Verifying Railway Interlockings Using SCADE

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A project in cooperation with Invensys Rail UK.

Overview:

- SCADE
- Pelican Crossing: to demonstrate modelling and use of *SCADE*'s model checking capabilities.
- Case Study: A Real Interlocking.
- Project programme.

In this talk we will concentrate on *SCADE* and its application, rather than on the underlying theory and techniques.

The following presents the progress since the start of the project in November.

Railway engineers use a programming language called Ladder Logic:

- A graphical language for programming logic controllers.
- Part of the IEC 61131 standard.
- Sequentially executed
- The subset used here is similar to propositional logic.

The three main stages in an execution cycle of an interlocking are:

- Reading of Inputs
- Internal Processing
- Committing of Outputs

Railway Interlockings and Ladder Logic

Control System

Railway System

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Railway Interlockings and Ladder Logic



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Railway Interlockings and Ladder Logic



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The *SCADE* Suite by Esterel Technologies is a IDE for developing safety critical embedded systems.

SCADE moto: Design, Verify, Generate.

Certified compiler: EN 50128 Software for railways and protection systems.

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Verification Techniques applied in SCADE.

- Bounded model checking.
- Induction over time.

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The following techniques are applied in *SCADE*'s built in model checker in order to decide the Satisfiability of formulas:

- Stålmarck's saturation method.
- Davis-Putman-Loveland-Logemann.
- Reduced ordered binary decision diagrams.

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It consists of 4 two aspect lights that control the flow of pedestrians and traffic and a button for pedestrians that indicates that a pedestrian would like to cross the flow of traffic.

- 1 input variable "pressed".
- 2 variables representing an internal state: "crossing" and "required"
- 8 variables representing some external state, 2 variables for each of the 4 lights: "tlag", "tlar", ... "plag", "plar",

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Pelican Crossing Ladder Logic 1



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Pelican Crossing Ladder Logic 2



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- pre The pre operator allows us to access the value of a variable used in the previous cycle of a ladder logic program.
- -> The -> operator allows us to express that a variable has a certain value in the initial cycle of a ladder logic program as well as what it subsequent values depend on.

Example:

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Ladder Logic:



SCADE Language:

req = false -> pressed and (not pre req);

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```
let
crossing = false -> pre req and (not (pre crossing));
req = false -> (not pre req) and pressed;
tlag = false -> ((not pressed) or req) and (not crossing);
tlbg = false -> ((not pressed) or req) and (not crossing);
tlar = true -> crossing;
tlbr = true -> crossing;
plag = false -> crossing;
plbg = false -> crossing;
plar = true -> not crossing;
plbr = true -> not crossing;
tel
```

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A safety condition for the pelican crossing:

```
safelights = true -> (tlag xor plag)
```

It should be the case that either a green light is showing for the traffic or the pedestrians; but never both at the same time.

SCADE will check that the variable safelights always has value true.



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Case study: Interlocking A: 331 rungs, 599 variables.

The ladder logic program was automatically translated into the *SCADE* language using a modification of the tool by Kanso and James.

Tool by Ladder logic Scade language Kanso / James / Lawrence

Verification of a Safety Condition for Interlocking A

We verified a safety condition: "**if** a green light is set **and** a route is selected **then** the green bulb has not blown".

```
'S1.D' & 'R1(2).RU' -> 'R1(2).UEC'
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This was formalised as the following in the SCADE language.

This produces a counter example after 4 steps.

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user		csal	
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Analysis time	0 s		
Total time	0 s		
Assertions	none		
Messages	none		

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Comparison with results from previous projects with Invensys (using SAT-solving and different model checkers.) So far no quantifiable results, but our outcomes suggest that *SCADE* is faster.

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Comparison with results from previous projects with Invensys (using SAT-solving and different model checkers.) So far no quantifiable results, but our outcomes suggest that *SCADE* is faster.

Analyse applicability of SCADE:

- Work so far already demonstrates that *SCADE* can be used in the railway domain.
- Advantage: The combination of methods makes it fast.
- **Disadvantage**: Hidden underlying methods make it difficult to trace what is really happening.

Study how to add domain specific knowledge, specifically we need to exclude false negatives (i.e. false counter examples.)

Investigate:

- Limits of Railway Interlocking examples in *SCADE*: How many variables and rungs can *SCADE* handle.
- Further safety conditions and liveness conditions.
- Further functionality of *SCADE*: explore and control other capabilities (eq code generation).
- Is a combination of first order theorem proving and model checking applicable?

Thank you for listening to my talk!

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