

# On recognizable trace languages

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(joint work with M. Kufleitner, Stuttgart)

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- ▶ this is on-going work (still rough around the edges. . .)

# Traces: a classical model

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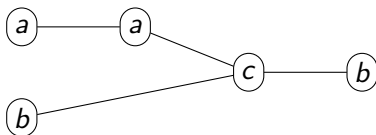
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- ▶ traces are one of the most important models used to represent concurrent behavior
- ▶ Each trace is naturally represented as a poset. If  $A = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $I = \{(a, b), (b, a)\}$ , then  $abacb$  is represented by



# Recognizable trace languages: a classical notion

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- ▶ Equivalent to the monoid-theoretic notion:  $L$  is recognizable if there exists  $\varphi: \mathbb{M}(A, I) \rightarrow M$  into a finite monoid such that  $L = \varphi^{-1}\varphi(L)$ . Trace languages have a syntactic monoid.

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- ▶ Automata: see the notion of diamond property in automata; equivalence with a beautiful model of automata which captures the notion of independence: Zielonka's automata
- ▶ Rational expressions: there is a problem. If  $a, b$  are independent letters, then  $(ab)^*$  is not recognizable, see Ochmański's concurrent rational expressions.



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- ▶ But that is essentially the only example of such a correspondence (until Kufleitner's 2006 result). There has been no satisfactory Eilenberg-like statement, . . . Why?

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- ▶ Eilenberg's theorem: (a) the languages whose syntactic monoid lies in a given pseudovariety of monoids  $\mathcal{V}$  form a variety of languages  $\mathcal{V}$ ; (b) the correspondence  $\mathcal{V} \mapsto \mathcal{V}$  is one-to-one and onto between pseudovarieties and varieties

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- ▶ Eilenberg's theorem: (a) the languages whose syntactic monoid lies in a given pseudovariety of monoids  $V$  form a variety of languages  $\mathcal{V}$ ; (b) the correspondence  $V \mapsto \mathcal{V}$  is one-to-one and onto between pseudovarieties and varieties
- ▶ a conceptual framework for many famous results: Simon on piecewise testable languages; Simon and McNaughton on locally testable languages; many others. . .



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- ▶ Let  $V \mapsto \mathcal{V}$ , let  $\text{Pol}\mathcal{V}$  be the class of unions of products of the form  $L_0 a_1 L_1 \cdots a_k L_k$ , where  $k \geq 0$ , the  $a_i$  are letters and the  $L_i$  are in  $\mathcal{V}$ . And let  $\text{UPol}\mathcal{V}$  be the class of unions of unambiguous products of the same form

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- ▶ Then  $\text{UPol}V$  is a variety of languages, and the corresponding pseudovariety of monoids is  $\text{LI} \textcircled{m} V$  (computable, decidable if  $V$  is, etc). And  $\text{Pol}\mathcal{V}$  is a positive variety and the corresponding pseudovariety of ordered monoids is  $\llbracket x^\omega yx^\omega \leq x^\omega \rrbracket \textcircled{m} V$ .

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- ▶ In fact, there is no notion of variety of trace languages with an Eilenberg-like theorem, to provide a clean framework



# Why doesn't the theory extend (smoothly) to trace languages?

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- ▶ Our idea is that the monoid-theoretic framework is not sufficient to deal with trace languages,
- ▶ that the trace monoids have more than a monoid structure: they also have an independence structure.

# Independent traces: not a new idea

- ▶ Given  $(A, I)$  an independence alphabet ( $I$  irreflexive and symmetric), extend  $I$  to  $\mathbb{M}(A, I)$  by saying that traces  $u$  and  $v$  are independent if  $\text{alph}(u) \times \text{alph}(v) \subseteq I$ . Then

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- ▶  $(u, u) \in I$  iff  $u = 1$ . And  $(u, 1) \in I$  for each  $u$ .

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- ▶ On  $\mathbb{M}(A, I)$ , all the information on the independence relation is contained in the alphabetic information.
- ▶ It has been considered several times in the literature (Diekert, Gastin, Muscholl, Petit, ...), to transfer this alphabetic information onto the finite monoids recognizing trace languages: if  $\varphi: \mathbb{M}(A, I) \rightarrow M$  recognizes  $L$ , then so does  $\varphi': \mathbb{M}(A, I) \rightarrow M \times 2^A$ , where  $\varphi'(u) = (\varphi(u), \text{alph}(u))$

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- ▶ To have a proper algebraic framework, abstract that out!

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- ▶ Morphisms of *I-monoids*:  $\varphi: (M, I) \rightarrow (N, J)$  is an *I-morphism* if  $\varphi: M \rightarrow N$  is a monoid morphism, and if  $(u, v) \in I \implies (\varphi(u), \varphi(v)) \in J$   
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- ▶ Also consider *strong I-morphisms*, where  $(u, v) \in I \iff (\varphi(u), \varphi(v)) \in J$ .

# Free $I$ -monoids and skeleton monoids

- ▶ An  $I$ -monoid  $(M, J)$  is generated (resp. strongly generated) by  $(A, I)$  if there exists a map  $\psi: A \rightarrow M$  such that  $\psi(A)$  generates  $M$  and  $\psi(I) \subseteq J$  (resp. and in addition  $\psi^{-1}(J) \subseteq I$ )

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- ▶ Skeleton monoids are idempotent and commutative, and they encapsulate some fundamental information on the independence structure of the  $I$ -monoid

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# With morphisms comes recognizability

Let  $(M, I)$  be an  $I$ -monoid and  $L \subseteq M$ .

- ▶  $L$  is recognizable if  $L = \varphi^{-1}\varphi(L)$  for a monoid morphism  $\varphi$  into a finite monoid,  $I$ -recognizable if  $\varphi$  is an  $I$ -morphism, strongly  $I$ -recognizable if  $\varphi$  is a strong  $I$ -morphism.
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 $(x, u) \in I \iff (x, v) \in I$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{M}(A, I)$
- ▶ the syntactic  $I$ -morphism  $\mathbb{M}(A, I) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}(A, I)/\sim_L$  is always a strong  $I$ -morphism

# An Eilenberg theorem for trace languages

Let us (re)define varieties in a now natural fashion

- ▶ Let a variety of trace languages be a collection  $\mathcal{V} = (\mathcal{V}(A, I))_{(A, I)}$  of recognizable trace languages closed under Boolean operations, left and right residuals and inverse  $I$ -morphisms

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- ▶  $V \mapsto \mathcal{V}$  is a one-to-one and onto correspondence between varieties of trace languages and pseudovarieties of  $I$ -monoids

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- ▶ but also  $\llbracket yxyzy = zzyxy \rrbracket_{(x,z) \in I}$ , which is a different pseudoidentity

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- ▶ Then  $L \in \mathcal{V}^{ind}$  iff  $\mu^{-1}(L) \in \mathcal{V}$
- ▶  $\mathcal{V} \mapsto \mathcal{V}^{ind}$  maps injectively the lattice of pseudovarieties of monoids into the lattice of pseudovarieties of  $I$ -monoids, and the corresponding map  $\mathcal{V} \mapsto \mathcal{V}^{ind}$  is onto the independence-blind varieties of trace languages

# What can we hope to do with this theory?

- ▶ Of course, this variety-theoretic framework is appropriate to account for the known correspondence  $\text{Star-free} = \text{FO}[<]\text{-definable trace languages} = \text{Ap}^{\text{ind}}$

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- ▶ On-going work on wreath products
- ▶ Some positive results on Malcev products

# It works for Malcev products and polynomial closure! (1/2)

- ▶ Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a variety of trace languages, and let  $\text{Pol}\mathcal{V}(A, I)$  consist of all unions of products of the form  $L_0 a_1 L_1 \cdots a_n L_n$  (as in the word case)

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- ▶ ... and a relational morphism  $\tau: M \rightarrow N$  is a relation such that  $\text{graph}(\tau)$  is a submonoid of  $M \times N$  whose first projection is onto  $M$

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- ▶ Then we get the exact same statement as in the word case, with essentially the same proof ideas
- ▶ If  $\mathcal{V} \mapsto V$ , then  $\text{Pol}\mathcal{V} \mapsto \llbracket x^\omega y x^\omega \leq x^\omega \rrbracket \textcircled{m} V$  generalizing Kufleitner's earlier results (only for  $V$  commutative)

## As in the word case, logical consequences

- ▶ Let  $\Sigma_n[E]$  be the class of first-order formulas in normal prenex form, with  $n$  blocks of quantifier, starting with a block of existential quantifiers — where  $E$  is the edge relation in the dependence graph of a trace. Let  $\Sigma_n[E]$  also denote the class of trace languages definable by such formulas

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- ▶ Decidability results for the lower levels (up to  $V_2$ ) should follow

Thank you for your attention!