## Model-based Testing

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#### **Conformance Testing**



#### **Soundness of Conformance Testing**



#### **Completeness of Conformance Testing**



#### **Remarks on Soundness and Completeness**



We want test systems which are sound and complete!

#### **Soundness and Completeness of Conformance Testing**



#### **More Remarks on Soundness and Completeness**



Edsger<sub>r</sub> W<sub>V</sub>. Dji<sub>j</sub>jk<sub>i</sub>st<sub>t</sub>r<sub>i</sub>a







#### **Observations**

- Executing a test case on the system yields a set of observations.
- Every observation represents a part of the implementation model of the system, i.e. the model describing how the real system behaves.



The set of all observations made with <u>all possible test</u> <u>cases</u> represents the complete **implementation model** of the system!



Depending on the chosen class of implementation models, the observations might have to be transformed, first.



**Observations** 

Implementation Model

Assuming from now on the validity of the test hypothesis, we know that for every system there is a corresponding observational equivalent implementation model.



- This implementation model is unknown since in practice we cannot execute all possible test cases at the system.
- But since we know it exists, we can now define formally what conformance means!

#### **Observational Equivalence**









#### **Proving Soundness**



#### **Proving Completeness**





The **proof-obligation** to show the soundness and completeness of a test generation algorithm <u>w.r.t. an implementation relation impless</u> is:

Show for all implementation models:

implementation model M is imp-correct to the specification model

M passes all test cases which the algorithm can generate



System passes all test cases which the algorithm can generate

System conforms-to the specification model



#### Summary

- We want test generation algorithms to be sound and complete for the conforms-to relation.
- Every system has an underlying implementation model consisting of all possible observations one can make with all possible test cases.
- To restrict the class of systems, assumptions are made on the test execution.
- Based on these assumptions, one has to prove that an implementation model exists which is observational equivalent to the system.

#### Summary

- Now the implementation model can be substituted for the real system (aka the test hypothesis).
- Between the implementation model and the specification model implementation relations can be defined.
- Conformity of a system to a model is then defined by the imp-correctness of its underlying implementation model.
  - The main proof obligation is to show the soundness and completeness of the test generation algorithm w.r.t. the chosen implementation relation.

#### **Finite State Machines**

- Original domains:
  - sequential circuits
  - communication protocols

# Two types of Finite State Machines (FSM) matter for testing:

- Mealy Machines
- Moore Machines

Commonly, FSM is identified with **Mealy Machine**.

#### **Mealy Machines**

- Solution 1 (Mealy Machine). A Mealy Machine M is a quintuple  $M = (I, O, S, \delta, \lambda)$  where
  - *I* is a finite and nonempty set of **inputs**
  - *O* is a finite and nonempty set of **outputs**
  - *S* is a finite and nonempty set of **states**
  - $\delta: S \times I \rightarrow S$  is the state transition function
  - $\lambda : S \times I \rightarrow O$  is the output function



#### **Alternating Bit Protocol**



#### Conformance

- Specification models and implementation models are Mealy Machines.
- What does conformance mean here?



Ms

Mi1

#### Conformance

- We have  $M_i$  imp  $M_s \Leftrightarrow M_i$  is equivalent to  $M_s$
- Two FSM are equivalent iff for every input sequence they produce the same output sequence.



#### **Test Cases**

A test case is an input sequence together with its output sequence, derived from the specification model.



#### **Formal Test Execution**

- A test case is an input sequence together with its output sequence, derived from the specification model.
- Formally executing a test case means giving the input sequence to the implementation model.



#### **Observations**

- A test case is an input sequence together with its output sequence, derived from the specification model.
- Formally executing a test case means giving the input sequence to the implementation model, and observing the corresponding output sequence.



Mi1

#### Verdicts

- A test case is an input sequence together with its output sequence, derived from the specification model.
- Formally executing a test case means giving the input sequence to the implementation model, and observing the corresponding output sequence - leading to a verdict.



- But we don't know the implementation model a priori, we have just executed a single test case!
- What has really happened, is this:



Solution All we know is a little puzzle-piece from M<sub>i1</sub>.



But this is sufficient to observe non-conformity, since all possible completions of the Black Box are non-conforming!


A sound and complete test generation algorithm must generate all possible test cases.



#### **Dijkstra Revisited**

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## **Dijkstra Revisited**

- When should we stop testing?
- Which test cases shall we select?
  - $\Rightarrow$  How to deal with the practical incompleteness of testing?
- Accept it, and focus on heuristics like code coverage, model coverage, timing constraints, randomness, test purposes, etc.
- 2) Try to find further **assumptions**, which makes testing complete in practice, i.e., leading to a **finite** sound and complete test suite.

### **Dijkstra Revisited**

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## Remember...

- Dijkstra is right (of course).
- He refers to the fact, that the number of test cases in a sound and complete test suite is usually infinite (or at least too big).
- If that would not be the case, testing could <u>prove</u> the conformity of the system to the model (given some <u>assumptions</u> on the system).
- 2) Try to find further **assumptions**, which makes testing complete in practice, i.e., leading to a **finite** sound and complete test suite.

# **Checking Sequences**

- A checking sequence for M<sub>s</sub> is an input sequence that distinguishes the class of machines equivalent to M<sub>s</sub> from all other machines.
- The length of this sequence can be used to compare the time complexity of the several algorithms.

#### **Mandatory Assumptions**

 M<sub>s</sub> is minimized, meaning that M<sub>s</sub> has no <u>equivalent</u> states. Equivalent states produce the same output sequence for every input sequence.



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Ms (minimized)

(1)  $M_s$  is **minimized**.

(2) M<sub>s</sub> is **strongly connected**, meaning every state can reach every other state.



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- (1)  $M_s$  is **minimized**.
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Mandatory

# **Mandatory and Additional Assumptions**

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- (3) M<sub>i</sub> has the **same inputs and outputs** as M<sub>s</sub>, and **does not change** during runtime.
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- (5) M<sub>s</sub> and M<sub>i</sub> have a **reset message** that from any state of the machine causes a transition which ends in the initial state, and produces no output.

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change during runtime.

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Having a **reset message**, Ms **is** strongly connected!



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assumption, two types of faults can be present in M<sub>i</sub>:

**Output faults**: a transition produces a wrong output

Transfer faults: a transition goes to a wrong state

#### **Output- and Transfer Faults**



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- (6)  $M_i$  has **the same number of states** than  $M_s$ .
- (7) M<sub>s</sub> and M<sub>i</sub> have a **status message**. Giving a particular input *"status"*, the output uniquely defines the current state.

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- (5)  $M_s$  and  $M_i$  have a **reset message**.
- (6)  $M_i$  has the same number of states than  $M_s$ .
- (7)  $M_s$  and  $M_i$  have a status message.
- (8) M<sub>s</sub> and M<sub>i</sub> have a set message. From the initial state the system can be transferred to every other state s by giving the input set(s). No output is produced while doing so.

# **Mandatory and Additional Assumptions**

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Additional

For all states s and all inputs a do:

- 1. Apply the **reset message** to bring  $M_i$  to the initial state.
- 2. Apply a **set message** to transfer M<sub>i</sub> to state s.
- 3. Apply the input a.
- 4. Verify that the output conforms to the specification  $M_s$ .
- 5. Apply the **status message** and verify that the final state conforms to the specification M<sub>s</sub>.

This algorithm is **sound and complete** given that all assumptions (1) - (8) hold.

The length of the checking sequence is 4 \* |I| \* |S|

- To get rid of the set message, and possibly shorten the test suite, we can build a sequence that visits every state and every transition at least once a transition tour.
- The shortest transition tour visits each transition exactly once, and is called an Euler tour. It only exists for symmetric FSM (every state is the start state and end state of the same number of transitions).
- An Euler Tour can be computed in linear time w.r.t. the number of transitions.
- In non-symmetric FSM finding the shortest tour is referred to as the Chinese Postman Problem. It can be solved in polynomial time.



Covering all transitions of M<sub>s</sub>, and checking whether





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# **State Identification and Verification**

# Solution 1:

Use the **status message** to **verify the states** while doing the transition tour.

# Solution 2:

If the status message does not exists, use separating

sequences instead. Examples are:

- Characterizing set (W Method)
- Identification set (Wp Method)
- UIO sequence (UIO Methods)
- Distinguishing sequence (Distinguishing Sequence Method)
- Θ...
- Not all separating sequences are guaranteed to exists.
- Not all of these methods are complete.

#### **Where's the Reset Button?**

• When even a **reset message** is not available, more can be ...using distinguishing sequences without reset... .transfer sequences. done... ...using identifying sequences instead of distinguishing sequences. ····adaptive distinguishing sequences... ··homing sequence...

#### **The General Procedure**

Every method follows the same scheme:

For all states s and all inputs a do:

- 1. Bring  $M_i$  to the state s.
- 2. Apply the input a.
- 4. Verify that the output conforms to the specification  $M_s$ .
- 5. Verify that the final state conforms to the specification M<sub>s</sub>.

# Summary

- The test hypothesis for FSM-based testing makes some general assumptions regarding the system to be tested:
  - The system has finite state.
  - The system is deterministic.
  - The system communicates in a synchronous manner (input / output).
- FSM-based testing focused on testing for equivalence.
- Based on a given set of further mandatory and additional assumptions, the FSM algorithms can give a finite sound and complete test suite.
- In other words, these algorithm can prove the equivalence.
- Most of the theoretical problems have been solved.

# Summary

- FSM-based testing can be the underlying testing model of several other formalisms, like UML state machines, Abstract State Machines, RPC-like systems, etc.
- Tools related to FSM-based testing are for instance:
  - Conformance Kit, PHACT, TVEDA, Autofocus, AsmL Test Tool,...
- Results regarding other types of state machines have shown that there is no hope that feasible algorithms can yield a finite sound and complete test suite, for instance:
  - Nondeterministic machines
  - Probabilistic machines
  - Symbolic machines
  - Real-Time machines
  - Hybrid machines

# **Labeled Transition Systems**

- Original domains:
  - sequential and concurrent programs
  - hardware circuits
- Several formalisms have an underlying Labeled Transition System (LTS) semantics, for instance:
  - Statecharts
  - Process Algebras

#### **Models: Labelled Transition Systems**






### **Observable Behaviour**



"Some systems are more equal than others "

# Conformance

Relating two LTS can be done in a variety of manners, e.g.:

# Equivalence relations:

Isomorphism, Bisimulation, Trace Equivalence, Testing Equivalence, Refusal Equivalence, ...

### Preorder relations:

Observation Preorder, Trace Preorder, Testing Preorder, Refusal Preorder, ...

# Input-Output relations:

- Input-Output Testing
- Input-Output Refusal
- 🕒 ioconf
- e ioco

#### •

# Conformance

An implementation relation is called stronger than another, if the classes of related LTS are more differentiated.



- Implementation relations may also be incomparable.
- We want an implementation relation to
  - e relate systems we **naturally consider** as being conforming
  - Se applicable in practice, i.e., having a feasible testing scenario
  - e be as strong as possible

# Isomorphism

Two LTS are **isomorph** (or: equivalent) iff they are exactly the same modulo state names.



Isomorphism is the strongest notion of conformance.

Isomorphism is <u>not suited for testing</u> since we cannot

observe the unobservable  $\tau$  action!

# **Bisimulation**

Two LTS are (weak) bisimular iff they simulate each other and go to states from where they can simulate each other again.



Bisimulation is <u>not suited for testing</u> since its testing scenario comprises means which are infeasible in practice.

### **Trace Equivalence**

- A **trace** is an <u>observable</u> sequence of actions.
- Two LTS are trace equivalent iff they have the same traces.



Trace equivalence is the weakest notion of conformance.
 For testing purposes it is usually considered too weak.
 isomorphism a bisimularity a trace equivalence

## **Completed Trace Equivalence**

- A completed trace is a trace leading to a state refusing all actions a final state.
- Two LTS are completed trace equivalent iff they are trace equivalent, and also share the same completed traces.



Here we need to be able to observe the absence of all actions, i.e., deadlocks.

- Testing equivalence is stronger than completed trace equivalence, and demands a test scenario which can observe the refusal of actions.
- conf is a modification of testing equivalence restricting the observations to only those traces contained in the specification (conf is not transitive).
  - Refusal equivalence is stronger than testing equivalence, and demands a test scenario which can continue the test after observing the refusal of actions.

## Tool: Cooper for the Co-Op method for conf

# **Preorder Relations**

- i imp s means that implementation model i implements specification model s.
- Do we want imp to be

reflexive	s <b>imp</b> s	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>
😑 symmetric	i <b>imp</b> s <sub>«</sub> s <b>imp</b> i	ß
😑 transitive	i imp s $\land$ s imp t a i imp t	<b>v</b>
🖲 anti-symmetric	i	ß
😑 total	i <b>imp</b> s ∨ s <b>imp</b> i	ſs
congruent	i <b>imp</b> s <sub>«</sub> f(i) <b>imp</b> f(s)	<ul> <li>Image: A set of the set of the</li></ul>

- An equivalence is reflexive, symmetric and transitive.
- A **preorder** is just reflexive and transitive.

## **Preorder Relations**

- The motivation for preorder relations is to simplify the testing scenario.
- Solution For almost every equivalence  $\approx$  a corresponding preorder

 $\leq$  can be defined such that

 $p \approx q \Leftrightarrow p \leq q \land q \leq p$ 

### Trace preorder:

- $i \leq_{tr} s \Leftrightarrow traces(i) \subseteq traces(s)$
- In the same way **testing preorder**  $\leq_{te}$  and **refusal preorder**  $\leq_{rf}$  can be defined.

## **Input-Output Labeled Transition Systems**

- In Input-Output relations, the set of action labels is partitioned into input actions and output actions, leading to an Input-Output Labeled Transition System (IOLTS).
  - Compared to FSM, IOLTS differ in
  - having asynchronous transitions (either input or output)
  - having potentially an infinite number of states
  - being potentially nondeterministic
  - being not necessarily completely specified for all inputs
  - being compositional
- An IOLTS, which is completely specified for all inputs is called an input enabled IOLTS.

# ioco - Conformance

- Specification models are IOLTS
- Implementation models are input-enabled IOLTS
- What does ioco-conformance mean?



IOLTS

input enabled IOLTS

### Quiescence

**Definition 3** (Quiescence). A state  $s \in S$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  is quiescent, denoted  $\delta(s)$ , iff  $\forall \mu \in \Sigma_U \cup \{\tau\} : s \xrightarrow{\mu}$ . Let  $\delta$  be a constant not part of any action label set;  $\Sigma_{\delta}$  abbreviates  $\Sigma_I \cup \Sigma_U \cup \{\delta\}$ 



#### after

**Definition 4** (after). Let  $s \in S$ ,  $C \subseteq S$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma_{\delta}^*$ . We define

 $s \operatorname{after} \sigma =_{def} \{ s' \in S \mid s \stackrel{\sigma}{\Longrightarrow}_{\delta} s' \}$ 



- s1 after  $\delta = \{s1\}$
- s1 after ?a = {s2}
- s2 after !x?b = {s4,s5,s6}
- s2 after  $!x\delta$ ?b = {s4,s5,s6}

s1 after  $a!x\delta\delta$ ?  $b!z\delta = \{s1\}$ 

#### out

## **Definition 5** (out). Let $s \in S$ and $C \subseteq S$ . We define

- 
$$out(s) =_{def} \begin{cases} \{\delta\} & \text{if } \delta(s) \\ \{a \in \Sigma_U \mid s \xrightarrow{a}\} \text{ otherwise} \\ - out(C) =_{def} \bigcup_{s \in C} out(s) \end{cases}$$



out(s1) =  $\{\delta\}$ out(s2) =  $\{!x\}$ out(s3) =  $\{\delta\}$ out(s4) =  $\emptyset$ out(s5) =  $\{!y\}$ out( $\{s1, s2\}$ ) =  $\{\delta, !x\}$ 

out(s1 after  $\delta$ ?a) = {!x} out(s1 after ?a!x?b) = {!y,!z}

**Definition 6.** Let  $S = \langle S, s_1, \Sigma_I, \Sigma_U, \rightarrow_S \rangle$  be an IOLTS, and let  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Sigma_{\delta}^*$ . An input-enabled IOLTS  $\mathcal{P} = \langle P, p_1, \Sigma_I, \Sigma_U, \rightarrow_{\mathcal{P}} \rangle$  is  $\mathbf{ioco}_{\mathcal{F}}$ -conform to S, denoted by  $\mathcal{P}$   $\mathbf{ioco}_{\mathcal{F}} S$ , iff

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 $\forall \sigma \in \mathcal{F} : out(p_1 \operatorname{after} \sigma) \subseteq out(s_1 \operatorname{after} \sigma)$ 

**Definition 7 (Suspension Traces).** *The set of* suspension traces *is defined as*  $Straces(s) =_{def} \{ \sigma \in \Sigma_{\delta}^* \mid s \stackrel{\sigma}{\Longrightarrow}_{\delta} \}$ 

Just writing *ioco* abbreviates *ioco*<sub>F</sub> with  $F = Straces(s_0)$ .

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#### Intuition:

- i ioco s, iff
- if **i** produces output x after trace  $\sigma$ , then **s** can produce x after trace  $\sigma$ .
- if i cannot produce any output after trace  $\sigma$ , then s cannot produce any output after trace  $\sigma$  (quiescence).

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I




#### ioco



S

#### ioco



### **Test Cases**

- A test case is an IOLTS
  - $\blacksquare$  having a **quiescence label**  $\blacksquare$  (modeling the observation of quiescence)
  - having inputs and outputs swapped
  - being tree-structured
  - being finite and deterministic
  - having final states pass and fail
  - $\bigcirc$  where from each state  $\neq$  **pass** and **fail**:
    - either a single output and all inputs
    - ${igsir igsir iggir igoir igoir igoir igoir igoir igoir igoir igoir igoir$





#### **Formal Test Execution**







#### **Formal Test Execution**













#### **Formal Test Execution**



#### **Observations**

- The test runs represent the observations.

- Note that the set of all test runs for a given test case comprises all possible observations for all nondeterministic cases.
- One more observation could have been made in the previous example:

- When should we stop testing?
- Which test cases shall we select?
  - $\Rightarrow$  How to deal with the practical incompleteness of testing?
- Accept it, and focus on heuristics like code coverage, model coverage, timing constraints, randomness, test purposes, etc.
- 2) Try to find further **assumptions**, which makes testing complete in practice, i.e., leading to a **finite** sound and complete test suite.

- When should we stop testing?
  - Which test cases shall we select?
    - $\Rightarrow$  How to deal with the practical incompleteness of testing?

The possibly infinite state space, and the nondeterministic character, make computing a **finite** sound and complete test suite an infeasible task!

2) Try to find further **ass** complete in practice complete test suite.

which makes testing og to a **finite** sound and

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- Given a specification LTS with initial state s0
- Initially compute the set of states K = s0 after I
- Do a finite number of recursive applications of the following three nondeterministic choices:
- a) Stop the test case with the verdict pass



b) Let the test case produce an **output** !a with K after  $a \leq \nabla$ Also accept all inputs at the same time.



ta is obtained by applying the algorithm with **K** = **K** after !a txi are obtained by applying the algorithm with **K** = **K** after xi

c) Let the test case accept all inputs – and quiescence.



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- We generate a test case out of Q.
- Initially, K = {q1}



b) Let the test case produce an **output** !a with K after  $a \leq \nabla$ Also accept all inputs at the same time.





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a) Stop the test case with the verdict pass





b) Let the test case produce an **output** !a with K after  $a \leq \nabla$ Also accept all inputs at the same time.





c) Let the test case accept all inputs – and quiescence.



a) Stop the test case with the verdict pass



- In every state a test case has to be defined for all possible inputs, i.e., outputs from the system.
- This can easily let the **state space explode**.
- Some tools do not firstly generate a test suite, and then apply it on the system.
- They combine the test case generation and execution process.
- By so doing, outputs observed from the system guide the "test case" generation.
- So doing avoids this state space explosion problem.
- This kind of testing is called <u>on-the-fly testing</u>.

## **On-The-Fly Testing**

- We test on-the-fly with Q.
- Initially, K = {q1}



## **On-The-Fly Testing**

b) We choose some **output** !a with K after  $a \leq \nabla$ We also accept all inputs at the same time.

We choose to give  $! \in$  to the system.





# **On-The-Fly Testing**

c) We accept all inputs - and quiescence.

We observe quiescence and hence only need to continue with state t5 and **K** = {q3}





# Summary

- LTS are a common formalism to model reactive systems.
- LTS are the underlying semantics of several other formalisms like like statecharts or process algebras.
- Relating two LTS can be done in a variety of manners.
- Not all relations are suited for testing purposes.
- Partitioning the action labels into *inputs* and *outputs* leads to an **IOLTS**.
- A common implementation relation for IOLTS is *ioco*.
- ioco assumes implementation models to be input enabled.
- ioco allows specifications to be not input enabled allowing for partial specifications.

# Summary

- A test case is a tree-structured IOLTS with pass and fail leaves.
- Test cases must be output-complete for all possible outputs of the system.
- To avoid a state space explosion in test cases, the generation and execution of test cases can be combined – called on-the-fly testing.
- A simple sound and complete test case generation for *ioco* exists.
- This algorithm is implemented in an on-the-fly manner in the TorX tool.
- The TGV tool combines ioco testing with test purposes.