

Rice-like theorems for automata networks

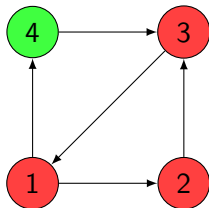
G. Gamard P. Guillon K. Perrot G. Theyssier

WAN 2021, Marseille, France

Automata networks

In this talk:

- Finite digraphs of finite automata
- Each node (automaton) has **its own alphabet**, transitions
- A node reads the state of its inbound neighbors to update
- Nodes update in **parallel** (all at the same time)



$$\Sigma = \{\bullet, \circ, \circ, \bullet\}$$

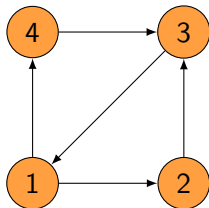
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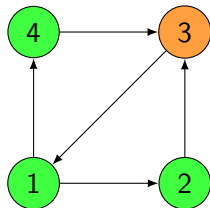
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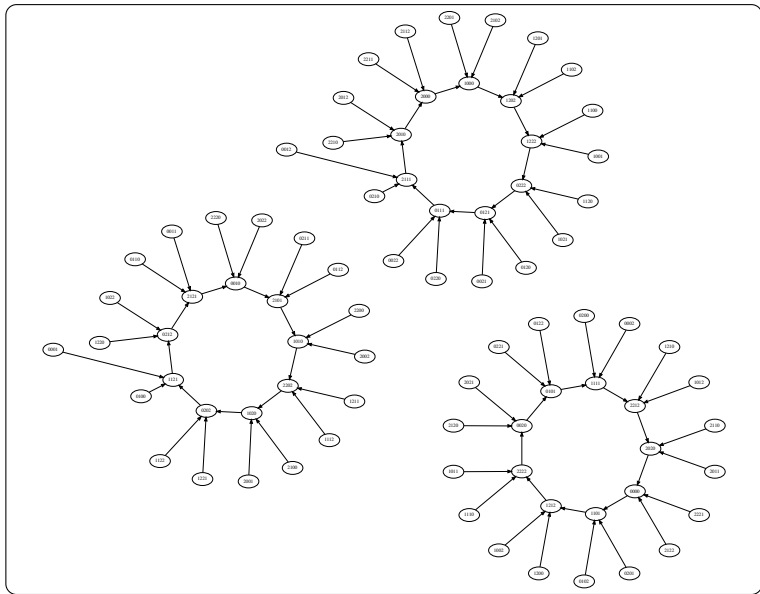
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Transition graphs



Transition graphs

The transition graph of a network is the graph of the “function computed by” this network.

The network is a succinct way to describe its transition graph.

The Rice theorem

Theorem (Rice, 1953)

Any nontrivial property of the *function computed* by a Turing Machine is undecidable.

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Our goal: test properties of \mathcal{G}_F , given an automata network F .

Metatheorem

Any nontrivial property of the *transition graph of an Automata Network* is hard.

So much fine print...

- Property?
- Nontrivial?
- Hard?

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- Property?
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- Hard?

Finite transition graph \implies
everything is decidable

“Hard” is something like NP-hard.

Encoding networks

When giving an automata network to an algorithm,
how shall we encode it?

Assumptions

- Alphabets are $\{0, \dots, n - 1\}$
- Neighbors of a node are ordered

Encoding

- A *communication* graph (adjacency matrix)
- One Boolean circuit per node
 - States encoded in binary

Nodes are allowed to ignore a neighbor \neq interaction graph.

First-Order properties

Definition (First-order property)

- $\forall x : \phi$ “for all configuration x ”: variables denote **configurations**
- $T(x, y)$ “ x transitions to y in one step”
- $x = y$
- $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$
- $\neg\phi$

Examples

- **Fixed point.** $\exists x : T(x, x)$
- **3-cycle.** $\exists x_1, x_2, x_3 : T(x_1, x_2) \wedge T(x_2, x_3) \wedge T(x_3, x_1)$
- **Injectivity.** $\forall x_1, x_2, y : [T(x_1, y) \wedge T(x_2, y)] \implies [x_1 = x_2]$
- **Determinism.** $\forall x, y_1, y_2 : [T(x, y_1) \wedge T(x, y_2)] \implies [y_1 = y_2]$

First-order properties are hard

Definition (ϕ -Dynamics)

ϕ -DYNAMICS

Input: a *deterministic* automata network F

Question: does $\mathcal{G}_F \models \phi$?

Note: ϕ is **not** part of the input!

Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

For a fixed ϕ , the problem ϕ -DYNAMICS is either $O(1)$, or NP-hard, or coNP-hard.

A reduction to SAT

Fix ϕ once and for all.

Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

The problem ϕ -DYNAMICS is either $O(1)$, or NP-hard, or coNP-hard.

Let \sqcup denote the disjoint union.

Lemma

ϕ -DYNAMICS is NP-hard if there are G, J, D with $|J| = |D|$ and:

$$G \sqcup J \sqcup J \sqcup \dots \sqcup J \sqcup \dots \sqcup J \not\models \phi,$$

$$G \sqcup J \sqcup J \sqcup \dots \sqcup D \sqcup \dots \sqcup J \models \phi.$$

“You can have Jillions of J’s, but one D makes a Difference.”

A reduction to SAT

Lemma

ϕ -DYNAMICS is NP-hard if there are G, J, D with $|J| = |D|$ and:

$$J \sqcup J \sqcup \dots \sqcup J \sqcup \dots \sqcup J \not\models \phi,$$

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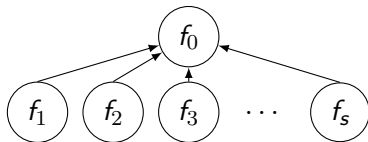
Let S denote an instance of SAT with s variables.

Make a network with $s + 1$ automata f_0, \dots, f_s .

Alphabets: f_0 over $\{1, \dots, |J|\}$ and f_1, \dots, f_s over $\{0, 1\}$.

Update: f_0 evaluates $S(f_1 \dots f_s)$;

- if it finds 0, it realizes J ,
- if it finds 1, it realizes D .



A reduction to SAT

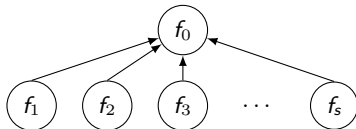
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Claim 1

The dynamics has a copy of D per **positive** assignment for S ,
and a copy of J per **negative** assignment for S .

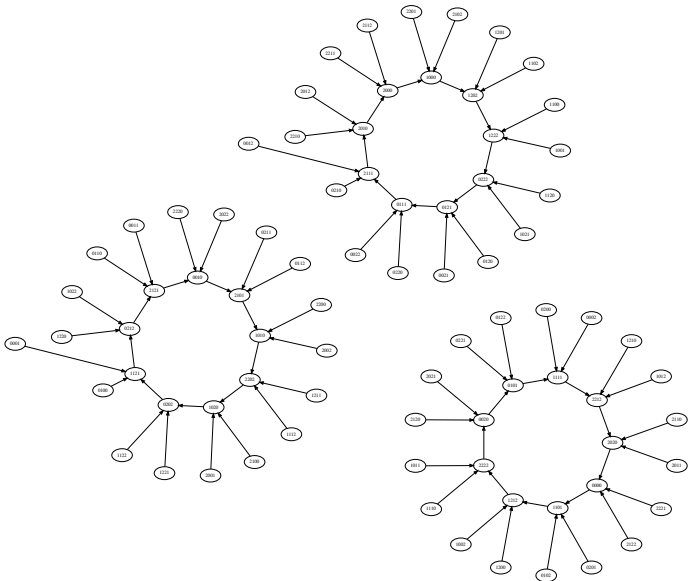
Claim 2

This network is producible in polynomial time.

Finding G, J, D

Our next mission is to find G, J, D
as announced.

Determinism



Elementary equivalence

Let m denote the **rank** of ϕ (its number of quantifiers), and G_1, G_2 be graphs.

Definition (Elementary equivalence)

Write $G_1 \equiv_m G_2$ iff G_1, G_2 satisfy the same formulae of rank m .

Lemma (Fraïssé, 1953)

The relation \equiv_m has finitely many classes: $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{a(m)}$.

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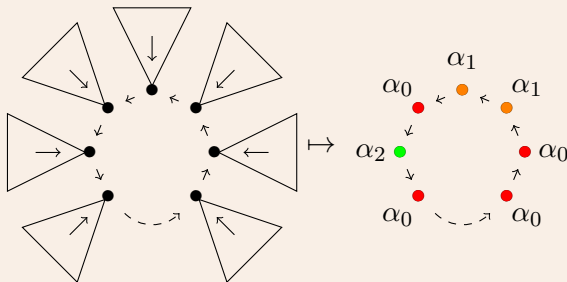
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Definition (Dulc)

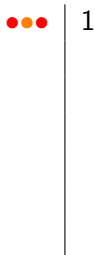
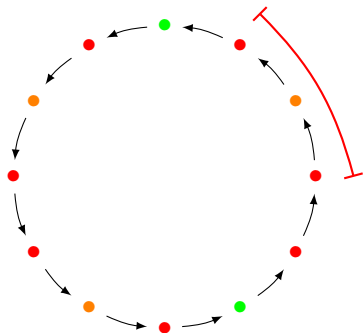


Profiles

Let $e = 2 \cdot 3^m + 1$ and $\infty = m \cdot e$.

Definition (Profile)

The **profile** of a dulc is counting its strings of length m , capped at $m \cdot e$.

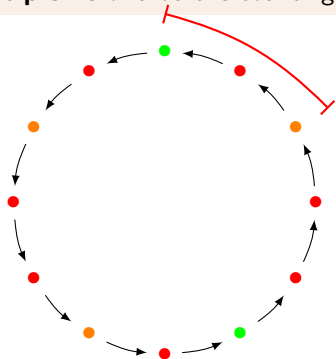


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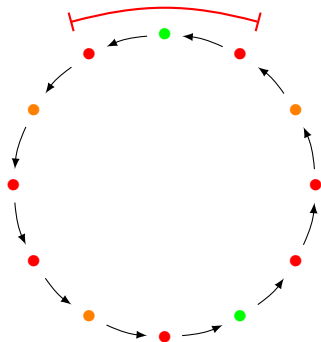
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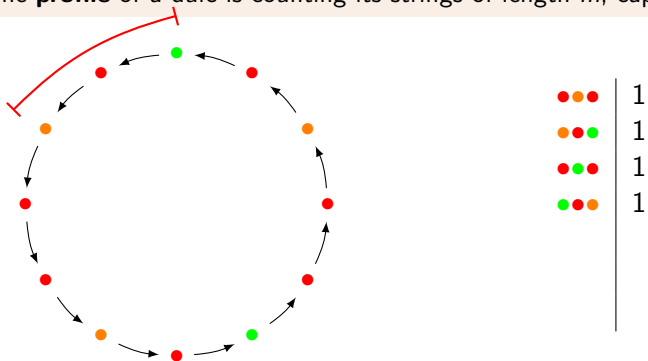
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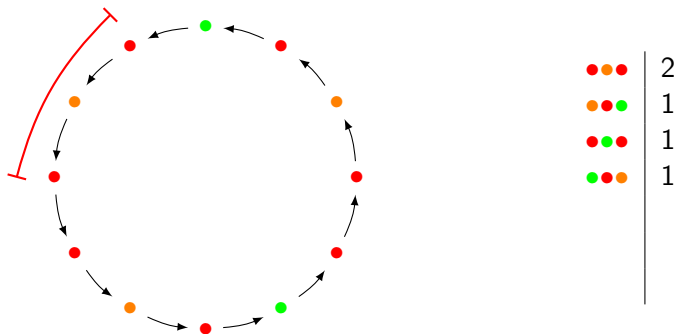


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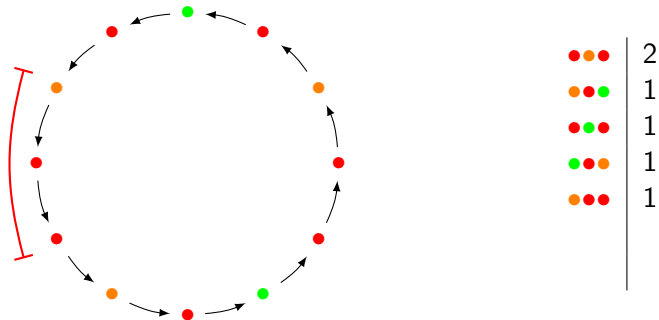


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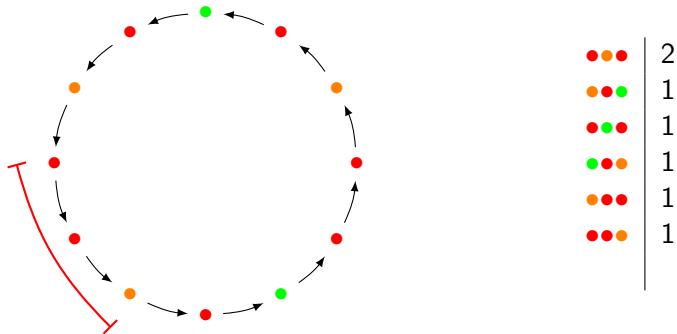


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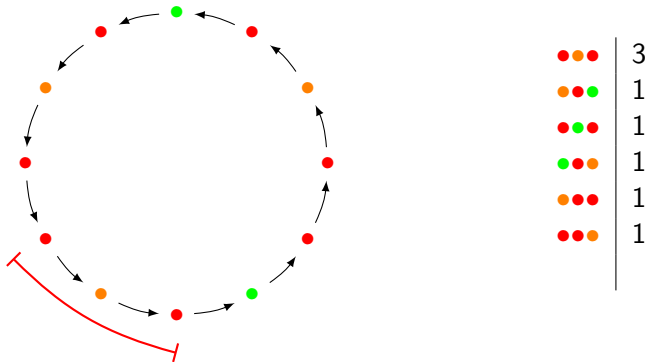


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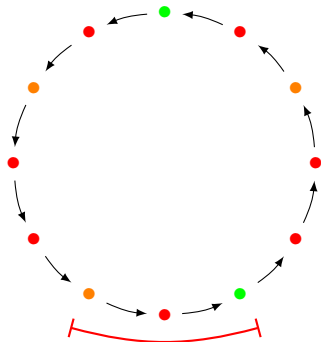


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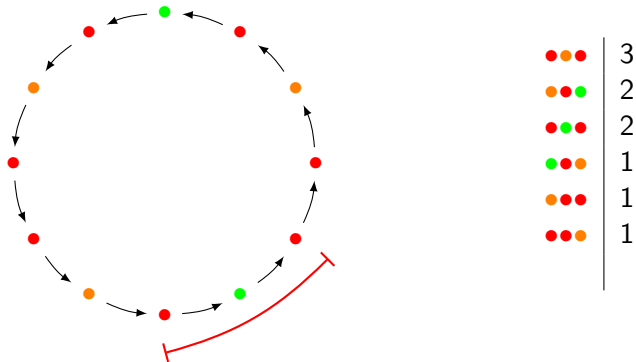
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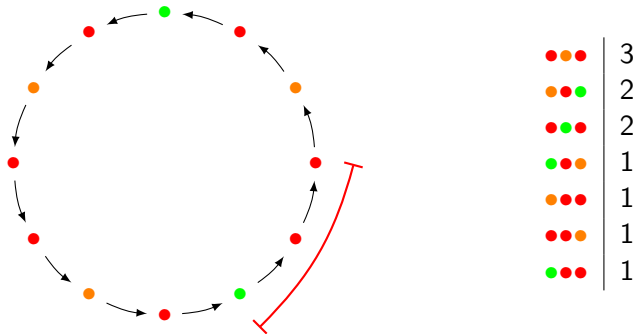


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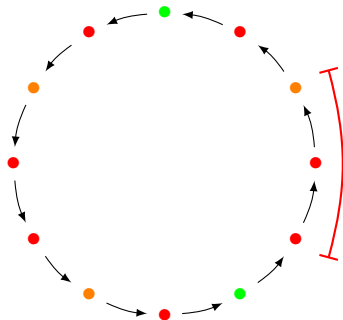


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Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

If $\text{Dulc}(G_1)$ and $\text{Dulc}(G_2)$ have same profile, then $G_1 \equiv_m G_2$.

Ordering profiles

Let π_1, π_2 denote profiles.

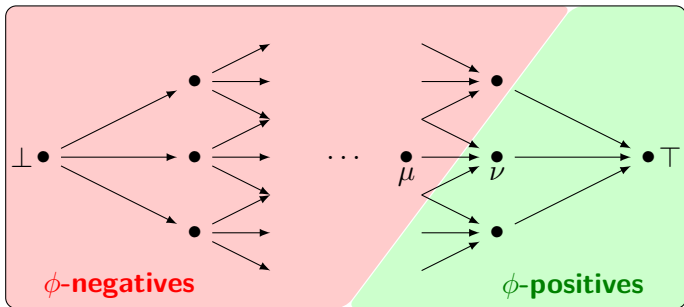
Write $\pi_1 \leq \pi_2$ iff for all s , we have $\pi_1(s) \leq \pi_2(s)$.

Facts

There are finitely many profiles.

There is a minimal profile (\perp) and a maximal profile (\top).

Each profile is either ϕ -positive or ϕ -negative.



Finding G, J, D

Assume ϕ has infinitely many **positive** and **negative** instances.
(Otherwise, ϕ -DYNAMICS is $O(1)$.)

Assume \top is ϕ -**positive**.

(Otherwise, consider $\neg\phi$ and get coNP-hardness.)

Proof (Existence of J and D)

Infinitely many negative graphs, but finitely many negative profiles.

There's a **negative profile** π such that $\pi(\tilde{J}) = \infty$ for some \tilde{J} .

Take a maximal such π . (Any $\pi' > \pi$ is **positive**.)

- Let G be a graph with profile π .
- Let J be a graph with profile \tilde{J} . (So G and $G \sqcup J$ have same profile.)
- Let D be any graph such that $\pi(D) < \infty$.

First-order properties are hard

Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

ϕ -DYNAMICS is either $O(1)$, or NP-hard, or coNP-hard

First-order properties are hard

Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

ϕ -DYNAMICS is either $O(1)$, or NP-hard, or coNP-hard

The same applies to other problems:

ϕ -BIJECTIVE-DYNAMICS

Input: an deterministic automata network F

Promise: F is bijective

Question: does $\mathcal{G}_F \models \phi$?

ϕ -LIMIT-DYNAMICS

Input: an deterministic automata network F

Question: does the limit graph of F satisfy ϕ ?

Other things are also hard

Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

Let ℓ be a level of PH.

There is a formula ϕ_ℓ such that ϕ_ℓ -DYNAMICS is ℓ -hard.

Other things are also hard

Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

Let ℓ be a level of PH.

There is a formula ϕ_ℓ such that ϕ_ℓ -DYNAMICS is ℓ -hard.

Theorem (FGPT, 2020)

The following problem is PSPACE-complete:

AN-DYNAMICS

Input: a network F and a first-order formula ϕ

Question: does $\mathcal{G}_F \models \phi$?

(This time, ϕ is part of the input!)

Monadic Second-Order properties

Definition (Monadic Second-Order property)

- $\forall x : \phi$
- $\forall \mathbf{X} : \phi$ “for all set of configurations \mathbf{X} ”
- $x \in \mathbf{X}$ “x belongs to \mathbf{X} ”
- $T(x, y),$ $x = y,$ $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2,$ $\neg\phi$

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- $T(x, y),$ $x = y,$ $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2,$ $\neg\phi$

Examples

- **Chains.** $T^*(x, y) := \exists \mathbf{P} : x, y \in \mathbf{P} \wedge \forall z \in \mathbf{P} :$
 $\text{deg}_{\mathbf{P}}^+(x) = 1, \text{deg}_{\mathbf{P}}^-(x) = 0,$
 $\text{deg}_{\mathbf{P}}^+(y) = 0, \text{deg}_{\mathbf{P}}^-(y) = 1,$
 $\text{deg}_{\mathbf{P}}^+(z) = 1, \text{deg}_{\mathbf{P}}^-(z) = 1.$
- **Connexity.** $\forall x, y : T^*(x, y) \wedge T^*(y, x).$

The “dynamics” problem over MSO

Now fix ψ an MSO formula.

Definition (ψ -MSO-Dynamics)

ψ -MSO-DYNAMICS

Input: a nondeterministic network F

Question: does $\mathcal{G}_F \models \psi$?

Question

What is the complexity of ψ -MSO-DYNAMICS?

Can we find G, J, D for an arbitrary fixed MSO formula ψ ?

Universal D for MSO

Proposition (Bonnet, FGPT, 2021)

For all m , there's a graph D_m such that for all ψ of rank m , either:

- for all G , we have $G \sqcup D_m \models \psi$; or
- for all G , we have $G \sqcup D_m \not\models \psi$.

We have a “universal D ” that only depends on the rank of ψ !

We might need to consider $\neg\psi$, though.

Universal D for MSO

Proposition (Bonnet, FGPT, 2021)

For all m , there's a graph D_m such that for all ψ of rank m , either: for all G , we have $G \sqcup D_m \models \psi$; or for all G , we have $G \sqcup D_m \not\models \psi$.

Lemma 1 (cf. Courcelle's book)

The relation \equiv_m for MSO has finitely many classes $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{a(m)}$.

Lemma 2

For all G , there's an integer p such that $\bigsqcup^p G \equiv_m \bigsqcup^{p+1} G$.

Proof (Proposition)

Let $A_1, \dots, A_{a(m)}$ be representatives of $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{a(m)}$.

Let p be the max p given by Lemma 2 over $A_1, \dots, A_{a(m)}$.

$$D_m = \bigsqcup_{i=1}^{a(m)} \bigsqcup^p A_i$$

Tree decompositions

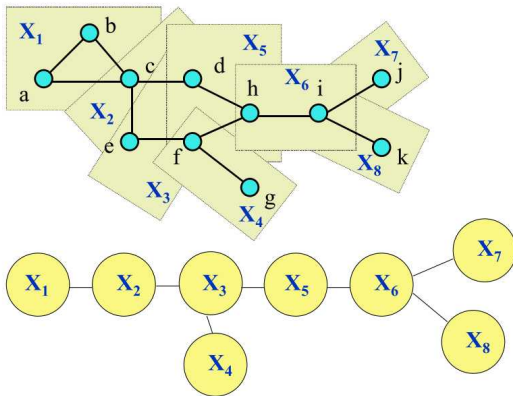


Figure 1: Tree decomposition of width 2 for example graph G . This is the minimum possible treewidth, since G contains a K_3 as a minor.

G, J for MSO

Let k denote an arbitrary integer.

Proposition (FGPT, 2021)

If ψ has an infinity of models and countermodels of treewidth $\leq k$, then there are suitable G and J .

Theorem (Courcelle)

For all ψ, k , there is a tree automaton testing ψ when run on tree decompositions with bags of size k .

Proof (Proposition)

Find the tree automaton for ψ and k and use a pumping lemma.

(We need to replace \sqcup with a more complicated “gluing” operator.)

Many MSO formulae are hard

Let k denote an arbitrary integer.

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What about ψ not satisfying that condition?

- Those with finitely many (counter)models are $O(1)$.
- The other ones are trick (e.g. CLIQUE)...
- The pumping techniques do not work anymore for them.

Perspectives

- The last case of the MSO theorem
- The Boolean case (or other fixed alphabet)
- Other update modes
- Other logics (Counting...)
- Your question here

Thank you for your attention!