

# Reachability Analysis for High-Index Linear Differential Algebraic Equations

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**Abstract.** Reachability analysis is a fundamental problem for safety verification and falsification of Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS) whose dynamics follow physical laws usually represented as differential equations. In the last two decades, numerous reachability analysis methods and tools have been proposed for a common class of dynamics in CPS known as ordinary differential equations (ODE). However, there is lack of methods dealing with differential algebraic equations (DAE), which is a more general class of dynamics that is widely used to describe a variety of problems from engineering and science, such as multibody mechanics, electrical circuit design, incompressible fluids, molecular dynamics, and chemical process control. Reachability analysis for DAE systems is more complex than ODE systems, especially for *high-index* DAEs because they contain both a *differential part* (i.e., ODE) and *algebraic constraints (AC)*. In this paper, we propose a scalable reachability analysis for a class of high-index large linear DAEs. In our approach, a high-index linear DAE is first decoupled into one ODE and one or several AC subsystems based on the well-known Marz decoupling method utilizing *admissible projectors*. Then, the *discrete* reachable set of the DAE, represented as a list of *star-sets*, is computed using simulation. Unlike ODE reachability analysis where the initial condition is freely defined by a user, in DAE cases, the consistency of the initial condition is an essential requirement to guarantee a feasible solution. Therefore, a thorough check for the consistency is invoked before computing the discrete reachable set. Our approach successfully verifies (or falsifies) a wide range of practical, high-index linear DAE systems in which the number of state variables varies from several to thousands.

## 1 Introduction

Reachability analysis for continuous and hybrid systems has been an attractive research topic for the last two decades since it is an essential problem for verification of safety-critical CPS. In this context, numerous techniques and tools have been proposed. Reachability analysis using zonotopes [2, 21] and support functions [19, 22] are efficient approaches when dealing with linear, continuous and hybrid systems. For nonlinear, continuous and hybrid systems, dReal [25] using

$\delta$ -reachability analysis and Flow\* [10] using Taylor model are well-known and efficient approaches. However, these over-approximation based approaches can only conduct a reachability analysis for small and medium scale systems. To deal with large-scale systems, other simulation-based methods have been proposed recently. For linear cases, the simulation-equivalent reachability analysis [5, 16] utilizing the *generalized star-set* as the state-set representation has shown an impressive result by successfully dealing with linear systems up to 10,000 state variables. In this approach, the *discrete simulation-equivalent* reachable set of a linear ODE system can be computed efficiently using standard ODE solvers by taking advantage of the superposition property. Another technique applies order-reduction abstraction [23, 33, 34] in which a large system can be abstracted to a smaller system with bounded error. For nonlinear cases, C2E2 [15, 18] utilizing simulation has shown significant improvement on time performance and scalability in comparison with other methods. Recently, a new numerical verification approach has been proposed to verify/falsify the safety properties of CPS with physical dynamics described by partial differential equations [31, 35].

Although many methods have been developed for reachability analysis of CPS, most of them mentioned above focus on CPS with ODE dynamics. There is a lack of methodology in analyzing systems with high-index DAE dynamics. It is because the reachability analysis for DAE systems is more complex than ODE systems, especially for *high-index* DAEs because they contain both a *differential part* (i.e., ODE) and *algebraic constraints* (AC). It should be emphasized that there are efficient reachability analysis approaches for DAE systems with index-1 [1, 11, 13, 28]. Dealing with index-1 DAE is slightly different from coping with pure ODE because, with a consistent initial condition, a semi-explicit index-1 DAE can be converted to an ODE. As CPS involving high-index DAE dynamics appear extensively in engineering and science such as multi-body mechanics, electrical circuit design, heat and gas transfer, chemical process, atmospheric physics, thermodynamic systems, and water distribution network [8, 17], there is an urgent need for novel reachability analysis methods and tools that can either verify or falsify the safety properties of such CPS. Solving this challenging problem is the main contribution of this research.

The novelty of our approach comes from its objective in dealing with high-index DAE which is a popular class of dynamics that has not been addressed in the existing literature. In this paper, we investigate the reachability analysis for large linear DAE systems with the index up to 3, which appear widely in practice. There are a variety of definitions for the index of a linear DAE. However, throughout the paper, we use the concept of *tractability index* proposed in [26] to determine the index of a linear DAE system. Our approach consists of three main steps (a) decoupling and consistency checking, (b) reachable set computation, and (c) safety verification or falsification; that can be summarized as follows.

The first step is to use the Marz decoupling method [7, 26] to decouple a high-index DAE into one ODE subsystem and one or several algebraic constraint (AC) subsystems. The core step in decoupling is constructing a set of admissible projectors which has not previously been discussed deeply in the existing literature.

In this paper, we propose a novel algorithm that can construct such admissible projectors for a linear DAE system with the index up to 3 (most of DAE systems in practice have index from 1 to 3). Additionally, we define a consistent space for the DAE because, unlike ODE reachability analysis where the initial set of states can be freely defined by a user, to guarantee a numerical solution for the DAE system, the initial state and inputs of such DAE system must be consistent and satisfy certain constraints. It is important to emphasize that the decoupling and consistency checking methods used in our approach can be combined with existing over-approximation reachability analysis methods [2, 19] to compute the over-approximated reachable sets for high-index, linear DAE systems with small to medium dimensions.

The second step in our approach is reachable set computation. Since our main objective is to verify or falsify large linear DAEs, we extend ODE simulation-based reachability analysis to DAEs. In particular, we modify the *generalized star-set* proposed in [5] to enhance the efficiency in checking the initial condition consistency and safety for DAEs. From a consistent initial set of states and inputs, the reachable set of a DAE system can be constructed by combining the reachable sets of its subsystems. It is also worth pointing out that the piecewise constant inputs assumption for ODE with inputs used in [5] may lead a DAE system to *impulsive behavior*. Therefore, in this paper, we assume the inputs applied to the system are *smooth functions*. Such the inputs can be obtained by *smoothing* piecewise constant inputs with filters.

The last step in our approach is to verify or falsify the safety properties of the DAE system using the constructed reachable set computed in the second step. In this paper, we consider linear safety specifications. We are interested in checking the safety of the system in a specific direction defined using a directional matrix. Using the modified star-set and the directional matrix, checking the safety property can be solved efficiently as a low-dimensional feasibility linear programming problem. In the case of violation, our approach generates a counterexample trace that falsifies the system safety.

**Contribution.** The main contributions of the paper are as follows.

1. A novel reachability analysis approach for high-index linear DAE systems developed based on the effective combination of a decoupling method and a reachable set computation using star-set. To the best of our knowledge, this problem has not been addressed in the existing literature.
2. An end-to-end design and implementation of the approach in a Python toolbox, called *Daev*, which is publicly available for verifying high-index linear DAE systems.
3. An extensive evaluation that demonstrates the capability of our approach in verifying/falsifying a wide range of practical, high-index linear DAE systems where the number of state variables varies from several to thousands.

We note that our reachability analysis approach for high-index DAEs based on combining the decoupling technique and existing ODE reachability analysis is extensible and generic. Instead of using star-set, one can use the decoupling technique in a combination of other state-of-the-art ODE reachability analysis

tool like SpaceEx and Flow\* for specific application purposes. We choose star-set to handle high-index large linear DAEs because of its scalability advantage compared to other ODE reachability analysis tools.

**Outline of paper.** The remainder of the paper is structured as follows. Section 2 reviews the relevant definitions of a high-index large linear DAE system, and the concept of a modified star-set used to represent its reachable set. Section 3 describes our decoupling approach that can effectively decouple a high-index DAE system into ODE and AC subsystems. Section 4 discusses the consistent condition for the initial states and inputs of a DAE system. Section 5 presents the core algorithms that can efficiently compute reachable set and perform a safety verification/falsification for a high-index large linear DAE system. Section 6 describes the verification results of our approach through a collection of high-index linear DAE system benchmarks. Section 7 concludes the paper and presents future research directions for the proposed work.

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Linear DAE system

We are interested in the reachability analysis of a high-index large linear DAE system described as follows:

$$\Delta: E\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t), \quad (1)$$

where  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state vector of the system;  $E, A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  are the system's matrices in which  $E$  is *singular*; and  $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the input of the system. Let  $I_n$  be the  $n$ -dimensional identity matrix. The regularity, the tractability index, the admissible projectors, the fixed-step bounded-time simulation, and the bounded-time simulation-equivalent reachable set of the system are defined below.

**Definition 1 (Regularity [12]).** *The pair  $(E, A)$  is said to be regular if  $\det(sE - A)$  is not identically zero.*

*Remark 1.* For any specified initial conditions, the regularity of the pair  $(E, A)$  guarantees the existence and uniqueness of a solution of the system (1).

**Definition 2 (Tractability index [26]).** *Assume that the DAE system (1) is solvable, i.e., the matrix pair  $(E, A)$  is regular. A matrix chain is defined by:*

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 &= E, \quad A_0 = A, \\ E_{j+1} &= E_j - A_j Q_j, \quad A_{j+1} = A_j P_j, \quad \text{for } j \geq 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where  $Q_j$  are projectors onto  $\text{Ker}(E_j)$ , i.e.,  $E_j Q_j = 0$ ,  $Q_j^2 = Q_j$ , and  $P_j = I_n - Q_j$ . Then, there exists an index  $\mu$  such that  $E_\mu$  is nonsingular and all  $E_j$  are singular for  $0 \leq j < \mu - 1$ . It is said that the system (1) has tractability index- $\mu$ . In the rest of the paper, we use the term “index” to state for the “tractability index” of the system.

**Definition 3 (Admissible projectors [26]).** *Given a DAE with tractability index- $\mu$ , the projectors  $Q_0, Q_1, \dots, Q_{\mu-1}$  in Definition 2 are called admissible if and only if they satisfy the following property:  $\forall j > i, Q_j Q_i = 0$ .*

**Definition 4 (Fixed-step, bounded-time simulation).** *Given consistent initial state  $x_0$  and input  $u(t)$ , a time bound  $T$ , and a time step  $h$ , the finite sequence:*

$$\rho(x_0, u(t), h, T = Nh) = x_0 \xrightarrow[0 \leq t < h]{u(t)} x_1 \xrightarrow[h \leq t < 2h]{u(t)} x_2 \cdots \xrightarrow[(N-1)h \leq t < Nh]{u(t)} x_N,$$

*is a  $(x_0, u(t), h, T)$ -simulation of the DAE system (1) if and only if for all  $0 \leq i \leq N - 1$ ,  $x_{i+1}$  is the state of the system trajectory starting from  $x_i$  when provided with input function  $u(t)$  for  $ih \leq t < (i + 1)h$ . If there is no input,  $u(t) = 0$ .*

The consistent condition for the initial state  $x_0$  and input  $u(t)$  will be discussed in detail in Section 4. From the fixed-step, bounded-time simulation of a DAE system, we define the following bounded-time, simulation-equivalent reachable set of the DAE system.

**Definition 5 (Bounded-time, simulation-equivalent reachable set).** *Given sets of consistent initial state  $X_0$  and input  $U$ , the bounded-time, simulation-equivalent reachable set  $R_{[0,T]}(\Delta)$  of the system (1) is the set of all states that can be encountered by any  $(x_0, u(t), h, T)$ -simulation starting from any  $x_0 \in X_0$  and input  $u(t) \in U$ .*

Let  $Unsafe(\Delta) \triangleq Gx \leq f$  be the unsafe set of the DAE system (1) in which  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the state vector of the system,  $G \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$  is the *unsafe matrix* and  $f \in \mathbb{R}^k$  is the *unsafe vector*. Given sets of consistent initial state  $X_0$  and input  $U$ , the simulation-based safety verification and falsification problem is defined in the following.

**Definition 6 (Simulation-based safety verification and falsification).** *The DAE system (1) is said to be “simulationally safe” up to time  $T$  if and only if its simulation-equivalent reachable set,  $R_{[0,T]}(\Delta)$ , and the unsafe set,  $Unsafe(\Delta)$ , are disjoint, i.e.,  $R_{[0,T]}(\Delta) \cap Unsafe(\Delta) = \emptyset$ . Otherwise, it is simulationally unsafe.*

*The DAE system is said to be “simulationally falsifiable” if and only if it is simulationally unsafe and there exists a simulation,  $(x_0, u(t), h, T)$ , that leads the initial state,  $x_0$ , of the system to an unsafe state,  $x_{unsafe} \in Unsafe(\Delta)$ .*

The main objective of the paper is to compute the simulation-equivalent reachable set,  $R_{[0,T]}(\Delta)$ , of the DAE system and use it to verify or falsify the safety property of the system. In the rest of the paper, we use the term *reachable set* to stand for *simulation-equivalent reachable set*. Next, we define a *modified star set* which is used as the state-set representation of the DAE system.

## 2.2 Modified star set

In our approach, we use a modified star set to represent the reachable set of the DAE system. The modified star set is slightly different from the generalized star set [5] because it does not have a *center vector* and is only defined on a star’s  $n \times k$  basis matrix.

**Definition 7 (Modified star set).** A modified star set (or simply star)  $\Theta$  is a tuple  $\langle V, P \rangle$  where  $V = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$  is a star basis matrix and  $P$  is a linear predicate. The set of states represented by the star is given by:

$$\llbracket \Theta \rrbracket = \{x \mid x = \Sigma_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i v_i) = V \times \alpha, P(\alpha) \triangleq C\alpha \leq d\}, \quad (3)$$

where  $\alpha = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k]^T$ ,  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times k}$ ,  $d \in \mathbb{R}^p$  and  $p$  is the number of linear constraints.

The benefit of the modified star set come from its form given as a *matrix-vector product* which is convenient (in next sections) for checking initial condition consistency and safety properties. In the rest of the paper, we will refer to both the tuple  $\Theta$  and the set of states  $\llbracket \Theta \rrbracket$  as  $\Theta$ .

To construct the reachable set of the DAE system (1), we decouple the system into  $\mu + 1$  subsystems where  $\mu$  is the index of the DAE system. The underlining technique used in our approach is the Marz decoupling method utilizing admissible projectors which is presented in detail in the following section.

### 3 Decoupling

In this section, we discuss how to decouple a high-index DAE system into one ODE subsystem and one or several AC subsystems using the matrix chain and admissible projectors defined in the previous section with noticing that the decoupled system and the original one are equivalent, i.e., they have the same solutions. Since we are particularly interested in DAE systems with index up to 3 which happen in most of DAE systems in practice, the proofs of decoupling process for index-1, -2, and -3 are given in detail in the extended version of this paper [32].<sup>3</sup> A generalization of decoupling for a DAE with arbitrary index is presented in [26]. As the construction of admissible projectors used in decoupling has not been discussed clearly in existing literature, in this section, we propose a method and an algorithm to solve this problem.

**Lemma 1 (Index-1 DAE decoupling [7, 26]).** An index-1 DAE system described by (1) can be decoupled using the matrix chain defined by Equation (2) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 : \quad & \dot{x}_1(t) = N_1 x_1(t) + M_1 u(t), \quad ODE \text{ subsystem}, \\ \Delta_2 : \quad & x_2(t) = N_2 x_1(t) + M_2 u(t), \quad AC \text{ subsystem}, \\ & x(t) = x_1(t) + x_2(t), \\ & x_1(t) = P_0 x(t), \quad N_1 = P_0 E_1^{-1} A_0, \quad M_1 = P_0 E_1^{-1} B, \\ & x_2(t) = Q_0 x(t), \quad N_2 = Q_0 E_1^{-1} A_0, \quad M_2 = Q_0 E_1^{-1} B. \end{aligned}$$

Proof is given in the appendix of [32].

<sup>3</sup> Available online: [http://www.taylorjohnson.com/research/tran2019formats\\_extended.pdf](http://www.taylorjohnson.com/research/tran2019formats_extended.pdf)

**Lemma 2 (Index-2 DAE decoupling [7, 26]).** *An index-2 DAE system described by (1) can be decoupled into a decoupled system using the matrix chain defined by Equation (2) and the admissible projectors in Definition 3 as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 : \quad & \dot{x}_1(t) = N_1 x_1(t) + M_1 u(t), \text{ ODE subsystem,} \\ \Delta_2 : \quad & x_2(t) = N_2 x_1(t) + M_2 u(t), \text{ AC subsystem 1,} \\ \Delta_3 : \quad & x_3(t) = N_3 x_1(t) + M_3 u(t) + L_3 \dot{x}_2(t), \text{ AC subsystem 2,} \\ & x(t) = x_1(t) + x_2(t) + x_3(t), \\ & x_1(t) = P_0 P_1 x(t), \quad N_1 = P_0 P_1 E_2^{-1} A_2, \quad M_1 = P_0 P_1 E_2^{-1} B, \\ & x_2(t) = P_0 Q_1 x(t), \quad N_2 = P_0 Q_1 E_2^{-1} A_2, \quad M_2 = P_0 Q_1 E_2^{-1} B, \\ & x_3(t) = Q_0 x(t), \quad N_3 = Q_0 P_1 E_2^{-1} A_2, \quad M_3 = Q_0 P_1 E_2^{-1} B, \quad L_3 = Q_0 Q_1. \end{aligned}$$

Proof is given in the appendix of [32].

**Lemma 3 (Index-3 DAE decoupling [7, 26]).** *An index-3 DAE system described by (1) can be decoupled into a decoupled system using the matrix chain defined by Equation (2) and the admissible projectors in Definition 3 as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 : \quad & \dot{x}_1(t) = N_1 x_1(t) + M_1 u(t), \text{ ODE subsystem,} \\ \Delta_2 : \quad & x_2(t) = N_2 x_1(t) + M_2 u(t), \text{ AC subsystem 1,} \\ \Delta_3 : \quad & x_3(t) = N_3 x_1(t) + M_3 u(t) + L_3 \dot{x}_2(t), \text{ AC subsystem 2} \\ \Delta_4 : \quad & x_4(t) = N_4 x_1(t) + M_4 u(t) + L_4 \dot{x}_3(t) + Z_4 \dot{x}_2(t), \text{ AC subsystem 3} \\ & x(t) = x_1(t) + x_2(t) + x_3(t) + x_4(t), \text{ where:} \\ & x_1(t) = P_0 P_1 P_2 x(t), \quad N_1 = P_0 P_1 P_2 E_3^{-1} A_3, \quad M_1 = P_0 P_1 P_2 E_3^{-1} B, \\ & x_2(t) = P_0 P_1 Q_2 x(t), \quad N_2 = P_0 P_1 Q_2 E_3^{-1} A_3, \quad M_2 = P_0 P_1 Q_2 E_3^{-1} B, \\ & x_3(t) = P_0 Q_1 x(t), \quad N_3 = P_0 Q_1 P_2 E_3^{-1} A_3, \quad M_3 = P_0 Q_1 P_2 E_3^{-1} B, \quad L_3 = P_0 Q_1 Q_2, \\ & x_4(t) = Q_0 x(t), \quad N_4 = Q_0 P_1 P_2 E_3^{-1} A_3, \quad M_4 = Q_0 P_1 P_2 E_3^{-1} B, \quad L_4 = Q_0 Q_1, \\ & Z_4 = Q_0 P_1 Q_2. \end{aligned}$$

Proof is given in the appendix of [32].

It should be noted that the AC subsystems  $\Delta_3$  and  $\Delta_4$  in Lemma 2 and 3 are called algebraic constraints, though they contain the derivatives of  $x_2(t)$  and  $x_3(t)$ . This is because the explicit forms of these algebraic constraints can be obtained if we further extend the derivatives using the corresponding ODE subsystems. In addition, one can see that for a DAE system with index-2 or -3, a set of admissible projectors need to be constructed for decoupling. In the following, we give a Proposition and Lemmas that are used to construct such admissible projectors.

**Proposition 1 (Orthogonal projector on a subspace).** *Given a real matrix  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that  $\text{rank}(Z) = r < n$ , the Singular-Value Decomposition (SVD) of  $Z$  has the form:*

$$Z = [L_1 \ L_2] \begin{bmatrix} S_{r \times r} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} K_1^T \\ K_2^T \end{bmatrix}, \quad (4)$$

where  $L_1, K_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$  and  $L_2, K_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n-r}$ . Then, the matrix  $Q = K_2 K_2^T$  is an orthogonal projector on  $\text{Ker}(Z)$ , i.e.,  $ZQ = 0$ ,  $Q = Q^T$  and  $Q^2 = Q$ .

Proof is given in the appendix of [32].

For an index-2 or -3 DAE system, using Proposition 1, we can construct a set of projectors of the matrix chain defined in Equation (2). However, these projectors are not yet admissible, because  $Q_j Q_i \neq 0, j > i$ . Instead, the admissible projectors can be constructed based on these inadmissible projectors using the following Lemmas.

**Lemma 4 (Admissible projectors for an index-2 DAE system).** *Given an index-2 DAE system described by (1), let  $Q_0$  and  $Q_1$  respectively be the orthogonal projectors of  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  of the matrix chain defined in Equation (2). The following projectors  $Q_0^*$  and  $Q_1^*$  are admissible:  $Q_0^* = Q_0$ ,  $Q_1^* = -Q_1 E_2^{-1} A_1$ .*

Proof is given in the appendix of [32].

**Lemma 5 (Admissible projectors for an index-3 DAE system).** *Given an index-3 DAE system described by (1), let  $Q_0$ ,  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  respectively be the orthogonal projectors of  $E_0$ ,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  of the matrix chain defined in Equation (2). We define the following projectors and the corresponding new matrices for the matrix chain as:*

$$Q_2' = -Q_2 E_3^{-1} A_2, \quad Q_1' = -Q_1 P_2' E_3^{-1} A_1, \quad E_2' = E_1 - A_1 Q_1', \quad A_2' = A_1 P_1'$$

where  $P_2' = I_n - Q_2'$  and  $P_1' = I_n - Q_1'$ . Let  $Q_2''$  be the orthogonal projector on  $E_2'$  and  $E_3'' = E_2' - A_2' Q_2''$ , then the following projectors  $Q_0^*$ ,  $Q_1^*$  and  $Q_2^*$  are admissible:  $Q_0^* = Q_0$ ,  $Q_1^* = Q_1'$ ,  $Q_2^* = -Q_2'' (E_3'')^{-1} A_2'$ .

Proof is given in the appendix of [32].

Lemmas 4 and 5 are the constructions of admissible projectors for index-2 and -3 DAE systems. The details of the admissible projectors construction are summarized in the appendix [32]. Next, based on the decoupled DAE system, we discuss the consistent condition of the system and analyze the system behavior under the effect of input functions.

## 4 Consistency

In this section, we discuss the consistent condition for a DAE system. Using the decoupled DAE system, the consistent condition for the initial state and inputs is derived. Additionally, the piecewise constant assumption on the inputs used in [5] for ODE systems may lead to *impulsive behavior* in high-index DAE systems. To avoid this, we limit our problem to *smooth* and *specific-user-defined* inputs. As a result, DAE systems with inputs can be converted to autonomous DAE systems, where *consistent spaces* for the initial states and inputs can be conveniently defined and checked. Furthermore, the reachable set computation is executed efficiently using a decoupled autonomous DAE system.

Using Lemmas 1, 2, and 3, to guarantee a solution for the DAE system, the initial states and inputs must satisfy the following conditions:



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Index-1 DAE : } & x_2(0) = N_2x_1(0) + M_2u(0), \\
 \text{Index-2 DAE : } & x_2(0) = N_2x_1(0) + M_2u(0), \\
 & x_3(0) = N_3x_1(0) + M_3u(0) + L_3\dot{x}_2(0), \\
 \text{Index-3 DAE : } & x_2(0) = N_2x_1(0) + M_2u(0), \\
 & x_3(0) = N_3x_1(0) + M_3u(0) + L_3\dot{x}_2(0), \\
 & x_4(0) = N_4x_1(0) + M_4u(0) + L_4\dot{x}_3(0) + Z_4\dot{x}_2(0).
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Assuming that the consistent condition is satisfied, Lemmas 2 and 3 indicate the solution of the system involves the derivatives of the input functions  $\dot{x}_2(t) = N_2\dot{x}_1(t) + M_2\dot{u}(t)$  and  $\dot{x}_3(t) = N_3\dot{x}_1(t) + M_4\dot{u}(t) + L_3[N_2\dot{x}_1(t) + M_2\dot{u}(t)]$ . In cases where we apply piecewise constant inputs to a high-index DAE system, the impulsive behavior may appear in the system at an exact discrete time point  $t_k$ . For example, let  $u(t)$  be a step function in  $[t_k, t_{k+1})$ , then  $\dot{u}(t_k) = \delta(t_k)$ , where  $\delta(t_k)$  is the Dirac function describing an impulse. To avoid such impulsive behavior and do reachability analysis for high-index DAE systems, we limit our approach to smooth inputs which are governed by the following ODE:  $\dot{u}(t) = A_u u(t)$ ,  $u(0) = u_0 \in U_0$ , where  $A_u \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  is the user-defined input matrix, and  $U_0$  is the set of initial inputs.

*Remark 2.* By introducing the input matrix  $A_u$ , we limit the safety verification and falsification of a high-index DAE system to a class of *specific-user-defined* inputs. If  $A_u = 0$ , then the input set is a set of constant inputs. We note that designing the input matrix  $A_u$  can be seen as the last step in designing a controller for a DAE system to eliminate the impulsive behavior of the closed-loop system which is a fundamental problem in DAE control system [14].

Given a user-defined input matrix  $A_u$ , a DAE system described by (1) can be converted to an equivalent autonomous DAE system of the following form:

$$\bar{E}\dot{\bar{x}}(t) = \bar{A}\bar{x}(t), \tag{6}$$

where  $\bar{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ u(t) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n+m}$ ,  $\bar{E} = \begin{bmatrix} E & 0 \\ 0 & I_m \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\bar{A} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & A_u \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n+m) \times (n+m)}$  and the state of the original DAE is:  $x(t) = [I_n \ 0]\bar{x}(t)$ .

Similar to the original DAE system, the autonomous DAE system (6) can be decoupled to form one autonomous ODE subsystem and one or several AC subsystems. It should be noted that the autonomous DAE system has the same index as the original one.

We have discussed the conversion of a DAE system with user-defined input to an autonomous DAE system. Next, we derive the *consistent space* for the initial condition of an autonomous DAE system. All previous results apply to these systems given that  $u(t) = 0$ .

**Definition 8 (Consistent Space for an autonomous DAE system).** Consider an autonomous DAE system ( $\Delta$ ) defined in Equation (1) by letting  $u(t) = 0$ . From this, we define in the following a “consistent matrix”  $\Gamma$  as:

*Index-1*  $\Delta$  :  $\Gamma = Q_0 - N_2P_0$ , ( $Q_0, P_0, N_2$ ) are defined in Lemma 1,

$$\text{Index-2 } \Delta : \Gamma = \begin{bmatrix} P_0Q_1 - N_2P_0P_1 \\ Q_0 - (N_3 + L_3N_2N_1)P_0P_1 \end{bmatrix},$$

( $Q_i, P_i, N_i, L_i$ ) are defined in Lemma 2,

$$\text{Index-3 } \Delta : \Gamma = \begin{bmatrix} P_0P_1Q_2 - N_2P_0P_1P_2 \\ P_0Q_1 - (N_3 + L_3N_2N_1)P_0P_1P_2 \\ Q_0 - [N_4 + L_4(N_3N_1 + L_3N_2N_1^2) + Z_4N_2N_1]P_0P_1P_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

( $Q_i, P_i, N_i, L_i, Z_4$ ) are defined in Lemma 3,

then,  $\text{Ker}(\Gamma)$  is the consistent space of the system  $\Delta$ , where  $\text{Ker}(\Gamma)$  denotes the null space of the matrix  $\Gamma$ .

An initial state  $x_0$  is consistent if it is in the consistent space, i.e.,  $\Gamma x_0 = 0$ . The consistent matrix and consistent space is introduced because it is useful and convenient for checking the consistency of an initial set of states represented using a star set. For example, assume that the initial set of states is defined by  $\Theta(0) = \langle V(0), P \rangle$ , then this set is consistent for all  $\alpha$  satisfying the predicate  $P$  if  $\Gamma V(0) = 0$ . This means that we require consistency for all points in the initial set. With a consistent initial set of states, we investigate the reachable set computation and safety verification/falsification of an autonomous DAE system in the next section.

## 5 Reachability Analysis

### 5.1 Reachable Set Computation

The reachable set of an autonomous DAE system is constructed by combining the reachable set of all of its decoupled subsystems. The reachable set of all AC subsystems can be derived from the reachable set of the ODE subsystem, which can be computed efficiently using existing ODE solvers. We first discuss the reachable set computation of the ODE subsystem by exploiting its *superposition property*. Then, the reachable set of the autonomous DAE system is constructed conveniently using only matrix addition and multiplication.

Let  $\Theta(0) = \langle V(0), P \rangle$  be the initial set of states of an autonomous DAE system defined in (1) by letting  $u(t) = 0$ . Assume that the initial set of states,  $X(0)$ , satisfies the consistent condition. After decoupling, the initial set of states of the ODE subsystem  $\Theta_1(0)$  is obtained as follows:  $\Theta_1(0) = \langle V_1(0), P \rangle$  where  $V_1(0) = (\prod_{i=0}^{\mu-1} P_i) V(0) = [v_1^1(0) \ v_2^1(0) \ \cdots \ v_k^1(0)]$ ,  $\mu$  is the index of the DAE system, and  $P_i, (i = 0, \dots, \mu - 1)$ , are defined in Lemma 1 or 2 or 3 corresponding to the index  $\mu$ .

Then, for any  $x_1(0) \in \Theta_1(0)$ , we have  $x_1(0) = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i v_i^1(0)$ . The solution of the ODE subsystem at time  $t$  is given by:  $x_1(t) = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i v_i^1(t) = V_1(t)\alpha$ , where  $v_i^1(t) = e^{N_1 t} v_i^1(0)$  and  $V_1(t) = [v_1^1(t) \ v_2^1(t) \ \cdots \ v_k^1(t)]$ . Therefore, the reachable set of the ODE subsystem at anytime  $t$  is also a star set defined by  $\Theta_1(t) = V_1(t)\alpha$ .

Using existing ode solvers, we can construct the matrix  $V_1(t)$  at anytime  $t$ . From  $\Theta_1(t)$ , the reachable set of the autonomous DAE system can be obtained using the following Lemma.

**Lemma 6 (Reachable Set Construction).** *Given an autonomous DAE system defined in Equation (1) where  $u(t) = 0$  and a consistent initial set of states  $\Theta(0) = \langle V(0), P \rangle$ , let  $\Theta_1(t) = \langle V_1(t), P \rangle$  be the reachable set at time  $t$  of the corresponding ODE subsystem after decoupling. Then, the reachable set  $\Theta(t)$  at time  $t$  of the system is given by  $\Theta(t) = \langle V(t) = \Psi V_1(t), P \rangle$ , where  $\Psi$  is a “reachable set projector” defined below.*

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Index-1: } \Psi &= (I_n + N_2), \quad N_2 \text{ is defined in Lemma 1,} \\
\text{Index-2: } \Psi &= (I_n + N_2 + N_3 + L_3 N_2 N_1), \\
&\quad (N_{i=1,2,3}, L_3) \text{ are defined in Lemma 2,} \\
\text{Index-3: } \Psi &= (I_n + N_2 + N_3 + N_4 + L_3 N_2 N_1 + \\
&\quad L_4 N_3 N_1 + L_4 L_3 N_2 N_1^2 + Z_4 N_2 N_1), \\
&\quad (N_{i=1,2,3,4}, L_{i=3,4}, Z_4) \text{ are defined in Lemma 3.}
\end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

Proof is given in the appendix of [32].

The reachable set construction of an autonomous DAE system is summarized in the appendix [32]. Next, from the constructed reachable set, we discuss how to verify or falsify the safety property.

## 5.2 Safety Verification and Falsification

By utilizing the star set to represent the reachable set of a DAE system, the safety verification and falsification problem is solved in the following manner. Let  $Unsafe(\Delta) \triangleq Gx \leq f$  be the unsafe set of an autonomous DAE system and assume that we want to check the safety of the system at the time step  $t_j = jh$ . This is equivalent to checking  $GV(jh)\alpha \leq f$  subject to  $P(\alpha) \triangleq C\alpha \leq d$ , where  $V(jh)$  is the basic matrix of the reachable set  $\Theta(jh)$  of the system at time  $jh$  computed using the reachable set construction algorithm in the appendix of [32]. Combining these constraints, the problem changes to checking the feasibility of the following linear predicate:  $\bar{P} \triangleq \bar{G}\alpha \leq \bar{f}$ , where  $\bar{G} = [(GV(jh))^T \ C^T]^T$  and  $\bar{f} = [f^T \ d^T]^T$ . This can be solved efficiently using existing linear programming algorithms. The verification and falsification algorithm in the appendix of [32] summarizes the steps of verifying or falsifying the safety property of an autonomous DAE system. In the next section, we evaluate our approach using a set of DAE benchmarks with several thousand states.

## 6 Experimental Results

In this section, we first demonstrate the effectiveness and scalability of our approach via the verification results for several DAE benchmarks [29]. Then, we analyze the time performance of our approach using the index-2, two-dimensional

semi-discretized Stokes Equation benchmark [27]. It is worthy of noting that our reachability analysis approach for high-index DAEs is extensible and generic, in the sense that we can combine a decoupling method with other ODE reachability analysis tools such as SpaceEx and Flow\*. The verification results of all benchmarks using such combinations with SpaceEx are presented in the appendix [32], which demonstrates the limitations in both timing and scalability performances. Our approach based on the combination of a decoupling method and a reachable set computation using star-set is implemented in a tool called *Daev*<sup>4</sup> using Python and its standard packages numpy, scipy, and matplotlib. All experiments were done on a computer with the following configuration: Intel Core i7-6700 CPU @ 3.4GHz 8 Processor, 62.8 GiB Memory, 64-bit Ubuntu 16.04.3 LTS OS.

## 6.1 Scalability Performance

Table 1 presents the verification results for all high-index DAE system benchmarks using Daev. From the table, we can see that Daev is scalable in verifying large DAE systems with thousands of state variables where the over-approximation approach is not applicable. Moreover, our approach can produce an unsafe trace in the case that a DAE system violates its safety property. An example of unsafe traces of the index-2, interconnected rotating masses system [30] is shown in the appendix [32]. Therefore, our approach is practically useful for falsification of large, linear DAE systems.

## 6.2 Timing Performance

Next, we investigate the time performance of our approach through the reachability analysis of the index-2, two-dimensional semi-discretized Stokes Equation benchmark.

*Example 1 (Semi-discretized Stokes Equation [27]).* This example studies the safety of a Stokes equation that describes the flow of an incompressible fluid in a two-dimensional spatial domain  $\Omega$ . The mathematical description of the Stokes-equation is given in the appendix [32]. An index-2 DAE system is derived from the Stokes-equation by discretizing the domain  $\Omega$  by a number of uniform square cells. Let  $n$  be the number of discretized segments of the domain on the x- or y-axes, then the dimension of the DAE system is  $3n^2 + 2n$ . Additionally, we are interested in the velocity along the x- and y- axes,  $v_x^c(t)$  and  $v_y^c(t)$ , of the fluid in the *central cell* of the domain  $\Omega$ . The unsafe set of the system is defined:  $Unsafe \triangleq -v_x^c(t) - v_y^c(t) \leq 0.04$ . By increasing the number of cells used to discretize the domain  $\Omega$ , we can produce an index-2 DAE system with arbitrarily large dimension. We evaluate the time performance of our approach via three scenarios. First, we discuss how the times for decoupling, reachable set computation, and safety checking are affected by changes in the system dimension. Second, we analyze the reachable set computation time along with the

<sup>4</sup> <https://github.com/verivital/daev/releases/tag/formats2019>

Table 1. Verification results for all benchmarks using Daev.

Benchmarks	n	Index	Unsafe Set	Result	V-T(s)
RL network [24]	3	2	$x_1 \leq -0.2 \wedge x_2 \leq -0.1$	unsafe	0.184
			$x_1 \geq 0.2$	safe	0.44
RLC circuit [12]	4	1	$x_1 + x_3 \geq 0.2$	unsafe	0.224
			$x_4 \leq -0.3$	safe	1.37
Interconnected rotating mass [30]	4	2	$x_3 \leq -0.9$	unsafe	0.37
			$x_4 \leq -1.0$	safe	0.114
Generator [20]	9	3	$x_9 \geq 0.01$	unsafe	0.4
			$x_1 \geq 1.0$	safe	0.684
Damped-mass spring [27]	11	3	$x_3 \leq 1 \wedge x_8 \leq 1.5$	safe	1.06
			$x_8 \leq -0.2$	unsafe	1.08
PEEC [9]	480	2	$x_{478} \geq 0.05$	safe	28.84
			$x_{478} \geq 0.01$	unsafe	28.25
MNA-1 [9]	578	2	$x_1 \geq -0.001$	safe	192.7
			$x_1 \geq -0.0015$	unsafe	202.6
MNA-4 [9]	980	3	$x_2 \geq 0.0005$	safe	1858.4
			$x_2 \geq 0.0002$	unsafe	1836.04
Stokes-equation [27]	4880	2	$v_x^c + v_y^c \leq -0.04$	unsafe	3502.3
			$v_x^c \geq 0.2$	safe	3532.3

*width* of the basic matrix of the initial set  $V(0)$ , i.e., the number of the initial basic vectors. Finally, because the reachable set of the system is constructed from the reachable set of its corresponding ODE subsystem, which is computed using ODE solvers as shown in the reachable set construction algorithm in the appendix [32], we investigate the time performance of reachable set computation using different ODE solving schemes. Table 2 presents the verification time,  $V-T$ , for the Stokes-equation benchmark with different dimensions. The verification time is broken into three components measured in seconds: decoupling time  $D-T$ , reachable set computation time  $RSC-T$ , and checking safety time  $CS-T$ . Table 2 shows the decoupling and reachable set computation times dominate the time for verification process. In addition, these times increase as the system size grows. The time for checking safety is almost unchanged and very small. This

**Table 2. Verification time of Stokes-equation with different dimensions  $n$ .**

<b>n</b>	86	321	706	1241	1926	2761
<b>D-T</b>	0.012s	0.63s	6.32s	40.38s	155.32s	466.38s
<b>RSC-T</b>	0.019s	0.37s	2.98s	19.29s	68.15s	200.89s
<b>CS-T</b>	0.0017s	0.0014s	0.0015s	0.0017s	0.0018s	0.002s
<b>V-T</b>	0.0327s	1.0014s	9.3015s	59.6717s	223.4718s	667.272s

**Table 3. Reachable set computation time of Stokes-equation of dimensions  $n = 321$  with different number of initial basic vectors  $k$ .**

<b>k</b>	2	4	6	8	10	12	14
<b>RSC-T</b>	1.9s	3.41s	5.01s	6.71s	8.3s	9.9s	11.44s

happens because the size of the feasibility problem  $\bar{P}$  defined in the verification/falsification algorithm in the appendix [32] is unchanged and usually small when we only check the safety in some specific directions defined by the unsafe matrix  $G$  in the algorithm.

Since the reachable set the Stokes-equation benchmark is constructed by simulating its corresponding ODE subsystem with each initial vector of its initial basic matrix, the time for computing the reachable set of the Stokes-equation depends linearly on the number of the initial basic vectors  $k$ . Table 3 shows the reachable set computation time,  $RSC - T$ , for the Stokes-equation of dimension  $n = 321$  versus the number of the initial basic vectors  $k$ .

Our approach relies on existing ODE solvers. Therefore, it is interesting to consider how the reachable set computation time performs with different existing ODE solving schemes supported by the *scipy* package such as *vode*, *zvode*, *lsoda*, *dopri5* and *dop853*. All solvers are used with the absolute tolerance  $atol = 1e-12$  and the relative tolerance  $rtol = 1e-08$ . Figure 1 illustrates the time performance of different schemes and indicates that the *vode*, *dopri5*, and *dop853* are fast schemes that should be used for large DAE systems. In addition, we should avoid using the *lsoda* and *zvode* schemes for large DAE systems due to their slow performance.

## 7 Conclusion and Future Work

We have studied a simulation-based reachability analysis for high-index, linear DAE systems. The experiential results show that our approach can deal with DAE systems with up to thousands of state variables. Therefore, it is useful and applicable to verify or falsify safety-critical CPS involving DAE dynamics. Additionally, the decoupling and the consistency checking techniques used in our

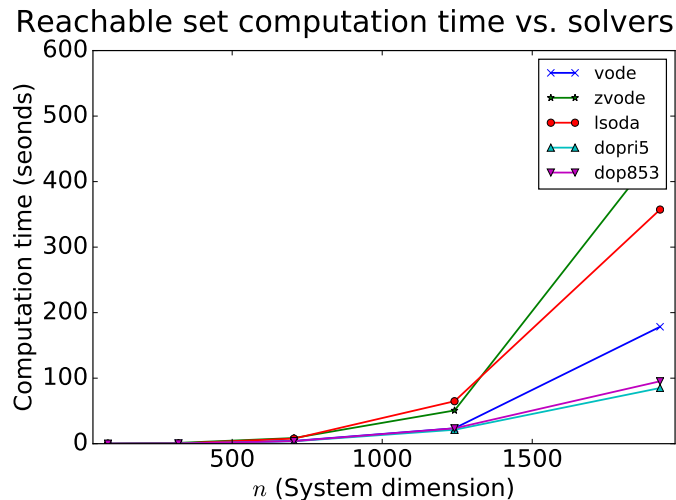


Fig. 1. Reachable set computation time of Stokes-equation using different ode solvers

approach can be used as a transformation pass for existing over-approximation techniques [2, 19] to verify the safety of DAE systems with small and medium dimension.

The reachability analysis for DAE systems with millions of dimensions remains challenging, although recent symbolic state-space representations, such as star sets, that allow for analyzing very large ODEs may also prove pivotal for DAEs [6]. The verification time of our approach depends mostly on the decoupling and the reachable set computation times. Therefore, to enhance the time performance and the scalability of our approach to make it work for million-dimensional DAE systems, both decoupling and reachable set computation techniques need to be improved. A promising application that inspires seeking a such scalable approach is verification and falsification of very large circuits, such as those that may arise in analog/mixed signal (AMS) designs, which are described as high-index DAEs. Transformations from standard circuit languages such as Verilog-AMS or VHDL-AMS to representations as hybrid automata may enable such analyses [3, 4].

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