

# Normalization of Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers

Gregoire Laurence  
joint work with

Aurelien Lemay, Joachim Niehren, Slawek Staworko, and Marc Tommasi

Mostrare Project  
INRIA Lille - Nord Europe  
University of Lille

May 27, 2011

## Why STWs?

### XSLT

```
<xsl:output method="xml" />
```

```
<xsl:output method="text" />
```

# Why STWs?

## XSLT

```
<xsl:output method="xml" />
```

```
<xsl:output method="text" />
```

- Tree-to-word transformations

# Why STWs?

## XSLT

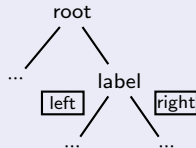
```
<xsl:output method="xml" />
```

```
<xsl:output method="text" />
```

- Tree-to-word transformations

## XSLT framework

```
<xsl:template match="label">  
  left  
<xsl:apply-templates />  
  right  
</xsl:template>
```

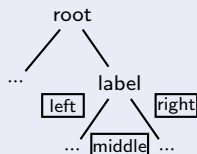


- concatenation on the output
- XSLT is TURING COMPLETE

# Why STWs?

## XSLT inspired framework

```
<xsl:template mode="q" match="label">
  <!-- binary symbol -->
  left
  <apply-child rank=1 mode="p" />
  middle
  <apply-child rank=2 mode="p" />
  right
</xsl:template>
```



- ranked input
- finite states machine (template = state)
- deterministic (equivalence undecidable for non det string transducers [Griffiths 68])

## Related work

### Top-down tree transducers [Maneth et Al. PODS 2010]

- Tree-to-tree transducer
- Learning results
- Normalization algorithm
- Allow copy

### Visibly pushdown transducers [Raskin et Al. ALP 2008]

- Tree-to-words transducer
- Works on stream of events

# Why the normalization problem?

## Learning

Grammatical inference

## Classic problem

- String transducers [Choffrut, 1978]
- Top-down transducers [Engelfriet et Al. JCSS 2009]
- Bottom-up transducers [Friese et Al. DLT 2010]
- Macro tree transducers (open problem)

# Outline

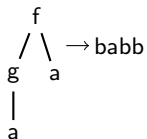
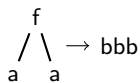
- 1 Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers
- 2 Earliest STWs
- 3 Normalization
- 4 Complexity bounds
- 5 Minimization



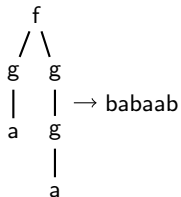
# Outline

- 1 Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers
- 2 Earliest STWs
- 3 Normalization
- 4 Complexity bounds
- 5 Minimization

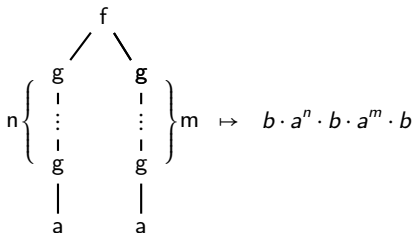
## Example of Transformation



...



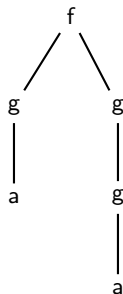
...



$$\boxed{f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b}$$

# Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers (STWs)

Machine definition

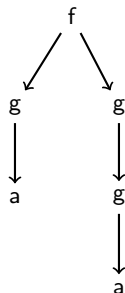


$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

# Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers (STWs)

## Machine definition

- Top Down tree traversal
- Deterministic
- Each node visited exactly once

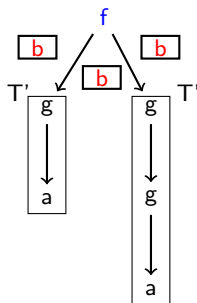


$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

# Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers (STWs)

## Machine definition

- Top Down tree traversal
- Deterministic
- Each node visited exactly once
- Output concatenation
- $T(f(t_1, t_2)) = b \cdot T'(t_1) \cdot b \cdot T'(t_2) \cdot b$

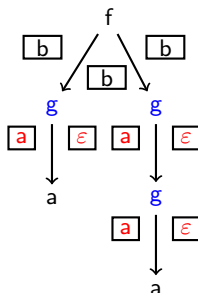


$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

# Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers (STWs)

## Machine definition

- Top Down tree traversal
- Deterministic
- Each node visited exactly once
- Output concatenation
- $T(f(t_1, t_2)) = b \cdot T'(t_1) \cdot b \cdot T'(t_2) \cdot b$
- $T'(g(t_1)) = a \cdot T'(t_1)$

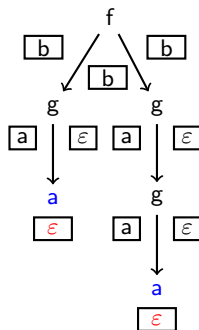


$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

# Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers (STWs)

## Machine definition

- Top Down tree traversal
- Deterministic
- Each node visited exactly once
- Output concatenation
- $T(f(t_1, t_2)) = b \cdot T'(t_1) \cdot b \cdot T'(t_2) \cdot b$
- $T'(g(t_1)) = a \cdot T'(t_1)$
- $T'(a) = \varepsilon$

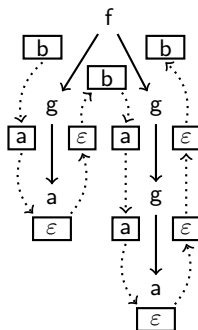


$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

# Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers (STWs)

## Machine definition

- Top Down tree traversal
- Deterministic
- Each node visited exactly once
- Output concatenation
- $T(f(t_1, t_2)) = b \cdot T'(t_1) \cdot b \cdot T'(t_2) \cdot b$
- $T'(g(t_1)) = a \cdot T'(t_1)$
- $T'(a) = \varepsilon$



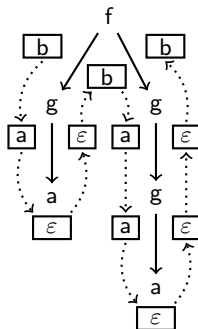
$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$



# Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers (STWs)

## Machine definition

- Top Down tree traversal
- Deterministic
- Each node visited exactly once
- Output concatenation
- $q(f(x_1, x_2)) = b \cdot q'(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q'(x_2) \cdot b$
- $q'(g(x_1)) = a \cdot q'(x_1)$
- $q'(a) = \varepsilon$



$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

# Expressivity

## Input domain

- Regular tree language
- Ranked
- Path-closed (recognizable by deterministic top-down automata)

## Output

- CFL

## Transformation

- no reordering
- no copy

## Problem

What's the most adapted normal form for such machine?  
Does every STWs can be normalized in such form?  
What's the cost of this operation?

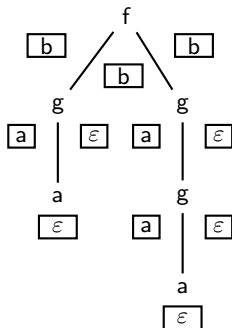
# Outline

- 1 Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers
- 2 Earliest STWs**
- 3 Normalization
- 4 Complexity bounds
- 5 Minimization

## On the road to an earliest form

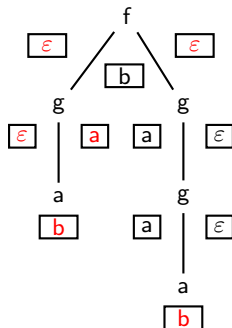
$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

earliest



$$\begin{aligned} q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) &\rightarrow b \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_1(x_2) \cdot b \\ q_1(g(x_1)) &\rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \\ q_1(a) &\rightarrow \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

another definition

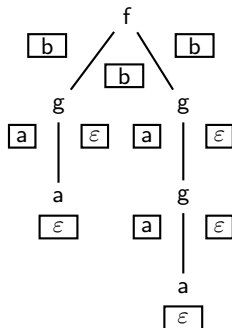


$$\begin{aligned} q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) &\rightarrow q_2(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_1(x_2) \\ q_1(g(x_1)) &\rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \\ q_2(g(x_1)) &\rightarrow q_2(x_1) \cdot a \\ q_1(a) &\rightarrow b \\ q_2(a) &\rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

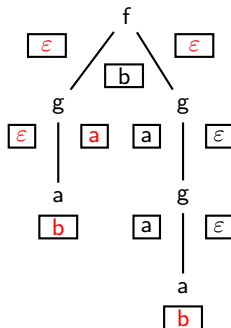
## On the road to an earliest form

$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

earliest



another definition



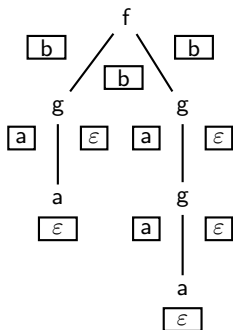
- as soon as possible
  - top-down
  - left-to-right
- smallest definition

- no clear semantic
- bigger definition

## On the road to an earliest form

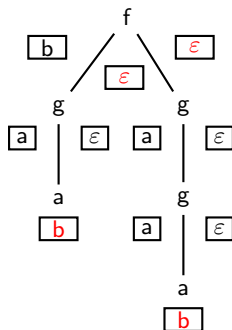
$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

earliest STW (wrt input)



$$\begin{aligned} q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) &\rightarrow b \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_1(x_2) \cdot b \\ q_1(g(x_1)) &\rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \\ q_1(a) &\rightarrow \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

earliest wrt output (VPT)

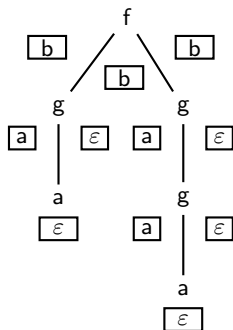


$$\begin{aligned} q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) &\rightarrow b \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot q_1(x_2) \\ q_1(g(x_1)) &\rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \\ q_1(a) &\rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

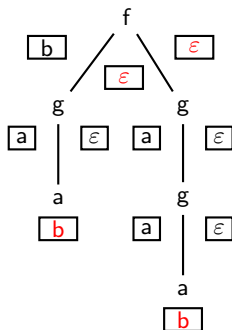
## On the road to an earliest form

$$f(g^n(a), g^m(a)) \mapsto b \cdot a^n \cdot b \cdot a^m \cdot b$$

earliest STW (wrt input)



earliest wrt output (VPT)



- as soon as possible
  - top-down
  - left-to-right
- same size

- as soon as possible
  - depth first
- same size



## Bad news for earliest wrt output

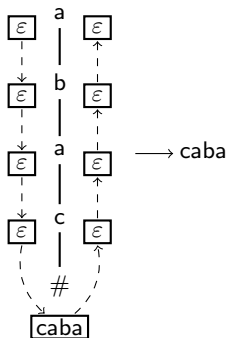
Reverse  
Transformation

$$\left\{ \dots, \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ b \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow ba, \dots, \begin{array}{c} b \\ | \\ a \\ | \\ c \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow cab, \dots \right\}$$

# Bad news for earliest wrt output

Reverse Transformation

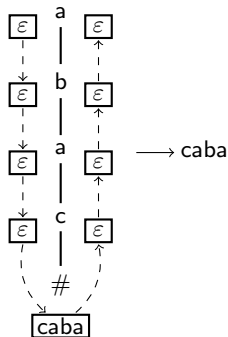
$$\left\{ \dots, \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ b \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow ba, \dots, \begin{array}{c} b \\ | \\ a \\ | \\ c \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow cab, \dots \right\}$$



## Bad news for earliest wrt output

Reverse Transformation

$$\left\{ \dots, \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ b \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow ba, \dots, \begin{array}{c} b \\ | \\ a \\ | \\ c \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow cab, \dots \right\}$$



$$q_\epsilon(a(x_1)) \rightarrow q_a(x_1)$$

$$q_a(b(x_1)) \rightarrow q_{ba}(x_1)$$

...

$$q_w(a(x_1)) \rightarrow q_{a-w}(x_1)$$

$$q_w(b(x_1)) \rightarrow q_{b-w}(x_1)$$

$$q_w(c(x_1)) \rightarrow q_{c-w}(x_1)$$

...

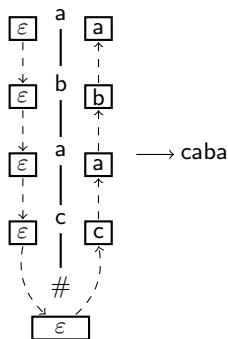
$$q_w(\#) \rightarrow w$$

...

Infinite number of states

# Bad news for earliest wrt output

## Reverse Transformation



$$\left\{ \dots, \begin{array}{c} a \\ | \\ b \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow ba, \dots, \begin{array}{c} b \\ | \\ a \\ | \\ c \\ | \\ \# \end{array} \rightarrow cab, \dots \right\}$$

$$q(a(x_1)) \rightarrow q(x_1) \cdot a$$

$$q(b(x_1)) \rightarrow q(x_1) \cdot b$$

$$q(c(x_1)) \rightarrow q(x_1) \cdot c$$

$$q(\#) \rightarrow \epsilon$$

# Outline

- 1 Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers
- 2 Earliest STWs
- 3 Normalization**
- 4 Complexity bounds
- 5 Minimization

## Push up output annotations

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto b \cdot (a)^m \cdot b \cdot (a)^n \cdot b$$

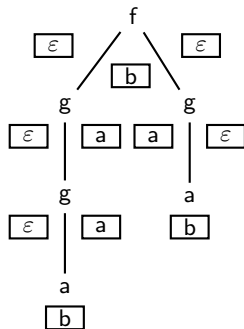
$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a$$

$$q_1(a) \rightarrow b$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow b$$



Output as soon as possible following the **top-down** order

## Push up output annotations

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto b \cdot (a)^m \cdot b \cdot (a)^n \cdot b$$

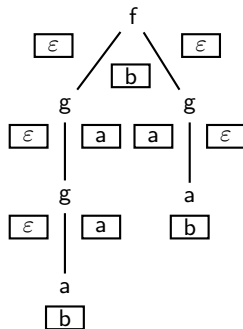
$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a$$

$$q_1(a) \rightarrow b$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow b$$



Output as soon as possible following the **top-down** order

## Push up output annotations

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto b \cdot (a)^m \cdot b \cdot (a)^n \cdot b$$

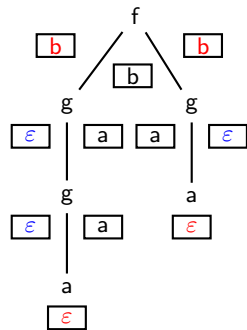
$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow b \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_2(x_2) \cdot b$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a$$

$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$



Output as soon as possible following the **top-down** order



## Push left output annotations

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto b \cdot (a)^m \cdot b \cdot (a)^n \cdot b$$

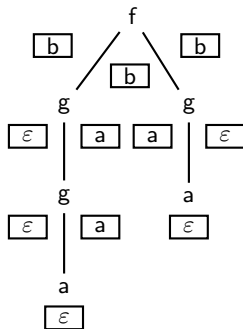
$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow b \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_2(x_2) \cdot b$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a$$

$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$



Output as soon as possible following the **left-to-right** preorder

## Push left output annotations

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto b \cdot (a)^m \cdot b \cdot (a)^n \cdot b$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow b \cdot q_3(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_2(x_2) \cdot b$$

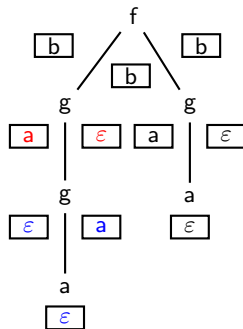
$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a$$

$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_3(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$



Output as soon as possible following the left-to-right preorder

## Push left output annotations

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto b \cdot (a)^m \cdot b \cdot (a)^n \cdot b$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow b \cdot q_3(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_2(x_2) \cdot b$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a$$

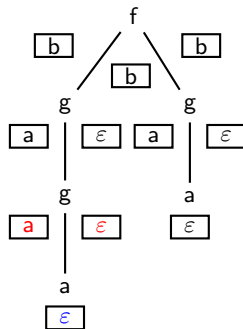
$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_3(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_3(x_1)$$

$$q_3(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$



Output as soon as possible following the **left-to-right** preorder

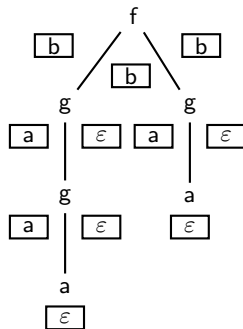
## Push left output annotations

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto b \cdot (a)^m \cdot b \cdot (a)^n \cdot b$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow b \cdot q_2(x_1) \cdot b \cdot q_2(x_2) \cdot b$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$



Output as soon as possible following the **left-to-right** preorder

## Combinatorial problems

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto (ab)^m \cdot ac \cdot (ab)^n$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

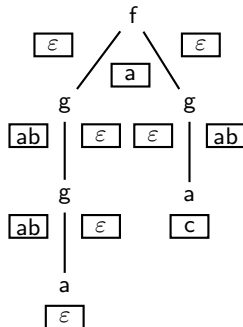
$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ab \cdot q_1(x_1)$$

$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_2(x_1) \cdot ab$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow c$$

Applying an operation can lead to:



## Combinatorial problems

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto a \cdot (ba)^m \cdot c \cdot (ab)^n$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow q_1(x_1) \cdot a \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

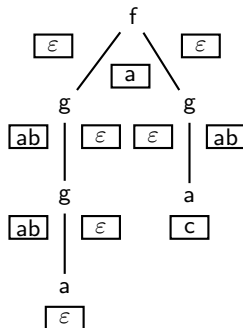
$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ab \cdot q_1(x_1)$$

$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_2(x_1) \cdot ab$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow c$$

Applying an operation can lead to:



# Combinatorial problems

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto a \cdot (ba)^m \cdot c \cdot (ab)^n$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ba \cdot q_1(x_1)$$

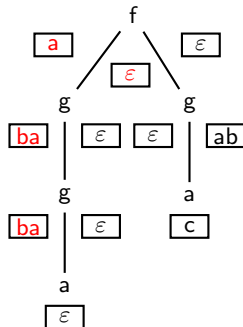
$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_2(x_1) \cdot ab$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow c$$

Applying an operation can lead to:

- modify other output annotations



## Combinatorial problems

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto a \cdot (ba)^m \cdot c \cdot (ab)^n$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot c \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ba \cdot q_1(x_1)$$

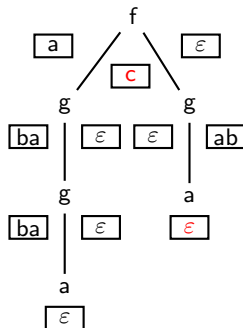
$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow q_2(x_1) \cdot ab$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

Applying an operation can lead to:

- modify other output annotations





## Combinatorial problems

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto a \cdot (ba)^m \cdot c \cdot (ab)^n$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot c \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ba \cdot q_1(x_1)$$

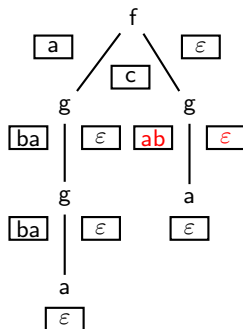
$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ab \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

Applying an operation can lead to:

- modify other output annotations
- reapply other operations



## Combinatorial problems

$$f(g^m(a), g^n(a)) \mapsto a \cdot (ba)^m \cdot c \cdot (ab)^n$$

$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow a \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot c \cdot q_2(x_2)$$

$$q_1(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ba \cdot q_1(x_1)$$

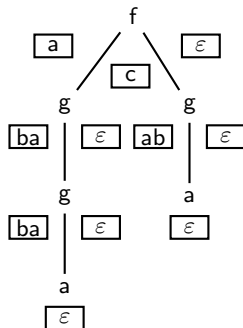
$$q_1(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$q_2(g(x_1)) \rightarrow ab \cdot q_2(x_1)$$

$$q_2(a) \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

Applying an operation can lead to:

- modify other output annotations
- reapply other operations



### Theorem

For an STW  $M$ , we can construct an equivalent earliest STW  $M'$  in time polynomial in the size of  $M'$ .

$M'$  size is at most doubly-exponential in the size of  $M$ .

### Proof techniques

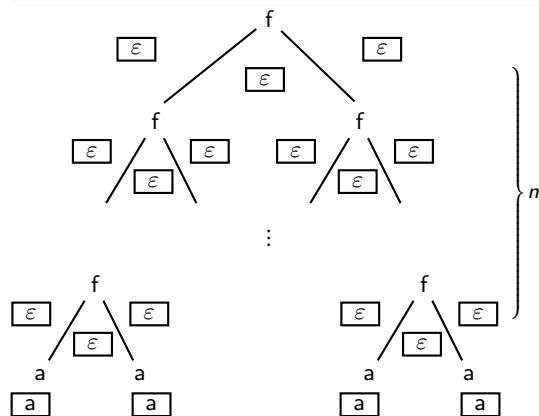
- Constructive
- Combinatory on words

# Outline

- 1 Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers
- 2 Earliest STWs
- 3 Normalization
- 4 Complexity bounds**
- 5 Minimization

## Explosion of the size of rules

- **input:** a perfect (well-balanced) binary tree of height  $n$
- **output:** concatenation of all leaves, erasing inner nodes



output:  $a^{2^n}$

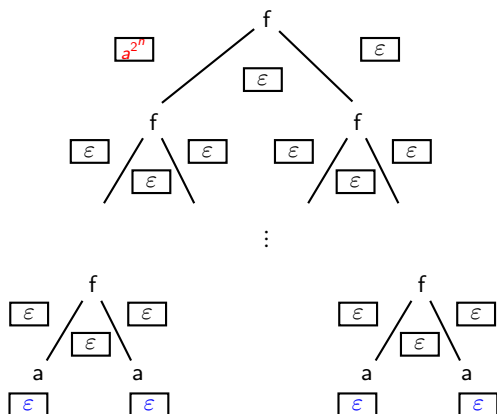
For  $0 \leq i < n$ :

$$q_i(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow q_{i+1}(x_1) \cdot q_{i+1}(x_2)$$

$$q_n(a) \rightarrow a$$

## Explosion of the size of rules

- **input:** a perfect (well-balanced) binary tree of height  $n$
- **output:** concatenation of all leaves, erasing inner nodes



For  $0 < i < n$ :

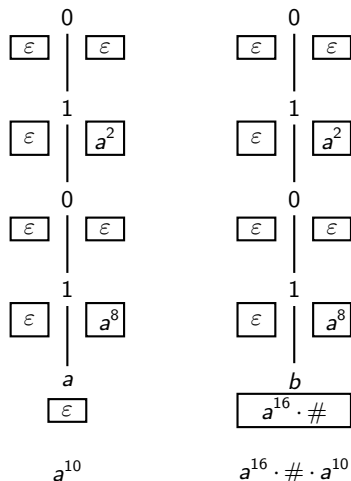
$$q_0(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow a^{2^n} \cdot q_1(x_1) \cdot q_1(x_2)$$

$$q_i(f(x_1, x_2)) \rightarrow q_{i+1}(x_1) \cdot q_{i+1}(x_2)$$

$$q_n(a) \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Size of the first rule is exponential in the size of the initial transducer

## Explosion of the number of states



- **input:**  
 $(0|1)^n = x$  binary encoding followed by  $a$  or  $b$
- **output:** start always by  $a^x$

For  $0 \leq i < n$ :

$$q_i(0(x_1)) \rightarrow q_{i+1}(x_1)$$

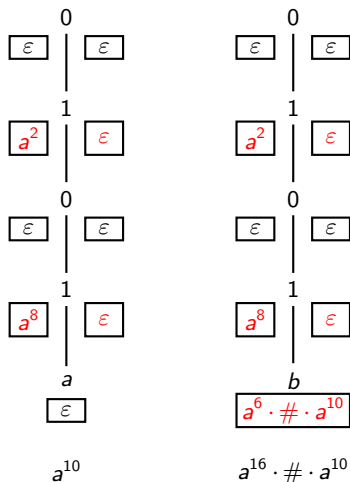
$$q_i(1(x_1)) \rightarrow q_{i+1}(x_1) \cdot a^{2^i}$$

$$q_n(a) \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$q_n(b) \rightarrow a^{2^n} \cdot \#$$

$n$  states

## Explosion of the number of states



- **input:**  
 $(0|1)^n = x$  binary encoding followed by  $a$  or  $b$
- **output:** start always by  $a^x$

For  $0 \leq i < n$ :

$$q_i^k(0(x_1)) \rightarrow q_{i+1}^k(x_1)$$

$$q_i^k(1(x_1)) \rightarrow a^{2^i} \cdot q_{i+1}^{k+2^i}(x_1)$$

$$q_n^k(a) \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$q_n^k(b) \rightarrow a^{2^n - k} \cdot \# \cdot a^k$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i \text{ states}$$

Obtained number of states is exponential on the number of the initial transducer states



# Outline

- 1 Sequential Top-Down Tree-to-Word Transducers
- 2 Earliest STWs
- 3 Normalization
- 4 Complexity bounds
- 5 Minimization**

# Minimization

## Theorem

Minimization of earliest STWs is in PTIME.

## Lemma

Between two earliest STWs, states can be duplicated but keep same rules.

The equivalence test on earliest STWs is in PTIME [Staworko et Al. FCT 2009]

## Lemma

Minimization of arbitrary STWs is NP-complete.

# Conclusion

## Result

We have defined the class of STW :

- nice expressivity
- with good properties
  - decidable equivalence in PTIME
  - normalization algorithm

## Perspectives

- learning algorithm
- allow swapping