Formal Approaches to Safe Software Development for Medical Devices

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Better "safe" than "sorry"

 "The problem in medical errors is not bad people in health care—it is that good people are working in bad systems that need to be made safer"[1]

The gap between medical and engineering domains

[1] To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System (2000), Linda T. Kohn, Janet M. Corrigan, and Molla S. Donaldson

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On the one hand

 Nowadays, there exist a large set of electronic medical devices to support medical doctors in the process of patients:



- * These devices are controlled by software: 1) drivers 2) decision-support
- Software developers have no medical knowledge:
 - Assume the requirements
 - Produce open interface devices that need to be further used and programmed
 - By medical doctors with now engineering background

On the other hand

- * When treating patients practitioners are following Medical Guidelines
 - A Medical Guideline (GL) is a document used to guiding decisions and criteria regarding diagnosis, management and treatment in specific areas of healthcare
- * However, GLs are often:
 - Non formally represented (text form and likely tables), therefore
 - Suffer from such structural problems as: incompleteness, inconsistency, ambiguity and redundancy
- * Which:
 - Source of errors when applying them
 - Make automatisation of the GLs hard



From GLs to Executable Code



Agenda

- Existing formalisms
- Imatinib GL modelling
- Response to the treatment definition
- Protocol formal analysis
- Conclusion: drug delivery reminder



Medical Records



- Arden (1989)
- Asbru (1998)
- EON (1996)
- GLARE (1997)
- GLIF (1998)
- GUIDE (1998)
- Prestige (1996)
- PRODIGY (1996)
- PROforma (1992 2000)
- SAGE (2002)
- Stepper (2001 2003)



- Some are discontinued -
- No support for verification -
- Trace back the counterexamples is hard -
- Notion of time only in flow-chart order -

Timed Automata (TA)

Definition

Timed Automata (TA) over actions (*Act*) and clocks (*C*) is a tuple $(Loc, Loc_0, \hookrightarrow)$, where

- Loc is a set of finite location
- $Loc_0 \subseteq Loc$ is a set of initial location
- $\hookrightarrow \subseteq Loc \times \mathcal{B}(C) \times Act \times 2^{C} \times Loc$ is a set of edge relations

When $(Loc, g, a, r, Loc') \in \hookrightarrow$, we write $Loc \xrightarrow{g,a,r} Loc'$



Timed Automata extended with Tasks (TAT)

Definition

Timed Automata extended with tasks (TAT) over actions (*Act*), clocks (*C*) and tasks (*P*) is a tuple $(Loc, Loc_0, \hookrightarrow, M)$, where

- Loc is a set of finite location
- $Loc_0 \subseteq Loc$ is a set of initial location
- $\hookrightarrow \subseteq Loc \times \mathcal{B}(C) \times Act \times 2^C \times M \times Loc$ is a set of edge relations
- $M: Act \rightarrow P$ is a partial function assigning tasks to actions



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Imatinib GL modeling



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Response definition

	Warnings	Failure	Suboptimal response	Optimal response
BASELINE	- High risk ^a - CCA/Ph + ^b	1	1	1
3 months	/	- Non CHR	- No CgR (Ph+>95%)	- At least minor CgR (Ph+ \leq 65%)
6 months	/	- No CgR (Ph+ > 95%)	- Less than PCgR (Ph+ > 35%)	- At least PCgR (Ph+ \leq 35%)
12 months	- Less than MMolR ^b	- Less than PCgR (Ph+ > 35%)	- PCgR (Ph+1–35%)	- CCgR
18 months	/	- Less than CCgR	- Less than MMolR ^c	- MMolR ^c
Any Time,	- Rise in transcript levels	- Loss of CHR	- Loss of MMolR ^c	- Stable or improving
during treatment	- CCA/Ph- ^d	- Loss of CCgR - Mutations ^e - CCA/Ph + ^b	- Mutations ^f	MMolR ^c

Definition of haematologic, cytogenetic and molecular response.

Complete Hematologic Response (CHR)	- WBC< 10×10 ⁹ /L, no immature granulocytes, less than 5% basophils, platelets< 450x10 ⁹ /L, spleen non palpable	
Complete Cytogenetic Response (CCgR)	- No Ph+ metaphases	
Partial Cytogenetic Response (PCgR)	- 1–35% Ph+ metaphases	
Minor Cytogenetic Response (mCgR)	- 36–65% Ph+ metaphases	
Minimal Cytogenetic Response (minCgR)	- 66–94% Ph+ metaphases	
No Cytogenetic Response (NoCgR)	- \geq 95% Ph+ metaphases	
Major Molecular Response (MMolR) Complete Molecular Response (CMolR)	- BCR-ABL: ABL \leq 0.1% on the International Scale - BCR-ABL transcript undetectable by RT-Q-PCR	

M. Baccarani, F. Castagnetti, G. Gugliotta, F. Palandri, and S. Soverini. Response definitions and european leukemia management recommendations. Best Pract Res Clin Haematol, 22(3):331–41, 2009.

Response definition - graph



Response definition - optimal response



Response definition - loss of response



Response definition - lack of response



Response observer





Observer TAT:

TAT insures that the progressive patient reaction to the treatment will always remain at least above the failure level, at the level of suboptimal response and higher.

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Conclusion

- * TAT is suitable for action and definition based GLs modelling;
- Structural problems of GLs can be fixed;
- * The verification of life-cycle properties requires a patient or a model:
 - Pharmacokinetic (PK) pharmacodynamic (PD) modeling
- * Formally models of GLs must be complemented with other functionality;
- * TAT is compositional and synthesisable.

Decision validation with GL rules