

Automata and program analysis

Thomas Colcombet
FCT

Bordeaux 13 September 2017

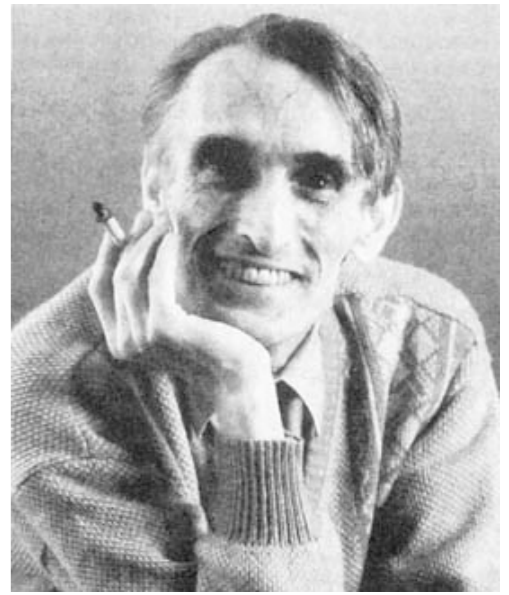
based on joint work with [Laure Daviaud](#) et [Florian Zuleger](#)



Weighted automata
and
tropical automata

Weighted automata

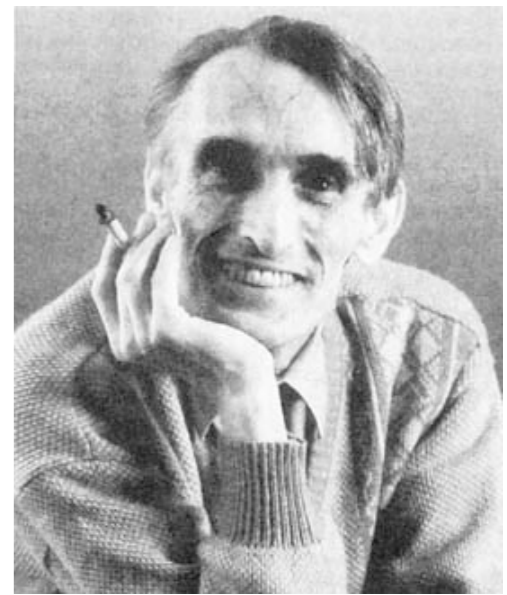
[Schützenberger 61]



Weighted automata

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

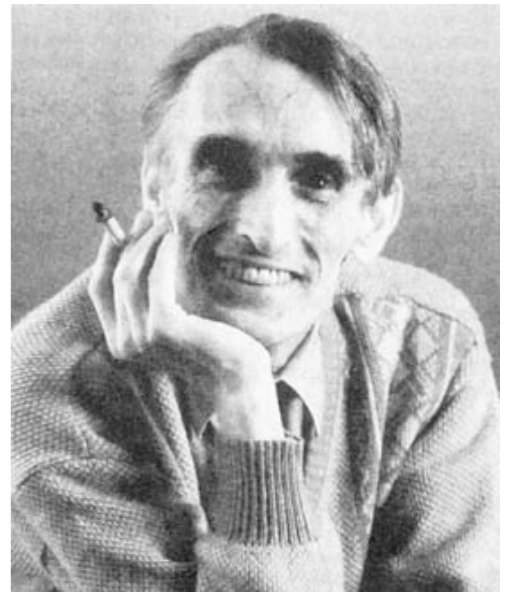


Weighted automata

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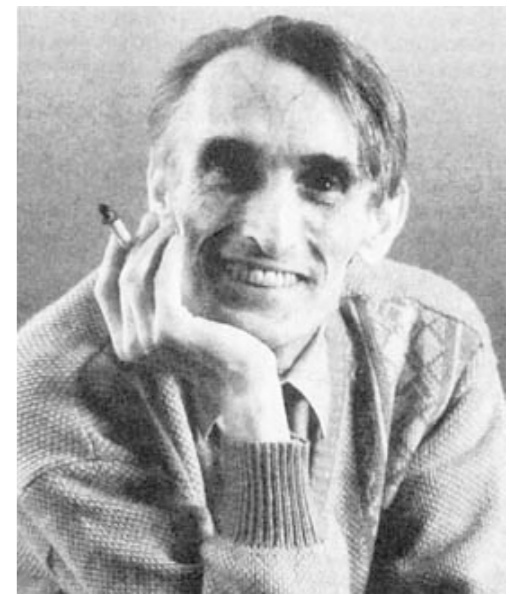
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It computes a language $L: A^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$



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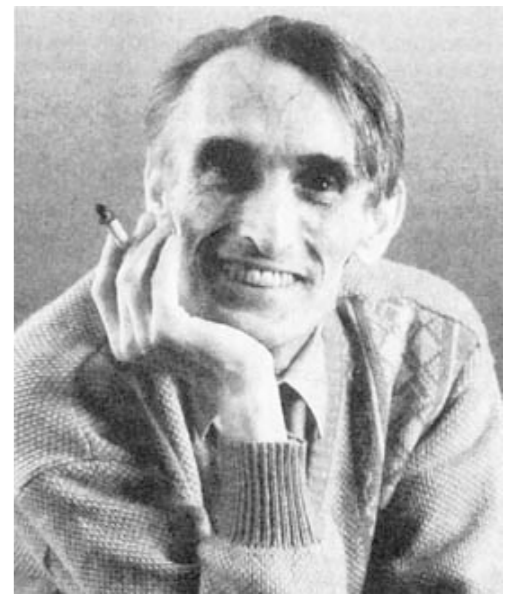


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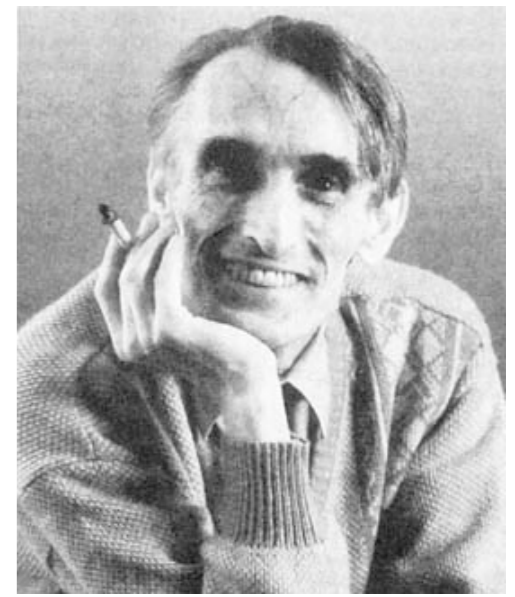
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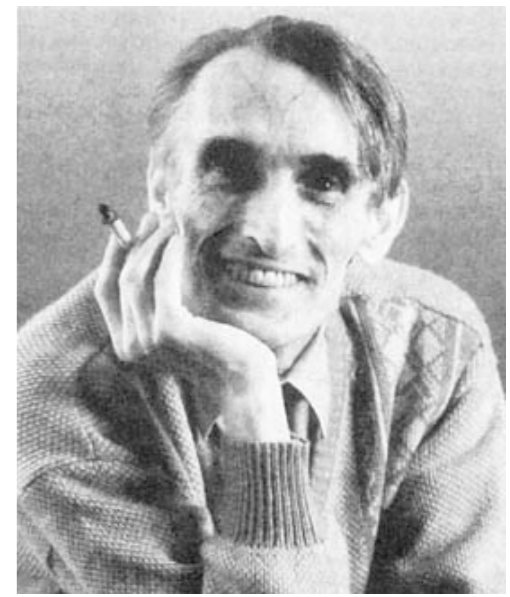
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Definition: $u = a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in L$ iff there exists an accepting run over it.

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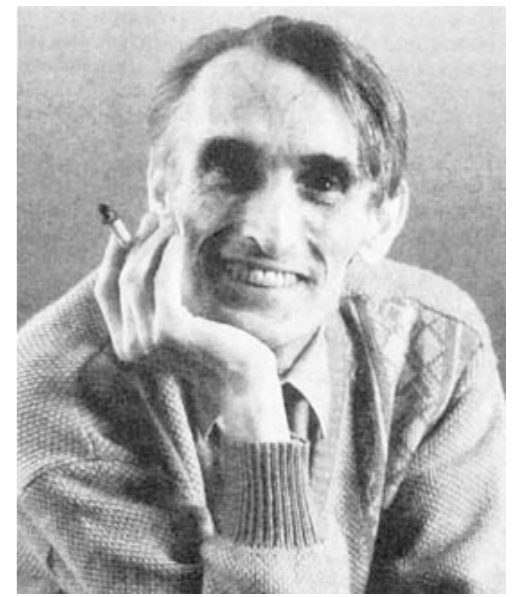
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Logically, there exist p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n such that

$$I(p_0) \wedge \Delta(p_0, a_1, p_1) \wedge \Delta(p_1, a_2, p_2) \wedge \dots \wedge \Delta(p_{n-1}, a_n, p_n) \wedge F(p_n)$$

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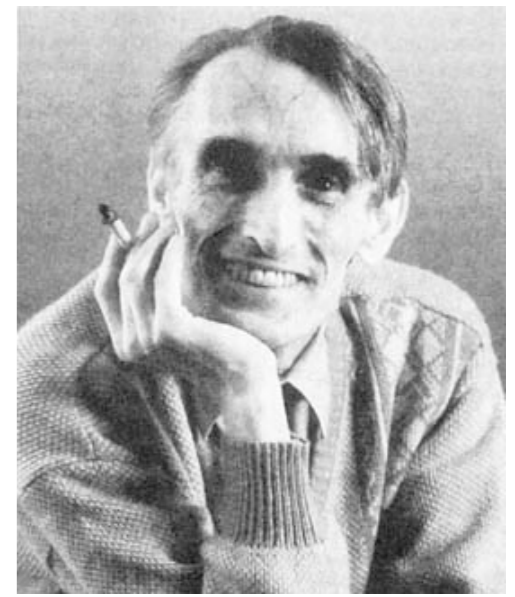
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An **automaton** (A, Q, I, F, Δ) with $I: Q \rightarrow S$, $F: Q \rightarrow S$, and $\Delta: Q \times A \times Q$, computes a map $L: A^* \rightarrow S$ defined as

$$L(a_1 a_2 \dots a_n) = \bigoplus_{p_0, \dots, p_n} I(p_0) \otimes \left(\bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(p_{i-1}, a_i, p_i) \right) \otimes F(p_n)$$

Example of weighted automata

Example of weighted automata

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

- (R, \oplus) is a **commutative monoid with identity element 0**:
 $(a \oplus b) \oplus c = a \oplus (b \oplus c)$; $0 \oplus a = a \oplus 0 = a$; $a \oplus b = b \oplus a$
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 $(a \otimes b) \cdot c = a \otimes (b \otimes c)$; $1 \otimes a = a \otimes 1 = a$
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Tropical semiring: $(\mathbf{R} \cup \{-\infty\}, \max, +, -\infty, 0)$

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

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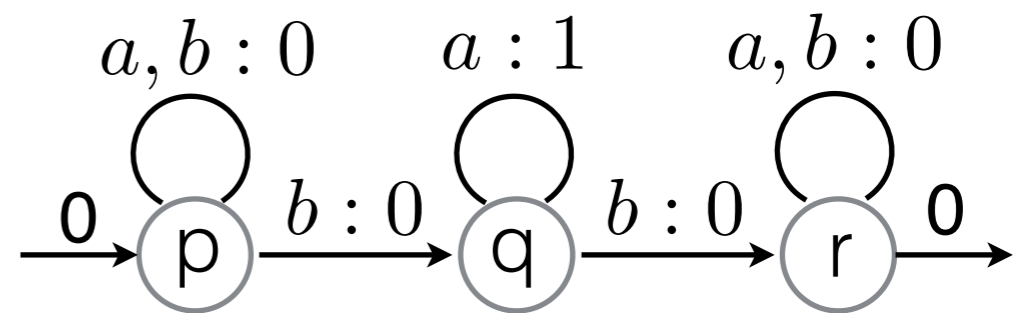
$$L(a_1 a_2 \dots a_n) = \bigoplus_{\rho_0, \dots, \rho_n} l(q_0) \otimes \left(\bigotimes_{i=1}^n \Delta(q_{i-1}, a_i, q_i) \right) \otimes F(q_n)$$

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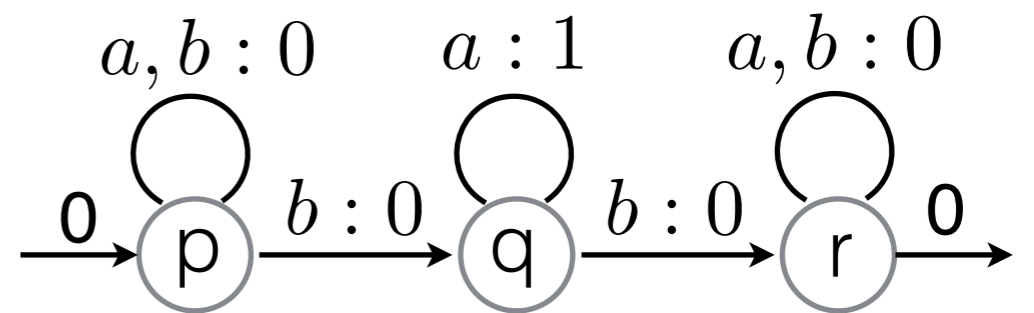
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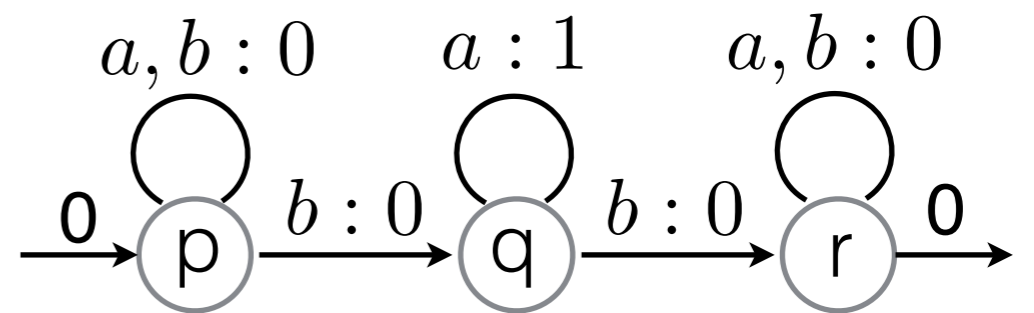
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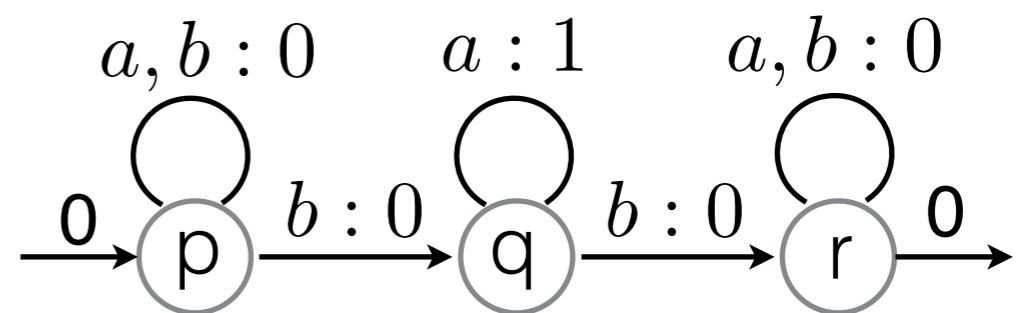
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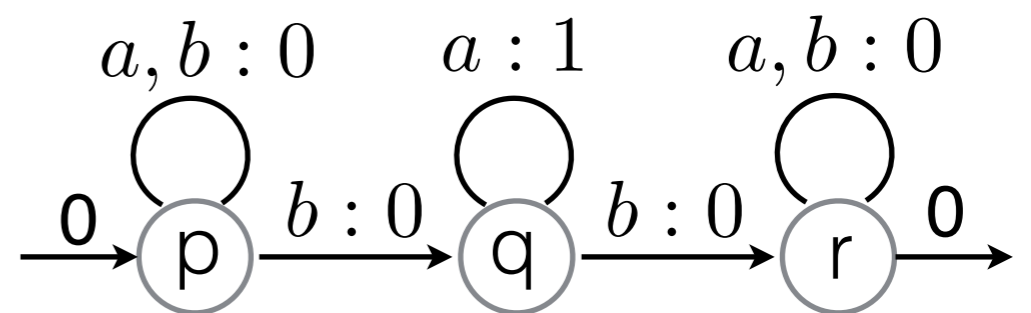
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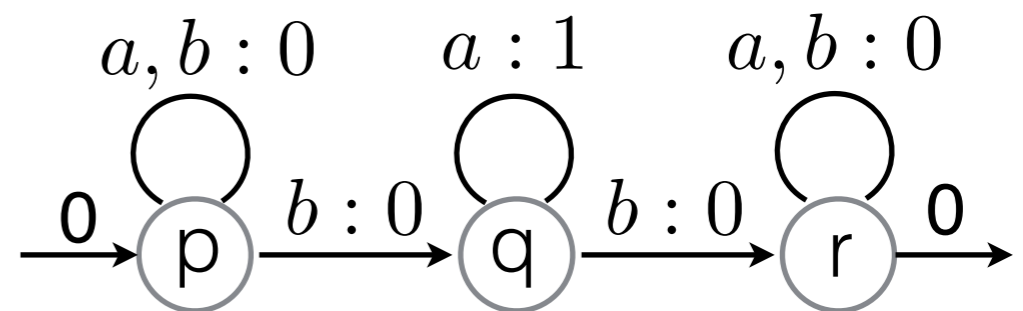
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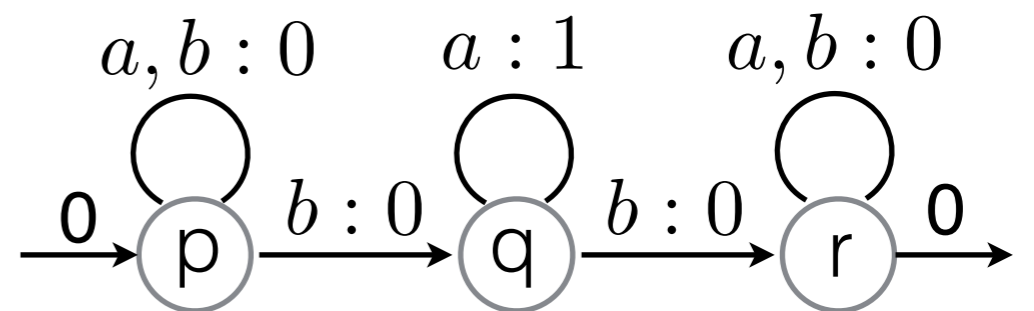
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[Hashiguchi 81] The boundedness of distance automata is decidable.

[Leung88] [Simon78,94] [Kirsten05]

[C. & Bojanczyk 06] [C. 09] [Bojanczyk15]

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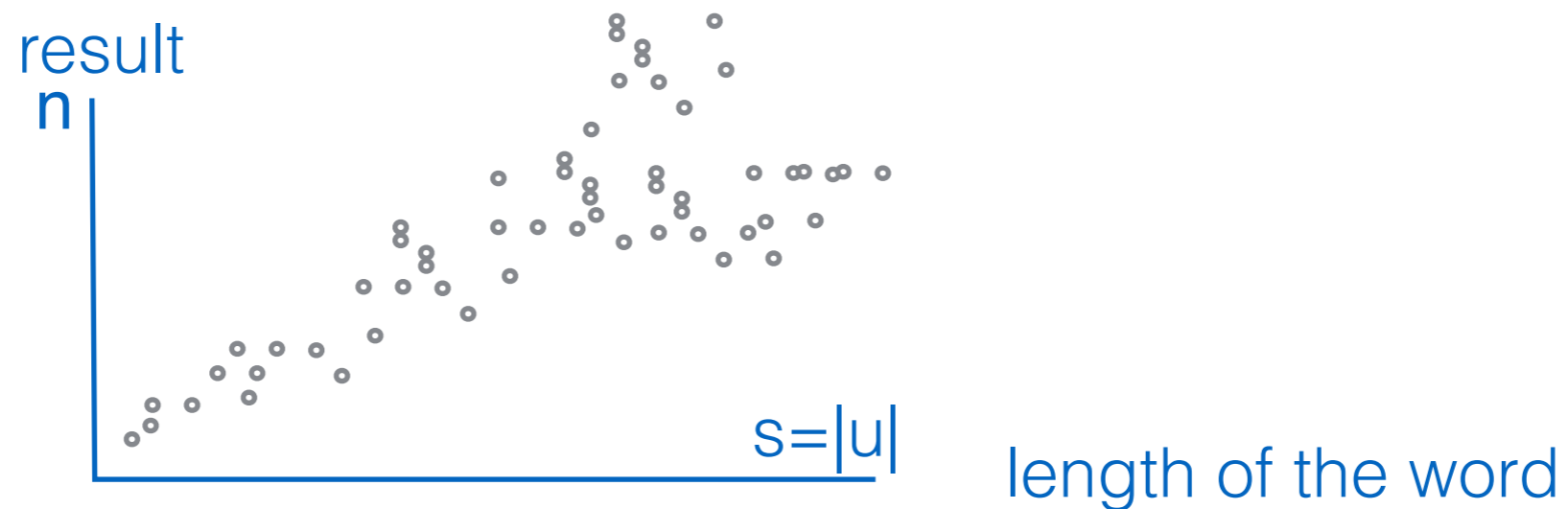
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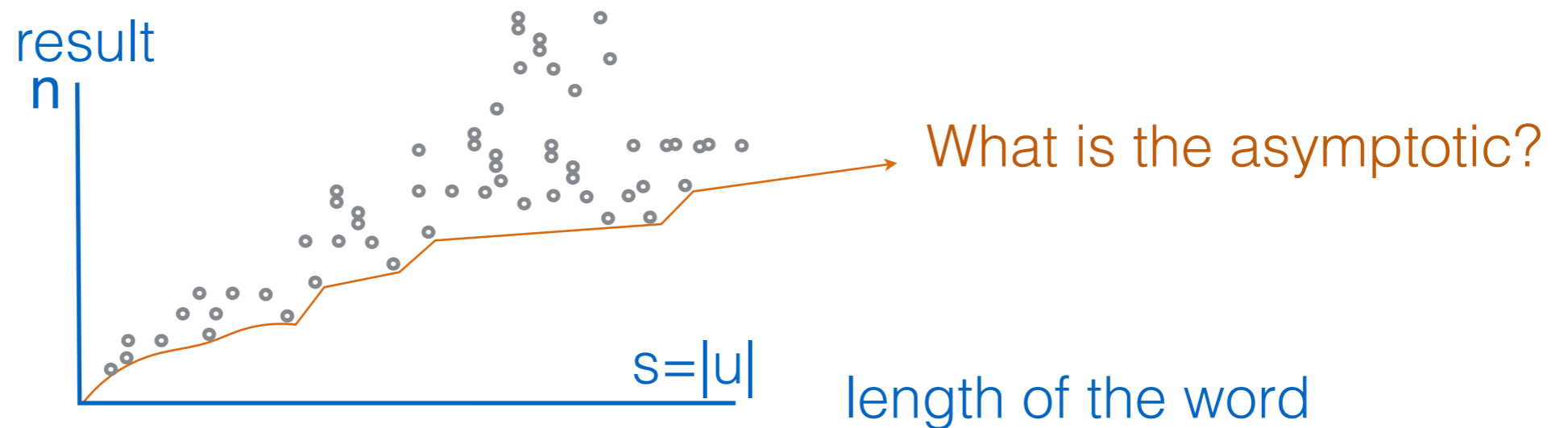


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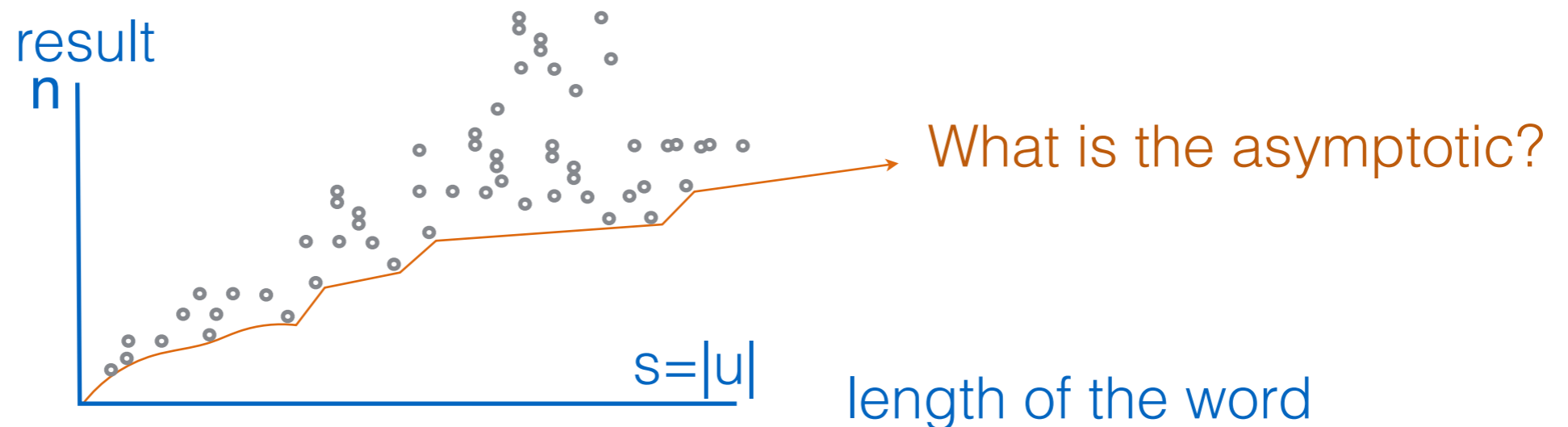


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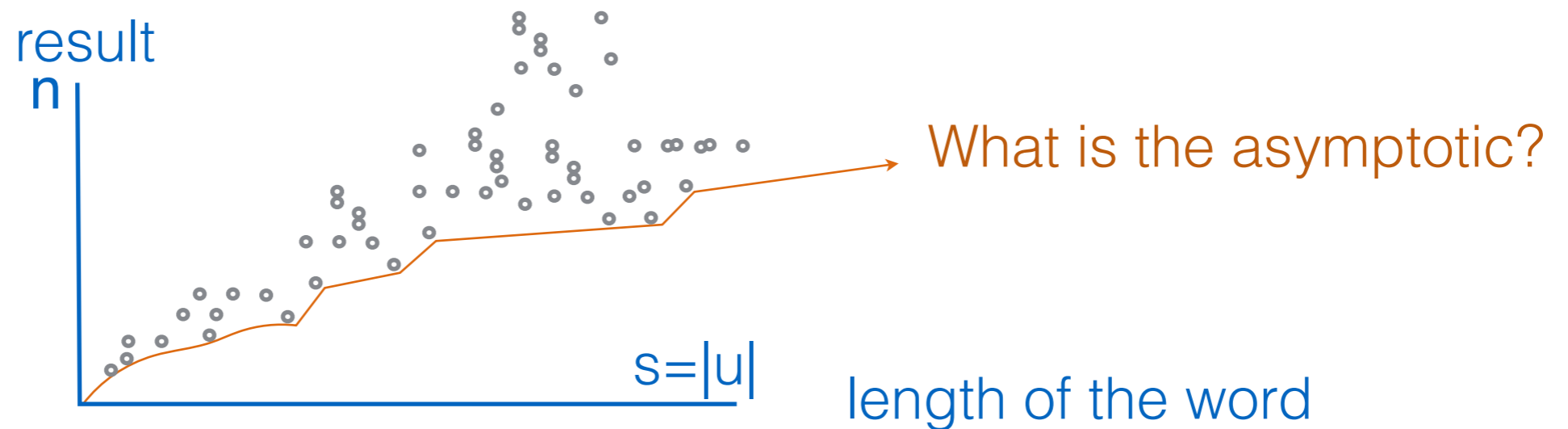
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find the least value of a word of length at least s find the longest size of a word of value at most n

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Ingredient 2.

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

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

e.g. for universality $I(W) = \{P \subseteq Q : P = \text{Reach}(I, u) \text{ for some } u \in W\}$

In our case,

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

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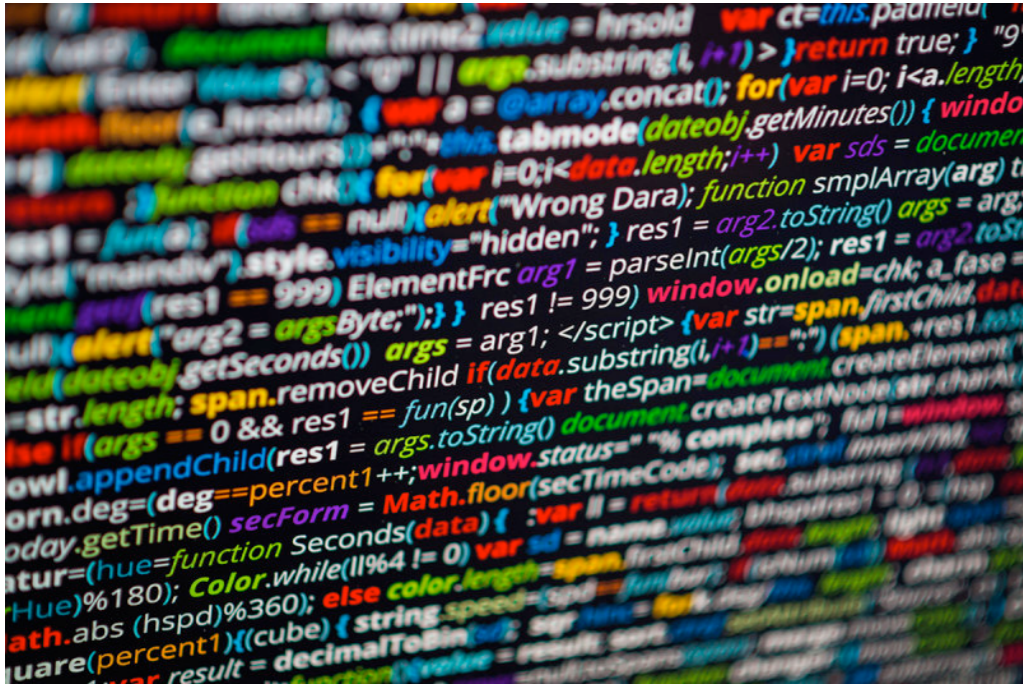
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This is done by induction of the **factorisation forest height** [Simon].

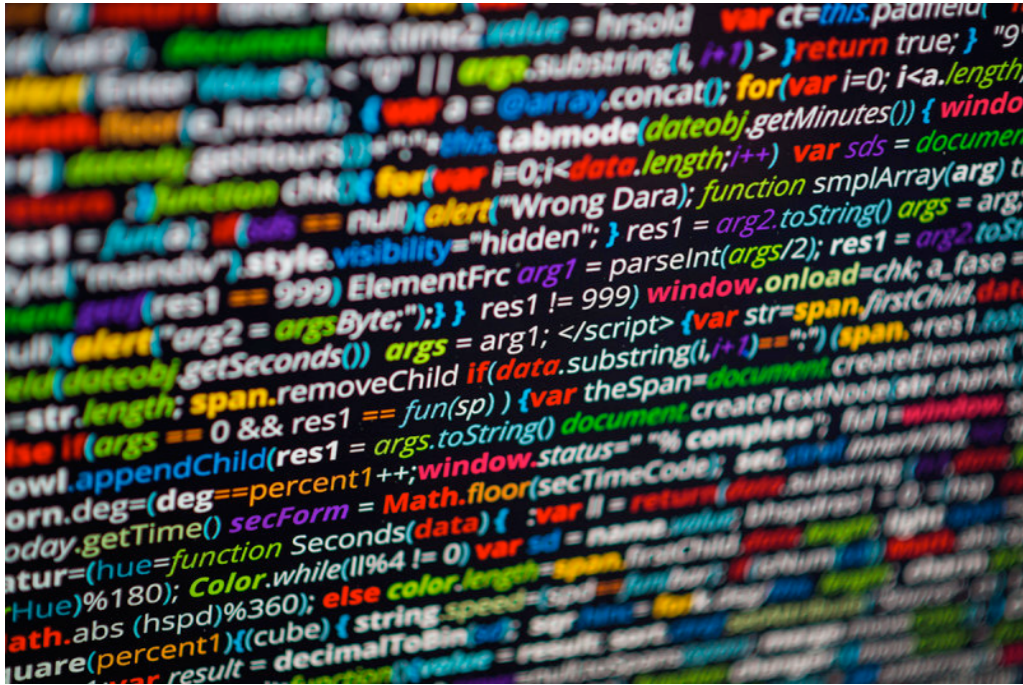
Program analysis
and
the size-change abstraction

Program analysis



- Given an input program/piece of program:
- Does it perform a zero division?
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 - Is there a dynamic type problem?
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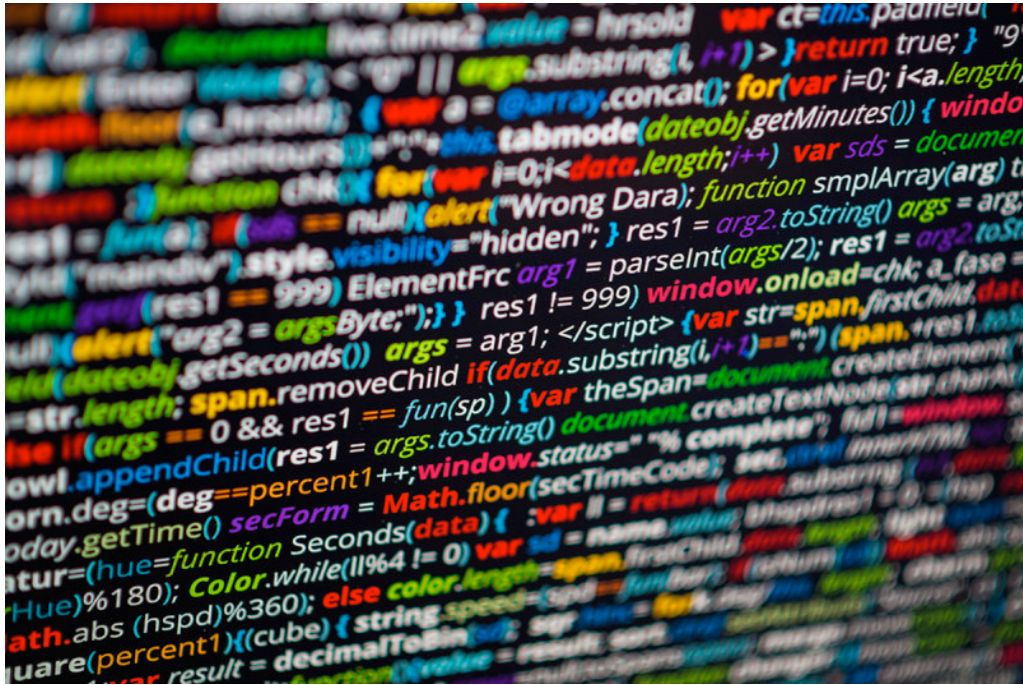
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Solution here: in this talk, we use the size-change abstract model

(**[Ben-Amram, Chin Soon Lee, Neil D. Jones 01]**).



Example

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void main() {  
    uint x,y;  
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Question: what method can automatically establish it ?

Principle of abstraction

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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 on all its executions.
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⇒ In this talk, we use the model of size-change abstraction.

Size-change abstraction

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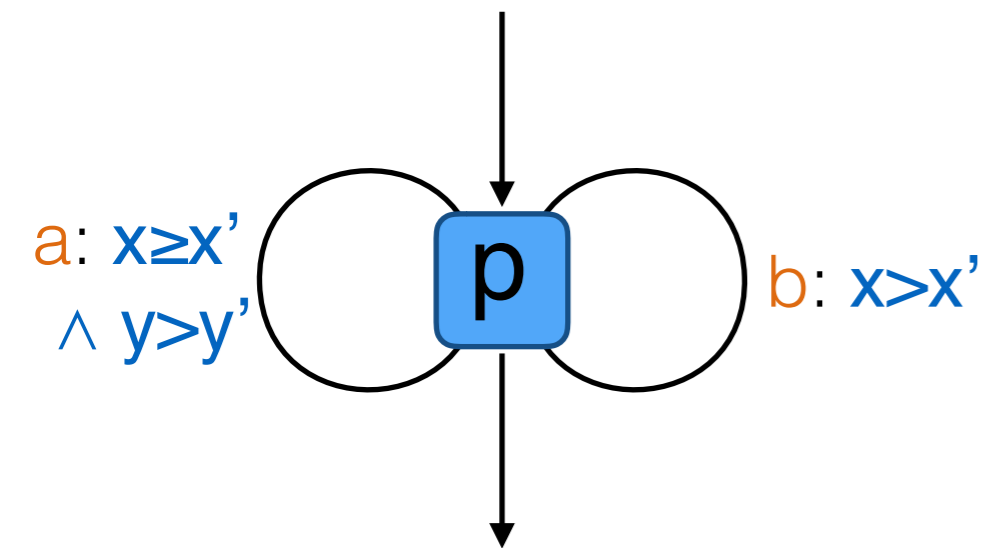
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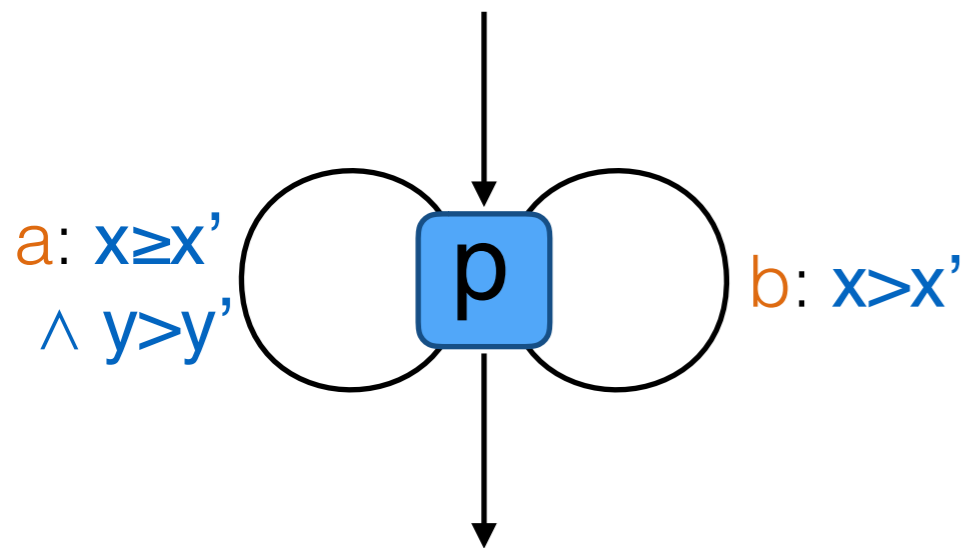


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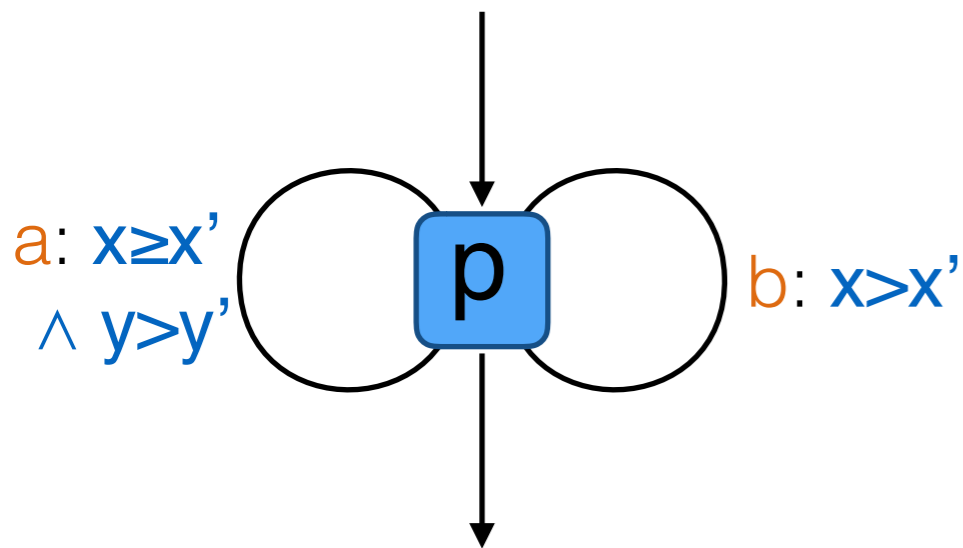
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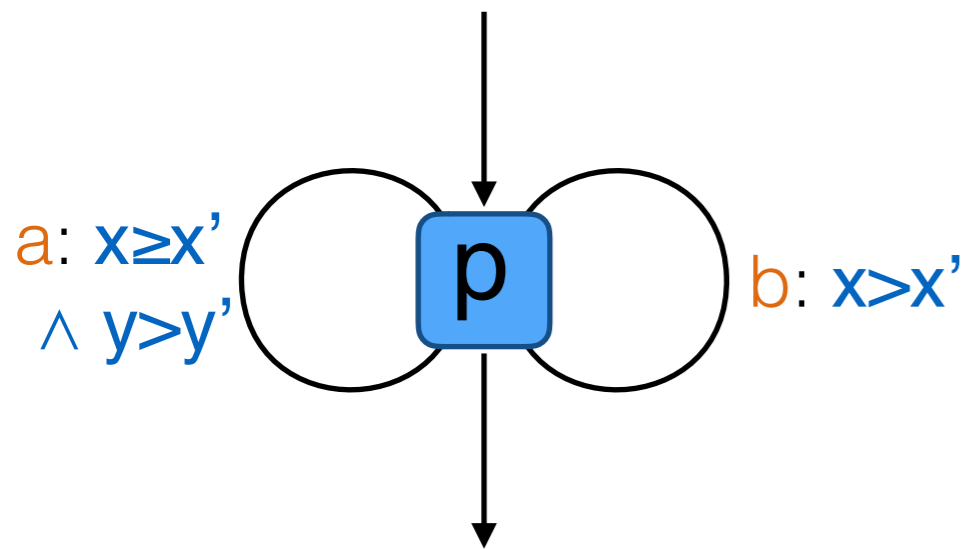
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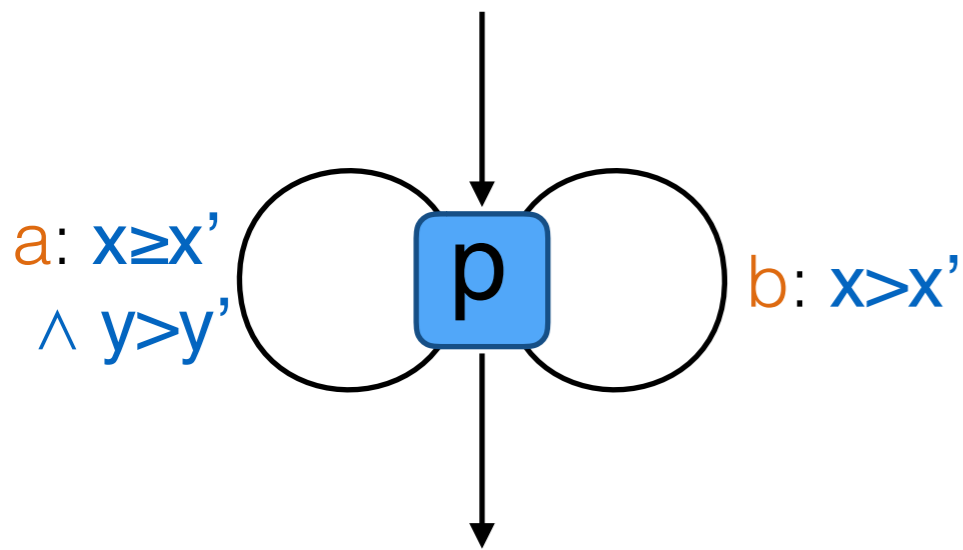
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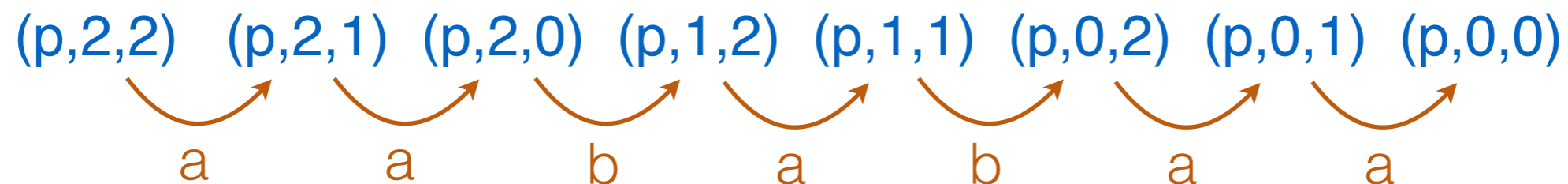
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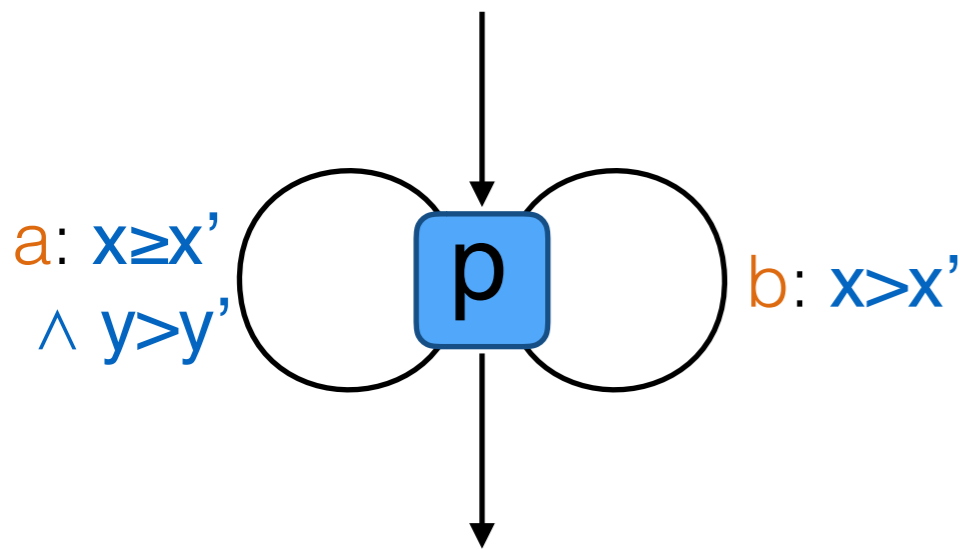
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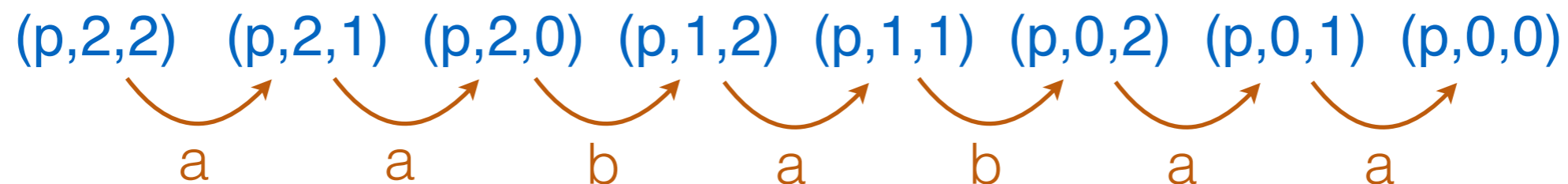
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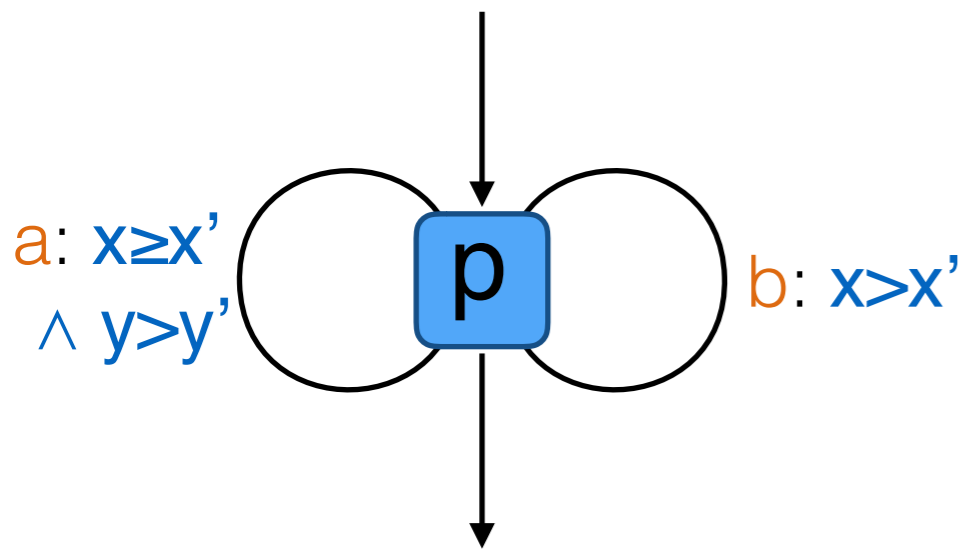


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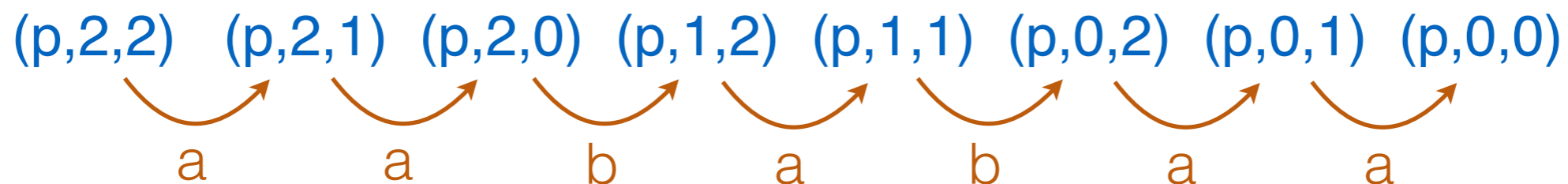
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[Ben-Aram et al. 01] Termination of size-change abstraction is PSPACE.

Abstracting

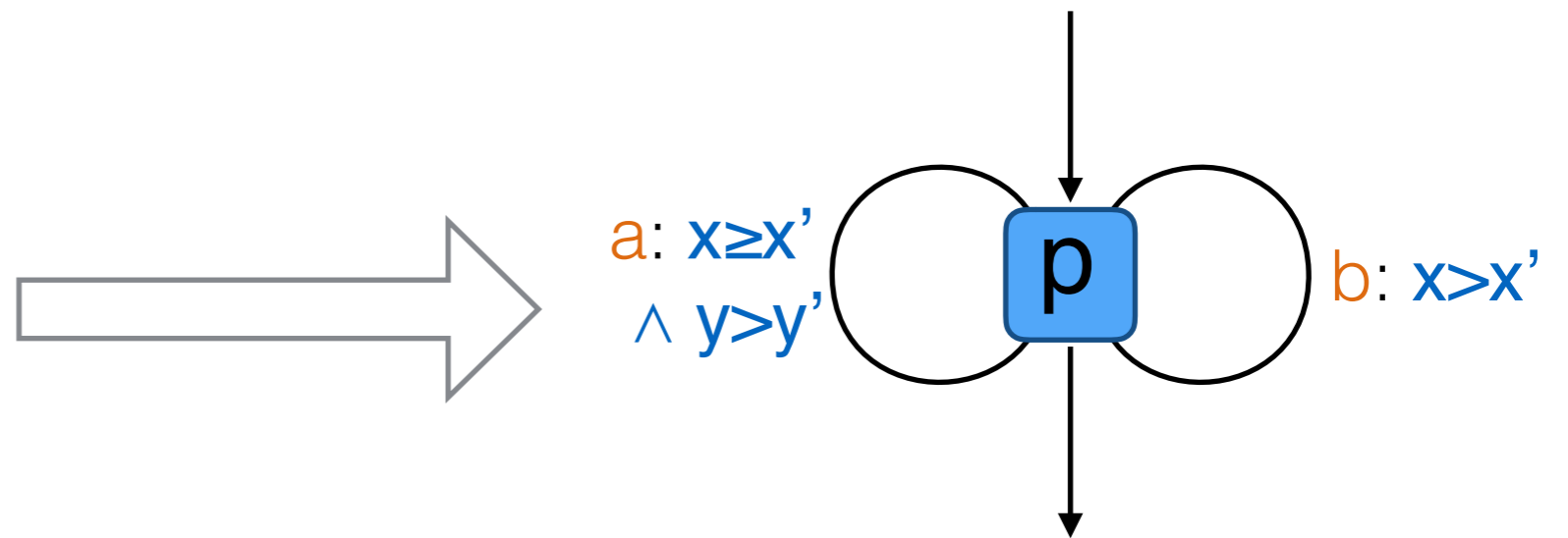
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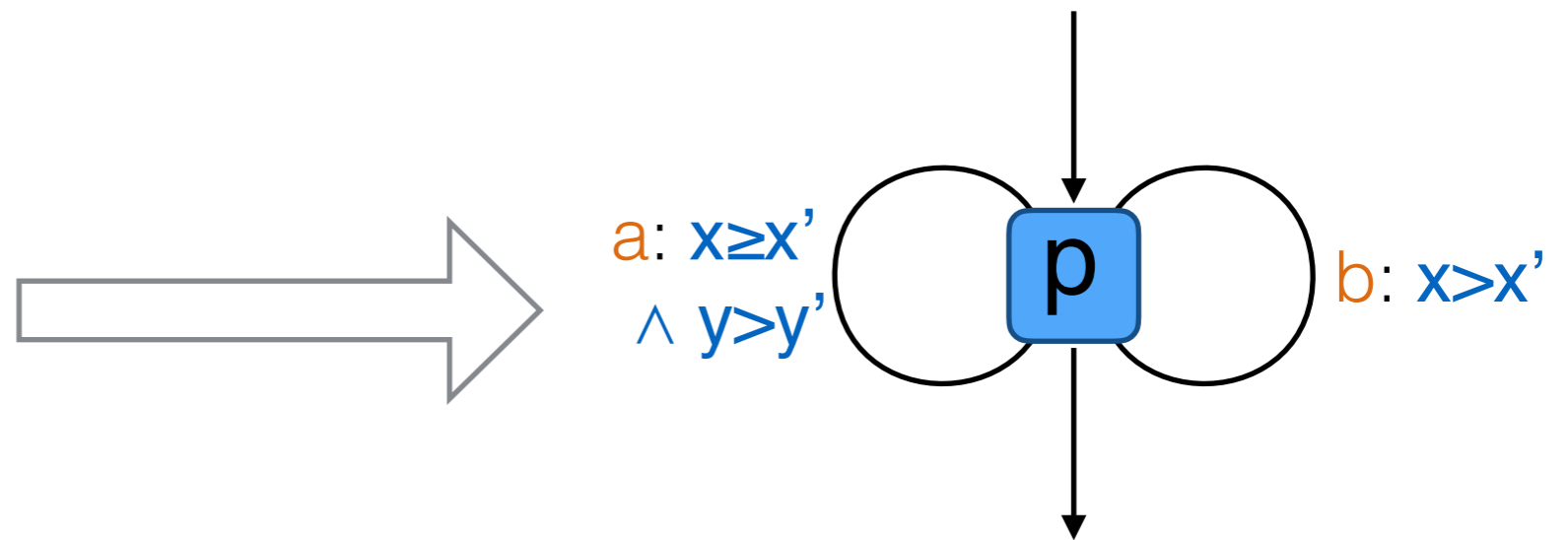
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Remark: every **run** of the original program induces a **run of the SCA** of game size. Hence if the SCA terminates, the original program also does (on all its executions).

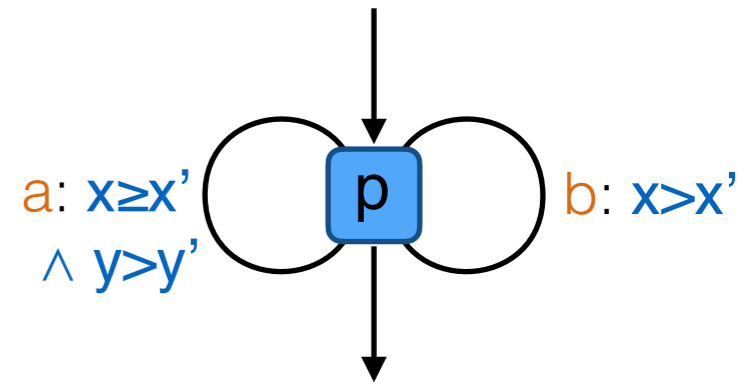
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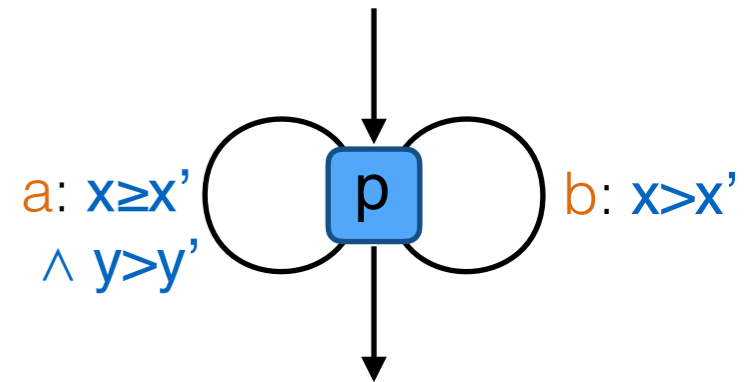
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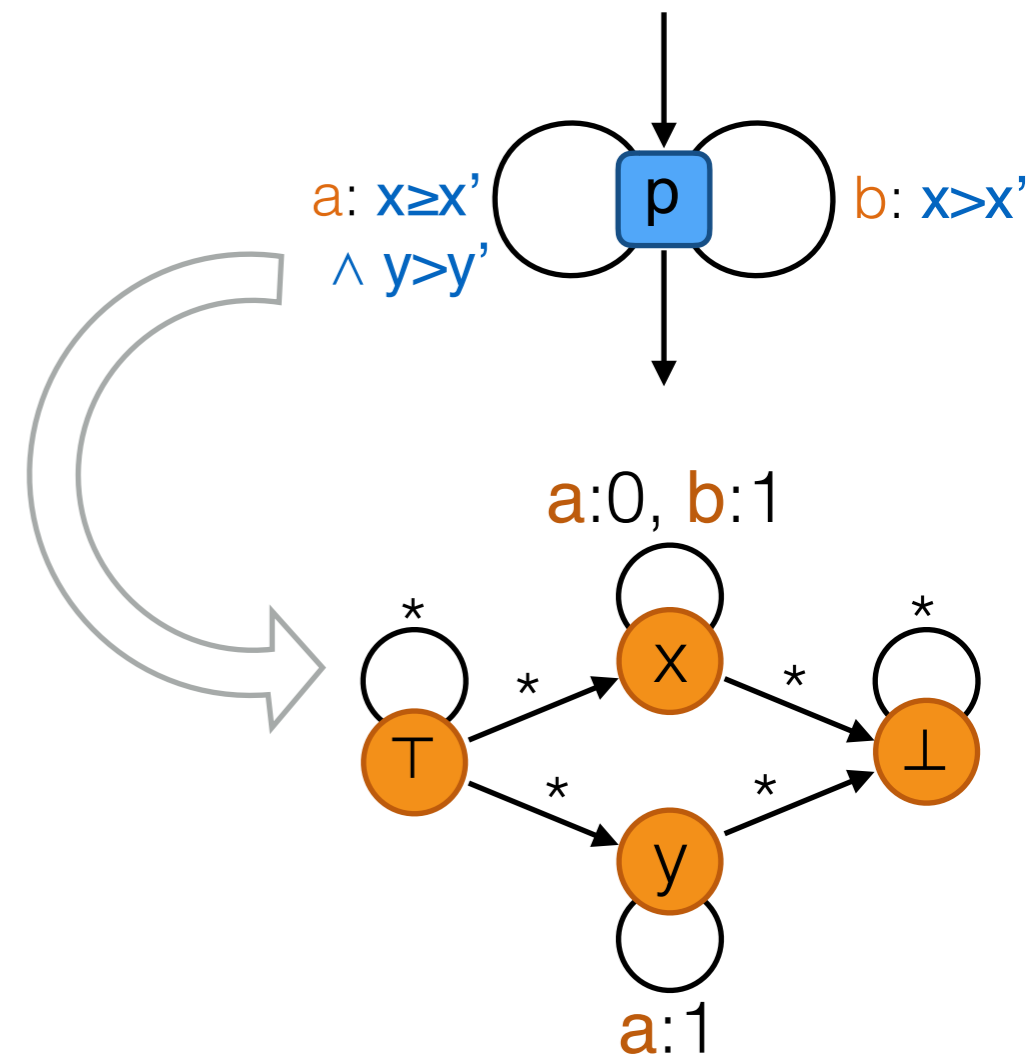
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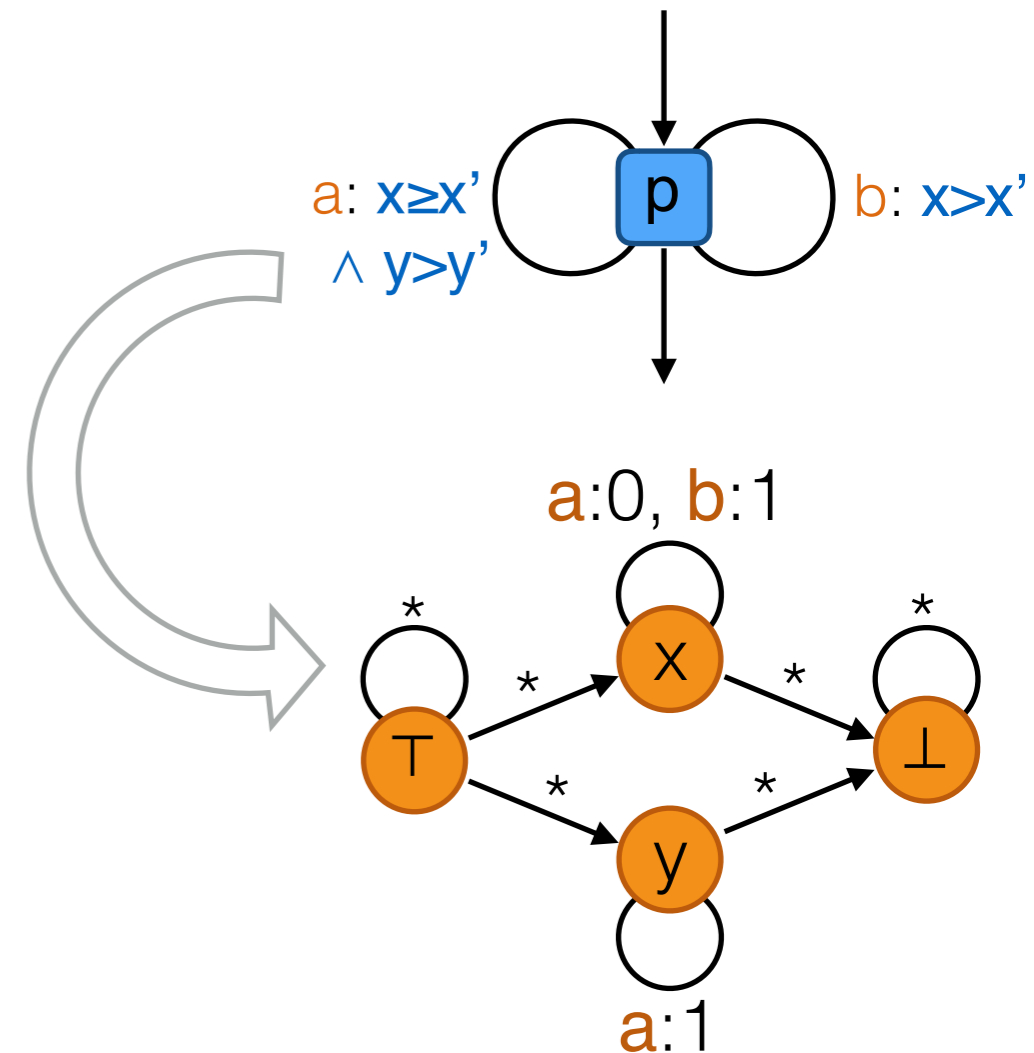


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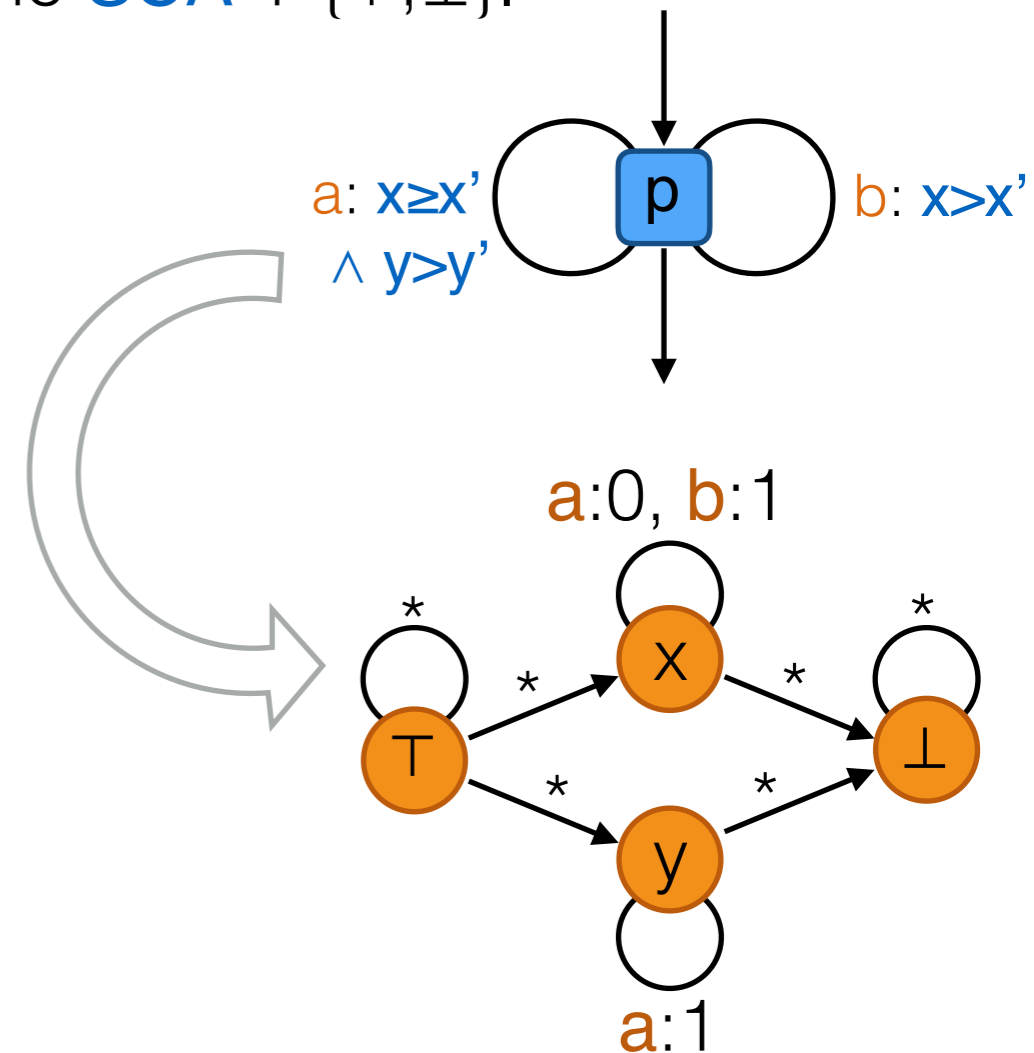
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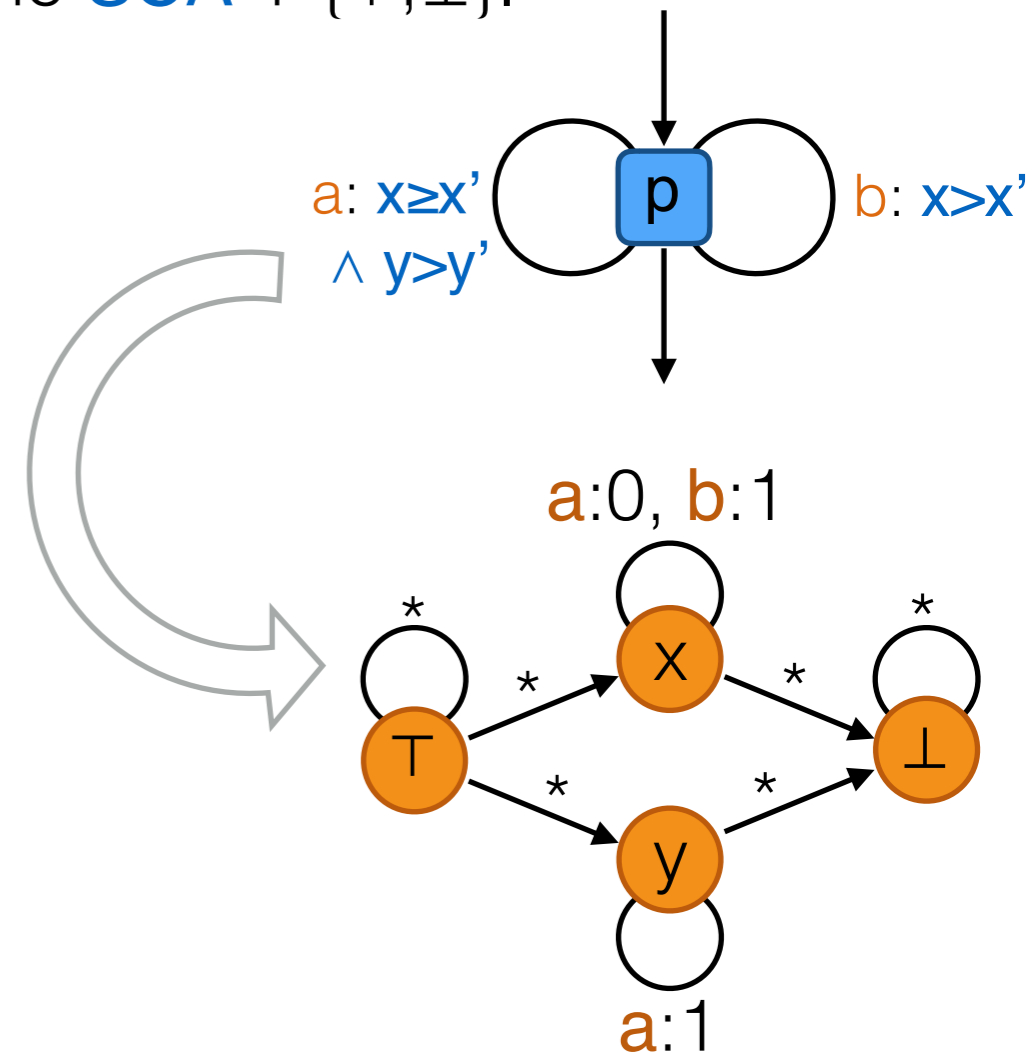
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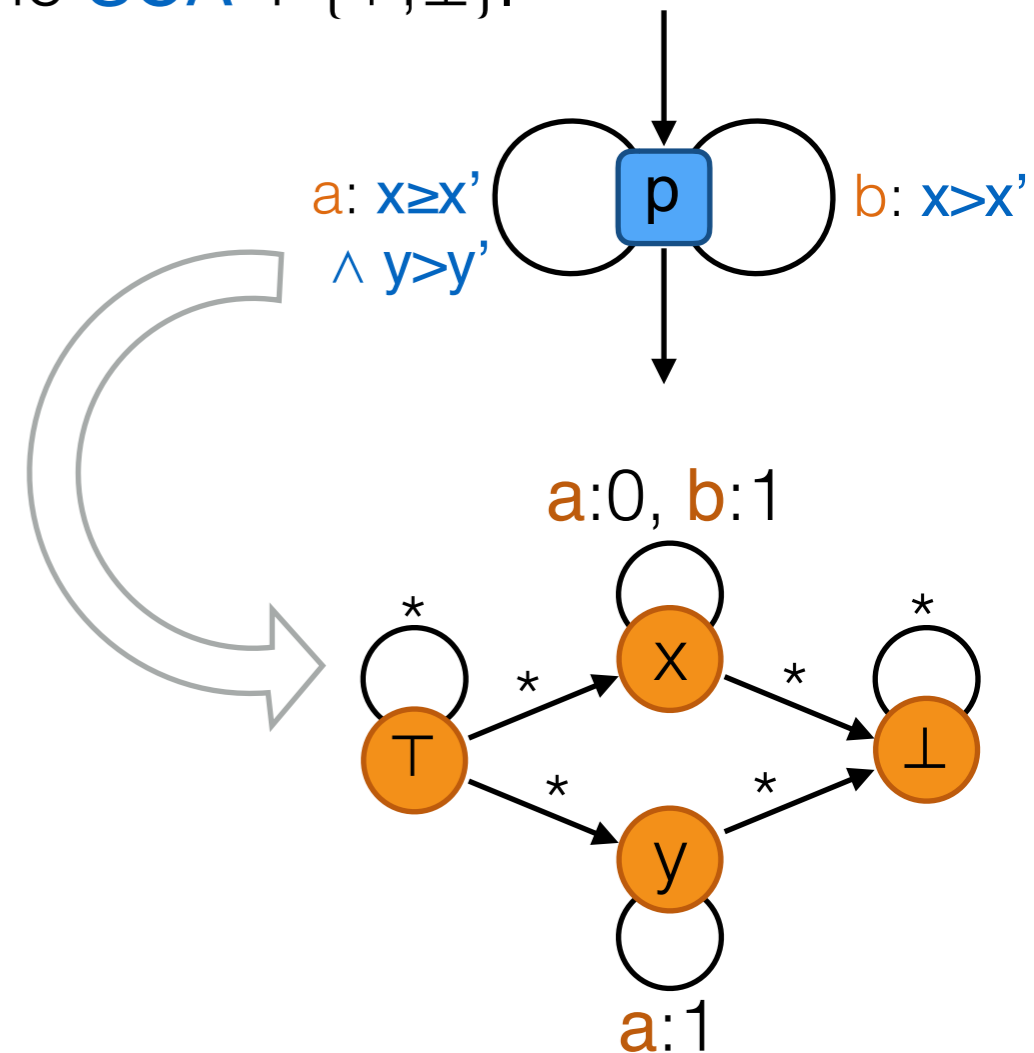
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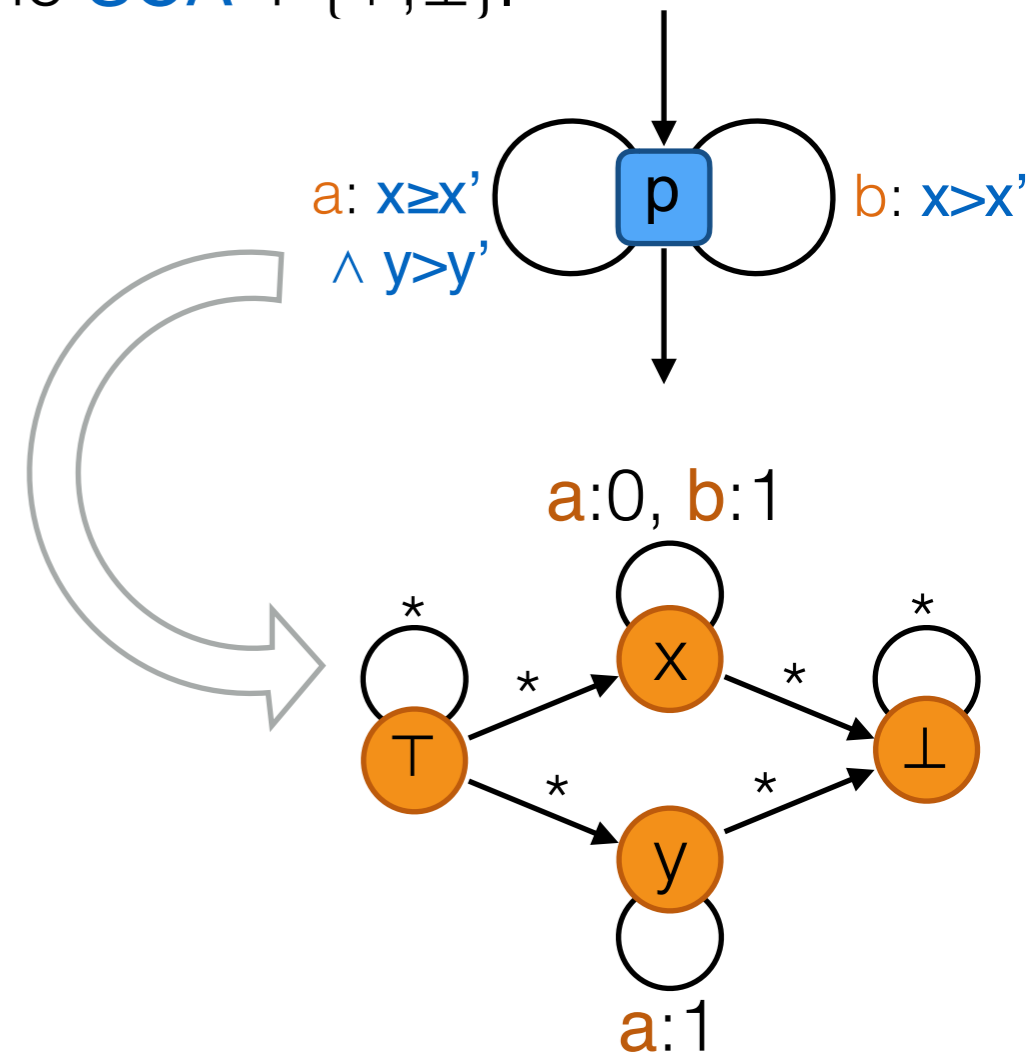
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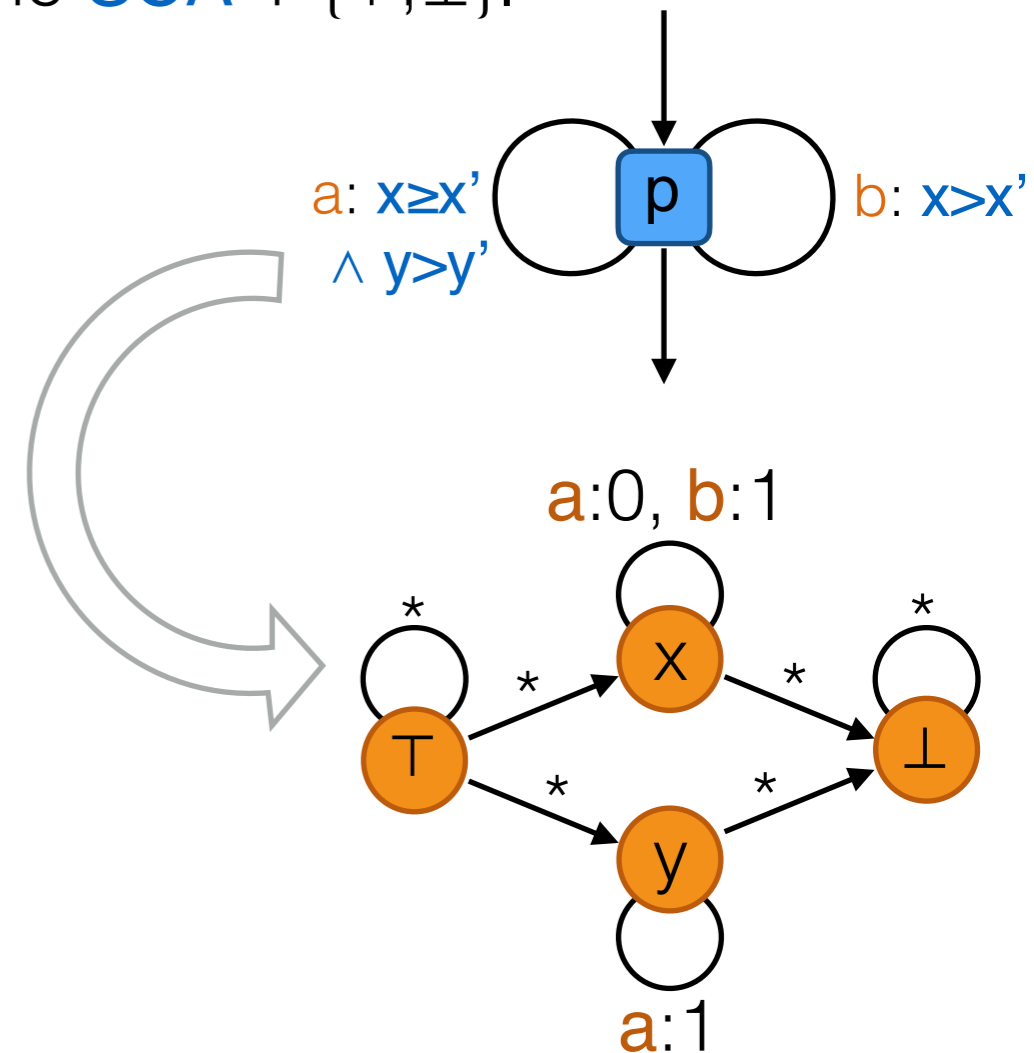
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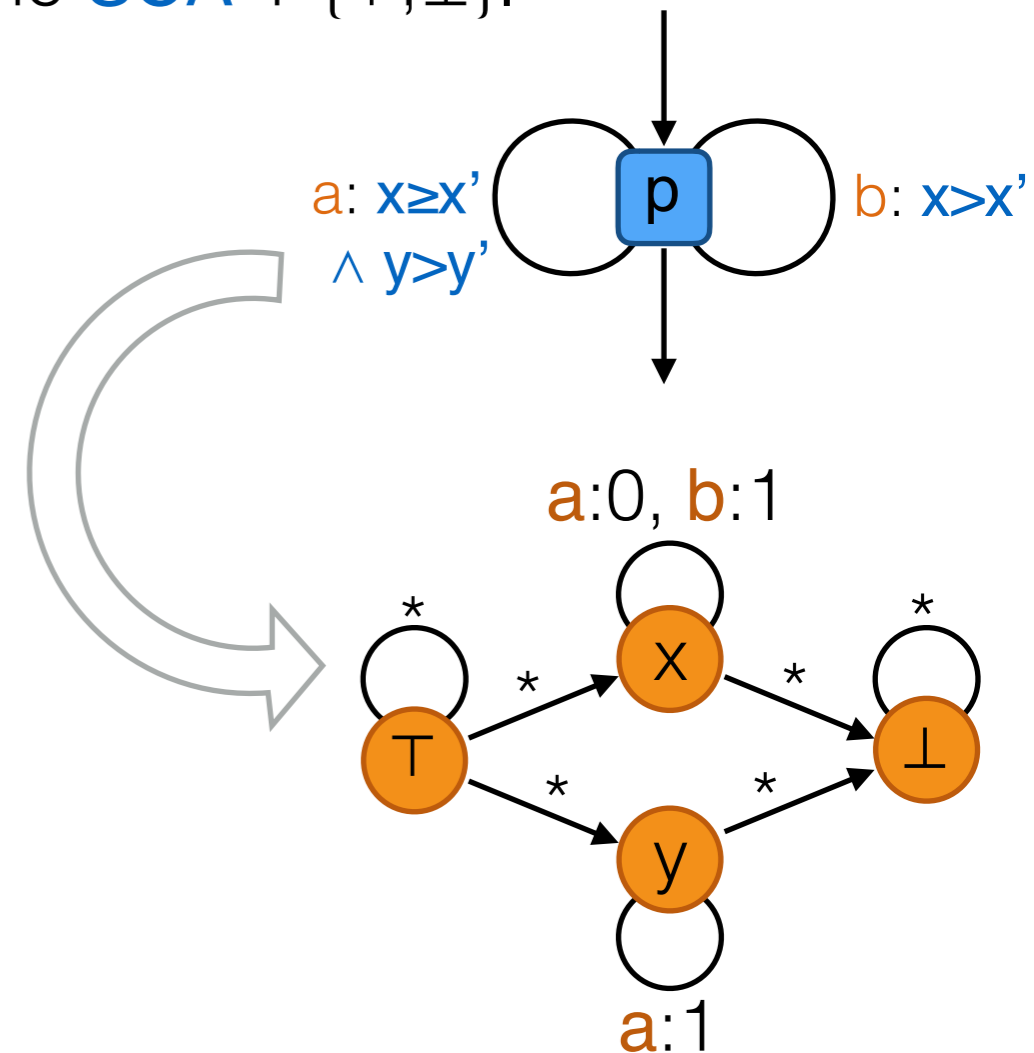
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\Rightarrow **Runs/Aut** = \emptyset ?



Deciding the termination of size-change abstraction

[Ben-Amram et al. 01]: The termination of **SCA** is decidable.

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** + $\{\top, \perp\}$.

All states of the automaton are initial.

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

($\Delta(\perp, ?, ?) = 0$, $\Delta(?, ?, \top) = 0$)

Claim: \exists run ρ of **SCA**

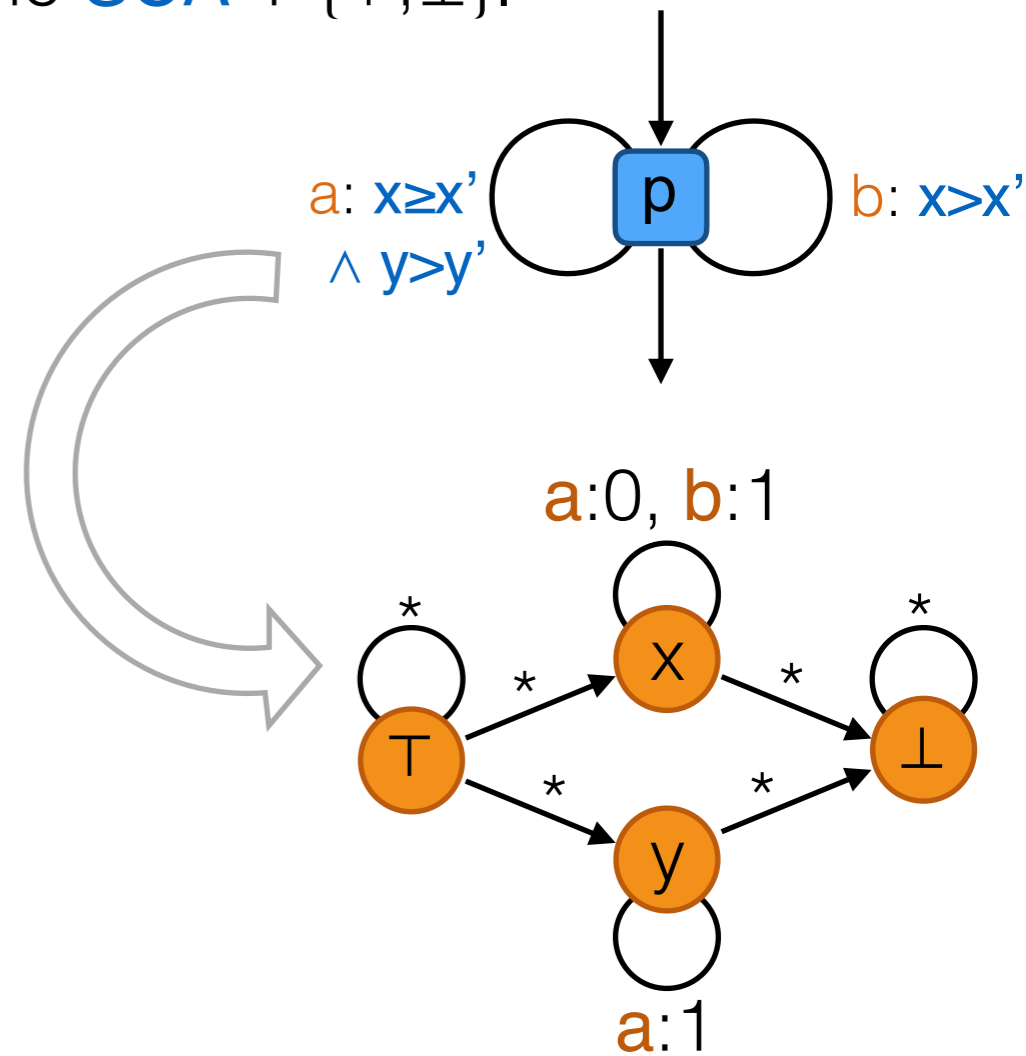


\exists input word u for **Aut** of same length such that

- 1) it is a value-free valid run (regular)
- 2) there is no run of **Aut** with infinitely many 1's (Büchi condition)

\Rightarrow **Runs/Aut** = \emptyset ?

\Rightarrow PSPACE



Overall picture

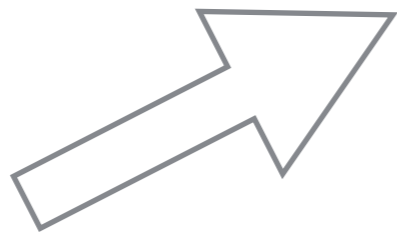
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Some code

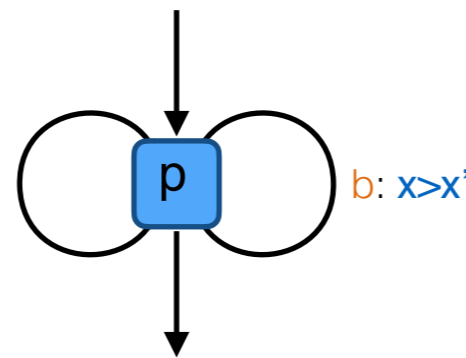


Does it terminate?

reflects termination



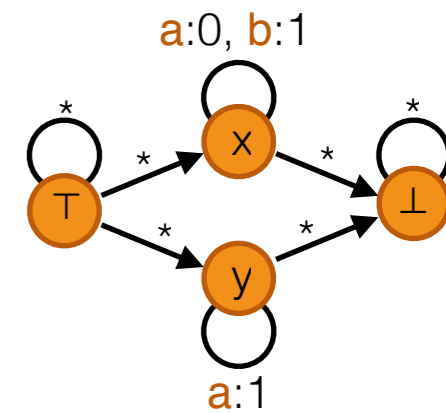
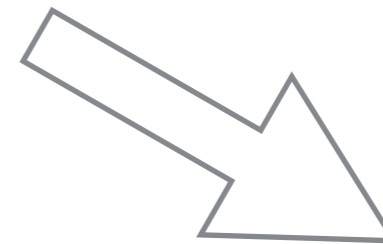
a: $x \geq x'$
 $\wedge y > y'$



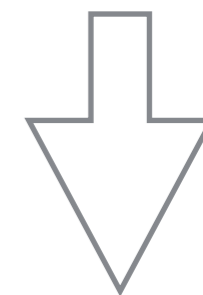
size-change abstraction

b: $x > x'$

equivalent for termination



Büchi automaton



Decide an inclusion problem for Büchi automata

Finer program analysis

Termination

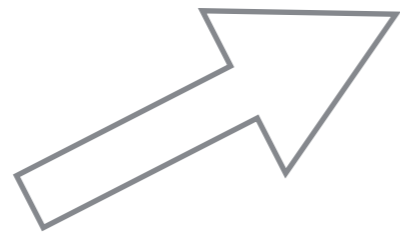
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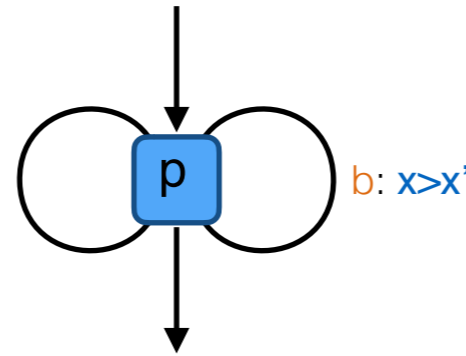


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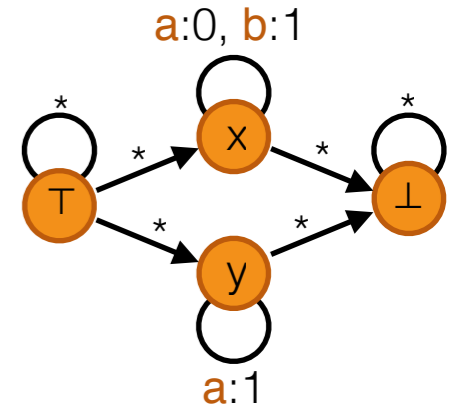
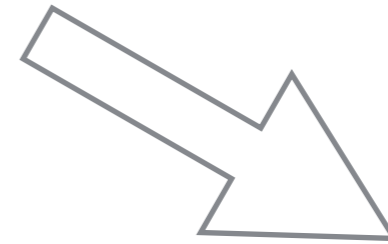


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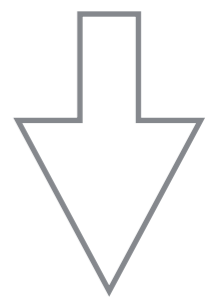


size-change
abstraction

equivalent
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Büchi
automaton



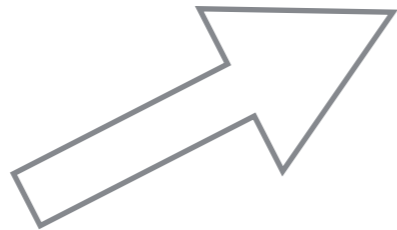
Decide an
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Asymptotic complexity

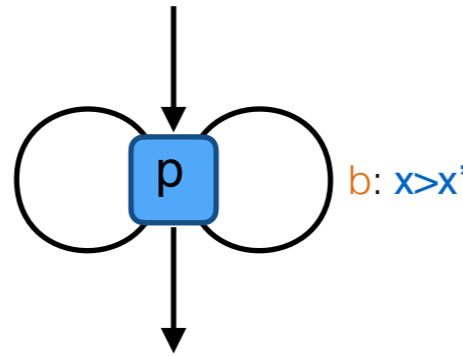
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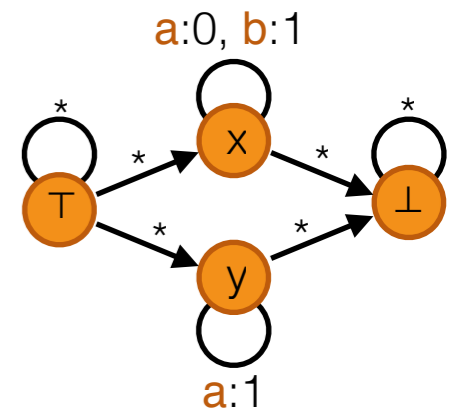
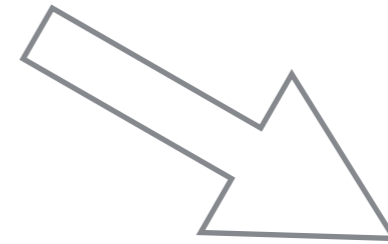


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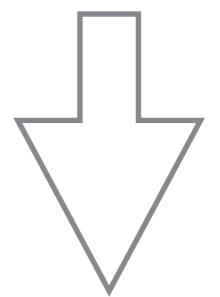


size-change abstraction

equivalent for complexity



N-max-plus automaton



Compute the asymptotic worst-case behavior



What is its complexity?
(as a function of a parameter **n**)

More precisely, find **a** such that the program stops in $\Theta(n^a)$.

Abstracting

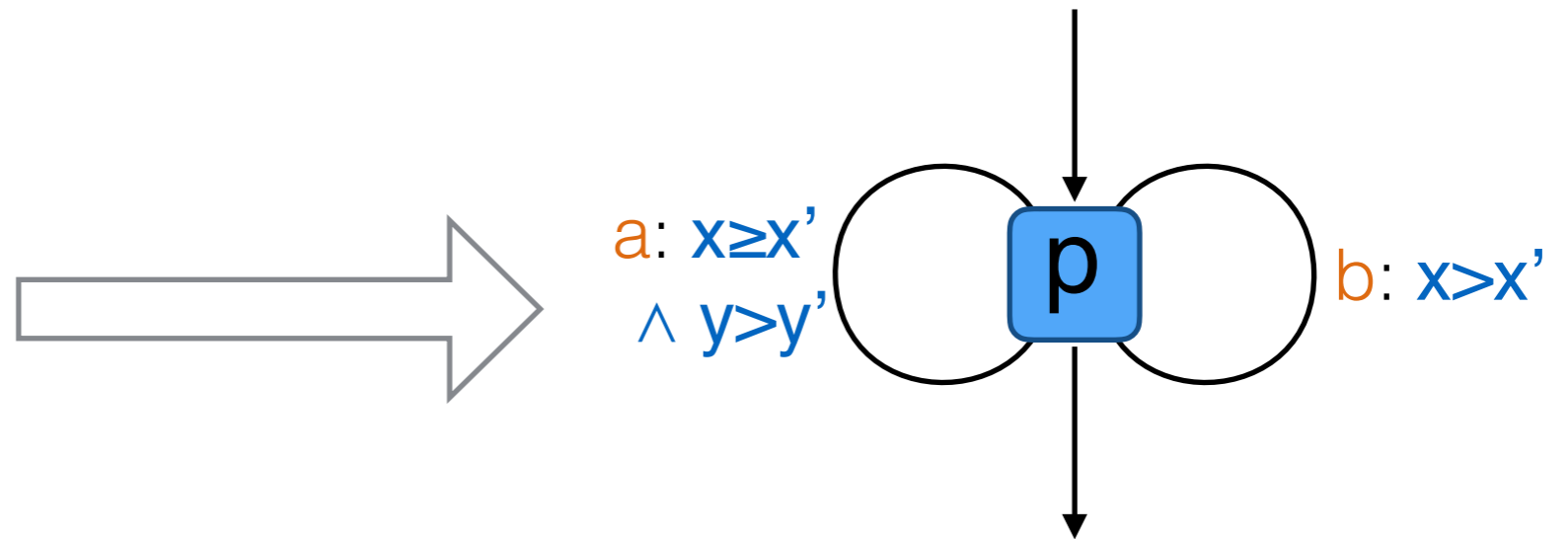
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- construct the control flow graph of the code
- use as guard the best ones you can infer

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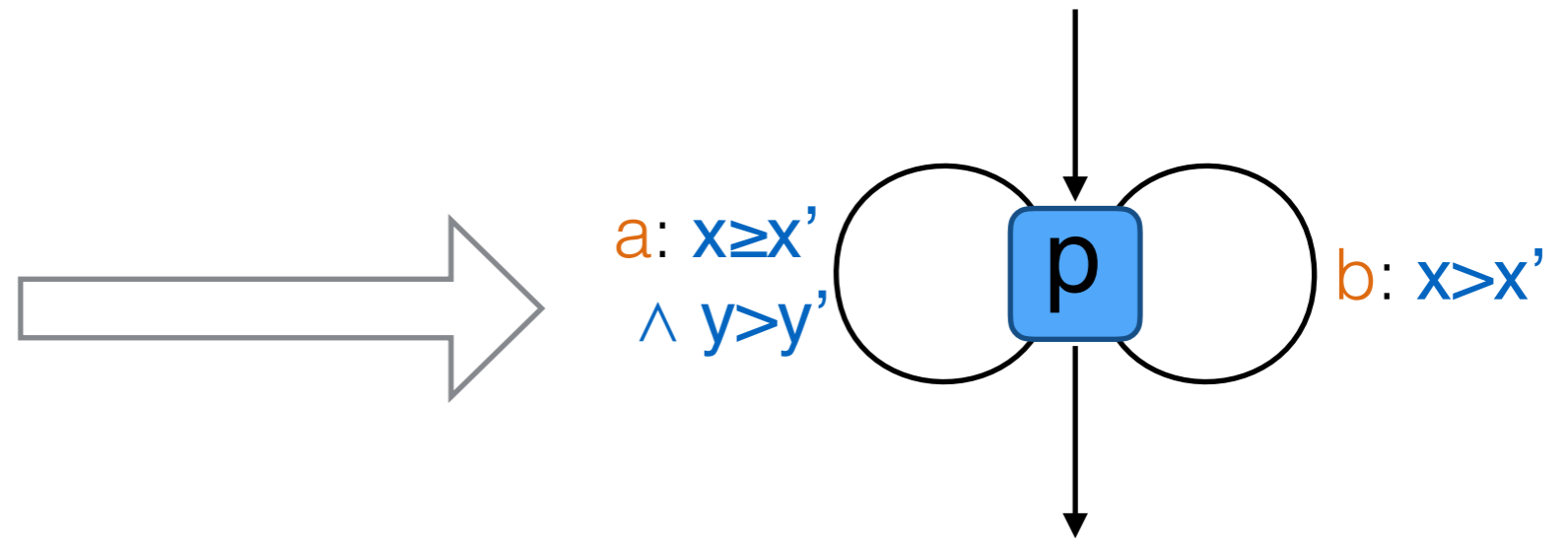
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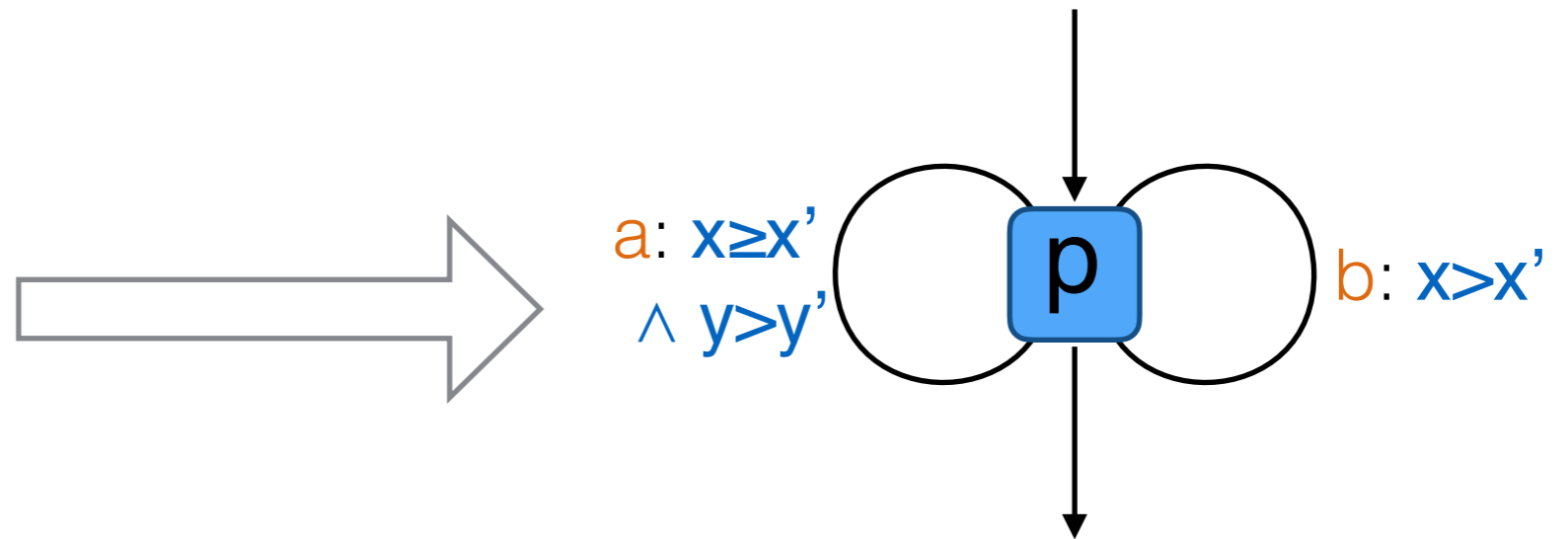


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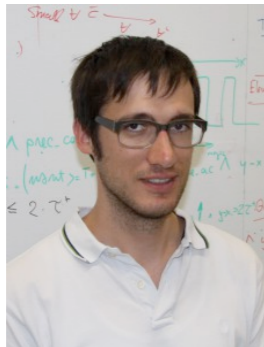
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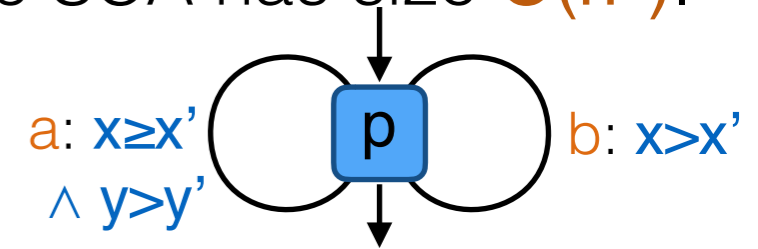
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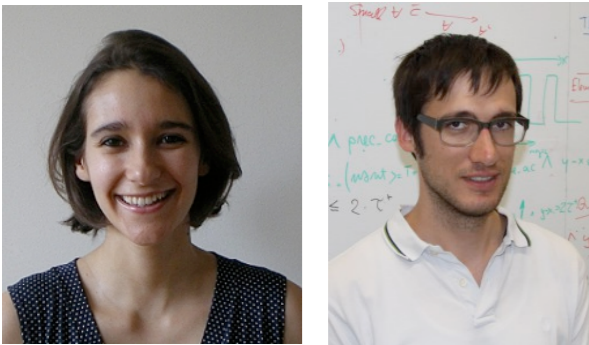
Remark: every **run** of the original program for a given n induces an **n-run** of the **SCA** of same length. Hence if the **SCA** terminates in time t for a given n , the original program also does (on all its executions).



Complexity analysis

[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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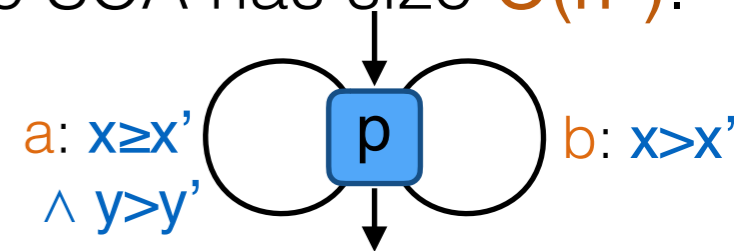
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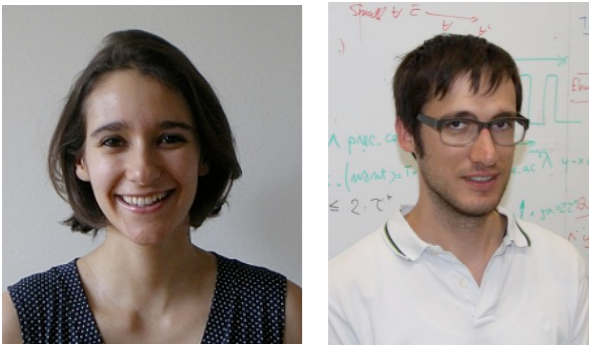
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All states of the automaton are initial and final.

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

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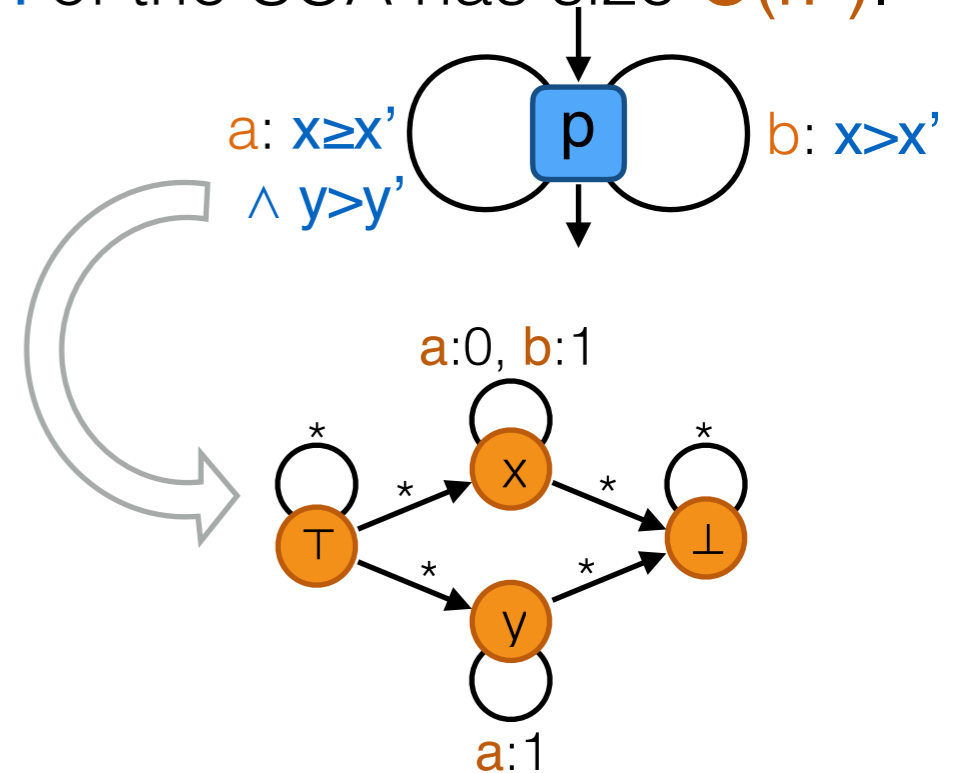
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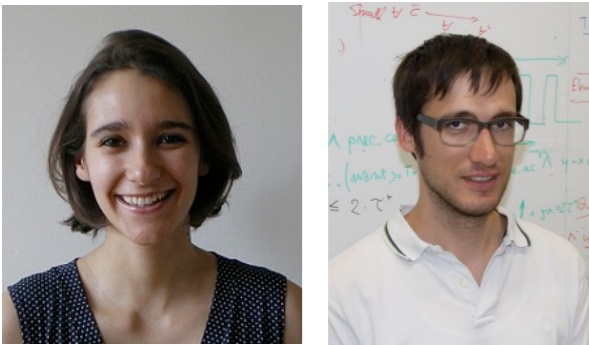
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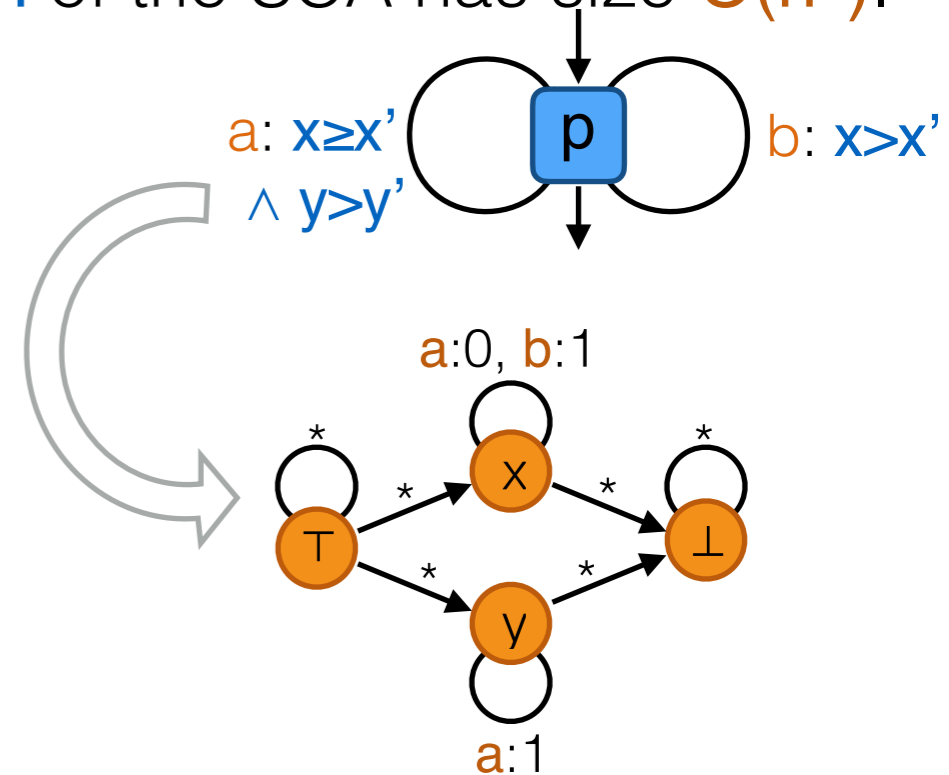
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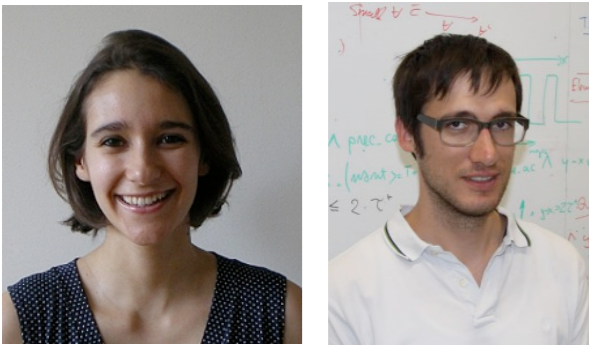
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if and only if $\left(\begin{array}{l} \exists \text{ input word } u \text{ of size } s \text{ such that} \\ 1) \text{ it is a value-free valid run (regular)} \\ 2) \text{ there is no run of Aut with weight } > n. \end{array} \right)$





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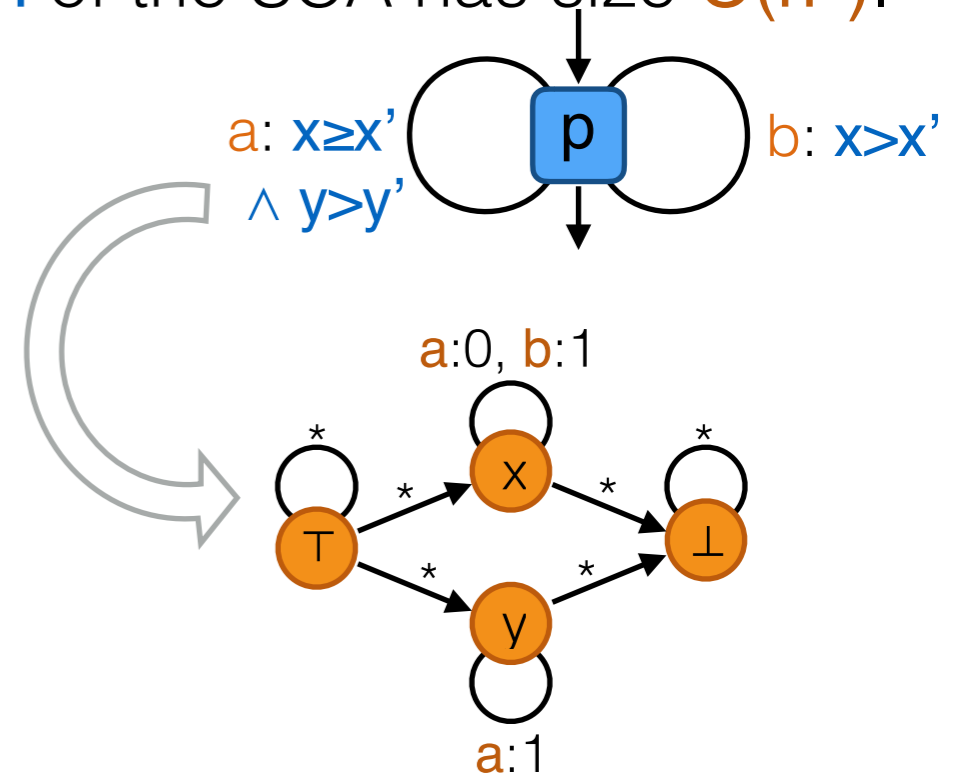
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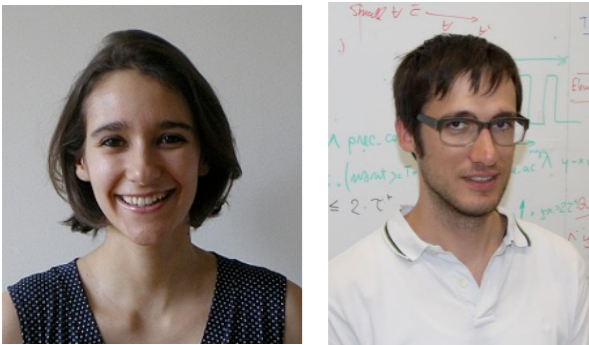
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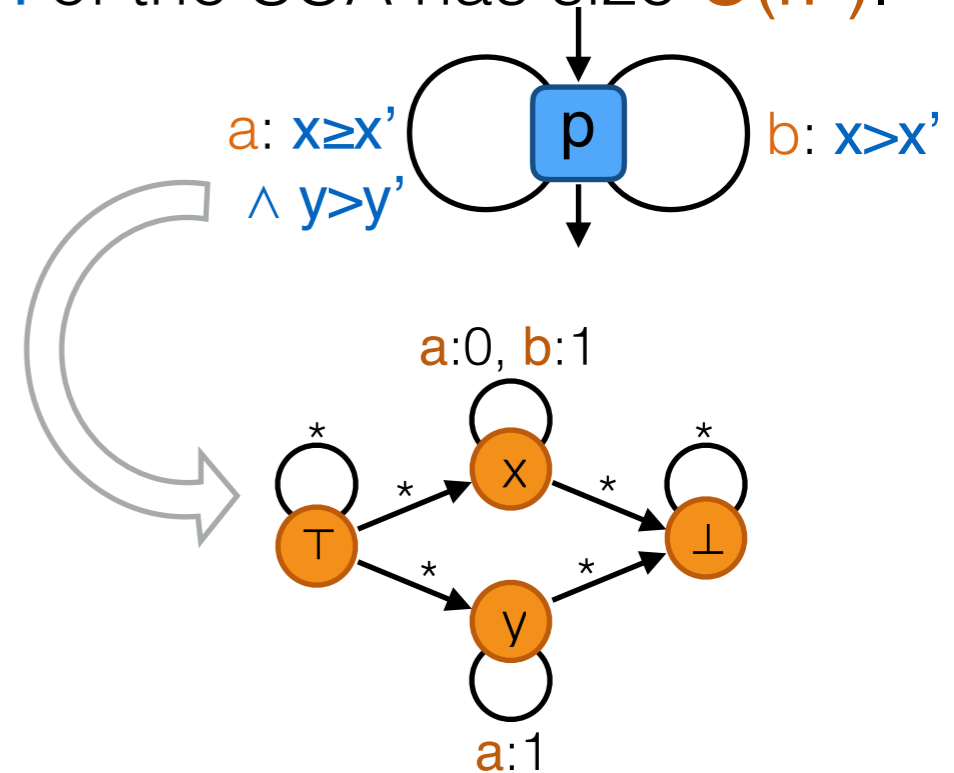
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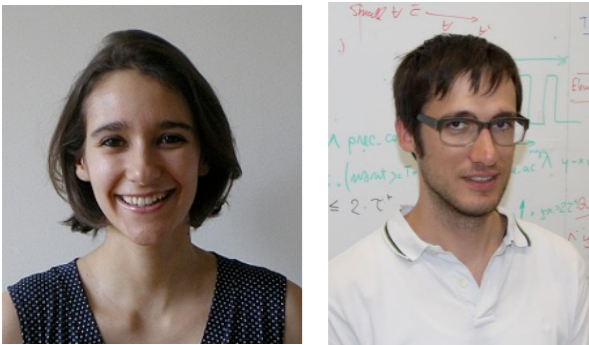
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One needs to find the asymptotic exponent of the size of the longest word that has only run of value at most n :

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



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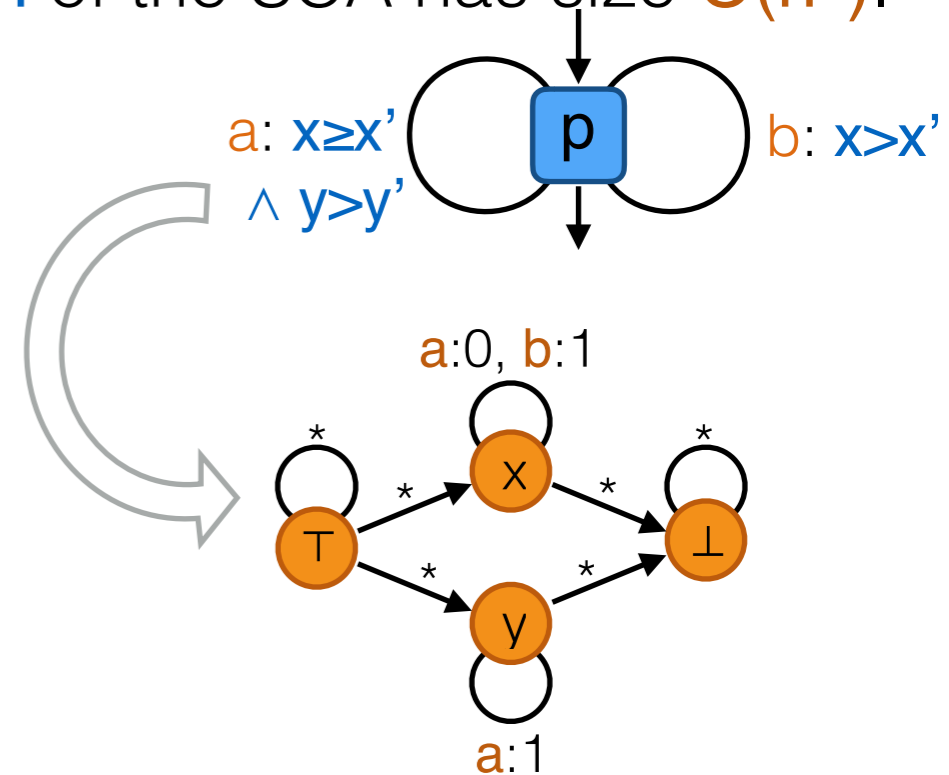
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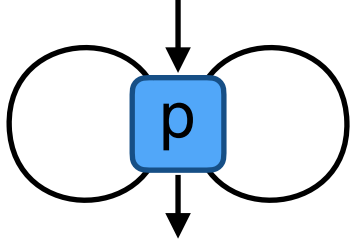
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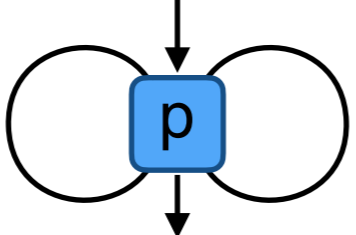
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An unexpected
phenomenon

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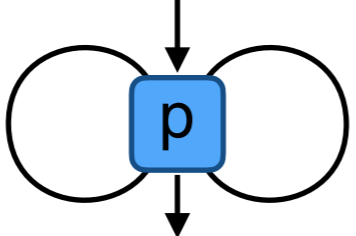
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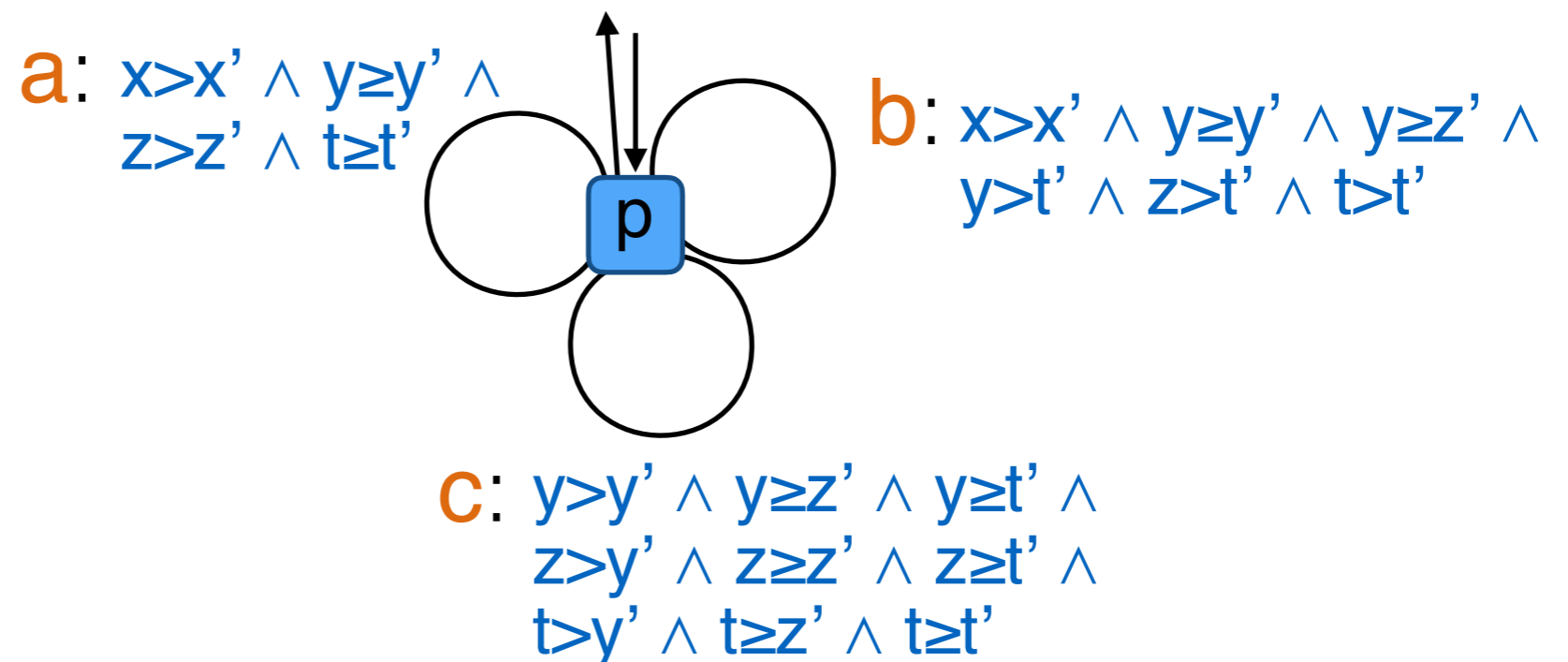
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It was conjectured that the asymptotic worst-case could only have integer exponent.

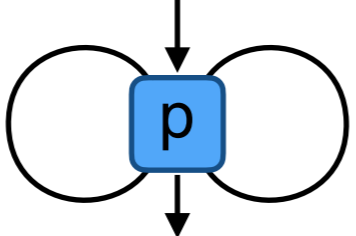
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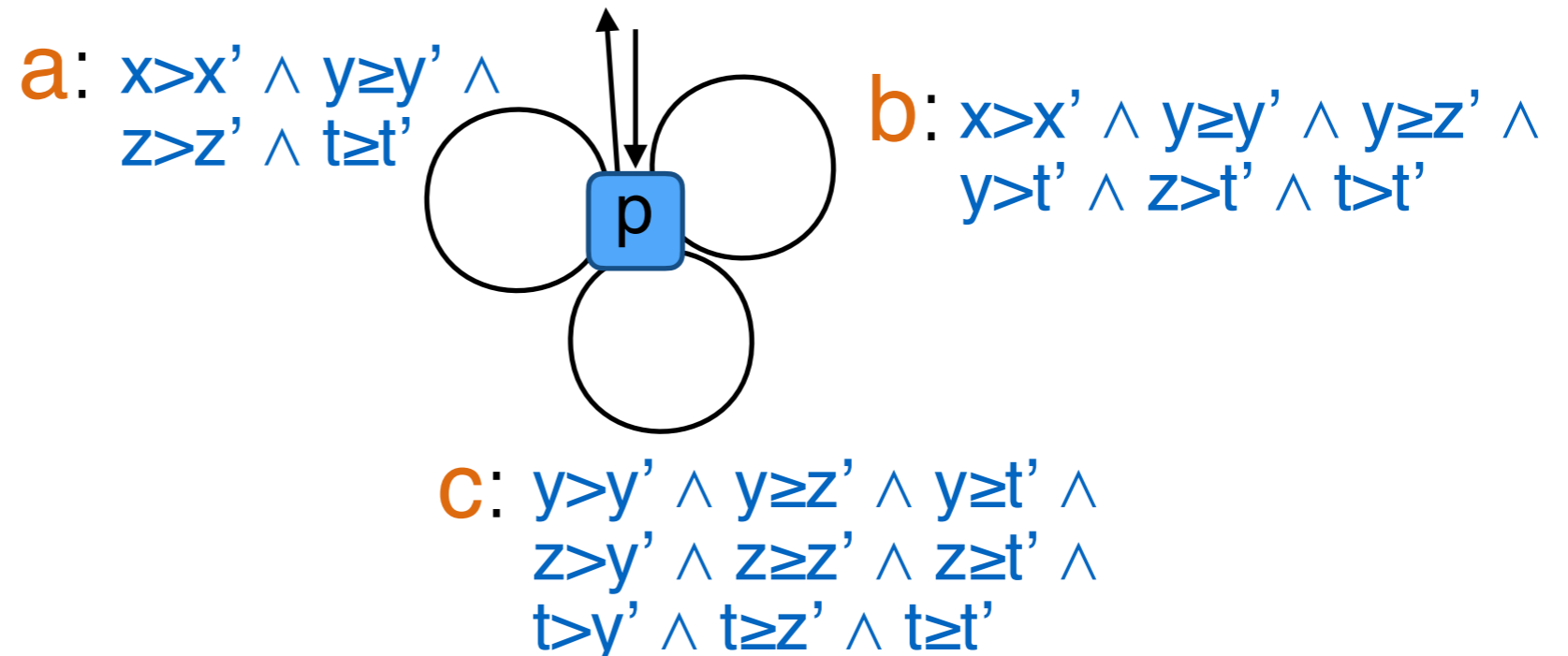
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However:

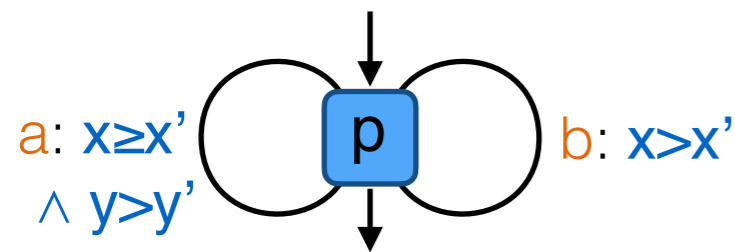
The longest n-run of the following SCA has asymptotical length $\Theta(n^{3/2})$.



Summary

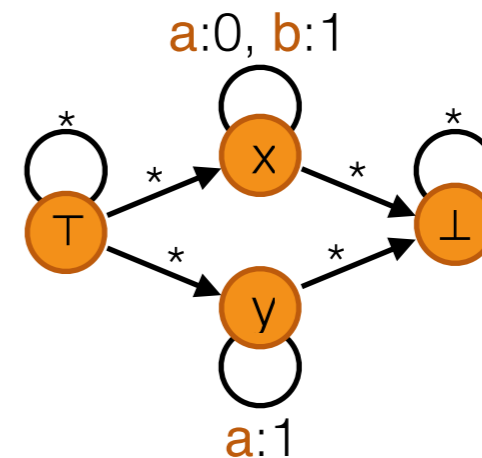
The size-change abstraction is good model for proving the termination of some forms of programs. This offers a natural reduction to question of automata theory.

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

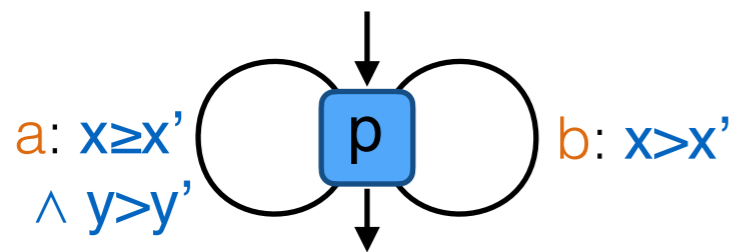
This relies on advanced results on the asymptotic analysis of tropical automata.



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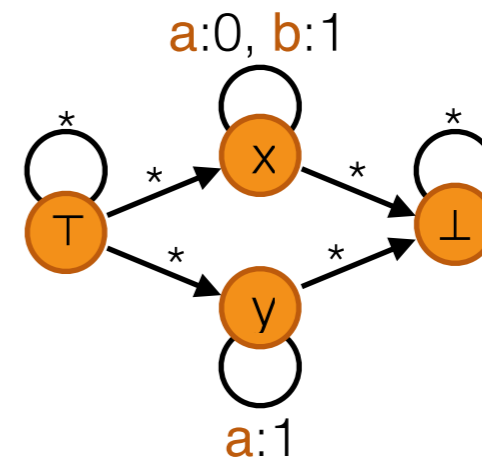
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Some open questions

What is the exact complexity?

How to construct ranking functions?

Is there a more general model of automata and results?

Thanks !