

The Classification Program I: FKT, Matchgates, and Holographic Algorithms

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<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~jyc/dichotomy-book.pdf>

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Counting PM over planar graphs is in P .

This is known as the FKT Algorithm (**Fisher, Kasteleyn, and Temperley**).

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An $n \times n$ matrix A is called skew-symmetric if $A_{i,j} = -A_{j,i}$, for $1 \leq i, j \leq n$.

E.g.,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x_{12} & x_{13} & x_{14} \\ -x_{12} & 0 & x_{23} & x_{24} \\ -x_{13} & -x_{23} & 0 & x_{34} \\ -x_{14} & -x_{24} & -x_{34} & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Then there is a matrix function called the **Pfaffian**.

$$\text{Pf}(A) = x_{12}x_{34} - x_{13}x_{24} + x_{14}x_{23}.$$

The **Pfaffian** of an $n \times n$ skew-symmetric matrix A is defined as follows. Suppose $n = 2k \geq 2$ is even, then

$$\text{Pf}(A) = \sum_{\pi} \text{sign}(\pi) A_{i_1, i_2} A_{i_3, i_4} \cdots A_{i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}} \quad (1)$$

where the sum is over all permutations $\pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & 2k \\ i_1 & i_2 & \cdots & i_{2k} \end{pmatrix}$ such that,

$$i_1 < i_2, i_3 < i_4, \dots, i_{2k-1} < i_{2k} \quad \text{and} \quad i_1 < i_3 < \dots < i_{2k-1}. \quad (2)$$

The value $\text{sign}(\pi)$ in (1) denotes the parity of π ; it is $+1$ or -1 depending on whether π is an even or odd permutation, respectively.

There is a natural 1-1 correspondence between the terms in the Pfaffian expression, or equivalently, permutations π satisfying the stipulation (2) and partitions of $[n]$ into disjoint pairs

$$\tilde{\pi} = \{\{i_1, i_2\}, \{i_3, i_4\}, \dots, \{i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}\}\}.$$

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For any permutation $\pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & 2k \\ i_1 & i_2 & \dots & i_{2k} \end{pmatrix}$, not necessarily satisfying the stipulation (2), define

$$a_\pi = \text{sign}(\pi) A_{i_1, i_2} A_{i_3, i_4} \cdots A_{i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}}.$$

Observation: If $\tilde{\pi} = \tilde{\pi}'$, then $a_\pi = a_{\pi'}$, i.e., the expression a_π has the same value if we list the partition $\tilde{\pi} = \{\{i_1, i_2\}, \{i_3, i_4\}, \dots, \{i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}\}\}$ in any order of the pairs, as well as in any order of the two labels of each pair.

We say two pairs of labels $i_{2j-1} < i_{2j}$ and $i_{2\ell-1} < i_{2\ell}$ form a crossover, or an overlapping pair, iff

$$i_{2j-1} < i_{2\ell-1} < i_{2j} < i_{2\ell} \quad \text{or} \quad i_{2\ell-1} < i_{2j-1} < i_{2\ell} < i_{2j}.$$

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Suppose π satisfies stipulation (2).

Let $c(\pi)$ be the number of crossovers among the pairs in the partition $\tilde{\pi}$.
Then

$$\text{sign}(\pi) = (-1)^{c(\pi)}.$$

To see that $\text{sign}(\pi) = (-1)^{c(\pi)}$, consider any permutation π and consider a sequence of adjacent transpositions which moves the sequence

$$(1, 2, \dots, 2k - 1, 2k) \longrightarrow (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}).$$

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$$(1, 2, \dots, 2k - 1, 2k) \longrightarrow (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}).$$

We have $i_1 = 1$ by (2). The number of transpositions that will bring i_2 to the position right after 1 is the number of labels strictly between $i_1 = 1$ and the number i_2 , and has the same parity as the number of crossovers the pair $\{i_1, i_2\}$ forms with all other pairs $\{\{i_3, i_4\}, \dots, \{i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}\}\}$ in $\tilde{\pi}$.

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After i_1, i_2 are placed in the first two positions, if $n > 2$, then i_3 is the minimum among all other labels by (2), and is currently located right after the first two elements. Then we move i_4 to the position right after i_3 . The proof is completed by induction.

The Pfaffian can be computed in polynomial time. A key relation to determinant is the following theorem.

Theorem

For any $n \times n$ skew-symmetric matrix A ,

$$\det(A) = [\text{Pf}(A)]^2.$$

Pfaffian as a Polynomial

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a simple undirected graph without self loops and parallel edges. Suppose the vertices of G are labeled by a totally ordered set, e.g, $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

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Assign an indeterminate x_e for every edge $e = \{u, v\} \in E$. Then we define the skew-symmetric adjacency matrix $A = A(G)$ of the graph G to be

$$A_{u,v} = \begin{cases} x_e & \text{if } e = \{u, v\} \in E \text{ and } u < v \\ -x_e & \text{if } e = \{u, v\} \in E \text{ and } u > v \\ 0 & \text{if } \{u, v\} \notin E \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

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For any permutation π , the partition $\tilde{\pi}$ is a perfect matching iff all pairs are edges.

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For any $M \in \mathcal{M}(G)$ there are $2^k k!$ permutations of the form

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We define the weight of a perfect matching M in G to be

$$\Gamma(M) = \Gamma_G(M) = \prod_{e \in M} x_e.$$

Orientation

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For an oriented graph \vec{G} we modify the skew-symmetric matrix A to be $B = B(\vec{G})$:

$$B_{u,v} = \begin{cases} x_e & \text{if } e = \{u, v\} \in E \text{ and } u \rightarrow v \\ -x_e & \text{if } e = \{u, v\} \in E \text{ and } v \rightarrow u \\ 0 & \text{if } \{u, v\} \notin E \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

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In other words, we change the sign at both entries $A_{u,v}$ and $A_{v,u}$ **provided**

$u < v$ **and** $\{u, v\}$ is oriented $v \rightarrow u$.

Given an orientation, we can consider the Pfaffian of B

$$\text{Pf}(B) = \sum_{\pi} \text{sign}(\pi) B_{i_1, i_2} B_{i_3, i_4} \cdots B_{i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}}. \quad (5)$$

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For a perfect matching M in an oriented graph \vec{G} , suppose $M = \tilde{\pi}$, define the **Pfaffian term**

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It is a term in $\text{Pf}(B)$ when π is the canonical expression for M and it is equal to either $\Gamma_G(M)$ or its negation $-\Gamma_G(M)$.

Definition

For any perfect matching M in an oriented graph \vec{G} , the *sign* of the perfect matching M with respect to this orientation is

$$\text{sgn}(M) = \frac{\text{Pf}_{\vec{G}}(M)}{\Gamma_G(M)} \in \{-1, 1\}. \quad (7)$$

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In particular, $\text{sgn}(M)$ can be computed simply as the sign of the permutation $\pi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & 2k \\ i_1 & i_2 & \dots & i_{2k} \end{pmatrix}$ where each matching edge $\{i_{2\ell-1}, i_{2\ell}\} \in M$ is listed by its orientation $i_{2\ell-1} \rightarrow i_{2\ell}$.

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Clearly this notion does not depend on the direction since C has an even length.

Lemma

For any perfect matchings M and M' in an oriented graph G , if k is the number of evenly oriented cycles in $M \oplus M'$, then

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3. We may relabel the vertices of G .
4. Sequentially label each cycle of $M \oplus M'$ starting at the tail of an edge in M .
5. After all cycles of $M \oplus M'$ are done, label all remaining vertices so that each edge in $M \cap M'$ is labeled consecutively with the next unused integers, and increasing from tail to head.

Key Lemma Continued

Now the Pfaffian term $\text{Pf}_{\vec{G}}(M)$ for M is just the product of all edge weights $\Gamma_G(M)$. This is seen easily if we write b_π in the way where the permutation π is the identity, and we list all matched edges in the oriented order.

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For the Pfaffian term $b_{\pi'}$ corresponding to M' , we still list the product part $B_{i_1, i_2} B_{i_3, i_4} \cdots B_{i_{2k-1}, i_{2k}}$ in the oriented order for each matched edge. The $\text{sign}(\pi')$ for the permutation is as follows:

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The part for the first cycle of length 2ℓ in $M \oplus M'$ has the form $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & 2\ell - 1 & 2\ell \\ 2 & 3 & \dots & 2\ell & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, which is an even cycle as a permutation, and has an odd parity.

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The permutation π' is a product of these disjoint cycles in the permutation group. Hence it has parity $\text{sign}(\pi') = (-1)^k$.

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We have the following **Pfaffian Orientation Lemma**

Lemma

Any Pfaffian orientation in a connected plane graph G satisfies the following property: For every cycle C , the number of clockwise oriented edges of C is of the opposite parity to the number of vertices contained within C . (This number does not include the vertices on the cycle C).

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Pfaffian Orientation Continued

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Suppose there are F faces bounded by C , and let c_i be the number of clockwise oriented edges on the boundary of the i -th face ($1 \leq i \leq F$). Each c_i is odd by assumption, therefore $F \equiv \sum_{i=1}^F c_i \pmod{2}$.

Pfaffian Orientation Continued

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By Euler's formula, counting the face formed by the exterior of C , we have $(V + \ell) - (E + \ell) + (F + 1) = 2$. It follows that

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It follows that

$$F \equiv \sum_{i=1}^F c_i = E + c = V + F - 1 + c \pmod{2},$$

and hence $V + c = 1 \pmod{2}$.

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Hence, with respect to a Pfaffian orientation every two perfect matchings M and M' must have the **same sign**: $\text{sgn}(M) = \text{sgn}(M')$.

Hence for a Pfaffian orientation, every Pfaffian term has the same sign.

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Definition

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If we assign $x_e = 1$, then $\text{PerfMatch}(G)$ counts the number of perfect matchings in G .

Theorem (Kasteleyn)

Every connected planar graph has a Pfaffian orientation. Such an orientation can be constructed in polynomial time, leading to a polynomial time algorithm to compute $\text{PerfMatch}(G)$ for any weighted planar graph G .

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This is technically not quite right ...

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Now add e back, and orient e appropriately we can guarantee that F also has an odd number of clockwise oriented edges.

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Then we can compute $\text{PerfMatch}(G)$ for the actual weight values.

If G has connected components G_1, G_2, \dots, G_m , then

$$\text{PerfMatch}(G) = \prod_{i=1}^m \text{PerfMatch}(G_i).$$

Definition

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Definition

We define the signature of a matchgate G as the vector $\Gamma_G = (\Gamma_G^\alpha)$, indexed by $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^k$ in lexicographic order, as follows:

$$\Gamma_G^\alpha = \text{PerfMatch}(G^\alpha) = \sum_{M \in \mathcal{M}(G^\alpha)} \prod_{e \in M} w(e). \quad (9)$$

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Perfect Matchings as a Holant Sum

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Each product term gives a **one** if $\sigma^{-1}(1)$ is a Perfect Matching, and **zero** otherwise.

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Definition

For a set of signatures \mathcal{F} , $\text{Holant}(\mathcal{F})$ is the following class of problems:

Input: A *signature grid* $\Omega = (G, \pi)$ over \mathcal{F} ;

Output:

$$\text{Holant}(\Omega; \mathcal{F}) = \sum_{\sigma: E \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \prod_{v \in V} f_v(\sigma |_{E(v)}),$$

where

- $E(v)$ denotes the incident edges of v and
- $\sigma |_{E(v)}$ denotes the restriction of σ to $E(v)$, and $f_v(\sigma |_{E(v)})$ is the evaluation of f_v on the ordered input tuple $\sigma |_{E(v)}$.

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INPUT: A planar graph $G = (V, E)$ of maximum degree 3.

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If f is a symmetric function on $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$, we can denote it as $[f_0, f_1, \dots, f_n]$, where f_w is the value of f on input of Hamming weight w .

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Thus the ternary NOT-ALL-EQUAL function f is $[0, 1, 1, 0]$.

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The indices of the two (long) vectors (each of dimension $2^{2|E|}$) are matched up by the connection of the graph.

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and

$$\begin{aligned} \leftarrow [0, 1, 0] &= [1 \ 1]^{\otimes 2} - [1 \ 0]^{\otimes 2} - [0 \ 1]^{\otimes 2} \\ [0, 1, 0](H^{-1})^{\otimes 2} &= \left[\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{-1}{2}\right] = \frac{1}{2}[1, 0, -1]. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

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Hence the same quantity is obtained for #PL-3-NAE-ICE if we use the signature $[6, 0, -2, 0] = H^{\otimes 3}[0, 1, 1, 0]$ for each vertex, and the signature $\frac{1}{2}[1, 0, -1] = [0, 1, 0](H^{-1})^{\otimes 2}$ for each edge.

Holographic Algorithms by Matchgates

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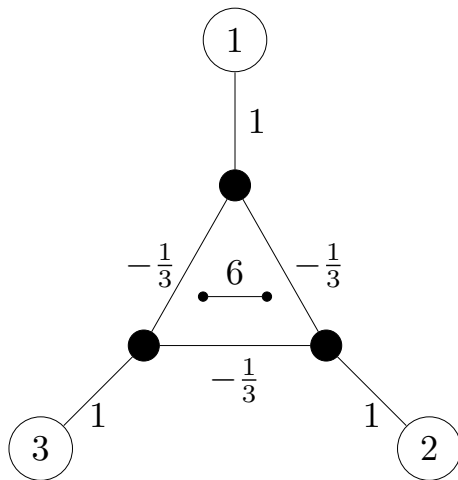


Figure: A matchgate with signature $[6, 0, -2, 0]$

Another Matchgate

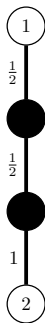


Figure: A matchgate with signature $\frac{1}{2}[1, 0, -1]$

Thus $\#PL-3-NAE-ICE$ is computable in P.

Theorem

A symmetric signature is the signature of a matchgate iff it has the following form, for some $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ and integer k (we take the convention that $0^0 = 1$):

- 1 $[a^k b^0, 0, a^{k-1} b, 0, a^{k-2} b^2, 0, \dots, a^0 b^k]$ (arity $2k \geq 2$)
- 2 $[a^k b^0, 0, a^{k-1} b, 0, a^{k-2} b^2, 0, \dots, a^0 b^k, 0]$ (arity $2k + 1 \geq 1$)
- 3 $[0, a^k b^0, 0, a^{k-1} b, 0, a^{k-2} b^2, 0, \dots, a^0 b^k]$ (arity $2k + 1 \geq 1$)
- 4 $[0, a^k b^0, 0, a^{k-1} b, 0, a^{k-2} b^2, 0, \dots, a^0 b^k, 0]$ (arity $2k + 2 \geq 2$).

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<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~jyc/dichotomy-book.pdf>

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Some papers can be found on my web site

<http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~jyc>

THANK YOU!