Universal algorithms for parity games and nested fixpoints

ANR DELTA meeting

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Parity games ●0000		

Parity games



 $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{G}} = \langle \boldsymbol{V}, \boldsymbol{E}, \boldsymbol{V}_{\text{Even}}, \boldsymbol{V}_{\text{Odd}}, \ \boldsymbol{\pi} : \boldsymbol{V} \to \llbracket \boldsymbol{0}, \boldsymbol{d} \rrbracket \rangle$

Parity games ●0000		

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Parity games ●0000		

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Parity games ○●○○○		
Plays		



• Play: $(v_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ s.t. $\forall i, (v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E$.

Parity games ○●○○○		
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Parity games 00●00		
Strategies		



• Memoryless strategy for Odd: $\sigma : V_{\text{Odd}} \rightharpoonup V$ s.t. $(v, \sigma(v)) \in E$ for every vertex v.

Parity games 00●00		



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Theorem: From every vertex $v_0 \in V$, one of the two players has a memoryless strategy σ such that every play consistent with σ and starting at v_0 is winning for her.

Parity games		
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Solving Parity Games:

Inputs: G: parity game,

 $v_0 \in V^{\mathcal{G}}$: vertex.

Question: Can player Even win from v_0 in G?

Parity games		
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Parity games		
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- Believed to be in P...
- Best known upper bound: quasipolynomial time O(n^{log(d)})
 ['17 Calude-Jain-Khoussainov-Li-Stephan]

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How to compute the winning vertices of Odd?

1. Identify a "small" winning set U for Odd.

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McNaughton-Zielonka's algorithm: motivations

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 - none ← easy to identify!
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How to compute the set of v s.t. Odd can win from v without ever seeing a vertex of priority d? It is the set of winning vertices for Odd in the game

$$\mathcal{G} \smallsetminus \operatorname{Attr}_{\operatorname{Even}}^{\mathcal{G}}(\pi^{-1}[d]).$$

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- 1. Identify a "small" winning set U for Odd.
- **2.** Consider the set of vertices from which Odd can force the play to reach *U*, denoted $\operatorname{Attr}_{Odd}^{\mathcal{G}}(U)$.
- Iterate: compute Odd's winning vertices in G \ Attr^G_{Odd}(U). If you don't find any, stop.

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- 1. U = vertices from which Odd can win while avoiding d.
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Need to prove: "if there is no vertex from which Odd can win while avoiding d, then there is no winning vertex for Odd". Recall that : "If Odd wins from v, how many vertices of priority d will we see?

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- Correctness: by construction.
- Completeness: ??? by construction! Need to prove: "if there is no vertex from which Odd can win while avoiding *d*, then there is no winning vertex for Odd". Recall that : "If Odd wins from *v*, how many vertices of priority *d* will we see?
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- U = vertices from which Odd can win while avoiding d.
- Consider the set of vertices from which Odd can force the play to reach *U*, denoted Attr^Q_{Odd}(*U*).
- Iterate: compute the Odd's winning vertices in G \ AttrG(U). If you don't find any, stop.



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- U = vertices from which Odd can win while avoiding d. One recursive call with fewer priorities!
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- U = vertices from which Odd can win while avoiding d. One recursive call with fewer priorities!
- Consider the set of vertices from which Odd can force the play to reach *U*, denoted Attr^G_{Odd}(*U*). Computable in poly. time!
- Iterate: compute the Odd's winning vertices in G \ AttrGd(U). If you don't find any, stop.



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- Iterate: compute the Odd's winning vertices in G \ Attr^G_{Odd}(U). If you don't find any, stop. How many times will we need to iterate?



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- Iterate: compute the Odd's winning vertices in G \ AttrG_{Odd}(U). If you don't find any, stop. How many times will we need to iterate? At most n = |V|.



	Universal algorithm ●0000	

• Goal: solve a parity game whose priorities are [[0, d]].

	Universal algorithm	
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- Principle: McNaughton-Zielonka's algorithm with fixed tree of recursive calls.

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- Inputs: *G*: game, *d*: top priority,



	Universal algorithm	
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- Goal: solve a parity game whose priorities are [[0, d]].
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- Inputs: G: game, d: top priority, T: tree of height d.



	Universal algorithm	
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- 2. Consider the set of vertices from which Odd can force the play to reach U, denoted $\operatorname{Attr}_{\operatorname{Odd}}^{\mathcal{G}}(U)$.
- Iterate: compute the Odd's winning vertices in G \ Attr^G_{Odd}(U).
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- Goal: solve a parity game whose priorities are $[\![0,d]\!]$.
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- Inputs: G: game, d: top priority, T: tree of height d.



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- 2. Consider the set of vertices from which Odd can force the play to reach U, denoted $\operatorname{Attr}_{\operatorname{Odd}}^{\mathcal{G}}(U)$.
- Iterate: compute the Odd's winning vertices in *G* ∧ Attr^G_{Odd}(*U*).
 If you don't find any, stop.
 Iterate *k* times, where *k* is the number of children of the root of *T*.

	Universal algorithm ○●○○○	

McNaughton-Zielonka

Fact: McNaughton-Zielonka's algorithm corresponds to the universal algorithm over (n, d)-complete tree.

	Universal algorithm 0●000	

McNaughton-Zielonka

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n: number of vertices & *d*: top priority

	Universal algorithm	
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Universal algorithm: correctness & complexity

Time complexity of the universal algorithm over (G, d, T): polynomial in G and T.

	Universal algorithm	
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Universal algorithm: correctness & complexity

- Time complexity of the universal algorithm over (G, d, T): polynomial in G and T.
- Correctness: If \mathcal{T} is big enough, then the algorithm is correct.

	Universal algorithm	

Ordered trees



• Ordered trees: partially ordered by the "embedding" relation.

	Universal algorithm	

Ordered trees



- · Ordered trees: partially ordered by the "embedding" relation.
- Correctness: For every game G, there exists a "small" tree T_G such that the universal algorithm is correct whenever T_G embeds in T.

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Attractor decomposition



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Attractor decomposition (bis)



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Attractor decomposition (ter)



	Attractor decomposition	
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Attractor decomposition (ter)



	Attractor decomposition	
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Attractor decomposition (ter)



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Embeddable decomposition theorem

Theorem: If *D* is subset of the winning set *W* for Even, if Odd can force the play to stay in *D*, for every attractor decomposition tree \mathcal{T}_W of *W*, there exists an attractor decomposition tree \mathcal{T}_D of *D* such that: \mathcal{T}_D embeds in \mathcal{T}_W .

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Attractor decomposition trees describe the shape of the structure of a winning region.

		Conclusion

 For every game G, there exists a "small" tree T_G such that the universal algorithm is correct whenever T_G embeds in T.

		Conclusion ●000

- For every game G, there exists a "small" tree T_G such that the universal algorithm is correct whenever T_G embeds in T.
- Take *T_G* = product of an attractor decomposition tree for Even and an attractor decomposition tree for Odd.

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- Not unique.

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- Take *T_G* = product of an attractor decomposition tree for Even and an attractor decomposition tree for Odd.
- Not unique.
- Polynomial size!

			Conclusion 0000
Universal t	trees		

• A tree is (*n*, *d*)-universal iff every tree with at most *n* leaves and of height *d* embeds in it.

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Universal trees & correctness

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Universal trees & correctness

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- Works if $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{G}}$ is the product of two universal trees.

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Universal trees & correctness

- For every game *G*, there exists a "small" tree *T_G* such that the universal algorithm is correct whenever *T_G* embeds in *T*.
- Works if $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{G}}$ is the product of two universal trees.
- This applies to McNaughton-Zielonka '98, to Parys '19 and to Lehtinen-Schewe- Wojtczak '19.

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Conclusion

