# Chaining Test Cases for Reactive System Testing

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# Test Chains

### Context:

- Safety critical embedded software
- Often modelled as synchronous reactive system
- Safety standards: tool support for systematic testing desirable

### Problem:

- Often lengthy input sequences required to drive the system to a test goal
- Reset after each test case: serious problem in on-target testing

### Goal:

• Find a test case chain: a single test case that covers a set of test goals and minimises overall test execution time















## Example: Cruise Control



# Example: Generated C Code from SIMULINK

```
void init(state_t *s) {
  s \rightarrow mode = OFF;
  s \rightarrow speed = 0;
  s \rightarrow enable = FALSE:
void compute(io_t *i, state_t *s) {
  mode = s \rightarrow mode;
   switch(mode) {
     case ON: if(i->gas || i->brake) s->mode=DIS; break;
     case DIS:
         if ( (s->speed==2 && (i->dec || i->brake)) ||
              (s \rightarrow speed == 0 \&\& (i \rightarrow acc || i \rightarrow gas))
           s \rightarrow mode=ON;
        break :
      case OFF:
         if (s->speed==0 & s->enable & (i->gas || i->acc) ||
              s->speed==1 && i->button ||
              s \rightarrow speed = 2 \&\& s \rightarrow enable \&\& (i \rightarrow brake || i \rightarrow dec))
           s->mode=ON;
        break :
   if(i \rightarrow button) s \rightarrow enable = !s \rightarrow enable;
   if ((i \rightarrow gas || mode!=ON \&\& i \rightarrow acc) \&\& s \rightarrow speed < 2) s \rightarrow speed ++;
   if ((i \rightarrow brake || mode!=ON \&\& i \rightarrow dec) \&\& s \rightarrow speed > 0) s \rightarrow speed --;
}
```

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  s \rightarrow mode = OFF:
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void compute(io_t *i, state_t *s) {
  mode = s \rightarrow mode:
  switch (mode) {
     case ON: if(i->gas || i->brake) s->mode=DIS; break;
     case DIS:
        if (s \rightarrow speed = 2 \&\& (i \rightarrow dec || i \rightarrow brake))
   Formalised properties:
      p_1: G(mode = ON \land speed = 1 \land dec \Rightarrow X(speed = 1))
      p_2: G(mode = DIS \land speed = 2 \land dec \Rightarrow X(mode = ON))
      p_3: G(mode = ON \land brake \Rightarrow X(mode = DIS))
      p_4: G(mode = OFF \land speed = 2 \land \neg enable \land button \Rightarrow X enable)
             s->speed==2 & s s->enable & (1->brake
                                                                    1 \rightarrow aec
          s->mode=ON:
        break:
  if (i \rightarrow button) s\rightarrow enable = !s \rightarrow enable;
  if ((i->gas || mode!=ON && i->acc) && s->speed <2) s->speed++;
  if ((i->brake || mode!=ON && i->dec) && s->speed>0) s->speed--;
```





# Preliminaries

### Program:

- State space  $\Sigma,$  input space  $\Upsilon$
- Initial states  $I \subseteq \Sigma$
- $\bullet$  Transition relation  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \Sigma \times \Upsilon \times \Sigma$

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### **Bounded Model Checking:**

Check the existence of a path  $\langle s_0,s_1,\ldots,s_K\rangle$  of increasing length K from  $\phi$  to  $\phi'$ 

$$\phi(s_0) \wedge \bigwedge_{1 \leq k \leq K} T(s_{k-1}, i_{k-1}, s_k) \wedge \phi'(s_K)$$

If SAT: satisfying assignment aka counterexample  $(s_0, i_0, s_1, i_1, \dots, s_{K-1}, i_{K-1}, s_K)$ 

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### Test case generation:

- $\bullet \ \phi = \textit{I} \ \text{and test goal} \ \phi'$
- Test case: input sequence  $\langle i_0, \ldots, i_{K-1} \rangle$ , expected outcome

### Temporal logic safety specification:

• Set of properties, *e.g.*, of type

$$\mathsf{G}\big(\underbrace{\textit{mode} = \textit{ON} \land \textit{speed} = 1 \land \textit{dec}}_{\texttt{assumption } \varphi} \Rightarrow \mathsf{X}(\textit{speed} = 1)\big)$$

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**Test goals:** set of assumptions  $\varphi$  (finite paths)

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### Approach

- Abstraction: property reachability graph
- Optimisation: shortest path
- Oncretisation: compute concrete test case

# Abstraction: Property Reachability Graph

Weighted, directed graph:

- Nodes: test goals  $\varphi$
- Edges:
  - from I to all  $\varphi$ s
  - from all  $\varphi$ s to F
- Edge weights: number of execution steps

Incrementally build graph by reachability queries:



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Incrementally build graph by reachability queries: K = 1



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  - pairwise links between  $\varphi \mathbf{s}$
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Incrementally build graph by reachability queries: K = 2



**Covering path:** path that visits all nodes at least once.

There is a covering path from I to F iff

- (1) all nodes are reachable from I,
- (2) *F* is reachable from all nodes, and
- (3) for all pairs of nodes  $(v_1, v_2)$ ,
  - (a)  $v_2$  is reachable from  $v_1$  or
  - (b)  $v_1$  is reachable from  $v_2$ .



Reachability can be decided in constant time on the transitive closure of the graph.

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Find a covering path from I to F:

- Reduce to asymmetric travelling salesman problem (ATSP):
  - Tour that visits all nodes of a weighted directed graph exactly once
- Transitive closure



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 $\begin{array}{ll} \mathsf{ATSP \ result:} & \langle \varphi_2, \varphi_3, F, I, \varphi_4, \varphi_1 \rangle \\ \mathsf{Shortest \ path:} & \langle I, \varphi_4, \varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3, F \rangle \end{array}$ 

### Concretisation: Computing the Test Chain

$$I \xrightarrow{2} \varphi_4 \xrightarrow{2} \varphi_1 \xrightarrow{2} \varphi_2 \xrightarrow{1} \varphi_3 \xrightarrow{2} F$$

$$\begin{array}{c} I(s_{0}) \\ \wedge T(s_{0}, i_{0}, s_{1}) \wedge T(s_{1}, i_{1}, s_{2}) \wedge \varphi_{4}(s_{2}, i_{2}) \\ \wedge T(s_{2}, i_{2}, s_{3}) \wedge T(s_{3}, i_{3}, s_{4}) \wedge \varphi_{1}(s_{4}, i_{4}) \\ \wedge T(s_{4}, i_{4}, s_{5}) \wedge T(s_{5}, i_{5}, s_{6}) \wedge \varphi_{2}(s_{6}, i_{6}) \\ \wedge T(s_{6}, i_{6}, s_{7}) \wedge \varphi_{3}(s_{7}, i_{7}) \\ \wedge T(s_{7}, i_{7}, s_{8}) \wedge T(s_{8}, i_{8}, s_{9}) \wedge F(s_{9}) \end{array}$$

 $\langle i_0, \ldots, i_8 \rangle = \langle gas, acc, button, dec, dec, gas, dec, brake, button \rangle$ 

# Concretisation: Computing the Test Chain

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

The test case chain is minimal if

- (1) the program and the properties admit a test chain,
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![](_page_34_Figure_5.jpeg)

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![](_page_35_Figure_5.jpeg)

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![](_page_36_Figure_5.jpeg)

Reachability diameter d =length of maximum, shortest path between any two states

There is a  $K \leq d$  such that, under the preconditions (1) and (2), the test chain is minimal.

In practice, fix a bound K and obtain minimised chain.

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![](_page_38_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $\begin{array}{l} p_{1}: \ \mathbf{G} \big( \textit{mode} = \textit{OFF} \land \neg\textit{enable} \land \textit{button} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X} \textit{ enable} \big) \\ p_{2}: \ \mathbf{G} \big( \textit{mode} = \textit{ON} \land \textit{brake} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X} (\textit{mode} = \textit{DIS}) \big) \end{array}$ 

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

Broken chain

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Path  $\langle I, \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \rangle$  not feasible in a single step, but requires two steps.

![](_page_41_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Broken chain

• Path  $\langle I, \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \rangle$  not feasible in a single step, but requires two steps.

### Chain repair

- Systematically increase edge weights of failed subpath
- Minimality lost

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Broken chain

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#### Chain repair

- Systematically increase edge weights of failed subpath
- Minimality lost

#### Completeness

- Succeeds if path admits chain in concrete program
- If for each test goal the states are strongly connected

In practice: many systems are (almost) strongly connected.

- Not strongly connected systems:
  - Abstraction refinement

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Abstraction refinement:**

![](_page_45_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Figure_1.jpeg)

Abstraction refinement: Find any path

![](_page_46_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

Abstraction refinement: Optimise with TSP solver

![](_page_47_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

Abstraction refinement: Optimise with TSP solver

![](_page_48_Figure_3.jpeg)

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### Optimality

- Would require to optimise over concrete system
- In practice, minimised rather than minimal solutions relevant

![](_page_53_Figure_1.jpeg)

Properties specified as C functions:

```
void p_1(io_t* i, state_t* s) {
    __CPROVER_assume(s->mode==ON && s->speed==1 && i->dec);
    compute(i,s);
    assert(s->speed==1);
}
```

Woven into program during test case generation.

BMC engine of CBMC

- Property reachability graph construction
- Exploits incremental SAT solving
- Chain repair by concrete chaining

 $\rm L{\it KH}$  travelling salesman problem solver  $\rm CLINGO$  answer set programming solver

# Benchmarks and Comparison

#### Benchmarks

- Cruise control model
- Window controller
- Car alarm system
- Elevator model
- Robot arm model

Comparison with

- FSHELL: a BMC-based test generator with test suite minimisation
- Random case generator with test suite minimisation
- KLEE: a test case generator based on symbolic execution

### Results: Test Case Length

![](_page_56_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Results: Test Case Generator Runtime

![](_page_57_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Summary and Current Work

### Summary

- Test chain for reactive systems
  - Test goals from requirements, specification model, code coverage criteria
- Minimal test chain for single-state test goals, otherwise heuristics
- Experimental evaluation
- Application: on-target testing, acceptance testing

### Current work

- Integrate acceleration to handle deep loops
- Test chains for code coverage criteria, e.g. MC/DC

### **Further questions**

- Incremental test chain generation
  - In the case of model modifications
  - When test execution gets stuck due to a failed test goal

![](_page_59_Picture_1.jpeg)

http://www.cprover.org/chaincover