

# Finding and counting tree-like subgraphs using MapReduce

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**Abstract**—Several variants of the subgraph isomorphism problem, e.g., finding, counting and estimating frequencies of subgraphs in networks arise in a number of real world applications, such as genetic network analysis in bioinformatics, web analysis, disease diffusion prediction and social network analysis. These problems are computationally challenging to scale to very large networks with millions of nodes. In this paper, we present SAHAD, a MapReduce based algorithm for detecting and counting trees of bounded size using the elegant color coding technique, developed by N. Alon, R. Yuster and U. Zwick, Journal of the ACM (JACM) 1995. SAHAD is a randomized algorithm, and we show rigorous bounds on the approximation quality and the performance. We implement SAHAD on two different frameworks: the standard Hadoop model and Harp, which is more of a high performance computing environment, and evaluate its performance on a variety of synthetic and real networks. SAHAD scales to very large networks comprising of  $10^7 - 10^8$  nodes and  $10^8 - 10^9$  edges and tree-like (acyclic) templates with up to 12 nodes. Further, we extend our results by implementing our algorithm using the Harp framework. The new implementation gives two orders of magnitude improvement in performance over the standard Hadoop implementation and achieves comparable or even better performance than start-of-the-art MPI solution.

**Index Terms**—subgraph isomorphism, graph partitioning, MapReduce, Hadoop, Harp

## 1 INTRODUCTION

GIVEN two graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , the subgraph isomorphism problem asks if  $H$  is isomorphic to a subgraph of  $G$ . The counting problem associated with this seeks to count the number of copies of  $H$  in  $G$ . These and other variants are fundamental problems in Network Science and have a wide range of applications in areas such as bioinformatics, social networks, semantic web, transportation and public health. Analysts in these areas tend to search for meaningful patterns in networked data; and these patterns are often specific subgraphs such as trees. Three different variants of subgraph analysis problems have been studied extensively. The first version involves counting specific subgraphs, which has applications in bioinformatics [4], [16]. The second involves finding the most frequent subgraphs either in a single network or in a family of networks—this has been used in finding patterns in bioinformatics (e.g., [20]), recommendation networks [22], chemical structure analysis [30], and detecting memory leaks [25]. The third involves finding subgraphs which are either over-represented or under-represented, compared to random networks with similar

properties—such subgraphs are referred to as “motifs”. Milo et al. [26] identify motifs in many networks, such as protein-protein interaction (PPI) networks, ecosystem food webs and neuronal connectivity networks. Subgraph counts have also been used in characterizing networks [28].

The Subgraph Isomorphism problem and its variants is well known to be computationally challenging. In general the decision version of the problem is NP-hard, and the counting problem is #P-hard. Extensive work has been done in theoretical computer science on this problem; we refer the reader to the recent papers by [10], [12], [24] for an extensive discussion on the decision and counting complexity of the problem and tractable results for various parameterized versions of the problem.

The primary focus of this paper is on the three mentioned variants of the subgraph isomorphism problem when  $k$ , the number of nodes in the template  $H$ , is fixed. Letting  $n$  be the number of nodes in  $G$ , one can immediately get simple algorithms with running time  $O(n^k)$  to find and count the number of copies of template  $H$  in  $G$ . Note that in this paper we focus on non-induced subgraph matching. When the template is a tree or has a bounded treewidth, Alon et al. [4] present an elegant randomized approximation algorithm with running time  $O(k|E|2^k e^k \log(1/\delta) \frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$ , where  $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$  are error and confidence parameters, respectively, based on the color coding technique. There result was significantly improved by Koutis and Williams [19] who gave an algorithm with running time of  $O(2^k |E|)$ .

A lot of practical heuristics have also been developed for various versions of these problems, especially for the frequent subgraph mining problem. An example is the “Apriori” method, which uses a level-wise exploration of the template [18], [20], in generating candidates for subgraphs at each level; these have been made to run faster by better

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pruning and exploration techniques, e.g., [15], [20], [40]. Other approaches in relational databases and data mining involve queries for specifically labeled subgraphs, and have combined relational database techniques with careful depth-first exploration, e.g., [8], [31], [32].

Most of these approaches are sequential, and generally scale to modest size graphs  $G$  and templates  $H$ . Parallelism is necessary to scale to much larger networks and templates. In general, these approaches are hard to parallelize as it is difficult to decompose the task into independent subtasks. Furthermore, it is not clear if candidate generation approaches [15], [20], [40] can be parallelized and scaled to large graphs and computing clusters. Two recent approaches for parallel algorithms, related to this work, are [8], [41]. The approach of Bröcheler *et al.* [8] requires a complex preprocessing and enumeration process, which has high end-to-end time, while the approach of [41] involves an MPI-based implementation with a very high communication overhead for larger templates. Two other papers [27], [36] develop MapReduce based algorithms for approximately counting the number of triangles with a work complexity bound of  $O(|E|)$ . The development of parallel algorithms for subgraph analysis with rigorous polynomial work complexity, which are implementable on heterogeneous computing resources remains an open problem. Due to the complexity of enumerating subgraphs, people propose to compute some metrics of the subgraph which is anti-monotone to the subgraph size. The algorithm reported in [3] is capable of computing subgraph support on large networks with up to 1 Billion edges. However, it requires each machine to have a copy of the graph in memory which limits its scalability to larger graphs. Additionally, computing support requires much less computational effort than counting subgraphs. Another recent work also employs MapReduce to match subgraphs [35] which scales to networks with up to 300 million edges.

Other approaches studied in the context of data mining and databases, e.g., [8], [31], [32], are capable of processing large networks, but are usually slow due to limitations of database techniques for processing networks.

**Our contributions.** In this paper, we present SAHAD, a new algorithm for Subgraph Analysis using Hadoop, with rigorously provable polynomial work complexity for several variants of the subgraph isomorphism problem when  $H$  is a tree. SAHAD scales to very large graphs, and because of the Hadoop implementation, runs flexibly on a variety of computing resources, including Amazon EC2 cloud. We also adapt SAHAD in the Harp [29] framework to utilize its advanced MPI-like collective communication. It scales to graphs with up to 1.2 billion edges.

Our specific contributions are discussed below.

1. SAHAD is the first MapReduce-based algorithm for finding and counting labeled trees in very large networks. The only prior Hadoop based approaches have been on triangles [27], [36], [37] on very large networks, or more general subgraphs on relatively small networks [23]. Our main technical contribution is the development of a Hadoop version of the *color coding* algorithm of Alon *et al.* [4], [5], which is a (sequential) randomized approximation algorithm for subgraph counting. It is a randomized approximation algorithm that for any  $\varepsilon, \delta$ , gives a  $(1 \pm \varepsilon)$  approximation

to the number of embeddings with probability at least  $1 - 2\delta$ . We prove that the work complexity of SAHAD is  $O(k|E_G|2^{2k}e^k \log(1/\delta)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}})$ , which is more than the running time of the sequential algorithm of [4] by just a factor of  $2^k$ .

2. We demonstrate our results on instances generated using the Erdős-Renyi random graph model, the Chung-Lu random graph model and on synthetic social contact graphs for Miami city and Chicago city (with 52.7 and 268.9 million edges, respectively), constructed using the methodology of [7]. We study the performance of counting unlabeled/labeled templates with up to 12 nodes. The total running times for templates with 12 nodes on Miami and Chicago networks are 15 and 35 minutes, respectively; note that these are the *total end-to-end* times, and do not require any additional pre-processing (unlike, e.g. [8]).

3. We discuss how our basic algorithms for counting subgraphs can be extended to compute supervised motifs and graphlet frequency distributions. They can also be extended to count labeled subgraphs.

4. SAHAD runs easily on heterogeneous computing resources, e.g., it scales well when we request up to 16 nodes on a medium size cluster with 32 cores per node. Our Hadoop based implementation is also amenable to running on public clouds, e.g., Amazon EC2 [6]. Except for a 10-node template which produces extremely large amount of data so as to incur the I/O bottleneck on the virtual disk of EC2. It is worth noting here that the performance of SAHAD on EC2 is almost the same as on the local cluster. This would enable researchers to perform useful queries even if they do not have access to large resources, such as those required to run previously proposed querying infrastructures. We believe this aspect is unique to SAHAD and lowers the barrier-to-entry for scientific researchers to utilize advanced computing resources.

5. We study the performance improvement in extensions of the standard Hadoop framework. The enhanced algorithm is called EN-SAHAD. First, we consider techniques to explicitly control the sorting and inter partition communications in Hadoop. We find that reducing the sorting step by pre-allocating can improve the performance by about 20%, but improved partitioning does not seem to help.

6. Finally, we implement SAHAD within the Harp [29] framework – the new algorithm is called HARPSAHAD+. HARPSAHAD+ yields an order of magnitude improvement in performance, as a result of its flexibility in task scheduling, data flow control and in memory cache. We are therefore able to scale to networks with up to billions of edges using the HARPSAHAD+ and obtain a comparable performance when compared to a state-of-the-art MPI/C++ implementation.

**Organization.** Section 3 introduces the background for the subgraph counting problem and MapReduce, the open-sourced implementation Hadoop and the Harp system. Then in Section 4, we give a brief overview of the color coding algorithm proposed by Alon *et al.* in [4]. Furthermore, in Section 5 we present our MapReduce implementations. In Section 6 we study the computation cost of our algorithm. Section 7 proposes several variations of the subgraph counting problems that can be computed using our framework,

while section 8 discusses experiment results of SAHAD, EN-SAHAD and HARPSAHAD+. Finally, Section 9 concludes the paper.

**Extension from conference version.** The SAHAD algorithm appeared in [42]. The results on EN-SAHAD and HARPSAHAD+ are new additions. Since the publication of [42], there has been more work done on parallelizing the color coding technique, e.g., [33], [34]. However, none of these have been based on MapReduce and its generalizations.

## 2 RELATED WORK

As mentioned earlier, the subgraph isomorphism problem and its variant has been studied extensively by theoretical computer scientists; see [10], [12], [13], [17], [24], [38] for complexity theoretic results. Marx and Pilipczuk [24] undertake a comprehensive study of the decision problem and provide strong lower bounds including fixed parameter intractability results. They also study the complexity of the problem as a function of structural properties of  $G$  and  $H$ .

A variety of different algorithms and heuristics have been developed for different domain specific versions of subgraph isomorphism problems. One version involves finding frequent subgraphs, and many approaches for this problem use the Apriori method from frequent item set mining [14], [18], [20]. These approaches involve candidate generation during a breadth first search on the subset lattice and a determination of the support of item sets by a subset test. A variety of optimizations have been developed, e.g., using a DFS order to avoid the cost of candidate generation [15], [40] or pruning techniques, e.g., [20]. A related problem is that of computing the “graphlet frequency distribution”, which generalizes the degree distribution [28].

Another class of results for frequent subgraph finding is based on the powerful technique of “color coding” (which also forms the basis of our paper), e.g., [4], [16], [41], which has been used for approximating the number of embeddings of templates that are trees or “tree-like”.

In [4], Alon *et al.* use color coding to compute the distribution of treelets with sizes 8, 9 and 10, on the protein-protein interaction networks of Yeast. The color coding technique is further explored and improved in [16], in terms of worst case performance and practical considerations. For example, by increasing the number of colors, they speed up the color coding algorithm with up to 2 orders of magnitude. They also reduce the memory usage for minimum weight paths finding, by carefully removing unsatisfied candidates, and reducing the color set storage. A recent work developed by Venkatesan *et al* [?] extends color coding to subgraphs with treewidth up to 2, and they scale their algorithm to graph with up to 2.7 million edges.

Most of these approaches in bioinformatics applications involve small templates, and have only been scaled to relatively small graphs with at most  $10^4$  nodes (apart from [41], which shows scaling to much larger graphs by means of a parallel implementation). Other settings in relational databases and data mining have involved queries for specific labeled subgraphs. Some of the approaches for these problems have combined relational database techniques, based on careful indexing and translation of queries, with such depth-first exploration strategy that is distributed over

different partitions of the graph e.g., [8], [31], [32], and scale to very large graphs. For instance, Bröcheler *et al.* [8] demonstrate labeled subgraph queries with up to 7-node templates on graphs with over half a billion edges, by carefully partitioning the massive network using minimum edge cuts, and distributing the partitions on 15 computing nodes. A shared-memory parallelization with an OpenMP implementation of the color coding approach is given in [33]. This algorithm achieves a speed up of 12 in a graph with 1.5 million nodes and 31 million edges. A more recent work [34] parallelizes the dynamic processing of the color-coding algorithm to enumerate subgraphs and is able to handle networks as large as 2 billion edges, with template size up to 10.

## 3 BACKGROUND

### 3.1 Preliminaries and problem statement

We consider labeled graphs  $G = (V_G, E_G, L, \ell_G)$ , where  $V_G$  and  $E_G$  are the sets of nodes and edges,  $L$  is a set of labels and  $\ell_G : V \rightarrow L$  is a labeling on the nodes. A graph  $H = (V_H, E_H, L, \ell_H)$  is a *non-induced subgraph* of  $G$  if we have  $V_H \subseteq V_G$  and  $E_H \subseteq E_G$ . We say that a template graph  $T = (V_T, E_T, L, \ell_T)$  is isomorphic to a non-induced subgraph  $H = (V_H, E_H, L, \ell_H)$  of  $G$  if there exists a bijection  $f : V_T \rightarrow V_H$  such that: (i) for each  $(u, v) \in E_T$ , we have  $(f(u), f(v)) \in E_H$ , and (ii) for each  $v \in V_T$ , we have  $\ell_T(v) = \ell_H(f(v))$ . In this paper, we assume  $T$  is a tree. We will consider trees to be rooted, and use  $\rho = \rho(T) \in V_T$  to denote the “root” of  $T$ , which is arbitrarily chosen. If  $T$  is isomorphic to a non-induced subgraph  $H$  with the mapping  $f(\cdot)$ , we also say that  $H$  is a non-induced embedding of  $T$  with the root  $\rho(T)$  mapped to node  $f(\rho(T))$ . Figure 1 shows an example of a non-induced embedding of template  $T$  in a graph  $G$ . Let  $emb(T, G)$  denote the number of all embeddings of template  $T$  in graph  $G$ . Here, we focus on approximating  $emb(T, G)$ .

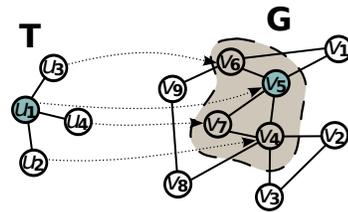


Fig. 1: Here the shaded subgraph is a non-induced embedding of  $T$ . The mapping of the template to the subgraph is denoted with the arrow.

**An  $(\epsilon, \delta)$ -approximation to  $emb(T, G)$ .** We say that a randomized algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  produces an  $(\epsilon, \delta)$ -approximation to  $emb(T, G)$ , if the estimate  $Z$  produced by  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies:  $\Pr[|Z - emb(T, G)| > \epsilon \cdot emb(T, G)] \leq 2\delta$ ; in other words,  $\mathcal{A}$  is required to produce an estimate that is close to  $emb(T, G)$ , with high probability.

**Problems studied.** We consider the following two problems:

- 1) *Subgraph counting:* Given a template  $T$  and graph  $G$ , compute an  $(\epsilon, \delta)$ -approximation to  $emb(T, G)$ . When the labels can be disregarded, we refer to this as the

*Unlabeled Subgraph Counting* problem. Otherwise, it is referred to as the *Labeled Subgraph Counting* problem.

- 2) *Graphlet Frequency Distribution (GFD)* [28]: a graphlet is another name for a subgraph. We say a node touches a graphlet  $T$ , if it is contained in an embedding of  $T$  in the graph  $G$ . The graphlet degree of a node  $v$  is the number of graphlets it touches. Given a size parameter  $k$ , the GFD in a graph  $G$  is the frequency distribution of the graphlet degrees of all nodes with respect to all graphlets of size up to  $k$ . The specific problem is to obtain an approximation to the GFD. In this paper, we will focus on “treelets”, which only considers all trees of size up to  $k$ .

### 3.2 MapReduce, Hadoop and Harp

MapReduce and its extensions have become a dominant computation model in big data analysis. It involves two stages for data processing: (a) dividing the input into distinct *map* tasks and distributing to multiple computing entities, and (b) merging the results of individual computing entities in the *reduce* tasks to produce the final output [11].

The MapReduce model processes data in the form of key-value pairs  $\langle k, v \rangle$ . An application first takes pairs of the form  $\langle k_1, v_1 \rangle$  as input to the map function, in which one or more  $\langle k_2, v_2 \rangle$  pairs are produced for each input pair. Then the MapReduce re-organizes all  $\langle k_2, v_2 \rangle$  pairs and aggregates all items  $v_2$  that are associated with the same key  $k_2$ , which are then processed by a reduce function.

Hadoop [39] is an open-sourced implementation of MapReduce. By defining application specific map and reduce functions, the user can employ Hadoop to manage and allocate appropriate resources in order to perform the tasks, without knowing the complexity of load balancing, communication and task scheduling. Due to the reliability and scalability in handling vast amount of computation in parallel, Hadoop is becoming a *de facto* solution for large parallel computing tasks.

Hadoop falls short in two aspects though: (i) the high I/O cost involved within the mapper, shuffling and the reducer since the data is always read and write from the disk in every stage of a Hadoop job and (ii) global synchronization of the mapper and reducer, i.e. reducers can start only when all mappers have completed their tasks and vice versa, thus reducing the efficient usage of the computing resources. To conquer the problems that Hadoop is facing, we further extend our work to use the Harp platform [29].

Harp introduces full collective communication (broadcast, reduce, allgather, allreduce, rotation, regroup or push & pull), adding a separate communication abstraction. The advantage of using in-memory collective communication replacing the shuffling phase is that fine-grained data alignment and data transfer of many synchronization patterns can be optimized.

Harp categorizes four types of computation models (Locking, Rotation, Allreduce, Asynchronous) that are based on the synchronization patterns and the effectiveness of the model parameter update. They provide the basis for a systematic approach to parallelizing iterative algorithms. Figure 2 shows the four categories of the computing model.

The Harp framework has been used by 350 students at Indiana University for their course projects. Now it has

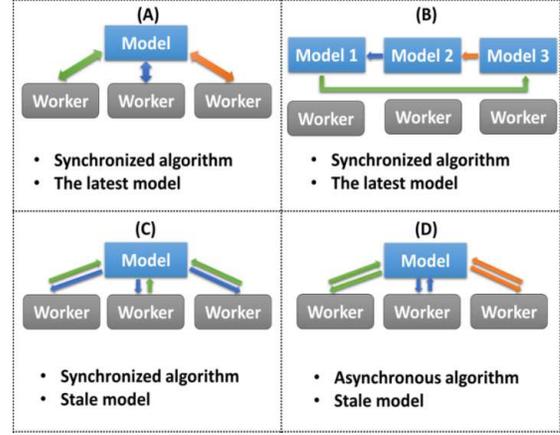


Fig. 2: Harp has 4 computation models: (A) Locking, (B) Rotation, (C) AllReduce, (D) Asynchronous

been released as an open source project that is available at the public github domain [1]. Harp provides a collection of iterative machine learning and data analysis algorithms (e.g. Kmeans, Multi-class Logistic Regression, Random Forests, Support Vector Machine, Neural Networks, Latent Dirichlet Allocation, Matrix Factorization, Multi-Dimensional Scaling) that have been tested and benchmarked on OpenStack Cloud and HPC platforms including Haswell and Knights Landing architectures. It has also been used for Subgraph mining, Force-Directed Graph Drawing, and Image classification applications.

## 4 THE SEQUENTIAL ALGORITHM: COLOR CODING

TABLE 1: Notations

symbol	description	symbol	description
$G$	graph	$T, T', T''$	template and sub-templates
$n, m$	# nodes, # edges	$k$	# nodes in $T$
$\rho$	root of $T$	$S, s_i$	color set, the $i^{\text{th}}$ color
$d(v)$	degree of node $v$	$N(v)$	neighbors of node $v$

We briefly introduce the color coding algorithm for subgraph counting [5], which gives a randomized approximation scheme for counting trees in a graph. Some of the notation used in the paper is listed in Table 1.

**High level description.** There are two main ideas underlying the color coding algorithm of [5].

### 1) Colorful embeddings:

Color the nodes of the graph with  $k$  colors where  $k \geq |V_T|$ , and only count “colorful” embeddings—an embedding  $H$  of the template  $T$  is colorful if each node in  $H$  has a distinct color. The advantage of this is that the number of colorful embeddings can be counted by a simple and natural dynamic program.

- In particular, let  $C(v, T(\rho), S)$  be the number of colorful embeddings of  $T$  with node  $v \in V_G$  mapped to the root  $\rho$ , and using the color set  $S$ , where  $|V_T| = |S|$ .
- Suppose  $(\rho = u_1, u_2)$  is an edge incident on the root node  $\rho$  in  $T$ . Let tree  $T$  be partitioned into trees  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  when the edge  $(u_1, u_2)$  is removed, with roots  $\rho_1 = u_1$  and  $\rho_2 = u_2$  of the trees  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , respectively.

- c) Suppose  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are disjoint subsets of colors such that  $|S_1| = |V_{T_1}|$ ,  $|S_2| = |V_{T_2}|$ . Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be two colorful embeddings of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  using color sets  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , respectively, with  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  mapped to neighboring nodes  $v_1 \in V_G$  and  $v_2 \in V_G$ , respectively. Then,  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  must be *non-overlapping*, because they have distinct colors.
- d) Therefore,

$$C(v_1, T, S) = \sum_{v_2 \in N(v_1)} \sum_{S=S_1 \cup S_2} C(v_1, T_1(v_1), S_1) \cdot C(v_2, T_2(v_2), S_2),$$

where the first summation is over all neighbors  $v_2$  of  $v_1$  and the second summation is over all partitions  $S_1 \cup S_2$  of  $S$ .

- 2) **Random colorings:** If the coloring is done randomly with  $k = |V_T|$  colors, there is a reasonable probability  $\frac{k!}{k^k}$  that an embedding is colorful—this allows us to get a good approximation of the number of embeddings.

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**Algorithm 1** The sequential color coding algorithm.

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- 1: **Input:** Graph  $G = (V, E)$  and template  $T = (V_T, E_T)$
- 2: **Output:** Approximation to  $emb(T, G)$
- 3:
- 4: For each  $v \in V_G$ , pick a color  $c(v) \in S = \{1, \dots, k\}$  uniformly at random, where  $k = |V_T|$ .
- 5: Partition the tree  $T$  into subtrees recursively to form a set  $\mathcal{T}$  using algorithm  $PARTITION(T(\rho))$ . For each tree  $T' \in \mathcal{T}$ , we have a root  $\rho'$ . Furthermore, if  $|V_{T'}| > 1$ ,  $T'$  is partitioned into two trees  $T'_1, T'_2$  with roots  $\rho'_1 = \rho'$  and  $\rho'_2$ , respectively, which are referred to as the active and passive children of  $T'$ .
- 6: For each  $v \in V_G, T_i \in \mathcal{T}$  with root  $\rho_i$ , and subset  $S_i \subseteq S$ , with  $|S_i| = |T_i|$ , we compute  $C(v, T_i(\rho_i), S_i)$  using the the recurrence (1) below:

$$c(v, T_i(\rho_i), S_i) = \frac{1}{d} \sum_u \sum_{S'_i} c(v, T'_i(\rho_i), S'_i) \cdot c(u, T''_i(\tau_i), S''_i), \quad (1)$$

where  $d$  is equal to one plus the number of siblings of  $\tau_i$  which are roots of subtrees isomorphic to  $T''_i(\tau_i)$ .

- 7: For the  $j$ th random coloring, let

$$C^{(j)} = \frac{1}{q} \frac{k!}{k^k} \sum_{v \in V_G} c(v, T(\rho), S), \quad (2)$$

where  $q$  denotes the number of node  $\rho' \in V_T$  such that  $T$  is isomorphic to itself when  $\rho$  is mapped to  $\rho'$ .

- 8: Repeat the above steps  $N = O(\frac{\epsilon^k \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2})$  times, and partition  $N$  estimates  $C^{(1)}, \dots, C^{(N)}$  into  $t = O(\log(1/\delta))$  sets. Let  $Z_j$  be the average of set  $j$ . Output the median of  $Z_1, \dots, Z_t$ .
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Algorithm 1 describes the sequential color coding algorithm. Figure 3 gives an example of computing Eq. 1.

## 5 PARALLEL ALGORITHMS

In this section, we present a parallelization of the color coding approach using MapReduce framework, we will first describe SAHAD [42], followed by EN-SAHAD and HARPSAHAD+ respectively.

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**Algorithm 2**  $Partition(T(\rho))$ 


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- 1: **if**  $T \notin \mathcal{T}$  **then**
  - 2:   **if**  $|V_T| = 1$  **then**
  - 3:      $\mathcal{T} \leftarrow T$
  - 4:   **else**
  - 5:     Add  $T$  to  $\mathcal{T}$
  - 6:     Pick  $\tau \in N(\rho)$ , the set of the neighbors of  $\rho$ , and partition  $T$  into two sub-templates by cutting the edge  $(\rho, \tau)$
  - 7:     Let  $T'$  be the sub-template containing  $\rho$  (name as *active child*) and  $T''$  the other (name as *passive child*)
  - 8:      $Partition(T'(\rho))$
  - 9:      $Partition(T''(\tau))$
- 

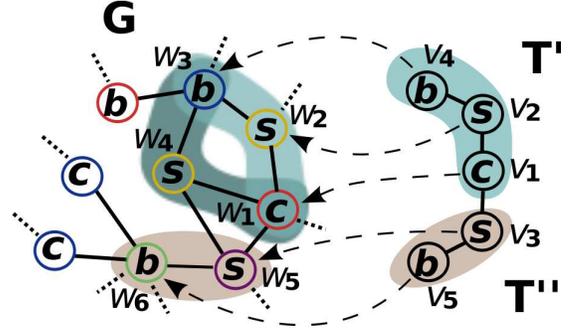


Fig. 3: The example shows one step of the dynamic programming in color coding.  $T$  in Figure 1 is split into  $T'$  and  $T''$ . To count  $C(w_1, T(v_1), S)$ , or the number of embeddings of  $T(v_1)$  rooted at  $w_1$ , using color set  $S = \{\text{red, yellow, blue, purple, green}\}$ , we first obtain  $C(w_1, T'(v_1), \{r, y, b\}) = 2$  and  $C(w_5, T''(v_3), \{p, g\}) = 1$ . Then,  $C(w_1, T(v_1), S) = C(w_1, T'(v_1), \{r, y, b\})C(w_5, T''(v_3), \{p, g\}) = 2$ . The embeddings of  $T$  are subgraphs with nodes  $\{w_3, w_4, w_1, w_5, w_6\}$  and  $\{w_3, w_2, w_1, w_5, w_6\}$ . Here  $s, c, b$  represents the label of the nodes. Details of labeled subgraph counting can be found at [42].

### 5.1 SAHAD

SAHAD takes a sequence of templates  $\mathcal{T} = \{T_0, \dots, T\}$  as input. Here  $\mathcal{T}$  represents a set of templates generated by partitioning  $T$  using Algorithm 2. Then it performs a MapReduce variation of Algorithm 1 to compute the number of embeddings of  $T$ .

As shown in Equation 1, the counts of all colorful embeddings isomorphic to  $T$  rooted from a single node  $v$  is computed by aggregating the same measurement of  $T'$  and  $T''$ , i.e., the two sub-templates, with  $T'$  rooted from  $v$  and  $T''$  rooted from  $\forall u \in N(v)$ . We can parallelize color-coding algorithm by distributing the computation among multiple machines, and sending data related with  $v$  and  $N(v)$  to a computation unit for the aggregation. In our MapReduce algorithm, we manage this by assigning  $v$  as the key for both the counts of  $T'$  rooted at  $v$  and the counts of  $T''$  rooted at  $v$ 's neighbors, such that all data required for computing counts for  $T$  rooted at  $v$  has the same key and will be handled by a single reduce function.

Let  $X_{T,v}$  be a sequence of color-count pairs ( $S_0 =$

$\{s_1^0, s_2^0, \dots, s_k^0\}, c_0), (S_1 = \{s_1^1, s_2^1, \dots, s_k^1\}, c_1), \dots$ , where  $S_i$  represents a color set containing  $k$  colors, and  $c_i$  represents the counts of the subgraphs isomorphic to  $T$  and rooted at  $v$  that are colored by  $S_i$ . Here  $k = |V(T)|$ , and each subgraph is a colorful match.

There are 3 types of Hadoop jobs in SAHAD, which are 1) colorer (Algorithm 3) that performs line 4 of Algorithm 1; 2) counter (Algorithm 4, 5) which performs line 6 of Algorithm 1 and 3) finalizer (Algorithm 6, 7) that performs line 7 of Algorithm 1.

The first step is to random color network  $G$  with  $k$  colors. The map function is described in Algorithm 3:

---

**Algorithm 3** *mapper*( $v, N(v)$ )

---

- 1: Pick  $s_i \in \{s_1, \dots, s_k\}$  uniformly at random
  - 2: color  $v$  with  $s_i$
  - 3: Let  $T_0$  be the single node template
  - 4: Let  $c(v, T_0, \{s_i\}) = 1$  since  $v$  is the only colorful matching
  - 5:  $X_{T_0, v} \leftarrow \{(\{s_i\}, 1)\}$
  - 6: Collect(key  $\leftarrow v$ , value  $\leftarrow X_{T_0, v}, N(v)$ )
- 

Here “Collect” is a standard MapReduce operation that will emit the key-value pairs to global space for further process such as shuffling, sorting or I/O.  $N(v)$  represents the neighbors of  $v$ . Note that template  $T_0$  is a single node, therefore  $X_{T_0, v}$  contains only a single color-count pair  $(s_v, 1)$

According to Equation 1, to compute  $X_{T_i, v}$ , we need  $X_{T'_i, v}$  for sub-template  $T'_i$  and  $X_{T''_i, u}$  for all  $u \in N(v)$  for sub-template  $T''_i$ . We use a mapper and a reducer function to implement this as shown in Algorithm 4 and 5, respectively.

---

**Algorithm 4** *mapper*( $v, X_{t, v}, N(v)$ )

---

- 1: **if**  $t$  is  $T'_i$  **then**
  - 2:   Collect(key  $\leftarrow v$ , value  $\leftarrow X_{t, v}, \text{flag}'$ )
  - 3: **else**
  - 4:   **for**  $u \in N(v)$  **do**
  - 5:     Collect(key  $\leftarrow u$ , value  $\leftarrow X_{t, v}, \text{flag}''$ )
- 

Note that in Algorithm 4, the second *Collect* emits  $X_{T''_i, v}$  to all its neighbors. Therefore, as shown in Algorithm 5,  $X_{T'_i, v}$  and  $X_{T''_i, u}$  from all  $u \in N(v)$  are handled by the same reducer, which is sufficient for computing Eq. 1. Also note that for a given node  $v$ , the number of entries with  $\text{flag}'$  is 1, and the number of entries with  $\text{flag}''$  equals  $|N(v)|$ .

---

**Algorithm 5** *reducer*( $v, (X, \text{flag}), (X, \text{flag}), \dots$ )

---

- 1: pick  $X_1$  where  $\text{flag} = \text{flag}'$
  - 2: **for** all colorset  $S'_i$  from  $X_1$  **do**
  - 3:   **for** each  $X$  other than  $X_1$  **do**
  - 4:     **for** all colorset  $S''_i$  from  $X$  **do**
  - 5:       **if**  $S'_i \cap S''_i = \emptyset$  **then**
  - 6:          $c(v, T_i, S'_i \cup S''_i) + = 1$
  - 7: Collect(key  $\leftarrow v$ , value  $\leftarrow X_{T_i, v}, N(v)$ )
- 

The last step is to compute the total count described in Eq. 2, and is shown in Algorithm 6 and 7.

---

**Algorithm 6** *mapper*( $v, X_{T, v}, N(v)$ )

---

- 1: Collect(key  $\leftarrow$  “sum”, value  $\leftarrow X_{T, v}$ )
- 

---

**Algorithm 7** *reducer*(“sum”,  $X_{T, v_1}, X_{T, v_2}, \dots$ )

---

- 1:  $Y = \frac{m^m}{m!} \cdot \frac{1}{q} \sum_{\forall v \in V_G} X$
  - 2: Collect(key  $\leftarrow$  “sum”, value  $\leftarrow X_{T, v}$ )
- 

Note that in Algorithm 6,  $X_{T, v}$  only contains one element, which is the count corresponding to the entire color set. Then in the reducer shown in Algorithm 7, all the counts are added together and properly factorized, to obtain the final count. For a comprehensive description of the MapReduce version of color coding, please refer to [42].

## 5.2 EN-SAHAD

For general MapReduce problem, the set of keys that is processed in the Mapper and Reducer varies among different jobs. Therefore, MapReduce uses external shuffling and sorting in-between Mappers and Reducers to deploy the keys to computing nodes.

In our algorithm, however, the dynamic program aggregates counts based on the root node of the subtree, and therefore the key is the node index  $v$ . In EN-SAHAD, we use this pre-knowledge to predefine a reducer that corresponds to a set of nodes. We also assign the predefined reducers to computing nodes prior to the beginning of the dynamic program. Therefore, a data entry with key  $v$  will be directly sent to the corresponding computing node and processed by designated Reducer. Using this mechanism, we can reduce the cost of shuffling and sorting in intermediate stage of Hadoop jobs.

## 5.3 HARPSAHAD+

HARPSAHAD+ is built upon the Harp framework [?] [?], which adopts a variety of the advanced technologies in the research area of high performance Java language. HARPSAHAD+ has the following optimization in front of the MapReduce Sahad version: 1) It uses a two-level parallel programming model. At the inter-node level, workload is distributed by harp mappers; At the intra-node level, local workload is divided and assigned to multiple Java threads. 2) For inter-node communication, it utilizes a MPI-AlltoAll like regroup operation owned by Harp. 3) For intra-node computation, it utilizes Habanero Java thread library from Rice University [?] and adopts a Long-Running-Thread programming style [?] to unleash the potential performance of Java language.

### 5.3.1 Inter-Node Communication

In SAHAD, the template counts of a vertex  $v$  and all of its neighbours  $N(v)$  are assigned the same key value  $v$ , therefore, they are shuffled into the same reducer to complete the counting process. In HARPSAHAD+, we remove the reducer module and replace it by an user-defined mapper function. The whole set of vertices  $V$  is distributed and cached into the memory space of  $p$  harp mappers. Each mapper  $i$  holds a subset of vertices  $V_i$  with  $s_i = |V_i|$ . In the mapper function,

we create a table  $LTable$  with  $s_i$  entries, and each entry  $0 \leq j < s_i$  serves as a “reducer” for vertex  $v_j$ . HARPSAHAD+ then uses a regroup operation to “shuffle” the data within the memory but in a collective way. Each mapper function creates another harp Table object  $RTable$ , containing multiple partitions, to transfer data. A preprocessing function is fired to record re-usable information required by regroup operations in each iteration. In the preprocessing stage, each mapper holds a copy of all the vertex IDs  $v$  and the mapper ID  $j, v \in V_j$  by an allgather communication operation. The mapper then parses the neighbour lists  $N(v)$  of all the local vertices  $V_i$  and labels each vertex  $u, u \in N(v)$  but  $u \notin V_i$ , with a mapper ID  $j$  that  $u \in V_j$ . Therefore, each mapper  $i$  keeps a queue of vertex IDs for each mapper  $j \neq i$  with  $\forall v \in Q_{i,j}, v \in V_j$ . By sending  $Q_{i,j}$  to mapper  $j$ , finally each mapper  $j$  obtains a sending queue  $Q_{j,i}$  of vertices.

In each iteration of HARPSAHAD+, the regroup operation fired by mapper  $i$  has three steps: 1) For each sending queue  $Q_{i,j}$ , loading subtemplate counts of  $v$  in sending queue  $Q_{i,j}$  into a partition  $Par_{i,j}$  of  $RTable$ . 2) The sender and receiver mapper identities,  $i$  and  $j$ , are coded into a single partition ID for  $Par_{i,j}$ . During the collective regrouping, a designed harp partitioner will decode the partition ID and deliver the partition  $Par_{i,j}$  to the receiver mapper  $j$ . 3) After the regroup operation, the harp Table  $RTable$  of each mapper  $i$  now contains counts of vertices  $u \in N(v)$  to update subtemplate counts of local vertices  $v$  in  $LTable$ .

### 5.3.2 Intra-Node Computation

HARPSAHAD+ extends the MapReduce framework by taking advantage of the multi-threading programming model in a shared-memory node. We favor the Habanero Java threads instead of the `java.lang.Thread` implementation because it allows users to setup thread affinity in multi-core/many-core processors. We also embrace the so-called Long-Running-Thread programming style, where we create the threads at the most out loop and keep them running until the end of the program. This approach avoids the overhead of frequently creating and destroying threads, instead, it uses `java.util.concurrent.CyclicBarrier` object to synchronize threads if required.

## 6 PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

In this section, we discuss the performance of SAHAD in terms of the overall work and time complexity. Throughout this section, we denote the number of nodes and edges in the network by  $n$  and  $m$  respectively. We use  $k$  to represent the number of nodes in the template.

**Lemma 6.1.** For a template  $T_i$ , suppose the sizes of the two sub-templates  $T'_i$  and  $T''_i$  are  $k'_i$  and  $k''_i$ , respectively. As a result, the sizes of the input, output, and work complexity corresponding to a node  $v$  are given below:

- The sizes of the input and output of Algorithm 4 are  $O\left(\binom{k}{k'_i} + \binom{k}{k''_i} + d(v)\right)$  and  $O\left(\binom{k}{k'_i}d(v)\right)$ , respectively.
- The size of the input to Algorithm 5 is  $O\left(\binom{k}{k''_i}d(v)\right)$ .

**Proof** For a node  $v$ , the input to Algorithm 4 involves the corresponding  $X_{T'_i,v}$  and  $X_{T''_i,v}$  for  $T'_i$  and  $T''_i$ , as well as  $N(v)$ , which together have size  $O\left(\binom{k}{k'_i} + \binom{k}{k''_i} + d(v)\right)$ . If the

input is for  $T''_i$ , Algorithm 4 generates multiple key-value pairs for a node  $v$ , in which each key-value pair corresponds to some node  $u \in N(v)$ . Therefore, the output has size  $O\left(\binom{k}{k''_i}d(v)\right)$ .

For a given  $v$ , the input to Algorithm 5 is the combination of the above, and therefore, has size  $O\left(\binom{k}{k''_i}d(v)\right)$ . ■

**Lemma 6.2.** The total work complexity is  $O(k|E_G|2^{2k}e^k \log(1/\delta)\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2})$ .

**Proof** For node  $v$  and each neighbor  $u \in N(v)$ , Algorithm 5 aggregates every pair of the form  $(S_a, C_a)$  in  $X_{T'_i,v}$ , and  $(S_b, C_b)$  in  $X_{T''_i,u}$ , which leads to a work complexity of  $O\left(\binom{k}{k'_i}\binom{k}{k''_i}d(v)\right)$ . Since  $|T| \leq k$ , the total work, over all nodes and templates is at most

$$O\left(\sum_{v, T_i} \binom{k}{k'_i} \binom{k}{k''_i} d(v)\right) = O\left(\sum_v k 2^{2k} d(v)\right) = O(k|E_G|2^{2k}) \quad (3)$$

Since  $O(e^k \log(1/\delta)\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2})$  iterations are performed in order to get the  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -approximation, the lemma follows. ■

**Time Complexity.** We use  $P$  to denote the number of machines. We assume each machine is configured to run a maximum of  $M$  Mappers and  $R$  Reducers simultaneously. Finally, we assume a uniform partitioning, so that each machine processes  $n/P$  nodes.

**Lemma 6.3.** The time complexity of Algorithm 3 and 4 is  $O\left(\frac{n}{PM}\right)$  and  $O\left(\frac{m}{PR}\right)$ , respectively.

**Proof** We first consider Algorithm 3, which takes as input an entry of the form  $(v, N(v))$  for some node  $v$ , and perform a constant work. There are  $\frac{n}{P}$  entries processed by each machine. Since  $M$  Mappers are run simultaneously, this gives a running time of  $O\left(\frac{n}{PM}\right)$ . Next, we consider Algorithm 4. Each Mapper outputs  $(v, X)$  for input  $T'_i$  and  $d$  entries for input  $T''_i$  for each  $u \in N(v)$ , where  $d$  is the degree of  $v$ . Therefore, each computing node performs  $O\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n/P} d_i\right) = O(m/P)$  steps. Here  $d_i$  is the degree for  $v_i$ . Again, since  $M$  Mappers run simultaneously, the total running time is  $O\left(\frac{m}{PR}\right)$ . ■

**Lemma 6.4.** The time complexity of Algorithm 5 is  $O\left(\frac{m \cdot 2^{2k}}{PR}\right)$ .

**Proof** Suppose  $|S'_i| = k'_i$  and  $|S''_i| = k''_i$ . The number of possible color sets  $S'_i$  and  $S''_i$  is  $\binom{k}{k'_i}$  and  $\binom{k}{k''_i}$ , respectively. Line 2 of Algorithm 5 involves  $O\left(\binom{k}{k'_i}\right) = O(2^k)$  steps. Similarly, line 4 also involves  $O(2^k)$  steps and Line 3 involves  $O(d)$  steps. Therefore the totally running time is  $O(d) \cdot 2^{2k}$ . Each machine processes  $\frac{n}{P}$  entries corresponding to different nodes, leading to a total of  $O\left(\frac{nd \cdot 2^{2k}}{P}\right)$  steps. Since  $R$  reducers run in parallel on each machine, this leads to a total time of  $O\left(\frac{m \cdot 2^{2k}}{PR}\right)$ . ■

**Lemma 6.5.** The time complexity of Algorithm 6 and 7 is  $O\left(\frac{n}{PM}\right)$  and  $O(n)$ , respectively.

**Proof** Algorithm 6 maps out a single entry for each input. Following the same outline as the proof of 6.3, its running time is  $O\left(\frac{n}{PM}\right)$ . Algorithm 7 will take  $O(n)$  time since we

have only one key “sum”, and only one Reducer will be assigned for the summation for all  $v \in V(G)$ , which takes  $O(n)$  time. ■

**Lemma 6.6.** The overall running time of SAHAD is bounded by

$$O\left(\frac{k2^{2k}m}{P} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{M} + \frac{1}{R}\right)e^k \log(1/\delta)\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right) \quad (4)$$

**Proof** Algorithm 3 takes  $O\left(\frac{n}{PM}\right)$  time. Algorithm 4 and 5 run for each step of the dynamic programming, i.e., joining two sub-templates into a larger template as shown in Figure 3. Since the number of total sub-templates is  $O(k)$  when  $T$  is a tree, Algorithm 4 and 5 run  $O(k)$  times. Therefore the total time is  $O\left(k \cdot \left(\frac{m}{PM} + \frac{m \cdot 2^{2k}}{PR}\right)\right) = O\left(\frac{k2^{2k}m}{P} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{M} + \frac{1}{R}\right)\right)$ . Finally, the entire algorithm as to be repeated  $O\left(e^k \log(1/\delta)\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$  times, in order to get the  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -approximation, and the lemma follows. ■

## 6.1 Performance Analysis of Intermediate Stage

With SAHAD, a major bottleneck of a Hadoop job in terms of running time is the shuffling and sorting cost in the intermediate stage between Mapper and Reducer, due to the high I/O and synchronization cost as shown by the black bar in Figure 4.

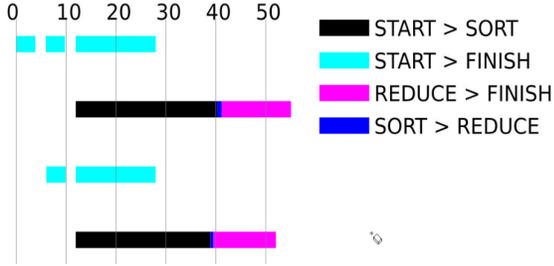


Fig. 4: The figure shows the time spent in each stage of a running Hadoop job to produce a color-count for a 5-node template, by aggregating the 2-node and 3-node sub-tree. The black bar is the time for the intermediate stage, which is for shuffling and sorting. **on which graph is this?**

We observe that the external shuffling and sorting stage takes roughly twice the time of the reducing stage, which dramatically increase the overall running time. Given that the keys in Mappers and Reducers are always the index of all the nodes  $v \in V(G)$ , we can enhance SAHAD by removing the shuffling and sorting in the intermediate stages. Instead, we can designate Reducers and directly send the data to corresponding Reducers.

## 7 VARIATIONS OF SUBGRAPH ISOMORPHISM PROBLEMS

So far we have discussed the basic framework of the algorithm. We have also discussed how to compute the total number of subgraph embeddings in Algorithm 7. We now discuss a set of problems that are closely the subgraph isomorphism problem, including finding supervised motif and computing graphlet frequency distribution, which can be computed using our framework.

Note that our algorithm is specifically suitable for computing on multiple templates if they have common sub-templates, since those common sub-templates only need to be computed once. This is the case in many problems, where common sub-templates such as single node, edge, or simple paths are shared.

### 7.1 Supervised Motif Finding

Motifs of a real-world network are specific templates whose embeddings occur with much higher frequencies than in random networks and are referred as building blocks for networks. They have been found in many real-world networks [26]. Our algorithm can reduce the computational cost for a group of templates since the common sub-templates are only computed once, therefore, this approach is amenable to be applied in supervised motif finding.

### 7.2 Graphlet Frequency Distribution

Graphlet frequency distribution has been proposed as a way of measuring the similarity of protein-protein networks [28], where common properties such as degree distribution, diameter, etc., may not suffice. Unlike “motifs”, graphlet frequency distribution is computed on all selected small subgraphs regardless of whether they appear frequently or not.

Graphlet frequency distribution  $D(i, T)$  measures the number of nodes from which  $i$  graphlets that are isomorphic to  $T$  are touched on. The number of graphlets touched on a single node  $v$  can be computed using a number of counts of the same templates  $T$  with root placed at different nodes of  $T$ .

## 8 EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF SAHAD, EN-SAHAD & HARPSAHAD+

We carry out a detailed experimental analysis of SAHAD, EN-SAHAD and HARPSAHAD+, by focusing on three aspects:

(i) *Quality of the solution:* We compare the color coding results with exact counts on small graphs in order to measure the empirical approximation error of our algorithms and show that the error is very small (less than 0.5% with one iteration as shown in Figure 7) so in the following experiments we run the program for a single iteration.

(ii) *Scalability of the algorithms as a function of template size, graph size and computing resources:* We carried out experiments using templates with sizes ranging from 3 nodes to 12 nodes, including both labeled and unlabeled templates. The graphs we use go from several hundreds of thousands of nodes to tens of millions. We also study how our algorithm scales in terms of computing resources including number of threads per node, number of computing nodes, as well as different settings of mappers and reducers, etcetera.

(iii) *Variations of the problem:* Our framework has the ability to extend to a variety of measurements related with the subgraph counting problem. In the experiments, we show the unlabeled/labeled subgraph counting and graphlet distribution results.

(iv) *Enhancing overall performance by system tuning:* We also investigate different components of the system and

their impact to the overall performance. For example, EN-SAHAD studies the communication and sorting cost in the intermediate stage of the system and gives approaches for improvement. We also propose a degree based graph partitioning scheme that can improve the performance of Harp by imposing better load balancing in terms of computations within each partition. Table 2 highlights the main results we obtained with various methods.

TABLE 2: Comparison on SAHAD, EN-SAHAD and HARPSAHAD+

Method	Networks	Templates	Performance
SAHAD	268M edges	$\leq 12$ nodes	10s of min for 7 nodes template on Chicago
EN-SAHAD	12M edges	5 nodes	20% improvement over SAHAD
HARPSAHAD+	1.2B edges	up to 12 nodes	100-200 times faster than SAHAD

## 8.1 Experiment Design

### 8.1.1 Datasets

For our experiments, we use synthetic social contact networks of the following cities and regions: Miami, Chicago, New River Valley (NRV), and New York City (NYC) (see [7] for details). We consider demographic labels – {kid, youth, adult, senior} based on the age and gender for individuals. We also run experiments on a  $G(n, p)$  graph (denoted GNP100) with  $n$  nodes, where each pair of nodes are connected with probability  $p$ , and are randomly assigned node labels. We also experiment on a few other networks: Web-Google [2], RoadNet (rNet) [2], Twitter [21] and Chung-Lu random graphs [9]. Table 3 summarizes the characteristics of the networks.

TABLE 3: Networks used in the experiments

Network	No. of Nodes(in million)	No. of Edges(in million)
Twitter	41.7	1202.5
Miami	2.1	52.7
Chicago	9.0	268.9
NYC	18.0	480.0
NRV	0.2	12.4
rNet	2.0	2.8
GNP100	0.1	1.0
Web-Google	0.9	4.3

### 8.1.2 Templates

The templates we use in the experiments are shown in Figure 5. The templates vary in size from 5 to 12 nodes, in which  $U5-1, \dots, U10-1$  are the unlabeled templates and  $L7-1, L10-1$  as well as  $L12-1$  are the labeled templates. In the labels,  $m, f, k, y, a$  and  $s$  stand for *male, female, kid, youth, adult* and *senior*, respectively.

### 8.1.3 Computing Environment

For experiments with SAHAD, we use a computing cluster **Athena**, with 42 computing nodes and a large RAM memory footprint. Each node has a quad-socket AMD 2.3GHz Magny Cour 8 Core Processor, i.e., 32 cores per node or 1344 cores in total, and 64 GB RAM(12.4 TFLOP peak). The local disk available on each node is 750GB. Therefore,

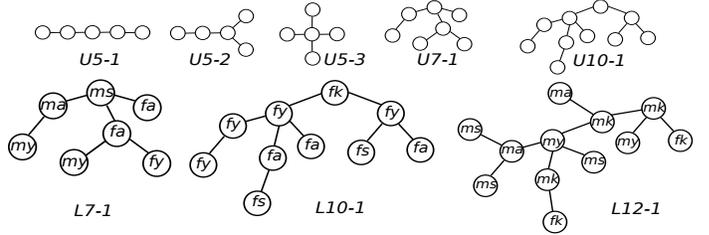


Fig. 5: Templates used in the experiments.

we can have maximum 31.5TB storage for the HDFS. In most of our experiments, we use up to 16 nodes, which give up to 12TB capacity for the computation. Although the number of cores and RAM capacity on each node can support a large number of mappers/reducers, the availability of a single disk on each node limits aggregate I/O bandwidth of all parallel processes on each node. To make it worse, aggregate I/O bandwidth of parallel processes doing sequential I/O could result in many extra disk seeks and hurt overall performance. Therefore, disk bandwidth is the bottleneck for more parallelism in each node. This limitation is further discussed in section 8.2.2. We also use the public Amazon Elastic Computing Cloud (EC2) for some of our experiments. EC2 enables customers to instantly get cheap yet powerful computing resources, and start the computing process with no upfront cost for hardware. We allocated 4 *High-CPU Extra-Large* instances from EC2. Each instance has 8 cores, 7 GB RAM, and two 250 GB virtual disks (Elastic Block Store Volume).

For experiments with HARPSAHAD+, we use the Juliet cluster (Intel Haswell architecture) with 1, 2, 4, 8 and 16 nodes. The Juliet cluster contains 32 nodes each with two 18-core 36-thread Intel Xeon E5-2699 processors and 96 nodes each with two 12-core 24-thread Intel Xeon E5-2670 processors. All the nodes used in the experiments are with Intel Xeon E5-2670 processors and 128 GB memory. All the experiments are performed on InfiniBand FDR with 10Gbit/s per link.

### 8.1.4 Performance metrics

We carry out experiments on SAHAD, EN-SAHAD and HARPSAHAD+. For SAHAD, we measure the approximation bounds, the impact of Hadoop configuration including number of Mapper/Reducers and performance on queries related with various templates and graphs. For enhanced SAHAD, we measure the performance improvement gained by eliminating the sorting in the intermediate stage. We also measures the impact with difference partitioning schemes. Then with Harp, similar to SAHAD, we measure the performance impact with various templates and graphs, as well as the system performance regarding number of computing nodes. We also compare HARPSAHAD+ and SAHAD to study the improvement Harp brings.

## 8.2 Performance of SAHAD

In this section, we evaluate various aspects of the performance. Our main conclusions are summarized below. Table 4 summarizes the different experiments we perform, which are discussed in greater details later.

**1. Approximation bounds:** While the worst case bounds on the algorithm imply  $O(e^k \log(1/\delta) \frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$  rounds to get an  $(\epsilon, \delta)$ -approximation (see Lemma 6.2), in practice, we find that far fewer iterations are needed.

**2. System performance:** We run our algorithm on a diverse set of computing resources, including the publicly available Amazon EC2 cloud. Here, we find that our algorithm scales well with the number of nodes, and disk I/O is one of the main bottlenecks. We posit that employing multiple disks per node (a rising trend in Hadoop) or using I/O caching will help mitigate this bottleneck and boost performance even further.

**3. Performance on various queries:** We evaluate the performance on templates with sizes ranging from 5 to 12. Here, we find that labeled queries are significantly faster than unlabeled ones, and the overall running time is under 35 minutes for these queries on our computing cluster (described below). We also get comparable performance on EC2.

8.2.1 Approximation bounds

As discussed in Section 3, the color coding algorithm averages the estimates over multiple iterations. Figure 6 shows the error for each iteration in counting  $U5-1$  for Miami and Web-Google, respectively. It is observed that the standard deviation for the error is 2% and 0.4% for Miami and Web-Google, which is very small.

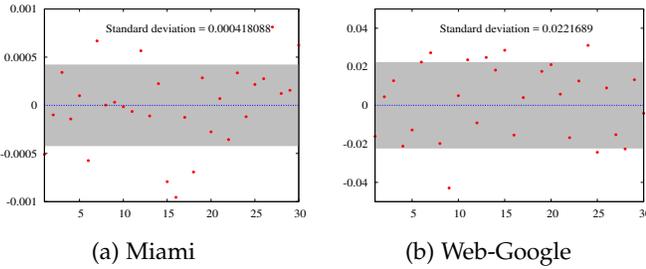


Fig. 6: Error in counting  $U5-1$  for 30 iteration

In Figure 7, we show that the approximation error is below 0.5% for the template  $U7-1$  for the GNP100 graph, even for one iteration. The figure also plots the results based on using more than 7 colors, which can sometimes improve the running time, as discussed in [16]. In the rest of the experiments, we only use the estimation from one iteration, because of the small error shown in this section. The error for  $i$  iterations is computed using  $\frac{|\sum_i Z_i / i - emb(T, G)|}{emb(T, G)}$ .

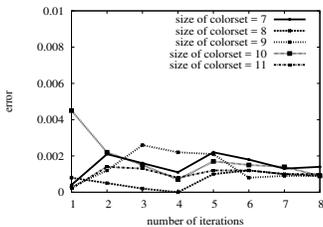


Fig. 7: Approximation error in counting  $U7-1$  on GNP100.

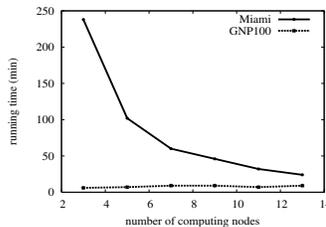


Fig. 8: Running time for counting  $U10-1$  vs number of computing nodes.

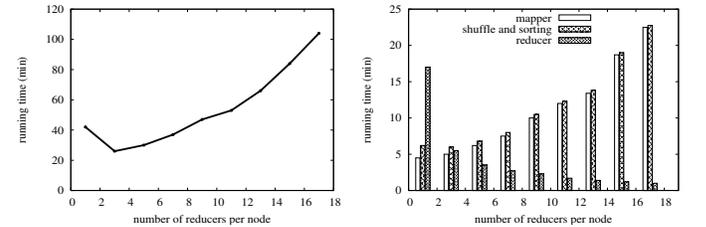
8.2.2 Performance Analysis

We now study how the running time is affected by the number of total computing nodes and number of reducers/mappers per node. We carry out 3 sets of experiments: (i) how the total running time scales with the number of computing nodes; (ii) how the running time is affected by varying assignment of mappers/reducers per node.

**1. Varying number of computing nodes** Figure 8 shows that the running time for Miami reduces from over 200 minutes to less than 30 minutes when the number of computing nodes increases from 3 to 13. However, the curve for GNP100 does not show good scaling. The reason is that the actual computation for GNP100 only consumes a small portion of the running time, and there is overhead from managing the mappers/reducers. In other words, the curve for GNP100 shows a lower bound on the running time in our algorithm.

**2. Varying number of mappers/reducers per node** Here we consider two cases.

*2.a. Varying number of reducers per node.* Figure 9 shows the running time on Athena when we vary the number of reducers per node. Here we fix the number of nodes to be 16 and the number of mappers per node to be 4. We find that running 3 reducers concurrently on each node minimizes the total running time. In addition we find that although increasing the number of reducers per node can reduce the time for the Reduce stage for a single job, the running time increases sharply in Map and Shuffle stage. As a result, the total running time increases with the number of reducers. This can be explained by the visible I/O bottleneck for concurrent accessing on Athena, since Athena has only 1 disk per node. This phenomenon is not present on EC2, as seen from Figure 11b, indicating that EC2 is better optimized for concurrent disk accessing for cloud usage.



(a) Total running time v.s. number of reducers per node. (b) Running time of job stages v.s. number of reducers.

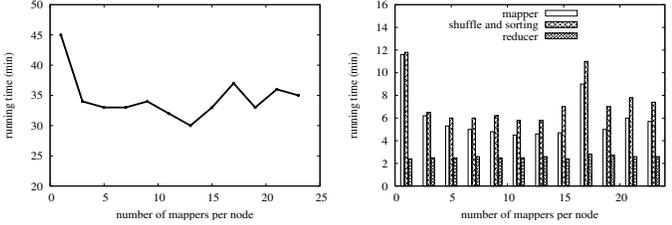
Fig. 9: Running time v.s. number of reducers per node

*2.b. Varying number of mappers per node.* Figure 10 shows the running time on Athena when we vary the number of mappers per node while fixing the number of reducers as 7 per node. We find that varying the number of mappers per node does not affect the performance. This is also validated in EC2, as shown in Figure 11.

*2.c. Reducers' running time distribution.* Figure 12 shows the distribution of the reducers' running time on Athena. We observe that when we increase the number of reducers per node, the distribution becomes more volatile; for example, when we concurrently run 15 reducers per node, the reducers' completion time vary from 20 minutes to 120 minutes.

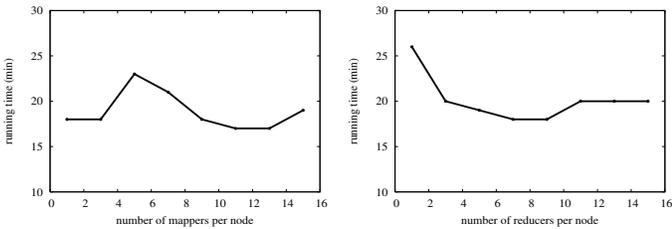
TABLE 4: Summary of the experiment results (refer to Section 8.1 for the terminology used in the table)

Experiment	Computing resource	Template & Network	Key Observations
Approximation bounds	Athena	U7-1 & GNP100	error well below 0.5%
Impact of the number of data nodes	Athena	U10-1 & Miami, GNP100	scale from 4 hours to 30 minutes with data nodes from 3 to 13
Impact of the number of concurrent reducers	Athena & EC2	U10-1 & Miami	performance worsen on Athena
Impact of the number of concurrent mappers	Athena & EC2	U10-1 & Miami	no apparent performance change
Unlabeled/labeled templates counting	Athena & EC2	templates from Figure 5 and networks from Table 3	all tasks complete in less than 35 minutes
Graphlet frequency distribution	Athena	U5-1 & Miami,Chicago	complete in less than 35 minutes



(a) Total running time v.s. number of mappers. (b) Running time of job stages v.s. number of mappers.

Fig. 10: Running time v.s. number of mappers per node



(a) Total running time v.s. number of mappers on EC2. (b) Total running time v.s. number of reducers on EC2.

Fig. 11: Running time w.r.t. number of mappers and reducers on EC2.

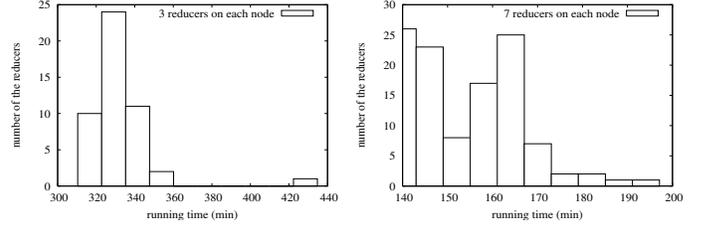
This also indicates the bad I/O performance on Athena for concurrent accessing.

### 8.2.3 Illustrative applications

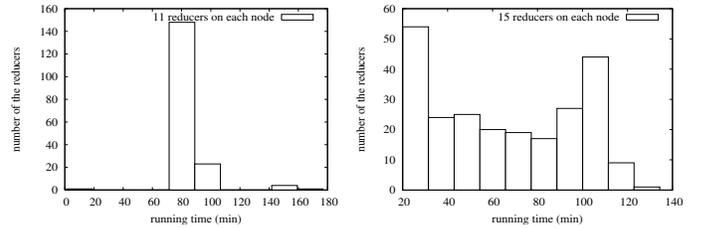
In this section, we illustrate the performance on 3 different kinds of queries. We use Athena and assign 16 nodes as the data nodes; for each node, we assign a maximum of 4 mappers and 3 reducers per node. Our experiments on EC2 for some of these queries are discussed later in Section 8.2.4.

**1. Unlabeled subgraph queries:** Here we compute the counts of templates *U5-1*, *U7-1* and *U10-1* on GNP100 and Miami, as well as the running time, as shown in Figure 13 – we observe that for unlabeled templates with up to 10 nodes on the Miami graph, the algorithm runs in less than 25 minutes.

**2. Labeled subgraph queries:** Here we count the total number of embeddings of templates *L7-1*, *L10-1* and *L12-1* in Miami and Chicago. Figure 14b shows that the running time for counting templates up to 12 nodes is around 15 minutes on Miami, which is less than 35 minutes needed for Chicago. The running time is much less for the labeled subgraph queries than that for the unlabeled subgraph queries. This is

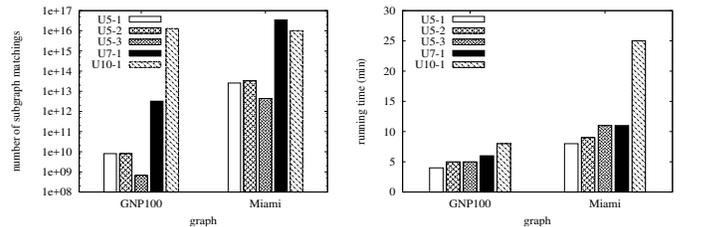


(a) 3 reducers per computing node. (b) 7 reducers per computing node.



(c) 11 reducers per computing node. (d) 15 reducers per computing node.

Fig. 12: Reducers completion time distribution.



(a) The counts of unlabeled subgraphs. (b) Running time for counting unlabeled subgraphs.

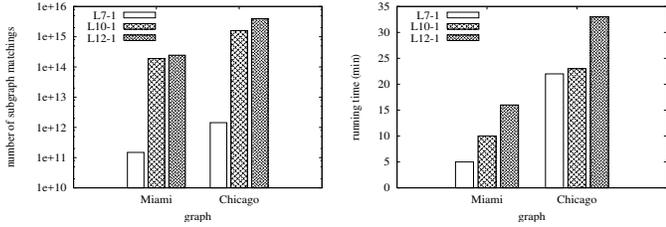
Fig. 13: Querying unlabeled subgraphs on GNP100 and Miami

due to the fact that labeled templates contain a much fewer number of embeddings due to the label constraints.

**3. Computing graphlet frequency distribution:** Figure 15 shows the graphlet frequency distribution in the networks of Miami and Chicago, respectively. By using template *U5-1* for this experiment, we observe that it takes 15 minutes and 35 minutes to compute graphlet frequency distributions on Miami and Chicago, respectively.

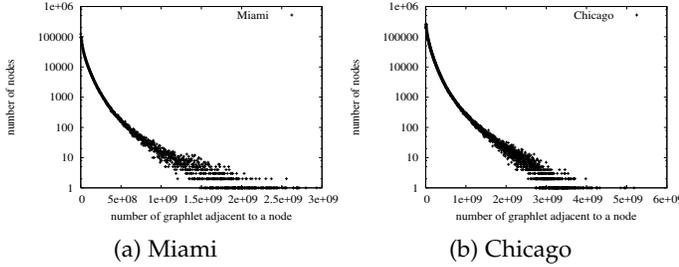
### 8.2.4 Performance Study with Amazon EC2

On EC2, we run unlabeled and labeled subgraph queries on Miami and GNP100 for templates *U5-1*, *U7-1*, *U10-1*, *L7-1*, *L10-1* and *L12-1*. Here we use the same 4 EC2 instances as



(a) The counts of labeled sub-graphs. (b) Running time for counting labeled subgraphs.

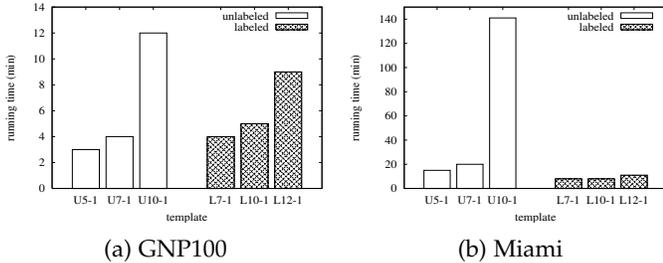
Fig. 14: Querying labeled subgraphs on Miami and Chicago.



(a) Miami (b) Chicago

Fig. 15: Graphlet distribution on Miami and Chicago.

discussed previously, and each node runs up to a maximum of 2 mappers and 8 reducers concurrently. As shown in Figures 16, the running time on EC2 is comparable to that on Athena, except for *U10-1* on Miami, which takes roughly 2.5 hours to finish on EC2, but only 25 minutes on Athena. This is because for large templates and graphs as large as Miami, the input/output data as well as the I/O pressure on disks is tremendous. EC2 uses virtual disks as local storage, which hurt overall performance when dealing with such a large amount of data.



(a) GNP100 (b) Miami

Fig. 16: Running time for various templates on EC2.

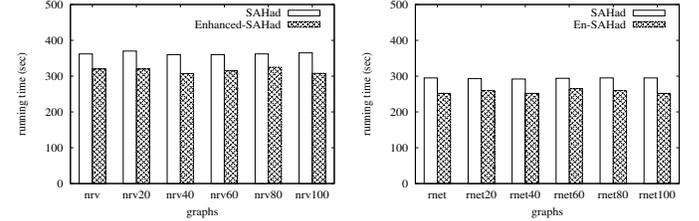
### 8.3 Performance of EN-SAHAD

In this section we experiment our algorithms on two real-world networks *NRV* and *RoadNet* and a number of their shuffled versions. We generate shuffled networks with 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 percent shuffling ratio, and name them as *nrv20* to *nrv100*, and *rNet20* to *rNet100*.

As discussed in Section 5.2, a major factor that impacts the overall performance is the heavy shuffling and sorting cost in the intermediate stage of a Hadoop job. We mitigate this factor by designating node index *v* to Reducers, and pre-allocating Reducers among computing nodes. In this way,

the key-value pairs from Mappers can be directly sent to corresponding Reducers without being shuffled and sorted.

Figure 17 shows the overall running time of our algorithm on *NRV*, *RoadNet* and their variations. Here we generate the variations of the graph by shuffling a proportion of the edges in the graph, e.g., *nrv40* is a *NRV* with 40% of its edges being shuffled. As a result, we observe that pre-allocating a Reducer can deliver roughly a 20% performance improvement.



(a) NRV and its variations (b) RoadNet and its variations

Fig. 17: SAHAD v.s. EN-SAHAD on RoadNet and NRV.

### 8.4 Performance of HARPSAHAD+

In the following experiments, we evaluate the performance of HARPSAHAD+ by comparing it with a state-of-the-art MPI subgraph counting program called MPI-Fascia. MPI-Fascia is developed by Slota et al. [34], which implements the same color coding algorithm as SAHAD and HARPSAHAD+. MPI-Fascia uses a MPI+OpenMP programming model. In our tests, it is compiled with g++ 4.4.7 and compiler option -O3 as well as OpenMPI 1.8.1. Also, we choose InfiniBand instead of Ethernet as the interconnect to test MPI-Fascia and HARPSAHAD+, thus offering more challenges to the Java based communication operation of HARPSAHAD+.

#### 8.4.1 Execution Time

In Figure 18a, we observe that HARPSAHAD+ has a 100x to 200x speedup over SAHAD on a single Haswell node. This tremendous improvement comes from two sides: 1) HARPSAHAD+ has a better utilization of the hardware resources (logical cores) by using Habanero Java threads and affinity binding. 2) Compared to the disk based shuffle process of SAHAD, HARPSAHAD+ caches all of the data in main memory, which significantly reduces the overhead of data access. In Figure 18, we compare HARPSAHAD+ with MPI-Fascia on a Twitter dataset with templates of large size in a distributed environment of 16 Haswell nodes. HARPSAHAD+ achieves comparable or even slightly better performance than MPI-Fascia, which comes from its optimized communication operations. Figure 19 illustrates a breakdown of the execution time into computation and communication on Twitter with template U12-2. Because of the highly intensive computation workload, MPI-Fascia consumes less time in computation thanks to the compiler-level O3 optimization. However, HARPSAHAD+ as a pure Java implementation can still achieve almost the same total counting time with the help of optimized collective communication operations.

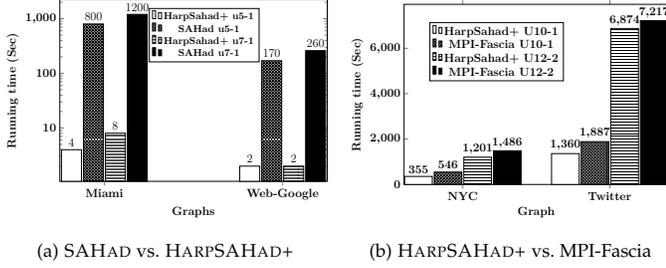


Fig. 18: (a) Test on 1 Haswell Node and each node running 40 threads; (b) Test on 16 Haswell Nodes and each node running 24 threads

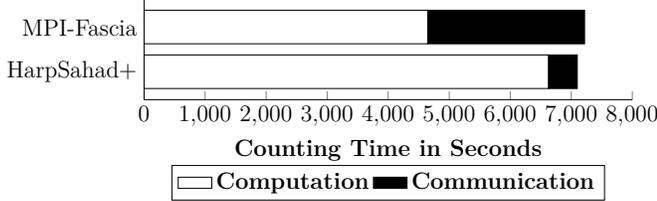


Fig. 19: BreakDown of Time for Twitter-U12-2 on 16 Nodes

### 8.4.2 Problem Size Scaling

Next we study the performance of HARPSAHAD+ by controlling the number of nodes in a graph while increasing the number of edges. In this experiment, we use the Chung-Lu model [9] to generate a series of random graphs given the degree sequence and its variations of Miami and NYC. The average degree of the generated random graphs range from 50 to 150 for Miami and 10 to 100 for NYC. In Figure 20, the running time generally increases with the number of edges, which meets the time complexity we propose in Section 6. For Miami, when the average degree increases from 50 to 150, the running time only increases by 1.7x. Also, a tenfold (x10) increase in average degree for the NYC graph only accounts for less than 2x of an increase in running time. This indicates that our HARPSAHAD+ implementation maintains good performance in computing the neighbours of vertices in parallel, which is due to the high efficiency of Java threads.

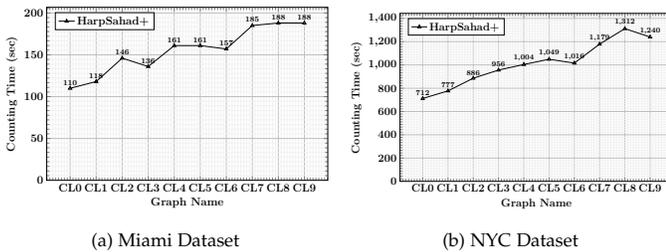


Fig. 20: (a) Test on Miami graph, Template U10-1, 4 Haswell Nodes, and 40 threads/node; (b) Test on NYC graph, Template U10-1, 4 Haswell Nodes and 40 threads/node;

### 8.4.3 Varying number of computing nodes

In this section, we study the performance of HARPSAHAD+ as a function of computing resources, i.e., computing nodes

and threads per node. In Figure 21, we compare the inter-node strong scaling test results between HARPSAHAD+ and MPI-Fascia. For the NYC dataset, we ran strong scaling tests on three templates, and the value of the y-axis represents the speedup on  $N$  nodes by dividing the time on a single node by the time on  $N$  nodes. Since the NYC dataset is relatively small for HARPSAHAD+ and MPI-Fascia, both of the two implementations are not bounded by the computation overhead, which prevents them from achieving the linear speedup. However, HARPSAHAD+ (solid lines) still obtains a better strong scalability than MPI-Fascia (dashed lines). Furthermore, MPI-Fascia could not run on two nodes due to a memory capacity bottleneck and it shows no scalability after 4 nodes. For the Twitter Dataset, HARPSAHAD+ again outperforms MPI-Fascia after 4 nodes. The speedup is also improved as Twitter gives a much larger workload than NYC and HARPSAHAD+ is more bounded by computation overhead.

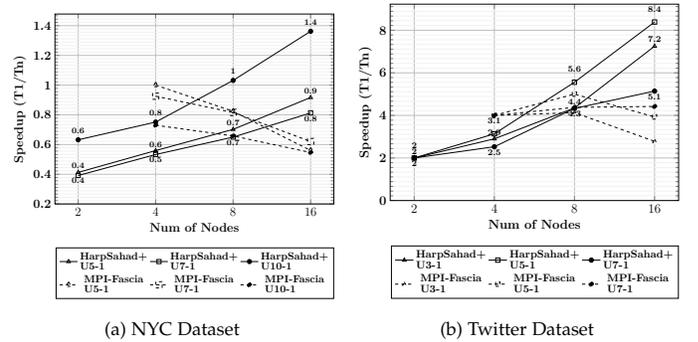


Fig. 21: (a) Test on NYC graph each node running 24 threads; (b) Test on Twitter graph each node running 24 threads

### 8.4.4 Degree based partitioning schemes

In the above experiments, we evenly partition the graphs without considering the nature of the problem and structure of the graphs. In that naive approach, each partition has the same number of vertices.

In this section, we experiment a new partitioning scheme based on a degree-related metric  $D_p$  as shown in Equation 5. Given a vertex with degree  $d$ , there are in total  $\binom{d}{2}$  different pairs of edges that sub-templates  $\tau'$  and  $\tau$  can reside at, or  $O(d^2)$  ways to join 2 sub-templates. Hence, in order to induce a roughly equal computational cost within each partition  $p$  we partition the graph such that each partition has similar  $D_p$ . We expect that the computation in each partition will be roughly the same with this partitioning scheme, hence lightening the overhead due to synchronization and unbalanced loads.

$$D_p = \sum_{\forall v \in p} d_v^2 \quad (5)$$

Here  $d_v$  is the degree of node  $v$ .

In Figure 22 (a), the benefit of using the degree-partitioned Miami dataset is merely around 5% by average, which is largely due to the relatively small size of the graph and computational cost. In contrast, the degree partition on NYC dataset has an 40% improvement by average

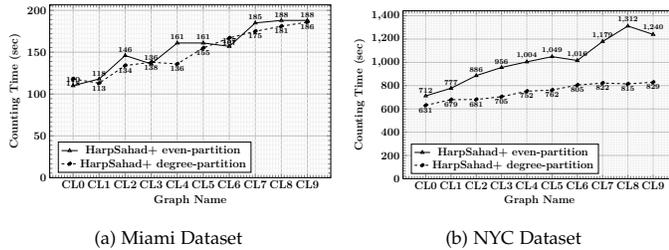


Fig. 22: (a) Test on Miami graph, Template U10-1, 4 Haswell Nodes 40 threads; (b) Test on NYC graph, Template U10-1, 4 Haswell Nodes 40 threads;

and a 60% improvement by maximum. It shows that for larger graphs that can incur high computational costs, the partitioning scheme plays a major role by reducing load imbalance.

## 9 CONCLUSION

In this paper we described an efficient parallel algorithm to compute the number of isomorphic embeddings of a subgraph in very large networks using MapReduce and the color coding technique. Hence, we first develop SAHAD – a Hadoop based implementation and also provide performance analysis in terms of work and time complexity. After observing large sorting and communication costs in SAHAD, we further explore two approaches to remedy these problems. The first approach called EN-SAHAD, entails the tight coupling of the number of graph vertices to mappers and reducers, so as to reduce the sorting and shuffling phases of the MapReduce jobs. The second approach is the implementation of the color coding algorithm using the Harp framework, called HARPSAHAD+, which employs collective communication and shared memory to better facilitate computation and communication. Our experiments show that HARPSAHAD+ has significantly improved performance when compared to SAHAD – by almost two orders of magnitude, and simultaneously achieves comparable or even better execution time and scalability than a state-of-the-art MPI solution. HARPSAHAD+ can process networks with 1.2 Billion edges and 12 node templates. We also explore the performance of these implementations on different cluster architectures such as EC2 on-demand nodes and Intel Haswell nodes. Finally, we introduce a novel graph-load partitioning scheme which improves the performance on large graphs and templates. As directions for future research, it would be interesting to devise new algorithms that scale to larger instances. Additionally, it would be interesting to implement a variant of these algorithms for restricted classes of networks.

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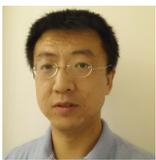
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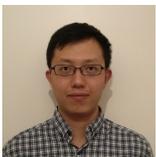
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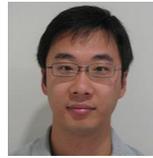
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