

Games and Automata: From Boolean to Quantitative Verification

- Habilitation thesis defense -

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ENS Cachan, March 13th, 2012

Outline

- Antichain Algorithms

Finite automata, Büchi automata, alternating automata, partial-observation games, QBF

- Quantitative

Energy
observation

**Context and perspective
of a selection of results**

- Quantitative Languages

Automata-based model, complexity, expressiveness, closure properties, mean-payoff automaton expression

Model-checking

$$M \stackrel{?}{\models} \varphi$$

Check if a Model **satisfies** a Property ?

...in an **automated** way

[Clarke, Emerson, Pnueli, Sifakis,...]

Model-checking

What kind of properties ?

Model-checking

What kind of properties ?



Avoid **failures** !

Model-checking

What kind of properties ?



Ensure **responsiveness** !

Model-checking

What kind of models ?

Model-checking

What kind of models ?

Reactive systems:

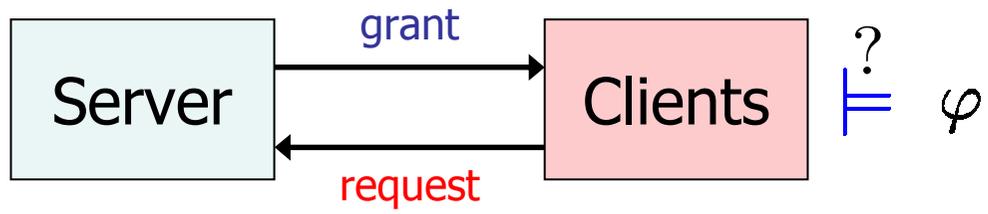
- Non-terminating
- Safety-critical
- Data abstraction



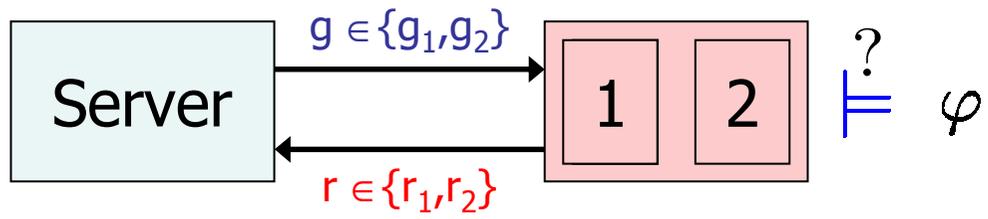
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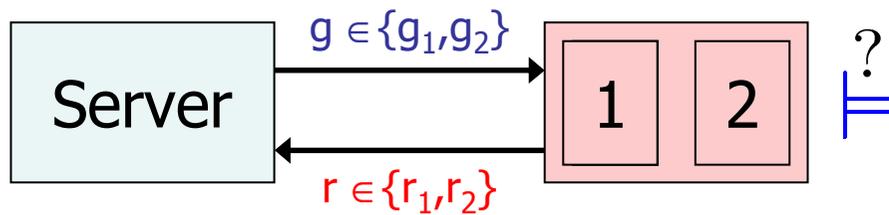
Example



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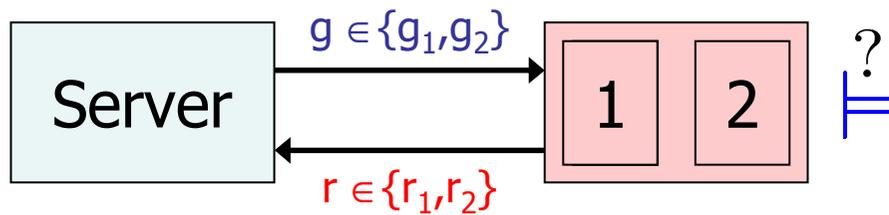


Example



« Every request is eventually granted, no simultaneous grants »

Example

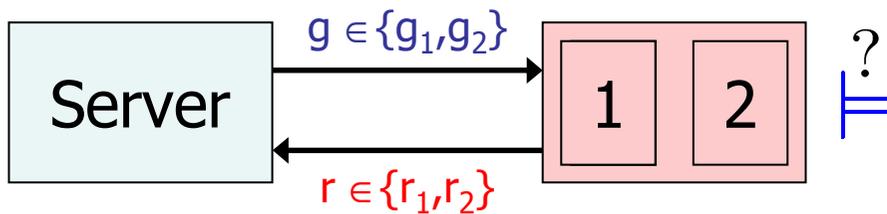


« Every request is eventually granted, no simultaneous grants »

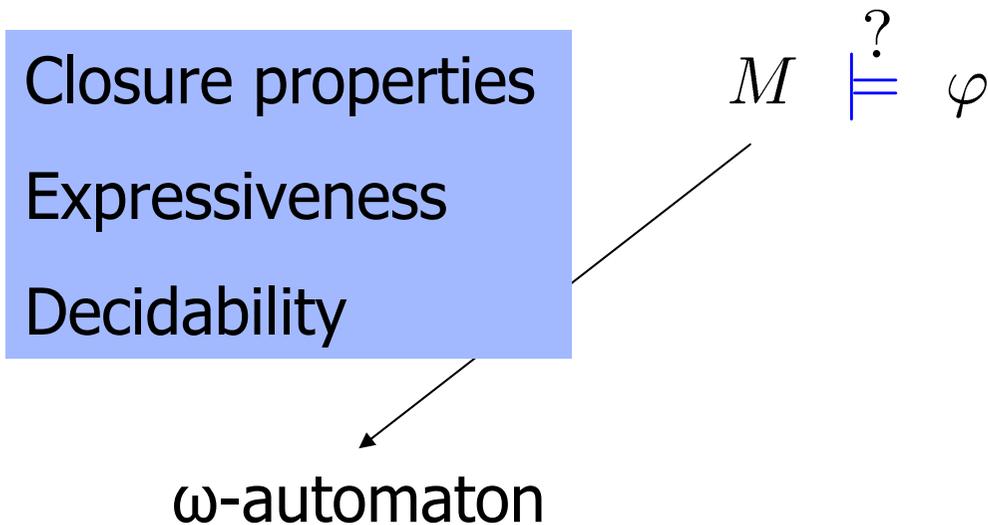
$M \models \varphi$

ω -automaton

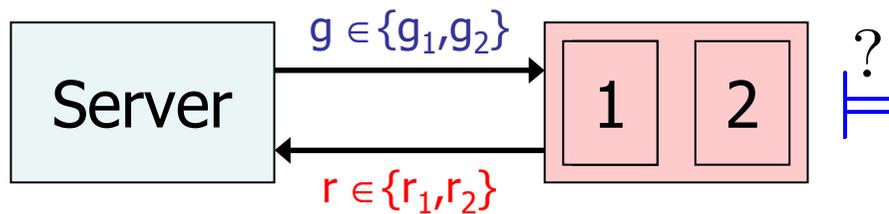
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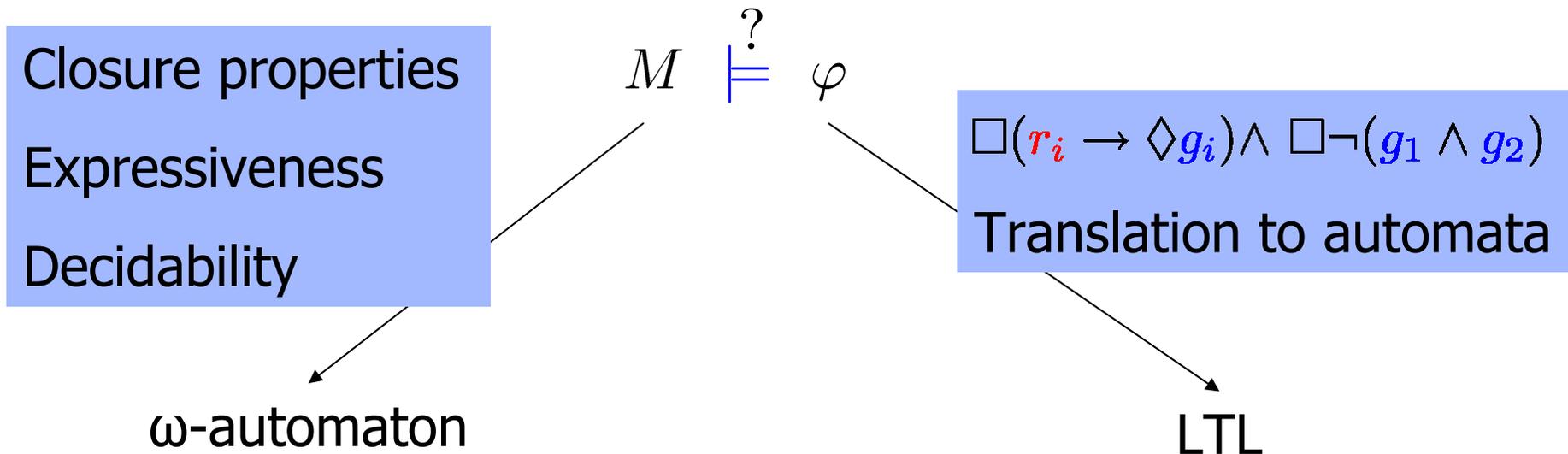
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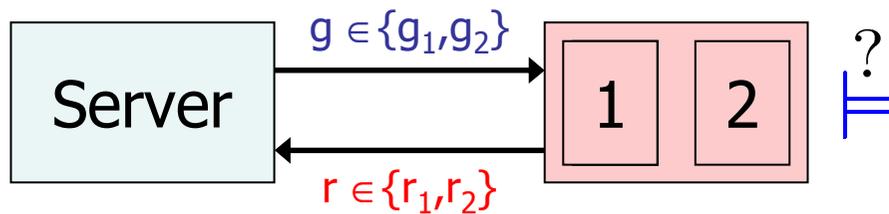
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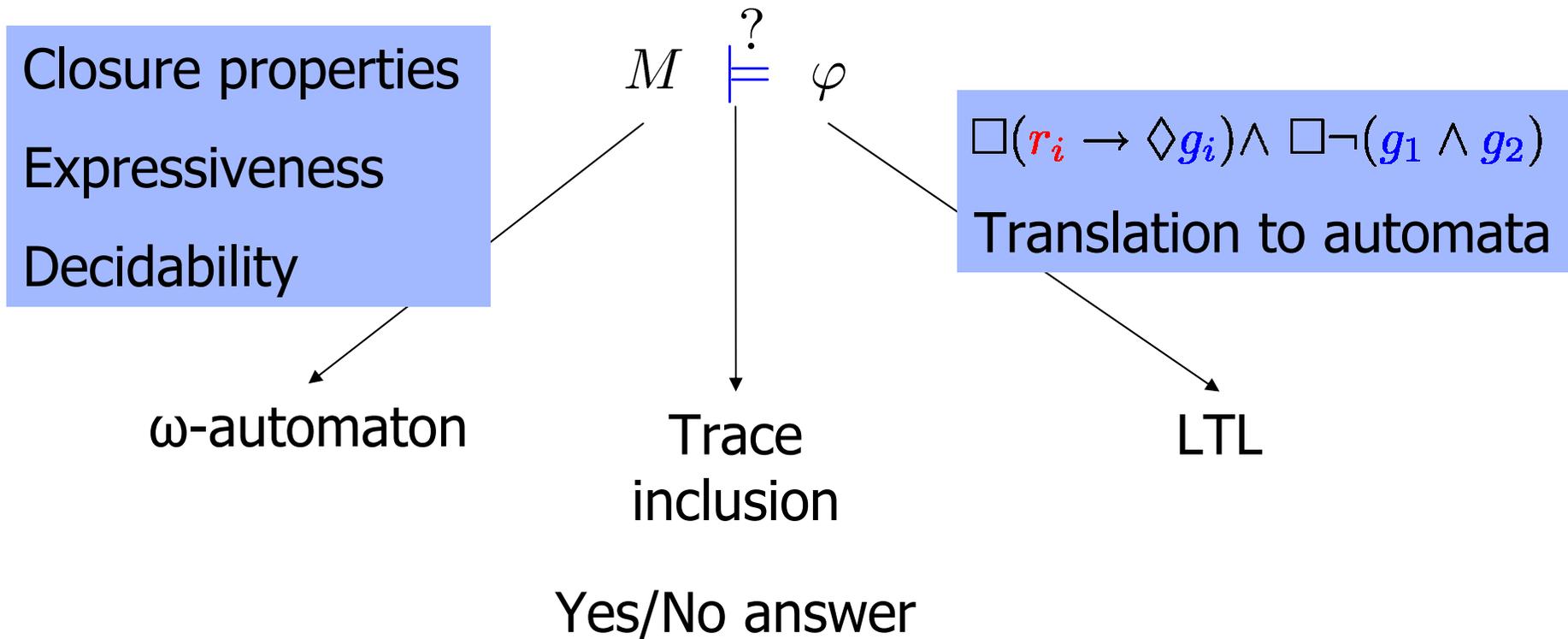
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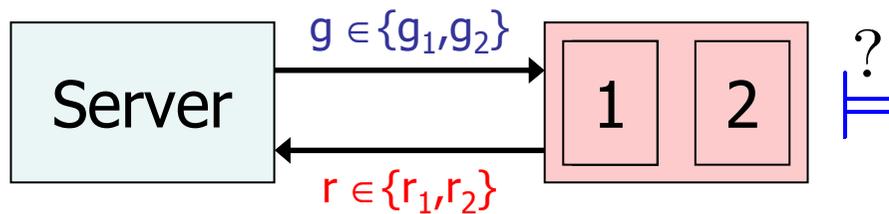
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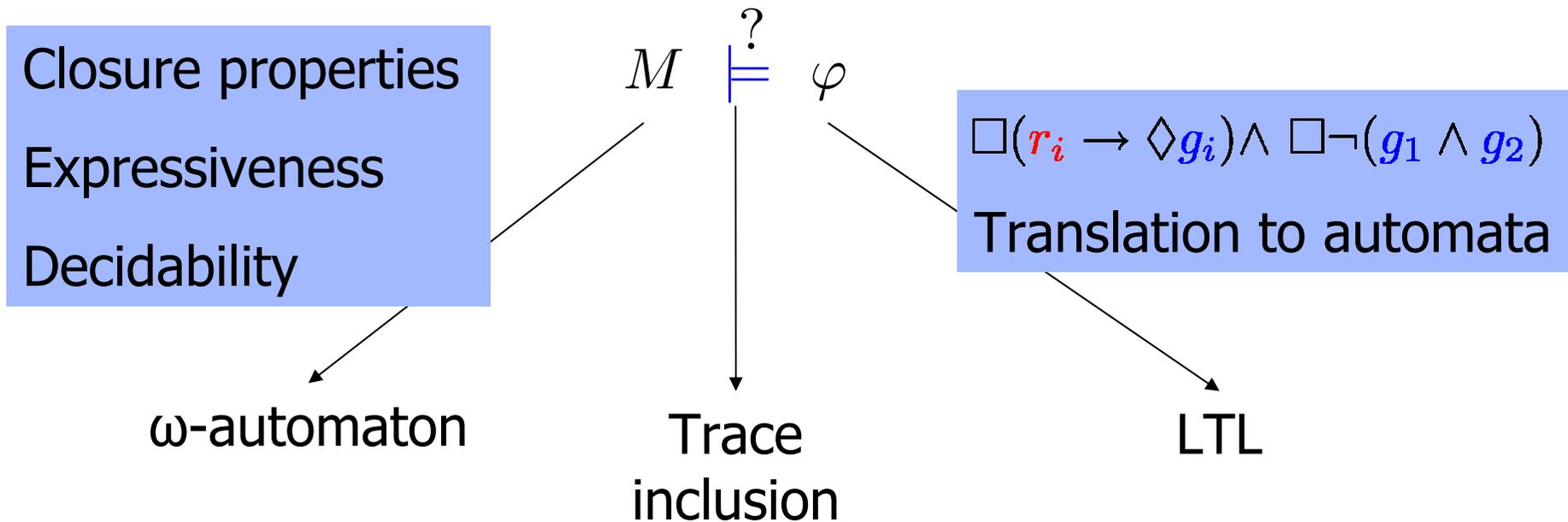
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Automata-based approach to model-checking

[Vardi, Wolper,...]

Outline

From **Boolean** to **quantitative** verification

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From **Boolean** to **quantitative** verification

- **Boolean** automata-based Verification
 1. Techniques to speed up well-known verification algorithms by orders of magnitude
- **Quantitative** Verification
 2. A surprising complexity result in game theory
 3. A robust and decidable class of quantitative languages
 -

Algorithm ?

$$M \models \varphi \quad L(M) \subseteq L(\varphi)$$

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Translation to automata $L(M) \subseteq L(A_\varphi)$

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$$L(M) \cap L(A_\varphi)^c = \emptyset$$

Closure properties $L(M \times A_\varphi^c) = \emptyset$

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This problem is PSPACE-complete

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$$L(M) \cap L(A_\varphi)^c = \emptyset$$

Closure properties $L(M \times A_\varphi^c) = \emptyset$

This problem is PSPACE-complete

even if A_φ is given explicitly, even over finite words, and even if $L(M) = \Sigma^*$

$$L(A^c) = \emptyset$$

Efficient Algorithm ?

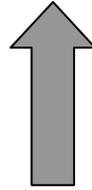
(over finite words) $L(A^c) = \emptyset$

iff there is no path from **initial** to **accepting** states in A^c .

Efficient Algorithm ?

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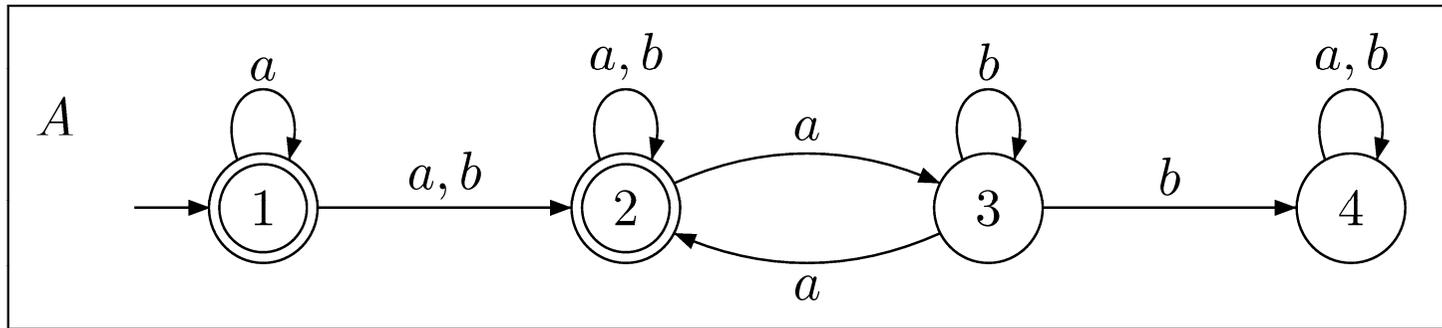
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Subset construction

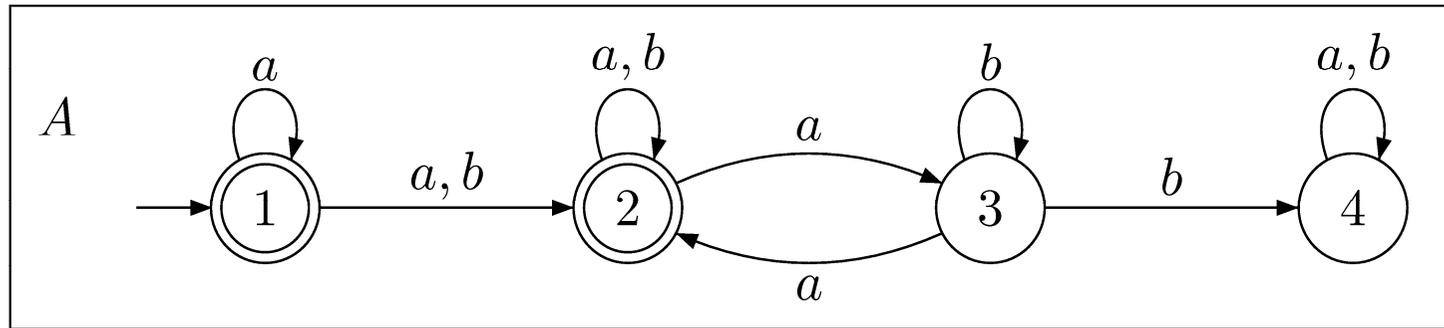
(state-explosion problem)

Subset Construction



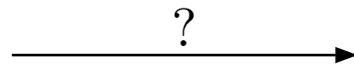
$$L(A^c) \stackrel{?}{=} \emptyset$$

Subset Construction



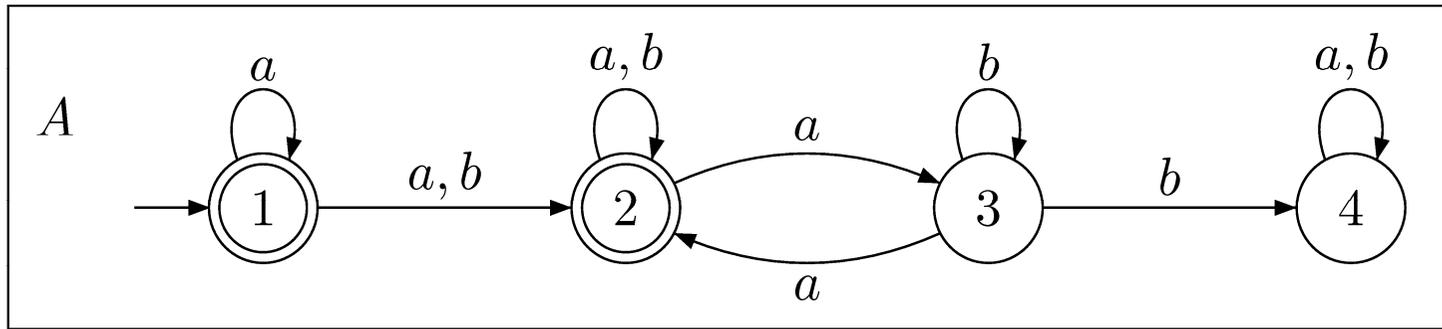
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$\{1\}$

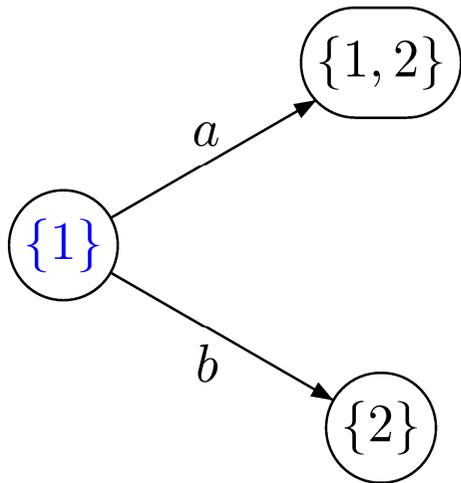
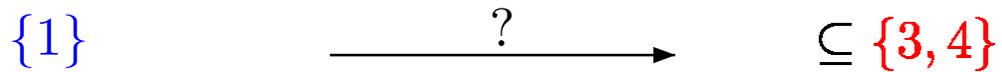


$\subseteq \{3, 4\}$

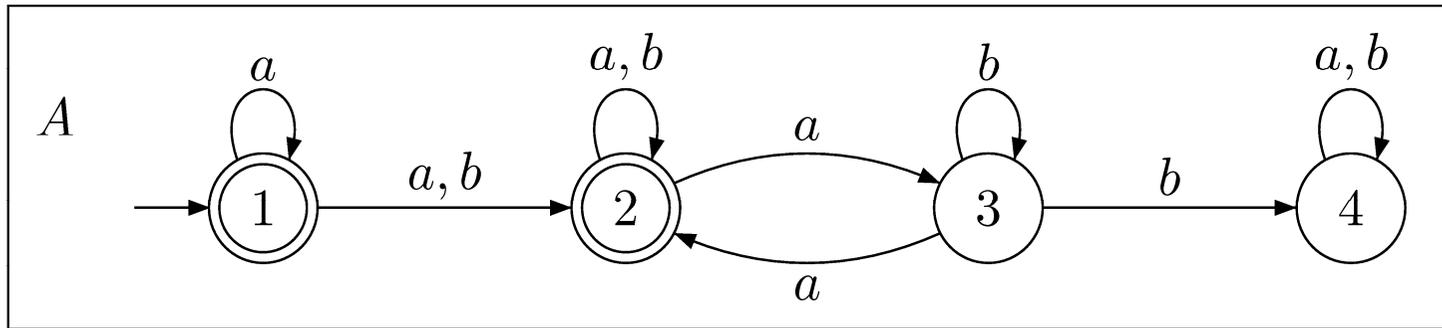
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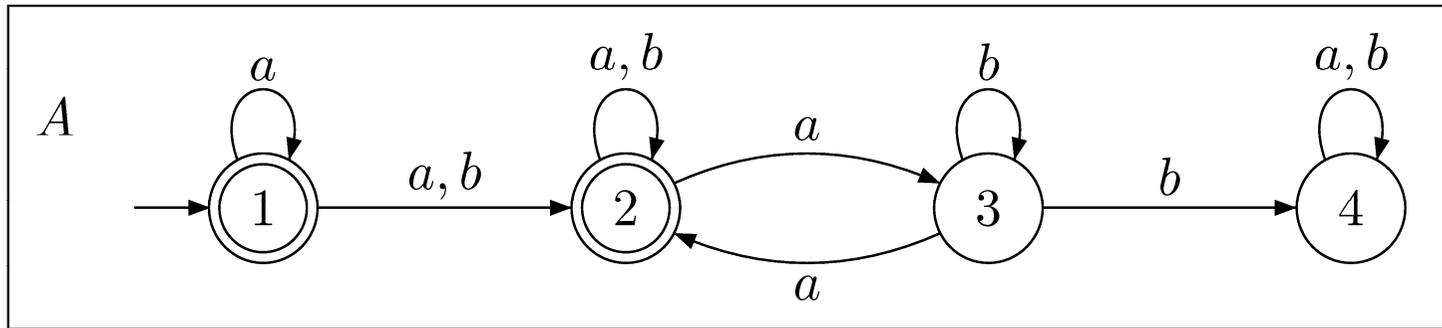
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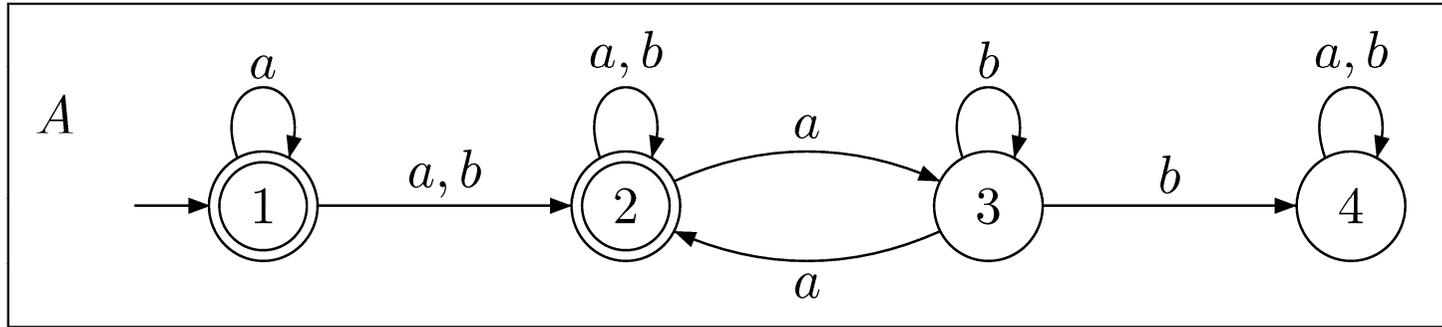
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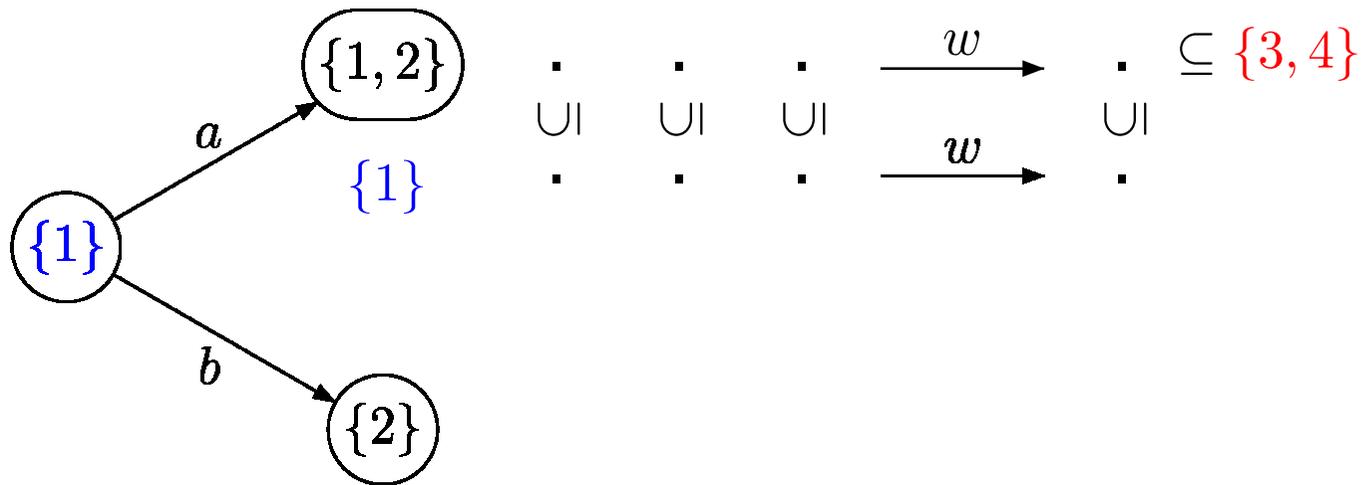
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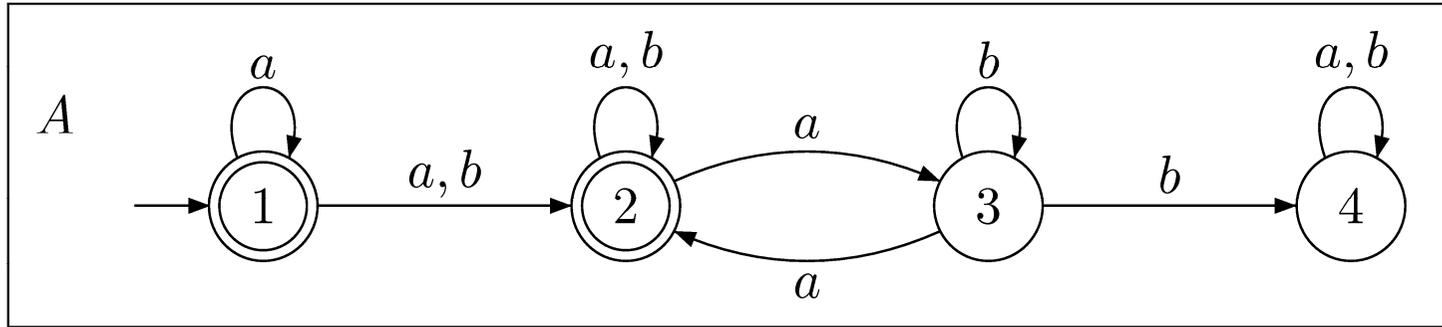
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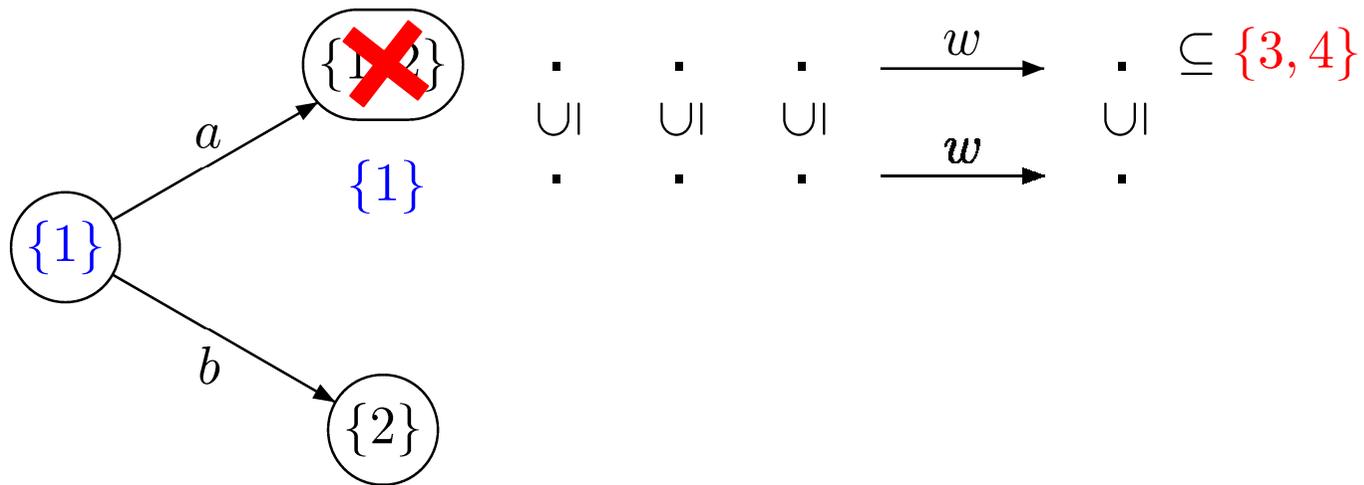
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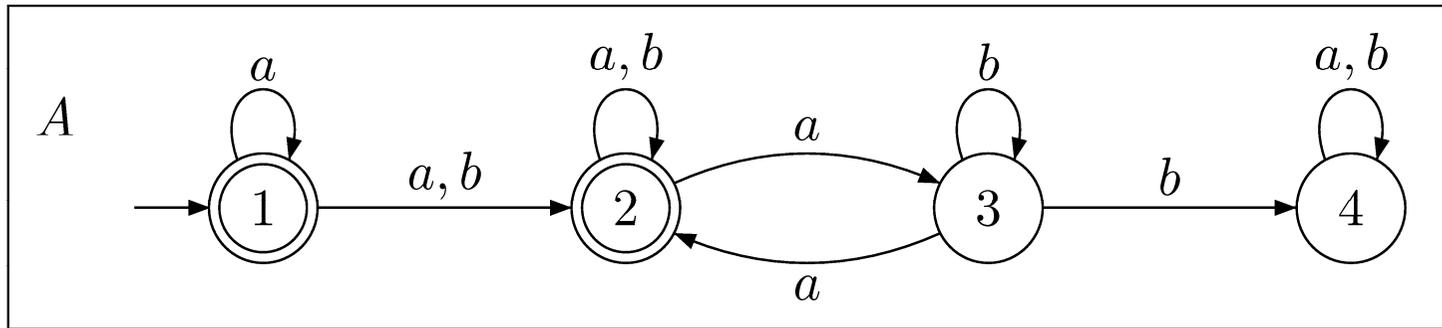
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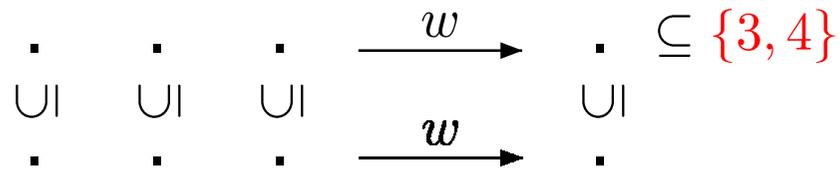
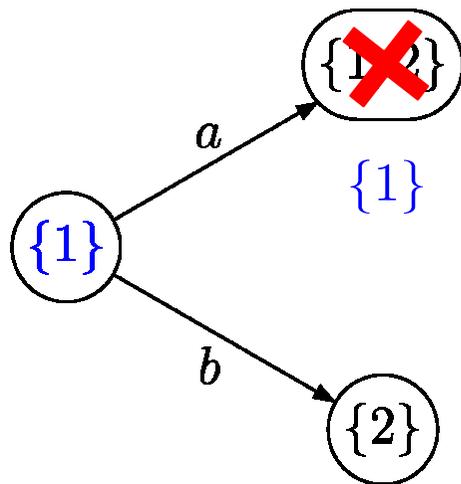
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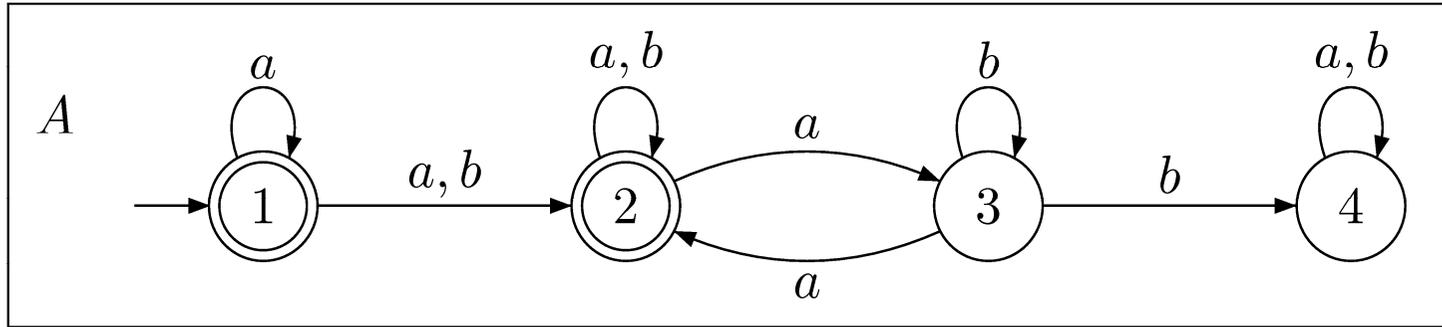
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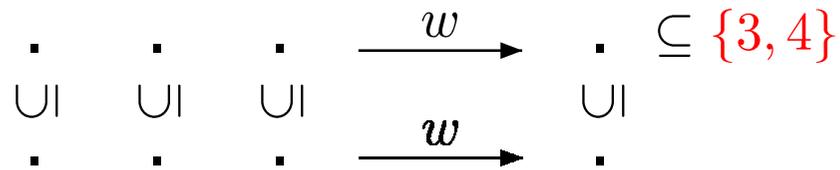
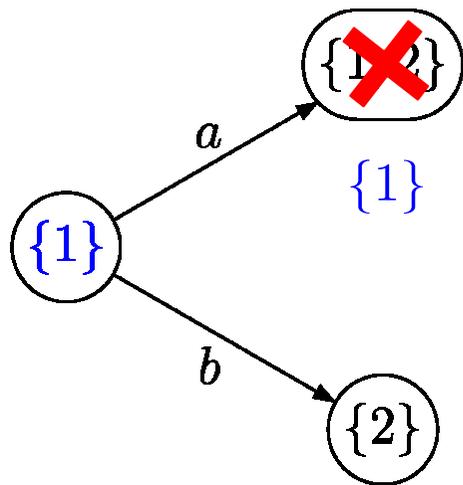
Pruning is sound: either

- $\{1, 2\} \not\rightarrow \{3, 4\}$ or

Subset Construction



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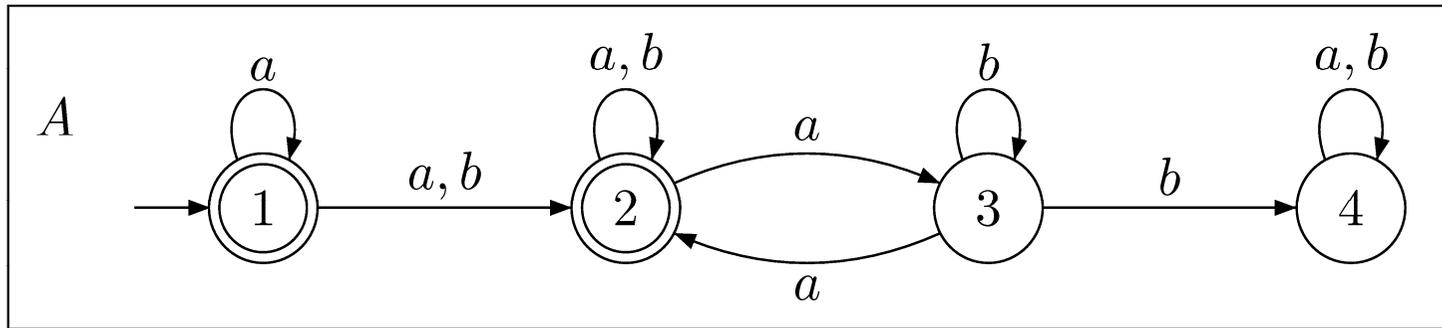
Pruning is sound: either

- $\{1, 2\} \not\rightarrow \{3, 4\}$ or

- $\{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{\exists w} \{3, 4\}$

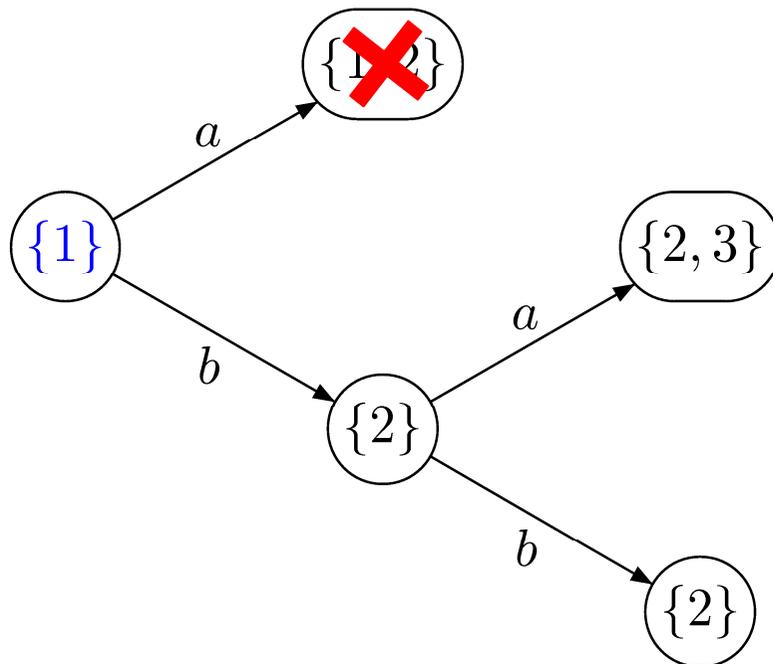
$$\{1\} \xrightarrow{\exists w} \{3, 4\}$$

Subset Construction

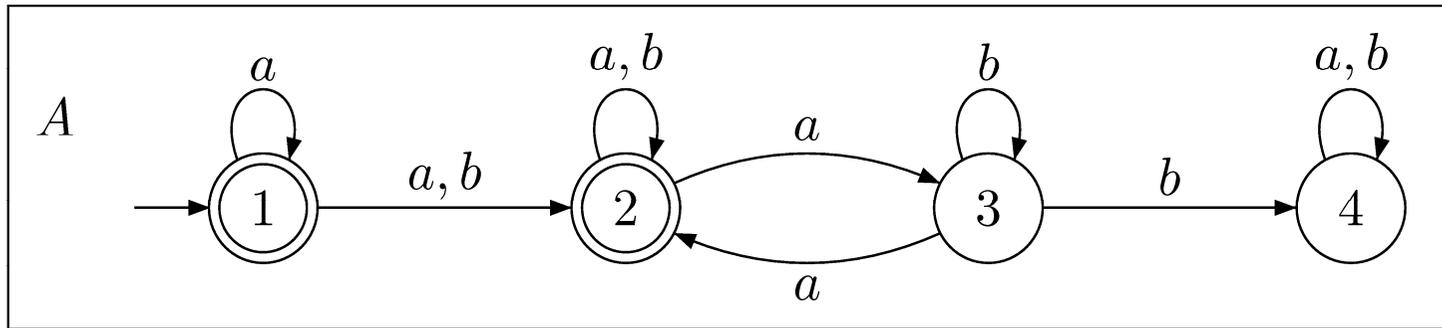


$$L(A^c) \stackrel{?}{=} \emptyset$$

$$\{1\} \xrightarrow{\quad ? \quad} \subseteq \{3, 4\}$$

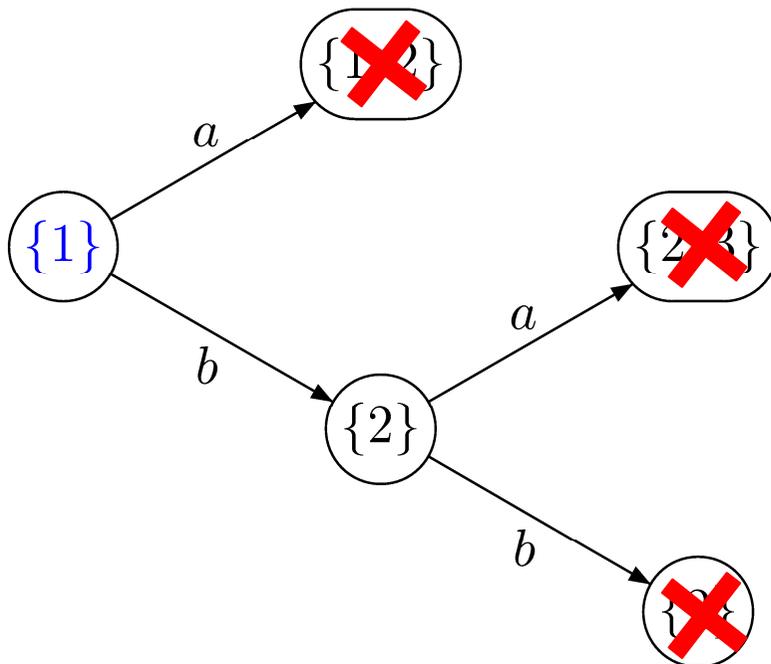


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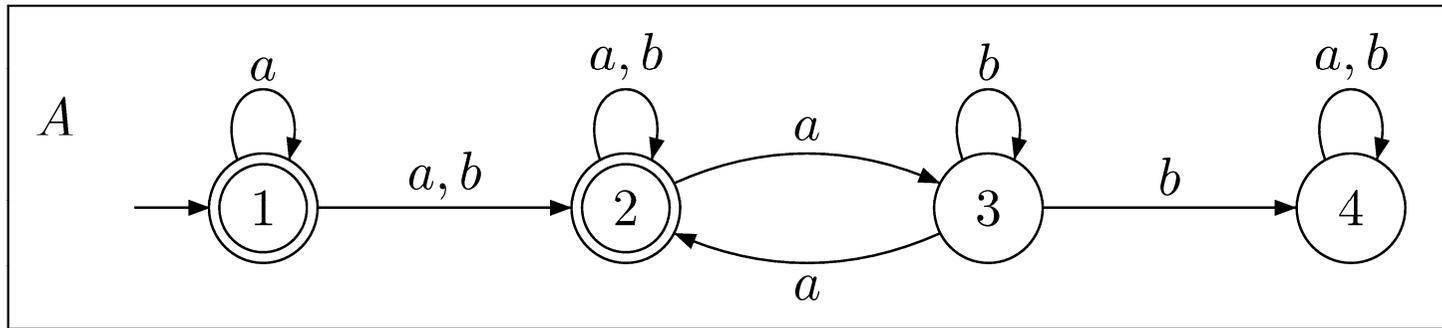


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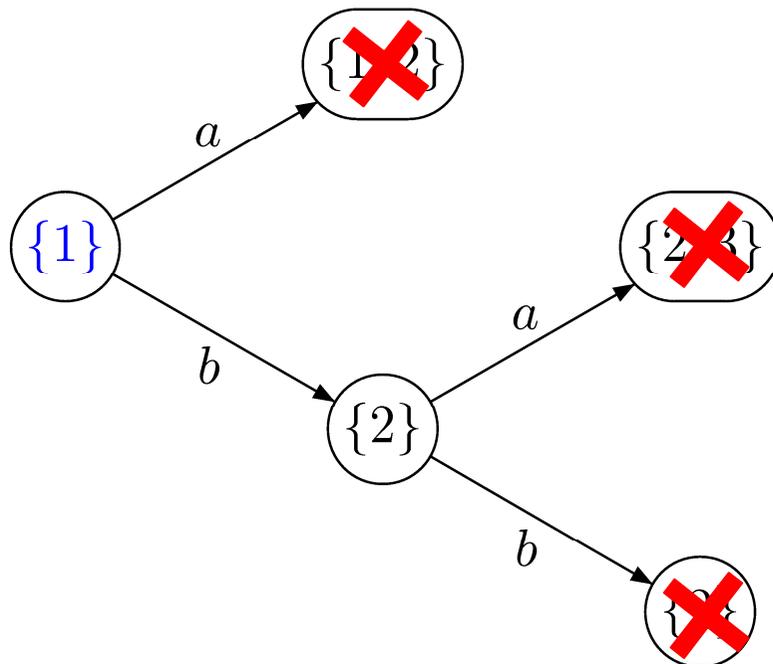


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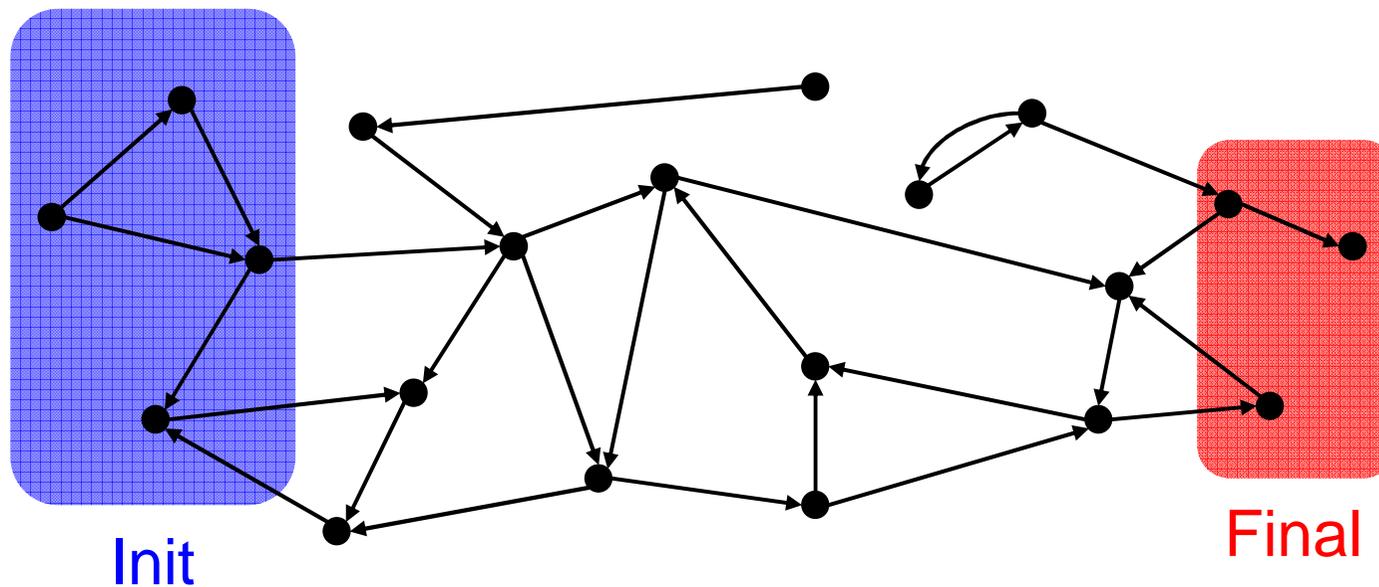
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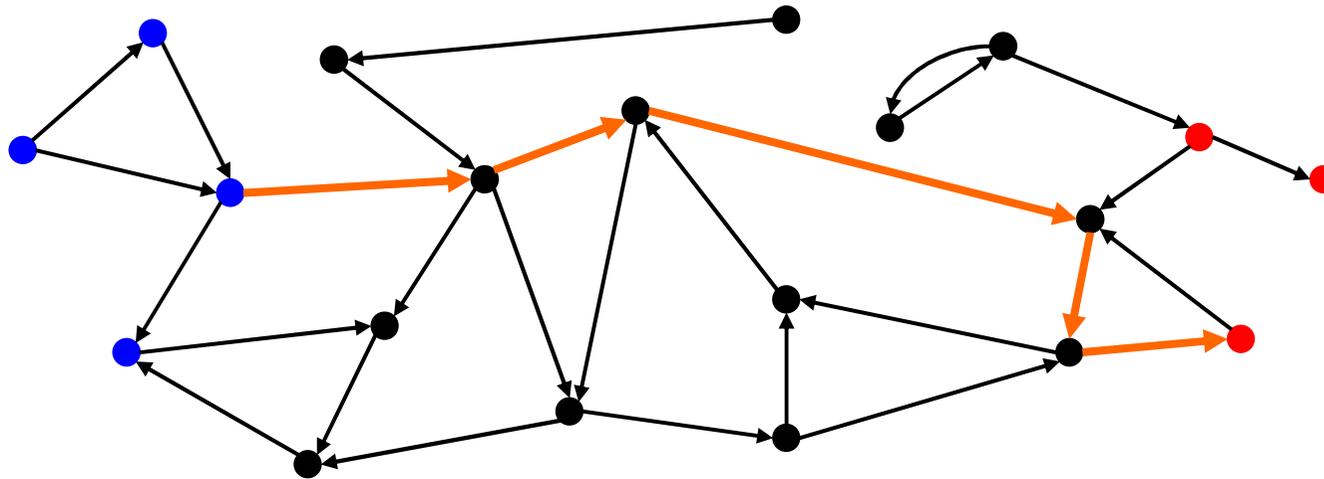
Hence, $L(A^c) = \emptyset$

Reachability



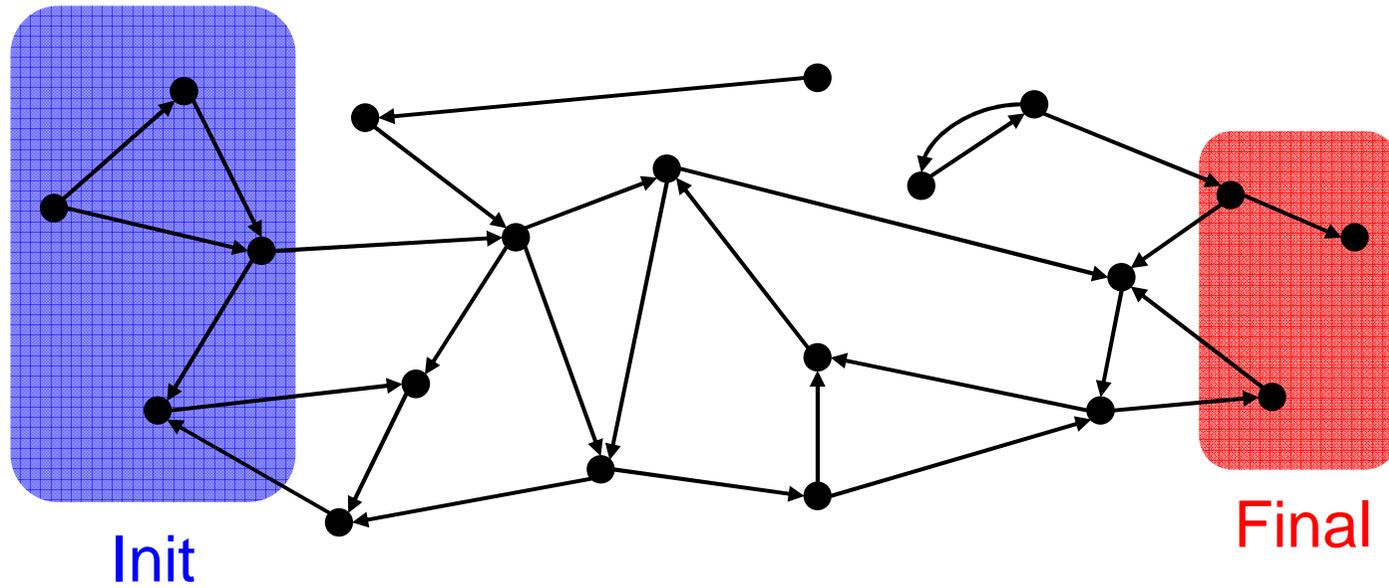
Is there a (finite) path from **Init** to **Final** ?

Reachability

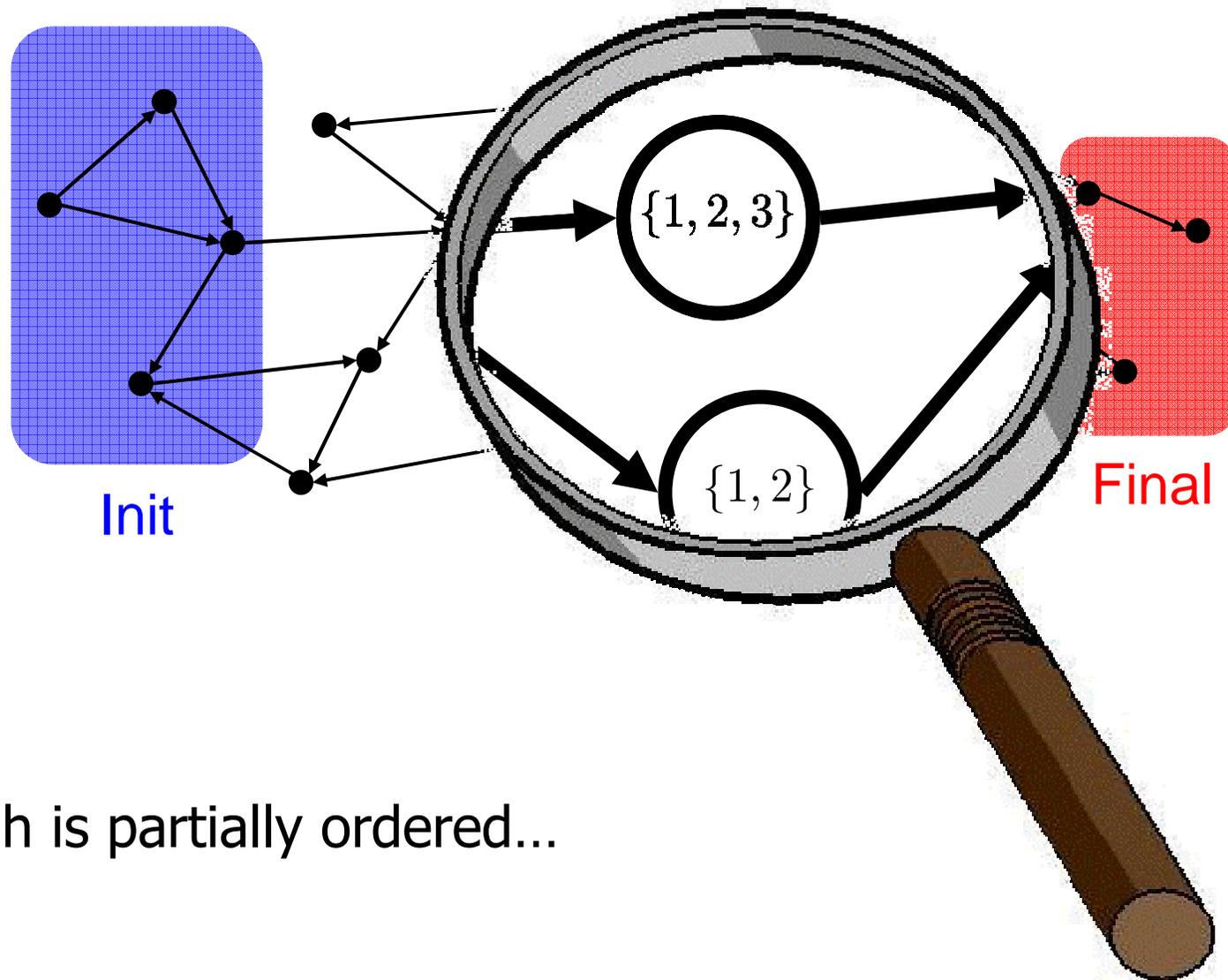


Is there a (finite) path from **Init** to **Final** ?

Structure in graphs

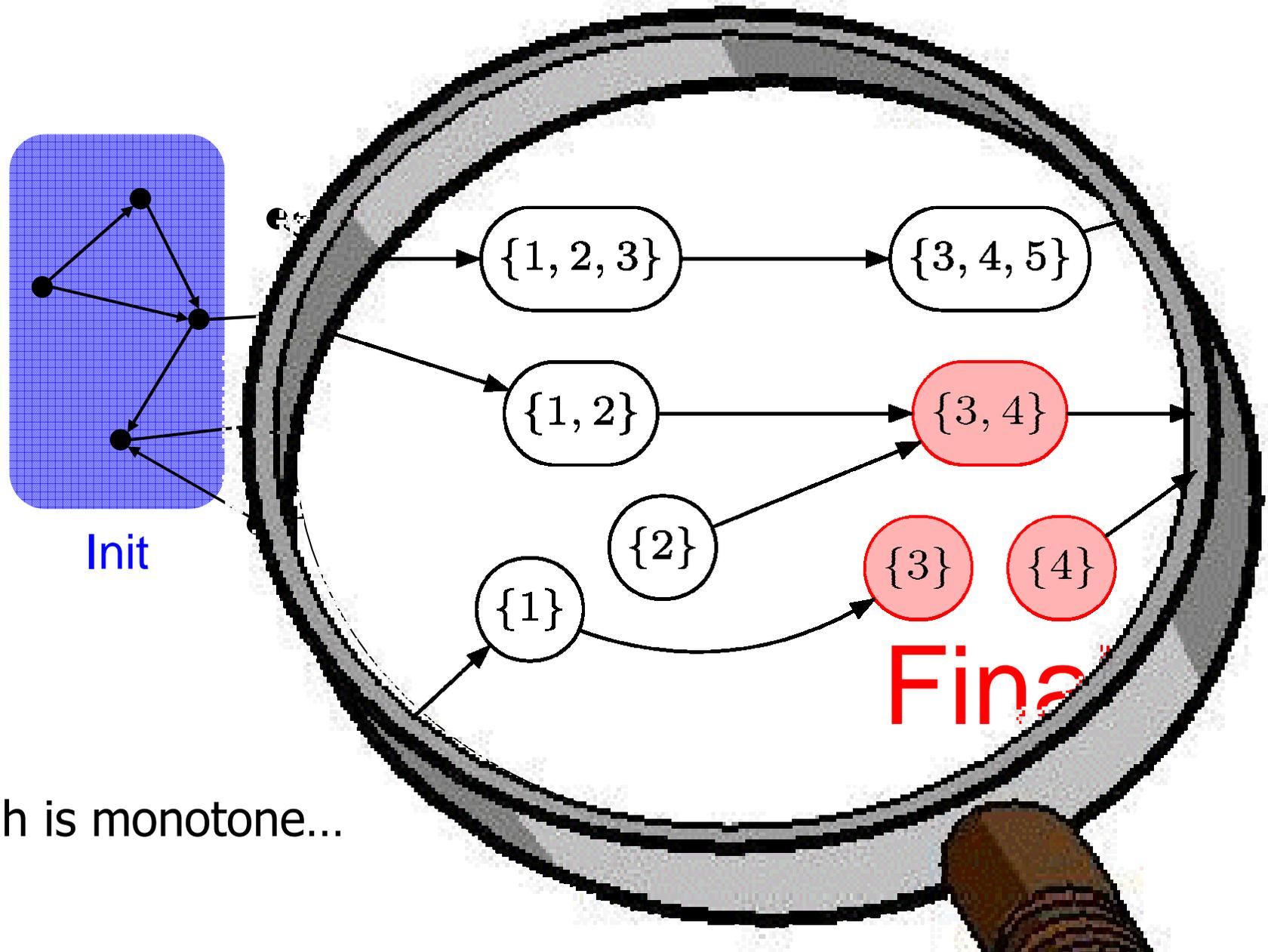


Structure in graphs



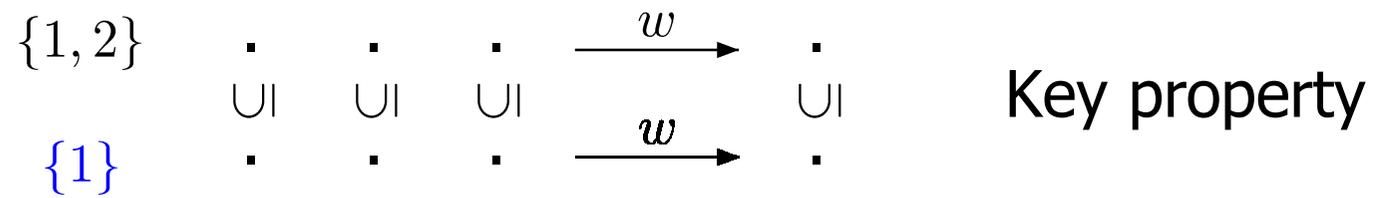
Graph is partially ordered...

Structure in graphs

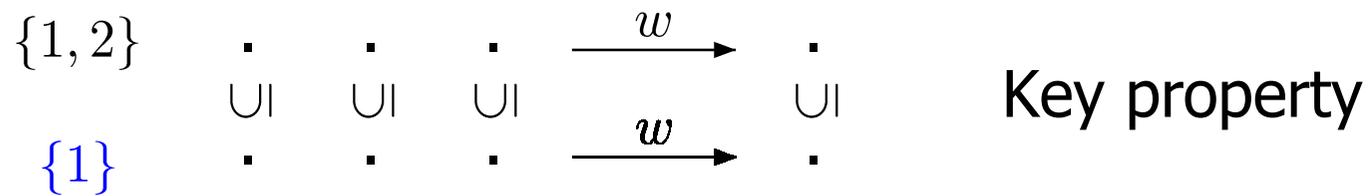


Graph is monotone...

Structure in graphs



Structure in graphs

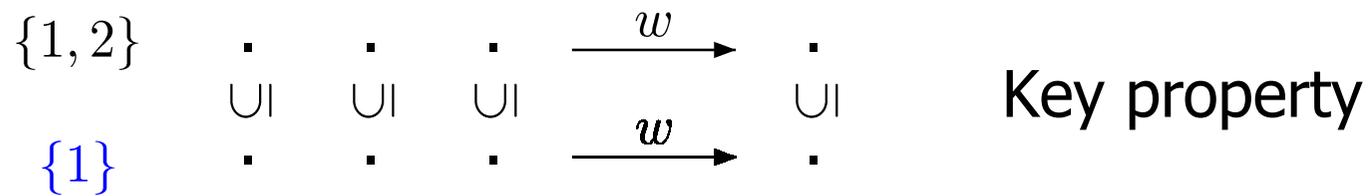


Two interpretations:

\subseteq is a **forward** simulation relation in A^c

\subseteq is a **backward** simulation relation in A^c

Structure in graphs

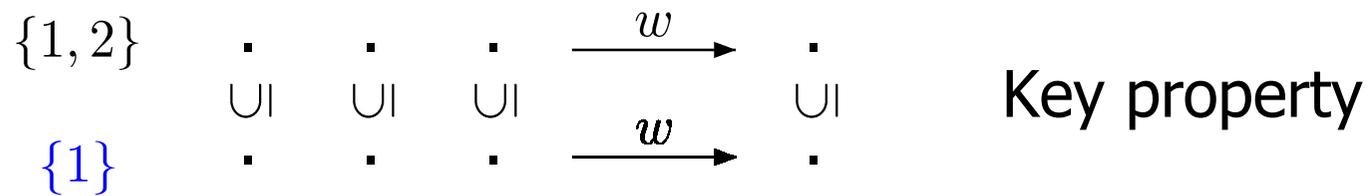


Two interpretations:

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Use \subseteq to **prune** the search

Structure in graphs



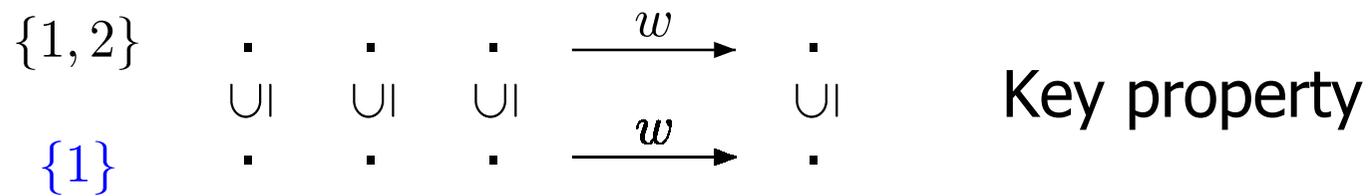
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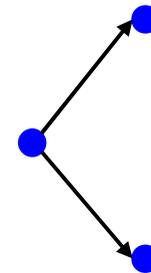
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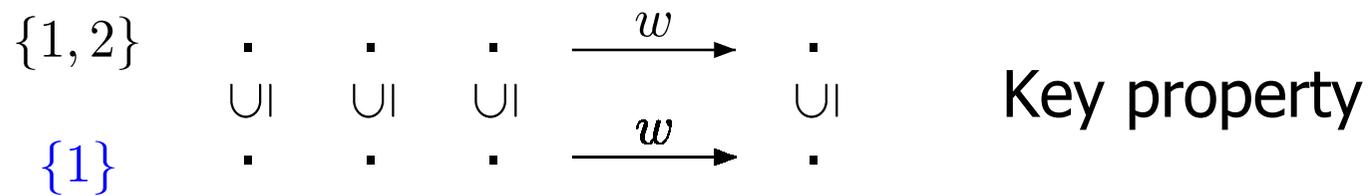
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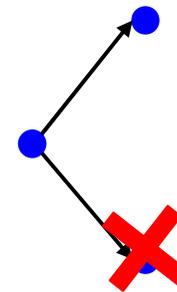
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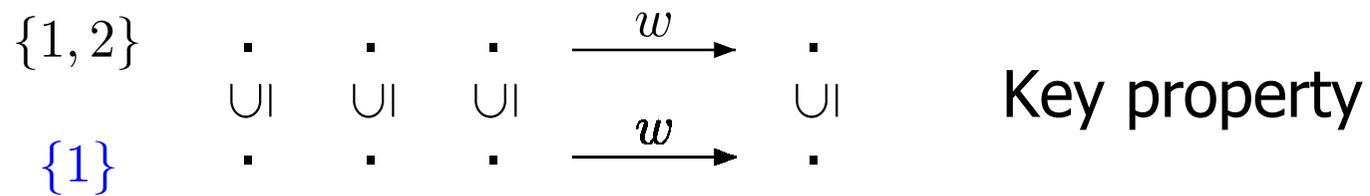
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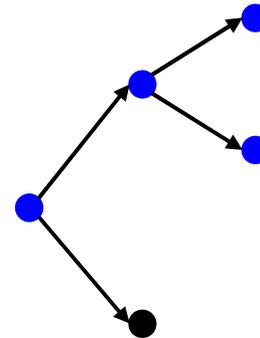
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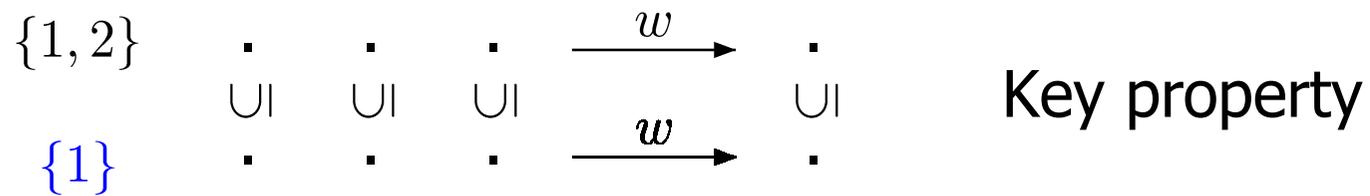
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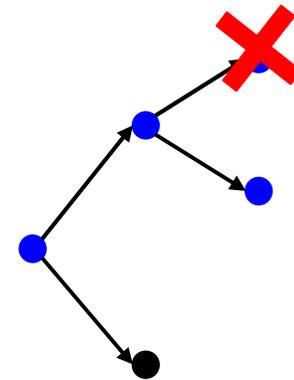
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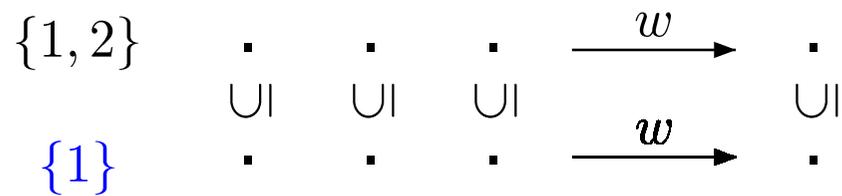
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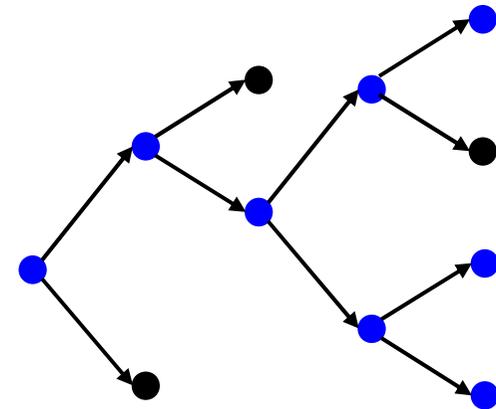
Key property

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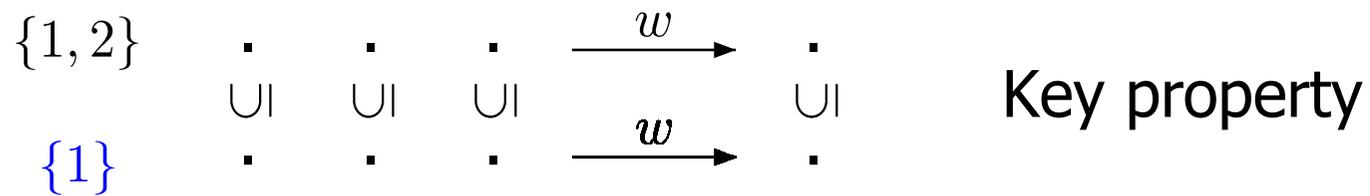
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Use \subseteq to **prune** the search

Antichain of **promising** states



Structure in graphs

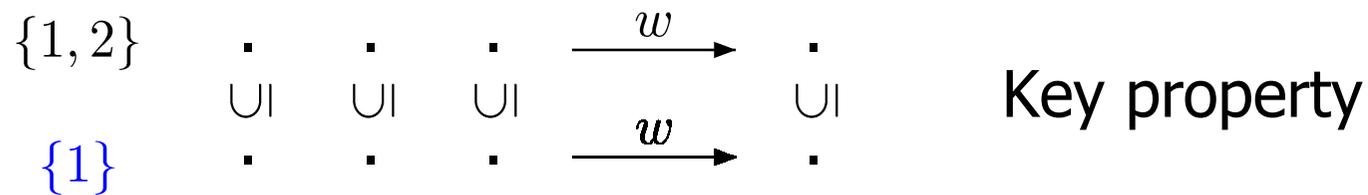


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Structure in graphs



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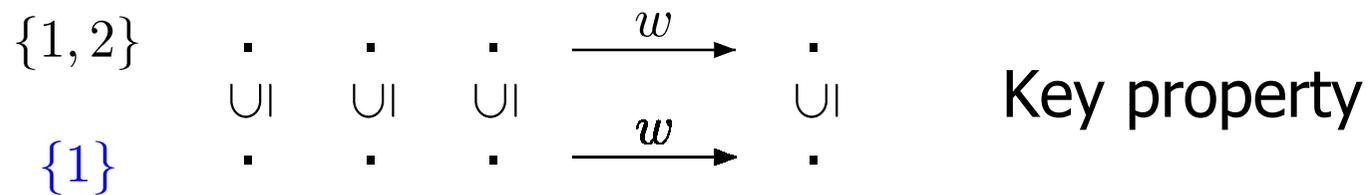
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iff $\text{post}(\cdot)$ preserves \subseteq -upward closure

$\text{post}^*(\cdot)$ computes a sequence of **\subseteq -upward** sets

Structure in graphs



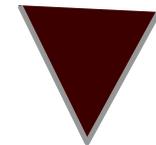
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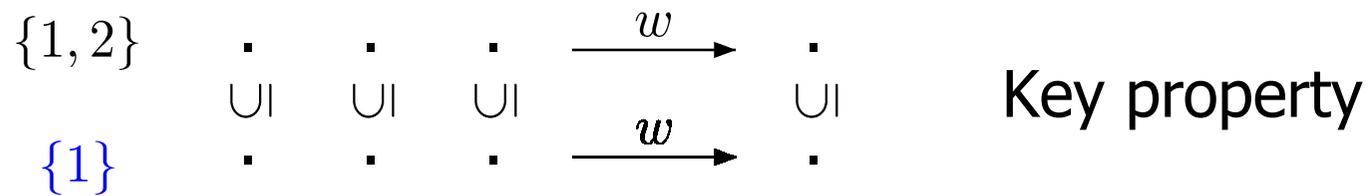
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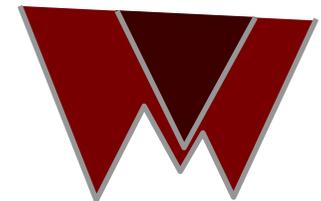
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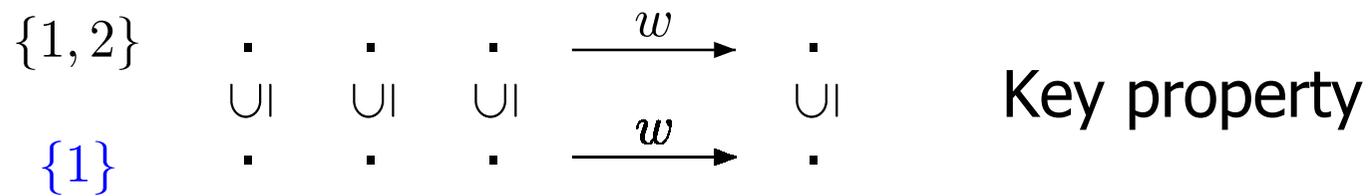
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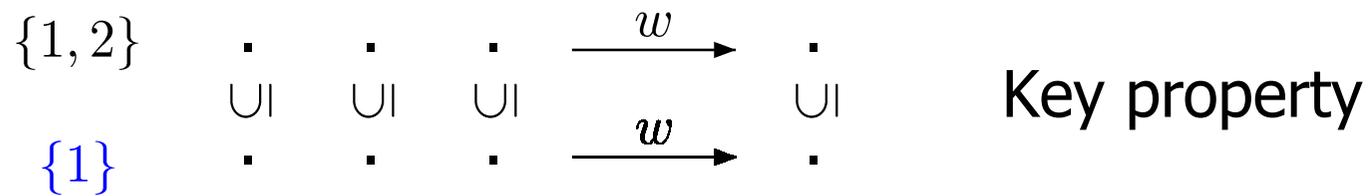
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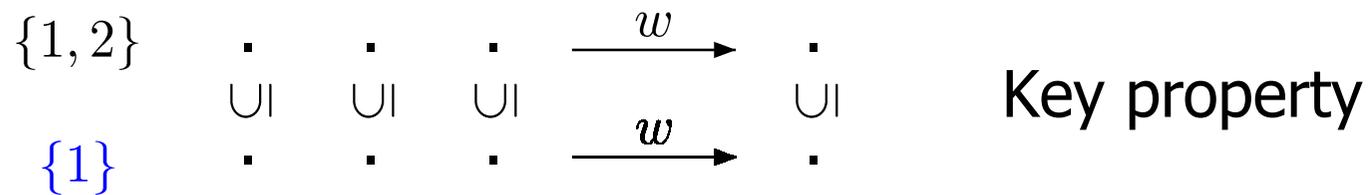
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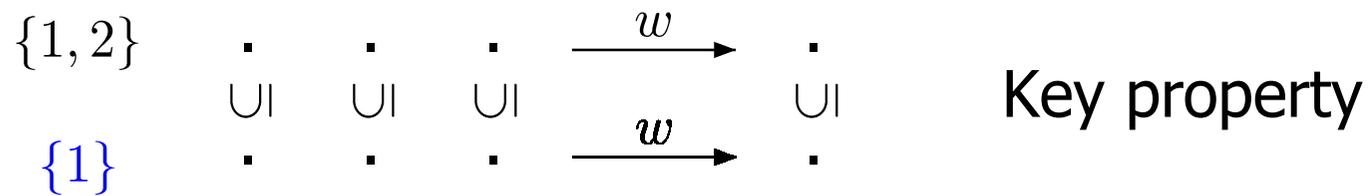
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Antichains as a **symbolic** representation
(minimal elements)

Structure in graphs



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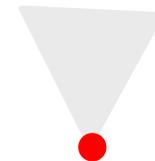
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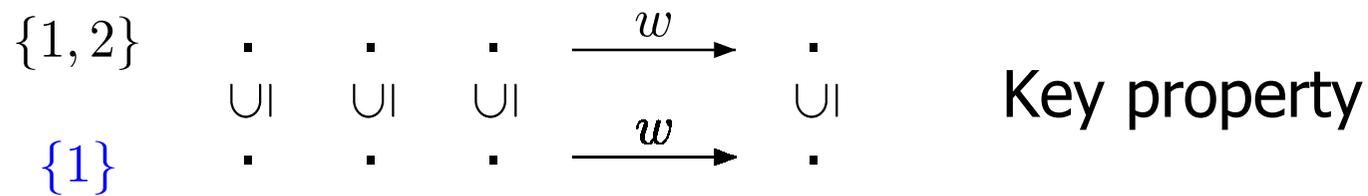
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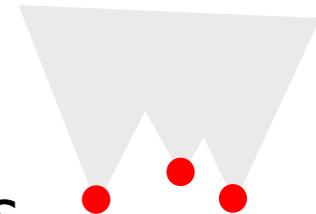
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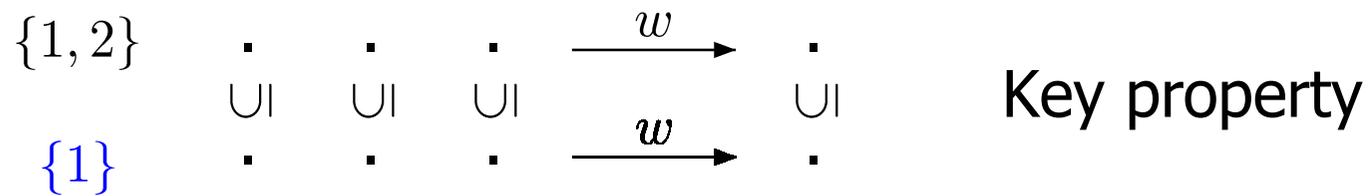
iff $\text{post}(\cdot)$ preserves \subseteq -upward closure

$\text{post}^*(\cdot)$ computes a sequence of **\subseteq -upward** sets

Antichains as a **symbolic** representation
(minimal elements)



Structure in graphs



Two interpretations:

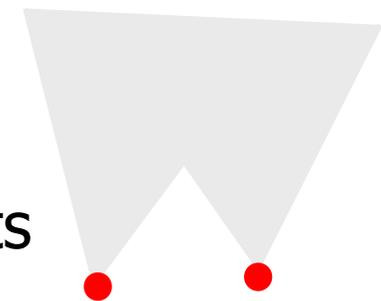
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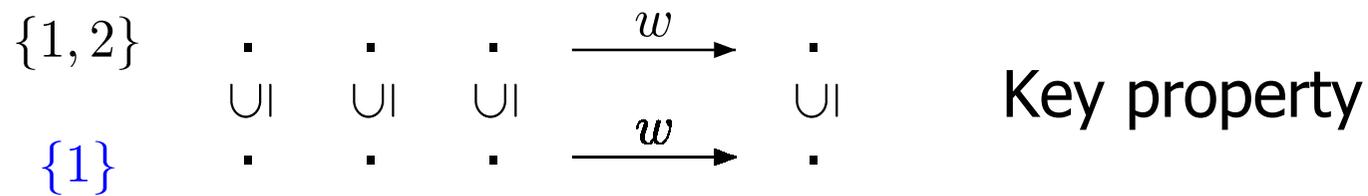
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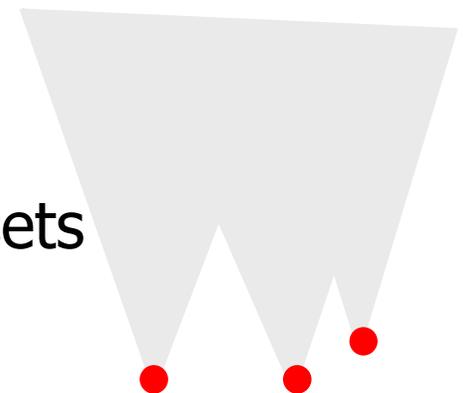
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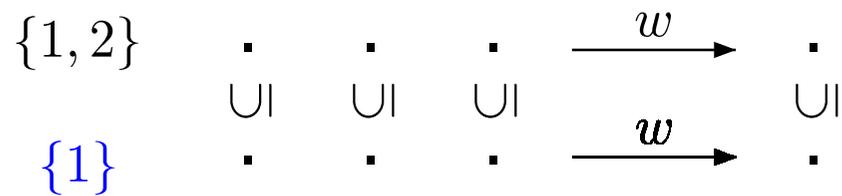
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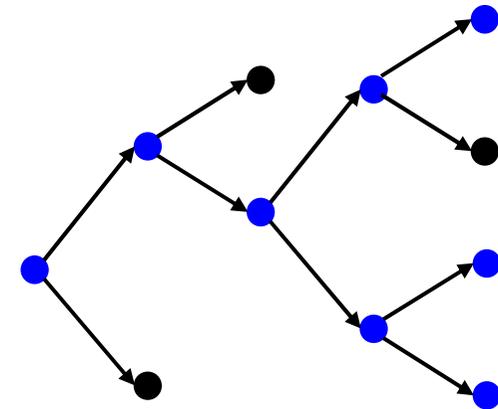


Key property

Two interpretations:

\subseteq is a **forward** simulation relation in A^c

Promising states



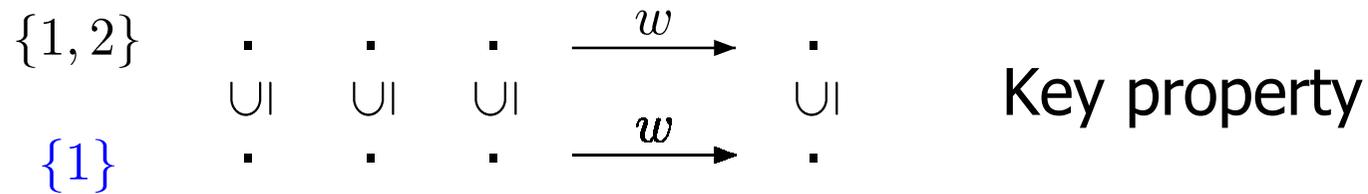
\subseteq is a **backward** simulation relation in A^c

Symbolic representation

Here the two interpretations coincide!



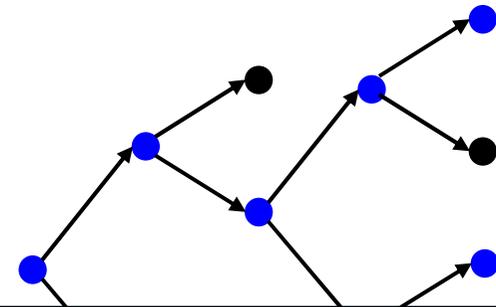
Structure in graphs



Two interpretations:

\subseteq is a **forward** simulation relation in A^c

Promising states



Works with ANY **forward** simulation!

\subseteq is a **backward** simulation relation in A^c

Symbolic representation

Works with ANY **backward** simulation!



Antichains everywhere!

Partial-observation Reachability/Parity games

HSCC'06, CSL'06,
CONCUR'08, Inf&Comp'10

Finite automata (language inclusion, universality)

CAV'06

Büchi automata (language inclusion, universality)

TACAS'07, LMCS'09

LTL satisfiability and model-checking

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QBF

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...

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J-F. Raskin



M. De Wulf



N. Maquet



T. Henzinger



D. Berwanger

...

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Finite Tree Automata [Bouajjani et al. 08]

Program Termination [Vardi et al. 09]

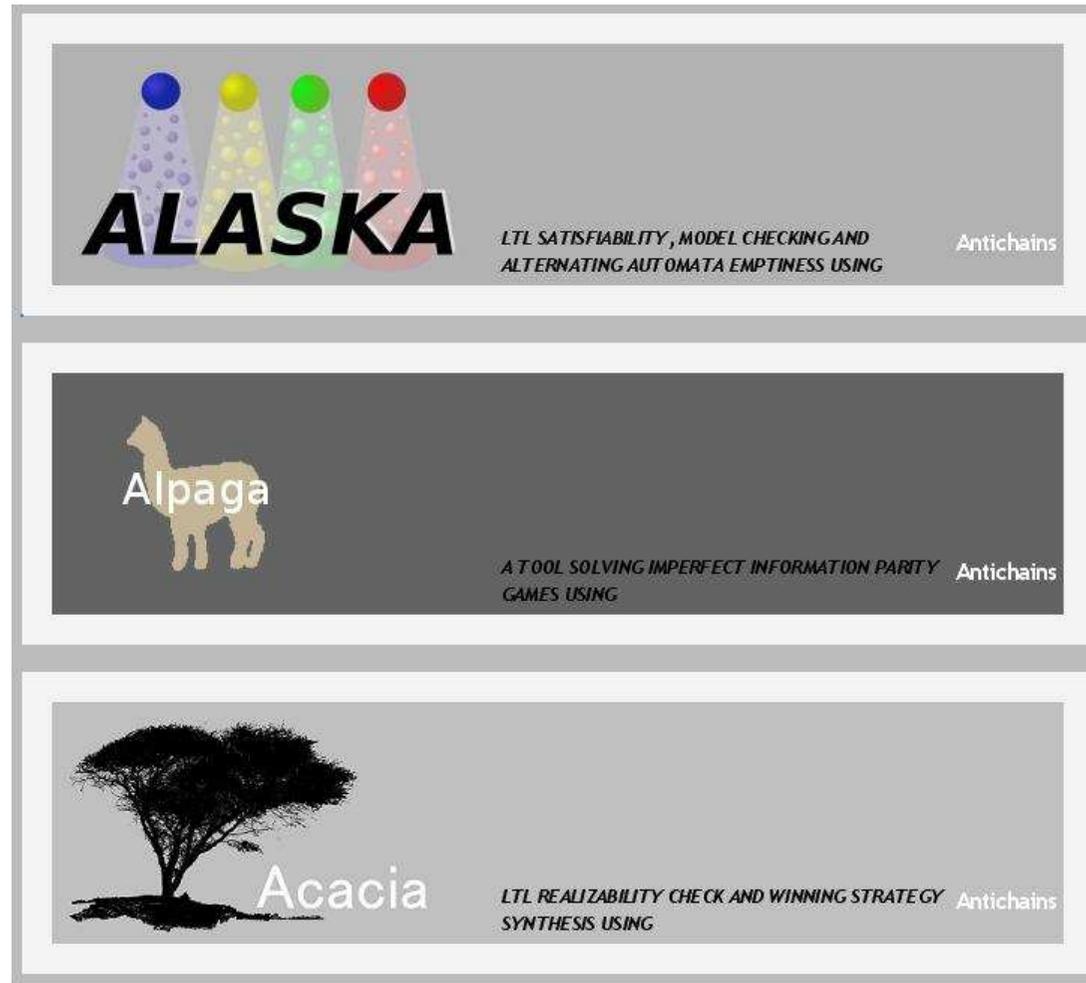
Minimizing Alternating Büchi [Abdulla et al. 09]

LTL synthesis [Raskin et al. 09]

Büchi universality [Vardi et al. 10]

Simulation Subsumption [Abdulla et al. 10,11]

Tools



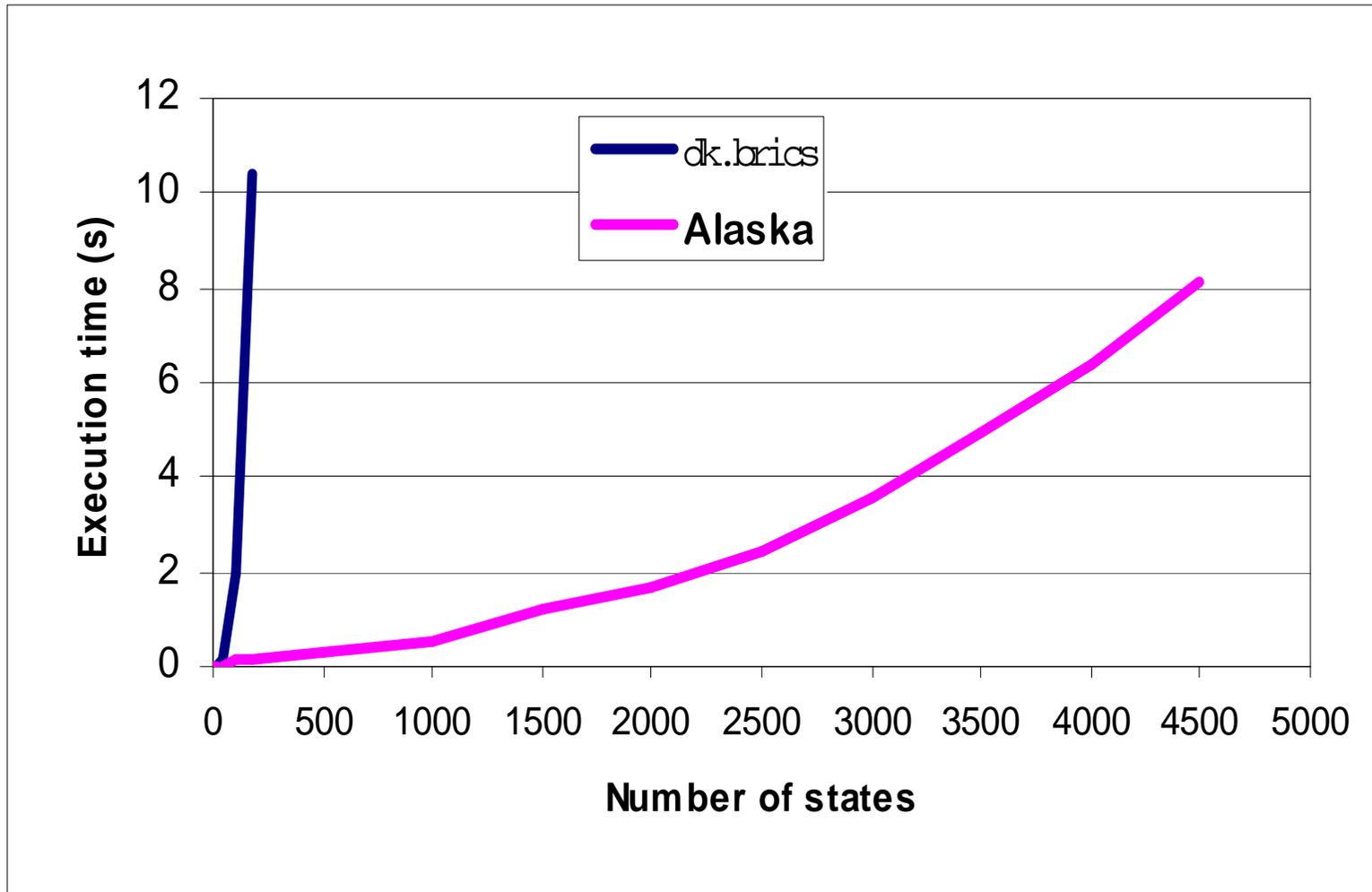
ATVA'08

TACAS'09

Raskin et al.

<http://www.antichains.be>

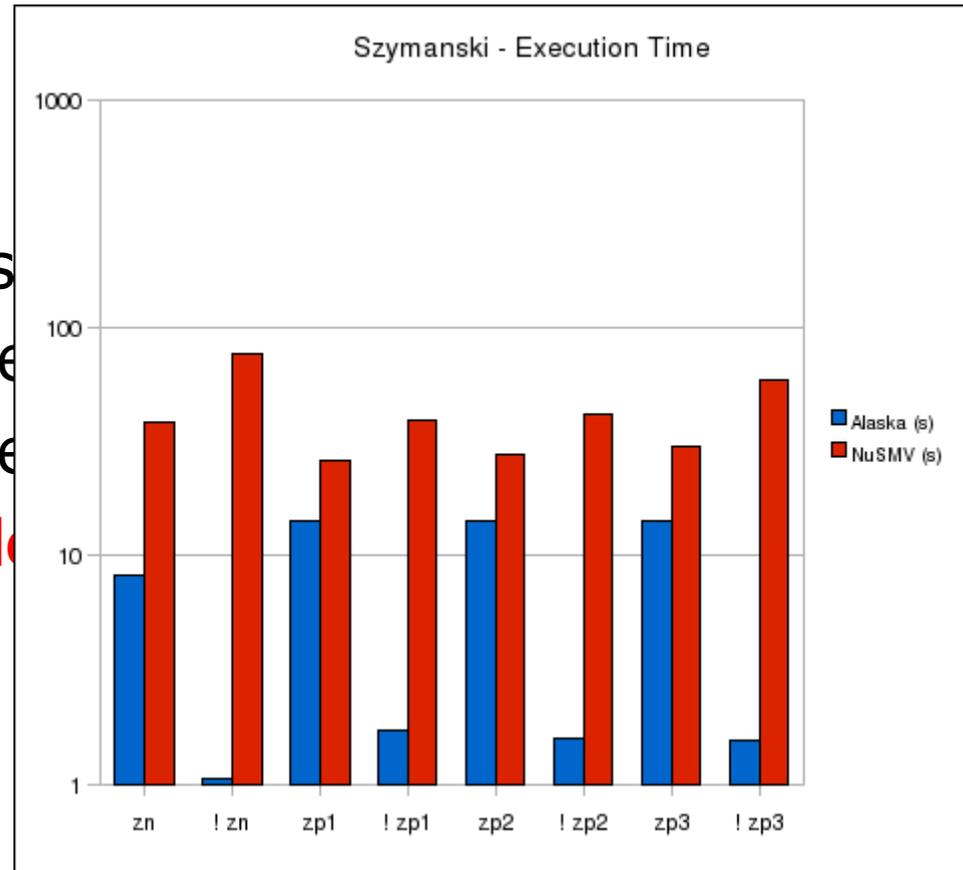
Tools



NFA universality

Tools

Reachability/Parity games
Finite automata (language)
Büchi automata (language)
LTL satisfiability and model checking
LTL synthesis



50 times faster than nuSMV...

LTL model-checking

Outline

From **Boolean** to **quantitative** verification

- **Boolean** Verification
 1. Techniques to speed up well-known verification algorithms by orders of magnitude
- **Quantitative** Verification
 2. A surprising complexity result in game theory
 3. A robust and decidable class of quantitative languages

-

Model-checking

$$M \stackrel{?}{\models} \varphi$$

Check if a Model **satisfies** a Property ?

...in an **automated** way

[Clarke, Emerson, Sifakis,...]

Model-checking

$$M \stackrel{?}{=} \varphi$$

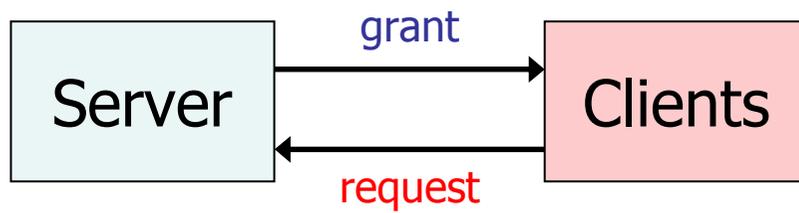
Check if a Model satisfies a property ?

...in an abstract way

Generalisation ?

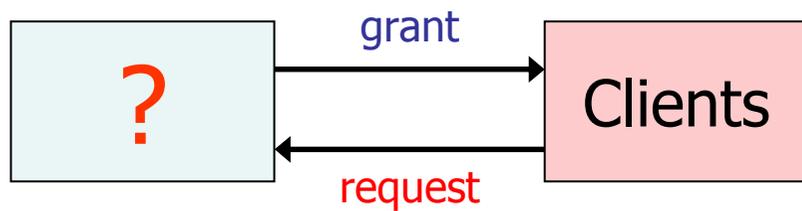
[Clarke, Emerson, Sifakis,...]

From graphs to games



« Every request is eventually granted, no simultaneous grants »

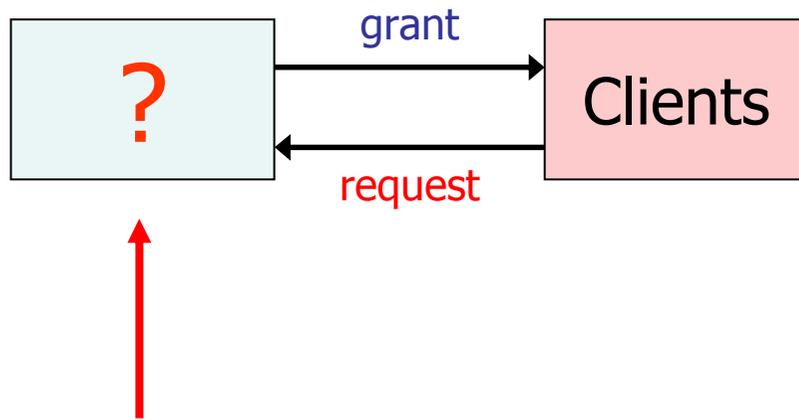
From graphs to games



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(Part of) the Model
is not given

From graphs to games



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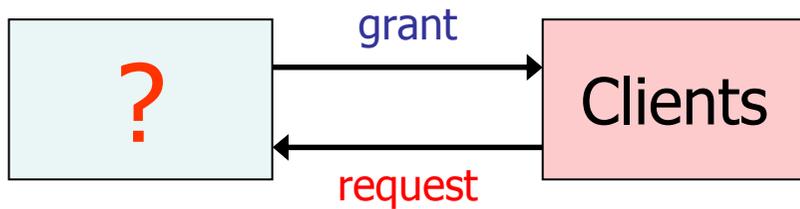
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→ **Construct** a correct system

(typically reduces to **game** solving)

[Church, Büchi, Landweber, Rabin, Pnueli,...]

From graphs to games

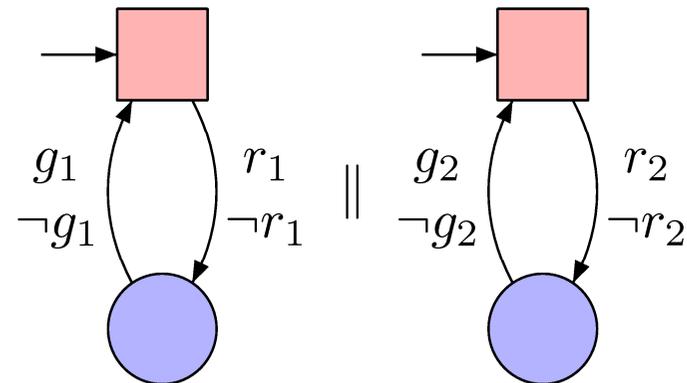


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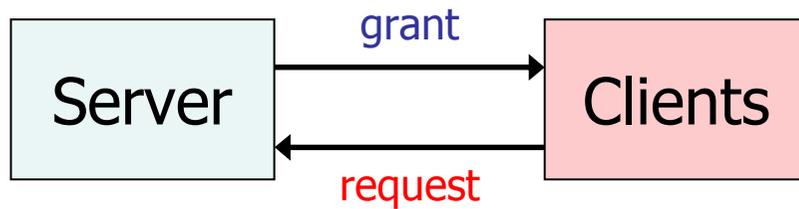
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From Boolean to Quantitative spec

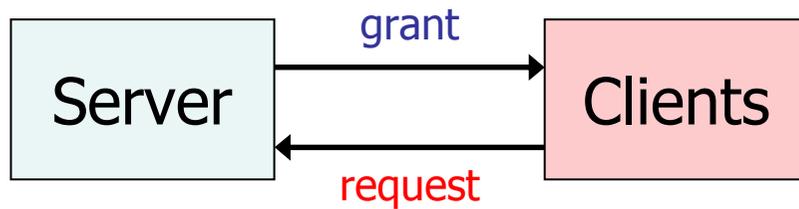


« Every request is eventually granted, no simultaneous grants »

Solution 1: grant within 10^6 years

Solution 2: grant even if no request

From Boolean to Quantitative spec



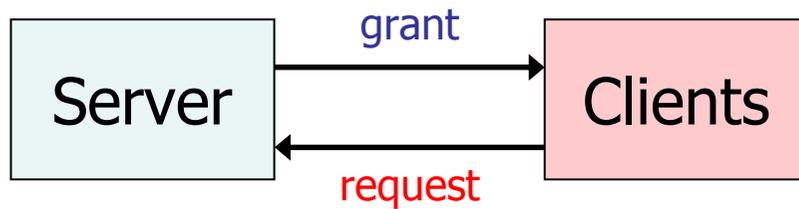
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Boolean specs do not distinguish correct systems

From Boolean to Quantitative spec



~~« Every request is eventually granted, no simultaneous grants »~~

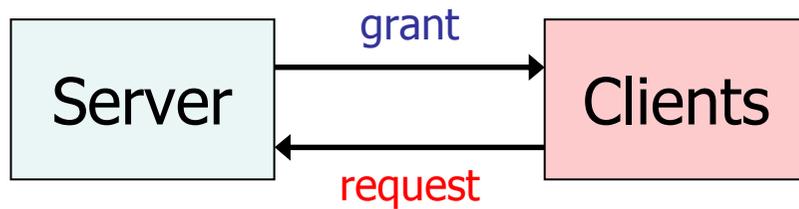
Solution 1: grant within 10^6 years

Solution 2: grant even if no request

Switch to **Quantitative** Spec

« Minimize delays for pending requests, minimize number of grants »

From Boolean to Quantitative spec



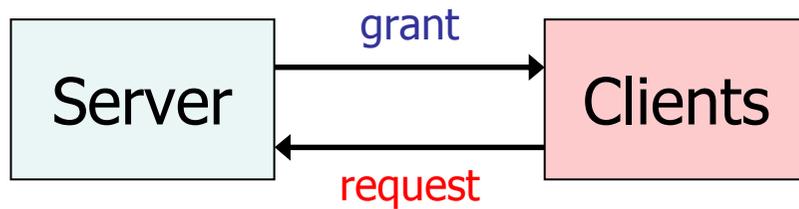
« Every request is eventually granted, no simultaneous grants »

Wrong solution 1: no grant at all

Wrong solution 2: 99% request granted

Boolean specs do not distinguish wrong systems either!

From Boolean to Quantitative spec



~~« Every request is eventually granted, no simultaneous grants »~~

Wrong solution 1: no grant at all

Wrong solution 2: 99% request granted

Switch to **Quantitative** Spec

« Maximize average number of granted requests »

From Boolean to...

Boolean **acceptance** conditions separate **good** and **bad** runs:

$$\{0,1\}^\omega \rightarrow \{0,1\}$$

E.g., (co)Büchi, Muller, parity, etc.

From Boolean to...

Boolean **acceptance** conditions separate **good** and **bad** runs:

$$\{0,1\}^\omega \rightarrow \{0,1\}$$

E.g., (co)Büchi, Muller, parity, etc.

Quantitative value functions assign **value** to runs:

$$\mathbb{R}^\omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Some value functions

For $v = v_0v_1 \dots$ ($v_i \in \mathbb{R}$), let

($v_i \in \{0,1\}$)

- $\text{Sup}(v) = \sup\{v_n \mid n \geq 0\}$;

(reachability)

- $\text{LimSup}(v) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n$;

(Büchi)

- $\text{LimInf}(v) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n$;

(coBüchi)

Some value functions

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- $\text{LimInf}(v) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n$; (coBüchi)
- $\text{LimAvg}(v) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} v_i$; aka $\text{MeanPayoff}(v)$
- given $0 < \lambda < 1$, $\text{Disc}_\lambda(v) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \lambda^i \cdot v_i$.

Outline

From **Boolean** to **quantitative** verification

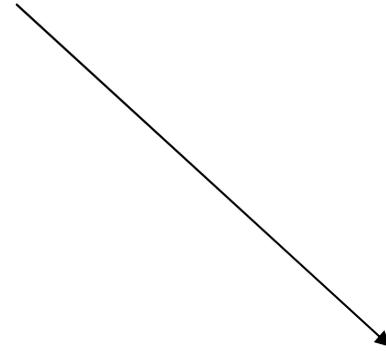
- **Boolean** Verification
 1. Techniques to speed up well-known verification algorithms by orders of magnitude
- **Quantitative** Verification
 2. Mean-payoff parity games are in $NP \cap coNP$
 3. A robust and decidable class of quantitative languages
 -

Example

Mean-payoff parity games

Example

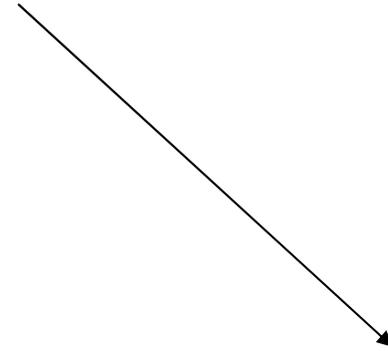
Mean-payoff **parity** games



ω -regular specifications
(reactivity, liveness,...)

Example

Mean-payoff **parity** games

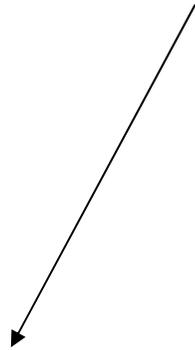


ω -regular specifications
(reactivity, liveness,...)

- Memoryless strategies
- $\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP}$

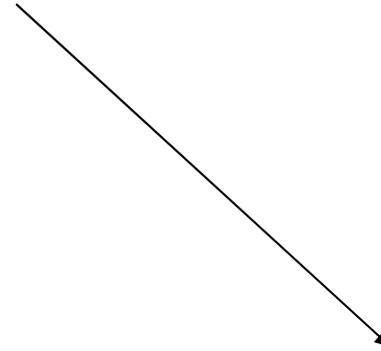
Example

Mean-payoff parity games



Quantitative specification
(cost optimization,...)

- Memoryless strategies
- $NP \cap coNP$

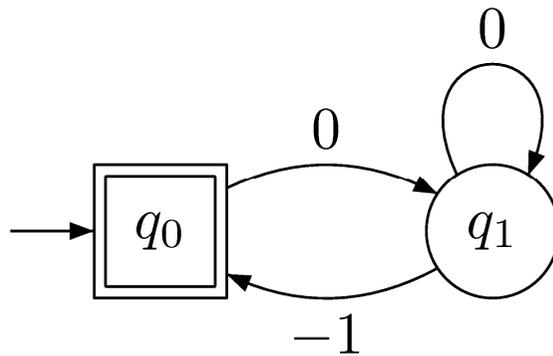


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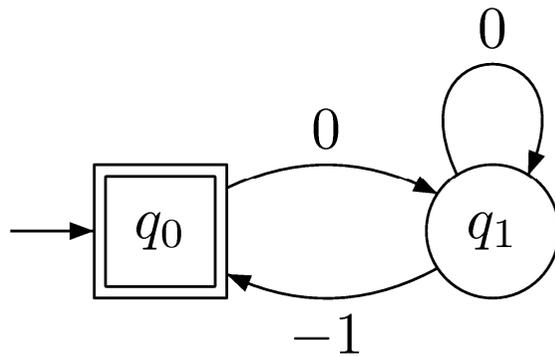
Mean-payoff Büchi games



Visit q_0 **infinitely** often,
and maximize **mean-payoff**

Example

Mean-payoff Büchi games



Visit q_0 **infinitely** often,
and maximize **mean-payoff**

Optimal strategy: spend more and more time in q_1

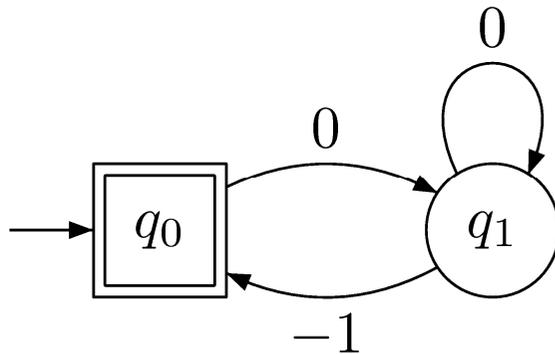
$0, -1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, \dots$

Requires infinite memory...

Example

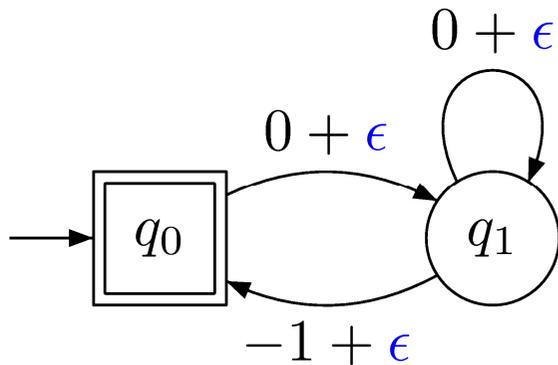
Mean-payoff parity games

- ~~Memoryless strategies~~
- still in $NP \cap coNP$



Example

Mean-payoff parity games



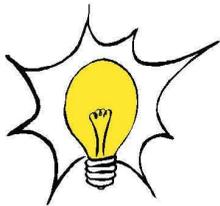
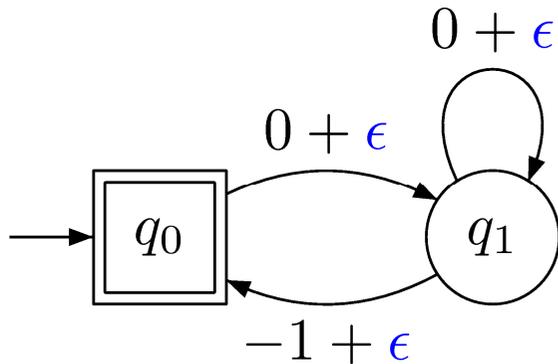
- ~~Memoryless strategies~~
- still in $\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP}$

1. Reduction to parity games with positive counter
2. Finite-memory strategies suffice

Example

Mean-payoff parity games

- ~~Memoryless strategies~~
- still in $NP \cap coNP$



- Reduction to parity games with positive counter
- Finite-memory strategies suffice
- Winning strategies can be decomposed into memoryless strategies, and combined using counters.
- Decomposition can be guessed in NP

Example

Mean-payoff parity games

- ~~Memoryless strategies~~
- still in $NP \cap coNP$



K. Chatterjee

ICALP'10

Outline

From **Boolean** to **quantitative** verification

- **Boolean** Verification
 1. Techniques to speed up well-known verification algorithms by orders of magnitude
- **Quantitative** Verification
 2. Mean-payoff parity games are in $NP \cap coNP$
 3. A robust and decidable class of quantitative languages
 -

Quantitative Languages

Long-term goal

Is there a Quantitative Framework with

- an appealing mathematical formulation,
- useful expressive power, robustness and
- good algorithmic properties ?

(Like the boolean theory of ω -regularity.)

Note: “Quantitative” is more than “timed” and “probabilistic”

[Henzinger,...]

Quantitative languages

A **quantitative** language is a function:

$$L : \Sigma^{\omega} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$L(w)$ can be interpreted as:

- the amount of some resource needed by the system to produce w (power, energy, time consumption),
- a reliability measure (the average number of “faults” in w).

Quantitative languages

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Classical **Boolean** languages are the special case where

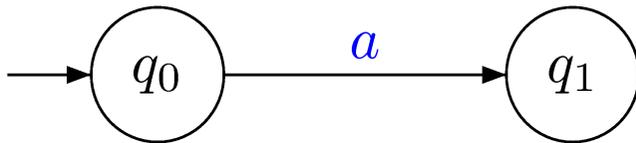
$$L : \Sigma^{\omega} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

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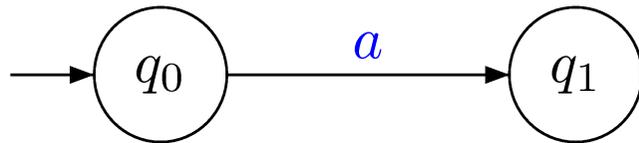
Languages & Automata

Boolean languages are generated by finite automata.



Languages & Automata

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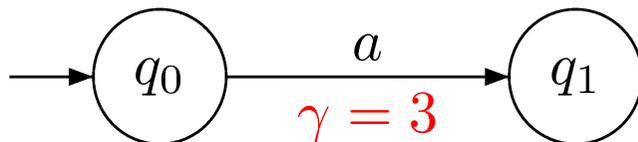


Quantitative languages are generated by weighted automata,

$L_A(w) =$

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| A is deterministic: | value of (unique) run |
| A is non-deterministic: | sup of run values |
| A is universal: | inf of run values |
| A is alternating: | value of game-outcome run (sup inf) |

...



Quantitative Languages

	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup				
LimSup				
LimInf				
LimAvg				
Disc $_{\lambda}$				

20 classes of quantitative languages...

Quantitative Languages

1. Decision problems
2. Expressiveness
3. Closure properties

Decision problems

Given weighted automata A, B and $\nu \in \mathbb{Q}$

decide

Quant. emptiness $\exists w : L_A(w) \geq \nu$

Quant. universality $\forall w : L_A(w) \geq \nu$

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Quant. equivalence $\forall w : L_A(w) = L_B(w)$

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	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup	P	P	PSpace	PSpace
LimSup	P	P	PSpace	PSpace
LimInf	P	P	PSpace	PSpace
LimAvg	P	P	undec.	undec.
Disc $_{\lambda}$	P	P	?	?

	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimSup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimInf	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimAvg	P	undec.	undec.	undec.
Disc $_{\lambda}$	P	?	?	?

	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimSup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimInf	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimAvg	P	undec.	undec.	undec.
Disc $_{\lambda}$	P	?	?	?

	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimSup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
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Disc $_{\lambda}$	P	?	?	?

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Undecidable for
LimAvg.

Open question
for Disc.



	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup	P	P	PSpace	PSpace
LimSup	P	P	PSpace	PSpace
LimInf	P	P	PSpace	PSpace
LimAvg	P	P	undec.	undec.
Disc $_{\lambda}$	P	P	?	?

	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimSup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimInf	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
LimAvg	P	undec.	undec.	undec.
Disc $_{\lambda}$	P	?	?	?

	det.	nondet.	univ.	alt.
Sup	P	PSpace	PSpace	PSpace
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LimAvg	P	undec.	undec.	undec.
Disc $_{\lambda}$	P	?	?	?

Quantitative Languages

1. Decision problems
2. Expressiveness
3. Closure properties

Expressiveness

Compare classes of quantitative languages defined by weighted automata

$O(20 \times 20)$ comparisons...

Expressiveness

Compare classes of quantitative languages defined by weighted automata

$O(20 \times 20)$ comparisons...

LimAvg and Disc_λ cannot be determined.

LICS'09, LMCS'10

Quantitative Languages

1. Decision problems
2. Expressiveness
3. Closure properties

Operations

$$L_1, L_2 : \Sigma^\omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Operations on quantitative languages:

- $\max(L_1, L_2)$ $L_1 \cup L_2$
- $\min(L_1, L_2)$ $L_1 \cap L_2$
- $\text{complement}(L_1) = 1 - L_1$ $\Sigma^\omega \setminus L_1$
- $L_1 + L_2$

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$$L_1, L_2 : \Sigma^\omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Operations on quantitative languages:

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- $\text{complement}(L_1) = 1 - L_1$ $\Sigma^\omega \setminus L_1$
- $L_1 + L_2$

Note $L_1 \leq L_2$ iff $L_1 + (1 - L_2) \leq 1$

LimAvg Automata

LimAvg	Closure properties			
	max	min	Sum	comp.
Deterministic	×	×	×	✓
Nondeterministic	✓	×	×	×
Alternating	✓	✓	×	✓

LimAvg Automata

LimAvg	Closure properties				Decision problems			
	max	min	Sum	comp.	empt.	univ.	incl.	equiv.
Deterministic	×	×	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nondeterministic	✓	×	×	×	✓	×	×	×
Alternating	✓	✓	×	✓	×	×	×	×

Beyond Weighted Automata

LimAvg Automaton Expressions

LimAvg-automaton expressions are defined by:

$$E ::= A \mid \max(E, E) \mid \min(E, E) \mid \text{Sum}(E, E)$$

where A is a deterministic **LimAvg**-automaton.

LimAvg Automaton Expressions

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where A is a deterministic **LimAvg**-automaton.

E.g.: $\max(A_1 + A_2, \min(A_3, A_4))$

LimAvg Automaton Expressions

LimAvg-automaton expressions are defined by:

$$E ::= A \mid \max(E,E) \mid \min(E,E) \mid \text{Sum}(E,E)$$

where A is a deterministic LimAvg-automaton.

Closure properties:

LimAvg	Closure properties			
	max	min	Sum	comp.
Deterministic	×	×	×	✓
Nondeterministic	✓	×	×	×
Alternating	✓	✓	×	✓
Expressions	✓	✓	✓	✓

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where A is a deterministic **LimAvg**-automaton.

Decision problems: all questions reduce to quant. emptiness

$$\exists w : E(w) \geq \nu$$

Value set

Solve decision problems using the **value set**:

$$\text{E.g.: } E = \max(A_1 + A_2, \min(A_3, A_4))$$

$$\text{Value Set} = \{ (L_{A_1}(w), L_{A_2}(w), L_{A_3}(w), L_{A_4}(w)) \mid w \in \Sigma^\omega \} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^4$$

How to compute this set ?

Value set

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How to compute this set ?

Uses arguments in computational geometry, yields 4EXPTIME complexity for emptiness.

Value set

Solve decision problems using the **value set**:

$$\text{E.g.: } E = \max(A_1 + A_2, \min(A_3, A_4))$$

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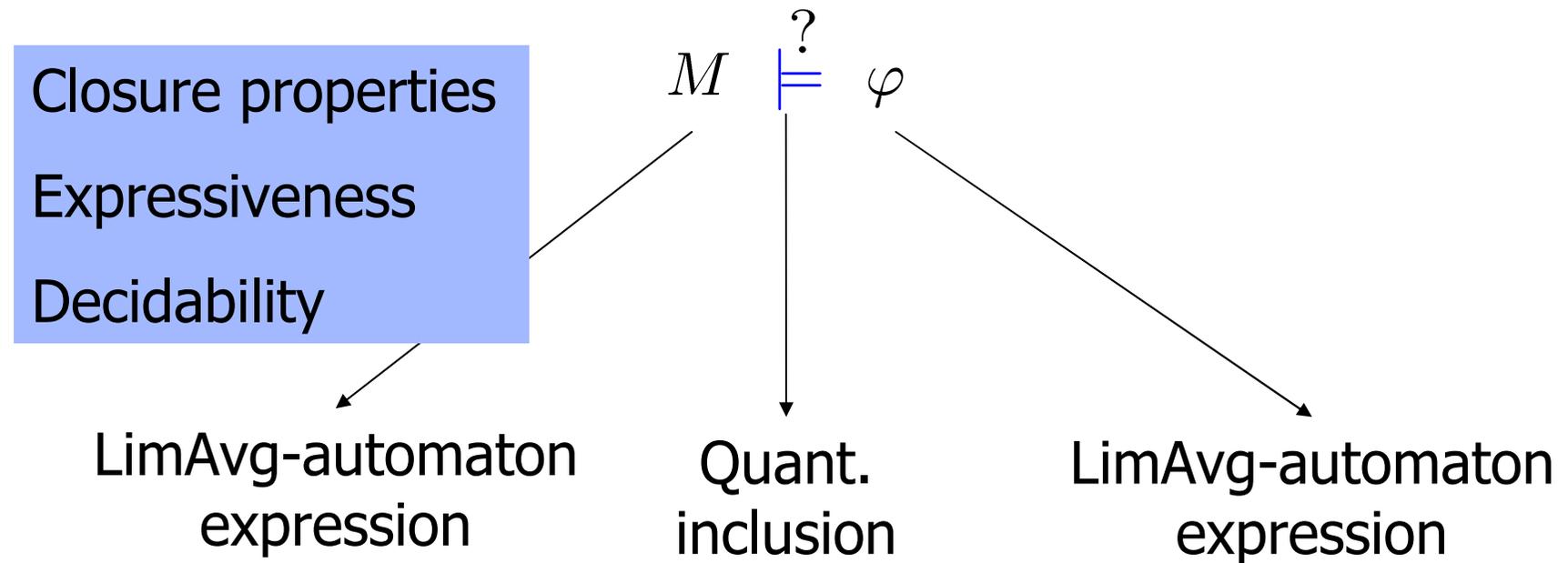
$$E(\Sigma^\omega) = \{ \max(x+y, \min(z,t)) \mid (x,y,z,t) \in \text{Value Set} \}$$

is a finite union of intervals.

Find maximum of $E(\Sigma^\omega)$ to solve emptiness

LimAvg Automaton Expressions

LimAvg	Closure properties				Decision problems			
	max	min	Sum	comp.	empt.	univ.	incl.	equiv.
Deterministic	×	×	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nondeterministic	✓	×	×	×	✓	×	×	×
Alternating	✓	✓	×	✓	×	×	×	×
Expressions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



LimAvg Automaton Expressions

LimAvg	Closure properties				Decision problems			
	max	min	Sum	comp.	empt.	univ.	incl.	equiv.
Deterministic	×	×	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nondeterministic	✓	×	×	×	✓	×	×	×
Alternating	✓	✓	×	✓	×	×	×	×
Expressions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Closure properties



K. Chatterjee



H. Edelsbrunner



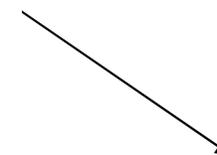
T. Henzinger

$M \stackrel{?}{=} \varphi$



P. Rannou

CONCUR'10

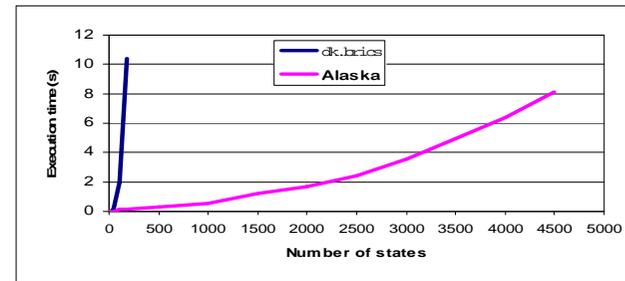


LimAvg-automaton expression

Conclusion

Conclusion – Key results

1. Efficient **antichain** algorithms



2. Quantitative games

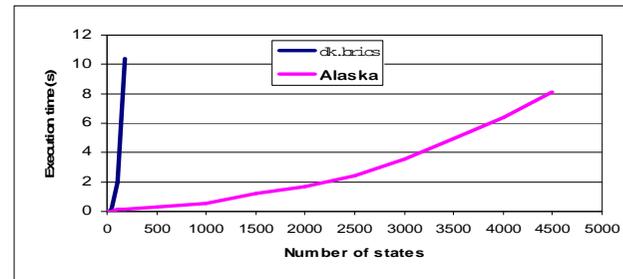
Mean-payoff parity games in **NP** \cap coNP

3. Quantitative generalization of languages

LimAvg automaton expressions: **robust and decidable**

Perspectives

1. Efficient antichain algorithms



Can we predict the performance of antichain algorithms ?

Complexity theory beyond worst-case...

Perspectives

2. Quantitative games

Mean-payoff parity games in $NP \cap coNP$

- Multi-dimensional mean-payoff games – complexity
- New classes of quantitative stochastic games
in progress, PhD thesis of Mahsa Shirmohammadi
- New classes of games on counter systems
in progress, PhD thesis of Julien Reichert

Perspectives

3. Quantitative generalization of languages

LimAvg automaton expressions: **robust and decidable**

- Discounted-sum “expressions” ?
- Incorporate Boolean conditions
- Theory of quantitative regularity
 - analogous of Borel hierarchy
 - safety vs. liveness
 - logical characterization

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- Alain Finkel (LSV, 2009-now)



T. Henzinger



J-F. Raskin



A. Finkel

Credits

With the following co-authors (students in blue):

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- [Philippe Rannou](#)
- Jean-François Raskin
- [Julien Reichert](#)
- [Mahsa Shirmohammadi](#)
- [Rohit Singh](#)
- Szymon Torunczyk
- James Worrell

redits



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• her

• sw

The end

Thank you !



Questions ?