

Approximating Multi-Perspective Trace Alignment Using Trace Encodings

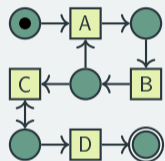
Alessandro Gianola, Jonghyeon Ko, Fabrizio Maria Maggi, Marco Montali, and Sarah Winkler
Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

21st International Conference on Business Process Management

14 September 2023, Utrecht

The Big Picture

Classical conformance checking



process model

+



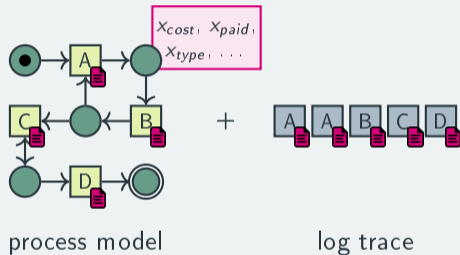
log trace

→
+ cost function

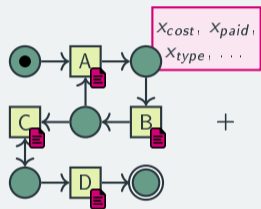


alignment

Classical conformance checking



Classical conformance checking

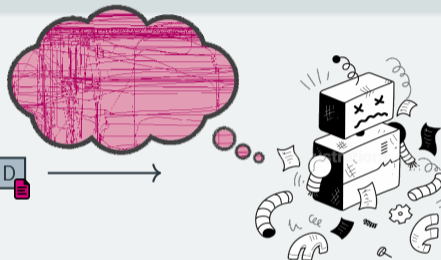


process model

+

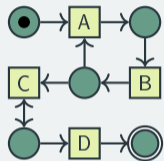


log trace



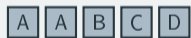
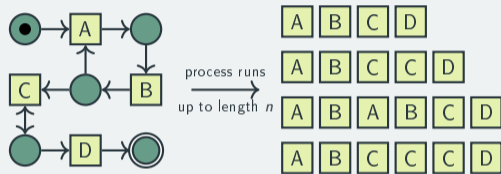
The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



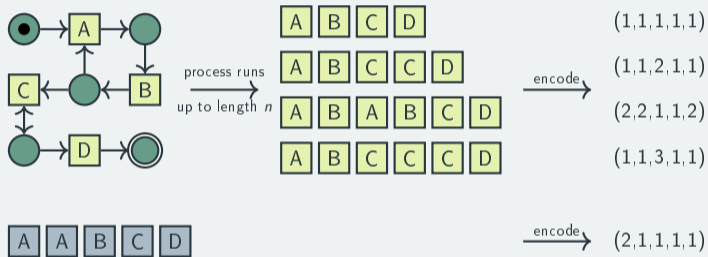
The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



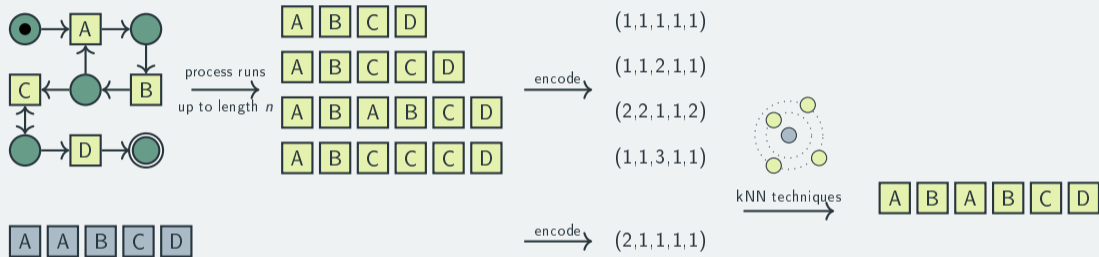
The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



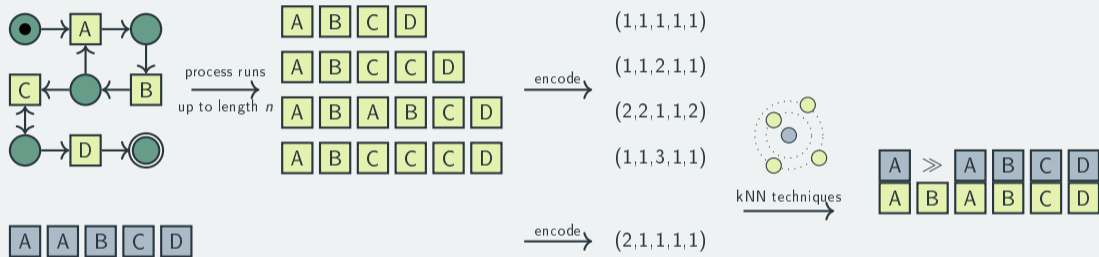
The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



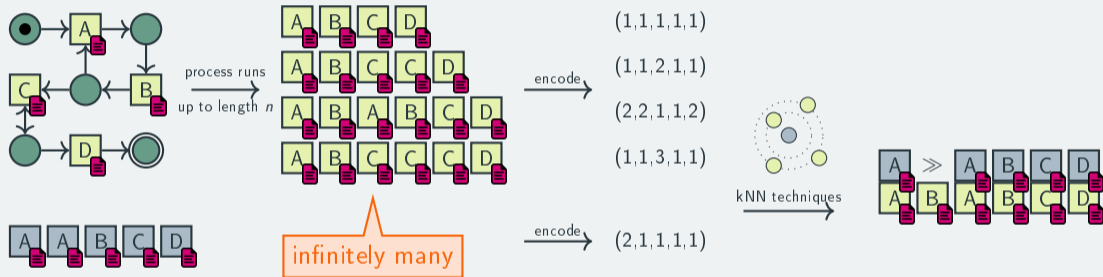
The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



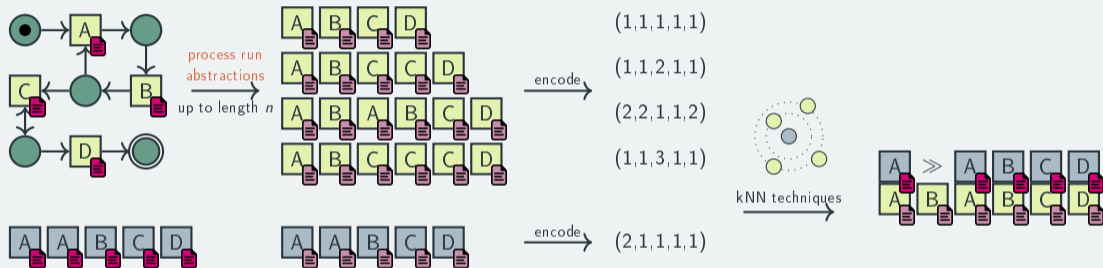
The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



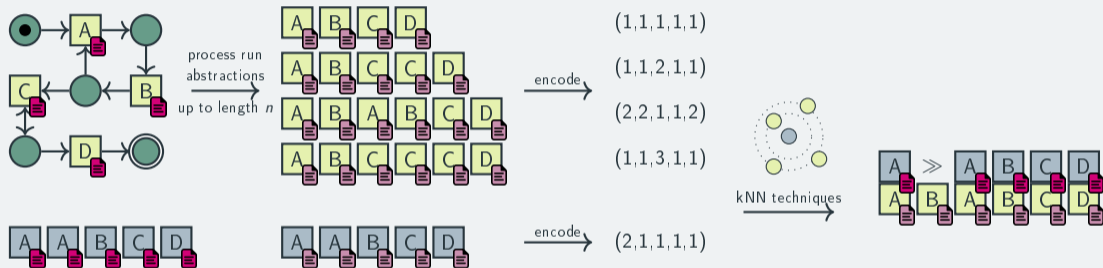
The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



The Big Picture

Approximate conformance checking



Advantages

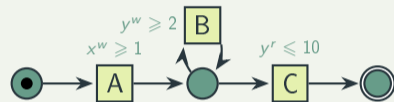
- ▶ fast (approximate) conformance checking
- ▶ user can choose encoding that prioritizes important trace aspects

Data Petri Nets

Data Petri net (DPN)

- ▶ based on **Petri net**

Example

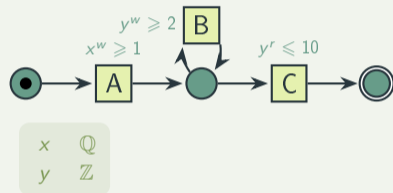


Data Petri Nets

Data Petri net (DPN)

- ▶ based on Petri net
- ▶ **data**: set of “global” variables V with numeric domain (\mathbb{Q} or \mathbb{Z})

Example

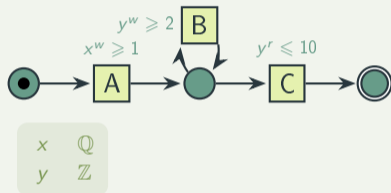


Data Petri Nets

Data Petri net (DPN)

- ▶ based on Petri net
- ▶ data: set of “global” variables V with numeric domain (\mathbb{Q} or \mathbb{Z})
- ▶ transitions have **guards** that read and write variables: linear arithmetic expressions over V^r and V^w

Example



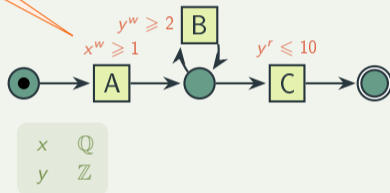
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\cdot^r for read, \cdot^w for written variables

Example

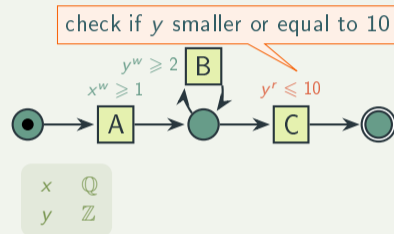


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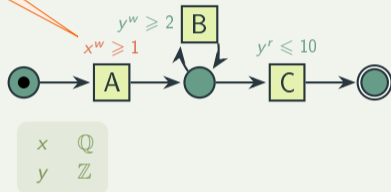
Data Petri Nets

Data Petri net (DPN)

- ▶ based on Petri net
- ▶ data: set of “global” variables V with numeric domain (\mathbb{Q} or \mathbb{Z})
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set x to value greater or equal to 1

Example

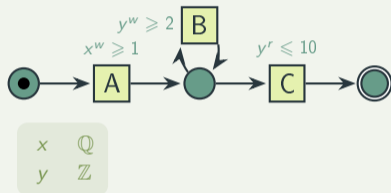


Data Petri Nets

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- ▶ data: set of “global” variables V with numeric domain (\mathbb{Q} or \mathbb{Z})
- ▶ transitions have guards that read and write variables: linear arithmetic expressions over V^r and V^w

Example



Assumption

- ▶ all guards are conjunctions of variable-to-constant comparisons
- ▶ this holds for guards automatically mined from data

[Mannhardt et al 2016, de Leoni 2013]

Log trace

sequence of **events** containing activity and assignment



Log trace

sequence of events containing activity and assignment



Alignment

- ▶ combines log trace and model trace in sequence of **moves**
- ▶ every move has cost according to cost function:
optimal alignment is the one with lowest cost



[Balanced multi-perspective conformance checking, Mannhardt et al 2016]

Log trace

sequence of events containing activity and assignment



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Fact

for DPN \mathcal{N} and trace e , can compute $bound(\mathcal{N}, e)$ on length of model trace in optimal alignment

[Data-aware conformance checking with SMT, Felli et al 2023]

Log trace

sequence of events containing activity and assignment



Alignment

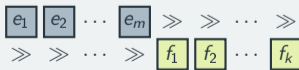
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[Balanced multi-perspective conformance checking, Mannhardt et al 2016]

Fact

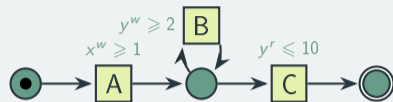
for DPN \mathcal{N} and trace e , can compute $bound(\mathcal{N}, e)$ on length of model trace in optimal alignment:
get worst-case alignment from shortest process run f_1, \dots, f_k and $e = e_1, \dots, e_m$



[Data-aware conformance checking with SMT, Felli et al 2023]

Observation

- ▶ infinite number of data values, but behavior only depends on whether **values are within bounds**

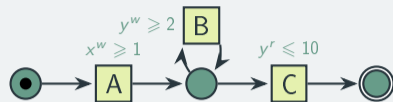


Observation

- ▶ infinite number of data values, but behavior only depends on whether values are within bounds
- ▶ for every variable, consider **set of intervals**:

x : $]-\infty, 1[$ $[1, \infty]$

y : $]-\infty, 2[$ $[2, 10]$ $]2, \infty]$

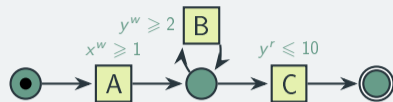


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Abstract trace

sequence of abstract events containing activity and assignment to intervals



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- ▶ for every variable, consider set of intervals:

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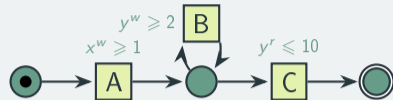
$$y: \quad]-\infty, 2[\quad [2, 10] \quad]2, \infty]$$

- ▶ can represent all model traces up to length k by **finite set of abstract traces**

A	$x \in [1, \infty]$	C	$x \in [1, \infty]$
	$y \in]-\infty, 2[$		$y \in]-\infty, 2[$

...

A	$x \in [1, \infty]$	B	$x \in [1, \infty]$	B	$x \in [1, \infty]$	C	$x \in [1, \infty]$
	$y \in]-\infty, 2[$		$y \in [2, 10]$		$y \in [2, 10]$		$y \in [2, 10]$



Abstract trace

sequence of abstract events containing activity and assignment to intervals

A	$x \in [1, \infty]$	A	$x \in]-\infty, 1[$	B	$y \in [2, \infty[$	C	
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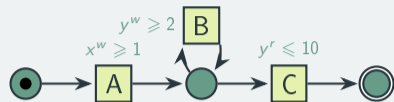
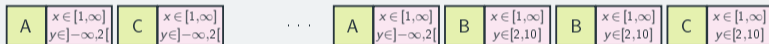
Observation

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- ▶ can represent all model traces up to length k by finite set of abstract traces



Abstract trace

sequence of abstract events containing activity and assignment to intervals



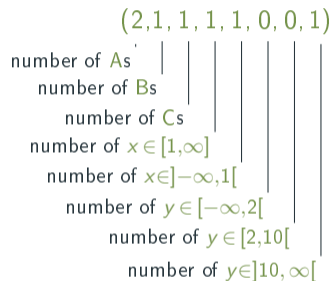
Key idea

- ▶ compute set T of all abstract model traces up to length $bound(\mathcal{N}, e)$
- ▶ given log trace e , search for closest model trace in T

Trace Encodings

1. Aggregate

count **frequency** of activity labels and intervals



Trace Encodings

1. Aggregate

count frequency of activity labels and intervals

2. Boolean

presence of activity labels and intervals



(2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)

(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)

Trace Encodings

1. Aggregate

count frequency of activity labels and intervals

2. Boolean

presence of activity labels and intervals

3. Complex index

for each trace position:

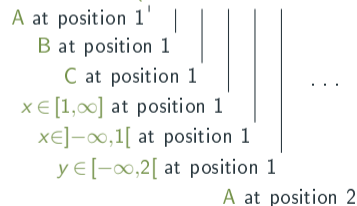
presence of each activity and each interval



(2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)

(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)

(1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, ...)



Trace Encodings



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count frequency of activity labels and intervals

(2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)

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(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)

3. Complex index

for each trace position:

presence of each activity and each interval

(1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, ...)

4. Last state

like aggregate for control flow, but only last interval for data values

(2, 1, 1, 1, 3)

Trace Encodings



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count frequency of activity labels and intervals

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like aggregate for control flow, but only last interval for data values

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5. Aggregate + p -grams

enhance aggregate encoding with p -grams for activity labels

(2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, ...)

weighted number of occurrences of AA¹ |
weighted number of occurrences of AB

Trace Encodings



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count frequency of activity labels and intervals

(2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1)

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for each trace position:

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like aggregate for control flow, but only last interval for data values

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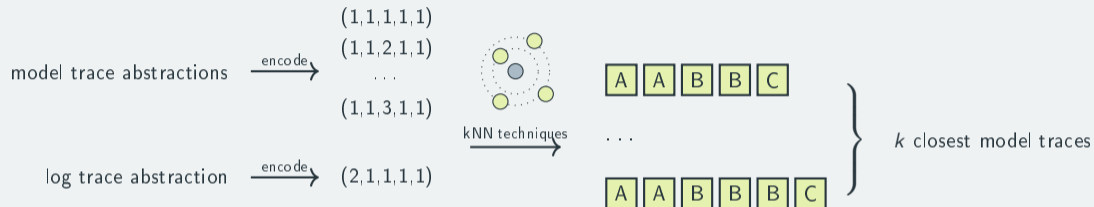
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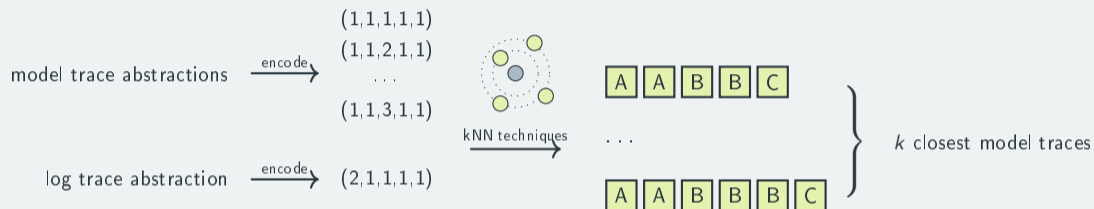
(2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, ...)

[Complex symbolic sequence encodings for predictive monitoring of business processes, Leontjeva et al 2015]

Solving the Alignment Problem using k NN



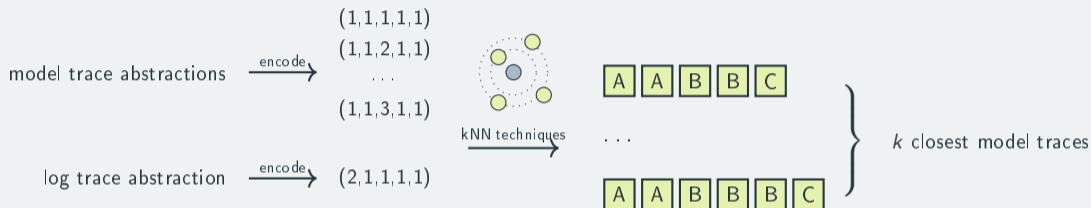
Solving the Alignment Problem using k NN



Technical details

- ▶ experiment with different distance measures: **euclidean**, **manhattan**, **cosine**

Solving the Alignment Problem using k NN



Technical details

- ▶ experiment with different distance measures: euclidean, manhattan, cosine
- ▶ **useful:** weigh vector components to give same weight to control flow and data (improve precision by 25%)

Setup

- ▶ compute model trace abstractions up to certain length for sepsis and road fines data sets
- ▶ for every log trace
 - ▶ compute optimal alignment using CoCoMoT, and respective (abstract) model trace f
 - ▶ compute k best-matching (abstract) model traces P using approximate approach

Setup

- ▶ compute model trace abstractions up to certain length for sepsis and road fines data sets
- ▶ for every log trace
 - ▶ compute optimal alignment using CoCoMoT, and respective (abstract) model trace \mathbf{f}
 - ▶ compute k best-matching (abstract) model traces P using approximate approach
- ▶ measure on entire log
 - ▶ **precision**: how often \mathbf{f} is in P
 - ▶ **similarity**: average distance of \mathbf{f} to model traces in P

Similarity (road fines, sepsis)

Encoding method	Distance metric	k	Similarity (ref = CoCoMot)	Time (sec)
aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.971 / 0.971 / 0.971 / 0.973)	(0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07)
aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.963 / 0.963 / 0.963 / 0.960)	(0.11 / 0.12 / 0.12 / 0.12)
aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.933 / 0.938 / 0.942 / 0.948)	(0.18 / 0.13 / 0.16 / 0.14)
boolean	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.06 / 0.07 / 0.08 / 0.08)
boolean	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.16 / 0.12 / 0.12 / 0.17)
boolean	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.13 / 0.13 / 0.14 / 0.14)
complexindex	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.15 / 0.25 / 0.25)
complexindex	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.11 / 0.35 / 0.35)
complexindex	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.18 / 0.70 / 0.64)
lststate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07)
lststate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.12 / 0.12 / 0.17)
lststate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.13 / 0.18 / 0.13 / 0.14)
p-gram+aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.06 / 0.07 / 0.06 / 0.07)
p-gram+aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.10 / 0.10 / 0.15 / 0.11)
p-gram+aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.15 / 0.12 / 0.13 / 0.12)

p-gram+aggregate:

0.99 for best single trace

Encoding method	Distance metric	k	Similarity
aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)
aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.607)
aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)
boolean	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)
boolean	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.607)
boolean	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)
complexindex	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.620 / 0.620 / 0.620 / 0.620)
complexindex	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.619 / 0.620 / 0.620 / 0.620)
complexindex	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.619 / 0.620 / 0.620 / 0.621)
lststate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.603 / 0.602 / 0.601 / 0.602)
lststate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.603 / 0.601 / 0.600 / 0.600)
lststate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.603 / 0.601 / 0.600 / 0.601)
p-gram+aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.604 / 0.607 / 0.607 / 0.607)
p-gram+aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.605 / 0.607 / 0.607 / 0.607)
p-gram+aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.605 / 0.607 / 0.606 / 0.607)

complexindex:

0.62 for best single trace

Similarity (road fines, sepsis)

Encoding method	Distance metric	k	Similarity (ref = CoCoMot)	Time (sec)
aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.971 / 0.971 / 0.971 / 0.973)	(0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07)
aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.963 / 0.963 / 0.963 / 0.960)	(0.11 / 0.12 / 0.12 / 0.12)
aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.933 / 0.938 / 0.942 / 0.948)	(0.18 / 0.13 / 0.16 / 0.14)
boolean	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.06 / 0.07 / 0.08 / 0.08)
boolean	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.16 / 0.12 / 0.12 / 0.17)
boolean	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.13 / 0.13 / 0.14 / 0.14)
complexindex	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.15 / 0.15 / 0.15 / 0.15)
complexindex	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.11 / 0.11 / 0.11 / 0.11)
complexindex	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.08 / 0.07 / 0.08 / 0.08)
lststate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07 / 0.07)
lststate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.12 / 0.12 / 0.12 / 0.12)
lststate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.978 / 0.978 / 0.978 / 0.977)	(0.13 / 0.13 / 0.14 / 0.14)
p-gram+aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.06 / 0.07 / 0.06 / 0.07)
p-gram+aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.10 / 0.10 / 0.15 / 0.11)
p-gram+aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.996 / 0.996 / 0.996 / 0.995)	(0.15 / 0.12 / 0.13 / 0.12)

p-gram+aggregate:

0.99 for best single trace

complexindex:

0.62 for best single trace

Encoding method	Distance metric	k	Similarity (ref = CoCoMot)	Time (sec)
aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01)
aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.607)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.01 / 0.02)
aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
boolean	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01)
boolean	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.607)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.01 / 0.02)
boolean	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606 / 0.606)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
complexindex	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.620 / 0.620 / 0.620 / 0.620)	(0.04 / 0.04 / 0.04 / 0.04)
complexindex	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.619 / 0.620 / 0.620 / 0.620)	(0.04 / 0.04 / 0.04 / 0.04)
complexindex	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.619 / 0.620 / 0.620 / 0.621)	(0.05 / 0.05 / 0.05 / 0.05)
lststate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.603 / 0.602 / 0.601 / 0.602)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01)
lststate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.603 / 0.601 / 0.600 / 0.600)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
lststate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.603 / 0.601 / 0.600 / 0.601)	(0.01 / 0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
p-gram+aggregate	Cosine	(1/3/5/10)	(0.604 / 0.607 / 0.607 / 0.607)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01)
p-gram+aggregate	Euclidean	(1/3/5/10)	(0.605 / 0.607 / 0.607 / 0.607)	(0.03 / 0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
p-gram+aggregate	Manhattan	(1/3/5/10)	(0.605 / 0.607 / 0.606 / 0.607)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)

Precision (road fines, sepsis)

Encoding method	Distance metric	k (%)	Precision (ref = CoCoMot)	Time (sec)
aggregate	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.613 / 0.740 / 0.803)	(0.08 / 0.09 / 0.10)
aggregate	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.195 / 0.501 / 0.551)	(0.19 / 0.13 / 0.17)
aggregate	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.195 / 0.518 / 0.555)	(0.14 / 0.21 / 0.16)
boolean	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.580 / 0.712 / 0.756)	(0.08 / 0.17 / 0.10)
boolean	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.597 / 0.725 / 0.808)	(0.13 / 0.19 / 0.13)
boolean	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.596 / 0.729 / 0.828)	(0.16 / 0.15 / 0.16)
complexindex	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.580 / 0.712 / 0.756)	(0.08 / 0.17 / 0.10)
complexindex	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.597 / 0.725 / 0.808)	(0.13 / 0.19 / 0.13)
complexindex	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.596 / 0.729 / 0.828)	(0.16 / 0.15 / 0.16)
lststate	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.580 / 0.712 / 0.756)	(0.08 / 0.17 / 0.10)
lststate	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.597 / 0.725 / 0.808)	(0.13 / 0.19 / 0.13)
lststate	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.596 / 0.729 / 0.828)	(0.16 / 0.18 / 0.16)
p-gram+aggregate	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.705 / 0.776 / 0.817)	(0.07 / 0.08 / 0.08)
p-gram+aggregate	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.715 / 0.776 / 0.853)	(0.11 / 0.12 / 0.12)
p-gram+aggregate	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.719 / 0.798 / 0.898)	(0.12 / 0.14 / 0.18)

0.71 for best 10%,
0.90 for best 30%

Encoding method	Distance metric	k (%)	Precision (ref = CoCoMot)	Time (sec)
aggregate	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.813 / 0.833 / 0.833)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01)
aggregate	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.888 / 0.898 / 0.898)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
aggregate	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.888 / 0.898 / 0.898)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.03)
boolean	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.776 / 0.800 / 0.800)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
boolean	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.854 / 0.864 / 0.873)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
boolean	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.852 / 0.864 / 0.877)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.03)
complexindex	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.816 / 0.816 / 0.868)	(0.04 / 0.04 / 0.04)
complexindex	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.891 / 0.931 / 0.949)	(0.05 / 0.04 / 0.05)
complexindex	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.924 / 0.938 / 0.951)	(0.08 / 0.07 / 0.07)
lststate	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.822 / 0.822 / 0.822)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01)
lststate	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.857 / 0.923 / 0.924)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.02)
lststate	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.855 / 0.923 / 0.924)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
p-gram+aggregate	Cosine	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.864 / 0.881 / 0.891)	(0.01 / 0.01 / 0.01)
p-gram+aggregate	Euclidean	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.914 / 0.926 / 0.939)	(0.02 / 0.02 / 0.02)
p-gram+aggregate	Manhattan	(10% / 20% / 30%)	(0.914 / 0.926 / 0.939)	(0.04 / 0.03 / 0.03)

0.92 for best 10%,
0.95 for best 30%

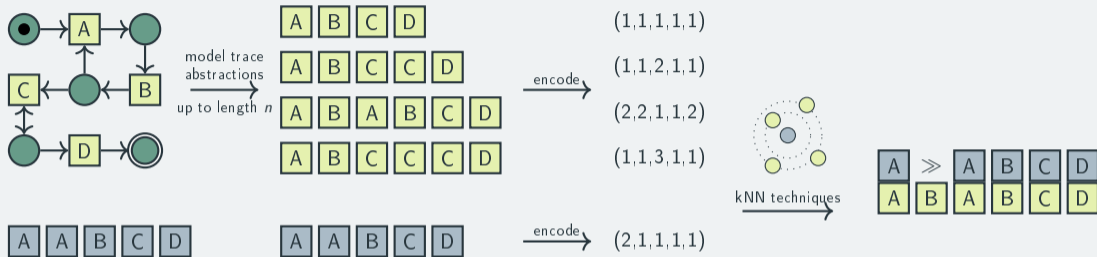
Setup

- ▶ compute model trace abstractions up to certain length for sepsis and road fines data sets
- ▶ for every log trace
 - ▶ compute optimal alignment using CoCoMoT, and respective (abstract) model trace \mathbf{f}
 - ▶ compute k best-matching (abstract) model traces P using approximate approach
- ▶ measure on entire log
 - ▶ precision: how often \mathbf{f} is in P
 - ▶ similarity: average distance of \mathbf{f} to model traces in P

Performance

approximate approach is ~ 100 times faster than CoCoMoT, ~ 10 times faster than ProM

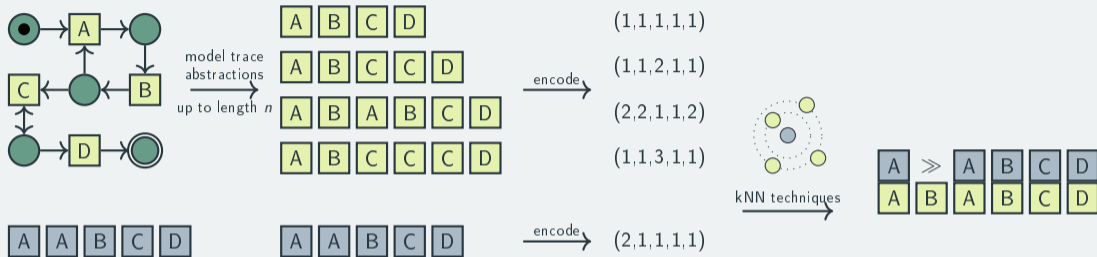
Conclusion



Advantages

- ▶ fast (approximate) conformance checking
- ▶ approximation as preprocessing:
precise conformance checking can be applied to returned model traces

Conclusion



Advantages

- ▶ fast (approximate) conformance checking
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precise conformance checking can be applied to returned model traces

Future work

extend to probabilistic trace alignment and more general DPNs