

Problem Description

Given a set of variables x_1, \dots, x_n and their primed versions x'_1, \dots, x'_n , it is possible to describe a loop which uses these variables by 3 boolean functions:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Pref}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ & \text{Transf}(x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_n) \\ & \text{Postf}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

With:

$\text{Pref}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1$ denoting that the set of variables are a valid set of input variables to the loop;
 $\text{Transf}(x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_n) = 1$ denoting that the unprimed set of input variables become its corresponding primed versions after one iteration of loop
 $\text{Postf}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1$ denoting that the set of input variables are a valid set of ending state of the loop

The problem is to find the invariant of the loop, a boolean function

$$\text{Invf}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Pref}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Rightarrow \text{Invf}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ & \text{Invf}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \wedge \text{Transf}(x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_n) \Rightarrow \text{Invf}(x'_1, \dots, x'_n) \\ & \text{Invf}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \Rightarrow \text{Postf}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

Assumption and argument

Assume that the form of Transf is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Transf} \Leftrightarrow & (C_1^{(1)} \wedge C_2^{(1)} \wedge \dots \\ & T_1^{(1)} \wedge T_2^{(1)} \wedge \dots \wedge T_n^{(1)}) \vee \\ & (C_1^{(2)} \wedge C_2^{(2)} \wedge \dots \\ & T_1^{(2)} \wedge T_2^{(2)} \wedge \dots \wedge T_n^{(2)}) \vee \\ & \dots \end{aligned}$$

with elements, or atoms in that form having the form

$$\begin{aligned} C_j^{(i)} \Leftrightarrow & \begin{cases} x_k \geq c \\ x_k > c \\ x_k < c \\ x_k \leq c \\ x_l - x_k \geq c \\ x_l - x_k > c \\ x_l - x_k \leq c \\ x_l - x_k < c \end{cases} \\ T_j^{(i)} \Leftrightarrow & (x'_k = x_k + c) \end{aligned}$$

We would like to prove the argument that given this assumption as a constraint, if there exists an invariant, there must exist another invariant that have the form

$$\text{Invf} \Leftrightarrow C_1 \wedge C_2 \dots$$

with C_i being in the same form as $C_j^{(i)}$