

Any-k: Ranked Enumeration for Dynamic Programming

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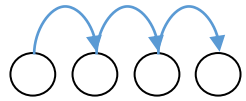
Based on joint work with: Wolfgang Gatterbauer, Mirek Riedewald

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Website: <https://northeastern-datalab.github.io/anyk/>

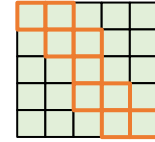


Ranked Enumeration for Combinatorial Problems



Enumeration

Optimization



**Dynamic Programming
(& semirings)**

In order
of importance

2nd best, 3rd best, ...?

Ranked Enumeration

“Any-k”

Anytime algorithms + Top-k

Outline

- Ranked Enumeration & Dynamic Programming
 - DP as a DAG
 - Semirings
 - Any-k Algorithms
- Ranked Enumeration for (Full) Conjunctive Queries
 - Mapping CQs to DP
 - Ranking Function & Query Structure
- Conclusion

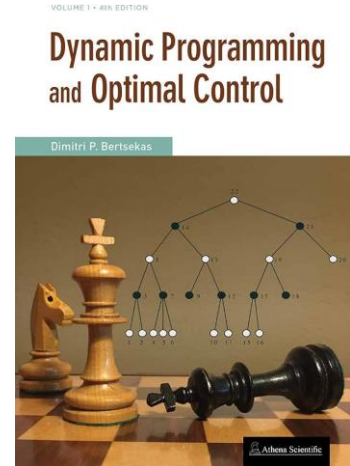
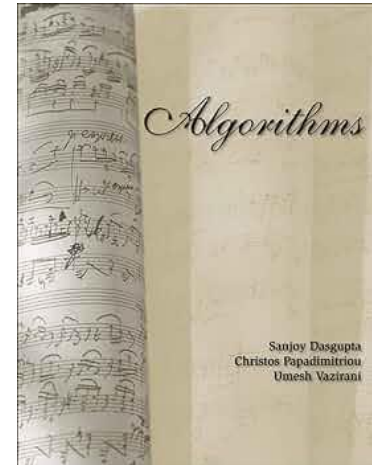
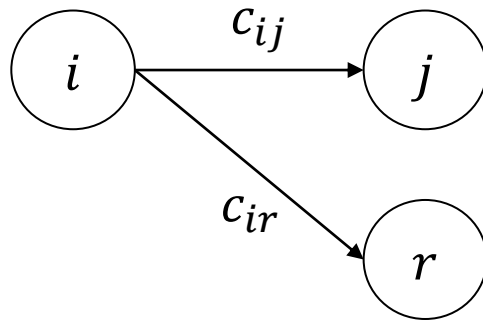
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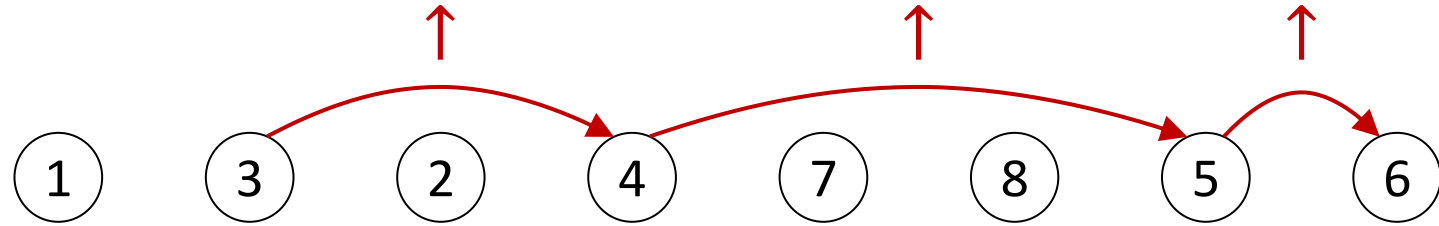
Dynamic Programming

View of DP as a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)

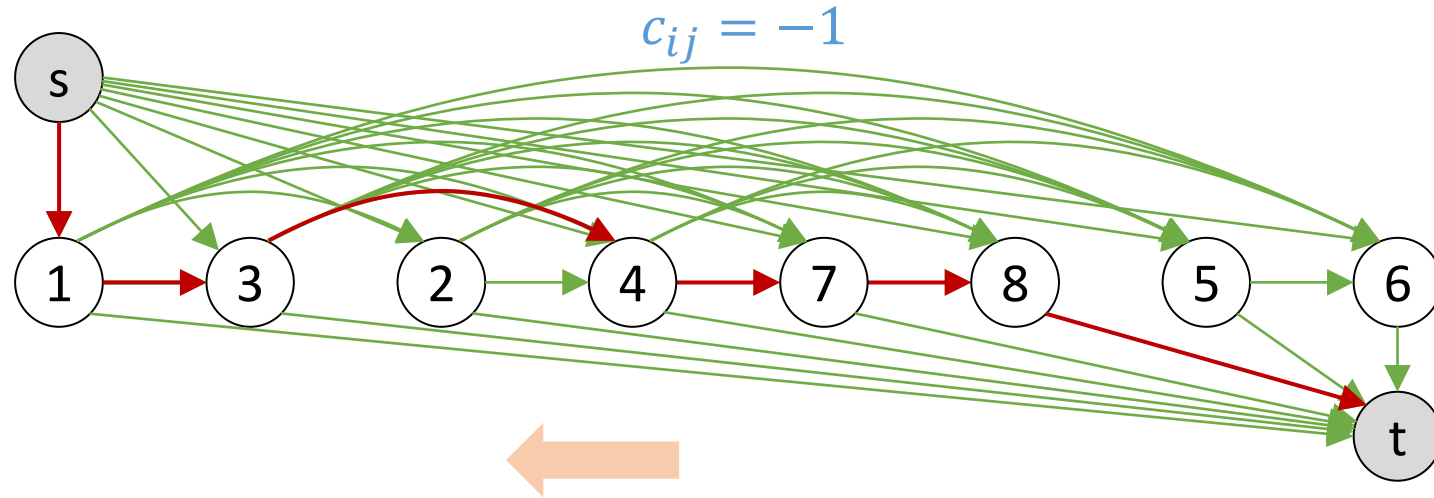
$$f(i) = \min\{c_{ij} + f(j), c_{ir} + f(r)\}$$



Example: Longest Increasing Subsequence



Longest Increasing Subsequence with DP



Dynamic Programming

for $i = n, \dots, 2, 1$:

$$f(i) = \max\{f(j) + 1 \mid j > i, v(j) > v(i)\}$$

return $\max\{f(i) \mid i \in [n]\}$

Shortest path in DAG

for $i = n, \dots, 2, 1, s$:

$$d(i) = \min\{d(j) + c_{ij} \mid (i, j) \in E\}$$

return $-d(s)$

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DP & Semirings

Previous example:

$$f(i) = \max\{f(j) + 1 \mid j \in \dots\}$$

$$f(i) = \bigoplus_j \{f(j) \otimes c_{ij}\}$$

Commutative Semiring $(W, \oplus, \otimes, 0, 1)$

1. $(W, \oplus, 0)$ is a commutative monoid
2. $(W, \otimes, 1)$ is a commutative monoid
3. \otimes distributes over \oplus : $(x \oplus y) \otimes z = (x \otimes z) \oplus (y \otimes z)$
4. 0 annihilates \otimes : $0 \otimes x = 0$

Total Order & Selectivity

- Additional property for total order: **Selectivity**
 - $\forall xy: (x \oplus y = x) \vee (x \oplus y = y)$
 - Semiring with Selectivity = Selective Dioid
- “Natural” total order: $x \leq y$ iff $x \oplus y = x$
- Examples:
 - Tropical semiring $(\mathbb{R}^\infty, \min, +, \infty, 0)$ ✓
 - Viterbi semiring $([0,1], \max, \times, 0, 1)$ ✓
 - Boolean semiring $(\{0,1\}, \vee, \wedge, 0, 1)$ ✓
 - Natural numbers semiring $(\mathbb{N}, +, \times, 0, 1)$ ✗
 - Can count #paths / #solutions
 - What would the 2nd best solution be here?

Distributivity \rightarrow Monotonicity

Monotonicity in Selective Dioids: $x \leq y \Rightarrow x \otimes z \leq y \otimes z$

Proof

$$x \leq y$$

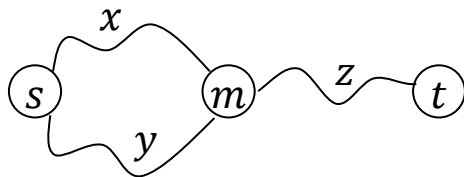
$$x \oplus y = x$$

$$(x \oplus y) \otimes z = x \otimes z \quad \text{Distributivity}$$

$$(x \otimes z) \oplus (y \otimes z) = x \otimes z$$

$$(x \otimes z) \leq y \otimes z$$

Equivalent to "optimal substructure" property in DP



$$x \leq y \otimes z$$

Monotonicity Classes for Ranking Functions

Holistic-Monotone

[Fagin+ 03]

$$\begin{array}{cccc} f(1 & 2 & 3 & 4) \\ \downarrow & \downarrow \leq & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ f(5 & 6 & 7 & 8) \end{array}$$

Median

Subset-Monotone

[Kimelfeld+ 06]

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f(\boxed{1} & \boxed{2} & \boxed{3} & \boxed{4}) & f(1 & 2 & \boxed{3} & \boxed{4}) \\ \downarrow & \downarrow \leq & \downarrow & \downarrow & & \leq & \downarrow \\ f(\boxed{5} & \boxed{6} & \boxed{7} & \boxed{8}) & f(1 & 2 & \boxed{2} & \boxed{8}) \end{array}$$

Commutative
Selective
Dioids

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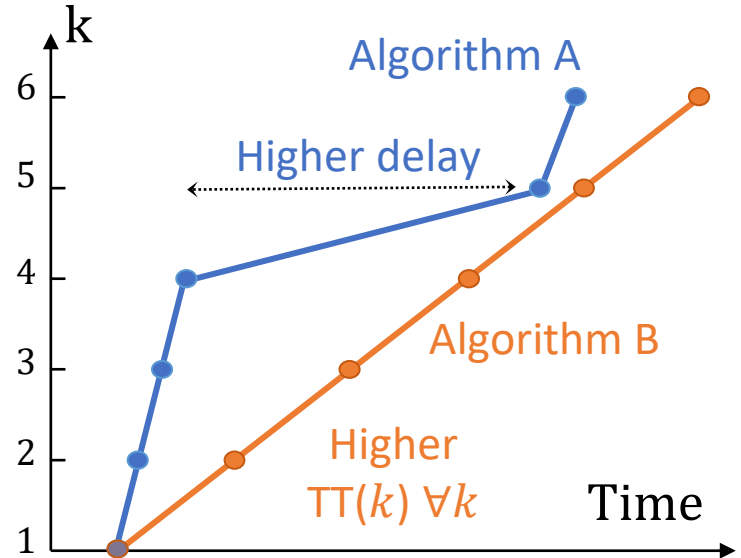
Any-k Algorithms

- Best answer (DP) \rightarrow shortest path in DAG
- k^{th} best answer $\rightarrow k^{\text{th}}$ shortest path in DAG
- Best we know for **subset-monotone** ranking functions:

Time-to- k^{th} solution	Graph size / State space	Path length / solution size
\uparrow	\uparrow	\uparrow
$\text{TT}(k) = O(G + k(\log k + \ell))$		

Measures of Enumeration: $TT(k)$ vs Delay

- Fastest answers: $TT(k)$
- What about **delay**?
- We can upper bound $TT(k)$ with delay:
 - $\text{delay} \leq c \Rightarrow TT(k) \leq |\text{Prep}| + ck$
- Improving the delay of an algorithm with “good $TT(k)$ ” can slow it down
- Lower bounds are more general if stated for $TT(k)$



TT(k) vs Delay Gap

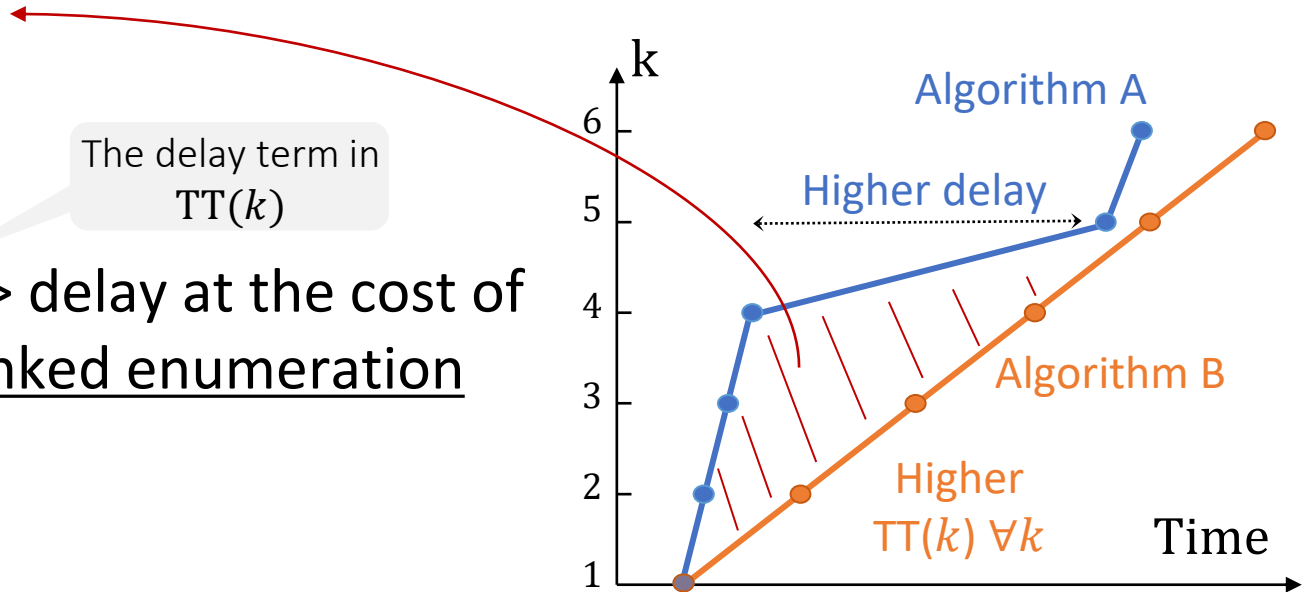
Is the gap “real”?

Answer #1 [CS23]

Incremental delay => delay at the cost of a log factor for unranked enumeration

Answer #2

For ranked enumeration, we can get a better algorithm for TT(k)



The Anyk-Part+ Algorithm

$$O(|G| + k(\log k + \ell))$$

Previously best known

$$\rightarrow O(|G| + k(\log N + \ell))$$

Small k: $O(|G|)$ dominates, same

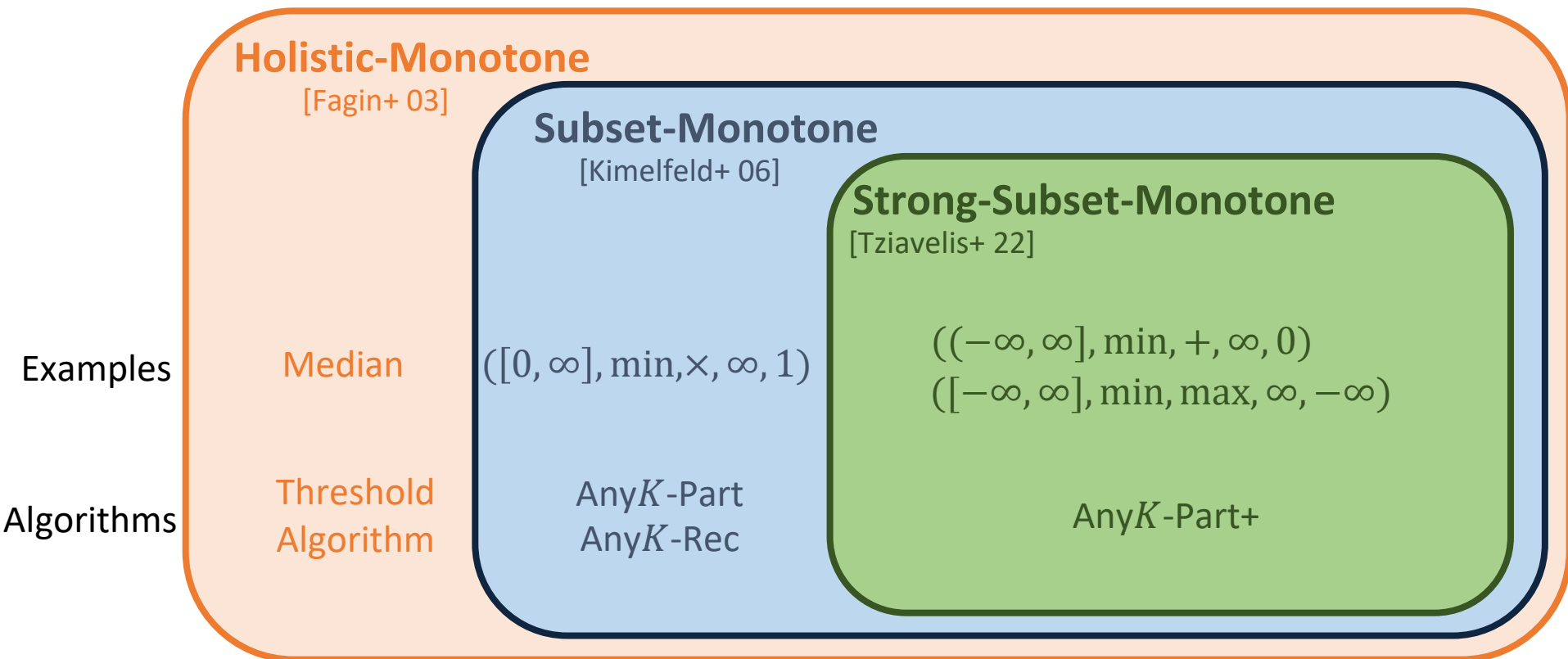
Large k: Better

Faster than sorting for entire
sorted output

#nodes

path
length

Monotonicity Classes



[Fagin+03] Fagin, Lotem, Naor. Optimal aggregation algorithms for middleware. JCSS 2003. <https://doi.org/10.1145/375551.375567>

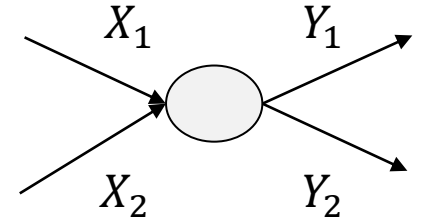
[Kimelfeld+06] Kimelfeld, Sagiv. Incrementally Computing Ordered Answers of Acyclic Conjunctive Queries. NGITS'06 https://doi.org/10.1007/11780991_13

[Tziavelis+22] Tziavelis, Gatterbauer, Riedewald. Any-k Algorithms for Enumerating Ranked Answers to Conjunctive Queries. arXiv'22 <https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.05649>

Strong-Subset-Monotonicity

Strong-Subset-Monotonicity

$$f(X_1, Y_1) \leq f(X_1, Y_2) \wedge f(X_1) \leq f(X_2) \Rightarrow f(X_2, Y_1) \leq f(X_2, Y_2)$$



$((-\infty, \infty], \min, +, \infty, 0)$ ✓

1) (1, 1, 1)

2) (1, 1, 2)

3) (1, 4, 1)

$f(2,1,1) < f(2,1,2)$
 $f(2,1,2) < f(2,4,1)$

$([0, \infty], \min, \times, \infty, 1)$ ✗

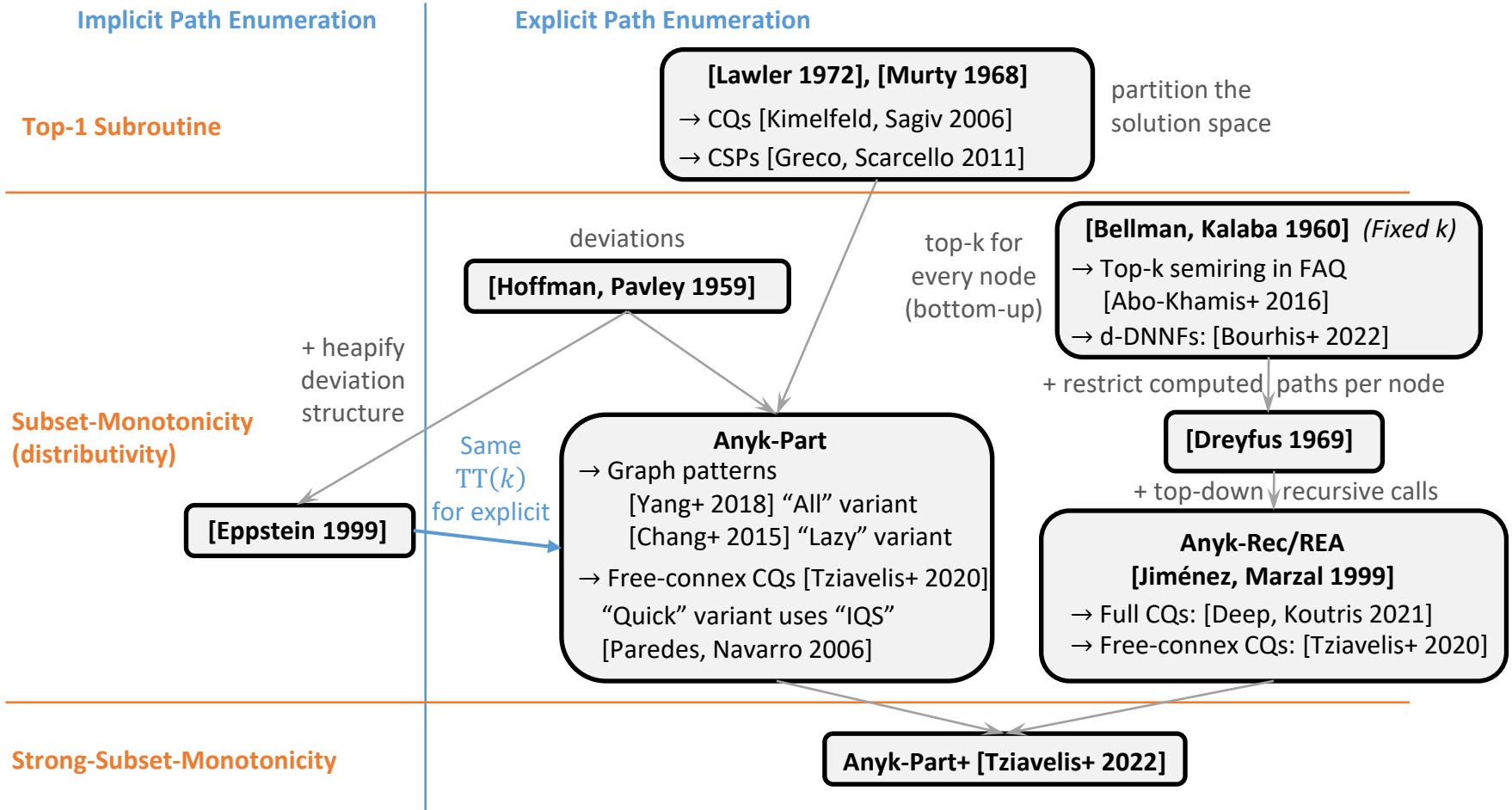
1) (0, 9, 9)

2) (0, 1, 1)

3) (0, 2, 2)

$f(1,9,9) < f(1,1,1)$

History of Algorithms for k-Shortest Paths on a DAG



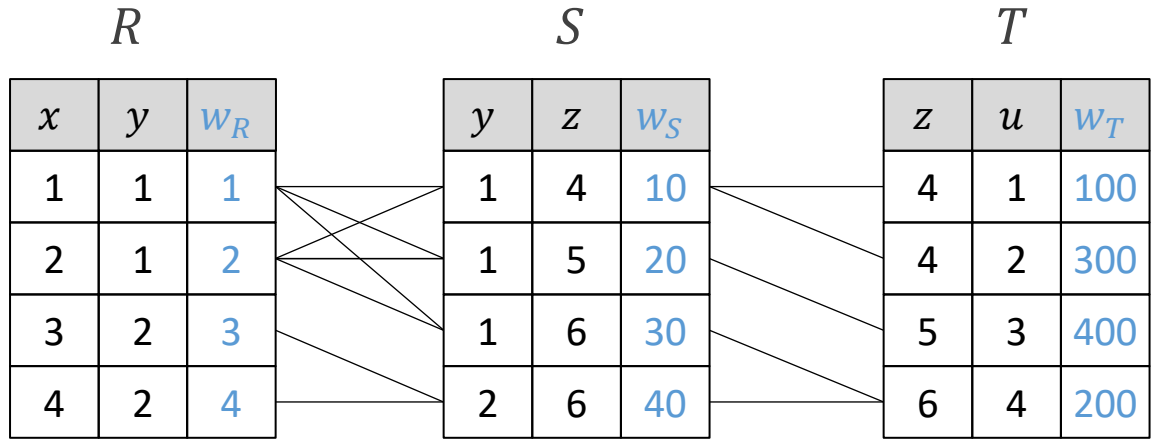
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Ranked Enumeration for Conjunctive Queries

$$Q(x, y, z, u) : - R(x, y), S(y, z), T(z, u)$$

$$w_R + w_S + w_T$$

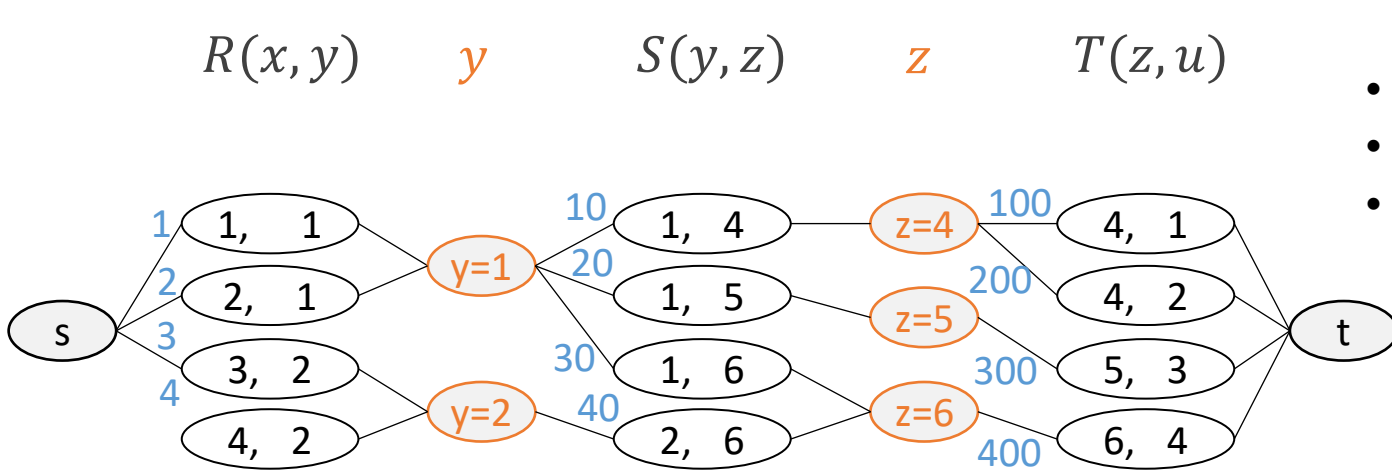


Increasing
sum of weights



Path CQ \rightarrow DP

$$Q(x, y, z, u) : - R(x, y), S(y, z), T(z, u) \quad w_R + w_S + w_T$$



DAG

- Nodes = Tuples
- Edges = Joining pairs
- Paths = Join answers

Factorization

$$O(n^2) \rightarrow O(n)$$

Also: $O(n \text{ polylog } n)$ for inequality joins

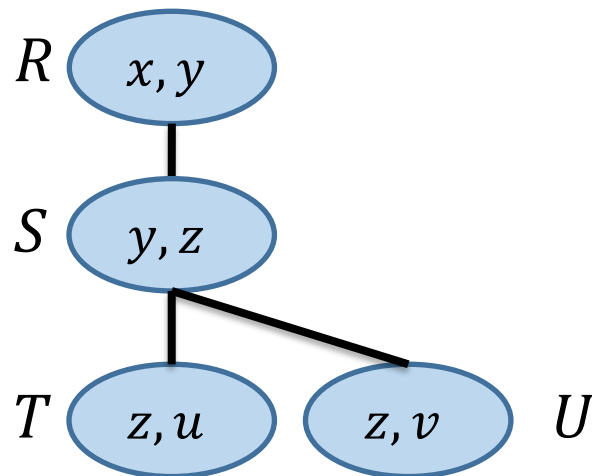
Join Trees

- Acyclic CQs \Leftrightarrow Join Trees

$$Q(x, y, z, u): - R(x, y), S(y, z), T(z, u), U(z, v)$$

- Join Tree:

- Atoms as nodes
- For each variable X , the nodes containing X are connected



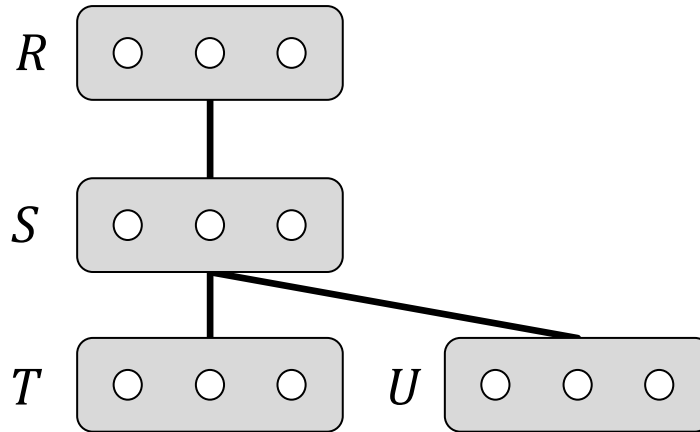
Path \rightarrow Tree \rightarrow Cyclic

DP

Hypertree
decompositions

Tree Queries

Tree-DP
(Non-serial Dynamic Programming
with “diverging branches”)



Guarantees for Full Acyclic CQs

- **Data Complexity** & **Subset-Monotonicity** [TAGRY20,DK21]:

$$TT(k) = O(n + k \log k)$$

n : #tuples
 ℓ : #atoms
 α : arity

- **Combined Complexity** & **Subset-Monotonicity** [TAGRY20]:

$$TT(k) = O(n\ell\alpha + k(\log k + \ell\alpha))$$

- **Combined Complexity** & **Strong-Subset-Monotonicity** [TGR22]:

$$TT(k) = O(n\ell\alpha + k(\log(\min\{k, n^{\ell - \text{diam}(Q) + 1}\}) + \ell\alpha))$$

[TAGRY20] Tziavelis, Ajwani, Gatterbauer, Riedewald, Yang. Optimal Algorithms for Ranked Enumeration of Answers to Full Conjunctive Queries. PVLDB'20 <https://doi.org/10.14778/3397230.3397250>

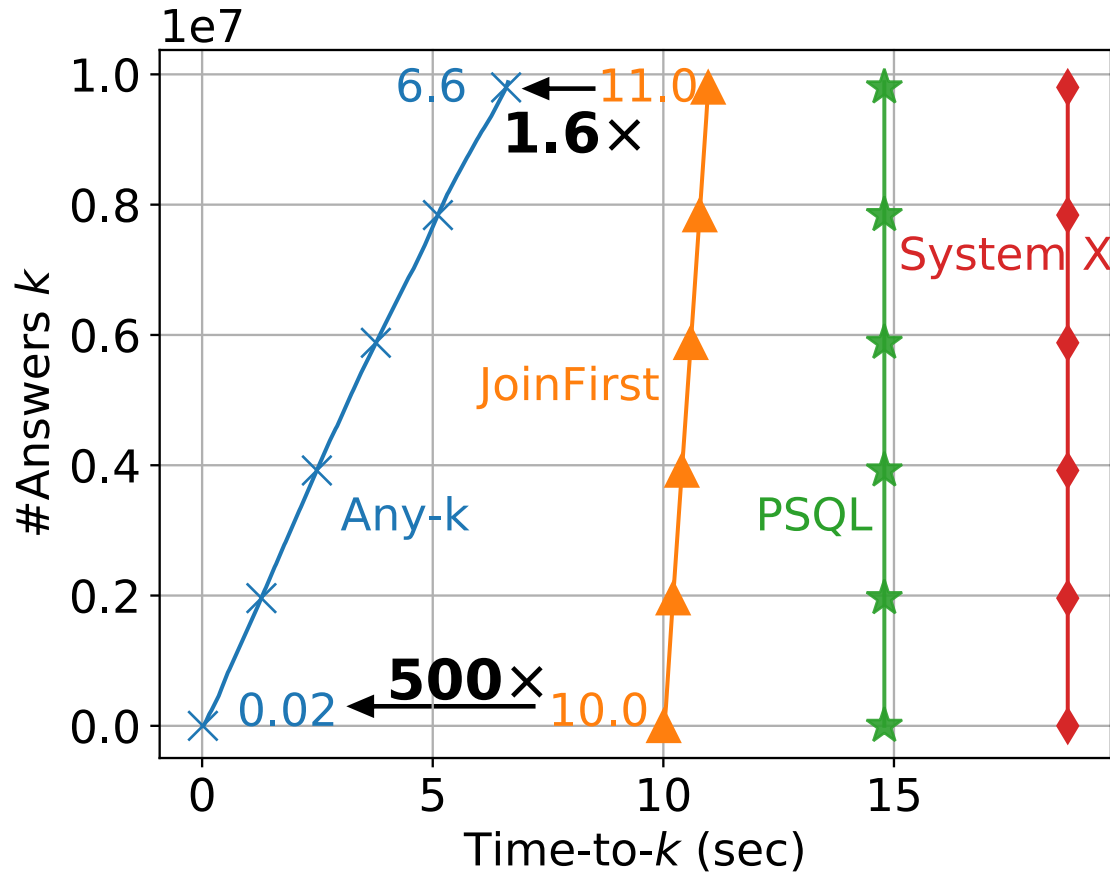
[DK21] Deep, Koutris. Ranked Enumeration of Conjunctive Query Results. ICDT'21 <https://doi.org/10.4230/LIPIcs.ICDT.2021.5>

[TGR22] Tziavelis, Gatterbauer, Riedewald. Any-k Algorithms for Enumerating Ranked Answers to Conjunctive Queries. arXiv'22 <https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.05649>

Ranked Enumeration in Practice



RESULTS reproduced



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Lexicographic Orders

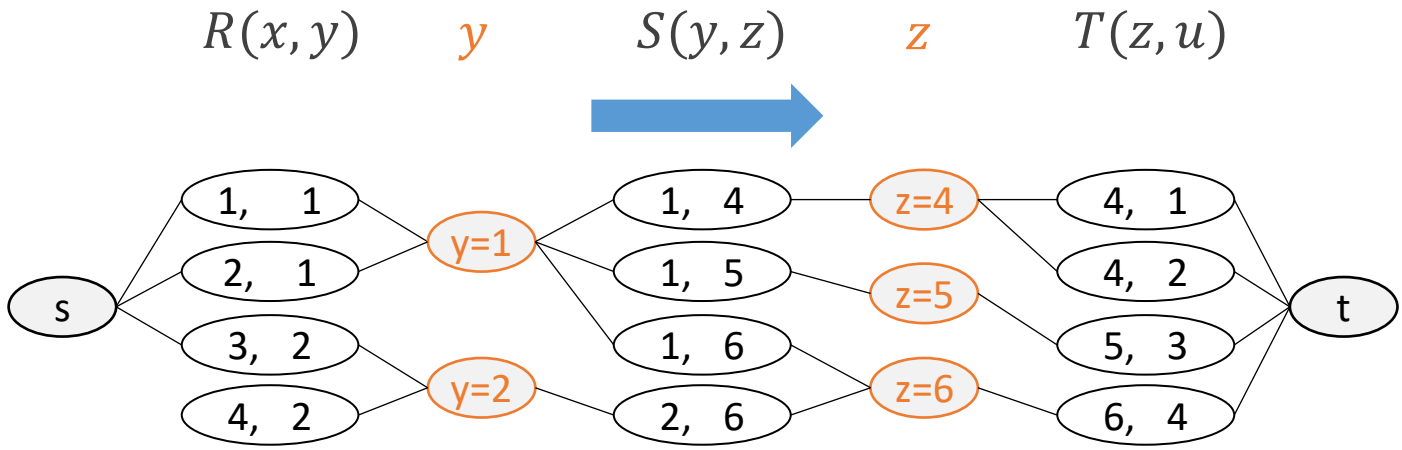
$$Q(x, y, z, u) : - R(x, y), S(y, z), T(z, u) \quad x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z \rightarrow u$$

- Lexicographic order **as semiring**:
 - Option 1: Map to (min, +) semiring with appropriate weights
 - Option 2: Define semiring on tuples with one position per variable and two appropriate operations (lexicographic min, union)
- **Logarithmic delay** for any lexicographic order
- Can we do better by taking into account the structure of the query?

Lexicographic Orders

$Q(x, y, z, u) : - R(x, y), S(y, z), T(z, u)$

$x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z \rightarrow u$



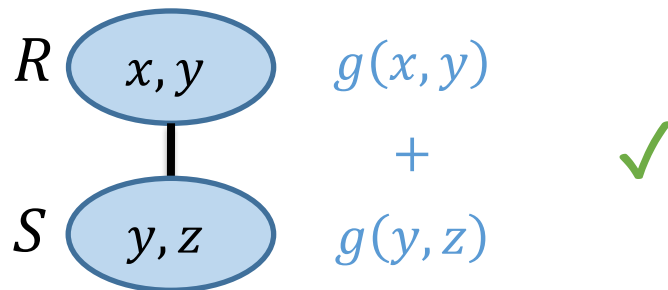
Constant-delay enumeration if lexicographic order agrees with a (reverse) α -elimination order for the query. [BKOZ13, BDG07]

Ranking Function Compatible with Tree Decomposition

$$Q(x, y, z) : - R(x, y), S(y, z)$$

$$g(x, y) + g(y, z)$$

Not subset-monotone



Logarithmic delay for ranking functions that are **compatible with a tree decomposition** (which determines preprocessing). [DK21]

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Conclusion

- Same ranked enumeration algorithms appear in many different problems and the common link is DP and semirings
- Different monotonicity notions allow for different algorithms
- We can potentially do more if we take into account the structure of the problem
- Practical results outperforming database systems by orders of magnitude

Open Questions

- Precise characterization of tractable queries + ranking functions.
 - Lower bounds
 - Algorithms for Holistic-Monotone ranking functions (e.g., MEDIAN)?
 - Can we leverage the structure of the query more to cover more cases?
- Understand better the relationship between $TT(k)$ and delay
- Relationship of this DP framework to circuits
 - Can all these algorithms be carried over?

Thank you!

Website: <https://northeastern-datalab.github.io/anyk/>

