

# Tight Bounds for Tseitin Formulas


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## Abstract

We show that for any connected graph  $G$  the size of any regular resolution or OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of a Tseitin formula based on  $G$  is at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ , where  $\text{tw}(G)$  is the treewidth of  $G$ . These lower bounds improve upon the previously known bounds and, moreover, they are tight.

For both of the proof systems, there are constructive upper bounds that almost match the obtained lower bounds, hence the class of Tseitin formulas is almost automatable for regular resolution and for OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering).

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## 1 Introduction

The development of solvers for the Boolean satisfiability problem is tightly connected with the study of propositional proof systems. Every SAT solver corresponds to a proof system. Roughly speaking, the execution log of every SAT solver running on an unsatisfiable formula  $\varphi$  may serve as a certificate of unsatisfiability of  $\varphi$ . The size of the shortest proof of a formula  $\varphi$  is a lower bound on the running time of a solver executed on  $\varphi$ . On the one hand, we need that an underlying proof system is sufficiently strong to have short refutations of important formulas, on the other hand, the underlying proof system should be sufficiently weak such that short proofs can be efficiently found.

A propositional proof system  $\Pi$  is automatable (quasi-automatable) on a class of unsatisfiable formulas  $\mathcal{F}$  [1] if there is an algorithm that finds a refutation of any formula  $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}$  in time  $\text{poly}(|\varphi|, S) = 2^{\mathcal{O}(\log |\varphi| + \log S)}$  (and  $2^{\text{poly}(\log |\varphi|, \log S)}$  in quasi-automatable case), where  $S$  is the size of the shortest  $\Pi$ -refutation of  $\varphi$ . The series of results about the hardness of automatability [2, 14, 19, 16] roughly speaking means that it is unlikely that some of the commonly used proof systems are automatable or quasi-automatable on the class of all unsatisfiable CNF formulas. However, it is possible that a proof system is automatable on important formula classes.

In this paper, we consider the class of Tseitin formulas [30] encoding in CNF the following parity principle: any graph has an even number of vertices with an odd degree. For an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  and a charge function  $c: V \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  let a Tseitin formula



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$T(G, c)$  be defined as follows. The variables of  $T(G, c)$  correspond to the edges of the graph. The formula itself is the conjunction of *the parity conditions* of the vertices of  $G$  stating that the sum of edges incident to  $v$  equals  $c(v)$  modulo 2. It is known that a Tseitin formula is satisfiable if and only if for every its connected component the sum of charges of its vertices is even [31]. Unsatisfiable Tseitin formulas based on special families of graphs (expanders and grids) are hard for many proof systems [31, 3, 21, 10].

In order to show that a proof system  $\Pi$  is automatable on the class of Tseitin formulas, first, we have to devise an algorithm that produces refutations of Tseitin formulas. Second, we need to bound from below the refutation size of Tseitin formulas such that this bound is close to the running time of the proof search algorithm. We emphasize that the lower bounds must hold for all graphs, this is the main difficulty of the second step.

The first lower bounds on the refutation size of Tseitin formulas for all graphs used the improved Grid Minor Theorem [8]. It states that any graph  $G$  has a grid graph of size  $t \times t$  as a minor, where  $t = \Omega(\text{tw}(G)^\lambda)$ ,  $\text{tw}(G)$  is the treewidth of  $G$  and  $\lambda \geq \frac{1}{10}$  is a constant; it is known, however, that the theorem is false for  $\lambda \geq \frac{1}{2}$ . The strategy of the lower bound proofs is to first show lower bounds for the grid graphs, and then extend them to all graphs using the Grid Minor Theorem. Using this method, Glinskih and Itsykson [18] proved a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G)^\lambda)}$  on the size of OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutations of  $T(G, c)$ ; they also give a non-matching upper bound  $\mathcal{O}(2^{\text{pw}(G)}|E|)$ . Galesi et al. [15] proved a lower bound  $2^{\text{tw}(G)^{\Omega(1/d)}}$  on the size of depth- $d$  Frege refutations of  $T(G, c)$  using Håstad's lower bound for the grids [21] and the Grid Minor Theorem. This very general approach yields bounds that are very far from being optimal, but such results motivate searching for more precise lower bounds.

Itsykson et. al. [23] proved a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G)/\log|V|)}$  on the size of regular resolution refutations of  $T(G, c)$  for any connected graph  $G$ . The heart of this proof is the reduction from satisfiable Tseitin formulas. Namely, if there exists a regular resolution refutation of a Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  of size  $S$ , then it can be transformed into a read-once branching program (1-BP) computing a satisfiable formula  $T(G, c')$  of size  $S^{\mathcal{O}(\log|V|)}$ . It is shown in [23] that the size of the minimal 1-BP computing a satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c')$  is at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .

De Colnet and Mengel considered a computational model that is stronger than 1-BP: DNNF (decomposable negation normal form) is a special kind of Boolean circuit in the basis  $\{\wedge, \vee, \neg\}$ , where negations are applied only to variables and for every  $\wedge$ -gate variables from two subcircuits of its children do not intersect. De Colnet and Mengel [12] have proved a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G)/\Delta(G))}$  on the size of DNNF computing satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c')$ , where  $\Delta(G)$  denotes the maximum degree of  $G$ . Similarly to [23] a regular resolution refutation of a Tseitin formula  $T(G, c')$  of size  $S$  can be transformed into a DNNF of size  $\mathcal{O}(S|V|)$  computing a satisfiable Tseitin formula. This implies a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G)/\Delta(G))/|V|}$  on the size of regular resolution refutations of  $T(G, c)$  for a connected graph  $G$ . For constant-degree graphs this bound is tight up to a constant factor in the exponent, but for graphs with  $\Delta(G) = \omega(\log|V|)$  the bound from [23] is stronger.

**Our results.** In this paper, we study the complexity of refutations of Tseitin formulas in two proof systems: OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) ([22]) and regular resolution. These two proof systems are very different; it is known that they do not simulate each other [7, 6]. However, the known proofs of lower bounds on Tseitin formulas use similar techniques since in both cases they are based on the complexity of satisfiable Tseitin formulas. Our results imply that the minimal refutation sizes of Tseitin formulas in these proof systems are very close, however, the only known example of a formula that requires resolution refutations of size superpolynomially larger than the size of the shortest OBDD( $\wedge$ ) refutation is a Tseitin formula on the complete graph [7].

We prove a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$  on the size of OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(G, c)$ . This lower bound matches the upper bound  $\mathcal{O}(2^{\text{pw}(G)}|E|)$  [18] for a large family of graphs with  $\text{pw}(G) = \Theta(\text{tw}(G))$  (this family includes grids, complete graphs, expanders, etc.). Our approach is rethinking of the techniques from [22, 18] supplied with new ideas.

We prove a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$  on the complexity of DNNF computing satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c')$ , thereby improving the result from [12]. Our proof is highly based on [12], we surgically remove the  $\frac{1}{\Delta(G)}$  factor from the exponent. We also prove a matching upper bound  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))}$ . As a corollary of the lower bound using a reduction from [12], we get a stronger lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$  on the size of regular resolution refutations of Tseitin formulas that improve both the lower bounds from [23] and [12]. For regular resolution there is also a known upper bound  $\text{poly}(T(G, c))2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(L(G)))}$ , where  $L(G)$  is the line graph of  $G$  [1]. There is a family of graphs  $G_{n,k}$  on  $\Theta(n^2k^2)$  vertices with  $\text{tw}(L(G_{n,k})) = 4n + \mathcal{O}(k^3)$ ,  $\text{tw}(G_{n,k}) \geq n$  and  $\Delta(G_{n,k}) = k$  [20, Section 7], thus for  $k < n^{1/3}$  our lower bound is tight. Our upper bound on the size of DNNF implies that the method from [12] can not give a better bound (for example, we can not prove  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(L(G)))}$  using this method).

**Almost automatability.** We say that a propositional proof system  $\Pi$  is *almost automatable* on a class of formulas  $\mathcal{F}$  if there exists an algorithm  $A$  such that for any  $\varphi \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $A(\varphi)$  produces a  $\Pi$ -refutation of  $\varphi$  in time  $S^{\mathcal{O}(\log|\varphi|)} = 2^{\mathcal{O}(\log|\varphi| \cdot \log S)}$ , where  $S$  is the size of the shortest  $\Pi$ -refutation of  $\varphi$ . Notice that if  $\varphi = T(G, c)$ , then  $\Omega(|V| + 2^{\Delta(G)}) \leq |\varphi| \leq \mathcal{O}(|V|2^{\Delta(G)})$ , hence  $\log(|\varphi|) = \Theta(\log|V| + \Delta(G))$ .

Our results imply that regular resolution and OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) are almost automatable on the class of Tseitin formulas.

- Alekhovich and Razborov [1] developed an algorithm (Branch-Width Based Automated Theorem Prover or BWBATP) searching for regular resolution refutations of CNF formulas. BWBATP finds a regular resolution refutation of a Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  in  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(L(G)))} \text{poly}(|T(G, c)|)$  steps. Since  $\text{tw}(L(G)) = \mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G)\Delta(G))$ ,  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(L(G)))} \text{poly}(|T(G, c)|) = 2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G) \log |T(G, c)|)}$ .
- We show in Section 3.2 that an OBDD( $\wedge$ ) refutation of a Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  can be constructed in  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G) \log |V|)} \text{poly}(T(G, c)) = 2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G) \log |T(G, c)|)}$  steps.

**New preprint of de Colnet and Mengel.** While preparing this paper we became aware of the new preprint of de Colnet and Mengel [13]. Results of that paper imply a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G)/\Delta^3(G))}$  on the size of OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutations of  $T(G, c)$ . In fact, in [13] the authors deal with a slightly stronger model, where instead of OBDD they use structural DNNF. This model is not a propositional proof system since it is NP-hard to verify such proofs [26]. However, our proof works for their model without any changes, and using our DNNF lower bound we get a lower bound  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$  on the model used in [13], that is better for graphs with non-constant degrees (see Remark 3.7 for details). Our proof and the proof from [13] use different strategies, while ours seems to be much simpler.

## 2 Preliminaries

**Boolean functions and formulas.** Let  $X$  be a set of propositional variables. A *partial assignment* is a set of elementary assignments  $x := a$ , where  $x \in X$  and  $a \in \{0, 1\}$  such that every variable appears in at most one elementary assignment. The *support* of a partial assignment  $\rho$  is the set of variables on the left-hand side of the elementary assignments.

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Let  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  be partial assignments. We write  $\sigma \subseteq \tau$ , if the support of  $\sigma$  is a subset of the support of  $\tau$ , and they agree on the support of  $\sigma$ . If the supports of  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  do not intersect, we denote by  $\sigma \cup \tau$  a partial assignment that coincides with  $\sigma$  on the support of  $\sigma$  and with  $\tau$  on the support of  $\tau$ .

For a Boolean function  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  we use a notation  $\text{sat}(f) = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^n \mid f(x) = 1\}$ .

We identify a CNF formula  $\varphi$  with the set of its clauses. For example, if  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are CNF formulas, then  $\varphi = \psi$  means that their sets of clauses are equal, and  $\varphi \subseteq \psi$  means that every clause of  $\varphi$  occurs in  $\psi$ .

**OBDD.** An *ordered binary decision diagram* (OBDD) is used to represent a Boolean function [5]. Let  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  be a set of propositional variables. A binary decision diagram (BDD) is a directed acyclic graph with one source. Each node of the graph is labeled by a variable from  $X$  or by a constant 0 or 1. If a node is labeled by a constant, then it is a sink (has out-degree 0). If a node is labeled by a variable, then it has exactly two outgoing edges: one edge is labeled by 0 and the other edge is labeled by 1. Every binary decision diagram defines a Boolean function  $\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ . The value of the function for given values of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  is computed as follows: we start a path at the source and at every step follow the edge that corresponds to the value of the variable labeling the current node. Every such path reaches a sink, which is labeled either 0 or 1: this constant is the value of the function.

Let  $\pi$  be a permutation of the set  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$ . A  $\pi$ -ordered binary decision diagram ( $\pi$ -OBDD) is a binary decision diagram such that on every path from the source to a sink every variable has at most one occurrence and the variable  $x_{\pi(i)}$  can not appear before  $x_{\pi(j)}$  if  $i > j$ . An ordered binary decision diagram (OBDD) is a  $\pi$ -ordered binary decision diagram for some permutation  $\pi$ . By convention, every OBDD is associated with a single fixed permutation  $\pi$ . This  $\pi$  puts a total order on all the variables, even if the OBDD does not query all variables.

The *size* of an OBDD is the number of nodes in it.

► **Lemma 2.1** ([32, Theorem 3.3.1]). *Let  $D$  be a  $\pi$ -OBDD, and  $\rho$  be a partial assignment to variables of  $D$ . Then there is a  $\pi$ -OBDD computing  $D|_\rho$  of size at most  $|D|$ .*

► **Lemma 2.2** ([32, Theorem 3.3.6]). *Let  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  be  $\pi$ -OBDDs over the same set of variables. Then there is a  $\pi$ -OBDD of size  $\mathcal{O}(|D_1||D_2|)$  computing  $D_1 \wedge D_2$ .*

**DNNF.** A Boolean circuit in the negation normal form (NNF) is a circuit in the de Morgan basis  $\{\wedge, \vee, \neg\}$  with binary conjunctions and disjunctions, where all negations only apply to variables. For a gate  $g$  of an NNF Boolean circuit, we define  $\text{var}(g)$  as a set of variables in its subcircuit.

Let  $g$  be a gate of an NNF with direct predecessors  $g_l$  and  $g_r$ . The gate  $g$  is *decomposable* if  $\text{var}(g_l) \cap \text{var}(g_r) = \emptyset$ . The gate  $g$  is *complete* if  $\text{var}(g_l) = \text{var}(g_r)$ . An NNF is called *decomposable* (DNNF) if each  $\wedge$ -gate is decomposable. An NNF is *complete* if each  $\vee$ -gate is complete.

► **Lemma 2.3** ([11]). *Let  $D$  be a DNNF. Then there is a complete DNNF computing the same function as  $D$  and it can be constructed in time  $\text{poly}(|D|)$ .*

**Resolution.** A *resolution refutation* of an unsatisfiable CNF formula  $\varphi$  is a sequence of clauses  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_s$  such that  $C_s$  is the empty clause (identically false), and for all  $i \in [s]$ , the clause  $C_i$  is either a clause of  $\varphi$ , or can be obtained by the resolution rule from two preceding clauses, where the resolution rule allows to derive  $A \vee B$  from  $A \vee x$  and  $B \vee \neg x$ .

A resolution refutation is *regular* if for every increasing sequence  $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \leq s$  such that for all  $j \in \{2, \dots, k\}$  the clause  $C_{i_j}$  is obtained by the resolution rule applied to  $C_{i_{j-1}}$  as one of the premises (let  $x_j$  denote the resolved variable), all variables  $x_j$  for  $j \in \{2, \dots, k\}$  are distinct.

The number  $s$  is the *size* of the resolution refutation.

**OBDD-based proof systems.** An OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) *refutation* of an unsatisfiable CNF formula  $\varphi$  is a sequence of OBDDs  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_s$  such that  $D_s$  computes the identically false function, and for all  $i \in [s]$ , the OBDD  $D_i$  is either computes a clause of  $\varphi$ , or can be obtained from previous OBDDs by the following inference rules:

- Conjunction: If  $j, k < i$  and  $D_j$  and  $D_k$  are  $\pi$ -OBDDs for some order  $\pi$ , then we can infer OBDD  $D_i = D_j \wedge D_k$  with the same order  $\pi$ .
- Reordering: If  $j < i$ , then we can infer OBDD  $D_i$  computing the same function as  $D_j$ , and variable orders of  $D_i$  and  $D_j$  can be different.

The *length* of the refutation is  $s$  and its *size* is the sum of the sizes of OBDDs in it, i.e.,  $|D_1| + |D_2| + \dots + |D_s|$ .

OBDD( $\wedge$ ) refutation is an OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation that does not contain the reordering rule. A refutation is *tree-like* if every OBDD in it is used at most once as a premise of a rule.

► **Lemma 2.4** ([18, Lemma 5.4]). *Let  $\varphi$  be an unsatisfiable CNF formula that has an OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of size  $S$ . Let  $\rho$  be a partial assignment of values of the formula  $\varphi$ . Then  $\varphi|_\rho$  has an OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of size at most  $S$ .*

**Graph basics.** Throughout the paper, we consider undirected graphs possibly with self-loops and parallel edges. We use  $G = (V, E)$  to denote a graph  $G$  with a vertex set  $V$  and an edge set  $E$ . An undirected edge  $e \in E$  incident to vertices  $v \in V$  and  $u \in V$ , we denote by  $(v, u)$  or  $(u, v)$ . For a vertex  $v$ , we denote the set of edges incident to  $v$  by  $E(v)$ :  $E(v) = \{(v, u) \in E\}$ .

By  $\Delta(G)$  we denote the maximum degree of a graph  $G$ , and by  $\#G$  we denote the number of connected components in  $G$ .

For  $V' \subseteq V$  we denote by  $G[V']$  the subgraph of  $G$ , induced by vertices of  $V'$ . In particular, if  $V' = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ , we write  $G[v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k]$  meaning the same graph  $G[V']$ . We denote by  $G \setminus V'$  the graph  $G[V \setminus V']$ . For  $E' \subseteq E$ , we denote by  $G \setminus E'$  the graph  $G' = (V, E \setminus E')$ .

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is  $k$ -connected, if it has more than  $k$  vertices, and for each vertex subset  $S \subseteq V$  of size at most  $k$ , the graph  $G \setminus S$  is connected.

For any graph  $H$ , we denote by  $V(H)$  the set of its vertices and by  $E(H)$  and the set of its edges.

**Graph minors.** For  $e = (v, u) \in E$ , we denote by  $G/e$  the graph obtained from  $G$  by *contraction* of edge  $e$ : we delete the edge  $e$  and merge  $v$  and  $u$  into one vertex. A graph  $G'$  is a minor of graph  $G$ , if  $G'$  can be obtained from  $G$  by vertex deletions, edge deletions and edge contractions.

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Let a vertex  $v \in V$  of degree two has two different neighbors  $u$  and  $w$ . *Suppression* of  $v$  is an operation on graph  $G$ , in which we delete the vertex  $v$  from  $G$  and add an edge  $(u, w)$ .  $G'$  is called a *topological minor* of graph  $G$ , if  $G'$  can be obtained from  $G$  by vertex deletions, edge deletions and vertex suppressions.

**Graph decompositions.** A *tree decomposition* of an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a tree  $T = (V_T, E_T)$  and a family  $\{X_t\}_{t \in V_T}$  of subsets of  $V$  such that the following properties hold:

1. The union of  $X_t$  for  $t \in V_T$  equals  $V$ .
2. For every edge  $(v, u) \in E$  there exists  $t \in V_T$  such that  $v, u \in X_t$ .
3. If a vertex  $v \in V$  is contained in the sets  $X_t$  and  $X_s$  for some  $t, s \in V_T$ , then it is also contained in  $X_p$  for all vertices  $p$  on the unique path between  $s$  and  $t$  in  $T$ .

The sets  $X_u$  are called *bags* of the tree decomposition. The *size* of tree decomposition is the number of nodes in  $T$ . The *width* of a tree decomposition, denoted by  $w(T)$ , is the maximum bag size  $|X_u|$  for  $u \in V_T$  minus one. The *treewidth* of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\text{tw}(G)$ , is the minimum width among all tree decompositions of the graph  $G$ .

A *path decomposition* of a graph  $G$  is a tree decomposition of  $G$  such that the underlying tree  $T$  is a simple path. The *pathwidth* of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\text{pw}(G)$ , is the minimum width among all path decompositions of the graph  $G$ .

► **Lemma 2.5** (Folklore, see, e.g., [24, Theorem 6]). *For any graph  $G$ ,  $\text{pw}(G) \leq \mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G) \log |V(G)|)$ .*

*Moreover, given a tree decomposition  $T$  of width  $k$ , one can construct a path decomposition of width  $\mathcal{O}(k \log |V(G)|)$  in time  $\text{poly}(|V(G)|, |E(G)|, |V(T)|)$ .*

► **Lemma 2.6** (Folklore). *Let  $G$  be a graph,  $A \subseteq V(G)$ . Then  $\text{tw}(G \setminus A) \geq \text{tw}(G) - |A|$ .*

► **Lemma 2.7** ([27, Proposition 2.7]). *Let  $G$  be a graph and  $G'$  be its minor. Then  $\text{tw}(G') \leq \text{tw}(G)$ .*

► **Lemma 2.8** ([9, Chapter 7]). *Let  $G$  be a graph and  $H$  be obtained from  $G$  by vertex suppressions. Then  $\text{tw}(H) \geq \text{tw}(G) - 1$ .*

► **Theorem 2.9** ([4]). *Given a graph  $G$ , one can obtain a tree decomposition of width  $\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))$  in time  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))} |V(G)|$ .*

► **Theorem 2.10** ([12, Lemma 25]). *Let  $G$  be a graph with a treewidth of at least 3. Then  $G$  has a 3-connected topological minor  $H$  with  $\text{tw}(H) = \text{tw}(G)$ .*

A *branch decomposition* of an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a tree  $T = (V_T, E_T)$ , each non-leaf node has degree three, and leaves are in bijection with the edges of  $G$ . Each edge  $e$  of  $E_T$  gives an  $e$ -separation of the set  $E$  into two non-empty parts  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ : deleting the edge  $e$  from  $T$ , we get two trees  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ ; let  $E_1$  be edges that occur in leaves of  $T_1$ ,  $E_2$  be edges that occur in leaves of  $T_2$ . The width of  $e$ -separation is the number of vertices of  $G$  incident to edges from both  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ . The *width* of branch decomposition  $T$  is the maximum width of  $e$ -separation over all  $e \in E_T$ . The *branchwidth* of  $G$ , denoted by  $\text{bw}(G)$ , is the minimum width among all branch decompositions of  $G$ .

► **Theorem 2.11** ([28, Theorem 5.1]). *For any graph  $G$ ,  $\max(\text{bw}(G), 2) \leq \text{tw}(G) + 1 \leq \max(\lceil \frac{3}{2} \text{bw}(G) \rceil, 2)$ .*

**Tseitin formulas.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. Let  $c: V \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be a *charge function*. A *Tseitin formula*  $T(G, c)$  depends on the propositional variables  $x_e$  for  $e \in E$ . For each vertex  $v \in V$  we define the parity condition of  $v$  as  $P_v := \left( \sum_{e \in E(v)} x_e \equiv c(v) \pmod{2} \right)$ . The Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  is the conjunction of parity conditions of all the vertices:  $\bigwedge_{v \in V} P_v$ . Tseitin formulas are represented in CNF as follows: we represent  $P_v$  in CNF in the canonical way for all  $v \in V$ .

When we write about substitutions to a Tseitin formula, we often identify variables and edges that correspond to them.

Assume that  $G$  consists of connected components  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_t$ . Then the Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  is equivalent to the conjunction  $\bigwedge_{i=1}^t T(H_i, c)$ . In the last formula we abuse the notation since  $c$  is defined not only on the vertices of  $H_i$  and, thus, we implicitly use the corresponding restriction on the set of vertices.

Let  $c_1: V_1 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}, c_2: V_2 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be charge functions. We denote by  $c_1 + c_2$  the charge function  $(c_1 + c_2): V_1 \cup V_2 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  such that

$$(c_1 + c_2)(v) = \begin{cases} c_1(v), & \text{if } v \in V_1 \setminus V_2; \\ c_2(v), & \text{if } v \in V_2 \setminus V_1; \\ c_1(v) + c_2(v) \pmod{2}, & \text{if } v \in V_1 \cap V_2. \end{cases}$$

If  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  do not intersect, we can also write  $c_1 \sqcup c_2$  meaning the same charge function  $c_1 + c_2$ . By  $\mathbf{1}_v$ , we denote the charge function  $\mathbf{1}_v: \{v\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  such that  $\mathbf{1}_v(v) = 1$ .

► **Lemma 2.12** (Folklore, see, e.g., [31]). *A Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  is satisfiable if and only if for every connected component  $C(U, E_U)$  of the graph  $G$ , the condition  $\sum_{u \in U} c(u) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  holds.*

Note that if a connected component  $C$  consists of an isolated vertex  $v$ , then either  $c(v) = 1$  and  $T(G, c)$  is unsatisfiable, or  $c(v) = 0$  and  $T(G, c) = T(G \setminus v, c)$ . In other words, adding zero-charged isolated vertices does not change a Tseitin formula.

► **Lemma 2.13** (Folklore). *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph,  $T(G, c)$  be satisfiable,  $\sigma$  be a full assignment for the set of variables of  $T(G, c)$ . Then the number of parity conditions falsified by  $\sigma$  is even.*

**Proof.** See Appendix A for the proof. ◀

► **Lemma 2.14** (Folklore). *The result of the substitution  $x_e := b$  to  $T(G, c)$  where  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  is a Tseitin formula  $T(G', c')$  where  $G' = G - e$  and  $c'$  differs from  $c$  on the endpoints of the edge  $e$  by  $b$  and equals  $c$  for every other vertex.*

► **Lemma 2.15** (Folklore, see, e.g., [23, Lemma 2.3]). *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph and let  $c_1, c_2: V \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be charge functions. If Tseitin formulas  $T(G, c_1)$  and  $T(G, c_2)$  are both satisfiable or both unsatisfiable, then one of them can be obtained from another by replacing some variables with their negations.*

► **Lemma 2.16** ([17, Lemma 2]). *If a Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  is satisfiable, then it has  $2^{|E| - |V| + \#G}$  satisfying assignments.*

► **Lemma 2.17** ([18, Lemma 5.5]). *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph and  $G' = (V', E')$  be a connected subgraph of  $G$  with  $E' \neq \emptyset$  that is obtained from  $G$  by the deletion of some vertices and edges. For every unsatisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  there exists an assignment  $\rho$  on variables  $E \setminus E'$ , such that  $\rho$  does not falsify any clause of  $T(G, c)$ .*

► **Lemma 2.18** (Folklore, see, e.g., [18, Lemma 5.2]). *Let  $G$  be a 2-connected graph and  $T(G, c)$  be unsatisfiable. Then  $T(G, c)$  is a minimally unsatisfiable formula, i.e. removing any of its clauses makes it satisfiable.*

► **Lemma 2.19** ([12, Lemma 24]). *Let  $H$  be a topological minor of  $G$ . If a satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  has a DNNF of size  $s$ , then any satisfiable formula  $T(H, c')$  also has a DNNF of size  $s$ .*

► **Theorem 2.20** ([23, Theorem 1.9]). *Let  $T(G, c)$  be a satisfiable Tseitin formula. Then the minimum size of OBDD computing  $T(G, c)$  is at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .*

### 3 OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering)

#### 3.1 Lower Bound

In this section, we prove the following theorem.

► **Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a connected graph and  $T(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable Tseitin formula. Then any OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .*

We say that a graph  $G$  is a *subdivision* of  $H$  if  $H$  can be obtained from  $G$  by several suppression operations. We say that a graph  $G$  is *almost 3-connected* if it is a subdivision of a 3-connected graph  $H$ .

First, we prove Theorem 3.1 only for almost 3-connected graphs.

► **Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $G$  be an almost 3-connected graph and  $T(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable Tseitin formula. Then any OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .*

Let us show how Theorem 3.2 implies Theorem 3.1.

**Proof of Theorem 3.1.** Let  $S$  be the minimal size of OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(G, c)$ .

If  $\text{tw}(G) \leq 2$ , then the theorem is trivial. Otherwise, by Theorem 2.10, there exists a 3-connected topological minor  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $\text{tw}(G) = \text{tw}(H)$ . Consider a sequence of operations that transforms  $G$  to  $H$ , where all edge and vertex deletions precede suppressions. Let us denote by  $G'$  the graph obtained from  $G$  after the application of all edge and vertex deletions. By Lemma 2.17 there exists a partial assignment  $\rho$  with support corresponding to the edges that are in  $G$  but not in  $G'$  such that  $\rho$  does not falsify any clause of  $T(G, c)$ . It is easy to see that  $T(G, c)|_{\rho}$  coincides with  $T(G', c')$  for some  $c'$  and  $T(G', c')$  is unsatisfiable. By Lemma 2.4, there exists OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(G', c')$  of size at most  $S$ .

Since  $H$  is obtained from  $G'$  by several suppressions,  $G'$  is almost 3-connected. Hence, by Theorem 3.2,  $S \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G'))}$ . Since  $H$  is a minor of  $G'$  and  $G'$  is a minor of  $G$ , by Lemma 2.7 we have  $\text{tw}(G) \geq \text{tw}(G') \geq \text{tw}(H) = \text{tw}(G)$ . Thus,  $\text{tw}(G') = \text{tw}(G)$  and, hence,  $S \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ . ◀

In order to complete the proof of Theorem 3.1, we have to prove Theorem 3.2.

Let  $G$  be a subdivision of  $H$ . Notice that for every vertex  $u$  of  $H$  there exists a vertex  $u'$  from  $G$  that is transformed to  $u$ . We call such vertices  $u'$  *main vertices*; we call all other vertices of  $G$  (that are not main) *interior vertices*. If vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent in  $H$ , then corresponding main vertices  $u'$  and  $v'$  are connected by a path in  $G$  (possibly of length 1) that is entirely transformed to the edge  $(u, v)$ . We call such paths in  $G$  as *long edges*. Notice that all endpoints of long edges are main vertices, and all other vertices of long edges are interior.



For every subgraph  $H'$  of  $H$ , we define a corresponding subgraph  $G'$  of  $G$  in the following way. The set of vertices of  $G'$  are 1) main vertices of  $G$  that correspond to the vertices of  $H'$ , and 2) interior vertices of long edges corresponding to the edges of  $H'$ . The set of edges of  $G'$  consists of all edges from long edges corresponding to edges of  $H'$ . It is easy to see that  $G'$  is a subdivision of  $H'$ .

It is easy to see that every almost 3-connected graph is 2-connected. However, the stronger statement holds.

► **Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be an almost 3-connected graph. Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two vertices that do not belong to the same long edge. Then the graph  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  is connected.*

**Proof.** See Appendix B for the proof. ◀

**Proof of Theorem 3.2.** If  $\Delta(G) > \text{tw}(G)/10$ , then formula  $T(G, c)$  has at least  $2^{\text{tw}(G)/10}$  clauses and since  $G$  is 2-connected, by Lemma 2.18 all these clauses should be used in a refutation. Hence, any OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\text{tw}(G)/10}$ . So we can assume that  $\Delta(G) \leq \text{tw}(G)/10$ .

Let  $G$  is a subdivision of a 3-connected graph  $H$ .

Consider an OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(G, c)$  that has the minimal possible size. The last line in the refutation is an identically false OBDD. If this line represents a clause of the initial formula, then  $G$  has an isolated vertex and since  $G$  is connected, it consists of one vertex, in this case the statement is trivial. Since the refutation is minimal, the last line can not be obtained by the reordering rule. Hence, the last line is obtained by the conjunction rule:  $D_1 \wedge D_2 = \square$ , where  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  have the same order that we denote by  $\pi$ . Notice that by the minimality of the refutation, both  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are satisfiable.

For every  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ ,  $D_i$  is the conjunction of several clauses of  $T(G, c)$ . Since  $D_i$  is satisfiable, this conjunction does not contain all clauses. Let  $A_i \subseteq V$  be a set of vertices such that there is a clause from their parity conditions that is not included in  $D_i$ . Notice that  $A_i \neq \emptyset$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

We consider two cases.

**First case.** Assume that every two vertices  $v \in A_1$  and  $u \in A_2$  belong to the same long edge of  $G$ .

▷ **Claim 3.4.** There exists a subgraph  $G'$  of  $G$  such that  $\text{tw}(G') \geq \text{tw}(G) - \max(3, \Delta(G) - 1)$  and at least one of the sets  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  does not intersect with the set of vertices of  $G'$ .

**Proof.** If  $A_2$  contains an interior vertex of a long edge, then all vertices from  $A_1$  belong to this long edge. Let  $x$  and  $y$  be the endpoints of this long edge. Let  $H' = H \setminus \{x, y\}$  and  $G'$  be a subgraph of  $G$  corresponding to  $H'$ . Let us estimate  $\text{tw}(G')$ :

$$\text{tw}(G') \geq \text{tw}(H') \geq \text{tw}(H) - 2 \geq \text{tw}(G) - 3.$$

In the first inequality we use Lemma 2.7, in the second one we use Lemma 2.6 and in the third one we use Lemma 2.8. Notice also that the set of vertices of  $G'$  does not intersect with  $A_1$ . The case in which  $A_1$  contains an interior vertex of a long edge is analogous.

Now assume that  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  consist of only main vertices, so we may assume that  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are vertices of  $H$ . Let  $u$  be a vertex from  $A_2$ . Then in the graph  $H$  every vertex from  $A_1$  is either adjacent to  $u$  or equal to  $u$ , hence  $|A_1| \leq \Delta(H) + 1 \leq \Delta(G) + 1$ . Then we delete from  $G$  all vertices from  $A_1$  and get  $G'$ . The set of vertices of  $G'$  does not intersect with  $A_1$  and  $\text{tw}(G') \geq \text{tw}(G) - \Delta(G) - 1$  by Lemma 2.6. ◀

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W.l.o.g. we assume that the set of vertices of  $G'$  does not intersect with  $A_1$ . Let  $\sigma$  be a satisfying assignment of  $D_1$  and let  $\sigma'$  be the restriction of  $\sigma$  to the all edges in  $E(G) \setminus E(G')$ . Let us denote  $F := D_1|_{\sigma'}$ .

Notice that  $F$  computes a satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G', c')$  for some charging function  $c'$ . By Theorem 2.20,  $|F| \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G'))}$ .  $\text{tw}(G') \geq \text{tw}(G) - \max(3, \Delta(G) - 1)$ , and we already know that  $\Delta(G) \leq \text{tw}(G)/10$ , hence  $\text{tw}(G') \geq 0.9 \text{tw}(G) - 3$ . Since  $F$  is obtained by an application of a substitution from  $D_1$ , by Lemma 2.1,  $|D_1| \geq |F|$ . Hence,  $|D_1| \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .

**Second (main) case.** Assume that there exist  $v \in A_1$  and  $u \in A_2$  that do not belong to the same long edge of  $G$ .

► **Theorem 3.5** ([29, Theorem 3.2]). *Let  $G$  be a 2-connected graph and  $v, u$  are two vertices from  $G$ . Then there is a path  $p$  connecting  $v$  and  $u$  such that  $\text{tw}(G \setminus V(p)) \geq c \text{tw}(G)$ , where  $V(p)$  is the set of vertices of the path  $p$  and  $c > 0$  is an absolute constant.*

Let  $p$  be a path between  $u$  and  $v$  in the graph  $G$  given by Theorem 3.5. We know that  $\text{tw}(G \setminus V(p)) \geq c \text{tw}(G)$  for some constant  $c > 0$ . Since  $v$  and  $u$  do not belong to the same long edge, the distance between them in  $G$  is at least 2. By Lemma 3.3, the graph  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  is connected.

► **Lemma 3.6.** *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a 2-connected graph,  $v, u \in V$ , the distance between  $v$  and  $u$  be at least 2 and  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  be connected. Let  $p$  be a path between  $v$  and  $u$ , define  $G_0 = G \setminus V(p)$ .*

*Let  $T(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable Tseitin formula, CNF formulas  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  be the conjunctions of several clauses of  $T(G, c)$  such that  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are satisfiable and  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$  is unsatisfiable. Let  $\varphi_1$  does not contain a clause from the parity condition of  $v$  of formula  $T(G, c)$  and  $\varphi_2$  does not contain a clause from the parity condition of  $u$ .*

*Then there exists such partial assignments  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  such that  $\varphi_1|_{\alpha_1} \wedge \varphi_2|_{\alpha_2} = T(G_0, c_0)$  and  $T(G_0, c_0)$  is satisfiable.*

Using Lemma 3.6 we now complete the second case of the proof and, thus, we complete the whole proof of Theorem 3.2. Indeed, let  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  be the conjunctions of clauses included in  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  respectively. By the choice of  $p$ ,  $\text{tw}(G_0) \geq c \text{tw}(G)$ , hence, the size of any OBDD computing  $\varphi_1|_{\alpha_1} \wedge \varphi_2|_{\alpha_2}$  is at least  $2^{\Omega(c \text{tw}(G))}$  by Theorem 2.20. Hence, by Lemma 2.2 at least one of  $\varphi_1|_{\alpha_1}$  or  $\varphi_2|_{\alpha_2}$  requires  $\pi$ -OBDD of size at least  $2^{\Omega(c \text{tw}(G))/2}$ , hence by Lemma 2.1 at least one of  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  has a size of at least  $2^{\Omega(c \text{tw}(G))/2}$ .

**Proof of Lemma 3.6.** Let  $C_v$  be a clause from the parity condition of  $v$  that does not appear in  $\varphi_1$  and  $C_u$  be a clause from the parity condition of  $u$  that does not appear in  $\varphi_2$ . Let  $e_v$  be an edge of  $p$  incident to  $v$  and  $e_u$  be an edge of  $p$  incident to  $u$ . Notice that  $e_v \neq e_u$ , since the distance between  $v$  and  $u$  is at least 2. We denote by  $V(p)$  the set of vertices of  $p$ , and by  $E(p)$  the set of edges of  $p$ .

Partial assignments  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  will have the same support corresponding to all edges incident to vertices of  $V(p)$ . Partial assignments  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  differ exactly on  $E(p)$  and coincide on all other edges. We will define  $\alpha_i$  in several steps. In the first and the second steps, we construct a partial assignment  $\sigma$  that is defined on the set of edges incident to  $v$  or  $u$  except  $e_v$  and  $e_u$ . In the third and fourth steps, we construct an assignment to edges of  $p$ . In the fifth step, we conclude with the construction of  $\alpha_i$ , and in the final step we verify that substitutions  $\alpha_i$  satisfy the required properties.

**1. Construction of  $\sigma$ .** We define an assignment  $\sigma$  with support  $E(v) \sqcup E(u) \setminus E(p)$  such that it does not satisfy  $C_v$  and  $C_u$ . Such  $\sigma$  exists since  $E(u)$  and  $E(v)$  are disjoint.

**2. Application of  $\sigma$ .** Consider the Tseitin formula  $T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)$ . It is satisfiable since  $T(G, c)$  is unsatisfiable and  $G$  is connected. By Lemma 2.14,  $T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_\sigma$  is also a Tseitin formula; let us denote it by  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)$ .

We claim that  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)$  is satisfiable. By the condition of the lemma,  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  is connected.  $G'$  is connected since both  $v$  and  $u$  have in  $G'$  one edge connecting them with  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$ . The formula  $T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)$  is satisfiable and since the number of connected components does not increase after applying  $\sigma$ , the result of the substitution is also satisfiable.

Analogously define  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_u) := T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_u)|_\sigma$ . Notice that  $G'$  and  $c'$  are the same as above.

**3. Construction of  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$ .** Consider arbitrary satisfying assignment of  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)$  and let  $\rho_1$  be its restriction to  $E(p)$ . We also define a partial assignment  $\rho_2$  with the same support such that for all  $e \in E(p)$ ,  $\rho_2(x_e) = 1 - \rho_1(x_e)$ .

**4. Satisfiability of the conjunction.** Let us define  $\psi_1 := \varphi_1|_{\sigma \cup \rho_1}$  and  $\psi_2 := \varphi_2|_{\sigma \cup \rho_2}$ . We claim that the conjunction of  $\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2$  is satisfiable.

The formula  $\varphi_1$  is a subformula of  $T(G, c)$ , so if we remove from  $\varphi_1$  all clauses of the parity condition of  $v$ , then it will be a subformula of  $T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)$ . By the construction of  $\sigma$ ,  $C_v$  is the only clause from the parity condition of  $v$  in  $T(G, c)$  that is not satisfied by  $\sigma$ . But  $C_v$  is not included in  $\varphi_1$ , hence  $\varphi_1|_\sigma$  does not contain clauses of the parity condition of  $v$ . Hence,  $\varphi_1|_\sigma$  is a subformula of  $T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_\sigma = T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)$ . Thus,  $\psi_1$  is a subformula of  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\rho_1}$ .

Analogously,  $\psi_2$  is a subformula of  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_u)|_{\rho_2}$ .

We claim that Tseitin formulas  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\rho_1}$  and  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_u)|_{\rho_2}$  coincide. To prove it, it is sufficient to verify that for each vertex from  $V(p)$ , its charges in both formulas are equal.

Consider a vertex  $w \in V(p)$ . If  $w \in V(p) \setminus \{v, u\}$ , then  $(c' + \mathbf{1}_v)(w) = (c' + \mathbf{1}_u)(w)$ . Assignments  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  change the charge of  $w$  in the same way. Indeed, let  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  be edges of  $p$  incident to  $w$ , then  $\rho_2(x_{e_1}) + \rho_2(x_{e_2}) = (1 - \rho_1(x_{e_1})) + (1 - \rho_1(x_{e_2})) = \rho_1(x_{e_1}) + \rho_1(x_{e_2}) \pmod{2}$ .

If  $w = v$ , then  $(c' + \mathbf{1}_v)(v) = 1 - c'(v)$  and  $\rho_1(e_v) = 1 - \rho_2(e_v)$ , then the charge of  $v$  in the formula  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\rho_1}$  equals  $(1 - c'(v)) + (1 - \rho_2(e_v)) = c'(v) + \rho_2(e_v) \pmod{2}$ , and that is the charge of  $v$  in the formula  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_u)|_{\rho_2}$ . The case  $w = u$  is analogous.

Thus, we have that  $\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2$  is a subformula of the satisfiable formula  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\rho_1}$ , so  $\psi_1 \wedge \psi_2$  is satisfiable.

**5. Construction of  $\beta$ .** We define a partial assignment  $\beta$  on the edges of  $G$  that are not in  $E(v) \cup E(u) \cup E(p)$  and incident to vertices of  $V(p)$ . Let  $\beta$  be such that  $T(G', c' + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\rho_1 \cup \beta}$  is satisfiable. Let  $\alpha_i := \sigma \cup \rho_i \cup \beta$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ . Notice that  $T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\alpha_1} = T(G_0, c_0)$  is a satisfiable formula for some  $c_0$ .

**6. Final step.** On step 4 we showed that  $\varphi_1|_{\sigma \cup \rho_1} \wedge \varphi_2|_{\sigma \cup \rho_2} \subseteq T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\sigma \cup \rho_1}$ . Hence,  $\varphi_1|_{\alpha_1} \wedge \varphi_2|_{\alpha_2} \subseteq T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\alpha_1}$ . Let us show that  $\varphi_1|_{\alpha_1} \wedge \varphi_2|_{\alpha_2} = T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\alpha_1}$ .

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Consider some  $w \in V \setminus V(p)$ , let  $C_w|_{\alpha_1}$  be a clause from the parity condition of the vertex  $w$  in the formula  $\mathsf{T}(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\alpha_1}$ . Notice that  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  assign the same values to edges incident to  $w$ , hence  $C_w|_{\alpha_1} = C_w|_{\alpha_2}$ .

$C_w|_{\alpha_1} \in \mathsf{T}(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)|_{\alpha_1}$ , then  $C_w \in \mathsf{T}(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)$ , hence  $C_w \in \mathsf{T}(G, c)$  (since  $w \neq v$ ). The formula  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \subseteq \mathsf{T}(G, c)$  is unsatisfiable and  $G$  is 2-connected, hence, by Lemma 2.18 every clause of  $\mathsf{T}(G, c)$  appears in at least one of the formulas  $\varphi_1$  or  $\varphi_2$ . If  $C_w \in \varphi_1$ , then  $C_w|_{\alpha_1} \in \varphi_1|_{\alpha_1}$ . If  $C_w \in \varphi_2$ , then  $C_w|_{\alpha_2} \in \varphi_2|_{\alpha_2}$ . ◀

► **Remark 3.7.** Notice that in the proof of Theorem 3.1 we use not very much specific about OBDDs. Namely, we use only Lemmas 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and for a lower bound on the size of OBDD we use Theorem 2.20.

In the recent work [13], de Colnet and Mengel introduce so-called str-DNNF( $\wedge$ , r) refutations that are defined similarly to OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutations, but use structured DNNFs instead of OBDDs. OBDD is a partial case of str-DNNF, an order of variables in OBDD corresponds to a vtree (variable tree) in str-DNNF. “r” stands for the restructuring and it is the extension of the reordering rule.

We claim that Theorem 3.1 also holds for str-DNNF( $\wedge$ , r) refutations: there are lemmas analogous to Lemma 2.1, Lemma 2.2, Lemma 2.4 (see [26, Theorem 1], [13, Lemma 3]); and for a lower bound on the size of DNNF, one should use Theorem 4.1 (proved in Section 4) instead of Theorem 2.20.

► **Corollary 3.8.** *Let  $G$  be a graph and  $\mathsf{T}(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable Tseitin formula,  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k$  be all unsatisfiable connected components of  $G$ . Then any OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $\mathsf{T}(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\Omega(t)}$ , where  $t = \min_{i \in [k]} \text{tw}(H_i)$ .*

**Proof.** See Appendix B for the proof. ◀

### 3.2 Almost Automatability

► **Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $\mathsf{T}(G, c)$  be unsatisfiable Tseitin formula based on graph  $G = (V, E)$ , and there is an OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation for it of size  $S$ . Then one can construct tree-like OBDD( $\wedge$ ) in time  $S^{\mathcal{O}(\log |V|)} \text{poly}(|\mathsf{T}(G, c)|)$ .*

We use the following lemma.

► **Lemma 3.10** ([18, Corollary 6.3]). *Let  $\mathsf{T}(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable Tseitin formula based on a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and  $P$  be a path decomposition of  $G$ . Given  $\mathsf{T}(G, c)$  and  $P$ , one can construct a tree-like OBDD( $\wedge$ ) refutation of size  $\mathcal{O}(|E||V|2^{w(P)} + |\mathsf{T}(G, c)|^2)$  in time that is polynomial of sizes of the input and the output.*

**Proof of Theorem 3.9.** Assume that  $G$  is connected. By Theorem 2.9, one can obtain a tree decomposition of width  $\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))$  in time  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))}|V|$ . Using Lemma 2.5, we construct a path decomposition of  $G$  of width  $\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G) \log |V|)$ . Using Lemma 3.10, we build a tree-like OBDD( $\wedge$ ) refutation in time at most  $\text{poly}(|\mathsf{T}(G, c)|, 2^{\text{tw}(G) \log |V|})$  using this path decomposition.

Now consider the case when  $G$  is not necessarily connected and its unsatisfiable connected components are  $\{H_1, \dots, H_k\}$ . For each component  $H_i$ , we compute an approximation  $t_i$  of its treewidth using Theorem 2.9:  $\text{tw}(H_i) \leq t_i \leq \alpha \text{tw}(H_i)$  for some constant  $\alpha \geq 1$ . We make it in  $\sum_{i=1}^k 2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(H_i))} \leq 2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))}|V|$  time. Then we choose  $H_i$  with the smallest  $t_i$ , let

it be  $H_a$ . We construct a tree-like OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering) refutation of  $T(H_a, c)$  as above in time  $\text{poly}(|T(H_a, c)|, 2^{t_a \log |V(H_a)|})$ . By Corollary 3.8,  $S \geq 2^{\Omega(t)}$ , where  $t = \min_{i \in [k]} \text{tw}(H_i)$ , so  $S \geq 2^{\Omega(t_a)}$ .

Thus, the running time is at most  $S^{\mathcal{O}(\log |V|)} \text{poly}(|T(G, c)|)$ . ◀

## 4 Bounds on DNNF and Regular Resolution

The main result of this section is the following theorem:

► **Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $T(G, c)$  be satisfiable and  $D$  be a DNNF computing  $T(G, c)$ . Then  $|D| \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .*

The following reduction from DNNF to regular resolution theorem was proved by de Colnet and Mengel [12].

► **Theorem 4.2** ([12, Theorem 8]). *Let  $T(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable Tseitin formula where  $G$  is connected and let  $S$  be the size of its smallest resolution refutation. Then for every satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c')$  there exists a DNNF of size  $\mathcal{O}(S \times |V(G)|)$  computing it.*

Theorem 4.2 and Theorem 4.1 imply the following theorem.

► **Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph and  $T(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable formula. Then any regular resolution refutation of  $T(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .*

**Proof.** See Appendix C.1 for the proof. ◀

In Appendix C.2, we also prove a matching upper bound.

► **Theorem 4.4.** *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and  $T(G, c)$  be a satisfiable Tseitin formula. Then there exists a DNNF of size at most  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))} \cdot |E|$  computing  $T(G, c)$ .*

**Proof sketch.** We consider a nice tree decomposition  $T$  with “introduce edge” nodes. We construct a DNNF  $D$  such that for every node  $t \in T$  with bag  $X_t$  and for every charge function  $f: X_t \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  there exists a node  $d_{t,f} \in D$  that computes  $T(G_t, c_t)$ , where  $G_t$  is a subgraph of  $G$  corresponding to the subtree of  $t$ , and  $c_t$  acts on  $X_t$  as  $f$  and on the other vertices as  $c$ . We make it by bottom-up induction on the  $T$ . The root of  $T$  gives a node in  $D$  that computes  $T(G, c)$ . ◀

### 4.1 Rectangle game

De Colnet and Mengel [12] proposed a game to prove DNNF lower bounds. For simplicity, we describe it only in a special case when the computed function is a Tseitin formula.

Let  $X$  be a set of propositional variables.  $(X_1, X_2)$  is called a *variable partition* if  $X_1 \sqcup X_2 = X$  and  $X_1, X_2$  are not empty. If  $X$  is a set of variables of a Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  based on a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , then every variable partition  $(X_1, X_2)$  naturally corresponds to an edge partition  $(E_1, E_2)$ .

A (combinatorial) *rectangle* for a variable partition  $(X_1, X_2)$  of a variable set  $X$  is defined to be a set of full assignments of form  $R = A \times B$  where  $A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{X_1}$  and  $B \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{X_2}$ . A rectangle  $R$  *respects* a Boolean function  $f: \{0, 1\}^X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  if  $R \subseteq \text{sat}(f)$ , i.e.  $R$  consists only of satisfying assignments of  $f$ .

We define the *adversarial multi-partition rectangle cover game* for a satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$  with a set of variables  $X$  to be played as follows: two players, Charlotte and Adam, construct in several rounds a set  $\mathcal{R}$  of combinatorial rectangles that respect  $T(G, c)$  and cover the set  $\text{sat}(T(G, c))$ .

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The game starts with  $\mathcal{R} = \emptyset$  and consists of several rounds. On each round Charlotte chooses an input  $a \in \text{sat}(T(G, c))$  and a branch decomposition  $T$  of  $G$ . Then Adam chooses an edge  $e$  of  $T$  and let  $(E_1, E_2)$  be the  $e$ -separation. Then Charlotte chooses a rectangle  $R$  for the corresponding partition of variables of  $T(G, c)$  that respects  $T(G, c)$  and covers  $a$ , and adds  $R$  to  $\mathcal{R}$ . This completes the round.

The game is over when  $\text{sat}(T(G, c))$  is covered by  $\mathcal{R}$ . The adversarial multi-partition rectangle complexity of  $T(G, c)$ , denoted by  $\text{aR}(T(G, c))$  is the minimum number of rounds in which Charlotte can finish the game, whatever the choices of Adam are.

► **Theorem 4.5** ([12, Theorem 16]). *Let  $D$  be a complete DNNF computing a satisfiable Tseitin formula  $T(G, c)$ . Then  $|D| \geq \text{aR}(T(G, c))$ .*

In the next subsection, we prove the following lemma:

► **Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $T(G, c)$  be a satisfiable Tseitin formula where  $G$  is a 3-connected graph. Then  $\text{aR}(T(G, c)) \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{bw}(G))}$ .*

Let us prove Theorem 4.1 using this lemma.

**Proof of Theorem 4.1.** Let  $S$  be the minimum size of a DNNF computing  $T(G, c)$ . If  $\text{tw}(G) \leq 2$ , then the statement is trivial. Otherwise, by Theorem 2.10, there is a 3-connected graph  $G'$  such that  $G'$  is a topological minor of  $G$  and  $\text{tw}(G') = \text{tw}(G)$ . By Lemma 2.19, there is a DNNF of size at most  $S$  computing a satisfiable  $T(G', c')$ . By Lemma 2.3, there is a complete DNNF of size  $S' \leq S^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$  computing  $T(G', c')$ . By Theorem 4.5,  $S' \geq \text{aR}(T(G, c))$ . By Lemma 4.6,  $\text{aR}(T(G, c)) \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{bw}(G))}$ . Note that  $\text{bw}(G) = \Theta(\text{tw}(G))$  by Theorem 2.11.

Thus,  $S' \geq \text{aR}(T(G, c)) \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ ; hence,  $S \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ . ◀

### 4.2 Proof of Lemma 4.6

Our goal is to prove the inequality  $\text{aR}(T(G, c)) \geq 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$  for a 3-connected graph  $G$  (i.e. to prove Lemma 4.6). The plan of the proof is the following. We will describe a strategy for Adam. The goal of Adam is to play such that every rectangle  $R$  chosen by Charlotte has a small size, so a large number of such rectangles is required to cover  $\text{sat}(T(G, c))$ . We show that there exists a formula  $T(G', c')$  such that  $R$  is a subset of  $\text{sat}(T(G', c'))$  and that Adam can play in such a way that the number of satisfying assignments of  $T(G', c')$  is small, hence  $|R|$  is also small.

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with edges colored in two colors:  $E = E_1 \sqcup E_2$ ; edges in  $E_1$  are colored with the first color and edges in  $E_2$  are colored with the second one. We call a vertex  $v \in V$  *bicolored*, if there are edges of both colors that are incident to it; we call a set  $A \subseteq V$  *bicolored* if all vertices in it are bicolored (it is not necessary that all bicolored vertices are in  $A$ ).

Let us construct a new graph  $\text{Split}(G, E_1, E_2, A) = (V', E')$ : we split each node  $v$  in  $A$  into two fresh nodes and direct each edge  $e$  incident to  $v$  to one of the copies depending on the color of  $e$ . More formally, let

$$V' = V \setminus A \cup \{v^i \mid i \in \{1, 2\} \text{ and } v \in A\};$$

$$E' = \{(f_i(v), f_i(u)) \mid i \in \{1, 2\} \text{ and } (v, u) \in E_i\}, \text{ where } f_i(v) = \begin{cases} v^i, & v \in A \\ v, & v \notin A \end{cases}.$$

► **Lemma 4.7** (Generalization of Lemma 18 and Lemma 21 from [12]). *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph,  $E = E_1 \sqcup E_2$  be a coloring of the edges in two colors, and  $A \subseteq V$  be a bicolored set.*

Let  $T(G, c)$  be a satisfiable Tseitin formula,  $R \subseteq \text{sat}(T(G, c))$  be a rectangle w.r.t. to the partition  $(E_1, E_2)$ . Then for a graph  $G' = \text{Split}(G, E_1, E_2, A)$  and a charge function  $c'$  such that  $T(G', c')$  is satisfiable, the following holds:  $|R| \leq |\text{sat}(T(G', c'))| = 2^{|E| - (|V| + |A|) + \#G'}$ .

**Proof.** See Appendix C.1 for the proof. ◀

In [12] this statement is proven for the case when  $A$  is an independent set, but this restriction actually is not used in the proof. In appendix, we prove this lemma for arbitrary bicolored  $A$  explicitly.

Lemma 4.7 yields an upper bound for the size of Charlotte's rectangle if the set of bicolored vertices is large enough. However, we have a summand  $\#G'$  in the exponent. In [12] the authors make sure that  $\#G' = 1$  restricting  $A$  to be a specific independent set. We weaken this condition and simply make sure that  $\#G'$  is not too large, which makes it possible for us to pick a larger set  $A$  (and we do not require that  $A$  is an independent set).

**Proof of Lemma 4.6.** To prove the lower bound on  $\text{aR}$ , we show a winning strategy for Adam. Let  $a$  be an assignment and  $T$  be a branch decomposition picked by Charlotte. By definition of the branchwidth, there exists a cut of  $T$  that yields a partition of the edges  $E(G) = E_1 \sqcup E_2$  such that there are at least  $\text{bw}(G)$  bicolored vertices. Adam chooses such a cut, let  $B$  be the set of bicolored vertices. Then Charlotte picks a rectangle  $R$  respecting the partitions  $(E_1, E_2)$ . We will show that  $|R| \leq |\text{sat}(T(G, c))| 2^{-\Omega(\text{bw}(G))}$ , hence, there are at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{bw}(G))}$  rounds. We denote  $N = |\text{sat}(T(G, c))| = 2^{|E| - |V| + 1}$ . Our goal is to show that  $|R| \leq 2^{-\Omega(\text{bw}(G))} N$ .

For a graph  $F$ , we denote by  $\deg_F(v)$  the number of different neighbors of  $v$  except for  $v$  itself (it differs from the usual degree of  $v$  since we count all parallel edges only once and do not count self-loops at all).

Let  $H$  be a subgraph of  $G$  induced by vertices  $B$ . We consider the following set of low-degree vertices:  $B_{\leq 2} = \{v \in B \mid \deg_H(v) \leq 2\}$ . We consider two cases depending on whether  $B_{\leq 2}$  is large or not.

**First case:  $B_{\leq 2}$  is large.** Assume that  $|B_{\leq 2}| \geq |B|/100$ .  $B_{\leq 2}$  contains an independent (in  $H$  and consequently in  $G$ ) set  $I$  of size at least  $|B_{\leq 2}|/(2+1)$ . Observe that  $I$  is bicolored as a subset of a bicolored set  $B$ .

► **Lemma 4.8** ([12, Lemma 22]). *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a 3-connected graph,  $E = E_1 \sqcup E_2$  be a coloring of the edges in two colors,  $A \subseteq V$  be an independent set in  $G$  and bicolored.*

*Then there exists  $S \subseteq A$  such that  $|S| \geq |A|/3$  and  $\text{Split}(G, E_1, E_2, S)$  is connected.*

Applying this lemma to  $I$ , we get a set  $S$  of size at least  $|I|/3$  such that  $\text{Split}(G, E_1, E_2, S)$  is connected. Application of Lemma 4.7 to  $S$  yields the inequality  $|R| \leq 2^{|E| - (|V| + |S|) + 1} = 2^{-|S|} N$ .  $|S| \geq |I|/3 \geq |B_{\leq 2}|/9 \geq |B|/900 \geq \text{bw}(G)/900$  which completes the proof in the first case.

**Second case:  $B_{\leq 2}$  is small.** Now assume that  $|B_{\leq 2}| < |B|/100$ . Let  $G' = \text{Split}(G, E_1, E_2, B)$ ,  $B'_i = \{v^i \mid v \in B\}$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$  and  $B' = B'_1 \sqcup B'_2$  be the set of copies of vertices from  $B$  in  $G'$ . Let  $H'$  be a subgraph of  $G'$  induced by vertices of  $B'$ . Observe that  $\deg_H(v) = \deg_{H'}(v^1) + \deg_{H'}(v^2)$  for every  $v \in B$ .

Note that if we add an edge  $(v^1, v^2)$  for each  $v \in B$  in graph  $G'$ , then it becomes connected since  $G$  is connected. Hence, each connected component  $C$  of  $G'$  intersects  $B'$ . We call an intersection of  $C$  and  $B'$  as the *imprint* of  $C$  on  $B'$ . We are going to bound the number of connected components in  $G'$  by estimating the sizes of these imprints.

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Let  $v \in B'$  and  $v \in C$ , where  $C$  is a connected component of  $G'$ . Denote by  $h(v) = |C \cap B'|$  the size of the imprint of the component  $C$ . Let  $w(v) = 1/h(v)$  be a weight of a vertex  $v \in B'$ . Notice that the sum of weights  $\sum_{v \in B} (w(v^1) + w(v^2))$  equals the number of connected components in  $G'$ .

Fix a node  $v \in B$  which has been split into  $v^1$  and  $v^2$ . W.l.o.g. we assume that  $h(v^1) \geq h(v^2)$ . Let us consider the following cases:

**$h(v^2) = 1$ .** Observe that  $\deg_{G'}(v^2) \geq 1$  (otherwise  $v$  is not incident to any edge from  $E_2$ ). Thus the connected component of  $v^2$  in  $G'$  contains some vertices except  $v^2$ ; let us denote the set of these vertices as  $X$ . The imprint of this component, by the assumption, contains a single vertex. Then, if  $v$  is removed from  $G$  the vertices of  $X$  become not reachable from the rest of the vertices of  $G$ . It is easy to see that there are vertices in  $G$  being not in  $X \cup \{v\}$ : consider the neighbors of  $v$  that do not belong to  $X$ , which exist since  $v$  is bicolored. Therefore,  $G$  is not 2-connected, which is a contradiction, so this case is impossible.

**$h(v^2) = 2$  and  $h(v^1) = 2$ .** Observe that for every node  $u \in B'$  the inequality  $h(u) \geq \deg_{H'}(u) + 1$  holds, so  $\deg_{H'}(v^1) + \deg_{H'}(v^2) + 2 \leq h(v^1) + h(v^2) = 4$ , i.e.  $\deg_H(v) = \deg_{H'}(v^1) + \deg_{H'}(v^2) \leq 4 - 2 = 2$ . Then we have  $v \in B_{\leq 2}$ . There are at most  $|B|/100$  such nodes  $v$ . The weight in this case equals  $w(v^1) + w(v^2) = 1/2 + 1/2 = 1$ .

**$h(v^2) \geq 2$  and  $h(v^1) \geq 3$ .** Then  $w(v^1) + w(v^2) \leq 1/2 + 1/3 = 5/6$ .

Now the number of connected components of  $G'$  can be estimated as follows:

$$\#G' = \sum_{v \in B} (w(v^1) + w(v^2)) \leq 1 \times |B|/100 + (5/6) \times |B| < 0.9|B|.$$

Applying Lemma 4.7 to  $B$  we get that

$$|R| \leq 2^{|E| - (|V| + |B|) + 0.9|B|} = 2^{-0.1|B| - 1} \cdot 2^{|E| - |V| + 1} \leq 2^{-0.1 \text{bw}(G) - 1} N = 2^{-\Omega(\text{bw}(G))} N. \blacktriangleleft$$

**The statement.** The content of this statement had to be truncated due to de facto introduced censorship in Russia. Nevertheless, the authors express their condolences to all the victims of the events taking place in Ukraine.

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## A Proofs for Section 2 (Preliminaries)

► **Lemma 2.13** (Folklore). *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph,  $T(G, c)$  be satisfiable,  $\sigma$  be a full assignment for the set of variables of  $T(G, c)$ . Then the number of parity conditions falsified by  $\sigma$  is even.*

**Proof.** Let  $A \subseteq V$  be a set of vertices with falsified parity conditions. Consider the sum  $S = \sum_{v \in V} \sum_{e \in E(v)} \sigma(x_e) \equiv \sum_{v \in A} (1 - c(v)) + \sum_{v \notin A} c(v) \equiv |A| + \sum_{v \in V} c(v) \equiv |A| \pmod{2}$ , where the last congruence holds since  $T(G, c)$  is satisfiable. On the other hand,  $S \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  since for each edge  $e$  the summand  $\sigma(x_e)$  appears in the sum twice. ◀

## B Proofs for Section 3 (OBDD( $\wedge$ , reordering))

► **Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be an almost 3-connected graph. Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two vertices that do not belong to the same long edge. Then the graph  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  is connected.*

**Proof.** Let  $G$  is a subdivision of a 3-connected graph  $H$ . Since  $u$  and  $v$  do not belong to the same long edge, every interior vertex is connected in  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  with some non-deleted main vertex. So it is sufficient to prove that all non-deleted main vertices are in the same connected component in  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$ .

The graph  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  is obtained from  $G$  by deletion of two vertices. We may look on the deletion of an interior vertex from a long edge in  $G$  as on the deletion of the corresponding edge in  $H$ . We also look on the deletion of a main vertex in  $G$  as on the deletion of the corresponding vertex in  $H$ . Since  $H$  is 3-connected, then it remains to be connected after removing of either two vertices, or two edges, or one vertex and one edge. Hence, all non-deleted main vertices of  $G \setminus \{v, u\}$  belong to one connected component. ◀

In order to handle not only connected graphs, we need to show that  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  satisfies the *strong feasible disjunction property* [25].

► **Lemma B.1.** *Let  $\varphi(\vec{x})$  and  $\psi(\vec{y})$  be two CNF formulas with disjoint sets of variables. If there is an  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  refutation of  $\varphi \wedge \psi$  of size  $S$ , then at least one of  $\varphi$  or  $\psi$  has an  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  refutation of size at most  $S$ .*

**Proof.** Consider the smallest  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  refutation of  $\varphi \wedge \psi$ ; its size is at most  $S$ . The last OBDD in this refutation is  $\varphi' \wedge \psi'$ , where  $\varphi'$  is a subformula  $\varphi$  and  $\psi'$  is a subformula of  $\psi$ . Since variables of  $\varphi'$  and  $\psi'$  are disjoint, then at least one of  $\varphi'$  and  $\psi'$  is unsatisfiable.

W.l.o.g. assume that  $\varphi'$  is unsatisfiable. All previous OBDDs in the refutation are satisfiable, for each OBDD  $D$  in the refutation we substitute the values of variables  $\vec{y}$  that satisfies all clauses of  $\psi$  included in  $D$ . The result of this substitution is equivalent to the part of  $D$  that contains only clauses from  $\varphi$ .

By Lemma 2.1 such substitution does not increase the size of  $D$ . After all such substitutions we obtain a correct  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  refutation of  $\varphi$  of size at most  $S$ . ◀

► **Corollary 3.8.** *Let  $G$  be a graph and  $T(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable Tseitin formula,  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k$  be all unsatisfiable connected components of  $G$ . Then any  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  refutation of  $T(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\Omega(t)}$ , where  $t = \min_{i \in [k]} \text{tw}(H_i)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $S$  be the size of an  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  refutation of  $T(G, c)$ . Let  $H_{k+1}, \dots, H_{k+m}$  be all satisfiable connected components of  $G$ , where  $m \geq 0$ . Notice that the sets of variables of  $T(H_i, c)$  are disjoint for different  $i \in [k+m]$ . By  $k+m-1$  applications of Lemma B.1 we get that for some  $i \in [k]$  there exists an  $\text{OBDD}(\wedge, \text{reordering})$  refutation of  $T(H_i, c)$  of size  $S$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $S$  is at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(H_i))}$ . ◀

## C Proofs for Section 4 (Bounds on DNNF and Regular Resolution)

### C.1 Lower Bound

► **Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph and  $T(G, c)$  be an unsatisfiable formula. Then any regular resolution refutation of  $T(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .*

**Proof.** Consider a regular resolution refutation of  $T(G, c)$ , let  $S$  be its size.

By Theorem 4.1 there exists a constant  $\alpha > 0$  such that any DNNF computing  $T(G, c)$  has a size of at least  $2^{\alpha \text{tw}(G)}$ . By Theorem 4.2,  $S$  is at least  $2^{\alpha \text{tw}(G)} / |V| = 2^{\alpha \text{tw}(G) - \log |V|}$ . If  $\alpha \text{tw}(G) - \log |V| \geq \alpha \text{tw}(G) / 2$ , then  $S \geq 2^{\alpha \text{tw}(G) / 2} = 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ .

Otherwise,  $\alpha \text{tw}(G) - \log |V| < \alpha \text{tw}(G) / 2$ , i.e.  $\log |V| > \alpha \text{tw}(G) / 2$ . A resolution refutation must use at least one clause of each vertex  $v \in V$  (otherwise it is also a refutation of satisfiable  $T(G, c + \mathbf{1}_v)$ ), so its size  $S \geq |V| = 2^{\log |V|} > 2^{\alpha \text{tw}(G) / 2} = 2^{\Omega(\text{tw}(G))}$ . ◀

► **Lemma 4.7** (Generalization of Lemma 18 and Lemma 21 from [12]). *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph,  $E = E_1 \sqcup E_2$  be a coloring of the edges in two colors, and  $A \subseteq V$  be a bicolored set.*

*Let  $T(G, c)$  be a satisfiable Tseitin formula,  $R \subseteq \text{sat}(T(G, c))$  be a rectangle w.r.t. to the partition  $(E_1, E_2)$ . Then for a graph  $G' = \text{Split}(G, E_1, E_2, A)$  and a charge function  $c'$  such that  $T(G', c')$  is satisfiable, the following holds:  $|R| \leq |\text{sat}(T(G', c'))| = 2^{|E| - (|V| + |A|) + \#G'}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \in R$ , where  $\sigma_i$  assigns values to  $\{x_e \mid e \in E_i\}$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

Let  $v \in A$  be bicolored. We denote  $c_i^\sigma(v) = \sum_{e \in E(v) \cap E_i} \sigma_i(x_e) \bmod 2$ . Observe that  $c_1^\sigma(v) + c_2^\sigma(v) = c(v)$ , since  $\sigma$  is a satisfying assignment of  $T(G, c)$ . Since  $R$  is a rectangle, for any  $\sigma' = (\sigma'_1, \sigma'_2) \in R$  the condition  $c_i^{\sigma'}(v) = c_i^\sigma(v)$  holds for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ . Thus,  $c_i^\sigma$  does not depend on  $\sigma$ , so we define  $c_i(v) = c_i^\sigma(v)$  for each  $i \in \{1, 2\}$  and  $v \in A$ .

Now let us consider the graph  $G' = \text{Split}(G, E_1, E_2, A)$ . We define the charging function  $c'$  as  $c'(v^i) = c_i(v)$  for  $v \in A$  and  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , and as  $c'(v) = c(v)$  for  $v \notin A$ .

Let  $\tau \in R$ , define a full assignment  $\tau'$  of variables of  $T(G', c')$  in the following way:  $\tau'(x_{(f_i(v), f_i(u))}) = \tau_i(x_{(v, u)})$  for  $(v, u) \in E_i$ . Observe that  $\tau'$  is a satisfying assignment of  $T(G', c')$  by the construction of  $c'$ . Thus, for each  $\tau \in R$ , there is a corresponding  $\tau' \in \text{sat}(T(G', c'))$ , and the correspondence function is injective. Hence,  $|R| \leq \text{sat}(T(G', c'))$ .

Finally, by Lemma 2.16,  $|\text{sat}(T(G', c'))| = 2^{|E| - (|V| + |A|) + \#G'}$ . ◀

## C.2 Upper Bound

In this subsection, we prove an upper bound on the size of the smallest DNNF that computes a satisfiable Tseitin formula.

Let  $T = (V_T, E_T)$  be a tree decomposition of  $G = (V, E)$ , and  $\{X_t\}_{t \in V_T}$  be its bags.  $T$  is called an *extended version of nice tree decomposition* (ENTD) [9, Section 7.3.2], if the following conditions hold:

1. There is a distinguished node  $r \in V_T$  such that  $X_r = \emptyset$ . We call  $r$  the root of  $T$  and assume that  $T$  is rooted.
2. Every  $t \in V_T$  has one of the following types:
  - a.  $t$  is a leaf node:  $t$  has no children and  $X_t = \emptyset$ ;
  - b.  $t$  introduces vertex  $v \in V$ :  $t$  has exactly one child  $s$  and  $X_t = X_s \sqcup \{v\}$ ;
  - c.  $t$  forgets vertex  $v \in V$ :  $t$  has exactly one child  $s$  and  $X_s = X_t \sqcup \{v\}$ ;
  - d.  $t$  introduces edge  $(v, u) \in E$ :  $t$  has exactly one child  $s$ , the vertices  $v, u \in X_s$ , and  $X_t = X_s$ ;
  - e.  $t$  is a join node:  $t$  has exactly two children  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ ,  $X_t = X_{s_1} = X_{s_2}$ .
3. Every edge  $e \in E$  is introduced exactly once in  $T$ .

Since ENTD is also a plain tree decomposition, each vertex  $v \in V$  is forgotten exactly once in ENTD.

► **Lemma C.1** ([9, Section 7.3.2]). *Let  $G$  be a graph without parallel edges and self-loops, and  $T$  be its tree decomposition  $T$  of width  $k$ . Then one can construct an ENTD of width at most  $k$  and size at most  $\mathcal{O}(k|V(G)|)$  in  $\text{poly}(|V(G)|, |V(T)|)$  time.*

► **Theorem 4.4.** *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and  $T(G, c)$  be a satisfiable Tseitin formula. Then there exists a DNNF of size at most  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))} \cdot |E|$  computing  $T(G, c)$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $T(G, c)$  is satisfiable, all isolated vertices have zero charges, so we can delete them from the graph. So we can assume that  $V = \mathcal{O}(E)$ . Also, we can assume that there are no self-loops since they do not change a Tseitin formula.

Let  $G' = (V, E')$  be a graph obtained from  $G$  as follows: for each  $v, u \in V$ , if there are several parallel edges between  $v$  and  $u$ , we delete all of them except one. By Lemma C.1, there exists an ENT D  $T'$  for graph  $G'$  with  $w(T') = \text{tw}(G')$  and  $|T'| = \mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G')|V|)$ . Note that  $\text{tw}(G') = \text{tw}(G)$ .

Now we construct ENT D for  $G$  from  $T'$  in the following way: if  $t \in T'$  introduces edge  $e = (v, u)$ , we replace  $t$  with a path of nodes that introduce all parallel edges between  $v$  and  $u$  in  $G$ . The width of  $T$  is  $\text{tw}(G') = \text{tw}(G)$  and its size is at most  $|T'| + |E| \leq \mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G')|V| + |E|) = \mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G)|V| + |E|)$ .

For each  $t \in T$ , we denote by  $G_t = (V_t, E_t)$  a subgraph of  $G$  such that  $V_t$  and  $E_t$  are the sets of vertices and edges that are introduced in the subtree of  $t$ . Notice that  $G_r = G$ .

We claim that there exists a DNNF  $D$  of size  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))}|T|$  such that for every node  $t \in T$  for every charge function  $f: X_t \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  there exists a node  $d_{t,f} \in D$  that computes  $\varphi_{t,f} := \text{T}(G_t, f \sqcup c|_{V_t \setminus X_t})$ . Moreover, the subcircuit of a node  $d_{t,f}$  uses only variables corresponding to the edges of  $G_t$ . Then the subcircuit of  $d_{r,f_0}$  is the required DNNF computing  $\text{T}(G, c)$ , where  $f_0$  is the function with an empty domain.

We consider the nodes of  $T$  in such an order that the distance to the root of  $T$  does not increase. For each considered  $t \in T$ , we add to  $D$  at most  $2^{\alpha \text{tw}(G)}$  nodes for some constant  $\alpha$ . Then for each charge function  $f: X_t \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  we select a node  $d_{t,f}$  of  $D$  such that  $d_{t,f}$  computes  $\varphi_{t,f}$ . Every new  $\wedge$ -node in  $D$  will be decomposable, so  $D$  stays DNNF. Initially,  $D$  is an empty DNNF.

Assume that we consider a node  $t$  of  $T$  and a charge function  $f: X_t \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ . There are several cases.

**$t$  is a leaf node.**  $V_t = \emptyset$ , thus  $f$  is a function with an empty domain and  $\varphi_{t,f}$  is identically true, so add to  $D$  a gate labeled with constant 1 and let this gate be  $d_{t,f}$ .

**$t$  introduces vertex  $v$ .** Let  $s$  be the child of  $t$ .

If  $f(v) = 1$ , then the formula  $\varphi_{t,f}$  is unsatisfiable since  $v$  is isolated in  $G_t$ . We add to  $D$  a gate labeled with constant 0 and let this gate be  $d_{t,f}$ .

If  $f(v) = 0$ , then  $\varphi_{t,f} = \varphi_{s,f|_{X_s}}$ , since adding zero-charged isolated vertex does not change Tseitin formula. We do not add any new nodes in  $D$  and define  $d_{t,f} := d_{s,f|_{X_s}}$ .

**$t$  forgets vertex  $u$ .** Let  $s$  be the child of  $t$ .  $G_t = G_s$ , so  $\varphi_{t,f} = \varphi_{s,f \sqcup c|_{\{u\}}}$ . We do not add any new nodes in  $D$  and define  $d_{t,f} := d_{s,f \sqcup c|_{\{u\}}}$ .

**$t$  introduces edge  $e = (v, u)$ .** Let  $s$  be the child of  $t$ . By Lemma 2.14, the result of the substitution  $x_e := b$  to  $\varphi_{t,f}$  for  $b \in \{0, 1\}$  is  $\varphi_{s,f+b \cdot \mathbf{1}_v + b \cdot \mathbf{1}_u}$ . We add to  $D$  at most five gates and build a subcircuit  $d_{t,f} := (\neg x_e \wedge d_{s,f}) \vee (x_e \wedge d_{s,f+\mathbf{1}_v+\mathbf{1}_u})$ . Notice that  $d_{t,f}$  computes  $(\neg x_e \wedge \varphi_{s,f}) \vee (x_e \wedge \varphi_{s,f+\mathbf{1}_v+\mathbf{1}_u})$ , hence, it computes  $\varphi_{t,f}$ . Observe that new  $\wedge$ -gates are decomposable since  $e$  is not in  $G_s$ .

**$t$  is a join node.** Let  $s_1, s_2$  be the children of  $t$ .  $V_{s_1} \cap V_{s_2} = X_t$  since every  $v \in V$  is forgotten exactly once in  $T$ . Since each edge is introduced in  $T$  only once,  $E_{s_1}$  and  $E_{s_2}$  are disjoint. We add to  $D$   $2^{|X_t|+1}$  nodes and build a subcircuit  $d_{t,f} := \bigvee_{g: X_t \rightarrow \{0,1\}} d_{s_1,g} \wedge d_{s_2,f+g}$ . All new  $\wedge$ -gates are decomposable since  $E_{s_1}$  and  $E_{s_2}$  are disjoint. Given that for all  $f: X_t \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ ,  $d_{s_i,f}$  computes  $\varphi_{s_i,f}$ , it is easy to see that  $d_{t,f}$  computes  $\varphi_{t,f}$ .

Now we estimate the size of constructed DNNF  $D$ . For each node  $t \in T$  and each function  $f: X_t \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  we add at most  $\max(2^{|X_t|+1}, 5) \leq 2^{|X_t|+3}$  nodes to the DNNF, so in total we have at most  $|T| \cdot 2^{2w(T)+3}$  nodes. Since  $w(T) = \text{tw}(G)$  and  $|T| \leq \mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G)|V| + |E|)$ , the size of the resulting DNNF is  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))} (\text{tw}(G)|V| + |E|) = 2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw}(G))}|E|$ . ◀