# Causality Closure for a New Class of Curves in Real-Time Calculus

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Causality in RTC

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## Summary



#### Introduction: Real-Time Calculus

- 2 The Causality Problem for Arrival Curves
- 3 The Causality Closure: Solving the Causality Problem
- 4 Causality Closure in the Upac Class of Curves

#### 5 Conclusion

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# Modular Performance Analysis (MPA): The Big Picture



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## Modular Performance Analysis (MPA)



- With Real-Time Calculus (RTC):
  - "Timed Behavior" = "Arrival Curves"
  - "Modules" = arrival curves transformers (usually, generic components + service curves)

## Arrival Curves in Real-Time Calculus (RTC)



- α<sup>u</sup>(δ): max number of events in any window of size δ.
- α<sup>l</sup>(δ): min number of events in any window of size δ.

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Analysis

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha^{u'} &= \left( \left( \alpha^{u} \underline{\oplus} \beta^{u} \right) \overline{\oplus} \beta^{l} \right) \land \beta^{l} \\ \alpha^{l'} &= \left( \left( \alpha^{l} \overline{\otimes} \beta^{u} \right) \underline{\otimes} \beta^{l} \right) \land \beta^{l} \\ \beta^{u'} &= \left( \beta^{u} - \alpha^{l} \right) \underline{\otimes} \mathbf{0} \\ \beta^{l'} &= \left( \beta^{l} - \alpha^{u} \right) \overline{\otimes} \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

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## Real-Time Calculus (RTC): pros and cons

- Nice things with RTC
  - Can model: event streams, simple scheduling policies
  - Scales up nicely
  - Exact hard bounds
- Less nice thing with RTC
  - Limited expressiveness

## Allowing more Complex Modules in MPA



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- X = Arbitrary program  $\Rightarrow$  testing (ETHZ)
- X = Timed Automata ⇒ model-checking (ETHZ, Uppsala, Verimag)
- X = Lustre ⇒ Abstract Interpretation, SMT Solving (tool ac2lus, Verimag)

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#### A Closer Look at the Generator



• The idea behind generators:

"at each point in time, compute an interval [I, u] on the number of events that can be emitted".

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#### This talk:

How can we prevent these deadlocks?

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#### Causal and Non-Causal Curves

 A pair of arrival curve (α<sup>u</sup>, α<sup>l</sup>) is causal iff an event stream conformant with (α<sup>u</sup>, α<sup>l</sup>) up to time t can be extended into a stream conformant with (α<sup>u</sup>, α<sup>l</sup>) forever.

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- i.e., (α<sup>u</sup>, α<sup>l</sup>) is causal iff the associated generator has no deadlock.













# If a stream gets in a forbidden region, it will eventually reach a dead-end

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#### Problems with Non-Causal Curves

- Simulating a Generator: the generator may stop with "you shouldn't have been there, I can't continue"
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- Practical issue: non-causal curves are hard to think with!

• Good news:

 $(\alpha^{u}, \alpha^{l})$  is causal  $\Leftrightarrow$  $(\alpha^{u}, \alpha^{l})$  is the tightest equivalent pair of curve

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## Causality Closure: Making Curves Causal

- The causality closure of  $(\alpha^{u}, \alpha')$  is a pair of curves that is:
  - Equivalent to  $(\alpha^u, \alpha^l)$  (i.e. same set of accepted event streams)
  - Causal (i.e. finite accepted event streams can be extended infinitely)
- How to compute it?
- Intuition: Causal curves are curves without forbidden regions (?)

# Towards an Algorithm for Causality Closure

- First idea: deconvolution ( $\oslash$ ,  $\overline{\oslash}$ ) to remove forbidden regions
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- Second idea: Curves without forbidden regions are (?) causal, let's iterate forbidden region removal until fix-point and we're done (?)
- Issue 1: Will it terminate?
- Issue 2: some causal curves do have forbidden regions!



Sub/super Additivity and Unreachable Regions Another (Well Known) Issue

- α<sup>l</sup>(δ<sub>1</sub> + δ<sub>2</sub>) = minimum number of events in any time window of duration δ<sub>1</sub> + δ<sub>2</sub>.
- $\alpha'(\delta_1) + \alpha'(\delta_2)$  is another valid bound. It may be better.
- $\Rightarrow$  If so, we say that  $\alpha'(\delta_1 + \delta_2)$  is unreachable.

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- $\alpha'(\delta_1) + \alpha'(\delta_2)$  is another valid bound. It may be better.
- $\Rightarrow$  If so, we say that  $\alpha'(\delta_1 + \delta_2)$  is unreachable.
- Technically,  $(\alpha^u, \alpha^l)$  have no unreachable regions iff
  - $\alpha'$  is super-additive,
  - $\alpha^u$  is sub-additive.
- $\overline{\alpha^{u}}$  = sub-additive closure of  $\alpha^{u}$
- $\underline{\alpha}^{\prime}$  = super-additive closure of  $\alpha^{\prime}$

#### Theorem 1: Causality and Forbidden Region

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⇒ Causal curve can be obtained by the fix-point of forbidden region removal for sub-additive/super-additive curves.

#### Theorem 2: no Need to Iterate!

- Removing forbidden regions from a sub-additive/super-additive pair of curves
  - Doesn't create new forbidden regions
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 $\left(\overline{\alpha^{\prime}} \oslash \underline{\alpha^{u}}, \overline{\alpha^{u}} \overline{\oslash} \underline{\alpha^{\prime}}\right)$  is the causality closure.

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→ Implementable in any framework implementing  $\overline{\alpha}, \underline{\alpha}, \oslash$  and  $\overline{\oslash}$ .

#### Connection from RTC to X, Revisited



- Compute the causality closure of (α<sup>u</sup>, α<sup>l</sup>) beforehand
  ⇒ avoids deadlocks in the generator (and spurious counter-examples in proofs)
- Compute the causality closure of (α<sup>u'</sup>, α<sup>l'</sup>) afterwards
  ⇒ may increase precision
- (Same applies for service curves)

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• Use: ac2lus (bridge between RTC and the Lustre language)

#### Goals:

- Machine-representable
- Efficient encoding into Lustre
- Reasonably expressive

- Use: ac2lus (bridge between RTC and the Lustre language)
- Definition: Ultimately piecewise-affine curves
  - Finite prefix = set of integer points
  - Long-term rate = affine pieces



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# Causality Closure in *Upac*

- Reminder: Causality closure implementable with  $\overline{\alpha}$ ,  $\underline{\alpha}$ ,  $\oslash$  and  $\overline{\oslash}$
- Problem: How to implement these operators efficiently?
- 2 steps algorithm:
  - **O** Normalization: compute  $(\overline{\alpha^u}, \underline{\alpha^l})$  and prepare it for step 2
  - 2 Bounded version of  $\oslash$  and  $\overline{\oslash}$




 Make sure all points are below the affine pieces



- Make sure all points are below the affine pieces
- Prove useless affine pieces



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- Find the point from which the prefix is dominated by affine pieces



- Make sure all points are below the affine pieces
- Prove useless affine pieces
- Find the point from which the prefix is dominated by affine pieces
- Extend the prefix until this point













- M = abscissa of intersection between *slope* of the prefix and affine pieces
- 2 M = last point to look at computing  $\oslash$  and  $\overline{\oslash}$

3 Compute 
$$\overline{\alpha'} \oslash_{2M} \underline{\alpha^u}$$



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# Summary of Contributions

- Reminders about causality closure (see [TACAS2010] for details)
- (Algorithmic) Application to Upac
- Implemented in ac2lus
  - Causality closure on input, before running proofs avoids spurious counter-examples
  - Causality closure on outputs
    - $\Rightarrow$  can increase precision

# Details I've spared you ...

- Corner-cases (no relevant affine piece on one or two curves)
- Correctness proofs (A bit more tricky than expected ;-))

#### **Questions?**

# Thank You!

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#### Backup Slide : Main Theorems About Causality



## Backup Slide: Bounded version of $\oslash$ and $\overline{\oslash}$

$$\overline{\alpha^{l}} \oslash_{|_{2\mathsf{M}}} \underline{\alpha^{u}} = \inf_{t \in [0,M]} \{ \alpha^{u} (\Delta + t) - \alpha^{l}(t) \}$$

$$( = \mathbb{C} |_{\mathsf{M}}^{u} \left( \alpha^{u}, \alpha^{l} \right) (\Delta) \text{ in the paper})$$

$$\overline{\alpha^{u}} \overline{\oslash}_{|_{2\mathsf{M}}} \underline{\alpha^{l}} = \sup_{t \in [0,M]} \{ \alpha^{l} (\Delta + t) - \alpha^{u}(t) \}$$

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