On Search Strategies for Constraint-Based Bounded Model Checking

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CP meets CAV

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Outline

CSP & BMC

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The CP Framework

A CP framework for Bounded Program Verification

CPBPV, a Depth First Dynamic Exploration of the CFG

Discussion

DPVS, a Dynamic Backjumping Strategy

The Flasher Manager Application

 Automatic generation of counterexamples violating a property on a limited model of the program is very useful The CP Framework

DPVS

FM Application

→ Challenge: finding bugs for realistic time periods for real time applications

Overall view of CP framework

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Bounded program verification (the array lengths, the variable values and the loops are bounded)

- Constraint stores to represent the specification and the program
- Program is partially correct if the constraint store implies the post-conditions
- ▶ Non deterministically exploration of execution paths

The CP Frameworl

Overall view

Pre-processing
A small example
Language and

Scalar assignment
Array assignment
Conditional instruction
while instruction

PBPV

DPVS

FM Application

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CP-based BMC mainly involves three steps:

- 1. the program is unwound k times,
- 2. An annotated and simplified CFG is built
- 3. Program is translated in constraints on the fly

A **list of solvers** tried in sequence (LP, MILP, Boolean, CP)

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► CP framework

- Specification → constraints
 Program → constraints (on the fly)
- Solving Process
 - → List of solvers tried in sequence on each selected node of the CFG
 - ightarrow Takes advantage of the structure of the program

▶ BMC based on SAT / SMT solvers

- Program & specification → Big Boolean formula
- Solving Process
 - → SAT solvers or SMT solvers have a "Global view"
 - → Critical issue: minimum conflict sets (to limit backtracks & spurious solutions)

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Overall view

Overall view

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Pre-processing

- 1. P is unwound k times $\rightarrow P_{\mu\nu}$
- 2. $P_{uw} \rightarrow DSA$, Dynamic Single Assignment form (each variable is assigned exactly once on each program path)
- 3. DSA is simplified according to the specific property by applying slicing techniques
- 4. Domains of all variables are filtered by propagating constant values along the simplified CFG

The CP

Pre-processing A small example

Language and Scalar assignment

Array assignment Conditional instruction

```
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```

```
void foo(int a, int b)
int c. d. e. f:
if(a >= 0) {
      if(a < 10) {f = b - 1:}
      else \{f = b - a: \}
      c = a:
      if(b >= 0) \{d = a; e = b;\}
      else \{d = a: e = -b:\}
 else {
      c = b; d = 1; e = -a;
      if(a > b) \{ f = b + e + a \}
      else \{f = e * a - b;\}
  c = c + d + e:
  assert(c >= d + e); // property p_1
 assert(f >= -b * e); // property p_2
```

Overall view

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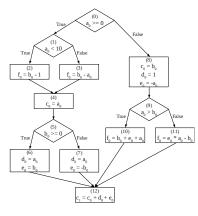
CPBPV

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A small example (continued)

Initial CFG



```
void foo(int a, int b)
int c, d, e, f;
if(a >= 0) {
      if(a < 10) {f = b - 1;}
      else \{f = b - a; \}
      c = a:
      if(b >= 0) {d = a; e = b;}
      else \{d = a: e = -b:\}
 else {
      c = b: d = 1: e = -a:
      if(a > b) \{ f = b + e + a \}
      else \{f = e * a - b;\}
  c = c + d + e:
 assert(c >= d + e); // property p_1
 assert(f >= -b * e); // property p_2
```

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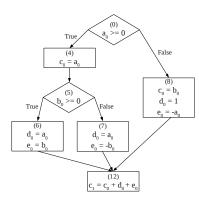
The CP Framework

A small example Language and

Scalar assignment Array assignment Conditional instruction while instruction

A small example (continued)

Simplified CFG



```
void foo(int a. int b)
int c, d, e, f;
if(a >= 0) {
     if(a < 10) \{f = b - 1\}
     else { f = b - a; }
     c = a:
      if(b >= 0) \{d = a; e = b;\}
     else \{d = a: e = -b:\}
 else {
      c = b; d = 1; e = -a;
      if(a > b) \{ f = b + e + a \}
     else \{f = e * a - b\}
 c = c + d + e:
 assert(c >= d + e); // property p_1
 assert(f >= -b * e): // property p_2
```

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A small example Language and

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► Java programs and JML specifications

JML =

- Comments in java code ("javadoc" like) (can be compiled and executed at run time)
- Properties are directly expressed on the program variables
 - no need for abstraction
- Pre-conditions and post-relations
- Exists and Forall quantifiers
- C programs and assertions

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CP framework, restrictions

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- ► Unit code validation
- Data types: Booleans, integers, arrays of integers, [floats]
- Bounded programs: array lengths, number of unfoldings of loops, size of integers are known
- Normal behaviours of the method (no exception)
- JML specification :
 - post condition: the conjunction of use cases of the method
 - possibly a precondition

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Building the constraint store: principle

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Each expression is mapped to a constraint: ρ transforms program expressions into constraints

- SSA-like variable renaming: σ[v] is the current renaming of variable v
- ► JML:
 - \setminus forall i \rightarrow conjunction of conditions
 - \exist i → disjunction of conditions

(i has bounded values)

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► scalar assignment

$$\frac{\sigma_2 = \sigma_1[v/\sigma_1(v) + 1] \& c_2 \equiv (\rho \sigma_2 v) = (\rho \sigma_1 e)}{\langle [v \leftarrow e, I], \sigma_1, c_1 \rangle \longmapsto \langle [I], \sigma_2, c_1 \wedge c_2 \rangle}$$

Program

$$x=x+1; y=x*y; x=x+y;$$

Constraints

$$\{x_1 = x_0 + 1, y_1 = x_1 * y_0, x_2 = x_1 * y_1\}$$

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▶ array assignment

$$\begin{split} \sigma_2 &= \sigma_1[a/\sigma_1(a)+1] \\ c_2 &\equiv (\rho \ \sigma_2 \ a)[\rho \ \sigma_1 \ e_1] = (\rho \ \sigma_1 \ e_2) \\ c_3 &\equiv \forall i \in 0...a.length(\rho \ \sigma_1 \ e_1) \neq i \rightarrow (\rho \ \sigma_2 \ a)[i] = (\rho \ \sigma_1 \ a)[i] \\ &\qquad \langle [a[e_1] \leftarrow e_2, I], \sigma_1 \ , c_1 \rangle \longmapsto \langle [I], \sigma_2, c_1 \wedge c_2 \wedge c_3 \rangle \end{split}$$

Program (a.length=8)

$$a[i] = x;$$

Constraints

$$\{a_1[i_0] = x_0, i_0 \neq 0 \rightarrow a_1[0] = a_0[0], i_0 \neq 1 \rightarrow a_1[1] = a_0[1], ..., i_0 \neq 7 \rightarrow a_1[7] = a_0[7]\}$$

guard → body is a guarded constraint

a[i] = x is the element constraint: i and x are constrained variables whose values may be unknown

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Conditional instruction while instruction

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Discussion

► conditional instruction: if b i; I

$$\frac{c \land (\rho \ \sigma \ b) \text{ is satisfiable}}{\langle \textit{if b i} ; \ \textit{I}, \sigma, c \rangle \longmapsto \langle \textit{i} ; \textit{I}, \sigma, c \land (\rho \ \sigma \ b) \rangle}$$

$$\frac{c \land \neg (\rho \ \sigma \ b) \text{ is satisfiable}}{\langle \textit{if b } i \ ; \ \textit{I}, \sigma, c \rangle \longmapsto \langle \textit{I}, \sigma, c \land \neg (\rho \ \sigma \ b) \rangle}$$

► while instruction: while b i; I

$$\frac{c \wedge (\rho \sigma b) \text{ is satisfiable}}{\langle \textit{while b i} ; \ \textit{I}, \sigma, \textit{c} \rangle \longmapsto \langle \textit{i}; \textit{while b i} ; \ \textit{I}, \sigma, \textit{c} \wedge (\rho \sigma b) \rangle}$$

$$\frac{c \land \neg(\rho \ \sigma \ b) \text{ is satisfiable}}{\langle \textit{while b i; } I, \sigma, c \rangle \longmapsto \langle I, \sigma, c \land \neg(\rho \ \sigma \ b) \rangle}$$

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CPBPV, Depth first exploration of the CFG

- Translate precondition of the specification (if it exists) into a set of constraints PRECOND
- Translate post condition of the specification into a set of constraints POSTCOND
- Explore each branch B_i of the program and translate instructions of B_i into a set of constraints PROG_Bi

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- For each branch B_i, solve CSPi = PROG_Bi ∧ PRECOND ∧ NOT(POSTCOND)
 - If for each branch B_i CSPi is inconsistent, then the program is conform with its specification
 - If for a branch B_i CSPi has a solution, then this solution is a counterexample which illustrates a non-conformity
- Inconsistencies of CSPi are detected at each node of the control flow graph

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Current prototype – On the fly validation : if then ... else ...

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- If c can be simplified into constant value "true" or "false", select the branch which corresponds to c
- ▶ If c is linear
 - 1. add decision c in linear CSP
 - 2. solve linear_CSP
 - if linear_CSP has no solution, condition c is not feasible for the current path
 - → choose another path
 - if linear_CSP has a solution, we can't conclude anything on complete_CSP
 - → investigate both branches c and ¬c

Current prototype – On the fly validation : if then ... else ...

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Discussion

- If c is NOT linear :
 - abstract decision c and add it in boolean_CSP
 - solve boolean_CSP

 - ▶ if boolean_CSP has a solution → investigate both branches c and ¬c

Boolean abstraction

- hash-table of decisions: keys are decisions, values are Boolean variables
- sub-expressions are shared → rewriting

Current prototype – On the fly validation : loops

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Let c be the entrance condition

- if c is trivially simplified to "true" or "false"
 venter or exit the loop
- if {c + linear_CSP } is inconsistent

 → add ¬c to the CSPs and exit the loop

In other cases, unfold loop max times:

- If max is reached

 → add ¬c to the CSPs and exit the loop
- Else investigate both paths

```
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```

```
/*@ requires (\forall int i:i>=0
                         && i<t.length-1;t[i]<=t[i+1])
    ensures
     (\result!=-1 ==> t[\result] == v) &&
     (\result==-1 ==>
              \forall int k: 0<=k<t.length: t[k]!=v)
@*/
 static int binary_search(int[] t, int v)
2
       int 1 = 0:
3
       int u = t.length-1;
4
       while (1 \le u)
5
            int m = (1 + u) / 2;
6
            if (t[m]==v) return m;
7
            if (t[m] > v)
8
                  u = m - 1:
9
            else
10
                  1 = m + 1: // ERROR else u = m - 1:
11
     return -1:
```

PBPV Overall view

Example Implementation Experiments

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Overall view Example

Precondition

```
\label{eq:condition} $$ \inf i;i>=0 $$ i<t.length-1;t[i]<=t[i+1] $$ CSP $\leftarrow t_0[0] \le t_0[1] \land t_0[1] \le t_0[2] \land ... \land t_0[6] \le t_0[7] $$
```

Initialization

```
int l=0; int u=t.length-1;  CSP \leftarrow CSP \wedge I_0 = 0 \wedge u_0 = 7
```

Overall view Example

Precondition

```
\label{eq:condition} $$ \{ i < t.length-1; t[i] <= t[i+1] $$ $$ $ (0) \le t_0[1] \land t_0[1] \le t_0[2] \land ... \land t_0[6] \le t_0[7] $$
```

Initialization

```
int l=0;int u=t.length-1;  CSP \leftarrow CSP \wedge I_0 = 0 \wedge u_0 = 7
```

► Loop

Enter into the loop since $I_0 \le u_0$ is consistent with the current constraint store ${CSP} \leftarrow {CSP} \wedge I_0 \le u_0$

► Assignment

int m=(1+u)/2;
$$\label{eq:csp} \text{CSP} \leftarrow \text{CSP} \land m_0 = (l_0 + u_0)/2 = 3$$

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Overall view Example

► Loop

Enter into the loop since $I_0 \le u_0$ is consistent with the current constraint store ${CSP} \leftarrow {CSP} \wedge I_0 \le u_0$

► Assignment

▶ Conditional

 $t_0[m_0]=v_0$ is consistent with the constraint store so take the if part $CSP \leftarrow CSP \wedge t_0[m_0]=v_0$

▶ Complete execution path p whose constraint store cp is:

$$c_{pre} \ \wedge \ l_0 = 0 \wedge u_0 = 7 \ \wedge \ m_0 = 3 \ \wedge \ t_0[m_0] = v_0$$

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Overall view

Overall view Example

▶ Conditional

 $t_0[m_0] = v_0$ is consistent with the constraint store so take the if part $CSP \leftarrow CSP \wedge t_0[m_0] = v_0$

► Complete execution path p whose constraint store cp is:

$$c_{pre} \ \wedge \ l_0 = 0 \wedge u_0 = 7 \ \wedge \ m_0 = 3 \ \wedge \ t_0[m_0] = v_0$$

Return statement has been reached

▶ add negation of post condition and link JML \result variable with returned value m₀

$$\label{eq:continuous_continuous$$

Solve the CSP There is No solution so the program is correct along this execution path

Go back to conditional if (t[m]==v) to explore the else part

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Return statement has been reached

▶ add negation of post condition and link JML \result variable with returned value m₀

```
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```

Solve the CSP There is No solution so the program is correct along this execution path

Go back to conditional if (t[m]==v) to explore the else part

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Overall view

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PVS

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Dedicated solvers

- ad-hoc simplifier: trivial simplifications and calculus on constants
- linear solver (LP algorithm) + MIP solver
- Boolean solver (SAT solver)
 (Boolean relaxation of the non linear constraints)
- CSP solver: used if none of the other solver did find an inconsistency

► Prototype

- Solvers : Ilog CPLEX11 and JSolver4verif
- Written in Java using JDT (eclipse) for parsing Java programs
- !! CPLEX is unsafe but Neumaier & Shcherbina
- → method for computing a certificate of infeasibility

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> PBPV verall view cample

Implementation Experiments

JF V3

Binary search

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	length	8	16	32	64	128
CPBPV	time	1.08s	1.69s	4.04s	17.01s	136.80s
СВМС	time	1.37s	1.43s	КО		

Table: Results for a correct binary search program

length	CPBPV	СВМС
8	0.027s	1.38s
16	0.037s	1.69s
32	0.064s	7.62s
64	0.115s	27.05s
128	0.241s	189.20s

Table: Results for an incorrect binary search

!! CBMC only shows the decisions taken along the faulty path (they do not provide any value for the array nor the searched data) The CP Framework

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FM Application

- The CP Framework
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- DPVS EM Application

- CPLEX, the MIP solver, plays a key role
- There are only length calls to the CP solver (and much more calls to CPLEX)
- Almost 75% of the CPU time is spent in the CP solver

- We do not need the Boolean abstraction to capture the control structure of the program
 - → Use the CFG and constraints to prune the search space

CPBPV
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гілі Арріісаці

- Depth first dynamic exploration of the CFG
 - Efficient if the variables are instantiated early
 - Blind searching: post-condition becomes active very late

DPVS, a Dynamic Backjumping Strategy

→ Generating Counterexamples

→ Starts from the postcondition and jumps to the locations where the variables are assigned

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CPBPV

DPVS

Example Pre-processing Algorithm

FM Application

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A Dynamic Backjumping Strategy

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Why can we do it?

Essential observation:

When the program is in an SSA-like form, a path can be built in a non-sequential dynamic way

→ CFG does not have to be explored in a top down (or bottom up) way: compatible blocks can just be collected in a non-deterministic way The CP Framework

CPBPV

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A Dynamic Backjumping Strategy

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Discussion

DPVS starts from the post-condition and dynamically collects program blocks which involve variables of the post-condition

Why does it pay off?

- Enforces the constraints on the domains of the selected variables
- → Detects inconsistencies earlier

```
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```

```
void foo(int a, int b)
int c. d. e. f;
if(a >= 0) {
      if(a < 10) {f = b - 1;}
      else \{f = b - a; \}
      c = a;
      if(b >= 0) \{d = a; e = b;\}
      else \{d = a; e = -b;\}
 else {
      c = b: d = 1: e = -a:
      if(a > b) \{ f = b + e + a \}
      else \{f = e * a - b:\}
  c = c + d + e:
 assert(c >= d + e); // property p_1
 assert(f >= -b * e): // property p_2
```

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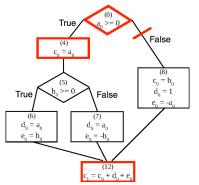
CLDLA

DPVS

Pre-processing

FM Application

A small exemple(continued)



```
void foo(int a, int b)
int c, d, e, f;
if(a > 0) {
        if(a < 10) {f = b = 1;}
        else {f = b - a;}
        c = a;
        if(b > 0) {d = a; e = b;}
        else {d = a; e = -b;}
        else {
            c = b; d = 1; e = -a;
        if(a > b) {f = b + e + a;}
        else {f = e * a - b;}
        c = c + d + e;
        assert(f > e + e); // property p:
        assert(f > e + e); // property p:
        assert(f > e + e); // property p:
```

To prove property p_1 , select node (12), then select node (4)

→ the condition in node (0) must be true

$$S = \{c_1 < d_0 + e_0 \land c_1 = c_0 + d_0 + e_0 \land c_0 = a_0 \land a_0 \ge 0\}$$

= $\{a_0 < 0 \land a_0 \ge 0\}$... inconsistent

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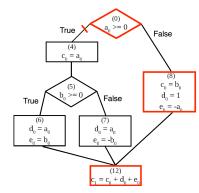
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A small exemple(continued)



Select node (8) \rightarrow condition in node (0) must be false $S = \{c_1 < d_0 + e_0 \land c_1 = c_0 + d_0 + e_0 \land c_0 = b_0 \land a_0 < 0 \land d_0 = 1 \land e_0 = -a_0\}$ = $\{a_0 < 0 \land b_0 < 0\}$ Solution $\{a_0 = -1, b_0 = -1\}$ The CP Framework

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Pre-processing Algorithm

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Pre-processing

- 1. P is unwound k times $\rightarrow P_{uw}$
- P_{uw} → DSA_{Puw}, Dynamic Single Assignment form (each variable is assigned exactly once on each program path)
- DSA_{Puw} is simplified according to the specific property prop by applying slicing techniques
- Domains of all variables are filtered by propagating constant values along G, the simplified CFG

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CPBPV

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- $S \leftarrow$ negation of prop % constraint store
- $Q \leftarrow \text{variables in } prop \% \text{ queue of variables}$
 - While $Q \neq \emptyset$, $v \leftarrow \mathsf{POP}(Q)$
 - Search for a program block PB(v) where v is defined

PUSH(Q, new_var), new_var = new variables (\neq input variables) of PB(v)

- $S \leftarrow S \cup \{\text{definition of } v \text{ and conditions required to reach definition of } v \}$
- IF S is inconsistent, backtrack & search another definition (otherwise the dual condition is cut off)
- IF Q = ∅ search for an instantiation of the input variables (= counterexample)

If no solution exists, DPVS backtracks.

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CARAA

PVS

Example Pre-processing

Algorithm

EM Application

- A real time industrial application from a car manufacturer (provided by Geensoft)
- Flasher Manager (FM): controller that drives several functions related to the flashing lights

Purpose:

- to indicate a direction change
- · to lock and unlock the car from the distance
- to activate the warning lights
- Simulink model of FM → C function f₁

The CP Framework

CPBPV

DPVS

Description
Simulink model

Program
Experiments
Tools
Exp. on FM

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DPVS

FM Applicatio

Description

Simulink model Program Experiments Tools Exp. on FM

Discussion

Direction change: Boolean input R or L rises from 0 to 1. The corresponding light then oscillates between on/off states with a period of 6 time-units (e.g. 3 s)

→ output sequence of the form [111000]

- Lock and unlock of the car
 - If the unlock button is pressed while the car is unlocked, nothing shall happen.
 - If the unlock button is pressed while the car is locked, both lights shall flash with a period of 2 time-units during 20 time-units (fast flashes for a short time)
 - If the lock button is pressed while the car is unlocked, both lights shall go on for 10 time-units, and then shall go off for another 10 time-units
 - If the lock button is pressed while the car is locked, both lights shall flash during 60 time-units with a period of 2 time-units (fast flashes for a long time) ...
- ► Warning function: when the warning is on, both lights flash with a period of 6 time-units

FM Application: Simulink model(1)

flasherManager _ | D | X | File Edit View Simulation Format Tools Help 🖸 🔛 🛗 🛭 🧇 Normal int32(1) Constant in8 ► CBSW HAZARD L 1 iso 2 CBSW_HAZARD_R CMD_FLASHERS_L **▶**(1 in10 (3 WARNING in11 4 ▶ RF_KEY_LOCK in12 (5) ► RF_KEY_UNLOCK CMD_FLASHERS_R 6 FLASHERS ACTIVE FLASHERSManager 100% FixedStepDiscrete Ready

The CP Framework

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Description
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FM Application: Simulink model (2)

CSP & BMC

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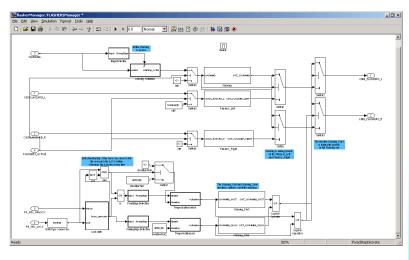


DPVS

FM Application Description

Simulink model
Program
Experiments
Tools

Exp. on FM
Discussion



Simulink model of FM \rightarrow C function f_1

- 81 Boolean variables (6 inputs, 2 outputs) and 28 integer variables
- 300 lines of code: nested conditionals including linear operations and constant assignments

Piece of code:

```
and1_a=((Switch5==TRUE)&&(TRUE!=Unit_Delay3_a_DSTATE));
if ((TRUE==((and1_a-Unit_Delay_c_DSTATE)!= 0))) {
    rtb_Switch_b=0;
}
else {
    add_a = (1+Unit_Delay1_b_DSTATE);
    rtb_Switch_b = add_a;
}
superior_a = (rtb_Switch_b>=3);
```

The CP Framework

SPBPV

PVS

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- p₁ The lights should never remain lit
- P2 The Warning function has priority over other flashing functions
- P3 When the warning button has been pushed and then released, the Warning function resumes to the Flashers_left (or Flashers_right) function, if this function was active when the warning button was pushed
- When the F signal (for flasher active) is off, then the Flashers_left, Flashers_right and Warning functions are desabled. On the contrary, all the functions related to the lock and unlock of the car are maintained

The CP Framework

CPBPV

)PVS

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 Property p₁: The lights should never remain lit Property p₁ concerns the behaviour of FM for an infinite time period

 \rightarrow p₁ is violated when the lights remain on for N consecutive time period

 \rightarrow a loop (bounded by N) that counts the number of times where the output of FM has consecutively been true

Challenge: bound N as great as possible

The CP Framework

Description Program

Exp. on FM

Program under test for Property:

```
1 void prop4(int d) {
    //number of time where the left light has been consecutively true
    int countL = 0;
    //number of time where the right light has been consecutively true
    int countR = 0:
    //consider d units of time
    for(int i=0;i<d;i++) {
       //non-deterministic values of the inputs
8
       L=nondet in(): R=nondet in():
9
       LK=nondet in(): ULK=nondet in():
10
       W=nondet in(): F=nondet in():
11
       //call to f1() to simulate one pass through the module
12
       f1():
13
       if (outL)
14
         //the left light has been consecutively true one more time
15
         countL++;
16
       else
17
         //the left light has not been consecutively true
18
         countL=0:
19
       if (outR)
         //the right light has been consecutively true one more time
21
         countR++:
22
       else
23
         //the right light has not been consecutively true
24
         countR=0;
25
26
     //if countL and countR are less than d,
27
     //then the lights did not remain lit
28
     assert (countL<d && countR<d):
29
30 }
```

The CP Framework

CPBPV

PVS

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- DPVS, implemented in Comet, a hybrid optimization platform for solving combinatorial problems
- CPBPV*, an optimized version of CPBPV based on a dynamic top down strategy
- CBMC, one of the best bounded model checkers

Experiments were performed on a Quad-core Intel Xeon X5460 3.16GHz clocked with 16Gb memory All times are given in seconds.

The CP Framework

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DPVS

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Solving time:

N	CBMC	DPVS	CPBPV*
5	0.03	0.02	0.84
100	58.52	1.11	TO
200	232.19	1.7	TO
400	TO	3.83	TO
800	TO	9.35	TO
1600	TO	26.2	TO

Presolving time:

Ν	CBMC	DPVS & CPBPV*	
5	0.366	0.48	
100	96.21	14.95	
200	395.46	21.65	
400	TO	83.81	
800	TO	218.15	
1600	TO	531.82	

The CP Framework

CPBPV

)PVS

FM Application
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▶ Presolving, search, and total times in seconds for checking Property p₂ with 10 unfoldings

Tool	Presolving	Search	Total
CBMC	0.89	0.23	1.12
CBMC _{z3}	0.85	2.7	3.55
DPVS	3.89	0.08	3.97
$DPVS_{z3}$		0.34	4.23

This propety **does not hold** (only 3 unfoldings are required)

Property 3 and 4 couldn't be checked

The CP Framework

DPVS

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The CP

Experiments on the binary search

Length	CBMC	DPVS	CPBPV*
4	5.732	0.529	0.107
8	110.081	35.074	0.298
16	TO	TO	1.149
64	TO	TO	27.714
128	TO	TO	153.646

Framework
CPBPV
DPVS
FM Application
Discussion

- DPVS and CBMC waste a lot of time in exploring the different paths
- CPBPV* incrementally adds the decisions taken along a path
 - → well adapted for the Binary Search program

On going work: Combining strategies