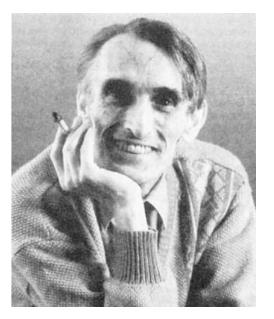
Automata and program analysis

Thomas Colcombet FCT Bordeaux 13 September 2017

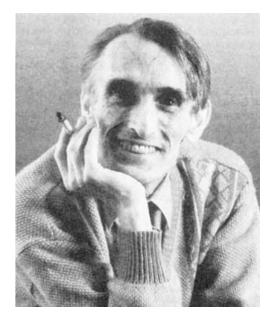
based on joint work with Laure Daviaud et Florian Zuleger



Weighted automata and tropical automata

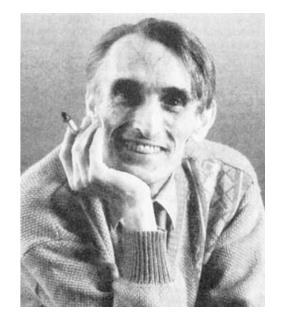


Consider a non-deterministic automaton (A,Q,I,F, Δ).



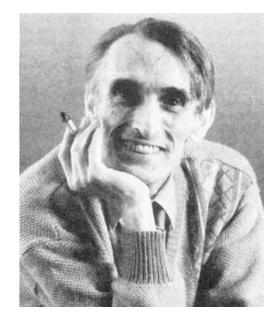
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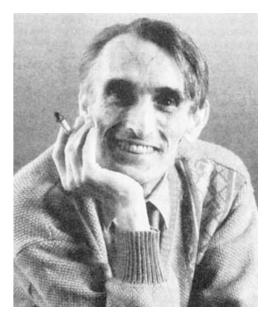
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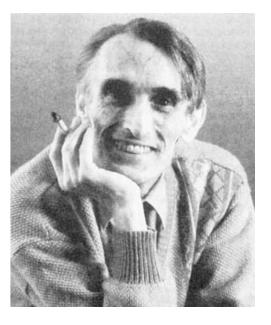


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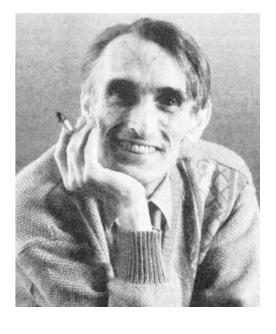


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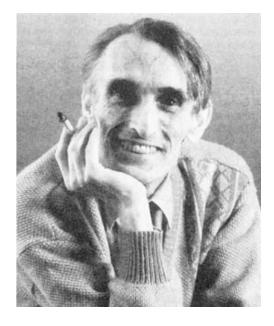
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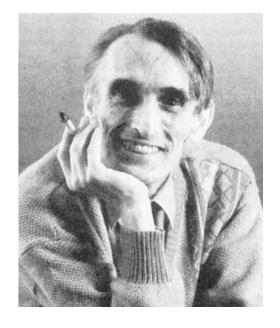
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An automaton (A,Q,I,F, Δ) with I: Q \rightarrow S, F: Q \rightarrow S, and Δ : Q×A×Q, computes a map L: A* \rightarrow S defined as

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



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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Non-deterministic automata

runs of the NDA

Rational transducers

Tropical automata

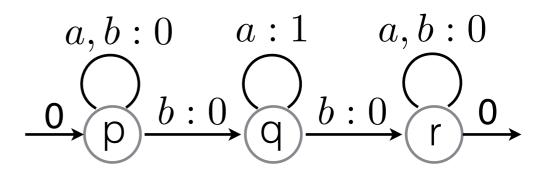
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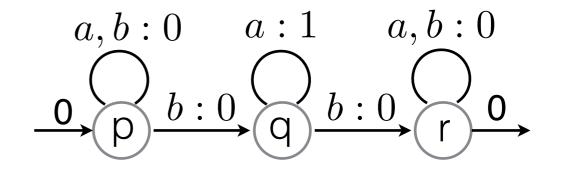


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by convention zero-transitions $(-\infty/+\infty)$ are not displayed

(neutral for \otimes and absorbing for \otimes)

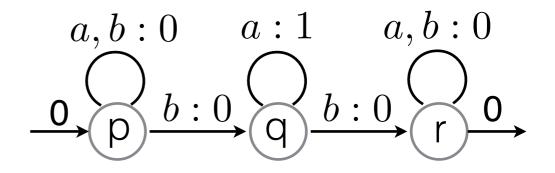


 $\begin{array}{l} & \text{Tropical automata} \\ L(a_1a_2\ldots a_n) = \bigoplus_{p_0,\ldots,p_n} \ I(q_0) \otimes \big(\bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(q_{i-1},a_i,q_i) \big) \otimes F(q_n) \\ & (\underbrace{\mathsf{N}\cup\{-\infty\},\max,+,-\infty,0)}_{L(u)\geq n} \ \text{ if and only if } (\exists \ \text{run } \rho \ \text{over } u) \ \text{weight}(\rho) \geq n \end{array}$

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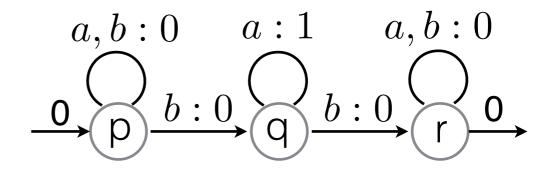
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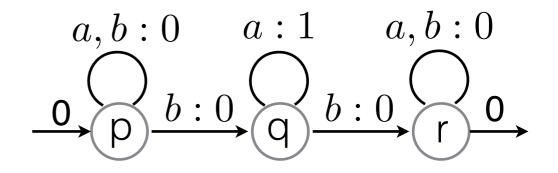
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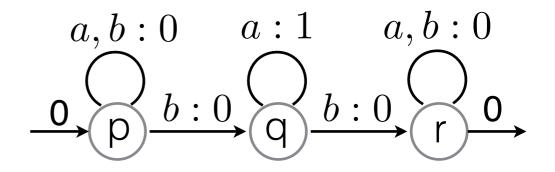
→ the size of the longest block of consecutive a's surrounded by 2 b's $\begin{aligned} & \text{Tropical automata} \\ L(a_1a_2...a_n) = \bigoplus_{p_0,...,p_n} I(q_0) \otimes \Big(\bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(q_{i-1},a_i,q_i) \Big) \otimes F(q_n) \\ & (\underset{l(u)\geq n}{\text{Nu}} \{-\infty\},\underset{if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

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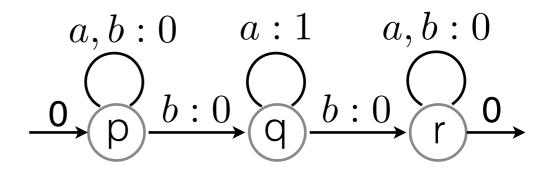
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[Hashiguchi 81] The boundedness of distance automata is decidable. [Leung88] [Simon78,94] [Kirsten05] [C. & Bojanczyk 06] [C. 09] [Bojanczyk15]



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

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 ρ over w) weight(ρ) $\leq n$ [Hashiguchi81,Leung84]

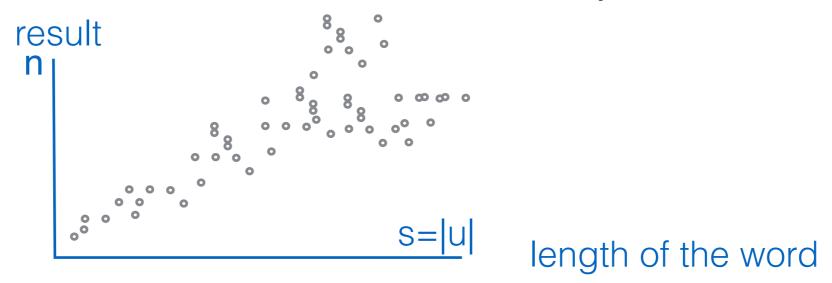
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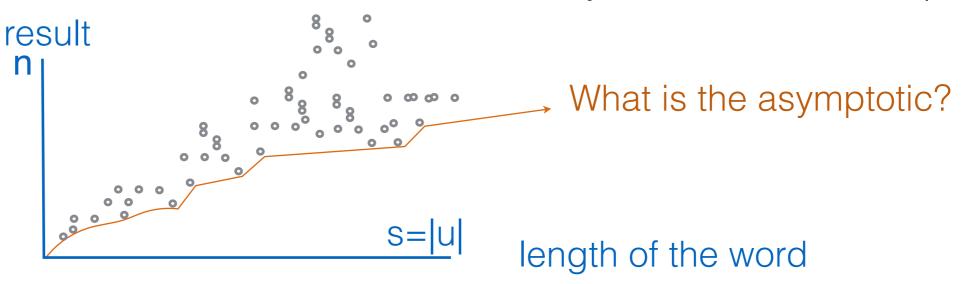
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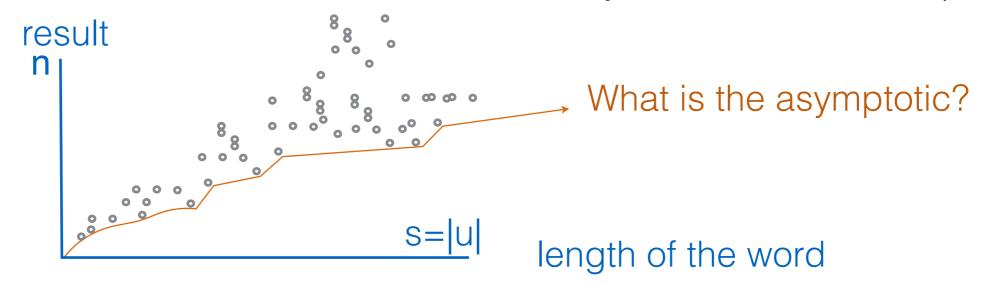


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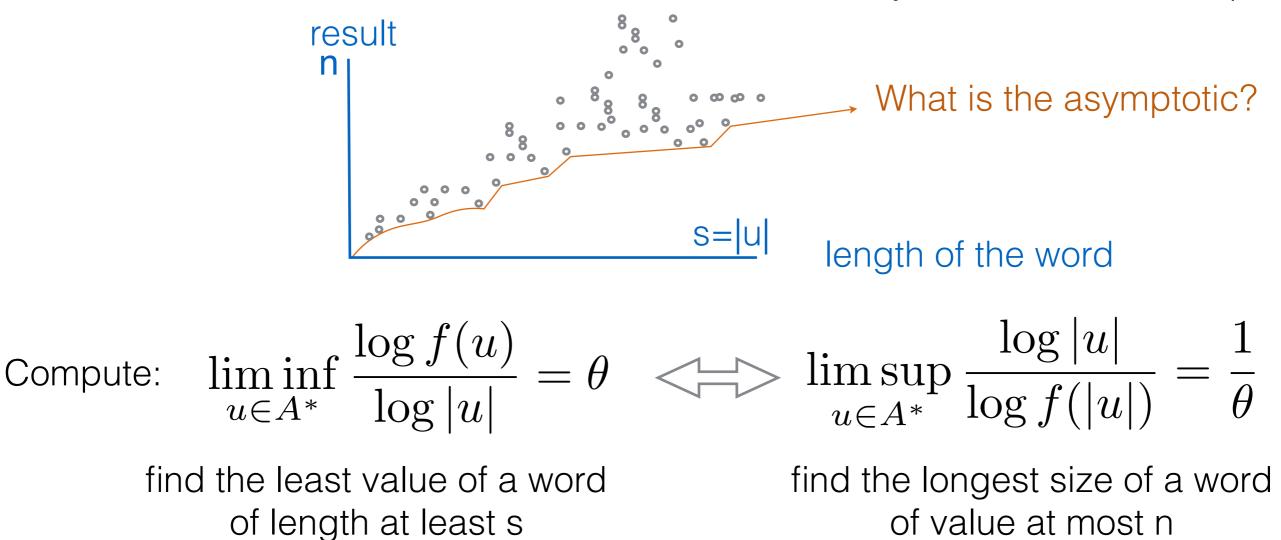
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Compute:
$$\liminf_{u \in A^*} \frac{\log f(u)}{\log |u|} = \theta$$

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

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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?
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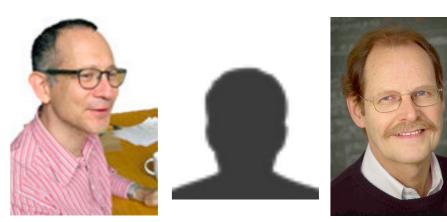
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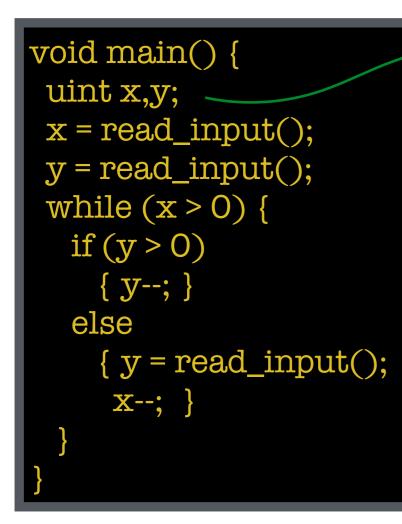
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Solution here: in this talk, we use the size-change abstract model ([Ben-Amram, Chin Soon Lee, Neil D. Jones 01]).

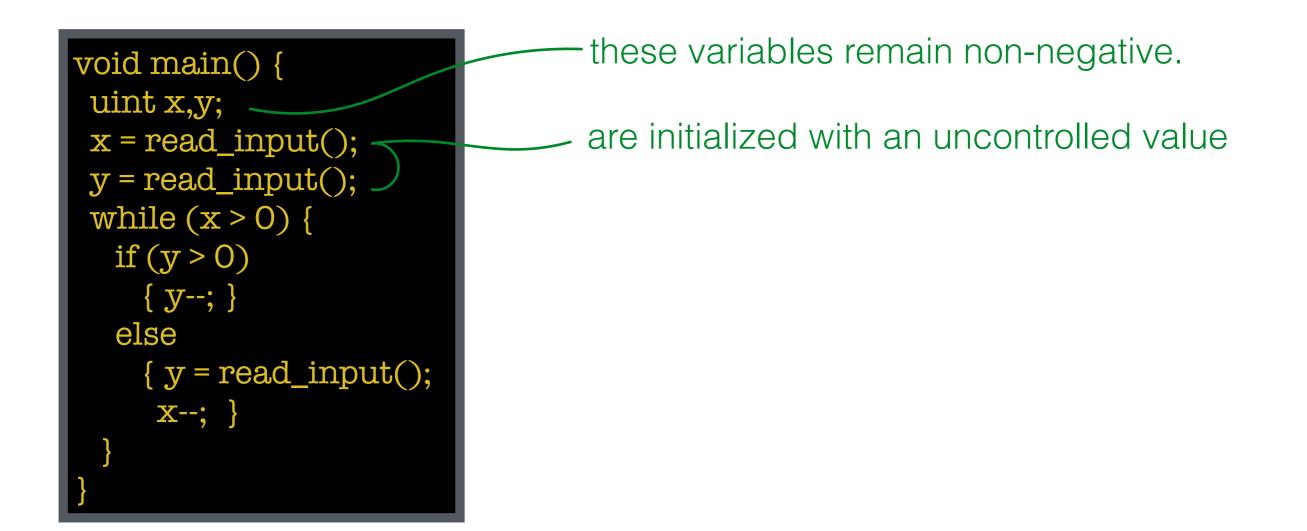


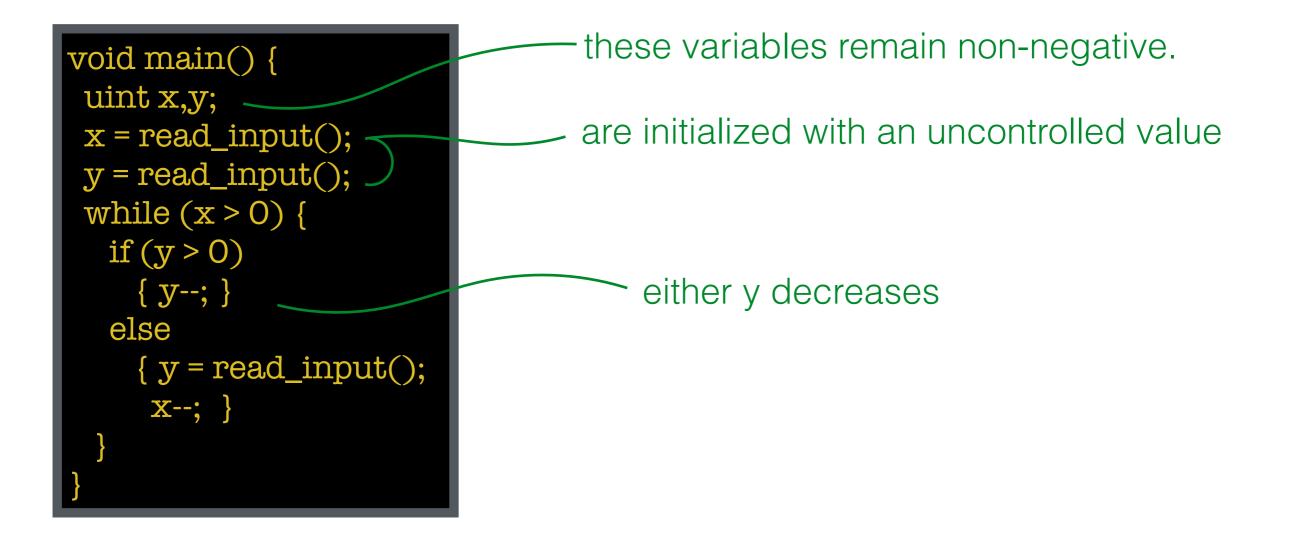
Example

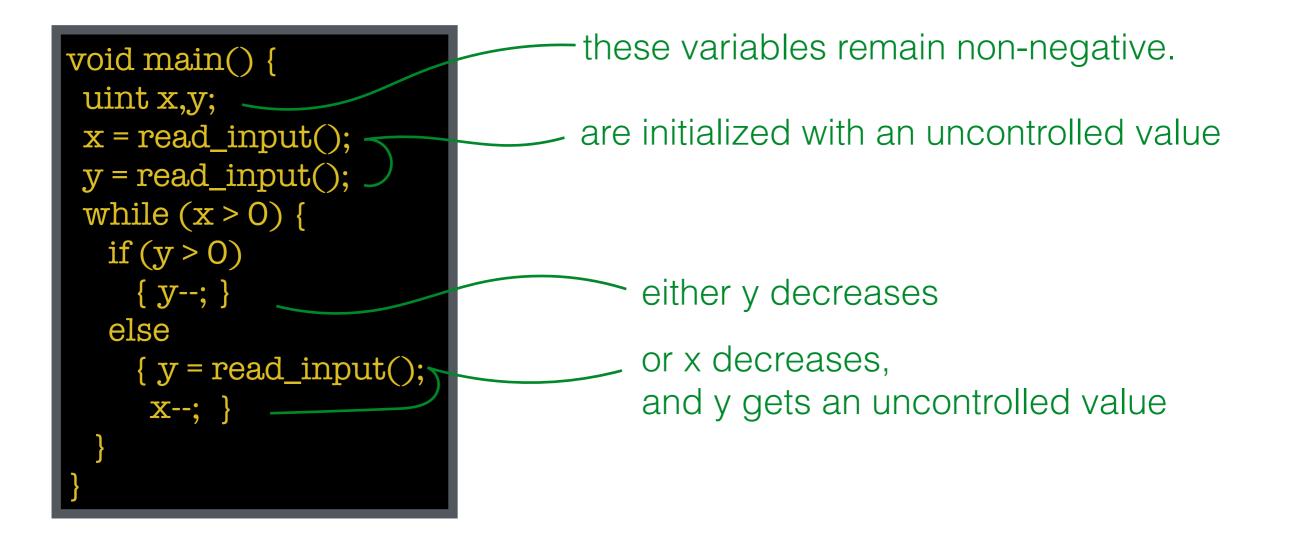
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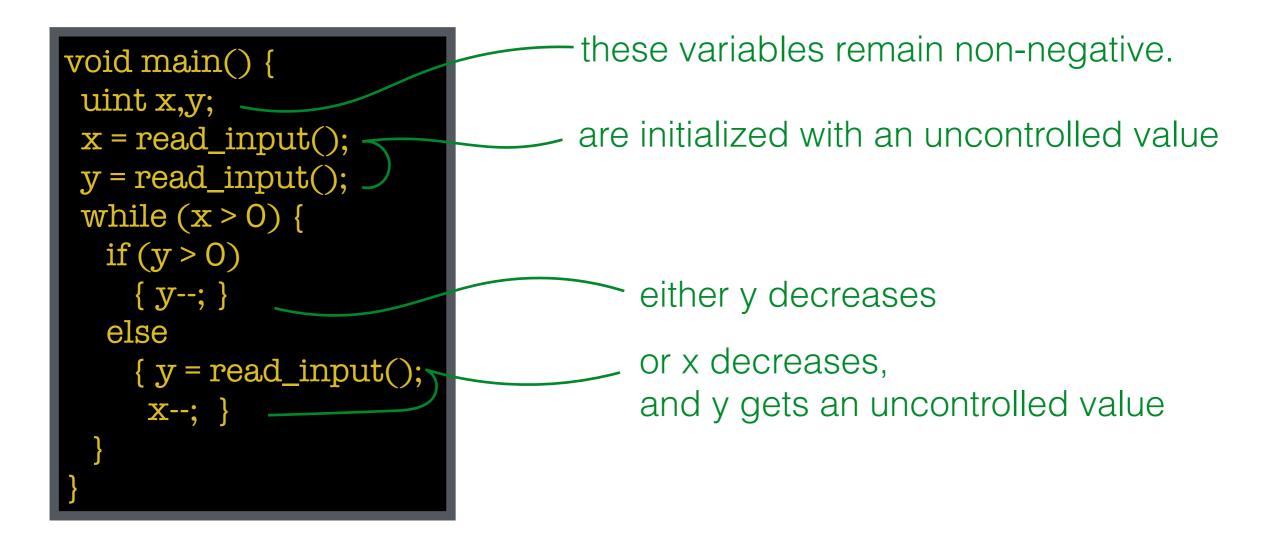


these variables remain non-negative.

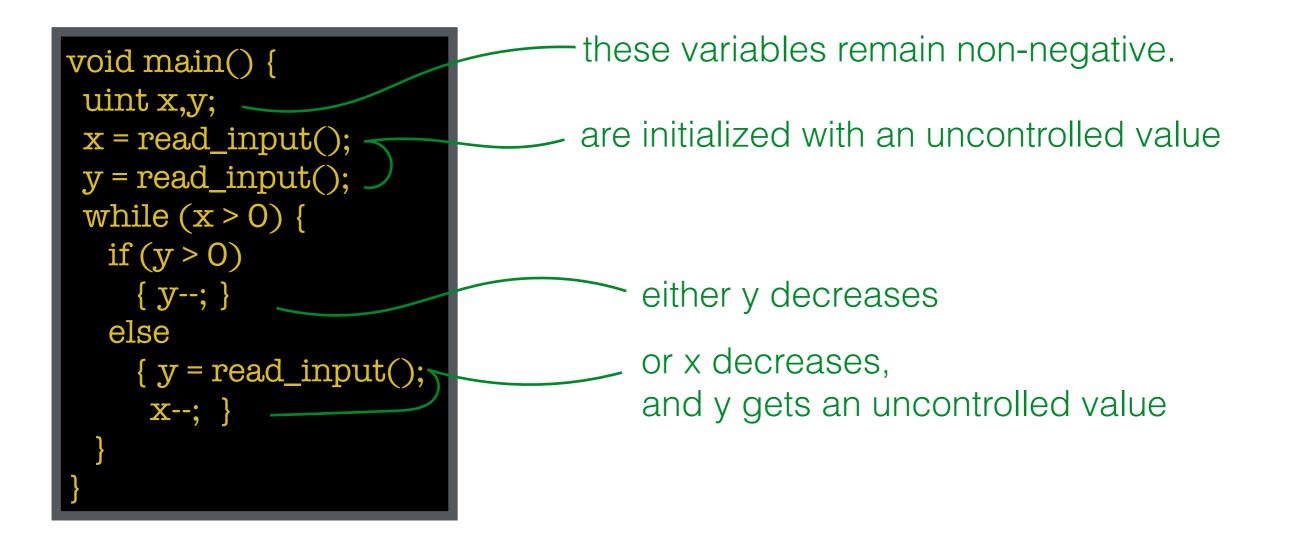








Remark: This program terminates.



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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):

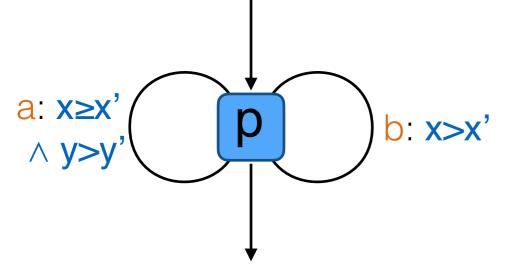
- this is a non-determininistic finite state machine
- that uses a finite set variables (x,y,z...) ranging over non-negative integers
- during each transition, a guards relate the variables before and after:

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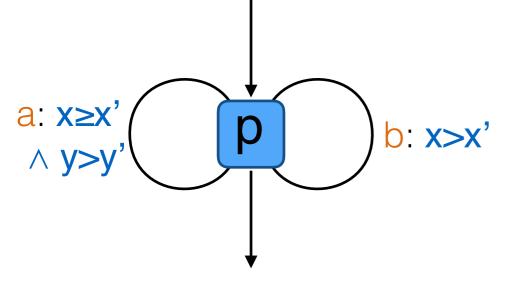


[Ben-Amram et al. 01] A size-change abstraction (SCA):

- this is a non-determininistic finite state machine
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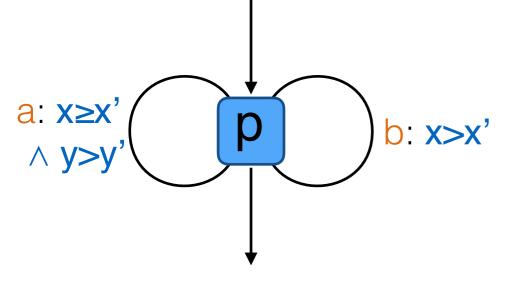
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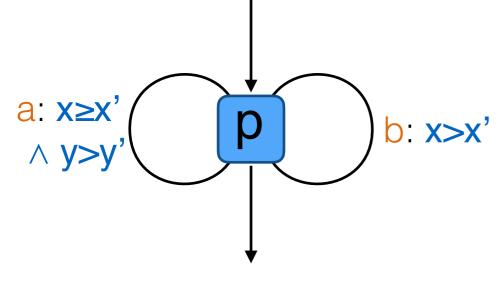
A run of the SCA is a sequence of configurations that starts in an initial configuration, ends in a final one, and each consecutive configurations satisfy the guard of some possible transition.

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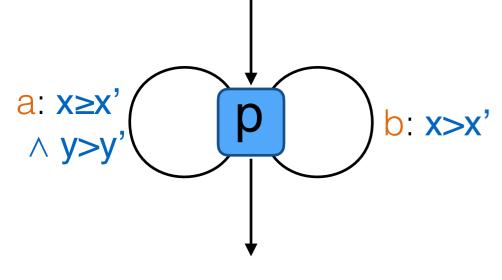
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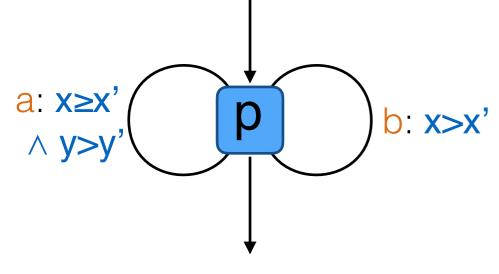
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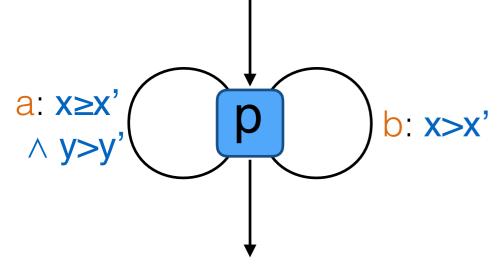
A size-change abstraction terminates if it has no infinite run.

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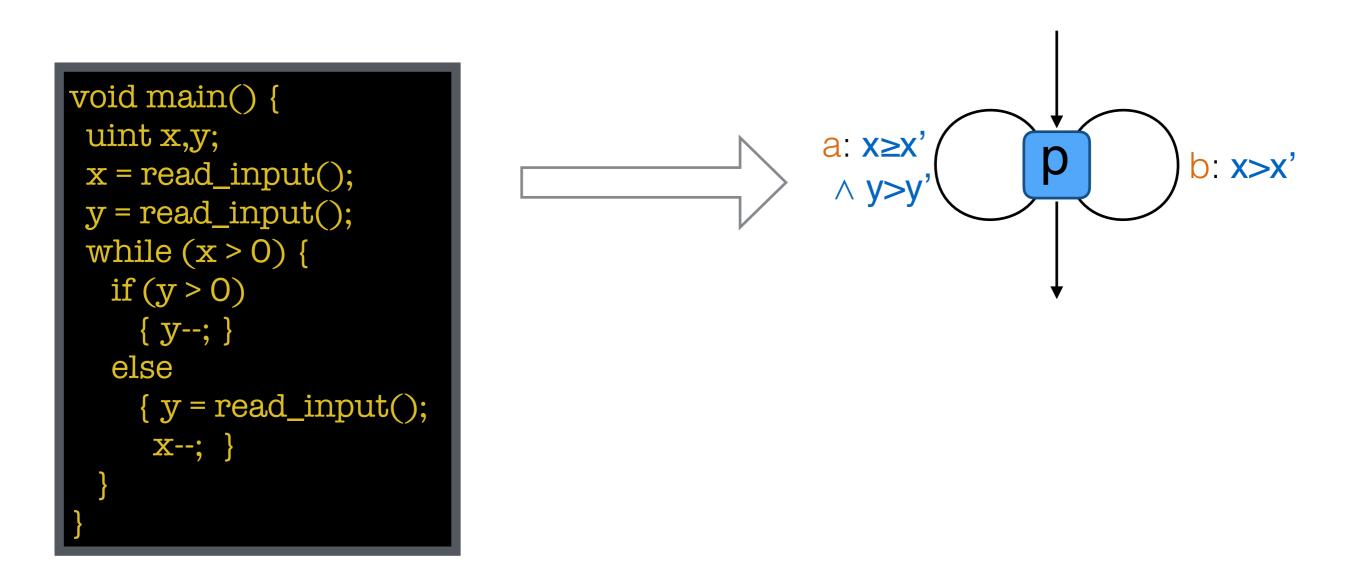
A size-change abstraction terminates if it has no infinite run. [Ben-Aram et al. 01] Termination of size-change abstraction is PSPACE.

Abstracting

- fix quantities to keep track of, here x,y (can be other quantities)
- construct the control flow graph of the code
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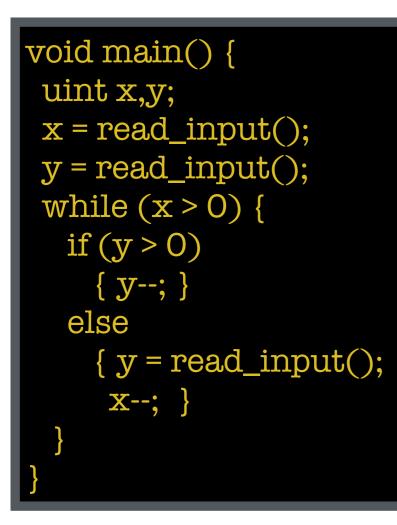
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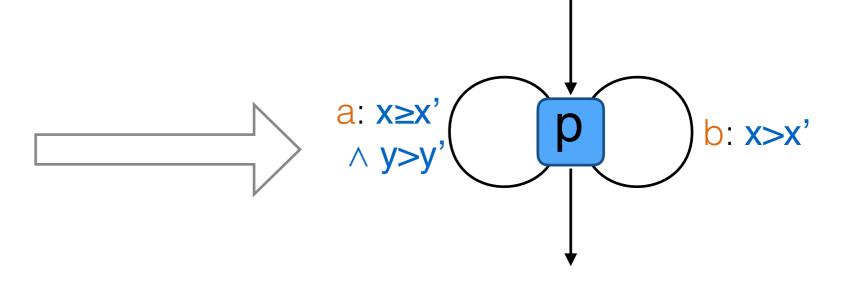
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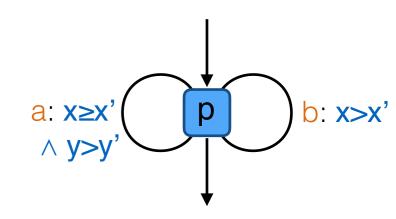




Remark: every run of the original program induces a run of the SCA of game size. Hence if the SCA terminates, the original program also does (on all its executions).

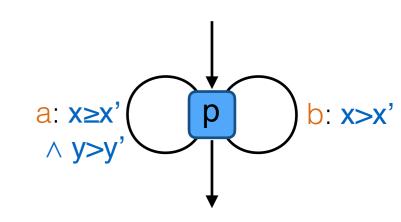
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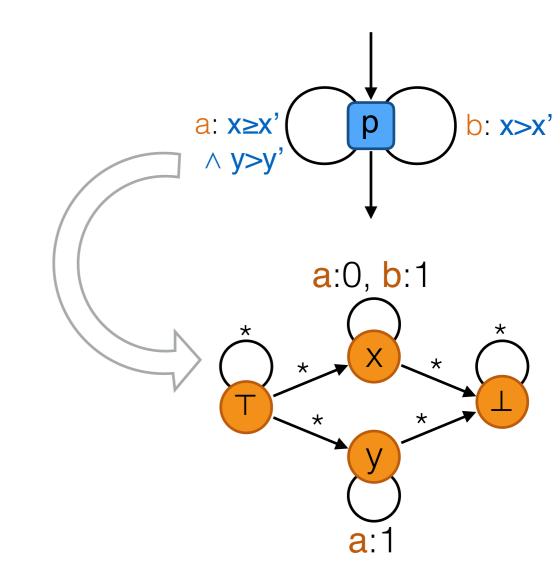
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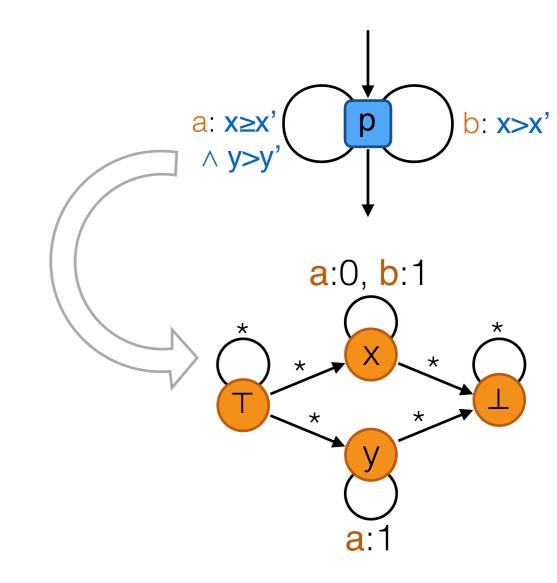
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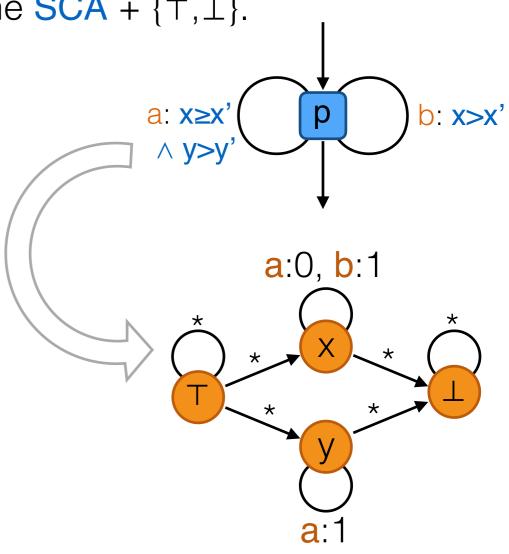
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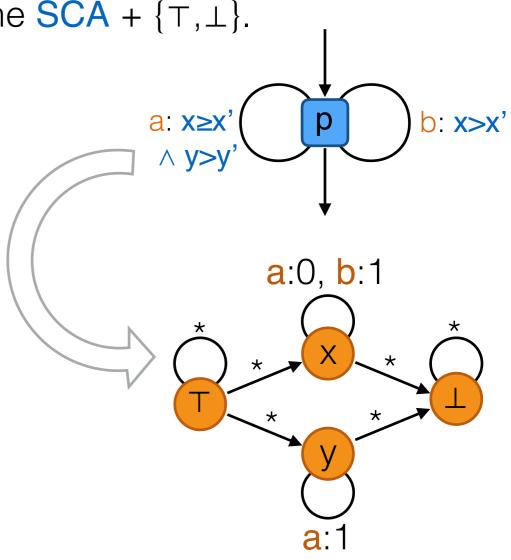
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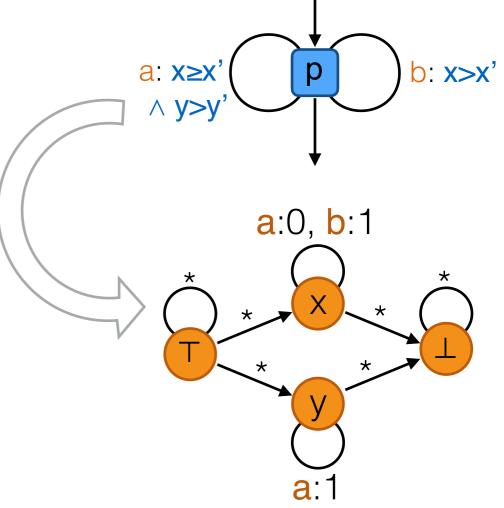
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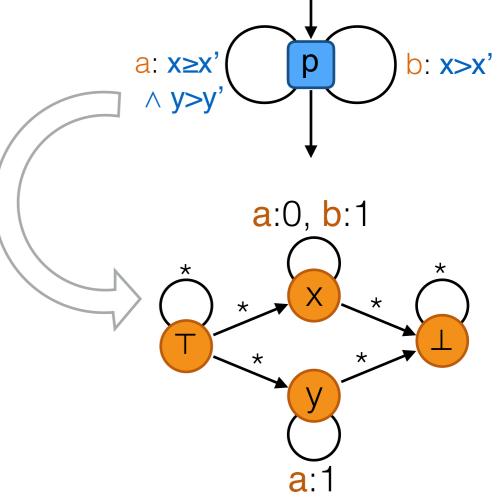
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Claim: ∃ run ρ of SCA

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

- 1) it is a value-free valid run (regular)
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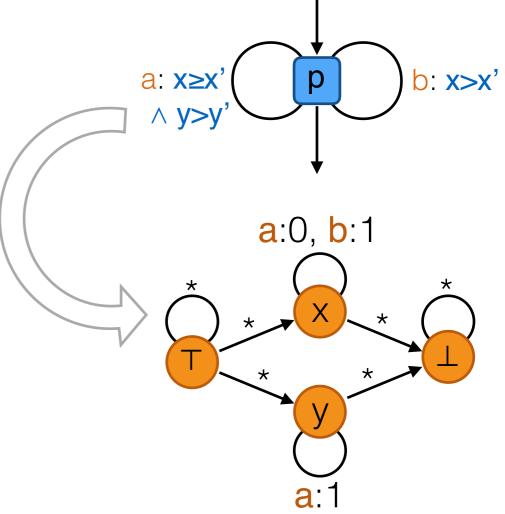
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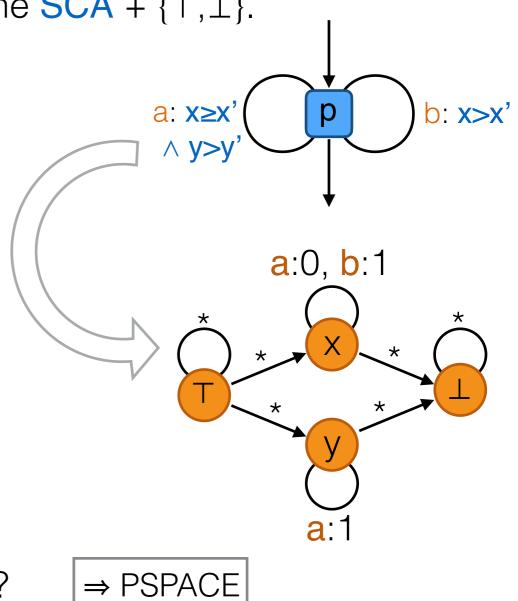
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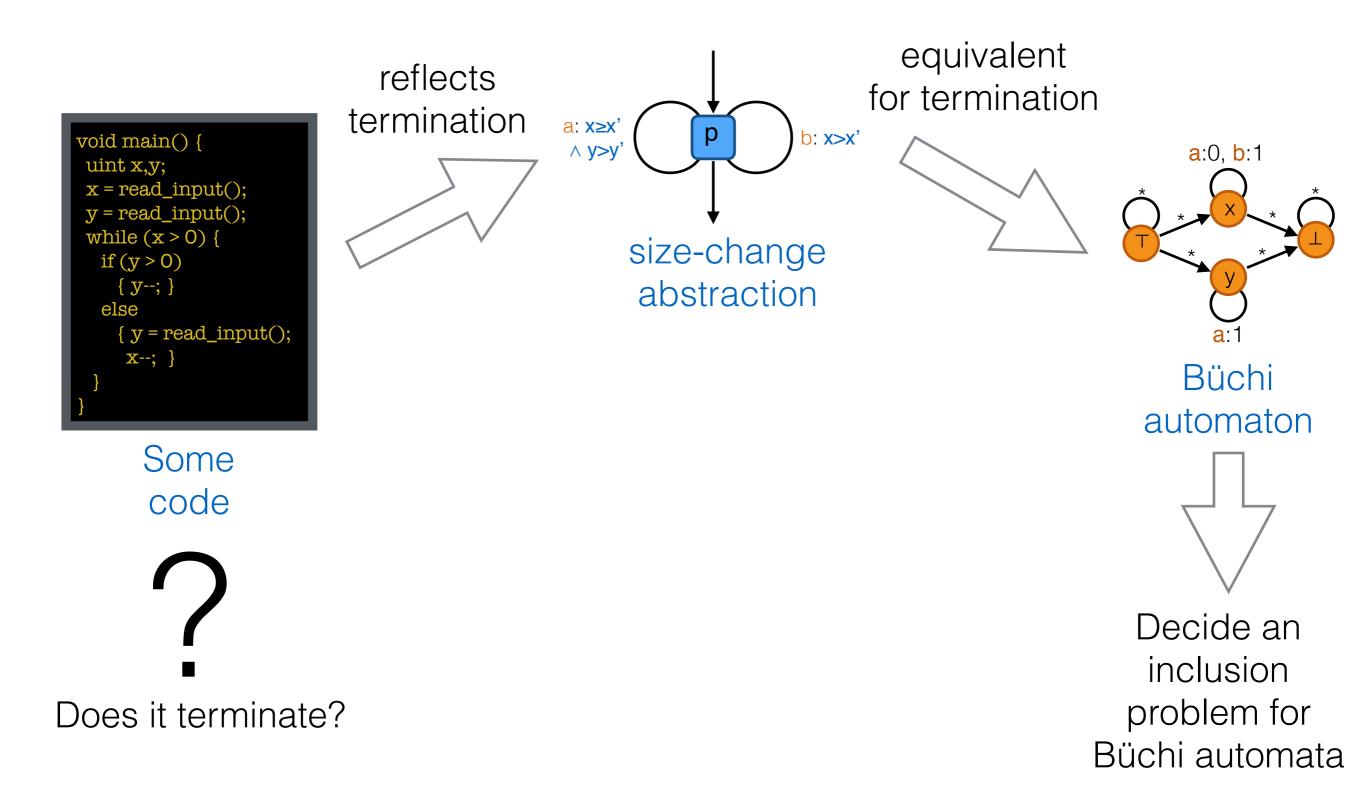
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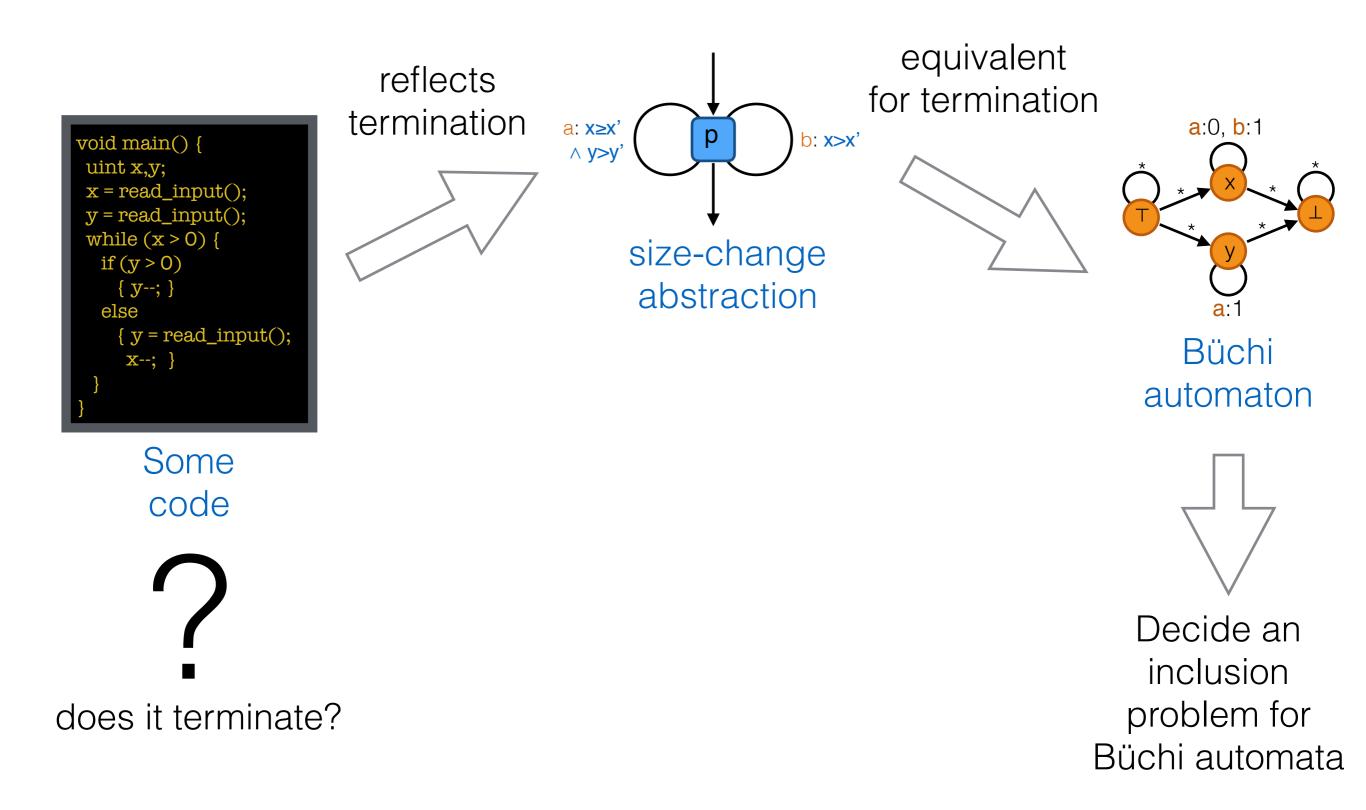


Overall picture

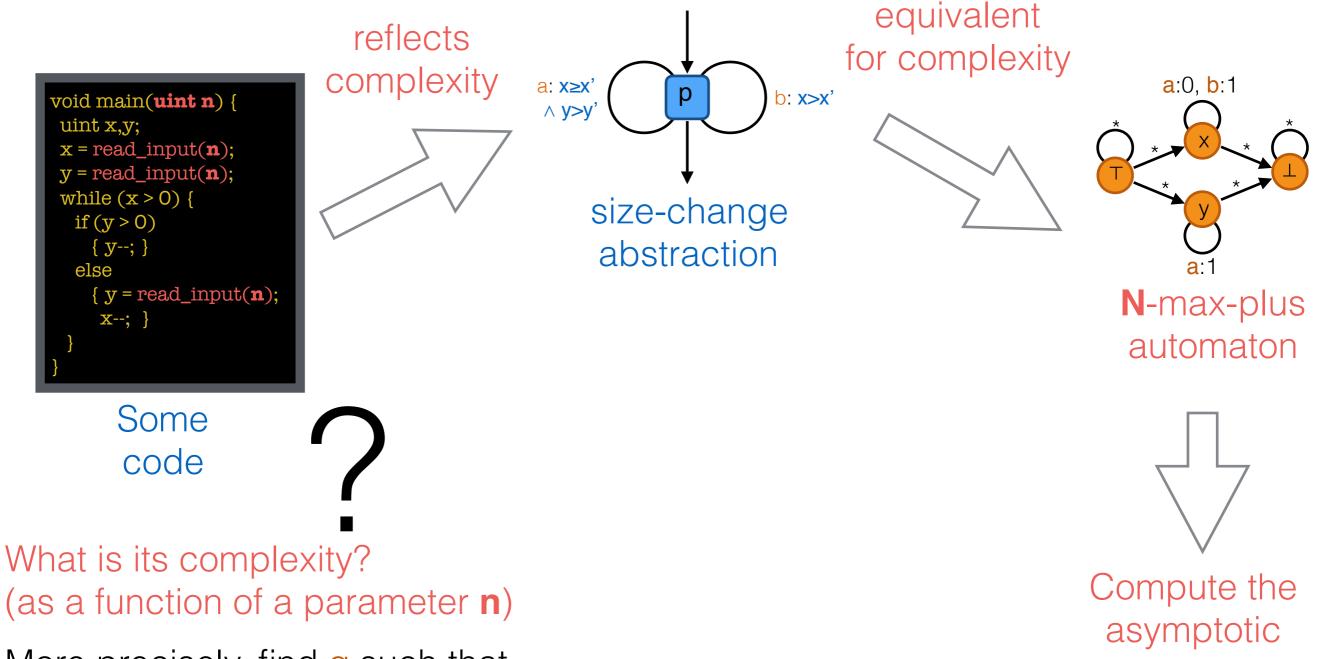


Finer program analysis

Termiation



Asymptotic complexity



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

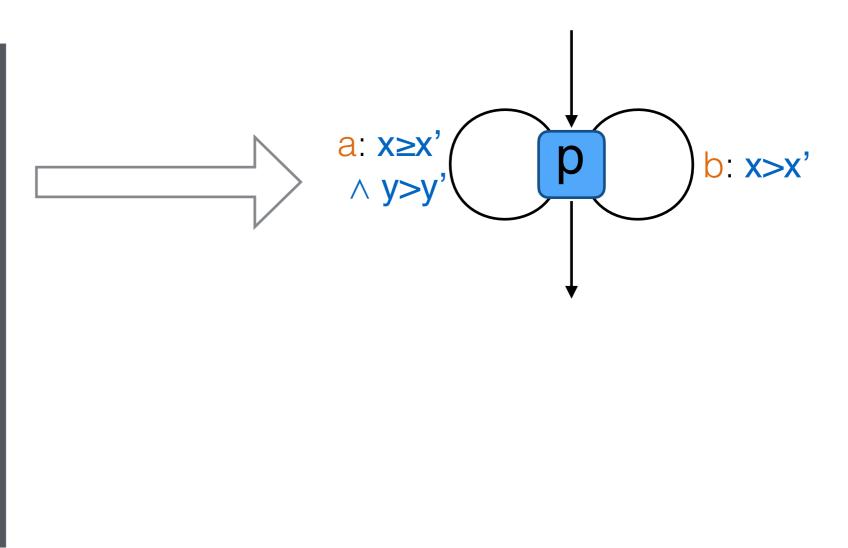
asymptotic worst-case behavior

- fix quantities to keep track of, here x,y (can be other quantities)
- 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--; }
    }
}
```

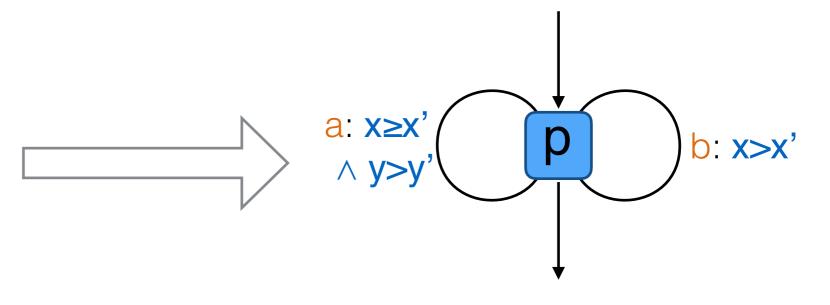
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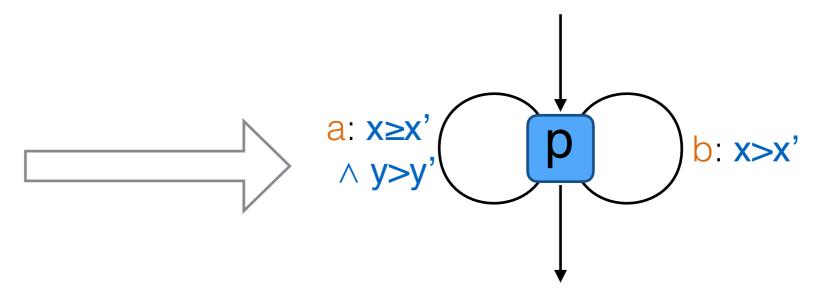
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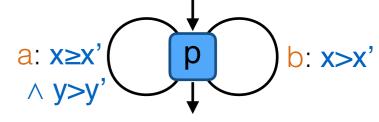


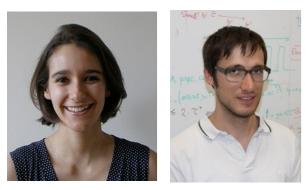
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Remark: every run of the original program for a given n induces an n-run of the SCA of same length. Hence if the SCA terminates in time t for a given n, the original program also does (on all its executions).



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



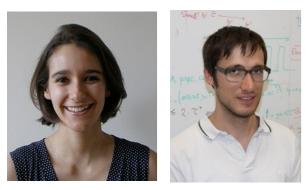


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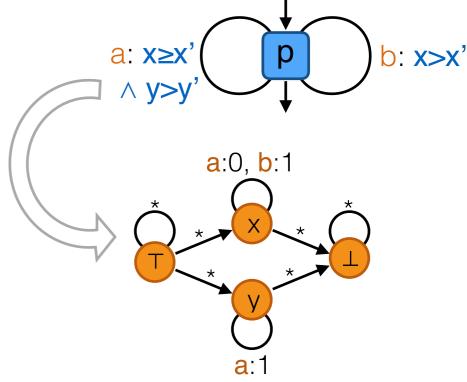
a: x≥x' ∧ y>y' ↓ b: x>x'

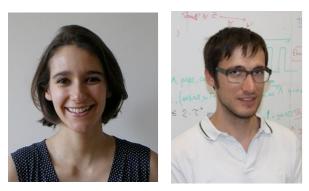


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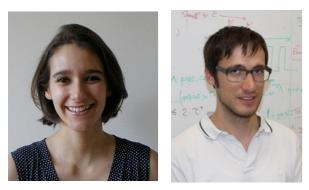
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Claim: (I n-run of SCA of size s) if and only if (I input word u of size s such that 1) it is a value-free valid run (regular) 2) there is no run of Aut with weight >n.



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

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



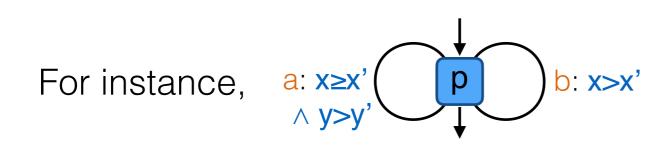
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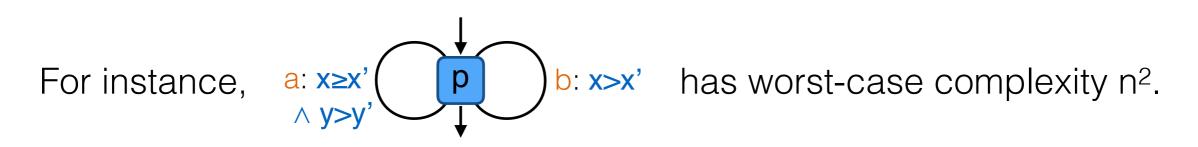
One needs to find the asymptotic exponent of the size of the longest word that is has only run of value at most n:

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

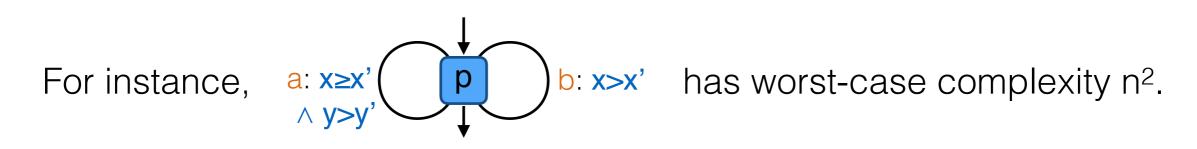




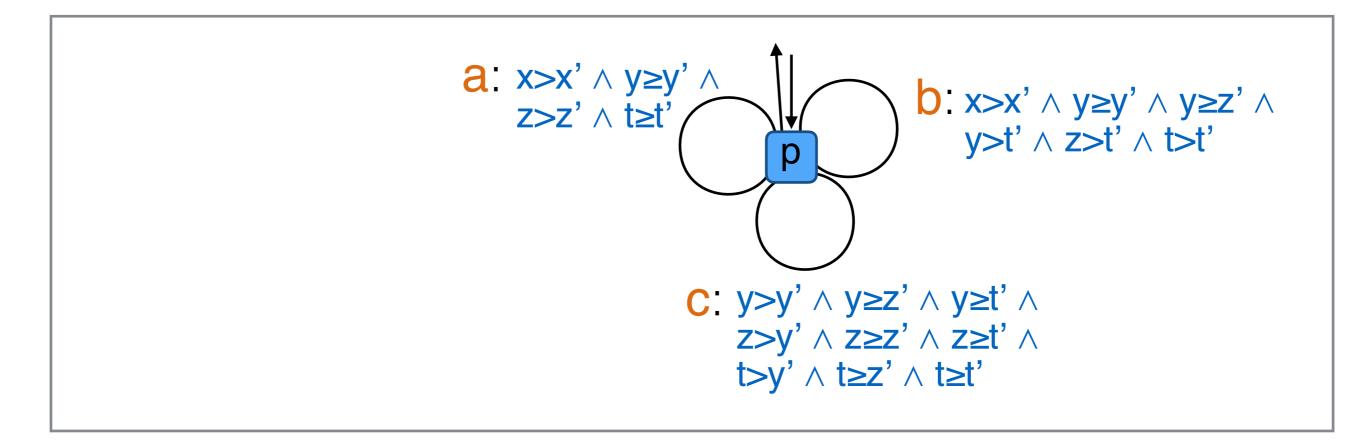
) b: x>x' has worst-case complexity n².

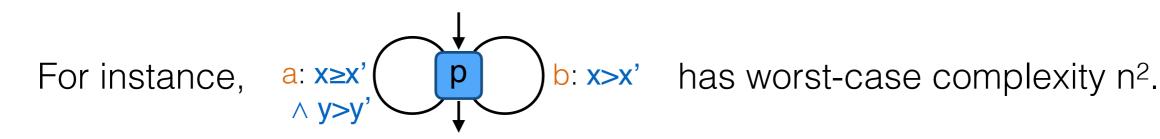


It was conjectured that the asymptotic worst-case could only have integer exponent.

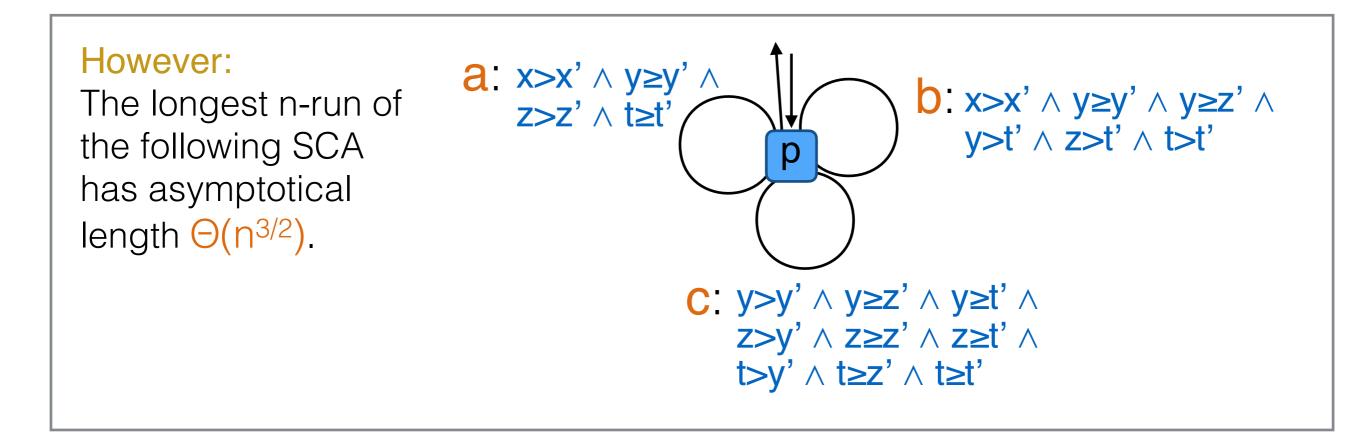


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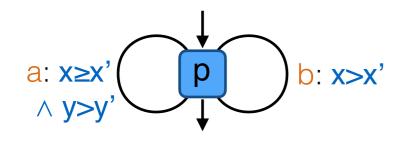


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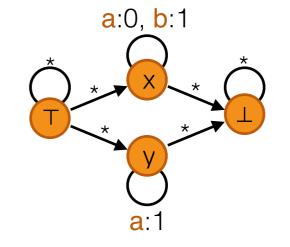
Summary

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.

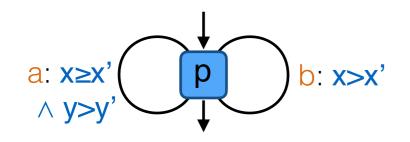


d main(**uint n**`

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

Summary

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.

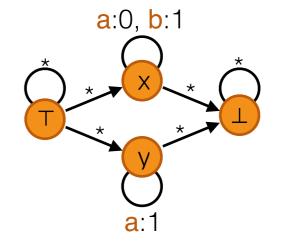


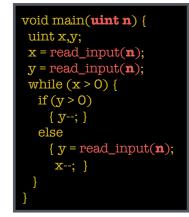
We have shown that this technique can be greatly refined for computing asymptotic worst-case complexity of some programs.

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

Some open questions

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





Thanks !