CS 228 : Logic in Computer Science

S. Krishna

So Far

- Satisfiability of FO over words
- Model checking
 - System abstracted as a model DFA/NFA A
 - Specification written in FO as formula φ
 - ▶ Does system model $\models \varphi$
 - ▶ $L(A) \subseteq L(\varphi)$?
 - $L(A) \cap \overline{L(\varphi)} = \emptyset?$
- FO-definable ⊆ REG, converse?

Monadic Second Order Logic (MSO)

Symbols in MSO

Formulae of MSO, over signature τ , are sequences of symbols, where each symbol is one of the following:

Symbols in MSO

Formulae of MSO, over signature τ , are sequences of symbols, where each symbol is one of the following:

- ► The symbol ⊥ called false
- ▶ An element of the infinite set $V_1 = \{x_1, x_2, ...\}$ of first order variables
- ▶ An element of the infinite set $V_2 = \{X_1, X_2, ...\}$ of second order variables where each variable has arity 1 (new!)
- Constants and relations from \(\tau \)
- The symbol → called implication
- ► The symbol ∀ called the universal quantifier
- ► The symbols (and) called paranthesis

Well formed Formulae

A well-formed formula (wff) over a signature τ is inductively defined as follows:

Well formed Formulae

A well-formed formula (wff) over a signature τ is inductively defined as follows:

- I is a wff
- ▶ If t_1 , t_2 are either variables or constants in τ , then $t_1 = t_2$ is a wff
- ▶ If t_i is either a first order variable or a constant, for $1 \le i \le k$ and R is a k-ary relation symbol in τ , then $R(t_1, \ldots, t_k)$ is a wff
- ▶ If *t* is either a first order variable or a constant, *X* is a second order variable, then *X*(*t*) is a wff
- If φ and ψ are wff, then $\varphi \to \psi$ is a wff
- ▶ If φ is a wff and x is a first order variable, then $(\forall x)\varphi$ is a wff
- ▶ If φ is a wff and X is a second order variable, then $(\forall X)\varphi$ is a wff

Free and Bound Variables

- ▶ Free, Bound Variables and Scope same as in FO
- ▶ In a wff $\varphi = \forall X\psi$, every occurrence of X in ψ is bound
- A sentence is a formula with no free first order and second order variables

Assignments on τ -structures

Assignments

For a τ -structure A, an assignment over A is a pair of functions (α_1, α_2) , where

▶ $\alpha_1 : \mathcal{V}_1 \to u(\mathcal{A})$ assigns every first order variable $x \in \mathcal{V}_1$ a value $\alpha_1(x) \in u(\mathcal{A})$. If t is a constant symbol c, then $\alpha_1(t)$ is $c^{\mathcal{A}}$.

Assignments on τ -structures

Assignments

For a τ -structure \mathcal{A} , an assignment over \mathcal{A} is a pair of functions (α_1, α_2) , where

- ▶ $\alpha_1 : \mathcal{V}_1 \to u(\mathcal{A})$ assigns every first order variable $x \in \mathcal{V}_1$ a value $\alpha_1(x) \in u(\mathcal{A})$. If t is a constant symbol c, then $\alpha_1(t)$ is $c^{\mathcal{A}}$.
- $\alpha_2: \mathcal{V}_2 \to 2^{u(\mathcal{A})}$ assigns to every second order variable $X \in \mathcal{V}_2$, $\alpha_2(X) \subseteq u(\mathcal{A})$.

Assignments on τ -structures

Assignments

For a τ -structure \mathcal{A} , an assignment over \mathcal{A} is a pair of functions (α_1, α_2) , where

- ▶ $\alpha_1 : \mathcal{V}_1 \to u(\mathcal{A})$ assigns every first order variable $x \in \mathcal{V}_1$ a value $\alpha_1(x) \in u(\mathcal{A})$. If t is a constant symbol c, then $\alpha_1(t)$ is $c^{\mathcal{A}}$.
- ▶ $\alpha_2 : \mathcal{V}_2 \to 2^{u(\mathcal{A})}$ assigns to every second order variable $X \in \mathcal{V}_2$, $\alpha_2(X) \subseteq u(\mathcal{A})$.

Binding on a Variable

For an assignment
$$\alpha=(\alpha_1,\alpha_2)$$
 over \mathcal{A} , and $x\in\mathcal{V}_i,\ i=1,2,$ $\alpha_i[x\mapsto a]$ is the assignment $\alpha_i[x\mapsto a](y)=\left\{\begin{array}{c} \alpha_i(y),\ y\neq x,\\ a,y=x \end{array}\right.$

Satisfaction

We define the relation $\mathcal{A}\models_{\alpha}\varphi$ (read as φ is true in \mathcal{A} under the assignment α) inductively:

Satisfaction

We define the relation $\mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha} \varphi$ (read as φ is true in \mathcal{A} under the assignment α) inductively:

- $\triangleright \mathcal{A} \nvDash_{\alpha} \bot$
- \blacktriangleright $\mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha} t_1 = t_2 \text{ iff } \alpha_1(t_1) = \alpha_1(t_2)$
- $ightharpoonup \mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha} R(t_1,\ldots,t_k) \text{ iff } (\alpha_1(t_1),\ldots,\alpha_1(t_k)) \in R^{\mathcal{A}}$
- $ightharpoonup \mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha} X(t) \text{ iff } \alpha_1(t) \in \alpha_2(X) \text{ (new)}$
- $\blacktriangleright \ \mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha} (\varphi \to \psi) \text{ iff } \mathcal{A} \nvDash_{\alpha} \varphi \text{ or } \mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha} \psi$
- $ightharpoonup \mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha} (\forall x) \varphi \text{ iff for every } a \in u(\mathcal{A}), \mathcal{A} \models_{\alpha[x \mapsto a]} \varphi$
- $ightharpoonup A \models_{\alpha} (\forall X) \varphi$ iff for every $S \subseteq u(A)$, $A \models_{\alpha[X \mapsto S]} \varphi$ (new)

Recall the signature for the graph structure, $\tau = \{E\}$

▶ The graph is 3-colorable

Recall the signature for the graph structure, $\tau = \{E\}$

► The graph is 3-colorable

$$\exists X \exists Y \exists Z (\forall x [X(x) \lor Y(x) \lor Z(x)] \land$$

$$\forall x \forall y [E(x,y) \rightarrow \{\neg (X(x) \land X(y)) \land \neg (Y(x) \land Y(y)) \land \neg (Z(x) \land Z(y))\}])$$

Recall the signature for the graph structure, $\tau = \{E\}$

▶ The graph has an independent set of size $\ge k$

Recall the signature for the graph structure, $\tau = \{E\}$

▶ The graph has an independent set of size $\ge k$

$$\exists I \{ \forall x \forall y [(\neg (x = y) \land I(x) \land I(y)) \rightarrow \neg E(x, y)] \land$$

$$\exists x_1 \dots x_k [\bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (x_i = x_j) \land \bigwedge_i I(x_i)] \}$$

Recall the signature τ for the word structure, $\tau = \{Q_a, Q_b, <, S\}$ for $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

▶ Words of even length

Recall the signature τ for the word structure, $\tau = \{Q_a, Q_b, <, S\}$ for $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

Words of even length

$$\exists E \exists O \{ \forall x [(first(x) \rightarrow E(x)) \land (last(x) \rightarrow O(x))]$$

Recall the signature τ for the word structure, $\tau = \{Q_a, Q_b, <, S\}$ for $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

▶ Words of even length

$$\exists E\exists O\{\forall x[(\textit{first}(x) \rightarrow E(x)) \land (\textit{last}(x) \rightarrow O(x))]$$

$$\land \forall x [(E(x) \lor O(x)) \land \neg (E(x) \land O(x))]$$

Recall the signature τ for the word structure, $\tau = \{Q_a, Q_b, <, S\}$ for $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

Words of even length

$$\exists E \exists O\{\forall x [(first(x) \to E(x)) \land (last(x) \to O(x))]$$

$$\land \forall x [(E(x) \lor O(x)) \land \neg (E(x) \land O(x))]$$

$$\land \forall x \forall y [S(x,y) \land O(x) \to E(y)]$$

$$\land \forall x \forall y [S(x,y) \land E(x) \to O(y)]\}$$

CS 228 S Krishna IIT Bombay MSO on Words: Satisfiability

MSO on Words

▶ Signature $\tau = (Q_{\Sigma}, <, S)$, domain or universe = set of positions of a word

MSO on Words

- ▶ Signature $\tau = (Q_{\Sigma}, <, S)$, domain or universe = set of positions of a word
- ▶ MSO over words: Atomic formulae

$$X(x)|Q_{\Sigma}(x)|x = y|x < y|S(x,y)$$

MSO on Words

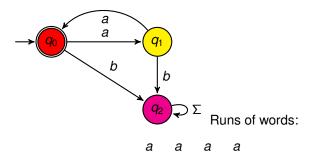
- Signature τ = (Q_Σ, <, S), domain or universe = set of positions of a word
- MSO over words: Atomic formulae

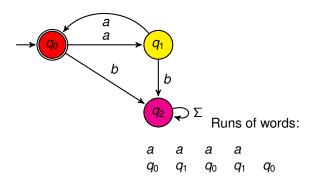
$$X(x)|Q_{\Sigma}(x)|x = y|x < y|S(x,y)$$

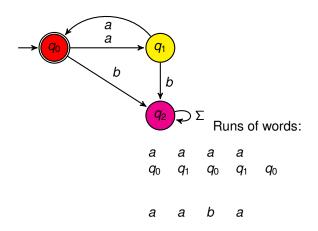
- ▶ Given a MSO sentence φ , $L(\varphi)$ defined as usual
- ▶ A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is MSO definable iff there is an MSO formula φ such that $L = L(\varphi)$
- ▶ Given an MSO sentence φ , is it satisfiable/valid?

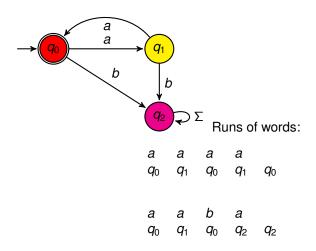
MSO Expressiveness

- ► Clearly, *FO* ⊆ *MSO*
- ► FO ⊂ Regular
- ► MSO=Regular









Given a regular language L, and a DFA such that L = L(A),

Run of a word : at every position of the word, we are in some unique state

Given a regular language L, and a DFA such that L = L(A),

Run of a word : at every position of the word, we are in some unique state

```
Position x: 0 1 2 3

a a b a

q_0 q_1 q_0 q_2 q_2
```

Given a regular language L, and a DFA such that L = L(A),

Run of a word : at every position of the word, we are in some unique state

```
Position x: 0 1 2 3

a a b a

g_0 g_1 g_0 g_2 g_2
```

For a state q ∈ Q, let X_q=the set of positions of the word where the state is q in the run

Given a regular language L, and a DFA such that L = L(A),

Run of a word : at every position of the word, we are in some unique state

Position
$$x$$
: 0 1 2 3
 a a b a
 g_0 g_1 g_0 g_2 g_2

- ► For a state $q \in Q$, let X_q =the set of positions of the word where the state is q in the run
- $X_{q_0} = \{0,2\}, X_{q_1} = \{1\}, X_{q_2} = \{3\}$

Given a regular language L, and a DFA such that L = L(A),

Run of a word : at every position of the word, we are in some unique state

Position
$$x$$
: 0 1 2 3
 a a b a
 g_0 g_1 g_0 g_2 g_2

- ► For a state $q \in Q$, let X_q =the set of positions of the word where the state is q in the run
- $X_{q_0} = \{0,2\}, X_{q_1} = \{1\}, X_{q_2} = \{3\}$
- ▶ The initial position of any word must belong to X_{q_0} : $0 \in X_{q_0}$

- If a word wa is accepted, then
 - ▶ The last position x of the word satisfies $Q_a(x)$
 - For some state q, we have $X_q(x)$ and there is a transition $\delta(q,a)=q_f\in F$

- If a word wa is accepted, then
 - ▶ The last position x of the word satisfies $Q_a(x)$
 - For some state q, we have $X_q(x)$ and there is a transition $\delta(q,a)=q_f\in F$

```
Position x: 0 1 2 3

a a b a

q_0 q_1 q_0 q_2 q_2
```

- If a word wa is accepted, then
 - ▶ The last position x of the word satisfies $Q_a(x)$
 - For some state q, we have $X_q(x)$ and there is a transition $\delta(q,a)=q_f\in F$

Position
$$x$$
: 0 1 2 3
 a a b a
 q_0 q_1 q_0 q_2 q_2

- ▶ $Q_a(3)$ and $3 \in X_{q_2}$. $\delta(q_2, a) = q_2 \notin F$
- ▶ If x, y are consecutive positions in the word, and if $X_q(x) \wedge Q_a(x)$, then it must be that $X_t(y)$ such that $\delta(q, a) = t$

- If a word wa is accepted, then
 - ▶ The last position x of the word satisfies $Q_a(x)$
 - For some state q, we have $X_q(x)$ and there is a transition $\delta(q,a)=q_f\in F$

Position
$$x$$
: 0 1 2 3
 a a b a
 q_0 q_1 q_0 q_2 q_2

- ▶ $Q_a(3)$ and $3 \in X_{q_2}$. $\delta(q_2, a) = q_2 \notin F$
- If x, y are consecutive positions in the word, and if $X_q(x) \wedge Q_a(x)$, then it must be that $X_t(y)$ such that $\delta(q, a) = t$
- $ilde{\ } X_{q_0}(0), X_{q_1}(1) \text{ and } Q_a(0). \ \delta(q_0, a) = q_1.$
- $ilde{ } X_{q_1}(1), X_{q_0}(2) \text{ and } Q_a(1). \ \delta(q_1, a) = q_0.$

Given a DFA $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, a word w is accepted iff it satisfies

$$\exists X_0 \exists X_1 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge$$

CS 228 S. Krishna IIT Bombay

Given a DFA $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, a word w is accepted iff it satisfies

$$\exists X_0 \exists X_1 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge$$

$$[\exists x (first(x) \land X_0(x))] \land$$

Given a DFA $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, a word w is accepted iff it satisfies

$$\exists X_0 \exists X_1 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \exists X_0 \exists X_1 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \exists X_0 \exists X_1 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \exists X_0 \exists X_1 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \exists X_0 \exists X_0 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \exists X_0 \exists X_0 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \exists X_0 \exists X_0 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x)) \} \}$$

$$[\exists x (first(x) \land X_0(x))] \land$$

$$\forall x \forall y [S(x,y) \rightarrow \bigvee_{\delta(i,a)=i} [X_i(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_j(y)]] \land$$

CS 228 S Krishna IIT Bombay

Given a DFA $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, a word w is accepted iff it satisfies

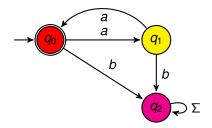
$$\exists X_0 \exists X_1 \dots X_n \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \vee \dots \vee X_n(x)) \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x))] \wedge \forall x \bigwedge_{i \neq j} \neg (X_i(x) \wedge X_j(x)) \}$$

$$[\exists x (first(x) \land X_0(x))] \land$$

$$\forall x \forall y [S(x,y) \rightarrow \bigvee_{\delta(i,a)=j} [X_i(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_j(y)]] \land$$

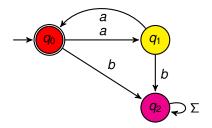
$$\exists x [last(x) \land \bigvee_{\delta(i,a)=j \in F} [X_i(x) \land Q_a(x)]] \}$$

• $w \in L(A)$ iff $w \models \varphi$

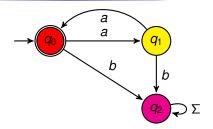


$$\exists X_0 \exists X_1 \exists X_2 \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \lor X_1(x) \lor X_2(x)) \land \forall x [\neg (X_0(x) \land X_1(x)) \land \neg (X_0(x) \land X_2(x)) \land \neg (X_1(x) \land X_2(x))] \land$$

CS 228 IIT Bombay S. Krishna

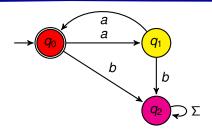


CS 228 S. Krishna IIT Bombay



$$\exists X_0 \exists X_1 \exists X_2 \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \lor X_1(x) \lor X_2(x)) \land \forall x [\neg (X_0(x) \land X_1(x)) \land \\ \neg (X_0(x) \land X_2(x)) \land \neg (X_1(x) \land X_2(x))] \land [\exists x (\textit{first}(x) \land X_0(x))] \land \\ \forall x \forall y [S(x,y) \rightarrow [(X_0(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_1(y)) \lor \\ (X_0(x) \land Q_b(x) \land X_2(y)) \lor (X_1(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_0(y)) \lor \\ (X_1(x) \land Q_b(x) \land X_2(y)) \lor (X_2(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_2(y)) \lor (X_2(x) \land Q_b(x) \land X_2(y))]]$$

CS 228 S. Krishna IIT Bombay



$$\exists X_0 \exists X_1 \exists X_2 \{ [\forall x (X_0(x) \lor X_1(x) \lor X_2(x)) \land \forall x [\neg (X_0(x) \land X_1(x)) \land \\ \neg (X_0(x) \land X_2(x)) \land \neg (X_1(x) \land X_2(x))] \land [\exists x (\textit{first}(x) \land X_0(x))] \land \\ \forall x \forall y [S(x,y) \rightarrow [(X_0(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_1(y)) \lor \\ (X_0(x) \land Q_b(x) \land X_2(y)) \lor (X_1(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_0(y)) \lor \\ (X_1(x) \land Q_b(x) \land X_2(y)) \lor (X_2(x) \land Q_a(x) \land X_2(y)) \lor (X_2(x) \land Q_b(x) \land X_2(y))]]$$

 $\wedge \exists x [last(x) \wedge (X_1(x) \wedge Q_a(x))] \}$

MSO to Regular Languages

- ▶ Every MSO sentence φ over words can be converted into a DFA A_{φ} such that $L(\varphi) = L(A_{\varphi})$.
- Start with atomic formulae, construct DFA for each of them.
- Conjunctions, Disjunctions, Negation easily handled via union, intersection and complementation of respective DFA
- Handling quantifiers?

Q_a(x): All words which have an a. Need to fix a position for x, where a holds.

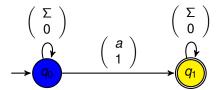
- Q_a(x): All words which have an a. Need to fix a position for x, where a holds.
- ► Think of a word *baab* which satisfies $Q_a(x)$ as $\begin{cases} baab \\ 0010 \end{cases}$ or $\begin{cases} baab \\ 0100 \end{cases}$

CS 228 S. Krishna IIT Bombay

- Q_a(x): All words which have an a. Need to fix a position for x, where a holds.
- ► Think of a word *baab* which satisfies $Q_a(x)$ as $\begin{cases} baab \\ 0010 \end{cases}$ or $\begin{cases} baab \\ 0100 \end{cases}$
- The first row is over Σ, and the second row captures a possible assignment to x

- Q_a(x): All words which have an a. Need to fix a position for x, where a holds.
- ► Think of a word *baab* which satisfies $Q_a(x)$ as $\begin{pmatrix} baab \\ 0010 \end{pmatrix}$ or $\begin{pmatrix} baab \\ 0100 \end{pmatrix}$
- The first row is over Σ, and the second row captures a possible assignment to x
- ▶ Think of an extended alphabet $\Sigma' = \Sigma \times \{0,1\}$, and construct an automaton over Σ' .

- Q_a(x): All words which have an a. Need to fix a position for x, where a holds.
- ► Think of a word *baab* which satisfies $Q_a(x)$ as $\begin{cases} baab \\ 0010 \end{cases}$ or $\begin{cases} baab \\ 0100 \end{cases}$
- The first row is over Σ, and the second row captures a possible assignment to x
- ▶ Think of an extended alphabet $\Sigma' = \Sigma \times \{0,1\}$, and construct an automaton over Σ' .
- Deterministic, not complete.



 $ightharpoonup Q_a(x) \wedge X(x)$ means that the position x is in the set X, and letter a is true when x = 1.

S. Krishna IIT Bombay

- ▶ $Q_a(x) \land X(x)$ means that the position x is in the set X, and letter a is true when x = 1.
- ▶ Think of a word *baab* which satisfies $Q_a(x) \land X(x)$ as

baab baab 0010 or 0100 DD1D D1DD

where D stands for dont care. X can have value 0 or 1 at D.

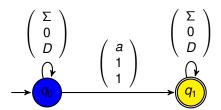
- ▶ $Q_a(x) \land X(x)$ means that the position x is in the set X, and letter a is true when x = 1.
- ▶ Think of a word *baab* which satisfies $Q_a(x) \wedge X(x)$ as

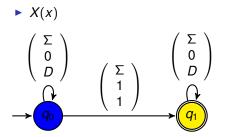
baab baab 0010 or 0100 DD1D D1DD

where D stands for dont care. X can have value 0 or 1 at D.

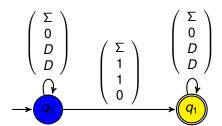
▶ However, the position where x = 1 must belong to X.

- The first row is over Σ, and the second row captures a possible assignment to x, and the third row captures a possible assignment to X.
- ▶ Think of an extended alphabet $\Sigma' = \Sigma \times \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\}$, and construct an automaton over Σ' .
- ▶ $Q_a(x) \land X(x)$: deterministic, not complete





$$\rightarrow X(x) \land \neg Y(x)$$



Formulae to DFA

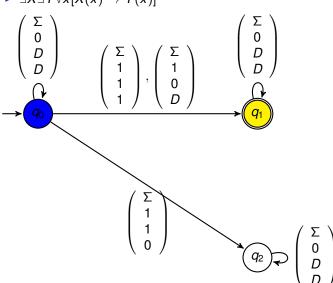
▶ Given $\varphi(x_1, \ldots, x_n, X_1, \ldots, X_m)$, an MSO formula over Σ , consider the extended alphabet

$$\Sigma' = \Sigma \times \{0,1\}^{m+n}$$

- ► Assign values to x_i , X_j at every position as seen in the cases of atomic formulae
- ▶ Keep in mind that every x_i can be assigned 1 at a unique position

Handling Quantifiers

 $\exists X \exists Y \forall x [X(x) \to Y(x)]$



CS 228 S. Krishna IIT Bombay

Points to Remember

- ▶ Given $\varphi(x_1, \ldots, x_n, X_1, \ldots, X_m)$, construct automaton for atomic MSO formulae over the extended alphabet $\Sigma \times \{0, 1\}^{m+n}$
- ► Intersect with the regular language where every x_i is assigned 1 exactly at one position
- ▶ Given a sentence $Q_{x_1} \dots Q_{x_n} Q_{X_1} \dots Q_{X_m} \varphi$, first construct the automaton for the formula $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, X_1, \dots, X_m)$
- ▶ Replace \forall in terms of \exists

Points to Remember

- ▶ Given the automaton for $\varphi(x_1, \ldots, x_n, X_1, \ldots, X_n)$, the automaton for $\exists X_i \varphi(x_1, \ldots, x_n, X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ is obtained by projecting out the row of X_i
- This may result in an NFA
- ▶ Determinize it and complement it to get a DFA for $\neg \exists x_i \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, X_1, \dots, X_n)$
- ▶ Intersect with the regular language where each of $x_1, \ldots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \ldots, x_n$ are assigned 1 exactly at one position

The Automaton-Logic Connection

Given any MSO sentence φ , one can construct a DFA A_{φ} such that $L(\varphi) = L(A_{\varphi})$. If a language L is regular, one can construct an MSO sentence φ such that $L = L(\varphi)$.