# The Possibility Problem for Probabilistic XML 

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## Probabilistic XML

We are unsure about the exact contents of an XML document.


Semantics: probability distribution over deterministic documents.

## Local formalisms: possible worlds semantics



## Local formalisms: possible worlds semantics

| r |  | $(1-\alpha)(1-\beta)$ | $\alpha(1-\beta)$ | $(1-\alpha) \beta$ | $\alpha \beta$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I |  | $r$ | $r$ | $r$ | $r$ |
| ind | $\Rightarrow$ |  |  |  | , |
| $\alpha \wedge \beta$ |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| a b |  |  | a | b |  |
| $r$ |  | $1-\alpha-\beta$ | $\alpha$ | $\beta$ |  |
| \| |  | r | $r$ | $r$ |  |
| mux | $\Rightarrow$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\alpha \wedge \beta$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $a \mathrm{~b}$ |  |  | a | b |  |

## Local formalisms: possible worlds semantics

$\left.\begin{array}{c}r \\ 1 \\ \text { ind } \\ \alpha \\ a_{a} \\ a\end{array}\right]$


$(1-\alpha) \beta$
$r$
$\mathbf{b}$


Caution: we impose $\alpha<1, \beta<1$ in ind.

## Event formalisms

- Probability distribution on events

| x | 0.7 |
| :---: | :---: |
| y | 0.4 |
|  |  |

- Draw events independently
- Edges annotated with formulae on the events
- Edges with false formulae are removed
$\Rightarrow$ mie: multivalued events (see later)
$\Rightarrow$ cie: conjunctions of Boolean events
$\Rightarrow$ fie: formulae of Boolean events


## Possibility problem (Poss)

- Given:
- a probabilistic document $D$
- a deterministic document W
- Is $W$ a possible world of $D$ ?
- If yes, with which probability?
- Diverse probabilistic formalisms, ordered and unordered
- Like query evaluation but:
$\Rightarrow$ Need inequality: "don't collapse nodes"
$\Rightarrow$ Need negation: "no additional things"
$\Rightarrow$ Query depends on input $W$
$\Rightarrow$ Specific bounds for this Poss problem?


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- Guess a valuation of the events
- Guess a match of $W$ in $D$
- Check that the match is realized by the valuation
$\Rightarrow$ Likewise, probability computation is in FP\#P
$\Rightarrow$ Of course Poss is NP-hard for fie


## Tractable for ordered local documents

- Local choices and ordered documents
- Possibility decision and computation are in PTIME
- Intuitively:
- match each possible subsequences of siblings
- dynamic algorithm for match at each level
$\Rightarrow$ Implied by determininstic tree automata on probabilistic XML:
Cohen, Kimelfeld, and Sagiv 2009
$\Rightarrow$ Assumption of order is crucial


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Computation is \#P-hard for ind or mux

$\Rightarrow$ Probability of match times $2^{n}$ : number of perfect matchings
$\Rightarrow$ Computation is \#P-hard for unordered and ind or mux

## Decision is in PTIME for ind or mux

- Compute bottom-up if a node has the empty possible world
- Check dynamically between all nodes of $D$ and $W$
$\Rightarrow$ Build bipartite graph based on child compatibility
$\Rightarrow$ Add dummy nodes for deletions of nodes that can be deleted
$\Rightarrow$ Check in PTIME if graph has a perfect matching


Decision is NP-hard for any two of ind, mux, det

- With det, reduction from exact cover
- $S=\left\{S_{i}\right\}, S_{i}=\left\{s_{j}^{i}\right\}$
- Is there $T \subseteq S$ such that $\bigcup T=\bigcup S$ with no dupes?

$$
\begin{aligned}
S=\{ & \{a, b\}, \\
& \{a, c\}, \\
& \{b\}\}
\end{aligned}
$$



Decision is NP-hard for any two of ind, mux, det (cont'd)

- With ind and mux, reduction from SAT
- $F=(a \vee b \vee \neg c) \wedge(a \vee c) \wedge(\neg a)$



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## Unambiguity

- $D$ is unambiguous if node labels are unique
- Possible refinements (unique among siblings, etc.)
$\Rightarrow$ There is at most one way to match $W$ !
- All local models tractable (can impose order)
$\Rightarrow$ Can we have correlations?


## Still NP-hard for cie

- $F=\bigwedge_{i} \bigvee_{j} \pm x_{j}^{i}$ in CNF
- Equivalently: $\Lambda_{i} \neg \Lambda_{j} \mp x_{j}^{i}$

$\Rightarrow W$ is a possible world of $D$ iff $F$ is satisfiable
$\Rightarrow$ Decision for Poss is NP-hard


## The mie class

| Var | Val | Prob |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $x$ | 1 | 0.6 |
| $x$ | 2 | 0.2 |
| $x$ | 3 | 0.1 |
| $x$ | 4 | 0.1 |
| $y$ | 1 | 0.5 |
| $y$ | 2 | 0.5 |

- mie: Multivalued independent events
- No conjunctions allowed
- Captures mux
- Doesn't capture det or ind hierarchies
- Intractable if ambiguous
$\Rightarrow$ If non-ambiguous, do we have tractability?
mie tractable on non-ambiguous documents

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| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $x$ | 1 | 0.6 |
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| $x$ | 3 | 0.1 |
| $x$ | 4 | 0.1 |
| $y$ | 1 | 0.5 |
| $y$ | 2 | 0.5 |




- $x \neq 2, x \neq 1, y=2, y \neq 1$
- $x \in\{3,4\}, y \in\{2\}$.
$\Rightarrow$ Probability 0.1.


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## Conclusion

- Ordered local models are tractable
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$\Rightarrow$ For decision only, and
$\Rightarrow$ With only mux or only ind
- mie is tractable on unambiguous documents
- Other cases are hard


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$\Rightarrow$ Height does not matter
$\Rightarrow$ Probabilities do not matter
$\Rightarrow$ Can we refine mie, unambiguity, mux-ind interaction?
$\Rightarrow$ What if $D$ is partially ordered?


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Thanks for your attention!

## References

(1) Cohen, Sara, Benny Kimelfeld, and Yehoshua Sagiv (2009). "Running tree automata on probabilistic XML". In: Proc. PODS. ACM, pp. 227-236.

