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**Quasipolynomial set-based symbolic algorithms for parity games.** (English) [Zbl 1415.68142](#)

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Summary: Solving parity games, which are equivalent to modal  $\mu$ -calculus model checking, is a central algorithmic problem in formal methods, with applications in reactive synthesis, program repair, verification of branching-time properties, etc. Besides the standard computation model with the explicit representation of games, another important theoretical model of computation is that of set-based symbolic algorithms. Set-based symbolic algorithms use basic set operations and one-step predecessor operations on the implicit description of games, rather than the explicit representation. The significance of symbolic algorithms is that they provide scalable algorithms for large finite-state systems, as well as for infinite-state systems with finite quotient. Consider parity games on graphs with  $n$  vertices and parity conditions with  $d$  priorities. While there is a rich literature of explicit algorithms for parity games, the main results for set-based symbolic algorithms are as follows: (a) the basic algorithm that requires  $O(n^d)$  symbolic operations and  $O(d)$  symbolic space; and (b) an improved algorithm that requires  $O(n^{d/3+1})$  symbolic operations and  $O(n)$  symbolic space. In this work, our contributions are as follows: (1) We present a black-box set-based symbolic algorithm based on the explicit progress measure algorithm. Two important consequences of our algorithm are as follows: (a) a set-based symbolic algorithm for parity games that requires quasi-polynomially many symbolic operations and  $O(n)$  symbolic space; and (b) any future improvement in progress measure based explicit algorithms immediately imply an efficiency improvement in our set-based symbolic algorithm for parity games. (2) We present a set-based symbolic algorithm that requires quasi-polynomially many symbolic operations and  $O(d \cdot \log n)$  symbolic space. Moreover, for the important special case of  $d \leq \log n$ , our algorithm requires only polynomially many symbolic operations and poly-logarithmic symbolic space.

For the entire collection see [\[Zbl 1407.68021\]](#).

**MSC:**

[68Q60](#) Specification and verification (program logics, model checking, etc.)

[68W30](#) Symbolic computation and algebraic computation

**Keywords:**

[graph games](#); [model checking](#); [parity games](#); [progress measure](#); [symbolic computation](#)

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