

Short Resolution proofs

Exercise 1. Write the negation of the property that every linear order on n elements has the least element as a family of propositional CNFs F_n . What is the size of the formula with respect to n ?

Definition 2. We will use the following notation:

- $A_n := \bigwedge_{\substack{1 \leq i, j, k \leq n \\ i \neq j \neq k}} (\neg P_{i,j} \vee \neg P_{j,k} \vee P_{i,k}),$
- $B_n := \bigwedge_{\substack{1 \leq i, j \leq n \\ i \neq j}} (\neg P_{i,j} \vee \neg P_{j,i}),$
- $C_n := \bigwedge_{1 \leq j \leq n} \bigvee_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq n \\ i \neq j}} P_{i,j},$

and, moreover,

- $A(i, j, k) := \neg P_{i,j} \vee \neg P_{j,k} \vee P_{i,k},$
- $B(i, j) := \neg P_{i,j} \vee \neg P_{j,i},$
- $C_m(j) := \bigvee_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq m \\ i \neq j}} P_{i,j}.$

Theorem 3. For $m < n$, C_m can be derived from C_{m+1} , A_n and B_n by introducing at most $O(n^2)$ new clauses.

Exercise 4. Derive an empty clause from C_2 and some clause in B_n .

Exercise 5. Using Theorem 3 and Exercise 4, what is the size of the proof of F_n ?