# Tree Algebras and Bisimulation-Invariant MSO on Finite Graphs 

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MOVE Team Seminar

## Transitions systems



## Specifying properties

MSO formulae:

$$
\varphi:=a(x)|E(x, y)| x \in X|\exists X . \varphi| \neg \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi
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Example: $\varphi(r)$ for " $\exists \infty$ path from the root $r$ ": $\exists X$.
$r \in X \wedge$
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$\mu$-calculus formulae:

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\psi:=a|\psi \vee \psi| \neg \psi|\diamond \psi| \square \psi|\mu X . \psi| \nu X . \psi
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Example: $\psi$ for " $\exists \infty$ path from the root" : $\nu X . \diamond X$

## Unfold and Bisimulation equivalence



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Bisimulation $=$ unfold + children duplication Fact: $\mu$-calculus is bisimulation-invariant.

## Starting point

Theorem (Janin and Walukiewicz 1996)
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$\mu$-calculus $\rightarrow$ bisim-inv MSO : Easy
Bisim-inv MSO $\rightarrow \mu$-calculus: Hard

## Proof sketch for bisim-inv MSO $\rightarrow \mu$-calculus

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Correctness:

- $\varphi$ and $\psi$ are equivalent on infinite trees
- Every system is bisimilar to an infinite tree
- $\varphi$ and $\psi$ are bisim-invariant
- $\Longrightarrow \varphi$ and $\psi$ are equivalent on all systems


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Can we restrict the theorem to finite systems ?

## Main Contribution

For properties of finite systems, the following are equivalent:

1. Being MSO-definable and bisimulation-invariant.
2. Being $\mu$-calculus-definable.

## Examples of the difference

MSO formula $\varphi$ for " $\exists$ cycle":

- $\varphi$ is not bisim-invariant on all systems.
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$\Longrightarrow$ using Janin-Walukiewicz does not work for finite systems.


## Algebra of systems

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Then $L=\left\{\right.$ Systems evaluating to $\left.a_{0}\right\}$, via $h:$ Systems $\rightarrow \mathcal{A}$.

## Another example of algebra

Language $L=\{\exists$ branch with $\infty$ many a's $\}$.
Then $A_{n}=2^{\{1, \ldots, n\}} \cup\left\{\top_{n}\right\}$, and $L=h^{-1}\left(T_{0}\right)$


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$\mathcal{A}$ is sortwise-finite but not sortwise-bounded.
Intuition: Enough for regularity.

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## Key Lemma

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With new operators in the algebras.

## Consequences

- $A_{1}$ actually contains all the information about $A_{n}$.
- Algebras can be turned into automata.


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- Bisim-invariant automata $\rightarrow \mu$-calculus as in [Janin-Walukiewicz 1996].


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Thanks for your attention!

