

# A KLEENE THEOREM FOR NOMINAL AUTOMATA

ICALP, July 2019

Paul Brunet, Alexandra Silva  
University College London

A KLEENE THEOREM  
FOR  
NOMINAL AUTOMATA

ICALP, July 2019

Paul Brunet, Alexandra Silva  
University College London



# DATA LANGUAGES

Sets of words over an infinite alphabet.

- ☞ query-based languages
- ☞ XML processing
- ☞ URLs
- ☞ process-calculi
- ☞ ...

Such an alphabet may be represented as a Nominal set.

# THIS PAPER

Data languages

Operational semantics:

testing, algorithms

Syntax:

specification, other algorithms

Nominal automata

# THIS PAPER

Data languages

Operational semantics:  
testing, algorithms

Syntax:  
specification, other algorithms

Nominal automata

Regular expressions with Brackets

# OUTLINE



I. Nominal automata

II. Brackets

III. Kleene Theorem

# NOMINAL SETS

Transposition  $(a\ b) : A \rightarrow A$

$$c \mapsto \begin{cases} a & \text{if } c = b, \\ b & \text{if } c = a, \\ c & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Notations

$a, b, c, \dots \in A$

# NOMINAL SETS

## Notations

$$a, b, c, \dots \in A$$

$$\pi, \pi', \dots \in \mathfrak{S}_A$$

Transposition  $(a\ b) : A \rightarrow A$

$$c \mapsto \begin{cases} a & \text{if } c = b, \\ b & \text{if } c = a, \\ c & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(Finitely supported) permutation: composition of transpositions.



# NOMINAL SETS

## Notations

$$a, b, c, \dots \in \mathbb{A}$$

$$\pi, \pi', \dots \in \mathfrak{S}_{\mathbb{A}}$$

$$x, y, z, \dots \in \mathbb{X}$$

Transposition  $(a \ b) : \mathbb{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$

$$c \mapsto \begin{cases} a & \text{if } c = b, \\ b & \text{if } c = a, \\ c & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(Finitely supported) permutation: composition of transpositions.

## Nominal set

A nominal set is a set  $\mathbb{X}$  with two functions

$$\cdot : \mathfrak{S}_{\mathbb{A}} \times \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{X} \text{ and } \text{supp}(\cdot) : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_f(\mathbb{A})$$

such that:

- 1)  $\pi \cdot (\pi' \cdot x) = \pi \circ \pi' \cdot x$ ;
- 2)  $\text{supp}(\pi \cdot x) = \pi \cdot \text{supp}(x)$ ;
- 3)  $(\forall a \in \text{supp}(x), \pi(a) = a) \Rightarrow \pi \cdot x = x$ .

# ORBIT-FINITE NOMINAL SETS

## Orbits

✎  $x \sim_0 y$  iff  $\exists \pi, \pi \cdot x = y$ .

✎ Orbit of  $x$  :=  $\{\pi \cdot x \mid \pi \in \mathfrak{S}_A\} = [x]_{\sim_0}$ .

# ORBIT-FINITE NOMINAL SETS

## Orbits

✎  $x \sim_0 y$  iff  $\exists \pi, \pi \cdot x = y$ .

✎ Orbit of  $x$  :=  $\{\pi \cdot x \mid \pi \in \mathfrak{S}_A\} = [x]_{\sim_0}$ .

A nominal set is orbit-finite if it has finitely many orbits, i.e.  $\sim_0$  has finite index.

# ORBIT-FINITE NOMINAL SETS

## Orbits

✎  $x \sim_0 y$  iff  $\exists \pi, \pi \cdot x = y$ .

✎ Orbit of  $x$  :=  $\{\pi \cdot x \mid \pi \in \mathfrak{S}_A\} = [x]_{\sim_0}$ .

A nominal set is orbit-finite if it has finitely many orbits, i.e.  $\sim_0$  has finite index.

## Tractable subsets

$A \subseteq X$  is tractable if

- 1)  $A$  intersects finitely many orbits
- 2)  $A$  is supported by a finite set  $S \subseteq A$ , meaning

$$(\forall a \in S, \pi(a) = a) \Rightarrow \forall x, x \in A \Leftrightarrow \pi \cdot x \in A.$$

# NFA

## Non-deterministic Finite Automata

$$\mathcal{A} := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Delta, I, F \rangle$$

Where:

- ☞  $Q$  finite set of states
- ☞  $\Sigma$  finite alphabet
- ☞  $\Delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times Q$  finite transition relation
- ☞  $I, F \subseteq Q$  finite sets of initial/final states

# NOFA

## Non-deterministic Orbit-Finite Automata

$$\mathcal{A} := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Delta, I, F \rangle$$

Where:

- 🚩  $Q$  tractable set of states
- 🚩  $\Sigma$  tractable alphabet
- 🚩  $\Delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times Q$  tractable transition relation
- 🚩  $I, F \subseteq Q$  tractable sets of initial/final states

Bojańczyk, Klin & Lasota, "Automata theory in nominal sets", LMCS 2014

# DETERMINISTIC VS. NON-DETERMINISTIC

Theorem

NOFA are strictly more expressive than their deterministic counterparts.

Theorem

Equivalence of NOFA is undecidable.

# OUTLINE

I. Nominal automata



II. Brackets

III. Kleene Theorem



# TRACES WITH BRACKETS

Given a nominal alphabet  $\mathcal{X}$ , we build a nominal set of symbols:

$$\Sigma := \mathcal{X} \cup \{ \langle_a \mid a \in A \} \cup \{ \rangle_a \mid a \in A \}.$$

# TRACES WITH BRACKETS

Given a nominal alphabet  $\mathbb{X}$ , we build a nominal set of symbols:

$$\Sigma := \mathbb{X} \cup \{ \langle_a \mid a \in A \} \cup \{ \rangle_a \mid a \in A \}.$$

We generate words over  $\mathbb{X}$  from traces, i.e. words over  $\Sigma$ .

Transducer

$$s, s' \in (A \times A)^*$$

$$s - [\langle_a / \varepsilon] \rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}} s :: (a, b) \quad (\text{if } b \notin \pi_2 s)$$

$$s - [x / \pi \cdot x] \rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}} s \quad (\text{if } \forall a \in \text{supp}(x), \pi(a) = s(a))$$

$$s :: (a, b) :: s' - [\rangle_a / \rangle_b] \rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}} s :: s' \quad (\text{if } a \notin \pi_1 s' \wedge b \notin \pi_2 s')$$

$$\mathcal{L}(u) = \{ v \mid \perp - [u/v] \rightarrow_{\mathcal{T}} \perp \}.$$

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle_a a \langle_b b a \rangle \langle_a a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

⊥

Output:

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle \underline{a} \langle b \ b \ a \rangle \langle a \ a \ b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle \underline{a} \langle b \ b \ a \rangle \langle a \ a \ b \rangle \ a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

x

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle_a a \langle_b b a \rangle \langle_a a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$b \mapsto y$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

x

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle_a a \langle_b b a \rangle \langle_a a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$b \mapsto y$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

xy

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle_a a \langle_b b a \rangle \langle_a a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$b \mapsto y$

⊥

Output:

xy



# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle \underline{a} a \langle b b a \rangle \langle \underline{a} a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto z$

$b \mapsto y$

$\perp$

Output:

xy

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle b b a \rangle \langle a a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto z$

$b \mapsto y$

$\perp$

Output:

xyz

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle_a a \langle_b b a \rangle \langle_a a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto z$

⊥

Output:

xyz

# FIRST LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle b b a \rangle \langle a a b \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

⊥

Output:

xyz

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle_a a \langle_a a a \rangle \langle_a a a \rangle \langle_a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

⊥

Output:

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

a $a\langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a$

Stack:

$a \mapsto x$

⊥

Output:

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

a a ( a a a ) ( a a a ) ( a a a ) a )

Stack:

a  $\mapsto$  x

⊥

Output:

x

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto y$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

$x$



# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a \rangle a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto y$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

$xy$

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto x$

⊥

Output:

xy

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto y$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

$xy$

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto y$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

$xyy$

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto x$

⊥

Output:

xyy

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto z$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

xyy

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto z$

$a \mapsto x$

$\perp$

Output:

xyyz

# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

$a \mapsto x$

⊥

Output:

xyyz



# LANGUAGES FROM WORDS WITH BRACKETS

## Second Example

Trace:

$\langle a a \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle \langle a a a \rangle a \rangle$

Stack:

⊥

Output:

xyyz

# REGULAR EXPRESSIONS WITH BRACKETS

$e \in \text{Reg}\langle \Sigma \rangle,$

$$\mathcal{L}(e) := \bigcup_{u \in \llbracket e \rrbracket} \mathcal{L}(u).$$

where  $\llbracket e \rrbracket$  is the regular language (in the classical sense) associated with  $e$ .

# REGULAR EXPRESSIONS WITH BRACKETS

$e \in \text{Reg}\langle \Sigma \rangle$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}(e) := \bigcup_{u \in \llbracket e \rrbracket} \mathcal{L}(u).$$

where  $\llbracket e \rrbracket$  is the regular language (in the classical sense) associated with  $e$ .

Memory finiteness

An expression  $e$  is memory finite if there is a bound  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that if  $uv \in \llbracket e \rrbracket$ ,  $u$  has at most  $N$  unmatched  $\langle_a$ .

# OUTLINE

I. Nominal automata

II. Brackets

 III. Kleene Theorem

# FROM EXPRESSIONS TO AUTOMATA

## Theorem

For every memory-finite expression  $e$  there is a NOFA  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(e) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Idea of the proof: compose the NFA for  $e$  with the transducer  $T$ .

# FROM AUTOMATA TO EXPRESSIONS

## Theorem

For every NOFA  $\mathcal{A}$  there is a memory-finite expression  $e$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(e) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Idea of the proof:

# FROM AUTOMATA TO EXPRESSIONS

## Theorem

For every NOFA  $\mathcal{A}$  there is a memory-finite expression  $e$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(e) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Idea of the proof:

☞ pick a finite representative (NFA) of  $\mathcal{A}$ ;

# FROM AUTOMATA TO EXPRESSIONS

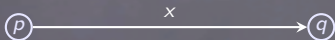
## Theorem

For every NOFA  $\mathcal{A}$  there is a memory-finite expression  $e$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(e) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Idea of the proof:

👉 pick a finite representative (NFA) of  $\mathcal{A}$ ;

👉 transform transitions:



where  $\text{supp}(p) \setminus \text{supp}(q) = \{a_1 \dots a_n\}$   
 $\text{supp}(q) \setminus \text{supp}(p) = \{b_1 \dots b_m\}$ .



# FROM AUTOMATA TO EXPRESSIONS

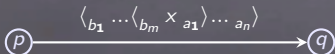
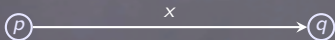
## Theorem

For every NOFA  $\mathcal{A}$  there is a memory-finite expression  $e$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(e) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Idea of the proof:

👉 pick a finite representative (NFA) of  $\mathcal{A}$ ;

👉 transform transitions:



where  $\text{supp}(p) \setminus \text{supp}(q) = \{a_1 \dots a_n\}$   
 $\text{supp}(q) \setminus \text{supp}(p) = \{b_1 \dots b_m\}$ .

# FROM AUTOMATA TO EXPRESSIONS

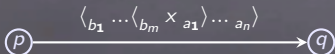
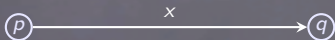
## Theorem

For every NOFA  $\mathcal{A}$  there is a memory-finite expression  $e$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(e) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

Idea of the proof:

👉 pick a finite representative (NFA) of  $\mathcal{A}$ ;

👉 transform transitions:



where  $\text{supp}(p) \setminus \text{supp}(q) = \{a_1 \dots a_n\}$   
 $\text{supp}(q) \setminus \text{supp}(p) = \{b_1 \dots b_m\}$ .

👉 extract an expression from the NFA.

# THAT'S ALL FOLKS!

Thank you!

See more at:

<http://paul.brunet-zamansky.fr>