

# Word Graphs

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How do we **present** an algebraic structure?

# Multiplication Table

Example from groups:

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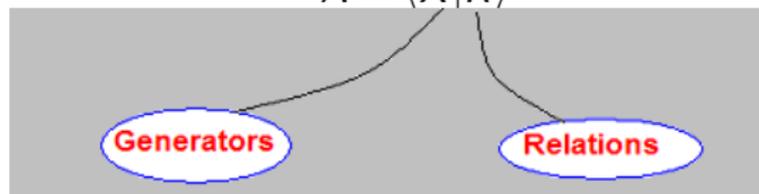
Every other multiplication in  $V_4$  follows from this presentation and the fact that  $V_4$  is a group.

$$V_4 = \text{Gp} \langle a, b \mid a^2 = b^2 = e, ab = ba \rangle$$

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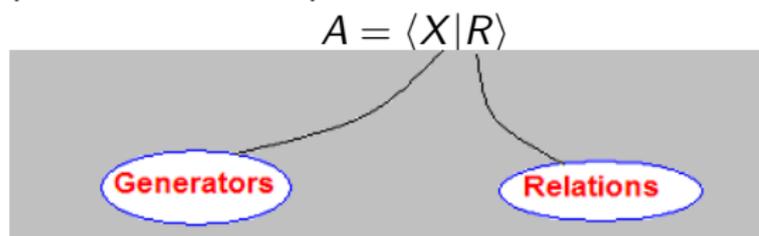
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$$S = (X \cup X^{-1})^+ / \tau$$

where  $\tau$  is the smallest congruence containing the relation  $R$  and Vagner's relations:

$$\{(uu^{-1}u, u) \mid u \in S\} \cup \{(uu^{-1}vv^{-1}, vv^{-1}uu^{-1}) \mid u, v \in S\}.$$

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- ▶ given a product of generators, is this product equal to some other product of generators? "word problem"
- ▶ given two presentations, do they define the same structure? "isomorphism problem"

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All of the decision problems mentioned for the presentations are *undecidable* for the classes of groups and inverse semigroups.

# Inverse semigroups

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Inverse semigroups can be represented as **partial symmetries**:

## Theorem (Vagner-Preston)

*Every inverse semigroup can be embedded in the set of **partial** one to one transformations on a set.*

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- ▶ associative binary operation
- ▶ identity
- ▶ inverses:  $a \cdot a^{-1} = a^{-1} \cdot a = e$

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*permutations, symmetries,  
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## Semigroup - associative operation

*concatenation of strings*

## Inverse Semigroup

- ▶ associative binary operation
- ▶ existence of inverses:  
 $a \cdot a^{-1} \cdot a = a$   
 $a^{-1} \cdot a \cdot a^{-1} = a^{-1}$

*strings, paths in graphs,  
transition semigroups,  
partial transformations,  
do/undo proceses*

We say  $S = \text{Inv}\langle X|R \rangle$  (or  $S$  is presented by  $\langle X|R \rangle$ ) if

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where  $\tau$  is the smallest congruence generated by the relation  $R$  and Vagner's relations:

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Given an inverse semigroup  $S = \text{Inv}\langle X|R\rangle$ , we will present results on both of the two basic types of questions related to presentations:

- ▶ Structural questions
- ▶ Decision problems

One of the most basic structural question concerning inverse semigroups is the classification of the maximal subgroups of a given semigroup  $S$ .

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A **maximal subgroup** of an inverse semigroup  $(S, \cdot)$  is a subset  $G$  of  $S$  “centered around” an idempotent  $e$  of  $S$  and satisfying the property that  $(G, \cdot)$  is in fact a group with  $e$  serving as its identity element.

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if  $S$  is a group, it has only one idempotent - the identity.

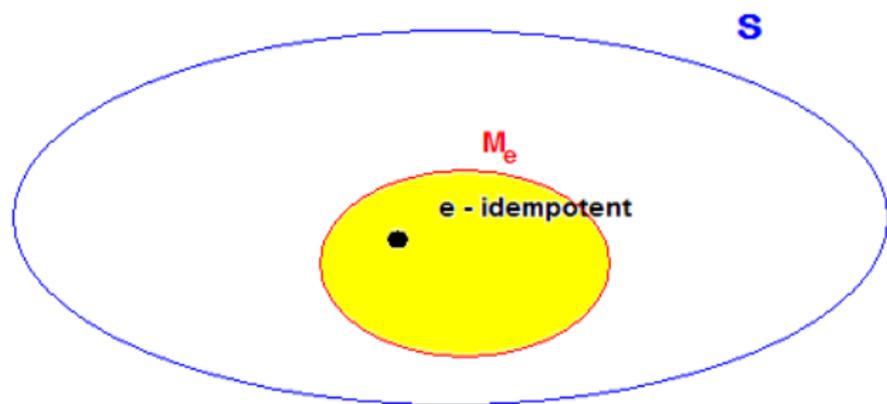
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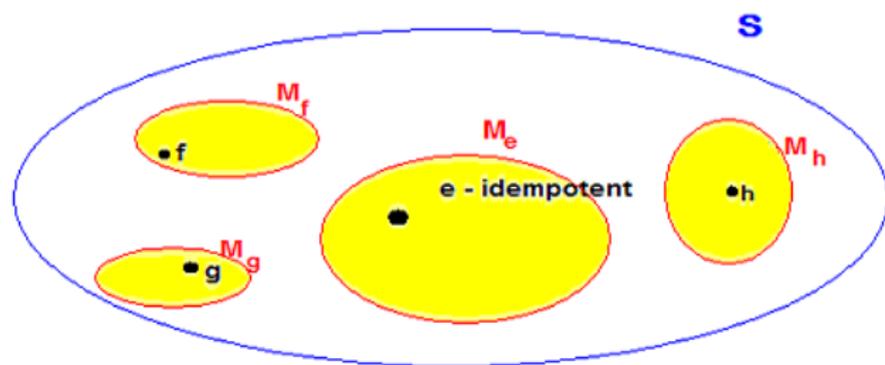
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In general, inverse semigroups *can have many idempotents*.

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## Definition (Word problem)

Let  $S = \text{Inv}\langle X|R \rangle$  and let  $w, w' \in (X \cup X^{-1})^+$  be two words. Is there an algorithm (eq. is it decidable)  $w, w'$  represent the same element in  $S$ , (i.e.  $w\tau = w'\tau$ )?

# Algorithmic problems in semigroups

- ▶ One of the most studied: **the word problem** for finitely presented (inverse) semigroups.
- ▶ It is a particular case of a more general problem in the framework of rewriting systems.

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## Definition (Rewriting system)

$\langle X|R \rangle$  where  $X$  is a finite alphabet,  $R \subseteq X^* \times X^*$  which is symmetric. We say  $w_1 \rightarrow w_2$  if  $w_1 = uxv, w_2 = uyv$  and  $(x, y) \in R$ , the transitive closure of such relation is denoted by  $\xrightarrow{*}$ , thus the word problem is reduced to ask whether or not, given  $w, w' \in X^*, w \xrightarrow{*} w'$

# Example: the free case in Groups

Consider the free group  $FG(a, b) = Gp\langle a, b | \emptyset \rangle$ ,

$$w = aba^{-1}ab^{-1}a \quad w' = aa$$

Is  $w = w'$  in  $FG(a, b)$ ?

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Seen as a rewriting system:

$$aba^{-1}ab^{-1}a \rightarrow abb^{-1}a \rightarrow aa$$

so it is always decidable since relations  $R$  reduce the length and we have always a **normal form**...

# Example for a Free Inverse Semigroup

Consider the free inverse semigroup  $FIS(a, b) = Inv\langle a, b | \emptyset \rangle$

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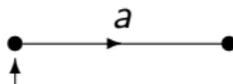
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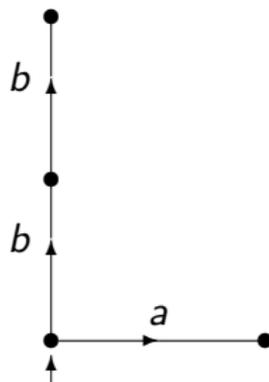
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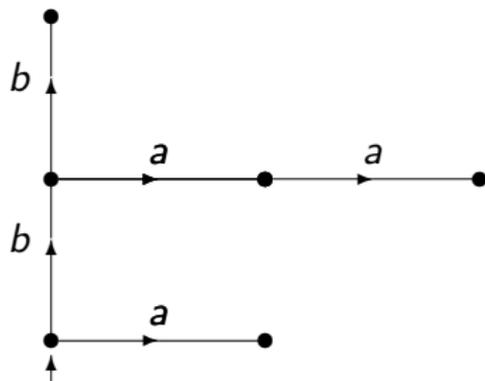
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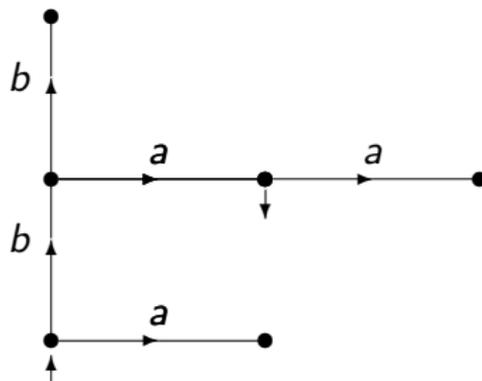
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Theorem (Munn, '74 )

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We build the Munn automata for  $w$  and  $w'$ .

If they recognize the same language, then  $w\tau = w'\tau$ .

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Is  $w = w'$  in  $FIS(a, b)$ ?

# Inverse Word Graph

Let  $X \neq \emptyset$  be a set (an alphabet).

An **inverse word graph** over  $X$  is a connected graph whose edges are labeled by the elements from  $X$ , and that satisfies the property that for each edge  $z$  the oppositely oriented edge  $\bar{z}$  is labeled by the inverse of the label of  $z$ .

Let  $S = \text{Inv}\langle X|R \rangle$

## Definition (Schützenberger graph)

Let  $w$  be a word in  $(X \cup X^{-1})^+$ . The Schützenberger graph of  $w$  relative to the presentation  $\text{Inv}\langle X|R \rangle$  is the graph  $S\Gamma(X, R, w\tau)$  whose vertices are the elements of the  $\mathcal{R}$ -class  $\mathcal{R}_{w\tau}$  of  $w\tau$  in  $S$ , and whose edges are of the form

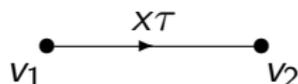
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if  $v_2 = v_1 \cdot x\tau$ .

The Schützenberger automaton

$$\mathcal{A}(Y, T, w) = (ww^{-1}\tau, S\Gamma(Y, T, w), w\tau)$$

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- ▶  $S\Gamma(Y, T, w)$  is a deterministic inverse word graph

# Schützenberger automata - Stephen's theorem

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- ▶ one especially useful for the study of structure:

$$G_e \cong \text{Aut}(S\Gamma(X, R, e))$$

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In general, we do not know any effective procedure for constructing the Schützenberger graphs.

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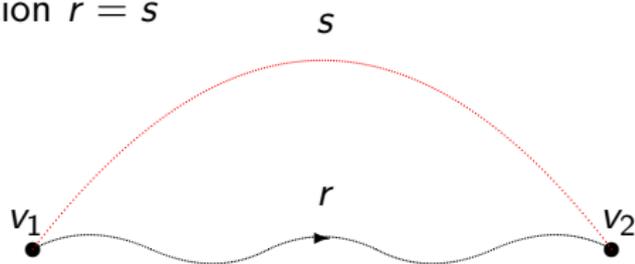
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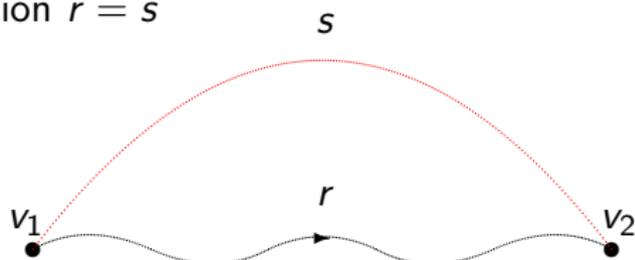
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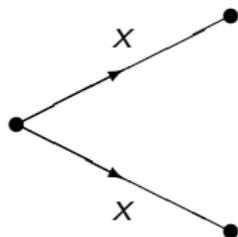
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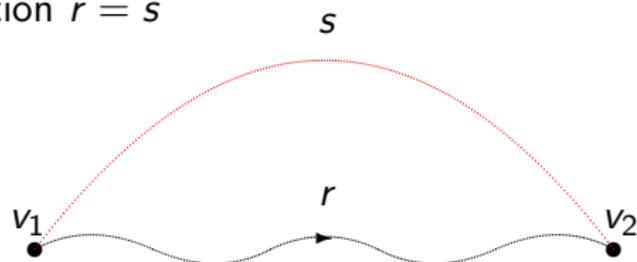
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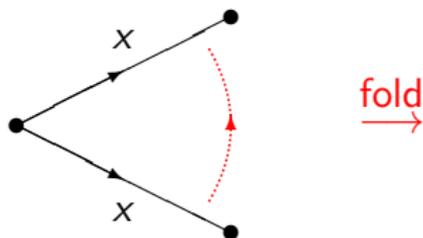
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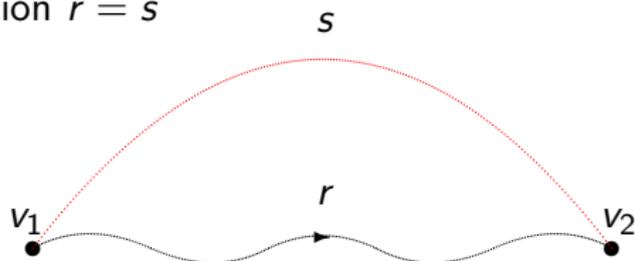
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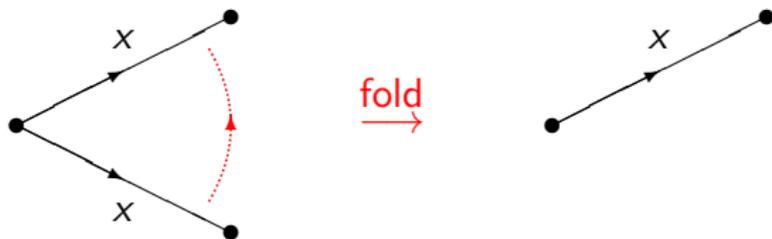
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In this way we get a directed system of inverse automata

$$\mathcal{A}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_j \rightarrow \dots$$

whose directed limit is the Schützenberger automata  $\mathcal{A}(Y, T, w)$ .

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For example, if we define the property of being simple to be the property of having a solvable word problem, one needs to address the question of which product operations preserve the property of being simple.

There are many product operations used successfully for both groups and semigroups – direct product, free product, amalgamated product.

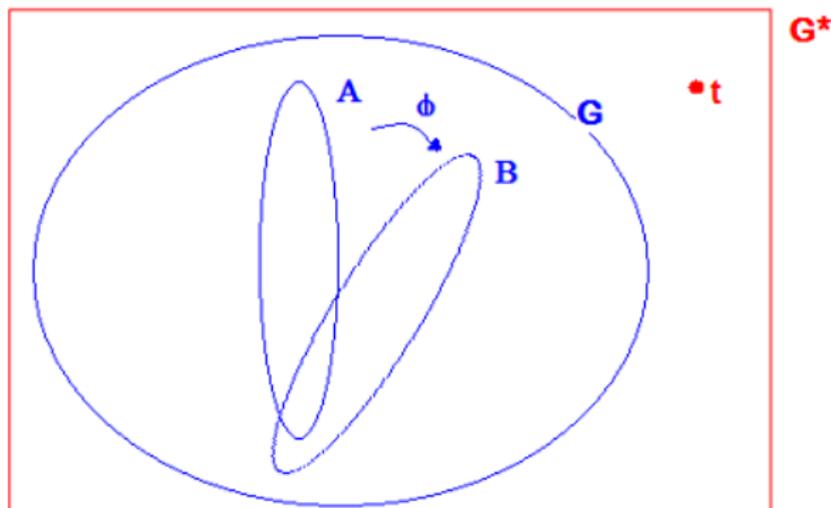
Combining “simple” objects into larger, more complicated, objects is one of the most fruitful approaches in mathematics.

For example, if we define the property of being simple to be the property of having a solvable word problem, one needs to address the question of which product operations preserve the property of being simple.

There are many product operations used successfully for both groups and semigroups – direct product, free product, amalgamated product.

Our focus will be on the product operation originally introduced for groups and called an **HNN-extension**.

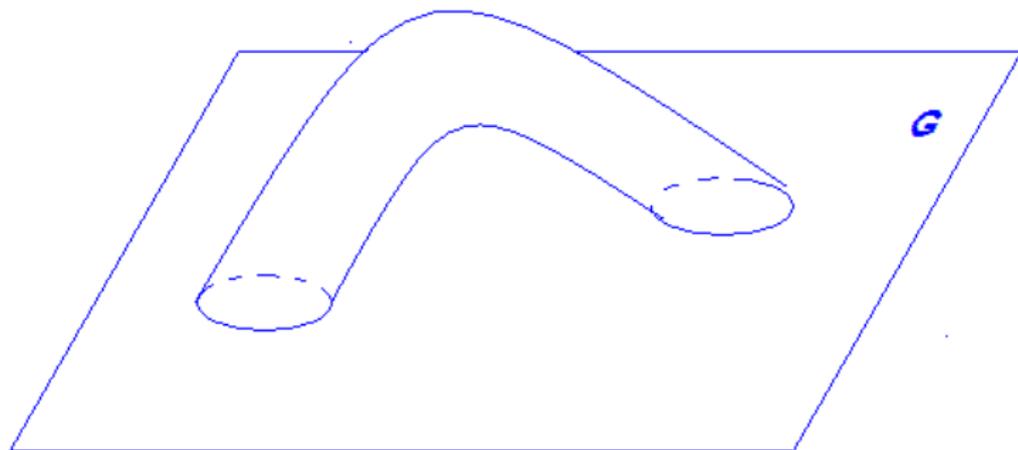
## HigmanNeumannNeumann - extensions



$$t^{-1}at = a\phi \quad \text{for} \quad \forall a \in A$$

# Handle

For example, the fundamental group of a surface with a handle is an HNN-extension of the fundamental group of the surface without the handle attached.



# Definition of HNN-extensions for inverse semigroups

## Definition (A.Yamamura)

Let  $S = \text{Inv}\langle X \mid R \rangle$  be an inverse semigroup.

Let  $A, B$  be inverse subsemigroups of  $S$ ,

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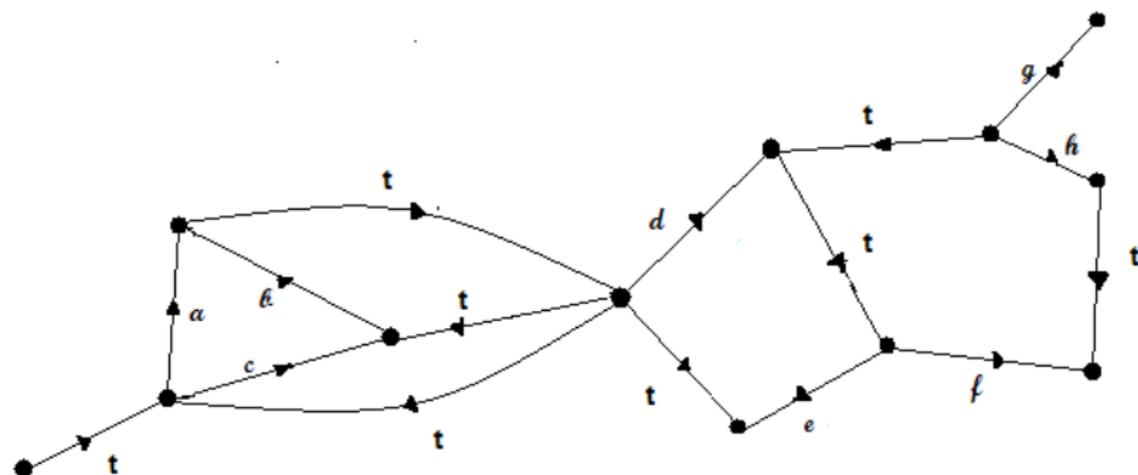
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$$S \hookrightarrow S^*$$

In what follows, we shall address the structural and decision questions concerning the HNN-extensions of inverse semigroups,  $S^* = \text{Inv}\langle X, t \mid R \cup R_{HNN} \rangle$ , via the use of the very visual and intuitive concept of a **graph “constructed from a word in  $X$  according to the rules in  $R \cup R_{HNN}$ ”**.

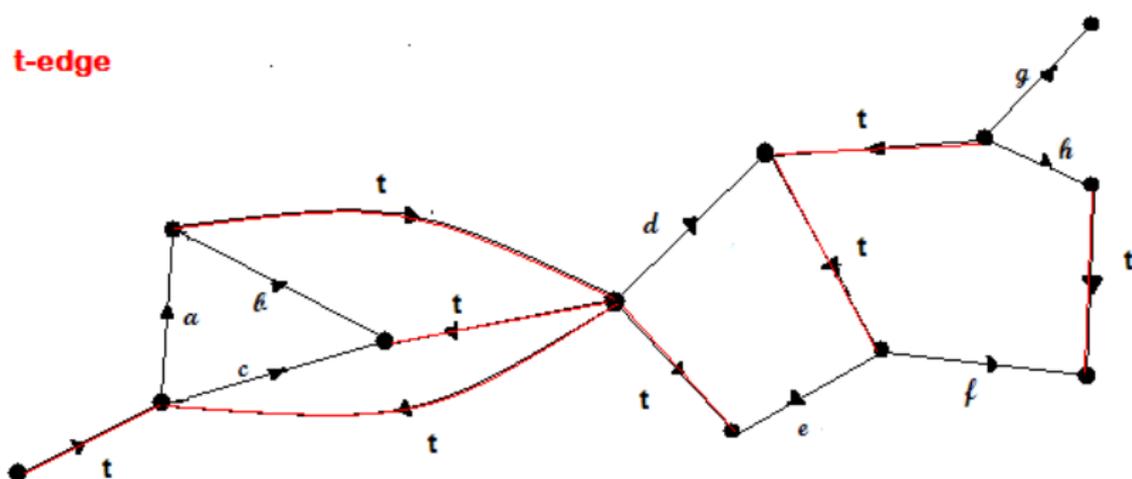
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In the special case when  $S = \text{Inv}\langle X, t \mid R \cup R_{HNN} \rangle$ , a part of the word graph over  $X \cup \{t\}$  may look something like this:



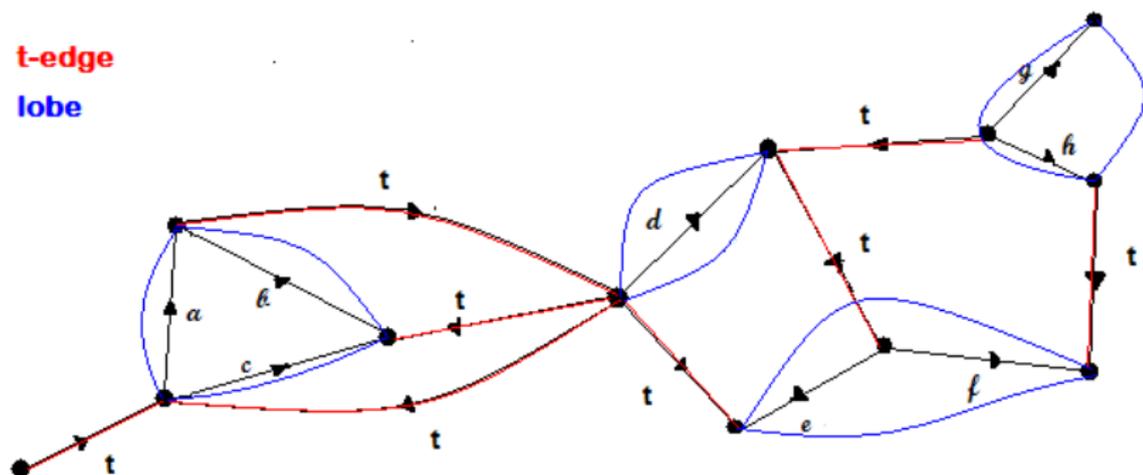
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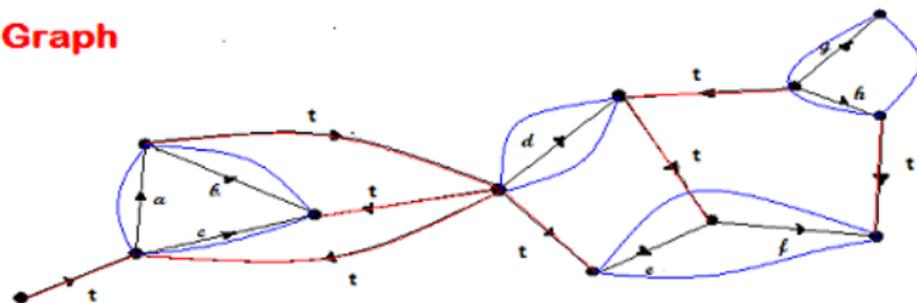
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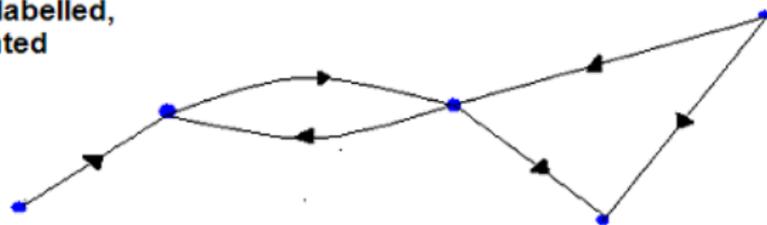
# HNN-extensions for inverse semigroups

## Graph



## Lobe Graph

non-labelled,  
oriented

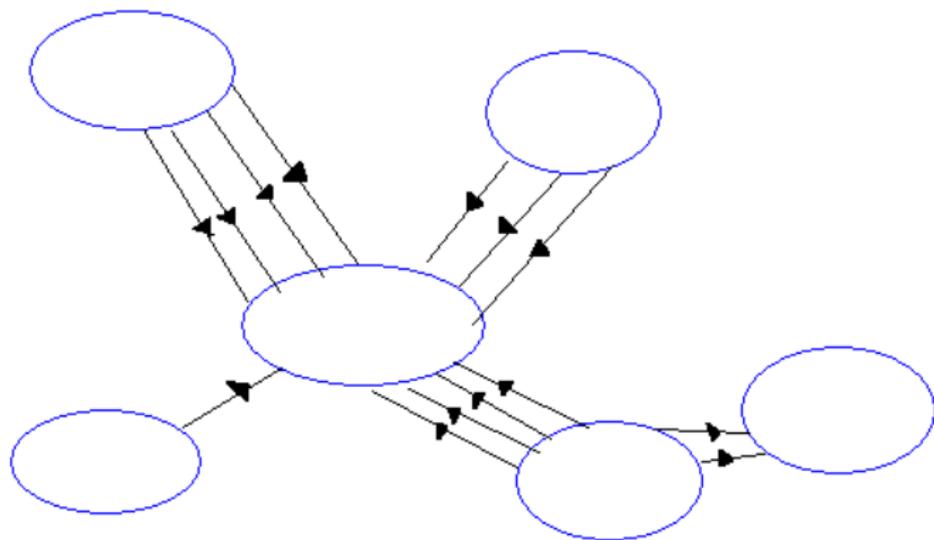


$T(\Gamma)$

## Theorem (T.J.)

*The lobe graph  $T(\Gamma)$  of a Schützenberger graph  $\Gamma$  relative to the presentation  $\text{Inv}\langle X, t \mid R \cup R_{HNN} \rangle$  is an oriented tree.*

# The tree structure of lobe graphs



# Characterization of the Schützenberger automata for HNN-extension.

## Theorem (T.J.)

*Let  $S^*$  be a lower bounded HNN-extension. The Schützenberger automata of  $S^*$  relative to the presentation  $\text{Inv}\langle X \cup \{t\} \mid R \cup R_{HNN} \rangle$  are precisely the complete  $T$ -automata that possess a host.*

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- ▶ Schützenberger graphs of HNN-extensions have tree like lobe structure and many other "nice" features – e.g., they contain a special subgraph with only **finitely** many lobes that contains the information for the whole graph.
- ▶ the tree like lobe structure of these graphs allows for the use of the Bass-Serre Theory of group actions on trees and graphs of groups.

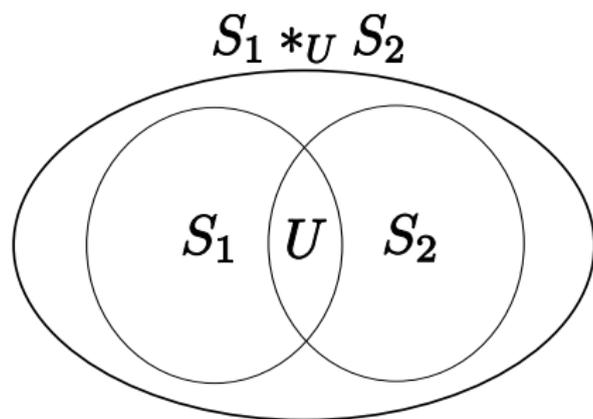
## Theorem (T.J.)

*The word problem is decidable for any HNN-extension of the form  $S^* = [S; A, B; \varphi]$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are isomorphic finitely generated inverse subsemigroups of  $FIS(X)$ .*

# Amalgams of Inverse Semigroups

Amalgam is a 5-uple  $[S_1, S_2; U, \omega_1, \omega_2]$  where  $S_1, S_2, U$  are inverse semigroups and  $\omega_i : U \hookrightarrow S_i, i = 1, 2$ .

# Amalgams of Inverse Semigroups



If  $S_1 = \text{Inv}\langle X_1 | R_1 \rangle$ ,  $S_2 = \text{Inv}\langle X_2 | R_2 \rangle$  with  $X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset$

$$S_1 *_U S_2 = \text{Inv}\langle X | R_1, R_2, R_w \rangle = \text{Inv}\langle X | R \rangle$$

where  $X = X_1 \cup X_2$ ,  $R_w = \{(\omega_1(u), \omega_2(u)) : u \in U\}$

# Word problem for amalgams of (inverse)-semigroups

The word problem for amalgams of (inverse)-semigroups Given two (inverse)-semigroups  $S_1, S_2$  which have decidable word problem and the embeddings  $\omega_i : U \hookrightarrow S_i$  are computable, does  $S_1 *_U S_2$  have decidable word problem?

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- ▶ Proof based on an ordered way to build Schützenberger automata

## Theorem (Cherubini, Meakin, Piochi)

*The word problem in  $S_1 *_U S_2$  where  $S_1, S_2$  are **finite** inverse semigroups is decidable.*

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- ▶ Proof based on an ordered way to build Schützenberger automata
- ▶ Result in contrast with Sapir's results using Minsky machines.

## Theorem (Sapir)

*There are two finite semigroups for which the word problem in  $S_1 *_U S_2$  is undecidable.*

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## Theorem

*If  $S_1, S_2$  are two **groups** which have decidable word problem and the embeddings  $\omega_i : U \hookrightarrow S_i$  are computable, then  $S_1 *_U S_2$  have decidable word problem.*

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## Theorem (Rodaro, Silva)

*The word problem for  $S_1 *_U S_2$  of inverse semigroups may be undecidable even if we assume  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to have finite  $\mathcal{R}$ -classes and  $\omega_1, \omega_2$  to be computable functions.*

# Idea of the proof

- ▶ use Schützenberger automata to simulate the behavior of a two counter machine building a correspondence  
iterative construction  $\longleftrightarrow$  computations of the machine

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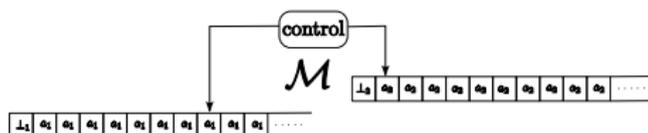
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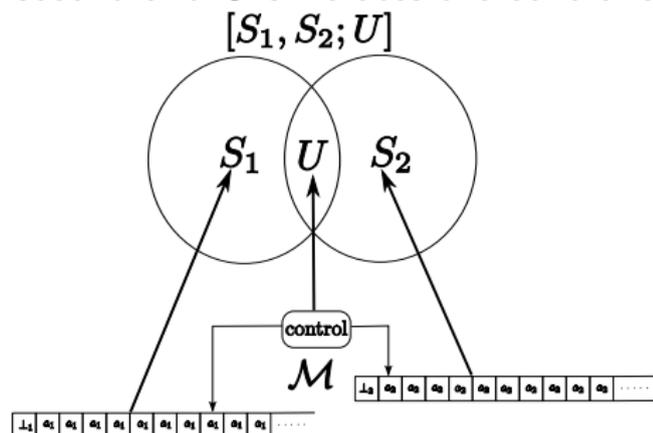
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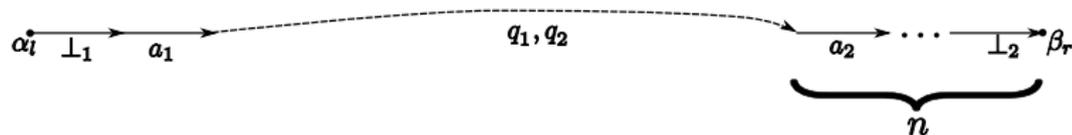
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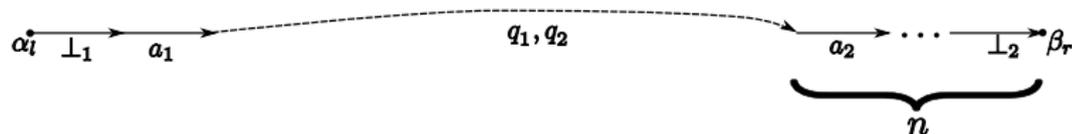
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Starting from linear automaton of the word  $\perp_1 a_1 q a_2^n \perp_2$  representing the configuration  $(Q, 1, n)$ .



# Idea of the proof

Since the machine is reversible there is a unique computation  $(Q, 1, n) \vdash_{\mathcal{M}} (Q', 0, n)$  due to the instruction (for instance)  $(Q, 1, -, Q')$

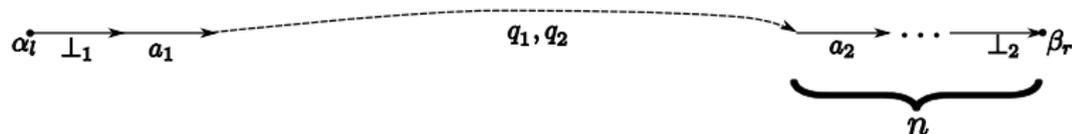


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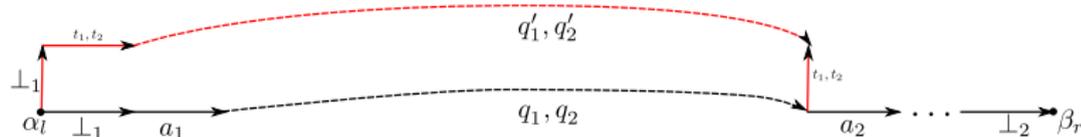


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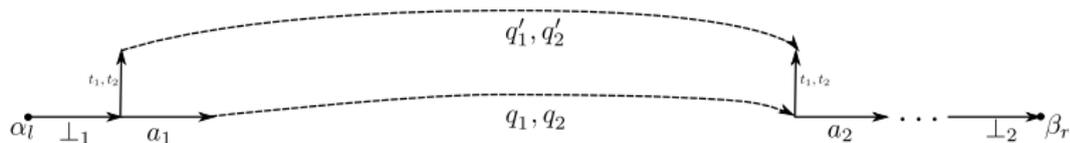
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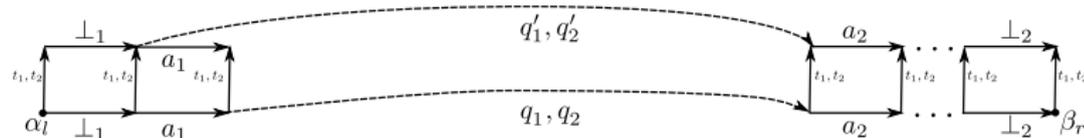
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followed by **folding**...



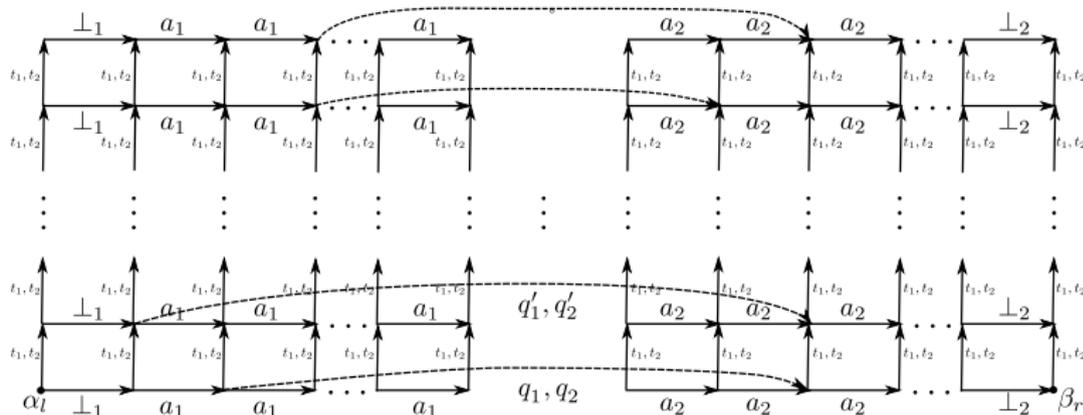
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The extra relation in  $S_1, S_2$  ensure the cloning of the configuration to the next step.



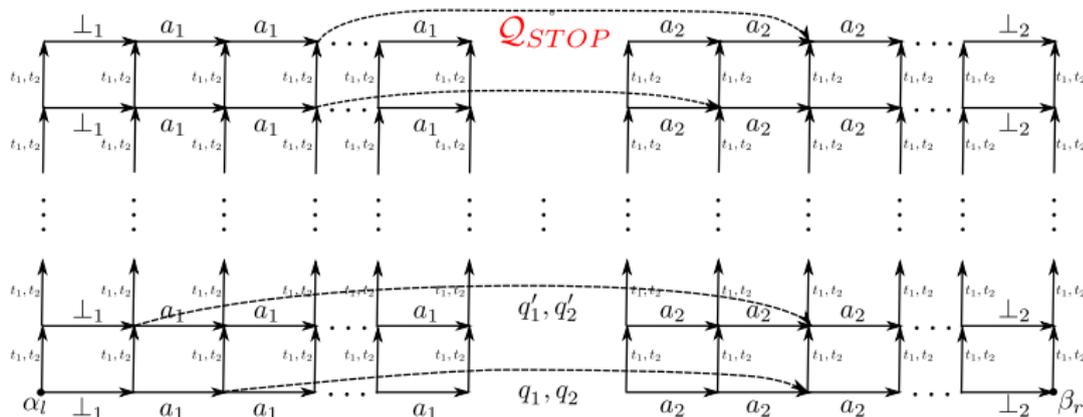
# Idea of the proof

Continuing in this way we obtain a structure of this form...



# Idea of the proof

If we reach the STOP instruction, some extra relations ensure that the final state is a zero...



# Děkuji!

