Investigating Safety of a Radiotherapy Machine Using System Models with Pluggable Checkers

Combining Formal Models with Concrete Evidence

<u>Stuart Pernsteiner</u>, Calvin Loncaric, Emina Torlak, Zachary Tatlock, Xi Wang, Michael D. Ernst, and Jonathan Jacky



CNTS Safety Property



Prescription Safety:

If any setting exceeds the prescribed tolerances then the beam will shut off.

CNTS Architecture



Prescription Safety:

If the gantry angle exceeds the prescribed tolerances then the beam will shut off.

Formal Modeling



+ Automatically check safety of the model
– Difficult to ensure the model matches the system

Safety Property Decomposition



+ Easy to integrate any type of evidence

No support for automated checking

Our Approach



- + Automated checking of safety properties
- + Can incorporate any type of evidence
- ★ Bonus: Building the model eases checker development

Outline

Background

Modelling with Evidence

Pluggable Checker Development

Results



The Alloy Model



- When the sensor reading changes, the controller outputs the new reading.
- When the therapy control program processes an event,
- if the current rotation reading is out of tolerances,
- it sets the Therapy Sum Interlock value to 0.
- When PLC relay #2754 is opened, PLC coil #1623 is deenergized.
- ...

Is it the case that:

• When the gantry rotation angle moves out of the prescribed tolerances, the beam shuts off.

evidence[Expert, "--file" -> "cnts-sc/rx/inspections.yaml" + "--claim" -> "assume-controllers-ok", ManualInspection] => ((all c: Controller | c.observed = MachineState) and (all req : PollRequest | (let resp = request.req | one resp and resp in req.next and resp.request = req and resp.to = req.from and resp.from = req.to and resp.settings = (resp.from.monitored)<:(resp.observed.actual) and resp.observed in resp.from.observed and happensMostRecentlyBefore[resp.observed, req, resp.from.observed])) -- TC correctly updates MODIWaveform:Calc for every PollResponse it receives -- from the given embedded controller. Prof UProcesses/DlResponseScructVjController : Controller] { all resp: TC-receiveMHgs & PollResponse & from.controller | one ter: TC.dB response in the controller of the controller of the settings are set correctly. resp.settings in todb.actual and . The therapy run interlack bit is 0 if the actual retting value is outside of the The therapy sum interiork bit is 0 if the actual setting value
 tolerance and the override flag is not raised for that setting.
 (some setting: controller.monitored | tcdb.actual[setting] not in tcdb.tolerated[setting] and tcdb.overridden[setting] = False) => tcdb.MOD1_WaveForm_Calc_1 = False) and -- The waveform output record gets processed as part of the update. tcdb.MOD1_IntlkCnOutWArray_Processed = True If PLC relay 2754 is opened, then coil 1623 is immediately deenergized,
 which is immediately conveyed to HSIS through a CoilChange message.
 pred CoilCha2DeenergizedWhenRelay27540pen [] { all relayOpen: Meiny7294.state & MalayOpen | see context, calible and a feature of a context of }

pred ControllersAreCorrect() {

AccelutoffDueToDOTSetting (
 some ns : MechineState |
 some ns : MechineState |
 some ns : MechineState |
 not backetting/Werriden[es] and
 (some on : Beasa: State & BeasOff | happensBefore[on, ns]) and
 (some off : Beasa: State & BeasOff | happensBefore[state, soff]) and
 (all tcdb: TCdb | Jone tcdb.-mext & PollMeponse)
} for 3 but 18 (beart, 2) ant



Integrating Evidence

```
pred TCRotationCheckCorrect [] {
    evidence[EPICS_SE, "--prop" -> "tc_intlk"] =>
    all reading: TC.receivedMsgs |
    reading.value not in Rx.tolerated =>
    some interlock: TC.sentMsgs & reading.next
    interlock.ok = false
}
```



Integrating Evidence



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CNTS Checkers

- EPICS linter
- EPICS verifier
- PLC checker
- EPICS-PLC connection checker
- Expert assertion checker





Starting from an arbitrary program state, when the therapy control program processes an event, if the current rotation reading is out of tolerances, it sets the Therapy Sum Interlock value to 0.

```
(define (tc_intlk)
 (process_IsoGantryActual)
; ...
(assert (=>
  (> (abs (- prescribed actual)) tolerance)
  (= beam-interlock 0))))
```

EPICS Verifier



• Input/output

- Field links
- Dynamic link modification
- Calculation
- Array calculation
- String manipulation
- Process-on-init
- Timer callbacks
- ...

Properties:



Implementation:



Not all language features are relevant to the properties!



EPICS-PLC Connection Checker

```
mod1_intlk_outputs.db:
    record(waveform, MOD1:IntlkCnOutWArray) {
        record(DTYP, "asynInt32ArrayOut")
        field(INP, "@asyn(therapyIntlkOut_Word 0)MODBUS_DATA")
        field(FTVL, "LONG")
        field(NELM, "6")
    }
```

st.cmd:

```
drvModbusAsynConfigure("therapyIntlkOut_Word",
    "therapyIntlkWrite", 9, 15, 2752, 6, 0, 1, "Modicon")
```

mod1.stu:



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We found real bugs:

Bad gantry rotation check Arithmetic error; beam may fail to shut off

Array indexing discrepancy Off-by-one error; *beam may fail to shut off*

Broken dataflow links System reads undefined values; errors may not be reported

Missing PLC relay Initial system model did not correspond to reality



"We found a bug..."

- Something is wrong with the handling of gantry rotation
- The safety property can be violated

EPICS Verifier counterexample:

```
(("Gantry:Rotation:Prescribed" 315)
 ("Gantry:Rotation:Actual" 45)
    ...)
```



"We found a bug..."

- Something is wrong with the handling of gantry rotation
- The safety property can be violated

EPICS Verifier counterexample:

```
(("Gantry:Rotation:Prescribed" 315)
 ("Gantry:Rotation:Actual" 45)
    ...)
```

"There appears to be an error on line 29 of gantry_couch.substitutions..."

- We verified a real CNTS safety property using a system model and pluggable checkers
- Modeling helped guide and simplify checker development
- We found real bugs in a safety-critical system