

# Nondeterministic Complexity of Power and Positive Closure on Subclasses of Convex Languages

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NCMA 2018, Košice, Slovakia

## Regular Operations

- Concatenation:  
 $KL = \{uv \mid u \in K, v \in L\}$
- $k$ -th power:  
 $L^k = LL^{k-1}$   
where  $L^0 = \{\varepsilon\}$
- Kleene closure:  
 $L^* = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} L^i$
- Positive closure:  
 $L^+ = \bigcup_{i \geq 1} L^i$

## Nondeterministic State Complexity

- of a language  $L$ ,  $\text{nsc}(L)$ ,  
is the number of states  
in a minimal NFA for  $L$
- of a unary operation  $\circ$ :  
$$n \mapsto \max\{\text{nsc}(L^\circ) \mid \text{nsc}(L) \leq n\}$$
- of a unary operation  $\circ$  on a class  $\mathcal{C}$ :  
$$n \mapsto \max\{\text{nsc}(L^\circ) \mid \text{nsc}(L) \leq n \text{ and } L \in \mathcal{C}\}$$

# Subclasses of Convex Languages

## Prefix, Suffix, Factor, Subword

$$w = uxv$$

- $u$  is a **prefix** of  $w$
- $x$  is a **suffix** of  $w$
- $v$  is a **factor** of  $w$

$$w = u_0 v_1 u_1 \cdots v_m u_m$$

- $v_1 v_2 \cdots v_m$   
is a **subword** of  $w$

## Ideal

- $L$  is a right ideal if  
 $L = L\Sigma^*$
- left, two-sided, all-sided  
 $L = \Sigma^*L$ ,  $L = \Sigma^*L\Sigma^*$ ,  
 $L = L \sqcup \Sigma^*$

## Free, Closed, Convex

- $L$  is **prefix-free** if  $w \in L$   
 $\Rightarrow$  no proper prefix of  $w$  is in  $L$
- $L$  is **prefix-closed** if  $w \in L$   
 $\Rightarrow$  every prefix of  $w$  is in  $L$
- $L$  is **prefix-convex** if  
 $u, w \in L$  and  $u \leq_p w$   
 $\Rightarrow v$  with  $u \leq_p v \leq_p w$  is in  $L$

suffix, factor, subword analogously

- every prefix-free, -closed, and right ideal language is also prefix-convex
- suffix (left), factor (two-sided), subword (all-sided) analogously

# Known Results on (Deterministic) State Complexity

- Han et al.:
  - State Complexity of Prefix-Free Regular Languages (2006)
  - State Complexity of Basic Operations on Suffix-Free Regular Languages (TCS 2009)
- Jirásková et al.:
  - State Complexity of Intersection and Union of Suffix-Free Languages and Descriptive Complexity (NCMA 2009)
  - Complexity in Prefix-Free Regular Languages (DCFS 2010)
  - Basic Operations on Binary Suffix-Free Languages (2011)
  - Prefix-free languages: Left and right quotient and reversal (TCS 2016)
- Brzozowski et al.:
  - Complexity in Convex Languages (LATA 2010)
  - Quotient Complexity of Ideal Languages (TCS 2013)
  - Quotient Complexity of Closed Languages (ToCS 2014)
  - Quotient Complexity of Bifix-, Factor-, and Subword-Free Regular Languages (Acta Cybernetica 2014)

# Known Results on (Deterministic) State Complexity

	$K \cap L$	$K \cup L$	$KL$	$L^*$	$L^R$
right ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
left ideal	✓ ✓	✓, 4	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3
two-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3
all-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 2n
prefix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
suffix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓
factor-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3
subword-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
prefix-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓, 3	✓ ✓
suffix-closed	✓ ✓	✓, 4	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓, 3
factor-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3
subword-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 2n
prefix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓			
suffix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓			
factor-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓			
subword-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓			

## Motivation and History – papers on nondeterministic complexity

- Holzer, Kutrib (IJFCS 2003):  
definition of NSC, basic operations on regular languages
- Han, Salomaa, Wood (FI 2009): prefix-free
- Han, Salomaa (DCFS 2010): suffix-free
- Jirásková, Krausová (DCFS 2010): prefix-free
- Jirásková, Olejár (NCMA 2009): boolean op. on suffix-free
- Jirásková, Mlynárčik (DCFS 2014):  
complement on prefix-free, suffix-free, non-returning
- Mlynárčik (DCFS 2015): complement on free and ideal
- Hospodár, Jirásková, Mlynárčik (CIAA 2016): closed, ideal
- Hospodár, Jirásková, Mlynárčik (CIAA 2017): free, convex

# Known Results on NSC on Subclasses of Convex Languages

	$K \cap L$	$K \cup L$	$KL$	$L^*$	$L^R$	$L^c$
right ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
left ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
two-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
all-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, $2^n$
prefix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
suffix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
factor-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
subword-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, $2^n$
prefix-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
suffix-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
factor-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
subword-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓, $2n$	✓, $2^n$
prefix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
suffix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 5
factor-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	
subword-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓, $2n$	

# The Aims of This Paper

	$K \cap L$	$K \cup L$	$KL$	$L^*$	$L^R$	$L^c$	$L^k$	$L^+$
right ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
left ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
two-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
all-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, $2^n$		
prefix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
suffix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
factor-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
subword-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, $2^n$		
prefix-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
suffix-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
factor-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
subword-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓, $2n$	✓, $2^n$		
prefix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		
suffix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 5		
factor-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓ ✓			
subword-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓, $2n$			



# Known Results for $L^k$ and $L^+$

- Rampersad: The state complexity of  $L^2$  and  $L^k$  (IPL 2006)
- Domaratzki, Okhotin: State complexity of power (TCS 2009)
- Holzer, Kutrib: Nondeterministic descriptonal complexity of regular languages (IJFCS 2003)

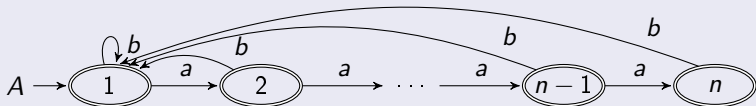
## Nondeterministic state complexity – known results

	$L^k$	$L^+$
regular	$kn,  \Sigma  \geq 2$	$n$
unary regular	$k(n-1) + 1 \leq \cdot \leq kn$	$n$

# The Most Interesting Result of This Paper

## Theorem

There exists an  $n$ -state NFA  $A$  accepting a binary factor-closed language such that every NFA for  $L(A)^k$  has at least  $kn$  states.



## Proof idea: lower bound $kn$ for power

- we can prove that the minimal DFA  $D$  for  $L^k$  has  $kn$  states and it is a minimal NFA for  $L^k$ 
  - we show that in  $D$ , for every  $i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq kn$ , every set  $\{i\}$  is reachable, and every set  $\{1, 2, \dots, i\}$  is co-reachable
  - by using these pairs, we get a fooling set for  $D$  of size  $kn$
- language  $L$  works also as a witness for concatenation □

# NSC of $L^k$ and $L^+$ on Subclasses of Convex Languages

	$L^k$	$ \Sigma $	$L^+$	$ \Sigma $
right ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
left ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
two-sided ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
all-sided ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
prefix-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
suffix-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
factor-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
subword-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
prefix-closed	$kn,$	2	$n,$	2
suffix-closed	$kn,$	2	$n,$	2
factor-closed	$kn,$	2	1,	1
subword-closed	$kn,$	3	1,	1
prefix-convex	$kn,$	2	$n,$	1
suffix-convex	$kn,$	2	$n,$	1
factor-convex	$kn,$	2	$n,$	1
subword-convex	$kn,$	3	$n,$	1

# Summary – NSC on Subclasses of Convex Languages

	$K \cap L$	$K \cup L$	$KL$	$L^*$	$L^R$	$L^c$	$L^k$	$L^+$
right ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
left ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
two-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
all-sided ideal	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, $2^n$	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
prefix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
suffix-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
factor-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
subword-free	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, $2^n$	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
prefix-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
suffix-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
factor-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
subword-closed	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓, $2n$	✓, $2^n$	✓, 3	✓ ✓
prefix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
suffix-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 5	✓ ✓	✓ ✓
factor-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓		✓ ✓	✓ ✓
subword-convex	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓, 3	✓ ✓	✓, $2n$		✓, 3	✓ ✓

## From this paper

- Complexity of  $L^k$  on **binary** subword-closed and subword-convex languages

## From our older papers

- Complexity of  $L^c$ : unknown on factor-convex and subword-convex
- Smaller alphabets ?
  - $L^c$  all-sided ideal, subword-free, subword-closed, suffix-convex
  - $KL$
  - $L^R$  subword-closed, subword-convex

## Ďakujem za pozornosť

Danke

Arigato

Köszönöm

Xièxiè

Paldies

Grazie

Merci

Tack

Spasibo

Gràcies

Děkuji

Dankie

Kiitos

Gracias

Teşekkür

# Summary and Open Problems

	$L^k$	$ \Sigma $	$L^+$	$ \Sigma $
right ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
left ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
two-sided ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
all-sided ideal	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
prefix-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
suffix-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
factor-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
subword-free	$k(n-1) + 1,$	1	$n,$	1
prefix-closed	$kn,$	2	$n,$	2
suffix-closed	$kn,$	2	$n,$	2
factor-closed	$kn,$	2	1,	1
subword-closed	$kn,$	3	1,	1
prefix-convex	$kn,$	2	$n,$	1
suffix-convex	$kn,$	2	$n,$	1
factor-convex	$kn,$	2	$n,$	1
subword-convex	$kn,$	3	$n,$	1

## Open problems

- Complexity of  $L^c$ : factor-convex and subword-convex
- Smaller alphabets:
  - $L^c$  all-sided ideal, subword-free, subword-closed, suffix-convex
  - $KL$
  - $L^k$
  - $L^R$  subword-closed, subword-convex