

# CYCLIC SYSTEM FOR AN ALGEBRAIC THEORY OF ALTERNATING PARITY AUTOMATA

Anupam Das    Abhishek De

University of Birmingham

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Analytic Tableaux and Related Methods*

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- 1 Languages of infinite words
- 2 A cyclic proof system
- 3 Metalogical results
- 4 Conclusions

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- States may be  **$\exists$ istentially** or  **$\forall$ niversally** branching.
- Each state is **coloured** by a natural number.
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### Fact

$L \subseteq \mathcal{A}^\omega$  is recognised by an APA  $\iff L = \bigcup_{i < \omega} A_i B_i^\omega$ , for  $A_i, B_i$  regular and  $\nexists \varepsilon$ .

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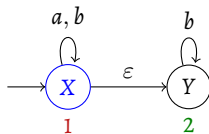
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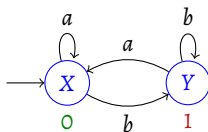
**NB:** there are **many equivalent models** of automata for  $\omega$ -regular languages, but APAs enjoy **elegant symmetries**.

## EXAMPLES OF APAS

*finitely many as :*



*infinitely many as :*



**Key**

○ : existential state

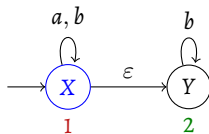
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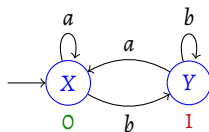
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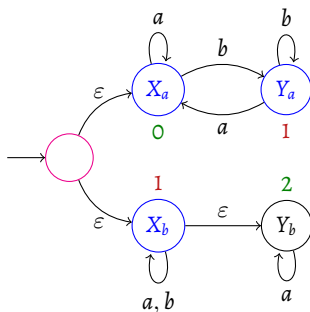
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infinitely many as

and :

finitely many bs







We can reason about APAs via **expressions with fixed points**.

**RLL expressions:**

$$e, f, \dots ::= X \mid ae \mid \begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ \text{T} \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} e + f \\ e \cap f \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{c} \mu X e \\ \nu X e \end{array}$$

**NB:** symmetry of APAs is reflected by **duality of syntax**.

This syntax can be seen as an *alternative* to the modal logic  $\mu\text{LTL}$ .

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**Language semantics:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{L}(A) := A & \mathcal{L}(ae) := \{aw \mid w \in \mathcal{L}(e)\} \\ \mathcal{L}(O) := \emptyset & \mathcal{L}(T) := \mathcal{A}^\omega \\ \mathcal{L}(e + f) := \mathcal{L}(e) \cup \mathcal{L}(f) & \mathcal{L}(e \cap f) := \mathcal{L}(e) \cap \mathcal{L}(f) \\ \mathcal{L}(\mu X e(X)) := \text{LFP}[A \mapsto \mathcal{L}(e(A))] & \mathcal{L}(\nu X e(X)) := \text{GFP}[A \mapsto \mathcal{L}(e(A))] \end{array}$$

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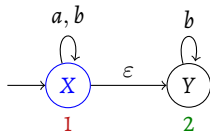
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**NB:** Knaster-Tarski Theorem  $\implies \mathcal{L}(e)$  is **well-defined**.

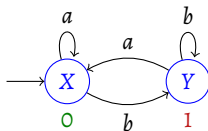
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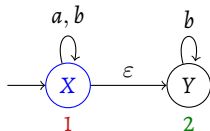
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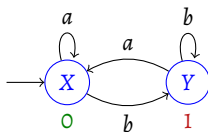
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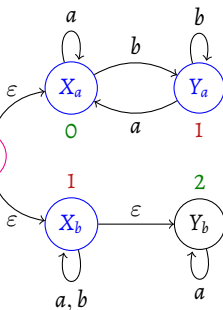
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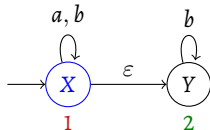
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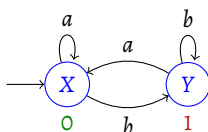
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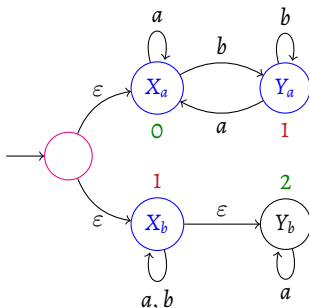
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**NB:** equivalence between an expression and associated APA is **not immediate**...

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$(w, \top)$	$\forall$	
$(w, e + f)$	$\exists$	$(w, e), (w, f)$
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$(w, \mu X e(X))$	-	$(w, e(\mu X e(X)))$
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By now standard techniques we can show:

**Theorem (Adequacy)**

$w \in \mathcal{L}(e) \iff \exists$  has a (positional) winning strategy from  $(w, e)$ .

$\rightsquigarrow$  an RLL expression and its associated APA compute the same  $\omega$ -language.



### Algebraic vs modal perspectives:

There is already a syntax for APAs: the modal logic  $\mu\text{LTL}$ !

- RLL expressions are based in the **language of lattices** while  $\mu\text{LTL}$  is based in the language of **Boolean algebras**. (*no complements!*)
- Resulting theories are subtly but formally different: there are *Right-linear Lattices* that are **not Boolean algebras**, and **not complete lattices** [Kai95, DD25].
- Nonetheless, we are heavily inspired by previous work for  $\mu$ -calculi, in particular [DHL06]: we are using now **standard techniques**, cf. [NW96].

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Our work is building on the *algebraic tradition*:

- *Kleene algebras*, for regular expressions, recast as *Right-linear algebras* (RLAs) [DD24b]. (*no multiplication!*) Both may be construed a **theory of NFAs**.
- RLLs strictly extend RLAs, unlike  $\omega$ -regular algebras.  
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***This work is an application of cyclic proofs to algebras for regularity.***



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## SOME PRINCIPLES IN $\mathcal{L}$

- ①  $(0, \top, +, \cap)$  forms a *bounded distributive lattice*.
- ② Each  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  is a (lower) semibounded lattice **homomorphism**:

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$$a(e + f) = ae + af$$

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- ④  $\mu Xe(X)$  is a **least prefixed point** of  $X \mapsto e(X)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}e(\mu Xe(X)) &\leq \mu Xe(X) \\ e(f) \leq f &\implies \mu Xe(X) \leq f\end{aligned}$$

- ⑤  $\nu Xe(X)$  is a **greatest postfix point** of  $X \mapsto e(X)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\nu Xe(X) &\leq e(\nu Xe(X)) \\ f \leq e(f) &\implies f \leq \nu Xe(X)\end{aligned}$$

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**$\mathcal{A}$  rules:**

$$\text{p-l} \frac{}{ae, bf \rightarrow a \neq b} \quad \text{h}_a \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \Delta}{a\Gamma \rightarrow a\Delta} \quad \text{p-r} \frac{\{\rightarrow \Gamma_a\}_{a \in \mathcal{A}}}{\rightarrow \{a\Gamma_a\}_{a \in \mathcal{A}}}$$

**Fixed point rules:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mu\text{-l} \frac{\Gamma, e(\mu Xe(X)) \rightarrow \Delta}{\Gamma, \mu Xe(X) \rightarrow \Delta} & \mu\text{-r} \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \Delta, e(\mu Xe(X))}{\Gamma \rightarrow \Delta, \mu Xe(X)} \\ \nu\text{-l} \frac{\Gamma, e(\nu Xe(X)) \rightarrow \Delta}{\Gamma, \nu Xe(X) \rightarrow \Delta} & \nu\text{-r} \frac{\Gamma \rightarrow \Delta, e(\nu Xe(X))}{\Gamma \rightarrow \Delta, \nu Xe(X)} \end{array}$$

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**NB:** these rules **do not guarantee extremality** of fixed points!



## ENTER CYCLIC PROOFS

### Definition

- **Preproofs** are generated **coinductively** from the inference rules.
- A preproof is **cyclic/regular** if it has only **finitely many** distinct sub-preproofs.
- A **proof** is a preproof where each infinite branch has a ‘**good formula trace**’.

‘**Good formula traces**’ given by  $\exists$ -winning plays on RHS, or  $\forall$ -winning plays on LHS.

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## Example

$a^\omega$  has infinitely many as

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 \hline
 \nu\text{-l}, \nu\text{-r} \frac{}{\nu X(aX) \rightarrow i_a} \bullet \\
 \hline
 h_a \frac{}{a\nu X(aX) \rightarrow ai_a} \\
 \hline
 +\text{-r}, \text{wk-r} \frac{}{a\nu X(aX) \rightarrow ai_a + bi'_a} \\
 \hline
 \mu\text{-r} \frac{}{a\nu X(aX) \rightarrow i'_a} \\
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 \nu\text{-l}, \nu\text{-r} \frac{}{\nu X(aX) \rightarrow i_a} \bullet
 \end{array}$$

$a^\omega$  does not have finitely many as

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 \hline
 \circ \\
 \hline
 h_a \frac{f_a, \nu Y(aY) \rightarrow}{af_a, a\nu Y(aY) \rightarrow} \text{ (easy)} \\
 \hline
 +\text{-l} \frac{}{af_a + bf_a + \nu Y(bY), a\nu Y(aY) \rightarrow} \\
 \hline
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 \hline
 \nu\text{-l} \frac{f_a, \nu Y(aY) \rightarrow}{f_a, \nu Y(aY) \rightarrow} \circ \\
 \hline
 \cap\text{-l} \frac{}{f_a \cap \nu Y(aY) \rightarrow}
 \end{array}$$

## A MORE INTERESTING EXAMPLE

*Any  $\omega$ -word over  $\{a, b\}$  has finitely many as or infinitely many as*

### Key

$$b^\omega := \nu Y(bY)$$

$$i'_a := \mu Y(ai_a + bY)$$

## Correctness

— $\circ^\omega$  : orange trace good

- <sup>ω</sup> : green trace good

 $(-\bullet-\circ)^\omega$  : green/blue trace good

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## Theorem (Soundness)

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### Proof idea.

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- Let  $\epsilon/\alpha$  be  $\exists/\forall$  **winning strategies** from  $(w, e)/(w, f)$ , by adequacy.
- $\epsilon, \alpha$  together **determine an infinite branch**  $B_{\epsilon, \alpha}$  of  $P$ :
  - $\epsilon$  decides the direction at a left branching rule;
  - $\alpha$  decides the direction at a right branching rule.
- By construction, any LHS / RHS trace of  $B_{\epsilon, \alpha}$  is a play of  $\epsilon/\alpha$ .  
 $\therefore$  so  $B_{\epsilon, \alpha}$  has **no good trace**. □



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## Corollary

$\text{CRL} \vdash e \rightarrow f \implies \mathcal{L}(e) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(f)$ .

For completeness, we need further combinatorial game theoretic machinery.

## PROOF SEARCH GAME AND COMPLETENESS

For completeness, we need further combinatorial game theoretic machinery.

Construe proof search as a 2-player game between Prover and Refuter.

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## PROOF SEARCH GAME AND COMPLETENESS

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**Proof idea.**

Assume there is a Refuter winning strategy  $\mathfrak{R}$  from  $e \rightarrow f$ .

- Play  $\mathfrak{R}$  against a **canonical Prover strategy** to obtain a branch  $B$ .
- By guardedness,  $B$  determines an infinite word  $w_B \in \mathcal{A}^\omega$ .
- By construction, the LHSs of  $B$  determine an  $\exists$  **strategy** winning from  $(w_B, e)$ .
- Dually, the RHSs of  $B$  determine an  $\forall$  **strategy** winning from  $(w_B, f)$ .

Thus by adequacy we have  $w_B \in \mathcal{L}(e) \setminus \mathcal{L}(f)$ . □

- 1 Languages of infinite words
- 2 A cyclic proof system
- 3 Metalogical results
- 4 Conclusions**

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# THANK YOU.



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