

Conjunctive grammars, cellular automata and logic

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Overview

Introduction and results

The proof method

Expressing conjunctive grammars in our logic

Over a general alphabet

Conclusion

Conjunctive grammars

A statement by Okhotin :

*“Context-free grammars may be thought of as a **logic** for inductive description of syntax in which the propositional connectives available. . . are restricted to **disjunction only**.”*

Conjunctive grammars are an extension of context-free grammars by adding an explicit **conjunction** operation within the grammar rules.

An example of conjunctive grammar

The following grammar generates the language $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 1\}$, known to not be context-free.

$$S \rightarrow AB&DC$$

$$A \rightarrow aA \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow bBc \mid bc$$

$$C \rightarrow Cc \mid c$$

$$D \rightarrow aDb \mid ab$$

$$\underbrace{\{a^i b^j c^k \mid j = k\}}_{L(AB)} \cap \underbrace{\{a^i b^j c^k \mid i = j\}}_{L(DC)} = \underbrace{\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 1\}}_{L(S)}$$

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Each rule of a conjunctive grammar $G = (\Sigma, N, P, S)$ is of the form :

$$A \rightarrow \alpha_1 \& \dots \& \alpha_m, \text{ for } m \geq 1 \text{ and } \alpha_i \in (\Sigma \cup N)^+$$

Expressivity

The expressive power of conjunctive grammars is largely unknown, even over a unary alphabet.

Conjunctive grammars over a unary alphabet generate more than regular languages [Jez].

Over a unary alphabet

Example of the language $\{a^{4^n} \mid n \geq 0\} \subset \{a\}^+$, generated by the grammar :

$$A_1 \rightarrow A_1 A_3 \ \& \ A_2 A_2 \mid a$$

$$A_2 \rightarrow A_1 A_1 \ \& \ A_2 A_{12} \mid aa$$

$$A_3 \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \ \& \ A_{12} A_{12} \mid aaa$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \ \& \ A_3 A_3$$

We have a generic method to conceive any unary conjunctive grammar generating the language $\{a^{k^n} \mid n \geq 0\} \subset \{a\}^+$ with $k \geq 4$.

Cellular Automata

- ▶ Cellular automaton : ribbon of cells.



Cellular Automata

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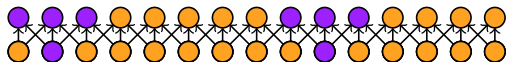
●: 1
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Cellular Automata

- ▶ Cellular automaton : ribbon of cells.
- ▶ Each cell is in a given **state**, evolving over time according to the states of its **neighbors**.
- ▶ A **local** transition function is applied in a **synchronous** way to each cell and at each time step.
- ▶ The computation of the automaton is represented by a **space-time diagramm**.

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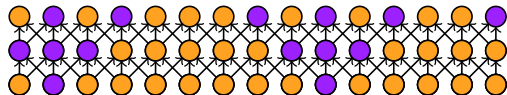


$$(x + y + z) \% 2$$



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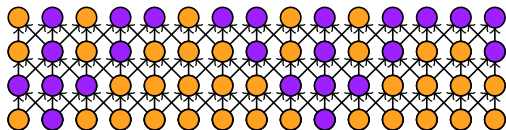
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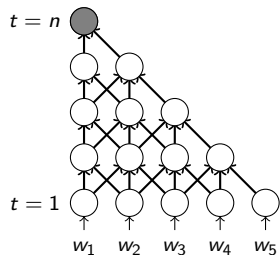
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Real time cellular automata as language recognizers

Cellular automata as word acceptors:

- ▶ **Input:** the initial configuration of the CA is only determined by the **input word**;
- ▶ **Output:** one specific cell called the **output cell** gives the output, “accept” or “reject”, of the computation;
- ▶ **Acceptance:** an input word is **accepted** by the CA at time t if the output cell enters an **accepting state** at time t .

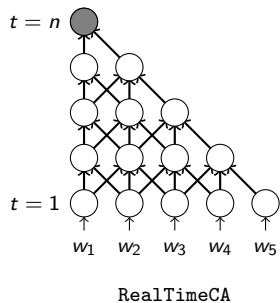


RealTimeCA

Real time cellular automata as language recognizers

A word is **accepted in real time** by a CA if the word is accepted in **minimal time** for the output cell to receive each of its letters.

A language is **recognized in real time** by a CA if its the set of word that it accepts in real-time.



Conjunctive grammars and cellular automata

$$\text{LinConj} = \text{Trellis}$$

LinConj is the **linear** restriction of conjunctive grammars.

Trellis is the **one-way** restriction of RealTimeCA.

A question and its consequences

Is Conj a subset of RealTimeCA ?

- ▶ $\text{Conj} \subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}$ would implies that Conj and $\text{CFL} \subseteq \text{DTIME}(n^2)$.
- ▶ $\text{Conj} \not\subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}$ would implies that either $\text{Conj} \not\subseteq \text{DSPACE}(n)$ or $\text{RealTimeCA} \subsetneq \text{DSPACE}(n)$.

Two results

We have proved two weakened versions of this question.

$$\text{Conj}_1 \subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}_1$$

The inclusion $\text{Conj} \subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}$ holds when restricted to unary languages.

$$\text{Conj} \subseteq \text{RealTime2OCA}$$

RealTime2OCA: real time of 2 dimensional one-way cellular automata

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Logic as a bridge from grammars to CA

- ▶ Computation of CA is **deterministic** → **Horn formulae**
- ▶ Computation of CA is **local** → **predecessor operator**
- ▶ Computation on **2 dimensions** (time and space) → **2 variables**
(with a symmetric role in the logic)

Our logic

pred-ESO-HORN is the set of formulae of the form $\exists R \forall x \forall y \psi(x, y)$
where:

- ▶ R is a finite set of binary predicates;
- ▶ ψ is a **conjunction of Horn clauses** of the form
$$\delta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \delta_r \rightarrow \delta_0$$

where δ_0 is either an atom $R(x, y)$ or \perp and where each δ_i is:

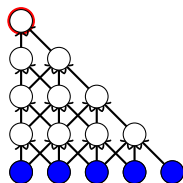
- ▶ either an *input literal* of one of the forms:
 - ▶ $Q_s(x - a)$, $Q_s(y - a)$ pour $s \in \Sigma$,
 - ▶ $(\neg)U(x - a)$ ou $(\neg)U(y - a)$, pour $U \in \{\min, \max\}$,
- ▶ either a *computation atom* or a *computation conjunction* :
 - ▶ $S(x, y)$;
 - ▶ $S(x - a, y - b) \wedge x > a \wedge y > b$.

Equivalence of our logic with real time CA

Logic

Cellular Automata

pred-ESO-HORN



RealTimeCA

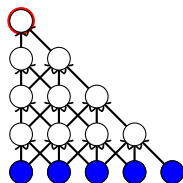
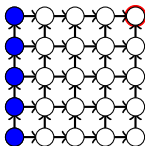
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Grid-Circuit

Cellular Automata

pred-ESO-HORN

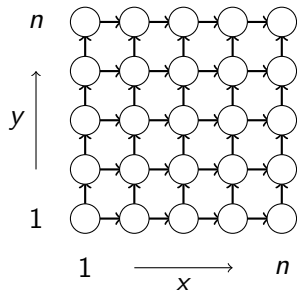


RealTimeCA

The grid-circuit

For an input word of size n :

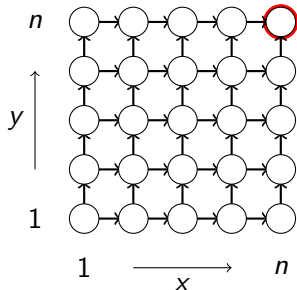
- ▶ Grid of $n \times n$ cells, each being in a given **state**.
- ▶ The state of the cell (x, y) only depends of the states of the cells $(x - 1, y)$ and $(x, y - 1)$.



The grid-circuit

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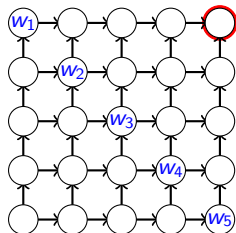
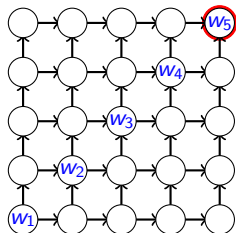
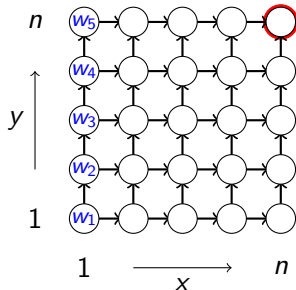
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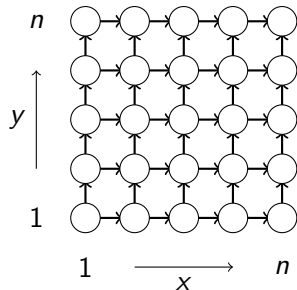
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- ▶ 3 natural ways to feed the **input**.



A logic for the grid-circuit ?

Horn formula on two variables, with each clause being:

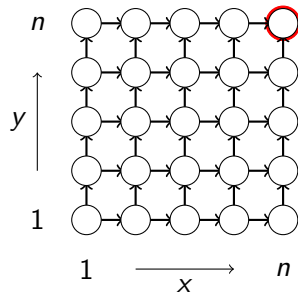
- ▶ either a computation clause:
 $\delta_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \delta_h \rightarrow R(x, y)$ where each hypothesis δ_i is a conjunction
 $x > 1 \wedge T(x - 1, y)$ or
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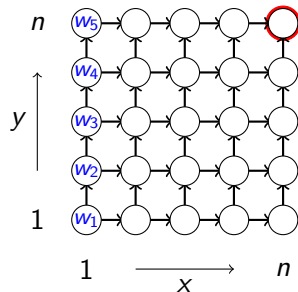
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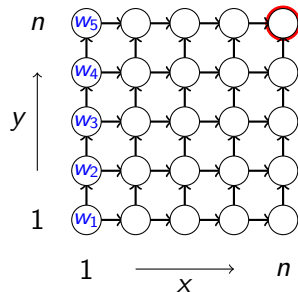
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state of site $(x, y) =$ set of binary predicates true on (x, y)

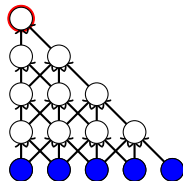
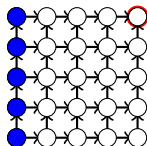
Equivalence of our logic with real time CA

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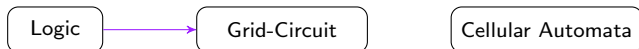
pred-ESO-HORN



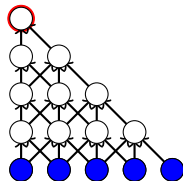
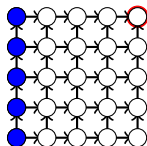
RealTimeCA

Equivalence of our logic with real time CA

Normalization



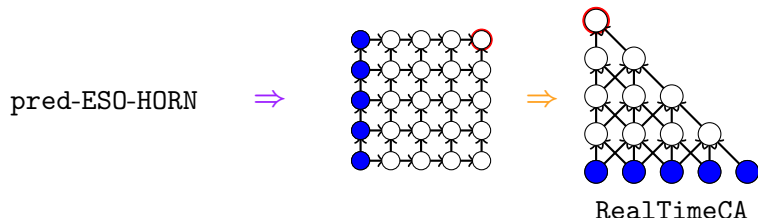
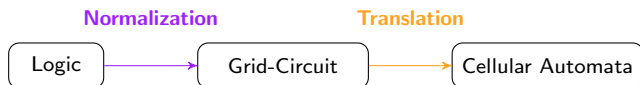
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RealTimeCA

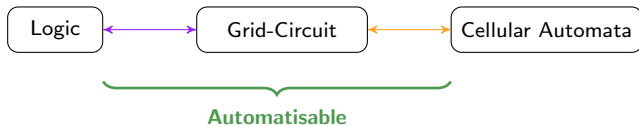
- ▶ The logic of the grid-circuit corresponds to a **normalized** version of our starting logic.

Equivalence of our logic with real time CA

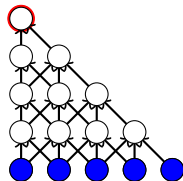
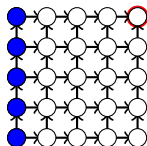


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Equivalence of our logic with real time CA



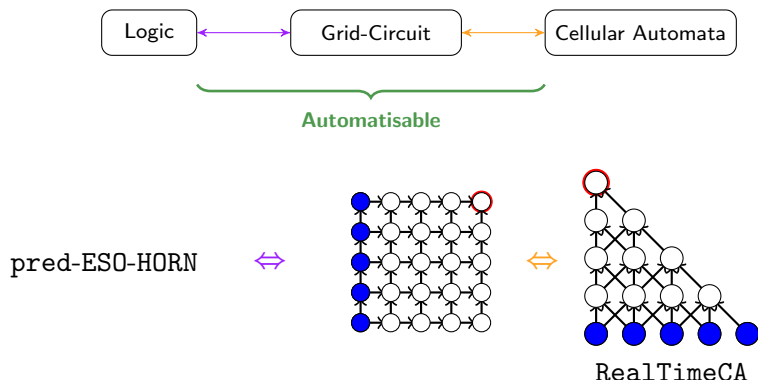
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RealTimeCA

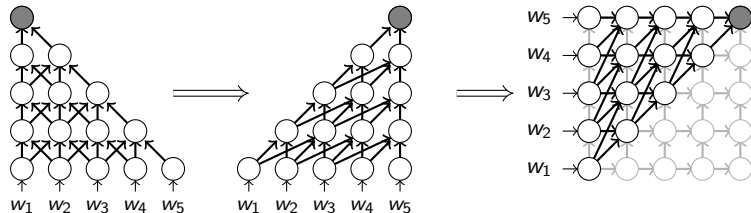
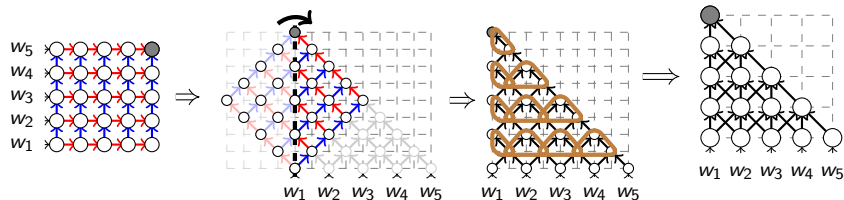
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Equivalence between Grid-circuit and CA



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Binary normal form

Each conjunctive grammar can be rewritten in an equivalent **binary normal form** (extension of the Chomsky normal form for CFL).

A conjunctive grammar $G = (\Sigma, N, P, S)$ is in *binary normal form* if each rule in P has one of the two following forms:

- ▶ a long rule: $A \rightarrow B_1 C_1 \& \dots \& B_m C_m$ ($m \geq 1, B_i, C_j \in N$);
- ▶ a short rule: $A \rightarrow a$ ($a \in \Sigma$).

Example of a binary normal form

Binary normal form of the grammar generating the language $\{a^{4^n} \mid n \geq 0\} \subset \{a\}^+$:

$$A_1 \rightarrow A_1 A_3 \ \& \ A_2 A_2 \mid a$$

$$A_2 \rightarrow A_1 A_1 \ \& \ A_2 A_{12} \mid A_{1'} A_{1'}$$

$$A_3 \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \ \& \ A_{12} A_{12} \mid A_{1'} A_{2'}$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \ \& \ A_3 A_3$$

$$A_{1'} \rightarrow a$$

$$A_{2'} \rightarrow A_{1'} A_{1'}$$

Expressing unary conjunctive grammars in our logic

Rules of a grammar $G = (\{a\}, N, P, S)$ in binary normal form:

- ▶ $A \rightarrow B_1 C_1 \& \dots \& B_m C_m$ ($m \geq 1, B_i, C_j \in N$);
- ▶ $A \rightarrow a$.

The grammar is expressed in our logic by using three types of binary predicates:

- ▶ $\text{Maj}_A(x, y) \iff \lceil \frac{y}{2} \rceil \leq x \leq y$ and $a^x \in L(A)$;
- ▶ $\text{Min}_A(x, y) \iff \lceil \frac{y}{2} \rceil \leq x < y$ and $a^{y-x} \in L(A)$;
- ▶ $\text{Sum}_{BC}(x, y) \iff$ there is some x' with $\lceil \frac{y}{2} \rceil \leq x' \leq x$ such that
either $a^{x'} \in L(B)$ and $a^{y-x'} \in L(C)$, or $a^{y-x'} \in L(B)$ and $a^{x'} \in L(C)$.

(x, y) corresponds to the concatenations $a^x a^{y-x}$ and $a^{y-x} a^x$.

Expressing unary conjunctive grammars in our logic

Rules of a grammar $G = (\{a\}, N, P, S)$ in binary normal form:

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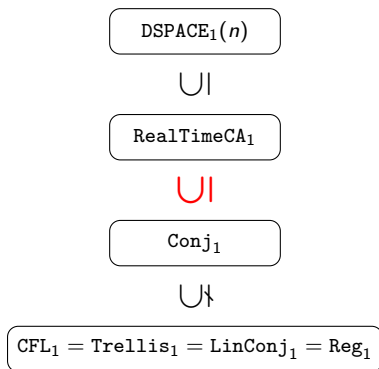
Sample of clauses

- ▶ $\text{Maj}_{B_i}(x, y) \wedge \text{Min}_{C_i}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Sum}_{B_i C_i}(x, y)$;
- ▶ $\text{Min}_{B_i}(x, y) \wedge \text{Maj}_{C_i}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Sum}_{B_i C_i}(x, y)$;
- ▶ $\neg \text{min}(x) \wedge \text{Sum}_{B_i C_i}(x - 1, y) \rightarrow \text{Sum}_{B_i C_i}(x, y)$;
- ▶ $x = y \wedge \text{Sum}_{B_1 C_1}(x, y) \wedge \dots \wedge \text{Sum}_{B_m C_m}(x, y) \rightarrow \text{Maj}_A(x, y)$.

Our result

$$\text{Conj}_1 \subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}_1$$

The inclusion $\text{Conj} \subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}$ holds when restricted to unary languages.



Computation example

Grammar

```
A1->A1.A3&A2.A2|a
A2->A1.A1&A2.A6|A'.A'
A3->A1.A2&A6.A6|A'''.A'
A6->A1.A2&A3.A3
A'->a
A'''->A'.A'
□
```

-:--- a4n.conj ALL L7 (Fundamental)

Computation example

Grammar \rightarrow Formula

```

|in(x)6min(y) ->Eq(x,y)
-min(x)6-min(y)6Eq(x-1,y-1) ->Eq(x,y)
min(x)6min(y) ->MinMin(x,y)
min(x)6-min(y)6min(x,y) ->11 ->2X(x,y)
-min(x)6-min(y)62X(x-1,y-1) ->2X-1(x,y)
-min(x)6-min(y)62X-1(x,y) ->2X(x,y)
2X(x,y) ->2X(x,y)
2X-1(x,y) ->2X(x,y)
-min(x)62X(x-1,y) ->2X(x,y)
-min(y)6Aj[A2](x,y) ->16V2X(x,y) ->Aj[A1](x,y)
-min(y)6Aj[A1](x,y) ->16V2X(x,y) ->Min[A1](x,y)
-min(x)6-min(y)6Min[A1](x,y) ->1,y-1 ->Min[A1](x,y)
Aj[A2](x,y)6Min[A1](x,y) ->Sum[A2A3](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A1A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A1A3](x,y)
Aj[A1](x,y)6Min[A2](x,y) ->Sum[A1A2](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A1A2](x-1,y) ->Sum[A1A2](x,y)
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-min(x)6Sum[A1A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A1A3](x,y)
Aj[A1](x,y)6Min[A^](x,y) ->Sum[A^A^](x,y)
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Aj[A1](x,y)6Min[A^](x,y) ->Sum[A^A^](x,y)
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Aj[A1](x,y)6Min[A^A^](x-1,y) ->Aj[A1](x,y)
-min(x)6Eq(x,y)6Sum[A2A2](x-1,y)6Sum[A1A3](x-1,y) ->Aj[A1](x,y)
min(x)6min(y) ->Aj[A2](x,y)
-min(y)6Aj[A2](x,y) ->16V2X(x,y) ->Aj[A2](x,y)
-min(y)6Aj[A2](x,y) ->16V2X(x,y) ->Min[A2](x,y)
-min(x)6-min(y)6Min[A1](x,y) ->1,y-1 ->Min[A2](x,y)
Aj[A2](x,y)6Min[A1](x,y) ->Sum[A1A2](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A1A2](x-1,y) ->Sum[A1A2](x,y)
Aj[A2](x,y)6Min[A2](x,y) ->Sum[A2A3](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A2A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A2A3](x,y)
Aj[A2](x,y)6Min[A3](x,y) ->Sum[A2A3](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A2A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A2A3](x,y)
Aj[A2](x,y)6Min[A6](x,y) ->Sum[A2A6](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A2A6](x-1,y) ->Sum[A2A6](x,y)
Aj[A2](x,y)6Min[A^](x,y) ->Sum[A^A^](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A^A^](x-1,y) ->Sum[A^A^](x,y)
Aj[A2](x,y)6Min[A^A^](x,y) ->Sum[A^A^](x,y)
-min(x)6Eq(x,y)6Sum[A^A^](x-1,y) ->Aj[A2](x,y)
-min(x)6Eq(x,y)6Sum[A2A6](x-1,y)6Sum[A1A3](x-1,y) ->Aj[A2](x,y)
-min(y)6Aj[A3](x,y) ->16V2X(x,y) ->Aj[A3](x,y)
-min(y)6Aj[A3](x,y) ->16V2X(x,y) ->Min[A3](x,y)
-min(x)6-min(y)6Min[A2](x,y) ->1,y-1 ->Min[A3](x,y)
Aj[A3](x,y)6Min[A1](x,y) ->Sum[A1A3](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A1A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A1A3](x,y)
Aj[A3](x,y)6Min[A2](x,y) ->Sum[A2A3](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A2A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A2A3](x,y)
Aj[A3](x,y)6Min[A2](x,y) ->Sum[A3A3](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A3A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A3A3](x,y)
Aj[A3](x,y)6Min[A3](x,y) ->Sum[A3A3](x,y)
-min(x)6Sum[A3A3](x-1,y) ->Sum[A3A3](x,y)
Aj[A3](x,y)6Min[A^](x,y) ->Sum[A^A^](x,y)

```

Go to: [add proof](#) [Top LL](#) [Fundamental](#)
For information about GNU Emacs and the GNU system, type C-h C-a.

Computation example

Grammar \rightarrow Formula \rightarrow Normalized formula \rightarrow **Grid circuit**

$$A_1 \rightarrow A_1 A_3 \ \& \ A_2 A_2 \mid a$$

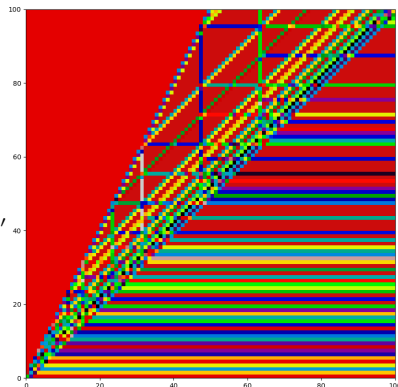
$$A_2 \rightarrow A_1 A_1 \ \& \ A_2 A_{12} \mid A_1' A_1'$$

$$A_3 \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \ \& \ A_{12} A_{12} \mid A_1' A_2'$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \ \& \ A_3 A_3$$

$$A_1' \rightarrow a$$

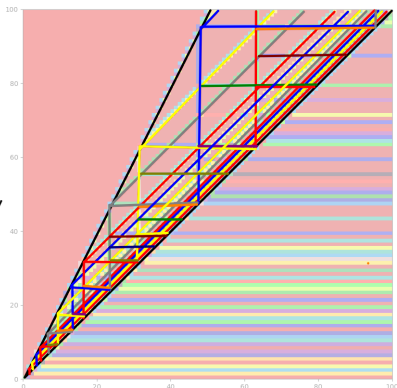
$$A_2' \rightarrow A_1' A_1'$$



Computation example

Grammar \rightarrow Formula \rightarrow Normalized formula \rightarrow Grid circuit \rightarrow CA

$A_1 \rightarrow A_1 A_3 \& A_2 A_2 \mid a$
 $A_2 \rightarrow A_1 A_1 \& A_2 A_{12} \mid A_1', A_1'$
 $A_3 \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \& A_{12} A_{12} \mid A_1', A_2'$
 $A_{12} \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \& A_3 A_3$
 $A_1' \rightarrow a$
 $A_2' \rightarrow A_1', A_1'$



Overview

Introduction and results

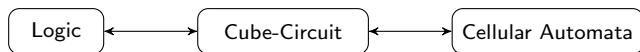
The proof method

Expressing conjunctive grammars in our logic

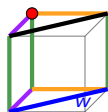
Over a general alphabet

Conclusion

The method



incl-pred-ESO-HORN



Cube



RealTime2OCA

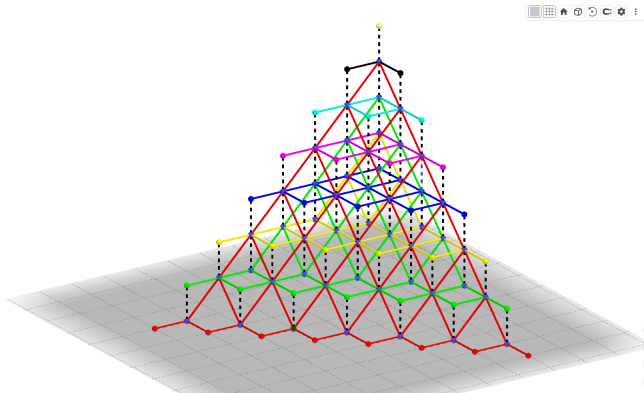
Remarks on the logic

- ▶ Conjunction of Horn clauses;
- ▶ 3 variables with asymmetric roles: 2 variables for an induction on intervals, 1 for predecessor induction.

$$([x + a, y - b], z - c) \rightarrow ([x, y], z)$$

- ▶ Expressing conjunctive grammars: (x, y, z) corresponds to the concatenations $w_x \dots w_{x+z-1} w_{x+z} \dots w_y$ and $w_x \dots w_{y-z} w_{y-z+1} \dots w_y$.

Signals diagram



Our result

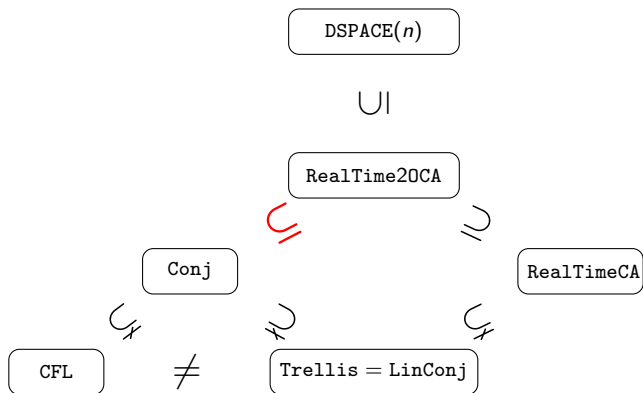
Conj \subseteq RealTime2OCA

RealTime2OCA: real time of 2 dimensional one-way cellular automata

Our result

$$\text{Conj} \subseteq \text{RealTime2OCA}$$

RealTime2OCA: real time of 2 dimensional one-way cellular automata



Overview

Introduction and results

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Over a general alphabet

Conclusion

Open questions

- ▶ The question whether $\text{Conj} \subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}$ or not is still open.
- ▶ Better understanding of the expressive power of conjunctive grammars.
- ▶ Exact characterizations of Conj ? Through logic ? Through computational complexity ?

Take home message

- ▶ Conjunctive grammars seem very interesting by their link to logic but their expressive power is still largely unknown.
- ▶ Two inclusions: $\text{Conj}_1 \subseteq \text{RealTimeCA}_1$ and $\text{Conj} \subseteq \text{RealTime2OCA}$.
- ▶ The grid: natural way to see the induction of the problem.
- ▶ Method of proof: use of logic to program cellular automata.