

Deciding WS1S

Using an Automata-based Approach

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- Weak monadic second-order logic of one successor:
 - **second-order** \Rightarrow quantification over relations;
 - **monadic** \Rightarrow the relations are unary – i.e. sets;
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- Corresponds to **finite automata** [Büchi'60].
- **Decidable**, but **NONELEMENTARY**:
 - tower of exponentials of height given by **quantifier alternations**.
 - ▶ Deciding WS1S via DFAs: determinization, complementation, ...

The MONA Tool

- **MONA** – an automata-based WS1S/WSkS decision procedure:
 - **semi-symbolic DFAs/DTAs**: MTBDDs used to encode transitions,
 - efficient on many formulae obtained in various applications.
- Used in tools for checking **complex shape invariants**:
 - Pointer Assertion Logic Engine (**PALE**),
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- Various other applications:
 - other kinds of program and protocol verification, parsing, synthesis, linguistics, multimedia, ...
- However, sometimes the complexity strikes back:
 - unavoidable in general,
 - one can try to push the usability border further:
 - ▶ using the recent advancements in non-deterministic automata.

Syntax and Semantics of WS1S

■ Minimal syntax:

- Let X, Y, \dots be 2nd-order **variables**.
- **Terms**: $\psi ::= X \subseteq Y \mid \text{Sing}(X) \mid X = \{0\} \mid X = \sigma(Y)$
- **Formulae**: $\varphi ::= \psi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \neg \varphi \mid \exists X. \varphi$

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■ A note on semantics:

- Variables interpreted as **finite subsets of \mathbb{N}** .
- **Singleton** – $\text{Sing}(X)$: $X = \{n\}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- **Successor** – $X = \sigma(Y)$: $Y = \{n\}$ and $X = \{n+1\}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

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$$x \leq y \stackrel{\text{def}}{\Leftrightarrow} \forall X.(y \in X \wedge (\forall z.\sigma(z) \in X \Rightarrow z \in X)) \Rightarrow x \in X$$

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■ **Example:** $\{X_1 \mapsto \emptyset, X_2 \mapsto \{4, 2\}\} \rightsquigarrow$ $X_1: \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Atomic Automata for WS1S

$X \subseteq Y$

(X is a subset of Y)

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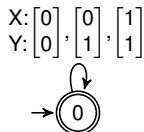


■ $X \mapsto \{ 2, 4 \}$
 $Y \mapsto \{1,2,3,4\} \models X \subseteq Y \rightsquigarrow$ X: $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}^*$
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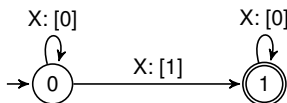
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$\text{Sing}(X)$

(X is singleton)

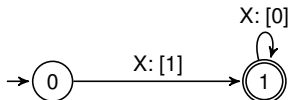


■ $X \mapsto \{2\} \models \text{Sing}(X) \rightsquigarrow X: \begin{bmatrix} 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \end{bmatrix}^* \subseteq L(\mathcal{A}_{\text{Sing}(X)})$

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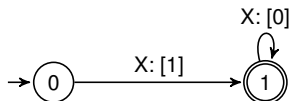


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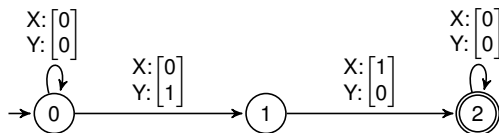
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■ $X \mapsto \{0\} \models X = \{0\} \rightsquigarrow X : [1][0]^* \subseteq L(\mathcal{A}_{X=\{0\}})$

$X = \sigma(Y)$

(X is the successor of Y)



■ $X \mapsto \{2\} \models X = \sigma(Y) \rightsquigarrow \begin{matrix} X: [0] & [0] & [1] & [0] \\ Y: [0] & [1] & [0] & [0] \end{matrix}^* \subseteq L(\mathcal{A}_{X=\sigma(Y)})$

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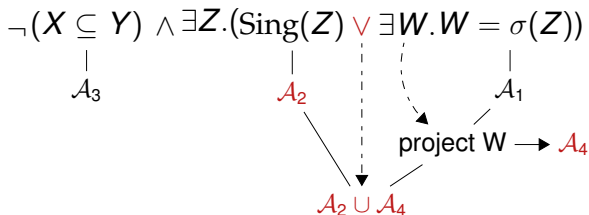
The diagram illustrates the construction of automata for the formula $\neg(X \subseteq Y) \wedge \exists Z. (\text{Sing}(Z) \vee \exists W. W = \sigma(Z))$. The sub-formulae are mapped to automata as follows:

- $X \subseteq Y$ is mapped to \mathcal{A}_3 .
- $\text{Sing}(Z)$ is mapped to \mathcal{A}_2 .
- $\exists W. W = \sigma(Z)$ is mapped to \mathcal{A}_1 .

A dashed arrow points from \mathcal{A}_1 to the text "project W", which then has an arrow pointing to \mathcal{A}_4 .

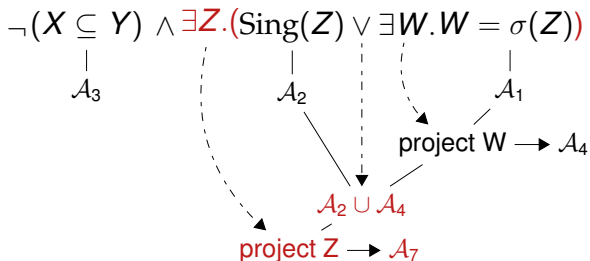
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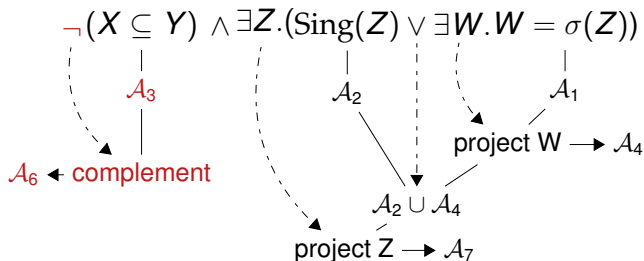
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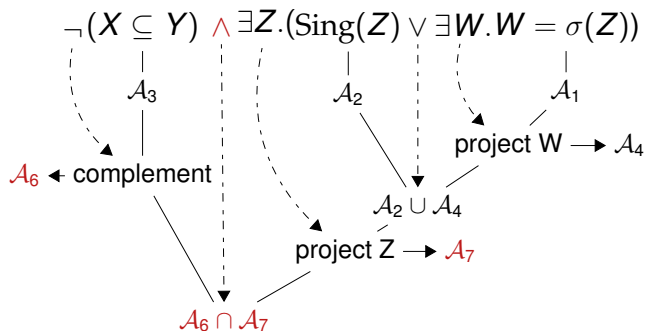
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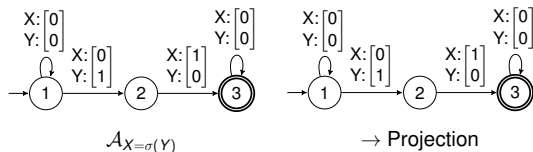


Handling Quantification

- Quantification handled by **projection** of a certain track.
 - Introduces **non-determinism** to automata.
 - Alternations require negation, hence determinization \rightsquigarrow high cost.

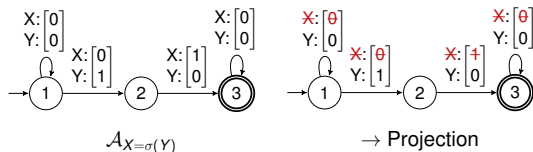
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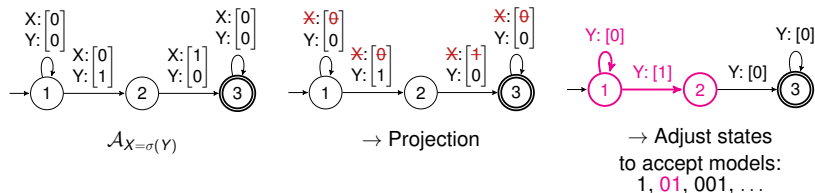
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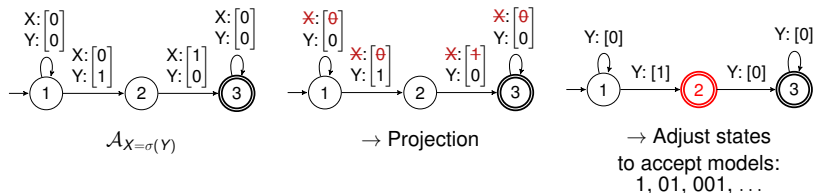
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 - ▶ **Intuition**: on-the-fly projection and subset construction for all m levels (instead of doing it one-by-one), with antichain pruning.

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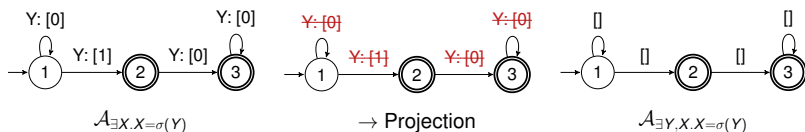
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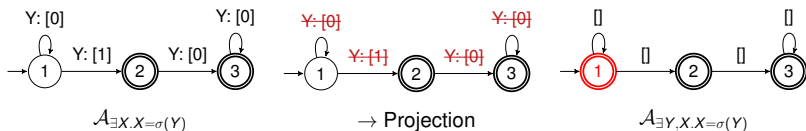
More Intuition behind the Procedure

Correspondence between formulae and automata:

- A formula φ is **valid** iff $L(\mathcal{A}_\varphi) = \Sigma^*$.
- A formula φ is **satisfiable** iff $L(\mathcal{A}_\varphi) \neq \emptyset$.
- A formula φ is **unsatisfiable** iff $L(\mathcal{A}_\varphi) = \emptyset$.

A key observation for ground formulae:

- The symbols degenerate to the empty one: $\Sigma = \{\square\}$.
- A ground formula φ is **valid** iff it is **satisfiable** iff $L(\mathcal{A}_\varphi) = \square^*$.
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- **Final states** are more tricky:
 - a need to **saturate after projection** as described previously,
 - a lot of space for constructing **different sets of sets of ... of states**,
 - a need of **switching the acceptance mode**.

Introduction to the Computation of Final States (1/3)

- Given a **formula** $\varphi = \neg \exists \mathcal{X}_m \neg \dots \neg \exists \mathcal{X}_2 \neg \exists \mathcal{X}_1 : \varphi_0(\mathbb{X})$ in \exists PNF,
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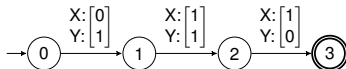
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 - ▶ Let $\mathcal{Q} = \{Q_1, \dots, Q_n\}$, $\coprod \mathcal{Q} = \{\{q_1, \dots, q_n\} \mid (q_1, \dots, q_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n Q_i\}$.

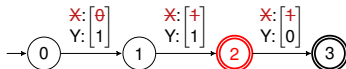
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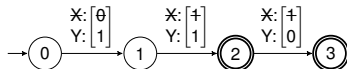


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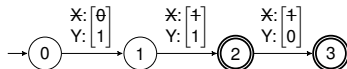
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- Continue with **iterating the computation** of non-final states from final, final from non-final, ...
- **Do not enumerate the sets** F_i/N_i :
 - use **symbolic encoding** via expressions with the $\uparrow \exists / \downarrow$ operators.
 - A form of **antichain reduction**: keeping minimal/maximal elements.

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- ⋮
- 5 Keep alternating between computing final and non-final states until F_m as follows:
 - $F_{i+1} = \downarrow \{\nu Z.N_i \cap \text{cpre}_0(Z)\}$,
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Computing Predecessors of Symbolic States

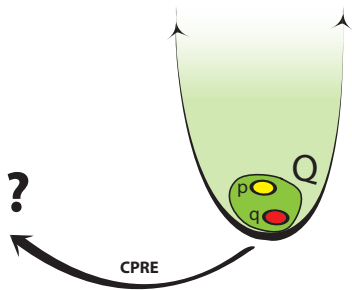
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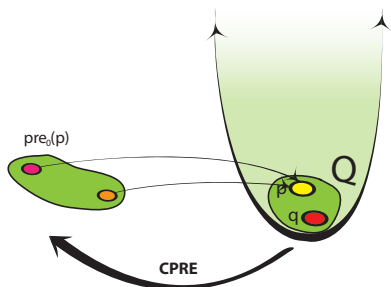
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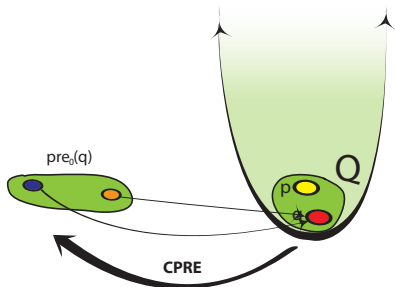
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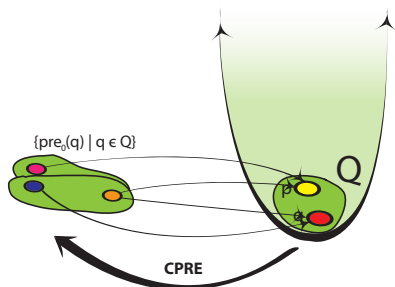
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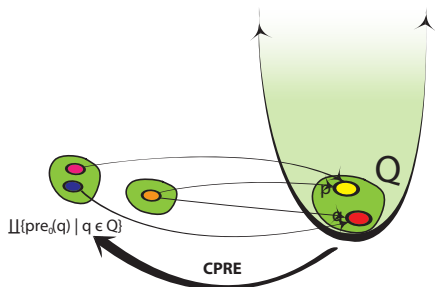
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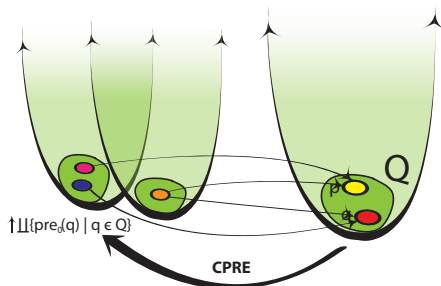
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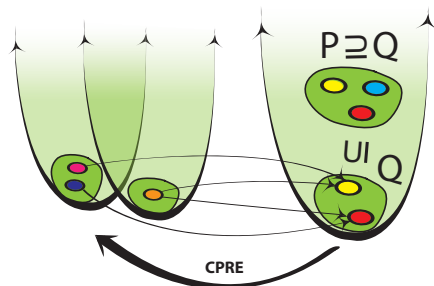
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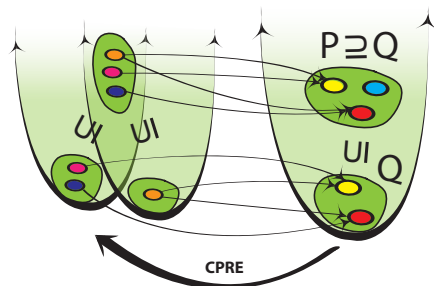
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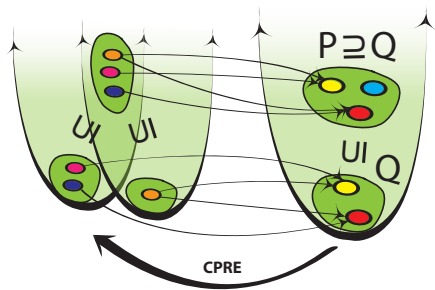
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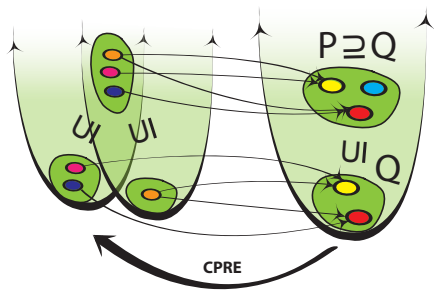
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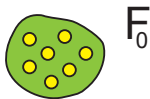
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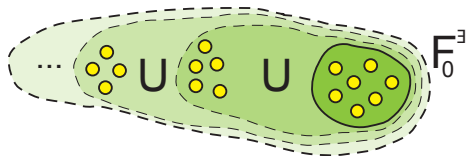


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- Can be adapted for symbolic states with the needed structure.

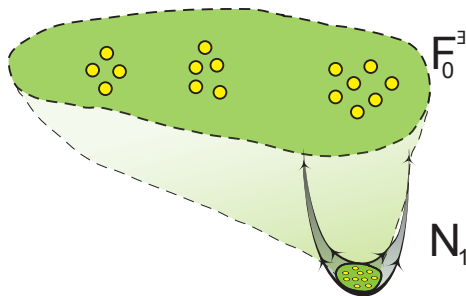
A Summary of the Inner Structure of F_m



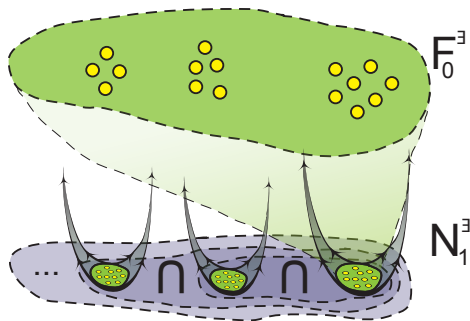
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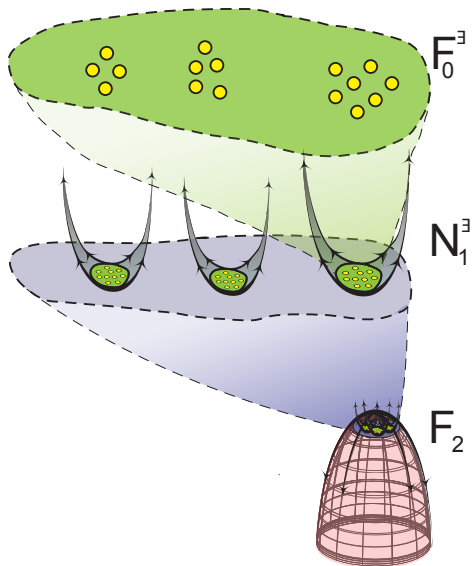
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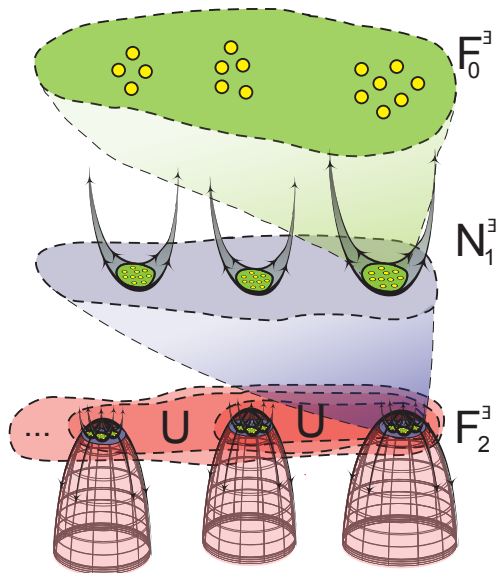
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- Further, we **prune the generators subsumed by other generators**:
 - the **subsumption relation** is computed on nested structure of symbolic representation of lower levels as follows.

$$\downarrow X \subseteq \downarrow Y \quad \iff \quad \forall X \in X . \exists Y \in Y . X \subseteq Y$$

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 - ▶ $I_m \cap F_m \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow I_{m-1} \in F_m$, or
 - or that initial states are not among the non-final ones,
 - ▶ reduces to an “and/or” search:

$$\{x\} \in \downarrow Y \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \exists Y \in \mathbb{Y} : x \in Y$$

$$\{x\} \in \uparrow \coprod Y \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall Y \in \mathbb{Y} : x \in Y$$

Implementations

- **dWiNA** (deciding WS1S using Non-deterministic Automata):
 - our **prototype** implementation,
 - **antichain-based** approach, with **non-deterministic automata**,
 - uses library `VATA` for manipulation with the automata:
 - ▶ uses degenerated tree automata.

- **MONA**:
 - (old but) **state-of-the-art** tool,
 - **classic** approach, with **deterministic automata**,
 - implemented range of optimizations like:
 - ▶ automata minimization,
 - ▶ automata caching,
 - ▶ using a DAG representation for formulae,
 - ▶ and many others.

Experiments on Formulae from Verification

- Compared with **MONA**:
 - on formulae from **verification benchmarks**,
 - ▶ taken from the STRAND tool (STRucture ANd Data),
 - ▶ encoding loop invariants of heap-manipulating programs,
 - in the **general** and \exists PNF form.

benchmark	MONA				dWiNA	
	Time [s]		Space [states]		Time [s]	Space [states]
	general	\exists PNF	general	\exists PNF	Prefix	Prefix
list-insert-after-loop	0.01	0.01	167	686	0.01	28
list-insert-before-head	0.01	0.01	43	152	0.01	38
list-insert-before-loop	0.01	0.01	103	1021	0.01	38
list-insert-in-loop	0.01	0.01	463	5015	0.01	59
list-reverse-after-loop	0.01	0.01	179	1 326	0.01	100
list-reverse-in-loop	0.02	0.47	1 311	70 278	0.02	260
bubblesort-else	0.01	0.45	1 285	12 071	0.01	14
bubblesort-if-else	0.02	2.17	4 260	116 760	0.23	234
bubblesort-if-if	0.12	5.29	8 390	233 372	1.14	28

Experiments with Generated Formulae

- Compared with **MONA**:
 - on **generated** formulae,
 - ▶ parametric, various lengths of prefix, number of alternations,
 - ▶ base formulae encode various set problems (transitivity, etc.),
 - in the **\exists PNF** form.
- An example of a generated formula:

$$\exists Y : \neg \exists X_1 \neg \dots \neg \exists X_k, \dots, X_n : \bigwedge_{1 \leq i < n} (X_i \subseteq Y \wedge X_i \subset X_{i+1}) \Rightarrow X_{i+1} \subseteq Y.$$

benchmark	MONA				dWiNA	
	Time [s]		Space [states]		Time [s]	Space [states]
	general	\exists PNF	general	\exists PNF	Prefix	Prefix
1 alternation	-	0.11	-	10 718	0.01	39
2 alternations	-	0.20	-	25 517	0.01	44
3 alternations	-	0.57	-	60 924	0.01	50
4 alternations	-	1.79	-	145 765	0.02	58
5 alternations	-	4.98	-	349 314	0.02	70
6 alternations	-	TO	-	TO	0.47	90

Future Work

- Extension to WS2S.
- Generalization of the symbolic tree representation:
 - to process logical connectives,
 - to handle general (non- \exists PNF) formulae.
- Syntactical optimizations:
 - using Direct Acyclic Graph (DAG) for representation of formulae,
 - anti-prenexing,
 - smarter conversion to \exists PNF, ...