Compact Answers to Temporal Regular Path Queries (Supplementary Material)

ACM Reference Format:

1 INTRODUCTION

This document provides detailed definitions and proofs for the article *Compact answers to Temporal Regular Path Queries*, submitted at CIKM 2023

As opposed to the structure adopted in the article, the result here are grouped by topic (inductive representation, finiteness, complexity, etc.) rather than representation ($\mathcal{U}^{[t]}$, $\mathcal{U}^{[d]}$, etc.). This allows us to emphasize which proofs differ from one representation to the other.

2 INDUCTIVE REPRESENTATION

2.1 Grammar

For convenience, we reproduce here the syntax of TRPQs (already provided in the article). A TRPQ is an expression for the symbol path in the following grammar:

path ::= test | axis | (path/path) | (path + path) | path[
$$m$$
, n] | path[m , n] test ::= $pred$ | (?path) | test \lor test | test \land test | \neg test axis ::= F | B | T_{δ}

with $\delta \in \operatorname{intv}(\mathcal{T})$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ and $m \leq n$.

2.2 In $\mathcal U$

For convenience still, we reproduce here the full semantics of TRPQs, i.e. the inductive definition of the evaluation $[q]_G$ of a query q over a graph G in \mathcal{U} (already provided in the article).

- 2.3 In $\mathcal{U}^{[t]}$
- 2.4 In $\mathcal{U}^{[t,d]}$
- 2.5 In $\mathcal{U}^{[t,d],b,e}$

2.5.1 Definition. If q is an expression for the symbol test in the grammar of Section ??, then all tuples in $[\![q]\!]_G$ must have distance 0. As a result, $[\![q]\!]_G$ can be trivially defined out of $[\![q]\!]_G$, by extending each tuple $\{\langle o, o, \tau, [0, 0] \rangle$ with b_τ and e_τ , i.e.

$$(\![q]\!]_G^{[t,d],b,e} = \{\langle o,o,\tau,[0,0],b_\tau,e_\tau\rangle \mid \{\langle o,o,\tau,[0,0]\rangle \in (\![q]\!]_G^{[t]}\}$$

So for this fragment of the language, the inductive definition of $(q)_G^{[t,d],b,e}$ is nearly identical to the one of $(q)_G^{[t]}$. We only reproduce it hee for the sake of completeness.

Next, we consider the operators (path [m, m]) and (path [m, m]). For these cases, $(q)_G^{[t,d],b,e}$ is defined analogously as for the three previous representations, in terms of temporal join (a.k.a. path [m, m]) and set union. We only write the definitions here for the sake

of completeness:

$$\begin{split} (\operatorname{path}_1 + \operatorname{path}_2)^{[t,d],b,e}_G &= & (\operatorname{path}_1)^{[t,d],b,e}_G \cup (\operatorname{path}_2)^{[t,d],b,e}_G \\ & [\![\operatorname{path}[m,n]]\!]_G &= & \bigcup\limits_{k=m}^n (\operatorname{path}^k)^{[t,d],b,e}_G \\ & [\![\operatorname{path}[m,_]]\!]_G &= & \bigcup\limits_{k\geq m} (\operatorname{path}^k)^{[t,d],b,e}_G \end{split}$$

So the only remaining operator are temporal join $(path_1/path_2)$ and temporal navigation (T_δ) , already defined in the article. We reproduce here these two definition for convenience:

where $\mathbf{u}_1 \sim \mathbf{u}_2$ and $\mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{\bowtie} \mathbf{u}_2$ are defined by:

$$\begin{split} \langle o_1, o_2, \tau_1, \delta_1, b_1, e_1 \rangle &\sim & \langle o_3, o_4, \tau_2, \delta_2, e_2, b_2 \rangle \text{ iff } \quad o_2 = o_3 \\ \\ \langle o_1, o_3, \tau_1, \delta_1, b_1, e_1 \rangle & \overline{\bowtie} & \langle o_3, o_4, \tau_2, \delta_2, e_2, b_2 \rangle &= & \langle o_1, o_4, \tau, \delta_1 + \delta_2, b, e \rangle \\ & & \text{with} \\ \\ \tau &= & (((\tau_1 + \delta_1) \cap \tau_2) \ominus \delta_1) \cap \tau_1 \\ b &= & \max(b_1, b_2 - b_{\delta_1}) \\ e &= & \min(e_1, e_2 - e_{\delta_1}) \end{split}$$

2.5.2 Correctness.

Operator path₁/path₂.

Let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \langle o_1, o_2, \tau_1, \delta_1 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{u}_2 = \langle o_3, o_4, \tau_2, \delta_2 \rangle$, with $o_2 = o_3$. Let also $\mathbf{u}_1 \bowtie \mathbf{u}_2 = \langle o_1, o_4, \tau_1', \delta_1 + \delta_2, b, e \rangle$, with

$$\begin{split} \tau &= (((\tau_1 + \delta_1) \cap \tau_2) \ominus \delta_1) \cap \tau_1 \\ b &= \max(b_1, b_2 - b_{\delta_1}) \\ e &= \min(e_1, e_2 - e_{\delta_1}) \end{split}$$

As explained in Section XXX, for $i \in \{1, 2\}$ and $t \in \tau_i$, we use $\delta_i(t)$ for the interval

$$\delta_i b_{\delta_i} + \max(0, b_i - t), e_{\delta_i} - \max(0, t - e_i) b_{\delta_i}$$

And similarly to what we did for $\mathcal{U}^{[t,d]}$, we use R_i for be the binary relation over \mathcal{T} specified by the time points and distances in \mathbf{u}_i , i.e. $R_i = \{(t, t+d) \mid t \in \tau_i, d \in \delta_i(t)\}$.

Then the intervals in the set $\mathbf{u}_1 \boxtimes \mathbf{u}_2$ should intuitively represent this relation $R_1 \bowtie R_2$, i.e. we need to prove that (i) $\tau = \text{dom}(R_1 \bowtie R_2)$ and that (ii) for each $t \in \tau$,

$$t + \delta(t) = \{t' \mid (t, t') \in R_1 \bowtie R_2\}$$

For (ii), let $t \in \tau$. We use

- *a* for the least value s.t. $(t, a) \in \text{range}(R_1) \cap \text{dom}(R_2)$, and
- a' for the least value s.t. $(a, a') \in R_2$

Then a' is also the least value s.t. $(t, a') \in R_1 \bowtie R_2$.

Analogously, we use z for the greatest value s.t. $(t, z) \in \text{range}(R_1) \cap \text{dom}(R_2)$, and z' for the greatest value s.t. $(z, z') \in R_2$. Then z' is also the greatest value s.t. $(t, z') \in R_1 \bowtie R_2$.

From Lemma ??:

- $\{t\} \times (t + [a, z]) \subseteq R_1$, and
- $[a,b] \times [a',z'] \subseteq R_2$

Therefore $[a', z'] = \{c \mid (t, c) \in R_1 \bowtie R_2\}.$

To conclude the proof, we show that $t + \delta_t = [a, z]$.

We only prove that $t + b_{\delta_t} = a$ (the proof that $t + e_{\delta_t} = z$ is symmetric).

Following the definition of b, we consider 2 cases:

- (1) $b_1 < b_2 b_{\delta_1}$
- (2) $b_1 \geq b_2 b_{\delta_1}$

For Case (1), we get

$$b_1 < b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{1}$$

$$\max(b_1, b_2 - b_{\delta_1}) = b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{2}$$

$$b = b_2 - b_{\delta_1}$$
 from the definition of b (3)

And in Case (1) still, we get:

$$b_1 < b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{4}$$

$$0 < b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - b_1 \tag{5}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - b_1) = b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - b_1 \tag{6}$$

Next, we consider two subcases:

(i)
$$t < b_2 - b_{\delta_1}$$

(ii)
$$t \geq b_2 - b_{\delta_1}$$

In Case (i), we get

$$t < b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{7}$$

$$0 < b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t \tag{8}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t) = b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t \tag{9}$$

Now from the definition of δ_t ,

$$b_{\delta_t} = b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b - t) \tag{10}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t)$$
 from (3)

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t$$
 from (9)

$$= b_{\delta_2} + b_2 - t \tag{13}$$

$$b_{\delta_t} + t = b_{\delta_2} + b_2 - t + t \tag{14}$$

$$= b_{\delta_2} + b_2 \tag{15}$$

Next, from the definition of a'

$$a' = b_{\delta_2(a)} + a \tag{16}$$

$$= b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b_2 - a) + a \tag{17}$$

And, from the definition of *a*

$$a = b_{\delta_1(t)} + t \tag{18}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + \max(0, b_1 - t) + t \tag{19}$$

Then we have two further subcases:

(I)
$$t \ge b_1$$
, or

(II)
$$t < b_1$$

In case (I):

$$t \ge b_1 \tag{20}$$

$$0 \ge b_1 - t \tag{21}$$

$$\max(0, b_1 - t) = 0 (22)$$

$$a = b_{\delta_1} + t \qquad \text{from (19)}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - a) = \max(0, b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t)$$
(24)

$$= b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t from (9) (25)$$

= $b_2 - a$ from (23) (26)

(35)

(43)

In case (II):

$$t < b_1 \tag{27}$$

$$0 < b_1 - t \tag{28}$$

$$\max(0, b_1 - t) = b_1 - t \tag{29}$$

$$a = b_{\delta_1} + b_1 - t + t$$
 from (19)

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_1 \tag{31}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - a) = \max(0, b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - b_1) \tag{32}$$

$$= b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - b_1$$
 from (6)

$$= b_2 - a$$
 from (31)

So in both cases (I) and (II), we get

$$\max(0, b_2 - a) = b_2 - a$$

Thefore from (17)

$$a' = b_{\delta_2} + b_2 - a + a \tag{36}$$

$$= b_{\delta_2} + b_2 \tag{37}$$

$$= t + b_{\delta_t}$$
 from (15)

which concludes the proof for Case (1)- (i).

We continue with Case (1)- (ii).

From Case (ii):

$$t \ge b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{39}$$

$$0 \ge b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t \tag{40}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - t) = 0 \tag{41}$$

Now from the definition of δ_t :

$$b_{\delta_t} = b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b - t) \tag{42}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b_2 - b_1 - t)$$
 from (3)

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2}$$
 from (41)

$$b_{\delta_t} + t = b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + t \tag{45}$$

Next, from Case (1) and Case (ii), by transitivity, we get

$$b_1 \le t \tag{46}$$

$$\max(0, b_1 - t) = 0 \tag{47}$$

And from the definition of *a*

$$a = b_{\delta_1(t)} + t \tag{48}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + \max(0, b_1 - t) + t \tag{49}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + t \qquad \text{from (47)}$$

$$\geq b_{\delta_1} + b_2 - b_{\delta_1}$$
 from Case (ii) (51)

$$\geq b_2$$
 (52)

$$0 \ge b_2 - a \tag{53}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - a) = 0 (54)$$

Therefore from (17) and (54)

$$a' = b_{\delta_2} + a \tag{55}$$

$$= b_{\delta_2} + b_{\delta_1} + t$$
 from (50)

$$= b_{\delta_t} + t \qquad \qquad \text{from (15)}$$

which concludes the proof for Case (1)- (ii).

We continute with Case (2).

In this case, we get

$$b_1 \ge b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{58}$$

$$\max(b_1, b_2 - b_{\delta_1}) = b_1 \tag{59}$$

$$b = b_1$$
 from the definition of b (60)

And from Case (2) still, we derive

$$b_1 \ge b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{61}$$

$$0 \ge b_2 - b_{\delta_1} - b_1 \tag{62}$$

$$\max(0, -b_{\delta_1} - b_1) = 0 \tag{63}$$

As well as

$$b_1 \ge b_2 - b_{\delta_1} \tag{64}$$

$$b_1 + b_{\delta_1} \ge b_2 \tag{65}$$

Next, we distinguish two subcases, namely

- (a) $t < b_1$ and
- (b) $t \ge b_1$

We start with Case (a).

In this case,

$$t < b_1 \tag{66}$$

$$0 < b_1 - t \tag{67}$$

$$\max(0, b_1 - t) = b_1 - t \tag{68}$$

And from the definition of δ_t :

$$b_{\delta_t} = b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b - t) \tag{69}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b_1 - t)$$
 from (60)

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + b_1 - t$$
 from (68)

$$b_{\delta_t} + t = b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + b_1 - t + t \tag{72}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + b_1 \tag{73}$$

Next, from the definition of *a*

$$a = b_{\delta_1(t)} + t \tag{74}$$

$$= \max(0, b_1 - t) + b_{\delta_1} + t \tag{75}$$

$$= b_1 - t + b_{\delta_1} + t$$
 from (68)

$$= b_1 + b_{\delta_1} \tag{77}$$

So from (65) (78)

$$a \ge b_2 \tag{79}$$

$$0 \ge b_2 - a \tag{80}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - a) = 0 \tag{81}$$

$$b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b_2 - a) = b_{\delta_2} \tag{82}$$

$$b_{\delta_2(a)} = b_{\delta_2} \tag{83}$$

$$b_{\delta_2(a)} + a = b_{\delta_2} + a \tag{84}$$

$$a' = b_{\delta_2} + a$$
 from the defintiion of a' (85)

$$a' = b_{\delta_2} + b_1 + b_{\delta_1}$$
 from (77) (86)

$$a' = b_{\delta_t} + t \qquad \text{from (73)}$$

which concludes the proof for Case (2)- (a).

We end with Case (2)- (b). In this case,

$$t \ge b_1 \tag{88}$$

$$0 \ge b_1 - t \tag{89}$$

$$\max(0, b_1 - t) = 0 (90)$$

And from the definition of δ_t :

$$b_{\delta_t} = b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b - t) \tag{91}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b_1 - t)$$
 from (60)

$$= b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2}$$
 from (90)

$$b_{\delta_t} + t = b_{\delta_1} + b_{\delta_2} + t \tag{94}$$

Next, from the definition of *a*

$$a = b_{\delta_1(t)} + t \tag{95}$$

$$= \max(0, b_1 - t) + b_{\delta_1} + t \tag{96}$$

$$= b_{\delta_1} + t \qquad \text{from (90)}$$

Now from Case (b)

$$b_1 + \le t \tag{98}$$

$$b_1 + b_{\delta_1} \le t + b_{\delta_1} \tag{99}$$

$$b_1 + b_{\delta_1} \le a \qquad \text{from (97)}$$

$$b_2 \le a$$
 from (65), by transitivity (101)

$$b_2 - a \le 0 \tag{102}$$

$$\max(0, b_2 - a) = 0 \tag{103}$$

$$b_{\delta_2} + \max(0, b_2 - a) = b_{\delta_2} \tag{104}$$

$$b_{\delta_2(a)} = b_{\delta_2} \tag{105}$$

$$b_{\delta_2(a)} + a = b_{\delta_2} + a \tag{106}$$

$$a' = b_{\delta_2} + a$$
 from the defintiion of a' (107)

$$= b_{\delta_2} + b_{\delta_1} + t$$
 from (97)

$$= b_{\delta_{\star}} + t \qquad \text{from (94)}$$

which concludes the proof for Case (2)- (b).

3 FINITENESS

4 COMPLEXITY OF QUERY ANSWERING

4.1 Problem

We define in this section a decision problem for each representation, similar to the problem Compact Answer^[t] defined in Section XXX. First, we define a (possibly partial) order over tuples of each representation, in the expected way, i.e.:

- over $\mathcal{U}^{[t]}$: $\langle o_1, o_2, \tau_1, d_1 \rangle \sqsubseteq_{[t]} \langle o_3, o_4, \tau_2, d_2 \rangle$ iff $\langle o_1, o_2, d_1 \rangle = \langle o_3, o_4, d_2 \rangle$ and $\tau_1 \subseteq \tau_2$,
- over $\mathcal{U}^{[d]}$: $\langle o_1, o_2, t_1, \delta_1 \rangle \sqsubseteq_{[d]} \langle o_3, o_4, t_2, \delta_1 \rangle$ iff $\langle o_1, o_2, t_1 \rangle = \langle o_3, o_4, t_2 \rangle$ and $\delta_1 \subseteq \delta_2$,
- over $\mathcal{U}^{[t,d]}$: $\langle o_1, o_2, \tau_1, \delta_1 \rangle \sqsubseteq_{[t,d]} \langle o_3, o_4, \tau_2, \delta_2 \rangle$ iff $\langle o_1, o_2 \rangle = \langle o_3, o_4 \rangle$, $\tau_1 \subseteq \tau_2$ and $\delta_1 \subseteq \delta_2$,
- over $\mathcal{U}^{[t,d],b,e}$: $\langle o_1,o_2,\tau_1,\delta_1,b_1,b_2\rangle \sqsubseteq_{[t,d],b,e} \langle o_3,o_4,\tau_2,\delta_2,b_2,e_2\rangle$ iff $\langle o_1,o_2\rangle = \langle o_3,o_4\rangle, \tau_1 \subseteq \tau_2$ and $\delta_1(t) \subseteq \delta_2(t)$ for all $t \in \tau_1 \cap \tau_2$ (the notation of $\delta_i(t)$ is explained above, in Section XXX).

Now let x be one of [t], [d], [t,d] or ([t,d],b,e).

We decline the notion of compact answer defined in Section XXX in four flavors, as follows:

Definition 4.1. Let G be a TG, let q be a TRPQ and let $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}^x$.

We say that **u** is a *compact answer* to q over G (in \mathcal{U}^x) if $\mathbf{u} \in \max_{\subseteq_x} {\{\mathbf{u}' \in \mathcal{U}^x \mid \text{unfold}(\mathbf{u}') = [\![q]\!]_G\}}$

And similary, we get four decision problems:

Compact Answer^x

Input: TG G, TRPQ q, tuple $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{U}^x$

Decide: **u** is a compact answer to q over G (in \mathcal{U}^x)

- 4.2 Hardness
- 4.3 Membership
- 5 MINIMIZATION
- **6 SIZE OF COMPACT ANSWERS**