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# Hana Chockler · Georg Weissenbacher (Eds.)

# Computer Aided Verification

30th International Conference, CAV 2018 Held as Part of the Federated Logic Conference, FloC 2018 Oxford, UK, July 14–17, 2018 Proceedings, Part I



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#### **Preface**

It was our privilege to serve as the program chairs for CAV 2018, the 30th International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification. CAV is an annual conference dedicated to the advancement of the theory and practice of computer-aided formal analysis methods for hardware and software systems. CAV 2018 was held in Oxford, UK, July 14–17, 2018, with the tutorials day on July 13.

This year, CAV was held as part of the Federated Logic Conference (FLoC) event and was collocated with many other conferences in logic. The primary focus of CAV is to spur advances in hardware and software verification while expanding to new domains such as learning, autonomous systems, and computer security. CAV is at the cutting edge of research in formal methods, as reflected in this year's program.

CAV 2018 covered a wide spectrum of subjects, from theoretical results to concrete applications, including papers on application of formal methods in large-scale industrial settings. It has always been one of the primary interests of CAV to include papers that describe practical verification tools and solutions and techniques that ensure a high practical appeal of the results. The proceedings of the conference are published in Springer's Lecture Notes in Computer Science series. A selection of papers were invited to a special issue of Formal Methods in System Design and the Journal of the ACM.

This is the first year that the CAV proceedings are published under an Open Access license, thus giving access to CAV proceedings to a broad audience. We hope that this decision will increase the scope of practical applications of formal methods and will attract even more interest from industry.

CAV received a very high number of submissions this year—215 overall—resulting in a highly competitive selection process. We accepted 13 tool papers and 52 regular papers, which amounts to an acceptance rate of roughly 30% (for both regular papers and tool papers). The high number of excellent submissions in combination with the scheduling constraints of FLoC forced us to reduce the length of the talks to 15 minutes, giving equal exposure and weight to regular papers and tool papers.

The accepted papers cover a wide range of topics and techniques, from algorithmic and logical foundations of verification to practical applications in distributed, networked, cyber-physical, and autonomous systems. Other notable topics are synthesis, learning, security, and concurrency in the context of formal methods. The proceedings are organized according to the sessions in the conference.

The program featured two invited talks by Eran Yahav (Technion), on using deep learning for programming, and by Somesh Jha (University of Wisconsin Madison) on adversarial deep learning. The invited talks this year reflect the growing interest of the CAV community in deep learning and its connection to formal methods. The tutorial day of CAV featured two invited tutorials, by Shaz Qadeer on verification of concurrent programs and by Matteo Maffei on static analysis of smart contracts. The subjects of the tutorials reflect the increasing volume of research on verification of

concurrent software and, as of recently, the question of correctness of smart contracts. As every year, one of the winners of the CAV award also contributed a presentation. The tutorial day featured a workshop in memoriam of Mike Gordon, titled "Three Research Vignettes in Memory of Mike Gordon," organized by Tom Melham and jointly supported by CAV and ITP communities.

Moreover, we continued the tradition of organizing a LogicLounge. Initiated by the late Helmut Veith at the Vienna Summer of Logic 2014, the LogicLounge is a series of discussions on computer science topics targeting a general audience and has become a regular highlight at CAV. This year's LogicLounge took place at the Oxford Union and was on the topic of "Ethics and Morality of Robotics," moderated by Judy Wajcman and featuring a panel of experts on the topic: Luciano Floridi, Ben Kuipers, Francesca Rossi, Matthias Scheutz, Sandra Wachter, and Jeannette Wing. We thank May Chan, Katherine Fletcher, and Marta Kwiatkowska for organizing this event, and the Vienna Center of Logic and Algorithms for their support.

In addition, CAV attendees enjoyed a number of FLoC plenary talks and events targeting the broad FLoC community.

In addition to the main conference, CAV hosted the Verification Mentoring Workshop for junior scientists entering the field and a high number of pre- and post-conference technical workshops: the Workshop on Formal Reasoning in Distributed Algorithms (FRIDA), the workshop on Runtime Verification for Rigorous Systems Engineering (RV4RISE), the 5th Workshop on Horn Clauses for Verification and Synthesis (HCVS), the 7th Workshop on Synthesis (SYNT), the First International Workshop on Parallel Logical Reasoning (PLR), the 10th Working Conference on Verified Software: Theories, Tools and Experiments (VSTTE), the Workshop on Machine Learning for Programming (MLP), the 11th International Workshop on Numerical Software Verification (NSV), the Workshop on Verification of Engineered Molecular Devices and Programs (VEMDP), the Third Workshop on Fun With Formal Methods (FWFM), the Workshop on Robots, Morality, and Trust through the Verification Lens, and the IFAC Conference on Analysis and Design of Hybrid Systems (ADHS).

The Program Committee (PC) for CAV consisted of 80 members; we kept the number large to ensure each PC member would have a reasonable number of papers to review and be able to provide thorough reviews. As the review process for CAV is double-blind, we kept the number of external reviewers to a minimum, to avoid accidental disclosures and conflicts of interest. Altogether, the reviewers drafted over 860 reviews and made an enormous effort to ensure a high-quality program. Following the tradition of CAV in recent years, the artifact evaluation was mandatory for tool submissions and optional but encouraged for regular submissions. We used an Artifact Evaluation Committee of 25 members. Our goal for artifact evaluation was to provide friendly "beta-testing" to tool developers; we recognize that developing a stable tool on a cutting-edge research topic is certainly not easy and we hope the constructive comments provided by the Artifact Evaluation Committee (AEC) were of help to the developers. As a result of the evaluation, the AEC accepted 25 of 31 artifacts accompanying regular papers; moreover, all 13 accepted tool papers passed the evaluation. We are grateful to the reviewers for their outstanding efforts in making sure each paper was fairly assessed. We would like to thank our artifact evaluation chair, Igor Konnov, and the AEC for evaluating all artifacts submitted with tool papers as well as optional artifacts submitted with regular papers.

Of course, without the tremendous effort put into the review process by our PC members this conference would not have been possible. We would like to thank the PC members for their effort and thorough reviews.

We would like to thank the FLoC chairs, Moshe Vardi, Daniel Kroening, and Marta Kwiatkowska, for the support provided, Thanh Hai Tran for maintaining the CAV website, and the always helpful Steering Committee members Orna Grumberg, Aarti Gupta, Daniel Kroening, and Kenneth McMillan. Finally, we would like to thank the team at the University of Oxford, who took care of the administration and organization of FLoC, thus making our jobs as CAV chairs much easier.

July 2018

Hana Chockler Georg Weissenbacher

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# **Contents – Part I**

Invited Papers	
Semantic Adversarial Deep Learning	3
From Programs to Interpretable Deep Models and Back	27
Formal Reasoning About the Security of Amazon Web Services  Byron Cook	38
Tutorials	
Foundations and Tools for the Static Analysis of Ethereum Smart Contracts  Ilya Grishchenko, Matteo Maffei, and Clara Schneidewind	51
Layered Concurrent Programs  Bernhard Kragl and Shaz Qadeer	79
Model Checking	
Propositional Dynamic Logic for Higher-Order Functional Programs Yuki Satake and Hiroshi Unno	105
Syntax-Guided Termination Analysis	124
Model Checking Quantitative Hyperproperties	144
Exploiting Synchrony and Symmetry in Relational Verification Lauren Pick, Grigory Fedyukovich, and Aarti Gupta	164
JBMC: A Bounded Model Checking Tool for Verifying Java Bytecode  Lucas Cordeiro, Pascal Kesseli, Daniel Kroening, Peter Schrammel, and Marek Trtik	183
Eager Abstraction for Symbolic Model Checking	191

### Program Analysis Using Polyhedra Fast Numerical Program Analysis with Reinforcement Learning . . . . . . . . 211 Gagandeep Singh, Markus Püschel, and Martin Vechev 230 Anna Becchi and Enea Zaffanella **Synthesis** What's Hard About Boolean Functional Synthesis?..... 251 S. Akshay, Supratik Chakraborty, Shubham Goel, Sumith Kulal, and Shetal Shah Counterexample Guided Inductive Synthesis Modulo Theories . . . . . . . . . 270 Alessandro Abate, Cristina David, Pascal Kesseli, Daniel Kroening, and Elizabeth Polgreen 289 Bernd Finkbeiner, Christopher Hahn, Philip Lukert, Marvin Stenger, and Leander Tentrup Reactive Control Improvisation..... 307 Daniel J. Fremont and Sanjit A. Seshia Constraint-Based Synthesis of Coupling Proofs...... 327 Aws Albarghouthi and Justin Hsu Controller Synthesis Made Real: Reach-Avoid Specifications 347 Chuchu Fan, Umang Mathur, Sayan Mitra, and Mahesh Viswanathan Synthesis of Asynchronous Reactive Programs 367 Suguman Bansal, Kedar S. Namjoshi, and Yaniv Sa'ar Syntax-Guided Synthesis with Quantitative Syntactic Objectives . . . . . . . . . 386 Qinheping Hu and Loris D'Antoni Learning 407 Xinyu Wang, Greg Anderson, Isil Dillig, and K. L. McMillan The Learnability of Symbolic Automata....... 427

George Argyros and Loris D'Antoni

Runtime Verification, Hybrid and Timed Systems	
Reachable Set Over-Approximation for Nonlinear Systems Using Piecewise Barrier Tubes	449
Space-Time Interpolants	468
Monitoring Weak Consistency	487
Monitoring CTMCs by Multi-clock Timed Automata	507
Start Pruning When Time Gets Urgent: Partial Order Reduction for Timed Systems	527
A Counting Semantics for Monitoring LTL Specifications over Finite Traces	547
Tools	
Rabinizer 4: From LTL to Your Favourite Deterministic Automaton Jan Křetínský, Tobias Meggendorfer, Salomon Sickert, and Christopher Ziegler	567
Strix: Explicit Reactive Synthesis Strikes Back!	578
Btor2, BtorMC and Boolector 3.0	587
Nagini: A Static Verifier for Python	596
Peregrine: A Tool for the Analysis of Population Protocols	604
ADAC: Automated Design of Approximate Circuits	612

## XVI Contents - Part I

## **Probabilistic Systems**

Value Iteration for Simple Stochastic Games: Stopping Criterion	
and Learning Algorithm	623
Edon Kelmendi, Julia Krämer, Jan Křetínský,	
and Maximilian Weininger	
Sound Value Iteration	643
Tim Quatmann and Joost-Pieter Katoen	
Safety-Aware Apprenticeship Learning	662
Weichao Zhou and Wenchao Li	
Deciding Probabilistic Bisimilarity Distance One for Labelled	
Markov Chains	681
Qiyi Tang and Franck van Breugel	
Author Index	701

# **Contents - Part II**

<b>Tools</b>
--------------

Let this Graph Be Your Witness! An Attestor for Verifying Java  Pointer Programs	3
MaxSMT-Based Type Inference for Python 3	12
The JKIND Model Checker	20
The DEEPSEC Prover	28
SimpleCAR: An Efficient Bug-Finding Tool Based on Approximate Reachability	37
StringFuzz: A Fuzzer for String Solvers	45
Static Analysis	
Permission Inference for Array Programs	55
Program Analysis Is Harder Than Verification:  A Computability Perspective	75
Theory and Security	
Automata vs Linear-Programming Discounted-Sum Inclusion	99

Model Checking Indistinguishability of Randomized Security Protocols  Matthew S. Bauer, Rohit Chadha, A. Prasad Sistla,  and Mahesh Viswanathan	11/
Lazy Self-composition for Security Verification	136
SCINFER: Refinement-Based Verification of Software Countermeasures Against Side-Channel Attacks	157
Symbolic Algorithms for Graphs and Markov Decision Processes with Fairness Objectives	178
Attracting Tangles to Solve Parity Games	198
SAT, SMT and Decision Procedures	
Delta-Decision Procedures for Exists-Forall Problems over the Reals  Soonho Kong, Armando Solar-Lezama, and Sicun Gao	219
Solving Quantified Bit-Vectors Using Invertibility Conditions	236
Understanding and Extending Incremental Determinization for 2QBF Markus N. Rabe, Leander Tentrup, Cameron Rasmussen, and Sanjit A. Seshia	256
The Proof Complexity of SMT Solvers	275
Model Generation for Quantified Formulas: A Taint-Based Approach Benjamin Farinier, Sébastien Bardin, Richard Bonichon, and Marie-Laure Potet	294
Concurrency	
Partial Order Aware Concurrency Sampling	317
Reasoning About TSO Programs Using Reduction and Abstraction	336

Contents – Part II	XI
Quasi-Optimal Partial Order Reduction	35
On the Completeness of Verifying Message Passing Programs Under Bounded Asynchrony	37
Constrained Dynamic Partial Order Reduction	39
CPS, Hardware, Industrial Applications	
Formal Verification of a Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) Messaging System Mark Tullsen, Lee Pike, Nathan Collins, and Aaron Tomb	4
Continuous Formal Verification of Amazon s2n	4
Symbolic Liveness Analysis of Real-World Software	4
Model Checking Boot Code from AWS Data Centers	4
Android Stack Machine	4
Formally Verified Montgomery Multiplication	. 50
Inner and Outer Approximating Flowpipes for Delay Differential Equations Eric Goubault, Sylvie Putot, and Lorenz Sahlmann	. 52
Author Index	54