# Speeding up Graph Transformation

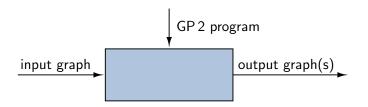
Detlef Plump

University of York, UK

In cooperation with Ziad Ismaili Alaoui, Chris Bak, Graham Campbell, Brian Courtehoute, Mike Dodds and Jack Romö

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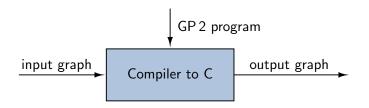
# Graph programming language GP 2



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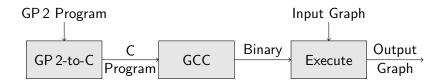
- Based on attributed graph-transformation rules
- Formal operational semantics (non-deterministic)
- Computationally complete

# Graph programming language GP 2



- Based on attributed graph-transformation rules
- Formal operational semantics (non-deterministic)
- Computationally complete

#### GP 2-to-C Compiler



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### Example program: transitive closure

A graph is *transitive* if for every directed path  $v \rightsquigarrow v'$  with  $v \neq v'$ , there is an edge  $v \rightarrow v'$ .

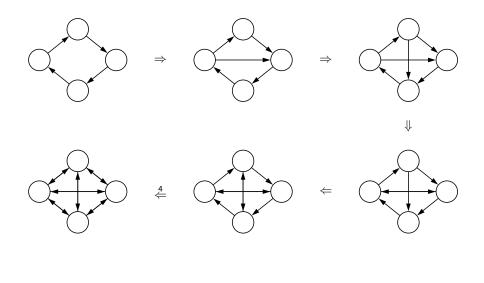
Program for computing a *transitive closure* of the input graph (smallest transitive extension):

Main = link! link(a,b,x,y,z:list)  $(x)_{1} \xrightarrow{a} (y)_{2} \xrightarrow{b} (z)_{3} \Rightarrow (x)_{1} \xrightarrow{a} (y)_{2} \xrightarrow{b} (z)_{3}$ 

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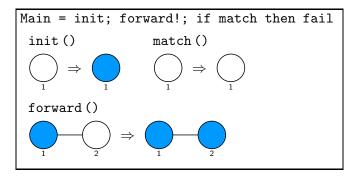
where not edge(1,3)

Example program: transitive closure (cont'd)

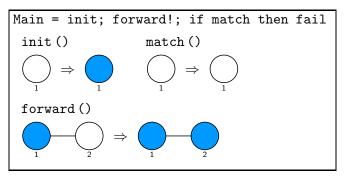


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Input: A non-empty unlabelled graph G without marks. Output: Fail if and only if G is disconnected.



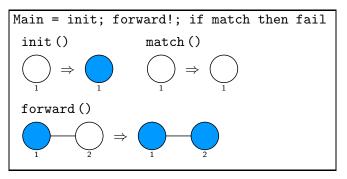
Input: A non-empty unlabelled graph G without marks. Output: Fail if and only if G is disconnected.



Maximal number of rule applications: |V|

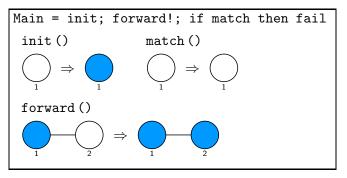
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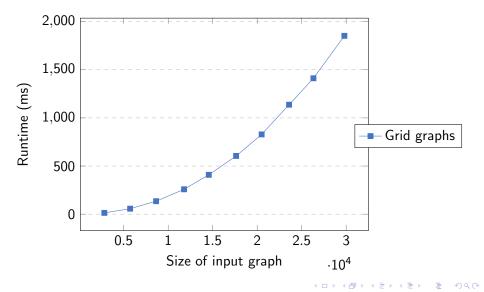
- Maximal number of rule applications: |V|
- Worst case time for matching forward:  $\mathcal{O}(|V| \times |E|)$

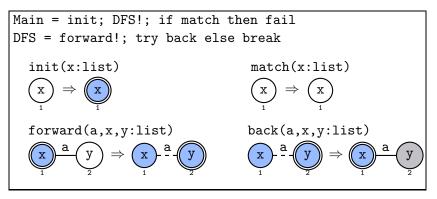
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- Maximal number of rule applications: |V|
- Worst case time for matching forward:  $\mathcal{O}(|V| \times |E|)$
- Worst case program runtime:  $\mathcal{O}(|V|^2 \times |E|)$

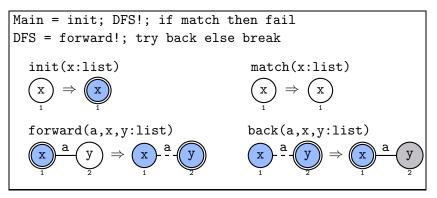
Measured runtime on square grids:



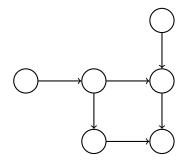


Rule init generates a unique root node in the host graph.

 GP 2's graph data structure includes a list of C-pointers to access roots in constant time.

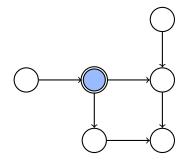


- Rule init generates a unique root node in the host graph.
- GP 2's graph data structure includes a list of C-pointers to access roots in constant time.
- Rules forward and back can be matched in constant time in graph classes of bounded node degree.

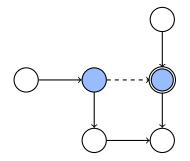


The program implements a *depth-first search* to find all nodes connected to the root.

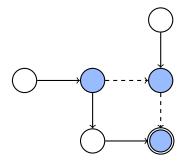
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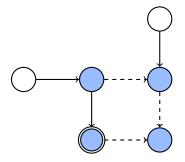
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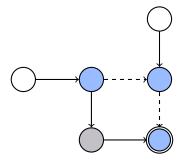
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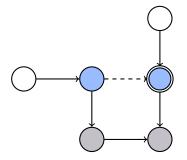
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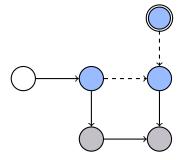
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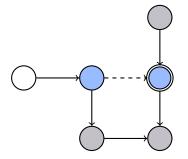
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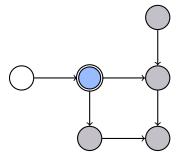
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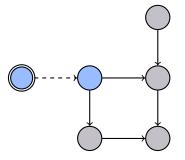


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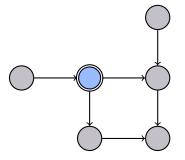


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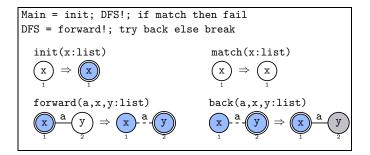


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Theorem (Correctness and complexity)

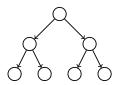
- 1. Given a non-empty input graph G, the program fails if and only if G is disconnected.
- 2. The program terminates in time O(|V| + |E|) on input graph classes of bounded node degree.



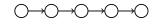
# Graph classes for time measurements



Grid graphs



Binary trees



Linked lists







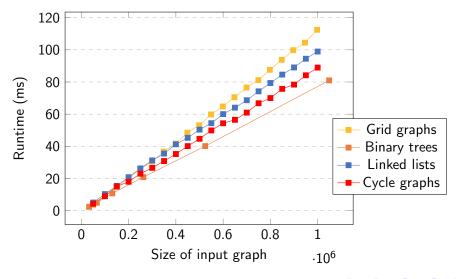
Cycle graphs

Star graphs

Complete graphs

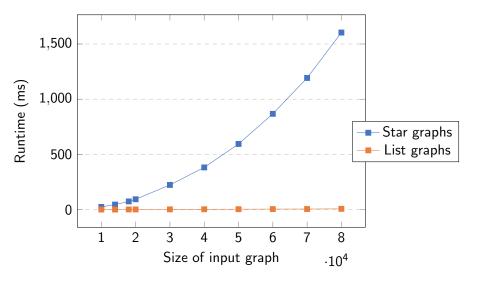
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Measured runtime on bounded-degree graphs:



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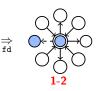
Measured runtime on star graphs:

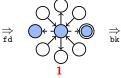


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#### Matching attempts with the forward rule









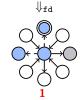






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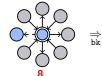


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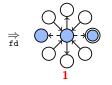




#### Matching attempts with the forward rule







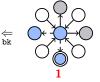


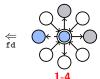
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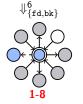


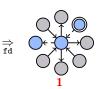














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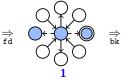


Worst case:  $2|E| + \sum_{i=1}^{|E|} i = O(|E|^2)$ 

# Matching attempts with the forward rule









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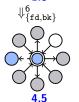


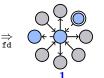




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Expected numbers

#### Improving the GP2 graph data structure

- 2015: In Chris Bak's original graph data structure, each node contained the IDs of two inedges and two outedges. Other incident edges were placed in a dynamic array.
- 2020: In Graham Campbell's and Jack Romö's data structure, each node comes with two linked lists, one for all inedges and one for all outedges.
- 2024: Ziad Ismaili Alaoui modified the 2020 data structure by placing the edges incident with a node into 15 different lists, separated by edge marks and edge directions.

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# Storing incident edges

Each node v comes with a two-dimensional array holding 15 linked lists of incident edges:

	in	out	loop
unmarked			
dashed			
red			
green			
blue			

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where "..." is a linked list of edges incident with v

# Storing incident edges

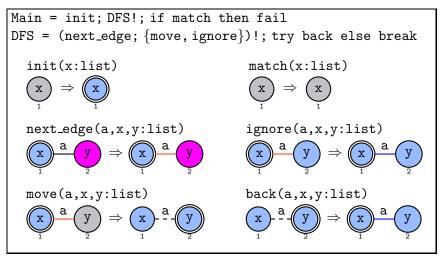
Each node v comes with a two-dimensional array holding 15 linked lists of incident edges:

	in	out	loop
unmarked			
dashed			
red			
green			
blue			

where "..." is a linked list of edges incident with v

As a consequence, finding an edge incident with a given node requires only constant time.

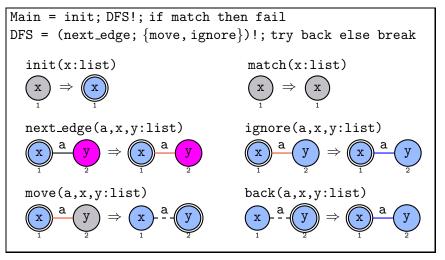
### Checking connectedness in linear time



Input graphs have grey nodes; magenta is a wildcard for marks

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## Checking connectedness in linear time



Input graphs have grey nodes; magenta is a wildcard for marks

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All rules except match are matched in constant time.

## Checking connectedness in linear time

Theorem (Correctness and complexity)

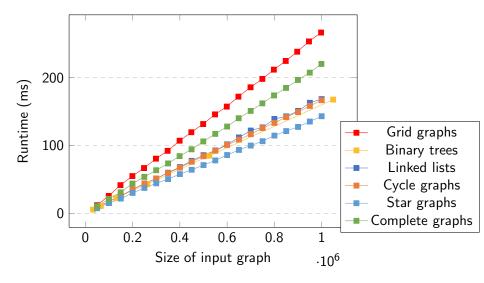
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2. The program terminates in time  $\mathcal{O}(|V| + |E|)$ .

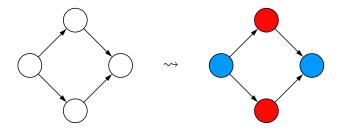
## Checking connectedness in linear time

#### Measured runtime:



## 2-colouring

A 2-colouring is an assignment  $V \rightarrow \{\text{blue, red}\}\$  such that each non-loop edge has end points with distinct colours.

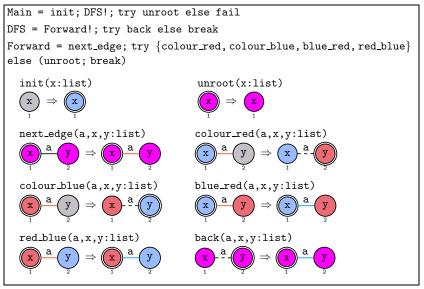


#### Lemma

A graph is 2-colourable if and only if it does not contain an undirected cycle of odd length  $\geq$  3.

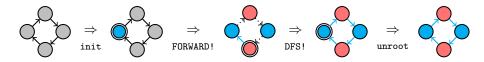
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## 2-Colouring in linear time



Input graphs have grey nodes and are connected

## 2-Colouring in linear time



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Theorem (Correctness and complexity)

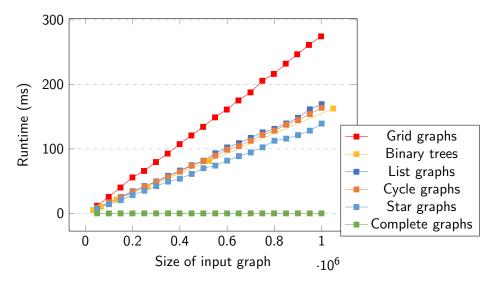
 Given a non-empty and connected input graph G, the program fails if G is not 2-colourable. Otherwise, the program returns G with nodes coloured red and blue such that adjacent nodes have different colours.

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2. The program terminates in time  $\mathcal{O}(|V| + |E|)$ .

# 2-Colouring in linear time

Measured runtime:



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 Directed acyclic graphs where each node has at most two outgoing edges

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- Our program reduces input graphs by repeatedly
  - moving a root along edges in opposite direction to find a node v without incoming edges, and

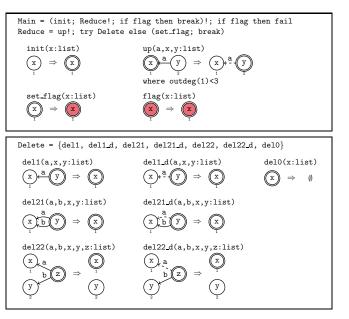
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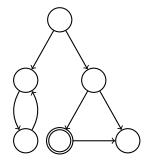
• deleting  $\mathbf{v}$  and its  $\leq 2$  outedges

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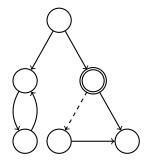
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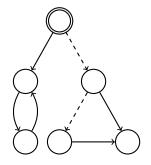
- deleting v and its ≤ 2 outedges
- The input graph is a binary DAG iff the result graph is empty



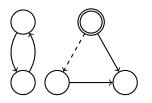


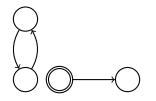
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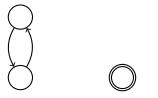


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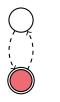












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Failure



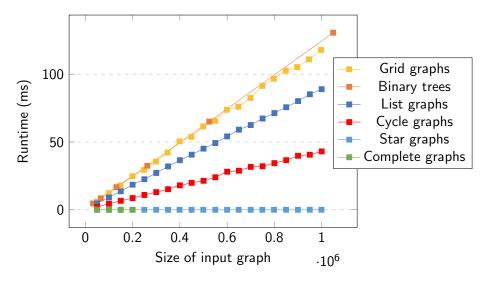
Theorem (Correctness and complexity)

1. Given an input graph G, the program fails if and only if G is not a binary DAG.

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2. The program terminates in time  $\mathcal{O}(|V| + |E|)$ .

Measured runtime:



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## Overview: Fast GP 2 programs

Destructive	Non-destructive
Binary DAG recognition	Checking connectedness (linear time)
Tree recognition	2-Colouring (linear-time on connected graphs)
Cycle graph recognition	Topological sorting (linear-time on bounded-degree classes)
(all linear time)	Minimum spanning tree generation $(\mathcal{O}(m \log n) \text{ on bounded-degree classes})$

## Conclusion

- Rule-based graph programs allow for simple formal reasoning about correctness and complexity — compared with imperative programs.
- Programmers don't have access to the graph data structure: a reasonable price to pay for simple formal reasoning.
- Rule matching in constant time is crucial for achieving fast runtimes.
- Our case studies match the best known time bounds of imperative algorithms — sometimes under mild conditions.
- For programs such as 2-colouring, we need not assume connected input graphs if nodes are separated by marks too (work in progress).
- We speculate that all DFS-based graph algorithms can be implemented to run in linear time without extra conditions.