
Optimal Bounds in Parametric LTL Games

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Motivation

Linear Temporal Logic (LTL) as specification language:

- Simple and variable-free syntax and intuitive semantics.
- Expressively equivalent to first-order logic on words.
- LTL model-checking routinely applied in industrial settings.

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But LTL cannot express **timing constraints**. Possible remedies:

- Add $\mathbf{F}_{\leq k}$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Problem: finding “right” k impracticable.
- Alur et. al, Kupferman et. al: add $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}$ for variable x . Now:
 - does there exist a value x such that $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}\varphi$ holds?
 - what is the best value x such that $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}\varphi$ holds?

In Model-Checking: adding variable time bounds does not increase complexity.

Infinite Games

Arena $\mathcal{A} = (V, V_0, V_1, E)$:

- finite directed graph (V, E) ,
- $V_0 \subseteq V$ positions of Player 0 (circles),
- $V_1 = V \setminus V_0$ positions of Player 1 (squares).



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- Play: path $\rho_0\rho_1\cdots$ through \mathcal{A} .
- Strategy for Player i : $\sigma: V^*V_i \rightarrow V$ s.t. $(v, \sigma(wv)) \in E$.
- $\rho_0\rho_1\cdots$ consistent with σ : $\rho_{n+1} = \sigma(\rho_0\cdots\rho_n)$ for all n s.t. $\rho_n \in V_i$.
- Finite-state strategy: implemented by finite automaton with output.

PLTL: Syntax and Semantics

Parametric LTL: p atomic proposition, $x \in \mathcal{X}$, $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ ($\mathcal{X} \cap \mathcal{Y} = \emptyset$).

■ $\varphi ::= p \mid \neg p \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \mathbf{X}\varphi \mid \varphi \mathbf{U}\varphi \mid \varphi \mathbf{R}\varphi \mid \mathbf{F}_{\leq x}\varphi \mid \mathbf{G}_{\leq y}\varphi$

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Semantics w.r.t. variable valuation $\alpha: \mathcal{X} \cup \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$:

- As usual for LTL operators.

- $(\rho, n, \alpha) \models \mathbf{F}_{\leq x}\varphi$:

- $(\rho, n, \alpha) \models \mathbf{G}_{\leq y}\varphi$:

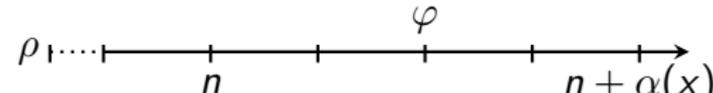
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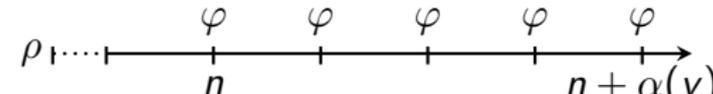
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Fragments:

- $\text{PLTL}_{\mathbf{F}}$: no parameterized always operators $\mathbf{G}_{\leq y}$.
- $\text{PLTL}_{\mathbf{G}}$: no parameterized eventually operators $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}$.

PLTL Games

PLTL game: $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{A}, v_0, \varphi)$ with arena \mathcal{A} (labeled by $\ell: V \rightarrow 2^P$), initial vertex v_0 , and PLTL formula φ .

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- all plays start in v_0 .
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- σ is winning strategy for Player i w.r.t. α , if every consistent play is winning for Player i w.r.t. α .
- Winning valuations for Player i

$$\mathcal{W}_i(\mathcal{G}) = \{\alpha \mid \text{Player } i \text{ has winning strategy for } \mathcal{G} \text{ w.r.t. } \alpha\}$$

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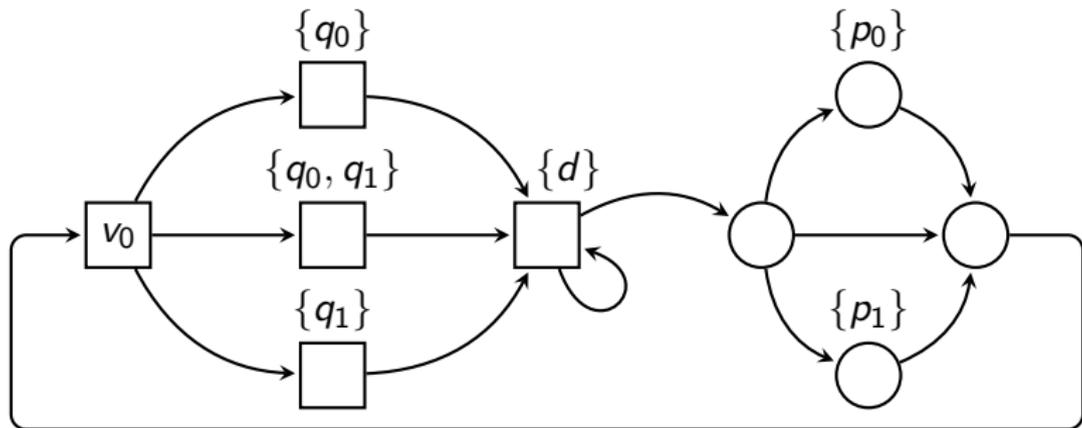
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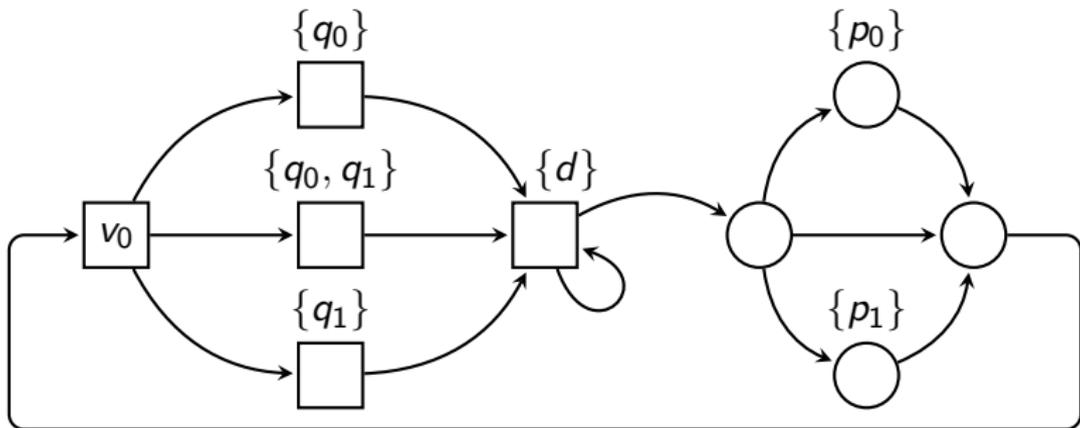
Lemma

Determinacy: $\mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{G})$ is the complement of $\mathcal{W}_1(\mathcal{G})$.

An Example

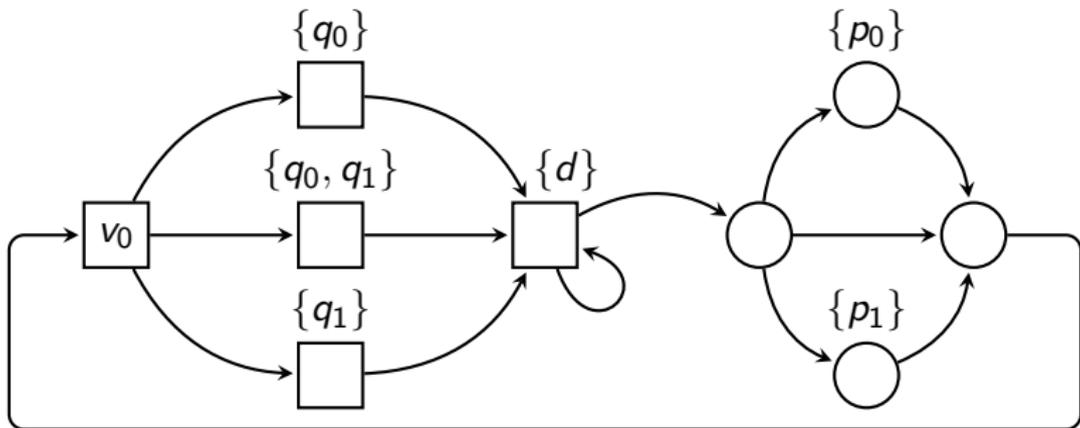


An Example



- $\varphi_1 = \mathbf{FG}d \vee \bigwedge_{i \in \{0,1\}} \mathbf{G}(q_i \rightarrow \mathbf{F}p_i) : \mathcal{W}_1(\mathcal{G}_1) = \emptyset.$

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■ $\varphi_2 = \mathbf{FG}d \vee \bigwedge_{i \in \{0,1\}} \mathbf{G}(q_i \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{\leq x_i} p_i) : \mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{G}_2) = \emptyset.$

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- Finitary Streett (CHH):

$$\mathbf{FG} \bigwedge_{j=1}^k (R_j \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{\leq x} G_j)$$

Decision Problems

- Membership: given \mathcal{G} , $i \in \{0, 1\}$, and α , is $\alpha \in \mathcal{W}_i(\mathcal{G})$?
- Emptiness: given \mathcal{G} and $i \in \{0, 1\}$, is $\mathcal{W}_i(\mathcal{G})$ empty?
- Finiteness: given \mathcal{G} and $i \in \{0, 1\}$, is $\mathcal{W}_i(\mathcal{G})$ finite?
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Theorem (Pnueli, Rosner 1989)

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Adding parameterized operators does not increase complexity:

Theorem

*All four decision problems are **2Exptime**-complete.*

Proof Idea

Emptiness for $\text{PLTL}_{\mathbf{F}}$ games, i.e., only $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}$ in φ .

1. Duplicate arena, color one copy red, the other green. Player 0 can change between copies after every move.
2. Inductively replace every $F_{\leq x}\psi$ by
$$(red \rightarrow (red\mathbf{U}(green\mathbf{U}\psi))) \wedge (green \rightarrow (green\mathbf{U}(red\mathbf{U}\psi)))$$
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Full PLTL and other problems: use monotonicity and duality of $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}$ and $\mathbf{G}_{\leq y}$

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All values are at most doubly-exponential in the size of the game.

Proof Idea

1. All problems reducible to $\min_{\alpha \in \mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{G})} \alpha(x)$ for φ with $\text{var}(\varphi) = \{x\}$.
2. Recall: algorithm for emptiness of $\mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{G})$ yields doubly-exponential upper bound b on $\min_{\alpha \in \mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{G})} \alpha(x)$.
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 - 3.1 Translate φ into Büchi automaton \mathfrak{A}_φ (treat $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}$ as \mathbf{F}).
 - 3.2 Add a counter with range $[0, n]$ for every occurrence of x to simulate semantics of $\mathbf{F}_{\leq x}$, obtain \mathfrak{A}'_φ of size $2^{|\varphi|} \cdot n^{|\varphi|}$.
 - 3.3 Determinize \mathfrak{A}'_φ to obtain parity automaton \mathfrak{B}_φ of size $2^{\mathcal{O}(|\varphi|^2 \cdot (2n)^{2|\varphi|})}$ and $\mathcal{O}(|\varphi| \cdot n^{|\varphi|})$ colors.
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Algorithm has triply exponential running time, since n is at most doubly-exponential.

Lower Bounds

For $\text{PLTL}_{\mathbf{F}}$ games: doubly-exponential lower bound

Theorem

For every $n \geq 1$, there exists a $\text{PLTL}_{\mathbf{F}}$ game \mathcal{G}_n with winning condition φ_n with $|\mathcal{G}_n| \in \mathcal{O}(n^2)$ and $\text{var}(\varphi_n) = \{x\}$ such that $\mathcal{W}_0(\mathcal{G}_n) \neq \emptyset$, but Player 1 wins \mathcal{G}_n with respect to every variable valuation α such that $\alpha(x) \leq 2^{2^n}$.

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For $\text{PLTL}_{\mathbf{G}}$ games: doubly-exponential lower bound (by duality)

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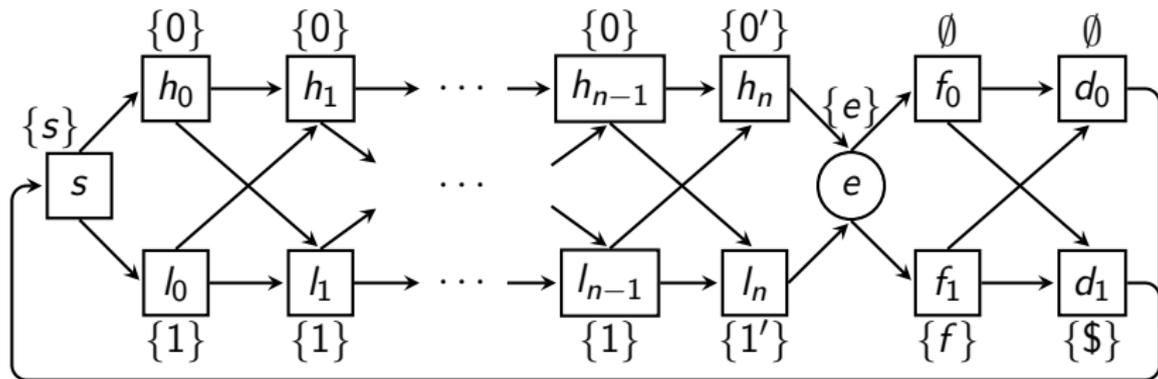
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- Once again: Optimization problems in **2Exptime**?

The Game for the Lower Bounds



A Play in \mathcal{G}_n

We start in d_1 . The trace of a play looks as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\$ \} \{s\} \{b_0^0\} \cdots \{b_{n-1}^0\} \{b_n^0\} \{e\} F_0 D_0 \\ & \quad \{s\} \{b_0^1\} \cdots \{b_{n-1}^1\} \{b_n^1\} \{e\} F_1 D_1 \\ & \quad \{s\} \{b_0^2\} \cdots \{b_{n-1}^2\} \{b_n^2\} \{e\} F_2 D_2 \cdots \end{aligned}$$

where

- $b_0^j, \dots, b_{n-1}^j \in \{0, 1\} \Rightarrow$ encoding of $c_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$
- $b_n^j \in \{0', 1'\}$
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Infinitely many $\$$: primed bits encode numbers $d_\ell \in \mathbb{N}$

The Winning Condition

Recall: numbers c_j (addresses) and numbers d_ℓ whose bits are addressed by the c_j

There is an LTL formula ψ_1 which expresses:

1. Structure: Infinitely many \$
2. Initialization: after each \$, the next c_j is zero.
3. Increment: if $c_j < 2^n - 1$, then $c_{j+1} = c_j + 1$.
4. Reset: if c_j is $2^n - 1$, then it is followed by \$.

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Lemma

$\varphi_1 \Rightarrow d_\ell \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2^{2^n} - 1\}$.

The Winning Condition, Part 2

$$\varphi_n = \psi_1 \rightarrow (\psi_f \wedge \psi_{\text{err}} \wedge \mathbf{F}_{\leq x} f)$$

where

- ψ_f : exactly one f
- ψ_{err} : Player 0 used f to mark
 - a single bit that is incorrectly updated from d_ℓ to $d_{\ell+1}$ (formula uses addresses to verify this), or
 - a d_ℓ with $d_\ell = 2^{2^n} - 1$ (no primed 0 between two \$).

The Winning Condition, Part 2

$$\varphi_n = \psi_1 \rightarrow (\psi_f \wedge \psi_{\text{err}} \wedge \mathbf{F}_{\leq x} f)$$

where

- ψ_f : exactly one f
- ψ_{err} : Player 0 used f to mark
 - a single bit that is incorrectly updated from d_ℓ to $d_{\ell+1}$ (formula uses addresses to verify this), or
 - a d_ℓ with $d_\ell = 2^{2^n} - 1$ (no primed 0 between two \$).

Player 0 wins, since Player 1 has to reach $2^{2^n} - 1$ or has to introduce an increment-error. But this can take more than $2^{2^n} - 1$ moves using correct updates.