

# Enumeration of solutions of Conjunctive Queries with self-joins

Projet de recherche encadré M1. Supervised by Luc Segoufin, Nofar Carmeli and David Carral.

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Clément Rouvroy

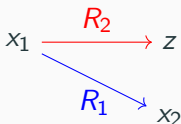
January 27, 2025

# Introduction

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## Different notations for CQs

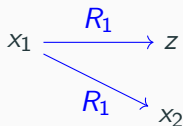
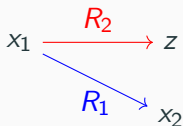
- A **Conjunctive Query** formally is  $q(\vec{x}) : \exists \vec{z}. \bigwedge R_i(\vec{y})$ , with  $\vec{y} \subseteq \vec{x} \cup \vec{z}$
- **Enumerating** solutions of  $q$  is printing one by one **every valuation of  $\vec{x}$**  that satisfies  $q$  **without duplicates**.
- We restrict to CQ with atoms of **arity at most 2**. Hence, we see **acyclic CQ** as a **DAG**.



$$\exists z. R_1(x_1, x_2), R_2(x_1, z)$$

# Self-join

A CQ  $q$  has a **self-join** if it has two atoms that use the same relational symbol.



## Queries without self-joins

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A CQ  $q$  is in CD  $\circ$  Lin if we can enumerate its solutions on a database  $D$  with constant delay after a linear time (on  $|D|$ ) preprocessing.

# Result

## Theorem (Bagan, Durand, and Grandjean 2007)

A CQ without self-join is in  $CD \circ Lin \Leftrightarrow^*$  *acyclic free-connex*.

An acyclic conjunctive query is *free-connex*  $\Leftrightarrow$  does not have a *free-path*.



\*: Assuming *sBMM* and *sHyperclique*.

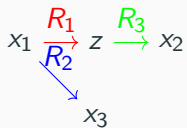
**What happens with self-join ?**

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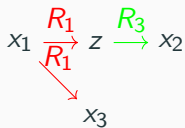


## Example (L3)

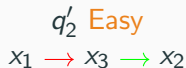
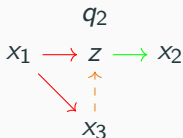
$q_1$  hard



$q_2$  ?

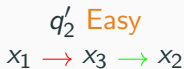
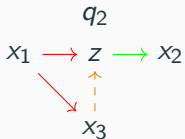


## Example (L3)



- $(a, b, c) \in q'_2(D) \Rightarrow (a, b, c) \in q_2(D)$
- Printing with **constant duplicates** is ok. (Carmeli and Segoufin 2022)
- Hence, we will **enumerate  $q'_2$**  to gain information.

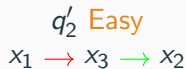
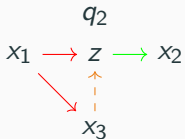
## Example - building the Hash Table



R	
$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$
G	
$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

H

## Example - building the Hash Table



**R**

$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

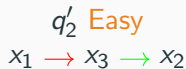
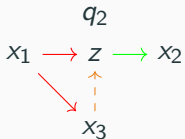
**G**

$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

$H$

|

## Example - building the Hash Table



**R**

$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

**G**

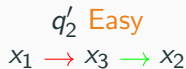
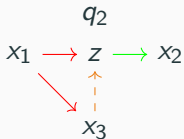
$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

$$(a_1, b_1, c_1) \in q'_2(D) \cap q_2(D)$$

$H$

|

## Example - building the Hash Table



**R**

$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

**G**

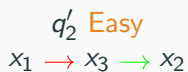
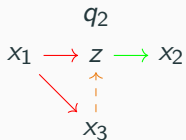
$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

$$(a_1, b_1, c_1) \in q'_2(D) \cap q_2(D)$$

**H**

$a_1$	$c_1$
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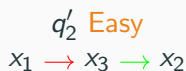
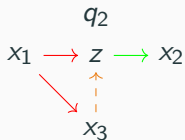
## Example - building the Hash Table



<b>R</b>	
$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$
<b>G</b>	
$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

<b>H</b>	
$a_1$	$c_1$

## Example - building the Hash Table



**R**

$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

**G**

$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

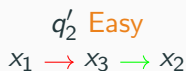
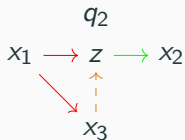
$$(a_2, b_2, c_2) \in q'_2(D) \cap q_2(D)s$$

**H**

$a_1$	$c_1$
-------	-------



## Example - building the Hash Table



**R**

$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

**G**

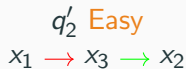
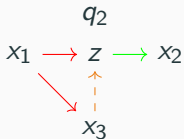
$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
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$$(a_2, b_2, c_2) \in q'_2(D) \cap q_2(D)s$$

**H**

$a_1$	$c_1$
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## Example - building the Hash Table



**R**

$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

**G**

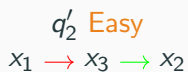
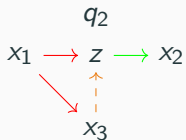
$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

$$(a_2, b_2, c_2) \in q'_2(D) \cap q_2(D)s$$

**H**

$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$c_2$

## Example - building the Hash Table



**R**

$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

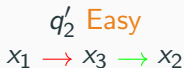
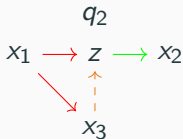
**G**

$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

**H**

$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$c_3$

## Example - building the Hash Table

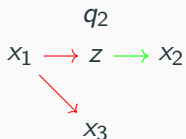


R	
$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$
G	
$b_1$	$c_1$
$b_2$	$c_2$
$b_3$	$c_3$

H	
$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$c_3$

Using  $q'_2$ , we can enumerate some solutions of  $q_2$  and build  $H$  that contains all  $(a_1, a_2)$  solutions of the free-path.

## Example - Using the Hash Table

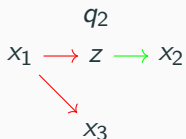


For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,

R		H	
$a_1$	$b_1$	$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$	$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$	$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table

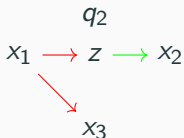


For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,

$R$		$H$	
$a_1$	$b_1$	$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$	$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$	$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table

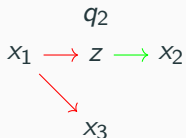


For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

$R$		$H$	
$a_1$	$b_1$	$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$	$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$	$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table



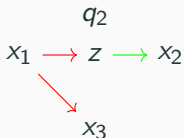
For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

$R$		$H$	
$a_1$	$b_1$	$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$	$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$	$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$



## Example - Using the Hash Table



For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

$R$

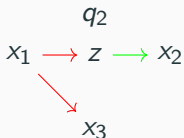
$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

$H$

$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table



For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

$R$

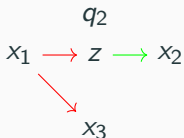
$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

$H$

$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table



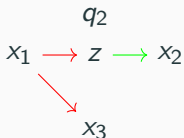
For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

$R$		$H$	
$a_1$	$b_1$	$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$	$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$	$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

- $(a_1, b_1, c_1)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table



For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

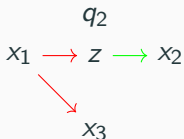
$R$	
$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

$H$	
$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

- $(a_1, b_1, c_1)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table



For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

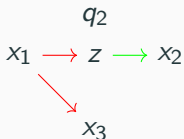
$R$	
$a_1$	$b_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$

$H$	
$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$c_3$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

- $(a_1, b_1, c_1)$
- $(a_2, b_2, c_2)$

## Example - Using the Hash Table



For all  $(a, c) \in H$ ,  
for all  $b \in R(a, x_3)$ ,  
output  $(a, b, c)$

Solutions in  $q_2(D)$

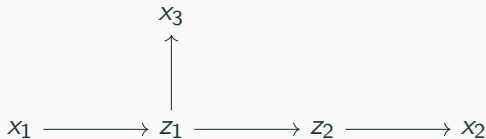
$R$		$H$	
$a_1$	$b_1$	$a_1$	$c_1$
$a_2$	$b_2$	$a_2$	$c_2$
$a_2$	$b_3$	$a_2$	$c_3$

- $(a_1, b_1, c_1)$
- $(a_2, b_2, c_2)$
- $(a_2, b_3, c_2)$
- $(a_2, b_2, c_3)$
- $(a_2, b_3, c_3)$

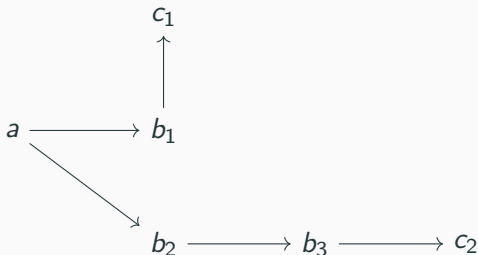
## Studying CD $\circ$ Lin for CQs with self-join: Tractability

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## Multiple Hash-Tables ?



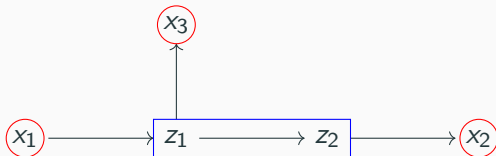
Given  $H_1$  that gives  $(x_1, x_3)$  and  $H_2$  that gives  $(x_1, x_2)$ , we know **no way to solve  $q$** : how to **know if the  $z_1$  are the same** ?





# Free-tree

We define **free-tree** to capture **intersection of free-paths**.



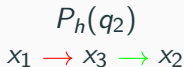
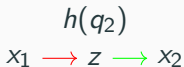
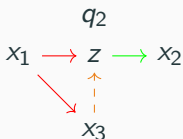
The **only hard part** of an acyclic CQs with self-join is **its free-trees**.

## **Theorem (Fully-patched enumeration, L3 Internship)**

*If you have an  $H$  for each free-trees of a CQ, you can enumerate the CQ.*

## Preimage: a way to get hash-tables

$P_h(q)$  has the body of  $h(q)$ . A variable in  $P_h(q)$  is free if it is the image of at least one free variable in  $q_2$ .



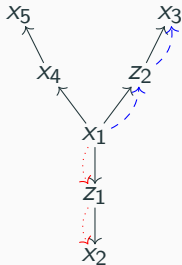
### Lemma (Prehomomorphism lemma, L3 Internship)

*Each solution of  $P_h(q)$  gives a unique solution of  $q$  to print. So we can use the solutions of a preimage in a  $CD \circ Lin$  algorithm.*

If a preimage gives us the value of a free-tree, we say that it patches the free-tree.

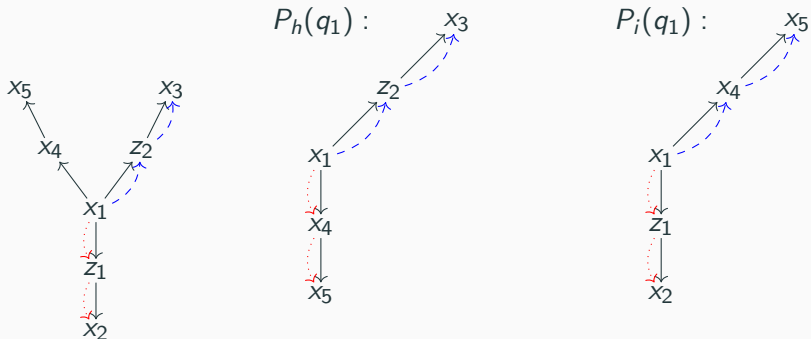
## Patching with deactivated preimage

This semester, we have found this example:



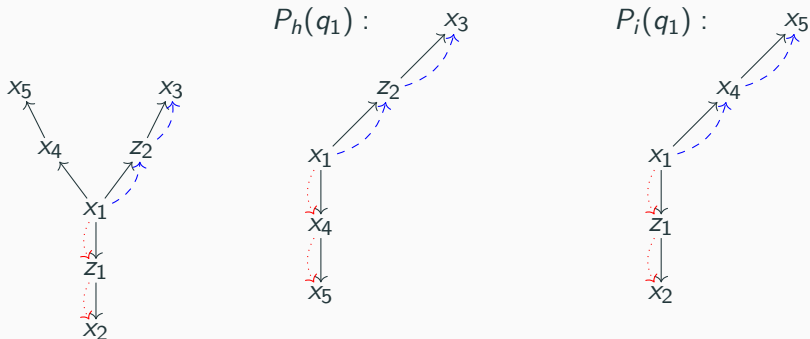
# Patching with deactivated preimage

This semester, we have found this example:



# Patching with deactivated preimage

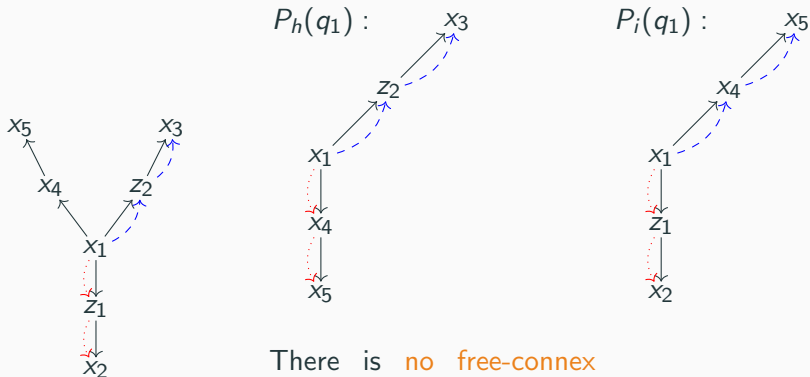
This semester, we have found this example:



There is **no free-connex preimages...**

# Patching with deactivated preimage

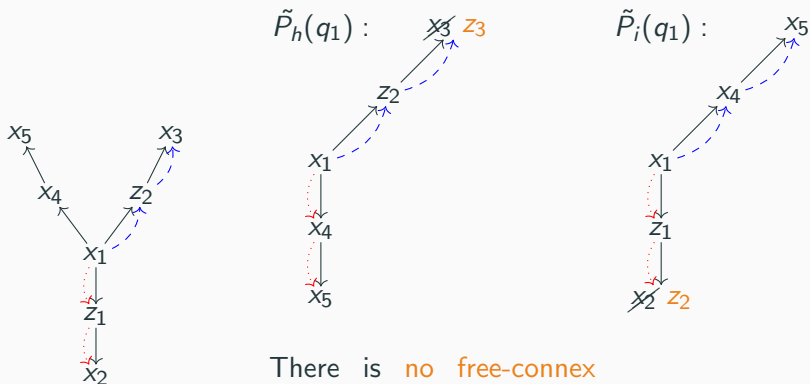
This semester, we have found this example:



There is **no free-connex**  
**preimages**, but we don't  
need the hard part in them  
!

# Patching with deactivated preimage

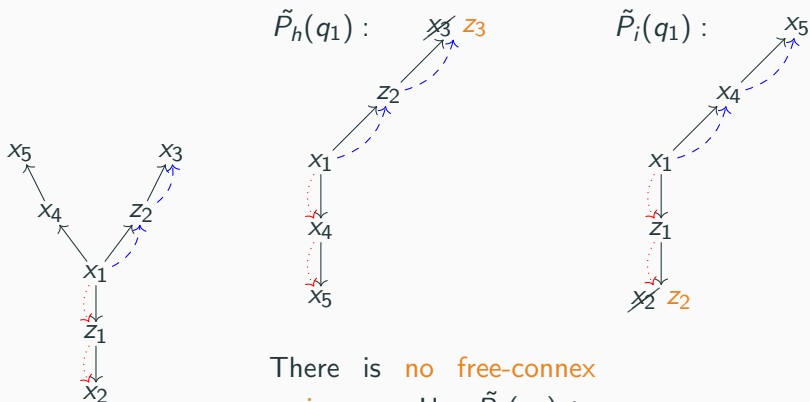
This semester, we have found this example:



There is **no free-connex preimages**, but there is **free-connex deactivated preimages**.

# Patching with deactivated preimage

This semester, we have found this example:



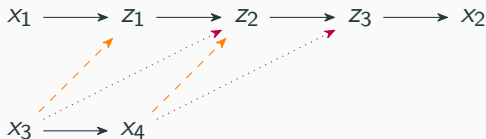
There is **no free-connex preimages**. Use  $\tilde{P}_h(q_1)$  to patch the first free-tree, and  $\tilde{P}_i(q_1)$  to patch the second free-tree.



# Tractability condition

## Theorem (Tractability condition: 1st semester)

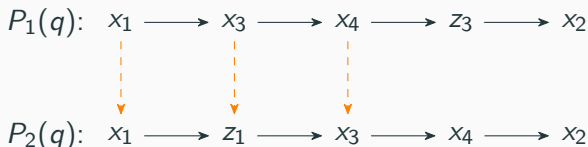
A CQ  $q$  with self-joins is in  $CD \circ Lin$  if there is a *set of easy deactivated preimages* that can be used to *patch all free-trees of  $q$* . (recursive algorithm)



# Tractability condition

## Theorem (Tractability condition: 1st semester)

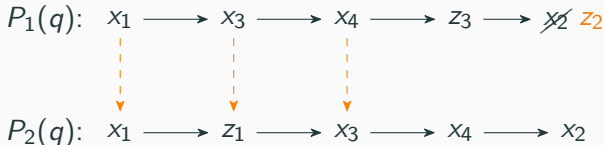
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# Tractability condition

## Theorem (Tractability condition: 1st semester)

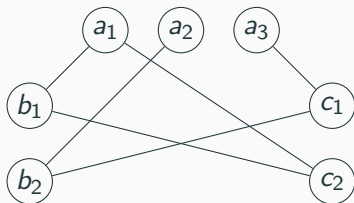
A CQ  $q$  with self-joins is in  $CD \circ Lin$  if there is a *set of easy deactivated preimages* that can be used to *patch all free-trees of  $q$* . (recursive algorithm)



Then use  $P_2(q)$  to patch  $q$ .

# Hardness

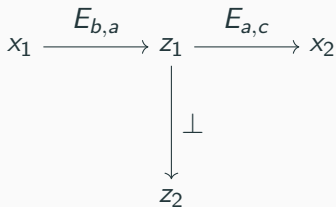
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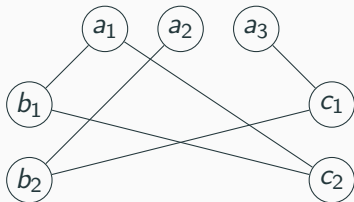
**Figure 1:** Find a triangle in this **unbalanced** tripartite graph

Let  $G$  be an unbalanced tripartite graph  $|V_a| = n$ ,  $V_b = O(n^\alpha)$ ,  $V_c = O(n^\alpha)$ , with  $\alpha \in [0; 1]$ . We can not find a triangle in it in  $O(n^{1+\alpha})$ .

## VUTD-Hardness: Example of encoding

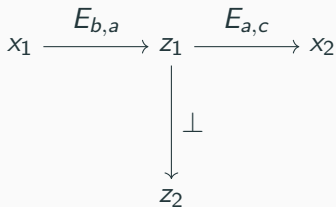


**Figure 2:**  $q(x_1, x_2)$ . Atoms labelled with their **tagged meaning**.

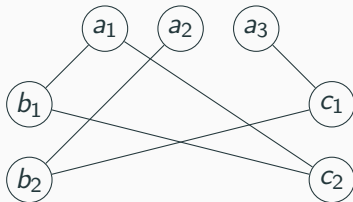


**Figure 3:** Find a triangle in this **unbalanced** tripartite graph

## VUTD-Hardness: Example of encoding



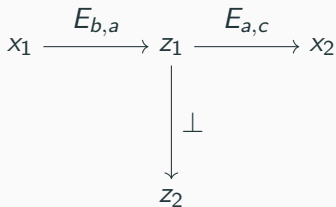
**Figure 2:**  $q(x_1, x_2)$ . Atoms labelled with their **tagged meaning**.



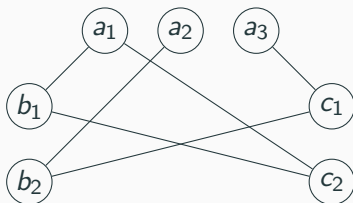
**Figure 3:** Find a triangle in this **unbalanced** tripartite graph

- $\text{Dom}(D) = \{\langle x_1; v \rangle \mid v \in V_b\} \cup \{\langle z_1; v \rangle \mid v \in V_a\} \cup \{\langle x_2; v \rangle \mid v \in V_c\} \cup \{\langle z_2; \perp \rangle\}$ , we **tag the database**.
- $\forall (v_b, v_a) \in E_{b,a}. R(\langle x_1; v_b \rangle, \langle z_1; v_a \rangle)$
- $\forall (v_a, v_c) \in E_{a,c}. R(\langle z_1; v_a \rangle, \langle x_2; v_c \rangle)$
- $\forall v_a \in V_a. R(\langle z_1; v_a \rangle, \langle z_2; \perp \rangle)$

## VUTD-Hardness: Example of encoding



**Figure 2:**  $q(x_1, x_2)$ . Atoms labelled with their **tagged meaning**.

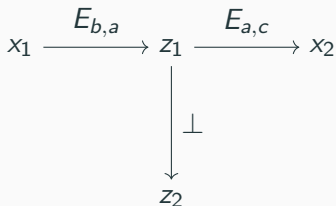


**Figure 3:** Find a triangle in this **unbalanced** tripartite graph

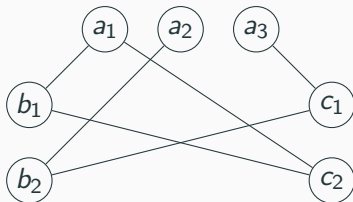
- $\langle x_1; a_2 \rangle \rightarrow \langle z_1; b_2 \rangle \rightarrow \langle x_2; c_1 \rangle$ . In  $O(1)$ , check if  $(a_2, c_1) \in E_{b,c}$ .
- $\langle x_1; a_1 \rangle \rightarrow \langle z_1; b_1 \rangle \rightarrow \langle x_2; c_2 \rangle$ . In  $O(1)$ , check if  $(a_1, c_2) \in E_{b,c}$ .



# VUTD-Hardness: Example of encoding



**Figure 2:**  $q(x_1, x_2)$ . Atoms labelled with their **tagged meaning**.

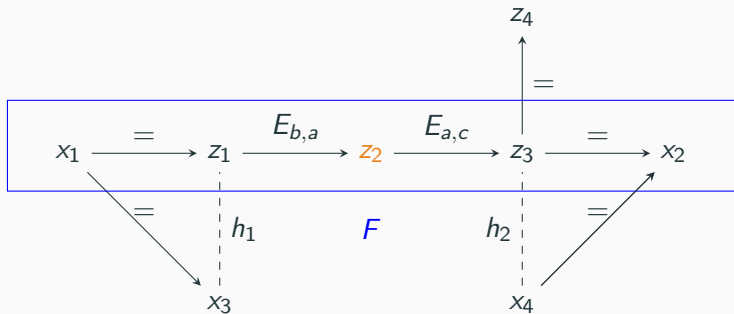


**Figure 3:** Find a triangle in this **unbalanced** tripartite graph

If  $q \in \text{CD} \circ \text{Lin}$ , we can **know in**  $O(n^{2\alpha})$  if there is a triangle or not.

## Theorem (VUTD-Hardness, 1st Semester)

$(\exists F. \exists z \in F. \forall h \in \text{Endo}(q). \forall x \in \text{Free}(q). h(x) \neq z) \Rightarrow q \notin \text{CD} \circ \text{Lin}$

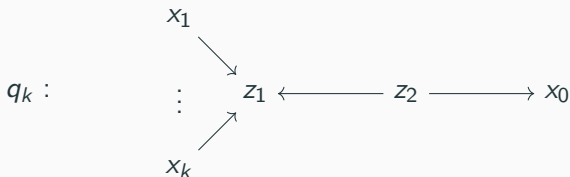


**Figure 4:** An hard query because of  $F$  and  $z_2$ . Note that  $z_4$  is not part of the free-path hence you can not encode VUTD with it.

## **Raised open-questions**

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## $k$ -Clique based hardness



One can find a **clique of size  $k + 1$**  in  $O(n^k)$  by enumerating  $q_{k-1}$ .

### **Theorem (Nešetřil and Poljak 1985)**

Let  $k = 3l + i$  ( $(l, i) \in \mathbb{N} \times \{0, 1, 2\}$ ), and  $\omega$  is the optimal bound for matrix multiplication ( $2 \leq \omega < 2.38$ ). Let  $G$  be a graph with  $n$  nodes, we can check if  $G$  has a  $k$ -clique in  $O(n^{\omega l + i})$ .

From this,  $q_1, \dots, q_3$  are **not in  $\text{CD} \circ \text{Lin}$** . What about  $k \geq 4$ ?

## An easy to solve, yet unknown to enumerate query

$$x_1 \longrightarrow z_1 \longrightarrow z_2 \longrightarrow x_2$$
$$x_3$$

For any  $D$ , using matrix multiplication in  $O(|\text{Dom}(D)|^\omega)$ , one can solve  $q(D)$  in  $O(|\text{Dom}(D)|^2 + |\text{Dom}(D)|^\omega + |\text{Dom}(D)|^3)$   
 $\Rightarrow O(|\text{Dom}(D)|)^3$ .

- if it is easy, we need to extend our sufficient condition.
- if it is hard, how to show that it is hard ?

In this work we have:

- Introduced preimages, free-trees.
- Found a sufficient condition.
- Found two necessary conditions.
- Found open-cases that could lead to new enumeration techniques.
- (not in the slide) Built a link between  $CD \circ Lin$  and  $DomLin \circ Lin$ .

-  Bagan, Guillaume, Arnaud Durand, and Etienne Grandjean (2007). **“On Acyclic Conjunctive Queries and Constant Delay Enumeration”**. In: *Computer Science Logic*. Ed. by Jacques Duparc and Thomas A. Henzinger. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, pp. 208–222. ISBN: 978-3-540-74915-8.
-  Carmeli, Nofar and Luc Segoufin (2022). **Conjunctive Queries With Self-Joins, Towards a Fine-Grained Complexity Analysis**. arXiv: 2206.04988 [cs.DB]. URL: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.04988>.
-  Nešetřil, Jaroslav and Svatopluk Poljak (1985). **“On the complexity of the subgraph problem”**. eng. In: *Commentationes Mathematicae Universitatis Carolinae* 26.2, pp. 415–419. URL: <http://eudml.org/doc/17394>.