Grammar-based tree compression: combinatorics and algorithms

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The size of \mathcal{G} is the number of variables (= number of productions).











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Berstel, Brlek 1987

 $opt(w) \leq O(\frac{n}{\log_{\sigma} n})$ (assuming $\sigma \geq 2$).

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Charikar et al. 2002, Rytter 2004, Jez 2013

There is a linear time algorithm that produces for every word w of length n an SLP of size at most $\mathcal{O}(\log(n) \cdot \operatorname{opt}(w))$.

Ganardi, Jeż, L 2021

From a given SLP \mathcal{G} of size *n* such that $w \coloneqq val(\mathcal{G})$ has length *N*, one can compute in time $\mathcal{O}(n)$ an SLP \mathcal{H} such that:

- $val(\mathcal{H}) = val(\mathcal{G})$
- $\blacktriangleright |\mathcal{H}| \in \mathcal{O}(n)$
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From a given SLP \mathcal{G} one can built in linear time a data structure that allows to solve for $w = val(\mathcal{G})$ the following problem in time $\mathcal{O}(\log |w|)$:

- Input: a position $i \in [1, |w|]$
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Has been shown by Bille et al. using several complicated data structures.

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A DAG can be seen as a regular tree grammar:

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} A & \rightarrow & d(D,B,C) \\ B & \rightarrow & d(D,D,C,C) \\ C & \rightarrow & b(E) \\ D & \rightarrow & c \\ F & \rightarrow & a \end{array}$$



Clearly, every tree has a unique minimal DAG: merge nodes in which isomorphic subtrees are rooted as long as possible.

Downey, Sethi, Tarjan 1980

For a given tree, its minimal DAG can be computed in linear time.

DAGs and asymptotic combinatorics

Bousquet-Mélou, L, Maneth, Noeth 2015

The average number of nodes of the minimal DAG for a uniformly chosen tree of size *n* with $k = |\Gamma|$ node labels is

$$\sqrt{\frac{\ln(4k)}{\pi}} \cdot \frac{n}{\sqrt{\ln n}} \cdot (1 + o(1)).$$

- Extends a result of Flajolet, Sipala and Steyaert for binary unlabelled trees.
- Similar results that apply to certain classes of random tree models were recently shown by Seelbach-Benkner and Wagner.

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A (forest) context is a forest, where exactly one leaf is labelled with the special symbol $* \notin \Gamma$.

Forest algebra expressions

Forests and forest contexts can be also written as parenthesized expressions:

- A forest : a(bc) b(b(cca)a) a
- A forest context: a(bc) b(b(cc*)a) a

Then we have

- $\blacktriangleright F \ominus G = F G$
- $F \oplus G = F[* \to G]$

A forest algebra expression is an expression that is built from the constants

- a and $a_* := a(*)$ for $a \in \Gamma$ and
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Expressions must be well-typed (F = type of forests, C = type of contexts): $F \ominus F$, $F \ominus C$, $C \ominus F$, $C \oplus F$ and $C \oplus C$ are allowed.

A forest straight-line program (FSLP) is a forest algebra expression that is represented as a DAG (Gascon, L, Maneth, Reh, Sieber 2018).

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For an FSLP \mathcal{G} we denote with val(\mathcal{G}) the forest produced by \mathcal{G} .

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 - tree straight-line programs (Bussato, L, Maneth 2005): for node-labelled binary trees
 - top DAGs (Bille, Gørtz, Landau, Weimann 2013): very similar to FSLPs
- A (string) SLP is an FSLP that only uses the constants a for a ∈ Γ and the operation ⊖.

Such an FSLP produces a forest consisting of a chain of singleton trees.

Hucke, L, Noeth 2014

There is an algorithm that produces in linear time from a tree (or forest) of size *n* with *k* different node labels an FSLP of size $O(\frac{n}{\log_k n})$.

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Proof idea:

1. Partition the input forest F of size n into $\Theta(\frac{n}{\ell})$ many subforests and subcontexts of size in $[\ell, 2\ell]$.

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- 3. The FSLP consists of two parts, both of size $\mathcal{O}(\frac{n}{\log_k n})$:

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 - A DAG producing the subforests and subcontexts from 1.

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Related work:

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- Munro, Nicholson, Seelbach Benkner, Wild 2021: similar two-step approach; universal tree coding + efficient querying

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- L, Maneth, Mennicke 2013: TreeRePair; a practical algorithm for computing small FSLPs
The smallest grammar problem for trees

L, Jeż 2013

There is a linear time algorithm that produces for every forest F of size n an FSLP of size $O(\log(n) \cdot \operatorname{opt}(F))$.

Balancing forest straight-line program

Ganardi, Jeż, L 2021

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From a given FSLP \mathcal{G} one can built in linear time a data structure that allows to solve for $F = val(\mathcal{G})$ the following problem in time $\mathcal{O}(\log |F|)$:

- Input: a preorder number of a node v in F
- Output: the label of the node v.

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- there are two types of variables:
 - x, y, z, x' etc. for tree nodes
 - X, Y, Z, Z' etc. for sets of tree nodes

- ▶ atomic formulas (*x*, *y* are node variables, *X* is a node set variable):
 - ▶ *x* = *y*
 - $x \in X$,
 - label(x) = a for $a \in \Gamma$
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- larger formulas are constructed from atomic formulas using
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Then query $(\phi(X), F)$ is the sets $A \subseteq \text{nodes}(F)$ such that $F \models \phi(A)$.

Grammar-based tree compression

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Note: query($\phi(X), F$) may have size $2^{|F|}$, i.e., size $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(|G|)}}$ if F is given by the FSLP \mathcal{G} .

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What does it mean to enumerate efficiently query($\phi(X)$, val(\mathcal{G}))?

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- Assume that printing $y_{\pi(i)}$ is completed at time t_i $(t_1 < t_2 < \cdots < t_k)$.
- \mathcal{A} works in output-linear delay if $t_i t_{i-1} \leq \mathcal{O}(|y_i|)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq k$.

L, Schmid 2024

Fix a query $\phi(X)$. One can enumerate query $(\phi(X), val(\mathcal{G}))$ for a given FSLP \mathcal{G} in

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Previous results:

 Bagan 2006, Courcelle 2009: linear preprocessing and output-linear delay for uncompressed trees

L, Schmid 2024

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- linear preprocessing time and
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Proof strategy: Let Γ be the set node labels of our trees.

- 1. Translate the MSO-query $\phi(X)$ into a node-selecting tree automaton \mathcal{A} (a tree automaton working on the label set $\Gamma \times \{0, 1\}$).
- 2. Reduce enumeration of query(A, val(G)) to the enumeration of query(B, unfold(G)), where
 - \blacktriangleright unfold($\mathcal{G})$ is the forest algebra expression obtained by unfolding \mathcal{G} and
 - \mathcal{B} is a leaf-selecting tree automaton.
- Bagan solved the previous enumeration problem for the case where the tree unfold(G) is given explicitly.

We extend Bagan's algorithm to DAG-compressed trees.

