

Hierarchies of Abstract Machines

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Outline

1 Introduction

2 Muller automata

3 The Wagner hierarchy

4 More complex hierarchies

5 Conclusion

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We adopt an automata theoretical approach (McCulloch and Pitts (1943), Kleene (1956), Minsky (1967)).

[Minsky (1967)] "It is evident that each neural network of the kind we have been considering is a finite state machine. [...] It is interesting and surprising that there is a converse to this. [...] Every finite state machine is equivalent to, and can be "simulated" by, some neural net."

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Muller automata

- Muller automata are abstract machines working on infinite inputs.
- These kind of machines (over infinite words) can be classified in a very refined manner according to their computational capability.

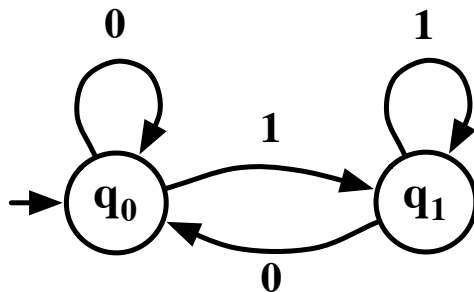
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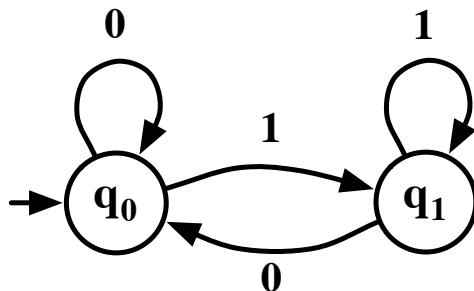
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input 001111111111.....

accepted

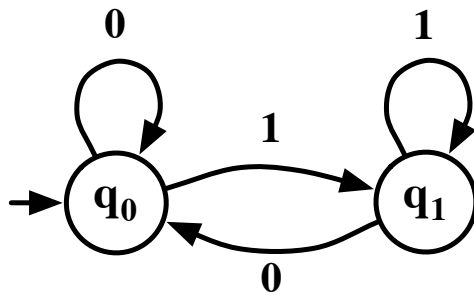
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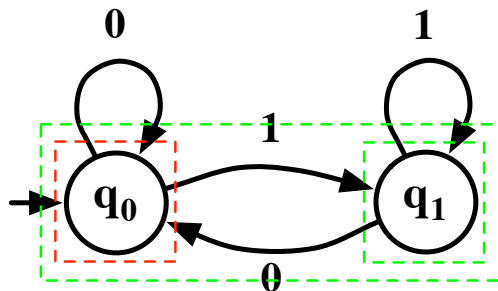
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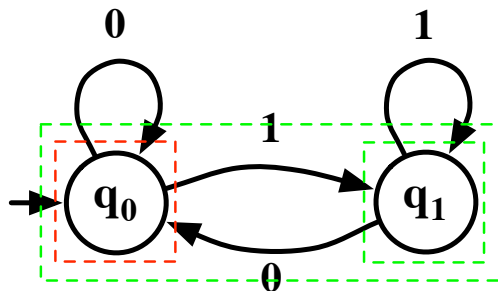
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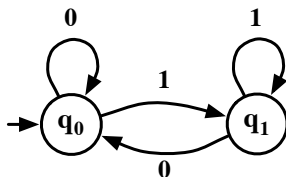
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The accepted words are exactly those containing infinitely many 1's. This is the *language recognized by this automaton*.

Definition

A finite *Muller automaton* is a tuple $\mathcal{A} = (Q, A, \delta, i, \mathcal{T})$, where

- Q is a finite set of states,
- A is an alphabet,
- $\delta : Q \times A \longrightarrow Q$ is the transition function,
- $i \in Q$ is the initial state,
- $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(Q)$ is the table of \mathcal{A} .

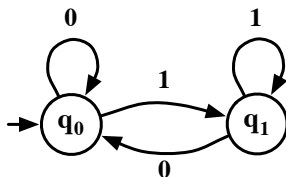


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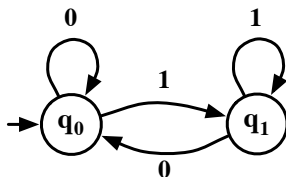


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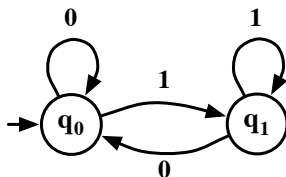


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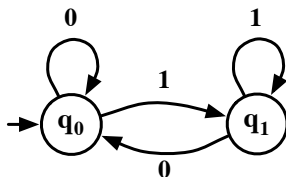


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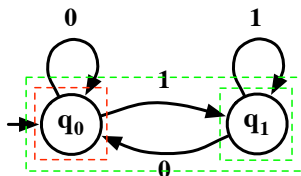


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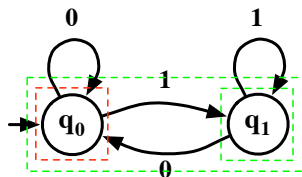
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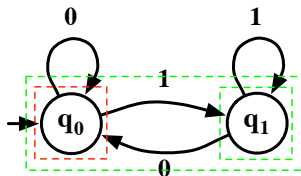


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The set $L(\mathcal{A})$ of all infinite words accepted by \mathcal{A} is called the *language recognized by \mathcal{A}* .

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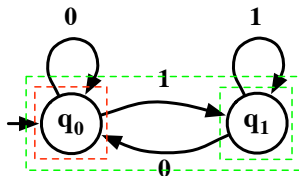


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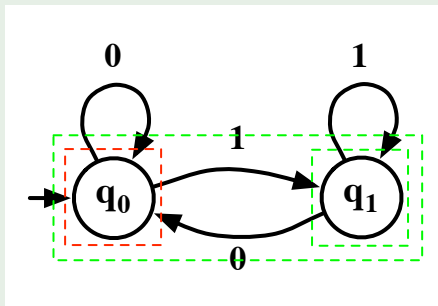
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Example

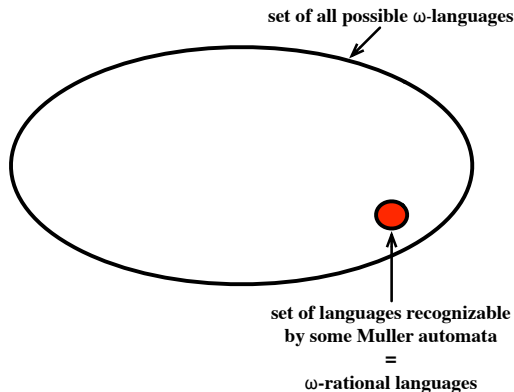
Consider the following automaton \mathcal{A} . Then $L(\mathcal{A})$ is the set of words containing infinitely many 1's.



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From now on, we will generally identify a Muller automaton \mathcal{A} with its corresponding ω -language $L(\mathcal{A})$.

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Definition (alt. def. of the same reduction relation)

We say that $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ iff there exists a continuous function f such that $L(\mathcal{A}) = f^{-1}(L(\mathcal{B}))$.

- We set $\mathcal{A} <_w \mathcal{B}$ if both $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ and $\mathcal{B} \not\leq_w \mathcal{A}$.
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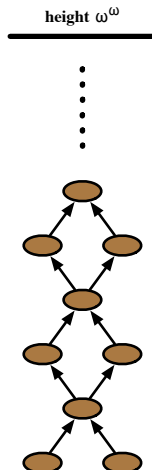
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Definition

The collection of all Muller automata (or ω -rational languages) ordered by the relation \leq_w is called the *Wagner hierarchy*.

Theorem

The Wagner hierarchy has width 2 and height ω^ω .

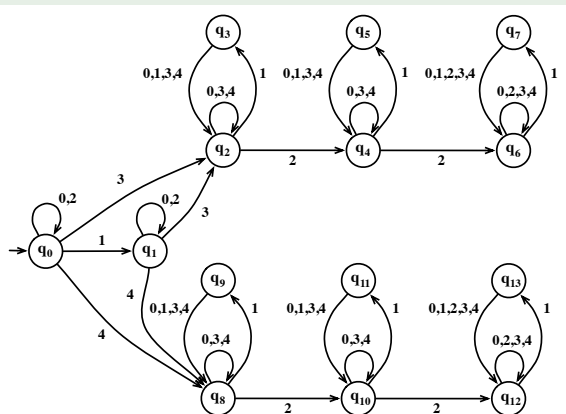


The Wagner hierarchy is decidable.



Example

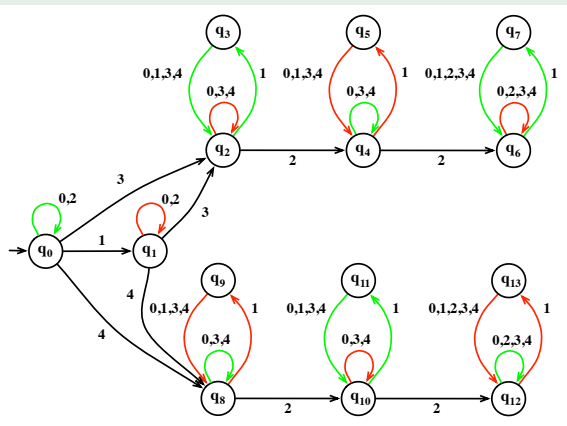
The following Muller automata has height $\omega \cdot 3 + 2$ in the Wagner hierarchy.



$$T = \{\{q_0\}, \{q_2, q_3\}, \{q_4\}, \{q_6, q_7\}, \{q_8\}, \{q_{10}, q_{11}\}, \{q_{12}\}\}$$

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- Deterministic Muller automata
- Deterministic Muller Counter automata
- Deterministic Muller Pushdown automata
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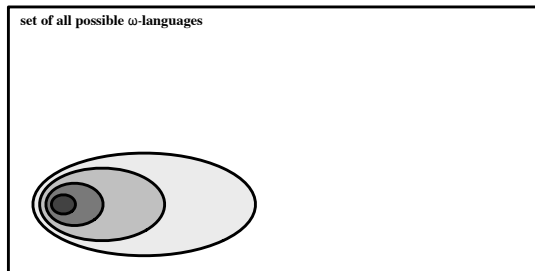
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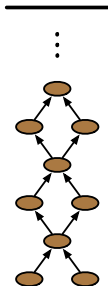
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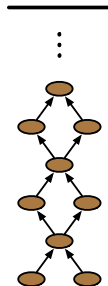


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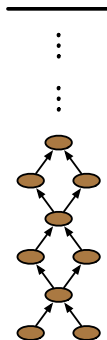
DetMA

height ω^ω Decidability pb:
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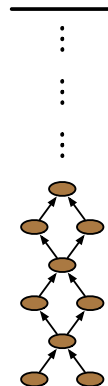
DetMCA

height $(\omega^2)^\omega = \omega^\omega$ Decidability pb:
solved

DetMPDA

height $(\omega^\omega)^\omega$ Decidability pb:
unsolved

DetMTM

height $(\omega_1^{CK})^\omega$ Decidability pb:
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