# Power of Randomization in Automata on Infinite Strings

A. Prasad Sistla

October 12, 2009

Joint work with Rohit Chadha and Mahesh Viswanathan

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# OutLine

#### Automata on Infinite Strings

- Probabilistic Automata on Finite Strings
- Probabilistic Buchi Automata
- Finite State Probabilistic Monitors
- Expressiveness results for FPMS
- Decidability and Complexity results for FPMs

- Decidability and Expressiveness for PBAs
- **Hierarchical PBAs**

# Automata on Infinite Strings (Rabin, Buchi, Muller, McNaughton)

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Finite State Automata on Finite Strings: DFA = NFA = RExprs

# Automata on Infinite Strings (Rabin, Buchi, Muller, McNaughton)

- Finite State Automata on Finite Strings: DFA = NFA = RExprs
- Buchi Automata (BA) on Infinite Strings:  $\mathcal{A} = (\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0, F)$ 
  - Σ input alphabet
  - Q automaton states
  - $\delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times q$  transition relation

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- ▶ q<sub>0</sub> start state
- $F \subseteq Q$  accepting set

• A run *r* on an infinite input  $a = a_0, ..., a_i, ...$  is a sequence  $(r_0, ..., r_i, ...)$  such that  $r_0 = q_0$  and  $(r_i, a_i, r_{i+1}) \in \delta$  for  $i \ge 0$ .

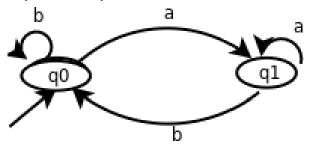
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- An example BA: Accepts strings in which every a is eventually followed by b.



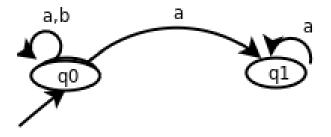
Accepting set = {q0}

#### NonDet BA Vs. Det BA

NonDet BA is more powerful than Det BA. The following BA has no equivalent Det BA.

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# Accepting set = {q1}

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Accepts strings in which eventually only a appears.

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- Fact: ω-Regular Langs = Boolean closure of Det-ω-Regular Langs.
- Applications: Verification of concurrent programs, decision procedures for logics: Linear Temporal Logic, S1S, Theory of Linear order, etc.

Emptiness: Given BA A, check if L(A) ≠ Ø. It is in NLOGSPACE and hence is in P.

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- ► Universality; Given a BA A, check if L(A) = Σ<sup>ω</sup>. It is PSPACE-complete.
- ► Language Containment; Given a BAs A, B, check if  $L(A) \subseteq L(B)$ . **PSPACE**-complete.

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**Hierarchical PBAs** 

• 
$$\mathcal{A} = (\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0, F).$$
  
•  $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \times Q \rightarrow [0, 1]$  so that  $\sum_{q'} \delta(q, a, q') = 1.$ 

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- For a ∈ Σ\*, PrOfAcc<sub>A</sub>(a), called the probability of acceptance of a— is the probability that A is in some state in F after the input a.

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- ►  $L_{>\frac{1}{2}}(A)$  can be a non-regular set (Rabin 1960s).
- ▶ Determining non-emptiness of L<sub>><sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub></sub>(A) and L<sub>≥<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub></sub>(A) are undecidable. Both are **R.E.**-complete. (Paz 1971, Soloma 1973).

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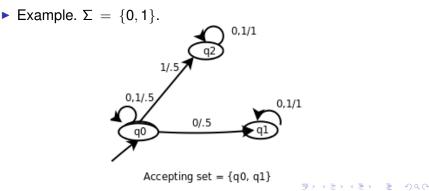
- A = (Σ, Q, δ, q<sub>0</sub>, F). δ defines probabilities on transitions as in the case of PFAs.
- Consider  $a \in \Sigma^{\omega}$ .
- Let *Inf*(*F*) ⊆ *Q<sup>ω</sup>* be the set of sequences having some state of *F* appearing infinitely often.

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►  $PrOfAcc_{\mathcal{A}}(a) = \phi(Inf(F))$ . (Note  $Inf(F) \in \Delta$ ).

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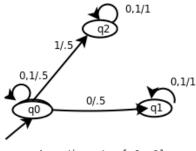
**Hierarchical PBAs** 

## Finite State Probabilistic Monitors (FPM)

► A FPM is a PBA with a designated reject state, an absorbing state. All other states are accepting states. Let PrOfRej<sub>A</sub>(a) = 1 - PrOfAcc<sub>A</sub>(a).

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Accepting set = {q0, q1}

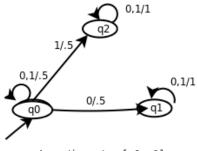
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- Any input a ∈ {0,1}<sup>ω</sup> is the binary representation of a number val(a) ∈ [0,1].
- Observe  $PrOfRej_B(a) = val(a)$ .

## **Applications**

 As monitors for monitoring safety as well as some liveness properties.

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- Modeling open systems that can fail.
- Model checking safety properties of open finite state probabilistic programs.

## **Properties of Infinite Executions**

Language C ⊆ Σ<sup>ω</sup> is a safety property, if it is limit closed. That is, for any a ∈ Σ<sup>ω</sup>, if prefixes(a) ⊆ (Prefixes(C)) then a ∈ C. Example: Set of sequences in which every 1 is preceded

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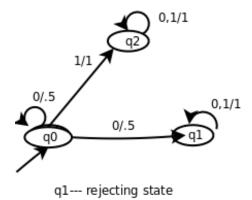
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- Only Safety properties can be monitored using deterministic monitors.
- C ⊆ Σ<sup>ω</sup> is an almost safety property if it is a countable union of safety properties.
  Example: Set of sequences in which 1 appears at least 3 times.

## Monitoring Non-safety Properties

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# Monitoring Non-safety Properties

The following FPM monitors (i.e., accepts) the set of sequences in which 1 appears eventually. Not a safety property!



Consider an alphabet  $\Sigma$  and a language  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \Sigma^{\omega}$ .

L is Monitorable with Strong Acceptance if there is a FPM A such that L is the set of strings rejected by A with probability 0. MSA is the class of all such languages.

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- ▶  $\mathcal{L}$  is Monitorable with Non-strict Cut-off if there is a FPM  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{L}$  is the set of strings rejected by  $\mathcal{A}$  with probability  $\leq \frac{1}{2}$ . MNC is the class of all such languages.

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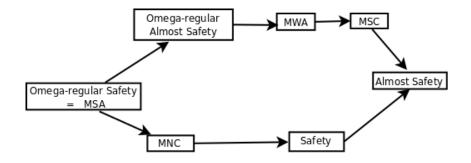
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#### Expressiveness results

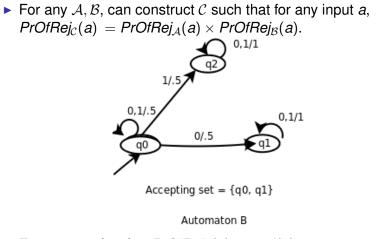


Containment Lattice among Language Classes

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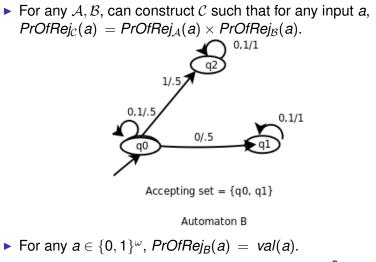
For any  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$ , can construct  $\mathcal{C}$  such that for any input a,  $PrOfRej_{\mathcal{C}}(a) = PrOfRej_{\mathcal{A}}(a) \times PrOfRej_{\mathcal{B}}(a).$ 

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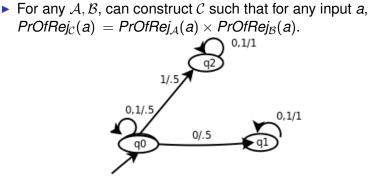


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For any  $a \in \{0, 1\}^{\omega}$ ,  $PrOfRej_B(a) = val(a)$ .



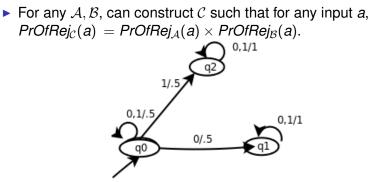
• Construct FPM C,  $PrOfRej_C(a) = (PrOfRej_B(a))^2$ .



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Automaton B

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- Construct FPM C, *PrOfRej*<sub>C</sub>(*a*) = (*PrOfRej*<sub>B</sub>(*a*))<sup>2</sup>.
- Let *L* be the set of inputs rejected by C with prob  $\leq \frac{1}{2}$ .



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- Construct FPM C,  $PrOfRej_C(a) = (PrOfRej_B(a))^2$ .
- Let *L* be the set of inputs rejected by C with prob  $\leq \frac{1}{2}$ .
- $L = \{a : val(a) \le \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\}. \quad L \in MNC \text{ and not } \omega \text{-regular.}$

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► Given a FPM A, determining if there is at least one input a such that PrOfRej<sub>A</sub>(a) < 1 is **PSPACE**-complete.

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# Summary of Complexity and Decidability results

	EMPTINESS	UNIVERSALITY
Msa	<b>PSPACE</b> -complete	NL-complete
Mwa	PSPACE-complete	PSPACE-complete
Msc	co-R.Ecomplete	П <sup>1</sup> -complete
Mnc	R.Ecomplete	co-R.E. complete

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## OutLine

Automata on Infinite Strings

Probabilistic Automata on Finite Strings

Probabilistic Buchi Automata

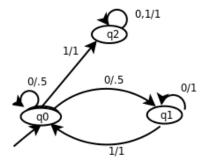
Finite State Probabilistic Monitors

Expressiveness results for FPMS

Decidability and Complexity results for FPMs

Decidability and Expressiveness for PBAs

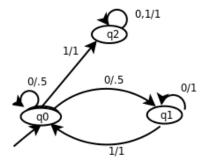
**Hierarchical PBAs** 



Accepting set = {q0}

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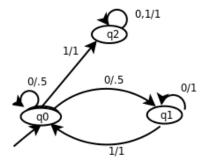
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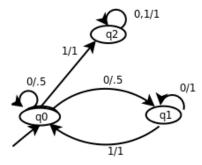
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- Acceptance probability  $(1 \frac{1}{2}) \times (1 \frac{1}{2^2}) \times \dots (1 \frac{1}{2^i}) \times \dots$

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Given a PBA  $\mathcal{A}$ :

 deciding if it accepts at least one input with non-zero probability is undecidable, is π<sup>0</sup><sub>2</sub>-complete.

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- Reduce to emptiness and universality problems for FPMs.

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- ► L(PBA<sup>>0</sup>) is exactly the boolean closure of L(PBA<sup>=1</sup>). Just like classes of languages accepted by non-det. BAs and det.BAs.

### OutLine

Automata on Infinite Strings

Probabilistic Automata on Finite Strings

Probabilistic Buchi Automata

Finite State Probabilistic Monitors

Expressiveness results for FPMS

Decidability and Complexity results for FPMs

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Decidability and Expressiveness for PBAs

**Hierarchical PBAs** 

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#### **Conclusions and Future Work**

Applications to non-deterministic probabilistic programs.

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 Explore relationships to Partially Observable Markov Decision Processes. (POMDPs)

### **Conclusions and Future Work**

- Applications to non-deterministic probabilistic programs.
- Explore relationships to Partially Observable Markov Decision Processes. (POMDPs)
- Explore power of randomization in other computation models on infinite inputs.

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