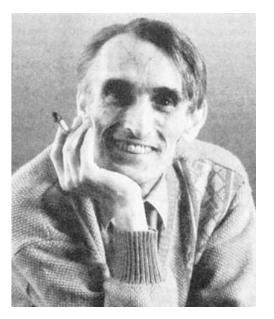
# Automata and program analysis

#### Thomas Colcombet FCT Bordeaux 13 September 2017

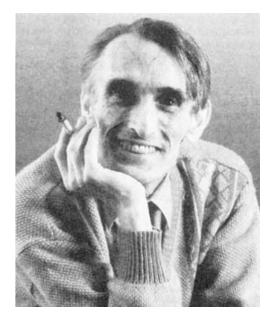
based on joint work with Laure Daviaud et Florian Zuleger



#### Weighted automata and tropical automata

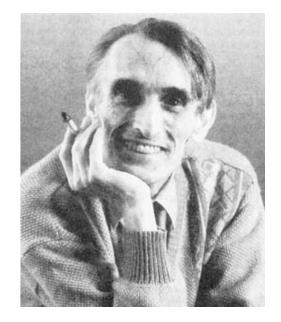


Consider a non-deterministic automaton (A,Q,I,F, $\Delta$ ).



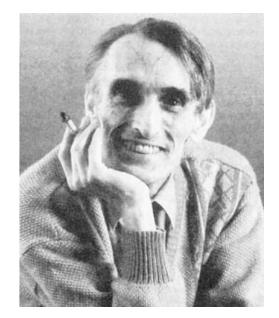
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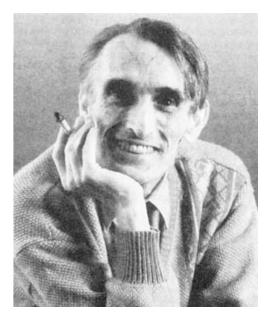
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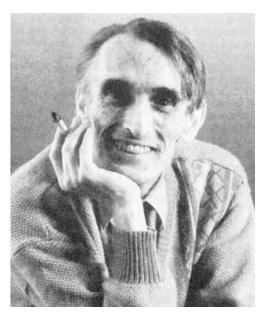


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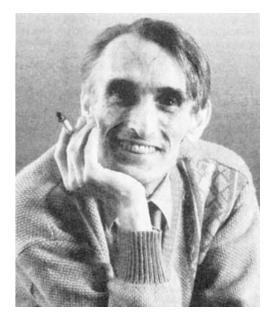


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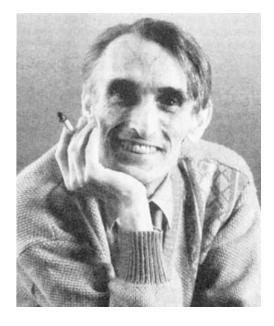
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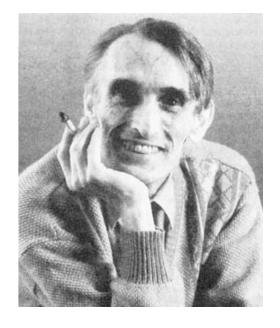
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An automaton (A,Q,I,F, $\Delta$ ) with I: Q $\rightarrow$ S, F: Q $\rightarrow$ S, and  $\Delta$ : Q×A×Q, computes a map L: A\*  $\rightarrow$  S defined as

$$L(a_1a_2...a_n) = \bigoplus_{p_0,...,p_n} I(q_0) \otimes \left( \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(q_{i-1},a_i,q_i) \right) \otimes F(q_n)$$



A semiring  $(S, \oplus, \otimes, 0, 1)$  is such that:

- (R,  $\oplus$ ) is a commutative monoid with identity element 0: (a  $\oplus$  b)  $\oplus$  c = a  $\oplus$  (b  $\oplus$  c) ; 0  $\oplus$  a = a  $\oplus$  0 = a ; a  $\oplus$  b = b  $\oplus$  a
- (R, ⊕) is a monoid with identity element 1:
  (a⊗b) · c = a⊗(b⊗c) ; 1⊗a = a⊗1 = a
- Multiplication left and right distributes over addition:  $a \otimes (b \oplus c) = (a \otimes b) \oplus (a \otimes c)$ ;  $(a \oplus b) \otimes c = (a \otimes c) \oplus (b \otimes c)$
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- multiplication addition

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Tropical semiring: ( $\mathbf{R}$ u{- $\infty$ },max,+,- $\infty$ ,0)  $(\mathbf{R}\cup\{+\infty\},\min,+,+\infty,0), (\mathbf{N}\cup\{-\infty\},\max,+,-\infty,0), (\mathbf{N}\cup\{+\infty\},\min,+,+\infty,0))$ 

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## Tropical automata

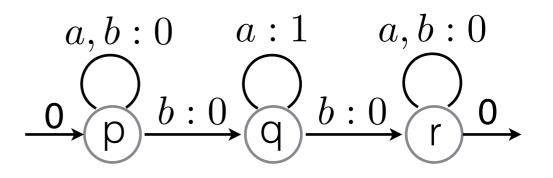
# $L(a_{1}a_{2}...a_{n}) = \bigoplus_{p_{0},...,p_{n}} I(q_{0}) \otimes \left( \bigotimes_{i=1}^{n} \Delta(q_{i-1},a_{i},q_{i}) \right) \otimes F(q_{n})$

 $\begin{array}{l} & \text{Tropical automata} \\ L(a_1a_2...a_n) = \bigoplus_{p_0,...,p_n} I(q_0) \otimes \big( \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(q_{i-1},a_i,q_i) \big) \otimes F(q_n) \\ & (\underbrace{\mathsf{N}}_{\mathsf{L}(\mathsf{u}) \geq n} & \text{if and only if} & (\exists run \, \rho \text{ over u}) \text{ weight}(\rho) \geq n \end{array}$ 

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Tropical automata  $L(a_1a_2...a_n) = \bigoplus_{p_0,...,p_n} I(q_0) \otimes \Big( \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(q_{i-1},a_i,q_i) \Big) \otimes F(q_n)$  $(\mathbb{N}\cup\{-\infty\}, \max, +, -\infty, 0)$ L(u) $\geq$ n if and only if ( $\exists$  run  $\rho$  over u) weight( $\rho$ ) $\geq$ n

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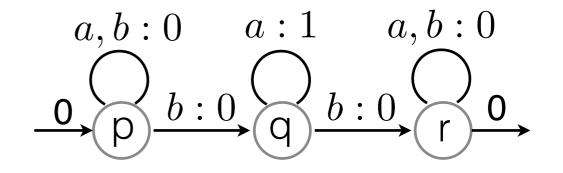


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by convention zero-transitions  $(-\infty/+\infty)$ are not displayed

(neutral for  $\otimes$  and absorbing for  $\otimes$ )

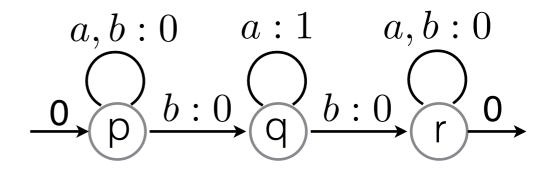


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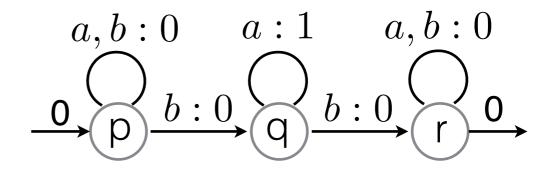
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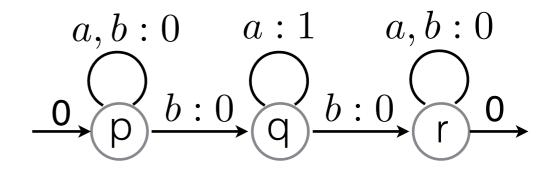
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$$L_A: A^* \rightarrow \mathbf{N} \cup \{-\infty\}$$

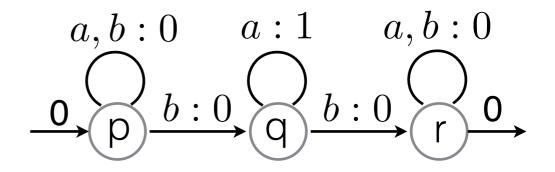
→ the size of the longest block of consecutive a's surrounded by 2 b's  $\begin{aligned} & \text{Tropical automata} \\ L(a_1a_2...a_n) = \bigoplus_{p_0,...,p_n} I(q_0) \otimes \Big( \bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(q_{i-1},a_i,q_i) \Big) \otimes F(q_n) \\ & (\underset{l(u)\geq n}{\text{Nu}} \{-\infty\},\underset{if and only if}{\text{min } l \in \infty} \{0\} \\ & (\exists run p \text{ over } u) \text{ weight}(p) \ge n \end{aligned}$ 

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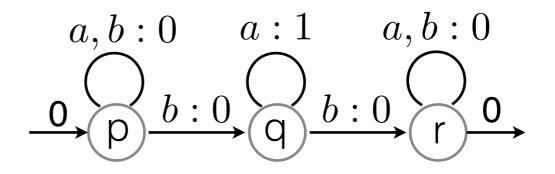
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[Hashiguchi 81] The boundedness of distance automata is decidable. [Leung88] [Simon78,94] [Kirsten05] [C. & Bojanczyk 06] [C. 09] [Bojanczyk15]



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Emptiness of NDA ?

(∃ word w) (∃ run ρ over w) ρ is accepting

NL-C

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Is a  $(\mathbb{Z} \cup \{\infty\}, \max, +)$  automaton  $\ge 0$ ? ( $\forall$  word w) ( $\exists$  run  $\rho$  over w) weight( $\rho$ ) $\ge 0$ 

ls a (N∪{-∞},max,+) automaton bounded? (∃ n∈N) (∀ word w) (∀ run ρ over w) weight(ρ)≤n PSPACE-c (powerset)

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| Alternation of quantifiers  |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Emptiness of NDA ?<br>(∃ word w) (∃ run ρ over w) ρ is accepting                          | NL-c                                |
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| ls a (Z∪{∞},max,+) automaton ≤ 0 ?<br>(∀ word w) (∀ run ρ over w) weight(ρ)≤0             | NL-c                                |
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| Is a $(\mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}, \min, +)$ automaton bounded?                           | PSPACE-c                            |

 $(\exists n \in \mathbb{N})$  ( $\forall$  word w) ( $\exists$  run  $\rho$  over w) weight( $\rho$ )  $\leq n$  [Hashiguchi81,Leung84]

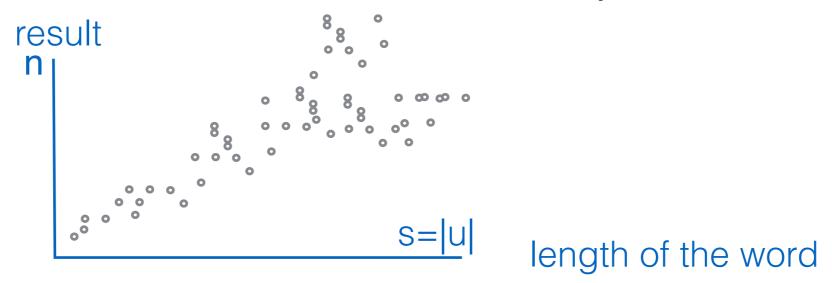
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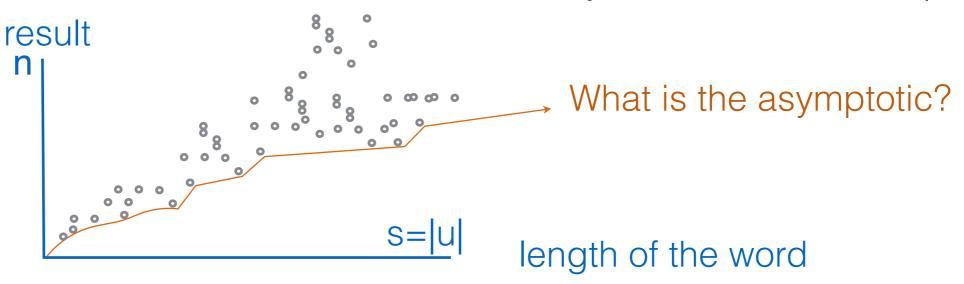
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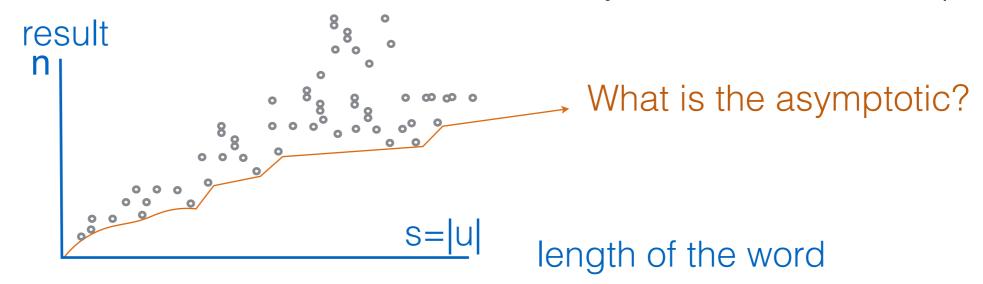


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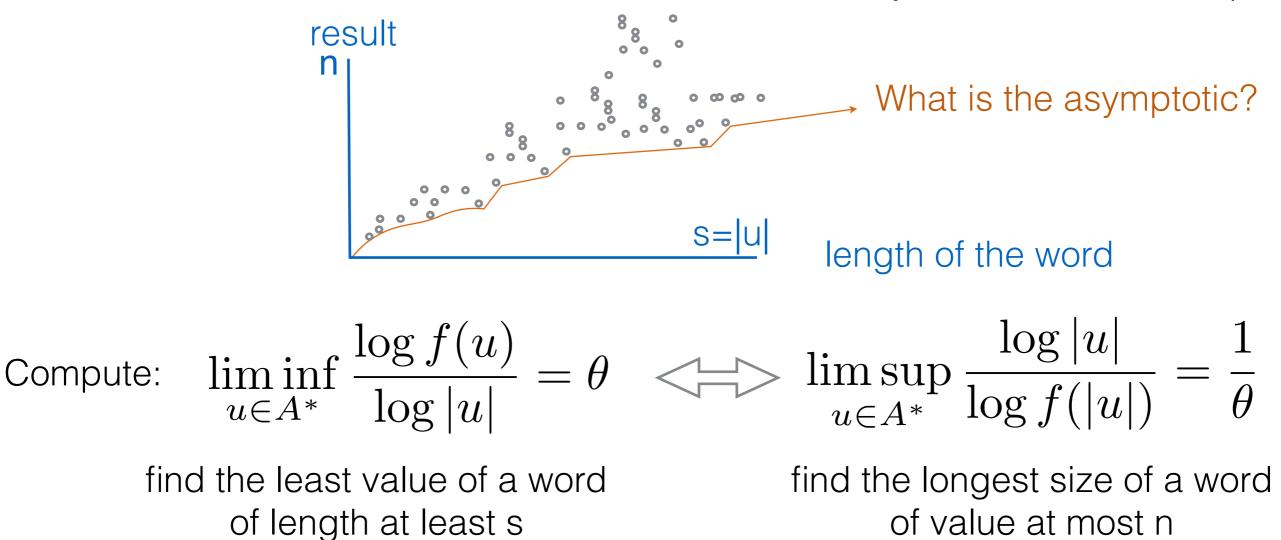
[C., Daviaud, Zuleger 14] This  $\theta$  exists and is rational. Furthermore, it can be constructed in EXPSPACE, likely to be PSPACE-complete.



Compute: 
$$\liminf_{u \in A^*} \frac{\log f(u)}{\log |u|} = \theta$$

find the least value of a word of length at least s

Given a  $(\mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}, \max, +)$  automaton, find the least  $\theta \in [0, 1]$  such that ( $\exists a$ ) ( $\forall s \in \mathbb{N}$ ) ( $\exists word w, |w| \ge s$ ) ( $\forall run \rho over w$ ) weight( $\rho$ )  $\le as^{\theta}$ 



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Given a set of words W, collect an information I(W) sufficient for understanding its behavior in any context.

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#### Ingredient 2.

Give a notion of approximation for such sets: Hausdorff-like keeping asymptotes.

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In our case,  $I(W) = \{ f: Q \times Q \rightarrow N : there is a run that displays this behavior \} \subseteq P(N^{Q \times Q})$ 

#### Ingredient 2.

Give a notion of approximation for such sets: Hausdorff-like keeping asymptotes.

#### Ingredient 3.

Define presentable sets families of such sets of maps that are nicely behaved (that can be algorithmically handled). In our case unions of convex polytopes in  $\mathbb{R}^{Q \times Q}$  representing simultaneous asymptotic behaviors.

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### Program analysis and the size-change abstraction

## Program analysis

Given an input program/piece of program:

- Does it perform a zero division?
- Does it access a non-allocated memory area?
- Is there a dynamic type problem?
- Does it comply to the specification?
- Is there a memory leakage?
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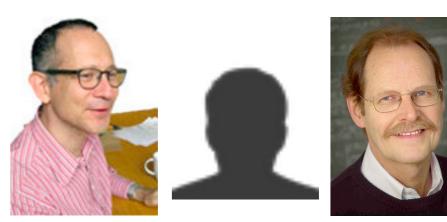
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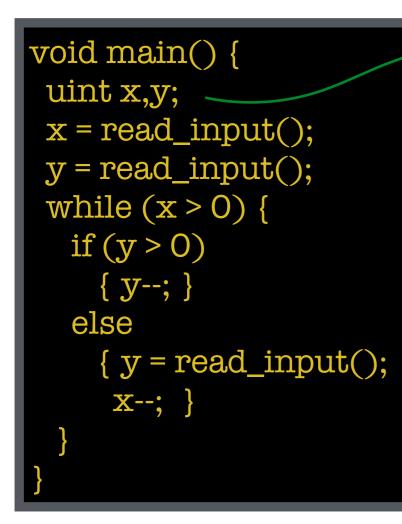
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Solution here: in this talk, we use the size-change abstract model ([Ben-Amram, Chin Soon Lee, Neil D. Jones 01]).

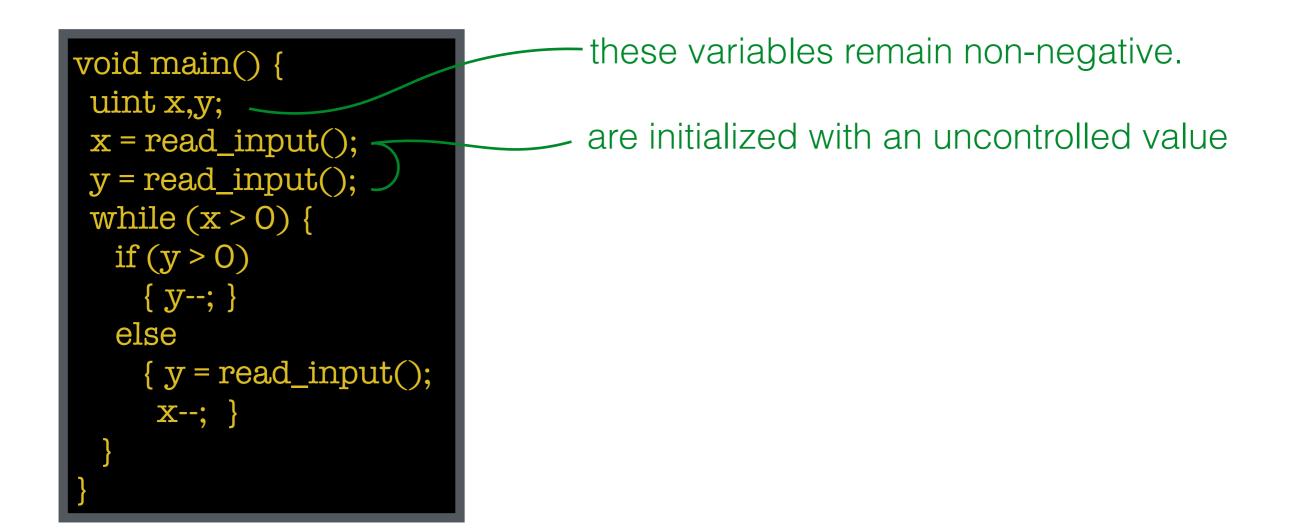


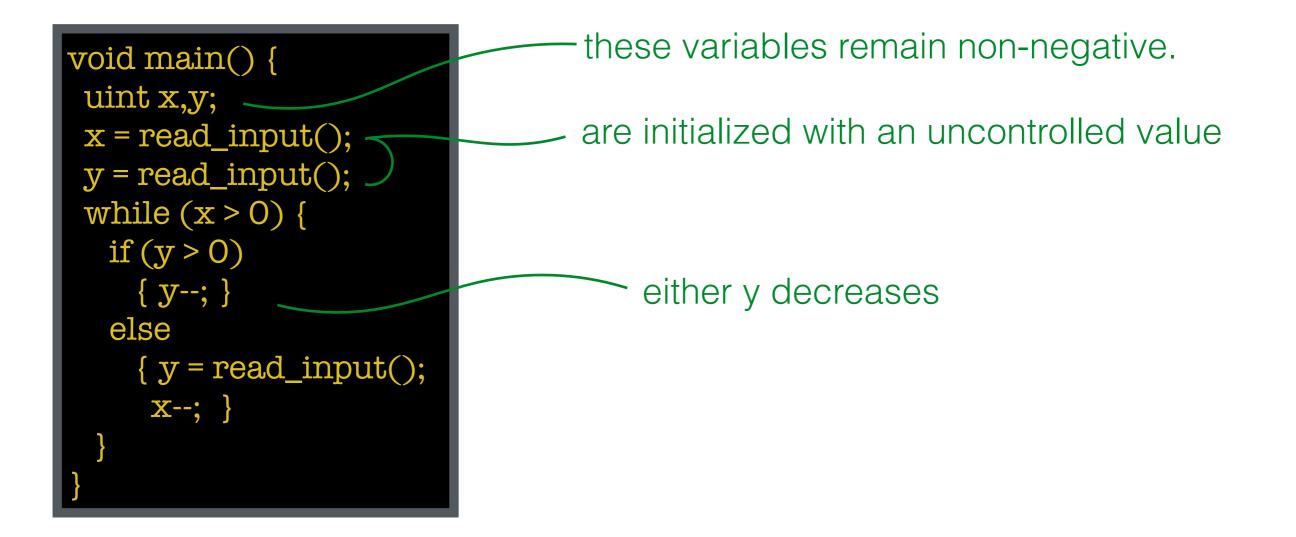
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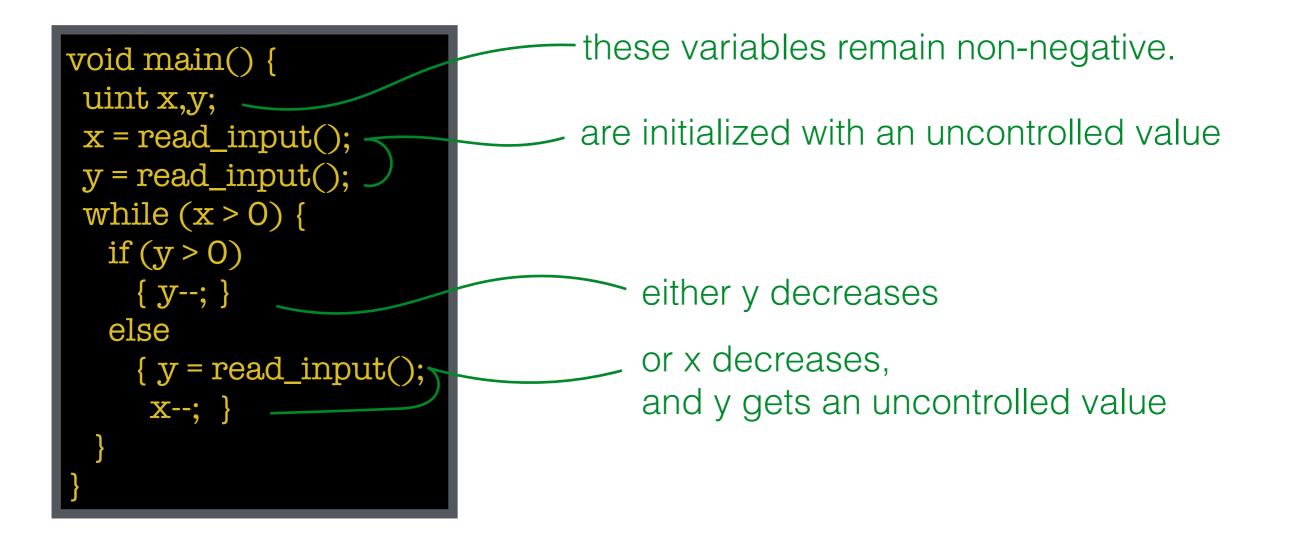
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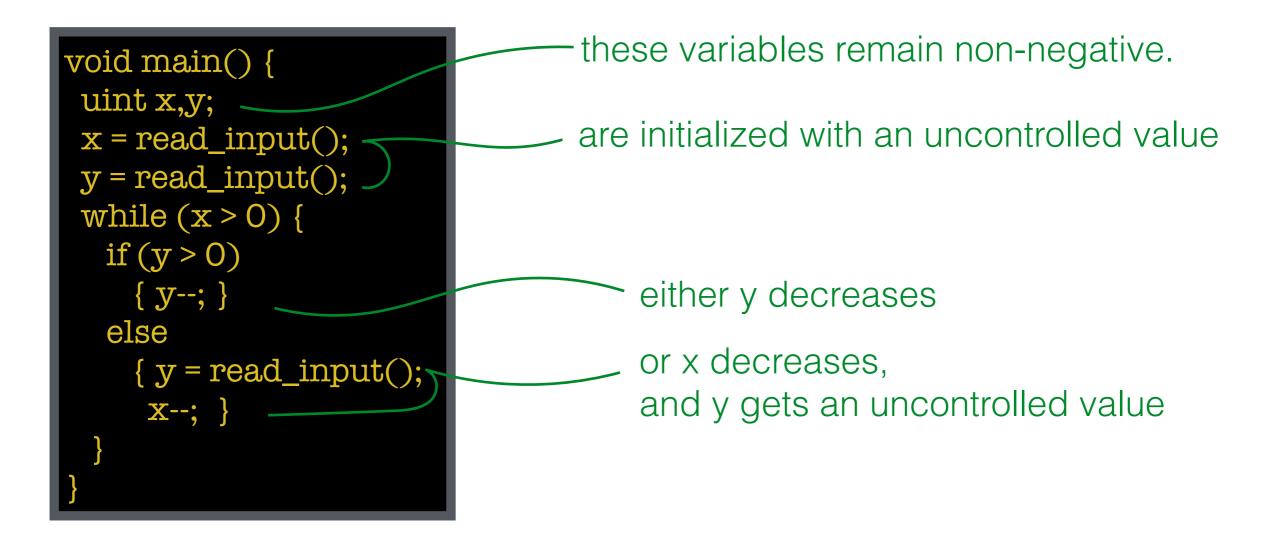


these variables remain non-negative.

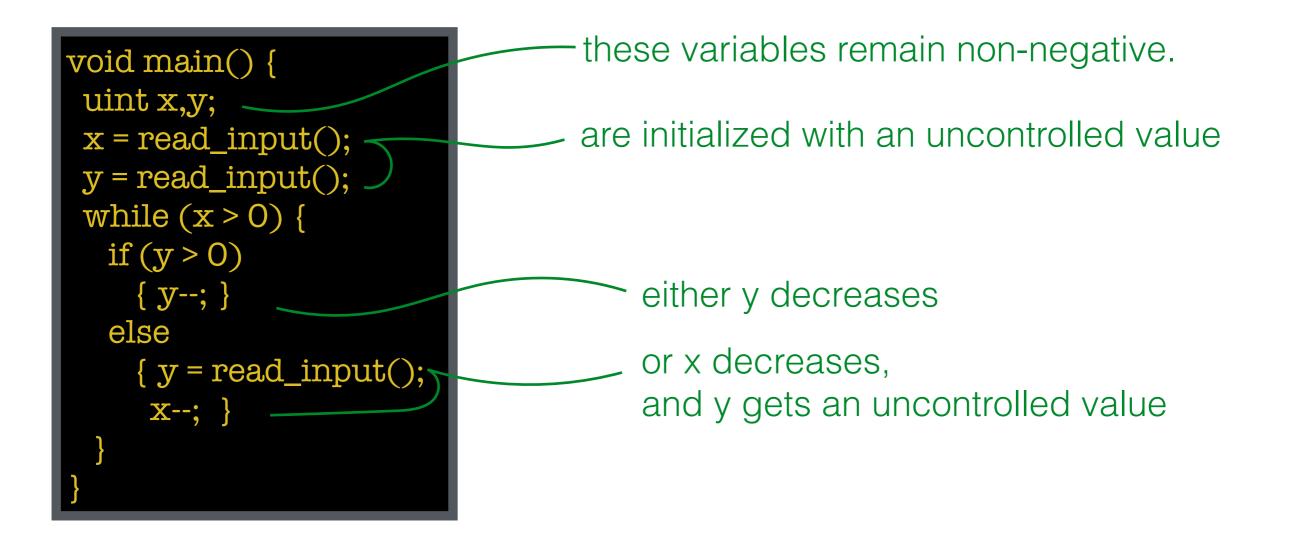








Remark: This program terminates.



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Question: what method can automatically establish it?

**Principle**: replace the program by an abstraction:

- Information that is lost is replaced by non-determinism. This includes:
  - + The dynamic information resulting from the interactions with the environment.
  - + All the tests and computations that cannot be abstracted in the restricted model of the abstraction.
- The resulting abstraction can be analyzed: it can be decided whether the resulting abstraction stops an all its executions.
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 $\Rightarrow$  In this talk, we use the model of size-change abstraction.

[Ben-Amram et al. 01] A size-change abstraction (SCA):

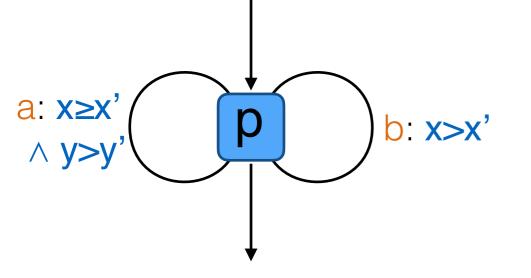
- this is a non-determininistic finite state machine
- that uses a finite set variables (x,y,z...) ranging over non-negative integers
- during each transition, a guards relate the variables before and after:

 $x \ge y'$  meaning « val of x before the transition  $\ge$  val of y after the transition »

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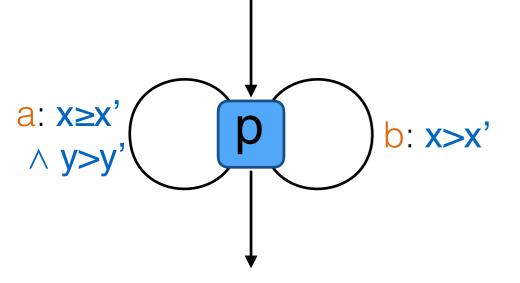


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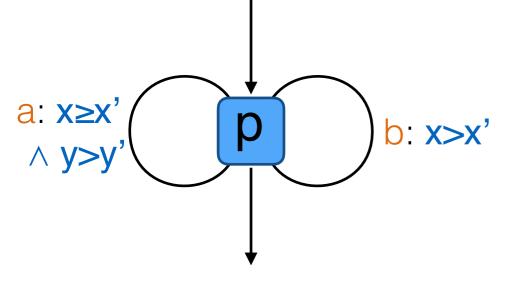
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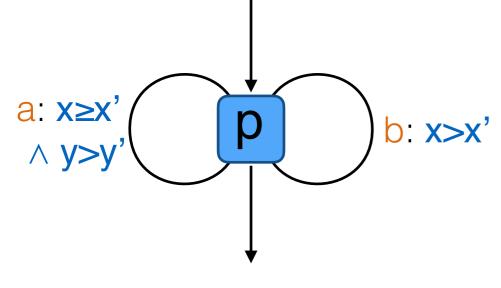
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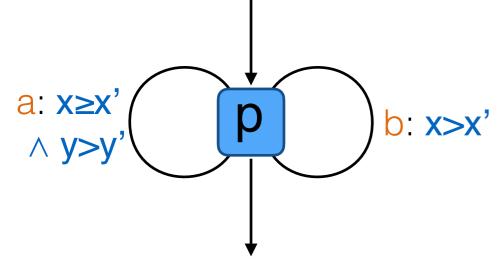
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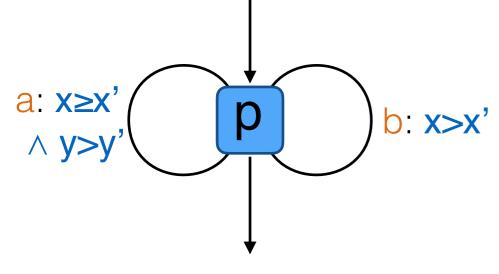
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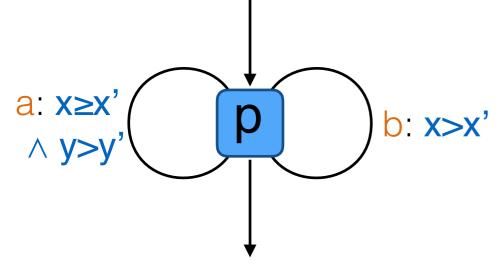
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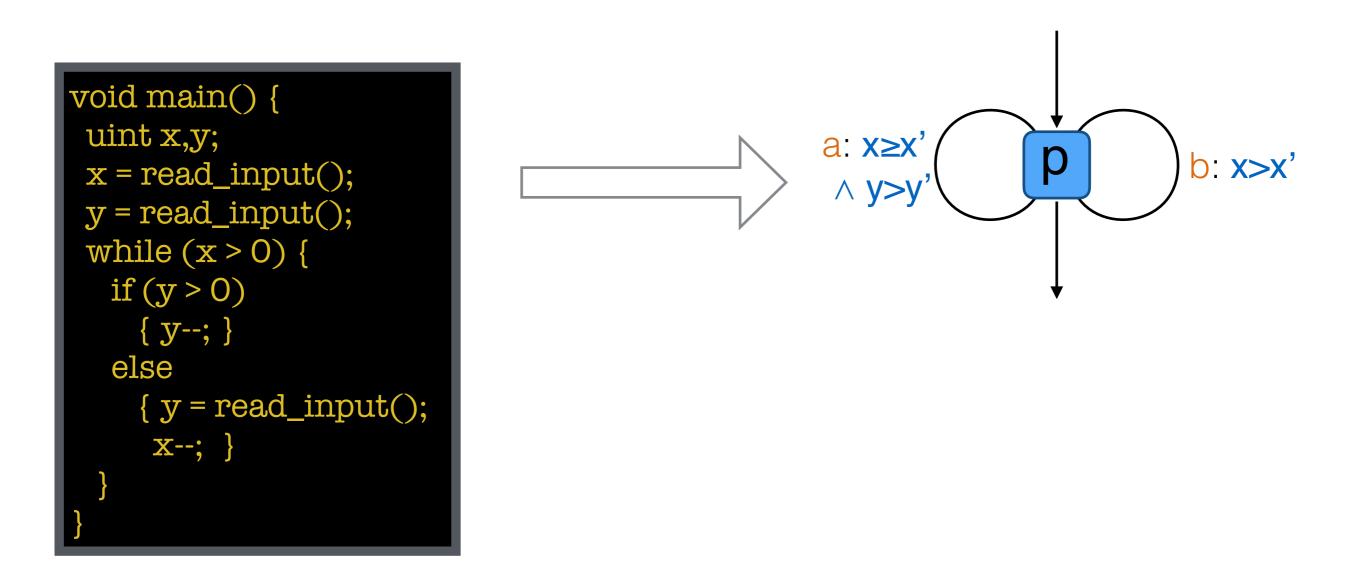
A size-change abstraction terminates if it has no infinite run. [Ben-Aram et al. 01] Termination of size-change abstraction is PSPACE.

### Abstracting

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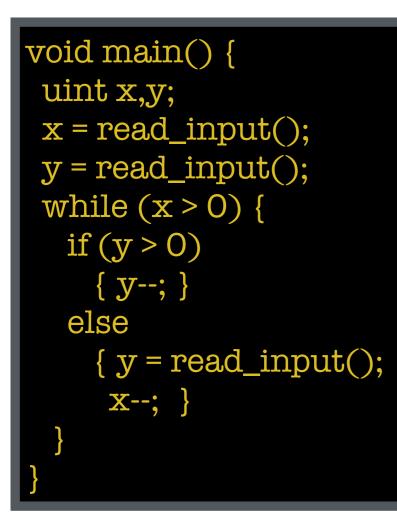
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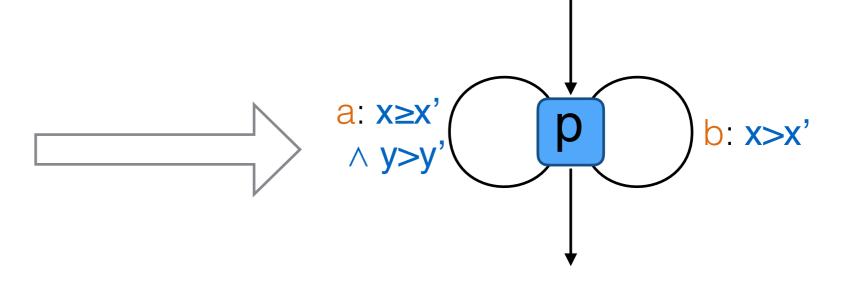
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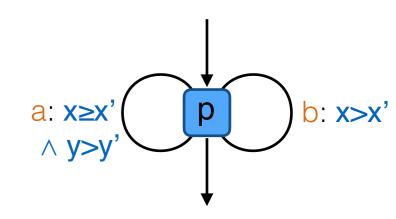




Remark: every run of the original program induces a run of the SCA of game size. Hence if the SCA terminates, the original program also does (on all its executions).

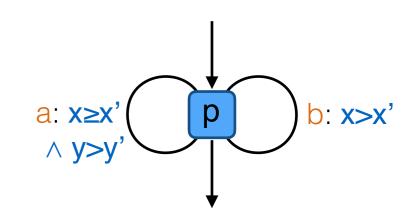
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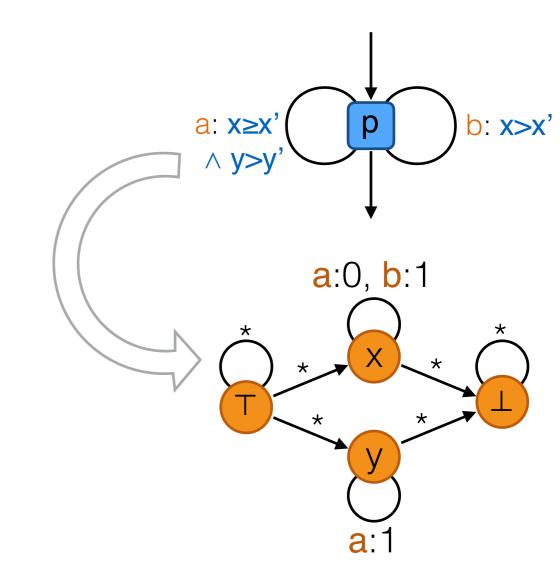
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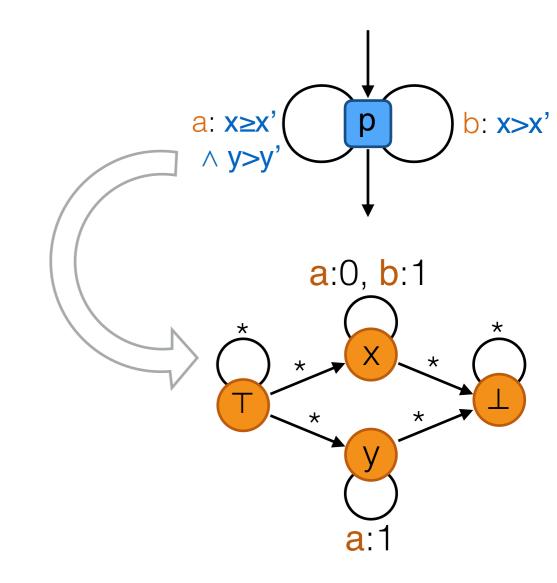
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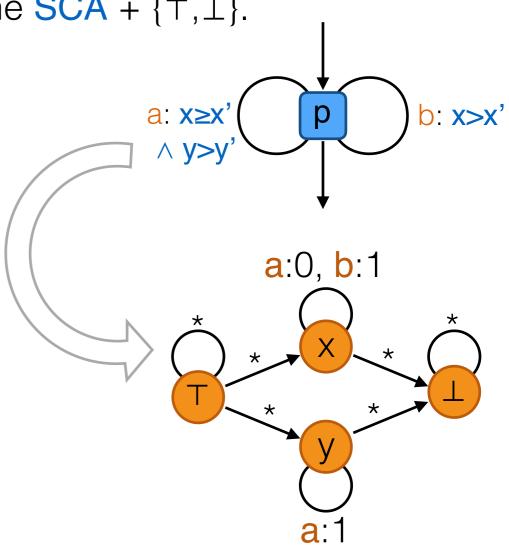
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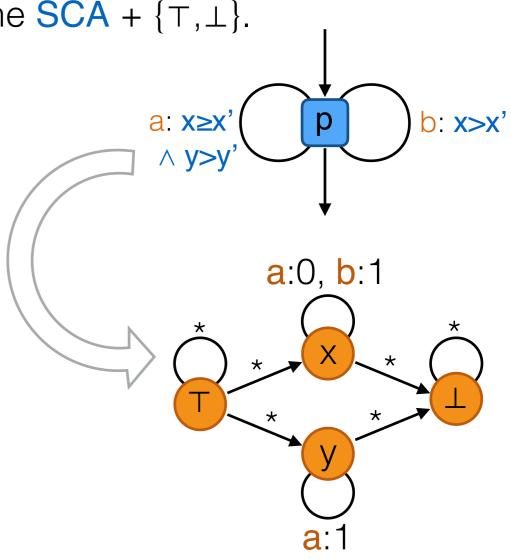
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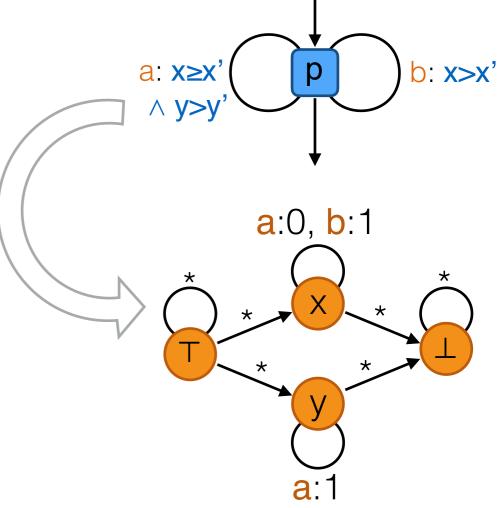
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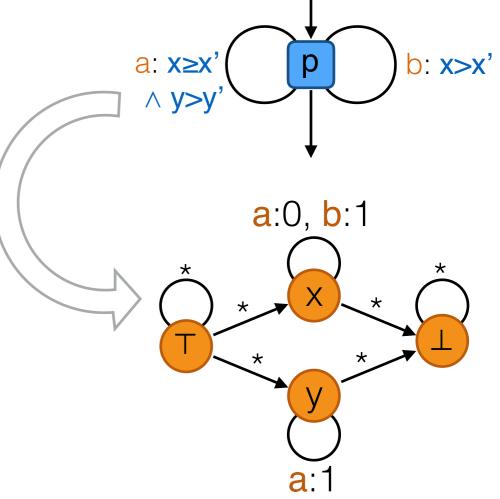
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b: x>x'

a: x≥x

a:0, b:1

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Claim: ∃ run ρ of SCA

**I input word u** for **Aut** of same length such that

- 1) it is a value-free valid run (regular)
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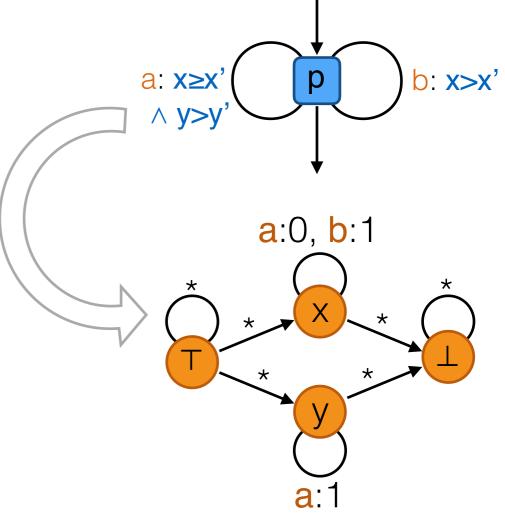
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Claim:  $\exists$  run  $\rho$  of SCA

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   ⇒ Runs/Aut=Ø ?



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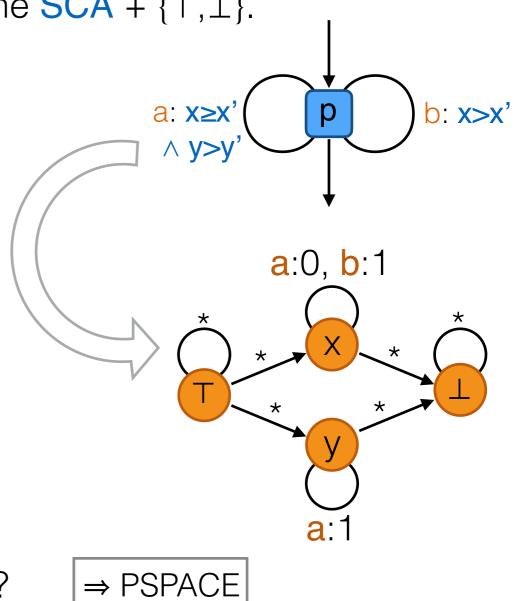
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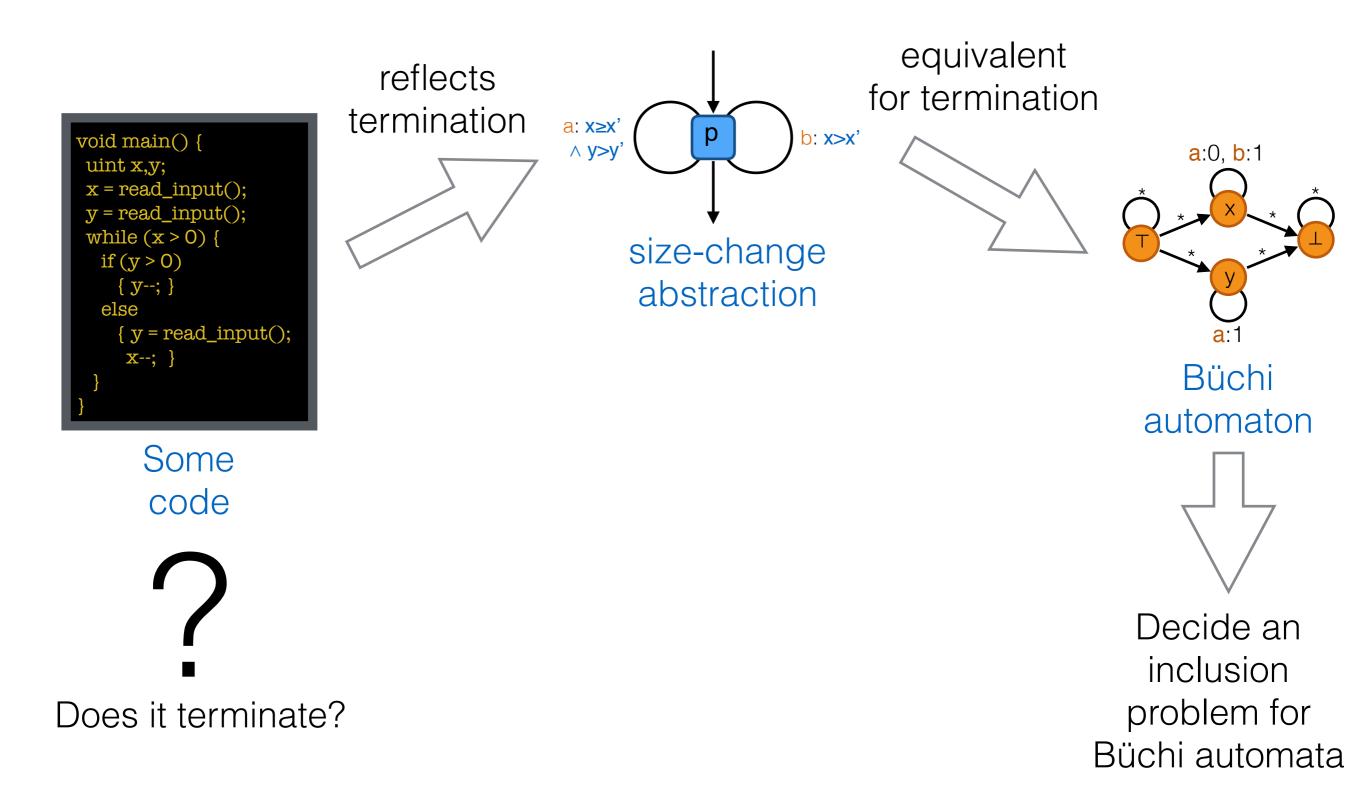
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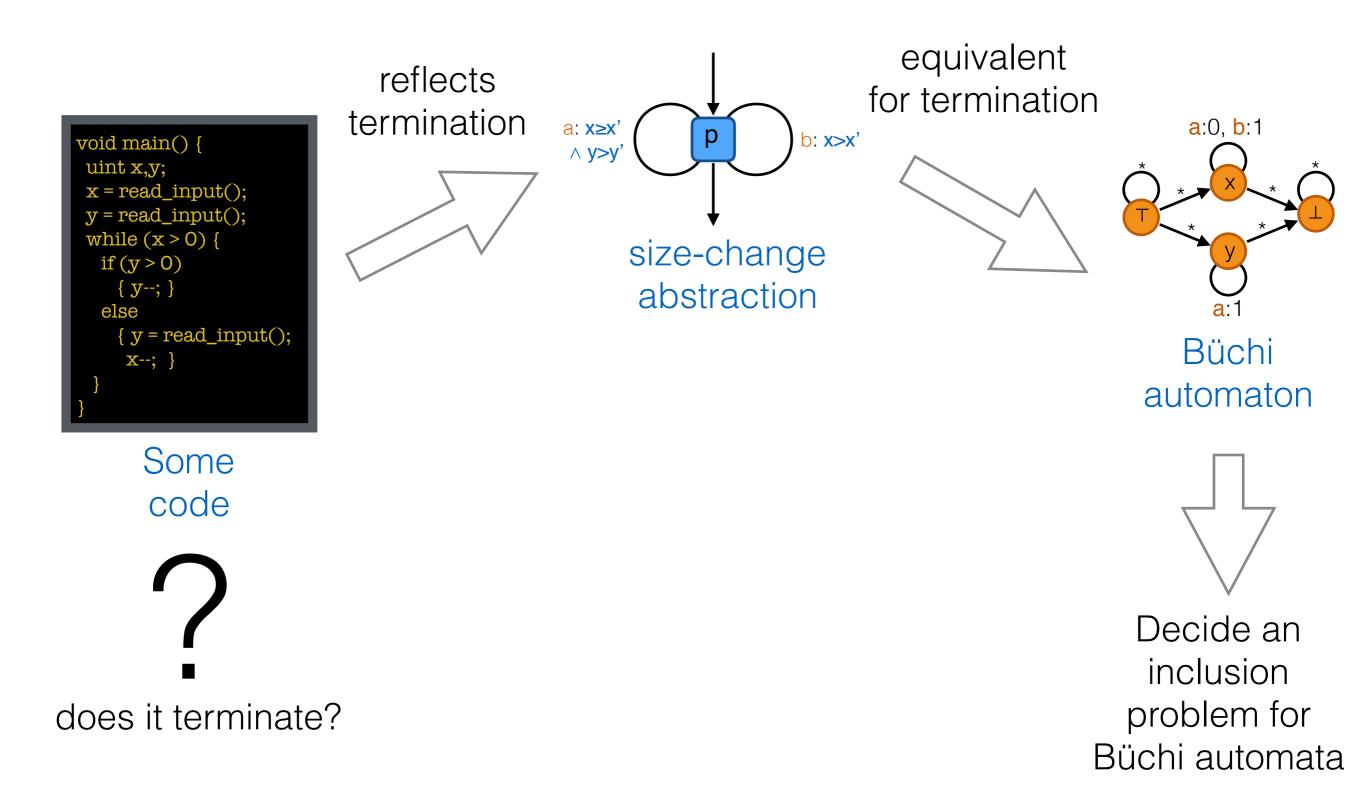


### Overall picture

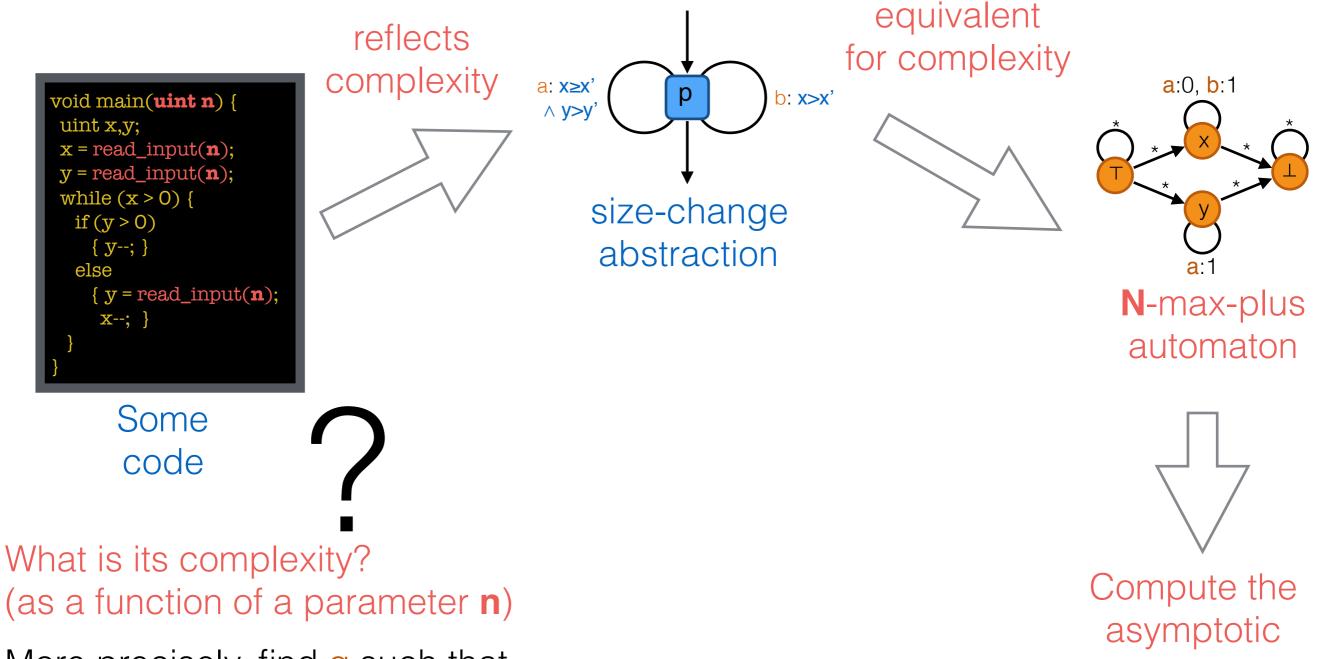


# Finer program analysis

#### Termiation



## Asymptotic complexity



More precisely, find  $\alpha$  such that the program stops in  $\Theta(n^{\alpha})$ .

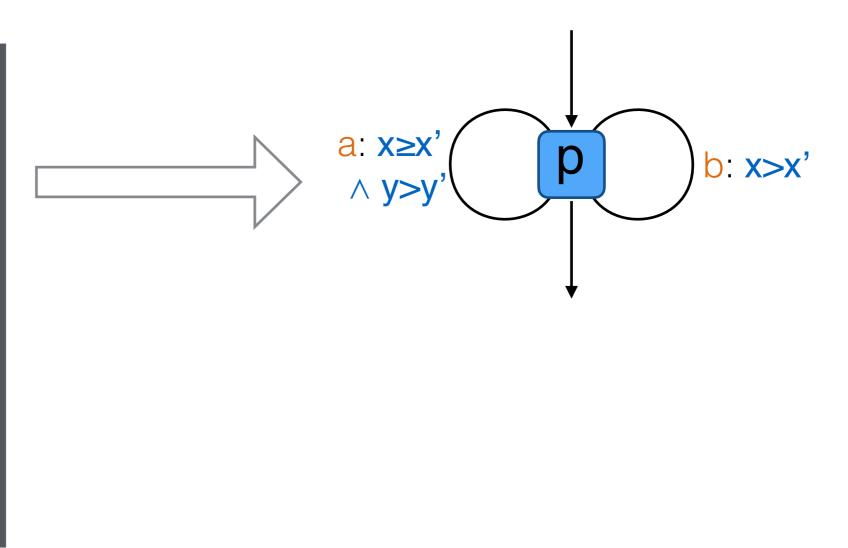
asymptotic worst-case behavior

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- construct the control flow graph of the code
- use as guard the best ones you can infer

```
void main(uint n) {
    uint x,y;
    x = read_input(n);
    y = read_input(n);
    while (x > 0) {
        if (y > 0)
            { y--; }
        else
            { y = read_input(n);
            x--; }
    }
}
```

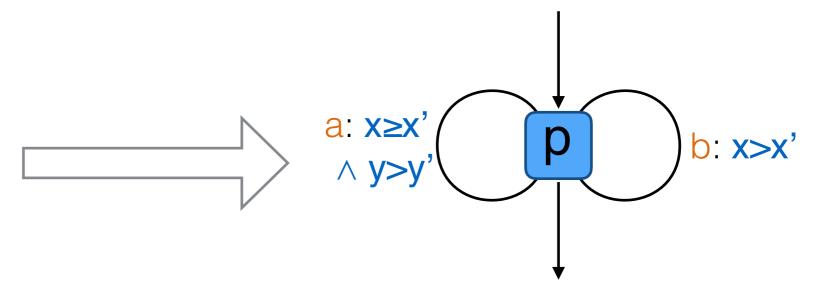
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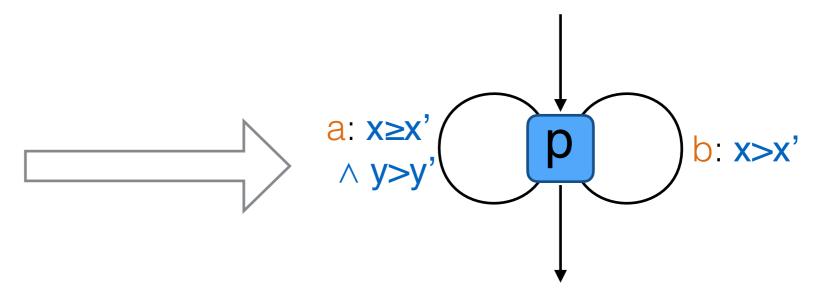
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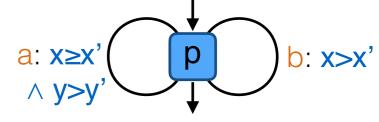


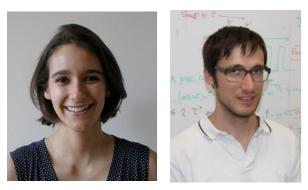
An n-run of the SCA is a run in which all the variables take their values in [1,n]

Remark: every run of the original program for a given n induces an n-run of the SCA of same length. Hence if the SCA terminates in time t for a given n, the original program also does (on all its executions).



[C., Daviaud, Zuleger 14] If the SCA terminates, there exists a computable rational  $\alpha$  such that the worst-case length of an n-run of the SCA has size  $\Theta(n^{\alpha})$ .



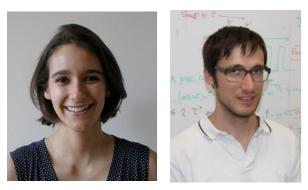


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**Proof:** We construct a Büchi automaton Aut as follows: Take as alphabet the transitions of the SCA. Take as states of the automaton, the variables of the SCA +  $\{\top, \bot\}$ . All states of the automaton are initial and final.

 $\Delta(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{a},\mathbf{y}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if there is a guard } \mathbf{x} \ge \mathbf{y}' \text{ in a} \\ 1 & \text{if there is a guard } \mathbf{x} > \mathbf{y}' \text{ in a} \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise (no guard)} \end{cases}$  $(\Delta(\perp,?,?)=0, \ \Delta(?,?,\top)=0)$ 

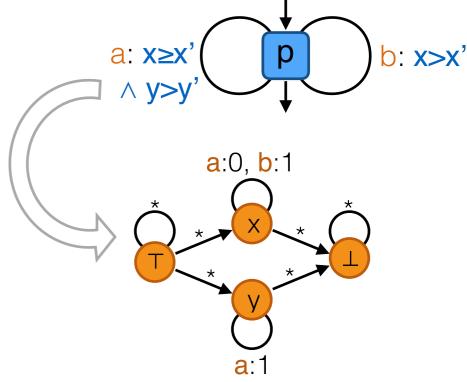
a: x≥x' ∧ y>y' ↓ b: x>x'

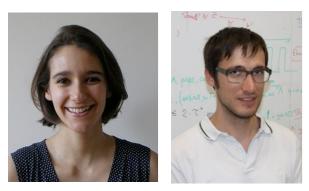


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a: x≥x

a:0, b:1

b: x>x'

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Claim: (I n-run of SCA of size s) if and only if (I input word u of size s such that 1) it is a value-free valid run (regular) 2) there is no run of Aut with weight >n.



b: x>x'

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Proof: We construct a Büchi automaton Aut as follows: Take as alphabet the transitions of the SCA. Take as states of the automaton, the variables of the SCA + { $\top, \bot$ }. All states of the automaton are initial and final.  $\Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{y}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if there is a guard } \mathbf{x} \ge \mathbf{y}' \text{ in a} \\ 1 & \text{if there is a guard } \mathbf{x} > \mathbf{y}' \text{ in a} \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise (no guard)} \end{cases}$   $(\Delta(\bot,?,?)=0, \Delta(?,?,\top)=0)$ Claim: ( $\exists$  n-run of SCA of size s) if and only if  $\begin{pmatrix} \exists \text{ input word } \mathbf{u} \text{ of size } \mathbf{s} \text{ such that} \\ 1 & \text{it is a value-free valid run (regular)} \\ 2 & \text{there is no run of Aut with weight >n.} \end{pmatrix}$ 



[C., Daviaud, Zuleger 14] If the SCA terminates, there exists a computable rational  $\alpha$  such that the worst-case length of an n-run of the SCA has size  $\Theta(n^{\alpha})$ .

Proof: We construct a Büchi automaton Aut as follows: Take as alphabet the transitions of the SCA. Take as states of the automaton, the variables of the SCA + { $\tau, \perp$ }. All states of the automaton are initial and final.  $\Delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{y}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if there is a guard } \mathbf{x} \ge \mathbf{y}' \text{ in a} \\ 1 & \text{if there is a guard } \mathbf{x} \ge \mathbf{y}' \text{ in a} \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise (no guard)} \\ (\Delta(\perp,?,?)=0, \Delta(?,?,T)=0) \end{cases}$ Claim: ( $\exists$  n-run of SCA of size s) if and only if  $\begin{pmatrix} \exists \text{ input word u of size s such that} \\ -1) & \text{it is a value-free valid run (regular)} \\ 2) & \text{there is no run of Aut with weight >n.} \end{pmatrix}$ 

One needs to find the asymptotic exponent of the size of the longest word that is has only run of value at most n:

$$\limsup_{u \in A^*} \frac{\log |u|}{\log \operatorname{Aut}(|u|)} = \alpha$$



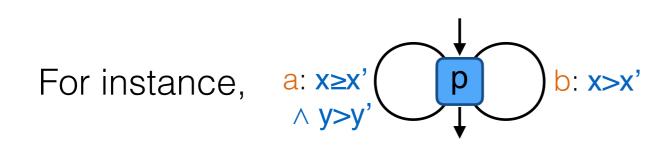
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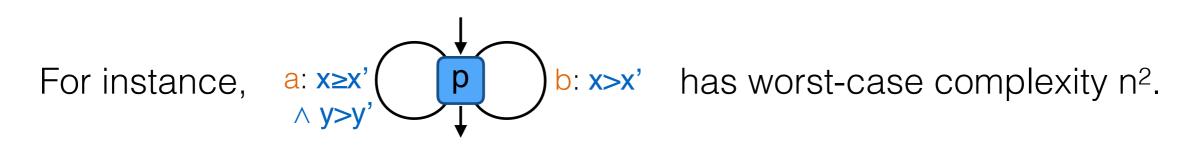
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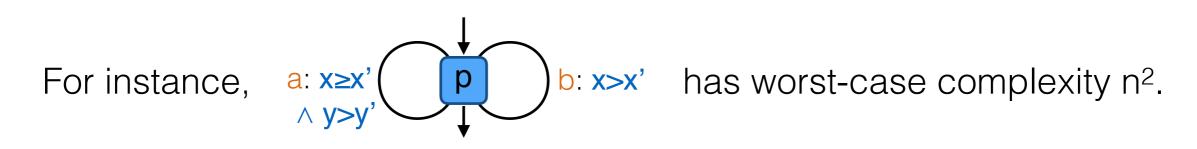




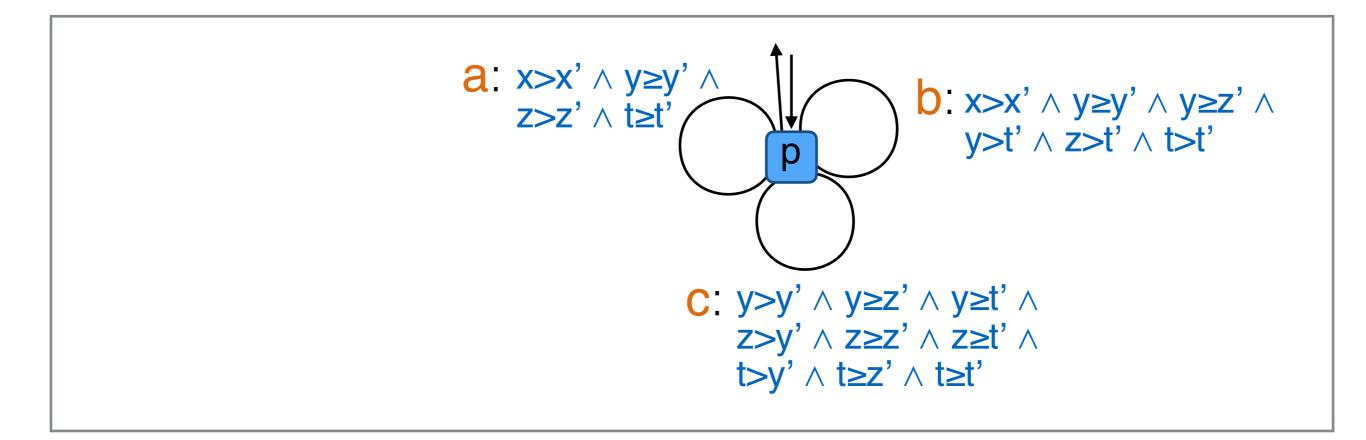
) b: x>x' has worst-case complexity n<sup>2</sup>.

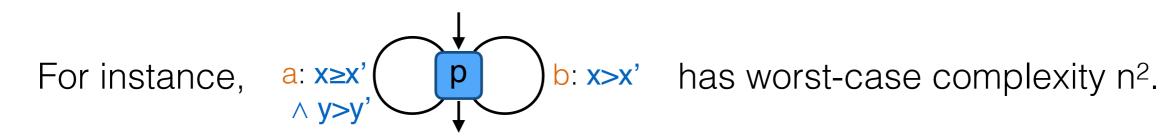


It was conjectured that the asymptotic worst-case could only have integer exponent.

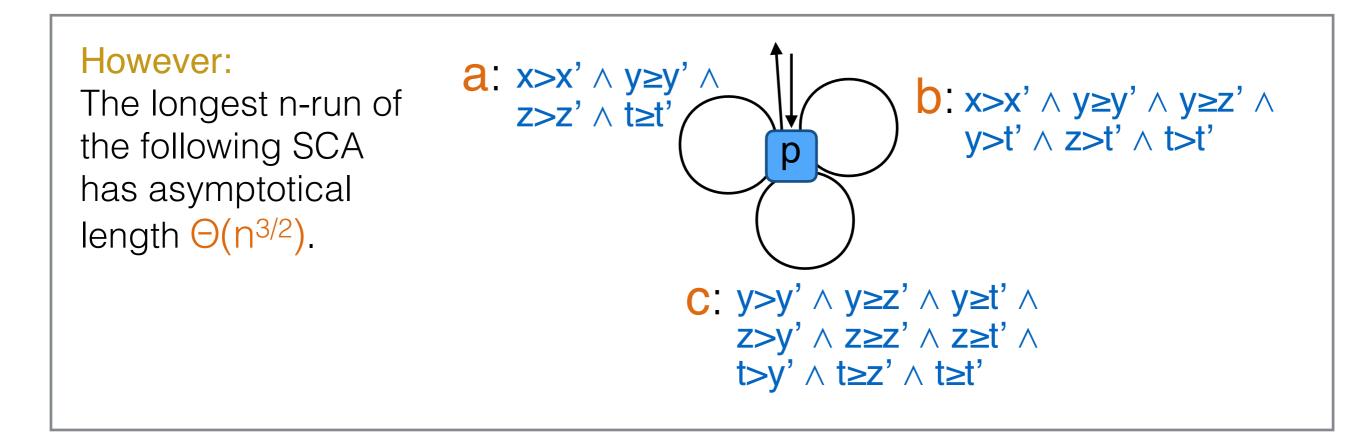


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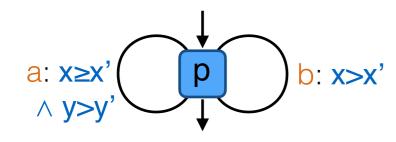


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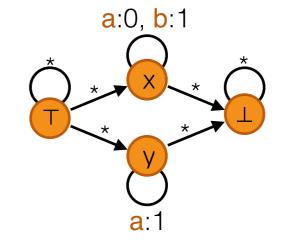
#### Summary

The size-change abstraction is good model for proving the termination of some forms of programs. This offers a natural reduction to question of automata theory.



We have shown that this technique can be greatly refined for computing asymptotic worst-case complexity of some programs.

This relies on advanced results on the asymptotic analysis of tropical automata.

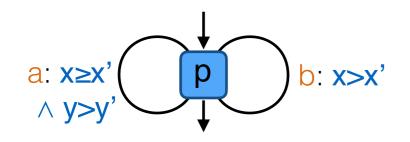


d main(**uint n**`

 $y = read_input(\mathbf{n})$ 

#### Summary

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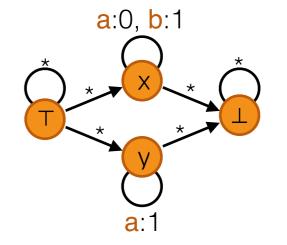


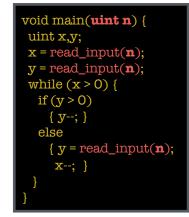
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#### Some open questions

What is the exact complexity? How to construct ranking functions? Is there a more general model of automata and results?





#### Thanks !