# Converging from Branching to Linear Metrics on MCs 

Giorgio Bacci, Giovanni Bacci, Kim G. Larsen, Radu Mardare Aalborg University, Denmark

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- Formal Verification - quantitative Model Checking
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- observables are execution runs (no internal access!)


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- We are interested in Quantitative Aspects
- Models - probabilistic, timed, weighted, etc.
- Behavior - from equivalences to distances
- Formal Verification - quantitative Model Checking
- in particular: Linear-time Properties
- observables are execution runs (no internal access!)
- Why? --systems biology, machine learning, artificial intelligence, security, etc.


## Markov Chains



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Given an initial state, MCs can be interpreted as "machines" that emit infinite traces of states with a certain probability

## Measurable Events



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## Measurable Events



$$
P(s)\left(\mathbb{C}\left(S_{0} \ldots S_{n}\right)\right)=\begin{aligned}
& \text { "probability that, starting from } s, \\
& \text { the MC emits a path } \\
& \text { with prefix in } S_{0} \ldots S_{n} "
\end{aligned}
$$

## Measurable Events



Cylinder set (or cone) (with prefix $\mathrm{s}_{0} . . . \mathrm{s}_{\mathrm{n}} \in \mathrm{S}_{0} \ldots . . \mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{n}}$ )
"probability that, starting from s, the MC emits a path with prefix in $\mathrm{S}_{0} . . . \mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{n}}$ "

## Linear Temporal Logic



## Linear Temporal Logic



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Semantics of a formula } \\
& {[\varphi]=\{\pi \mid \pi \models \varphi\}}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Linear Temporal Logic



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## Probabilistic Model Checking

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## $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{s})([\varphi])=$ ?

What is the probabability that the MC with initial state s satisfies the formula $\varphi$ ?

# Approximate verification 

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- One should reduce the accuracy of the model, ...hence introduce an error
- Proposed solution:

Behavioral metrics to quatify the error

# A distance for approx. Model Checking 

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$$
\left|P\left(M_{0}\right)([\varphi])-P\left(M_{1}\right)([\varphi])\right|
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## Two logical distances

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 the LTL distance$\operatorname{LTL}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t})=\sup _{\varphi \in \operatorname{LTL}}|\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{s})([\varphi])-\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{t})([\varphi])|$

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$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { the LTL-× distance } \\
& \operatorname{LTL}^{-x}(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{t})=\sup \varphi \in \operatorname{LTL} \times P(\mathrm{~s})([\varphi])-\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{t})([\varphi]) \mid
\end{aligned}
$$

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## Two logical distances

## Three natural questions

QI: Can we compute the two metrics?
Q2: Can we compute them exactly? If not, can we approximate them to any arbitrary precision?

Q3: What about complexity?

## Characterizations

Trace distance

$$
\mathrm{T}(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{t})=\sup _{\mathrm{E} \in \sigma(\mathcal{T})}|\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{~s})(\mathrm{E})-\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{t})(\mathrm{E})|
$$

Stutter-trace distance $\mathrm{ST}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t})=\sup _{\mathrm{E} \in \sigma(S T)}|\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{s})(\mathrm{E})-\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{t})(\mathrm{E})|$

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Events up-to trace equivalence
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$$

Characterization Theorem
$\operatorname{LTL}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t})=\mathrm{T}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t}) \quad$ and $\quad \operatorname{LTL}^{-\mathrm{x}}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t})=\mathrm{ST}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t})$

## A tiny yet tricky example

(from Chen-Kiefer LICS’I4)


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maximizing event is not $\omega$-regular!
irrational number


## Direct Consequences

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Q: Can we approximate the logical/trace distances up to any arbitrary precision?

# Approximation Algorithm 

(in the slides only for the Trace Distance)

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## (general idea) <br> Approximation Schema



14/25

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Approximation Schema


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## Approximation Schema

What about the sequence of upper-approximants?


## Coupling Characterization <br> (as total variation distance)

## $T(s, t)=\min \{w(\neq) \mid w \in \Omega(P(s), P(t))\}$

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Coupling as a transportation schedule...


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## Coupling Structure



## Coupling Structure

## Coupling Structure of rank k $\mathcal{C}: S \times S \rightarrow \Delta\left(S^{k} \times S^{k}\right)$ <br> such that $\mathcal{C}(s, t) \in \Omega\left(P(s)^{k}, P(t)^{k}\right)$

Stochastic process generating pairs of paths divided in multisteps of length $k$

Probability induced by $\mathcal{C}$ starting from $(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t})$
$\mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{c}}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t})$

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$$
\Omega_{k}=\left\{P_{\mathcal{C}(s, t) \mid \mathcal{C} \text { of rank } k\}}^{\text {Probability induced by } \mathcal{C} \text { starting from }(s, t)}\right.
$$

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\Omega_{\mathrm{k}}=\{\underbrace{\text { Probability induced by } \mathcal{C} \text { starting from }(\mathrm{t}) \text { ) }}_{\mathcal{C}(\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{t}) \mid \mathcal{C} \text { of } \text { rank } \mathrm{k}\}}
$$

Lemma

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { (i) } \Omega_{\mathrm{k}} \subseteq \Omega(\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{~s}), \mathrm{P}(\mathrm{t})), \quad \text { (ii) } \Omega_{\mathrm{k}} \subseteq \Omega_{\mathrm{hk}} \quad(\text { for all } \mathrm{k}, \mathrm{~h}>0) \\
\text { (iii) } U_{\mathrm{k}} \Omega_{\mathrm{k}} \text { is dense in } \Omega(\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{~s}), \mathrm{P}(\mathrm{t}))
\end{gathered}
$$

## Computing the Approximants

(*) MC with rational transition probabilities

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proved via alternative characterizations


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proved via alternative characterizations

> the threshold problem for T(s,t) is still NP-hard!

## Upper approx. are Branching Metrics!

$$
\Theta(d)(s, t)= \begin{cases}I & \text { if } s \neq t \\ K(d)(T(s), T(t)) & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
$$

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if $\mathbf{s} \neq \mathrm{t}$
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its kernel is Larsen-Skou probabilistic bisimilarity!

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the $k$-th upper-approx is the least fixed point of the operator $\Theta^{k}$
its kernel is $k$-step generalization of probabilistic bisimilarity...

## Upper approx. are Branching Metrics!



## Exact semantics do NOT converge

(monotone)
(bound)
(convergence) $\quad \inf _{k} u_{k}=T$
equiv.-based
$\sim_{k} \subseteq \sim_{h k}$
$\sim_{k} \subseteq \approx$
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{k}} \sim_{\mathrm{k}} \neq \approx$

## The Counterexample



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- Better algorithms? (on-the-fly techniques)
- different kind of models (non-determinism?)
- explore topological properties


## Thank you

for the attention

## Appendix

## The theorem behind...

For $\mu, v: \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{+}$finite measures on $(X, \Sigma)$ and $F \subseteq \Sigma$ field such that $\sigma(F)=\Sigma$

Representation Theorem

$$
\|\mu-v\|=\sup _{E \in F}|\mu(E)-v(E)|
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For $\mu, v: \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{+}$finite measures on $(X, \Sigma)$ and $F \subseteq \Sigma$ field such that $\sigma(F)=\Sigma$

Representation Theorem

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\|\mu-v\|=\sup _{E \in F}|\mu(E)-v(E)|
$$

$F$ is much simpler than $\Sigma$, nevertheless it suffices to attain the supremum!

