

Streamability of Nested Word Transductions

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Height-Bounded Memory Visibly Pushdown Transductions

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Abstract. We consider the problem of the streaming evaluation (*i.e.* in a single left-to-right pass) of a nested word transduction with a limited amount of memory. A transduction T is said to be bounded memory – BM (resp. height bounded memory – HBM) if it can be evaluated with a memory that depends only on the size of T (resp. only on the size of T and on the height of the input word). We show that it is decidable for a nested word transduction defined by a visibly pushdown transducer (VPT), if it is BM or HBM. In the latter case, the required amount of memory may depend exponentially on the height of the word. We exhibit a sufficient, decidable condition for a VPT to be evaluated with a memory that depends quadratically on the height of the word. This condition defines a class of transductions that strictly contains all determinizable VPTs.

1 Introduction

Static analysis of memory requirements is an important tool for ensuring system robustness. In this paper, we investigate static analysis of memory usage for the execution of programs defined by transducers. We focus on the transductions of *nested words*, *i.e.* words, such as XML documents, with a recursive structure. Moreover, we assume that the input word is a *stream*, *i.e.* it can be read only once, from left to right.

First, we tackle the problem of deciding, given a transducer, whether the memory needed for performing the transduction is bounded, *i.e.* whether it depends only on the size of the transducer and not on the input word. In that case, we say the transduction is *bounded memory* (BM).

However, when dealing with nested words in a streaming setting, the bounded memory requirement is quite restrictive. Indeed, even performing such a basic task as checking that a word is well-nested or checking that a nested word belongs to a regular language of nested words requires a memory dependent on the height (the level of nesting) of the input word [10]. This observation leads us to the second question: decide, given a transducer, whether the transduction can be evaluated with a memory that depends only on the size of the transducer and the height of the word (but not on its length). In that case, we say the transduction is *height bounded memory* (HBM).

When the transduction is defined by a finite state transducer, the transduction is bounded memory if and only if the transducer is subsequentializable. This is decidable in PTIME [5, 12]. However, as observed above, finite state machines are not adequate, in general, to deal with nested words. A pushdown machine allows to keep track of the nested structure. But, for arbitrary pushdown transducers, BM and HBM are both undecidable. *Visibly pushdown transducers* (VPTs) form a subclass of pushdown transducers adequate for dealing with nested words. They define transductions of words over a structured alphabet, partitioned into call, return and internal symbols. Like for visibly

pushdown automata [2], the stack behavior is imposed by the type of symbols read by the transducer: for a call symbol (i.e. when entering in an additional level of nesting), the transducer has to push a stack symbol, and for a return symbol (when exiting a level of nesting), the transducer has to pop a stack symbol. On the output side, VPTs can produce arbitrary words on transitions. Those restrictions on stack operations make several interesting problems that are undecidable for arbitrary pushdown transducers decidable for VPTs [11, 6]. Most notably, functionality and functional equivalence are decidable, in PTIME and EXPTIME respectively [6]. Functional VPTs are strictly more expressive than deterministic VPTs. For instance, swapping the first and last letters of a word requires non-determinism as we have to guess the last letter.

In this paper, we show that BM and HBM are decidable for VPTs. In the latter case, the required amount of memory may depend *exponentially* on the height of the word. We exhibit a sufficient, decidable condition for a VPT to be evaluated with a memory that depends *quadratically* on the height of the word. This condition defines a class of transductions that strictly contains all determinizable VPTs. More precisely, our contributions are the following.

Contributions First, we give a general space-efficient evaluation algorithm for functional VPTs. When the transducer is non-deterministic, at each step several transitions may apply and produce different output words that have to be stored in memory until we can decide which of them will be part of the whole output word. At any time, the number of configurations of the (non-deterministic) transducer as well as the number of output candidates to be kept in memory may be exponential in the size of the transducer and the height of the input word (but not in its length). We use a *compact representation* of sets of configurations and output candidates, such that, when the maximal difference between any two output candidates is bounded, our algorithm uses a memory polynomial in the size of the transducer and the height of the input word. This algorithm applies on any reduced functional VPT, i.e. any functional VPT whose accessible configurations are also co-accessible. If the VPT is not reduced, it has to be reduced with possibly an exponential blow-up.

We show that height bounded memory is undecidable for arbitrary pushdown transductions, but decidable in NPTIME for transductions defined by VPTs. In particular, we show that the previously defined algorithm runs in height bounded memory iff the VPT satisfies some property. This property is an extension of the so called *twinning property* for FSTs [4] to nested words. We call this property the *horizontal twinning property*, as it only cares about configurations of the transducers with stack contents of identical height. This property only depends on the transduction, *i.e.* is preserved by equivalent transducers.

Then, we prove that when a VPT-transduction is height bounded memory, the memory needed may be exponential in the height of the word. Therefore, we exhibit a subclass of visibly pushdown transductions, the *twinned transductions*, for which performing the transformation with our algorithm uses a memory *quadratic* in the height of the input word. This class is characterized by a twinning property that takes the height of the configurations into account. A VPT satisfying this twinning property is called *twinned*. We show, via a non-trivial reduction to the emptiness of pushdown automata with bounded reversal counters, that it is decidable in NPTIME whether a VPT is twinned. Moreover, the most challenging result of this paper is to show that being twinned depends only on the transduction and not on the VPT that defines it. Thus, this property indeed defines a class of transductions. As a consequence of this result, we can easily show that all subsequentializable VPTs are twinned, because subsequential VPTs trivially satisfy the twinning property. The class of twinned transductions captures a strictly larger class than subsequentializable VPTs while staying in the same complexity class for evaluation, i.e. polynomial space in the height of the input word when the transducer is fixed.

Related Work XML documents are a particular case of nested words, where the alphabet is partitioned into opening and closing tags, and for all opening tag $\langle a \rangle$, there is a unique matching closing tag $\langle a \rangle$. In this context, the online evaluation problem amounts to evaluating a functional transduction of an input document produced in a streaming fashion. Streaming processing has been extensively studied for validating [10, 9] and querying [7] XML streams. Querying consists in selecting a set of tuples of nodes in the tree representation of the XML document. For monadic queries (selecting nodes instead of tuples), this can be achieved by a functional VPT returning the input stream of tags, annotated with Booleans indicating selection by the query. However, functional VPTs cannot encode queries of arbitrary arities. The setting for fVPTs is in fact different to query evaluation, because the output has to be produced on-the-fly in the right order, while query evaluation algorithms can output nodes in any order: an incoming input symbol can be immediately output, while another candidate is still to be confirmed. This makes a difference with the notion of concurrency of queries, measuring the minimal amount of candidates to be stored, and for which algorithms and lower bounds have been proposed [3]. VPTs also relate to tree transducers [6], for which no comparable work on memory requirements is known.

2 Visibly Pushdown Languages and Transductions

Words and nested words Let Σ be a finite alphabet partitioned into three disjoint sets Σ_c, Σ_r and Σ_ι , denoting respectively the *call*, *return* and *internal* alphabets. We denote by Σ^* the set of (finite) words over Σ and by ϵ the empty word. The length of a word u is denoted by |u|. For all words $u, v \in \Sigma^*$, we denote by $u \wedge v$ the longest common prefix of u and v. More generally, for any non-empty finite set of words $V \subseteq \Sigma^*$, the longest common prefix of V, denoted by |cp(V), is inductively defined by $|cp(\{u\}) = u$ and $|cp(V \cup \{u\}) = |cp(V) \wedge u$. The set of *well-nested* words Σ_{wn}^* is the smallest subset of Σ^* such that $\Sigma_{\iota}^* \subseteq \Sigma_{wn}^*$ and for all $c \in \Sigma_c$, all $r \in \Sigma_r$, all $u, v \in \Sigma_{wn}^*$, $cur \in \Sigma_{wn}^*$ and $uv \in \Sigma_{wn}^*$. Let $u = \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n \in \Sigma^*$ be a prefix of a well-nested word. A position $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ is a *pending call* if $\alpha_i \in \Sigma_c$ and for all $j \ge i, \alpha_i \dots \alpha_j \notin \Sigma_{wn}^*$. The *height* of u is the maximal number of pending calls on any prefix of u, i.e.

 $h(u) = \max_{1 \le i \le n} |\{k \mid 1 \le k \le i, \alpha_k \text{ is a pending call of } \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_i\}|$

For instance, h(crcrcc) = h(ccrcrr) = 2. In particular, for well-nested words, the height corresponds to the usual height of the nesting structure of the word.

Given two words $u, v \in \Sigma^*$, the *delay* of u and v, denoted by $\Delta(u, v)$, is the unique pair of words (u', v') such that $u = (u \wedge v)u'$ and $v = (u \wedge v)v'$. For instance, $\Delta(abc, abde) = (c, de)$. Informally, in a word transduction, if there are two output candidates u and v during the evaluation, we are sure that we can output $u \wedge v$ and $\Delta(u, v)$ is the remaining suffixes we still have to keep in memory.

$$[p_{3}] \leftarrow [r/c, \gamma] (r/c, \gamma) (r/c, \gamma)$$

Visibly pushdown transducers (VPTs) As finite-state transducers extend finite-state automata with outputs, visibly pushdown transducers extend visibly pushdown automata with outputs [6]. To simplify notations, we suppose that the output alphabet is Σ , but our results still hold for an arbitrary output alphabet. Informally, the stack behavior of a VPT is similar to the stack behavior of visibly pushdown automata (VPA). On a call symbol, the VPT pushes a symbol on the stack and produces some output word (possibly empty), on a return symbol, it must pop the top symbol of the stack and produce some output word (possibly empty) and on an internal symbol, the stack remains unchanged and it produces some output word. Formally:

Definition 1 (Visibly pushdown transducers). A visibly pushdown transducer (VPT) on finite words over Σ is a tuple $T = (Q, I, F, \Gamma, \delta)$ where Q is a finite set of states, $I \subseteq Q$ is the set of initial states, $F \subseteq Q$ the set of final states, Γ is the stack alphabet, $\delta = \delta_c \uplus \delta_r \uplus \delta_\iota$ the (finite) transition relation, with $\delta_c \subseteq Q \times \Sigma_c \times \Sigma^* \times \Gamma \times Q$, $\delta_r \subseteq Q \times \Sigma_r \times \Sigma^* \times \Gamma \times Q$, and $\delta_\iota \subseteq Q \times \Sigma_\iota \times \Sigma^* \times Q$.

A configuration of a VPT is a pair $(q, \sigma) \in Q \times \Gamma^*$. A run of T on a word $u = a_1 \dots a_l \in \Sigma^*$ from a configuration (q, σ) to a configuration (q', σ') is a finite sequence $\rho = \{(q_k, \sigma_k)\}_{0 \le k \le l}$ such that $q_0 = q$, $\sigma_0 = \sigma$, $q_l = q'$, $\sigma_l = \sigma'$ and for each $1 \le k \le l$, there exist $v_k \in \Sigma^*$ and $\gamma_k \in \Gamma$ such that either $(q_{k-1}, a_k, v_k, \gamma_k, q_k) \in \delta_c$ and $\sigma_k = \sigma_{k-1}\gamma_k$ or $(q_{k-1}, a_k, v_k, \gamma_k, q_k) \in \delta_r$ and $\sigma_{k-1} = \sigma_k \gamma_k$, or $(q_{k-1}, a_k, v_k, q_k) \in \delta_l$ and $\sigma_k = \sigma_{k-1}$. The word $v = v_1 \dots v_l$ is called an output of ρ . We write $(q, \sigma) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q', \sigma')$ when there exists a run on u from (q, σ) to (q', σ') producing v as output. We denote by \perp the empty word on Γ . A configuration (q, σ) is accessible (resp. is co-accessible) if there exist $u, v \in \Sigma^*$ and $q_0 \in I$ (resp. $q_f \in F$) such that $(q_0, \perp) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q, \sigma)$ (resp. such that $(q, \sigma) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q_f, \perp)$). A transducer T is reduced if every accessible configuration is co-accessible. Any VPT is equivalent to a reduced VPT possibly exponentially bigger. A transducer T defines the binary word relation $[T] = \{(u, v) \in \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^* | \exists q \in I, q' \in F, (q, \perp) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q', \perp)\}$.

binary word relation $\llbracket T \rrbracket = \{(u, v) \in \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^* \mid \exists q \in I, q' \in F, (q, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q', \bot)\}.$ A *transduction* is a binary relation $R \subseteq \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$. We say that a transduction R is a VPT-transduction if there exists a VPT T such that $R = \llbracket T \rrbracket$. For any input word $u \in \Sigma^*$, we denote by R(u) the set $\{v \mid (u, v) \in R\}$. Similarly, for a VPT T, we denote by T(u) the set $\llbracket T \rrbracket (u)$. A transduction R is *functional* if for all $u \in \Sigma^*$, R(u) has size at most one. If R is functional, we identify R(u) with the unique image of u if it exists. A VPT T is functional if $\llbracket T \rrbracket$ is functional. The following is known:

Proposition 1 ([6]). Functionality is decidable in PTIME for VPTs.

The class of functional VPTs is denoted by fVPT. The *domain* of T (denoted by Dom(T)) is the domain of [T]. Note that the domain of T contains only well-nested words, which is not necessarily the case of the codomain.

Example 1. Consider the VPT T of Fig. 1 represented in plain arrows. The left and right parts accept the same input words except for the last letter of the word. The domain of T is $Dom(T) = \{c^n r^n \mid n \ge 2\} \cup \{cc^n r^n r' \mid n \ge 1\}$. Any word $c^n r^n$ is translated into $a^n c^n$, and any word $cc^n r^n r'$ is translated into $b^{n+1}c^{n+1}$. Therefore the translation of the first sequence of calls depends on the last letter r or r'. This transformation cannot be evaluated with a bounded amount of memory, but with a memory which depends on the height n of the input word.

A finite state transducer (FST) on an alphabet Σ is a tuple (Q, I, F, δ) where $I, F \subseteq Q$ and $\delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times \Sigma^* \times Q$ with the standard semantics. This definition corresponds to the usual definition of *real-time* FSTs, as there is no ϵ -transitions. We always consider real-time FSTs in this paper, so we just call them FSTs.

A subsequential FST (resp. VPT) is a pair (T, Ψ) where T is an (input) deterministic FST (resp. VPT) and $\Psi : F \to \Sigma^*$. The outputs of u by (T, Ψ) are the words $v.\Psi(q)$ whenever there is a run of T on u producing v and ending up in some accepting state q.

3 Bounded Memory Evaluation Problems

In this section, we first consider classes of bounded memory transductions, for which the evaluation is in constant memory if we fix the machine that defines the transduction. We show that bounded memory FST and VPT transductions are both decidable. We show that bounded memory VPT-transductions can be realized by FSTs, and therefore bounded memory is not relevant to VPTs. We therefore weaken the notion of bounded memory to *height bounded memory*. A transduction is height bounded memory if it can be evaluated in constant memory if we fix both the machine and the height of the input word. We show this problem to be decidable as well for VPT-transductions.

Turing Transducers In order to formally define the complexity classes we target, we introduce a deterministic computational model for word transductions that we call *Turing Transducers (TT)*. Turing transducers have three tapes: one read-only left-to-right input tape, one write-only left-to-right output tape, and one standard working tape. Such a machine naturally defines a transduction: the input word is initially on the input tape, and the result of the transduction is the word written on the output tape after the machine terminates in an accepting state. We denote by [M] the transduction defined by M. The space and time complexities are measured on the working tape only. Let \mathbb{N} be the set of positive integers.

Definition 2 (bounded memory). *A* (functional) transduction $R \subseteq \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$ is bounded memory (*BM*) if there exists a Turing transducer *M* and $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\llbracket M \rrbracket = R$ and on any input word $u \in \Sigma^*$, *M* runs in space complexity at most *K*.

It turns out that for FST-transductions, bounded memory is characterized by subsequentializability, which is decidable in PTIME [12].

Theorem 1. Let T be a functional FST.

1. [T] is BM iff T is subsequentializable; **2.** It decidable in PTIME if [T] is BM [12].

BM is undecidable for pushdown transducers, since it is as difficult as deciding whether a pushdown automaton defines a regular language:

Theorem 2. Bounded memory is undecidable for pushdown transducers.

For VPTs, BM is quite restrictive. For instance, it imposes to verify whether a word is well-nested by using a bounded amount of memory. This can be done only if the height of the words of the domain is bounded by some constant which depends on the transducer only. If the words of the domain have bounded height, then the VPT can be regarded as an FST. Let $H \in \mathbb{N}$ and T be a VPT such that any word $u \in Dom(T)$ (which is necessarily well-nested) satisfies $h(u) \leq H$. Then there exists an FST that we denote by FST(T, H) such that $[\![T]\!] = [\![FST(T, H)]\!]$. The transducer FST(T, H)is naturally constructed by taking as states the configurations (q, σ) of T such that $|\sigma| \leq H$. We then have the following:

Theorem 3. Let T be a functional VPT with n states.

- 1. [T] is BM iff (i) for all $u \in Dom(T)$, $h(u) \le n^2$, and (ii) $FST(T, n^2)$ is BM;
- 2. It is decidable in NPTIME whether [T] is BM.

Proof (Sketch). The first assertion is obvious by using simple pumping techniques to show that bounded memory implies bounded height. In the sequel, we define the class of height bounded memory transductions, and show it is decidable in NPTIME. On words of bounded height, this class collapses with bounded memory transductions. \Box

Therefore if a VPT is bounded memory then it accepts input words of bounded height only. Bounded memory is too restrictive to still benefit from the extra expressiveness of VPT compared to FST, namely the ability to recognize nested words of unbounded height. In this section, we define a notion of bounded memory which is well-suited to VPTs. It is called *height bounded memory*, as we indeed require that the memory usage depends on the height of the word and on the size of the transducer only.

Definition 3 (height bounded memory). A (functional) transduction $R \subseteq \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$ is height bounded memory (HBM) if there exists a Turing transducer M and a function $f : \mathbb{N}^2 \to \mathbb{N}$ such that $\llbracket M \rrbracket = R$ and on any input word $u \in \Sigma^*$, M runs in space at most f(h(u), |M|).

Note that this definition ensures that the machine cannot store all the input words on the working tape in general. The VPT in Fig. 2(a) is not in BM, but is in HBM: the stack content suffices (and is necessary) to determine the output. When the structured alphabet contains only internal letters, HBM and BM coincides, thus by Theorem 2:

Theorem 4. Height bounded memory is undecidable for pushdown transducers.

The two next sections are devoted to the proof of the following theorem:

Theorem 5. Height bounded memory is decidable in NPTIME for fVPTs.

To prove this theorem, we first give in Section 4 a general online evaluation algorithm which applies to all functional transducers. In Section 5, we give a decidable characterization of HBM – called the *horizontal twinning property* – such that when this property holds, the algorithm of Section 4 uses a memory that depends on the height of the input word and the transducer only. Moreover, f is at most exponential in h(u)and this bound is tight (see Remark 2). In Section 6, we refine the horizontal twinning property into a stronger decidable property that ensures that the evaluation algorithm uses a memory polynomial in the height of the word.



Fig. 2. Data structure used by LCPIN.

4 Online Evaluation Algorithm of VPT-Transductions

We present an online algorithm LCPIN to evaluate functional word transductions defined by reduced fVPTs (rfVPTs). For clarity, we present this algorithm under some assumptions, without loss of generality. First, input words of our algorithms are words $u \in \Sigma^*$ concatenated with a special symbol $\notin \Sigma$, denoting the end of the word. Second, we only consider input words without internal symbols, as they can easily be encoded by successive call and return symbols. Third, input words are supposed to be valid, in the sense that they produce an output. It is indeed easy to extend our algorithms in order to raise an error message when the input is not in the domain: this happens when no run of the VPT applies on the input.

The core task of this algorithm is to maintain the configuration for each run of the rfVPT T on the input u, and produce its output on-the-fly. As T is reduced, functionality ensures that, for a given input word u, and for every accessible configuration (q, σ) of T, there is at most one v such that $(q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q, \sigma)$. Hence, a configuration is a triple (q, σ, w) where q_i is the current state of the run σ its corresponding stack content, and w

 (q, σ, w) where q is the current state of the run, σ its corresponding stack content, and w the part of the output that has been read but not output yet. We call such a configuration *d-configuration* and write $\mathsf{Dconfs}(T) = Q \times \Gamma^* \times \Sigma^*$ for the set of d-configurations of T. Algorithm LCPIN relies on two main features.

First, the set of current d-configurations is stored in a compact structure that shares common stack contents. Consider for instance the VPT T_1 in Fig. 2(a). After reading cc, current d-configurations are $\{(q_0, \gamma_1\gamma_1, aa), (q_0, \gamma_1\gamma_2, ab), (q_0, \gamma_2\gamma_1, ba), (q_0, \gamma_2\gamma_2, bb)\}$. Hence after reading c^n , the number of current d-configurations is 2^n . However, the transition used to update a d-configuration relates the stack symbol and the output word. For instance, the previous set is the set of tuples $(q_0, \eta_1\eta_2, \alpha_1\alpha_2)$ where (η_i, α_i) is either (γ_1, a) or (γ_2, b) . Based on this observation, we propose a data structure avoiding this blowup. As illustrated in Fig. 2(b) to 2(d), this structure is a directed acyclic graph (DAG). Nodes of this DAG are tuples (q, γ, i) where $q \in Q$, $\gamma \in \Gamma$ and $i \in \mathbb{N}$ is the depth of the node in the DAG. Each edge of the DAG is labelled with a word, so that a branch of this DAG, read from the root # to the leaf, represents a d-configuration (q, σ, v) : q is the state in the leaf, σ is the concatenation of stack symbols in traversed nodes, and v is the concatenation of words on edges. For instance, in the DAG of Fig. 2(c), the branch $\# \to (q_0, \bot, 0) \stackrel{b}{\to} (q_0, \gamma_2, 1) \stackrel{a}{\to} (q_0, \gamma_1, 2)$ encodes the d-configuration $(q_0, \gamma_2 \gamma_1, ba)$ of the VPT of Fig. 2.(a). However, this data structure

cannot store any set of accessible d-configurations of arbitrary fVPTs, as the stored dconfigurations are obtained by unfolding the DAG. For *reduced* fVPTs, this unfolding precisely yields d-configurations to be stored.

Second, after reading a prefix u' of a word u, LCPIN will have output the common prefix of all corresponding runs, i.e. $lcp_{in}(u',T) = lcp(reach(u'))$ where $reach(u') = \{v \mid \exists (q_0,q,\sigma) \in I \times Q \times \Gamma^*, (q_0, \bot) \xrightarrow{u'/v} (q,\sigma) \}$. When a new input symbol is read, the DAG is first updated. Then, a bottom-up pass on this DAG computes $lcp_{in}(u',T)$ in the following way. For each node, let ℓ be the largest common prefix of labels of outgoing edges. Then ℓ is removed from these outgoing edges, and concatenated at the end of labels of incoming edges. At the end, the largest common prefix of all output words on branches is the largest common prefix of words on edges outgoing from the root node #.

Let $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}(u')$ be the maximal size of outputs of T on u' where their common prefix is removed: $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}(u') = \max_{v \in \operatorname{reach}(u')} |v| - |\operatorname{lcpin}(u', T)|$ and $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(u)$ its maximal value over prefixes of u: $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(u) = \max_{u' \text{ prefix of } u} \operatorname{out}_{\neq}(u')$.

Proposition 2. Let T be a rfVPT, and $u \in \Sigma^*$. The space used by LCPIN for computing T(u) is in $O(|Q|^2 \cdot |\Gamma|^2 \cdot (h(u) + 1) \cdot \operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{max}(u))$, and processing each symbol of u is in time polynomial in |Q|, $|\Gamma|$, $|\delta|$, h(u), $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{max}(u)$ and $|\Sigma|$.

5 On deciding Height Bounded Memory for VPTs

In this section, we prove Theorem 5, i.e. height bounded memory is decidable for VPTs. We have seen that a transduction defined by an FST T is HBM iff T is subsequentializable. However for VPTs, being subsequentializable is too strong to characterize HBM:

Lemma 1. There exists an fVPT T which is not subsequentializable but whose defined relation is HBM.

Proof. Consider the VPT of Fig. 1 defined by the plain arrows. The transduction it defines is in HBM by Proposition 2, as at any time the delay between two outputs is bounded by the height of the input: $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(u) \leq 2h(u)$. However it is not subsequentializable, as the transformation of c into a or b depends on the last return.

Subsequential FSTs (or equivalently BM FST-transductions) are characterized by the so called *twinning property* [5], which is decidable in PTIME [12]. We use a similar characterization of HBM VPTs-transductions, called the *horizontal twinning property* (HTP). The restriction of the horizontal twinning property to FSTs is equivalent to the usual twinning property for FSTs (see Appendix C.1). Intuitively, the HTP requires that two runs on the same input cannot accumulate increasing output delay on loops.

Definition 4 (Horizontal Twinning Property (HTP)). Let T be an fVPT. T satisfies the horizontal twinning property (HTP) if for all $u_1, u_2, v_1, v_2, w_1, w_2 \in \Sigma^*$, for all $q_0, q'_0 \in Q_I$, for all $q, q' \in Q$, and for all $\sigma, \sigma' \in \Gamma^*$ such that (q, σ) and (q', σ') are co-accessible,

$$if \begin{cases} (q_0, \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} (q, \sigma) \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} (q, \sigma) \\ (q'_0, \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1/w_1} (q', \sigma') \xrightarrow{u_2/w_2} (q', \sigma') \end{cases} \quad then \ \Delta(v_1, w_1) = \Delta(v_1v_2, w_1w_2).$$

Example 2. Consider the VPT of Fig. 1 (including dashed arrows). It does not satisfy the HTP, as the delays increase when looping on *crcr*... Without the dashed transitions, the HTP is satisfied.

Lemma 2. The HTP is decidable in NPTIME for fVPTs.

Proof. In the next section, we prove decidability of a stronger twinning property by reduction to the emptiness of pushdown machines with reversal bounded counters. The procedure can be easily modified to decide HTP, as we explain further. \Box

The next result shows that HTP characterizes HBM VPTs-transductions. Since the HTP is decidable, it achieves to prove Theorem 5.

Theorem 6. Let T be an fVPT. Then [T] is HBM iff the HTP holds for T.

In addition, if [T] is HBM and T is reduced, Algorithm LCPIN runs in space complexity $O(|Q|^4 \cdot |\Gamma|^{2h(u)+2} \cdot (h(u) + 1) \cdot M)$ when evaluating u on T, where $M = \max\{|v| \mid (q, a, v, \gamma, q') \in \delta\}.$

Proof (Sketch). To prove that the HTP is a necessary condition to be in HBM, we proceed by contradiction. We find a counter-example for the HTP and we let K be the height of the input word of this counter-example. It implies that the twinning property for FSTs does not hold for FST(T, K), and therefore FST(T, K) is not subsequentializable. By Theorem 1, [FST(T, K)] is not in BM. If [TT] is HBM, then it is in BM if we fix the height of the input words. We get a contradiction.

For the converse, we show that if the HTP holds for T, then for any input word $u \in \Sigma^*$, the maximal delay $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(u)$ between the outputs of u is bounded by $(|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{h(u)})^2 M$. This is done by a pumping technique "by width" that relies on the property $\Delta(vv', ww') = \Delta(\Delta(v, w) \cdot (v', w'))$ for any words v, v', w, w'. In particular for an input word for which there are two runs that pass by the same configurations twice at the same respective positions, the delay of the output is equal to the delay when removing the part in between the identical configurations. Finally we apply Proposition 2 and if T is not reduced, we first reduce it modulo a possible exponential blow-up. \Box

6 Quadratic Height Bounded Memory Evaluation

In the previous section, we have defined an equivalent characterization of HBM VPTtransductions. We have shown that such a transduction is in HBM iff the horizontal twinning property holds, and if it is in HBM, then the algorithm of Section 4 uses a memory which is at most exponential in the height of the words if the transducer is reduced (doubly exponential otherwise). To avoid this exponential cost, we identify in this section a subclass of HBM containing transductions for which there exists an evaluation algorithm which uses a memory *quadratic in the height of the word*. Therefore, we strengthen the horizontal twinning property by adding some properties for wellmatched loops. Some of our main and challenging results are to show the decidability of this property and that it depends only on the transduction, i.e. is preserved by equivalent transducers. We also show that subsequential VPTs obviously satisfy this condition and as a consequence, our class *subsumes* the class of subsequentializable transducers. The property we introduce is a strengthening of the horizontal twinning property that we therefore call the *twinning property (TP)*. Intuitively, the TP requires that two runs on the same input cannot accumulate increasing output delay on well-matched loops. They can accumulate delay on loops with increasing stack but this delay has to be caught up on the matching loops with descending stack.

Definition 5 (Twinning Property). Let $T = (Q, I, F, \Gamma, \delta)$ be a VPT. T satisfies the twinning property (TP) if for all $u_i, v_i, w_i \in \Sigma^*$ $(i \in \{1, ..., 4\})$ such that u_3 is well-nested, and u_2u_4 is well-nested, for all $i, i' \in Q_I$, for all $p, q, p', q' \in Q$, and for all $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in \bot.\Gamma^*$, for all $\sigma'_1, \sigma'_2 \in \Gamma^*$ such that (q, σ_1) and (q', σ_2) are co-accessible:

$$if \qquad \begin{cases} (i, \bot) & \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} (p, \sigma_1) & \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} (p, \sigma_1 \sigma'_1) & \xrightarrow{u_3/v_3} (q, \sigma_1 \sigma'_1) & \xrightarrow{u_4/v_4} (q, \sigma_1) \\ (i', \bot) & \xrightarrow{u_1/w_1} (p', \sigma_2) & \xrightarrow{u_2/w_2} (p', \sigma_2 \sigma'_2) & \xrightarrow{u_3/w_3} (q', \sigma_2 \sigma'_2) & \xrightarrow{u_4/w_4} (q', \sigma_2) \end{cases}$$

then $\Delta(v_1v_3, w_1w_3) = \Delta(v_1v_2v_3v_4, w_1w_2w_3w_4)$. We say that a VPT T is twinned whenever it satisfies the TP.

Note that the TP trivially implies the HTP when u_3 and u_4 are empty.

Example 3. The VPT of Fig. 1 with plain arrows does not satisfy the TP, as the delay between the two branches increases when iterating the loops. Consider now the VPT obtained by replacing r by r' in the transition (q_1, r, c, γ, q_2) . It is obviously twinned, as we cannot construct two runs on the same input which have the form given in the premises of the TP. However this transducer is not subsequentializable, as the output on the call symbols cannot be delayed to the matching return symbols.

Deciding the TP is done by a non-trivial reduction to the emptiness of pushdown machine with bounded-reversal counters [8], which is decidable in NPTIME [6].

Theorem 7. The twinning property is decidable in NPTIME for fVPTs.

Proof (*Sketch*). Let *T* be a fVPT. We construct in polynomial time a pushdown automaton with *s* counters ¹ (one reversal) that accepts any word $u = u_1 u_2 u_3 u_4$ that satisfies the premise of the TP but such that $\Delta(v_1 v_3, w_1 w_3) \neq \Delta(v_1 v_2 v_3 v_4, w_1 w_2 w_3 w_4)$ (i.e. the TP is not verified). Therefore the TP holds if and only if no word is accepted by the automaton. This can be checked in NPTIME [6].

The automaton simulates any two runs, and guesses the decomposition $u_1u_2u_3u_4$ (it checks that the decomposition is correct by verifying that each run is in the same state after reading u_1 and u_2 , and in the same state after reading u_3 and u_4). With two counters it can check that $|v_2v_4| = |w_2w_4|$, if it is not the case then it accepts u(indeed the TP is therefore not verified). The automaton checks that $\Delta(v_1v_3, w_1w_3) \neq \Delta(v_1v_2v_3v_4, w_1w_2w_3w_4)$ with the hypothesis (checked in parallel) that $|v_2v_4| = |w_2w_4|$. Let A, B, C, D be four words with $A = a_1 \dots a_l, B = b_1 \dots b_m, C = c_1 \dots c_n, D = d_1 \dots d_p, l \geq m$. We show in Appendix D.1 (Lemma 11), that $\Delta(A, B) \neq \Delta(C, D)$ holds if, and only if, at least one out of four simple conditions is true. For example, the first condition states that there exists k such that $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$ and either $(i) k \geq |C|$, or $(ii) c_{n-k} = d_{n-k}$. The automaton guesses which condition holds and verifies it with the help of counters.

¹ The number s does not depend on the transducer T.

We detail how to check the first condition, the others can be checked with the same technique. The automaton guesses the value k and with two counters verifies that $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$ as follows. First it initializes both counters to l - k (e.g. with an epsilon loop that increments both counters). Then it counts the letters of both words A and B up to l-k and records a_{l-k} and b_{l-k} and verifies that they are not equal. Finally it must verify that either (i) or (ii) is satisfied. The verification of (i) is easy. To verify (ii), i.e. $c_{n-k} = d_{n-k}$, it uses two additional counters and proceeds similarly as for checking $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$, but checks equality instead of inequality.

Remark 1. As the HTP is a particular case of the TP, one can modify the decision procedure of Theorem 7 to decide the HTP in NPTIME, yielding the proof of Lemma 2.

The most challenging result of this paper is to show that the TP only depends on the transduction and not on the transducer that defines it. The proof relies on fundamental properties of word combinatorics that allow us to give a general form of the output words $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4$ involved in the TP, that relates them by means of conjugacy of their primitive roots. The proof gives a deep insight into the expressive power of VPTs which is also interesting in its own. As many results of word combinatorics, the proof is a long case study, so that we give it in Appendix D.2 only.

Theorem 8 (Preservation by Equivalent Transducers). Let T_1, T_2 be two VPTs such that $[T_1] = [T_2]$. T_1 is twinned iff T_2 is twinned.

Subsequential transducers have at most one run per input word, so we get the following:

Corollary 1. Subsequentializable VPTs are twinned.

The TP is not a sufficient condition to be subsequentializable, as shown for instance by Example 3. Therefore the class of transductions defined by transducers which satisfy the TP is strictly larger than the class of transductions defined by subsequentializable transducers. However, these transductions are in the same complexity class for evaluation, i.e. polynomial space in the height of the input word for a fixed transducer:

Theorem 9. Let T be an fVPT and $u \in \Sigma^*$. If T is twinned and reduced, then Algo. LCPIN runs in space complexity $O\left(p(T) \cdot (h(u) + 1)^2 \cdot M\right)$ on T and $u \in \Sigma^*$, with $M = \max\{|v| : (q, a, v, \gamma, q') \in \delta\}$ and $p(T) = |Q|^4 \cdot |\Gamma|^{2|Q|^4+2}$.

Proof. (Sketch) We use a pumping technique to show that for any word $u \in \Sigma^*$ on which there is a run of T, we have $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(u) \leq (h(u) + 1)q(T)$ for some function q, whenever the TP holds for T. This is done as follows: any such words can be uniquely decomposed as $u = u_0 c_1 u_1 c_2 \dots c_n u_n$ with $n \leq h(u)$, each u_i is well-nested and each c_i is a call. Then if the u_i are long enough, we can pump them vertically and horizontally without affecting the global delay, by using the property $\Delta(vv', ww') = \Delta(\Delta(v, w).(v', w'))$. Then we can apply Proposition 2.

7 Conclusion and Remarks

This work investigates the streaming evaluation of nested word transductions, and in particular identifies an interesting class of VPT-transductions which subsumes subsequentializable transductions and can still be efficiently evaluated. The following theorem summarizes our results on *classes* of transductions:

Theorem 10. $BM \subsetneq Subsequentializable VPT \subsetneq twinned VPT \subsetneq HBM \subsetneq fVPTs.$ *Moreover, BM, twinned VPT and HBM are decidable in* NPTIME.

Remark 2 (*HBM is tight*). We have mentionned that the space complexity of a reduced VPT in HBM is at most exponential. We give here an example illustrating the tightness of this bound. The idea is to encode the tree transduction $f(t, a) \mapsto f(t, a) \cup f(t, b) \mapsto f(\overline{t}, b)$ by a VPT, where t is a binary tree over $\{0, 1\}$ and \overline{t} is the mirror of t, obtained by replacing the 0 by 1 and the 1 by 0 in t. Thus taking the identity or the mirror depends on the second child of the root f. To evaluate this transformation in a streaming manner, one has to store the whole subtree t in memory before deciding to transform it into t or \overline{t} . The evaluation of this transduction cannot be done in polynomial space as there are a doubly exponential number of trees of height n, for all $n \ge 0$. This cannot be encoded by a space polynomial in n.

Further Directions The decidability status of the class of subsequentializable VPT-transductions remains a challenging problem. In addition, we also plan to extend our techniques to more expressive transducers, such as those recently introduced in [1], which extend VPTs with global variables and are as expressive as MSO-transductions, and can therefore swap or reverse sub-trees.

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A Bounded Memory Evaluation Problems

Proof of Theorem 1

Proof. Statement 2 is proved in [19] (it is proved that subsequentializability is decidable in PTIME). We prove statement 1. Clearly, if [T] is definable by a subsequential transducer T_d , then evaluating T_d on any input word u can be done with a space complexity that depends on the size of T_d only.

Conversely, if $[\![T]\!]$ is BM, there exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ and a TT M that transforms any input word u into $[\![T]\!](u)$ in space complexity K. Any word on the working tape of M is of length at most K. As M is deterministic, we can therefore see M as a subsequential FST, whose states are pairs (q, w) where q is a state of T and w a word on the working tape (modulo some elimination of ϵ -transitions).

Proof of Theorem 2

Proof. We reduce the problem of deciding whether the language of a pushdown automaton P over an alphabet A is regular to BM. Any letter of A is seen as an internal symbol. We associate with P a pushdown transducer I_P which defines the identity on L(P). Clearly, if L(P) is regular, it is defined by a finite automaton which can easily be turned into a Turing transducer defining $[\![I_P]\!]$ and which uses a memory that depends on the size of the automaton only. Conversely, if $[\![I_P]\!]$ is BM, there exists a function f and a TT M equivalent to I_P and which uses at most f(1, |M|) bits of memory, i.e. an amount of memory which depends on the size of M only. The machine M can easily be turned into a finite automaton which defines P, whose states are the configurations of the working tape of M.

Proof of Theorem 3

Proof. If $[\![T]\!]$ is BM, there exist K and a TT M such that M evaluates any input word in space at most K. We can easily extract from M a finite automaton that defines Dom(T), whose number of states m only depends on M and K. By a simple pumping argument, it is easy to show that the words in Dom(T) have a height bounded by m. If the height of the words in Dom(T) is bounded, then their height is bounded by n^2 . Indeed, assume that there exists a word $u \in Dom(T)$ whose height is strictly larger than n^2 . Then there exists a run of T on u of the following form:

$$(i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} (q, \sigma) \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} (q, \sigma\sigma') \xrightarrow{u_3/v_3} (p, \sigma\sigma') \xrightarrow{u_4/v_4} (p, \sigma) \xrightarrow{u_5/v_5} (f, \bot)$$

such that $u = u_1 u_2 u_3 u_4 u_5$, σ' is not empty, and *i* (resp. *f*) is an initial (resp. final) state of *T*. The existence of this decomposition follows from the consideration of the set of pairs of positions in *u* corresponding to matching calls and returns of well-nested subwords of *u*. Then one can iterate the matching loops around *q* and *p* to generate words in Dom(T) with arbitrarily large heights, yielding a contradiction. Therefore $FST(T, n^2)$ is equivalent to *T*. As in the proof of Theorem 1, we can regard *M* as a subsequential FST T_M whose set of states are configurations of the machine. The FST T_M is equivalent to *T*, and therefore to $FST(T, n^2)$. Since T_M is subsequential, $FST(T, n^2)$ is subsequentializable and therefore by Theorem 1, $FST(T, n^2)$ is BM. The converse is obvious. Therefore to check whether $\llbracket T \rrbracket$ is BM, we first decide if the height of all input words accepted by T is less or equal than n^2 . This can be done in PTIME $O(|T| \cdot n^2)$ by checking emptiness of the projection of T on the inputs (this is a visibly pushdown automaton) extended with counters up to $n^2 + 1$ that counts the height of the word. Then we check in NPTIME whether evaluating T can be done in constant memory if we fix both the transducer and the height of the word (Theorem 5). Since here the height is bounded by n^2 , it is equivalent to checking bounded memory.

B Online Evaluation Algorithm of Visibly Pushdown Transductions

All over this section we assume that T is a *reduced* fVPT. We also assume an implementation of VPTs such that the set S of transitions with a given left-hand side can be retrieved in time O(|S|). We define the current height of a prefix of a nested word in the following way: hc(u) = 0 if u is well-nested, and hc(ucv) = hc(u) + 1 if $c \in \Sigma_c$ and v is well-nested.

B.1 NAIVE algorithm

We start with the algorithm NAIVE, that we will later improve to obtain LCPIN. The algorithm NAIVE simply computes all the runs (with their respective outputs) of the fVPT T on the input word u, stores them in a data structure and, at the end of u, outputs the only output word: it will be the same in all accepting runs, as T is functional.

NAIVE consists in maintaining the set of d-configurations corresponding to the runs of T on the input word u. Hence, it is based on the operation $\mathsf{update}(C, a)$ that returns the set of d-configurations obtained after applying rules of T using input symbol a to each d-configuration of C. The function $\mathsf{update} : \mathsf{Dconfs}(T) \times \Sigma \to \mathsf{Dconfs}(T)$ maps a set of d-configurations and an input symbol to another set of d-configurations. For call symbols $c \in \Sigma_c$,

$$\mathsf{update}(C,c) = \bigcup_{(q,\sigma,v) \in C} \{(q',\sigma\gamma,vv') \mid (q,c,v',\gamma,q') \in \delta_c\}$$

and for return symbols $r \in \Sigma_r$,

$$\mathsf{update}(C,r) = \bigcup_{(q,\sigma\gamma,v)\in C} \{(q',\sigma,vv') \mid (q,r,v',\gamma,q') \in \delta_r\}$$

The function update can be considered as the transition function of a transition system with states Dconfs(T) (i.e. an infinite number of states). We can easily turn it into an infinite state transducer, i.e. an FST with infinitely many states: this transducer returns ϵ at every input symbol, except for the last one \$, where it returns the output word. This is illustrated in Fig. 3. Formally, an infinite state transducer t (IST for short) is defined exactly like an FST, except that its number of states may be infinite (but countable). In particular, the acceptance condition remains the same, so that the transduction $[t_i]$ is still a set of pairs of finite words (u, v).



Fig. 3. Illustration of the computations of NAIVE on an input word.

Given the functional VPT $T = (Q, I, F, \Gamma, \delta)$, consider the IST $t = (\text{Dconfs}(T) \uplus \{q_f\}, I_t, \{q_f\}, \delta_t)$ where $I_t = \{\{(q_0, \bot, \epsilon) \mid q_0 \in I\}\}$. To deal with the last symbol \$, we have to characterize the sets of d-configurations reached after reading words in Dom(T). T being functional, each of these sets of d-configurations C comes with a single output word v:

$$\mathcal{C} = \left\{ (C, v) \in \mathsf{Dconfs}(T) \times \varSigma^* \ | \ \begin{array}{l} \exists q \in F. \ (q, \bot, v) \in C \ \mathrm{and} \\ \forall (q', \bot, v') \in C, \ q' \in F \implies v' = v \end{array} \right\}$$

Rules in δ_t are:

$$C \xrightarrow{a/\epsilon} \operatorname{update}(C, a) \text{ for } C \in \operatorname{Dconfs}(T) \text{ and } a \in \Sigma$$
$$C \xrightarrow{\$/v} q_f \qquad \qquad \text{for } (C, v) \in \mathcal{C}$$

Lemma 3. $(u, v) \in [T]$ *iff* $(u\$, v) \in [t]$.

Proof. It can be checked easily by induction on |u| that for every $u \in \Sigma^*$, the current state of t after reading u is $\bigcup_{q_0 \in I} \{(q, \sigma, v) \mid (q_0, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q, \sigma)\}$. Let us check whether reading the last symbol \$ leads to a correct state. Let $u \in \Sigma^*$. If $u \notin Dom(T)$, then there is no run of T on u of the form $(q, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q', \bot)$ with $q \in I$ and $q' \in F$. Hence, the state C reached by t after reading u, if it exists, is such that $(C, v) \notin C$ for all $v \in \Sigma^*$, so $u \notin Dom(t)$. If $u \in Dom(T)$, then the state of t reached after reading u is $C = \bigcup_{q_0 \in I} \{(q, \bot, v) \mid (q_0, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q, \bot)\}$. As T is functional, there is a unique v for all $(q, \bot, v) \in C$ such that $q \in F$, and such elements of C exist, so that $(C, v) \in C$, and $(u\$, v) \in [[t]]$.

As t is deterministic, the algorithm NAIVE only consists in computing the unique run of t on the input word u. Let $out(u) = \max_{v \in reach(u)} |v|$, and let $out^{max}(u)$ be its maximal value over prefixes: $out^{max}(u) = \max_{u' \text{ prefix of } u} out(u')$.

Proposition 3. The maximal amount of memory used by NAIVE for processing $u \in \Sigma^*$ is in $O(|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{h(u)} \cdot \operatorname{out}^{max}(u))$. The preprocessing time, and the time used by NAIVE to process each symbol of u are both polynomial in |Q|, $|\Gamma|$, $|\delta|$, h(u), $\operatorname{out}^{max}(u)$ and $|\Sigma|$.

Proof. As T is functional, there cannot be two distinct co-accessible d-configurations (q, σ, v) and (q, σ, v') in C. This remark proves the space complexity. For time complexity, updating a d-configuration is just a research of rules to apply. Each of them will generate a new d-configuration, and is retrieved in constant time.

B.2 Compact representation of runs of fVPTs: NAIVE_{COMPACT}.

We present the data structure S_u^T representing all d-configurations stored by NAIVE on the VPT T after reading u, i.e., the state of t reached after reading u. This structure is illustrated in Fig. 2. This first improvement avoids the exponential blowup in h(u). The structure S_u^T is a labeled DAG (directed acyclic graph) whose nodes are configurations of T (with an additional root node #, and each node has a depth) and edges are labeled by delays: $nodes(S_u^T) = \{\#\} \uplus Q \times (\Gamma \cup \{\bot\}) \times \mathbb{N}$ and $edges(S_u^T) \subseteq nodes(S_u^T) \times$ $\Sigma^* \times nodes(S_u^T)$. This DAG will have as leaves (nodes without outgoing edges) current configurations. The structure S_u^T is defined inductively on u according to the following algorithms.

$$edges(S_{\epsilon}^{T}) = \{ \# \stackrel{\epsilon}{\hookrightarrow} (q, \bot, 0) \mid q \in I \}$$

When a call letter $c \in \Sigma_c$ is read, the structure S_u^T is updated such that, for every leaf of S_u^T , a child is added for every way of updating the corresponding configuration according to a rule of T. If a leaf cannot be updated, it is removed, and also the possible new generated leaves (procedure REMOVE_EDGES). Algorithm 1 describes how S_{uc}^T is computed from S_u^T . For a return letter $r \in \Sigma_r$, we try to pop every leaf: if it is

Algorithm 1		Updating structure S with a call symbol.						
	procedure UPDATE_CALL(S, c)							
2:	newEdg	$ges \leftarrow \emptyset$						
	or phan.	$s \leftarrow \emptyset$						
4:	for $(q, \gamma$	$(i,i) \in leaves(S)$ do						
	if $\exists v$	$(q,c,v,\gamma',q' \mid (q,c,v,\gamma',q') \in \delta$ then						
6:	f	or $(v, \gamma', q') \mid (q, c, v, \gamma', q') \in \delta$ do						
		$newEdges.add((q,\gamma,i) \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} (q',\gamma',i+1))$						
8:	else							
	0	$vrphans.add((q,\gamma,i))$						
10:	edges(S	$) \leftarrow edges(S) \cup newEdges$						
12:	procedure 1	REMOVE_EDGES $(S, or phans)$						
	while or	$phans eq \emptyset$ do						
14:	$n \leftarrow$	orphans.pop()						
	for n	$n \mid \exists v, \ m \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} n \ \mathbf{do}$						
16:	γ	$emove(S, m \stackrel{v}{\to} n)$						
	i	$\mathbf{f} \nexists n', v', \ m \stackrel{v'}{\hookrightarrow} n' \ \mathbf{then} \ orphans.add(m)$						

possible, the leaf is removed and the new leaves updated, otherwise we remove the leaf and propagate the removal upwards (procedure REMOVE_EDGES). This is described

Alg	Algorithm 2 Updating structure S with a return symbol.						
	procedure UPDATE_RETURN (S, r)						
2:	$newEdges \leftarrow \emptyset$						
	$orphans \leftarrow \emptyset$						
4:	for $(q_\ell, \gamma_\ell, i) \in leaves(S)$ do						
	if $\exists v, q \mid (q_{\ell}, r, v, \gamma_{\ell}, q) \in \delta$ then						
6:	for $(v,q) \mid (q_\ell,r,v,\gamma_\ell,q) \in \delta$ do						
	for $(q_0, \gamma_0, v_0) \mid (q_0, \gamma_0, i-1) \stackrel{v_0}{\longleftrightarrow} (q_\ell, \gamma_\ell, i) \in edges(S)$ do						
8:	for $(n, v_1) \mid n \stackrel{v_1}{\longleftrightarrow} (q_0, \gamma_0, i-1) \in edges(S)$ do						
	$newEdges.add(n \stackrel{v_1v_0v}{\longleftrightarrow} (q, \gamma_0, i-1))$						
10:	else						
	$or phans.add((q_\ell,\gamma_\ell,i))$						
12:	$remove_edges(S, orphans)$						
	$remove_leaves(S)$						
14:	$edges(S) \leftarrow edges(S) \cup newEdges$						
16 [.]	procedure REMOVE LEAVES(S)						
10.	for $n \in leaves(S)$ do						
10.	$for (m, n) = m c^{v} m \in adam(C) do$						
10:	$\operatorname{IOI}(m,v) \mid m \to n \in \operatorname{eages}(S) \operatorname{uo}$						
	$remove(S, m \hookrightarrow n)$						

in Algorithm 2. Only edges and reachable nodes need to be stored, so that $|S_u^T| \leq (hc(u) + 1) \cdot |Q|^2 \cdot |\Gamma|^2 \cdot \operatorname{out}(u, T).$

We prove the correctness of this construction using the transition function \Rightarrow_u based on edges of S_u^T , that gathers the stack content and delay. The relation \Rightarrow_u is the smallest relation in $(Q \times \Gamma^* \times \mathbb{N}) \times \Sigma^* \times (Q \times \Gamma^* \times \mathbb{N})$ containing \hookrightarrow such that: if $(q_0, \sigma_0, i) \stackrel{v}{\Rightarrow}_u (q_1, \sigma_1 \gamma, j)$ and $(q_1, \gamma, j) \stackrel{v'}{\hookrightarrow} (q_2, \gamma', j+1)$ then $(q_0, \sigma_0, i) \stackrel{vv'}{\Rightarrow}_u (q_2, \sigma_1 \gamma \gamma', j+1)$ (we may have $\sigma = \epsilon$ and $\gamma = \bot$). The set of d-configurations stored in S_u^T is defined by: $C(S_u^T) = \{(q, \sigma, v) \mid \exists i, (q, \sigma, i) \in leaves(S_u^T) \text{ and } \# \stackrel{v}{\Rightarrow}_u (q, \sigma, i)\}$. The following lemma shows that S_u^T exactly encodes the d-configurations computed by the IST t.

Lemma 4. $C(S_u^T)$ is the state of the IST t after reading u.

Proof. As mentioned in the proof of Lemma 3, the current state of t after reading u is $\bigcup_{q_i \in I} \{(q, \sigma, v) \mid (q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q, \sigma)\}$. Hence proving the following invariant is sufficient to prove this lemma:

For every $0 \leq i \leq hc(u)$, $\# \stackrel{v}{\Rightarrow}_{u} (q, \sigma, i)$ iff there exists $q_i \in I$ such that $(q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1 \cdots u_k/v} (q, \sigma)$ where $k = \max\{j \mid hc(u_1 \cdots u_j) = i\}$.

We prove it by induction on |u|. If |u| = 0, then i = 0 and the equivalence holds, as we can assume ϵ -loops (without output) on initial states.

Assume that the property holds for a given u, we prove that if also holds for the well-nested prefix uc. Let *orphans* be the set of leaves collected by the outermost for-loop of UPDATE_CALL. These are the leaves $(q, \gamma, hc(u))$ of S_u^T such that no rule

 (q, c, v, γ', q') exists in δ . Hence, corresponding configurations are blocked, and can be removed. The procedure REMOVE_EDGES propagates these deletions, so that after the call to this procedure, the structure exactly contains configurations that can be updated by c. Hence, by induction hypothesis, the equivalence holds for $0 \le i \le hc(u)$. For i = hc(uc) = hc(u) + 1, let $k = \max\{j \mid hc(u_1 \cdots u_j) = i\}$. We have:

$$\begin{array}{l} \# \xrightarrow{vv'}_{uc} (q, \sigma\gamma\gamma', i) \\ \text{iff} \quad \exists q_1, \ \# \xrightarrow{v}_{uc} (q_1, \sigma\gamma, i-1) \quad \text{and} \quad (q_1, \gamma, i-1) \xrightarrow{v'} (q, \gamma', i) \quad (1) \\ \text{iff} \quad \exists q_1, \ \exists q_i \in I, \ (q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q_1, \sigma\gamma) \quad \text{and} \quad (q_1, \gamma, i-1) \xrightarrow{v'} (q, \gamma', i) \quad (2) \\ \text{iff} \quad \exists q_1, \ \exists q_i \in I, \ (q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q_1, \sigma\gamma) \quad \text{and} \quad (q_1, c, v', \gamma', q) \in \delta \quad (3) \\ \text{iff} \quad \exists q_i \in I, \ (q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{uc/vv'} (q, \sigma\gamma\gamma') \end{array}$$

(1) is by definition of \Rightarrow_{uc} . (2) holds because, as mentioned above, REMOVE_EDGES removes non-accessible configurations, and by induction hypothesis. Here, we also have $k - 1 = \max\{j \mid hc(u_1 \cdots u_j) = i - 1\}$, as uc ends with a call symbol: so $u_1 \cdots u_{k-1} = u$ and $u_1 \cdots u_k = uc$. (3) is due to the way UPDATE_CALL operates: it adds children to leaves according to rules of δ .

Now we show that the property holds for the well-nested prefix ur, if it holds for u. Let h = hc(u). Procedure UPDATE_RETURN checks, for each leaf, whether a rule can be applied. If not, the leaf is removed, and orphaned edges too, as explained for call symbols. Then, the hth level is removed and the (h - 1)th updated, according to rules of T. Hence the property remains true for $0 \le i \le h - 2$. We have:

$$\begin{split} \# \stackrel{v}{\Rightarrow}_{ur} & (q, \sigma\gamma\gamma_0, h-1) \\ \text{iff} \quad \exists q_0, q_1, q_\ell, \gamma_\ell, v', v_0, v_1, \ \# \stackrel{v'}{\Rightarrow}_u (q_1, \sigma\gamma, h-2) \text{ and} \\ & (q_1, \gamma, h-2) \stackrel{v_1}{\hookrightarrow} (q_0, \gamma_0, h-1) \in edges(S_u^T) \text{ and} \\ & (q_0, \gamma_0, h-1) \stackrel{v_0}{\longleftrightarrow} (q_\ell, \gamma_\ell, h) \in edges(S_u^T) \text{ and} \\ & (q_\ell, r, v'', \gamma_\ell, q) \in \delta \text{ and } v = v'v_1v_0v'' \end{aligned}$$
(1)
 \\ \text{iff} \quad \exists q_0, q_\ell, \gamma_\ell, v', v_0, \ \# \stackrel{v'}{\Rightarrow}_u (q_0, \sigma\gamma\gamma_0, h-1) \text{ and} \end{split}

$$(q_0, \gamma_0, h - 1) \stackrel{\circ}{\hookrightarrow} (q_\ell, \gamma_\ell, h) \in edges(S_u^T) \text{ and} (q_\ell, r, v'', \gamma_\ell, q) \in \delta \text{ and } v = v'v_0v''$$
(2)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{III} \quad \exists q_{\ell}, \gamma_{\ell}, v', \ \# \Rightarrow_{u} \ (q_{\ell}, \sigma\gamma\gamma_{0}\gamma_{\ell}, h) \in \textit{edges}(S_{u}^{*}) \text{ and} \\ (q_{\ell}, r, v'', \gamma_{\ell}, q) \in \delta \text{ and } v = v'v'' \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{iff} & \exists q_{\ell}, \gamma_{\ell}, v', q_i \in I \; (q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u/v} (q_{\ell}, \sigma \gamma \gamma_0 \gamma_{\ell}) \text{ and} \\ & (q_{\ell}, r, v'', \gamma_{\ell}, q) \in \delta \text{ and } v = v'v'' \\ \text{iff} & \exists q_i \in I, \; (q_i, \bot) \xrightarrow{ur/v} (q, \sigma \gamma \gamma_0) \end{array}$$

Equivalence (1) reflects how UPDATE_RETURN generates the new leaves. (2) and (3) come from the definition of \Rightarrow_u . (4) is obtained by induction hypothesis and the fact that, if $k = \max\{j \mid hc(u_1 \cdots u_j) = h\}$, then $u_1 \cdots u_k = u$.

The depth of the DAG obtained after reading u is the current height of u plus 1, each level has at most $|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|$ nodes, and each edge is labelled with a word of length less than out(u).

Proposition 4. The maximal amount of memory used by NAIVE_{COMPACT} on $u \in \Sigma^*$ is in $O(|Q|^2 \cdot |\Gamma|^2 \cdot (h(u) + 1) \cdot \operatorname{out}^{max}(u))$. The preprocessing time, and the time used by NAIVE to process each symbol of u are both polynomial in |Q|, $|\Gamma|$, $|\delta|$, h(u), $\operatorname{out}^{max}(u)$ and $|\Sigma|$.

B.3 LCPIN algorithm

We extend the definition of the largest common prefix to sets of d-configurations: if $C \subseteq \mathsf{Dconfs}(T)$, then $\mathsf{lcp}(C) = \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \mid (q, \sigma, v) \in C\})$. Let rem_lcp be the function that removes the largest common prefix to a set of d-configurations: rem_lcp $(C) = \{(q, \sigma, v') \in \mathsf{Dconfs}(T) \mid (q, \sigma, \mathsf{lcp}(C) \cdot v') \in C\}$. From an fVPT T, we define the IST $\tau = (\mathsf{Dconfs}(T) \uplus \{q_f\}, I_{\tau}, \{q_f\}, \delta_{\tau})$ where $I_{\tau} = \{\{(q_0, \bot, \epsilon) \mid q_0 \in I\}\}$. We keep the same definition of C as in NAIVE, and rules of δ_{τ} are:

$$C \xrightarrow{a/lcp(update(C,a))} \text{rem_lcp(update(C,a))} \text{ for } C \in \mathsf{Dconfs}(T) \text{ and } a \in \Sigma$$
$$C \xrightarrow{\$/v} q_f \qquad \qquad \text{for } (C,v) \in \mathcal{C}$$

We start by proving the correctness of the definition of the IST τ . This definition is illustrated in Fig. 5.



Fig. 4. A functional VPT on $\Sigma_c = \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}$ and $\Sigma_r = \{r_1, r_2, r_3\}$.



Fig. 5. Part of the IST τ corresponding to the VPT in Fig. 4, computed by LCPIN on input $c_1c_3r_3r_1$.

Lemma 5. $(u, v) \in [\![T]\!]$ *iff* $(u\$, v) \in [\![\tau]\!]$.

Proof. By an induction on |u|, it can be checked that $C_0 \xrightarrow{u/lcp_{in}(u,T)} C$ where C_0 is the only element in I_{τ} and C is obtained from the run of t on $u: C = rem_lcp(C')$ with $C_0 \xrightarrow{u/\epsilon} C'$. The remainder of the proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 3. \Box

We now provide algorithms for the second step of the computation performed by LCPIN on an input symbol a. Recall that the first step is the same as in NAIVE_{COMPACT}, i.e. Algorithm 1 if a is a call symbol, and Algorithm 2 if it is a return symbol, which transforms S_u^T to a new structure S'. The second step is the computation of lcp(C(S')), which is output, and removed from every branch of S', using Algorithm 3.

Algorithm 3 starts with the procedure *factorize*, that processes every nodes in a bottom-up manner (from leaves to the root #). For every node, the lcp of all outgoing edges is moved to all incoming edges. This is illustrated in Fig. 6.



(a) Internal node *n* of the DAG.

(b) Node *n* after update by *factorize*.

Fig. 6. Changes performed by *factorize* on a node.

For every node $n \in nodes(S_u^T)$, let S_n be the structure obtained from S_u^T just after returning from factorize(S, n, done), and let \Rightarrow_n be the relation defined like \Rightarrow_u , but on S_n . Note that the structure has the same set of nodes and edges after being processed by Algorithm 3, only the labels of edges are updated. Let B_n be the set of branches from node n to a leaf: $B_{n_0} = \{(n_0, n_1, \ldots, n_k) \mid \forall 0 \le i < k, \exists v_i, n_i \stackrel{v_i}{\hookrightarrow} n_{i+1} \text{ and } n_k \in$ $leaves(S_u^T)\}$. For a branch b, we write $V_n(b)$ for its output in the structure S_n , and V(b)for its output in $S_u^T: V_n((n_0, \ldots, n_k)) = v_0 \cdots v_{k-1}$ where $n_i \stackrel{v_i}{\hookrightarrow} n_{i+1}$ for all $0 \le i < k$ in S_n . We extend this definition to sets of branches: $V_n(B) = \{V_n(b) \mid b \in B\}$. Note also that each node is processed once using *factorize*, and in a bottom-up way: when processing node n, all its descendants have been updated before (cf lines 11 and 12). The following property is the main invariant proving the correctness of Algorithm 3.

Lemma 6. For every node $n \neq \#$, let $\ell = lcp(V(B_n))$. Then,

- 1. for every branch $b \in B_n$, $V(b) = \ell \cdot V_n(b)$
- 2. for every p, v such that $p \xrightarrow{v} n$ in $S_n, v = v'\ell$ with $p \xrightarrow{v'} n$ in S_u^T

Proof. We prove the following property by bottom-up induction on the structure. This property is true on leaves, as *factorize* does not modify their incoming edges. Assume that the property holds for all descendants of a node n. Let $\ell = lcp(V(B_n))$, and consider a branch $b \in B_n$. The function *factorize* applied at n computes the lcp of edges

Algorithm 3	Compute	lcp(C(S)),	and	update	S	to	the	structure	encoding
rem_lcp($C(S)$).									

```
procedure OUTPUT_LCP(S)
 2:
              factorize(S, \#, \emptyset)
             \ell \leftarrow \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \mid \exists n, \# \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} n\})
             output \ell
 4:
             for m, v \hspace{.1in}| \hspace{.1in} \# \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} m do
                   let p be such that v = \ell \cdot p
 6:
                    replace \# \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} m by \# \stackrel{p}{\hookrightarrow} m in S
 8:
       function FACTORIZE(S, n, done)
10:
             if n \notin leaves(S) then
                    for m, v \mid n \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} m and m \notin done \operatorname{\mathbf{do}}
                           done \leftarrow factorize(S, m, done)
12:
                    if n = \# then return done \cup \{n\}
                    factor \leftarrow \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \mid \exists m, n \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} m\})
14:
                    for m, v \mid n \xrightarrow{v} m do
                           let p be such that v = factor \cdot p
16:
                    replace n \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} m by n \stackrel{p}{\hookrightarrow} m in S
for p, v \mid p \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} n do
18:
                          replace p \xrightarrow{v} n by p \xrightarrow{v \cdot factor} n in S
20:
              return done \cup \{n\}
```

outgoing from n and removes it on every branch. Hence, if n' be the node processed by *factorize* before n, then:

$$V_{n'}(b) = \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \mid \exists p, \ n \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} p \text{ in } S_{n'}\}) \cdot V_n(b) \tag{1}$$

Let p be the second node in branch b = (n, p, ...). As p and all its descendants are processed before n' and not modified until the call of *factorize* on p, we have $V_{n'}(b) = V_p(b)$. Let us decompose $V_p(b)$ according to p: $V_p(b) = v_0 \cdot V_p(b_p)$ where $n \stackrel{v_0}{\longrightarrow} p$ in S_p and b_p is the branch obtained from b by removing n. Using the induction hypothesis applied at p, we get $v_0 = v_1 \ell'$ with $\ell' = lcp(V(B_p))$, $n \stackrel{v_1}{\longrightarrow} p$ in S_u^T , and $V(b_p) = \ell' \cdot V_p(b_p)$. Thus $V_p(b) = v_1 \cdot \ell' \cdot V_p(b_p) = v_1 \cdot V(b_p) = V(b)$. Equation (1) becomes:

$$V(b) = \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \mid \exists p, n \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} p \text{ in } S_{n'}\}) \cdot V_n(b)$$
⁽²⁾

Let us write $\ell'' = \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \mid \exists p, n \xrightarrow{v} p \text{ in } S_{n'}\})$. It remains to prove that $\ell'' = \ell$. Notice that this will prove both parts of the lemma. We have $\ell'' = \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \mid \exists p, n \xrightarrow{v} p \text{ in } S_p\})$ because p and its descendants are unchanged between calls of *factorize* on p and n'. Using the induction hypothesis on each p, we obtain:

$$\ell'' = \mathsf{lcp}(\{v \cdot \mathsf{lcp}(V(B_p)) \mid n \stackrel{v}{\hookrightarrow} p \text{ in } S_u^T\}) = \mathsf{lcp}(V(B_n)) = \ell$$

This concludes the proof.

The next lemma ensures that *factorize* preserves the semantic of the structure, i.e. the set of encoded configurations.

Lemma 7. $C(F(S_u^T)) = C(S_u^T)$.

Proof.

 $\begin{array}{l} (q,\sigma,v) \in C(S_u^T) \\ \text{iff } \exists i, \ (q,\sigma,i) \in leaves(S_u^T) \text{ and } \# \stackrel{v}{\Rightarrow}_u (q,\sigma,i) \\ \text{iff } \exists i, \ (q,\sigma,i) \in leaves(S_u^T) \text{ and } \exists p, \ \# \stackrel{v_0}{\hookrightarrow} p \text{ and } p \stackrel{v_1}{\Rightarrow}_u (q,\sigma,i) \text{ with } v = v_0 v_1 \\ \text{iff } \exists i, \ (q,\sigma,i) \in leaves(S_u^T) \text{ and } \exists p, \ \# \stackrel{v_0}{\hookrightarrow} p \text{ and } v = v_0 V(b) \\ \text{ where } b \text{ is a branch } p \Rightarrow_u (q,\sigma,i) \\ \text{iff } \exists i, \ (q,\sigma,i) \in leaves(S_u^T) \text{ and } \exists p, \ \# \stackrel{v_0}{\hookrightarrow} p \text{ and } v = v_0 \cdot \operatorname{lcp}(V(B_p)) \cdot V_n(b) \\ \text{ where } b \text{ is a branch } p \Rightarrow_u (q,\sigma,i) \end{array}$ $\begin{array}{l} \text{iff } (q,\sigma,v) \in C(F(S_u^T)) \end{array}$

Equivalence (1) is by Lemma 6.

Proof (Proposition 2). Correctness of Algorithm 3 is ensured by Lemma 6, and the fact that at the root node, it uses the same technique to factorize and output the lcp. In terms of memory requirement, the number of nodes of S_u^T remains bounded as before, while words on edges have length at most $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(u)$, as each of them participate in a d-configuration in $C(S_u^T)$, as proved by Lemma 7 and Lemma 4. All procedures are in polynomial time.

C On deciding height bounded memory for VPTs

Before going into the proofs of the results of this section, we first prove that our horizontal twinning property, when restricted to FSTs, is equivalent to the twinning property for FSTs defined in [13].

C.1 Twinning properties for FSTs

Since we use results on the twinning property for FSTs in this paper, we clarify the definition of twinning property for FSTs. In the core of the paper, it is said that restricting the horizontal twinning property to FSTs correspond to the usual twinning property of FSTs. By "usual" we mean the following definition, taken from [13].

Definition 6 (Twinning property for FSTs of [13]).

Let $T = (Q, I, F, \delta)$ be an FST. T satisfies the twinning property if for all $q_0, q'_0 \in I$, for all $q, q' \in Q$ such that q and q' are co-accessible, for all words $u_1, v_1, w_1, u_2, v_2, w_2 \in \Sigma^*$, if:

$$q_0 \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} q \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} q \qquad q'_0 \xrightarrow{u_1/w_1} q' \xrightarrow{u_2/w_2} q'$$

Then either $v_2 = w_2 = \epsilon$, or the following holds:

(*i*)
$$|v_2| = |w_2|$$

```
(ii) v_1(v_2)^{\omega} = w_1(w_2)^{\omega}
```

Our twinning property for FSTs is obtained by restricting the horizontal twinning property of VPTs to FSTs. By restricting we mean the following:

Definition 7 (Twinning property for FSTs of this paper). Let $T = (Q, I, F, \delta)$ be an FST. *T* satisfies the twinning property if for all $q_0, q'_0 \in I$, for all $q, q' \in Q$ such that q and q' are co-accessible, for all words $u_1, v_1, w_1, u_2, v_2, w_2 \in \Sigma^*$, if:

$$q_0 \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} q \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} q \qquad q'_0 \xrightarrow{u_1/w_1} q' \xrightarrow{u_2/w_2} q'$$

Then $\Delta(v_1, w_1) = \Delta(v_1 v_2, w_1 w_2).$

The two definitions are equivalent, as shown by the next lemma:

Lemma 8. Definitions 6 and 7 are equivalent.

Proof. First suppose that Definition 6 holds. If $v_2 = w_2 = \epsilon$, then clearly $\Delta(v_1, w_1) = \Delta(v_1v_2, w_1w_2)$. Otherwise $|v_2| = |w_2|$ and $v_1(v_2)^{\omega} = w_1(w_2)^{\omega}$. Then necessarily $v_1 \leq w_1$ (i.e. v_1 is a prefix of w_1) or $w_1 \leq v_1$. Wlog suppose that $v_1 \leq w_1$, i.e. $w_1 = v_1w_1'$ for some w_1' . Therefore $\Delta(v_1, w_1) = (\epsilon, w_1')$, and $\Delta(v_1v_2, w_1w_2) = \Delta(v_2, w_1'w_2)$.

We now prove that $\Delta(v_2, w'_1 w_2) = (\epsilon, w'_1)$. Since $v_1(v_2)^{\omega} = w_1(w_2)^{\omega}$, we have $(v_2)^{\omega} = w'_1(w_2)^{\omega}$. Therefore $v_2 w'_1(w_2)^{\omega} = v_2^{\omega} = w'_1(w_2)^{\omega}$. Since $|v_2| = |w_2|$, we get $v_2 w'_1 = w'_1 w_2$, from which we have $\Delta(v_2, w'_1 w_2) = \Delta(v_2, v_2 w'_1) = (\epsilon, w'_1)$.

Conversely, suppose that Definition 7 holds and $v_2w_2 \neq \epsilon$. Since $\Delta(v_1, w_1) = \Delta(v_1v_2, w_1w_2)$, we have either $v_1 \leq w_1$ or $w_1 \leq v_1$. Wlog suppose that $v_1 \leq w_1$, i.e. $w_1 = v_1w_1'$ for some w_1' . Therefore we have:

$$\Delta(v_1, w_1) = (\epsilon, w_1') = \Delta(v_1 v_2, w_1 w_2) = \Delta(v_2, w_1' w_2)$$

Consequently, $v_2 \preceq w'_1 w_2$, and in particular, $w'_1 w_2 = v_2 w'_1$, which gives us the following series of equalities:

$$w_1(w_2)^{\omega} = v_1 w_1'(w_2)^{\omega} = v_1 v_2 w_1'(w_2)^{\omega} = v_1(v_2)^2 w_1'(w_2)^{\omega} = \dots = v_1(v_2)^{\omega} \qquad \Box$$

C.2 Proof of Theorem 6

Let T be an fVPT. If [T] is HBM, then the HTP holds for T by Lemma 9 (proved in this section). Conversely, if T satisfies the HTP and T is reduced, then we apply Lemma 10 (proved this section) which bounds the maximal difference between outputs of T, and then Proposition 2 gives the complexity the evaluation algorithm.

If T is not reduced, we cannot apply Lemma 10 directly but we first have to reduce T into T_r while preserving the satisfiability of the HTP. Let q_1, \ldots, q_n be the state of T and F be the set of accepting states of T. It is well-known that we can construct deterministic finite-state automata A_{q_1}, \ldots, A_{q_n} over the stack alphabet Γ such that for all $q \in Q$, a stack content $\sigma \in \Gamma^*$ is accepted by A_q iff the configuration (q, σ) is co-accessible [16]. The reduction step is then easy. It suffices to enrich the state space of T with co-accessibility information. In particular, if Q_q is the set of states of A_q for all $q \in Q$, then the set of states of T_r is $Q \times Q_{q_1} \times \cdots \times Q_{q_n}$. The stack alphabet is also of the form $\Gamma \times Q_{q_1} \times \cdots \times Q_{q_n}$. We give only an informal explanation of this

construction. When a run has reached the configuration $((q, p_1, \ldots, p_n), \sigma)$, it means that T has reached the configuration (q, σ) and for all i, the automaton A_{q_i} is in state q_i after reading σ , with the following invariant (which ensures that T_r is reduced): let j be such that $q = q_j$, then p_j is an accepting state of $A_j = A_q$. On a call symbol, a copy of the states of the automata A_q before reading the call symbol have to be stored on the stack so that when reading the matching return, the states of the automata A_q can be restored (and again if q_j is the state reached by T_r after reading the return symbol then we have to check whether p_j is an accepting state).

The transducer T can be obtained from T_r by projecting on the first component, and therefore it is clear that T_r satisfies the HTP whenever T satisfies it. \Box

Lemma 9. Let T be an fVPT. If [T] is HBM, then the HTP holds for T.

Proof. By definition of HBM and BM, if [T] is HBM and there exists $K \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $u \in Dom(T)$, $h(u) \leq K$, then [T] is BM.

Now suppose that the HTP does not hold for T. Therefore there are words $u_1, u_2, u_3, u'_3, v_1, v_2, v_3, w_1, w_2, w_3, w_3 \in \Sigma^*$, stacks σ, σ' and states $q, q' \in Q, q_0, q'_0 \in I$ and $q_f, q'_f \in F$ such that:

$$\begin{cases} (q_0, \perp) \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} (q, \sigma) \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} (q, \sigma) \xrightarrow{u_3/v_3} (q_f, \perp) \\ (q'_0, \perp) \xrightarrow{u_1/w_1} (q', \sigma') \xrightarrow{u_2/w_2} (q', \sigma') \xrightarrow{u'_3/w_3} (q'_f, \perp) \end{cases}$$

and $\Delta(v_1, w_1) \neq \Delta(v_1v_2, w_1w_2)$. Let $K = \max(h(u_1u_2u_3), h(u'_1u'_2u'_3))$. By definition of FST(T, K) (states are configurations of T) and of the twinning property for FSTs, the twinning property for FSTs does not hold for FST(T, K). Therefore FST(T, K) is not subsequentializable [14] and by Theorem 1 [FST(T, K)] is not BM. Therefore [[T]] is not HBM, otherwise [[T]] could be evaluated in space complexity f(|T|, h(u)) on any input word u, for some function f. That corresponds to bounded memory if we fix the height of the words to K at most.

For the converse, we can apply the evaluation algorithm of Section 4, whose complexity depends on the maximal delay between all the candidate outputs of the input word. We first prove that this maximal delay is exponentially bounded by the height of the word.

Lemma 10. Let T be a reduced fVPT. If the HTP holds for T, then for all $s \in \Sigma^*$ we have $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(s) \leq (|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{h(s)})^2 M$, where $M = \max\{|t| \mid (q, a, t, \gamma, q') \in \delta\}$.

Proof. Let $s \in \Sigma^*$. We consider two cases. We first assume that $s \in Dom(T)$. Let $u \in \Sigma^*$ be a prefix of s, we will prove that $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}(u) \leq (|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{h(u)})^2 M$. Note that there exist $N = |Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{h(u)}$ configurations reachable by words of height less than h(u). The proof is similar to that of [13] for FST. It proceeds by induction on the length of u. If $|u| \leq N^2$, then the result is trivial. Otherwise, assume that $|u| > N^2$ and let $(q, \sigma, w), (q', \sigma', w') \in Q \times \Gamma^* \times \Sigma^*$ such that there exist runs $\rho : (i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u|v} (q, \sigma)$ and $\rho' : (i', \bot) \xrightarrow{u|v'} (q', \sigma')$, with $i, i' \in I$, (q, σ) and (q', σ') co-accessible in T,

 $v = \mathsf{lcp}_{\mathsf{in}}(u, T) \cdot w$, $v' = \mathsf{lcp}_{\mathsf{in}}(u, T) \cdot w'$, and such that $\mathsf{out}_{\neq}(u) = |w|$. As $|u| > N^2$, we can decompose these two runs as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \rho: (i, \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} (q_1, \sigma_1) \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} (q_1, \sigma_1) \xrightarrow{u_3/v_3} (q, \sigma) \\ \rho': (i', \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1'} (q_1', \sigma_1') \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2'} (q_1', \sigma_1') \xrightarrow{u_3/v_3'} (q', \sigma') \end{cases}$$

In addition, we have $u = u_1 u_2 u_3$, $u_2 \neq \varepsilon$, $v = \operatorname{lcp_{in}}(u, T) \cdot w = v_1 v_2 v_3$, and $v' = \operatorname{lcp_{in}}(u, T) \cdot w' = v'_1 v'_2 v'_3$. Indeed, by the choice of N, there must exist a pair of configurations that occurs twice. By the HTP property, we obtain $\Delta(v_1 v_2, v'_1 v'_2) = \Delta(v_1, v'_1)$. By Lemma 12 (see Appendix D.2), this entails the equality $\Delta(v_1 v_2 v_3, v'_1 v'_2 v'_3) = \Delta(\Delta(v_1 v_2, v'_1 v'_2) \cdot (v_3, v'_3)) = \Delta(\Delta(v_1, v'_1) \cdot (v_3, v'_3)) = \Delta(v_1 v_3, v'_1 v'_2)$. Thus, we obtain $\Delta(w, w') = \Delta(v, v') = \Delta(v_1 v_2 v_3, v'_1 v'_2 v'_3) = \Delta(v_1 v_3, v'_1 v'_3)$. As $v_1 v_3$ and $v'_1 v'_3$ are possible output words for the input word $u_1 u_3$, whose length is strictly smaller than |u|, we obtain $|w| \leq \operatorname{out}_{\neq}(u_1 u_3)$ and the result holds by induction.

We now consider the second case: $s \notin Dom(T)$. Let s' be the longest prefix of s such that there exists s'' such that $s's'' \in Dom(T)$. Since T is reduced, s' correspond to the longest prefix of s on which there exist a run of T. Therefore we have $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(s) \leq \operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(s')$ and we can apply the proof of the first case (as s' is a prefix of a word that belongs to Dom(T)) and we get $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(s') \leq (|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{h(s')})^2 M$. Moreover, $h(s') \leq h(s)$, therefore $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(s) \leq \operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(s') \leq (|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{h(s)})^2 M$ and we are done. \Box

D Quadratic Height Bounded Memory Evaluation

D.1 Decidability of the twinning properties

Lemma 11. Let $A, B, C, D \in \Sigma^*$, such that $A = a_1 \dots a_l, B = b_1 \dots b_m, C = c_1 \dots c_n, D = d_1 \dots d_p$, and $l - m = n - p \ge 0$. We have that $\Delta(A, B) \ne \Delta(C, D)$ if and only if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

- 1. there exists k such that $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$ and either (i) $k \geq |C|$, or (ii) $c_{n-k} = d_{n-k}$;
- 2. there exists k such that $c_{n-k} \neq d_{n-k}$ and either (i) $k \geq |A|$, or (ii) $a_{l-k} = b_{l-k}$;
- 3. there exists k such that $a_{l-k} \neq c_{n-k}$ and either (i) k < l m, or (ii) there exists k' with $a_{k'} \neq b_{k'}$ and $k + k' \leq l$;
- 4. there exist k, k' such that $b_{m-k} \neq d_{p-k}$ and $a_{k'} \neq b_{k'}$ and $k + k' \leq m$.

Proof. Let us define $E = A \wedge B$ and $F = C \wedge D$, and also $A', B', C', D' \in \Sigma^*$ such that A = EA', B = EB', C = FC' and D = FD', i.e. $(A', B') = \Delta(A, B)$ and $(C', D') = \Delta(C, D)$.

We first prove that each condition implies $\Delta(A, B) \neq \Delta(C, D)$, i.e. that $(A', B') \neq (C', D')$. If $|A'| \neq |C'|$ or $|B'| \neq |D'|$ then the result is immediate. Now, assume that |A'| = |C'| and |B'| = |D'|.

1. By hypothesis we have $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$ therefore $|A'| \geq k+1$ (as $a_{l-k} \in A'$) and $|B'| \geq k+1-(l-m)$ (as $b_{l-k} \in B'$). Thus $|C'| \geq k+1$ and $|D'| \geq k+m-l+1$. In particular, this implies that we are in case (*ii*) as $|C| \geq |C'| \geq k+1$. We consider two cases: (a) if $a_{l-k} \neq c_{n-k}$ we have $A' \neq C'$ (because $a_{l-k} \in A'$ and $c_{n-k} \in C'$ and are at the same position in A' and C' as |A'| = |C'|), or

(b) if $a_{l-k} = c_{n-k}$ this means that $b_{l-k} \neq d_{n-k}$ (because $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$ and $c_{n-k} = d_{n-k}$), and so $B' \neq D'$ (because $b_{l-k} \in B'$ and $d_{n-k} \in D'$ because |B'| = |D'|).

- 2. Similar to proof of 1.
- 3. We prove that condition (i) implies $\Delta(A, B) \neq \Delta(C, D)$. Condition (ii) is proved similarly. We know that $|A'| \geq |A| |B| = l m > k$ therefore $a_{l-k} \in A'$. Similarly, |C'| = |A'| > k, so $c_{n-k} \in C'$. By hypothesis $a_{l-k} \neq c_{n-k}$, therefore, as |A'| = |C'|, A' and C' differ on their *k*th letter from the right.
- 4. Similar to proof of 3.

Now suppose that $\Delta(A, B) \neq \Delta(C, D)$ and let us show that one of the conditions is satisfied. First note that if $B' = \varepsilon$, then B is a prefix of A, and thus |A'| = l - m. In particular, we obtain $|A'| \leq |C'| \leq |C|$. We call this property (\dagger_B) . Similarly, $D' = \varepsilon$ entails $|C'| \leq |A'| \leq |A|$, what we denote by (\dagger_D) .

We prove the property by considering several cases:

- -|A'| > |C|: take k = |A'| 1, we have $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$. Note that b_{l-k} does not exist iff l k > m, *i.e.* $B' = \varepsilon$. By property (\dagger_B) , this can not occur. In addition, by definition of k, we have $k \ge |C|$ and thus condition 1.(i) is satisfied.
- |C'| > |A|: take k = |C'| 1, we have $c_{n-k} \neq d_{n-k}$ (as above, (\dagger_D) ensures that d_{l-k} is well defined) and $k \ge |A|$: condition 2.(*i*) is satisfied.
- $|A'| \le |C|$ and $|C'| \le |A|$:
 - |A'| > |C'| (this implies |B'| > |D'|): take k = |A'| 1, we have $a_{l-k} \neq b_{l-k}$ and $c_{n-k} = d_{n-k}$ (existence of b_{l-k} and d_{n-k} is ensured by (\dagger_B) and (\dagger_D)): condition 1.(*ii*) is satisfied.
 - |C'| > |A'| (this implies |D'| > |B'|): take k = |C'| 1, then condition 2.(*ii*) is satisfied.
 - |A'| = |C'| (this implies |B'| = |D'|), we suppose $A' \neq C'$ and prove that condition 3 holds (the case $B' \neq D'$ is similar with condition 4 holding). Because $A' \neq C'$ and they have the same size, there must be a k < |A'| with $a_{l-k} \neq c_{n-k}$, we consider two cases:
 - * $|A'| \leq |A| |B|$, this implies that k < |A| |B| = l m therefore condition 3.(i) is satisfied.
 - * |A'| > |A| |B|, take k' = l |A'| + 1 (the first position of A' in A). Then we have $a_{k'} \neq b_{k'}$ and thus condition 3.(ii) is satisfied.

D.2 TP is preserved by equivalent transducers

In this section we prove Theorem 8. We extend the concatenation to pairs of words and denote it by \cdot , i.e. $(u, v) \cdot (u', v') = (uu', vv')$.

Proof of Theorem 8

Proof. To prove this theorem, we assume that T_1 does not satisfy TP, and show that T_2 does not satisfy the TP either.

Since T_1 does not satisfy the TP, we have the following situation for runs of T_1 (where (q, σ_1) and (q, σ_2) are co-accessible):

$$\begin{cases} (i_1, \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1/v_1} (p_1, \sigma_1) \xrightarrow{u_2/v_2} (p_1, \sigma_1\beta_1) \xrightarrow{u_3/v_3} (q_1, \sigma_1\beta_1) \xrightarrow{u_4/v_4} (q_1, \sigma_1) \\ (i'_1, \bot) \xrightarrow{u_1/v'_1} (p'_1, \sigma'_1) \xrightarrow{u_2/v'_2} (p'_1, \sigma'_1\beta'_1) \xrightarrow{u_3/v'_3} (q'_1, \sigma'_1\beta'_1) \xrightarrow{u_4/v'_4} (q'_1, \sigma'_1) \end{cases}$$

and $\Delta(v_1v_3, v'_1v'_3) \neq \Delta(v_1v_2v_3v_4, v'_1v'_2v'_3v'_4).$

If we repeat the loop u_2/u_4 sufficiently many times, it is easy to prove that there exist $k_2 > 0$ and $k_1, k_3 \ge 0$ such that we have the following situation in T_2 :

$$\begin{cases} u_1(u_2)^{k_1}/(u_2)^{k_2}/(u_2)^{k_3}u_3(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_2)^{k_3}u_3(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_2)^{k_1}/(u_2)^{k_1}/(u_2)^{k_2}/(u_2)^{k_3}u_3(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_2)^{k_3}u_3(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_2)^{k_3}u_3(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_4)^{k_2}/(u_2)^{k_3}u_3(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_3}/(u_4)^{k_2}$$

such that (q_1, σ_1) and (q_2, σ_2) (resp. (q'_1, σ'_1) and (q'_2, σ'_2)) are co-accessible with the same input word u_5 (resp. u'_5). For all $i \ge 1$, let us define the following words:

$$\begin{split} V^{(i)} &= v_1(v_2)^{k_1}(v_2)^{ik_2}(v_2)^{k_3}v_3(v_4)^{k_3}(v_4)^{ik_2}(v_4)^{k_1}v_4 \\ W^{(i)} &= w_1(w_2)^{k_1}(w_2)^{ik_2}(w_2)^{k_3}w_3(w_4)^{k_3}(w_4)^{ik_2}(w_4)^{k_1}w_4 \\ V'^{(i)} &= v_1'(v_2')^{k_1}(v_2')^{ik_2}(v_2')^{k_3}v_3'(v_4')^{k_3}(v_4')^{ik_2}(v_4')^{k_1}v_4' \\ W'^{(i)} &= w_1'(w_2')^{k_1}(w_2')^{ik_2}(w_2')^{k_3}w_3'(w_4')^{k_3}(w_4')^{ik_2}(w_4')^{k_1}w_4' \end{split}$$

We now prove that there exist $X, X' \in \Sigma^*$ such that: for all $i \ge 1, V^{(i)} = W^{(i)}X$ or for all $i \ge 1 V^{(i)}X = W^{(i)}$, and for all $i \ge 1, V'^{(i)} = W'^{(i)}X'$ or for all $i \ge 1$, $V'^{(i)}X' = W'^{(i)}$. It is because T_1 and T_2 are equivalent. We prove the result for $V^{(i)}$ and $W^{(i)}$ only, the proof of the other case being exactly the same by symmetry. Since (q_2, σ_2) and (q_1, σ_1) are co-accessible with the same input word u_5 and T_1 and T_2 are equivalent, there exist v_5, w_5 and $q_{f,1} \in F_1$ and $q_{f,2} \in F_2$ such that:

$$(q_1, \sigma_1) \xrightarrow{u_5/v_5} (q_{f,1}, \bot) \qquad (q_2, \sigma_2) \xrightarrow{u_5/w_5} (q_{f,2}, \bot)$$

and for all $i \ge 1$, $V^{(i)}v_5 = W^{(i)}w_5$, which achieves to prove the result. We now prove the following key result: for all $i, j \ge 1$,

$$\Delta(V^{(i)}, V'^{(i)}) \neq \Delta(V^{(j)}, V'^{(j)}) \text{ implies } \Delta(W^{(i)}, W'^{(i)}) \neq \Delta(W^{(j)}, W'^{(j)})$$

We again consider two cases (the other ones being symmetric):

- for all $\ell \geq 1$, $V^{(\ell)} = W^{(\ell)}X$ and $V'^{(\ell)} = W'^{(\ell)}X'$. Then we have:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Delta(V^{(i)}, V'^{(i)}) & \neq \Delta(V^{(j)}, V'^{(j)}) \\ \Rightarrow & \Delta(W^{(i)}X, W'^{(i)}X') & \neq \Delta(W^{(j)}X, W'^{(j)}X') \\ \Rightarrow & \Delta(\Delta(W^{(i)}, W'^{(i)}) \cdot (X, X')) \neq \Delta(\Delta(W^{(j)}, W'^{(j)}) \cdot (X, X')) \text{ (Lemma 12)} \\ \Rightarrow & \Delta(W^{(i)}, W'^{(i)}) & \neq \Delta(W^{(j)}, W'^{(j)}) \end{array}$$

- for all $\ell \geq 1$, $V^{(\ell)} = W^{(\ell)}X$ and $V'^{(\ell)}X' = W'^{(\ell)}$. Then we have:

	$\Delta(V^{(i)}, V'^{(i)})$	¥	$\Delta($	$(V^{(j)},V^{\prime(j)})$	
\Rightarrow	$\Delta(W^{(i)}X, V'^{(i)})$	¥	Δ	$W^{(j)}X, V^{\prime(j)})$	
\Rightarrow	$\Delta(\Delta(W^{(i)}, V'^{(i)}) \cdot (X, \epsilon))$	\neq	$\Delta($	$\Delta(W^{(j)}, V'^{(j)}) \cdot (X, \epsilon))$	(Lemma 12)
\Rightarrow	$\Delta(W^{(i)}, V'^{(i)})$	\neq	$\Delta($	$(W^{(j)}, V^{\prime(j)})$	
\Rightarrow	$\Delta(\Delta(W^{(i)}, V'^{(i)}) \cdot (\epsilon, X'))$	\neq	$\Delta($	$(\Delta(W^{(j)}, V'^{(j)}) \cdot (\epsilon, X'))$	(Lemma 13)
\Rightarrow	$\Delta(W^{(i)}, V'^{(i)}X')$	\neq	$\Delta($	$(W^{(j)}, V^{\prime(j)}X^{\prime})$	(Lemma 12)
\Rightarrow	$\Delta(W^{(i)}, W'^{(i)})$	¥	$\Delta($	$(W^{(j)}, W^{\prime(j)})$	

Now by Lemma 15, since $\Delta(v_1v_3, v'_1v'_3) \neq \Delta(v_1v_2v_3v_4, v'_1v'_2v'_3v'_3)$, there exists i_0 such that for all $i, j \geq i_0$, if $i \neq j$ then $\Delta(v_1(v_2)^iv_3(v_4)^i, v'_1(v'_2)^iv'_3(v'_4)^i) \neq \Delta(v_1(v_2)^jv_3(v_4)^j, v'_1(v'_2)^jv'_3(v'_4)^j)$. Since $k_2 \geq 1$, we have $k_1 + ik_2 + k_3 \geq i$ for all i. Therefore for all $i \geq i_0$, we get $\Delta(V^{(i)}, V'^{(i)}) \neq \Delta(V^{(i+1)}, V'^{(i+1)})$, and by the last intermediate result, we get $\Delta(W^{(i)}, W'^{(i)}) \neq \Delta(W^{(i+1)}, W'^{(i+1)})$. Therefore the TP does not hold for T_2 .

Lemma 12. For all $u, u', v, v' \in \Sigma^*$, $\Delta(uu', vv') = \Delta(\Delta(u, v) \cdot (u', v'))$.

Proof. Let $X = uu' \wedge vv'$ and $Y = u \wedge v$. There exists A, B, C, D such that $A \wedge B = \epsilon$, $C \wedge D = \epsilon$, and:

$$\begin{array}{ll} uu' = XA & u = YC \\ vv' = XB & v = YD \\ \varDelta(uu',vv') = (A,B) & \varDelta(u,v) = (C,D) \end{array}$$

We have necessarily $|X| \ge |Y|$ since X is the longest common prefix of uu' and vv'and Y is the longest common prefix of u and v. Now we have YCu' = XA and YDv' = XB, i.e. $Cu' = Y^{-1}XA$ and $Dv' = Y^{-1}XB$. Since $A \land B = \epsilon$, we have $\Delta(Cu', Dv') = (A, B)$, i.e. $\Delta(\Delta(u, v) \cdot (u', v')) = (A, B) = \Delta(uu', vv')$. \Box

Lemma 13. For all $u, u', v, v', w, w' \in \Sigma^*$, we have

$$\Delta(\Delta(u, u') \cdot (w, w')) = \Delta(\Delta(v, v') \cdot (w, w')) \text{ iff } \Delta(u, u') = \Delta(v, v')$$

Proof. There exists A, B, C, D and X, Y such that:

$$\Delta(u,u') = (A,B) \quad \Delta(v,v') = (C,D) \quad u = XA \quad u' = XB \quad v = YC \quad v' = YD$$

Let also E, F, G, H such that $\Delta(Aw, Bw') = (E, F)$ and $\Delta(Cw, Dw') = (G, H)$. Clearly, if A = C and B = D, we have E = G and F = H.

Conversely, suppose that $A \neq C$ (the case $B \neq D$ is symmetric). We show that $E \neq G$ or $F \neq H$. By definition of the delay, we know that $A \wedge B = \epsilon$, and $C \wedge D = \epsilon$. Therefore we have the following cases, for some words A', B', C', D' and letters a, b, c, d such that $a \neq b$ and $c \neq d$:

1. A = aA' and B = bB', C = cC' and D = dD' for some A', B', C', D'. Therefore $\Delta(Aw, Bw') = (Aw, Bw') = (E, F)$ and $\Delta(Cw, Dw') = (Cw, Dw') = (G, H)$. Since $A \neq C$, we get $E \neq G$;

- 2. A = aA' and B = bB', and $D = \epsilon$. Therefore $\Delta(Aw, Bw') = (Aw, Bw') = (E, F)$ and $\Delta(Cw, Dw') = \Delta(Cw, w') = (G, H)$. We have necessarily $|H| \le |w'|$. Since $B \ne \epsilon$, we have $|F| = |Bw'| > |w'| \ge |H|$. Therefore $F \ne H$;
- 3. A = aA' and B = bB' and $C = \epsilon$. We can apply the same argument as case 2;
- 4. $A = \epsilon$ and C = cC' and D = dD'. This case is symmetric to case 2;
- 5. $B = \epsilon$ and C = cC' and D = dD'. This case is symmetric to case 2;
- 6. $A = \epsilon$ and $C = \epsilon$. This case is not possible since we have assumed $A \neq C$;
- 7. $A = \epsilon$ and $D = \epsilon$ ($C \neq \epsilon$). We have $\Delta(Aw, Bw') = \Delta(w, Bw')$ and $\Delta(Cw, Dw') = \Delta(Cw, w')$. Suppose that E = G and F = H. Then there exists Z, Z' such that w = ZE, Bw' = ZF, Cw = Z'E and w' = Z'F. Therefore Bw' = BZ'F = ZF, and BZ' = Z, so that w = BZ'E and Cw = CBZ'E = Z'E, i.e. $CB = \epsilon$, which contradicts $C \neq \epsilon$;
- 8. $B = \epsilon$ and $C = \epsilon$. This case is symmetric to the previous case;
- 9. $B = \epsilon$ and $D = \epsilon$. Then we have $\Delta(Aw, Bw') = \Delta(Aw, w')$ and $\Delta(Cw, Dw') = \Delta(Cw, w')$. Again suppose that E = G and F = H, therefore there exists Z, Z' such that Aw = ZE, w' = ZF, Cw = Z'E and w' = Z'F. Therefore Z = Z', which implies Aw = Cw. This contradicts $A \neq C$.

Lemma 14. Let $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4 \in \Sigma^*$ and for all $i \ge 0$, let

$$V^{(i)} = v_1(v_2)^i v_3(v_4)^i$$
 $W^{(i)} = w_1(w_2)^i w_3(w_4)^i.$

If there exist $K \ge 0$ and $X \in \Sigma^*$ such that for all $i \ge K$, $V^{(i)} = W^{(i)}X$, then for all $i \ge 0$, $V^{(i)} = W^{(i)}X$.

Proof. First note that we have $|v_2v_4| = |w_2w_4|$, this is a straight consequence from the fact that for all $i \ge K$, $V^{(i)} = W^{(i)}X$. We consider two cases:

- $|v_2| \neq |v_4|$: in that case we can show that the primitive roots of v_2, v_4, w_2, w_4 are conjugate (see for example [15]) and therefore have the same length. Therefore we can apply Theorem 1 of [17] which yields the result.
- $|v_2| = |v_4|$: in that case we also have $|w_2| = |w_4|$, and suppose $|v_1| \ge |w_1|$ (the case $|v_1| < |w_1|$ is similar). There exists $Y \in \Sigma^*$, such that for any $i \ge K$ we have $v_1v_2{}^i = w_1w_2{}^iY$ and $Yv_3v_4{}^i = w_3w_4{}^iX$. Therefore we can apply Theorem 2 of [17] which shows that these equalities hold for any i. For any i we have $V^{(i)} = v_1v_2{}^iv_3v_4{}^i = w_1w_2{}^iYv_3v_4{}^i = w_1w_2{}^iw_3w_4{}^iX$.

Lemma 15. Let $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4 \in \Sigma^*$ and for all $i \ge 0$, let

$$V^{(i)} = v_1(v_2)^i v_3(v_4)^i \qquad \qquad W^{(i)} = w_1(w_2)^i w_3(w_4)^i$$

If $\Delta(V^{(0)}, W^{(0)}) \neq \Delta(V^{(1)}, W^{(1)})$, then there exists $i_0 \ge 1$ such that for all $i, j \ge i_0$, if $i \ne j$ then $\Delta(V^{(i)}, W^{(i)}) \neq \Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)})$.

Proof. First note that since $\Delta(V^{(0)}, W^{(0)}) \neq \Delta(V^{(1)}, W^{(1)})$, we clearly have $|v_2v_4| \neq \epsilon$ or $|w_2w_4| \neq \epsilon$. We write $u \leq v$ if u is a prefix of v, and u||v if u and v are incomparable, i.e. $u \wedge v = \epsilon$. We consider several cases:

- 1. there is $K \ge 1$ such that for all $i \ge K$, $V^{(i)} \preceq W^{(i)}$ or $W^{(i)} \preceq V^{(i)}$. Consider the lengths of $V^{(i)}$ and $W^{(i)}$. When K is large enough, one of $V^{(i)}$ and $W^{(i)}$ is always the prefix of the other, for $i \ge K$: $V^{(i)} \preceq W^{(i)}$ if $|v_2v_4| \le |w_2w_4|$, and $W^{(i)} \preceq V^{(i)}$ otherwise. Let us assume that $|v_2v_4| \le |w_2w_4|$, i.e., for all $i \ge K$, there exists X_i such that $W^{(i)} = V^{(i)}X_i$. The other case is symmetric. We have $|W^{(i+1)}| - |W^{(i)}| = |w_2w_4| = |V^{(i+1)}| + |X_{i+1}| - |V^{(i)}| - |X_i|$, i.e. $|w_2w_4| = |V^{(i)}| + |v_2v_4| + |X_{i+1}| - |V^{(i)}| - |X_i|$, i.e. $|X_{i+1}| - |X_i| = |w_2w_4| - |v_2v_4|$. We again consider several cases:
 - 1.1 $|w_2w_4| > |v_2v_4|$. We have $|X_K| < |X_{K+1}| < |X_{K+2}| \dots$, and by definition of the delay, $\Delta(V^{(i)}, W^{(i)}) = (\epsilon, X_i)$. Therefore the delay always increases in size as *i* icreases and we get the result;
 - 1.2 $|w_2w_4| = |v_2v_4|$. We show that this case is not possible. Indeed, it implies that $|X_K| = |X_{K+1}| = |X_{K+2}| \dots$ Therefore by definition of $V^{(i)}$ and $W^{(i)}$, there exists $K' \ge K$ and $X \in \Sigma^*$ such that $X = X_{K'} = X_{K'+1} = X_{K'+2} \dots$ By Lemma 14, we get $W^{(0)} = V^{(0)}X$ and $W^{(1)} = V^{(1)}X$, which contradicts $\Delta(W^{(0)}, V^{(0)}) \ne \Delta(W^{(1)}, V^{(1)})$.
- for all K ≥ 1, there is i ≥ K such that V⁽ⁱ⁾ ||W⁽ⁱ⁾. We show in this case that one of the two components of the delay always increases in size when i increases. We consider several cases depending on where the first difference between V⁽ⁱ⁾ and W⁽ⁱ⁾ occurs. The cases we consider also depend on K. In particular, by taking a large K it can reduce the number of cases we have to consider. For some α₁, α₂, α₃ ∈ Σ* and a, b ∈ Σ such that a ≠ b, and for a K large enough, one of the following condition holds:
 - 2.1 there is $i \ge K$ such that $v_1(v_2)^i = \alpha_1 a \alpha_2$ and $w_1(w_2)^i = \alpha_1 b \alpha_3$, as illustrated below.



Then for all $j \ge i$:

$$\Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)}) = (a\alpha_2(v_2)^{j-i}v_3(v_4)^j, b\alpha_3(w_2)^{j-i}w_3(w_4)^j)$$

Since $|v_2v_4| \neq \epsilon$ or $|w_2w_4| \neq \epsilon$, some of the two components of the delays is always increasing in size as j icreases, which proves the result;

2.2 $w_2 = \epsilon$ and $v_1 = \alpha_1 a \alpha_2$ and there is $i \ge K$ such that $w_1 w_3 (w_4)^i = \alpha_1 b \alpha_3$, as illustrated below.

Then for all $j \ge i$:

$$\Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)}) = (a\alpha_1 v_2^j v_3 (v_4)^j, b\alpha_3 (w_4)^{j-i})$$

Since $v_2v_4 \neq \epsilon$ or $w_4 \neq \epsilon$, one of the two components of the delays is always increasing in size;



2.3 there is $i \ge K$ such that $v_1(v_2)^i = \alpha_1 a \alpha_2$ and $w_1(w_2)^i w_3 = \alpha_1 b \alpha_3$, with $|\alpha_1| \ge |v_1|$ and $|\alpha_1| \ge |w_1(w_2)^i|$ (otherwise it is case 2.1). We also assume that $w_2 \ne \epsilon$ (otherwise it can be proved similarly as case 2.1). Therefore $v_2 \ne \epsilon$. This case is illustrated below:



We have taken K large enough, so that v_2^i and w_2^i have a common factor of length at least $|v_2| + |w_2|$. The strong theorem of Fine and Wilf [18] implies that the primitive roots of v_2 and w_2 are conjugate: there are $t_1, t_2 \in \Sigma^*$ and $n, p \ge 1$ such that $v_2 = (t_1 t_2)^n$ and $w_2 = (t_2 t_1)^p$. It can be shown (see for instance [15]) that we can choose t_1 and t_2 such that there exist $k_1, k_2 \ge 0$ verifying:

$$v_1 = (v_1 \wedge w_1)(t_2 t_1)^{k_1} t_2$$
 $w_1 = (v_1 \wedge w_1)(t_2 t_1)^{k_2}$

Let α'_1 be such that $\alpha_1 = w_1(w_2)^i \alpha'_1$. There exist k_3 , X and Y such that $\alpha'_1 = (t_2 t_1)^{k_3} X$ with $t_2 t_1 = X a Y$, and $w_3 = \alpha'_1 b \alpha_3$, as illustrated below (we assume that $|w_1| < |v_1|$ on the picture).



We have for all $j \ge i$:

$$\begin{split} &\Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)}) \\ &= \Delta(v_1(v_2)^j v_3(v_4)^j, w_1(w_2)^j w_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((v_1 \wedge w_1)(t_2t_1)^{k_1} t_2(t_1t_2)^{jn} v_3(v_4)^j, w_1(w_2)^j w_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((v_1 \wedge w_1) t_2(t_1t_2)^{k_1+jn} v_3(v_4)^j, (w_1 \wedge w_2)^j w_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((v_1 \wedge w_1) t_2(t_1t_2)^{k_1+jn} v_3(v_4)^j, (v_1 \wedge w_1)(t_2t_1)^{k_2}(w_2)^j w_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta(t_2(t_1t_2)^{k_1+jn} v_3(v_4)^j, (t_2t_1)^{k_2+jp} w_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1+jn} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, (t_2t_1)^{k_2+jp} w_3(w_4)^j) \end{split}$$

We now consider the following subcases:

2.3.1 $|v_2| > |w_2|$. As a consequence, n > p, and we can assume that K is big enough, so that $k_1 - k_2 + j(n-p) > 0$. We get:

$$\begin{split} \Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)}) &= \Delta((t_2 t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 + j(n-p)} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, w_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((t_2 t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 + j(n-p)} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, \alpha'_1 b \alpha_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((t_2 t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 + j(n-p)} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, (t_2 t_1)^{k_3} X b \alpha_3(w_4)^j) \end{split}$$

We can take j such that $k_1 - k_2 + j(n - p) > k_3$, and therefore we finally have:

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)}) \\ &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 + j(n-p) - k_3} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, Xb\alpha_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta(XaY(t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 + j(n-p) - k_3 - 1} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, Xb\alpha_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= (aY(t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 + j(n-p) - k_3 - 1} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, b\alpha_3(w_4)^j) \end{aligned}$$

Since $t_2t_1 \neq \epsilon$, we get that the first component of the delay always increases in size when j increases;

2.3.2 $|v_2| < |w_2|$. We can take K large enough such that this case never happens, i.e. $(v_2)^i$ and w_3 do not overlap.

2.3.3 $|v_2| = |w_2|$. Therefore n = p, and we have for all $j \ge i$:

$$\Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)}) = \Delta((t_2 t_1)^{k_1} t_2 v_3 (v_4)^j, (t_2 t_1)^{k_2} w_3 (w_4)^j)$$

As case 2.3.1, since by hypothesis there is an overlap between $(v_2)^i$ and w_3 , we have $k_1 > k_2 + k_3$, and we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(V^{(j)}, W^{(j)}) &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, w_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, (t_2t_1)^{k_3} X b \alpha_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 - k_3} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, X b \alpha_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= \Delta(XaY(t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 - k_3 - 1} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, X b \alpha_3(w_4)^j) \\ &= (aY(t_2t_1)^{k_1 - k_2 - k_3 - 1} t_2 v_3(v_4)^j, b \alpha_3(w_4)^j) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore if $v_4 \neq \epsilon$ and $w_4 \neq \epsilon$, we are done as one of the two components of the delay will increase in size when j increases. If $v_4 = w_4 = \epsilon$ we can explicitly give the form of $\Delta(V^{(0)}, W^{(0)})$ and $\Delta(V^{(1)}, W^{(1)})$:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(V^{(0)}, W^{(0)}) &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1}t_2v_3, (t_2t_1)^{k_2+k_3}Xb\alpha_3) \\ &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1-k_2-k_3}t_2v_3, Xb\alpha_3) \\ &= \Delta((t_2t_1)^{k_1}t_2(t_1t_2)^nv_3, (t_2t_1)^{k_2+k_3+n}Xb\alpha_3) \\ &= \Delta(V^{(1)}, W^{(1)}) \end{aligned}$$

This is excluded by hypothesis, so this case is not possible.

2.4 the other cases (the first difference occurs between $(v_2)^i$ and $(w_4)^i$, or between v_3 and w_3 , or between v_3 and $(w_4)^i$, or between $(v_4)^i$ and $(w_4)^i$) are proved similarly as case 2.3 by decomposing the words as power of their primitive roots. For instance, if the first difference occurs between v_3 and w_3 , then either $v_2 = w_2 = \epsilon$ and it is the same as case 2.1, or $v_2 \neq \epsilon$ and $w_2 = \epsilon$ but we can take K large enough so that this case is impossible, or $v_2 \neq \epsilon$ and $w_2 \neq \epsilon$. In this latter case we can take K large enough so that the primitive roots of v_2 and w_2 are conjugate. We have again to distinguish several cases on the relative lengths of v_2 and w_2 (as for 2.3) but the proofs are similar. Similar techniques were already applied to prove that functionality is decidable for VPTs [15].

D.3 Proof of Theorem 9

We can use the same proof as the proof of back direction of Theorem 6, the only difference is the lemma that bounds the maximal difference between outputs of T. In the proof of Theorem 6, we also needed preservation of satisfiability of the HTP under reduction of the VPT. This is also the case for the TP.

We prove the following lemma, which states that the TP implies that in the evaluation algorithm, the delays stored by the algorithm can be bounded linearly in the height of the input word.

Lemma 16. Let T be a reduced fVPT. If the TP holds for T, then for any word $s \in \Sigma^*$, we have $\operatorname{out}_{\neq}^{\max}(s) \leq (h(s)+1) \cdot \left((|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{|Q|^4})^2 + 1 \right) \cdot M$, where $M = \max\{|t| \mid (q, a, t, \gamma, q') \in \delta\}$.

Proof. Let $s \in \Sigma^*$. We assume that $s \in Dom(T)$ (we can handle the case $s \notin Dom(T)$) as in the proof of Lemma 10 for the HTP). We use the notion of *current height* hc(u) of a prefix u of s as defined at the beginning of Appendix B. Consider a word u prefix of s. There exists a unique decomposition of u as follows: $u = u_0c_1u_1c_2\ldots u_{n-1}c_nu_n$, where n = hc(u), and for any i, we have $c_i \in \Sigma_c$ and u_i is well-nested. Indeed, as n = hc(u), the word u contains exactly n pending calls, that correspond to c_i 's, and other parts of u can be gathered into well-nested words.

If each of the u_i 's is such that $|u_i| \leq (|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{|Q|^4})^2$, then the property holds as length of word u can be bounded by $(hc(u) + 1) \cdot ((|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{|Q|^4})^2 + 1)$.

Otherwise, we prove that there exists a strictly shorter input word that produces the same delays as u when evaluating the transduction on it. Therefore, consider a word w such that $(q_0, \perp) \xrightarrow{u/w} (q, \sigma)$ for some $q_0 \in I$. Then there exist runs ϱ, ϱ' in T producing respectively as output words v and v', such that $v = (v \wedge v') \cdot w$. Consider the smallest index i such that $|u_i| > (|Q| \cdot |\Gamma|^{|Q|^4})^2$. We distinguish two cases:

- 1. if $h(u_i) \leq |Q|^4$, then we can reduce the length of u_i using the HTP by exhibiting two configurations occurring twice in runs ρ and ρ' . This yields an input word u', strictly shorter than u, that produces the same delays as u (see the proof of Lemma 10).
- 2. if $h(u_i) > |Q|^4$, then we prove that we can "pump vertically" u_i , and then reduce its length too. Indeed, let k be the first position in word u_i at which height $h(u_i)$ is obtained. As u_i is well-nested, we can define for each $0 \le j < h(u_i)$ the unique

position left(j) (resp. right(j)) as the largest index, less than k (resp. the smallest index, larger than k), whose height is j. As $h(u_i) > |Q|^4$, there exist two heights j and j' such that configurations reached at positions left(j), left(j'), right(j) and right(j') in runs ρ and ρ' satisfy the premises of the twinning property, considering the prefix $u_0c_1 \dots c_iu_i$ of u. Thus, one can replace in this prefix u_i by a shorter word u'_i and hence reduce its length, while preserving the delays reached after it. Let u' be the word obtained from u by substituting u'_i to u_i , hence |u'| < |u|. By Lemma 12, this entails that the delays reached after u and u' are the same, proving the result.

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