

On a Logic for Coalitional Games with Priced-Resource Agents

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 The logic *Priced* RB-ATL (PRB-ATL)
 - Model checking
 - Optimization problem
- 3 Conclusions

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Agents and coalitions

- A Multi-Agent System (MAS) is a system with multiple **agents/players**
- Agents can join in **coalitions/teams** to collectively **perform tasks/reach goals**

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Two sides of the same coin
Artificial Intelligence/Game theory

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Logical Formalisms

Coalition Logic (CL) and Alternating-time Temporal Logic (ATL)

CL [Pauly, Journal of Logic and Computation, 2002]

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ATL [Alur, Henzinger, Kupferman, Journal of ACM, 2002]

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Theorem (Goranko, TARK 2001)

CL can be embedded into ATL

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RB-ATL [Alechina, Logan, Nga, Rakib, AAMAS 2010]

Theorem: Model checking RB-ATL is decidable in $O(|\varphi|^{2 \cdot r + 1} \times |G|)$
No lower bound

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RAL [Bulling, Farwer, ECAI 2010]

If actions may produce resources,
then Model Checking becomes **UNDECIDABLE**

Team A

Endowment: $\eta : A \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^r$

$\langle\langle A^\eta \rangle\rangle \diamond p$ whatever other agents do

A crucial property

Due to the nesting of the team operators in a formula, the agents can be provided with a **new endowment** of resources to perform **subtasks**

$\langle\langle A^\eta \rangle\rangle \circ \langle\langle A^{\eta'} \rangle\rangle \diamond p$ agents of team A, equipped with the endowment of resources η , can force the next state to be s.t. they can guarantee that p eventually holds equipped with the new endowment η'

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 - ▶ new endowment for each subtask **UNREALISTIC**
- Very significant present-day issues related to procurement of resources:
 - ▶ resources are available on the market (or in nature) in **limited amount**
 - ▶ the cost for achieving them depends on such an availability (**price of resources**)

Our contributions

- 1 We introduce the **global availability of resources on the market**
 - ▶ **acquisition** of resources \Rightarrow global availability is **decreased**
 - ▶ **production** of resources \Rightarrow global availability is **increased**
- 2 We introduce the notion of **price of resources**
 - ▶ agents are equipped with an amount of money instead of an endowment of resources
 - ▶ they can use money for getting resources
 - ▶ price of resources can be any function of the several components into play (e.g., prices of resources depend on their global availability, the acting agent, and the physical location)

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- 3 Model checking
 - ▶ PSPACE-hardness
 - ▶ Recover decidability even if actions produce resources
 - ★ actions may produce a resource in a quantity that is not greater than the amount that has already been consumed so far
 - ★ the global availability of the market will never be greater than the initial global availability
 - ★ several significant real-world scenarios fit (e.g., acquiring memory by a program, leasing a car during a travel)
- 4 Optimization problem
 - ▶ minimization of the amount of money needed to acquire the resources to perform a task

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Syntax and semantics

Formulae of PRB-ATL are given by the grammar:

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \langle\langle A^{\vec{s}} \rangle\rangle \bigcirc \varphi \mid \langle\langle A^{\vec{s}} \rangle\rangle \varphi \mathcal{U} \varphi \mid \langle\langle A^{\vec{s}} \rangle\rangle \square \varphi$$

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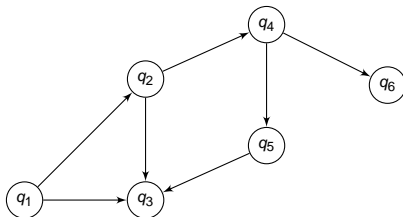
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Formulae of PRB-ATL are evaluated wrt:

- a **priced game structure** G
- a **location** q of G
- an **initial availability of resources** \vec{m}

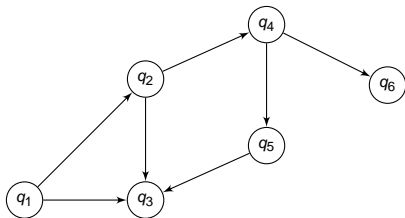
Priced game structure

A **priced game structure** G is a weighted graph:



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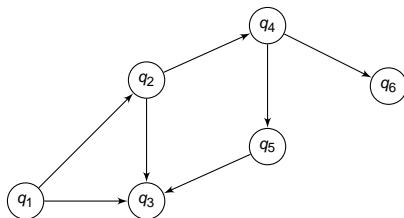
A **priced game structure** G is a weighted graph:



- **locations** are labeled by **atomic propositions** (represent the configurations of the system)
- in each location, each agent can choose among a non-empty set of **actions** to be performed
- any possible combination of actions gives rise to **transitions** (edges of the graph)
- actions **consume** and **produce** resources
- each resource has a **price** that is variable and depends on the current availability of that resource on the market, the location q of G and the acting agent
- a transition can be executed if the resources needed to perform the actions are available and the agents of a team have enough **money** to acquire them

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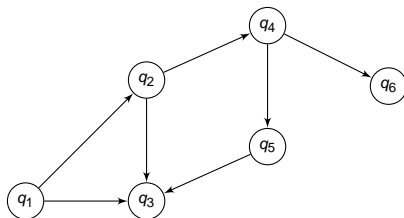
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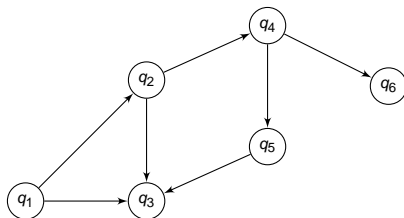
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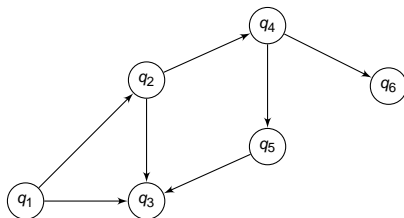
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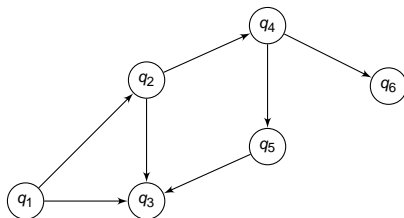
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Theorem (Della Monica, Napoli, Parente, *submitted to LAMAS 2011*)

The model checking problem for PRB-ATL is PSPACE-hard

Reduction from the *TQBF* problem

(the problem of determining whether a *Fully Quantified Boolean Formula* is true)

Fully Quantified Boolean Formula a Boolean formula in which all the Boolean variables occur inside the scope of an existential or universal quantifier

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Parametric PRB-ATL formulae

- PRB-ATL: $\varphi = \langle\langle A_1^{\vec{\$}_1} \rangle\rangle \diamond (\langle\langle A_2^{\vec{\$}_2} \rangle\rangle \circ p \vee \langle\langle A_3^{\vec{\$}_3} \rangle\rangle q \cup p)$

Definition (Cost of a PRB-ATL formula)

$$f_cost(\varphi) = A_1 \cdot \vec{\$}_1 + A_2 \cdot \vec{\$}_2 + A_3 \cdot \vec{\$}_3$$

- parametric PRB-ATL: $\varphi_{\vec{x}} = \langle\langle X_1^{\vec{\$}_1} \rangle\rangle \diamond (\langle\langle X_2^{\vec{\$}_2} \rangle\rangle \circ p \vee \langle\langle A_3^{\vec{\$}_3} \rangle\rangle q \cup p)$

The *Optimal Coalition* problem

Definition (Optimal Coalition problem)

To determine coalitions that satisfy a PRB-ATL formula with minimum cost

[Della Monica, Napoli, Parente, *submitted to LAMAS 2011*]

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Theorem

The Optimal Coalition problem is PSPACE-complete

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Conclusions and future work

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- PRB-ATL: a formalism to model scenarios with bounded, priced resources
 - ▶ Model checking PRB-ATL is PSPACE-complete
 - ▶ Determine the optimal coalitions formation is PSPACE-complete

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Future work:

- To study variants of the logic (e.g., agents can be viewed as resources)
- Resource-bounded extensions of other classical formalisms (e.g., μ -calculus)