

# **Exercise 9: Semi-Positive Datalog**

Database Theory

2025-06-17

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- ▶ Then for every fact  $\varphi$  over the signature of  $P$ , we have that  $P'$  entails  $\varphi$  over an instance  $D$  iff  $P$  entails  $\varphi$  over  $D$ .
- ▶ The size of  $P'$  is polynomial in the size of  $P$ , and  $P'$  is safe.

## Exercise 2

**Exercise.** Assume that the database uses a binary EDB predicate *edge* to store a directed graph. Try to express the following properties in semi-positive Datalog programs with a successor ordering, or explain why this is not possible.

1. The database contains an even number of elements.
2. The graph contains a node with two outgoing edges.
3. The graph is 3-colourable.
4. The graph is *not* connected (\*).
5. The graph does not contain a node with two outgoing edges.
6. The graph is a chain.

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**Solution.**

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```
Odd(x) ← first(x)
Odd(y) ← Even(x), succ(x, y)
Even(y) ← Odd(x), succ(x, y)
EvenParity() ← Even(x), last(x)
```

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**Solution.**

2.

$$\begin{aligned}& <(x, y) \leftarrow \text{succ}(x, y) \\& <(x, z) \leftarrow <(x, y), \text{succ}(y, z) \\& <>(x, y), <>(y, x) \leftarrow <(x, y) \\& \text{TwoOutgoingEdges}() \leftarrow \text{edge}(x, y), \text{edge}(x, z), <>(y, z)\end{aligned}$$

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**Solution.**

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<(x, y) ← succ(x, y)
<(x, z) ← <(x, y), succ(y, z)
<>(x, y), <>(y, x) ← <(x, y)
TwoOutgoingEdges() ← edge(x, y), edge(x, z), <>(y, z)
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3. This is (most likely) not expressible (unless  $P = NP$ ), since 3-colourability is NP-complete and Datalog has P data complexity.

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**Solution.**

4.  $D(x, y, k)$   $x$  and  $y$  are not reachable via a path of length at most  $k$   
 $N(x, y, z, k)$  there is no path of length  $k + 1$  from  $x$  to  $z$  via  $y$

$D(x, y, \ell), D(y, x, \ell) \leftarrow \neg \text{edge}(x, y), \text{first}(\ell), \text{<>}(x, y)$

$N(x, y, z, k) \leftarrow \text{first}(y), D(x, y, k)$

$N(x, y', z, k) \leftarrow \text{succ}(y, y'), N(x, y, z, k), D(x, y', k)$

$D(x, z, k') \leftarrow \text{succ}(k, k'), D(x, z, k), \text{last}(y), N(x, y, z, k)$

$N(x, y, z, k) \leftarrow \text{first}(y), D(y, z, k)$

$N(x, y', z, k) \leftarrow \text{succ}(y, y'), N(x, y, z, k), D(y', z, k)$

$\text{Ans}() \leftarrow D(x, y, k), \text{last}(k)$

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**Solution.**

5.

`oneEdge(x, y) ← first(y), edge(x, y)`

`noEdge(x, y) ← first(y),  $\neg$ edge(x, y)`

`oneEdge(x, z) ← noEdge(x, y), succ(y, z), edge(x, z)`

`noEdge(x, z) ← noEdge(x, y), succ(y, z),  $\neg$ edge(x, z)`

`oneEdge(x, z) ← oneEdge(x, y), succ(y, z),  $\neg$ edge(x, z)`

`r(x) ← last(y), noEdge(x, y)`

`s(x) ← first(x), r(x)`

`r(x) ← last(y), oneEdge(x, y)`

`s(y) ← succ(x, y), s(x), r(y)`

`NoTwoOutEdges() ← s(x), last(x)`

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`Chain() ← Connected(), NoTwoInEdges(), NoTwoOutEdges(), NoCycle()`

`Conn(x), Reachable(x) ← first(x)`

`Reachable(x) ← Reachable(x), succ(x, y), Conn(y)`

`Conn(y) ← Conn(x), edge(x, y)`

`Conn(y) ← Conn(x), edge(y, x)`

`Connected() ← last(x), Reachable(x)`

`NoInEdge(x, y) ← first(x),  $\neg$ edge(x, y)`

`NoOutEdge(x, y) ← first(x),  $\neg$ edge(y, x)`

`NoInEdge(x', y) ← succ(x, x'), NoInEdge(x, y),  $\neg$ edge(x', y)`

`NoOutEdge(x', y) ← succ(x, x'), NoOutEdge(x, y),  $\neg$ edge(y, x')`

`NoCycle() ← last(x), NoInEdge(x, y), NoOutEdge(x, z)`

with `NoTwoOutEdges()` defined as in 5., and `NoTwoInEdges()` defined analogously.

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It was claimed that entailment checking in *propHorn2* is P-hard. To support this claim, explain how entailment in propositional Horn logic can be reduced to entailment in *propHorn2*. Argue how this reduction can be accomplished in logarithmic space.

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- ▶ The program  $P'$  can be computed with a LOGSPACE transducer:
  - ▶ count number of body atoms to generate these rules

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- ▶ For all propositional variables  $V$  occurring in  $P$ , we have that  $P \models V$  if and only if  $P' \models V$ .
- ▶ The program  $P'$  can be computed with a LOGSPACE transducer:
  - ▶ count number of body atoms to generate these rules
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## Exercise 3

**Exercise.** A Horn logic program is in *propHorn2* if every rule it contains is of the form  $H \leftarrow$  or  $H \leftarrow B_1 \wedge B_2$ .

It was claimed that entailment checking in *propHorn2* is P-hard. To support this claim, explain how entailment in propositional Horn logic can be reduced to entailment in *propHorn2*. Argue how this reduction can be accomplished in logarithmic space.

**Solution.**

- ▶ Let  $P$  be a propositional Horn logic program.
- ▶ Then, let  $P'$  be the propositional Horn logic program such that, for all formulas  $\text{Body} \rightarrow H \in P$ ,
  - ▶ if  $\text{Body} = B$  consists of a single atom, then add  $B \wedge B \rightarrow H \in P'$ ,
  - ▶ if  $\text{Body} = B_1 \wedge \dots \wedge B_n$  with  $n \geq 3$ , then add  $B_1 \wedge B_2 \rightarrow F_2, F_2 \wedge B_3 \rightarrow F_3, \dots, F_{n-1} \wedge B_n \rightarrow H \in P'$  where  $F_2, \dots, F_{n-1}$  are fresh propositional variables.
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**Exercise.** Prove that entailment checking in propositional Horn logic is P-hard.

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Can you express this property using ...

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$\text{<}(x, y) \leftarrow \text{succ}(x, y)$	$\text{properEdge}(x, y) \leftarrow \text{edge}(x, y), \text{<}(x, y)$
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$\text{properEdge}(x, y) \leftarrow \text{edge}(x, y) \wedge x \neq y$

$\text{properPath}(x, z) \leftarrow \text{properPath}(x, y) \wedge \text{properEdge}(y, z)$

$\text{properPath}(x, y) \leftarrow \text{properEdge}(x, y)$

$\text{properCycle}() \leftarrow \text{properPath}(x, x)$