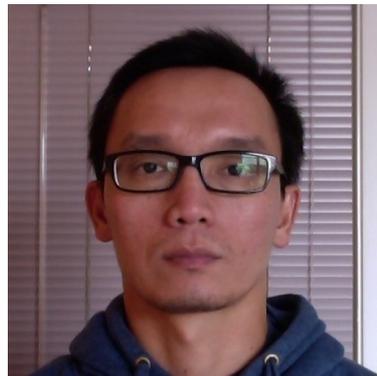


# Optimal Query Processing Meets Information Theory

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[PODS'2016]  
[PODS'2017]

# Basic Question

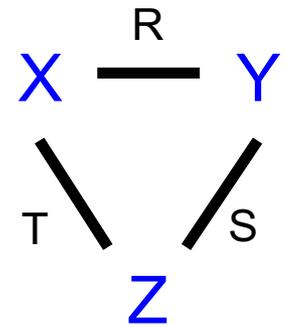
What is the optimal runtime to compute a query  $Q$  on a database  $D$ ?

- $Q$ ,  $D$  are labeled hypergraphs
- Problem 1: list all occurrences in  $Q$  in  $D$   
Problem 2: check if there exists  $Q$  in  $D$
- Data complexity:  $Q$  is fixed, runtime =  $f(D)$

# Example Queries

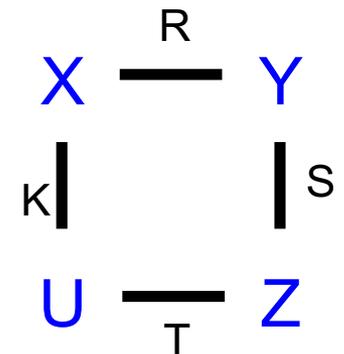
Enumerate all labeled triangles:

$$R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$



Check if there exists a labeled 4-cycle

$$\exists x \exists y \exists z \exists u R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u) \wedge K(u,x)$$



# Main Results

Fix statistics for  $D$

(cardinalities, functional dependencies, max degrees)

Fix the query  $Q$

Problem 1: enumeration problem

Tight, but open  
if computable

Computable,  
but not tight

**Thm**  $\forall D,$

(1)  $|Q(D)| \leq \text{Entropic-bound} \leq \text{Polymatroid-bound}$

(2)  $Q(D)$  computable in time  $\tilde{O}(\text{Polymatroid-bound})$

Problem 2: decision problem

Optimal?

**Thm**  $\forall D,$   $Q(D)$  is computable in time  $\tilde{O}(2^{\text{submodular-width}})$

# Main Principle

- Find information-theoretic proof of the upper bound, or the submodular width
- Convert proof to algorithm

# Outline

- Enumeration problem
- Decision problem
- Conclusions

# Maximum Output Size

$\max_{\mathbf{D}}$  satisfies stats  $(|\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{D})|)$

E.g.  $R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z), \quad |\mathbf{R}|, |\mathbf{S}| \leq \mathbf{N}$

# Maximum Output Size

$\max_{\mathbf{D}}$  satisfies stats ( $|\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{D})|$ )

E.g.  $R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z)$ ,  $|\mathbf{R}|, |\mathbf{S}| \leq N$

• No other info:  $|\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{D})| \leq N^2$

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- $S.Y$  is a key:

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- $S.Y$  has degree  $\leq d$ :

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•  $S.Y$  has degree  $\leq d$ :  $|\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{D})| \leq d \times N$

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E.g.  $R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$

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E.g.  $R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$   
No other info:  $|Q(\mathbf{D})| \leq N^{3/2}$

# Background: Entropy, Polymatroid

Fix a set  $\mathbf{X}=\{X_1,\dots,X_k\}$  and a function  $H: 2^{\mathbf{X}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

**Def**  $H$  is called entropic if there exists random variables  $\mathbf{X}$  s.t.  $H(\mathbf{U}) = \text{entropy of } \mathbf{U}$ , for  $\mathbf{U} \subseteq \mathbf{X}$

**Def**  $H$  is a polymatroid if

$$H(\emptyset) = 0$$

$$H(\mathbf{V}) \geq H(\mathbf{U}) \quad \text{for } \mathbf{U} \subseteq \mathbf{V}$$

$$H(\mathbf{U}) + H(\mathbf{V}) \geq H(\mathbf{U} \cap \mathbf{V}) + H(\mathbf{U} \cup \mathbf{V})$$

Shannon  
inequalities

Every entropic function is a polymatroid  
Converse fails for  $k \geq 4$  [Zhang&Yeung'98]

# Enumeration Problem

Fix a set of statistics for  $D$  (cardinalities, FDs, degrees)

Fix a query  $Q$  with variables  $X = \{X_1, \dots, X_k\}$

**Theorem**  $\forall D$  that satisfies the statistics

$$\log |Q(D)| \leq \max_{H \text{ entropic satisfying stats}} H(X)$$

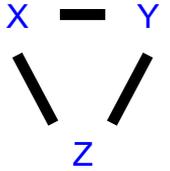
$$\leq \max_{H \text{ polymatroid satisfying stats}} H(X)$$

Asymptotically tight,  
but open if computable

Computable  
in EXPTIME, but not tight

**Thm**  $\forall D, Q(D)$  computable in time  $\tilde{O}(\text{Polymatroid-bound})$

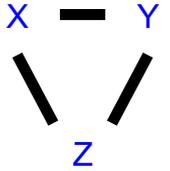
# Proof of Upper Bound



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

Database **D**  $\rightarrow$  entropic function H

# Proof of Upper Bound



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

Database **D**  $\rightarrow$  entropic function **H**

Database **D**

R(X,Y)

X	Y
a	3
a	2
b	2
d	3

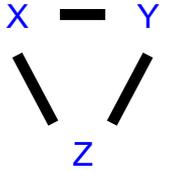
S(Y,Z)

Y	Z
3	m
2	q
3	q
2	m

T(Z,X)

Z	X
m	a
q	a
q	b
m	d

# Proof of Upper Bound



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

Database **D**  $\rightarrow$  entropic function **H**

Output  $Q(D)$

X	Y	Z
a	3	m
a	2	q
b	2	q
d	3	m
a	3	q

Database **D**

$R(X,Y)$

X	Y
a	3
a	2
b	2
d	3

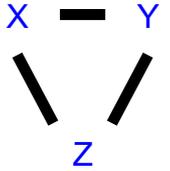
$S(Y,Z)$

Y	Z
3	m
2	q
3	q
2	m

$T(Z,X)$

Z	X
m	a
q	a
q	b
m	d

# Proof of Upper Bound



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

Database **D**  $\rightarrow$  entropic function **H**

Output  $Q(D)$

X	Y	Z	
a	3	m	1/5
a	2	q	1/5
b	2	q	1/5
d	3	m	1/5
a	3	q	1/5

Database **D**

$R(X,Y)$

X	Y
a	3
a	2
b	2
d	3

$S(Y,Z)$

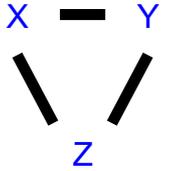
Y	Z
3	m
2	q
3	q
2	m

$T(Z,X)$

Z	X
m	a
q	a
q	b
m	d

$$H(XYZ) = \log |Q(D)|$$

# Proof of Upper Bound



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

Database **D**  $\rightarrow$  entropic function **H**

Output  $Q(D)$

X	Y	Z	
a	3	m	1/5
a	2	q	1/5
b	2	q	1/5
d	3	m	1/5
a	3	q	1/5

Database **D**

$R(X,Y)$

X	Y	
a	3	2/5
a	2	1/5
b	2	1/5
d	3	1/5

$S(Y,Z)$

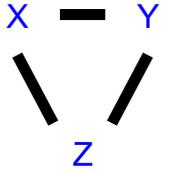
Y	Z	
3	m	2/5
2	q	2/5
3	q	1/5
2	m	0

$T(Z,X)$

Z	X	
m	a	1/5
q	a	2/5
q	b	1/5
m	d	1/5

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# Proof of Upper Bound



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Database **D**

$R(X,Y)$

X	Y	
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a	2	1/5
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$S(Y,Z)$

Y	Z	
3	m	2/5
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Z	X	
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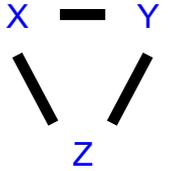
$$H(XYZ) = \log |Q(D)|$$

$$H(XY) \leq \log N_R \quad H(YZ) \leq \log N_S \quad H(XZ) \leq \log N_T$$

$$H(Z|Y) \leq \log \text{degs}(z|y)$$

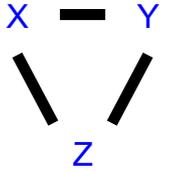
Cardinalities, functional dependences, max degrees

# Proof of Upper Bound



$$\begin{array}{l} Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X) \\ |R|, |S|, |T| \leq N \quad \rightarrow \quad |Q(D)| \leq N^{3/2} \end{array}$$

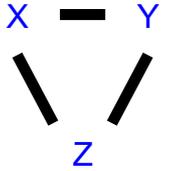
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$$|R|, |S|, |T| \leq N \quad \rightarrow \quad |Q(D)| \leq N^{3/2}$$

$$3 \log N \geq h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ)$$

# Proof of Upper Bound

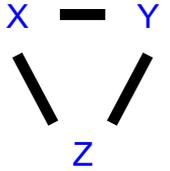


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submodularity

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# Proof of Upper Bound

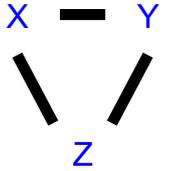


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$$\geq h(XYZ) + h(Y) + h(XZ)$$

# Proof of Upper Bound



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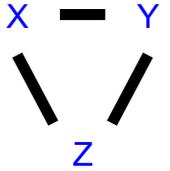
submodularity

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submodularity

$$\geq h(XYZ) + h(Y) + h(XZ)$$

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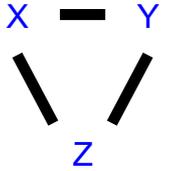
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submodularity

$$\geq h(XYZ) + h(Y) + h(XZ)$$

$$\geq h(XYZ) + h(XYZ) + h(\emptyset)$$

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submodularity

$$3 \log N \geq h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ)$$

submodularity

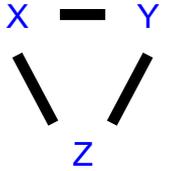
$$\geq h(XYZ) + h(Y) + h(XZ)$$

$$\geq h(XYZ) + h(XYZ) + h(\emptyset)$$

$$= 2 h(XYZ)$$

$$= 2 \log |Q(D)|$$

# Proof of Upper Bound



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submodularity

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submodularity

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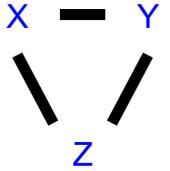
$$\geq h(XYZ) + h(XYZ) + h(\emptyset)$$

$$= 2 h(XYZ)$$

Shearer's inequality  
 $h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ) \geq 2 h(XYZ)$

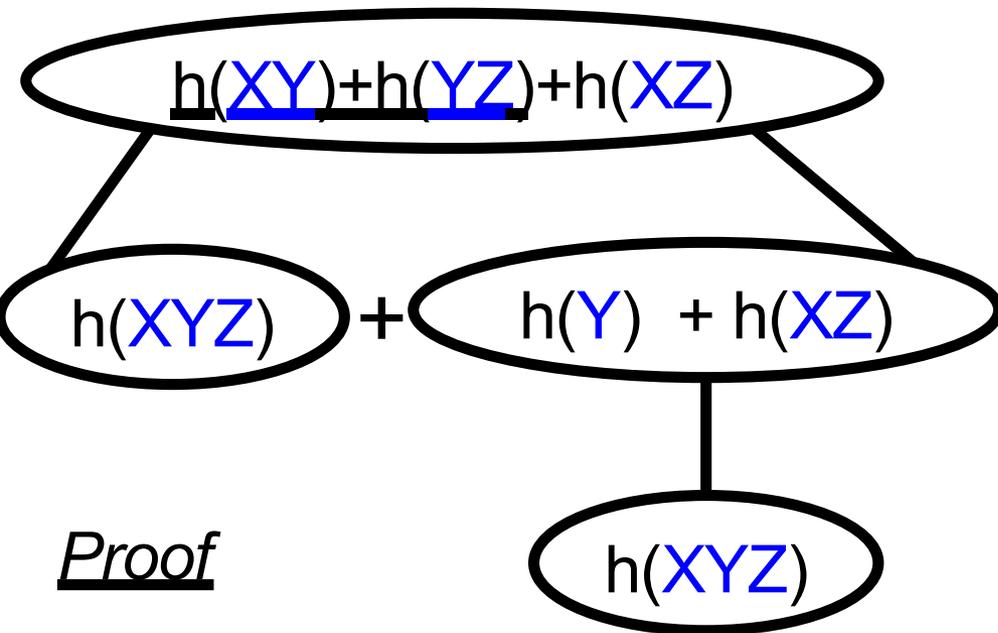
$$= 2 \log |Q(D)|$$

# Proof to Algorithm

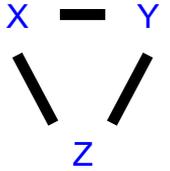


$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

$$h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ) \geq 2 h(XYZ)$$



# Proof to Algorithm



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

$$h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ) \geq 2 h(XYZ)$$

Algorithm

$$R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

$$h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ)$$

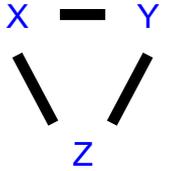
$$h(XYZ) + h(Y) + h(XZ)$$

$$h(XYZ)$$

Proof

$$h(XYZ)$$

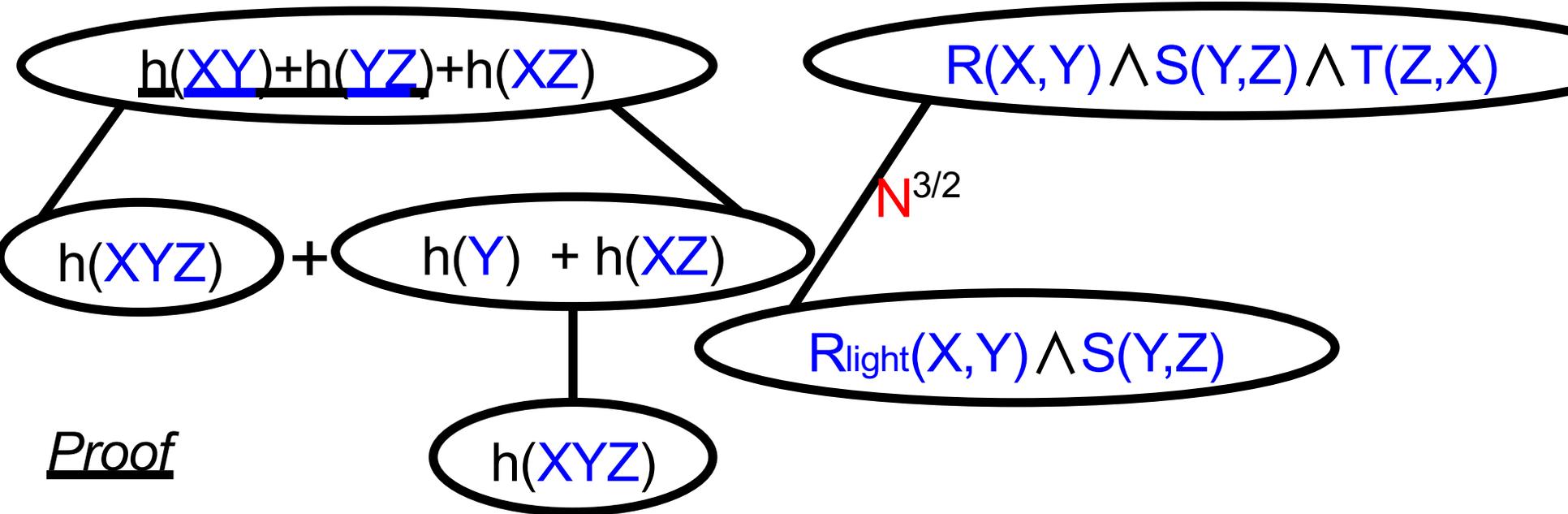
# Proof to Algorithm



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

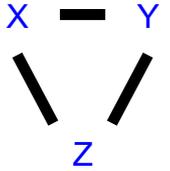
$$h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ) \geq 2 h(XYZ)$$

Algorithm



$R_{light}$  or  $R_{heavy}$ :  $\text{degree}(Y) \leq$  or  $> N^{1/2}$

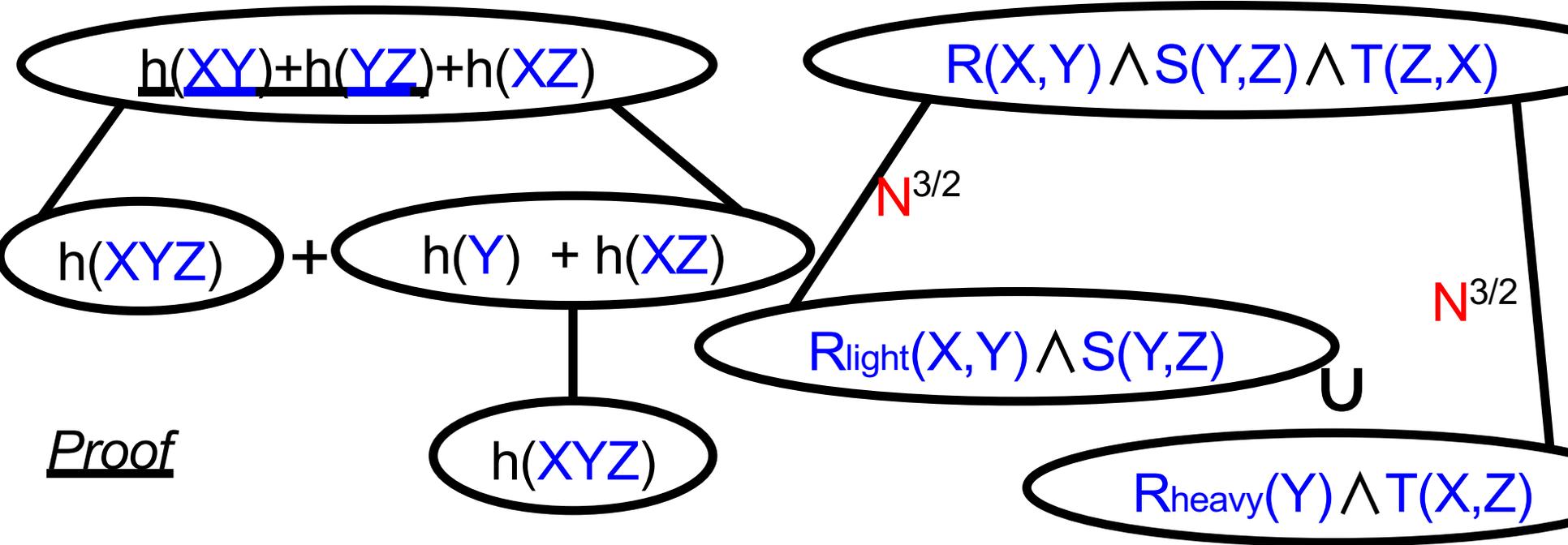
# Proof to Algorithm



$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

$$h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ) \geq 2 h(XYZ)$$

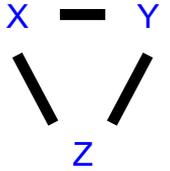
Algorithm



Proof

$R_{light}$  or  $R_{heavy}$ :  $\text{degree}(Y) \leq$  or  $> N^{1/2}$

# Proof to Algorithm

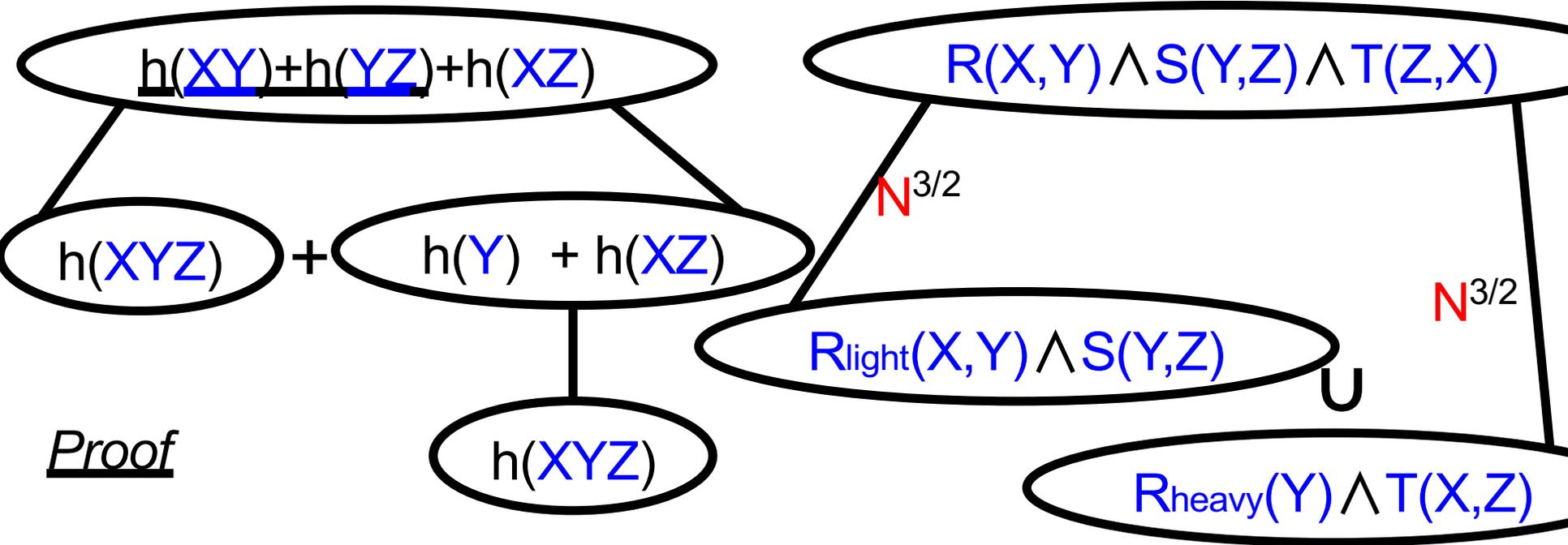


$$Q(X,Y,Z) = R(X,Y) \wedge S(Y,Z) \wedge T(Z,X)$$

Runtime  $\tilde{O}(N^{3/2})$

$$h(XY) + h(YZ) + h(XZ) \geq 2 h(XYZ)$$

Algorithm



Proof

$R_{light}$  or  $R_{heavy}$ :  $\text{degree}(Y) \leq$  or  $> N^{1/2}$

# Enumeration Problem: Discussion

Cardinalities: [Atserias, Grohe, Marx'08, Ngo, Re, Rudra'13]

- Entropic bound = polymatroid bound
- Algorithm for  $Q(D)$  has single log factor

Cardinalities + FDs + max degrees:

- Entropic bound  $\not\cong$  polymatroid bound
- Algorithm for  $Q(D)$  has polylog factor

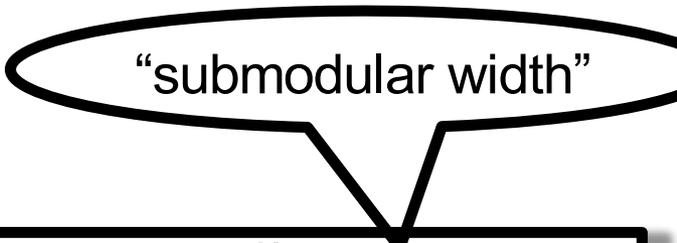
# Outline

- Enumeration problem
- Decision problem
- Conclusions

# Decision Problem

Fix  $Q$ , fix statistics on  $D$

Problem: does  $Q$  occur in  $D$ ?



“submodular width”

**Theorem** One can check if  $Q$  is in  $D$  in time  $\tilde{O}(2^{\text{subw}(Q)})$

Optimal? (fine grained lower bound is open!)

# Background: Tree Decomposition

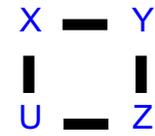
Informally: TD = a tree where each node  $t$  represents an enumeration problem

- Fractional hypertree width [Grohe, Marx'14]

$$\min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t} \max_D$$

- Submodular width [Marx'2013]

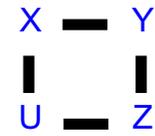
$$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$$



$$Q() = \exists x \exists y \exists z \exists u R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u) \wedge K(u,x)$$

$|R|, |S|, |T|, |K| \leq N$   $O(N^{3/2})$  algorithm [Alon, Yuster, Zwick'97]

$$\min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t} \max_D$$

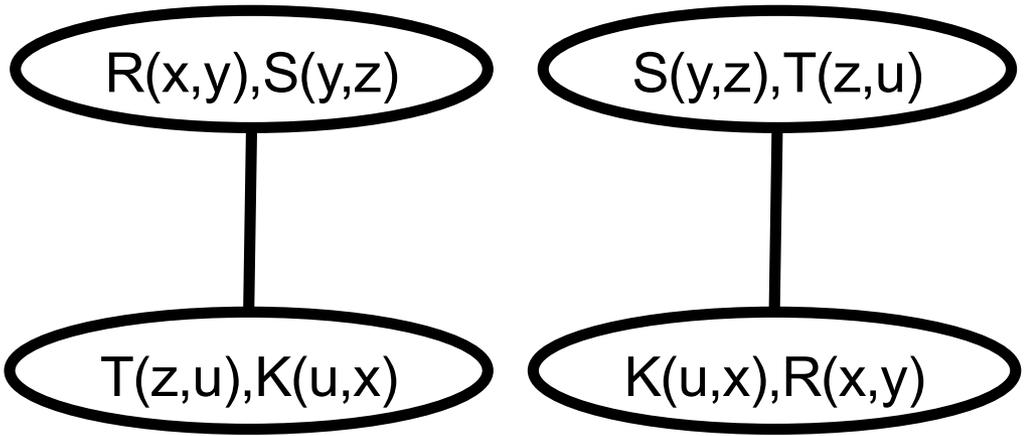


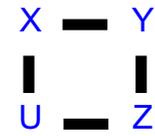
$$Q() = \exists x \exists y \exists z \exists u R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u) \wedge K(u,x)$$

$|R|, |S|, |T|, |K| \leq N$      $O(N^{3/2})$  algorithm [Alon, Yuster, Zwick'97]

$\min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t} \max_D$

Tree decompositions



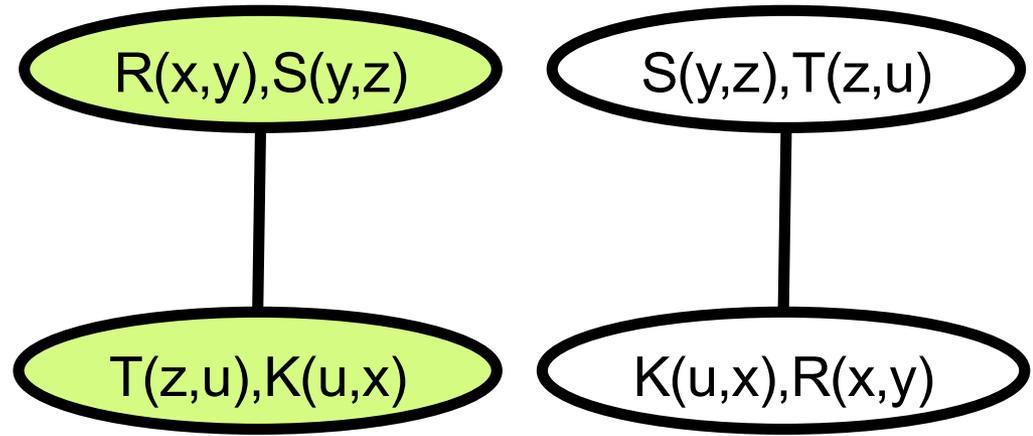


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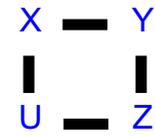
$\min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t} \max_D$

Tree decompositions



Runtime  $\tilde{O}(N^2)$

(suboptimal)

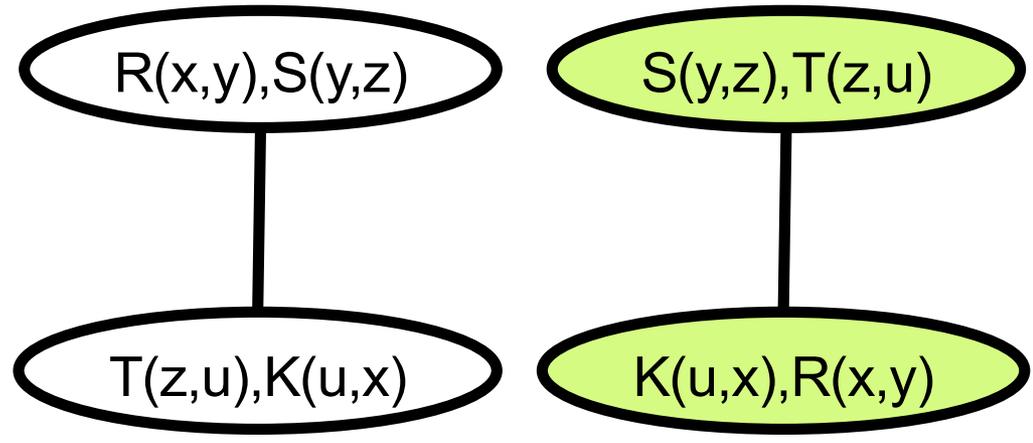


$$Q() = \exists x \exists y \exists z \exists u R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u) \wedge K(u,x)$$

$|R|, |S|, |T|, |K| \leq N$      $O(N^{3/2})$  algorithm [Alon, Yuster, Zwick'97]

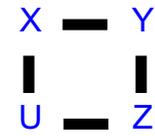
$\min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t} \max_D$

Tree decompositions



Runtime  $\tilde{O}(N^2)$

(suboptimal)

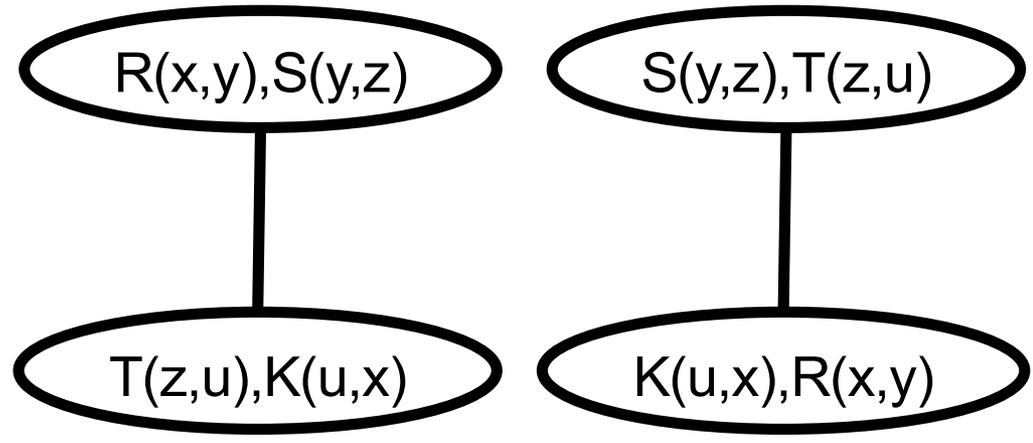


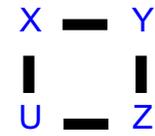
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$|R|, |S|, |T|, |K| \leq N$      $O(N^{3/2})$  algorithm [Alon, Yuster, Zwick'97]

$$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$$

Tree decompositions

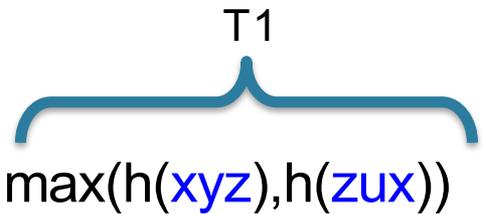




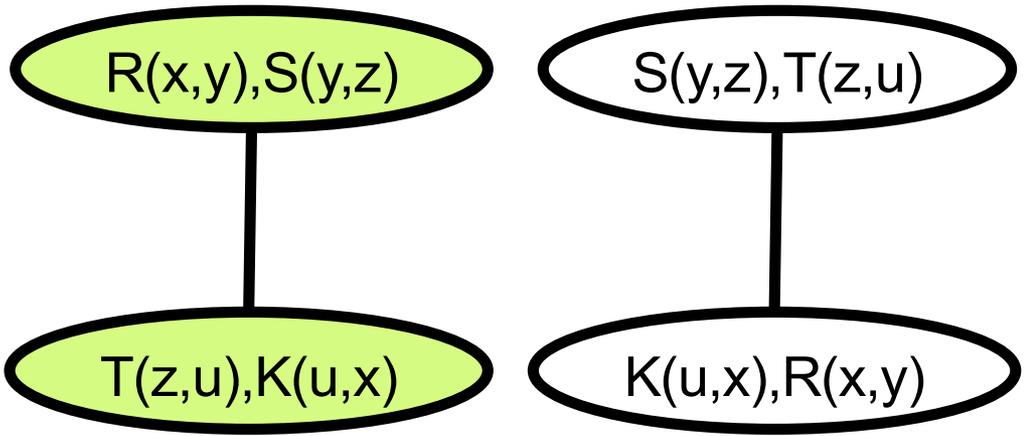
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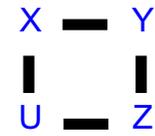
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Tree decompositions

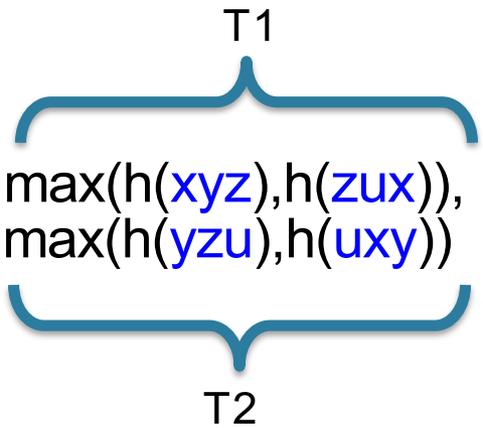




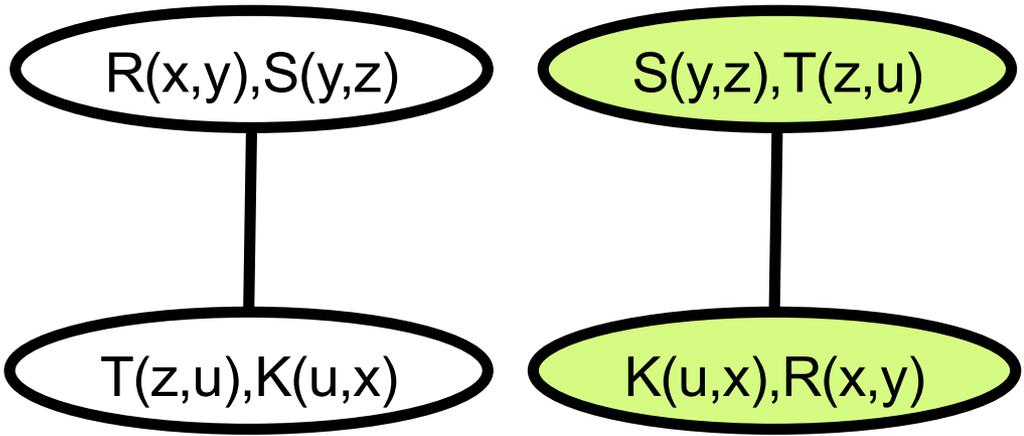
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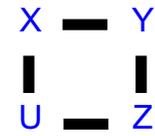
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$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$



Tree decompositions





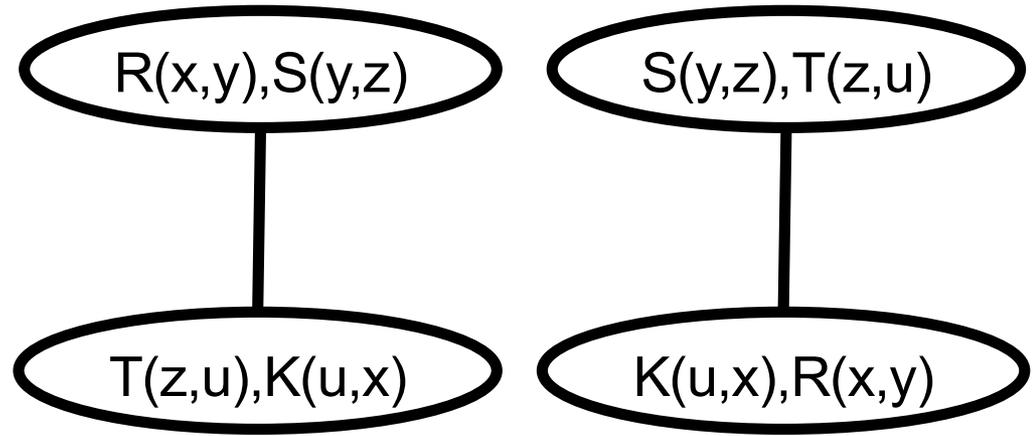
$$Q() = \exists x \exists y \exists z \exists u R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u) \wedge K(u,x)$$

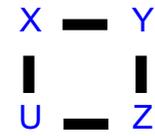
$|R|, |S|, |T|, |K| \leq N$      $O(N^{3/2})$  algorithm [Alon, Yuster, Zwick'97]

$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$

$$\min( \overbrace{\max(h(xyz), h(zux))}^{T1}, \overbrace{\max(h(yzu), h(uxy))}^{T2} ) =$$

Tree decompositions



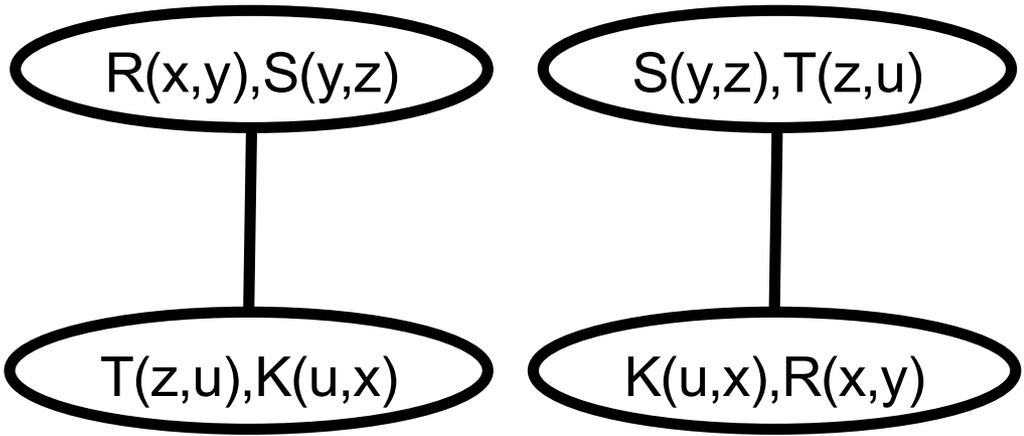


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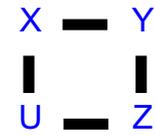
$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$

Tree decompositions



$$\min( \overbrace{\max(h(xyz), h(zux))}^{T1}, \underbrace{\max(h(yzu), h(uxy))}_{T2} ) =$$

$$= \max( \min(h(xyz), h(yzu)), \min(h(xyz), h(uxy)), \min(h(zux), h(yzu)), \min(h(zux), h(uxy)) )$$

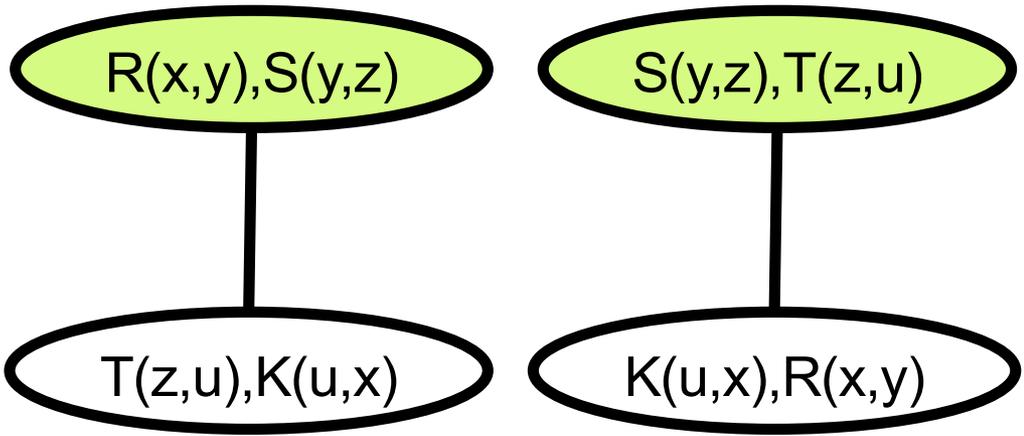


$$Q() = \exists x \exists y \exists z \exists u R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u) \wedge K(u,x)$$

$|R|, |S|, |T|, |K| \leq N$      $O(N^{3/2})$  algorithm [Alon, Yuster, Zwick'97]

$$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$$

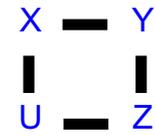
Tree decompositions



$$3 \log N \geq h(xy) + h(yz) + h(zu)$$

$$\min( \overbrace{\max(h(xyz), h(zux))}^{T1}, \underbrace{\max(h(yzu), h(uxy))}_{T2} ) =$$

$$= \max(\min(h(xy), h(yz)), \min(h(yz), h(zu)), \min(h(zu), h(ux)), \min(h(ux), h(xy)))$$

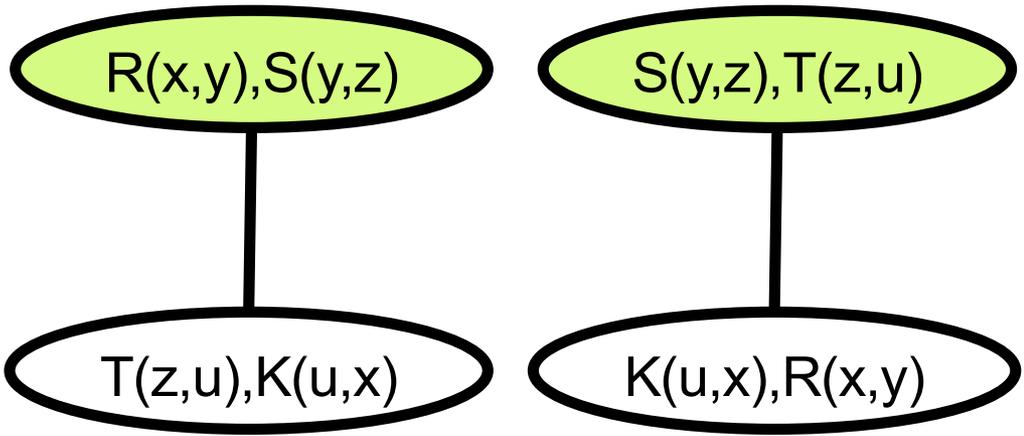


$$Q() = \exists x \exists y \exists z \exists u R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u) \wedge K(u,x)$$

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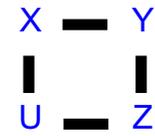
Tree decompositions



$$\min( \overbrace{\max(h(xyz), h(zux))}^{T1}, \overbrace{\max(h(yzu), h(uxy))}^{T2} ) =$$

$$3 \log N \geq \underline{h(xy) + h(yz)} + h(zu) \geq h(xyz) + h(y) + h(zu)$$

$$= \max(\min(h(xyz), h(yzu)), \min(h(xyz), h(uxy)), \min(h(zux), h(yzu)), \min(h(zux), h(uxy)))$$

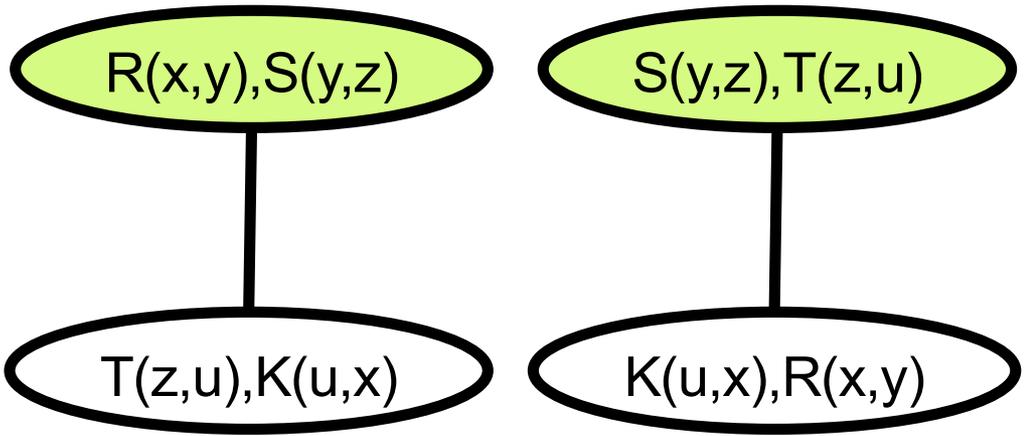


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$$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$$

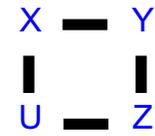
Tree decompositions



$$\min( \overbrace{\max(h(xyz), h(zux))}^{T1}, \overbrace{\max(h(yzu), h(uxy))}^{T2} ) =$$

$$= \max(\min(h(xyz), h(yzu)), \min(h(xyz), h(uxy)), \min(h(zux), h(yzu)), \min(h(zux), h(uxy)))$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \log N &\geq \underline{h(xy)} + h(yz) + h(zu) \\ &\geq h(xyz) + \underline{h(y)} + \underline{h(zu)} \\ &\geq h(xyz) + h(yzu) + h(\emptyset) \end{aligned}$$

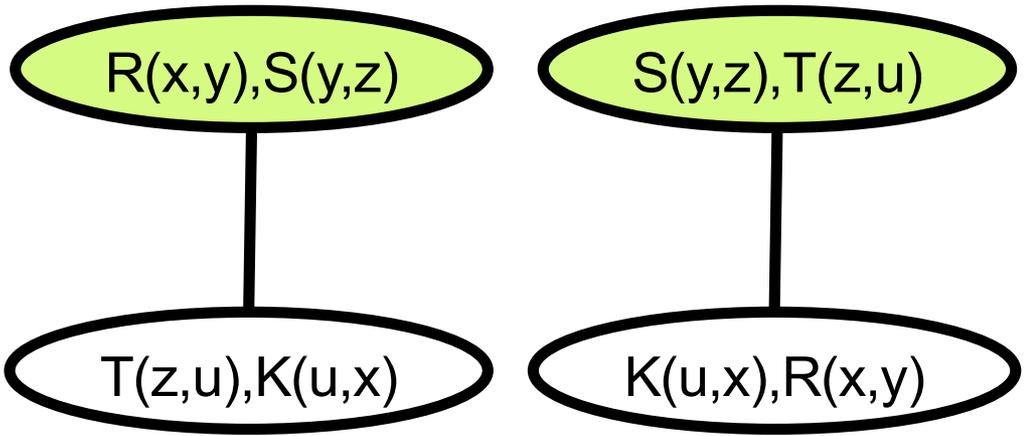


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$$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$$

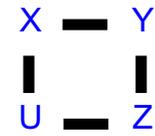
Tree decompositions



$$\min( \overbrace{\max(h(xyz), h(zux))}^{T1}, \overbrace{\max(h(yzu), h(uxy))}^{T2} ) =$$

$$= \max(\min(h(\mathbf{xyz}), h(\mathbf{yzu})), \min(h(xyz), h(uxy)), \min(h(zux), h(yzu)), \min(h(zux), h(uxy)))$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3 \log N &\geq \underline{h(xy)} + \underline{h(yz)} + h(zu) \\ &\geq h(xyz) + \underline{h(y)} + h(zu) \\ &\geq h(\mathbf{xyz}) + h(\mathbf{yzu}) + h(\emptyset) \\ &\geq 2 \min(h(\mathbf{xyz}), h(\mathbf{yzu})) \end{aligned}$$

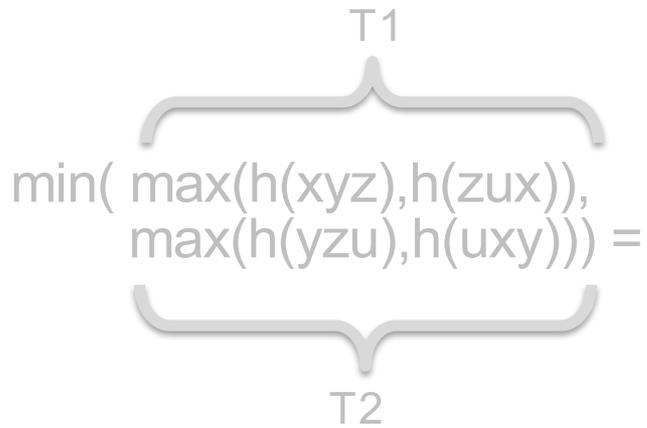


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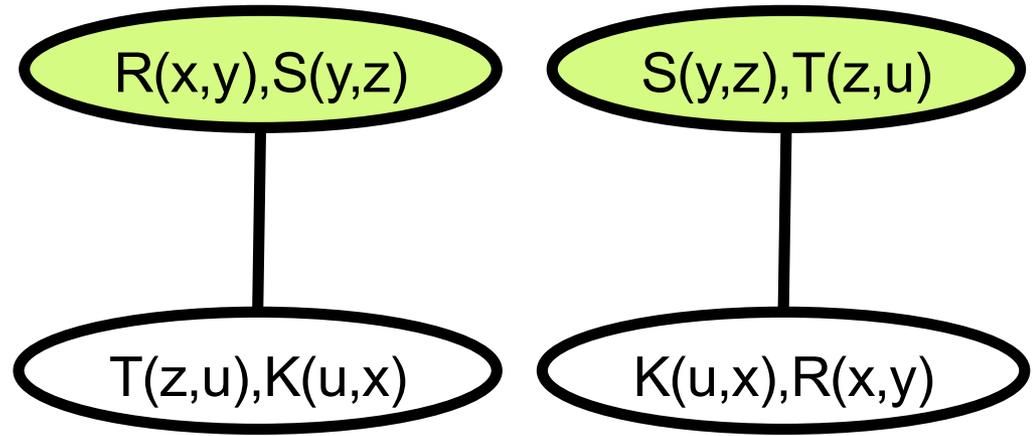
$\max_D \min_{\text{tree}} \max_{\text{node } t}$

$\text{subw}(Q) = 3/2 \log N$



$$= \max(\min(h(xyz), h(yzu)), \min(h(xyz), h(uxy)), \min(h(zux), h(yzu)), \min(h(zux), h(uxy))) \leq 3/2 \log N$$

Tree decompositions



$$\begin{aligned} 3 \log N &\geq \underline{h(xy)} + \underline{h(yz)} + h(zu) \\ &\geq h(xyz) + \underline{h(y)} + h(zu) \\ &\geq h(xyz) + h(yzu) + h(\emptyset) \\ &\geq 2 \min(h(xyz), h(yzu)) \end{aligned}$$

# Proof to Algorithm

Use the proof of:

$$h(xyz) + h(yzu) \leq h(xy) + h(yz) + h(zu)$$

to compute the disjunctive datalog rule:

$$A(x,y,z) \vee B(y,z,u) \leftarrow R(x,y) \wedge S(y,z) \wedge T(z,u)$$

(details omitted)

Runtime  $\tilde{O}(N^{3/2})$

# Outline

- Enumeration problem
- Decision problem
- Conclusions

# Conclusions

Query evaluation summary:

- Information theory  $\rightarrow$  *Proof*
- *Proof*  $\rightarrow$  *Algorithm*

Open problems:

- Better “Proof  $\rightarrow$  Algorithm”
- Fine-grained lower bounds

# Thank You!

# Questions?

Mahmoud Abo-Khamis   Hung Ngo   – RelationalAI Inc.



[PODS'2016]  
[PODS'2017]