

Discrete Structures II

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Fixed points

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Fixed points

Definition Consider an operation $f: A \rightarrow A$. An element $a \in A$ is called a *fixed point* of f iff $f(a) = a$.

Some questions

- When does f have a fixed point?
- Which are the preferable fixed point(s), when more than one?
- How can we compute fixed points?

Properties of functions

Definition Let (A, \leq) be a poset. A function $f: A \rightarrow A$ is said to be

- *monotone* (order-preserving) iff $f(x) \leq f(y)$ whenever $x \leq y$.
- *antimonotone* iff $f(x) \geq f(y)$ whenever $x \leq y$.
- *inflationary* iff $x \leq f(x)$ for all $x \in A$.
- *idempotent* iff $f(f(x)) = f(x)$ for all $x \in A$.

Continuous maps

Definition A function $f: A \rightarrow A$ is *continuous* if it preserves existing least upper bounds; i.e. if $B \subseteq A$ and $\bigvee B$ exists, then $\bigvee \{f(x) \mid x \in B\}$ exists and equals $f(\bigvee B)$.

Definition Let (A, \leq) be a cpo. A function $f: A \rightarrow A$ is called (chain-) *continuous* if

$$f(\bigvee \{x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots\}) = \bigvee \{f(x_0), f(x_1), f(x_2), \dots\}$$

for every ascending chain $x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots$ in A .

Continuous maps II

Definition Let (A, \leq) be a complete lattice. A function $f: A \rightarrow A$ is *continuous* if

$$f(\bigvee B) = \bigvee \{f(x) \mid x \in B\}$$

for every $B \subseteq A$.

Theorem Every continuous map is monotonic.

Theorem If $f: A \rightarrow A$ is monotone and A is finite, then f must be continuous.

Pre- and post-fixed points

Definition Let (A, \leq) be a poset and consider a map $f: A \rightarrow A$. An $x \in A$ such that $f(x) \leq x$ is called a *pre-fixed point* of f . Similarly $x \in A$ is called a *post-fixed point* of f iff $x \leq f(x)$.

Knaster-Tarski's theorem

Theorem Let (A, \leq) be a complete lattice and $f: A \rightarrow A$ monotone. Then $\bigwedge\{x \in A \mid f(x) \leq x\}$ is the least fixed point of f , and $\bigvee\{x \in A \mid x \leq f(x)\}$ is the greatest fixed point of f .

Theorem Let (A, \leq) be a cpo and $f: A \rightarrow A$ monotone. Then f has a least fixed point.

Notation

The least fixed point of f is denoted $\text{LFP}(f)$. Alternatively

$$\mu x.f(x)$$

with reading: the least x such that $f(x) = x$.

The greatest fixed point of f is denoted $\text{GFP}(f)$, alternatively

$$\nu x.f(x).$$

Kleene's fixed point theorem

Theorem Let (A, \leq) be a cpo (or a complete lattice) and assume that $f: A \rightarrow A$ is continuous. Then $f^\omega(\perp)$ is the least fixed point of f .

Note that

$$f^\omega(\perp) = \bigvee_{n < \omega} f^n(\perp).$$

That is, $\text{LFP}(f)$ is the least upper bound of the Kleene sequence,

$$\perp, f(\perp), f^2(\perp), \dots, f^n(\perp), \dots$$

Finite automata on infinite words

Automata based verification

Input:

- A set of all possible system behaviors, modeled by a set of ω -words (typically encoded as a Büchi automaton);
- A set of allowed behaviors, expressed in a temporal logic (typically LTL, Linear time logic) which translates into a Büchi automaton;

Automata based verification II

Aim:

- To check if allowed behaviors contain system behavior;
i.e. if $\mathcal{L}(\text{System}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(\text{Spec})$

Alternatively:

- Check (non-)emptiness of $\mathcal{L}(\text{System}) \cap \overline{\mathcal{L}(\text{Spec})}$

Finite languages

- A a finite alphabet
- A^* the set of finite strings over A
- Notation: $u, v, w \in A^*$ and $U, V, W \subseteq A^*$
- Concatenation: $U.V$
- Union: $U + V$
- Finite iteration: U^*

Infinite languages

- A a finite alphabet
- A^ω the set of (countably) infinite words over A (so called ω -words)
- Notation: $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in A^\omega$ and $L \subseteq A^\omega$
- Infinite iteration:

$$U^\omega = \{\alpha \in A^\omega \mid \exists w_1 w_2 \dots \in U, \alpha = w_1 w_2 \dots\}.$$

Büchi automata

Definition A Büchi automaton \mathcal{B} over an alphabet A is a tuple (Q, q_0, Δ, F) where Q is a finite set of *states*, $q_0 \in Q$ an *initial state*, $\Delta \subseteq Q \times A \times Q$ a *transition relation* and $F \subseteq Q$ a set of *accepting*, or *final*, states.

Definition A *run* of a Büchi automaton $\mathcal{B} = (Q, q_0, \Delta, F)$ on an ω -word α is an infinite word of states $\sigma \in Q^\omega$ such that $\sigma(0) = q_0$ and $(\sigma(i), \alpha(i), \sigma(i+1)) \in \Delta$ for all $i \geq 0$.

Büchi automata (cont)

- Let $\text{inf}(\sigma)$ be the set of all states that occur infinitely often in the ω -word σ .
- An ω -word α is *accepted* by a Büchi automaton \mathcal{B} iff there is a run σ on α such that $F \cap \text{inf}(\sigma) \neq \emptyset$.
- The ω -language of a Büchi automaton \mathcal{B} ,

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{B}) = \{\alpha \mid \mathcal{B} \text{ accepts } \alpha\}.$$

- An ω -language definable by some Büchi automaton is said to be Büchi recognizable.

Closure properties

Theorem If $L_1, L_2 \subseteq A^\omega$ are Büchi recognizable languages, then so are $L_1 \cup L_2$ and $L_1 \cap L_2$.

Proposition If $U \subseteq A^*$ is regular, then U^ω is Büchi recognizable.

Proposition If $U \subseteq A^*$ is regular and $L \subseteq A^\omega$ is Büchi recognizable then so is $U.L$.

ω -regular languages

Theorem An ω -language L is Büchi recognizable iff there is some $n \geq 0$ and regular languages of finite words, U_i and V_i where $1 \leq i \leq n$, such that

$$L = \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_i \cdot (V_i)^\omega.$$

Such languages are called ω -regular languages.

Emptiness and containment

Theorem The nonemptiness problem for Büchi automata is decidable and solvable in $O(m+n)$ time, where m is the number of states, and n the number of transitions.

Note that

$$L_1 \subseteq L_2 \text{ iff } L_1 \cap \overline{L_2} = \emptyset.$$

Complementation of Büchi automata

Büchi automata *are* closed under complementation.

Theorem If L is Büchi recognizable, then so is $A^\omega \setminus L$.

- Relatively easy to complement deterministic Büchi (but the result is non-deterministic Büchi).
- Complementing non-deterministic Büchi is *very* complicated!

More on complementation

Let $W \subseteq A^*$ be a regular language and let

$$\lim W = \{\alpha \in A^\omega \mid \forall m \geq 0 \exists n > m \text{ s.t. } \alpha(0) \dots \alpha(n) \in W\}.$$

Then

Theorem An ω -language L is deterministically Büchi recognizable iff there is some regular language $W \subseteq A^*$ such that $L = \lim W$.

Theorem The language $(a + b)^* b^\omega$ is not deterministically Büchi recognizable.

Muller automata

Definition A Muller automaton \mathcal{B} over an alphabet A is a tuple (Q, q_0, Δ, F) where Q is a finite set of *states*, $q_0 \in Q$ an *initial state*, $\Delta \subseteq Q \times A \times Q$ a *transition relation* and $F \subseteq 2^Q$ a set of sets of *accepting states*.

Definition An ω -word α is accepted by a Muller automaton \mathcal{B} iff there exists a run σ on α such that $\inf(\sigma) \in F$.

McNaughton's theorem

Theorem If L is deterministically Muller recognizable, then L is (non-deterministically) Büchi recognizable.

General idea:

- “Guess” when we enter a set F_j of accepting states,
- Make sure that we never leave F_j ,
- Make sure that all states in F_j are visited infinitely often.

McNaughton's theorem (Part 2)

Theorem If L is (nondeterministically) Büchi recognizable, then L is deterministically Muller recognizable.

A Safra tree over Q is a finite, ordered tree with nodes from the set $\{1, 2, \dots, 2 \cdot |Q|\}$ where

- Each node is labeled by some $R \subseteq Q$,
- Siblings have disjoint labels,
- The union of all siblings is a proper subset of the parent.

Some nodes may be marked as final.

Safra's construction

Let $B = (Q, q_0, \Delta, F)$ be a Büchi automaton, and let $M = (Q', q'_0, \Delta', F')$ be a Muller automaton where

- Q' is the set of Safra trees over Q
- q'_0 is the Safra tree consisting of a node labeled $\{q_0\}$ (marked as final if $q_0 \in F$),
- A set S of Safra trees is in F' iff some node name appears in each $t \in S$, and in some $t \in S$ this node name is marked as final,
- and $\Delta'(q, a) = \dots$

Safra's construction (cont.)

... and $\Delta'(q, a) = \dots$

1. For each node n (labeled S_n) in q , apply the powerset construction on input a . Mark n as non-final.
2. For each node in this tree whose label contains a final state, branch off a new son containing the final states (pick a free name in $\{1, 2, \dots, 2 \cdot |Q|\}$). Mark the new node as final.
3. Remove a state q from a node (and all its descendants) if q appears in a left sibling. Remove all nodes labeled by empty set (apart from the root).
4. For each node n , remove all descendants if their union equals the label of n . If so, mark n as final.

Complementation of Muller automata

Theorem If (Q, q_0, Δ, F) is a deterministic Muller automaton accepting $L \subseteq A^\omega$, then $(Q, q_0, \Delta, 2^Q \setminus F)$ accepts $A^\omega \setminus L$, i.e. the complement of L .

Problem is subject to active research...