

Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics, University of Udine

The Safety Fragment of Temporal Logics on Infinite Sequences

Lesson 10

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May 5th, 2024



- ① Background
 - ① Regular and ω -regular languages
 - ② The First- and Second-order Theory of One Successor
 - ③ Automata over finite and infinite words
 - ④ Linear Temporal Logic
- ② The safety fragment of LTL and its theoretical features
 - ① Definition of Safety and Cosafety
 - ② Characterizations and Normal Forms
 - ③ Kupferman and Vardi's Classification



- ③ Recognizing safety
 - ① Recognizing safety Büchi automata
 - ② Recognizing safety formulas of LTL
 - ③ Construction of the automaton for the bad prefixes
- ④ Algorithms and Complexity
 - ① Satisfiability
 - ② Model Checking
 - ③ Reactive Synthesis
- ⑤ Succinctness and Pastification
 - ① Succinctness of Safety Fragments
 - ② Pastification Algorithms

MODEL CHECKING OF SAFETY PROPERTIES



Invariance checking

- **Invariance checking**: it is defined as LTL model checking of a formula of the form $G(\phi)$ where ϕ is a Boolean formula.

Does ϕ hold in (at least) every reachable state of M ?

- Given $M = \langle \mathcal{AP}, Q, I, T, L \rangle$ and a Boolean formula ϕ over the variables \mathcal{AP}
find a reachable state in which $\neg\phi$ holds or establish its nonexistence.
 - *it is a reachability problem*
 - if ϕ holds in every reachable state of M , then ϕ is **invariant** in M
 - otherwise, there is a *finite trace* as counterexample:

$$\langle s_0, s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle$$

such that $s_i \models \phi$ for any $i < n$ and $s_n \not\models \phi$.



The problem of invariance checking is thoroughly studied in **symbolic model checking**.

- **IC3** is arguably the state-of-the-art algorithm for symbolic invariance checking
- outstanding performance

Reference:

Aaron R Bradley (2011). "SAT-based model checking without unrolling". In: *International Workshop on Verification, Model Checking, and Abstract Interpretation*. Springer, pp. 70–87



Classical Approach

Let M be Kripke structure, s an initial state of M , and ϕ be an LTL formula such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is *safety*.

- **Objective:** efficient algorithms for model checking of safety properties
($M, s \models A \phi$)
 - exploiting the reduction from infinite to *finite* trace
 - exploiting efficient backends for *symbolic invariance checking*



Classical Approach

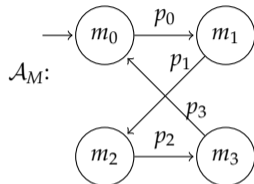
Let M be Kripke structure, s an initial state of M , and ϕ be an LTL formula such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is *safety*.

- 1 Build the *automaton over finite words* (DFA) \mathcal{A}_{bad} for the bad prefixes of $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$.
- 2 Build the product $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{bad}$.
- 3 Check the **reachability** of a final state in $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{bad}$
 - or equivalently that the property “the current state is not final” is *invariant*

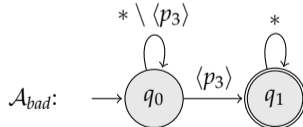
$$G(\neg final)$$

- 4 Output:
 - if found: there is a counterexample to ϕ
 - otherwise: ϕ holds in M

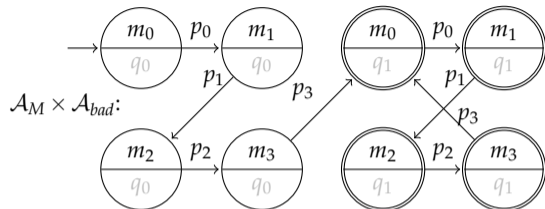
- Kripke Structure M :



- Automaton for the bad prefixes of $G(p_0 \vee p_1 \vee p_2)$:



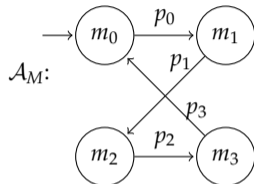
We denote with $\langle p_3 \rangle$ all the subsets of $\{p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3\}$ that contain the proposition p_3 .



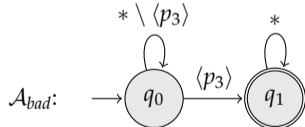
- We reduced the problem $M, s \models A G(p_0 \vee p_1 \vee p_2)$ to checking whether: (reachability)

$$\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{bad} \models G(q_0)$$

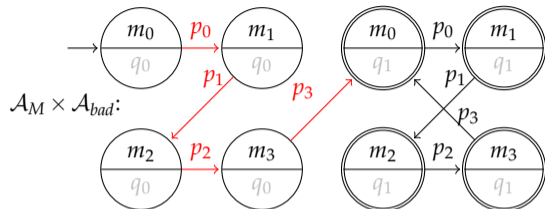
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- The property does not hold: counterexample trace

K-LIVENESS



- (Symbolic) Invariance Checking: very efficient algorithms
- Some algorithms for LTL model checking leverage this efficiency:
 - LTL-MC \rightsquigarrow invariance checking
- **K-Liveness**

Reference:

Koen Claessen and Niklas Sörensson (2012). “A liveness checking algorithm that counts”. In: *2012 Formal Methods in Computer-Aided Design (FMCAD)*. IEEE, pp. 52–59



Objectives:

- 1 Solve LTL-MC

$$M, s \models A\phi$$

where ϕ is an LTL formula.

- 2 Reduction to a sequence of invariance checking problems.

Solution:

- To *count* and *bound* the number of times the product automaton $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ visits a final state of $\mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$.



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Main idea:

- Let $\mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ be a NBA for $\neg\phi$.
- $M, s \models A\phi$ iff the language of $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ is *empty*
- ... iff each computation of $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ visits a final state of $\mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ a *finite number of times*

This number is clearly *bounded* above by the number of states of $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$, i.e., $|M| \cdot |\mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}|$.



- K-Liveness proceeds *incrementally*, checking whether $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ visits a final state K times for $K = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- Methodology: use a *counter*
 - K-counter \mathcal{A}_K = automaton that stays in its state q_f iff the computation has visited *less than* K times a final state of $\mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$
- Each subproblem is of the form:

$$\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi} \times \mathcal{A}_K, s \models \text{AG}(q_f)$$

It is an *invariance checking problem*.

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Termination:

- if $M, s \models \text{AG}\phi$, there exists a K for which $\mathcal{A}_M \times \mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi}$ visits final states at most K times.
- if $M, s \not\models \text{AG}\phi$, the algorithm increments K until the upper bound: it then stops.

Implementation:

- K-Liveness is implemented in the nuXmv model checker.

Roberto Cavada et al. (2014). "The nuXmv symbolic model checker". In: *International Conference on Computer Aided Verification (CAV)*. Springer, pp. 334–342. DOI: 10.1007/s10009-006-0001-2

Exploiting the KV's classification

for efficient model checking



- **Problem:** the automaton for the bad prefixes is *doubly exponential* in the size of the formula, in the worst case:

$$|\phi| = n \rightarrow |\mathcal{A}_{bad}| \in 2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(n)}}$$

This can become easily impractical.

- **Solution:** we *relax* the fact that the automaton has to recognize *all* bad prefixes.
 - \Rightarrow we want to build an automaton which recognizes only the *informative prefixes*.
 - \Rightarrow only a single exponential blowup: $|\phi| = n \rightarrow |\mathcal{A}_{bad}| \in 2^{\mathcal{O}(n)}$



Theorem

For every LTL formula ϕ such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is safety, there exists a NFA \mathcal{A} that recognizes exactly the informative bad prefixes of ϕ and $|\mathcal{A}| \in 2^{\mathcal{O}(|\phi|)}$.

Proof.

We will prove this result later. □

Reference:

Orna Kupferman and Moshe Y Vardi (2001). “Model checking of safety properties”. In: *Formal Methods in System Design* 19.3, pp. 291–314. DOI: 10.1023/A:1011254632723



Definition (Tight Automata)

Given a safety language \mathcal{L} , a NFA \mathcal{A} is *tight for \mathcal{L}* iff $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{bad}(\mathcal{L})$.

Definition (Fine Automata)

Given a safety language \mathcal{L} , a NFA \mathcal{A} is *fine for \mathcal{L}* iff it accepts *at least one* bad prefix for each violation of \mathcal{L} , i.e.: $\forall \sigma \notin \mathcal{L} . \exists i \geq 0 . \sigma_{[0,i]} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$.

“In practice, almost all the benefit that one obtain from a tight automaton can also be obtained from a fine automaton.”



Classification of Safety Properties

by Kupferman and Vardi

Let ϕ be any LTL formula such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is a safety language. The definition of informative prefix is used to classify such formulas ϕ into three types:

- ① intentionally safe
- ② accidentally safe
- ③ pathologically safe



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Let ϕ be any LTL formula such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is a safety language. The definition of informative prefix is used to classify such formulas ϕ into three types:

① intentionally safe

ϕ is intentionally safe iff *all* bad prefixes are informative.

For example:

- the formula $G(p)$ is intentionally safe.
- the formula $G(p \vee (\bigwedge q \wedge \bigwedge \neg q))$ is *not* intentionally safe, because $\langle \{p\}, \{p\}, \{p\}, \{p\}, \emptyset \rangle$ is a bad prefix but it is not informative.

② accidentally safe

③ pathologically safe



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Let ϕ be any LTL formula such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is a safety language. The definition of informative prefix is used to classify such formulas ϕ into three types:

- 1 intentionally safe
- 2 accidentally safe

ϕ is accidentally safe iff (i) not all the bad prefixes of ψ are informative, but (ii) every $\sigma \in (2^{AP})^\omega$ that violates ϕ has an informative bad prefix.

For example:

- $G(p \vee (\mathbf{X}q \wedge \mathbf{X}\neg q))$ is accidentally safe: $\langle \{p\}, \{p\}, \{p\}, \{p\}, \emptyset \rangle$ is a bad prefix but it is not informative. However, every infinite trace violating the formula has an informative prefix of type $\{p\}^* \cdot \emptyset \cdot \emptyset$.

- 3 pathologically safe



Classification of Safety Properties

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ϕ is pathologically safe iff there is a $\sigma \in (2^{AP})^\omega$ that violates ϕ and has no informative bad prefixes.

For example:

- $(G(q \vee FGp) \wedge G(r \vee FG\neg p)) \vee Gq \vee Gr$
 - the computation \emptyset^ω violates the formula

$$\emptyset^\omega \models (F(\neg q \wedge GF\neg p) \vee F(\neg r \wedge GFp)) \wedge F(\neg q) \wedge F(\neg r)$$

- but each of its prefixes σ is *not informative* because $\sigma \not\models_{KV} (F(\neg q \wedge GF\neg p) \vee F(\neg r \wedge GFp)) \wedge F(\neg q) \wedge F(\neg r)$, but **no finite prefix** is such.



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Formulas that are **accidentally safe** or **pathologically safe** are *needlessly complicated*:

- They contain a redundancy that can be eliminated.
- If a user wrote a **pathologically safe** formula, then probably he/she didn't mean to write a safety formula.
- This classification helps in detecting inconsistent or redundant specifications.



Theorem

For every LTL formula ϕ , there exists a NFA \mathcal{A} such that $|\mathcal{A}| \in 2^{\mathcal{O}(|\phi|)}$ and:

- if ϕ is intentionally safe, then \mathcal{A} is tight for ϕ ;
- if ϕ is accidentally safe, then \mathcal{A} is fine for ϕ .

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Pros:

- it is exponentially smaller than \mathcal{A}_{bad}
- it is built using *alternating automata*

Cons:

- we sacrifice *minimality*
 - this may be good for model checking
 - less good for *monitoring*
- it is *nondeterministic* (differently from \mathcal{A}_{bad}):
 - ok for model checking
 - not ok for *reactive synthesis*



We know prove this result.

Theorem

For every LTL formula ϕ such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is safety, there exists a NFA \mathcal{A} that recognizes exactly the informative bad prefixes of ϕ and $|\mathcal{A}| \in 2^{\mathcal{O}(|\phi|)}$.

ALTERNATING AUTOMATA



Definition

An *alternating automaton* \mathcal{A} is a tuple $\mathcal{A} = \langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, F \rangle$ such that:

- Σ is the alphabet
- Q is the set of states
- $I \subseteq Q$ is the set of initial states
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^+(Q)$
- $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of final states

where $\mathbb{B}^+(Q)$ is the set of *positive* Boolean formulas over the variables in Q .

Example

$\mathcal{A} := \langle \{a, b, c\}, \{q_0, q_A, \bar{q}_A, q_B, \bar{q}_B\}, \{q_0\}, \delta, \{q_A, q_B\} \rangle$ where $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^+(Q)$ is defined as follows:

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • $\delta(q_0, *) = q_A \wedge q_B$ | • $\delta(\bar{q}_A, c) = \bar{q}_A$ |
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Definition (Run tree)

A run of an alternating automaton

$\mathcal{A} = \langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, F \rangle$ over a word

$\sigma := \langle \sigma_0, \sigma_1, \dots \rangle$ is a *Q-labeled tree* such that:

- the root is labeled with a initial state in I
- given a node q such that $\delta(q, \sigma) = \Phi$, the set of all its children $\{q_1, \dots, q_k\}$ must satisfy Φ .



If $\Phi := \top$, then q does not need to have children: possible *finite* branches even when reading *infinite* words.

Definition (Run tree)

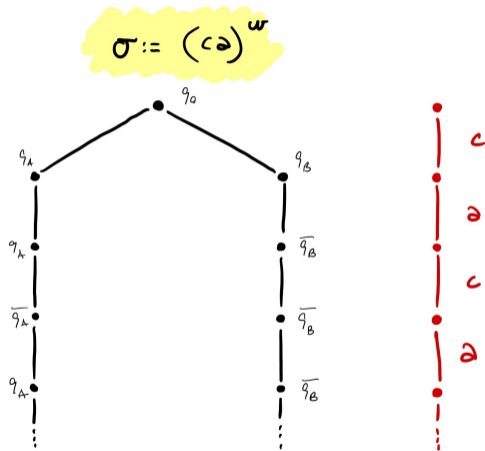
A run of an alternating automaton $\mathcal{A} = \langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, F \rangle$ over a word $\sigma := \langle \sigma_0, \sigma_1, \dots \rangle$ is a Q -labeled tree such that:

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In general, an alternating automaton can have *multiple* run trees over a given word.

Definition (Accepting run tree)

A **AFA** (*Alternating Finite Automata*) accepts a word σ iff **there exists** a run tree such that **all** its branches end in a final state.

A **ABA** (*Alternating Büchi Automata*) accepts a word σ iff **there exists** a run tree such that **all infinite** branches reaches a final state infinitely often.

- Note that in ABA we don't require anything for branches of finite length.



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- An NFA is a AFA such that, for each $q \in Q$ and for each $a \in \Sigma$, the Boolean formula $\delta(q, a)$ contains only *disjunctions*.
- An NBA is a ABA such that, for each $q \in Q$ and for each $a \in \Sigma$, the Boolean formula $\delta(q, a)$ contains only *disjunctions*.



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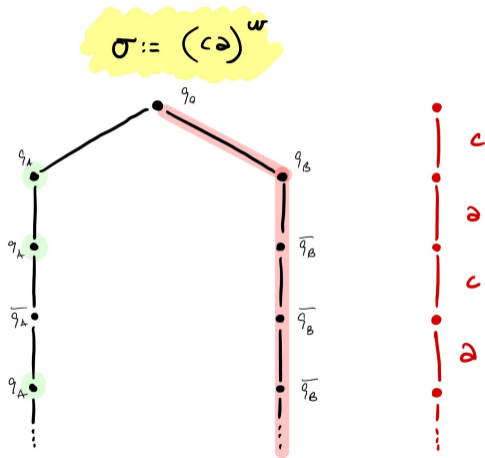
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- An NFA is a AFA such that, for each $q \in Q$ and for each $a \in \Sigma$, the Boolean formula $\delta(q, a)$ contains only *disjunctions*.
- An NBA is a ABA such that, for each $q \in Q$ and for each $a \in \Sigma$, the Boolean formula $\delta(q, a)$ contains only *disjunctions*.
- If $\delta(q, a)$ contains only *conjunctions*, for each $q \in Q$ and for each $a \in \Sigma$, the automaton is said to be *universal*.

Example

$\mathcal{A} := \langle \{a, b, c\}, \{q_0, q_A, \bar{q}_A, q_B, \bar{q}_B\}, \{q_0\}, \delta, \{q_A, q_B\} \rangle$ where $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^+(Q)$ is defined as follows:

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Which is the ω -language of this alternating automaton?



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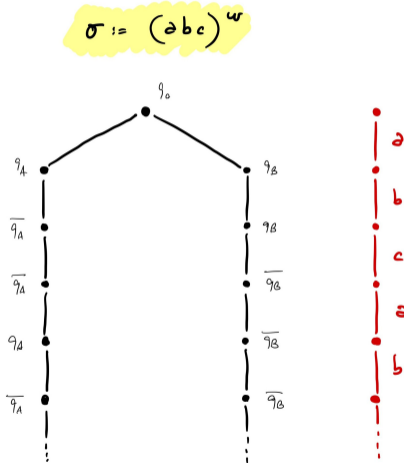
Which is the ω -language of this alternating automaton?

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) = \{\sigma \in \Sigma^\omega \mid \exists^\omega i . \sigma_i = a \wedge \exists^\omega i . \sigma_i = b\}$$

Example

$\mathcal{A} := \langle \{a, b, c\}, \{q_0, q_A, \bar{q}_A, q_B, \bar{q}_B\}, \{q_0\}, \delta, \{q_A, q_B\} \rangle$ where $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^+(Q)$ is defined as follows:

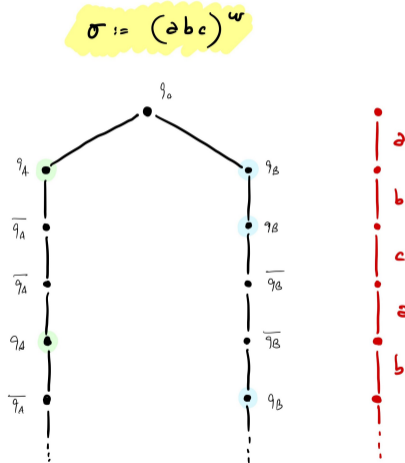
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • $\delta(q_0, *) = q_A \wedge q_B$ | • $\delta(\bar{q}_A, c) = \bar{q}_A$ |
| • $\delta(q_A, a) = q_A$ | • $\delta(q_B, a) = \bar{q}_B$ |
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| • $\delta(\bar{q}_A, b) = \bar{q}_A$ | • $\delta(\bar{q}_B, b) = q_B$ |
| | • $\delta(\bar{q}_B, c) = \bar{q}_B$ |





Definition

Given a LTL formula ϕ over \mathcal{AP} , we can effectively construct a ABA $\mathcal{A}_\phi = \langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, F \rangle$ with $\Sigma = 2^{\mathcal{AP}}$ such that $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_\phi) = \mathcal{L}(\phi)$ and $|\mathcal{A}_\phi| \in \mathcal{O}(|\phi|)$.

Proof.

We define the closure of ϕ , denoted with $\mathcal{C}(\phi)$, as the set of subformulas of ϕ (included ϕ itself) and their negations.

We define the set of states Q of \mathcal{A}_ϕ as $\mathcal{C}(\phi)$.

- \Rightarrow **states** of \mathcal{A}_ϕ are **subformulas** of ϕ



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Proof.

The ABA $\mathcal{A}_\phi = \langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, F \rangle$ is defined as follows:

- $\Sigma = 2^{\mathcal{AP}}$
- $Q := \mathcal{C}(\phi)$
- $I = \{\phi\}$
- $F = \{\psi := \neg(\alpha \mathbf{U} \beta) \mid \psi \in \mathcal{C}(\phi)\}$

Intuition on F :

- an infinite branch of a run tree reaching a state $G\alpha \equiv \neg(\top \mathbf{U} \neg\alpha)$ correctly ensures the realization of α at every step.
- an infinite branch of a run tree reaching a state $\alpha \mathbf{U} \beta$ can postpone the realization of β forever.



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- $F = \{\psi := \neg(\alpha \mathbf{U} \beta) \mid \psi \in \mathcal{C}(\phi)\}$

Intuition on F :

- We should *not allow* infinite branches which visit infinitely often a state $\alpha \mathbf{U} \beta$.
- The branches starting from a state $\alpha \mathbf{U} \beta$ that will realize β in the future will eventually take a \top -transition and thus are **finite** branches.



Definition

Given a LTL formula ϕ over \mathcal{AP} , we can effectively construct a ABA $\mathcal{A}_\phi = \langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, F \rangle$ with $\Sigma = 2^{\mathcal{AP}}$ such that $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_\phi) = \mathcal{L}(\phi)$ and $|\mathcal{A}_\phi| \in \mathcal{O}(|\phi|)$.

Proof.

For each $q \in Q$ and for each $a \in \Sigma$, we define $\delta(q, a)$ as follows:

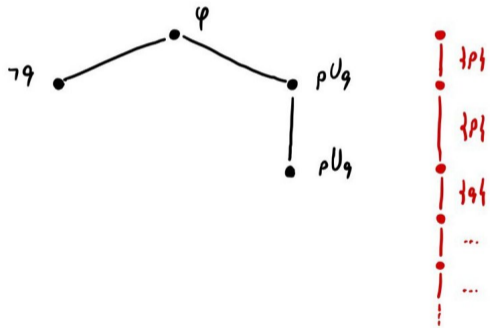
- $\delta(p, a) = \begin{cases} \top & \text{if } p \in a \\ \perp & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $\delta(\neg\psi, a) = \neg\delta(\psi, a)$
- $\delta(\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2, a) = \delta(\psi_1, a) \wedge \delta(\psi_2, a)$
- $\delta(\mathbf{X}\psi, a) = \psi$
- $\delta(\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2, a) = \delta(\psi_2, a) \wedge (\delta(\psi_1, a) \vee \psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2)$

Example

Let $\phi := \neg q \wedge X\neg q \wedge p \cup q$. We define the ABA \mathcal{A}_ϕ equivalent to ϕ as $\langle 2^{\mathcal{AP}}, Q, \{\phi\}, \delta, F \rangle$ where:

- $Q := \mathcal{C}(\phi) = \{\phi, \neg\phi, \neg q, q, X\neg q, \neg X\neg q, \dots, p \cup q, \neg(p \cup q)\}$
- $F := \{\neg(p \cup q)\}$

$$\sigma := (\{p\} \cdot \{p\} \cdot \{q\}) \cdot \Sigma^\omega$$

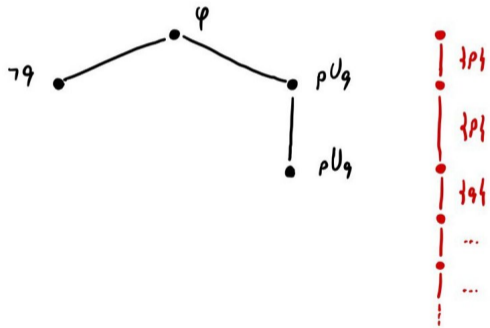


Example

Let $\phi := \neg q \wedge X\neg q \wedge p \cup q$. We define the ABA \mathcal{A}_ϕ equivalent to ϕ as $\langle 2^{\mathcal{AP}}, Q, \{\phi\}, \delta, F \rangle$ where:

- $\delta(\neg q, a) = \begin{cases} \top & \text{if } q \notin a \\ \perp & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $\delta(p, a) = \begin{cases} \top & \text{if } p \in a \\ \perp & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- $\delta(\phi, a) = \delta(\neg q, a) \wedge \delta(X\neg q, a) \wedge \delta(p \cup q, a)$
- $\delta(p \cup q, a) = \delta(q, a) \vee (\delta(p, a) \wedge p \cup q)$

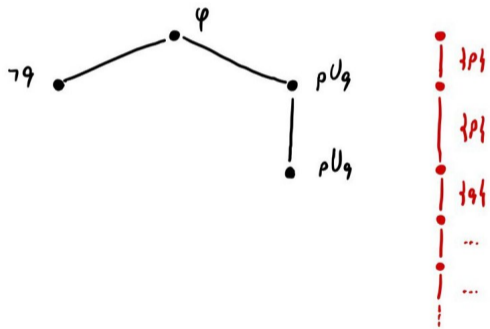
$$\sigma := (\{p\} \cdot \{p\} \cdot \{q\}) \cdot \Sigma^\omega$$



There are no infinite branches in the run tree

- in ABA, we don't require anything for finite branches
- \Rightarrow the word is **accepted**

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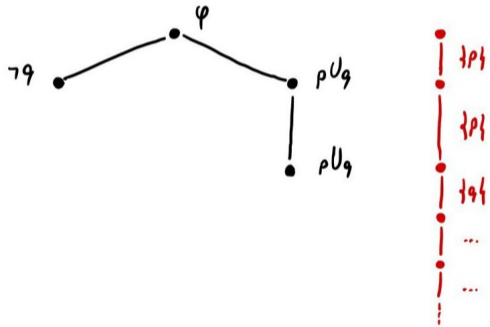
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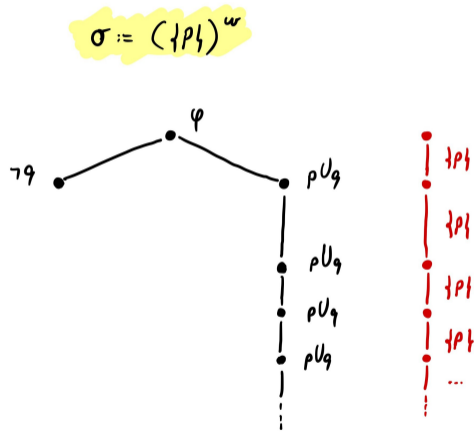
Note the similarities between taking a transition of type $\delta(q, a) = \top$ and informative prefixes:

- \Rightarrow a finite word σ induces a run tree of \mathcal{A}_ϕ that contains only branches reaching a transition of type $\delta(q, a) = \top$ **iff** σ is informative for ϕ

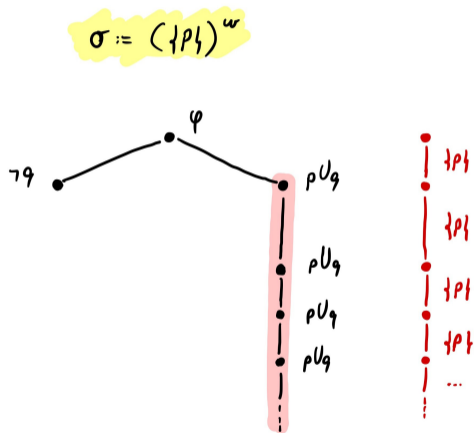
$$\sigma := (\{p\} \cdot \{p\} \cdot \{q\}) \cdot \Sigma^\omega$$



- any run tree for the ω -word $(\{p\})^\omega$ has an infinite branch going through state $p \cup q$ infinitely many times
- $p \cup q$ is **not** a final state
- $(\{p\})^\omega$ is **rejected**



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- $p \cup q$ is **not** a final state
- $(\{p\})^\omega$ is **rejected**





Theorem

For every LTL formula ϕ such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is safety, there exists a AFA \mathcal{A} that recognizes exactly the informative bad prefixes of ϕ and $|\mathcal{A}| \in \mathcal{O}(|\phi|)$.

Proof.

Let $\mathcal{A}_{\neg\phi} = \langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, F \rangle$ be the ABA for $\neg\phi$ (its size is linear in $|\phi|$).

We define $\mathcal{A}'_{\neg\phi}$ as $\langle \Sigma, Q, I, \delta, \emptyset \rangle$.

- the only way for $\mathcal{A}'_{\neg\phi}$ to accept a word having a run tree in which **all** branches take a transition of type $\delta(q, a) = \top$.
- this means that the word must be *informative* for $\neg\phi$.

The AFA for the informative bad prefixes of ϕ is obtained from $\mathcal{A}'_{\neg\phi}$ by setting the accepting condition to the case of finite words. \square

Consider the formula:

$$\phi := G(p \rightarrow (Xq \wedge X\neg q))$$

which is equivalent to $G(p)$.

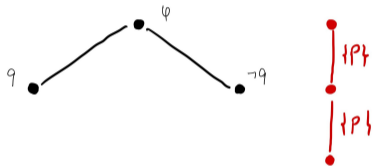
We have:

$$\neg\phi := F(p \wedge (Xq \vee X\neg q))$$

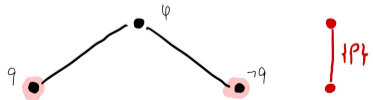
The AFA for the informative bad prefixes of ϕ is such that:

- it accepts the word $\{p\} \cdot \{p\}$, which is informative
- but it does **not** accept the *minimal* bad prefix $\{p\}$, which is not informative

$$\sigma := \{p\} \cdot \{p\}$$



$$\sigma := \{p\}$$





Theorem

For every SafetyLTL formula ϕ , there exists an AFA \mathcal{A} such that $|\mathcal{A}| \in \mathcal{O}(|\phi|)$ and

- if ϕ is intentionally safe, then \mathcal{A} is tight for ϕ ;
- if ϕ is accidentally safe, then \mathcal{A} is fine for ϕ ;

Proof.

Trivially follows from these three points.

- Let \mathcal{A} be the automaton for the informative bad prefixes of ϕ .
- Every bad prefix of an intentionally safe formula is informative.
 - $\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ is tight for ϕ
- Every violation of an accidentally safe formula contains an informative prefix.
 - $\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ is fine for ϕ





Theorem

For each AFA \mathcal{A} there exists an NFA \mathcal{A}' such that $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}') = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ and $|\mathcal{A}'| \in 2^{\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{A}|)}$.

Reference

Ashok K. Chandra, Dexter Kozen, and Larry J. Stockmeyer (1981).
“Alternation”. In: *J. ACM* 28.1, pp. 114–133. DOI: 10.1145/322234.322243. URL:
<https://doi.org/10.1145/322234.322243>

Theorem

For every LTL formula ϕ such that $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ is safety, there exists a NFA \mathcal{A} that recognizes exactly the informative bad prefixes of ϕ and $|\mathcal{A}| \in 2^{\mathcal{O}(|\phi|)}$.

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