

Matching Patterns with Variables Under Simon's Congruence

What you will See



Introduction & Problems



Complexity Results



Conclusion

Words – Needed Terminology



Alphabet of constants (of constant size σ)

$\Sigma := \{ \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{n} \}$ ($\sigma = 3$)



All words over alphabet

$\mathbf{banana} \in \{ \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{n} \}^*$



Length of a word

$|\mathbf{banana}| = 6$



Empty word ($|\epsilon| = 0$)

$\mathbf{banana}\epsilon = \mathbf{banana}$

Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



bananacakes

Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



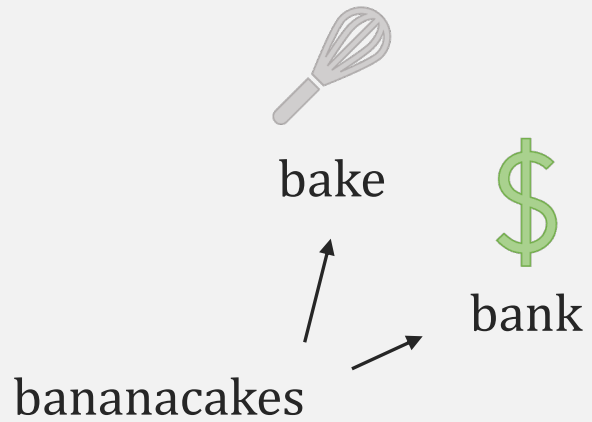
bake



bananacakes

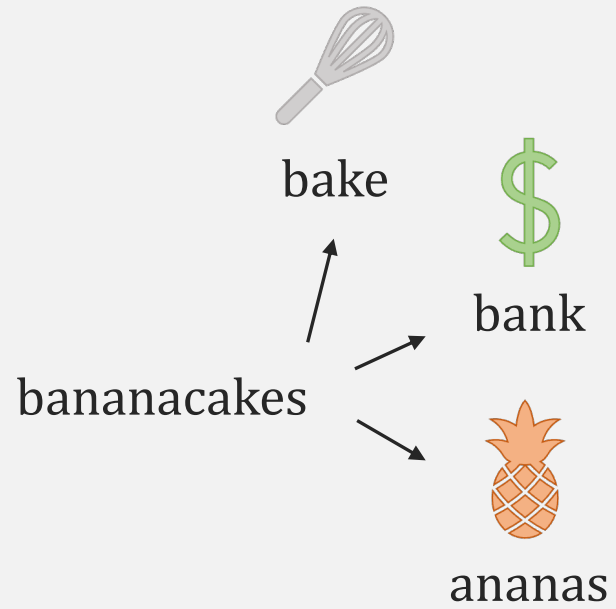
Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



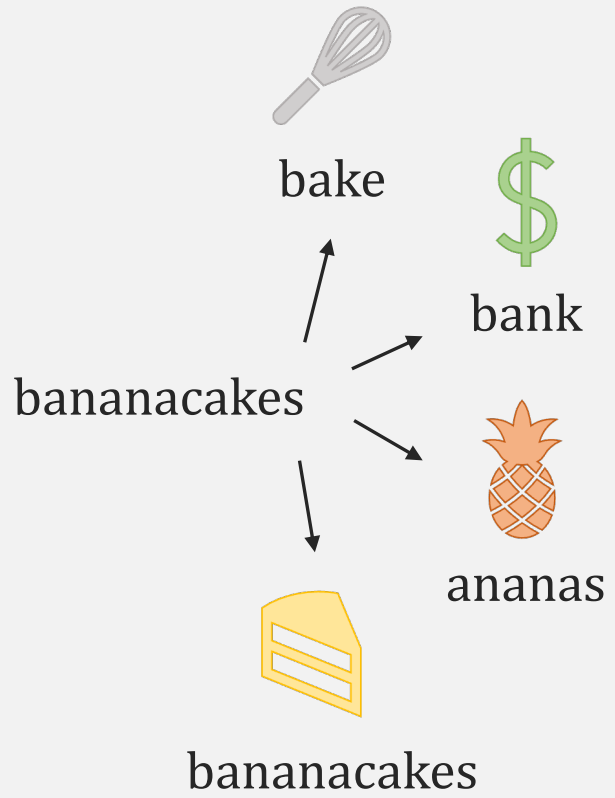
Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



Subsequences

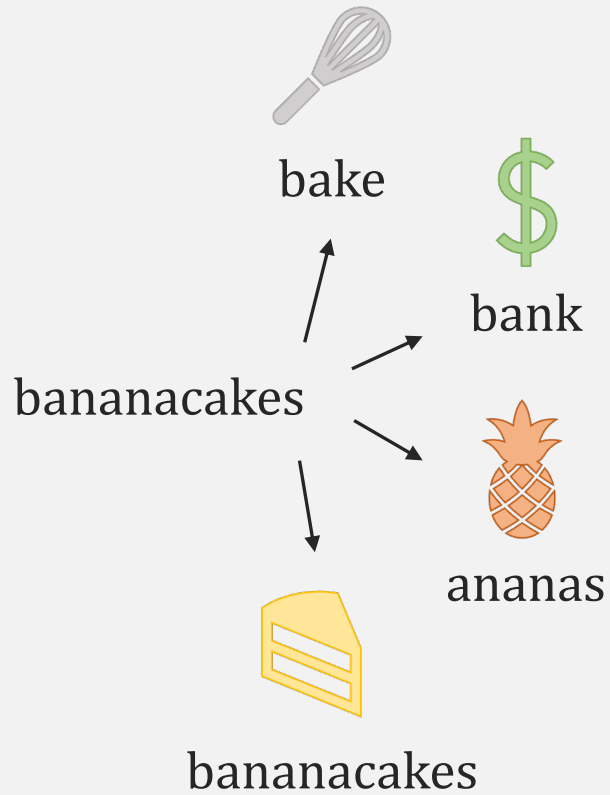
(Scattered Factors)





Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



Notation

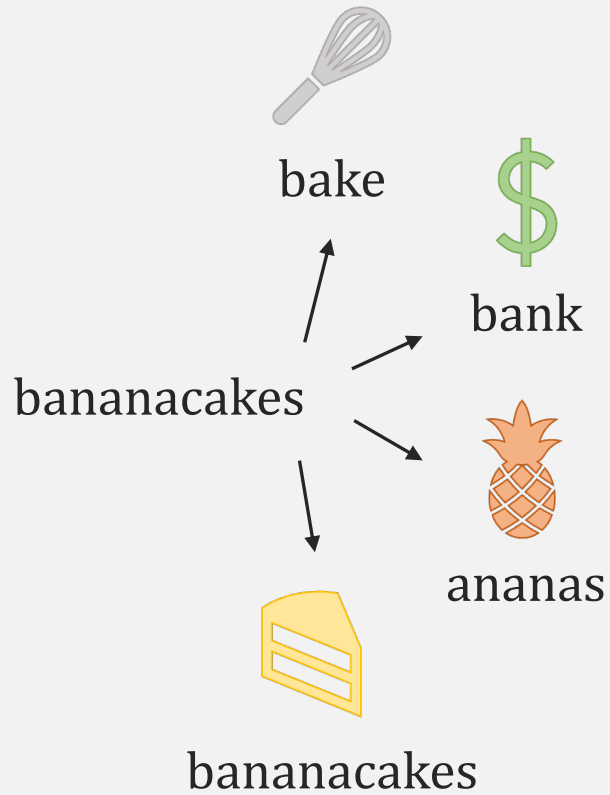
$\mathcal{S}(w)$ Set of all subsequences of w

$\mathcal{S}_k(w)$ Set of all subsequences of w up to length k



Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



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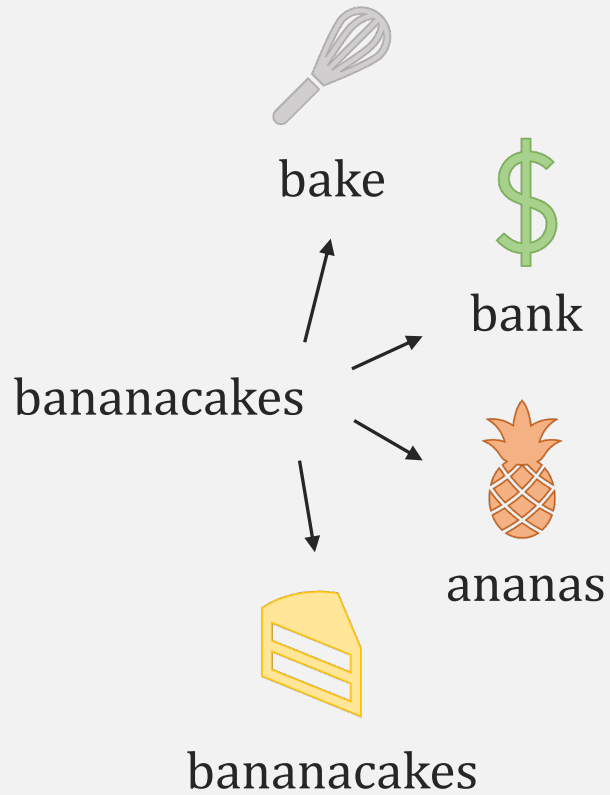
k-Universality

w is k -universal ($\iota(w) = k$) iff $\mathcal{S}_k(w) = \Sigma^{\leq k}$



Subsequences

(Scattered Factors)



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k-Universality

w is k -universal ($\iota(w) = k$) iff $\mathbb{S}_k(w) = \Sigma^{\leq k}$

Simon's Congruence

w_1 and w_2 are k -Simon congruent ($w_1 \sim_k w_2$) iff:

$$\mathbb{S}_k(w_1) = \mathbb{S}_k(w_2)$$

Patterns with Variables



Patterns with Variables



Infinite set of variables
(disjoint to Σ)

$$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$$

Patterns with Variables



X

Infinite set of variables
(disjoint to Σ)

$$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$$

α

Patterns
(over alphabet and variables)

$$bx_1x_1ax_2 \in (\Sigma \cup X)^*$$



Patterns with Variables

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(over alphabet und variables)

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h

Substitutions
(map patterns to words)

$$h : (\Sigma \cup X)^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$$

$$bx_1x_1ax_2 \begin{cases} \rightarrow b \text{ an an a cake} \\ \rightarrow b \text{ an an a } \varepsilon \end{cases}$$



Patterns with Variables

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Infinite set of variables
(disjoint to Σ)

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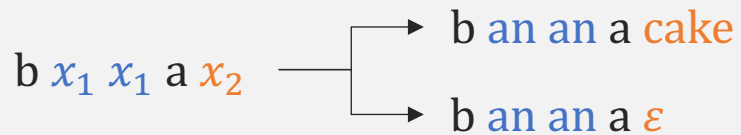
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Fundamental Problem: Match



Given

Pattern α
Word w

Problem

Does there exist a substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) = w$$



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Match is NP-complete

Three Main Problems



Three Main Problems



1

MatchUniv

Given

Pattern α

Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

$$\iota(h(\alpha)) = k$$

Three Main Problems



1

MatchUniv

Given

Pattern α
Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

$$\iota(h(\alpha)) = k$$

2

MatchSimon

Given

Pattern α
Number k
Word w

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) \sim_k w$$

Three Main Problems



1

MatchUniv

Given

Pattern α
Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with
 $\iota(h(\alpha)) = k$

2

MatchSimon

Given

Pattern α
Number k
Word w

Problem

Can we find substitution h with
 $h(\alpha) \sim_k w$

3

WESimon

Given

Pattern α
Pattern β
Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with
 $h(\alpha) \sim_k h(\beta)$

Let's see how hard these Problems are!



Introduction & Problems



Complexity Results



Conclusion

1

MatchUniv



1

MatchUniv



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MatchUniv



MatchUniv

Given

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Problem

Can we find substitution h with

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Example

$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$$

$$k = 3$$

$$\alpha = abc\ abc\ x_1$$

1

MatchUniv



MatchUniv

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Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

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$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$$

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MatchUniv

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$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$$

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$$\alpha = abc\ abc\ x_1 \longrightarrow abc\ abc\ abc$$

$$k = 1? \text{ ⚡}$$

$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c, \mathbf{d}\}?$$

$$\alpha = abc\ abc\ x_1$$

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Can we find substitution h with

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$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$$

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1

MatchUniv is NP-Hard



1

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Reduce from 3CNFSAT!

1

MatchUniv is NP-Hard



Reduce from 3CNFSAT!

$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)$$

True with e.g. $x_2 = 1$ and $x_3 = 0$

1



MatchUniv is NP-Hard

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Reduction Layout



Map to MatchUniv instance
(with specific k)



Two pattern variables z_i, u_i
(per clause variable x_i)

1



MatchUniv is NP-Hard

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**Binarisation
Gadget**



**Boolean
Gadget**



**Complementation
Gadget**



**Clause
Gadget**

1

MatchUniv is in NP



1

MatchUniv is in NP



Idea

Guess substitution h and check whether $\iota(h(\alpha)) = k$

1

MatchUniv is in NP



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Guess substitution h and check whether $\iota(h(\alpha)) = k$



Problem

Potential exponential substitution size!

1



MatchUniv is in NP



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Solution

Find smaller representation for words with certain universality

1



MatchUniv is in NP



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Guess substitution h and check whether $\iota(h(\alpha)) = k$



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Potential exponential substitution size!



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Find smaller representation for words with certain universality

⇒ **Universality Signatures**



Subsequence Universality Signatures

(Schnoebelen & Veron 2023)



1

Subsequence Universality Signatures

(Schnoebelen & Veron 2023)



Compression of words using specific tuple

preserves universality of words

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Concatenation Property (Schnoebelen & Veron 2023)

given universality signatures $s(w_1)$ and $s(w_2)$
 $\Rightarrow s(w_1 w_2)$ computable in polynomial time

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given universality signatures $s(w_1)$ and $s(w_2)$
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Constant Signature Validity / Existence Check

given signature tuple
 \Rightarrow constant bound on word length to check if signature tuple exists
(if alphabet is of constant size)

1

NP-Containment by Verification



1

NP-Containment by Verification



Given

pattern α and number k

1

NP-Containment by Verification



Given

pattern α and number k



Verification Approach

1: Guess signature tuple $\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{h}(x))$ of potential substitution \mathbf{h} for all $x \in \text{var}(\alpha)$

$O(|\text{var}(\alpha)|)$

1

NP-Containment by Verification



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3: Check if the signatures lead to a substitution of universality k

$O(\text{poly}(|h(\alpha)|))$

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2: Check if the signatures are valid

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3: Check if the signatures lead to a substitution of universality k

$O(\text{poly}(|h(\alpha)|))$

»» MatchUniv is NP-complete!

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NP-Containment by Verification



Given

pattern α and number k



Verification Approach

- 1: Guess signature tuple $s(h(x))$ of potential substitution h for all $x \in \text{var}(\alpha)$ $O(|\text{var}(\alpha)|)$
- 2: Check if the signatures are valid $O(|\text{var}(\alpha)|)$
- 3: Check if the signatures lead to a substitution of universality k $O(\text{poly}(|h(\alpha)|))$

»» MatchUniv is NP-complete!



Additional Results (under constant alphabet size)

- MatchUniv(α, k) in P if there exists unique variable in α
- MatchUniv(α, k) in P if the number of variables is bound by a constant

2

MatchSimon



**MatchSimon****Given**Pattern α Number k Word w **Problem**Can we find substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) \sim_k w$$

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MatchSimon($\alpha, w, |w|$) is equivalent to Match(α, w)
 \Rightarrow **MatchSimon is NP-hard**



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Number k

Word w

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Can we find substitution h with

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Not strict! Solution trivial in many cases!
($h(\alpha) \sim_{k+1} w$ allowed!)



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Motivates to consider stricter version!



MatchStrictSimon

Given

Pattern α

Number k

Word w

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) \sim_k w \text{ \& } h(\alpha) \not\sim_{k+1} w$$



MatchStrictSimon

Given

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Can we find substitution h with

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MatchStrictSimon is NP-hard!

Use same reduction approach used for MatchUniv



MatchStrictSimon

Given

Pattern α

Number k

Word w

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MatchStrictSimon is NP-hard!

Use same reduction approach used for MatchUniv



- encode 3CNFSAT instance in pattern α similarly
- set k exactly the same way



MatchStrictSimon

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Pattern α

Number k

Word w

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

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MatchStrictSimon is NP-hard!

Use same reduction approach used for MatchUniv



- encode 3CNFSAT instance in pattern α similarly
- set k exactly the same way



3CNFSAT instance solvable if and only if
 $\text{MatchStrictSimon}(\alpha, k, w)$ true

2

NP-Containment Sketch



2

NP-Containment Sketch



MatchSimon

MatchStrictSimon

2

NP-Containment Sketch



MatchSimon

MatchStrictSimon

$$k \geq |w|$$

2

NP-Containment Sketch



MatchSimon

MatchStrictSimon

$$k \geq |w|$$

Check if α matches w

2

NP-Containment Sketch



MatchSimon

MatchStrictSimon

$$k \geq |w|$$

Check if α matches w

Always answer no!

2

NP-Containment Sketch



MatchSimon

$$k \geq |w|$$

Check if α matches w

MatchStrictSimon

Always answer no!

$$k < |w|$$

2

NP-Containment Sketch



MatchSimon

$$k \geq |w|$$

Check if α matches w

MatchStrictSimon

Always answer no!

$$k < |w|$$

Encode variable substitutions in words of maximum size

$$k^\sigma$$

$$(k + 1)^\sigma$$

2

NP-Containment Sketch



MatchSimon

$$k \geq |w|$$

Check if α matches w

MatchStrictSimon

Always answer no!

$$k < |w|$$

Encode variable substitutions in words of maximum size

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$$(k + 1)^\sigma$$

Verify encoding by checking substitution of length at most

$$\alpha \cdot k^\sigma$$

$$\alpha \cdot (k + 1)^\sigma$$

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NP-Containment Sketch



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MatchSimon & MatchStrictSimon are NP-complete

2

NP-Containment Sketch



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Always answer no!

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MatchSimon & MatchStrictSimon are NP-complete



For regular patterns MatchSimon and MatchStrictSimon are in P.

3

WESimon



3

WESimon



WESimon

Given

Pattern α

Pattern β

Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) \sim_k h(\beta)$$

**WESimon****Given**Pattern α Pattern β Number k **Problem**Can we find substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) \sim_k h(\beta)$$

**MatchSimon** is particular case of **WESimon** \Rightarrow **WESimon** is NP-hard



WESimon

Given

Pattern α
Pattern β
Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) \sim_k h(\beta)$$



MatchSimon is particular case of **WESimon**

\Rightarrow **WESimon** is **NP-hard**

In NP? Yes!

- If $k \leq |\alpha| + |\beta|$ then same as MatchSimon
- If $k > |\alpha| + |\beta|$ and $\beta \in \Sigma^*$ then instance of MatchSimon!
- If $k > |\alpha| + |\beta|$ and both contain variables then always yes!



WESimon

Given

Pattern α
Pattern β
Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

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\Rightarrow **WESimon** is **NP-complete!**



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 Number k

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- If $k > |\alpha| + |\beta|$ and both contain variables then always yes!

\Rightarrow **WESimon is NP-complete!**



Again, not strict!

$(h(\alpha) \sim_{k+1} h(\beta))$ allowed)

**WEStrictSimon****Given**

Pattern α
Pattern β
Number k

Problem

Can we find substitution h with

$$h(\alpha) \sim_k h(\beta) \text{ \& } h(\alpha) \not\sim_{k+1} h(\beta)$$



WEStrictSimon

Given

Pattern α
Pattern β
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Problem

Can we find substitution h with

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Similar to MatchStrictSimon!

- NP-hardness: similar 3CNFSAT reduction
- NP-containment: as long as $k \leq |\alpha| + |\beta|$



WEStrictSimon

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Can we find substitution h with

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Similar to MatchStrictSimon!

- NP-hardness: similar 3CNFSAT reduction
- NP-containment: as long as $k \leq |\alpha| + |\beta|$



NP-containment open for k without upper bound!

What have we seen?



Introduction & Problems



Complexity Results



Conclusion

Conclusion



Conclusion



1 MatchUniv

⇒ NP-complete

Conclusion



- 1 **MatchUniv** \Rightarrow NP-complete
- 2 **MatchSimon** \Rightarrow both NP-complete
(strict and not strict variant)

Conclusion



- 1 MatchUniv** ⇒ NP-complete
- 2 MatchSimon**
(strict and not strict variant) ⇒ both NP-complete
- 3 WESimon**
(strict and not strict variant) ⇒ WESimon NP-complete
⇒ WEStrictSimon NP-complete for $k \leq |\alpha| + |\beta|$

Conclusion




- 1 **MatchUniv** \Rightarrow NP-complete
- 2 **MatchSimon** \Rightarrow both NP-complete
(strict and not strict variant)
- 3 **WESimon** \Rightarrow WESimon NP-complete
(strict and not strict variant) \Rightarrow WEStrictSimon NP-complete for $k \leq |\alpha| + |\beta|$



What are the parameterised complexities of these problems w.r.t.
 \rightarrow the size of the alphabet?
 \rightarrow the number of variables of the considered patterns?

Conclusion



- 1 **MatchUniv** \Rightarrow NP-complete
 - 2 **MatchSimon** \Rightarrow both NP-complete
(strict and not strict variant)
 - 3 **WESimon** \Rightarrow WESimon NP-complete
(strict and not strict variant) \Rightarrow WEStrictSimon NP-complete for $k \leq |\alpha| + |\beta|$
-  What are the parameterised complexities of these problems w.r.t.
→ the size of the alphabet?
→ the number of variables of the considered patterns?

Thank You!



MatchUniv NP-Hardness



Final Assemblage of Gadgets

$$\alpha = \underbrace{\pi_{\#}\pi_{\$}}_{\text{Binarisation Gadgets}} \underbrace{\pi_1^z \pi_1^u \dots \pi_n^z \pi_n^u}_{\text{Boolean Gadgets}} \underbrace{\xi_1 \dots \xi_n}_{\text{Complementation Gadgets}} \underbrace{\delta_1 \dots \delta_m}_{\text{Clause Gadgets}}$$

Binarisation Gadgets

$$h(z_i), h(u_i) \in \{1,0\}^*$$

$$\Rightarrow \iota(h(\pi_{\#}\pi_{\$})) = 2$$

Boolean Gadgets

$$h(z_i), h(u_i) \in L(0^*|1^*)$$

$$\Rightarrow \iota(h(\pi_1^z \pi_1^u \dots \pi_n^z \pi_n^u)) = 4n$$

Complementation Gadgets

$$z_i \in \{1\}^+ \text{ and } u_i \in \{0\}^+$$

or

$$z_i \in \{0\}^+ \text{ and } u_i \in \{1\}^+$$

$$\Rightarrow \iota(h(\xi_1 \dots \xi_n)) = n$$

Clause Gadgets

$$\forall j \in [m]: \iota(h(\delta_j)) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \iota(h(\delta_1 \dots \delta_m)) = m$$

3CNFSAT Instance solvable if and only if

$$\iota(h(\alpha)) = 5n + m + 2$$

(Otherwise, this universality can't be reached!)

MatchUniv is NP-Hard!



Universality Signatures



Subsequence Universality Signature $s(w)$

Consider word $w \in \Sigma^*$


Then $s(w) = (\gamma, \mathcal{K}, \mathcal{R})$ with

γ permutation of $\text{alph}(w)$
(first occurrence of each letter in w)

\mathcal{K} array of length $|\sigma|$
($\mathcal{K}[i]$ is equal to universality of suffix of w after first occurrence of $\gamma[i]$)

\mathcal{R} array of length $|\sigma|$
($\mathcal{R}[i]$ contains alphabet of rest of suffix of w after first occurrence of $\gamma[i]$)

Example


 $w = \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{a}$

$\gamma = (\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{a})$

$\mathcal{K} = (\mathbf{2}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{2})$

$\mathcal{R} = (\{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}\}, \{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}\}, \{\mathbf{a}\})$