Implementation of omega-automata minimization techniques in "Spot", a model checking library.

When "Spot" SAT-based minimization meets incremental SAT solving.

Paris, January 2017

Submitted by:
Alexandre GBAGUIDI AÏSSE
Student in second year or computer engineering
at EPITA
gbagui_a@epita.fr

Supervised by:
Alexandre Duret-Lutz
Assistant Professor at LRDE(Research and
Development Laboratory of EPITA)
adl@lrde.epita.fr







Contents

| Ι | $R\epsilon$ | port | | 1 |
|---|-------------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | LRI | DE Pro | esentation | 2 |
| | 1.1 | Line o | f business | 2 |
| | 1.2 | | aboratory | |
| | 1.3 | | vers | |
| | 1.4 | | es | on 2 ss |
| | | 1.4.1 | Image Processing | |
| | | 1.4.2 | Finite state machine manipulation | 4 |
| | | 1.4.3 | Model checking | |
| | | 1.4.4 | Speaker recognition | |
| | 1.5 | The in | nternship in the company's work | |
| 2 | Spo | t | | 7 |
| | 2.1 | Struct | ure | 7 |
| | 2.2 | | | |
| | 2.3 | | ython Interface | |
| | 2.4 | | low | |
| | | 2.4.1 | | |
| | | 2.4.2 | Git Versionning Tool | |
| | | 2.4.3 | Adding Tests | |
| 3 | Bas | ic cond | cepts | 10 |
| | 3.1 | | - | |
| | | 3.1.1 | | |
| | | 3.1.2 | | |
| | | 3.1.3 | | |
| | | 3.1.4 | | |
| | | 3.1.5 | | |
| | 3.2 | About | , | |
| | | 3.2.1 | Atomic preposition | |
| | | 3.2.2 | Boolean formula | 12 |
| | | 3.2.3 | ω -words | |
| | | 3.2.4 | | |
| | | 3.2.5 | Acceptance condition | |
| | 3 3 | SAT s | • | 1.5 |

| 4 | Spe | ecifications | 16 |
|----|-----|--|----|
| | - | Overall goal | 16 |
| | | 4.1.1 The existing minimization | |
| | | 4.1.2 Tool chain | |
| | | 4.1.3 The limits | |
| | 4.2 | Detailed explanation of the results to be obtained | |
| 5 | Cor | ntributions to Spot | 22 |
| | 5.1 | fastSAT | 22 |
| | 5.2 | New Satsolver class | |
| | 5.3 | First incremental approach | |
| | 5.4 | A not total incremental approach | |
| | 5.5 | Assumptions approach | |
| | 5.6 | Memory optimization | |
| | 5.7 | Binary search | |
| | 5.8 | Language map | |
| 6 | Bib | liography and glossary | 35 |
| TT | Λ | appendix | i |

Part I Report

Chapter 1

LRDE Presentation

1.1 Line of business

The LRDE (Research and Development Laboratory of EPITA) is focused on fundamental research and development in computer science. Its main areas of expertise are:

- Image processing and pattern recognition
- Automata and verification
- Performance and genericity

Building on its solid scientific production and academic collaborations, the laboratory has industrial contracts, conducts internal research projects and participates in collaborative academic research projects.

Its members also give classes to students at EPITA from the first year of engineering.

1.2 The Laboratory

The LRDE (https://www.lrde.epita.fr/wiki/Home) was created in February 1998 to promote the research activity at EPITA and to allow students to be involved into important research projects.

The research activity at LRDE is focusing on subjects related to the school with the aim of getting recognition in the scientific domain through publications and by working together with other research centers.

One particularity of the LRDE is the will to create a bond between traditional teaching given to EPITA students and teaching through research. The point of this is to:

- participate to the production of knowledge in computer science and to promote the image of EPITA in scientific domain.
- develop LRDE student's formation through research and allow them to access a third cycle formation.

1.3 Members

The laboratory is currently composed of thirteen permanent members, including teacher-researchers, engineers and administration.

In addition to permanent staff, the LRDE also hosts PhD students. Currently, there are five of them. During the whole duration of their doctoral studies, they work with two advisor researchers, one of the LRDE and one of another university (joint supervision in partnership).

Each year, the permanent members recruit third year students from EPITA, whom will stay until the end of their studies, following a dedicated study specialisation at EPITA. Hence, the laboratory hosts two generations of students that can grow to a number between ten to fifteen.

1.4 Services

The LRDE is working on four different axis:

1.4.1 Image Processing

Olena



The Olena project (https://olena.lrde.epita.fr) consists of a generic image processing library. Its objective is to implement a platform of numerical scientific computations dedicated to image processing, pattern recognition and computer vision. This environment is composed of a generic and efficient library (Milena), a set of tools for shell scripts and a visual programming interface. The project aims at offering an interpreted environment like MatLab or Mathematica. It provides many ready-to-use image data structures (regular 1D, 2D, 3D images, graph-based images, etc.) and algorithms. Milena's algorithms are built upon classical entities from the image processing field (images, points/sites, domains, neighborhoods, etc.).

Each of these parts imply its own difficulties and require the development of new solutions. For example, the library, which require the entirety of low level features on which it relies on to be both efficient and generic — two objectives that are hard to meet at the same time in programmation. Fortunately, the object oriented programming eases this problem if we avoid the classical object modeling with inheritance and polymorphism. Hence, this genericity allows the development of efficient and re-usable code - i.e. developers or practitioners can easily understand, modify, develop and extend new algorithms while retaining the core traits of Milena: genericity and efficiency. The Olena platform uses this paradigm. The project already addressed the problem of the diversity of data and data structures.

Furthermore, the people working on this project were able to put in light the existence of conception models related to generic programmation. Olena is an open source project under General Public License (GPL) version 2.

Climb

The Climb team of the laboratory has chosen to focus on the persistent question of performance and genericity, only from a different point of view.

The purpose of this research is to examine the solutions offered by languages other than C++, dynamic languages notably, and Lisp in particular. C++ has its drawbacks, it is a heavy language with an extremely complex and ambiguous syntax, the template system is actually a completely different language from standard C++ and finally it is a static language. This last point has significant implications on the application, insofar as it imposes a strict chain of Compilation \rightarrow Development \rightarrow Run \rightarrow Debug, making for example rapid prototyping or human-machine interfacing activities difficult. It becomes therefore essential to equip the involved projects with a third language infrastructure that is rather based on scripting languages.

The Climb project aims at investigating the same domain as Olena, but starting from an opposite view. It express the same issues following an axis of dynamic genericity and compares the performance obtained by some Common Lisp compilers with those of equivalent programs written in C or C++.

1.4.2 Finite state machine manipulation

Vcsn



The VCSN project (https://vcsn.lrde.epita.fr) is a finite state machine manipulation platform developed in collaboration with the ENST. Finite state machines, also called automata, are useful for language treatment and task automation. In the past, such platforms, like "FSM", were supposed to work for problems of industrial scale. Hence, for efficiency reasons, they were specialized in letter automata. On the other hand, platforms like "FSA" were based on a more abstract approach. VCSN tries to answer both of these issues by using techniques of static and generic programmation in C++.

VCSN can then support the entirety of automata with multiplicity in any kind of semiring. Thanks to generic programming techniques, it is not necessary to code a single algorithm once for each type of automata anymore. A single abstract version is sufficient, and this without loosing efficiency. It is not necessary to handle C++ perfectly to be able to use the platform thanks to an interpreter conceived to highlight all of the system's potential. This environment should allow researchers

to experiment their ideas and beginners to practice with an intuitive interface.

VCSN is an open source project under GPL license.

1.4.3 Model checking

Spot



Spot (https://spot.lrde.epita.fr/) is a library of algorithms for "model checking", which is a way to check that every possible behavior of a system satisy its given properties. Spot allows to express those properties using linear-time temporal logic (LTL). It corresponds to classical propositional calculus (with its "or", "and" and "not" operators) equiped with temporal operators to express things such as "in a future time" or "anytime since now". Spot also supports arbitrary acceptance condition, transition-based acceptance and four different representation formats of ω -automata (HOA, never claims, LBTT, DSTAR). All those terms will be explained in the 'basic concepts' section.

Such formulas seen above (LTL formulas) can be translated to automata (Spot implements different algorithms), such that verifying that the behavior of a model satisfy a formula can be reduced to operations between two automata (here again Spot implements different algorithms). This approach can be applied to different kind of systems: communication protocoles, electronic circuits, programs...

This project was born in the MoVe team at LIP6, but since 2007 it is mainly developed by the LRDE, with some occasional collaborations with LIP6. It is distributed under a GNU GPL version 3 license.

1.4.4 Speaker recognition

Speaker ID

The Speaker Recognition team is working on Machine Learning solutions applied to Speaker Recognition tasks. They propose statistical representations of speech signal which are more robust to the problem of session and channel variabilities.

A speaker must always be identified, whether he is ill, suffering from sore throats, or his current emotions bring change to his voice. To do this, all the characteristics of a voice that can change depending on any external parameter must be ignored. This is one of the issues the Speaker ID team is facing.

They participated in the evaluation campaign of speaker verification systems organized by NIST (the National Institute of Standards and Technology) which organizes competitions in various fields, both to stimulate research and to define new

standards since the beginning of the project.

The work of LRDE Speaker ID team is conducted in collaboration with the Spoken Language Systems Group of the MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (http://groups.csail.mit.edu/sls/).

1.5 The internship in the company's work

This internship took place within the team of model checking. It was essentially focused on the improvement of the SAT-based minimization of ω -automata. It covers one of the many features of the Spot library.

Chapter 2

Spot

Spot was first presented in 2004 [10]. It was purely a library until Spot 1.0 [9], when command-line tools for LTL manipulation and translation of LTL to some generalizations of Büchi Automata have started to be distributed. Today, Spot 2.0 supports more tools with arbitrary acceptance conditions as described in the Hanoi Omega Automata format (HOA) [22] and python bindings usable in interactive environments such as IPython/Jupyter [13].

2.1 Structure

The Spot project can be broken down into several parts, as shown in Figure 2.1. Orange boxes are C/C++ libraries. Red boxes are command-line program. Blue boxes are Python-related.

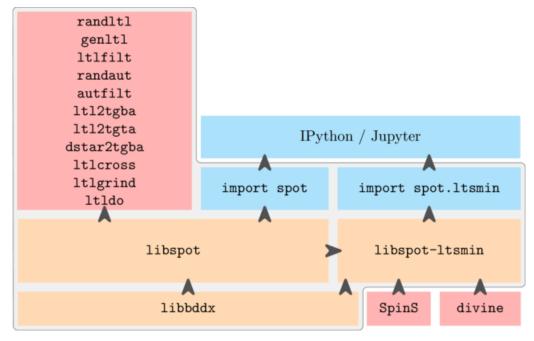


Figure 2.1: Architecture of Spot

Spot is actually split in three libraries:

• libbddx is a customized version of BuDDy for representing Binary Decision Diagrams which we use to label transitions in automata, and to implement a

few algorithms.

- libspot is the main library containing all data structures and algorithms.
- libspot-ltsmin contains code to interface with state-spaces generated as shared libraries by LTSmin.

2.2 Command-line tools

Spot 2.0 installs the following eleven command-line tools, that are designed to be combined as traditional Unix tools.

| | randltl | Generates random LTL/PSL formulas |
|----------|------------|---|
| | genltl | Generates LTL formulas from scalable patterns |
| | ltlfilt | Filter, converts, and transforms LTL/PSL formulas |
| SPOT 1.0 | ltl2tgba | Translates LTL/PSL formulas into generalized Büchi automata[1], or deterministic parity automata (new in 2.0) |
| | ltl2tgta | Translates LTL/PSL formulas into Testing automata[2] |
| | ltlcross | Cross-compares LTL/PSL-to-automata translators to find bugs (works with arbitrary acceptance conditions since Spot 2.0) |
| | ltlgrind | mutates LTL/PSL formulas to help reproduce bugs on smaller ones |
| | dstar2tgba | converts ltl2dstar automata into Generalized Büchi automata[4] |
| | randaut | generates random ω -automata |
| | autfilt | filters, converts and transforms ω -automata runs LTL/PSL formulas through other trans- |
| | ltldo | lators, providing uniform input and output |
| | | interfaces |

Figure 2.2: Spot tools description

As you see, the first six tools were introduced in Spot 1.0 [9], and have since received several updates. The other tools were introduced after.

2.3 The Python Interface

Similar tasks can be performed in a more "algorithm-friendly" environment using the Python interface. Combined with the IPython/Jupyter notebook [13] (a web application for interactive programming), this provides a nice environment for experiments, where automata and formulas are automatically displayed.

2.4 Workflow

Working on any project of the LRDE implies to follow some rules. That allows a better integration of each member. Once a patch is ready, any member of the model checking team can re-read the patch and make suggestions.

2.4.1 Coding conventions

As Spot is a free software, uniformity of the code matters a lot. Some coding conventions are used so that the code looks homogeneous. Here are some points:

- UTF-8 is used for non-ASCII characters.
- tabs are not used for indentation in c++ files, only spaces, in order to prevent issues with people assuming different tab widths.
- #include with angle-brackets refers to public Spot headers (i.e those that will be installed, or system headers that are already installed).
- # include with double quotes refer to private headers that are distributed with Spot.
- ... (see https://gitlab.lrde.epita.fr/spot/spot/blob/master/HACKING for more details)

2.4.2 Git Versionning Tool

The versionning tool used in Spot is Git. All development branches except 'master' and 'next' follows a particular naming convention: {initials}/{subject of work}). This allows a quick glance to identify who works on which branch and on what.

Concerning commits, large commits introducing a feature are preferred to many small commits covering the same feature. Suppose that a new feature must be implemented and needs 3 key steps. Even if each step is done in many commits during the development, at the end, it's better to squash commits so as to have only 3 large commits representing the 3 key steps.

Also, if at any moment in turns out that a previous work could have been done otherwise, any update must be applied directly to the commit concerned - each commit must actually insert code in its final form.

2.4.3 Adding Tests

Any implementation done must be tested. For the purpose on one hand to avoid regression and on the other hand to ensure the code runs as expected. All tests are located in the 'tests' folders. Must of them are written in Python (using the python bindings) or shell script.

Chapter 3

Basic concepts

Spot essentially manipulates ω -automata which is a variation of finite-state automata (FSA) that runs on infinite, rather than finite. It is important to have a good understanding of automata theory, not only to understand this report but because automata crop up preety much everywhere in computer science. In logic design, natural language processing, system analysis, regular expressions, etc. The next two sections introduce the basics of automata theory and some concepts used in Spot.

3.1 Automata theory

Automata theory [3] is the study of abstract machines and automata, as well as the computational problems that can be solved using them.

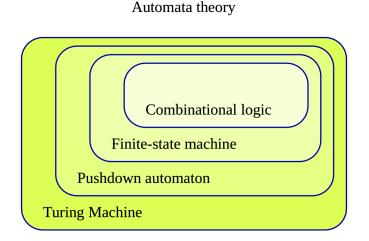


Figure 3.1: Classes of automata [3]

There are different classes of automata. The finite state machine has less computational power than some other models of computation such as the Turing machine [23]. The computational power distinction means there are computational tasks that a Turing machine can do but a finite-state automaton (FSA) can not.

From now on, the acronym FSA will be used instead of final-state automat{a, on}.

Only FSA will be concisely described in this section as (again) ω -automata used in Spot are a variation of FSA.

3.1.1 Automata

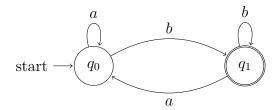


Figure 3.2: A finite-state automaton represented using a graph

The figure (3.2) shows how an automaton looks like. It consists of:

- a set of states (represented in the figure by circles). Among them we can distinguish the *initial state* **q0** (the one pointed by **start**) and an *accepting state* **q1** (the one doubly encircled).
- a transition relation (represented in the figure by arrows). This relation indicates for each state which state could be next according to the next symbol to read.

Before giving a regular definition, some points need clarification.

3.1.2 Alphabet, word, language

An alphabet is a finite set of symbols. It is commonly denoted by Σ . Edges of automata are labeled by those symbols. The alphabet used by the automaton of figure 3.2 is $\{a,b\}$.

A word is a finite sequence of symbols. $a, b, ab, aaaa, abbba, abababababababa are some words defined on the alphabet <math>\{a, b\}$. Automata recognizes words. In Spot, ω -automata recognizes ω -words, which are infinite rather than finite.

A language is a set of words defined on the same alphabet. The automata of figure 3.2 accepts or recognizes the set of words ending with b. $\mathbf{q1}$ is the only one accepting state and the only way to come in $\mathbf{q1}$ is to read b.

3.1.3 Automaton run

Well, an automaton run can be described as follows:

- it starts in the initial state and waits for the first character (of the word) to read.
- At each step, it reads the next symbol (character) and determine the next state using the transition relation.
- It stops when all the character chain has been read. The word is accepted if the automaton is in one of the accepting states.

3.1.4 Determinism (DFA, NFA)

A deterministic FSA is a final state machine where for each pair of state and input (symbols) there is one and only one transition to a next state. The figure 3.2 introduced before is actually a deterministic FSA or deterministic finite-state automaton (DFA).

A non deterministic FSA or Nondeterministic finite-state automaton (NFA) allows:

- many transitions labeled by the same symbol and outgoing from the same state,
- transitions labeled by the empty word ε ,
- transitions labeled by more than one symbol.

3.1.5 Finite-state automata (FSA) Definition

More formally, a finite-state automaton is defined by a quintuplet $M = (Q, \Sigma, X, s, F)$ where:

- Q is a set of states,
- Σ is an alphabet,
- X can be either a transition function $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \to Q$ (if the automaton is deterministic) or a transition relation $\Delta \subset (Q \times \Sigma^* \times Q)$ (if it is not deterministic),
- $s \in Q$ is the initial state,
- $F \subseteq Q$ is a set of accepting states.

3.2 About Spot

This section consists essentially of Spot's **concept** web page excerpts[6]. Feel free to have a look on that web page for further details.

3.2.1 Atomic preposition

An atomic proposition is a named Boolean variable that represents a simple property that must be true or false. It usually represents some property of a system. They are used to construct temporal logic formulas[17] to specify properties of the system.

3.2.2 Boolean formula

A Boolean formula is formed from *atomic preposition*, the Boolean constants true and false, and standard Boolean operators like and, or, implies, xor, etc.

3.2.3 ω -words

An ω -word as said before is a word of infinite length. In our context, each letter is used to describe the state of a system at a given time, and the sequence of letters shows the evolution of the system as the (discrete) time is incremented.

If the set **AP** of atomic propositions is fixed, an ω -word over **AP** is an infinite sequence of subsets of **AP**. In other words, there are $2^{|\mathbf{AP}|}$ possible letters to choose from, and these letters denote the set of atomic propositions that are true at a given instant.

For instance if $\mathbf{AP} = \{a, b, c\}$, the infinite sequence $\{a, b\}; \{a\}; \{a, b\}; \{a\}; \{a, b\}; \{a\}; \ldots$ is an example of ω -word over \mathbf{AP} . This particular ω -word can be interpreted as the following scenario: atomic proposition a is always true, b is true at each other instant, and c is always false.

3.2.4 ω -automaton

An ω -automaton is used to represent sets of ω -word.

Those look like the classical NFA in the sense that they also have states and transitions. However ω -automata recognize ω -words instead of finite words. In this context, the notion of final state makes no sense, and is replaced by the notion of acceptance condition: a run of the automaton (i.e., an infinite sequence alternating states and edges in a way that is compatible with the structure of the automaton) is accepting if it satisfies the constraint given by the acceptance condition.

In Spot, ω -automata have their edges labeled by Boolean formulas. An ω -word is accepted by an ω -automaton if there exists an accepting run whose labels (those Boolean formulas) are compatible with the minterms [19] used as letters in the word.

The language of an ω -automaton is the set of ω -words it accepts.

There are many kinds of ω -automata and they mostly differ by their acceptance condition. The different types of acceptance condition, and whether the automata are deterministic or not can affect their expressive power.

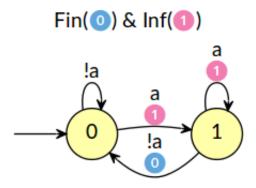


Figure 3.3: ω -automaton representing formula **FGa**

3.2.5 Acceptance condition

An acceptance condition actually consists of two pieces: some acceptance sets, and a formula that tells how to use these acceptance sets.

Acceptance formulas are positive Boolean formula over atoms of the form t, f, Inf(n), or Fin(n), where n is a non-negative integer denoting an acceptance set.

- t denotes the true acceptance condition: any run is accepting
- f denotes the false acceptance condition: no run is accepting
- Inf(n) means that a run is accepting if it visits infinitely often the acceptance set n
- Fin(n) means that a run is accepting if it visits finitely often the acceptance set n

The above atoms can be combined using only the operator & and | (also known as \land and \lor), and parentheses for grouping. Note that there is no negation, but an acceptance condition can be negated swapping t and f, \land and \lor , and Fin(n) and Inf(n).

The following table gives an overview of how some classical acceptance condition are encoded. The first column gives a name that is more human readable (those names are defined in the HOA [22] format and are also recognized by Spot). The second column give the encoding as a formula. Everything here is case-sensitive.

| none | f |
|---------------------------|---|
| all | t |
| Buchi | Inf(0) |
| generalized-Buchi 2 | Inf(0)&Inf(1) |
| generalized-Buchi 3 | Inf(0)&Inf(1)&Inf(2) |
| co-Buchi | Fin(0) |
| generalized-co-Buchi 2 | Fin(0) Fin(1) |
| generalized-co-Buchi 3 | Fin(0) Fin(1) Fin(2) |
| Rabin 1 | Fin(0) & Inf(1) |
| Rabin 2 | (Fin(θ) & Inf(1)) (Fin(2) & Inf(3)) |
| Rabin 3 | (Fin(0) & Inf(1)) (Fin(2) & Inf(3)) (Fin(4) & Inf(5)) |
| Streett 1 | Fin(0) Inf(1) |
| Streett 2 | (Fin(θ) Inf(1)) & (Fin(2) Inf(3)) |
| Streett 3 | (Fin(θ) Inf(1)) & (Fin(2) Inf(3)) & (Fin(4) Inf(5)) |
| generalized-Rabin 3 1 0 2 | (Fin(0) & Inf(1)) Fin(2) (Fin(3) & (Inf(4)&Inf(5))) |
| parity min odd 5 | Fin(θ) & (Inf(1) (Fin(2) & (Inf(3) Fin(4)))) |
| parity max even 5 | Inf(4) (Fin(3) & (Inf(2) (Fin(1) & Inf(0)))) |

Figure 3.4: ω -automata acceptance conditions [6]

3.3 SAT solver

Satisfiability problem is a classic of computer science.

The purpose of SAT solving is to assign each variables of a propositional formula in such a way that the formula evaluates to true. It is the canonical NP-complete problem. SAT solvers are used to solve many practical problems and this is also the case in Spot, they are used to minimize ω -automata.

For more details, **SAT-solving in practice** [21] is a good introduction to SAT solvers.

Chapter 4

Specifications

This chapter tries to shed light on what was before this internship and why all the achieved work was needed.

4.1 Overall goal

The principal purpose of this internship is to improve an algorithm already implemented and used to minimize deterministic ω -automaton. The source code associated is the result of two papers:

- SAT-based Minimization of Deterministic ω -Automata[5] and
- Mechanizing the Minimization of Deterministic Generalized Büchi Automata[4].

Those two papers written by *Souheib baarir* and *Alexandre Duret-Lutz* are themselves a generalization of **Ehlers** SAT' based procedure [11]. Note that the first paper[5] is an extension of the second[4] which is restricted to generalized-Büchi acceptance.

4.1.1 The existing minimization

These previous work introduced a tool that can read any deterministic ω -automaton and synthetize (if it exists) an equivalent deterministic ω -automaton with a given number of states and arbitrary acceptance condition.

This tool, called SynthetizeDTGBA(R, n, m) works this way, It:

- inputs a complete DTGBA R, two target numbers of state (n) and arbitrary acceptance condition (m),
- produces a DIMACS file [8] with all the above clauses,
- calls a SAT solver to solve this problem,
- builds the resulting DTGBA C if it exists.

Using this tool, two minimization algorithms have been implemented:

Algorithm 1 A naive algorithm that calls SynthetizeDTGBA(R, n, m) in a loop, with a decreasing number of states, and returns the last successfully built automaton.

```
1: procedure ReduceStatesDTGBA(R, m = R.nb\_acc\_sets())
2: repeat:
3: n \leftarrow R.nb\_states()
4: C \leftarrow SynthetizeDTGBA(R, n-1, m)
5: if C does not exists then return R
6: R \leftarrow C
```

Algorithm 2 This also calls SynthetizeDTGBA(R, n, m) in a loop, but attempting to find the minimum number of states using a binary search.

```
1: procedure DichotomyDTGBA(R, m = R.NB\_ACC\_SETS())
       max \ states \leftarrow R.nb \ states() - 1
       min states \leftarrow 1
3:
       S \leftarrow null
 4:
       while min states <= max states do
 5:
            target \leftarrow (max \ states + min \ states)/2
 6:
 7:
            C \leftarrow \text{Synthetize}DTGBA(R, target, m)
            if C does not exists then
8:
               min states \leftarrow target + 1
9:
            else
10:
                S \leftarrow C
11:
               max\_states \leftarrow R.nb\_states() - 1
12:
       R \leftarrow S
13:
```

Until this internship, Algorithm 1 was used by default. There are no real reasons for that except that the second algorithm was implemented later in a completely different context and has never been benchmarked and compared to the first one.

ω -Automata minimization can be seen in two ways:

- Reduction of the number of states: This is typically the algorithm 1 that keeps by default the same number of acceptance sets (m) and decreases n at each SynthetizeDTGBA(R, n, m) call. The algorithm 2 has also the same perception. It knows the minimal automaton is between 1 (obviously, a smaller one does not exists) and n-1 so instead of checking each number of states it performs a binary search with the will to be faster.
- Rise of the accepting sets number: This can be interpreted as the converse of a degeneralization: instead of augmenting the number of states to reduce the number of acceptance sets, we augment the number of acceptance sets in an attempt to reduce the number of states.

The figure below (4.1) is a great example from the first paper [4] that shows how smaller an automaton can become if the acceptance sets number is increased. Note that $|\mathcal{F}|$ here is m (the number of accepting sets).

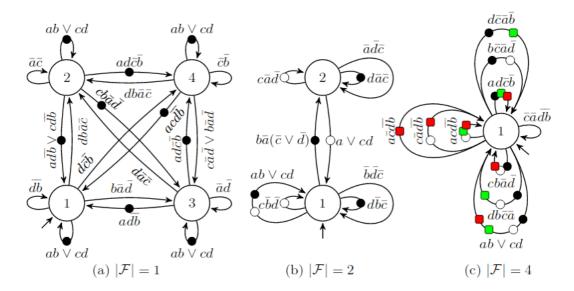


Figure 4.1: Examples of minimal DTGBA recognizing $(GFa \wedge GFb) \vee (GFc \wedge GFd)$

Finding the smallest m such that no smaller equivalent DTGBA with a larger m can be found is still an opened problem.

4.1.2 Tool chain

The figure 4.2 (from the FORTE'14 paper [4]) gives an overview of the processing chains that can be used to turn an LTL formula [17] into minimal DBA, DTBA or DTGBA. The blue area at the top describes:

Listing 4.1: bash command-line to translate a formula using ltl2tgba ltl2tgba -D -x sat-minimize

while the purple area at the bottom corresponds to:

Listing 4.2: bash command-line to translate a formula using dstar2tgba dstar2tgba -D -x stat-minimize

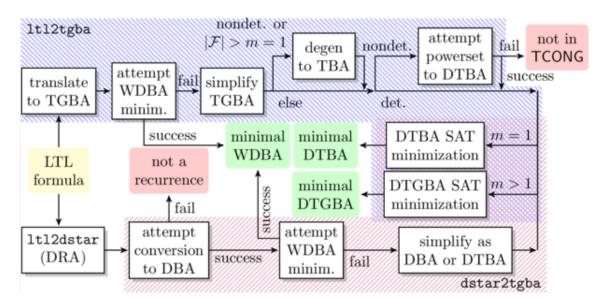


Figure 4.2: Two tool chain used to convert an LTL formula

As the SAT-based minimization only takes DTBA or DTGBA, the input automaton undergoes some transformations. In each tool, a Weak-DBA minimization is attempted. If that succeed, a minimal weak DBA is outputed (looking for transition-based or generalized acceptance will not reduce it further). For further details, please read the FORTE'14 paper [4].

4.1.3 The limits

Consider again the default algorithm (1). At each iteration, this algorithm reencodes the research of a smaller automaton from scratch. Iterations after iterations (from n to n-1, n-1 to n-2, etc.) the clauses encoded are almost the same. Therefore, it is a shame that nothing is retained, learned at each iteration. This is where incremental sat solving comes in mind.

Incremental solving is one of the recent directions in SAT solver research. This is based on an observation that in many applications of SAT solvers, the problems being solved consist of several calls to SAT solver on a sequence of SAT problem. Typically, the problems in the sequence share a large common part, making them highly interrelated. This is exactly our case! The purpose of incremental SAT solving is to recycle the work done in solving a previous problem in the sequence to solve the subsequent problems.

In order to use an incremental approach with SAT solver, it is no more possible to use DIMACS file [8]. Therefore, Spot needs to be linked to a SAT solving library. Let's remember that until now Spot requires a SAT solver to be installed on the same machine and provides a way to set it (through SPOT_SATSOLVER environment variable). obviously, being linked to a SAT solver and make calls to its functions will be more efficient than making Input/Output operations and executing another binary.

The memory consumption is also another problem. The larger the automaton is, the more variables there are. With some automata, the memory usage could grow over 150 Go which is uncommon for most users. The figure 4.3 helps to see memory usage peaks during a benchmark realized the end of September 2016.

4.2 Detailed explanation of the results to be obtained

As said before, the purpose of this internship is to improve the current SAT-based minimization technique. This minimization is wanted to be more fast and less greedy in memory consumption. If you look at the tool chain section above, this internship intervenes in the two SAT minimization rectangles (for m = 1 and m > 1).

The idea of testing an incremental approach for SAT-based minimization has already been raised by the Spot team. *Alexandre Duret-Lutz* had a clear idea of how to do it and I had been assigned the task of testing this idea. The objective

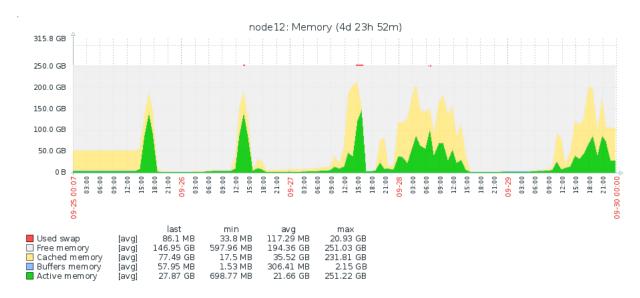


Figure 4.3: A graph showing memory usage during a benchmark realized at the beginning of the internship

being to improve it as mush as possible, the internship is not limited to that. It is a line of approach as many others and the results to obtain can lead to new reflections.

Algorithm 3 An incremental approach that does the same traditional encoding once and then tries to exclude one more state at each iteration of a loop. The encoding is never restarted.

```
1: procedure ReduceStatesDTGBA(R, m = R.NB \text{ ACC SETS}())
      n \leftarrow R.nb\_states()
2:
      C \leftarrow \text{Synthetize} DTGBA(R, n-1, m)
3:
      if C does not exists then return R
4:
5: repeat:
      add clauses to exclude one more state
6:
      C \leftarrow \text{Try to solve the new problem and build the new automaton}
7:
      if C does not exists then return R
8:
      R \leftarrow C
9:
```

To do so, Spot needs to be linked to a SAT solving library. The really first task is to know which. I had to find the more suitable SAT solver that fills those requirements:

- It must have a compatible licence with Spot's one. Spot is under a GNU General Public Licence 3.
- It must be simple to integrate with Spot. Simple means here that the code shall be modified as little as possible so that a future update to a newer version of that solver will be simple to achieve.
- Of course, it has to be performant. Therefore, a look to SAT solvers international competitions as well as a custom benchmark is a fundamental need.

Regarding the memory consumption, the purpose is to identify the most memory-hungry parts of the source code and come up with solutions.

The results to be obtained can not be more precise than that. There is no precise figure estimating the speed to reach for a particular formula or the exact memory consumption to reduce, etc.

It is an internship that is part of a research work. By definition, the results are often unpredictable.

Chapter 5

Contributions to Spot

This chapter present the different things I have done on Spot during the internship. Might it be some algorithms implemented, scripts, display arrangements, benchmarks, results analyzes, etc.

All the achieved work is presented in a chronological way, to bring out the difficulties encountered, the unexpected results that had influence on the advancement of the work.

5.1 fastSAT

As a quick reminder, here are the required characteristics for the SAT solver:

- licence compatibility with Spot's one (GNU GPL v3),
- simplicity of integration for future updates,
- effectiveness.

The project **fastSAT**[12] was born to help choose the SAT solver to distribute with Spot. Until now, SAT-based minimization was performed through an external SAT solver. The default one was Glucose [15] (3.0 version). Therefore, it seems logical to consider Glucose as a possible candidate. **fastSAT**[12] compared Glucose 4.0 [15] to CryptoMiniSat 5.0.1[7] and PicoSAT 965 [20]. Note that some SAT solvers provide two versions, one parallal and one simple essentially because of the SAT competitions. In short, were compared:

- Glucose syrup (parallal) 4.0
- Glucose simple 4.0
- CryptoMiniSat parallal 5.0.1
- CryptoMiniSat simple 5.0.1
- PicoSAT 965

The next three figures (5.1, 5.2 and 5.3) show some comparaisons for three formulas. About twenty formulas have been tested in two modes: by forcing the number of state and by doing the complete cycles of minimization. It has been executed

on a computer with an Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-4710HQ CPU @ 2.50GHz processor and a 8 GiB system memory. The measuring tool used is the open Google Benchmark tool [16].

| ##################### F(a \ GFb) v (Fc \ Fa \ F(c \ GF!b)) ################################## | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Function name | Time | CPU | Iteration | | | |
| picosat states=4, det=1 | 1266210us | 173us | 1 | | | |
| cryptominisat states=4, det=1 | 4883985us | 161us | 1 | | | |
| cryptominisatsimple states=4, det=1 | 4751886us | 153us | 11 The hard | | | |
| Forced number of states glucose_static> TIMEOU glucose-syrup_static> | | | 4 | | | |
| Function name | Time | CPU | Iteration | | | |
| picosat states=4, det=1 | 5290558us | 179us | 1 | | | |
| cryptominisat states=4, det=1 | 6354672us | 124us | 1 | | | |
| cryptominisatsimple states=4, det=1 | 6312870us | 126us | 11 | | | |

Figure 5.1: Benchmark for formula $F(a \wedge GFb) \vee (Fc \wedge Fa \wedge F(c \wedge GF(!b)))$

| ##################### Complete cycles of minim glucose_static> TIMEO glucose-syrup_static> | UT | (##################################### | |
|---|---------|--|--------------|
| Function name | Time | CPU | Iteration |
| picosat states=6, det=1 | 52401us | 118us | 13 |
| cryptominisat states=6, det=1 | 95552us | 135us | 7 |
| cryptominisatsimple states=6, det=1 | 93853us | 136us | 7 |
| Forced number of states glucose_static> TIMEO glucose-syrup_static> | | | Leding Mills |
| Function name | Time | CPU | Iteration |
| picosat | 28382us | 140us | 24 |
| states=7, det=1 cryptominisat | 44104us | 141us | 16 |
| <pre>states=7, det=1 cryptominisatsimple states=7, det=1</pre> | 43055us | 138us | 16 |

Figure 5.2: Benchmark for formula $X(G(!aM!b) \vee G(a \vee G(!a)))$

| ###################################### | | | | | | |
|--|---------|-------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Function name | Time | CPU | Iteration | | | |
| picosat | 6432us | 153us | 104 | | | |
| states=1, det=1 cryptominisat | 6424us | 154us | 101 | | | |
| <pre>states=1, det=1 cryptominisatsimple states=1, det=1</pre> | 6569us | 157us | 95 | | | |
| Forced number of states glucose_static> TIMEOU glucose-syrup_static> | | | | | | |
| Function name | Time | CPU | Iteration | | | |
| picosat | 8946us | 138us | 77 | | | |
| states=1, det=1 | 10802us | 137us | 67 | | | |
| <pre>states=1, det=1 cryptominisatsimple states=1, det=1</pre> | 10165us | 132us | 71 | | | |

Figure 5.3: Benchmark for formula $GF(a \lor b) \land GF(b \lor c)$

In conclusion, among the different SAT solvers, **PicoSAT** was choosen for its strong performances. It consists of two source code files: **picosat.h** and **picosat.c** and was easily integrated and harmonised with Spot.

fastSAT[12] project is fully available and anyone can reproduce the benchmarks. Feel free to have a look.

5.2 New Satsolver class

There was already a satsolver class that is instantiated at the beginning of the SAT-based minimization procedures, formerly used to initialize a temporary **cnf** file (DIMACS [8]), return it and call the external SAT solver. The file writing was directly made by those procedures.

The objective is to completely abstract the file writing. SAT-based minimization procedures will just have to instantiate a satsolver object at the beginning and make calls to its functions. Thoses functions will call the SAT solving library functions. But this class must continue to support any external SAT solver by handling temporary **cnf files**.

The figure 5.4 shows an approximate UML representation of the new satsolver class. It can either initialize PicoSAT or a cnf_stream_. The idea is to let its functions (add, comment, etc.) to decide if they call PicoSAT functions or write in the cnf_stream_. That way, SAT-based minimization procedures are not aware of what's going on behind and can repeat over and over again the same algorithms.

Of course the clause counting mechanism is provided by the new satsolver class. At the end, SAT-based procedures will just have to call the *get_solution()* method.

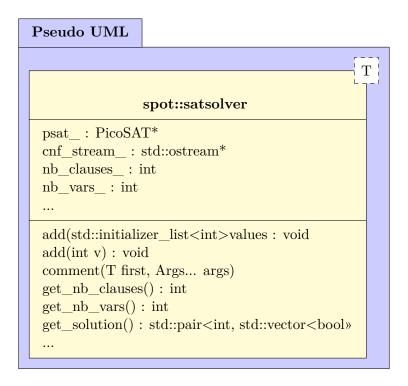


Figure 5.4: Satsolver class UML representation

Once this was done, SAT-based procedures had already gained some speed which is entirely understandable as disk operations are slow. For instance, with this command line:

```
Listing 5.1: bash command-line to test a formula minimization using ltl2tgba

time ltl2tgba -D -x sat-minimize 'G(a -> Fb) & G(c -> Fd)'

--stats='states=%s, det=%d'
```

This result is obtained on a Macbook pro with 2,9GHz intel core i5 and 8 Go 1867 Mhz DDR3:

| PicoSAT as | Time result |
|---|---|
| linked SAT solving library external SAT solver (with disk operations) | 0.29s user 0.08s system 98% cpu 0.371 total 0.82s user 0.09s system 98% cpu 0.925 total |

5.3 First incremental approach

Just as a reminder, until now, SAT-based minimization procedures whether it is with binary search (algorithm 2) or the naive way (algorithm 1), starts the SAT encoding from scratch at each step of the cycle of minimization; that is unfortunate. This is why an incremental approach has been considered.

The algorithm 3 has been implemented. Starting with an ω -automaton of size n, if the first iteration (which encodes the research of an ω -automaton of size n-1) constructs an automaton of k ($k \le n-1$) states accessible, then some clauses are added

to forbid all the entrant transitions of the n-k-1 last state. If such automaton is found, the entrant transitions of the n-k-2 last state are also forbidden, etc. The last SAT problem solved correspond to the minimal automaton.

An interesting thing, as a sideline, is that at the beginning, instead of forbidding the entrant transitions of a state, the outgoing transitions were forbidden. This did not work, because those clauses were in contradiction with the first rule of the encoding (which stated that the automaton must be *complete*), causing an absurdity. All the rules of the encoding are described in the papers [4] and [5].

After this method has been implemented (algorithm 3), a benchmark has been realized to compare it to the old default method (algorithm 1). For dispay reasons, only a few interesting lines of the results are displayed in the figure 5.5. Feel free to have a look in the C.1.1 section of the appendix to see all the results. For each version and each formula, two minimizations are attempted, büchi acceptance set and generalized büchi acceptance set. The best performances for each formula are colorized respectively in green and yellow.

| | Time (seconds) | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| Formulas | Glucose (As before) | | Incr Naive | |
| | minDBA | minDTGBA | minDBA | minDTGBA |
| $F(a \wedge GFb) \vee (Fc \wedge Fa \wedge F(c \wedge GF\overline{b}))$ | 0.02 | 57.65 | 0.01 | 236.36 |
| XXG(FaUXb) | 25.15 | 762.74 | 20.21 | (killed) |
| (aR(bRFc))WXGb | (killed) | 254.19 | (killed) | 672.80 |
| $X(\bar{a} \wedge Fa)R(aMFb)$ | 2.19 | 46.12 | 1.7 | 132.02 |
| $(aRFb)UX\bar{c}$ | (killed, ≤ 11) | 389.87 | (killed, ≤ 11) | 616.70 |

Figure 5.5: Parts of C.1.1 benchmark results showing some cases where the Old SAT-based minimization is still better

In all the lines of the figure 5.5, **glucose** is still better than our first incremental approach. There is even a case where **naive incr** never ends the minimization and is killed.

In order to better compare both version, this generated figure counts the number of times a version is better than the other with a tolerance of more or less five percents (5%). That means: roughly equal times are skipped.

| DBA | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|---|-----|--|--|
| glu incr1 total | | | | | |
| glu | - | 9 | 9 | | |
| incr1 | 102 | - | 102 | | |

| DTGBA | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------------|---|----|--|--|--|
| | glu incr1 total | | | | | |
| glu | - | 8 | 8 | | | |
| incr1 | 93 | - | 93 | | | |

Figure 5.6: Summary of C.1.1 benchmark

The next two figures (5.7 and 5.8) shows two graphs generated with ggplot2 [14] (a graphing package implemented in top of the **R** statistical package). Any point between the two lines passing through the origin is in the tolerance area (more or less 5%). All the bothering points (cases where glucose win) are located in the area

over both lines. Obvisouly, the first incremental approach wins when points are located under both lines.

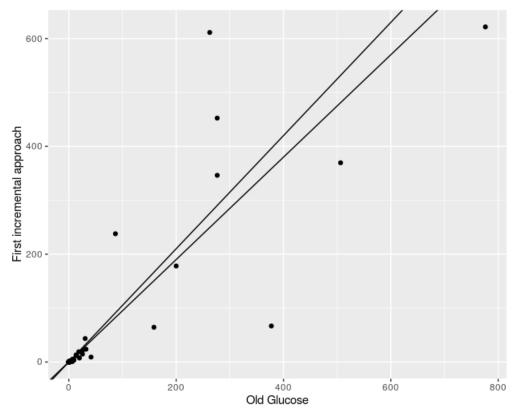


Figure 5.7: Graph comparing both minDBA time of minimization

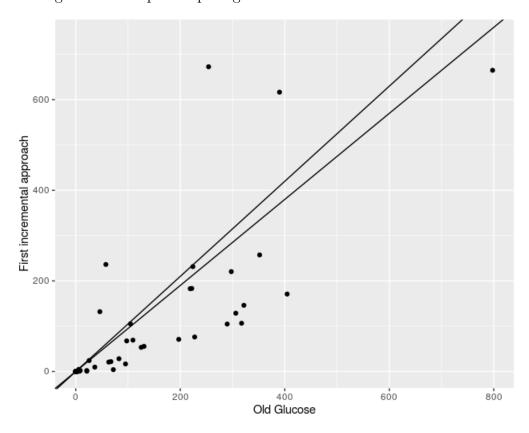


Figure 5.8: Graph comparing both minDTGBA time of minimization

In light of the above, this incremental approach does not seem to be the most appropriate method. This is really surprising. Why all that the SAT solver learned while solving the first traditional encoding did not help him to solve quickly the next similar problems?

An hypothesis raised is that may be the fact that the size of the problem is never decreased affect it? By restarting the encoding from scratch at each step, the Old SAT-based minimization also restarts with a smaller automaton. The smaller the input automaton is, the smaller the SAT problem produced is (with a decreasing number of litterals and clauses).

5.4 A not total incremental approach

With a view to verify the last hypothesis, a similar approach has been proposed. The idea is to provide the opportunity to choose how many times SAT-based minimization should work incrementally before restarting the encoding from scratch. Here times can be seen in two ways. It can be either the number of states to reduce or just a number of attemps before restarting the encoding. The second way has been chosen because gaining many states when only one is expected is unpredictable.

Here is how the algorithm looks like (s means sat_incr_steps and stands for the number of attempts).

Algorithm 4 This incremental approach attemps a traditional encoding and then tries to exclude s states incrementally before restarting the encoding from scratch.

```
1: procedure ReduceStatesDTGBA(R, m = R.NB \text{ ACC SETS}(), s)
2: repeat:
3:
       n \leftarrow R.nb\_states()
       C \leftarrow \text{Synthetize} DTGBA(R, n-1, m)
4:
       if C does not exists then return R
5:
       for i = 0; i < s; ++i do
6:
           add clauses to exclude one more state
7:
           C \leftarrow \text{Try to solve the new problem and build the new automaton}
8:
           if C does not exists then return R
9:
10:
           R \leftarrow C
```

Again, once this was implemented, a new benchmark was made. Different values for s has been tested: 1,2,4 and 8, 2 was the best value between them. Again, for some display reasons, only this version is displayed in comparaison to the Old SAT-based minimization in the figure 5.9 and in the appendix C.1.2.

| | Time (seconds) | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| Formulas | Glucose (As before) | | Incr Naive | |
| | minDBA | minDTGBA | $\min DBA$ | minDTGBA |
| $F(a \wedge GFb) \vee (Fc \wedge Fa \wedge F(c \wedge GF\overline{b}))$ | 0.02 | 57.65 | 0.01 | 237.43 |
| XXG(FaUXb) | 25.15 | 762.74 | 12.48 | (killed) |
| (aR(bRFc))WXGb | (killed) | 254.19 | (killed) | 778.38 |
| $G(XXFaU(a \lor b \lor Fc))$ | 262.56 | (killed) | 501.21 | (killed) |
| $X(\bar{a} \wedge Fa)R(aMFb)$ | 2.19 | 46.12 | 1.71 | 129.43 |
| $(aRFb)UX\bar{c}$ | (killed, ≤ 11) | 389.87 | (killed, ≤ 11) | 425.21 |

Figure 5.9: Parts of C.1.2 benchmark results showing some cases where the Old SAT-based minimization is still better

The figure 5.10 had the same purpose of the figure 5.6, that means with a tolerance of more or less five percents, couting for minDBA and minDTGBA the number of times each version is better than each of the others for each formula.

| DBA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|----|----|----|----|----|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| | glu incr1 incr2p1 incr2p2 incr2p4 incr2p8 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| glu | - | 9 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 43 | | | | | |
| incr1 | 102 | - | 17 | 9 | 14 | 8 | 150 | | | | | |
| incr2p1 | 105 | 31 | - | 19 | 33 | 31 | 219 | | | | | |
| incr2p2 | 105 | 33 | 27 | - | 31 | 31 | 227 | | | | | |
| incr2p4 | 104 | 22 | 24 | 14 | - | 16 | 180 | | | | | |
| incr2p8 | 103 | 18 | 19 | 16 | 12 | - | 168 | | | | | |

| DTGBA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | glu | incr1 | incr2p1 | incr2p2 | incr2p4 | incr2p8 | total | | | | | |
| glu | - | 8 | 13 | 13 | 10 | 12 | 56 | | | | | |
| incr1 | 93 | - | 26 | 15 | 16 | 11 | 161 | | | | | |
| incr2p1 | 95 | 18 | - | 17 | 25 | 20 | 175 | | | | | |
| incr2p2 | 96 | 21 | 27 | - | 26 | 19 | 189 | | | | | |
| incr2p4 | 95 | 12 | 25 | 13 | - | 7 | 152 | | | | | |
| incr2p8 | 95 | 9 | 26 | 13 | 13 | - | 156 | | | | | |

Figure 5.10: Summary of the comparaison between Old SAT-based minimization (Glucose) and the second incremental approach with different values for s: 1, 2, 4 and 8

In the figure 5.10, it is also noticeable that the new incremental approach (algorithm 4) with s=2 seems to give a better performance than the first approach. It is 33 and 21 times better than **incr1** against 9 and 15 times (in favour of **incr1**) respectively for minDBA and minDTGBA.

Up to this time, SAT solvers assumptions have not been tested. This is the subject of the next section.

5.5 Assumptions approach

In incremental SAT solving, assumptions are propositions that, once assumed, hold only for the next invocation of the solver. After that, all the assumption expect to

be assumed again. The SAT solver, when asked for a solution, consider all the basic clauses and the assumed assumptions. That is interesting because it makes possible to keep the basic rules and mix them with different hypothesis at each call.

In our case, the basic rules are obvisouly the traditional encoding and the hypothesis are the removal of states. For a better understanding let us consider the following figure (5.11). The first area represent the traditional encoding. After that, some new variables are introduced $(x_1, x_2, x_3, ...)$, so that each of them represent an assumption that can be assumed. All the assumptions add some clauses to forbid the entrant transitions of one state and implies the previous assumption except the first one (x_1) that does not have any assumption previously declared.

| Areas | File | Some explanations |
|-------|---|---|
| 1 | | Basic clauses |
| 2 | $x_1 => \dots $ $x_1 => \dots $ $x_1 => \dots $ $x_1 => \dots $ | x_1 forbid one more state |
| 3 | $x_2 => \dots $ $x_2 => \dots $ $x_2 => \dots $ $x_2 => \dots $ | x_2 forbid one more state |
| | $x_2 \Longrightarrow x_1$ | x_2 implies x_1 |
| 4 | $x_3 => \dots $ $x_3 => \dots $ $x_3 => \dots $ \vdots | x_3 forbid one more state x_3 implies x_2 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Figure 5.11:

In this way, after a first attempt (just with the basic clauses, no assumptions) succeeds, when:

- \bullet x_1 is assumed, it attempts to forbid one more state
- x_2 is assumed, it attempts to forbid two more states (the one it forbids and the one forbidden by x_1)

- x_3 is assumed, it attempts to forbid three more states (the one it forbids and the two forbidden by x_2)
- etc.

As a reminder, the difference between the first two incremental approach (5.3 and 5.4) is that the first one never restarts the encoding and the second restarts the encoding depending on a given parameter s. In order to conserve this possibility, the number of assumptions corresponds to this parameter as well. So this is how the algorithm works:

Algorithm 5

```
1: procedure ReduceStatesDTGBA(R, m = R.NB \text{ ACC SETS}(), s)
2: repeat:
3:
       n \leftarrow R.nb\_states()
       C \leftarrow \text{Synthetize}DTGBA(R, n-1, m)
4:
       if C does not exists then return R
5:
       Add s assumptions
6:
       Assume the last assumptions //which assumes every assumptions
7:
       C \leftarrow \text{Try to solve the new problem and build the new automaton}
8:
       if C does not exists then
9:
          return binary search(R, R.size() - 1 as max, 1 as min)
10:
       else
11:
          R \leftarrow C
12:
          Go to repeat
13:
```

Another interesting story, is that at the beginning, the first assumption approach was a bit different and did not work at all. When some assumptions have been made and a SAT problem is unsatisfiable (that means there is no solution), some SAT solvers (including PicoSAT) provide a way to ask: is the problem unsatisfiable because of this assumption or this one, etc.? So, the encoding was exactly the same as the figure 5.11 but at the beginning each of the assumptions were assumed - not all the assumptions through the last one but really each of them. If such automaton is found, the process will restart, otherwise it loops over each assumption, asking the solver is it the one that mislead you? Or is it that one? For reasons still unknown, PicoSAT was not able to identify the assumption that failed. If you are interested, this implementation still exists in the aga/assumesat1 branch of the Spot project https://gitlab.lrde.epita.fr/spot/spot/tree/aga/assumesat1.

5.6 Memory optimization

During the internship, benchmarks were firstly run on a cluster with Xeon E5-2620 2.00GHz cpu, 12 physical cores and 256 GO DDR3 of RAM memory. Many benchmarks have been ignored because memory was swapping. We were forced to move to a cluster with Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E7- 2860 @ 2.27GHz, 20 physical cores and 512 GO DDR3 to continue the experiments.

But this has attracted our attention. Call R the reference automaton (the one to minimize) and C the candidate automaton (the minimal automaton we are searching). As stated in the [4] paper page 7, the variables used for the SAT encoding can be grouped in three categories:

- basic transitions (of C)
- accepting transitions that encodes the membership of these transitions to an acceptance set (of C)
- paths variable that encodes a path between one state to another in the product automaton $(C \otimes R)$

We realized that we were saving (using maps) some datas that could be retrieved dynamically when needed. The optimizations made relies on two facts:

- almost everything about the candidate automaton is known. Therefore we tried to save only the necessary informations,
- the litterals are continuous (just increased by one at each time).

This leads us to implement a class that will handle the variables. At the beginning, an object of this class is instantiated with some values about the candidate automaton given. This class provides the necessary functions to retrieve any litteral corresponding to a tuple. Here is an approximate UML representation.

```
spot::vars_helper

size_conditions_: int
size_states_: int
state_based_: bool
...

init(...): void
get_transitions(src, cond, dst): int
get_acctransitions(src, cond, dst, nacc)
...
```

Figure 5.12: Vars helper class UML representation

Massif [18], a heap memory profiler was used with the aim of better evaluating the memory consumption. For some display reasons, the results are showed in the C.2 section of the appendix. Note that as PicoSAT library consume also data, the current version is compared with the old one in the same conditions: by using **Glucose** as external SAT solver.

For the formula G(F(!a)|(F(b)Uc)), we now consume 23 Mb instead of 29,9 Mb. Have in mind that this formula start the minimization with an automaton of 8 states and the more bigger the automaton is, the more memory-hungry SAT-based minimization is.

5.7 Binary search

As said before, the binary search (algorithm 2) implemented before has never been benchmarked. After the memory-usage improvements, it was logical to restart a final benchmark with all the different algorithms we have:

- old default and naive one (algorithm 1),
- binary search (algorithm 2),
- naive incremental (algorithm 3),
- not totally incremental (algorithm 4),
- assumption (algorithm 5)

As a very big surprise, binary search won by litteraly knocking out the others! Again, for display reasons, it is not possible to display all the results. But this benchmark exists and can be reproduced, have a look on **bench/dtgbasat** folder of Spot project: https://gitlab.lrde.epita.fr/spot/spot/tree/master/bench/dtgbasat. There is a **README** file explaining how to do so.

But we can at least show a summary of the final benchmark:

| | DBA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-----|------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | glu | pic | libp | incr1 | incr2p1 | incr2p2 | incr2p4 | incr2p8 | assp1 | assp3 | assp5 | assp6 | assp8 | dicho | total |
| glu | - | 19 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 106 |
| pic | 90 | - | - | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 11 | 5 | 157 |
| libp | 106 | 107 | - | 31 | 18 | 23 | 32 | 29 | 33 | 24 | 29 | 31 | 32 | 42 | 537 |
| incr1 | 102 | 103 | 53 | - | 17 | 9 | 14 | 8 | 35 | 35 | 28 | 33 | 37 | 45 | 519 |
| incr2p1 | 105 | 108 | 60 | 31 | - | 19 | 33 | 31 | 46 | 32 | 35 | 35 | 37 | 49 | 621 |
| incr2p2 | 105 | 105 | 66 | 33 | 27 | - | 31 | 31 | 43 | 37 | 34 | 35 | 40 | 46 | 633 |
| incr2p4 | 104 | 103 | 54 | 22 | 24 | 14 | - | 16 | 37 | 31 | 30 | 30 | 35 | 46 | 546 |
| incr2p8 | 103 | 103 | 56 | 18 | 19 | 16 | 12 | - | 36 | 33 | 34 | 34 | 37 | 46 | 547 |
| assp1 | 109 | 104 | 60 | 47 | 45 | 38 | 47 | 46 | - | 40 | 27 | 36 | 40 | 40 | 679 |
| assp3 | 106 | 99 | 63 | 56 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 51 | 51 | - | 27 | 27 | 31 | 41 | 708 |
| assp5 | 103 | 99 | 62 | 59 | 56 | 50 | 55 | 56 | 45 | 36 | - | 30 | 40 | 42 | 733 |
| assp6 | 104 | 98 | 66 | 60 | 57 | 54 | 60 | 60 | 48 | 39 | 29 | - | 30 | 44 | 749 |
| assp8 | 102 | 102 | 63 | 55 | 50 | 49 | 54 | 52 | 43 | 32 | 25 | 27 | - | 44 | 698 |
| dicho | 113 | 106 | 63 | 55 | 55 | 52 | 58 | 56 | 60 | 65 | 59 | 61 | 62 | - | 865 |

| | DTGBA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-------|-----|------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | glu | pic | libp | incr1 | incr2p1 | incr2p2 | incr2p4 | incr2p8 | assp1 | assp3 | assp5 | assp6 | assp8 | dicho | total |
| glu | - | 19 | 9 | 8 | 13 | 13 | 10 | 12 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 10 | 137 |
| pic | 79 | - | - | 7 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 161 |
| libp | 95 | 98 | - | 22 | 21 | 19 | 25 | 22 | 23 | 17 | 16 | 11 | 17 | 32 | 418 |
| incr1 | 93 | 96 | 54 | - | 26 | 15 | 16 | 11 | 31 | 18 | 15 | 10 | 16 | 33 | 434 |
| incr2p1 | 95 | 94 | 55 | 18 | - | 17 | 25 | 20 | 31 | 16 | 14 | 10 | 18 | 31 | 444 |
| incr2p2 | 96 | 96 | 60 | 21 | 27 | - | 26 | 19 | 30 | 16 | 17 | 12 | 17 | 33 | 470 |
| incr2p4 | 95 | 95 | 51 | 12 | 25 | 13 | - | 7 | 29 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 15 | 36 | 414 |
| incr2p8 | 95 | 95 | 55 | 9 | 26 | 13 | 13 | - | 29 | 17 | 13 | 12 | 17 | 33 | 427 |
| assp1 | 93 | 93 | 59 | 37 | 48 | 42 | 44 | 45 | - | 16 | 15 | 14 | 19 | 33 | 558 |
| assp3 | 97 | 98 | 76 | 63 | 66 | 68 | 68 | 63 | 59 | - | 20 | 13 | 26 | 38 | 755 |
| assp5 | 97 | 99 | 76 | 65 | 65 | 68 | 72 | 67 | 65 | 33 | - | 15 | 39 | 35 | 796 |
| assp6 | 100 | 101 | 78 | 73 | 73 | 71 | 76 | 75 | 68 | 37 | 26 | - | 36 | 41 | 855 |
| assp8 | 101 | 101 | 73 | 70 | 71 | 68 | 75 | 73 | 62 | 34 | 27 | 21 | - | 35 | 811 |
| dicho | 101 | 103 | 69 | 64 | 67 | 66 | 66 | 65 | 67 | 65 | 64 | 63 | 68 | - | 928 |

Figure 5.13: Summary of the final benchmark

5.8 Language map

language_map is a new algorithm that identifies states that recognize the same language. It takes in input an ω -automaton and outputs a vector of integer that has

exactly the same size as the automaton. The number of different values (ignoring occurences) in the vector is the total number of recognized languages. States recognizing the same language have the same value.

To vizualize language_map output, highlight_languages method has also been implemented. It takes in input an ω -automaton and the associated language_map output and colorize the states.

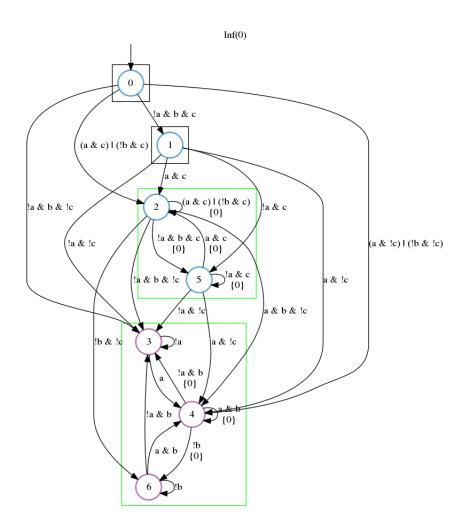


Figure 5.14: An ω -automaton colorized using **-hightlight-language** new option of autfilt

To come back to SAT-based minimization, by default, the binary search algorithm starts with 1 as **min** value. Our theory is that the minimal automaton can not have less states than the total number of languages recognized by each states. Instead of using 1 for **min** value, we set it to the total number of recognized languages. This worked, it improved in general binary search algorithm but in somes cases, which are far from negligible, the default binary search method was still better. This leads to a new command line option: **sat-langmap**. This option is not set by default.

Chapter 6

Bibliography and glossary

References

- [1] A.Duret-Lutz. "LTL translation improvements in Spot 1.0". In: Int. J. on Critical Computer-Based Systems (2014), pp. 31–54.
- [2] A.Duret-Lutz A.E.Ben Salem and F.Kordon. "Model checking using generalized testing automata". In: *Transactions on Petri Nets and Other Models of Concurrency (ToPNoC V1)* (2012), pp. 94–112.
- [3] Automata Theory. URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automata_theory.
- [4] Souheib Baarir and A.Duret-Lutz. "Mechanizing the Minimization of Deterministic Generalized Büchi Automata". In: FORTE vol. 8461 (2014), pp. 266–283. URL: https://www.lrde.epita.fr/~adl/dl/adl/baarir.14.forte.pdf.
- [5] Souheib Baarir and A.Duret-Lutz. "SAT-based Minimization of Deterministic omega-Automata". In: *LPAR* (2015). URL: https://www.lrde.epita.fr/~adl/dl/adl/baarir.15.lpar.pdf.
- [6] Concepts. URL: https://spot.lrde.epita.fr/concepts.html.
- [7] CryptoMiniSat. URL: https://github.com/msoos/cryptominisat/releases/tag/5.0.1.
- [8] DIMACS format. URL: http://www.satcompetition.org/2009/format-benchmarks2009.html.
- [9] A. Duret-Lutz. "Manipulating LTL formulas using Spot 1.0". In: ATVA vol. 8172.13 (Springer, 2013), pp. 442–445.
- [10] A. Duret-Lutz and D.Poitrenaud. "SPOT: an Extensible Model Checking Library using Transition-based Generalized Büchi Automata". In: *MASCOTS* 04 (2004), pp. 76–83.
- [11] Rüdiger Ehlers. Minimising deterministic Büchi automata precisely using SAT solving. 2010.
- [12] fastSAT. URL: https://github.com/shumpaga/fastSAT.
- [13] F.Pérez and B.E.Granger. "IPython: a system for interactive scientific computing". In: Computing in Science and Engineering (21-29, 2007). URL: http://ipython.org/.

- [14] ggplot2. URL: http://ggplot2.org/.
- [15] Glucose. URL: http://www.labri.fr/perso/lsimon/glucose/.
- [16] Google benchmark. URL: https://github.com/google/benchmark.
- [17] Linear-time Temporal Logic (LTL). URL: https://spot.lrde.epita.fr/concepts.html#ltl.
- [18] Massif: a heap profiler. URL: http://valgrind.org/docs/manual/ms-manual.html.
- [19] *Minterms*. URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canonical_normal_form#Minterms.
- [20] PicoSAT. URL: http://fmv.jku.at/picosat/.
- [21] SAT-solving in practice. URL: http://www.cse.chalmers.se/edu/year/2012/course/TDA956/Papers/satFinal.pdf.
- [22] T.Babiak et al. "The Hanoi Omega-Automata format". In: *CAV* vol. 9206.15 (Springer, 2015). URL: http://adl.github.io/hoaf/.
- [23] Turing Machine. URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turing machine.

Part II Appendix

Contents (Appendix)

| A | A Company documentation | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--|-----|--|--|--|--|
| В | B Hardware / Software Documentation | | | | | | | |
| \mathbf{C} | C Gross results | | | | | | | |
| | C.1 Benchmarks | | | | | | | |
| | | C.1.1 | External Glucose vs first incremental approach | V | | | | |
| | | C.1.2 | External Glucose vs a not total incremental approach | vii | | | | |
| | C.2 Heap memory profiling | | | | | | | |
| | | C.2.1 | Before Optimizations | Х | | | | |
| | | C.2.2 | After Optimizations | xi | | | | |

Appendix A Company documentation

Appendix B Hardware / Software Documentation

Appendix C

Gross results

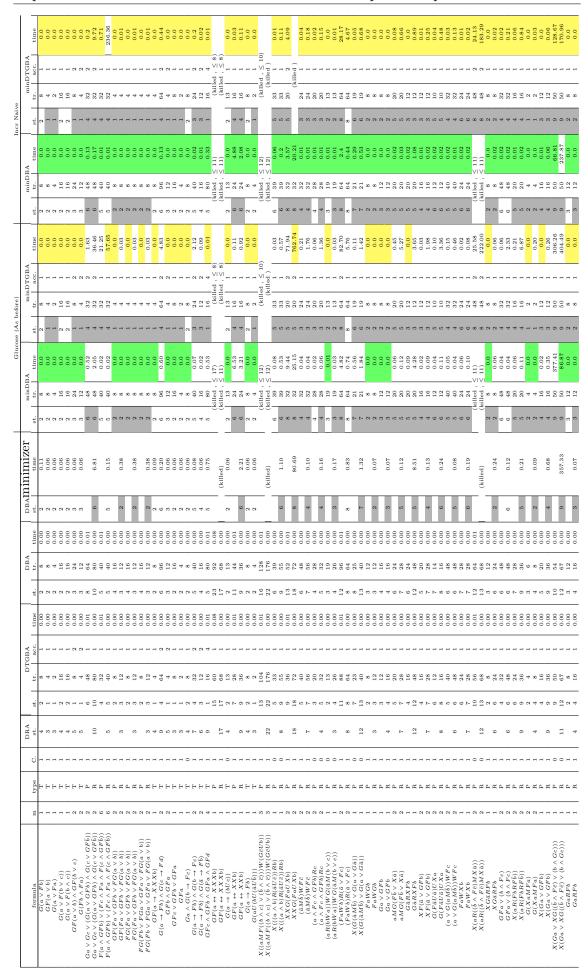
C.1 Benchmarks

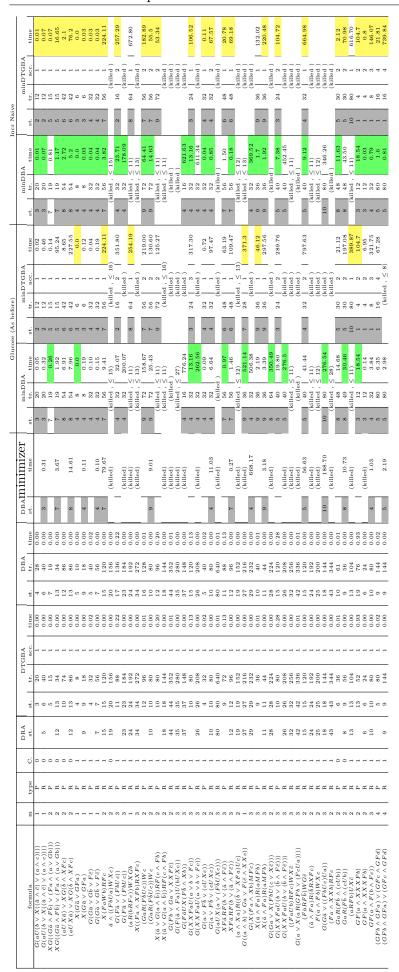
Any benchmark added in this section follows the same chart legend:

- Column type shows how the initial det. aut. was obtained: T = translation produces DTGBA; P = powerset construction transforms TBA to DTBA; R = DRA to DBA.
- Column C. tells whether the output automaton is complete: rejecting sink states are always omitted (add 1 state when C=0 if you want the size of the complete automaton)
- For each formula, green columns correspond to best minDBA time and yellow columns to best minDTGBA time.

C.1.1 External Glucose vs first incremental approach

The following table shows the results of the benchmark that compared the old default SAT-based minimization (using Glucose) to the first incremental approach (using PicoSAT library):

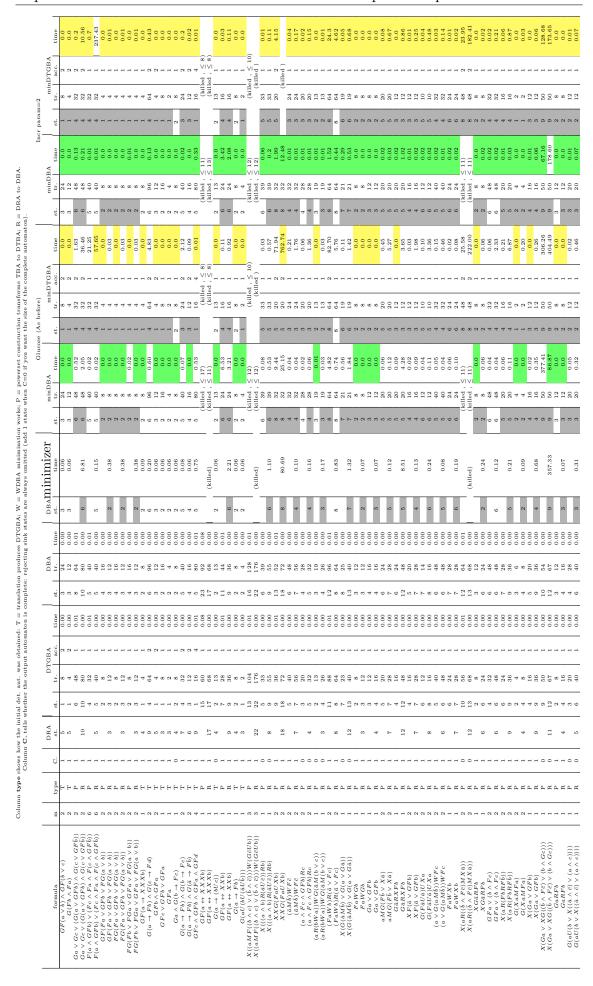


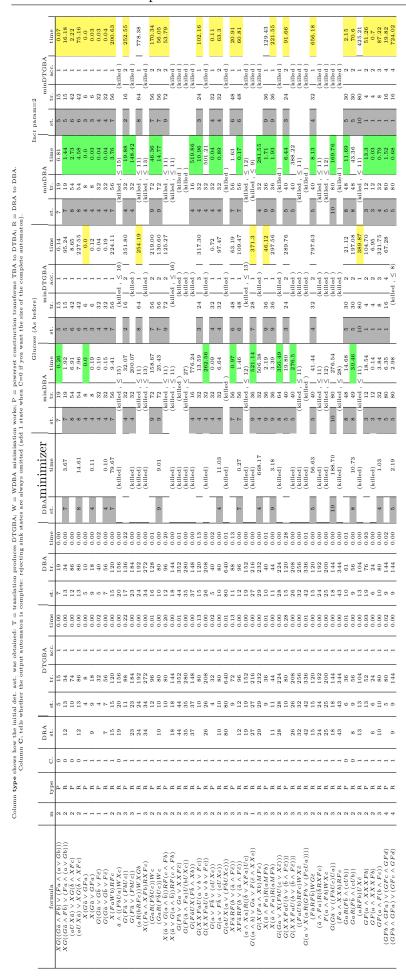


External Glucose vs a not total incremental approach

The following table shows the results of the benchmark that compared the old default SAT-based minimization (using Glucose) to the second incremental approach (using PicoSAT library)

| | | time | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|--|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | GBA | | _ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | minDTGB/ | r | œ | 4 | 01 | 91 | 91 |
| Incr param=2 | | st. tr. acc. | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| Incr | minDBA | | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | | tr. time | m | œ | # | 9 | 9 |
| | | st | 2 | 7 | | 2 | 2 |
| omaton) | | time | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| plete aut | minDTGBA | | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0 | 0. |
| the com | | tr. acc. | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| e size of | | tr. | œ | 4 | 63 | 16 | 16 |
| ou want the size of Glucose (As before) | | st. | 2 | 1 | - | 23 | 2 |
| =0 if you | minDBA | tr. time | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| when C | | tr. | œ | œ | 4 | 16 | 16 |
| d 1 state | | st. | 2 | 67 | 61 | 7 | 67 |
| Column G. tells whether the output automaton is complete: rejecting sink states are always omitted (add 1 state when C=0 if you want the size of the complete automaton). Glucose (As before) | DBAMINIMIZE | time | 0.11 | 90.0 | 90.0 | 90.0 | 90.0 |
| tes are a | | st. | 2 | 61 | 61 | 67 | 61 |
| g sink sta | DBA | time | 00.00 | 00.00 | 00.00 | 00.00 | 00.00 |
| rejectin | | tr. | œ | œ | 4 | 16 | 16 |
| omplete: | | st. | 2 | 7 | 61 | 7 | 7 |
| aton is c | DTGBA | time | 00.00 | 00.00 | 00.00 | 00.00 | 00.00 |
| ut autom | | tr. acc. time | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 |
| dino am | | tr. | œ | 4 | 63 | 16 | 16 |
| | | st. | 2 | - | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| | DRA | st. | 4 | e | n | 4 | 4 |
| | | Ö. | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| | | type | T | E | H | H | E |
| | | ш | 1 | Т | 1 | - | т |
| | | formula | $G(a \lor Fb)$ | $GF(a \lor b)$ | $G(a \lor Fa)$ | $G(a \lor F(b \lor c))$ | $G(a \lor F(b \land c))$ |
| | | | | | | 9 | · · |





C.2 Heap memory profiling

The following figures (C.1 and C.2) shows memory consumption of SAT-based minimization of an input automaton produced with this formula: G(F(!a)|(F(b)Uc)).

In both cases, Glucose is used as external SAT solver. We now consume 23 Mb (figure C.2) instead of 29,9 (figure C.1). Have in mind that this formula start the minimization with an automaton of 8 states and the more bigger the automaton is, the more memory-hungry SAT-based minimization is.

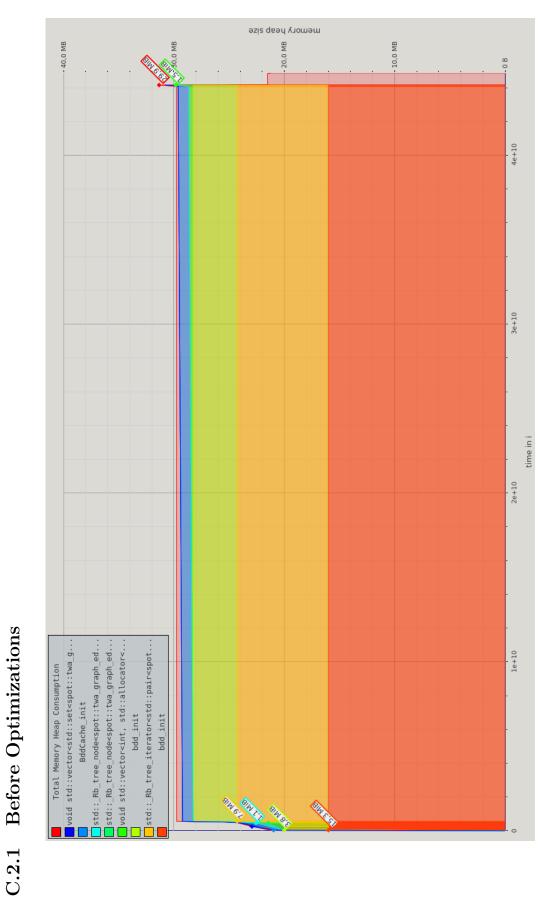


Figure C.1: Memory heap consumption before optimizations

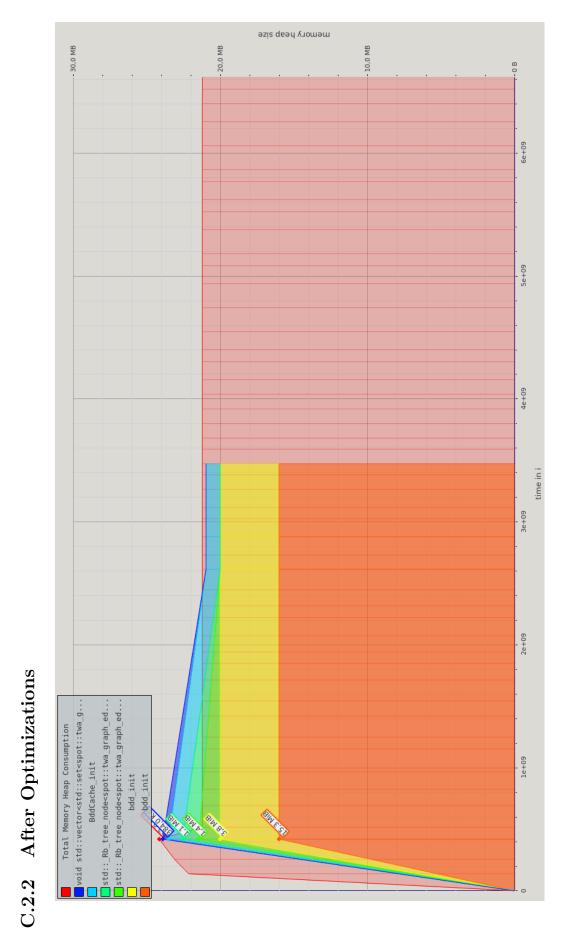


Figure C.2: Memory heap consumption before optimizations