

A Burnside Approach to the Termination of Mohri's Algorithm for Polynomially Ambiguous Min-Plus-Automata

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Definition:

An automaton \mathcal{A} is called *polynomially ambiguous* if there exists some polynomial $P : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that for every $w \in \Sigma^*$ there are at most $P(|w|)$ accepting paths for w .

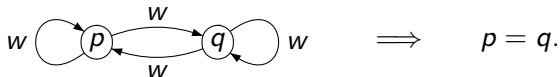
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Theorem 1: [Ibarra/Ravikumar 1986](#), [Hromkovič/et al 2002](#)

Let \mathcal{A} be trim. The following assertions are equivalent:

- ▶ \mathcal{A} is polynomially ambiguous.
- ▶ For every state q , every $w \in \Sigma^*$, we have $|q \stackrel{w}{\rightsquigarrow} q| \leq 1$.
- ▶ For every states p, q , every $w \in \Sigma^*$,



Motivation:

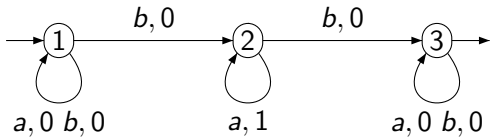
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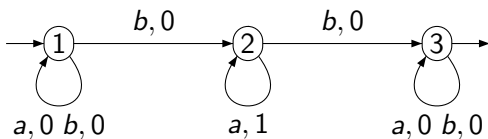
- ▶ less explored class of automata
- ▶ probably a large class of feasible WFA
- ▶ development of proof techniques
- ▶ they arise in the Cauchy-product of unambiguous/ finitely ambiguous series

$$(ST)(w) := \sum_{uv=w} S(u)T(v)$$

An Example:

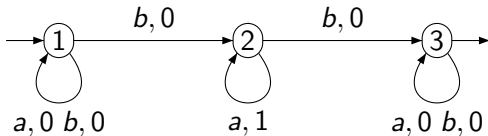


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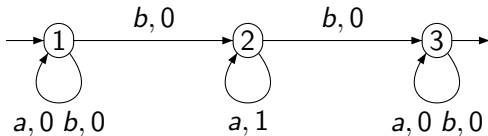
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- ▶ $|\mathcal{A}|$ is not the mapping of a finitely ambiguous WFA.

Mohri's Algorithm:

Let $\mathcal{A} = [Q, \theta, \lambda, \varrho]$ be a pol. amb. WFA, i.e.,

- ▶ $Q = \{1, \dots, n\}$ is a finite set,
- ▶ $\theta : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{Q \times Q}$ is a homomorphism,
- ▶ $\lambda, \varrho \in \mathbb{Z}^Q$.
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$$\text{nf}((1, 2, 3)) = (0, 1, 2) \quad \text{nf}((3, \infty, 4)) = (0, \infty, 1)$$

$$\text{nf}((3, \infty, -4)) = (7, \infty, 0)$$

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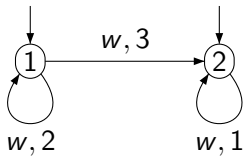
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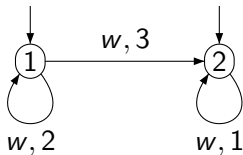
Mohri's Algorithm uses the set Q' as states.

It terminates iff Q' is finite.

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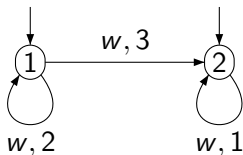


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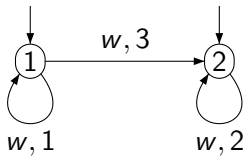


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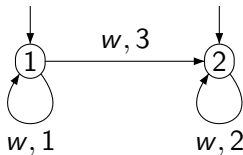
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Mohri's algorithm does not terminate on the sequence $(w^k)_{k \geq 1}$.

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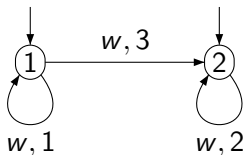


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Let $w \in \Sigma^*$ and $B = \theta(w)$.

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$$B[i,j] \neq \infty \iff (BB)[i,j] \neq \infty \quad \text{for all } i,j \in Q.$$

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The relation \leq_B is transitive and antisymmetric,

but not necessarily reflexive or irreflexive,

i.e., \leq_B is almost a partial ordering.

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Lemma:

The set $\{\text{nf}(\lambda\theta(vw^k)) \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is finite **iff**

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Theorem 2:

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Let \mathcal{A} be trim, polynomially ambiguous WFA. The following assertions are equivalent:

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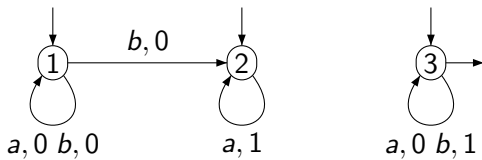
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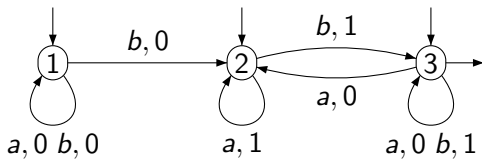
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1. Mohri's algorithm terminates on \mathcal{A} .
2. For every $v, w \in \Sigma^*$, Mohri's algorithm terminates on the sequence $(vw^k)_{k \geq 1}$ on \mathcal{A} .
3. The WFA \mathcal{A} satisfies the clones property.

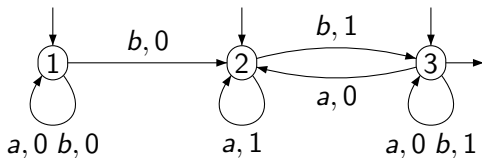
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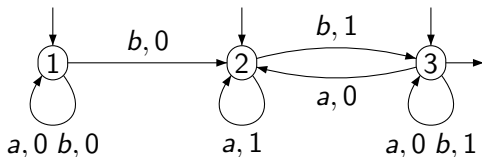


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- ▶ For every $v, w \in \Sigma^*$, Mohri's algorithm terminates on $(vw^k)_{k \geq 1}$.
- ▶ Mohri's algorithm does not terminate on $baba^2ba^3ba^4b \dots$

$(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ in Theorem 2 does **not** hold for \mathcal{A} .