LeadsTo Software

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Abstract

This document describes the LeadsTo software in detail. It starts out as an investigation into details of the algorithm.

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1 LeadsTo core design and implementation

1.1 Introduction

A leadsto specification is encoded as a pl file containing predicates.

1.2 run_simulation/2

Here we describe the main leadsto procedure run_simulation/2, run_simulation(File, Frame) This leadsto specification *File* is loaded into the leadsto runtime:

- 1. The predicates are loaded into module spec.
- 2. After that, all terms in the input file are preprocessed, often leading to asserted dynamic predicates in the current(algo) module.

There seems to be almost no compilation at this stage and it looks like terms in thee spec module often are asserted as facts into algo without any transformation.

Some translation of sortdefs is performed. If a sort contains less than 100 ground terms, it is instantiated, otherwise the sort definition is left as is. This leads to spec:sortdef(Sort, Terms). The source contains a beginning of a new way of encoding sort definitions.

- 3. If the specification contained a model specification, we run each model instance after setting up model parameters. Otherwise we perform a single run.
- 4. Running the specification
 - (a) setup of the runtime (first part of runspec1/0)
 - (b) performing the firing of rules (runspec_rest/0)
- 5. Saving the generated trace

1.3 LeadsTo specifications

1.3.1 Sources for information

The file userman.html contains the documentation for most allowed constructs in LeadsTo specifications.

The file olddoc/syntax.txt also describes the syntax. See section 6.

2 Details

2.1 Times: Handled Time, Setup Time, Start Time, End Time

setuptime, TSetup In practice identical to TStartup, but there are options for defining TSetup to have a value before TStart so that leads to rules could fire for antecedent values before

TStart and use cwa (Atom) derived values to make them fire. The current value of TSetup is stored in dyn_setup_time (TSetup).

handledtime Handled time is initialized by setup_unknown_or_cwa/2 to TStart. There is an additional implied condition on handled time: "You should never ask for values before TSetup" and "All atoms that have no explicit trace entry before THandled have value false if cwa, unknown otherwise".

starttime, TStart Start time. The algorithm uses TSetup, but TStart still plays a role, when storing traces, only values at/after TStart are saved. ² TStart is stored as dyn_start_time(TStart), but only called through start_time/1.

endtime If not specified there currently is a default of 200 (see end_time/1)

TSetup and TSetup are set up in do_setup_time (TStart, TSetup). They may contain specification constants. 3

HandledTime is incremented in handled_time_step/1 and runspec_rest/0 ensures that at the end of the leadsto algorithm HandledTime >= Endtime.

2.2 Traces

2.2.1 Datastructures

Traces are stored as Prolog facts, each fact represents values of a single ground atom. Values of an atom over time are represented as a list:

```
[range(23.0, 24.0, true), range(17, 18, true)]
```

The ranges are ordered, the latest time range first. During the execution of our leadsto algorithm, only necessary values are stored, unknown ranges or false ranges where <code>cwa(Atom)</code> holds are not part of the trace.

In saved traces all values are represented. Saved traces will only contain atom values in the range start_time to end_time. The leadsto algorithm may derive values outside of that range. 4

2.2.2 Algorithm Variables

dyn_sim_status(*File*, *Status*)

says in what stage of loading and running the algo algorithm is. *Status* is loaded, running or done

¹ We had command line options setup_maxg and setup_maxfg for that purpose that would introduce TSetup based on the maximum leadsto rule values for f and g. But the sourcecode says this is not supported. So, in practice TStart == TSetup

²TODO:check this!

³In do_setup_times/2 the values are passed through tr_basic_element (Term, [], TermOut) that will substitute spec:constant (Name, Val) occurrences. See section 3.1.

⁴ TODO: We should discuss alternatives:

^{1.} Why not save only necessary values in saved traces?

^{2.} If saving everything, why not compact the timerange? [range(T1, T2, TFU1), range(T2, T3, TFU3), ...] into [T1-TFU1, T2-TFU2, ... TE-[]]

dyn_currently_loaded(Kind, File)

says what File is loaded and what Kind, where Kind is trace or sim.

2.2.3 Loading and Trace Generation

load_simulation(+File)

The specification *File* is loaded into module spec. The source code seems somewhat complex: The module spec is set up, discontinues/1 directives are generated for all leads to specification terms, the terms are read from *File* and asserted one by one into the spec module.

Command line constants are added to module spec (see section 3.1).

Then, the leadsto specification is read one more time, and each Term is passed on to handle_term/1. Most terms are handled by asserting dynamic facts into module algo. Some of those are 1-1 translations, others are not.

model (Model) is translated into dyn_model (Model), after checking that there is only one such term.

cwa (F/A) is translated into dyn_cwa (FunctorTerm).

The most interesting things happen with interval leadsto specification terms and leadsto rule terms. Interval rules are converted into two standard forms and stored by initialise_interval/3 and initialise_interval_periodic/4.

handle_term/1 itself simply assertz leadsto rules into dyn_leadsto(RuleId, Vars, Antecedent, Consequent, Delay) facts. setup_leadsto/6 processes these facts further in runspec1/0 at algorithm startup.

Finally update_sorts/0 performs some pre compilation of sort definitions. ⁵

initialise_interval(+*Range*, +*Vars*, +*LiteralConjunction*)

Handles initial setup of all non-periodic interval rules. In this phase the predicate asserts dyn_interval(i(Range, Vars, LiteralConjunction). setup_rt_intervals/0 processes the terms further at algorithm startup.

initialise_interval_periodic(+Range, +Period, +Vars, +LiteralConjunction)

the predicate asserts dyn_interval(i(Range, Period, Vars, LiteralConjunction). setup_rt_intervals/0 processes the terms further in runspec1/0 at algorithm startup. initialise_interval/3 and initialise_interval_periodic/4 deal with them.

Leadstorule terms are translated into dyn_leadsto(I, Vars, LitDisConj, AndLiterals, Delay) facts

- What terms are used? Are they spec:sortdef/2 and spec:sortdef/4?
- What is the role of dyn_sortdef/5?
- Are constants somehow substituted into sortdef elements?

Question surrounding load_simulation/1:

• Why is the leadsto specification scanned twice. The terms will be probably be walked through even one more time to set up the algorithm.

⁵ TODO: It is unclear what happens to sortdefs at this stage. Questions are:

load_simulation/1 sets dyn_sim_status (File, loaded).

reset_sim_info

clears the content of spec together with other run time information.

runshowspec(+Frame)

Two parts, runspecdo/1 and show_results/2.

runspecdo(+Frame)

(Functionality in runspec/1). If we are dealing with a model, we initialize the output trace common to all model traces, then for each model instantiation we call runmodel/4 that does runspec1/0 and cleans up after itself for the next runmodel/4.

If there is no model/1, we call runspec1/0 followed by savetrace/1.

runspec1

This procedure calls do_setup_time/2 that sets up TSetup and TStart.

In runspec/1 we perform: setup_rt_intervals/0, setup_unknown_or_cwa/2, setup_leadsto/6 for each leadsto rule dyn_leadsto/5, get_model_checking_p_rules/0 (??), setup_atom_state_boundaries/0 and finally do the real reasoning in runspec_rest/0.

setup_rt_intervals

For every dyn_interval/1 term we perform init_interval_callbacks/10 where all but the first three arguments are callback variables or callback predicates.

The setting of the interval rules does some detailed steps such as variable instantiation. Finally this leads to changes to dyn_atom_trace/3. See

setup_leadsto(+TStart, +Vars, +Antecedent, +Consequent, +Delay, +RId)

(Called by runspec1/0). It translates and transforms the rule using init_interval_callbacks/10, calls setup_lt_internalL/5 then which simply calls setup_lt_internal/6. That predicate simplifies Antecedent and Consequent terms using simplify_term/4. In some cases the rules simplify to specifying constant Antecedents. Other cases are passed on to setup_nontrivial_leadsto/5. It stores the compiled leadsto rule as dyn_lt_rule(Id, AnteLits, ConseRId, PVOutC, Delay, RId) but also does initial firing and instantiation the leadsto rule data structures by calling setup_lt/6 which calls setup_lt_normed/8.

init_interval_callbacks(TmInf, Vars, Forms, TmInf1, Vars1, Forms2, InvldVars, InvldTimeInfo, ActPreInsttiated) is used for setting up interval rules and leadsto rules. It instantiates variables, also takes care of foral1/2 terms(instantiates them).

Traces are generated by the main algorithm in module algo. They are internally stored as dyn_atom_trace (AtomKey, Atom, AtomTrace) facts. For performance reasoning traces that can no longer play a role in the algorithm are backed up into dyn_atom_trace_backup/3 facts. 6

2.2.4 Saving traces

Traces are saved in two stages by

```
savetracesetup(+File, +Frame, -Telling)
```

Saves constants and sets up trace storage stream.

```
savetrace1(+TraceName)
```

Saves the trace itself. (If *TraceName* is [], trace will not have trace id.)

savemodelspec_cleanup(-TellStream, +ModelInstanceTraceName)

If the *leadsto specification* contains a model, the separate model instances saved.

3 Details

3.1 Constants

One can define *specification constants* constants that will be substituted into leadsto specification elements. Within a leadsto specification we use:

```
constant (Name, Value).
```

From the command line one can specify —constant Name=Value. This adds a constant to the specification. Value must be a valid ground Prolog term.

set_option_constant/1 handles this by asserting dyn_add_cmd_constant/2.

util:load_cmd_constants/O loads those constants into module spec as constant(Name, Value) facts.

Constants are substituted by the procedure tr_basic_element(Term, [], TermOut). Constants are stored as spec:constant(Name, Val) values.

3.2 Model Checking

The source contains code labelled *model checking*. I do not remember whether this code ever worked. I seem to remember I tried converting the leadsto model into some state based form.

Makefile contains an example call of using modelchecking:

```
./leadsto -local -modelchecking spec/heartn.lt
```

The only visible result seems to be some debugging info on the screen.

A first look at the code in *modelchecking.pl* does not make anything clear yet.

There is a document olddocs/modelchecking.doc that may provide background. I fear that the code that is still present in algo.pl never really did anything.

⁶TODO:I seem to remember that at places in the algorithm we depend on there either being dyn_atom_trace/3 or dyn_atom_trace_backup/3.

3.3 recwait

Within algo the two choices for representing algorithm state are mixed too much with the rest of the code. recwait/0 is the switch between storage as recorded and storage as a dynamic clause. Sometimes code seems to be copy/pasted. But, it seems that backtracking in the recorded database and backtracking in the asserted database works differently, see update_activity_times1/1.

3.4 Following the progress of leadsto rules

We start with setup_leadsto/6 where the arguments are almost identical to the values in the Leadsto specification.

setup_leadsto(TStart, Vars, LitDisConj, AndLiterals, Delay,RId)

where the arguments are almost identical to the values in the Leadsto specification. Then init_interval_callbacks/9 transforms some constructs such as forall.

After a number of steps involving normalizing conjunctions and disjunctions ⁷ and partial evaluation pruning out true and false results, setup_lt/6 is called.

setup_lt(Ante, Conse, Vars, Delay, Id, RId)

The encoding of the antecedent is responsible for generating code. If a Term is a comparison operator, code is generated for that, if a term is an arithmetic expression, code is also generated.

We pass on some (incomplete) data structures within setup_lt/6. code_form/4 uses ds_d(AnteResult, VarsIn, PVIn) and ds_d(AnteTail, VarsOut, PVOut). AnteResult is a difference list. Therefore often AnteTail is set to [].

setup_lt/6 calls setup_lt_normed/8. The result is stored as dyn_lt_rule(Id, AnteLits, ConseRId, PVOutC, Delay, RId) but more important, setup_lt_normed/8 is called, it leads to setup_lt_wait_var/12.

code_form(+AnteConse, +PosNeg:[pos, neg], DIn, DOut)

code_form/4 is used for Ante and Conse.

Each AnteConseTerm is translated as a list element in AnteResult. L = ds_litd(Atom, PosNeg, PreOps, PostOps, PostConds) where Atom can be true or any other value. It seems that its translated value is not tested in any way.

Within code_form/4,tr_arg_prolog1(Term, PVIn, Term1, Inst, DSTAIn, DSTAOut) is used where

```
DSTAIn = ds_ta(VIn, PVIn, [], [], []),
...
DSTAOut = ds_ta(VOut, PVOut, PreOpsOut, PostOpsOut, PostCondsOut),
```

Inst should result in Inst == inst.

tr_arg_prolog1(Term, PVIn, Term1, Inst, DSTAIn, DSTAOut)

tr_arg_prolog1/6 translates leadsto variables into Prolog variables, their relationship is stored and retrieved in PVIn/PVOut, by var_pl_to_var_list/6 and var_pl_from_var_list/5.

⁷TODO: Verify whether disjunction is allowed

The first encounter of a leadsto variable in a code_form/4 has Inst= next, a later one gets Inst = inst. Inst values can be inst, next, var, mixed.

tr_arg_prolog1/6 is also responsible for substituting spec_constants. 8

code_conse(Conse, VOut, PVOut, Id, ConseRId, PVOutC)

translates Conse through code_form/4, but true ConseLits are removed. 9

The consequent is encoded as $ds_cr(ConseLits, ds_ri(Id))$, but pxor consequents are treated differently. 10 .

setup_lt_normed(AnteTODO, AnteHolds, TMin, THolds, ConseRId,PV, Delay, Removed)

We know AnteHolds holds in range *TMin*, *THolds*, we need to continue with *AnteTODO*. If *AnteTODO* becomes [],

setup_lt_conse(AnteHolds, TMin, THolds, ConseRId, Delay, Removed) is called. Otherwise, setup_lt_notground/9 is called which calls setup_lt_notground_fv/13 after setting up the free variable arguments.

setup_lt_conse(AnteHolds, TMin, THolds, ConseRId, Delay, Removed)

We The whole **TMin** know antecedent holds between and THolds. If Tholds >= TMin + G, we calculate T3 is TMin + G + DelayT4 is THolds + Delay + H and schedule_fire(ConseRId, T3, T4) and dyn_schedule_fire(ConseRId, T3, T4). 11 They are fired by the repeat, set_state, handle_fired sequence in runspec_rest/0. 12 After schedule_fire/3 we do setup_lt_wait_fired/6. If THolds < TMin + G we call setup_lt_wait_true/5.

setup_lt_wait_fired/6 stores a wait_fired/5 fact. 13

TODO: Looking at the code, it seems that we do not reorder the AnteLiterals depending on intermediate results.

4 Working backwards

Meaning, trying to reconstruct the algorithm from the start.

4.1 Leadsto times e, f, q, h

We limited e, f, g, h:e,f, g, h >= 0 and if h == 0 then g must be 0. But also, e + f + g + h > 0. 14 e, f, g, h:

 $^{^8}$ TODO: Check whether Atoms could end up as Prolog variables, look at code_atom/4 where Inst is ignored in the code. Can Inst be var or mixed there?

⁹(TODO: why not from Ante?).

¹⁰TODO

¹¹I left out details dealing with pxor aspects. What is the reason for schedule_fire/3, why postpone?

¹²Why not fire immediately?

¹³It is confusing that two implementations of this waiting are present in the code, depending on the recwait/0 switch.

¹⁴Why those requirements? We probably do not want to reason without delay.

Once an antecedent holds for duration g + T, a delay is set between e and f, and the antecedent will hold during h + T. So, even if a rule has fired, we need to remember that it has fired and as long as the antecedent may continue to hold, the consequent will be propagated for a longer time.

4.2 Invariant

HandledTime: Everything that can be derived, has been derived for T <= HandledTime. CWA atom values do not have to be instantiated, probably will not be instantiated to false values.

4.3 Sketch of the algorithm

All rules that could still fire are inspected, their antecedent effect is exhaustively tested up to HandledTime at least.

After everything has fired, we inspect all waiting antecedents, and look at time their first result could come in. And the minimum value becomes the next HandledTime, unless this minimum value is not after HandledTime (could it be smaller?). It looks like the algorithm currently simply gives up if there is a rule that could fire at HandledTime.

It is probably important that together with setting HandledTime, every rule that has some continuation has its effect propagated till the new HandledTime.

This would make the invariant more precise: Every rule has its state updated in such a way that the antecedents have been checked up to the new HandledTime.

4.4 Rule States

Rules can contain variables, that is, antecedent literals can have variables. There can be more than one separate states per rule.

It could be that the first N literals of the antecedent with some specific instantiation are valid in some time range T1 - T2.

We will look strictly left to right.

But, the extending of the fired rules is done in reverse, why? Probably because we wish to extend the range as far as possible.

4.5 Garbage collection

Is complex and not documented. In the source some explanation is given, olddocs/bugdev.txt also contains some explanation.

4.6 Understanding

Finally setup_wait_var is called with Atom, FV, FVL values implying that FV from FVL has been handled, but we need to check other instantiations.

setup_lt_notground_fv(+*TStart*, +*FV*, +*FVL*, +*LitData*, +*ToDoAnte*, +*AnteHolds*, +*THolds*, +*ConseRId*, +*PV*, +*Delay*, -*AnteHolds* holds for Time Interval between *TStart* and *THolds*. *ToDoAnte* is the conjunction that needs to hold. *LitData* is the Literal under investigation. *FV* are the free variables of the Literal and *FVL* is a list of instantiations that have been dealt with elsewhere.

Delay is efgh (E, F, G, H), ConseRId is the consequent.

Removed indicates the source of the call. In case of update_activity_time1(wait_var...), the wait_var term is Removed and the Removed is propagated along.

PV is probably the characterization of the variables:pv (Arga, Sorta, Kinda, Argla).

FV, fv are abreviations of Free Variables (Prolog variables).

setup_lt_notground_fv/13 is called by setup_lt_notground/9, it by setup_lt_normed/8, it by setup_lt/6. setup_lt/6 is called setup_nontrivial_leadsto/5. setup_lt_normed/8 instantiate_op/16 add_default_cwa/17) called (called in fail_filter_handleRR/16, part of filter_defaults_handle_others/14 in setup_lt_notground_fv/13.

We probably handle the rule in this call up to HandledTime.

Now, if at the call <code>THolds < HandledTime</code>, we start all over, for this partially instantiated sequence of literals by calling <code>get_new_tholds/15</code>. Apparently the order of literals is reversed here. <code>get_new_tholds</code> is called here and by <code>get_new_tholds</code> itself.

If THolds \geq HandledTime setup_lt_notground_fv/13 analyses the current LitData first for all AtomTraces and all cwa matches, handles those separately by check_fire_isolated or setup_lt_normed. All those instantiations of FV handled separately are added to FVL and we finally call setup_lt_notground1default/12 that calls setup_lt_wait_var/12.

get_new_tholds(AnteHoldsTODO, AHDone, TStart, THoldsNew1, Tholds,FV, FVL, LitData, ToDoAnte, ConseRId,PV,DelCalled by setup_lt_notground_fv/13 and by get_new_tholds/15 itself.

AnteHoldsTODO is an earlier instantiated sequence of literals that needs to be extended in range up to *THandled* (or further?). AHDone is the sequence that has been checked and hold between *TStart* and *THoldsNew1*. *Tholds* is the result. ¹⁵

Be aware that in get_new_tholds/15 the Atom in [ds_lh(lit(Atom,PN),Id1,IdTerm1)|AnteHoldsTODO] is ground, and has nothing to do with FV and FVL.

First, if AnteHoldsTODO == [], we continue with setup_lt_notground_fv/13 with the increased time interval. Otherwise we follow *AnteHoldsTODO* Literals.

NEXT: What does find_min_range_ground(Atom, PN, Tholds, O2) do? Probably: Inspect Literal starting from Tholds.

setup_lt_wait_var(FV, FVL, LitData, ToDoAnte, AnteHolds, TMin, THolds, ConseRId, PV, Delay, Id, IdTerm)
Probably: We know AnteHolds is ok between TMin and THolds. LitData is the current literal that has been analyzed. FV are the free variables in the Literal, FVL is the list of instantiations of FV that have been dealt with, for which this setup is not responsible at all. Called by setup_lt_notgroundldefault/12 (same arguments) which is only called as last call in setup_lt_notground_fv/13.

TODO: Really nail down the meaning of wait_var, also at what stage are what values for *TMin* and *THolds* set. TODO: Will wait_vars become invalidated? Inspect get_new_tholds.

¹⁵TODO: Details of Tholds, is this a return parameter?

5 So far

Try documenting the whole data structure that describes the state of each leadsto rule first. All invariants, the understanding of having every possible outcome of a leadsto rule represented.

At what stage the HandledTime invariant is. Understanding the get_new_tholds, the reverse is on purpose as that is part of the invariant, having a partial instantiation left to right.

After that, try understanding the cleanup efforts of wait_var.

6 "Syntax" of Leadsto Specifications

Copied from syntax.txt:

```
The leadsto input syntax is prolog syntax, but with the
following added/changed operator definitions.
(For input of leadsto specs in prolog, the : redefinition is
 awkward. I do a push/pop operator call for reading)
                        op (150, xfx, :),
                        op (700, xfy, <),
                        op (700, xfy, <=),
                        op (700, xfy, =<),
                        op (700, xfy, >),
                        op(700, xfy, >=)
                        1).
Currently, only the top level terms are described. I am working
on syntax (+minimal explanation of semantics) of the top level
terms, but especially the sub terms.
sub terms:
% VAR:PLPCE:
    VAR, in principle, a prolog term, although Uppercase atoms
    are allowed. Quotes around atoms are allowed.
     TODO: are unquoted uppercase functors allowed?
     e.g. P(a) TODO: what are further restrictions and
     interpretations of PLPCE terms TODO: junk this stupid
     name "PLPCE".
% start_time(PLPCE)
% end_time(PLPCE)
% global_lambda(PLPCE)
TODO: why those qterms?
% qterm(cwa(X))
                       cwa_node
```

```
% qterm(external(X)) external_node
% qterm(X) ...
                       other_node
% display(_,_)
% display_number_range(_,_,_,_)
% periodic(Vars, Range, Period:PLPCE, Formula) is_list(Vars)
                 * handle_interval(Vars, Range, Formula, Root, Son, Extra)
% periodic(ST, ET, Period:PLPCE, Formula)
                 * handle_interval([], range(ST, ET), Formula, Root, Son, Extra),
% periodic(Vars, ST, ET, Period:PLPCE, Formula)
                 * handle_interval(Vars, range(ST, ET), Formula, Root, Son, Extra)
% interval(Vars, ST, ET, Formula)
                 * handle_interval(Vars, Range, Formula, Root, _Son, Extra)
% interval(Vars, ST, ET, Formula)
                 * handle_interval(Vars, range(ST, ET), Formula, Root, _Son, Extra)
% interval(ST, ET, Formula)
                 * handle_interval([], range(ST, ET), Formula, Root, Son, Extra)
% leadsto(AnteFormula, ConseFormula, Delay)
        * handle_leadsto1(Root, AnteFormula, ConseFormula, Delay, Extra, _Son)
% leadsto(Vars, AnteFormula, ConseFormula, Delay)
        * handle_leadsto1(Root, AnteFormula, ConseFormula, Delay, Extra, Son)
% specification(_)
                   * IGNORED
% content(C)
                * TODO? assertz(dyn_content(C))
% denotes (Header, Formula)
                  * term_to_formula_node(Formula, FormulaNode, Extra),
                new(PN, property_def_node(@off)),
                send(PN, fill_header, Header),
                send (PN, son, Formula Node),
                send(Root, son, PN)
% (sort_element(SortName:PLPCE, Term):- member(Term2, List) with Term==Term2
                * test_sort_def(SortName, List, Extra),
        ensure_sort_son(Root, SortName1, SNode),
        add_sort_contents(SNode, List).
% constant (Name, Value)
  * check_constant(Name, Value),
        send(Root, son, new(N, constant_def_node)),
        send(N, fill_header, Name),
        send(N, fill_value, Value)
% sortdef(SortName:PLPCE, Objs)
  * test_sort_def(SortName, Objs, Extra),
        send(Root, son, new(SN, sort_node)),
        send(SN, change_gui_prop, sort_name, SortName1),
        add_sort_contents(SN, Objs).
```

```
% cwa(PLPCE)
% model(PLPCE)
% [specification_element]
* generic node
```