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# Classes of languages generated by the Kleene star of a word

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## Classes of rational languages

- closed under some operations
  - generated by a basis

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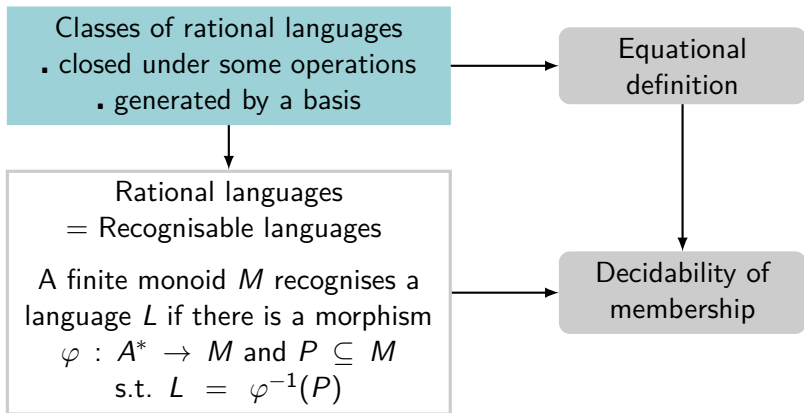
Equational  
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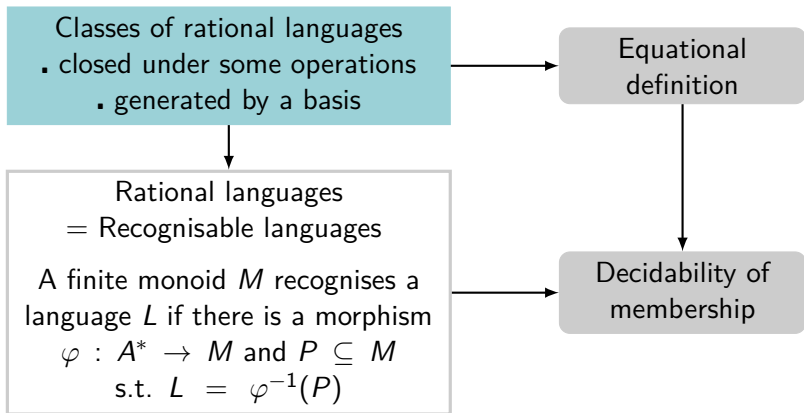
## Classes of rational languages

- closed under some operations
- generated by a basis

Equational  
definition

Decidability of  
membership





Classes of languages generated by  $\{u^* \mid u \in A^*\}$

$$u^* = \{u^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

# Profinite monoid

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A monoid  $M$  separates  $u$  and  $v$  if:

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## Definition

Profinite monoid  $\widehat{A}^*$  :

completion of  $A^*$  with respect to the distance  $d$ .

- Compact
- $\varphi : A^* \rightarrow M$  can be uniquely extended to a continuous morphism  $\widehat{\varphi} : \widehat{A}^* \rightarrow M$

## V.I.P. words (very important profinite words)

### Idempotent power

$$u^\omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u^{n!}$$

- For all morphisms  $\varphi : A^* \rightarrow M$  (finite monoid):  
 $\widehat{\varphi}(u^\omega)$  is the idempotent power of  $\widehat{\varphi}(u)$  in  $M$ .

### Zero (Reilly-Zhang 2000, Almeida-Volkov 2003)

$$|A| \geq 2$$

$u_0, u_1, \dots$  an enumeration of the words of  $A^*$

$$v_0 = u_0, \quad v_{n+1} = (v_n u_{n+1} v_n)^{(n+1)!}$$

$$\rho_A = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n$$

- For all morphisms  $\varphi : A^* \rightarrow M$  (finite monoid):  
if  $M$  has a zero then  $\widehat{\varphi}(\rho_A) = 0$ .

# Equations

## Definition

Given two profinite words  $u, v$ , a rational language  $L$  satisfies

$$u \rightarrow v$$

if  $u \in \bar{L}$  implies  $v \in \bar{L}$

$$a \in A$$

Equation  $ab \rightarrow aba$

$$\{L \subseteq A^* \mid ab \notin L\} \cup \{L \subseteq A^* \mid ab, aba \in L\}$$

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## Definition

Given two profinite words  $u, v$ , a rational language  $L$  satisfies

$$u \leq v$$

if for all  $w, w' \in A^*$ ,  $wuw' \in \bar{L}$  implies  $www' \in \bar{L}$

$$a \in A$$

$$\text{Equation } ab \leq aba$$

$$\{L \subseteq A^* \mid \text{for all } w, w', \text{ if } wabw' \in L \text{ then } wabaw' \in L\}$$

# Equations

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$$\text{Equation } ab = aba$$

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## Theorem [Gehrke, Grigorieff, Pin 2008]

### Classes of rational languages

- Lattice (union, intersection):  $\rightarrow$
- Boolean algebra (lattice, complement):  $\leftrightarrow$
- Lattice closed under quotient:  $\leq$
- Boolean algebra closed under quotient:  $=$

quotient :  $u^{-1}Lv^{-1} = \{w \mid uwv \in L\}$

Existence of a zero:  $\{\rho_A u = u \rho_A = \rho_A \mid u \in A^*\}$

## Why $u^*$ ?

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- Non trivial applications of the equational theory of rational languages.
- Characterise the variety of languages generated by the languages  $u^*$ . [Restivo]
- (long-term perspective) Boolean algebra generated by the languages  $F^*$  for  $F$  a finite set of words. [key result for the generalised star-height problem]



## Equations for $u^*$

$$P_u = \bigcup_{p \text{ prefix of } u} u^* p \quad \text{and} \quad S_u = \bigcup_{s \text{ suffix of } u} s u^*$$

$$x^\omega y^\omega = 0 \text{ for } x, y \in A^* \text{ such that } xy \neq yx \quad (E_1)$$

$$x^\omega y = 0 \text{ for } x, y \in A^* \text{ such that } y \notin P_x \quad (E_2)$$

$$yx^\omega = 0 \text{ for } x, y \in A^* \text{ such that } y \notin S_x \quad (E_3)$$

$$x^\omega \leq 1 \text{ for } x \in A^* \quad (E_4)$$

$$x^l \leftrightarrow x^{\omega+l} \text{ for } x \in A^*, l > 0 \quad (E_5)$$

$$x \rightarrow x^l \text{ for } x \in A^*, l > 0 \quad (E_6)$$

$$x^\alpha \leftrightarrow x^\beta \text{ for all } (\alpha, \beta) \in \Gamma \quad (E_7)$$

DECIDABLE

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**DECIDABLE** Lattice

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**DECIDABLE** Lattice closed under quotients

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**DECIDABLE** Boolean algebra closed under quotients

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**DECIDABLE** Boolean algebra

# The Boolean algebra

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An example:

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Equivalence relation over the integers

$r \equiv_m s$  if and only if  $\gcd(r, m) = \gcd(s, m)$

$(u^m)^* u^r \subseteq L$  if and only if  $(u^m)^* u^s \subseteq L$

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Translation in terms of profinite numbers

$\Gamma$  is the set of pairs of profinite numbers  $(dz^{\mathcal{P}}, dpz^{\mathcal{P}})$  such that:

- $\mathcal{P}$  is a cofinite sequence of prime numbers  $\{p_1, p_2, \dots\}$
- $z^{\mathcal{P}} = \lim_n (p_1 p_2 \dots p_n)^{n!}$
- $p \in \mathcal{P}$
- if  $q$  divides  $d$  then  $q \notin \mathcal{P}$

$$x^\alpha \leftrightarrow x^\beta \text{ for all } (\alpha, \beta) \in \Gamma \quad (E_7)$$



## Conclusion and further questions

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- Equational description of classes of rational languages generated by the languages  $u^*$
- Decidability
- Variety of languages generated by the languages  $u^*$
- Classes generated by  $F^*$  for  $F$  a finite set of words