Logic meets graph theory and algorithm design

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Area of **graph algorithms**:

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- CLIQUE: Does G have k pairwise adjacent vertices?
- 3-Coloring: Does G have a proper coloring using 3 colors?
- Намістолісіту: Does *G* have a cycle visiting every vertex once?



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Model-checking \mathcal{L} **on** \mathscr{C} : Given $\varphi \in \mathcal{L}$ and $G \in \mathscr{C}$, decide $G \models \varphi$.

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Monadic Second-Order logic, second variant (MSO₂**)**:

- vars for (sets of) vertices & edges, can check membership & incidence

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- Colored path \rightsquigarrow Word $w \in \Sigma^{\star}$.
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- Just run \mathcal{A} on w in linear time.



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Theorem (Courcelle)

For every fixed *k*, every MSO₂-definable problem can be decided in linear time on graphs of treewidth $\leq k$.

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Theorem (Excluded Grid Minor)

There is a function $f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ such that if the treewidth of *G* is larger than f(k), then *G* contains a $k \times k$ grid minor.



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Reason: Encode an arbitrary

adjacency matrix in a grid minor.



Consider a graph class \mathscr{C} . Then either:

C has **bounded treewidth**.

MSO₂ model-checking on colored \mathscr{C} in **time** $f(\varphi) \cdot n$.

In colored \mathscr{C} one can MSO_2 -interpret only tree-like graphs. C has arbitrarily large grid minors.

 MSO_2 model-checking on colored \mathscr{C} as **hard** as on general graphs.

In colored \mathscr{C} one can MSO_2 -interpret all graphs.

| | graph theory | | |
|--|-----------------|---|--|
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Definition (Nowhere denseness)

A class of graphs \mathscr{C} is **nowhere dense** if for every $d \in \mathbb{N}$ there is t(d)

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Suppose $\mathscr C$ is a class of graphs closed under taking subgraphs. Then:

- $-\mathscr{C}$ nowhere dense \Rightarrow MC FO in time $f(\varphi) \cdot n^{1+\varepsilon}$ for any $\varepsilon > 0$.
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Definition (Monadic dependence)

A class of graphs \mathscr{C} is **monadically dependent** if one cannot FO-interpret all graphs in colored graphs from \mathscr{C} .

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So far...



Intermediate logic



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Can we find natural variants of logic between FO and MSO?



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Proposition: logic FO + conn corresponds to **topological-minor-free classes**.

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$\mathrm{FO}+\mathrm{conn}$

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Key: A known decomposition into parts where FO + conn reduces to FO.

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Thanks for attention!

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