# Weighted Visibly Pushdown Automata and Automated Music Transcription

### April 27, 2021

#### Abstract

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

**Semirings.** We shall consider semiring domains for weight values. A *semiring*  $\langle \mathbb{S}, \oplus, \mathbb{O}, \otimes, \mathbb{1} \rangle$  is a structure with a domain  $\mathbb{S}$ , equipped with two associative binary operators  $\oplus$  and  $\otimes$  with respective neutral elements  $\mathbb{O}$  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  $\mathbb{O}$  is absorbing for  $\otimes$ :  $\forall x \in \mathbb{S}$ ,  $\mathbb{O} \otimes x = x \otimes \mathbb{O} = \mathbb{O}$ . 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.

A semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  is commutative if  $\otimes$  is commutative. It bounded [4] if  $\forall x \in dom(\mathbb{S}), \mathbb{1} \oplus x = \mathbb{1}$ , and idempotent if for all  $x \in \mathbb{S}$ ,  $x \oplus x = x$ . Note that every bounded semiring is idempotent: by boundedness,  $\mathbb{1} \oplus \mathbb{1} = \mathbb{1}$ , and idempotency follows by multiplying both sides by x and distributing.

A semiring  $\mathbb S$  is *monotonic wrt* a partial ordering  $\le$  iff for all  $x,y,z\in\mathbb S, x\le y$  implies  $x\oplus z\le y\oplus z, x\otimes z\le y\otimes z$  and  $z\otimes x\le z\otimes y$ , and it is *superior wrt*  $\le$  iff for all  $x,y\in\mathbb S, x\le x\otimes y$  and  $y\le x\otimes y$  [3]. The latter property corresponds to the *non-negative weights* condition in shortest-path algorithms [1]. Intuitively, it means that combining elements always increase their weight. Note that when  $\mathbb S$  is superior  $wrt\le$ , then  $\mathbb 1\le \mathbb 0$  and moreover, for all  $x\in\mathbb S, \mathbb 1\le x\le \mathbb 0$ .

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  $x \oplus y = x$ . This ordering is sometimes defined in the opposite direction [2]; The above definition follows [4], 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  $dom(\mathbb S)$  over an index set  $I\subset \mathbb N$ , the infinite sum  $\bigoplus_{i\in I} x_i$  is well-defined and in  $dom(\mathbb S)$ , and the following properties hold:

$$\begin{split} i. \ \ & \textit{infinite sums extend finite sums:} \ \bigoplus_{i \in \emptyset} x_i = \mathbb{O}, \quad \forall j \in \mathbb{N}, \ \bigoplus_{i \in \{j\}} x_i = x_j, \\ \forall j, k \in \mathbb{N}, j \neq k, \bigoplus_{i \in \{j,k\}} x_i = x_j \oplus x_k, \end{split}$$

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 Visibly Pushdown Automata

We follow the approach of [5] for the computation of distances...

#### 1.1 SW Automata and Transducers

The following definition of weighted transducers over infinite alphabets generalizes weighted transducers over finite alphabets, see e.g. [5], 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  $\Sigma \to \mathbb S$ , resp.  $\Delta \to \mathbb S$ , and  $\Phi_{\Sigma,\Delta}$  containing binary functions in  $\Sigma \times \Delta \to \mathbb S$ . 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 weighted transducer T over the input and output alphabet  $\Sigma$  and  $\Delta$  and the semiring  $\mathbb S$  is a tuple  $T=\langle Q, \mathsf{in}, \mathsf{weight}, \mathsf{out} \rangle$ , where Q is a finite set of states,  $\mathsf{in}: Q \to \mathbb S$ , respectively  $\mathsf{out}: Q \to \mathbb S$ , is a function defining the weight for entering, respectively leaving, a state, and weight is a transition function of  $Q \times Q$  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 S, also called weight for simplicity, such that for all  $q, q' \in Q$ ,  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  $b \in \Delta$ , and with  $\langle \phi_{\epsilon}, \phi_{\Sigma}, \phi_{\Delta}, \phi_{\Sigma, \Delta} \rangle = \text{weight}(q, q')$ ,

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \operatorname{weight}(q,\epsilon,\epsilon,q') & = & \phi_{\epsilon} \\ \operatorname{weight}(q,a,\epsilon,q') & = & \phi_{\Sigma}(a) \\ \operatorname{weight}(q,\epsilon,b,q') & = & \phi_{\Delta}(b) \\ \operatorname{weight}(q,a,b,q') & = & \phi_{\Sigma,\Delta}(a,b) \end{array}$$

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

The 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 weight<sub>A</sub> defined recursively for every  $q, q' \in Q$ , for every strings of  $s \in \Sigma^*$ ,  $t \in \Delta^*$ :

$$\begin{split} \operatorname{weight}_{\mathcal{A}}(q,s,t,q') &= & \operatorname{weight}(q,\epsilon,\epsilon,q') \\ \oplus &\bigoplus_{\substack{q'' \in Q \\ s = au, a \in \Sigma}} \operatorname{weight}(q,a,\epsilon,q'') \otimes \operatorname{weight}_{\mathcal{A}}(q'',u,t,q') \\ \oplus &\bigoplus_{\substack{q'' \in Q \\ t = bv, b \in \Delta}} \operatorname{weight}(q,\epsilon,b,q'') \otimes \operatorname{weight}_{\mathcal{A}}(q'',s,v,q') \\ &\oplus &\bigoplus_{\substack{q'' \in Q \\ s = au, a \in \Sigma \\ t = bv, b \in \Delta}} \operatorname{weight}(q,a,b,q'') \otimes \operatorname{weight}_{\mathcal{A}}(q'',u,v,q') \end{split}$$

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

$$T(s,t) = \bigoplus_{q,q' \in Q} \operatorname{in}(q) \otimes \operatorname{weight}_{\mathcal{A}}(q,s,t,q') \otimes \operatorname{out}(q').$$

A weighted automata  $T = \langle Q, \text{in}, \text{weight}, \text{out} \rangle$  over  $\Sigma$  and  $\mathbb S$  is defined in a similar way by simply omitting the output symbols, *i.e.* weight 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  $\mathbb S$ .

#### 1.2 Distance between words or languages

distance d: defined over  $\Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$  into a semiring  $\mathbb{S} = (\mathbb{S}, \oplus, \mathbb{O}, \otimes, \mathbb{1})$ .

**Edit-Distance.** ...algebraic definition of edit-distance of Mohri, in [5] 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  $\Omega: \delta: \Omega \to S$ , extended to  $\Omega^*$  as follows (for  $\omega \in \Omega^*$ ):  $\delta(\omega) = \bigotimes_{0 \le i < |\omega|} \delta(\omega_i)$ .

**Definition 2** For 
$$s, t \in \Sigma^*$$
, the edit-distance between  $s$  and  $t$  is  $d(s, t) = \bigoplus_{\omega \in \Omega^*} \delta(\omega)$ .

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

### 1.3 SW Visibly Pushdown Automata

# 2 Application

Symbolic Automated Music Transcription

## 2.1 Representations

Performance.

Score.

#### 2.2 Transducer for Distance Computation

#### References

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