

Games with perfect information

Exercise sheet 9

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Due: June 13

Submit your solutions on Wednesday, June 13, at the beginning of the lecture.

Please submit in groups of three persons.

Exercise 1: Language emptiness as a parity game

Consider the PTA A_2 from Part b) of Exercise 9.42 in the lecture notes (resp. Exercise 1 from Exercise sheet 7). Recall that $A_2 = (\Sigma, \{q_+, q_-\}, q_+, \rightarrow, \Omega)$ where

$$\begin{aligned}\rightarrow_a &= \{(q_+, (q_-, q_-))\}, \\ \rightarrow_b &= \{(q_+, (q_+, q_-)), (q_+, (q_-, q_+)), (q_-, (q_-, q_-))\}, \\ \Omega(q_-) &= 0, \quad \Omega(q_+) = 1.\end{aligned}$$

To avoid deadlocks, transform the automaton to a language-equivalent automaton A' that has at least one transition $(q, \vec{q}) \in \rightarrow_a$ for each source state q and symbol a .

Recall that we can construct a parity game $\mathcal{G}(A')$ that is won by \bigcirc if and only if the language of A' is non-empty (see Proposition 9.30 in the lecture notes).

Construct the parity game $\mathcal{G}(A')$ and identify a positional winning strategy for the existential player. How does the tree described by the strategy look like?

Exercise 2: Making finite-memory strategies uniform

Let \mathcal{G} be a game on some finite graph $G = (V_{\square} \cup V_{\bigcirc}, R)$ with some arbitrary fixed winning condition *win*. Assume for each of the two positions $x, y \in V$, player \bigcirc has some finite-memory strategy, say induced by the transducers T_x and T_y , respectively.

Show how to construct a transducer T such that the finite-memory strategy induced by T is winning from both x and y .

Exercise 3: Constructing a transducer

Consider the game $\mathcal{G}(n)$ (for some $n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 0$) on the following graph:

$$V = \{guess, go\} \cup N \cup X \quad \text{with}$$

$$N = \{1, \dots, n\},$$

$$X = \{x_1 \dots x_n\},$$

$$R = \{(guess, i), (i, go) \mid i \in \{1, \dots, n\}\} \cup \{(go, x_i) \mid i \in \{1, \dots, n\}\} \cup \{(x_i, x_j) \mid i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}\},$$

$$owner(guess) = owner(i) = \square \text{ for all } i \in N,$$

$$owner(go) = owner(x_i) = \circ \text{ for all } x_i \in X.$$

Let us focus on plays starting in position *guess*. Note that all maximal plays from this position are infinite, and they visit exactly one position from the set *N*, and they visit this position exactly once.

Such a play *p* is won by \circ if and only if $|\text{Inf}(p) \cap X| = m$ holds, where *m* is the unique position from *N* that occurs in *p*.

- Draw *G* for $n = 4$. Assume that the universal player picks the move (*guess*, 3). Draw in a positional strategy for \circ that wins under this assumption.
- Let $n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 0$ be an arbitrary fixed number, and consider $\mathcal{G}(n)$. Show how to construct a transducer *T* such that the finite-memory strategy for \circ induced by *T* is winning from *guess*.

Example 4: An expensive game

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 0$ be a fixed positive number. We define a Muller game $\mathcal{G}^{\text{Muller}}$ on the game arena $G = (V, R)$ with $V = \{1, \dots, n\} \times \{\circ, \square\}$ (where the second component indicates the active player) and the moves defined by

$$R = \{(i, \star) \rightarrow (j, \bar{\star}) \mid i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \{\circ, \square\} = \{\star, \bar{\star}\}\}.$$

The Muller judgment is defined as follows: $judgment(X) = \circ$ if and only if

$$|X \cap V_{\circ}| = \max\{i \mid (i, \square) \in X\}.$$

- Draw *G* for $n = 2$.
- Explain the winning condition in your own words.
- Construct the parity game $\mathcal{G}^{\text{parity}}$ obtained from $\mathcal{G}^{\text{Muller}}$ by the LAR construction. You can fix some initial LAR *lar*₀ and just draw all LARs reachable from *lar*₀. Similar to the example in the lecture, mark all positions with their priorities.

Draw in a positional winning strategy for the existential player \circ .