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SMT SOLVERS APPLICATION FOR FORMAL VERIFICATION OF POLICY-BASED SERVICES IN CLOUD ENVIRONMENTS

Guda Anton, Tsapko Dmytro

Ukrainian State University of Science and Technologies, Ukraine

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Formal verification of policy-based services in cloud environments using SMT (Satisfiability Modulo Theories) solvers involves encoding the policies and service behaviors as logical formulas and checking whether the formulas are satisfactory or unsatisfiable. SMT solvers can be used to verify that the policies are enforced correctly and that the service behaviors are consistent with the policies.

The first step is to identify the policies to be enforced in the cloud environment. Policies can be defined in terms of access control, data protection, compliance, or other requirements.

The next step is to formalize the policies as logical formulas. The formulas should express the constraints that the policies imposed on the behavior of the services, such as permissions, obligations, or prohibitions.

Then services behavior is to be encoded as logical formulas. The formulas should express the actions that the services can perform and the effects that these actions have on the environment, such as resource allocation, data processing, or communication.

Check the satisfiability: The next step is to use an SMT solver to check whether the logical formulas encode the policies and services that are satisfactory or unsatisfiable. If the formulas are unsatisfiable, it means that the policies are enforced correctly, and the service behaviors are consistent with the policies. If the formulas are satisfiable, the solver can provide a counterexample, which can help identify the policy violations or inconsistencies in the service behavior.

The final step is to refine the policies and services: The final step is to refine the policies and services based on the verification results. The policies can be strengthened or relaxed to reflect the requirements better, and the services can be modified to ensure compliance with the policies.

The main SMT solvers algorithms are the next: SAT solvers, Incremental solving, Decision procedures, Lazy evaluation, Theory combination, and Conflict resolution.

Reference

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