

# Quantum Algorithms for the Triangle Problem

Frédéric Magniez

<http://www.lri.fr/~magniez>

joint work with

Miklos Santha

Mario Szegedy

CNRS-LRI (Université Paris-Sud)

Rutgers University

## Oracle Input

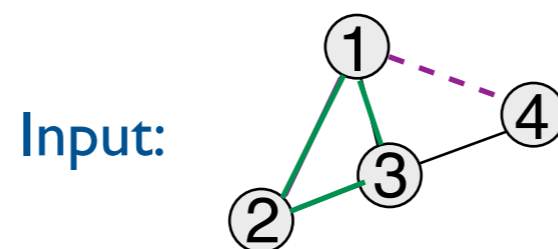
- A (non-oriented) graph  $G$  on  $n$  vertices given as a **black-box**

## Output

- A **triangle**, if there is any
- **Reject**, otherwise

## Query model

- **Query**:  $(i, j) \in [n]^2$
- **Answer**: 1 if  $(i, j) \in G$ , 0 otherwise
- **Complexity**: number of queries (**QQC**)



Queries:  $(1, 2) \mapsto 1$   
 $(1, 4) \mapsto 0$   
 $\vdots$

Output:  $(1, 2, 3)$

Oracle Adjacency function

	1:	2:	3:	4:
1:	0	1	1	0
2:	1	0	1	0
3:	1	1	0	1
4:	0	0	1	0

## Generalities

- Deterministically:  $\Theta(n^2)$  [Rivest, Vuillemin'76]
- Randomly:  $\Omega(n^{4/3} \log^{1/3} n)$  [Hajnal'91; Chakrabarti, Khot'01]  
Conjecture:  $\Theta(n^2)$
- Quantumly:  $\Omega(n^{2/3} \log^{1/6} n)$  [Yao'01]  
Conjecture:  $\Omega(n)$

## Observations on QQC

- Any complexity in  $[n, n^2]$  is possible
- Most of *natural* properties have complexity in  $\{n, n^{3/2}, n^2\}$

## Examples

- Having an edge, a star:  $\Theta(n)$
- Connectivity, ...:  $\tilde{\Theta}(n^{3/2})$  [Dürr, Heiligman, Høyer, Mhalla'04]
- Majority:  $\Theta(n^2)$

## Multiplication

- Checking  $A \times B \stackrel{?}{=} C$

Randomly (time & query):  $\Theta(n^2)$

Quantumly:  $[\Omega(n^{3/2}), O(n^{5/3})]$

[Ambainis, Buhrman, Høyer,  
Karpinski, Kurar, Midrijanis'02]

- Computing  $A \times B = ?$

Random & Quantum time :  $O(n^{2.38})$

## Relation to Triangle

- Randomly

Query:  $\Theta(n^2)$

Time:  $O(n^{2.38})$  from a reduction to Matrix Multiplication

- Quantumly, the situation is different:

$QQC(\text{Triangle}) = o(n^{3/2})$  [Next slide...]

## Previous results

- Randomly

Tight bound:  $\Theta(n^2)$

- Quantumly

Lower bound:  $\Omega(n)$  (best possible using adversary methods)

Upper bound:  $O(n^{3/2})$ ,  $O(n + \sqrt{n|G|})$   
 $O(n\sqrt{d})$  [Buhrman, Dürr, Heiligman, Høyer, M, Santha, Wolf'01]

## This Talk

- Using  $O(\log n)$  qubits:  $\tilde{O}(n^{10/7}) = O(n^{1.43})$

- Using  $O(n)$  qubits:  $O(n^{1.3})$

## Main tool: Grover search

- Oracle Input:  $f : [n] \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$
- Output:  $x$  such that  $f(x) = 1$
- **QQC** =  $\Theta(\sqrt{n})$

## Triangle between candidates

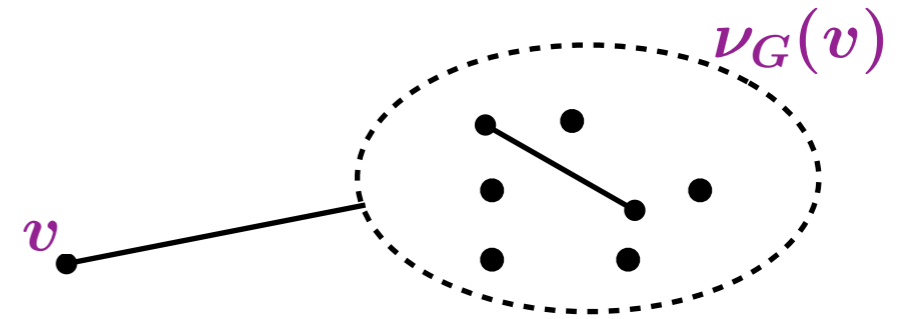
- Additional input: a set of triangles  $T \subseteq [n]^3$
- Output: A triangle of  $G$  among those of  $T$ , if there is any
- **QQC** =  $O(\sqrt{|T|})$

## Triangle with a golden edge

- Additional input: a set of edges  $E \subseteq [n]^2$
- Output: A triangle of  $G$  containing an edge of  $E$
- **QQC** =  $O(\sqrt{|E|} + \sqrt{n|E \cap G|})$  by a generalization of [BDHHMSW'01]

## Naive algorithm

1. While  $\exists v : d_G(v) \geq n^{1-\delta}$ 
  - a. Compute  $\nu_G(v)$
  - b. If  $G \cap \nu_G(v)^2 \neq \emptyset$ , output the triangle induced by  $v$
  - c. Otherwise disconnect  $v$  from  $G$
2. Do [BDHMSW'01] Algorithm



## Query complexity

1. Search:  $\sqrt{n}$ , degree checking:  $n^{\delta/2} \rightarrow n^{(1+\delta)/2}$ 
  - a. Computation:  $n$
  - b. Intersection:  $\sqrt{|\nu_G(v)|^2} \leq n$

Number of iterations:  $W$
2. Standard algorithm:  $n^{(3-\delta)/2}$

**Total:**  $T = W \times n + n^{(3-\delta)/2}$

Lucky:  $W \leq n^2 / (n^{1-\delta})^2 \leq n^{2\delta} \implies T \leq n^{1.4}$  when  $\delta = 1/5$

Unlucky:  $W \leq n \implies T \leq n^2$  when  $\delta = 0$

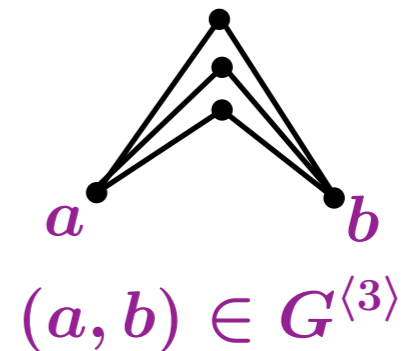
## Preparation

1. Let  $k = \Theta(n^{3/7}) \times \log n$
2. Randomly choose  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \in [n]$
3. Compute every neighborhood  $\nu_G(v_i)$
- Quantum 4. If  $G \cap (\nu_G(v_i))^2 \neq \emptyset$ , then output the triangle induced by  $v_i$
5. Otherwise  $G \subseteq G' = [n]^2 \setminus \cup (\nu_G(v_i))^2$

Query complexity:  $k \times n + k \times O(\sqrt{n^2}) = O(n^{10/7})$

## Definition

$$G^{(t)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(a, b) : |\{v : (a, v), (v, b) \in G\}| \leq t\}$$



## Main lemma

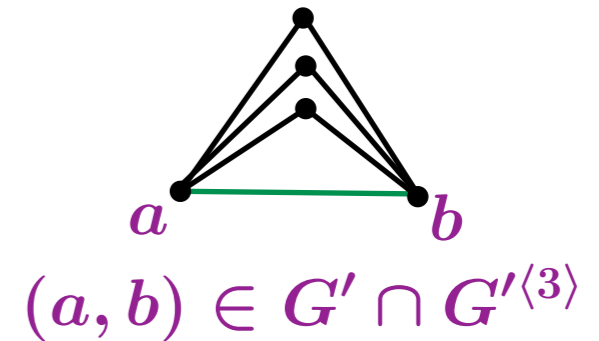
$$G' \subseteq G^{(n^{4/7})} \quad (\text{with high probability})$$

## Proof

$$\begin{aligned} (a, b) \notin G^{(n^{4/7})} &\implies \Pr_v[a, b \in \nu_G(v)] > \frac{n^{4/7}}{n} = \frac{1}{n^{3/7}} \\ &\dots \implies (a, b) \notin G' \quad (\text{with high probability}) \end{aligned}$$



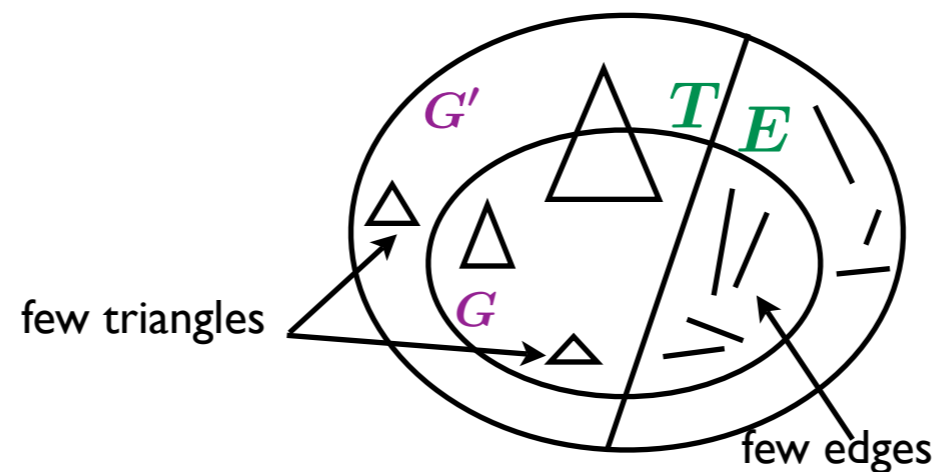
Fact:  $G' \subseteq G'^{\langle t \rangle} \implies |\text{Triangles}(G')| \leq n^2 \times t$



## Theorem

If  $G' \subseteq G^{\langle n^{4/7} \rangle}$ , then using  $O(n^{9/7})$  (quantum) queries  $G'$  can be efficiently partitioned into  $T \cup E$  such that:

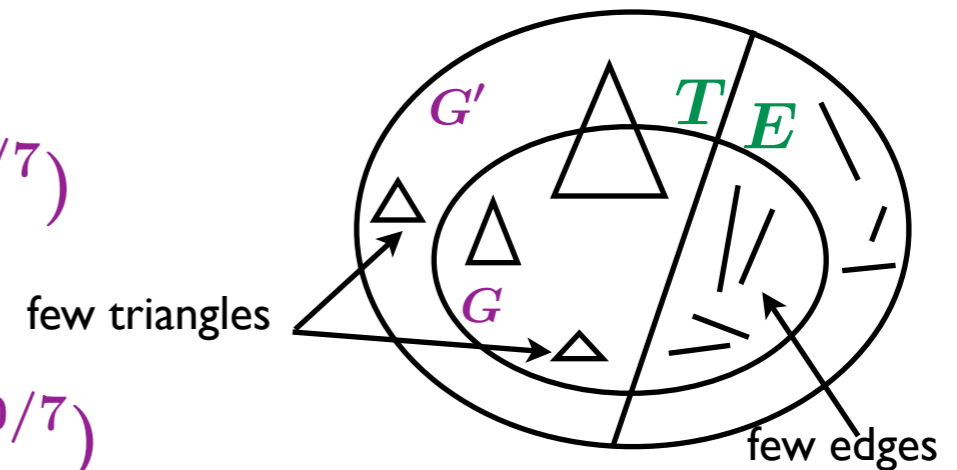
- $T$  contains only  $O(n^{3-1/7})$  triangles
- $E \cap G$  has size  $O(n^{2-1/7})$



Construction of  $G'$ :  $O(n^{10/7})$

Classification of  $G'$ :  $O(n^{9/7})$

Find a triangle inside  $G$ :  $O(n^{10/7})$



Quantum  $\blacksquare$  Search for a triangle in  $G$  among all triangles inside  $T$

$$|\text{Triangles}(T)| = O(n^{3-1/7}) \implies O(\sqrt{n^{3-1/7}}) = O(n^{10/7})$$

Quantum  $\blacksquare$  Search for a triangle in  $G$  intersecting with  $E$

$$|E \cap G| = O(n^{2-1/7}) \implies O(n + \sqrt{n \times n^{2-1/7}}) = O(n^{10/7})$$

## Theorem

$$\text{QQC}(\text{Triangle}) = \tilde{O}(n^{10/7})$$

## $k$ -Collision problem (on a finite set $S$ )

- Oracle Input: A function  $f$  which determines a  $k$ -ary relation  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq S^k$
- Output: An element of  $\mathcal{C}$  if there is any, reject otherwise

## Examples

- Grover search:  $k = 1, S = [n], f : [n] \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$   
 $\mathcal{C} = \{x : f(x) = 1\}$
- Element distinctness:  $k = 2, S = [n], f : [n] \rightarrow [n]$   
 $\mathcal{C} = \{(x, y) : x < y, f(x) = f(y)\}$
- Triangle:  
 $S = [n], f_G : [n]^2 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$   
 $k = 3, \mathcal{C} = \{\text{Triangles}(G)\}$   
 $k = 2, \mathcal{C} = \{\text{Triangle edges}(G)\}$   
Remark: Triangle edge  $\xrightarrow{+O(\sqrt{n}) \text{ queries}}$  Triangle

## Database built from $f$

- Query language:  $A \subseteq S \mapsto D(A)$
- Checking procedure: Given  $D(A)$ , find a collision in  $A^k$ , if there is any

## Costs in queries to $f$

- Setup cost  $s(r)$ : to setup  $D(A)$   $A \subseteq S, |A| = r$
- Update cost  $u(r)$ : to update  $D(A) \mapsto D(A')$  when  $A' = A \pm \{x\}$
- Checking cost  $c(r)$

## Examples

<i>Problem</i>	<i>Collision relation</i>	<i>Database</i>	<i>Setup</i>	<i>Update</i>	<i>Checking</i>
Grover	$x : f(x) = 1$	$f _A$	$r$	1	0
ED	$x < y : f(x) = f(y)$	$f _A$	$r$	1	0
Triangle	Triangle edges	$G _A$	$r^2$	$r$	?

## Theorem (Ambainis)

$$\text{QQC} = O(s(r) + \left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{k/2} \times (c(r) + \sqrt{r} \times u(r)))$$

$$n = |S|$$

## Subproblem

- Oracle Input:  $G \subseteq [n]^2$
- Additional inputs: a vertex  $v_0 \in [n]$ , and  $G|_A$  (from database)
- Output: A triangle containing  $v_0$  and an edge of  $G|_A$ , if there is any

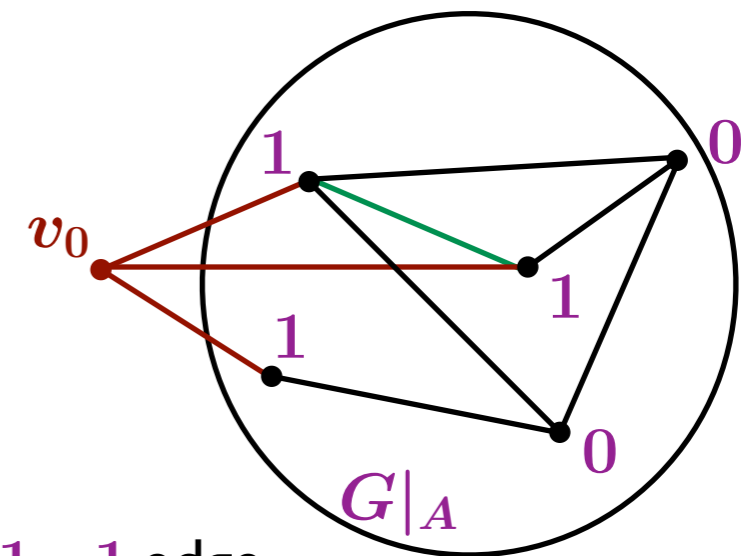
Reduction:  $c(r) \leq \sqrt{n} \times \text{QQC}(\text{Subproblem})$

## Encoding of Subproblem

$$f : A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

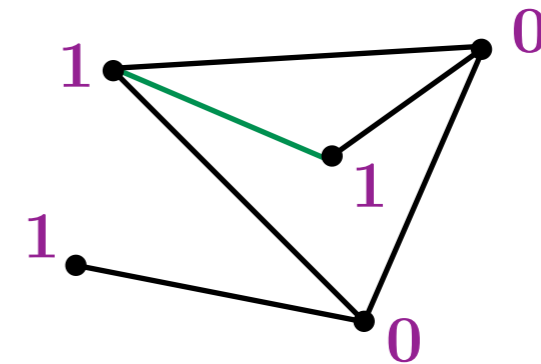
$$v \mapsto \begin{cases} 1 & : (v_0, v) \in G \\ 0 & : (v_0, v) \notin G \end{cases}$$

$v_0 \times G|_A$  contains a triangle iff  $G|_A$  has a 1-1 edge



## Problem

- Oracle Input:  $f : [r] \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$
- Additional input: a graph  $H \subseteq [r]^2$
- Output



An edge  $(u, v) \in H : f(u) = f(v) = 1$ , if there is any  
 Reject, otherwise

## Theorem

QQC =  $\Omega(\sqrt{r})$  (best possible using adversary methods)

QQC =  $O(r^{2/3})$

## Proof

Collision relation $k = 2$	Database	Setup	Update	Checking
$(u, v) \in G : f(u) = f(v) = 1$	$f _A$	$r'$	1	0

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{QQC} &= O(r' + (\frac{r}{r'})^{2/2} (0 + \sqrt{r'} \times 1)) \\
 &= O(r' + \frac{r}{\sqrt{r'}}) \\
 &\rightarrow O(r^{2/3}) \quad (r' = r^{2/3})
 \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

$$\text{QQC}(\text{Triangle}) = O(n^{1.3})$$

## Proof

Collision relation $k = 2$	Database	Setup	Update	Checking
Triangle edges	$G _A$	$r^2$	$r$	$\sqrt{n} \times r^{2/3}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{QQC} &= O(r^2 + \left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{2/2} (\sqrt{n} \times r^{2/3} + \sqrt{r} \times r)) \\ &= O(r^2 + \frac{n}{r^{1/3}} (\sqrt{n} + r^{5/6})) \\ &\rightarrow O(n^{1.2} + n^{1.3} + n^{1.3}) \quad (r=n^{3/5}) \end{aligned}$$

## Improvement?

$$\text{QQC}(\text{GraphCollision}) = O(\sqrt{r}) \implies \text{QQC}(\text{Triangle}) = O(n^{1.25})$$

## Having a copy of a given graph

- Parameter: a graph  $H$  with  $l > 3$  vertices
- Oracle Input:  $G \subseteq [n]^2$
- Output: A copy of  $H$ , if there is any

## Theorem

$$\text{QQC} = O(n^{2-2/l})$$

## Proof

Collision relation $k = l - 1$	Database	Setup	Update	Checking
$l - 1$ $H$ -vertices	$G _A$	$r^2$	$r$	$\sqrt{n} \times r^{(l-1)/l}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{QQC} &= O(r^2 + \left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{(l-1)/2} (\sqrt{n} \times r^{(l-1)/l} + \sqrt{r} \times r)) \\ &= O(r^2 + \left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{(l-3)/2} \times \frac{n^{3/2}}{r^{1/l}} + \left(\frac{n}{r}\right)^{(l-4)/2} \times n^{3/2}) \\ &\rightarrow O(n^{2-2/l} + o(n^{2-2/l}) + n^{2-2/l}) \quad (r=n^{1-1/l}) \end{aligned}$$

## Corollary

Monotone graph properties whose 1-certificates have at most  $l > 3$  vertices

$$\text{QQC} = O(n^{2-2/l})$$



## Quantum query complexity of Triangle Problem

- Using  $O(\log n)$  qubits and Grover search:

$$\tilde{O}(n^{10/7}) = O(n^{1.43})$$

- Using  $O(n)$  qubits and Database reformulation of Ambainis QW:

$$O(n^{1.3})$$

- Tight bound?

Best possible lower bound using adversary methods:  $\Omega(n)$

Best possible upper bound using second algorithm:  $O(n^{1.25})$

## Extension to Monotone Graph Properties

$$\text{QQC} = O(n^{2-2/l})$$

$l$ : vertex certificate size

## Determinant

- Checking  $\det(A) \stackrel{?}{=} 0$

Query (random & quantum):  $\Theta(n^2)$

Time (random & quantum):  $O(n^{2.38})$

[Ambainis, Buhrman, Høyer, Karpinski, Kurar, Midrijanis'02; Santha'03]

## Relation to Bipartite Perfect Matching

- Randomly

Query:  $\Theta(n^2)$

Time:  $O(n^{2.38})$  from a reduction to Determinant

- Quantumly

Query:  $[\Omega(n^{3/2}), O(n^2)]$

Time:  $O(n^2)$

[Ambainis, Karpinski'02, Dürr'03]

[Ambainis, Karpinski'02]

- Question:

$\text{QQC}(\text{BPM}) \stackrel{?}{=} o(n^2)$