

Real-Time Systems

Lecture 12: Location Reachability (or: The Region Automaton)

2013-06-12

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Contents & Goals

Last Lecture:

- Networks of Timed Automata
- Uppaal Demo

This Lecture:

- **Educational Objectives:** Capabilities for following tasks/questions:
 - What are decidable problems of TA?
 - How can we show this? What are the essential premises of decidability?
 - What is a region? What is the region automaton of this TA?
 - What's the time abstract system of a TA? Why did we consider this?
 - What can you say about the complexity of Region-automaton based reachability analysis?
- **Content:**
 - Timed Transition System of network of timed automata
 - Location Reachability Problem
 - Constructive, region-based decidability proof

The Location Reachability Problem

The Location Reachability Problem

Given: A timed automaton \mathcal{A} and one of its control locations ℓ_i .

Question: Is ℓ_i reachable?

That is, is there a transition sequence of the form

$$(t_{init}, 0) \xrightarrow{\lambda_1} (t_1, v_1) \xrightarrow{\lambda_2} (t_2, v_2) \xrightarrow{\lambda_3} \dots \xrightarrow{\lambda_n} (t_n, v_n) \xrightarrow{\lambda_{n+1}} \ell_i, c \leq \tau$$

in the labelled transition system $T(\mathcal{A})$?

- **Note:** Decidability is not so obvious, recall that
- clocks range over real numbers, thus infinitely many configurations,
- at each configuration, uncountably many transitions \rightarrow may originate
- **Consequence:** The timed automata as we consider them here **cannot** encode a 2-counter machine, and they are strictly less expressive than DC.

Decidability of The Location Reachability Problem

Claim: (Theorem 4.33)

The location reachability problem is decidable for timed automata.

Approach: Constructive proof.

- Observe: clock constraints are **simple**
 - \rightarrow w.l.o.g. assume constants $c \in \mathbb{N}_0$.
- **Def. 4.19:** **time-abstract transition system** $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ — abstracts from uncountably many delay transitions, still infinitestate.
- **LEM. 4.20:** location reachability of \mathcal{A} is preserved in $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$.
- **Def. 4.29:** **region automaton** $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ — equivalent configurations collapse into regions
- **LEM. 4.32:** location reachability of $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ is preserved in $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$.
- **LEM. 4.28:** $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ is finite.



Without Loss of Generality: Natural Constants

Recall: Simple clock constraints are $\varphi ::= x \sim c \mid |x - y| \sim c \mid \varphi \wedge \psi$ with $x, y \in X, c \in \mathbb{Q}_0^+$, and $\sim \in \{<, >, \leq, \geq\}$.

- Let $C(\mathcal{A}) = \{c \in \mathbb{Q}_0^+ \mid c \text{ appears in } \mathcal{A}\}$ — $C(\mathcal{A})$ is finite! (Why?)
- Let ℓ_A be the **least common multiple** of the denominators in $C(\mathcal{A})$.
- Let \mathcal{L}_A be the TA obtained from \mathcal{A} by **multiplying** all constants by ℓ_A .



Location Reachability is preserved in $U(A)$

Lemma 4.20. For all locations l of a given timed automaton \mathcal{A} the following holds:
 l is reachable in $T(\mathcal{A})$ if and only if l is reachable in $U(\mathcal{A})$.

Proof:
 \Leftarrow : easy
 \Rightarrow : l reachable in $T(\mathcal{A})$ means there exists a sequence of transitions $\langle s_0, s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle$ such that $s_0 = l_0$ and $s_n = l$.
 We show that l is also reachable in $U(\mathcal{A})$.
 Consider the sequence of states $\langle s_0, s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle$. For each transition $s_{i-1} \xrightarrow{a, \delta} s_i$, we have $\delta \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.
 In $U(\mathcal{A})$, we can simulate this transition by a single transition $s_{i-1} \xrightarrow{a, \delta} s_i$.
 Therefore, l is reachable in $U(\mathcal{A})$.

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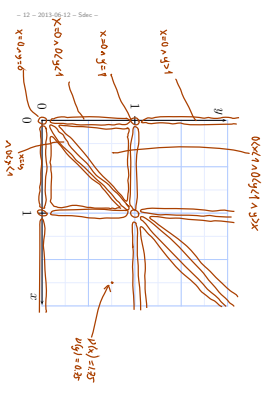
- Approach:** Constructive proof.
 ✓ Observe: clock constraints are simple
 — w.l.o.g. assume constants $c \in \mathbb{N}_0$.
 ✓ Def. 4.19: time-abstract transition system $U(\mathcal{A})$ — abstracts from uncountably many delay transitions, still infinitesate.
 ✓ Lem. 4.20: location reachability of \mathcal{A} is preserved in $U(\mathcal{A})$.
 ✓ Def. 4.29: region automaton $R(\mathcal{A})$ — equivalent configurations collapse into regions.
 ✓ Lem. 4.32: location reachability of $U(\mathcal{A})$ is preserved in $R(\mathcal{A})$.
 ✓ Lem. 4.28: $R(\mathcal{A})$ is finite.

Distinguishing Clock Valuations: One Clock

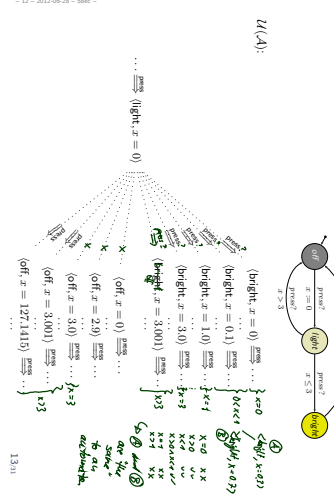
- Assume \mathcal{A} with only a single clock, i.e. $X = \{x\}$ (recall: $C(\mathcal{A}) \subset \mathbb{N}$)
 - \mathcal{A} could detect, for a given v_1 , whether $v_2(x) \in \{0, \dots, c_2\}$
 - \mathcal{A} cannot distinguish v_1 and v_2 if $v_1(x) \in (k, k+1)$, $k = 1, 2$, and $k \in \{0, \dots, c_2 - 1\}$.
 - \mathcal{A} cannot distinguish v_1 and v_2 if $v_1(x) > c_2$, $i = 1, 2$.
 - If $c_2 \geq 1$, there are $(2c_2 + 2)$ equivalence classes:
 $\{(0), (0, 1), (1), (1, 2), \dots, (c_2, \infty)\}$
- If $v_1(x)$ and $v_2(x)$ are in the same equivalence class, then v_1 and v_2 are indistinguishable by \mathcal{A} .

Distinguishing Clock Valuations: Two Clocks

- $X = \{x, y\}$, $c_x = 1, c_y = 1$



Indistinguishable Configurations



Helper: Floor and Fraction

- Recall:**
- Each $q \in \mathbb{R}_0^+$ can be split into
 - floor $\lfloor q \rfloor \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and
 - fraction $\text{frac}(q) \in [0, 1)$
 such that

$$q = \lfloor q \rfloor + \text{frac}(q).$$

An Equivalence-Relation on Valuations

Definition. Let X be a set of clocks, $c_a \in \mathbb{N}_0$ for each clock $x \in X$, and v_1, v_2 clock valuations of X . We set $v_1 \cong v_2$ iff the following **four** conditions are satisfied.

- (1) For all $x \in X$: $|v_1(x) - v_2(x)| = |v_2(x) - v_1(x)| > c_x$ and $v_2(x) > c_x$.
- (2) For all $x \in X$ with $v_1(x) \leq c_x$: $\text{frac}(v_1(x)) = 0$ if and only if $\text{frac}(v_2(x)) = 0$.
- (3) For all $x, y \in X$: $|v_1(x) - v_1(y)| = |v_2(x) - v_2(y)|$ or both $|v_1(x) - v_1(y)| > c_x$ and $|v_2(x) - v_2(y)| > c_x$.
- (4) For all $x, y \in X$ with $-c_x \leq v_1(x) - v_1(y) \leq c_x$ and $|v_2(x) - v_2(y)| > c_x$: $\text{frac}(v_1(x) - v_1(y)) = 0$ if and only if $\text{frac}(v_2(x) - v_2(y)) = 0$.

Where $c = \max\{c_x, c_y\}$.

Example: Regions

$c_x = 1$
 $c_y = 1$

- (1) $\forall x \in X: |v_1(x)| = |v_2(x)| \vee (v_1(x) > c_x \wedge v_2(x) > c_x)$
- (2) $\forall x \in X: v_1(x) \leq c_x \iff \text{frac}(v_1(x)) = 0 \iff \text{frac}(v_2(x)) = 0$
- (3) $\forall x, y \in X: |v_1(x) - v_1(y)| = |v_2(x) - v_2(y)| \vee (|v_1(x) - v_1(y)| > c_x \wedge |v_2(x) - v_2(y)| > c_x)$
- (4) $\forall x, y \in X: -c_x \leq v_1(x) - v_1(y) \leq c_x \wedge |v_2(x) - v_2(y)| > c_x \iff \text{frac}(v_1(x) - v_1(y)) = 0 \iff \text{frac}(v_2(x) - v_2(y)) = 0$

Regions:
 • $x \leq 1$
 • $y \leq 1$
 • $x + y \leq 1$
 • $x \leq 1 \wedge y \leq 1 - x$ (bright)
 • $x > 1 - y \wedge y \leq 1$ (doff)
 • $x > 1 - y \wedge y > 1 - x$ (doff)

Regions

Proposition. \cong is an equivalence relation.

Definition 4.27. For a given valuation v we denote by $[v]$ the equivalence class of v . We call equivalence classes of \cong **regions**.

The Region Automaton

Definition 4.29. [Region Automaton] The **region automaton** $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ of the timed automaton \mathcal{A} is the labelled transition system $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A}) = (\text{Conf}(\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})), B_H, \{\xrightarrow{\alpha}_{R(\mathcal{A})} \mid \alpha \in B_H\}, C_{\text{res}})$ where

- $\text{Conf}(\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})) = \{(l, \nu) \mid l \in L, \nu: X \rightarrow \text{Time}, \nu \models I(l)\}$, where
- for each $\alpha \in B_H$: $(l, \nu) \xrightarrow{\alpha}_{R(\mathcal{A})} (l', \nu')$ if and only if $(l, \nu) \xrightarrow{\alpha} (l', \nu')$ in \mathcal{A} , and
- $C_{\text{res}} = \{(l_{\text{res}}, [v_{\text{res}}]) \cap \text{Conf}(\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})) \mid v_{\text{res}}(X) = \{0\}\}$.

Proposition. The transition relation of $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ is well-defined that is, independent of the choice of the representative ν of a region $[v]$.

Example: Region Automaton

$\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$:

- $(\text{bright}, x = 0) \xrightarrow{\text{bright}} (\text{doff}, x = 1)$
- $(\text{doff}, x = 1) \xrightarrow{\text{doff}} (\text{doff}, x = 2)$
- $(\text{doff}, x = 2) \xrightarrow{\text{bright}} (\text{bright}, x = 0)$

Remark

Remark 4.30. That a configuration (l, ν) is reachable in $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ represents the fact, that all (l, ν) are reachable. In \mathcal{A} , we can observe ν when location l has just been entered. The clock values reachable by staying/letting time pass in l are **not explicitly** represented by the regions of $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$.

Decidability of The Location Reachability Problem

Claim: (Theorem 4.33)

The location reachability problem is **decidable** for timed automata.

Approach: Constructive proof.

- ✓ Observe: clock constraints are **simple**
— w.l.o.g. assume constants $c \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

✓ **Def. 4.19: time-abstract transition system** $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{A})$ — abstracts from uncountably many delay transitions, still infinite-state.

✓ **Lem. 4.20:** location reachability of \mathcal{A} is preserved in $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{A})$.

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✗ **Lem. 4.28:** $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ is finite.

23/11

Region Automaton Properties

Lemma 4.32: [Correctness] For all locations ℓ of a given timed automaton \mathcal{A} the following holds:

ℓ is reachable in $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{A})$ if and only if ℓ is reachable in $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$.

For the Proof:

Definition 4.21: [Bisimulation] An equivalence relation \sim on valuations is a (strong) **bisimulation** if and only if, whenever

$$v_1 \sim v_2 \text{ and } (v_1) \xrightarrow{a, \tau} (v_1')$$

then there exists v_2' with $v_1' \sim v_2'$ and $(v_2) \xrightarrow{a, \tau} (v_2')$.

Lemma 4.26: [Bisimulation] \cong is a strong bisimulation.

24/11

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25/11

The Number of Regions

Lemma 4.28: Let X be a set of docks $c_x \in \mathbb{N}_0$ the maximal constant for each $x \in X$, and $c = \max\{c_x \mid x \in X\}$. Then

$$(2c + 2)^{|X|} \cdot (4c + 3)^{\sharp(X) \cdot (|X| - 1)}$$

is an upper bound on the number of regions.

Proof: [Olderog and Dierkes, 2008]

- 12 - 2013-06-12 - 56ac -

26/11

Observations Regarding the Number of Regions

• Lemma 4.28 in particular tells us that each timed automaton (in our definition) has **finiely** many regions.

• Note: the upper bound is a **worst case**, not an exact bound.

- 12 - 2013-06-12 - 56ac -

27/11

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- 12 - 2013-06-12 - 56ac -

28/11

Putting It All Together

Let $\mathcal{A} = (L, B, X, I, E, k_{min})$ be a timed automaton, $\ell \in L$ a location.

- $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ can be constructed effectively.
- There are finitely many locations in L (by definition).
- There are finitely many regions by Lemma 4.28.
- So $Conf(\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A}))$ is finite (by construction).
- It is decidable whether $Conf$ of $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ is empty or whether there exists a sequence

$$\langle k_{min}, [v_{min}] \rangle \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})}} \langle \ell_1, [v_1] \rangle \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})}} \dots \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})}} \langle \ell_n, [v_n] \rangle$$

such that $\ell_n = \ell$ (reachability in graphs).

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So we have

Theorem 4.33. [Decidability]
The location reachability problem for timed automata is decidable.

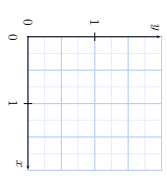
The Constraint Reachability Problem

- Given:** A timed automaton \mathcal{A} , one of its control locations ℓ , and a clock constraint φ .
 - Question:** Is a configuration $\langle \ell, \nu \rangle$ **reachable** where $\nu \models \varphi$, i.e. is there a transition sequence of the form
- $$\langle \ell_{min}, [v_{min}] \rangle \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}} \langle \ell_1, \nu_1 \rangle \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}} \langle \ell_2, \nu_2 \rangle \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}} \dots \xrightarrow{\Delta_{\mathcal{A}}} \langle \ell_n, \nu_n \rangle = \langle \ell, \nu \rangle$$
- in the labelled transition system $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{A})$ with $\nu \models \varphi$?
- Note:** we just observed that $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{A})$ loses some information about the clock valuations that are possible in/from a region.

Theorem 4.34. The constraint reachability problem for timed automata is decidable.

The Delay Operation

- Let $[v]$ be a clock region.
 - We set
- $$delay[v] = \{ \nu' + t \mid \nu' \models v \text{ and } t \in \text{Time} \}$$

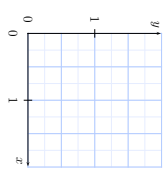


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References

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References

[Olleng and Dieks, 2008] Olleng, E.-R. and Dieks, H. (2008). *Real-Time Systems - Formal Specification and Automatic Verification*. Cambridge University Press.

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