

# Geometry of Interaction meets actually existing automata

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Lambda Pros day @ IRIF — June 28th, 2023

## Overview

*The GoI [Geometry of Interaction] view of computation makes it possible to interpret computation as a token machine that traverses a graph strongly related to the syntactic structure of the term. Somewhat suprisingly, so far this nearly automata-theoretic flavour of GoI has not been exploited to establish connections with automata models [...]*

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- Applications of token-machine GoI to “implicit automata” (cf. Cécilia’s talk), or “higher-order transducers” (à la [Gallot, Lemay & Salvati 2020]):

ongoing work with **Gabriele Vanoni**

## Reminder: two-way automata (1)

Transitions: update finite state + move left/right depending on new state

Example: states  $Q = \{q_1^{\rightarrow}, q_2^{\leftarrow}, q_3^{\leftarrow}\}$ , initial state  $q_1^{\rightarrow}$

$$q_1^{\rightarrow}, (a|b) \mapsto q_1^{\rightarrow} \quad q_1^{\rightarrow}, c \mapsto q_2^{\leftarrow} \quad q_2^{\leftarrow}, (a|b|c) \mapsto q_3^{\leftarrow} \quad q_3^{\leftarrow}, b \mapsto \text{accept}$$

*Directed* states are an old idea,<sup>1</sup> needed to define *reversible* two-way automata

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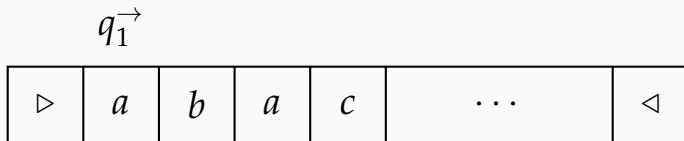
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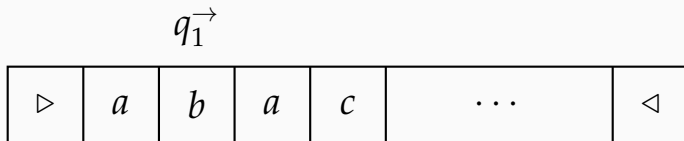
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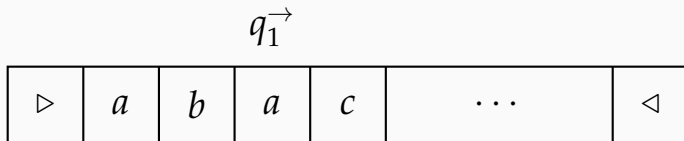
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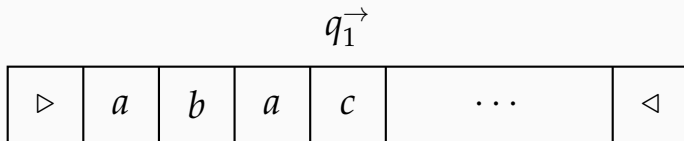


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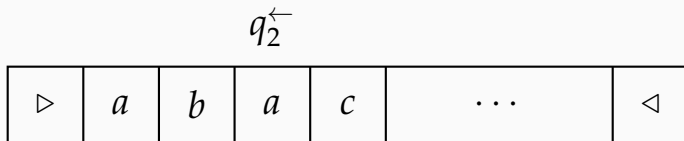
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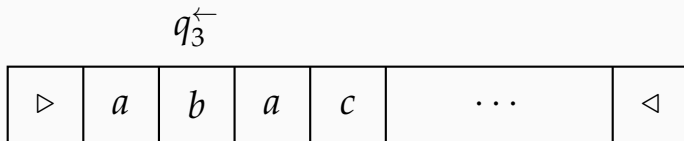
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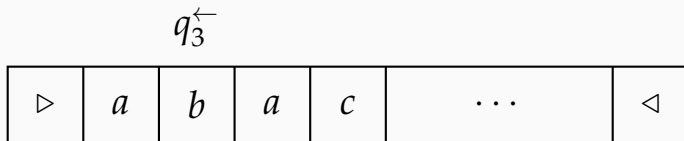
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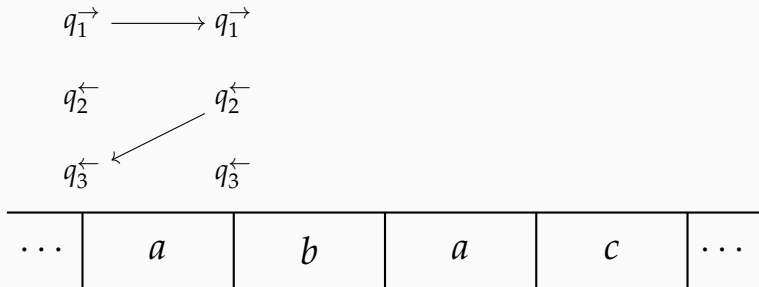
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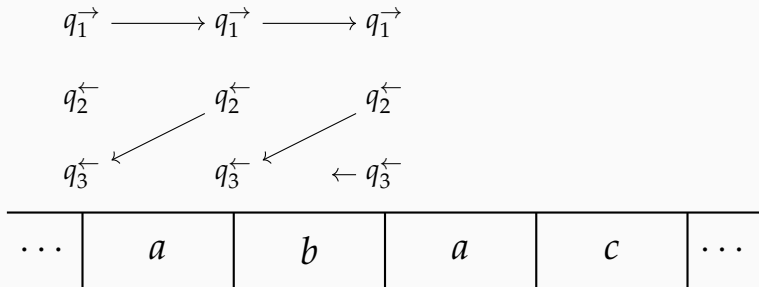
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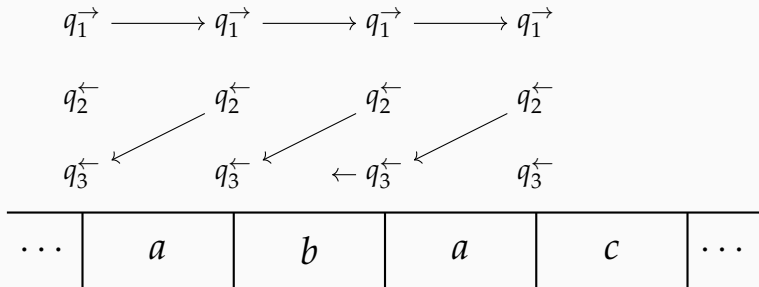
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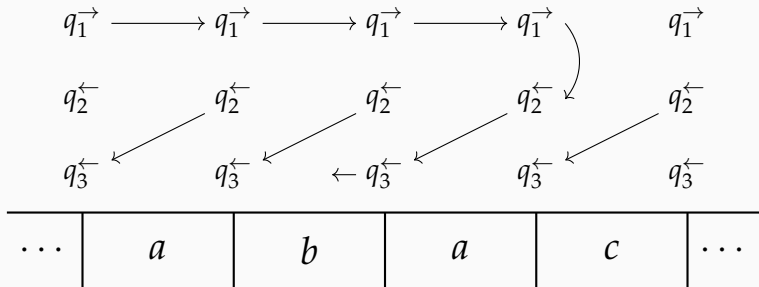
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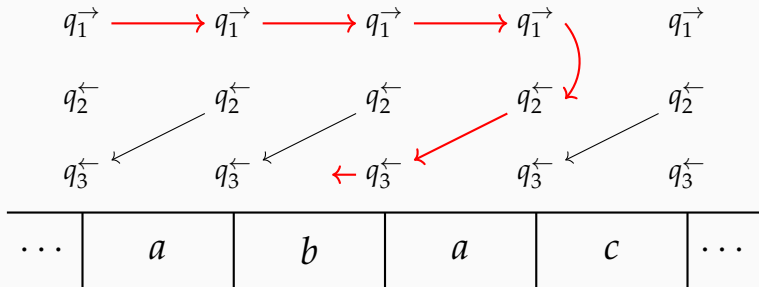




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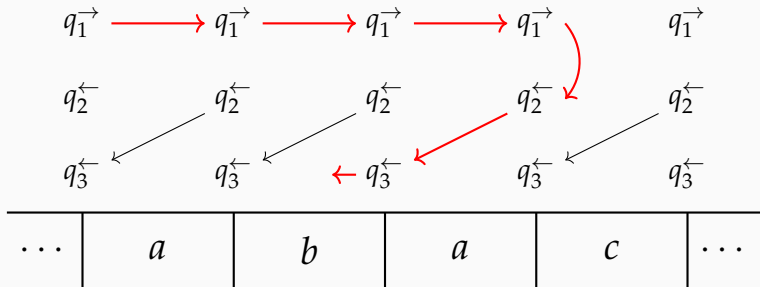
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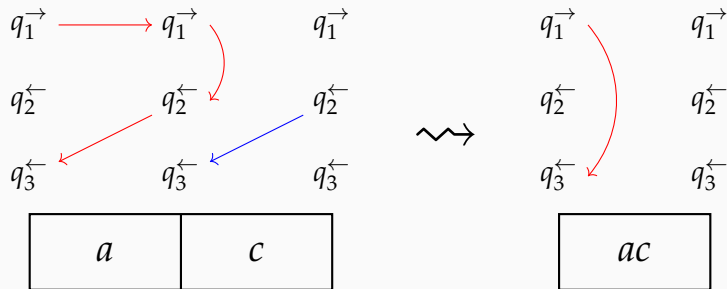
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This is *deterministic*: outdegree  $\leq 1$ ; even *reversible*: deterministic + indegree  $\leq 1$

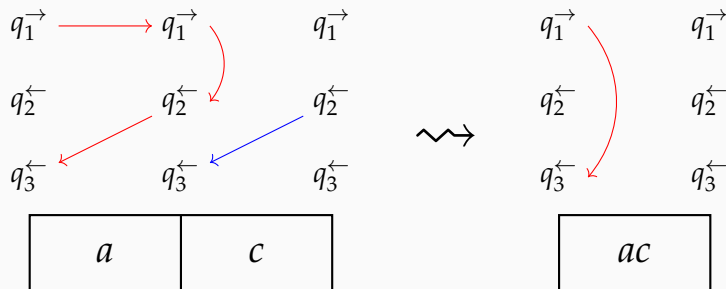
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Behaviors (or crossing types) form a monoid:



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This monoid is finite, therefore two-way automata recognize regular languages (modern account of “two-sided” variant of Shepherdson’s construction (1959))

Reversible behaviors: closed under product, can recognize all regular languages

## Describing the monoid of behaviors

Let  $Q = Q^{\leftarrow} \cup Q^{\rightarrow}$  be the set of directed states.

- A behavior is given by 4 partial functions

$$f_{\text{left} \rightarrow \text{right}}: Q^{\rightarrow} \rightharpoonup Q^{\rightarrow} \quad f_{\text{left} \rightarrow \text{left}}: Q^{\rightarrow} \rightharpoonup Q^{\leftarrow} \quad f_{\text{right} \rightarrow \text{left}}: Q^{\leftarrow} \rightharpoonup Q^{\leftarrow} \quad \dots$$

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This is the case  $A = B = Q$  of  $A^{\rightarrow} + B^{\leftarrow} \rightarrow A^{\leftarrow} + B^{\rightarrow}$  since it's equivalent to

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Abstract even further:  $\text{PSet}(A^{\rightarrow} + B^{\leftarrow}, A^{\leftarrow} + B^{\rightarrow})$  (cat. of partial fn.)

for reversible behaviours, replace with  $\text{PInj}$  (partial injections)

## The general category-theoretic construction

Let  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes)$  be a monoidal category, e.g.  $(\text{PSet}, +)$ . Consider a new category:

- an object:  $A = (A^+, A^-)$  for  $A^+, A^- \in \mathcal{C}$
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$(\text{Int}(\text{PSet})|\text{Int}(\text{PInj}))$ -automata = (deterministic|reversible) two-way automata

[Hines 2003], rephrased using the  $\mathcal{C}$ -automata of [Colcombet & Petrişan 2017]

## Planar geometry of interaction

Just like our two-way behaviours, morphisms in  $\text{Int}(\text{PSet}) / \text{Int}(\text{Plnj})$  can be drawn as diagrams. Categories of *planar* diagrams  $\leftrightarrow$  *non-commutative* linear  $\lambda$ -calculus

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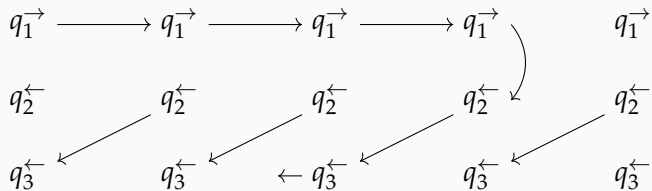
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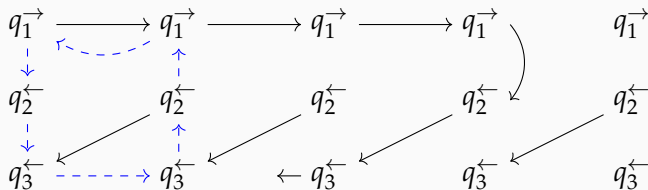
[Abramsky 2007] introduces “planar counterpart of  $\text{Int}(\text{Plnj})$ ” and observes its monoids of endomorphisms already exist in knot theory (Kauffman monoids / Temperley-Lieb algebras)

$\Rightarrow$  a 2006 talk by Hines proposes looking at “planar two-way automata”  
(but without characterizing their computational power...)

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Formally: for each of these 4 behaviors, the cyclic order

$$q_1^{\text{left}} \prec q_2^{\text{left}} \prec q_3^{\text{left}} \prec q_3^{\text{right}} \prec q_2^{\text{right}} \prec q_1^{\text{right}} \prec q_1^{\text{left}}$$

does not contain any sub-cyclic-order  $x \prec y \prec z \prec w \prec x$  such that

- $x$  and  $z$  are connected by an edge (either  $x \rightarrow z$  or  $z \rightarrow x$ )
- and  $y$  and  $w$  are also connected by an edge

→ depends on the choice of total order  $q_1 < q_2 < q_3$

## Expressive power of planar two-way automata

### Theorem (N. & Pradic, very soon on arXiv!)

Let  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ . The following are equivalent:

- $L$  is a star-free language.
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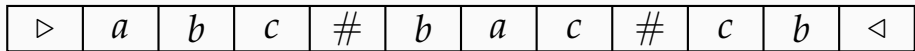
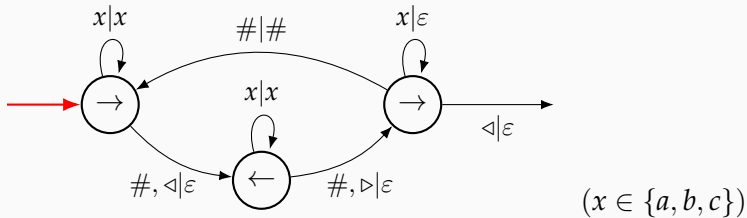
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Next: extensions of two-way automata

# Deterministic two-way transducers compute regular functions (cf. Cécilia's talk)

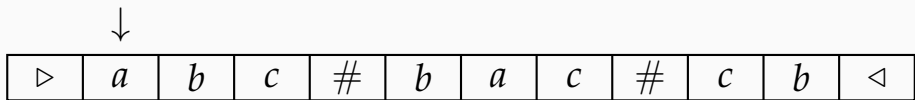
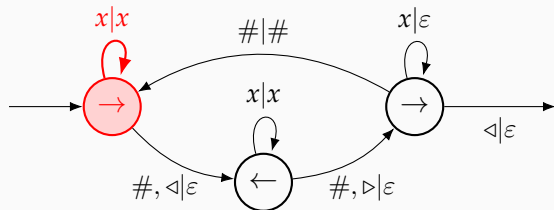
Example:  $w_1\# \dots \#w_n \mapsto w_1 \cdot \text{reverse}(w_1)\# \dots \#w_n \cdot \text{reverse}(w_n)$



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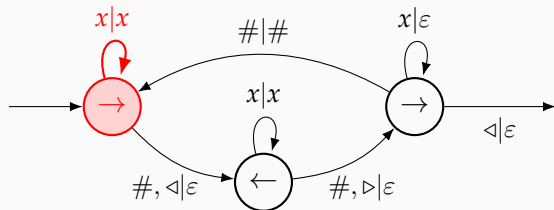
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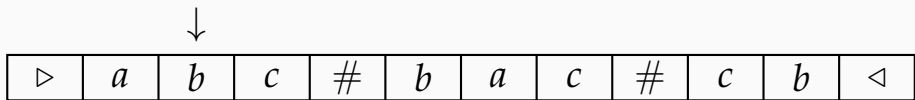
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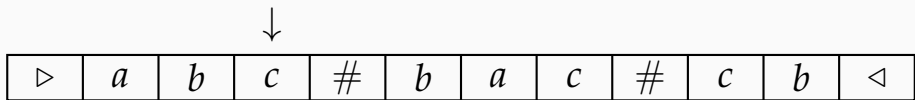
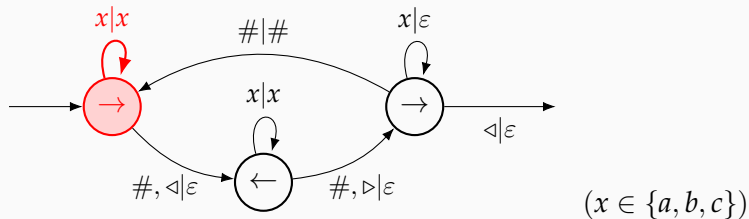
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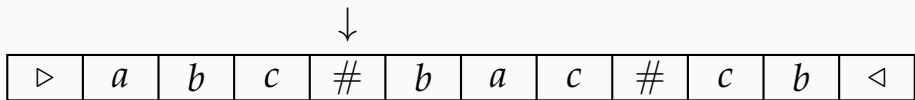
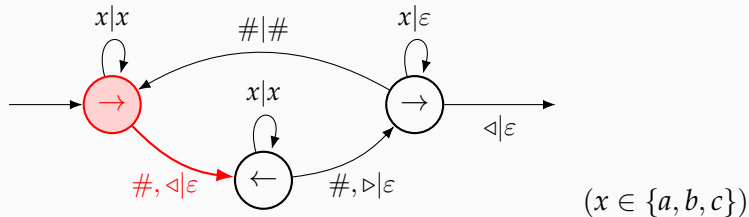
Example:  $w_1\# \dots \#w_n \mapsto w_1 \cdot \text{reverse}(w_1)\# \dots \#w_n \cdot \text{reverse}(w_n)$



Output:  $ab$

# Deterministic two-way transducers compute regular functions (cf. Cécilia's talk)

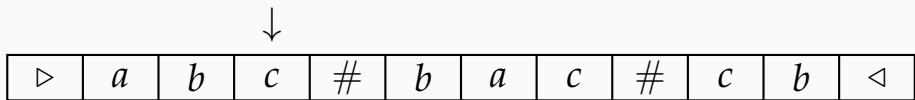
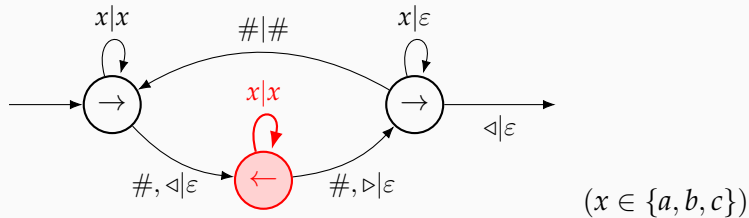
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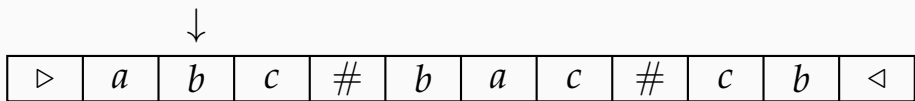
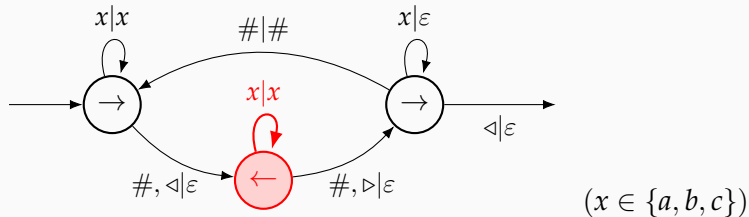


Output: *abc*



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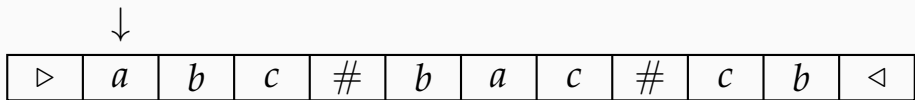
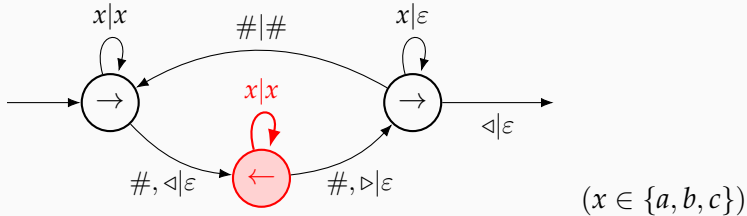
Example:  $w_1\# \dots \#w_n \mapsto w_1 \cdot \text{reverse}(w_1)\# \dots \#w_n \cdot \text{reverse}(w_n)$



Output:  $abcc$

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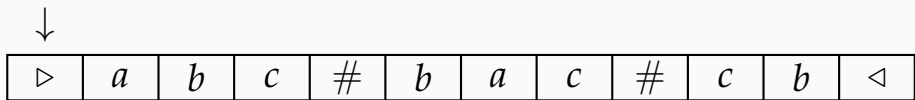
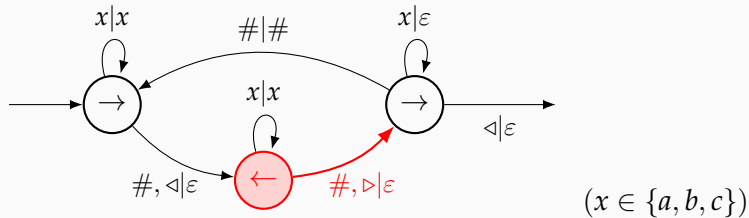
Example:  $w_1\# \dots \#w_n \mapsto w_1 \cdot \text{reverse}(w_1)\# \dots \#w_n \cdot \text{reverse}(w_n)$



Output:  $abccb$

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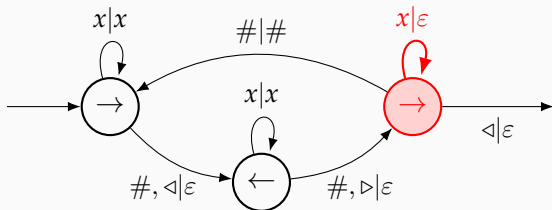
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Output: *abccba*

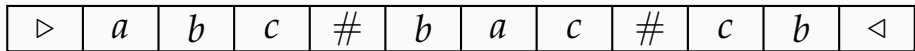
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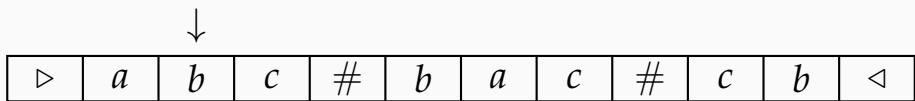
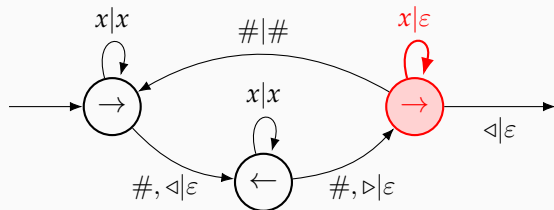
↓



Output: *abccba*

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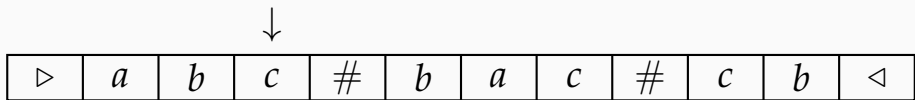
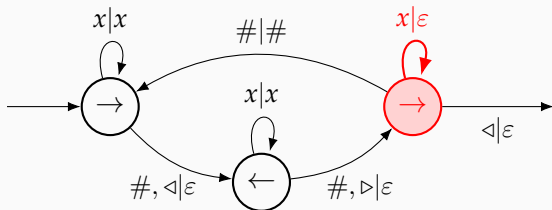
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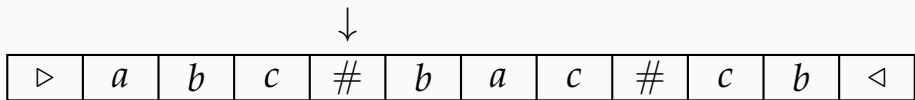
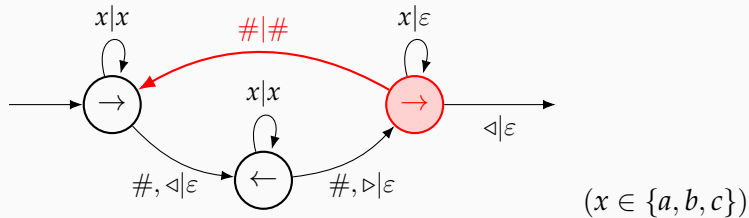
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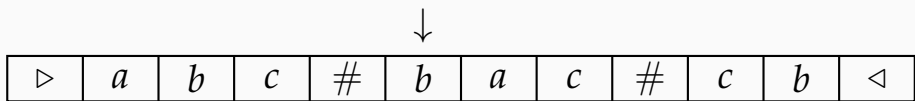
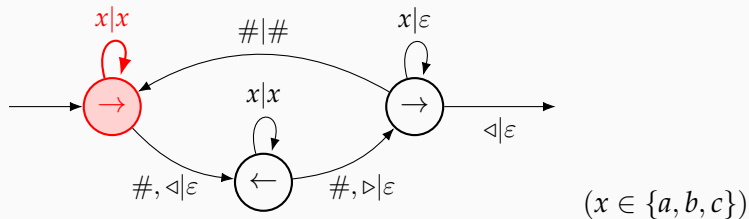
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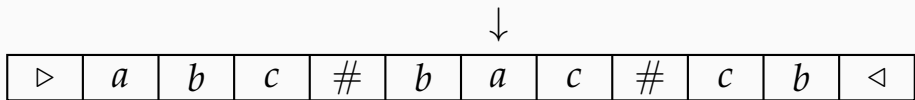
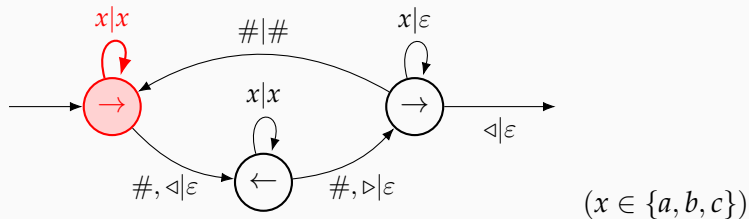


Output:  $abccba\#$



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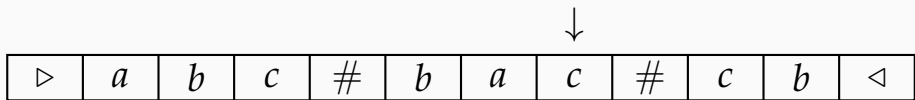
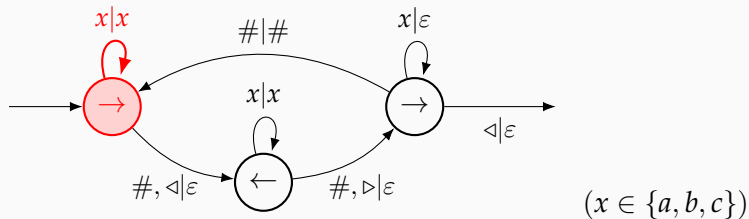
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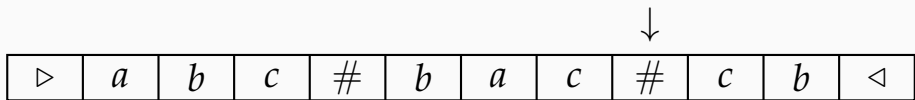
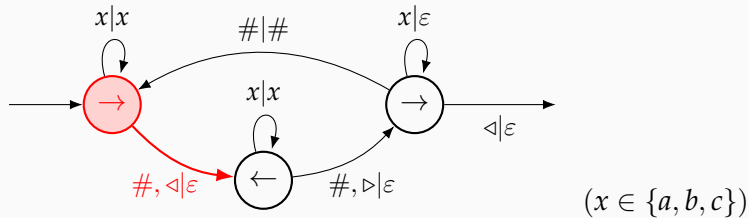
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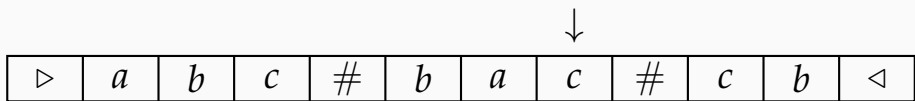
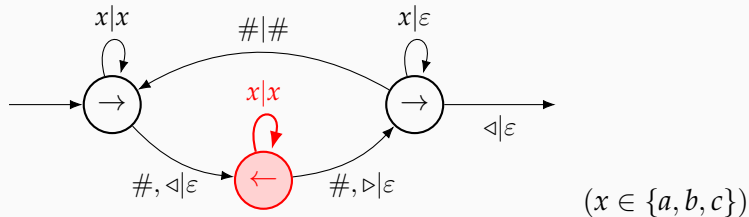
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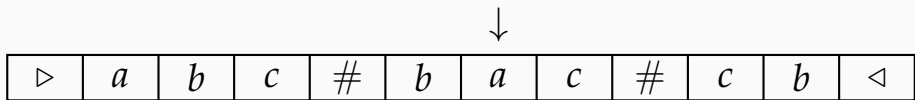
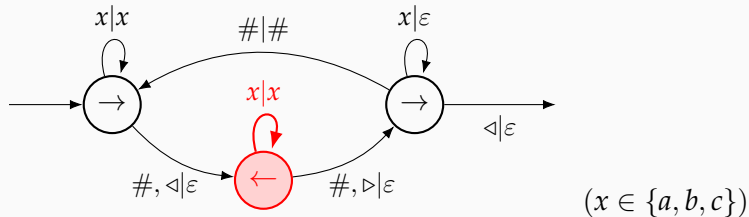
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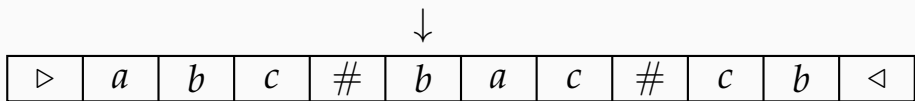
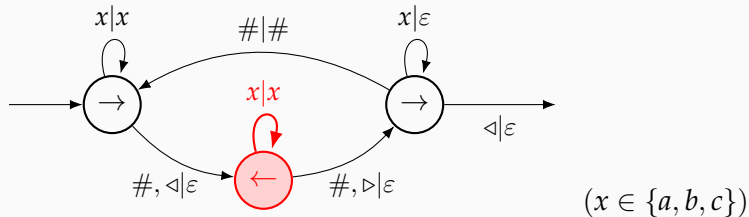
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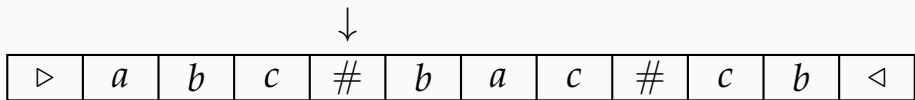
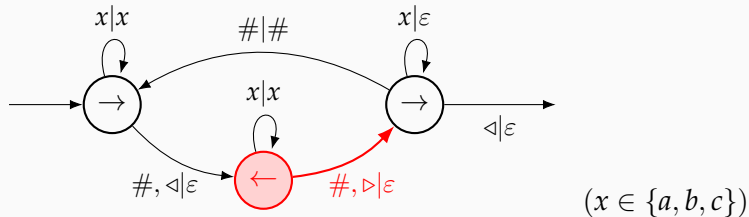
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Output:  $abccb\#bacca$

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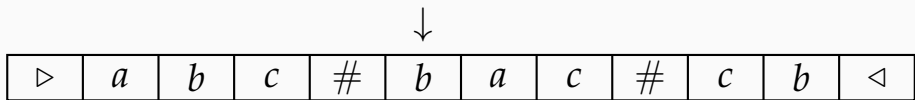
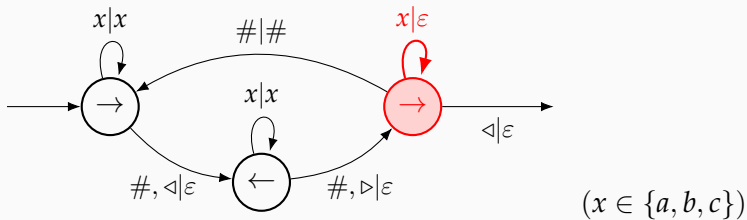
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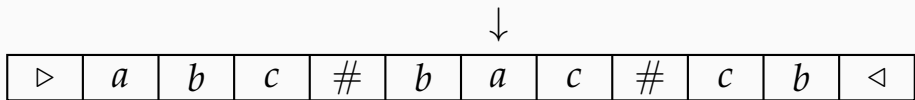
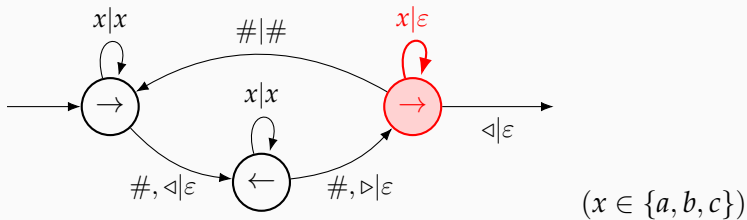


Output: *abccba#baccab*



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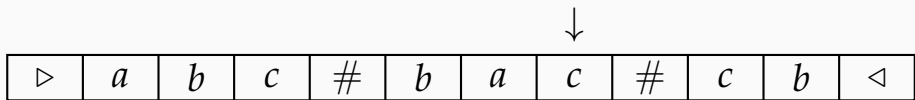
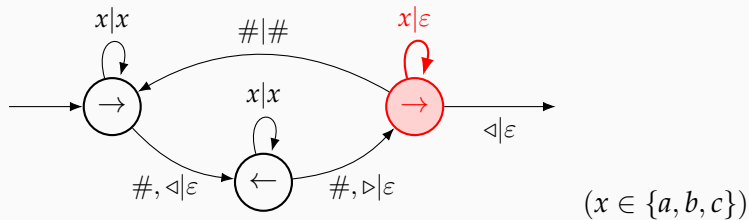
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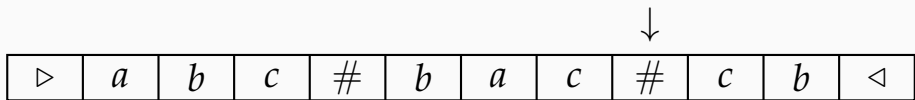
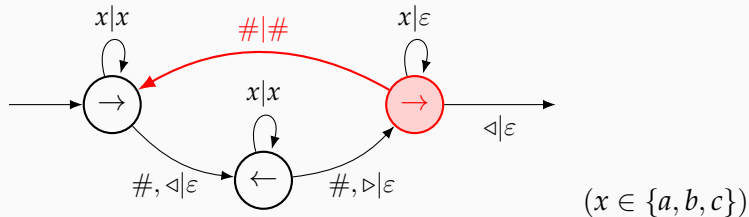
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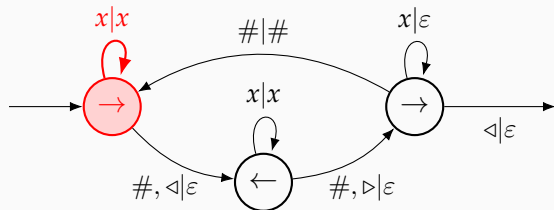
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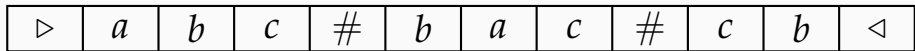
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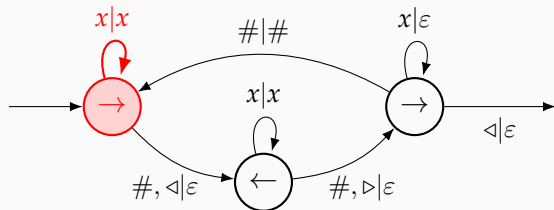
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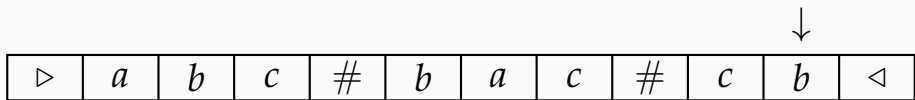
Output:  $abccba\#baccab\#$

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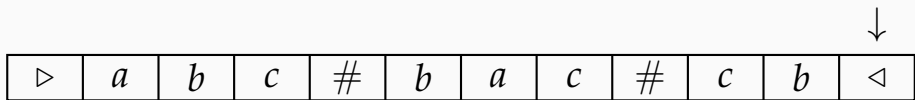
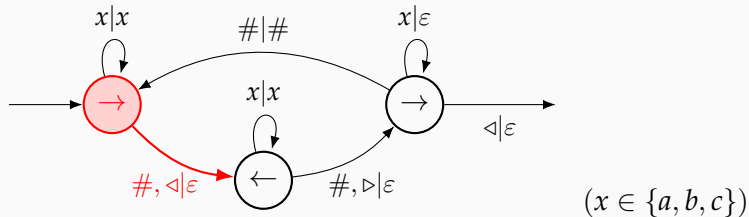
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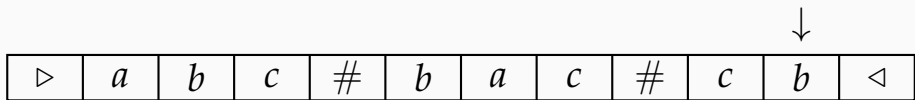
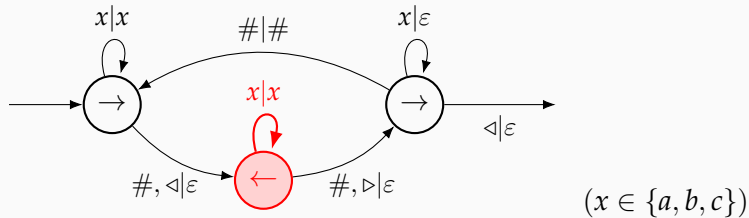
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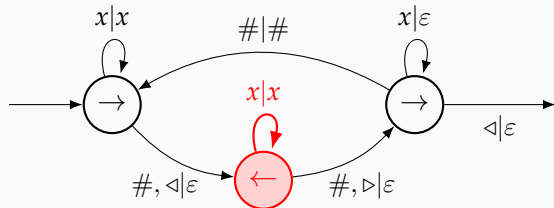
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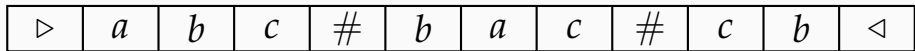
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↓

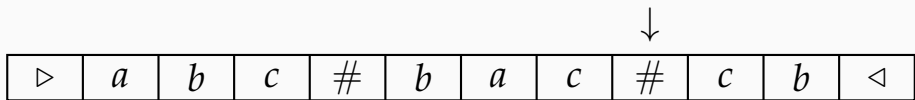
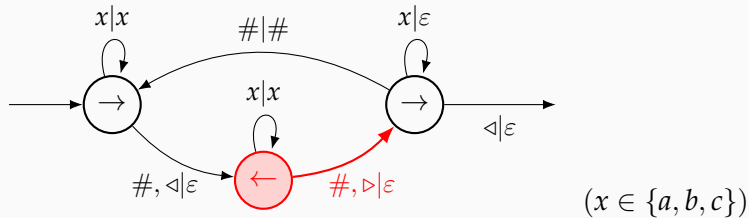


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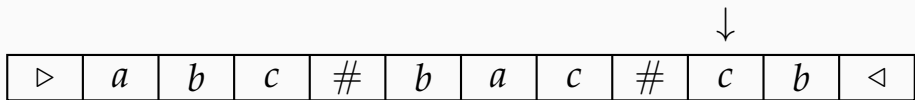
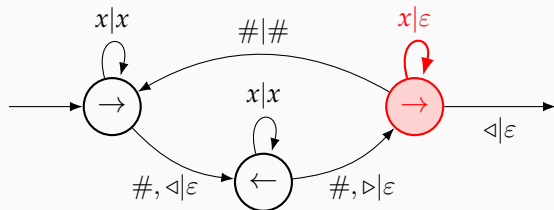
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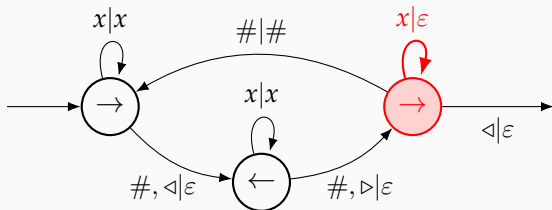
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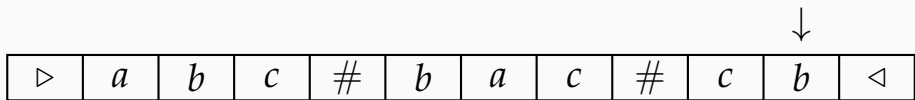
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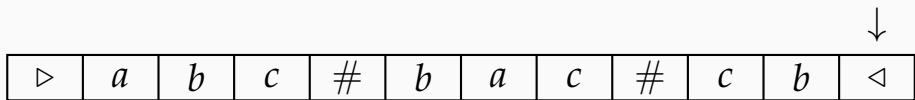
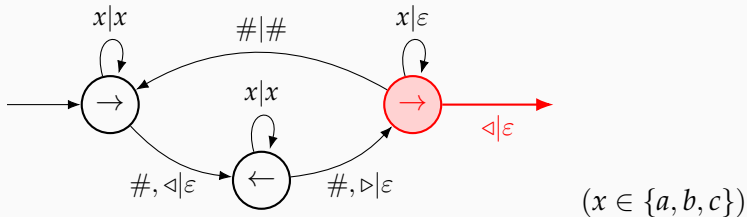
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## Extensions of two-way automata

- Two-way *transducers*:  $\text{Int}(\text{PSet}_{\Sigma^* \times (-)})$  (Kleisli category of writer monad)
- *Tree automata* over the monoidal category  $\text{Int}(\text{PSet}) = \text{tree-walking automata}$
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Connection between attribute grammars and the  $\text{Int}$ -construction: [Katsumata 2008]

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Noam’s “spliced arrow operad”  $\approx$  a special case of  $\text{Int}(\text{PSet}_{\Sigma^* \times (-)})$  over trees...  
output string lang. of tree-walking transd. = *multiple context-free* languages

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**Alternatively, in [Gallot, Lemay & Salvati 2020] – work independent from ours**

“Higher-order tree transducer” whose memory consists of an affine  $\lambda$ -term; no additives, but regular lookaround ( $\simeq$  preprocessing on input tree)

## Final results and conclusion

Using the Interaction Abstract Machine, Vanoni and I also:

- reprove the results of [Gallot, Lemay & Salvati 2020],  
e.g. MSO transductions w/ sharing  $\iff$  tree transducer using “almost affine”  
 $\lambda$ -terms + regular lookahead
- show that almost affine higher-order tree transducers with “!-depth 1”  
 $\iff$  *invisible pebble tree transducers* [Engelfriet, Hoogeboom & Samwel 2007]

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- Connections between  $\text{Int}(\text{PSet})$  (categorical Geometry of Interaction),  
two-way automata [Hines 2003] and tree-walking transducers [Katsumata 2008]
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