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- 6 FOMLO = Counter-free automata (over finite orders)

Counter-free automata



Def. A sequence of states $q_0, q_1, \ldots q_m$ (for m > 0) in an automaton A is a counter for a string u if $\delta(q_i, u) = q_{i+1}$ where by convention $q_0 = q_{m+1}$.

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Theorem (MacNaughton) A language is definable by FOMLO formula iff it is accepted by a deterministic counter-free automaton iff it is definable by a star free regular expression.



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Hint: For every PSPACE TM M and a word u construct a

formula $\phi_{M,u}$ which is satisfiable iff M accepts u.



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Def (Type) Let ϕ be a formula A be a linear order with monadic predicates and b an element of A.

 $type_A^{\phi}(b) = \{ \psi \in Sub(\phi) : A, b \models \psi \}$





Then

1. For every $c \in A_3$

$$type^{\phi}_{A_1+A_2+A_3}(c) = type^{\phi}_{A_1+A_3}(c)$$

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$$type^{\phi}_{A_1+A_2+A_3}(c) = type^{\phi}_{A_1+A_2+A_2+A_3}(d)$$



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Then for every $d \in A_1 \cup A_2$ and $\psi \in Sub(\phi)$

$$A, d \models \psi \text{ iff } A_1 + \omega \times A_2, d \models \psi$$



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What is the length of v? $|v| \le 2^{|\phi|} \times |\phi|.$



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Algorithm If ϕ is satisfiable then there are exponentially small u and v such that $uv^{\omega}, 0 \models \phi$. An Algorithm guesses u and v and checks that the guesses are correct.



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Observation $type_A^{\phi}$ is a maximal boolean consistent subset of the subformulas of ϕ .



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Transitions Let a be the set of atomic propositions which are true at a state s. From s only a transitions are enabled.

$$s \rightarrow_a s'$$
 iff for every $\phi_1 U \phi_2 \in S$
either $\phi_2 \in s'$ or $\phi_1 \in s'$ and $\phi_1 U \phi_2 \in s'$



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Theorem Let $\sigma = s_0 a_0 s_1, a_1 \dots$ be a run of the automaton and let $u = a_0 a_1 \dots$ be the corresponding ω string. Then σ is an accepting run if and only if $u, 0 \models \phi$ and $s_i = type_u^{\phi}(i)$.



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Theorem Let $\sigma = s_0 a_0 s_1, a_1 \dots$ be a run of the automaton and let $u = a_0 a_1 \dots$ be the corresponding ω string. Then σ is an accepting run if and only if $u, 0 \models \phi$ and $s_i = type_u^{\phi}(i)$. **Proof.** The if direction is easy. The only if direction: by structural induction on formula for all *i* simultaneously show: if σ is an accepting run then $\psi \in s_i$ iff $u, i \models \psi$.