

# Hypercore Maintenance in Dynamic Hypergraphs

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**Abstract**—In this paper, we study exact hypercore maintenance in large-scale dynamic hypergraphs. A hypergraph, whose hyperedges may contain a set of vertices rather than two vertices in pairwise graphs, can represent complex interactions in more sophisticated applications. However, the exponential number of hyperedges incurs unaffordable costs to recompute the hypercore number of vertices and hyperedges when updating a hypergraph. This motivates us to propose an efficient approach for exact hypercore maintenance with the intention of significantly reducing the hypercore updating time comparing with recomputation approaches. The proposed algorithms can pinpoint the vertices and hyperedges whose hypercore numbers have to be updated by only traversing a small sub-hypergraph. Extensive experiments on real-world and temporal hypergraphs demonstrate the superiority of our algorithms in terms of efficiency.

**Index Terms**—Graph analytics, hypergraph, cohesive subgraph.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Graphs have been utilized as a powerful tool to model pairwise relationships between people or objects, which are extensively employed in various applications such as biology and social network analysis. Most of the applications adopt relational graphs in which only pairwise relationships between two vertices are described, but overlook the widespread usage of polyadic relationships. Polyadic relationships are ubiquitous in real-world scenarios. To name some, a paper may have three or more authors, an online group chat may involve tens of participants, and an email from an organization could be sent to many recipients. Conventional graphs only supporting pairwise relationships would result in information loss when representing groups or collaborators. Hypergraphs [1] are a natural extension of the conventional notion of graphs by allowing various sizes of edges. Formally, a hypergraph consists of a set of vertices and a set of hyperedges, where each hyperedge is a non-empty subset containing any number of vertices. They can represent complex interactions (i.e.,

interactions among any number of objects instead of only two objects in conventional graphs). To demonstrate this scenario, we take article categorization as an example. Given an article with authors' information, one may construct an undirected graph where the vertices are the authors, and two vertices are connected by an edge if they are co-authors of an article. However, in such a graph, it is hard to identify the authors of a particular article, while with a hypergraph, whose hyperedges represent the authors of a same article, can perfectly represent the collaboration relationships. Fig. 1 shows the differences between a hypergraph and a pairwise graph.

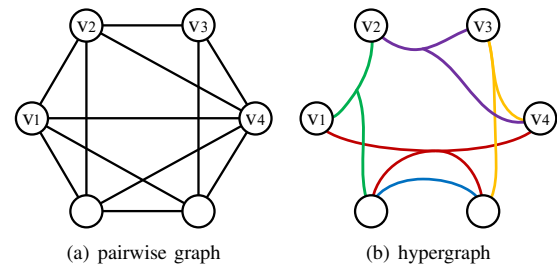


Fig. 1. Comparison of a hypergraph and a pairwise graph. The pairwise graph cannot tell us whether a same person is the author of three or more articles. The hypergraph can completely illustrate the complex relationships among authors and articles.

Taking into account polyadic interactions has been proven to be fruitful and indeed inevitable for challenging tasks. Hypergraphs have attracted much attention in various domains including social networks [2], recommendation [3], knowledge graphs [4], bioinformatics [5], VLSI [6], multimedia [7] e-commerce [8], and learning tasks based on hypergraphs including clustering [9], classification [10], [11] and hyperedge prediction [12], [13].

One of the most important analysis tasks in graphs is to mine cohesive subgraphs, and many related cohesive subgraphs, such as quasi-clique [14],  $k$ -core [15],  $k$ -truss [16], and corresponding indexes for reflexing cohesiveness, such as coreness and trussness, have been proposed and extensively studied

[17]–[20]. Among these indexes, the coreness of vertices, which is defined as the maximum  $k$  such that the vertex can be in a subgraph whose minimum degree is  $k$ , has been the most commonly adopted one, due to its low computation cost [21] and effectiveness in studying the properties of networks, such as efficiently solving NP-hard problems [22] in real networks, and for large-scale network fingerprinting and visualization [23].

The core notation has also been introduced in hypergraph, which was firstly proposed in [24]. It is shown the core number of vertices can better reflect the importance of nodes in a hypergraph than the index of degree. To distinguish  $k$ -core in pairwise graphs, we call  $k$ -core in hypergraphs as  $k$ -hypercore. In [25], Leng and Sun proposed a matching strategy based on the hypercore property of vertices in the coarsening phase, which not only makes use of the global information of the core to develop its guidance role, but also improves previous matching schemes based on local information of vertices. Jiang *et al.* [26] showed that when the number of edges is below an edge density threshold, it only takes  $O(\log \log n)$  rounds of peeling to obtain the empty  $k$ -core for  $r$ -uniform hypergraphs with a high probability, where  $n$  is the number of vertices in the hypergraph. Shun [27] presented an efficient parallel core decomposition algorithm in hypergraphs.

Even though the time complexity of computing the hypercore number is still  $O(m)$  where  $m$  is the number of hyperedges [24], calculating hypercore becomes an exceptionally costly task, as the number of hyperedges can be exponential in the number of vertices. In real-world hypergraphs, there may be tens of millions even billions of vertices. Real-world hypergraphs evolve over time: new scientific publications are continuously added over time and new tweets are posted every second. All these make recomputing hypercore unaffordable. An efficient approach would be updating the hypercore numbers of vertices after every minor change of the hypergraph, referring to a hypercore maintenance algorithm. In [28], Sun *et al.* designed some algorithms to maintain approximate core values in hypergraphs considering edge insertion and deletion by an adversary. However, to the best of our knowledge, there are no existing results on exact hypercore maintenance. Furthermore, different from pairwise graphs, the core number of both vertices and hyperedges have practical significance. Vertices in a hyperedge are organized as a local fully connected community, and the cohesiveness of the hyperedge also needs to be deliberated in hypergraphs.

In this work, we focus on exact hypercore maintenance in large-scale dynamic hypergraphs. Note that due to the complex interactions of hypergraphs, exact hypercore maintenance is much more complex in hypergraphs comparing with its counterpart in pairwise graphs. The challenges include (1) how to determine the hypercore number change after a graph change; (2) how to reduce the number of hyperedges and vertices traversed in the process of identifying those hyperedges and vertices that change the hypercore number; and (3) how to finally identify the vertices and hyperedges whose hypercore numbers will change.

To tackle the challenges for hypercore maintenance, we focus on the scenario of single hyperedge insertion/deletion. The hypercore maintenance with multiple hyperedge insertions/deletions can be solved by iteratively invoking the single-hyperedge insertion/deletion algorithms. We prove that the hypercore number of every vertex and hyperedge can change at most by 1 after a hyperedge is inserted or deleted. To undertake the second challenge, we propose necessary conditions to determine the potential vertices and hyperedges that need to be traversed, based on a proposed concept of *pre-core* and a relationship of hypercore number between vertices and hyperedges. These necessary conditions greatly reduce the traversal range during the process of identifying potential vertices and hyperedges that may change the hypercore number. Furthermore, we propose the concept of *support degree* to finally identify the vertices and hyperedges which can change the hypercore number. Our contributions are summarized as follows.

- 1) We propose the concept of hypercore number on hyperedges, and reveal the relationship of the hypercore number between vertices and hyperedges.
- 2) We present algorithms for exact hypercore maintenance in large-scale dynamic hypergraphs. Rigorous theoretical analysis ensures that our algorithm can update the hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges efficiently.

**Roadmap.** The remaining sections of this paper are outlined as follows: In Section II, the notations and definitions are given. In Section III, the theoretical basis of our algorithms is presented. We introduce our hypercore maintenance algorithms in Section IV. Empirical results on real-world hypergraph datasets and temporal datasets are presented in Section V. We discuss and conclude our work in Section VI.

## II. PRELIMINARIES

We formulate the problem in this section. We consider a simple and undirected hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$  on a finite set of vertices  $V$ , where  $E \subset 2^V$  is a set of hyperedges. Each hyperedge  $e \in E$  represents a set of  $|e|$  vertices that take interaction.

Let  $e(v)$  denote a hyperedge  $e$  that  $v$  belongs to and  $E(v)$  denote the set of hyperedges that  $v$  belongs to. The neighborhood of a vertex  $v \in V$  in a hypergraph consists of all vertices in the hyperedges that contain  $v$ , denoted as  $N_G(v)$ , i.e.,  $N_G(v) = \bigcup_{e \in E} e(v)$ . The hyper-degree of a vertex  $v$ , denoted as  $d_G(v)$ , is defined as the number of hyperedges containing  $v$ . When the context is clear, we simply call hyper-degree as degree. The cardinality of a hyperedge  $e$  is the number of vertices it contains. We next give the definition of  $k$ -hypercore as follows.

**Definition 1 ( $k$ -hypercore):** A  $k$ -hypercore is a connected maximal sub-hypergraph  $H = (V', E')$  of  $G = (V, E)$ , such that  $\forall v \in V'$ ,  $d_H(v) \geq k$ .

With the above definition, we can define the *hypercore number on vertices and hyperedges* as follows.

**Definition 2 (Hypercore number of vertex):** For a given vertex  $v$  in the hypergraph  $G$ , the hypercore number of vertex

$v$ , denoted as  $\text{coreV}(v)$ , equals to  $k$  if there exists a  $k$ -hypercore containing vertex  $v$ , but there is not any  $(k+1)$ -hypercore containing  $v$ .

**Definition 3 (Hypercore number of hyperedge):** For a given hyperedge  $e$  in the hypergraph  $G$ , the hypercore number of hyperedge  $e$ , denoted as  $\text{coreE}(e)$ , equals to  $k$  if the hypercore number of each vertex in  $e$  is not smaller than  $k$ .

From the definitions of the hypercore number of vertices and hyperedges, it can be concluded that the hypercore number of a hyperedge  $e$  and a vertex  $v$  satisfy the following equations.

$$\text{coreE}(e) = \min\{\text{coreV}(v) : v \in e\}. \quad (1)$$

$$\text{coreV}(v) = \arg \max_{K \geq 0} \{|\{e : e \in E(v), \text{coreE}(e) \geq K\}| \geq K\}. \quad (2)$$

We consider the hypercore update problem in dynamic graphs, which is formally called the *hypercore maintenance* problem. Specifically, given a hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$ , the hypercore maintenance problem is to update the hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges after some graph changes. We here pay our attention to the scenario of single-hyperedge insertion/deletion from  $G$ , which are called *incremental* and *decremental* core maintenance respectively, as multiple changes of hyperedges or vertices can be solved by recursively invoking the single-hyperedge insertion/deletion algorithm.

### III. THEORETICAL BASIS

To handle the hypercore number update efficiently after an insertion/deletion of a hyperedge, the key is to identify the affected hyperedges and vertices in the hypergraph precisely and the changed values on hypercore numbers of hyperedges and vertices. Thus, we present theoretical analysis to quantify the hypercore number change and scope potential vertices and hyperedges whose hypercore numbers may change.

We discover that the hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges can change by at most 1 after a hyperedge is inserted/deleted. We propose a concept of *pre-core number* as the initial hypercore number of newly inserted hyperedge, and show that only the vertices and hyperedges that are reachable to the updated hyperedge and have the hypercore number equal to the pre-core number of the update hyperedge may change their hypercore numbers, such that the searching range of potential vertices and hyperedges can be greatly reduced. Finally, we define the *support degree* on vertices to determine the vertices and the hyperedges whose hypercore numbers need to be updated.

**Lemma 1:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is deleted from hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$ , then the hypercore number of every vertex  $v$  and every hyperedge  $e$  can decrease by at most 1.

*Proof:* We first consider the vertices. Denote by  $G' = G \setminus \{e_0\}$ . Assume that there exists a vertex  $v$  whose hypercore number decreases by more than 1. Formally, assume that  $\text{coreV}(v) = k$  and  $\text{coreV}(v) = k - x$  after deleting hyperedge  $e_0$ , where  $x \geq 2$ . Denote by  $H$  the  $k$ -hypercore containing  $v$  in  $G$ . Let  $H' = H \setminus e_0$ . Notice that after deleting a hyperedge from  $G$ , the degree of every vertex in  $G$  decreases by at most

1. Hence, for each vertex  $u \in H'$ ,  $d_H'(u) \geq k - 1$ . This means that  $H'$  is a  $k - 1$ -hypercore in  $G'$  and  $\text{coreV}(v) = k - 1$ , which contradicts with the assumption. ■

For the hypercore change of hyperedges, because the hypercore of a hyperedge is the minimum hypercore number of vertices it contains, and as shown above, the hypercore number of every vertex can decrease by at most 1. Hence, the hypercore number of every hyperedge can also decrease by at most 1. ■

**Lemma 2:** Let  $G' = (V, E')$  denote the hypergraph obtained by inserting a hyperedge  $e_0$  into the hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$ . Then the hypercore number of every vertex  $v$  and every hyperedge  $e$  in  $G$  can increase by at most 1.

*Proof:* We consider the hypercore number change of vertices. Assume that there exists a vertex  $v$  whose hypercore number changes by more than 1. Formally, assume that  $\text{coreV}(v) = k$  in hypergraph  $G$  and  $\text{coreV}(v) = k + x$  in hypergraph  $G'$ , where  $x \geq 2$ . After deleting  $e_0$  from  $G'$ , the hypercore number of  $v$  can decrease by at most 1 by Lemma 1. This means in  $G$ ,  $\text{coreV}(v) \geq k + x - 1 > k$ , which contradicts with the hypercore number of  $v$  in  $G$ . So the hypercore number of every vertex can increase by at most 1.

The bound on the hypercore number change of edges can be proved similarly as the deletion case in Lemma 1, based on the above result on vertices and the definition of hypercore number. ■

We use an index of pre-core number defined as follows to determine whether a vertex or a hyperedge is potential to change the hypercore number.

**Definition 4 (Pre-core number):** After inserting a hyperedge  $e_0$  into hypergraph  $G$ , the *pre-core number* of  $e$ , denoted by  $\text{coreE}(e)$ , is defined as  $\text{coreE}(e) = \min\{\text{coreV}(v) : v \in e_0\}$ .

**Lemma 3:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is inserted into  $G = (V, E)$ , the pre-core number will increase by at most 1.

*Proof:* The pre-core number of a hyperedge depends on the minimum hypercore number of vertices belonging to the hyperedge. We assume the hyperedge  $e$ 's pre-core number increases by  $x > 1$  after the insertion of  $e_0$ . According to the definition of pre-core number of hyperedge, the hypercore number of certain vertex in  $e$  must have increased by  $x$ . However, the hypercore number of every vertex can increase by at most 1 by Lemma 2, which is a contradiction. ■

With the definition of pre-core number, in the following Lemma 4 and Lemma 5, we give necessary conditions for vertices to change the hypercore.

**Lemma 4:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is inserted into  $G = (V, E)$ , for any vertex  $v \in V$ ,  $v$  may increase its hypercore number only if  $\text{coreV}(v) = \text{coreE}(e_0)$ .

**Lemma 5:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is deleted from  $G = (V, E)$ , for any vertex  $v \in V$ ,  $v$  may decrease its hypercore number only if  $\text{coreV}(v) = \text{coreE}(e_0)$ .

**Lemma 6:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is inserted into  $G = (V, E)$ , for any hyperedge  $e \in E$ ,  $e$  may increase its hypercore number only if  $\text{coreE}(e) = \text{coreE}(e_0)$ .

**Lemma 7:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is deleted from  $G = (V, E)$ , for any hyperedge  $e \in E \setminus \{e_0\}$ ,  $e$  may decrease its hypercore number only if  $\text{core}E(e) = \text{core}E(e_0)$ .

Based on the above Lemmas, we can finally get a result to depict necessary conditions for identifying potential vertices and hyperedges.

**Theorem 1:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is inserted into hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$ , then only the vertices  $v$  and the hyperedges  $e$ , which satisfy  $\text{core}V(v) = \overline{\text{core}E}(e_0)$ ,  $\text{core}E(e) = \overline{\text{core}E}(e_0)$ , and are reachable from  $e_0$  via a path that consists of vertices and hyperedges with hypercore number equal to  $\overline{\text{core}E}(e_0)$ , may increase the hypercore number.

*Proof:* According Lemma 4 and Lemma 6, only if the hypercore number equals to the pre-core number of  $e_0$ , the hyperedge or vertex's hypercore number may increase. Assume that the vertices and hyperedges whose hypercore numbers increase do not form a connected sub-hypergraph. Then, there are at least 2-non-overlapping sub-hypergraphs of vertices and hyperedges whose hypercore numbers increase,  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ . Since there is only one hyperedge insertion, only one of the two sub-hypergraphs can have vertices in the new hyperedge whose degrees can increase. Without loss of generality, we assume this sub-hypergraph is  $H_1$ . Clearly,  $H_2$  does not have any change after inserting  $e_0$ . Hence, the hypercore number of vertices and hyperedges in  $H_2$  cannot change accordingly. This contradiction completes the proof. ■

Using a similar argument as the insertion case, we can get the necessary condition for the deletion scenario as well.

**Theorem 2:** If a hyperedge  $e_0$  is deleted from hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$ , then only the vertices  $v$  and hyperedges  $e$ , which satisfy  $\text{core}V(v) = \text{core}E(e_0)$ ,  $\text{core}E(e) = \text{core}E(e_0)$ , and are reachable from  $e_0$  via a path that consists of vertices and hyperedges with hypercore number equal to  $\text{core}E(e_0)$ , may decrease the hypercore number.

We finally propose sufficient conditions to determine whether a vertex or a hyperedge can change the hypercore number. At first, a concept of *support degree* is proposed to depict the possibility of hypercore change.

**Definition 5 (Support Degree):** The *support degree* of a vertex  $v$ , denoted as  $\text{sup}(v)$ , is defined as the number of hyperedges containing  $v$  and satisfying  $\text{core}E(e) \geq \text{core}V(v)$ . Each hyperedge  $e$  with  $\text{core}E(e) \geq \text{core}V(v)$  is called a *support hyperedge* of  $v$ .

Based on the definitions of support degree and hypercore number, we can obtain the following sufficient condition for determining whether the hypercore number can change.

**Theorem 3:**

- 1) After a hyperedge  $e_0$  is inserted into  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $v \in V$  and  $\text{sup}(v) \leq \text{core}V(v)$ , then  $\text{core}V(v)$  will not increase.
- 2) After a hyperedge  $e_0$  is deleted from  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $v \in V$  and  $\text{sup}(v) < \text{core}V(v)$ , then  $\text{core}V(v)$  will decrease by 1.

*Proof:* For the case of hyperedge insertion. We prove the theorem by a contradiction. Assume  $\text{sup}(v) = k$ ,  $\text{core}V(v) = k + 1$  after inserting a hyperedge. There are at least  $k + 1$

hyperedges containing  $v$  and their hypercore numbers are at least  $k + 1$  according to Equation (2). However, there are only  $k$  hyperedges whose hypercore numbers are at least  $k$  according to the definition of support degree, and only these hyperedges can increase the hypercore number to at least  $k + 1$ . This contradiction completes the proof.

The deletion case can be similarly proved. ■

#### IV. HYPERCORE MAINTENANCE

In this section, we present an algorithm for incremental core maintenance. We consider the scenario where a hyperedge  $e_0$  is inserted into a hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$ . The incremental hypercore maintenance algorithm is given in Algorithm 1.

In the algorithm, the pre-core number of  $e_0$  is first computed (Lines 2-3). All potential vertices that may change the hypercore number, i.e., those whose hypercore numbers are equal to  $\overline{\text{core}E}(e_0)$  and which are reachable from  $e_0$  via a path that consists of vertices and hyperedges with hypercore number equal to  $\overline{\text{core}E}(e_0)$ , are found using a DFS process (Line 5). Then the potential vertices with support degrees not larger than  $\overline{\text{core}E}(e_0)$  are identified (Lines 6-11). The hypercore number of these vertices will not increase by Theorem 3. Once a potential vertex is identified as being unable to increase the hypercore number, the support degrees of other vertices reachable from this vertex is updated. Finally, the vertices in *sup* that are not excluded will increase the hypercore number by 1, while the hyperedges containing these vertices update the hypercore number accordingly (Lines 12-15).

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##### Algorithm 1: Incremental hypercore maintenance

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```

Input :  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $\text{core}V$ ,  $\text{core}E$ ,  $e_0$ 
Output:  $\text{core}V$ ,  $\text{core}E$ 
1  $G \leftarrow G \cup \{e_0\}$ ;
2  $k \leftarrow \min\{\text{core}V(v) : v \in e_0\}$ ; // pre-core of  $e_0$ 
3  $\text{core}E(e_0) \leftarrow k$ ;
4  $\text{exclude} \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;
5  $\text{sup} \leftarrow \text{ComputeSupport}(G, \text{core}E, \text{core}V, e_0)$ ;
6 while  $\exists \text{sup}(v) \leq k$  do
7    $\text{exclude.add}(v)$ ;
8   foreach  $e \in E(v)$  and  $\text{core}E(e) = k$  do
9     foreach  $u \in e$  do
10      if  $\text{sup}(u) \neq \text{null}$  and  $u \notin \text{exclude}$  then
11         $\text{sup}(u) \leftarrow \text{sup}(u) - 1$ ;
12 foreach  $v$  that  $\text{sup}(v) \neq \text{null}$  and  $v \notin \text{exclude}$  do
13   foreach  $e \in E(v)$  and  $\text{core}E(e) = k$  do
14     Update  $\text{core}E(e)$  by Equation 1;
15    $\text{core}V(v) \leftarrow k + 1$ ;
16 return  $\text{core}V$ ,  $\text{core}E$ ;

```

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**Analysis.** To analyze the efficiency of our incremental algorithm, we first introduce some notations to measure the time complexity of our algorithm.

Let  $G' = (V, E \cup \{e_0\})$  be the new hypergraph after inserting  $e_0$ . Denote by  $s$  the maximum cardinality of hyperedges. Let  $C$  be the set of hypercore numbers of vertices in  $G$ . For each  $k \in C$ , let  $V_k$  and  $E_k$  denote the set of vertices and

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**Algorithm 2:** ComputeSupport( $G, \text{coreV}, \text{coreE}, e_0$ )

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**Input :**  $G, \text{coreV}, \text{coreE}, e_0$   
**Output:** sup

```
1 visit  $\leftarrow \emptyset$  ;
2 sup  $\leftarrow \emptyset$  ;
3 stack  $\leftarrow \emptyset$  ;
4  $k \leftarrow \text{coreE}(e_0)$  ;
5 foreach  $v \in V$  do visit( $v$ )  $\leftarrow \text{false}$ ;
6 foreach  $v \in e_0$  and  $\text{coreE}(v) = k$  do
7   stack.push( $v$ );
8   visit( $v$ )  $\leftarrow \text{true}$  ;
9 while stack  $\neq \emptyset$  do
10   $v \leftarrow \text{stack.pop}()$  ;
11  foreach  $e \in E(v)$  do
12    if  $\text{coreE}(e) \geq \text{coreV}(v)$  then
13      sup( $v$ )  $\leftarrow \text{sup}(v) == \text{null} ? 1 : \text{sup}(v) + 1$  ;
14    if  $\text{coreE}(e) = k$  then
15      foreach  $u \in e$  do
16        if visit( $u$ ) = false and  $\text{coreV}(u) = k$  then
17          stack.push( $u$ ) ;
18          visit( $u$ )  $\leftarrow \text{true}$  ;
19 return sup;
```

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hyperedges whose hypercore numbers equal to  $k$ . Denote by  $\hat{V} = \max_{k \in C} \{V_k\}$  and  $\hat{E} = \max_{k \in C} \{E_k\}$ . Let  $d_{\max}$  denote the maximum degree of vertices.

*Theorem 4:* Algorithm 1 can correctly update the hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges in  $O(|\hat{V}| \cdot d_{\max} + |\hat{E}|s)$  time, after inserting a hyperedge  $e_0$  into  $G$ .

*Proof:* By Theorem 1, only the vertices  $v$  and the hyperedges  $e$ , which satisfy  $\text{coreV}(v) = \text{coreE}(e_0)$ ,  $\text{coreE}(e) = \text{coreE}(e_0)$ , and are reachable from  $e_0$  via a path that consists of vertices and hyperedges with hypercore number equal to  $\text{coreE}(e_0)$ . Hence our algorithm can find all potential vertices and hyperedges that may change the hypercore value. Then by Theorem 3, a vertex cannot increase the hypercore number if its support degree is not larger than its hypercore number. By checking and updating the support degrees of vertices, our algorithm can correctly distinguish vertices that do not increase the hypercore number. After this process, all remaining potential vertices constitute a sub-hypergraph in which each vertex are connected to at least  $k + 1$  hyperedges. This means that all these vertices have a new hypercore number at least  $k + 1$ , which ensures the correctness of our algorithm.

For the running time, there are three processes in the algorithm. At first the hypercore number of each vertex in  $e_0$  is computed, which takes  $O(s)$  time. Then identifying the potential vertices using the DFS process takes  $O(|\hat{V}| \cdot d_{\max} + |\hat{E}|s)$  time, and distinguishing the vertices that will not increase the hypercore number takes  $O(|\hat{V}| + |\hat{E}|s)$ . Finally, it takes  $O(|\hat{V}| + |\hat{E}|)$  time to update the hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges. Combining all together, the running time is  $O(|\hat{V}| \cdot d_{\max} + |\hat{E}|s)$ . ■

*Discussion.* In our algorithm, we take the hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges as input. There have been

many recent work studying the hypercore decomposition problem, such as [24], [26]–[28]. However, none of them studies the hypercore number of hyperedges.

We here propose a core decomposition algorithm, as shown in Algorithm 3. In the algorithm, starting from  $k = 1$ , vertices whose degrees are less than  $k$  are repeatedly removed, together with hyperedges containing them. The hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges are set to  $k$  when they are removed. Different from previous algorithms, the algorithm computes the hypercore number of hyperedges in the decomposition process. The time complexity of the hypercore decomposition is  $O(|E|)$ .

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**Algorithm 3:** Hypercore Decomposition

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**Input :** A hypergraph  $G = (V, E)$   
**Output:** Hypercore number of vertices and hyperedges

```
1 compute  $d(v)$  for  $v \in V$ ;
2  $k \leftarrow 1$ ;
3 while  $G$  is not empty do
4   while  $\exists v \in V$  such that  $d(v) \leq k$  do
5     foreach  $e \in E(v)$  do
6       foreach  $u \in e$  do
7          $d(u) \leftarrow d(u) - 1$ ;
8       delete  $e$  from  $E$  ;
9        $\text{coreE}(e) \leftarrow k$ ;
10    delete  $v$  from  $V$ ;
11     $\text{coreV}(v) \leftarrow k$ ;
12     $k \leftarrow k + 1$ ;
13 return  $\text{coreE}, \text{coreV}$ ;
```

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## V. EXPERIMENTS

In this section, we evaluate the proposed hypercore maintenance algorithms on real-world graphs and temporal graphs<sup>1</sup>. All programs are implemented in Java and compiled with JDK 8. The evaluations are performed on a machine with Intel Core(TM) i7-7700 CPU and 24GB size memory.

Table I shows the statistics of real-world datasets, where  $c_{\max}$  is the maximum cardinality, **Ins.** and **Del.** are the average time of inserting or deleting one hyperedge. The hyperedge deletion process is faster than the insertion process. Next, we compare the performances of the hypergraph decomposition algorithm and the hypergraph maintenance algorithms by conducting on temporal hypergraphs. In each hypergraph, the timestamped hyperedges are seen as the inserted/deleted ones. In the experiments, the hypercore decomposition algorithms are only executed for once to update the hypercore numbers when a number of hyperedges are inserted/deleted. The experimental results are shown in Table. II. **#TS.** is the number of timestamped hyperedges and **#Uniq.** is the number of unique hyperedges. **Ins.** and **Del.** are the breakpoint of inserting and deleting hyperedges. It can be seen that the break point reaches around 1.5%-2.0% of the total number of hyperedges for all hypergraphs.

<sup>1</sup> All the datasets can be download in <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/arb/data/>

TABLE I  
THE STATISTICS OF REAL-WORLD HYPERGRAPHS.

Dataset	V	E	$c_{max}$	Ins.(ns)	Del.(ns)
tags-math	1K	174K	5	0.374	0.313
DAWN	2K	143K	16	0.657	0.448
tags-ask-ubuntu	3K	151K	5	0.254	0.247
NDC-substances	5K	10K	25	0.567	0.121
threads-ask-ubuntu	125K	167K	14	0.163	0.037
threads-math	176K	595K	21	0.383	0.131
coauth-History	1.1M	895K	25	47.101	0.336
coauth-Geology	1.2M	1.2M	25	78.826	9.945

TABLE II  
THE STATISTICS OF TEMPORAL HYPERGRAPHS.

Dataset	V	#TS.	#Uniq.	Ins.	Del.
tags-stack-overflow	50K	14.4M	5.6M	45	142
coauth-DBLP	1.9M	3.7M	2.6M	1.5K	5.6K
threads-stack-overflow	2.6M	11.3M	9.7M	1.9K	8.5K

## VI. CONCLUSION

We proposed the algorithms for exact hypercore maintenance in large-scale dynamic hypergraphs. Our algorithms provide an efficient approach to update hypercore numbers of vertices and hyperedges, where only a small sub-hypergraph needs to be traversed for identifying the vertices and hyperedges that have to change the hypercore numbers, avoiding the exceptionally expensive approach of recomputation after every graph change. Extensive experiments demonstrate our algorithms can significantly speed up the hypercore update process. Due to the ubiquitous applications of hypergraphs, studies on hypergraphs have attracted much attention recently. However, due to complex representations and lack of adequate tools, efficient solutions to some fundamental problems in hypergraphs are still not derived. Our work shows that it is possible to design efficient dense subgraph mining algorithms by deeply investigating the structural properties of hypergraphs. Hence, it deserves to making more efforts on mining tasks in hypergraphs.

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