

# FINITE SEQUENTIALITY OF UNAMBIGUOUS MAX-PLUS TREE AUTOMATA

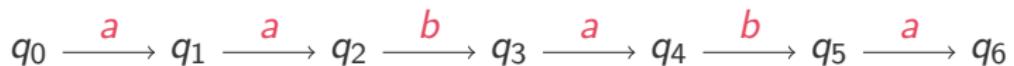
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Erik Paul

Leipzig University

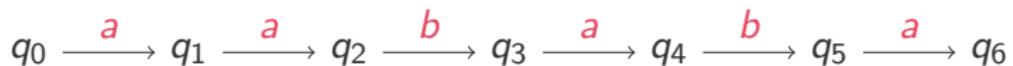


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Weights in  $\mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$



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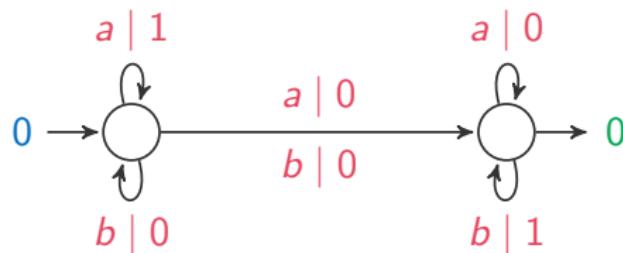


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# MAX-PLUS AUTOMATA: AMBIGUITY

sequential / deterministic

one “initial state”  
no two valid  $p \xrightarrow{a} q_1, p \xrightarrow{a} q_2$

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Given  $\mathcal{A}$

Is there determ  $\mathcal{A}'$  with  $[\![\mathcal{A}]\!] = [\![\mathcal{A}']\!]$ ?

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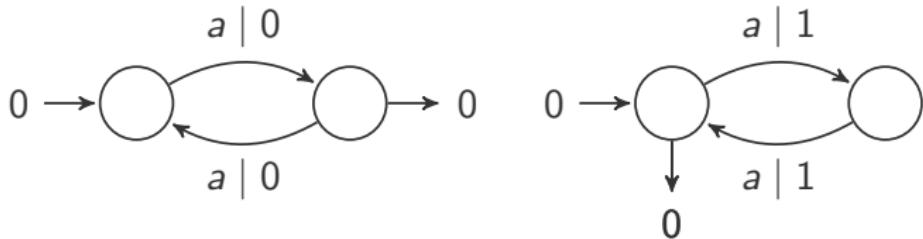
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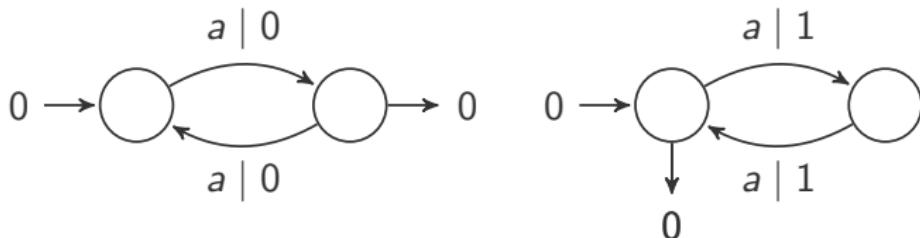
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[Mohri]

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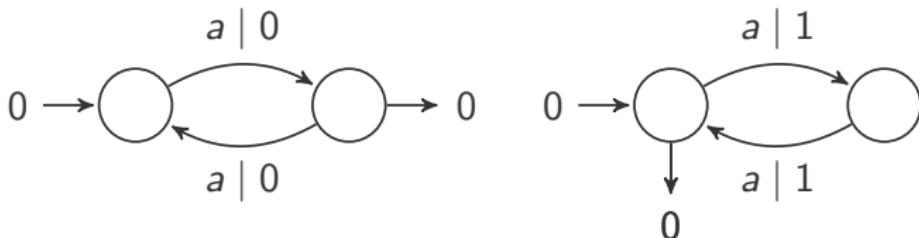


$$\llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket(w) = \begin{cases} |w| & \text{uneven} \rightsquigarrow 0 \\ & |w| \text{ even} \rightsquigarrow |w| \end{cases}$$

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$\mathcal{A} = (Q, \lambda, \mu, \nu)$  unamb

$p, q \in Q$  states



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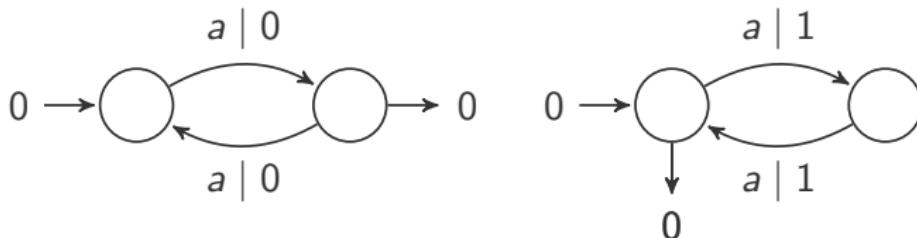
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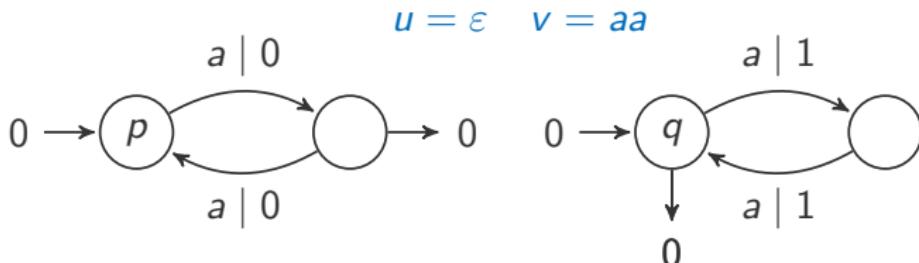
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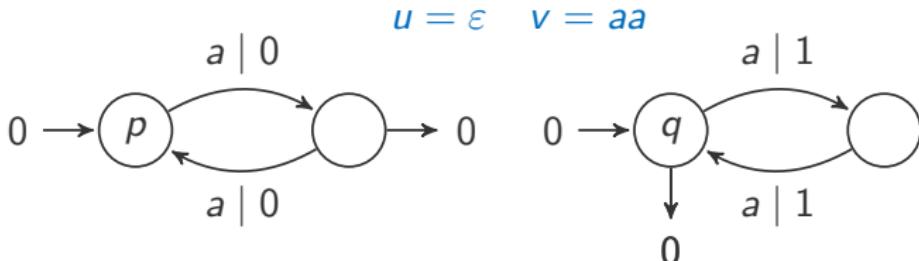
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THM  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow$   $\llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$  sequential  $\leftrightarrow$  no **rivals** in  $\mathcal{A}$

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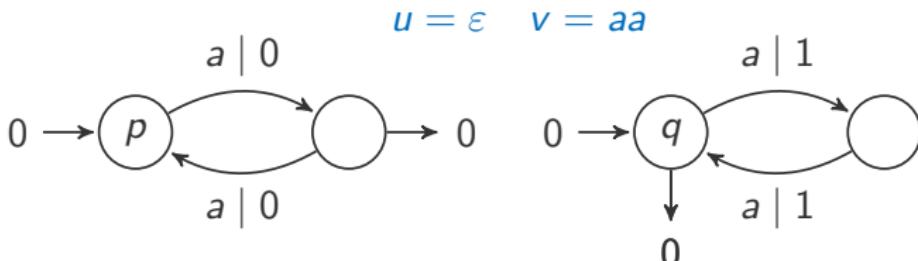
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“twins property”

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assume rivals p,q exist

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$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$  not sequential

# FINITE SEQUENTIALITY

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Given  $\mathcal{A}$

Is  $\llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$  for some determ  $\mathcal{A}_i$ ?

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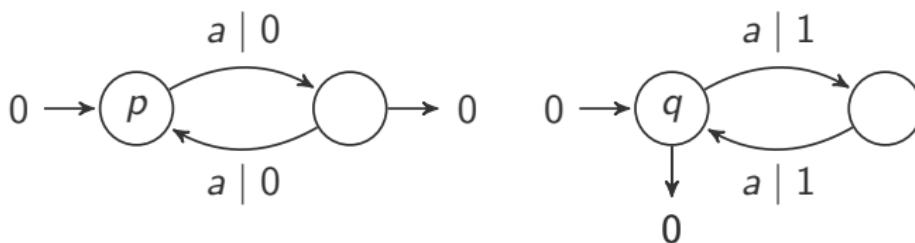
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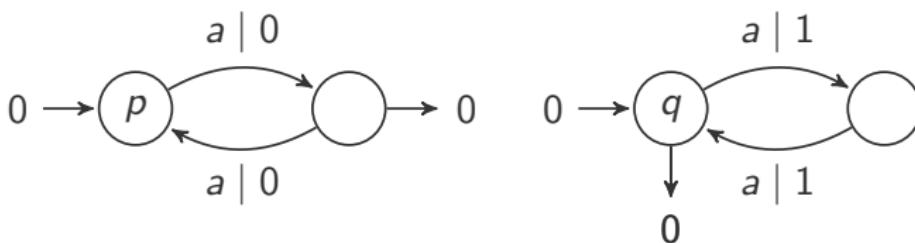
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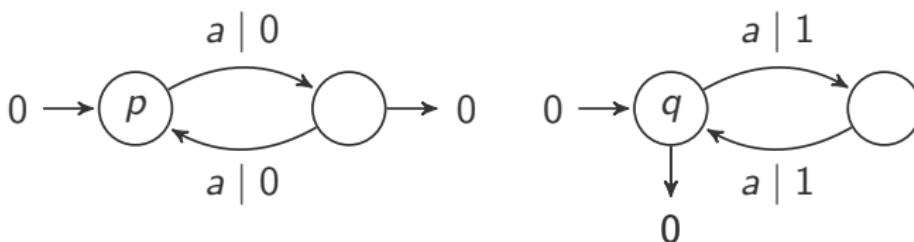
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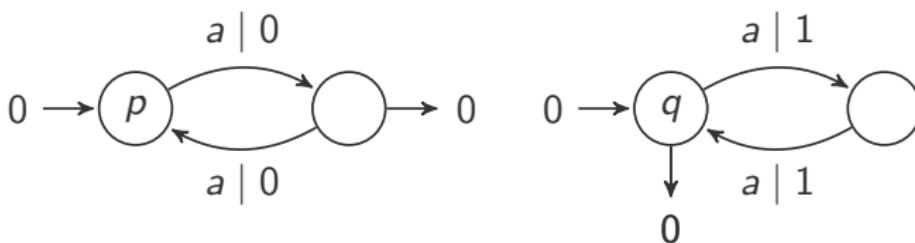
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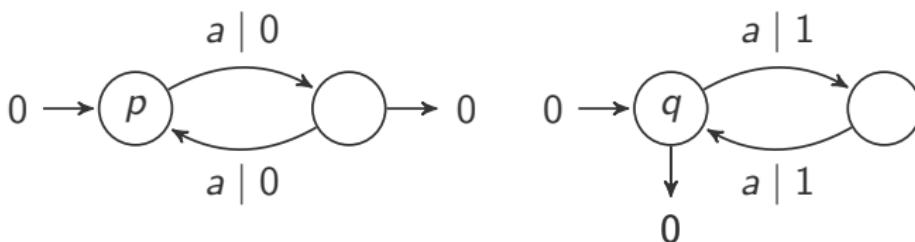
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Proof “ $\rightarrow$ ” elementary

“ $\leftarrow$ ” interesting

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and  $\nexists$  rivals  $p, q$ , fork w:  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ deterministic}$$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and  $\not\exists$  rivals  $p, q$ , fork w:  $p \xrightarrow{w} p \quad p \xrightarrow{w} q$

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Proof construct unamb  $\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_n$  with

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$p_i, q_j$  earliest visits of  $\{p, q\}$

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$p_i, q_j$  earliest visits of  $\{p, q\}$   $\text{assume } i = j \text{ and } p_i = q_j$

$$\Rightarrow p_i \xrightarrow{u_{i+1} \dots u_n} p \text{ and } p_i \xrightarrow{u_{i+1} \dots u_n} q$$

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$$\xrightarrow{u} q \xrightarrow{v|y_q} q \quad q_0 \xrightarrow{u_1} q_1 \xrightarrow{u_2} \dots \xrightarrow{u_{n-1}} q_{n-1} \xrightarrow{u_n} q$$

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Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and  $\nexists$  rivals  $p, q$ , fork w:  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ deterministic}$$

---

**Proof** construct unamb  $\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_n$  with

- $\llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$
  - no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$   $\Rightarrow$  determinizable
- 

$$\xrightarrow{u} p \xrightarrow{v|y_p} p \quad p_0 \xrightarrow{u_1} p_1 \xrightarrow{u_2} \dots \xrightarrow{u_{n-1}} p_{n-1} \xrightarrow{u_n} p$$

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$\Rightarrow u_{i+1} \dots u_n$  fork ↴

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Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and  $\nexists$  rivals  $p, q$ , fork w:  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

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Idea record first visit of rival

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and  $\nexists$  rivals  $p, q$ , fork w:  $p \xrightarrow{w} p \quad p \xrightarrow{w} q$

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$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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$$p_0 \xrightarrow{u_1} \dots \xrightarrow{u_{n-1}} p_{n-1} \xrightarrow{u_n} p$$

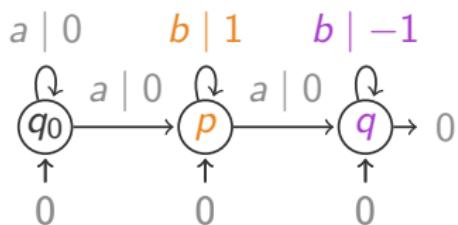
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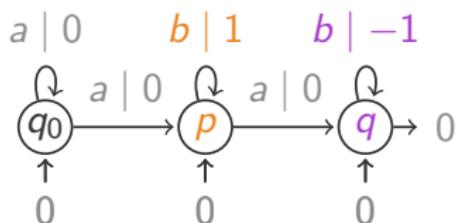
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Idea record first visit of rival

word *aaa*



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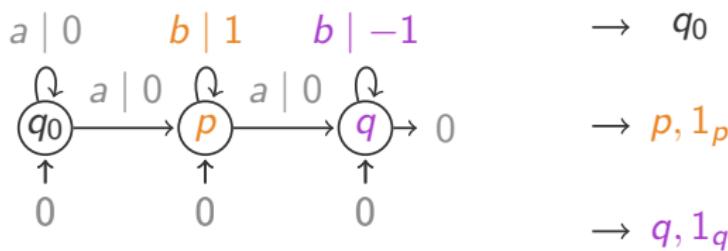
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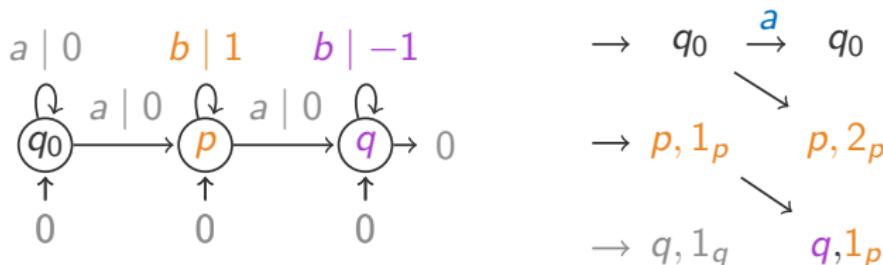
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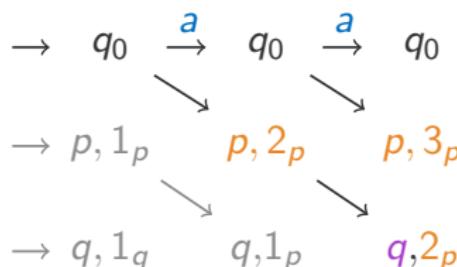
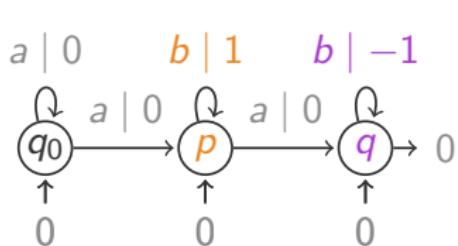
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Idea record first visit of rival

word *aaa*



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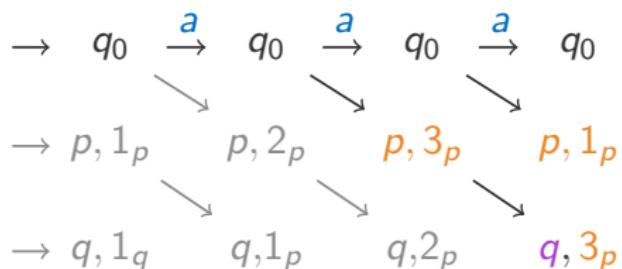
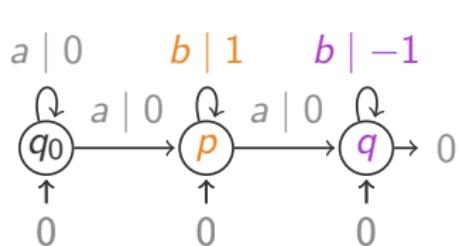
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Idea record first visit of rival



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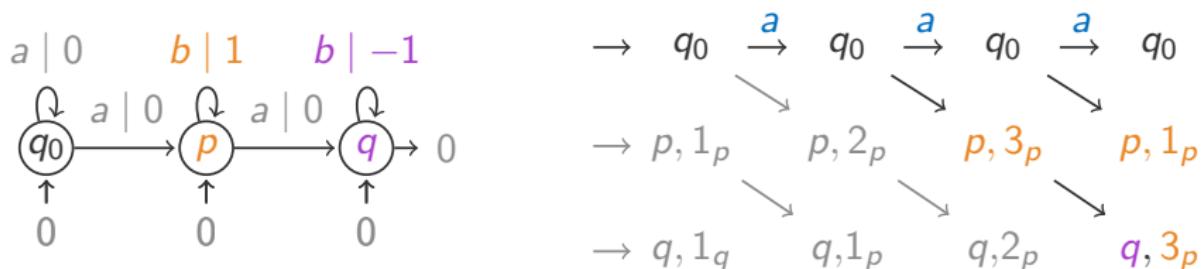
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Idea record first visit of rival



$\Rightarrow$  separate rivals by separating markers into different automata

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and  $\nexists$  rivals  $p, q$ , fork w:  $p \xrightarrow{w} p \quad p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$$

$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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$$p_0 \xrightarrow{u_1} \dots \xrightarrow{u_{n-1}} p_{n-1} \xrightarrow{u_n} p$$

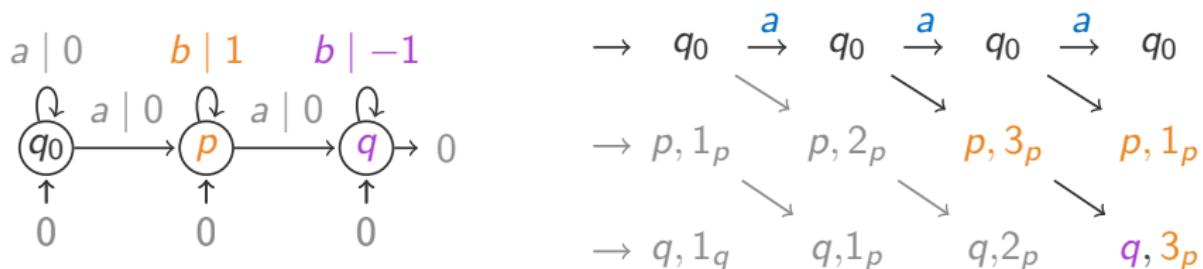
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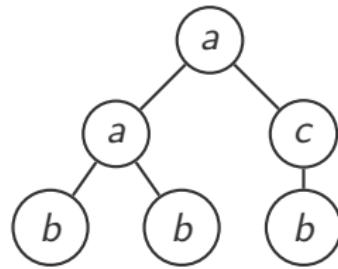
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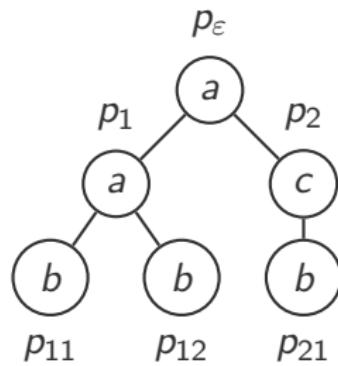
Idea record first visit of rival



$\Rightarrow$  separate rivals by separating markers into different automata

$\Rightarrow$  unamb automata without rivals

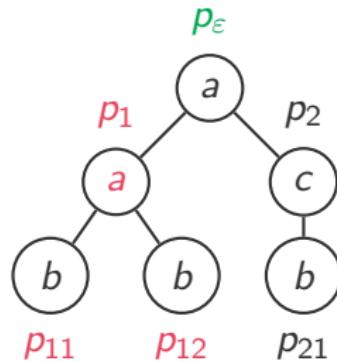




weight of run =

transition weights + final weight

( $p_{11}, p_{12}, a, p_1$ )

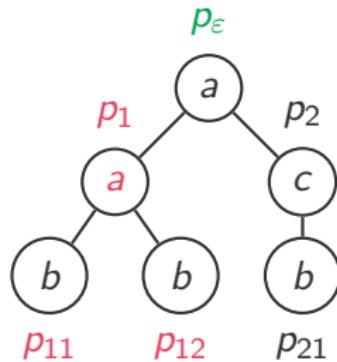


weight of run =

transition weights + final weight

$(p_{11}, p_{12}, a, p_1)$

determinism: bottom-up

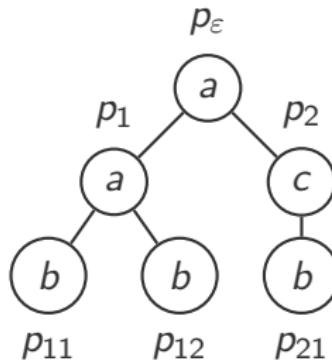


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determinism: bottom-up



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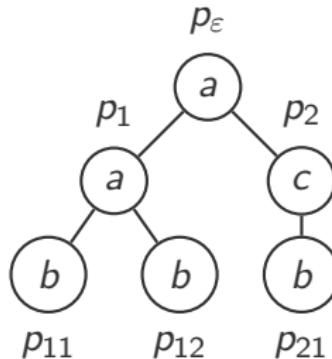
Finite Sequentiality:  $\llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$  for some determ  $\mathcal{A}_i$ ?

weight of run =

transition weights + final weight

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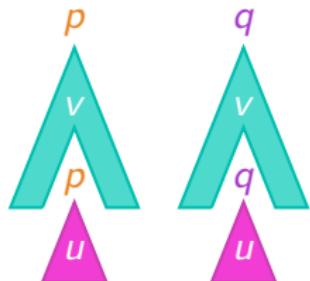
determinism: bottom-up



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Finite Sequentiality:  $\llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$  for some determ  $\mathcal{A}_i$ ?

rivals



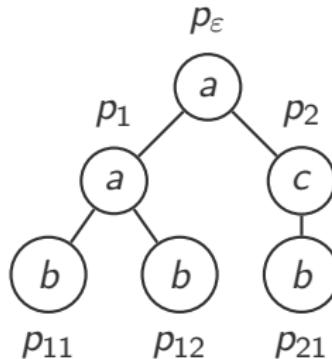
$$y_p \neq y_q$$

weight of run =

transition weights + final weight

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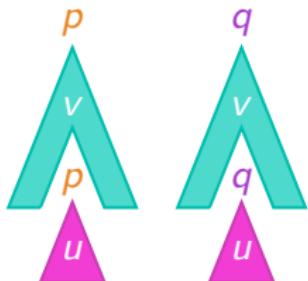
determinism: bottom-up



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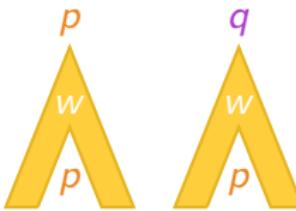
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rivals



$$y_p \neq y_q$$

fork

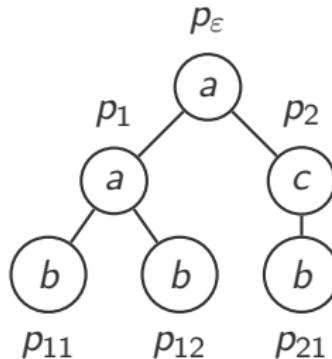


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transition weights + final weight

$(p_{11}, p_{12}, a, p_1)$

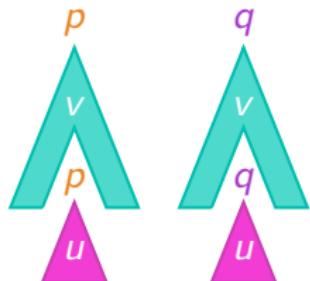
determinism: bottom-up



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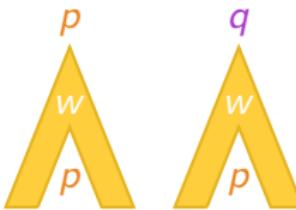
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rivals

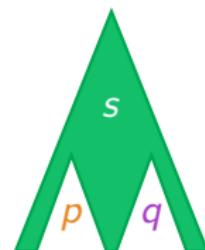


$$y_p \neq y_q$$

fork



split

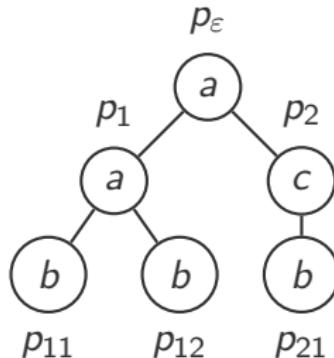


weight of run =

transition weights + final weight

$(p_{11}, p_{12}, a, p_1)$

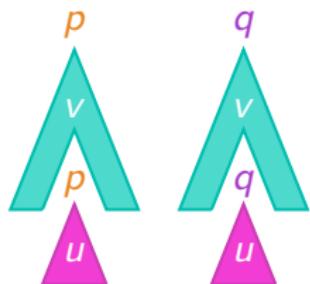
determinism: bottom-up



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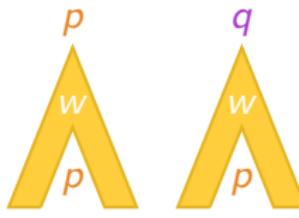
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rivals



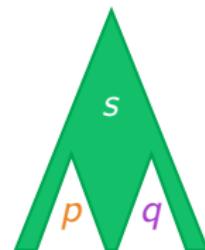
$$y_p \neq y_q$$

fork



NEW THM

split



$\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow$

$\mathcal{A}$  fin seq  $\leftrightarrow$  no forks, no splits

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p \quad p \xrightarrow{w} q$

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Idea record first visit of rival

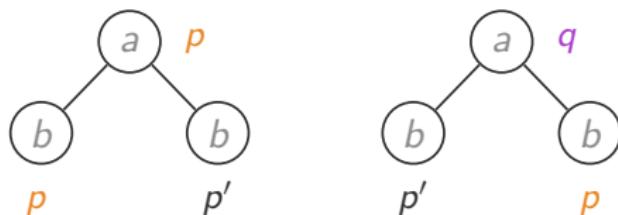
bottom-up

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Idea record first visit of rival bottom-up



Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

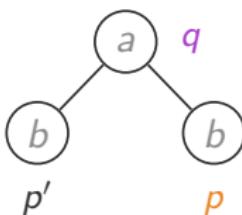
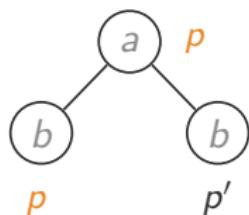
$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$$

$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

---

Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

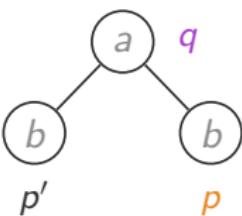
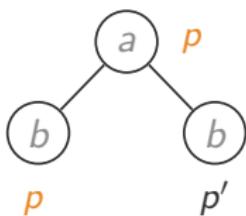
$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$$

$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

---

Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Solution

Schützenberger-covering

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

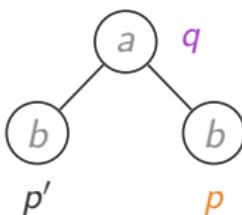
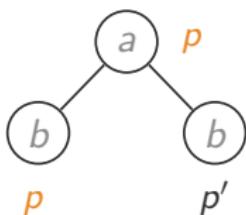
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Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Solution

Schützenberger-covering

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Powerset construction

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

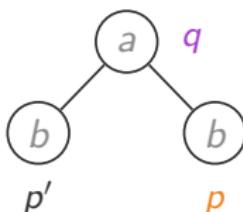
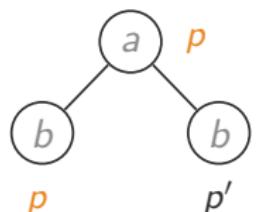
$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$$

$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



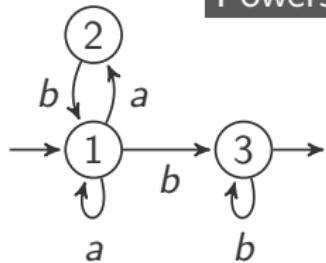
non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Solution

Schützenberger-covering

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Powerset construction



Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

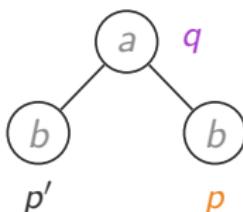
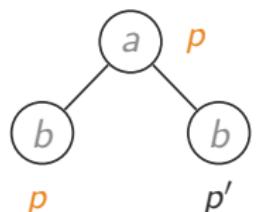
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$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



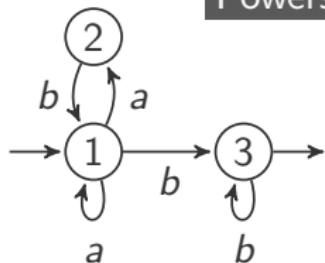
non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Solution

Schützenberger-covering

---

Powerset construction



$\rightarrow \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

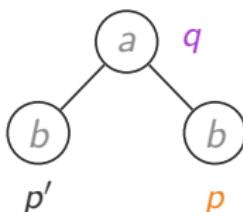
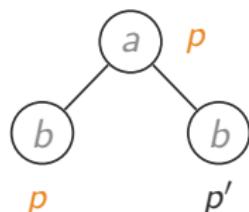
$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$$

$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



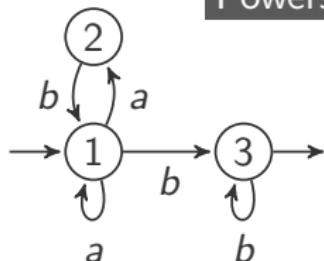
non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Solution

Schützenberger-covering

---

Powerset construction



$$\rightarrow \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$$

Product automaton

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

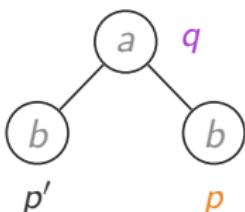
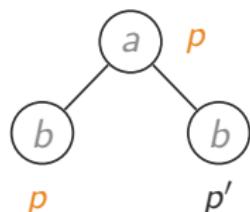
$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$$

$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



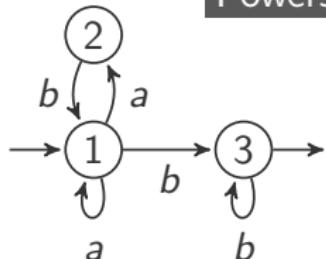
non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Solution

Schützenberger-covering

---

Powerset construction



$$\rightarrow \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$$

Product automaton

$$\rightarrow 1, \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} 1, \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} 3, \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

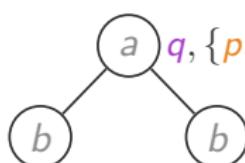
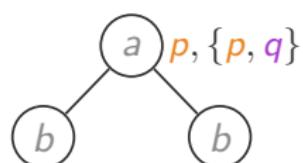
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$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up



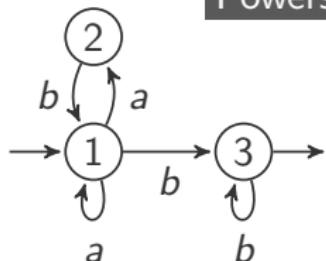
$p, \{p, p'\}$   $p', \{p, p'\}$   $p', \{p, p'\}$   $p, \{p, p'\}$  non-linearity  $\rightarrow$  problems

Solution

Schützenberger-covering

---

Powerset construction



$\rightarrow \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$

Product automaton

$\rightarrow 1, \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} 1, \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} 3, \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

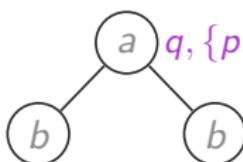
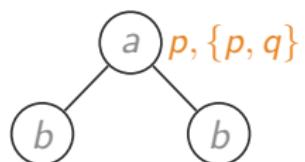
$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket$$

$\mathcal{A}_i$  unamb, no rivals in  $\mathcal{A}_i$

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Idea record first visit of rival

bottom-up

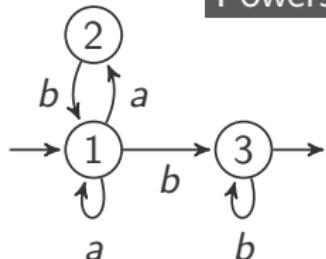


Solution

$p, \{p, p'\}$   $p', \{p, p'\}$   $p', \{p, p'\}$   $p, \{p, p'\}$  Schützenberger-covering

---

Powerset construction



$\rightarrow \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$

Product automaton

$\rightarrow 1, \{1\} \xrightarrow{a} 1, \{1, 2\} \xrightarrow{b} 3, \{1, 3\} \rightarrow$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

---

$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

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$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

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$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A} \text{ unamb} \Rightarrow \mathcal{S} \text{ unamb}$$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

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$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

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$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

rivals of  $\mathcal{S}$ :  $(p, P), (q, P)$  for rivals  $p, q$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

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$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

rivals of  $\mathcal{S}$ :  $(p, P), (q, P)$  for rivals  $p, q$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

---

Dichotomy  $(p, P), (q, P)$  rivals  $\Rightarrow$  for all runs of  $\mathcal{S}$ :

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

---

$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

rivals of  $\mathcal{S}$ :  $(p, P), (q, P)$  for rivals  $p, q$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

---

Dichotomy  $(p, P), (q, P)$  rivals  $\Rightarrow$  for all runs of  $\mathcal{S}$ :

- either one of the rivals does not occur

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

---

$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

rivals of  $\mathcal{S}$ :  $(p, P), (q, P)$  for rivals  $p, q$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

---

Dichotomy  $(p, P), (q, P)$  rivals  $\Rightarrow$  for all runs of  $\mathcal{S}$ :

- either one of the rivals does not occur

$\Rightarrow$  unamb  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

---

$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

rivals of  $\mathcal{S}$ :  $(p, P), (q, P)$  for rivals  $p, q$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

---

Dichotomy  $(p, P), (q, P)$  rivals  $\Rightarrow$  for all runs of  $\mathcal{S}$ :

- either one of the rivals does not occur
- or all states with second entry  $P$  occur linearly

$\Rightarrow$  unamb  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$

Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

---

$Q$  = states of  $\mathcal{A}$

$\Rightarrow$  states of Schützenberger-covering  $\mathcal{S}$  from  $Q \times \mathcal{P}(Q)$

$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

rivals of  $\mathcal{S}$ :  $(p, P), (q, P)$  for rivals  $p, q$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

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Dichotomy  $(p, P), (q, P)$  rivals  $\Rightarrow$  for all runs of  $\mathcal{S}$ :

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Show  $\mathcal{A}$  unamb and no splits, no forks  $p \xrightarrow{w} p$   $p \xrightarrow{w} q$

$$\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \max_{i=1}^n \llbracket \mathcal{A}_i \rrbracket \quad \mathcal{A}_i \text{ unamb, no rivals in } \mathcal{A}_i$$

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$\llbracket \mathcal{S} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{A} \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{A}$  unamb  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  unamb

rivals of  $\mathcal{S}$ :  $(p, P), (q, P)$  for rivals  $p, q$  of  $\mathcal{A}$

---

Dichotomy  $(p, P), (q, P)$  rivals  $\Rightarrow$  for all runs of  $\mathcal{S}$ :

- either one of the rivals does not occur
- or all states with second entry  $P$  occur linearly

$\Rightarrow$  unamb  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  and  $\mathcal{A}_3, \dots, \mathcal{A}_n$  through markers

