

Traces Properties

Semantics and applications to verification

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Program of this lecture

Goal of verification

Prove that $\llbracket P \rrbracket \subseteq \mathcal{S}$

(i.e., all behaviors of P satisfy specification \mathcal{S})

where $\llbracket P \rrbracket$ is the **program semantics** and \mathcal{S} the **desired specification**

Last week, we studied a form of $\llbracket P \rrbracket$...

Today's lecture: we look back at program's properties

- **families of properties:**
what properties can be considered “similar” ? in what sense ?
- **proof techniques:**
how can those kinds of properties be established ?
- **specification of properties:**
are there languages to describe properties ?

A high level overview

- In this lecture we look at **trace properties**
- A property is **a set of traces**, defining the **admissible** executions

Safety properties:

- **something (e.g., bad) will never happen**
- proof by invariance

Liveness properties:

- **something (e.g., good) will eventually happen**
- proof by variance

Beyond safety and liveness: **hyperproperties** (e.g., **security...**)

State properties

As usual, we consider $\mathcal{S} = (\mathbb{S}, \rightarrow, \mathbb{S}_I)$

First approach: properties as sets of states

- A property \mathcal{P} is a **set of states** $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathbb{S}$
- \mathcal{P} is satisfied if and only if all reachable states belong to \mathcal{P} , i.e., $[[\mathcal{S}]]_{\mathcal{R}} \subseteq \mathcal{P}$ where $[[\mathcal{S}]]_{\mathcal{R}} = \{s_n \in \mathbb{S} \mid \exists \langle s_0, \dots, s_n \rangle \in [[\mathcal{S}]]^*, s_0 \in \mathbb{S}_I\}$

Examples:

- **Absence of runtime errors:**

$$\mathcal{P} = \mathbb{S} \setminus \{\Omega\} \quad \text{where } \Omega \text{ is the error state}$$

- **Non termination** (e.g., for an operating system):

$$\mathcal{P} = \{s \in \mathbb{S} \mid \exists s' \in \mathbb{S}, s \rightarrow s'\}$$

Trace properties

Second approach: properties as sets of traces

- A property \mathcal{T} is a **set of traces** $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathbb{S}^\omega$
- \mathcal{T} is satisfied if and only if all traces belong to \mathcal{T} , i.e., $[[\mathcal{S}]]^\omega \subseteq \mathcal{T}$

Examples:

- Obviously, **state properties** are trace properties
- **Functional properties**:
e.g., “program P takes one integer input x and returns its absolute value”
- **Termination**: $\mathcal{T} = \mathbb{S}^*$ (i.e., the system should have no infinite execution)

Monotonicity

Property 1

Let $\mathcal{P}_0, \mathcal{P}_1 \subseteq \mathbb{S}$ be two state properties, such that $\mathcal{P}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{P}_1$.

Then \mathcal{P}_0 is **stronger than** \mathcal{P}_1 , i.e. if program \mathcal{S} satisfies \mathcal{P}_0 , then it also satisfies \mathcal{P}_1 .

Property 2

Let $\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_1 \subseteq \mathbb{S}$ be two trace properties, such that $\mathcal{T}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{T}_1$.

Then \mathcal{T}_0 is **stronger than** \mathcal{T}_1 , i.e. if program \mathcal{S} satisfies \mathcal{T}_0 , then it also satisfies \mathcal{T}_1 .

Property 3

Let $\mathcal{S}_0, \mathcal{S}_1$ two transition systems, such that \mathcal{S}_1 has more behaviors than \mathcal{S}_0 (i.e., $\llbracket \mathcal{S}_0 \rrbracket \subseteq \llbracket \mathcal{S}_1 \rrbracket$), and \mathcal{P} be a (trace or state) property. Then, if \mathcal{S}_1 satisfies \mathcal{P} , so does \mathcal{S}_0 .

Proofs: straightforward application of the definitions

Outline

- 1 Safety properties
 - Informal and formal definitions
 - Proof method
- 2 Liveness properties
- 3 Decomposition of trace properties
- 4 A Specification Language: Temporal logic
- 5 Beyond safety and liveness
- 6 Conclusion

Safety properties

Informal definition: safety properties

A safety property is a property which specifies that some (bad) **behavior defined by a finite, irrecoverable observation will never occur**, at any time

- **Absence of runtime errors** is a safety property (“bad thing”: error)
- **State properties** is a safety property (“bad thing”: reaching $\mathbb{S} \setminus \mathcal{P}$)
- **Non termination** is a safety property (“bad thing”: reaching a blocking state)
- **“Not reaching state b after visiting state a ”** is a safety property (and **not** a state property)
- **Termination** is **not** a safety property

We now intend to provide a **formal definition** of safety.

Towards a formal definition

How to refute a safety property ?

- We assume \mathcal{S} does **not** satisfy safety property \mathcal{P}
- Thus, there exists a **counter-example trace**
 $\sigma = \langle s_0, \dots, s_n, \dots \rangle \in \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket \setminus \mathcal{P}$;
at this point of our study, the trace may be finite or infinite...
- The intuitive definition says this trace **eventually exhibits some bad behavior**, that is **irrecoverable** at **observed at some given time**, thus the observation corresponds to some index i
- Therefore, trace $\sigma' = \langle s_0, \dots, s_i \rangle$ violates \mathcal{P} , i.e. $\sigma' \notin \mathcal{P}$
- Due to the irrecoverability of the observation, the same goes for any trace with the same prefix
- We remark σ' is **finite**

**A safety property that does not hold
can always be refuted with a finite, irrecoverable counter-example**

A Few Operators on Traces

Prefix: We write $\sigma \upharpoonright_i$ for the prefix of length i of trace σ :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle s_0, \dots, s_n \rangle \upharpoonright_0 &= \epsilon \\ \langle s_0, \dots, s_n \rangle \upharpoonright_{i+1} &= \begin{cases} \langle s_0, \dots, s_i \rangle & \text{if } i < n \\ \langle s_0, \dots, s_n \rangle & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ \langle s_0, \dots \rangle \upharpoonright_{i+1} &= \langle s_0, \dots, s_i \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Suffix (or tail):

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma \downarrow_i &= \epsilon && \text{if } |\sigma| < i \\ (\langle s_0, \dots, s_i \rangle \cdot \sigma) \downarrow_{i+1} &::= \sigma && \text{otherwise} \end{aligned}$$

Upper closure operators

Definition: upper closure operator (uco)

We consider a preorder $(\mathcal{S}, \sqsubseteq)$. Function $\phi : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ is an **upper closure operator** iff:

- **monotone**
- **extensive:** $\forall x \in \mathcal{S}, x \sqsubseteq \phi(x)$
- **idempotent:** $\forall x \in \mathcal{S}, \phi(\phi(x)) = \phi(x)$

Dual: lower closure operator, monotone, reductive, idempotent

Examples:

- on real/decimal numbers, or on fraction:
the **ceiling** operator, that returns the next integer is an upper-closure operator

Prefix closure

Definition: prefix closure

The prefix closure operator is defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PCI} : \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^\infty) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^*) \\ X &\longmapsto \{\sigma_{\upharpoonright i} \mid \sigma \in X, i \in \mathbb{N}\} \end{aligned}$$

Example: assuming $\mathcal{S} = \{\langle a, b, c \rangle, \langle a, c \rangle\}$ then,

$$\text{PCI}(\mathcal{S}) = \{\epsilon, \langle a \rangle, \langle a, b \rangle, \langle a, b, c \rangle, \langle a, c \rangle\}$$

Properties:

- PCI is monotone
- PCI is idempotent, i.e., $\text{PCI} \circ \text{PCI}(X) = \text{PCI}(X)$
- PCI is not extensive on $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^\infty)$ (infinite traces do not appear anymore) its restriction to $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^*)$

Limit

Definition: limit

The **limit operator** is defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lim} : \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^\infty) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^\infty) \\ X &\longmapsto X \cup \{\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^\infty \mid \forall i \in \mathbb{N}, \sigma_{\upharpoonright i} \in X\} \end{aligned}$$

Operator Lim is an **upper-closure operator**

Proof: exercise!

Example: assuming

$$\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \epsilon, & \langle a \rangle \\ \langle a, b \rangle & \langle a, b, a \rangle \\ \langle a, b, a, b \rangle & \langle a, b, a, b, a \rangle \dots \end{array} \right\}$$

then,

$$\text{Lim}(\mathcal{S}) = \mathcal{S} \uplus \{\langle a, b, a, b, a, b, \dots \rangle\}$$

Towards a formal definition for safety

Operator Safe

Operator Safe is defined by $\text{Safe} = \text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}$.

Operator **Safe saturates** a set of traces S with

- prefixes
- infinite traces all finite prefixes of which can be observed in S

Thus, if $\text{Safe}(S) = S$ and σ is a trace, to establish that σ is not in S , it is sufficient to discover a **finite prefix of σ** that cannot be observed in S .

- if σ is finite the result is clear (consider σ)
- otherwise, if all finite prefixes of σ are in S , then σ is in the limit, thus in S .

Safety: definition

A trace property \mathcal{T} is a **safety** property if and only if $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$

Safety properties: formal definition

An upper closure operator

Operator Safe is an upper closure operator over $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^\infty)$

Proof:

Safe is **monotone** since Lim and PCI are monotone

Safe is **extensive**:

indeed if $X \subseteq \mathbb{S}^\infty$ and $\sigma \in X$, we can show that $\sigma \in \text{Safe}(X)$:

- if σ is a finite trace, it is one of its prefixes, so $\sigma \in \text{PCI}(X) \subseteq \text{Lim}(\text{PCI}(X))$
- if σ is an infinite trace, all its prefixes belong to $\text{PCI}(X)$, so $\sigma \in \text{Lim}(\text{PCI}(X))$

Safety properties: formal definition

Proof (continued):

Safe is idempotent:

- as Safe is extensive and monotone $\text{Safe} \subseteq \text{Safe} \circ \text{Safe}$, so we simply need to show that $\text{Safe} \circ \text{Safe} \subseteq \text{Safe}$
- let $X \subseteq \mathbb{S}^\omega, \sigma \in \text{Safe}(\text{Safe}(X))$; then:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sigma \in \text{Safe}(\text{Safe}(X)) \\
 \Rightarrow & \forall i, \sigma \upharpoonright_i \in \text{PCI} \circ \text{Safe}(X) && \text{by def. of Lim} \\
 \Rightarrow & \forall i, \exists \sigma', j, \sigma \upharpoonright_i = \sigma' \upharpoonright_j \wedge \sigma' \in \text{Safe}(X) && \text{by def. of PCI} \\
 \Rightarrow & \forall i, \exists \sigma', j, \sigma \upharpoonright_i = \sigma' \upharpoonright_j \wedge \forall k, \sigma' \upharpoonright_k \in \text{PCI}(X) \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{by def. of Lim and case analysis over finiteness of } \sigma' \\
 \Rightarrow & \forall i, \exists \sigma', j, \sigma \upharpoonright_i = \sigma' \upharpoonright_j \wedge \sigma' \upharpoonright_j \in \text{PCI}(X) && \text{if we take } k = j \\
 \Rightarrow & \forall i, \sigma \upharpoonright_i \in \text{PCI}(X) && \text{by simplification} \\
 \Rightarrow & \sigma \in \text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(X) && \text{by def. of Lim} \\
 \Rightarrow & \sigma \in \text{Safe}(X)
 \end{aligned}$$

Safety properties: formal definition

Safety: definition

A trace property \mathcal{T} is a **safety** property if and only if $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$

Theorem

If \mathcal{T} is a trace property, then $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})$ is a **safety property**

Proof:

Straightforward, by idempotence of Safe

Intuition:

- if \mathcal{T} is a trace property (not necessarily a safety property), $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})$ is **the strongest safety property, that is weaker than \mathcal{T}**
- at this point, this observation is not so useful...
but it will be soon!

Example

We assume that:

- $\mathbb{S} = \{a, b\}$
- \mathcal{T} states that **a should not be visited after state b is visited**; elements of \mathcal{T} are of the general form

$$\langle a, a, a, \dots, a, b, b, b, b, \dots \rangle \text{ or } \langle a, a, a, \dots, a, a, \dots \rangle$$

Then:

- $\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$ elements are all finite traces which are of the above form (i.e., made of n occurrences of a followed by m occurrences of b , where n, m are positive integers)
- $\text{Lim}(\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}))$ adds to this set the trace made made of infinitely many occurrences of a and the infinite traces made of n occurrences of a followed by infinitely many occurrences of b
- thus, $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) = \text{Lim}(\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})) = \mathcal{T}$

Therefore \mathcal{T} is indeed formally **a safety property**.

State properties are safety properties

Theorem

Any **state property** is also a **safety property**.

Proof:

Let us consider **state property** \mathcal{P} .

It is equivalent to **trace property** $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{P}^\infty$:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) &= \text{Lim}(\text{PCI}(\mathcal{P}^\infty)) \\ &= \text{Lim}(\mathcal{P}^*) \\ &= \mathcal{P}^* \cup \mathcal{P}^\omega \\ &= \mathcal{P}^\infty \\ &= \mathcal{T}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore \mathcal{T} is indeed a safety property.

Intuition of the formal definition

Operator **Safe saturates** a set of traces S with

- prefixes
- infinite traces all finite prefixes of which can be observed in S

Thus, if $\text{Safe}(S) = S$ and σ is a trace, to establish that σ is not in S , it is sufficient to discover a **finite prefix of** σ that cannot be observed in S .

Alternatively, if all finite prefixes of σ belong to S or can be observed as a prefix of another trace in S , by definition of the limit operator, σ **belongs to** S (even if it is infinite).

Thus, our definition **indeed captures properties that can be disproved with a finite counter-example.**

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Proof by invariance

- We consider transition system $\mathcal{S} = (\mathbb{S}, \rightarrow, \mathbb{S}_{\mathcal{I}})$, and safety property \mathcal{T} . Finite traces semantics is the least fixpoint of F_* .
- We seek a way of **verifying that \mathcal{S} satisfies \mathcal{T}** , i.e., that $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^\infty \subseteq \mathcal{T}$

Principle of invariance proofs

Let \mathbb{I} be a set of finite traces; it is said to be an **invariant** if and only if:

- $\forall s \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathcal{I}}, \langle s \rangle \in \mathbb{I}$
- $F_*(\mathbb{I}) \subseteq \mathbb{I}$

It is stronger than \mathcal{T} if and only if $\mathbb{I} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$.

The “**by invariance**” proof method is based on finding an invariant that is stronger than \mathcal{T} .

Soundness

Theorem: soundness

The invariance proof method is **sound**: if we can find an invariant for \mathcal{S} , that is stronger than safety property \mathcal{T} , then \mathcal{S} satisfies \mathcal{T} .

Proof:

We assume that \mathbb{I} is an invariant of \mathcal{S} and that it is stronger than \mathcal{T} , and we show that \mathcal{S} satisfies \mathcal{T} :

- by induction over n , we can prove that $F_*^n(\{\langle s \rangle \mid s \in \mathbb{S}_I\}) \subseteq F_*^n(\mathbb{I}) \subseteq \mathbb{I}$
- therefore $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^* \subseteq \mathbb{I}$
- thus, $\text{Safe}(\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^*) \subseteq \text{Safe}(\mathbb{I}) \subseteq \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})$ since Safe is monotone
- we remark that $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^\infty = \text{Safe}(\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^*)$
- \mathcal{T} is a safety property so $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$
- we conclude $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^\infty \subseteq \mathcal{T}$, i.e., \mathcal{S} satisfies property \mathcal{T}

Completeness

Theorem: completeness

The invariance proof method is **complete**: if \mathcal{S} satisfies safety property \mathcal{T} , then we can find an invariant \mathbb{I} for \mathcal{S} , that is stronger than \mathcal{T} .

Proof:

We assume that $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^*$ satisfies \mathcal{T} , and show that we can exhibit an invariant.

Then, $\mathbb{I} = \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^*$ is an invariant of \mathcal{S} by definition of $\llbracket . \rrbracket^*$, and it is stronger than \mathcal{T} .

Caveat:

- $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^\infty$ is most likely **not** a very easy to express invariant
- it is just a convenient completeness argument
- so, completeness does not mean the proof is easy !

Example

We consider the proof that the program below **computes the sum of the elements of an array**, i.e., when the exit is reached, $s = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} t[k]$:

i, s integer variables
 t integer array of length n

```

 $\ell_0$  : (true)
        s = 0;
 $\ell_1$  : (s = 0)
        i = 0;
 $\ell_2$  : (i = 0  $\wedge$  s = 0)
        while(i < n){
 $\ell_3$  : (0  $\leq$  i < n  $\wedge$  s =  $\sum_{k=0}^{i-1} t[k]$ )
            s = s + t[i];
 $\ell_4$  : (0  $\leq$  i < n  $\wedge$  s =  $\sum_{k=0}^i t[k]$ )
            i = i + 1;
 $\ell_5$  : (1  $\leq$  i  $\leq$  n  $\wedge$  s =  $\sum_{k=0}^{i-1} t[k]$ )
        }
 $\ell_6$  : (i = n  $\wedge$  s =  $\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} t[k]$ )
  
```

Principle of the proof:

- for each program point ℓ , we have a **local invariant** \mathbb{I}_ℓ (denoted by a logical formula instead of a set of states in the figure)
- the global **invariant** \mathbb{I} is defined by:

$$\mathbb{I} = \{ \langle (\ell_0, m_0), \dots, (\ell_n, m_n) \rangle \mid \forall n, m_n \in \mathbb{I}_{\ell_n} \}$$

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- 2 **Liveness properties**
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Liveness properties

Informal definition: liveness properties

A liveness property is a property which specifies that some (good) behavior **will eventually occur**, and that this behavior **may still occur after any finite observation**.

- **Termination** is a liveness property
“good behavior”: reaching a blocking state (no more transition available)
- **“State a will eventually be reached by all execution”** is a liveness property
“good behavior”: reaching state a
- The **absence of runtime errors** is *not* a liveness property

As for safety properties, we intend to provide a **formal definition** of liveness.

Intuition towards a formal definition

How to refute a liveness property ?

- We consider liveness property \mathcal{T} (think \mathcal{T} is **termination**)
- We assume \mathcal{S} does **not** satisfy liveness property \mathcal{T}
- Thus, there exists a **counter-example trace** $\sigma \in \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket \setminus \mathcal{T}$;
- The informal definition says:
 - ... **may still occur after any finite observation**thus, each finite trace σ' can be extended into a good trace
- **Conclusion of this discussion:** σ is necessarily **infinite**

To prove that a liveness property does not hold we need to look for an infinite counter-example i.e., no finite trace is a counter-example

Intuition towards a formal definition

To refute a liveness property, we need to look at infinite traces.

Example: if we run a program, and do not see it return...

- should we do Ctrl+C and conclude it does not terminate ?
- should we just wait a few more seconds minutes, hours, years ?

Towards a formal definition:

we expect any finite trace be the prefix of a trace in \mathcal{T}

... since finite executions cannot be used to disprove \mathcal{T}

Formal definition (incomplete)

$$\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^*$$

Definition

Formal definition

Operator Live is defined by $\text{Live}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T} \cup (\mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}))$. Given property \mathcal{T} , the following three statements are equivalent:

- (i) $\text{Live}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$
- (ii) $\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^*$
- (iii) $\text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^\infty$

When they are satisfied, \mathcal{T} is said to be a **liveness property**

Example: termination

- The property is $\mathcal{T} = \mathbb{S}^*$
(i.e., there should be no infinite execution)
- Clearly, it satisfies (ii): $\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^*$
thus termination indeed satisfies this definition

Proof of equivalence

Proof of equivalence:

(i) implies (ii):

We assume that $\text{Live}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$, i.e., $\mathcal{T} \cup (\mathbb{S}^\alpha \setminus \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})) = \mathcal{T}$
therefore, $\mathbb{S}^\alpha \setminus \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) \subseteq \mathcal{T}$.

Let $\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^*$, and let us show that $\sigma \in \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$; clearly, $\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^\alpha$, thus:

- either $\sigma \in \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) = \text{Lim}(\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}))$, so all its prefixes are in $\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$ and $\sigma \in \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$
- or $\sigma \in \mathcal{T}$, which implies that $\sigma \in \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$

(ii) implies (iii):

If $\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^*$, then $\text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^\alpha$

(iii) implies (i):

If $\text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^\alpha$, then

$$\text{Live}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T} \cup (\mathbb{S}^\alpha \setminus (\text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}))) = \mathcal{T} \cup (\mathbb{S}^\alpha \setminus \mathbb{S}^\alpha) = \mathcal{T}$$

Example

We assume that:

- $\mathbb{S} = \{a, b, c\}$
- \mathcal{T} states that **b should eventually be visited, after a has been visited**; elements of \mathcal{T} can be described by

$$\mathcal{T} = \text{PCI}(\mathbb{S}^* \cdot a \cdot \mathbb{S}^* \cdot b \cdot \mathbb{S}^\infty)$$

Then \mathcal{T} is a liveness property:

- let $\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^*$; then $\sigma \cdot a \cdot b \in \mathcal{T}$, so $\sigma \in \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$
- thus, $\text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^*$

A property of Live

Theorem

If \mathcal{T} is a trace property, then **Live(\mathcal{T}) is a liveness property** (i.e., operator Live is **idempotent**).

Proof: we show that $\text{PCI} \circ \text{Live}(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{S}^*$, by considering $\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^*$ and proving that $\sigma \in \text{PCI} \circ \text{Live}(\mathcal{T})$; we first note that:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PCI} \circ \text{Live}(\mathcal{T}) &= \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) \cup \text{PCI}(\mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})) \\ &= \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}) \cup \text{PCI}(\mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})) \end{aligned}$$

- if $\sigma \in \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$, this is obvious.
- if $\sigma \notin \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$, then:
 - ▶ $\sigma \notin \text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$ by definition of the limit
 - ▶ thus, $\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T})$
 - ▶ $\sigma \in \text{PCI}(\mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \text{Lim} \circ \text{PCI}(\mathcal{T}))$ as PCI is extensive when applied to sets of finite traces, which proves the above result

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Termination proof with ranking function

- We consider only **termination**
- We consider transition system $\mathcal{S} = (\mathbb{S}, \rightarrow, \mathbb{S}_I)$, and liveness property \mathcal{T}
- We seek a way of **verifying that \mathcal{S} satisfies termination**, i.e., that $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^\infty \subseteq \mathbb{S}^*$

Definition: ranking function

A **ranking function** is a function $\phi : \mathbb{S} \rightarrow E$ where:

- (E, \sqsubseteq) is a **well-founded ordering**
- $\forall s_0, s_1 \in \mathbb{S}, s_0 \rightarrow s_1 \implies \phi(s_1) \sqsubset \phi(s_0)$

Theorem

If \mathcal{S} has a ranking function ϕ , it satisfies termination.

Example

We consider the termination of the array sum program:

i, s integer variables
 t integer array of length n

```

 $\ell_0$  :  $s = 0$ ;
 $\ell_1$  :  $i = 0$ ;
 $\ell_2$  : while( $i < n$ ) {
 $\ell_3$  :      $s = s + t[i]$ ;
 $\ell_4$  :      $i = i + 1$ ;
 $\ell_5$  : }
 $\ell_6$  : ...

```

Ranking function:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : \mathbb{S} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ (\ell_0, m) &\longmapsto 3 \cdot n + 6 \\ (\ell_1, m) &\longmapsto 3 \cdot n + 5 \\ (\ell_2, m) &\longmapsto 3 \cdot n + 4 \\ (\ell_3, m) &\longmapsto 3 \cdot (n - m(i)) + 3 \\ (\ell_4, m) &\longmapsto 3 \cdot (n - m(i)) + 2 \\ (\ell_5, m) &\longmapsto 3 \cdot (n - m(i)) + 4 \\ (\ell_6, m) &\longmapsto 0 \end{aligned}$$

Proof by variance

- We consider transition system $\mathcal{S} = (\mathbb{S}, \rightarrow, \mathbb{S}_I)$, and liveness property \mathcal{T} ; infinite traces semantics is the greatest fixpoint of F_ω .
- We seek a way of **verifying that \mathcal{S} satisfies \mathcal{T}** , i.e., that $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^\omega \subseteq \mathcal{T}$

Principle of variance proofs

Let $(\mathbb{I}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, \mathbb{I}_ω be elements of \mathbb{S}^ω ; these are said to form a variance proof of \mathcal{T} if and only if:

- $\mathbb{S}^\omega \subseteq \mathbb{I}_0$
- for all $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, \omega\}$, $\forall s \in \mathbb{S}$, $\langle s \rangle \in \mathbb{I}_k$
- for all $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, \omega\}$, there exists $l < k$ such that $F_\omega(\mathbb{I}_l) \subseteq \mathbb{I}_k$
- $\mathbb{I}_\omega \subseteq \mathcal{T}$

Proofs of soundness and completeness: exercise, similar to the previous proof but using the definition of $\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket^\omega$ instead

Outline

- 1 Safety properties
- 2 Liveness properties
- 3 Decomposition of trace properties**
- 4 A Specification Language: Temporal logic
- 5 Beyond safety and liveness
- 6 Conclusion

The decomposition theorem

Theorem

Let $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathbb{S}^\infty$; it can be decomposed into the **conjunction** of **safety property** $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})$ and **liveness property** $\text{Live}(\mathcal{T})$:

$$\mathcal{T} = \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) \cap \text{Live}(\mathcal{T})$$

- **Reading: Recognizing Safety and Liveness.**
Bowen Alpern and **Fred B. Schneider.**
In Distributed Computing, Springer, 1987.
- **Consequence of this result:**
the proof of any trace property can be decomposed into
 - ▶ a proof of safety
 - ▶ a proof of liveness

Proof

- **Safety part:**

Safe is idempotent, so $\text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})$ is a safety property.

- **Liveness part:**

Live is idempotent, so $\text{Live}(\mathcal{T})$ is a liveness property.

- **Decomposition:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) \cap \text{Live}(\mathcal{T}) &= \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) \cap (\mathcal{T} \cup \mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})) \\
 &= \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) \cap \mathcal{T} \\
 &\quad \cup \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T}) \cap (\mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \text{Safe}(\mathcal{T})) \\
 &= \mathcal{T} \cup \emptyset \\
 &= \mathcal{T}
 \end{aligned}$$

Example: verification of total correctness

i, s integer variables
 t integer array of length n

```

ℓ0 : s = 0;
ℓ1 : i = 0;
ℓ2 : while(i < n){
ℓ3 :     s = s + t[i];
ℓ4 :     i = i + 1;
ℓ5 : }
ℓ6 : ...
  
```

Property to prove:
total correctness

- ① the program **terminates**
- ② and **does not crash**
- ③ and **computes the sum of the elements in the array**

Application of the decomposition principle

Conjunction of two proofs:

- ① Proved with a **ranking function**
- ② Proved with **local invariants**
- ③ Also proved with **local invariants**

Safety and Liveness Decomposition Example

We consider a very simple **greatest common divider** code function:

```

l0 : int f(int a, int b){
l1 :     while(a > 0){
l2 :         int d = b/a;
l3 :         int r = b - a * d;
l4 :         b = a;
l5 :         a = r;
l6 :     }
l7 :     return b;
l8 : }
```

Specification

When applied to positive integers, function f should always return their GCD.

Safety and Liveness Decomposition Example

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ℓ7 :     return b;
ℓ8 : }
```

Specification

When applied to positive integers, function f should always return their GCD.

Safety part

For all trace starting with positive inputs, a **conjunction of two properties:**

- no runtime errors
- the value of b is the GCD

Liveness part

Termination, on all traces starting with positive inputs

The Zoo of semantic properties: current status

Trace properties

total correctness

Safety properties

never reach s_0 before s_1

State properties

absence or runtime errors
partial correctness

Liveness properties

termination

- **Safety:** if wrong, can be refuted with a **finite trace**
proof done by **invariance**
- **Liveness:** if wrong, has to be refuted with an **infinite trace**
proof done by **variance**

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Notion of specification language

- Ultimately, we would like to **verify or compute** properties
- So far, we simply describe properties with **sets of executions** or worse, with English / French / ... statements
- Ideally, we would prefer to use a **mathematical language** for that
 - ▶ to **gain in concision, avoid ambiguity**
 - ▶ to **define sets of properties to consider**, fix **the form of inputs for verification tools...**

Definition: specification language

A **specification language** is a set of terms \mathbb{L} with an **interpretation function** (or **semantics**)

$$\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket : \mathbb{L} \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}^\infty) \quad (\text{resp.}, \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{S}))$$

- We are now going to consider specification languages **for states, for traces...**

A State specification language

A first **example** of a (simple) specification language:

A state specification language

- **Syntax:** we let terms of $\mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{S}}$ be defined by:

$$p \in \mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{S}} ::= @l \mid x < x' \mid x < n \mid \neg p' \mid p' \wedge p'' \mid \Omega$$

- **Semantics:** $\llbracket p \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} \subseteq \mathbb{S}_{\Omega}$ is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket @l \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} &= \{l\} \times \mathbb{M} \\ \llbracket x \leq x' \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} &= \{(l, m) \in \mathbb{S} \mid m(x) \leq m(x')\} \\ \llbracket x \leq n \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} &= \{(l, m) \in \mathbb{S} \mid m(x) \leq n\} \\ \llbracket \neg p \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} &= \mathbb{S}_{\Omega} \setminus \llbracket p \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} \\ \llbracket p \wedge p' \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} &= \llbracket p \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} \cap \llbracket p' \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} \\ \llbracket \Omega \rrbracket_{\mathbb{S}} &= \{\Omega\} \end{aligned}$$

Exercise: add $=$, \vee , \implies ...

State properties: examples

Unreachability of control state l_0 :

- **specification:** $\Omega \vee \neg @l_0$
- **property:** $\llbracket \Omega \vee \neg @l_0 \rrbracket_s = \mathbb{S}_\Omega \setminus \{(l_0, m) \mid m \in \mathbb{M}\}$

Absence of runtime errors:

- **specification:** $\neg \Omega$
- **property:** $\llbracket \neg \Omega \rrbracket_s = \mathbb{S}_\Omega \setminus \{\Omega\} = \mathbb{S}$

Intermittent invariant:

- **principle:** attach a local invariant to each control state
- **example:**

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 l_0 : & \text{if}(x \geq 0)\{ \\
 l_1 : & \quad y = x; \qquad \qquad @l_1 \implies x \geq 0 \\
 l_2 : & \quad \text{ } \} \text{else}\{ \qquad \qquad \wedge @l_2 \implies x \geq 0 \wedge y \geq 0 \\
 l_3 : & \quad y = -x; \qquad \qquad \wedge @l_3 \implies x < 0 \\
 l_4 : & \quad \text{ } \} \qquad \qquad \wedge @l_4 \implies x < 0 \wedge y > 0 \\
 l_5 : & \quad \dots \qquad \qquad \wedge @l_5 \implies y \geq 0
 \end{array}$$

Propositional temporal logic: syntax

We now consider the **specification of trace properties**

- **Temporal logic:** specification of properties in terms of events that occur at distinct times in the execution (hence, the name “temporal”)
- There are **many** instances of temporal logic
- We study a simple one: **Pnueli’s Propositional Temporal Logic**

Definition: syntax of PTL (Propositional Temporal Logic)

Properties over traces are defined as terms of the form

$t(\in \mathbb{L}_{\text{PTL}})$	$::=$	p	state property, i.e., $p \in \mathbb{L}_{\mathcal{S}}$
		$t' \vee t''$	disjunction
		$\neg t'$	negation
		$\bigcirc t'$	"next"
		$t' \mathcal{U} t''$	"until", i.e., t' until t''

Propositional temporal logic: semantics

The semantics of a temporal property is a set of traces, and it is defined by induction over the syntax:

Semantics of Propositional Temporal Logic formulae

$$\begin{aligned}
 \llbracket p \rrbracket_t &= \{s \cdot \sigma \mid s \in \llbracket p \rrbracket_s \wedge \sigma \in \mathbb{S}^\infty\} \\
 \llbracket t_0 \vee t_1 \rrbracket_t &= \llbracket t_0 \rrbracket_t \cup \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket_t \\
 \llbracket \neg t_0 \rrbracket_t &= \mathbb{S}^\infty \setminus \llbracket t_0 \rrbracket_t \\
 \llbracket \bigcirc t_0 \rrbracket_t &= \{s \cdot \sigma \mid s \in \mathbb{S} \wedge \sigma \in \llbracket t_0 \rrbracket_t\} \\
 \llbracket t_0 \mathcal{U} t_1 \rrbracket_t &= \{\sigma \in \mathbb{S}^\infty \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall i < n, \sigma_{i\uparrow} \in \llbracket t_0 \rrbracket_t \wedge \sigma_{n\uparrow} \in \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket_t\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Temporal logic operators as syntactic sugar

Many useful operators can be added:

- **Boolean constants:**

$$\mathbf{true} ::= (x < 0) \vee \neg(x < 0)$$

$$\mathbf{false} ::= \neg \mathbf{true}$$

- **Sometime:**

$$\diamond t ::= \mathbf{true} \ll t$$

intuition: there exists a rank n at which t holds

- **Always:**

$$\square t ::= \neg(\diamond(\neg t))$$

intuition: there is no rank at which the negation of t holds

Exercise: what do $\diamond \square t$ and $\square \diamond t$ mean ?

Propositional temporal logic: examples

We consider the program below:

```

 $l_0$  : x = input();
 $l_1$  : if(x < 8){
 $l_2$  :     x = 0;
 $l_3$  : } else {
 $l_4$  :     x = 1;
 $l_5$  : }
 $l_6$  : ...

```

Examples of properties:

- “when l_4 is reached, x is positive”

$$\Box(@l_4 \implies x \geq 0)$$

- “if the value read at point l_0 is negative, and when l_6 is reached, x is equal to 0”

$$\Box((@l_1 \wedge x < 0) \implies \Box(@l_6 \implies x = 0))$$

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Security properties

We now consider other interesting properties of programs, and show that they do not all reduce to trace properties

Security

- Collects many kinds of properties
- So we consider just one:
 - an **unauthorized observer should not be able to guess anything about private information by looking at public information**
- **Example:** another user should not be able to guess the content of an email sent to you
- We need to **formalize this property**

A few definitions

Assumptions:

- We let $\mathcal{S} = (\mathbb{S}, \rightarrow, \mathbb{S}_I)$ be a transition system
- States are of the form $(\ell, m) \in \mathbb{L} \times \mathbb{M}$
- Memory states are of the form $\mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{V}$
- We let $\ell, \ell' \in \mathbb{L}$ (program entry and exit)
and $x, x' \in \mathbb{X}$ (private and public variables)

Security property we are looking at

Observing the value of x' at ℓ'
gives no information on the value of x at ℓ

A few examples

A secure program (**no information flow**, no way to guess x):

$$\ell : x' = 84;$$

$$\ell' : \dots$$

An insecure program (**explicit information flow**, x' gives a lot of information about x , so that we can simply recompute it):

$$\ell : x' = x - 2;$$

$$\ell' : \dots$$

An insecure program (**implicit information flow**, through a test):

$$\ell : \text{if}(x < 0)\{x' = 0;\}$$

$$\ell' : \dots$$

How to characterize information flow in the semantic level ?

Non-interference

We consider the **transformer** Φ defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : \mathbb{M} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{M}) \\ m &\longmapsto \{m' \in \mathbb{M} \mid \exists \sigma = \langle (\ell, m), \dots, (\ell', m') \rangle \in \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket\} \end{aligned}$$

Definition: non-interference

There is **no interference** between (ℓ, x) and (ℓ', x') and we write $(\ell', x') \not\rightsquigarrow (\ell, x)$ if and only if the following property holds:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall m \in \mathbb{M}, \forall v_0, v_1 \in \mathbb{V}, \\ \{m'(x') \mid m' \in \Phi(m[x \leftarrow v_0])\} = \{m'(x') \mid m' \in \Phi(m[x \leftarrow v_1])\} \end{aligned}$$

Intuition:

- if two observations at point ℓ differ only in the value of x , there is no difference in observation of x' at ℓ'
- in other words, observing x' at ℓ' (even on many executions) gives no information about the value of x at point ℓ ...

Non-interference is not a trace property

- We assume $\mathbb{V} = \{0, 1\}$ and $\mathbb{X} = \{x, x'\}$ (store m is defined by the pair $(m(x), m(x'))$, and denoted by it)
- We assume $\mathbb{L} = \{\ell, \ell'\}$ and consider two systems such that all transitions are of the form $(\ell, m) \rightarrow (\ell', m')$
(i.e., system \mathcal{S} is isomorphic to its transformer $\Phi[\mathcal{S}]$)

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \Phi[\mathcal{S}_0] : & (0, 0) \mapsto \mathbb{M} & \Phi[\mathcal{S}_1] : & (0, 0) \mapsto \mathbb{M} \\
 & (0, 1) \mapsto \mathbb{M} & & (0, 1) \mapsto \mathbb{M} \\
 & (1, 0) \mapsto \mathbb{M} & & (1, 0) \mapsto \{(1, 1)\} \\
 & (1, 1) \mapsto \mathbb{M} & & (1, 1) \mapsto \{(1, 1)\}
 \end{array}$$

- \mathcal{S}_1 has fewer behaviors than \mathcal{S}_0 : $[[\mathcal{S}_1]]^* \subset [[\mathcal{S}_0]]^*$
- \mathcal{S}_0 has the non-interference property, but \mathcal{S}_1 does not
- If non interference was a trace property, \mathcal{S}_1 should have it (monotony)

Thus, the non interference property is not a trace property

Dependence properties

Dependence property

- Many notions of dependences
- So we consider just one:
what inputs may have an impact on the observation of a given output
- **Applications:**
 - ▶ **reverse engineering:** understand how an input gets computed
 - ▶ **slicing:** extract the fragment of a program that is relevant to a result
- This corresponds to the **negation** of non-interference

Interference

Definition: interference

There is **interference** between (ℓ, x) and (ℓ', x') and we write $(\ell', x') \rightsquigarrow (\ell, x)$ if and only if the following property holds:

$$\exists m \in \mathbb{M}, \exists v_0, v_1 \in \mathbb{V}, \\ \{m'(x') \mid m' \in \Phi(m[x \leftarrow v_0])\} \neq \{m'(x') \mid m' \in \Phi(m[x \leftarrow v_1])\}$$

- This expresses that there is at least one case, where the value of x at ℓ has an impact on that of x' at ℓ'
- It may not hold even if the computation of x' reads x :

$$\begin{aligned} \ell : \quad x' &= 0 \star x; \\ \ell' : \quad &\dots \end{aligned}$$

Interference is not a trace property

- We assume $\mathbb{V} = \{0, 1\}$ and $\mathbb{X} = \{x, x'\}$ (store m is defined by the pair $(m(x), m(x'))$, and denoted by it)
- We assume $\mathbb{L} = \{\ell, \ell'\}$ and consider two systems such that all transitions are of the form $(\ell, m) \rightarrow (\ell', m')$
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 & (1, 1) \mapsto \{(1, 1)\} & & (1, 1) \mapsto \{(1, 1)\}
 \end{array}$$

- \mathcal{S}_1 has fewer behavior than \mathcal{S}_0 : $[[\mathcal{S}_1]]^* \subset [[\mathcal{S}_0]]^*$
- \mathcal{S}_0 **has the interference property**, but \mathcal{S}_1 **does not**
- If interference was a trace property, \mathcal{S}_1 should have it (monotony)

Thus, the interference property is not a trace property

Hyperproperties

Conclusion:

- The absence of interference between (ℓ, x) and (ℓ', x') **is not a trace property**:
we cannot describe as the set of programs the semantics of which is included into a given set of traces
- It can however **be described by a set of sets of traces**:
we simply collect the set of program semantics that satisfy the property

This is what we call a **hyperproperty**:

Hyperproperties

- **Trace hyperproperties** are described by sets of sets of executions
- **Trace properties** are described by sets of executions

2-safety: to disprove the absence of interference (i.e., to show there exists an interference), we simply need to exhibit **two finite traces**

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The Zoo of semantic properties

Sets of sets of executions
non-interference, dependency

Trace properties
total correctness

Safety properties
never reach s_0 before s_1

State properties
absence or runtime errors
partial correctness

Liveness properties
termination

Summary

To sum-up:

- **Trace properties** allow to express a large range of program properties
- **Safety = absence of bad behaviors**
- **Liveness = existence of good behaviors**
- Trace properties can be **decomposed** as conjunctions of safety and liveness properties, with **dedicated proof methods**
- Some interesting properties are **not trace properties**
security properties are *sets of sets of executions*
- Notion of **specification languages** to describe program properties