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# Visibly Linear Dynamic Logic

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# The Everlasting Quest for Expressiveness

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This can be expressed using **pushdown automata/context-free grammars** in the guards.

# Visibly Pushdown Automata

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Partition input alphabet  $\Sigma$  into  $\Sigma_c$  (calls),  $\Sigma_r$  (returns), and  $\Sigma_\ell$  (local actions).

A visibly pushdown automaton (VPA) has to

- push when processing a call,
- pop when processing a return while the stack is non-empty (otherwise stack is unchanged), and
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Stack height determined by input word  $\Rightarrow$  closure under union, intersection, and complement.

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## Examples:

- $a^n b^n$  is a VPL, if  $a$  is a call and  $b$  a return.
- $ww^R$  is not a VPL.

# Visibly Linear Dynamic Logic (VLDDL)

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## Syntax

$$\varphi := p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid \varphi \vee \varphi \mid \langle \mathfrak{A} \rangle \varphi \mid [\mathfrak{A}] \varphi$$

where  $p \in P$  ranges over atomic propositions and  $\mathfrak{A}$  ranges over VPA's. All VPA's have the **same** partition of  $2^P$  into calls, returns, and local actions.

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## Semantics

- $w \models \langle \mathfrak{A} \rangle \varphi$  if there exists an  $n$  such that  $w_0 \cdots w_n$  is accepted by  $\mathfrak{A}$  and  $w_n w_{n+1} w_{n+2} \cdots \models \varphi$ .
- $w \models [\mathfrak{A}] \varphi$  if for every  $n$  s.t.  $w_0 \cdots w_n$  is accepted by  $\mathfrak{A}$  we have  $w_n w_{n+1} w_{n+2} \cdots \models \varphi$ .

## Example

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“Every request  $q$  is eventually answered by a response  $p$  and there are never more responses than requests”:

$$[\mathcal{A}_{\text{true}}](q \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{A}_{\text{true}} \rangle p) \wedge [\mathcal{A}]\text{false}$$

where

- $\mathcal{A}_{\text{true}}$  accepts every input, and
- $\mathcal{A}$  accepts every input with more responses than requests.

Both languages are visibly pushdown, if

- $\{q\}$  is a call,
- $\{p\}$  is a return, and
- $\emptyset$  and  $\{p, q\}$  are local actions.

## Lemma

*VLDL and non-deterministic  $\omega$ -VPA are expressively equivalent.*

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## Proof Idea

VLDL

non-deterministic  
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VLDL

Deterministic  
Stair Automata

**[LMS '04]**

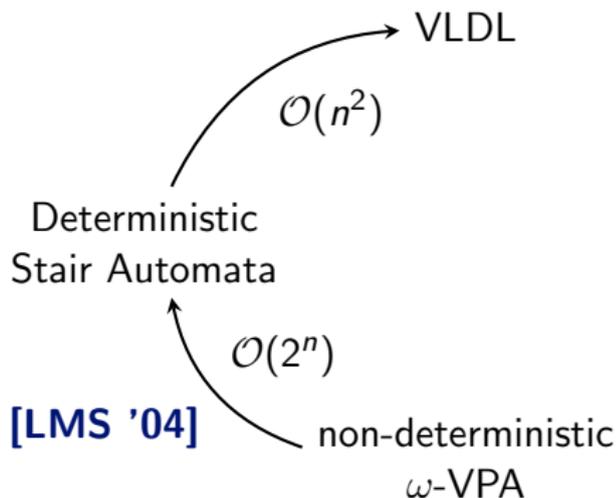
$\mathcal{O}(2^n)$

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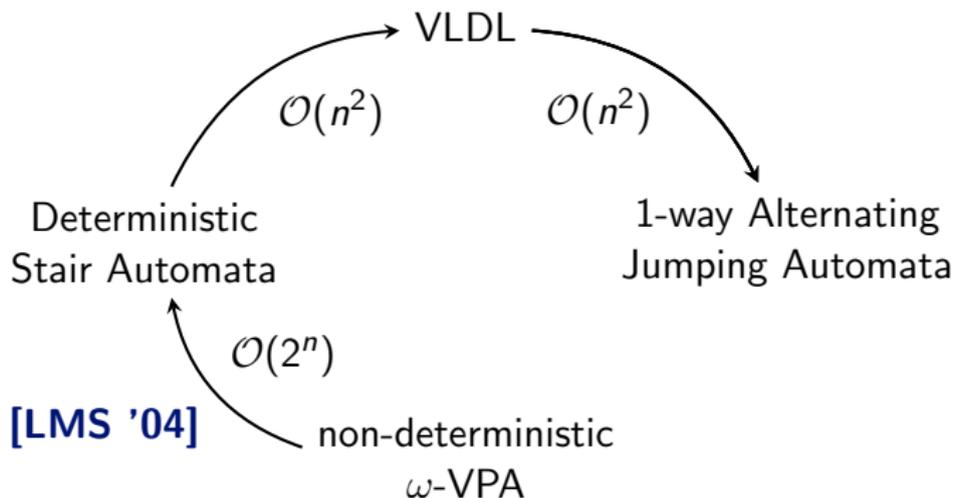
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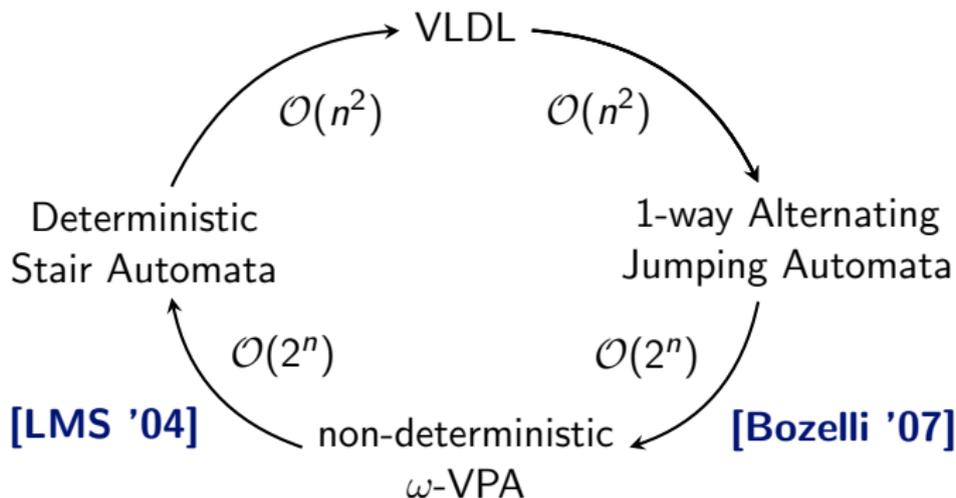
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# The Competitors

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“If  $p$  holds true immediately after entering module  $m$ , it shall hold immediately after the corresponding return from  $m$  as well”

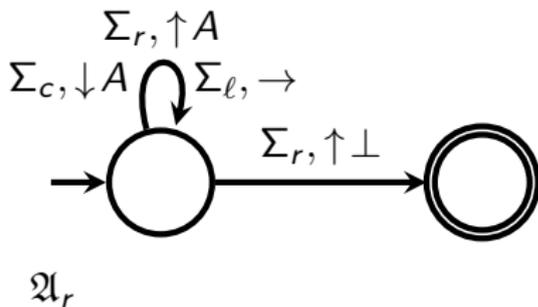
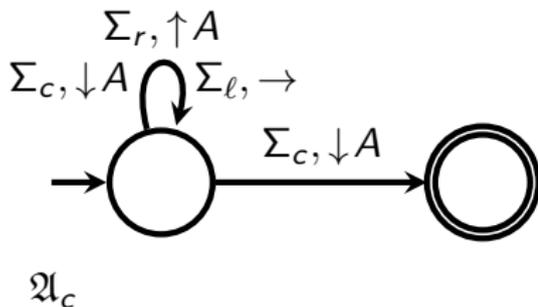
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**VLDL:**

$$[\mathcal{A}_c](p \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{A}_r \rangle p)$$

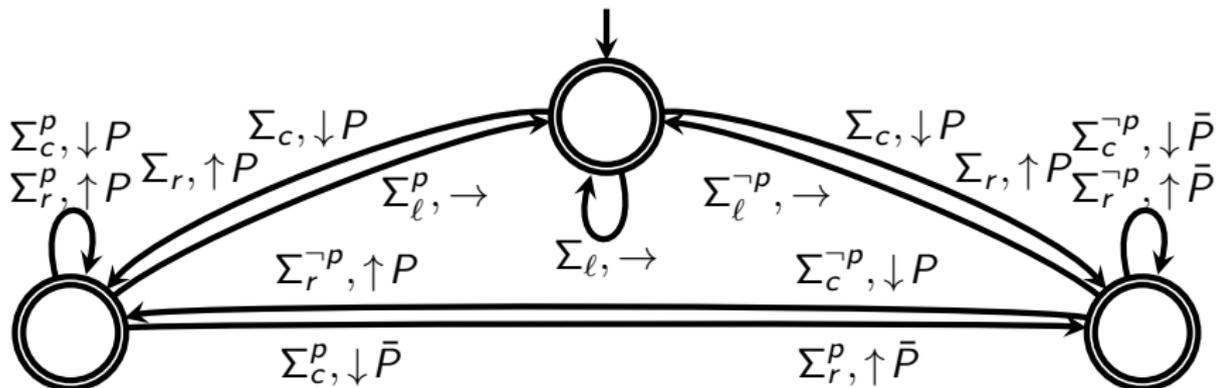
with



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$\omega$ -VPA:



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**VLTL:**

$(\alpha; \text{true}) | \alpha \rangle \text{false}$

with **visibly rational expression**  $\alpha$  below:

$[(p \cup q)^* \text{call}_m [(q \square) \cup (p \square p)] \text{return}_m (p \cup q)^*]^{\circ \square} \curvearrowright \square (p \cup q)^*$

# Our Results

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	validity	model-checking	infinite games
LTL	PSPACE	PSPACE	2EXPTIME
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VLTL	EXPTIME	EXPTIME	?

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LDL	PSPACE	PSPACE	2EXPTIME
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VLTl	EXPTIME	EXPTIME	?
VLDL <sub>exp</sub>	EXPTIME	EXPTIME	3EXPTIME