## Exploiting Resolution Proofs to Speed Up LTL Vacuity Detection for BMC

Jocelyn Simmonds Jessica Davies Marsha Chechik

## Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto

## Arie Gurfinkel

Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University

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## Model Checking



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## Sanity Checks

| Errors in Model | Errors in Environ- <br> ment | Errors in Property |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Debugging Overcon- <br> strained Declarative <br> Models | Finding Environmental <br> Guarantees | Vacuity Detection |
| [Shlyakhter et al. '03] | [Chechik et al. '07] | [Beer et al. '99] <br> [Kupferman, Vardi '99] ... |

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LTL: $p=G$ (request $\Rightarrow F$ serviced)
holds in a model that does not produce any requests!

## Naive Vacuity Detection [Beer et al. '97, Kupferman and Vardi '99]

Test by substituting each subformula to check which ones are vacuous
EXAMPLE: "all requests are eventually serviced" formalized as $p=G$ ( request $\Rightarrow F$ serviced )
Solution: four model checking runs

- $p_{1}=G$ ( true $\Rightarrow F$ serviced )
- $p_{2}=G$ (false $\Rightarrow F$ serviced )


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(9) Can be done without any special purpose tools


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$p$ is vacuous w.r.t. "serviced" iff $M \models p_{3}=M \models p_{4}$
(93) Complete
(03) Can be done without any special purpose tools
(9.) \# of extra model checking runs grows with size of property


## Brief Overview of Vacuity Detection

|  | Main Idea | Logic | Tool |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| [Beer et al. '97] | Replace single occurrence of a subformula with true, false | w-ACTL | RuleBase |
| [Kupferman and Vardi '99] | Generalized Beer's definition | CTL* | - |
| [Purandare and Somenzi '02] | Parse tree analysis to speed up vacuity detection | CTL | VIS |
| [Armoni et al. '03] | Introduced trace vacuity | LTL | Forecast Thunder |
| [Gurfinkel and Chechik '04] | Extended trace vacuity to CTL* | CTL* | Any model checker |
| [Gheorghiu and Gurfinkel '06] | Introduced concept of "vacuity" lattice | CTL | VaqUoT |

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## Definition of vacuity used in this work [Gurfinkel and Chechik '04]

Property $p$ is vacuous w.r.t. variable $v$ iff $M \models p[v \leftarrow x]$, where x is an unconstrained model variable

## Bounded Model Checking (BMC)

Check if property $p$ holds up to $k$ steps on model $M$ : $M \models_{k} p$

- i.e., can we reach a state in $k$ steps that satisfies $\neg p$ ?



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$$
k=0
$$



Output: counterexample

Output: resolution
proof

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GOAL: use resolution proof for vacuity detection

- focus on variable vacuity
- use naive detection as baseline for comparison


Output: counterexample

Output: resolution
proof

## Outline

- Model Checking
- Sanity Checks
- Naive Vacuity Detection
- Brief Overview of Vacuity Detection
- Bounded Model Checking
- New methods:
- Irrelevance
- Local Irrelevance
- Peripherality
- Implementation: VaQTree
- Experiments
- Conclusions and Future Work


## Algorithm 1 - Irrelevance

Model $\quad(\neg b \vee \neg c),(b),(\neg e),(d \vee f)$
Property $\quad(\neg a),(a \vee b),(\neg b \vee c),(d \vee e \vee f),(a \vee \neg c \vee d)$

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Variables in the property but not in the UNSAT core are irrelevant

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Property

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## Algorithm 1 - Irrelevance

Model

$$
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& (\neg \mathrm{a}),(\mathrm{a} \vee \mathrm{~b}),(\neg \mathrm{b} \vee \mathrm{c}),(d \vee e \vee f),(\mathrm{a} \vee \neg c \vee d)
\end{aligned}
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Property


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Variables in the property but not in the UNSAT core are irrelevant VACUITY: $\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{e}, \mathrm{f}$ not in UNSAT core $\Rightarrow$ irrelevant $\Rightarrow$ vacuous

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Variables in the property but not in the UNSAT core are irrelevant VACUITY: $\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{e}, \mathrm{f}$ not in UNSAT core $\Rightarrow$ irrelevant $\Rightarrow$ vacuous (93) Linear in size of UNSAT core

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(2) Very incomplete

## Algorithm 2 - Local Irrelevance



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Variables that only appear in the property part of the UNSAT core are locally irrelevant

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Linear in size of UNSAT core
More precise than Irrelevance

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VACUITY: a only in Property part of the UNSAT core $\Rightarrow$ locally irrelevant $\Rightarrow$ vacuous
Linear in size of UNSAT core
More precise than Irrelevance
Still very incomplete

## Algorithm 3 - Peripherality

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Property } \\
& \{(\neg \mathbf{a}) \\
& (\mathbf{a} \vee \mathbf{b})-(\neg \bar{b} \vee \bar{c}),
\end{aligned}(\neg \bar{b} \vee \neg \bar{c})
$$

Variables that are not central to the proof are peripheral

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Resolution on $\mathbf{b}$ occurs in Property


Can replace $\mathbf{b}$ by $\boldsymbol{x}$ in Property

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Cannot replace c by $y$ in this proof


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(3.) Linear in size of resolution proof

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Cannot replace c by $y$ in this proof


Variables that are not central to the proof are peripheral VACUITY: replaced b by $x$ in Property without changing proof $\Rightarrow$ peripheral $\Rightarrow$ vacuous

Linear in size of resolution proof
If $p$ is vacuous, there exists a resolution proof s.t. $p$ is peripheral

## Complete Analysis

GOAL: complete analysis using Naive Detection for leftover variables Example:
Model $\quad(\neg b \vee \neg c),(b),(\neg e),(d \vee f)$
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Irrelevance Algorithm

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Completing step

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6 extra model checking runs

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\begin{aligned}
& M \models p[a \leftarrow \text { true }] ? \\
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Similar for b,c

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IRRELEVANCE METHOD: Irrelevance algorithm + completing step

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$$

Similar for b,c
IRRELEVANCE METHOD: Irrelevance algorithm + completing step
Local Irrelevance and Peripherality are also extended in this manner

## VAQTree: Vacuity Detection Framework



To our knowledge, VAQTREE is the first vacuity detection tool for BMC
[A] NuSMV v. 2.3.1, modified to identify model/property clauses
[B] MiniSat-p v. 1.14, modified to output XML proof
[C] New component (Java)

- proof analysis done in memory
- 700 MB of $\mathrm{RAM} \approx 2.5$ million resolutions
[D] New component (Perl)


## Evaluation

Goals:

- Compare effectiveness of the three algorithms
- how many vacuous variables can each algorithm detect?
- Evaluate the performance of the three methods, using Naive Detection as a baseline
- are any of our methods faster than Naive Detection?

Benchmarks:

- Models and properties from the NuSMV distribution
- Models and properties from the IBM Formal Verification Benchmarks Library


## Benchmark 1

## Setup

- Models and properties: NuSMV distribution
- 121 properties:
- 99 present vacuity
- 2-4 temporal operators per property, from $\{\mathrm{G}, \mathrm{F}, \mathrm{U}, \mathrm{X}\}$
- 6 variables on average, 26 max., 1 min.
- Largest proof: 2.5 million resolutions


## Interpreting Performance Graphs



Naive detection (s)

## Interpreting Performance Graphs

Plotting
execution times


Naive detection (s)

## Interpreting Performance Graphs

Naive
Detection
is faster here


Naive detection (s)

## Interpreting Performance Graphs


"Method" is faster here

Naive detection (s)

## Interpreting Performance Graphs



Naive detection (s)
"Method" is faster by an order of magnitude here

## Benchmark 1: Performance

A


Execution times measured for complete methods

B


B

C


Naive detection (s)

## Benchmark 1: Performance

A


Naive detection (s)
Execution times measured for complete methods

Peripherality is much slower in some cases

B


C


Naive detection (s)

## Why is Peripherality much slower in some cases?

## Naive Detection

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Phi_{1}=M \models p_{1} \\
\Phi_{2}=M \models p_{2} \\
\vdots \\
\Phi_{n}=M \models p_{n}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Peripherality

$$
\Phi=M \models p
$$

## Why is Peripherality much slower in some cases?

- Low clause/variable ratio
- No vacuous variables
- Large resolution proofs



## Naive Detection

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## Naive Detection




## Peripherality

$$
\Phi=M \models p \longleftarrow \text { UNSAT }
$$

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## Naive Detection


time:

$$
\tau_{1}, \tau_{2}, \ldots \tau_{n}
$$

to find sat. assignment


## Peripherality

$\Phi=M \models p \longleftarrow$ UNSAT
$T$
periph. analysis

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## Naive Detection


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\tau_{i} \lll T
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## Naive Detection


time:

$$
\tau_{1}, \tau_{2}, \ldots \tau_{n}
$$ to find sat. assignment



## Peripherality

$\Phi=M \models p \longleftarrow$ UNSAT

$$
\begin{gathered}
\tau_{i} \lll T \\
\sum \tau_{i} \lll T
\end{gathered}
$$

## Interpreting Effectiveness Graphs



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\# vacuous variables found: $(x, y)$ $\mathrm{x}=$ found by X -axis algorithm $y=$ found by $Y$-axis algorithm


More precise algorithm

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X -axis algorithm is more precise, so $x \geq y$ always


More precise algorithm

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\# vacuous variables found: $(x, y)$
$\mathrm{x}=$ found by X -axis algorithm
$y=$ found by $Y$-axis algorithm

X -axis algorithm is more precise, so $x \geq y$ always

Larger point = more test cases


More precise algorithm

## Benchmark 1: Effectiveness



B


## C



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Reduced \# of extra model checking runs:

- $\geq 40 \%$ reduction in $54 \%$ of cases with vacuity


## Benchmark 1: Effectiveness



Reduced \# of extra model checking runs:

- $\geq 40 \%$ reduction in $54 \%$ of cases with vacuity Local Irrelevance is faster than Naive Detection in 70 cases (59\%):
- Twice as fast in $40 \%$ of these cases
- Order of magnitud faster in $30 \%$ of these cases


Naive detection (s)

## Benchmark 2

GOAL: evaluate scalability of our tool to industrial models

Setup

- Models and properties: IBM Formal Verification Benchmarks Library
- 18 properties:
- 12 present vacuity
- 1 temporal operator, from $\{\mathrm{G}, \mathrm{F}\}$
- 4 variables on average, 17 max., 1 min.
- Picked k-depth in line with bounds used in Benchmark 1
- Largest proof: 500k resolutions


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Proof sizes are in same range as those for Benchmark 1

- new models are more complex
- but properties are simpler


## Benchmark 2: Scalability



B


C


- Reasonable execution times
- No noticeable spike in peripherality execution times
- models with low clause/variable ratio present vacuity
- proofs for these models are medium-sized
- Little vacuity in this suite, yet algorithms detect some vacuity


## Experimental Conclusions

|  | Benchmark 1 | Benchmark 2 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Models | Simple | Complex |
| Properties | Complex | Simple |
| Irrelevance | Very fast | Very fast |
| Local Irrelevance | Fastest | Fastest |
| Peripherality | Slow in certain cases | Very fast |

Our algorithms:

- discover vacuous variables
- ... via relatively inexpensive analyses of BMC artifacts

Our methods are complete and generally faster than Naive Detection

## Summary

- Vacuity detection for BMC
- we analyze BMC artifacts like UNSAT cores and resolution proofs
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- Vacuity detection for BMC
- we analyze BMC artifacts like UNSAT cores and resolution proofs
- Proposed and implemented a vacuity detection tool, VaqTree
- Step towards making vacuity detection part of complete process



## Future Work

- When do our algorithms apply?
- heuristics based on clause/variable ratio and proof size
- Increase scalability of our tool
- implement on-the-fly proof analysis
- Use interpolants for vacuity detection
- Use results of previous depths for vacuity detection


## Thanks for your attention Questions？

