

Games with ω -Automatic Preference Relations

CFV

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Joint work with Véronique Bruyère and Jean-François Raskin



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Reactive systems

Continuous interactions between multiple **independent agents** with their own interests.



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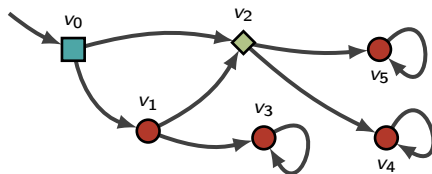
~ Study this rationality, ensure some specification under rational assumptions.

Game played on graphs

↪ How to model these interactions?

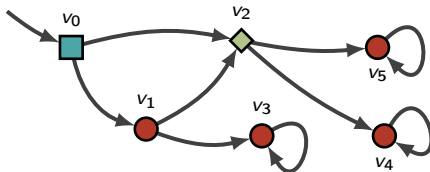
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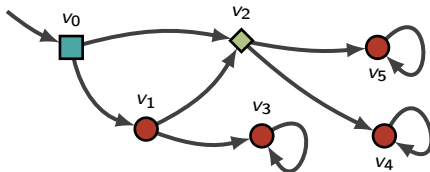


Directed graph: (V, E)
Set of players: $\mathcal{P} = \{1, \dots, n\}$
Partition of V : $(V_i)_{i \in \mathcal{P}}$

} Arena $A = (V, E, \mathcal{P}, (V_i)_{i \in \mathcal{P}})$

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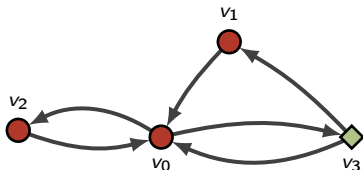
} Arena $A = (V, E, \mathcal{P}, (V_i)_{i \in \mathcal{P}})$

- Play: $\pi \in \text{Plays} \subseteq V^\omega$ consistent with E , history: $h \in V^*$,
- Strategy for $i \in \mathcal{P}$: function $\sigma_i : V^* V_i \rightarrow V$, $h v \mapsto \sigma_i(h v)$.

Example - Games played on graphs

Define the following goals:

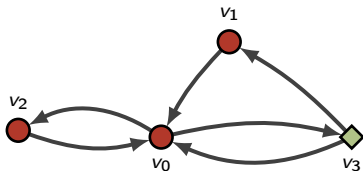
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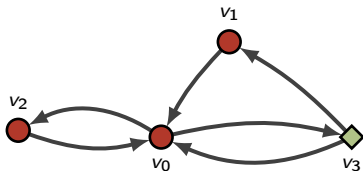


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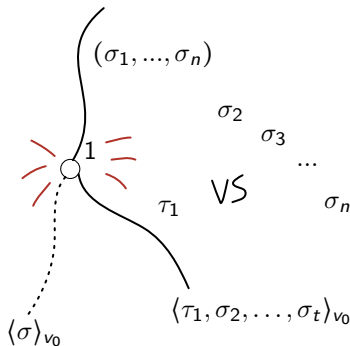
Can players ensure their goals?

No.

Nash Equilibria

A **Nash Equilibrium** (NE) is a strategy profile $\sigma = (\sigma_i)_{i \in \mathcal{P}}$ from which no player has the incentive to **unilaterally deviate**, i.e.,

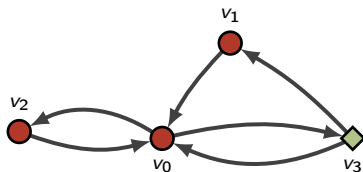
$\forall i \in \mathcal{P}, \forall \tau_i$ strategy of player i , $\langle \sigma_{-i}, \tau_i \rangle_{v_0}$ is not better than $\langle \sigma \rangle_{v_0}$ **for i** .



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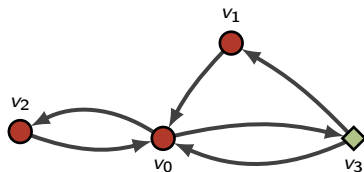


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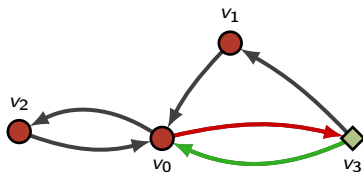
Do there exist NEs from v_0 ?

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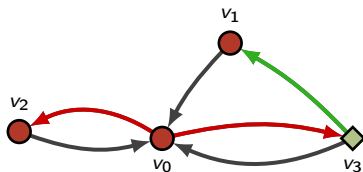
$\leadsto \sigma_{\diamond}(hv_3) = v_0, \sigma_{\circ}(hv_0) = v_3.$

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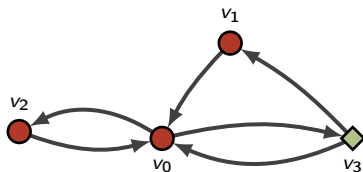
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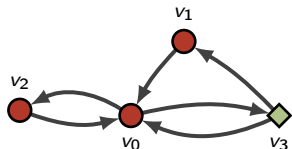
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Note: $\langle \sigma' \rangle_{v_0}$ is better than $\langle \sigma \rangle_{v_0}$ for both players.

Broader objectives

Classical setting: **objectives** $\Omega_i : \text{Plays} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$.



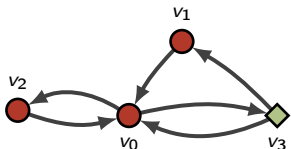
What if we take more complex objectives for both players?

Study NEs in all cases?

¹See, e.g., Bouyer et al., *Nash Equilibria for Reachability Objectives in Multi-player Timed Games*, or Pauly, Le Roux, *Equilibria in multi-player multi-outcome infinite sequential games*.

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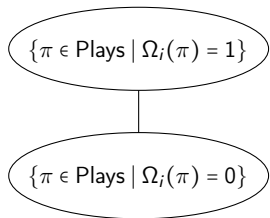
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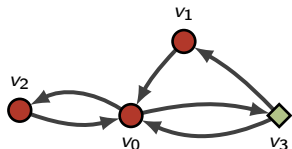
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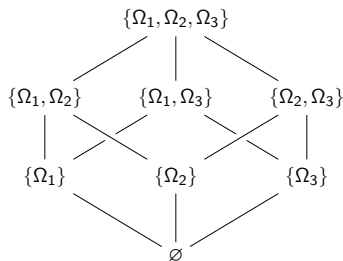
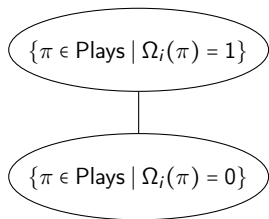
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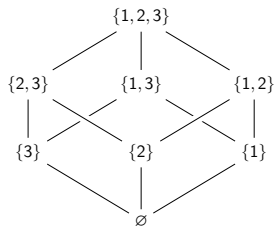
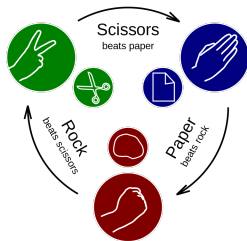
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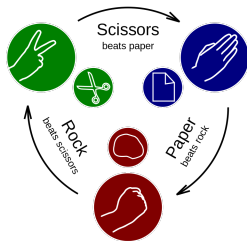


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Properties of preference relations

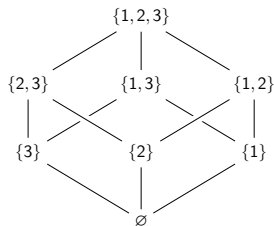


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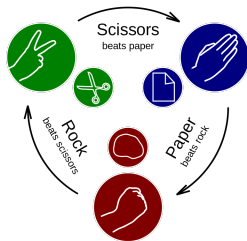


Usual properties

- Reflexivity: $\forall x, x < x$,
- Irreflexivity: $\forall x, x \not< x$,
- Transitivity: $\forall x, y, z, x < y \wedge y < z \Rightarrow x < z$,
- Totality: $\forall x, y, x \neq y \Rightarrow x < y \vee y < x$,
- ...

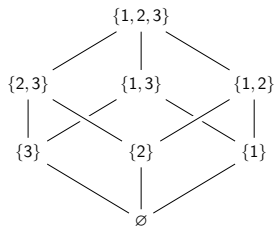


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We expect $<$ to have an **order structure**;

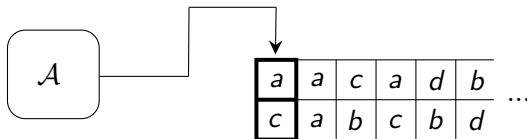
- **strict partial order** (irreflexive, transitive),
- or **preorder** (reflexive, transitive).

Synchronous automata

↪ Define $<$ with a *deterministic parity automaton* (DPA) on $V \times V$ that **synchronously** reads two ω -words.

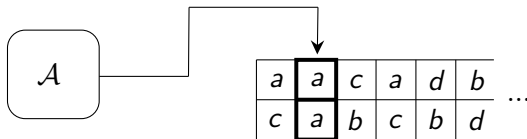
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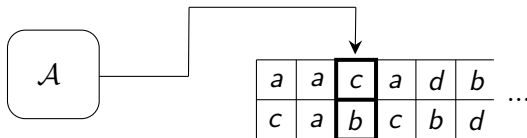
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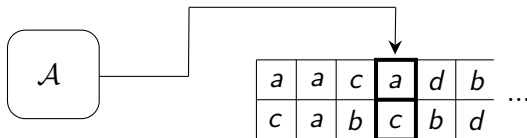
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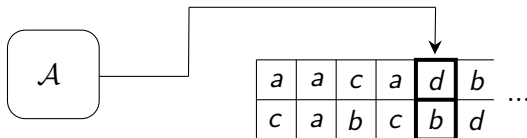
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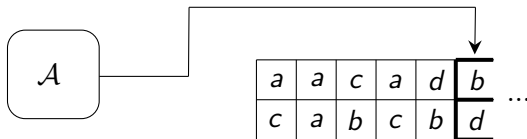
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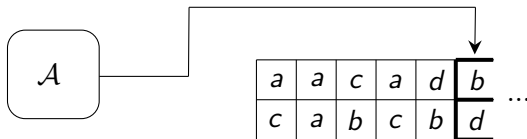
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$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) \subseteq V^\omega \times V^\omega$ can be seen as a binary relation: **ω -Automatic Relation!**

Properties of ω -automatic preference relations

Can we check whether $<$ is a strict partial order?

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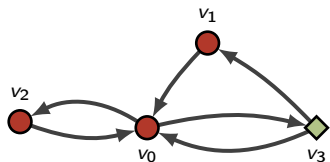
Such a structure $(V^\omega, <)$ captured by ω -automata is called **ω -automatic**.

Theorem [B. R. Hodgson, Décidabilité par automate fini, 1983]

The First-Order theory of every ω -automatic structure is decidable.

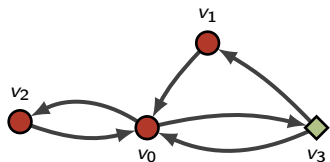
Games with ω -automatic preference relations

A **game** is a tuple $\mathcal{G} = (A, (<_i)_{i \in \mathcal{P}})$ with ω -**automatic strict partial orders** for the players.



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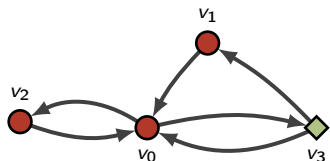
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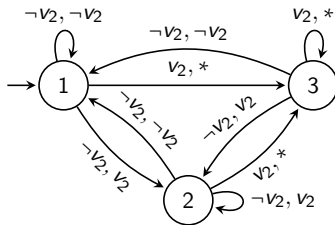
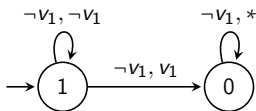
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 $\pi <_i \pi'$ if $\Omega_i(\pi') = 1$ and $\Omega_i(\pi) = 0$.

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Nash equilibria and decisions problems

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Decision problems for games with ω -automatic strict partial orders:

- (**NE existence**) Does there exist an NE σ ?
- (**Constrained NE existence**) Given some threshold lassoes $(\rho_i)_{i \in \mathcal{P}}$, does there exist an NE σ such that $\rho_i <_i \langle \sigma \rangle_{v_0}$?
- (**NE checking**) Given finite memory strategies $(\sigma_i)_{i \in \mathcal{P}}$, do these form an NE?
- (**NE outcome checking**) Given a lasso π , is it an NE outcome?

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Does there **always** exist a Nash Equilibrium?

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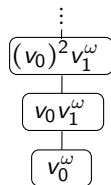
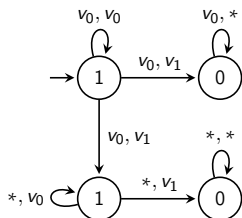
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Results

	NE Existence	Constrained NE Existence
No restriction	2EXPTIME	2EXPTIME
$ \mathcal{P} $ fixed	EXPTIME	-
$ \mathcal{P} $ and d_i fixed ²	-	EXPTIME
$ \mathcal{P} = 1$	PSPACE-complete	PSPACE-complete

In case of existence: **finite-memory** strategies!

²Parity acceptance max range

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Theorem (NE (Outcome) Checking)

- The NE checking problem is PSPACE-complete.
- The NE outcome checking problem is in $\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP}$ and Parity-hard.

²Parity acceptance max range

Algorithm for the NE Existence Problem


Solve a three-player “zero-sum” game with **imperfect information**.³

³Bruyère, Raskin, Reynouard, Van Den Bogaard, *The Non-Cooperative Rational Synthesis Problem for Subgame Perfect Equilibria and omega-regular Objectives*. 

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Solve a three-player “zero-sum” game with **imperfect information**.³

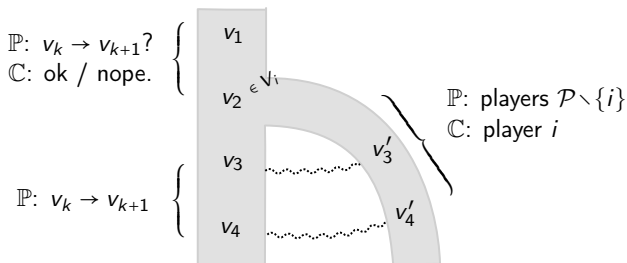
- PC game: \mathbb{P} creates π ; \mathbb{C} can deviate at any time at $v \in V_i$; if so, \mathbb{P} retaliates to show that the deviation π' is such that $\pi \not\preceq_i \pi'$.

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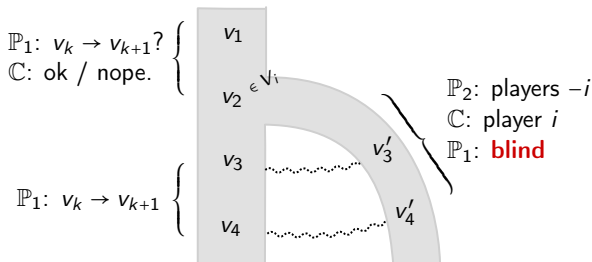
$$\exists \sigma_{\mathbb{P} \text{ "left"}} \forall \sigma_{\mathbb{C}} \exists \sigma_{\mathbb{P} \text{ "right"}}, \mathbb{P} \text{ wins.}$$

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Algorithm for the NE Existence Problem

Solve a three-player “zero-sum” game with **imperfect information**.³

- $\mathbb{P}_1\mathbb{CP}_2$ game: \mathbb{P}_1 creates π ; \mathbb{C} can deviate at any time at $v \in V_i$; if so, \mathbb{P}_2 retaliates to show that the deviation π' is such that $\pi \not\prec_i \pi'$.



$\exists \sigma_{\mathbb{P}_1} \forall \sigma_{\mathbb{C}} \exists \sigma_{\mathbb{P}_2}, \mathbb{P}_1$ and \mathbb{P}_2 win

$\mathbb{P}_1\mathbb{CP}_2$ game with imperfect information on \mathbb{P}_1 !

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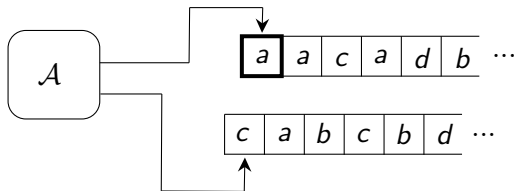
ω -Recognizable Relations

A relation $<$ is **ω -recognizable** if there exists $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $< = \bigcup_{i=1}^k L_i \times R_i$, for $L_i, R_i \subseteq V^\omega$, ω -regular languages.

⁴Löding, Spinrath, *Decision Problems for Subclasses of Rational Relations over Finite and Infinite Words*, 2019.

ω -Recognizable Relations

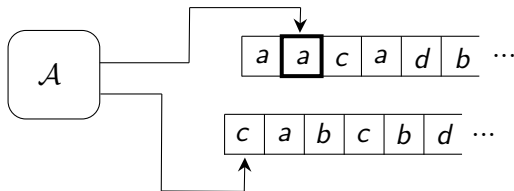
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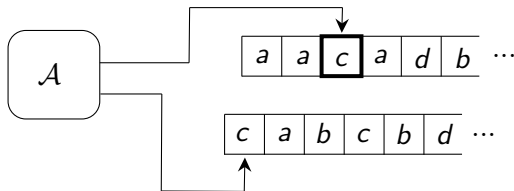
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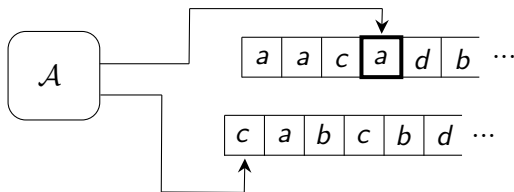
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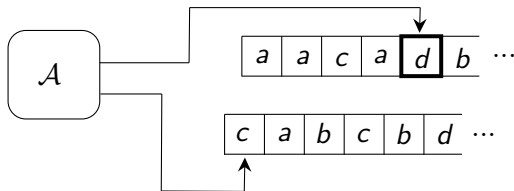
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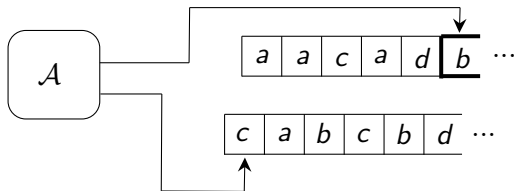
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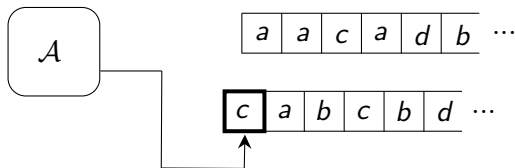
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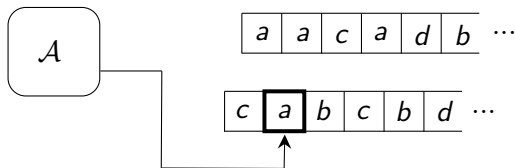
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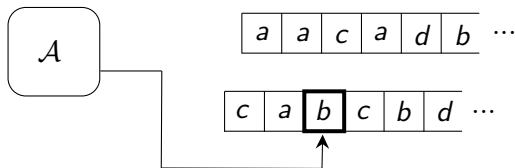
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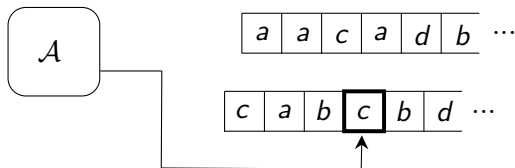
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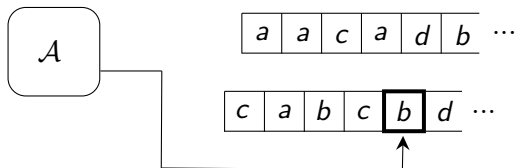
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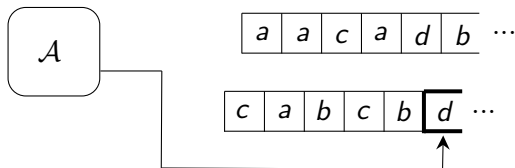
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a	a	c	a	d	b	...
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c	a	b	c	b	d	...
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ω -Recognizable Relations \subsetneq ω -Automatic Relations.

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a	a	c	a	d	b
---	---	---	---	---	---

 ...

c	a	b	c	b	d
---	---	---	---	---	---

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ω -Recognizable Relations \subsetneq ω -Automatic Relations.

We can decide in 2EXPTIME whether an ω -automatic relation is ω -recognizable⁴

⁴Löding, Spinrath, *Decision Problems for Subclasses of Rational Relations over Finite and Infinite Words*, 2019.

ω -Recognizable Preorder

When \lesssim is a preorder, x and y are **equivalent**, $x \sim y$, if $x \lesssim y$ and $y \lesssim x$.

Corollary of [Löding, Spinrath, 2019]

An ω -automatic preorder \lesssim is ω -recognizable if and only if its equivalence relation \sim has a finite number of equivalence classes.

ω -Recognizable Preorder

When \preceq is a preorder, x and y are **equivalent**, $x \sim y$, if $x \preceq y$ and $y \preceq x$.

Corollary of [Löding, Spinrath, 2019]

An ω -automatic preorder \preceq is ω -recognizable if and only if its equivalence relation \sim has a finite number of equivalence classes.

Theorem (Existence of NE with ω -recognizable preference relations)

There exists a Nash Equilibrium in every game with ω -recognizable preorders (resp. strict weak orders).

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Thank you! Questions?