

ECE 641  
Advanced Topics in Supervisory Control for  
Discrete Event Systems  
Lecture 9

Associate Prof. Dr. Klaus Schmidt

Department of Mechatronics Engineering – Çankaya University

PhD Course in Electronic and Communication Engineering  
Credits (3/0/3)

Course webpage: <http://ece641.cankaya.edu.tr/>

Klaus Schmidt

Department of Electronic and Communication Engineering – Çankaya University

## Strongly Connected Components: Subautomaton

### Definition (Subautomaton)

Let  $G = (X, \Sigma, \delta, x_0, X_m)$  and  $G' = (X', \Sigma, \delta', x'_0, X'_m)$  be finite state automata.  $G'$  is a *subautomaton* of  $G$ , denoted as  $G' \sqsubseteq G$  if either  $G'$  is the empty automaton ( $X' = \emptyset$ ), or  $X' \subseteq X$ , and for all  $x \in X'$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , it holds that  $\delta'(x, \sigma) \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \delta'(x, \sigma) = \delta(x, \sigma)$ .  $G'$  is a *strict subautomaton* of  $G$  if additionally  $\delta(x, \sigma) \in X' \Rightarrow \delta'(x, \sigma) = \delta(x, \sigma)$ .

### Remarks

- State set of  $G'$  is a subset of state set of  $G$
- Any transition of  $G'$  is also a transition of  $G$
- The subautomaton is strict if any state of  $G'$  has all possible transitions at the corresponding state in  $G$

Klaus Schmidt

Department of Electronic and Communication Engineering – Çankaya University

# Strongly Connected Components: Subautomaton

## Example

Gap 1

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# Strongly Connected Components: Definition

## Definition (SCC)

Let  $G = (X, \Sigma, \delta, x_0, X_m)$  be an automaton. A subautomaton  $G'$  of  $G$  with the states  $X' \subseteq X$  is called a strongly connected component (SCC) of  $G$  if for all state pairs  $x, x' \in X'$ , there is  $u, u' \in \Sigma^*$  s.t.  $\delta(x, u) = x'$  and  $\delta(x', u') = x$  and for all  $X'' \supset X'$ ,  $X''$  is not an SCC of  $G$ .

## Remarks

- In an SCC, it is possible to reach each state of the SCC from any other state of the SCC
- If one state is added to the SCC this property is no longer valid
- If an SCC consists of only one state, it is called a trivial SCC

## Algorithm

Tarjan, R. E. (1972), "Depth-first search and linear graph algorithms", SIAM Journal on Computing 1 (2): 146–160 (Complexity:  $O(|X| + |\delta|)$ )

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Department of Electronic and Communication Engineering – Çankaya University

## Strongly Connected Components: Definition

### Example

Gap 2

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## State Attraction: State-feedback Supervisor

### Definition (State-feedback Supervisor)

Assume that  $S$  is a supervisor for plant  $G$  and the uncontrollable events  $\Sigma_u$ .  $S$  is denoted as a *state-feedback supervisor* for  $G$  and  $\Sigma_u$  if it can be realized as a subautomaton of  $G$ , that is,  $S \sqsubseteq G$ .

### Example

Gap 3

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## State Attraction: Invariant Set

### Definition (Invariant Set)

Consider an automaton  $G = (X, \Sigma, \delta, x_0, X_m)$  and an uncontrollable event set  $\Sigma_u$ . We denote a subset  $X' \subseteq X$  as an *invariant set* in  $G$  if no transition from a state in  $X'$  leaves this set, that is,

$$\forall x \in X' \text{ and } \sigma \in \Sigma \text{ it holds that } \delta(x, \sigma) \neq ! \Rightarrow \delta(x, \sigma) \in X'$$

### Example

Gap 4

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## State Attraction: Strong Attractor

### Definition (Strong Attractor)

Let  $A \subseteq X' \subseteq X$  and assume that  $A, X'$  are invariant sets in  $G$ . Then,  $A$  is denoted as a *strong attractor* for  $X'$  in  $G$  if

- the strict subautomaton of  $G$  with the state set  $X' \setminus A$  is acyclic
- $\forall x \in X'$ , there is  $u \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $\delta(x, u) \in A$

Convergence time: longest path from any state  $x \in X'$  to the set  $A$ .

### Remarks

- There is no non-trivial SCC in  $X' \setminus A$   
 $\Rightarrow$  It is not possible to generate an arbitrarily long string outside  $A$   
 $\Rightarrow A$  is reached from any state in  $X'$  after a finite number of event occurrences
- Verification complexity:  $O(|X| + |\delta|)$

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## State Attraction: Strong Attractor

### Example

Gap 5

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## State Attraction: Weak Attractor

### Definition (Weak Attractor)

Let  $A \subseteq X' \subseteq X$  and assume that  $A, X'$  are invariant sets in  $G$ . Let  $\Sigma_u \subseteq \Sigma$  be a set of uncontrollable events.  $A$  is denoted as a *weak attractor* for  $X'$  in  $G$  if there exists a state-feedback supervisor  $S \sqsubseteq G$ , such that  $A$  is a strong attractor for  $X'$  in  $S$ .

### Example

Gap 6

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## State Attraction: Weak Attractor

### Uniqueness

- A state-feedback supervisor for weak attraction is not unique

### Example

Gap 7

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## State Attraction: Supremal Subset

### Lemma (Supremal Subset)

*There is a set  $\Omega_G(A) \subseteq X$ , that denotes the supremal subset of  $X$  such that  $A$  is a weak attractor for  $\Omega_G(A)$  in  $G$ .  $\Omega_G(A)$  can be computed with complexity  $\mathcal{O}(|X| \cdot |\Sigma|)$ .*

### Literature

- Introduction of state attraction  
Brave Y. and Heymann M. (1990), Stabilization of discrete-event processes, International Journal of Control, 51:1101–1117.  
C. M. Özveren, A. S. Willsky, and P. J. Antsaklis. (1991), Stability and stabilizability of discrete event dynamic systems. Journal of the Association of Computing Machinery 38(2), 729–751
- Algorithm  
Kumar R., Garg V. and Marcus S. I. (1993), Language stability and stabilizability of discrete event dynamical systems, SIAM Journal of Control and Optimization, 31:132–154.

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Department of Electronic and Communication Engineering – Çankaya University

## State Attraction: Supremal Subset Algorithm

### Input

- Automaton  $G = (X, \Sigma, \delta, x_0, X_m)$ , invariant set  $A$
- Uncontrollable events  $\Sigma_u$
- Attractive set  $\Omega = A$ , waiting set  $W = X \setminus A$

### Procedure

- Pick state  $w \in W$  such that for all  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  with  $\delta(w, \sigma)!$ 
  - either  $\delta(w, \sigma) \in \Omega$
  - or  $\sigma \notin \Sigma_u$
- Use  $\Omega = \Omega \cup \{w\}$  and  $W = W \setminus \{w\}$
- **terminate** if  $W = \emptyset$  or there is no more state in  $W$  that fulfills 1.  
 $\Rightarrow$  The result is  $\Omega_G(A) = \Omega$ .
- Otherwise go back to step 1.

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## State Attraction: Weak Attractor

### Example

Gap 8

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## State Attraction: Weak Attractor

### Example

Gap 9

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## State Attraction: Extensions

### Minimally Restrictive Optimal Supervisor for State Attraction

- $S$  is optimal in the sense that there is no supervisor  $S'$  with a faster convergence time.
- $S$  is minimally restrictive in the sense that, for any other supervisor  $S'$  with the same convergence time as  $S$ , it holds that  $S' \sqsubseteq S$ .

Brave Y. and Heymann M. (1993), On optimal attraction of discrete-event processes, *Information Sciences* 67:245–276.

### Language Convergence

- Converge to a specification  $K$  after a bounded convergence time.
- Kumar R., Garg V. and Marcus S. I. (1993), Language stability and stabilizability of discrete event dynamical systems, *SIAM Journal of Control and Optimization*, 31:132–154.
- Willner Y. and Heymann M. (1995), "Language convergence in controlled discrete-event systems," *Automatic Control, IEEE Transactions on*, 40(4):616–627.

Klaus Schmidt

Department of Electronic and Communication Engineering – Çankaya University