Tree-automata, interpretations and Courcelle's theorem

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The tree-decomposition of graphs of bounded treewidth defined by any given MSO formula is recognized by a tree-automaton.

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Automaton and MSO

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- an initial state $q_0 \in Q$,
- a set of accepting states $F \subseteq Q$.



Definition (Recognized word)

We say that a DFA $(\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0, F)$ accepts a word $w_1 \dots w_n \in Q^n$, if there exists a sequence q_1, \dots, q_n such that:

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Note: For a fixed DFA A, testing if w is recognized by A is linear in |w|. 4

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The syntax of MSO on words.

$$\phi := x = y + 1 \mid x = y \mid Q_{\alpha}(x) \mid X = Y \mid x \in X$$
$$\mid \neg \phi \mid \phi_1 \land \phi_2 \mid \phi_1 \lor \phi_2 \mid \phi_1 \implies \phi_2$$
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"Every a is followed by b"

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For any MSO formula ϕ , there exists a DFA $\mathcal{A}(\phi)$ that recognizes exactly the words accepted by ϕ .

Corollary

For any MSO formula ϕ , there exists a linear time algorithm that decide if any given word w is accepted by ϕ .

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We will prove the result by induction on the MSO formula.

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ex: w = ababaab and $S = \{0, 2, 5\}$ gives:

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$\mathcal{A}(\phi \land \psi) = \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{L}(\phi) \cap \mathcal{L}(\psi))$

 $\mathcal{A}(\neg\psi)$

$$\mathcal{A}(\psi) = (\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0, F)$$

$$\mathcal{A}(\neg \psi) = \mathcal{A}(\overline{\mathcal{L}(\psi)}) = (\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0, Q \setminus F)$$

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Corollary (Presburger, 1929)

Presburger arithmetic is decidable.

Binary tree-automata and MSO on binary trees

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Example



These two trees are different:



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For any vertex v different from τ_0 ,

- v.l :=left child of v,
- v.r := right child of v,
- *v*.*p* := parent of *v* (*v* itself if *v* is the root).

$$\begin{split} \phi &:= \quad x = y.I \mid x = y.r \mid x = y.p \mid x = y \mid Q_{\alpha}(x) \mid x \in X \mid X = Y \\ &\mid \neg \phi \mid \phi_1 \land \phi_2 \mid \phi_1 \lor \phi_2 \mid \phi_1 \implies \phi_2 \\ &\mid \forall x.\phi \mid \forall X.\phi \mid \exists x.\phi \mid \exists X.\phi. \end{split}$$

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WS2S is decidable.

It uses exactly the same idea as for MSO on words and DFA.

Remark: Again, the only thing that really increases the size of the automaton is determinization.

The final ingredient: interpretation

Definition

An rooted tree is either:

- a root and no other node (t_0) ,
- or the join $J(T_1, T_2)$ of two rooted trees T_1 and T_2 .




























Encoding the logical formula

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In MSO over the LOB tree ?

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 $Adj(u,v) \iff Edge(u',v')$

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$$\overbrace{\exists x, \phi(x)}^{\text{graph MSO}} \iff \overbrace{\exists x, (\phi'(x) \land (x \text{ is a leaf}))}^{\text{LOB tree MSO}}$$

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$$Leaves(X) := \forall x : x \in X \implies leaf(x)$$

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- $\bullet\,$ a map ${\cal D}$ from trees to LOB trees,
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for any tree ${\mathcal T}$ and MSO formula $\psi {:}$

$$\mathcal{T} \models \psi \qquad \Longleftrightarrow \qquad \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{T}) \models \mathcal{I}(\psi)$$

 ${\mathcal D}$ and ${\mathcal I}$ can be computed in linear time.

Corollary

Given any tree \mathcal{T} and MSO formula ψ , one can decide $\mathcal{T} \models \psi$ in time $f(|\psi|) \cdot |\mathcal{T}|$.

- s_0 a single vertex graph,
- $G \cup H$: the disjoint union of two cographs,
- J(G, H) : the join of two cographs.

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Two vertices are adjacent iff their lowest common ancestor is J

ancestor(v, a) := $\forall C, (a \in C \land (\forall x, x \in C \implies (x.l \in C \land x.r \in C))) \implies v \in C$

C is children closed

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 $\begin{aligned} \mathsf{LCA}(\mathit{l}_1,\mathit{l}_2,a) &:= \mathsf{ancestor}(\mathit{l}_1,a) \land \mathsf{ancestor}(\mathit{l}_2,a) \\ \land \forall x : (\mathsf{ancestor}(\mathit{l}_1,x) \land \mathsf{ancestor}(\mathit{l}_2,x)) \implies \mathsf{ancestor}(a,x) \end{aligned}$

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$$Edge(l_1, l_2) := \exists a, LCA(l_1, l_2, a) \land Q_J(a)$$

The interpretation: cographs

We have:

- $\bullet\,$ a map ${\cal D}$ from cographs to LOB trees,
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for any cograph G and MSO formula ψ :

$$G \models \psi \qquad \iff \qquad \mathcal{D}(G) \models \mathcal{I}(\psi)$$

 \mathcal{D} and \mathcal{I} can be computed in linear time (non-trivial for \mathcal{D} , cf. *modular tree decomposition*).
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Corollary

Given any cograph G and MSO formula ψ , one can decide $G \models \psi$ in time linear in |G| (but non elementary in $|\psi|$).

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A graph with k labels has clique-width at most k if it is:

- a single vertex with label $i \in \{1, \ldots, k\}$,
- $G \cup H$, where G and H are two labeled graphs of clique-width $\leq k$
- obtained by adding all the possible edges between two label classes in a labeled graph *G* of clique-width at most *k*
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The translation of the MSO formula uses the same idea as for cographs.

Corollary

Given any graph G of clique-width at most k and MSO formula ψ , one can decide $G \models \psi$ in time in $f(|\psi|, |k|) \cdot O(|G|)$.

Tree-automata: beyond model checking

Tree automaton can be used for other purposes than model checking.

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For any MSO formula $\Psi(S)$, we let λ_{Ψ} be the smallest value such that

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Theorem template - 1
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For any tree T, the number of sets S satisfying Ψ is in $O((\lambda_{\Psi})^{|T|})$.

Meta-Theorem, Rosenfeld, 2021			
There exists an algorithm for the following problem			
Input:	An MSO formula $\Psi(S)$ and a real $arepsilon > 0$		
Output:	$\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $ \lambda - \lambda_\Psi < \varepsilon$		

Other results (Rosenfeld, SODA 2021)

Familly	λ_{Ψ}	Comments
Independent dominating sets	$\sqrt{2}$	
Total perfect dominating	$(2^{27} imes 7)^{rac{1}{85}} pprox 1.2751$	
Induced matchings	pprox 1.46557	root of $x^3 - x^2 - 1$
Perfect codes	$3^{1\over7}pprox 1.16993$	
Minimal perfect dominating	pprox 1.32472	root of $x^3 - x - 1$
Maximal matchings	$\left(\frac{11+\sqrt{85}}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{7}} \approx 1.3917$	
3-matchings	pprox 1.3802	root of $x^4 - x^3 - 1$
4-matchings	$13^{rac{1}{9}}pprox 1.329754$	
5-matchings	$1.2932 \le ? \le 1.2941$	
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Thanks !