



Automated Verification and Strategy Synthesis for Probabilistic Systems

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Why automated verification?

Errors in computerised systems can be costly...



Pentium chip (1994) Bug found in FPU. Intel (eventually) offers to replace faulty chips. Estimated loss: \$475m



Infusion pumps
(2010)
Patients die because
of incorrect dosage.
Cause: software
malfunction.
79 recalls.



Toyota Prius (2010)
Software "glitch"
found in anti-lock
braking system.
185,000 cars recalled.

- Why verify?
 - "Testing can only show the presence of errors, not their absence." [Edsger Dijstra]



Probabilistic verification

Probabilistic verification

formal verification of systems exhibiting stochastic behaviour

Why probability?

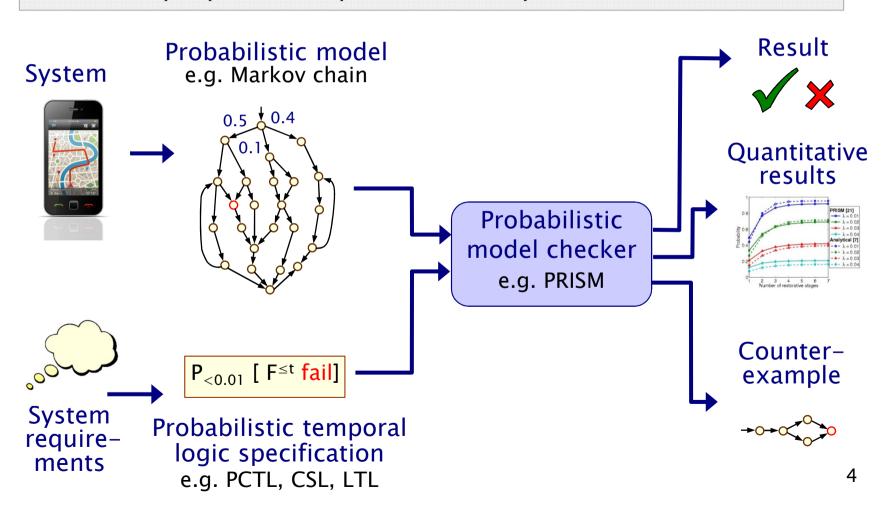
- unreliability (e.g. component failures)
- uncertainty (e.g. message losses/delays over wireless)
- randomisation (e.g. in protocols such as Bluetooth, ZigBee)

Quantitative properties

- reliability, performance, quality of service, ...
- "the probability of an airbag failing to deploy within 0.02s"
- "the expected time for a network protocol to send a packet"
- "the expected power usage of a sensor network over 1 hour"

Quantitative (probabilistic) verification

Automatic verification (aka model checking) of quantitative properties of probabilistic system models



Historical perspective

- First algorithms proposed in 1980s
 - algorithms [Vardi, Courcoubetis, Yannakakis, ...]
 - [Hansson, Jonsson, de Alfaro] & first implementations
- 2000: tools ETMCC (now MRMC) & PRISM released
 - PRISM: efficient extensions of symbolic model checking [Kwiatkowska, Norman, Parker, ...]
 - ETMCC: model checking for continuous-time Markov chains [Baier, Hermanns, Haverkort, Katoen, ...]
- Now mature area, of industrial relevance
 - successfully used by non-experts for many application domains,
 but full automation and good tool support essential
 - distributed algorithms, communication protocols, security protocols, biological systems, quantum cryptography, planning, ...
 - genuine flaws found and corrected in real-world systems

Quantitative probabilistic verification

What's involved

- specifying, extracting and building of quantitative models
- graph-based analysis: reachability + qualitative verification
- numerical solution, e.g. linear equations/linear programming
- typically computationally more expensive than the nonquantitative case

The state of the art

- fast/efficient techniques for a range of probabilistic models
- feasible for models of up to 10⁷ states (10¹⁰ with symbolic)
- extension to probabilistic real-time systems
- abstraction refinement (CEGAR) methods
- probabilistic counterexample generation
- assume-guarantee compositional verification
- tool support exists and is widely used, e.g. PRISM, MRMC

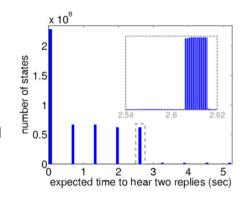
Tool support: PRISM

- PRISM: Probabilistic symbolic model checker [CAV11]
 - developed at Birmingham/Oxford University, since 1999
 - free, open source software (GPL), runs on all major OSs
- Support for:
 - models: DTMCs, CTMCs, MDPs, PTAs, SMGs, ...
 - properties: PCTL, CSL, LTL, PCTL*, costs/rewards, rPATL, ...
- Features:
 - simple but flexible high-level modelling language
 - user interface: editors, simulator, experiments, graph plotting
 - multiple efficient model checking engines (e.g. symbolic)
 - New! strategy synthesis, stochastic game models (SMGs), multiobjective verification, parametric models
- See: http://www.prismmodelchecker.org/

Quantitative verification in action

Bluetooth device discovery protocol

- frequency hopping, randomised delays
- low-level model in PRISM, based on detailed Bluetooth reference documentation
- numerical solution of 32 Markov chains,
 each approximately 3 billion states

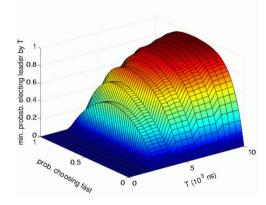


identified worst-case time to hear one message, 2.5 seconds

FireWire root contention

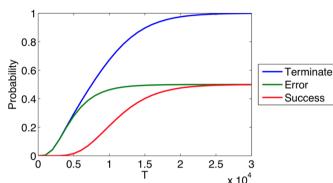
- wired protocol, uses randomisation
- model checking using PRISM
- optimum probability of leader election by time T for various coin biases



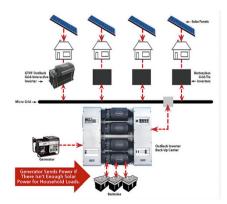


Quantitative verification in action

- DNA transducer gate [Lakin et al, 2012]
 - DNA computing with a restricted class of DNA strand displacement structures
 - transducer design due to Cardelli
 - automatically found and fixed design error, using Microsoft's DSD and PRISM

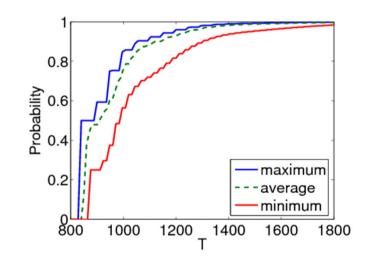


- Microgrid demand management protocol [TACAS12,FMSD13]
 - designed for households to actively manage demand while accessing a variety of energy sources
 - found and fixed a flaw in the protocol, due to lack of punishment for selfish behaviour
 - implemented in PRISM-games



Quantitative verification - Status

- Tools/techniques widely applicable, since real software/systems <u>are</u> quantitative
 - extensions/adaptations of model-based frameworks
 - new application domains
- Analysis "quantitative" & "exhaustive"
 - strength of mathematical proof
 - best/worst-case scenarios, not possible with simulation
 - identifying trends and anomalies



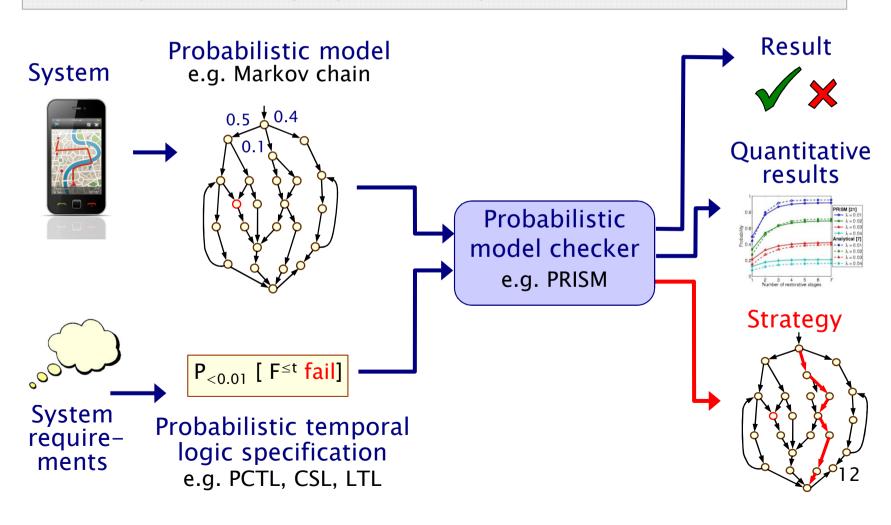
- But
 - the modelling phase time-consuming and error prone
 - potential 'disconnect' between model and the artefact
 - scalability continues to be hard to overcome

This lecture...

- We focus on the problem of strategy synthesis
 - i.e. "can we construct a strategy to guarantee that a given quantitative property is satisfied?"
 - instead of "does the model satisfy a given quantitative property?"
 - advantage: correct-by-construction
- Not a well known fact...
 - can <u>reuse</u> the verification algorithms for strategy synthesis
- Many application domains
 - robotics (controller synthesis from LTL/PCTL)
 - security (generating attacks)
 - dynamic power management (optimal policy synthesis)
- Move towards quantitative model synthesis
 - simpler problems: strategy synthesis, parameter synthesis, template-based synthesis, etc

Quantitative (probabilistic) verification

Automatic verification and strategy synthesis from quantitative properties for probabilistic models



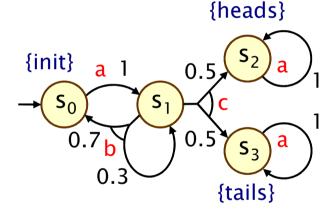
Overview



- Overview of Markov decision processes (MDPs)
 - MDPs: definition, paths & probability spaces
 - Strategies (aka adversaries/policies): definition & classification
- Verification and strategy synthesis
 - Properties and objectives
 - Problem definition
 - Algorithms for MDPs
- Strategy synthesis by example
 - Reachability objectives
 - LTL objectives
 - Multiobjective strategy synthesis
 - Strategy synthesis for stochastic games
- Conclusion

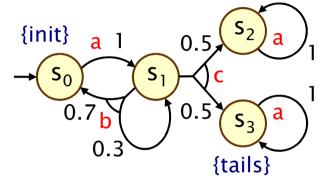
Markov decision processes (MDPs)

- Model nondeterministic as well as probabilistic behaviour
 - e.g. for concurrency, under-specification, abstraction...
 - extension of discrete-time Markov chains
 - nondeterministic choice between probability distributions
- Formally, an MDP is a tuple
 - (S, s_{init} , Act, δ , L)
- where:
 - S is a set of states
 - $-s_{init} \in S$ is the initial state
 - δ : S x Act → Dist(S) is a (partial) transition probability function
 - L : S → 2^{AP} is a labelling function
 - Act is a set of actions, AP is a set of atomic propositions
 - Dist(S) is the set of discrete probability distributions over S



Paths and strategies

- A (finite or infinite) path through an MDP
 - is a sequence (s₀...s_n) of (connected)
 states
 - represents an execution of the system
 - resolves both the probabilistic and nondeterministic choices



{heads}

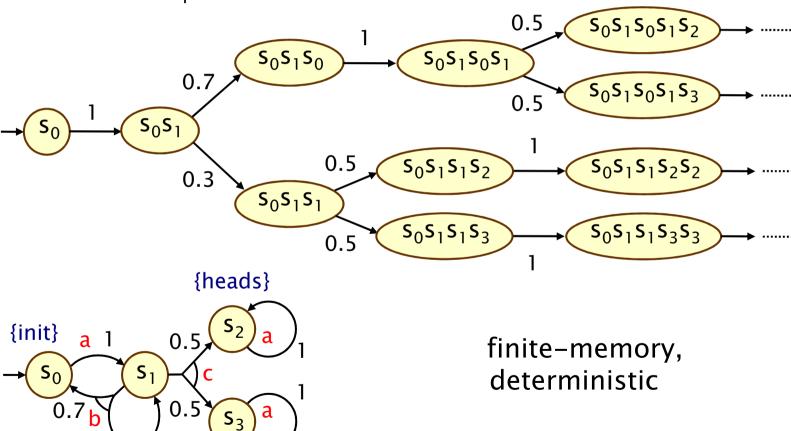
- A strategy σ (aka. "adversary" or "policy") of an MDP
 - is a resolution of nondeterminism only
 - is (formally) a mapping from finite paths to distributions
 - induces a fully probabilistic model
 - i.e. an (infinite-state) Markov chain over finite paths
 - on which we can define a probability space over infinite paths

Classification of strategies

- Strategies are classified according to
- randomisation:
 - σ is deterministic (pure) if $\sigma(s_0...s_n)$ is a point distribution, and randomised otherwise
- memory:
 - σ is memoryless (simple) if $\sigma(s_0...s_n) = \sigma(s_n)$ for all $s_0...s_n$
 - σ is finite memory if there are finitely many modes such as $\sigma(s_0...s_n)$ depends only on s_n and the current mode, which is updated each time an action is performed
 - otherwise, σ is infinite memory
- A strategy σ induces, for each state s in the MDP:
 - a set of infinite paths $Path^{\sigma}(s)$
 - a probability space Pr_s^{σ} over $Path_s^{\sigma}$ (s)

Example strategy

Fragment of induced Markov chain for strategy which picks
 b then c in s₁

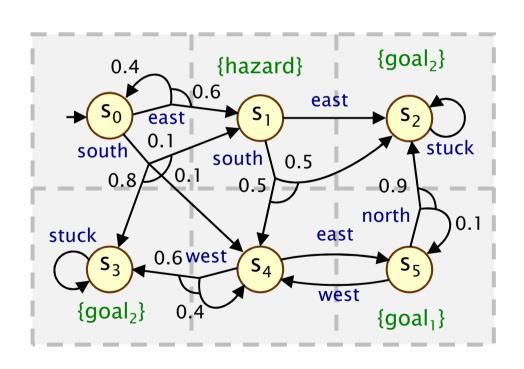


{tails}

Running example

Example MDP

- robot moving through terrain divided into 3 x 2 grid



States:

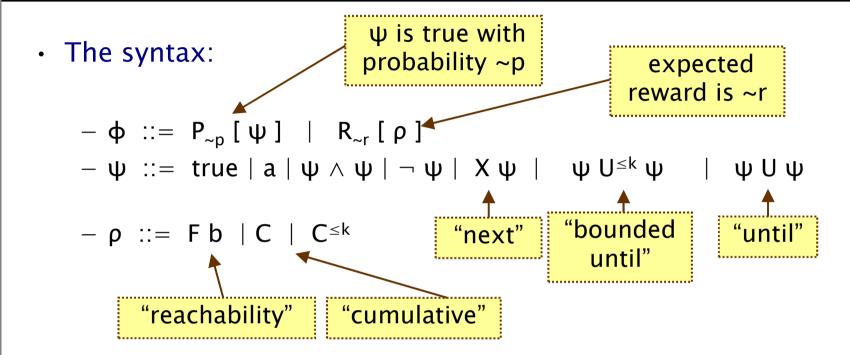
 $s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5$

Actions:

north, east, south, west, stuck

Labels
(atomic propositions):
hazard, goal₁, goal₂

Properties and objectives



- where b is an atomic proposition, used to identify states of interest, $p \in [0,1]$ is a probability, $\sim \in \{<,>,\leq,\geq\}$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$, and $r \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$
- $Fb \equiv true Ub$
- We refer to ϕ as property, ψ and ρ as objectives
 - (branching time more challenging for synthesis)

Properties and objectives

- Semantics of the probabilistic operator P
 - can only define probabilities for a specific strategy σ
 - $-s ⊨ P_{-p}$ [ψ] means "the probability, from state s, that ψ is true for an outgoing path satisfies ~p for all strategies σ"
 - formally $s \models P_{\sim p} [\psi] \Leftrightarrow Pr_s^{\sigma}(\psi) \sim p$ for all strategies σ
 - where we use $Pr_s^{\sigma}(\psi)$ to denote $Pr_s^{\sigma}\{\omega \in Path_s^{\sigma} \mid \omega \models \psi\}$
- R_{-r} [·] means "the expected value of · satisfies ~r"
- Some examples:
 - $-P_{\geq 0.4}$ [F "goal"] "probability of reaching goal is at least 0.4"
 - R_{<5} [C^{\leq 60}] "expected power consumption over one hour is below 5"
 - $-R_{\leq 10}$ [F "end"] "expected time to termination is at most 10"

Verification and strategy synthesis

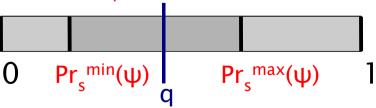
- The verification problem is:
 - Given an MDP M and a property ϕ , does M satisfy ϕ for all possible strategies σ ?
- The synthesis problem is dual:
 - Given an MDP M and a property ϕ , find, if it exists, a strategy σ such that M satisfies ϕ under σ
- Verification and strategy synthesis is achieved using the same techniques, namely computing optimal values for probability objectives, i.e. for $\phi = P_{\sim p} [\psi]$:
 - $\operatorname{Pr}_{s}^{\min}(\psi) = \inf_{\sigma} \operatorname{Pr}_{s}^{\sigma}(\psi)$
 - $Pr_s^{max}(\psi) = sup_{\sigma} Pr_s^{\sigma}(\psi)$

$$0 \quad Pr_s^{min}(\psi) \quad Pr_s^{max}(\psi)$$

• Expectations (reward objectives $R_{r}[\psi]$) are similar, omitted

Verification and strategy synthesis

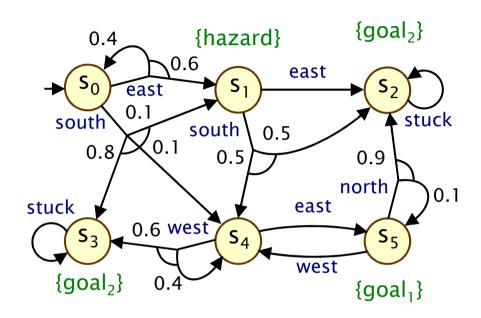
- The verification problem is:
 - Given an MDP M and a property ϕ , does M satisfy ϕ for all possible strategies σ ?
- The synthesis problem is dual:
 - Given an MDP M and a property ϕ , find, if it exists, a strategy σ such that M satisfies ϕ under σ
- In particular, we have
 - M satisfies $\phi = P_{\geq q}[\psi]$ iff $Pr_s^{min}(\psi) \geq q$
 - There exists a strategy satisfying $\phi = P_{\geq q}[\psi]$ iff $Pr_s^{max}(\psi) \geq q$
 - then take optimal strategy



Computing reachability for MDPs

- Computation of probabilities $Pr_s^{max}(F b)$ for all $s \in S$
- Step 1: pre-compute all states where probability is 1 or 0
 - graph-based algorithms, yielding sets Syes, Sno
- Step 2: compute probabilities for remaining states (S?)
 - (i) solve linear programming problem
 - (i) approximate with value iteration
 - (iii) solve with policy (strategy) iteration
- 1. Precomputation (for Pr_s^{max}):
 - algorithm Prob1E computes Syes
 - there exists a strategy for which the probability of "F b" is 1
 - algorithm Prob0A computes Sno
 - for all strategies, the probability of satisfying "F b" is 0

Example - Reachability



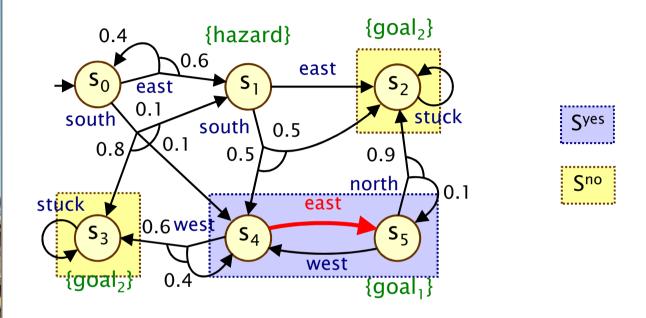
Example goal:

 $P_{\geq 0.4}$ [F goal₁]

So compute:

Pr_s^{max}(F goal₁)

Example - Precomputation



Example goal:

 $P_{\geq 0.4}$ [F goal₁]

So compute:

Pr_s^{max}(F goal₁)

Reachability for MDPs

- 2. Numerical computation
 - compute probabilities Pr_s^{max}(F b)
 - for remaining states in $S^? = S \setminus (S^{yes} \cup S^{no})$
 - obtained as the unique solution of the linear programming (LP) problem:

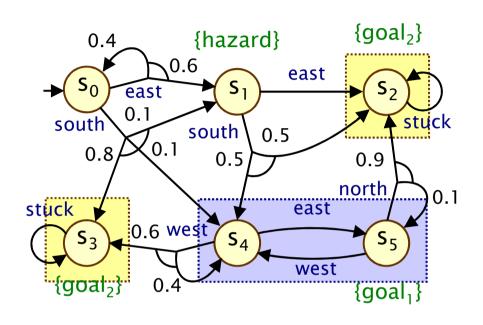
minimize $\sum_{s \in S^2} x_s$ subject to the constraints:

$$X_{s} \ge \sum_{s' \in S^{?}} \delta(s, a)(s') \cdot X_{s'} + \sum_{s' \in S^{yes}} \delta(s, a)(s')$$

for all $s \in S^{?}$ and for all $a \in A(s)$

- This can be solved with standard techniques
 - e.g. Simplex, ellipsoid method, branch-and-cut

Example - Reachability (LP)



Example:

 $P_{\geq 0.4}$ [F goal₁]

So compute:

Pr_s^{max}(F goal₁)

Let
$$x_i = Pr_{s_i}^{max}(F goal_1)$$

$$S^{yes}: x_4 = x_5 = 1$$

$$S^{no}: x_2 = x_3 = 0$$

For
$$S^? = \{x_0, x_1\}$$
:

Minimise $x_0 + x_1$ subject to:

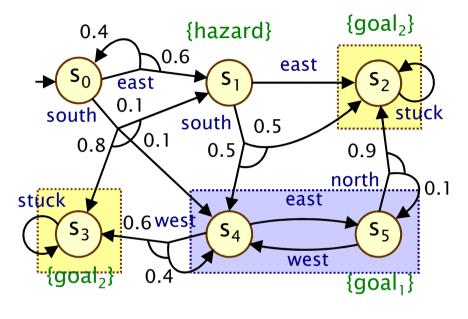
•
$$x_0 \ge 0.4 \cdot x_0 + 0.6 \cdot x_1$$
 (east)

•
$$x_0 \ge 0.1 \cdot x_1 + 0.1$$
 (south)

•
$$x_1 \ge 0.5$$
 (south)

•
$$x_1 \ge 0$$
 (east)

Example – Reachability (LP)



Let
$$x_i = Pr_{s_i}^{max}(F goal_1)$$

$$S^{yes}: x_4 = x_5 = 1$$

$$S^{no}: x_2 = x_3 = 0$$

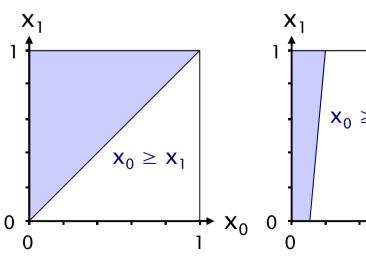
For
$$S^? = \{x_0, x_1\}$$
:

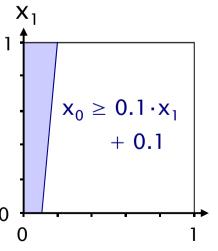
Minimise x_0+x_1 subject to:

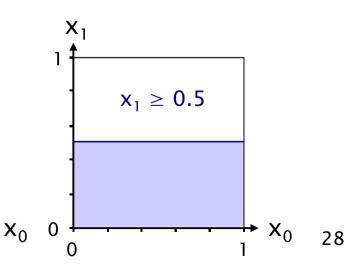
•
$$X_0 \ge X_1$$
 (east)

•
$$x_0 \ge 0.1 \cdot x_1 + 0.1$$
 (south)

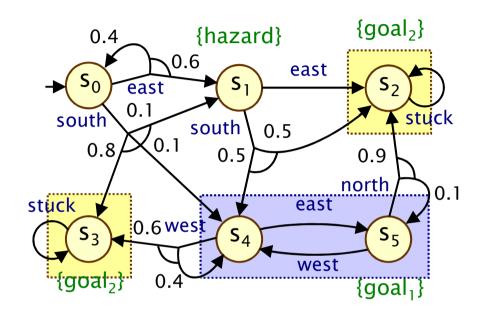
•
$$x_1 \ge 0.5$$
 (south)







Example – Reachability (LP)



Let
$$x_i = Pr_{s_i}^{max}(F goal_1)$$

$$S^{yes}: x_4 = x_5 = 1$$

$$S^{no}: x_2 = x_3 = 0$$

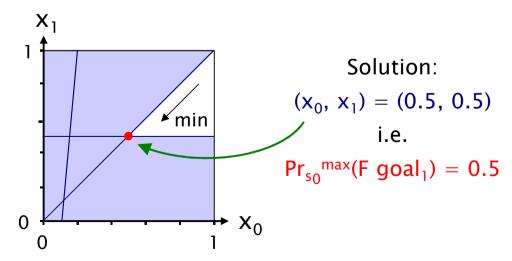
For
$$S^? = \{x_0, x_1\}$$
:

Minimise $x_0 + x_1$ subject to:

•
$$X_0 \ge X_1$$

•
$$x_0 \ge 0.1 \cdot x_1 + 0.1$$

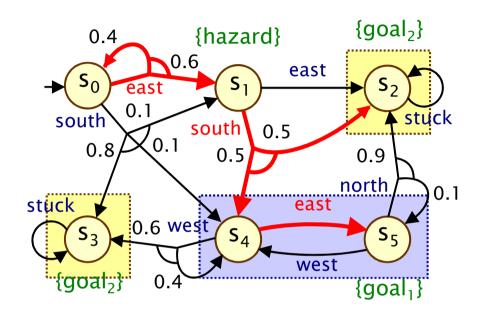
•
$$x_1 \ge 0.5$$



Strategy synthesis

- Compute optimal probabilities $Pr_s^{max}(F b)$ for all $s \in S$
- To compute the optimal strategy σ^* , choose the locally optimal action in each state
 - in general depends on the method used to compute the optimal probabilities
 - i.e. policy iteration constructs the optimal strategy
 - for max probabilities, adaptation of precomputation needed
- For reachability
 - memoryless strategies suffice
- For step-bounded reachability
 - need finite-memory strategies
 - typically requires backward computation for a fixed number of steps

Example - Strategy



Optimal strategy:

s₀: east

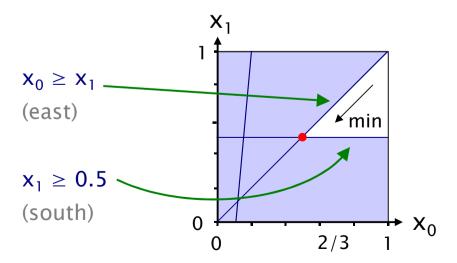
 s_1 : south

s₂: -

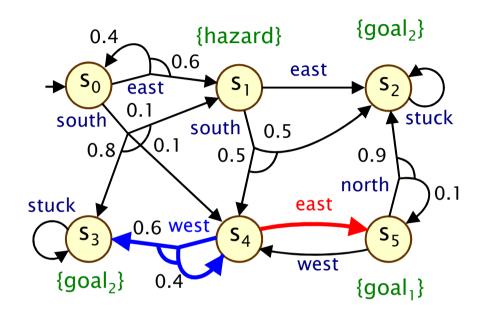
s₃: -

s₄: east

 S_5 : -



Example - Bounded reachability



Example:

$$P_{\text{max}=?}$$
 [$F^{\leq 3}$ goal₂]

So compute:

$$Pr_s^{max}(F^{\leq 3} goal_2) = 0.99$$

Optimal strategy is finite-memory:

s₄ (after 1 step): east

s₄ (after 2 steps): west

Computation more involved

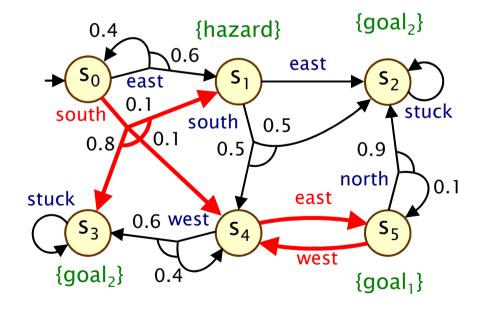
May need to choose a different action on successive visits



- Reduce to the problem of reachability on the product of MDP M and an omega-automaton representing ψ
 - for example, deterministic Rabin automaton (DRA)
- Need only consider computation of maximum probabilities $Pr_s^{max}(\psi)$
 - since $Pr_s^{min}(\psi) = 1 Pr_s^{max}(\neg \psi)$
- To compute the optimal strategy σ*
 - find memoryless deterministic strategy on the product
 - convert to finite-memory strategy with one mode for each state of the DRA for $\boldsymbol{\psi}$

Example – LTL

- $P_{\geq 0.05}$ [(G \neg hazard) \wedge (GF goal₁)]
 - avoid hazard and visit goal₁ infinitely often
- $Pr_{s_0}^{max}((G \neg hazard) \land (GF goal_1)) = 0.1$



Optimal strategy: (in this instance, memoryless)

 s_0 : south

 $s_1 : -$

 s_2 : -

S₃: -

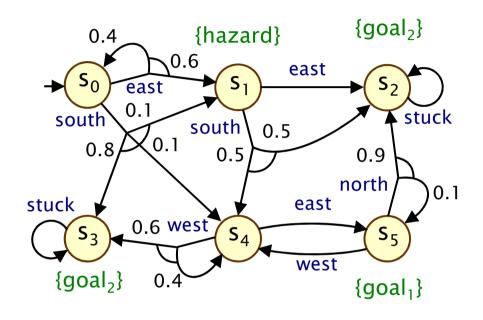
s₄: east

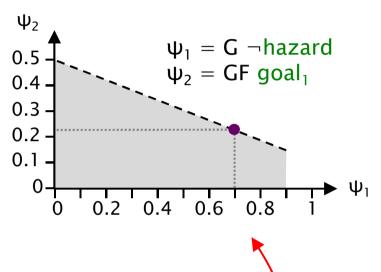
s₅: west

Multi-objective strategy synthesis

- Consider conjunctions of probabilistic LTL formulas $P_{\sim p}$ [ψ]
 - require all conjuncts to be satisfied
- Reduce to a multi-objective reachability problem on the product of MDP M and the omega-automata representing the conjuncts
 - convert (by negation) to formulas with lower probability bounds (\geq , >), then to DRA
 - need to consider all combinations of objectives
- The problem can be solved using LP methods [TACAS07] or via approximations to Pareto curve [ATVA12]
 - strategies may be finite memory and randomised
- Continue as for single-objectives to compute the strategy σ*
 - find memoryless deterministic strategy on the product
 - convert to finite-memory strategy

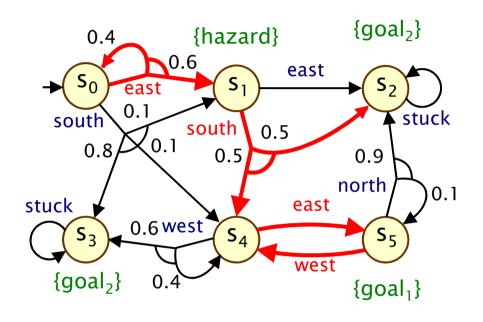
Example - Multi-objective

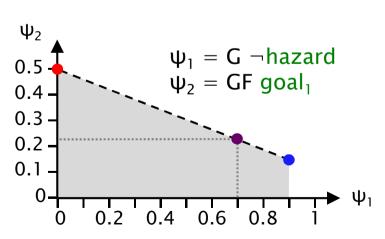




- Multi-objective formula
 - $-P_{\geq 0.7}$ [G \neg hazard] $\wedge P_{\geq 0.2}$ [GF goal₁] ? True (achievable)
- Numerical query
 - $-P_{max=?}$ [GF goal₁] such that $P_{\geq 0.7}$ [G \neg hazard] ? ~0.2278
- Pareto query
 - for $P_{max=?}$ [$G \neg hazard$] $\land P_{max=?}$ [$GF goal_1$]?

Example - Multi-objective strategies





Strategy 1 (deterministic)

s₀: east

 s_1 : south

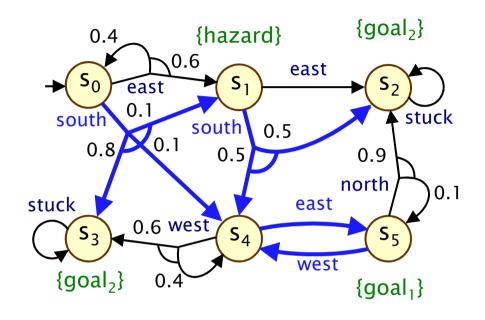
 S_2 : -

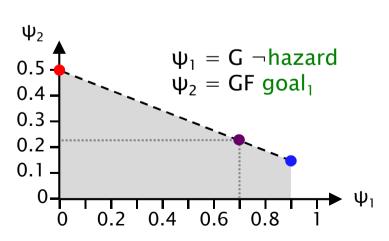
S₃: -

s₄: east

s₅: west

Example - Multi-objective strategies





Strategy 2 (deterministic)

 s_0 : south

 s_1 : south

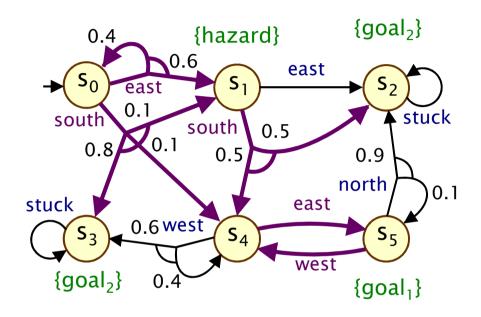
 S_2 : -

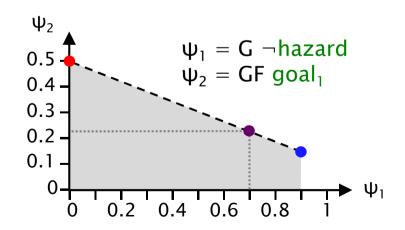
S₃: -

s₄: east

s₅: west

Example – Multi-objective strategies





Optimal strategy: (randomised)

 s_0 : 0.3226: east

0.6774 : south

 s_1 : 1.0 : south

 S_2 : -

 s_3 : -

 s_4 : 1.0 : east

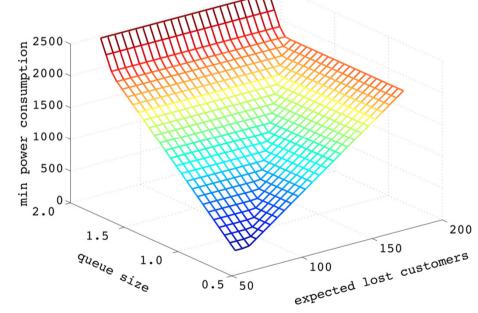
 $s_5 : 1.0 : west$

Case study: Dynamic power management

- Synthesis of dynamic power management schemes
 - for an IBM TravelStar VP disk drive
 - 5 different power modes: active, idle, idlelp, stby, sleep
 - power manager controller bases decisions on current power mode, disk request queue, etc.

Build controllers that

- minimise energy consumption, subject to constraints on e.g.
- probability that a request waits more than K steps
- expected number of lost disk requests

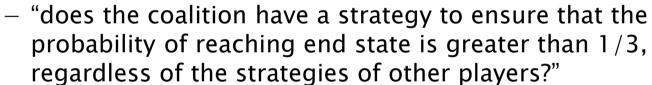


See: http://www.prismmodelchecker.org/files/tacas11/

Stochastic multi-player games (SMGs)

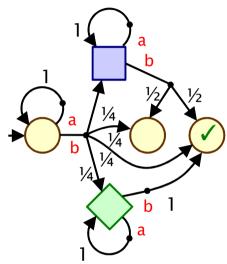


- players control states; choose actions
- models competitive/collaborative behaviour
- Property specifications
 - rPATL: extends Alternating Temporal Logic (and PCTL with the R operator)
 - $-\langle\langle\langle\{\bigcirc, \bigcirc, \bigcirc\rangle\rangle\rangle\rangle$ $P_{>1/3}[F \checkmark]$



Applications

- controller synthesis (controller vs. environment),
 security (system vs. attacker), distributed algorithms, ...
- PRISM-games: www.prismmodelchecker.org/games



Model checking rPATL

- Basic algorithm: as for any branching-time temporal logic
 - recursive descent of formula parse tree
 - compute $Sat(φ) = { s∈S | s⊨φ }$ for each subformula φ
- Main task: checking P and R operators
 - reduction to solution of stochastic 2-player game G_C
 - $-\text{ e.g. } \langle\langle C\rangle\rangle P_{\geq q}[\psi] \ \Leftrightarrow \ sup_{\sigma_1\in\Sigma_1} \text{ inf}_{\sigma_2\in\Sigma_2} \text{ Pr}_s^{\,\sigma_1,\sigma_2}\left(\psi\right) \geq q$
 - complexity: NP ∩ coNP (for sublogic)
 - compared to, e.g. P for Markov decision processes
 - complexity for full logic: NEXP ∩ coNEXP
- In practice though:
 - evaluation of numerical fixed points ("value iteration")
 - up to a desired level of convergence
 - usual approach taken in probabilistic model checking tools

Probabilities for P operator

- E.g. $\langle\langle C\rangle\rangle P_{\geq q}[F \varphi]$: max/min reachability probabilities
 - compute $\sup_{\sigma_1 \in \Sigma_1} \inf_{\sigma_2 \in \Sigma_2} \Pr_s^{\sigma_1, \sigma_2} (F \varphi)$ for all states s
 - deterministic memoryless strategies suffice
- Value is:
 - 1 if s ∈ Sat(ϕ), and otherwise least fixed point of:

$$f(s) = \begin{cases} \max_{a \in A(s)} \left(\sum_{s' \in S} \Delta(s, a)(s') \cdot f(s') \right) & \text{if } s \in S_1 \\ \min_{a \in A(s)} \left(\sum_{s' \in S} \Delta(s, a)(s') \cdot f(s') \right) & \text{if } s \in S_2 \end{cases}$$

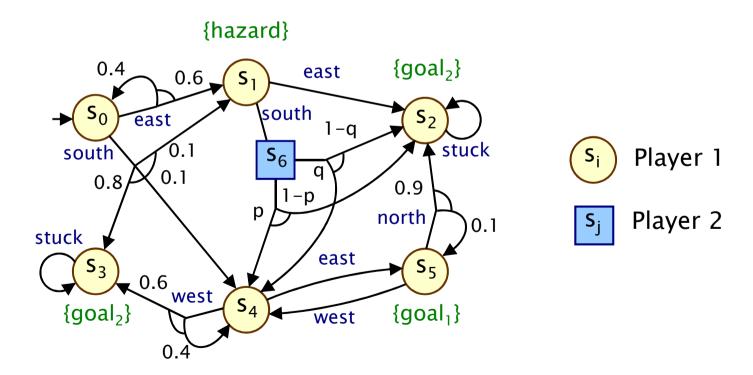
- Computation:
 - start from zero, propagate probabilities backwards
 - guaranteed to converge, similarly to value iteration for MDPs

Strategy synthesis for stochastic games

- · Generate strategies for individual players, or for a coalition
- Problem statement:
 - Given a game G and an rPATL property $((C))P_{q}[\psi]$, does there exist a strategy σ_1 for players in C such that, for all strategies σ_2 outside C, the probability of satisfying ψ under σ_1 and σ_2 meets the bound \sim q
- Compute optimal probabilities
 - for reachability, value or policy iteration, similar to that for MDPs
 - for LTL ψ, again work via product with the Rabin automaton for the formula
- To compute the optimal strategy
 - compute parity objectives for parity automaton from DRA
 - for reachability, memoryless deterministic strategies suffice

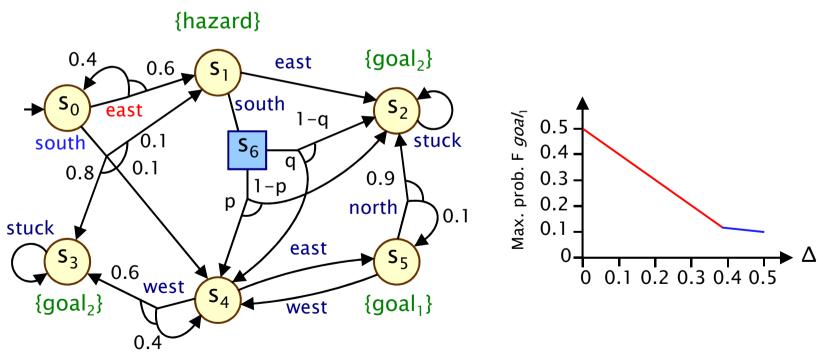
Example - Stochastic games

- Two players: 1 (robot controller), 2 (environment)
 - when taking action south in state s₆
 - probability of (correctly) going to s₄ is in interval [p,q]
 - rPATL: $\langle\langle\{1\}\rangle\rangle$ P_{max=?} [F goal₁]



Example - Stochastic games

- rPATL: $\langle\langle\{1\}\rangle\rangle$ Pmax=? [F goal₁]
 - let [p,q] = [0.5-Δ, 0.5+Δ]; vary Δ
 - optimal strategy: if $\Delta \ge 7/18$ (i.e. if p $\le 1/9$), then pick south in s_0 , otherwise pick east



Conclusion

- Overview of strategy synthesis
 - for probabilistic LTL and reward objectives
 - multi-objective properties
 - Markov decision process and stochastic games models
- Highlighting new features of PRISM
 - strategy (adversary) synthesis
 - multi-objective verification
- Further/related work
 - task graph scheduling [FMSD'13]
 - probabilistic parameter synthesis [TASE'13]
 - strategy generation for autonomous driving [QEST'13,MFCS'13]
 - template-based synthesis for UAV missions [ESEC/FSE'13]

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- See also
 - VERWARE www.veriware.org
 - PRISM <u>www.prismmodelchecker.org</u>
 - PRISM-games: <u>www.prismmodelchecker.org/games</u>