Polynomial distinguishability of timed automata

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Overview

- Deterministic timed automata (DTAs)
- Polynomial distinguishability
- DTAs are not polynomially distinguishable
- Neither are DTAs with only two clocks (2-DTAs)
- But DTAs with a single clock (1-DTAs) are
- Conclusions and future work

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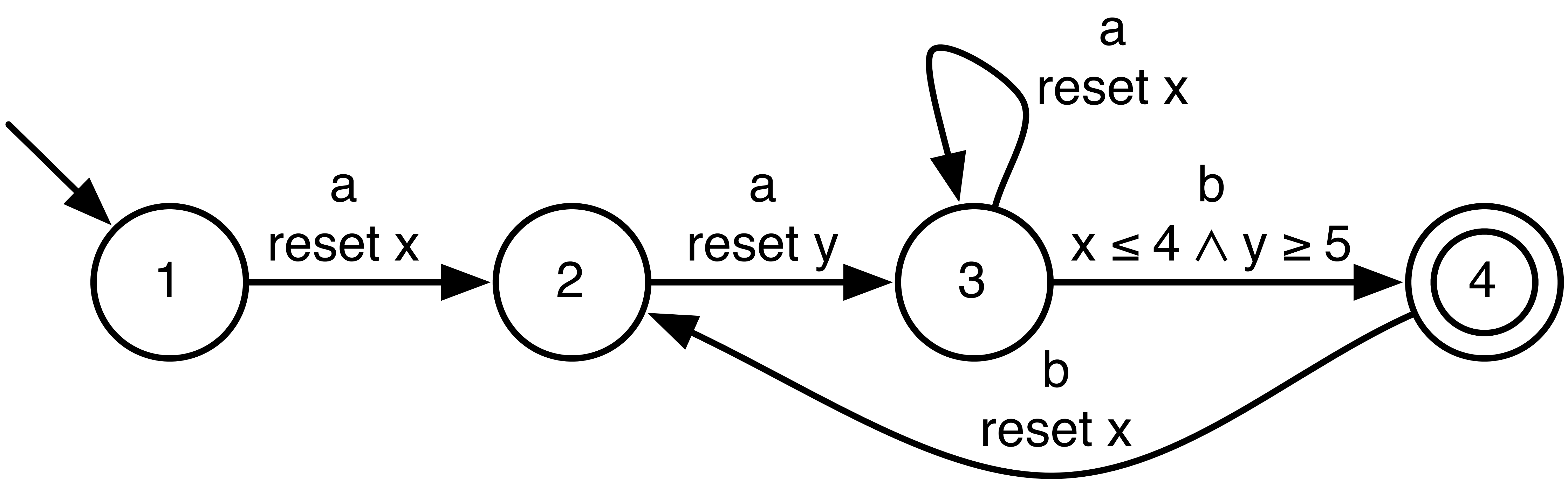
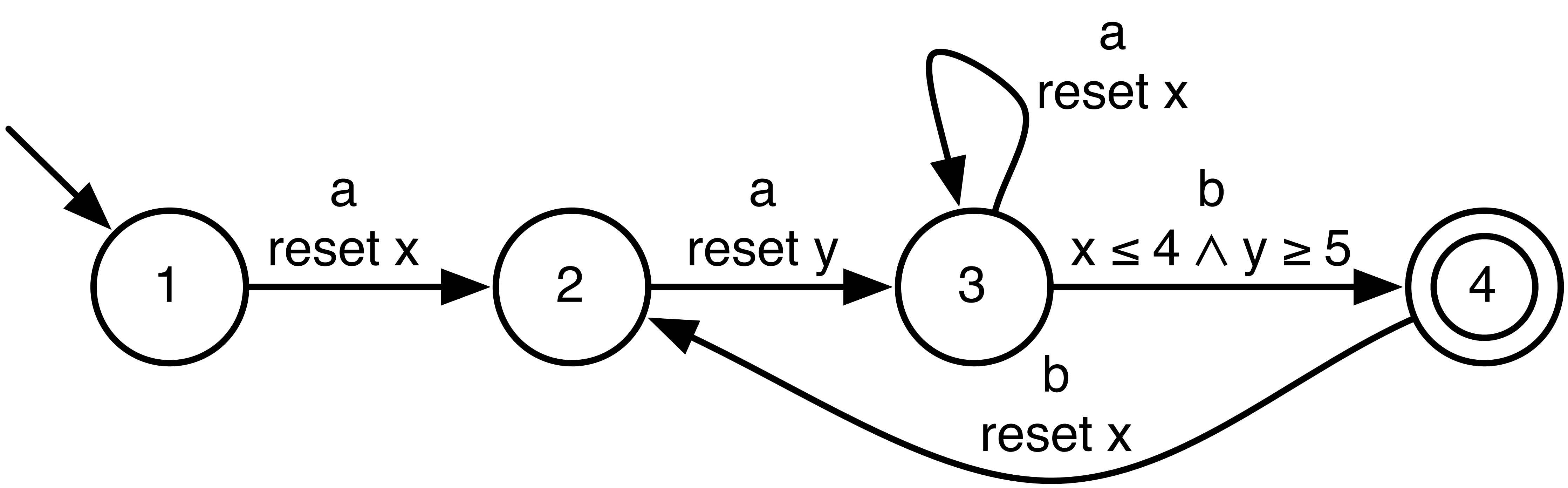
DTAs



DTAs



accepts: (a, 1)(a, 2)(a, 3)(b, 4) rejects: (a, 1)(a, 2)(a, 1)(b, 2)

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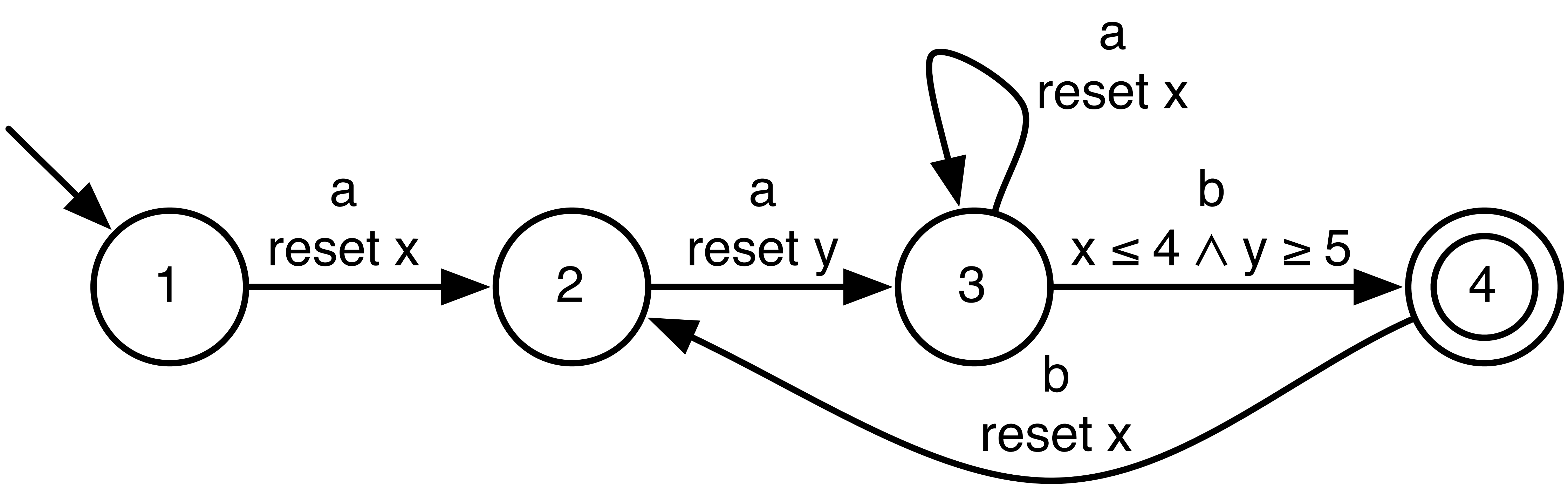
DTAs



rejects: (a, t)(a, t’)(b, t’’) for any t, t’, t’’
because x is reset before y in such a path

DTAs

- A deterministic timed automaton (DTA):
  - A deterministic finite state automaton (DFA)
  - A set of clocks X
  - A clock guard (constraint) g for every transition d
  - A set of clock resets R for every transition d
- Timed properties:
  - All clocks increase their values synchronously
  - A clock value can be reset to 0
  - A transition can fire if its clock guard is satisfied

Why learn DTAs?

- DTAs:
  - Use an explicit time representation (using numbers)
  - Are intuitive models for many real-time systems
  - Are used to model and verify reactive systems
- In practice it is often difficult to construct DTAs by hand, but data is easy to obtain:
  - We want to identify them from data
  - We identify models for the behavior of truck drivers from sensors that measure truck movements

Why learn DTAs?

- Any timed system can also be represented using an implicit time representation, using DFAs or HMMs
  - Exponential blowup of the models and the data required for learning
  - Inefficient in the size of the timed data and the timed model
- We want to learn DTAs directly from timed data
  - Is it possible to do so efficiently?

Polynomial Distinguishability

- A class of (timed) automata C is polynomially distinguishable if:
  - there exists a polynomial p() such that for any two (timed) automata $A \in C$ and $A' \in C$, there exists a (timed) string s such that:
    - $s \in L(A)$ and $s \notin L(A')$, or vice versa, and
    - $|s|$ is bounded by $p(|A| + |A'|)$
- If C is efficiently identifiable in the limit (from polynomial time and data), then C is polynomially distinguishable

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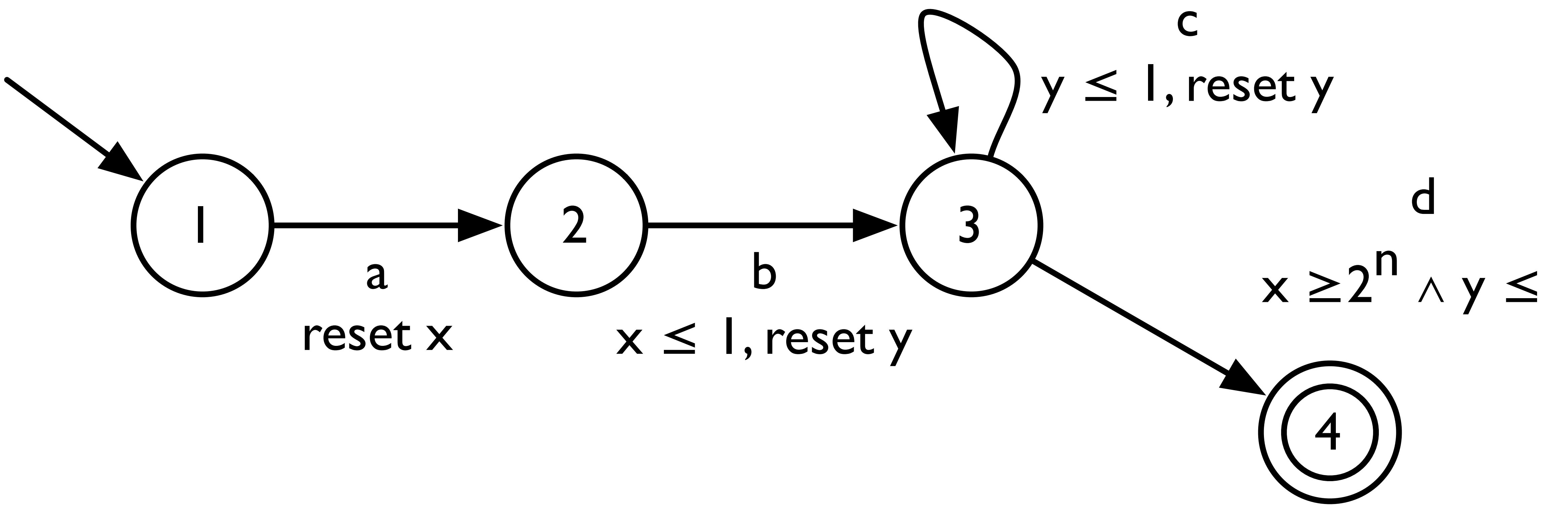
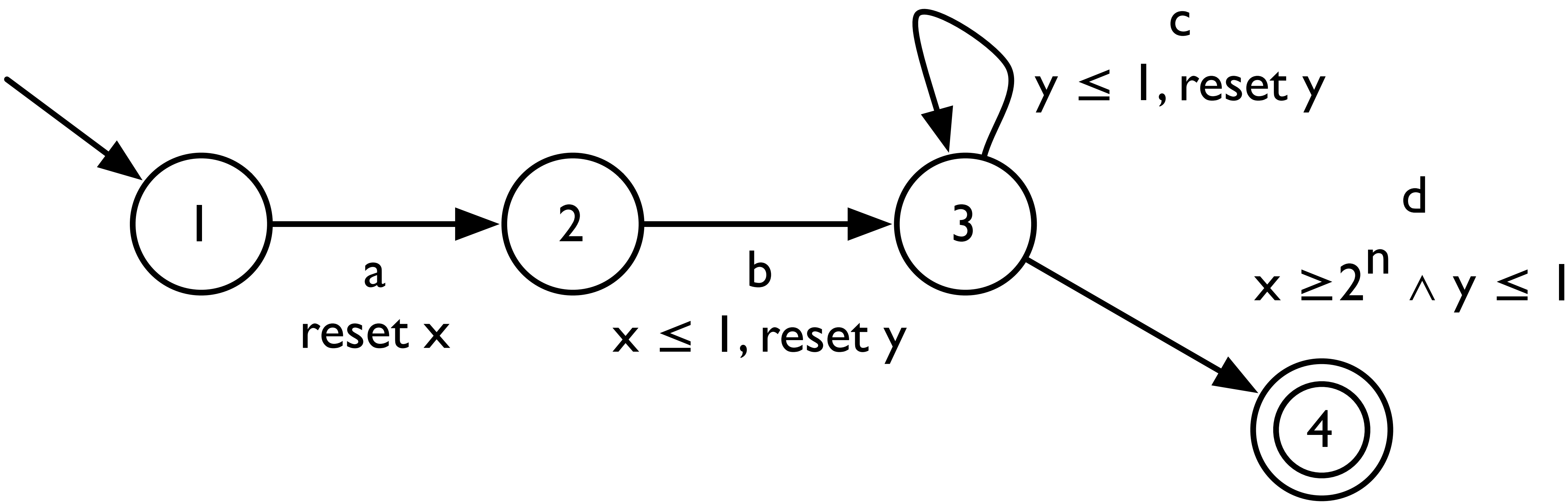
DTAs are not pol. dist.



This DTA requires a timed string of exponential length in order to end in state 4

DTAs are not pol. dist.



We cannot polynomially bound the size of the shortest string that distinguishes these DTAs (for different n) from a DTA accepting the empty language

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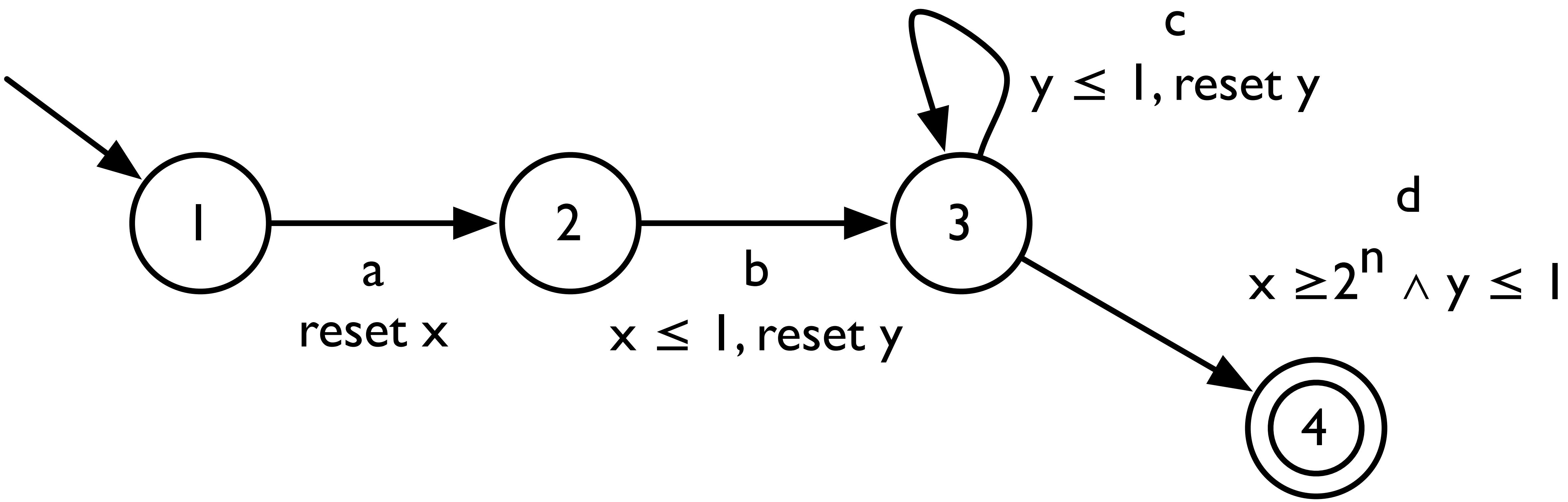
2-DTAs are not pol. dist.



These DTAs only require 2 clocks!

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1-DTAs

- An 1-DTA is a DTA with one clock x
- The DTAs we used to prove the non-polynomial distinguishability of DTAs require at least two clocks
- Are 1-DTAs polynomially distinguishable?

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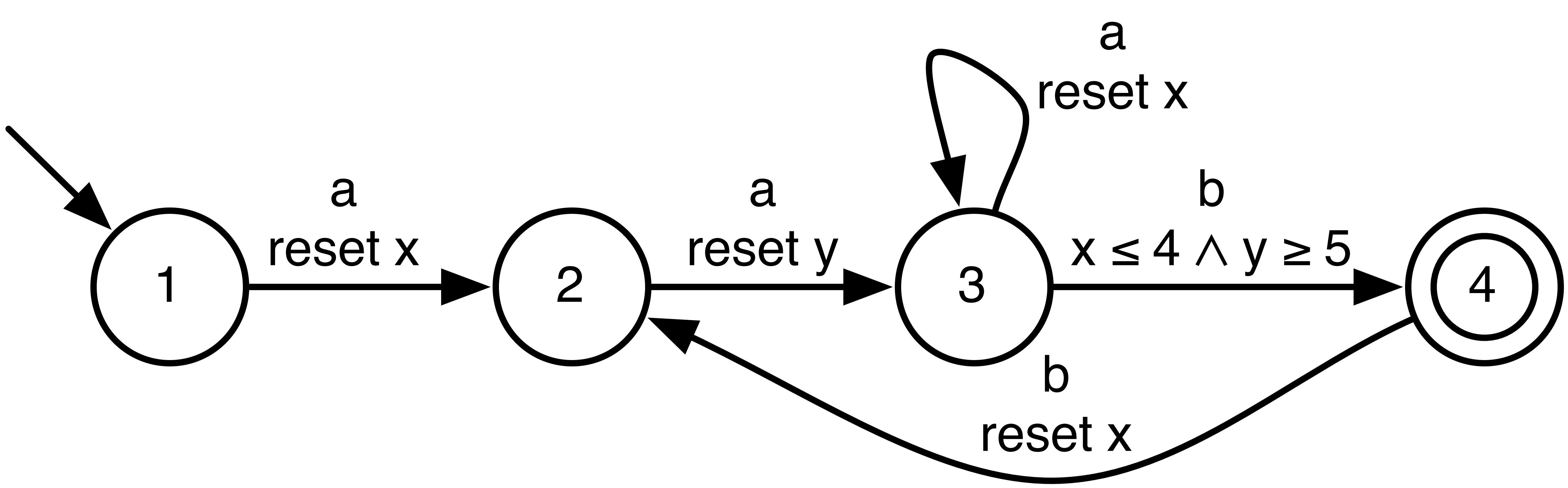
Timed states

- A timed state (q, v) is a pair:
  - a state q from a TA
  - a valuation $v : X \Rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ maps clocks to time values
- A timed state (q, v) is reachable if there exists a timed string that ends in (q, v)

Timed states



(a, 1)(a, 2)(a, 3)(b, 4) ends in state 4 with
a valuation v such that v(x) = 4 and v(y) = 7

1-DTAs are pol. reachable

- Given a 1-DTA, let s be a shortest timed string that ends in some reachable timed state (q,v)
- A pair of prefixes s_i and s_j cannot end in the same timed state (q', v')
- Every s_i ends in (q',v') with v'(x) = 0 at most once
- x is reset at most |Q| times in the path of s

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1-DTAs are pol. reachable

- When a timed string ends in (q', v'), then an 1-DTA can reach (q', v'') with v''(x) ≥ v'(x) by waiting some time in q'
- For a shortest string s that reaches (q, v), the amount of prefixes of s that end in (q', v') for any v' is bounded by the number of resets of x

1-DTAs are pol. reachable

- A shortest string s that reaches (q, v) is of length bounded by:
  - $|Q| * $ the number of resets of x
  - $|Q| * |Q|$
  - a polynomial in the size of the 1-DTA
- Hence, 1-DTAs are polynomially reachable

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1-DTAs are pol. dist.

- Given two 1-DTAs, let s be a shortest timed string that reaches (q_1, v_1) in one and (q_2, v_2) in the other
- It holds that x is reset between index i and j in one of the two 1-DTAs

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1-DTAs are pol. dist.

- A shortest string s that reaches (q_1, v_1) and (q_2, v_2) is of length bounded by:
  - $|Q| * |Q'| *$ the number of resets of x
- In the paper, we use structural properties of 1-DTAs to polynomially bound the number of resets of x
- 1-DTAs are polynomially distinguishable

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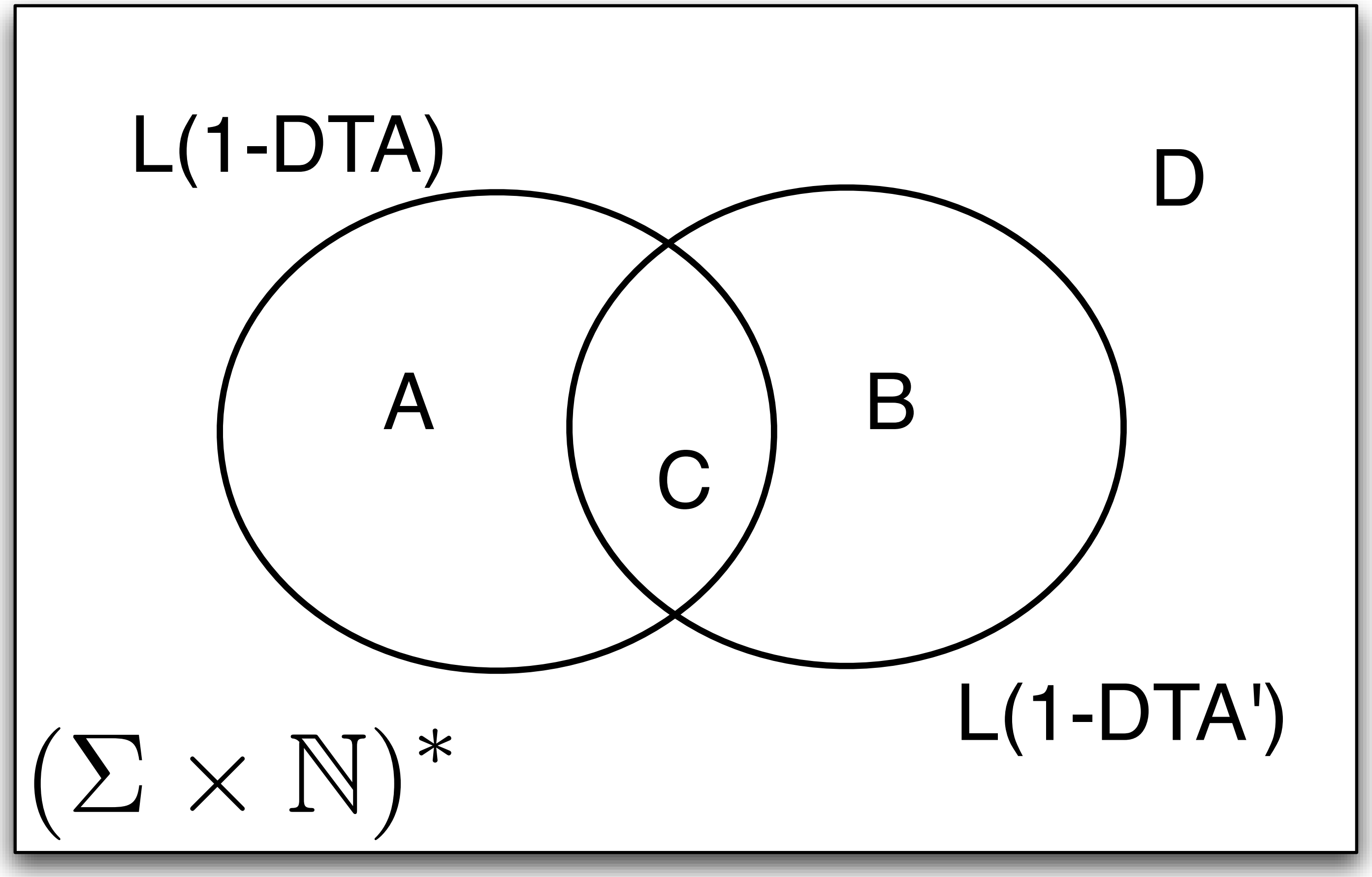
Conclusions

- DTAs are an intuitive representation for real-time systems
- They are more compact (efficient) than DFA or HMM representations of the same systems
- DTAs can in general not be identified efficiently since they are not polynomially distinguishable
- However, 1-DTAs are polynomially distinguishable

Future work

- Show that 1-DTAs are efficiently identifiable in the limit (submitted yesterday)
- Try to find multi-clock subclasses of DTAs that are polynomially distinguishable
- Determine whether a DTA identification algorithm could be used to identify 1-DTAs efficiently
- Since they are efficiently identifiable, try to identify them in real-world problems!
- Implications for other fields? Such as verification?

Final Conclusions



There exist 1-DTAs such that the shortest timed string in either A, B, C, or D cannot be bounded by a polynomial

For all 1-DTAs the shortest timed string in A∪C, B∪C, A∪D, B∪D, and A∪B can be bounded by a polynomial

Questions

- ?