

Compositional LDL_f -to-DFA

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The problem

Given an LDL_f formula φ , compute a DFA \mathcal{A} such that:

$$\forall \pi. \pi \models \varphi \iff \pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$$

Basic building block of several techniques in AI and CS:

- Temporal Synthesis
- FOND Planning with temporal goals
- Non-Markovian Rewards Decision Processes
- Business Process Management

(De Giacomo and Moshe Y. Vardi, 2013):



(Zhu et al., 2017; Bansal et al., 2020):



Our work:

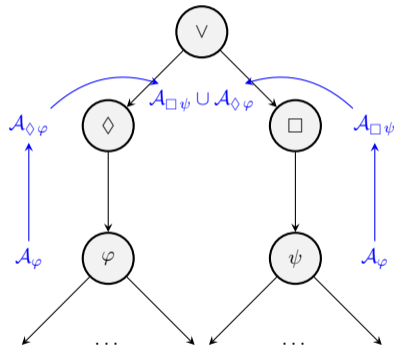


- Fully compositional
 - Like (Bansal et al., 2020), but to the extreme
- Bottom-up approach
 - Against “top-down” approach of AFA-NFA-DFA
- NONELEMENTARY (instead of best theoretical bound of $2EXPTIME$)
 - Yet, it works fairly well in practice
 - MONA too is NONELEMENTARY!

How it works, in a nutshell

- Mapping from LDL_f operators to DFA operations
- *Inductively* apply these mappings
- If we encounter LTL_f formulae, translate them in LDL_f

E.g. $\diamond\varphi \vee \square\psi$



We use the syntax that also works for empty traces (Brafman, De Giacomo, and Patrizi, 2018).

Given a set of propositional symbols \mathcal{P} , LDL_f formulae are built as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi &::= \mathbf{tt} \mid \mathbf{ff} \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2 \mid \langle \rho \rangle \varphi \mid [\rho] \varphi \\ \rho &::= \phi \mid \varphi? \mid \rho_1 + \rho_2 \mid \rho_1; \rho_2 \mid \rho^* \end{aligned}$$

Where ϕ is a propositional formula over \mathcal{P} .

The function tr encodes LTL_f into LDL_f:

$$tr(\phi) = \langle \phi \rangle tt \text{ } (\phi \text{ propositional})$$

$$tr(\neg\varphi) = \neg tr(\varphi)$$

$$tr(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) = tr(\varphi_1) \wedge tr(\varphi_2)$$

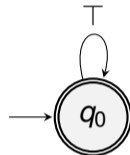
$$tr(\varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) = tr(\varphi_1) \vee tr(\varphi_2)$$

$$tr(\bigcirc\varphi) = \langle true \rangle (tr(\varphi) \wedge \neg end)$$

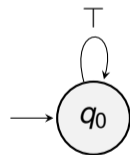
$$tr(\varphi_1 \mathcal{U} \varphi_2) = \langle (tr(\varphi_1)?; true)^* \rangle (tr(\varphi_2) \wedge \neg end)$$

Mappings from LDL_f to DFA

tt



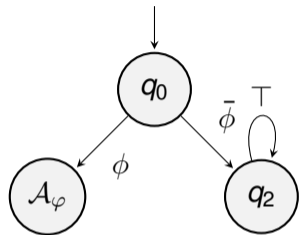
ff



Mappings from LDL_f to DFA (cont.)

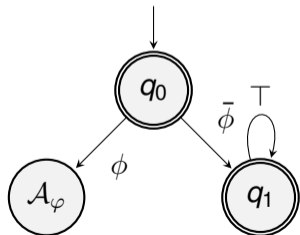
$\langle \rho \rangle \varphi$

\rightarrow



$[\rho] \varphi$

\rightarrow



Mappings from LDL_f to DFA (cont.)

$$\varphi \wedge \psi \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{A}_\varphi \cap \mathcal{A}_\psi$$

$$\varphi \vee \psi \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{A}_\varphi \cup \mathcal{A}_\psi$$

$$\neg\varphi \quad \longrightarrow \quad \overline{\mathcal{A}_\varphi}$$

For other operators (except $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$) we can exploit the following equivalences:

$$\langle \psi? \rangle \varphi \equiv \psi \wedge \varphi$$

$$[\psi?] \varphi \equiv \neg \psi \vee \varphi$$

$$\langle \rho_1; \rho_2 \rangle \varphi \equiv \langle \rho_1 \rangle \langle \rho_2 \rangle \varphi$$

$$[\rho_1; \rho_2] \varphi \equiv [\rho_1][\rho_2] \varphi$$

$$\langle \rho_1 + \rho_2 \rangle \varphi \equiv \langle \rho_1 \rangle \vee \langle \rho_2 \rangle \varphi$$

$$[\rho_1 + \rho_2] \varphi \equiv [\rho_1] \wedge \langle \rho_2 \rangle \varphi$$

$$[\rho^*] \equiv \neg \langle \rho^* \rangle \neg \varphi$$

For the transformation of $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$, we distinguish two cases:

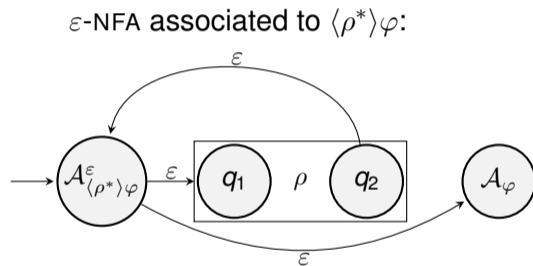
- ρ is test-free;
- ρ is *not* test-free

Translation of $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (ρ test-free)

If ρ is test-free, then $\rho \equiv \langle \rho \rangle \text{end}$.

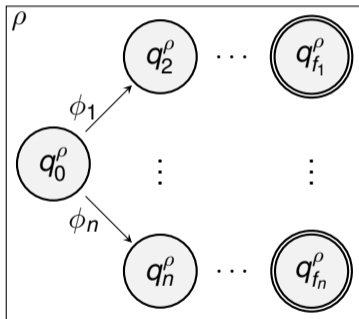
To obtain $\mathcal{A}_{\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi}$:

- Compute $\mathcal{A}_{\langle \rho \rangle \text{end}}$
- Compute the Kleene closure of $\mathcal{A}_{\langle \rho \rangle \text{end}}$, \mathcal{A}_{ρ^*}
- Compute \mathcal{A}_{φ}
- Concatenate \mathcal{A}_{ρ^*} and \mathcal{A}_{φ}



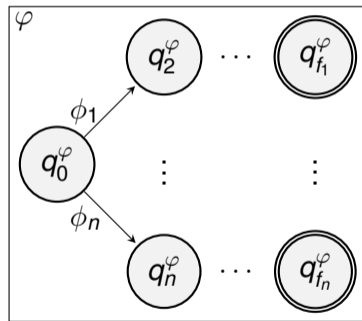
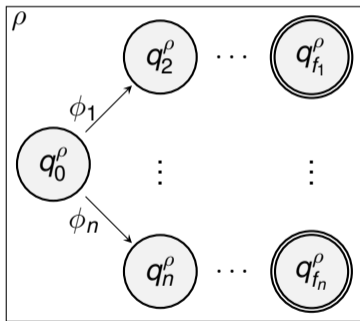
Translation of $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (ρ test-free), with NFAs

- Compute $\mathcal{A}_{\langle \rho \rangle \text{end}}$:



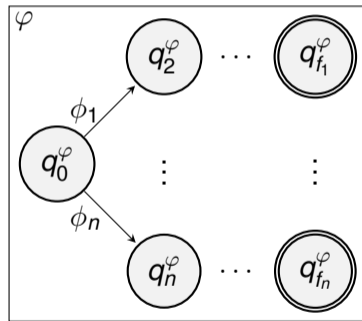
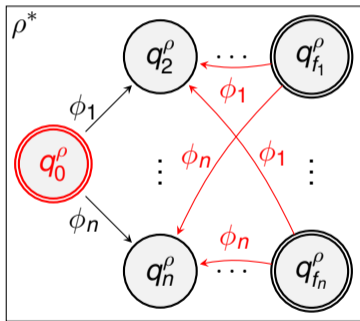
Translation of $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (ρ test-free), with NFAs

- Compute \mathcal{A}_φ :



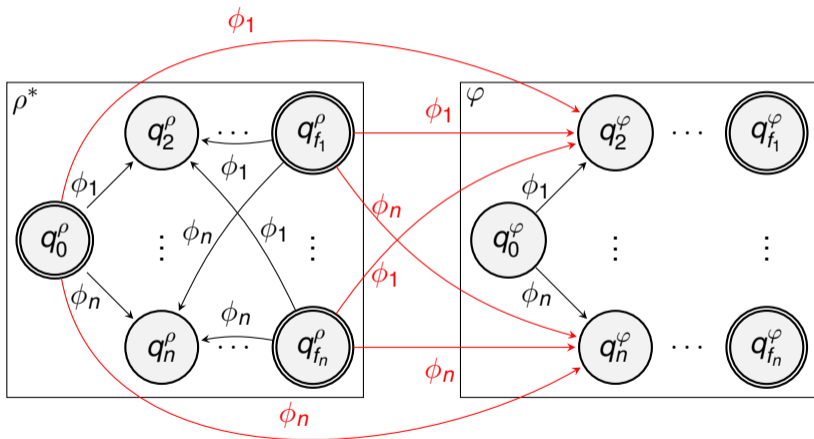
Translation of $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (ρ test-free), with NFAs

- Compute the Kleene closure of $\mathcal{A}_{\langle \rho \rangle} \text{end}$, \mathcal{A}_{ρ^*} :



Translation of $\langle \rho^* \rangle_\varphi$ (ρ test-free), with NFAs

- Concatenate \mathcal{A}_{ρ^*} and \mathcal{A}_φ :



Translation of $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (ρ not test-free)

If ρ contains a test expression, we resort to the LDL_f -to-AFA transformation (De Giacomo and Moshe Y. Vardi, 2013; Brafman, De Giacomo, and Patrizi, 2018), with some changes:

- Pre-compute DFAs of tests $\psi_1?, \dots, \psi_n?$ and φ ;
- Instead of expanding states of the form $\psi_i?$ (or φ), concatenate the current state to the initial state of \mathcal{A}_{ψ_i} (or \mathcal{A}_{φ}).

Theorem (Correctness)

The presented technique is correct, i.e. it outputs a DFA \mathcal{A}_φ s.t.

$$\forall \pi. \pi \models \varphi \iff \pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_\varphi)$$

Proof.

By structural induction on the formulae constructs φ , by structural induction on the regular expression constructs ρ , and by induction on the length of the trace π . \square

Time complexity is NONELEMENTARY, because of arbitrary nested star operators.

Implementation

The technique has been implemented in a tool called **Lydia**:

- It relies on **MONA** (Henriksen et al., 1995) for DFA representation and operations;
- It is integrated with **Syft+** for LTL_f/LDL_f synthesis;
- Uses CUDD to find minimal models;
- It is able to parse both LDL_f and LTL_f formulae using Flex/Bison.

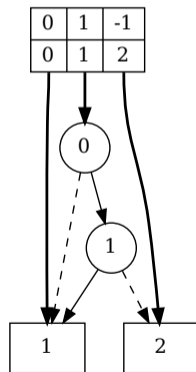
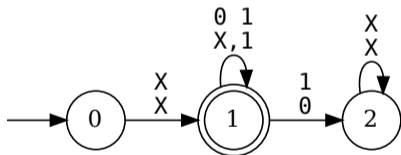
MONA is a tool for translating Weak monadic Second-order theory of 1 Successor (WS1S) to DFAs.

Lydia *only* uses the MONA DFA library.

The MONA DFA library (cont.)

DFAs in MONA are represented by shared, multi-terminal BDDs.

The representation is *explicit* in the state space, and *symbolic* in the transitions.



Problem: the MONA DFA library cannot represent NFAs or AFAs directly

... but it provides the (existential) projection operation, $EPROJECT(\mathcal{A}, i)$:

- remove the i th track from the MBDD of \mathcal{A} ;
- determinize (as if it was a NFA)

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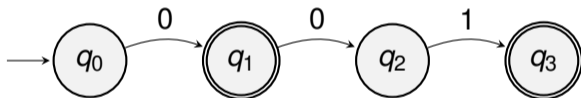
- remove the i th track from the MBDD of \mathcal{A} ;
- determinize (as if it was a NFA)

We also added the *universal* projection operation, $UPROJECT(\mathcal{A}, i)$:

- remove the i th track from the MBDD of \mathcal{A} (as above);
- determinize (as if it was an **UFA** (Universal Finite Automaton)).

$L = \{0, 001\}$, $\Sigma = \{0, 1\} = 2^{\{b\}}$ (only one bit b needed)

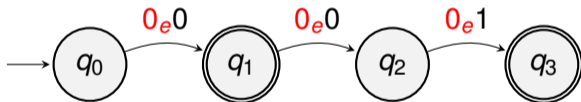
How to compute L^* ?



$L = \{0, 001\}$, $\Sigma = \{0, 1\} = 2^{\{b\}}$ (only one bit b needed)

How to compute L^* ?

- Add existential bit “ e ”;
- Set it to false (i.e. \bar{e}) to existing transitions.

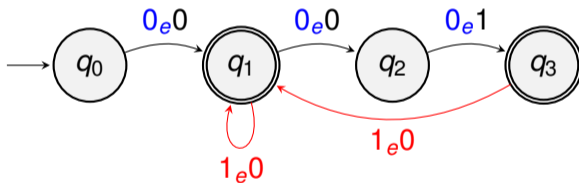


Kleene closure using EPROJECT (Yu et al., 2008)

$L = \{0, 001\}$, $\Sigma = \{0, 1\} = 2^{\{b\}}$ (only one bit b needed)

How to compute L^* ?

- Add closure transitions with bit e set to true

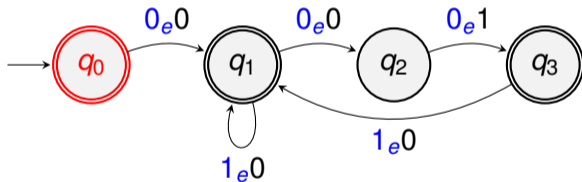


Kleene closure using EPROJECT (Yu et al., 2008)

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How to compute L^* ?

- Make initial state accepting

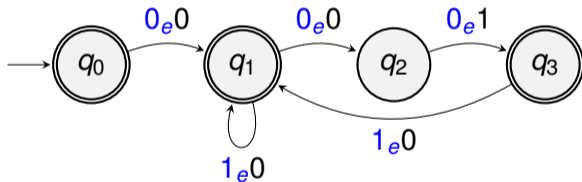


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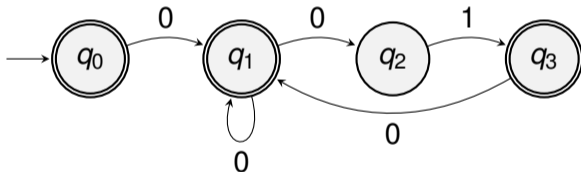
- EPROJECT(\mathcal{A} , i_e) (project away bit e)



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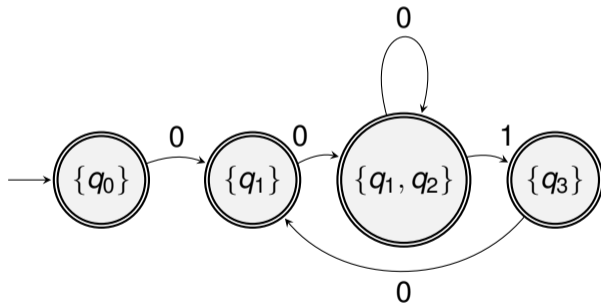


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- EPROJECT(\mathcal{A} , i_e) (determinize)

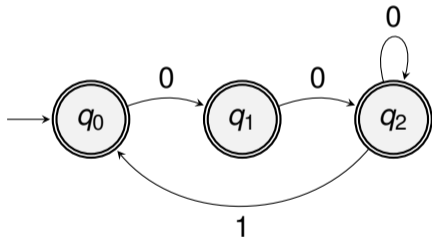


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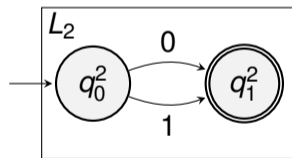
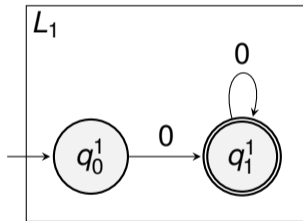
- Minimize



Concatenation using EPROJECT (Yu et al., 2008)

$L_1 = \{00^*\}$, $L_2 = \{0 + 1\}$

How to compute L_1L_2 ?

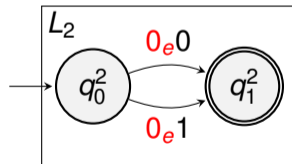
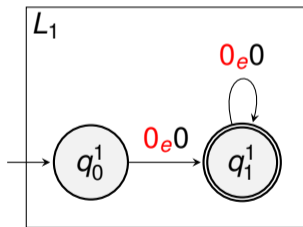


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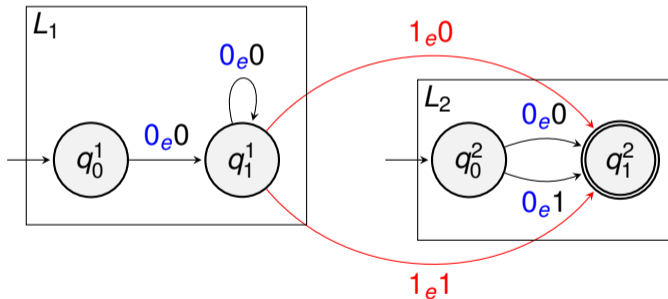


Concatenation using EPROJECT (Yu et al., 2008)

$L_1 = \{00^*\}$, $L_2 = \{0 + 1\}$

How to compute L_1L_2 ?

- Add concatenation transitions with bit e set to true.

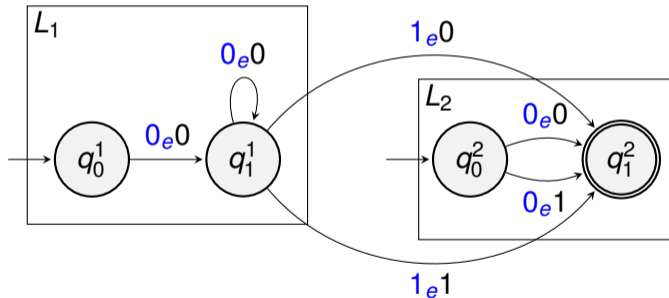


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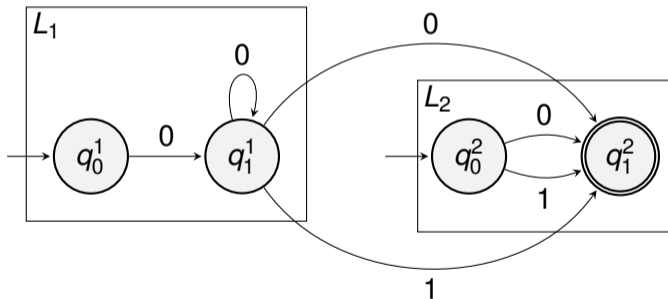


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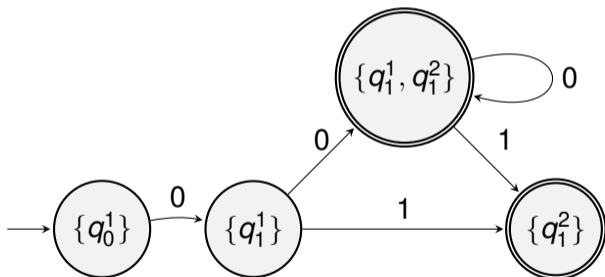


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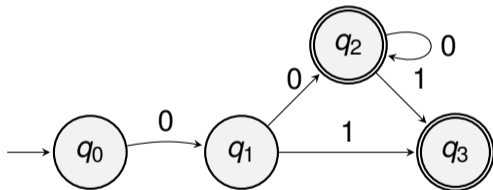
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Concatenation using EPROJECT (Yu et al., 2008)

$L_1 = \{00^*\}$, $L_2 = \{0 + 1\}$
How to compute L_1L_2 ?

- Minimize



Example for φ (no star operators)

Let $\varphi = \langle a + b \rangle \langle c; d \rangle tt$.

Transform it into:

$$\varphi' = \langle a \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt \vee \langle b \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt$$

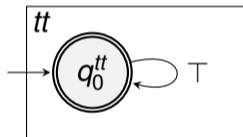
Note that $\varphi \equiv \varphi'$.

Example for φ (no star operators)

$$\varphi' = \langle a \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt \vee \langle b \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt.$$

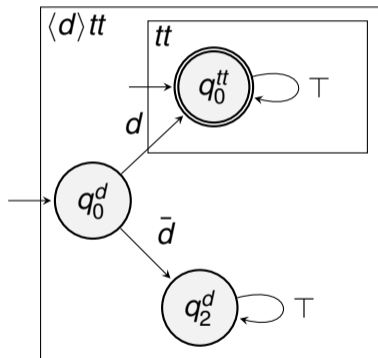
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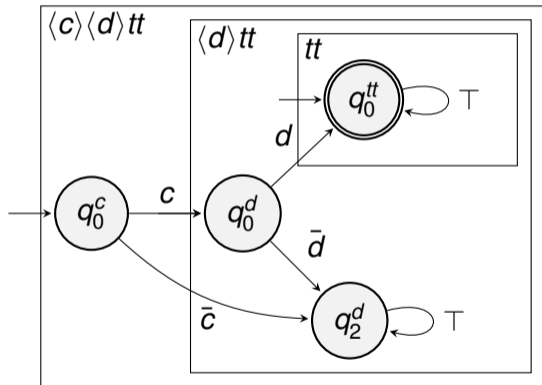
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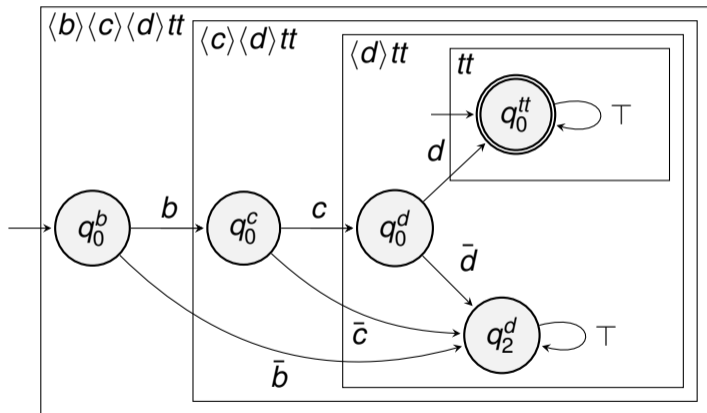
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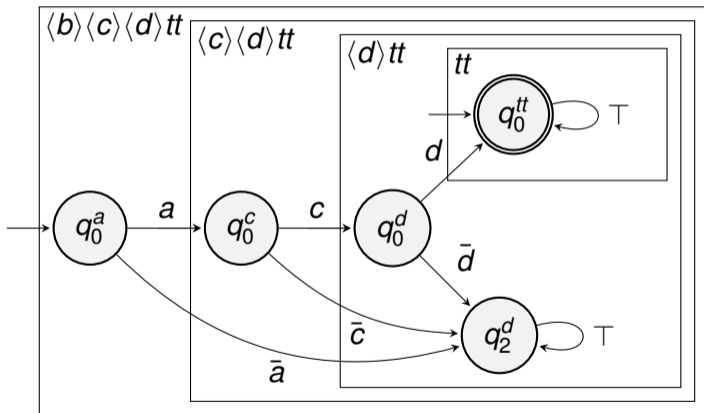
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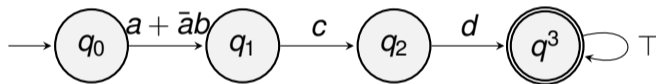
Example for φ (no star operators)

$\varphi' = \langle a \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt \vee \langle b \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt$. (The same as before, but replacing b with a):



Example for φ (no star operators)

Finally, $\mathcal{A}_{\varphi'} = \mathcal{A}_{\langle a \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt} \cup \mathcal{A}_{\langle b \rangle \langle c \rangle \langle d \rangle tt}$.



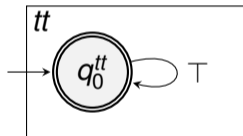
Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

Let $\varphi = [a^*] \langle b \rangle tt$

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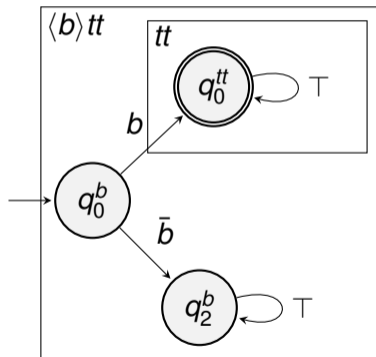
- Compute \mathcal{A}_{tt}



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

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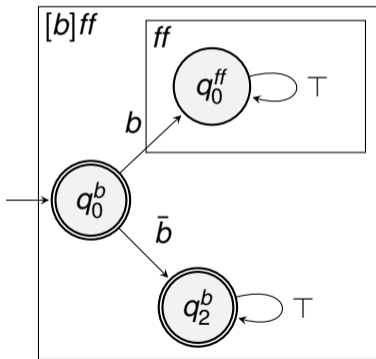
- Compute $\mathcal{A}_{\langle b \rangle tt}$



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

Let $\varphi = [a^*] \langle b \rangle tt$ (remember: $[\rho] \varphi \equiv \neg \langle \rho \rangle \neg \varphi$)

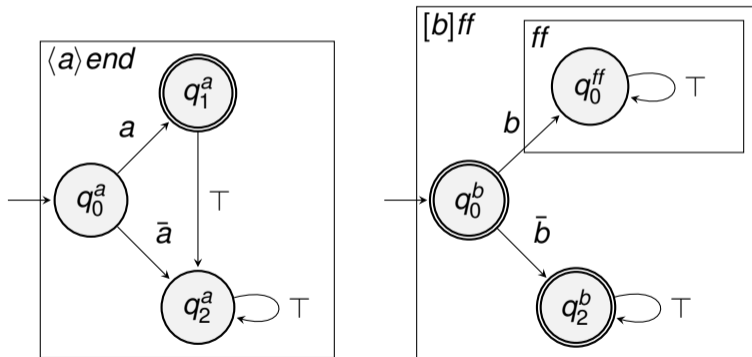
- Compute $\overline{\mathcal{A}_{\langle b \rangle tt}} = \mathcal{A}_{[b]ff}$



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

Let $\varphi = [a^*] \langle b \rangle tt$

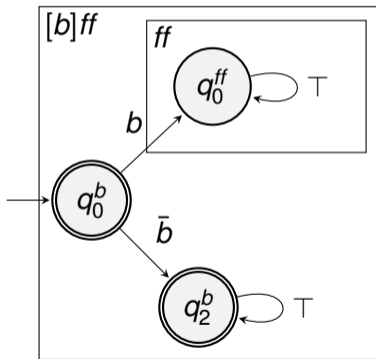
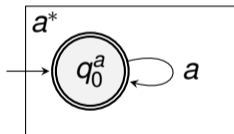
- Compute $\mathcal{A}_{\langle a \rangle end}$



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

Let $\varphi = [a^*] \langle b \rangle tt$

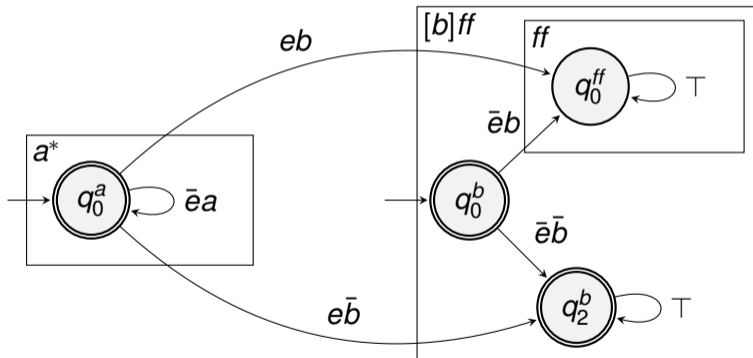
- Compute Kleene closure of $\mathcal{A}_{\langle a \rangle end}$, \mathcal{A}_{a^*}



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

Let $\varphi = [a^*] \langle b \rangle tt$

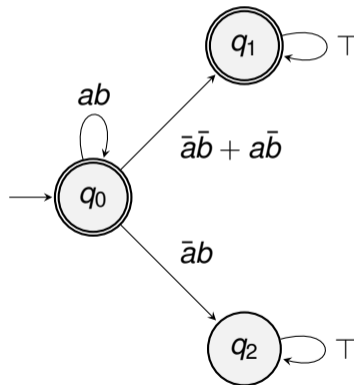
- Concatenate \mathcal{A}_{a^*} and $\mathcal{A}_{[b]ff}$ (note: $\bar{e}a \wedge eb = \perp$)



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

Let $\varphi = [a^*] \langle b \rangle tt$

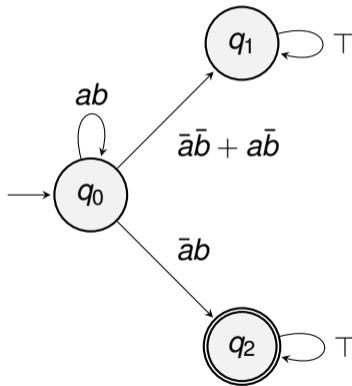
- Do EPROJECT($\mathcal{A}'_{\langle a^* \rangle [b] ff}$, i_e)



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \varphi$ (test free)

Let $\varphi = [a^*] \langle b \rangle tt$

■ $\overline{\mathcal{A}_{\langle a^* \rangle [b] ff}} = \mathcal{A}_{[a^*] \langle b \rangle tt}$



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

Let $\varphi = \langle (\langle a; a \rangle tt?; true)^* \rangle \langle b \rangle tt$

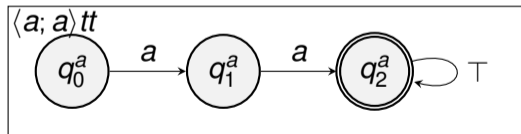
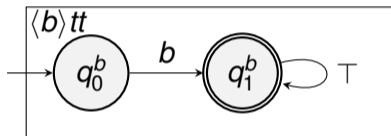
(Note: $\langle a; a \rangle tt$ requires two steps to be verified.)

We need to compute its AFA.

Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

Let $\varphi = \langle (\langle a; a \rangle tt?; true)^* \rangle \langle b \rangle tt$

- Precompute $\mathcal{A}_{\langle a; a \rangle tt}$ and $\langle b \rangle tt$



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

Let $\varphi = \langle (\langle a; a \rangle tt?; true)^* \rangle \langle b \rangle tt$

- Start from $q_0 = \varphi$

Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

Let $\varphi = \langle (\langle a; a \rangle tt?; true)^* \rangle \langle b \rangle tt$

- Start from $q_0 = \varphi$
- “Expand” q_0 , without consuming symbols:

$$\tilde{\delta}(\varphi) = \text{““}\langle b \rangle tt\text{””} \vee (\text{“}\langle a; a \rangle tt?\text{”} \wedge \text{“}\langle true \rangle \mathbf{F}_\varphi\text{”})$$

(Note: ““ $\langle b \rangle tt$ ”” is double-quoted)

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- the above formula will determine the next transitions from the current state.

Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

$$\tilde{\delta}(\varphi) = \text{““}\langle b \rangle tt\text{””} \vee (\text{“}\langle a; a \rangle tt?\text{”} \wedge \text{“}\langle true \rangle \mathbf{F}\varphi\text{”})$$

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Compute minimal models of the above (propositional) formula:

1. {“ $\langle b \rangle tt$ ”}
2. {“ $\langle a; a \rangle tt?$ ”, “ $\langle true \rangle \mathbf{F}\varphi$ ”}

Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

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Compute minimal models of the above (propositional) formula:

1. {“ $\langle b \rangle tt$ ”}
2. {“ $\langle a; a \rangle tt?$ ”, “ $\langle true \rangle \mathbf{F}\varphi$ ”}

Intuitively, it means:

- take initial transitions from $\mathcal{A}_{\langle b \rangle tt}$, **or**
- take initial transitions from $\mathcal{A}_{\langle a; a \rangle tt}$, **and**, go to $\mathbf{E}(\varphi)$ if you read *true*

(Note, $\mathbf{E}(\varphi)$ is an AFA state)

Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

Remark: Add as many bits as needed, existential e_i and universal u_i , to resolve all the alternations, i.e. to have only deterministic transitions.

In the example, we need one existential bit e and one universal bit u .

Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

Remark: Add as many bits as needed, existential e_i and universal u_i , to resolve all the alternations, i.e. to have only deterministic transitions.

In the example, we need one existential bit e and one universal bit u .

$$\tilde{\delta}(\varphi) = (\underbrace{\text{““}\langle b \rangle tt\text{””}}_{e\bar{u}} \wedge \underbrace{true}_{eu}) \vee (\underbrace{\text{“}\langle a; a \rangle tt?\text{”}}_{\bar{e}\bar{u}} \wedge \underbrace{\text{“}\langle true \rangle F_\varphi\text{”}}_{\bar{e}u})$$

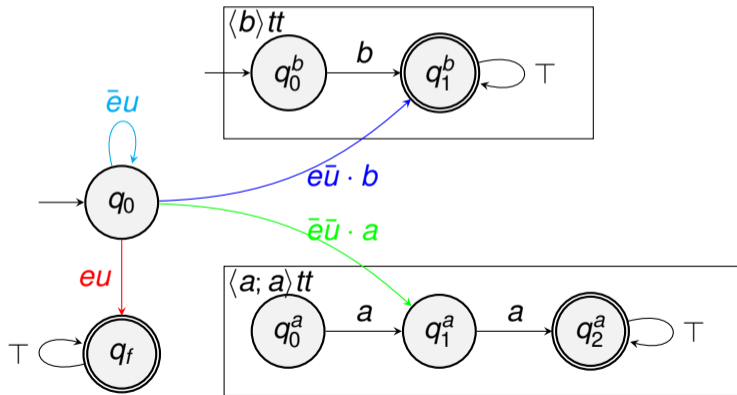
From q_0 (the current state in this iteration):

- $\bar{e}\bar{u}$: take *all* transitions from initial state of $\mathcal{A}_{\langle a; a \rangle tt}$;
- $\bar{e}u$: go to $\varphi = q_0$ (a self-loop)
- $e\bar{u}$: take *all* transitions from initial state of $\mathcal{A}_{\langle b \rangle tt}$;
- eu : go to accepting sink (requires “rebalancing” of the DNF formula)

Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

$$\left(\langle b \rangle tt \wedge \text{true} \right) \vee \left(\langle a; a \rangle tt? \wedge \langle \text{true} \rangle F_\varphi \right)$$

$\bar{e}\bar{u}$
 eu
 $\bar{e}\bar{u}$
 $\bar{e}\bar{u}$



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

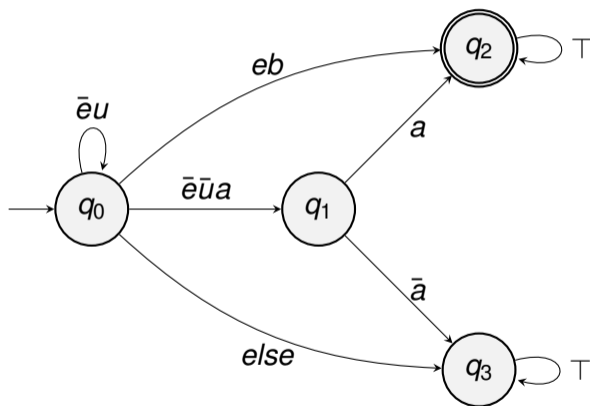
Iterate the above procedure until all AFA states have been explored.

To obtain the final DFA:

1. UPROJECT the universal bits;
2. EPROJECT the existential bits.

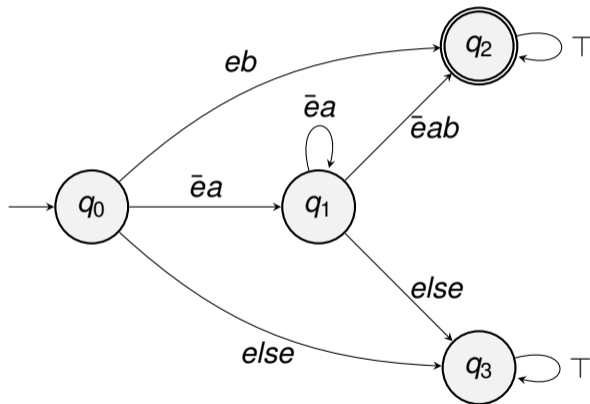
Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

The above DFA, minimized:



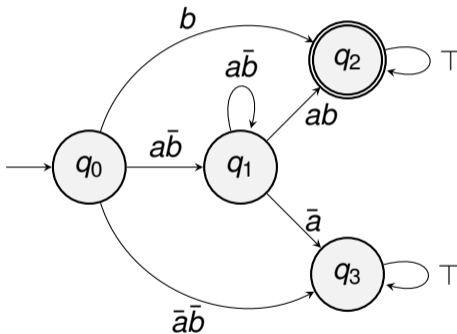
Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

After UPROJECT:



Example for $\langle \rho^* \rangle \psi$ (with tests)

After EPROJECT, the minimal DFA for $\varphi = \langle (\langle a; a \rangle tt?; true)^* \rangle \langle b \rangle tt$:



Experiments

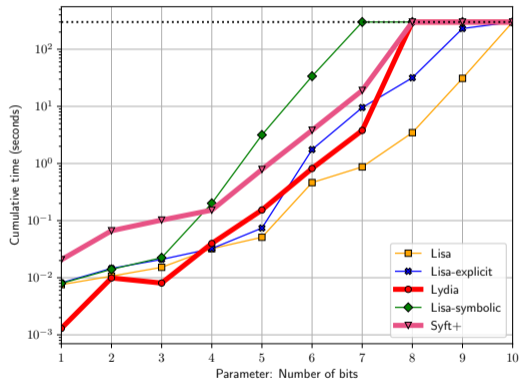
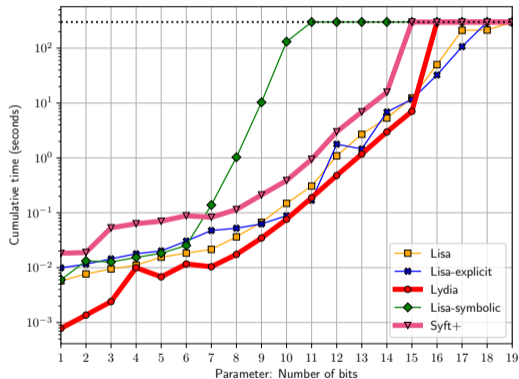
Tools:

- Lydia/LydiaSyn
- MONA/Syft+
- Lisa (only explicit, only symbolic, hybrid) (Bansal et al., 2020)

Datasets:

- Random conjunctions, 400 formulae (Zhu et al., 2017)
- Single counters, 20 formulae (Tabajara and Moshe Y Vardi, 2019)
- Double counters, 10 formulae (Tabajara and Moshe Y Vardi, 2019)
- Nim game, 24 formulae (Tabajara and Moshe Y Vardi, 2019)

DFA Construction (single/double counters)

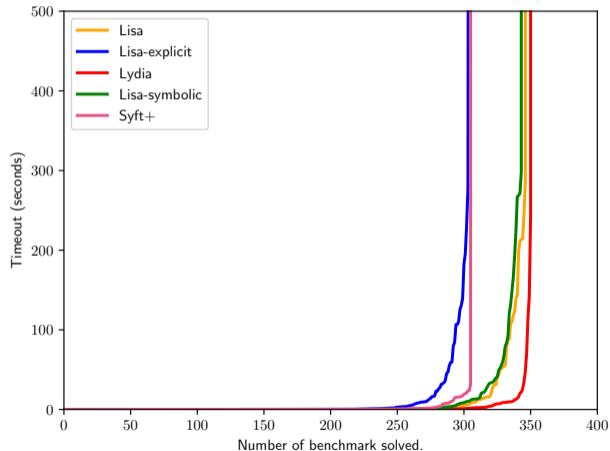


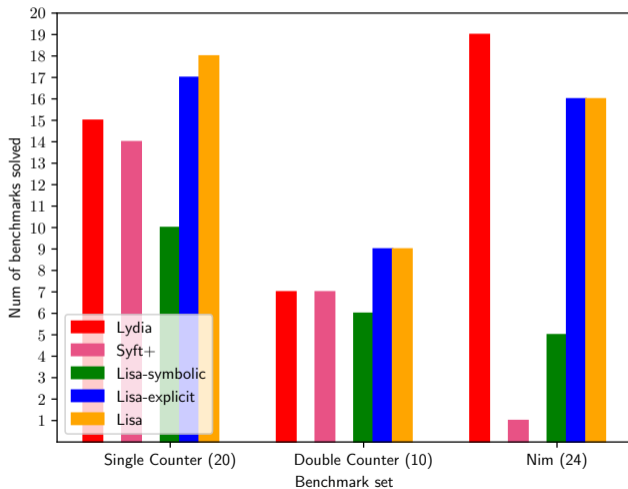
DFA Construction (Nim game)

Benchmark					
Name	Lydia	Mona-based	Lisa-explicit	Lisa-symbolic	Lisa
nim_1.1	0.01	0.15	0.07	0.07	0.07
nim_1.2	0.02	—	0.15	0.16	0.16
nim_1.3	0.05	—	0.07	1.43	0.06
nim_1.4	0.09	—	0.14	267.23	0.13
nim_1.5	0.17	—	0.27	—	0.25
nim_1.6	0.30	—	0.63	—	0.54
nim_1.7	0.54	—	1.20	—	1.02
nim_1.8	0.82	—	1.87	—	1.83
nim_2.1	0.05	—	0.14	1.49	0.10
nim_2.2	0.20	—	0.84	—	0.81
nim_2.3	1.47	—	4.95	—	4.95
nim_2.4	7.00	—	26.07	—	24.33
nim_2.5	34.86	—	125.56	—	108.86
nim_2.6	114.87	—	—	—	—
nim_2.7	—	—	—	—	—
nim_3.1	0.40	—	3.15	—	2.67
nim_3.2	9.93	—	84.34	—	78.31
nim_3.3	142.16	—	—	—	—
nim_3.4	—	—	—	—	—
nim_4.1	8.97	—	110.10	—	109.79
nim_4.2	—	—	—	—	—
nim_5.1	243.62	—	—	—	—
nim_5.2	—	—	—	—	—

Table 1: Running time (in seconds) for DFA construction on the Nim benchmark set. In bold the minimum running time for a given benchmark. — means time/memout. Timeout at 300 sec.

DFA Construction, cactus plot












- Better than end-to-end MONA
 - Working directly with the right formalism gives better performances
- Fully compositional is (often) better
 - Lisa decomposes only in the outermost conjunction
- Heuristics are crucial for a scalable implementation
 - Aggressive minimization (as in MONA)
 - Smallest products first (as in (Bansal et al., 2020))

Future works:

- Direct translations from LTL_f
- Direct translations for Past formulae ($PLTL_f$ and $PLDL_f$)
- Use a hybrid approach

-  Bansal, Suguman et al. “Hybrid compositional reasoning for reactive synthesis from finite-horizon specifications”. In: *AAAI*. 2020, pp. 9766–9774.
-  Brafman, Ronen, Giuseppe De Giacomo, and Fabio Patrizi. “LTLf/LDLf Non-Markovian Rewards”. In: (2018), pp. 1771–1778.
-  De Giacomo, Giuseppe and Moshe Y. Vardi. “Linear Temporal Logic and Linear Dynamic Logic on Finite Traces”. In: *IJCAI*. 2013, pp. 854–860.
-  Henriksen, Jesper G. et al. “Mona: Monadic second-order logic in practice”. In: 1995, pp. 89–110.
-  Tabajara, Lucas Martinelli and Moshe Y Vardi. “Partitioning Techniques in LTLf Synthesis.”. In: *IJCAI*. 2019, pp. 5599–5606.
-  Yu, Fang et al. “Symbolic string verification: An automata-based approach”. In: *SPIN*. 2008, pp. 306–324.
-  Zhu, Shufang et al. “A symbolic approach to safety LTL synthesis”. In: *HVC*. 2017.