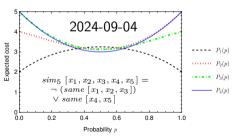
Level-p-complexity of Boolean Functions

Using thinning, memoization, and polynomials

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¹Joint with Julia Jansson, Math@Chalmers. Paper: doi:10.1017/S0956796823000102, code@GitHub.

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Examples: sim_5 , maj_3 , maj_3^2



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- This function can be evaluated on an n-bit bool vector (word) in different ways.

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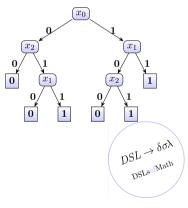
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- ▶ We capture an evaluation order using a *DecTree*:
 - query one bit (index) at a time
 - until the answer if clear (the "remaining function" is constant)

type $Index = \mathbb{N}$

data DecTree where

 $Pick :: Index \rightarrow DecTree \rightarrow DecTree \rightarrow DecTree$ $Res :: \mathbb{B} \rightarrow DecTree$ Examples: sim_5 , maj_3 , maj_3^2

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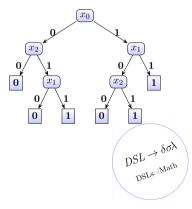
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- We compute the cost of a dectree (for our boolean function) $cost: DecTree \to \mathbb{B}^n \to \mathbb{N}$
 - for every n-bit word (there are 2^n such words)

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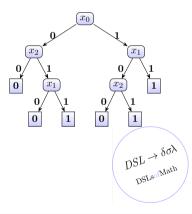
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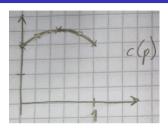
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 - ▶ for every n-bit word (there are 2^n such words)
- ▶ Then compute the *expected* cost over all 2^n words \rightarrow a polynomial in the probability a bit is 1

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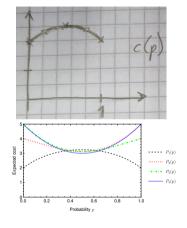


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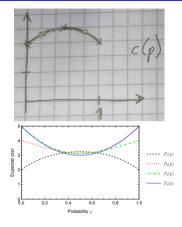
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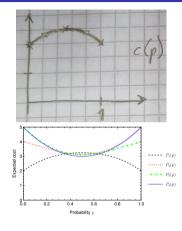
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- Finally we compute the minimum over all decision trees. This gives a piecewise polynomial function. (Approximated by a set of pairwise intersecting polynomials.)
- ▶ This minimum is the level-p-complexity $D_f(p)$ of f.
- ► Example 1: maj_3 , $D_f(p) = 2 + 2p(1-p)$
- ▶ Example 2: sim_5 , $D_f(p) =$ three pieces, from P_1 , P_4 , P_1 .



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- Informally: to generate all the decision trees:
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- ▶ How many DecTrees can there be? In the worst case we get $T_{n+1} = n \cdot T_n^2$
- An estimate of the number of different DecTrees for a function of n bits is $2^{2^{n-1}}$ or simply **FAR TOO MANY**.

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- Success? Not yet.

Reuse of intermediate results (memoization)

- ▶ We can now easily compute up to n=5 but n=9 is still beyond reach.
- In a motivating example (iterated majority on $3 \cdot 3 = 9$ bits) we now get just 1 polynomial at the end, but we still have $2 \cdot n$ immediate subfunctions (recursive calls) and around **100 million** recursive calls in total.

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- ► This turns out to be a great idea for our running example the number of subfunctions (unique recursive calls) is only 215.
- Finally we can compute the Level-p-complexity for maj_3^2 in around a few seconds. (Still 100 million recursive calls, but almost all are just a lookup in a memo-table.)

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- ➤ To implement comparison of polynomials we need to know (exactly) where they intersect. In effect this requires computing with Algebraic numbers (symbolic computations with polynomials, root counting, interval halving, etc). Details in the paper and the code.
- ▶ To go further, beyond n=9, we have used more properties of special classes of boolean functions (iterated threshold functions) to reduce the computational cost even further. (In the repo we have reached n=27 thanks to help from Christian Sattler.)

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Conclusions / Questions?

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Paper: doi:10.1017/S0956796823000102, code: github:juliajansson/BoFunComplexity.

Joint work with Julia Jansson (PhD student @ Math.chalmers.se)

Motivating example: two-level iterated majority

Our running example is a simple case of two-level majority $(maj_3^2 : \mathbb{B}^9 \to \mathbb{B})$.

$$\underbrace{x_{(1,1)}, x_{(1,2)}, x_{(1,3)}, \underbrace{x_{(2,1)}, x_{(2,2)}, x_{(2,3)}}_{m_1 = maj_3 \; (\dots)}, \underbrace{x_{(3,1)}, x_{(3,2)}, x_{(3,3)}}_{m_3 = maj_3 \; (\dots)}}_{m_3 = maj_3 \; (\dots)}$$

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Example 1: Five 0 votes, four 1 votes, even distribution:

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Example 2: Five $\mathbf{0}$ votes, four $\mathbf{1}$ votes, regrouped (perhaps through gerrymandering):

$$\underbrace{\frac{1,1,0}{m_1=1},\underbrace{\frac{1,0,1}{m_2=1},\underbrace{0,0,0}_{m_3=0}}_{maj_3=1}}_{}$$

Result for maj_3^2 and sim_5

$$\begin{array}{l} ps_9 = genAlgThinMemo \ 9 \ \ maj_3^2 :: Set \ (Poly \ \mathbb{Q}) \\ check_9 = \ ps_9 =: fromList \ [\ P \ [4,4,6,9,-61,23,67,-64,16]] \\ ps5 = genAlgThinMemo \ 5 \ sim_5 :: Set \ (Poly \ \mathbb{Q}) \\ check5 = \ ps5 =: fromList \ [P \ [2,6,-10,8,-4], P \ [4,-2,-3,8,-2], \\ P \ [5,-8,9,0,-2], \ P \ [5,-8,8]] \end{array}$$

Subfunctions illustrated

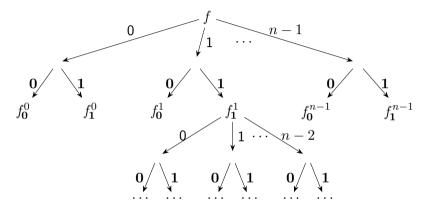


Figure: The tree of subfunctions of a Boolean function f. For brevity $setBit \ i \ b \ f$ is denoted f_b^i . This tree structure is also the call-graph for our generation of decision trees. Note that this tree structure is related to, but not the same as, the decision trees.

A class of Boolean functions

We abstract from the actual type for Boolean functions to a type class:

```
class BoFun\ bf where isConst::bf \rightarrow Maybe\ \mathbb{B} setBit ::Index \rightarrow \mathbb{B} \rightarrow bf \rightarrow bf
```

We only use one instance: Binary Decision Diagrams (BDDs) which allows good sharing and fast operations.

Similarly, for decision trees, we use a class of tree algebras:

```
class TreeAlg\ a where fold_{DT} :: TreeAlg\ a \Rightarrow DecTree \rightarrow a fold_{DT} (Res\ b) = res\ b pic :: Index \rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a fold_{DT}\ (Pick\ i\ t_0\ t_1) = pic\ i\ (fold_{DT}\ t_0)\ (fold_{DT}\ t_1)
```

```
\begin{array}{l} ex1 :: TreeAlg \ a \Rightarrow a \\ ex1 = pic \ 0 \ (pic \ 2 \ (res \ \mathbf{0}) \ (pic \ 1 \ (res \ \mathbf{0}) \ (res \ \mathbf{1}))) \\ & (pic \ 1 \ (pic \ 2 \ (res \ \mathbf{0}) \ (res \ \mathbf{1})) \ (res \ \mathbf{1})) \end{array}
```

```
instance TreeAlg\ Dec\ Tree where res=Res; pic=Pick; instance TreeAlg\ CostFun where res=resC; pic=pickC instance Ring\ a\Rightarrow TreeAlg\ (ExpCost\ a) where res=resPoly; pic=pickPoly
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 $Pick :: Index \rightarrow DecTree \rightarrow DecTree \rightarrow DecTree$

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                                                  fold_{DT} (Res \ b) = res \ b
   res :: \mathbb{B} \to a
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data DecTree where
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instance TreeAlq\ CostFun\ \mathbf{where}\ res = resC; pic = pickC
type CostFun = \mathbb{B}^n \to Int
resC b = const 0
pickC \ i \ c_0 \ c_1 = \lambda t \rightarrow 1 + if \ index \ t \ i \ then \ c_1 \ t \ else \ c_0 \ t
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```

instance $Ring\ a \Rightarrow TreeAlg\ (ExpCost\ a)$ where res = resPoly; pic = pickPoly type $ExpCost\ a = Poly\ a$ $resPoly\ _b = zero$ $pickPoly\ _p_0\ p_1 = one + (one - xP) \times p_0 + xP \times p_1$

Memoization reminder

- Naively computing fib (n + 2) = fib (n + 1) + fib n leads to exponential growth in the number of function calls.
- ightharpoonup But if we fill in a table indexed by n with already computed results we get a the result in linear time.

Conjecture from the MSc thesis

These are the polynomials from the MSc thesis (P_t) and the best one (P_*) :

$$P_t = P [4, 4, 7, 6, -57, 20, 68, -64, 16]$$

$$P_* = P [4, 4, 6, 9, -61, 23, 67, -64, 16]$$

Comparing the two polynomials shows that the new one has strictly lower expected cost than the one from the thesis. The difference is $p^2(1-p)^2(1-p+p^2)$ is illustrated here: It is non-negative in the whole interval. The value of both polynomials at the endpoints is 4 and the maximum of P_* is ≈ 6.14 compared to the maximum of P_t which is ≈ 6.19 .

