



Inferring Temporal Properties of Finite-State Machines with Genetic Programming

Daniil Chivilikhin
PhD student
ITMO University

Ilya Ivanov
Undergrad student
ITMO University

Anatoly Shalyto
Dr. Sci., professor
ITMO University

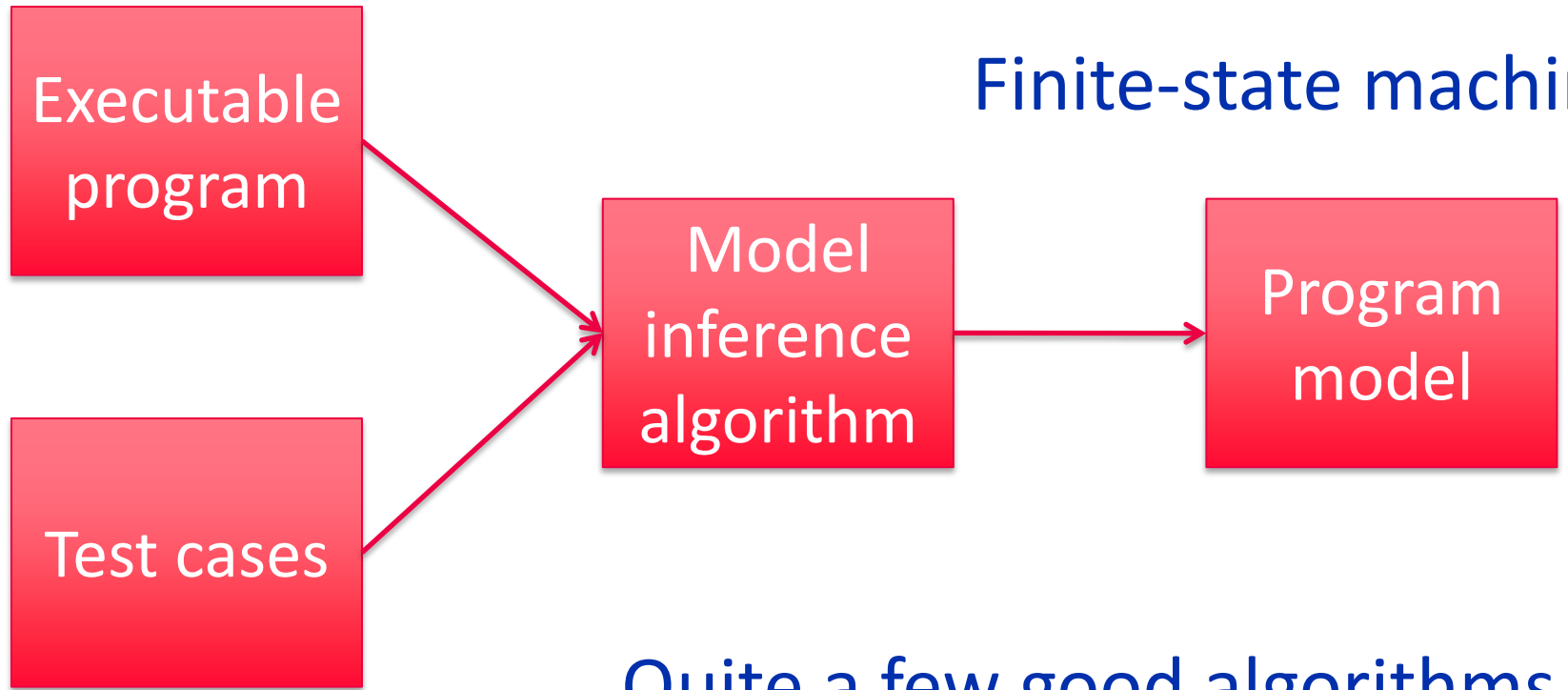
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Introduction

- ✓ Software models
- ✓ Not always created
- ✓ If created, not always kept up to date

Model inference



Finite-state machine

Quite a few good algorithms



Temporal logics

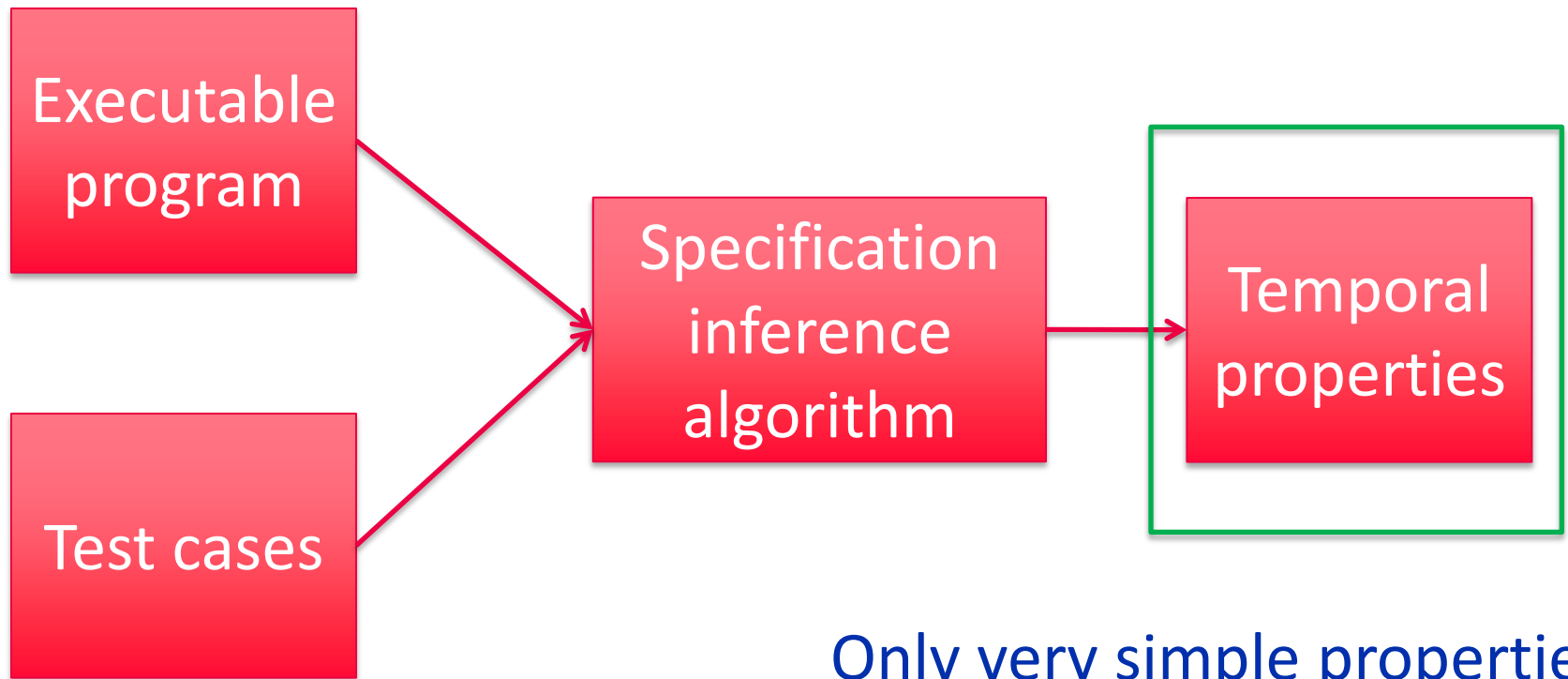
- ✓ Used to express time-related propositions
- ✓ In software verification: state requirements for software systems
- ✓ Example statement

“If a request is received, an answer is eventually generated”

Linear temporal logics

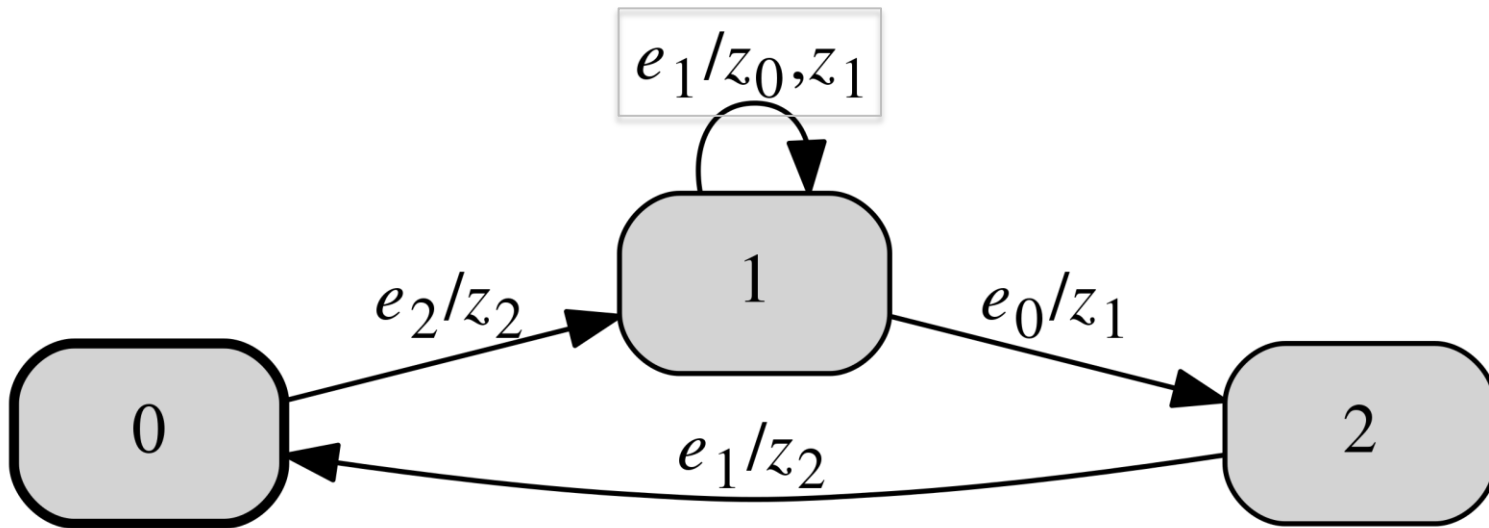
- ✓ Propositional variables: elementary statements
- ✓ Boolean logic operators: \vee , \wedge , \neg , \rightarrow
- ✓ Temporal operators
 - $X(f)$ – f has to hold in the next state
 - $F(f)$ – f has to hold in some state in the future
 - $G(f)$ – f has to hold for all states
 - $U(f, g)$ – f has to hold until g holds
 - ...

Specification inference



Only very simple properties

Finite-State Machines

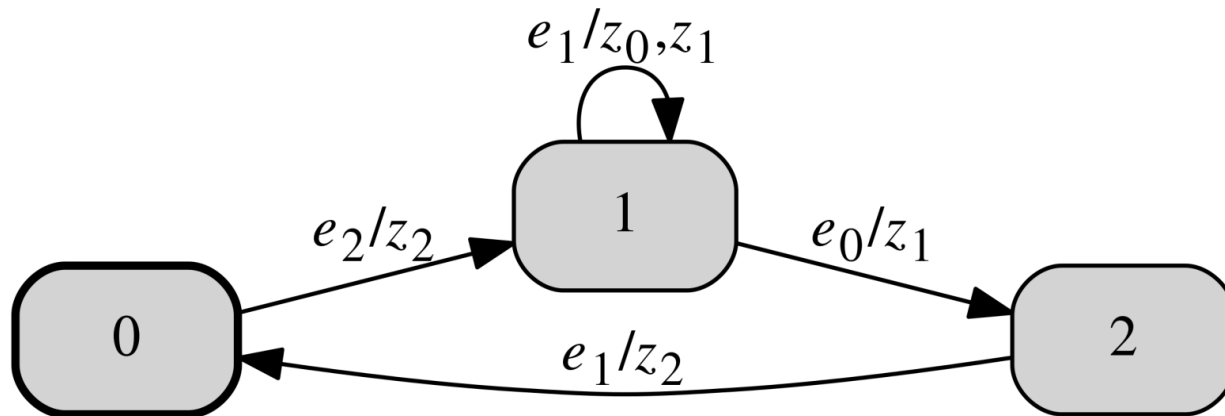


event \longrightarrow $e_1 / z_0, z_1$ \longleftarrow output actions

LTL for FSMs

Propositional variables

- ✓ $\text{wasEvent}(e)$ for all events e
- ✓ $\text{wasAction}(z)$ for all output actions z



$G (\text{wasEvent}(e_2) \rightarrow \text{wasAction}(z_2))$ 8



Problem statement

Find some non-trivial “interesting” LTL properties (formulas) of a given FSM

- All formulas **must** hold for input FSM
- Short formulas are better than long ones
- Should not hold for FSMs similar to the input FSM

Proposed approach

- ✓ Use Genetic Programming (GP)
- ✓ Evolve a population of LTL formulas
- ✓ **Express constraints using several fitness functions**
- ✓ Multiobjective optimization

Main challenge

- ✓ Design a set of fitness functions that result in proper LTL properties

FF #1: Formula must hold for input FSM

- ✓ Main search objective
- ✓ Use model checker to check formula f against FSM a

$$F_1(f) = r(a, f) = \frac{\text{number of verified transition s}}{\text{number of transition s}} \in [0, 1]$$



FF #2: Minimal formula weight

- ✓ Measure structural complexity of a formula
- ✓ Operators $O = \{V, \wedge, \neg, \rightarrow, X, F, U, R\}$
- ✓ Propositional variables

$S = \{\text{wasEvent}(e) \text{ for all } e \in E\} \cup \{\text{wasAction}(z) \text{ for all } z \in Z\}$

FF #2: Minimal formula weight (continued)

- ✓ Each operator and variable are assigned weight W
- ✓ $W(s) = w_s$ for $s \in S$
- ✓ $W(o(arg_1, [arg_2])) = w_o + W(arg_1) [+W(arg_2)]$

$$F_2(f) = \frac{1}{W(f)} \in [0, 1]$$

FF #3: Random FSMs

- ✓ Idea: if a large number of randomly generated FSMs satisfy an LTL formula, it is meaningless
- ✓ Generate a number of random FSMs with the same interface as the input FSM $a_1, \dots, a_{N_{\text{sample}}}$

$$F_3(f) = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{sample}}} r(a_i, f)^2}$$

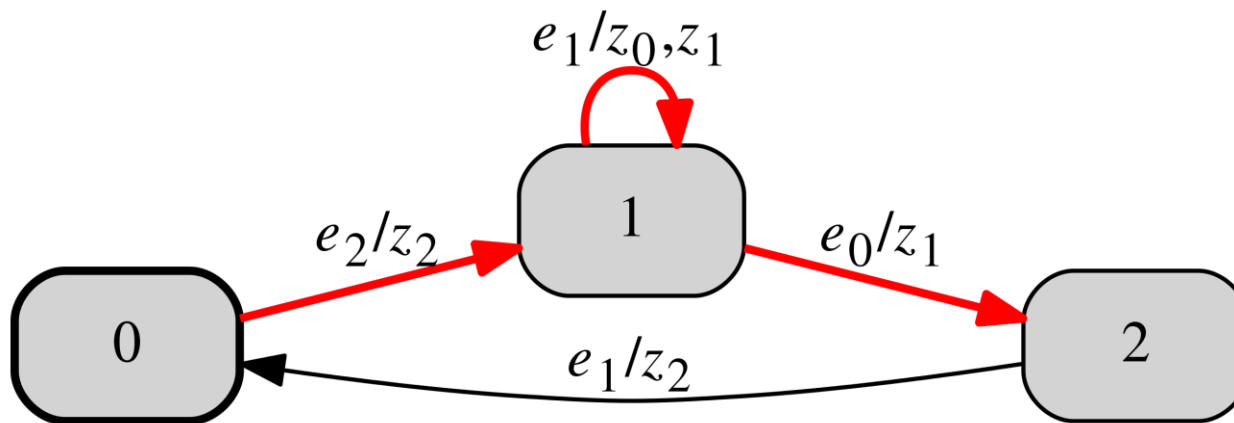
FF #4: Mutants of input FSM

- ✓ Idea: if a formula is not violated by a small change in the FSM, it is not so “interesting”
- ✓ Generate random mutants of the input FSM $m_1, \dots, m_{N_{\text{sample}}}$
- ✓ Mutation operators
 - Change transition end state
 - Add/delete transitions

$$F_4(f) = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{sample}}} r(m_i, f)^2}$$

FF #5: FSM constructed from scenarios

- ✓ A scenario is a finite path in an FSM



- ✓ Example: $\langle e_2, (z_2) \rangle; \langle e_2, (z_0, z_1) \rangle; \langle e_0, (z_1) \rangle$

FF #5: FSM constructed from scenarios (continued)

- ✓ Derive random scenarios of fixed length from input FSM α
- ✓ Use fast exact algorithm to construct an FSM α^* from scenarios
- ✓ Note: α^* probably differs from α
- ✓ Note: not all formulas that are true for α are true for α^*

$$F_5 (f) = 1 - r (\alpha^* , f)$$

FF #6: Mutants of FSM constructed from scenarios

- ✓ Same as FF #4, but mutants are generated from the FSM constructed from scenarios



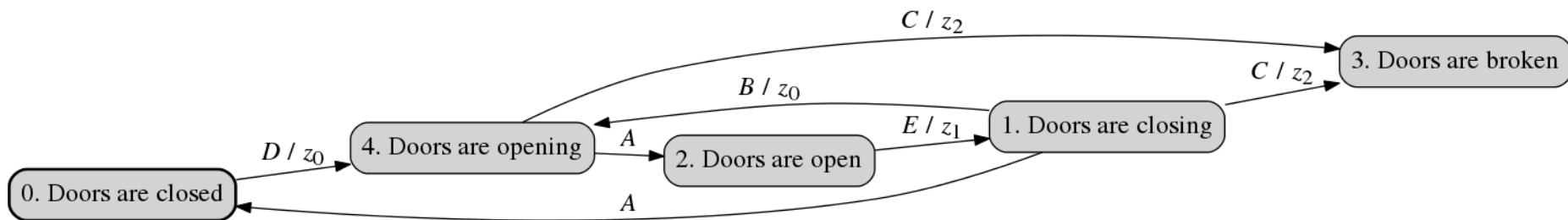
Implementation

- ✓ ECJ library used for EA implementation
- ✓ Multiobjective EAs: NSGA-II and SPEA2
- ✓ Standard GP operators

<https://cs.gmu.edu/~eclab/projects/ecj/>

Experiments

- ✓ Case study: Elevator doors control FSM
- ✓ Input events: A, B, C, D, E
- ✓ Output actions: z_1, z_2, z_3
- ✓ 17 manually created LTL formulas



Original LTL properties

$$G(\text{wasEvent}(D) \rightarrow \text{wasAction}(z_0))$$
$$G(\text{wasEvent}(E) \leftrightarrow \text{wasAction}(z_1))$$
$$G(\text{wasEvent}(C) \leftrightarrow \text{wasAction}(z_2))$$
$$G(\text{wasEvent}(B) \rightarrow \text{wasAction}(z_0))$$
$$G(\text{wasEvent}(A) \rightarrow X(\text{wasEvent}(D) \vee \text{wasEvent}(E)))$$
$$G(\text{wasEvent}(D) \rightarrow X(\text{wasEvent}(A) \vee \text{wasEvent}(C)))$$
$$G(\text{wasAction}(z_0) \rightarrow X(\text{wasEvent}(A) \vee \text{wasEvent}(C)))$$

Experiments goal

- ✓ Goal: infer formulas similar to manually created ones
- ✓ But how do we measure the quality of inferred formulas?
- ✓ Introduced two empirical metrics
 - Coverage metric
 - Mutants metric

Coverage metric

- ✓ $\{f_{\text{old}}\}$ – original manually created formulas
 - ✓ $\{f_{\text{new}}\}$ – inferred formulas
1. Derive scenarios from original FSM a
 2. Model inference: build FSM a' from scenarios *and* $\{f_{\text{new}}\}$
 3. Metric: how many formulas from $\{f_{\text{old}}\}$ does a' satisfy?

$$c_{\text{cover}} = \frac{\sum_{f \in \{f_{\text{old}}\}} r(a', f)}{|\{f_{\text{old}}\}|}$$

- ✓ $\{f_{\text{old}}\}$ – original manually created formulas
- ✓ $\{f_{\text{new}}\}$ – inferred formulas

Mutants metric

1. Generate $M' \leq 1000$ different mutants of original FSM a
2. Ratio of mutants that violate at least one formula from $\{f_{\text{old}}\}$

$$n_{\text{unsat}}^{\text{old}} = \frac{1}{M'} \sum_{i=1}^{M'} \left(1 - \min_{f \in \{f_{\text{old}}\}} \lfloor r(m_i, f) \rfloor \right)$$

3. Metric:

$$c_{\text{mut}} = \frac{n_{\text{unsat}}^{\text{new}}}{n_{\text{unsat}}^{\text{old}}}$$



Experimental setup

- ✓ Tried both NSGA-II and SPEA2
- ✓ EAs run for 50 generations
- ✓ Population size = 500
- ✓ Result of experiment: all formulas in Pareto front
- ✓ Each experiment repeated 20 times
- ✓ FF_1 and FF_2 in all experiments, all combinations of the rest

Experimental data

№	F_3	F_4	F_5	F_6	$100 \cdot c_{\text{cover}}, \%$	$100 \cdot c_{\text{mut}}, \%$	Time, s.
1	-	-	-	-	44.1 / 44.1	53.4 / 38.5	60 / 14
2	-	-	-	+	64.7 / 58.8	49.6 / 36.6	170 / 78
3	-	-	+	-	73.5 / 70.6	65.3 / 58.0	133 / 84
4	-	-	+	+	88.2 / 88.2	77.5 / 83.6	521 / 2493
5	-	+	-	-	58.8 / 58.8	55.3 / 49.2	152 / 159
6	-	+	-	+	73.5 / 79.4	71.0 / 74.0	889 / 2898
7	-	+	+	-	88.2 / 79.4	78.6 / 79.4	579 / 2197
8	-	+	+	+	88.2 / 88.2	83.2 / 86.4	1894 / 4618
9	+	-	-	-	53.0 / 61.8	42.4 / 42.0	64 / 17
10	+	-	-	+	67.6 / 64.7	44.7 / 46.6	158 / 108
11	+	-	+	-	88.2 / 82.4	71.4 / 69.5	141 / 211
12	+	-	+	+	88.2 / 88.2	77.5 / 80.9	632 / 2025
13	+	+	-	-	67.6 / 58.8	66.4 / 56.9	236 / 195
14	+	+	-	+	64.7 / 79.4	71.0 / 69.1	796 / 2259
15	+	+	+	-	88.2 / 88.2	87.8 / 85.5	876 / 1775
16	+	+	+	+	88.2 / 82.4	84.0 / 83.6	1618 / 4724



Experimental results

- ✓ NSGA-II and SPEA2 yield similar formula quality
- ✓ SPEA2 is much faster than NSGA-II
- ✓ Config #8 = {all but FF_3 } is best for NSGA-II
- ✓ Config #15 = {all but FF_6 } is best for SPEA2
- ✓ Significance validated using Wilcoxon signed-rank test

Varying other parameters

- ✓ Use SPEA2 with config #15
- ✓ Varied population size from 100 to 1000

Pop size	100	250	500	1000
$100 \cdot c_{\text{learn}}, \%$	23	86	86	86
$100 \cdot c_{\text{mut}}, \%$	13	79	96	96

- ✓ Change number of generations from 25 to 200
 - No significant changes

Larger example

- ✓ ATM control FSM
- ✓ 12 states
- ✓ 14 events
- ✓ 13 output actions
- ✓ 30 LTL formulas
- ✓ Mutants metric: $100 \cdot c_{\text{mut}} = 65 \%$
- ✓ Coverage metric: infeasible



Results

- ✓ Proposed GP-based approach for inferring LTL properties of FSMs
- ✓ Feasibility demonstrated on two examples using two empirical quality metrics
- ✓ Approach is able to infer up to 100 % of human-written LTL formulas

Future work

- ✓ Couple with existing model inference algorithms

Acknowledgements

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ITMO UNIVERSITY

Thank you for your attention!

Daniil Chivilikhin
Ilya Ivanov
Anatoly Shalyto
chivdan@rain.ifmo.ru