# Tree-automata, interpretations and Courcelle's theorem 

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Every graph property definable in MSOL can be decided in linear time on graphs of bounded treewidth.

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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## Language of a DFA

## Definition (Recognized word)

We say that a DFA $\left(\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_{0}, F\right)$ accepts a word $w_{1} \ldots w_{n} \in Q^{n}$, if there exists a sequence $q_{1}, \ldots, q_{n}$ such that:

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Note: For a fixed DFA $\mathcal{A}$, testing if $w$ is recognized by $\mathcal{A}$ is linear in $|w|$.

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The syntax of MSO on words.

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\begin{aligned}
\phi:= & x=y+1|x=y| Q_{\alpha}(x)|X=Y| x \in X \\
& |\neg \phi| \phi_{1} \wedge \phi_{2}\left|\phi_{1} \vee \phi_{2}\right| \phi_{1} \Longrightarrow \phi_{2} \\
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"Every $a$ is followed by b"

## MSO and automaton

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

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## Corollary

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

## Idea of the proof - I

The syntax of MSO on words can be reduced to:

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

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\mathcal{A}(\neg \psi)=\mathcal{A}(\overline{\mathcal{L}(\psi)})=\left(\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_{0}, Q \backslash F\right)
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\mathcal{A}(\phi(X))=\left(\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_{0}, F\right) \\
\mathcal{A}(\exists X, \phi(X))= \\
\text { Determinize }\left(\Sigma, Q, \delta^{\prime}, q_{0}, F\right) \\
\\
\text { Where for all } q \in Q:
\end{gathered}
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## Some comments

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Theorem (The other direction holds)
A language is regular, if and only if it is defined by an MSO formula.
Corollary (Presburger, 1929)
Presburger arithmetic is decidable.

Binary tree-automata and MSO on binary trees

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A word $w$ is accepted iff $\sigma(w) \in F$.

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These two trees are different:


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Let $\sigma$ be the function that computes the state of any given LOB-tree:

- $\sigma\left(\tau_{0}\right)=q_{0}$,



## Deterministic binary-tree automaton

A DTFA $\mathcal{A}$ is a 5 -tuple, $\left(\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_{0}, F\right)$, consisting of

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Note: Testing if $\mathcal{T}$ is recognized by $\mathcal{A}$ is linear in $|\mathcal{T}|$.

## MSO on binary trees - The symbols

The variables are vertices $(x, y, \ldots)$ and sets of vertices $(X, Y, \ldots)$.

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For any vertex $v$ different from $\tau_{0}$,

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


## MSO on binary trees - The syntax

The syntax of MSO on LOB trees.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\phi:= & x=y . I|x=y . r| x=y \cdot p|x=y| Q_{\alpha}(x)|x \in X| X=Y \\
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Theorem (Rabin, 1969)
For any MSO formula $\phi$, there exists a DTFA $\mathcal{A}(\phi)$ that recognizes exactly the LOB trees accepted by $\phi$.

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## Corollary

WS2S is decidable.

## The proof

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

## Encoding rooted trees in ordered binary trees

## Definition

An rooted tree is either:

- a root and no other node $\left(t_{0}\right)$,
- or the join $J\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)$ of two rooted trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$.



## Encoding rooted trees in ordered binary trees - example

## Example

$$
J\left(J\left(J\left(t_{0}, J\left(J\left(t_{0}, t_{0}\right), t_{0}\right)\right), J\left(t_{0}, t_{0}\right)\right), t_{0}\right)
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## Encoding the logical formula

We have a way to "encode" trees into binary trees.

How to translate $\underbrace{\text { MSO }}$ properties of trees into graph
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Let $v, u$ be vertices and $v^{\prime}, u^{\prime}$ the corresponding leaves in the LOB tree.
$\operatorname{Adj}(u, v) \Longleftrightarrow \underbrace{v^{\prime} \text { and } u^{\prime} \text { have two adjacents right ancestors } v^{\prime \prime} \text { and } u^{\prime \prime}}$

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## Quantification

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& \overbrace{\exists x, \phi(x)}^{\text {graph MSO }} \Longleftrightarrow \overbrace{\exists x,\left(\phi^{\prime}(x) \wedge(x \text { is a leaf })\right)}^{\text {LOB tree MSO }} \\
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## The interpretation

We have:

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

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\mathcal{T} \models \psi \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{T}) \models \mathcal{I}(\psi)
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$\mathcal{D}$ and $\mathcal{I}$ can be computed in linear time.

## Corollary

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

## Cographs

A cograph is either:
$s_{0}$ 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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$$
\begin{array}{cc}
a & \\
b & \\
\left.\right|^{a} & \\
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d-e & \\
d & \\
e & \\
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Two vertices are adjacent iff their lowest common ancestor is $J$

## MSO : is LCC in $J$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{ancestor}(v, a):= \\
& \forall C,(a \in C \wedge \underbrace{(\forall x, x \in C \Longrightarrow(x . l \in C \wedge x . r \in C)))}_{C \text { is children closed }} \Longrightarrow v \in C
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\operatorname{Edge}\left(l_{1}, l_{2}\right):=\exists a, L C A\left(l_{1}, l_{2}, a\right) \wedge Q_{J}(a)
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## Corollary

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

## Bounded clique-width

clique-width $\leq 2 \Longleftrightarrow$ cograph

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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 decomposition is (almost) given by the definition (and can be computed in linear time).

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- obtained by renaming a label class with another label in a labeled graph $G$ of clique-width at most $k$.

The decomposition is (almost) given by the definition (and can be computed in linear time).

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 $\psi$, one can decide $G \models \psi$ in time in $f(|\psi|,|k|) \cdot O(|G|)$.

## Tree-automata: beyond model checking

## Other use of tree-automaton

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For any MSO formula $\Psi(S)$, we let $\lambda_{\psi}$ be the smallest value such that
Theorem template - 1
For any tree $T$, the number of sets $S$ satisfying $\Psi$ is in $O\left(\left(\lambda_{\psi}\right)^{|T|}\right)$.

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

## Other results (Rosenfeld, SODA 2021)

| Familly | $\lambda_{\Psi}$ | Comments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Independent dominating sets | $\sqrt{2}$ |  |
| Total perfect dominating | $\left(2^{27} \times 7\right)^{\frac{1}{85}} \approx 1.2751$ |  |
| Induced matchings | $\approx 1.46557$ | root of $x^{3}-x^{2}-1$ |
| Perfect codes | $3^{\frac{1}{7}} \approx 1.16993$ |  |
| Minimal perfect dominating | $\approx 1.32472$ | root of $x^{3}-x-1$ |
| Maximal matchings | $\left(\frac{11+\sqrt{85}}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{7}} \approx 1.3917$ |  |
| 3-matchings | $\approx 1.3802$ | root of $x^{4}-x^{3}-1$ |
| 4-matchings | $13^{\frac{1}{9}} \approx 1.329754$ |  |
| 5-matchings | $1.2932 \leq ? \leq 1.2941$ |  |
| Maximal induced matchings | $\approx 1.331576868$ | imprecision of $10^{-40}$ |
| Maximal irredundant sets | $1.537 \leq ? \leq 1.556$ |  |

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## Thanks!

