# Weighting Schemes and the NL vs UL Problem 

Anant Dhayal<br>Jayalal Sarma<br>Saurabh Sawlani

IIT Madras, Chennai.

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Structural question: Can space bounded non-determinism be made unambiguous?

## Weighting Schemes

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- Testing reachability in a graph $G$ augmented with a Min-unique weighting scheme is in UL (Allender and Reinhardt - 2000).

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- A natural question: Can we design such weighing schemes for restricted classes of graphs?
- Yes, for planar grid graphs (Bourke, Tewari and Vinodchandran - 2007).
- Planar reachability problem reduces (in log-space) to Grid Graph Reachability (Allender et al 2006). Thus, Planar Reach is in UL.

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## Is Allender-Reinhardt result tight?

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Questions:

- Can Min-Poly Weighted Reachability be done in UL?
- Does this help in showing NL = UL?


## Result 1: Relaxing Min-Unique to Min-Poly.

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Comparison: ReachFewL $=$ ReachUL (Garvin, Stolee, Tewari, Vinodchandran 2011)

The above result talks about graphs with unique/polynomially many paths from $s$ to any vertex $v$. Our result talks about graphs with unique/polynomially many minimum-weight paths from $s$ to any vertex $v$. Total $s \rightsquigarrow v$ paths could be exponential in number.

## Result 2 : Max-Unique Weighting Schemes

- A weighting scheme that maps ( $w: E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ) such that there is a unique maximum-weight path from $s$ to any vertex $v$ in the graph is called a MAX-UNIQUE weighting scheme.


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- LongPath $=\{(G, s, t, j) \mid$ a simple directed path from $s$ to $t$ in $G$ of length at least $j\}$.


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- Testing LongPath in a DAG $G$ with unique source $s$ augmented with a MAX-UNIQUE weighting scheme is in UL (Limaye, Mahajan, and Nimbhorkar - 2009).


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- They use this, along with the weighing schemes for planar grid graphs, to show that the longest path in planar graphs is in UL.
- Lemma: Reach on Layered DAGs logspace reduces to LongPath on single source Layered DAGs. In addition, it preserves the max-unique and max-poly property of the graph.
- Max-Unique weighted Reach is in UL.


## Result 3: Max-Poly Weighting Schemes

- A weighting scheme that maps ( $w: E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ) such that there are at most $n^{c}$ ( $c$ is known) maximum-weight paths from $s$ to any vertex $v$ in the graph is called a MAX-poly weighting scheme.


## Theorem (2)

Testing Reachability in a layered DAG $G$ augmented with a Max-poly weighting scheme can be done by a non-deterministic log-space algorithm unambiguously and hence is in the complexity class UL.

The final algorithm is designed for Long Path problem.

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The following statements are equivalent:

- $\mathrm{NL}=\mathrm{UL}$
- There is a polynomially bounded UL-computable Min-Unique weighting scheme for any layered DAG. (Pavan, Tewari, Vinodchandran - 2012).
- There is a polynomially bounded UL-computable MAX-UNIQUE weighting scheme for any layered DAG.
- There is a polynomially bounded UL-computable MIN-POLY weighting scheme for any layered DAG.
- There is a polynomially bounded UL-computable MAX-POLY weighting scheme for any layered DAG.


## The rest of the talk ...

We will present :

- Outline Allender-Reinhardt Algorithm.
- Modification to get a special NL algorithm for Min-Poly case.
- UL Algorithm for Min-poly case and proof sketch.
- Reduction from Reach to LongPath.

We will not present :

- UL algorithm for MAX-POLY case.


## Notations

- Replace weights with paths of the corresponding length. Now, shortest paths from $s$ to any vertex $v$ in $G$ is unique. All edges go from a lower numbered vertex to a higher numbered vertex.
$-d(v)$ : Length of the shortest $s \rightsquigarrow v$ path.


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- Replace weights with paths of the corresponding length. Now, shortest paths from $s$ to any vertex $v$ in $G$ is unique. All edges go from a lower numbered vertex to a higher numbered vertex.
- $d(v)$ : Length of the shortest $s \rightsquigarrow v$ path.
- $c_{k}$ : Number of vertices within level- $k$.
- $\Sigma_{k}$ : Sum of $d(v)$ s of vertices within level- $k$.

Idea (Allender, Reinheardt - 2000) : Inductively for $k=0$ to $n$

- A UL algorithm to check if $d(v) \leq k$ assuming correct values of $c_{k}, \Sigma_{k}$ are available.
- Use this to compute $c_{k+1}, \Sigma_{k+1}$ from $c_{k}$ and $\Sigma_{k}$

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$\rightarrow$ Guess an integer $1 \leq \ell \leq k$, and an $s \rightsquigarrow x$ path of length $\ell$ $\rightarrow$ If path is found, count $:=$ count +1, sum $:=$ sum $+\ell$
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\begin{gathered}
\text { Final Check: } \\
\text { count }=c_{k} \text { and sum }=\Sigma_{k}
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Return YES iff $v$ was guessed within level $k$

Algorithm to calculate $c_{k+1}$ and $\Sigma_{k+1}$ (Min-unique case)
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Intitialize $\left(c_{k+1}, \Sigma_{k+1}\right)=\left(c_{k}, \Sigma_{k}\right)$
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If all checks output 0
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Theorem (Fredman, Komlos, Szemeredi - 1984)
For every constant $c$ there is a constant $c^{\prime}$ so that for every set $S$ of n-bit integers with $|S| \leq n^{c}$ there is a $c^{\prime} \log n$-bit prime number $m$ so that for all $x, y \in S, x \neq y \Longrightarrow x \not \equiv y \bmod m$.

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- ReachFewL = ReachUL, Garvin, Stolee, Tewari, Vinodchandran [2011] used a similar $\phi$ to give weights to edges.

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iff $t$ is reachable from $s$ and the graph is Min-Poly.
- Each accept configuration has at most one computational path (FewUL).


## Making the algorithm Unambiguous

- Idea : Guess the least $m$ which hashes all the paths distinctly (Call the guessed value as $f^{\prime}$ and the actual value as $f$ ).


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- If $f^{\prime}$ is less than $f$, then $f^{\prime}$ is bad anyway and the algorithm will REJECT.
- If $f^{\prime}$ is more than $f$, then then in some iteration $m^{\prime}=f$ will fail to find a "badness" and hence REJECT.
- IF $f^{\prime}=f$, then attempts to find "badness" of $m^{\prime}$ will all together succeed in exactly one path. Since $f$ is good and unique, the $f^{\prime}$ will make the main algorithm work unambiguously.


## Find the "badness" of $m^{\prime}$ unambiguously

For each $m^{\prime}<f^{\prime}$,

- Guess the first level where a vertex $v$ has two paths to it which are not hashed correctly. Guess this as $k_{1}^{\prime}$ (actual one being $k_{1}$ ) and search for the $v$ in the lex ordering.


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- For each $(a, b)$ pair, compute $p(a)$ and $p(b)$ respectively. Guess the paths in the strictly increasing order of $\phi_{m}$ hashes and try all the pair of paths among them for witness for "badness" of $m$.


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$\operatorname{Reach}(G, s, t) \rightarrow \operatorname{LongPath}\left(G^{\prime}, s^{\prime}, t, 2 n+1\right)(n$ is the number of vertices in $G)$

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- $G^{\prime}$ is max-unique (max-poly) if and only if $G$ is max-unique (max-poly).


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- Structural study of weighing schemes and their design complexity?

Thank You

