

Implementing PDR in CPAchecker

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Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Preliminaries
- 3 Original PDR
 - Concepts
 - Algorithm
- 4 PDR on Control Flow Automata : IC3CFA
 - Changes to standard PDR
 - Example
 - Implementation
- 5 Summary

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Original IC3

Overview

- IC3 : Incremental Construction of Inductive Clauses for Indubitable Correctness
- Also known as PDR : Property Directed Reachability
- Aaron Bradley : “SAT-Based Model Checking without Unrolling”, VMCAI 2011
- Symbolic model checking algorithm for finite state systems (bit-level)
- Based on SAT solving, (relative) inductivity, backward analysis
- No unrolling of transition relation needed
- Highly incremental - lots of small SAT-queries
- Quickly became a staple part in most modern model checkers
- Adapted to infinite state systems such as software (C-programs, ...)

Inductive Strengthening

- Property is inductive \Rightarrow property is invariant
- **But** : Not every invariant property can be proved by induction

Inductive Strengthening

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- **But** : Not every invariant property can be proved by induction
- Idea : Strengthen property

- Math example : $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2$ vs. $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{n}$

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- Idea : Strengthen property
- Math example : $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2$ vs. $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{n}$
- Plan : Create strengthening of property and prove it by induction
- This will prove the property

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Preliminaries

Literal/Clause/Cube

- A *literal* is a propositional variable or its negation ($x, \neg y, \dots$)
- A *clause* is a disjunction of literals ($x \vee \neg y$)
- A *cube* is a conjunction of literals ($x \wedge \neg y$)
- Therefore, the negation of a cube is a clause ($\neg(x \wedge \neg y) \equiv (\neg x \vee y)$)

Transition System

A *Transition System* $S : (\bar{x}, I(\bar{x}), T(\bar{x}, \bar{x}'))$ consists of

- a set \bar{x} of state variables
- the initial configuration of the system $I(\bar{x})$
- the transition relation $T(\bar{x}, \bar{x}')$

Preliminaries - Cont.

(Relative) Inductivity

Given a transition system $S : (\bar{x}, I(\bar{x}), T(\bar{x}, \bar{x}')) :$

- P is inductive, if $I \Rightarrow P$ and $P \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$
- P is inductive *relative* to F , if $I \Rightarrow P$ and $F \wedge P \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$

Safety property : P

A boolean formula that is always true for a given transition system

Inductive Strengthening

An inductive strengthening of a safety property P is a formula F , so that $F \wedge P$ is inductive

Preliminaries - Cont.

State

Assignment of values to **all** state variables of the transition system.
Represented by a cube

Control Flow Automaton (CFA)

A *Control flow automaton* $A = \{L, G, l_0, l_E\}$ consists of

- a set of locations $L = \{0, \dots, n\}$ representing the program counter
- edges from $G \subseteq L \times QFFO \times L$ labeled with quantifier-free first order formulas describing the transition
- an initial location l_0
- an error location l_E

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Original PDR

General Concepts

Frame : F_i

- Overapproximation of reachable states in at most i steps from initial states
- Set of clauses (act as constraints regarding reachability)
- As formula : conjunction of clauses (CNF)

Counterexample to Inductiveness : CTI

State that can reach a non-property state (bad state) in one or more steps

Original PDR

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Counterexample to Inductiveness : CTI

State that can reach a non-property state (bad state) in one or more steps

- Maintain series of stepwise overapproximations F_0, \dots, F_k for increasing k
- $F_0 = I$ and initially $F_i = P$ for $i \neq 0$ (assume P is invariant)
- Continuously refine frames by adding reachability information
- Derived from recursively backward-analyzing CTIs

Original PDR

General Concepts

Basic Invariants

- $F_0 \Leftrightarrow I$
- $F_i \Rightarrow P$, $\forall 0 \leq i \leq k$ - “every frame satisfies P”
- $F_i \Rightarrow F_{i+1}$, $\forall 0 \leq i < k$ - “every F_{i+1} is more general than F_i ”
 $clauses(F_{i+1}) \subseteq clauses(F_i)$
- $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$, $\forall 0 \leq i < k$ - “states in F_i transition to states in F_{i+1} ”

Original PDR

General Concepts

Basic Invariants

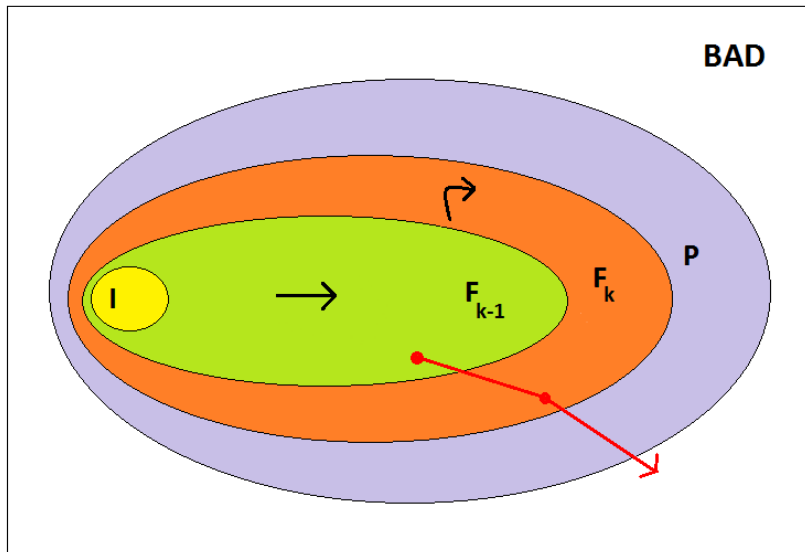
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- $F_i \wedge T \Rightarrow F'_{i+1}$, $\forall 0 \leq i < k$ - “states in F_i transition to states in F_{i+1} ”

\Rightarrow Fixpoint reached if $\exists i$ so that $F_i = F_{i+1}$

\Rightarrow Property holds

$\Rightarrow F_i$ is an inductive strengthening of the safety property P

PDR : Identify CTIs



Algorithm

check for 0-/1-step counterexample ($I \wedge \neg P / I \wedge T \wedge \neg P'$)

for $k = 1$ to ...

- while (CTI exists $\equiv F_k \wedge P \wedge T \Rightarrow P'$ not true)
 - get CTI \mathbf{s} from model
 - % Blocking Phase %
 - prove \mathbf{s} is unreachable in $\leq k$ steps
(this is where new clauses are learned)
 - if not possible \rightarrow error found
 - % Propagation Phase %
 - for $i = 1$ to k and all clauses \mathbf{c} in F_i
 - if \mathbf{c} became inductive
 $\equiv F_i \wedge \mathbf{c} \wedge T \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}'$ is true : add \mathbf{c} to F_{i+1}
 - if $\exists i$ so that $F_i = F_{i+1} \rightarrow$ property holds

Blocking a state s at F_i : Proof Obligation (s, i)

Block state s at $F_i \equiv$ Prove s is unreachable in $\leq i$ steps

- If $i = 0$ and s intersects with initial states \rightarrow error found
- Check : $\neg s$ inductive relative to $F_{i-1} \equiv F_{i-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$ is true
- No : try to block predecessor p of s at F_{i-1} first (DFS).
Add **Proof Obligations** $(p, i-1)$ and (s, i)
- Yes : add $\neg s$ to all frames F_1, \dots, F_i . Also add PO $(s, i+1)$ if $i < k$
- Pick PO with lowest frame number next
- Retry previously failed attempts until s could be blocked at F_i

Algorithm : Important Improvements

Generalization

- Blocking one state s at a time is ineffective
- When adding $\neg s$ at level i : find $c \subseteq \neg s$ that is still inductive and add c instead
- c may exclude many more states than $\neg s$ $[(\neg x \vee y) \rightarrow \neg x]$
- Drop literals that don't actually contribute to result of induction query
 $F_{i-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$
- Use unsat-core, ternary simulation, ...

Algorithm : Important Improvements

Lifting

- Similar intention as with generalization
- When computing a predecessor p of state s : find **set** of states that also transition to s
- Represented by a sub-cube of p

Subsumption

- Suppose $F_i = \{s\}$ with $s = x \vee y$ and we can add $\hat{s} = x$
- Note that $\hat{s} \Rightarrow s$ (or alternatively $literals(\hat{s}) \subset literals(s)$)
- s doesn't represent more reachability info than \hat{s}
- Simply remove s
- Avoids redundancy and keeps frames small (easier SAT-queries)

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PDR on Control Flow Automata

Based on “IC3 Software Model Checking on Control Flow Automata” by T. Lange et al.

- Apply PDR directly to CFA
- Use SMT-solver instead of SAT-solver
- Check reachability of error location
- Use single transitions between locations (no unrolling needed)
- Create frames F_0, \dots, F_k for **every** location
- Represents k -step reachability for this location, starting at l_0

PDR on Control Flow Automata

Based on “IC3 Software Model Checking on Control Flow Automata” by T. Lange et al.

PDR Relative Inductivity Check

When trying to block a state s at level $i \equiv (s, i)$

- $F_{i-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \wedge s'$ (meaning : $F_{i-1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T \Rightarrow \neg s'$)

Adjusted Relative Inductivity Check

When trying to block a state s at location l at level $i \equiv (s, l, i)$

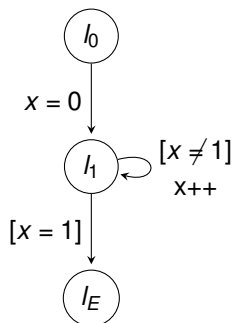
- Case 1 : $F_{i-1, l_pred} \wedge T_{l_pred \rightarrow l} \wedge s'$, if $l \neq l_pred$
- Case 2 : $F_{i-1, l_pred} \wedge \neg s \wedge T_{l_pred \rightarrow l} \wedge s'$, if $l = l_pred$

where l_pred is a predecessor location of l .

- Unsat \rightarrow add $\neg s$ to all $F_{j, l}$ where $j \leq i$
- Sat \rightarrow get predecessor state p and add POs $(p, l_pred, i-1)$ and (s, l, i)

IC3CFA

Example



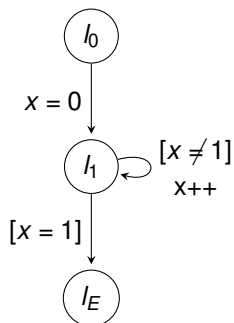
Initialization

- No 0-/1-step counterexamples
- $F_{i,l} = \text{true}$, for all locations l and levels i (we have no known safety property!)
- Except : $F_{0,l} = \text{false}$, for all non-initial locations

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false	true	true

IC3CFA

Example

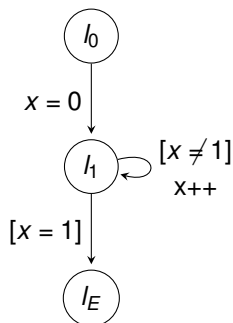
First iteration : $k = 1$

- Transition still possible?
- $F_{1,l_1} \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_E} =$
 $true \wedge x = 1 : SAT$
- $\rightarrow x = 1$

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false	true	true

IC3CFA

Example

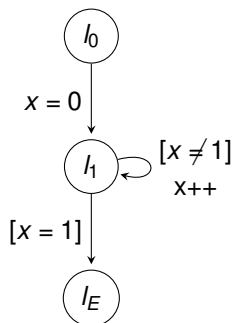
First iteration : $k = 1$

- Try to block $x = 1$ at l_1 at level 1
- **Predecessor** l_0 :
- $F_{0,l_0} \wedge T_{l_0 \rightarrow l_1} \wedge s' =$
 $true \wedge x' = 0 \wedge x' = 1 : UNSAT$
- \rightarrow add $x \neq 1$ to F_{1,l_1} and F_{0,l_1}

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$	true

IC3CFA

Example

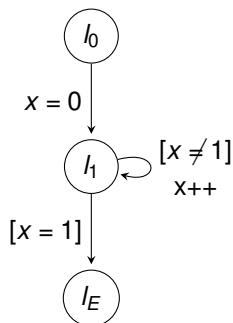
First iteration : $k = 1$

- Try to block $x = 1$ at l_1 at level 1
- **Predecessor** l_1 :
 - $F_{0,l_1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_1} \wedge s' =$
 $(\text{false} \wedge x \neq 1) \wedge x \neq 1 \wedge (x \neq 1 \wedge x' =$
 $x + 1) \wedge x' = 1 : \text{UNSAT}$
 - \rightarrow add $x \neq 1$ to F_{1,l_1} and F_{0,l_1}

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$	true

IC3CFA

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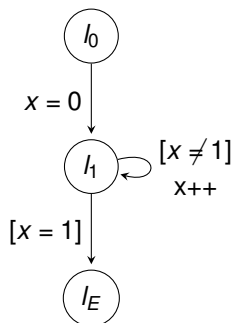
First iteration : $k = 1$

- Transition still possible?
- $F_{1,l_1} \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_E} =$
 $(\text{true} \wedge x \neq 1) \wedge x = 1 : \text{UNSAT}$
- Termination? \rightarrow No
- \rightarrow continue with next iteration

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$	true

IC3CFA

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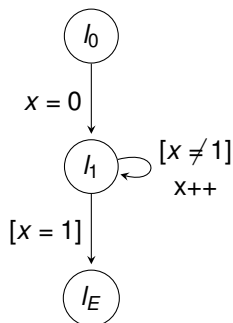
Second iteration : $k = 2$

- Transition still possible?
- $F_{2,l_1} \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_E} =$
 $true \wedge x = 1 : SAT$
- $\rightarrow x = 1$

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$	true

IC3CFA

Example

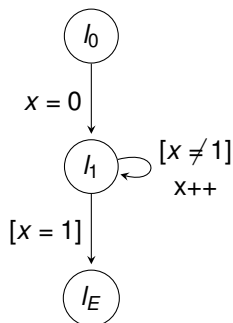
Second iteration : $k = 2$

- Try to block $x = 1$ at l_1 at level 2
- **Predecessor** l_0 :
 - $F_{1,l_0} \wedge T_{l_0 \rightarrow l_1} \wedge s' =$
 $true \wedge x' = 0 \wedge x' = 1 : UNSAT$
- \rightarrow add $x \neq 1$ to F_{2,l_1} and F_{1,l_1} and F_{0,l_1}

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$

IC3CFA

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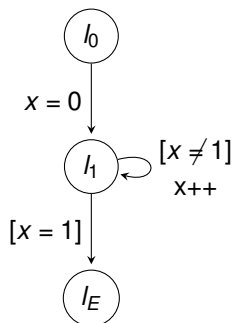
Second iteration : $k = 2$

- Try to block $x = 1$ at l_1 at level 2
- **Predecessor** l_1 :
 - $F_{1,l_1} \wedge \neg s \wedge T_{l_1 \rightarrow l_1} \wedge s' =$
 $(true \wedge x \neq 1) \wedge x \neq 1 \wedge (x \neq 1 \wedge x' =$
 $x + 1) \wedge x' = 1 : \text{SAT} \rightarrow x = 0$
- Proof-obligations : $(1, l_1, x = 0)$,
 $(2, l_1, x = 1)$

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$

IC3CFA

Example

Second iteration : $k = 2$

- Pick lowest Proof-obligation $(1, l_1, x = 0)$
- **Predecessor** l_0 :
- $F_{0,l_0} \wedge T_{l_0 \rightarrow l_1} \wedge s' =$
 $true \wedge x' = 0 \wedge x' = 0 : \text{SAT} \rightarrow x = 0$
- Proof-obligations : $(0, l_0, x = 0)$,
 $(1, l_1, x = 0)$, $(2, l_1, x = 1)$
- Next : $(0, l_0, x = 0) \rightarrow \text{Error found !}$

loc / lvl	0	1	2
l_0	true	true	true
l_1	false, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$	true, $x \neq 1$

Remark : Dealing with infinite state space

Weakest Preconditions

- Use weakest preconditions on local transitions to calculate exact predecessors
- Can be expensive for large transitions

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Weakest Preconditions

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- Can be expensive for large transitions

Predicate Abstraction

- Get concrete predecessors from model of SAT-query (like original PDR)
- Apply predicate abstraction and work with abstract states
- Random example : $(x = 0 \wedge y = 0) \rightarrow x = y$
- When finding abstract transition with no concrete counterpart
 - abstraction was too broad
 - interpolate and refine abstraction $(x = y \rightarrow (x = y \wedge x \geq 0))$
- Similar to CTIGAR

Implementation in CPAchecker

Transitions

- CPAchecker can be configured to arbitrary block size
- Large Block Encoding currently used for PDR
- PredicateCPA used to get path formulas of edges between locations

Predicate Abstraction

- Component PredicateAbstractionManager of PredicateCPA used for computing abstraction based on current predicates
- SMT-solver used to get interpolant that leads to new abstraction predicate

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Summary

- PDR is a symbolic model checking algorithm for finite state systems based on SAT-solving, relative inductiveness, inductive strengthening
- Blocking phase : Identify CTI and recursively block it
- Propagation phase : Push clauses to next frame if they became inductive after blocking phase
- PDR can be extended to infinite state systems in multiple ways
- One way : Apply PDR directly to CFA (IC3CFA)
- Give every location its own set of stepwise overapproximations (frames)
- Check reachability of error location using single transitions between locations

Outlook

What still needs to be done

- Predicate abstraction
- Check if it pairs well with location local frames

For the future

- One prover environment for each frame
- Keep frame clauses on prover stack (exploit incremental nature of PDR)
- Parallel implementation (PDR is suitable for this)