

# Advances on discrete parameter synthesis in continuous-time formalisms

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## 1 Context and objectives

In this task, we consider systems featuring both discrete parameters and quantitative timing features. These timing features can be either described as constants, or parameters. The goal is to propose models, investigate their decidability, write (semi-)algorithms, and implement them.

Our objectives were as follows:

1. Develop models to handle discrete parameters and non-parametric timing information, and exhibit decidable subclasses;
2. Develop models to handle discrete parameters and parametric timing information, and exhibit decidable subclasses;
3. Develop algorithms and tools to synthesise parameters in these two settings.

## 2 Parametric timed systems with action discrete parameters

First, we considered (parametric) timed systems, with additional discrete parameters, that play the role of *controllable* actions. That is, we considered an extension of (parametric) timed automata [AD94, AHV93]. Timed automata [AD94] extend finite-state automata with clocks, i. e., real-valued variables that can be compared to constants in guards, and reset along transitions. Parametric timed automata (PTA) [AHV93] allow to replace constants with unknown parameters in timing constraints.

Among parametric synthesis approaches, two are of particular interest here as they consider different and complementary kinds of parameters: time (e. g., [AHV93]) and actions (e. g., [KMP15]). Operating on an extension of timed automata where clocks can be compared to parameters (i. e., PTA), and properties of the system, synthesis of timing parameters provides a set of constraints the timing parameters should satisfy for the property to hold. On the other hand, starting from an (un-timed) automaton and a property, action synthesis examines all possible behaviors in order to deduce which sets of actions should be enabled or disabled for the property to hold.

It is thus quite obvious that these two approaches are complementary as they consider very separate aspects of a system. Therefore, combining them is appealing. Furthermore, such a combination is worthy within a practical design process. Indeed, the designer of a system may be faced with multiple design choices, controlling some actions, or selecting components with specific time characteristics. Our aim by combining action and time synthesis is to provide designers with tools supporting their decision making. For example components with different timings might have different prices while controlling some actions is not always easy to set. Providing constraints on both time and actions allows to improve the choices according to criteria like components cost or feasibility.

**Contribution** In [AKPP16], we introduced a framework to synthesize both actions (seen as parameters) and timing constants (seen as another kind of parameters) for safety properties. We proposed a procedure that, given a set of discrete states (“locations”) to avoid, synthesizes a constraint on action and timing parameters such that, for any timing parameter valuation satisfying this constraint, and for any set of actions enabled or disabled according to the constraint, the system is safe, i. e., the discrete states to avoid are not reachable. We chose as a basis formalism of an extension of parametric timed automata (PTA), where actions can be (statically) controlled, i. e., may be enabled or disabled (once for all).

While the general class is undecidable, we proposed a semi-algorithm, i. e., a procedure that may not terminate, but that is sound and complete if it terminates.

We applied our approach to a railway crossing system example with a malicious intruder potentially threatening the system safety. We showed that, depending on timing constants chosen, some actions (e. g., the fact that the intruder can commit certain actions) may have to be disabled in order to guarantee the system safety.

Finally, our approach was implemented in a framework making use of Spatula [KMP15] and IMITATOR [AFKS12].

### 3 Unbounded networks of parametric timed systems

In a second direction of research, we proposed to combine two different types of parameters, namely the *number of identical processes* and the *timing features*, and studied the decidability of classic parametric decision problems in the resulting formalism. Both types of parameters, when introduced separately in timed automata-based formalisms, result in hard problems undecidable even in restricted settings.

The most basic verification question for PTA, “does there exist a value for the parameters such that some location is reachable” is undecidable with as few as 1 integer- or rational-valued parameter [Mil00, BLS15], or when only 1 clock is compared to a unique parameter [Mil00] (with additional clocks). The main syntactic subclass of PTA for which decidability is obtained is L/U-PTA [HRSV02], in which the parameters set is partitioned into lower-bound parameters (i. e., parameters always compared as a lower bound in a clock guard) and upper-bound parameters (always as upper bounds). L/U-PTA have been shown [HRSV02] to be expressive enough to model classical examples from the literature, such as root contention or Fischer’s mutual exclusion algorithm for instance.

Broadcast protocol networks [DSTZ12, DSZ11a, DSZ11b, DSZ10], allow treating the size of a network as an unknown parameter. Here also the most simple basic verification question “does there exist a value for the parameter such that some location

is reachable by a process” is undecidable when considering arbitrary communication topologies [DSZ10]. However one can regain decidability by considering different communication topology settings. One option is to limit the topologies to cliques (every process receives every messages) [DSZ11a, DSZ11b, DSZ10]. Another is to consider reconfigurable broadcasts in which the set of receivers is chosen non-deterministically at each step [DSTZ12]. A timed version of this broadcast protocol was studied in [ADR<sup>+</sup>16]. In the clique topology for this network, the reachability problem is decidable only when there is a single clock per process.

**Contributions** In [ADFL18], we provided one more level of abstraction to the formalisms of the literature by proposing *parametric timed broadcast protocols* (PTBP), i. e., a new formalism made of an arbitrary number of identical timed processes in which timing parameters can be used. Considering those two kinds of parameters could be really useful, for example when designing and verifying communication protocols. Indeed, those protocols are required to work independently of the number of participants (hence the parametric size of networks) and the time constraints in each process are of paramount importance and thus could be tweaked in early development thanks to timing parameters. This work is, up to our knowledge, the first to consider the combination of both a parametric network size and timing parameters in clock guard constraints.

We considered the following problems: does there exist a number of processes for which the set of timing parameter valuations allowing to reach a given location for one run (“EF”), or for all runs (“AF”) is empty (or universal)? This gives rise to 4 problems: EF-emptiness, EF-universality, AF-emptiness and AF-universality. As PTBP can be seen as an extension of both broadcast protocols and parametric timed automata, undecidability follows immediately from the existing undecidability results known for these two formalisms. However, combining decidable subclasses of both formalisms is challenging, and does not necessarily make the EF and AF problems decidable for PTBP.

The communication topology is of utmost importance in broadcast protocols, and we therefore investigated reachability problems depending on the broadcast semantics. In the reconfigurable semantics (where the set of receivers is chosen non-deterministically), AF-emptiness and AF-universality are decidable for 1-clock PTBP, and undecidable from 3 clocks even for L/U-PTBP with the same parameters partitioning as in L/U-PTA (the 2-clock case is equivalent to a well-known open problem for PTA). The AF results may not seem surprising, as they resemble equivalent results for PTA. However, EF-emptiness and EF-universality becomes undecidable even for 1-clock PTBP: this result comes in contrast with both non-parametric timed broadcast protocols and PTA for which the 1-clock case is decidable.

In the clique semantics (where every message reaches every process), we showed that AF problems are undecidable even without any clock. Then, as it is known that 2 clocks (and no parameter) yield undecidability, we studied EF problems over 1 clock. We investigated the decidability status depending on whether the timing parameters in guards appear only as upper bounds in guards (U-PTBP), as lower bounds (L-PTBP) or when the set of parameters is partitioned in lower-bound and upper-bound parameters (L/U-PTBP). We showed that L/U-PTBP become decidable for EF-emptiness (but not universality) when the parameter domain is bounded. For EF-universality, decidability is obtained only for L-PTBP and U-PTBP for a parameter domain bounded with closed bounds.

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# Controlling Actions and Time in Parametric Timed Automata

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**Abstract**—Cyber-physical systems involve both discrete actions and real-time that elapses depending on timing constants. In this paper, we introduce a formalism for such systems containing both real-time parameters in linear timing constraints and switchable (Boolean) actions. We define a new approach for synthesizing combinations of parameter valuations and allowed actions, under which the system correctness is ensured when expressed in the form of a safety property. We apply our approach to a railway crossing system example with a malicious intruder potentially threatening the system safety.

**Keywords**—Time synthesis, action synthesis, parametric timed automata, parametric safety

## I. INTRODUCTION

Model checking consists in formally verifying whether a model of a system satisfies a property expressed using a formula. Beyond model checking, parameter synthesis consists in synthesizing valuations for some parameters so that the system satisfies the formula. Several recent works tackle parameter synthesis problems as they provide flexibility in the design of real-time systems while still guaranteeing their expected properties.

Among parametric synthesis approaches, two are of particular interest here as they consider different and complementary kinds of parameters: time (*e.g.* [AHV93]) and actions (*e.g.* [KMP15]). Operating on an extension of timed automata (finite state automata extended with clocks) where clocks can be compared to parameters, and properties of the system, synthesis of timing parameters provides a set of constraints the timing parameters should satisfy for the property to hold. On the other hand, starting from an (untimed) automaton and a property, action synthesis examines all possible behaviours in order to deduce which sets of actions should be enabled or disabled for the property to hold.

It is thus quite obvious that these two approaches are complementary as they consider very separate aspects of a system. Therefore, combining them is appealing. Furthermore, such a combination is worthy within a practical design process. Indeed, the designer of a system may be faced with multiple design choices, controlling some actions, or selecting

components with specific time characteristics. Our aim by combining action and time synthesis is to provide designers with tools supporting their decision making. For example components with different timings might have different prices while controlling some actions is not always easy to set. Providing constraints on both time and actions allows to improve the choices according to criteria like components cost or feasibility.

**Contribution:** In this paper, we introduce a framework to synthesize both actions (seen as parameters) and timing constants (seen as another kind of parameters) for safety properties. We propose a procedure that, given a set of discrete states (“locations”) to avoid, synthesizes a constraint on action and timing parameters such that, for any timing parameter valuation satisfying this constraint, and for any set of actions enabled or disabled according to the constraint, the system is safe, *i.e.* the discrete states to avoid are not reachable. We choose as a basis formalism of an extension of parametric timed automata (PTA), where actions can be (statically) controlled, *i.e.* may be enabled or disabled (once for all). Our procedure is a semi-algorithm, *i.e.* it is not guaranteed to terminate, but the result is correct whenever it does. We apply our approach to a railway crossing system example with a malicious intruder potentially threatening the system safety. We show that, depending on timing constants chosen, some actions (*e.g.* the fact that the intruder can commit certain actions) may have to be disabled in order to guarantee the system safety.

**Related works:** Synthesis of timing parameters for PTA has recently drawn a lot of attention: procedures (algorithms or semi-algorithms) were proposed to synthesize all parameters leading to some location [AHV93], preserve the time language [ACEF09], synthesize integer-valued parameters using bounded model checking techniques [KP12], or synthesize bounded valuations satisfying reachability or unavoidability [JLR15], [ALR15].

In addition to the action parameter synthesis proposed in [KMP15], synthesis of discrete parameters is often understood in terms of number of processes; the goal is to prove that a system is correct for any number of processes (possibly beyond a threshold). Common techniques include regular model checking (see *e.g.* [Abd12]) and verification of many identical processes (see *e.g.* [DSZ10]). Action synthesis is also conceptually related to the problem of (discrete) controller synthesis, such as in the Ramadge-Wonham framework [RW87].

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However, little has been done to combine different types of parameters, typically discrete (actions) and continuous (timing) together. A notable exception is [DKRT97] where constraints are derived to ensure the correctness of the bounded retransmission protocol (BRP); one of them involves a discrete parameter (an integer-valued maximum number of retransmissions) multiplied by a continuous timing parameter. However, the procedure proposed seems to be specific to this case study.

*Outline of the paper:* First, Section II recalls the notions and techniques our approach bases on, *i.e.* Parametric Timed Automata, time parameter synthesis and action synthesis. Then, Section III shows how they can be combined for synthesis of both time and actions. This approach is put into practice on a detailed example in Section IV, using tool support that provides adequate results for an engineer to tune his/her system design. Finally, Section V summarises the contributions and opens some perspectives.

## II. BACKGROUND

In this section, we recall the notions and techniques necessary to build our synthesis approach. First, the basic definitions of *Parametric Timed Automata* which base on the use of *clocks* and *parameters* are recalled. PTA are extended to APTA (*Action-controllable Parametric Timed Automata*) that constitute a unified framework for time and action synthesis. The synthesis of time parameters leads to expressing *constraints* on their values in order to guarantee that the model satisfies the expected properties. Then, synthesis of actions is presented that allows for pruning the paths that invalidate properties by disabling controllable actions.

### A. Clocks, Parameters, Actions, and Constraints

Let  $\mathbb{B}$ ,  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}_+$ , and  $\mathbb{R}_+$  denote the sets of Booleans, non-negative integers, integers, non-negative rational numbers, non-negative real numbers, respectively.

Throughout this paper, we assume a set  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_H\}$  of *clocks*, *i.e.* real-valued variables that evolve at the same rate. A *clock valuation* is a function  $w : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ . We identify a clock valuation  $w$  with the *point*  $(w(x_1), \dots, w(x_H))$ . We write  $X = 0$  for  $\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq H} x_i = 0$ . Given  $d \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $w + d$  denotes the valuation such that  $(w + d)(x) = w(x) + d$ , for all  $x \in X$ . We also use a special zero-clock  $x_0$ , always equal to 0 (as in, *e.g.* [HRSV02]).

Let  $P = \{p_1, \dots, p_M\}$  be a set of *timing parameters*, *i.e.* unknown timing constants. A *timing parameter valuation*  $v$  is a function  $v : P \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_+$ . We identify a valuation  $v$  with the *point*  $(v(p_1), \dots, v(p_M))$ .

Let *ActVars* be a set of *action variables*. An *action valuation* is a function  $\xi : \text{ActVars} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ . Given  $\xi$  and an action variable  $\alpha$ , we say that  $\alpha$  is *enabled* in  $\xi$  if  $\xi(\alpha) = \text{true}$ , and *disabled* otherwise. The set of all action valuations is denoted by *ActVals*. With a slight notational abuse we sometimes treat  $\xi$  as the set of the actions enabled by this valuation.

In the following, let *xplt* denote a linear term over  $X \cup P$  of the form  $\sum_{1 \leq i \leq H} \gamma_i x_i + \sum_{1 \leq j \leq M} \beta_j p_j + d$ , with  $x_i \in X$ ,  $p_j \in P$ , and  $\gamma_i, \beta_j, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let *plt* denote a parametric linear term over  $P$ , that is a linear term without clocks ( $\gamma_i = 0$  for all  $i$ ).

An *AXT-constraint* (or constraint on the action parameters, clock parameters, and timing parameters) over  $\text{ActVars} \cup X \cup P$  is defined by the following grammar:

$$\phi := \phi \wedge \phi \mid \neg \phi \mid \alpha \mid xplt \sim 0,$$

where  $\sim \in \{<, \leq, \geq, >\}$ ,  $\alpha \in \text{ActVars}$ . Disjunction ( $\vee$ ) is defined as usual; observe that, due to the negation, we allow for non-convex constraints. An *axt-valuation* is a function  $at : \text{ActVars} \cup X \cup P \rightarrow \mathbb{B} \cup \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \mathbb{Q}_+$  such that  $at(\alpha) \in \mathbb{B}$  for all  $\alpha \in \text{ActVars}$ ,  $at(x) \in \mathbb{R}_+$  for all  $x \in X$ , and  $at(p) \in \mathbb{Q}_+$  for all  $p \in P$ .

A *zone*  $C$  is a convex AXT-constraint over  $X \cup P$  (hence without action variables) such that each of its linear conjuncts can be written in the form  $x_i - x_j \sim plt$ , where  $x_i, x_j \in X \cup \{x_0\}$ . A *guard*  $g$  is a zone such that each of its linear conjuncts can be written in the form  $x_i \sim plt$ .

Given a timing parameter valuation  $v$  and a clock valuation  $w$ , we denote by  $w|v$  the valuation over  $X \cup P$  such that for all clocks  $x$ ,  $w|v(x) = w(x)$  and for all timing parameters  $p$ ,  $w|v(p) = v(p)$ . Given a zone  $C$ , we use the notation  $w|v \models C$  to indicate that valuating each clock variable  $x$  with  $w(x)$  and each timing parameter  $p$  with  $v(p)$  within  $C$ , evaluates to true. We say that  $C$  is *satisfiable* if  $\exists w, v$  s.t.  $w|v \models C$ . We define the *time elapsing* of  $C$ , denoted by  $C^\nearrow$ , as the constraint over  $X \cup P$  obtained from  $C$  by delaying all clocks by an arbitrary amount of time; this can be obtained by adding a new variable to all clocks, ensuring that this variable is non-negative, and eliminating it (see, *e.g.* [ACEF09]). Given  $R \subseteq X$ , we define the *reset* of  $C$ , denoted by  $[C]_R$ , as the constraint obtained from  $C$  by resetting the clocks in  $R$ , and keeping the other clocks unchanged. We denote by  $C \downarrow_P$  the projection of  $C$  onto  $P$ , *i.e.* obtained by eliminating the clock variables (*e.g.* using Fourier-Motzkin elimination).

A *P-constraint*  $K$  is an AXT-constraint over  $P$  defined by inequalities of the form  $plt \sim 0$ . We denote by  $\top_P$  (resp.  $\perp_P$ ) the parametric constraint that corresponds to the set of all possible (resp. the empty set of) timing parameter valuations.

An *A-constraint* is an AXT-constraint that contains actions only. An a-valuation is defined naturally from actions to  $\mathbb{B}$ . We denote by  $\top_A$  the A-constraint  $\bigwedge_{\alpha \in \text{ActVars}} \alpha = \text{true}$ , and by  $\perp_A$  the A-constraint  $\bigwedge_{\alpha \in \text{ActVars}} \alpha = \text{false}$ . Let  $at_\top$  denote the a-valuation assigning  $\text{true}$  to all variables.

An *AT-constraint* is an AXT-constraint without clock, *i.e.* with *xplt* instead of *plt* in the grammar. An at-valuation is defined similarly to axt-valuation, but without clocks. Given an AT-constraint  $AT$  and an at-valuation  $at$ , we write  $at \models AT$  if the expression obtained by replacing in  $AT$  any parameter and action variable by its valuation as in  $at$  evaluates to true. We denote by  $\top_{AT}$  the at-constraint corresponding to the set of at-valuations  $\{at \mid \forall \alpha \in \text{ActVars} : at(\alpha) = \text{true}\}$  (*i.e.* the set of valuations for which all timing parameter valuations are possible, and all action variables evaluate to true); we denote by  $\perp_{AT}$  the at-constraint  $\perp_P \wedge \bigwedge_{\alpha \in \text{ActVars}} \alpha = \text{false}$ , *i.e.* the constraint satisfied by no timing parameter valuation and only by the false action variables.

### B. Action-Controllable Parametric Timed Automata

Parametric timed automata (PTA) extend timed automata with parameters within guards and invariants in place of inte-

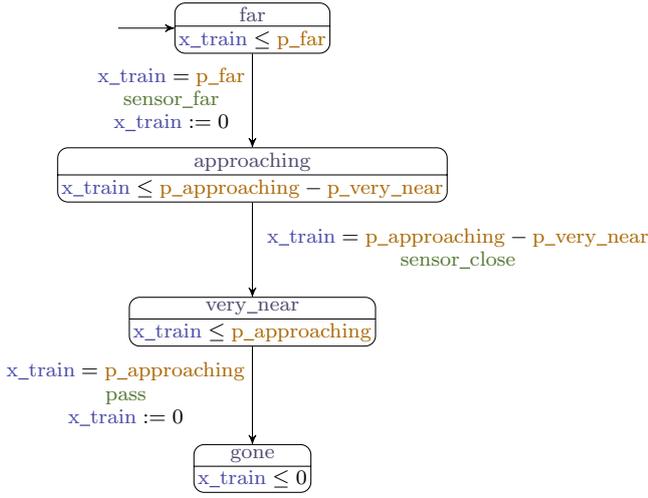


Figure 1: A parametric timed automaton

ger constants [AHV93]. We extend this concept by allowing controllable actions.

**Definition 1.** An Action-controllable PTA (APTA) is a tuple  $\mathcal{APTA} = (\Sigma, \text{ActVars}, L, l_0, X, P, I, E)$ , where: i)  $\Sigma$  is a finite set of non-controllable actions, ii)  $\text{ActVars}$  is a finite set of action variables (that can be controlled), iii)  $L$  is a finite set of locations, iv)  $l_0 \in L$  is the initial location, v)  $X$  is a set of clocks, vi)  $P$  is a set of parameters, vii)  $I$  is the invariant function, assigning to every  $l \in L$  an invariant  $I(l)$ , viii)  $E$  is a set of edges  $e = (l, g, a, R, l')$  where  $l, l' \in L$  are the source and target locations,  $g$  is a guard,  $a \in \Sigma \cup \text{ActVars}$ , and  $R \subseteq X$  is a set of clocks to be reset.

A PTA is an APTA without action variables.

*a) Valuation of an APTA:* Given an APTA  $\mathcal{APTA} = (\Sigma, \text{ActVars}, L, l_0, X, P, I, E)$  and an  $\alpha$ -valuation  $\xi$ , we denote by  $\xi(\mathcal{APTA})$  the PTA  $\mathcal{PTA} = (\Sigma', L, l_0, X, P, I, E')$ , where  $\Sigma' = \Sigma \cup \{\alpha \in \text{ActVars} \mid \xi(\alpha) = \text{true}\}^1$  and  $E' = E \setminus \{(l, g, \alpha, R, l') \in E \mid \alpha \in \text{ActVars} \wedge \xi(\alpha) = \text{false}\}$ .

*Example:* Figure 1 presents a simple PTA modelling a train circulating on a railway with a gate. This model will be enhanced in the case study of Section IV. It uses 3 parameters ( $p_{\text{far}}$ ,  $p_{\text{approaching}}$  and  $p_{\text{very\_near}}$ ) and 1 clock ( $x_{\text{train}}$ ). Initially, the train is far from the gate and remains far for as long as  $p_{\text{far}}$ . Then it triggers  $\text{sensor\_far}$  and starts approaching the gate, resetting the clock. The approach lasts  $p_{\text{approaching}}$  but when only  $p_{\text{very\_near}}$  time units remain,  $\text{sensor\_close}$  is triggered. Finally, the train can pass the gate and be gone.

*b) Valuation of a PTA:* Given a PTA  $\mathcal{PTA}$  and a timing parameter valuation  $v$ , we denote by  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  the *timed automaton (TA)* obtained from  $\mathcal{PTA}$  by replacing in  $\mathcal{PTA}$  each timing parameter  $p$  with its valuation  $v(p)$ .

Given an  $\text{at}$ -valuation  $\text{at}$ , let  $v$  be the projection of  $\text{at}$  onto  $P$ , and  $\xi$  its projection onto  $\text{ActVars}$ . Then

<sup>1</sup>Strictly speaking, action variables and actions are of different types; we assume that each action variable valuated with `true` is added to the set of actions.

given an APTA  $\mathcal{APTA}$ , we denote by  $\text{at}(\mathcal{APTA})$  the TA  $v(\xi(\mathcal{APTA}))$ .

*c) Concrete semantics of a TA:*

**Definition 2** (Semantics of a TA). Given a PTA  $\mathcal{PTA} = (\Sigma, L, l_0, X, P, I, E)$ , and a timing parameter valuation  $v$ , the concrete semantics of  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  is given by the timed transition system  $(Q, q_0, \rightarrow)$ , with

- $Q = \{(l, w) \in L \times \mathbb{R}_+^H \mid w|v \models I(l)\}$ ,  $q_0 = (l_0, X = 0)$
- $\rightarrow$  consists of the discrete and continuous transition relations:
  - discrete transitions:  $(l, w) \xrightarrow{e} (l', w')$ , if  $(l, w), (l', w') \in Q$ , there exists  $e = (l, g, a, R, l') \in E$ ,  $w' = [w]_R$ , and  $w|v \models g$ .
  - delay transitions:  $(l, w) \xrightarrow{d} (l, w + d)$ , with  $d \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , if  $\forall d' \in [0, d], (l, w + d') \in Q$ .

Moreover we write  $(l, w) \xrightarrow{e} (l', w')$  for a sequence of discrete step and time elapsing where  $((l, w), e, (l', w')) \in \rightarrow$  if  $\exists d, w'' : (l, w) \xrightarrow{e} (l', w'') \xrightarrow{d} (l', w')$ .

Given a TA  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  with the concrete semantics  $(Q, q_0, \rightarrow)$ , we refer to the states of  $Q$  as the *concrete states* of  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$ . A concrete run of  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  is an alternating sequence of concrete states of  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  and edges starting from the initial concrete state  $q_0$  of the form  $q_0 \xrightarrow{e_0} q_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} \dots \xrightarrow{e_{m-1}} q_m$ , such that for all  $i = 0, \dots, m-1$ ,  $e_i \in E$ , and  $(s_i, e_i, s_{i+1}) \in \rightarrow$ . Given a state  $q = (l, w)$ , we say that  $q$  is reachable (or that  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  reaches  $q$ ) if  $q$  belongs to a run of  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$ . By extension, we say that  $l$  is reachable in  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$ .

*d) Symbolic semantics of a PTA:* Let us now recall the symbolic semantics of PTA. A symbolic state is a pair  $(l, C)$  where  $l \in L$  is a location, and  $C$  its associated parametric zone. The initial symbolic state of  $\mathcal{PTA}$  is  $s_0 = (l_0, (X = 0)^{\nearrow} \wedge I(l_0))$ .

The symbolic semantics exploits the Succ operation. Given a symbolic state  $s = (l, C)$  and an edge  $e = (l, g, a, R, l')$ ,  $\text{Succ}(s, e) = (l', C')$ , with  $C' = ([([C \wedge g])_R]^{\nearrow} \cap I(l'))$ . That is, we first intersect the constraint of the source symbolic state with the outgoing guard, then reset the clocks of the transition, then let time elapse, and finally intersect with the invariant of the target location.

A symbolic run of a PTA is an alternating sequence of symbolic states and edges starting from the initial symbolic state, of the form  $s_0 \xrightarrow{e_0} s_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} \dots \xrightarrow{e_{m-1}} s_m$ , such that for all  $i = 0, \dots, m-1$ ,  $e_i \in E$ , and  $s_{i+1}$  belongs to  $\text{Succ}(s_i, e_i)$ . Given a symbolic state  $s$ , we say that  $s$  is reachable if  $s$  belongs to a run of  $\mathcal{PTA}$ . In the following, we simply refer to symbolic states belonging to a run of  $\mathcal{PTA}$  as symbolic states (or, when clear from the context, just as states) of  $\mathcal{PTA}$ .

Given a concrete (respectively symbolic) run  $(l_0, X = 0) \xrightarrow{e_0} (l_1, w_1) \xrightarrow{e_1} \dots \xrightarrow{e_{m-1}} (l_m, w_m)$  (respectively  $(l_0, C_0) \xrightarrow{e_0} (l_1, C_1) \xrightarrow{e_1} \dots \xrightarrow{e_{m-1}} (l_m, C_m)$ ), its corresponding discrete sequence is  $l_0 \xrightarrow{e_0} l_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} \dots \xrightarrow{e_{m-1}} l_m$ . Two runs (concrete or symbolic) are said to be equivalent if their corresponding discrete sequences are equal.

### C. Mixed Transition Systems

Mixed Transition Systems [PR06] (MTS) are essentially Kripke structures with transitions labelled by actions.

**Definition 3** (MTS). Let  $\mathcal{P}\mathcal{V}$  be a set of propositional variables. A mixed transition system (MTS) is a 5-tuple  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{S}, s^0, \Sigma, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{V}_s)$ , where: i)  $\mathcal{S}$  is a non-empty finite set of states, ii)  $s^0 \in \mathcal{S}$  is the initial state, iii)  $\Sigma$  is a non-empty finite set of actions, iv)  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{S} \times \Sigma \times \mathcal{S}$  is a transition relation, v)  $\mathcal{V}_s : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{P}\mathcal{V}}$  is a (state) valuation function.

We write  $s \xrightarrow{a} s'$  if  $(s, a, s') \in \mathcal{T}$ . Let  $\chi \subseteq \Sigma$  be a nonempty set of actions and  $\pi = (s_0, a_0, s_1, a_1, \dots)$  be a finite or infinite sequence of interleaved states and actions. By  $|\pi|$  we denote the number of the states of  $\pi$  if  $\pi$  is finite, and  $\omega$  if  $\pi$  is infinite. A sequence  $\pi$  is a *path* over  $\chi$  iff  $s_i \xrightarrow{a_i} s_{i+1}$ ,  $a_i \in \chi$  for each  $i < |\pi|$ , and either  $\pi$  is infinite or its final state does not have a  $\chi$ -successor state in  $\mathcal{S}$ , i.e.  $\pi = (s_0, a_0, s_1, a_1, \dots, s_m)$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and there is no  $s' \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $a \in \chi$  such that  $s_m \xrightarrow{a} s'$ . In general, for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , we denote by  $\pi_i$  the state of  $\pi$  at rank  $i$  ( $\pi_i = s_i$  in the sequence above).

The set of all paths over  $\chi$  in a mixed transition system  $\mathcal{M}$  is denoted by  $\Pi(\mathcal{M}, \chi)$ , whereas the set of all paths  $\pi \in \Pi(\mathcal{M}, \chi)$  starting from a given state  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  is denoted by  $\Pi(\mathcal{M}, \chi, s)$ . We omit the symbol  $\mathcal{M}$  if it is clear from the context, simply writing  $\Pi(\chi)$  and  $\Pi(\chi, s)$ .

### D. Parametric Reachability

In [KMP15] a parametric extension of *Action-Restricted Computation Tree Logic* [PR06], ARCTL, is presented. The language of ARCTL consists of CTL-like branching-time formulae where each path quantifier is subscripted with a set of actions. The subscripts are used in path selection, for example:  $E_{\{left, right\}} G(E_{\{forward\}} F_{safe})$  may be read as “there exists a path over left and right, on which it holds globally that a state satisfying safe is reachable along some path over forward”. In Parametric ARCTL (denoted by pmARCTL), special variables ranging over sets of actions are allowed in the superscripts. In this paper we deal only with the parametric reachability, i.e. with the formulae of type  $E_Z Fpv$ , where  $pv \in \mathcal{P}\mathcal{V}$ . As we do not permit for nesting of modalities, the superscript is usually omitted and we simply write  $EFpv$ .

We interpret the formulae with respect to action valuations. Formally, given a MTS  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{S}, s^0, \Sigma, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{V}_s)$ , and  $pv \in \mathcal{P}\mathcal{V}$ , we say that  $EFpv$  holds in  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  under an a-valuation  $\xi \in ActVals$  iff there exists a path  $\pi \in \Pi(\xi, s)$  such that  $pv \in \mathcal{V}_s(\pi_i)$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . This is denoted by  $\mathcal{M}, s \models_{\xi} EFpv$ .

### E. Action Synthesis

*Action synthesis* for  $\varphi \in pmARCTL$  builds an indicator function  $f_{\varphi} : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow 2^{ActVals}$  such that for all  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  we have:  $s \models_{\xi} \varphi$  iff  $\xi \in f_{\varphi}(s)$ . Intuitively,  $f_{\varphi}(s)$  consists of all action valuations under which  $\varphi$  holds in state  $s$ . As shown in [KMP15], similarly to CTL, pmARCTL has a fixed-point characterisation, which allows for building efficient procedures for action synthesis, based on Binary Decision Diagrams (BDDs). Such a framework for action synthesis was implemented in the standalone tool SPATULA [Kna].

In what follows, given an MTS  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $pv \in \mathcal{P}\mathcal{V}$ , by  $\text{synthpmARCTL}(\mathcal{M}, EFpv)$  we denote the result of the procedure synthesising all minimal sets of actions under which  $EFpv$  holds in the initial state of  $\mathcal{M}$  (e.g. using SPATULA). Formally:  $\text{synthpmARCTL}(\mathcal{M}, EFpv)$  is the smallest subset of  $2^{\Sigma}$  such that: (1)  $\xi \in \text{synthpmARCTL}(\mathcal{M}, EFpv)$  implies  $\mathcal{M}, s^0 \models_{\xi} EFpv$ , and (2) if  $\mathcal{M}, s^0 \models_{\xi'} EFpv$ , then there exists  $\xi \in \text{synthpmARCTL}(\mathcal{M}, EFpv)$  satisfying  $\xi \subseteq \xi'$ .

## III. THE MIXED SYNTHESIS PROBLEM: COMBINING TIMING AND ACTION SYNTHESIS

### A. Objective

Our main goal is to synthesize parameters seen as both timing constants (à la [AHV93]) and switchable actions that can be enabled or disabled once for all (à la [KMP15]).

#### Action and time synthesis problem:

INPUT: an APTA  $\mathcal{APTA}$  and a set of locations  $L_{bad}$   
 PROBLEM: Synthesise an AT-constraint  $AT$  such that, for all  $at \models AT$ , no location in  $L_{bad}$  is reachable in  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$ .

As this is a safety problem, it is bad-state driven. Hence, in the following, we refer to locations of  $L_{bad}$  as *bad locations*, and to the states the location of which belongs to  $L_{bad}$  as *bad states*.

### B. General Approach

We follow an approach where we first handle a parametric timed model in which we assume all actions to be enabled; then, from the state space of this model, we synthesise actions together with timing parameter constraints. Enabling all actions in the first phase allows for synthesising all timing parameter constraints for all possible actions, and then combining these constraints with action parameters in the second phase.

The steps of this approach are as follows:

- 1) Model the system using an APTA.
- 2) Considering the PTA with all actions enabled, generate a sufficient subpart of the state space reaching bad locations.
- 3) Using this state space seen as an MTS, synthesize actions ensuring unreachability of the bad states.
- 4) Process the result to get a linear constraint both on timing parameters and actions.

Each of these steps is detailed in the following subsections.

### C. A Labelled Parametric State Space

Starting from an APTA model  $\mathcal{APTA}$ , we first enable all actions, so as to get the PTA  $at_{\top}(\mathcal{APTA})$ . We then generate an MTS augmented with parameter constraints. Each state of this MTS corresponds to a symbolic state of the PTA; each transition of this MTS corresponds to a transition of the state space with the action label. We do not generate the entire state space, but locally stop the exploration whenever a bad state is reached (while still exploring other branches).

**Algorithm 1** presents our semi-algorithm  $\text{genMTS}$  to generate the MTS from the PTA  $at_{\top}(\mathcal{APTA})$ . It takes as arguments a PTA and the set  $L_{bad}$  of bad locations, and builds

---

**Algorithm 1:**  $\text{genMTS}(\mathcal{PTA}, L_{\text{bad}})$ 

---

```
input : PTA  $\mathcal{PTA}$  with initial state  $s_0$ 
input : Set of locations  $L_{\text{bad}}$ 
output: MTS  $\mathcal{M}$ 

1  $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  $S_{\text{queue}} \leftarrow \{s_0\}$ ;
2 while  $S_{\text{queue}} \neq \emptyset$  do
3   Pick a state  $s = (l, C)$  from  $S_{\text{queue}}$ 
   /* If  $s$  is bad state */
4   if  $l \in L_{\text{bad}}$  then
   /* Label this state as bad */
5      $\mathcal{V}_s(s) \leftarrow \{\text{bad}\}$ 
6   else
   /* Compute successors */
7     foreach state  $s' \in \text{Succ}(s)$  such that  $s \xrightarrow{a} s'$  do
   /* Enqueue unless met earlier */
8     if  $s' \notin S_{\text{queue}} \cup S$  then
9        $S_{\text{queue}} \leftarrow S_{\text{queue}} \cup \{s'\}$ 
   /* Add transition to MTS */
10       $\mathcal{T} \leftarrow \mathcal{T} \cup \{(s, a, s')\}$ 
11 return  $\mathcal{M} = (S, \{s_0\}, \Sigma, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{V}_s)$ 
```

---

(a part of) the symbolic semantics of the PTA. Algorithm  $\text{genMTS}$  maintains two local variables: the set  $S$  of processed states, and the set  $S_{\text{queue}}$  of states to be processed. Observe that if  $S_{\text{queue}}$  is implemented using a queue, then  $\text{genMTS}$  can be seen as a breadth-first search algorithm. Additionally,  $\mathcal{T}$  denotes the list of transitions of the resulting MTS (initially empty) and  $\mathcal{V}_s$  its labelling function (initially assigning to each state no label).

While the set of states to be processed is not empty (line 2),  $\text{genMTS}$  selects an unprocessed state  $s$  (line 3). If this state is a bad state (line 4), it is labelled as such (line 5); we use notation  $\mathcal{V}_s(s) \leftarrow \{\text{bad}\}$  to denote that function  $\mathcal{V}_s$  is updated so that **bad** is the (unique) label of state  $s$ . If this state is a bad state, its successors are not computed, *i.e.* the algorithm stops exploring this branch. Otherwise, the successors of  $s$  are computed (line 7) and, for each of them, they are added to the set of states to be processed (line 9), unless they were met earlier. Finally, the corresponding transitions are added to the MTS (line 10).

Eventually  $\text{genMTS}$  returns a MTS made of the set  $S$  of states, the initial state  $s_0$ , all actions of the PTA, the transitions of the state space, and the function  $\mathcal{V}_s$  that labels the bad states.

**Example 1.** Consider the PTA  $\mathcal{PTA}$  in Figure 2a. Assume  $L_{\text{bad}} = \{l_4, l_5\}$ . The MTS generated by  $\text{genMTS}(\mathcal{PTA}, L_{\text{bad}})$  is given in Figure 2b; note that, for better understanding, for a state  $(l, C)$ , we give the location  $l$  in the upper part, and the constraint projected onto  $P$  (*i.e.*  $C \downarrow_P$ ) in the lower part; moreover, we add the label (**bad**) to the upper part after the location name. Observe that locations beyond a bad location in Figure 2a (*e.g.*  $l_7$ ) are not part of the MTS, as  $\text{genMTS}$  does not explore states beyond bad states.

#### D. Synthesising Action and Timing Parameters

Let us now synthesise the actions and timing parameters ensuring the (un)reachability of the bad states. Let us consider

the pmARCTL formula  $EF\text{bad}$ , *i.e.* the formula stating that there exists a path eventually reaching a bad state. From the parameter valuations reaching the bad state, we can easily retrieve the complement set for which the bad state is unreachable. Applying directly action synthesis techniques of [KMP15] to the MTS obtained from Algorithm  $\text{genMTS}$  would not be satisfactory: this would yield the minimal sets of actions for which bad states are reachable, independently of the timing parameter valuations.

Here, we aim at synthesising an at-constraint on the timing parameters and action parameters guaranteeing the unreachability of  $L_{\text{bad}}$ . More precisely, for each occurrence of a bad state on a given path, at least one of the actions in each minimal set of actions leading to this state should be disabled, or the timing parameter constraint allowing this reachability should be negated. Let us explain this part in more details in the following.

---

**Algorithm 2:**  $\text{synthActTime}(\mathcal{M})$ 

---

```
input : MTS  $\mathcal{M} = (S, s^0, \Sigma, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{V}_s)$ 
output: AT-constraint guaranteeing unreachability
         of  $L_{\text{bad}}$ 

1  $AT \leftarrow \perp_{AT}$ ;  $i \leftarrow 1$ 
2 foreach  $s = (l, C) \in S$  such that bad  $\in \mathcal{V}_s(s)$  do
   /* Generate a dedicated label for  $s$  */
3    $\mathcal{V}_s(s) \leftarrow \{\text{bad}_i\}$ 
4    $\text{ActsSets} \leftarrow \text{synthpmARCTL}(\mathcal{M}, EF\text{bad}_i)$ 
5    $AT \leftarrow AT \vee (C \downarrow_P \wedge \bigvee_{\text{Acts} \in \text{ActsSets}} (\bigwedge_{\alpha \in \text{Acts}} \alpha))$ 
6    $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
7 return  $\neg AT$ 
```

---

Algorithm 2 presents our procedure to synthesize an AT-constraint guaranteeing the non-reachability of  $L_{\text{bad}}$ . The algorithm  $\text{synthActTime}(\mathcal{M})$  maintains two variables: the AT-constraint (initially false), and an integer  $i$  (just used to generate unique labels). Note that the AT-constraint in fact ensures the *reachability* of at least one of the bad states; it eventually is negated to ensure non-reachability. For each bad state of the MTS (*i.e.* labelled with **bad**), we generate a unique label for this state (line 3). Then, we synthesize the set of minimal sets of actions for this unique label to be reachable, *i.e.* such that this state  $s$  is reachable. We then refine the AT-constraint as follows: the constraint is augmented (in the sense of the disjunction) with a constraint ensuring the reachability of the current state  $s$ , *i.e.* the timing parameter constraint allowing the reachability of this state, together with at least one of the minimal sets of actions allowing its reachability (line 5). The negation of the AT-constraint is eventually returned (line 7).

**Example 2.** Consider again the APTA  $\mathcal{APTA}$  in Figure 2a, and assume all actions are controllable, *i.e.*  $\text{ActVars} = \{a, b, c, d\}$ . The MTS  $\mathcal{M}$  generated by  $\text{genMTS}(\text{at}_{\top}(\mathcal{APTA}), L_{\text{bad}})$  is given in Figure 2b. Let us apply  $\text{synthActTime}$  to  $\mathcal{M}$ . Initially,  $AT$  is  $\perp_{AT}$ . Let us consider as the first bad state the unique state whose location is  $l_4$  in Figure 2b.  $\text{synthActTime}$  adds to that state a label  $\text{bad}_1$ . Then, the result of  $\text{synthpmARCTL}(\mathcal{M}, EF\text{bad}_1)$  is  $\{a, b\}$ . Hence,  $\text{synthActTime}$  adds to  $AT$  the following at-constraint:  $3 \leq p \leq 4 \wedge a \wedge b$ . Let us consider the

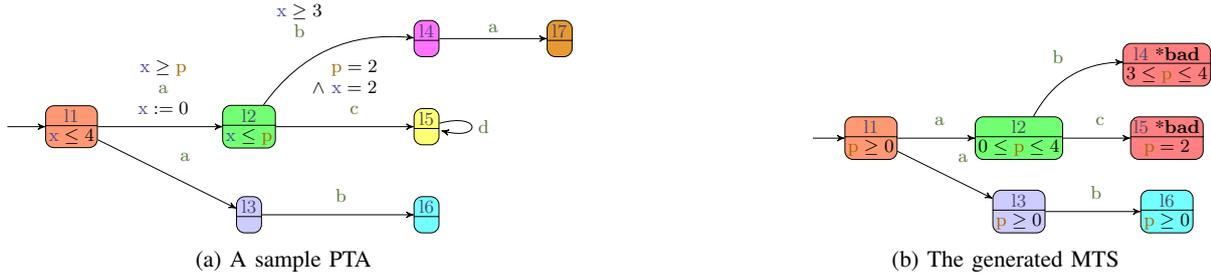


Figure 2: A PTA and its MTS

second bad state, i.e. the unique state whose location is  $l_5$ .  $\text{synthActTime}$  adds to that state a label  $\text{bad}_2$ . Then, the result of  $\text{synthpmARCTL}(\mathcal{M}, EF\text{bad}_2)$  is  $\{a, c\}$ . Hence,  $\text{synthActTime}$  adds to  $AT$  the following at-constraint:  $p = 2 \wedge a \wedge c$ . Eventually,  $\text{synthActTime}$  returns the negation of  $AT$ , i.e.:

$$(p < 3 \vee p > 4 \vee \neg a \vee \neg b) \wedge (p \neq 2 \vee \neg a \vee \neg c).$$

Sufficient conditions to ensure the satisfaction of this constraint are for example  $p = 1$ , or  $a$  is disabled, or  $p = 2$  and  $c$  is disabled.

Let us now examine a variant of this example where action  $c$  is not controllable. The final result obtained is:

$$(p < 3 \vee p > 4 \vee \neg a \vee \neg b) \wedge (p \neq 2 \vee \neg a).$$

In this case,  $p = 1$ , or  $a$  is disabled are still sufficient conditions, while  $p = 2$  is not.

### E. Soundness and Completeness

We now prove that our approach is sound and complete.

**Theorem 1** (soundness). *Let  $\mathcal{APTA}$  be an APTA, and  $L_{\text{bad}}$  be the set of locations to avoid. Assume  $\text{genMTS}(at_{\top}(\mathcal{APTA}), L_{\text{bad}})$  terminates with result  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $Res = \text{synthActTime}(\mathcal{M})$ . Then, for all  $at \models Res$ , locations  $L_{\text{bad}}$  are unreachable in  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$ .*

*Proof:* We first need to recall two lemmas relating symbolic and concrete runs (proved in, e.g. [HRSV02], [ACEF09]).

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{PTA}$  be a PTA, and  $v$  be a timing parameter valuation. Let  $\rho$  be a run of  $\mathcal{PTA}$  reaching a symbolic state  $(l, C)$ . Then there exists an equivalent run in the TA  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  reaching a concrete state  $(l, w)$ , for some  $w \models C$ , iff  $v \models C \downarrow_P$ .*

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{PTA}$  be a PTA, and  $v$  be a timing parameter valuation. Let  $\rho$  be a run of the TA  $v(\mathcal{PTA})$  reaching a concrete state  $(l, w)$ . Then there exists an equivalent run in  $\mathcal{PTA}$  reaching a symbolic state  $(l, C)$  such that  $v \models C \downarrow_P$ .*

Let  $Res = \text{synthActTime}(\mathcal{M})$ . Let us reason by *reductio ad absurdum*, and assume that a state  $s = (l, w)$  with  $l \in L_{\text{bad}}$  is reachable in  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$ , for some concrete run. Let  $\xi$  be the projection of  $at$  on actions. Assume this state is the first bad state along this run (if it is not, then consider the first bad state instead of  $s$ ). From Lemma 2, we have there exists

an equivalent symbolic run in the PTA  $\xi(\mathcal{APTA})$  reaching a state  $(l, C)$  for some  $C$  such that  $v \models C \downarrow_P$ . Since  $\text{genMTS}$  only stops exploring a branch whenever a symbolic state has no successor or when a bad state is met, then  $(l, C)$  was necessarily met by  $\text{genMTS}$ , and hence is part of  $\mathcal{M}$ , where it is labelled with  $\text{bad}$ . Then, in  $\text{synthActTime}(\mathcal{M})$ , the set  $ActsSets$  of minimal sets of actions leading to  $(l, C)$  is synthesized, and the constraint  $AT$  is updated with  $(C \downarrow_P \wedge \bigvee_{Acts \in ActsSets} (\bigwedge_{\alpha \in Acts} \alpha))$ . In the end,  $\text{synthActTime}$  returns the negation of  $AT$ , i.e. a conjunction of the constraints of the form  $(\neg C \downarrow_P \vee \bigwedge_{Acts \in ActsSets} (\bigvee_{\alpha \in Acts} \neg \alpha))$ . This is to say that a valuation satisfying the result of  $\text{synthActTime}$  either does not satisfy  $C \downarrow_P$ , or at least one action in each set of minimal sets of actions allowing the reachability of  $(l, C)$  is disabled. Recall that we assumed  $at \models \text{synthActTime}(\mathcal{M})$ . If the former statement ( $at \models \neg C \downarrow_P$ ) is true, then from Lemma 1 no concrete run of  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$  reaches a concrete state equivalent to  $(l, C)$ , which contradicts the hypothesis that  $(l, w)$  is reachable in  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$ . Otherwise, if the latter statement is true, then one action is disabled in any symbolic path that could lead to  $(l, C)$ , and hence again this contradicts the hypothesis that  $(l, w)$  is reachable in  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$ . ■

**Theorem 2** (completeness). *Let  $\mathcal{APTA}$  be an APTA, and  $L_{\text{bad}}$  be the set of locations to avoid. Assume  $\text{genMTS}(at_{\top}(\mathcal{APTA}), L_{\text{bad}})$  terminates with result  $\mathcal{M}$ . Let  $Res = \text{synthActTime}(\mathcal{M})$ . Let  $at$  be an at-valuation such that locations  $L_{\text{bad}}$  are unreachable in  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$ . Then  $at \models Res$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $at$  be an at-valuation such that locations  $L_{\text{bad}}$  are unreachable in  $at(\mathcal{APTA})$ . Let us reason by *reductio ad absurdum*, and assume that  $at \not\models Res$ . Recall that  $\text{synthActTime}$  returns the negation of  $AT$ , i.e. a conjunction of constraints, each corresponding to the handling of one bad state. Since  $at \not\models Res$ , then there exists at least one such constraint that is not satisfied by  $at$ . Consider one of these constraints not satisfied by  $at$ ; this constraint is of the form  $(\neg C \downarrow_P \vee \bigwedge_{Acts \in ActsSets} (\bigvee_{\alpha \in Acts} \neg \alpha))$ , where  $C$  is the constraint of a symbolic state  $(l, C)$  (with  $l \in L_{\text{bad}}$ ) of  $\top_A(\mathcal{APTA})$ , and  $ActsSets$  is the set of minimal sets of actions allowing this set to be reachable. Since we have  $at \not\models (\neg C \downarrow_P \vee \bigwedge_{Acts \in ActsSets} (\bigvee_{\alpha \in Acts} \neg \alpha))$  then we have  $at \models (C \downarrow_P \wedge \bigvee_{Acts \in ActsSets} (\bigwedge_{\alpha \in Acts} \alpha))$ . That is,  $at \models C \downarrow_P$  and there exists a minimal set of actions in  $ActsSets$  that are all enabled in  $at$ . Consider the symbolic run leading to  $(l, C)$  using this minimal set of actions. Since  $at \models C \downarrow_P$ , from

**Lemma 1** we have that there exists an equivalent concrete run in  $at(APTA)$ . In addition, since all actions along this run are enabled in  $at$ , then  $l$  is reachable in  $at(APTA)$ , which violates the assumption that all locations of  $L_{bad}$  are unreachable in  $at(APTA)$ . Hence  $at \models Res$ . ■

#### F. Discussion: Approximated Synthesis

Most decision problems are undecidable for PTA (see *e.g.* [And15] for a survey), including the emptiness of the valuation set such as a given set of locations is reachable. Hence, exact synthesis is ruled out. Still, subclasses of PTA such that exact synthesis can be achieved exist. First, for acyclic systems (*i.e.* such that no loops exist, or with a limited number of iterations only), most problems are decidable, and synthesis can often be achieved. Applications include most hardware problems, as empirical knowledge show that most hardware verification problems can be carried out for a limited number of hardware clock cycles (typically two); some scheduling problems can also be analysed over a limited number of periods that can be statically computed beforehand. In addition, reducing the number of clocks and/or of parameters can lead to decidability (see [And15]).

However, in the general case, exact synthesis is not necessarily possible, and algorithms may not terminate. Without surprise,  $genMTS(\top_A(APTA), L_{bad})$  may not terminate, since it computes (a subpart of) the state space of a PTA, which is infinite, and for which no finite abstraction can be computed (since the underlying decision problem is undecidable). However, approximations can be used. A possible approximation is to bound the analysis (*e.g.* using a maximum number of explored states, a maximum exploration depth, or a maximum computation time), in which case the state space explored by  $genMTS$  is a subset of the actual state space; in that case, the parameter constraint ensuring the reachability of the bad locations is an under-approximation. Using this constraint in  $synthActTime$  is not valid: because of the negation (line 5 in Algorithm 2),  $synthActTime$  would yield an over-approximation of the good valuations, violating the soundness (Theorem 1). A safe option is to consider that any unexplored state is a bad state, *i.e.* to add to  $C \downarrow_P$  at line 5 in Algorithm 2 the projection to  $P$  of any state  $(l', C')$  the successors of which is unexplored. In that case, the result output by  $synthActTime$  is a sound under-approximation of the safe action and parameter valuations.

Note however that, in all our experiments,  $genMTS$  always terminated without the need to use approximations.

## IV. APPLICATION AND EVALUATION

In this section, we apply the approach presented in Section III to a concrete example of an enhanced version of the classical railway gate controller (see, *e.g.* [AHV93]). We start with the detailed description of our model.

#### A. Running example: An intruder in a railway gate controller

The system itself comprises two components: the train, and the gate controller. A sensor is located far from the gate, which sends a signal to inform the controller that a train is approaching (so that the controller starts lowering the gate). Another sensor is located close to inform the gate that the train

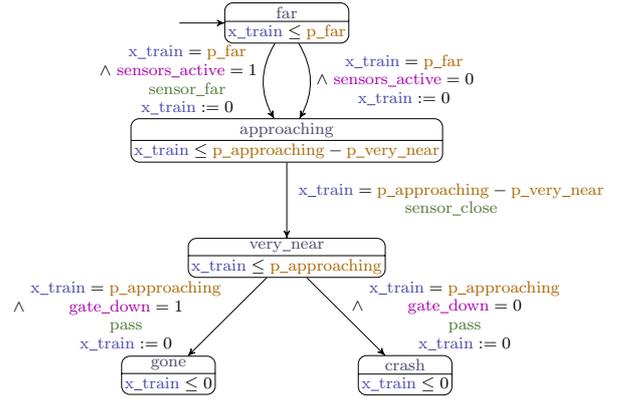


Figure 3: APTA train

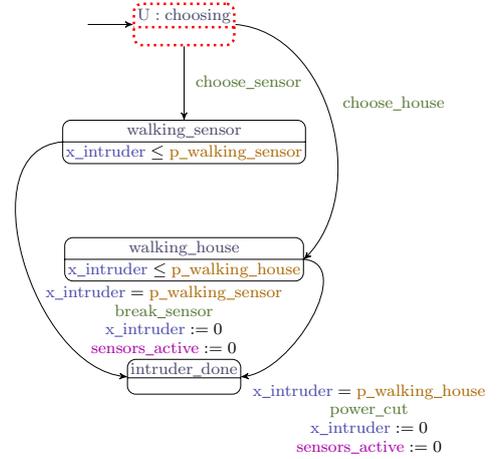


Figure 5: APTA intruder

is very near, triggering an emergency lowering if the gate is not yet closed.

Let us consider that an intruder can sabotage the system by either disabling the far sensor, thus preventing the detection of an approaching train, or cut the power supply in the gate house, hence preventing the gate to lower. Moreover, the gate has a security mechanism that automatically lowers the gate some time after the power has been shut off, and another security mechanism with an emergency gate lowering when the train is very near.

This system is modelled by three APTAs that model the train (Figure 3), the gate (Figure 4) and the intruder (Figure 5) respectively. They comprise parameters (in brown), clocks (in blue), actions (in green), and discrete values<sup>2</sup> (in purple). Each location has a name indicated in the upper part of the node, and its associated invariant is in the lower part.

The parameters allow for analysing a general model, where the values are not yet known at the design time:

- train parameters:

<sup>2</sup>Though not part of the (A)PTA model, discrete values are integer-valued variables often supported by tools, and that are syntactic sugar for locations.

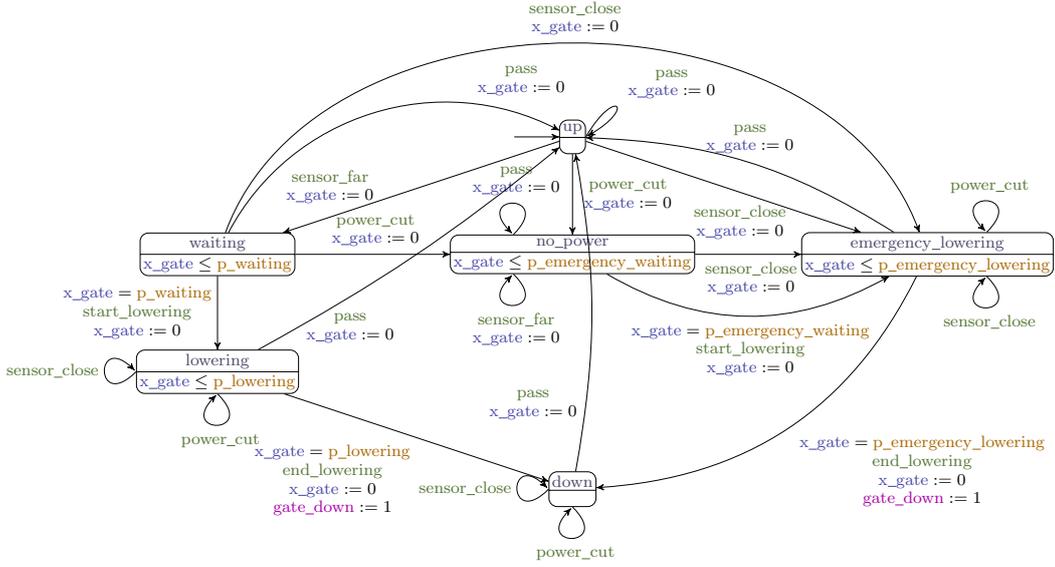


Figure 4: APTA gate

- $p_{far}$ : time taken between being far and approaching;
- $p_{approaching}$ : time between the approach stage and passing the gate;
- $p_{very\_near}$ : time between being very near and passing the gate.
- gate parameters:
  - $p_{waiting}$ : time between sensor activation and beginning of gate lowering;
  - $p_{emergency\_waiting}$ : time between power shutdown and beginning of gate lowering;
  - $p_{lowering}$ : time to lower the gate;
  - $p_{emergency\_lowering}$ : time to lower the gate in emergency mode.
- intruder parameters:
  - $p_{walking\_sensor}$ : time to walk and disable the sensor;
  - $p_{walking\_house}$ : time to walk and cut the power.

Clocks are associated with the train ( $x_{train}$ ), the gate ( $x_{gate}$ ) and the intruder ( $x_{intruder}$ ).

Let us now detail the train APTA in Figure 3. Initially, the train is far, and remains far until it has travelled for  $p_{far}$  time. At that date, it becomes approaching. Note that there are two similar transitions from location far to location approaching. One considers the sensor is active, and thus triggers the  $sensor\_far$  action, while the other caters for the inactive sensor case (disabled by the intruder). In both cases, the train clock is reset to count time elapsed from then on. When the train becomes very near, the APTA changes location again, by triggering  $sensor\_close$ . Note that here there is only one transition as the intruder cannot tamper with the close sensor. Then the last part of the train approach takes place, and when it reaches the gate, it results in two different states according to the status of the gate. If  $gate\_down$  is false, there is a *crash*, otherwise the train resumes its journey. Both end states block time to avoid unnecessary state space explosion during the analysis.

The intruder (Figure 5) starts in an urgent location where (s)he has to choose immediately between the two sabotage possibilities. Although the actions are different ( $break\_sensor$  and  $power\_cut$ ), they both deactivate the sensors as the communication between sensors and gate is broken.

The gate APTA is presented in Figure 4. Initially the barrier is up, and can change on reception of a  $sensor\_far$  or a  $sensor\_close$  signal or detecting a  $power\_cut$ , leading to locations *waiting*, *emergency\_lowering* or *no\_power*, respectively. In all cases, the clock starts ticking. After some time, the gate starts *lowering* until it is down. The  $power\_cut$  can also happen anytime, leading to the *no\_power* location. After a power shutdown, the emergency procedure states that if the power is not back an *emergency\_lowering* takes place. It is also the case if the  $sensor\_close$  is triggered while the train should still be approaching. Finally, when the train has passed the crossing, the barrier gets back up.

In the initial configuration, the train is far, the intruder is ready for choosing and the gate is up. The discrete variables are also initialised:  $gate\_down = 0$ ,  $sensors\_active = 1$ .

### B. Tool Support

Our toolchain, depicted in Figure 6, consists of three tools coordinated by the interface IF.

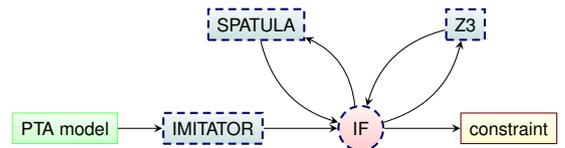


Figure 6: Tool support

The synthesis process starts with the generation of the state space (Section III-C) by using IMITATOR [AFKS12],

a tool for parameter synthesis for real-time systems modelled by PTA. The version used is 2.7.3 (build 1338). IF accepts the output of IMITATOR and prepares a set of programs for SPATULA [KMP15], a tool implementing the action synthesis for pmARCTL. In order to transform the timed state space graph into a mixed transition system, IF performs constraint simplification and analysis, employing the Z3 SMT-solver [dMB08].

### C. Experimental Results and Interpretation

We synthesise constraints under which the location `crash` is avoidable, despite of the presence of the intruder, depending on the extent of the capabilities of the latter, *i.e.* the enabled actions. For practical purposes, our toolchain accepts the set of *controllable actions*, denoted by  $Cntr$ . Intuitively, these are the only actions that are allowed to be switched on and off in the considered model. As the goal of analysis is the safety from the activities of the malicious intruder, we assume that its actions constitute the set of controllable transitions, *i.e.*  $Cntr = \{\text{choose\_house}, \text{choose\_sensor}, \text{break\_sensor}, \text{power\_cut}\}$ .

Firstly, the input model is handled by IMITATOR to produce the MTS according to Algorithm 1. In repeated experiments, this step took approximately 2s, on average. The MTS is then additionally processed by IF with the help of the Z3 solver. Finally, the program IF follows Algorithm 2 to build the set of at-constraints under which a state labeled with `crash` is reachable. To this end, IF prepares a set of programs for SPATULA, which corresponds to calling the external procedure `synthpmARCTL` in Algorithm 2. The second part of the process took approximately 1s, on average.

Timing parameter constraints	Actions
$K_1 = \{k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5\}$	$Acts_1 = \{\text{choose\_house}, \text{power\_cut}\}$
$K_2 = \{k_6, k_7\}$	$Acts_2 = \{\text{choose\_sensor}\}$
$K_3 = \{k_8, k_9\}$	$Acts_3 = \{\text{choose\_house}\}$
$K_4 = \{k_{10}, k_{11}, k_{12}, k_{13}, k_{14}\}$	$Acts_4 = \{\text{break\_sensor}, \text{choose\_sensor}\}$

Table I: Constraints for reachability of the `crash` location

$$\begin{aligned}
k_1 = & \text{p\_walking\_house} \geq \text{p\_far} \wedge \text{p\_walking\_sensor} > 0 \\
& \wedge \text{p\_lowering} \geq \text{p\_emergency\_lowering} \wedge \text{p\_very\_near} > 0 \\
& \wedge \text{p\_emergency\_lowering} \geq \text{p\_very\_near} \wedge \text{p\_far} > 0 \\
& \wedge \text{p\_very\_near} + \text{p\_emergency\_waiting} \\
& + \text{p\_walking\_house} \geq \text{p\_far} + \text{p\_approaching} \\
& \wedge \text{p\_far} + \text{p\_approaching} \geq \text{p\_walking\_house} + \text{p\_very\_near} \\
& \wedge \text{p\_far} + \text{p\_waiting} \geq \text{p\_walking\_house}
\end{aligned}$$

Figure 7: Exemplary parameter constraint  $k_1$

In Table I we collect the result of the synthesis for the reachability of the `crash` location. The left column of the table contains sets of indices of constraints on time parameters. Due to the space limits we present only exemplary constraint in Figure 7. The right column of the table contains sets of actions. For a given row  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ , a state labeled with `crash` can be reached under a given at-valuation  $at$  if it satisfies one of constraints from  $K_i$  and enables all the actions from  $Acts_i$ .

The information presented in Table I is exhaustive, *i.e.* `crash` is reachable iff  $at$  satisfies:

$$\text{ReachCrash} := \bigvee_{i=1}^4 \left( \bigvee_{k \in K_i} k \wedge \bigwedge_{a \in Acts_i} a \right). \quad (\clubsuit)$$

Hence the system is safe from the malicious attempts of the intruder iff the at-constraint  $\text{AvoidCrash} := \neg \text{ReachCrash}$  is satisfied. Let  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ . With a slight notational abuse let us denote  $\overline{K}_i := \bigwedge_{k \in K_i} \neg k$  and  $\overline{Acts}_i := \neg \bigwedge_{a \in Acts_i} a$ . Observe that  $\overline{K}_i$  represents the set of parameter valuations that invalidate all of the constraints of  $K_i$ . We interpret  $\overline{Acts}_i$  as all the subsets of  $Cntr$  that do not subsume  $Acts_i$ . We can now write:

$$\text{AvoidCrash} := \bigwedge_{i=1}^4 (\overline{K}_i \vee \overline{Acts}_i). \quad (\spadesuit)$$

For the sake of presentation and readability, we specialize the considered problem by assuming from now on the following values of the train and gate parameters: `p_far` = 3, `p_approaching` = 2, `p_very_near` = 1, `p_waiting` = 1, `p_emergency_waiting` = 1, `p_lowering` = 2, and `p_emergency_lowering` = 1. For each constraint  $k$  we denote by  $\check{k}$  the result of substituting the above parameters with the appropriate values. Then, the constraints  $\check{k}_1, \dots, \check{k}_{14}$  can be presented as shown in Figure 8.

$$\begin{aligned}
\check{k}_1 = & \text{p\_walking\_sensor} > 0 \wedge 4 \geq \text{p\_walking\_house} \geq 3, \\
\check{k}_2 = & \text{p\_walking\_sensor} > 0 \wedge \text{p\_walking\_house} = 3, \\
\check{k}_3 = & \text{p\_walking\_sensor} > 0 \wedge 5 \geq \text{p\_walking\_house} \geq 4, \\
\check{k}_4 = & \text{p\_walking\_sensor} > 0 \wedge \text{p\_walking\_house} = 4, \\
\check{k}_6 = & \text{p\_walking\_house} > 0 \wedge \text{p\_walking\_sensor} \geq 5, \\
\check{k}_8 = & \text{p\_walking\_sensor} > 0 \wedge \text{p\_walking\_house} \geq 5, \\
\check{k}_{10} = & \text{p\_walking\_house} > 0 \wedge 4 \geq \text{p\_walking\_sensor} \geq 3, \\
\check{k}_{12} = & \text{p\_walking\_house} > 0 \wedge 5 \geq \text{p\_walking\_sensor} \geq 4, \\
\check{k}_{14} = & \text{p\_walking\_house} > 0 \wedge \text{p\_walking\_sensor} = 4, \\
\check{k}_5 = & \check{k}_3, \check{k}_7 = \check{k}_6, \check{k}_9 = \check{k}_8, \check{k}_{11} = \check{k}_{10}, \check{k}_{13} = \check{k}_{12},
\end{aligned}$$

Figure 8: Parameter constraints under partial substitution

In a natural way we define  $\overline{\check{K}}_i := \bigwedge_{k \in K_i} \neg \check{k}$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq 4$  (see Figure 9). Let us show how we can employ these constraints to analyse safety of the system under selected capabilities of the intruder. Assume that the intruder can gain an access to the gate house and cut the power supply, but (s)he is not aware of the sensor, or the sensor cannot be disabled. This corresponds to enabling  $Acts_1 = \{\text{choose\_house}, \text{power\_cut}\}$  in the model. As this set subsumes  $Acts_3$  (see Table I), by Condition  $\spadesuit$  we have  $\text{AvoidCrash} = \overline{\check{K}}_1 \wedge \overline{\check{K}}_3 = \text{p\_walking\_house} \leq 3$ .

### D. Performance Evaluation

To the best knowledge of the authors, there is no other tool allowing for mixed action-parameter synthesis for APTA.

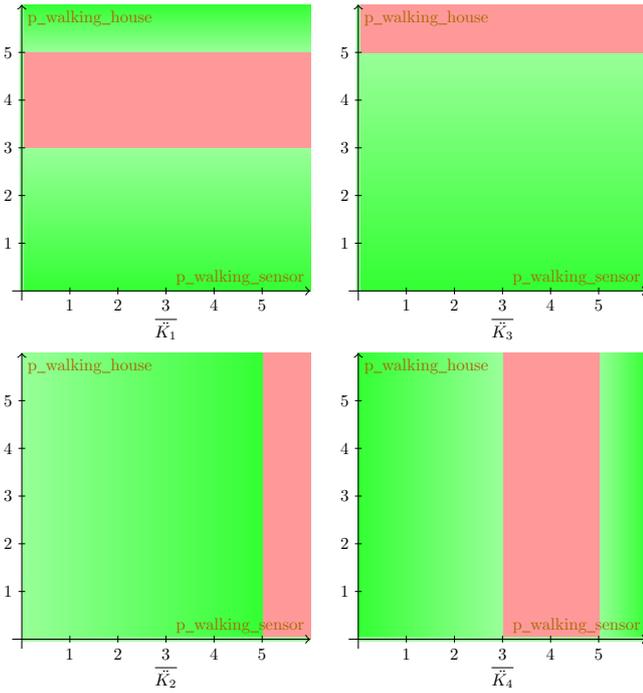


Figure 9: Safety regions

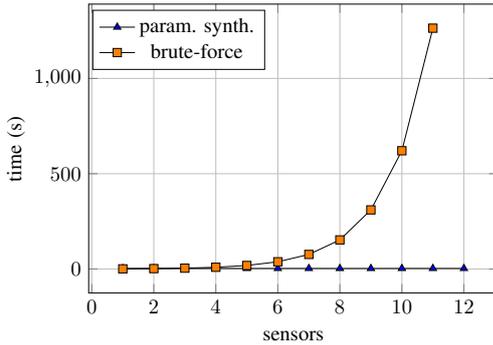


Figure 10: Parametric synthesis vs brute-force

Therefore, following the methodology presented in [KMP15], in Figure 10 we compare the efficiency of our approach to the brute-force solution, where IMITATOR is iteratively called on all the non-empty subsets of the controllable actions. We scale the benchmark with respect to the number of actions that allow to choose the sensor. The advantage of our approach is clearly visible and follows from the fact that SPATULA is tailored towards handling a large number of action variables. It should be noted, however, that our earlier experience with synthesis based on Binary Decision Diagrams (see [KMP15], [JKPL12]) allows us to hypothesise that the practical complexity of the solution presented in this paper is also exponential in the number of actions, albeit with a much smaller steepness than in the case of brute-force.

All the experiments have been performed on an Intel i5 quad-core 2.6 GHz machine with 4 GiB RAM, running Linux 3.13 operating system.

## V. CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES

We presented an original framework to synthesise two kinds of parameters, *i.e.* action parameters and timing parameters, in a unified manner. The resulting constraint aims at helping designers to tune their system depending on cost or availability constraints, and at providing designers with tools supporting their decision making. We exemplified our approach on a proof-of-concept case study.

So far, we have considered only reachability-like properties. Although some properties go beyond the class of reachability properties, a quite large number of properties (including time properties such as deadlines) fall into the class of properties that can be encoded into reachability testing (see [ABBL98] for a study of its expressive power). Our longer-term goal is of course to generalize our results to deal with more complex, ideally full pmARCTL.

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# 1 Parametric Timed Broadcast Protocols

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## 14 — Abstract —

---

15 In this paper we consider state reachability in networks composed of many identical processes  
16 running a parametric timed broadcast protocol (PTBP). PTBP are a new model which extends  
17 both broadcast protocols and parametric timed automata. This work is, up to our knowledge,  
18 the first to consider the combination of both a parametric network size and timing parame-  
19 ters in clock guard constraints. Since the communication topology is of utmost importance in  
20 broadcast protocols, we investigate reachability problems in both clique semantics where every  
21 message reach every processes, and in reconfigurable semantics where the set of receivers is chosen  
22 non-deterministically. In addition, we investigate the decidability status depending on whether  
23 the timing parameters in guards appear only as upper bounds in guards (U-PTBP), as lower  
24 bounds (L-PTBP) or when the set of parameters is partitioned in lower-bound and upper-bound  
25 parameters (L/U-PTBP).

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27 **Keywords and phrases** Parameterized systems, parametric timed model checking

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32 topic of this paper.

## 33 **1** Introduction

34 The application of model-checking to real-life complex systems faces several problems, and  
35 for many of them the use of parameters, i. e., symbolic constants representing an unknown  
36 quantity can be part of the solution. First, for big systems, the so-called *state-space explosion*  
37 limits the practical applicability of model-checking. Such big systems however are in general  
38 specified as the composition of smaller systems. A particularly interesting setting is the one  
39 in which all the components are identical, such as in many communication protocols. The  
40 number of involved components can then be abstracted away as a *parameter*, with the hope



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41 of both overcoming the state-space explosion, and obtaining more useful answers from the  
 42 model-checking process, such as “for which sizes of the system does some property hold?”.  
 43 Second, the earlier in the development phase verification can be applied, the less costly will  
 44 be fixing the problems found, but also the less information we have on the final system, in  
 45 particular on many timing features, such as transmission times, watchdogs, etc. Parameters  
 46 can also be useful here by abstracting away the precise values of some yet unknown features,  
 47 and at the same time allowing their dimensioning.

48 In this paper, we propose to combine two different types of parameters, namely the  
 49 *number of identical processes* and the *timing features*, and study the decidability of classic  
 50 parametric decision problems in the resulting formalism. Both types of parameters, when  
 51 introduced separately in timed automata-based formalisms, result in hard problems unde-  
 52 cidable even in restricted settings.

53 Timed automata [5] extend finite-state automata with clocks, i. e., real-valued variables  
 54 that can be compared to constants in guards, and reset along transitions. Parametric timed  
 55 automata (PTA) [6] allow to replace constants with unknown parameters in timing con-  
 56 straints. The most basic verification question, “does there exist a value for the parameters  
 57 such that some location is reachable” is undecidable with as few as 1 integer- or rational-  
 58 valued parameter [21, 10], or when only 1 clock is compared to a unique parameter [21] (with  
 59 additional clocks). The main syntactic subclass of PTA for which decidability is obtained is  
 60 L/U-PTA [18], in which the parameters set is partitioned into lower-bound parameters (i. e.,  
 61 parameters always compared as a lower bound in a clock guard) and upper-bound param-  
 62 eters (always as upper bounds). L/U-PTA have been shown [18] to be expressive enough to  
 63 model classical examples from the litterature, such as root contention or Fischer’s mutual  
 64 exclusion algorithm for instance.

65 Broadcast protocol networks [13, 15, 16, 14], allow treating the size of a network as an  
 66 unknown parameter. Here also the most simple basic verification question “does there exist  
 67 a value for the parameter such that some location is reachable by a process” is undecidable  
 68 when considering arbitrary communication topologies [14]. However one can regain decid-  
 69 ability by considering different communication topology settings. One option is to limit the  
 70 topologies to cliques (every process receives every messages) [15, 16, 14]. Another is to con-  
 71 sider reconfigurable broadcasts in which the set of receivers is chosen non-deterministically  
 72 at each step [13]. A timed version of this broadcast protocol was studied in [2]. In the clique  
 73 topology for this network, the reachability problem is decidable only when there is a single  
 74 clock per process.

## 75 Contributions

76 In this work, we provide one more level of abstraction to the formalisms of the literature  
 77 by proposing *parametric timed broadcast protocols* (PTBP), i. e., a new formalism made of  
 78 an arbitrary number of identical timed processes in which timing parameters can be used.  
 79 Considering those two kinds of parameters could be really useful, for example when design-  
 80 ing and verifying communication protocols. Indeed, those protocols are required to work  
 81 independently of the number of participants (hence the parametric size of networks) and the  
 82 time constraints in each process are of paramount importance and thus could be tweaked  
 83 in early development thanks to timing parameters. This work is, up to our knowledge, the  
 84 first to consider the combination of both a parametric network size and timing parameters  
 85 in clock guard constraints. We consider the following problems: does there exist a number  
 86 of processes for which the set of timing parameter valuations allowing to reach a given lo-  
 87 cation for one run (“EF”), or for all runs (“AF”) is empty (or universal)? This gives rise to

88 4 problems: EF-emptiness, EF-universality, AF-emptiness and AF-universality. As PTBP  
 89 can be seen as an extension of both broadcast protocols and parametric timed automata,  
 90 undecidability follows immediately from the existing undecidability results known for these  
 91 two formalisms. However, combining decidable subclasses of both formalisms is challenging,  
 92 and does not necessarily make the EF and AF problems decidable for PTBP.

93 The communication topology is of utmost importance in broadcast protocols, and we  
 94 therefore investigate reachability problems depending on the broadcast semantics. In the  
 95 reconfigurable semantics (where the set of receivers is chosen non-deterministically), AF-  
 96 emptiness and AF-universality are decidable for 1-clock PTBP, and undecidable from 3 clocks  
 97 even for L/U-PTBP with the same parameters partitioning as in L/U-PTA (the 2-clock case  
 98 is equivalent to a well-known open problem for PTA). The AF results may not seem surpris-  
 99 ing, as they resemble equivalent results for PTA. However, EF-emptiness and EF-universality  
 100 becomes undecidable even for 1-clock PTBP: this result comes in contrast with both non-  
 101 parametric timed broadcast protocols and PTA for which the 1-clock case is decidable.

102 In the clique semantics (where every message reaches every process), we show that AF  
 103 problems are undecidable even without any clock. Then, as it is known that 2 clocks (and  
 104 no parameter) yield undecidability, we study EF problems over 1 clock. We investigate the  
 105 decidability status depending on whether the timing parameters in guards appear only as  
 106 upper bounds in guards (U-PTBP), as lower bounds (L-PTBP) or when the set of param-  
 107 eters is partitioned in lower-bound and upper-bound parameters (L/U-PTBP). We show  
 108 that L/U-PTBP become decidable for EF-emptiness (but not universality) when the pa-  
 109 rameter domain is bounded. For EF-universality, decidability is obtained only for L-PTBP  
 110 and U-PTBP for a parameter domain bounded with closed bounds. Our contributions are  
 111 summarized in Table 1 (page 13).

## 112 Related work

113 To the best of our knowledge, combining two types of parameters (i. e., discrete and con-  
 114 tinuous) was very little studied—with a few exceptions. In [11], an attempt is made to mix  
 115 discrete and continuous timing parameters (in an even non-linear fashion). However, the  
 116 approach is fully *ad-hoc* and addresses an extension of PTA, for which problems are already  
 117 undecidable. In [20, 12], security protocols are studied with unknown timing constants, and  
 118 an unbounded number of participants. However, the focus is not on decidability, and the  
 119 general setting is undecidable. In [7], action parameters (that can be seen as Booleans)  
 120 and continuous timing parameters are combined (only linearly though) in an extension of  
 121 PTA; the mere emptiness of the action and timing parameters sets for which a location is  
 122 reachable is undecidable. In contrast, we exhibit in this work some decidable cases.

## 123 2 Definitions

124 We denote by  $\mathbb{N}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}_+$ , and  $\mathbb{R}_+$  the sets of all natural, non-negative rational, and non-negative  
 125 real numbers respectively.  $[a, b]$  denotes the interval containing all rational numbers  $x$  such  
 126 that  $x \leq b$  and  $x \geq a$ . As usual, we write  $(a, b]$  to exclude  $a$  from this set and  $[a, b)$  to exclude  
 127  $b$  (in which case we allow  $b = +\infty$ ). We denote by  $\mathbb{I}_{\mathbb{Q}_+}$  the set of all rational intervals.

128 Given a set  $E$ , and an integer  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we denote  $\mathbb{V}_n(E)$  the set of all vectors composed  
 129 by  $n$  elements of  $E$ . We denote  $\mathbb{V}(E)$  the set of all vectors i. e.,  $\mathbb{V}(E) = \cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{V}_n(E)$ .

130 Given a set of clocks  $\mathbb{X}$ , a valuation of  $\mathbb{X}$  is a function of  $\mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{X})$  the  
 131 set of all valuations of  $\mathbb{X}$  or just  $\mathcal{V}$  when  $\mathbb{X}$  is clear from the context. The valuation assigning  
 132 0 to all clock is written  $\vec{0}$ . Given a valuation  $v \in \mathcal{V}$  and a real number  $t$  we denote by  $v + t$

133 the valuation  $v'$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{X}$ ,  $v'(x) = v(x) + t$ , and  $v - t$  (if it exists) the valuation  
 134 such that  $(v - t) + t = v$ . Given a set of clocks  $\mathbb{X}$  and a set of parameters  $\mathbb{P}$  we write  $\mathcal{G}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{P})$   
 135 for the set of all sets of constraints of the form  $x \bowtie a$  with  $x \in \mathbb{X}$ ,  $\bowtie \in \{<, \leq, =, \geq, >\}$  and  
 136  $a \in \mathbb{Q}_+ \cup \mathbb{P}$ .

137 We denote by  $\text{Updates}(\mathbb{X})$  the set of updates of the clocks, where an update is a function  
 138  $up : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{X}$ , either  $up(v)(x) = v(x) + t$  or  $up(v)(x) = 0$ . When convenient  
 139 we represent the update function with the set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$  representing that clocks  $x_1$  to  $x_k$   
 140 are reset to 0 while other clocks (here  $x_i$  with  $i > k$ ) are left unchanged.

141 Given a clock valuation  $v \in \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  and a rational valuation of the variables  $p : \mathbb{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_+$   
 142 we say that the valuation  $v$  satisfies a guard  $g \in \mathcal{G}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{P})$ , written  $v \models_p g$  if for all  $x \bowtie a \in g$   
 143 either  $a \in \mathbb{Q}_+$  and  $v(x) \bowtie a$  or  $a \in \mathbb{P}$  and  $v(x) \bowtie p(a)$ .

144 We now introduce parametric timed broadcast protocols (PTBP), which are timed broad-  
 145 cast protocols [1] extended with timing parameters in clock guards. Equivalently, PTBP  
 146 can be seen as a PTA [6] augmented with communication features.

147 **► Definition 1** (Parameterized timed broadcast protocol). A *Parameterized timed broadcast*  
 148 *protocol* (PTBP) is a tuple  $\mathcal{N} = (Q, \mathbb{X}, \Sigma, \mathbb{P}, q_0, \Delta)$  where:

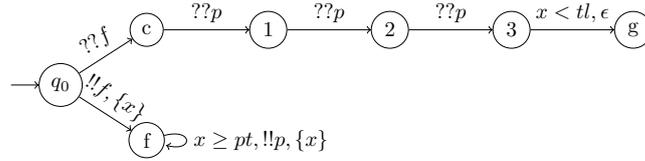
- 149 ■  $Q$  is a finite set of states;
- 150 ■  $\mathbb{X}$  is a finite set of clocks;
- 151 ■  $\Sigma$  is the finite communication alphabet;
- 152 ■  $\mathbb{P}$  is a finite set of timing parameters;
- 153 ■  $q_0 \in Q$  is the initial state; and
- 154 ■  $\Delta \subseteq Q \times \mathcal{G}(\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{P}) \times \text{Act} \times \text{Updates}(\mathbb{X}) \times Q$  is the edge relation, where *Act* is the set of  
 155 actions composed of:
  - 156 ■ internal actions:  $\epsilon$ ;
  - 157 ■ broadcasts of a message  $m \in \Sigma$ :  $!!m$ ; and
  - 158 ■ reception of a message  $m \in \Sigma$ :  $??m$ .

159 A PTBP is a U-PTBP, L-PTBP, or L/U-PTBP if all timing parameters appear only as  
 160 upper bounds in guards (i. e., of the form  $x < \lambda$  or  $x \leq \lambda$ ), only as lower bounds (i. e., of  
 161 the form  $x > \lambda$  or  $x \geq \lambda$ ), or if the set of parameters  $\mathbb{P}$  is partitioned into lower-bound and  
 162 upper-bound parameters, respectively.

163 A *bounded* PTBP is a pair  $(\mathcal{N}, \text{bounds})$  where  $\mathcal{N}$  is a PTBP and  $\text{bounds} : \mathbb{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_{\mathbb{Q}_+}$  are  
 164 bounds on the parameters that assign to each parameter  $\lambda$  an interval  $[\text{inf}, \text{sup}]$ ,  $(\text{inf}, \text{sup}]$ ,  
 165  $[\text{inf}, \text{sup})$ , or  $(\text{inf}, \text{sup})$ , with  $\text{inf}, \text{sup} \in \mathbb{N}$ . We use  $\text{inf}(\lambda, \text{bounds})$  and  $\text{sup}(\lambda, \text{bounds})$  to denote  
 166 the infimum and the supremum of  $\lambda$ , respectively. A bounded PTBP is a *closed PTBP* if,  
 167 for each parameter  $\lambda$ , its ranging interval  $\text{bounds}(\lambda)$  is of the form  $[\text{inf}, \text{sup}]$ . Otherwise it  
 168 is open bounded. Abusing notation we say that a parameter valuation  $p$  belong to a bound  
 169  $\text{bounds}$ , written  $p \in \text{bounds}$ , if for all parameters  $\lambda$ ,  $p(\lambda) \in \text{bounds}(\lambda)$ .

170 **► Example 2.** An example of a PTBP is given in Fig. 1. This PTBP is composed of an  
 171 initial state  $q_0$ , two states  $f$  and  $c$  representing a factory and a client, three counting states  
 172 1, 2 and 3 and a goal state  $g$ . The set of clocks is the singleton  $\{x\}$  and the communication  
 173 alphabet is composed of two messages  $p$  and  $f$ . There are two timing parameters  $pt$  and  $tl$   
 174 representing respectively the production time and the time limit. Notice that this PTBP is  
 175 in fact an L/U-PTBP since the parameter  $pt$  appears only in guards as a lower bound and  
 176  $tl$  only as an upper bound.

177 We now define the semantics of parameterized networks of PTBP. This semantics is  
 178 illustrated in Example 3 after the formal definition.



■ **Figure 1** Example of a (L/U-)PTBP

179 A network is composed of a multitude of processes all running the same protocol  $\mathcal{N}$ .

180 Formally, a configuration  $\gamma$  of a network running a parametric timed broadcast protocol  
 181  $\mathcal{N} = (Q, \mathbb{X}, \Sigma, \mathbb{P}, q_0, \Delta)$  is a vector  $\gamma \in \mathbb{V}(Q \times \mathcal{V})$ . Intuitively, a configuration  $\gamma$  with  $\gamma[i] =$   
 182  $(q, v)$  means that the process  $i$  is in state  $q$  and with clock valuation  $v$ .

183 Given a configuration  $\gamma$  with  $N$  processes and a process  $i$ , we denote  $state(\gamma[i])$  the state and  
 184  $val(\gamma[i])$  the valuation such that  $\gamma[i] = (state(\gamma[i]), val(\gamma[i]))$ . Abusing notation we  
 185 extend  $state$  to the whole configuration i.e.,  $state(\gamma) = \cup_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}} state(\gamma[i])$ .

186 Note that the representation of configuration as vectors is only for practical reasons, the  
 187 processes are identical and do not have ids.

188 We say that a configuration  $\gamma$  is initial if all processes are in the initial state and their  
 189 clocks are all set to 0 i.e., for all  $i$ ,  $\gamma[i] = (q_0, \vec{0})$ .

190 Given a timing parameter valuation, the transition relation on configurations is intu-  
 191 tively defined as follows: First a delay is chosen and all the clocks in the network are  
 192 increased by this delay. Then one of the processes performs a possible action i.e., an action  
 193 for which the guard is satisfied given its clock valuation and the valuation of the timing  
 194 parameter. Two cases follow. Either the action is internal and only this process moves and  
 195 updates its clocks accordingly, or the action is a broadcast and a set of receivers is chosen.  
 196 It this latter case, the sender moves and updates its clocks and all the chosen receivers also  
 197 move and update their clocks accordingly.

198 More formally, given a timing parameter valuation  $p$ , a configuration  $\gamma \in \mathbb{V}_N(Q \times \mathcal{V})$  there  
 199 are transitions for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ ,  $\delta = (q_1, g, a, up, q_2) \in \Delta$ , and  $R \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$   
 200 such that:

201 **elapse of time** there is a valuation  $\gamma_t \in \mathbb{V}_N(Q \times \mathcal{V})$  such that  $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ ,  $\gamma_t[j] =$   
 202  $(q, v + t)$  where  $(q, v) = \gamma[j]$ , and

203 **execution of the action** the following conditions are satisfied:

204 **the action is enabled**  $state(\gamma_t[i]) = q_1$  and  $val(\gamma_t[i]) \models_p g$ , and

205 **execution of the action** the transition leads to a configuration  $\gamma'$  such that

- 206 – the active process performed the action:  $\gamma'[i] = (q_2, up(val(\gamma_t[i])))$ ,
- 207 – unconcerned processes are unaffected:  $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, N\} \setminus (R \cup \{i\})$ ,  $\gamma'[j] = \gamma_t[j]$ ,  
 208 and
- 209 – either
  - 210 –  $a$  is an internal action ( $a = \epsilon$ ) and the receiving processes are unaffected:  $\forall j \in$   
 211  $R \setminus \{i\}$ ,  $\gamma'[j] = \gamma_t[j]$ ; or
  - 212 –  $a = !!m$  and  $\forall j \in R \setminus \{i\}$ , if there exists an edge  $(state(\gamma_t[j]), g', ??m, up', q')$   
 213 such that  $val(\gamma_t[j]) \models_p g'$ , then the process receives the message and  $\gamma'[j] =$   
 214  $(q', up'(val(\gamma_t[j])))$ . Otherwise the process is unaffected and  $\gamma'[j] = \gamma_t[j]$ .

215 When such a transition exists, it is written  $\gamma \xrightarrow{t, i, \delta, R}_p \gamma'$  or simply  $\gamma \rightarrow_p \gamma'$ .

216 Notice that we consider non blocking broadcast i.e., if a process is in the receiver set but  
 217 has no available reception edge, the process is unaffected and the network behaves as if this  
 218 process was not in the receiver set.

219 An execution  $\rho$  is a sequence of transitions starting in an initial configuration  $\gamma_0$ ,  $\rho =$   
 220  $\gamma_0 \rightarrow_p \gamma_1 \rightarrow_p \dots$ . An execution is maximal if it is infinite or if it ends in a configuration  
 221 from which there is no possible transition.

222 Notice that once an initial configuration is fixed, the number of processes does not change  
 223 along an execution. However the semantics is infinite for several reasons: first there is an  
 224 infinite number of initial configurations (i. e., of network sizes); second, there is also an  
 225 infinite number of possible parameter valuations; third, given a network size and parameter  
 226 valuation, clock valuations assign real values to clocks and are thus uncountable.

227 Given PTBP  $\mathcal{N}$ , a network size  $N$  and a timing parameter valuation  $p$ , we denote by  
 228  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$  the set of all maximal executions for the valuation  $p$  with  $N$  processes.

229 We say that a maximal execution  $\rho = \gamma_0 \rightarrow_p \gamma_1 \rightarrow_p \dots$  reaches a state  $q$ , written  
 230  $\rho \models \diamond q$ , if there exists an index  $n$  such that  $q \in \text{state}(\gamma_n)$ .

231 **► Example 3.** We give an example of a possible execution for a network composed of 4  
 232 processes running the protocol given in Example 2. In this example  $tl = 9$  and  $pt = 3$ .  
 233 The edge used during a transition is here only represented by the associated action for  
 234 readability.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 235 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} q_0, 0 \\ q_0, 0 \\ q_0, 0 \\ q_0, 0 \\ q_0, 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{0.1, 1, f, \emptyset} \left( \begin{array}{c} f, 0 \\ q_0, 0.1 \\ q_0, 0.1 \\ q_0, 0.1 \\ q_0, 0.1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{4.1, 2, f, \{3, 5\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} f, 4.1 \\ f, 0 \\ c, 4.2 \\ q_0, 4.2 \\ c, 4.2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1.3, 1, p, \{5\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} f, 0 \\ f, 1.3 \\ c, 5.5 \\ q_0, 5.5 \\ 1, 5.5 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1.8, 2, p, \{1, 3, 4, 5\}} \\
 236 \quad \xrightarrow{1.8, 2, p, \{1, 3, 4, 5\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} f, 1.8 \\ f, 0 \\ 1, 7.3 \\ q_0, 7.3 \\ 2, 7.3 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1.2, 1, p, \{5\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} f, 0 \\ f, 1.2 \\ 1, 8.5 \\ q_0, 8.5 \\ 3, 8.5 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{0.5, \epsilon, \emptyset} \left( \begin{array}{c} f, 0 \\ f, 1.2 \\ 1, 8.5 \\ q_0, 8.5 \\ g, 8.5 \end{array} \right) \\
 237
 \end{array}$$

238 **► Remark.** Notice that even if the notations are slightly different, PTBP networks fully  
 239 extend both PTA [6] and timed broadcast protocols [1]. Indeed, PTA are PTBP networks  
 240 of size one and timed networks are PTBP networks without timing parameters.

241 In this paper, we consider parameterized reachability problems: we ask whether there  
 242 exists a network size  $N$  satisfying a given reachability property. We consider existential  
 243 (EF) and universal (AF) reachability properties that ask, given goal state  $q_f$ , whether this  
 244 state is reached by some (EF) or all (AF) executions. Moreover we also consider variants on  
 245 the quantifier on timing parameters and ask whether the property holds for all parameter  
 246 valuation (universality) or for none (emptiness).

247 Thus, given a bounded PTBP  $(\mathcal{N}, \text{bounds})$  and a state  $q_f$  we consider the following  
 248 problems:

- 249  $\exists$ -**EF-emptiness**  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \exists p \in \text{bounds}, \exists \rho \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p), \rho \not\models \diamond q_f$
- 250  $\exists$ -**EF-universality**  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall p \in \text{bounds}, \exists \rho \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p), \rho \models \diamond q_f$
- 251  $\exists$ -**AF-emptiness**  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \exists p \in \text{bounds}, \forall \rho \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p), \rho \not\models \diamond q_f$
- 252  $\exists$ -**AF-universality**  $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}, \forall p \in \text{bounds}, \forall \rho \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p), \rho \models \diamond q_f$

253 For convenience, we will omit the bounds when they are irrelevant and consider these  
 254 problems in the case of general PTBP. In the following, the bounds will only be relevant in  
 255 Section 5.

256 In the next section we investigate these problems in the general semantics defined above.  
 257 This semantics is called *reconfigurable* since the communication topology (modeled by the  
 258 reception sets) can be reconfigured at each step. However, in broadcast protocol networks  
 259 with a parametric number of processes, the communication topology plays a decisive role on  
 260 decidability status. We will thus investigate an other communication setting, in Section 4,  
 261 in which every message is received by all the other processes i. e., the reception set  $R$  is  
 262 always equal to  $\{1, \dots, N\}$ . These networks are called *clique* networks.

263 ► **Example 4.** Considering the PTBP given in Example 2 and the target state  $g$ . The  
 264 execution presented in Example 3 shows that the answer for the  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness problem is  
 265 positive whenever the bounds allow for  $tl = 9$  and  $pt = 3$  in the reconfigurable semantics.  
 266 Notice that in the clique semantics, it is not possible to reach  $g$  unless  $pt * 3 < tl$ . Indeed  
 267 in the clique semantics when a first process moves to  $f$ , all the other processes receive the  
 268 message  $f$  and thus move to  $c$ . Thus, at least three  $pt$  time units are necessary in order to  
 269 receive 3 messages  $p$ .

270 Notice also that in this example, in both semantics, both  $\exists$ -AF problems would give  
 271 negative answers since there is always an execution that forever sends  $p$  in the bottom self-  
 272 loop and never uses the internal transition leading to  $g$ . Thus such an execution never  
 273 reaches  $g$ .

## 274 **3** Reconfigurable semantics

### 275 **3.1** AF problems in the reconfigurable semantics

276 The reconfigurable semantics of broadcast networks, where the set of receivers can be chosen  
 277 non-deterministically, makes the AF problems equivalent to the same problems in networks of  
 278 size 1. This is due to the fact that in the reconfigurable semantics nothing prevents messages  
 279 to be sent to an empty set of receivers. The following theorem is a direct consequence of  
 280 previous known results on parameterized timed automata and this previous remark.

281 ► **Theorem 5.**  $\exists$ -AF-emptiness and  $\exists$ -AF-universality are *decidable* for 1 clock PTBP but  
 282 *undecidable* for (L/U)-PTBP with 3 clocks or more.

283 **Proof.** We first show that in the reconfigurable semantics the  $\exists$ -AF problems are equivalent  
 284 to the same problems but in networks of size one.

285 The easiest direction is to assume that an AF property holds in a network of size one, it  
 286 thus answers the original parameterized question which asks whether there exists a size of  
 287 network satisfying the property. The other direction is more subtle and derives from the fact  
 288 that in the reconfigurable semantics nothing prevents messages to be sent to an empty set of  
 289 receivers. In the case of executions where there is no communication (every message is sent  
 290 with an empty set of receivers) the network behaves as several processes running in parallel  
 291 without interaction. Thus, if the AF problem is satisfied for some size of networks, it means  
 292 that the target state is reached in particular for every execution without communication.  
 293 Thus, it follows that the target is reached for all executions with a single process hence it  
 294 holds for a network of size 1.

295 The rest of the theorem follows from the literature. AF-emptiness and AF-universality  
 296 are decidable for 1-PTA. Indeed it is shown in [8] that one can abstract 1-PTA semantics  
 297 into a finite parameterized zone abstraction. Moreover one can use this abstraction to solve  
 298 the AF problems as shown in [19]. The undecidable cases directly come from the fact that  
 299 the AF-emptiness is undecidable for (L/U)-PTA with 3 clocks or more [19]. The decidable  
 300 case comes from the following result for PTA with 1 clock, which was, to the best of our  
 301 knowledge, never shown formally:

302 ► **Lemma 6** (Decidability of AF-emptiness for 1-clock PTA). *The AF-emptiness problem is*  
 303 *decidable for 1-clock PTA.*

304 **Proof.** A classical way to approach timed automaton is to abstract the reachable configura-  
 305 tions into a finite region graph (see *e.g.* [9]). This region graph can be adapted in the  
 306 case of PTA in order to deal with parameters. It was shown in [8] that a similar abstraction

307 called zone graph is finite for 1-clock PTA. To obtain the decidability of the AF-emptiness  
 308 problem it then suffices to apply the symbolic algorithm given in [19]. ◀

309 This concludes the proof of [Theorem 5](#).

310 Notice that these questions are still open for L-PTA, U-PTA and 2-PTA. ◀

311 ▶ **Remark.** Following the reasoning in the proof of [Theorem 5](#), the  $\exists$ -AF-emptiness problem  
 312 is open in the same cases as for PTA: for L-PTBP and U-PTBP, and for (L/U)-PTBP with  
 313 2 clocks.

### 314 3.2 EF problems in the reconfigurable semantics

315 We start by recalling some known results on networks composed of an arbitrary number  
 316 of timed processes. In [4] the authors considered timed networks and proved that the  
 317 reachability problem ( $\exists$ -EF) is decidable with one clock per process and undecidable for two  
 318 clocks per process [3]. Note that timed networks have a different semantics than the one  
 319 we use in this paper since they use rules and not broadcasts. However the reconfigurable  
 320 semantics can be easily encoded in the rules of timed networks. This gives us the decidability  
 321 of the  $\exists$ -EF problem (without timing parameters and with one clock per process).

322 ▶ **Theorem 7** ([4, 3]).  *$\exists$ -EF is **decidable** for PTBP without parameters and with one clock  
 323 per process and **undecidable** with two clocks per process.*

324 A direct consequence of this theorem is the undecidability of the  $\exists$ -EF problems for  
 325 PTBP with two clocks.

326 ▶ **Lemma 8.** *The  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness and  $\exists$ -EF-universality problems are **undecidable** for PTBP  
 327 with two clocks.*

328 Moreover, we show below that the undecidability even holds for PTBP with a single  
 329 clock. This is a major difference with both parameterized networks and PTA, where the  
 330 restriction to one clock leads to decidability.

331 ▶ **Theorem 9.** *The  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness and  $\exists$ -EF-universality problems are **undecidable** for  
 332 PTBP with one clock.*

333 **Proof.** The proof is by reduction of the halting problem for two-counter machines. The  
 334 idea of the reduction relies in part to the one of undecidability in PTA with 3 clocks [19].  
 335 We hence start by recalling this proof. Given a PTA with 3 clock  $t, x$  and  $y$ , the idea is to  
 336 encode the value of  $c_1$  by the difference  $t - x$  and the value of  $c_2$  by the difference  $t - y$ .  
 337 The clocks are reset to zero each time they reach the value  $p(\lambda)$  of the parameter  $\lambda$ . An  
 338 increment is, for example, encoded by resetting the clock  $x$  when it is equal to 1 (hence the  
 339 difference with  $t$  increase by 1), for a test to zero it suffices to check whether  $x = 0$  when  
 340  $t = 0$ . Notice that the construction is valid only if the counter value does not exceed  $p(\lambda)$ .

341 In our model however we cannot apply this idea directly since there is only one clock  
 342 per process, however we can use the fact that there are several processes to dispatch the  
 343 clocks between different processes. We therefore separate our protocol in three different  
 344 parts: a controller that represents the current instruction and clock  $t$ , and two counters that  
 345 each represent one of the counters, thus clocks  $x$  and  $y$ . The messages are then used to  
 346 make those three processes cooperate. The difficulty is that, in our semantics, the message  
 347 may not reach all the processes. In particular it may be the case that in a first part of  
 348 an execution the network is split in two distinct parts which do not communicate between

349 them, and at some point start communicating. We have to ensure that the reduction we  
 350 propose is not affected by such a behavior. The proof that our construction is correct is  
 351 technical and given in [Appendix B](#). ◀

## 352 4 Clique

353 In broadcast protocol networks with a parametric number of processes, the topology of  
 354 message communication plays a decisive role on the decidability status. In this section, we  
 355 thus investigate a communication setting in which every message is received by all the other  
 356 processes. We call these networks clique networks.

357 Formally, the semantics of a clique network is the restriction of the semantics given  
 358 in [Section 2](#) to internal transitions and broadcast transitions in which the set of receivers is  
 359 always composed of all processes.

### 360 4.1 AF problems in the clique semantics

361 We first rule out the  $\exists$ -AF problem for the clique semantics, as we can show from [17] that  
 362 it is undecidable already without any clock.

363 ▶ **Theorem 10.** *The  $\exists$ -AF problem is **undecidable** for PTBP with no clock in the clique*  
 364 *semantics.*

365 **Proof.** In [17, Chapter III, Theorem 3.5] it is shown that one can reduce the halting problem  
 366 of a two-counter machine (which is undecidable [22]) to the AF problem in a clique network  
 367 without clocks.

368 Intuitively the reduction goes as follows: the values of the counter are encoded by the  
 369 number of processes in a given state. Increment and decrement of counter are easy to encode  
 370 since in the clique semantics when one process sends a message everyone receives it, thus  
 371 we can ensure that only one process performs the increment or decrement. The difficulty  
 372 comes from the zero tests. Indeed, since we cannot force processes to answer we cannot  
 373 differentiate between the case where there is no process encoding a counter and the case  
 374 where the processes do not answer. To tackle this problem, zero tests are implemented  
 375 non-deterministically: if we choose that the counter is zero, a message is sent. If it was  
 376 not the case, then the processes encoding the counter value move to an error state. In the  
 377 case we choose that the value is not zero, the network is locked until a process encoding the  
 378 counter sends a message or a process moves to the error state. This encoding ensures that  
 379 every run that does not encode truthfully the two-counter machine reaches the error state.  
 380 Thus by adding a transition from the halting state of the counter machine toward the error  
 381 state, we can ensure that every path reaches the error state if and only if the two-counter  
 382 machine halts. ◀

### 383 4.2 EF problems in the clique semantics

384 Notice that the proof of [Theorem 9](#) (see [Appendix B](#)) does not rely on the reconfigurable se-  
 385 mantics particularity. In fact the strong synchronization of processes in the clique semantics  
 386 makes it even easier. We thus obtain the following lemma:

387 ▶ **Lemma 11.** *The  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness and  $\exists$ -EF-universality problems are **undecidable** for*  
 388 *PTBP.*

389 This undecidability does not hold in the case where each parameter appears either always  
 390 as an upper bound or always as a lower bound in guards (but not both). We thus consider  
 391 in the following the case of L/U-PTBP.

## 392 **5** 1-clock L/U-PTBP

393 Since the L/U restriction brings some decidability to PTAs, we focus in this section on  
 394 L/U-PTBP. Recall that L/U-PTA are expressive enough to model classical examples from  
 395 the literature [18], such as root contention or Fischer’s mutual exclusion algorithm. As a  
 396 consequence, L/U-PTBP make an interesting subclass of PTBP.

397 Due to the undecidability results of [1] for processes with 2 clocks (already without  
 398 parameters), we consider in this section L/U-PTBP with one clock only. When considering  
 399 L/U-PTBP, we can get the following monotonicity result on the timing parameter valuations.

400 ► **Lemma 12.** *Given  $\mathcal{N}$  an L/U-PTBP with one clock, a network size  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a param-*  
 401 *eter valuation  $p$ , for all valuations  $p'$  such that for all upper-bound parameters  $\lambda^u$ ,  $p(\lambda^u) \leq$*   
 402  *$p'(\lambda^u)$  and for lower-bound parameters  $\lambda^l$ ,  $p(\lambda^l) \geq p'(\lambda^l)$  we have that  $\forall \rho \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$ ,*  
 403  *$\exists \rho' \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p')$  such that  $\rho$  is a prefix of  $\rho'$ .*

404 **Proof.** The proof is direct from the semantics definition. Notice that we do not have full  
 405 inclusion of  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$  in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p')$  since we consider maximal executions and it may  
 406 be the case that some executions of  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$  appear only as prefixes of executions of  
 407  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p')$ . Notice also that this holds in both semantics (reconfigurable and clique). ◀

408 A direct consequence of Lemma 12 and the decidability of the EF problem for PTBP with  
 409 a single clock and without parameters is the decidability of the  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness problems  
 410 for L/U-PTBP with one clock.

411 ► **Lemma 13.** *The  $\exists$ -EF-universality problem is **decidable** for closed bounded L/U-PTBP*  
 412 *with one clock in both semantics.*

413 **Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be an L/U-PTBP with one clock, and *bounds* be the closed bounds on the  
 414 parameters. Let  $p_{min}$  be the minimal permissive valuation i.e., the valuation such that  
 415 for all upper-bound parameters  $\lambda^u$ ,  $p_{min}(\lambda^u) = \inf(\lambda^u, bounds)$  and for all lower-bound  
 416 parameters  $\lambda^l$ ,  $p_{min}(\lambda^l) = \sup(\lambda^l, bounds)$ . By definition we have  $p_{min} \in bounds$ .

417 We define the PTBP without parameters  $\mathcal{N}_{min}$  as  $\mathcal{N}$  but replacing each occurrence  
 418 of an upper-bound parameter  $\lambda^u$  by  $\inf(\lambda^u, bounds)$  and each occurrence of a lower-bound  
 419 parameter  $\lambda^l$  by  $\sup(\lambda^l, bounds)$ . It is then easy to see that  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p_{min}) = \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}_{min}, N)$ .

420 Assume that for all  $N$  there is no execution reaching  $q_f$  in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}_{min}, N)$ ; then the above  
 421 equality implies that the answer to  $\exists$ -EF-universality is false.

422 Conversely assuming that there exists an execution reaching  $q_f$  in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}_{min}, N)$  for some  $N$ ,  
 423 we obtain by the equality and the monotonicity Lemma 12 that this execution is a prefix of  
 424 an execution of  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$  for any valuation  $p$ .

425 Thus the  $\exists$ -EF-universality problem for  $\mathcal{N}$  is equivalent to the  $\exists$ -EF problem for  $\mathcal{N}_{min}$   
 426 and thus is decidable in the clique semantics (see [1]) and in the reconfigurable semantics  
 427 (see Theorem 7). ◀

428 For the  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness problem, we can remove the assumption on the closed bounds.

429 ► **Lemma 14.** *The  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness problem is **decidable** for (open or closed) bounded L/U-*  
 430 *PTBP with one clock in both semantics.*

431 **Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be an L/U-PTBP with one clock, and  $bounds$  be the bounds on the param-  
 432 eters. As for the  $\exists$ -EF-universality problem, we define a protocol  $\mathcal{N}_{max}$  with the difference  
 433 that non-strict guards involving open bounded parameters are changed to strict guards. We  
 434 define the PTBP without parameters  $\mathcal{N}_{max}$  as  $\mathcal{N}$  but for all upper-bound parameters  $\lambda^u$   
 435 if  $bounds(\lambda^u)$  is of the form  $(\text{inf}, \text{sup}]$  or  $[\text{inf}, \text{sup}]$  then every occurrence of  $\lambda^u$  is replaced  
 436 by  $\text{sup}$ . Otherwise if  $bounds(\lambda^u)$  is of the form  $(\text{inf}, \text{sup})$  or  $[\text{inf}, \text{sup})$  then every guard of  
 437 the form  $x < \lambda^u$  or  $x \leq \lambda^u$  is replaced by the guard  $x < \text{sup}$ . We operate similarly for  
 438 lower-bound parameters.

439 Using the same argument as for the monotonicity Lemma 12 it is easy to see that for  
 440 any valuation  $p \in bounds$ , any execution  $\rho$  in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$  is a prefix of some execution in  
 441  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}_{max}, N)$ . Thus if some execution reaches  $q_f$  for some  $N$  and some  $p$  in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$ , there  
 442 is also an execution reaching  $q_f$  in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}_{max}, N)$ .

443 The other direction is more subtle. Assume that there exists an execution  $\rho$  reaching  $q_f$   
 444 in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}_{max}, N)$ . Let  $\rho'$  be a finite prefix of  $\rho$  reaching  $q_f$ . We define a valuation  $p \in bounds$   
 445 that contains an execution identical to  $\rho'$  as follows: Let  $\lambda^u$  be an upper-bound parameter.  
 446 Either  $bounds(\lambda^u)$  is of the form  $(\text{inf}, \text{sup}]$  or  $[\text{inf}, \text{sup}]$  and we define  $p(\lambda^u) = \text{sup}$ . Or  
 447  $bounds(\lambda^u)$  is of the form  $(\text{inf}, \text{sup})$  or  $[\text{inf}, \text{sup})$ . In this case, let  $v_u$  be the maximal value of  
 448 clock  $x$  along  $\rho'$  when  $x$  is compared in a guard which was formerly  $x \bowtie \lambda^u$ . By definition  
 449 of  $\mathcal{N}_{max}$  we know that  $v_u < \text{sup}$ . We thus define  $p(\lambda^u) = v_u + \epsilon$  with  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\epsilon + v_u < \text{sup}$   
 450 and  $\epsilon > \text{inf} - v_u$  (it exists since necessarily  $\text{inf} < \text{sup}$ ).

451 We operate in a symmetrical way for lower-bound parameters:  $v_l$  is the minimal value of  
 452 clock  $x$  along  $\rho'$  when  $x$  is compared in a guard which was formerly  $x \bowtie \lambda^l$  and  $p(\lambda^l) = v_l - \epsilon$   
 453 with  $v_l - \epsilon > \text{inf}$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $\epsilon < \text{sup} + v_l$  (it exists since necessarily  $\text{sup} > \text{inf}$ ).

454 It is easy to see that for this valuation,  $\rho'$  is a prefix of some execution in  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{N}, N, p)$ .  
 455 Hence, the  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness problem for  $\mathcal{N}$  is equivalent to the EF problem for  $\mathcal{N}_{max}$  and thus  
 456 decidable in the clique semantics ([1]) and in the reconfigurable semantics (Theorem 7). ◀

457 In contrast with the  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness problem, the monotonicity result is not enough to  
 458 show decidability of the  $\exists$ -EF-universality problem for L/U-PTBP with open bounds. In  
 459 fact we can even show that the problem becomes undecidable for general L/U-PTBP in the  
 460 clique semantics. More precisely it is undecidable for U-PTBP with one parameter with  
 461 open left bound, and for L-PTBP with one unbounded parameter.

462 ▶ **Theorem 15.** *The  $\exists$ -EF-universality problem is **undecidable** for open bounded L/U-PTBP*  
 463 *with one clock in the clique semantics.*

464 **Proof.** This proof is inspired by the proof of [17, Chapter III, Theorem 3.5]. The idea  
 465 is to encode a two-counter machine, the number of processes in a particular state is used  
 466 to encode the counter value. Thanks to the clique semantics, increment and decrement of  
 467 counter is easy to simulate. However, zero tests are not possible since there is no way to  
 468 distinguish between the fact that no process is modeling a counter and the fact that they  
 469 just do not send a message. We thus allow the simulation to guess whether the counter  
 470 is zero or not zero non-deterministically, in case of a wrong guess we are able to detect it  
 471 thanks to the clique semantics. In this case at least one process is stuck in an error state, we  
 472 then use the time parameter to repeat the simulation an unbounded number of time before  
 473 moving to the target state. To be able to reach the target state we thus have to be able to  
 474 correctly simulate the two-counter machine without wrong guess.

475 Formally, given a two-counter machine  $\mathbf{M} = (\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{k}_0, \mathbf{k}_{acc})$  we define a PTBP  $\mathcal{P}$  as follows:  
 476 ■  $Q = \{q_0, \text{idle}, c_i, c_i^d, c_i^i, c_i^z, \text{err}, q_f \mid i \in \{1, 2\}\} \cup \{k, k' \mid k \in K\}$  where,  $q_0$  is the initial  
 477 state,  $\text{idle}$  is a waiting state for the processes encoding the counters,  $c_i$  is the state used

478 to encode counter  $c_i$  value,  $c_i^i$  and  $c_i^d$  are intermediary states for increment and decrement  
479 of counter  $c_i$ ,  $c_i^z$  is an intermediary state used for the zero test, a state  $k$  is used to encode  
480 that the simulation reached instruction  $k$  of the machine and  $k'$  is an intermediary state,  
481  $err$  is a sink state used to detect error in the simulation, finally  $q_f$  is the target state

- 482 ■  $\mathbb{X} = \{x\}$  and  $\mathbb{P} = \{\lambda^u, \lambda^l\}$
- 483 ■  $\Sigma = \{inc_i, dec_i, z_i, nz_i, ok, end \mid i \in \{1, 2\}\}$  where  $inc_i$ ,  $dec_i$ ,  $z_i$ , and  $nz_i$  stand respec-  
484 tively for increment, decrement, zero, and not zero of counter  $c_i$ ,  $ok$  is a message to  
485 acknowledge that the action was performed correctly, and  $end$  is the message sent at the  
486 end of the simulation to either restart a simulation or reach the target state.
- 487 ■  $\Delta$  is define as follows, for simplicity the guard and update of the clock are omitted when  
488 trivial (i. e., the true guard and no reset):  
**initialization**  $(q_0, !!ok, k_0) \in \Delta$ ,  $(q_0, ??ok, idle) \in \Delta$   
**increment of counter  $i$**  for any increment of counter  $i$  instruction  $\mathbf{k} : incr \ C_i \ goto \ \mathbf{k}_1$   
490 we add to  $\Delta$  the transitions:  $(k, !!inc_i, k')$ ,  $(k', ??ok, k_1)$ ,  $(idle, ??inc_i, c_i^i)$ ,  $(c_i^i, !!ok, c_i)$   
491  $(c_i^i, ??ok, idle)$   
**decrement of counter  $i$**  for any decrement of counter  $i$  instruction  $\mathbf{k} : decr \ c_i \ goto \ \mathbf{k}_1$   
493 we add to  $\Delta$  the transitions:  $(k, !!dec_i, k')$ ,  $(k', ??ok, k_1)$ ,  $(c_i, ??dec_i, c_i^d)$ ,  $(c_i^d, !!ok, idle)$   
494  $(c_i^d, ??ok, c_i)$   
**zero test of counter  $i$**  for any zero test of counter  $i$  instruction  $\mathbf{k} : if \ c_i = 0 \ goto \ \mathbf{k}_z$   
496  $else \ goto \ \mathbf{k}_{nz}$  we add to  $\Delta$  the transitions:  $(k, !!z_i, k_z)$ ,  $(k, !!nz_i, k')$ ,  $(k', ??ok, k_{nz})$ ,  
497  $(c_i, ??z_i, err)$ ,  $(c_i, ??nz_i, c_i^z)$   $(c_i^z, !!ok, c_i)$ ,  $(c_i^z, ??ok, c_i)$   
498 **end of simulation**  $(k_{acc}, x < \lambda^u, !!end, \{x := 0\}, k_0)$   $(idle, x > \lambda^l, ??end, q_f)$   $(c_i, ??end, idle)$

500 Given a configuration  $\gamma$  of the network, we say that it encodes a configuration  $(k, v_1, v_2)$  of  
501 the two-counter machine if there is one process in state  $k$  and  $v_i$  processes in states  $c_i$  for  
502  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ . Since, if we omit the *end of simulation* part, this reduction is similar to the one  
503 found in [17, Chapter III, Theorem 3.5], we leave the reader find there the detailed proof of  
504 the fact that every execution of the network is of one of the three kinds:

- 505 **correct simulation** the execution correctly encodes the run of the two-counter machine
- 506 **lack of processes** the controller is stuck in an intermediary state while performing an in-  
507 crement, *i.e* there was no process left in the *idle* state when the controller sent the *inc<sub>i</sub>*  
508 message, thus it is stuck waiting for an *ok* message that no one can send
- 509 **wrong zero test** along the execution the controller wrongly assumed the value of a counter.  
510 Either it guessed a non-zero value and it is stuck waiting for an *ok* message, or it guessed  
511 zero when it was not in which case at least one process moved to the error state.

512 Notice now that to reach the target state  $q_f$  a process in *idle* must receive the message  
513 *end* after its clock value is greater than parameter  $\lambda^l$ . But the end of simulation part requires  
514 that the controller clock is lower than parameter  $\lambda^u$ . Thus when reaching state  $k_{acc}$ , in order  
515 to be able to let more time elapse the controller has to send the message *end* which leads  
516 to a configuration where there is no process in the counter states and the controller is in  
517 the initial state of the two-counter machine. This configuration thus encodes the initial  
518 configuration of the two-counter machine. The controller then must simulate another time  
519 the two-counter machine before being able to send *end* again.

520 Thus, given a valuation  $p$  of the parameters, to reach  $q_f$  at least  $p(\lambda^l)/p(\lambda^u)$  messages *end*  
521 must be sent by the controller. In other words,  $p(\lambda^l)/p(\lambda^u)$  (correct or incorrect) simulations  
522 of the two-counter machine must be performed before reaching  $q_f$ . We have seen before that  
523 every incorrect simulation either gets stuck, or sends at least a process in the error state.  
524 Hence, given a network size  $N$ , if for a valuation  $p$  such that  $p(\lambda^l)/p(\lambda^u) > N$  the state  $q_f$   
525 is reached, then at least one simulation was correct, thus the two-counter machine halts.

	1-c	2-c	3-c	1-L/U		2-L/U	3-L/U
				cb	ob		
$\exists$ -EF-empt.		<i>9</i>		<b>14</b>			<i>8</i>
$\exists$ -EF-univ.		<i>9</i>		<b>13</b>	<i>open</i>		<i>8</i>
$\exists$ -AF	<b>5</b>	<i>open</i>	<i>5</i>	<b>5</b>	<i>open</i>	<i>open</i>	<i>5</i>

(a) Reconfigurable semantics

	PTBP	L/U		L or U	
		cb	ob	cb	ob
$\exists$ -EF-empt.	<i>11</i>	<b>14</b>		<b>14</b>	
$\exists$ -EF-univ.	<i>11</i>	<b>13</b>	<i>15</i>	<b>13</b>	<i>16</i>
$\exists$ -AF		<i>10</i>			

(b) Clique semantics for 1 clock

■ **Table 1** Summary of our contributions (bold green: decidable; red italic: undecidable)

526 This proves the undecidability of the EF-universality problem with 0 as an open lower  
527 bound for  $\lambda^u$ . Indeed, if there exists a network of size  $N$  which satisfies the EF-universality,  
528 then it is possible to reach  $q_f$  for all valuation and in particular for a valuation such that  
529  $p(\lambda^l)/p(\lambda^u) > N$ . For the other direction, if the machine halts there exists a size of network  
530 ( $m+2$  where  $m$  is the maximal sum of the two-counter value along the execution) that ensures  
531 that  $q_f$  is reachable for any valuation  $p$  with  $p(\lambda^u) > 0$ . Indeed, the controller can simulate  
532 the two-counter machine correctly (since it has enough processes to model the counters)  
533 in 0 time unit, wait a positive delay but less than  $\lambda^u$  time unit, and repeat this until the  
534 clock value of the processes in *idle* is greater than  $\lambda^l$ . This is possible since every time the  
535 controller sends the message *end* the configuration obtained is the same as the one obtained  
536 after the initialization (the first message *ok*). ◀

537 ▶ **Lemma 16.**  $\exists$ -EF-universality in the clique semantics is *undecidable* already with a single  
538 clock for U-PTBP with open bounds on the left, and L-PTBP with infinity as right bound.

539 **Proof.** The proof of [Theorem 15](#) uses an open bounded L/U-PTBP. Moreover we only used  
540 the fact for all size of network  $N$  there exists a valuation of the parameter  $p$  such that  
541  $p(\lambda^l)/p(\lambda^u) > N$ . Thus the proof can be adapted with only one upper-bound parameter  $\lambda^u$   
542 (resp. lower-bound parameter  $\lambda^l$ ) by replacing  $\lambda^l$  by 1 in the protocol (resp.  $\lambda^u$  by 1). This  
543 still ensures that there exists a valuation such that  $1/p(\lambda^u) > N$  (resp.  $p(\lambda^l) > N$ ). ◀

## 544 6 Conclusion

545 Up to our knowledge this work is the first to consider two different sets of parameters at  
546 the same time. Both parameterized number of processes and parametric clocks are difficult  
547 to deal with and number of problems are undecidable for each of these systems. However  
548 we have shown that the combination of the decidable subclasses leads to some decidable  
549 problems. Our contributions are summarized in [Table 1](#);  $i$ -c (resp.  $i$ -L/U) denotes PTBP  
550 (resp. L/U-PTBP) with  $i$  clocks per process. In [Table 1b](#), cb and ob denote formalisms with  
551 a closed bounded parameter domain and an open bounded parameter domain.

552 Future works include considering other semantics such as asynchronous broadcast or  
553 different communication topologies (reconfigurable under constraint, restricted to graph of  
554 bounded width, ...), as well as the reachability problem for *all* sizes of networks (instead  
555 of the *existence* of a network size). The open 2-clock case in the reconfigurable semantics  
556 is a well-known open problem, with connections to open problems of logic and automata  
557 theory [6]. The other open case in [Table 1](#) we are interested in solving is  $\exists$ -EF-universality for  
558 1-L/U-PTBP in the reconfigurable semantics with open bounds. In addition, EF problems  
559 are still open for bounded 1-clock PTBP ([Theorem 9](#) requires unbounded parameters), and  
560 for 1-c L/U with unbounded parameters in the clique semantics. Finally, for the decidable  
561 subclasses we exhibited, it remains to be studied whether exact synthesis can be achieved, ◀

562 i. e., obtaining the set of sizes of processes and timing parameter valuations for which EF or  
 563 AF holds.

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## 625 **A** Two-counter machines

626 For completeness, we recall here the definition of two-counter machines as well as the unde-  
627 cidability of the halting problem.

628 ► **Definition 17** ([22]). A two-counter machine is a tuple  $\mathbf{M} = (\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{k}_0, \mathbf{k}_{acc})$  manipulating  
629 integer variables  $\mathbf{C}_1$  and  $\mathbf{C}_2$  called counters and composed of a finite set of instructions  $\mathbf{K}$ .

630 Each instruction  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}$  is either of the form:

631 **Increment**  $\mathbf{k} : inc \mathbf{C}_i; goto \mathbf{k}'$ , or

632 **Decrement**  $\mathbf{k} : decr \mathbf{C}_i; goto \mathbf{k}'$ , or

633 **Zero test**  $\mathbf{k} : if \mathbf{C}_i = 0 goto \mathbf{k}' else goto \mathbf{k}''$

634 where  $i \in \{1, 2\}$  and  $\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}''$  are labels preceding instructions.  $\mathbf{k}_0$  is the initial label and  
635  $\mathbf{k}_{acc}$  is the accepting label.

636 A configuration is a tuple of  $\mathbf{K} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ . A configuration  $(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2)$  means that the machine  
637 is at instruction  $\mathbf{k}$  with counter  $\mathbf{C}_1$  with value  $\mathbf{c}_1$  and counter  $\mathbf{C}_2$  with value  $\mathbf{c}_2$ .

638 A two-counter machine gives rise to a run  $\mathbf{s}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{s}_1 \rightarrow \dots$  where  $\mathbf{s}_0 = (\mathbf{k}, 0, 0)$  and for all  
639  $\mathbf{s}_i = (\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2)$  the successor configuration depends on the form of  $\mathbf{k}$ .

640 ■ if  $\mathbf{k} : inc \mathbf{C}_1; goto \mathbf{k}'$  then  $\mathbf{s}_{i+1} = (\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{c}_1 + 1, \mathbf{c}_2)$  (similarly for an increment of  $\mathbf{C}_2$ )

641 ■ if  $\mathbf{k} : decr \mathbf{C}_1; goto \mathbf{k}'$  then  $\mathbf{s}_{i+1} = (\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{c}_1 - 1, \mathbf{c}_2)$  (similarly for an decrement of  $\mathbf{C}_2$ )

642 ■ if  $\mathbf{k} : if \mathbf{C}_1 = 0 goto \mathbf{k}' else goto \mathbf{k}''$  and  $\mathbf{c}_1 = 0$  then  $\mathbf{s}_{i+1} = (\mathbf{k}', 0, \mathbf{c}_2)$  (similarly for  $\mathbf{C}_2$ )

643 ■  $\mathbf{k} : if \mathbf{C}_1 = 0 goto \mathbf{k}' else goto \mathbf{k}''$  and  $\mathbf{c}_1 > 0$  then  $\mathbf{s}_{i+1} = (\mathbf{k}'', \mathbf{c}_1, \mathbf{c}_2)$  (similarly for  $\mathbf{C}_2$ )

644 We assume without loss of generality that the run is either infinite or the machine halt  
645 in  $\mathbf{k}_{acc}$ . Moreover we can assume without loss of generality that the two last instructions  
646 are necessarily zero test of both counter. The halting problem asks whether the machine  
647 halts, and the boundedness problem asks whether the counter values are bounded along the  
648 run. Both problems have been shown undecidable in [22].

## 649 **B** Proof of Theorem 9

650 **Theorem 9 (recalled).** *The  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness and  $\exists$ -EF-universality problems are un-*  
*decidable for PTBP with one clock.*

651 **Proof.** The proof is by reduction of the halting and boundedness (respectively) problems  
652 for two-counter machines.

653 First, in this proof we will assume that the parameter  $\lambda$  only takes integer values. This  
654 is not a restriction since we can add a gadget at the beginning of the PTBP to check such  
655 property. This gadget is given in Fig. 2.

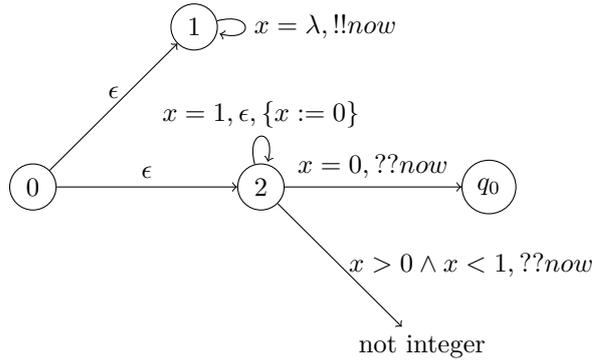
656 Given a two-counter machine (see Appendix A), we define a protocol  $\mathcal{P}$  separated in three  
657 parts, the controller part (in charge of tracking the current instruction), the counter parts  
658 (to model the counters behaviors) and an idle part that allow to use additional processes  
659 when needed.

660 Recall that the value of the counters is encoded (up to the value of parameter  $\lambda$  minus 1  
661 here for technical reasons) by the difference between the clock value of the processes in states  
662 representing counters and the clock value of the processes in the controller part.

663 Formally  $\mathcal{P}$  is defined as follows:

664 ■  $Q = \{q_0, error, c_i, nc1_i, nc2_i, zt1_i^j, zt2_i^j, dec1_i^j, dec2_i^j, inc1_i^j, inc2_i^j, inc3_i^j, idle \mid j \in \{1, 2\}, i \in$   
665  $\{1, 2\}\} \cup \{k^j \mid \mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{K}, j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}\}$

666 ■  $\Sigma = \{tick, inc_i, dec_i, zt_i, c_i, oc_i, nc_i \mid i \in \{1, 2\}\}$



■ **Figure 2** Gadget to enforce integer values of  $\lambda$

667 ■  $\mathbb{P} = \{\lambda\}$

668 ■  $\mathbb{X} = \{x\}$

669 ■  $\Delta$  is defined as follows, on every transition there is a guard  $x \leq \lambda$  which is omitted to  
 670 clarify notations, similarly when a guard is true (here limited to  $x \leq \lambda$ ) or there is no  
 671 reset we omit them in the transition. The construction is represented in Fig. 3.  $\Delta$  is  
 672 composed of the following transitions:

673 **initialization**  $(q_0, x = 0, \epsilon, k_0^1)$ , for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ,  $(q_0, x = 0, \epsilon, c_i)$ ,  $(q_0, x = 0, \epsilon, idle)$

674 The processes can chose non-deterministically to either move to the controller part,  
 675 the counters part, or the idle part.

676 **decrement of counter  $i$**  for any decrement instruction  $\mathbf{k} : decr C_i goto k_1$  there are  
 677 the following transitions in  $\Delta$

678 ■ for the controller:  $(k^1, x = 1, !!dec_i, k^2)$   $(k^2, x = \lambda, !!tick, \{x := 0\}, k_1^1)$

679 The controller announce that the instruction is a decrement when its clock is equal  
 680 to 1 and then announce when its clock reach the value of the parameter.

681 ■ for the counter involved:  $(c_i, x > 1, ??dec_i, dec1_i^i)$ ,  $(dec1_i^i, x = \lambda, \epsilon, \{x := 0\}, dec2_i^i)$   
 682  $(dec2_i^i, x = 1, \epsilon, \{x := 0\}, dec3_i^i)$   $(dec3_i^i, ??tick, c_i)$

683 When the process representing the counter receive the message corresponding to  
 684 the decrement they move to an intermediary state, they then reset their clock when  
 685 they reach  $\lambda$  and they reset it an other time when the clock reach 1. This way the  
 686 difference with the controller clock has decreased by one. Notice that if  $x = 1$  when  
 687 they receive the decrement message (meaning that the counter has value 0) they  
 688 cannot take the transition.

689 ■ for the counter not involved:  $(c_j, ??dec_i, dec1_i^j)$   $(dec1_i^j, x = \lambda, \{x := 0\}, decj2_i^j)$   
 690  $(decj2_i^j, ??tick, c_j)$ .

691 The counter not involved just resets their clock when they reach  $\lambda$ , thus the differ-  
 692 ence remain constant.

693 **increment of counter  $i$**  for any increment instruction  $\mathbf{k} : incr C_i goto k_1$  there are the  
 694 following transitions in  $\Delta$

695 ■ for the controller:  $(k^1, x = 1, !!inc_i, k^2)$   $(k^2, x = \lambda, !!tick, \{x := 0\}, k_1^1)$

696 The controller announce that the instruction is an increment when its clock is equal  
 697 to 1 and then announce when its clock reach the value of the parameter.

698 ■ for the counter involved:

699 The clock value should be reset at  $\lambda - 1$ , but such a guard is not allowed and is not  
 700 possible to encode with just one clock. We thus rely on a non-deterministic guess,  
 701 that is the checked by a new process. This is done as follow:

702       **for the current counter processes**  $(c_i, x < \lambda, ??inc_i, inc1_i^i), (c_i, x = \lambda, ??inc_i, error),$   
703        $(inc1_i^i, !!nc_i, inc2_i^i) (inc2_i^i, x = \lambda, !!oc_i, idle)$   
704       The processes encoding the counter receive the increment message and then  
705       guess non-deterministically that it's clock value is  $\lambda - 1$  and send a message  
706        $nc_i$ . In order to check that the guess was right it then announce when it's clock  
707       reach  $\lambda$  by sending message  $oc_i$ , and the process move to *idle*. The value of the  
708       counter will then be encoded by the new processes. Notice that if the clock value  
709       is already equal  $\lambda$  then we reached the maximal value possible to encode and  
710       the process move to the error state *error*.  
711       **for the new counter process**  $(idle, ??nc_i, \{x := 0\}, nc1_i) (nc_i, x = 1, ??oc_i, nc2_i)$   
712        $(nc2_i, ??tick, c_i)$   
713       To check that the guess was right we use the idle processes that when receiving  
714       the message  $nc_i$  reset their clock. They are then allowed to encode the counter  
715       if they receive the confirmation  $oc_i$  when their clock is equal 1 (thus the guess  
716       was correct).  
717       – for the counter not involved:  $(c_j, ??inc_i, inc1_i^j) (inc1_i^j, x = \lambda, \{x := 0\}, incj2_i^j)$   
718        $(inc2_i^j, ??tick, c_j)$ .  
719       The counter not involved just reset it's clock when it reach  $\lambda$ .  
720       **zero test** for any zero test instruction  $\mathbf{k} : \text{if } c_i = 0 \text{ then goto } \mathbf{k}_1 \text{ else goto } \mathbf{k}_2$  there are  
721       the following transitions  
722       – for the controller  $(k^1, x = 1, !!zt_i, k^2) (k^2, x = \lambda, ??c_i, k^3) (k^2, x < \lambda, ??c_i, k^4)$   
723        $(k^3, x = \lambda, !!tick, \{x := 0\}, k_1^1) (k^4, x = \lambda, !!tick, \{x := 0\}, k_2^1)$   
724       The controller announce that the instruction is a zero test when its clock is equal  
725       1 and then wait for a notification  $c_i$  from the counter. Depending when this no-  
726       tification arrive, when  $x = \lambda$  (meaning the counter has value 0) or when  $x < \lambda$   
727       (meaning the counter has positive value), the controller moves to the corresponding  
728       intermediary states.  
729       – for the counter involved  $(c_i, ??zt_i, zt1_i^i) (zt1_i, x = \lambda, !!c_i, \{x := 0\}, zt2_i^i) (zt2_i^i, ??tick, c_i)$   
730       The counter involved, after receive the instruction, sends a notification  $c_i$  when it's  
731       clock reach  $\lambda$ .  
732       – for the counter not involved  $(c_j, ??zt_i, zt1_i^j) (zt1_i, x = \lambda, \epsilon, \{x := 0\}, zt2_i^j) (zt2_i^j, ??tick, c_j)$   
733       The counter not involved just reset it's clock when it reach  $\lambda$ .  
734       finally there is an additional transition  $(idle, \epsilon, \{x := 0\}, idle)$  used to keep the clock of  
735       idle processes below  $p(\lambda)$ .

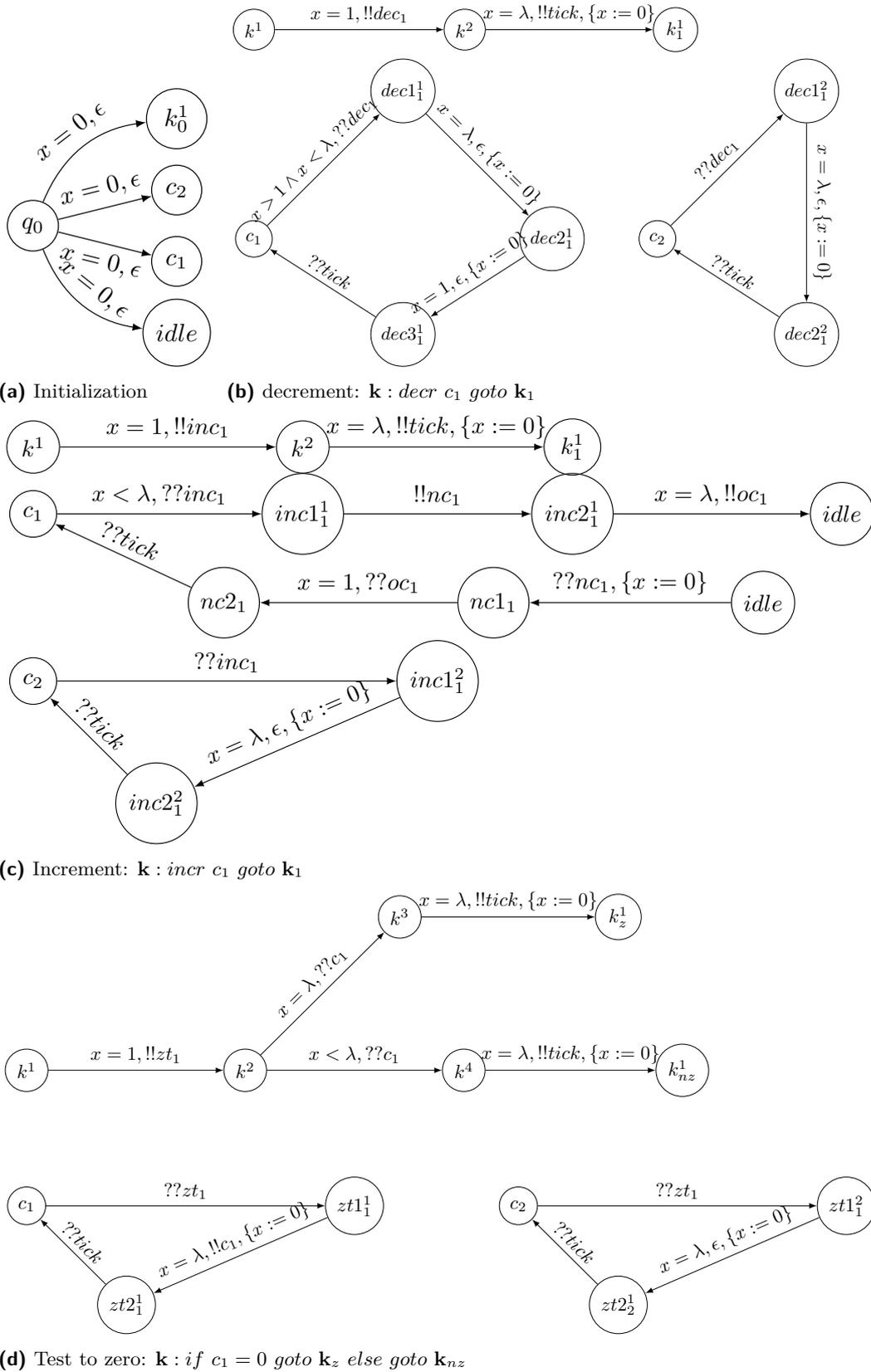
736       Given a valuation  $p$  of the parameter, we say that a configuration  $\gamma$  of the network  
737       encodes a configuration  $(k, v_1, v_2)$  of the two-counter machine if for all  $i$ ,  $\gamma[i] = (q, x)$  either  
738        $x > \lambda$  or  $q \in \{c_1, c_2, k^1, idle\}$ . Moreover all process with a clock lower than  $p$  and not in state  
739       *idle* must agree on the clock valuation if they have the same state. Finally, if  $\gamma[i] = (k^1, z)$   
740       then for all  $i'$  such that  $\gamma[i'] = (c_1, y)$  we have  $v_1 = y - z$  and similarly for  $v_2$ .

741       Given an execution  $\rho$ , and a time  $t$  we denote  $\rho_{T=t}$  the configuration obtained when  
742       considering  $\rho$  at global time  $t$ . Notice that  $\rho_{T=t}$  may not be a configuration that appear in  
743        $\rho$  since it can be a configuration obtain during the elapsing of time in a transition.

744       We will prove that for any execution  $\rho$  either  $\rho_{T=k*p(\lambda)+1/2}$  is not defined (the execution  
745       time never reach  $k * p(\lambda) + 1/2$ ) or  $\rho_{T=k*p(\lambda)+1/2}$  encode  $\mathbf{s}_k$ .

746       We start by some remarks on the shape of possible executions

747       **1.** If two processes are in the controller part, then their clocks are equal modulo  $p$ . Indeed  
748       in the controller part the clock is reset only when it reaches  $p(\lambda)$ .



■ **Figure 3** Representation of the construction

- 749 2. It follows that, by definition of the protocol, the message *tick* is sent only at time unit  
750 multiple of  $p(\lambda)$ .
- 751 3. Moreover the instruction messages ( $inc_i, dec_i, zt_i$ ) are only sent at global time unit mul-  
752 tiple of the form  $k * p(\lambda) + 1$
- 753 4. Consider a process in state  $c_i$  with clock value lower than  $p$ . Assume that the global  
754 time is of the form  $k * p(\lambda) + 1$ . If this process does not receive an instruction message  
755 without delay, it will not be able to receive any before time  $(k + 1) * p(\lambda) + 1$ , thus it  
756 cannot take any transition before  $(k + 1) * p(\lambda) + 1$ . Note that at this time its clock will  
757 be greater than  $p(\lambda)$  thus the guard prevent it to take any transition for the rest of the  
758 execution.
- 759 5. With the same idea if the process is in an intermediary state  $nc2_i, dec2_i^j, dec3_i^i, inc2_i^j, zt2_i^i, zt2_i^j$   
760 and does not receive a *tick* message at time  $k * p(\lambda)$  we are certain that at time  $(k+1) * p(\lambda)$   
761 its clock will be above  $p(\lambda)$  and it will thus be stuck forever.
- 762 6. Similarly if a process is in state  $dec1_i^j, dec1_i^i, dec2_i^i, inc1_i^j, k^2$  and does not reset the clock  
763 when it is possible it will be stuck forever.
- 764 7. If an increment is requested by the controller part but the counter value is already equal  
765 to  $p(\lambda) - 1$  i. e., the clock value of the counter process is equal to  $p(\lambda)$  the process are sent  
766 to an error state and thus for the following of the execution there wont be any processes  
767 in the counter part.
- 768 8. Similarly if an increment is requested while no processes are left in the idle state the  
769 execution gets stuck in the next zero test.

770 In other words if a process does not behave correctly its clock will increase over  $p(\lambda)$  and  
771 the process will be stuck forever.

772 ► **Example 18.** Before going further we first give some example of the behaviour of the  
773 network.

774 **Successful decrement  $k$  :**  $decr c_1 goto k_1$  with  $v_2 \geq v_1$  and  $v_2 + 1 \leq \lambda$  (those assumption  
775 only matter for the order of the transitions).

$$\begin{array}{l}
 776 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} k^1, 0 \\ c_1, v_1 \\ c_2, v_2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1,1,!!decr_1,\{2,3\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, 1 \\ dec1_1^1, v_1 + 1 \\ dec1_1^2, v_2 + 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\lambda-(v_2+1),3,\epsilon,\emptyset} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_2 \\ dec1_1^1, v_1 + \lambda - v_2 \\ dec2_1^2, 0 \end{array} \right) \\
 777 \quad \xrightarrow{v_2-v_1,2,\epsilon,\emptyset} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_1 \\ dec2_1^1, 0 \\ dec2_1^2, v_2 - v_1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1,2,\epsilon,\emptyset} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_1 + 1 \\ dec2_1^1, 0 \\ dec2_1^2, v_2 - v_1 + 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{v_1-1,1,!!tick,\{2,3\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k_1^1, 0 \\ c_1, v_1 - 1 \\ c_2, v_2 \end{array} \right) \\
 778
 \end{array}$$

779 **Failed decrement  $k$  :**  $decr c_1 goto k_1$  with  $v_2 \geq v_1$  and  $v_2 + 1 \leq \lambda$  (those assumption only  
780 matter for the order of the transitions).

$$\begin{array}{l}
 781 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} k^1, 0 \\ c_1, 0 \\ c_2, v_2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1,1,!!decr_1,\{2,3\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, 1 \\ c_1, 1 \\ dec1_1^2, v_2 + 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\lambda-(v_2+1),3,\epsilon,\emptyset} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_2 \\ c_1, \lambda - v_2 \\ dec2_1^2, 0 \end{array} \right) \\
 782
 \end{array}$$

783 Notice that for the rest of the execution the process 2 will be stuck in  $c_1$  unable to  
784 perform any action, nor receive any message.

785 **Successful increment  $k$  :**  $incr c_1 goto k_1$  with  $v_1 < \lambda - 1$  to ensure that the reception can  
786 be taken, and  $v_2 \geq v_1$  and  $v_2 + 1 \leq \lambda$  (those assumption only matter for the order of the

787 transitions).

$$\begin{array}{c}
 788 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} k^1, 0 \\ c_1, v_1 \\ c_2, v_2 \\ idle, w \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1,1,!inc_1,\{2,3\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, 1 \\ inc1_1^1, v_1 + 1 \\ inc1_1^2, v_2 + 1 \\ idle, w' \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\lambda-(v_2+1),3,\epsilon,0} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_2 \\ inc1_1^1, v_1 + \lambda - v_2 \\ inc2_1^2, 0 \\ idle, w'' \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{v_2-v_1-1,2,!nc_1,\{4\}} \\
 789 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_1 - 1 \\ inc2_1^1, \lambda - 1 \\ inc2_1^2, v_2 - v_1 - 1 \\ nc1_1, 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1,2,!oc_1,\{4\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_1 \\ idle, \lambda \\ inc2_1^2, v_2 - v_1 \\ nc2_1, 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{v_1,1,!tick,\{3,4\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k_1^1, 0 \\ idle, \lambda + v_1 \\ c_2, v_2 \\ c_1, v_1 + 1 \end{array} \right) \\
 790
 \end{array}$$

791 **Failed increment  $k$  :  $incr$   $c_1$  goto  $k_1$**  (here there are no process in  $c_2$  for simplicity)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 792 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} k^1, 0 \\ c_1, v_1 \\ idle, w \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{1,1,!inc_1,\{2\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, 1 \\ inc1_1^1, v_1 + 1 \\ idle, w' \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\lambda-v_1-4,2,!nc_1,\{4\}} \\
 793 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_1 - 3 \\ inc2_1^1, \lambda - 3 \\ nc1_1, 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{3,2,!oc_1,\{4\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k^2, \lambda - v_1 \\ idle, \lambda \\ nc1_1, 3 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{v_1,1,!tick,\{3,4\}} \left( \begin{array}{c} k_1^1, 0 \\ idle, \lambda + v_1 \\ nc1_1, v_1 + 3 \end{array} \right) \\
 794
 \end{array}$$

795 Notice that for the rest of the execution there will be no processes encoding  $c_1$  thus no  
796 zero test can be achieved.

797 We show by induction on  $k$  that either  $\rho_{T=(k+1)*p(\lambda)+1/2}$  is not defined or  $\rho_{T=k*p(\lambda)+1/2}$   
798 encode  $s_k$ .

799 The case  $k = 0$  is direct. By definition it is easy to see that  $\rho_{T=1/2}$  encodes  $\gamma_0$ .

800 Assume that the property holds for  $k$ . Let  $\rho$  be an execution such that  $\rho_{T=k*p(\lambda)+1/2}$   
801 encode  $s_k$ . By the above remarks we have seen that if the network does not behave in the  
802 correct way it will get stuck before the next  $p$  time unit thus  $\rho_{T=(k+2)*p(\lambda)+1/2}$ . The only  
803 thing left to show to show that the reduction is correct is that the clock are reset at the  
804 right time to correctly model increment and decrement and that zero test are correct. For  
805 the latter, it is easy to see that by construction the controller part goes to the  $k_z$  instruction  
806 if and only if its clock is equal to the counter clock hence the counter is equal to 0, otherwise  
807 it moves to  $k_{nz}$ . For the former, the clocks evolve as in [19]. The only difference is for the  
808 increment where we need to introduce a new process used to guess when the clock value of  
809 the counter is equal to  $p(\lambda) - 1$ .

810 We thus obtain that if the controller part can reach  $k_{acc}$  then since the execution correctly  
811 encodes the run, the run must terminate. Conversely if the run is infinite, for any  $N$  and  
812 any  $p$ , any execution will either be infinite (and correct) thus never reach  $k_{acc}$ , or eventually  
813 get stuck either because of an error in message, or because the counter clock is equal to 1  
814 during an increment, or because there will not be enough processes in the idle state.

815 This concludes the proof that  $\exists$ -EF-emptiness is undecidable for 1-clock PTBP in the  
816 reconfigurable semantics.

817 For  $\exists$ -EF-universality, notice that the error state *error* is reachable only if an increment  
818 is requested when the counter value is equal to  $p(\lambda) - 1$ . Thus if the error state is reached  
819 for all parameter valuations, this means that the run is unbounded. Conversely if the run  
820 is unbounded for all parameter valuations, at some point the counter value is equal to  
821  $p(\lambda) - 1$  during an increment and thus the error state is reachable. To conclude on the  
822 undecidability of  $\exists$ -EF-universality, we just have to recall that we consider rational valuations  
823 for the parameters, but in this proof we only used integer valuations. This does not harm

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824 the proof of undecidability since we can modify the gadget given Fig. 2 by replacing the  
825 state not integer by *error*. This modification ensures that *error* is reachable for any non  
826 integer valuation and the above argument that it is reachable for all integer valuations if  
827 and only if the two-counter machine is unbounded.

828

