Ph.D. in Computer Science

Professional Experiences

2024 – 2025 Teaching and Research Associate (ATER), Université Paris Cité IRIF - Asv team, Paris

2023 – 2024 **Postdoctoral Researcher - ANR BisoUS**, Université Sorbonne Paris Nord LIPN - LoVE team, Villetaneuse

Keywords Verification, Parametric timed automata, Control, Opacity

Real-timed systems have become ubiquitous in recent years. Checking for errors and avoiding them is paramount. Although tests can be carried out to detect errors, they do not guarantee safety, unlike formal methods such as model-checking. Timed automata and their various extensions are widely used in this context. On the other hand, opacity problems, where the system aims to be opaque enough that an outside observer cannot deduce the actions performed from the execution time, have also been studied in the context of timed automata, whether parametric or not. The problematic here is to takle opacity problems with controlers for (parametric) timed automata.

2022 – 2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher - European project BIOS**, Université Paris-Saclay, INRAE - Micalis lab, Jouy-en-Josas

Keywords Artificial Neural Network, Metabolic Network, Mechanistic Modeling, FBA

In this postdoc, I used active learning for synthetic biology in various projects. In machine learning, we need data to train our models. In synthetic biology, these data are the results of experiments. Having a good set of data is crucial to having a good model, but doing all the possible experiments can be too costly, in terms of time or resources. Active learning is a branch of machine learning that can be used to select the relevant data for training and therefore limit the number of experiments.

2021 – 2022 Teaching and Research Associate (ATER), Université Côte d'Azur I3S - Comred & Mdsc team, Sophia-Antipolis

Education

University

2018 – 2021 **Ph.D. in Computer Science**, *Université Côte d'Azur*, Sophia-Antipolis Laboratoire I3S, COMRED & MDSC teams

Title Synchronizability for distributed systems

Advisors Étienne Lozes, Directeur

Professeur des Universités, Université Côte d'Azur

Cinzia Di Giusto, Co-encadrante

Maîtresse de Conférences, Université Côte d'Azur

Keywords Distributed Systems, Verification, Communicating Automata

Abstract In order to check for errors in distributed systems, they can be modeled as systems of communicating automata. Verification problems such as reachability are undecidable in such a model. Because of that, the use of approximations is necessary. k-synchronizability is one of these techniques. A system is k-synchronizable if, for all executions, there is an equivalent execution that can be divided into phases containing k messages. This thesis contains an analyse of k-synchronizable systems (reachability problem, various cases of membership problem) but also some variations to the definition of k-synchronizability and a comparative study of the state-of-art classes of systems and our new classes.

2016 – 2018 Research Master in Computer Science, Université de Nice Sophia-Antipolis, Nice

Fundamental Computing Research

Title Decidability of synchronizability for mailbox systems

Research Internship Master 2 Laboratoire I3S, MDSC team, Sophia-Antipolis

Advisors Dr. Cinzia Di Giusto & Pr. Étienne Lozes

Abstract We focus on the synchronizability property of distributed systems modelled in communicating automata. A system is synchronizable if its asynchronous behavior is equivalent to the one with synchronous communication, according to their send traces. By reduction to Post's problem, we give an alternative proof of the undecidability of synchronizability for a peer-to-peer system, as well as for systems communicating in mailbox with the addition of final states.

Title Parameter learning for neural networks modeled as timed automata Research Internship Master 1

Laboratoire I3S, MDSC team, Sophia-Antipolis

Advisors Dr. Elisabetta De Maria & Dr. Cinzia Di Giusto

Abstract In this work, biological neurons are formalized as timed automata. The objective is to study the learning of parameters by model checking and by simulation. In the second case, two back-propagation algorithms are defined. We find that by enriching the neuron model, in particular by adding a priority on the algorithm to be applied on each neuron of the system, better results can be achieved.

2013 – 2016 Bachelor Degree in Computer Science, Université de Nice Sophia-Antipolis, Nice

Schools

- 2023 Summer School: Formal Modelling of Biological Regulation Networks (Bioregul), Université Côte d'Azur, Porquerolles, Pr. Jean-Paul COMET
- 2022 School for Young Researchers in Mathematical Informatics (EJCIM), Université Côte d'Azur, Nice, Pr. Bruno MARTIN
- 2018 Summer School: Verification Technology, Systems and Applications, INRIA, Nancy, Dr. Stephan Merz
- 2018 Winter School: Software Verification and Computer Proof, INRIA, Sophia-Antipolis, Dr. Yves BERTOT

Publications

Conferences

2024 Execution-Time Opacity Control for Timed Automata

Étienne André, Marie Duflot, Laetitia Laversa, Engel Lefaucheux In International Conference on Software Engineering and Formal Methods (Rank B) (to be published)

2024 Synchronisability in Mailbox Communication

Cinzia Di Giusto, Laetitia Laversa, Kirstin Peters

In Combined 31th International Workshop on Structural Operational Semantics (to be published)

2023 A Partial Order View of Message-Passing Communication Models

Cinzia Di Giusto, Davide Ferré, Laetitia Laversa, Étienne Lozes In 50th Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages, POPL 2023 (Rank A*), (Vol. 7, p. 1601-1627)

2021 A Unifying Framework for Deciding Synchronizability

Benedikt Bollig, Cinzia Di Giusto, Alain Finkel, Laetitia Laversa, Étienne Lozes, Amrita Suresh

In 32th International Conference on Concurrency Theory, CONCUR 2021 (Rank A) (Vol. 203 of LIPIcs, pp.14:1- 14:18)

2021 Guessing the Buffer Bound for k-synchronizability

Cinzia DI GIUSTO, Laetitia LAVERSA & Étienne LOZES In 25th International Conference of Implementation and Application of Automata, CIAA 2021 (Rank B) (Vol. 12803, p. 102)

2020 On the k-synchronizability of Systems

Cinzia DI GIUSTO, Laetitia LAVERSA & Étienne LOZES In 23th International Conference of Foundations of Software Science and Computation Structures, FOSSACS 2020 (Rank A) (Vol. 12077, p. 157)

Journals

2022 Guessing the Buffer Bound for k-synchronizability

Cinzia DI GIUSTO, Laetitia LAVERSA & Étienne LOZES Long version of CIAA 2021 paper

International Journal of Foundations of Computer Science, 2022 (Vol. 34. 8, p. 1051-1076)

2019 Spiking Neural Networks Modelled as Timed Automata: with Parameter Learning

Elisabetta DE MARIA, Cinzia DI GIUSTO & Laetitia LAVERSA Natural Computing (Vol 19.1, p. 135-155)

Teaching & Supervisions

156h – In Computer Science Departement, Université Paris Cité

Introduction to programming (Python) Licence 1 - 56h (2024)

Introduction to operating system Licence 1 - 52h (2024)

Introduction to software engineering Licence 3 - 48h (2025)

384h – In Computer Science Departement, Université Côte d'Azur

Computer Science Basis Licence 1 - 54h (2018), 40h (2019), 56h (2020), 168h (2021)

Database Licence 2 - 22h (2019), 24h (2021)

Object-oriented Programmation Licence 3 - 18h (2018)

Communication and concurrency Master 1 - 2h (2021)

Supervisions of Research Internship

- 2023 Ambre Picard-Marchetto, M2 Probabilistic Automata, Spiking Neural Networks
- 2022 Davide Ferré, M2 Communicating Systems, Temporal Logic
- 2020 Thomas Portet, M1 Communicating Automata, k-synchronizability

Invited Stay

2020 Laboratoire Spécification et Vérification, Université Paris-Saclay

Collaboration with Pr. Finkel Alain, Pr. Bollig Benedikt and Suresh Amrita (Ph.D. student) during 2 months

Communications

Conferences

2021 Guessing the buffer bound for k-synchronizability CIAA – in remote

2020 On the k-synchronizability of Systems

FOSSACS - in remote

Seminar

- 2024 Safety and security of systems through automata
 - Ph.D. seminar LIPN, Villetaneuse
- 2024 Controller synthesis for opacity problems on timed automata Mefosyloma Lacl, Créteil
- 2024 k-synchronizability for distributed systems Automata Seminar – IRIF, Paris
- 2024 Controller for opacity problems on timed automata 68NQRT IRISA, Rennes
- 2024 Active learning for synthetic biology BCM Seminar – TIMC, Grenoble
- 2023 Active learning for BIOS project BIOS Meeting – Palma de Majorque, Spain

- 2022 Formal methods for distributed systems Liechtenstein meets Côte d'Azur – Sophia-Antipolis
- 2021 Guessing the buffer bound for k-synchronizability GT ALGA in remote
- 2020 Decidability of existentially strong-synchronizability Seminar during invited stay – LSV, Gif-sur-Yvette
- 2020 **Synchronizability for distributed systems** Internal seminar I3S, Sophia-Antipolis
- 2018 Synchronizability for communicating state machines Team day MDSC – I3S, Sophia-Antipolis

Popularizing science

- 2024 "Fête de la science", Université Paris Cité Unplugged computer workshops
- 2020 "Ma thèse en 180 secondes" Explain the context and the aim of our Ph.D. in 3 minutes
- 2018, 2019 **"Fête de la science"**, *Université Côte d'Azur*Games presentations as help for computer science and algorithms introduction

Responsabilities

2020 – 2022 Treasurer of the Association of Ph.D. Students STIC (ADSTIC)

Association of interns, Ph.D. students and post-doctoral fellows of the Sophia-Antipolis STIC campus

- Organisation of social, sporting and scientific events
- Account management and budgeting
- O Support for Ph.D. students in difficulty
- 2021 Member of the organising committee for JFPC 2021
 - Organisational assistance
- 2018 Programming competition

Université de Nice Sophia-Antipolis

- Organisational assistance
- Support for students

Skills

Programming languages and other tools

IATEX, Python, Java, SQL, OPL, Scheme, Netlogo Use of Cplex, Uppaal, CADP, STABC

Languages

French (Mother tongue), English (Fluent), Spanish (Fluent)

References

- Pr. Étienne Lozes, etienne.lozes@unice.fr, 04.89.15.44.00
- Dr. Cinzia Di Giusto, cinzia.digiusto@gmail.com, 04.89.15.43.85
- Dr. Elisabetta De Maria, edemaria@i3s.unice.fr, 04.89.15.43.72