

# Coalgebraic Representation of Nondeterministic Systems and Büchi Automata

## Midterm Report Research Internship

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**Abstract.** *We provide an explanation of existing literature for describing Büchi automata coalgebraically using trace semantics. To do this we also explain the modal  $\mu$ -calculus and a coalgebraic model of nondeterministic systems. Finally, we outline our plans for the rest of the research internship.*

## 1 Introduction

*Büchi automata* and *nondeterministic systems* are crucial in theoretical computer science for modeling and verifying systems with infinite behaviors [3, 8]. Nondeterministic systems capture uncertainty and multiple outcomes, and are used in models like concurrent processes and nondeterministic Turing machines [ref needed]. Büchi automata, which are in general also nondeterministic, handle infinite sequences of events, crucial for verifying systems that run indefinitely, such as operating systems or network protocols.

*Coalgebra* provides an effective framework for modeling state-based, dynamic systems. Techniques such as *coinduction* allow for reasoning about infinite structures, while *bisimulation* offers a formal way to establish behavioral equivalence between systems [6]. By modeling Büchi automata coalgebraically, we unify these powerful tools for reasoning about infinite behaviors and nondeterminism.

The main goal of this report is to provide an understanding of the coalgebraic construction of Büchi automata described in [7]. To do so we also explain *modal  $\mu$ -calculus*, a system to verify properties of transition systems, and provide a coalgebraic model of nondeterministic systems, upon which the construction for the Büchi automata builds. By outlining these concepts we advance our first goal of the research internship, which is to gain an understanding of the current research into this topic.

Next to providing an overview of the available literature, we outline our plan for the rest of the internship. Our goal is to use *game semantics* as an alternative framework to derive the coalgebraic representation of Büchi automata. Game semantics is a framework of describing a system in terms of a two-player game between a *verifier* and a *refuter* who want to verify, respectively refute, a statement [3]. By utilizing game semantics we hope to provide a more intuitive proof of the existing results.

The document is outlined as follows. In Section 2 we provide some background and relevant definitions for the rest of the report. In Section 3 we give the main results from the studied literature, which is divided into: modal  $\mu$ -calculus in Section 2.4, coalgebraic model of nondeterministic systems in Section 3.1, and the coalgebraic model of Büchi automata in Section 3.2. Finally, in Section 5 we summarize the results and give our plans for the rest of the internship.

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## 2 Background

### 2.1 Büchi Automata

Let us consider a very simple motivating example of a Büchi automaton, shown in Figure 1.

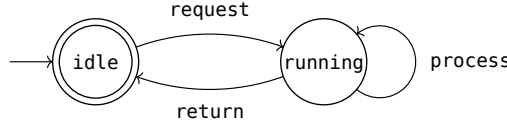


Figure 1: Example of a Büchi automaton.

This system represents some machine that takes requests, processes them, and returns some result. One might want to verify that this machine does not get stuck. In terms of the system shown, this would mean that the machine always ends up in the *idle* state again.

This behavior can be modeled using a Büchi automaton. A Büchi automaton, namely, is an automaton which models infinite behavior, and accepts those words for which there is a path through the automaton where the transitions are labeled by the letters of the word, and there is an accepting state that the path moves through infinitely many times. In this example, we make the *idle* state accepting, so the automaton accepts those words that always take the *return* transition again, and thus do not process indefinitely.

We can now give a formal definition of a Büchi automaton, and its *accepted language*:

**Definition 2.1:** A (nondeterministic) Büchi Automaton [3] is a tuple  $A = \langle S, \Sigma, \delta, s_0, F \rangle$ , with  $S$  a finite set of states,  $\Sigma$  the alphabet,  $s_0 \in S$  the initial state,  $\delta : S \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(S)$  the transition function,  $F \subseteq S$  the set of *final* (or *accepting*) states.

A *run* of a Büchi Automaton  $A$  on an  $\omega$ -word  $w = \sigma_0\sigma_1\ldots \in \Sigma^\omega$  is an infinite sequence of states  $s_0, s_1, \ldots \in S^\omega$ , such that  $s_0$  is the initial state and for every  $n \in \omega$ ,  $s_{n+1} \in \delta(s_n, \sigma_n)$ . A run is *accepting* if it passes through an accepting state infinitely many times. Equivalently (because  $F$  is finite), a run  $\rho = s_0, s_1, \ldots$  is accepted if  $\{i \mid s_i \in F\}$  is an infinite set. A word  $w$  is accepted by a Büchi automaton  $A$  if there is an accepting run of  $A$  on  $w$ . Finally, the accepted language  $L(A)$  of a Büchi automaton, is the set of words accepted by  $A$ .

Indeed we now see that the accepted language for the example automaton is  $(\text{request} \cdot \text{process}^* \cdot \text{return})^\omega$ . That is, the machine gets a request, processes for at most some *finite* number of transitions and then returns some result. It does not get stuck processing indefinitely.

### 2.2 Parity Tree Automata

Büchi automata are actually a specific instance of parity tree automata. In this section we introduce this more general automaton. The coincidence results presented in Section 3.2 in fact not only hold for Büchi automata, but also for parity tree automata.

Instead of the acceptance criterion for Büchi automaton, we can use the parity acceptance condition. In this case, the states are not divided into accepting and non-accepting, but rather for every state a priority function  $\Omega : S \rightarrow \omega$  determines its priority. A run  $\rho = s_0, s_1, \ldots$  of an automaton  $A$  on a word  $w$  is then accepting if the maximum priority that occurs infinitely often is even. I.e.,  $\max\{\Omega(s) \mid s \text{ occurs infinitely often in } \rho\}$  is even. The Büchi acceptance criterion is the special case where non-accepting states have parity 1 and accepting states have parity 2.

Secondly, instead of words we can run our automaton on trees. In this case the alphabet  $\Sigma$  is *ranked* and has an arity function  $|\_|\_ : \Sigma \rightarrow \omega$  indicating the number of branches a letter has. We denote the set of trees whose nodes are labeled with letters  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  and whose branching is consistent with the arity of the letters as  $\text{Tree}_\Sigma$ . For example, if  $|\sigma| = 2$  for all  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , a tree  $T \in \text{Tree}_\Sigma$  is binary tree with labels  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ . If  $|\sigma| = 1$  for all  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ,  $\text{Tree}_\Sigma$  is just the set of infinite words over  $\Sigma$ .

We can now define a parity tree automaton:

**Definition 2.2:** A (nondeterministic) Parity Tree Automaton [3, 7] is a tuple  $A = \langle S, \Sigma, \delta, s_0, \Omega \rangle$ , with  $S$  a finite set of states,  $\Sigma$  a ranked alphabet with arity function  $|\_|\_ : \Sigma \rightarrow \omega$ ,  $s_0 \in S$  the initial state,  $\delta : S \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(S^*)$  the transition function where for each  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  if  $|\sigma| = n$  then  $\delta(s)(\sigma) \subseteq S^n$ ,  $F \subseteq S$  the set of *final* (or *accepting*) states.

## 2.3 Fixed Points

Crucial for the next section, Section 2.4 about modal mu-calculus, is reasoning about *fixed points* of *monotone* functions. We briefly recall the important definitions and theorems.

**Definition 2.3:** A *complete lattice* is a partially ordered set  $\langle L, \leq \rangle$  such that every subset  $M \subseteq L$  has a least upper bound  $\bigvee M$  and greatest lower bound  $\bigwedge M$ . Specifically, the whole set  $L$  has a least and greatest element, which we denote  $\bigwedge L = \perp$  and  $\bigvee L = \top$ , respectively.

In this report we usually deal with the powerset of some set where subsets are ordered by inclusion. Indeed, for a set  $S$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{P}(S), \subseteq \rangle$  is a complete lattice. For  $U \subseteq \mathcal{P}(S)$ ,  $\bigvee U = \bigcup U$ , and  $\bigwedge U = \bigcap U$ . The least and greatest elements are  $\emptyset$  and  $S$ , respectively.

**Theorem 2.4** (Knaster-Tarski Fixed Point Theorem [1:Theorem 1.2.8]): Let  $\langle L, \leq \rangle$  a complete lattice and  $f : L \rightarrow L$  monotone ( $f(x) \leq f(y)$  when  $x \leq y$ ). Then, the set of fixed points  $\{x \in L \mid f(x) = x\}$ , is a complete lattice. Particularly, the function has a *least fixed point* (lfp) and a *greatest fixed point* (gfp).

There is a useful way of constructing these least and greatest fixed points. This is done by repeated function application on  $\perp$  for the least fixed point, and  $\top$  for the greatest fixed point. Concretely, we define for a monotone  $f : L \rightarrow L$ , for  $\alpha$  an ordinal, and  $\beta$  a limit ordinal:

$$\begin{aligned} f^0 &:= \perp \\ f^{\alpha+1} &:= (f^\alpha) \\ f^\beta &:= \bigvee \{f^\alpha \mid \alpha < \beta\} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

This constructs an increasing chain

$$\perp = f^0 \leq f^1 \leq f^2 \leq \dots \tag{2}$$

which eventually stabilizes, giving the least fixed point, as stated by the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.5** ([1:Theorem 1.2.11]): There exists an ordinal  $\kappa$ , such that  $f^\kappa = f^{\kappa+1}$ , which implies that  $f^\kappa$  is a fixed point of  $f$ . Furthermore,  $f^\kappa$  is the least fixed point of  $f$ . The dual process, beginning from  $\top$  and moving downward, constructs the greatest fixed point of  $f$ .

## 2.4 Modal Mu-Calculus

Modal mu-calculus is a powerful framework, used to verify properties of transition systems [1, 3]. We use it in Section 3.2 to select the right accepting words for our coalgebraic system. In this section we give a concrete definition of modal mu-calculus formulas and provide intuition on how to use it to verify certain properties.

In this section we will consider *labeled transition systems* (LTS) for which we will verify some properties. These systems are a little bit different than those we consider in the rest of the report, but they are useful for explaining modal mu-calculus. Concretely, an LTS is a tuple  $\langle X, \Sigma, \delta, Prop, \rho \rangle$ . Here  $X$  is the set of states,  $\Sigma$  the set of labels,  $\delta : X \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  the transition function (we write  $x \xrightarrow{a} y$  for  $y \in \delta(x)(a)$ ),  $Prop$  the set of atomic propositions, and  $\rho : Prop \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  which interprets the atomic propositions. Note that you can see an LTS as a nondeterministic finite automaton without accepting states where the states are labeled by atomic propositions  $\mathcal{P}(Prop)$ .

**Definition 2.6:** A modal mu-calculus formula is defined by the grammar:

$$\varphi := P \mid Z \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \mid [a]\varphi \mid \langle a \rangle \varphi \mid \neg \varphi \mid \mu Z. \varphi \mid \nu Z. \varphi \tag{3}$$

where  $P \in Prop$  is an atomic proposition,  $a \in \Sigma$  a label, and  $Z \in Var$  which is a set of second order variables. We require that in  $\nu Z.\varphi$  and  $\mu Z.\varphi$ , every occurrence of  $Z$  in  $\varphi$  is in the scope of an even number of negations, such that that  $\varphi$  is a monotone function.

Note that you could define the modal mu-calculus without the  $\forall$ ,  $\langle a \rangle$ , and  $\nu$  operators, and define these instead in terms of the other operators, but we include them in the definition for legibility. *this time whole semantics?*

**Definition 2.7:** We define the semantics of a modal mu-calculus formula for an LTS  $T$ , and an assignment  $V : Var \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
\|P\|_V^T &:= \rho(P) \\
\|Z\|_V^T &:= V(Z) \\
\|\neg\varphi\|_V^T &:= S \setminus \|\varphi\|_V^T \\
\|\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2\|_V^T &:= \|\varphi_1\|_V^T \cap \|\varphi_2\|_V^T \\
\|\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2\|_V^T &:= \|\varphi_1\|_V^T \cup \|\varphi_2\|_V^T \\
\|[a]\varphi\|_V^T &:= \{x \mid \forall y \in X. x \xrightarrow{a} y \Rightarrow y \in \|\varphi\|_V^T\} \\
\|\langle a \rangle\varphi\|_V^T &:= \{x \mid \exists y \in X. x \xrightarrow{a} y \Rightarrow y \in \|\varphi\|_V^T\} \\
\|\mu Z.\varphi\|_V^T &:= lfp(\lambda U. \|\varphi\|_{V[Z \mapsto U]}^T) = \bigcap \{U \subseteq X \mid U \subseteq \|\varphi\|_{V[Z \mapsto U]}^T\} \\
\|\nu Z.\varphi\|_V^T &:= gfp(\lambda U. \|\varphi\|_{V[Z \mapsto U]}^T) = \bigcup \{U \subseteq X \mid \|\varphi\|_{V[Z \mapsto U]}^T \subseteq U\}
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where  $V[Z \mapsto U]$  is the valuation  $V$  except that  $Z$  maps to  $U$ .

We do not give a formal definition of the semantics of the formulas for an LTS, but rather give an informal and intuitive explanation, see [1, 3] for the formal definition. We want to say whether in an LTS  $T$  a formula  $\varphi$  holds in a state  $x$ , which we denote  $x \models \varphi$ . The semantics are then roughly as follows:

- $x \models P$ , if the atomic proposition  $P$  holds in  $x$ ;
- $x \models \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ ,  $x \models \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$ , if in state  $x$  both or either, respectively, formulas  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  hold;
- $x \models [a]\varphi$  if for all  $a$  transitions taken from  $x$ ,  $\varphi$  holds in the next state;
- $x \models \langle a \rangle\varphi$  if there is some  $a$  transition from  $x$  where  $\varphi$  holds after the transition;
- $x \models \mu Z.\varphi$ , if  $x \in lfp(\lambda U. \|\varphi\|_{V[Z \mapsto U]}^T)$ , i.e.  $x$  is in the least fixed point of the monotone function that takes  $U$  and replaces every occurrence of  $Z$  in  $\varphi$  with  $U$ . Again, this is not a formal definition. The  $\nu$  operator is defined analogously for the greatest fixed point. We will see that, intuitively, the  $\mu$  operator is for finite looping and  $\nu$  is for infinite looping. To make this clear, let us look at the LTS given in Figure 2, and consider some examples of modal mu-calculus formulas.

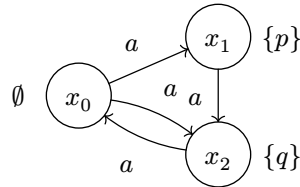


Figure 2: Example of an LTS. The sets next to the states denote the atomic propositions that hold in that state.

We have  $x_0 \models \langle a \rangle p$ , because there is an  $a$  transition that takes us to a state where  $p$  holds, namely  $x_0 \xrightarrow{a} x_1$ , because  $x_1 \models p$ . We, however, do not have  $x_0 \models [a]p$ , because  $x_0 \xrightarrow{a} x_2$  and  $x_2 \not\models p$ .

To observe that  $\mu$  incites finite looping, we look at the fact that  $x_0 \models \mu Z.q \vee [a]Z$ . This roughly means that all  $a$  paths have  $q$  eventually, which we can see holds in Figure 2. To more formally show that this holds, we make use of the method of constructing least and greatest fixed points in Theorem 2.5. The function we are calculating the

lfp for is  $f := \lambda U. \|q\| \cup \|[a]U\|$ . The first iteration yields  $f^1 = f(\emptyset) = \{x_2\}$ , because  $x_2 \models q$ . Continuing,  $f^2 = \{x_1, x_2\}$  and  $f^3 = \{x_0, x_1, x_2\} = f^4$ . So the lfp is the entire set of states  $X$ , and thus  $x_0 \models \mu Z. q \vee [a]Z$ .

Next we look at  $\nu$ , which can be used for infinite looping. We show that  $x_0 \models \nu Z. \langle a \rangle Z$ . This intuitively means that there exists an infinite path of  $as$ . Indeed, we observe there are multiple such paths, also starting at  $x_0$ . We confirm by computing the gfp:  $f^1 = f(X) = \langle a \rangle X = X$ . Dually, observe that the lfp of this formula is  $f^1(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ . So we do not have  $x_0 \models \mu Z. \langle a \rangle Z$ . This confirms the intuition given above that  $\mu$  is for finite looping: there has to be some end point of the loop.

### 2.4.1 System of Equations

Next we introduce a system of equations for alternating fixed points. We only show how such a system works for two equations to save space and because that is all we use in the rest of the report. For more detail into this specific topic see [1, 7].

**Definition 2.8:** Let  $L_1, L_2$  be partially ordered sets. An *equational system* is a system of two equations

$$u_1 \stackrel{=}{\eta_1} f_1(u_1, u_2) \quad u_2 \stackrel{=}{\eta_2} f_2(u_1, u_2) \quad (5)$$

where  $u_1, u_2$  are variables,  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in \{\mu, \nu\}$ , and  $f_i : L_1 \times L_2 \rightarrow L_i$  are monotone functions. The solution to the system is defined by the following set of steps:

The intermediate solution  $l_1^{(1)} := \eta_1 u_1. f_1(u_1, u_2)$ , where we take the lfp if  $\eta_1 = \mu$  and gfp if  $\eta_1 = \nu$ . Note that  $l_1^{(1)} : L_2 \rightarrow L_1$ .

The solution to the second equation is then given by  $l^{\text{sol}} := \eta_2 u_2. f_2(l_1^{(1)}(u_2), u_2)$ , where again we take the lfp if  $\eta_2 = \mu$ , and gfp if  $\eta_2 = \nu$ . The solution to the first equation is then  $l_1^{\text{sol}} = l_1^{(1)}(l_2^{\text{sol}})$ .

## 2.5 Parity Games

Next we introduce parity game and show how they can be used to give intuitive semantics for modal mu-calculus formulas. We use these semantics to prove the coincidence results in Section 4.

A parity game is a two player game between  $V$  (verifier) and  $R$  (refuter), who want to verify, respectively refute, a statement. In our case, this statement is  $s \models^T \varphi$ , i.e. that a modal mu-calculus formula holds in a state  $s$  in LTS  $T$ . So  $V$  wants to show  $s \models^T \varphi$  and  $R$  wants to show  $s \not\models^T \varphi$ . The game consists of states and transitions between these states. Every state ‘belongs’ to either  $V$  or  $R$ , which determines what player picks the next transition is taken and thus the next state. A play of the game is then a (possibly infinite) sequence of states, and is won by either  $V$  or  $R$ . Concretely we define:

**Definition 2.9** (Parity Game [3]): A parity game is a tuple  $((S_V, S_R), E, \Omega)$ , where  $S = S_V \sqcup S_R$  is the set of states. From the states  $S_V$  player  $V$  picks the transition and for  $S_R$  player  $R$  does.  $E \subseteq S \times S$  are transitions between the states.  $\Omega : S \rightarrow \omega$  is the parity function, which determines the winner for infinite plays.

A play of the game is a (possibly infinite) sequence of states  $s_1, s_2, \dots$  such that  $(s_i, s_{i+1}) \in E$ . A finite play is won by a player if the other player gets stuck, i.e. has no moves from a position. An infinite play  $\pi = s_1, s_2, \dots$  is won by  $V$  if  $\max\{\Omega(s) \mid s \text{ occurs infinitely often in } \pi\}$  is even, and won by  $R$  if it is odd.

Next, we introduce the parity game for the modal mu-calculus. Consider the formula  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$ .  $V$  wants to verify  $s \models^T \varphi$ , and to do so it suffices to show for either  $\varphi_i$  that  $s \models^T \varphi_i$ . Analogously for the formula  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$ ,  $R$  can ‘pick’ the  $\varphi_i$  such that  $s \not\models^T \varphi_i$ , because if either  $\varphi_1$  or  $\varphi_2$  does not hold,  $\varphi$  does not hold. This same duality is seen in  $\Diamond\varphi$  and  $\Box\varphi$  where for  $\Diamond$   $V$  can show there is a transition for which  $\varphi$  holds, and for  $\Box\varphi$ ,  $R$  can pick a transition such that  $\varphi$  does not hold. This way the game arises between  $V$  and  $R$  to determine whether  $s \models^T \varphi_i$ :

**Definition 2.10** (Parity Game for Modal mu-Calculus[3]): For a transition system  $T = (S, \rightarrow, \lambda)$  and a modal mu-calculus formula  $\varphi$ , we define the game  $\mathcal{G}(\varphi, T) = ((S_V, S_R), E, \Omega)$  where:

- The states of the game  $S_V \sqcup S_R = \{\varphi' \mid \varphi' \text{ is a subformula of } \varphi\} \times S$  are pairs of a subformula of  $\varphi$  and a state in the LTS. The subformula determines to what player the state belongs to. For a subformula  $\psi$  and a state  $s$  of the LTS:
  - $(\psi, s) \in S_V$  if
    - $\psi = \psi_1 \vee \psi_2$
    - $\psi = \Diamond\psi'$
    - $\psi = \eta Z.\psi'$  for  $\eta \in \{\mu, \nu\}$
    - $\psi = Z$  for  $Z$  a fixed point variable
    - $\psi = p$  for  $p$  a propositional variable with  $p \in \lambda(s)$ .
    - $\psi = \neg p$  for  $p$  a propositional variable with  $p \notin \lambda(s)$ .
  - $(\psi, s) \in S_R$ , if
    - $\psi = \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2$
    - $\psi = \Box\psi'$
    - $\psi = p$  for  $p$  a propositional variable with  $p \notin \lambda(s)$ .
    - $\psi = \neg p$  for  $p$  a propositional variable with  $p \in \lambda(s)$ .
- Edges  $E$ :
  - $(\psi_1 \vee \psi_2, s) \rightarrow (\psi_1, s)$  and  $(\psi_1 \vee \psi_2, s) \rightarrow (\psi_2, s)$
  - $(\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2, s) \rightarrow (\psi_1, s)$  and  $(\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2, s) \rightarrow (\psi_2, s)$
  - $(\Diamond\psi, s) \rightarrow (\psi, s')$  for any  $s'$  such that  $s \rightarrow s'$  in  $T$ .
  - $(\Box\psi, s) \rightarrow (\psi, s')$  for any  $s'$  such that  $s \rightarrow s'$  in  $T$ .
  - $(\eta Z.\psi, s) \rightarrow (\psi, s)$  and  $(Z, s) \rightarrow (\psi, s)$  for  $\eta \in \{\mu, \nu\}$
- The priority function  $\Omega$  depends on the *alternation depth*  $\alpha(\psi)$  of the subformula  $\psi$ , which is defined as follows:
  - $\alpha(p) = \alpha(\neg p) = 0$  for  $p$  a propositional variable
  - $\alpha(\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2) = \alpha(\psi_1 \vee \psi_2) = \max\{\alpha(\psi_1), \alpha(\psi_2)\}$
  - $\alpha(\Diamond\psi) = \alpha(\Box\psi) = \alpha(\psi)$
  - $\alpha(\mu Z.\psi) = \max(\{1, \alpha(\psi)\} \cup \{\alpha(\nu Z'.\psi' + 1) \mid \nu Z'.\psi' \text{ is a subformula of } \psi \text{ and } Z \text{ occurs free in } \psi'\})$
  - $\alpha(\nu Z.\psi) = \max(\{1, \alpha(\psi)\} \cup \{\alpha(\mu Z'.\psi' + 1) \mid \mu Z'.\psi' \text{ is a subformula of } \psi \text{ and } Z \text{ occurs free in } \psi'\})$

Intuitively, the alternation depth of a formula is the maximum number of alternating  $\mu/\nu$  operators, where we only count those alternations where the free variable actually occurs freely in the subformula, meaning the fixed point operators are actually interdependent.  $\Omega$  is then:

- $\Omega((\mu Z.\psi, s)) =$  the smallest odd number greater or equal than  $\alpha(\psi) - 1$
- $\Omega((\nu Z.\psi, s)) =$  the smallest even number greater or equal than  $\alpha(\psi) - 1$
- $\Omega((\psi, s)) = 0$  iff  $\psi$  is not a  $\mu$  or  $\nu$  formula.

Where the intuition for operators like  $\vee, \wedge, \Box, \Diamond$  is quite straightforward, for the  $\mu/\nu$  operators it is less so. Briefly put, it follows from what was explained in Section 2.4 that  $\mu$  incites finite looping, and  $\nu$  infinite looping. It can be seen from the definition for  $\Omega$  using the alternation depth, that outer  $\mu/\nu$  operators have higher priority than inner ones, and  $\mu$  is always even and  $\nu$  odd. Thus the highest priority occurring infinitely often in an infinite play indicates the outermost fixed point operator that is visited infinitely often. Thus, if this is even, we have an infinite loop through a  $\nu$  operator, which satisfies the formula. For a  $\mu$  operator, however, an infinite loop is undesired, and thus if the outermost fixed point operator which is visited infinitely often is  $\mu$ , it is not a least fixed point, and  $R$  has refuted the formula.

Now, to use this game to give alternative semantics for the modal mu-calculus we need that if  $s \models^T \varphi$  then  $V$  can verify this in the game  $\mathcal{G}(\varphi, T)$  by winning the game, and  $R$  can not win. We call this that  $V$  has a winning strategy:  $V$  can always play (i.e. take the right transition if it is their turn) such that regardless of what  $R$  plays,  $V$  wins the play. We then have the theorem, which is crucial for our derivation of the coincidence results in Section 4:

**Theorem 2.11** (Theorem 10.18 [3]):

$$s \models^T \varphi \Leftrightarrow V \text{ has a winning strategy in } \mathcal{G}(\varphi, T) \text{ starting in state } (\varphi, s) \quad (6)$$

The thorough explanation and rigorous proof are quite intricate, so to keep the presentation simple we limit ourselves to this intuition given above.

### 3 Coalgebraic Representation of Büchi Automata

#### 3.1 Finite Behavior Nondeterministic Systems

In this section we present a coalgebraic representation of nondeterministic systems. The next section for Büchi automata builds upon this construction.

##### 3.1.1 Deterministic Automata

First we consider a deterministic finite automaton,  $\langle X, \Sigma, \delta, o \rangle$  with  $X$  the states,  $\Sigma$  the alphabet,  $\delta : X \times \Sigma \rightarrow X$  the transition function, and  $o : X \rightarrow 2$  with  $2 = \{0, 1\}$ , the output function determining if a state is final. Such an automaton can be represented by a coalgebra  $c : X \rightarrow 2 \times X^\Sigma$  for the functor  $F(X) = 2 \times X^\Sigma$ . This is a very useful construction because a final coalgebra for this functor is carried by  $2^{\Sigma^*}$ , and the unique coalgebra homomorphism to this final coalgebra captures exactly the language accepted by a state [6]. This is shown in the commuting diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 2 \times X^\Sigma & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \text{beh}^\Sigma} & 2 \times (2^{\Sigma^*})^\Sigma \\ \uparrow \langle o, \delta \rangle & & \uparrow \langle e, d \rangle \\ X & \xrightarrow{\text{beh}} & 2^{\Sigma^*} \end{array} \quad (7)$$

Working out the paths through the diagram we obtain that

- $\text{beh}(x)(\varepsilon) = o(x)$ , and
- $\text{beh}(x)(\sigma w) = \text{beh}(\delta(x)(\sigma))(w)$ ,

for  $x \in X$ ,  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ,  $w \in \Sigma^*$ . So  $\text{beh}(x)$  accepts the empty word if  $x$  is a final state, and accepts  $\sigma w$  if  $\delta(x)(\sigma)$  accepts  $w$ . Which is precisely the language accepted by state  $x$  in the deterministic finite automaton!

##### 3.1.2 Finite Behavior Nondeterministic Systems

We would like to do the same thing for nondeterministic systems, but we run into a problem, which is highlighted by the following example, shown in Figure 3.

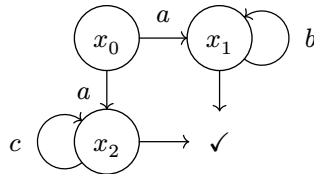


Figure 3: Example of a nondeterministic system.

The system is an LTS without atomic propositions but with termination, denoted by the transition to  $\checkmark$ . It is a nondeterministic system because in  $x_0$  there are two transitions for  $a$ , and in  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  the system can transition back to itself or to  $\checkmark$ . Intuitively, the finite words accepted by the system from state  $x_0$  should be

$$\text{beh}(x_0) = \{a, ab, abb, \dots\} \cup \{a, ac, acc, \dots\}. \quad (8)$$

This transitions system might be modeled by a coalgebra  $c : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times X)$ , i.e. for every state some subset of a terminating transition or reading a letter and transitioning to another state. The problem is that this functor  $FX = \mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times X)$  does not have a final coalgebra. Because, by Lambek's lemma, such a final coalgebra  $z : Z \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times Z)$  for some carrying object  $Z$ , would have to be an isomorphism [2]. But an isomorphism  $Z \cong \mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times Z)$  would imply a bijection between  $Z$  and  $\mathcal{P}(Z)$ , which cannot exist.

The solution, as given by Hasuo et al. [4], is to work in the Kleisli category for the monad  $\mathcal{P}$ . For this to work we have to define some details regarding construction of the coalgebra in the Kleisli Category. We give the resulting commuting diagram to show what we are working towards:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \overline{F}X & \xrightarrow{\overline{F}(\text{beh}_c)} & \overline{F}A \\
 c \uparrow & \cong \uparrow J\alpha^{-1} & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\text{beh}_c} & A
 \end{array} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P}). \tag{9}$$

Here  $c : X \rightarrow \overline{F}X = \mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times X)$  will be the coalgebra of our nondeterministic system, and  $\text{beh}_c : X \rightarrow A$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$  is the unique map from  $X$  to  $A$ , which contains the finite accepting words in the nondeterministic system. Key here is that because we are working in the Kleisli category the map  $\text{beh}_c$  is actually a map  $\text{beh}_c : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A)$  in the category **Sets**, which captures exactly the desired finite words, thus solving the problem when trying to obtain the final coalgebra in the category **Sets** directly.

So we need to define the Kleisli Category, and define the right functor in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$  to give us the desired words.

The powerset monad  $\mathcal{P}$  is defined by the unit  $\eta_X : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  which sends an element of  $X$  to the singleton set,  $\eta_X(x) = \{x\}$  for  $x \in X$ , and the multiplication  $\mu_X : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(X)) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  which takes the union of the sets, i.e.  $\mu_X(A) = \bigcup_{a \in A} a$ . For a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  we get  $\mathcal{P}(f) : \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)$  by  $\mathcal{P}(f)(A) = \{f(a) \mid a \in A\}$ . The Kleisli category for this monad is defined as follows:

- **objects**: the same as for **Sets**, sets
- **morphisms**: a morphism  $f$  from  $X$  to  $Y$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$  is a map  $f : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)$  in **Sets**. For morphisms  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$  (so  $f : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Z)$  in **Sets**) we define  $(g \circ f)$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$  as  $(\mu_Z \circ \mathcal{P}(g) \circ f)$  in **Sets**. Indeed  $(\mu_Z \circ \mathcal{P}(g) \circ f) : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Z)$ , so  $(g \circ f) : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Z)$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$ .

Next, we construct our functor in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$ , which we call the lifting of  $F$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$ , and denote  $\overline{F}$ . The key here is that because we are working in the Kleisli category, if we use the functor  $FX = 1 + \Sigma \times X$ , the coalgebra map  $c : X \rightarrow FX$ , will be a map  $c : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times X) = \overline{F}X$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$ , which is what we needed to model a nondeterministic transition.

This works easily on objects,  $\overline{F}X = FX$ , because in the Kleisli category, the objects are the same. But for morphisms we have to do a little bit more work. Observe that because a map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$  is a map  $f : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)$  in **Sets**, applying the functor on the map itself would yield  $Ff : FX \rightarrow F\mathcal{P}(Y)$ . So what we need is a natural transformation  $\lambda : F\mathcal{P} \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}F$ , such that  $1 + \Sigma \times (\mathcal{P}(X)) \xrightarrow{\lambda} \mathcal{P}(1 + \Sigma \times X)$ . We define this as  $* \mapsto \{*\}$  (note that we use  $1 = \{*\}$ ), and  $(\sigma, S) = \{(\sigma, x) \mid x \in S\}$  for  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  and  $S \subseteq X$ . This follows intuitively if you observe that if from state  $s$  taking transition  $\sigma$  takes you to  $\{x, y, z\}$  ( $(\sigma, \{x, y, z\}) \in c(s)$ , or  $\{x, y, z\} \in \delta(s)(\sigma)$ ), you can also see this as transitions  $\{(\sigma, x), (\sigma, y), (\sigma, z)\}$ .

Finally, the main theorem from [4] (Theorem 3.3), and the last ingredient to make the construction work is that the initial algebra for the functor  $F$  in sets, gives us the final coalgebra for the lifted functor  $\overline{F}$  in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$ . Specifically, for this functor  $FX = 1 + \Sigma \times X$  and its lifting as described above, the initial  $F$ -algebra  $\alpha : FA \rightarrow A$  in **Sets** yields a final  $\overline{F}$ -coalgebra in  $\mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P})$  by:

$$(J\alpha)^{-1} = J(\alpha^{-1}) = \eta_{FA}\alpha^{-1} : A \rightarrow \overline{F}A \text{ in } \mathcal{Kl}(\mathcal{P}) \tag{10}$$

where  $J = \eta_{FA}$  is the canonical adjunction associated with the Kleisli category [2, 4]. This result holds more generally: for the lifting monad  $\mathcal{L}$ , the subdistribution monad  $\mathcal{D}$ , and any shapely functor  $F$ , see [4] for more details.

Let us go back to our concrete example and instantiate the commuting diagram from before. The initial  $F$ -algebra for our functor  $FX = 1 + \Sigma \times X$  in **Sets** is  $[\text{nil}, \text{cons}] : 1 + \Sigma \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ . So we get the commuting diagram



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
1 + \Sigma \times X & \xrightarrow{\quad 1 + \Sigma \times \text{beh}_c \quad} & 1 + \Sigma \times \Sigma^* \\
\uparrow c & & \uparrow \cong \\
X & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{beh}_c \quad} & \Sigma^*
\end{array} \quad J[\text{nil}, \text{cons}]^{-1} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{KL}(\mathcal{P}).
\tag{11}$$

Following the paths within the diagram we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
\varepsilon \in \text{beh}_c(x) &\iff x \rightarrow \checkmark \\
\sigma w \in \text{beh}_c(x) &\iff \exists y. (x \xrightarrow{\sigma} y \wedge w \in \text{beh}_c(y)).
\end{aligned}
\tag{12}$$

Explained in words, a state accepts the empty word if it can transition to  $\checkmark$ , and it accepts  $\sigma w$  for  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  and  $w \in \Sigma^*$  if it can transition with  $\sigma$  to a state which accepts  $w$ . Which is exactly the desired words!

### 3.1.3 Possibly Infinite Behavior

As a step towards infinite words in Büchi automata let us consider infinite words in Figure 3. We can slightly alter our previous construction to additionally obtain infinite words through this system. Concretely, the infinite words for the system in Figure 3 for  $x_0$  are  $ab^\omega$  and  $ac^\omega$ .

The intuition for this new construction is as follows. In the previous section we constructed the final coalgebra for the lifted functor  $\overline{F}$  using the initial  $F$ -algebra in **Sets**. In the example of the LTS with termination the initial algebra was carried by  $\Sigma^*$ . The final coalgebra in **Sets** for  $F$  is carried by  $\Sigma^\infty = \Sigma^* \cup \Sigma^\omega$ , the set of finite and infinite words. So if we use this final coalgebra instead of the initial algebra, do we obtain both the finite and infinite words?

Consider again the monad  $\mathcal{P}$ , our functor  $F$  (this too holds more general, see [4, 5]), and its lifting in the Kleisli category  $\overline{F}$ . For a final coalgebra  $\xi : Z \rightarrow FZ$ , the coalgebra

$$J\xi : Z \rightarrow \overline{F}Z \text{ in } \mathcal{KL}(\mathcal{P}) \tag{13}$$

is *weakly final*. That means, for any coalgebra  $c : X \rightarrow \overline{F}X$ , there is a morphism  $\text{beh} : X \rightarrow Z$  in  $\mathcal{KL}(\mathcal{P})$  such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\overline{F}X & \xrightarrow{\quad \overline{F}(\text{beh}_c) \quad} & \overline{F}Z \\
\uparrow c & & \uparrow J\xi \\
X & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{beh}_c \quad} & Z
\end{array} \quad \cong \quad \text{in } \mathcal{KL}(\mathcal{P}),
\tag{14}$$

but this morphism is not necessarily unique. However, there is a canonical choice  $\text{beh}_c^\infty$  among these morphisms, namely the one which is maximal with respect to inclusion. We call this function  $\text{beh}_c^\infty : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Z)$  the *possibly-infinite* behavior for  $c$ .

Indeed, if we consider our running example LTS with termination,  $\xi : \Sigma^\infty \rightarrow 1 + \Sigma \times \Sigma^\infty$  is the final  $F$ -coalgebra. Defined by  $\xi(\varepsilon) = * \in 1$  and  $\xi(\sigma w) = (\sigma, w)$ . Instantiating the diagram in Equation 14, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\varepsilon \in \text{beh}_c(x) &\iff x \rightarrow \checkmark \\
\sigma w \in \text{beh}_c(x) &\iff \exists y. (x \xrightarrow{\sigma} y \wedge w \in \text{beh}_c(y)).
\end{aligned}
\tag{15}$$

Which is the same as in Equation 12. However, because the domain is  $\Sigma^\infty$ , we obtain different words when we take the maximal function satisfying these equations. Namely the finite words, in addition to the infinite ones! For the system in Figure 3 we get the same words as before, but additionally  $\{ab^\infty, ac^\infty\} \subseteq \text{beh}_c^\infty(x_0)$ . Interestingly, taking the minimum morphism we again obtain just the finite words [4, 5].

### 3.2 Coalgebraic Representation Büchi Automata

We can apply the previous framework for possibly infinite words to our initial example for a Büchi automaton, in Figure 1. This would yield all infinite words through automaton:  $(\text{request} \cdot \text{process}^\infty \cdot \text{return})^\omega$ . This is not quite the desired outcome yet, because  $\text{process}^\infty$  means it takes the **process** transition zero, some finite number, or an infinite number of times. How do we eliminate those words that process indefinitely? I.e. only accept those words under the Büchi acceptance criterion of passing through an accepting state infinitely many times.

A way of solving this is given by [7]. In short, the main idea of their paper is to divide the states into accepting and non-accepting states. Then, applying the previous construction using the final  $F$ -coalgebra in **Sets** we obtain two separate commuting diagrams for these disjoint sets of states. And finally, using greatest and least fixed points we can precisely pick exactly the accepting words for the Büchi automaton.

We first give the commuting diagrams which govern the behavior mappings. We are now considering Büchi automata, so the functor we consider is  $FX = \Sigma \times X$ , the final coalgebra for this functor is  $d : \Sigma^\omega \rightarrow \Sigma \times \Sigma^\omega$ , defined by  $d(\sigma \cdot w) = (\sigma, w)$ , and the monad is still  $\mathcal{P}$ . The lifting  $\bar{F}$  is effectively the same, just without a case for  $*$  in 1. We now consider the state space as a disjoint union  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$  of non-accepting and accepting states, respectively. This gives rise to two separate coalgebras  $c_i : X_i \rightarrow \bar{F}X$ , defined by the restriction  $c \circ \kappa_i : X_i \rightarrow \bar{F}X$  along the coprojection  $\kappa_i : X_i \hookrightarrow X$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ . We then get the two commuting diagrams:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Sigma \times [\text{beh}_1, \text{beh}_2] & & \Sigma \times [\text{beh}_1, \text{beh}_2] \\
 \Sigma \times X \rightsquigarrow \Sigma \times \Sigma^\omega & & \Sigma \times X \rightsquigarrow \Sigma \times \Sigma^\omega \\
 \uparrow c_1 & \begin{array}{c} \mu \\ \cong \end{array} & \uparrow Jd \\
 X_1 \rightsquigarrow \Sigma^\omega & \text{beh}_1 & X_2 \rightsquigarrow \Sigma^\omega \\
 & & \text{beh}_2
 \end{array} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{K}\ell(\mathcal{P}). \tag{16}$$

Where  $\overset{\mu}{=}$  and  $\overset{\nu}{=}$  mean that we take the lfp behavior mapping in the left diagram to obtain  $\text{beh}_1$ , and the gfp in the right diagram to obtain  $\text{beh}_2$ . More concretely,  $\text{beh}_1 : X_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega)$  and  $\text{beh}_2 : X_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega)$ , are the solutions to the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_1 &\overset{\mu}{=} (Jd)^{-1} \odot \bar{F}[u_1, u_2] \odot c_1 \\
 u_2 &\overset{\nu}{=} (Jd)^{-1} \odot \bar{F}[u_1, u_2] \odot c_2
 \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

---

**Lemma 31:** The traces

$$u_1 \overset{\mu}{=} (Jd)^{-1} \odot \bar{F}[u_1, u_2] \odot c_1 \quad u_2 \overset{\nu}{=} (Jd)^{-1} \odot \bar{F}[u_1, u_2] \odot c_2 \tag{18}$$

coincide with:

$$u_1 \overset{\mu}{=} \Diamond_\delta([u_1, u_2]) \upharpoonright X_1 \quad u_2 \overset{\nu}{=} \Diamond_\delta([u_1, u_2]) \upharpoonright X_2 \tag{19}$$

Where  $\Diamond_\delta : (\mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega))^X \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega))^X$  is given by

$$\Diamond_\delta(\text{beh})(x) = \{\sigma \cdot w \mid x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma), w \in \text{beh}(x')\}. \tag{20}$$

*Proof:* First we unfold some definitions:

$(Jd)^{-1} = J(d^{-1})$  and  $d^{-1} = \text{cons}$  and  $J = \eta_{\Sigma^\omega}$ , so  $J \circ d^{-1} = \eta_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ \text{cons}$ .

$\bar{F}[u_1, \dots, u_n] = \lambda_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ (\text{id} \times (u_1 + \dots + u_n))$  so let us call  $u_1 + \dots + u_n = \text{beh}$  and see that  $\text{id} \times \text{beh} : (\Sigma \times X) \rightarrow (\Sigma \times \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega))$ , maps a pair  $(\sigma, x)$  to  $(\sigma, \text{beh}(x))$ , i.e.  $\sigma$  and the language accepted by  $x$ . Combining with the natural transformation  $\lambda : (\Sigma \times \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega)) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times \Sigma^\omega)$  defined by  $\lambda(\sigma, W) = \{(\sigma, w) \mid w \in W\}$  we get  $\bar{F}[u_1, \dots, u_n](\sigma, x) = \{(\sigma, w) \mid w \in \text{beh}(x)\}$

$c_i = c \circ \kappa_i : X_i \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times X)$  in terms of the automaton is defined as  $c_i(x) = \{(\sigma, x') \mid x' \in X, \sigma \in \Sigma, x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma)\}$  for  $x \in X_i$ .

Combining these, and writing out the Kleisli composition in terms of functions in **Sets** we get:

$$(Jd)^{-1} \odot \overline{F}[u_1, \dots, u_n] \odot c_i = \mu_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ \mathcal{P}(\eta_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ \text{cons}) \circ (\mu_{\Sigma \times \Sigma^\omega} \circ \mathcal{P}(\lambda \circ (\text{id} \times (u_1 + \dots + u_n))) \circ c_i). \quad (21)$$

Observing that  $\mu_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ \mathcal{P}(\eta_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ \text{cons}) = \mathcal{P}(\text{cons})$ , letting  $u_1 + \dots + u_n = \text{beh}$  again and combining  $\mathcal{P}(\lambda \circ (\text{id} \times \text{beh}))$  and  $c_1$  by using our observations from above we obtain, for an  $x \in X_i$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mu_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ \mathcal{P}(\eta_{\Sigma^\omega} \circ \text{cons}) \circ (\mu_{\Sigma \times \Sigma^\omega} \circ \mathcal{P}(\lambda \circ (\text{id} \times (u_1 + \dots + u_n))) \circ c_1))(x) \\ &= \mathcal{P}(\text{cons})(\{(\sigma, w) \mid x' \in X, x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma), w \in [u_1, \dots, u_n](x')\}) \\ &= \{\sigma \cdot w \mid x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma), w \in \text{beh}(x')\} = \Diamond_\delta(\text{beh})(x) \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

□

By taking exactly those behavior mappings which are the solution to this system of equation, we take exactly those words that the Büchi automaton accepts. The proof that this works is mostly done in the following two lemmas.

**Lemma 3.2** ([7:Lemma 4.4]): Let  $\chi = ((X_1, X_2), \Sigma, \delta, s)$  be a Büchi automaton. Let  $l_1^{\text{sol}}, l_2^{\text{sol}}$  be the solutions to the following equational system, where the variables  $u_1, u_2$  range over  $\mathcal{P}(\text{Run}_\chi)$

$$u_1 \stackrel{\mu}{=} \Diamond_\chi^1(u_1 \cup u_2) \quad u_2 \stackrel{\nu}{=} \Diamond_\chi^2(u_1 \cup u_2) \quad (23)$$

Here:  $\Diamond_\chi^i : \mathcal{P}(\text{Run}_\chi) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\text{Run}_{\chi, X_i})$  is given by  $\Diamond_\chi^i R := \{(\sigma, x) \cdot \rho \mid \sigma \in \Sigma, x \in X_i, \rho = (\sigma_1, x_1)(\sigma_2, x_2) \dots \in R, x_1 \in \delta(x, \sigma)\}$ . Then  $l_1^{\text{sol}} = \text{AccRun}_{\chi, X_1}, l_2^{\text{sol}} = \text{AccRun}_{\chi, X_2}$ .

A formal proof is found in Appendix A, but we can use the intuition from Section 2.4 to gain an understanding as to why this lemma holds. Namely the fact that the  $\mu$  operator is for finite looping, it has to have some endpoint or exit out of the loop, and that  $\nu$  is for infinite looping. So the second equation makes sure the run passes through  $X_2$  infinitely many times. Note that it can still move through  $X_1$ , but it has to move through  $X_2$  infinitely many times. The first equation, with the  $\mu$  operator, makes sure that any run passing through  $X_1$  passes to the second equation in some finite number of steps, where it passes through  $X_2$  infinitely many times.

Note that this is where we think a game semantic view could be applied. We think we might be able to define an intuitive correspondence between taking transitions in the Büchi automaton and the runs ‘passing’ through the equations in Lemma 3.2, and use that to characterize a game to decide which words belong to  $\text{Lang}(\chi)$ .

Of course Lemma 3.2 worked with Runs, instead of actual words. The next lemma is closer to our desired result:

**Lemma 3.3** ([7:Lemma 4.5]): Let  $\chi = ((X_1, X_2), \Sigma, \delta, s)$  be a Büchi automaton. Let  $l_1^{\text{sol}}, l_2^{\text{sol}}$  be the solutions to the following equational system, where the variables  $u_1, u_2$  range over  $(\mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega))^{X_i}$

$$u_1 \stackrel{\mu}{=} \Diamond_\delta^1(u_1 \cup u_2) \quad u_2 \stackrel{\nu}{=} \Diamond_\delta^2(u_1 \cup u_2) \quad (24)$$

Where  $\Diamond_\delta^i : (\mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega))^X \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega))^{X_i}$  is given by

$$\Diamond_\delta^i(\text{beh})(x) = \{\sigma \cdot w \mid \sigma \in \Sigma, x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma), w \in \text{beh}(x')\}. \quad (25)$$

Then the solutions  $l_i^{\text{sol}} = \text{DelSt}(\text{AccRun}_{\chi, X_i})$ , i.e. the words accepted starting from  $X_i$ .

After observing that Equation 17 in fact coincides with the definition of  $\Diamond_\delta$ , we obtain the final theorem:

**Theorem 3.4** ([7:Theorem 4.6]): Let  $\chi = ((X_1, X_2), \Sigma, \delta, s)$  be a Büchi automaton. Then the behavior mappings  $\text{beh}_1, \text{beh}_2$ , which are the solution to the system of equations in Equation 17 coincide with the accepted language of  $\chi$ :  $\text{beh}(\chi) = [\text{beh}_1, \text{beh}_2] \odot s(*) = \text{Lang}(\chi)$ . Where we interpret  $s \subseteq X$  as  $s : 1 \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

## 4 Derivation of Coincidence Using Game Semantics

In this section we prove Theorem 3.4 using game semantics and in a very pretty way.

**Definition 4.1:** Let  $A = (X_1 \cup X_2, \Sigma, \delta)$  be a Büchi automaton, with states  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$  where  $X_2$  are the accepting states,  $\Sigma$  is the alphabet, and  $\delta : X \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  the transition function. We define a Transition System (TS) over the set of propositional variables  $\{p_1, p_2\}$  for this automaton, denoted as  $T_A$ , as follows:

- States are  $(x, w)$  for  $x \in X$  and  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$
- Transition  $(x, \sigma w) \rightarrow (x', w)$  for  $x, x' \in X, \sigma \in \Sigma, w \in \Sigma^\omega$ , iff  $x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma)$
- Labeling function given by  $\lambda((x, w)) = \{p_i\}$  iff  $x \in X_i$ , i.e. the propositional variables denote for what  $i$ , we have  $x \in X_i$ .

We observe how the formulas from Lemma 31 are built up and convert them. For example the closed formula for  $\text{beh}_1 : X_1 \rightarrow \Sigma^\omega$  for  $n = 2$  priorities, i.e. a Büchi automaton,  $\text{beh}_1 = \nu u_2. \Diamond_\delta [\mu u_1. [u_1, u_2] \uparrow X_1, u_2] \uparrow X_2$ . Let  $\varphi$  be such a formula, then:

- $\varphi = u$  a free variable, or
- $\varphi = \Diamond_\delta \varphi'$ , or
- $\varphi = \eta u. \varphi'$  where  $\eta \in \{\mu, \nu\}$ , or
- $\varphi = \varphi' \uparrow X_i$ , or
- $\varphi = [\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n]$

we also observe the implicit semantics of the formula  $\|\varphi\|$ : ...

**Definition 4.2:** So we convert a formula  $\varphi$ , to our desired formula  $\bar{\varphi}$  to conform to Definition 10.2[]:

- $\varphi = u$  a free variable then  $\bar{\varphi} = u$  also a free variable
- $\varphi = \Diamond_\delta \varphi'$  then  $\bar{\varphi} = \Diamond \bar{\varphi}'$
- $\varphi = \eta u. \varphi'$  for  $\eta \in \{\mu, \nu\}$  then  $\bar{\varphi} = \eta u. \bar{\varphi}'$
- $\varphi = \varphi' \uparrow X_i$  then  $\bar{\varphi} = p_i \wedge \bar{\varphi}'$
- $\varphi = [\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n]$  then  $\bar{\varphi} = (p_1 \wedge \bar{\varphi}_1) \vee \dots \vee (p_n \wedge \bar{\varphi}_n)$

**Lemma 4.3:** For a modal  $\mu$ -calculus formula  $\varphi$  (a la paper 1) and a valuation  $V : \text{Var} \rightarrow (X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\omega))$ ,  $x \in X, w \in \Sigma^\omega$ :

$$w \in \|\varphi\|_V(x) \Leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \|\bar{\varphi}\|_{\bar{V}}^{T_A} \quad (26)$$

where  $\bar{V}(U) = \{(x, w) \mid x \in X, w \in V(U)(x)\}$

*Proof:* We prove this by induction on the formula  $\varphi$ . The base case is  $\varphi = U$  a free variable:

$$w \in \|U\|_V(x) = V(U)(x) \Leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \bar{V}(U) = \|U\|_{\bar{V}}^{T_A}$$

Induction step:

- $\varphi = \mu U. \varphi'$ :

We have to show  $w \in \|\mu U. \varphi'\|_V(x) = \text{lfp}(\lambda u. \|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto u]}) \Leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \|\mu U. \bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}} = \text{lfp}(\lambda u. \|\bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}[U \mapsto u]})$ . Let  $W = \text{lfp}(\lambda u. \|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto u]})$ . We define  $\bar{W} = \{(x, w) \mid x \in X, w \in W(x)\}$  and show  $W = \text{lfp}(\lambda u. \|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto u]}) \Leftrightarrow \bar{W} = \text{lfp}(\lambda u. \|\bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}[U \mapsto u]})$ . For this we first prove that  $W$  is a fixed point iff  $\bar{W}$  is a fixed point:

Assume  $W$  is a fixed point, so  $\|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto W]} = W$ . We observe that for a valuation  $V$  and  $V'$  where  $V' = V[U \mapsto W]$ , we have the converted valuation  $\bar{V}' = \bar{V}[U \mapsto \bar{W}]$ . We use this to incite the IH to get  $w \in \|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto W]} \Leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \|\bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}[U \mapsto \bar{W}]}$ . Using this we get  $(x, w) \in \|\bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}[U \mapsto \bar{W}]} \Leftrightarrow w \in \|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto W]}(x) = W(x) \Leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \bar{W}$ , so  $\|\bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}[U \mapsto \bar{W}]} = \bar{W}$ , so  $\bar{W}$  is a fixed point.

Now assume  $\bar{W}$  is a fixed point, so  $\|\bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}[U \mapsto \bar{W}]} = \bar{W}$ . Then, for  $x \in X, W(x) = \{w \mid (x, w) \in \bar{W}\}$ . Applying IH like the previous case again we obtain  $w \in \|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto W]}(x) \Leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \|\bar{\varphi}'\|_{\bar{V}[U \mapsto \bar{W}]} = \bar{W} \Leftrightarrow w \in W(x)$ . So  $w \in \|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto W]}(x) \Leftrightarrow w \in W(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ , so  $\|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto W]} = W$ , so  $W$  is a fixed point.

Next, we show that  $W$  is the *least* fixed point iff  $\bar{W}$  is the *least* fixed point:

Assume  $W$  is a lfp, from above we know that  $\overline{W}$  is a fixed point. Take some other fixed point  $\overline{Y}$ , i.e.  $\|\varphi'\|_{\overline{V}[U \mapsto \overline{Y}]} = \overline{Y}$ . Now, again inciting what we showed above, we know  $Y$  is a fixed point, so  $\|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto \overline{Y}]} = \overline{Y}$ . So because  $W$  is the lfp, for all  $x$ ,  $W(x) \subseteq Y(x)$ . From this it follows that  $(x, w) \in \overline{W} \rightarrow w \in W(x) \rightarrow w \in Y(x) \rightarrow (x, w) \in \overline{Y}$ , so  $\overline{W} \subseteq \overline{Y}$ . So  $\overline{W}$  is the least fixed point.

For the other direction, assume  $\overline{W}$  is a least fixed point. Then  $W$  is a fixed point. Take some other fixed point  $Y$ , i.e.  $\|\varphi'\|_{V[U \mapsto Y]} = Y$ , then  $\overline{Y}$  is a fixed point. So because  $\overline{W}$  is the lfp, we have  $\overline{W} \subseteq \overline{Y}$ . Now for any  $w, x$  we have  $w \in W(x) \rightarrow (x, w) \in \overline{W} \rightarrow (x, w) \in \overline{Y} \rightarrow w \in Y(x)$ . So  $W \subseteq Y$ .

- $\varphi = \nu U. \varphi'$ :

This case is analogous to the  $\mu$  case. The first part proving  $W$  is a fixed point iff  $\overline{W}$  is a fixed point, and for proving  $W$  is a *greatest* fixed point iff  $\overline{W}$  is too you reason in the opposite direction as for  $\mu$ .

- $\varphi = \Diamond_\delta \varphi'$ :

$$w \in \|\Diamond_\delta \varphi'\|_V(x) = \{\sigma w \mid \exists x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma)[w \in \|\varphi'\|_V(x')]\} \stackrel{IH}{=} \{\sigma w \mid \exists x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma)[(x', w) \in \|\varphi'\|_{\overline{V}}]\} \leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \{(x, \sigma w) \mid \exists x' \in \delta(x)(\sigma)[(x', w) \in \|\varphi'\|_{\overline{V}}]\} = \|\Diamond_\delta \varphi'\|_{\overline{V}} \stackrel{TA}{=}$$

- $\varphi = \varphi' \upharpoonright X_i$ :

$$w \in \|\varphi' \upharpoonright X_i\|_V(x) \leftrightarrow x \in X_i \wedge w \in \|\varphi'\|_V(x) \stackrel{IH}{\leftrightarrow} x \in X_i \wedge (x, w) \in \|\overline{\varphi'}\|_{\overline{V}} \leftrightarrow (x, w) \in \|p_i \wedge \overline{\varphi'}\|_{\overline{V}}$$

- $\varphi = [\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n]$ :

$$\|\varphi\|_V(x) = \begin{cases} \|\varphi_1\|_V(x) & \text{if } x \in X_1 \\ \vdots \\ \|\varphi_n\|_V(x) & \text{if } x \in X_n \end{cases}, \text{ so let } w \in \|\varphi\|_V(x) \text{ for } x \in X_i, \text{ then } w \in \|\varphi_i\|_V(x) \text{ so by IH } (x, w) \in \|\overline{\varphi_i}\|_{\overline{V}}(x),$$

and because  $x \in X_i$ ,  $(x, w) \in X_i$ ,  $(x, w) \in \|p_i \wedge \overline{\varphi_i}\|_{\overline{V}}(x)$  and thus  $(x, w) \in \|(p_1 \wedge \overline{\varphi_1}) \vee \dots \vee (p_n \wedge \overline{\varphi_n})\|_{\overline{V}} = \|\overline{\varphi}\|_{\overline{V}}$ .

Now  $(x, w) \in \|\overline{\varphi}\|_{\overline{V}} = \|(p_1 \wedge \overline{\varphi_1}) \vee \dots \vee (p_n \wedge \overline{\varphi_n})\|_{\overline{V}}$ . Take  $i$  such that  $(x, w) \in \|p_i \wedge \overline{\varphi_i}\|_{\overline{V}}$  then we have  $x \in X_i$  and (by IH)  $w \in \|\varphi_i\|_V(x)$ , and by definition of  $\|[\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n]\|$  then  $w \in \|\varphi\|_V(x)$ .  $\square$

## 5 Conclusion and Future Work

In this report we have shown a coalgebraic representation of Büchi automata. The construction relies upon two key ideas: working in the Kleisli category for the monad  $\mathcal{P}$  and deriving two separate commuting diagrams for the accepting and non-accepting states and obtaining the right words by utilizing fixed point equations from these two mappings.

We explained the model in the Kleisli category in Section 3.1 by showing how to construct a final coalgebra for finite words for a nondeterministic system. Subsequently we constructed a weakly final coalgebra to additionally obtain the infinite words within such a system. Building upon these ideas we derived the coalgebraic construction for Büchi automata in Section 3.2, making use of the modal mu-calculus explained in Section 2.4.

We provided a proof for Lemma 3.2, but not for Lemma 3.3, which is crucial for coincidence result in Theorem 3.4, and thus understanding why the construction indeed provides the words accepted by the Büchi automaton. Therefore, the first next step in the internship will be understanding the proof provided by [7].

After understanding the full proof of the coincidence result, we can start to think about replacing it using a different framework. Our goal is to replace it using a game semantics framework, which we briefly explained in Section 2.4 in relation to the modal mu-calculus. There, we showed how one can see the check whether a formula holds in a state as a two player game between a verifier and a refuter, who want to verify, respectively refute, that the formula holds. Our vision is that this view can be applied to whether a word is accepted by the coalgebraic model of a Büchi automaton, and that this could simplify the result.

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## A Proofs

*Proof of Lemma 3.2:* We prove this in three steps: we show some properties for the first intermediate solution  $l_1^{(1)}$ , subsequently we use that to show  $l_2^{\text{sol}} = \text{AccRun}_{\chi, X_2}$ , and finally we use both results to show  $l_1^{\text{sol}} = \text{AccRun}_{\chi, X_1}$ .

Let  $|\rho|$  denote the length of the run  $\rho$ .

Let  $k \in \omega$ ,  $u_2 \in \mathcal{P}(\text{Run}_{\chi, X_2})$ , and any (possibly infinite) run  $\rho = (\sigma_1, x_1)(\sigma_2, x_2) \dots \in \text{Run}_{\chi}$ ,

$$\rho \in [\lambda u_1. \Diamond_{\chi}^1(u_1 \cup u_2)]^k(\emptyset) \quad (27)$$

if and only if there exists an  $i \leq k$ , such that for all  $j \leq i$  we have  $x_j \in X_1$  and  $(\sigma_{i+1}, x_{i+1})(\sigma_{i+2}, x_{i+2}) \dots \in u_2$ . Meaning, for  $i$  steps the run passes through  $X_1$  and after that it moves into  $u_2$ .

This is the case because when applying the function on  $k$  times there occur at most  $k$  steps in  $X_1$  due to the  $\Diamond$  operator. After this the run has to move into  $u_2$ . The other direction is obvious.

Now we observe that

$$l_1^{(1)}(u_2) = \mu u_1. \Diamond_{\chi}^1(u_1 \cup u_2) = \bigcup_{k \in \omega} [\lambda u_1. \Diamond_{\chi}^1(u_1 \cup u_2)]^k(\emptyset) \quad (28)$$

So  $\rho \in \mu u_1. \Diamond_{\chi}^1(u_1 \cup u_2)$  if and only if the run  $\rho$  moves after some finite number of steps into  $u_2$ .

Now for  $k \in \omega$ , and a (possibly infinite) run  $\rho = (\sigma_1, x_1)(\sigma_2, x_2) \dots \in \text{Run}_{\chi}$ ,

$$\rho \in [\lambda u_2. \Diamond_{\chi}^2(l_1^{(1)}(u_2) \cup u_2)]^k(\text{Run}_{\chi, X_2}). \quad (29)$$

if and only  $|\{i \mid x_i \in X_2\}| \geq k$ , i.e. we have passed through  $X_2$  at least  $k$  times.

This is because, again, we take some number of steps in  $X_2$  due to the  $\Diamond$  operator, and between these steps we can ‘pass through’  $l_1^{(1)}$  but then, as shown above, the run has to move back to  $X_2$ .

Analogous to the least fixed point, we now observe that

$$l_2^{\text{sol}} = \nu u_2. \Diamond_{\chi}^2(l_1^{(1)}(u_2) \cup u_2) = \bigcap_{k \in \omega} [\lambda u_2. \Diamond_{\chi}^2(l_1^{(1)}(u_2) \cup u_2)]^k(\text{Run}_{\chi, X_2}). \quad (30)$$

So  $\rho \in \nu u_2. \Diamond_{\chi}^2(l_1^{(1)}(u_2) \cup u_2)$  if and only if for all  $k$   $\rho$  has moved through  $X_2$  at least  $k$  times. Meaning,  $\rho$  has passed through  $X_2$  infinitely many times. So  $l_2^{\text{sol}} = \text{AccRun}_{\chi, X_2}$ .

Finally,

$$l_1^{\text{sol}} = l_1^{(1)}(l_2^{\text{sol}}). \quad (31)$$

So for  $\rho \in l_1^{\text{sol}}$ , in finitely many steps the run moves to  $l_2^{\text{sol}}$ , for which it passes infinitely many times through  $X_2$ . So  $l_1^{\text{sol}} = \text{AccRun}_{\chi, X_1}$ .  $\square$