Software Support for Calculations in Allen’s Interval Algebra

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Abstract

Allen’s interval algebra formally expresses temporal relations between intervals, operations on them, and reasoning about them. Many of its most interesting operations are tedious or difficult to perform by hand. This report gives a compact introduction to interval algebra and describes a software tool, allen, for working with interval algebra relations. In connection with this tool, we propose a convenient notation for Allen’s basic relations in which each relation is represented by a single lower or uppercase letter.