



MonPoly/MFOTL

Seminar Advanced Software Engineering FS22
Simon Furrer



Seminars topic

- How does specification and checking work with MonPoly/MFOTL?
- For an added point: which formulas are monitorable and which are not?



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Motivation

- There is a Java application, which reads from smart meters, communicates with car chargers/heat pumps/batteries/boilers/washing machines/... and optimizes the own consumption of buildings having photovoltaics installed.
- Automatically analyze log files of that application for known problems -> trace checking
- Link detected problems with known fixes for those problems
- This reduces costs and increases the quality of doing operations

Motivation





MonPoly

- MonPoly is a prototype monitoring tool
- Developed as part of an academic project at ETH Zurich
- Check the compliance of log files with respect to policies that are specified by formulas in MFOTL



MonPoly: specification

- Signatures (.sig)
- Policy Specification Language (.mfotl)
- Log entries (.log)



MonPoly: signatures

```
<signature> ::= <predicate> <signature> | <empty>  
<predicate> ::= <string> '(' <sorts> ')'  
<sort-list> ::= <sort> ',' <sort-list> | <sort> | <empty>  
<sort> ::= 'string' | 'int' | 'float'
```

- Example: `loglevel(a:string)`

MonPoly: policy specification language

```
<formula> ::=
| '(' <formula> ')'
| 'FALSE'
| 'TRUE'
| <predicate>
| <term> '=' <term>
| <term> '<' <term>
| <term> '>' <term>
| <term> '<=' <term>
| <term> '>=' <term>
| <formula> 'EQUIV' <formula>
| <formula> 'IMPLIES' <formula>
| <formula> 'OR' <formula>
| <formula> 'AND' <formula>
| 'NOT' <formula>
| 'EXISTS' <var-list> ',' <formula>
| 'FORALL' <var-list> ',' <formula>
| <var> '<-' <aggreg> <var> ',' <var-list> <formula> // aggregation formula
| <var> '<-' <aggreg> <var> <formula> // variant with no group-by variables
| 'NEXT' <interval-opt> <formula>
| 'PREV' <interval-opt> <formula>
| 'EVENTUALLY' <interval-opt> <formula>
| 'ONCE' <interval-opt> <formula>
| 'ALWAYS' <interval-opt> <formula>
| 'PAST_ALWAYS' <interval-opt> <formula>
| <formula> 'SINCE' <interval-opt> <formula>
| <formula> 'UNTIL' <interval-opt> <formula>

<aggreg> ::=
| 'CNT' // counting aggregation operator
| 'MIN' // minimum aggregation operator
| 'MAX' // maximum aggregation operator
| 'SUM' // sum aggregation operator
| 'AVG' // average aggregation operator
| 'MED' // median aggregation operator

<interval-opt> ::= <lbound> ',' <rbound> | <empty>
<lbound> ::= '(' <bound> | '[' <bound>
<rbound> ::= <bound> ')' | <bound> ']' | '*'
<bound> ::= <integer> <unit> | <integer>
<unit> ::= 's' | 'm' | 'h' | 'd'
<term-list> ::= <term> ',' <term-list> | <term> | <empty>
<var-list> ::= <var> ',' <var-list> | <var> | <empty>
<term> ::=
| '(' <term> ')'
| <term> '+' <term>
| <term> '-' <term>
| <term> '*' <term>
| <term> '/' <term>
| <term> 'MOD' <term> // modulo operation
| '-' <term>
| 'f2i' '(' <term> ')' // float to integer conversion
| 'i2f' '(' <term> ')' // integer to float conversion
| <cst>
| <var>

<cst> ::= <integer> | <rational> | '"' <string> '"'
<var> ::= '_' | <string>
```

MonPoly: policy specification language

```
<predicate> ::=  
| <string> '(' <term-list> ')'  
| 'tp' '(' <term> ')           // time point predicate  
| 'ts' '(' <term> ')           // timestamp predicate  
| 'tpts' '(' <term> ',' <term> ') // time point and timestamp predicate
```

| symbol | MONPOLY terminal | associativity |
|-------------------|--|---------------|
| \neg | NOT | none |
| \wedge | AND | left |
| \vee | OR | left |
| \rightarrow | IMPLIES | right |
| \leftrightarrow | EQUIV | left |
| $\exists \forall$ | EXISTS FORALL | none |
| ● ○ ◆ ◇ ■ □ | PREV NEXT ONCE EVENTUALLY PAST_ALWAYS ALWAYS | none |
| S U | SINCE UNTIL | right |

- Example: `publish(r) IMPLIES ONCE[0,7d] approve(r)`
“if a report is published then the report must have been approved within the last 7 days”



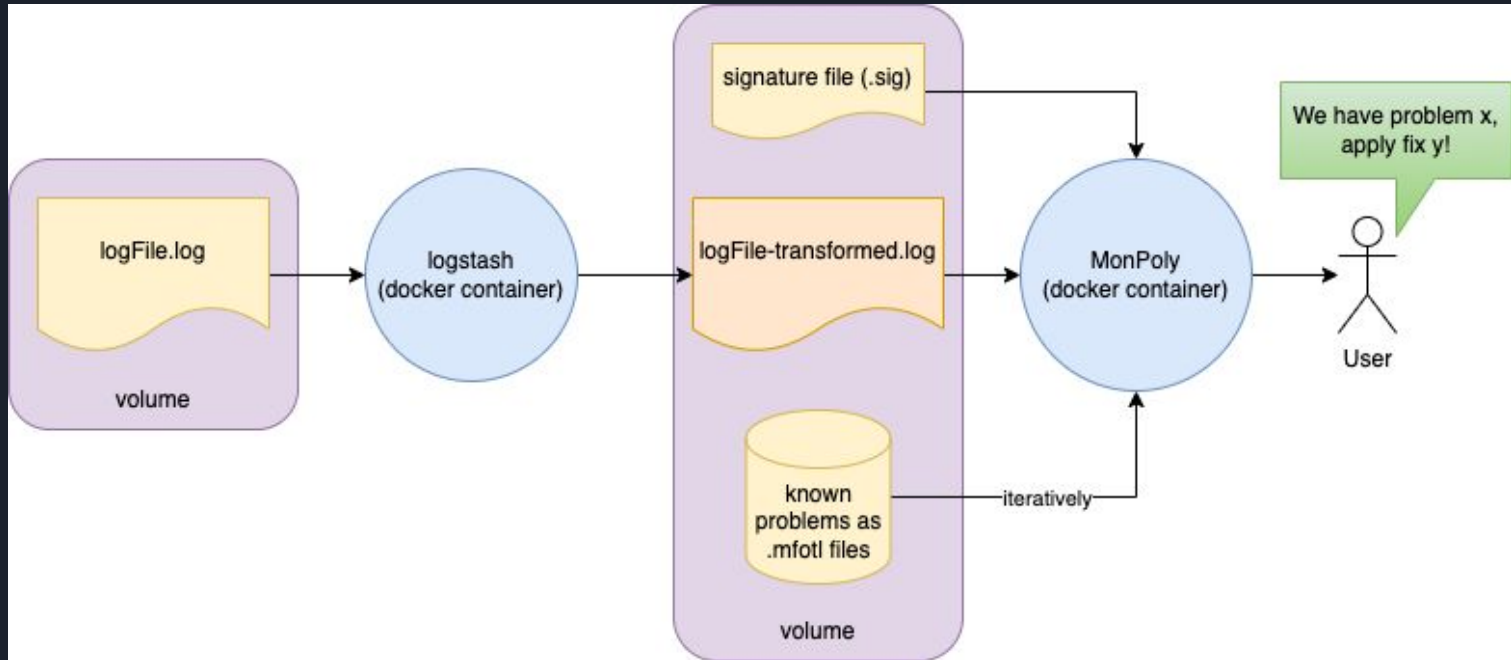
MonPoly: log entries

- A log file is a sequence of log entries

```
<log-entry> ::= '@' <ts> <db>  
<ts> ::= <integer> | <float>  
<db> ::= <table> <db>  
<table> ::= <string> <relation>  
<relation> ::= <tuple> <relation> | <empty>  
<tuple> ::= '(' <fields> ')'  
<fields> ::= <string> ',' <fields> | <string> | <empty>
```

- Example: @1648716381.85 loglevel("DEBUG") message("hello world!")

Artifact building: architecture




Artifact building: logstash

```
input {
  file {
    path => "/app/logFile.2022-03-31.6.log" #
    start_position => "beginning"
    # make sure logFile.log is processed every time logstash is started
    sinedb_path => "/dev/null"
  }
}

filter {
  grok {
    match => { "message" => "\[%{TIMESTAMP_ISO8601:timestamp}\] \[%{LOGLEVEL:logLevel}\] \[%{GREEDYDATA:class}\] \[%{GREEDYDATA:actor}\] message: %{message}" }
  }
  ruby {
    path => "/app/transform_event.rb"
    script_params => {}
  }
}

output {
  # TODO: fix out of order events
  exec {
    command => "echo '%{timestamp} logLevel(%{logLevel}) class(%{class}) actor(%{actor}) message(%{msg})' >> /app/logFile.log"
  }
}
```



Artifact building: lexer satisfaction

- We have to contain a newline at the end of the log
- `TIMESTAMP_ISO8601` needs to be a unix timestamp, prepended with `@` and optional millis
- We're not allowed to contain the following characters in the log:
 - `@`
 - `"`
 - `.`
 - `,`
 - `{`
 - `}`
 - (space)

Artifact building: lexer satisfaction

```
def filter(event)
  timestamp = event.get('timestamp')
  if timestamp.nil?
    # if the event contains no timestamp, ignore it
    return []
  end
  time = DateTime.parse(timestamp)
  unix_seconds = time.strftime('%s')
  # round the milliseconds to two decimal places since monopoly only deals with 2 significant places
  timestamp_rounded_millis = timestamp.split(",").last.to_f.fdiv(10).round

  event.set('timestamp', "@" + unix_seconds + "." + timestamp_rounded_millis.to_s)
  # for all other fields, we don't know whether the field actually is present, thus use "" if not present
  event.set('logLevel', "\"" + (event.get('logLevel') || "").tr("@.,={} ', ' ') + "\"")
  event.set('class', "\"" + (event.get('class') || "").tr("@.,={} ', ' ') + "\"")
  event.set('actor', "\"" + (event.get('actor') || "").tr("@.,={} ', ' ') + "\"")
  event.set('msg', "\"" + (event.get('msg') || "").tr("@.,={} ', ' ') + "\"")
  [event]
end
```




Demo



Missing feature

- MonPoly doesn't implement pattern matching for strings (e.g. regex)
- However, this is a crucial feature for the desired analyzer tool
- So I contacted Prof. Basin...



Missing feature

- and I got an answer from Srdjan, postdoc in prof. Basin's group:
- *In the original version of Monpoly, pattern matching on strings is indeed not supported. However, we have added that feature in the development version of Monpoly available [here](#)*
- *Namely, there are two additional "atomic" formulas:*
 - `term1 SUBSTRING term2`, where both terms evaluate to strings
 - `term1 MATCHES term2`, where term1 evaluates to string and term2 to an OCAML regular expression
- *So you could write the desired formula as:*
 - `message(x) AND x MATCHES r".*some text.*"`
 - `message(x) AND "some text" SUBSTRING x`



MonPoly: monitorable formulas

- Subformulas of the form `NOT psi` should contain no free variables
e.g. `NOT loglevel(x)` is not monitorable
- What about unbounded future temporal operators? e.g. `ALWAYS loglevel("INFO")`
- Not monitorable -> restrict: `ALWAYS [0,3h] loglevel("INFO")`
- MonPoly adds a last time point (largest representable timestamp) at the end of the input event sequence, to evaluate subformulas at all time points in the original event sequence



References

- Overview of MonPoly, including its usage and history ([paper](#))
- MonPoly source code ([bitbucket](#)), dev source code([bitbucket](#))
- ETH research project “Runtime Policy Monitoring and Enforcement” ([link](#))



Q&A

```
feeling("satisfied")
```

```
IMPLIES ONCE [0,20m]
```

```
thought("I like the presentation") AND learned("new things")
```