# Formal Methods: Module I: Automated Reasoning Ch. 04: Automata-Theoretic LTL Reasoning

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#### M.S. in Computer Science, Mathematics, & Artificial Intelligence Systems Academic year 2021-2022

last update: Wednesday 13th April, 2022, 10:16

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# Outline

### Büchi Automata

- The Automata-Theoretic Approach to LTL Reasoning
  - General Ideas
  - Language-Emptiness Checking of Büchi Automata
  - From Kripke Models to Büchi Automata
  - From LTL Formulas to Büchi Automata
  - Complexity



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# Infinite Word Languages

Modeling infinite computations of reactive systems

```
Given an Alphabet \Sigma (e.g. \Sigma \stackrel{\text{\tiny def}}{=} \{a, b\})
```

• An  $\omega$ -word  $\alpha$  over  $\Sigma$  is an infinite sequence

```
a_0, a_1, a_2 \dots
Formally, \alpha : \mathbb{N} \to \Sigma.
```

- The set of all infinite words is denoted by Σ<sup>ω</sup>.
- A  $\omega$ -language *L* is collection of  $\omega$ -words, i.e.  $L \subseteq \Sigma^{\omega}$ .
- Example: All words over {*a*, *b*} with infinitely many *a*'s.

#### Notation:

```
omega words \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Sigma^{\omega}.
omega-languages L, L_1 \subseteq \Sigma^{\omega}
For u \in \Sigma^+, let u^{\omega} = u.u.u...
```

## Omega-Automata

We consider automaton running over infinite words.



- Let  $\alpha = aabbbb \dots$ There are several (infinite) possible runs. Run  $\rho_1 = s_1, s_1, s_1, s_1, s_2, s_2 \dots$ Run  $\rho_2 = s_1, s_1, s_1, s_1, s_1, s_1 \dots$
- Acceptance Conditions: Büchi (Muller, Rabin, Street): Acceptance is based on states occurring infinitely often
- Notation Let  $\rho \in Q^{\omega}$ . Then,

 $Inf(\rho) = \{ s \in Q \mid \exists^{\infty} i \in \mathbb{N}, \rho(i) = s \}.$ (The set of states occurring infinitely many times in  $\rho$ .)

## Büchi Automata

### Nondeterministic Büchi Automaton

- A Nondeterministic Büchi Automaton (NBA) is  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, F)$  s.t.
  - Q Finite set of states.
  - $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet
  - $I \subseteq Q$  set of initial states.
  - $F \subseteq Q$  set of accepting states.
  - $\delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times Q$  transition relation (edges).
- A Deterministic Büchi Automaton (DBA) is an NBA s.t. the transition relation is functional:  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \longmapsto Q$

### Runs and Language of NBAs

- A run  $\rho$  of A on  $\omega$ -word  $\alpha = a_0, a_1, a_2, ...$  is an infinite sequence  $\rho = q_0, q_1, q_2, ...$  s.t.  $q_0 \in I$ and  $q_i \xrightarrow{a_i} q_{i+1}$  for  $0 \le i$ .
- The run  $\rho$  is accepting if

 $Inf(\rho) \cap F \neq \emptyset.$ 

The language accepted by A

 *L*(A) = {α ∈ Σ<sup>ω</sup> | A has an accepting run on α}

### Büchi Automaton: Example

Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Let a Deterministic Büchi Automaton (DBA)  $A_1$  be



- With  $F = \{s_1\}$  the automaton recognizes words with infinitely many *a*'s.
- With  $F = \{s_2\}$  the automaton recognizes words with infinitely many *b*'s.

## Büchi Automaton: Example (2)





With  $F = \{s_2\}$ , the automaton  $A_2$  recognizes words with finitely many *a*. Thus,  $\mathcal{L}(A_2) = \overline{\mathcal{L}(A_1)}$ .

# Deterministic vs. Nondeterministic Büchi Automata

#### Theorem

DBAs are strictly less powerful than NBAs.

#### Remark:

The subset construction of standard Final-State automata does not work!

### Let $DA_2$ be



- DA<sub>2</sub> is not equivalent to A<sub>2</sub> (e.g., it recognizes (b.a)<sup>ω</sup>)
- There is no DBA equivalent to A<sub>2</sub>

Theorem (union, intersection)

For the NBAs  $A_1, A_2$  we can construct

- the NBA A s.t.  $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(A_1) \cup \mathcal{L}(A_2)$ .  $|A| = |A_1| + |A_2|$
- the NBA A s.t.  $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(A_1) \cap \mathcal{L}(A_2)$ .  $|A| \leq |A_1| \cdot |A_2| \cdot 2$ .

# Union of two NBAs

#### Definition: union of NBAs

Let  $A_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma_1, \delta_1, I_1, F_1), A_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma_2, \delta_2, I_2, F_2).$ Then  $A = A_1 \cup A_2 = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, F)$  is defined as follows •  $Q := Q_1 \cup Q_2, I := I_1 \cup I_2, F := F_1 \cup F_2$ 

• 
$$R(s,s') := \begin{cases} R_1(s,s') & \text{if } s \in Q_1 \\ R_2(s,s') & \text{if } s \in Q_2 \end{cases}$$

#### Theorem

• 
$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(A_1) \cup \mathcal{L}(A_2)$$

• 
$$|A| = |A_1| + |A_2|$$

#### Note

A is an automaton which just runs nondeterministically either  $A_1$  or  $A_2$  (same construction as with ordinary automata)

# Synchronous Product of NBAs

#### Definition: synchronous product of NBAs

Let 
$$A_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, I_1, F_1)$$
 and  $A_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, I_2, F_2)$ .  
Then,  $A_1 \times A_2 = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, F)$ , where  
 $Q = Q_1 \times Q_2 \times \{1, 2\}$ .  
 $I = I_1 \times I_2 \times \{1\}$ .  
 $F = F_1 \times Q_2 \times \{1\}$ .

$$\begin{array}{l} \langle p,q,1\rangle \xrightarrow{a} \langle p',q',1\rangle \text{ iff } p \xrightarrow{a} p' \text{ and } q \xrightarrow{a} q' \text{ and } p \notin F_1. \\ \langle p,q,1\rangle \xrightarrow{a} \langle p',q',2\rangle \text{ iff } p \xrightarrow{a} p' \text{ and } q \xrightarrow{a} q' \text{ and } p \notin F_1. \\ \langle p,q,2\rangle \xrightarrow{a} \langle p',q',2\rangle \text{ iff } p \xrightarrow{a} p' \text{ and } q \xrightarrow{a} q' \text{ and } q \notin F_2. \\ \langle p,q,2\rangle \xrightarrow{a} \langle p',q',1\rangle \text{ iff } p \xrightarrow{a} p' \text{ and } q \xrightarrow{a} q' \text{ and } q \notin F_2. \end{array}$$

#### Theorem

• 
$$\mathcal{L}(A_1 \times A_2) = \mathcal{L}(A_1) \cap \mathcal{L}(A_2)$$

• 
$$|A_1 \times A_2| \leq 2 \cdot |A_1| \cdot |A_2|.$$

# Synchronous Product of NBAs: Intuition

- The automaton remembers two tracks, one for each source NBA, and it points to one of the two tracks
- As soon as it goes through an accepting state of the current track, it switches to the other track
- $\implies$  to visit infinitely often a state in F (i.e., F<sub>1</sub>), it must visit infinitely often some state also in F<sub>2</sub>
  - Important subcase: If  $F_2 = Q_2$ , then

 $Q = Q_1 \times Q_2.$   $I = I_1 \times I_2.$  $F = F_1 \times Q_2.$ 

## Synchronous Product of NBAs: Example



Theorem (complementation) [Safra, MacNaughten]

For the NBA  $A_1$  we can construct an NBA  $A_2$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(A_2) = \overline{\mathcal{L}(A_1)}$ .  $|A_2| = O(2^{|A_1| \cdot \log(|A_1|)}).$ 

#### Method: (hint)

- (i) convert a Büchi automaton into a Non-Deterministic Rabin automaton
- (ii) determinize and Complement the Rabin automaton
- (iii) convert the Rabin automaton into a Büchi automaton.

## Generalized Büchi Automaton

#### Definition

• A Generalized Büchi Automaton is a tuple  $A := (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, FT)$  where  $FT = \langle F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k \rangle$  with  $F_i \subseteq Q$ .

• A run  $\rho$  of A is accepting if  $Inf(\rho) \cap F_i \neq \emptyset$  for each  $1 \le i \le k$ .

#### Theorem

For every Generalized Büchi Automaton we can construct a language equivalent plain Büchi Automaton.

#### Intuition

Let  $Q' = Q \times \{1, ..., K\}$ . The automaton remains in phase *i* till it visits a state in  $F_i$ . Then, it moves to  $(i \mod K) + 1 \mod K$ .

# De-generalization of a generalized NBA

### Definition: De-generalization of a generalized NBA Let $A \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, FT)$ a generalized BA s.f. $FT \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{F_1, \dots, F_{\mathcal{K}}\}$ . Then a language-equivalent BA $A' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (Q', \Sigma, \delta', I', F')$ is built as follows $Q' = Q_1 \times \{1, ..., K\}.$ $I' = I \times \{1\}.$ $F' = F_1 \times \{1\}.$ $\delta'$ is s.t., for every $i \in [1, ..., K]$ : $\langle p, i \rangle \xrightarrow{a} \langle q, i \rangle$ iff $p \xrightarrow{a} q \in \delta$ and $p \notin F_i$ . $\langle p, i \rangle \xrightarrow{a} \langle q, (i \mod K) + 1 \rangle$ iff $p \xrightarrow{a} q \in \delta$ and $p \in F_i$ .

#### Theorem

- $\mathcal{L}(A') = \mathcal{L}(A).$
- $|\mathbf{A}'| \leq \mathbf{K} \cdot |\mathbf{A}|.$

## Degeneralizing a Büchi automaton: Example



#### Definition

A language is called  $\omega$ -regular if it has the form  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n} U_i \cdot (V_i)^{\omega}$  where  $U_i, V_i$  are regular languages.

Theorem

A language *L* is  $\omega$ -regular iff it is NBA-recognizable.

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# Automata-Theoretic LTL Satisfiability and Entailment

### LTL Validity/Satisfiability

 $\bullet~$  Let  $\psi$  be an LTL formula

$$\models \psi$$
 (LTL

 $\iff \neg \psi$  unsat

$$\iff \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_{\neg\psi}) = 0$$

•  $A_{\neg\psi}$  is a Büchi Automaton which represents all and only the paths that satisfy  $\neg\psi$  (do not satisfy  $\psi$ )

### LTL Entailment

• Let  $\varphi, \psi$  be an LTL formula

 $\begin{array}{c} \varphi \models \psi \quad (\mathsf{LTL}) \\ \models \varphi \to \psi \quad (\mathsf{LTL}) \\ \Longleftrightarrow \quad \varphi \land \neg \psi \text{ unsat} \\ \Leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{A}_{\varphi \land \neg \psi}) = \emptyset \end{array}$ 

*A*<sub>φ∧¬ψ</sub> is a Büchi Automaton which represents all and only the paths that satisfy φ ∧ ¬ψ (satisfy φ and do not satisfy ψ)

### Automata-Theoretic LTL Satisfiability and Entailment

#### Two steps for checking $\models \psi$ [resp. $\varphi \models \psi$ ]

- (i) Compute  $A_{\neg\psi}$  [resp.  $A_{\varphi \land \neg\psi}$ ]
- (ii) Check the emptiness of  $\mathcal{L}(A_{\neg\psi})$  [resp.  $\mathcal{L}(A_{\varphi \land \neg\psi})$ ]

# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking

### LTL Model Checking

- Let M be a Kripke model and  $\psi$  be an LTL formula

$$\iff \mathcal{L}(M) \cap \overline{\mathcal{L}(\psi)} = \emptyset$$

$$\iff \mathcal{L}(M) \cap \mathcal{L}(\neg \psi) = \emptyset$$

$$\iff \mathcal{L}(A_{\mathcal{M}}) \cap \mathcal{L}(A_{\neg\psi}) = \emptyset$$

$$\iff \mathcal{L}(A_M \times A_{\neg \psi}) = \emptyset$$

- A<sub>M</sub> is a Büchi Automaton equivalent to M (which represents all and only the executions of M)
- *A*<sub>¬ψ</sub> is a Büchi Automaton which represents all and only the paths that satisfy ¬ψ (do not satisfy ψ)
- $\implies A_M \times A_{\neg \psi}$  represents all and only the paths appearing in *M* and not in  $\psi$ .

# Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking

### Four steps

- Let  $\varphi \stackrel{\text{\tiny def}}{=} \neg \psi$ :
- (i) Compute A<sub>M</sub>
- (ii) Compute  $A_{\varphi}$
- (iii) Compute the product  $A_M \times A_{\varphi}$
- (iv) Check the emptiness of  $\mathcal{L}(A_M \times A_{\varphi})$

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# NBA emptiness checking

- Find an accepting cycle reachable from an initial state.
- A naive algorithm:
  - (i) a DFS finds the final states *f* reachable from an initial state;
  - (ii) for each f, a second DFS finds if it can reach f(i.e., if there exists a loop)
  - Complexity:  $O(n^2)$
- SCC-based algorithm:
  - (i) Tarjan's algorithm uses a DFS to find the SCCs in linear time;
  - drop all SCCs which do not have at least one arc, and which do not contain at least one accepting state f
  - (iii) another DFS finds if the union of non-trivial SCCs is reachable from an initial state.

Complexity: O(n)

• Drawbacks: it stores too much information and does not find directly a counterexample.

# Double Nested DFS algorithm

### **Double Nested DFS**

- Two nested DFSs
  - DFS1 finds the final states f reachable from an initial state
  - for each f, DFS2 finds if it can reach f (i.e., if there exists a loop)
- Two Hash tables:
  - T1: reachable states
  - T2: states reachable from a reachable final state
- Two stacks:
  - S1: current branch of states reachable
  - S2: current branch of states reachable from final state f
- It stops as soon as it finds a counterexample.
- The counterexample is given by
  - the stack of DFS2 (an accepting, preceded by cycle)
  - the stack of DFS1 (a path from an initial state to the cycle)
- DFS1 invokes DFS2 on each f<sub>i</sub> only after popping it (postorder)
- T2 passed by reference, is not reset at each call of DFS2 !

# Double Nested DFS - First DFS

```
// returns True if empty language, false otherwise
Bool DFS1(NBA A) {
   stack S1=I; stack S2=\emptyset;
   Hashtable T1=I; Hashtable T2=\emptyset;
   while S1! = \emptyset {
       v=top(S1);
       if \exists w \text{ s.t. } w \in \delta(v) \& \mathbb{T}1(w) == 0  {
           hash(w,T1);
           push(w,S1);
        } else {
           pop(S1);
           if (v \in F \&\& ! DFS2(v, S2, T2, A))
               return False;
          }
   return True;
```

### Double Nested DFS - Second DFS

```
Bool DFS2(state f, stack & S, Hashtable & T, NBA A) {
   hash(f,T);
   S = \{f\}
   while S! = \emptyset {
       v=top(S);
       if f \in \delta(v) return False;
       if \exists w \text{ s.t. } w \in \delta(v) \& \& T(w) == 0  {
           hash(w);
           push(w);
        } else pop(S);
   return True;
```

Remark: T passed by reference, is not reset at each call of DFS2 !

- suppose *DFS*2 is invoked on  $f_j$  before than on  $f_i$
- $\Rightarrow$  f<sub>i</sub> not reachable from (any state *s* which is reachable from) f
- If during DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>,...) it is encountered a state S which has already been explored by DFS2(f<sub>j</sub>,...) for some f<sub>j</sub>,
  - can we reach f<sub>i</sub> from S?
  - No, because f<sub>i</sub> is not reachable from f<sub>i</sub>
- $\Rightarrow$  It is safe to backtrack!

- suppose *DFS*2 is invoked on  $f_j$  before than on  $f_i$
- $\Rightarrow f_i$  not reachable from (any state *s* which is reachable from)  $f_j$
- If during DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) it is encountered a state S which has already been explored by DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) for some f<sub>i</sub>,
  - can we reach f<sub>i</sub> from S?
  - No, because f<sub>i</sub> is not reachable from f<sub>j</sub>



- suppose DFS2 is invoked on f<sub>j</sub> before than on f<sub>i</sub>
- $\implies$   $f_i$  not reachable from (any state *s* which is reachable from)  $f_j$ 
  - If during DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) it is encountered a state S which has already been explored by DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) for some f<sub>i</sub>,
    - can we reach f<sub>i</sub> from S<sup>2</sup>
    - No, because f<sub>i</sub> is not reachable from f<sub>j</sub>
      - ktrack!

- suppose *DFS*2 is invoked on  $f_j$  before than on  $f_i$
- $\implies$   $f_i$  not reachable from (any state *s* which is reachable from)  $f_j$ 
  - If during DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) it is encountered a state S which has already been explored by DFS2(f<sub>j</sub>, ...) for some f<sub>j</sub>,
    - can we reach *f<sub>i</sub>* from *S*?
    - No, because *f<sub>i</sub>* is not reachable from *f<sub>j</sub>*!



- suppose *DFS*2 is invoked on  $f_i$  before than on  $f_i$
- $\implies$   $f_i$  not reachable from (any state *s* which is reachable from)  $f_j$ 
  - If during DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) it is encountered a state S which has already been explored by DFS2(f<sub>j</sub>, ...) for some f<sub>j</sub>,
    - can we reach  $f_i$  from S?
    - No, because *f<sub>i</sub>* is not reachable from *f<sub>j</sub>*!



- suppose *DFS*2 is invoked on  $f_i$  before than on  $f_i$
- $\implies$   $f_i$  not reachable from (any state *s* which is reachable from)  $f_j$ 
  - If during DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) it is encountered a state S which has already been explored by DFS2(f<sub>j</sub>, ...) for some f<sub>j</sub>,
    - can we reach  $f_i$  from S?
    - No, because *f<sub>i</sub>* is not reachable from *f<sub>j</sub>*!

![](_page_35_Figure_7.jpeg)
## Double nested DFS: Intuition

DFS1 invokes DFS2 on each  $f_1, ..., f_n$  only after popping it (postorder):

- suppose *DFS*2 is invoked on  $f_i$  before than on  $f_i$
- $\implies$   $f_i$  not reachable from (any state *s* which is reachable from)  $f_j$ 
  - If during DFS2(f<sub>i</sub>, ...) it is encountered a state S which has already been explored by DFS2(f<sub>j</sub>, ...) for some f<sub>j</sub>,
    - can we reach  $f_i$  from S?
    - No, because *f<sub>i</sub>* is not reachable from *f<sub>j</sub>*!
- $\implies It is safe to backtrack! f_{j}$











































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## Computing an NBA $A_M$ from a Kripke Structure M

- Transform a Kripke model  $M = \langle S, S_0, R, L, AP \rangle$  into an NBA  $A_M = \langle Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, F \rangle$  s.t.:
  - States:  $Q := S \cup \{init\}, init$  being a new initial state
  - Alphabet: Σ := 2<sup>AP</sup>
  - Initial State: I := { init }
  - Accepting States:  $F := Q = S \cup \{init\}$
  - Transitions:

$$\delta: q \xrightarrow{a} q' \text{ iff } (q,q') \in R \text{ and } L(q') = a$$
  
init  $\xrightarrow{a} q$  iff  $q \in S_0$  and  $L(q) = a$ 

- $\mathcal{L}(A_M) = \mathcal{L}(M)$
- $|A_M| = |M| + 1$

## Computing a NBA $A_M$ from a Kripke Structure M: Example



 $\Longrightarrow$  Substantially, add one initial state, move labels from states to incoming edges, set all states as accepting states

Note that the labels of a Büchi Automaton are different from the labels of a Kripke Structure. Also graphically, they are interpreted differently:



- in a Kripke Structure, it means that p is true and all other propositions are false;
- in a Büchi Automaton, it means that *p* is true and all other propositions are irrelevant ("don't care"), i.e. they can be either true or false.

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#### • From LTL Formulas to Büchi Automata

Complexity



#### Problem

Given an LTL formula  $\phi$ , find a Büchi Automaton that accepts the same language of  $\phi$ .

- It is a fundamental problem in LTL validity/satisfiability/entailment e model checking
- We translate an LTL formula into a Generalized Büchi Automata (GBA), then into an NBA

# LTL Negative Normal Form (NNF)

- Every LTL formula φ can be written into an equivalent formula φ' using only the operators ∧, ∨, X, U, R on propositional literals.
- Done by pushing negations down to literal level:  $\neg X \varphi_1 \implies X \neg \varphi_1$



- ⇒ The resulting formula is expressed in terms of  $\lor$ ,  $\land$ , X, U, R and literals (Negative Normal Form, NNF).
  - encoding linear if a DAG representation is used
  - In the construction of  $A_{\varphi}$  we now assume that  $\varphi$  is in NNF.
    - $\implies$  every non-atomic subformula occurs positively in  $\varphi$
  - For convenience, we still use F's and G's as shortcuts:  $F\varphi$  for  $\top U\varphi$  and  $G\varphi$  for  $\bot R\varphi$

Apply recursively the following steps:

**Step 1**: Apply the tableau expansion rules to  $\varphi$ :  $\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2 \Longrightarrow \psi_2 \lor (\psi_1 \land \mathbf{X}(\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2))$  [and  $\mathbf{F} \psi \Longrightarrow \psi \lor \mathbf{XF} \psi$ ]  $\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2 \Longrightarrow \psi_2 \land (\psi_1 \lor \mathbf{X}(\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2))$  [and  $\mathbf{G} \psi \Longrightarrow \psi \land \mathbf{XG} \psi$ ] until we get a Boolean combination of elementary subformulas of  $\varphi$ (An elementary formula is a proposition or a **X**-formula.)

#### Tableaux Rules: a Quote



"After all... tomorrow is another day." [Scarlett O'Hara, "Gone with the Wind"]

**Step 2**: Convert all formulas into Disjunctive Normal Form, and then push the conjunctions inside the next:

$$arphi \implies \bigvee_{i} (\bigwedge_{j} I_{ij} \wedge \bigwedge_{k} \mathbf{X} \psi_{ik}) \implies \bigvee_{i} (\bigwedge_{j} I_{ij} \wedge \mathbf{X} \bigwedge_{k} \psi_{ik}).$$



• the conjunction of literals  $\bigwedge_i I_{ij}$  represents a set of labels in  $\Sigma$ 

(e.g., if  $Vars(\varphi) = \{p, q, r\}, p \land \neg q$  represents the two labels  $\{p, \neg q, r\}$  and  $\{p, \neg q, \neg r\}$ )

- X ∧<sub>k</sub> ψ<sub>ik</sub> represents the next part of the state (obbligations for the successors)
- N.B., if no next part occurs, X<sup>+</sup> is implicitly assumed

**Step 3**: For every state  $S_i$  represented by  $(\bigwedge_j I_{ij} \land \mathbf{X} \bigwedge \psi_{ik})$ 

- label the incoming edges of  $S_i$  with  $\bigwedge_i I_{ij}$
- mark that the state  $S_i$  satisfies  $\varphi$
- apply recursively steps 1-2-3 to  $\varphi_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigwedge_k \psi_{ik}$ ,
  - rewrite  $\varphi_i$  into  $\bigvee_{i'} (\bigwedge_j I'_{i'j} \land \mathbf{X} \bigwedge_k \psi'_{i'k})$
  - from each disjunct  $(\bigwedge_j l'_{i'j} \wedge \mathbf{X} \bigwedge_k \psi'_{i'k})$  generate a new state  $S_{ii'}$  (if not already present) and label it as satisfying  $\varphi_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigwedge_k \psi_{ik}$
- draw an edge from  $S_i$  to all states  $S_{ii'}$  which satisfy  $\bigwedge_k \psi_{ik}$
- (if no next part occurs, XT is implicitly assumed, so that an edge to a "true" node is drawn)



 $\bigvee_i (\bigwedge_j I_{ij} \wedge \mathbf{X} \bigwedge_k \psi_{ik}) !$ 










When the recursive applications of steps 1-3 has terminated and the automata graph has been built, then apply the following:

**Step 4**: For every  $\psi_i \mathbf{U} \varphi_i$ , for every state  $q_i$ , mark  $q_j$  with  $F_i$  iff  $(\psi_i \mathbf{U} \varphi_i) \notin q_j$  or  $\varphi_i \in q_j$  (If there is no **U**-subformulas, then mark all states with  $F_1$ —i.e.,  $FT \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{Q\}$ ).

#### Remark

The fact that we initially converted the formula into NNF guarantees that only positive U/F-subformulas and negative R-/G-subformulas are considered here

# Dealing with U-subformulas: Intuition

- Tableaux rules: φ<sub>1</sub>Uφ<sub>2</sub> ⇔ (φ<sub>2</sub> ∨ (φ<sub>1</sub> ∧ Xφ<sub>1</sub>Uφ<sub>2</sub>)) are a property, not a definition of U:
   ⇒ they implicitly admit a "weaker" semantics of φ<sub>1</sub>Uφ<sub>2</sub>, in which φ<sub>1</sub>Uφ<sub>2</sub> always holds and φ<sub>2</sub> never holds
- It cannot happen that we get into a state s' from which we can enter a path  $\pi'$  in which  $\varphi_1 \mathbf{U} \varphi_2$  holds forever and  $\varphi_2$  never holds.



⇒ every legal path must touch infinitely often a state where  $\neg(\varphi_1 \mathbf{U}\varphi_2) \lor \varphi_2)$  holds • In LTL: **GF**( $\neg(\varphi_1 \mathbf{U}\varphi_2) \lor \varphi_2$ ) ("avoid bad loop")

# On-the-fly Construction of $A_{\varphi}$ - State

- Henceforth, a state is represented by a tuple  $s := \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$  where:
  - $\lambda$  is the set of labels
  - $\chi$  is the next part, i.e. the set of X-formulas satisfied by s
  - $\sigma$  is the set of the subformulas of  $\varphi$  satisfied by *s* (necessary for the fairness definition)
- Given a set of LTL formulas  $\Psi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\psi_1, ..., \psi_k\}$ , we define  $Cover(\Psi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Expand(\Psi, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle)$  to be the set of initial states of the Buchi automaton representing  $\bigwedge_j \psi_j$ .
  - $Expand(\Psi, s)$  takes as input:
    - a set of LTL formulas  $\Psi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\psi_1, ..., \psi_k\}$  to be expanded
    - a state  $s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$  under construction

and returns a set of states  $\{\langle \lambda_i, \chi_i, \sigma_i \rangle\}_i$  representing te expansion of  $\Psi$ 

• Combines steps 1. and 2. of previous slides

# On-the-fly Construction of $A_{\varphi}$ - Expand

Given  $\Psi \stackrel{\text{\tiny def}}{=} \{\psi_1, ..., \psi_k\}$  and  $s \stackrel{\text{\tiny def}}{=} \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ , we define *Expand*( $\Psi, s$ ) recursively as follows:

- if  $\Psi = \emptyset$ , *Expand*( $\Psi$ , *s*) = {*s*}
- if  $\bot \in \Psi$ , *Expand*( $\Psi$ , *s*) =  $\emptyset$

o ...

- if  $\top \in \Psi$  and  $s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ ,  $Expand(\Psi, s) = Expand(\Psi \setminus \{\top\}, \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \cup \{\top\} \rangle)$
- if *I* ∈ Ψ and *s* = ⟨λ, χ, σ⟩, *I* propositional literal
   *Expand*(Ψ, *s*) = *Expand*(Ψ\{*I*}, ⟨λ ∪ {*I*}, χ, σ ∪ {*I*}⟩)
   (add *I* to the labels of *s* and to set of satisfied formulas)
- if Xψ ∈ Ψ and s = ⟨λ, χ, σ⟩,
   Expand(Ψ, s) = Expand(Ψ\{Xψ}, ⟨λ, χ ∪ {ψ}, σ ∪ {Xψ}⟩)
   (add ψ to the next part of s and Xψ to set of satisfied formulas)
- if  $\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2 \in \Psi$  and  $s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ , *Expand*( $\Psi, s$ ) = *Expand*( $\Psi \cup \{\psi_1, \psi_2\} \setminus \{\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2\}, \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \cup \{\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2\} \rangle$ ) (process both  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  and add  $\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2$  to  $\sigma$ )

# On-the-fly Construction of $A_{\varphi}$ - Expand

Given  $\Psi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\psi_1, ..., \psi_k\}$  and  $s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ , we define *Expand*( $\Psi, s$ ) recursively as follows: • ...

• if  $\psi_1 \lor \psi_2 \in \Psi$  and  $s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ ,  $Expand(\Psi, s) = Expand(\Psi \cup \{\psi_1\} \setminus \{\psi_1 \lor \psi_2\}, \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \cup \{\psi_1 \lor \psi_2\} \rangle)$  $\cup Expand(\Psi \cup \{\psi_2\} \setminus \{\psi_1 \lor \psi_2\}, \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \cup \{\psi_1 \lor \psi_2\} \rangle)$ 

(split *s* into two copies, process  $\psi_2$  on the first,  $\psi_1$  on the second, add  $\psi_1 \lor \psi_2$  to  $\sigma$ )

• if 
$$\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2 \in \Psi$$
 and  $s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ ,  
 $Expand(\Psi, s) = Expand(\Psi \cup \{\psi_1\} \setminus \{\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2\}, \langle \lambda, \chi \cup \{\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2\}, \sigma \cup \{\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2\} \rangle)$   
 $\cup Expand(\Psi \cup \{\psi_2\} \setminus \{\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2\}, \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \cup \{\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2\} \rangle)$ 

(split *s* into two copies and process  $\psi_1$  on the first,  $\psi_2$  on the second, add  $\psi_1 \mathbf{U} \psi_2$  to  $\sigma$ )

• if 
$$\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2 \in \Psi$$
 and  $s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ ,  
*Expand*( $\Psi, s$ ) = *Expand*( $\Psi \cup \{\psi_2\} \setminus \{\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2\}, \langle \lambda, \chi \cup \{\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2\}, \sigma \cup \{\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2\} \rangle$ )  
 $\cup$  *Expand*( $\Psi \cup \{\psi_1, \psi_2\} \setminus \{\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2\}, \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \cup \{\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2\} \rangle$ )  
(split *s* into two copies and process  $\psi_1$  on the first,  $\psi_2$  on the second, add  $\psi_1 \mathbf{R} \psi_2$  to  $\sigma$ )

## On-the-fly Construction of $A_{\varphi}$ - Expand

```
Two relevant subcases: \mathbf{F}\psi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \top \mathbf{U}\psi and \mathbf{G}\psi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bot \mathbf{R}\psi

• if \mathbf{F}\psi \in \Psi and s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle,

Expand(\Psi, s) = Expand(\Psi \setminus \{\mathbf{F}\psi\}, \langle \lambda, \chi \cup \{\mathbf{F}\psi\}, \sigma \cup \{\mathbf{F}\psi\}\rangle)

\cup Expand(\Psi \cup \{\psi\} \setminus \{\mathbf{F}\psi\}, \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \cup \{\mathbf{F}\psi\}\rangle)

• if \mathbf{G}\psi \in \Psi and s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle,

Expand(\Psi, s) = Expand(\Psi \cup \{\psi\} \setminus \{\mathbf{G}\psi\}, \langle \lambda, \chi \cup \{\mathbf{G}\psi\}, \sigma \cup \{\mathbf{G}\psi\}\rangle)

(Note: Expand(\Psi \cup \{\bot, \psi\} \setminus \{\mathbf{G}\psi\}, ...) = \emptyset.)
```

# Definition of $A_{\varphi}$

Given a set of LTL formulas  $\Psi$ , we define  $Cover(\Psi) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Expand(\Psi, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle)$ . For an LTL formula  $\varphi$ , we construct a Generalized NBA  $A_{\varphi} = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, FT)$  as follows:

- $\Sigma = 3^{vars(\varphi)}$  ( $v \in \{\top, \bot, *\}$ , "\*" is "don't care")
- Q is the smallest set such that
  - Cover( $\{\varphi\}$ )  $\subseteq Q$
  - if  $\langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle \in Q$ , then  $Cover(\chi) \in Q$
- $Q_0 = Cover(\{\varphi\}).$
- $s \xrightarrow{\lambda'} s' \in \delta$  iff,  $s = \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle$ ,  $s' = \langle \lambda', \chi', \sigma' \rangle$  and  $s' \in Cover(\chi)$
- $FT = \langle F_1, F_2, ..., F_k \rangle$  where, for all  $(\psi_i \mathbf{U}\varphi_i)$  occurring positively in  $\varphi$ ,  $F_i = \{ \langle \lambda, \chi, \sigma \rangle \in \mathbf{Q} \mid (\psi_i \mathbf{U}\varphi_i) \notin \sigma \text{ or } \varphi_i \in \sigma \}.$ (If there is no **U**-subformulas, then  $FT \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \mathbf{Q} \}$ ).

### Example: $\varphi = \mathbf{FG}p$

- Cover({**FG**p})
  - $= Expand(\{FGp\}, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle)$
  - $= \textit{Expand}(\emptyset, \langle \emptyset, \{\textit{FGp}\}, \{\textit{FGp}\}\rangle) \cup \textit{Expand}(\{\textit{Gp}\}, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \{\textit{FGp}\}\rangle)$
  - $= \{ \langle \emptyset, \{\mathsf{FGp}\}, \{\mathsf{FGp}\} \rangle \} \cup \textit{Expand}(\{p\}, \langle \emptyset, \{\mathsf{Gp}\}, \{\mathsf{FGp}, \mathsf{Gp}\} \rangle)$
  - $= \{ \langle \emptyset, \{ \mathsf{FG}p \}, \{ \mathsf{FG}p \} \rangle \} \cup Expand(\emptyset, \langle \{p\}, \{ \mathsf{G}p \}, \{ \mathsf{FG}p, \mathsf{G}p, p \} \rangle )$
  - $= \{ \langle \emptyset, \{ \mathsf{FG} \rho \}, \{ \mathsf{FG} \rho \} \rangle, \langle \{ \rho \}, \{ \mathsf{G} \rho \}, \{ \mathsf{FG} \rho, \mathsf{G} \rho, \rho \} \rangle \}$
- $Cover(\{\mathbf{Gp}\}) = Expand(\{\mathbf{Gp}\}, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle)$ 
  - $= \textit{Expand}(\{\textit{p}\}, \langle \emptyset, \{\textit{Gp}\}, \{\textit{Gp}\}\rangle)$
  - $= Expand(\emptyset, \langle \{p\}, \{\mathbf{G}p\}, \{\mathbf{G}p, p\} \rangle)$
  - $= \{ \langle \{\boldsymbol{p}\}, \{\boldsymbol{\mathsf{G}}\boldsymbol{p}\}, \{\boldsymbol{\mathsf{G}}\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{p}\} \rangle \}$

Optimization:

merge  $\langle \{ \pmb{p} \}, \{ \pmb{\mathsf{Gp}} \}, \{ \pmb{\mathsf{FGp}}, \pmb{\mathsf{Gp}}, \pmb{\rho} \} \rangle$  and  $\langle \{ \pmb{p} \}, \{ \pmb{\mathsf{Gp}} \}, \{ \pmb{\mathsf{Gp}}, \pmb{\rho} \} \rangle$ 

### Example: $\varphi = \mathbf{FG}p$

- Call  $s_1 = \langle \emptyset, \{FGp\}, \{FGp\} \rangle, s_2 = \langle \{p\}, \{Gp\}, \{FGp, Gp, p\} \rangle$
- $Q = \{s_1, s_2\}$
- $Q_0 = \{s_1, s_2\}.$
- $T: \quad s_1 \to \{s_1, s_2\}, \ s_2 \to \{s_2\}$
- $FT = \langle F_1 \rangle$  where  $F_1 = \{s_2\}$ .



- *Cover*({*p***U***q*})
  - $= \textit{Expand}(\{\textit{pUq}\}, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle)$
  - $= Expand(\{p\}, \langle \emptyset, \{p \mathbf{U}q\}, \{p \mathbf{U}q\}\rangle) \cup Expand(\{q\}, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \{p \mathbf{U}q\}\rangle)$
  - $= \textit{Expand}(\emptyset, \langle \{p\}, \{p Uq\}, \{p Uq, p\} \rangle) \cup \textit{Expand}(\emptyset, \langle \{q\}, \emptyset, \{p Uq, q\} \rangle)$
  - $= \{ \langle \{\boldsymbol{p}\}, \{\boldsymbol{p}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{U}}\boldsymbol{q}\}, \{\boldsymbol{p}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{U}}\boldsymbol{q}, \boldsymbol{p}\} \rangle \} \cup \{ \langle \{\boldsymbol{q}\}, \{\top\}, \{\boldsymbol{p}\boldsymbol{\mathsf{U}}\boldsymbol{q}, \boldsymbol{q}\} \rangle \}$
- $Cover(\{\top\}) = \{\langle \emptyset, \{\top\}, \{\top\} \rangle\}$

### Example: $\varphi = p \mathbf{U} q$

- Let s<sub>1</sub> =<sub>def</sub> ({p}, {pUq}, {pUq, p}), s<sub>2</sub> =<sub>def</sub> ({q}, {⊤}, {pUq, q}), s<sub>3</sub> =<sub>def</sub> (∅, {⊤}, {⊤}).
  Q = {s<sub>1</sub>, s<sub>2</sub>, s<sub>3</sub>},
- $Q_0 = \{s_1, s_2\},\$
- $\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet \quad \mathcal{T}: \quad \boldsymbol{s_1} \rightarrow \{\boldsymbol{s_1}, \boldsymbol{s_2}\}, \\ \quad \boldsymbol{s_2} \rightarrow \{\boldsymbol{s_3}\} \\ \quad \boldsymbol{s_3} \rightarrow \{\boldsymbol{s_3}\} \end{array}$

• 
$$FT = \langle F_1 \rangle$$
 where  $F_1 = \{s_2, s_3\}$ .



 $\begin{aligned} & \textit{Cover}(\{\mathsf{GFp}\}) \\ &= E(\{\mathsf{GFp}\}, \langle \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle) \\ &= E(\{\mathsf{Fp}\}, \langle \emptyset, \{\mathsf{GFp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}\} \rangle) \\ &= E(\{\}, \langle \emptyset, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\} \rangle) \cup E(\{p\}, \langle \{\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\} \rangle) \\ &= E(\{\}, \langle \emptyset, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\} \rangle) \cup E(\{\}, \langle \{p\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}, p\} \rangle) \\ &= \{\langle \emptyset, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\} \rangle\} \cup \{\langle \{p\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}, p\} \rangle\} \\ &= \{\langle \emptyset, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}\} \rangle\} \cup \{\langle \{p\}, \{\mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{Fp}, p\} \rangle\} \\ &\text{Note: } \mathsf{GFp} \land \mathsf{Fp} \iff \mathsf{GFp}, \mathsf{s.t.} \ Cover(\mathsf{GFp} \land \mathsf{Fp}) = Cover(\mathsf{GFp}) \end{aligned}$ 

## Example: **GF***p*

- Let  $s_1 =_{def} \langle \{p\}, \{\mathbf{GF}p\}, \{\mathbf{GF}p, \mathbf{F}p, p\} \rangle$ ,  $s_2 =_{def} \langle \emptyset, \{\mathbf{GF}p, \mathbf{F}p\}, \{\mathbf{GF}p, \mathbf{F}p\} \rangle$ , •  $Q = \{s_1, s_2\}$ ,
- $Q_0 = \{s_1, s_2\},\$
- $T: \quad s_1 \to \{s_1, s_2\}, \\ s_2 \to \{s_1, s_2\}$
- $FT = \langle F_1 \rangle$  where  $F_1 = \{s_1\}$ .



# NBAs of disjunctions of formulas

#### Remark

If  $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\varphi_1 \lor \varphi_2)$  and  $A_{\varphi_1}, A_{\varphi_2}$  are NBAs encoding  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  resp., then  $\mathcal{L}(\varphi) = \mathcal{L}(\varphi_1) \cup \mathcal{L}(\varphi_2)$ , so that  $A_{\varphi} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A_{\varphi_1} \cup A_{\varphi_2}$  is an NBA encoding  $\varphi$ 

•  $A_{arphi}$  non necessarily the smallest/best NBA encoding arphi

#### Example

Let 
$$\varphi \stackrel{\text{\tiny def}}{=} (\mathbf{GF}p \to \mathbf{GF}q)$$
, i.e.,  $\varphi \equiv (\mathbf{FG} \neg p \lor \mathbf{GF}q)$ .  
Then  $A_{\mathbf{FG} \neg p} \cup A_{\mathbf{GF}q}$  encodes  $\varphi$ :



### Suggested Exercises:

- Find an NBA encoding:
  - p

• 
$$(p \wedge q) \vee (\neg p \wedge \neg q)$$

- **F**p
- **G**p
- p**R**q
- $(\mathbf{GF}p \wedge \mathbf{GF}q) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}r$

### Outline

#### Büchi Automata



### The Automata-Theoretic Approach to LTL Reasoning

- General Ideas
- Language-Emptiness Checking of Büchi Automata
- From Kripke Models to Büchi Automata
- From LTL Formulas to Büchi Automata
- Complexity



## Automata-Theoretic LTL Model Checking: Complexity

#### Four steps:

- (i) Compute  $A_M$ :  $|A_M| = O(|M|)$
- (ii) Compute  $A_{\varphi}$ :  $|A_{\varphi}| = O(2^{|\varphi|})$
- (iii) Compute the product  $A_M \times A_{\varphi}$ :  $|A_M \times A_{\varphi}| = |A_M| \cdot |A_{\varphi}| = O(|M| \cdot 2^{|\varphi|})$
- (iv) Check the emptiness of  $\mathcal{L}(A_M \times A_{\varphi})$ :  $O(|A_M \times A_{\varphi}|) = O(|M| \cdot 2^{|\varphi|})$

 $\implies$  The complexity of LTL M.C. grows linearly wrt. the size of the model *M* and exponentially wrt. the size of the property  $\varphi$ 

- Büchi automata are in general more expressive than LTL!
- $\implies$  some tools (e.g., Spin) allow specifications to be expressed directly as NBAs
- $\Rightarrow$  complementation of NBA relevanant in general
- For every LTL formula, there are many possible equivalent NBAs
- $\implies$  lots of research for finding "the best" conversion algorithm
  - Performing the product and checking emptiness very relevant
- $\implies$  lots of techniques developed (e.g., partial order reduction)
- $\implies$  lots on ongoing research

# Outline

#### Büchi Automata

- The Automata-Theoretic Approach to LTL Reasoning
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  - Complexity



### Ex: Product of Büchi automata

Given the following two Büchi automata (doubly-circled states represent accepting states, a, b are labels):



Write the product Büchi automaton  $BA1 \times BA2$ .

### Ex: Product of Büchi automata



### Ex: De-generalization of Büchi Automata

Given the following generalized Büchi automaton  $A \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle Q, \Sigma, \delta, I, FT \rangle$ , with two sets of accepting states  $FT \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{F1, F2\}$  s.t.  $F1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{s2\}, F2 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{s1\}$ :



convert it into an equivalent plain Büchi automaton.

### Ex: De-generalization of Büchi Automata



# Ex: Construction of Büchi Automata

Consider the LTL formula  $\varphi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbf{G} \neg p) \rightarrow (p \mathbf{U} q).$ 

(a) rewrite  $\varphi$  into Negative Normal Form

 $[ \text{ Solution: } (\mathbf{G}\neg p) \rightarrow (p\mathbf{U}q) \Longrightarrow (\neg \mathbf{G}\neg p) \lor (p\mathbf{U}q) \Longrightarrow (\mathbf{F}p) \lor (p\mathbf{U}q) ]$ 

(b) find the initial states of a corresponding Buchi automaton (for each state, define the labels of the incoming arcs and the "next" section.)

[Solution: Applying tableaux rules we obtain:  $p \lor XFp \lor q \lor (p \land X(pUq))$ , which is already in disjunctive normal form. This correspond to the following four initial states:



# Ex: Büchi automaton

Given the following Büchi automaton BA (doubly-circled states represent accepting states):



Say which of the following sentences are true and which are false.

- (a) BA accepts all and only the paths verifying GFq. [Solution: false]
- (b) BA accepts all and only the paths verifying FGq. [Solution: true]
- (c) BA accepts only paths verifying Fq, but not all of them. [Solution: true]
- (d) BA accepts all the paths verifying Fq, but not only them. [Solution: false]