Learning From Families

Inferring Behavioral Variability From Software Product Lines

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December 3rd 2019

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Context



Figure: In software product lines (SPL), software variants are developed simultaneously from a common set of reusable assets

Context - Family models



Figure: A family model unifies multiple state machines of a product-line into a single model where states and transitions are annotated with feature constraints ³

³e.g., featured finite state machine - FFSM (Fragal et al., 2017)

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- Family-based analysis (e.g., model-based testing ⁴ and model checking ⁵)
 Cost as a function of the number of features and amount of feature sharing
 Redundant analysis are avoided/minimised
 Creation and maintenance of family and product models are challenging
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 Outdated models may arise as products evolve



Investigate approaches to support the automated construction of family models from SPLs

RQ1) How can we effectively infer product models from evolving system?

Model Learning



Figure: The Minimally Adequate Teacher (MAT) framework (Angluin, 1987)

Model Learning



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Figure: Initial Hypothesis

		rain	swItv
S	ϵ	0	1
S.I	rain	0	1
5.1	swItv	1	0

Table: Initial observation table (OT)



Figure: First Hypothesis

		rain	swItv
S	ϵ	0	1
S.I	rain	0	1
3.1	swItv	1	0

Table: First observation table



Figure: Second Hypothesis

		rain	swItv
S	ϵ	0	1
	swItv	1	0
S · 1	rain	0	1
	$swItv \cdot rain$	0	1
	$swItv \cdot swItv$	0	1

Table: Second observation table



Figure: Second Hypothesis

		rain	swItv
S	ϵ	0	1
	swItv	1	0
S · 1	rain	0	1
	$swItv \cdot rain$	0	1
	$swItv \cdot swItv$	0	1

Table: Second observation table ($\mathcal{H} \neq SUL$)

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathtt{EQ} = \mathtt{swItv} \cdot \mathtt{rain} \cdot \frac{\mathit{rain} \cdot \mathit{rain}}{1 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{1 \cdot 1}{2}} \neq 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{0 \cdot 1}{0 \cdot 1} \end{array}$$



Figure: Mealy machine of a windscreen wiper supporting intervaled and fast wiping

		rain	swItv	$\texttt{rain} \cdot \texttt{rain}$
5	ϵ	0	1	0 · 0
	swItv	1	0	$1 \cdot 0$
	$swItv \cdot rain$	0	1	$0 \cdot 1$
5 · 1	rain	0	1	0 · 0
	$swItv \cdot swItv$	0	1	0 · 0
	$swItv \cdot rain \cdot rain$	1	0	$1 \cdot 0$
	$swItv \cdot rain \cdot swItv$	0	1	$0 \cdot 1$

Table: Final OT

What if our SUL evolves?

- Reuse transfer and/or separating sequences from pre-existing models
 - ▶ Reduce the time for model checking (Groce et al., 2002; Chaki et al., 2008)
 - ▶ Find states maintained in newer versions (Windmüller et al., 2013)

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 - Reuse low quality sequences \rightarrow Irrelevant MQs (Huistra et al., 2018)
 - How can we calculate good-quality subsets of sequences?

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The partial-Dynamic L_{M}^{\ast} algorithm 6



⁶Accepted at the iFM 2019 (Damasceno et al., 2019b) - Thu @ 10:30 - Aud 1

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Step 1: On-the-fly exploration of the reused OT



Figure: The partial-Dynamic L_{M}^{*} algorithm starts by exploring reused OTs on-the-fly to discard *redundant* transfer sequences ⁷

⁷Improvement #1: We optimized Chaki et al. (2008)

Step 2: Building an experiment cover tree



Figure: The partial-Dynamic L_{M}^{*} algorithm searches for *deprecated* separating sequences ⁸

⁸Improvement #2: We used breadth-first search to minimize the set of separating sequences

Step 3: Running L_M^* using the outcomes of partial-Dynamic L_M^*



Figure: The L^{*}_M algorithm starts by reusing transfer and separating sequences to reach and distinguish more states than in the traditional setup (i.e., initial state only) ⁹

⁹Improvement #3: We use the subsets of reused sequences as the initial setup for model learning

partial-Dynamic $L_{\tt M}^*$ - Empirical evaluation



Figure: OpenSSL toolkit: 18 FSMs versions used as SUL (de Ruiter, 2016)

partial-Dynamic $L_{\tt M}^*$ - Main findings



Figure: Our technique required less MQs

partial-Dynamic $L_{\tt M}^*$ - Main findings



Figure: Our technique was not influenced by the temporal distance between versions

RQ2) How can we merge state machines into family models?

The *FFSM*_{Diff} algorithm¹⁰



Figure: An automated technique to learn fresh FFSM and include new FSMs into existing FFSMs by comparing products models and incorporating variability to express product-specific behaviors with feature constraints

 $^{^{10}\}mathrm{This}$ paper has been published at the SPLC 2019 (Damasceno et al., 2019a)

The *FFSM*_{Diff} algorithm - Main findings



Figure: Product models can be effectively merged into succinct FFSMs, especially if there is high feature sharing

The FFSM_{Diff} algorithm - Main findings



Figure: Alternative FFSM for AGM with fewer states (Fragal, 2017)

The FFSM_{Diff} algorithm - Main findings



Figure: Alternative FFSM for AGM with fewer states (Fragal, 2017)

RQ3) Family model learning (Optimization)

Family model learning (Optimization)



Figure: Family Model Learning

Family model learning (Optimization)

• Replace traditional FSMs by partial family models

- **Expected result:** reduction on the number of queries
- Current issue:
 - Lack of FSMs large and complex enough for family model learning

Summary



Figure: Summary

Future work



Figure: Future work

Questions?

https://damascenodiego.github.io/projects/











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