Automata on Infinite Trees
Büchi Automata on Infinite Trees
Definition

A Büchi tree automaton over $\Sigma$ is $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$, where:

- $S$ is a finite set of states,
- $I \subseteq S$ is a set of initial states,
- $T : S \times \Sigma \to 2^{S \times S}$ is the transition relation,
- $F \subseteq S$ is the set of final states.
**Runs**

A *run* of $A$ over a tree $t : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \Sigma$ is a mapping $\pi : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow S$ such that, for each position $p \in \{0, 1\}^*$, where $q = \pi(p)$, we have:

- if $p = \epsilon$ then $q \in I$, and
- if $q_i = \pi(pi)$, $i = 0, 1$ then $\langle q_0, q_1 \rangle \in T(q, t(p))$.

If $\pi$ is a *run* of $A$ and $\sigma$ is a *path* in $t$, let $\pi|\sigma$ denote the path in $\pi$ corresponding to $\sigma$.

A run $\pi$ is said to be *accepting*, if and only if for every path $\sigma$ in $t$ we have:

$$\inf(\pi|\sigma) \cap F \neq \emptyset$$
Closure Properties

For every Büchi automaton $A$ there exists a complete Büchi automaton $A'$ such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(A')$.

**Theorem 1** The class of Büchi-recognizable tree languages is closed under union, intersection and projection.

Let $A_i = \langle S_i, I_i, T_i, F_i \rangle$, $i = 1, 2$, where $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$.

Let $A_\cup = \langle S_1 \cup S_2, I_1 \cup I_2, T_1 \cup T_2, F_1 \cup F_2 \rangle$. 
Closure Properties

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$ where:

- $S = S_1 \times S_2 \times \{0, 1, 2\}$
- $I = I_1 \times I_2 \times \{1\}$
- for any $s, s_1, s_2 \in S_1$, $s', s'_1, s'_2 \in S_2$, $a, b \in \{0, 1, 2\}$:
  $\langle (s_1, s'_1, b), (s_2, s'_2, b) \rangle \in T((s, s', a), \sigma)$

iff $\langle s_1, s_2 \rangle \in T(s, \sigma)$, $\langle s'_1, s'_2 \rangle \in T(s', \sigma)$ and:

1. if $a = 0$ or ($a = 1$ and $s \notin F_1$), then $b = 1$
2. if ($a = 1$ and $s \in F_1$) or ($a = 2$ and $s \notin F_1$), then $b = 2$
3. if $a = 2$ and $s' \in F_2$, then $b = 0$

- $F = S \times S \times \{0\}$
Emptiness of Büchi Tree Automata

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$ be a Büchi tree automaton where $F = \{s_1, \ldots, s_m\}$, and $\pi: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow S$ be a successful run of $A$ on the tree $t \in T(\Sigma)$.

For any $s \in S$, and any $u \in \{0, 1\}^*$ such that $\pi(u) = s$, let

$$d^\pi_u = \{w \in u \cdot \{0, 1\}^* | \pi(v) \not\in F, \text{ for all } u < v < w\}$$

By König’s lemma, $d^\pi_u$ is finite for any $u \in \{0, 1\}^*$.

Let $t^\pi_s$ be the restriction of $t$ to $d^\pi_u$. Let

$$T_s = \{t^\pi_s | \pi \text{ is a successful run of } A \text{ on } t\}$$
Emptiness of Büchi Tree Automata

If $\vec{s} = \langle s_1, \ldots, s_m \rangle$:

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \bigcup_{s_0 \in I} T_{s_0} \cdot \vec{s} \langle T_{s_1}, \ldots, T_{s_m} \rangle^{\omega \vec{s}}$$

Conversely, the expression above denotes a Büchi-recognizable tree language.

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$ be a Büchi tree automaton. For each $s \in S$ let $T_s$ be the recognizable tree language defined above. Eliminate from $S$ (and $T$) all states $s$ such that $T_s = \emptyset$, and let $S'$ be the resulting set of states.

We claim that $\mathcal{L}(A) \neq \emptyset \iff S' \cap I \neq \emptyset$. 
The Complement Problem

Let $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$, $\mathcal{T}_0 = \{t \in \mathcal{T}^\omega(\Sigma) \mid \text{some path in } t \text{ has infinitely many } a\text{'s}\}$

$\mathcal{T}_0$ is Büchi recognizable.

Let $A = \langle \{s_0, s_1, s_a, s_b\}, \{s_0\}, T, \{s_1, s_a\} \rangle$, where $T$ is defined by:

\[
\begin{align*}
a(s_0, a, b) & \rightarrow \{\langle s_1, s_a \rangle, \langle s_a, s_1 \rangle\} \\
b(s_0, a, b) & \rightarrow \{\langle s_1, s_b \rangle, \langle s_b, s_1 \rangle\} \\
a(s_1) & \rightarrow \{\langle s_1, s_1 \rangle\} \\
b(s_1) & \rightarrow \{\langle s_1, s_1 \rangle\}
\end{align*}
\]
The Complement Problem

Let \( \mathcal{T}_1 = \mathcal{T}^\omega(\Sigma) \setminus \mathcal{T}_0 = \{ t \in \mathcal{T}^\omega(\Sigma) \mid \text{all paths in } t \text{ have finitely many } a\text{'s}\} \). We show that \( \mathcal{T}_1 \) cannot be recognized by a Büchi tree automaton.

**Exercise 1** \( I = \{s_0, s_1\} \), \( F = \{s_1\} \) and

\[
\begin{align*}
a(s_0) & \rightarrow \langle s_0, s_0 \rangle \\
& \quad \langle s_0, s_1 \rangle \\
& \quad \langle s_1, s_0 \rangle \\
& \quad \langle s_1, s_1 \rangle \\
b(s_0) & \rightarrow \langle s_0, s_0 \rangle \\
& \quad \langle s_0, s_1 \rangle \\
& \quad \langle s_1, s_0 \rangle \\
& \quad \langle s_1, s_1 \rangle \\
b(s_1) & \rightarrow \langle s_1, s_1 \rangle
\end{align*}
\]
The Complement Problem

Let \( T_n : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \Sigma \) be the language of trees:

\[
t_n(p) = \begin{cases} 
  a & \text{if } p \in \{\epsilon, 1^{m_1}0, 1^{m_1}01^{m_2}0, \ldots, 1^{m_1}01^{m_2}0\ldots1^{m_n}0 \mid m_1, \ldots m_n \in \mathbb{N}\} \\
  b & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases}
\]

Obviously, \( T_n \subset T_1 \), for all \( n \in \mathbb{N} \).

Suppose there exists a Büchi automaton \( A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle \) with \( k \) states, s.t. \( \mathcal{L}(A) = T_1 \). Let \( \pi \) be the accepting run of \( A \) over \( t_{k+1} \). Then there exist:

- \( m_1 > 0 \) such that \( \pi(1^{m_1}) = s_1 \in F \)
- \( m_2 > 0 \) such that \( \pi(1^{m_1}01^{m_2}) = s_2 \in F \)
- \( \ldots \)

There exists a path \( \sigma \) in \( t_m \) and \( u < v < w < \sigma \), such that \( \pi(u) = \pi(w) = s \in F \) and \( t_m(v) = a \). Then \( \pi = r_1 \cdot s \cdot r_2 \cdot s \cdot r_3 \), and \( r_1 \cdot s \cdot r_2^{\omega} \cdot s \) is a successful run on \( q_1 \cdot q_2^{\omega} \), which contains a path with infinitely many \( a \).
Müller Automata on Infinite Trees
**Definition**

A Müller tree automaton $\Sigma$ is $A = \langle S, I, T, F \rangle$, where:

- $S$ is a finite set of *states*,
- $I \subseteq S$ is a set of *initial states*,
- $T : S \times \Sigma \to 2^{S \times S}$ is the *transition function*,
- $F \subseteq 2^S$, is the set of *accepting sets*.

A run $\pi$ of $A$ over $t$ is said to be *accepting*, iff for every path $\sigma$ in $t$:

$$\inf(\pi_{|\sigma}) \in F$$
Closure Properties

The class of Müller-recognizable tree languages is closed under union and intersection.

For union, the proof is exactly as in the case of Büchi automata. For $A_U$, the set of accepting sets is the union of the sets $\mathcal{F}_i$, $i = 1, 2$.

For intersection, let $A_\cap = \langle S_1 \times S_2, I_1 \times I_2, T, \mathcal{F} \rangle$, where:

- $\langle (s_1, s'_1), (s_2, s'_2) \rangle \in T((s, s'), \sigma)$ iff $\langle s_1, s_2 \rangle \in T(s, \sigma)$ and $\langle s'_1, s'_2 \rangle \in T(s', \sigma)$, and

- $\mathcal{F} = \{ G \in S_1 \times S_2 \mid pr_1(G) \in \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ and } pr_2(G) \in \mathcal{F}_2 \}$, where:
  - $pr_1(G) = \{ s \in S_1 \mid \exists s' . (s, s') \in G \}$, and
  - $pr_2(G) = \{ s \in S_2 \mid \exists s' . (s', s) \in G \}$. 
Rabin Automata on Infinite Trees
**Definition**

A **Rabin** tree automaton $\Sigma$ is $A = \langle S, I, T, \Omega \rangle$, where:

- $S$ is a finite set of **states**,
- $I \subseteq S$ is a set of **initial states**,
- $T : S \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^{S \times S}$ is the **transition function**,
- $\Omega = \{\langle N_1, P_1 \rangle, \ldots, \langle P_n, N_n \rangle\}$ is the set of **accepting pairs**.

A run $\pi$ of $A$ over $t$ is said to be **accepting**, if and only if for every path $\sigma$ in $t$ there exists a pair $\langle N_i, P_i \rangle \in \Omega$ such that:

$$\inf(\pi|_{\sigma}) \cap N_i = \emptyset \text{ and } \inf(\pi|_{\sigma}) \cap P_i \neq \emptyset$$
Büchi, Müller and Rabin

For every Büchi tree automaton $A$ there exists a Rabin tree automaton $B$, such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(B)$, but not viceversa.

For every Müller tree automaton $A$ there exists a Rabin tree automaton $B$, such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(B)$, and viceversa.
The Rabin Complementation Theorem

Theorem 2 (Rabin ’69) The class of Rabin-recognizable tree languages is closed under complement.

The class of Rabin-recognizable tree languages is closed under union and intersection.
Emptiness of Rabin Automata

Given an alphabet $\Sigma$, an infinite tree $t \in T^\omega(\Sigma)$ is said to be regular if there are only finitely many distinct subtrees $t_u$ of $t$, where $u \in \{0, 1\}^*$.

**Example 1** The infinite binary tree $f(g(f(\ldots), f(\ldots)), g(f(\ldots), f(\ldots)))$ is regular.  

**Theorem 3 (Rabin ’72)**

1. Any non-empty Rabin-recognizable set of trees contains a regular tree.
2. The emptiness problem for Rabin tree automata is decidable.
Reduction to empty alphabet

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, \Omega \rangle$ be a Rabin tree automaton over $\Sigma$, such that $\mathcal{L}(A) \neq \emptyset$, where $\Omega = \{\langle N_1, P_1 \rangle, \ldots, \langle N_n, P_n \rangle\}$.

Let $A' = \langle S \times \Sigma, I \times \Sigma, T', \Omega' \rangle$, where:

- $\langle (s_1, \sigma_1), (s_2, \sigma_2) \rangle \in T'((s, \sigma))$ iff $\langle s_1, s_2 \rangle \in T(s, \sigma)$, and $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in \Sigma$.
- $\Omega' = \{\langle N_1 \times \Sigma, P_1 \times \Sigma \rangle, \ldots, \langle N_n \times \Sigma, P_n \times \Sigma \rangle\}$.

The successful runs of $A'$ are pairs $(\pi, t)$, where $t \in \mathcal{L}(A)$, and $\pi$ is a successful run of $A$ on $t$. 
**Regular successful runs**

For any Rabin tree automaton $A$, there exists a Rabin tree automaton $A'$ with one initial state such that $\mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(A')$.

Consider a Rabin tree automaton $A = \langle S, s_0, T, \Omega \rangle$ over the empty alphabet, and let $\pi$ be a successful run of $A$.

**Claim 1** *If $A$ has a successful run, $A$ has also a regular successful run.*

A state $s \in S$ is said to be *live* if $s \neq s_0$ and $\langle s_1, s_2 \rangle \in T(s)$ for some $s_1, s_2 \in S$, where either $s_1 \neq s$ or $s_2 \neq s$.

By induction on $n = \text{the number of live states in } A$. 
**Regular successful runs**

If \( n = 0, \pi(\epsilon) = s_0 \) and \( \pi(p) = s \), for all \( p \in \text{dom}(\pi) \), and \( s \in S \) non-live.

**Case 1** If some live state in \( A \) is missing on \( \pi \), apply the induction hypothesis.

**Case 2** All states of \( A \) appear on \( \pi \), and there is a position \( u \in \{0, 1\}^* \) such that \( \pi(u) = s \) is live, but some live state \( s' \) does not appear in \( \pi_u \).

Let \( \pi_1 = \pi \setminus \pi_u \) and \( \pi_2 = \pi_u \). Both \( \pi_1 \) and \( \pi_2 \) are runs of automata with \( n - 1 \) live states, hence there exists successful regular runs \( \pi'_1 \) and \( \pi'_2 \) of these automata. The desired run is \( \pi'_1 \cdot_s \pi'_2 \).
**Regular successful runs**

**Case 3** All live states appear in any subtree of \( \pi \). Let \( \sigma \) be a path in \( \pi \) consisting of all the live states appearing again and again, and only of the live states, with the exception of \( \pi(\epsilon) \). **Q:** Why does \( \sigma \) exist?

There exists \( \langle N, P \rangle \in \Omega \), such that \( \inf(\sigma) \cap N = \emptyset \) and \( \inf(\sigma) \cap P \neq \emptyset \). Then \( N \) contains only non-live states.

Let \( s \in \inf(\sigma) \cap P \) and \( u, v \) be the 1\(^{st}\) and 2\(^{nd}\) positions such that \( \sigma(u) = \sigma(v) = s \).

Let \( \pi_1 = \pi \setminus \pi_u \) and \( \pi_2 = \pi_u \setminus \pi_v \). Both \( \pi_1 \) and \( \pi_2 \) are runs of automata with \( n - 1 \) live states, hence there exists successful regular runs \( \pi'_1 \) and \( \pi'_2 \) of these automata. The desired run is \( \pi'_1 \cdot_s \pi'_2 \omega^s \).
The Emptiness Problem

Let $A$ be an input-free Rabin tree automaton with $n$ live states.

We derive $A_{n-1}, A_{n-2}, \ldots, A_0$ from $A$, having $n-1, n-2, \ldots, 0$ live states.

If $A$ has a successful run, then it has a regular run, composed of runs of $A_{n-1}, A_{n-2}, \ldots, A_0$.

So it is enough to check emptiness of $A_{n-1}, A_{n-2}, \ldots, A_0$. 
Rabin Automata, SkS and $S\omega S$
Defining infinite paths

We say that a set of positions $X$ is linear iff the following holds:

$$linear(X) : (\forall x, y . X(x) \land X(y) \rightarrow x \leq y \lor y \leq x)$$

$X$ is a path iff:

$$path(X) : linear(X) \land \forall Y . linear(Y) \land X \subseteq Y \rightarrow X = Y$$
From Automata to Formulae

Let $A = \langle S, I, T, \Omega \rangle$ be a Rabin tree automaton, where $S = \{s_1, \ldots, s_p\}$.

Let $\vec{Y} = \{Y_1, \ldots, Y_p\}$ be set variables.

If $X$ denotes a path, state $i$ appears infinitely often in $X$ iff:

$$inf_i(X) : \forall x . X(x) \rightarrow \exists y . x \leq y \land X(y) \land Y_i(y)$$

The formula expressing the accepting condition is:

$$\Phi_\Omega(\vec{Y}) : \forall X . path(X) \rightarrow \bigvee_{\langle N,P \rangle \in \Omega} \left( \bigwedge_{s_i \in N} \neg inf_i(X) \land \bigvee_{s_i \in P} inf_i(X) \right)$$
Theorem 4  Given an alphabet $\Sigma$, a tree language $L \subseteq T^\omega(\Sigma)$ is definable in S2S iff it is recognizable.

Corollary 1  The SAT problem for S2S is decidable.
Obtaining Decidability Results by Reduction

Suppose we have a logic $\mathcal{L}$ interpreted over the domain $\mathcal{D}$, such that the following problem is decidable:

\[
\text{for each formula } \varphi \text{ of } \mathcal{L} \text{ there exists } m \in \mathcal{D} \text{ such that } m \models \varphi
\]

Then we can prove the same thing for another logic $\mathcal{L}'$ interpreted over $\mathcal{D}'$ iff there exists functions $\Delta : \mathcal{D}' \to \mathcal{D}$ and $\Lambda : \mathcal{L}' \to \mathcal{L}$ such that for all $m' \in \mathcal{D}'$ and $\varphi' \in \mathcal{L}$ we have:

\[
m' \models \varphi' \iff \Delta(m') \models \Lambda(\varphi')
\]
Decidability of $S_\omega S$

Every tree $t : \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \Sigma$ can be encoded as $t' : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \Sigma$.

Let $D = \{\epsilon\} \cup \bigcup_{n_1, \ldots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}} \{01^{n_1}01^{n_2}0 \ldots 1^{n_k}0 \mid k \geq 1, 1 \leq i \leq k\}$.

Embedding the domain of $S_\omega S$ into $S2S$:

$$D(x) : \exists z \forall y . (z \leq y) \land x = z \lor s_0(z) \leq x \land \forall y . z < y \land s_0(y) \leq x \rightarrow \exists y' . y = s_1(y')$$
Decidability of $S_\omega S$

If $p = 01^{n_1}01^{n_2}0\ldots1^{n_k}0$, let $f_i(p) = 01^{n_1}01^{n_2}0\ldots1^{n_k}01^i0$

$$x \preceq_1 y : D(x) \land D(y) \land x \preceq y$$

Define the relation $x \preceq_D y$ iff $x \in D$ and $y = x01^n$, for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Define $f_0, f_1, f_2, \ldots$ by induction:

- $f_0(x) = y : D(x) \land D(y) \land x \preceq_D y \land \forall z . x \preceq_D z \rightarrow y \preceq_1 z$

- $f_{i+1}(x) = y : D(x) \land D(y) \land x \preceq_D y \land \forall z . x \preceq_D z \land \bigwedge_{0 \leq k \leq i} z \neq f_k(x) \rightarrow y \preceq_1 z$