
VLDL Satisfiability and Model Checking via Tree Automata

Alexander Weinert

Saarland University

December 12th, 2017

FSTTCS 2017 - Kanpur, India

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Setting: Program Verification

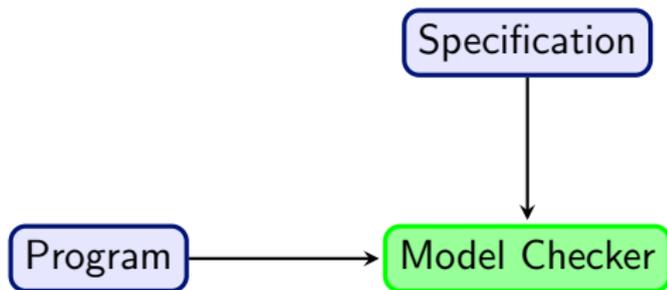
Program

Setting: Program Verification

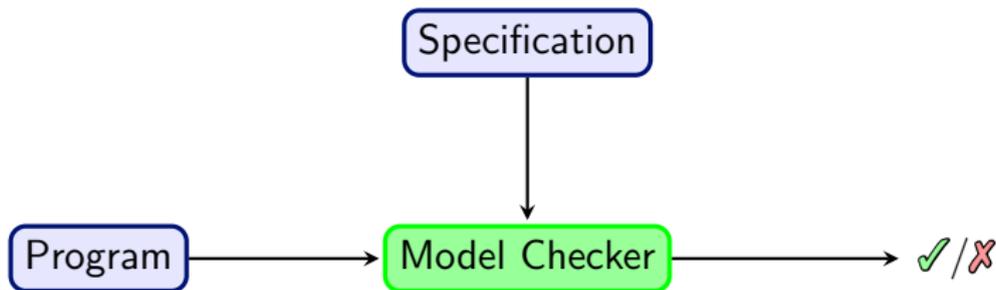
Specification

Program

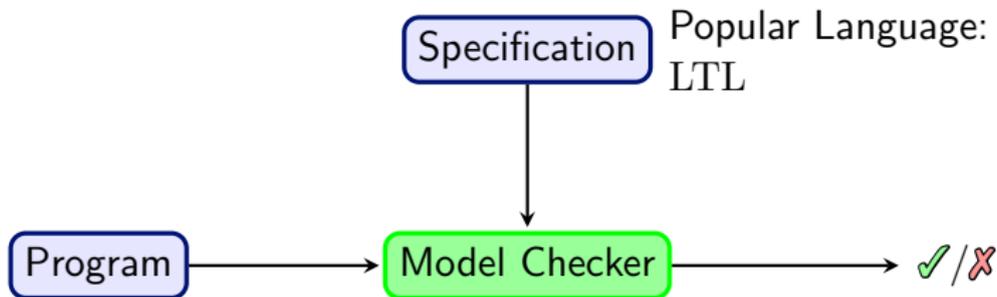
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Setting: Program Verification



An Example

```
def f():  
    if (/*...*/):  
        cd("folder")  
    else:  
        cd("../")  
  
def main():  
    /*...*/
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“Program never leaves its original working directory”

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```

“Program never leaves its original working directory”

Not expressible in LTL!

Visibly Linear Dynamic Logic (VLDDL)¹

Syntax of VLDDL:

$$\varphi = p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \langle \mathfrak{A} \rangle \varphi \mid [\mathfrak{A}] \varphi$$

¹(W. and Zimmermann, 2016)

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a a b c a a b c b b a b a b c a a ...

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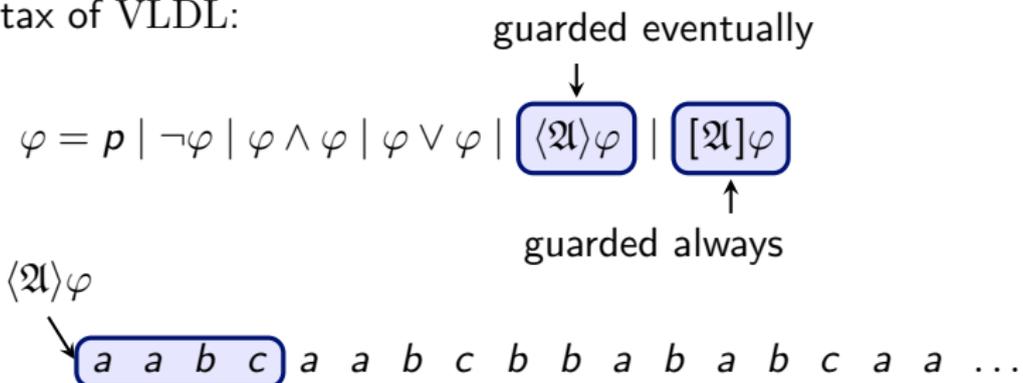
$\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \varphi$

↙ a a b c a a b c b b a b a b c a a ...

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$$\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \varphi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$$

$\underbrace{a a b c}_{\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \varphi} a a b c b b a b a b c a a \dots$

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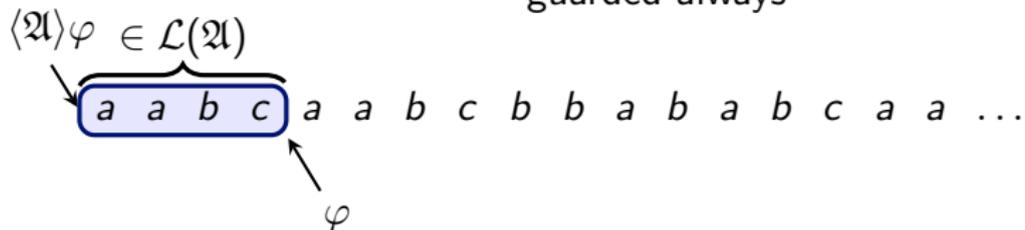
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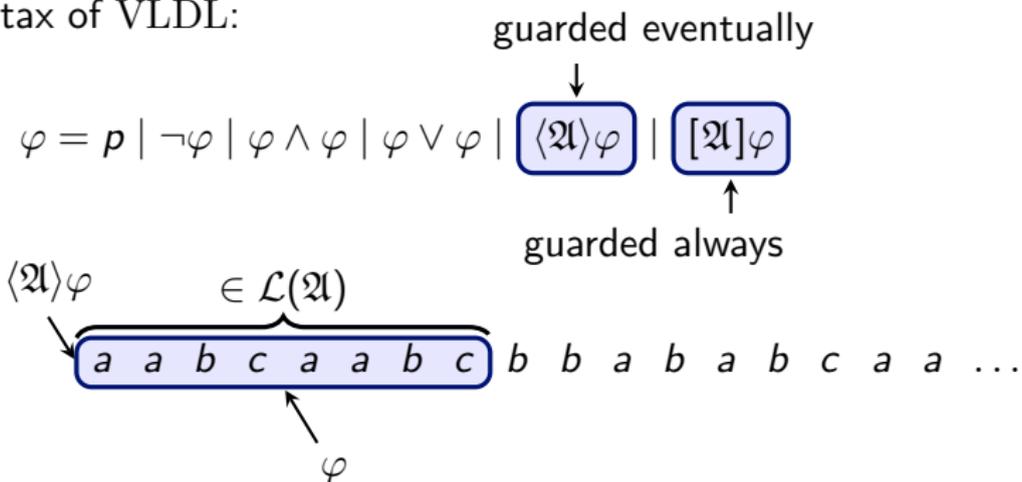
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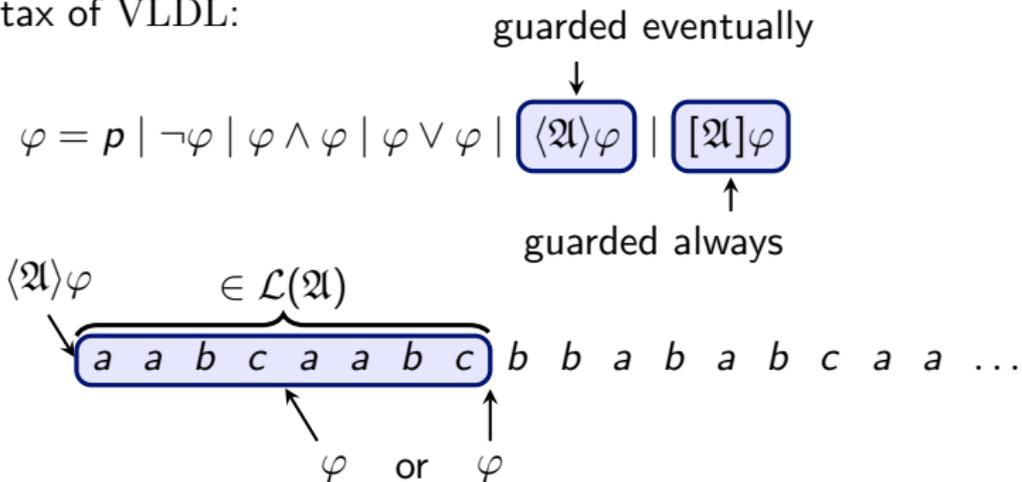
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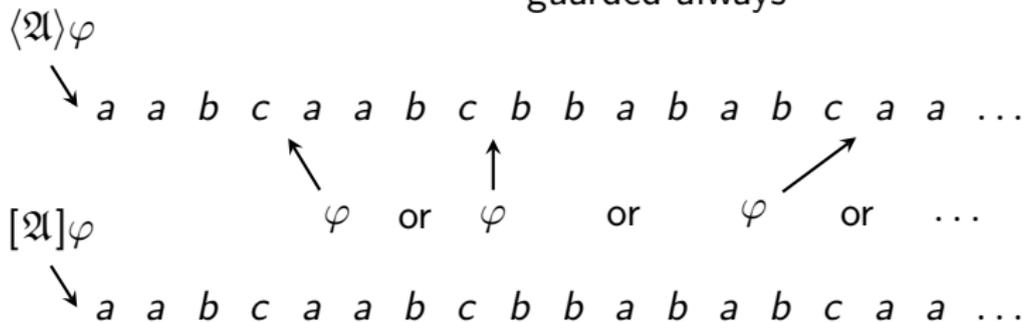
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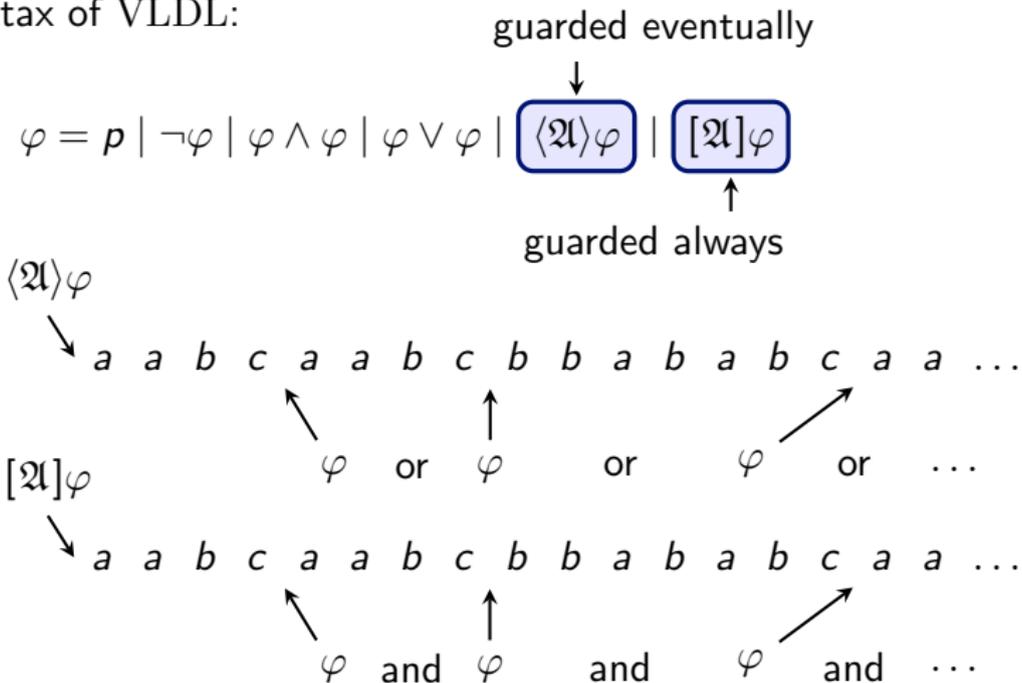
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Visibly Linear Dynamic Logic (VLDL)¹

Syntax of VLDL:



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Visibly Pushdown Automata²

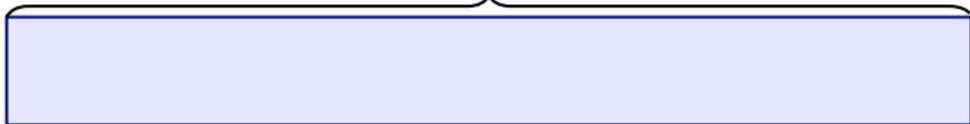
Visibly Pushdown Automata are **restricted** Pushdown Automata

²(Alur and Madhusudan, 2005)

Visibly Pushdown Automata²

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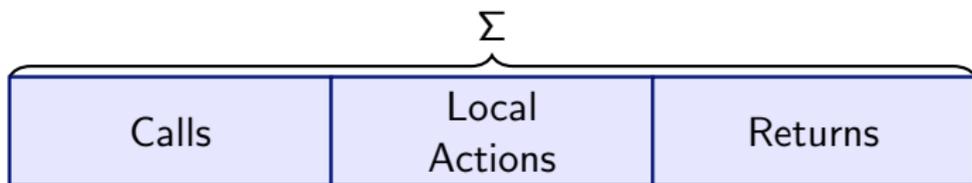
Σ



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Visibly Pushdown Automata²

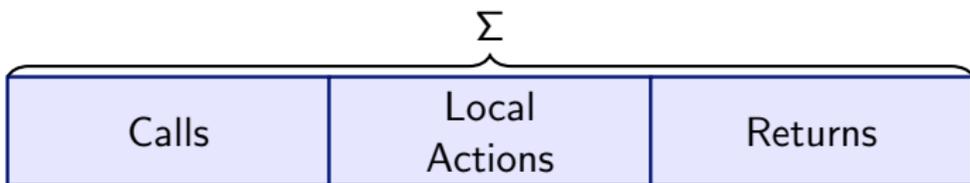
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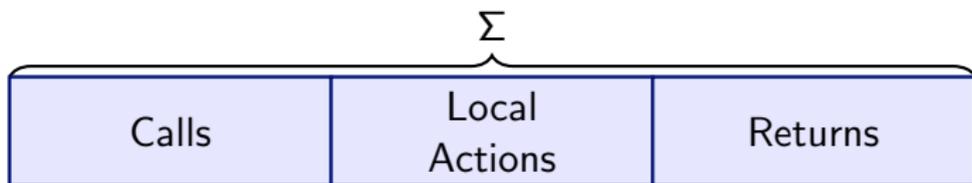


- When reading **call**, automaton has to **push onto** the stack

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Visibly Pushdown Automata²

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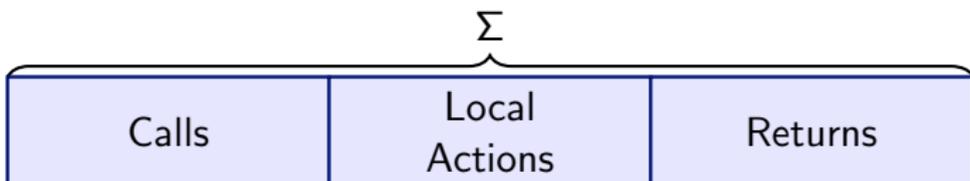


- When reading **call**, automaton has to **push onto** the stack
- When reading **return**, automaton has to **pop off** the stack

²(Alur and Madhusudan, 2005)

Visibly Pushdown Automata²

Visibly Pushdown Automata are **restricted** Pushdown Automata



- When reading **call**, automaton has to **push onto** the stack
- When reading **return**, automaton has to **pop off** the stack
- When reading **local action**, automaton has to **ignore** the stack

⇒ **Closed under intersection!**

²(Alur and Madhusudan, 2005)

VLDL Complexity³

VLDL: Extension of LTL,
temporal operators guarded by visibly pushdown automata

³(W. and Zimmermann, 2016)

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Satisfiability

EXPTIME-complete

³(W. and Zimmermann, 2016)

VLDL Complexity³

VLDL: Extension of LTL,
temporal operators guarded by visibly pushdown automata

Satisfiability	EXPTIME-complete
Model Checking	EXPTIME-complete

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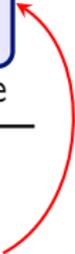
Satisfiability	EXPTIME-complete
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Games	3EXPTIME-complete

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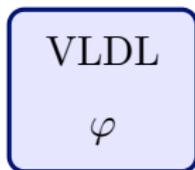
Contribution:
Novel, **conceptually simple** algorithms

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VLDL Satisfiability and Model Checking

Theorem (W. and Zimmermann, 2016)

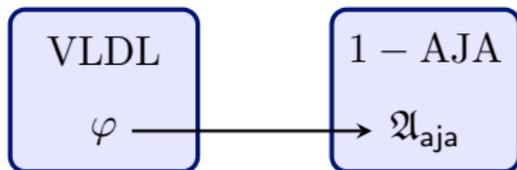
VLDL Satisfiability is EXPTIME-complete.



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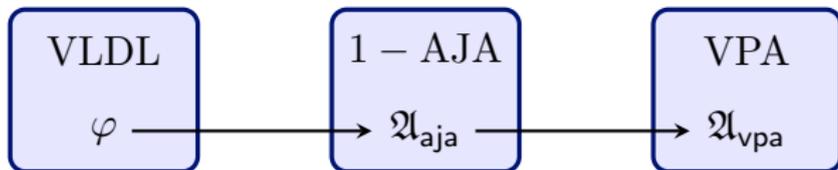
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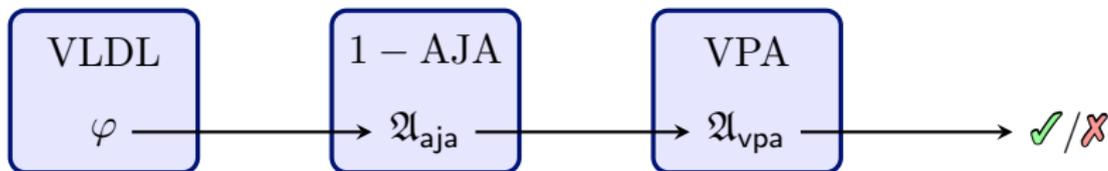
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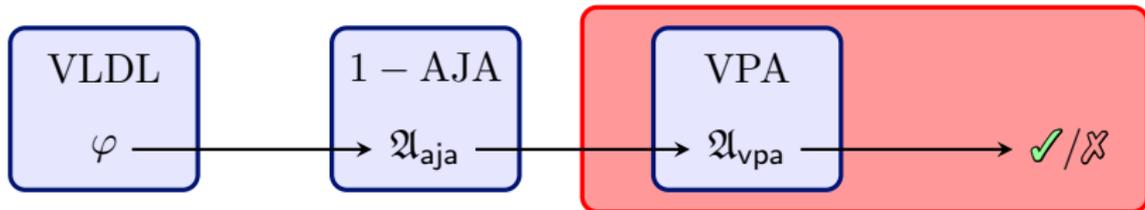
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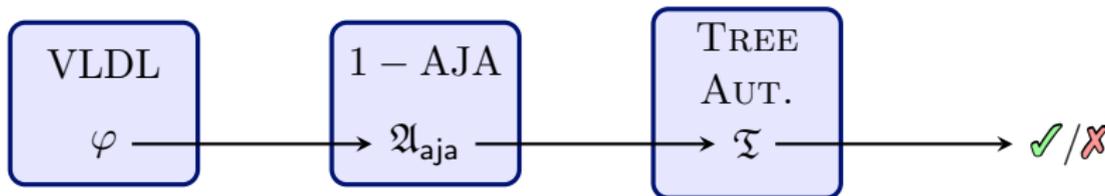
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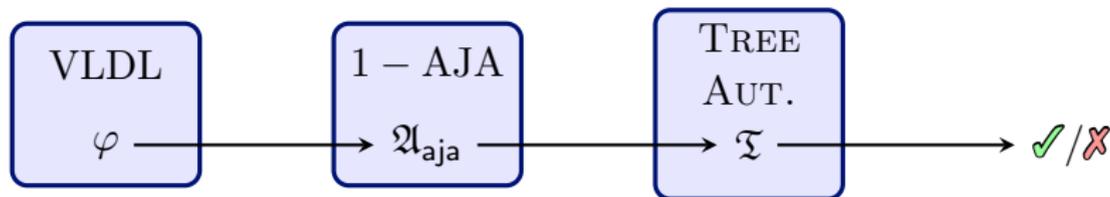
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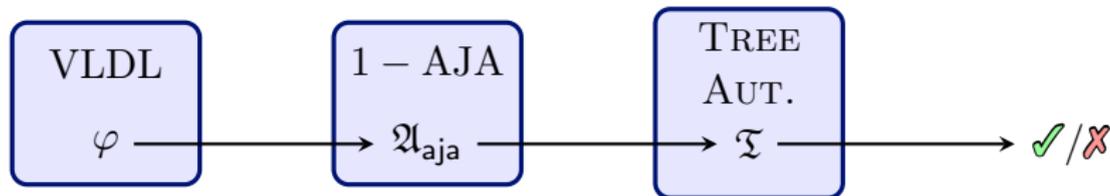


1. What are 1 - AJAs?

VLDL Satisfiability and Model Checking

Theorem (W. and Zimmermann, 2016)

VLDL Satisfiability is EXPTIME-complete.



1. What are 1 - AJAs?
2. How to translate 1 - AJAs into tree automata?

Intermediate Automata: 1 – AJA⁴

Extension of alternating automata: $\delta(q, a) = q_1 \wedge (q_2 \vee q_3)$.

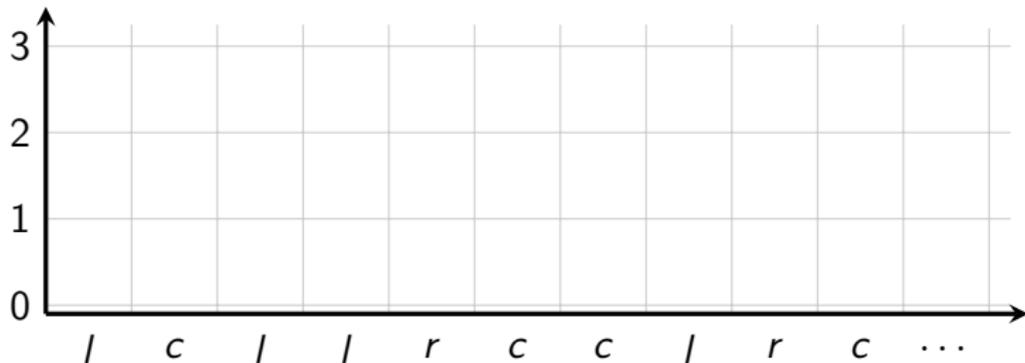
l c l l r c c l r c ...

⁴(Bozzelli, 2007)

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Stack
Height

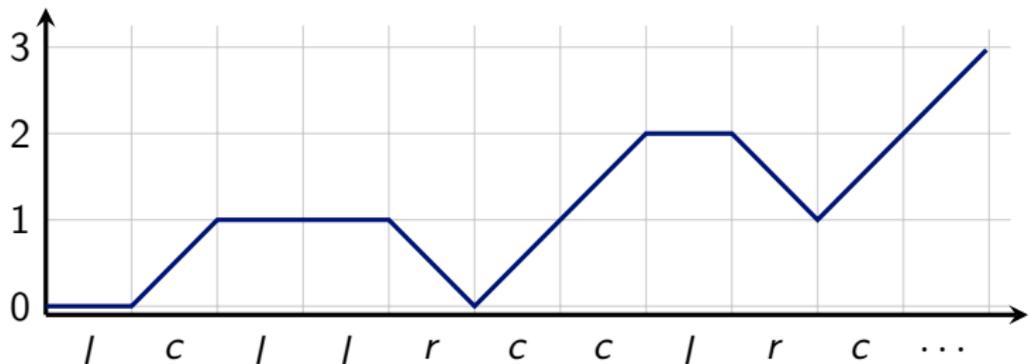


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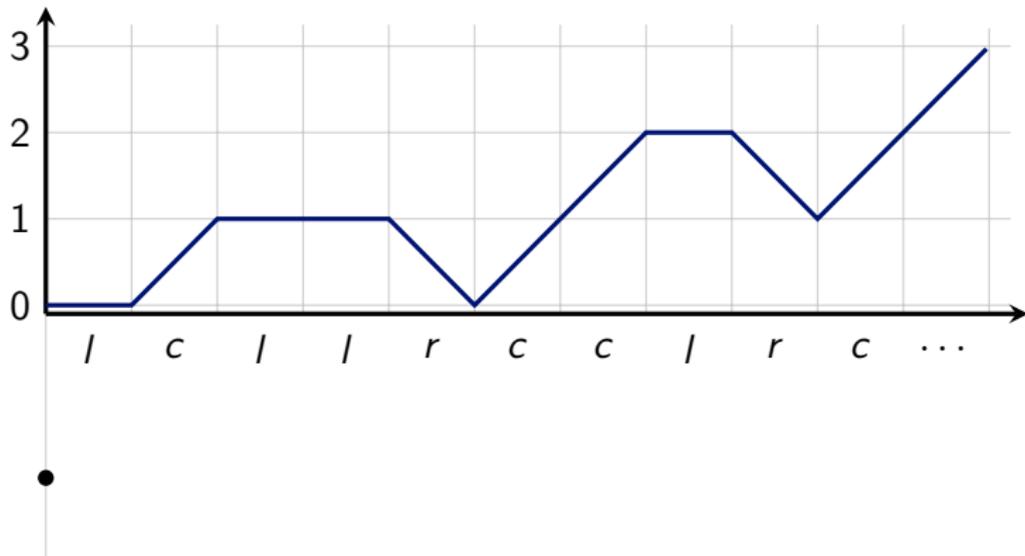


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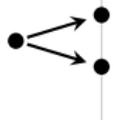
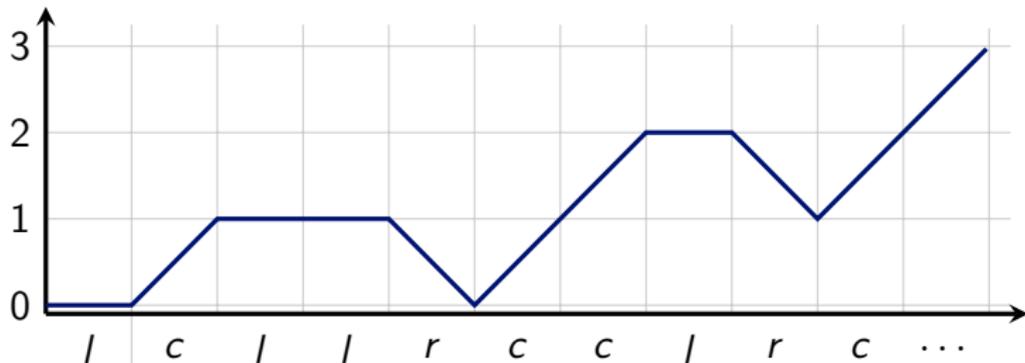


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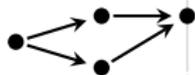
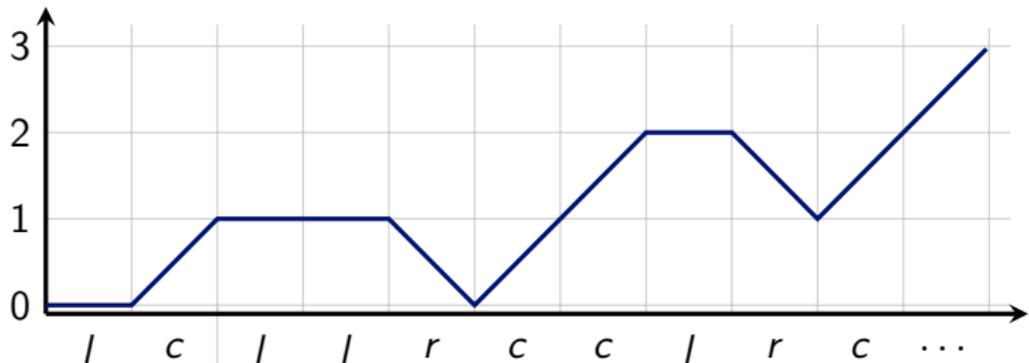


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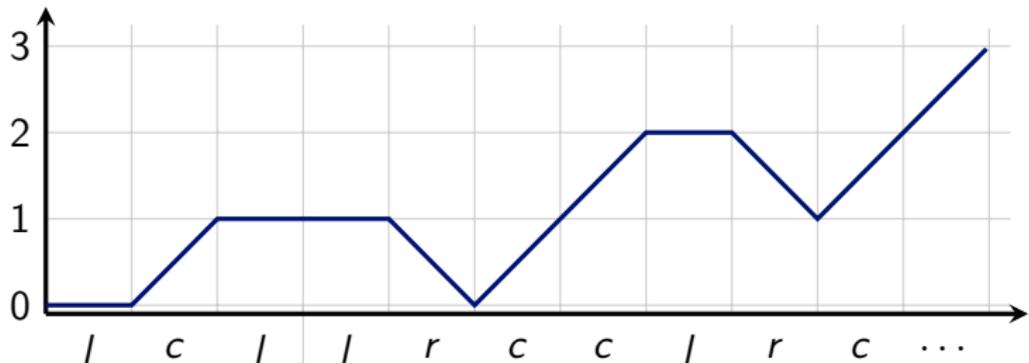


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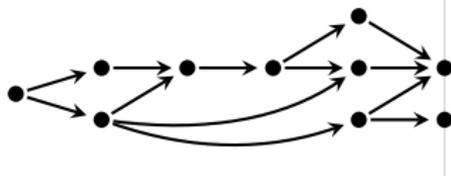
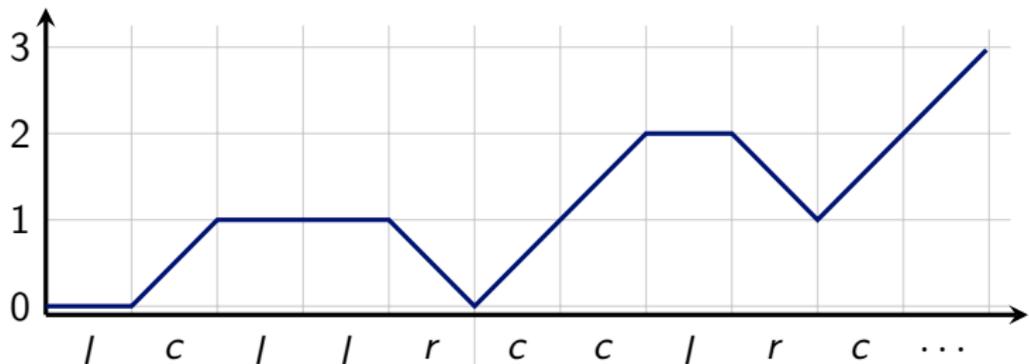


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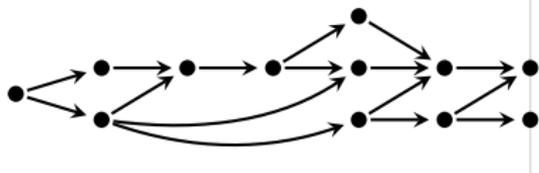
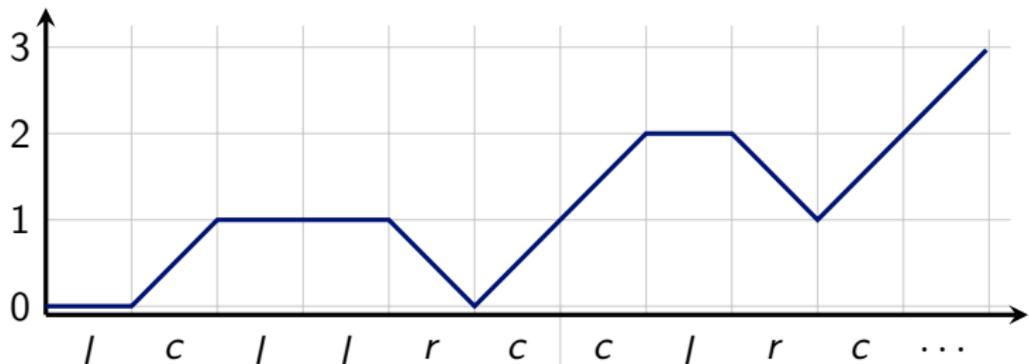


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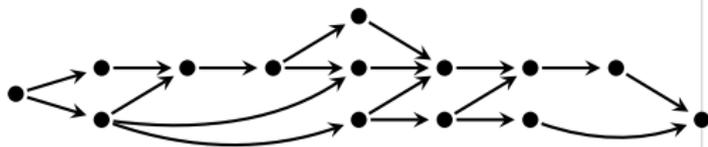
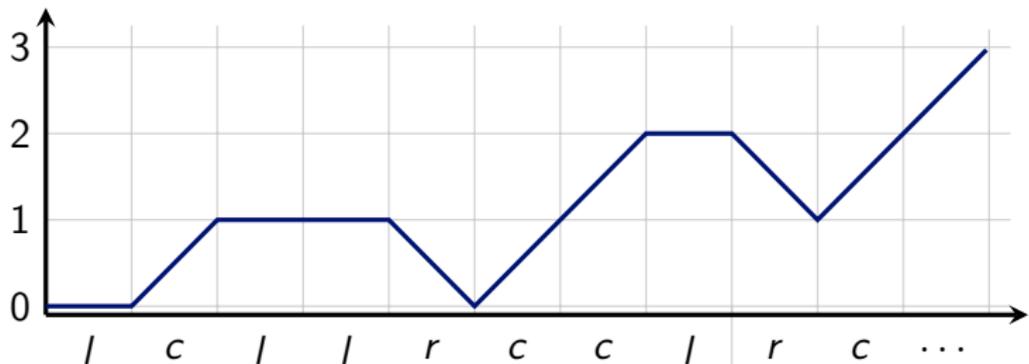


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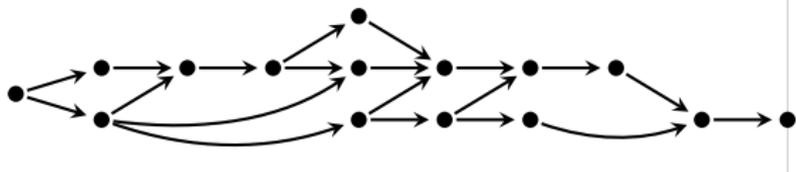
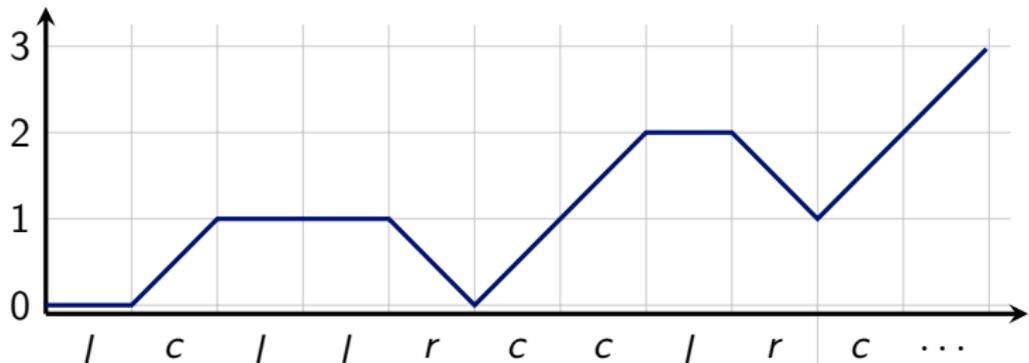


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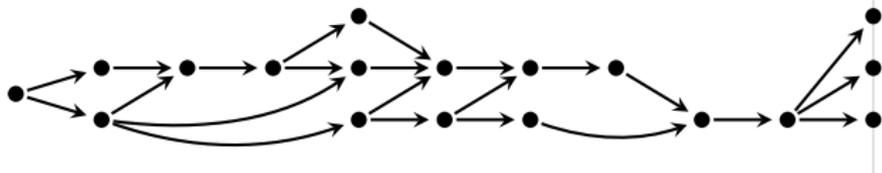
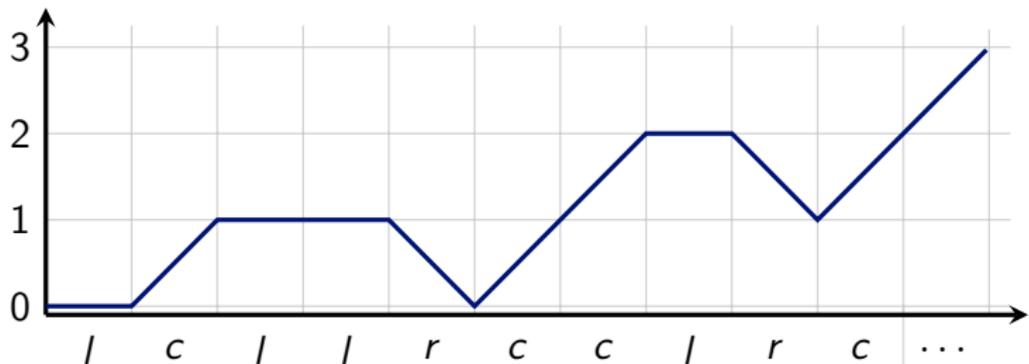


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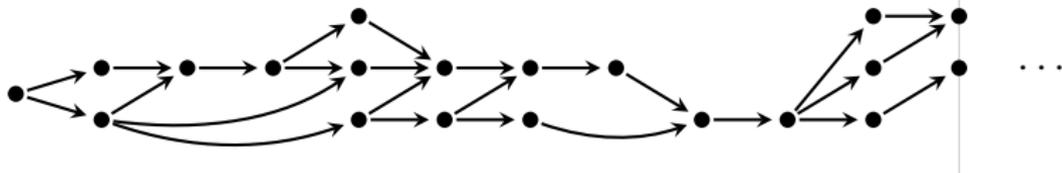
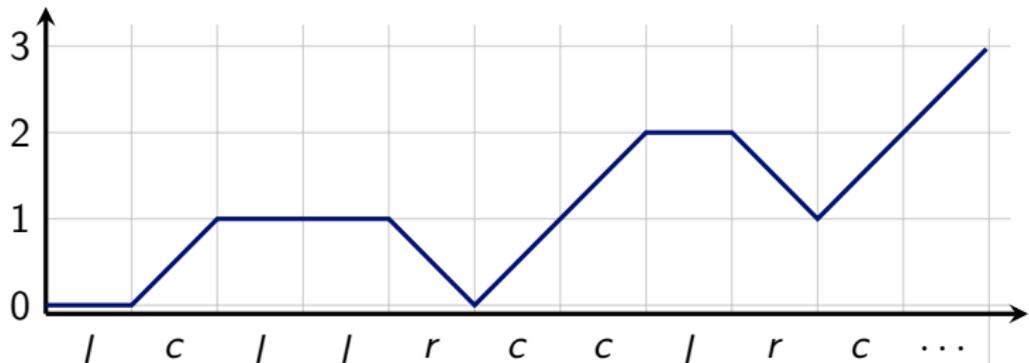


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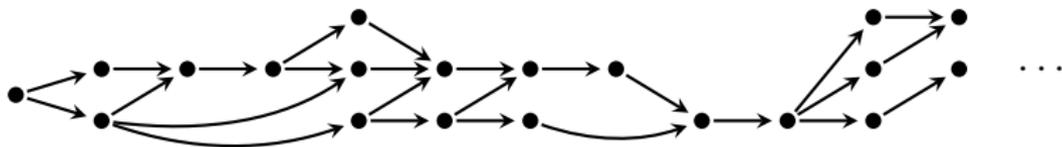
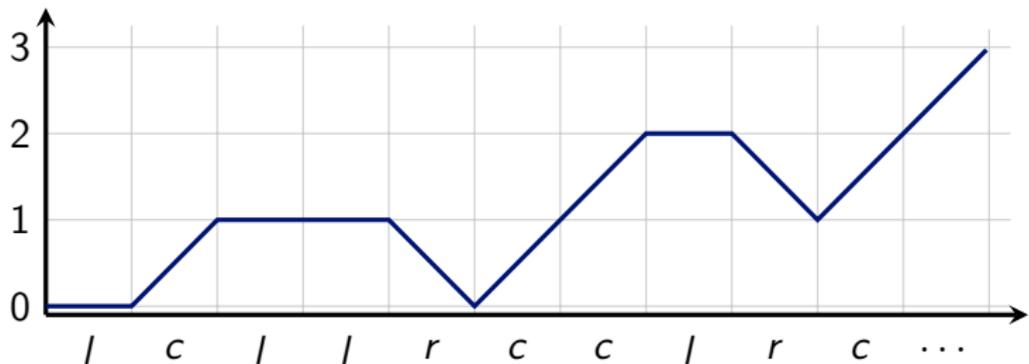


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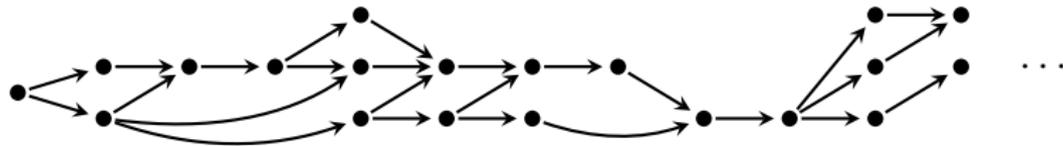
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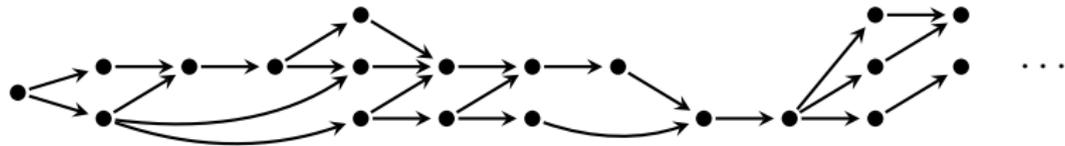


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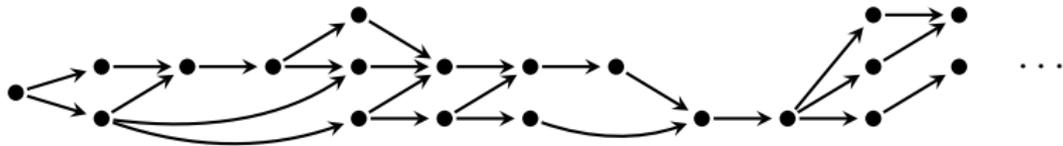


Intermediate Automata: 1 – AJA



Acceptance: Each branch visits accepting states infinitely often.

Intermediate Automata: 1 – AJA



Acceptance: Each branch visits accepting states infinitely often.

Theorem (Ext. of (W. and Zimmermann, 2016))

For each VLDL formula there exists an equivalent 1 – AJA of polynomial size.

Guiding Questions

1. What are 1 – AJAs?
2. How to translate 1 – AJAs into tree automata?

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2. How to translate 1 – AJAs into tree automata?

Guiding Questions

1. What are 1 – AJAs? ✓
2. How to translate 1 – AJAs into tree automata?
 - How to translate words into trees?

Encoding Words as Trees

l c l l r c c l r c c ...

Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees

l c l l r c c l r c c ...

l

Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees

l c l l r c c l r c c ...

l — c

Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees

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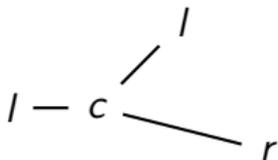
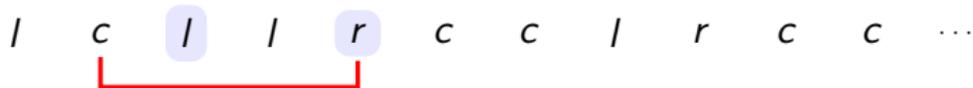


l — c

Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

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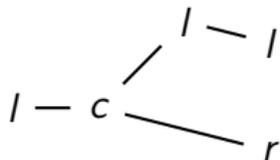
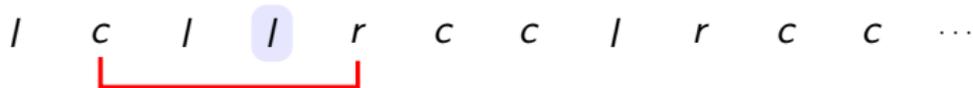
l c l l r c c l r c c ...



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees

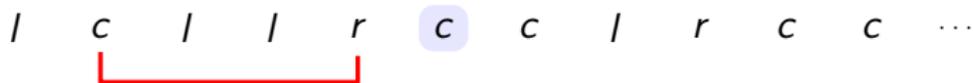
l c l l r c c l r c c ...



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees

l c l l r c c l r c c ...



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

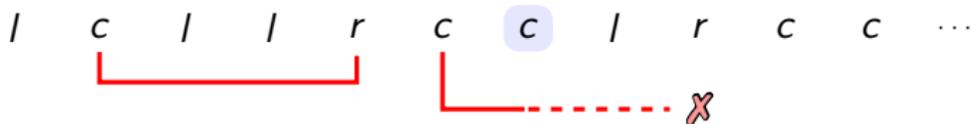
Encoding Words as Trees

l c l l r c c l r c c ...



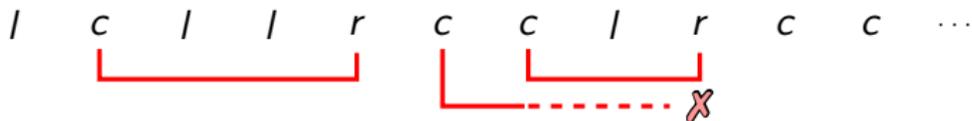
Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

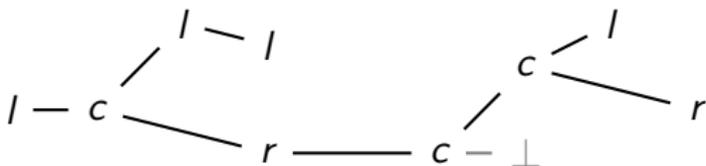
Encoding Words as Trees



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

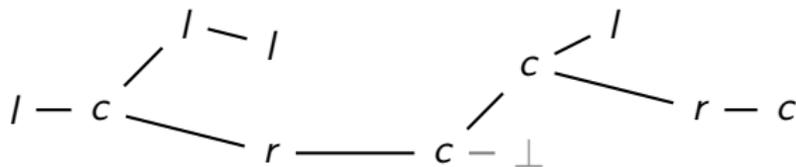
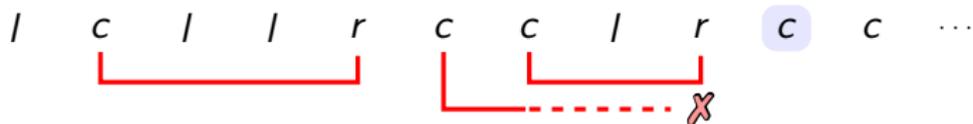
Encoding Words as Trees

l c l l r c c l r c c ...



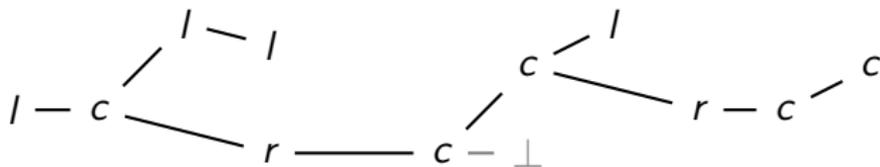
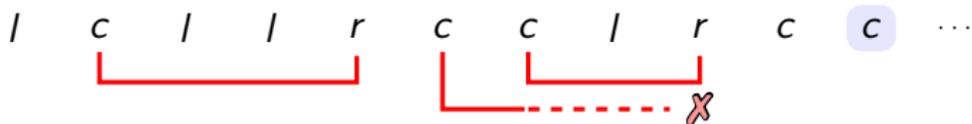
Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

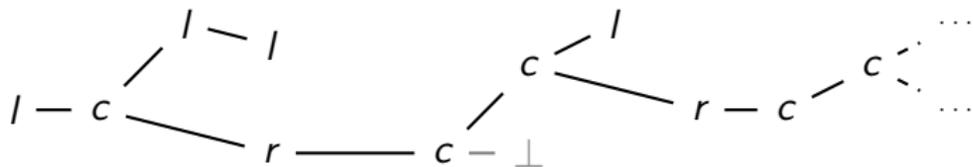
Encoding Words as Trees



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Encoding Words as Trees

l c l l r c c l r c c ...



Adapted from (Alur and Madhusudan, 2004)

Guiding Questions

1. What are 1 – AJAs? ✓
2. How to translate 1 – AJAs into tree automata?
 - How to translate words into trees?

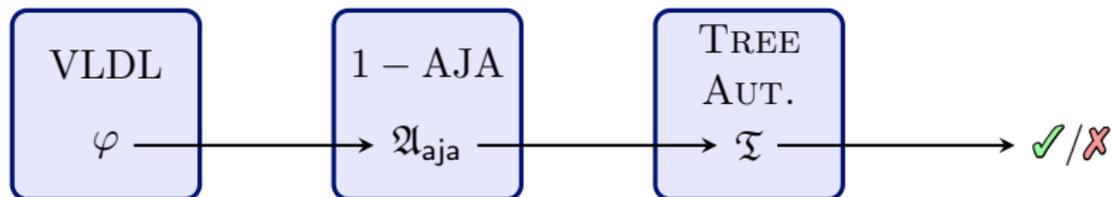
Guiding Questions

1. What are 1 – AJAs? ✓
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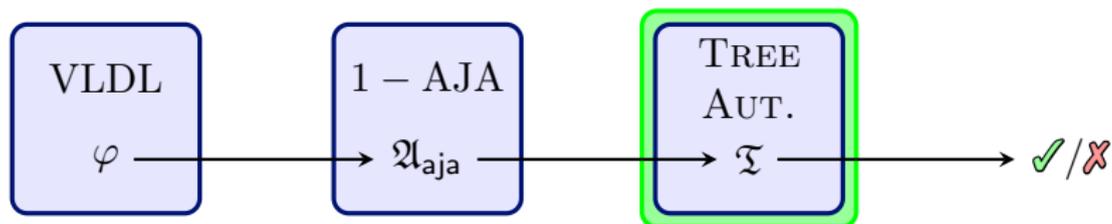
Guiding Questions

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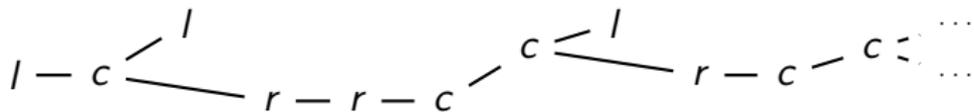
Overview



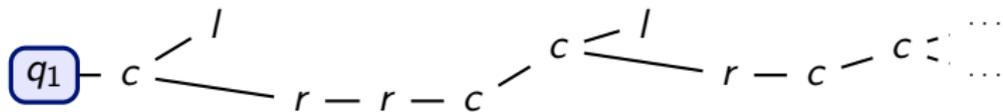
Overview



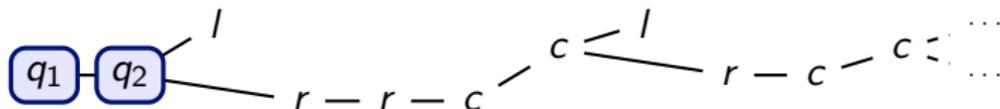
Tree Automata



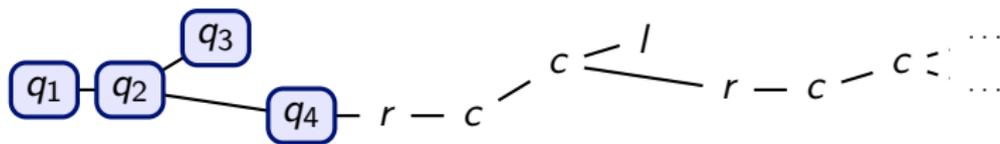
Tree Automata



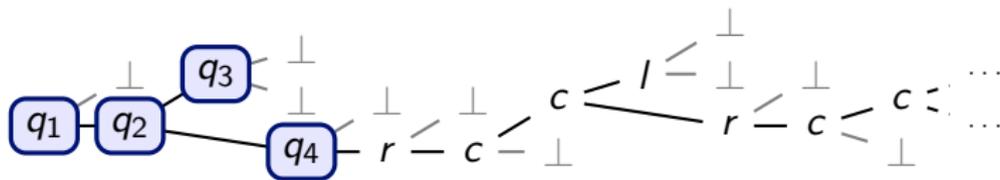
Tree Automata



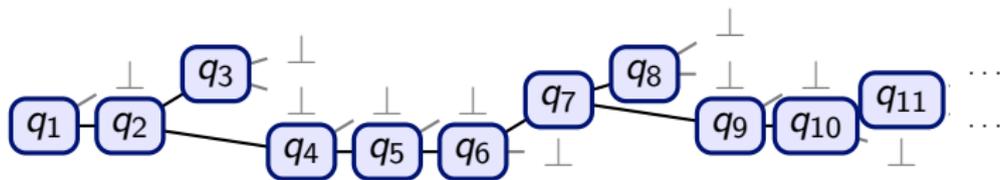
Tree Automata



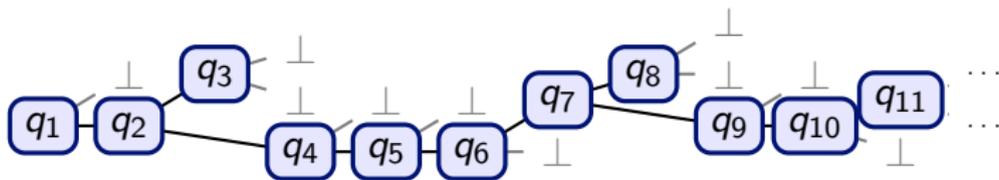
Tree Automata



Tree Automata

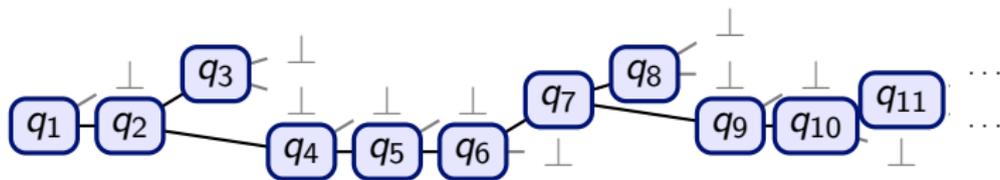


Tree Automata



Acceptance: Every branch has infinitely many accepting vertices

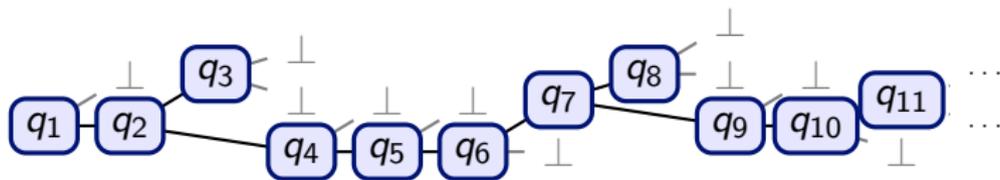
Tree Automata



Acceptance: Every branch has infinitely many accepting vertices

Component	Technique
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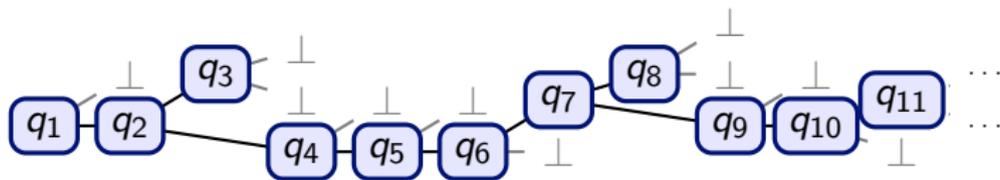
Tree Automata



Acceptance: Every branch has infinitely many accepting vertices

Component	Technique
States	

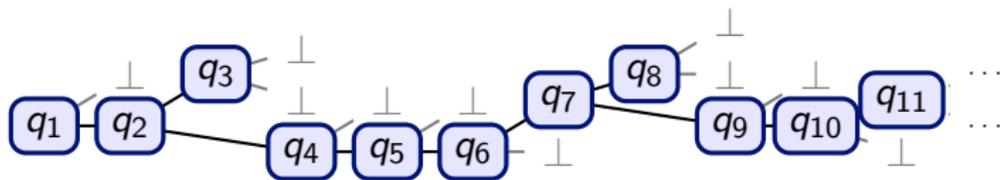
Tree Automata



Acceptance: Every branch has infinitely many accepting vertices

Component	Technique
States	
Transitions	

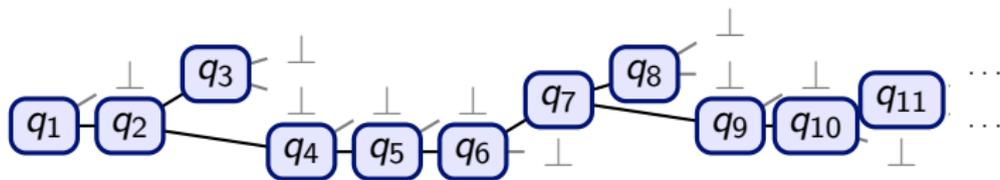
Tree Automata



Acceptance: Every branch has infinitely many accepting vertices

Component	Technique
States	
Transitions	
Accepting States	

Tree Automata



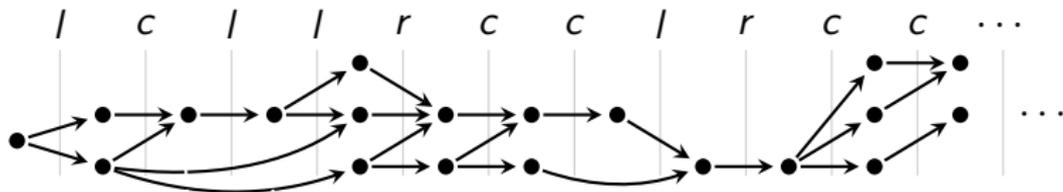
Acceptance: Every branch has infinitely many accepting vertices

Component	Technique
States	?
Transitions	?
Accepting States	?

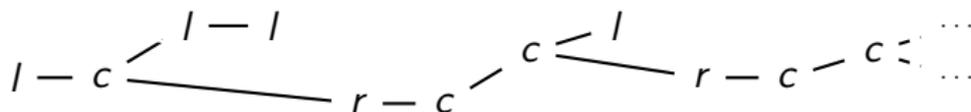
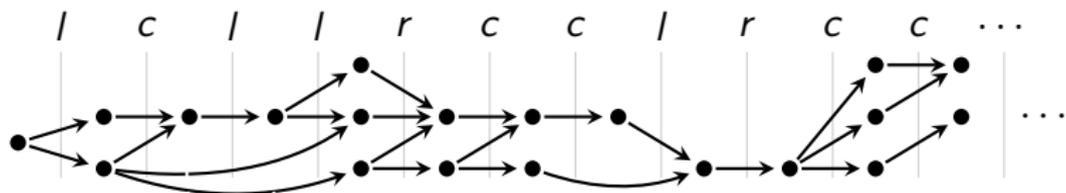
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata

l c l l r c c l r c c ...

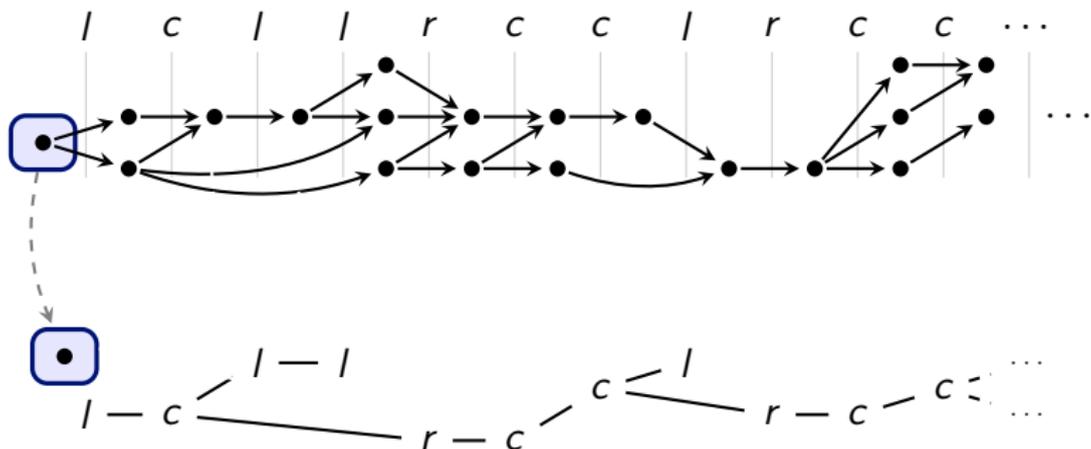
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata



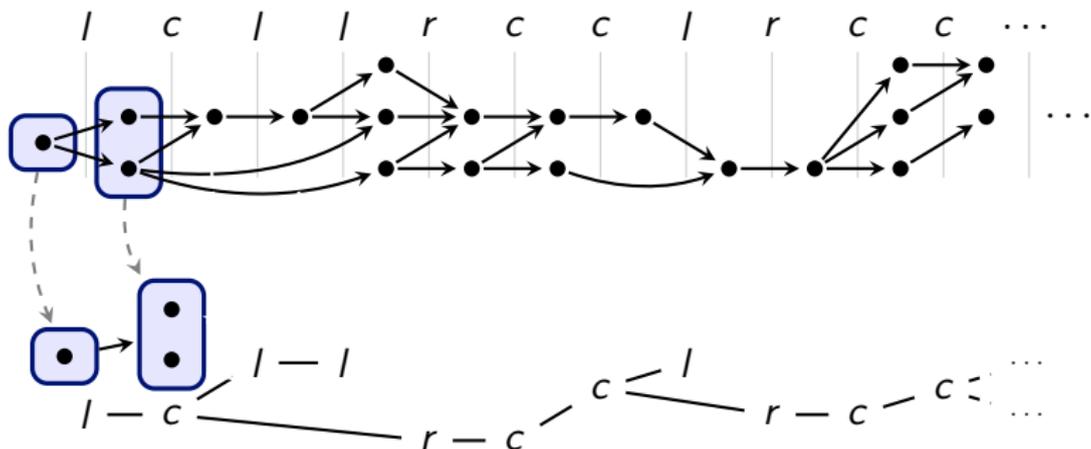
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata



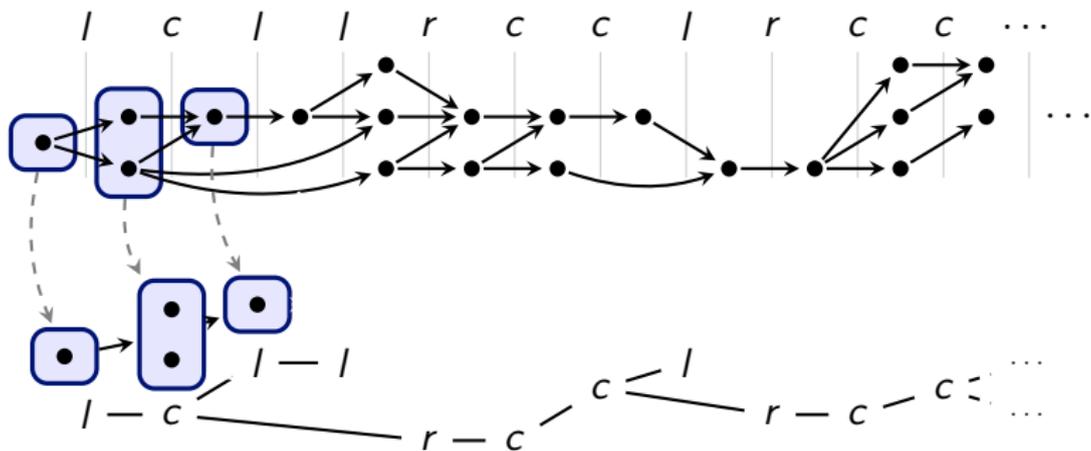
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata



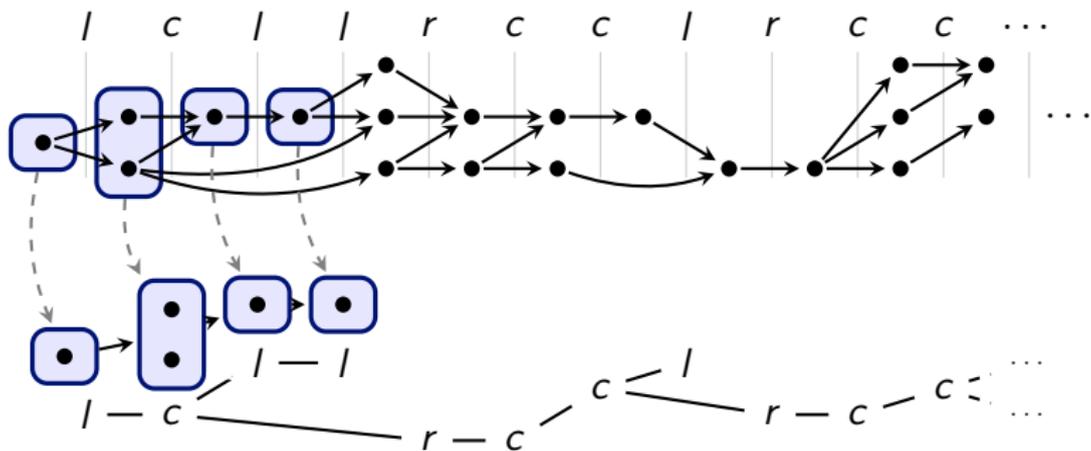
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata



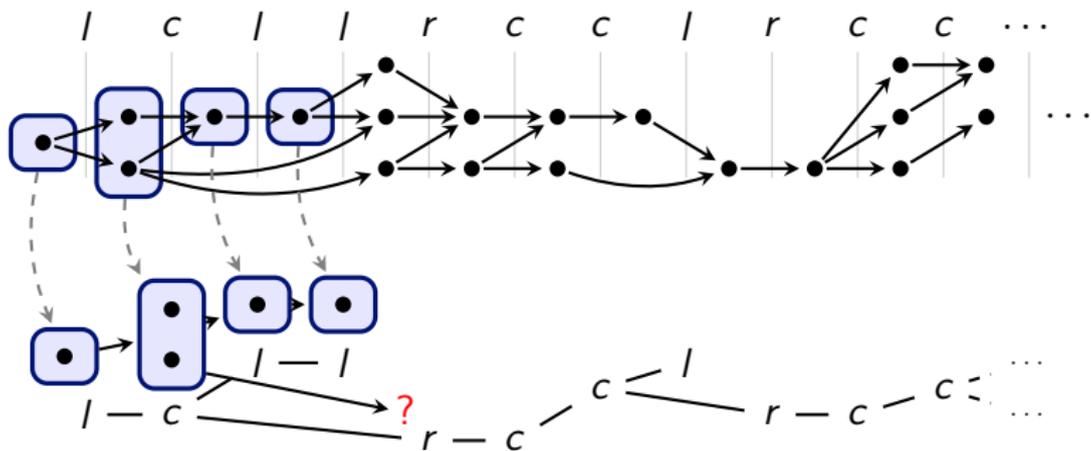
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata



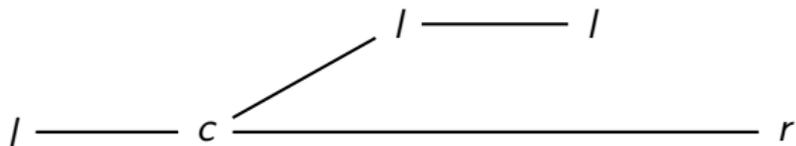
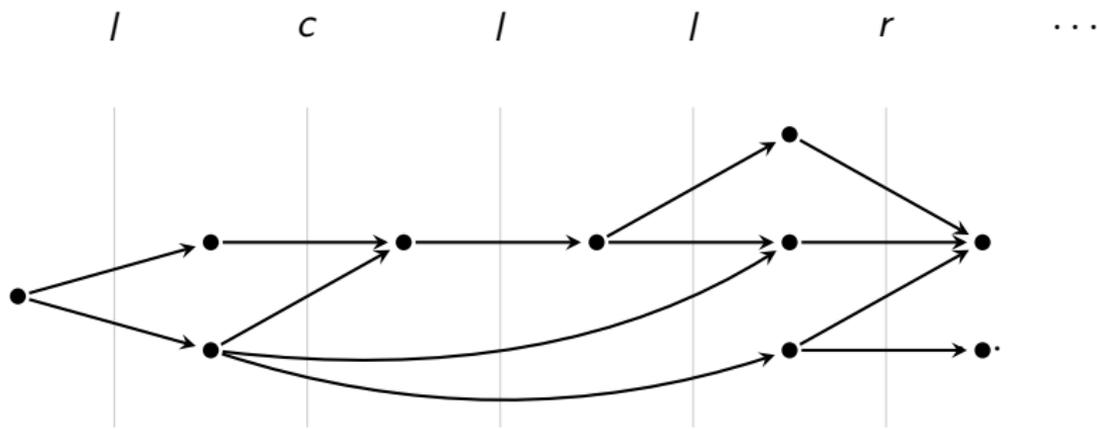
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata



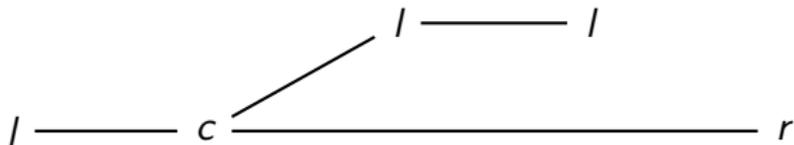
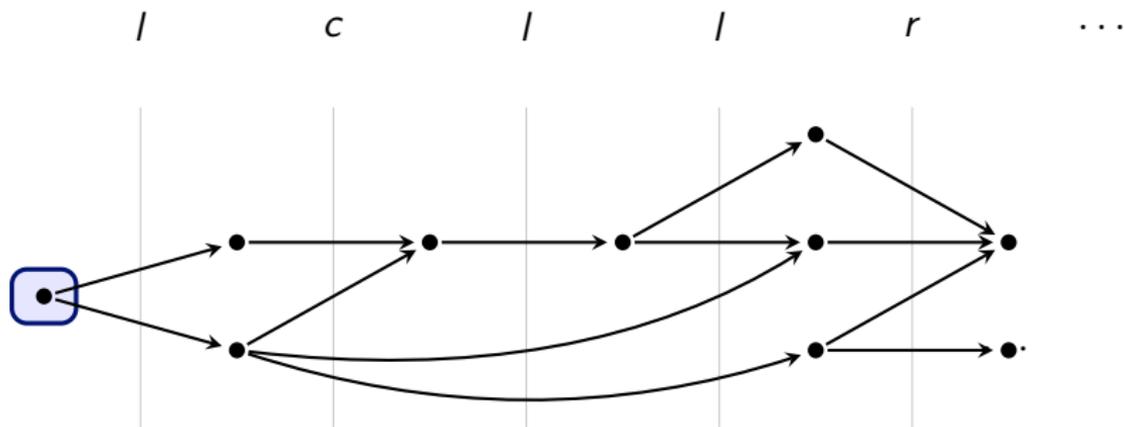
Translating 1 – AJAs into Tree Automata



Construction in Detail

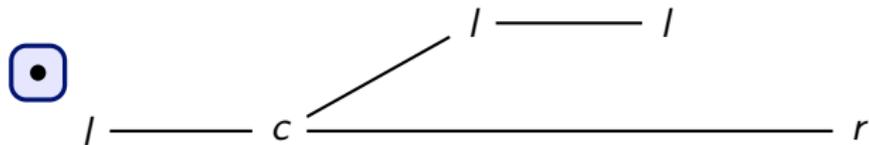
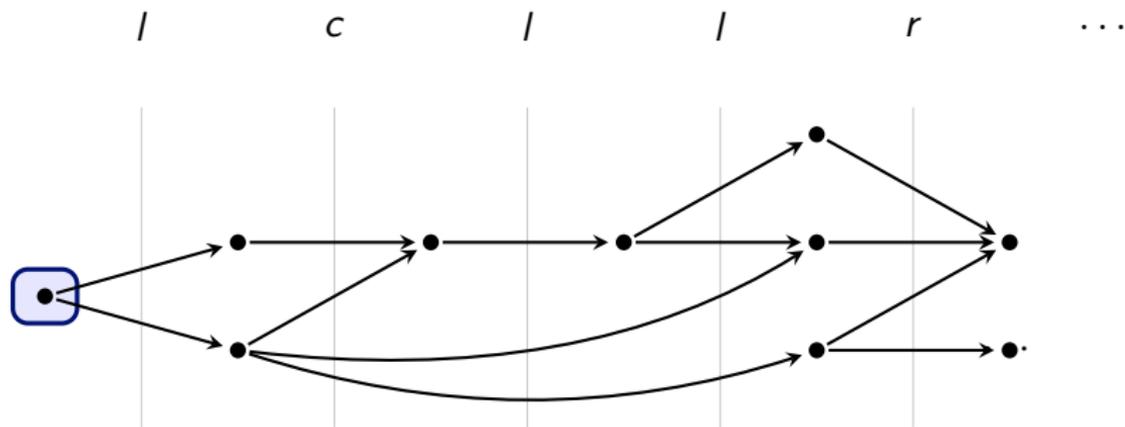


Construction in Detail

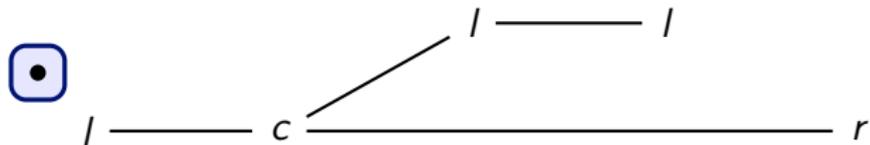
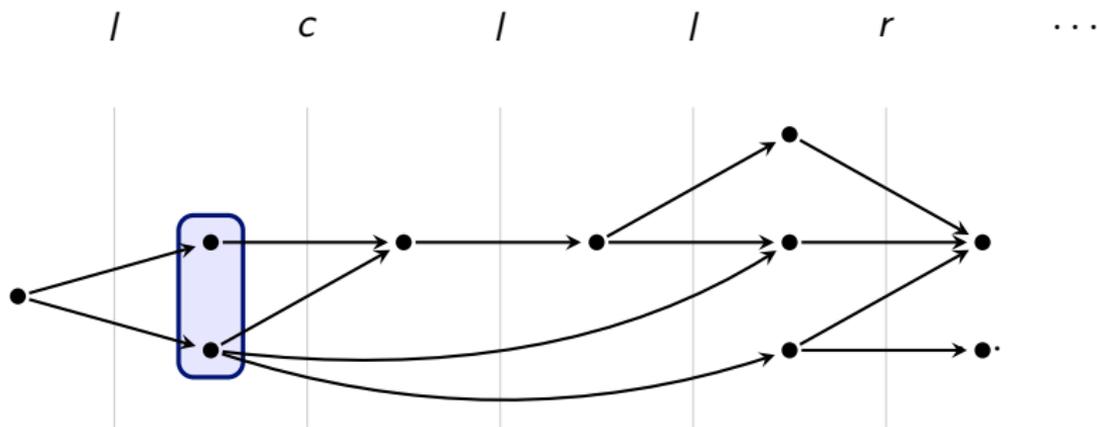


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Construction in Detail

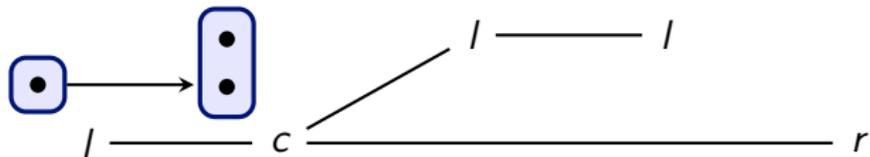
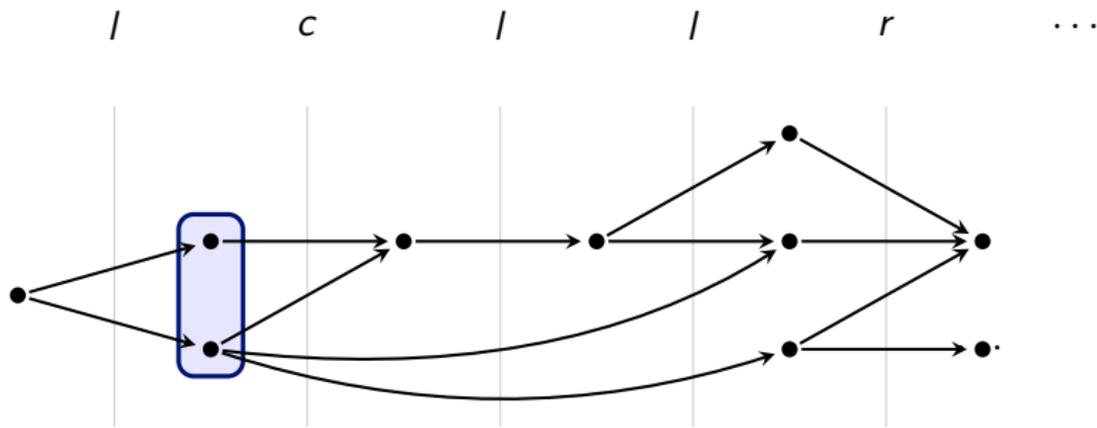


Construction in Detail



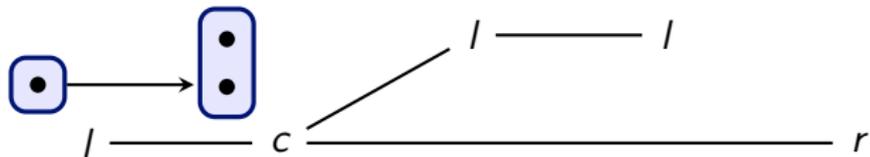
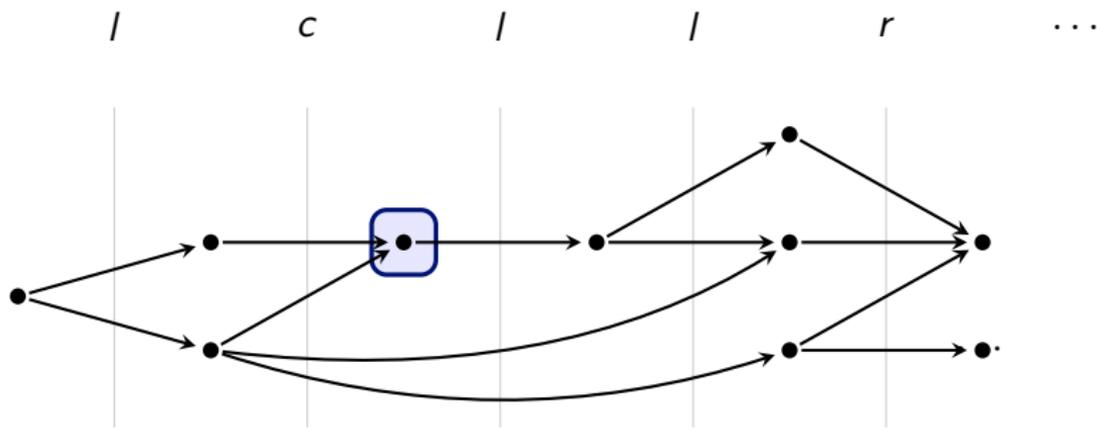
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Construction in Detail



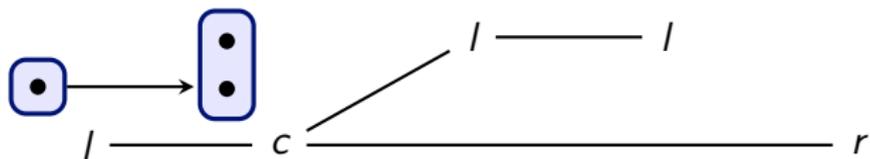
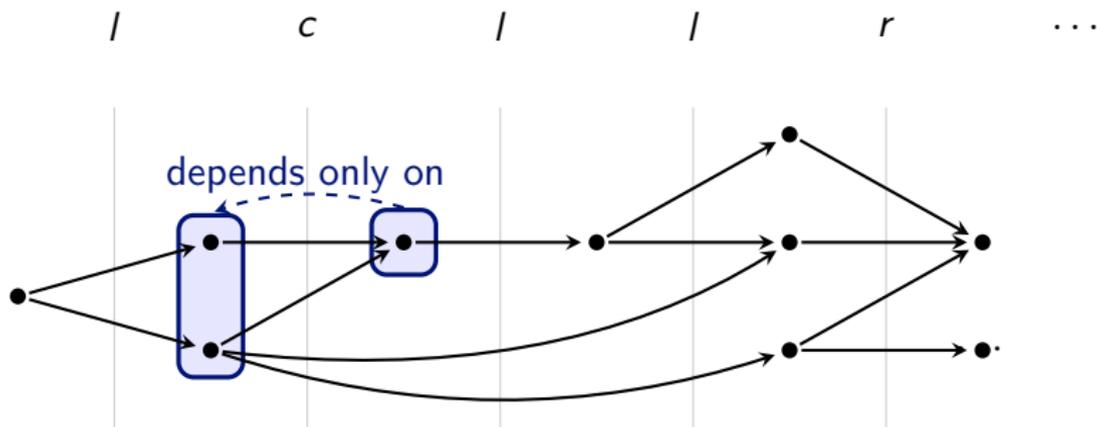
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Construction in Detail



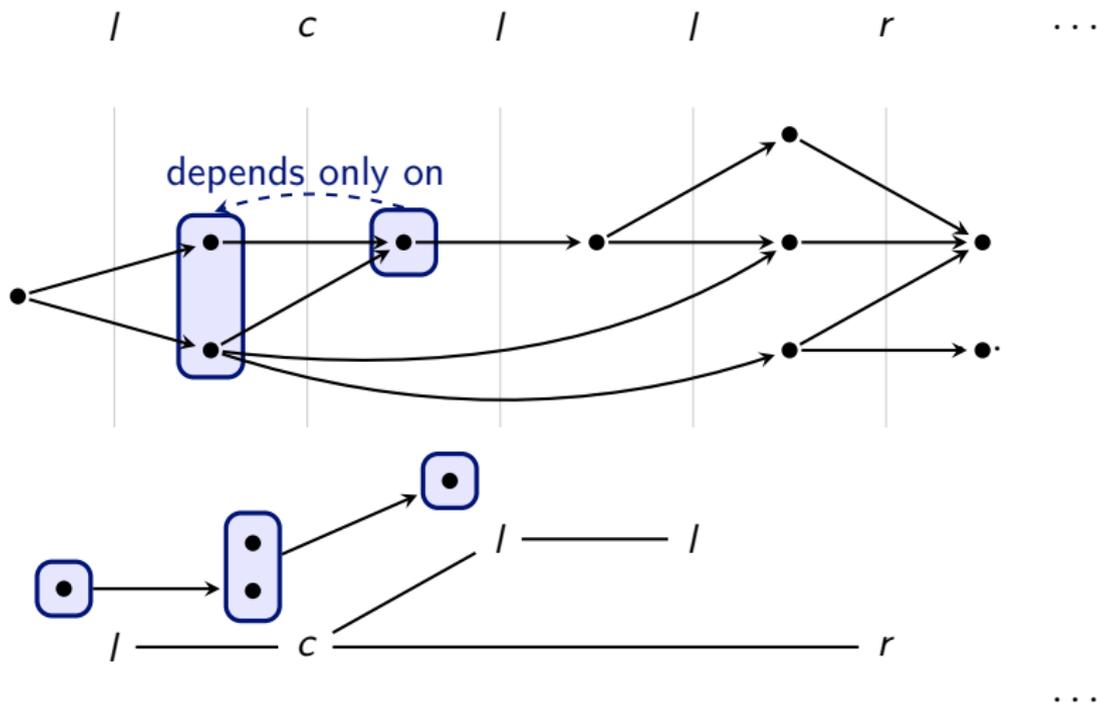
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Construction in Detail

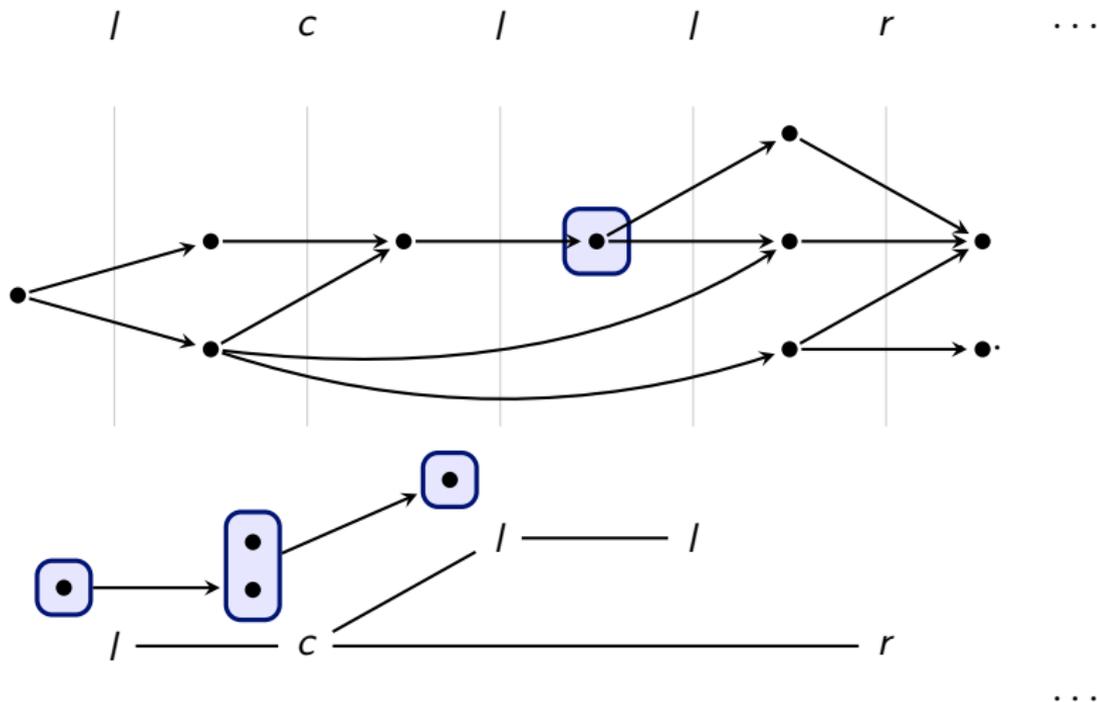


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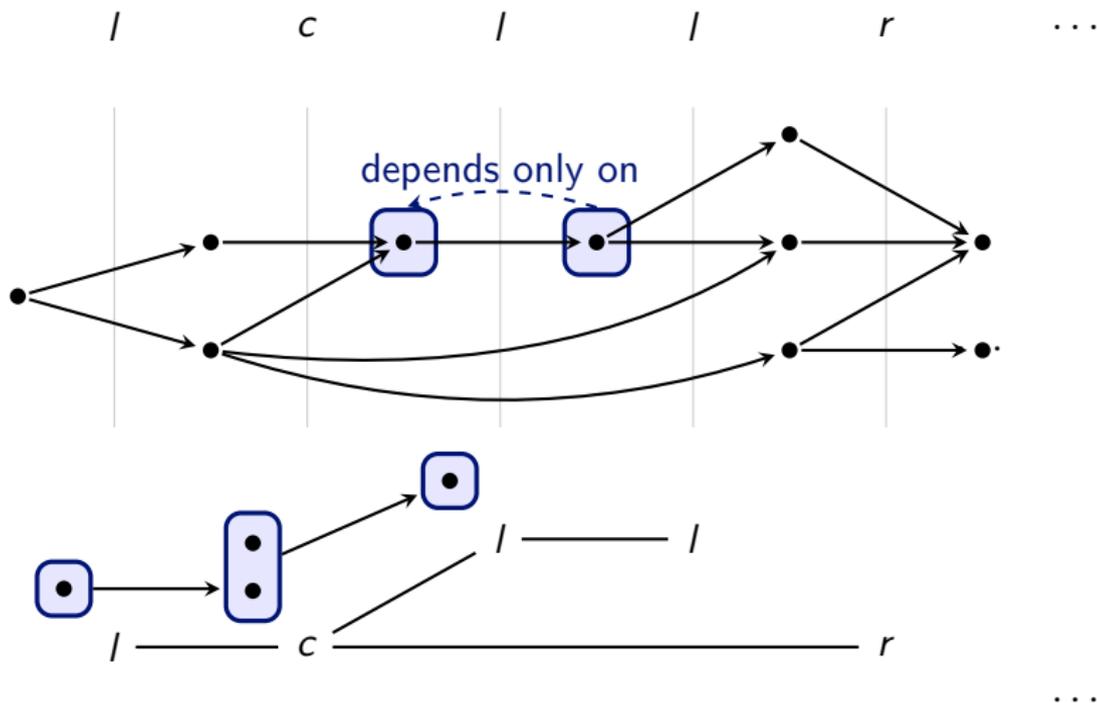
Construction in Detail



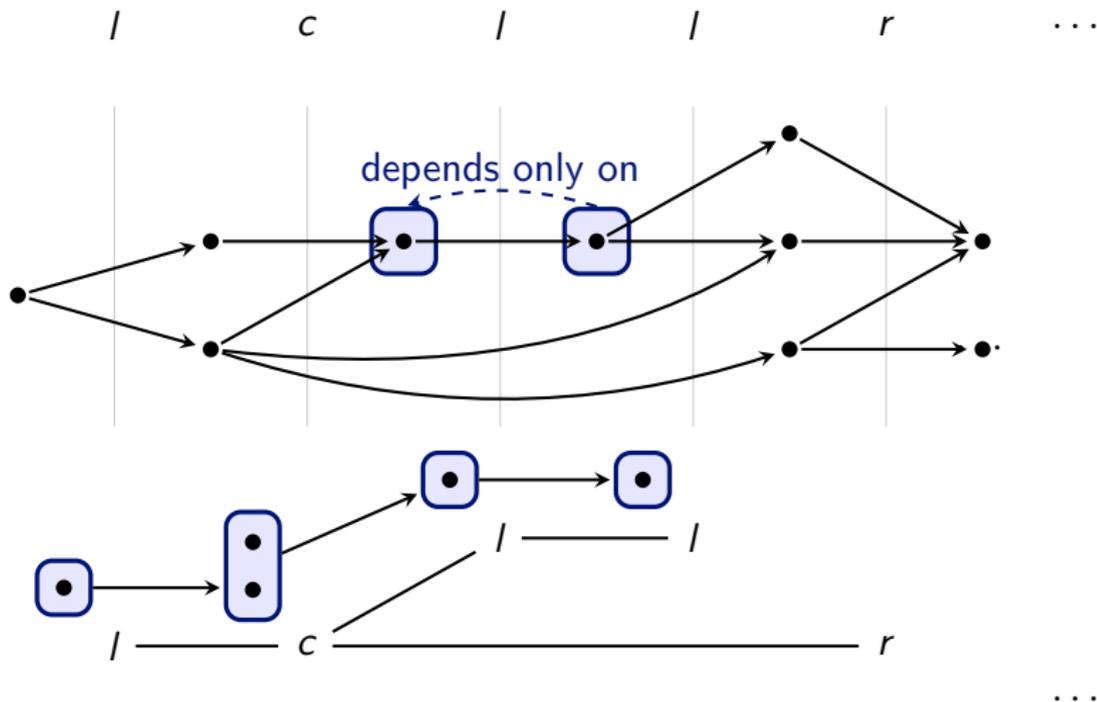
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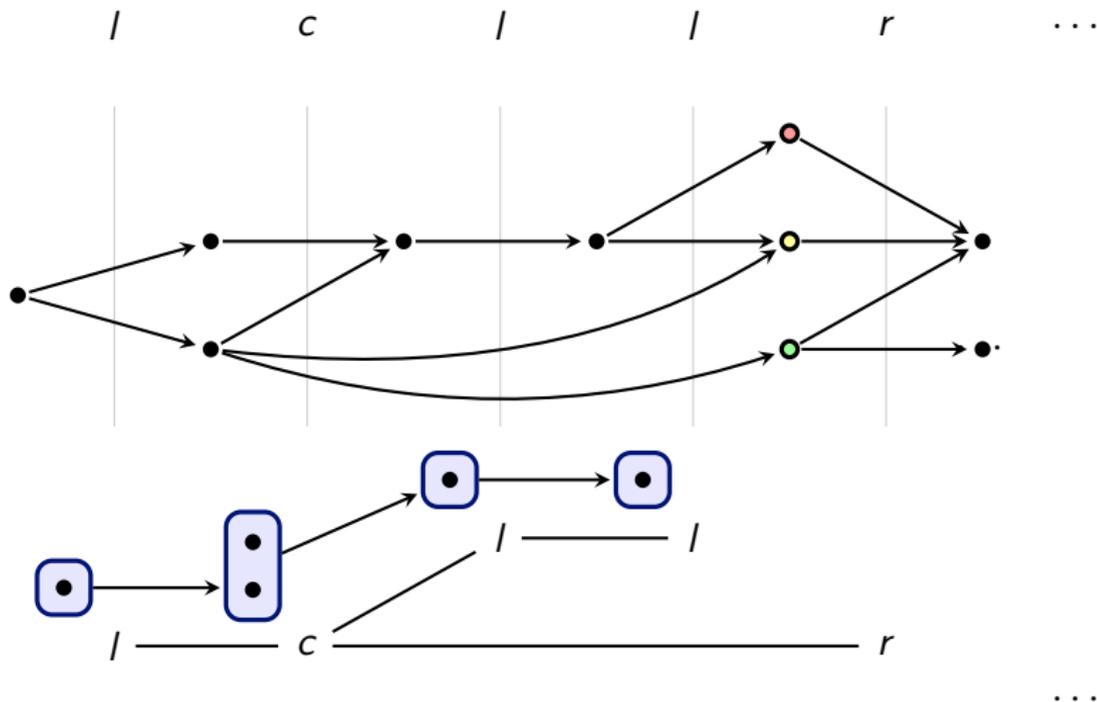
Construction in Detail



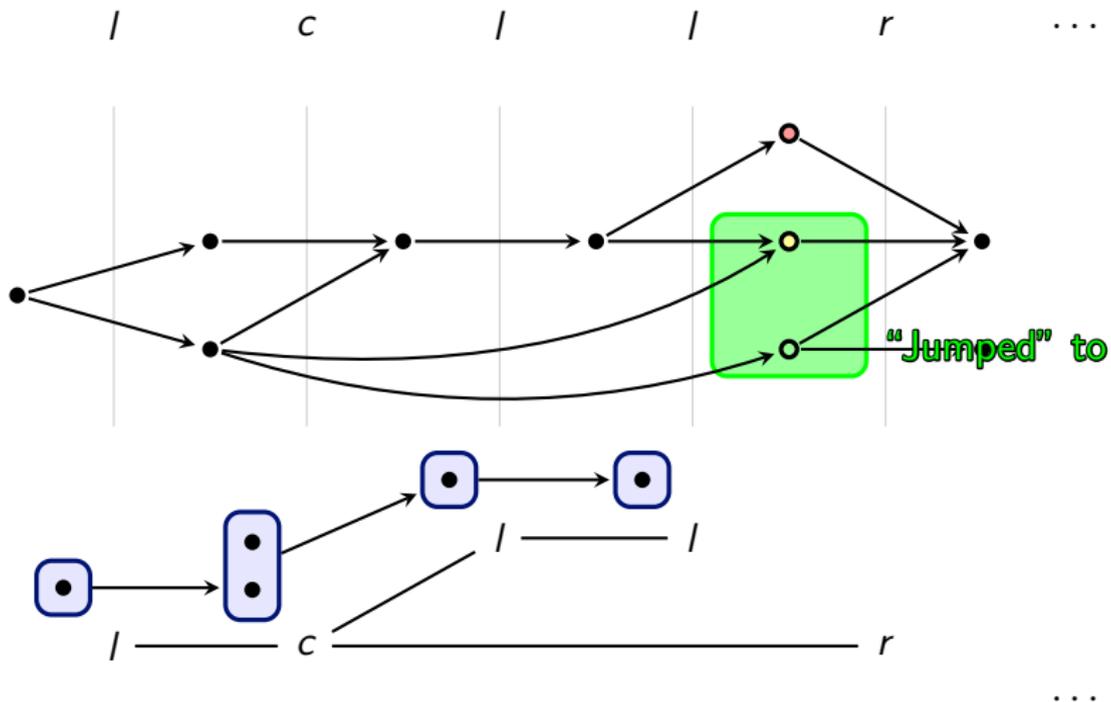
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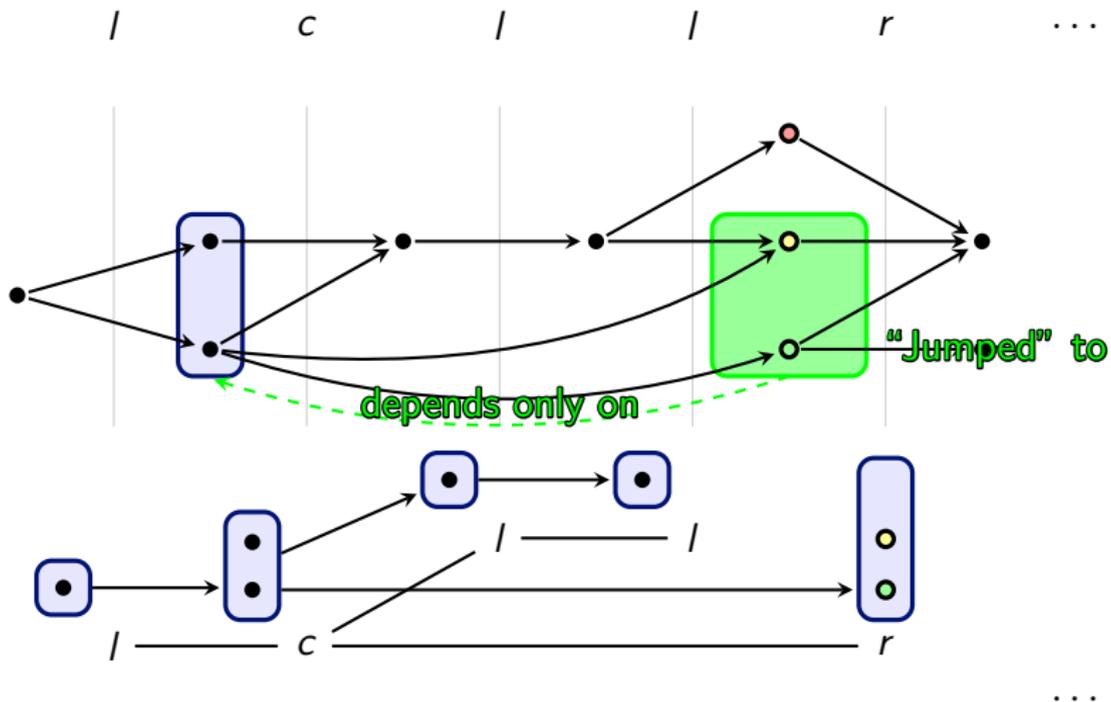
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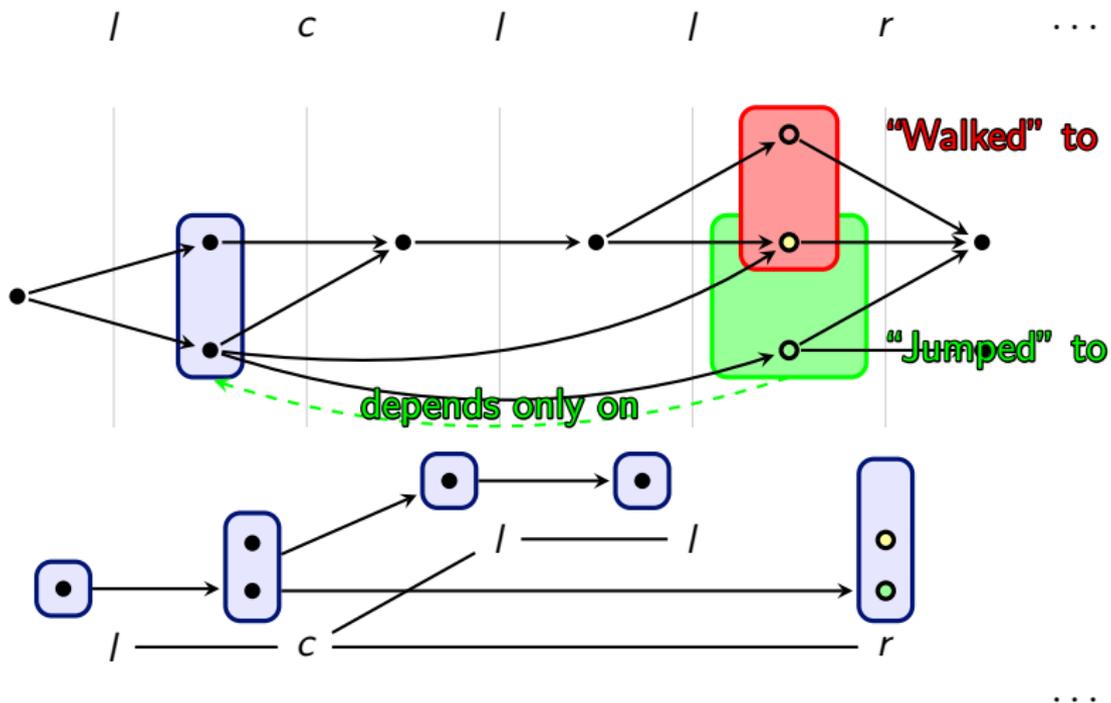
Construction in Detail



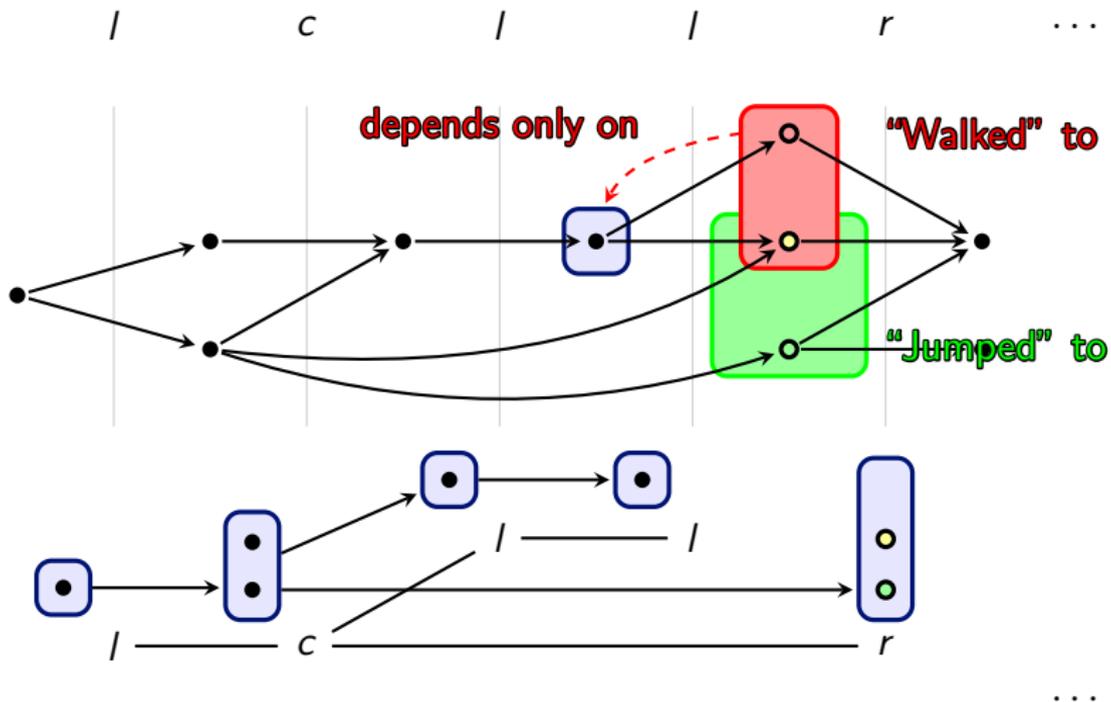
Construction in Detail



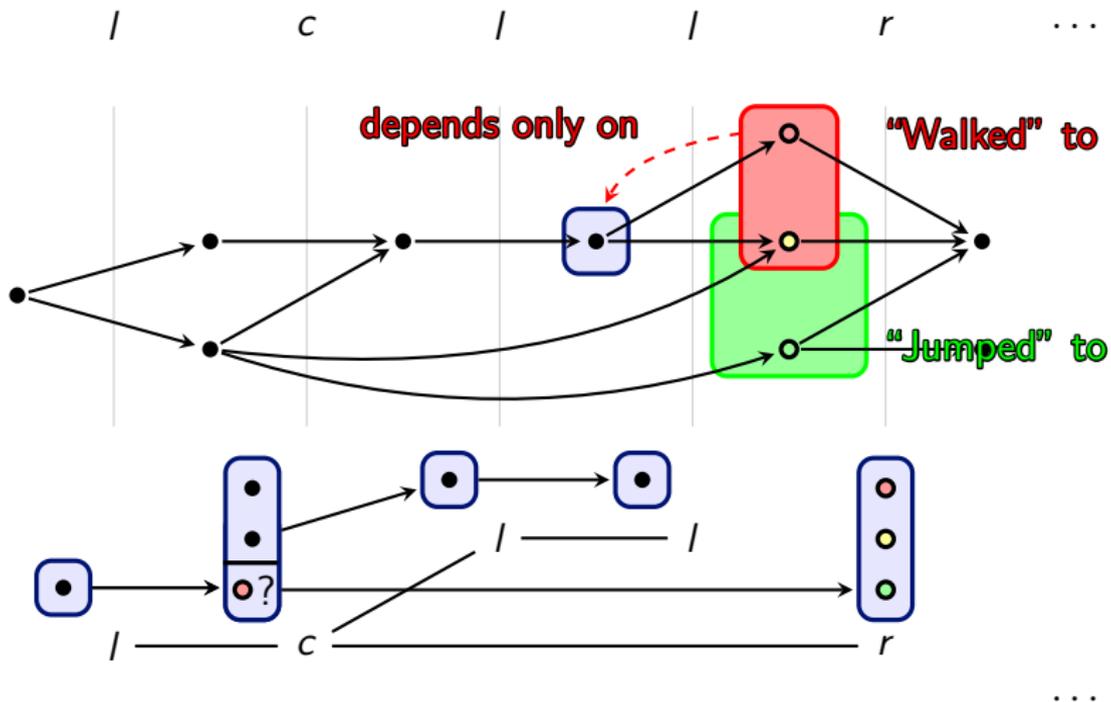
Construction in Detail



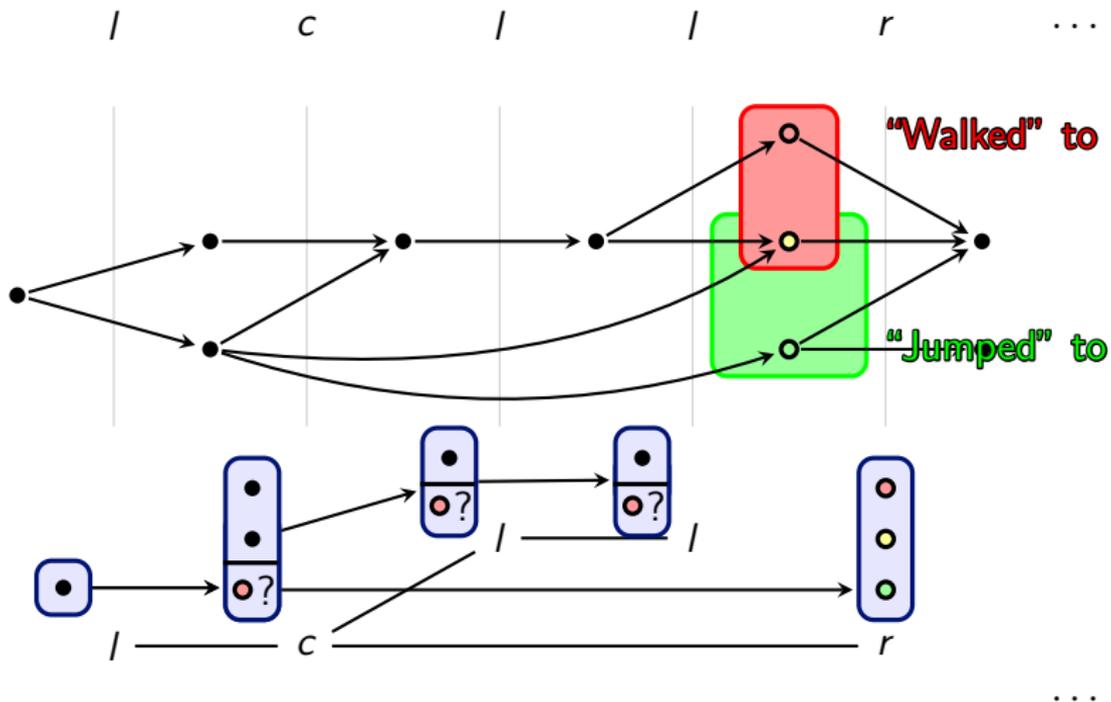
Construction in Detail



Construction in Detail

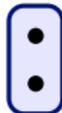


Construction in Detail



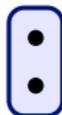
Summary of Construction

1. Subset construction



Summary of Construction

1. Subset construction

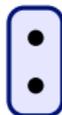


2. Split into “jump”- and “walk”-states



Summary of Construction

1. Subset construction



2. Split into “jump”- and “walk”-states



3. Guess and verify



Constructing a Tree Automaton

Component	Technique
States	
Transitions	
Accepting States	

Constructing a Tree Automaton

Component	Technique
States	Subset Construction 
Transitions	
Accepting States	

Constructing a Tree Automaton

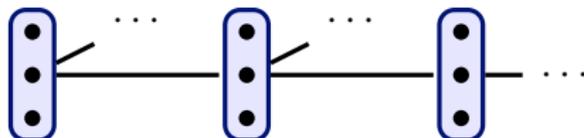
Component	Technique	
States	Subset Construction	✓
Transitions	Guess/Verify	✓
Accepting States		

Constructing a Tree Automaton

Component	Technique	
States	Subset Construction	✓
Transitions	Guess/Verify	✓
Accepting States	?	

Accepting States

Run of the tree automaton:



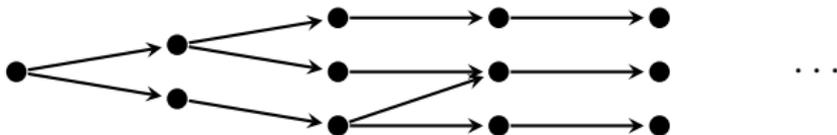
Recall:

- 1 – AJA accepts if all **paths** are accepting.
- Tree automaton accepts if accepting **states** are visited infinitely often.

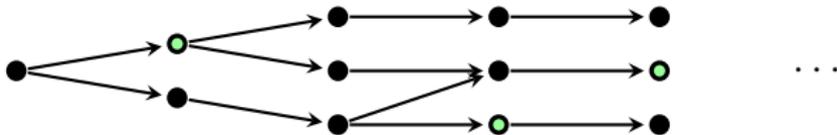
Solution: Lift acceptance condition from paths to states

⇒ Breakpoint Technique (Miyano and Hayashi, 1984)

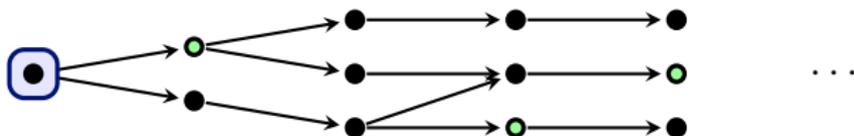
Breakpoint Construction



Breakpoint Construction

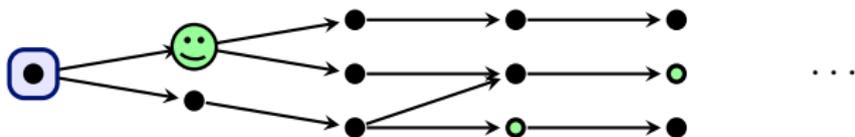


Breakpoint Construction



Breakpoint Construction

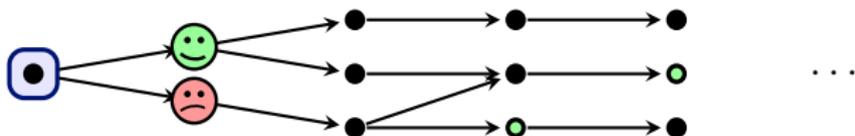
😊: Accepting state guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

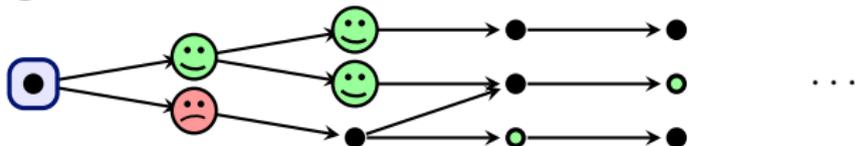
☹️: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

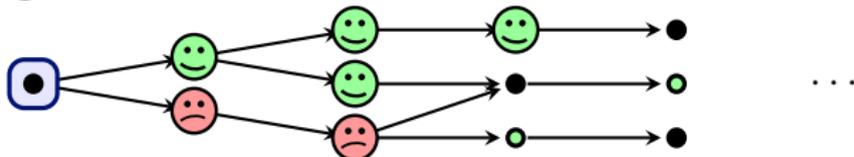
😞: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

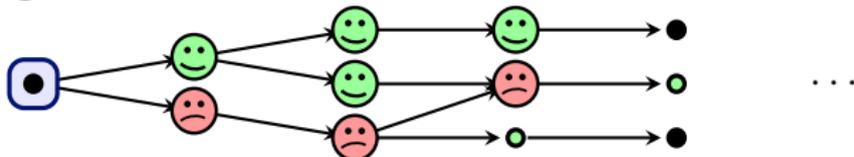
😞: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

😞: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

😞: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

😞: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

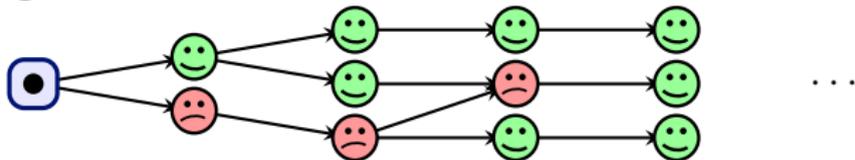
😞: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

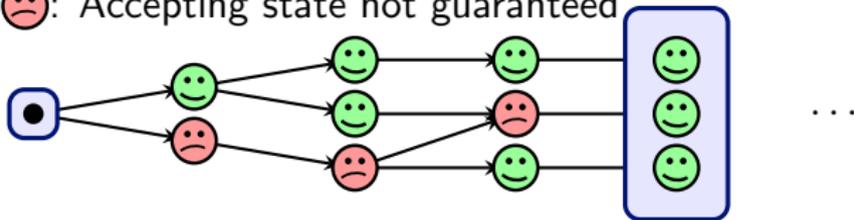
😞: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

😊: Accepting state guaranteed

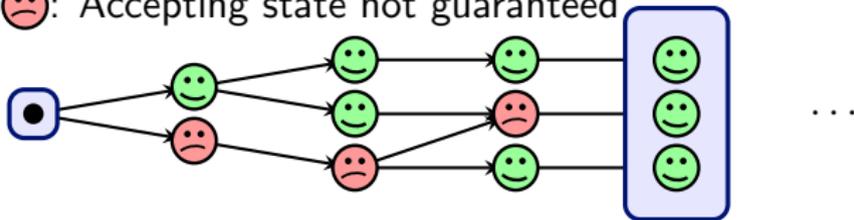
☹️: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint Construction

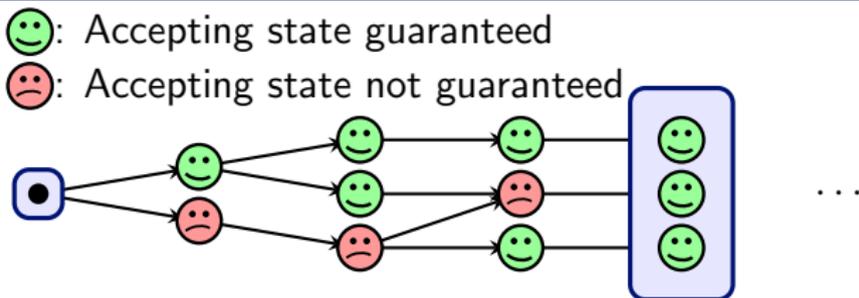
😊: Accepting state guaranteed

☹️: Accepting state not guaranteed



Breakpoint: All paths since last breakpoint visit accepting state

Breakpoint Construction

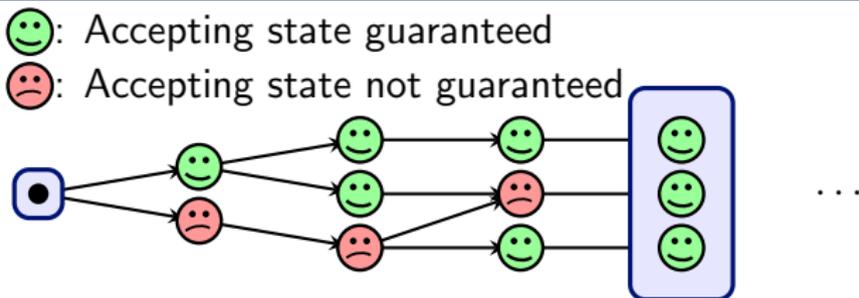


Breakpoint: All paths since last breakpoint visit accepting state

Lemma (Miyano and Hayashi, 1984)

A run of an alternating automaton is accepting if there exists a breakpoint sequence over it.

Breakpoint Construction



Breakpoint: All paths since last breakpoint visit accepting state

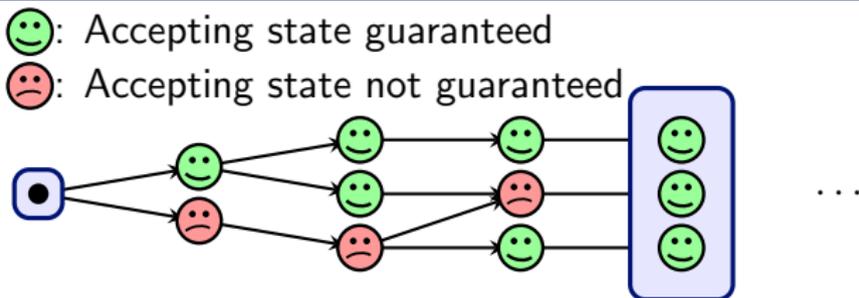
Lemma (Miyano and Hayashi, 1984)

A run of an alternating automaton is accepting if there exists a breakpoint sequence over it.

Lemma

A run of a 1 – AJA is accepting if there exists a breakpoint sequence over it.

Breakpoint Construction



Breakpoint: All paths since last breakpoint visit accepting state

Lemma (Miyano and Hayashi, 1984)

A run of an alternating automaton is accepting if there exists a breakpoint sequence over it.

Lemma

A run of a 1 – AJA is accepting if there exists a breakpoint sequence over it.*

Accepting States

- Keep track of 😊 and 😞 states in state space
- Update 😊 and 😞 states on the fly
- Accept and restart if all states are 😊

Accepting States

- Keep track of 😊 and ☹️ states in state space
- Update 😊 and ☹️ states on the fly
- Accept and restart if all states are 😊

Accepting States

Accepting States

- Keep track of 😊 and ☹️ states in state space
- Update 😊 and ☹️ states on the fly
- Accept and restart if all states are 😊

Accepting States ✓

Constructing a Tree Automaton

Component	Technique	
States	Subset Construction	✓
Transitions	Guess/Verify	✓
Accepting States		

Constructing a Tree Automaton

Component	Technique	
States	Subset Construction	✓
Transitions	Guess/Verify	✓
Accepting States	Breakpoint Construction	

Constructing a Tree Automaton

Component	Technique	
States	Subset Construction	✓
Transitions	Guess/Verify	✓
Accepting States	Breakpoint Construction	✓

Constructing a Tree Automaton

Component	Technique	
States	Subset Construction	✓
Transitions	Guess/Verify	✓
Accepting States	Breakpoint Construction	✓

Theorem

For every VLDL formula φ we can construct a tree automaton \mathcal{T} of exponential size that recognizes the same language.

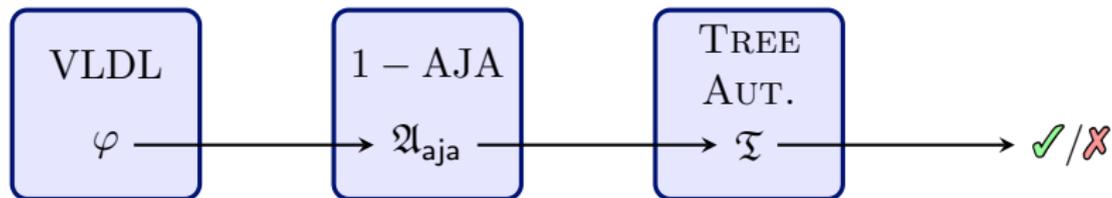
Guiding Questions

1. What are 1 – AJAs? ✓
2. How to translate 1 – AJAs into tree automata?
 - How to translate words into trees? ✓

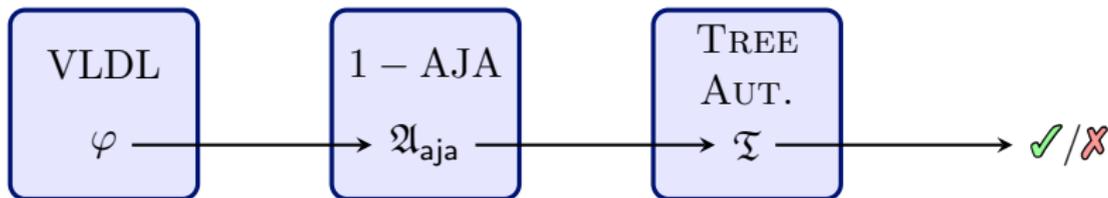
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New Approach



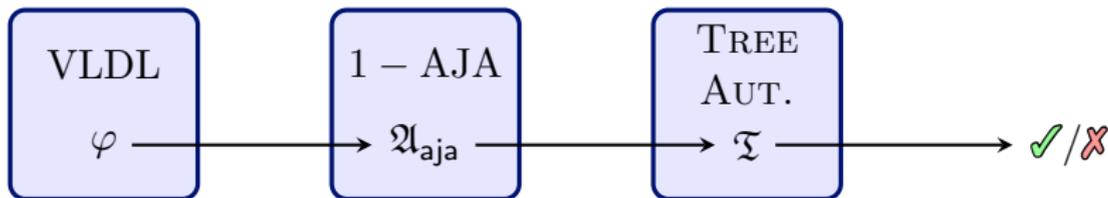
New Approach



Lemma

The following problem is in PTIME: “Given a tree automaton \mathcal{T} , does \mathcal{T} recognize the empty language?”

New Approach



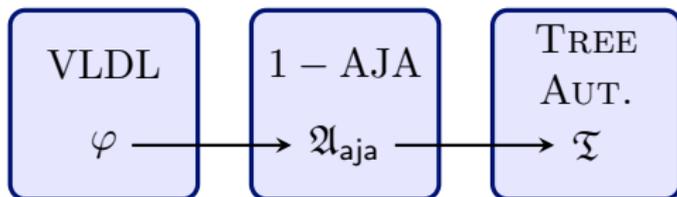
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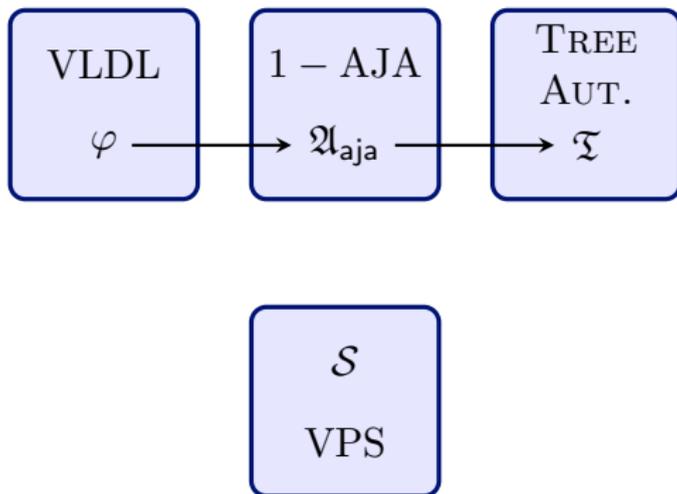
Theorem

The following problem is in EXPTIME: “Given a VLDL formula φ , does φ define the empty language?”

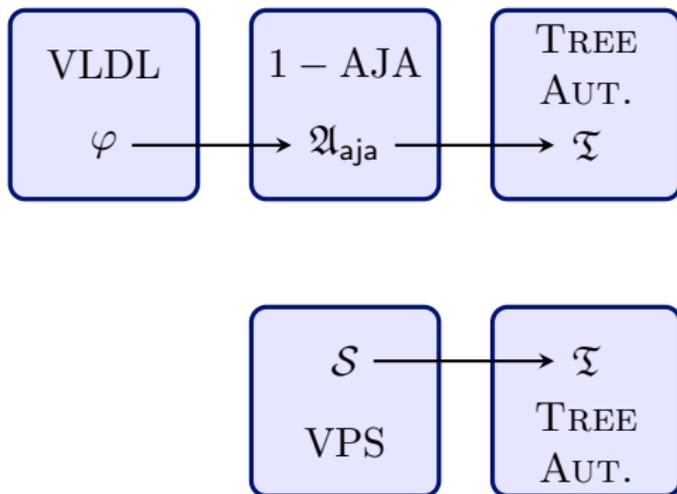
Model Checking



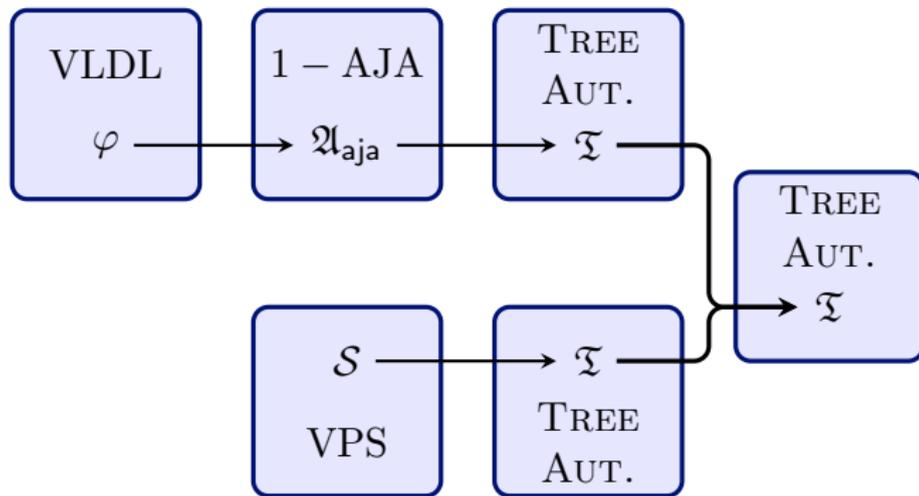
Model Checking



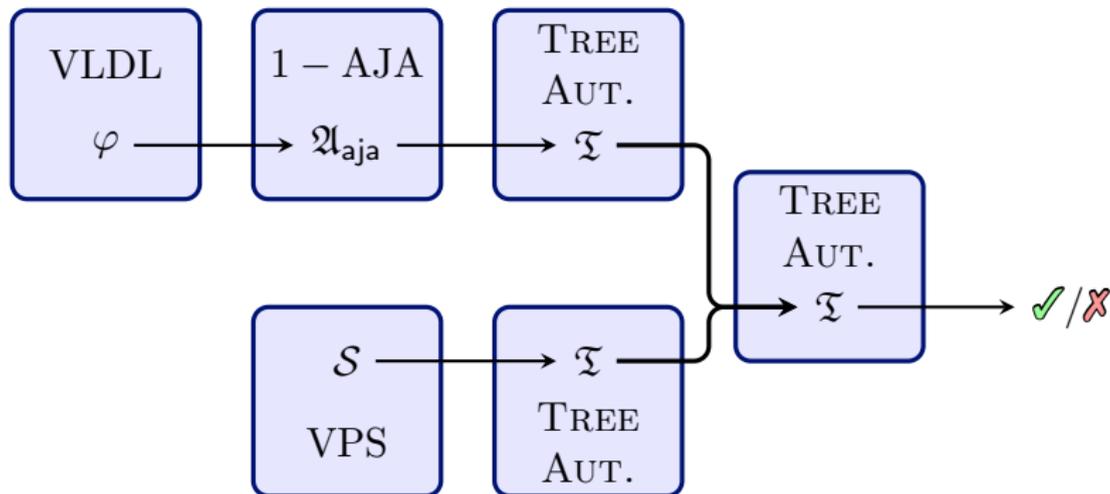
Model Checking



Model Checking



Model Checking



Theorem

The following problem is in EXPTIME: “Given a VLDL formula φ and a visibly pushdown system S , do all traces of S satisfy φ ?”

Conclusion

Conclusion

- Connection between visibly pushdown words and stack trees
- Breakpoint technique is very versatile
- Putting VLDL on solid algorithmic foundation of Büchi games

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Future Work

- Games with VLDL winning conditions
- Prototypical Implementation, Comparison