Of stacks (of stacks (...) with blind counters) with blind counters

Georg Zetzsche

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Algorithmics on Infinite State Systems 2014

Georg Zetzsche (TU KL)

Valence Automata

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Example (Blind counter automaton)





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 $L = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \ge 0\}$

Example (Partially blind counter automaton)



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 $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid |p|_a \ge |p|_b \text{ for each prefix } p \text{ of } w\}$

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Automata models that extend finite automata by some storage mechanism:

- Pushdown automata
- Blind counter automata
- Partially blind counter automata
- Turing machines

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Each storage mechanism consists of:

- States: set S of states
- Operations: partial maps $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n \colon S \to S$

Model	States	Operations
Pushdown automata	<i>S</i> = Γ*	$push_a: w \mapsto wa, a \in \Gamma$ $pop_a: wa \mapsto w, a \in \Gamma$

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Observation

Here, a sequence β_1,\ldots,β_k of operations is valid if and only if

 $\beta_1 \circ \cdots \circ \beta_k = \mathsf{id}$

Definition

A monoid is

- a set *M* together with
- an associative binary operation $\cdot: M \times M \to M$ and
- a neutral element $1 \in M$ (a1 = 1a = a for any $a \in M$).

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Storage mechanisms as monoids

- Let S be a set of states and $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n \colon S \to S$ partial maps.
- The set of all compositions of $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$ is a monoid M.
- The identity map is the neutral element of *M*.
- *M* is a decription of the storage mechanism.

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Common generalization: Valence Automata

Valence automaton over M:

• Finite automaton with edges $p \xrightarrow{w|m} q$, $w \in \Sigma^*$, $m \in M$.

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- Finite automaton with edges $p \xrightarrow{w|m} q$, $w \in \Sigma^*$, $m \in M$.
- Run $q_0 \xrightarrow{w_1|m_1} q_1 \xrightarrow{w_2|m_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{w_n|m_n} q_n$ is accepting for $w_1 \cdots w_n$ if
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Language class

VA(M) languages accepted by valence automata over M.

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Questions

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- For which do we have semilinearity of all languages?
- For which is the language class, for example, Boolean closed?
- For which can we decide, for example, emptiness?

By graphs, we mean undirected graphs with loops allowed.

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$$X_{\Gamma} = \{a_{\nu}, \bar{a}_{\nu} \mid \nu \in V\}$$

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Intuition

- \mathbb{B} : bicyclic monoid, $\mathbb{B} = \{a, \bar{a}\}^* / \{a\bar{a} = \varepsilon\}$.
- \mathbb{Z} : group of integers
- $\bullet\,$ For each unlooped vertex, we have a copy of $\mathbb B$
- \bullet For each looped vertex, we have a copy of $\mathbb Z$
- $\bullet~\ensuremath{\mathbb{M}\Gamma}$ consists of sequences of such elements
- An edge between vertices means that elements can commute





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Blind counter

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 $\mathbb{B} * \mathbb{B} * \mathbb{B}$

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Blind counter





Blind counter

Pushdown

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Blind counter

Pushdown



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Blind counter

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Blind counter





Partially blind counter





Blind counter







Partially blind counter





Blind counter







Partially blind counter





Blind counter







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Partially blind counter





Blind counter







A D N A B N A B N A B N

Partially blind counter

Infinite tape (TM)

Georg Zetzsche (TU KL)

Valence Automata

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Blind counter







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Silent Transitions

A transition that reads no input is called *silent transition* or ε -transition.

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Important problem

- When can silent transitions be eliminated?
- Without silent transitions, membership in NP.
- Elimination can be regarded as a precomputation.

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Question

For which storage mechanisms can we avoid silent transitions?

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- Let Γ be a graph such that
 - any two looped vertices are adjacent,
 - no two unlooped vertices are adjacent.

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Theorem (Z., ICALP 2013)

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Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- Silent transitions can be avoided over ML.
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- $\mathbb{M}\Gamma \in StCtr$

Positive case

Definition (Stacked counters)

Let StCtr be the smallest class of monoids such that

- $1 \in StCtr$
- if $M \in StCtr$, then $M \times \mathbb{Z} \in StCtr$
- if $M \in StCtr$, then $M * \mathbb{B} \in StCtr$

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Interpretation of StCtr

StCtr corresponds to the class of storage mechanisms obtained by

- adding a blind counter $(M \times \mathbb{Z})$:
 - States: (c, z), c an old state, $z \in \mathbb{Z}$.
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 - Operations: old operations; increment, decrement for counter
- building stacks (M * B)
 - States: sequences $\Box c_1 \Box c_2 \Box \cdots \Box c_n$, c_i old states
 - Operations: push separator, pop if empty, manipulate topmost entry

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For which monoids M are all languages in VA(M) semilinear?

- Parikh's Theorem: Pushdown automata
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Theorem (Buckheister, Z., MFCS 2013)

Let Γ be a graph. The following conditions are equivalent:

- All languages in VA(MΓ) are semilinear.
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 - ② Γ, minus loops, is a transitive forest.

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 Γ, minus loops, is a transitive forest.
- $VA(M\Gamma) \subseteq VA(M)$ for some $M \in StCtr.$ (NP-membership!)



Algebraic extensions

Let \mathcal{F} be a language class. An \mathcal{F} -grammar G consists of

- Nonterminals N, terminals T, start symbol $S \in N$
- Productions $A \rightarrow L$ with $L \subseteq (N \cup T)^*$, $L \in \mathcal{F}$

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- Such languages are *algebraic over* \mathcal{F} , class denoted Alg (\mathcal{F}) .

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Presburger constraints

For each language class $\mathcal F,\,\mathsf{SLI}(\mathcal F)$ denotes the class of languages

 $h(L \cap \Psi^{-1}(S))$

for some $L \in \mathcal{F}$, a homomorphism h and a semilinear set S.

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Hierarchy

 $F_0 = \text{finite languages}, \\$

$$G_i = Alg(F_i),$$
 $F_{i+1} = SLI(G_i),$ $F = \bigcup_{i \ge 0} F_i.$

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Theorem

 $\mathsf{VA}(\mathbb{B} * \mathbb{B} * M) = \mathsf{Alg}(\mathsf{VA}(M))$

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A hierarchy of language classes

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Theorem

 $VA(\mathbb{B} * \mathbb{B} * M) = Alg(VA(M)), \bigcup_{i \ge 0} VA(M \times \mathbb{Z}^i) = SLI(VA(M)).$

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Theorem

$$VA(\mathbb{B} * \mathbb{B} * M) = Alg(VA(M)), \bigcup_{i \ge 0} VA(M \times \mathbb{Z}^i) = SLI(VA(M)).$$

Corollary

Stacked counter automata accept precisely the languages in F.

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i≥0

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Theorem (Higman)

For every language $L \subseteq X^*$, the set $L \downarrow = \{u \in X^* \mid u \le v \text{ for some } v \in L\}$ is regular.

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- for Petri net languages (Habermehl, Meyer, Wimmel, ICALP 2010)

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Theorem

For stacked counter automata, downward closures can be computed.

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Parikh annotations

- New language in the same class
- Additional symbols encode decomposition of Parikh image into constant and period vectors
- Adding period vectors by inserting at designated positions

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Example

Parikh image: $(c + (a + b)^{\oplus} + a^{\oplus}) \cup (d + (a + b)^{\oplus} + b^{\oplus}).$

 $L = (ab)^* (ca^* \cup db^*)$

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$$L = (ab)^+ (ca^+ \cup db^+)$$

Parikh image: $(c + (a + b)^{\oplus} + a^{\oplus}) \cup (d + (a + b)^{\oplus} + b^{\oplus}).$

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• Makes Parikh decomposition accessible to transducers

Georg Zetzsche	(TU KL)
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- Makes Parikh decomposition accessible to transducers
- Pumping lemma described by a language

Georg Zetzsche (TU KL)

Valence Automata

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For each level F_i , one can compute Parikh annotations in F_i .

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Computing downward closures

Recursively with respect to the hierarchy level:

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Computing downward closures

Recursively with respect to the hierarchy level:

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- For $L \in F_i = SLI(G_{i-1})$

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Other applications of Parikh annotations include:

Theorem

For each
$$i \ge 0$$
: $F_i \subsetneq G_i \subsetneq F_{i+1}$.

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- Silent transitions avoidable, non-uniform membership in NP
- Parikh's Theorem holds
- Downward closure computable
- Strict hierarchy of language classes

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