

Generating Random WMC Instances

An Empirical Analysis with Varying Primal Treewidth

Paulius Dilkas

National University of Singapore

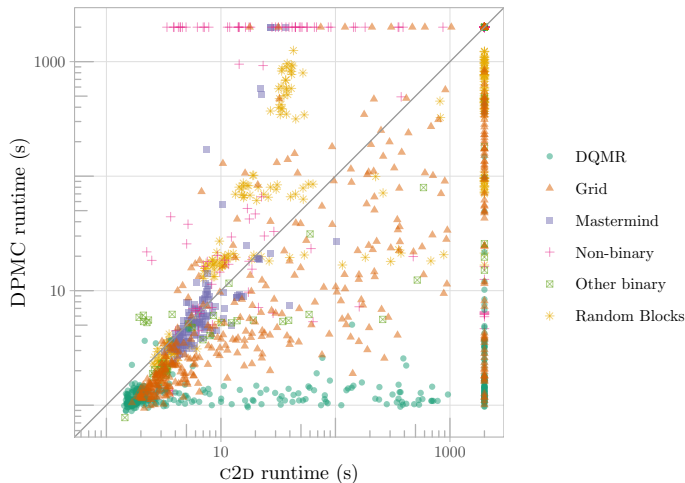
30th May 2024



Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Background
- 3 Random WMC
- 4 Experiments
 - Validation
 - Hardness
 - Statistical Analysis
 - Miscellaneous
- 5 Conclusion

Which Algorithm Is Better? It Depends on the Data



The runtime data is from Dilkas and Belle (2021): various Bayesian networks encoded using the approach by Darwiche (2002)

The Problem: Weighted Model Counting (WMC)

- A generalisation of propositional model counting ($\#SAT$)
- Applications:
 - graphical models
 - probabilistic programming
 - neuro-symbolic AI
- WMC algorithms use:
 - dynamic programming
 - knowledge compilation
 - SAT solvers

Example

$$w(x) = 0.3, w(\neg x) = 0.7, \\ w(y) = 0.2, w(\neg y) = 0.8$$

$$\text{WMC}(x \vee y) = w(x)w(y) + \\ w(x)w(\neg y) + w(\neg x)w(y) = 0.44$$

(Some of the) WMC Algorithms

- CACHET (Sang et al. 2004)
 - a SAT solver with **clause learning** and **component caching**
- C2D (Darwiche 2004)
 - knowledge compilation to **d-DNNF**
- D4 (Lagniez and Marquis 2017)
 - knowledge compilation to **decision-DNNF**
- MINIC2D (Oztok and Darwiche 2015)
 - knowledge compilation to **decision-SDDs**
- DPMC (Dudek, Phan and Vardi 2020)
 - dynamic programming with **ADDs** and **tree decomposition** based planning

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why isn't SHARPSAT-TD included in the experiments?

A: Because I started setting up these experiments **eight days** after the SHARPSAT-TD paper came out

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why isn't SHARPSAT-TD included in the experiments?

A: Because I started setting up these experiments **eight days** after the SHARPSAT-TD paper came out

Q: Why isn't GANAK included in the experiments?

A: Because it's easy to argue that probabilistic algorithms are **out of scope** (and I had lots of algorithms already)

Frequently Asked Questions

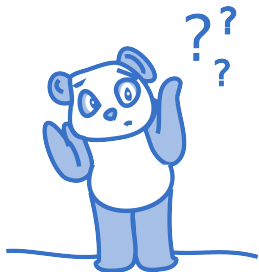
Q: Why isn't SHARPSAT-TD included in the experiments?

A: Because I started setting up these experiments **eight days** after the SHARPSAT-TD paper came out

Q: Why isn't GANAK included in the experiments?

A: Because it's easy to argue that probabilistic algorithms are **out of scope** (and I had lots of algorithms already)

Q: Why am I giving a talk about this **now**?



A:

Overview

1 Introduction

2 Background

3 Random WMC

4 Experiments

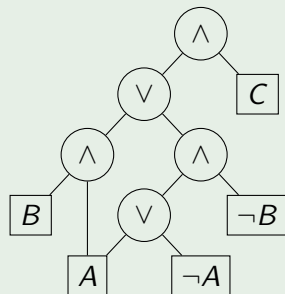
- Validation
- Hardness
- Statistical Analysis
- Miscellaneous

5 Conclusion

Knowledge Compilation: d-DNNF and Decision-DNNF

Example

$C \wedge (A \vee \neg B)$ in
d-DNNF/decision-DNNF:

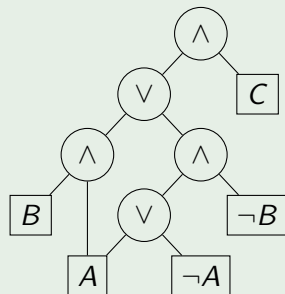


Knowledge Compilation: d-DNNF and Decision-DNNF

Negation normal form: \neg is only applied to variables

Example

$C \wedge (A \vee \neg B)$ in
d-DNNF/decision-DNNF:



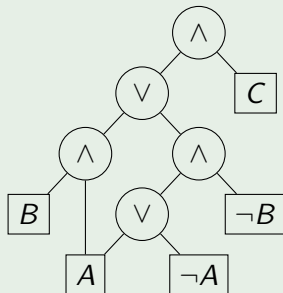
Knowledge Compilation: d-DNNF and Decision-DNNF

Negation normal form: \neg is only applied to variables

Decomposability: for every $\alpha \wedge \beta$,
 $\text{Vars}(\alpha) \cap \text{Vars}(\beta) = \emptyset$

Example

$C \wedge (A \vee \neg B)$ in
d-DNNF/decision-DNNF:



Knowledge Compilation: d-DNNF and Decision-DNNF

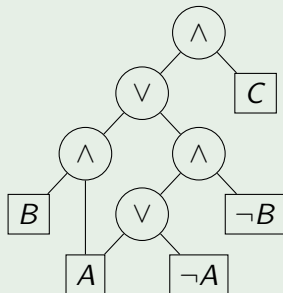
Negation normal form: \neg is only applied to variables

Decomposability: for every $\alpha \wedge \beta$,
 $\text{Vars}(\alpha) \cap \text{Vars}(\beta) = \emptyset$

Determinism: for every $\alpha \vee \beta$, $\alpha \wedge \beta \equiv \perp$

Example

$C \wedge (A \vee \neg B)$ in
d-DNNF/decision-DNNF:



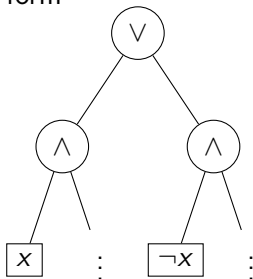
Knowledge Compilation: d-DNNF and **Decision**-DNNF

Negation normal form: \neg is only applied to variables

Decomposability: for every $\alpha \wedge \beta$,
 $\text{Vars}(\alpha) \cap \text{Vars}(\beta) = \emptyset$

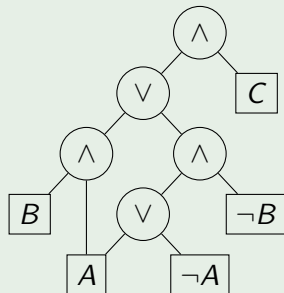
Determinism: for every $\alpha \vee \beta$, $\alpha \wedge \beta \equiv \perp$

Decision: all disjunctions are of the form



Example

$C \wedge (A \vee \neg B)$ in
d-DNNF/decision-DNNF:



Tree Decompositions and Primal Treewidth

A formula in CNF:

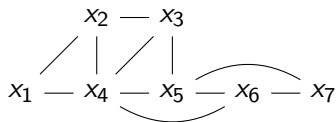
$$\phi = (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_3 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_6) \\ \wedge (x_5 \vee x_6 \vee x_7) \wedge (x_6 \vee x_7)$$

Tree Decompositions and Primal Treewidth

A formula in CNF:

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_3 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_6) \\ \wedge (x_5 \vee x_6 \vee x_7) \wedge (x_6 \vee x_7)$$

The primal graph of ϕ is:

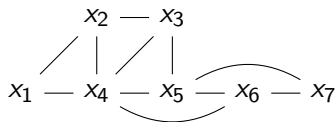


Tree Decompositions and Primal Treewidth

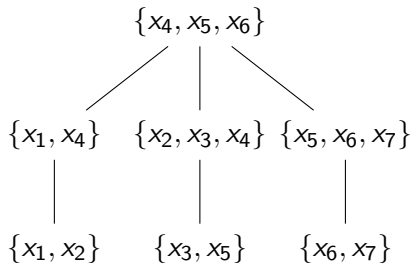
A formula in CNF:

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_3 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_6) \\ \wedge (x_5 \vee x_6 \vee x_7) \wedge (x_6 \vee x_7)$$

The primal graph of ϕ is:



Its minimum-width tree decomposition:

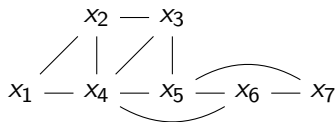


Tree Decompositions and Primal Treewidth

A formula in CNF:

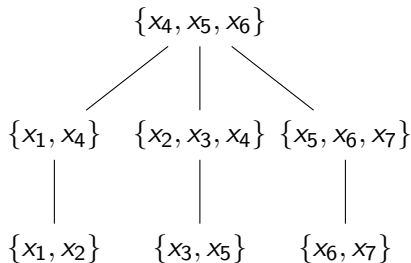
$$\phi = (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_3 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_6) \\ \wedge (x_5 \vee x_6 \vee x_7) \wedge (x_6 \vee x_7)$$

The primal graph of ϕ is:



\therefore the primal treewidth of ϕ is 2

Its minimum-width tree decomposition:



Definition (Robertson and Seymour 1984)

A **tree decomposition** of a graph G is a pair (T, χ) , where T is a tree and $\chi: \mathcal{V}(T) \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{V}(G)}$ is a labelling function, with the following properties:

- $\bigcup_{t \in \mathcal{V}(T)} \chi(t) = \mathcal{V}(G)$;
- for every edge $e \in \mathcal{E}(G)$, there is $t \in \mathcal{V}(T)$ s.t. e has both endpoints in $\chi(t)$;
- for all $t, t', t'' \in \mathcal{V}(T)$, if t' is on the path between t and t'' , then $\chi(t) \cap \chi(t'') \subseteq \chi(t')$.

The **width** of tree decomposition (T, χ) is $\max_{t \in \mathcal{V}(T)} |\chi(t)| - 1$. The **treewidth** of graph G is the smallest w such that G has a tree decomposition of width w .

The Parameterised Complexity of WMC Algorithms

Let n be the number of **variables** and m be the number of **clauses**.

- Component caching (used in CACHET) is $2^{\mathcal{O}(w)} n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$, where w is the **branchwidth** of the underlying hypergraph (Bacchus, Dalmao and Pitassi 2009)
 - Branchwidth is within a constant factor of primal treewidth
- C2D is based on an algorithm, which is $\mathcal{O}(2^w mw)$, where w is at most **primal treewidth** (Darwiche 2001; Darwiche 2004)
- DPMC can be shown to be $\mathcal{O}(4^w mn)$, where w is an upper bound on **primal treewidth**

Early History of Random SAT

- Goldberg, Purdom Jr. and Brown (1982) show that (simplified) **Davis-Putnam procedures** run in **polynomial time** on average on the following model:
 - Fix the numbers of **variables** and **clauses**
 - Let $p \in (0, 0.5)$
 - For each clause C and variable x :
 - **Add** x to C w.p. p
 - Or **add** $\neg x$ to C w.p. p
 - Or **do nothing** w.p. $1 - 2p$

Early History of Random SAT

- Goldberg, Purdom Jr. and Brown (1982) show that (simplified) **Davis-Putnam procedures** run in **polynomial time** on average on the following model:
 - Fix the numbers of **variables** and **clauses**
 - Let $p \in (0, 0.5)$
 - For each clause C and variable x :
 - **Add** x to C w.p. p
 - Or **add** $\neg x$ to C w.p. p
 - Or **do nothing** w.p. $1 - 2p$
- Franco and Paull (1983) were the first to propose a 'reasonable' random k -CNF model:
 - 1 Fix the numbers of **variables**, **clauses**, and **clause width**
 - 2 **Sample each clause** independently as a subset of all possible literals
 - 3 **Reject** clauses that have x and $\neg x$ for some variable x
 - They show that the Davis-Putnam procedure **requires exponential time** w.p. 1

Phase Transitions

- Phase transitions for **decision problems** have been studied both **experimentally** and **theoretically** for a long time (see, e.g., Cheeseman, Kanefsky and Taylor (1991))

Phase Transitions

- Phase transitions for **decision problems** have been studied both **experimentally** and **theoretically** for a long time (see, e.g., Cheeseman, Kanefsky and Taylor (1991))
- Phase transitions are characterised by a parameter k such that:
 - For **low** values of k , the problem is **easy**
 - For **high** values of k , the problem is **easy** again
 - **Average** values of k is where the problem becomes **hard**

Phase Transitions

- Phase transitions for **decision problems** have been studied both **experimentally** and **theoretically** for a long time (see, e.g., Cheeseman, Kanefsky and Taylor (1991))
- Phase transitions are characterised by a parameter k such that:
 - For **low** values of k , the problem is **easy**
 - For **high** values of k , the problem is **easy** again
 - **Average** values of k is where the problem becomes **hard**
- For SAT-based problems, **(clause) density** is the standard parameter
 - i.e., the number of **clauses** divided by the number of **variables**
 - (usually parameterised by **clause width**)

Phase Transitions

- Phase transitions for **decision problems** have been studied both **experimentally** and **theoretically** for a long time (see, e.g., Cheeseman, Kanefsky and Taylor (1991))
- Phase transitions are characterised by a parameter k such that:
 - For **low** values of k , the problem is **easy**
 - For **high** values of k , the problem is **easy** again
 - **Average** values of k is where the problem becomes **hard**
- For SAT-based problems, **(clause) density** is the standard parameter
 - i.e., the number of **clauses** divided by the number of **variables**
 - (usually parameterised by **clause width**)
- The most comprehensive (experimental) study of phase transitions for **SAT algorithms** is by Coarfa et al. (2003)
 - They show that the transition from polynomial to exponential time **depends on the solver**

Overview

1 Introduction

2 Background

3 Random WMC

4 Experiments

- Validation
- Hardness
- Statistical Analysis
- Miscellaneous

5 Conclusion

Generating Random WMC Instances: The Algorithm

$\phi \leftarrow$ empty CNF formula;

$G \leftarrow$ empty graph;

for $i \leftarrow 1$ **to** m **do** \leftarrow

$X \leftarrow \emptyset$;

for $j \leftarrow 1$ **to** k **do** \leftarrow

$x \leftarrow \text{newVariable}(X, G)$;

$\mathcal{V}(G) \leftarrow \mathcal{V}(G) \cup \{x\}$;

$\mathcal{E}(G) \leftarrow \mathcal{E}(G) \cup \{\{x, y\} \mid y \in X\}$;

$X \leftarrow X \cup \{x\}$;

$\phi \leftarrow \phi \cup \{\{l \stackrel{!}{\leftarrow} \mathcal{U}\{x, \neg x\} \mid x \in X\}\}$;

- the number of clauses
- clause width
- a function to pick a variable
- a (fair) coin flip

How to Pick a Variable

Parameter $\rho \in [0, 1]$ biases the probability distribution towards adding variables that would introduce fewer new edges.

Function newVariable(*set of variables* X , *primal graph* G):

```

$$\begin{aligned} & N \leftarrow \{ e \in \mathcal{E}(G) \mid |e \cap X| = 1 \}; \\ & \text{if } N = \emptyset \text{ then return } x \leftarrow \mathcal{U}(\{ x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \} \setminus X); \\ & \text{return} \\ & \quad x \leftarrow \left( \{ x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \} \setminus X, y \mapsto \frac{1-\rho}{n-|X|} + \rho \frac{|\{ z \in X \mid \{y, z\} \in \mathcal{E}(G) \}|}{|N|} \right); \end{aligned}$$

```

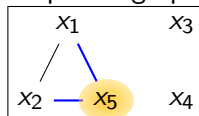
From Random SAT to Random WMC

We introduce parameter $\rho \in [0, 1]$ that biases the probability distribution towards adding variables that would introduce fewer new edges to the primal graph.

Example partially-filled formula:

$$(\neg x_5 \vee x_2 \vee x_1) \wedge (x_5 \vee ? \vee ?)$$

Its primal graph:



The probability distribution for the next variable

Base probability of each variable being chosen:

$$\frac{1 - \rho}{4}.$$

Both x_1 and x_2 get a bonus probability of $\rho/2$ for each being the endpoint of **one** out of the **two** neighbourhood edges.

Overview

1 Introduction

2 Background

3 Random WMC

4 Experiments

- Validation
- Hardness
- Statistical Analysis
- Miscellaneous

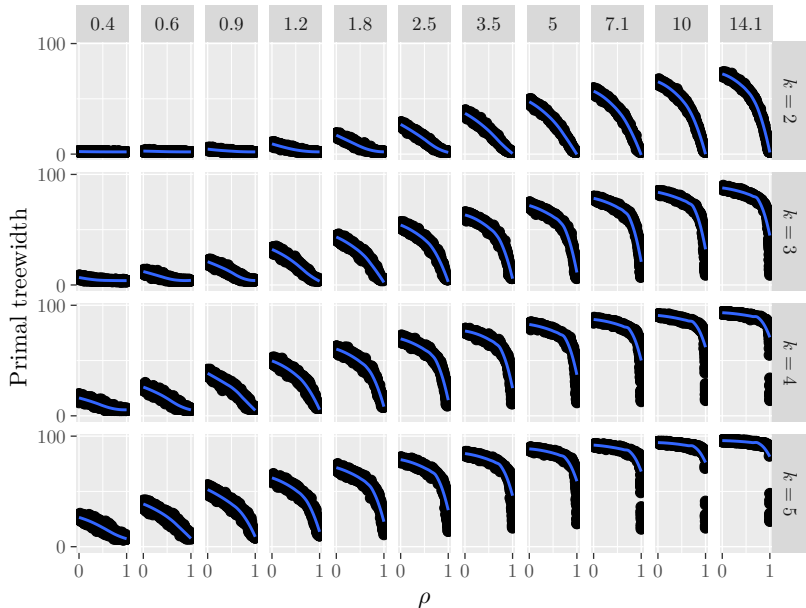
5 Conclusion

The Relationship Between ρ and Primal Treewidth

Experiment 1 (Validation)

- Set the number of variables to 100
- Consider a geometric sequence of 11 densities from 0.4 to 14.1
- Let ρ range from zero to one in steps of 0.01
- Generate ten 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-CNF formulas

The Relationship Between ρ and Primal Treewidth



Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Background
- 3 Random WMC
- 4 Experiments
 - Validation
 - **Hardness**
 - Statistical Analysis
 - Miscellaneous
- 5 Conclusion

Experiment 2 (The Main One)

- Set the number of variables to 70
- Consider densities ranging from 1 to 4.3 in steps of 0.3
- Let ρ range from 0 to 0.5 in steps of 0.01
- Generate one 3-CNF formula

Peak Hardness w.r.t. Density

Let μ denote the **density**, i.e., the number of clauses divided by the number of variables.

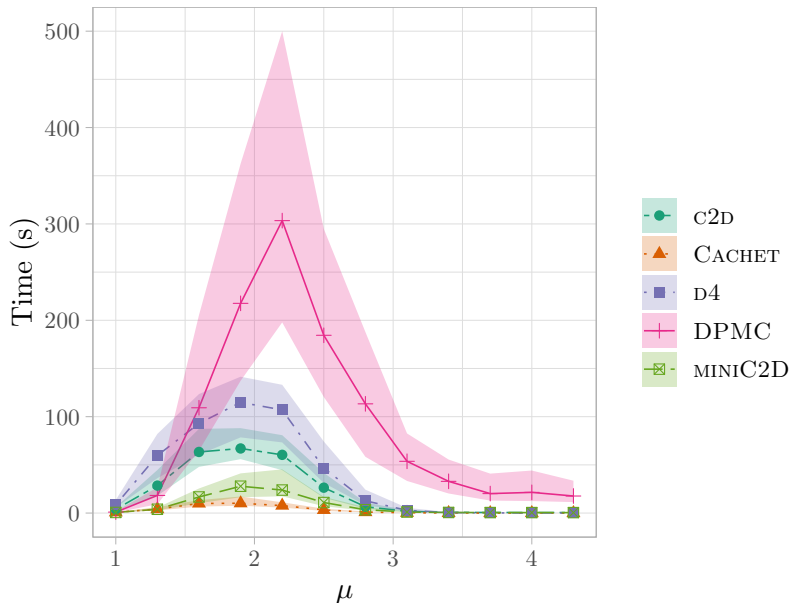
- CACHET is known to peak at $\mu = 1.8$ (Sang et al. 2004)
- Bayardo Jr. and Pehoushek (2000) show some #SAT algorithms to peak at $\mu = 1.2$ and $\mu = 1.9$

Peak Hardness w.r.t. Density

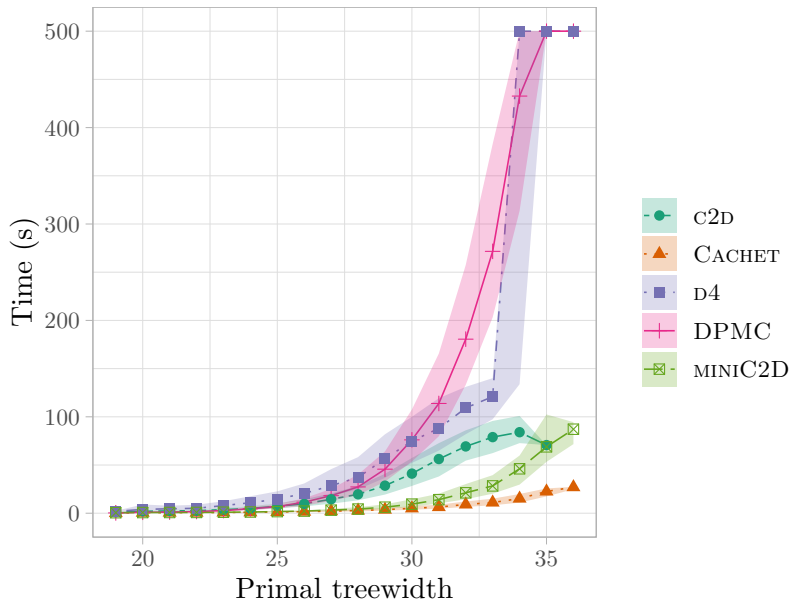
Let μ denote the **density**, i.e., the number of clauses divided by the number of variables.

- CACHET is known to peak at $\mu = 1.8$ (Sang et al. 2004)
- Bayardo Jr. and Pehoushek (2000) show some #SAT algorithms to peak at $\mu = 1.2$ and $\mu = 1.9$
- In our experiments:
 - DPMC peaks at $\mu = 2.2$
 - all other algorithms peak at $\mu = 1.9$

Peak Hardness w.r.t. Density (when $\rho = 0$)



Hardness w.r.t. Primal Treewidth (when $\mu = 1.9$)



Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Background
- 3 Random WMC
- 4 Experiments
 - Validation
 - Hardness
 - **Statistical Analysis**
 - Miscellaneous
- 5 Conclusion

Is The Relationship Exponential: Two Approaches

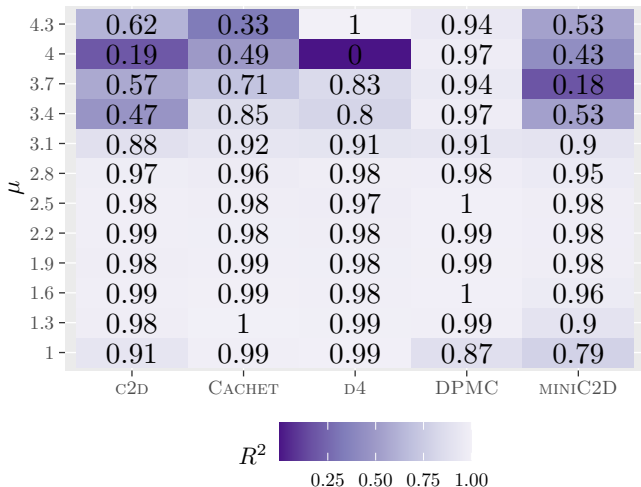
Linear Regression

We fit the model $\ln t \sim \alpha w + \beta$, i.e., $t \sim e^\beta (e^\alpha)^w$, where t is runtime, and w is primal treewidth

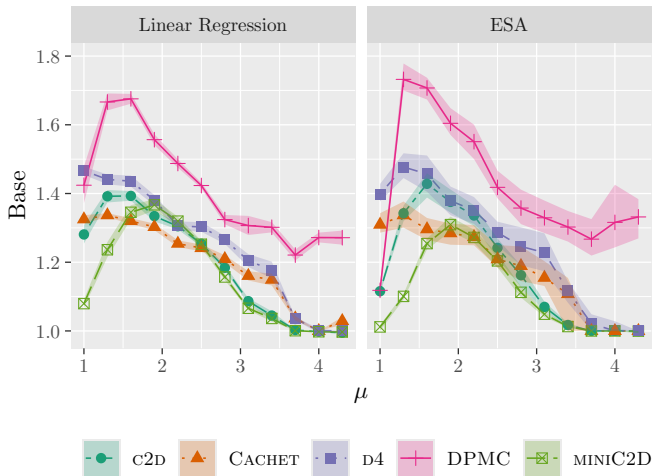
Empirical Scaling Analyzer (ESA) v2 (Pushak and Hoos 2020)

- 1 Prepare a list of hypotheses about scalability, e.g.:
exponential: $t \sim \alpha \beta^w$,
polynomial: $t \sim \alpha w^\beta$
- 2 Use 30 % of the data with the largest values of w for testing
- 3 For each hypothesis, ESA produces:
 - estimates of parameter values,
 - support loss, and
 - challenge loss

How Well Does Linear Regression Explain the Data?



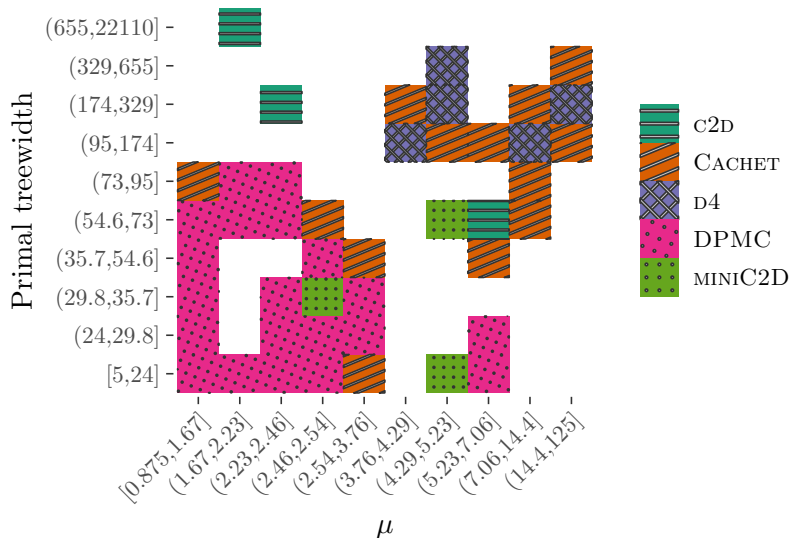
The Base of the Exponential



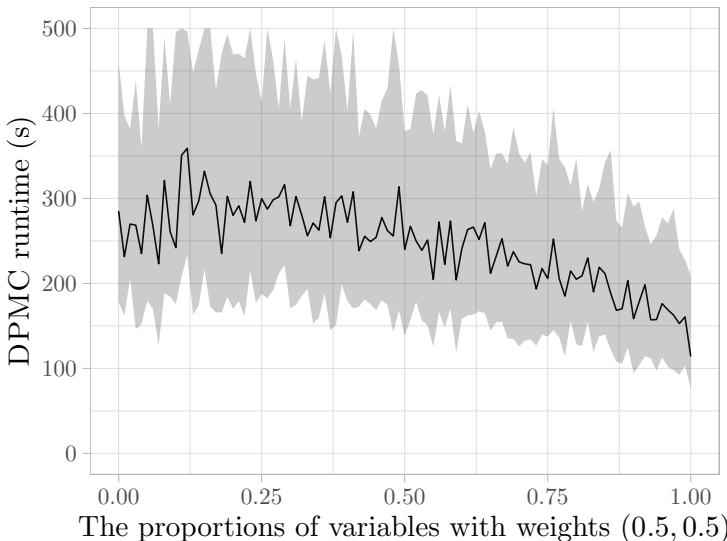
Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Background
- 3 Random WMC
- 4 Experiments
 - Validation
 - Hardness
 - Statistical Analysis
 - Miscellaneous
- 5 Conclusion

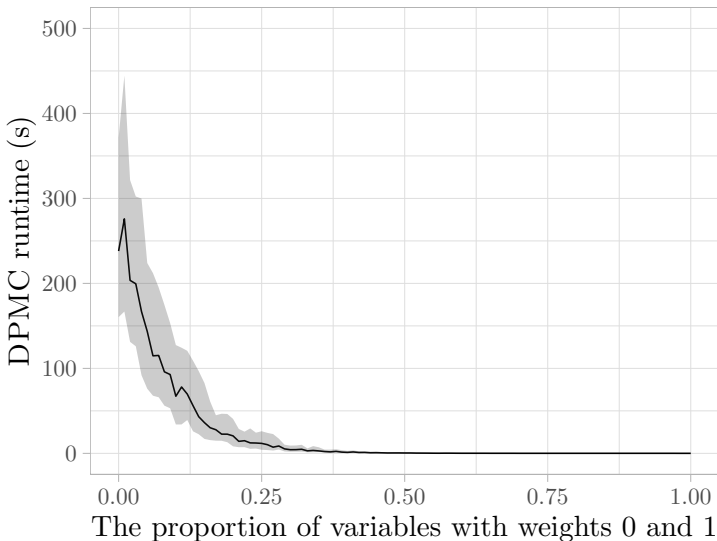
Does Real Data Confirm Our Observations?



Bonus 1: How DPMC Reacts to Redundancy in Weights



Bonus 2: 0/1 Weights Make Counting Easy



Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Background
- 3 Random WMC
- 4 Experiments
 - Validation
 - Hardness
 - Statistical Analysis
 - Miscellaneous
- 5 Conclusion

Summary

- This work introduced a **random model** for WMC instances with a parameter that indirectly controls **primal treewidth**
- Observations:
 - All algorithms **scale exponentially** w.r.t. primal treewidth
 - The running time of DPMC:
 - peaks at a higher density
 - and scales worse w.r.t. primal treewidth
- Future work:
 - A theoretical relationship between ρ and primal treewidth
 - Non- k -CNF instances
 - Algorithm portfolios for WMC

Future Work: (Per-Instance) Algorithm Selection

Definition (Bischl et al. 2016)

Given a set \mathcal{I} of problem instances, a space of algorithms \mathcal{A} , and a performance measure $m: \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **algorithm selection problem** is to find a mapping $s: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ that optimises $\mathbb{E}[m(i, s(i))]$.

Future Work: (Per-Instance) Algorithm Selection

Definition (Bischl et al. 2016)

Given a set \mathcal{I} of problem instances, a space of algorithms \mathcal{A} , and a performance measure $m: \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **algorithm selection problem** is to find a mapping $s: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ that optimises $\mathbb{E}[m(i, s(i))]$.

ϕ

Future Work: (Per-Instance) Algorithm Selection

Definition (Bischl et al. 2016)

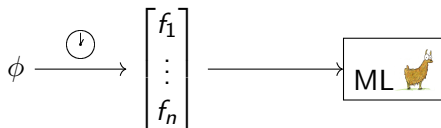
Given a set \mathcal{I} of problem instances, a space of algorithms \mathcal{A} , and a performance measure $m: \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **algorithm selection problem** is to find a mapping $s: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ that optimises $\mathbb{E}[m(i, s(i))]$.

$$\phi \xrightarrow{\text{clock}} \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Future Work: (Per-Instance) Algorithm Selection

Definition (Bischl et al. 2016)

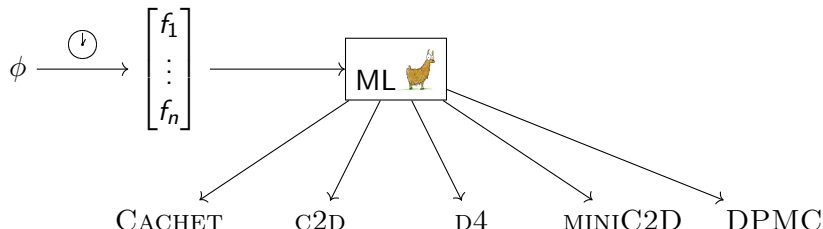
Given a set \mathcal{I} of problem instances, a space of algorithms \mathcal{A} , and a performance measure $m: \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **algorithm selection problem** is to find a mapping $s: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ that optimises $\mathbb{E}[m(i, s(i))]$.



Future Work: (Per-Instance) Algorithm Selection

Definition (Bischl et al. 2016)

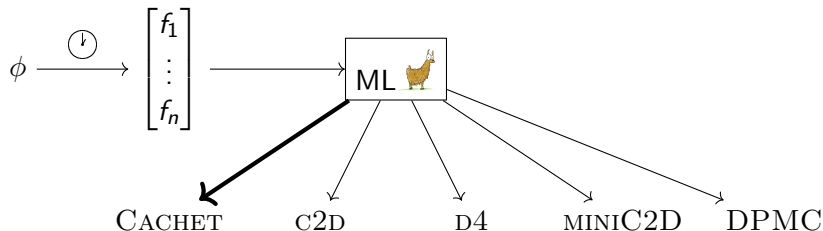
Given a set \mathcal{I} of problem instances, a space of algorithms \mathcal{A} , and a performance measure $m: \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **algorithm selection problem** is to find a mapping $s: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ that optimises $\mathbb{E}[m(i, s(i))]$.



Future Work: (Per-Instance) Algorithm Selection

Definition (Bischl et al. 2016)

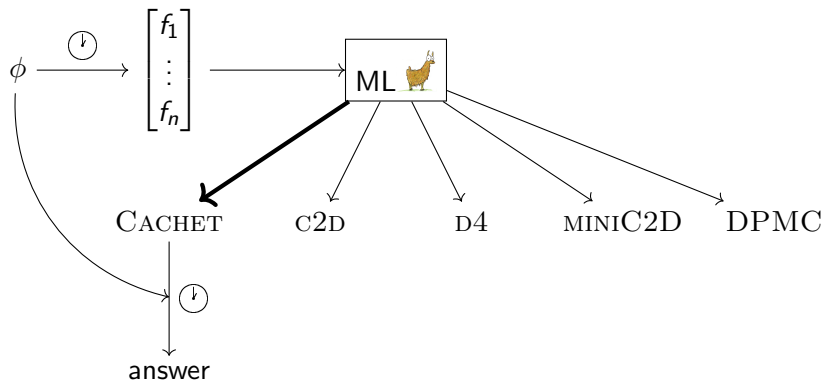
Given a set \mathcal{I} of problem instances, a space of algorithms \mathcal{A} , and a performance measure $m: \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **algorithm selection problem** is to find a mapping $s: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ that optimises $\mathbb{E}[m(i, s(i))]$.









Future Work: (Per-Instance) Algorithm Selection

Definition (Bischl et al. 2016)






Given a set \mathcal{I} of problem instances, a space of algorithms \mathcal{A} , and a performance measure $m: \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the **algorithm selection problem** is to find a mapping $s: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ that optimises $\mathbb{E}[m(i, s(i))]$.









References I

-  Bacchus, F., S. Dalmao and T. Pitassi (2009). 'Solving #SAT and Bayesian Inference with Backtracking Search'. In: *J. Artif. Intell. Res.* 34, pp. 391–442.
-  Bayardo Jr., R. J. and J. D. Pehoushek (2000). 'Counting Models Using Connected Components'. In: *AAAI/IAAI*. AAAI Press / The MIT Press, pp. 157–162.
-  Bischl, B. et al. (2016). 'ASlib: A benchmark library for algorithm selection'. In: *Artif. Intell.* 237, pp. 41–58.
-  Cheeseman, P. C., B. Kanefsky and W. M. Taylor (1991). 'Where the Really Hard Problems Are'. In: *IJCAI*. Morgan Kaufmann, pp. 331–340.
-  Coarfa, C. et al. (2003). 'Random 3-SAT: The Plot Thickens'. In: *Constraints An Int. J.* 8.3, pp. 243–261.
-  Darwiche, A. (2001). 'Decomposable negation normal form'. In: *J. ACM* 48.4, pp. 608–647.

References II

-  Darwiche, A. (2002). 'A Logical Approach to Factoring Belief Networks'. In: *KR*. Morgan Kaufmann, pp. 409–420.
-  — (2004). 'New Advances in Compiling CNF into Decomposable Negation Normal Form'. In: *ECAI*. IOS Press, pp. 328–332.
-  Dilkas, P. and V. Belle (2021). 'Weighted Model Counting Without Parameter Variables'. In: *SAT*. Vol. 12831. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer, pp. 134–151.
-  Dudek, J. M., V. H. N. Phan and M. Y. Vardi (2020). 'DPMC: Weighted Model Counting by Dynamic Programming on Project-Join Trees'. In: *CP*. Vol. 12333. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer, pp. 211–230.
-  Franco, J. and M. C. Paull (1983). 'Probabilistic analysis of the Davis Putnam procedure for solving the satisfiability problem'. In: *Discret. Appl. Math.* 5.1, pp. 77–87.

References III

-  Goldberg, A., P. W. Purdom Jr. and C. A. Brown (1982). 'Average Time Analyses of Simplified Davis-Putnam Procedures'. In: *Inf. Process. Lett.* 15.2, pp. 72–75.
-  Lagniez, J. and P. Marquis (2017). 'An Improved Decision-DNNF Compiler'. In: *IJCAI*. ijcai.org, pp. 667–673.
-  Oztok, U. and A. Darwiche (2015). 'A Top-Down Compiler for Sentential Decision Diagrams'. In: *IJCAI*. AAAI Press, pp. 3141–3148.
-  Pushak, Y. and H. H. Hoos (2020). 'Advanced statistical analysis of empirical performance scaling'. In: *GECCO*. ACM, pp. 236–244.
-  Robertson, N. and P. D. Seymour (1984). 'Graph minors. III. Planar tree-width'. In: *J. Comb. Theory, Ser. B* 36.1, pp. 49–64.
-  Sang, T. et al. (2004). 'Combining Component Caching and Clause Learning for Effective Model Counting'. In: *SAT*.