

# Sampling and Streaming Algorithms for Counting Small Patterns in BIG Graphs

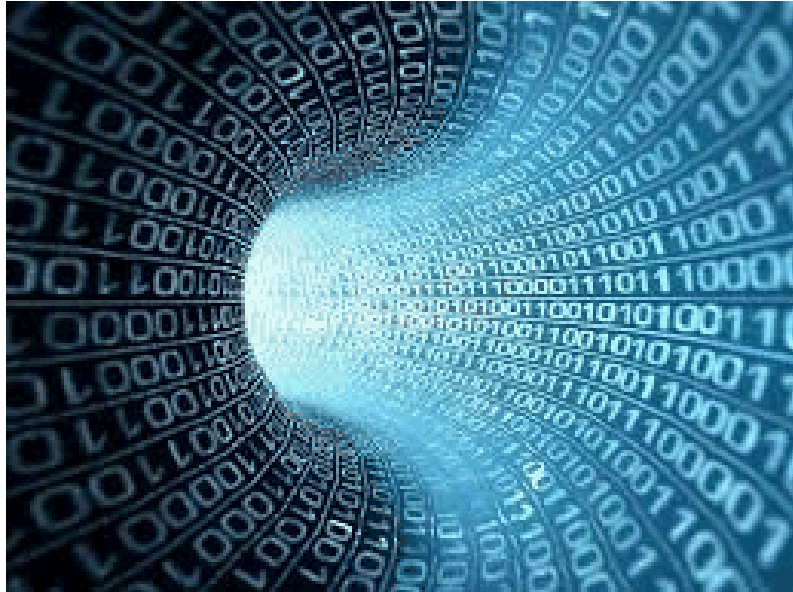
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Joint work with C. Seshadhri, T. Kolda, and M. Jha

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# Sampling may be the key to process large data sets

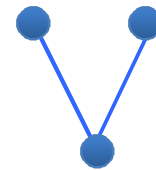


Source: <http://www.greenbookblog.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/big-data.jpg>

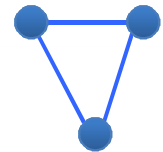
- Sizes of the modern data sets redefine the landscape for algorithmic research.
  - Single pass through the data may be a luxury.
- In many applications the speed of data is the challenge.
- Sampling/streaming algorithms can identify general trends in the data.
  - but not find needle in a haystack.
- The goal of sampling is to provide
  - good estimations with error/confidence bounds,
  - by looking at a small portion of the data.
- Sampling is not an alternative to parallelism.
  - They get along well together.

# Triangles are critical for graph analysis

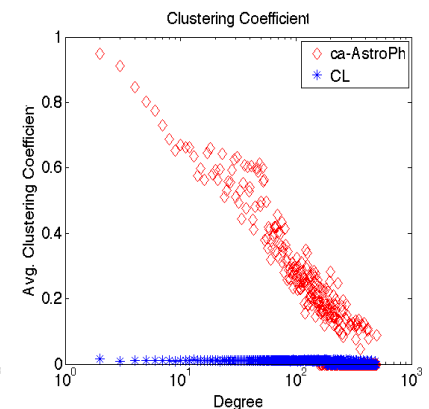
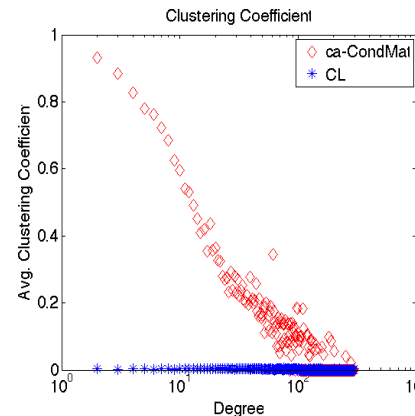
- Interpreted in many ways in social sciences.
  - Identifier for bridges between communities.
  - Likelihood to go against norms
- Applied to spam detection
- Used to compare graphs
- Proposed as a guide for community structure.
- Stated as a core feature for graph models [Vivar&Banks11]
  - Cornerstone for Block Two-level Erdos-Renyi (BTER) model
- Rich set of algorithmic results
  - Algorithms, runtime analysis, streaming algorithms, MapReduce, ...
  - Enables decomposition into dense blocks
  - Well-defined property of the graph, not an artifact of the algorithm



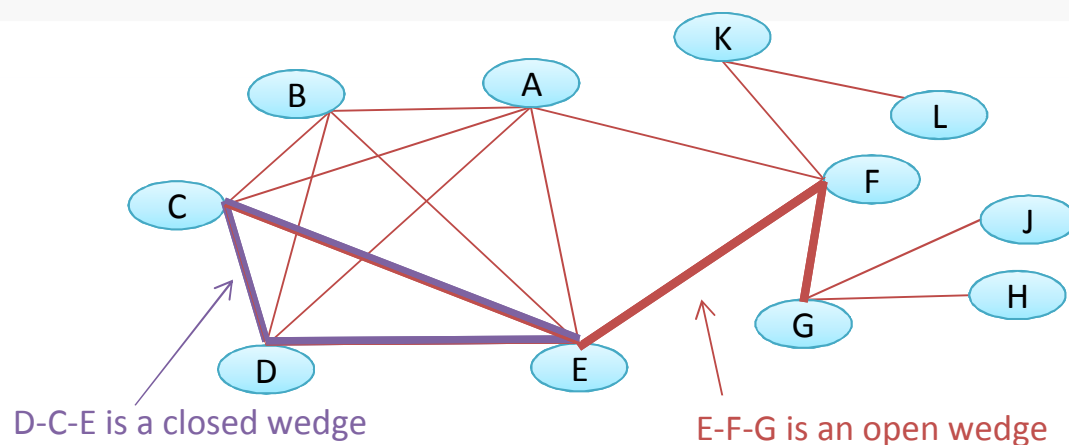
*Open wedge*



*Closed wedge,  
(i.e., triangle)*



# Algorithms for important metrics: transitivity for large graphs



Enumeration: Find every wedge. Check if each is closed.

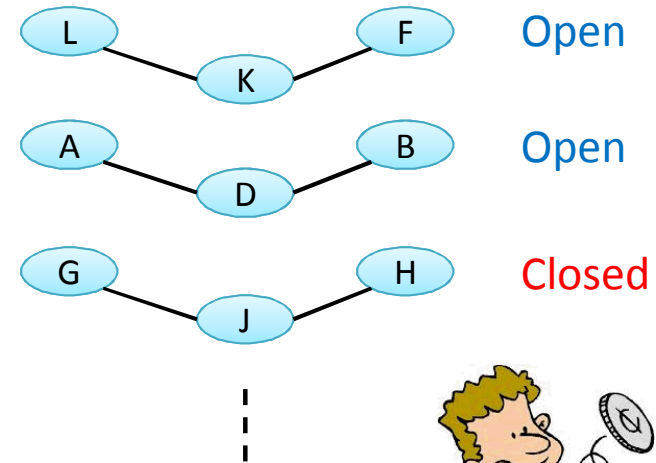
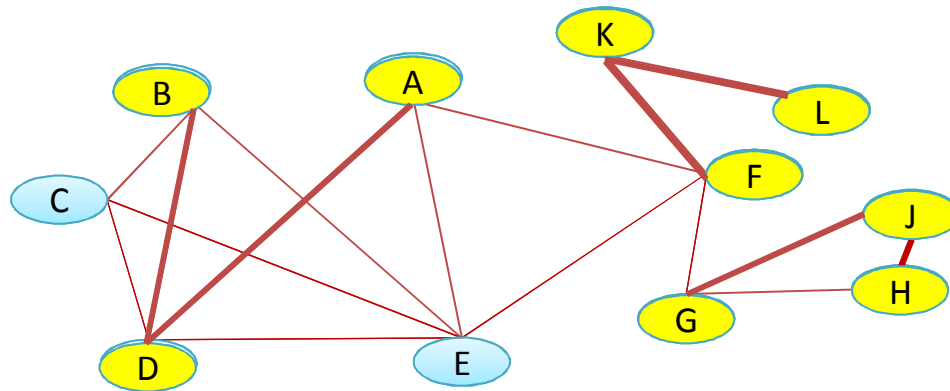
$$\begin{aligned}\text{Transitivity} &= C = \# \text{ closed wedges} / \# \text{ wedges} \\ &= 3 * \# \text{ triangles} / \# \text{ wedges}\end{aligned}$$

Sampling: Sample a few wedges (uniformly). Check if each is closed.

$$C = \# \text{ closed sampled wedges} / \# \text{ sampled wedges}$$

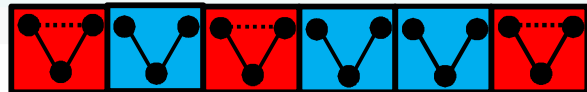
Seshadhri, P., Kolda, *SIAM Intl. Conf. Data Mining 2013*, Best Research Paper award

# Wedge sampling to compute transitivity

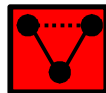


- $C = 3T/W$  = fraction of closed wedges
- Consider list of all wedges, indexed with open/closed
- Pick a uniform random wedge.  $X = 1$  if wedge is closed. Else  $X = 0$
- $X$  is Bernoulli random variable  
and  $E[X] = \text{fraction of closed wedges} = C = 3T/W$

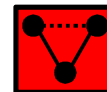
# Repeat, repeat, repeat



$$X_1 = 0$$



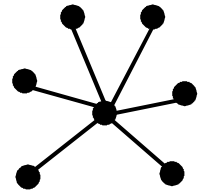
$$X_1 = 1$$



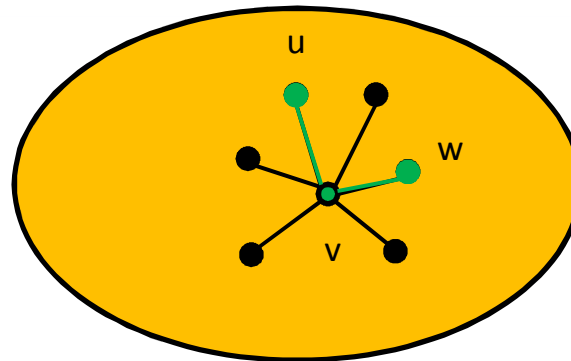
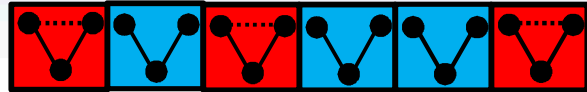
$$X_2 = 1$$

- Perform  $k$  independent experiments. Let  $Y = (1/k) \sum_i X_i$ 
  - $Y$  is fraction of closed wedges in sample
  - $E[Y] = C$ .  $Y$  converges to  $C$  as  $k$  grows
- [Chernoff-Hoeffding]:  $\Pr[|Y - \tau| > \varepsilon] < e^{-k\varepsilon^2}$ 
  - $k = \varepsilon^{-2} \log(1/\delta)$ . With prob  $> 1 - \delta$ , estimate is accurate within  $\varepsilon$
  - With 38K samples, error  $< 0.01$  with prob  $> 0.999$
  - Number of samples independent of graph size

# We do not need to generate a wedge list

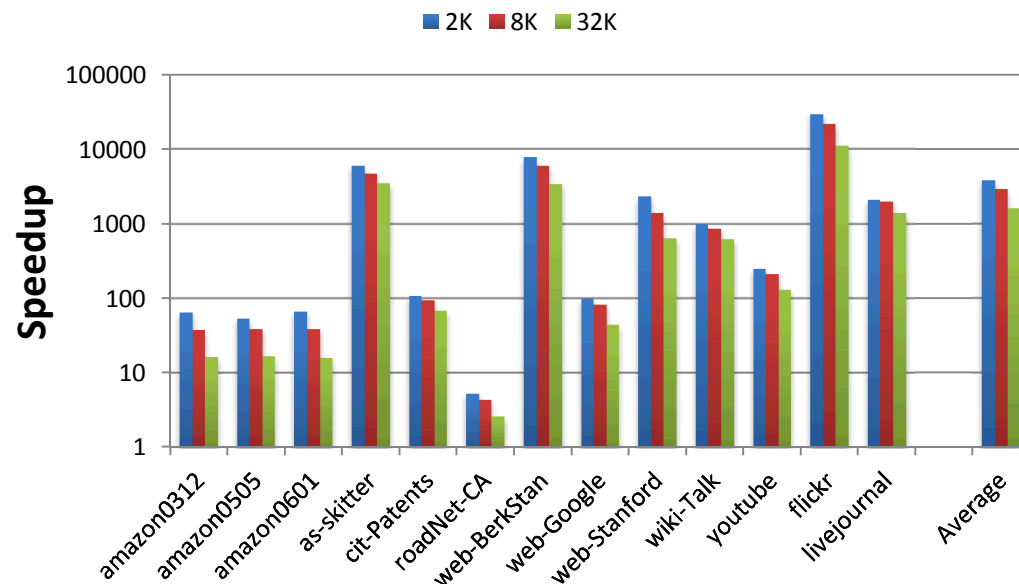
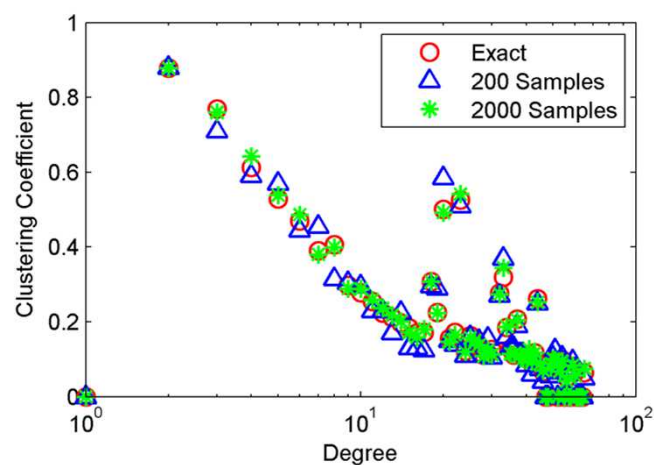
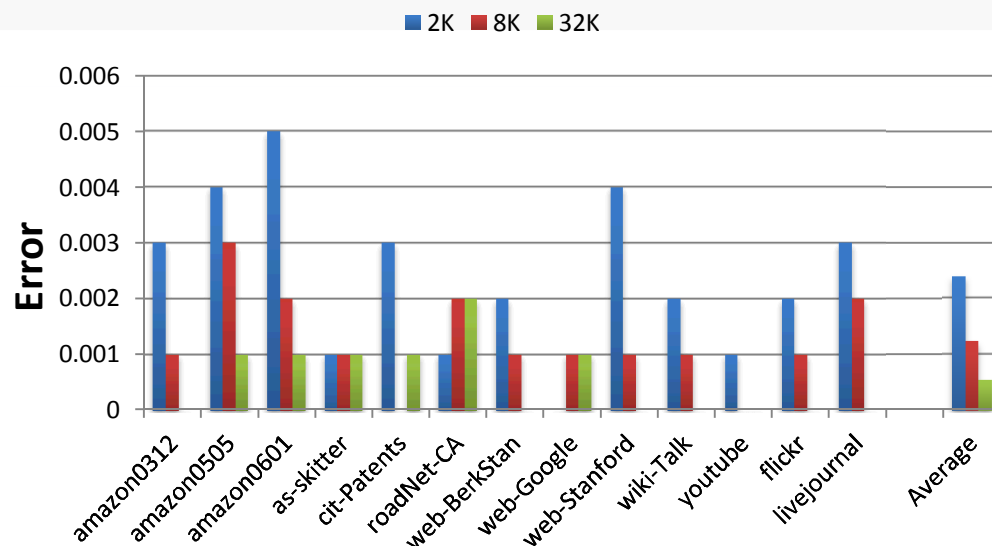


$$W_v = \binom{d_v}{2}$$



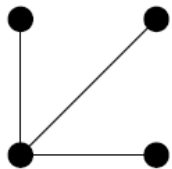
- But list of wedges not possible to generate. So how to get random wedge?
- Pick vertex  $v$  with probability  $W_v/W$
- Pick two uniform random neighbors of  $v$  to get wedge  $(u,v,w)$ 
  - This is a uniform random wedge
- So simply repeat this many times to get a set of wedges. Output fraction of closed wedges as estimate for  $C$

# Wedge sampling is effective in practice

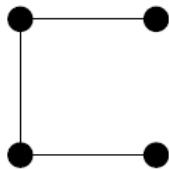




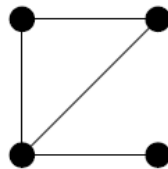
# Beyond 3 vertices: how about 4?



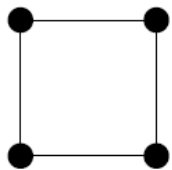
(i) 3-star



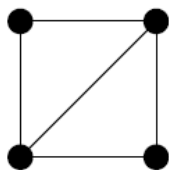
(ii) 3-path



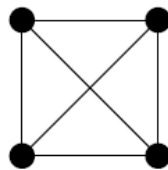
(iii) tailed-triangle



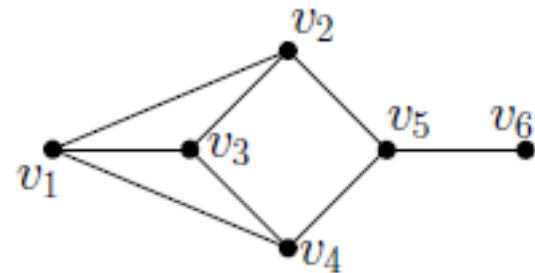
(iv) 4-cycle



(v) chordal-4-cycle



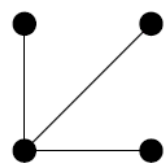
(vi) 4-clique



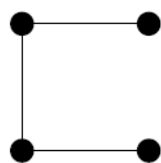
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \\ C_3 \\ C_4 \\ C_5 \\ C_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} N_1 \\ N_2 \\ N_3 \\ N_4 \\ N_5 \\ N_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Much richer set of (connected) patterns
- Induced,  $C_i$ , vs. Non-induced,  $N_i$ 
  - (Vanilla) subgraph: take subset of edges
  - Induced subgraph: take subset of vertices, take all edges in them
  - Getting vanilla counts from induced subgraph counts is not hard

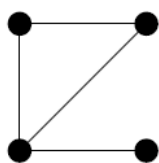
# Exact counting is not scalable



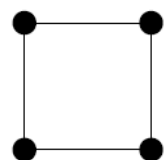
(i) 3-star



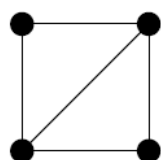
(ii) 3-path



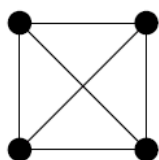
(iii) tailed-triangle



(iv) 4-cycle



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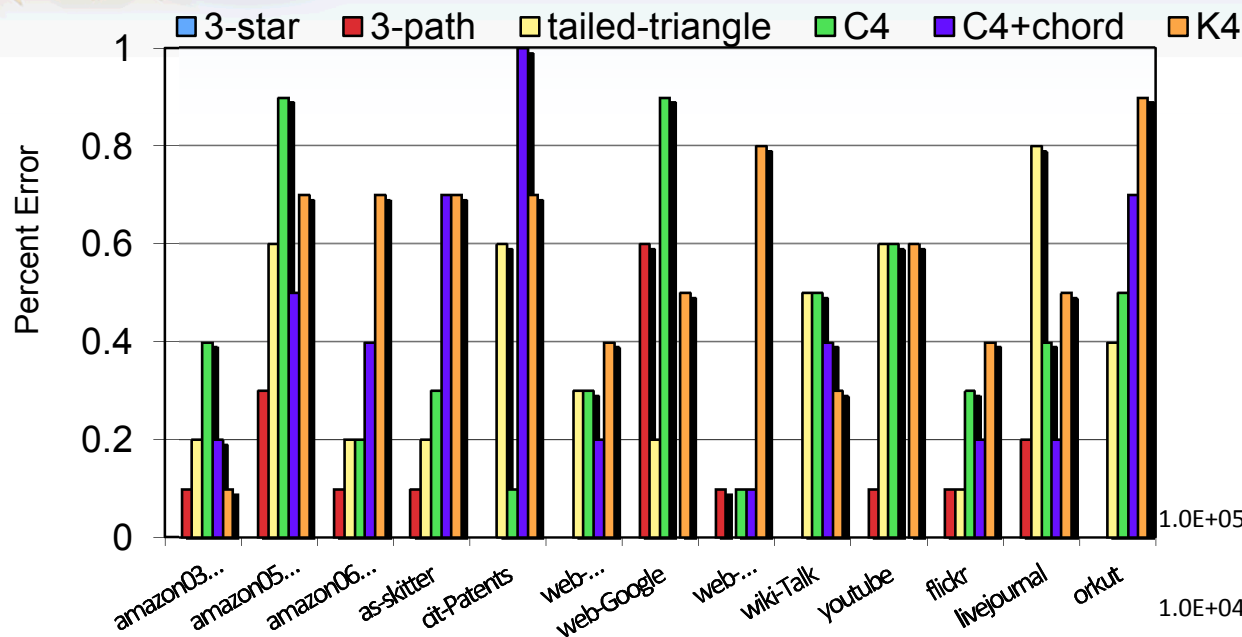
(vi) 4-clique

Past approximate counting work does not scale, either

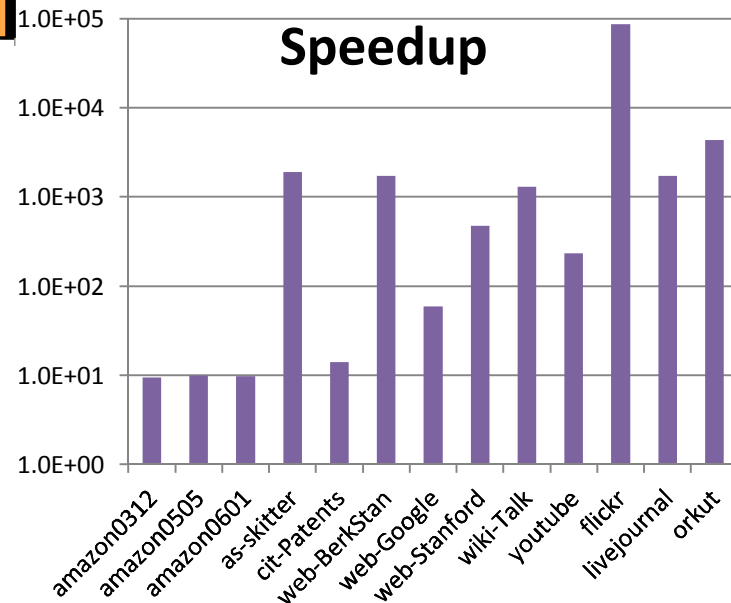
- MCMC methods, color coding, graph sparsification
- No provable methods, accuracies at best ~10%, often need computer clusters
- No results for (say) 100M edges

Graph	n	m	3-path	Tail-tri	4-cycle	4-clique	Time
Web-Berk	600K	6M	10B	400B	20B	1B	2 hrs
Flickr	1M	15M	7T	100M	100B	25B	60 hrs
Orkut	3M	200M	10T	1T	70B	3B	19 hrs

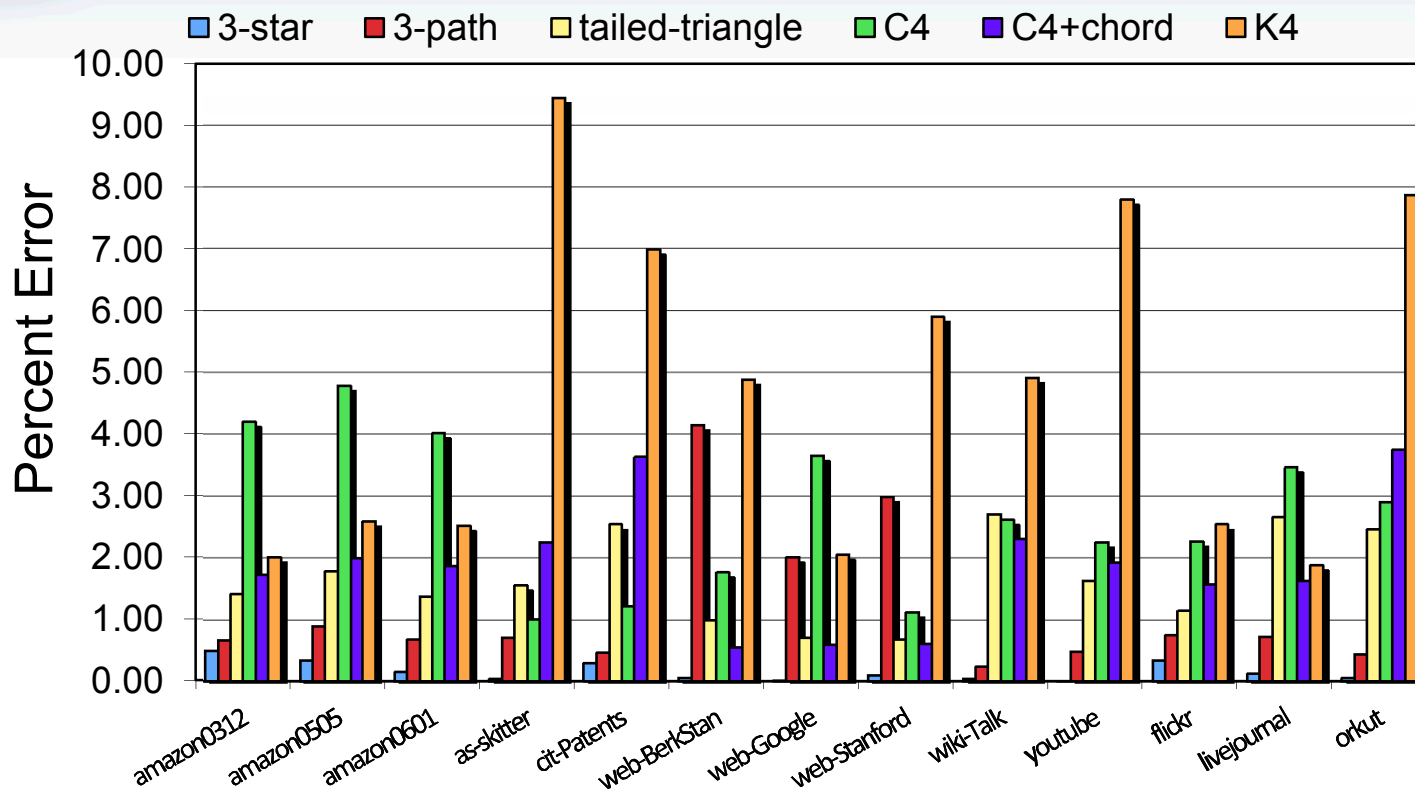
# 3-path sampling algorithm is fast and accurate



Graph	Time (exact)	Path-sampling
Web-Berk	2 hrs	3 sec
Flickr	60 hrs	2 sec
Orkut	19 hrs	16 sec

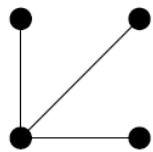


# Sampling gives provable accurate results

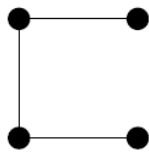


- Algorithm outputs hard error bounds for any desired confidence
  - “With confidence > 99.9%, the output is within 3% of true answer.”
- No assumption on the graph; probability is over the randomness of the algorithm.

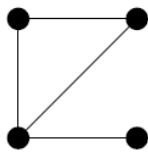
# The method



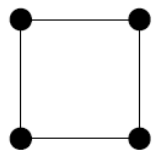
(i) 3-star



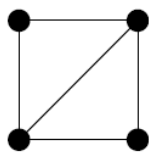
(ii) 3-path



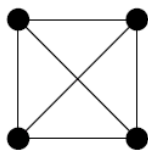
(iii) tailed-triangle



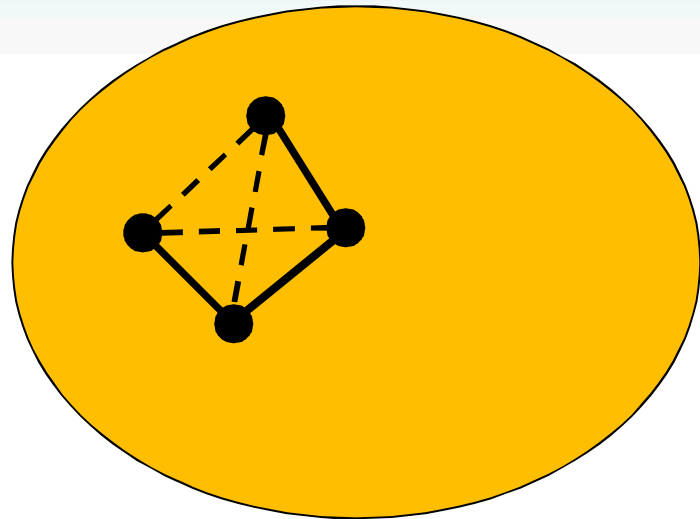
(iv) 4-cycle



(v) chordal-4-cycle

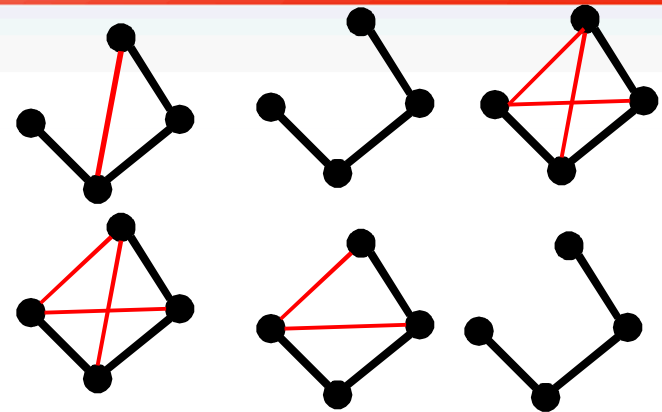
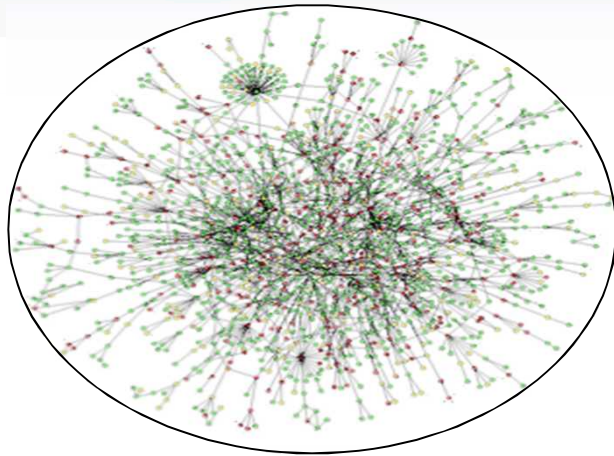


(vi) 4-clique



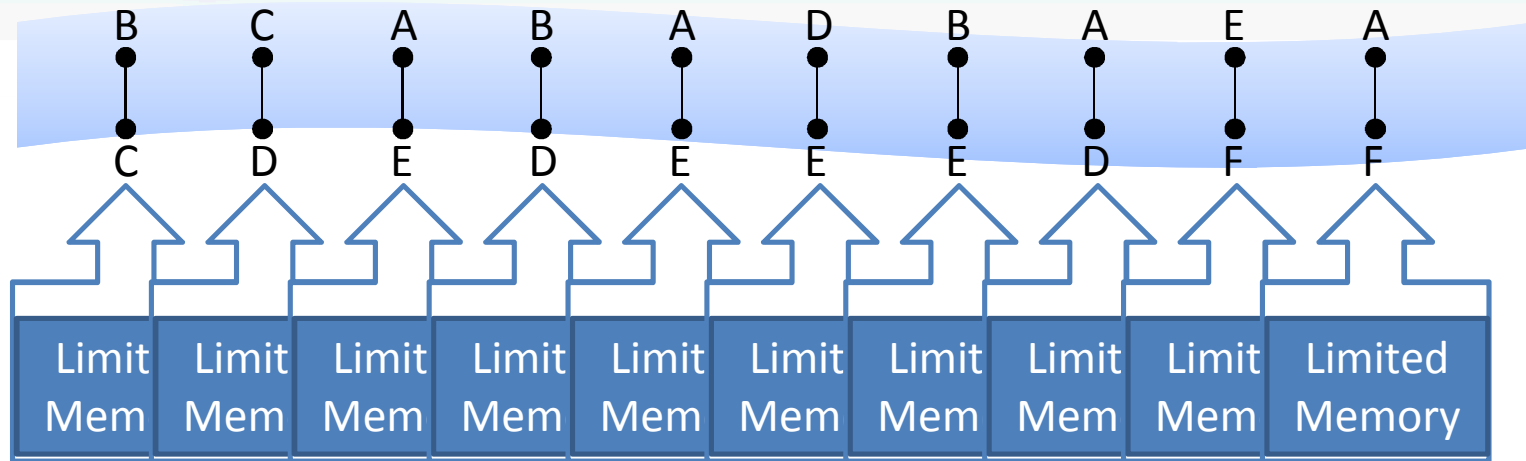
- Except for 3-stars, each pattern contains a 3-path
- Sample set of uniform random 3-path, check the vertices to see what pattern is induced
  - We do not need to generate a full list of 3-paths.
- Extrapolate these counts to get estimates

# The big picture



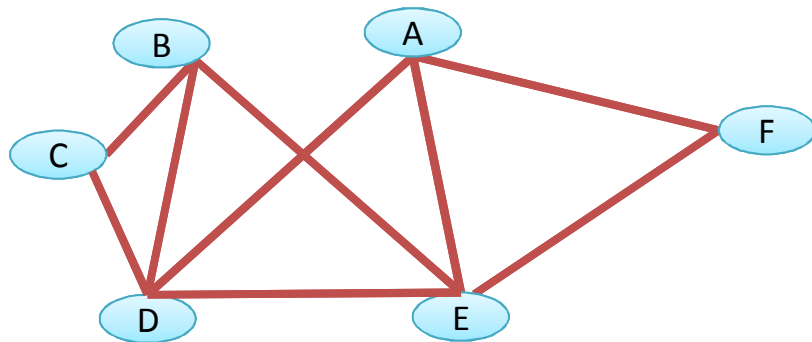
- Use pattern counts from samples to estimate true count
- Not hard to argue that our output is unbiased estimator of true count
- No assumption on graph, probability over randomness of algorithm
- **How many samples needed to get accurate estimates?**
  - For better results, we sample “centered 3-paths”

# Streaming Triangle Counting



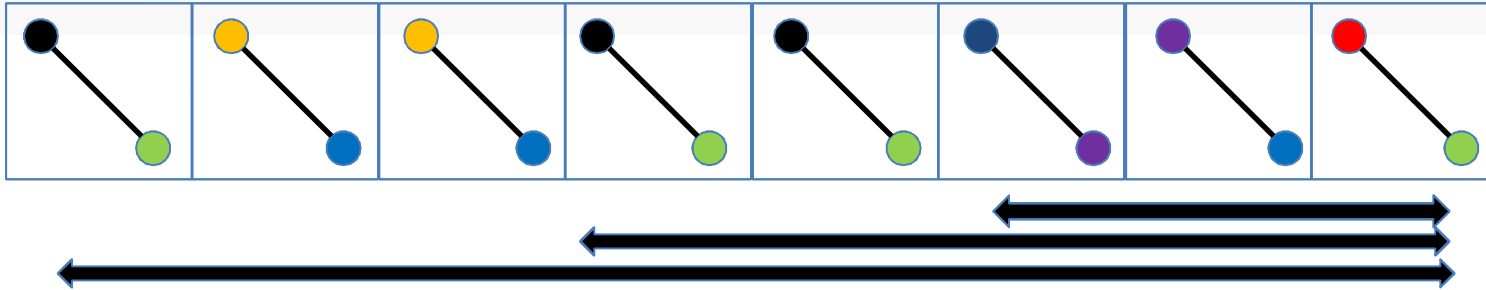
Triangles so far: **4**

Graph seen so far:



- Data streams important for situational awareness
  - Streaming algorithms also useful for large data sets
- Algorithmically
  - See each edge only once
  - Either take action or lose that piece of information forever

# Real-world messiness



- Real-world streams are multigraphs: edges can be repeated
- There is no “true” graph. It depends on how you aggregate

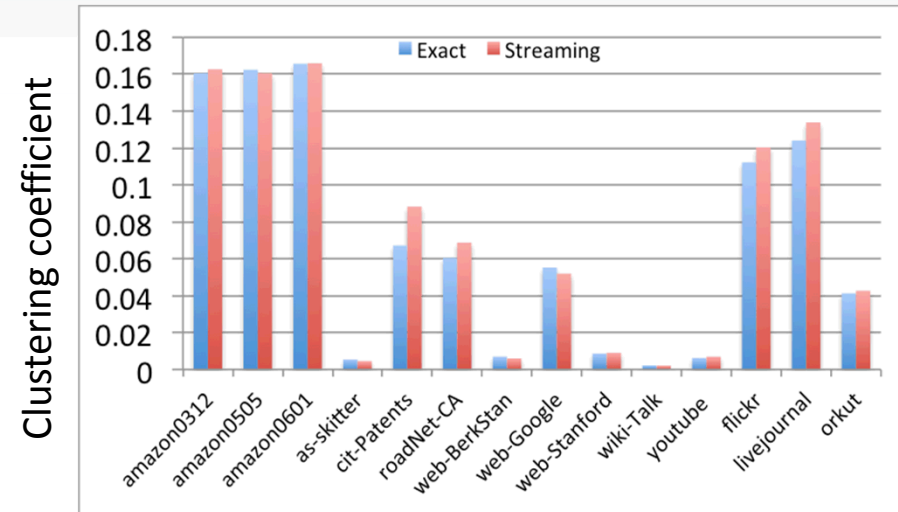
## Standard approaches and their drawbacks

- There are no repeats. Assume graph is simple
  - Removing repeated edges requires extra pass over edges
  - Assumption of no repeats is expensive to enforce
- Aggregate every edge seen. The “window” is all of history
  - Not clear how to store information of various time-windows simultaneously



# We can analyze streams of edges

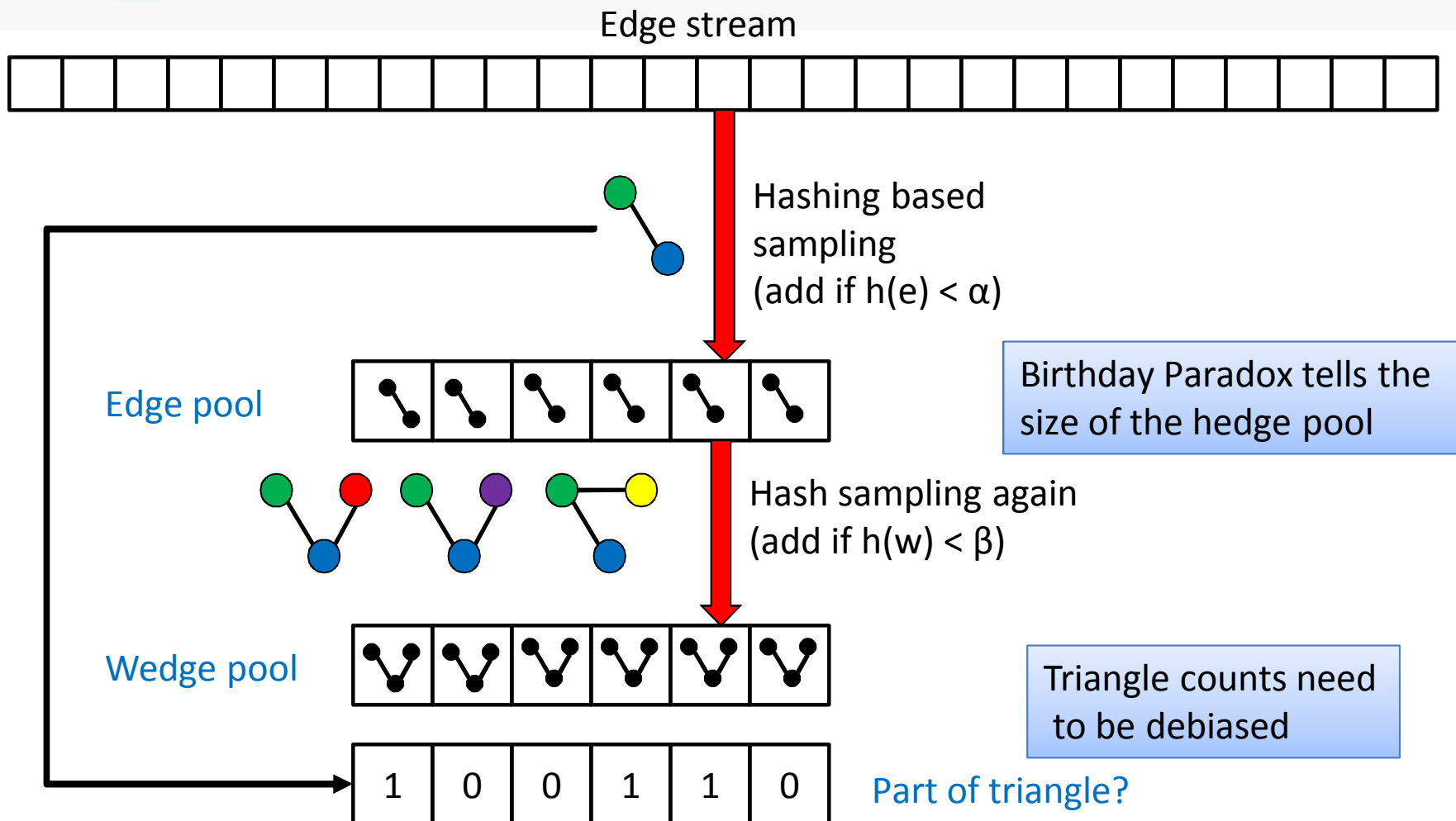
- Approximating triangle counts and transitivity in graph stream with repeated edges
  - No preprocessing.  
Works with raw stream
- Information on multiple time windows with same data structures
  - Potential solution to the problem of how much data to store
- Provable bounds on accuracy, excellent empirical behavior
- Based on methods in [Jha-Seshadhri-Pinar13], but needs new ideas to overcome issues



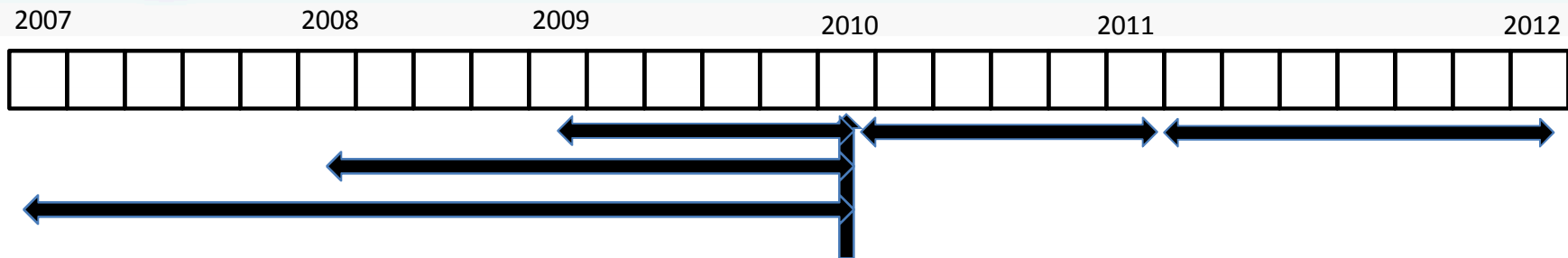
- Edge pool size: 20K; Wedges pool size is: 20K
- Jha, Seshadhri, P. KDD13, Best Student Paper award

# Core Idea:

## Wedge sampling on a stream

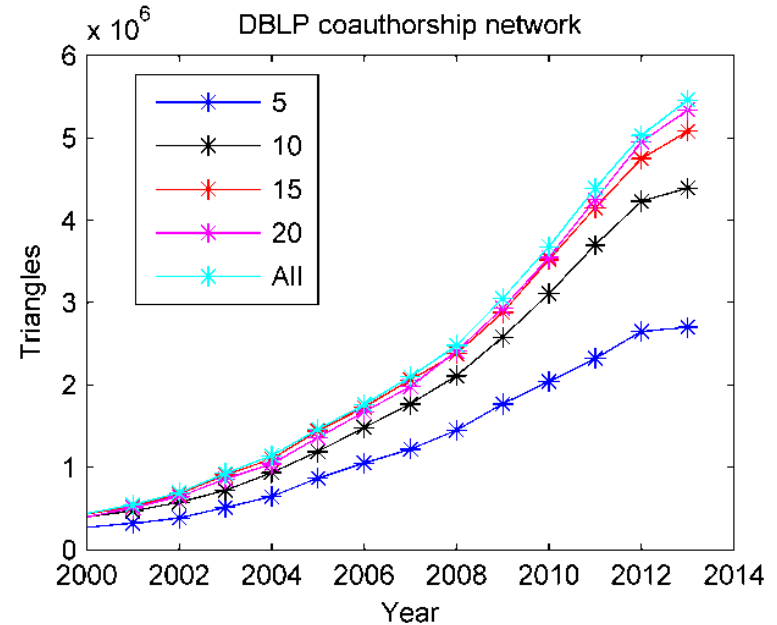
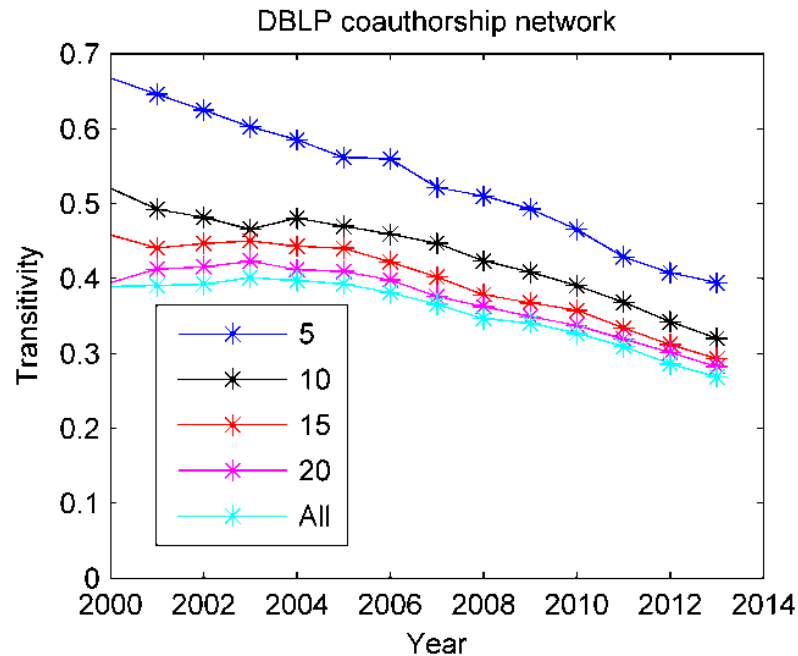
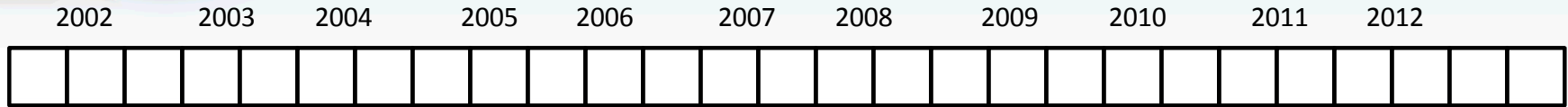


# Case study: DBLP graph



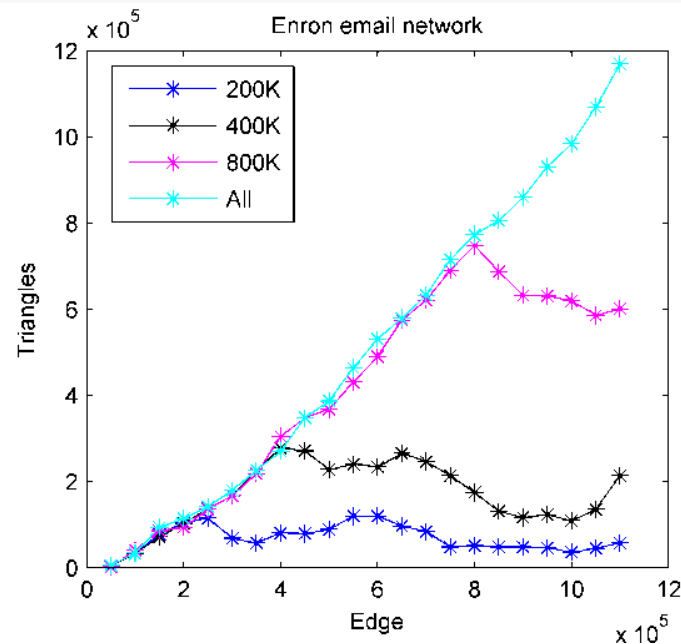
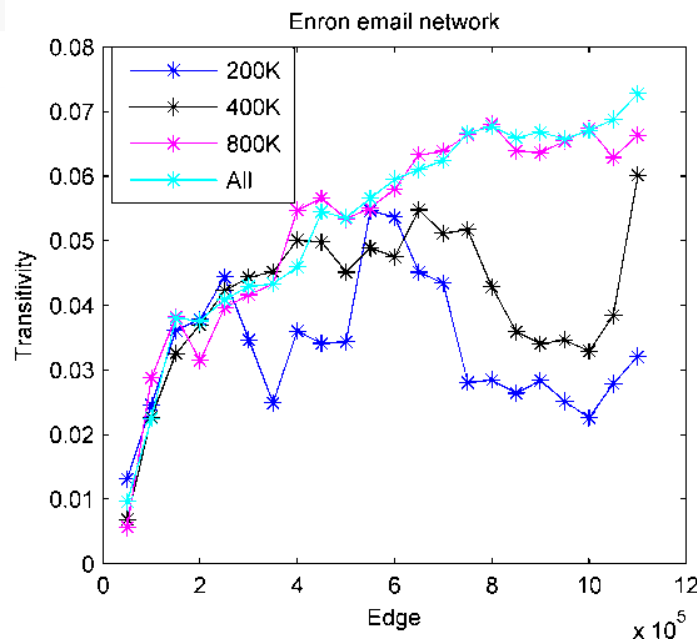
- DBLP co-authorship graph: all paper records over 50 years gives graph stream
  - Naturally repeated edges. Colleagues work together for many papers
  - Size = 3600K, non-repeated edges = 254K
- For graph  $G[t:t+\Delta t]$ , there is associated transitivity and triangle count
  - How does this vary with  $t$  and  $\Delta t$ ?

# Triangle trends in DBLP graph



- Size = 3600K, non-repeated edges = 254K
- Results obtained with storing 30K edges

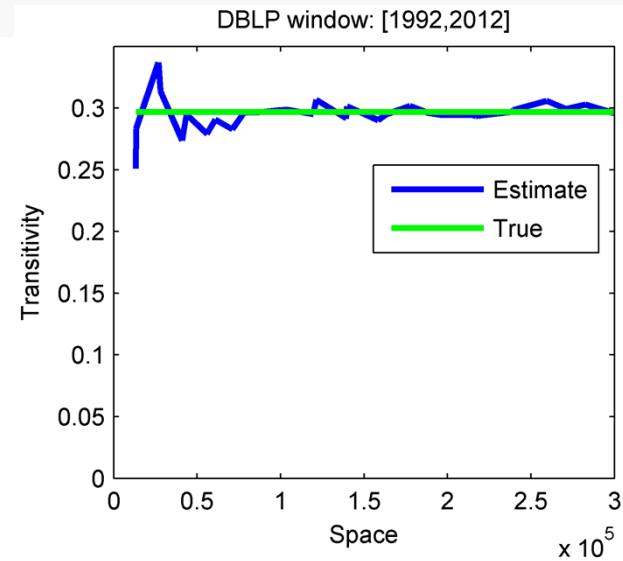
# Triangle trends in Enron graph



- Enron email network: stream size 1100K, non-repeated 300K
- Storage used = 8K
- Trends “opposite” to DBLP graph

# Streaming Algorithm Features

- Only two parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ 
  - No knowledge of graph required
- Provable guarantee on expectation
  - Provable variance bound (though not useful in practice)
- Space around 1% of total stream
- Accuracy always within 5%





# Conclusions

- If you need the *counts* of small patterns on a large graph, use sampling (streaming).
- If you need a list of small patterns,
  - If the output size is small, enumerate!
  - If not, the list should be an input to another process, and let's talk about the full process.
- Wedge sampling enables efficient computation of many triadic measures
  - Has provable error/confidence bounds
  - Amenable to handling distributed data
  - Extended to streaming analysis
    - Can handle repeated edges and different time windows
- Similar techniques can be used for 4-vertex patterns
  - Used 3-path sampling instead of wedge sampling

# References

- **Wedge Sampling:** C. Seshadhri, A. Pinar and T. G. Kolda, *Triadic Measures on Graphs: The Power of Wedge Sampling*, Proc. SIAM Intl. Conf. on Data Mining (SDM'13), Apr 2013 (preprint: [arXiv:1202.5230](https://arxiv.org/abs/1202.5230)).
- **Wedge Sampling MapReduce:** T. G. Kolda, A. Pinar, T. Plantenga, C. Seshadhri, and C. Task, *Counting Triangles in Massive Graphs with MapReduce*, [arXiv:1301.5887](https://arxiv.org/abs/1301.5887), to appear SIAM Scientific Computing.
- **Wedge Sampling for directed patterns:** C. Seshadhri, A. Pinar and T. G. Kolda, *Wedge Sampling for Computing Clustering Coefficients and Triangle counts for Large Graphs*, [arXiv:1309.3321](https://arxiv.org/abs/1309.3321), Stat. Analysis & Data Mining, 7(4), pages: 294–307.
- **Streaming Algorithm for triangles:** M. Jha, C. Seshadhri, and A. Pinar, *A Space Efficient Streaming Algorithm for Triangle Counting using the Birthday Paradox*, Proc. ACM SIGKDD Conf. on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD'13) August 2013 (preprint; [arXiv:1212.2264](https://arxiv.org/abs/1212.2264)).
- **Streaming Algorithm for multigraphs:** M. Jha, A. Pinar, and C. Seshadhri, *Counting Triangles in Real-World Graph Streams: Dealing with Repeated Edges and Time Windows*, [arXiv:1310.7665](https://arxiv.org/abs/1310.7665).
- **Counting 4-vertex patterns:** M. Jha, A. Pinar, and C. Seshadhri, *Path Sampling: A Fast and Provable Method for Estimating 4-Vertex Subgraph Counts*, submitted for conference publication.

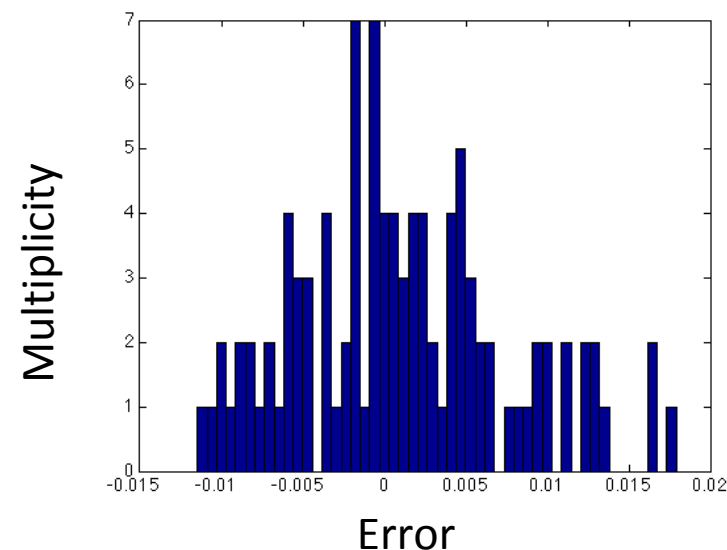
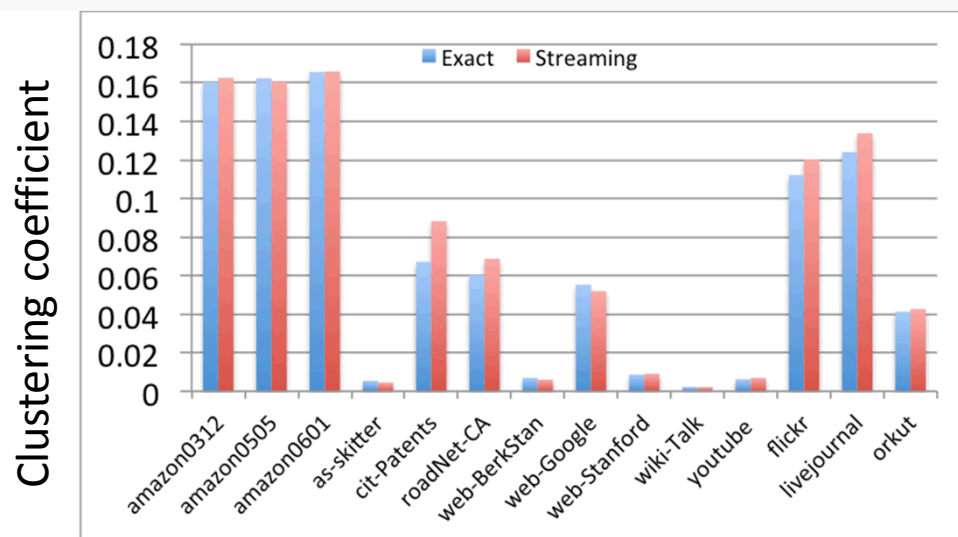




# Questions

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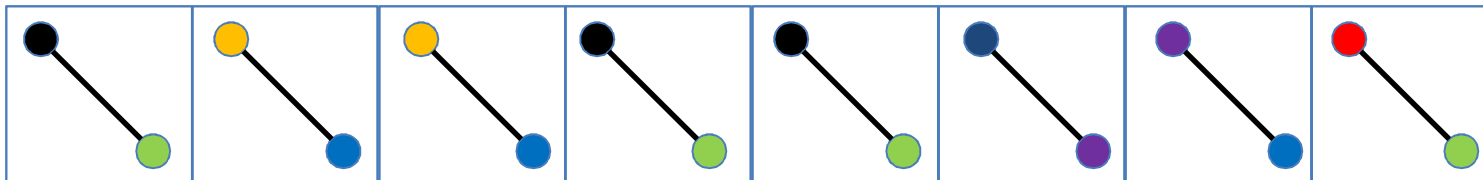
# Streaming algorithm is effective in practice



- Experiments on public data sets
- Edge pool size: 20K; Wedges pool size is: 20K
  - Pool sizes are independent of the graph size.
- The estimates are accurate.
- The variance is small.

Jha, Seshadhri, P. KDD 2013, Best Student Paper award

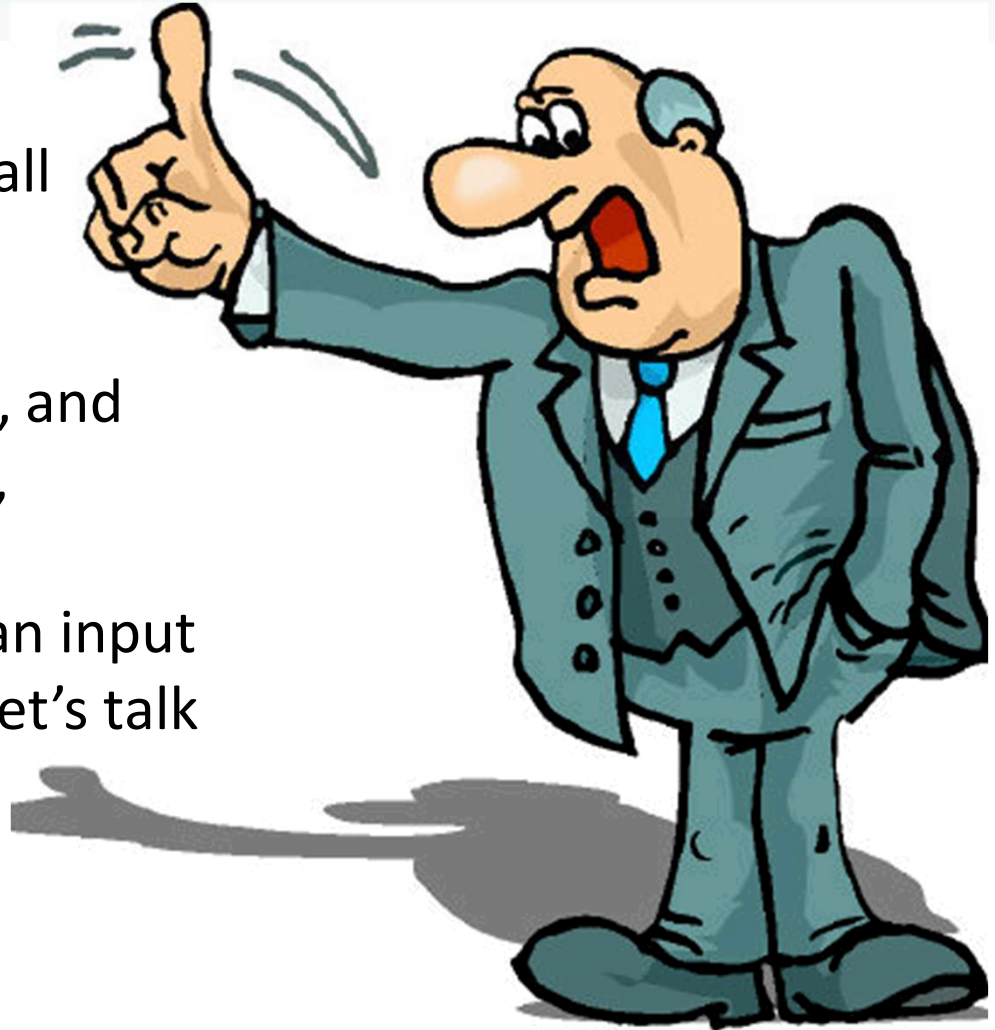
# Drawbacks of ignoring repeats



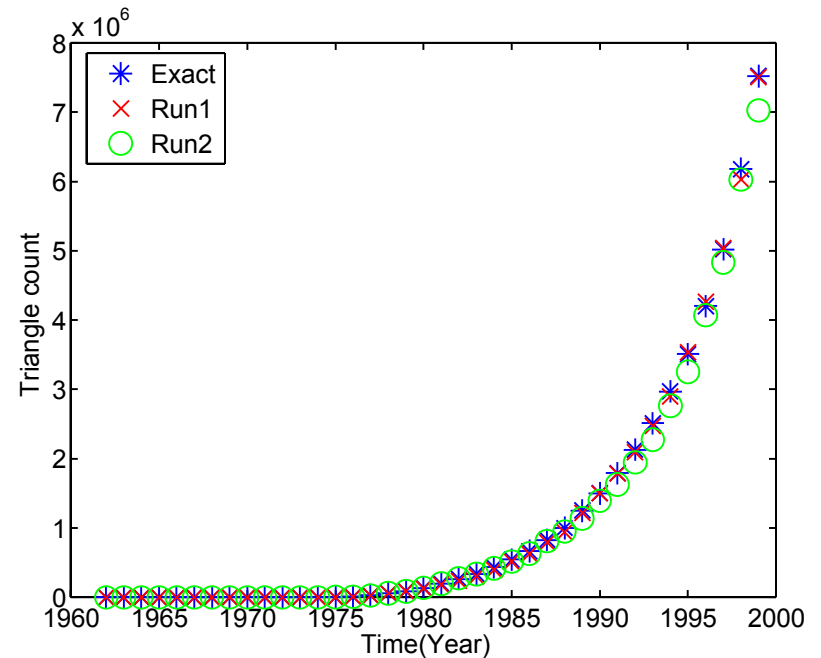
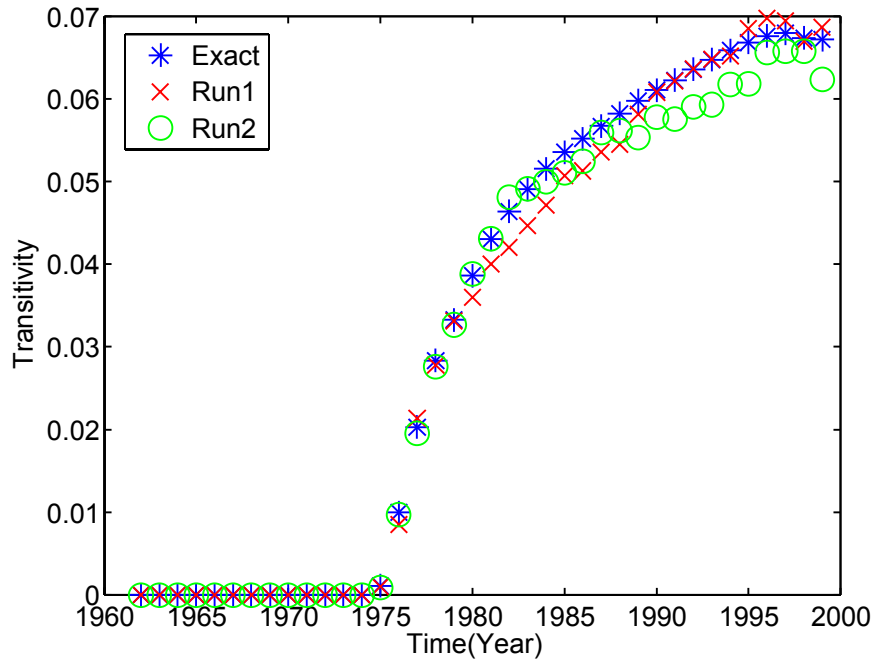
- Assumptions useful for algorithmic progress, but avoids real-world complexities
  - Algorithms cannot be deployed in “wild”
- **Removing repeated edges requires extra pass over edges**
  - Assumption of no repeats is expensive to enforce
- Not clear how to store information of various time-windows simultaneously

# Take home lesson

- If you need the *counts* of small patterns on a large graph, use sampling.
- If you need a list of patterns, and
  - if the output size is small, enumerate.
  - If not, the list should be an input to another process, and let's talk about the full process.



# Streaming algorithm provides a running estimate

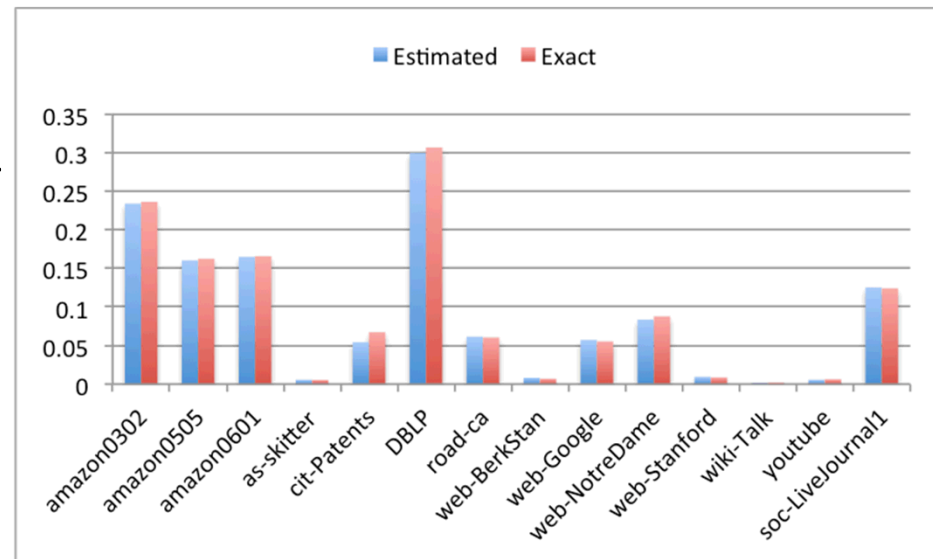


- Results on the patent citation network
  - 3.8M vertices, 16.5M edges.
- The algorithm provides accurate running estimates.

# Next step: Streaming multigraphs

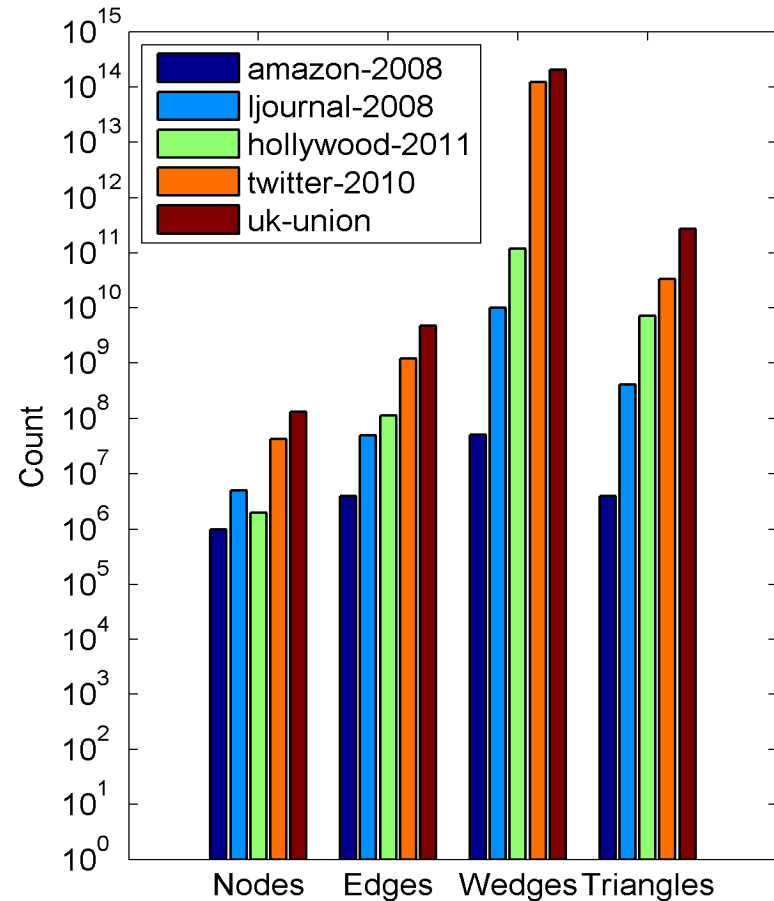
- Many graphs are a stream of *repeated* edges. (Emails, data transfers, co-authorship etc.)
- Generalized our algorithm for multigraphs.
  - Used random hashing to detect multiple instances.
  - Devised an unbiasing technique to avoid stream order sensitivity.
    - aaabbbccc vs. abcabcabc
- Processed the DBLP raw data
  - $|V|=1.2M$ ,  $|E|=5.1M$ ,  
9.0 repeated edges,  
11.4M triangles transitivity= 0.174
  - Estimate with 30K edges  
and 30K wedges  
11.3M triangles transitivity= 0.173

Jha, Seshadhri, P., *arxiv 1310.7665*



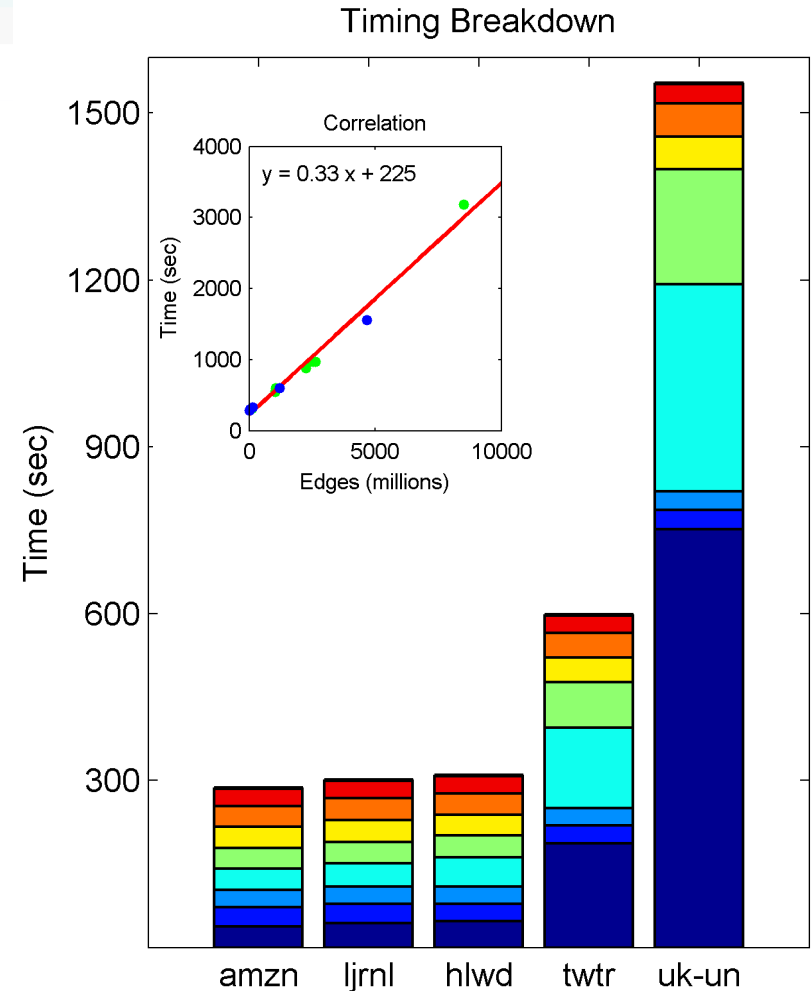
# How about even bigger graphs?

- Wedge sampling can be executed when the data is distributed.
- We proposed a Hadoop implementation.
  - Key to success: data movement is minimal.
- 5 real-world networks
  - Source: Laboratory for Web Algorithms
  - Largest: 132M nodes, 4.6B edges
- Distributed Server: 32-Node Hadoop Cluster
  - 32 Intel 4-Core i7 930 2.8GHz CPU
  - 32 x 12GB = 384GB memory



# Wedge Sampling for BIG Graphs

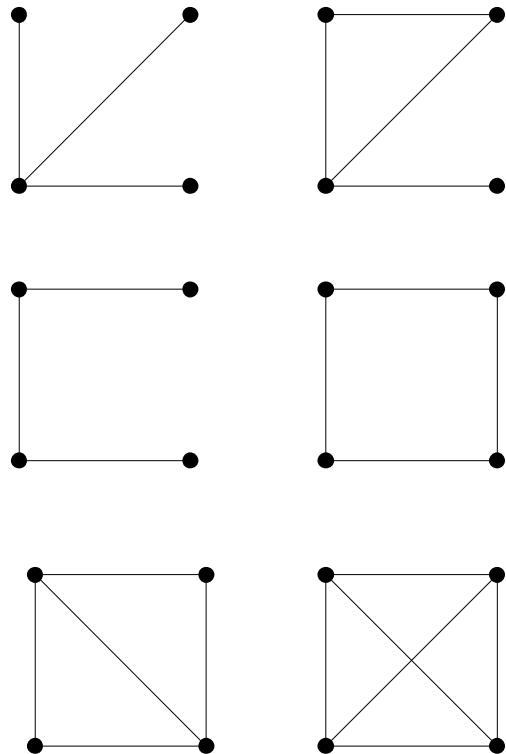
- 32-node Hadoop cluster results using wedge sampling to compute degree wise clustering coefficients
  - Logarithmic bins; 2000 samples per bin
- Compare twitter times
  - Sampling: 10 mins on 32-node Hadoop cluster
  - Enumeration: 483 mins on 1636-node Hadoop cluster
    - Suri & Vassilvitskii, 2011
  - Enumeration: 180 mins on 32-core SGI, using 128GB RAM
    - by Jon Berry, 2013
- No comparisons for uk-union due to its size



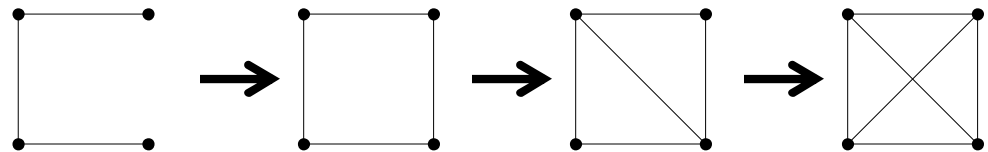
Kolda, P., Plantenga, Seshadhri, Task, arXiv:1301.5886, 2013 to appear in SISC



# Counting 4-vertex patterns



- Our sampling approach can be generalized to count 4-vertex patterns.
- Algorithm
  - Count the number of 3-paths
  - Sample 3-paths and count how many of them other patterns



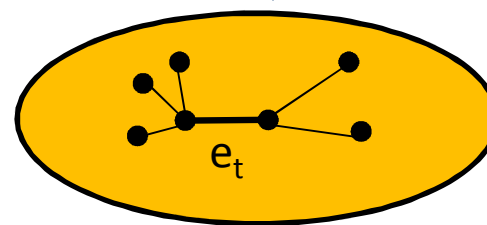
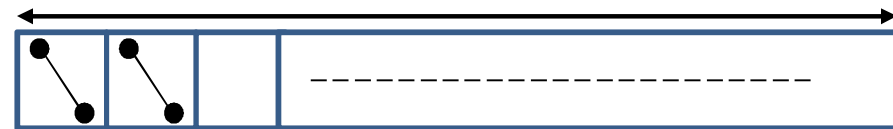
- Experiments show >1K speedups, with <1% error using 160K samples.

Jha, Seshadhri, P., coming soon

# Wedge sampling in a streaming world

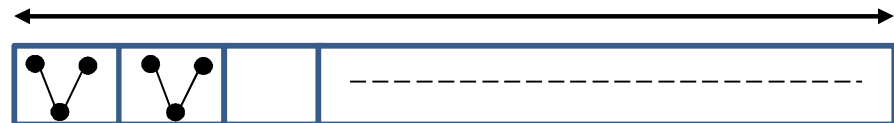
- Keep a random sample of the edges using the reservoir sampling.
- Keep a random sample of the wedges generated by the edges in the edge reservoir.
- Track whether the wedges are closed or not.
- The clustering coefficient is  $3 \times \text{ratio of closed wedges}$ .

Edge Reservoir



Graph induced by the edge pool

Wedge Reservoir



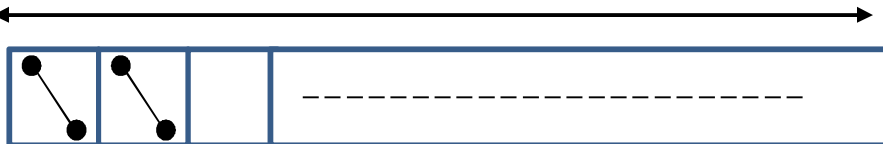
IsClosed



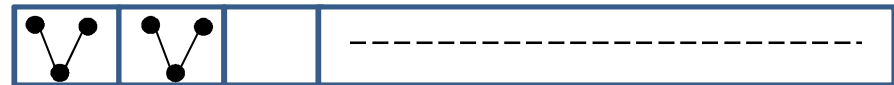
Jha, Seshadhri, P., *KDD 2013*, Best Student Paper award

# Birthday paradox to the rescue

Edge reservoir



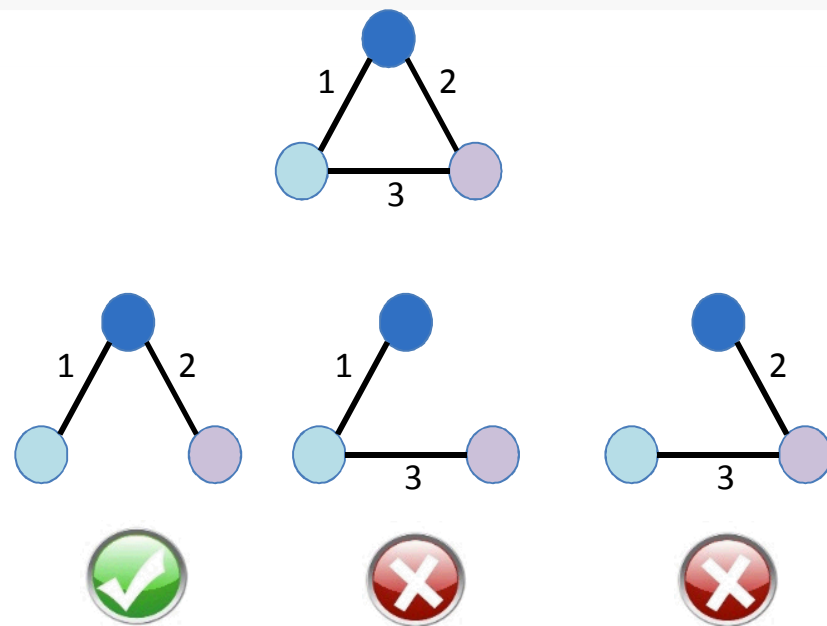
Wedge Reservoir



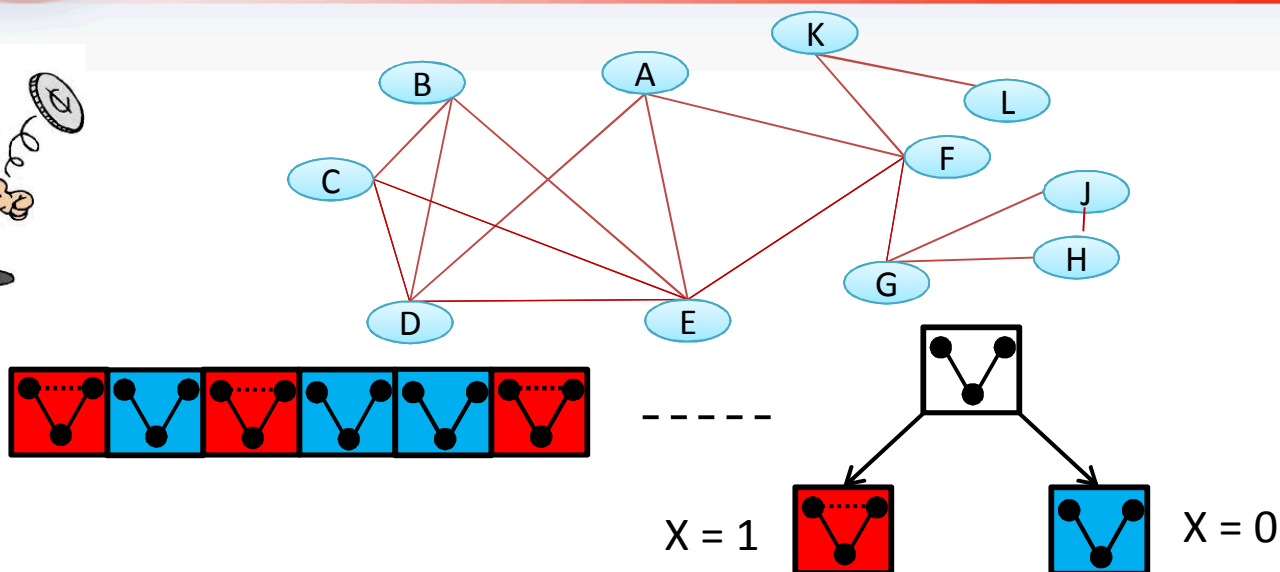
- A wedge is formed by two edge with the same birthday.
- Birthday paradox:  $O(\sqrt{n})$  edges are sufficient to generate a wedge.
  - $O(k\sqrt{n})$  edges will produce  $O(k^2)$  wedges.
- **Idealized algorithm:** Maintain a separate edge reservoir for each wedge
  - Needs  $O(|S|\sqrt{n})$  storage for  $|S|$  samples.
  - Has provable bounds; but not as effective in practice.
- **Practical algorithm:** Maintain a single and slightly bigger edge pool
  - Needs  $O(\sqrt{|S|n})$  storage
  - Wedge samples are biased, but in practice so enough wedges are generated to unbiased the sample.
  - Effective in practice

# Making up for wedges closed by earlier edges

- Each triangle comprises of 3 wedges.
- In the original wedge sampling, we were able to detect any wedge as closed.
- In the streaming algorithm, we can only detect 1 of the 3 as closed.
- Since wedges are selected randomly, the expected closure rate is 3\* the closure rate of the wedge pool.

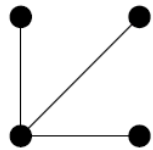


# Wedge sampling for $\tau$

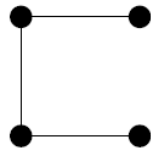


- $C = 3T/W$  = fraction of closed wedges
- Consider list of all wedges, indexed with open/closed

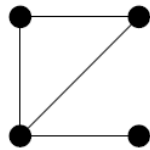
# Induced vs non-induced



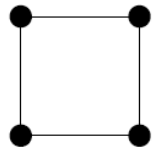
(i) 3-star



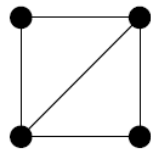
(ii) 3-path



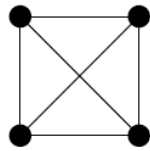
(iii) tailed-triangle



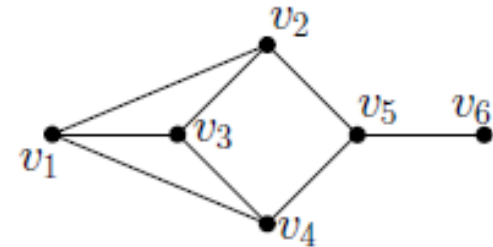
(iv) 4-cycle



(v) chordal-4-cycle



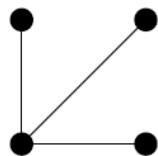
(vi) 4-clique



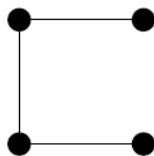
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \\ C_3 \\ C_4 \\ C_5 \\ C_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} N_1 \\ N_2 \\ N_3 \\ N_4 \\ N_5 \\ N_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (Vanilla) subgraph: take subset of edges
- Induced subgraph: take subset of vertices, take all edges in them
- Let  $C_i$  is induced count of pattern  $i$ 
  - Getting vanilla counts not hard

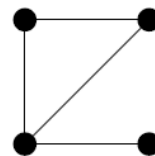
# Past art does not scale either



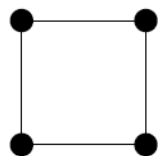
(i) 3-star



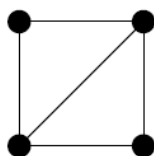
(ii) 3-path



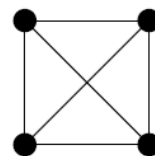
(iii) tailed-triangle



(iv) 4-cycle



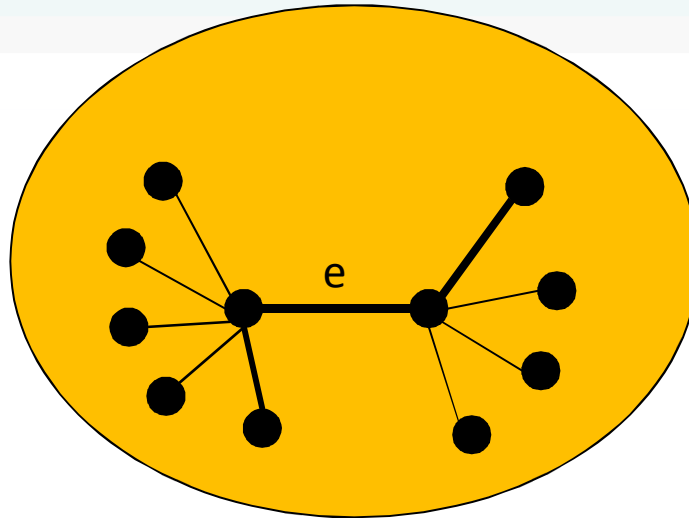
(v) chordal-4-cycle



(vi) 4-clique

- MCMC methods, color coding, graph sparsification
- No provable methods, accuracies at best ~10%, often need computer clusters
- Nothing tailored for 4 vertices
- No results for (say) 100M edges

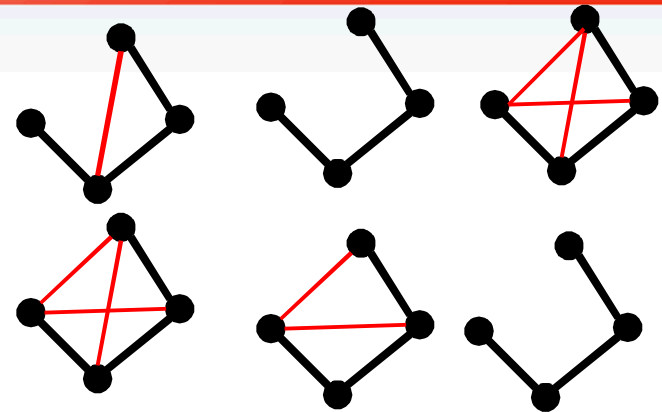
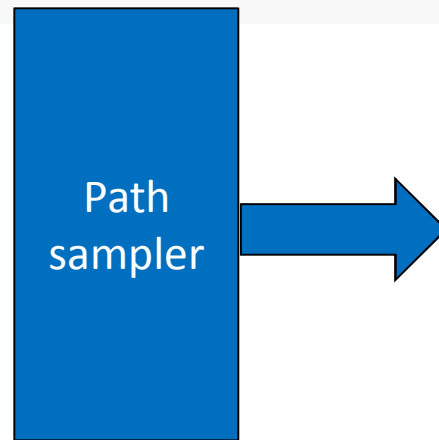
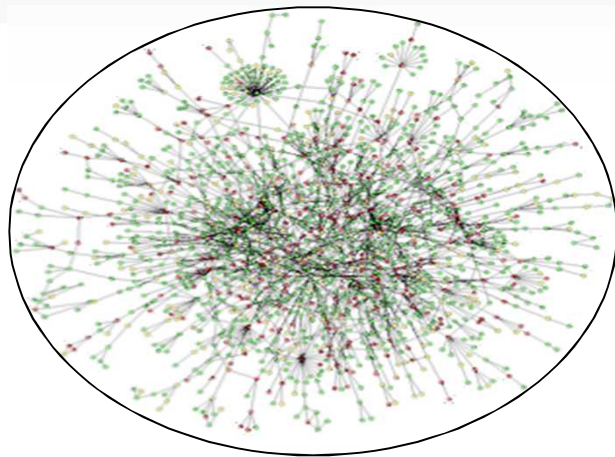
# Sampling random 3-paths



- First set for all edges,  $W_{u,v} = (d_u - 1)(d_v - 1)$ .
- Pick edge  $e = (u,v)$  with probability prop. to  $W_{u,v}$
- Pick uniform random neighbor of  $u$  and of  $v$
- If output is 3-path, guaranteed to be uniform random



# The devilish details



- Works, but (provable) accuracy is not great
- Design methods to reduce samples
- Can give provable bounds: “for  $s$  samples, with 99.9% confidence, the true count is within 1% of answer”

# What if we observe the data as a stream of edges?

- Many data analysis problems deal with data streams.
  - Situational awareness requires real time analysis.
- Streaming algorithms are also used to analyze large data sets with limited memory.
  - Multiple passes may be feasible.
- Algorithmically
  - We see each data point only once.
  - We either take action, or forever hold our peace.
- Not all problems are amenable to streaming analysis.
  - We cannot find needle in a haystack
  - But we can count frequent items, such as triangles

