On the Completeness and Decidability of Duration Calculus with Iteration

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Abstract

The extension of the Duration Calculus (DC) by iteration, which is also known as Kleene star, enables the straightforward specification of repetitive behaviour in DC and facilitates the translation of design descriptions between DC, timed regular expressions and timed automata. In this paper we present axioms and a proof rule about iteration in DC. We consider abstract-time DC and its extension by a state-variable binding existential quantifier known as higher-order DC (HDC). We show that the ω-complete proof systems for DC and HDC known from our earlier work can be extended by our axioms and rule in various ways in order to axiomatise iteration completely. The additions we propose include either the proof rule or an induction axiom. We also present results on the decidability of a subset of the extension DC* of DC by iteration.

Keywords: real-time systems, formal methods, duration calculus, completeness, decidability.

Introduction

The Duration Calculus (DC) was introduced by Zhou, Hoare and Ravn in [ZHR91] as a logic to specify requirements on real-time systems. DC is a first order classical interval-based real-time logic with one normal binary modality

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known as *chop*. It was developed by augmenting the real-time variant of Interval Temporal Logic (*ITL*, [Mos85, Mos86]), with boolean expressions for *state* and real-valued terms to denote state *durations*. *DC* has been used successfully in many case studies such as [ZZ94, YWZP94, HZ95, DW96, WHCZ96, XH95, Dan98, PD99]. We refer the reader to [HZ97] or the recent monograph [ZH04] for a comprehensive introduction to *DC*.

*DC* was originally introduced for real time. Variants of *DC* have been developed for discrete time, combinations of real time and discrete time [PD98, He 99a] and abstract time [Gue98], where an arbitrary (commutative) linearly ordered group can be the model of time. Real-time and discrete-time semantics are best suited for applications. The more general abstract-time semantics gives some technical advantages for theoretical studies.

*Iteration*, also known as *Kleene star*, was introduced to *DC* to facilitate the reasoning about repetitive behaviour. Iteration is particularly important for the description of the repetitive behaviour of timed automata in *DC*. It facilitates the translation of designs between timed regular expressions, timed automata and *DC*. *DC* stands for the extension of *DC* by iteration. In [DW96] we developed a method for designing real-time hybrid systems from specifications written using a subset of *DC* which consists of the so-called *simple DC* formulas. *Simple DC* formulas are sufficient to describe the behaviour of timed automata. One can reason about the correctness of designs in terms of the semantics of *DC*. However, it would be more practical and interesting to be able to prove correctness syntactically. This requires the development of a proof system for *DC*.

A Hilbert-style proof system for *DC* (without iteration) was first presented in [HZ92]. This proof system was shown to be complete for real-time *DC* relative to real-time *ITL*. Validity in *DC* is not recursively enumerable and therefore no finitary complete proof system for *DC* exists. A small non-recursively enumerable subset of *DC* was presented in [Gue95]. The *ω*-completeness of a system with an *ω*-rule for abstract-time *DC* was shown in [Gue98]. In [Gue00c] it was shown that by adding a few axioms and (finitary) rules the scope of the *ω*-completeness of the system from [Gue98] can be extended to *DC* with quantification over state as introduced in [Pan95] also known as *Higher-order DC* (*HDC* or *HODC*, see [ZGZ00], where *HDC* has other useful features such as neighbourhood values [ZL94] and super-dense chop [H96] which we omit here.)

In this paper we study the deductive power of three groups of axioms and a rule for iteration in *DC* which we add to a variant of the *ω*-complete proof system from [Gue95]. The first group of axioms has been obtained from the axioms about Kleene star in Propositional Dynamic Logic (*PDL*, cf e.g. [AGM92]). It contains an induction axiom. This group was presented in the precursor of this paper [DG99]. Some examples which demonstrate the working of this group of axioms can be found in [He 99b]. The second group contains an induction axiom too. Unlike the first, its induction axiom is the instance about iteration of an axiom about the general least fixed point operator *μ* which was introduced to *DC* in [Pan95] and later studied in [Gue00b]. This axiom corresponds to Park’s *rule as known from the modal μ-calculus [Koz83]. This rule was formulated for 2
Figure 1: A simple gas burner design

$DC$ in [Pan95] too. The third group has a proof rule instead of an induction axiom. Unlike the induction axioms, which are examples of a general pattern occurring in the axiomatisation of Kleene star in other logics, that proof rule refers to the $DC$-specific notion of state and its deductive power stems from the finite variability requirement which is imposed on state in $DC$. The idea behind this rule was earlier used in [Gue05] to express a finite variability requirement on propositional temporal letters in $DC$.

We show that adding our third group of axioms, which includes the proof rule, to the proof system from [Gue98] leads to an $\omega$-complete proof system for $DC^\ast$. We show that iteration is definable in $HDC$ and the correctness of the definition can be proved in the extension of an $\omega$-complete proof system for $HDC$ by the second group of axioms. We show that there is a straightforward correspondence between the induction axiom of that second group and the induction axiom of the first group.

To illustrate the working of our axioms, we employ the well-known simple gas burner example taken from [ZHR91]. The $DC$ formula

$$S \iff \Box(\ell > 60 \Rightarrow (20 \int_{\text{leak}} \leq \ell))$$

specifies that a gas burner can be in the leak state for no more than one-twentieth of the time in any time interval that is at least 1 minute long. Consider the gas burner design described by the real-time automaton shown on Fig. 1. We assume that leak is the initial state for the sake of simplicity. In this design leak becomes detected within 1 second and leaks are separated by at least 30 seconds. This can be specified by the $DC^\ast$ formula

$$D \iff (\lceil \text{leak} \rceil \land \ell \leq 1)^\ast (\lceil \text{nonleak} \rceil \land \ell \geq 30)^\ast.$$  

In Section 6 we give a proof of $D \Rightarrow S$ by means of our axioms about iteration.

Both $S$ and $D$ are simple $DC^\ast$ formulas. Validity is decidable for such formulas. This implies that whether a design written in simple $DC^\ast$ is implementable can be decided algorithmically. Furthermore, the validity of implications from simple $DC^\ast$ formulas to $DC$ formulas of certain forms such as linear duration invariants (see [ZZYL94, LDZ97, DP98]) can be checked by a simple algorithm.

**Structure of the paper**

After a brief introduction to $DC$ and its extensions by iteration and state variable binding quantifier we present our axioms and rule about iteration and show
that adding some of these to a complete proof system for DC without iteration leads to a complete proof system for DC∗. Next we show that the proof rule can be replaced by each of the proposed induction axioms in a complete proof system for HDC, where iteration can also be defined explicitly. We illustrate the working of the proof rule by giving derivations of the alternative induction axioms and show how one of them can be derived using the other. We show how the explicit definition of iteration in HDC can be derived from our axioms about iteration and the state variable binding quantifier too. In a separate short section we explain how one of the proposed induction axioms can be obtained by translating a PDL induction axiom into DC. We derive some other interesting DC∗ theorems in our system to illustrate its working too, and use one of them in a proof of D ⇒ S about the gas burner design. Finally, we discuss work on the axiomatisation of iteration in related systems, summarise some decidability results about the subset of DC∗ known as simple DC∗ which have been obtained either independently or using connections with timed regular expressions and timed automata, and make some concluding remarks.

1 Preliminaries on the duration calculus

Here follows the formal definition of DC.

1.1 Language

A DC vocabulary consists of constant symbols c, d, . . ., individual variables x, y, z, . . ., state variables P, Q, . . ., temporal variables v, . . ., function symbols f, g, . . ., relation symbols R, . . . and temporal propositional letters A, B, . . .. The constant 0, addition + equality = and the temporal variable ℓ are mandatory in DC vocabularies.

Given a vocabulary, the definition of a DC language is essentially that of its sets of state expressions S, terms t and formulas ϕ. These sets can be defined by the following BNFs:

\[
S ::= 0 | P | \neg S | S \vee S
\]

\[
t ::= c | x | v | f(t, . . . , t)
\]

\[
\phi ::= A | R(t, . . . , t) | \neg \phi | (\phi \vee \phi) | (\phi \neg \phi) | \exists x \phi
\]

Terms and formulas with no occurrences of chop, nor of temporal variables, nor of f, are called rigid.

The set of the variables which have free occurrences in a formula φ is denoted by FV(φ). For sets of formulas Γ, FV(Γ) is defined as \( \bigcup_{\phi \in \Gamma} FV(\phi) \). The state variables occurring freely in a formula φ are assumed to be in FV(φ) too. All occurrences of state variables are free in DC, but not in HDC.

1.2 Semantics

Our completeness results about DC∗ apply to the abstract semantics which was defined for DC in [Gue98] after the semantics of ITL from [Dut95a]. The
linearly ordered set of the reals is the model of time in the original semantics of \( DC \). The durations of real-time intervals are non-negative reals with ordinary arithmetic on them in that semantics. In the abstract-time case the durations form the monoid of the positive elements of some linearly ordered group \([Sk00]\), and the time domain is isomorphic to a possibly unbounded interval in the same group. Here follow the detailed definitions.

**Definition 1** A time domain is a linearly ordered set \( \langle T, \leq \rangle \).

\( \langle \mathbb{R}, \leq \rangle \), \( \langle \mathbb{Z}, \leq \rangle \) and \( \langle \mathbb{N}, \leq \rangle \) are examples of time domains.

**Definition 2** Given a time domain \( \langle T, \leq \rangle \), we denote the set

\[ \{ [t_1, t_2] : t_1, t_2 \in T, t_1 \leq t_2 \} \]

of the closed and bounded intervals in \( T \) by \( I(T) \).

We use \(( \) and \()\) to mark open ends of time intervals, for instance, \([t_1, t_2)\) stands for the semi-open interval \( \{ t \in T : t_1 \leq t < t_2 \} \).

**Definition 3** A duration domain is a system of the type \( \langle D, +, 0(0) \rangle \) which satisfies the axioms

1. \( x + (y + z) = (x + y) + z \)
2. \( x + 0 = 0 + x = x \)
3. \( x + y = x + z \Rightarrow y = z, x + z = y + z \Rightarrow x = y \)
4. \( x + y = 0 \Rightarrow x = y = 0 \)
5. \( \exists z (x + z = y \lor y + z = x), \exists z (x + z = y \lor z + y = x) \)

For example, \( \langle \mathbb{R}, +, 0 \rangle \) and \( \langle \mathbb{N}, +, 0 \rangle \) are duration domains, but \( \langle \mathbb{Z}, +, 0 \rangle \) is not, because it violates \( D4 \). The axioms \( D1-D5 \) do not imply commutativity of + (cf. e.g. \([Sk00]\)). However, to our knowledge, all practically relevant duration domains are commutative. Adding commutativity to \( D1-D5 \) affects neither the validity, nor the proofs of the results in this paper. In the sequel we assume that duration domains are linearly ordered by the relation

\[ x \leq y \Leftrightarrow \exists z (x + z = y) \] \( (3) \)

We regard \( \leq \) as a mandatory symbol in \( DC \) with \( (3) \) being its definition.

**Definition 4** Given a time domain \( \langle T, \leq \rangle \), and a duration domain \( \langle D, +, 0 \rangle \),

\( m : I(T) \rightarrow D \) is a measure if it satisfies the axioms

1. \( m([r_1, r_2]) = m([r_1, r_2]) \Rightarrow r_2 = r_2' \)
2. \( m([r_1, r]) + m([r, r_2]) = m([r_1, r_2]) \)
3. \( m([r_1, r_2]) = x + y \Rightarrow \exists r (m([r_1, r]) = x) \).

**Definition 5** An abstract \( DC \) frame is a tuple of the form \( F = \langle \langle T, \leq \rangle, \langle D, +, 0 \rangle, m \rangle \),

where \( \langle T, \leq \rangle \) is a time domain, \( \langle D, +, 0 \rangle \) is a duration domain, and \( m : I(T) \rightarrow D \)
is a measure.

The existence of a measure \( m : I(T) \rightarrow D \) clearly imposes restrictions on \( \langle T, \leq \rangle \).

Some linearly ordered sets do not admit such a measure for any duration domain.
Definition 6 Given a DC vocabulary \( L \) and an abstract DC frame \( F = \langle (T, \leq), (D, +, 0), m \rangle \), an interpretation of \( L \) into \( F \) is a mapping \( I \) of \( L \) which satisfies the following conditions:

- \( I(c), I(x) \in D \) for constant symbols \( c \) and individual variables \( x \);
- \( I(f) : D^n \to D \) for \( n \)-place function symbols \( f \);
- \( I(v) : I(T) \to D \) for temporal variables \( v \);
- \( I(R) : D^n \to \{0, 1\} \) for \( n \)-place relation symbols \( R \);
- \( I(P) : T \to \{0, 1\} \) for state variables \( P \);
- \( I(A) : I(T) \to \{0, 1\} \) for temporal propositional letters \( A \).

The following condition, known as finite variability of state, is imposed on the interpretations of state variables:

\[
\text{For every } [\tau_1, \tau_2] \in I(T) \text{ such that } \tau_1 < \tau_2, \text{ and every state variable } P \text{ there exist } \tau'_1, \ldots, \tau'_n \in T \text{ such that } \tau_1 = \tau'_1 < \ldots < \tau'_n = \tau_2 \text{ and } I(P) \text{ is constant on the semi-open intervals } [\tau'_i, \tau'_{i+1}], i = 1, \ldots, n-1.
\]

Finite variability can be defined as piece-wise continuity of \( I(P) \) in the real-time case. This is less restrictive but leads to the same notion of validity in DC.

Definition 7 Given DC vocabulary \( L \), a DC abstract model for \( L \) is a tuple of the form \( M = \langle F, I \rangle \) where \( F \) is a DC abstract frame, and \( I \) is an interpretation of \( L \) into \( F \).

Definition 8 Let \( s \) be in some DC vocabulary \( L \). Interpretations \( I \) and \( J \) of \( L \) into the same abstract frame are said to \( s \)-agree, if \( I(s') = J(s') \) for all \( s' \) in \( L \), except possibly \( s \).

Given intervals \( \sigma_1 \) and \( \sigma_2 \) in the same time domain, we denote \( \sigma_1 \cup \sigma_2 \) by \( \sigma_1 \rangle \sigma_2 \), in case \( \max \sigma_1 = \min \sigma_2 \). This use of \( \rangle \) in our meta-language is related but formally different from its use in DC formulas. Since \( \rangle \) is associative, we omit parentheses in expressions with consecutive occurrences of \( \rangle \).

Definition 9 Let \( (F, I) \) be an abstract DC model, \( F = \langle (T, \leq), (D, +, 0), m \rangle \) and \( \tau \in T \). Then the values \( I_\sigma(S) \) of state expressions \( S \) in the vocabulary of \( I \) are defined by the clauses:

\[
\begin{align*}
I_\sigma(0) & = 0 \\
I_\sigma(P) & = I(P)(\tau) \text{ for state variables } P \\
I_\sigma(\neg S) & = 1 - I_\sigma(S) \\
I_\sigma(S_1 \lor S_2) & = \max(I_\sigma(S_1), I_\sigma(S_2))
\end{align*}
\]

Given an interval \( \sigma \in I(T) \), the values \( I_\sigma(t) \) of terms \( t \) are defined by the clauses:

\[
\begin{align*}
I_\sigma(c) & = I(c) \text{ for constant symbols } c, \\
I_\sigma(x) & = I(x) \text{ for individual variables } x, \\
I_\sigma(v) & = I(v)(\sigma) \text{ for temporal variables } v, \\
I_\sigma(f) & = \int_{\min \sigma}^{\max \sigma} I_\sigma(S) \, d\tau \text{ for state expressions } S, \\
I_\sigma(f(t_1, \ldots, t_n)) & = I(f)(I_\sigma(t_1), \ldots, I_\sigma(t_n)) \text{ for } n\text{-place function symbols } f.
\end{align*}
\]
To define $\int_{\min \sigma}^{\max \sigma} I_T(S) d\tau$, let $n < \omega$ and $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n \in I(T)$ be such that $\sigma = \sigma_1 \ldots \sigma_n$, and $I_T(S)$ is constant for $\tau \in [\min \sigma_i, \max \sigma_i]$, $i = 1, \ldots, n$. Then

$$\max_\sigma \int_{\min \sigma}^{\max \sigma} I_T(S) d\tau = \sum_{i=1, \ldots, n, \ i_{\min \sigma_i}(S) = 1} m(\sigma_i).$$

Clearly, this value does not depend on the precise choice of $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n$.

The modelling relation $\models$ is defined by the clauses:

- $(F, I), \sigma \not\models \bot$
- $(F, I), \sigma \models A$ if $I(A)(\sigma) = 1$ for temporal propositional letters $A$
- $(F, I), \sigma \models R(t_1, \ldots, t_n)$ if $I(R)(I_\sigma(t_1), \ldots, I_\sigma(t_n)) = 1$
- $(F, I), \sigma \models \neg \varphi$ if $(F, I), \sigma \not\models \varphi$
- $(F, I), \sigma \models (\varphi \lor \psi)$ if either $(F, I), \sigma \models \varphi$ or $(F, I), \sigma \models \psi$
- $(F, I), \sigma \models (\varphi \land \psi)$ if $(F, I), \sigma_1 \models \varphi$ and $(F, I), \sigma_2 \models \psi$
- $(F, I), \sigma \models \exists x \varphi$ if $(F, J), \sigma \models \varphi$ for some $I$ which $x$-agrees with $J$

Sometimes it is convenient to work with the set of intervals which satisfy a formula. Let $(F, I)$ be a DC model where $F = (\langle T, \leq \rangle, \langle D, +, 0 \rangle, m)$. Then we denote the set

$$\{ \sigma \in I(T) : (F, I), \sigma \models \varphi \}$$

by $\hat{I}(\varphi)$. Let $X, Y \subseteq I(T)$. Then $X \hat{\setminus} Y$ stands for the set

$$\{ \sigma_1 \setminus \sigma_2 : \sigma_1 \in X, \sigma_2 \in Y, \max \sigma_1 = \min \sigma_2 \}.$$

1.3 Abbreviations

The customary infix notation for $+$, $\leq$ and $=$ is used in DC. $\top$, $\land$, $\Rightarrow$ and $\land, \lor, \not=, \geq, < \text{ and } >$ are used in the usual way. We assume that $\setminus$ binds less tightly than boolean connectives. Since $\setminus$ is associative, we omit parentheses in formulas with consecutive occurrences of $\setminus$. The following abbreviations are generally accepted in DC:

$$1 \equiv \neg 0$$

$[S] \equiv \int S = \ell \land \ell \not= 0$

$\Diamond \varphi \equiv \top \land \varphi \land \top$

$\Box \varphi \equiv \neg \Diamond \neg \varphi$

$\varphi^0 \equiv \ell = 0$

$\varphi^k \equiv \varphi \ldots \varphi$ for $k > 0$

The temporal variable $\ell$ is often introduced as an abbreviation or $\int 1$. As usual, we write $nt$ for $t + \ldots + t$. $n$ times
1.4 Iteration and quantification over state in DC

DC is extended by iteration and quantification over state by allowing formulas of the forms $\varphi^*$ and $\exists P \varphi$ where $P$ is a state variable, respectively. The relation $\models$ is defined on such formulas by the clauses:

$$(F, I), \sigma \models \varphi^* \text{ iff either } m(\sigma) = 0, \text{ or there exist } n < \omega \text{ and } \sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_n \in I(T_F) \text{ such that } \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_n = \sigma \text{ and } (F, I), \sigma_i \models \varphi \text{ for } i = 1, \ldots, n,$$

$$(F, I), \sigma \models \exists P \varphi \text{ iff } (F, J), \sigma \models \varphi \text{ for some } I \text{ which } P\text{-agrees with } J.$$

Iteration $^*$ binds more tightly than $\cdots$ and the propositional connectives.

1.5 Proof systems for DC

Here we present the relatively complete proof system for DC from [HZ92] and the $\omega$-complete system from [Gue98], because our new axioms and rule about iteration are supposed to work as additions to these systems. Next, we give the axioms and rules about quantification over state in HDC. We use them together with our axioms about iteration to prove the correctness of an explicit definition of iteration in HDC.

The Hilbert-style proof system for DC from [HZ92] includes a proof system for first order logic with equality (cf. e.g. [Sho67]), axioms and rules for ITL (cf. e.g. [Dut95a]) and some DC-specific axioms and rules ([HZ92]). We assume that the readers are familiar with Hilbert-style proof systems for first order logic. Here follow the ITL- and DC-specific axioms and rules.

1.5.1 Axioms and rules for ITL

(A1) $$(\varphi \neg \psi) \land \neg(\chi \neg \psi) \Rightarrow (\varphi \land \neg \chi \neg \psi), (\varphi \neg \psi) \land \neg(\varphi \neg \chi) \Rightarrow (\varphi \neg \psi \land \neg \chi)$$

(A2) $$((\varphi \neg \psi) \neg \chi) \Rightarrow (\varphi \neg (\psi \neg \chi))$$

(B) $$(\varphi \neg \psi) \Rightarrow \varphi, (\psi \neg \varphi) \Rightarrow \varphi \text{ if } \varphi \text{ is rigid}$$

(B) $$(\exists x \varphi \neg \psi) \Rightarrow \exists x (\varphi \neg \psi), (\psi \neg \exists x \varphi) \Rightarrow \exists x (\psi \neg \varphi) \text{ if } x \notin FV(\psi)$$

(L1) $$(\ell = x \neg \varphi) \Rightarrow \neg(\ell = x \neg \varphi), (\varphi \neg x = x) \Rightarrow \neg(\neg \varphi \neg x = x)$$

(L2) $$\ell = x + y \iff (\ell = x \neg \ell = y)$$

(L3) $$\varphi \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \neg \varphi), \varphi \Rightarrow (\varphi \neg \ell = 0)$$

(N) $$\frac{\varphi}{\neg (\neg \varphi \neg \psi)}, \frac{\varphi}{(\psi \neg \varphi)}$$

(Mono) $$\frac{\varphi \Rightarrow \psi}{(\varphi \neg \chi) \Rightarrow (\psi \neg \chi)}, \frac{\varphi \Rightarrow \psi}{(\chi \neg \varphi) \Rightarrow (\chi \neg \psi)}$$

The presence of the modality $\neg$ and flexible symbols in ITL brings a restriction on the use of first order logic rules and axioms which involve substitution: $[t/x] \varphi$ is allowed in proofs only if no variable in $t$ becomes bound due to the substitution, and either $t$ is rigid or $\neg$ does not occur in $\varphi$. It is known that the above proof system for ITL is complete with respect to abstract-time models [Dut95a].

1.5.2 DC axioms and rules

\((DC1)\) \(\int 0 = 0\)

\((DC2)\) \(\int 1 = \ell\)

\((DC3)\) \(\int S \geq 0\)

\((DC4)\) \(\int S_1 + \int S_2 = \int (S_1 \lor S_2) + \int (S_1 \land S_2)\)

\((DC5)\) \(\int S = x \iff \int S = y \Rightarrow \int S = x + y\)

\((DC6)\) \(\int S_1 = \int S_2\) if \(S_1\) and \(S_2\) are propositionally equivalent

\((IR1)\) \[\ell = 0/A][\varphi \Rightarrow [A \lor (\neg [S] \lor \neg [S])]\]

\((IR2)\) \[\ell = 0/A][\varphi \Rightarrow [A \lor (\neg [S] \lor \neg [S])]\]

\((\omega)\) \[\Gamma \vdash ([S] \lor [\neg S]) \Rightarrow \varphi \text{ for all } k < \omega\]

The extension of the proof system for ITL by the axioms DC1-DC6 and the rules IR1 and IR2 is complete with respect to the real time based frame relative to the class of ITL sentences which are valid in this frame [HZ92]. Replacing IR1 and IR2 by the infinitary rule \(\omega\) leads to an \(\omega\)-complete system for DC with respect to the class of the abstract time based models [Gue98], which are considered in this paper. The induction rules IR1 and IR2 are derivable in the system which consists of the ITL axioms and rules, DC1-DC6 and the infinitary rule \(\omega\). Despite that, IR1 and IR2 are preferable for practical purposes because they are finitary. Note that DC3 is redundant in our setting.

The rule \(\omega\) is part of an \(\omega\)-complete proof system, and \(\omega\)-completeness is the equivalence between the consistency and the satisfiability of sets of formulas. Consistency means the impossibility to derive \(\bot\) in the proof system from the given set of formulas, which may be infinite. Since DC is not a compact logic, derivability from infinite sets and derivability from a finite sets differ substantially. That is why we put down the rule \(\omega\) in the form

\[\Gamma \vdash \ldots\]

\[\Gamma \vdash \ldots\]

where \(\Gamma\) stands for a set of formulas, which may as well be infinite. We assume that other proof rules included in the \(\omega\)-complete proof system have this form too. For instance, we adopt the first order logic left \(\exists\)-introduction rule in the form

\[\exists \varphi \Rightarrow \psi\]

\[\exists \varphi \Rightarrow \psi\]

\[\Gamma \vdash \exists \varphi \Rightarrow \psi\]

\[\Gamma \vdash \exists \varphi \Rightarrow \psi\]

where \(\varphi \in \text{FV}(\Gamma), \text{FV}(\psi)\).

Semantically, \(\Gamma \vdash \varphi\) corresponds to \((\land \Gamma) \Rightarrow \varphi\), which may be impossible to write as a single DC formula for infinite \(\Gamma\).

1.5.3 Axioms about quantification over state in DC

\((\exists_a)\) \[\exists P\varphi \Rightarrow \exists P\varphi\] where \(S\) is a state expression

\((B^*)\) \[\exists P(\neg \varphi) \Rightarrow \exists P(\neg \varphi), (\psi \exists P \varphi) \Rightarrow \exists P(\psi \varphi)\] if \(P \notin \text{FV}(\psi)\)

\((\neg a^*)\) \[x = 0 \lor \ell \leq x \lor \exists P([S_1 \iff P] \land \ell = x \iff [S_2 \iff P])\]

\[(\exists)\) \[\Gamma \vdash \varphi \Rightarrow \psi\]

\[(\exists)\) \[\Gamma \vdash \exists P \varphi \Rightarrow \psi\], where \(P \notin \text{FV}(\Gamma), \text{FV}(\psi)\).
The meanings of $B^*$, $∃^r$ and $∃^l$ are self-explanatory. The axiom $\sim^*$ states that, given two states $S_1$ and $S_2$ and a chopping point which is internal to the reference interval, there is a state $P$ which equals $S_1$ on the left of the chopping point and $S_2$ on the right. Recall here that our definition of finite variability implies that states are right-continuous.

1.5.4 $\omega$-Completeness of $DC$ and $HDC$

A set $\Gamma$ of $DC$ ($HDC$) formulas is called consistent, if $\bot$ cannot be derived from $\Gamma$, and theorems of the above proof system for $DC$ ($HDC$) using only the rules $MP$ and $\omega$. Consistency in $DC$ implies consistency in $HDC$, because it is a conservative extension of $DC$. The $\omega$-completeness theorem for abstract-time $DC$ is as follows:

**Theorem 1 ([Gue98])** Let $\Gamma$ be a consistent set of $DC$ formulas in some vocabulary $L$. Then there exists an abstract model $M$ for $L$ and an interval $\sigma$ in its time domain such that $M, \sigma \models \varphi$ for all $\varphi \in \Gamma$.

The rule $\omega$ facilitates the use of maximal consistent sets of formulas in the proof of Theorem 1. We use such sets to prove our completeness results for $DC^*$ and therefore the proof systems we consider are extensions of the system including $\omega$. Theorem 1 applies to the proof system for $HDC$ which includes the axioms from Section 1.5.3 too [Gue00c].

2 Axioms and a rule about iteration in $DC$

We combine the axioms $DC^*1$-$DC^*4$ and the rule $DC^*5$ below into three groups. All the groups include the axioms $DC^*1$ and $DC^*2$. Each group includes one of $DC^*3$, $DC^*4$ and $DC^*5$.

- $(DC^*1)$ $\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi^*$
- $(DC^*2)$ $(\varphi^* \sim \varphi) \Rightarrow \varphi^*$

The meanings of $DC^*1$ and $DC^*2$ are straightforward.

- $(DC^*3)$ $(\varphi^* \land \psi \sim \top) \Rightarrow (\psi \land \ell = 0 \sim \top) \lor (((\varphi^* \land \sim \psi \sim \varphi) \land \psi \sim \top))$

To understand the meaning of $DC^*3$, assume that some initial subinterval $\sigma'$ of the reference interval $\sigma$ satisfies $\psi$ and $\varphi^*$. Then $\sigma'$ can be represented as $\sigma'_1 \lor \ldots \lor \sigma'_n$, where $n < \omega$ and all the intervals $\pi_0 = [\min \sigma, \min \sigma] = [\min \sigma', \min \sigma']$, $\pi_k = \sigma'_1 \lor \ldots \lor \sigma'_k$, $k = 1, \ldots, n$, satisfy $\varphi^*$, and $\pi_n$ satisfies $\psi$ as well. Now depending on whether the least $k$ such that $\pi_k$ satisfies $\psi$ is 0 or not, $\sigma$ satisfies either the left or the right disjunctive member after $\Rightarrow$ in $DC^*3$.

- $(DC^*4)$ $\Box(\ell = 0 \lor (\psi \sim \varphi) \Rightarrow \psi) \Rightarrow (\varphi^* \Rightarrow \psi)$

$DC^*4$ is an expression of the fact that $\bar{I}(\varphi^*)$ is the least set of time intervals $X \subseteq I(T)$ which satisfies the inclusion $\bar{I}(\ell = 0) \cup \bar{I}(\varphi) \sim X \subseteq X$.

To put down the rule $DC^*5$, we need the formula

$$f(\varphi, Q) \equiv \neg((\top \sim [Q]) \lor \ell = 0 \sim [\neg Q] \land \neg \varphi \sim ([Q] \sim \top)) \lor \ell = 0).$$
This formula means that every maximal non-trivial subinterval of the reference interval which satisfies $[\neg Q]$ satisfies $\varphi$ too. Let
\[ g(\varphi, P) \equiv f(\varphi, P) \land f(\neg P). \]
This formula means that all maximal non-trivial subintervals of the reference interval $\sigma$ which satisfy either $[P]$ or $[\neg P]$ satisfy $\varphi$ too. Since these intervals form a finite partition of $\sigma$, if $\sigma$ satisfies $g(\varphi, P)$, then it also satisfies $\varphi^*$. Here follows the rule itself:
\[ (DC^*5) \quad \Gamma \vdash (\alpha \land g(\varphi, P) \land \beta) \Rightarrow \psi, \text{ where } P \notin FV(\Gamma \cup \{\varphi, \psi, \alpha, \beta\}). \]
To understand $DC^*5$, consider the simpler rule
\[ \Gamma \vdash g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \psi, \text{ where } P \notin FV(\Gamma \cup \{\varphi, \psi\}), \]
which can be derived from the instance of $DC^*5$ with $\alpha$ and $\beta$ both being $\ell = 0$. As mentioned above, if a reference interval $\sigma$ satisfies $g(\varphi, P)$, then the time points at which $P$ changes its value inside $\sigma$ partition it into subintervals which satisfy $\varphi$, and therefore $\sigma$ itself satisfies $\varphi^*$. Given a concrete interpretation of $P$, the points at which $P$ changes its value define a concrete finite partition of $\sigma$, whereas for $\sigma$ to satisfy $\varphi^*$ we just need the existence of such a partition. The role of the side condition $P \notin FV(\Gamma \cup \{\varphi, \psi\})$ is to handle this. This side condition implies that the validity of
\[ g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \psi \] (4)
is equivalent to the validity of
\[ \exists P g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \psi. \] (5)
Putting $P$ in the scope of $\exists$ gives exactly what needed, because $\sigma$ satisfies $\varphi^*$ if there exists a finite partition of $\sigma$ into subintervals each of which satisfies $\varphi$, and a fresh state variable $P$ can always be chosen to change its value exactly at the dividing points of such a finite partition. Hence the antecedent of (5) is equivalent to $\varphi^*$. By putting down a proof rule instead of the equivalence
\[ \exists P g(\varphi, P) \Leftrightarrow \varphi^*, \] (6)
we axiomatise iteration in $DC$ without resorting to the state variable binding quantifier. Below we show how (6) can be proved in the system for $HDC$ from Section 1 using the axioms $DC^*1$, $DC^*2$ and $DC^*4$ about iteration.
Note that the scope of the soundness of $DC^*1 – DC^*4$ is, in fact, the extension $ITL^*$ of $ITL$ by iteration, because these axioms involve no $DC$-specific constructs.
3 Completeness of DC*1, DC*2 and DC*5 for iteration in abstract-time DC*

The ω-completeness of the proof system for abstract-time DC which includes the axioms and the rule ω from Section 1.5.2 can be proved following the example from [Gue98], which on its turn builds on [Dut95a]. In this section we prove that adding DC*1, DC*2 and DC*5 to this system leads to an ω-complete proof system for abstract-time DC*. The proof involves a Lindenbaum lemma to extend the given consistent set of formulas Γ₀ to a maximal consistent set Γ with appropriately chosen witnesses, the construction of a canonical model M from Γ and a truth lemma to prove that a distinguished interval in M satisfies all the formulas from Γ and, consequently, from Γ₀. The presence of iteration and DC*1, DC*2 and DC*5 affects mostly the Lindenbaum lemma and the truth lemma. The rest of the completeness proof is much like in [Gue98] and therefore we skip most of the details.

3.1 Maximal consistent sets and the Lindenbaum lemma for DC*

The use of a maximal consistent set of formulas in the completeness proof for a quantified logic involves Henkin constants also known as witnesses for the existential formulas in the set. In the case of first order predicate logic the only existential formulas are those in which the quantifier binds an individual variable. A constant c is called a witness for the existential formula ∃xϕ in a set of formulas Γ if ∃xϕ ⇒ [c/x]ϕ ∈ Γ. Along with the first order quantifier ∃, DC* implicitly involves two more kinds of existential formulas. The finite variability requirement on state means that DC models validate the formula (∃k < ω)(⌈⌈S⌉⌉ ∨ ⌈⌈¬S⌉⌉)k for every state expression S. The definition (6) of iteration in HDC involves the quantifier prefix ∃P. We use maximal consistent sets which have witnesses for such formulas, despite that they do not occur in DC* languages explicitly. These witnesses are freely occurring state variables and therefore can be regarded as constants, and formulas of the form (⌈⌈S⌉⌉ ∨ [⌈∽S⌉])k for concrete k, respectively.

**Definition 10** Let C be a set of constants and state variables. A set of DC* formulas Γ written in some vocabulary L has witnesses in C if for every existential formula ∃xϕ ∈ Γ there is a constant c ∈ C such that [c/x]ϕ ∈ Γ, for every state expression S written in L there is a k < ω such that ([S] ∨ [∽S])k ∈ Γ and for every formula of the form (α∽ϕ^β) ∈ Γ there is a state variable P such that (α∽g(ϕ, P)^β) ∈ Γ.

**Lemma 1 (Lindenbaum lemma)** Let L be a countable DC vocabulary and Γ₀ be a consistent set of DC* formulas in this vocabulary. Let a set C consist of countably many constant symbols and countably many state variables such that C ∩ L = ∅. Then there exists a maximal consistent set Γ of DC* formulas in the vocabulary L ∪ C which has witnesses in C.
Proof: This proof follows a general pattern known from numerous modal logics.

Let the set of all the $DC^*$ formulas written in the vocabulary $L \cup C$ be $\{ \phi_i : i < \omega \}$ and the set of all the state expressions from $L \cup C$ be $\{ S_j : j < \omega \}$. We define the sequence $\Gamma_k$, $k < \omega$ of consistent sets of such formulas by induction on $k$. $\Gamma_0$ is as given in the theorem. Since $\Gamma_0$ consists of formulas in $L$ and we obtain $\Gamma_{k+1}$ by adding finitely many formulas written in $L \cup C$ to $\Gamma_k$ for each $k$, we can assume that there are both constants and state variables in $C$ which do not occur in $\Gamma_k$ for all $k$. To define the sequence $\Gamma_k$, $k < \omega$, we use a pair of functions $\pi_1, \pi_2 : \omega \to \omega$ such that for every pair $i, j < \omega$ there is a $k < \omega$ satisfying $\pi_1(k) = i$ and $\pi_2(k) = j$. Here follow the definition of $\Gamma_k$ for $k > 0$:

Assume that $\Gamma_k$ has been defined for some $k < \omega$ and let $i = \pi_1(k), j = \pi_2(k)$. If $\Gamma_k \cup \{ \phi_i \}$ is not consistent, then $\Gamma_{k+1} = \Gamma_k$. Otherwise we consider the following cases:

1. $\phi_i$ is the existential formula $\exists x \psi$. Then we choose a constant $c \in C$ such that $c$ does not occur in the formulas from $\Gamma_k$ and put $\Gamma_{k+1} = \Gamma_k \cup \{ \psi[c/x] \}$. Assume that $\Gamma_{k+1}$ is not consistent for the sake of contradiction. Then we have $\Gamma, \exists x \psi \vdash \neg[c/x] \psi$. Since $c$ occurs neither in $\Gamma_k$, nor in $\psi$, replacing it by a fresh individual variable $y$ will give $\Gamma_k, \exists x \psi \vdash \neg[y/x] \psi$ again. This, by an application of $\exists_l$, will bring $\Gamma_k, \exists x \psi \vdash \forall y \neg[y/x] \psi$, which is a contradiction.

2. $\phi_i$ is $(\alpha \neg \psi \neg \beta)$. Then we choose a state variable $P \in C$ which does not occur in $\Gamma_k \cup \{ \phi_i \}$ and put $\Gamma_{k+1} = \Gamma_k \cup \{ \phi_i, (\alpha \neg g(\psi, P) \neg \beta) \}$. Assuming that $\Gamma_k, \phi_i \vdash (\alpha \neg g(\psi, P) \neg \beta) \Rightarrow \bot$ brings a contradiction by an application of the rule $DC^*$.

Hence $\Gamma_{k+1}$ is consistent.

3. $\phi_i$ is $\top$. Then we choose a $l < \omega$ such that $\Gamma_k \cup \{ (\lceil S_j \rceil \lor \lceil \neg S_j \rceil)^{l} \}$ is consistent and put $\Gamma_{k+1} = \Gamma_k \cup \{ (\lceil S_j \rceil \lor \lceil \neg S_j \rceil)^{l} \}$. Such an $l$ exists because assuming that $\Gamma_k \vdash \neg (\lceil S_j \rceil \lor \lceil \neg S_j \rceil)^{l}$ for all $l < \omega$ implies that $\Gamma_k$ itself is inconsistent by an application of the infinitary rule $\omega$.

4. $\phi_i$ is of none of the above forms. Then we put $\Gamma_{k+1} = \Gamma_k \cup \{ \phi_i \}$.

Now let us prove that the union $\Gamma = \bigcup_{k<\omega} \Gamma_k$ is consistent, has witnesses in $L \cup C$ and either $\varphi \in \Gamma$ or $\neg \varphi \in \Gamma$ for every formula $\varphi$ written in $L \cup C$, which implies that $\Gamma$ is maximal.

To prove that $\Gamma$ is maximal, assume that $\varphi$ is a formula in $L \cup C$ and $\neg \varphi \notin \Gamma$ for the sake of contradiction. Let $k_1, k_2 < \omega$ be such that $\varphi$ is $\varphi_{\pi_1(k_1)}$ and $\neg \varphi$ is $\varphi_{\pi_1(k_2)}$. Then, by the definition of the sets $\Gamma_k, \Gamma_{max_k_1, k_2}$ is inconsistent with both $\varphi$ and $\neg \varphi$, which is a contradiction.

The cases 1-3 of the inductive definition of the sequence $\Gamma_k$ clearly imply that $\Gamma$ has witnesses in $C$.

Since $\bot \notin \Gamma_k$ for all $k$, $\bot \notin \Gamma$ as well. Hence, to establish the consistency of $\Gamma$, we just need to prove that $\Gamma$ contains all the theorems of our proof system written in the vocabulary $L \cup C$ and is closed under the rules $MP$ and $\omega$. The only non-trivial part of this proof is about the closedness under $\omega$. Let $(\lceil S \rceil \lor \lceil \neg S \rceil)^{l} \Rightarrow \varphi \in \Gamma$ for all $l < \omega$. Let $S$ be $S_j$, $k < \omega$ be such that $\pi_2(k) = j$ and $\varphi_{\pi_1(k)}$ is $\top$. Then there is an $l < \omega$ such that $(\lceil S_j \rceil \lor \lceil \neg S_j \rceil)^{l} \in \Gamma_{k+1}$ by the definition of this set, whence $\varphi \in \Gamma$. □
We intend to use the set $\Gamma$ whose existence was shown in Lemma 1 to construct a model $M$ for the vocabulary $L \cup C$ so that $M$ satisfies the formulas from $\Gamma$ at a distinguished interval $\sigma$. To define the interpretations of the symbols from $L \cup C$ at the subintervals of $\sigma$, we intend to use sets of formulas of the form

$$\{ \varphi : ((\ell = c'\neg\varphi) \land \ell = c''\neg\top) \in \Gamma \}$$

for appropriately chosen constants $c', c'' \in C$.

**Lemma 2** Let $\Gamma$ be a maximal consistent set of formulas written in the vocabulary $L \cup C$ and $c'$ and $c''$ be constants from $C$ such that $c' \leq c''$ and $c'' \leq \ell \in \Gamma$. Then (7) is a maximal consistent set in the vocabulary $L \cup C$ which has witnesses in $C$.

**Proof:** Let us denote the set (7) by $\Delta$. For every formula $\varphi$ either $((\ell = c'\neg\varphi) \land \ell = c''\neg\top) \in \Gamma$ or $((\ell = c'\neg\varphi) \land \ell = c''\neg\top) \in \Gamma$. Hence for every $\varphi$ either $\varphi \in \Delta$ or $\neg\varphi \in \Delta$ and therefore $\Delta$ is maximal. To realise that $\Delta$ has witnesses in $C$, note that $\exists x \varphi \in \Delta$ is equivalent to $\exists x((\ell = c'\neg\varphi) \land \ell = c''\neg\top) \in \Gamma$, $(\alpha \varphi \beta) \in \Delta$ is equivalent to $((\ell = c'\neg\varphi) \land \ell = c''\neg\top) \in \Gamma$ for some $c'' \in C$ such that $c'' + c'' = \ell \in \Gamma$, and $(\exists S) \lor (\lnot S)' \in \Gamma$ implies $((S) \lor (\lnot S)) \in \Delta$ for some $l' \leq l$. $\bot \not\in \Delta$ and therefore the consistency of $\Delta$ follows from its closedness under the proof rules, which is established like in the proof of Lemma 1. \hfill $\Box$

### 3.2 The canonical construction for abstract-time $DC^*$

Let $L$ and $C$ be as in the previous section and $\Gamma$ be a maximal consistent set of formulas in the vocabulary $L \cup C$ with witnesses in $C$. Let

$$c_1 \equiv c_2 \iff c_1 = c_2 \in \Gamma$$

for constants $c_1, c_2 \in C$. Clearly, $\equiv$ is an equivalence relation on the constants from $C$. Let $[c]$ denote the $\equiv$-equivalence class which contains $c$ for each constant $c \in C$. Let $D$ be the set

$$\{ [c] : c \text{ is a constant in } C \}.$$

Let $T$ be the set

$$\{ [c] : c \in C, c \leq \ell \in \Gamma \}.$$

Let

$$[c'] \leq [c''] \iff c' \leq c'' \in \Gamma.$$

Clearly, $\leq$ is a linear ordering on $T$ and $(T, \leq)$ is a time domain. Let the mapping $I$ be defined on the vocabulary $L \cup C$ by the clauses:

1. $I(x), I(d) \in D$ for individual variables $x$ and constants $d$, and

$$I(x) = \{ c \in C : c = x \in \Gamma \}, \quad I(d) = \{ c \in C : c = d \in \Gamma \}.$$
Lemma 3 (Truth lemma) Let \( \sigma \in I(T) \) and \( \sigma = [c'], [c''] \) for some \( c', c'' \in C \). Let \( \Delta = \{ \varphi : ((\ell = c''\neg\varphi) \land \ell = c''\neg\top) \in \Gamma \} \). Then
\[
I_\varphi(t) = \{ c \in C : t = c \in \Delta \}
\]
for every term \( t \) and every formula \( \varphi \) written in the vocabulary \( L \cup C \).

Proof: The proof about terms is by induction on their construction. The proof about formulas is by induction on the lexicographical ordering of the pairs \( ([\varphi]^*, [\varphi]) \), where \( |\varphi^*| \) denotes the length of \( \varphi \) and \( |\varphi^*| = \max\{|\psi| : \psi^* \text{ is a subformula of } \varphi\} \).

Since we are focussing on iteration in this paper, we do only the induction step about \( \varphi \) of the form \( \psi^* \).

Let \( \psi^* \in \Delta \). \( \Delta \) has witnesses in \( C \) by Lemma 2. This implies that there is a state variable \( P \in C \) such that \( g(\psi, P) \in \Delta \) and there is an \( l < \omega \) such that \( ([P] \lor [\neg P])^k \in \Delta \). Let \( k \) be chosen to be the least one with this property. Then we have \( ([Q_1] \ldots \neg[Q_k]) \in \Delta \) where \( Q_1, \ldots, Q_k \in \{ P, \neg P \} \) and \( Q_i \) is \( P \) iff \( Q_{i-1} \) is \( \neg P \) for \( i \geq 2 \). Together with \( g(\psi, P) \in \Delta \), this implies that \( \psi^k \in \Delta \), which, by the induction hypothesis, implies that \( M, \sigma \models \psi^k \) and, consequently, \( M, \sigma \models \psi^* \).

Now let \( M, \sigma \models \psi^* \). Then \( M, \sigma \models \psi^k \) for some \( k < \omega \), which implies that \( (\ell = 0\neg^k) \in \Delta \) for that \( k \). This implies \( \psi^* \in \Delta \) by one application of \( DC^*1 \) and \( k \) applications of \( DC^*2 \).
3.3 The completeness theorem

Now we are ready to prove the \( \omega \)-completeness of our proof system for abstract-time DC*.

**Theorem 2** Let \( \Gamma_0 \) be a consistent set of DC* formulas in the DC vocabulary \( L \). Then there is an abstract DC model \( M_0 \) for \( L \) and an interval \( \sigma \) in the time domain of \( M_0 \) such that \( M_0, \sigma \models \varphi \) for all \( \varphi \in \Gamma_0 \).

**Proof:** According to Lemma 1, \( \Gamma_0 \) can be extended to a maximal consistent set \( \Gamma \) of formulas in the extension \( L \cup C \) by a set \( C \) consisting of countably many fresh individual constants and countably many fresh state variables. The set \( \Gamma \) can be constructed to have witnesses in \( C \). Now consider the model \( M = \langle F, I \rangle \) which was constructed from such a set \( \Gamma \) in Section 3.2. Let \( c', c'' \in C \) satisfy the conditions \( c' = 0, c'' = \ell \in \Gamma \). Then \( c' \leq c'' \in \Gamma \) and the set \( (7) \) is \( \Gamma \) itself. Then Lemma 3 implies that \( M, [[c'], [c'']] \models \varphi \) for all \( \varphi \in \Gamma \) and, in particular, for all \( \varphi \in \Gamma_0 \). To obtain \( M_0 \) from \( M \), one only needs to replace \( I \) by its restriction to the vocabulary \( L \). \( \square \)

4 The interderivability between DC*3, DC*4 and DC*5

As seen in the previous section, the proof rule DC*5 is implicitly related to the state variable binding existential quantifier in DC*. The key ingredient in this rule is the formula \( g(\varphi, P) \). In this section we first show that in HDC, which includes this quantifier, one can prove the correctness of an explicit definition for iteration involving this formula by means of the HDC-specific axioms and rules from Section 1.5.3 and the group of axioms about iteration which consists of DC*1, DC*2 and DC*4. This means that DC*5 can be regarded as a derived rule in the extension of the proof system for HDC by the axioms DC*1, DC*2 and DC*4 about iteration. We also prove that DC*4 is derivable from DC*3 in the proof system for DC without quantification over state. Furthermore, we prove that DC*3 and DC*4 are derivable in the the proof system for DC which has the axioms DC*1, DC*2 and the rule DC*5 about iteration. Taken apart from the other axioms about iteration, DC*4 is weaker than DC*3. 5dvh change We give no proof of DC*3 in a system with DC*4 being as the induction axiom.

In the deductions below we give in detail only the steps which involve iteration- and state-variable-quantifier-specific axioms and rules. We skip the detail on other steps and mark them by “DC” to indicate that they can be made in DC with neither iteration, nor state variable quantifier.

**Proposition 1** Let \( P \notin FV(\varphi) \). Then

\[
\exists P g(\varphi, P) \leftrightarrow \varphi^*
\]
is provable in the extension of the proof system for HDC by the axioms DC*1, DC*2 and DC*4, and also in the extension of this proof system by DC*1, DC*2 and DC*3.

Proof: Here follow deductions of $\varphi^* \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)$ and $\exists P g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \varphi^*$ involving DC*4.

$\varphi^* \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)$:

1. $(g(\varphi, P) \varnothing) \Rightarrow$ 
   $\Rightarrow g(\varphi, P) \lor \varnothing \lor \exists x (x \neq 0 \land x < \ell \land (g(\varphi, P) \land \ell = x \varnothing))$ \quad DC

2. $\varnothing \Rightarrow \ell = 0 \lor [1] \land \varnothing$ \quad DC

3. $\ell = 0 \Rightarrow g(\varphi, P)$ \quad DC

4. $[1] \land \varnothing \Rightarrow \exists P ([P] \land \varnothing)$ \quad $\exists^*$

5. $[P] \land \varnothing \Rightarrow g(\varphi, P)$ \quad DC

6. $\exists P ([P] \land \varnothing) \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)$ \quad 5, $\exists^*$, $\exists^*

7. $\varnothing \Rightarrow g(\varphi, P) \lor \exists P g(\varphi, P)$ \quad 2-4, 6, DC

8. $x \neq 0 \land x < \ell \Rightarrow \exists Q (\ell = x \land [Q \equiv P] \Rightarrow [Q \equiv 0])$ \quad $\sim^*$

9. $x \neq 0 \land x < \ell \Rightarrow \exists Q (\ell = x \land [Q \equiv P] \Rightarrow [Q \equiv 1])$ \quad $\sim^*$

10. $x \neq 0 \land x < \ell \land (g(\varphi, P) \land \ell = x \varnothing) \Rightarrow$
    $\Rightarrow (g(\varphi, P) \land ([T \equiv P] \land \ell = x \varnothing)) \lor$
    $\lor (g(\varphi, P) \land ([T \equiv P] \land \ell = x \varnothing))$ \quad DC

11. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad 11, 12, DC, $\exists^*$

12. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad 13, DC

13. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad 8, 14, DC

14. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad like 15, but
   using 9 instead of 8

15. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad 10, 15, 16, DC

16. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad 17, DC

17. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad 1, 7, 18, DC

18. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$, $\exists^*$, DC

19. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$

20. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$

21. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$

22. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$

23. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$

24. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$

25. $\exists Q g(\varphi, Q)$ \quad $\exists^*$

26. $\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)$ \quad 3, $\exists^*$, DC

27. $\ell = 0 \lor \exists P g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)$ \quad 25, 26, DC

28. $\square (\ell = 0 \lor \exists P g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)) \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)$ \quad 27, DC

29. $\varphi^* \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P)$ \quad 28, DC*4, DC
$\exists P g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \varphi^*$:

1. \( g(\varphi, P) \land ([P] \lor [\neg P])^k \Rightarrow \bigvee_{l \leq k} \varphi^l \) \( k < \omega, DC \)
2. \( \varphi^l \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \land \varphi^l) \) \( l < \omega, DC \)
3. \( (\ell = 0 \land \varphi^l) \Rightarrow \varphi^* \) \( l < \omega, DC^*1, DC^*2, DC \)
4. \( ([P] \lor [\neg P])^k \Rightarrow (g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \varphi^*) \) \( k < \omega, 1-3, DC \)
5. \( g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \varphi^* \) \( 4, \omega \)
6. \( \exists P g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \varphi^* \) \( 5, \exists P g^* \)

A deduction of \( \varphi^* \Rightarrow \exists P g(\varphi, P) \) can be obtained using the instance of \( DC^*3 \) with \( \psi \) being \( \neg \exists g(\varphi, P) \). We skip it here.

\( \Box \)

**Proposition 2** \( DC^*4 \) is provable in the extension of the proof system for \( DC \) by just \( DC^*3 \).

\textbf{Proof:} Here follows a deduction of \( DC^*4 \) involving \( DC^*3 \):

1. \( \varphi^* \land \neg \psi \Rightarrow (\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land T) \) \( DC \)
2. \( (\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land T) \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \land \neg \psi \land T) \lor ((\varphi^* \land \psi \land \varphi) \land \neg \psi \land T) \) \( DC^*3 \)
3. \( \Box(\ell = 0 \lor (\psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \psi) \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \land \neg \psi \land T) \) \( DC \)
4. \( ((\varphi^* \land \psi \land \varphi) \land \neg \psi \land T) \Rightarrow ((\psi \land \varphi) \land \neg \psi \land T) \) \( DC \)
5. \( \Box(\ell = 0 \lor (\psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \psi) \Rightarrow ((\psi \land \varphi) \land (\varphi^* \land \psi \land \varphi)) \) \( DC \)
6. \( \Box(\ell = 0 \lor (\psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow (\varphi^* \Rightarrow \psi)) \) \( 1-5, DC \)

\( \Box \)

**Proposition 3** \( DC^*3 \) and \( DC^*4 \) is provable in the extension of the proof system for \( DC \) by the axioms \( DC^*1, DC^*2 \) and \( DC^*5 \).

\textbf{Proof:} Here follows a deduction of \( DC^*3 \) involving \( DC^*5 \):

1. \( ([P] \lor [\neg P])^k \land g(\varphi, P) \Rightarrow \bigvee_{l \leq k} \varphi^l \) \( k < \omega, DC \)
2. \( \neg(\ell = 0 \land \psi \land T) \land \varphi^l \Rightarrow (\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi^l) \) \( l < \omega, DC^*1, DC \)
3. \( \neg((\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T)) \land (\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi \land m + 1) \Rightarrow (\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi \land m) \) \( m < \omega, DC^*2, DC^* \)
4. \( \neg(\ell = 0 \land \psi \land T) \land (\psi \land \neg(\neg(\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T))) \land (\neg(\neg(\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T))) \land \varphi \) \( l < \omega, 2, 3, DC \)
5. \( \neg(\neg(\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T)) \) \( \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T) \) \( k < \omega, 1, 4, DC \)
6. \( g(\varphi, P) \land \neg(\ell = 0 \land \psi \land T) \lor \neg(\neg(\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T)) \lor \neg(\psi \land T) \) \( 5, \omega \)
7. \( \neg(\ell = 0 \land \psi \land T) \land (\neg(\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T)) \Rightarrow (\varphi^* \Rightarrow \neg(\psi \land T)) \) \( 6, DC^*5 \)
8. \( \varphi^* \land \psi \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \land \psi \land T) \lor ((\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \land \psi \land T) \) \( 7, DC \)
9. \( (\varphi^* \land \psi \land T) \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \land \psi \land T) \lor ((\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \land \psi \land T \land T) \) \( 8, DC \)
10. \( (\varphi^* \land \psi \land T) \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \land \psi \land T) \lor ((\varphi^* \land \neg \psi \land \varphi) \land \psi \land T) \) \( 9, DC \)

Here follows a deduction of \( DC^*4 \) involving \( DC^*5 \):
5 \ DC^{+}3 as a translation of a \ PDL \ induction \ axiom

The origins of the axiom \( \text{DC}^{+}4 \) and the rule \( \text{DC}^{+}5 \) were given in the introduction. In this section we point to a certain degree of semantical compatibility between the models for \( \text{ITL} \) and the models for propositional dynamic logic (\( \text{PDL} \)). We give a truth-preserving translation of \( \text{PDL} \) formulas into \( \text{ITL} \) formulas, that is based on this semantic correspondence. We show that the axiom \( \text{DC}^{+}3 \) can be obtained by means of this translation from an induction axiom known from \( \text{PDL} \). Basic definitions about \( \text{PDL} \) can be found in, e.g., [AGM92].

Let us assume that set of the time points \( T \) of some abstract \( \text{ITL} \) frame \( F = (\langle T, \leq \rangle, \langle D_{+}, 0 \rangle, m) \) is also the set of the possible worlds of some \( \text{PDL} \) frame. Consider a \( \text{PDL} \) vocabulary consisting of the set of propositional letters \( P \) and the set of relation letters \( R \). Let \( v \) be a \( \text{PDL} \) valuation of the vocabulary \( P \cup R \) into the \( \text{PDL} \) frame based on \( T \), that is, let \( v(p) \subseteq T \) for \( p \in P \) and \( v(r) \subseteq T \times T \) for \( r \in R \). Let us consider only \( \text{PDL} \) valuations \( v \) which satisfy the condition \( v(r) \subseteq \leq \) for \( r \in R \). Since \( \text{Id}_{T} \subseteq \leq \), and \( R, S \subseteq \leq \) implies \( R \cup S, R \circ S \) and \( R^{*} \subseteq \leq \), we can assume that the standard extensions \( \tilde{v} \) of such \( v \) over relation terms give only subrelations of \( \leq \) too.

Assume that \( (T, \leq) \) is bounded, that is, let \( T = [\min T, \max T] \) and consider an \( \text{ITL} \) vocabulary \( L \) whose set of temporal propositional letters is \( P \cup R \). We are not interested in specifying the rest of \( L \). Given the \( \text{PDL} \) valuation \( v \), we can define an interpretation \( I \) of these temporal propositional letters into \( F \) by putting

\[
I(p)([\tau_{1}, \tau_{2}]) = 1 \text{ if and only if } \tau_{1} \in v(p) \text{ and } \tau_{2} = \max T \text{ for } p \in P;
I(r)([\tau_{1}, \tau_{2}]) = 1 \text{ if and only if } (\tau_{1}, \tau_{2}) \in v(r) \text{ for } r \in R.
\]

Let the translation \( t \) of the \( \text{PDL} \) language based on the vocabulary \( P \cup R \) into the \( \text{ITL}^{*} \) language based on \( L \) be defined by the clauses:
t(⊥) ⇔ ⊥
\(t(q) ⇔ q\) for \(q ∈ P ∪ R\);
\(t(φ ∨ ψ) ⇔ t(φ) ∨ t(ψ)\)
\(t(¬φ) ⇔ ¬t(φ)\)
\(t(Id) ⇔ t = 0\)
\(t(α ∪ β) ⇔ t(α) ∨ t(β)\)
\(t(α ⊙ β) ⇔ t((α)^∗t(β))\)
\(t(α^∗) ⇔ (t(α))^∗\)
\(t(αφ) ⇔ (t(α))t(φ)\)

The following proposition explains the correspondence between the PDL model based on \(T\) and \(v\), and the ITL model \((F, I)\) using \(t\):

**Proposition 4** Let \(φ\) be a PDL formula in the vocabulary \(P ∪ R\). Then
\(T, v, min T ≺ φ ≑ (F, I), [min T, max T] ≺ t(φ)\).

**Proof:** Direct check by induction on the construction \(φ\). \(\square\)

PDL has the following induction axiom about iteration in its proof system ([AGM92]):
\((α^∗)(φ → [α]φ) → (φ → [α^∗]φ)\).

The \(t\)-translation of this axiom is equivalent to
\((α^∗ ¬(α^∗ ¬ψ) ∧ ¬ψ) ∨ ((α^∗ ¬ψ) ⇒ ψ)\)  (8)

where \(ψ\) stands for \(¬φ\).

The validity of the PDL induction axiom enforces \((\bar{v}(α))^∗ ≳ \bar{v}(α^∗)\) on the frame level and therefore characterises iteration the way local correspondents do in modal logic (cf. e.g. [vB83]). Characterisation on the frame level assumes the freedom to choose interpretations into a fixed frame and generally does not imply deductive characterisation. The corresponding inclusion about iteration in \(DC^∗\) is enforced on the frame level by \(DC^∗3\), which can be obtained from (8) by replacing its subformulas with \(ψ\) of the form \((χ_1 ¬ψ ∧ χ_2)\) by \((χ_1 ∧ ψ ¬χ_2)\), and some simple ITL transformations. To understand this replacement, note that the satisfaction of formulas of the kind \((χ_1 ¬ψ ∧ χ_2)\) at an interval \(σ\) in a model \(M\) depends on the set of those \(τ ∈ σ\) for which \(M,[τ, max σ] ≺ ψ\). However, such a set of time points \(τ\) can be defined by a condition of the form \(M,[min σ, τ] ≺ ψ′\) for some appropriate \(ψ′\) as well. The move from \((χ_1 ∧ ψ ¬χ_2)\) to \((χ_1 ∧ ψ ¬χ_2)\) facilitated the proof of the completeness of a system for \(DC^∗\) with \(DC^∗3\) in it for subsets of \(DC^∗\) in [Gue98, Gue00c] and the precursor of this paper [DG99]. To achieve deductive characterisation, the benefit from choosing interpretations as allowed on the frame level can be supplied by finding formulas with appropriate meanings. In the case of \(DC^∗3\) the scope of the result from [DG99] is limited by our ability to find formulas \(ψ\) which approximate \(φ^∗\) for \(φ\) in the considered subset and argue that the respective instances of \(DC^∗3\) force \(φ^∗\) to have the right truth value.

The axioms \(DC^∗1\) and \(DC^∗2\) can be obtained by the same translation from the PDL axioms \([α^∗]φ → φ\) and \([α^∗]φ → [α^∗][α]φ\), respectively.
6 Some more examples of the use of $DC^*1–DC^*5$

The interderivability proofs from Section 4 illustrate the working of our axioms and proof rule. In this section we give derivations for a couple of $DC^*$ theorems of general interest and use one of them in a proof about our introductory gas-burner example in order to give some such illustration with a practical flavour.

Here are two derivations of the monotonicity of iteration. One of them involves $DC^*3$:

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha^* \land \neg \beta^* & \Rightarrow (\neg \beta^* \land \ell = 0 \Rightarrow \top) \lor (((\alpha^* \land \beta^* \land \neg \alpha) \land \neg \beta^*) \land \neg \top) \\
& \Rightarrow (((\alpha^* \land \beta^* \land \neg \alpha) \land \neg \beta^*) \land \neg \top) \\
& \Rightarrow (\neg \beta^* \land \beta^*) \land \neg \top \\
& \Rightarrow \bot
\end{align*}
\]

The other involves the proof rules $\omega$ and $DC^*5$:

\[
\begin{align*}
1 & \quad (\lceil P \rceil \lor \lceil \neg P \rceil)^k \Rightarrow \left( g(\alpha, P) \Rightarrow \left( \Box(\varphi \Rightarrow \beta) \Rightarrow \bigvee_{t \leq k} \beta \right) \right) \\
2 & \quad \beta^m \Rightarrow \beta^* \\
3 & \quad (\lceil P \rceil \lor \lceil \neg P \rceil)^k \Rightarrow (g(\alpha, P) \Rightarrow (\Box(\varphi \Rightarrow \beta) \Rightarrow \beta^*)) \\
4 & \quad g(\alpha, P) \Rightarrow (\Box(\varphi \Rightarrow \beta) \Rightarrow \beta^*) \\
5 & \quad \alpha^* \Rightarrow (\Box(\varphi \Rightarrow \beta) \Rightarrow \beta^*) \\
6 & \quad \Box(\varphi \Rightarrow \beta) \Rightarrow (\alpha^* \Rightarrow \beta^*)
\end{align*}
\]

Here follows another useful $DC^*$ theorem:

\[
\begin{align*}
\vdash_{DC^*} & \quad \Box(\varphi \Rightarrow \neg(\top \land \neg \alpha) \land \neg(\neg \beta \land \neg \top)) \\
& \quad \Box(\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha \land \beta) \land \Box(\beta \Rightarrow \neg(\top \land \neg \gamma)) \Rightarrow \\
& \quad \Rightarrow \varphi^* \Rightarrow \Box(\gamma \lor (\alpha \land \neg \varphi \land \neg \beta)).
\end{align*}
\]

To prove it in our system, below we give a derivation of $\varphi^* \Rightarrow \Box(\gamma \lor (\alpha \land \neg \varphi \land \neg \beta))$ using

\[
\begin{align*}
\varphi \Rightarrow \neg(\top \land \neg \alpha), \varphi \Rightarrow \neg(\neg \beta \land \neg \top), \beta \Rightarrow \neg(\top \land \neg \gamma) \text{ and } \ell = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha, \ell = 0 \Rightarrow \beta
\end{align*}
\]
as assumptions. Then (9) will follow by the deduction theorem for $DC$ [HZ97].
Let as a last example of the working of our $\phi$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi^*$$ by $1$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow (\alpha \neg \varphi^*)$$ by $2$, $3$, $Mono_r$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha$$ assumption

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow (\ell = 0 \neg \ell = 0)$$ $L2$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow (\alpha \neg \varphi^*)$$ by $5$, $6$, $DC^*_7$, $Mono_l$, $Mono_r$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \ell = 0$$ by $7$, $DC$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow (\alpha \neg \varphi^*)$$ by $8$, $N_l$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow (\alpha \neg \varphi^*)$$ by $9$, $N_l$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow (\alpha \neg \varphi^*)$$ by $10$, $Mono_r$, $14$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi^*$$ by $11$, $14$

$$\ell = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi^*$$ by $12$, $15$, $Mono_l$

Now let us prove the correctness of the gas-burner design from the introduction as a last example of the working of our $DC^*$ axioms and rule. We have to give a derivation for

$$(\{\text{leak}\} \land \ell \leq 1) \neg (\{\text{nonleak}\} \land \ell \geq 30)^* \Rightarrow \Box (\ell \geq 60 \Rightarrow 20 \int \neg \text{leak} \leq \ell)$$.

Let

$$\varphi \equiv \{\text{leak}\} \land \ell \leq 1 \neg \neg \{\text{nonleak}\} \land \ell \geq 30,$$

$$\alpha \equiv \ell = 0 \lor \neg \{\text{leak}\} \lor (\{\text{leak}\} \land \ell \leq 1 \neg \neg \{\text{leak}\} \land \ell \geq 30),$$

$$\beta, \gamma \equiv \ell = 0 \lor (\ell \leq 1 \land \neg \{\text{leak}\} \land \ell = 0 \lor \neg \{\text{leak}\}).$$
The formulas
\[ \Box(\varphi \Rightarrow \neg(\top \Rightarrow \neg\alpha) \land \neg(\neg\beta \Rightarrow \top)) \]
are valid in DC without iteration. Therefore we can complete our derivation using (9), provided we can derive
\[ \gamma \Rightarrow 20 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \text{ and } (\alpha \land \neg\varphi^* \land \beta) \land \ell \geq 60 \Rightarrow 20 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell. \]

The first formula is straightforward to derive without DC-specific axioms. Here follows a derivation for the second formula:

1. \[ \alpha \Rightarrow 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \]

   \text{DC}

2. \[ \varphi^* \land 31 \int \text{leak} > \ell \Rightarrow (\varphi^* \land 31 \int \text{leak} > \ell^-\top) \]

   \text{DC}

3. \[ \varphi \Rightarrow 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \]

   \text{DC}

4. \[ (\varphi^* \land 31 \int \text{leak} > \ell^-\top) \Rightarrow \\
   (\ell = 0 \land 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell^-\top) \lor \\
   ( ((\varphi^* \land 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell^-\varphi) \land 31 \int \text{leak} > \ell^-\top) \]

   \text{by DC}\text{*3}

5. \[ \ell = 0 \Rightarrow 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \]

   \text{DC}

6. \[ (\varphi^* \land 31 \int \text{leak} > \ell^-\top) \Rightarrow \\
   (((\varphi^* \land 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell^-\varphi) \land 31 \int \text{leak} > \ell^-\top) \]

   \text{by 4, 5, Mono}_r

7. \[ (\varphi^* \land 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell^-\varphi) \Rightarrow 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \]

   \text{by 2, 3, DC}

8. \[ \varphi^* \Rightarrow 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \]

   \text{by 6, 7, Mono}_r

9. \[ (\alpha \land \neg\varphi^*) \Rightarrow 31 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \]

   \text{by 1, 8, DC}

10. \[ \beta \Rightarrow \int \text{leak} \leq 1 \]

    \text{DC}

11. \[ (\alpha \land \neg\varphi^* \land \beta) \land \ell \geq 60 \Rightarrow 20 \int \text{leak} \leq \ell \]

    \text{by 9, 10, DC}

7. Related work on the axiomatisation of iteration

Iteration is known chop-star in Moszkowski’s original discrete-time ITL, where
it is regarded as part of the basic system. Unlike real- and abstract-time DC,
finite variability is a trivial property in bounded discrete time intervals and
therefore discrete-time ITL is recursively axiomatisable, whereas in DC one has
to settle for relative completeness or bring in \( \omega \)-rules like in this paper. Apart
from that, the axioms \( DC^*1–DC^*4 \) are valid in discrete-time ITL too and can
be derived in its proof system. The rule \( DC^*5 \), however, is new and DC-specific.
An analogous rule can, in principle, be put together for discrete-time ITL too
by writing a formula with a meaning like that of \( f(\varphi, P) \), but we do not know
this to have been worked on.

Another difference with discrete-time ITL is the adoption of the locality
principle there. This means that the truth values of propositional temporal
letters depend only on the beginning point of the reference interval. The locality
principle makes propositional discrete-time ITL equivalent to (untimed) regular
expressions in both expressive power and complexity. We should note the recent
advances in both the axiomatisation and the decision procedures for discrete-
time ITL from [Mos03] where both issues are elegantly handled using a proposed
hierarchical complete proof system. The role of propositional temporal letters with the locality principle can largely be taken by DC state variables, which means that the decidability results about the duration-free subset of simple DC known as the \([P]\)-subset of DC from [ZHS93] look akin to some earlier results on propositional discrete-time ITL. By contrast, adding propositional temporal letters without the locality principle to the \([P]\)-subset of DC renders it non-recursively axiomatisable [Gue04].

8 Discussion on the decidability results for simple DC*

As said in the introduction of the paper, representing the repetitive behaviour of real-time systems is the main motivation for introducing the iteration operator into DC. An important subset of DC* for this purpose has been introduced in [DW96] as the class of so-called simple DC* formulas, whose syntax can be defined by the BNF

\[
\varphi ::= [S] \mid a \leq \ell \mid \ell \leq a \mid (\varphi \lor \varphi) \mid (\varphi \land \varphi) \mid (\varphi \& \varphi) \mid \varphi^* (10)
\]

In this section, we discuss the decidability of the satisfiability of simple DC* formulas at the real-time frame, i.e. the frame in which the time domain is \(\langle \mathbb{R}, \leq \rangle\) and the duration domain is \(\langle \mathbb{R}_+, +, 0 \rangle\).

One of the notions in the literature that are close to our notion of simple DC* is the notion of timed regular expressions introduced by Asarin et al in [ACM97], a subset of which has been introduced by us earlier in [LD96]. Simple DC* formulas syntactically correspond exactly to timed regular expression, and their semantics coincide. Therefore, a simple DC* formula can be viewed as a timed regular expression. It was shown in how from a timed regular expression \(E\) one can build a timed automaton \(A\) which recognises exactly the models of \(E\) and has only constants from \(E\) in the constraints for its clock variables (guards, tests and invariants). It is well known that emptiness is decidable for timed automata with integer constants in their guards and tests [AD94]. This entails the following theorem:

**Theorem 3** The satisfiability of formulas with the syntax (10) in which \(a\) stands for integer constants is decidable.

The complexity of the decidability procedure, however, is exponential in the size of the constants occurring in the clock constraints (see e.g. [AD94]).

In [ACM97] it is also shown how given a timed automaton \(A\), one can build a timed regular expression \(E\) and a renaming of the locations of \(A\) such that each model of \(E\) is the renaming of a behaviour of \(A\). In this sense simple DC* formulas and timed automata have the same expressive power.

If we restrict ourselves to the class of sequential simple DC* formulas, which can be defined by the BNF

\[
\varphi ::= \ell = 0 \mid [S] \mid \varphi \lor \varphi \mid (\varphi \& \varphi) \mid \varphi^* \mid \varphi \land a \leq \ell \mid \varphi \land \ell \leq a ,
\]
then we can have a very simple decision procedure for satisfiability and some interesting results. Since the operators $\neg$ and $\land$ distribute over $\lor$, and because of the equivalence $(\varphi \lor \psi)^* \leftrightarrow (\varphi^* \land \psi^*)^*$, each sequential simple $DC^*$ formula $\varphi$ is equivalent to a disjunction of $\lor$-free simple formulas. Such a $\varphi$ is satisfiable iff at least one of its disjunctive members is satisfiable. The satisfiability of $\lor$-free sequential simple $DC^*$ formulas is very easy to decide indeed. Let $\min(\varphi), \max(\varphi) \in \mathbb{R}$ be defined for such $\varphi$ by the clauses

\[
\begin{align*}
\min(\ell = 0) &= \max(\ell = 0) = 0 \\
\min([S]) &= 0, \max([S]) = \infty \\
\min(\varphi_1 \land \varphi_2) &= \min(\varphi_1) + \min(\varphi_2), \max(\varphi_1 \land \varphi_2) = \max(\varphi_1) + \max(\varphi_2) \\
\min(\varphi^*) &= 0, \text{If } \max(\varphi) > 0 \text{ then } \max(\varphi^*) = \infty \text{ otherwise } \max(\varphi^*) = 0. \\
\min(\varphi \land a \leq \ell) &= \max\{\min(\varphi), a\}, \max(\varphi \land a \leq \ell) = \max(\varphi) \\
\min(\varphi \land \ell \leq a) &= \min(\varphi), \max(\varphi \land \ell \leq a) = \min\{\max(\varphi), a\}
\end{align*}
\]

Obviously $\varphi$ is satisfiable iff $\min(\varphi) \leq \max(\varphi)$.

In [LD96, LDZ97], we have developed some simple algorithms for checking a real-time system whose behaviour is described by a ‘sequential’ timed regular expression for a linear duration invariant of the form

\[
\Box(a \leq \ell \leq b \Rightarrow \sum_{S \in \mathcal{S}} c_S \int S \leq M),
\]

where $\mathcal{S}$ is a finite set of state variables. Because of the obvious correspondence between sequential simple $DC^*$ formulas and sequential timed regular expressions, these algorithms can be used for proving automatically the implication from a sequential simple $DC^*$ formula to a linear duration invariant. An advantage of the method is that it reduces the problem to well-understood linear programming problems. Because of this advantage, in [DP98], we tried to generalise the method for the general simple $DC^*$ formulas, and showed that in most cases, the method can still be used for checking the implication from a simple $DC^*$ formula to a linear duration invariant.

9 Concluding remarks

The contribution of this paper is to show that iteration can be defined and/or axiomatised (relatively) completely in quantified systems of $DC$ with some support from the notion of finite variability of state which is more deeply seated in $DC$. This approach helps to identify and restrict finite variability of state as $DC$’s only source of recursive unaxiomatisability, which can be regarded as incompleteness in the sense of Gödel. Having the infinitary rule about the finite variability of state, the class of duration domains targeted by our completeness theorem can be narrowed down to each of the practically important domains $\langle \mathbb{R}_+, 0, + \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbb{N}, 0, + \rangle$ by enforcing other principles which defy recursive axiomatisation with no further infinitary additions. For instance,

\[
x = 0 \lor (\ell \leq x)^*
\]
means that there are no intervals with “infinitely small” (non-standard) durations, which is one possible form of the “the missing part” in the relatively complete axiomatisation with respect to real time from [HZ92]. By extending arithmetic with multiplication and division and the real-closed field axioms about them (cf. e.g. [Sho67]) this axiom can be shown to entail the principle of Archimedes which rules out “infinitely large” real numbers. As for discrete time,

\[(\ell = 1 \land \neg (\ell \neq 0 \land \ell \neq 0))^*\]

means that every interval is a finite union of unit intervals which themselves have no internal points.

Finite variability of state does not seem to be helpful enough for the axiomatisation of the general least-fixed-point operator \(\mu\) in \(DC\) as known from [Pan95]. For the time being, the method from [Gue00a] which is similar to that from the precursor [DG99] of this paper, allows us to do only subsets of \(HDC\) with \(\mu\).

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