

Internship Report

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June 2022

1 Introduction

There are two goals here, the first one is to build formulas that will allow robots, spread on a ring, to gather. We have k robots and we will use view vectors to build those formulas. The formulas will be an interpretation of the pseudo-code given in the research report [1].

The formulas we are building, will be used with formulas given in an other research report [2], and then will be tested in the acceleration algorithm using an interpolant [2]. Which leads us to the second goal, we want to implement and, if possible, improve this algorithm.

2 Logical Formulas

In this section, we will translate the algorithms given in the research report [1]. Some changes will have to be made because we can't literally translate an algorithm into a first-order logic formula.

Before each formula we will describe briefly their scope : when will they be true (or false). We won't present to you the implementation of those formulas in this report. There will be an annex available with the *Python* implementation that we use in order to test those formulas and to put them in the algorithm [2].

We have three strategies. Each of them allows a robot to move in a given direction based on its environment. They all have the same definition, they take one argument : the view vector (distance vector).

2.1 Configurations with single multiplicity

The strategy ϕ_{SM} is *true* if the given configuration has a single multiplicity and that the robot calling the strategy should move toward the robot at distance d_0 :

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{SM}(d_0, \dots, d_{k-1}) := & \\ & (\bigvee_{i=0}^{k-1} (d_i = 0 \wedge \bigwedge_{j=0, j \neq i}^{k-1} (d_j > 0 \vee (d_j = 0 \wedge d_{j-1} = 0)))) \wedge \\ & (d_{k-1} \neq 0) \wedge \\ & ((d_1 = 0 \wedge d_{k-2} = 0 \wedge d_0 \leq d_{k-1}) \vee (d_1 = 0 \wedge d_{k-2} \neq 0)) \end{aligned}$$

In order to test our strategy we need a function that will initialize our first configuration and make it one with a single multiplicity without being already a winning one, we just thought it'd be a neat thing to do. Here is the formula *InitSM* which is *true* if p , s and t form a configuration with a single multiplicity, the configuration is not a winning one, all p are initialized in the right scope, all t are initialized at 0 and all s are initialized at *RLC* (-1) :

$$\begin{aligned} InitSM(p_0, \dots, p_{k-1}, s_0, \dots, s_{k-1}, t_0, \dots, t_{k-1}, size_{ring}) := & \\ & \bigvee_{i=0}^{k-1} (p_i \neq p_{i+1 \bmod k-1}) \wedge \\ & (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (p_i \geq 0 \wedge p_i < size_{ring} \wedge s_i = -1 \wedge t_i = 0)) \wedge \\ & (\bigvee_{i=0}^{k-1} (\bigvee_{j=0, j \neq i}^{k-1} (p_j = p_i \wedge \bigwedge_{h=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{l=0, l \neq h}^{k-1} (p_h \neq p_l \vee p_h = p_i))))) \end{aligned}$$

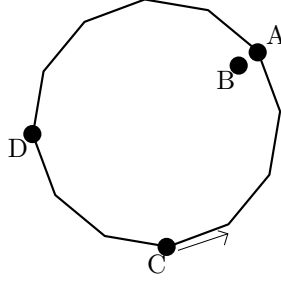


Figure 1: Single multiplicity configuration. Here, the view vector of C is (4, 0, 5, 3). Because there's only one 0 we know there is a single multiplicity. Because the 0 isn't the last int of the vector we know C is not on the multiplicity. There's only one free segment toward the multiplicity, hence C can move on this segment.

2.2 Gathering rigid configurations

Let d_{ij} be the value j of the view vector of the robot i , and ds_{ij} the value j of the symmetrical view of the robot i . The robot is calling the strategy ϕ_R .

Here are all the logic formulas used in order to build ϕ_R :

AllView is true if $d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}$ are all the views you can obtain from a single view vector $dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}$:

$$AllView(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}, d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}) := (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{j=0}^{k-1} (d_{ij} = dist_{(j+i) \bmod k})))$$

IsRigid is true if the given configuration is a rigid configuration. Meaning, all views are distinct, there is no multiplicity, and the configuration isn't symmetric nor periodic.

$$IsRigid(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}) := \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{j=0}^{k-1} d_{ij} \neq 0) \wedge \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{l=0, l \neq i}^{k-1} ((\bigvee_{j=0}^{k-1} d_{ij} \neq d_{lj}) \wedge (\bigvee_{j=0}^{k-1} d_{ij} \neq ds_{lj}) \wedge (\bigvee_{j=0}^{k-1} ds_{ij} \neq d_{lj}) \wedge (\bigvee_{j=0}^{k-1} ds_{ij} \neq ds_{lj})))$$

AllCode is true if (α'_r, β'_r) is the set of two natural numbers of the robot r such as α'_r and β'_r are codes of r 's views, with $\alpha'_r < \beta'_r$. The process which leads us to obtain all view codes is defined in the research report [1].

$$AllCode(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}, \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{k-1}, \beta_0, \dots, \beta_{k-1}, \alpha'_0, \dots, \alpha'_{k-1}, \beta'_0, \dots, \beta'_{k-1}) := \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (\alpha'_i < \beta'_i \wedge (\alpha'_i = \alpha_i \vee \alpha'_i = \beta_i) \wedge (\beta'_i = \alpha_i \vee \beta'_i = \beta_i)) \wedge ((\alpha_0 < \alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_{k-1} < \beta_0 < \dots < \beta_{k-1}) \wedge (\bigvee_{p=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{q=0}^{p-1} (d_{0q} = d_{1q}) \wedge d_{0p} > d_{1p})) \wedge \dots \wedge (\bigvee_{p=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{q=0}^{p-1} (ds_{(k-2)q} = ds_{(k-1)q}) \wedge ds_{(k-2)p} > ds_{(k-1)p}))) \vee ((\alpha_0 < \alpha_2 < \alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_{k-1} < \beta_0 < \dots < \beta_{k-1}) \wedge \dots) \vee \dots)$$

CodeMaker is true if the configuration is rigid and if $(a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}, as_0, \dots, as_{k-1})$ are each code of each view passed as a parameter :

$$CodeMaker(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}, a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}) := IsRigid(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}) \wedge \exists \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{k-1}, \beta_0, \dots, \beta_{k-1}, \alpha'_0, \dots, \alpha'_{k-1}, \beta'_0, \dots, \beta'_{k-1}, AllCode(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}, \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{k-1}, \beta_0, \dots, \beta_{k-1}, \alpha'_0, \dots, \alpha'_{k-1}, \beta'_0, \dots, \beta'_{k-1}) \wedge (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{j=0, j \neq i}^{k-1} ((a_i > a_j \wedge \alpha'_j > \alpha'_i) \vee (a_i < a_j \wedge \alpha'_j < \alpha'_i)))) \wedge (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (\bigwedge_{j=0, j \neq i}^{k-1} a_i \neq a_j))$$

FindMax is true if *Max* is the highest value of the view vector passed as a parameter :

$$FindMax(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}, Max) := \\ (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (Max \geq dist_i) \wedge (\bigvee_{i=0}^{k-1} (Max = dist_i)))$$

FindM is *true* if *M* is the index of the robot (index in the view vector) which has the largest code of view and a neighboring robot at distance *Max* :

$$FindM(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}, Max, dM_0, \dots, dM_{k-1}) := \\ \bigvee_{m=0}^{k-1} ((\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} ((a_m \geq a_i \wedge (d_{i0} = Max \vee d_{ik-1} = Max)) \\ \vee (d_{i0} < Max \wedge d_{ik-1} < Max))) \wedge M = m)$$

FindN is *true* if *N* is the index of the robot (index in the view vector) with the largest code of view and *M* as a neighboring robot at distance *Max* :

$$FindN(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}, Max, M, N) := \\ (d_{M0} = Max \wedge d_{Mk-1} = Max \wedge \\ ((N = ((M+1) \bmod k) \wedge a_{(M+1) \bmod k} > a_{(M-1) \bmod k}) \vee \\ (N = ((M-1) \bmod k) \wedge a_{(M-1) \bmod k} > a_{(M+1) \bmod k}))) \\ \vee \\ (d_{M0} = Max \wedge d_{Mk-1} \neq Max \wedge N = ((M+1) \bmod k)) \\ \vee \\ (d_{M0} \neq Max \wedge d_{Mk-1} = Max \wedge N = ((M-1) \bmod k))$$

Since those formulas can't be implemented in *Python* because it is impossible to work around a variable index, we choose to build a new formula, *FindMN* that will be *true* if both vectors *dM* and *dN* are the view vector of, respectively, *M* and *N*.

$$FindMN(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}, Max, M, N, \\ dM_0, \dots, dM_{k-1}, dN_0, \dots, dN_{k-1}) := \\ \bigvee_{m=0}^{k-1} ((\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} ((a_m \geq a_i \wedge (d_{i0} = Max \vee d_{ik-1} = Max)) \\ \vee (d_{i0} < Max \wedge d_{ik-1} < Max))) \wedge M = m \wedge \\ ((d_{m0} = Max \wedge d_{mk-1} = Max \wedge \\ ((N = M+1 \bmod k \wedge a_{(m+1) \bmod k} > a_{(m-1) \bmod k}) \vee \\ (N = M-1 \bmod k \wedge a_{(m-1) \bmod k} > a_{(m+1) \bmod k}))) \vee \\ (d_{m0} = Max \wedge d_{mk-1} \neq Max \wedge N = M+1 \bmod k) \vee \\ (d_{m0} \neq Max \wedge d_{mk-1} = Max \wedge N = M-1 \bmod k)) \wedge \\ ((N = M-1 \bmod k \wedge (\bigwedge_{l=0}^{k-1} (dN_l = d_{(m-1 \bmod k)((k-1)-l)} \wedge dM_l = d_{ml}))) \vee \\ (N = M+1 \bmod k \wedge (\bigwedge_{l=0}^{k-1} (dN_l = d_{(m+1 \bmod k)l} \wedge dM_l = d_{m((k-1)-l)})))))$$

ϕ_R is *true* if the configuration is rigid, and if the robot is *M* and has a closest neighbor than *N*, or if the robot is *N* and has a closest neighbor than *M*.

$$\phi_R(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}) := \\ \exists d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, AllView(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}, d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}) \wedge \\ \exists ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}, \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (ViewSym(d_{i0}, \dots, d_{ik-1}, ds_{i0}, \dots, ds_{ik-1})) \wedge \\ \exists Max, a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}, dM_0, \dots, dM_{k-1}, dN_0, \dots, dN_{k-1}, \\ CodeMaker(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}, a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}) \wedge \\ FindMax(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}, Max) \wedge \\ FindMN(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, a_0, \dots, a_{k-1}, Max, dM_0, \dots, dM_{k-1}, dN_0, \dots, dN_{k-1}) \wedge \\ \exists dM_{20}, \dots, dM_{2k-1}, dN_{20}, \dots, dN_{2k-1}, \\ ((\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (dM_{2i} = dM_{i+1 \bmod k})) \vee (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (dM_{2i} = dM_{i-1 \bmod k}))) \wedge \\ (\bigvee_{i=0}^{k-1} (dM_{2i} \neq dN_i)) \wedge \\ ((\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (dN_{2i} = dN_{i+1 \bmod k})) \vee (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (dN_{2i} = dN_{i-1 \bmod k}))) \wedge \\ (\bigvee_{i=0}^{k-1} (dN_{2i} \neq dM_i)) \wedge \\ \exists distM_0, \dots, distM_{k-1}, distN_0, \dots, distN_{k-1}, \\ \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (distM_i = (\sum_{l=0}^i dM_l) \wedge distN_i = (\sum_{l=0}^i dN_l)) \wedge \\ (\bigvee_{i=0}^{k-1} ((distM_i < distN_i \bigwedge_{q=0}^i (distM_q = distN_q) \bigwedge_{j=0}^{k-1} (dM_j = dist_j)) \vee \\ (distM_i > distN_i \bigwedge_{q=0}^i (distM_q = distN_q) \bigwedge_{j=0}^{k-1} (dN_j = dist_j))))$$

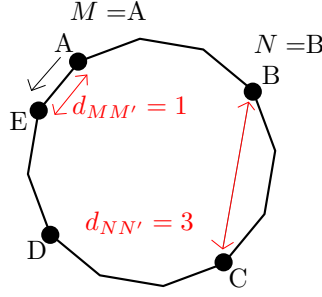


Figure 2: Rigid configuration. Here A has the biggest code of view, and the only neighbor at distance *Max* that he has is B, hence A is *M* and B is *N*. As we can see with the distance in red, A will move toward E : this will create a single multiplicity faster than if B would have moved toward C

2.3 Gathering an odd number of robots

We are now building a strategy, ϕ_{ON} , that will gather an odd number of robots on a non-periodic configuration. It is the strategy with the lowest priority, meaning that the configuration won't be rigid and won't have any multiplicity.

First we build the formula, *IsPeriodic*, that will return *true* if the configuration is periodic with an odd number of robots :

$$\begin{aligned} IsPeriodic(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}) := \\ \exists p \in [1; \lfloor \frac{k}{3} \rfloor], (p+1) \bmod 2 = 0 \wedge \\ \exists d'_0, \dots, d'_{p-1}, \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (d'_i \bmod p = dist_i) \end{aligned}$$

Now, we build ϕ_{OD} , the strategy returns *true* if the configuration is non-rigid, non-periodic, has no multiplicity and has an odd number of robots. If the robot is axial then it moves in order to create a multiplicity or a rigid configuration.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{ON}(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}) := \\ \exists d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, AllView(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}, d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}) \wedge \\ \exists ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}, \bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} (ViewSym(d_{i0}, \dots, d_{ik-1}, ds_{i0}, \dots, ds_{ik-1})) \wedge \\ \neg IsRigid(d_{00}, \dots, d_{k-1k-1}, ds_{00}, \dots, ds_{k-1k-1}) \wedge \\ ((k+1) \bmod 2 = 0) \wedge \\ \neg IsPeriodic(dist_0, \dots, dist_{k-1}) \wedge \\ (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} dist_i \neq 0) \wedge \\ (\bigwedge_{i=0}^{k-1} dist_i = ds_{0i}) \end{aligned}$$

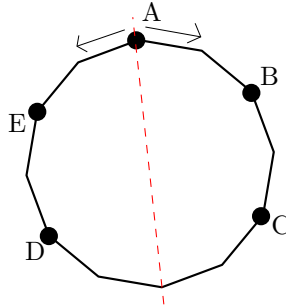


Figure 3: A symmetrical, non-periodic configuration with an odd number of robots. Here, if the robot is axial it moves. In this case, A moves in order to create, eventually, a rigid configuration or a single multiplicity.

3 Algorithms

Now that we have done all of our logical formulas, we need to test those in the acceleration algorithm using an interpolant [2] and in an alternate version of that same algorithm.

We needed to create an alternate version because of the way the formula, *BouclePerdante*, is done. Two ways it can be done :

1. we can try to create a loosing loop by trying to add as many *AsyncPost* as needed (increase the size of the loop if it's not a loosing one) with a maximum of the size of the graph of all possible configurations
2. or we can try to create a loop that comes back to a previous configuration with only one *AsyncPost*

The first possibility has been implemented in the acceleration algorithm using an interpolant [2]. In order to implement the second possibility we needed to change the algorithm because the winning condition wasn't good anymore.

First we will try to prove that the alternate version of the algorithm works. Here is the algorithm :

```

1 foreach synchronous winning strategy f do
2    $k = 1$ ;
3   while true do
4      $I(c) = \text{Init}(c)$ ;
5      $\text{continue} = \text{true}$ ;
6     while continue do
7       if  $\text{MaybeThisSize} \neq \text{null}$  then
8          $\text{NotThisSizeBis} = [i \text{ for } i \text{ in range}(k) \text{ and } i \notin \text{MaybeThisSize}]$ ;
9         if  $\text{Init}(c) \wedge \text{Post}(c, c1), \text{Post}(c1, c2) \wedge \dots \wedge \text{Post}(c_{k-1}, c_k) \wedge$ 
10            $\text{BouclePerdante}(c_k, \text{NotThisSizeBis}) \text{ SAT}$  then
11            $\text{exit}$ ; /* Loosing Strategy */
12         end
13       end
14       if  $I(c) \wedge \text{Post}(c, c1), \text{Post}(c1, c2) \wedge \dots \wedge \text{Post}(c_{k-1}, c_k) \wedge$ 
15          $\text{BouclePerdante}(c_k, \text{NotThisSize}) \text{ SAT}$  then
16         if  $I = \text{Init}$  then
17            $\text{exit}$ ; /* Loosing Strategy */
18         else
19            $\text{MaybeThisSize.append}(k)$ ;
20            $k = k + 1$ ;
21            $\text{continue} = \text{false}$ ;
22         end
23       else
24          $I' = \text{Interpolant}(I(c) \wedge \text{Post}(c, c1), \text{Post}(c1, c2) \wedge \dots \wedge \text{Post}(c_{k-1}, c_k) \wedge$ 
25            $\text{BouclePerdante}(c_k, \text{NotThisSize}))$ ;
26         if  $I' \implies I$  then
27           if  $k = \text{size}_{\text{max}}$  then
28              $\text{exit}$ ; /* Winning Strategy */
29           else
30              $\text{NotThisSize.append}(k)$ ;
31              $k = k + 1$ ;
32              $\text{continue} = \text{false}$ ;
33           end
34         else
35            $I = I \vee I'$ ;
36         end
37       end
38     end
39   end
40 end

```

Proof :

First let's talk about the termination of the algorithm :

- The list of synchronous winning strategy is finished
- We can exit the "**while true**" (1.3) loop with *exit* instructions that we find at line 10, 15 and 25.
 - We find a losing loop without the interpolant and then we enter the *exit* at line 10 or the one at line 15 if I is still equal to $Init$
 - We find a losing loop with the interpolant and then we increase k , we exit the "**while continue**" loop (1.6) which allows us to reinitialize I and test if a losing loop exists for a higher k or for this k without the interpolant.
 - We don't find any losing loop, then, eventually, the interpolant will stop growing and $(I \vee I') \implies I$, likewise, k will reach $size_{max}$ and we will enter the *exit* at line 25. k will always reach $size_{max}$ if there is no losing loop, because if the condition line 13, which checks if there is a losing loop, is false, then if $k < size_{max}$ we reach line 28 and we increase k . Also, the interpolant will eventually stop growing because the graph of all possible configurations is finished and the interpolant won't create new variables.
- To summarize, we can't have more than $size_{max}$ failure at finding a losing loop and if we find one we either exit if $Init = I$ or we keep trying until we find none or one where $Init = I$.

Now, let's see if the algorithm returns what we need :

- There is no object returned here, what we are showing is that the algorithm exits at the proper instruction in the proper circumstances.
- Let's try a proof by contradiction :
 - First, we assume that all the formulas are right and do what they are supposed to do.
 - Let's say we exit the algorithm line 10, and that there is, in fact, no losing loop. Then the condition line 9 must have been *SAT* in order to execute the instruction line 10 but because there is no losing loop then the condition line 9 is *UNSAT* and we face a contradiction.
 - Likewise, let's assume we exit the algorithm line 15 and that the strategy has no losing loop. It is possible that the condition line 13 is *SAT* but because we know there is no losing loop then I has been modified by the interpolant, creating new configurations, including some that aren't reachable (otherwise the strategy has a losing loop). Then if I has been modified, the condition line 14 is *false* and we never execute the instruction line 15. In the other hand, if I hasn't been modified then the condition line 13 is *UNSAT* because there is no losing loop and we never execute the set of instructions between line 14 and 19 and we don't exit line 15. We face a contradiction.
 - Finally, let's say we exit the algorithm at line 25 and that there is a losing loop. Two things : we have reached $k = size_{max}$ and the interpolant can't grow anymore ($I' \implies I$), meaning that, for every loop size and for all configurations we can't find a losing loop. Because there is a losing loop either the interpolant find it (1.13) and we add the size to *MaybeThisSize* and then we confirm the size of the losing loop line 9, either we find the loop when $I = Init$ at line 13. We only increase k by one for each iteration. k can't reach $size_{max}$ without reaching first the size of the losing loop that will be added to *MaybeThisSize* or will lead directly to the *exit* line 15. We face a contradiction.

4 Tests

We are now comparing both algorithms through some tests. We will put an initialized configuration with no other conditions than : no winning configuration, all s at -1 and all t at 0 . And with that configuration, one of the strategy written above. We mesure the time it takes the algorithm to find a loosing loop. We will change the number of robots and the size of the ring from a test to another. There is a timeout of 24h (86400s), and all tests are performed on the same computer.

Here 'algov5' is the algorithm from the report [2], and 'algov7' is the alternate version of the algorithm, presented above.

We will use one graph per number of robots. Each graph will show the time it tooked to find a loosing loop per size of the ring for a given number of robots.

4.1 Test ϕ_{Simple}

First, we test ϕ_{Simple} , a simple strategy that moves the robot toward its closest neighbor.

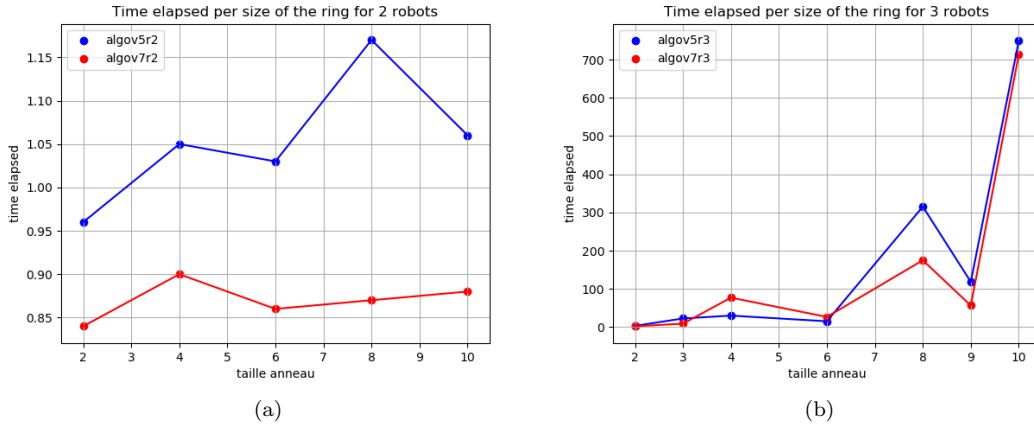


Figure 4: Results for 2 (a) & 3 (b) robots

4.2 Test ϕ_{SM}

Now we test ϕ_{SM} , a strategy a bit more elaborate that should be harder to solve and more relevant. Here, the timeout is 6h (21600s).

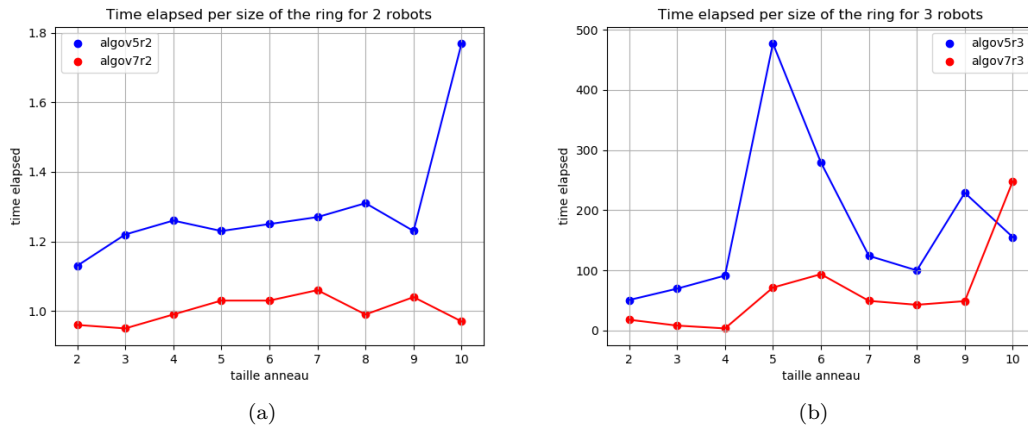


Figure 5: Results for 2 (a) & 3 (b) robots

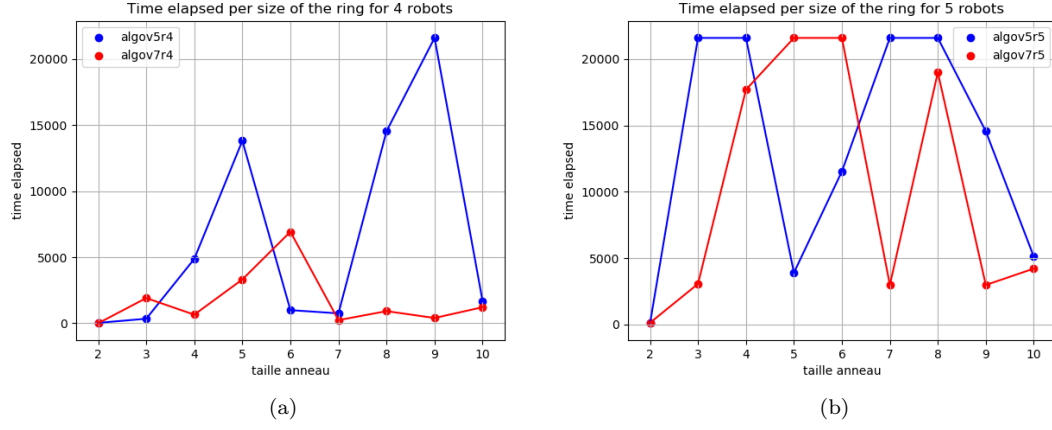


Figure 6: Results for 4 (a) & 5 (b) robots

4.3 Test ϕ_R

Finally, we test ϕ_R the most complex strategy that we have.

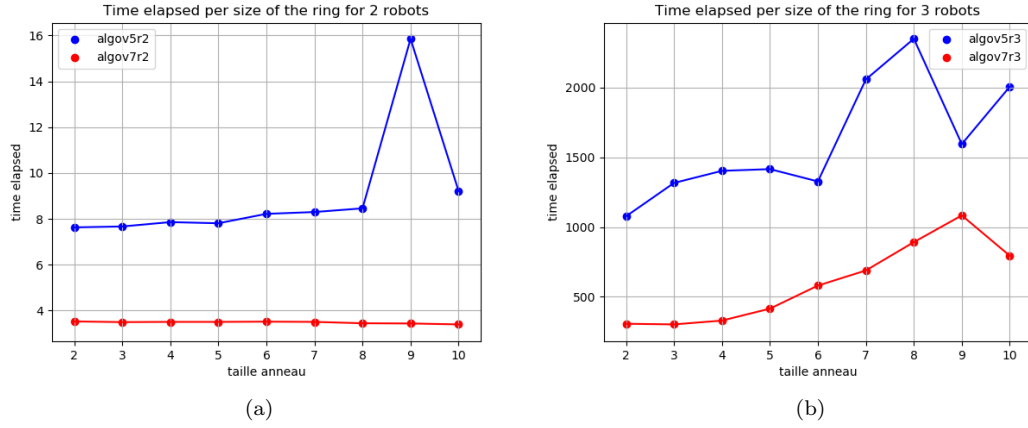


Figure 7: Results for 2 (a) & 3 (b) robots

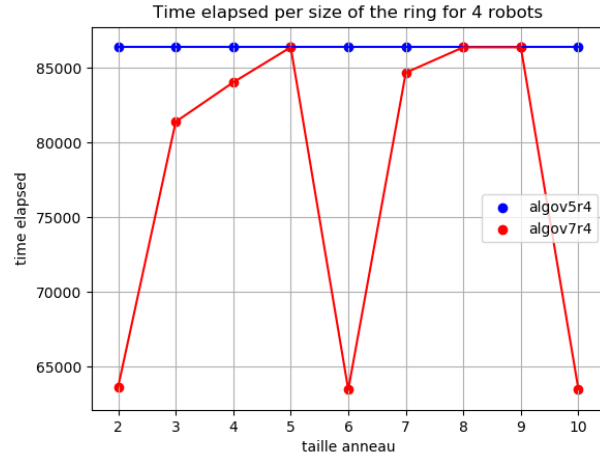


Figure 8: Results for 4 robots

References

- [1] Ralf Klasing, Euripides Markou, and Andrzej Pelc. *Gathering asynchronous oblivious mobile robots in a ring*. Tech. rep. RR-1422-07. UMR 5800 - Université Bordeaux 1, 351, cours de la Libération, 33405 Talence CEDEX, France: Laboratoire Bordelais de Recherche en Informatique, Jan. 2007.
- [2] Nathalie Sznajder and Souheib Baarir. *Algorithme d'accélération par interpolants. (French) [Acceleration Algorithm using an interpolant]*. Tech. rep. Laboratoire Informatique de Paris 6 (LIP6), Feb. 2022.