

# Parsing Techniques for Context-Free Path Querying

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# Formal language constrained path querying

- Finite directed edge-labelled graph  $\mathcal{G} = (V, E, L)$
- The path is a world over  $L$ :  
$$\omega(p) = \omega(v_0 \xrightarrow{l_0} v_1 \xrightarrow{l_1} \dots \xrightarrow{l_{n-1}} v_n) = l_0 \cdot l_1 \cdot \dots \cdot l_{n-1}$$
- The language  $\mathcal{L}$  (over  $L$ )

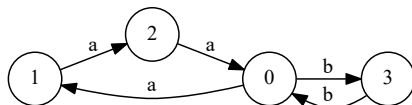
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- The language  $\mathcal{L}$  (over  $L$ )
- Reachability problem:  $Q = \{(v_i, v_j) \mid \exists p = v_i \dots v_j, \omega(p) \in \mathcal{L}\}$
- Path querying problem:  $Q = \{p \mid \omega(p) \in \mathcal{L}\}$ 
  - ▶ Single path, all paths, shortest path ...

# Context-Free path querying

- $\mathcal{L}$  is a context-free language
- $G_{\mathcal{L}} = (N, \Sigma, R, S)$
- Reachability problem:  $Q = \{(v_i, v_j) \mid \exists p = v_i \dots v_j, S \xrightarrow[G_L]{*} \omega(p)\}$
- Path querying problem:  $Q = \{p \mid \omega(p) \in \mathcal{L}\}$

## Example of CFPQ



Input graph

0 :  $S \rightarrow a S b$

1 :  $S \rightarrow \textit{Middle}$

2 :  $\textit{Middle} \rightarrow a b$

Query: language  $\{a^n b^n \mid n > 0\}$

Paths:

$2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3$

$1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0$

$p_1 = 0 \xrightarrow{a} 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3$

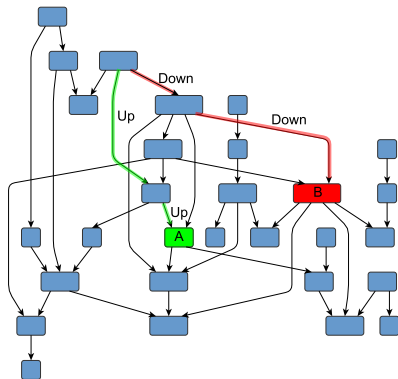
$p_2 = 0 \xrightarrow{a} 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{a} 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0$

...

# Applications

- Graph data bases querying  
Yann ...
- Static code analysis  
Reps CFL reachability
- ...

# Graph data bases querying



## Navigation through a graph

- Are nodes A and B on the same level of hierarchy?
- Is there a path of form  $Up^n Down^n$ ?
- Find all paths of form  $Up^n Down^n$  which start from the node A

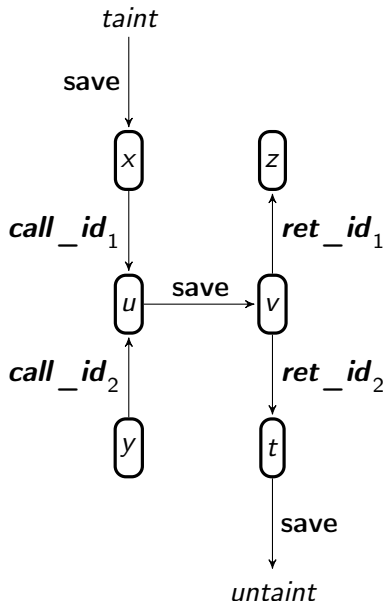
# Context-Free Path Querying

- *Sevon P., Eronen L.* “Subgraph queries by context-free grammars.” 2008
- *Hellings J.* “Conjunctive context-free path queries.” 2014
- *Zhang X. et al.* “Context-free path queries on RDF graphs.” 2016



# Static code analysis

```
int id(int u)
{
    v = u;
    return v;
}
int main()
{
    //taint
    int x;
    int z, y;
    //untaint
    int t;
    z = id(x);
    t = id(y);
}
```



# Static code analysis (Language Reachability Framework)

- *Thomas Reps et al.* “Precise interprocedural dataflow analysis via graph reachability.” 1995
- *Dacong Yan et al.* “Demand-driven context-sensitive alias analysis for Java.” 2011
- *Jakob Rehof and Manuel Fahndrich.* “Type-base flow analysis: from polymorphic subtyping to CFL-reachability.” 2001

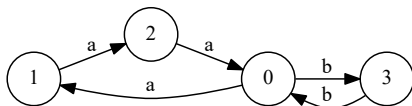
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- *Qirun Zhang and Zhendong Su.* “Context-sensitive data-dependence analysis via linear conjunctive language reachability.” 2017

# Parsing algorithms for CFPQ

- Structural representation of results
- Number of algorithms with different properties
- Number of theoretical results

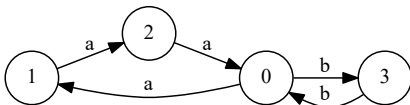
# Structural representation of result



Input graph

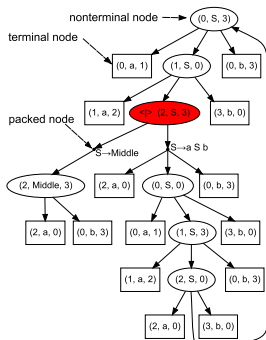
0 :  $S \rightarrow a S b$   
1 :  $S \rightarrow \textit{Middle}$   
2 :  $\textit{Middle} \rightarrow a b$   
Grammar

# Structural representation of result



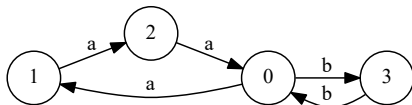
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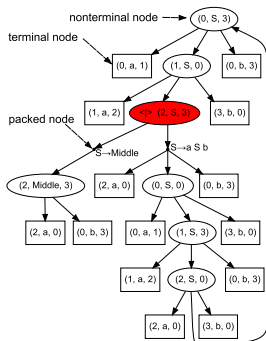
Query result (SPPF)

# Structural representation of result

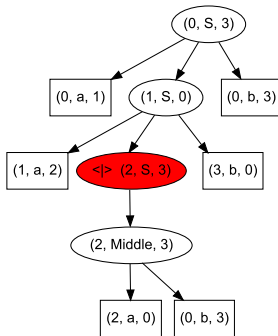


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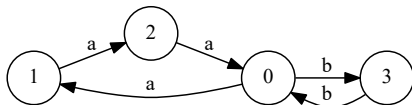


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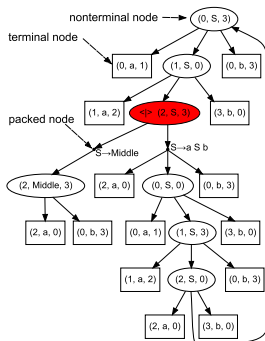
Tree for  $p_1$

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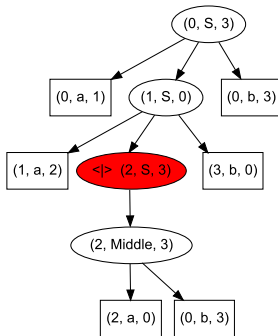


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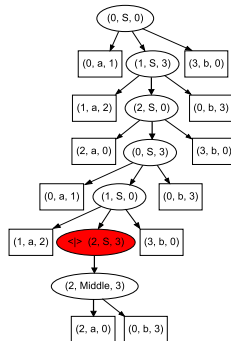
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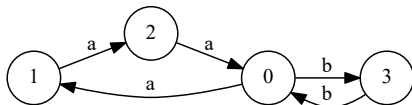
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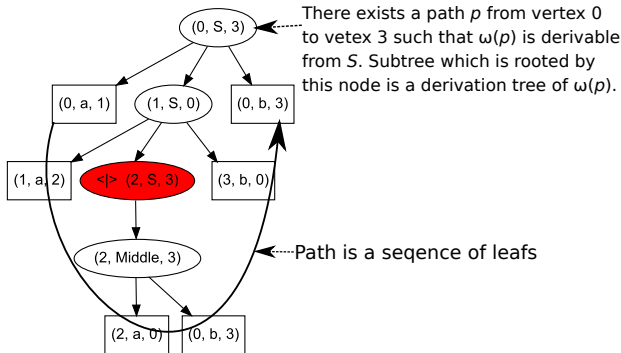
Tree for  $p_2$



# Paths extraction



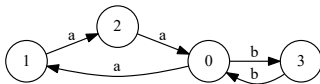
$0 : S \rightarrow a S b$   
 $1 : S \rightarrow \textit{Middle}$   
 $2 : \textit{Middle} \rightarrow a b$



Path:  $0 \xrightarrow{a} 1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{a} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \xrightarrow{b} 0 \xrightarrow{b} 3$

# Bar-Hillel theorem

Context-free languages are closed under intersection with regular languages



Regular language

0 :  $S \rightarrow a S b$

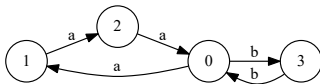
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Context-free language

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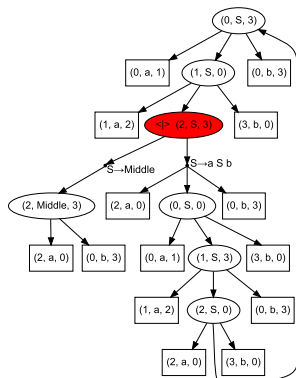
Regular language

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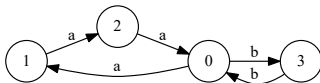
2 :  $\text{Middle} \rightarrow a b$

Context-free language



# Bar-Hillel theorem

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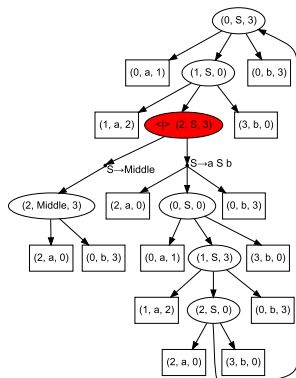
Regular language

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1 :  $S \rightarrow \text{Middle}$

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Context-free language



$(0, S, 3) \rightarrow (0, a, 1) (1, S, 0) (0, b, 3)$

$(1, S, 0) \rightarrow (1, a, 2) (2, S, 3) (3, b, 0)$

$(2, S, 3) \rightarrow (2, a, 0) (0, S, 0) (0, b, 3)$

$(2, S, 3) \rightarrow (2, \text{Middle}, 3)$

$(0, S, 0) \rightarrow (0, a, 1) (1, S, 3) (3, b, 0)$

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$(2, S, 0) \rightarrow (2, a, 0) (0, S, 3) (3, b, 0)$

$(0, \text{Middle}, 3) \rightarrow (2, a, 0) (0, b, 3)$

- Generalized LR for CFPQ
  - ▶ Based on Right Nulled Generalized LR: *Scott E., Johnstone A.* “Right Nulled GLR Parsers”
  - ▶ *Ekaterina Verbitskaia, Semyon Grigorev, and Dmitry Avdyukhin.* “Relaxed Parsing of Regular Approximations of String-Embedded Languages” 2015

# Our experiments

- Generalized LR for CFPQ
  - ▶ Based on Right Nulled Generalized LR: *Scott E., Johnstone A.* “Right Nulled GLR Parsers”
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- Generalized LL for CFPQ (**GLL**)
  - ▶ Based on Generalized LL: *Scott E., Johnstone A.* “GLL parsing”
  - ▶ *Semyon Grigorev and Anastasiya Ragozina.* “Context-free path querying with structural representation of result.” 2017

# Query language integration

How to integrate query language into general-purpose programming language?

- Transparency
- Compositionality
- Static error checking

# Query language integration

How to integrate query language into general-purpose programming language?

- Transparency
- Compositionality
- Static error checking
- String-embedded languages
- ORMs
- Combinators



# Combinators for CFPQ

- Implemented in Scala
- Based on Meerkat parser combinator library: *Anastasia Izmaylova, Ali Afroozeh, and Tijs van der Storm*. “Practical, general parser combinators” 2016
- *Ekaterina Verbitskaia, Ilya Kirillov, Ilya Nozkin, Semyon Grigorev*. “Parser Combinators for Context-Free Path Querying” 2019

# Supported combinators

Combinator	Description
$a \sim b$	sequential parsing: a then b
$a \mid b$	choice: a or b

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$a \sim b$	sequential parsing: a then b
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$a *$	repetition of zero or more a
$a +$	repetition of at least one a

## Supported combinators

Combinator	Description
<code>a ~ b</code>	sequential parsing: a then b
<code>a   b</code>	choice: a or b
<code>a ?</code>	optional parsing: a or nothing
<code>a *</code>	repetition of zero or more a
<code>a +</code>	repetition of at least one a
<code>a ^ f</code>	apply f function to a if a is a token
<code>a ^^</code>	capture output of a if a is a token
<code>a &amp; f</code>	apply f function to a if a is a parser
<code>a &amp;&amp;</code>	capture output of a if a is a parser

A set of functions for edges and vertices values handling.

```
def LV(labels: String*) =  
  V(e => labels.forall(e.hasLabel))  
def outLE(label: String) = outE(_.label() == label)  
def inLE (label: String) = inE ( _.label() == label)
```

## Basic example

Is there a path from vertex 0 to vertex 3 which has form  $a^n b^n$ ?

```
val Query : Nonterminal
    = syn (LV("0") ~ S ~ LV("3"))
```

```
val S: Nonterminal
    = syn (
        | "a" ~ S ~ "b"
        | "a" ~ "b"
    )
```

## Example of generalization

```
def sameGen( brs ) =  
  reduceChoice(  
    brs.map { case ( lbr , rbr ) =>  
      lbr ~ syn( sameGen( brs ).? ) ~ rbr }
```

## Example of generalization

```
def sameGen( brs ) =  
  reduceChoice(  
    brs.map { case ( lbr , rbr ) =>  
      lbr ~ syn( sameGen( brs ).? ) ~ rbr } )  
  
val query1 = syn( sameGen( List( "a" , "b" ) ) ) )  
  
val query2 = syn(  
  sameGen( List( ( p1 , p2 ) , ( "(" , ")" ) ) ) ~ p3 )
```

## Example of values handling

Actors who played in some film

In Cypher

```
MATCH (m:Movie {title: 'Forrest_Gump'})  
      <-[:ACTS_IN]-(a:Actor)  
RETURN a.name, a.birthplace;
```

In Meerkat

```
val query =  
  syn((  
    (LV("Movie")::V(_.title == "Forrest_Gump")) ~  
    inLE("ACTS_IN") ~  
    syn(LV("Actor") ^  
      (e => (e.name, e.birthplace)))) &&  
  executeQuery(query, input)
```



# Limitations

- Overhead for the regular constraints
- Not exactly clear how to compute arbitrary semantics for the paths
  - ▶ Paths can be lazily extracted, but in what order?
  - ▶ Is it possible to compute some semantics in case of cycles?

# Boolean Matrix Multiplication for CFPQ

# Transitive Closure

- Subset multiplication,  $N_1, N_2 \subseteq N$ 
  - ▶  $N_1 \cdot N_2 = \{A \mid \exists B \in N_1, \exists C \in N_2 \text{ such that } (A \rightarrow BC) \in P\}$
- Subset addition: set-theoretic union.
- Matrix multiplication
  - ▶ Matrix of size  $|V| \times |V|$
  - ▶ Subsets of  $N$  are elements
  - ▶  $c_{i,j} = \bigcup_{k=1}^n a_{i,k} \cdot b_{k,j}$
- Transitive closure
  - ▶  $a^{cf} = a^{(1)} \cup a^{(2)} \cup \dots$
  - ▶  $a^{(1)} = a$
  - ▶  $a^{(i)} = a^{(i-1)} \cup (a^{(i-1)} \times a^{(i-1)}), \quad i \geq 2$

# The algorithm

---

**Algorithm** Context-free recognizer for graphs

---

```
1: function CONTEXTFREEPATHQUERYING( $D, G$ )
2:    $n \leftarrow$  the number of nodes in  $D$ 
3:    $E \leftarrow$  the directed edge-relation from  $D$ 
4:    $P \leftarrow$  the set of production rules in  $G$ 
5:    $T \leftarrow$  the matrix  $n \times n$  in which each element is  $\emptyset$ 
6:   for all  $(i, x, j) \in E$  do ▷ Matrix initialization
7:      $T_{i,j} \leftarrow T_{i,j} \cup \{A \mid (A \rightarrow x) \in P\}$ 
8:   while matrix  $T$  is changing do
9:      $T \leftarrow T \cup (T \times T)$  ▷ Transitive closure  $T^{cf}$  calculation
10:  return  $T$ 
```

---

# Boolean Matrix Multiplication for CFPQ

- The matrix for nonterminal is a set of boolean matrices
- Matrices multiplication can be implemented efficiently by using modern hardware and high-performance libraries

## Performance comparison setup

We use graphs from the classical set of ontologies: *skos*, *foaf*, *univ-bench*, *wine*, *pizza*, etc.

Queries are classical variants of the same-generation query

$$\begin{array}{ll} S \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} S \text{ subClassOf} & S \rightarrow B \text{ subClassOf} \\ S \rightarrow \text{type}^{-1} S \text{ type} & S \rightarrow \text{subClassOf} \\ S \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} \text{subClassOf} & B \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} B \text{ subClassOf} \\ S \rightarrow \text{type}^{-1} \text{type} & B \rightarrow \text{subClassOf}^{-1} \text{subClassOf} \end{array}$$

Query 1

Query 2

## Performance comparison results

№	#V	#E	Query 1 (ms)			Query 2 (ms)	
			CYK <sup>1</sup>	GLL	GPGPU	GLL	GPGPU
1	144	323	1044	10	12	1	1
2	129	351	6091	19	13	1	0
3	131	397	13971	24	30	1	10
4	179	413	20981	25	15	11	9
5	337	834	82081	89	32	3	6
6	291	685	515285	255	22	66	2
7	341	711	420604	261	20	45	24
8	671	2604	3233587	697	24	29	23
9	733	2450	4075319	819	54	8	6
10	6224	11840	–	1926	82	167	38
11	5864	19600	–	6246	185	46	21
12	5368	20832	–	7014	127	393	40

<sup>1</sup>Zhang, et al. "Context-free path queries on RDF graphs."

## Performance comparison results

Graph	Scipy	M4RI	GPU4R	GPU_N	GPU_Py	CuSprs
G5k-0.001	10.352	0.647	0.113	0.041	0.216	5.729
G10k-0.001	37.286	2.395	0.435	0.215	1.331	35.937
G10k-0.01	97.607	1.455	0.273	0.138	0.763	47.525
G10k-0.1	601.182	1.050	0.223	0.114	0.859	395.393
G20k-0.001	150.774	11.025	1.842	1.274	6.180	-
G40k-0.001	-	97.841	11.663	8.393	37.821	-
G80k-0.001	-	1142.959	88.366	65.886	-	-



# Directions for research

- Develop parallel and distributed algorithms
- Adopt other parsing algorithms
- Utilize other classes of languages for constraints specification
- Investigate incremental queries evaluation