
Model-Checking Large Finite State Systems and Beyond

Luboš Brim & Mojmir Křetínský
Masaryk University Brno

Part II (Beyond FS): Infinite state systems

Mojmir Křetínský

A joint work with Vojtěch Řehák and Jan Strejček

Motivation

- modelling (some features of) current SW, e.g. programs with unbounded control structure (unbounded depth of recursive call, dynamic creation of concurrent process) and their synchronization



need of infinite-state systems

- examples of standard formalisms:
 - process algebras: **BPA, BPP, PA**
 - **Petri nets (PN)**
 - **pushdown systems (PDA), recursive state machines**
 - **process rewrite systems (PRS)**
- **Goal:** find a balance between **expressiveness** and **decidability**
- we study extensions of PRS improving expressiveness and keeping decidability

Outline

- **Process rewrite system (PRS) and program modeling**
 - rewriting concepts in modeling
 - process rewrite system (PRS), hierarchy
 - subclasses of PRS and program modeling
- **Extensions of PRS and their expressiveness**
 - state extended PRS (sePRS)
 - **weakly extended PRS (wPRS)**
- **Decidability results and their applications**
 - **Reachability problem is decidable for wPRS**
 - **Reachability Hennessy-Milner property is decidable for wPRS**
 - **Model checking problem is decidable for wPRS and Lamport logic**

Process rewrite system (PRS)

- rewriting concepts in modeling
- process rewrite system (PRS) [Mayr98]
- subclasses of PRS and program modeling

PRS - An Intuitive Introduction (FS)

Rewrite systems (e.g. grammars) and LTS (e.g. automata state graphs)

(Process) rewrite systems as generators of process **behaviours** (Labelled transition systems)

interpret grammar rules (generating strings) as rules for generating behaviours.

Type 3 rules

- a rule $A \longrightarrow \alpha B$ becomes a rule

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B$$

A process A can **perform an action** α and **become** a process B

- a rule $A \longrightarrow \alpha$ becomes a rule

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} \varepsilon$$

A process A can **perform an action** α and **terminate**

- can model nondeterministic finite state systems

PRS - An Intuitive Introduction: context-free rules

A context-free rule in GNF $A \longrightarrow aBC$ should become $A \xrightarrow{a} BC$

How to interpret concatenation (juxtaposition) BC ?

To model **sequential** and/or **parallel** compositions of systems we make use of

- sequential operator '.' (rather than Unix like ';', e.g. xterm; xterm;)
'.' is associative
and
- parallel operator '||' (rather than Unix like '&', e.g. xterm& xterm&)
'||' is associative and commutative

PRS - An Intuitive Introduction: context-free

A sequential (context-free) rule

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B.C$$

- a process A can perform an action α and become a sequential composition of B and C
- in a state $B.C$ no C -rule is applicable (i.e. C cannot move) until B does not terminate (left derivations only – prefix rewriting)
- we can model recursive procedures

A parallel (context-free) rule

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} B||C$$

- a process A can perform an action α and become a parallel composition of B and C
- in a state $B||C$ both C -rules and B -rules can be applied
- can model dynamic creation of (asynchronous) parallel processes

PRS - An Intuitive Introduction: context-free

Type 2 (context-free) sequential and parallel rules:

$$A \xrightarrow{a} (B||C).D$$

cobegin – coend section, fork – join

PRS - An Intuitive Introduction: other rules

Type 0 (“context-sensitive”) rules:

- parallel composition only (multiset rewriting)

$$A||B \xrightarrow{a} C||D$$

communication and synchronization

- sequential composition only (prefix rewriting)

$$C.D \xrightarrow{a} E$$

value passing, recursive calls returning values over finite data domains

- other combinations are useful as well

Rewriting models (of control flow graphs) of programs

Programs with

- procedures/methods and recursion, and/or
- concurrency and communication (processes/threads, cobegin-coend sections)

are “compiled” (abstracted) into simpler and formal models.

We use rewriting concepts, i.e. we model:

- program **states** as **terms** (states of LTS),
- program **instructions** as **term-rewriting rules** (generate transitions in LTS),
and
- program **executions** as **sequences of rewriting steps** (paths in LTS).

Process Terms

Process terms are expressions of the form

$$t ::= \varepsilon \mid X \mid t.t \mid t||t$$

where

- ε is an **empty term**
- X ranges over set $\{A, B, C, \dots\}$ of **process constants**
- “.” is associative **sequential** operator
- “||” is associative and commutative **parallel** operator

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon||A &= A||\varepsilon = A = A.\varepsilon = \varepsilon.A \\ A|| (B||C) &= (A||B)||C = C|| (A||B) \\ A.(B.C) &= (A.B).C \neq C.(A.B)\end{aligned}$$

Process Rewrite System (PRS)

PRS – a finite set of **rewrite rules** and an initial term

$$R = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A.B \xrightarrow{a} C\|D, \quad B \xrightarrow{b} A.B \\ C \xrightarrow{c} \varepsilon, \quad E \xrightarrow{d} F \end{array} \right\}$$

LTS is induced by R starting in the **initial term** (state) $B\|E$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \rightarrow B\|E & \xrightarrow{b} & (A.B)\|E & \xrightarrow{a} & (C\|D)\|E & \xrightarrow{c} & \dots \\ \downarrow d & & \downarrow d & & \downarrow d & & \\ B\|F & \xrightarrow{b} & (A.B)\|F & \xrightarrow{a} & (C\|D)\|F & \xrightarrow{c} & \dots \end{array}$$

Classes of Process Terms

We define these **classes of process terms**:

“1” process constants, e.g. A

“S” only sequential composition, e.g. $A.B.C$

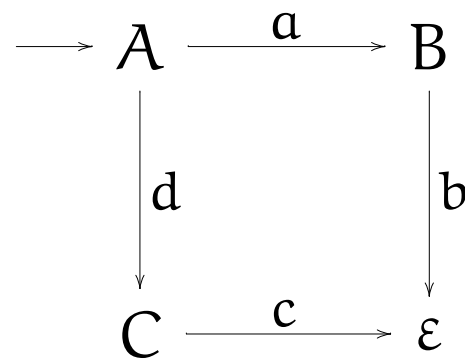
“P” only parallel composition, e.g. $A||B||C$

“G” general terms, e.g. $A.(B||(C.D))$

Classes of Process Rewrite Systems

(1,1)-PRS class Finite-state Systems

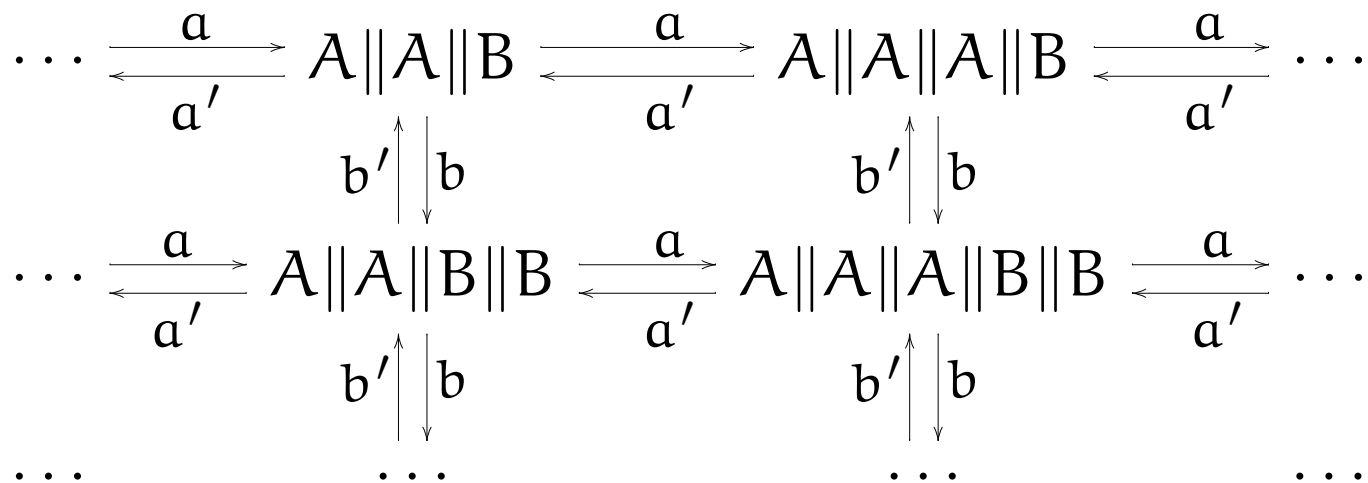
$$R = \{ A \xrightarrow{a} B, \quad B \xrightarrow{b} \varepsilon, \\ A \xrightarrow{d} C, \quad C \xrightarrow{c} \varepsilon \}$$



Classes of Process Rewrite Systems

(1,P)-PRS class Basic Parallel Processes

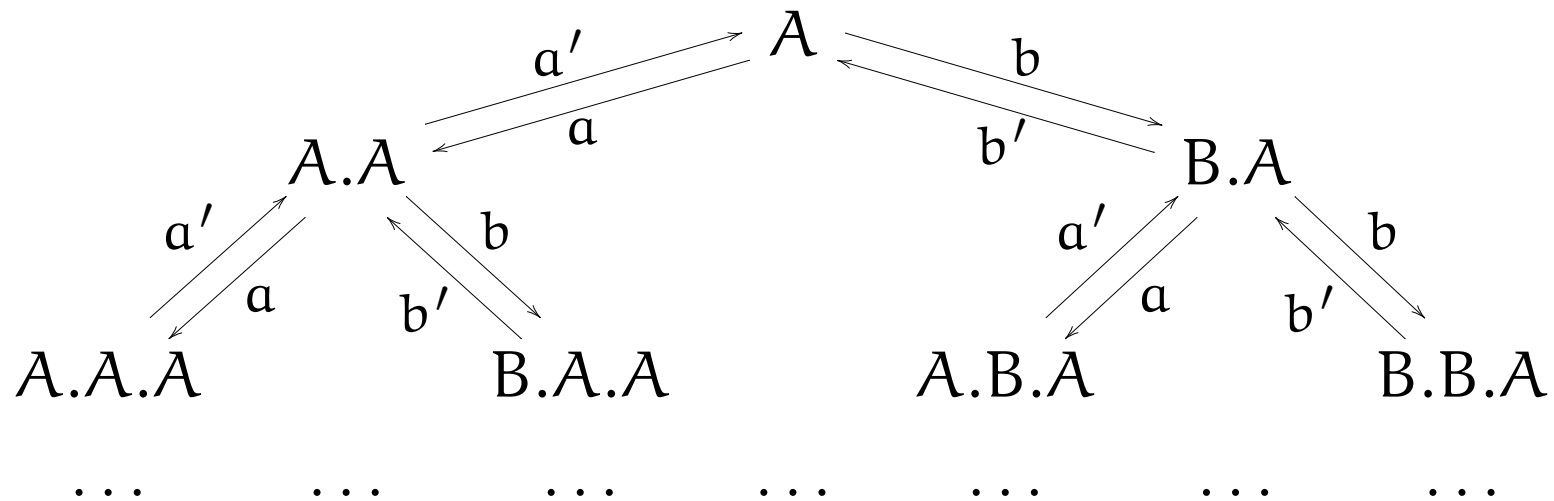
$$R = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A \xrightarrow{a} A \parallel A, \quad A \xrightarrow{a'} \varepsilon, \\ B \xrightarrow{b} B \parallel B, \quad B \xrightarrow{b'} \varepsilon \end{array} \right\}$$



Classes of Process Rewrite Systems

(1,S)-PRS class Basic Process Algebra

$$R = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A \xrightarrow{a} A.A, \quad B \xrightarrow{a} A.B, \quad A \xrightarrow{a'} \varepsilon, \\ B \xrightarrow{b} B.B, \quad A \xrightarrow{b} B.A, \quad B \xrightarrow{b'} \varepsilon \end{array} \right\}$$



Classes of Process Rewrite Systems

(1,G)-PRS class Process Algebra

$$R = \{ A \xrightarrow{a} A.A , \quad B \xrightarrow{a} A \parallel (B.C) , \dots \}$$

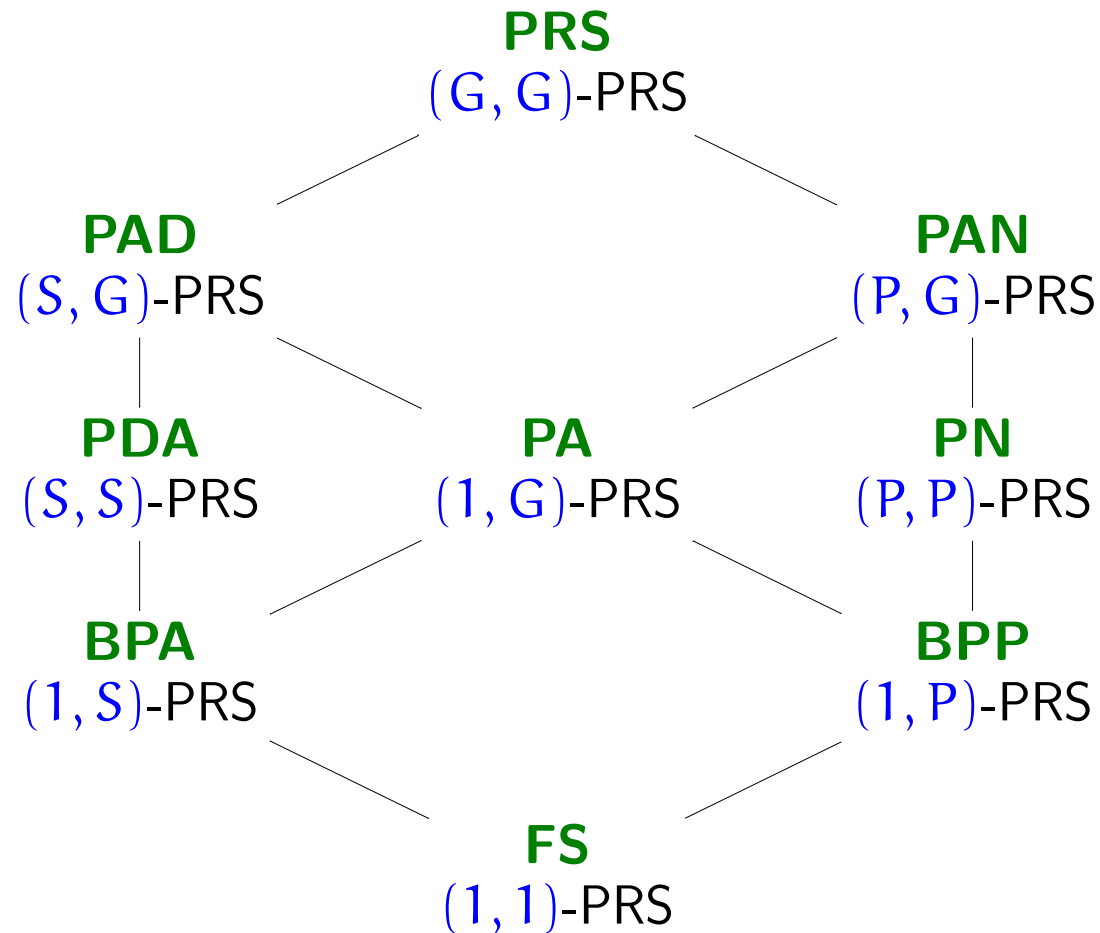
(S,S)-PRS class PDA

$$R = \{ A.C \xrightarrow{a} D , \quad B.A.D \xrightarrow{a} B.C , \dots \}$$

(P,P)-PRS class Petri Nets

$$R = \{ A \parallel B \xrightarrow{a} C \parallel B , \quad B \xrightarrow{a} A \parallel C , \dots \}$$

PRS hierarchy, models



is strict w.r.t. strong bisimulation equivalence

Extensions of PRS and their Expressiveness

- state extended PRS (sePRS),
- **weakly extended PRS (wPRS)**

State Extended PRS (sePRS)

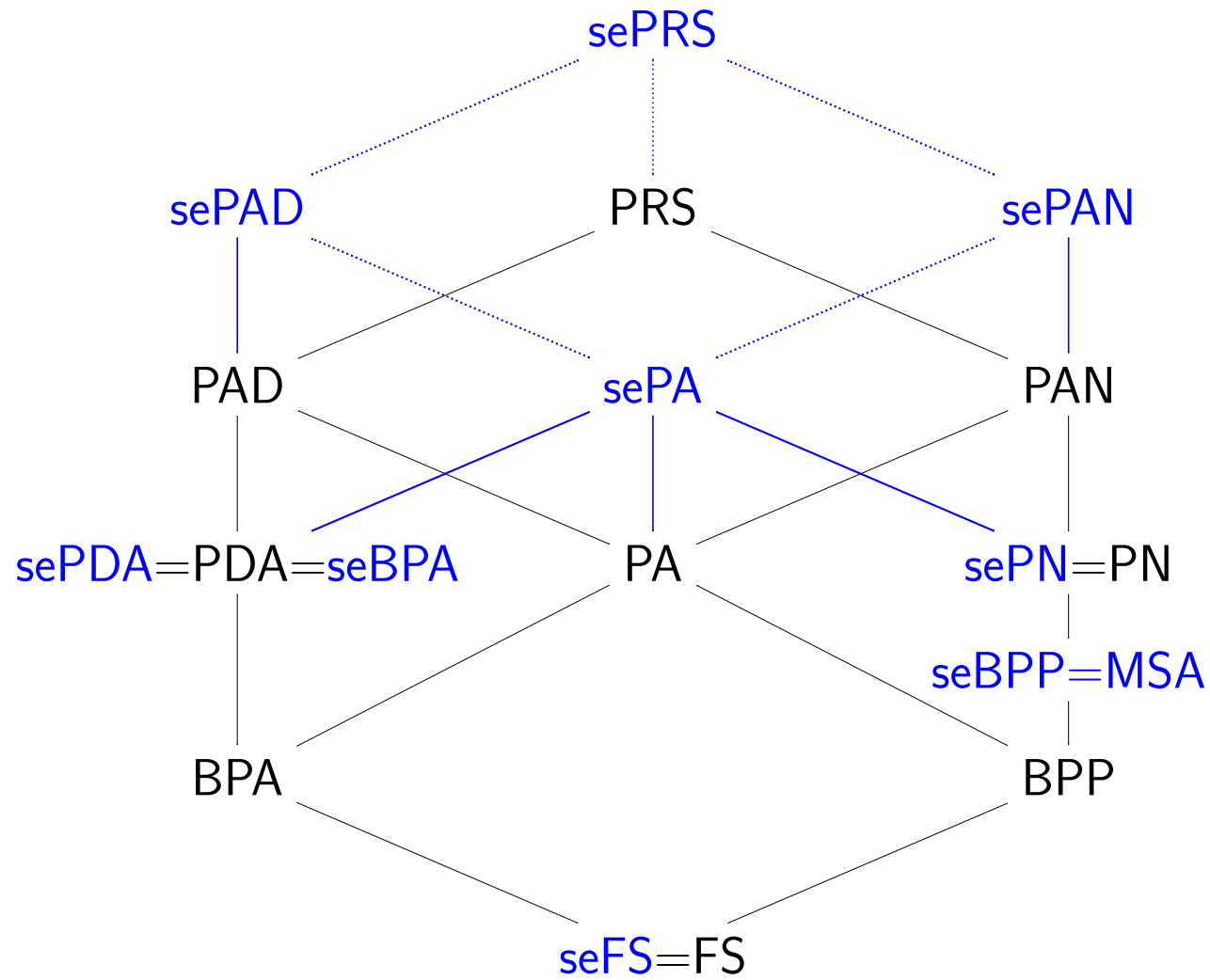
sePRS = PRS + finite-state control unit

e.g.

PDA = BPA + finite-state control unit

$$R = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} pA \xrightarrow{a} pA.A , & pA \xrightarrow{a'} p\varepsilon , \\ pB \xrightarrow{b} qB.B , & qB \xrightarrow{b'} pB.B \end{array} \right\}$$

State Extended PRS-hierarchy



Motivation for Weak State Extension

4 (out of 5) new sePRS classes have a full Turing-power



sePRS are too strong

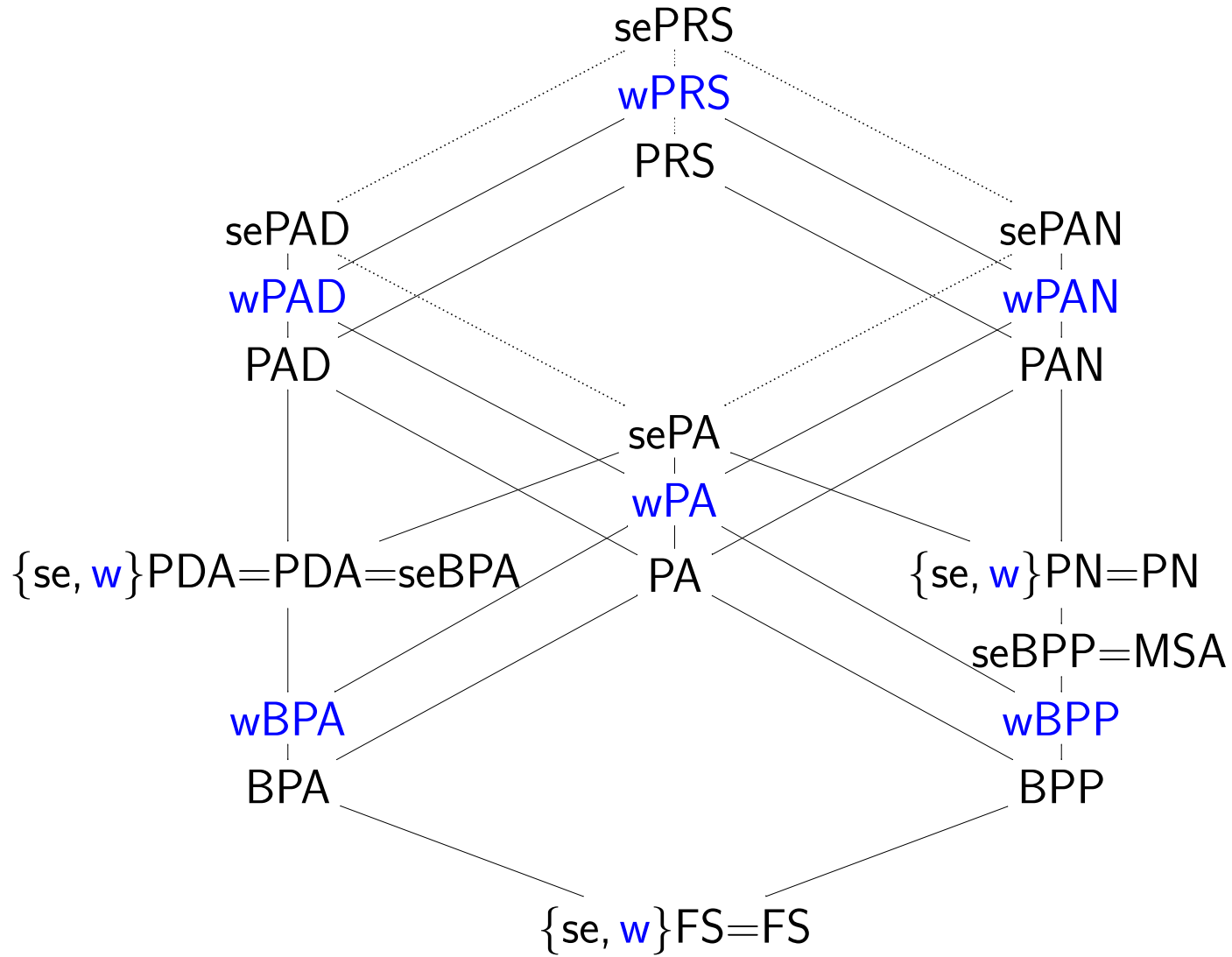


weakly extended PRS (wPRS) [Infinity 2003]

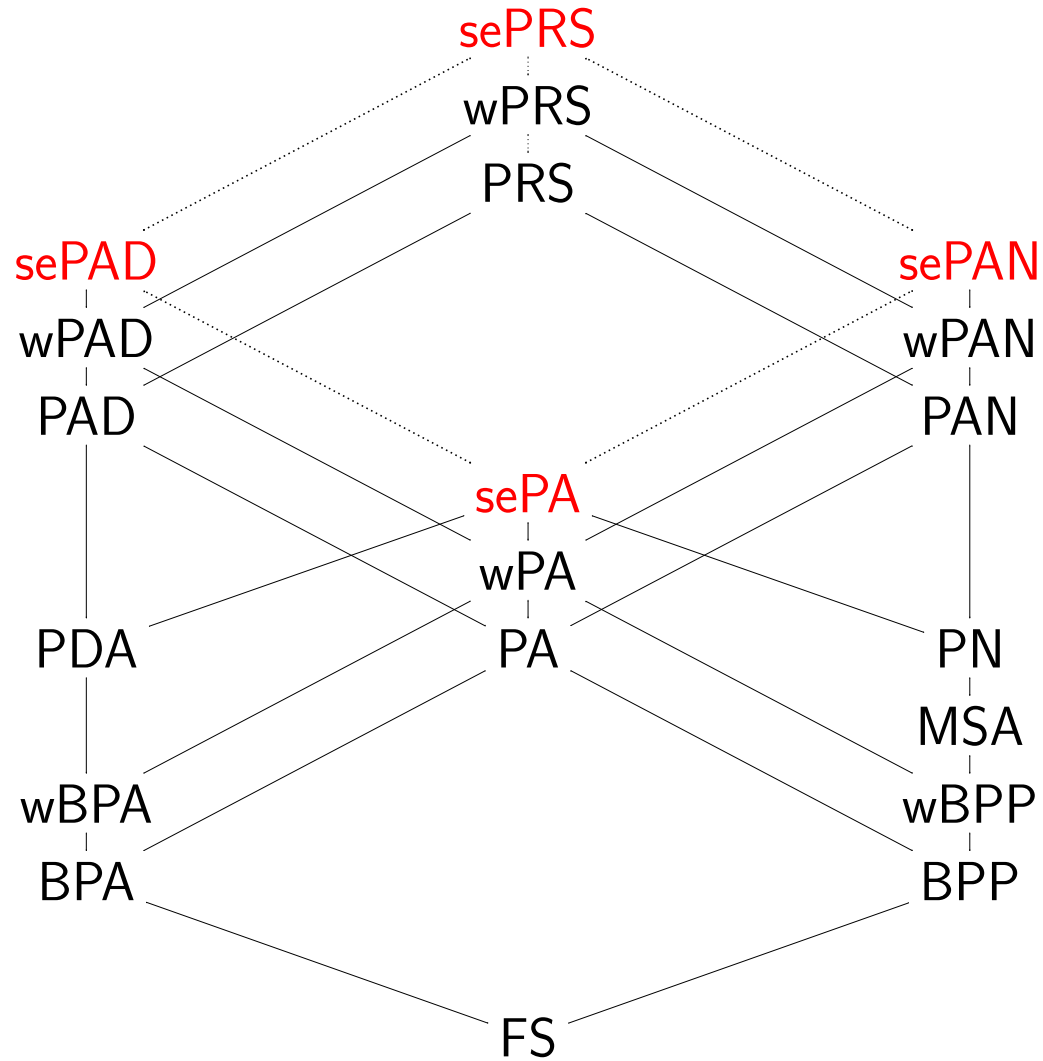
1-weak (or very weak) restriction from the automata theory
(i.e. no cycle except self-loops)

1-weak restriction: There is a partial ordering on states of the finite-state unit such that the transition relation respects the ordering

Extended PRS-hierarchy



Turing Powerful Classes

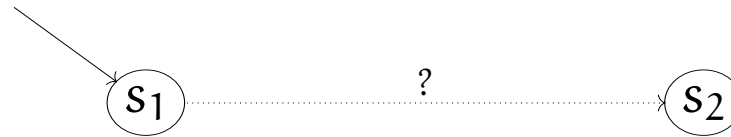


Reachability Problem

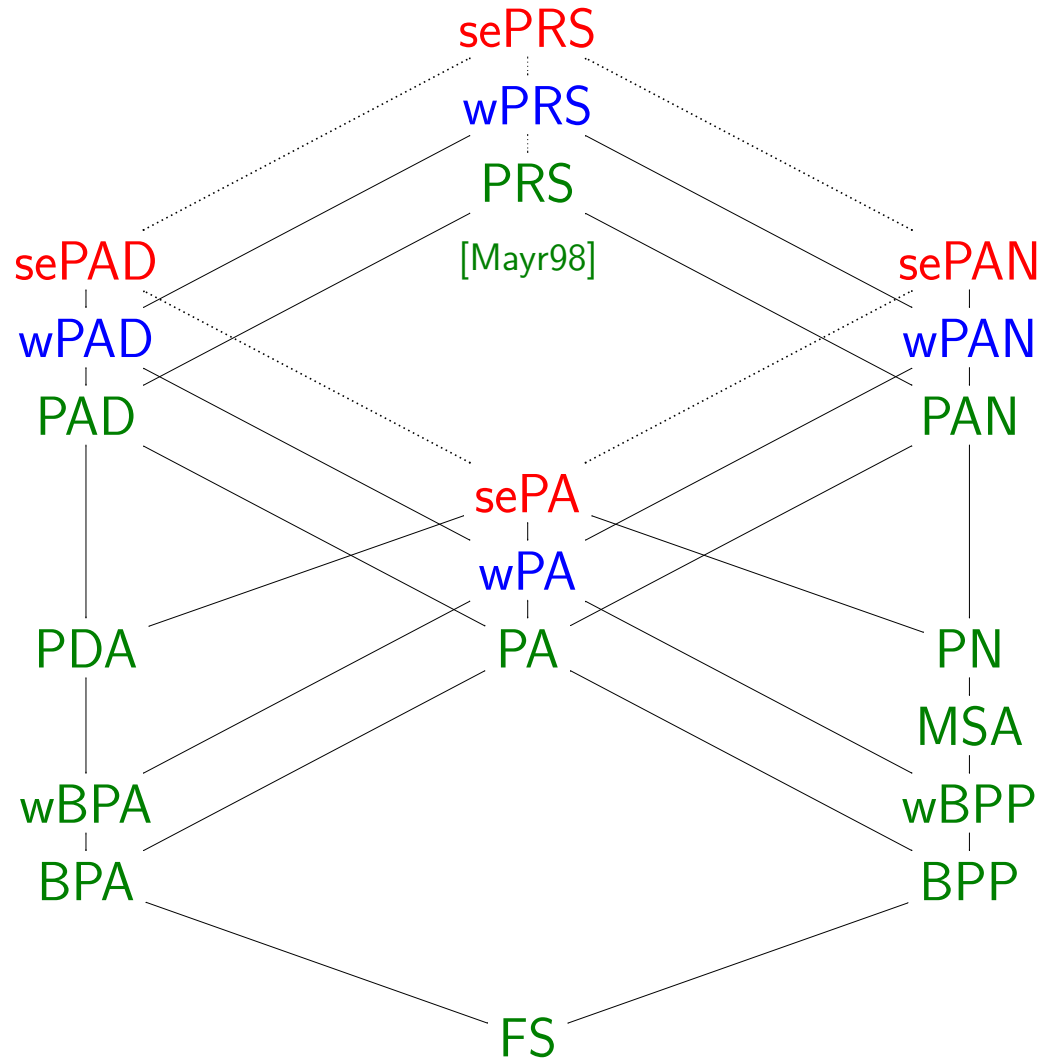
Instance: (α, β) -(se-,w-)PRS system and two of its states s_1, s_2

Question: Is the state s_2 reachable from s_1

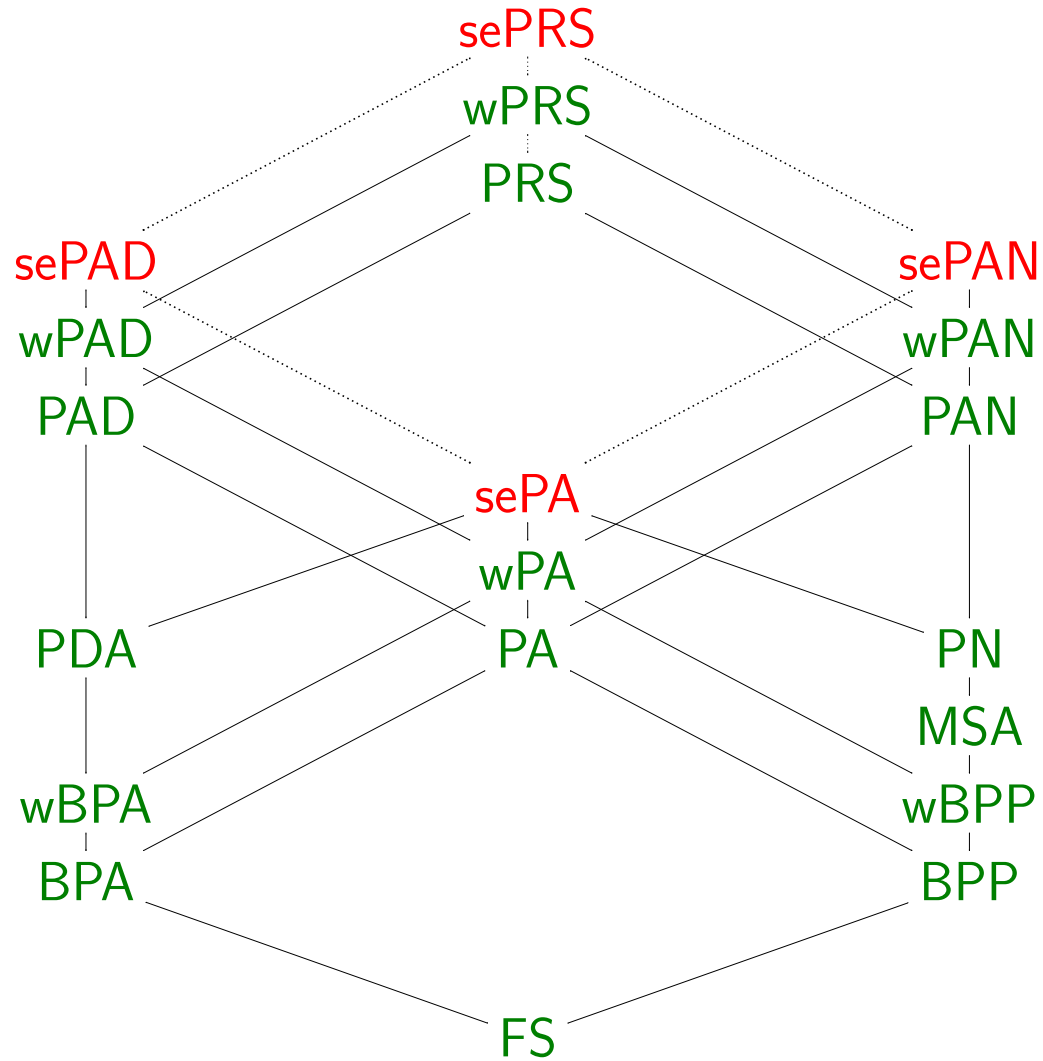
i.e. $s_1 \xrightarrow{*} s_2$?



Reachability Problem



Reachability Problem [CONCUR'04]



Reachability problem

Theorem [Mayr1998]: Reachability problem is decidable for PRS.

Theorem: **Reachability problem is decidable for wPRS.**

Applications:

- **model checking** some of safety properties
- **reachability** for Hüttel and Srba's **replicative variant** of Dolev and Yao's **ping-pong protocols** [Hüttel-Srba05]
- **weak trace non-equivalence** is semi-decidable for wPRS

Reachability HM Property

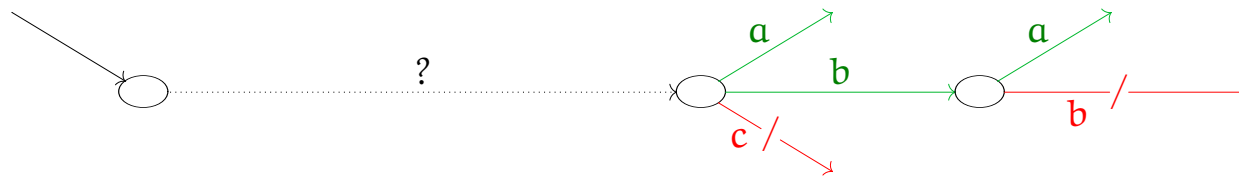
Instance: (α, β) -(se-,w-)PRS system with the initial state s_0
and an HM formula φ

Question: $s_0 \models EF\varphi$?

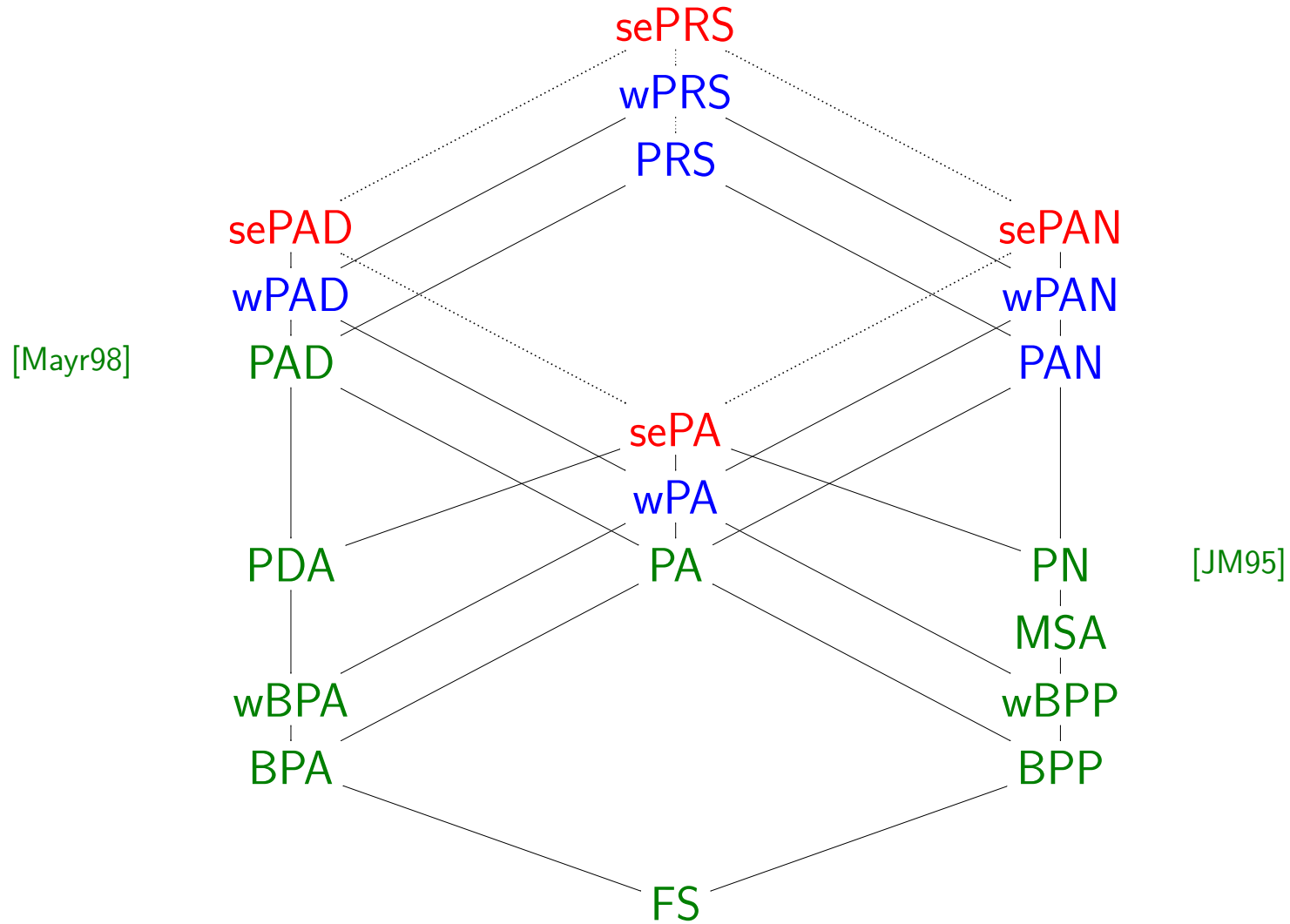
HM formula: $\psi = tt \mid \neg\psi \mid \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2 \mid \langle a \rangle\psi$
nesting of diamonds

Example:

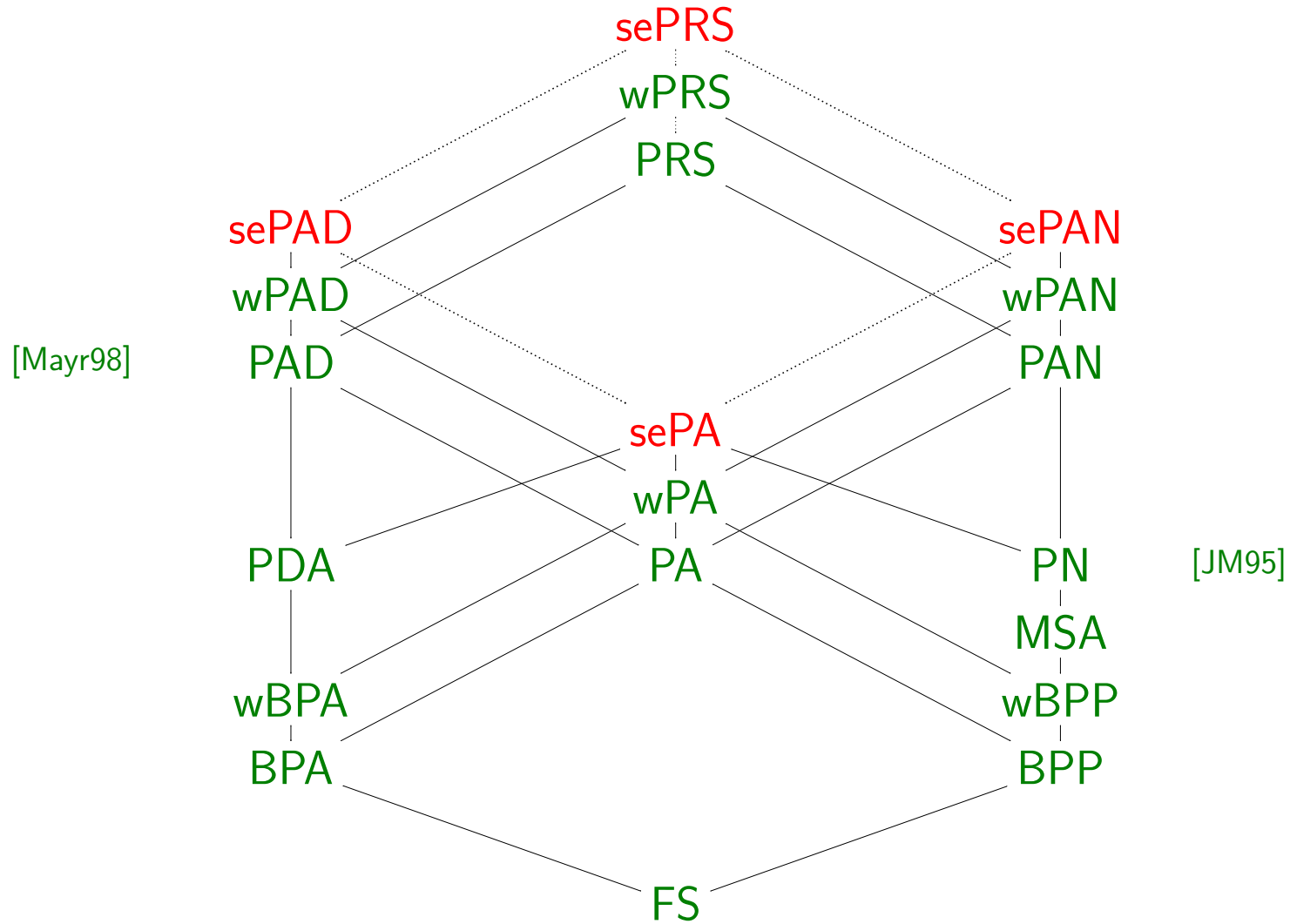
$$s_0 \models EF(\langle a \rangle tt \wedge \langle b \rangle (\langle a \rangle tt \wedge \neg \langle b \rangle tt) \wedge \neg \langle c \rangle tt)$$



Reachability HM Properties



Reachability HM Properties [FSTTCS'05]



Reachability HM property

Theorem: Reachability HM property is decidable for wPRS.

Theorem [JKM01]: Decidability of reachability HM property \implies decidability of strong bisimilarity with FS.

Corollary: Strong bisimilarity between wPRS and FS is decidable.

(an open question for PAN and PRS since 1998)

Decidability of EF logic

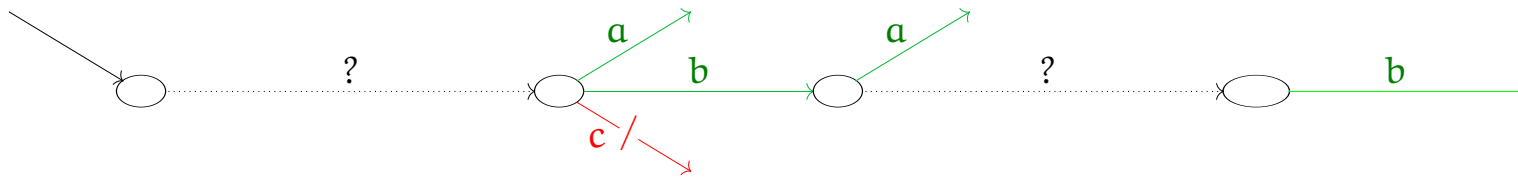
Instance: (α, β) -(se-,w-)PRS system with the initial state s_0
and an EF formula φ

Question: $s_0 \models \varphi$?

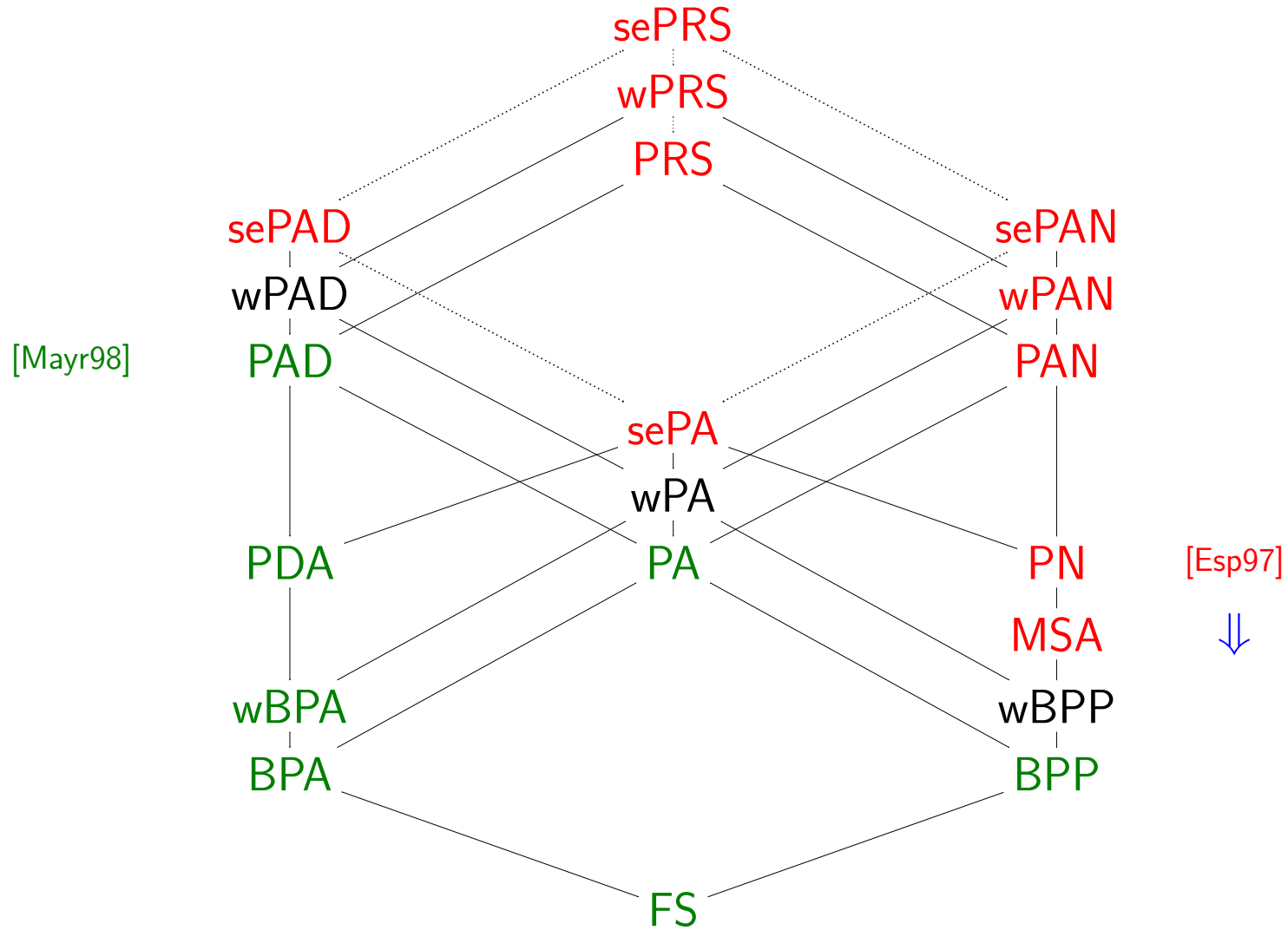
HM formula: $\psi = tt \mid \neg\psi \mid \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2 \mid \langle a \rangle \psi \mid EF\psi$
nesting of EF operators

Example:

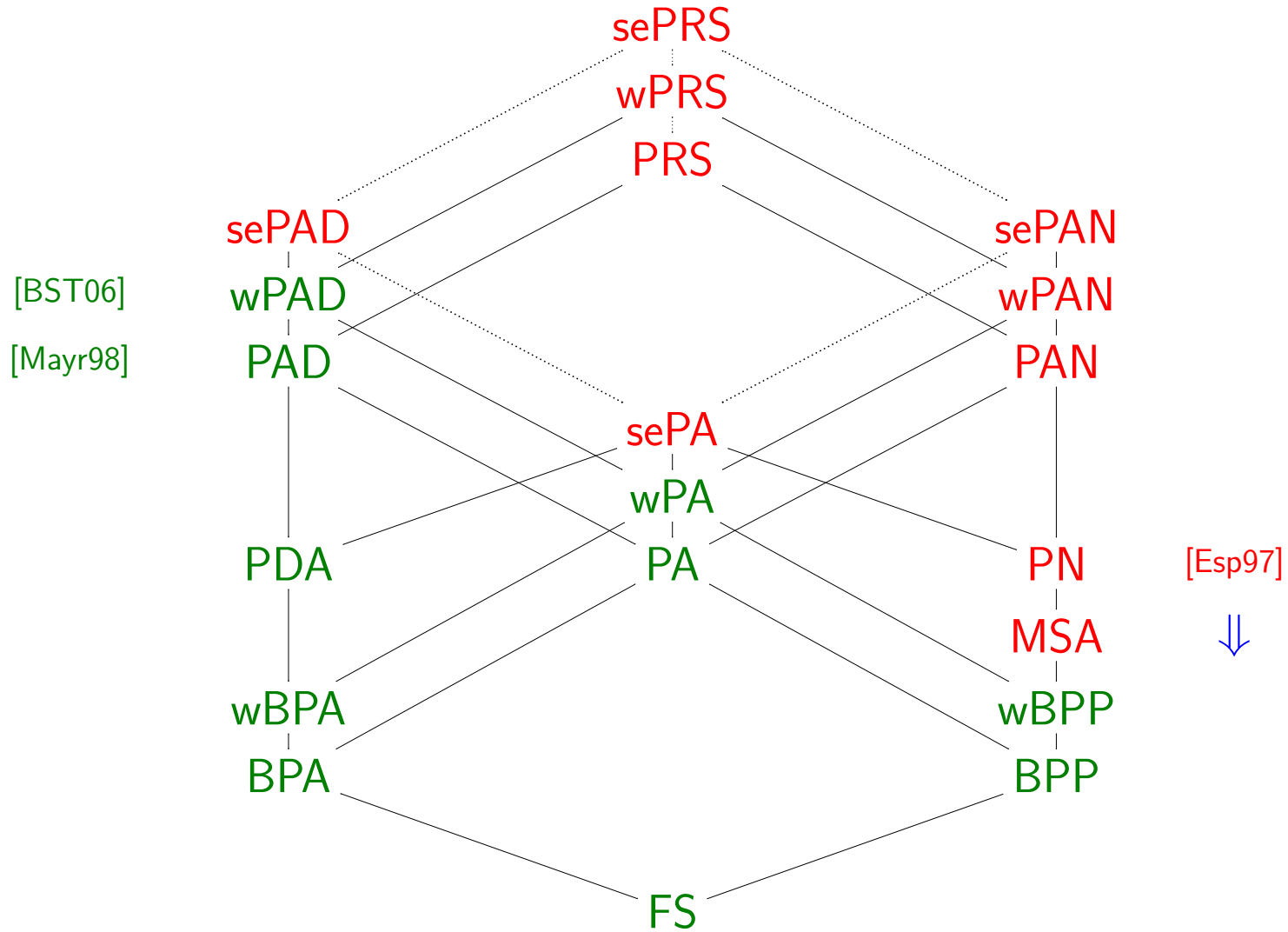
$$s_0 \models EF(\langle a \rangle tt \wedge \langle b \rangle (\langle a \rangle tt \wedge EF \langle b \rangle tt) \wedge \neg \langle c \rangle tt)$$



Decidability of EF Logic



Decidability of EF Logic



Decidability of Linear Time Logic (LTL)

Instance: (α, β) -(se-,w-)PRS system with the initial state s_0
and an LTL formula φ

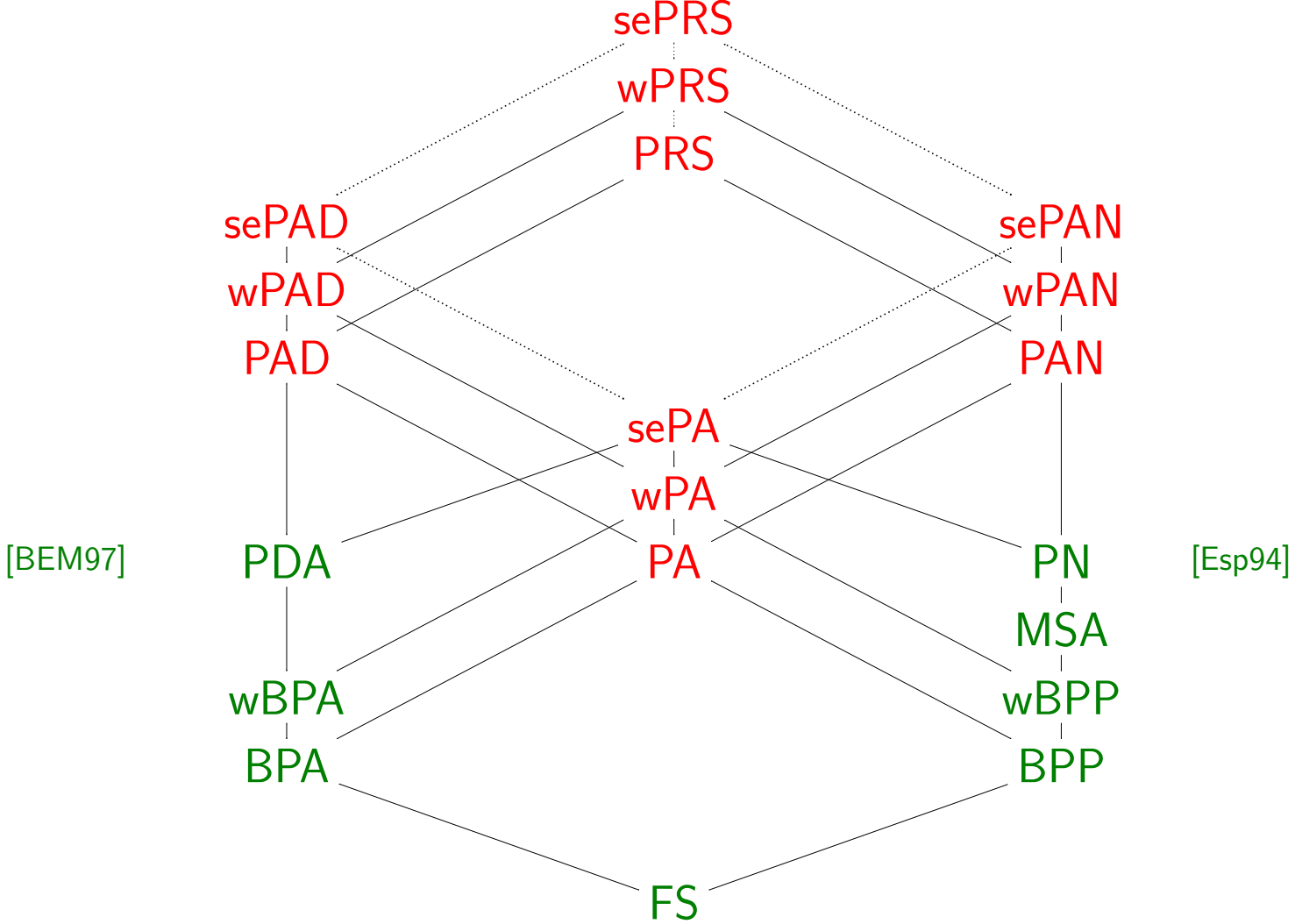
Question: $s_0 \models \varphi$?

LTL formula: $\psi = tt \mid a \mid \neg\psi \mid \psi_1 \wedge \psi_2 \mid X\psi \mid \psi U \psi$
where a is an action

Example:

Xa	next	$babacdabdca\dots$
$a U b$	until	$a\dots abacdab\dots$

Decidability of LTL



Lamport Logic Definition

Linear Temporal Logic

$\varphi ::= tt \mid a \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid X\varphi \mid \varphi U \varphi.$

Xa	next	babacdabdca...
$a U b$	until	a... abacdab...

Lamport Logic

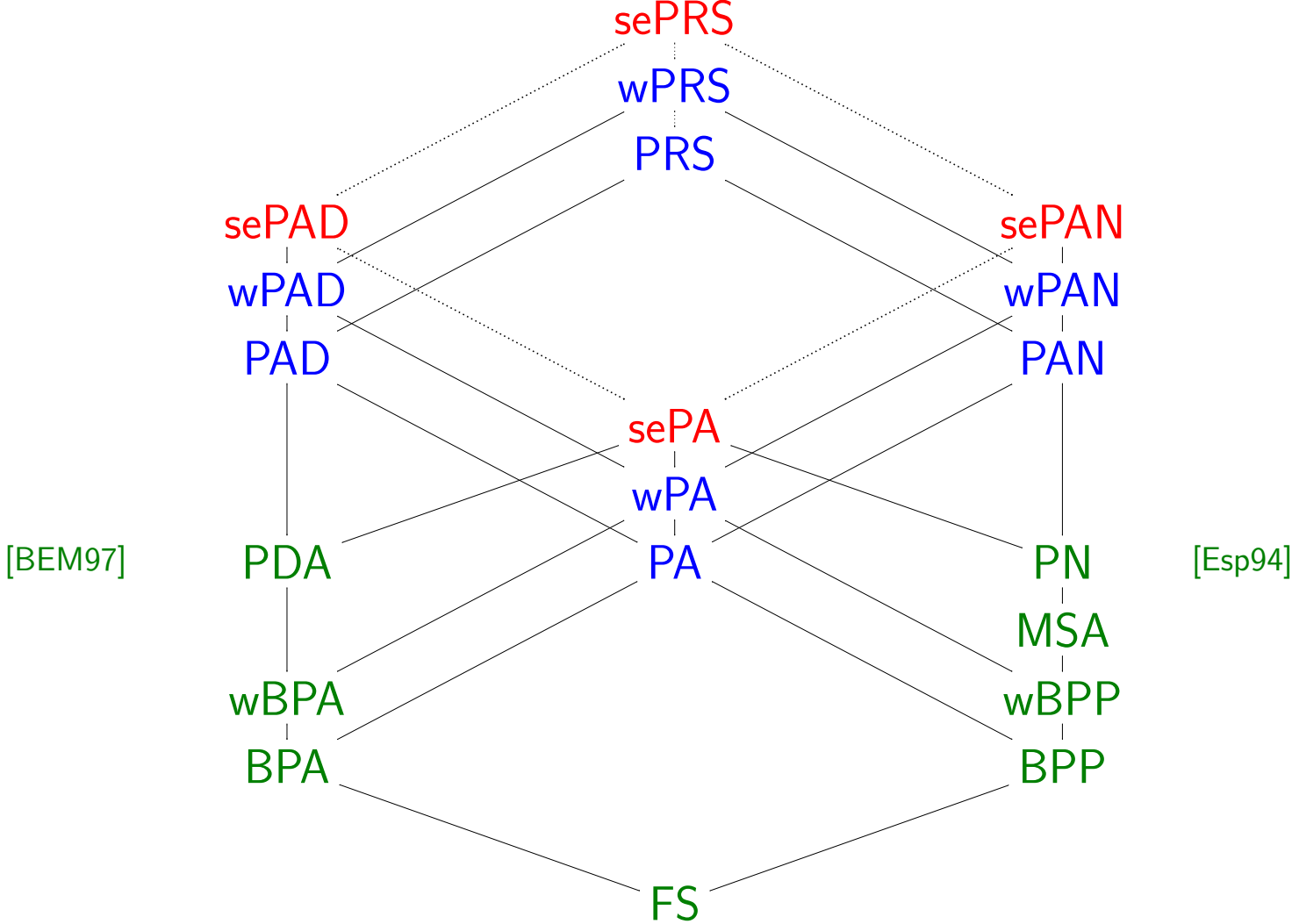
$\varphi ::= tt \mid a \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi \mid F\varphi.$

$F\varphi$	“eventually φ ”	$tt U \varphi$
$G\varphi$	“always φ ”	$\neg F\neg\varphi$

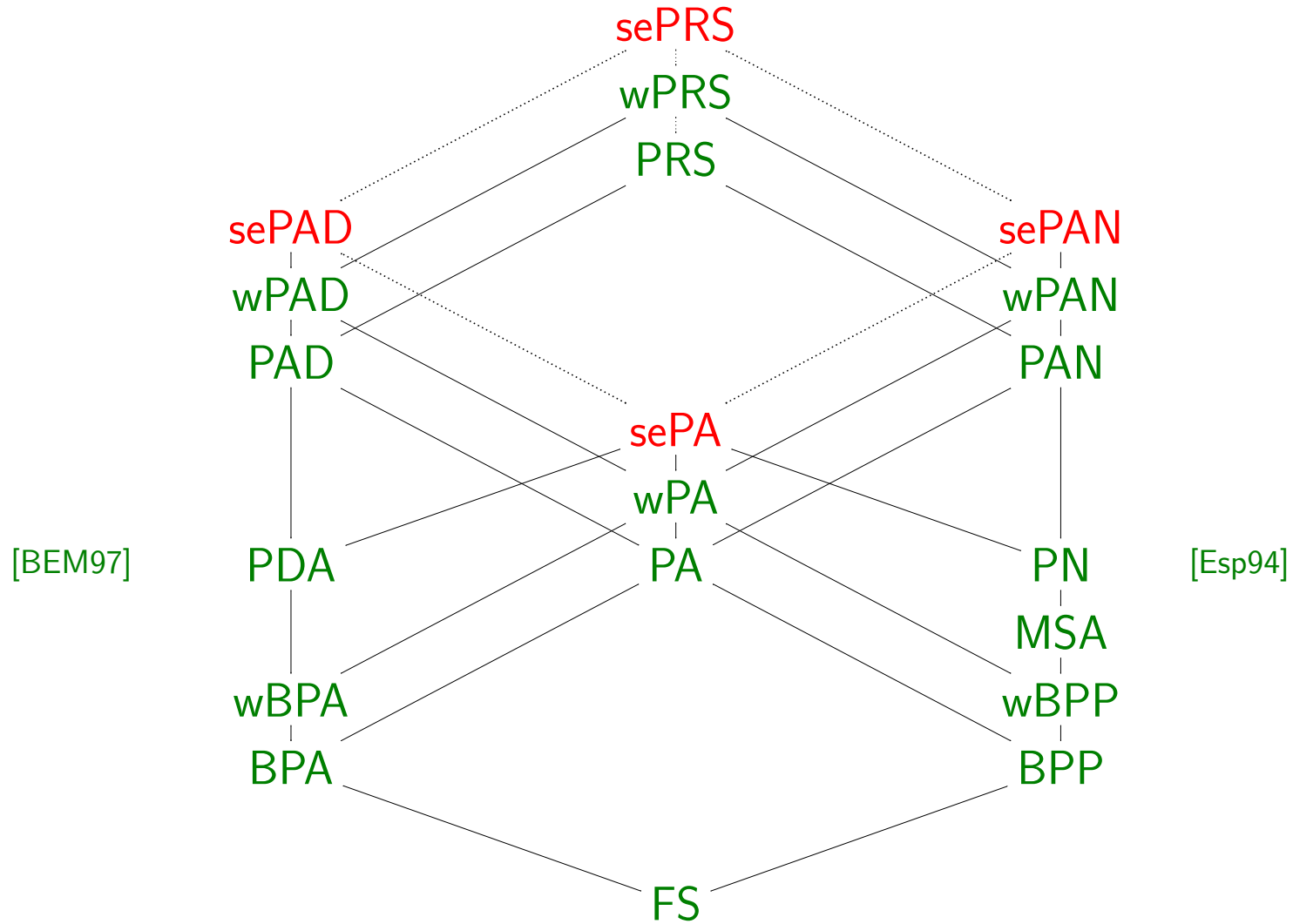
liveness: $F\varphi$ “ φ eventually happens”,

safety: $G\neg\varphi$ “ φ never happens”

Decidability of Lamport Logic



Decidability of Lamport Logic [FSTTCS'06]



Summary

Summary

- introducing more expressive wPRS classes
- reachability problem is decidable for wPRS
- reachability HM property is decidable for wPRS
bisimulation with FS is decidable for wPRS
- Lamport logic is decidable for wPRS

Corresponding papers

[INFINITY'03] - M. Křetínský, V. Řehák, and J. Strejček: **On Extensions of Process Rewrite Systems: Rewrite Systems with Weak Finite-State Unit**, in INFINITY 2003, ENTCS 98, pp. 75–88. Elsevier, 2004.

[CONCUR'04] - M. Křetínský, V. Řehák, and J. Strejček: **Extended Process Rewrite Systems: Expressiveness and Reachability**, in CONCUR 2004, LNCS 3170, pp. 355–370. Springer, 2004.

[INFINITY'05] - M. Křetínský, V. Řehák, and J. Strejček: **Refining the Undecidability Border of Weak Bisimilarity**, in INFINITY 2005, ENTCS 149:1, pp.17-36, Elsevier, 2006.

[FSTTCS'05] - M. Křetínský, V. Řehák, and J. Strejček: **Reachability of Hennessy-Milner Properties for Weakly Extended PRS**, in FSTTCS 2005, LNCS 3821, pp. 213–224. Springer, 2005.

[FSTTCS'06] - L. Bozzelli, M. Křetínský, V. Řehák, and J. Strejček: **On Decidability of LTL Model Checking for Process Rewrite Systems**, in FSTTCS 2006, LNCS 4337, pp. 248–259. Springer, 2006.