Hitting minors on bounded treewidth graphs

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[arXiv 1704.07284]



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Construction suggests the notion of tree decomposition: small separators.

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Monadic Second Order Logic (MSOL):

Graph logic that allows quantification over sets of vertices and edges.

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Theorem (Courcelle, 1990)

Every problem expressible in MSOL can be solved in time $f(tw) \cdot n$ on graphs on n vertices and treewidth at most tw.

In parameterized complexity: FPT parameterized by treewidth.

Examples: VERTEX COVER, DOMINATING SET, HAMILTONIAN CYCLE, CLIQUE, INDEPENDENT SET, *k*-COLORING for fixed *k*, ...

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Remark: Algorithms parameterized by treewidth appear very often as a "black box" in all kinds of parameterized algorithms. Typically, FPT algorithms parameterized by treewidth are based on dynamic programming (DP) over a tree decomposition.

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But for the so-called connectivity problems, like LONGEST PATH or STEINER TREE, the "natural" DP algorithms provide only time

 $2^{\mathcal{O}(\mathsf{tw} \cdot \mathsf{log} \, \mathsf{tw})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

(Single-exponential algorithms on sparse graphs)

On topologically structured graphs (planar, surfaces, minor-free), it is possible to solve connectivity problems in time $2^{\mathcal{O}(tw)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$:

- Planar graphs:
- Graphs on surfaces:
- Minor-free graphs:

[Dorn, Penninkx, Bodlaender, Fomin. 2005]

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Main idea special type of decomposition with nice topological properties: partial solutions ↔ non-crossing partitions



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This was false!!

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Deterministic algorithms with algebraic tricks: [Bodlaender, Cygan, Kratsch, Nederlof. 2013]

Representative sets in matroids:

[Fomin, Lokshtanov, Saurabh. 2014]

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There are other examples of such problems...

The $\mathcal{F}\text{-}\mathrm{M}\text{-}\mathrm{Deletion}$ problem

Let \mathcal{F} be a fixed finite collection of graphs.

$\mathcal{F} ext{-}\mathrm{M} ext{-}\mathrm{Deletion}$

Input:A graph G and an integer k.Parameter:The treewidth tw of G.Question:Does G contain a set $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $|S| \leq k$ such thatG - S does not contain any of the graphs in \mathcal{F} as a minor?

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• $\mathcal{F} = \{K_2\}$: Vertex Cover.

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• $\mathcal{F} = \{K_2\}$: VERTEX COVER. Easily solvable in time $2^{\Theta(tw)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

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- $\mathcal{F} = \{K_2\}$: VERTEX COVER. Easily solvable in time $2^{\Theta(tw)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.
- $\mathcal{F} = \{C_3\}$: Feedback Vertex Set.

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[Cut&Count. 2011]

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[Cut&Count. 2011]

• $\mathcal{F} = \{K_5, K_{3,3}\}$: Vertex Planarization.

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- $\mathcal{F} = \{K_5, K_{3,3}\}$: VERTEX PLANARIZATION. Solvable in time $2^{\Theta(\text{tw} \cdot \log \text{tw})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$. [Jansen, Lokshtanov, Saurabh. 2014 + Pilipczuk. 2017]

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Both problems are NP-hard if \mathcal{F} contains some edge. [Lewis, Yannakakis. 1980] FPT by Courcelle's Theorem.

Objective

Determine, for every fixed \mathcal{F} , the (asymptotically) smallest function $f_{\mathcal{F}}$ such that \mathcal{F} -M-DELETION/ \mathcal{F} -TM-DELETION can be solved in time

 $f_{\mathcal{F}}(\mathsf{tw}) \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$

on *n*-vertex graphs.

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on *n*-vertex graphs.

- We do not want to optimize the degree of the polynomial factor.
- We do not want to optimize the constants.
- Our hardness results hold under the ETH.

¹Connected collection \mathcal{F} : all the graphs are connected.

• For every \mathcal{F} : \mathcal{F} -M/TM-DELETION in time $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(\mathsf{tw} \cdot \log \mathsf{tw})}} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

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(For \mathcal{F} -TM-DELETION we need: \mathcal{F} contains a subcubic planar graph.)

• \mathcal{F} (connected): \mathcal{F} -M/TM-DELETION not in time $2^{o(tw)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ unless the ETH fails, even if G planar.

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- $\mathcal{F} = \{H\}$, *H* connected and planar: complete tight dichotomy.

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Complexity of hitting a single minor H



15/26

For topological minors, there (at least) one change



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- All the graphs on the right are not minors of \downarrow except P_{5} .
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Theorem

Let H be a connected plana graph. The $\{H\}$ -M-DELETION problem is solvable in time

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• $2^{\mathcal{O}(\mathsf{tw} \cdot \log \mathsf{tw})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$, otherwise.

In both cases, the running time is asymptotically optimal under the ETH.

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- If the characterization of the allowed connected components is enriched in some way, such as restricting the length of the allowed cycles or forbidding certain degrees, the problem becomes harder.

We have three types of results

General algorithms

- For every \mathcal{F} : time $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(\mathsf{tw} \cdot \log \mathsf{tw})}} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.
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• Lower bounds under the ETH

- 2^{o(tw)} is "easy".
- 2^{o(tw·log tw)} is much more involved and we get ideas from:

[Lokshtanov, Marx, Saurabh. 2011] [Marcin Pilipczuk. 2017] [Bonnet, Brettell, Kwon, Marx. 2017]

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F connected → planar: time 2^{O(tw·log tw)} · n^{O(1)}.

 Extra: Bidimensionality, irrelevant vertices, protrusion decomposition...

➡ skip

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- We can extend this algorithm to input graphs *G* embedded in arbitrary surfaces by using surface-cut decompositions.
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