# **Specification Mining:** New Formalisms, Algorithms and Applications

#### Wenchao Li

Dissertation Talk EECS Department, UC Berkeley

Thesis Committee: Sanjit A. Seshia (Advisor), Andreas Kuehlmann, Francesco Borrelli

# Acknowledgement

- Prof. Sanjit A. Seshia
- Prof. Andreas Kuehlmann, Prof. Francesco Borrelli
- Dr. Alessandro Forin (MSR, Redmond)
- Dr. Natarajan Shankar, Dr. Shalini Ghosh (SRI International, Menlo Park)
- GigaScale Research Center
- TerraSwarm Research Center
- Daniel Holcomb, Bryan Brady, Susmit Jha, Alexandre Donze, Ruediger Ehlers, Indranil Saha, Jonathan Kotker, Rohit Sinha, Dorsa Sadigh, Zach Wasson, Wei Yang Tan, Garvit Juniwal, Ankush Desai, Nishant Totla, Daniel Fremont
- Colleagues in the DOP center
- Friends
- Nuo Zhang

Ubiquitous computing results in ubiquitous bugs

Formalization of requirement helps finding bugs, but is hard

Tiny bugs can have catastrophic consequences

# **Cost of Bugs**

- *Human loss*: Pacemakers, Aircraft, Nuclear reactor controllers, Car engine management system, etc.
- *Financial Loss*: 1994 Pentium FDIV costs \$475 million, Mars Rover, North America Blackout, etc.

Much of the challenge in bug finding lies in finding the specification that mechanized tools can use to find bugs

#### **Reality Check:**

- Writing assertion is a time-consuming manual process and is perceived as "difficult".
- "During the first formal verification runs of a new hardware design, typically 20% of the formulas are found to be trivially valid." [IBM Haifa]

# **Verification and Synthesis**

# Model M

Specification  $\psi$ 



Specification is arguably the most important step for formal verification and correct-by-construction synthesis

### Verification is as Good as Specification



### Verification is as Bad as Specification



Temporal specifications can be mined systematically both from observed and counteracting behaviors, and are useful for automating difficult tasks in verification and synthesis such as localizing bugs and finding missing assumptions.

## Formalisms

Basis Subtrace Version-Space Learning

# Algorithms

Automata-Based Sparse Coding Counterstrategy-Guided

# Applications

Bug Localization LTL Synthesis Human-in-the-Loop Controller



Linear Temporal Logic

**Formal specification:** behavior description supported by logic-based languages

$$\psi ::= p \mid \neg \psi \mid \psi \lor \psi \mid \mathbf{X} \psi \mid \psi \mathbf{U} \psi$$

 $G (req \rightarrow F grant)$ : Every request must be followed by a grant.

### Specification Mining with Templates

Example specification  $\psi(a, b)$ : (1) every *a* is followed by a *b* within 3 cycles; (2) every two *as* are separated by at least 7 cycles.  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$   $\Sigma' = \{req, grant, reset\}$ Find (all) mapping  $\rho : \Sigma \to \Sigma'$ , s.t.  $\psi(\rho(a), \rho(b))$  is true w.r.t.some evidence. req reset grant grant grant req 3 cycles 2 cycles  $\rho(\mathbf{a}) = \operatorname{req}, \rho(\mathbf{b}) = \operatorname{grant}$ 7 cycles

# Part I

### Requirement Generation and Error Localization



Static

Static: Infer specification directly from the description of the design, e.g. synthesis of interface specification for Java classes [Alur et. al., 2005]

**Dynamic:** Infer *likely specification* from simulation /execution traces, e.g. DAIKON [Ernst et. al., 2000]

Automata-based [DAC'10]

**Sparse Coding** [RV'12]

# **Specification Mining:**

An Automata-based Monitoring Approach

Mining Temporal Properties

With a focus on hardware traces





#### **Solutions:**

Evaluate  $\mathcal{A}(\psi)$  over traces

- Design  $\psi$  s.t. evaluating transitions are sufficient.
- Small  $\Sigma$  but use inference rules to merge  $\psi$ .

#### **Requirement Generation:**

eMIPS - 278 modules and more than 20,000 signals

Design	T	$ T^{\Delta}_{m} $	n <sub>m</sub>	S	S <sub>merged</sub>	Runtime (s)
eMIPS	5 mil	5408	108	2079	1028	51
Router	0.23 mil	12420	28	120	74	13
I2C	1.6 mil	20904	33	389	308	9
CAN	26 mil	36100	175	3272	1356	71

#### **Summary:**

- Industrial-size designs;
- Traces of millions of cycles;
- Mine relevant temporal properties efficiently.



Can we use the many simple mined specifications to *localize* complex bugs?





Where?

### **Post-Si Challenges:**

- Limited observability
- Long error detection latency
- Transient and hard-to-reproduce bugs

**Expensive:** \$1 million to redesign the masks [Ying et al., 2005]; 3:1 headcount for design vs. post-Si validation [Patra et al., 2007]; post-Si validation consumes 35% of chip development time on average [Abramovici et al., 2006]

### **Proposed Solution**

Mine *distinguishing patterns* between good and bad traces over module interfaces



#### **Error Localization**:

#### CMP router; localize to within 15 cycles for transient faults

Type of Fault	Fault Coverage %	Time Localization %	Module Localization %
Stuck-at	100	-	100
Erroneous Transition	100	_	100
Erroneous Assignment	100	-	57
Transient	100	81	56

#### **Summary:**

- eMIPS: effectively localize different design bugs.
- CMP router: effectively localize transient bugs also.
- Mining *simple distinguishing* patterns can help to localize *complex* bugs.

### **Research Question**

Can we learn specifications w/o assuming forms?



**Specification formalism:** Express each subtrace as a Boolean combination of a few "basis subtraces"— a (sparsity-constrained) Boolean matrix factorization problem.

[Li and Seshia. Sparse Coding for Specification Mining and Error Localization. RV 2012]

# **Specification Mining:**

A Sparse Coding Approach

### Problem Formulation



### Sparsity-Constrained Boolean Factorization

Given a data matrix  $X \in B^{m \times n}$  and a positive integer *C*, the *sparsity-constrained Boolean factorization problem* is to find *k*,  $B = B^{m \times k}$  and  $S = B^{k \times n}$  such that

 $X = B \circ S$ and  $\|S_{\cdot,i}\|_{1} \leq C, \forall_{i}$  $\Sigma \cdot \Sigma \cdot S \cdots$  is maximized)

(and  $\sum_i \sum_j S_{i,j}$  is maximized).

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \circ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} C = 2$$

$$X \qquad B \qquad S$$

### Algorithm Idea

- Observe that the data matrix *X* can be viewed as the adjacency matrix for a bipartite graph.
- Idea: factorization  $\rightarrow$  biclique cover (biclique  $\leftrightarrow$  basis subtrace)



### Error Localization

• Error localization and explanation based on reconstruction: *A subtrace has an error if it cannot be reconstructed from the basis subtraces* 



• A subtrace is error-free if  $\|X_{\cdot,i} \bigoplus (B \circ S_{\cdot,i})\|_1 = 0$ 

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Minimize } \left\| X_{\cdot,i} \oplus (B \circ S_{\cdot,i}) \right\|_{1} \\ & \text{Subject to } \left\| S_{\cdot,i} \right\| \leq C \end{aligned}$$



### **Experimental Results**

- Chip Multiprocessor Router:
  - Observe 14 control signals
  - Subtrace width: 2 cycles
  - Learn the basis from a single error-free trace of 1000 cycles: 0.243 seconds to obtain 189 basis subtraces from 93 distinct subtraces



[Source: Daniel Holcomb]

- Error Localization:
  - Inject a single bit flip at a random cycle for each of 99 error traces
  - Localize the error to the subtrace (out of 999) where it was injected
- <u>Comparisons:</u>
  - Baseline approach (1): hash all distinct subtraces report error even before an error is injected for the 99 traces
  - Baseline approach (2): use unit basis -0% localization
  - Sparse Coding: 55.6% localization

# Part I: Contributions

### Automata-based: [Li et al., 2010]

- An efficient algorithm for mining *temporal properties* from traces of digital designs.
- Effective algorithm for *localizing bugs* in hardware using *distinguishing patterns*.

### Sparse Coding: [Li et al., 2012]

- A novel formalism of specification based on the notion of *basis subtraces*.
- An *unsupervised* algorithm for learning basis subtraces.
- An effective way of using basis subtraces to *localize bugs*.



# **Part II** Assumption Mining for LTL Synthesis

Temporal Logic Synthesis

Automatically construct an *implementation* that is guaranteed to satisfy its *behavioral description*.











[Xu, 2013]

[Cheng et al., 2012]

Main advantage: Correct-by-construction

**Caveat:** Complete specification!

"Writing a complete formal specification for the arbiter was not trivial. Many aspects of the arbiter are not defined in ARM's standard." [Bloem et al., 2007]

# **Assumption Mining:**

A Counterstrategy-Guided Approach

### GR(1) Specifications

$$\psi^e \to \psi^s$$

Require  $\psi^l$  for  $l \in \{e, s\}$  to be conjunctions in the following forms:  $\psi^l_i$ : a Boolean formula that characterizes the initial states.

- $\psi_t^l$ : a LTL formula that describes the transition, in the form **G** f, where f is a Boolean combination of variables in  $X \cup Y$  and expressions **X** u where  $u \in X$  if l = e and  $u \in X \cup Y$  if l = s.
- $\psi_f^l$ : a LTL formula that describes fairness, in the form **G F** f, where f is a Boolean formula over variables in  $X \cup Y$ .

Advantage: Can find an implementation in  $O((2^{|X|+|Y|})^3)$  time. [Piterman and Pnueli, 2006]

Given 
$$\psi = \psi^e \to \psi^s$$
 with  
input  $x$  and output  $y$   
 $\psi_f^e = \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{F} (\neg x));$   
 $\psi_t^s = \mathbf{G} ((\neg x) \to (\neg y));$   
 $\psi_f^s = \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{F} (y));$ 

$$x: 010101...$$
  
 $y: 010101...$  Satisfiable

x: 000000...y: 000000... Unrealizable

**Decide if**  $\exists M$  s.t.  $M \models \psi$ : Game Solving



A game structure  $\mathcal{G}$  is a tuple  $(X, Y, Q, \theta, \rho^e, \rho^s, Win)$ , where

- -X: a set of input variables controlled by e.
- -Y: a set of output variables controlled by s.
- $-Q \subseteq 2^X \times 2^Y$ : state space.
- $-\theta$ : a Boolean formula over  $X \cup Y$  that defines the initial states.
- $-\rho^e \subseteq Q \times 2^X$ : environment transition relation.
- $-\rho^s \subseteq Q \times 2^X \times 2^Y$ : system transition relation.
- -Win: winning condition of the game.



Given GR(1) specifications  $\psi_i^e, \psi_i^s, \psi_t^e, \psi_t^s, \psi_f^e, \psi_f^s$ ,  $-\theta = \psi_i^e \wedge \psi_i^s$   $-\rho^e = \psi_t^e$  replacing (**X** u) by u'  $-\rho^s = \psi_t^s$  replacing (**X** u) by u' -Win is given by  $\psi^e \rightarrow \psi^s$   $\bigwedge_i \psi_{f,i}^e \rightarrow \bigwedge_j \psi_{f,j}^s$  **Remark:** The mapping also works for specifications given as deterministic Büchi automata.

41

### GR(1) Synthesis ~ Games

Compute winning regions  $W^s \subseteq Q$  using a nested fixpoint formula. [Piterman and Pnueli, 2006]  $W^s \xrightarrow{\text{extract}} \text{strategy } \mathcal{S}^s = (\Gamma^s, \gamma_0^s, \eta^s) \xrightarrow{\text{compute}} \text{circuit consistent with } \mathcal{S}^s$ (if  $Q_0 \subseteq W^s$ )

Dually, compute winning regions  $W^e = Q \setminus W^s$  using fixpoint formula.  $W^e \xrightarrow{\text{extract}} \text{counterstrategy } S^e = (\Gamma^e, \gamma_0^e, \eta^e) \quad [\text{Könighofer et al., 2009}]$  **Problem:**  $\psi$  not realizable if  $Q_0 \cap W^e \neq \emptyset$  $S^e = \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma^e = \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{J} \\ \gamma_0^e \in \Gamma^e \\ \eta^e \subseteq Q \times \Gamma \times 2^X \times \Gamma \end{bmatrix}$  **Key idea:** Mine additional assumption  $\phi$  to prohibit  $S^e$ 



Given 
$$\psi = \psi^e \rightarrow \psi^s$$
 with  
input  $x$  and output  $y$   
 $\psi_f^e = \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{F} (\neg x));$   
 $\psi_t^s = \mathbf{G} ((\neg x) \rightarrow (\neg y));$   
 $\psi_f^s = \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{F} (y));$   
Unrealizable

Counterstrategy =  $\mathbf{F} (\mathbf{G} (\neg x))$ 

Candidate assumption:  $\phi = \neg (\mathbf{F} (\mathbf{G} (\neg x))) = \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{F} (x))$   $\Rightarrow \psi_{new} = \phi \land \psi^e \rightarrow \psi^s$ Realizable A counterstrategy graph  $G^c$  is a discrete transition system  $(V, V_0 \subseteq V, T \subseteq V \times V)$ , where

- $-V \subseteq Q \times \Gamma^e$ : state space,
- $-V_0 = Q_0 \times \gamma_0^e$ : initial states

 $G^c$  contains all game states where env. e adheres to  $S^e = (\Gamma^e, \gamma_0^e, \eta^e)$ 

 $-T = \eta^e \wedge \rho^s$ : transition relation

#### General Solution:

Given a candidate assumption  $\phi$  and a counterstrategy graph  $G^c$ ,  $\psi_{new}^e := \phi \wedge \psi^e$  if  $\phi \wedge \psi^e \neq \texttt{false}$  and  $G^c \models \neg \phi$  (model checking). (a) Consistency:  $\phi \wedge \psi^e \neq \texttt{false}$ (b) Done if  $\psi_{new}^e \to \psi^s$  is realizable;

(c) Otherwise, iterate with new candidate  $\phi_{new}$  and new  $G_{new}^c$ .

**Question:** How to pick  $\phi$ ?

### Mining with Templates

#### What kind of assumptions?

- Efficient: In GR(1) to take advantage of  $O(|Q|^3)$  algorithm.
- User-friendly: Simple formulas are easier to understand.
- Representative: Cover  $\phi_i, \phi_t, \phi_f$ .

#### **Assumption Templates:**

- $-\phi_a$ : **G F** *u* or **G F** ( $u \lor v$ ) where *u* and *v* are literals over *X*.
- $-\phi_b$ : **G** u or **G**  $(u \lor v)$ , where u and v are literals over X.
- $-\phi_c$ : **G**  $(u \to (\mathbf{X} v))$ , where u and v are literals over X.

**Related:** Assumptions for LTL synthesis as a monolithic Büchi automaton. [Chatterjee et al., 2008]

### Iterative Search

**Problem1:** Redundant Checks

**Problem2:** Restricted by Templates

#### Idea:

- Check one type of assumption in GR(1) at a time.
- Use a random determinization of  $G^c$ .





Boolean formula u over X and v over  $X \cup Y$ 

Compute  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3$  given symbolic representation of the counterstrategy graph  $G^c = (V, V_0, T)$ .

**Lemma1:**  $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$  is a minimal assumption in GR(1) syntax that removes the counterstrategy.

**Lemma2:** The optimized algorithm produces a *nontrivial*  $\phi$ , i.e.  $\phi \wedge \psi^e \neq \texttt{false}$ .

**Theorem:** Given a satisfiable GR(1) specification  $\psi = \psi^e \to \psi^s$ and a  $G^c$  that represents all moves by the environment to force a violation of  $\psi$ , the optimized algorithm computes a nontrivial and minimal environment assumption  $\phi$  in GR(1) such that  $\phi \wedge \psi^e \to \psi^s$  is realizable.

### Experimental Evaluation

#### Benchmarks:

- IBM Gen. Buffer, AMBA AHB Bus. [Bloem et al., 2007]
- Simple robotic controller.

#### Setup:

- Remove a single assumption from a realizable specification.
- Mine  $\phi$  s.t.  $\psi$  is realizable.

#### **Result Highlight:**

- Recover the missing assumption in most cases.
- Reasonable replacement?

AMBA AHB Example:

HLOCK[0]: locked access HBUSREQ[0]: bus request

```
\phi_{\text{original}} = \mathbf{G} (\text{HLOCK}[0] \rightarrow \text{HBUSREQ}[0])
```

 $\phi_{\text{mined}} = \mathbf{G} \left( \mathbf{F} \neg \text{HBUSREQ}[0] \right) \right)$ 

[Li et al., Mining Assumptions for Synthesis. MEMOCODE 2011]

### Summary of Contributions

• First counterstrategy-guided synthesis framework



• An efficient algorithm with theoretical guarantees for assumption generation – a key problem in correct-by-construction synthesis from temporal logic.

# **Assumption Mining:**

Synthesizing *Human-in-the-Loop* Controllers

Many *safety-critical* systems interact with humans. The correctness of such systems depend on both the correctness of **autonomous controller**, **actions of the human** and **their interaction**.



"Vehicles at this level of automation enable the driver to cede full control of all safety-critical functions under certain traffic or environmental conditions and in those conditions to rely heavily on the vehicle to **monitor for changes** in those conditions requiring **transition back to driver** control. The driver is expected to be available for **occasional control**, but with **sufficiently comfortable transition time**."

Level 0: No Automation: Driver is in complete control Level 1: Function Specific Automation Pre-charged Brakes Level 2: Combined Function Automation Cruise Control Level 3: Limited Self Driving Automation Level 4: Full Self Driving Automation Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Preliminary statement of policy concerning automated vehicles, May 2013.

### **Research Question**

#### When autonomous controller fails, can human safely take over control?



MIT Cornell Crash during DARPA Urban Challenge, 2007

### Human-in-the-Loop Controllers



### Criteria:

- Monitoring
  - Determine control switch based on monitored information
- Minimally Intervening Low probability of human control needed
- Prescient Notify danger ahead of time
- Conditionally Correct Safe until human takes over control

#### Composition of Auto-Controller, Human Operator and Advisory Controller

[Li et al., Synthesis of Human-in-the-Loop Controllers. UCB Tech. Report 2013]



#### **Approach:**

**Advisory Controller** 

- Mine transition assumptions  $\phi_3$  to monitor
- Modify  $G^c$  to account for human response time
- Assign probability and early intervention penalty to  $G^c$
- Find s-t cut in the weighted  $G^c$

### Theoretical Guarantees

**Theorem:** Given a GR(1) specification  $\psi$ , and a response time parameter T, the algorithm is guaranteed to either produce a fully autonomous controller satifying  $\psi$ , or a HuIL controller, modeled as a composition of an auto-controller, a human operator and an advisory controller that is monitoring, prescient (with parameter T), minimally intervening and conditionally correct.

**Assumptions:** System cannot fail within T steps.

**Remark:** The human operator can be replaced by a controller that maintains critical functionalities.

[Li et al., Synthesis of Human-in-the-Loop Controllers. UCB Tech. Report 2013]

### A Car Following Example

Autonomous car: A Environment cars: B & C

Objective: A follows B, and when this is not achievable, *switches control* to the human driver with *sufficient time* for her to respond.

Follow := move to a square where A can still sense B

Given specs encoding movement rules and T = 1.



#### Sening Regions:



Assume given a finite-state abstraction. [Kloetzer and Belta, 2008][Bhatia, 2011] [Wolff et al., 2013]

#### Failure Scenario:





Step 2

#### 67

### A Car Following Example

#### Mined Assumptions:

$$\varphi_{env} = \mathbf{G} \left( \left( (p_A = 4) \land (p_B = 6) \land (p_c = 1) \right) \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \left( (p_B \neq 8) \land (p_C \neq |5) \right) \right) \bigwedge$$
$$\mathbf{G} \left( \left( (p_A = 4) \land (p_B = 6) \land (p_c = 1) \right) \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \left( (p_B \neq 6) \land (p_C \neq 3) \right) \right) \bigwedge$$
$$\mathbf{G} \left( \left( (p_A = 4) \land (p_B = 6) \land (p_c = 1) \right) \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \left( (p_B \neq 6) \land (p_C \neq 5) \right) \right) \bigwedge$$



[Li et al., Synthesis of Human-in-the-Loop Controllers. UCB Tech. Report 2013]

# Part 2: Contributions

### Assumption Mining: [Li et al., 2011]

- First *counterstrategy-guided* approach for synthesis from temporal logic.
- An efficient algorithm with theoretical guarantees for *mining assumptions* for GR(1) synthesis.

### Human-in-the-Loop Controllers: [Li et al., 2013]

- A novel formalism of *human-in-the-loop controllers*.
- Identify criteria with application to *driving automation*.
- An algorithm for *synthesizing* human-in-the-loop controllers that automatically satisfy these criteria, from temporal logic specifications.



# **Human Inputs:**

*CrowdMine*: Gamification and Crowdsourcing



Traces



#### Web-based Game Prototype



Selected Patterns  $\rightarrow$  LTL Formulas  $\rightarrow$  Model Checker

[URL: http://verifun.eecs.berkeley.edu/crowdmine2/]

### Preliminary Results

• Circuit: I/O traces from a 2-input 2-output arbiter.

$$\begin{array}{c} r_0 \longrightarrow & g_0 \\ r_1 \longrightarrow & Arbiter & g_1 \end{array}$$

• Top ranked patterns:



"When  $r_1$  is high and there is no competing  $r_0$ ,  $g_1$ is high at the same cycle. **Discussion** Remark: w/o model checker in the loop.

- What are humans good at?
  - Visual recognition?

Most frequently identified common patterns correspond to desired behaviors of the circuit.

– Randomness?

165 different patterns out of 283 hits (mostly EECS students) Top rank patterns have counts 31, 16 and 7.

• What problems do we crowdsource?

Problems that require human input and insight, or ones that are hard to formally define.

- E.g. specification, diagnosis, repair.
- Not purely computationally intractable problems.
  Related Work: FunSAT/Human EDA [DeOrio and Bertacco, DAC 2009]

### **Human Inputs:**

Mapping *Natural Language* to Temporal Logic

### Natural Language $\rightarrow$ LTL Specification



### **Result highlights:**

- FAA-Isolette requirements from NL to LTL.
- Assumption mining discovered a missing assumption.

**Source**: D. L. Lempia and S. P. Miller. Requirements engineering management handbook. Final Report DOT/FAA/AR-08/32, Federal Aviation Administration, June 2009.

# Conclusion

Formal specifications can be mined in a systematic way to improve the effectiveness of verification and synthesis.

Formalisms	Basis Subtrace Version-Space Learning
Algorithms	Automata-Based Sparse Coding Counterstrategy-Guided
Applications	Bug Localization         LTL Synthesis         Human-in-the-Loop Controller

# **Future Work**

- Combine automata-based and sparse coding-based approaches for mining specifications.
- Improve the scalability of the sparse coding-based approach.
- Mining assumptions in contract-based synthesis.
- Evaluate human-in-the-loop controller synthesis in real setting.
- Human studies of CrowdMine for large designs.
- More robust NL $\rightarrow$ LTL techniques.

# Thank you!