

Probabilistic Model Checking (CTMCs)

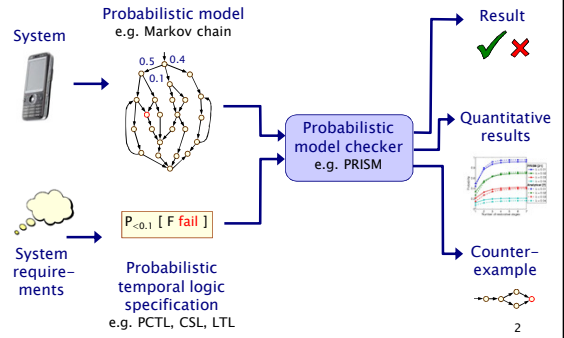
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Probabilistic model checking



Overview

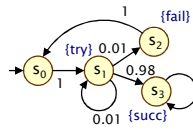
- **Recap: Discrete-time Markov chains (DTMCs)**
 - PCTL model checking
 - costs and rewards
- **Continuous-time Markov chains (CTMCs)**
 - exponential distribution and its properties
 - CTMCs: definition, examples, paths & probability spaces
 - CSL: A temporal logic for CTMCs
 - CSL model checking (uniformisation, steady-state)
 - costs & rewards

Recap

Discrete-time Markov chains

Discrete-time Markov chains

- Formally, a DTMC D is a tuple $(S, s_{init}, \mathbf{P}, L)$ where:
 - S is a finite set of states ("state space")
 - $s_{init} \in S$ is the initial state
 - $\mathbf{P} : S \times S \rightarrow [0,1]$ is the **transition probability matrix** where $\sum_{s' \in S} \mathbf{P}(s,s') = 1$ for all $s \in S$
 - $L : S \rightarrow 2^A$ is function labelling states with atomic propositions
- Note: no deadlock states**
 - i.e. every state has at least one outgoing transition
 - can add self loops to represent final/terminating states



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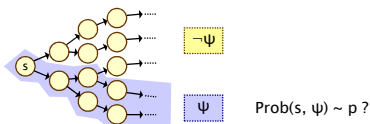
PCTL syntax

- PCTL syntax:**
 - $\phi ::= \text{true} \mid a \mid \phi \wedge \phi \mid \neg \phi \mid P_{\sim p} [\psi]$ (state formulas)
 - ψ is true with probability $\sim p$
 - $\psi ::= X \phi \mid \phi U^{\leq k} \phi \mid \phi U \phi$ (path formulas)
 - "next"
 - "bounded until"
 - "until"
- where a is an atomic proposition, used to identify states of interest, $p \in [0,1]$ is a probability, $\sim \in \{<, >, \leq, \geq\}$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$
- A PCTL formula is always a state formula
 - path formulas only occur inside the P operator

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PCTL semantics for DTMCs

- Semantics of the probabilistic operator P**
 - informal definition: $s \models P_{\sim p} [\psi]$ means that "the probability, from state s , that ψ is true for an outgoing path satisfies $\sim p$ "
 - example: $s \models P_{<0.25} [X \text{ fail}] \Leftrightarrow$ "the probability of atomic proposition fail being true in the next state of outgoing paths from s is less than 0.25"
 - formally: $s \models P_{\sim p} [\psi] \Leftrightarrow \text{Prob}(s, \psi) \sim p$
 - where: $\text{Prob}(s, \psi) = \Pr_s \{ \omega \in \text{Path}(s) \mid \omega \models \psi \}$
 - (sets of paths satisfying ψ are always measurable [Var85])



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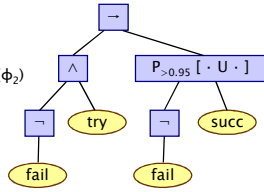
PCTL model checking for DTMCs

- Algorithm for PCTL model checking [CY88,HJ94,CY95]**
 - inputs: DTMC $D=(S, s_{init}, \mathbf{P}, L)$, PCTL formula ϕ
 - output: $\text{Sat}(\phi) = \{ s \in S \mid s \models \phi \}$ = set of states satisfying ϕ
- What does it mean for a DTMC D to satisfy a formula ϕ ?
 - sometimes, want to check that $s \models \phi \forall s \in S$, i.e. $\text{Sat}(\phi) = S$
 - sometimes, just want to know if $s_{init} \models \phi$, i.e. if $s_{init} \in \text{Sat}(\phi)$
- Sometimes, focus on **quantitative results**
 - e.g. compute result of $P=? [F \text{ error}]$
 - e.g. compute result of $P=? [F^{\leq k} \text{ error}]$ for $0 \leq k \leq 100$

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PCTL model checking for DTMCs

- Basic algorithm proceeds by induction on parse tree of ϕ
 - example: $\phi = (\neg \text{fail} \wedge \text{try}) \rightarrow P_{>0.95} [\neg \text{fail} \cup \text{succ}]$
- For the non-probabilistic operators:
 - $\text{Sat}(\text{true}) = S$
 - $\text{Sat}(a) = \{ s \in S \mid a \in L(s) \}$
 - $\text{Sat}(\neg \phi) = S \setminus \text{Sat}(\phi)$
 - $\text{Sat}(\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2) = \text{Sat}(\phi_1) \cap \text{Sat}(\phi_2)$
- For the $P_p [\psi]$ operator
 - need to compute the probabilities $\text{Prob}(s, \psi)$ for all states $s \in S$
 - focus here on "until" case: $\psi = \phi_1 \cup \phi_2$



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PCTL until for DTMCs

- Computation of probabilities $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 \cup \phi_2)$ for all $s \in S$
- First, identify all states where the probability is 1 or 0
 - $S^{\text{yes}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\geq 1} [\phi_1 \cup \phi_2])$
 - $S^{\text{no}} = \text{Sat}(P_{\leq 0} [\phi_1 \cup \phi_2])$
- Then solve linear equation system for remaining states
- We refer to the first phase as "precomputation"
 - two algorithms: Prob0 (for S^{no}) and Prob1 (for S^{yes})
 - algorithms work on underlying graph (probabilities irrelevant)
- Important for several reasons
 - reduces the set of states for which probabilities must be computed numerically (which is more expensive)
 - guarantees uniqueness of solutions
 - gives exact results for the states in S^{yes} and S^{no} (no round-off)
 - for $P_p[\cdot]$ where p is 0 or 1, no further computation required

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PCTL until – Linear equations

- Probabilities $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 \cup \phi_2)$ can now be obtained as the unique solution of the following set of linear equations:

$$\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 \cup \phi_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s \in S^{\text{yes}} \\ 0 & \text{if } s \in S^{\text{no}} \\ \sum_{s' \in S} P(s, s') \cdot \text{Prob}(s', \phi_1 \cup \phi_2) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

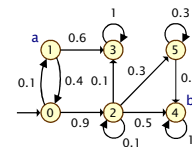
- can be reduced to a system in $|S|^2$ unknowns instead of $|S|$ where $S^? = S \setminus (S^{\text{yes}} \cup S^{\text{no}})$

- This can be solved with (a variety of) standard techniques
 - direct methods, e.g. Gaussian elimination
 - iterative methods, e.g. Jacobi, Gauss-Seidel, ... (preferred in practice due to scalability)

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PCTL until – Example

- Example: $P_{>0.8} [\neg a \cup b]$



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PCTL until – Example

- Example: $P_{>0.8} [\neg a \text{ U } b]$

$S^{no} =$
 $Sat(P_{\le 0} [\neg a \text{ U } b])$

$S^{yes} =$
 $Sat(P_{\ge 1} [\neg a \text{ U } b])$

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PCTL until – Example

- Example: $P_{>0.8} [\neg a \text{ U } b]$
- Let $x_s = \text{Prob}(s, \neg a \text{ U } b)$
- Solve:
 - $x_4 = x_5 = 1$
 - $x_1 = x_3 = 0$
 - $x_0 = 0.1x_1 + 0.9x_2 = 0.8$
 - $x_2 = 0.1x_2 + 0.1x_3 + 0.3x_5 + 0.5x_4 = 8/9$
- $\text{Prob}(\neg a \text{ U } b) = \underline{x} = [0.8, 0, 8/9, 0, 1, 1]$
- $Sat(P_{>0.8} [\neg a \text{ U } b]) = \{s_2, s_4, s_5\}$

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Costs and rewards

- We augment DTMCs with rewards (or, conversely, costs)
 - real-valued quantities assigned to states and/or transitions
 - these can have a wide range of possible interpretations
- Some examples:
 - elapsed time, power consumption, size of message queue, number of messages successfully delivered, net profit, ...
- Costs? or rewards?
 - mathematically, no distinction between rewards and costs
 - when interpreted, we assume that it is desirable to minimise costs and to maximise rewards
 - we will consistently use the terminology "rewards" regardless

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Reward-based properties

- Properties of DTMCs augmented with rewards
 - allow a wide range of quantitative measures of the system
 - basic notion: expected value of rewards
 - formal property specifications will be in an extension of PCTL
- More precisely, we use two distinct classes of property...
 - Instantaneous properties**
 - the expected value of the reward at some time point
 - Cumulative properties**
 - the expected cumulated reward over some period

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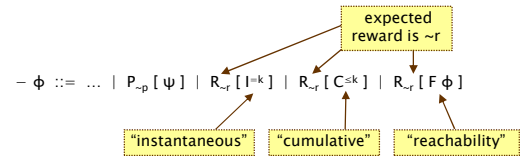
DTMC reward structures

- For a DTMC (S, S_{init}, P, L) , a reward structure is a pair $(\underline{r}, \underline{t})$
 - $\underline{r} : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the **state reward function** (vector)
 - $\underline{t} : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the **transition reward function** (matrix)
- Example (for use with instantaneous properties)
 - “size of message queue”: \underline{r} maps each state to the number of jobs in the queue in that state, \underline{t} is not used
- Examples (for use with cumulative properties)
 - “time-steps”: \underline{r} returns 1 for all states and \underline{t} is zero (equivalently, \underline{r} is zero and \underline{t} returns 1 for all transitions)
 - “number of messages lost”: \underline{r} is zero and \underline{t} maps transitions corresponding to a message loss to 1
 - “power consumption”: \underline{r} is defined as the per-time-step energy consumption in each state and \underline{t} as the energy cost of each transition

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PCTL and rewards

- Extend PCTL to incorporate reward-based properties
 - add an R operator, which is similar to the existing P operator



– where $r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $\sim \in \{<, >, \leq, \geq\}$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$

- $R_{\sim r}[\cdot]$ means “the expected value of \cdot satisfies $\sim r$ ”

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Types of reward formulas

- **Instantaneous:** $R_{\sim r}[I^k]$
 - “the expected value of the state reward at time-step k is $\sim r$ ”
 - e.g. “the expected queue size after exactly 90 seconds”
- **Cumulative:** $R_{\sim r}[C^k]$
 - “the expected reward cumulated up to time-step k is $\sim r$ ”
 - e.g. “the expected power consumption over one hour”
- **Reachability:** $R_{\sim r}[F\phi]$
 - “the expected reward cumulated before reaching a state satisfying ϕ is $\sim r$ ”
 - e.g. “the expected time for the algorithm to terminate”

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Reward formula semantics

- **Formal semantics of the three reward operators**
 - based on random variables over (infinite) paths
- **Recall:**
 - $s \models P_{\sim p}[\Psi] \Leftrightarrow \Pr_s \{ \omega \in \text{Path}(s) \mid \omega \models \Psi \} \sim p$
- **For a state s in the DTMC:**
 - $s \models R_{\sim r}[I^k] \Leftrightarrow \text{Exp}(s, X_{I^k}) \sim r$
 - $s \models R_{\sim r}[C^k] \Leftrightarrow \text{Exp}(s, X_{C^k}) \sim r$
 - $s \models R_{\sim r}[F\phi] \Leftrightarrow \text{Exp}(s, X_{F\phi}) \sim r$

where: $\text{Exp}(s, X)$ denotes the **expectation** of the **random variable** $X : \text{Path}(s) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ with respect to the **probability measure** \Pr_s

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Reward formula semantics

- Definition of random variables:
 - for an infinite path $\omega = s_0 s_1 s_2 \dots$

$$X_{\text{inst}}(\omega) = \underline{r}(s_k)$$

$$X_{\text{cum}}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } k = 0 \\ \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \underline{r}(s_i) + \underline{u}(s_i, s_{i+1}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X_{\text{reb}}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s_0 \in \text{Sat}(\phi) \\ \infty & \text{if } s_i \notin \text{Sat}(\phi) \text{ for all } i \geq 0 \\ \sum_{i=0}^{k_\phi-1} \underline{r}(s_i) + \underline{u}(s_i, s_{i+1}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- where $k_\phi = \min\{j \mid s_j \models \phi\}$

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Model checking reward properties

- Instantaneous: $R_{-r} [I = k]$
- Cumulative: $R_{-r} [C \leq k]$
 - variant of the method for computing bounded until probabilities
 - solution of **recursive equations**
- Reachability: $R_{-r} [F \phi]$
 - similar to computing until probabilities
 - precomputation phase (identify infinite reward states)
 - then reduces to solving a **system of linear equation**
- For more details, see e.g. [KNP07a]

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Part 2

Continuous-time Markov chains

Time in DTMCs

- Time in a DTMC (or MDP) proceeds in discrete steps
- Two possible interpretations:
 - accurate model of (discrete) time units
 - e.g. clock ticks in model of an embedded device
 - time-abstract
 - no information assumed about the time transitions take
- Continuous-time Markov chains (CTMCs)
 - dense model of time
 - transitions can occur at any (real-valued) time instant
 - modelled using exponential distributions
 - suits modelling of: performance/reliability (e.g. of computer networks, manufacturing systems, queueing networks), biological pathways, chemical reactions, ...

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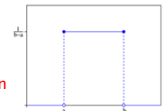
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Continuous probability distributions

- Defined by:
 - cumulative distribution function

$$F(t) = \Pr(X \leq t) = \int_{-\infty}^t f(x) dx$$

- where f is the probability density function
- $\Pr(X=t) = 0$ for all t



- Example: uniform distribution: $U(a,b)$

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & \text{if } a \leq t \leq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$F(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t < a \\ \frac{t-a}{b-a} & \text{if } a \leq t < b \\ 1 & \text{if } t \geq b \end{cases}$$



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Exponential distribution

- A continuous random variable X is exponential with parameter $\lambda > 0$ if the density function is given by:

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda t} & \text{if } t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \lambda = \text{"rate"}$$

- Cumulative distribution function (for $t \geq 0$):

$$F(t) = \Pr(X \leq t) = \int_0^t \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda x} dx = [-e^{-\lambda x}]_0^t = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$$

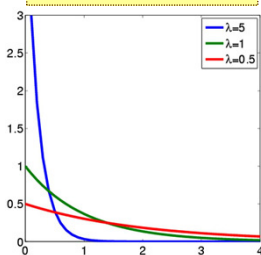
- Other properties:

- negation: $\Pr(X > t) = e^{-\lambda t}$
- mean (expectation): $E[X] = \int_0^{\infty} x \cdot \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda x} dx = \frac{1}{\lambda}$
- variance: $\text{Var}(X) = 1/\lambda^2$

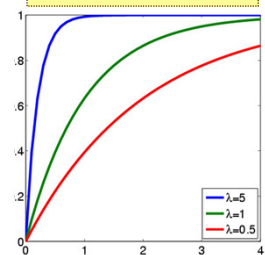
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Exponential distribution – Examples

Probability density function



Cumulative distribution function



- The more λ increases, the faster the c.d.f. approaches 1

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Exponential distribution

- Adequate for modelling many real-life phenomena
 - failures
 - e.g. time before machine component fails
 - inter-arrival times
 - e.g. time before next call arrives to a call centre
 - biological systems
 - e.g. times for reactions between proteins to occur
- Maximal entropy if just the mean is known
 - i.e. best approximation when only mean is known
- Can approximate general distributions arbitrarily closely
 - phase-type distributions

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Exponential distribution – Properties

- Two useful properties of the exponential distribution:
- The exponential distribution is **memoryless**:
 - $\Pr(X > t_1 + t_2 \mid X > t_1) = \Pr(X > t_2)$
 - it is the only memoryless continuous distribution
 - the discrete-time equivalent is the geometric distribution
- The **minimum** of two independent exponential distributions is an exponential distribution (parameter is sum)
 - $X_1 \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda_1), X_2 \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda_2)$
 - $Y = \min(X_1, X_2) \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$
 - generalises to minimum of n distributions

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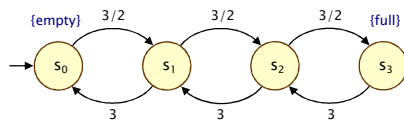
Continuous-time Markov chains

- Continuous-time Markov chains (CTMCs)
 - labelled transition systems augmented with rates
 - continuous time delays, exponentially distributed
- Formally, a CTMC C is a tuple $(S, s_{\text{init}}, \mathbf{R}, L)$ where:
 - S is a finite set of states ("state space")
 - $s_{\text{init}} \in S$ is the initial state
 - $\mathbf{R} : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the **transition rate matrix**
 - $L : S \rightarrow 2^{\text{AP}}$ is a labelling with atomic propositions
- Transition rate matrix assigns rates to each pair of states
 - used as a parameter to the **exponential distribution**
 - transition between s and s' when $\mathbf{R}(s, s') > 0$
 - probability triggered before t time units: $1 - e^{-\mathbf{R}(s, s') \cdot t}$

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Simple CTMC example

- Modelling a queue of jobs
 - initially the queue is empty
 - jobs **arrive** with rate $3/2$ (i.e. mean inter-arrival time is $2/3$)
 - jobs are **served** with rate 3 (i.e. mean service time is $1/3$)
 - maximum size of the queue is 3
 - state space: $S = \{s_i\}_{i=0..3}$ where s_i indicates i jobs in queue



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Race conditions

- What happens when there exists multiple s' with $R(s,s') > 0$?
 - **race condition**: first transition triggered determines next state
 - two questions:
 1. How long is spent in s before a transition occurs?
 2. Which transition is eventually taken?
- 1. Time spent in a state before a transition
 - **minimum** of exponential distributions
 - exponential with parameter given by summation:

$$E(s) = \sum_{s' \in S} R(s,s')$$
 - probability of leaving a state s within $[0,t]$ is $1 - e^{-E(s)t}$
 - $E(s)$ is the **exit rate** of state s
 - s is called **absorbing** if $E(s)=0$ (no outgoing transitions)

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Race conditions...

- 2. Which transition is taken from state s ?
 - the choice is **independent** of the time at which it occurs
 - e.g. if $X_1 \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda_1)$, $X_2 \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda_2)$
 - then the probability that $X_1 < X_2$ is $\lambda_1 / (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$
 - more generally, the probability is given by...
- The **embedded DTMC**: $\text{emb}(C) = (S, s_{\text{init}}, P^{\text{emb}(C)}, L)$
 - state space, initial state and labelling as the CTMC
 - for any $s, s' \in S$

$$P^{\text{emb}(C)}(s,s') = \begin{cases} R(s,s')/E(s) & \text{if } E(s) > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } E(s) = 0 \text{ and } s = s' \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Probability that next state from s is s' given by $P^{\text{emb}(C)}(s,s')$

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Two interpretations of a CTMC

- Consider a (non-absorbing) state $s \in S$ with multiple outgoing transitions, i.e. multiple $s' \in S$ with $R(s,s') > 0$
- 1. **Race condition**
 - each transition triggered after exponentially distributed delay
 - probability triggered before t time units: $1 - e^{-R(s,s')t}$
 - first transition triggered determines the next state
- 2. **Separate delay/transition**
 - remain in s for delay exponentially distributed with rate $E(s)$
 - i.e. probability of taking an outgoing transition from s within $[0,t]$ is given by $1 - e^{-E(s)t}$
 - probability that next state is s' is given by $P^{\text{emb}(C)}(s,s')$
 - i.e. $R(s,s')/E(s) = R(s,s') / \sum_{s' \in S} R(s,s')$

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Continuous-time Markov chains

- Infinitesimal generator matrix

$$Q(s, s') = \begin{cases} R(s, s') & s \neq s' \\ -\sum_{s' \neq s} R(s, s') & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Alternative definition: a CTMC is:
 - a family of random variables $\{X(t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}\}$
 - $X(t)$ are observations made at time instant t
 - i.e. $X(t)$ is the state of the system at time instant t
 - which satisfies...

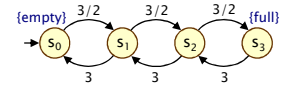
- Memoryless (Markov property)

$$P[X(t_k)=s_k \mid X(t_{k-1})=s_{k-1}, \dots, X(t_0)=s_0] = P[X(t_k)=s_k \mid X(t_{k-1})=s_{k-1}]$$

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Simple CTMC example...

$C = (S, s_{\text{init}}, R, L)$
 $S = \{s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3\}$
 $s_{\text{init}} = s_0$



AP = {empty, full}
 $L(s_0) = \{\text{empty}\}, L(s_1) = L(s_2) = \emptyset$ and $L(s_3) = \{\text{full}\}$

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 3/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad P^{\text{emb}(C)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2/3 & 0 & 1/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q = \begin{bmatrix} -3/2 & 3/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -9/2 & 3/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -9/2 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

transition rate matrix

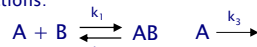
embedded DTMC

infinitesimal generator matrix

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Another example

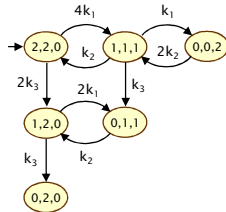
- Chemical reaction system: two species A and B
- Two reactions:



- reversible reaction under which species A and B bind to form AB (forwards rate = $|A| \cdot |B| \cdot k_1$, backwards rate = $|AB| \cdot k_2$)
- degradation of A (rate $|A| \cdot k_3$)
- $|X|$ denotes number of molecules of species X

- CTMC with state space

- $(|A|, |B|, |AB|)$
- initially (2,2,0)



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Paths of a CTMC

- An infinite path ω is a sequence $s_0 t_0 s_1 t_1 s_2 t_2 \dots$ such that
 - $R(s_i, s_{i+1}) > 0$ and $t_i \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$
 - amount of time spent in the j th state: $\text{time}(\omega, j) = t_j$
 - state occupied at time t : $\omega @ t = s_j$ where j smallest index such that $\sum_{i \leq j} t_i \geq t$
- A finite path is a sequence $s_0 t_0 s_1 t_1 s_2 t_2 \dots t_{k-1} s_k$ such that
 - $R(s_i, s_{i+1}) > 0$ and $t_i \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ for all $i < k$
 - s_k is absorbing ($R(s, s') = 0$ for all $s' \in S$)
 - amount of time spent in the i th state only defined for $j \leq k$: $\text{time}(\omega, j) = t_j$ if $j < k$ and $\text{time}(\omega, j) = \infty$ if $j = k$
 - state occupied at time t : if $t \leq \sum_{i \leq k} t_i$ then $\omega @ t$ as above otherwise $t > \sum_{i \leq k} t_i$ then $\omega @ t = s_k$
- Path(s) denotes all infinite and finite paths starting in s

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Recall: Probability spaces

- A σ -algebra (or σ -field) on Ω is a family Σ of subsets of Ω closed under complementation and countable union, i.e.:
 - if $A \in \Sigma$, the complement $\Omega \setminus A$ is in Σ
 - if $A_i \in \Sigma$ for $i \in \mathbb{N}$, the union $\cup_i A_i$ is in Σ
 - the empty set \emptyset is in Σ
- Elements of Σ are called **measurable sets or events**
- Theorem: For any family F of subsets of Ω , there exists a unique smallest σ -algebra on Ω containing F
- **Probability space (Ω, Σ, Pr)**
 - Ω is the sample space
 - Σ is the set of events: σ -algebra on Ω
 - $Pr: \Sigma \rightarrow [0,1]$ is the probability measure:
 - $Pr(\Omega) = 1$ and $Pr(\cup_i A_i) = \sum_i Pr(A_i)$ for countable disjoint A_i

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Probability space

- **Sample space:** Path(s) (set of all paths from a state s)
- **Events:** sets of infinite paths
- **Basic events:** cylinders
 - cylinders = sets of paths with common finite prefix
 - include **time intervals** in cylinders
- **Cylinder** is a sequence $s_0, l_0, s_1, l_1, \dots, l_{n-1}, s_n$
 - $s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n$ sequence of states where $R(s_i, s_{i+1}) > 0$ for $i < n$
 - $l_0, l_1, l_2, \dots, l_{n-1}$ sequence of nonempty intervals of $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$
- $Cyl(s_0, l_0, s_1, l_1, \dots, l_{n-1}, s_n)$ set of (**infinite and finite paths**):
 - $\omega(i) = s_i$ for all $i \leq n$ and $time(\omega, i) \in l_i$ for all $i < n$

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Probability space

- Define measure over cylinders by induction
- $Pr_s(Cyl(s)) = 1$
- $Pr_s(Cyl(s, l, s_1, l_1, \dots, l_{n-1}, s_n, l', s'))$ equals:

$$Pr_s(Cyl(s, l, s_1, l_1, \dots, l_{n-1}, s_n)) \cdot p^{emb(C)}(s_n, s') \cdot (e^{-E(s_n) \cdot inf l'} - e^{-E(s_n) \cdot sup l'})$$

probability transition from s_n to s' (defined using embedded DTMC)

probability time spent in state s_n is within the interval l'

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Probability space

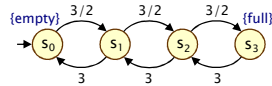
- Probability space $(Path(s), \Sigma_{Path(s)}, Pr_s)$ [BHHK03]
- Sample space $\Omega = Path(s)$ (**infinite and finite paths**)
- Event set $\Sigma_{Path(s)}$
 - least σ -algebra on $Path(s)$ containing all cylinders sets $Cyl(s_0, l_0, \dots, l_{n-1}, s_n)$ where:
 - s_0, \dots, s_n ranges over all state sequences with $R(s_i, s_{i+1}) > 0$ for all i
 - l_0, \dots, l_{n-1} ranges over all sequences of non-empty intervals in $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ (where intervals are bounded by rationals)
- Probability measure Pr_s
 - Pr_s extends **uniquely** from probability defined over cylinders

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Probability space – Example

- Probability of leaving the initial state s_0 and moving to state s_1 within the first 2 time units of operation?

- Cylinder $\text{Cyl}(s_0, (0, 2], s_1)$



- $\Pr_{s_0}(\text{Cyl}(s_0, (0, 2], s_1))$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \Pr_{s_0}(\text{Cyl}(s_0)) \cdot \mathbf{P}^{\text{emb}(C)}(s_0, s_1) \cdot (e^{-E(s_0) \cdot 0} - e^{-E(s_0) \cdot 2}) \\
 &= 1 \cdot 1 \cdot (e^{-3/2 \cdot 0} - e^{-3/2 \cdot 2}) \\
 &= 1 - e^{-3} \\
 &\approx 0.95021
 \end{aligned}$$

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Transient and steady-state behaviour

- Transient behaviour

- state of the model at a particular **time instant**
- $\pi_{s,t}^C(s')$ is probability of, having started in state s , being in state s' at time t (in CTMC C)
- $\pi_{s,t}^C(s') = \Pr_s\{\omega \in \text{Path}^C(s) \mid \omega@t=s'\}$

- Steady-state behaviour

- state of the model in the **long-run**
- $\pi_s^C(s')$ is probability of, having started in state s , being in state s' in the long run
- $\pi_s^C(s') = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi_{s,t}^C(s')$
- intuitively: long-run percentage of time spent in each state

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Overview

- Recap: Discrete-time Markov chains (DTMCs)
 - PCTL model checking
 - costs and rewards
- Part 2: Continuous-time Markov chains (CTMCs)
 - exponential distribution and its properties
 - CTMCs: definition, examples, paths & probability spaces
 - CSL: A temporal logic for CTMCs
 - CSL model checking (uniformisation, steady-state)
 - costs & rewards

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CSL

- Temporal logic for describing properties of CTMCs
 - CSL = Continuous Stochastic Logic [ASSB00, BHHK03]
 - extension of (non-probabilistic) temporal logic CTL
 - transient, steady-state and path-based properties
- Key additions:
 - probabilistic operator **P** (like PCTL)
 - steady state operator **S**
- Example: $\text{down} \rightarrow P_{>0.75} [\neg \text{fail } U^{s \in \{1, 2, 5\}} \text{up}]$
 - when a shutdown occurs, the probability of a system recovery being completed between 1 and 2.5 hours without further failure is greater than 0.75
- Example: $S_{<0.1} [\text{insufficient_routers}]$
 - in the long run, the chance that an inadequate number of routers are operational is less than 0.1

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CSL syntax

- **CSL syntax:**
 - $\phi ::= \text{true} \mid a \mid \phi \wedge \phi \mid \neg\phi \mid P_{\sim p}[\psi] \mid S_{\sim p}[\phi]$ (state formulae)
 - $\psi ::= X\phi \mid \phi U^I \phi$ (path formulae)

"next"

"time bounded until"

in the "long run" ϕ is true with probability $\sim p$

- where a is an atomic proposition, I interval of $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $p \in [0,1]$, and $\sim \in \{<, >, \leq, \geq\}$

- unbounded until U is a special case: $\phi_1 U \phi_2 \equiv \phi_1 U^{[0,\infty)} \phi_2$

- **Quantitative properties:** $P_{\sim ?}[\psi]$ and $S_{\sim ?}[\phi]$
 - where P/S is the outermost operator

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CSL semantics for CTMCs

- **CSL formulae interpreted over states of a CTMC**
 - $s \models \phi$ denotes ϕ is "true in state s " or "satisfied in state s "
- **Semantics of state formulae:**
 - for a state s of the CTMC $(S, S_{\text{init}}, \mathbf{R}, L)$:
 - $s \models a \iff a \in L(s)$
 - $s \models \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \iff s \models \phi_1$ and $s \models \phi_2$
 - $s \models \neg\phi \iff s \models \phi$ is false
 - $s \models P_{\sim p}[\psi] \iff \text{Prob}(s, \psi) \sim p$
 - $s \models S_{\sim p}[\phi] \iff \sum_{s' \models \phi} \Pi_S(s') \sim p$

Probability of, starting in state s , satisfying the path formula ψ

Probability of, starting in state s , being in state s' in the long run

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CSL semantics for CTMCs

- **Prob(s, ψ) is the probability, starting in state s , of satisfying the path formula ψ**
 - $\text{Prob}(s, \psi) = \text{Pr}_s \{ \omega \in \text{Path}_s \mid \omega \models \psi \}$
- **Semantics of path formulae:**
 - for a path ω of the CTMC:
 - $\omega \models X\phi \iff \omega(1)$ is defined and $\omega(1) \models \phi$
 - $\omega \models \phi_1 U^I \phi_2 \iff \exists t \in I. (\omega @ t \models \phi_2 \wedge \forall t' < t. \omega @ t' \models \phi_1)$

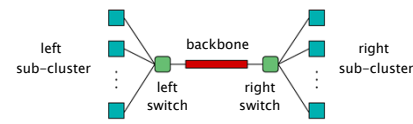
if $\omega(0)$ is absorbing, $\omega(1)$ not defined

there exists a time instant in the interval I where ϕ_2 is true and ϕ_1 is true at all preceding time instants

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CSL example – Workstation cluster

- **Case study: Cluster of workstations [HHK00]**
 - two sub-clusters (N workstations in each cluster)
 - star topology with a central switch
 - components can break down, single repair unit



- **minimum QoS:** at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the workstations operational and connected via switches

- **premium QoS:** all workstations operational and connected via switches

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CSL example – Workstation cluster

- $S_{=?} [\text{minimum}]$
 - the probability in the long run of having minimum QoS
- $P_{=?} [F^{(t,t)} \text{minimum}]$
 - the (transient) probability at time instant t of minimum QoS
- $P_{<0.05} [F^{[0,10]} \neg \text{minimum}]$
 - the probability that the QoS drops below minimum within 10 hours is less than 0.05
- $\neg \text{minimum} \rightarrow P_{<0.1} [F^{[0,2]} \neg \text{minimum}]$
 - when facing insufficient QoS, the chance of facing the same problem after 2 hours is less than 0.1

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CSL example – Workstation cluster

- $\text{minimum} \rightarrow P_{>0.8} [\text{minimum} U^{[0,t]} \text{premium}]$
 - the probability of going from minimum to premium QoS within t hours without violating minimum QoS is at least 0.8
- $P_{=?} [\neg \text{minimum} U^{(t,\infty)} \text{minimum}]$
 - the chance it takes more than t time units to recover from insufficient QoS
- $\neg r_switch_up \rightarrow P_{<0.1} [\neg r_switch_up U \neg l_switch_up]$
 - if the right switch has failed, the probability of the left switch failing before it is repaired is less than 0.1
- $P_{=?} [F^{[2,\infty)} S_{>0.9} [\text{minimum}]]$
 - the probability of it taking more than 2 hours to get to a state from which the long-run probability of minimum QoS is >0.9

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CSL model checking

- Model checking a CSL formula ϕ on a CTMC
 - basic algorithm proceeds by induction on parse tree of ϕ
 - non-probabilistic operators (true, a, \neg , \wedge) identical to PCTL
- Main task: computing probabilities for $P_{-p} [\cdot]$ and $S_{-p} [\cdot]$
- Untimed properties can be verified on the embedded DTMC
 - properties of the form: $P_{-p} [X \phi]$ or $P_{-p} [\phi_1 U \phi_2]$
 - use algorithms for checking PCTL against DTMCs
- Which leaves...
 - time-bounded until operator: $P_{-p} [\phi U^t \phi]$
 - steady-state operator: $S_{-p} [\phi]$

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Model checking – Time-bounded until

- Compute $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^I \phi_2)$ for all states where I is an arbitrary interval of the non-negative real numbers
- Note:
 - $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^I \phi_2) = \text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^{cl(I)} \phi_2)$ where $cl(I)$ denotes the closure of the interval I
 - $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^{[0, \infty)} \phi_2) = \text{Prob}^{emb(C)}(s, \phi_1 U \phi_2)$ where $emb(C)$ is the **embedded DTMC**
- Therefore, 3 remaining cases to consider:
 - $I = [0, t]$ for some $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ (described in this lecture)
 - $I = [t, t']$ for some $t \leq t' \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ or $I = [t, \infty)$ for some $t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$
- Two methods: 1. Integral equations; 2. Uniformisation

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Time-bounded until (integral equations)

- Computing the probabilities reduces to determining the least solution of the following set of **integral equations**:

- $\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^{[0, t]} \phi_2)$ equals

- 1 if $s \in \text{Sat}(\phi_2)$,
- 0 if $s \in \text{Sat}(\neg\phi_1 \wedge \neg\phi_2)$
- and otherwise equals

probability of moving from s to s' at time x

probability, in state s' , of satisfying until before $t-x$ time units elapse

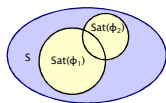
$$\int_0^t \sum_{s' \in S} P^{emb(C)}(s, s') \cdot E(s) \cdot e^{-E(s) \cdot x} \text{Prob}(s', \phi_1 U^{[0, t-x]} \phi_2) dx$$

- One possibility: solve these integrals numerically
 - e.g. trapezoidal, Simpson and Romberg integration
 - expensive, possible problems with numerical stability

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Time-bounded until (uniformisation)

- Reduction to transient analysis...
 - on a modified CTMC C'
- Make all ϕ_2 states absorbing
 - in such a state $\phi_1 U^{[0, x]} \phi_2$ holds with **probability 1**
- Make all $\neg\phi_1 \wedge \neg\phi_2$ states absorbing
 - in such a state $\phi_1 U^{[0, x]} \phi_2$ holds with **probability 0**
- Formally: modified CTMC $C' = C[\phi_2][\neg\phi_1 \wedge \neg\phi_2]$
 - where for CTMC $C = (S, S_{init}, \mathbf{R}, L)$, let $C[\theta] = (S, S_{init}, \mathbf{R}[\theta], L)$ where $\mathbf{R}[\theta](s, s') = \mathbf{R}(s, s')$ if $s \notin \text{Sat}(\theta)$ and 0 otherwise



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Time-bounded until (uniformisation)

- Problem then reduces to calculating **transient probabilities** in the modified CTMC C' :

$$\text{Prob}(s, \phi_1 U^{[0, t]} \phi_2) = \sum_{s' \in \text{Sat}(\phi_2)} \Pi_{s, t}^{C'}(s')$$

$\Pi_{s, t}^{C'}(s')$: transient probability in C' : starting in state s , the probability of being in state s' at time t

- To compute for all states s :

$$\underline{\text{Prob}}(\phi_1 U^{[0, t]} \phi_2) = \Pi_t^C \cdot \underline{\phi}_2$$

- where $\underline{\phi}_2$ is a 0-1 vector characterising ϕ_2
- and Π_t^C is the matrix of all transient probabilities in C'

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Computing transient probabilities

- $\mathbf{\Pi}_t$ – matrix of transient probabilities
 - $\mathbf{\Pi}_t(s, s') = \mathbf{\Pi}_{s,t}(s')$
- $\mathbf{\Pi}_t$ solution of the differential equation: $\mathbf{\Pi}_t' = \mathbf{\Pi}_t \cdot \mathbf{Q}$
 - \mathbf{Q} infinitesimal generator matrix
- Can be expressed as a **matrix exponential** and therefore evaluated as a **power series**

$$\mathbf{\Pi}_t = e^{\mathbf{Q}t} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (\mathbf{Q} \cdot t)^i / i!$$
 - computation potentially **unstable**
 - probabilities instead computed using **uniformisation**

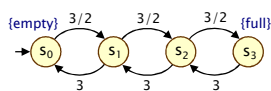
62

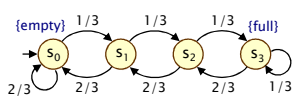
Uniformisation

- Uniformised DTMC $\text{unif}(C)$ of CTMC $C = (S, s_{\text{init}}, \mathbf{R}, L)$:
 - $\text{unif}(C) = (S, s_{\text{init}}, \mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)}, L)$
 - set of states, initial state and labelling the same as C
 - $\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)} = \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{Q}/q$
 - \mathbf{I} is the $|S| \times |S|$ identity matrix
 - $q \geq \max \{ E(s) \mid s \in S \}$ is the **uniformisation rate**
- Each time step (epoch) of uniformised DTMC corresponds to **one exponentially distributed delay with rate q**
 - if $E(s) = q$ transitions the same as embedded DTMC (residence time has the same distribution as one epoch)
 - if $E(s) < q$ add self loop with probability $1 - E(s)/q$ (residence time longer than $1/q$ so one epoch may not be 'long enough')

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Uniformisation – Example

- CTMC C :
 

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 3/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
- Uniformised DTMC $\text{unif}(C)$
 - let uniformisation rate $q = \max_s \{ E(s) \} = 4.5$
 - $\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)} = \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{Q}/q$

$$\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)} = \begin{bmatrix} 2/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 2/3 & 0 & 1/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Uniformisation

- Using the uniformised DTMC the transient probabilities can be expressed by:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{\Pi}_t &= e^{\mathbf{Q}t} = e^{q(\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)} - \mathbf{I})t} = e^{(q-t)\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)}} \cdot e^{-qt} \\ &= e^{-qt} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(qt)^i}{i!} \cdot (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(e^{-qt} \cdot \frac{(qt)^i}{i!} \right) \cdot (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \gamma_{q,t,i} \cdot (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i \end{aligned}$$

i th Poisson probability with parameter $q \cdot t$

$\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)}$ stochastic (all entries in $[0,1]$ & rows sum to 1), therefore computations with \mathbf{P} more numerically stable than \mathbf{Q}

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Uniformisation

$$\Pi_t = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \gamma_{q,t,i} \cdot (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i$$

- $(\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i$ is probability of jumping between each pair of states in i steps
- $\gamma_{q,t,i}$ is the i th Poisson probability with parameter $q \cdot t$
 - the probability of i steps occurring in time t , given each has delay exponentially distributed with rate q
- Can truncate the (infinite) summation using the techniques of Fox and Glynn [FG88], which allow efficient computation of the Poisson probabilities

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Time-bounded until (uniformisation)

- Recall that for model checking, we require:

$$\text{Prob}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{[0,t]} \phi_2) = \Pi_t^C \cdot \underline{\phi}_2$$

- So, using uniformisation:

$$\text{Prob}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{[0,t]} \phi_2) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\gamma_{q,t,i} \cdot (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i \cdot \underline{\phi}_2 \right)$$

- This can be computed efficiently using matrix-vector multiplication (avoiding matrix powers):

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^0 \cdot \underline{\phi}_2 &= \underline{\phi}_2 \\ (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^{i+1} \cdot \underline{\phi}_2 &= \mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)} \cdot \left((\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i \cdot \underline{\phi}_2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

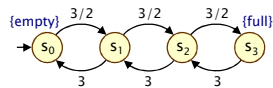
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Time-bounded until – Example

- $P_{>0.65} [F^{[0,7.5]} \text{ full}] \equiv P_{>0.65} [\text{true U}^{[0,7.5]} \text{ full}]$
 - “probability of the queue becoming full within 7.5 time units”
- State s_3 satisfies full and no states satisfy $\neg \text{true}$
 - in $C[\text{full}][\neg \text{true} \wedge \neg \text{full}]$ only state s_3 made absorbing

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2/3 & 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 2/3 & 0 & 1/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2/3 & 0 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

matrix of $\text{unif}(C[\text{full}][\neg \text{true} \wedge \neg \text{full}])$
with uniformisation rate
 $\max_{s \in S} E(s) = 4.5$



s_3 made absorbing

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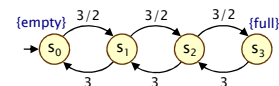
Time-bounded until – Example

- Computing the summation of matrix-vector multiplications

$$\text{Prob}(\phi_1 \text{ U}^{[0,t]} \phi_2) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\gamma_{q,t,i} \cdot (\mathbf{P}^{\text{unif}(C)})^i \cdot \underline{\phi}_2 \right)$$

- yields $\text{Prob}(F^{[0,7.5]} \text{ full}) \approx [0.6482, 0.6823, 0.7811, 1]$

- $P_{>0.65} [F^{[0,7.5]} \text{ full}]$ satisfied in states s_1, s_2 and s_3



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Model Checking – Steady-state

- A state s satisfies the formula $S_{\sim p}[\phi]$ if $\sum_{s'} \pi^C(s') \sim p$
 - $\pi^C(s')$ is the probability, having started in state s , of being in state s' in the long run
 - thus model checking reduces to computing and then summing steady-state probabilities for the CTMC
- Steady-state probabilities: $\pi^C(s) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \pi^C_{s,t}(s')$
 - limit exists for all finite CTMCs
 - need to consider underlying graph structure of CTMC
 - i.e. its bottom strongly connected components (BSCCs)
 - **irreducible CTMC** (comprises one BSCC)
 - solution of one linear equation system
 - **reducible CTMC** (multiple BSCCs)
 - solve for each BSCC, combine results

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Irreducible CTMCs

- For an irreducible CTMC:
 - the steady-state probabilities are **independent of the starting state**: denote the steady state probabilities by $\pi^C(s)$
- These probabilities can be computed as
 - the **unique solution of the linear equation system**:
$$\pi^C \cdot \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{s \in S} \pi^C(s) = 1$$
where \mathbf{Q} is the infinitesimal generator matrix of C
- Solved by standard means:
 - direct methods, such as Gaussian elimination
 - iterative methods, such as Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel

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Balance equations

$$\pi^C \cdot \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{s \in S} \pi^C(s) = 1$$

↙ ↘

balance the rate of leaving and entering a state

normalisation

For all $s \in S$:

$$\pi^C(s) \cdot (-\sum_{s'} \mathbf{R}(s, s')) + \sum_{s'} \pi^C(s') \cdot \mathbf{R}(s', s) = 0$$

↕

$$\pi^C(s) \cdot \sum_{s'} \mathbf{R}(s, s') = \sum_{s'} \pi^C(s') \cdot \mathbf{R}(s', s)$$

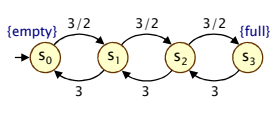
↙ ↘

Equivalent to: $\pi^C \cdot \mathbf{P} = \pi^C$ where \mathbf{P} is matrix for embedded DTMC

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Steady-state – Example

- Model check $S_{<0.1}[\text{full}]$ on CTMC:

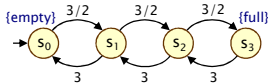


$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} -3/2 & 3/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -9/2 & 3/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -9/2 & 3/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$
- CTMC is irreducible (comprises a single BSCC)
 - steady state probabilities independent of starting state
- Solve: $\pi^C \cdot \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{0}$ and $\sum \pi(s) = 1$

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Steady-state – Example

- Model check $S_{<0.1}[\text{full}]$ on CTMC:



- Solve:

$$\begin{aligned} -3/2 \cdot \pi(s_0) + 3 \cdot \pi(s_1) &= 0 \\ 3/2 \cdot \pi(s_0) - 9/2 \cdot \pi(s_1) + 3 \cdot \pi(s_2) &= 0 \\ 3/2 \cdot \pi(s_1) - 9/2 \cdot \pi(s_2) + 3 \cdot \pi(s_3) &= 0 \\ 3/2 \cdot \pi(s_2) - 3 \cdot \pi(s_3) &= 0 \\ \pi(s_0) + \pi(s_1) + \pi(s_2) + \pi(s_3) &= 1 \end{aligned}$$
- solution: $\pi = [8/15, 4/15, 2/15, 1/15]$
- $\sum_{s' \in \text{Sat}(\text{full})} \pi(s') = 1/15 < 0.1$
- so all states satisfy $S_{<0.1}[\text{full}]$

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Reducible CTMCs

- For a reducible CTMC:
 - the steady-state probabilities $\pi^C(s')$ depend on start state s
- Find all BSCCs of CTMC, denoted $\text{bscc}(C)$
- Compute:
 - steady-state probabilities π^T of sub-CTMC for each BSCC T
 - probability $\text{Prob}^{\text{emb}(C)}(s, F T)$ of reaching each T from s
- Then:

$$\pi_i^C(s') = \begin{cases} \text{Prob}^{\text{emb}(C)}(s, F T) \cdot \pi^T(s') & \text{if } s' \in T \text{ for some } T \in \text{bscc}(C) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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CSL model checking complexity

- For CSL model checking of a CTMC, complexity is:
 - linear in $|\Phi|$ and polynomial in $|S|$
 - linear in $q \cdot t_{\max}$ (t_{\max} is maximum finite bound in intervals)
- Unbounded until ($P_{-p}[\Phi_1 U^{[0, \infty)} \Phi_2]$) and steady-state ($S_{-p}[\Phi]$)
 - require solution of linear equation system of size $|S|$
 - can be solved with Gaussian elimination: cubic in $|S|$
 - precomputation algorithms (max $|S|$ steps)
- Time-bounded until ($P_{-p}[\Phi_1 U^t \Phi_2]$)
 - at most two iterative sequences of matrix-vector products
 - operation is quadratic in the size of the matrix, i.e. $|S|$
 - total number of iterations bounded by Fox and Glynn
 - the bound is linear in the size of $q \cdot t$ (q uniformisation rate)

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Overview

- Recap: Discrete-time Markov chains (DTMCs)
 - PCTL model checking
 - costs and rewards
- Part 2: Continuous-time Markov chains (CTMCs)
 - exponential distribution and its properties
 - CTMCs: definition, examples, paths & probability spaces
 - CSL: A temporal logic for CTMCs
 - CSL model checking (uniformisation, steady-state)
 - costs & rewards

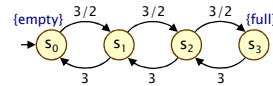
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Rewards (or costs)

- Like DTMCs, we can augment CTMCs with rewards
 - real-valued quantities assigned to states and/or transitions
 - can be interpreted in two ways: instantaneous/cumulative
 - properties considered here: expected value of rewards
 - formal property specifications in an extension of CSL
- For a CTMC $(S, S_{init}, \mathbf{R}, \mathbf{L})$, a reward structure is a pair (ρ, \mathbf{t})
 - $\rho : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is a vector of state rewards
 - $\mathbf{t} : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is a matrix of transition rewards
- For **cumulative** reward-based properties of CTMCs
 - state rewards interpreted as **rate** at which reward gained
 - if the CTMC remains in state s for $t \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ time units, a reward of $t \cdot \rho(s)$ is acquired

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Reward structures – Examples



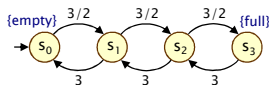
- Example: "size of message queue"
 - $\rho(s_i) = i$ and $\mathbf{t}(s_i, s_j) = 0 \forall i, j$
- Example: "time for which queue is not full"
 - $\rho(s_i) = 1$ for $i < 3$, $\rho(s_3) = 0$ and $\mathbf{t}(s_i, s_j) = 0 \forall i, j$

instantaneous

cumulative

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Reward structures – Examples



cumulative

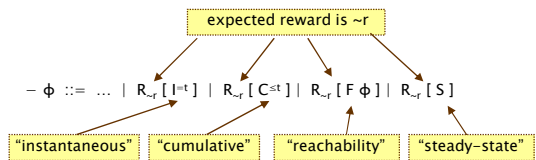
- Example: "number of requests served"

$$\rho = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{t} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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CSL and rewards

- PRISM extends CSL to incorporate reward-based properties
 - adds R operator like the one added to PCTL



– where $r, t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $\sim \in \{<, >, \leq, \geq\}$

- $R_{-r} [\cdot]$ means "the expected value of \cdot satisfies $\sim r$ "

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Types of reward formulae

- **Instantaneous:** $R_{\sim r} [I^t]$
 - the expected value of the reward at time-instant t is $\sim r$
 - "the expected queue size after 6.7 seconds is at most 2"
- **Cumulative:** $R_{\sim r} [C^{st}]$
 - the expected reward cumulated up to time-instant t is $\sim r$
 - "the expected requests served within the first 4.5 seconds of operation is less than 10"
- **Reachability:** $R_{\sim r} [F \phi]$
 - the expected reward cumulated before reaching ϕ is $\sim r$
 - "the expected requests served before the queue becomes full"
- **Steady-state** $R_{\sim r} [S]$
 - the long-run average expected reward is $\sim r$
 - "expected long-run queue size is at least 1.2"

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Reward properties in PRISM

- **Quantitative form:**
 - e.g. $R_{\sim r} [C^{st}]$
 - what is the expected reward cumulated up to time-instant t ?
- **Add labels to R operator to distinguish between multiple reward structures defined on the same CTMC**
 - e.g. $R_{\text{num_req}} [C^{\leq 4.5}]$
 - "the expected number of requests served within the first 4.5 seconds of operation"
 - e.g. $R_{\text{pow}} [C^{\leq 4.5}]$
 - "the expected power consumption within the first 4.5 seconds of operation"

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Reward formula semantics

- **Formal semantics of the four reward operators:**
 - $s \models R_{\sim r} [I^t] \iff \text{Exp}(s, X_{I^t}) \sim r$
 - $s \models R_{\sim r} [C^{st}] \iff \text{Exp}(s, X_{C^{st}}) \sim r$
 - $s \models R_{\sim r} [F \phi] \iff \text{Exp}(s, X_{F\phi}) \sim r$
 - $s \models R_{\sim r} [S] \iff \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} (1/t \cdot \text{Exp}(s, X_{C^{st}})) \sim r$
- **where:**
 - $\text{Exp}(s, X)$ denotes the **expectation** of the **random variable** $X : \text{Path}(s) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ with respect to the **probability measure** Pr_s

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Reward formula semantics

- **Definition of random variables:**
 - path $\omega = s_0 t_0 s_1 t_1 s_2 \dots$
 - state of ω at time t
 - time spent in state s_i before t time units have elapsed
 - $X_{I^t}(\omega) = \rho(\omega @ t)$
 - $X_{C^{st}}(\omega) = \sum_{i=0}^{j_t-1} (t_i \cdot \rho(s_i) + t(s_i, s_{i+1})) + \left(t - \sum_{i=0}^{j_t-1} t_i \right) \cdot \rho(s_{j_t})$
 - $X_{F\phi}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s_0 \in \text{Sat}(\phi) \\ \infty & \text{if } s_i \notin \text{Sat}(\phi) \text{ for all } i \geq 0 \\ \sum_{i=0}^{k_\phi-1} t_i \cdot \rho(s_i) + t(s_i, s_{i+1}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
 - where $j_t = \min\{j \mid \sum_{i=0}^j t_i \geq t\}$ and $k_\phi = \min\{i \mid s_i \models \phi\}$

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Model checking reward formulae

- **Instantaneous:** $R_{\rightarrow} [I^{-t}]$
 - reduces to transient analysis (state of the CTMC at time t)
 - use **uniformisation**
- **Cumulative:** $R_{\rightarrow} [C^{st}]$
 - extends approach for time-bounded until
 - based on **uniformisation**
- **Reachability:** $R_{\rightarrow} [F \phi]$
 - can be computed on the embedded DTMC
 - reduces to solving a **system of linear equations**
- **Steady-state:** $R_{\rightarrow} [S]$
 - similar to steady state formulae $S_{\rightarrow} [\phi]$
 - **graph based analysis** (compute BSCCs)
 - **solve systems of linear equations** (compute steady state probabilities of each BSCC)

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Summary (CTMCs)

- **Exponential distribution**
 - suitable for modelling failures, waiting times, reactions, ...
 - nice mathematical properties
- **Continuous-time Markov chains**
 - transition delays modelled as exponential distributions
 - probability space over paths
- **CSL: Continuous Stochastic Logic**
 - extension of PCTL for properties of CTMCs
- **CSL model checking**
 - extension of PCTL model checking for DTMCs
 - uniformisation: efficient iterative method for transient prob.s
- **Costs & rewards**
 - capture a wide range of useful quantitative properties
 - properties specified in extension of CSL

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Thanks for your attention

For an extended version of this material see

M. Kwiatkowska, G. Norman and D. Parker. [Stochastic Model Checking](#). In *SFM'07*, volume 4486 of Lecture Notes in Computer Science (Tutorial Volume), pages 220–270, Springer, 2007.

See also

- <http://www.prismmodelchecker.org>