CESAR: Control Envelope Synthesis via Angelic Refinements

Aditi Kabra¹

Jonathan Laurent^{1,2}

Stefan Mitsch^{1,3}

André Platzer^{1,2}

¹Carnegie Mellon University ²Karlsruhe Institute of Technology ³DePaul University

TACAS 2024



Supported FRA contract number 693JJ620C000025

Swartz Center Innovation Commercialization Fellowship an Alexander von Humboldt Professorship 1

Control Envelope Synthesis



Control Envelopes

- Non-deterministic: allow *all* safe actions
- Define *families* of safe controllers
- Full system monitored for adherence at runtime
- Higher-order constraint compared to controllers: solutions permit as many safe control solutions as possible



Overview

- Introduction
- Problem Statement
- Game Logic and Solution
- Refinement
- Evaluation

Problem

Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when?



AssumptionsControl LoopContractprob
$$\equiv$$
assum $\land \sqcup \rightarrow [((\cup_i (? \sqcup_i; act_i)); plant)^*]$ Contract

Example: Train

Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when?



Where assum= $A > 0 \land B > 0 \land T > 0 \land v \ge 0$

Solution

Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when?



Solution (I, G_i)

Solution

Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when?



Solution (I, G_i) ensures: 1. Safety (valid formula, as proved by loop invariant assum $\land I$)

Solution

Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when?



Solution (I, G_i) ensures

- 1. Safety (valid formula)
- 2. Controllability (always some control option: (assum $\land I$) $\rightarrow \lor_i G_i$)

Example: Train

Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when? When is it safe to accelerate? $a \coloneqq A$ $t \coloneqq 0; \ p' = v, v' = a,$ $t' = 1 \& t \le T \land v \ge 0$ e - p > 0Assuming assum Λ **Control Loop** acceleration Back compute to ensure the safety position *e* elocity contract isn't breached time time time

Example: Train Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when?



Example: Train Synthesis procedure fills holes (). Which action is safe when?



Quality of Solution

When can the train Accelerate?



• Good solution: more permissive

 $\vDash \operatorname{assum} \rightarrow (I \rightarrow I') \text{ and } \vDash \operatorname{assum} \rightarrow \neg (I' \rightarrow I)$

• $S' \ge S$ when either I' is strictly more permissive than I,

 $\vDash \operatorname{assum} \rightarrow (I \rightarrow I') \text{ and } \vDash (\operatorname{assum} \land I) \rightarrow \land_i (G_i \rightarrow G'_i)$

or they are equally permissive and each G_i' is more permissive than G_i

• Optimum exists, expressible in dGL!

Overview

- Introduction
- Problem Statement

Solution

• Evaluation

Background: Differential Game Logic (dGL)

Systems have nondeterminism $(x \coloneqq A \cup x \coloneqq B)$



$$(x \coloneqq A \cup x \coloneqq B)$$
$$(x \coloneqq A \cap x \coloneqq B)$$

 $\alpha \cap \beta, \alpha^*, ?\phi, \{x^{\wedge}=f(x)\&Q\}$ $\alpha \cap \beta, \alpha^{\times}, ? \phi^{d}, \{x' = f(x) \& Q\}^{d}$ Demonic Win Condition

 $[(x \coloneqq A \cap x \coloneqq B)]x = A$ Demon wins if in the end, x = A

Winning Strategy

 $[(x \coloneqq A \cap x \coloneqq B)]x = A$ Demon strategy: choose left

Formulas

 $[(x \coloneqq A \cap x \coloneqq B)]x = A$

Formula true in states where demon has a **winning strategy**

dGL Axioms

Provide a way to get a *propositional arithmetic* formula saying "when can demon win this game"?

 $[(v \coloneqq 1 \cap v \coloneqq -1); \{x' = v\}] x \neq 0$ $[(v \coloneqq 1)][\{x' = v\}]x \neq 0 \lor$ $[(v \coloneqq -1)][\{x' = v\}]x \neq 0$ $[\{x' = 1\}]x \neq 0 \lor [\{x' = -1\}]x \neq 0$ $\forall t \ge 0x + t \ne 0 \lor \forall t \ge 0x - t \ne 0$ $x > 0 \lor x < 0$

Demon has a winning strategy if:

- x > 0: choose left $\xleftarrow{0}{0} \triangle$ x < 0: choose right $\xleftarrow{0}{0} \triangle$







Optimal Solution: Guards

Computed *I*^{opt} is loop invariant. Guards ensure inductive step.



Allow a control action when it is guaranteed to keep the system within I^{opt}

$$G_i^{\text{opt}} \equiv [\operatorname{act}_i; \operatorname{plant}] I^{\text{opt}}.$$

Next: Extracting Explicit Solutions

- Propositional arithmetic: easily checked at runtime
- Use the axioms of dGL (which are in terms of FOL*)
- *But two dGL constructions need more than *FOL*.

 - Differential equations: Presupposes an ODE solution

 Approximate using
 continuous invariants

Action Choice Refinement

The game obtained by restricting the controller to one action

$$\left[\left(\begin{array}{c} a \coloneqq -B; t \coloneqq 0; \\ \left\{p' = v, v' = a, t' = 1 \ t \leq T \land v \geq 0\right\}\right)^*\right] e - p > 0$$

One Shot Unrolling

Is harder than the game where the controller chooses between multiple actions

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} (\boldsymbol{a} \coloneqq -\boldsymbol{B} \cap \boldsymbol{a} \coloneqq \boldsymbol{A}); t \coloneqq 0; \\ \{p' = v, v' = a, t' = 1 \ t \le T \land v \ge 0\} \end{pmatrix}^* \right] e - p > 0$$



implie



More Unrolling

• 1-shot unrolling lets the controller choose one action and run it forever.



1 iteration

1-shot unroll

Multi-shot Bounded Unrolling

- 1-shot unrolling lets the controller choose one action and run it forever.
- Bounded unrolling allows a "switch" in action choice ${\color{black}\bullet}$
 - Recursive game formulation for each switch This is safe too, but requires robot to switch choice of action (0,0)• I^0 \equiv |forever| $I^{n+1} \equiv I^n \vee [\text{step}] I^n$ 1-shot unroll 2-shot unroll

 \bullet

Other Ideas that Make CESAR Work

Problem: Is the synthesized envelope still optimal after all those refinements?



Solution: Optimality Checking by

Duality



 $\neg \langle \alpha \rangle \neg P \quad \leftrightarrow \qquad [a]P$



Problem: Symbolic reasoning about unsolvable ODEs

Solution: Approximate with Pegasus invariant generator



Problem: Complicated arithmetic expressions resulting in slow quantifier elimination

Solution: Proposition Arithmetic simplification using heuristics

Overview

Part 2: Synthesis

- Introduction
- Problem Statement
- Solution
- Evaluation

Evaluation						
Summary of CESAR experimental results						
Benchmark	Synthesis Time (s)	Checking	Optimal	Needs Unrolling	Non Solvable Dynamics	[3],[4]: Solved Manually in the Literature
		Time (s)				State Dependent Fallback
ETCS Train [3]	14	9	\checkmark			
Sled	20	8	\checkmark			
Intersection	49	44	\checkmark			Non Solvable Dynamics
Parachute [4]	46	8			\checkmark	
Curvebot	26	9			\checkmark	Ontine of control requires of
Coolant	49	20	\checkmark	\checkmark		careful sequence of actions
Corridor	20	8	\checkmark	\checkmark		
Power Station	26	17	\checkmark	\checkmark		

-

[3] Platzer, A., Quesel, J.: European train control system: A case study in formal verification. In: Formal Methods and Software Engineering, 11th International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods, ICFEM 2009

[4] Fulton, N., Mitsch, S., Bohrer, R., Platzer, A.: Bellerophon: Tactical theorem proving for hybrid systems. In: Ayala-Rincon, M., Munoz, C.A. (eds.) ITP. LNCS, vol. 10499, pp. 207–224. Springer 27 (2017).

Summary

