

# ALGORITHMIC PROBLEMS OF AUTOMATA \*

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In this paper, we shall introduce the concept “extended automata” and reduce the decision problem whether a finite semigroup is an amalgamation base for all semigroups or not to an algorithmic problem of automata.

## 1 Automata

**Definition.** A finite automaton  $\mathcal{A} = (\Sigma, X, E, I, T)$  :  $\Sigma$  is a finite set of states,  $I (\subseteq \Sigma)$  is a set of initial states,  $T (\subseteq \Sigma)$  is a set of terminal states,  $X$  is a set of finite letters,  $E$  is a subset of the product set  $\Sigma \times X \times \Sigma$ .

Each element of  $E$  is an edge of the form  $(\sigma, x, \tau)$  and  $x$  is the label of the edge.

**Definition** A path  $P$  on  $\mathcal{A}$  is a sequence of edges :

$$P = (\sigma_0, x_1, \sigma_1), (\sigma_1, x_2, \sigma_2), \dots, (\sigma_{t-1}, x_t, \sigma_t) \quad (t \text{ is a length of the path } P)$$

The signature  $Sg(P)$  of  $P$  is a word  $x_1x_2 \dots x_t$ .

$\sigma_0 \in I, \sigma_t \in T \Rightarrow Sg(P)$  is an acceptable word, which assigns a move from  $\sigma_0$  to  $\sigma_t$ .

**Definition.** For a finite automaton  $\mathcal{A} = (\Sigma, X, E, I, T)$ , let  $L (\subset X^*)$  be a set of all acceptable words. Simply,  $L = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$  the language  $L$  is the accepted by  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})$ .

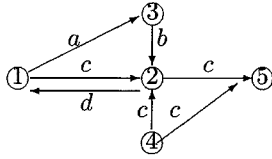
In general,  $L$  is called a regular language.

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\*This is an abstract and the paper will appear elsewhere.

**Example.**

$$\mathcal{A} = (\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{a, b, c\}, E, \{1\}, \{5\})$$



$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) = \{\{abd, cd\}^*cc, abc\}$$

**Definition.** Given a finite automaton  $\mathcal{A} = (\Sigma, X, E, I, T)$ . For a word  $w \in X^*$ , if there exist states  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3, \sigma_4$  and paths  $P_1$  from  $\sigma_0$  to  $\sigma_1$ ,  $P_2$  from  $\sigma_2$  to  $\sigma_1$ ,  $P_3$  from  $\sigma_2$  to  $\sigma_3$  with  $w = Sg(P_1) = Sg(P_2) = Sg(P_3)$ , then construct a new path with  $Sp(P) = w$  from  $\sigma_0$  to  $\sigma_3$ . An extended path  $P$  with  $Sg(P) = w'$  from  $\sigma$  to  $\beta$  is a path obtained by finitely many constructing new paths for subword  $w$  of  $w'$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . i.e., if  $w = w'w_1w_2w''$ ,  $\sigma_0 \xrightarrow{w_1} \sigma_1 \xrightarrow{w_2} \sigma_2 \xleftarrow{w_2} \sigma_3 \xrightarrow{w_2} \sigma_4 \xleftarrow{w_1w_2} \sigma_5 \xrightarrow{w_1} \sigma_6 \xrightarrow{w_2} \sigma_7$  then  $\sigma_0 \xrightarrow{w_1} \sigma_1 \xrightarrow{w_2} \sigma_4 \xleftarrow{w_1w_2} \sigma_5 \xrightarrow{w_1} \sigma_6 \xrightarrow{w_2} \sigma_7$  and  $\sigma_0 \xrightarrow{w_1w_2} \sigma_7$

The extended regular language  $\mathcal{L}^e(\mathcal{A})$  consists of all signatures of extended path from initial states to terminal states of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

**Question.** What a kind of language is an extended regular language of an automaton ?

We give a concrete description of extended automata.

**Theorem.** Given a finite automaton  $\mathcal{A} = (\Sigma, X, E, I, T)$ . For  $\alpha, \beta \in \Sigma$ , let  $\mathcal{A}_{\sigma, \beta}$  be an automaton accepting all signatures of paths from  $\sigma$  to  $\beta$ .

For  $\alpha, \beta \in \Sigma$ , let  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{A})_{\alpha, \beta}$  with a unique initial state  $\alpha$  and a unique terminal state  $\beta$  be an automaton accepting all words in  $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Sigma} \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{\alpha, \gamma}) \cap \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{\beta, \gamma}) \cap \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{\gamma, \beta})$ .

$n = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^{(1)}$  is an automaton obtained by pasting  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{A})_{\sigma, \beta}$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  by identifying  $\alpha, \beta$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $\alpha, \beta$  of  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha, \beta}$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Sigma$ .

$n = k + 1$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^{(n)}$  is an automaton obtained by pasting  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{A}^{(k)})_{\sigma, \beta}$  to  $\mathcal{A}^{(k)}$  by identifying  $\alpha, \beta$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $\alpha, \beta$  of  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha, \beta}$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Sigma$ . with  $\mathcal{A}_{\alpha, \beta}^{(k)}$  pasted for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Sigma$ .

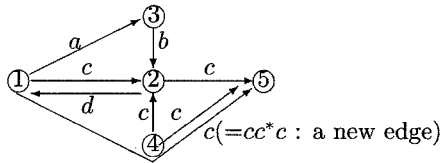
$$\mathcal{A}^e = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{A}^{(n)}. \text{ (Possibly, an infinite automaton)}$$

Then

the extended regular language  $\mathcal{L}^e(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}^e)$ .

**Example.**

$$\mathcal{A} = (\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}, \{a, b, c\}, E, \{1\}, \{5\})$$



$$\mathcal{L}^e(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}^e) = \{\{abd, cd\}^*cc, abc, \{abd, cd\}^*c\}$$

## 2 Decision problems

Extended automata are applicable to decision problems of semigroup amalgamations.

**Result 1**[5, Theorem 2.1]. Let  $S$  be a finite semigroup and  $\mathcal{I}(S^1)$  the injective hull of the left  $S$ -set  $S^1$ .

Then  $S$  has the representation extension property if and only if for any right  $S$ -set  $X_S$ , the canonical map  $\alpha : X \rightarrow X \otimes_S \mathcal{I}(S^1)$  ( $x \mapsto x \otimes 1$ ) is injective.

**Result 2**[6, the main theorem]. The decision problem whether a finite semigroup has the representation extension property or not is decidable.

**Lemma.** Let  $X$  be a right  $S$ -set and  $Y$  a left  $S$ -set. Then  $x \otimes y = x' \otimes y'$  in  $X \otimes Y$  if and only if there exist  $s_1, \dots, s_n, t_1, \dots, t_n \in S^1, x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$  and  $y_2, \dots, y_n \in Y$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= x_1 s_1, & s_1 y &= t_1 y_2 \\ x_1 t_1 &= x_2 s_2, & s_2 y_2 &= t_2 y_3 \\ &\vdots & &\vdots \\ x_{n-1} t_{n-1} &= x_n s_n, & s_n y_n &= t_n y' \\ x_n t_n &= x' \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Then we call the system of equations (1) a scheme of length  $n$   $X$  and  $Y$  joining  $(x, y)$  to  $(x', y')$ .

**proposition.** Let  $S$  be a finite regular semigroup. Then  $S$  is left absolutely flat if and only if for a  $\mathcal{R}$ -class of  $S$ , a right  $S$ -set  $X$  and a left  $S$ -set  $Y, x \otimes y = x' \otimes y'$  in  $(xS \cup x'S) \otimes_S Y$

for all  $x, x' \in X$  and all  $y, y' \in Y$  such that there exists  $s_i, t_i \in S$  and  $x_i \in X, y_i \in Y$  such that

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x & = & x_1 s_1, & s_1 y & = & t_1 y_2 \\ x_1 t_1 & = & x_2 s_2, & s_2 y_2 & = & t_2 y_3 \\ & \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ x_{n-1} t_{n-1} & = & x_n s_n, & s_n y_n & = & t_n y' \\ x_n t_n & = & x' & & & \end{array} \quad (2)$$

and there exists some  $1 \leq j \leq n$  such that

$$xS \subseteq x_1 t_1 S \subseteq \cdots \subseteq x_{j-1} t_{j-1} S \subseteq x_j t_j S^1 \supseteq x_{j+1} t_{j+1} S \supseteq \cdots \supseteq x_{n-1} t_{n-1} S \supseteq x' S.$$

Hereafter we call such a set of equations (2) a upward-convex scheme joining from  $(x, y)$  to  $(x', y')$  over  $X$  and  $Y$ .

**Problem 1.** The decision problem whether a finite semigroup is left absolutely flat or not.

**an idea for a positive solution of the problem:** There are a correspondence between schemes on tensor products of  $S$ -sets and paths from initial states and terminal states on finite automata.

The problem is reduced to decision problem whether or not the language of an automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  are contained in the language of the extended automaton of a smaller automaton than  $\mathcal{A}$  (by deleting some states!).

**Result 3.** [5, Theorem 2.2] and [4, Theorem 6.11]. A semigroup  $S$  is an amalgamation base for all semigroups if and only if for each a right  $S$ -set  $X$ , a left  $S$ -set  $Y$  and a  $S$ -biset  $N$  which is the injective hull of the  $S$ -biset  $S^1$ ,

the map  $: X \otimes Y \longrightarrow X \otimes N \otimes Y$  ( $x \otimes y \longrightarrow x \otimes 1 \otimes y$ ) is injective.

**Problem 2.** The decision problem whether a finite semigroup is an amalgamation base for all semigroups or not.

**an idea for a positive solution of the problem:** There are a correspondence between schemes on tensor products of  $S$ -sets and paths from initial states and terminal states on finite automata.

The problem is reduced to decision problem whether or not the language of an automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  are contained properly in the language of the extended automaton of a smaller finite automaton than  $\mathcal{A}$ (by deleting some states!).

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