



StocHy: automated verification of stochastic processes

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TACAS 2019

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Introduction

uk.reuters.com

**Exclusive: Data shows angle of attack
similar in Boeing 737 crashes...**

engadget.com

**Report: Boeing's crucial 737 Max
safety analysis was flawed**



Sensor Cited as Potential Factor in Boeing Crashes Draws Scrutiny

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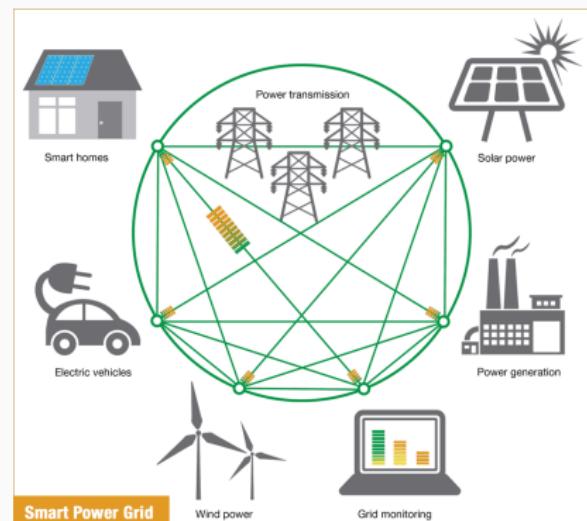


Sensor Cited as Potential Factor in Boeing Crashes Draws Scrutiny

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System dynamics:

- complex continuous dynamics
- discrete modes
- uncertainty

Specifications:

- can be formally defined

stochastic hybrid systems + formal methods

Introduction

Problems:

- complexity with modelling **Stochastic Hybrid Systems**
- undecidability of verification or synthesis problems
- curse of dimensionality

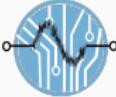
A new software tool



Introduction: Related work

Tool	continuous variables	discrete variables	time	scope
 The Modest Toolset	deterministic	multiple	continuous	modelling & verification & JANI support
 Storm	-	multiple	continuous or discrete	probabilistic model checking
	-	multiple	continuous or discrete	probabilistic model checking
FAUST ²	stochastic	single	discrete	probabilistic reachability analysis

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FAUST ²	stochastic	single	discrete	probabilistic reachability analysis
 Stochy	stochastic	multiple	discrete	probabilistic reachability, simulation

Introduction: Contribution

verification

- abstraction based
- novel algorithm with tighter bounds and more scalability



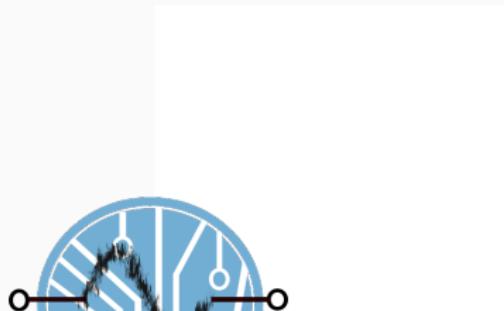
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synthesis

- abstraction based
- optimisation via sparse matrices



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- automatically generates statistics
- visualisation via time varying histograms



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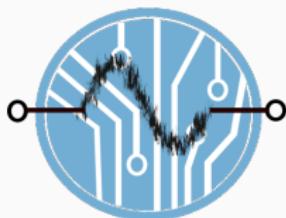
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Stochy



features

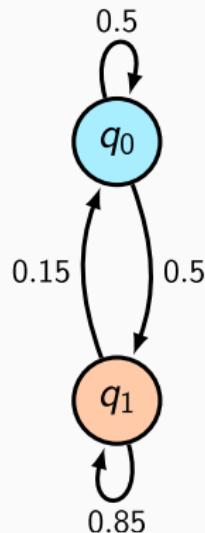
- modular
- C++ implementation
- extendable
- multiple options

Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

An example of a simple SHS :

2 modes $\mathcal{Q} = \{q_0, q_1\}$

$$T_q = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.15 & 0.85 \end{bmatrix}$$



Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

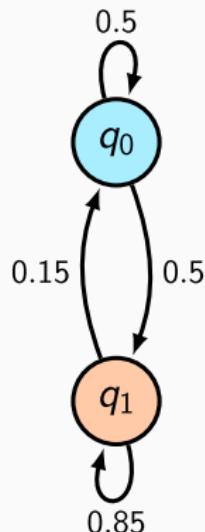
An example of a simple SHS :

2 continuous variables $n = 2$
0 control actions $\mathcal{U} = \emptyset$

$$x_{k+1} = F_{q_i}(x_k) + \sum_{q_i} w_k$$

$$w_k \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

$$T_x = \mathcal{N}(F_{q_i}(x_k), \Sigma_{q_i})$$



$$x_{1,k+1} = -0.5x_{1,k} + 0.1w_{1,k}$$

$$x_{2,k+1} = \cos(x_{1,k} + 0.8x_{2,k}) + w_{2,k}$$

$$x_{1,k+1} = 0.7x_{1,k} + 0.2x_{2,k} + w_{1,k}$$

$$x_{2,k+1} = 0.1x_{1,k}x_{2,k} + 2w_{2,k}$$

a discrete-time **stochastic hybrid system** (SHS) is

$$\mathcal{H} = (\mathcal{Q}, n, \mathcal{U}, T_x, T_q), \quad \text{where}$$

- $\mathcal{Q} = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m\}$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$ is a finite set of modes
- $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is the dimension of the continuous space \mathbb{R}^n of each q
the hybrid state space is then $\mathcal{D} = \cup_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \{q\} \times \mathbb{R}^n$
- \mathcal{U} is a continuous set of actions, e.g. \mathbb{R}^ν
- T_q is the discrete transition probability kernel
- T_x is the continuous transition probability kernel

Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

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How do we analyse and reason over SHS?

Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

- SHS evolve over uncountable space
 - need to perform abstractions
- quantitative and finite abstractions into Markov processes
- characterised by a state space, transition probabilities and (possibly) actions
- two different abstract models:
 - Markov Decision processes (MDP)
 - Interval Markov Decision process (IMDP)
- handles complex reachability properties
- can handle time bounded and unbounded properties

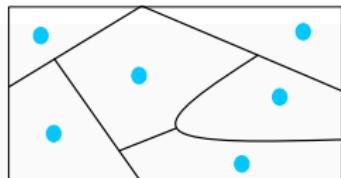
Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

abstraction into MDP

- define desired abstraction error
- grid state-space (uniform or adaptive)
- compute transition probabilities via marginalisation
- hinges on computation of Lipschitz constants (h_s) of transition kernel
- N -step error

$$\varepsilon = h_s \delta \mathcal{L}(A) N$$

δ max diameter of partition, $\mathcal{L}(A)$
volume of set



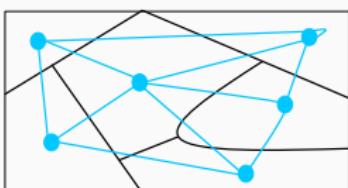
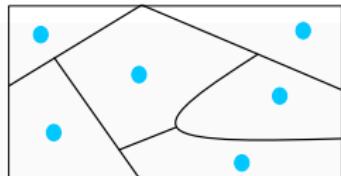
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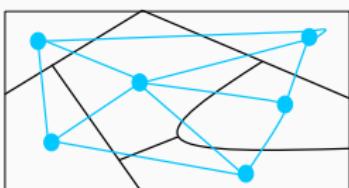
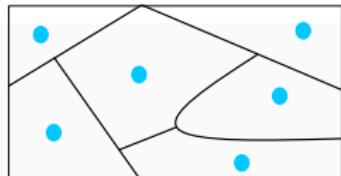
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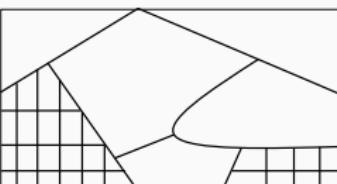
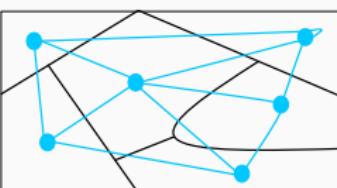
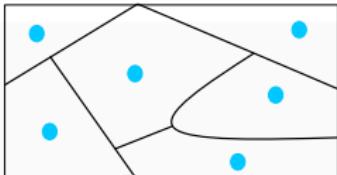
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Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

abstraction into IMDP

- discretise state space
- quantify abstraction error
- embed error as uncertainty
- compute exact min $\check{p}(q)$ and max $\hat{p}(q)$ transition probabilities for each state q
- tighter error bounds

$$\varepsilon = \hat{p}(q) - \check{p}(q)$$

Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

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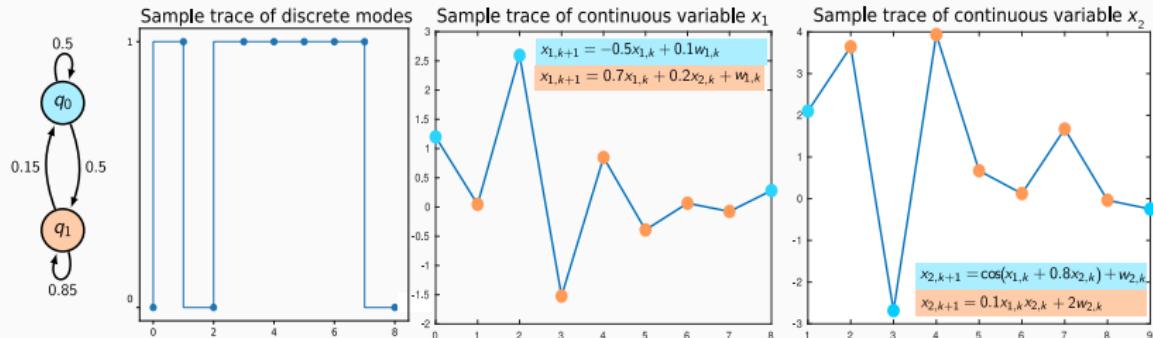
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Theory: Models, Abstractions, Simulations

simulation of SHS:



- we employ Monte Carlo techniques for simulation
- over a fixed time horizon
- construct histograms at each time step

Overview of StocHy

installation

1. obtain dependencies by running: `get_dep.sh`
2. run stochy by executing: `run.sh`

tested on machines under Linux OS

Overview of Stochy

installation

1. obtain dependencies by running: `get_dep.sh`
2. run stochy by executing: `run.sh`

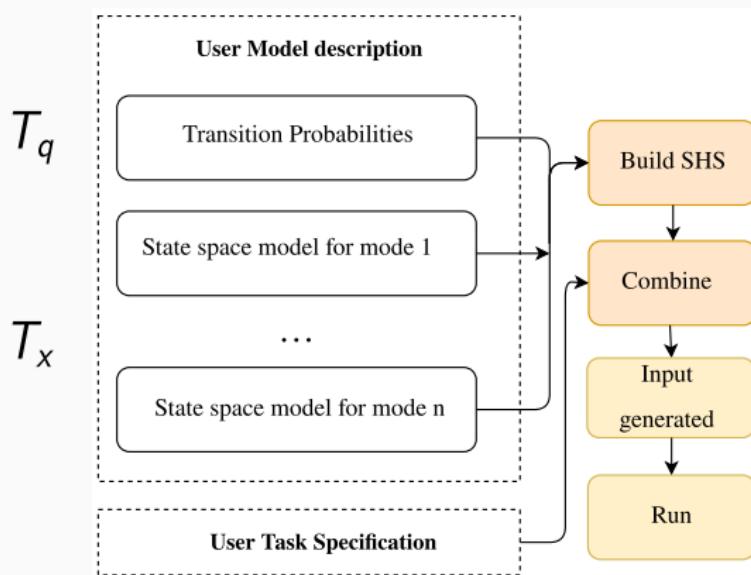
tested on machines under Linux OS

modularity

- comprises of **independent libraries** for different tasks :
 1. MDP
 2. IMDP
 3. simulator
- allows for seamless **extensions** with new or existing tools and methods

Overview of StocHy

user interaction via: `main`



Overview of StocHy

techniques for optimisation

- vector algebra for efficient handling of linear operations
- sparse matrices
- uses `armadillo` which applies multi-threading for speed up
- easy evaluation of stochastic kernels via symbolic methods

Overview of StocHy

techniques for optimisation

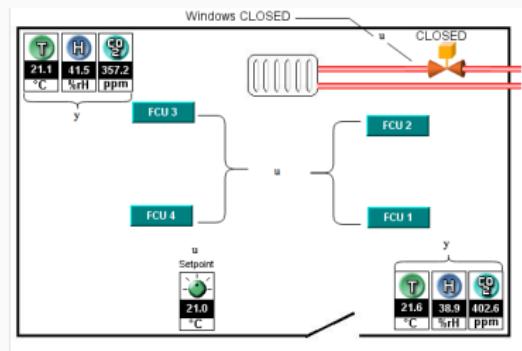
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- easy evaluation of stochastic kernels via symbolic methods

output interface

- summary of results in command line
- python scripts for plot generation
- store results in data files
- option export to PRISM or STORM

Case studies

- inspired from our smart buildings laboratory
- mixed digital controls & continuous processes
- models with different trade-offs of complexities
- set of benchmarks presented at ADHS'18¹



¹Benchmarks for stochastic models from building automation systems; N Cauchi, A Abate
IFAC-PapersOnLine 51 (16), 49-54

Case study 1: formal verification

model CO_2 and temperature dynamics in a zone

- 1 discrete mode, 2 continuous variables, no control action
- continuous variable evolve according to

$$x_{1,k+1} = x_{1,k} + \frac{\Delta}{V}(-\rho_m x_{1,k} + \rho_c(C_{out} - x_{1,k})) + \sigma_1 w_{1,k}$$

$$x_{2,k+1} = x_{2,k} + \frac{\Delta}{C_z}(\rho_m C_{pa}(T_{set} - x_{2,k}) + \frac{\rho_c}{R}(T_{out} - x_{2,k})) + \sigma_2 w_{2,k}$$

x_1 : zone CO_2 level

x_2 : zone temperature level

$\sigma(\cdot)$: variance of noise $w_{\cdot,k} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

$\rho(\cdot)$: fixed air flow

C_{out} : outside CO_2 level

T_{set} : set temperature

T_{out} : outside temperature

Case study 1: formal verification

model CO_2 and temperature dynamics in a zone

- 1 discrete mode, 2 continuous variables, no control action
- continuous variable evolve according to

$$X_{k+1} = AX_k + F + GW_k$$

task to check for zone comfort

- check if CO_2 and temperature levels remain within

$$\varphi_1 := \square^{\leq K} ([405, 540] \times [18, 24])$$

- verification task via MDP library

Case study 1: formal verification

implementation:

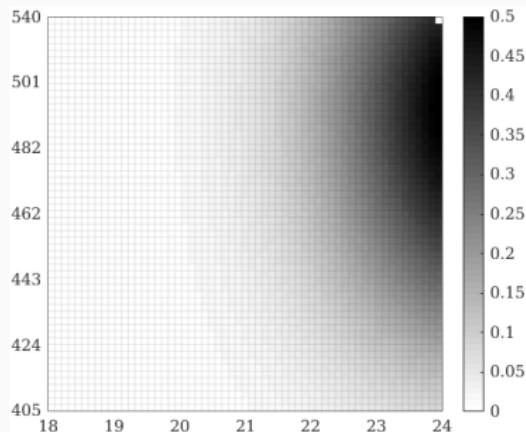
1. define state-space model
 - directly within main file
 - read from .mat file
2. define task as **verification** using MDP with $k = 3$

```
1 // Dynamics definition
2 arma::mat Aq0 = {{0.935, 0},{0, 0.9157}};
3 arma::mat Fq0 = {{0.03},{0.11}};
4 arma::mat Gq0 = {{1.7820, 0},{0, 0.5110}};
5 ssmodels_t model(Aq0,Fq0,Gq0);
6 shs_t<arma::mat,int> cs1SHS(model);
7 // safe set
8 arma::mat safe = {{405,540},{18,24}};
9 // task spec
10 taskSpec_t mySpec(mdp,3,verify_safety,
11 safe,eps,uniform);
12 //combine
13 inputSpec_t<arm::mat,int>
14     myInput(mySHS,mySpec);
15 //run
16 performtask(myInput);
```

main file

results:

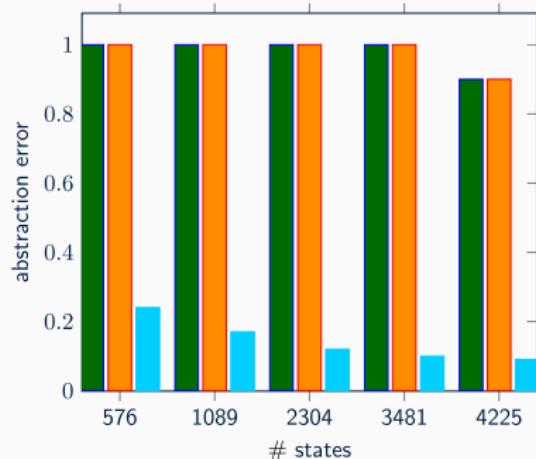
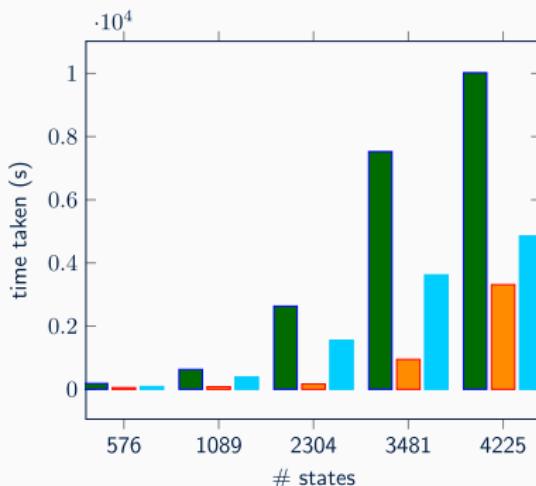
- maximal safety probability: 0.5
- total number of states: 3481
- computational time: 946.29 [s]



probability of satisfiability

comparison:

- repeated verification using both abstraction methods
- varied maximal abstraction error
- benchmarked against FAUST²



■ FAUST² (Matlab) ■ MDP (C++) ■ IMDP (C++)

Case study 2: strategy synthesis

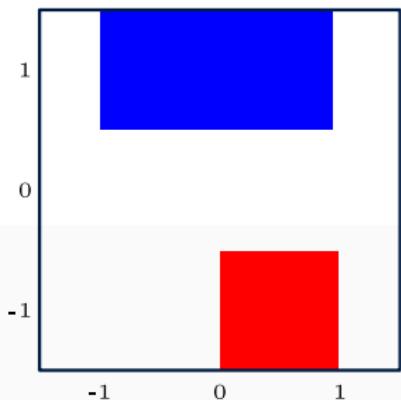
switched mode model

- 2 discrete modes: $\mathcal{Q} = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- 2 continuous variables evolve according to:

$$X_{k+1} = A_{q_i} X_k + G_{q_i} W_k$$

$$A_{q_0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.43 & 0.52 \\ 0.65 & 0.12 \end{bmatrix} \quad G_{q_0} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.1 \\ 0 & 0.1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_{q_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.65 & 0.12 \\ 0.52 & 0.43 \end{bmatrix} \quad G_{q_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.2 \end{bmatrix}$$



Case study 2: strategy synthesis

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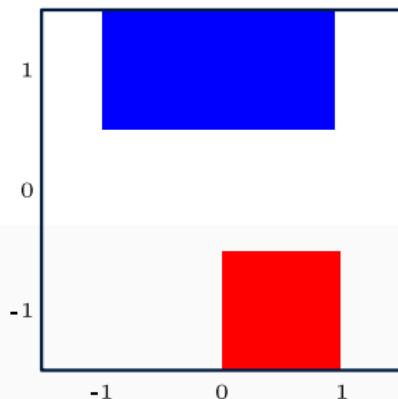
$$X_{k+1} = A_{q_i} X_k + G_{q_i} W_k$$

constrained reachability

- optimal strategy to satisfy

$$\varphi_2 := (\neg \text{red}) \cup \text{blue}$$

- synthesis task via IMDP library



Case study 2: strategy synthesis

implementation:

1. define state-space model
 - directly within main file
 - read from .mat file
2. define task as **synthesis** using IMDP

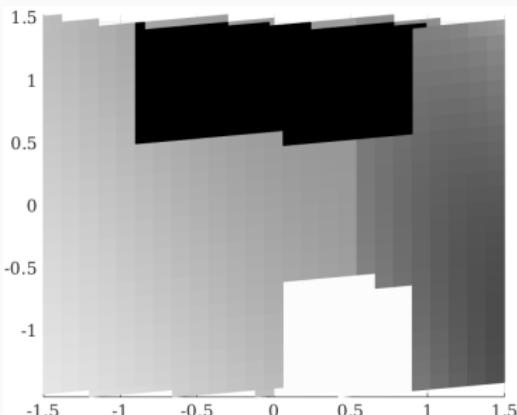
```
1 // Dynamics definition
2 shs_t<arma::mat,int>
3           mySHS('..../CS2.mat');
4 // domain
5 arma::mat bound = {{-1.5, 1.5}, {-1.5,
6 1.5}};
7 // Define grid size for each dimension
8 arma::mat grid = {{0.12, 0.12}};
9 // task spec
10 taskSpec_t
11           mySpec(imdp,-1,synthesis_reachavoid,
12 bound,grid);
13 //combine
14 inputSpec_t<arm::mat,int>
15           myInput(mySHS,mySpec);
16 //run
17 performtask(myInput);
```

main file

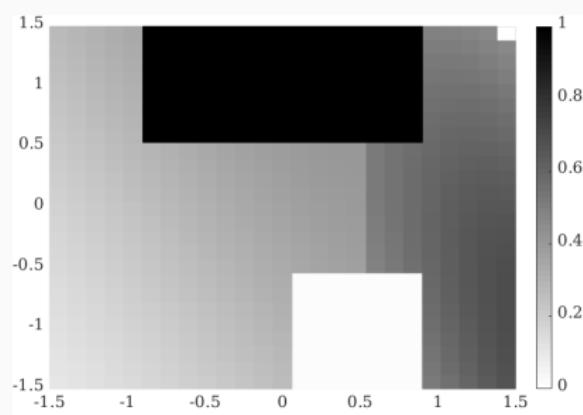
Case study 2: strategy synthesis

results:

- maximal abstraction error: 0.21
- total number of states: 2410
- computational time: 1639.30 [s]



lower bound probability for q_0



lower bound probability for q_1

Case study 3: scaling in continuous dimension of model

model with varying dimensions

- 1 discrete mode, d continuous variables, no control action
- continuous variable evolve according to

$$X_{k+1} = 0.81_d X_k + 0.21_d W_k$$

Case study 3: scaling in continuous dimension of model

model with varying dimensions

- 1 discrete mode, d continuous variables, no control action
- continuous variable evolve according to

$$X_{k+1} = 0.81_d X_k + 0.21_d W_k$$

model checking for different d dimensions

- property

$$\varphi_3 := \square [-1, 1]^d$$

- verification via IMDP method

Case study 3: scaling in continuous dimension of model

implementation:

1. define state-space model
 - directly within main file
 - read from .mat file
2. define task as **verification** via IMDP
3. repeat for all dimensions (automated)

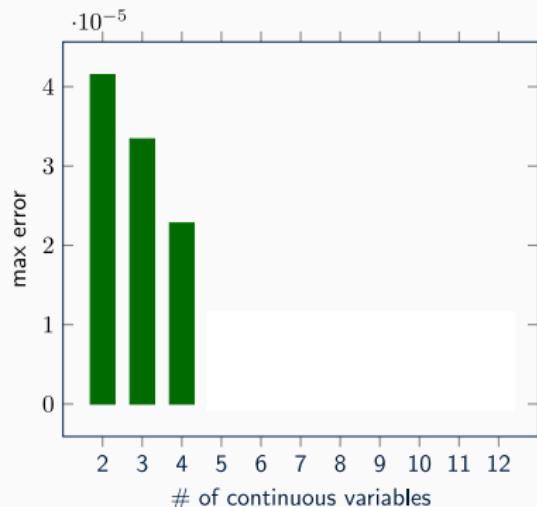
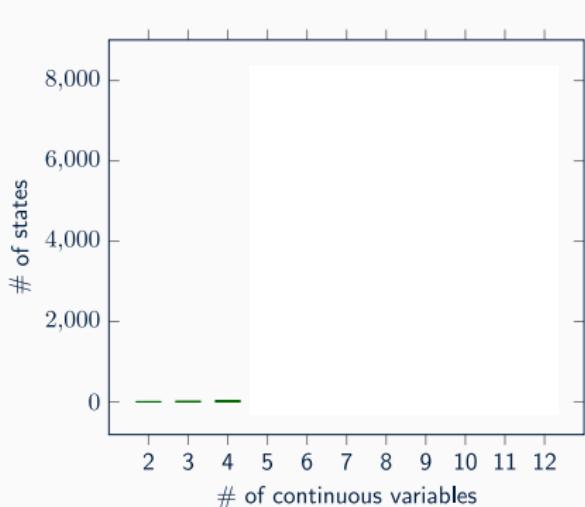
```
1 // Dynamics definition
2 shs_t<arma::mat,int> mySHS('..../CS3.mat');
3 // domain
4 arma::mat bound = {{-1, 1}, {-1, 1}};
5 // Define grid size for each dimension
6 arma::mat grid = {{0.1, 0.1}};
7 // task spec
8 taskSpec_t mySpec(imdp,-1,verify_safety,
9 bound,grid);
10 //combine
11 inputSpec_t<arm::mat,int>
12     myInput(mySHS,mySpec);
13 //run
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main file

Case study 3: scaling in continuous dimension of model

results:

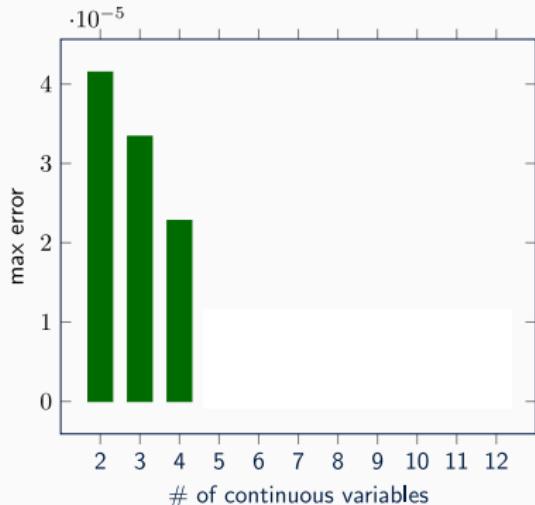
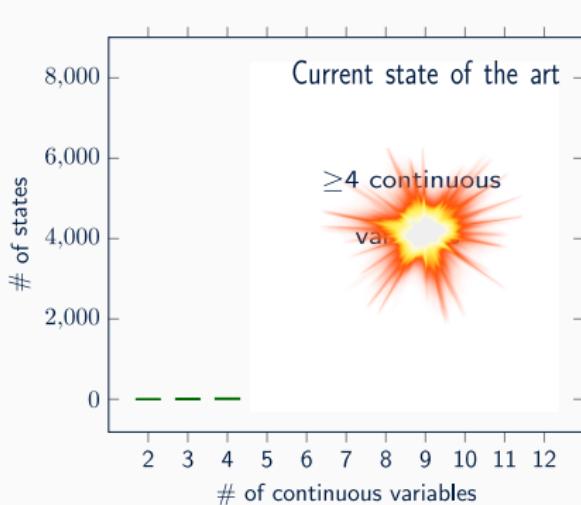
- abstract models with manageable state spaces
- scalability with respect to the continuous dimension d
- marked improvement over state-of-the-art tools



Case study 3: scaling in continuous dimension of model

results:

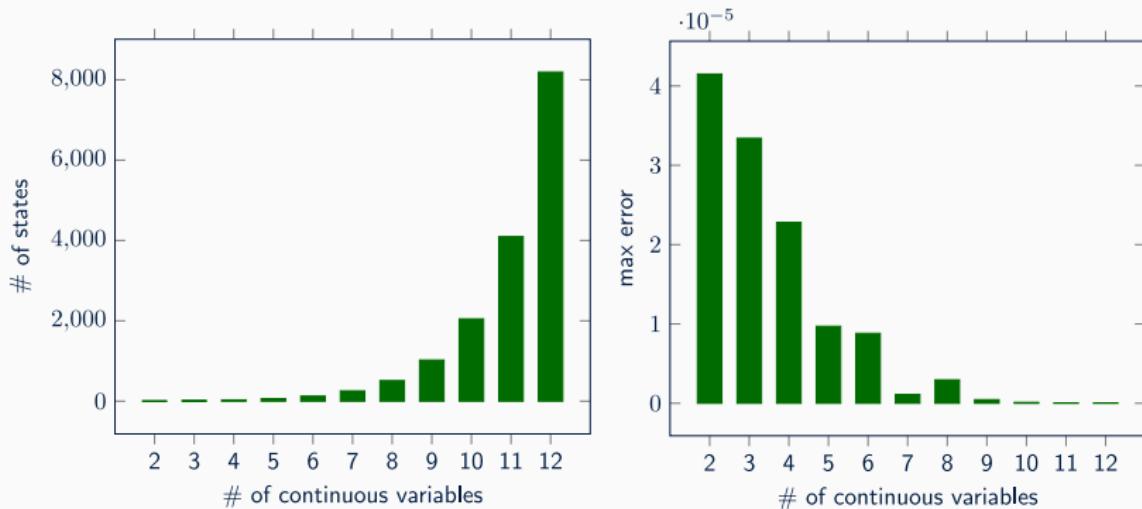
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Case study 3: scaling in continuous dimension of model

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- marked improvement over state-of-the-art tools

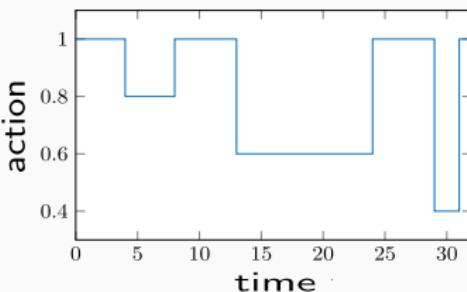
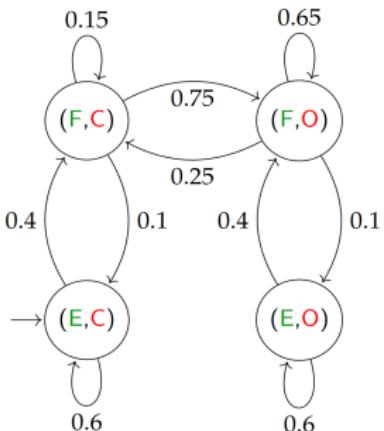


Case study 4: simulations

extended model of CO_2 and temperature in zone

- 4 discrete modes, 2 continuous variables

$$X_{k+1} = A_{q_i} X_k + B_{q_i} U_k + X_k \sum_{i=1}^v N_{q,i} U_{k,i} + F_q + G_{q_i} W_k$$



Case study 4: simulations

implementation:

1. define state-space model
 - directly within main file
 - read from .mat file
2. define task as simulation
3. define initial conditions
4. define time horizon

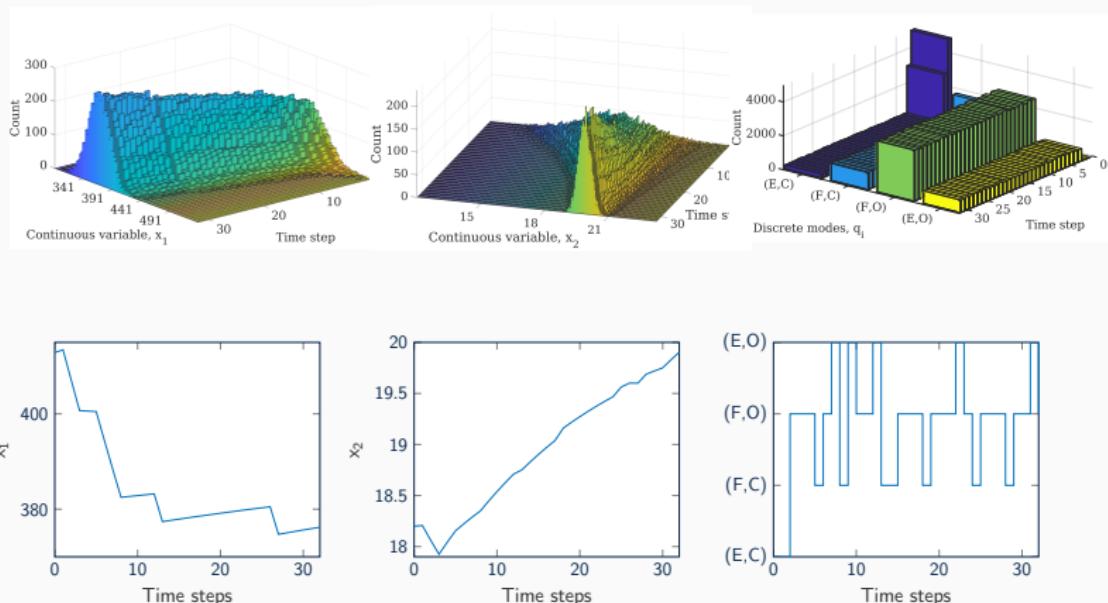
```
1 // Initial continuous variables
2 arma::mat x_init
3         =readInputSignal("../x_init.txt");
4 // initial discrete mode q_0 = (E,C)
5 double q_init = 0;
6 // definition of control signal
7 arma::mat u
8         =readInputSignal("../u.txt");
9 // combine data signals
10 exdata_t data(x_init,u,q_init);
11 shs_t<arma::mat, int>
12     mySHS("../CS4.mat", data);
13 // task spec
14 taskSpec_t mySpec(simulator,32);
15 //combine
16 inputSpec_t<arm::mat,int>
17     myInput(mySHS,mySpec);
18 //run
19 performtask(myInput);
```

main file

Case study 4: simulations

results:

- computational time: 48.6 [s]



Conclusion

contributions

- new tool called StocHy
- aid for understanding behaviour of SHS
- extendable and modular
- further examples and benchmarks together with tool at
gitlab.com/natchi92/StocHy

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future work

- employ a graphical user-interface
- analysis of continuous-time (current work in progress)

Conclusion

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- aid for understanding behaviour of SHS
- extendable and modular
- further examples and benchmarks together with tool at
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Thank you!

nathalie.cauchi@cs.ox.ac.uk