Path Color Switching

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Problem Description

We want to generate sequences of musical "chords" with some known constraints as well as control on the complexity of the sequence.

Spotify



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We want to generate sequences of musical "chords" with some known constraints as well as control on the complexity of the sequence.

Spotify

- Input An oriented graph whose arcs are colored with a set of colors, two nodes of the graphs s and t and a length k.
- Output Set single colors to edges to find a path of length k from s to t minimizing the number of color switches.



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Definitions & notations

Color switch (CS): given two adjacent arcs a_1 and a_2 colored respectively with c_1 and c_2 , we have a color CS if $c_1 \neq c_2$.



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 - $\mathcal{G} = (V, A)$: A directed graph where V is the set of its nodes and A is the set of its arcs.
 - C: A finite set of colors.
 - \mathcal{F} : The coloring function defined as $\mathcal{F}: A \to 2^{\mathcal{C}}$.
- $\mathcal{P} = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$: A path going from v_1 to v_k .



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 - \mathcal{F} : The coloring function defined as $\mathcal{F}: A \to 2^{\mathcal{C}}$.
- $\mathcal{P} = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$: A path going from v_1 to v_k .
 - $w(\mathcal{P})$: The cost of the path \mathcal{P} which is given by the sum of its CS.



Problem decomposition

The problem can decomposed in small parts:

- Minimize CS on paths;
- Minimize CS on graphs.





Figure: A path \mathcal{P}

What is the color assignation minimizing $w(\mathcal{P})$?



Algorithm

Let $\mathcal{P} = (a_1, \ldots, a_k)$ a path Let $\mathcal{T}: A \to 2^{\mathcal{C}}$ a function such that:

- $\mathcal{T}(a_1) = \mathcal{F}(a_1)$
- $\mathcal{T}(a_i) = \mathcal{F}(a_i) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_{i-1})$ if not empty else $\mathcal{F}(a_i)$

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 $\mathcal{H}:A\to\mathcal{C}$ the function minimizing $w(\mathcal{P})$ such that:

- ullet $\mathcal{H}(a_k) = \mathtt{a}$ rnd elt from $\mathcal{T}(a_k)$
- $\mathcal{H}(a_i) = \mathcal{H}(a_{i+1})$ if it is in $\mathcal{T}(a_i)$ else $\mathcal{T}(a_i)$.peek()



Figure: A path \mathcal{P}

Start to compute $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$





Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{T}(a_1) = \mathcal{F}(a_1)$$





Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{T}(a_2) = \mathcal{F}(a_2) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_1)$$
 since not empty





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Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{T}(a_3) = \mathcal{F}(a_3) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_2)$$
 since not empty

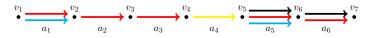


Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{T}(a_3) = \mathcal{F}(a_3) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_2)$$
 since not empty



Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{T}(a_4) = \mathcal{F}(a_4)$$
 since $\mathcal{F}(a_4) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_3) = \varnothing$





Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{T}(a_5) = \mathcal{F}(a_5)$$
 since $\mathcal{F}(a_5) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_4) = \varnothing$



Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{T}(a_6) = \mathcal{F}(a_6) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_5)$$
 since not empty



Example run

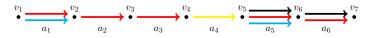


Figure: Computing $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{P})$

Start to compute $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})$





Figure: Computing $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathit{a}_{6}) = \mathit{black}$$





Figure: Computing $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathit{a}_{6}) = \mathit{black}$$



Figure: Computing $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{H}(a_5) = black$$
 since $black \in \mathcal{T}(a_5)$



Figure: Computing $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{H}(a_5) = black$$
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Example run

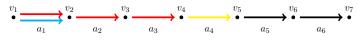


Figure: Computing $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})$

Nothing to do for a_4, a_3 and a_2 since they only have 1 color





Figure: Computing $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\mathcal{H}(a_1) = \mathcal{H}(a_2)$$
 since $red \in \mathcal{T}(a_1)$





Figure: Minimum cost assignation





Figure: Minimum cost assignation

$$w(\mathcal{P}) = 2$$

Proof sketch

Algo Part 1.

Induction proof on the length k of \mathcal{P} .



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Algo Part 1.

Induction proof on the length k of \mathcal{P} .

If
$$k = 1$$
 then $w(\mathcal{P}) = 0$ which is optimal.



Algo Part 1.

Induction proof on the length k of \mathcal{P} .

We suppose the algo to be true for an arbitrary length k.

If
$$\mathcal{F}(a_k) \cap \mathcal{F}(a_{k+1}) = \emptyset$$

$$v_1 \longrightarrow v_2 \longrightarrow v_3 \longrightarrow v_4 \longrightarrow v_5 \longrightarrow v_6 \longrightarrow v_6 \longrightarrow v_7$$



Algo Part 1.

Induction proof on the length k of \mathcal{P} .

We suppose the algo to be true for an arbitrary length k.

If
$$\mathcal{T}(a_k) \cap \mathcal{F}(a_{k+1}) \neq \emptyset$$

$$v_1 \xrightarrow{v_1} v_2 \xrightarrow{v_2} v_3 \xrightarrow{v_3} v_4 \xrightarrow{v_5} v_5 \xrightarrow{a_5} v_6 \xrightarrow{a_6} v_6$$



Algo Part 1.

Induction proof on the length k of \mathcal{P} .

We suppose the algo to be true for an arbitrary length k.

If
$$\mathcal{T}(a_k) \cap \mathcal{F}(a_{k+1}) = \emptyset$$
 and $\mathcal{F}(a_k) \cap \mathcal{F}(a_{k+1}) \neq \emptyset$

$$v_1 \longrightarrow v_2 \longrightarrow v_3 \longrightarrow v_4 \longrightarrow v_5 \longrightarrow v_6 \longrightarrow v_6 \longrightarrow v_6$$



Algo Part 1.

Induction proof on the length k of \mathcal{P} .

Done

Algo Part 2.

The number of CS inside \mathcal{T} is the same as the number of CS inside \mathcal{H} .



Time Complexity

The algo is made by two sub-procedures:

Recall the first part:

•
$$\mathcal{T}(a_1) = \mathcal{F}(a_1)$$

$$ullet$$
 $\mathcal{T}(a_i) = \mathcal{F}(a_i) \cap \mathcal{T}(a_{i-1})$ if not empty else $\mathcal{F}(a_i)$

Complexity:

• First part : $\mathcal{O}(k * |\mathcal{C}|)$

Problem Description Minimize CS on Paths

Time Complexity

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Recall the second part:

- $\mathcal{H}(a_k) = \mathbf{a}$ rnd elt from $\mathcal{T}(a_k)$
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Complexity:

- First part : $\mathcal{O}(k*|\mathcal{C}|)$
- Second part : $\mathcal{O}(k * \log |\mathcal{C}|)$



Time Complexity

Complexity:

• First part : $\mathcal{O}(k * |\mathcal{C}|)$

• Second part : $\mathcal{O}(k * \log |\mathcal{C}|)$

Global complexity: $\mathcal{O}(k * |\mathcal{C}|)$.

This complexity is optimal wrt the entry of the problem.



Minimize CS in Graph

Strategy: Use the MDD data structure

A state of a MDD is:

{name: String, cost: Int, colors: Set of Colors}



Algorithm

• The root = {name: s, cost: 0, colors: C}

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Algorithm 1: Construction of the layer \mathcal{L}_{i+1}
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for \forall st \in \mathcal{L}_i do
for \forall v \in \text{succ}(\text{st.name}) do
      col \leftarrow \mathcal{F}(st.name, v);
      inter \leftarrow col \cap st.colors:
      if inter = \emptyset then
          \mathcal{L}_{i+1}.add(\{\text{name: }v,\text{ cost: st.cost}+
            1, colors: co1})
      else
          \mathcal{L}_{i+1}.add(\{\text{name: } v, \text{ cost: st.cost, colors: inter}\})
      end
end
```

end



MDD reduction

Let s_1 and s_2 two state on the same layer \mathcal{L} , having same name.

- Dominated states: s_1 dominates s_2 if the cost of s_1 is smaller than the cost of s_2
- s-compatible states: s_1 and s_2 are s-compatible if they have same cost. In this case, s_1 and s_2 are removed from $\mathcal L$ and $s_3 = \{ \text{name: } s_1.\text{name, cost: } s_1.\text{cost, colors: } s_1.\text{colors} \cup s_2.\text{colors} \}$ is added to $\mathcal L$



Minimize CS on Graphs

Complexity

- Each layer at most has |V| states;
- The height of the MDD is k;

The overall complexity is therefore

$$\mathcal{O}(k*|V|^2*|\mathcal{C}|)$$



An example

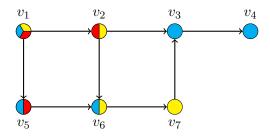


Figure: A colored graph example

Let's take
$$k = 5, s = v_1$$



The allDiff variant

A variant we can add to the problem is the introduction of the allDiff constraint to the nodes of the path.

- This modification entails:
 - Maintain a trace of the fathers of the current state.
 - Two states can be reduced only if they have same fathers.
- The second point causes a complexity blow up: the layer size can be $2^{|V|}$
- The algorithm has now an exponential complexity.



Benchmark: Solutions

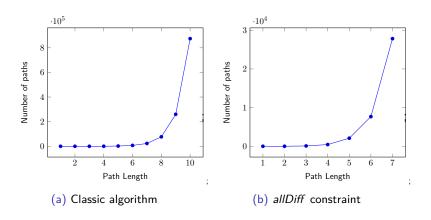


Figure: Number of paths of a given length from the node 1



Benchmark

Benchmark: Time

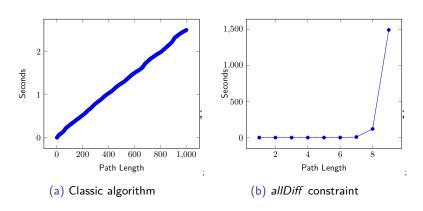


Figure: Time taken to compute paths of a given length from the node 1



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• analyze of a concrete problem



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- give proofs for provided algorithms



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• Add other variants such as the NValue constraint



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