## Lower Bounds for Sum-Product Queries

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Preliminary Exam

# Sum-Product Queries are ubiquitous in theory and practice:

1. Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP)

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- 2. Query Evaluation in Relational Databases

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- Fixing the induced hypergraph → Class of queries
  Bounded arity [Gro07, Mar10] & Unbounded arity [Mar13]

# What is the exact lower bound for a given Sum-Product Query?

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We partially answer the above question:

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1. Conditional lower bound via fine-grained complexity

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- 1. Conditional lower bound via fine-grained complexity
- 2. Unconditional lower bound via monotone circuits

## Outline

Preliminaries

Conditional Lower Bound

Unconditional Lower Bound

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Conjunctive Queries Sum-Product Computation Widths for CQs

#### Conditional Lower Bound

Fine-Grained Complexity Clique Embedding Power Main Results

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Circuits over Semirings Main Results Parse Tree

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A Conjunctive Query Q is an expression associated to a hypergraph  $\mathcal{H} = ([n], \mathcal{E})$  where  $[n] = \{1, \ldots, n\}$  and some  $U \subseteq [n]$ :

$$Q(\mathbf{x}_U) \leftarrow \bigwedge_{e \in \mathcal{E}} R_e(\mathbf{x}_e)$$

where each  $R_e$  is a relation of arity |e|, the variables  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$  take values in some discrete domain, and  $\mathbf{x}_e := (x_i)_{i \in e}$ .

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#### Remark

We are implicitly considering CQ without self-join. We will come back to this point for further work.

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#### Remark

Fixing relations (NP) v.s. fixing hypergraphs (P).

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A (commutative) *semiring* is an algebraic structure  $\mathbb{S} = (\mathbf{D}, \oplus, \otimes, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ , where  $\oplus$  and  $\otimes$  are the *addition* and *multiplication* in  $\mathbb{S}$  such that:

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$$q():-R_1(\vec{x_1}), R_2(\vec{x_2}), \ldots, R_n(\vec{x_n})$$

$$q(i) := -R_1(\vec{x}_1), R_2(\vec{x}_2), \dots, R_n(\vec{x}_n)$$
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$$\label{eq:setsemantics} \begin{split} \mathbb{B} &\leftrightarrow \mathsf{set semantics} \\ \mathbb{C} &\leftrightarrow \mathsf{bag semantics} \end{split}$$

 $\mathbb{T} \leftrightarrow \text{optimization}$ 

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The provenance polynomial for a full CQ Q is parameterized by an underlying semiring S, a hypergraph H, and an instance I:

$$p_I^Q := \bigoplus_{t \in Q(I)} \bigotimes_{e \in \mathcal{E}} x_{t[e]}^e$$

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When we work over the counting semiring, the provenance polynomial becomes a polynomial:

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Provenance Polynomial, II

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#### Preliminaries

Conjunctive Queries Sum-Product Computation Widths for CQs

### Conditional Lower Bound

Fine-Grained Complexity Clique Embedding Power Main Results

#### Unconditional Lower Bound

Circuits over Semirings Main Results Parse Tree

#### Future Work

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A tree decomposition of  $\mathcal{H} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  is a pair  $(\mathcal{T}, \chi)$ , where  $\mathcal{T}$  is a tree and  $\chi : \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{T}) \to 2^{\mathcal{V}}$ , such that (1)  $\forall e \in \mathcal{E}$  is a subset for some  $\chi(t), t \in \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{T})$  and (2)  $\forall v \in \mathcal{V}$  the set  $\{t \mid v \in \chi(t)\}$  is a non-empty connected sub-tree of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

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#### Remark

The famous Worst-Case Optimal Join achieves  $O(m^{\text{fhw}(\mathcal{H})})$  running time for computing  $\mathcal{H}$  [NPRR18].

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A function  $b: 2^{\mathcal{V}(\mathcal{H})} \to \mathbb{R}^+$  is submodular if  $b(X) + b(Y) \ge b(X \cap Y) + b(X \cup Y) \ \forall X, Y \subseteq V(H).$ 

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Theorem (Khamis, Ngo & Suciu, 16') Any  $CSP(\mathcal{H})$  can be computed in time  $\tilde{O}(m^{subw(\mathcal{H})})$ .

#### Remark

This will be the benchmark for our conditional lower bound.

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A function  $h: 2^{[n]} \to \mathbb{R}_+$  is called a *set function* on [n].

A set function is *entropic* if there exist random variables  $A_1, \ldots, A_n$  such that  $h(S) = H((A_i)_{i \in S})$  for any  $S \subseteq [n]$ , where H is the joint entropy of a set of variables.

Let  $\Gamma_n^*$  be the set of all entropic functions of order *n*, and  $\overline{\Gamma}_n^*$  the topological closure of  $\Gamma_n^*$ .

The *entropic width* of  $\mathcal{H}$  is  $entw(\mathcal{H}) := \overline{\Gamma}_n^*$ -width( $\mathcal{H}$ ).

#### Remark

It remains open whether computing  $entw(\mathcal{H})$  is even decidable.

Let DC be a set of triples  $(X, Y, N_{Y|X})$  for some  $X \subset Y \subseteq [n]$  and  $N_{Y|X} \in \mathbb{N}$  that encodes a set of *degree constraints*.

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An instance I satisfies the constraints if  $|\pi_Y(R_e \ltimes t_X)| \le N_{Y|X}$  for every relation  $R_e$  in I with  $X \subseteq Y \subseteq e$  and every tuple  $t_X$ .

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A constraint of the form (X, Y, 1) is a Functional Dependency.
## Degree Aware Entropic Width, II

The degree constraints on an instance can be translated as constraints on entropic functions as follows:

$$\mathsf{HDC} := \left\{ h: 2^{[n]} \to \mathbb{R}_+ \mid \bigwedge_{(X,Y,N_{Y|X}) \in \mathsf{DC}} h(Y|X) \le \log N_{Y|X} \right\}$$

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The degree-aware entropic width of  $\mathcal{H}$  is

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#### Remark

This will be the benchmark for our unconditional lower bound.

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### Future Work

# **Fine-Grained Conjectures**

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# **Fine-Grained Conjectures**

Hypothesis (Combinatorial *k*-Clique; Lincoln, Vassilevska-Williams & Williams, 17')

Any combinatorial algorithm to detect a k-clique in a graph with n nodes requires  $n^{k-o(1)}$  time on a Word RAM model.

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Hypothesis (Min Weight *k*-Clique; Lincoln, Vassilevska-Williams & Williams, 17')

Any randomized algorithm to find a k-clique of minimum total edge weight requires  $n^{k-o(1)}$  time on a Word RAM model.

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## Definition (Touch)

We say  $X, Y \subseteq \mathcal{V}$  touch in  $\mathcal{H}$  if either  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  or  $\exists e \in \mathcal{E}$  such that  $e \cap X \neq \emptyset$  and  $e \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ .

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## Definition (K-Clique Embedding)

A *k*-clique embedding from  $C_k$  to  $\mathcal{H}$  is a mapping  $\psi$  from  $v \in [k]$  to a non-empty subset  $\psi(v) \subseteq \mathcal{V}$  such that (1)  $\forall v, \psi(v)$  induces a connected subhypergraph and (2)  $\forall \{v, u\}, \psi(v), \psi(u)$  touch in  $\mathcal{H}$ .

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## Definition (Weak Edge Depth)

 $\forall e \text{ the weak edge depth of } e \text{ is } d_{\psi}(e) := |\{v \in [k] \mid \psi(v) \cap e \neq \emptyset\}|.$ The weak edge depth of  $\psi \text{ wed}(\psi) := \max_{e} d_{\psi}(e).$ 

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### Theorem (F., Koutris & Zhao, 23')

For any  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $CSP(\mathcal{H})$  cannot be computed via a combinatorial algorithm in time  $O(|I|^{emb(\mathcal{H})-\epsilon})$  unless the Combinatorial k-Clique Conjecture is false.

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### Remark

In a very recent work, Bringmann and Gorbachev showed that  $emb(\mathcal{H})$  is tight for all  $CSP(\mathcal{H})$  that admits sub-quadratic algorithm [BG24].

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In fact, it captures all  $\mathcal{H}$  that admits sub-quadratic algorithm: If CSP( $\mathcal{H}$ ) admits a sub-quadratic algorithm, then emb( $\mathcal{H}$ ) < 2, and in that case there exists an  $O(|I|^{emb(\mathcal{H})})$  algorithm.

Semiring Oblivious Reduction

 The proof can be adapted to tropical semiring (min k-clique) by assigning each pair  $\{u, v\}$  to a unique hyperedge according to  $\psi$ .

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### Theorem (F., Koutris & Zhao, 23')

For any  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $CSP(\mathcal{H})$  over tropical semiring cannot be computed via any randomized algorithm in time  $O(|I|^{emb(\mathcal{H})-\epsilon})$  unless the Min Weight k-Clique Conjecture is false.

# Examples

|                        | emb                        | subw                      |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Acyclic                | 1                          | 1                         |
| Chordal                | =                          | =                         |
| $\ell$ -cycle          | $2-1/\lceil \ell/2 \rceil$ | $2-1/\lceil \ell/2  ceil$ |
| $K_{2,\ell}$           | $2-1/\ell$                 | $2-1/\ell$                |
| K <sub>3,3</sub>       | 2                          | 2                         |
| $A_\ell$               | $(\ell-1)/2$               | $(\ell-1)/2$              |
| $\mathcal{H}_{\ell,k}$ | $\ell/k$                   | $\ell/k$                  |
| $Q_b$                  | 17/9                       | 2                         |
| $Q_{hb}$               | 7/4                        | 2                         |

Table: Clique embedding power and submodular width for some classes of queries

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| Q <sub>hb</sub>        | 7/4                        | 2                         |

Table: Clique embedding power and submodular width for some classes of queries

#### Remark

Bringmann and Gorbachev showed  $\Omega(m^2)$  lower bound for both  $Q_b$  and  $Q_{hb}$  through MinConv conjecture [BG24].

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# Circuits over Semirings

Recall our provenance polynomial  $p_I^Q = \bigoplus_{t \in Q(I)} \bigotimes_{e \in \mathcal{E}} x_{t[e]}^e$ .

## Circuits over Semirings

Recall our provenance polynomial  $p_l^Q = \bigoplus_{t \in Q(I)} \bigotimes_{e \in \mathcal{E}} x_{t[e]}^e$ .

A circuit *F* over a semiring  $\mathbb{S}$  is a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG) with input nodes variables in a set  $S_x$  containing  $x_{t[e]}^e$ 's and the constants **0**, **1**. Every other node is labelled by  $\oplus$  or  $\otimes$  and has fan-in 2; these nodes are called  $\oplus$ -gates and  $\otimes$ -gates, respectively.

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A circuit F is said to *compute* a polynomial p if F and p coincide as functions (interpreted over the semiring  $\mathbb{S}$ ), and is said to *produce* a polynomial p if F and p have exactly the same terms, i.e. monomials with their coefficients, syntactically.

$$p_I^Q = (x_{a_1,a_2} \otimes x_{a_2,a_3} \otimes x_{a_3,a_4} \otimes x_{a_4,a_1}) \oplus \\ (x_{a_1,a_2} \otimes x_{a_2,a_3} \otimes x_{a_3,b_4} \otimes x_{b_4,a_1}) \oplus \\ (x_{c_1,c_2} \otimes x_{c_2,d_3} \otimes x_{d_3,c_4} \otimes x_{c_4,c_1})$$
### Example

$$p_I^Q = (x_{a_1,a_2} \otimes x_{a_2,a_3} \otimes x_{a_3,a_4} \otimes x_{a_4,a_1}) \oplus \\ (x_{a_1.a_2} \otimes x_{a_2,a_3} \otimes x_{a_3,b_4} \otimes x_{b_4,a_1}) \oplus \\ (x_{c_1,c_2} \otimes x_{c_2,d_3} \otimes x_{d_3,c_4} \otimes x_{c_4,c_1})$$

 $Q(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \leftarrow R(x_1, x_2), S(x_2, x_3), T(x_3, x_4), U(x_4, x_1)$ 



### Motivation

1. Circuits can be seen as a computational model that corresponds to algorithms that *solely* exploit the algebraic semiring structure [Juk15].

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- 1. Circuits can be seen as a computational model that corresponds to algorithms that *solely* exploit the algebraic semiring structure [Juk15].
- Circuits that compute the provenance polynomial of a CQ can be viewed as a concise representation of the corresponding provenance polynomial interpreted over the given semiring [OZ15, GKT07].

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# Main Results

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### Main Results

Theorem (F., Koutris & Zhao, 24')

For any  $\epsilon > 0$  and any hypergraph  $\mathcal{H}$ , there exists an instance I and k > 0 that satisfies the constraints HDC  $\times k$  such that any circuit F that computes the polynomial  $p_I^{\mathcal{H}}$  over  $\{\mathbb{B}_{lin}, \mathbb{T}, \mathbb{C}\}$  has size

 $\log |F| \ge (1 - \epsilon) \cdot da$ -entw( $\mathcal{H}, HDC \times k$ ).

### Main Results

Theorem (F., Koutris & Zhao, 24')

For any  $\epsilon > 0$  and any hypergraph  $\mathcal{H}$ , there exists an instance I and k > 0 that satisfies the constraints HDC  $\times k$  such that any circuit F that computes the polynomial  $p_I^{\mathcal{H}}$  over  $\{\mathbb{B}_{lin}, \mathbb{T}, \mathbb{C}\}$  has size

$$\log |F| \ge (1 - \epsilon) \cdot da\text{-entw}(\mathcal{H}, \text{HDC} \times k).$$

### Theorem (F., Koutris & Zhao, 24')

Let I be any instance that satisfies the degree constraint DC. There exists a multilinear and homogeneous circuit F of size  $O(2^{da-entw(\mathcal{H},HDC)})$  that produces the polynomial  $p_I^{\mathcal{H}}$  over any idempotent semiring.

#### Preliminaries

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#### Unconditional Lower Bound

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Future Work

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#### Remark

This notion has been extensively used to prove circuit lower bound [JS82, AI03].

### TD from a Parse Tree

For a monomial q in  $p_I^{\mathcal{H}}$ , we define a structure  $\mathcal{T}_q = (\mathcal{T}, \chi)$  inductively in a bottom-up fashion from its parse tree:

- 1. For an input gate g of the variable  $x_{t[e]}^e$ , add a node  $v_g$  in  $\mathcal{T}$  with  $\chi(v_g) = e$ . The input gate g is said to be associated to the node  $v_g$ .
- 2. For a  $\oplus$ -gate g, associate g to the node that is associated to g's single child in the parse tree.
- 3. For a  $\otimes$ -gate g, let  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  be its children. Let  $q_1, q_2$  be the monomials computed at  $g_1, g_2$  respectively; and  $B_g$  be the set of vertices  $v \in \mathcal{V}(\mathcal{H})$  such that all hyperedges incident to v appear either exclusively in  $q_1$  or exclusively in  $q_2$ . We add a node  $v_g$  with  $\chi(v_g) = (\chi(v_{g_1}) \cup \chi(v_{g_2})) \setminus B_g$  as the parent of  $v_{g_1}$  and  $v_{g_2}$  in  $\mathcal{T}$ . We associate g with the new node  $v_g$ .

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#### Lemma

For any monomial q in  $p_l^{\mathcal{H}}$ , the structure  $\mathcal{T}_q = (\mathcal{T}, \chi)$  is a tree decomposition of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

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Let  $q_1, q_2$  be two monomials in  $p_I^{\mathcal{H}}$  and  $\mathcal{T}_{q_1} = (\mathcal{T}_1, \chi_1)$ ,  $\mathcal{T}_{q_2} = (\mathcal{T}_2, \chi_2)$  be their corresponding tree decompositions. If the parse trees of  $q_1, q_2$  share a common  $\otimes$ -gate g, then  $\chi_1(v_g) = \chi_2(v_g)$ .

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#### Remark

It is thus possible to assign a type tp(g) to each  $\otimes$ -gate g as  $\chi(v_g)$  for some decomposition  $\mathcal{T}_q = (\mathcal{T}, \chi)$  of a monomial q. In other words, the circuit F yields a globally consistent type assignment to each  $\otimes$ -gate in F.

### Example



### Example



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? Does Bringmann and Gorbachev's characterization of clique embedding power for sub-quadratic queries extend [BG24]?

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- ✓ For planar graphs, a variant of clique embedding power is only constant factor away from tree width.
- There exists classes of graphs (e.g. expanders) where the gaps between that variant of clique embedding power and the tree widths are at least quadratic [GM09].
- ? What is the gap between the clique embedding power and submodular width [Mar13]?

## Circuit for CQ with self-joins

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# Circuit for CQ with self-joins

- ? Can we provide tight circuit lower bounds for CQ with self-joins?
- ✓ Interesting connection to the notion of "minimal" queries [CS23] and the characterization of query containment parametrized by the underlying semiring [KRS12].

# Circuit for Datalog

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- ✓ We have obtained some results on dichotomies of regular language reachability ( $\Omega(n^3)$  v.s. O(n) circuit size).
- ? We are investigating the generalization of Bellman-Ford to arbitrary linear Datalog programs to construct logarithmic-depth circuit.

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#### Future Work

# Thank You!

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## **References VI**



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Example

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Theorem (Grohe, 03')

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### Theorem (Max, 13')

Let C be a recursively enumerable class of hypergraphs. Assuming the Exponential Time Hypothesis, CSP(C) parametrized by H is fixed-parameter tractable if and only if C has bounded submodular width.

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Informally, ETH says that 3-SAT cannot be solved in  $2^{o(n)}$  time and SETH says that k-SAT needs  $2^n$  for large k (when  $k \to \infty$ ).

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