day 4

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# Logical foundations of databases

Diego Figueira

Gabriele Puppis

CNRS LaBRI



- Conjunctive Queries (correspondence with SQL and Relational Algebra)
- Homomorphisms and canonical structure
- Evaluation of CQ (NP-completeness)
- Containment, Equivalence, Minimisation of CQ (NP-completeness)
- Extension to functional dependencies (chased canonical structure)
- Acyclic Conjunctive Queries

underlying undirected graph is acyclic

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$$\phi(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) = \exists \mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{z}) \land \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{t}) \land \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{y},\mathbf{z}) \land \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) \quad \mathbf{x} \quad \mathbf{z} \quad \mathbf{y} \quad \mathbf{t}$$

underlying undirected graph is acyclic



$$\phi(x,y) = \exists z . E(x,z) \land E(z,t) \land E(y,z) \land E(x,y) \xrightarrow{x} \xrightarrow{z} \xrightarrow{t} t$$



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On general structures: a CQ  $\phi$  is acyclic if it has a join tree

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Alternatively, if its canonical hyper-graph is α-acyclic.

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$$\phi_{1} = R(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}) \land R(x_{1}, x_{6}, x_{5}) \land R(x_{3}, x_{4}, x_{5})$$
 join tree?  

$$R(x_{3}, x_{4}, x_{5}) \longrightarrow R(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}) \longrightarrow R(x_{1}, x_{6}, x_{5}) ?$$

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$$\phi_{2} = R(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}) \land R(x_{1}, x_{6}, x_{5}) \land R(x_{3}, x_{4}, x_{5}) \land R(x_{1}, x_{3}, x_{5})$$
 join tree?





The evaluation problem for acyclic CQ sentences is in  $O(|\varphi|.|D|)$ 

[Yannakakis]

#### The semi-join

$$\begin{split} R \Join_{\{i_1=j_1,\ldots,i_n=j_n\}} S = \{ (x_1,\ldots,x_n) \in R \mid \text{there is } (y_1,\ldots,y_m) \in S \\ & \text{where } x_{i_k} = y_{j_k} \text{ for all } k \rbrace \end{split}$$

Note:  $\mathbb{R} \Join_{\{i_1=j_1,\dots,i_n=j_n\}} S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ 



The evaluation problem for acyclic CQ sentences is in  $O(|\phi|.|D|)$ [Yannakakis]

- 1. Compute the join tree T for  $\varphi$
- 2. Populate the nodes of T with corresponding relations of D
- 3. For every leaf  $S(x_1,...,x_n)$  with parent  $R(y_1,...,y_m)$  perform  $R \Join \{i=j | x_i = y_j\} S$ and delete the leaf  $S(x_1,...,x_n)$ .
- 4. Repeat until we are left with one node. If it contains a non-empty relation, then D satisfies  $\phi$ , otherwise it does not.



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in linear time

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remove all the tuples from the parent that do not match a tuple from the child

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#### How to compute a join tree?

GYO reducts [Graham, Yu, Ozsoyoglu]

An ear of a hypergraph (V,E) is a hyperedge e in E such that one of the following conditions holds:

(1) There is a witness e' in E, such that  $e' \neq e$  and each

vertex from e is either

(a) **only** in **e** or

(b) in **e'**; or

(2) e has no intersection with any other hyperedge.











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Theorem: TFAE

- The GYO reduct of a hyper graph G is empty
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We can test acyclicity by computing the GYO reduct!
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> **E.g.** R(x,y,z), S(x,y), T(x,x), R(x,x,y), T(y,y)

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$$R(x,y,z) - R(x,x,y) - T(y,y)$$

$$S(x,y)$$

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Remove ears until you're left with only one!



E.g.  

$$R(x,y,z), S(x,y), T(x,x), R(x,x,y), T(y,y)$$
  
 $T(x,x)$   
 $R(x,y,z)$   
 $R(x,y,z)$   
 $R(x,x,y)$   
 $T(y,y)$ 



#### [Gottlob, Leone, Scarcello]

- Evaluation problem for boolean ACQ's is LOGCFL-complete
- $NL \subseteq LOGCFL \subseteq AC^1 \subseteq NC^2 \subseteq P$

the class of problems logspace-reducible to a context-free language

## Beyond acyclic CQ's

Treewidth = a measure of the cyclicity of (hyper-)graphs tw :  $CQ \longrightarrow N$ 

For a fixed k,

the evaluation pb for queries of tw  $\leq k$ can be done in **polynomial time**.

[Chekuri, Rajaraman]

<u>Idea</u>: the lower tw( $\phi$ ), the more  $\phi$  resembles a tree

A tree decomposition of a graph G:
A bunch of graphs with a special edge "····" between their nodes so that
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2) collapsing "····" edges ~ G

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tree decomposition of G

width of decomposition = maximum size of graphs -1

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**tree-width** of G = minimum width of decomposition of G

## Tree-width, examples







tree-width 1

tree-width 2

tree-width *n*−1

## Tree-width, examples



**tree-width of CQ** = tree-width of its canonical structure **tree-width of structure** = tree-width of Gaifman graph

*e.g.* 

tree-width of CQ = tree-width of its canonical structure
tree-width of structure = tree-width of Gaifman graph

tree-width( $\exists x_1, x_2, x_3 R(x_1, x_2) \land S(x_1, x_3) \land S(x_2, x_3)$ )





For a fixed *k*,

- computing whether  $\phi \in CQ$  has tw  $\leq k$ 

- calculating a tree decomposition

can be done in **linear time**.

[Bodlaender]

### Tree-width vs. Acyclicity



CQ's with bounded treewidth can be evaluated in PTIME

[Chekuri, Rajaraman, Gottlob, Leone, Scarcello]

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CQ's can be evaluated in PTIME iff they have bounded tree width!

[Grohe, Schwentick, Segoufin]

# Querying with semi-joins

The semi-join  $R \ltimes_{\{i_1=j_1,...,i_n=j_n\}} S = \{ (x_1,...,x_n) \in R \mid \text{there is } (y_1,...,y_m) \in S$ where  $x_{i_k} = y_{j_k}$  for all k}

#### The semi-join algebra (SA): variant of RA with operations:

 $\ltimes$ ,  $\cup$ ,  $\pi$ ,  $\sigma$ ,  $\setminus$ , *dupcol* 

Output at most linear in the database. Further,

The evaluation problem for SA is in  $O(|\phi|.|D|)$ 

Logical characterisation: "stored-tuples guarded fragment of FO"

- every intermediate relation is **linear** in **D**
- we apply  $|\phi|$  semi-joins

 $\rightarrow$  What if we allow intermediate relations to be **polynomial** in |D|?

Def.

#### $FO^k =$ The fragment of FO restricted to k variable names







#### Def. FO<sup>k</sup> = The fragment of FO restricted to k variable names

 $\varphi(x) = \text{``Every neighbour of } x \text{ has an outgoing path of length 2''} \\ = \forall y. \left( E(x, y) \Longrightarrow \exists z \exists w \left( E(y, z) \land E(z, w) \right) \right) \in FO^4 \\ = \forall y. \left( E(x, y) \Longrightarrow \exists x \left( E(y, x) \land \exists y E(x, y) \right) \right) \in FO^2 \\ G$ 










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- 1. Evaluate qr=0 subformulas  $\alpha$  and output result in relations  $R_{0,\alpha}$
- 2. Evaluate qr=1 subformulas  $\beta$  based on  $R_{0,\alpha}$  and output in  $R_{1,\beta}$
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• Satisfiability for  $FO^k$ 

→ Undecidable if  $k \ge 3$  (Domino)

••• NEXPTIME-complete if k=2

Recap



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Example.  $Q(G) = \{ (u, v) \mid G \text{ contains a path from } u \text{ to } v \}$ 

Is Q expressible as a first-order formula?

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**Sub-goal:** Given a property P and a number *n*, tell whether P is expressible by a sentence of quantifier rank at most *n*.

Definition. Two structures  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are *n*-equivalent iff they satisfy the same FO sentences of quantifier rank  $\leq n$ (i.e.  $S_1 \models \phi$  iff  $S_2 \models \phi$  for all  $\phi \in FO$  with  $qr(\phi) \leq n$ )

#### [Tarski '30]

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Consider a property (i.e. a set of structures) *P*.

Suppose that there are  $S_1 \in P$ ,  $S_2 \notin P$  *s.t.* 

 $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are *n*-equivalent.

Then P is *not expressible* by any sentence of quantifier rank n.

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[Tarski '30]

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Example.  $\mathbf{P} = \{$  structures of even size  $\}$  seems to be not FO-definable. One could then aim at proving that for all *n* there are  $S_1 \in P$  and  $S_2 \notin P$  s.t.  $S_1, S_2$  *n*-equivalent...

### Expressive power via games

Characterisation of the expressive power of FO in terms of Games

#### Characterisation of the expressive power of FO in terms of Games

<u>Idea</u>: For every two structures (S,S') there is a game where

a player of the game has a <mark>winning strategy</mark> iff S,S' are <mark>indistinguishable</mark>

A game between two players



Board:  $(S_1, S_2)$ 

One player plays in one structure, the other player answers in the other structure.

If Duplicator can ensure not losing after n rounds:  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  are n-equivalent

Definition. Partial isomorphism between  $S_1$  and  $S_2 =$  injective partial map  $f: \text{ nodes of } S_1 \longrightarrow \text{ nodes of } S_2$ 

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Spoiler

and

**Duplicator** play for *n* rounds on the board  $S_1, S_2$ 

| Definition. | Partial isomorphism | between $S_1$ and $S_2$ = injective partial map    |
|-------------|---------------------|--|
|             |                     | $f:$ nodes of $S_1 \longrightarrow$ nodes of $S_2$ |
|             | so that             | E(x,y) iff $E(f(x), f(y))$                         |

*Spoiler* and *Duplicator* play for n rounds on the board  $S_1, S_2$ 

At each round i:

1. Spoiler chooses a node  $x_i$  from  $S_1$ and Duplicator answers with a node  $y_i$  from  $S_{2,}$ 

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2. Spoiler chooses a node  $y_i$  from  $S_2$ and Duplicator answers with a node  $x_i$  from  $S_1$ ,

or **Spoiler** wins if  $\{x_i \mapsto y_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\}$  is **not a partial isomorphism** between  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ .
















 $S_1$ 



 $S_1$ 



Question: Can Spoiler win in 3 rounds ?





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