

# Weighted Visibly Pushdown Automata and Automated Music Transcription

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## Abstract

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Symbolic Weighted (SW) extension of symbolic automata where...

**Semirings.** We shall consider semiring domains for weight values. A *semiring*  $\langle \mathbb{S}, \oplus, \otimes, \mathbb{0}, \mathbb{1} \rangle$  is a structure with a domain  $\mathbb{S}$ , equipped with two associative binary operators  $\oplus$  and  $\otimes$  with respective neutral elements  $\mathbb{0}$  and  $\mathbb{1}$  and such that:  $\oplus$  is commutative,  $\otimes$  distributes over  $\oplus$ :  $\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{S}, x \otimes (y \oplus z) = (x \otimes y) \oplus (x \otimes z)$ , and  $\mathbb{0}$  is absorbing for  $\otimes$ :  $\forall x \in \mathbb{S}, \mathbb{0} \otimes x = x \otimes \mathbb{0} = \mathbb{0}$ . In the application presented in this paper, intuitively,  $\oplus$  selects an optimal value amongst two values and  $\otimes$  combines two values into a single value.

and let  $\langle \mathbb{S}, \oplus, \otimes, \mathbb{0}, \mathbb{1} \rangle$  be a semiring,

A semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  is *monotonic wrt* a partial ordering  $\leq$  iff for all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{S}$ ,  $x \leq y$  implies  $x \oplus z \leq y \oplus z$ ,  $x \otimes z \leq y \otimes z$  and  $z \otimes x \leq z \otimes y$ , and it is *superior wrt*  $\leq$  iff for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$ ,  $x \leq x \otimes y$  and  $y \leq x \otimes y$  [4]. The latter property corresponds to the *non-negative weights* condition in shortest-path algorithms [2]. Intuitively, it means that combining elements always increase their weight. Note that when  $\mathbb{S}$  is superior wrt  $\leq$ , then  $\mathbb{1} \leq \mathbb{0}$  and moreover, for all  $x \in \mathbb{S}$ ,  $\mathbb{1} \leq x \leq \mathbb{0}$ .

Every idempotent semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  induces a partial ordering  $\leq_{\mathbb{S}}$  called the *natural ordering* of  $\mathbb{S}$  and defined by: for all  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $x \leq_{\mathbb{S}} y$  iff  $x \oplus y = y$ . This ordering is sometimes defined in the opposite direction [3]; The above definition follows [5], and coincides than the usual ordering on the Tropical semiring (*min-plus*). It holds that  $\mathbb{S}$  is monotonic wrt  $\leq_{\mathbb{S}}$ . An idempotent Semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  is called *total* if it  $\leq_{\mathbb{S}}$  is total *i.e.* when for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{S}$ , either  $x \oplus y = x$  or  $x \oplus y = y$ .

We shall consider below infinite sums with  $\oplus$ . A semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  is called *complete* if for every family  $(x_i)_{i \in I}$  of elements of  $\text{dom}(\mathbb{S})$  over an index set  $I \subset \mathbb{N}$ , the infinite sum  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} x_i$  is well-defined and in  $\text{dom}(\mathbb{S})$ , and the following properties hold:

- i. infinite sums extend finite sums:*  $\bigoplus_{i \in \emptyset} x_i = \mathbb{0}, \quad \forall j \in \mathbb{N}, \bigoplus_{i \in \{j\}} x_i = x_j,$
- $\forall j, k \in \mathbb{N}, j \neq k, \bigoplus_{i \in \{j, k\}} x_i = x_j \oplus x_k,$

- ii. *associativity and commutativity*: for all  $I \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  and all partition  $(I_j)_{j \in J}$  of  $I$ ,  $\bigoplus_{j \in J} \bigoplus_{i \in I_j} x_i = \bigoplus_{i \in I} x_i$ ,
- iii. *distributivity of product over infinite sum*:  
for all  $I \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} (x \otimes y_i) = x \otimes \bigoplus_{i \in I} y_i$ , and  $\bigoplus_{i \in I} (x_i \otimes y) = (\bigoplus_{i \in I} x_i) \otimes y$ .

## 1 SW Automata and Transducers

We follow the approach of [6] for the computation of distances between words with transducers.

The following definition of weighted transducers over infinite alphabets generalizes weighted transducers over finite alphabets, see e.g. [6], by considering weight functions generalizing the guards of symbolic automata

Let  $\Sigma$  and  $\Delta$  be respectively an input and output *alphabets*, which are finite or infinite sets of symbols, and let  $\mathbb{S}$  be a semiring. A *label theory* is a 4-uplet of recursively enumerable sets:  $\Phi_0$  containing constant functions valued in  $\mathbb{S}$ ,  $\Phi_\Sigma$  and  $\Phi_\Delta$ , containing unary functions in  $\Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ , resp.  $\Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ , and  $\Phi_{\Sigma, \Delta}$  containing binary functions in  $\Sigma \times \Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ . Moreover, we assume that each of these sets is closed under  $\oplus$  and  $\otimes$ , and all partial applications of functions  $\Phi_{\Sigma, \Delta}$ , resp.  $f_a : y \mapsto f(a, y)$  for  $a \in \Sigma$  and  $y \in \Delta$  and  $f_b : x \mapsto f(x, b)$  for  $b \in \Delta$  and  $x \in \Sigma$ , belong resp. to  $\Phi_\Sigma$  and  $\Phi_\Delta$ .

**Definition 1** A symbolic-weighted transducer  $T$  over the input and output alphabet  $\Sigma$  and  $\Delta$  and the semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  is a tuple  $T = \langle Q, \text{in}, \mathbf{w}, \text{out} \rangle$ , where  $Q$  is a finite set of states,  $\text{in} : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ , respectively  $\text{out} : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ , are functions defining the weight for entering, respectively leaving, a state, and  $\mathbf{w}$  is a transition function from  $Q \times Q$  into  $\langle \Phi_0, \Phi_\Sigma, \Phi_\Delta, \Phi_{\Sigma, \Delta} \rangle$ .

We extend the above transition function into a function from  $Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times (\Delta \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times Q$  into  $\mathbb{S}$ , also called  $\mathbf{w}$  for simplicity, such that for all  $q, q' \in Q$ ,  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  $b \in \Delta$ , and with  $\langle \phi_\epsilon, \phi_\Sigma, \phi_\Delta, \phi_{\Sigma, \Delta} \rangle = \mathbf{w}(q, q')$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{w}(q, \epsilon, \epsilon, q') &= \phi_\epsilon \\ \mathbf{w}(q, a, \epsilon, q') &= \phi_\Sigma(a) \\ \mathbf{w}(q, \epsilon, b, q') &= \phi_\Delta(b) \\ \mathbf{w}(q, a, b, q') &= \phi_{\Sigma, \Delta}(a, b) \end{aligned}$$

These functions  $\phi$  act as guards for the transducer's transitions, preventing a transition when they return the absorbing  $0$  of  $\mathbb{S}$ .

The symbolic-weighted transducer  $T$  defines a mapping from the pairs of strings of  $\Sigma^* \times \Delta^*$  into the weights of  $\mathbb{S}$ , based on the following intermediate function  $\text{weight}_T$  defined recursively for every  $q, q' \in Q$ ,

for every strings of  $s \in \Sigma^*$ ,  $t \in \Delta^*$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{weight}_T(q, s, t, q') = & \quad \text{w}(q, \epsilon, \epsilon, q') \\
& \oplus \bigoplus_{\substack{q'' \in Q \\ s=au, a \in \Sigma}} \text{w}(q, a, \epsilon, q'') \otimes \text{weight}_T(q'', u, t, q') \\
& \oplus \bigoplus_{\substack{q'' \in Q \\ t=bv, b \in \Delta}} \text{w}(q, \epsilon, b, q'') \otimes \text{weight}_T(q'', s, v, q') \\
& \oplus \bigoplus_{\substack{q'' \in Q \\ s=au, a \in \Sigma \\ t=bv, b \in \Delta}} \text{w}(q, a, b, q'') \otimes \text{weight}_A(q'', u, v, q')
\end{aligned}$$

Recall that by convention, an empty sum with  $\oplus$  is  $\mathbb{0}$ . The weight associated by  $T$  to  $\langle s, t \rangle \in \Sigma^* \times \Delta^*$  is then defined as follows:

$$T(s, t) = \bigoplus_{q, q' \in Q} \text{in}(q) \otimes \text{weight}_T(q, s, t, q') \otimes \text{out}(q').$$

A *symbolic weighted automata* (SWA)  $A = \langle Q, \text{in}, \text{weight}, \text{out} \rangle$  over  $\Sigma$  and  $\mathbb{S}$  is defined in a similar way by simply omitting the output symbols, *i.e.*  $\text{w}$  is a function of  $Q \times Q$  into  $\langle \Phi_0, \Phi_\Sigma \rangle$ , or equivalently from  $Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times Q$  into  $\mathbb{S}$ .

**Proposition 2** *Given a SWTT over  $\Sigma$ ,  $\Delta$  and  $\mathbb{S}$ , and a word  $s \in \Sigma^*$ , one can construct a SWA  $A_{s,T}$  such that for all  $t \in \Delta^*$ ,  $A_{s,T}(t) = T(s, t)$ .*

The construction time and size of  $A_{s,T}$  are  $O(|s| \cdot \|T\|)$ .

## 2 SW Visibly Pushdown Automata

The following model generalizes Symbolic VPA [1] from Boolean semirings to arbitrary semiring weight domains.

Let  $\Sigma$  be an input alphabet, finite (large) or infinite, that we assume partitioned into :

- a set  $\Sigma_i$  of *internal symbols* denoted  $a$ ,
- a set  $\Sigma_c$  of *call symbols* denoted  $\langle a$ ,
- a set  $\Sigma_r$  of *return symbols* denoted  $a \rangle$ .

In order to simplify notations, and following the definition of Section 1, we shall write respectively  $\Phi_i$ ,  $\Phi_c$ ,  $\Phi_r$  and  $\Phi_{cr}$  for  $\Phi_{\Sigma_i}$ ,  $\Phi_{\Sigma_c}$ ,  $\Phi_{\Sigma_r}$  and  $\Phi_{\Sigma_c, \Sigma_r}$ ,

**Definition 3** *A Symbolic Weighted Visibly Pushdown Automata (SWVPA)  $A$  over the input  $\Sigma = \Sigma_i \uplus \Sigma_c \uplus \Sigma_r$  and the semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  is a tuple  $T = \langle Q, P, \text{in}, \text{w}_i, \text{w}_c, \text{w}_r, \text{w}_e, \text{out} \rangle$ , where  $Q$  is a finite set of states,  $P$  is a finite set of stack symbols,  $\text{in} : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ , respectively  $\text{out} : Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ , are*

functions defining the weight for entering, respectively leaving, a state, and  $w_i : Q \times Q \rightarrow \Phi_i$ ,  $w_c : Q \times Q \times P \rightarrow \Phi_c$ ,  $w_r : Q \times P \times Q \rightarrow \Phi_{cr}$ ,  $w_e : Q \times Q \rightarrow \Phi_r$ , are transition functions.

Similarly as in Section 1, we extend the above transition functions as follows for all  $q, q' \in Q$ ,  $p \in P$ ,  $a \in \Sigma_i$ ,  $\langle_c \in \Sigma_c, r \rangle \in \Sigma_r$ , overloading the names for simplicity:

$$\begin{array}{lll} w_i : Q \times \Sigma_i \times Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S} & w_i(q, a, q') = \phi_i(a) & \text{where } \phi_i = w_i(q, q') \\ w_c : Q \times \Sigma_c \times Q \times P \rightarrow \mathbb{S} & w_c(q, \langle_c, q', p) = \phi_c(\langle_c) & \text{where } \phi_c = w_c(q, q', p) \\ w_r : Q \times \Sigma_c \times P \times \Sigma_r \times Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S} & w_r(q, \langle_c, p, r \rangle, q') = \phi_r(\langle_c, r) & \text{where } \phi_r = w_r(q, p, q') \\ w_e : Q \times \Sigma_r \times Q \rightarrow \mathbb{S} & w_e(q, r, q') = \phi_e(r) & \text{where } \phi_e = w_e(q, q') \end{array}$$

The intuition is the following for the above transitions.

- $w_i$  : read the input internal symbol  $a$ , change state to  $q'$ .
- $w_c$  : read the input symbol  $\langle_c$ , push it to the stack along with  $p$ , change state to  $q'$ .
- $w_r$  : when the stack is not empty, read and pop from stack a pair made of  $\langle_c$  and  $p$ , read the input symbol  $r$ , change state to  $q'$ .  
In this case, the weight function  $\phi_r$  checks a matching between the call and return symbols.
- $w_e$  : when the stack is empty, read the input symbol  $\langle_r$ , change state to  $q'$ .

We give now a formal definition of these transitions of the automaton  $A$  in term of a weight value computed by an intermediate function  $\text{weight}_A$ . In the case of a pushdown automaton, a configuration is composed of a state  $q \in Q$  and a stack content  $\theta \in \Theta^*$ , where  $\Theta = \Sigma_c \times P$ . Therefore,  $\text{weight}_A$  is a function from  $Q \times \Theta^* \times \Sigma^* \times Q \times \Theta^*$  into  $\mathbb{S}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{weight}_A([q], au, [q']) &= \bigoplus_{q'' \in Q} w_i(q, a, q'') \otimes \text{weight}_A([q''], u, [q']) \\ \text{weight}_A([q], \langle_c u, [q']) &= \bigoplus_{\substack{q'' \in Q \\ p \in P}} w_c(q, \langle_c, q'', p) \otimes \text{weight}_A([q''], u, [q']) \\ \text{weight}_A([q], \langle_c p, r \rangle u, [q']) &= \bigoplus_{q'' \in Q} w_r(q, \langle_c, p, r \rangle, q'') \otimes \text{weight}_A([q''], u, [q']) \\ \text{weight}_A([q], r \rangle u, [q']) &= \bigoplus_{q'' \in Q} w_e(q, r, q'') \otimes \text{weight}_A([q''], u, [q']) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\perp$  denotes the empty stack and  $\langle_c p \cdot \theta$  denotes a stack with the pair made of  $\langle_c$  and  $p$  on its top and  $\theta$  as the rest of stack. The weight associated by  $A$  to  $s \in \Sigma^*$  is then defined as follows by empty stack computation:

$$A(s) = \bigoplus_{q, q' \in Q} \text{in}(q) \otimes \text{weight}_A([q], s, [q']) \otimes \text{out}(q').$$

### 3 Application

Symbolic Automated Music Transcription

### 3.1 Representations

Performance.

Score.

### 3.2 Transducer for Distance Computation

## References

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## A Edit-Distance

...algebraic definition of edit-distance of Mohri, in [6] distance  $d$  over  $\Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$  into a semiring  $\mathbb{S} = (\mathbb{S}, \oplus, \mathbb{0}, \otimes, \mathbb{1})$ .

Let  $\Omega = \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\} \times \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\} \setminus \{(\epsilon, \epsilon)\}$ , and let  $h$  be the morphism from  $\Omega^*$  into  $\Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$  defined over the concatenation of strings of  $\Sigma^*$  (that removes the  $\epsilon$ 's). An *alignment* between 2 strings  $s, t \in \Sigma^*$  is an element  $\omega \in \Omega^*$  such that  $h(\omega) = (s, t)$ . We assume a base cost function  $\Omega : \delta : \Omega \rightarrow S$ , extended to  $\Omega^*$  as follows (for  $\omega \in \Omega^*$ ):

$$\delta(\omega) = \bigotimes_{0 \leq i < |\omega|} \delta(\omega_i).$$

**Definition 4** For  $s, t \in \Sigma^*$ , the edit-distance between  $s$  and  $t$  is  $d(s, t) =$

$$\bigoplus_{\omega \in \Omega^* \mid h(\omega) = (s, t)} \delta(\omega).$$

e.g. Levenstein edit-distance:  $S$  is min-plus and  $\delta(a, b) = 1$  for all  $(a, b) \in \Omega$ .