

# Quantum Algorithms for Finding Constant-sized Sub-hypergraphs

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# Graph Property Testing

## Definition (Graph Property)

- Graph properties are those of graphs that are **invariant under changing the labelings of vertices**.  
(ex. connectedness, planarity)
- If a simple graph  $G$  is given as its adjacency matrix  $A_G$ , then whether  $G$  has a certain graph property or not can be expressed as a (transitive) **Boolean function over  $\binom{n}{2}$  elements in  $A_G$** .

## Graph Property Testing

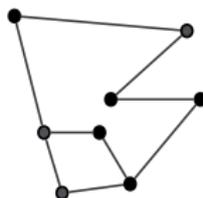
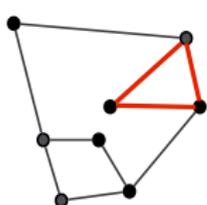
Decide if a graph  $G = (V, E)$  has a graph property  $P$  with a **minimum number of queries** of the form **“Is the pair  $(i,j)$  an edge of  $G$ ?”** ( $=A_G[i, j]$ ) (ignoring the cost of other operations.)

There are a long history of studies on this subject in classical computer science, particularly for **monotone graph properties**.

# Triangle Finding

## Triangle Finding Problem

Given a graph, decide with high probability (say,  $\geq 2/3$ ) if it contains a triangle as a subgraph by making a minimum number of queries.



no triangle

This is an particularly important problem well studied since a fast triangle finding algorithm in the sense of **time complexity** would compute/solve fast

- Boolean matrix multiplication
- Max 2 -SAT

As a first step, **query-efficient** algorithms are worth studying.

# Triangle Finding (Cont'd)

**Classical Case**  $\Omega(n^2)$  queries    we need to query almost all.

**Quantum Case**  $O(\sqrt{\binom{n}{3}}) = O(n^{1.5})$  can be obtained simply by applying Grover's quantum search algorithm.

Moreover, a series of improvements have been made by introducing **novel general-purpose quantum techniques**.

The triangle finding is one of the central problems that have advanced quantum algorithm/complexity theory.

# Quantum Algorithms for Triangle Finding

The trivial quantum upper bound is  $O(n^{1.5})$  queries.

- $\tilde{O}(n^{1.3})$  queries [Magniez-Santha-Szegedy, SODA2005]  
by a new application of **quantum walk**.
- $O(n^{35/27})$  queries [Belovs, STOC2012] ( $35/27=1.296\dots$ )  
by introducing the **learning graph** technique.
- $O(n^{9/7})$  queries [Lee-Magniez-Santha, SODA2013] ( $9/7=1.285\dots$ )  
by **improving** the learning graph technique.
- $\tilde{O}(n^{9/7})$  queries (simpler algorithm) [Jeffery-Kothari-Magniez, SODA2013]  
by introducing the concept of **nested quantum walk**.
- $O(n^{5/4})$  queries [LeGall, FOCS2014] ( $5/4=1.25$ )  
by combinatorial arguments + quantum walk.

These works have developed new quantum techniques for general purposes.

Along this line of research,

we consider **a generalization** of triangle finding **to the hypergraph case**.

# Hypergraphs

## Definition (3-uniform Hypergraphs)

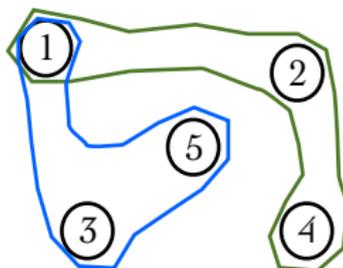
An undirected 3-uniform hypergraph is a pair  $(V, E)$ , where

- $V$  is a finite set (the set of vertices),
- $E \subseteq V \times V \times V$  is the set of hyperedges, i.e., unordered triples of elements in  $V$ .

### Example

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

$$E = \{\{1, 2, 4\}, \{1, 3, 5\}\}$$



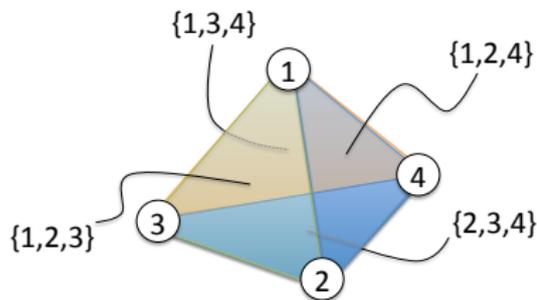
Note that we can define  $k$ -uniform hypergraphs, but we only deal with 3-uniform case in this talk.

# 4-Clique over a 3-Uniform Hypergraph

4-clique is a **complete** 3-uniform hypergraph on 4 vertices:  
(a generalization of a triangle)

## Example

Ex.  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $\{1, 2, 4\}$ ,  $\{1, 3, 4\}$ ,  $\{2, 3, 4\}$  are all hyperedges.



## 4-Clique Finding Problem

Given a hypergraph  $G$ , decide with high probability if it contains a 4-clique as a subhypergraph by making a minimum number of queries of the form: “Is the triple  $\{i, j, k\}$  an hyperedge of  $G$ ?”

This problem is closely related to Max-3SAT or multiplication of tensors.

# Our Results: Finding 4-Clique in a 3-uniform Hypergraph

## Theorem (4-clique Finding Quantum Algorithm)

*There exists a quantum algorithm that detects with high probability if the input 3-uniform hypergraph on  $n$  vertices has a 4-clique as a subhypergraph (and finds a 4-clique if it exists),*

*by making  $\tilde{O}(n^{241/128}) = O(n^{1.883})$  queries.*

- **Better than naïve Grover search** over the  $\binom{n}{4}$  combinations of vertices, which only gives  $O(n^2)$  queries.
- Our algorithm actually works for **finding any constant-sized subhypergraph** (the quantum query complexity depends on the subhypergraph).

# Our Results: Technical Outline

- 1 Extend the idea of the triangle finding algorithm by [Lee-Magniez-Santha, SODA05] to the hypergraph case.  
**But the analysis gets too complicated to be done.**
- 2 Then cast the extended idea to the framework of nested quantum walk introduced by [Jeffery-Kothari-Magniez, SODA05].  
**Still, need to somehow handle undesirable cases that is unique in the hypergraph case.**
- 3 Finally heavily use the concentration theorem over hypergeometric distribution to show that the undesirable cases rarely happen.

# Applications: Ternary Associativity Testing

Let  $X$  be a finite set with  $|X| = n$ . A ternary operator  $\mathcal{F}$  from  $X \times X \times X$  to  $X$  is said to be *associative* if

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{F}(a, b, c), d, e) = \mathcal{F}(a, \mathcal{F}(b, c, d), e) = \mathcal{F}(a, b, \mathcal{F}(c, d, e))$$

holds for every 5-tuple  $(a, b, c, d, e) \in X^5$ .

## Theorem (Ternary Associativity Testing)

*There exists a quantum algorithm that determines if  $\mathcal{F}$  is associative with high probability using  $\tilde{O}(n^{169/80}) = \tilde{O}(n^{2.1125})$  queries.*

## Proof.

First transform ternary associativity testing into the problem of finding a certain subhypegraph of constant size. Then, we apply our algorithm.  $\square$

# Lee-Magniez-Santha Algorithm for Finding a Triangle

Let us assume  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$  forms a triangle (on the given ordinary graph).  
The algorithm samples objects recursively.

- Sample a set  $V_1 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_1$  of candidates for  $a_1$ .
- To check if  $V_1$  is marked,  
Sample a set  $V_2 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_2$  of candidates for  $a_2$ .
- To check if  $V_2$  is marked,  
sample a set  $V_3 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_3$  of candidates for  $a_3$ .
- To check if  $V_3$  is marked,  
sample a set  $E_{12} \subseteq V_1 \times V_2$  with size  $e_{12}$  of candidates for  $\{a_1, a_2\}$ .
- To check if  $E_{12}$  is marked,  
sample a set  $E_{13} \subseteq V_1 \times V_3$  with size  $e_{13}$  of candidates for  $\{a_1, a_3\}$ .
- To check if  $E_{13}$  is marked,  
sample a set  $E_{23} \subseteq V_2 \times V_3$  with size  $e_{23}$  of candidates for  $\{a_2, a_3\}$ .
- Check if a triangle  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$  in  $E_{12} \cup E_{13} \cup E_{23}$ .

# Our First Trial for Finding 4-clique

Let  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$  be a 4-clique.

- Sample a set  $V_1 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_1$  of candidates for  $a_1$  from  $V$ .
- To check if  $V_1$  is marked, sample a set  $V_2 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_2$  of candidates for  $a_2$  from  $V$ ,
- ...
- To check if  $V_4$  is marked, sample a set  $E_{123} \subseteq V_1 \times V_2 \times V_3$  with size  $e_{123}$  of candidates for  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$ .
- To check if  $E_{123}$  is marked, sample a set  $E_{124} \subseteq V_1 \times V_2 \times V_4$  with size  $e_{124}$  of candidates for  $\{a_2, a_3, a_4\}$ .
- ...
- Check if a 4-clique  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$  is in  $E_{123} \cup E_{124} \cup E_{134} \cup E_{234}$ .

where  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, e_{123}, e_{124}, e_{134}, e_{234}$  are parameters to be optimized.

But this gives no improvement over the trivial bound  $\sqrt{\binom{n}{4}} = O(n^2)$  via Grover's algorithm.

# Our strategy for finding 4-clique (1/3)

Let  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$  be a 4-clique. Sampling is actually **recursive**.

1 Sample a set  $V_1 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_1$  of candidates for  $a_1$ .

2 To check if  $V_1$  is marked,  
sample a set  $V_2 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_2$  of candidates for  $a_2$ .

3 To check if  $V_2$  is marked,  
sample a set  $V_3 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_3$  of candidates for  $a_3$ .

4 To check if  $V_3$  is marked,  
sample a set  $V_4 \subseteq V$  with size  $v_4$  of candidates for  $a_4$ .

...

...

...

## Our strategy for finding 4-clique (2/3)

- 5 To check if  $V_4$  is marked,  
sample a set of  $F_{12} \subseteq V_1 \times V_2$  with size  $f_{12}$  of candidates for  $\{a_1, a_2\}$ .
- 6 To check if  $F_{12}$  is marked,  
sample a set of  $F_{13} \subseteq V_1 \times V_3$  with size  $f_{13}$  of candidates for  $\{a_1, a_3\}$ .
- 7 To check if  $F_{14}$  is marked,  
sample a set of  $F_{14} \subseteq V_1 \times V_4$  with size  $f_{14}$  of candidates for  $\{a_1, a_4\}$ .  
...
- 10 To check if  $F_{24}$  is marked,  
sample a set of  $F_{34} \subseteq V_3 \times V_4$  of candidates for  $\{a_3, a_4\}$ .

## Our strategy for finding 4-clique (3/3)

- 11 To check if  $F_{34}$  is marked,  
sample a set of  $E_{123}$  with size  $e_{123}$  of candidates for  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$   
by picking a pair from each of  $F_{12}, F_{23}, F_{13}$  so that they form a triple.  
....
- 14 To check if  $E_{134}$  is marked,  
sample a set of  $E_{234}$  with size  $e_{234}$  of candidates for  $\{v_2, v_3, v_4\}$   
by picking a pair from each of  $F_{23}, F_{24}, F_{34}$  so that they form a triple.
- 15 Check if  $E_{123} \cup E_{124} \cup E_{134} \cup E_{234}$  contains a 4-clique.

# Outline of Complexity Analysis

This strategy can be cast as **recursive quantum-walk-based search**. Then, the query complexity is

$$\tilde{O}\left(s + \sum_{t=1}^m \left( \prod_{r=1}^t \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_r}} \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta_t}} U_t \right),$$

where  $S$ ,  $U_t$ ,  $\delta_t$  and  $\varepsilon_r$  are evaluated as follows:

- $S = \sum_{\{i,j,k\} \in \Sigma_3} e_{ijk}$ ;
- for  $t \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ , (i) if  $s_t = \{i\}$ , then  $\delta_t = \Omega(\frac{1}{v_i})$ ,  $\varepsilon_t = \Omega(\frac{v_i}{n})$  and  $U_t = \tilde{O}\left(1 + \sum_{\{j,k\}:\{i,j,k\} \in \Sigma_3} \frac{e_{ijk}}{v_i}\right)$ ; (ii) if  $s_t = \{i, j\}$ , then  $\delta_t = \Omega(\frac{1}{f_{ij}})$ ,  $\varepsilon_t = \Omega(\frac{f_{ij}}{v_i v_j})$  and  $U_t = \tilde{O}\left(1 + \sum_{k:\{i,j,k\} \in \Sigma_3} \frac{e_{ijk}}{f_{ij}}\right)$ ; (iii) if  $s_t = \{i, j, k\}$ , then  $\delta_t = \Omega(\frac{1}{e_{ijk}})$ ,  $\varepsilon_t = \Omega(\frac{e_{ijk} v_i v_j v_k}{f_{ij} f_{jk} f_{ik}})$  and  $U_t = O(1)$ .

Optimizing parameters  $v_i, f_{ij}, e_{ijk}$  gives  $\tilde{O}(n^{241/128}) = O(n^{1.883})$  queries.

## Difficulties

Steps 11-14 randomly choose  $e_{ijk}$  triples from the set

$$\Gamma_{ijk} = \{(u, v, w) \mid (u, v) \in F_{ij}, (u, w) \in F_{ik} \text{ and } (v, w) \in F_{jk}\}.$$

The difficulties here are:

The size and structure of  $\Gamma_{ijk}$  vary depending on the sets  $F_{ij}$ ,  $F_{jk}$ ,  $F_{ik}$ , and thus they may be significantly changed by updating  $F_{ij}$  many times.

## Our solution

We proved that  $F_{ij}$  is almost uniformly distributed by using concentration theorems for hypergeometric distributions. This implies that, with exponentially small error, the size of  $\Gamma_{ijk}$  lies around its average and its structure is very regular, which effectively makes it possible to analyze the complexity on average.

# Conclusion

- We considered a generalization of Triangle Finding problem to the 3-uniform hypergraphs.
- For finding a 4-clique, we obtained a quantum algorithm with query complexity  $O(n^{1.883})$ , beating the  $O(n^2)$ -query trivial quantum algorithm.
- More generally, we developed a framework that give an efficient quantum algorithms for finding any constant-sized subhypergraph.
- For this, we designed a general technique for handling nested quantum walk over graphs of non-fixed size.

## Open Problems

- Further improvements of our complexity?
- Can generalize our techniques to  $d$ -uniform hyper graphs ( $d \geq 3$ )?
- Other applications of our techniques?

# Query Complexity Model (a.k.a. oracle model)

## Definition (Classical Case)

- An input hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$  is given as an oracle.

### Our case

Oracle =  $\{h_{ijk} \in \{T, F\} : i < j < k, (i, j, k) \in V \times V \times V\}$ .

- Algorithms need to make queries to the oracle to get input.

### Our case

For the query  $(\{i, j, k\}, ?)$ , we receive the answer  $(\{i, j, k\}, h_{ijk})$ .

Algorithm  $\xrightarrow{(\{i,j,k\},?)}$  Oracle  $\xrightarrow{(\{i,j,k\},T)}$  Algorithm

- Minimize # of queries, ignoring the cost of other operations.

### Our case

The number of required queries is trivially at most  $\binom{n}{3} = O(n^3)$ .

# Query Complexity Model (a.k.a. oracle model)

## Definition (Quantum Case)

- An input hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$  is given as an oracle.

### Our case

Oracle =  $\{h_{ijk} \in \{T, F\} : i < j < k, (i, j, k) \in V \times V \times V\}$ .

- Algorithms need to make **quantum queries** to the oracle to get input.

### Our case

- Quantum queries are **superpositions of many classical queries**, and the answers are those of the corresp. classical answers: a query  $\sum \alpha_{i,j,k} |i, j, k, ?\rangle$ , and the answer  $\sum \alpha_{i,j,k} |i, j, k, h_{ijk}\rangle$ .
- Note: **a classical query can be simulated by a quantum query**: Set  $\alpha_{ijk} = 1$  and  $\alpha_{pqr} = 0$  for all  $(p, q, r) \neq (i, j, k)$ .

- Minimize # of **quantum queries**, ignoring the cost of other operations.

# Search with Random Walk

## Search Problem

Given a Boolean function  $f$  over the domain  $X$  onto  $\{0, 1\}$ , find a solution  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = 1$ .

## Simple Sampling Idea

- Sample a subset  $Y_1 \subseteq X$  of size  $r$ .
- Check if  $Y_1$  contains a solution; if it indeed does, we are done.
- Otherwise, we update  $Y_1$  to  $Y_2$  by replacing a random element in  $Y$  with a new element that is chosen at random from  $X \setminus Y_1$ .  
( $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  differ only by one element)
- Check if  $Y_2$  contains a solution; if it indeed does, we are done.
- Otherwise, we update  $Y_2$  to  $Y_3$  by replacing...

We can regard the sequence  $Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2 \rightarrow Y_3 \rightarrow \dots$  as random walks over the graph whose nodes are subsets of size  $r$  of  $X$ .

# Johnson Graph

## Definition (Johnson graph $J(n, r) = (V, E)$ )

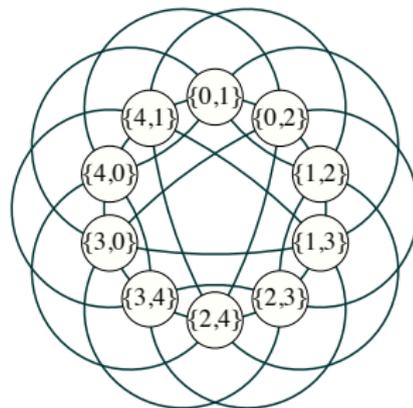
- $V$  is the collection of all  $r$ -sized subsets of  $[n]$ , so that  $|V| = \binom{n}{r}$ . (Corresponding to sampling  $r$ -sized subsets from  $X$  with  $|X| = n$ ).
- For every vertex pairs  $U, T \in V$ , the pair  $\{U, T\}$  is an edge (an element in  $E$ ) if and only if  $U$  and  $T$  differ only by one element.

ex.)  $J(5, 2)$  looks like  $\rightarrow$ .

### Fact.

The spectral gap of  $J(n, r)$  is  $\Theta(1/r)$ .

The spectral gap of the graph affects the hitting time of random walk over  $J(n, r)$ .



# Search with Random Walk

Let us say that the nodes containing a solution is **marked**.

## Fact.

If the underlying graph has spectral gap  $\delta$  and the fraction of marked nodes is  $\epsilon$ , then **the hitting time** (the number of steps required to find a marked node with high probability) is  $O(\frac{1}{\delta \cdot \epsilon})$ .

## Corollary

The total cost for finding a solution is

$$S + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left( \frac{1}{\delta} U + C \right),$$

S: cost of initial sampling (initial queries)

U: cost of one step random walk (addition queries)

C: cost of checking if the node is marked. (additional queries).

(Here we perform checking procedure every  $1/\delta$  steps.)

# Search with Quantum Walk

[Ambanis, Szegedy, Magniez-Nayak-Roland-Santha]

Let us say that the nodes containing a solution is marked.

Fact.

If the underlying graph has spectral gap  $\delta$  and the fraction of marked nodes is  $\epsilon$ , then the number of steps required to find a marked node is

~~$O(\frac{1}{\delta \cdot \epsilon})$~~   $O(\sqrt{\frac{1}{\delta \cdot \epsilon}})$  with high probability. Note  $\frac{1}{\delta \cdot \epsilon} \geq \sqrt{\frac{1}{\delta \cdot \epsilon}}$ .

This implies that the total cost for finding a solution is

$$\cancel{S + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left( \frac{1}{\delta} U + C \right)} \quad S + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta}} U + C \right),$$

where

S: cost of initial sampling (initial queries)

U: cost of one step random walk (additional queries)

C: cost of checking if the node is marked. (additional queries).

(Here we perform checking procedure every  $1/\delta$  steps.)