Computing Barriers of Ordinary Differential Equations

Stefan Ratschan

June 9, 2015

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What about verification?

William L. Oberkampf and Christopher J. Roy

Verification and Validation in Scientific Computing

One problem: over-approximation blows up despite sophisticated counter-measures (accumulation of wrapping effect)

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Why do we simulate differential equations?

General understanding of the system: classical numerical methods (if used carefully) are usually o.k.

Specific question: safety verification Does the system always stay in safe range? ... never reach an unsafe state?



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Classical numerical methods cannot exclude this



Interval methods will (often) blow up



any alternative?





Prajna [2003]



Can this be automatized?



Intuition: function V s.t.

- V is negative on Init, positive on Unsafe
- V decreases along the vector field on V = 0

Given:

- ▶ an *n*-dimensional ODE $\dot{x} = f(x)$, with
 - $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ a continuously differentiable function
- a box $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

Given:

- an *n*-dimensional ODE x

 f(x), with
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- Find: a function $V : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ (a barrier function) s.t.
 - $\forall x \in \text{Init} . V(x) \leq 0.$
 - $\forall x \in \mathsf{Unsafe} \ . \ V(x) \ge 0.$
 - ∀x ∈ B . V(x) = 0 ⇒ ∇_fV(x) < 0, where
 ∇_fV(x) denotes the directional derivative ∇V(x)^Tf(x) of
 V along the vector field f at point x.

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Problem: search space: all such functions

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How to reduce to finite-dimensional search space?

Intuition: parametric function, for example: $ax^2 + bxy + cy^2$.

Reduced Problem Formalization

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How to solve such a problem?

Solving Barrier Conditions

This is a quantified constraint:

$$\exists p \begin{bmatrix} \forall x \in \text{Init} . V(p, x) \leq 0 \land \\ \forall x \in \text{Unsafe} . V(p, x) \geq 0 \land \\ \forall x \in B . V(p, x) = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla_f V(p, x) < 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Theorem

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Problem: huge computational complexity

Interval Methods

Interval methods help: [Ratschan, 2006, Bouissou, Chapoutot, Djaballah, and Kieffer, 2014]

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- ▶ grid parameter values *p* (i.e., try different barrier functions)
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Problem: curse of dimensionality

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Parametrize $\{x \in B \mid V(p, x) = 0\} = \{\pi_p(t) \mid t \in [0, 1]^{n-1}\}$

Solve

$$\exists p orall t \in [0,1]^{n-1}$$
 . $abla_f V(p,\pi_p(t)) < 0$

$$\exists p \forall t \in [0,1]^{n-1}$$
. $\nabla_f V(p,\pi_p(t)) < 0$
Notation: $F(p,t) := \nabla_f V(p,\pi_p(t))$

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worst violation: given p, arg max_{$t \in [0,1]^{n-1}$} F(p, t)if $\frac{\partial F(p,t)}{\partial t}$ positive/negative on $[0,1]^{n-1}$, then on the boundary

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Prototype implementation: no experiments yet.

Conclusion

For analyzing ordinary differential equations one does not necessarily have to solve them.

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Advantage: interval methods without accumulation of wrapping effect More experiments and development needed ...

Literature I

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