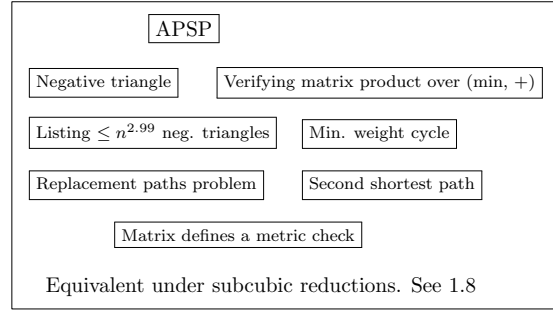
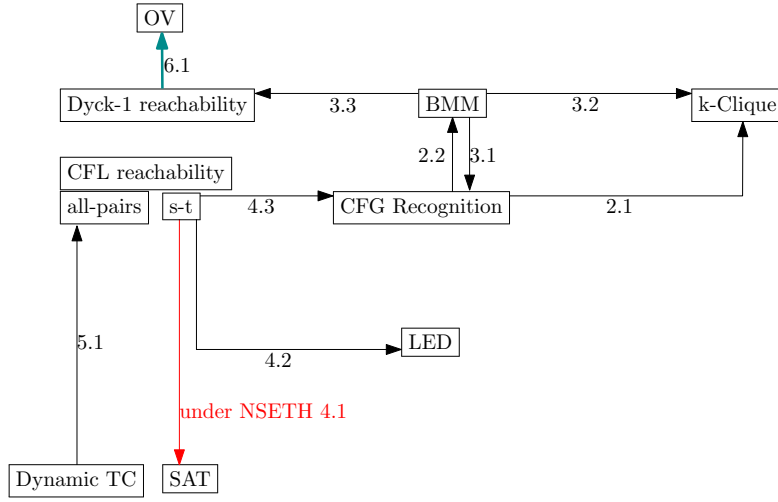


## Reduction map



$A \rightarrow B \iff B$  has reduction to  $A$

$\longrightarrow$  – no reduction

hypothesis

### 1. PROBLEM DEFINITIONS

**1.1. CFG recognition:** given a CFG  $\mathcal{G}$  and a string  $w \in \Sigma^*$  determine if  $w$  can be obtained from  $G$  (i.e. whether  $w \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{G})$ )

Best upper bound [12]:  $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega \cdot |\mathcal{G}|^2)$

Best combinatorial algorithms:  $\mathcal{O}(n^3 / \log^3 n)$

**CFG parsing problem:** if  $w \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{G})$ , output a possible derivation sequence.

CFG recognition is as hard as CFG parsing up to logarithmic factors [11].

**1.2. CFL reachability:** given a CFG  $\mathcal{L}$  and a labelled graph  $G$

**1.3. k-Clique:** decide whether a given undirected unweighted graph on  $n$  nodes and  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  edges contains a clique on  $k$  nodes.

It is a parameterized version of the NP-hard Max-Clique problem.

Let  $0 \leq F \leq \omega$  and  $0 \leq C \leq 3$  be the smallest numbers such that  $3k$ -Clique can be solved combinatorially in  $\mathcal{O}(n^{Ck})$  time and in  $\mathcal{O}(n^{Fk})$  time by any algorithm, for any (large enough) constant  $k \geq 1$ . A conjecture in graph algorithms and parameterized complexity is that  $C = 3$  and  $F = \omega$ .

#### 1.4. SAT.

1.4.1. *k-SAT*:. Given a  $k$ -CNF formula  $\phi$  on  $n$  variables. Is there an assignment to the variables that satisfies  $\phi$ ?

1.4.2. *ETH (Exponential time hypothesis)*: There is no algorithm that solves  $k$ -SAT in time  $2^{o(n)}$  for any  $k$ .

1.4.3. *SETH (Strong exponential time hypothesis)*: There is no  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $k$ -SAT can be solved in time  $2^{(1-\epsilon)n}$  for any  $k$ .

1.4.4. *NSETH (Nondeterministic strong exponential time hypothesis)*: There is no  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $k$ -SAT can be solved in time  $2^{(1-\epsilon)n}$  co-nondeterministically for any  $k$ .

1.5. **BMM**. Given two  $n \times n$  matrices  $A, B$  over  $\{0, 1\}$ , Boolean Matrix Multiplication (BMM) is  $(AB)[i, j] = \bigvee_{k=1}^n (A(i, k) \wedge B(k, j))$ .

Note that BMM can be computed using an algorithm for integer matrix multiplication in  $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega)$  time. Still, no combinatorial  $\mathcal{O}(n^{3-\epsilon})$  algorithm is known.

1.5.1. *BMM conjecture [2]*. In the Word RAM model with words of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  bits, any combinatorial algorithm requires  $n^{3-o(1)}$  time in expectation to compute the boolean product of two  $n \times n$  matrices.

1.6. **LED**. Given a string  $w \in \Sigma^*$  and a context-free grammar  $\mathcal{G}$  defined over the same alphabet, how many minimum number of repairs (insertions, deletions and substitutions) are required to map  $w$  into a valid member of  $\mathcal{G}$ ?

1.7. **3SUM**. Determine whether a set  $S \subset \{-n^3, \dots, n^3\}$  of  $|S| = n$  integers contains three distinct elements  $a, b, c \in S$  with  $a + b = c$ .

1.7.1. *3SUM conjecture*. In the Word RAM model with words of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  bits, any algorithm requires  $n^{2-o(1)}$  time in expectation to solve 3SUM problem.

#### 1.8. Triangle detection.

1.8.1. *Triangle conjecture*. There is a constant  $\delta > 0$ , such that in the Word RAM model with words of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  bits, any algorithm requires  $m^{1+\delta-o(1)}$  time in expectation to detect whether an  $m$  edge graph contains a triangle.

#### 1.9. APSP (all pairs shortest paths) and others [13]:

- The all-pairs shortest paths problem on weighted digraphs (APSP).
- Detecting if a weighted graph has a triangle of negative total edge weight.
- Listing up to  $n^{2.99}$  negative triangles in an edge-weighted graph.
- Finding a minimum weight cycle in a graph of non-negative edge weights.
- The replacement paths problem on weighted digraphs.
- Finding the second shortest simple path between two nodes in a weighted digraph.
- Checking whether a given matrix defines a metric.
- Verifying the correctness of a matrix product over the  $(\min, +)$ -semiring (distance product).

1.9.1. *APSP conjecture*. There is a constant  $c$ , such that in the Word RAM model with words of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  bits, any algorithm requires  $n^{3-o(1)}$  time in expectation to compute the distances between every pair of vertices in an  $n$  node graph with edge weights in  $\{1, \dots, n^c\}$ .

1.9.2. *Negative Triangles Over Structures.* The negative triangle problem over  $\mathcal{R}$  is defined on a weighted tripartite graph with parts  $I, J, K$ . Edge weights between  $I$  and  $J$  are from  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and all other edge weights are from  $\mathcal{R}$ . The problem is to detect if there are  $i \in I, j \in J, k \in K$  so that  $(w(i, k) \odot w(k, j)) + w(i, j) < 0$ . Note that if one negates all weights of edges between  $I$  and  $J$ , the condition becomes  $(w(i, k) \odot w(k, j)) < w(i, j)$ .

In the special case when  $\odot = +$  and  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \cup \{-\infty, \infty\}$ , the tripartiteness requirement is unnecessary, and the negative triangle problem is defined on an arbitrary graph with edge weights from  $\mathbb{Z} \cup \{-\infty, \infty\}$ . This holds for the negative triangle problem over both the  $(\min, +)$  and Boolean semirings.

Note that detecting and finding one negative triangle in a graph problems reduce one to another:

**Lemma (Folklore).** *Let  $T(n)$  be a function so that  $\frac{T(n)}{n}$  is nondecreasing. If there is a  $T(n)$  time algorithm for negative triangle detection over  $\mathcal{R}$  on a graph  $G = (I \cup J \cup K, E)$ , then there is an  $\mathcal{O}(T(n))$  algorithm which returns a negative triangle over  $\mathcal{R}$  in  $G$  if one exists.*

1.10. **OV.** The input to the Orthogonal Vectors (OV) problem is two sets  $X, Y$ , each containing  $n$  vectors in  $\{0, 1\}^D$ , for some dimension  $D = \omega(\log n)$ . The task is to determine if there exists a pair  $(x, y) \in (X, Y)$  that is orthogonal, i.e., for each  $j \in D$ , we have  $x[j] \cdot y[j] = 0$ .

The respective hypothesis states that the problem cannot be solved in time  $\mathcal{O}(n^{2-\epsilon})$ , for any fixed  $\epsilon > 0$ .

## 2. TO CFG RECONGNITION

### 2.1. From k-Clique problem [1]:

Summary:  $T(n) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(T(n^{k/3+1}))$  ( $|G| = \mathcal{O}(1)$ )

### 2.2. From BMM [7]:

Summary:  $\mathcal{O}(|G| \cdot n^{3-\epsilon}) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(m^{3-\epsilon/3})$  ( $|G| = \Omega(n^6)$ ), combinatorial reduction

## 3. TO BMM

### 3.1. From CFG recognition [12]:

Summary:  $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^\omega)$

### 3.2. From k-Clique [9], [6]:

Summary:  $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^{i+\omega \cdot l})$ ,  $k = 3 \cdot l + i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2$

or  $\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega(\lfloor k/3 \rfloor, \lfloor (k-1)/3 \rfloor, \lfloor k/3 \rfloor)})$ , where  $\mathcal{O}(n^{\omega(r,s,t)})$  denotes the running time of the multiplication of an  $n^r \times n^s$  matrix by an  $n^s \times n^t$  matrix.

Note that detecting arbitrary  $k$ -vertex (induced or not) subgraph in  $n$ -vertex graph is of the same complexity as detecting  $k$ -clique [9].

### 3.3. From Dyck-1 reachability [3], [8]:

Summary:  $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^\omega \cdot \log^2 n)$ , combinatorial reduction [8]

Idea: find bell-shaped paths in  $\mathcal{O}(\log nn^\omega)$  by getting  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  transitive closures; combine Dyck-1 path from bell-shaped paths: in each of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  iterations we remove bell-shaped paths of height at most  $2^i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, \log n$ .

or  $\mathcal{O}(n^\omega) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^\omega \cdot \log^3 n)$  in [3] via algebraic matrix encoding of flat Dyck1-Reachability to  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  AGMY matrix multiplications.

## 4. TO CFL REACHABILITY

### 4.1. To s-t reachability from SAT [5]:

Summary: subcubic certificates for CFL reachability (positive and negative), no reductions under NSETH from SAT (SETH) to CFL reachability.

Proof is based on the following lemma, where by instance  $(G, \lambda, s, t)$  of CFL reachability problem  $G$  is a graph,  $\lambda$  is edge-labelling function,  $s, t$  are vertices between which we search a path labelled with word from the language.

**Lemma.** *Let  $(G, \lambda, s, t)$  be an instance of the CFL reachability problem. There is a linear-time reduction (in the bit-size of the input) to an instance  $(G', \lambda', s', t')$  of the Dyck-2 reachability problem.*

**4.2. To s-t reachability from LED.** Naive reduction: build a path graph labelled with letters of  $w$ , add loops marked with every symbol of  $\Sigma$  on every vertex, add edges marked with every symbol of  $\Sigma$  and  $\epsilon$  between pairs of adjacent vertices. Make original edges of zero weight, edges with  $\Sigma$  and  $\epsilon$  symbols of positive weight (you can choose different weight-cost for different operations). Find path between end vertices marked with word formed from grammar with minimum weight.

#### 4.3. To s-t reachability from CFG recognition [4]:

Summary:  $\mathcal{O}(n^{3-\epsilon}) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^{3-\epsilon})$ , combinatorial

**Lemma.** *If there exists a combinatorial algorithm that solves the pair Dyck reachability problem in time  $T(n)$ , where  $n$  is the number of nodes of the input graph, then there exists a combinatorial algorithm that solves the CFL parsing problem in time  $\mathcal{O}(n + T(n))$ .*

In combination with reduction to BMM we have:

**Theorem** (BMM-hardness: Conditional cubic lower bound). *For any fixed  $\epsilon > 0$ , if there is a combinatorial algorithm that solves the pair Dyck reachability problem in  $\mathcal{O}(n^{3-\epsilon})$  time, then there is a combinatorial algorithm that solves Boolean Matrix Multiplication in  $\mathcal{O}(n^{3-\epsilon})$  time.*

## 5. TO DYNAMIC TC

### 5.1. From all-pairs CFL reachability [10]:

Summary:  $\mathcal{O}(n^{3-\epsilon}) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^{3-\epsilon})$

## 6. TO DYCK-1 REACHABILITY

### 6.1. From OV (inspired by [8]):

Not working idea!

Summary:  $\mathcal{O}(n^{2-\epsilon}) \Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(n^{2-\epsilon})$

*Intuition.* Without loss of generality suppose  $D$  is even. Consider the first two vectors of the given sets:  $x_1 \in X, y_1 \in Y$ . Let us build part of the Dyck-1 graph  $G$  that will check orthogonality of  $x_1, y_1$ . We create two vertices  $a_1^1, u_1^1$ , with the goal that there exist Dyck-1 path from  $a_1^1$  to  $u_1^1$  if and only if  $x_1^1 \cdot y_1^1 = 0$ . For this purpose we create two additional vertices  $z^1, \tilde{z}^1$  (which will be common for all pairs of vectors from  $X \times Y$ ) and add edges  $a_1^1 \xrightarrow{() } z^1$  and  $\tilde{z}^1 \xrightarrow{() } u_1^1$ . Also, if  $x_1^1 = 0$ , we add edge  $a_1^1 \xrightarrow{() } \tilde{z}^1$  and, similarly, if  $y_1^1 = 0$ , we add edge  $z^1 \xrightarrow{() } u_1^1$  (see Fig. 6.1). Observe that if and only if  $x_1^1 \cdot y_1^1 = 0$  we have path labelled  $() \in Dyck - 1$  from  $a_1^1$  to  $u_1^1$ .

For consistency (of the case  $D = 1$ ) we add vertex  $v_1^1$  corresponding to  $u_1^1$  and we want to maintain the property that there is a path from  $a_1^1$  to  $v_1^1$  labelled with Dyck-1 word if and only if  $x_1^1 \cdot y_1^1 = 0$ . For that we add the edge  $u_1^1 \xrightarrow{() } v_1^1$  and edge  $u_1^1 \xrightarrow{() } a_1^1$ . The only way to reach  $v_1^1$  from  $a_1^1$  if still through  $z^1$  or  $\tilde{z}^1$  and the path  $a_1^1(z^1/\tilde{z}^1)u_1^1a_1^1(z^1/\tilde{z}^1)u_1^1v_1^1$  gives us the desired Dyck-1 word  $-()(( ))$ .

Now we proceed with checking the second coordinates  $-x_1^2 \cdot y_1^2 = 0$ . We create vertices  $a_1^2, u_1^2, z^2, \tilde{z}^2$ , but this time we add edges  $u_1^2 \xrightarrow{() } \tilde{z}^2$  and  $z^2 \xrightarrow{() } a_1^2$ . Edges  $u_1^2 \xrightarrow{() } z^2$  and  $\tilde{z}^2 \xrightarrow{() } a_1^2$  are added if the corresponding coordinates equal 0. To connect with the previous part of the graph we add edges  $a_1^2 \xrightarrow{() } a_1^1$  and  $v_1^1 \xrightarrow{() } u_1^2$ . We also create vertex  $b_1^2$  and an edge  $a_1^2 \xrightarrow{() } b_1^2$ .

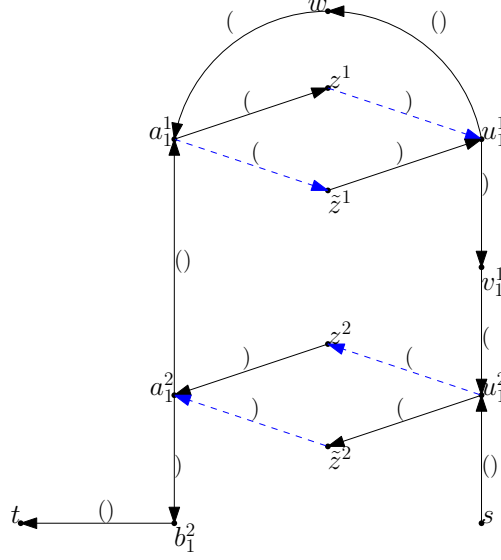


FIGURE 1. Part of the reduction graph  $G$  for vectors  $x_1, y_1 \in \{0, 1\}^D$ ,  $D = 2$ .  
Blue edges exist if the corresponding coordinates equal 0.

The desired property is that we have a Dyck-1 path from  $u_1^2$  to  $a_1^2$  if and only if  $x_1^1 \cdot y_1^1 = 0$  and  $x_1^2 \cdot y_1^2 = 0$ . Path from  $u_1^2$  to  $a_1^2$  can exist only when  $x_1^2 \cdot y_1^2 = 0$ . If  $x_1^1 \cdot y_1^1 = 0$ , then there is a Dyck-1 path from  $a_1^1$  to  $v_1^1$  and the path  $u_1^2(z^2/\tilde{z}^2)a_1^2a_1^1 \xrightarrow{\text{Dyck-1}} v_1^1u_1^2(z^2/\tilde{z}^2)a_1^2b_1^2$  gives us the desired Dyck-1 word  $-(())S_1(())$ ,  $S_1 \in \text{Dyck} - 1$ . If  $x_1^1 \cdot y_1^1 \neq 0$ , then the only possible path between  $u_1^2$  and  $a_1^2$  is a path  $u_1^2(z^2/\tilde{z}^2)a_1^2b_1^2$  which is labelled with a Dyck-1 word.

For the rest of the coordinates of  $x_1, y_1$  we create vertices analogously, following the idea the Dyck-1 path from  $u_1^i$  to  $a_1^i$  (for even  $i$ ; from  $a_1^i$  to  $u_1^i$  for odd  $i$ ) exists if and only if  $x_1^i \cdot y_1^i = 0$  and there is a Dyck-1 path from  $a_1^{i-1}$  to  $u_1^{i-1}$  (or from  $u_1^{i-1}$  to  $a_1^{i-1}$ ). Remark that to get an additional "(" to compensate the ")" from the edge  $a_1^i \xrightarrow{\searrow} b_1^i$  (or  $u_1^i \xrightarrow{\searrow} v_1^i$ ) we need to make a loop through  $a_1^{i-1}, u_1^{i-1}$  and reach the edge  $u_1^1 \xrightarrow{\searrow} a_1^1$  because before it all the brackets are balanced.

After building the parts of  $G$  for all vectors from  $X, Y$  we add two vertices  $s, t$  and edges  $s \xrightarrow{() } u_i^D$  for all  $u_i \in Y$ ,  $b_j^D \xrightarrow{() } t$  for all  $a_j \in X$ . Consequently there is a Dyck-1 path from  $s$  to  $t$  through the vertices  $u_k^D, b_l^D$  if and only if  $x_k$  and  $y_l$  are orthogonal.

**Problem:** path from  $z^i$  to  $z^j$  can be walked using edges corresponding to more than one vector. **Example:**  $su_1^2\tilde{z}^2a_6^2a_1^1\tilde{z}^1u_1^1wa_6^1\tilde{z}^1u_1^1v_1^1u_1^2z_2a_1^2b_1^2t$  and  $a_1 = (1, 0), a_6 = (0, 1), u_1 = (1, 1)$

*Formal construction* Recall, that without loss of generality we suppose that  $D$  is even. We build a labelled graph  $G$  of the Dyck-1 problem consisting of the following vertices and edges. First, we introduce vertices  $z^1, \dots, z^n$  and  $\tilde{z}^1, \dots, \tilde{z}^n$ .

For every vector  $x_i \in X$  we introduce vertices  $a_i^1, \dots, a_i^D$ , vertices  $b_i^2, b_i^4, \dots, b_i^D$  and edges:

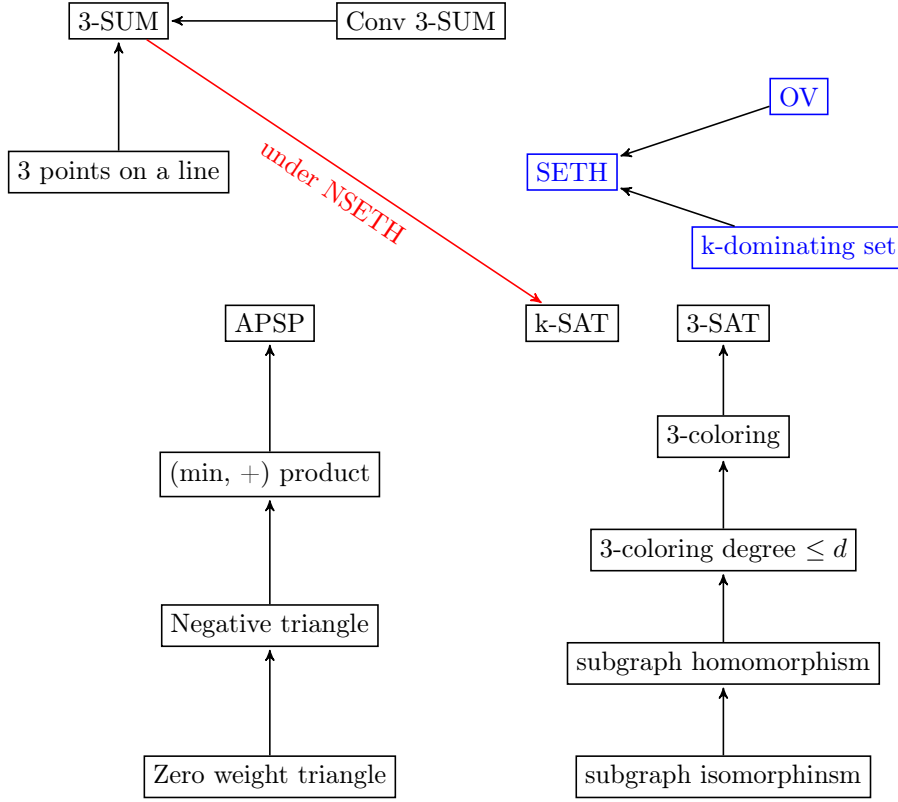
- $w \xrightarrow{() } a_i^1$
- $a_i^j \xrightarrow{() } z^j$  for every odd  $j$
- $a_i^j \xrightarrow{() } \tilde{z}^j$  for every odd  $j$  if  $x_i^j = 0$
- $z^j \xrightarrow{() } a_i^j$  for every even  $j$
- $\tilde{z}^j \xrightarrow{() } a_i^j$  for every even  $j$  if  $x_i^j = 0$
- $a_i^j \xrightarrow{() } a_i^{j-1}$  for every even  $j$
- $a_i^j \xrightarrow{() } b_i^j, b_i^j \xrightarrow{() } a_i^{j+1}$  for every even  $j$

For every vector  $y_i \in Y$  we introduce vertices  $u_i^1, \dots, u_i^D$ , vertices  $v_i^1, v_i^3, \dots, v_i^{D-1}$  and edges:

- $u_i^1 \xrightarrow{() } w$
- $z^j \xrightarrow{() } u_i^j$  for every odd  $j$  if  $y_i^j = 0$
- $\tilde{z}^j \xrightarrow{() } u_i^j$  for every odd  $j$
- $u_i^j \xrightarrow{() } z^j$  for every even  $j$  if  $y_i^j = 0$
- $u_i^j \xrightarrow{() } \tilde{z}^j$  for every even  $j$
- $u_i^{j+1} \xrightarrow{() } u_i^j$  for every even  $j$
- $u_i^j \xrightarrow{() } v_i^j, v_i^j \xrightarrow{() } u_i^{j+1}$  for every odd  $j$

Finally, we introduce vertices  $s, t$  and edges  $b_i^D \xrightarrow{() } t, s \xrightarrow{() } u_i^D, i \in 1, \dots, n$ .

Note that  $|G| = \mathcal{O}(n \cdot D)$ .



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