## A Simple Quantum Sketch With Applications to Graph Algorithms

Sandia National Laboratories

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Simple solution: uniformly sample $O(1)$ elements from $S$, using $O(\log |U|)$ bits.

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- Need $\Theta(\sqrt{|S|})$ samples even with $|\{p \in P: p \subseteq S\}|=\Omega(|P|)$.
- This is optimal up to a log factor by reduction to Boolean Hidden Matching [Gavinsky, Kempe, Kerenidis, Raz, de Wolf].


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- Otherwise: can return $p$ s.t. $|p \cap S|=1$, but with $\frac{1}{2}$ chance of -1 label.

Constructing the Quantum Sketch

4 Two Quantum Primitives

Superposition
A superposition $\sum_{x \in U} \alpha_{x}|x\rangle$ over $U$ is a unit-length vector in $\mathbb{C}^{U}$.
Write $|x\rangle$ for the basis element corresponding to $x \in U$.

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## Projective Measurement

Using labeled projectors $\left(\Lambda_{i}\right)$ s.t. $\sum_{i} \Lambda_{i}=I$, measure state $\psi$. With probability $\left\|\Lambda_{i} \psi\right\|_{2}^{2}$, get result $i$ and transform $\psi$ to $\Lambda_{i} \psi /\left\|\Lambda_{i} \psi\right\|_{2}$.

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- $P$ being disjoint pairs is necessary here as it makes these projectors orthogonal.

6 Measurement Outcomes

- If $\{x, y\} \subseteq S: \frac{2}{|S|}$ chance of returning $|x\rangle+|y\rangle$.
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- So when we return $p$ with size-1 overlap, it comes with a random sign.


# Application: Quantum Advantage for Counting Triangles in the Stream 

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## 8 Quantum-Classical Separations

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With this sketch we obtain quantum advantage for single-pass streaming problems of independent interest.

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- Applications in social science, spam detection, etc.
- The simplest graph counting problem that requires non-local information.
- For our purposes: assume $\Omega(m)$ edge-disjoint triangles in a $\Theta(m)$-edge graph.

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- Intuitively: if we keep $k$ star edges, we have a $\sim T \times\left(\frac{k}{m}\right)^{2}=\Theta\left(\frac{k^{2}}{m}\right)$ chance of getting both edges of at least one of $T=\Theta(m)$ triangles, so need $k=\Omega(\sqrt{m})$.

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- Optimal up to log factors for general (classical) algorithms.

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- Querying the sketch for \# of pairs contained in S is equivalent to asking \# of triangles in the graph.
- Implies exponential quantum algorithm for the two-player version of this specific instance of triangle counting.

Generalizing to a general triangle-free graph $(V, G)$ followed by a matching $M$ is simple: make $S$ the set of all edges in the first graph, and set $P=\{(u v, u w): u \in V, v w \in M\}$.


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Problems arise when the triangle-completing edges don't form a matching.

13 Sketching General Graphs

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■ Worst-case instances turn out to be "classically easy".

- Interpolation between classical and quantum estimators then allows a $\mathrm{O}\left(n^{2 / 5}\right) \mathrm{v}$. $\Omega(\sqrt{n})$ quantum space advantage.

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Excecuting a full query is then equivalent to doing a partial query for each $p \in P$ (in any order).

- By starting with $S=[m$ a set of $m$, "dummy variables", we can construct the sketch in the stream, swapping out one dummy variable for an edge whenever we see one.
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- By using partial queries, we can check whether an edge completes triangles with a pair of previously-arrived edges, without having to store that edge for later.
This gives us quantum space advantage for counting triangles in the stream.


## Theorem (Informal, K. '21)

There is a $\widetilde{\mathrm{O}}\left(\mathrm{m}^{2 / 5}\right)$-qubit streaming algorithm for counting triangles in the stream. ( $\Omega(\sqrt{m})$ classically)

Interlude: Implementing the Streaming Properties of the Sketch

To implement our swap operation, we need one more quantum primitive.

## Unitary Evolution <br> A superposition $\sum_{x \in S} \alpha_{x}|x\rangle$ can be converted into a new one by any unitary (length-preserving) linear transformation.

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## Swapping

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## Unitary Evolution

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$\square$ One such transformation is swapping the basis elements $|x\rangle$ and $|y\rangle$.

- As our sketch is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{|S|}} \sum_{x \in S}|x\rangle$, this will do nothing if neither or both of $x$ and $y$ are in $S$, and swap them if exactly one is.
$17 \quad$ Partial Queries

We can implement our partial query operation using the measurement postulate we already have.

## Projective Measurement

Using labeled projectors $\left(\Lambda_{i}\right)$ s.t. $\sum_{i} \Lambda_{i}=I$, measure state $\psi$. With probability $\left\|\Lambda_{i} \psi\right\|_{2}^{2}$, get result $i$ and transform $\psi$ to $\Lambda_{i} \psi /\left\|\Lambda_{i} \psi\right\|_{2}$.

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- Our probabilities for returning $\frac{|x\rangle \pm|y\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$ are the same as they would have been when measuring it as a one of a large collection of pairs.
- If we do not return one of them, the superposition is projected onto the space orthogonal to $\operatorname{span}(|x\rangle,|y\rangle)$, i.e. $x$ and $y$ are deleted from $S$.

Application: Exponential Advantage for Maximum Directed Cut

Given a directed graph, what is the maximum, over partitions $V_{0} \sqcap V_{1}=V$, number of edges $\overrightarrow{u v}$ such that $u \in V_{0}$ and $v \in V_{1}$ ?


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We want to output an $\alpha$-approximation in the minimum amount of space, i.e. $K^{\prime} \in[\alpha K, K]$, using as little space as possible.

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- [Saxena, Singer, Sudan, Velusamy '23] This can be achieved in $\widetilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$ space classically.
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- [Saxena, Singer, Sudan, Velusamy '23] This can be achieved in $\widetilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$ space classically.
- [K., Parekh, Voronova] This can be achieved in $\operatorname{polylog}(n)$ space with our quantum sketch.
(First Order) Bias Histogram

The bias of a vertex $v$ is $\frac{d_{v}^{\text {out }}-d_{v}^{\text {in }}}{d_{v}}$.

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|  |  | Head Bias |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $-1 \leq b<-0.5$ | $-0.5 \leq b<0$ | $0 \leq b<0.5$ | $0.5 \leq b \leq 1$ |
| Tail <br> Bias | $-0.5 \leq b<0$ | 1245 | 2333 | 2974 | 9309 |
|  | $0 \leq b<0.5$ | 9361 | 8421 | 82 | 66 |
|  | $0 \leq b<0.5$ | 955 | 2133 | 5369 | 621 |
|  | $0.5 \leq b \leq 1$ | 3530 | 5312 | 4789 | 8472 |

Given a partition of $\left(B_{i}\right)$ of $[-1,1]$ by thresholds, we want to know how many edges there are from $B_{i}$ to $B_{j}$ for each $i, j$.

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- Alice's edges are easy: she can sample edges and send them to Bob with their endpoint out- and in- degrees.
- So the challenge is sampling head-tail degree pairs from Alice's graph that correspond to edges in Bob's graph.

We can use our sketch to sample labeled pairs of Alice's vertices corresponding to Bob's edges, allowing him to calculate the biases of the endpoints of a sample of his edges with $\mathrm{O}(\log (n))$ qubits of communication from Alice.


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- Actually implementing this requires "coarsening" Alice's possible biases and having Bob query every possible coarsened bias pair for an edge.
Works if he has a matching. But what if he doesn't?

Suppose Alice knew how many edges Bob had incident to each of her vertices.


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Now she can copy each vertex with corresponding multiplicity before sketching, and Bob can then measure with a matching on the copied vertices.

## Copying

Suppose Alice knew how many edges Bob had incident to each of her vertices.


Now she can copy each vertex with corresponding multiplicity before sketching, and Bob can then measure with a matching on the copied vertices.

- She will still put at most $m=\left|E_{\text {Bob }}\right|$ elements total in her sketch set $S$, and so the needed property of $|p \in P: p \subseteq S|=\Omega(|S|)$ is preserved.

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- We can therefore combine classical and quantum sampling to estimate the bias histogram in polylog( $n$ ) space.

25 Sketching in the Stream

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- Query $\left(\left(u, b_{u}^{\prime}\right),\left(v, b_{v}^{\prime}\right)\right)$ for the possible biases $\left(b_{u}^{\prime}, b_{v}^{\prime}\right)$ on seeing an edge $\overrightarrow{u v}$, then calculate biases for sampled vertices using the rest of the stream.

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- Use classical sampling to estimate edge counts for edges $\overrightarrow{u v}$ such that $b_{u}$ or $b_{v}$ are dominated by edges that arrive after $\overrightarrow{u v}$.

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- Actual algorithm is complicated by need to track in- and out-degrees separately.

Theorem (Informal, K., Parekh, Voronova)
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There is a polylog $(n)$ space quantum streaming algorithm that 0.4835 -approximates the MAX-DiCuT value of a graph.

Contrasts with the undirected problem, where no quantum advantage is possible for any approximation ratio [Kapralov, Krachun '19], [K., Parekh '22].

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## Open Questions

- What is the correct complexity for triangle counting?

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## Open Questions

- What is the correct complexity for triangle counting?
- Can we characterize which CSPs admit quantum space advantage in the stream?


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Quantum Algorithms and Applications Collaboratory Sandia National Labs

