colors are propagated bottom-up: let $c$ be configuration with successors $c_{1}, \ldots, c_{m}$ with $m>0$
- $c \in C_{\exists l o i s e}$, some $c_{i}$ green $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ green
- $c \in C_{\exists \text { loise }}$, all $c_{i}$ red $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ red
- $c \in C_{\forall \text { belard }}$, some $c_{i}$ red $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ red
- $c \in C_{\forall \text { belard }}$, all $c_{i}$ green $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ green
- If all colors of $C_{i+1}, \ldots, C_{n}$ are determined and no propagation is possible for configurations of $C_{i}$ then
- color all white nodes of $C_{i}$ by red if $C_{i}$ is $\mu$-component
- color all white nodes of $C_{i}$ by green if $C_{i}$ is $\nu$-component



## 4. Bottom-Up Coloring

## Lemma

Once a configuration has a color, it will never be changed.
Theorem (Bollig, Leucker, Weber)
The bottom-up coloring process terminates and $c_{0}$ has color green/red iff $\exists$ loise/ $\forall$ belard has a positional winning strategy.

Further properties of the bottom-up coloring algorithm:

- Linear complexity (optimal)
- Every configuration is considered (half on-the-fly)


## 5. Top-Down Coloring

Overview:

- Directly start with top component $C_{1}$
- Let $C_{1}$ be $\mu$-component ( $\nu$-components are treated dually)
- If play ends in $C_{1}$ then winner can be determined
- If play stays in $C_{1}$ then $\exists$ loise looses
$\Rightarrow$ Goal of $\exists$ loise is to leave $C_{1}$ (or reach green terminal configuration)
- Idea: Make successors of $C_{1}$ outside $C_{1}$ attractive
$\Rightarrow$ color these nodes with light-green (optimistic assumption)
- Then propagate colors in $C_{1}$
- Result after coloring configurations in $C_{1}$
- configurations with full-color have correct color (as in bottom-up)
- configurations with white color become red (as in bottom-up)
- if initial configuration has full-color then done
- otherwise initial configuration has light-green color: then remove all light-green colors from $C_{1}$, pick some successor component $C_{k}$ of $C_{1}$ with assumed light-green initial configuration and determine the (full) color of $C_{k}$ 's initial configurations; afterwards color $C_{1}$ again, ...


## 5. Top-Down Coloring

Details on coloring process:

- every terminal configuration obtains full color (as in bottom-up)
- colors are propagated similar to bottom-up: let $c$ be configuration with successors $c_{1}, \ldots, c_{m}$ with $m>0$
- $c \in C_{\exists \text { loise }}$, some $c_{i}$ green $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ green
- $c \in C_{\exists \text { loise }}$, some $c_{i}$ light-green, no $c_{j}$ green $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ light-green
- $c \in C_{\exists \text { loise }}$, all $c_{i}$ red $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ red
- $c \in C_{\exists \text { loise }}$, all $c_{i}$ red or light-red, some $c_{j}$ light-red $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ light-red
- $c \in C_{\forall \text { belard }}$, some $c_{i}$ red $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ red
- $c \in C_{\forall \text { belard }}$, some $c_{i}$ light-red, no $c_{j}$ red $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ light-red
- $c \in C_{\forall b e l a r d}$, all $c_{i}$ green $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ green
- $c \in C_{\forall \text { belard }}$, all $c_{i}$ green or light-green, some $c_{j}$ light-green $\rightsquigarrow$ color $c$ light-green



## 5. Top-Down Coloring

## Lemma

When coloring a component $C_{i}$ a configuration can only change from white to colored, and from each light-color to the corresponding full-color.

Theorem (Bollig, Leucker, Weber)
The top-down coloring process terminates and $c_{0}$ has color green/red iff $\exists l o i s e / \forall$ belard has a positional winning strategy.

Further properties of the top-down coloring:

- Full on-the-fly algorithm (optimal)
- Quadratic complexity (sub-optimal)


## 6. Parallelization

Let us consider $n$ machines (PCs in a cluster, etc.):

- Game graph distribution:
- Size of game graph unknown when starting algorithm
- Assume hash function $f$
- Machine $i$ stores configuration $c$ iff $f(c) \bmod n=i$ (additionally successors and predecessors of $c$ are stored on machine $i$ )
- Game graph construction:
- Use breadth-first search (easy to parallelize with above distribution)
- Coloring (both bottom-up and top-down):
- Process components sequentially, but color each component in parallel
- as soon as terminal state is detected during game graph construction start backwards coloring process (in parallel)
- if coloring of component is done, recolor white and light-color configurations (in parallel)


## 6. Parallelization

Some notes on parallelization:

- Cycle detection is inherently sequential (but required for model checking via NBAs)
- Coloring algorithm does not need cycle detection, but parallel termination detection
$\Rightarrow$ Algorithms for parallel termination detection available (e.g. DFG token termination algorithm of Dijkstra, Feijen, Gasteren)


## Summary

- $\mu$-calculus is expressive logic (subsumes CTL*, NBAs)
- $\mu$-calculus is based on least- and greatest fixpoint operators
- direct model-checking algorithm based on set-operations, complexity is exponential in alternation depth
- model-checking via games (winning strategy of $\exists$ loise or $\forall$ belard)
- bottom-up and top-down (parallel) on-the-fly coloring algorithms for alternation free formulas

