LTL to Büchi Automata Translation: Fast and More Deterministic

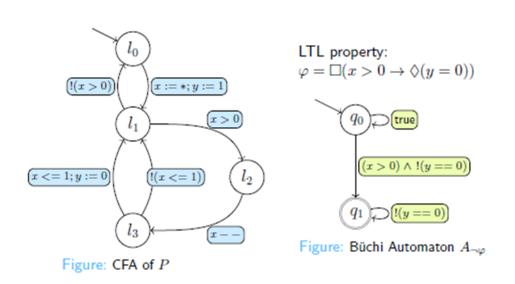
TACAS 2012

Reporter: Weizhi Feng

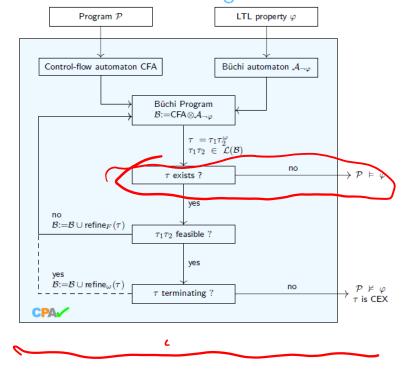
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LTL2BA问题

- 本文主要关注的问题是从一个LTL公式 φ 生成Büchi 自动机A,使得 $L(A) = \{u \in \Sigma^{\omega} \mid u \models \varphi\}$.
- 意义: 是model checking等领域的重要问题, 如要证明程序是否满足某些性质:
 - 将LTL公式取补转为BA,与程序自动机做乘积,检查乘积自动机的语言是否为空.



LTL Software Model Checking



主要贡献

CALOI

- 对经典算法(LTL2BA)进行改进(LTL3BA),更快生成更小、更确定性的自动机。
- 算法框架:
 - 将给定LTL转为一个very weak alternating automaton (VWAA) with a co- Büchi 接受条件;
 - 将这个VWAA转为一个transition-based generalized Büchi automaton (TGBA);
 - 将TGBA转为Büchi automaton (BA).
- 在上面框架的基础上, 进行改进与优化, 使每一步得到状态数更少的自动机。

- Linear Temporal Logic (LTL):
- Syntax

$$\varphi ::= tt \mid a \mid \neg \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \mathsf{X}\varphi \mid \varphi \mathsf{U}\varphi,$$

• Semantics:

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\begin{array}{lll} u \models tt \\ u \models a & \text{iff} \ a \in u(0) \\ u \models \neg \varphi & \text{iff} \ u \not\models \varphi \\ u \models \varphi_1 \lor \varphi_2 & \text{iff} \ u \models \varphi_1 \text{ or } u \models \varphi_2 \\ u \models \varphi_1 \land \varphi_2 & \text{iff} \ u \models \varphi_1 \text{ and } u \models \varphi_2 \\ u \models \mathsf{X}\varphi & \text{iff} \ u_1 \models \varphi \\ u \models \varphi_1 \ \mathsf{U} \ \varphi_2 & \text{iff} \ \exists i \geq 0 \, . \, (u_i \models \varphi_2 \text{ and } \forall \, 0 \leq j < i \, . \, u_j \models \varphi_1 \, ) \end{array}
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• 扩展的temporal operators:

- $F\varphi$ called *eventually* and equivalent to $tt \cup \varphi$,
- $-G\varphi$ called always and equivalent to $\neg F \varphi$, and
- $-\varphi R \psi$ called *release* and equivalent to $\neg(\neg \varphi U \neg \psi)$.

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Büchi Automata (BA) A BA is a tuple $\mathcal{B} = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, F)$, where

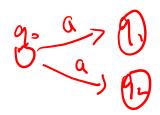
- $\begin{array}{l} -Q \text{ is a finite set of } states, \\ -(\Sigma) \text{ is a finite } alphabet, \\ -\delta: Q \to 2^{\Sigma \times Q} \text{ is a total } transition function, \end{array}$
- $-I\subseteq Q$ is a set of *initial states*, and
- $F \subseteq Q$ is a set of accepting states.



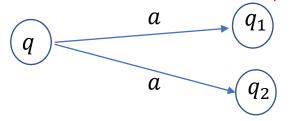


• Very Weak Alternating co- Büchi Automata (VWAA):

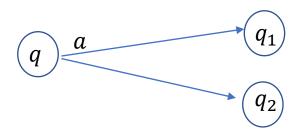
- Q is a finite set of *states*, and we let $Q' = 2^Q$,
- Σ is a finite *alphabet*, and we let $\Sigma' = 2^{\Sigma}$,
- $-\delta: Q \to 2^{\Sigma' \times Q'}$ is a transition function,
- $-I \subseteq Q'$ is a set of *initial states*,
- $-F\subseteq Q$ is a set of accepting states, and
- there exists a partial order on Q such that, for each state $q \in Q$, all the states occurring in $\delta(q)$ are lower or equal to q.



- Very Weak Alternating co- Büchi Automata (VWAA):
- Alternating automaton的transition分为existential transition和universal transition:
- An existential transition $(q, a, q_1 \lor q_2)$

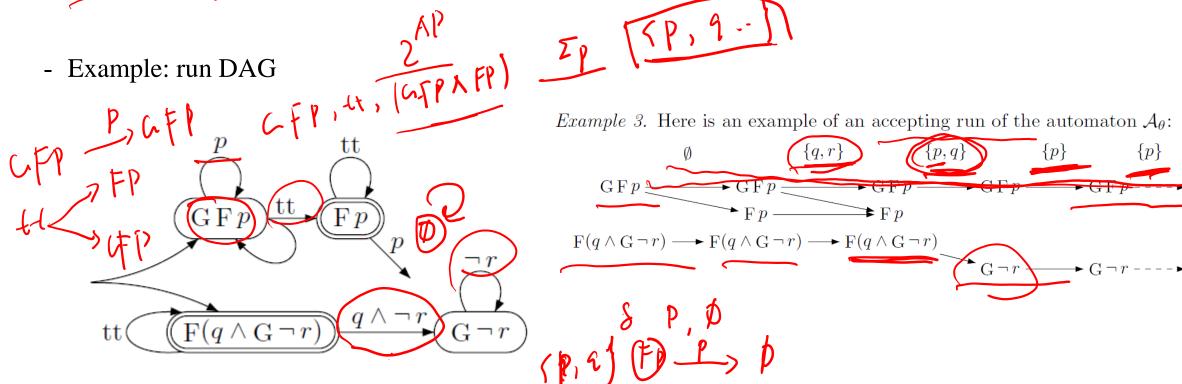


- An universal transition $(q, a, q_1 \land q_2)$

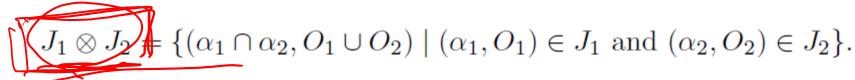


- Very Weak Alternating co- Büchi Automata (VWAA):
- Very weak: there exists a partial order on Q such that, for each state $q \in Q$, all the states occurring in $\delta(q)$ are lower or equal to q.

- Co-Büchi: a run σ is a accepting if each branch in σ contains only finitely many nodes labelled by accepting states.



- Original translation:
- 定义一些符号:
 - Let $\Sigma' = 2^{\Sigma}$, and let $Q' = 2^{Q}$. Given $J_1, J_2 \in 2^{\Sigma' \times Q'}$, we define



- Let ψ be an LTL formula in positive normal form. We define $\overline{\psi}$ by:
 - $\overline{\psi} = \{\{\psi\}\}\$ if ψ is a temporal formula,
 - $\overline{\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2} = \{O_1 \cup O_2 \mid O_1 \in \overline{\psi_1} \text{ and } O_2 \in \overline{\psi_2}\}, \quad \triangle [\alpha] \land$
 - $\bullet \ \overline{\psi_1 \vee \psi_2} = \overline{\psi_1} \cup \overline{\psi_2}.$



- Original translation:
- 转换规则: 一个VWAA: $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, F)$,
- Q是 φ 的temporal subformula的集合, $\Sigma = 2^{AP(\varphi)}I = \bar{\varphi}$, F是 φ 的U子公式的集合.

$$\delta(tt) = \{(\Sigma, \emptyset)\} \qquad ((\Sigma_p, \emptyset)) \text{ where } \Sigma_p = \{a \in \Sigma \mid p \in a\}$$

$$\delta(p) = \{(\Sigma_p, \emptyset)\} \text{ where } \Sigma_p = \{a \in \Sigma \mid p \in a\}$$

$$\delta(\neg p) = \{(\Sigma_{\neg p}, \emptyset)\} \text{ where } \Sigma_{\neg p} = \Sigma \setminus \Sigma_p$$

$$\delta(\mathsf{X}\psi) = \{(\Sigma, O) \mid O \in \overline{\psi}\} \qquad \qquad \forall t \cup \emptyset$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_2) \cup (\Delta(\psi_1) \otimes \{(\Sigma, \{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \qquad \alpha \notin \emptyset$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_2) \otimes (\Delta(\psi_1) \cup \{(\Sigma, \{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \qquad \forall t \in \emptyset$$

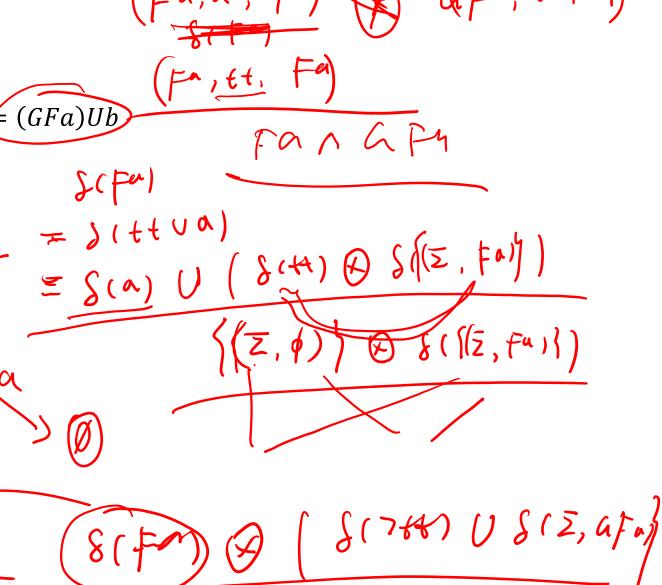
$$\Delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_2) \otimes (\Delta(\psi_1) \cup \{(\Sigma, \{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \qquad \forall t \in \emptyset$$

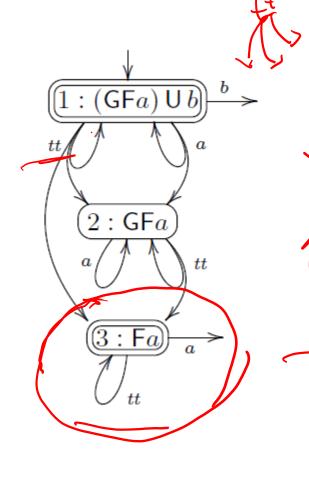
$$\Delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_1) \otimes \Delta(\psi_2)$$

$$\Delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_1) \otimes \Delta(\psi_2)$$

• Original translation:

• Example: VWAA for $\varphi = Fa$, $\varphi = GFa$, $\varphi \not= (GFa)Ub$





- Improved translation:
- 定义alternating formulae,利用其性质来改进translation算法.

$$\begin{split} \mu &::= \mathsf{F}\varphi \ | \ \mu \vee \mu \ | \ \mu \wedge \mu \ | \ \mathsf{X}\mu \ | \ \varphi \, \mathsf{U}\,\mu \ | \ \mu \, \mathsf{R}\,\mu \ | \ \mathsf{G}\mu \\ \nu &::= \mathsf{G}\varphi \ | \ \nu \vee \nu \ | \ \nu \wedge \nu \ | \ \mathsf{X}\nu \ | \ \nu \, \mathsf{U}\,\nu \ | \ \varphi \, \mathsf{R}\,\nu \ | \ \mathsf{F}\nu \\ \xi &::= \mathsf{G}\mu \ | \ \mathsf{F}\nu \ | \ \xi \vee \xi \ | \ \xi \wedge \xi \ | \ \mathsf{X}\xi \ | \ \varphi \, \mathsf{U}\,\xi \ | \ \varphi \, \mathsf{R}\,\xi \ | \ \mathsf{F}\xi \ | \ \mathsf{G}\xi \end{split}$$

• Lemma 2. each alternating formula defines a prefix-invariant language.

Every alternating formula ξ satisfies the following:

$$\forall w \in \Sigma^{\omega}, u \in \Sigma^{*} \text{ ww} \models \xi \iff w \models \xi$$

- Improved translation:
- 定义alternating formulae, 利用其性质来改进translation算法.
- 原始的δ函数反映了如下恒等式:

$$\delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_2) \cup \left(\Delta(\psi_1) \otimes \{(\Sigma, \{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}\right)$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \cap \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_2) \otimes \left(\Delta(\psi_1) \cup \{(\Sigma, \{\psi_1 \cap \psi_2\})\}\right)$$

$$\varphi_1 \cup \varphi_2 \equiv \varphi_2 \vee (\varphi_1) \wedge X(\varphi_1 \cup \varphi_2)$$

$$\varphi_1 \cap \varphi_2 \equiv \varphi_2 \wedge (\varphi_1) \vee X(\varphi_1 \cap \varphi_2)$$

$$\varphi_1 \cap \varphi_2 \equiv \varphi_2 \wedge (\varphi_1) \vee X(\varphi_1 \cap \varphi_2)$$

• 由alternating公式的性质: $\varphi_1 \equiv X\varphi_1$, 有:

$$\varphi_1 \cup \varphi_2 \equiv \varphi_2 \vee (\mathsf{X}\varphi_1 \wedge \mathsf{X}(\varphi_1 \cup \varphi_2))$$

$$\varphi_1 \, \mathsf{R} \, \varphi_2 \equiv \varphi_2 \wedge (\mathsf{X}\varphi_1 \vee \mathsf{X}(\varphi_1 \, \mathsf{R} \, \varphi_2))$$

- Improved translation:
- 定义alternating formulae,利用其性质来改进translation算法.
- 原始的δ函数反映了如下恒等式:
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$$\varphi_1 \, \mathsf{R} \, \varphi_2 \equiv \varphi_2 \wedge (\mathsf{X}\varphi_1 \vee \mathsf{X}(\varphi_1 \, \mathsf{R} \, \varphi_2))$$

- 应用于转换中,可以公式被有效地suspended and checked one step later.
- 另外,令 $X\varphi$ 类型的公式只生成一个后继.

• Improved translation:

$$\delta(tt) = \{(\Sigma,\emptyset)\}$$

$$\delta(p) = \{(\Sigma_p,\emptyset)\} \text{ where } \Sigma_p = \{a \in \Sigma \mid p \in a\}$$

$$\delta(\neg p) = \{(\Sigma_{\neg p},\emptyset)\} \text{ where } \Sigma_{\neg p} = \Sigma \backslash \Sigma_p$$

$$\delta(X\psi) \neq \{(\Sigma,\{\psi\})\}$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \vee \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_1) \cup \Delta(\psi_2)$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_1) \otimes \Delta(\psi_2)$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \begin{cases} \Delta(\psi_2) \cup \{(\Sigma,\{\psi_1\})\} \otimes \{(\Sigma,\{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \text{ if } \psi_1 \text{ is alternating,} \\ \Delta(\psi_2) \cup (\Delta(\psi_1) \otimes \{(\Sigma,\{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \begin{cases} \Delta(\psi_2) \otimes (\{(\Sigma,\{\psi_1\}),(\Sigma,\{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \text{ if } \psi_1 \text{ is alternating,} \\ \Delta(\psi_2) \otimes (\Delta(\psi_1) \cup \{(\Sigma,\{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \begin{cases} \Delta(\psi_2) \otimes (\{(\Sigma,\{\psi_1\}),(\Sigma,\{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \begin{cases} \Delta(\psi_2) \otimes (\{(\Sigma,\{\psi_1\}),(\Sigma,\{\psi_1 \cup \psi_2\})\}) \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta(\psi_1 \cup \psi_2) = \begin{cases} \{(\Sigma,\{\psi\})\} \text{ if } \psi \text{ is a temporal alternating formula,} \\ \delta(\psi) \text{ if } \psi \text{ is a temporal formula that is not alternating.} \end{cases}$$

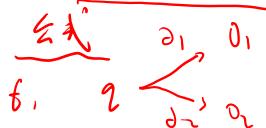
$$\Delta(\psi_1 \vee \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_1) \cup \Delta(\psi_2)$$

$$\Delta(\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2) = \Delta(\psi_1) \otimes \Delta(\psi_2)$$

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- Optimization of VWAA:
- If $t_1 = (q, \alpha_1, O_1)$, $t_2 = (q, \alpha_2, O_2)$ $\sharp \mathfrak{A}_2 \subseteq \widehat{\alpha_1}$, and $O_1 \subseteq O_2$, then $\widehat{t_2}$ is removed.
- Determinization:
- If $O_1 \subset O_2$, 将 t_2 中的 α_2 用 $\alpha_2 \land \neg \alpha_1$ 替换.
- if $O_1 = O_2$, 两个迁移都替换为 $(q, \alpha_1 \vee \alpha_2, O_1)$.



• Improved translation: examples

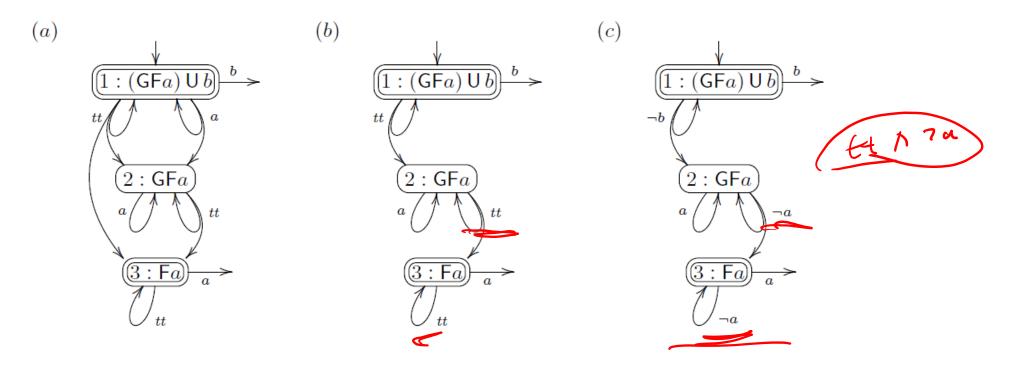


Fig. 1. VWAA for $(GFa) \cup b$ generated by (a) the translation of $\boxed{11}$, (b) our translation with suspension, and (c) our translation with suspension and further determinization.

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• Improved translation: examples

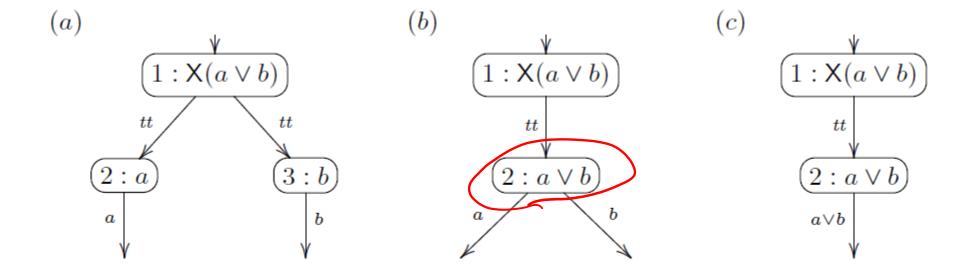


Fig. 2. VWAA for $X(a \lor b)$ generated by (a) the translation of [11], (b) our translation with suspension, and (c) the translation with suspension and further determinization.

Transition Based Generalized Büchi Automata (TGBA)

Transition Based Generalized Büchi Automata (TGBA) A TGBA is a tuple $\mathcal{G} = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, \mathcal{F})$, where

- -Q is a finite set of *states*,
- $-\Sigma$ is a finite alphabet, and we let $\Sigma'=2^{\Sigma}$
- $-\delta: Q \to 2^{\Sigma' \times Q}$ is a total transition function,
- $-I\subseteq Q$ is a set of *initial states*, and
- $-\mathcal{T} = \{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_m\}$ where $T_j \subseteq Q \times \Sigma' \times Q$ are sets of accepting transitions.
- A run is accepting if for each $1 \le j \le m$ it uses infinitely many transitions from T_j .

• Original translation:



Step 2. Let $\mathcal{A} = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, F)$ be a <u>VWAA</u> with co-Büchi acceptance conditions. We define the GBA $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{A}} = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', I, T)$ where:

-Q'=Q' identified with conjunctions of states as explained in Definition 3,

$$-\delta''(q_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge q_n) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \delta(q_i), \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow (1)$$

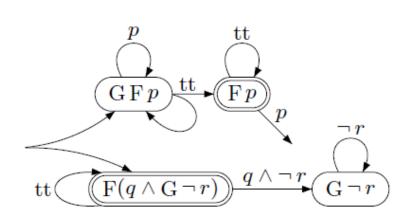
$$-\delta' \text{ is the set of } \preccurlyeq \text{-minimal transitions of } \delta'' \text{ where the relation } \preccurlyeq \text{ is defined}$$

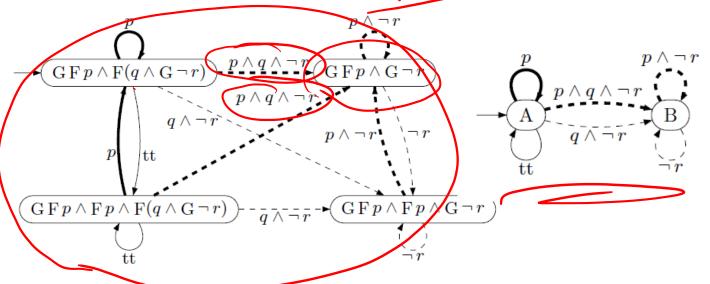
- $-\delta'$ is the set of \preccurlyeq -minimal transitions of δ'' where the relation \preccurlyeq is defined by $t' \preccurlyeq t$ if $t = (e, \alpha, e')$, $t' = (e, \alpha', e'')$, $\alpha \subseteq \alpha'$, $e'' \subseteq e'$, and $\forall T \in T$, $t \in T \Rightarrow t' \in T$,
- $\mathcal{T} = \{T_f \mid f \in F\} \text{ where}$ $T_f = \{(e, \alpha, e') \mid f \notin e' \text{ or } \exists (\beta, e'') \in \delta(f), \ \alpha \subseteq \beta \text{ and } f \notin e'' \subseteq e'\}.$



• Original translation: example

- $-Q'=2^Q$ is identified with conjunctions of states as explained in Definition 3,
- $-\delta''(q_1 \wedge \ldots \wedge q_n) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \delta(q_i),$
- δ' is the set of \preccurlyeq -minimal transitions of δ'' where the relation \preccurlyeq is defined by $t' \preccurlyeq t$ if $t = (e, \alpha, e')$, $t' = (e, \alpha', e'')$, $\alpha \subseteq \alpha'$, $e'' \subseteq e'$, and $\forall T \in \mathcal{T}$, $t \in T \Rightarrow t' \in T$,
- $\mathcal{T} = \{T_f \mid f \in F\} \text{ where }$ $T_f = \{(e, \alpha, e') \mid f \notin e' \text{ or } \exists (\beta, e'') \in \delta(f), \ \alpha \subseteq \beta \text{ and } f \notin e'' \subseteq e'\}.$





• Improved translation:

Formally, for each TGBA state $O = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$ we define $\delta''(O)$ as follows:

$$\delta''(O) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \delta_O(q_i)$$
, where

$$\delta_O(q_i) = \begin{cases} \underbrace{\{(\Sigma, \{q_i\})\}}_{\delta(q_i)} \\ \delta(q_i) \end{cases}$$

 $\delta_O(q_i) = \begin{cases} \{(\Sigma, \{q_i\})\} & \text{if } O \text{ contains a progress non-alternating formula} \\ & \text{and } q_i \text{ is an alternating formula,} \\ & \text{or } O \text{ contains a progress formula} \\ & \text{and } q_i \text{ is an alternating non-progress formula,} \end{cases}$ otherwise.

仍然是利用alternating 公式的性质, 但是要防 止不在TGBA的接受路 径中永远被suspend, 应该只考虑不在TGBA 的任何accepting cycle 中的状态

• 之前接受状态集合 T_f 的定义不够直观,这里计算TGBA迁移的 T_f 为"do not contain any VWAA transition looping in f".

• Improved translation:

Let M be the minimal set containing all VWAA states of the form $\psi R \rho$ and all subformulae of their right operands ρ . One can easily observe each TGBA state lying on some accepting cycle is a subset of M. The VWAA states outside M, called progress formulae, push TGBA computations towards accepting cycles. Suspension is enabled in a TGBA state only if it contains a progress formula. However, if all progress formulae in a TGBA state are alternating, their suspension is not allowed (as suspended progress formulae would not enforce any progress).

• Improved translation:

Formally, for each TGBA state $O = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$ we define $\delta''(O)$ as follows:

$$\delta''(O) = \bigotimes_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{O}(q_{i}), \text{ where}$$

$$\delta_O(q_i) = \begin{cases} \underbrace{\{(\Sigma, \{q_i\})\}}_{\delta(q_i)} \\ \underbrace{\delta(q_i)}_{\delta(q_i)} \end{cases}$$

 $\delta_O(q_i) = \begin{cases} 10 \text{ contains a progress non-alternating form} \\ \text{and } q_i \text{ is an alternating formula,} \\ \text{or } O \text{ contains a progress formula} \\ \text{and } q_i \text{ is an alternating non-progress formula,} \end{cases}$ if O contains a progress non-alternating formula otherwise.

仍然是利用alternating 公式的性质, 但是要防 止不在TGBA的接受路 径中永远被suspend, 应该只考虑不在TGBA 的任何accepting cycle 中的状态

• 之前接受状态集合 T_f 的定义不够直观,这里计算TGBA迁移的 T_f 为"do not contain any VWAA transition looping in f".

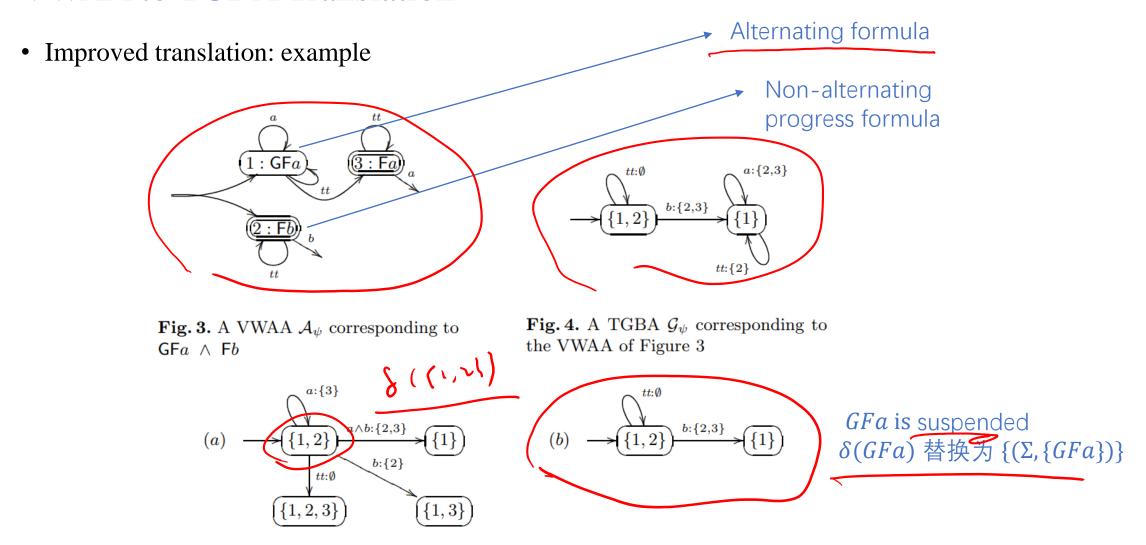
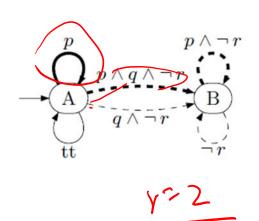


Fig. 5. Transitions leading from state $\{1, 2\}$ in the TGBA constructed from the VWAA of Figure 3 by (a) the translation of [11] and by (b) our translation with suspension

TGBA to Büchi Automata

Step 3. Let
$$\mathcal{G} = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, T)$$
 be a GBA with $\mathcal{T} = \{T_1, \dots, T_r\}$. We define the BA $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{G}} = (Q \times \{0, \dots, r\}, \Sigma, \delta', I \times \{0\}, Q \times \{r\})$ where:
$$-\delta'((q, j)) = \{(\alpha, (q', j')) \mid (\alpha, q') \in \delta(q) \text{ and } j' = next(j, (q, \alpha, q'))\}.$$
with $\text{next}(j, t) = \begin{cases} \max\{j \leq i \leq r \mid \forall j < k \leq i, \ t \in T_k\} \text{ if } j \neq r \\ \max\{0 \leq i \leq r \mid \forall 0 < k \leq i, \ t \in T_k\} \text{ if } j = r \end{cases}$



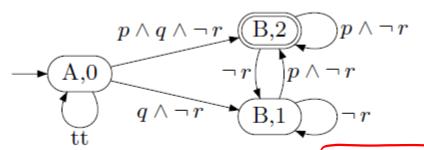


Fig. 3. Automaton $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{G}_{A_{\theta}}}$ after Simplification.

Experiments

Table 1. Comparison of translators on two sets of random formulae. Time is in seconds, 'det. BA' is the number of deterministic automata produced by the translator. Note that, using WDBA minimization, SPOT failed to translate 6 formulae of Benchmark2 within the one hour limit. In order to see the effect of WDBA minimization to other formulae, we state in braces the original results increased by the values obtained when these 6 formulae were translated withut WDBA minimization.

	Translator	Benchmark1				Benchmark2			
		States	Trans.	Time	det. BA	States	Trans.	Time	det. BA
\	SPOT	1 561	5729	7.47	55.	14697	95645	68.46	221
7	SPOT+WDBA	1587	5880	10.81	88	13097	77346	5916.45	373
+						(14408)	(94248)	(5919.43)	(373)
	LTL2BA	2 118	9 000 (0.81	25	24648	232400	18.57	84
• [LTL3BA(1)	1 621	5865	1.26	27	17 107	129774	22.25	92
, 7	LTL3BA(1,2)	1 631	6094	1.41	54	15 936	115624	9.04	237
	LTL3BA(1,2,3)	1565	5615	1.41	54	14 113	91 159	8.53	240
	LTL3BA(1,2,3,4)	1507	5 348	1.38	(54)	13 244	85 511	8.30	248

Experiments

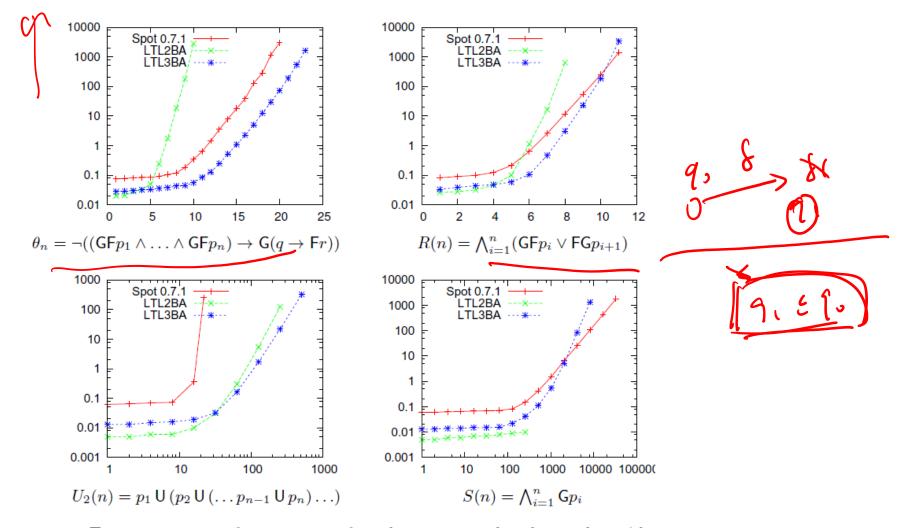


Fig. 6. Time consumption for parametric formulae constructed within an hour (the vertical axes are logarithmic and represent time in seconds, while the horizontal axes are linear or logarithmic and represent the parameter n)