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# Clique-Based Lower Bounds for Parsing Tree-Adjoining Grammars

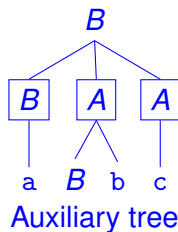
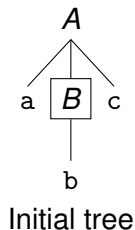
Karl Bringmann and **Philip Wellnitz**

Max Planck Institute for Informatics,  
Saarland Informatics Campus (SIC),  
Saarbrücken, Germany

May 8, 2019

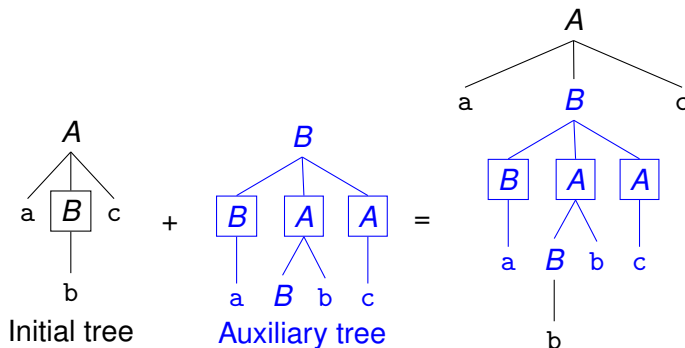
# Tree-Adjoining Grammars

- Initial and auxiliary trees, nodes marked for adjunction



# Tree-Adjoining Grammars

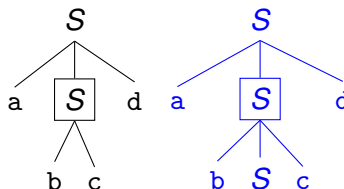
## ■ Adjoining trees



# Tree-Adjoining Grammars

## Examples

- Every CFG
- $\{a^n b^n c^n d^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

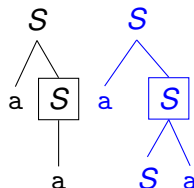


- (Large parts of) English (XTAG [DEH<sup>+</sup>94])

# Tree-Adjoining Grammars

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- $\{aa \mid a \in \Sigma\}$



# Tree-Adjoining Grammars

- Check for  $s \in T^*$  if  $s \in \mathcal{L}(\Gamma)$ , i.e. *parse*  $s$
- $O(|s|^6)$  algorithm using dynamic programming [VSJ85, SJ88]
- $O(|s|^{2\omega})$  using matrix multiplication,  $\omega < 2.373$  [RY98]
- Faster algorithms?
  - ↪ Improbable, for  $|\Gamma| = \Theta(n^{12})$  [Sat94]
  - ↪ *Now, even for  $|\Gamma| = \Theta(1)$*

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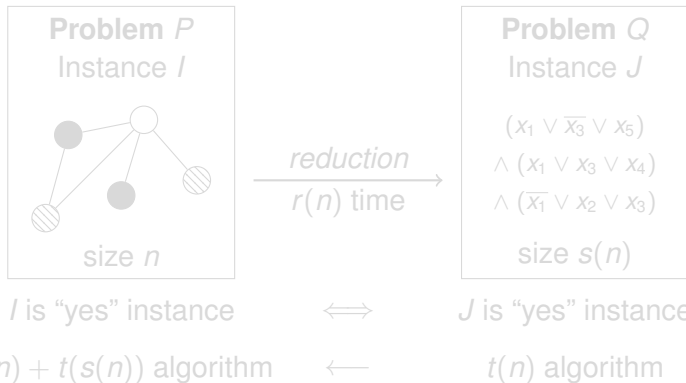
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# Lower Bounds

- Hard to show lower bounds for natural problems

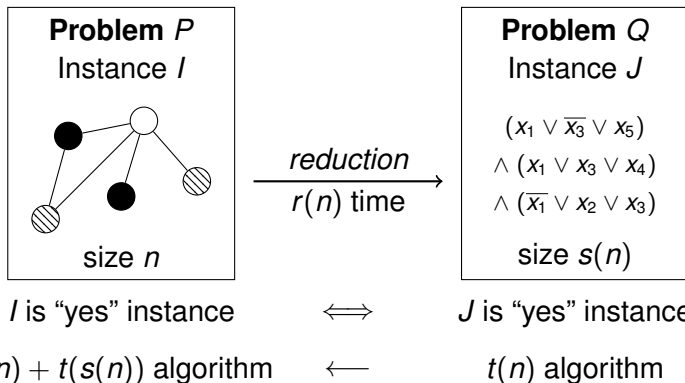
⇒ Use *reductions* to relate problems



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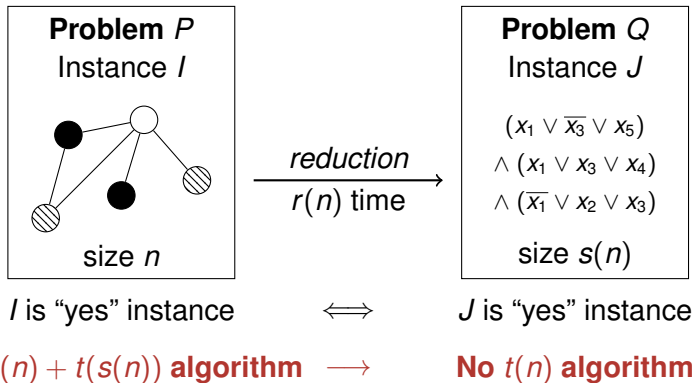
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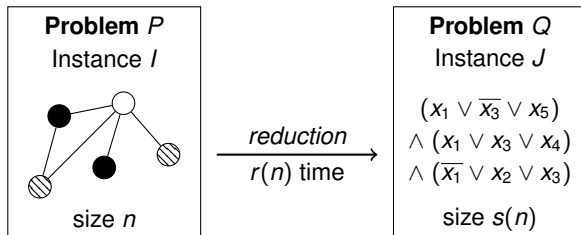
→ Use *reductions* to relate problems



# Lower Bounds

- Hard to show lower bounds for natural problems

⇒ Use *reductions* to relate problems



$I$  is “yes” instance



$J$  is “yes” instance

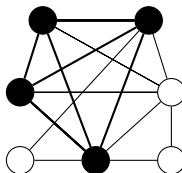
**No  $r(n) + t(s(n))$  algorithm** →

**No  $t(n)$  algorithm**

⇒ Need *hard* problems

## $k$ -Clique

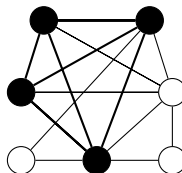
- Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , does  $G$  contain a clique of size  $k$ ?



- Naïve  $O(n^k)$  algorithm
- $O(n^{\frac{\omega k}{3}})$  for  $3 \mid k$ , using matrix multiplication,  $\omega < 2.373$  [NP85]
- Let us believe that these algorithms are optimal.

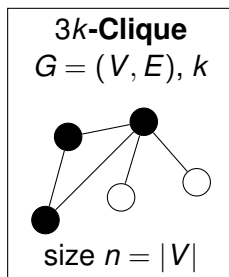
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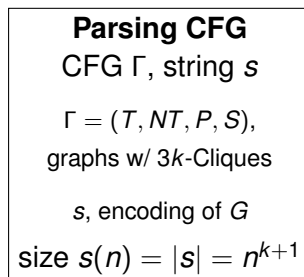


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# Hardness for Context-Free Grammars



*reduction*  
 $\xrightarrow{n^{k+1} \text{ time}}$



$G$  contains 3k-Clique  $\iff$

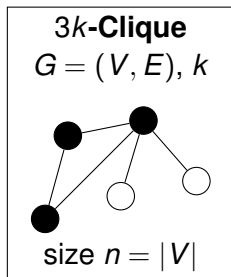
$s \in \mathcal{L}(\Gamma)$

No  $n^{k+1} + t(n^{k+1})$  algorithm  $\longrightarrow$

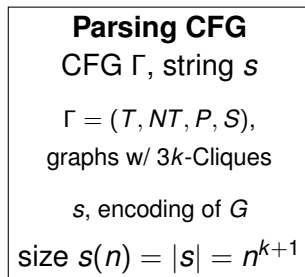
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$\iff$

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**No  $n^{3k(1-\epsilon)}$  algorithm**

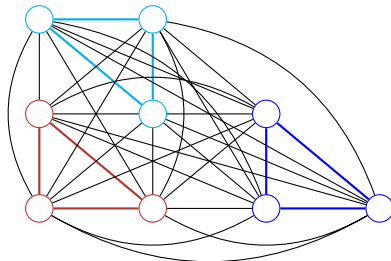
**No  $n^{\frac{\omega k}{3}(1-\epsilon)}$  algorithm**

$\longrightarrow$

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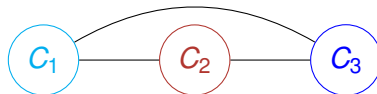




# Hardness for Context-Free Grammars

- String  $s$ : list all  $k$ -cliques of  $G$  in a special way

$\rightsquigarrow \Gamma$ : all graphs where 3  $k$ -cliques form a triangle



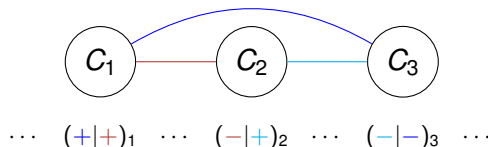
$(+|+)_2 (+|+)_3 (+|+)_1 \cdots (-|+)_2 (-|+)_1 (-|+)_3 \cdots (-|-)_1 (-|-)_3 (-|-)_2$

$+$ : List clique's nodes

$-$ : List for every node all neighbors

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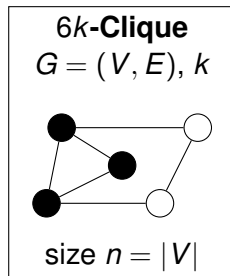
Matching  $+$  and  $-$  form a  $2k$ -clique.

$\Gamma$  will look like:

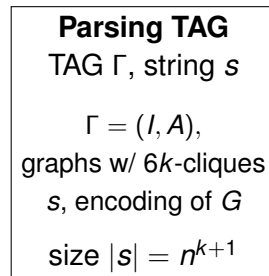
$$\begin{aligned}
 S &\rightarrow^* \dots (+|S_{\alpha\beta}|S_{\beta\gamma}|-) \dots \\
 S_{\alpha\beta} &\rightarrow^* +) \dots (- \\
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 \end{aligned}$$



# Hardness for Tree-Adjoining Grammars



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$G$  contains  $6k$ -clique

$\iff$

$s \in \mathcal{L}(\Gamma)$

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**No  $n^{2\omega k(1-\epsilon')}$  algorithm**

$\longrightarrow$

**No  $|s|^{6-\epsilon}$  algorithm**  
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# Hardness for Tree-Adjoining Grammars

- Want to “solve”  $6k$ -clique using TAG parser  
     $\rightsquigarrow$  Need string and a grammar
- String: list all  $k$ -cliques in graph  $G$  in a special way  
    Grammar: all graphs where 6  $k$ -cliques form a 6-clique
- **Here:** Will show how to generate  $4k$ -cliques

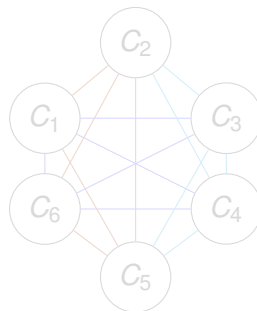
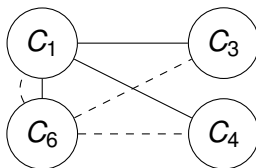


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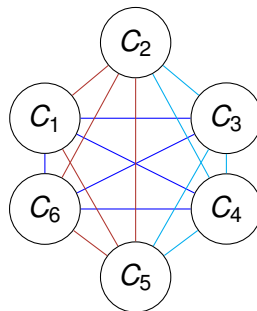
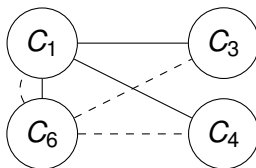
# Hardness for Tree-Adjoining Grammars

- Can generate (almost)  $4k$ -cliques  $\rightsquigarrow P(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$
- $6k$ -cliques decompose into 3 of these  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Need to use  $P(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  3 times  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Similar to CFG hardness



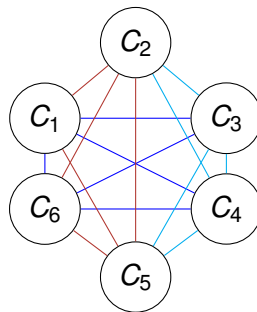
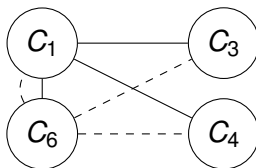
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# Hardness for Tree-Adjoining Grammars

- String: list all  $k$ -cliques in graph  $G$  in a special way  
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- $\text{CNG}(C_k)$  list vertices of  $k$ -clique  $C_k$   
 $\text{CLG}(C_k)$  list neighbors of vertices of  $k$ -clique  $C_k$
- $\text{CNG}(C_k) \subset \text{CLG}(C'_k)$  iff  $C_k \cup C'_k$  is a  $2k$ -clique

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- String (to detect  $4k$ -cliques):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{GG}_k(G) := & \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \\ & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \\ & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \\ & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \end{aligned}$$

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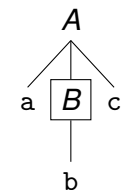
- **Claim:** There is a TAG that generates

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{GG}_k(G) \mid G \text{ contains a } 4k\text{-clique}\} \\ & \cup \{\text{some strings that are not encodings of graphs}\} \end{aligned}$$

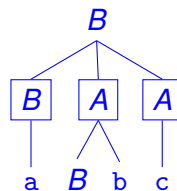


# Reminder: Tree-Adjoining Grammars

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Initial tree



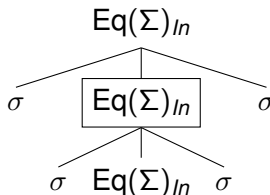
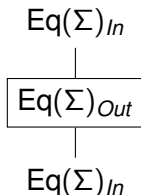
Auxiliary tree





# Hardness Result

Testing for equality  $\text{Eq}(\Sigma)$

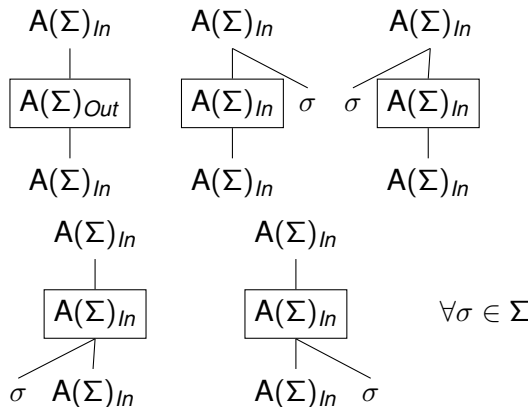


$\forall \sigma \in \Sigma$

Generates  $\{(s, s^R, s, s^R) \mid s \in \Sigma^*\}$

# Hardness for Tree-Adjoining Grammars

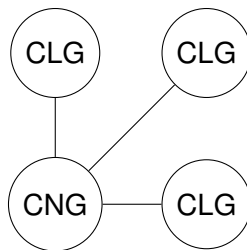
Writing anything  $A(\Sigma)$



Generates  $\Sigma^* \times \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^* \times \Sigma^*$

# Programs

- Combine programs to detect claws of cliques



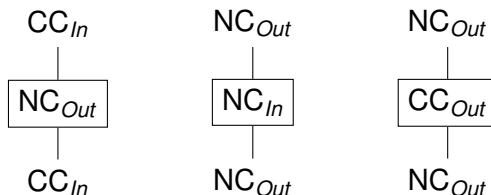
- Detect  $4k$ -clique as 4 claws of cliques

# Hardness for Tree-Adjoining Grammars

## Detecting claws

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NC} := & W(\#) \cdot A(\{0, 1, \$\}) \cdot W(\$) \\ & \cdot \text{Eq}(\{0, 1\}) \\ & \cdot W(\$) \cdot A(\{0, 1, \$\}) \cdot W(\#) \end{aligned}$$

Detecting claws of  $k$ -cliques (applying NC  $k^2$  times)



- CC is completely symmetric
- Can simply use it 4 times:

$$\begin{aligned} C := & A(0, 1, \#, \S, |) \cdot W(|) \\ & \cdot CC \cdot W(\S) \cdot CC \cdot W(\S) \cdot CC \cdot W(\S) \cdot CC \\ & \cdot W(|) \cdot A(0, 1, \#, \S, |) \end{aligned}$$

- $$\begin{aligned} \text{GG}_k(G) &:= \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \\ &\quad \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \\ &\quad \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \\ &\quad \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} |\text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \S \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R| \end{aligned}$$



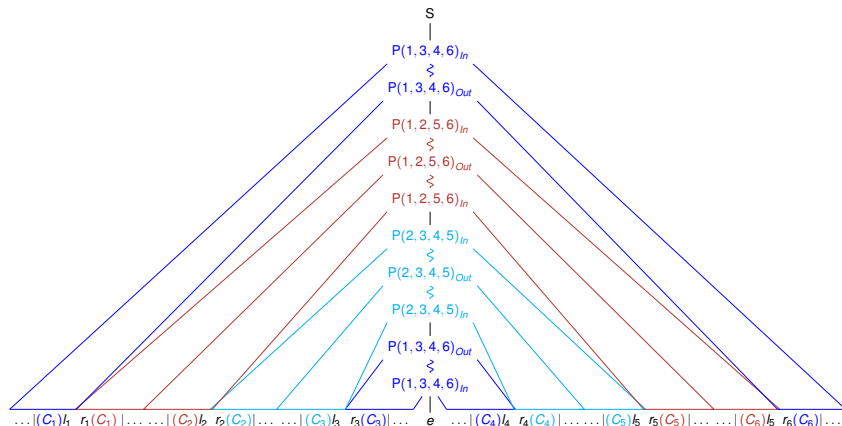
# Conclusions

- Current TAG parsers are very likely optimal
- There is a natural problem with the running time
  - $\Theta(n^{2\omega})$  using matrix multiplication
  - $\Theta(n^6)$  not using matrix multiplication



# More Details for TAG-hardness

## ■ Overview of the grammar parsing $6k$ -cliques






# More Details for TAG-hardness

Encoding of the graph, the string  $s$




$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{GG}_k(G) := & \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} \mid \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid_{l_1 r_1} \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid \\
 & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} \mid \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid_{l_2 r_2} \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid \\
 & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} \mid \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid_{l_3 r_3} \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid \\
 & \circ \mathbf{e} \\
 & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} \mid \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid_{l_4 r_4} \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid \\
 & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} \mid \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid_{l_5 r_5} \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid \\
 & \circ \bigcirc_{C \in \mathcal{C}_k} \mid \text{CLG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid_{l_6 r_6} \text{CNG}(C) \S \text{CLG}(C)^R \mid
 \end{aligned}$$



# References I

-  Christy Doran, Dania Egedi, Beth Ann Hockey, Bangalore Srinivas, and Martin Zaidel, *XTAG system: a wide coverage grammar for English*, 15th Conference on Computational Linguistics, COLING'94, 1994, pp. 922–928.
-  Jaroslav Nešetřil and Svatopluk Poljak, *On the complexity of the subgraph problem*, Commentationes Mathematicae Universitatis Carolinae **26** (1985), no. 2, 415–419.
-  Sanguthevar Rajasekaran and Shibu Yooseph, *TAL recognition in  $O(M(N^2))$  time*, JCSS **56** (1998), no. 1, 83–89.

## References II

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