A simple P-complete problem and its representations by language equations

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September 13, 2007

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• Family of devices.

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- Turing machines
- 2 Linear context-free grammars
- Trellis automata

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Problem

Find small Boolean grammars for P-complete sets.

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Context-free grammars: Rules of the form

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$$\mathsf{A} \to \alpha_1 \& \dots \& \alpha_m \& \neg \beta_1 \& \dots \& \neg \beta_n$$

"If w is generated by each α_i and by none of β_j , then w is generated by A".

Alexander Okhotin

• Quadruple $G = (\Sigma, N, P, S)$, where $S \in N$ and rules in P are

 $A \rightarrow \alpha_1 \& \dots \& \alpha_m \& \neg \beta_1 \& \dots \& \neg \beta_n$, with $A \in N$, $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in (\Sigma \cup N)^*$

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• Language equations for G:

$$A = \bigcup_{A \to \alpha_1 \& \dots \& \alpha_m \& \neg \beta_1 \& \dots \& \neg \beta_n \in P} \left[\bigcap_{i=1}^m \alpha_i \cap \bigcap_{j=1}^n \overline{\beta_j} \right]$$
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- Another semantics: Kountouriotis et al. (DLT 2006).

• Generate $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \ge 0\}$, $\{ww \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$, $\{a^{2^n} \mid n \ge 0\}$, etc.

Example

- $S \rightarrow AB\& \neg DC$
- $A \rightarrow aA \mid \varepsilon$
- $B \rightarrow bBc \mid \varepsilon$
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$S \rightarrow AB\& \neg DC$	$S = AB \cap \overline{DC}$	$\{a^i b^i c^j \mid i \neq j\}$
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$B \rightarrow bBc \mid \varepsilon$	$B = \{b\}B\{c\} \cup \{\varepsilon\}$	$\{b^j c^j \mid j \ge 0\}$
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- Practical parsing methods: recursive descent, generalized LR.
- ✓ Completion of the context-free grammars.

(one-way real-time cellular automata)

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 $\begin{array}{ccc} O I & O I & I O \\ a_1 & a_2 \end{array} \quad I & (a_n) \end{array}$

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- Equivalent to linear conjunctive grammars.
- $\bullet\,$ Closed under \cup,\cap,\sim , not closed under concatenation and star.
- Can recognize $\{wcw\}$, $\{a^nb^nc^n\}$, $\{a^nb^{2^n}\}$, VALC.

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Problem

Construct smaller descriptions.

Circuit Value Problem (Ladner, 1975)

Given a Boolean circuit with gates $\{\lor, \land, \neg\}$ and a vector of input values, determine whether it evaluates to true.

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Given a planar Boolean circuit with gates $\{\lor, \land, \neg\}$, $\langle \ldots \rangle$

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R. Greenlaw, H. Hoover, W. Ruzzo, Limits to parallel computation: *P*-completeness theory, 1995.

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✓ A new variant of CVP.



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• Each gate:

$$C_i = C_{i-1} \downarrow C_{j_i}$$









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Theorem

Sequential NOR CVP is P-complete.



Reducing CVP to Sequential NOR CVP $C_0 \bullet$ $C_j \bullet$

• Simulating negation.





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 $C_0 \bullet$ $C_j \bullet$ $C_k \bullet$ $C_{i-1} \bullet$

- Simulating negation.
- Simulating conjunction.



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Yes-instances as a formal language

• Alphabet {*a*, *b*}

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- Alphabet {*a*, *b*}
- Gate $C_i = C_{i-1} \downarrow C_{j_i}$ represented by $a^{i-j_i-1}b$.

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Yes-instances as a formal language

- Alphabet {*a*, *b*}
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- Circuit represented by $C_n \ldots C_2 C_1$.

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- Circuit represented by $C_n \ldots C_2 C_1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ a^{n-j_n-1}b \dots a^{2-j_2-1}ba^{1-j_1-1}b \mid n \geqslant 0 \text{ and } \exists y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n : \\ y_0 = y_n = 1 \text{ and} \\ \forall i, \ 0 \leqslant j_i < i \text{ and } y_i = \neg(y_{i-1} \lor y_{j_i}) \end{aligned} \end{aligned}$$

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 - **1** w is **not** a circuit that has value 1.

- ε is a circuit that has value 1.
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 - w is not a circuit that has value 1.

2 $w = (a^*b)^m u$, where u is not a circuit that has value 1.

- ε is a circuit that has value 1.
- *a^mbw* has value 1 if and only if
 - **1** *w* is **not** a circuit that has value 1.
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Boolean grammar for Sequential NOR CVP

$$S \rightarrow \neg AbS\&\neg CS$$

- $\begin{array}{rrrr} A & \rightarrow & aA \mid \varepsilon \\ C & \rightarrow & aCAb \mid b \end{array}$

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 - Time O(n) using memoization.

Alexander Okhotin

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3 x 3

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More questions on conjunctive and Boolean grammars.

• A list of 9 problems (Okhotin, BEATCS Feb. 2007)

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- 8 remain open.