# Verification of infinite state systems

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#### In this part

We reduce the model checking problem for MSO logic over

- colored semi-infinite lines
- colored infinite trees

to suitable acceptance problems respectively for

- sequential Büchi automata (Büchi Theorem exploited)
- Rabin tree automata (Rabin Theorem exploited)

In analogy to the case of the semi-infinite line, Rabin Theorem

#### Theorem (Rabin '69)

For any MSO-formula  $\psi$  with free variables  $X_1, ..., X_m$ , one can compute a Rabin tree automaton  $\mathcal{A}_{\psi}$  over  $\mathbb{B}^m$ such that, for every tuple of unary predicates  $P_1, ..., P_m \subseteq \mathbb{B}^*$ 

 $(\mathbb{B}^*, \delta_0, \delta_1, \overline{P}) \vDash \psi[P_1/X_1, ..., P_m/X_m] \quad iff \quad \mathcal{T}_{2,\overline{P}} \in \mathscr{L}(\mathcal{A}_{\psi})$ 

can be exploited to reduce the decision problem for the MSO-theory of an *expanded* infinite complete tree  $(\mathbb{B}^*, \delta_0, \delta_1, \overline{P})$  to the acceptance problem of  $\mathcal{T}_{2,\overline{P}}$ (i.e., the **characteristic colored tree** encoding  $(\mathbb{B}^*, \delta_0, \delta_1, \overline{P})$ ) for Rabin tree automata.

Rational and automatic graphs

Acceptance problem for Rabin tree automata

#### Definition (Acceptance problem)

The **acceptance problem** of a colored and complete infinite binary tree  $\mathcal{T}$ , denoted  $Acc_{\mathcal{T}}$ , consists in deciding, for any Rabin tree automaton  $\mathcal{A}$ , whether

 $\mathcal{T} \in \mathscr{L}(\mathcal{A})$  ( $\mathcal{A} \text{ accepts } \mathcal{T}$ )

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#### Corollary (of RabinTheorem)

The problem of deciding the MSO-theory of a colored and complete infinite binary tree  $(\mathbb{B}^*, \delta_0, \delta_1, \overline{P})$  is reducible to the problem  $Acc_{\mathcal{T}_{2,\overline{P}}}$ .

Such a result can be easily generalized to *k*-ary and non-complete trees (i.e., trees with leaves).

To this end, we slightly modify the notion of tree automaton:

- **(**) the transition relation  $\Delta$  is now a subset of  $Q \times C \times Q^k$
- If a vertex of the input tree is missing

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#### Example

Consider the ternary non-complete { red, blue}-colored tree



and the Rabin tree automaton having

- three states, r, b, and d, that signal which color was seen last
- transitions (r/b, red, r, r, r), (r/b, blue, b, b, b),

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#### Proposition

The problem of deciding the MSO-theory of a *k*-ary (possibly incomplete) colored tree  $(D, \delta_0, ..., \delta_{k-1}, \overline{P})$  is reducible to the problem  $Acc_{\mathcal{T}_k, \overline{P}}$ .

In the following, we describe a method to identify infinite colored trees T, including incomplete ones, for which  $Acc_{T}$  is decidable.

Rational and automatic graphs

Acceptance problem for Rabin tree automata

#### Proposition

The acceptance problem of any **regular colored tree** (i.e., the unfolding of a finite colored graph) is decidable.

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Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a finite colored graph and  $\mathcal{T}$  its unfolding.



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We view  $\mathcal{G}$  as an automaton  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$  recognizing the singleton  $\{\mathcal{T}\}$ .



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#### Proof

We view  $\mathcal{G}$  as an automaton  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}$  recognizing the singleton  $\{\mathcal{T}\}$ .  $\Rightarrow$  given any automaton  $\mathcal{A}, \ \mathcal{T} \in \mathscr{L}(\mathcal{A}) \text{ iff } \mathscr{L}(\mathcal{A}) \cap \mathscr{L}(\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{T}}) \neq \emptyset$ 



#### Goal

We now want to extend the class of colored trees for which the acceptance problem turns out to be decidable.

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#### Idea

Reduce the acceptance problem of a non regular tree  $\mathcal{T}$ 

to an equivalent acceptance problem of a regular tree  $\overrightarrow{\mathcal{T}}$ :

- 'distill' the relevant features of each factor F (features describe the behavior of a given automaton A on F)

Solution is a second s

The *features* of *F* w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$  are called  $\mathcal{A}$ -type of *F*. The *feature tree*  $\vec{\mathcal{T}}$  is called  $\mathcal{A}$ -contraction of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

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Acceptance problem for Rabin tree automata

A picture of the method:

### Given a tree $\mathcal T$ , decompose it into factors ...



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#### Acceptance problem for Rabin tree automata

- A picture of the method:
- ... then consider the equivalence classes induced by the *A*-**types** of the factors ...



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#### Acceptance problem for Rabin tree automata

A picture of the method:

... The automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  has the **same behavior** on all trees in each equivalence class



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#### Acceptance problem for Rabin tree automata

A picture of the method:

⇒ We replace A with an automaton  $\vec{A}$  that runs on the (possibly regular) A-contraction and mimics A

Rational and automatic graphs

Factorizations, types, and contractions of trees

## Definition (Factorization)

#### A factorization of a tree ${\mathcal T}$ is an *uncolored* tree $\Pi$ such that

•  $\{root(\mathcal{T})\} \subseteq \mathcal{D}om(\Pi) \subseteq \mathcal{D}om(\mathcal{T})$ 



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- $\bullet$  the edges are given by the *ancestor relation* of  ${\cal T}$
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Note:  $\Pi$  can be a non-deterministic tree and it can have even unbounded/infinite degree.

#### Definition (Factor)

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Rational and automatic graphs

Factorizations, types, and contractions of trees

We also need to expand factors with information about the *edge labels* of the factorization  $\Pi$ :

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# Definition (A-Type)

Given an automaton M and a marked factor  $\mathcal{T}_{u}^{+}$ , the  $\mathcal{A}$ -**type**  $[\mathcal{T}_{u}^{+}]_{\mathcal{A}}$  is the set of triples of the form

$$egin{pmatrix} \mathcal{R}(arepsilon)\ \{(\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{v}),\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{v}),\mathcal{I}mg(\mathcal{R}|\pi_{\mathbf{v}}))\,:\,\mathbf{v}\in\mathcal{F}r(\mathcal{T})\}\ \{\mathcal{I}nf(\mathcal{R}|\pi)\,:\,\pi\in\mathcal{B}ch(\mathcal{T})\} \end{pmatrix}$$



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over all possible **partial runs**  $\mathcal{R}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $\mathcal{T}_u^+$ .

## There exist finitely many A-types

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# There exist finitely many A-types

- $\Rightarrow\,$  they induce an equivalence of finite index on the set of trees
- $\Rightarrow\,$  we can see each  $\mathcal{A}\text{-type}$  as a color from a finite set
- $\Rightarrow$  we can arrange the A-types of the factors of a tree in a tree-shaped colored structure called A-contraction.

Rational and automatic graphs

Factorizations, types, and contractions of trees

## Definition (A-contraction)

Given a tree  $\mathcal{T}$ , a factorization  $\Pi$  of  $\mathcal{T}$ , and an automaton  $\mathcal{A}$ , the  $\mathcal{A}$ -contraction  $\vec{\mathcal{T}}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  is the tree obtained from  $\Pi$  by coloring its vertices u with the corresponding  $\mathcal{A}$ -type  $[\mathcal{T}_u^+]_{\mathcal{A}}$ .

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### Idea

Collapse isomorphic subtrees in  $\vec{T}$ . If this can be done for every pair of outgoing edges with the same label, then  $\vec{T}$  can be given the status of deterministic tree and we can give it in input to a tree automaton  $\vec{A}$ .

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From trees to their contractions

## Theorem (Montanari and Puppis '04)

If a tree T has a deterministic A-contraction  $\vec{T}$  for any automaton A, then one can build another Rabin tree automaton  $\vec{A}$ , called **contraction automaton**, such that

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## Proof idea

- the input alphabet of *A* consists of all *A*-types plus a dummy symbol ⊥ for missing *b*-labeled successors in *T*
- a transition of *A* from a vertex colored by [*T*<sup>+</sup><sub>u</sub>]<sub>A</sub> mimics a computation of *A* on the marked factor *T*<sup>+</sup><sub>u</sub>

(note: this can be done since the  $\mathcal{A}$ -type  $[\mathcal{T}_u^+]_{\mathcal{A}}$  is a finite object that completely characterizes the 'behavior' of  $\mathcal{A}$  on the marked factor  $\mathcal{T}_u^+$ )

## Corollary

Given a tree T and a Rabin tree automaton A, if one can compute a (deterministic) A-contraction  $\vec{T}$  with  $Acc_{\vec{T}}$  decidable (e.g., a regular A-contraction), then  $Acc_{T}$  is decidable.

## To summarize

to prove that the acceptance problem of a tree  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{T}}$  is decidable:

- $\textbf{9} \ \text{provide a suitable factorization } \Pi \ \text{of} \ \mathcal{T}$
- **2** build the  $\mathcal{A}$ -contraction  $\overrightarrow{\mathcal{T}}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  w.r.t.  $\Pi$
- ${f 0}$  show that  ${\vec{\cal T}}$  is (bisimilar to) a deterministic tree
- show that  $Acc_{\vec{\tau}}$  is decidable (e.g., show that  $\vec{\tau}$  is regular).

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### From trees to their contractions

## Example

## Let $\mathcal{T}$ be a tree with homogeneously-colored levels



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#### From trees to their contractions

## Example

# Let $\mathcal{T}$ be a tree with homogeneously-colored levels $\Pi$ the factorization of $\mathcal{T}$ such that $\mathcal{D}om(\Pi) = \mathcal{D}om(\mathcal{T})$



Rational and automatic graphs

### From trees to their contractions

## Example

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a tree with homogeneously-colored levels  $\Pi$  the factorization of  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $\mathcal{D}om(\Pi) = \mathcal{D}om(\mathcal{T})$ and  $\vec{\mathcal{T}}$  a corresponding  $\mathcal{A}$ -contraction.











# Definition (Second-order tree substitution)

The second-order tree substitution  $C[[\mathcal{T}/x]]$  is the replacement of each *x*-colored vertex in C with  $\mathcal{T}$ .

(a suitable marking on the leaves of T is used to specify the attachment points for the subtrees rooted at the successors of a replacement occurrence).

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### Theorem

Second-order tree substitutions respect the A-types:

 $[\mathcal{T}]_{\mathcal{A}} = [\mathcal{T}']_{\mathcal{A}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left[\mathcal{C}[\![\mathcal{T}/x]\!]\right]_{\mathcal{A}} = \left[\mathcal{C}[\![\mathcal{T}'/x]\!]\right]_{\mathcal{A}}$ 

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## Corollary

Given an automaton  $\mathcal A$  and a function  $\gamma$  such that

 $\gamma(T) = C[T/x]$  for any (marked) tree T

there is a well-defined (computable) function  $\gamma_{\mathcal{A}}$  such that

 $\gamma_{\mathcal{A}}([\mathcal{T}]_{\mathcal{A}}) = [\gamma(\mathcal{T})]_{\mathcal{A}}$  for any (marked) tree  $\mathcal{T}$
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The set of all functions  $\gamma_{\mathcal{A}}$  with functional composition  $\circ$  is a

# finite monoid

Rational and automatic graphs

#### Second-order tree substitutions

## Example





## Example

# Let $\mathcal{L}$ be the semi-infinite line we extend it with **backward edges** and **loops**



## Example



## Example



## Example



## Example



# Example

## We now define the following factorization:



# Example



# Example

We can write 
$$\mathcal{T}_{n+1} = \gamma(\mathcal{T}_n)$$
, hence  $[\mathcal{T}_{n+1}]_{\mathcal{A}} = \gamma_{\mathcal{A}}^n([\mathcal{T}_1]_{\mathcal{A}})$ 

 $\Rightarrow~$  the  $\mathcal A\text{-contraction}$  is a regular tree of the form



We just saw an example of a reduction to a regular contraction.

However, one can iterate reductions in order to show that the acceptance problem of a tree  $\mathcal{T}$  is decidable ...

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However, one can iterate reductions in order to show that the acceptance problem of a tree  ${\cal T}$  is decidable ...

### Example

Consider the problem of deciding if  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathscr{L}(\mathcal{A})$ :

If  $\mathcal{T}$  has an  $\mathcal{A}$ -contraction  $\vec{\mathcal{T}}$ , and  $\vec{\mathcal{T}}$  has a *regular*  $\vec{\mathcal{A}}$ -contraction  $\vec{\vec{\mathcal{T}}}$ 

Then we can decide if  $\vec{\mathcal{T}} \in \mathscr{L}(\vec{\mathcal{A}})$ ,  $\vec{\mathcal{T}} \in \mathscr{L}(\vec{\mathcal{A}})$ , and  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathscr{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .





### Theorem

The acceptance problem of any recursively reducible tree is decidable.

### Closure properties of rank *n* trees

By exploiting the inductive structure of rank *n* trees, one can show that, for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , rank *n* trees are closed under:

### rational colorings

specified by regular path expressions (like rational restrictions and inverse rational mappings)

(alternative specifications in terms of Mealy tree automata, namely, deterministic tree automata with an output function)

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### regular tree morphisms

specified by a tuple of regular trees  $(\mathcal{T}_x)_{x \in X}$ and mapping an input tree  $\mathcal{C}$  to  $\mathcal{C}\left[\!\left[\mathcal{T}_x/x\right]\!\right]_{x \in X}$ 



Rational and automatic graphs





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Context-free and prefix-recognizable graphs

The contraction method

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Go