Confluence and Convergence in Probabilistically Terminating Reduction Systems

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PARS cover

- probabilistic algorithms and programs
- scheduling strategies
- protocols
- . . .

Background

- Almost-sure convergence and almost-sure termination introduced for a subset of probabilistic programs by Hart et al 1983
- PARS formulated by Bournez and Kirchner 2002
- Almost-surely confluence formulated by Frühwirt et al 2002, Bournez and Kirchner 2002

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Probabilistic Abstract Reduction System

 $R^P = (R, P)$ where $R = (A, \rightarrow)$ is an ARS. For each $s \in A \setminus R_{NF}$,

$$\sum_{s\to t} P(s\to t) = 1.$$

For all s and t, $P(s \rightarrow t) > 0$ if and only if $s \rightarrow t$.







Probability of s reaching $t \in R_{NF}(s)$

$$P(s \to^* t) = \sum_{\delta \in \Delta(s,t)} P(\delta)$$
where $\Delta(s,t) = \{\delta \mid \delta = s \to \dots \to t\}.$

Probability of *diverging* from s

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Theorem

A PARS is almost-surely terminating and confluent if and only if it is almost-surely convergent.

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- almost-sure termination
- confluence

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- almost-sure termination:
 e.g. Lyapunov ranking functions.¹
- confluence

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confluence:

e.g. transform to systems suited for automatic confluence analysis. $^{2} \ \ \,$

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Definition

A measure $\mathcal{V}: \mathcal{A} \to \mathbb{R}^+$ is a Lyapunov ranking function if

$$orall s \in A, \exists \epsilon > 0: \qquad \mathcal{V}(s) \geq \sum_{s o s'} P(s o s') \cdot \mathcal{V}(s') + \epsilon$$

Lemma (Ferrer Fioriti, Hermanns POPL '15)

A PARS $R^P = ((A, \rightarrow), P)$ is a-s. terminating if there is a Lyapunov ranking function over A.

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$$100 = \mathcal{V}(0) > 1/3\mathcal{V}(0) + 1/2\mathcal{V}(1) + 1/6\mathcal{V}(a) = 83 + 1/2$$

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Lemma (Curien, Ghelli RTA '91)

Given two ARS $R = (A, \rightarrow_R)$ and $R' = (A, \rightarrow_{R'})$ and a mapping $G: A \rightarrow A'$, then R is confluent if the following holds.

- R' is confluent,
- R is normalizing,
- if $s \rightarrow_R t$ then $G(s) \leftrightarrow_{R'}^* G(t)$,
- $\forall t \in R_{NF}, \ G(t) \in R'_{NF}$, and
- $\forall t, u \in R_{NF}, G(t) = G(u) \Rightarrow t = u.$

Confluence

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Confluence iff

Lemma

Given two ARS $R = (A, \rightarrow_R)$ and $R' = (A, \rightarrow_{R'})$ and a mapping $G : A \rightarrow A'$, satisfying

- (surjective) $\forall s' \in A', \exists s \in A, G(s) = s'$,
- R and R' are normalizing,

• if
$$s \to_R t$$
 then $G(s) \leftrightarrow_{R'}^* G(t)$, and
if $G(s) \leftrightarrow_{R'}^* G(t)$ then $s \leftrightarrow_R^* t$,

•
$$\forall t \in R_{NF}, \ G(t) \in R'_{NF}$$
, and $\forall t' \in R'_{NF}, \ G^{-1}(t') \subseteq R_{NF}$

•
$$\forall t, u \in R_{NF}, \ G(t) = G(u) \Rightarrow t = u,$$

then R is confluent iff R' is confluent.



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- Self-contained definitions of PARS; proving basic properties
- Almost-sure convergence generalized to PARS
- Theorem: almost-sure convergence ⇔ almost-sure termination ∧ confluence
- Unfolded methods for (dis-) proving almost-sure convergence