

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE  
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# COMPUTER SCIENCE COLLOQUIUM

## The Input/Output Complexity of Triangle Enumeration

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### Abstract:

In this talk, we consider the well-known problem of enumerating all triangles of an undirected graph. Our focus is on determining the input/output (I/O) complexity of this problem. Let  $E$  be the number of edges,  $M < E$  the size of internal memory, and  $B$  the block size. The best previous results are  $\text{sort}(E^{3/2})$  I/Os (Dementiev, PhD thesis, 2006) and  $O(E^2/(MB))$  I/Os (Hu et al., SIGMOD 2013), where  $\text{sort}(n)$  denotes the number of I/Os for sorting  $n$  items. We improve the I/O complexity to  $O(E^{3/2}/(\sqrt{MB}))$  expected I/Os, which improves the previous bounds by a factor  $\min(\sqrt{E/M}, \sqrt{M})$ . Our algorithm is cache-oblivious and also I/O optimal: We show that any algorithm enumerating  $t$  distinct triangles must *always* use  $\Omega(t/(\sqrt{MB}))$  I/Os, and there are graphs for which  $t = \Omega(E^{3/2})$ . Finally, we give a deterministic cache-aware algorithm using  $O(E^{3/2}/(\sqrt{MB}))$  I/Os assuming  $M \geq E^{\Omega(1)}$ . Our results are based on a new color coding technique, which may be of independent interest.

Host: Rolf Fagerberg