



Practical verification of MSO properties of graphs of bounded clique-width

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Objectives

Verify properties of graphs

Properties

- connectedness,
- k-colorability,
- existence of cycles
- existence of paths
- bounds (cardinality, degree, ...)
- ▶ ...

How : using term automata

Note that we consider finite graphs only

Connectedness





Connected

Not connected

Applications to frequency allocation, scheduling, ...

k-Colorability

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{colored}}$ graph : two vertices connected by an edge do not have the same color



Graphs as relational structures

For simplicity, we consider simple, loop-free undirected graphs Extensions are easy Every graph G can be identified with the relational structure (\mathcal{V}_G, edg_G) where \mathcal{V}_G is the set of vertices and $edg_G \subseteq \mathcal{V}_G \times \mathcal{V}_G$ the binary symmetric relation that defines edges.



Expression of graph properties

First order logic (FO) :

- Atomic formulas : x = y, edg(x, y)
- Boolean connectives : \land, \lor, \neg
- Example

 $\begin{array}{l} \textit{Distance}(x,y) \leq 3: \\ x = y \lor \textit{edg}(x,y) \lor \exists z (\textit{edg}(x,z) \land \textit{edg}(z,y)) \lor \\ \exists z, t (\textit{edg}(x,z) \land \textit{edg}(z,t) \land \textit{edg}(t,y)) \end{array}$

- quantification on single vertices x, y ... only
- too weak; can only express "local" properties like having degree or diameter bounded by some fixed integer
- k-colorability (k > 1) cannot be expressed

Second order logic (SO)

- quantifications on relations of arbitrary arity
- ► SO can express most properties of interest in Graph Theory
- too complex (many problems are undecidable or do not have a polynomial solution).

Monadic second order logic (MSO)

- SO formulas that only use quantifications on unary relations (i.e., on sets).
- can express many useful graph properties like connectedness, k-colorability, planarity...

Example : k-colorability

 $\begin{aligned} Stable(X) &: \forall u, v(u \in X \land v \in X \Rightarrow \neg edg(u, v)) \\ Partition(X_1, \dots, X_m) &: \\ \forall x(x \in X_1 \lor \dots \lor x \in X_m) \bigwedge_{i < j} \forall x(x \in X_i \Rightarrow x \notin X_j) \\ k-colorability &: \\ \exists X_1, \dots, X_k Partition(X_1, \dots, X_k) \\ \land Stable(X_1) \land \dots \land Stable(X_k) \end{aligned}$

Interesting algorithmic consequences

The fundamental theorem

Theorem [Courcelle (1990) for tree-width, Courcelle, Makowski, Rotics (2001) for clique-width] Monadic second-order model checking is fixed-parameter tractable for tree-width and clique-width.

- Tree-width and clique-width : graph complexity measures based on graph decompositions
- a decomposition produces a term representation of the graph
- the algorithm is given by a term automaton recognizing the terms denoting graphs satisfying the property
- How can we find this automaton?

Representation of graphs by terms

- depends on the chosen width (here clique-width)
- other widths : tree-width, path-width, boolean-width, ...

```
Let \mathcal{L} a finite set of labels \{a, b, c, \ldots\}.
```

Graphs $G = (\mathcal{V}_G, edg_G)$ s.t.

each vertex $v \in \mathcal{V}_G$ has a label, $label(v) \in \mathcal{L}$.

Operations :

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- constant a denotes a graph with a single vertex labeled by a,
- ▶ ⊕ (binary) : union of disjoint graphs
- add_{a_b} (unary) : adds the missing edges between every vertex labeled a and every vertex labeled b,
- ren_{a_b} (unary) : renames a to b

Let $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{L}}$ be the set of these operations and constants.

Every term $t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{L}})$ defines a graph G_t whose vertices are the constants (leaves) of the term t.

Note that, because of the relabeling operations, the labels of the vertices in the graph G(t) may differ from the ones specified in the leaves of the term.



Definition

A graph has clique-width at most k if it is defined by some $t \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{L}})$ with $|\mathcal{L}| \leq k$.

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Note that different terms may define identical graphs.

Examples Clique (K_n) :



Chain (P_n) :



 $s_2 = add_a_c(s_2)$

 $t_2 = ren_c_b(ren_b_a(s_2))$

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Term automata (Bottom-up) $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{F}, Q, Q_f, \Delta)$ with Δ set of transitions $f(q_1,\ldots,q_n) \rightarrow q$ Automaton 2-STABLE Signature: a b ren_a_b:1 ren_b_a:1 add_a_b:1 oplus:2* States: <a> <ab> <error> Final States: <a> <ab> Transitions a -> <a> b -> $add_a_b(\langle a \rangle) \rightarrow \langle a \rangle$ $add_a_b() \rightarrow $ ren_a_b(<a>) -> ren_b_a(<a>) -> <a> $ren_a_b() \rightarrow $ ren_b_a() -> <a> $ren_a_b(\langle ab \rangle) \rightarrow \langle b \rangle$ $ren_b_a(\langle ab \rangle) \rightarrow \langle a \rangle$ oplus*(<a>,<a>) -> <a> oplus*(,) -> oplus*(<a>,) -> <ab> oplus*(,<ab>) -> <ab> oplus*(<a>,<ab>) -> <ab> oplus*(<ab>,<ab>) -> <ab> add_a_b(<ab>) -> <error> ren_a_b(<error>) -> <error> add_a_b(<error>) -> <error> ren_b_a(<error>) -> <error> oplus*(<error>,q) -> <error> for all q

Run of an automaton on a term

The term is recognized when we obtain a final state at the root. G



add_a_b(ren_a_b(oplus(a,b))) -> add_a_b(ren_a_b(oplus(<a>,b)))
-> add_a_b(ren_a_b(oplus(<a>,)) -> add_a_b(ren_a_b(<ab>))
-> add_a_b() ->

Free set variables $P(X_1, \ldots, X_m)$

Each X_i corresponds to a subset of vertices To express membership of vertices to the X_i , the constants (representing the vertices of the graph) are associated with a bit-vector $k_1 \dots k_m$. $k_i = 1$ iff the vertex belongs to X_i .

 $Stable(X_1)$: the subgraph induced by X_1 is a stable $\mathcal{A}_{Stable(X_1)}$ can be obtained from $\mathcal{A}_{Stable()}$

```
New signature:
a^0 a^1 b^0 b^1 ren_a_b:1 ren_b_a:1 add_a_b:1 oplus:2*
New constant transitions:
a^0 -> # a^1 -> <a>
b^0 -> # b^1 -> <b>
New non constant transitions:
ren_*_*(#) -> # add_*_*(#) -> # oplus(#,q) -> q for all q
```

```
add_a_b(oplus(oplus(a^1,b^0),a^1)) ->+
add_a_b(oplus(oplus(<a>,#),<a>)) ->
add_a_b(oplus(#,<a>)) -> add_a_b(<a>) -> <a>
```

Example of the $Path(X_1, X_2)$ property

Graph G, X_1 and X_2 two subsets of vertices of G Predicate $Path(X_1, X_2)$, true when $X_1 \subseteq X_2$, $|X_1| = 2$ and some path in $G[X_2]$ links the two vertices of X_1 .



$$\begin{array}{ll} X_1 = \{v_3, v_8\} \\ X_2 = \{v_1, v_3, v_4, v_7, v_8\} \\ v_8 - v_7 - v_1 - v_4 - v_3 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ll} X_1 = \{v_3, v_8\} \\ X_2 = \{v_1, v_3, v_4, v_8\} \end{array}$$

The following term describes the previous graph with one of the set variables assignment :

```
\begin{array}{c} add\_c\_d(\\ add\_b\_d(\\ \oplus(d^{01}, \\ ren\_d\_b(\\ add\_a\_d(\\ \oplus(d^{00}, \\ add\_c\_e(\\ \oplus(add\_a\_b(add\_b\_c(\oplus(a^{11}, \oplus(b^{01}, c^{00})))), \\ \oplus(add\_a\_b(add\_b\_e(\oplus(a^{00}, \oplus(b^{01}, e^{11}))))))))))\\ \\ add\_a\_b(add\_b\_e(\oplus(a^{00}, \oplus(b^{01}, e^{11}))))))))))\end{array}
```

The $Path(X_1, X_2)$ can be expressed by the following MSO formula :

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x [x \in X_1 \Rightarrow x \in X_2] \land \exists x, y [x \in X_1 \land y \in X_1 \land x \neq y \land \\ \forall z (z \in X_1 \Rightarrow x = z \lor y = z) \land \\ \forall X_3 [x \in X_3 \land \forall u, v (u \in X_3 \land u \in X_2 \land v \in X_2 \land edg(u, v) \Rightarrow v \in X_3) \\ \Rightarrow y \in X_3] \end{aligned}$$

of quantifier-height 5.

Uppercase variables correspond to sets of vertices, and lowercase variables correspond to individual vertices.

The problem

Input :

- ► an MSO formula φ = P(X₁,...,X_m) expressing a graph property
- ▶ a graph *G* represented by a term t_G with an assignment to X_1, \ldots, X_m

 ${\sf Question} : \\$

 \blacktriangleright Does G satisfy the graph property expressed by ϕ

Example

 $Path(X_1, X_2)$ and the previous graph (with an assignment of the sets variables).

The general solution

1. Transform the MSO formula ϕ into an automaton \mathcal{A}_{ϕ}

2. Run \mathcal{A}_{ϕ} on the term t_{G} representing the graph.

In order to process an MSO formula, we must standardize ϕ .

- 1. translate it into an equivalent formula
 - without first-order variables (same quantifier-height)
 - with existential quantifiers only
 - with boolean operations only (and, or, negation)
 - and simple atomic properties like X = Ø, Sgl(X) (denoting that X is a singleton set), X_i ⊆ X_j for which an automaton is easily computable.
- 2. standardize the names of set variables.

Standardization of the formula (Example)

Note that this translation is here done by hand

Automata for atomic formulas

It is necessary to implement for once the ad-hoc contructions for the automata corresponding to atomic formulas

- $Edg(X_1, X_2)$,
- Sgl(X),
- $X_1 \subseteq X_2$,
- $X_1 = X_2$,
- ▶ ...

Some variable change or homomorphisms (and inverse homomorphisn) may be applied in order to obtain all the desired versions.

Some variable change or inverse homomorphisms may be applied in order to obtain all the desired versions. These transformations preserve determinism.

For instance, from an automaton for a property P(), we can easily obtain variants for P(X), $P(\overline{X})$, $P(X_i)$, $P(X_i \cup X_j)$, $P(X_i \cap X_j)$, $P(\dots, X_i, \dots)$.

The general algorithm for computing the automaton

If the formula is atomic (or if we already have an automaton for it) then return the corresponding automaton.

Otherwise :

- disjunction $\phi = \phi_1 \lor \phi_2$: union of \mathcal{A}_{ϕ_1} and \mathcal{A}_{ϕ_2} .
- conjunction $\phi = \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$: intersection of \mathcal{A}_{ϕ_1} and \mathcal{A}_{ϕ_2} .
- ▶ negation $\phi = \neg \phi'$: complementation of $\mathcal{A}_{\phi'}$. ($\mathcal{A}_{\phi'}$ must be determinized first).
- ► existential formula ∃X_i, P(X₁,...,X_m) : projection of A_{P(X1,...,Xm}) on (1,...,i-1,i+1,m). which implies a shift in the indices of variables X_{i+1},...X_m. creates nondeterminism

Autowrite

- Lisp software (currently 15000 lines)
- First designed to check call-by-need properties of term rewriting systems.
- Implements botton-up term-automata and most of the well-known operations on such automata
 - union
 - intersection
 - determinization
 - minimization
 - complementation
 - projection
 - cylindrification
 - (inverse) homomorphism
 - ▶ ...



```
(setf *p9* (intersection-automata
            (list (setup-singleton-automaton *cwd* 4 3)
                  (setup-singleton-automaton *cwd* 4 4)
                  (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 3 1)
                  (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 3 2)
                  (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 4 2)
                  (complement-automaton
                   (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 4 1))
                  (setup-edge-automaton *cwd* 4 3 4))))
(setf *p8* (project-and-simplify-automaton *p9* '(0 1)))
(setf *p7* (complement-automaton *p8*))
(setf *p7p* (cylindrify-and-simplify-automaton *p7* '(2 3)))
(setf *p6* (intersection-automata
            (list *p7p*
                  (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 3 1)
                  (complement-automaton
                   (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 4 1)))))
(setf *p5* (vprojection *p6* '(1 2 3))))
```

```
(setf *p5* ;; blows up for cwd=3
      (ndeterminize-automaton *p5*))
(setf *p5* (nsimplify-automaton *p5*))
(setf *p4* (complement-automaton *p5*))
(setf *p4p* (cylindrify-and-simplify-automaton *p4* 0))
(setf *p3* (intersection-automata
            (list *p4p*
                  (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 3 1)
                  (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 4 4 1)
                  (complement-automaton
                   (setup-equality-automaton *cwd* 4 3 4))
                  (setup-cardinality-automaton *cwd* 4 1 2))))
(setf *p2* (intersection-automata
            (list *p3*
                  (setup-singleton-automaton *cwd* 4 3)
                  (setup-singleton-automaton *cwd* 4 4))))
(setf *p1* (project-and-simplify-automaton *p2* '(0 1)))
(setf *p* (intersection-automata
           (list *p1* (setup-subset-automaton *cwd* 2 1 2))))
```

Results for the Path property

cwd	2	3
$\mathcal{A}/\mathit{min}(\mathcal{A})$	25 / 12	out

- Runs out of memory for cwd = 3, although we know that the minimal automaton has 124 states which is still reasonnable.
- The problem comes from intermediate steps.
- ▶ The non-deterministic version of $A_{P_5(X_2,X_3,X_4)}$ has 308 states.
- Its complementation triggers its determinization which causes the blow up.

Second method : direct construction of the automaton

Observation : intermediate steps induce an exponential blow up although the final automaton is not so big. Idea : give a direct construction of the automaton. This method is not general.

For each property, one must give a description of the automaton

- description of the states,
- description of the transitions rules
- the state computed at t encodes information about the graph G_t defined by the subterm processed so far.
- the transition function computes the new state (the new information) from the information contained in the states obtained for the subterms.

Direct construction of an automaton for PATH(X1,X2)

Such a description exists for the path property The direct construction works up to cwd = 4.

cwd	2	3	4	5
$\mathcal{A}/min(\mathcal{A})$	25 / 12	213 / 124	4792 / 2015	out

Number of states of the unique minimal automaton : $2^{cwd^2/2} < |Q| < 2^{cwd^2+2}$ For cwd = 5: 33554432 < |Q|Comment : the automata are simply too big !

Experiments with a direct construction

Illustration with connectedness

- In the automaton for connectedness, roughly, the state accessible from a term t contain the set of sets of labels of the connected components of G_t.
- The final states are all the singleton states.

Direct construction for connectedness



Results for the connectedness property

Number of states :
$$2^{2^{cwd}-1} + 2^{cwd} - 2$$

- ▶ works up to *cwd* = 3
- runs out of memory

cwd	2	3	4
$\mathcal{A}/\mathit{min}(\mathcal{A})$	10 / 6	134 / 56	out

For cwd = 4 : |Q| = 32782

Number of states of the minimal automaton : $|Q| > 2^{2^{\lfloor cwd/2 \rfloor}}$

Comment : the automata are simply too big !

Fly automata

Principle : the transitions are represented by a function (in our case a Lisp function); the complete sets of transitions, states and finalstates are never computed in extenso.

```
fly automaton \mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{F}, final, \delta): abstraction of the usual automaton (with stored transitions)
```

```
(defun fly-path-automaton (cwd)
 (make-fly-automaton
  (setup-signature cwd 2)
  (lambda (root states) ;; f(q1 ... qn) -> q
     (path-transitions-fun root states)))
  (lambda (state)
     (path-final-p state)))
```

(defclass abstract-automaton (named-object signed-object)
 ((transitions :accessor get-transitions)))

```
(defclass fly-automaton (abstract-automaton)
 ((finalstates-fun :reader finalstates-fun)))
```

Remark : in compilation, one uses small automata to process large words. Here we use huge automata to process small terms (say 100 to 100000 nodes).

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Connectedness case

Expression of non connectedness :

$$\exists X \left[\exists x \in X \land \exists y \notin X \land \forall x, y (Edg(x, y) \Rightarrow [x \in X \Leftrightarrow y \in X]) \right]$$

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Lisp description

(defclass connectedness-state (graph-state) ((components :type list :reader components)))

```
(defmethod graph-add-target (a b (co connectedness-state)) ...)
(defmethod graph-ren-target (a b (co connectedness-state)) ...)
```

```
(defmethod graph-oplus-target
  ((co1 connectedness-state) (co2 connectedness-state))
  (make-connectedness-state
   (append (components co1) (components co2))))
```

(defmethod connectedness-transitions-fun ((root constant-symbol) (states (eql nil))) (let ((port (name-to-port (name root)))) (make-connectedness-state (list (make-port-state (list port))))))

Fly automata

- runs on all our data
- no limitation on the clique-width to create the automaton
- limitations come when running the automaton on very deep terms (stack exhaustion)
- runs in 1mn on a grid 80x80 (cwd=81) connectedness

The implementation of operations on fly automata uses intensively the functional programming paradigm.

Operation on fly automata

- Union
- Intersection
- Determinization
- Complementation
- Homomorphism

Uses intensively the functional programming paradigm

Operations on Fly-automata

```
(defmethod complement-automaton ((f fly-automaton))
  (make-fly-automaton
    (get-transitions f)
    (complement-finalstate-fun f)))
(defmethod union-automaton
    ((f1 fly-automaton) (f2 fly-automaton))
  (make-fly-automaton
    (lambda (root states)
      (target-union
        (apply-transition-function-gft
          root states (get-transitions f1)
        (apply-transition-function-gft
          root states (get-transitions f2)))))
    (lambda (state)
      (or (finalstate-p state f1)
          (finalstate-p state f2)))))
```

Fly-automata versus Table-automata

Table-automata

- compiled version of fly-automata
- faster for recognizing a term
- use space for storing the transitions table
- the space depends on the clique-width

Fly-automata

- use constant space
- slower for term recognition because of the calls to the transition function
- the time depends on the clique-width

Use

a table-automaton when the transitions table can be computed

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a fly-automaton otherwise

Experimental results

Connectedness on graphs P_N (*cwd* = 3)



Some properties

Direct constructions of the automata for the following properties.

Polynomial

- Stable()
- ▶ Partition(X₁,...,X_m)
- k-Cardinality()

non polynomial

• k-Coloring (C_1, \ldots, C_k) compilable up to cwd = 4 (for k = 3)

- Connectedness() compilable up to cwd = 3
- Clique() compilable up to cwd = 4
- Path (X_1, X_2) compilable up to cwd = 4
- Forest() (no cycle) not compilable

Some more properties

With the previous properties, using homomorphisms and boolean operations, we obtain automata for

- k-Colorability() compilable up to k = 3 (cwd = 2), k = 2 (cwd = 3)
- k-Acyclic-Colorability() not compilable (uses Forest)
- k-Chord-Free-Cycle()
- k-Max-Degre()
- Vertex-Cover (X_1) 2^{*cwd*} states
- k-Vertex-Cover()

Example of vertex-cover

a combination of already defined automata

```
;; Vertex-Cover(X1) = Stable(V-X1)
(defun fly-vertex-cover (cwd)
  (x1-to-cx1 ;; Stable(V-X1)
    ;; Stable(X1)
    (fly-subgraph-stable-automaton cwd 1 1)))
(defun fly-k-vertex-cover (k cwd)
  ;; exists X1 s.t. vertex-cover(X1) and card(X1) = k
 (vprojection
  (intersection-automaton
   (fly-vertex-cover cwd) ;; Vertex-Cover(X1)
   (fly-subgraph-cardinality-automaton ;; Card(X1) = k
    k cwd 1 1)))
```

Experimental results

3-colorability on square-grids $N \times N$ (clique-width N + 1)



Experimental results

3-colorability on rectangular grids $6 \times N$ (clique-width 8)



Results and future work

Property	graph	cwd	Time
4-ac-colorability	petersen	7	17mn
3-colorability	grid 6x33	8	85mn

Size of the graphs Limit around 1 000 000 vertices

 \Rightarrow terms of size 4 000 000

need to increase stack size because the run of an automaton on a term is recursive

- more graph properties
- tests on real graphs and random graphs
- graph decomposition using few labels (parsing problem)
- the concept of fly-automata is general and could be applied to other domains