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Fundamentos lógicos de bases de datos (Logical foundations of databases)

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A different perspective: a coarser view on expressiveness...



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How do FO properties distribute among ALL structures?

Or equally, what percentage of graphs verify a given FO sentence?



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E.g. for $\mathbf{P} =$ "the graph is complete" $\mu_3(\mathbf{P}) = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{C}_3|} = \frac{1}{2^{3^2}}$

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$$\mu_{\infty}(\mathbf{P}) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mu_n(\mathbf{P})$$

Theorem.

[Glebskii et al. '69, Fagin '76]

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- ϕ = "even number of nodes"
- ϕ = "more edges than nodes"

Your turn! $\mu_{\infty}(\phi) = 1/2$ $\mu_{\infty}(\phi)$ not even defined $\mu_{\infty}(\phi) = 1$

(yet not FO-definable!)

For every *FO sentence*
$$\phi$$
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Let $k = quantifier rank of \phi$

$$\delta_{k} = \forall x_{1}, ..., x_{k} \forall y_{1}, ..., y_{k} \exists z \land_{i,j} x_{i} \neq y_{j} \land E(x_{i}, z) \land \neg E(y_{j}, z)$$

(Extension Axiom)



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Thus, $\mu_{\infty}(\delta_k) \le \mu_{\infty}(\varphi)$
 $\Rightarrow (by Fact 2) \ \mu_{\infty}(\delta_k) = 1, \text{ hence } \mu_{\infty}(\varphi) = 1$
b) There is no $G \models \delta_k \land \varphi \Rightarrow (by Fact 2) \text{ there is } G \models \delta_k,$
 $\Rightarrow G \models \delta_k \land \neg \varphi \Rightarrow (by case a) \ \mu_{\infty}(\neg \varphi) = 1$

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Query evaluation on large databases:

Don't bother evaluating an FO query, it's either true or false with high probability!



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• functional constraint
$$\forall x, x', y, y'$$
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The 0-1 Law is a tool for proving expressiveness results, not a statement on the real-life probability of queries being non-empty.

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Local = properties of nodes which are close to one another



Hanf locality

Definition. The **Gaifman graph** of a structure $S = (V, R_1, ..., R_m)$ is the **undirected** graph G(S) = (V, E) where $E = \{(u, v) | \exists (..., u, ..., v, ...) \in R_i \text{ for some } i\}$

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Definition. Two structures S_1 and S_2 are Hanf(r, t) - equivalent iff for each structure B, the two numbers #u s.t. $S_1[u,r] \cong B$ #v s.t. $S_2[v,r] \cong B$ are either the same or both $\ge t$.

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$$\begin{array}{l} d_0(x,y)=\ E(x,y)\text{, and}\\ d_k(x,y)\ =\ \exists z\ (\ d_{k-1}(x,z)\wedge d_{k-1}(z,y)\)\\ qr(d_k)=k \end{array}$$

•••••

 $2 \cdot 2^{n+1}$

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Not (n+2)-equivalent yet they have the same 2^n-1 balls.

What about queries?

Eg: Is reachability expressible in FO?

What about equivalence on the same structure? When are two points indistinguishable?

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Idea: If the neighbourhoods of two tuples are the same, the formula cannot distinguish them.

Gaifman locality vs Hanf locality

Difference between Hanf- and Gaifman-locality:

Hanf-locality relates two different structures,



Gaifman-locality talks about definability in **one structure**

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Inside *S*, 3^{k+1} -balls of $(a_1,...,a_n) = 3^{k+1}$ -balls of $(b_1,...,b_n)$ \downarrow

 $(a_1,...,a_n)$ indistinguishable from $(b_1,...,b_n)$ through **formulas** of qr $\leq k$

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Hanf-locality relates **two different structures**,

 S_1 and S_2 have the same # of balls of radius 3^k , up to threshold k \downarrow They verify the same sentences of $qr \le k$ Gaifman-locality talks about definability in **one structure**

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Schema to show non-expressibility results is, as usual:

A query $Q(x_1,...,x_n)$ is not FO-definable if: for every **k** there is a structure S_k and $(a_1, ..., a_n)$, $(b_1, ..., b_n)$ such that • $S_k[(a_1, ..., a_n), 3^{k+1}] \cong S_k[(b_1, ..., b_n), 3^{k+1}]$ • $(a_1, ..., a_n) \in Q(S_k)$, $(b_1, ..., b_n) \notin Q(S_k)$

Proof: If Q were expressible with a formula of quantifier rank k, then $(a_1, ..., a_n) \in Q(S_k)$ iff $(b_1, ..., b_n) \in Q(S_k)$. Absurd!

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- b_2 is reachable from b_1 ,
- a_2 is **not** reachable from a_1 .



Your turn! Q(x) = "x is a vertex separator"

Basic local sentence:



 $\wedge \psi_1(x_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge \psi_n(x_n)$

 $\exists x_1, ..., x_n$

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r-local formulas

Basic local sentence:

 $\exists x_1, ..., x_n$



 $\wedge \psi_1(x_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge \psi_n(x_n)$

r-local formulas

Inside $\psi_i(x_i)$ we interpret $\exists y . \phi \text{ as } \exists y . d(x_i, y) \leq r \land \phi$

Basic local sentence:



Gaifman Theorem: Every FO sentence is equivalent to a boolean combination of basic local sentences.

EF games

FO sentences with quantifier rank n =

winning strategies for Spoiler in the n-round EF game



EF games	FO sentences with quantifier rank n = winning strategies for Spoiler in the n-round EF game	
0-1 Law	FO sentences are almost always true or almost always false	
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Gaifman Theorem	An FO sentence can only say "there are some points at distance ≥2r whose r-balls are isomorphic to certain structures" or a boolean combination of that.	

• Libkin, "Elements of Finite Model Theory", Springer, 2004.

• Otto, "Finite Model Theory", Springer, 2005

(freely available at <u>www.mathematik.tu-darmstadt.de/~otto/LEHRE/FMT0809.ps</u>)

• Väänänen, "A Short course on Finite Model Theory", 1994.

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