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# On the Complexity of Managing Probabilistic XML Data

<u>Pierre Senellart</u> Serge Abiteboul



#### Principles Of Database Systems, 13th June 2007

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# Outline

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- Motivation
- Probabilistic Data Management
- Complexity Issues

# 2 Prob-Trees

- 3 Equivalence of Prob-Trees
- Prob-Trees with Additional Constraints

# 5 Conclusion

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### Imprecise Data and Imprecise Tasks

#### Observations

- Many tasks generate imprecise data, with some confidence value.
- Need for a way to manage this imprecision, to work with it throughout an entire complex process.

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## A Probabilistic XML Warehouse











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# **Probabilistic Trees**

Sample space: Set of all such data trees.

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# **Probabilistic Trees**



Sample space: Set of all such data trees.

- What is the complexity of queries and updates?
- Is this complexity inherent to the problem of managing tree-like probabilistic information?
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- 2 Prob-Trees
  - The Prob-Tree Model
  - Queries and Updates
- 3 Equivalence of Prob-Trees
- 4 Prob-Trees with Additional Constraints

#### **5** Conclusion



# The Prob-Tree Model

- Data tree with event conditions (conjunction of probabilistic events or negations of probabilistic events) assigned to each node.
- Probabilistic events are boolean random variables, assumed to be independent, with their own probability distribution.
- Representation à la [Imieliński & Lipksi 1984].





### Semantics of Prob-Trees

Semantics of a Prob-Tree T: Set of Possible Worlds [T] (probability distribution over the set of data trees).



#### Actually, fully expressive.

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# Locally Monotone Queries

Query: function that maps a data tree t to a set of subtrees of t containing its root.

#### Definition

A query Q is locally monotone if, for any data trees u, t' and t such that  $u \leqslant t' \leqslant t, \ u \in Q(t) \iff u \in Q(t').$ 

- Tree-pattern queries with joins are locally monotone.
- "Return the root node if it has no A child, nothing otherwise." is not locally monotone.

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#### Queries on Prob-Trees

#### Illustration of how to query prob-trees on an example.

Query: //C



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### Consistence of Queries on Prob-Trees



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- We consider sets of elementary insertions and deletions.
- Defined with respect to a query (mapping between nodes of the query and nodes to insert/delete).
- More involved definitions...
- ... but a similar result:





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T: prob-tree with underlying data tree t. time(Q(t)): complexity of the query Q over the data tree t.

Upper bounds for operations on T:

Operation	Complexity
Query	time(Q(t)) + polynomial in the size of T, $Q(t)$
Insertion	time(Q(t)) + polynomial in the size of $T, Q(t)$
Deletion	time(Q(t)) + exponential in the size of T, Q(t)

#### Proposition

If the query language is not trivial, the result of a deletion may necessarily be **exponential**.

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- 3 Equivalence of Prob-Trees
  - Two Notions of Equivalence
  - Structural Equivalence
  - Semantic Equivalence

### 4 Prob-Trees with Additional Constraints

### 5 Conclusion



What does it mean for two prob-trees to represent the same information?

### Two different notions:

Structural Equivalence: we keep the same event variables. Semantic Equivalence: we only consider the possible worlds semantics.



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# Structural Equivalence

#### Definition

Two prob-trees T and T' are structurally equivalent  $(T \equiv_{struct} T')$  if they have the same event variables, the same probability distribution, and if they define the same possible world for every valuation of the event variables.



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# Complexity of Structural Equivalence

#### Theorem

Structural Equivalence is a coRP problem: there exists a randomized polynomial-time algorithm that returns true if two prob-trees are equivalent, and false with probability  $\ge 1/2$  otherwise.

Based on the notion of count-equivalence:

#### Definition

Two propositional formulas  $\psi$ ,  $\psi'$  in DNF are count-equivalent  $(\psi \stackrel{+}{\equiv} \psi')$  if, for every valuation of the variables of  $\psi$  and  $\psi'$ , the same number of disjuncts of  $\psi$  and  $\psi'$  are satisfied.

### $A\equiv A\lor (A\land B) \qquad ext{but} \qquad A ot \triangleq A\lor (A\land B)$

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$$A \equiv A \lor (A \land B)$$
 but  $A \not\triangleq A \lor (A \land B)$ 

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# Idea behind the Probabilistic Algorithm

In a very simple case:



(see [Green, Karvounarakis & Tannen 2007]).

Polynomial-time randomized algorithm for determining if a multivariate polynomial is zero [Schwartz 1980].

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### Semantic and Structural Equivalence

#### Facts

$${f 0} \ \ {\it If} \ T \equiv_{struct} T', \ then \ T \equiv_{sem} T'$$

2 If T ≡<sub>sem</sub> T' for every possible probability distribution, then T ≡<sub>struct</sub> T'.

Complexity of semantic equivalence: open issue. Easy **EXPTIME** upper bound.

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- 3 Equivalence of Prob-Trees
- Prob-Trees with Additional Constraints
   Restriction to a Probability Threshold
   DTD Validation

### Conclusion


# Restriction to a Probability Threshold

- Is it possible to remove from a prob-tree least probable worlds?
- $[T]_{\geq p}$ : set of possible worlds in [T] whose probabilities are greater than p.

#### Proposition

The prob-tree representation of  $[T]_{|\geq p}$  is sometimes necessarily exponential.



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# DTD Validation

- Is it possible to compute the restriction of a prob-tree to worlds valid against a given DTD?
- DTD definition adapted to the case of unordered trees, and without disjunction.

- Deciding if, given a prob-tree, there exists a possible world valid against a DTD is NP-complete.
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- Summary
- Perspectives

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- A model for representing probabilistic information in semi-structured databases.
- Polynomial complexity for queries and insertions.
- Unavoidable exponential complexity for deletions.
- Characterization of the complexity of key problems.
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# Merci.

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#### Proof.

Deletion d: "If the root has a C-child, then delete all B-children of the root."

$$T = egin{array}{c} A \\ w_1^{(0)}, w_1^{(1)} \\ B \\ C \\ \end{array} & \cdots \\ C \\ \end{array} & C \\ \end{array} & \psi_n^{(0)}, w_n^{(1)} \quad orall i, \pi(w_i) = 1/2 \\ \end{array}$$

Then, it can be shown that if  $T' \equiv_{struct} d(T)$ , at least  $2^n$  literals appear in T'.

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