# Loop-free verification of termination of derivation for a fragment of dynamic logic

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**Abstract.** A fragment of a deterministic propositional dynamic logic (*DPDL*, in short) is considered The language of considered fragment contains propositional symbols, action constants, action operator (repetition) and logical symbols. For safety fragment of considered *DPDL* a loop-check-free sequent calculus with invertible rules is presented.

Keywords: propositional dynamic logic, sequent calculus, loop-check, invertible rule.

# 1. Introduction

In the paper deterministic propositional dynamic logic (DPDL, in short) is considered. In DPDL atomic program (or action constant) in each state specifies at most one successor state. DPDL is a generalization of propositional linear temporal logic (PLTL, in short). It is well known (see, e.g., [3], [4]) that with the aim to get termination of derivations in sequent (or tableaux) calculus for DPDL "good loops" (related with induction-like rules) and "bad loops" (related with induction-free parts of derivations) are used. For PLTL verification of "good loops" was proposed in [5], [1] and verification of "bad loops" for induction-free non-classical logics was proposed in [2].

The aim of this paper is to construct loop-check-free sequent calculus for a fragment of *DPDL*. Instead of both types of loop checking special "final" sequents are used. These "final" sequents allow us to verify a termination of derivations without loop checking.

#### 2. Initial sequent calculus for DPDL

The *language* of considered *DPDL* contains: a set of propositional symbols *P*, *P*<sub>1</sub>, ..., *Q*, *Q*<sub>1</sub>, ... (called atomic formulas); a set of action constants  $\gamma$ ,  $\gamma_1$ ,  $\gamma_2$ , ... (called atomic programs); action operator \* (repetition); logical operators:  $\supset$ ,  $\land$ ,  $\lor$ ,  $\neg$ .

We do not consider action constructions ; (composition),  $\cup$  (non-deterministic choice), and ? (test) because we concentrate on the induction-like operator \*.

Programs (*actions*) and *formulas* of *DPDL* are defined inductively. For example,  $\gamma, \gamma^*, (\gamma^*)^*$  are actions. Logical formulas are defined in the usual way. Let *A* is a formula and  $\alpha$  is an action, then  $[\alpha]A$  is a formula,  $[\alpha]$  is an *action modality*. The formula  $[\alpha]A$  means: every possible execution of the action  $\alpha$  leads to a situation in which *A* is true. Therefore the formula  $[\alpha]A$  means the same as the formula *True*  $\supset \{\alpha\}A$  in Hoare-type logic.

We consider sequents, i.e., formal expressions  $A_1, \ldots, A_k \to B_1, \ldots, B_m$ , where  $A_1, \ldots, A_k$   $(B_1, \ldots, B_m)$  is a multiset of formulas. A subformula (or some symbol) occurs *positively* in some formula *B* if it appears within the scope of an even number of the negation sign, once all the occurrences of  $A \supset C$  have been replaced by  $\neg A \lor C$ ; otherwise the subformula (symbol) occurs *negatively* in *B*. For a sequent  $S = A_1, \ldots, A_k \to B_1, \ldots, B_m$  positive and negative occurrences are determined just like for the formula  $\bigwedge_{i=1}^k A_i \supset \bigvee_{j=1}^m B_j$ . Let *G* be some sequent calculus and (*i*) be any inference rule of *G*. A rule (*i*) is

Let *G* be some sequent calculus and (*i*) be any inference rule of *G*. A rule (*i*) is applied to get the conclusion of (*i*) from the premises of (*i*). If rule (*i*) is backward applied, i.e., to get premises of (*i*) from the conclusion of (*i*) we have a "backward application of (*i*)" instead of "application of (*i*)". As usual, proof search in sequent calculi is implemented as a backward derivation, i.e., applying the rules backwards. Let *S* be a sequent, then the notation  $G \vdash^V S$  means that *S* is derivable in *G* and *V* is a derivation of *S* in *G*, i.e., a tree each branch of which ends with an axiom. Let  $G \vdash^V S$ , and *S* is the conclusion of a rule (*i*),  $S_j$  is any premise of (*i*). Then the rule (*i*) is *invertible* in *G*, if for all *j* there exists such a derivation  $V_j$  of  $S_j$  in *G* that  $G \vdash^{V_j} S_j$ . Let G + (j) means a calculus obtained from *G* by adding a rule (*j*). A rule (*j*) is *admissible* rule in *G*, if from  $G + (j) \vdash^V S$  follows that there exists  $V^*$  such that  $G \vdash^{V^*} S$ .

An initial sequent calculus *GDPDL* for considered *DPDL* is defined by the following postulates:

**Axiom:**  $\Gamma, A \rightarrow \Delta, A$ .

The formula A is called the *main formula* of the axiom.

#### Logical rules:

Traditional rules for logical connectives  $\supset$ ,  $\land$ ,  $\lor$ ,  $\neg$ . **Action rules:** 

Action rules:

$$\frac{\Gamma_1 \to \Gamma_2}{\Pi, [\gamma]\Gamma_1 \to \Delta, [\gamma]\Gamma_2} ([\gamma]),$$

where  $[\gamma]\Gamma_i$  ( $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ) is empty or consists of formulas of the shape  $[\gamma]A$ .

$$\frac{A, [\alpha][\alpha^*]A, \Gamma \to \Delta}{[\alpha^*]A, \Gamma \to \Delta} (* \to), \qquad \qquad \frac{\Gamma \to \Delta, I; \ I \to [\alpha]I; \ I \to A}{\Gamma \to \Delta, [\alpha^*]A} (\to *),$$

where the formula *I* (called an invariant formula) is constructed using formulas from the conclusion of the rule  $(\rightarrow *)$ . The rule  $(\rightarrow *)$  corresponds to the induction-like axiom  $A \land [\alpha^*](A \supset [\alpha]A) \supset [\alpha^*]A$ .

From [3], [4] it follows that the calculus GDPDL is sound and complete.

# 3. Elimination of loop-check for fragment of DPDL

In this section a *safety* fragment of *DPDL* is described and loop-check-free sequent calculus for this fragment is constructed.

A positive occurrence of action modality [Q] ( $Q \in \{\alpha^*, \gamma\}$ ) in a sequent *S* is a *special* one if it occurs within the scope of a negative occurrence of operator  $[\alpha^*]$ 

in S. A sequent S is a *safety* one if it does not contain special occurrences of action modality [Q].

For example, the sequent  $[\gamma^*][\gamma]P \to [\gamma^*][\gamma^*]P$  is safety but the sequent  $[\gamma^*]\neg[\gamma]P \to [\gamma^*][\gamma^*]P$  is not safety.

To eliminate mentioned in the introduction two type of loop-check let us introduce a *marked action modality*  $[\mathcal{Q}]^+$  (along with ordinary action modality  $[\mathcal{Q}]$ ) and *marked atomic formulas* of the shape  $P^+$  (along with non-marked ones). The marked action modality  $[\mathcal{Q}]^+$  and marked atomic formulas are used to define special final sequents which allow us to exclude loop checking.

The marking is defined inductively as follows:

 $(P^{\sigma})^+ = P^+$  where  $\sigma \in \{\emptyset, +\}$  and *P* is an atomic formula;  $(M \odot N)^+ = M^+ \odot N^+$  where  $\odot \in \{\land, \lor, \supset\}$ ;  $(\delta M)^+ = \delta M^+$  where  $\delta \in \{\neg, [\alpha^*]\}$ ;  $([\gamma]^{\sigma} M)^+ = [\gamma]^+ M^+$  where  $\sigma \in \{\emptyset, +\}$ .

The sequent *S* is *induction-like final* (*i-final*, in short) sequent if *S* has a shape  $\Sigma_1^+, [\gamma_1]^+\Gamma_1, \ldots, [\gamma_n]^+\Gamma_n, [\alpha_1^*]^+\Pi_1, \ldots, [\alpha_m^*]^+\Pi_m \to \Sigma_2^+, [\beta_1^*]^+\Delta_1, \ldots, [\beta_l^*]^+\Delta_l$ , where  $\Sigma_i^+$  ( $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ) is empty or consists of marked atomic formulas and  $\Sigma_1^+ \cap \Sigma_2^+ = \emptyset$ ;  $n \ge 0, m \ge 0, l > 0$ . The *i*-final sequents replace the induction type loops.

The sequent of the shape  $\Gamma \xrightarrow{r} \Delta$  (called *regular*) are used to distinguish between "induction-type" parts of derivation (i.e., the parts containing applications of the rule for positive occurrence of action modality  $[\alpha^*]$ ) and "non-induction-type" parts of derivation (i.e., the parts not containing applications of the mentioned rule).

The sequent *S* is *regular final* (*r-final*, in short) sequent if *S* has a shape  $\Sigma_1^{\sigma}, [\gamma_1]^+\Gamma_1, \ldots, [\gamma_n]^+\Gamma_n, [\gamma_{n+1}][\alpha_1^*]^+\Pi_1, \ldots, [\gamma_{n+m}][\alpha_m^*]^+\Pi_m \xrightarrow{r} \Sigma_2^{\sigma}$ , where  $\sigma \in \{\emptyset, +\}, \Sigma_1^{\sigma} \cap \Sigma_2^{\sigma} = \emptyset; n \ge 0, m \ge 0$ .

A loop-check-free calculus  $G_1 DPDL$  is obtained from the calculus GDPDL by the following transformations:

• The rule  $(* \rightarrow)$  is replaced by the following one:

$$\frac{A^+, [\alpha][\alpha^*]^+ A, \Gamma \xrightarrow{\lambda} \Delta}{[\alpha^*] A, \Gamma \xrightarrow{\lambda} \Delta} (*^+ \to)$$

where  $\lambda \in \{\emptyset, r\}$ ; in the conclusion of the rule the outmost action modality  $[\alpha^*]$  in the formula  $[\alpha^*]A$  is not marked.

• The rule  $(\rightarrow *)$  is replaced by the following one:

$$\frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{r} \Delta, A^+; \ \Gamma \to \Delta, [\alpha][\alpha^*]^+ A}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{\lambda} \Delta, [\alpha^*] A} \ (\to *^+),$$

where  $\lambda \in \{\emptyset, r\}$ ; in the conclusion of the rule the outmost action modality  $[\alpha^*]$  in the formula  $[\alpha^*]A$  is not marked. In spite of the conclusion of the rule is regular or not, the left premise always is a regular sequent, while the right premise is not a regular sequent. This rule is exactly one that *introduces the regular sequents*.

• The rule  $([\gamma])$  is replaced by the following two rules (for simplicity these rules are formulated with one action constant):

$$\frac{\Pi_1, [\alpha^*]\Gamma \xrightarrow{\lambda} \Pi_2, [\beta^*]\Delta}{\Sigma_1^{\sigma_1}, [\gamma]^{\mu} \Pi_1, [\gamma][\alpha^*]^+ \Gamma \xrightarrow{\lambda} \Sigma_2^{\sigma_2}, [\gamma] \Pi_2, [\gamma][\beta^*]^+ \Delta} ([\gamma]^-),$$

where  $\lambda \in \{\emptyset, r\}$  and the conclusion of the rule is not *r*-final sequent;  $\Sigma_1^{\sigma_1} \cap \Sigma_2^{\sigma_2}$  is empty,  $\sigma_i \in \{\emptyset, +\}, \mu \in \{\emptyset, +\}; [\gamma]^{\mu} \Pi_1 \cup [\gamma] \Pi_2$  is not empty, and if  $[\gamma] \Pi_2$  is empty then  $[\gamma]^{\mu} \Pi_1$  contains at least one formula different from  $[\gamma]^+ A$  where  $A \neq [\alpha^*] B$ . In special case, the conclusion of the rule does not contain marks.

$$\frac{\Pi, [\alpha^*]^+\Gamma \to [\beta^*]\Delta}{\Sigma_1, [\gamma]^+\Pi, [\gamma][\alpha^*]^+\Gamma \to \Sigma_2, [\gamma][\beta^*]^+\Delta} ([\gamma]^+)$$

where  $\Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2$  is empty.

• The sequent of the shape  $\Gamma, A^{\tau} \xrightarrow{\lambda} \Delta, A^{\sigma}$ , where  $\lambda \in \{\emptyset, r\}, \tau \in \{\emptyset, *\}, \sigma \in \{\emptyset, *\}$ , is a *logical axiom*.

• Any *i*-final sequent is *non-logical axiom*.

It is obvious that all rules of  $G_1 DPDL$  are invertible.

A derivation V of a sequent S in the calculus  $G_1PLTL$  is a *successful* one, if *each* branch of V ends with a logical axiom or *i*-final sequent. In this case a sequent S is derivable in  $G_1DPDL$ . A derivation V of S in the calculus  $G_1DPDL$  is an *unsuccessful* one if V contains a branch ending with a r-final sequent. In this case a sequent S is non-derivable.

An end-sequent of a derivation in calculus  $G_1 DPDL$  does not contain occurrences of marked modalities or marked atomic formulas. On the other hand, since *r*-final sequent is used as stopping device for non-derivability in  $G_1 DPDL$ , it is assumed that end-sequent of a derivation in calculus  $G_1 DPDL$  is regular sequent  $S_r$  of the shape  $\Gamma \xrightarrow{r} \Delta$ .

*Example 1.* (a) Let *S* be a sequent  $Q, P, [\gamma^*]A \rightarrow [\gamma^*]P$ , where  $A = (P \supset [\gamma]P)$ . Let us construct a derivation of *S* in  $G_1DPDL$ :

$$\frac{S^{*} = P^{+}, [\gamma^{*}]^{+}A \rightarrow [\gamma^{*}]^{+}P}{Q, P, [\gamma]^{+}P^{+}, [\gamma][\gamma^{*}]^{+}A \rightarrow [\gamma][\gamma^{*}]^{+}P} ([\gamma]^{+})} ([\gamma]^{+})}{Q, P, [\gamma^{*}](P \supset [\gamma]P)^{+}, [\gamma][\gamma^{*}]^{+}A \rightarrow [\gamma][\gamma^{*}]^{+}P} ([\gamma]^{+})} ([\gamma]^{+})} ([\gamma]^{+})} ([\gamma]^{+})} ([\gamma]^{+}) \rightarrow [\gamma][\gamma^{*}]^{+}P} ([\gamma]^{+}) \rightarrow [\gamma$$

Since  $S^*$  is *i*-final sequent  $G_1DPDL \vdash S_r$ .

(b) Let  $S = [\gamma^*][\gamma]P \rightarrow [\gamma]Q$ . Let us construct a derivation of *S* in *G*<sub>1</sub>*DPDL*:

$$\frac{S^* = P^+, [\gamma]^+ P^+, [\gamma][\gamma^*]^+[\gamma]P \xrightarrow{r} Q}{P^+, [\gamma^*]^+[\gamma]P \xrightarrow{r} Q} (*^+ \rightarrow)$$

$$\frac{P^+, [\gamma^*]^+[\gamma]P \xrightarrow{r} Q}{[\gamma]^+ P^+, [\gamma][\gamma^*]^+[\gamma]P \xrightarrow{r} [\gamma]Q} ([\gamma]^-)$$

$$\frac{[\gamma]^+ P^+, [\gamma][\gamma^*]^+[\gamma]P \xrightarrow{r} [\gamma]Q}{S_r = [\gamma^*][\gamma]P \xrightarrow{r} [\gamma]Q} (*^+ \rightarrow)$$

Since  $S^*$  is *r*-final sequent  $G_1 DPDL \nvDash S_r$ .

THEOREM 1. The calculus  $G_1 DPDL$  is loop-check-free, and  $GPLTL \vdash S$  if and only if  $G_1 PLTL \vdash S_r$  where S is a safety sequent.

# References

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# REZIUMĖ

# R. Pliuškevičius. Beciklis įrodymų baigtinumo tikrinimas dinaminės logikos fragmentui

Straipsnyje yra nagrinėjama determinuota propozicinė dinaminė logika. Sukonstruotas beciklis sekvencinis skaičiavimas šios logikos fragmentui. Ciklų tikrinimas yra pakeičiamas tam tikro pavidalo sekvencijomis.

*Raktiniai žodžiai*: propozicinė dinaminė logika, sekvencinis skaičiavimas, ciklų tikrinimas, apverčiama taisyklė.