

Büchi Automata

Definition of Büchi Automata

Let $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots\}$ be a finite alphabet.

By Σ^ω we denote the set of all infinite words over Σ .

A *non-deterministic Büchi automaton* (NBA) over Σ is a tuple $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$, where:

- S is a finite set of *states*,
- $I \subseteq S$ is a set of *initial states*,
- $T \subseteq S \times \Sigma \times S$ is a *transition relation*,
- $F \subseteq S$ is a set of *final states*.

Acceptance Condition

A *run* of a Büchi automaton is defined over an infinite word $w : \alpha_1\alpha_2\ldots$ as an infinite sequence of states $\pi : s_0s_1s_2\ldots$ such that:

- $s_0 \in I$ and
- $(s_i, \alpha_{i+1}, s_{i+1}) \in T$, for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

Let $\text{inf}(\pi) = \{s \mid s \text{ appears infinitely often on } \pi\}$.

Run π of A is said to be *accepting* iff $\text{inf}(\pi) \cap F \neq \emptyset$.

Examples

Let $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$. Define Büchi automata for the following languages:

1. $L = \{\alpha \mid 0 \text{ occurs in } \alpha \text{ exactly once}\}$
2. $L = \{\alpha \mid \text{after each } 0 \text{ in } \alpha \text{ there is } 1\}$
3. $L = \{\alpha \mid \alpha \text{ contains finitely many } 1\text{'s}\}$
4. $L = (01)^n \Sigma^\omega$
5. $L = \{\alpha \mid 0 \text{ occurs on all even positions in } \alpha\}$

Closure Properties

Closure under union and projections are like in the finite automata case.

Intersection is a bit special.

Complementation of non-deterministic Büchi automata is a complex result.

Deterministic Büchi automata are not closed under complement.

Closure under Intersection

Let $A_1 = \langle S_1, I_1, T_1, F_1 \rangle$ and $A_2 = \langle S_2, I_2, T_2, F_2 \rangle$

Build $A_\cap = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$:

- $S = S_1 \times S_2 \times \{1, 2, 3\}$,
- $I = I_1 \times I_2 \times \{1\}$,
- the definition of T is the following:
 - $((s_1, s'_1, 1), a, (s_2, s'_2, 1)) \in T$ iff $(s_i, a, s'_i) \in T_i$, $i = 1, 2$ and $s'_1 \notin F_1$
 - $((s_1, s'_1, 2), a, (s_2, s'_2, 2)) \in T$ iff $(s_i, a, s'_i) \in T_i$, $i = 1, 2$ and $s'_2 \notin F_2$
 - $((s_1, s'_1, 1), a, (s_2, s'_2, 2)) \in T$ iff $(s_i, a, s'_i) \in T_i$, $i = 1, 2$ and $s'_1 \in F_1$
 - $((s_1, s'_1, 2), a, (s_2, s'_2, 3)) \in T$ iff $(s_i, a, s'_i) \in T_i$, $i = 1, 2$ and $s'_2 \in F_2$
 - $((s_1, s'_1, 3), a, (s_2, s'_2, 1)) \in T$ iff $(s_i, a, s'_i) \in T_i$, $i = 1, 2$
- $F = F_1 \times F_2 \times \{3\}$

The Büchi Characterization Theorems

Lemma 1 *If $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is a rational language, there exists a DFA $A = \langle S, \{s_0\}, T, F \rangle$ such that s_0 has no incoming transition, and $L = \mathcal{L}(A)$.*

If $U, V \subseteq \Sigma^*$ define $U \cdot V = \{uv \mid u \in U, v \in V\}$.

If $W \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ we denote $W^\omega = \{w_1w_2\ldots \mid w_i \in W, i \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

Theorem 1 *Let $W, V \subseteq \Sigma^*$ be rational languages. Then the language $V \cdot W^\omega$ is Büchi recognizable.*

Is it possible that, for some non-rational language $W \subseteq \Sigma^*$, W^ω is Büchi recognizable?

First Büchi Characterization Theorem

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$ be a Büchi automaton and $s, s' \in S$ be two states.

Let $W_{s,s'} = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid s \xrightarrow{w} s'\}$.

The language $W_{s,s'} \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is rational, for any $s, s' \in S$.

Theorem 2 *An ω -language $L \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ is Büchi recognizable iff L is a finite union of ω -languages $V \cdot W^\omega$, where $V, W \subseteq \Sigma^*$ are rational languages.*

$$\text{“}\Rightarrow\text{” } L = \bigcup_{s \in I, s' \in F} W_{s,s'} \cdot W_{s',s'}^\omega$$

Second Büchi Characterization Theorem

Theorem 3 *An ω -language $L \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ is Büchi recognizable iff L is a finite union of ω -languages $V \cdot W^\omega$, where $V, W \subseteq \Sigma^*$ are rational languages such that $W \cdot W \subseteq W$.*

“ \Rightarrow ” $\mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{s \in I, s' \in F} W_{s,s'} W_{s',s'}^\omega$ and $W_{s',s'} \cdot W_{s',s'} \subseteq W_{s',s'}$ for all $s' \in F$

Corollary 1 *Any non-empty Büchi-recognizable language contains an ultimately periodic word of the form $uvvv \dots$*

Complementation of Büchi Automata

Congruences

Definition 1 *An equivalence relation $R \subseteq \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$ is said to be a **left-congruence** iff for all $u, v, w \in \Sigma^*$ we have $u \cong v \Rightarrow wu \cong wv$.*

Definition 2 *An equivalence relation $R \subseteq \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$ is said to be a **right-congruence** iff for all $u, v, w \in \Sigma^*$ we have $u R v \Rightarrow uw R vw$.*

Definition 3 *An equivalence relation $R \subseteq \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$ is said to be a congruence iff it is both a left- and a right-congruence.*

Ex: the Myhill-Nerode equivalence \sim_L is a right-congruence.

Congruences

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$ be a Büchi automaton.

For $s, s' \in S$ and $w \in \Sigma^*$, denote $s \rightarrow_w^F s'$ iff $s \xrightarrow{w} s'$ **visiting a state from F**

Let $W_{s,s'}^F$ be the set of all words such that $s \rightarrow_w^F s'$.

For any two words $u, v \in \Sigma^*$ we have $u \cong v$ iff for all $s, s' \in S$ we have:

- $s \xrightarrow{u} s' \iff s \xrightarrow{v} s'$, and
- $s \rightarrow_u^F s' \iff s \rightarrow_v^F s'$.

The relation \cong is a congruence of **finite index** on Σ^*

Congruences

Let $[w]_{\cong}$ denote the equivalence class of $w \in \Sigma^*$ w.r.t. \cong .

Lemma 2 *For any $w \in \Sigma^*$, $[w]_{\cong}$ is the intersection of all sets of the form $W_{s,s'}, W_{s,s'}^F, \overline{W_{s,s'}}, \overline{W_{s,s'}^F}$, containing w .*

$$T_w = \bigcap_{w \in W_{s,s'}} W_{s,s'} \cap \bigcap_{w \in W_{s,s'}^F} W_{s,s'}^F \cap \bigcap_{w \in \overline{W_{s,s'}}} \overline{W_{s,s'}} \cap \bigcap_{w \in \overline{W_{s,s'}^F}} \overline{W_{s,s'}^F}$$

We show that $[w]_{\cong} = T_w$.

“ \subseteq ” If $u \cong w$ then clearly $u \in T_w$.

Congruences

“ \supseteq ” Let $u \in T_w$

- if $s \xrightarrow{w} s'$, then $w \in W_{s,s'}$, hence $u \in W_{s,s'}$, then $s \xrightarrow{u} s'$ as well.
- if $s \not\xrightarrow{w} s'$, then $w \in \overline{W_{s,s'}}$, hence $u \in \overline{W_{s,s'}}$, then $s \not\xrightarrow{u} s'$.

Also,

- if $s \xrightarrow{F_w} s'$, then $w \in W_{s,s'}^F$, hence $u \in W_{s,s'}^F$, then $s \xrightarrow{F_u} s'$ as well.
- if $s \not\xrightarrow{F_w} s'$, then $w \in \overline{W_{s,s'}^F}$, hence $u \in \overline{W_{s,s'}^F}$, then $s \not\xrightarrow{F_u} s'$.

Then $u \cong w$.

Outline of the proof

We prove that:

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{VW^\omega \cap \mathcal{L}(A) \neq \emptyset} VW^\omega$$

where V, W are \cong -equivalence classes

Then we have

$$\Sigma^\omega \setminus \mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{VW^\omega \cap \mathcal{L}(A) = \emptyset} VW^\omega$$

Finally we obtain an algorithm for complementation of Büchi automata

Saturation

Definition 4 A congruence relation $R \subseteq \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$ **saturates** an ω -language L iff for all R -equivalence classes V and W , if $VW^\omega \cap L \neq \emptyset$ then $VW^\omega \subseteq L$.

Lemma 3 The congruence relation \cong saturates $\mathcal{L}(A)$.

Every word belongs to some VW^ω

Let $\alpha \in \Sigma^\omega$ be an infinite word for the rest of this section.

By $\alpha(n, m)$, we denote $\alpha(n)\alpha(n+1)\dots\alpha(m-1)$, $n \leq m$.

We will build two \cong -equivalence classes V and W such that $\alpha \in V \cdot W^\omega$

Together with the **saturation lemma**, this proves

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{VW^\omega \cap \mathcal{L}(A) \neq \emptyset} VW^\omega$$

Merging of positions

Definition 5 *Two positions $k, k' \in \mathbb{N}$ are said to **merge at m** , $m > k$ and $m > k'$ iff $\alpha(k, m) \cong \alpha(k', m)$. We say that k and k' are \cong_α -equivalent, denoted $k \cong_\alpha k'$ iff they merge at m , for some $m > k, k'$.*

If k and k' merge at m then they also merge at m' , for all $m' \geq m$.

$k \cong_\alpha k' (m)$ is an equivalence relation on \mathbb{N} of finite index.

Merging of positions

There exists infinitely many positions $0 < k_0 < k_1 < \dots$, all \cong_α -equivalent.

Consider the sequence $\alpha(k_0, k_1), \alpha(k_0, k_2), \alpha(k_0, k_3) \dots$

There exist $\alpha(k_0, k_{i_0}), \alpha(k_0, k_{i_1}), \alpha(k_0, k_{i_2}) \dots$ all \cong -equivalent

There exist $k_{j_0}, k_{j_1}, k_{j_2}, \dots$ such that for all $i \leq j$ $k_i \cong_\alpha k_j(k_{j+1})$

There exists infinitely many positions $0 < k_0 < k_1 < k_2 < \dots$ such that

1. $\alpha(k_0, k_i) \cong \alpha(k_0, k_j)$ for all $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$
2. $k_i \cong_\alpha k_j(k_{j+1})$ for all $i \leq j$.

Defining V and W

Let $V = [\alpha(0, k_0)]_{\cong}$ and $W = [\alpha(k_0, k_1)]_{\cong}$

By (1) $\alpha(k_0, k_1) \cong \alpha(k_0, k_i)$ for all $i > 0$

By (2) $\alpha(k_0, k_{i+1}) \cong \alpha(k_i, k_{i+1})$, for all $i > 0$

Hence $\alpha(k_0, k_1) \cong \alpha(k_i, k_{i+1})$, for all $i > 0$.

Therefore $\alpha \in V \cdot W^\omega$

Complementation of Büchi Automata

Theorem 4 *For any Büchi automaton A there exists a Büchi automaton \overline{A} such that $\mathcal{L}(\overline{A}) = \Sigma^\omega \setminus \mathcal{L}(A)$.*

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{VW^\omega \cap \mathcal{L}(A) \neq \emptyset} VW^\omega$$

where V, W are \cong -equivalence classes

$$\Sigma^\omega \setminus \mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{VW^\omega \cap \mathcal{L}(A) = \emptyset} VW^\omega$$

By the Büchi Characterization Theorem(s) there exists a Büchi automaton recognizing $\Sigma^\omega \setminus \mathcal{L}(A)$ \square

Deterministic Büchi Automata

ω -languages recognized by NBA \supset ω -languages recognized by DBA

Let $W \subseteq \Sigma^*$. Define $\overrightarrow{W} = \{\alpha \in \Sigma^\omega \mid \alpha(0, n) \in W \text{ for infinitely many } n\}$

Theorem 5 *A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ is recognizable by a deterministic Büchi automaton iff there exists a rational language $W \subseteq \Sigma^*$ such that $L = \overrightarrow{W}$.*

If $L = \mathcal{L}(A)$ then $W = \mathcal{L}(A')$ where A' is the DFA with the same definition as A , and with the **finite acceptance condition**.

Deterministic Büchi Automata

Theorem 6 *There exists a Büchi recognizable language that can be recognized by no deterministic Büchi automaton.*

$$\Sigma = \{a, b\} \text{ and } L = \{\alpha \in \Sigma^\omega \mid \#_a(\alpha) < \infty\} = \Sigma^*b^\omega.$$

Suppose $L = \overrightarrow{W}$ for some $W \subseteq \Sigma^*$.

$$b^\omega \in L \Rightarrow b^{n_1} \in W$$

$$b^{n_1}ab^\omega \in L \Rightarrow b^{n_1}ab^{n_2} \in W$$

...

$$b^{n_1}ab^{n_2}a \dots \in \overrightarrow{W} = L, \text{ contradiction.}$$

Deterministic Büchi Automata are not closed under complement

Theorem 7 *There exists a DBA A such that no DBA recognizes the language $\Sigma^\omega \setminus \mathcal{L}(A)$.*

$$\Sigma = \{a, b\} \text{ and } L = \{\alpha \in \Sigma^\omega \mid \#_a(\alpha) < \infty\} = \Sigma^*b^\omega.$$

Let $V = \Sigma^*a$. There exists a DFA A such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = V$.

There exists a deterministic Büchi automaton B such that $\mathcal{L}(B) = \overrightarrow{V}$

But $\Sigma^\omega \setminus \overrightarrow{V} = L$ which cannot be recognized by any DBA.

Decidability

Theorem 8 *The emptiness problem for Büchi automata is decidable.*

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$ be a Büchi automaton.

$\mathcal{L}(A) \neq \emptyset \iff$ exists $s \in S$ accessible from some $s_0 \in I$ and from itself

Theorem 9 *The equivalence and universality problems for Büchi automata are decidable.*

How about the infinity problem?

Büchi Automata and S1S

Let $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots\}$ be a finite alphabet.

Any finite word $w \in \Sigma^*$ induces the *infinite* sets $p_a = \{p \mid w(p) = a\}$.

- $x \leq y$: x is less than y ,
- $S(x) = y$: y is the successor of x ,
- $p_a(x)$: a occurs at position x in w

Remember that \leq and S can be defined one from another.

Problem Statement

Let $\mathcal{L}(\varphi) = \{w \mid \mathfrak{m}_w \models \varphi\}$

A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is said to be S1S-*definable* iff there exists a S1S formula φ such that $L = \mathcal{L}(\varphi)$.

1. Given a Büchi automaton A build an S1S formula φ_A such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(\varphi)$
2. Given an S1S formula φ build a Büchi automaton A_φ such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(\varphi)$

The Büchi recognizable and S1S-definable languages coincide

From Automata to Formulae

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$ with $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_p\}$, and $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}^m$.

Build $\Phi_A(X_1, \dots, X_m)$ such that $\forall w \in \Sigma^* . w \in \mathcal{L}(A) \iff w \models \Phi_A$

$$\Phi_A(X_1, \dots, X_m) = \exists Y_1 \dots \exists Y_p . \Phi_S(\mathbf{Y}) \wedge \Phi_I(\mathbf{Y}) \wedge \Phi_T(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X}) \wedge \Phi_F(\mathbf{Y})$$

$$\Phi_F(\mathbf{Y}) = \forall x \exists y . x \leq y \wedge x \neq y \wedge \bigvee_{s_i \in F} Y_i(y)$$

Consequences

Theorem 10 *A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ is definable in S1S iff it is Büchi recognizable.*

Corollary 2 *The SAT problem for S1S is decidable.*

Lemma 4 *Any S1S formula $\phi(X_1, \dots, X_m)$ is equivalent to an S1S formula of the form $\exists Y_1 \dots \exists Y_p . \varphi$, where φ does not contain other set variables than $X_1, \dots, X_m, Y_1, \dots, Y_p$.*

Müller and Rabin Word Automata

Müller Automata

Let $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots\}$ be a finite alphabet.

Definition 6 A Müller automaton *over* Σ is $A = \langle S, s_0, T, \mathcal{F} \rangle$, where:

- S is the finite set of states
- $s_0 \in S$ is the initial state
- $T : S \times \Sigma \mapsto S$ is the transition table
- $\mathcal{F} \subseteq 2^S$ is the set of accepting sets

Acceptance Condition

A *run* of a Müller automaton is defined over an infinite word $w : \alpha_1\alpha_2\ldots$ as an infinite sequence of states $\pi : s_0s_1s_2\ldots$ such that:

- $T(s_i, \alpha_{i+1}) = s_{i+1}$, for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

Let $\text{inf}(\pi) = \{s \mid s \text{ appears infinitely often on } \pi\}$.

Run π of A is said to be *accepting* iff $\text{inf}(\pi) \in \mathcal{F}$.

$L \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ is *Müller-recognizable* iff there exists a MA A such that $L = \mathcal{L}(A)$.

Deterministic Büchi \subseteq Müller

Theorem 11 *For each deterministic Büchi automaton A there exists a Müller automaton B such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(B)$*

Let $A = \langle S, \{s_0\}, T, F \rangle$ be a deterministic Büchi automaton.

Define $B = \langle S, s_0, T, \{G \in 2^S \mid G \cap F \neq \emptyset\} \rangle$

Closure Properties

Theorem 12 *The class of Müller-recognizable languages is closed under union, intersection and complement.*

Let $A = \langle S, s_0, T, \mathcal{F} \rangle$ be a Müller automaton.

Define $B = \langle S, s_0, T, 2^S \setminus \mathcal{F} \rangle$.

We have $\mathcal{L}(B) = \Sigma^\omega \setminus \mathcal{L}(A)$.

Closure Properties

Let $A_i = \langle S_i, s_{0,i}, T_i, \mathcal{F}_i \rangle$, $i = 1, 2$ be Müller automata.

Define $B = \langle S, s_0, T, \mathcal{F} \rangle$ where:

- $S = S_1 \times S_2$,
- $s_0 = \langle s_{0,1}, s_{0,2} \rangle$,
- $T(\langle s_1, s_2 \rangle, a) = \langle T(s_1, a), T(s_2, a) \rangle$
- $\mathcal{F} = \{ \{ \langle s_1, s'_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle s_k, s'_k \rangle \} \mid \{s_1, \dots, s_k\} \in \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ or } \{s'_1, \dots, s'_k\} \in \mathcal{F}_2 \}$

We have $\mathcal{L}(B) = \mathcal{L}(A_1) \cup \mathcal{L}(A_2)$.

Characterization of Müller-recognizable languages

A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ is Müller-recognizable iff L is a Boolean combination of sets \overrightarrow{W} , $W \subseteq \Sigma^*$, i.e. $L = \bigcup_i \left(\bigcap_j \overrightarrow{W_{ij}} \cap \bigcap_k (\Sigma^\omega \setminus \overrightarrow{W_{ik}}) \right)$.

“ \Leftarrow ” Any set $\overrightarrow{W_{ij}}$ is recognized by a deterministic Büchi automaton, hence also by a Müller automaton.

“ \Rightarrow ” Let $A = \langle S, s_0, T, \mathcal{F} \rangle$ be a Müller automaton recognizing L .

Let $A_q = \langle S, s_0, T, \{q\} \rangle$, $q \in S$, and $W_q = \mathcal{L}(A_q)$.

$$L = \bigcup_{Q \in \mathcal{F}} \left(\bigcap_{q \in Q} \overrightarrow{W_q} \cap \bigcap_{q \in S \setminus Q} (\Sigma^\omega \setminus \overrightarrow{W_q}) \right)$$

Rabin Word Automata

Let $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots\}$ be a finite alphabet.

Definition 7 A Rabin automaton over Σ is $A = \langle S, s_0, T, \Omega \rangle$, where:

- S is the finite set of states
- $s_0 \in S$ is the initial state
- $T : S \times \Sigma \mapsto S$ is the transition table
- $\Omega = \{\langle N_1, P_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle N_k, P_k \rangle\}$ is the set of accepting pairs, $N_i, P_i \subseteq S$.

Run π of A is said to be *accepting* iff

$$\inf(\pi) \cap N_i = \emptyset \text{ and } \inf(\pi) \cap P_i \neq \emptyset$$

for some $1 \leq i \leq k$.

From Rabin to Müller

Given a Rabin automaton $A = \langle S, s_0, T, \Omega \rangle$, there exists a Müller automaton B such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(B)$

Let $\Omega = \{\langle N_1, P_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle N_k, P_k \rangle\}$.

Let $A_i = \langle S, s_0, T, P_i \rangle$, and $B_i = \langle S, s_0, T, N_i \rangle$.

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k \left(\overrightarrow{\mathcal{L}(A_i)} \cap (\Sigma^\omega \setminus \overrightarrow{\mathcal{L}(B_i)}) \right)$$

From Müller to Rabin

Given a Müller automaton $A = \langle S, s_0, T, \mathcal{F} \rangle$, there exists a Rabin automaton B such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(B)$

Let $\mathcal{F} = \{Q_1, \dots, Q_k\}$

Let $B = \langle S', s'_0, T', \Omega' \rangle$ where:

- $S' = 2^{Q_1} \times \dots \times 2^{Q_k} \times S$
- $s'_0 = \langle \emptyset, \dots, \emptyset, s_0 \rangle$

From Müller to Rabin

- $T'(\langle S_1, \dots, S_k, s \rangle, a) = \langle S'_1, \dots, S'_k, s' \rangle$ where:
 - $s' = T(s, a)$
 - $S'_i = \emptyset$ if $S_i = Q_i$, $1 \leq i \leq k$
 - $S'_i = (S_i \cup \{s'\}) \cap Q_i$, $1 \leq i \leq k$
- $P_i = \{ \langle S_1, \dots, S_i, \dots, S_k, s \rangle \mid S_i = Q_i \}, 1 \leq i \leq k$
- $N_i = \{ \langle S_1, \dots, S_i, \dots, S_k, s \rangle \mid s \notin Q_i \}, 1 \leq i \leq k$

The McNaughton Theorem

For every Büchi automaton there exists a Müller (Rabin) automaton with the same language.

Equivalence between Büchi, Müller and Rabin automata.

$$L = \bigcup_i \left(\bigcap_j \overrightarrow{W_{ij}} \cap \bigcap_k (\Sigma^\omega \setminus \overrightarrow{W_{ik}}) \right)$$

Büchi recognizable languages can be accepted by deterministic automata, closed under complement.

Müller-recognizable languages are closed under projection.