

Algorithms for Model Checking (2IMF35)

Lecture 8: Small Progress Measures for Solving Parity Games Background material:

M. Jurdziński, *Small Progress Measures for Solving Parity Games*

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Algorithms for Parity games

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- ▶ McNaughton's/Zielonka's Recursive algorithm
- ▶ **Today:** Jurdziński's Small progress measures

Let π be a play.

- ▶ dominating priority occurring infinitely often on π is odd π won by \square
- ▶ dominating priority occurring infinitely often on π is even π won by \diamond

Observe: dominating priority on π is even iff every 'odd-dominated stretch' is finite

Definition (Stretch and k -dominated stretch)

- ▶ A **stretch** of a play $\pi = v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots$ is a subsequence $v_i v_{i+1} \dots v_{i+l}$
- ▶ A stretch $v_i v_{i+1} \dots v_{i+l}$ is **k -dominated** iff $p(v_{i+j}) \geq k$ for $j \leq l$

Degree of a k -dominated stretch: the number of vertices with priority k in that stretch

- ▶ Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$ with maximal priority d
- ▶ $M = \mathbb{N}^{d+1} \cup \{\top\}$ is a set of **measures** with 0 on even positions (counting from 0)
- ▶ \leq is lexicographic ordering on M with $m \leq \top$ for all m

Definition (Play values)

A **play value** is a function $\theta_\diamond : Plays \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^d \cup \{\top\}$ defined as:

$$\theta_\diamond(\pi) = \begin{cases} (m_0, \dots, m_d) & \text{where, if } \pi \text{ is winning for } \diamond, \text{ for all odd } i, \\ & m_i \text{ is the } \textbf{degree} \text{ of the } \textbf{maximal } i\text{-dominated prefix of } \pi \\ \top & \text{if } \pi \text{ is won by } \square \end{cases}$$

Set $\theta_\diamond(v) = \min\{ \max\{ \theta_\diamond(\pi) \mid \pi \in Play_\sigma(v) \} \mid \sigma : V_\diamond \rightarrow V \}$.

Observe: player \square wins v iff $\theta_\diamond(v) = \top$

Key idea behind Small Progress Measures:

compute some $\varrho : V \rightarrow M$ such that for all $v \in V$:

- ▶ $\theta_{\diamond}(v) \leq \varrho(v)$
- ▶ there is some \square strategy σ such that for each $\pi \in \text{Play}_{\sigma}(v)$: $\theta_{\diamond}(\pi) \geq \varrho(v)$

Observe:

- ▶ M is infinite we need to have upper bounds on $\varrho(v)$
- ▶ If the degree of a k -dominated stretch exceeds $|V_k|$ stretch revisits a vertex
- ▶ Revisiting vertices cycles

Bird's-eye view of small progress measures

- ▶ *Solitaire games and reachable cycles*
 - Cycles can be used to decide the winner.
- ▶ Assign a certain *measure* to each vertex that approximates play values
 - solitaire games: parity progress measures
 - two-player games: game parity progress measures
- ▶ Efficiently compute measure
 - fixed point iteration

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$

Definition (Solitaire game)

G is an \square -solitaire game if for all vertices $v \in V_\diamond$ we have:

$$|\{w \in V \mid (v, w) \in E\}| \leq 1$$

i.e., only \square makes (nontrivial) choices.

Strategy ϱ for player \diamond in G induces an \square solitaire game $G_\varrho = (V, E_\varrho, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$, where

$$E_\varrho = \{(v, w) \in E \mid v \in V_\diamond \Rightarrow w = \varrho(v)\}$$

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$.

- ▶ $W \subseteq V$
- ▶ strategy ϱ for \diamond closed on W .
- ▶ $G_\varrho \cap W$ is an \square solitaire game.

Property

ϱ is winning for player \diamond from all $v \in W$ if and only if all cycles in $G_\varrho \cap W$ are even

We will annotate vertices with information ('measures') about plays such that:

- ▶ when, along a play we encounter priority i , we will ignore information about **less significant** priorities (i.e., $> i$)
- ▶ the information we record about priorities k **outweighs** information about $l > k$
 - 'bad' priority encountered: measure will decrease
 - 'good' priority encountered: measure may increase

Represent information as follows:

- ▶ Tuples to record information about priorities
- ▶ Order tuples lexicographically (same as measures in play values)

Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^d$ be a **d -tuple** of natural numbers

- ▶ we number its components from 0 to $d - 1$, i.e. $\alpha = (\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{d-1})$,
- ▶ $<, \leq, =, \neq, \geq, >$ on tuples denote **lexicographic ordering**,
- ▶ $(n_0, n_1, \dots, n_k) \equiv_i (m_0, m_1, \dots, m_l)$ iff $(n_0, n_1, \dots, n_i) \equiv (m_0, m_1, \dots, m_i)$, for $\equiv \in \{<, \leq, =, \neq, \geq, >\}$
- ▶ When $i > k$ or $i > l$, the tuples will be suffixed with 0s

Example (d -tuples)

- ▶ $(0, 1, 0, 1) =_0 (0, 2, 0, 1) \equiv (0) = (0) \equiv \text{true}$
- ▶ $(0, 1, 0, 1) <_1 (0, 2, 0, 1) \equiv (0, 1) < (0, 2) \equiv \text{true}$
- ▶ $(0, 1, 0, 1) \geq_3 (0, 2, 0, 1) \equiv (0, 1, 0, 1) \geq (0, 2, 0, 1) \equiv \text{false}$

Parity progress measures and Solitaire games

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$.

Let $d = \max\{p(v) \mid v \in V\} + 1$.

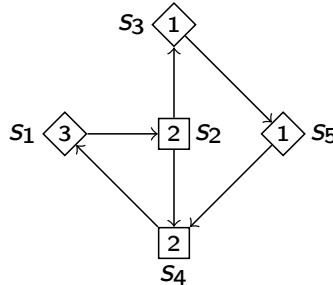
- ▶ Define $V_i = \{v \in V \mid p(v) = i\}$,
- ▶ Denote $n_i = |V_i|$, the number of vertices with priority i ,

Define $M^\diamond \subseteq \mathbb{N}^d$ with:

- ▶ 0 on **even** positions
- ▶ Natural numbers $\leq n_i$ on **odd** positions i

Example

Determine maximum value of \mathbb{M}^\diamond for the following parity game:



- ▶ Maximum value of \mathbb{M}^\diamond is $(0, 2, 0, 1)$
- ▶ $\mathbb{M}^\diamond = \{0\} \times \{0, 1, 2\} \times \{0\} \times \{0, 1\}$

Parity progress measures and Solitaire games

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$

Definition (Parity progress measure)

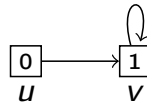
Let G be an \square -solitaire game. Mapping $\varrho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^\diamond$ is a **parity progress measure** for G if for all $(v, w) \in E$:

- ▶ $\varrho(v) \geq_{p(v)} \varrho(w)$ if $p(v)$ is even
- ▶ $\varrho(v) >_{p(v)} \varrho(w)$ if $p(v)$ is odd

For all strategies ψ for player \diamond , closed on W :

- ▶ ψ is **winning** for player \diamond from W if and only if **all cycles in $G_\psi \cap W$ are even**
- ▶ **All cycles in $G_\psi \cap W$ are even** iff there **exists a parity progress measure ϱ for $G_\psi \cap W$**
- ▶ ϱ is a parity progress measure for $G_\psi \cap W$ implies for all $\theta_\diamond(v) \leq \varrho(v)$

Problem: parity progress measures only exist for even-dominated cycles.



Second clause requires $\varrho(v) >_1 \varrho(v)$

Parity progress measures and Solitaire games

Solitaire games with odd-dominated cycles.

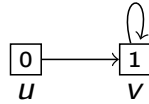
- ▶ Define $\mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top} = \mathbb{M}^{\diamond} \cup \{\top\}$
- ▶ Extend ordering:
 - for all $m \in \mathbb{M}^{\diamond}$, define $m < \top$, $m <_i \top$, $m \neq \top$ and $m \neq_i \top$
 - $\top \leq_i \top$ for all i
- ▶ The set of mappings $([V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}], \sqsubseteq)$ is a **complete lattice**
 - $\varphi, \varrho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}$.
 - Define $\varphi \sqsubseteq \varrho$ if $\varphi(v) \leq \varrho(v)$ for all $v \in V$
 - write $\varphi \sqsubset \varrho$ if $\varphi \sqsubseteq \varrho$ and $\varphi \neq \varrho$.
- ▶ Replace co-domain of parity progress measures with $\mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}$.

Compute least parity progress measure ϱ using a fixpoint of a suitable operator!

For an \square -solitaire game $G = (V, E, p, (V_{\diamond}, V_{\square}))$ and least parity progress measure ϱ :

- ▶ $W_{\diamond} = \{v \in V \mid \exists \varrho: \varrho(v) \neq \top\}$
- ▶ $W_{\square} = V \setminus W_{\diamond}$.

Example



- ▶ Observe: $\varrho(u) = \varrho(v) = \top$
- ▶ Measure can identify both even and odd reachable cycles in a solitaire game.

Game Parity Progress Measures

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_{\diamond}, V_{\square}))$

Towards measures for two-player games

Definition (Prog)

If $\varrho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}$ and $(v, w) \in E$, then $Prog(\varrho, v, w)$ is the least $m \in \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}$, such that

- ▶ if $p(v)$ is even, then $m \geq_{p(v)} \varrho(w)$
- ▶ if $p(v)$ is odd, then either $m >_{p(v)} \varrho(w)$, or both $m = \varrho(w) = \top$

Example

Let $\mathbb{M}^\diamond = \{0\} \times \{0, 1, 2\} \times \{0\} \times \{0, 1\}$

- ▶ Suppose $p(v) = 0$, $\varrho(w) = (0, 2, 0, 0)$.
Then $\text{Prog}(\varrho, v, w) = (0, 0, 0, 0)$
- ▶ Suppose $p(v) = 1$, $\varrho(w) = (0, 2, 0, 0)$.
Then $\text{Prog}(\varrho, v, w) = \top$
- ▶ Suppose $p(v) = 3$, $\varrho(w) = (0, 2, 0, 0)$.
Then $\text{Prog}(\varrho, v, w) = (0, 2, 0, 1)$

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$

Definition (Game parity progress measure)

Mapping $\varrho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}$ is a **game parity progress measure** if for all $v \in V$:

- ▶ if $v \in V_\diamond$, then $\exists_{(v,w) \in E} \varrho(v) \geq_{p(v)} \text{Prog}(\varrho, v, w)$
- ▶ if $v \in V_\square$, then $\forall_{(v,w) \in E} \varrho(v) \geq_{p(v)} \text{Prog}(\varrho, v, w)$

If ϱ is the **least game parity progress measure** for G , then:

$$\varrho(v) \neq \top$$

$$\Leftrightarrow$$

player \diamond can prevent reaching \square -dominated cycles

For the least game parity progress measure ϱ we have:

- ▶ $\theta_\diamond(v) \leq \varrho(v)$
- ▶ there is some \square strategy σ such that for each $\pi \in \text{Play}_\sigma(v)$: $\theta_\diamond(\pi) \geq \varrho(v)$

Recall: the set of mappings $([V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}], \sqsubseteq)$ is a **complete lattice**

Define $Lift_v(\varrho)$ for $v \in V$ as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \varrho[v := \varrho(v) \max \min\{Prog(\varrho, v, w) \mid (v, w) \in E\}] & \text{if } v \in V_{\diamond} \\ \varrho[v := \varrho(v) \max \max\{Prog(\varrho, v, w) \mid (v, w) \in E\}] & \text{if } v \in V_{\square} \end{cases}$$

Observe:

- ▶ For every $v \in V$, $Lift_v$ is \sqsubseteq -monotone.
- ▶ A mapping $\varrho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top}$ is a game parity progress measure if and only if $Lift_v(\varrho) \sqsubseteq \varrho$ for all $v \in V$.
- ▶ Least game parity progress measure computable by fixpoint **iteration** (algorithm Lfp of Lecture 2)

Algorithm $SPM(G)$

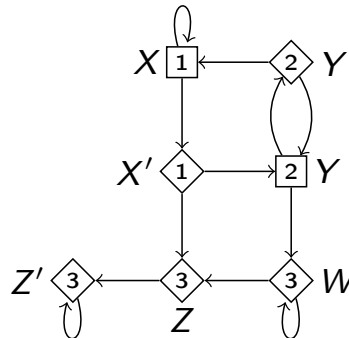
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 $\varrho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\diamond, \top} \leftarrow \lambda v \in V. (0, \dots, 0)$ 
while  $\varrho \sqsubset Lift_v(\varrho)$  for some  $v \in V$  do
     $\varrho \leftarrow Lift_v(\varrho)$ 
end while
    
```

Post condition:

- ▶ ϱ is least game parity progress measure
- ▶ $\{v \in V \mid \varrho(v) \neq \top\}$ is **winning set** for player \diamond
- ▶ $\{v \in V \mid \varrho(v) = \top\}$ is **winning set** for player \square

Consider parity game G :



Maximum value of M^\diamond is $(0, 2, 0, 3)$

Initially: $g \leftarrow \lambda v \in V.(0, 0, 0, 0)$, so

v	$g(v)$
X	(0, 0, 0, 0)
X'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
W	(0, 0, 0, 0)

Step 2: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_X(\varrho) = \varrho[X := \max\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, X, X'), \text{Prog}(\varrho, X, X)\}] = \varrho[X := \max\{(0, 1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0, 0)\}] = \varrho[X := (0, 1, 0, 0)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	$(0, 1, 0, 0)$
X'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
W	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$

Step 3: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_X(\varrho) = \varrho[X := \max\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, X, X'), \text{Prog}(\varrho, X, X)\}] = \varrho[X := \max\{(0, 1, 0, 0), (0, 2, 0, 0)\}] = \varrho[X := (0, 2, 0, 0)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	$(0, 2, 0, 0)$
X'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
W	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$

Step 4: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_X(\varrho) = \varrho[X := \max\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, X, X'), \text{Prog}(\varrho, X, X)\}] = \varrho[X := \max\{(0, 1, 0, 0), \top\}] = \varrho[X := \top]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
W	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$

Step 5: $\text{Lift}_{Y'}(\varrho) = \varrho[Y' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Y', X), \text{Prog}(\varrho, Y', Y)\}] = \varrho[Y' := \min\{\top, (0, 0, 0, 0)\}] = \varrho[Y' := (0, 0, 0, 0)]$
 $\text{Lift}_Y(\varrho) = \varrho[Y := \max\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Y, W), \text{Prog}(\varrho, Y, Y')\}] = \varrho[Y := \max\{(0, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 0, 0)\}] = \varrho[Y := (0, 0, 0, 0)]$
 $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{X'}(\varrho) = \varrho[X' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, X', Y), \text{Prog}(\varrho, X', Z)\}] = \varrho[X' := \min\{(0, 1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0, 0)\}] = \varrho[X' := (0, 1, 0, 0)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	$(0, 1, 0, 0)$
Y	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
W	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$

Step 6: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{Z'}(\varrho) = \varrho[Z' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Z', Z')\}] = \varrho[Z' := \min\{(0, 0, 0, 1)\}] = \varrho[Z' := (0, 0, 0, 1)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	⊥
X'	(0, 1, 0, 0)
Y	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z'	(0, 0, 0, 1)
W	(0, 0, 0, 0)

Step 7: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{Z'}(\varrho) = \varrho[Z' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Z', Z')\}] = \varrho[Z' := \min\{(0, 0, 0, 2)\}] = \varrho[Z' := (0, 0, 0, 2)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	⊥
X'	(0, 1, 0, 0)
Y	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z'	(0, 0, 0, 2)
W	(0, 0, 0, 0)

Step 8: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{Z'}(\varrho) = \varrho[Z' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Z', Z')\}] = \varrho[Z' := \min\{(0, 0, 0, 3)\}] = \varrho[Z' := (0, 0, 0, 3)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	$(0, 1, 0, 0)$
Y	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z'	$(0, 0, 0, 3)$
W	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$

Step 9: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}(\varrho, Z') = \varrho[Z' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Z', Z')\}] = \varrho[Z' := \min\{(0, 1, 0, 0)\}] = \varrho[Z' := (0, 1, 0, 0)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	$(0, 1, 0, 0)$
Y	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z'	$(0, 1, 0, 0)$
W	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$

Step 10: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{Z'}(\varrho) = \varrho[Z' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Z', Z')\}] = \varrho[Z' := \min\{(0, 1, 0, 1)\}] = \varrho[Z' := (0, 1, 0, 1)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	(0, 1, 0, 0)
Y	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z'	(0, 1, 0, 1)
W	(0, 0, 0, 0)

Step 11*: Repeat lifting Z' even more often

$\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{Z'}(\varrho) = \varrho[Z' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Z', Z')\}] = \varrho[Z' := \min\{\top\}] = \varrho[Z' := \top]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	(0, 1, 0, 0)
Y	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z'	\top
W	(0, 0, 0, 0)

Step 12: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_Z(\varrho) = \varrho[Z := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Z, Z')\}] = \varrho[Z := \min\{\top\}] = \varrho[Z := \top]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	(0, 1, 0, 0)
Y	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z	\top
Z'	\top
W	(0, 0, 0, 0)

Step 13:
 $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_W(\varrho) = \varrho[W := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, W, Z), \text{Prog}(\varrho, W, W')\}] = \varrho[W := \min\{\top, (0, 0, 0, 1)\}] = \varrho[W := (0, 0, 0, 1)]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	(0, 1, 0, 0)
Y	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Y'	(0, 0, 0, 0)
Z	\top
Z'	\top
W	(0, 0, 0, 1)

Step 14*: Repeat lifting of W often

$$\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_W(\varrho) = \varrho[W := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, W, Z), \text{Prog}(\varrho, W, W')\}] = \varrho[W := \min\{\top, \top\}] = \varrho[W := \top]$$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	$(0, 1, 0, 0)$
Y	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	\top
Z'	\top
W	\top

$$\text{Step 15: } \varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_Y(\varrho, Y) = \varrho[Y := \max\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Y, W), \text{Prog}(\varrho, Y, Y')\}] = \varrho[Y := \max\{\top, (0, 0, 0, 0)\}] = \varrho[Y := \top]$$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	$(0, 1, 0, 0)$
Y	\top
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	\top
Z'	\top
W	\top

Step 16: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{X'}(\varrho) = \varrho[X' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, X', Z), \text{Prog}(\varrho, X', Y)\}] = \varrho[X' := \min\{\top, \top\}] = \varrho[X' := \top]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	\top
Y	\top
Y'	$(0, 0, 0, 0)$
Z	\top
Z'	\top
W	\top

Step 17: $\varrho \leftarrow \text{Lift}_{Y'}(\varrho) = \varrho[Y' := \min\{\text{Prog}(\varrho, Y', X), \text{Prog}(\varrho, Y', Y)\}] = \varrho[Y' := \min\{\top, \top\}] = \varrho[Y' := \top]$

v	$\varrho(v)$
X	\top
X'	\top
Y	\top
Y'	\top
Z	\top
Z'	\top
W	\top

ϱ is least game parity progress measure, and $\{v \in V \mid \varrho(v) \neq \top\} = \emptyset$ is winning set for player \diamond . Hence **player \square wins from all vertices**

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$

Let $\varrho: V \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\circ, \top}$ be the **least game parity progress measure**.

- ▶ Define strategy $\psi: V_\diamond \rightarrow V$ for player \diamond , by setting $\psi(v)$ to be a **successor w of $v \in V_\diamond$ that minimises $\varrho(w)$**
- ▶ ψ is a **winning strategy for player \diamond** from $\{v \in V \mid \varrho(v) \neq \top\}$
- ▶ Strategy for \square cannot be inferred directly
 - ...but can be computed on-the-fly Gazda&Willemse'14

Parity game $G = (V, E, p, (V_\diamond, V_\square))$

Set $n = |V|, m = |E|, d = \max\{p(v) \mid v \in V\}$.

Worst-case running time complexity:

$$\mathcal{O}(d \cdot m \cdot \binom{n}{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor}^{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor})$$

Lowerbound on worst-case:

$$\Omega(\lceil n/d \rceil^{\lceil d/2 \rceil})$$

- ▶ Model checking $L_\mu =$ solving Boolean equation systems
 - Gauß Elimination for solving BES $\mathcal{O}(2^{|\mathcal{E}|})$
- ▶ Solving BES = solving Parity games
 - Recursive $\mathcal{O}(m \cdot n^d)$
 - Small progress measures $\mathcal{O}(d \cdot m \cdot \binom{n}{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor}^{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor})$
 - bigstep (combination of the two above) $\approx \mathcal{O}(n^{d/3})$