

Principles of Abstract Interpretation

MIT press

Ch. 14, Safety and Liveness Trace Properties

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These slides are available at
<http://github.com/PrAbsInt/slides/slides/slides-14--safety-liveness-PrAbsInt.pdf>

Ch. 14, Safety and Liveness Trace Properties

A reminder on trace semantics properties

Trace semantics properties

- We have defined the (prefix or maximal) trace semantics as

$$\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{T}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}$$

since for a given prelude $\pi_0 \in \mathbb{T}^+$, our language has only one continuation $\pi = \mathcal{S}(\pi_0)$

- For a non-deterministic language, we would have

$$\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{T}^+ \rightarrow \wp(\mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$$

- Up to an isomorphism, this is

$$\mathcal{S} \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$$

where \mathcal{S} is understood as $\{\langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} \mid \pi \in \mathcal{S}(\pi_0)\} \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$

- Semantics properties belong to $\wp(\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}))$
- Their abstractions by the join abstraction $\alpha^{\mathbb{T}}$ in Section 8.6 are trace properties in $\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$

Safety

Intuition for safety

- Safety properties S of programs are trace properties so $S \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$
- The characteristics of a safety property S is that
“any program execution $\langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathcal{S}^{+\infty}[[P]]$ (where $\pi_0 \in \mathbb{T}^+$ and $\pi \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}$) that violates S has a *finite* prefix $\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle$ that violates S ”
- runtime checkable, “Nothing bad can happen”

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Safety_property

Prefix closure

Define the *prefix closure* $\alpha_{\text{pref}}(\Pi)$ of a set of executions (that is of trace properties $\Pi \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$) as taking all (finite and infinite) prefixes of traces in Π .

$$\pi \leq \pi' \triangleq \exists \pi'' \in \mathbb{T}^{*\infty} . \pi \frown \pi'' = \pi' \quad \text{prefix ordering} \quad (14.3)$$

$$\pi < \pi' \triangleq \pi \leq \pi' \wedge \pi \neq \pi' \quad \text{strict prefix ordering}$$

$$\langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \leq \langle \pi'_0, \pi' \rangle \triangleq \pi_0 = \pi'_0 \wedge \pi \leq \pi' \quad \text{extension to executions}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{pref}} \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \quad \text{prefix closure}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{pref}}(\Pi) \triangleq \{ \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} \mid \exists \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \Pi . \pi \leq \pi' \} \quad (14.4)$$

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Theorem α_{pref} is a topological closure on $\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$.

Limit closure

Define the *limit closure* $\alpha_{\text{limit}}(\Pi)$ of a set of traces (that is on trace properties Π) as taking all infinite traces which prefixes are in Π .

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\text{limit}} &\in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) && \text{limit closure} \\ \alpha_{\text{limit}}(\Pi) &\triangleq \Pi \cup \{ \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^\infty \mid \forall \pi' \prec \pi . \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \Pi \}\end{aligned}$$

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Theorem α_{limit} is a topological closure on $\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$.

Safety closure

Define the *safety closure* α_{safety} on sets of traces (that is on trace properties $\Pi \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$) such that $\alpha_{\text{safety}}(\Pi)$ is the set of limits of prefixes of Π .

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\text{safety}} &\in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \\ \alpha_{\text{safety}} &\triangleq \alpha_{\text{limit}} \circ \alpha_{\text{pref}}\end{aligned}\tag{14.8}$$

Safety closure

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$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\text{safety}} &\in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \\ \alpha_{\text{safety}} &\triangleq \alpha_{\text{limit}} \circ \alpha_{\text{pref}}\end{aligned}\tag{14.8}$$

Theorem 14.10 α_{safety} is a topological closure on $\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$.

Proof Composition of topological closures. □

Safety properties

Definition 14.11 The *safety properties* are the trace properties $P \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$ such that $\alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) = P$. □

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Theorem The safety properties are the closed sets of the topology defined by α_{safety} on $\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}$.

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Theorem 14.15 The poset $\langle \alpha_{\text{safety}}(\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})), \subseteq \rangle$ (i.e. the post-image of $\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$ by α_{safety}) of safety properties is a complete lattice.

Runtime checks of safety violation

Theorem 14.20 If $\alpha_{\text{safety}}(\Pi) = \Pi$ then $\forall \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \notin \Pi . \exists \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^+ . \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \leq \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \wedge \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \notin \Pi$

This explains the common explanation of safety as “nothing bad can happen”.

Runtime checks of safety violation

Theorem 14.20 If $\alpha_{\text{safety}}(\Pi) = \Pi$ then $\forall \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \notin \Pi . \exists \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^+ . \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \leq \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle, \pi \rangle \wedge \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \notin \Pi$

Proof — If $\pi \in \mathbb{T}^+$ then choosing $\pi' = \pi$, we have $\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \leq \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle$ by reflexivity of \leq and $\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \notin \Pi$ by hypothesis.

— Otherwise, $\pi \in \mathbb{T}^\infty$. For all $\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle < \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle$, $\pi' \in \mathbb{T}^+$ and $\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \Pi$ by prefix closure.

— Therefore $\langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \{ \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^\infty \mid \forall \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle < \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle . \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \Pi \} \subseteq \alpha_{\text{limit}}(\Pi) = \alpha_{\text{limit}}(\alpha_{\text{safety}}(\Pi)) = \alpha_{\text{limit}}(\alpha_{\text{limit}} \circ \alpha_{\text{pref}}(\Pi)) = \alpha_{\text{limit}} \circ \alpha_{\text{pref}}(\Pi) = \alpha_{\text{safety}}(\Pi) = \Pi$ since α_{limit} is idempotent.

— We proved $\forall \pi_0 \in \mathbb{T}^+, \pi \in \mathbb{T}^\infty . ((\forall \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \leq \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle) \Rightarrow (\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \Pi))$ implies $\langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \Pi$ and so by contraposition, $\langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \notin \Pi$ implies $\exists \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . (\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \leq \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle) \wedge (\langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \notin \Pi)$. □

Liveness

Liveness properties

Definition 14.26 The *liveness properties* are the dense sets of the topology defined by α_{safety}

(hence, by Lemma 13.11, such that $\text{live}(P) = P$ where $\text{live}(P) \triangleq \neg\alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) \cup P$. □

live is extensive and idempotent but not increasing to that $\text{live}(P)$ need not be the least liveness property implied by P

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liveness

Liveness properties

By 14.26, the *liveness properties* are characterized by $\text{live}(P) = P$ where $\text{live}(P) \triangleq \neg\alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) \cup P$.

Theorem 14.27 $P \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$ is a liveness property if and only if $\neg P \subseteq \alpha_{\text{safety}}(P)$.

Proof

$$\text{live}(P) = P$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \neg\alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) \cup P = P$$

{Definition 14.26 of $\text{live}(P)$ }

$$\Leftrightarrow \neg(\neg\alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) \cup P) = \neg P$$

{def. complement \neg }

$$\Leftrightarrow \alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) \cap \neg P = \neg P$$

{De Morgan laws}

$$\Leftrightarrow \neg P \subseteq \alpha_{\text{safety}}(P)$$

{def. glb} \square

Impossible runtime checks of liveness violation

Theorem 14.29 For all $P \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$, we have $\text{live}(P) = P$ if and only if $\forall \pi_0 \in \mathbb{T}^+ . \forall \pi \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \exists \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi_0, \pi \smallfrown \pi' \rangle \in P$.

Liveness properties cannot be checked at runtime (since if the property is not satisfied after a finite time, there is always the possibility that it will be satisfied later).

Proof of Theorem 14.29

P is a dense set of the topology defined by α_{safety}

$$\Leftrightarrow \alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) = \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} \quad \text{\textit{\text{[Definition 13.9 of dense sets]}}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} \subseteq \alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) \quad \text{\textit{\text{[since } } \alpha_{\text{safety}} \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \text{]}}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \alpha_{\text{limit}} \circ \alpha_{\text{pref}}(P) \quad \text{\textit{\text{[def. } } \subseteq \text{ and } \alpha_{\text{safety}} \text{]}}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in (\alpha_{\text{pref}}(P) \cup \{ \langle \pi'_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^\infty \mid \forall \langle \pi'_0, \pi' \rangle \triangleleft \langle \pi'_0, \pi \rangle . \langle \pi'_0, \pi' \rangle \in \alpha_{\text{pref}}(P) \}) \quad \text{\textit{\text{[def. } } \alpha_{\text{limit}} \text{]}}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \alpha_{\text{pref}}(P) \vee (\langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^\infty \wedge \forall \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \triangleleft \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle . \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \alpha_{\text{pref}}(P)) \quad \text{\textit{\text{[def. } } \cup \text{]}}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^+ . \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \alpha_{\text{pref}}(P)$$

$$\text{\textit{\text{[} } (\Rightarrow) \mathbb{T}^+ \cap \mathbb{T}^\infty = \emptyset \text{]}}$$

$$\text{\textit{\text{[} } (\Leftarrow) \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^\infty \wedge \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \triangleleft \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \text{ implies } \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \text{ and so } \langle \pi_0, \pi' \rangle \in \alpha_{\text{pref}}(P) \text{]}}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^+ . \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in \{ \langle \pi'_0, \pi \rangle \in \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} \mid \exists \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi'_0, \pi \frown \pi' \rangle \in P \} \quad \text{\textit{\text{[def. } } \alpha_{\text{pref}} \text{]}}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \pi_0 . \pi \in \mathbb{T}^+ . \exists \pi' \in \mathbb{T}^{+\infty} . \langle \pi_0, \pi \frown \pi' \rangle \in P \quad \text{\textit{\text{[def. } } \in \text{]}} \quad \square$$

Safety/liveness decomposition of trace properties

Finally, any trace property is the intersection of a safety (closed) and liveness (dense) property.

Theorem ([Alpern and Schneider, 1985, Th. 1])

$$\forall P \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) . P = \alpha_{\text{safety}}(P) \cap \text{live}(P).$$

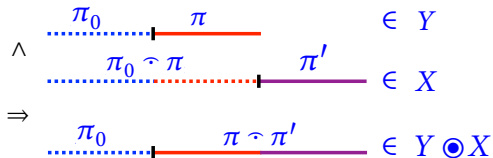
Proof By Lemma 13.12.

□

Guarantee

Guarantee properties

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha_{\text{guarantee}} &\in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) && \text{guarantee closure} \\
 \alpha_{\text{guarantee}}(X) &\triangleq (\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^*) \odot X && \text{where} \\
 Y \odot X &\triangleq \{ \langle \pi_0, \pi \frown \pi' \rangle \mid \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in Y \wedge \langle \pi_0 \frown \pi, \pi' \rangle \in X \} && \text{concatenation}
 \end{aligned}$$



Guarantee properties

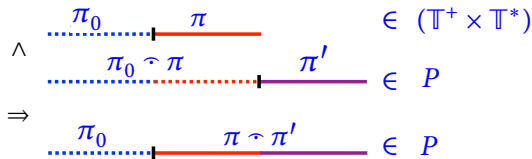
$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\text{guarantee}} &\in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}) && \text{guarantee closure} \\ \alpha_{\text{guarantee}}(X) &\triangleq (\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^*) \odot X && \text{where} \\ Y \odot X &\triangleq \{\langle \pi_0, \pi \frown \pi' \rangle \mid \langle \pi_0, \pi \rangle \in Y \wedge \langle \pi_0 \frown \pi, \pi' \rangle \in X\} && \text{concatenation}\end{aligned}$$

Definition 14.34 (guarantee) The *guarantee properties* are the trace properties $P \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$ such that $\alpha_{\text{guarantee}}(P) = P$.

Guarantee properties

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 \end{aligned}$$

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Guarantee properties

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Definition 14.34 (guarantee) The *guarantee properties* are the trace properties $P \in \wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})$ such that $\alpha_{\text{guarantee}}(P) = P$.

This is the intuition that “something good must happen”.

Example Termination is a guarantee property since $\alpha_{\text{guarantee}}(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^+) = ((\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^*) \odot (\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^+)) = \mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^+$.

Guarantee is liveness but liveness is not guarantee

Theorem ¹**14.36** Any guarantee property is a liveness property.

Theorem 14.38 The poset $\langle \alpha_{\text{guarantee}}(\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})), \subseteq \rangle$ of guarantee properties is a complete lattice $\langle \alpha_{\text{guarantee}}(\wp(\mathbb{T}^+ \times \mathbb{T}^{+\infty})), \subseteq, \emptyset, \mathbb{T}^{+\infty}, \cup, \cap \rangle$.

Not all liveness properties are a guarantee that “something good must happen”!

Example Consider a program P on the web with guarantee property $G \triangleq$ “questions are always answered in finite time”.

The availability property that “an attacker cannot delay a response for ever” is a liveness property but not a guarantee property (it is necessary for P to guarantee G).

¹proofs in the book

Conclusion

Take out

- Safety and guarantee are (upper closure/Galois connection-based) abstractions of trace properties
- Liveness is not
- Any trace property is the intersection of a safety and a liveness trace property
- This book is mainly concerned with safety properties

Bibliography I

Alpern, Bowen and Fred B. Schneider (1985). “Defining Liveness”. *Inf. Process. Lett.* 21.4, pp. 181–185.

Home work

- Read Ch. 14 “Safety and Liveness Trace Properties” of
Principles of Abstract Interpretation
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MIT Press

The End, Thank you