

# Argumentation with Bounded Tree-Width<sup>◇</sup>

Seminar aus Theoretischer Informatik

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# Outline

1. Decision Problems
2. Theoretic Tractability
3. Some Definitions
4. Dynamic Programming Algorithm

# Decision Problems

## Credulous Acceptance

Given an AF  $F = (A, R)$  and an argument  $x \in A$ .  
Is  $x$  in at least one preferred extension ?

$x$  is in at least one preferred extension  $\Leftrightarrow$   $x$  is in at least one admissible extension.

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## Skeptical Acceptance

Given an AF  $F = (A, R)$  and an argument  $x \in A$ .  
Is  $x$  in every preferred extension ?

- The credulous acceptance problem is NP-complete ([Dimopoulos and Torres(1996)]).
- The skeptical acceptance problem is  $\Sigma_2^P$ -complete ([Dunne and Bench-Capon(2002)]).

# Theoretic Tractability

We can express the properties of admissible and preferred extensions in MSOL ([Dunne(2007)]):

$$\text{cf}_R(U) = \forall x, y (\langle x, y \rangle \in R \rightarrow (\neg x \in U \vee \neg y \in U))$$

$$\text{adm}_R(U) = \text{cf}_R(U) \wedge \forall x, y (\langle x, y \rangle \in R \wedge y \in U \rightarrow \exists z (z \in U \wedge \langle z, x \rangle \in R))$$

$$\text{pref}_{(A,R)}(U) = \text{adm}_R(U) \wedge \neg \exists V \subseteq A : \text{adm}_R(V) \wedge U \subset V$$

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The required checks for the considered decision problems can easily be added to these formulas.

Thus by Courcelles theorem we can decide our problems in linear time on argumentation frameworks of bounded tree-width.

# Tree-Decomposition

## Definition

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph.

A *tree decomposition* of  $G$  is a pair  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{X})$  where  $\mathcal{T} = (V_{\mathcal{T}}, E_{\mathcal{T}})$  is a tree and  $\mathcal{X} = (X_t)_{t \in V_{\mathcal{T}}}$  is a set of so-called bags, which has to satisfy the following conditions:

- 1  $\bigcup_{t \in V_{\mathcal{T}}} X_t = V$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{X}$  is a cover of  $V$ ;
- 2 For each  $v \in V$ ,  $\mathcal{T}|_{\{t | v \in X_t\}}$  is connected;
- 3 For each  $\{v_i, v_j\} \in E$ ,  $\{v_i, v_j\} \subseteq X_t$  for some  $t \in V_{\mathcal{T}}$ .



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The width of such a tree decomposition is given by  $\max\{|X_t| \mid t \in V_{\mathcal{T}}\} - 1$ . The *tree-width* of a graph  $G$  is the minimum width over all tree decompositions of  $G$ .

# Nice Tree-Decomposition

## Definition ([Kloks(1994)])

A tree decomposition  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{X})$  is called *nice* if  $\mathcal{T}$  is a rooted tree and if each node  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  is of one of the following types:

- ① LEAF:  $t$  is a leaf of  $\mathcal{T}$
- ② FORGET:  $t$  has only one child  $t'$  and  $X_t = X_{t'} \dot{\cup} \{v\}$
- ③ INSERT:  $t$  has only one child  $t'$  and  $X_t \dot{\cup} \{v\} = X_{t'}$
- ④ JOIN:  $t$  has two children  $t', t''$  and  $X_t = X_{t'} = X_{t''}$

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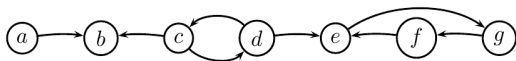
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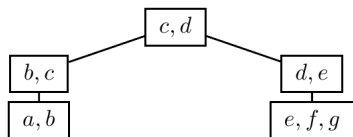
### Lemma ([Kloks(1994)])

*A tree decomposition  $((\mathcal{T}), (\mathcal{X}))$  of a graph  $\mathcal{G}$  with  $n$  nodes can be transformed in time  $O(n)$  into a nice tree decomposition  $((\mathcal{T})', (\mathcal{X})')$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  which has the same width as  $((\mathcal{T}), (\mathcal{X}))$  and where  $(\mathcal{T})'$  has  $O(n)$  nodes.*

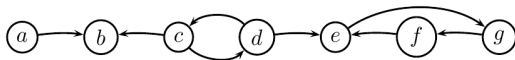
## Example:



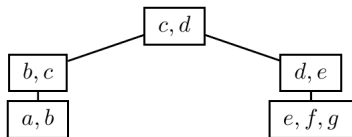
Tree-decomposition:



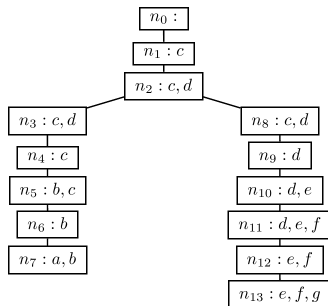
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Tree-decomposition:



nice tree-decomposition:



# More Definitions

## Definition

Let  $F = (A, R)$  be an AF and  $B \subseteq A$ .

A set  $E \subseteq A$  is a *B-restricted admissible* set, iff  $E$  is conflict-free in  $F$  and  $E$  defends itself against all  $a \in B$ .

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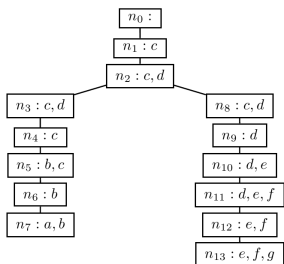
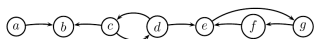
### Some Notation

Let  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{X})$  be a tree-decomposition and  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  then :

- $X_{\geq t} = \bigcup_{t' \geq t} X_{t'}$  (union over the subtree rooted in  $t$ ),
- $X_{> t} = X_{\geq t} \setminus X_t$

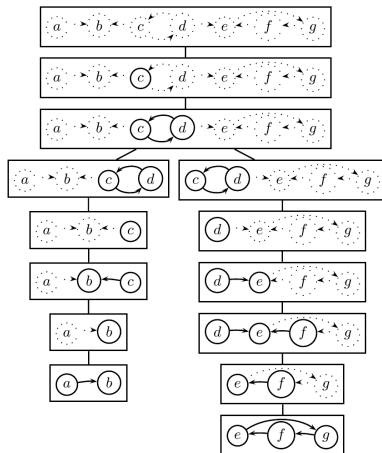


# Dynamic Programming



Argumentation Framework  
& nice tree-decomposition

⇒



Nice tree-decomposition with  
induced sub-frameworks

# Dynamic Programming

## Basic Ideas:

- Compute the  $X_{>t}$ -restricted admissible sets for each bag with a bottom-up algorithm on the tree-decomposition
  - For a bag  $t$  we only store information about nodes in  $X_t$
  - The information about the nodes in  $X_{>t}$  is implicitly encoded
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## Bag - Colorings

A coloring for a bag is a function  $C_t : X_t \rightarrow \{in, out, att, def\}$ . A coloring corresponds to an  $X_{>t}$ -restricted admissible set  $S$  in the following way:

$$x \in X_t : C(x) = \begin{cases} in & \text{iff } x \in S \\ out & \text{iff } x \notin S \wedge x \not\rightarrow S \wedge S \not\rightarrow x \\ att & \text{iff } x \notin S \wedge x \rightarrow S \wedge S \not\rightarrow x \\ def & \text{iff } x \notin S \wedge S \rightarrow x \end{cases}$$

# DP - Leaf-Node

## Leaf Nodes

We compute all conflict-free sets over  $X_t$ .  
As  $X_{>t} = \emptyset$  the conflict-free sets coincide  
with the  $X_{>t}$ -restricted admissible sets.

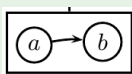
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## Tree Decomposition

$n_7 : \{a, b\}$



## Colorings for $n_7$

There are three conflict-free sets  $\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}$

<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	#
<i>in</i>	<i>def</i>	1
<i>att</i>	<i>in</i>	1
<i>out</i>	<i>out</i>	1

# DP - Forget-Node

## Forget-Node for argument $x$

Eliminate all colorings  $C$  with  $C(x) = att$ .  
Remove the variable  $x$  from the remaining colorings.

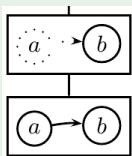
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## Tree Decomposition

$n_7 : \{a, b\} \rightarrow n_6 : \{b\}$



## Colorings for $n_7$

$a$	$b$	#
<i>in</i>	<i>def</i>	1
<i>att</i>	<i>in</i>	1
<i>out</i>	<i>out</i>	1

## Colorings for $n_6$

$b$	#
<i>def</i>	1
<i>out</i>	1

# DP - Insert-Node

## Insert-Node for argument $x$

For each coloring  $C$  of the child-node there may be two colorings.

- 1)  $C$  extended by  $C(x) \in \{out, att, def\}$
- 2)  $C$  extended by  $C(x) = in$  (if  $\{y \in X_t : C(y) = in\} \cup \{x\}$  is conflict free)



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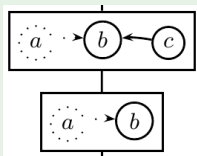
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## Tree Decomposition

$$n_6 : \{b\} \rightarrow n_5 : \{b, c\}$$



## Colorings for $n_6$

$b$	#
<i>def</i>	1
<i>out</i>	1

## Colorings for $n_5$

$b$	$c$	#
<i>def</i>	<i>in</i>	2
<i>def</i>	<i>out</i>	1
<i>out</i>	<i>out</i>	1

# DP - Join-Node

## Join-Node

Combine the colorings of the child-nodes that map the same arguments to *in*.

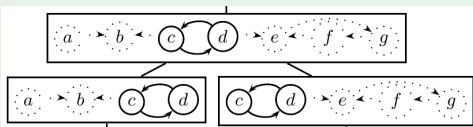
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Combine the colorings of the child-nodes that map the same arguments to *in*.

## Tree Decomposition

$$n_3 : \{a, b\} ; n_8 : \{a, b\} \rightarrow n_2 : \{a, b\}$$



## Colorings for $n_3, n_8$

	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	#
$n_3$ :	<i>in</i>	<i>def</i>	2
	<i>def</i>	<i>in</i>	2
	<i>out</i>	<i>out</i>	2
	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	#
$n_8$ :	<i>in</i>	<i>def</i>	1
	<i>def</i>	<i>in</i>	2
	<i>out</i>	<i>out</i>	1

## Colorings for $n_2$

	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	#
<i>in</i>	<i>def</i>	2	
<i>def</i>	<i>in</i>	4	
<i>out</i>	<i>out</i>	2	

# DP - Root-Node

## Root-Node

As  $X_{>t}$  equals  $A$  we have that the  $X_{>t}$ -restricted admissible sets of  $X_{\geq t}$  are the admissible sets of  $F$ .

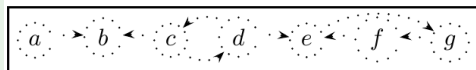
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## Tree Decomposition

$n_0 : \{\}$



## Colorings for $n_0$

-	#
$\epsilon$	8

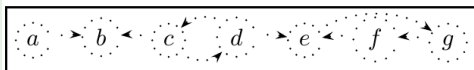
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## Credulous Acceptance

For credulous acceptance of an argument  $x$  we only consider colorings  $C$  with  $C(x) = in$  (for bags  $X_t$  with  $x \in X_t$ ).

Then the argument  $x$  is credulously accepted iff  $\#_{root} > 0$ .

# Complexity

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Given an AF of tree-width  $w$  and an argument  $x$ , our algorithm decides if  $x$  is sceptical accepted in time  $O(f(w) \cdot |AF|)$

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## Proof Ideas.

- The size of a coloring is bounded by  $O(w)$ .
- The number of colorings for every bag is bounded by  $4^w$ .
- Thus the computation of all colorings for an bag can be done in time  $f(w)$ .





# Future Work

## Future and Ongoing Work:

- Implementation of these algorithms
- Systematic Comparison with existing Frameworks.
- Adapting this algorithm to other semantics for AFs.
- Identifying larger tractable fragments (e.g. directed graph measures like clique width)
  - ↔ Developing / Implementing fixed-parameter tractable algorithms



**WE WANT YOU!**



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Graph theoretical structures in logic programs and default theories.  
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