

FOAM

A Lightweight Method for Verification of Use-Cases

(submitted to SEAA)

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Goals

- Requirements specification in a changing environment
- Specification of **temporal dependencies** among use-cases.
 - using **temporal formulae** encapsulated as **annotations**
- Verification on the specification level
 - using **NuSMV** model checker

Motivation: temporal dependency

Use-Case U_1 : Buyer Places Bid On Item

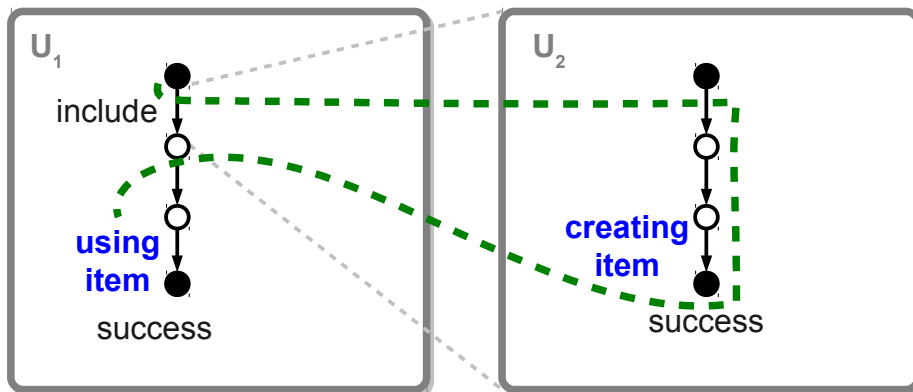
Main success scenario:

1. Include use-case “Buyer Reviews Item Information”.
2. The buyer notifies the GPM that he/she wants to place a bid.
3. The GPM shall respond by requesting the details about bids from the buyer.
4. The buyer **sends a submit bid request** to the GPM.
5. The GPM shall respond by sending a notification to the buyer.
6. The buyer sends a notification acknowledgement to the GPM.

Use-Case U_2 : Buyer Reviews Item Information

Main success scenario:

1. The buyer uses the web page to send a review item information request to the GPM.
2. The GPM **displays information about the item**.
3. The buyer reviews item information.



Motivation: temporal dependency

Use-Case U₁: Buyer Places Bid On Item

Main success scenario:

1. Include use-case “Buyer Reviews Item Information”.
2. The buyer notifies the GPM that he/she wants to place a bid.
3. The GPM shall respond by requesting the details about bids from the buyer.
4. The buyer sends a submit bid request to the GPM.
5. The GPM shall respond by sending a notification to the buyer.
6. The buyer sends a notification acknowledgement to the GPM.

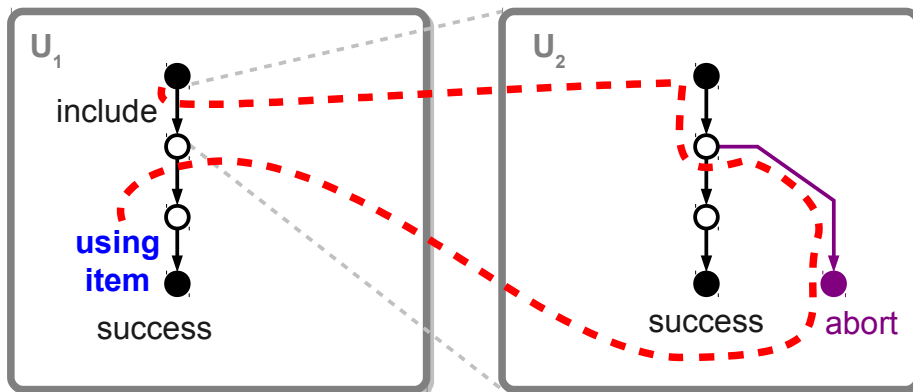
Use-Case U₂: Buyer Reviews Item Information

Main success scenario:

1. The buyer uses the web page to send a review item information request to the GPM.
2. The GPM displays information about the item.
3. The buyer reviews item information.

Variation:

- 2a. The item is not valid
- 2a1. The GPM displays a message describing invalid item.
- 2a2. Use-case aborted.



Counter-example

Motivation: temporal dependency

Use-Case U₁: Buyer Places Bid On Item

Main success scenario:

1. Include use-case “Buyer Reviews Item Information”.
2. The buyer notifies the GPM that he/she wants to place a bid.
3. The GPM shall respond by requesting the details about bids from the buyer.
4. The buyer sends a submit bid request to the GPM.
5. The GPM shall respond by sending a notification to the buyer.
6. The buyer sends a notification acknowledgement to the GPM.

Extension:

- 1a. The use-case “Buyer Reviews Item Information” was aborted.
 - 1a1. The GPM displays a message “Bid cannot be placed”
 - 1a2. Use-case aborted.

Use-Case U₂: Buyer Reviews Item Information

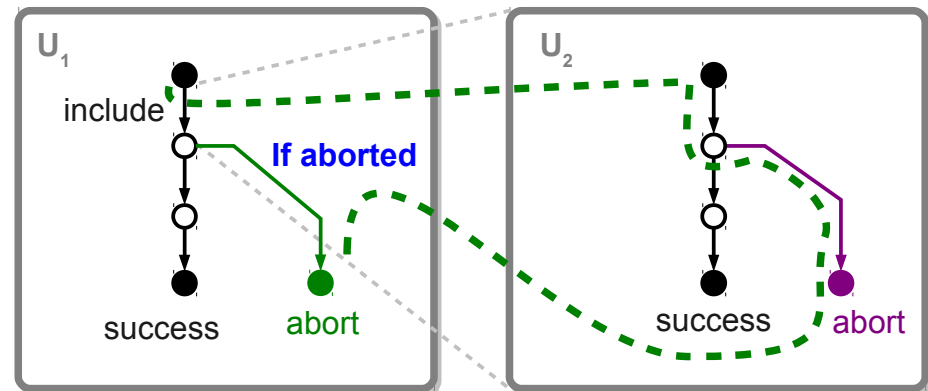
Main success scenario:

1. The buyer uses the web page to send a review item information request to the GPM.
2. The GPM displays information about the item.
3. The buyer reviews item information.

Variation:

- 2a. The item is not valid
 - 2a1. The GPM displays a message describing invalid item.
 - 2a2. Use-case aborted.

OK



How to formalize this?

Use-Case U₁: Buyer Places Bid On Item

Main success scenario:

1. Include use-case “Buyer Reviews Item Information”. **#include:u2**
2. The buyer notifies the GPM that he/she wants to place a bid.
3. The GPM shall respond by requesting the details about bids from the buyer.
4. The buyer **sends a submit bid request** to the GPM. **#use:item**
5. The GPM shall respond by sending a notification to the buyer.
6. The buyer sends a notification acknowledgement to the GPM.

Extension:

- 1a. The use-case “Buyer Reviews Item Information” was aborted. **#guard:u2aborted**
 - 1a1. The GPM displays a message “Bid cannot be placed”
 - 1a2. Use-case aborted. **#abort**

Use-Case U₂: Buyer Reviews Item Information

Main success scenario:

1. The buyer uses the web page to send a review item information request to the GPM.
2. The GPM **displays information about the item**. **#create:item**
3. The buyer reviews item information.

Variation:

- 2a. The item is not valid
 - 2a1. The GPM displays a message describing invalid item.
 - 2a2. Use-case aborted. **#abort**
#mark:u2aborted

- **Flow annotations** (describing structure)
 - **abort, include, goto, mark, guard**
- **Temporal annotations** (to be checked)
 - **create, use, ...** (defined in TADL)

Temporal Annotation Definition Language

Annotations:

#create:city
#use:city
#create:map

+

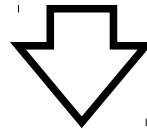
TADL Template:

Annotations: create, use

CTL AG(create \rightarrow EF(use)) "Branch with use required after create"

CTL AG(create \rightarrow AX(AG(!create))) "Only one create"

CTL A[!use U create | !EF(use)] "First create then use"



A set of temporal formulae to be checked

CTL AG(create_{city} \rightarrow EF(use_{city}))

CTL AG(create_{city} \rightarrow AX(AG(! create_{city})))

CTL A[! use_{city} U create_{city} | ! EF(use_{city})]

CTL AG(create_{map} \rightarrow EF(use_{map}))

CTL AG(create_{map} \rightarrow AX(AG(! create_{map})))

CTL A[! use_{map} U create_{map} | ! EF(use_{map})]

More TADL Examples

Annotations: create, use

CTL **AG**(create \rightarrow **EF**(use)) "Branch with use required after create"

CTL **AG**(create \rightarrow **AX**(**AG**(!create))) "Only one create"

CTL **A**[!use **U** create | **!EF**(use)] "First create then use"

Annotations: open, close — *strict ordering of 2 phases*

LTL **G**(open \rightarrow **F**(close)) "After open, close is required"

CTL **AG**(open \rightarrow **AX**(**A**[!open **U** close])) "No multi-open"

CTL **AG**(close \rightarrow **AX**(**A**[!close **U** open | **!EF**(close)])) "No multi-close"

CTL **A**[!close **U** open | **!EF**(close)] "First open then close"

Annotations: init, process, release — *strict ordering of 3 phases*

— *init* \rightarrow *process*

CTL **A**[!process **U** init | **!EF**(process)] "First init then process"

CTL **AG**(init \rightarrow **AF**(process)) "After init there should always be process"

CTL **AG**(init \rightarrow **AX**(**A**[!init **U** process])) "No multi-init without process"

CTL **AG**(process \rightarrow **AX**(**A**[!process **U** init | **!EF**(process)]))

"No multi-process without init"

— *process* \rightarrow *release*

CTL **A**[!release **U** process | **!EF**(release)] "First process then release"

CTL **AG**(process \rightarrow **AF**(release)) "After process, release is required"

CTL **AG**(process \rightarrow **AX**(**A**[!process **U** release]))

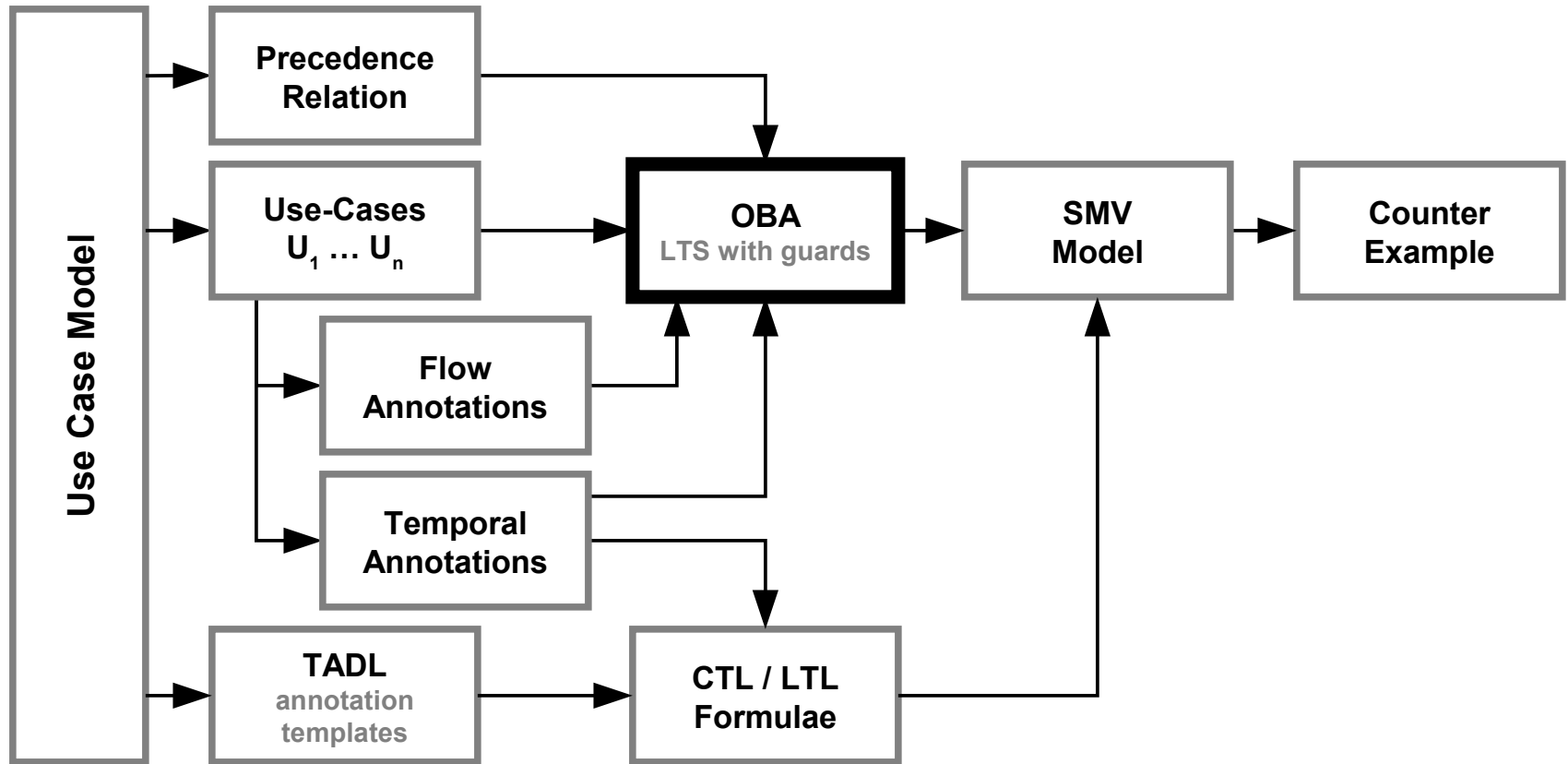
"No multi-process without release"

CTL **AG**(release \rightarrow **AX**(**A**[!release **U** process | **!EF**(release)]))

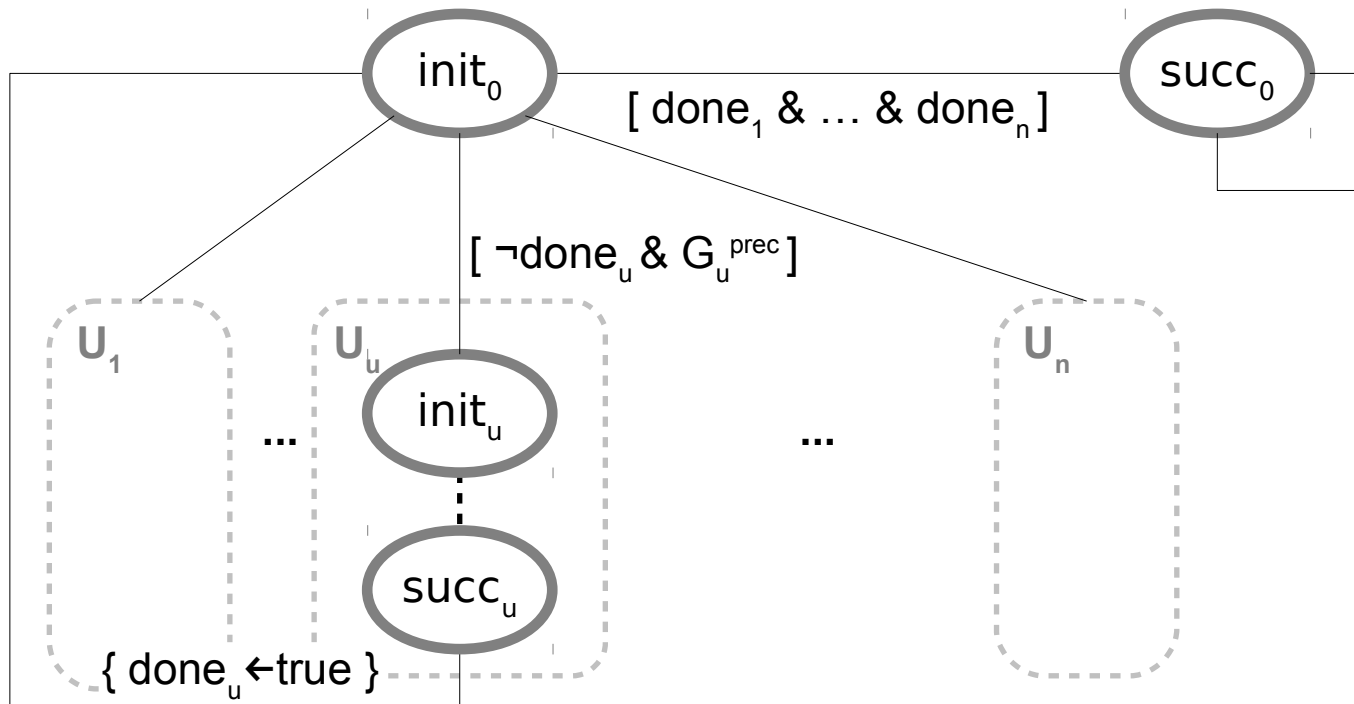
"No multi-release without process"

Transformation: Overview

TADL : **T**emporal **A**nnotation **D**efinition **L**anguage (templates)
OBA : **O**verall **B**ehavior **A**utomaton



Overall Behavior Automaton (OBA)



Construction of OBA using Inference Rules (1/2)

1. Representing steps

$$\frac{u \in U_M, x \in S_u}{x^{\text{in}} \rightarrow x^{\text{var}} \rightarrow x^{\text{jump}} \rightarrow x^{\text{ext}} \rightarrow x^{\text{out}}}$$

2. Representing scenarios

$$\frac{u \in U_M, w \in W_u, x_1 \leq_w \dots \leq_w x_n}{(x_1^{\text{out}} \rightarrow x_2^{\text{in}}), \dots, (x_{n-1}^{\text{out}} \rightarrow x_n^{\text{in}})}$$

3. Connecting variations

$$\frac{u \in U_M, w \in W_u, w = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}, \text{Var}_u(w) = x, \\ G_V = \{g \mid \langle \text{guard}:g \rangle \in \text{Flow}_u(y_1)\}}{x^{\text{var}} \xrightarrow{[G_V]} y_1^{\text{in}}}$$

4. Connecting extensions

$$\frac{u \in U_M, w \in W_u, w = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}, \text{Ext}_u(w) = x, \\ G_E = \{g \mid \langle \text{guard}:g \rangle \in \text{Flow}_u(y_1)\}}{x^{\text{ext}} \xrightarrow{[G_E]} y_1^{\text{in}}}$$

5. Continuation from scenarios

$$\frac{u \in U_M, w \in W_u, x = \text{Var}_u(w) \vee x = \text{Ext}_u(w), \\ w = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}, \langle \text{abort} \rangle \notin \text{Flow}_u(y_n), \\ \forall s \in S_u \langle \text{goto}:s \rangle \notin \text{Flow}_u(y_n)}{y_n^{\text{out}} \rightarrow x^{\text{out}}}$$

6. Handling GOTO annotations

$$\frac{u \in U_M, x \in S_u, \langle \text{goto}:y \rangle \in \text{Flow}_u(x)}{x^{\text{out}} \rightarrow y^{\text{jump}}}$$

7. Handling ABORT annotations

$$\frac{u \in U_M, x \in S_u, \langle \text{abort} \rangle \in \text{Flow}_u(x)}{x^{\text{out}} \rightarrow x^{\text{out}}}$$

Construction of OBA using Inference Rules (2/2)

8. Handling INCLUDE (procedure call)

$$\frac{u, c \in U_M, x \in S_u, \langle \text{include}:c \rangle \in Flow_u(x), w_c^m = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}}{x^{\text{jump}} \xrightarrow{\{incl_{u,c} \leftarrow true\}} y_1^{\text{in}}, x^{\text{jump}} \xrightarrow{[false]} x^{\text{ext}},}$$

9. Handling INCLUDE (return)

$$\frac{u, c \in U_M, x \in S_u, \langle \text{include}:c \rangle \in Flow_u(x), w_c^m = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}, \forall s \in S_c \langle \text{goto}:s \rangle \notin Flow_c(y_n)}{y_n^{\text{out}} \xrightarrow{\{incl_{u,c} \leftarrow false\}} x^{\text{ext}},}$$

10. Scheduler

$$\frac{u \in U_M^P, w_u^m = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, G_u^{\text{prec}} = \{done_v \mid \exists v \in U_M^P (v, u) \in Prec_M\}}{init_0 \xrightarrow{[G_u^{\text{prec}}, \neg done_u]} x_1^{\text{in}}, x_n^{\text{out}} \xrightarrow{\{done_u \leftarrow true\}} init_0}$$

11. Final state

$$\frac{G = \{done_u \mid u \in U_M^P\}}{init_0 \xrightarrow{[G]} succ_0}$$

12. Atomic propositions

$$\frac{x \in S_u, u \in U_M}{Lab(x^{\text{jump}}) = Temp_u(x)}$$

OBA represented in NuSMV

MODULE main

VAR state : $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$ — *all states of OBA*

ASSIGN init(state) := init_0; — *initial state of OBA*

next(state) := **case**

state=x : $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$; — *transitions $x \rightarrow y_1, \dots, x \rightarrow y_n$*

state= y_i & !(g) : x; ... — *guarded transition $x \xrightarrow{g} y_i$*

esac;

FAIRNESS ! guardloop — *avoids infinite loops when testing guards*

DEFINE guardloop := state **in** $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ — *states in guards*

VAR v : **boolean**; — *variable v from OBA*

ASSIGN init(v) := **FALSE**; — *valuation function Val_A*

next(v) := **case**

state = s^v : b^v ; ... — *assigns value b^v to v in state s^v*

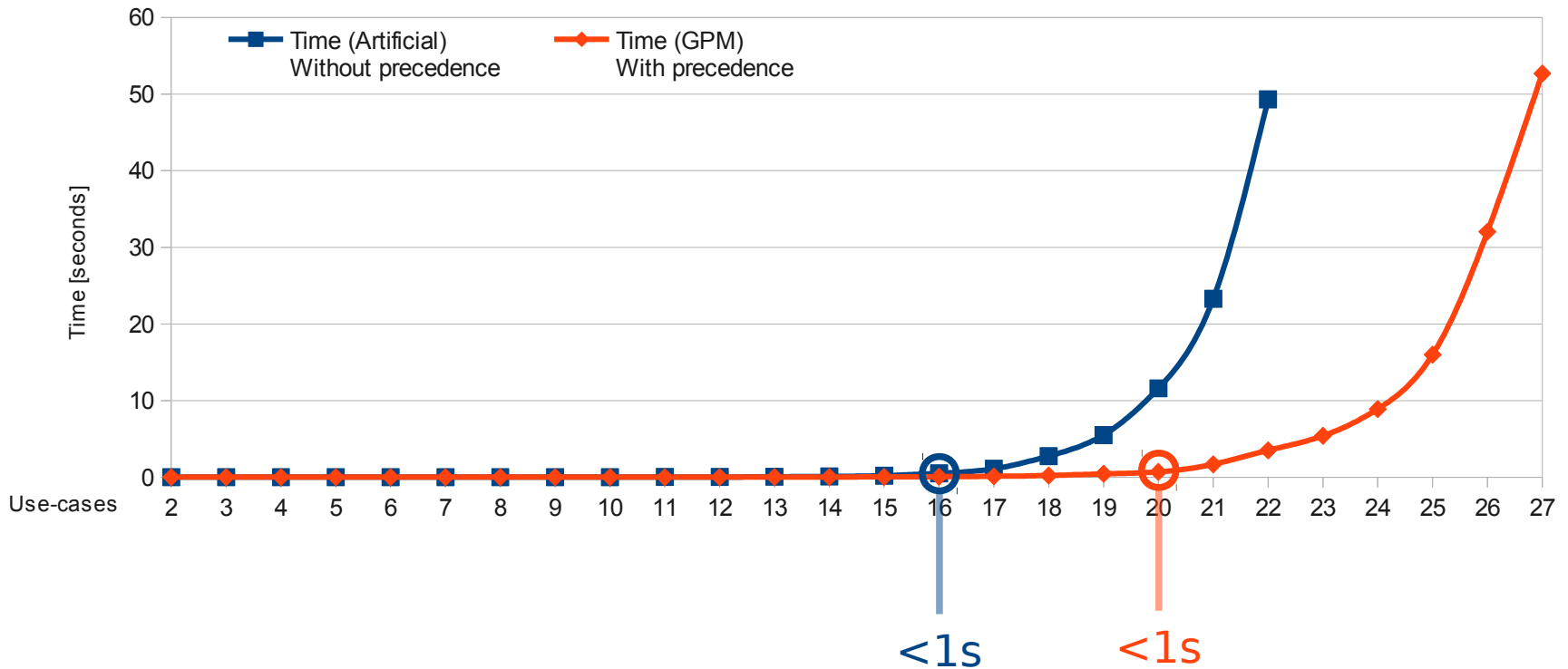
TRUE : v; — *preserves the current value of v*

esac;

— *LTL/CTL formula $f \in F_A$ which uses variables t_1, \dots, t_j*

LTLSPEC $f(t_1, \dots, t_j)$... **CTLSPEC** $f(t_1, \dots, t_j)$

Evaluation



- Unfortunately the current approach does not scale well

Future work

- Reduction of the problem
 - Partial order reduction
 - Independent groups of use-cases
 - Construction of a specific OBA per annotation group
- Automatic detection of annotations from text
- Sequencing of use-cases vs parallelism

Summary

- Method for verification of textual use-cases
 - against temporal properties (CTL/LTL)
 - under all use case orderings implied by precedence relation
 - custom temporal annotations (TADL)
- Supports collaborative work and iterative development
- Paper submitted to SEAA 2012
 - 38th Euromicro Conference on Software Engineering and Advanced Applications, September 5-8, 2012, Cesme, Izmir, Turkey

Thank you for attention

See also

<http://code.google.com/a/eclipselabs.org/p/reprotool/>