

Formal Languages Theory Is Not Only About Parsing

Semyon Grigorev

JetBrains Research, Programming Languages and Tools Lab

Paths in graphs

- Graph analysis
 - ▶ Graph database querying
 - ▶ Network analysis (social networks, Internet, etc.)
- Static code analysis
 - ▶ Alias analysis
 - ▶ Taint analysis
 - ▶ Types-related problems
 - ▶ Static analysis of string-embedded languages
- ...

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- $p = v_0 \xrightarrow{l_0} v_1 \xrightarrow{l_1} \cdots v_{n-1} \xrightarrow{l_{n-1}} v_n$ is a path in G
- $w(p) = w(v_0 \xrightarrow{l_0} v_1 \xrightarrow{l_1} \cdots v_{n-1} \xrightarrow{l_{n-1}} v_n) = l_0 l_1 \cdots l_{n-1}$

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 - ▶ R can be an infinite set in some cases
- The problem may be formulated in another way:
$$Q = \{(v_0, v_n) \mid \exists p = v_0 \xrightarrow{l_0} \dots \xrightarrow{l_{n-1}} v_n (w(p) \in L(\Sigma))\}$$

Regular language constraints

- Widely spread
 - ▶ Graph databases query languages (SPARQL, Cypher, PGQL)
 - ▶ Network analysis
- Still in active development
 - ▶ OpenCypher: <https://goo.gl/5h5a8P>
 - ▶ Scalability, huge graphs processing
 - ▶ Derivatives for graph querying: *Maurizio Nole and Carlo Sartiani*. Regular path queries on massive graphs. 2016

Context-free language constraints

- Graph databases and semantic networks (Context-Free Path Querying, CFPQ)
 - ▶ *Sevon P., Eronen L.* “Subgraph queries by context-free grammars.” 2008
 - ▶ *Hellings J.* “Conjunctive context-free path queries.” 2014
 - ▶ *Zhang X. et al.* “Context-free path queries on RDF graphs.” 2016
- Static code analysis (Language Reachability Framework)
 - ▶ *Thomas Reps et al.* “Precise interprocedural dataflow analysis via graph reachability.” 1995
 - ▶ *Qirun Zhang et al.* “Efficient subcubic alias analysis for C.” 2014
 - ▶ *Dacong Yan et al.* “Demand-driven context-sensitive alias analysis for Java.” 2011
 - ▶ *Jakob Rehof and Manuel Fahndrich.* “Type-base flow analysis: from polymorphic subtyping to CFL-reachability.” 2001

Context-free language constraints

- Interprocedural static nullability analysis¹
 - ▶ “We have identified a total of 1127 unnecessary NULL tests in Linux, 149 in PostgreSQL, 32 in httpd.”
 - ▶ “Our analyses reported 108 new NULL pointer dereference bugs in Linux, among which 23 are false positives”
 - ▶ “For PostgreSQL and httpd, we detected 33 and 14 new NULL pointer bugs; our manual validation did not find any false positives among them.”

¹*Kai Wang et. al.* Graspan: a single-machine disk-based graph system for interprocedural static analyses of large-scale systems code. 2017

Linear-conjunctive language constraints

- May be useful for more accurate context-sensitive analysis
 - ▶ Let $L_1 = \{deref^n ref^n | n \geq 0\}$ and $L_2 = \{call^m return^m | m \geq 0\}$;
 - ▶ Constraint is $L_3 = L_1 \odot L_2 = \{ab; acbcdd; cdab; \dots\}$ — interleaving of balanced brackets
 - ▶ L_3 is not a context-free language but a linear-conjunctive one
- Qirun Zhang and Zhendong Su. “Context-sensitive data-dependence analysis via linear conjunctive language reachability.” 2017

Challenges for you

- An open problem
 - ▶ Is there an algorithm with time complexity $O(|V|^{3-\varepsilon})$, $\varepsilon > 0$?
- Practical utilization of ideas from “classical” parsing
 - ▶ Algorithms: CYK, (Generalized) LL, (Generalized) LR, Earley, ...
 - ▶ Techniques: parser combinators, parser generators, ...
 - ▶ Advanced techniques: GPGPU utilization, advanced data structures (compact parse forest representation, graph structured stack), ...
- Huge amount of data requires efficient implementation of parallel and/or distributed query processing

Our experiments

- Generalized LL for CFPQ (**GLL**)
 - ▶ Based on Generalized LL: *Scott E., Johnstone A.* “GLL parsing”
 - ▶ Time complexity: $O\left(|V|^3 * \max_{v \in V} (deg^+(v))\right)$
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- GPGPU utilization for CFPQ (**GPGPU**)
 - ▶ Based on matrix multiplication: *Valiant L.* “General context-free recognition in less than cubic time.” 1974
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- Parser combinators for CFPQ
 - ▶ Based on Meerkat parser combinator library: *Anastasia Izmaylova, Ali Afroozeh, and Tijs van der Storm.* Practical, general parser combinators. 2016
 - ▶ Work in progress

Performance comparison setup

We use graphs from the classical set of ontologies: *skos*, *foaf*, *univ-bench*, *wine*, *pizza*, etc.

Queries are classical variants of the same-generation query

0 : $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} \mathbf{S} \text{ subClassOf}$

1 : $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \text{type}^{-1} \mathbf{S} \text{ type}$

2 : $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} \text{subClassOf}$

3 : $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \text{type}^{-1} \text{type}$

Query 1

0 : $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{B} \text{ subClassOf}$

1 : $\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}$

2 : $\mathbf{B} \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} \mathbf{B} \text{ subClassOf}$

3 : $\mathbf{B} \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} \text{subClassOf}$

Query 2

Performance comparison results

№	#V	#E	Query 1 (ms)			Query 2 (ms)	
			CYK ²	GLL	GPGPU	GLL	GPGPU
1	144	323	1044	10	12	1	1
2	129	351	6091	19	13	1	0
3	131	397	13971	24	30	1	10
4	179	413	20981	25	15	11	9
5	337	834	82081	89	32	3	6
6	291	685	515285	255	22	66	2
7	341	711	420604	261	20	45	24
8	671	2604	3233587	697	24	29	23
9	733	2450	4075319	819	54	8	6
10	6224	11840	–	1926	82	167	38
11	5864	19600	–	6246	185	46	21
12	5368	20832	–	7014	127	393	40

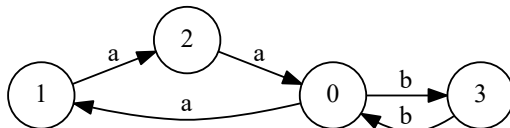
²Zhang, et al. “Context-free path queries on RDF graphs.”

Thank you!

- E-mail: `semen.grigorev@jetbrains.com`
- GitHub-community YaccConstructor: `https://github.com/YaccConstructor`

Example

Input graph



query is a grammar G which specifies the language $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 1\}$

0 : $S \rightarrow a S b$

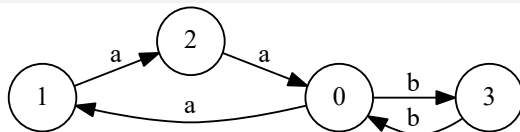
1 : $S \rightarrow \text{Middle}$

2 : $\text{Middle} \rightarrow a b$

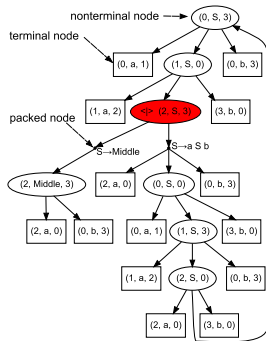
Query result is an infinite set of paths

- $p_1 = 0 \xrightarrow{a} 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3$
- $p_2 = 0 \xrightarrow{a} 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{a} 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0$
- ...

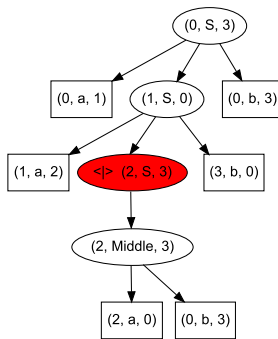
Structural representation of query result



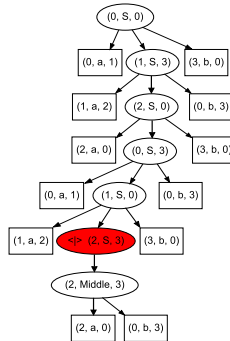
Input graph



Query result (SPPF)

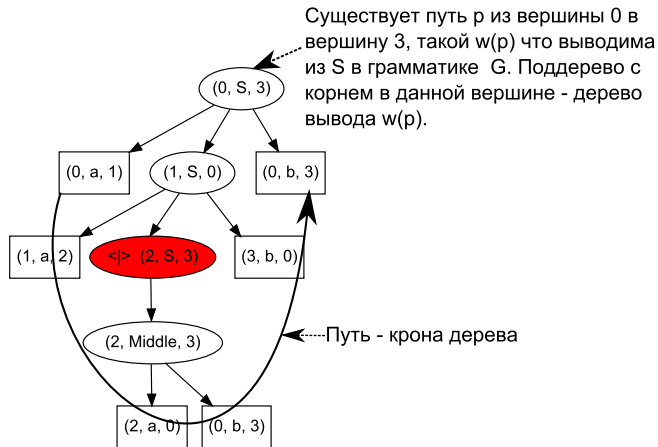
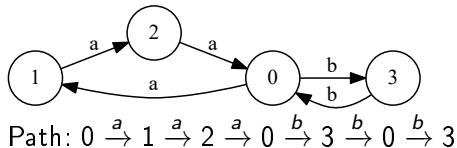


Tree for path p_1



Tree for path p_2

Paths extraction

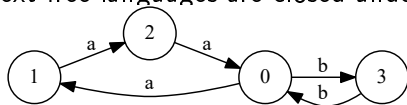


Key idea

Context-free languages are closed under intersection with regular languages

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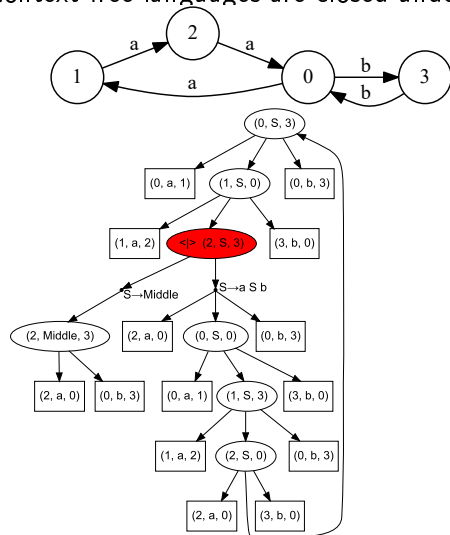
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Context-free languages are closed under intersection with regular languages



0 : $S \rightarrow a S b$

1 : $S \rightarrow Middle$

2 : $Middle \rightarrow a b$

$(0, S, 3) \rightarrow (0, a, 1) (1, S, 0) (0, b, 3)$

$(1, S, 0) \rightarrow (1, a, 2) (2, S, 3) (3, b, 0)$

$(2, S, 3) \rightarrow (2, a, 0) (0, S, 0) (0, b, 3)$

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