

A Discrete Büchi Automata Distance for Formal Methods Based Control

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1 Problem and Motivation

- Formal Methods Based Control
- The Product Automaton
- Execution: Path Finding

2 Our Contribution

- Büchi Distance and Algorithm

3 Performance on Common Formulas

- Workspace
- Reachability While Avoiding Regions
- Sequencing

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Linear Temporal Logic

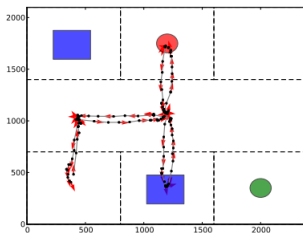
- We will be using **Linear Temporal Logic (LTL)**, defined recursively as $\varphi ::= \top \mid \alpha \mid \neg\varphi_1 \mid \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \mid \mathbf{X}\varphi_1 \mid \varphi_1 \mathbf{U}\varphi_2$

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- Why? LTL formulas are versatile; LTL allows us to encode statements about the robot and workspace, and also how events relate to each other in the time domain.

Ex. from [Guo15] $\varphi = \diamond(\text{rball} \wedge \diamond\text{basket}) \wedge \diamond\Box r1$

"Eventually pick up the red ball and put it in one of the baskets.
Then go home to r1"



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- Implementation: Calculate the continuous controllers such that the continuous path will satisfy the discrete path.

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Finite-State Transition System

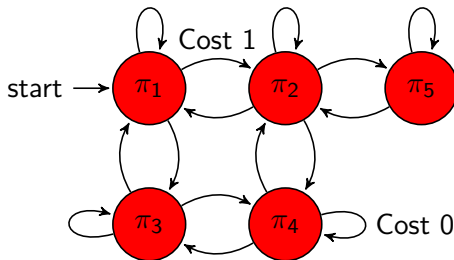
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Finite-State Transition System (FTS)

An FTS is a tuple $\mathcal{T} = (\Pi, \rightarrow, \Pi_0, AP, L_D)$ where Π is the set of states, $\rightarrow \subseteq \Pi \times \Pi$ is the transitions, $\Pi_0 \subseteq \Pi$ is the initial state(s), AP is the set of atomic propositions, and $L : \Pi \rightarrow 2^{AP}$ is the labelling function (goes from a state to the set of atomic propositions that are true in that state).

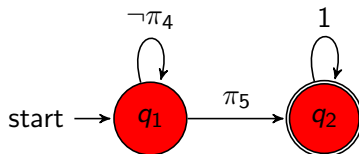


Büchi Automaton

A Büchi automaton is a tuple $\mathcal{A}_\varphi = (\mathcal{Q}, 2^{AP}, \delta, \mathcal{Q}_0, \mathcal{F})$ where \mathcal{Q} is a finite set of states, $\mathcal{Q}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{Q}$ is the set of initial states, 2^{AP} is the alphabet, $\delta : \mathcal{Q} \times 2^{AP} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{Q}}$ is a transition relation, and $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{Q}$ is the set of accepting states.

- A path on a Büchi automaton is accepting if it passes through an accepting state infinitely many times.
- For any LTL formula φ over AP , there exists a Büchi automaton over 2^{AP} corresponding to φ [BKL08]

Reachability while avoiding regions $\varphi = \neg\pi_4 \mathcal{U} \pi_5$



Product Automaton

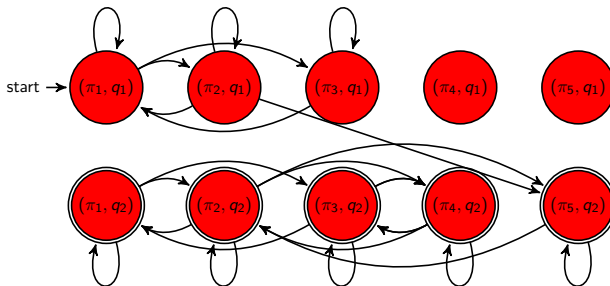
$\mathcal{A}_p = \mathcal{T}_w \otimes \mathcal{A}_\varphi = (Q', \delta', Q'_0, \mathcal{F}', W_p)$, where

$Q' = \Pi \times Q = \{\langle \pi, q \rangle \in Q' \mid \forall \pi \in \Pi, \forall q \in Q\}; \delta' : Q' \rightarrow 2^{Q'}$.

$\langle \pi_j, q_n \rangle \in \delta'(\langle \pi_i, q_m \rangle)$ iff $(\pi_i, \pi_j) \in \rightarrow_c$ and $q_n \in \delta(q_m, L_d(\pi_j))$;

$Q'_0 = \{\langle \pi, q \rangle \mid \pi \in \Pi_0, q_0 \in Q_0\}, \mathcal{F}' = \{\langle \pi, q \rangle \mid \pi \in \Pi, q \in \mathcal{F}\}$

- Also a Büchi automaton



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- We prefer a prefix, suffix structure

$$R = \langle R_{pre}, R_{suf} \rangle = q'_0 q'_1 \dots q'_f [q'_f q'_{f+1} \dots q'_n]^\omega$$

Here is the algorithm currently used in the literature
[Guo15],[FGKGP09],[KB08],[STBR10]

Procedure 1 OptRun() [Guo15]

Input: Input \mathcal{A}_p

Output: R_{opt}

- 1: For initial state $q'_0 \in \mathcal{Q}'_0$, find the optimal path to each $q'_f \in \mathcal{F}$.
 - 2: For each accepting state $q'_f \in \mathcal{F}'$, calculate the optimal path back to q'_f .
 - 3: Find the pair of $(q'_{0,opt}, q'_{f,opt})$ that minimizes the total cost
 - 4: Optimal accepting run R_{opt} , prefix: shortest path from q'_{0*} to q'_{f*} ; suffix: the shortest cycle from q'_{f*} and back to itself.
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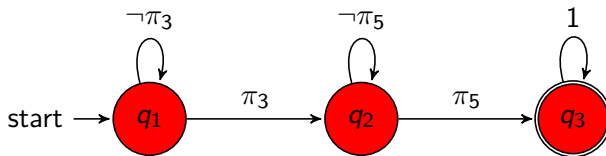
Büchi Distance Measure

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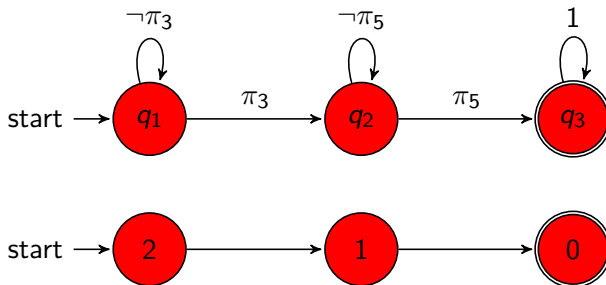
Ex. Sequencing $\diamond(\pi_3 \wedge \diamond\pi_5)$



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Ex. Sequencing $\diamond(\pi_3 \wedge \diamond\pi_5)$



- Denoted $d_p : \mathcal{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, e.g. $d_p(q_2) = 1$

Note: Transitions with $\&\&$ are removed from LTL2BA because regions do not overlap

Our Algorithm

- Motivation for our algorithm: $\mathcal{F}' = \{\langle \pi, q \rangle \mid \pi \in \Pi, q \in \mathcal{F}\}$
- We greedily find the optimal path which reduces the Büchi distance at each step

Procedure 2 GreedyRun()

Input: Input $\mathcal{A}_{p,d}$

Output: R_g

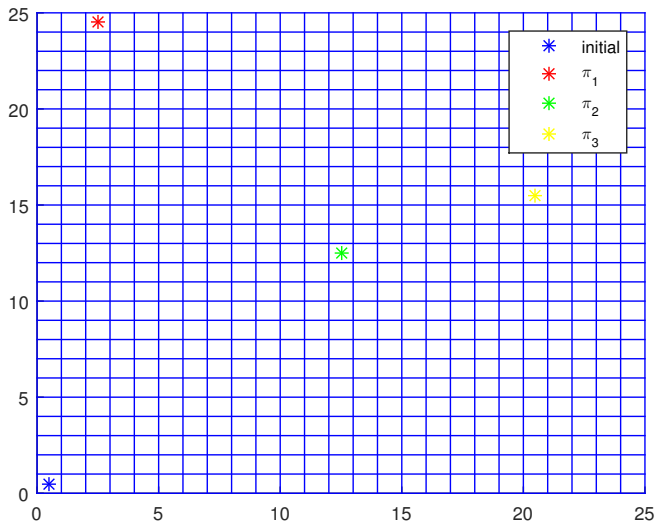
- 1: $LEVEL = d_p(q'_0 \in \mathcal{Q}'_0)$
 - 2: **while** $LEVEL > 0$ **do**
 - 3: find optimal path down to q'_n s.t. $d_p(q'_n) == LEVEL - 1$
 - 4: $Level = Level - 1$
 - 5: Find optimal path from q'_n back to itself
 - 6: Accepting run R_g , prefix: the optimal paths calculated in the while loop concatenated together; suffix: optimal path from q'_n back to itself.
-

Why?

- **We approximate the globally optimal path with a series of locally optimal paths**
- **We sacrifice a degree of optimality for easier computation!**

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Workspace



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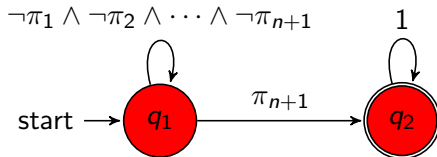


Figure: Büchi automaton corresponding to $\neg(\pi_1 \vee \pi_2 \vee \dots \vee \pi_n) \mathcal{U} \pi_{n+1}$

$$d_p(q_1) = 1 \text{ and } d_p(q_2) = 0$$

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- We look at the sequencing formula $\diamond(\pi_1 \wedge \diamond(\pi_2 \wedge \diamond\pi_3))$

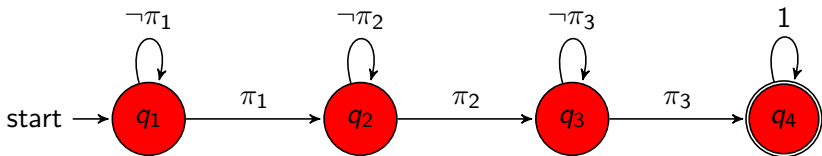


Figure: Büchi Automaton Corresponding to $\diamond(\pi_3 \wedge \diamond\pi_5)$

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