Algorithmic Game Solving - from Theory towards Applications in Synthesis

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Abstract

This talk summarizes our efforts bringing algorithmic game solving from theoretical results towards concrete applications. For this purpose, we first construct the tool GAVS+ which collects most types of games having practical interests with various winning conditions, starting with two-player turn-based games [ATVA'10], then expand its spectrum concerning concurrency, infinite state, distributivity, probability [TACAS'11], games of imperfect information and others [paper in preparation]. GAVS+ is the first library which summarizes existing efforts in such a comprehensive way. It targets to serve as an open platform for the research community in algorithmic game solving, and it is meant to work as a playground for researchers thinking of mapping interesting problems to game solving. With the library in hand, we start bridging games in theory and concrete applications; new algorithms are introduced when required.

We first investigate the problem concerning deadlock prevention in interaction systems composed by unmodifiable components; we use the BIP language developed at Verimag as an example. Tools based on verification (e.g., D-finder) are capable of deadlock finding while the burden of deadlock removal remains. By understanding the problem and combining concepts in games, we create a technique called *priority synthesis* [NFM'11], which results in a tool targeted for automatic supervisory control; it automatically adds static priorities over interactions to restrict the system behavior for safety. Second, we study how *behaviorial-level synthesis* can be connected to games. For this GAVS+includes features such that the user can now process and synthesize planning (game) problems described in the established STRIPS/PDDL language by introducing a slight extension which allows to specify a second player [TACAS'11]. For the third application, we study how HW/SW level *fault-tolerant synthesis* can be combined with games [VMCAI'11, RTAS-WiP'10]. Under strict assumptions we are able to complete the whole flow, which is based on (a) timing-abstraction to convert systems to games, (b) game solving to select appropriate fault-tolerant mechanisms, and (c) constraint resolution to restore timing information on concrete hardware. This first result is implemented in a prototype software.

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