## The bridge between regular cost functions and omega-regular languages

Thomas Colcombet and Nathanaël Fijalkow ICALP July 152016


## A quantitative extension of <br> The bridge between regular cost functions and omega-regular languages

|  | The bridge between <br> regular cost functions <br> and | A quantitative <br> extension of <br> regular <br> languages |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| Regular <br> languages <br> over words of <br> length $\omega$ | omega-regular languages |  |

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For all words u (tree t), there exists a regular expression of star-height $k$ of size $n$ that accepts a subset of $L$ that contains $u$ (resp. $t$ )?
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For all these questions, we do not care about precise values.

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Example: $f(u)=$ the length of longest block of consecutive a's

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Main theorem of regular cost functions:

B-rational expressions

(stabilisation monoids,up-sets)

S-rational expressions S-automata cost $\mathrm{MSO}_{\|}$
(stabilisation monoids,down-sets)

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This work makes formal some similarities, and use it to factorizing proofs.

## The bridge

## $L \subseteq A^{\omega}$ <br> \section*{The bridge}



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The bridge ${ }_{f: A^{*} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup\{\infty\}}$
(up to $\approx$ )
Regular cost functions

## $L \subseteq A^{\omega}$



The bridge $\begin{array}{l:l}A^{*} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup\{\infty\}\end{array}$ (up to $\approx$ )

Definition: For $L \subseteq A^{\omega}$,

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\begin{aligned}
& L^{\circ 1}: A^{*} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup\{\infty\} \\
& u \mapsto \sup \left\{n: u=v w_{1} \ldots w_{n} v^{\prime}\right. \\
& w_{1}, \ldots, w_{n} \neq \varepsilon \\
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Lemma: For $L \subseteq A^{\omega}$ regular, $L^{\circ 1}$ is a regular cost function.
The bridge $_{f: A^{*} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup\{\infty\}}$ (up to $\approx$ )


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$$ $L^{01}$ is a regular cost function.

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hierarchical B-condition (up to $\approx$ )
Büchi automaton

Same automaton seen as max-prefix-distance (up to $\approx$ )

## Büchi automaton case

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I.e. $L^{\mathrm{ol}}(u)$ large iff $f(u)$ large.

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Assume $f(u)$ large.
There is a prefix-run over $u$ with a large number of Büchi transitions. It can be decomposed into $\alpha \beta_{1} \ldots \beta_{n} \gamma$ with $n$ large and each of the $\beta$ 's start and end in the state state, and contain at least one Büchi transition.

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There is a prefix-run over $u$ with a large number of Büchi transitions. It can be decomposed into $\alpha \beta_{1} \ldots \beta_{n} \gamma$ with $n$ large and each of the $\beta$ 's start and end in the state state, and contain at least one Büchi transition.

Hence $\alpha\left\{\beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{n}\right\}^{\omega}$ is a set of accepting runs.

## Büchi automaton case

A Büchi automaton accepts the language $L$ of $\omega$-words such that there is a (infinite) run with infinitely many Büchi transitions.

Goal: $\quad L^{01} \approx f$
I.e. $L^{\mathrm{ol}}(u)$ large iff $f(u)$ large.

Seen as a max-prefix-distance, it computes for a finite $u$ :
$f(u)=$ maximum number of Büchi transitions seen on a prefix-run over $u$.

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Hence $L^{\circ 1}(u) \geq n$ is large.

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## First examples of the bridge

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L \subseteq A^{\omega} \\
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## Why do we care ?

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I am interested in regular cost functions, not the special case of $\omega$-regular like cost functions. So why do I care if this subclass inherits all the good properties and constructions of the regular languages of $\omega$-words?

## What is history-determinism?

(good-for-games automata [Henzinger\&Piterman])
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These are as good as deterministic automata when run in a branching context (i.e. a tree or a game).

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Because (inspired from [Bojanczyk15]) :


## Conclusion

We have provided a bridge from regular languages of infinite words to a subset of regular cost functions over finite words.

This allows to transport constructions and results from the well studied and simpler theory of regular languages of infinite words to cost functions over infinite trees.

In particular a new, simple and optimal proof for transforming Bautomata in historic-deterministic form can be derived (a central result for working on games and trees).

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TODO:
Extend the approach to produce history deterministic S-automata.

