

# *Superbubbles* and their linear-time detection

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Joint work with

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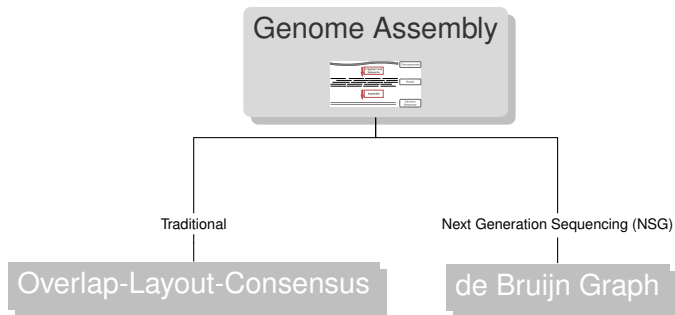
# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Linear-Time Algorithm
3. Analysis
4. Summary

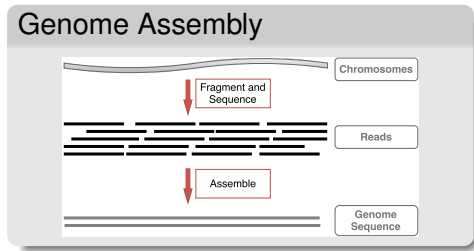
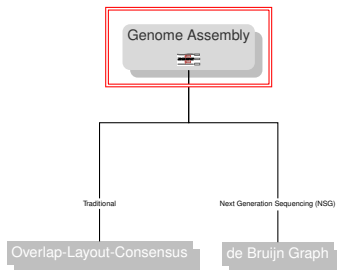
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  - Motivation
  - Superbubble
  - Detection

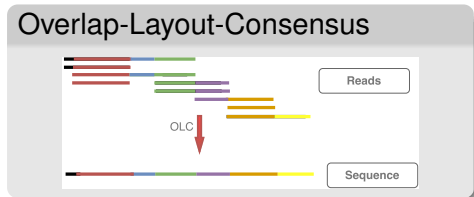
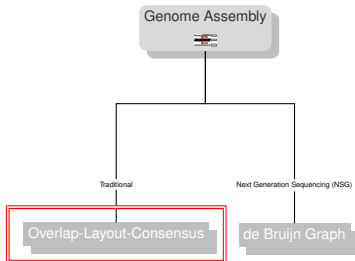
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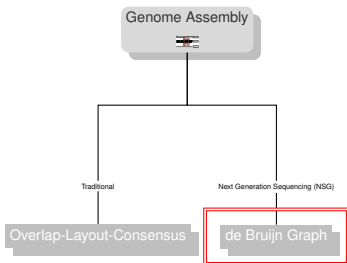
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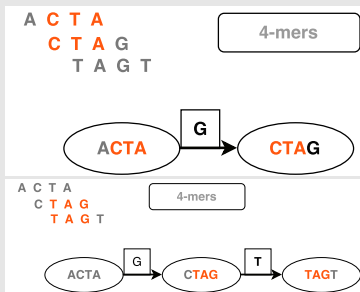
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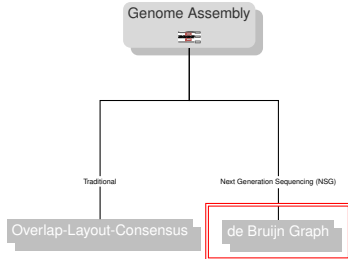
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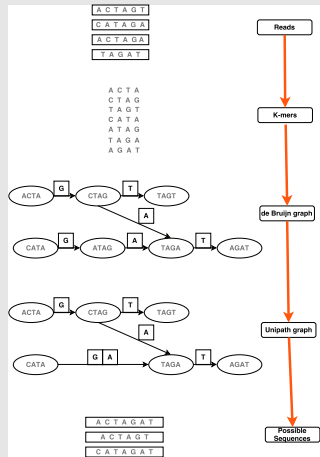
## de Bruijn Graph



# Motivation

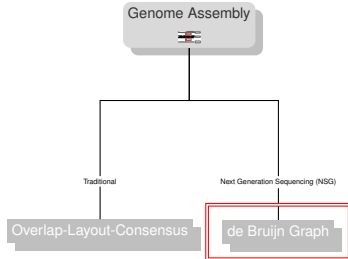


## NSG

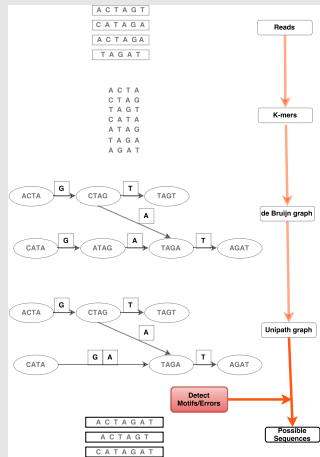




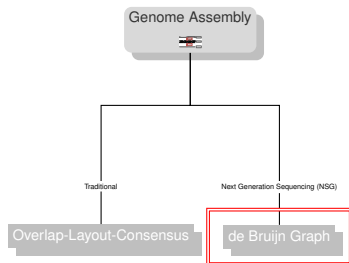
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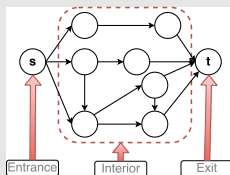


## Motifs

- Tips
- Cross-links
- Bubbles
- More Complex Structures?  
**Superbubbles**

# Superbubble

Superbubble:  $\langle s, t \rangle$

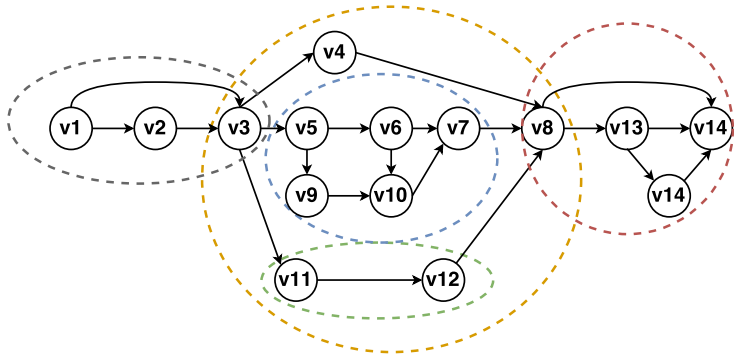


## Definition [Onodera et al., 2013]

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph. For any ordered pair of distinct nodes  $s$  and  $t$ ,  $\langle s, t \rangle$  is called a *superbubble* if it satisfies the following:

- **reachability:**  $t$  is reachable from  $s$ ;
- **matching:** the set of nodes reachable from  $s$  without passing through  $t$  is equal to the set of nodes from which  $t$  is reachable without passing through  $s$ ;
- **acyclicity:** the subgraph induced by  $U$  is acyclic, where  $U$  is the set of nodes satisfying the matching criterion;
- **minimality:** no node in  $U$  other than  $t$  forms a pair with  $s$  that satisfies the conditions above;

# Example



# Background

## $\mathcal{O}(nm)$ -time algorithm [Onodera et al., 2013]

Topological sorting, starting from each vertex, to test if it is an entrance.

## $\mathcal{O}(m \log m)$ -time algorithm [Sung et al., 2015]

- Partition graphs into a set of sub-graphs -
  - subgraphs corresponding to each non-singleton strongly connected component
  - a subgraph corresponding to the set of all the nodes involved in singleton strongly connected components.
- Convert each subgraph into acyclic if it is cyclic.
- Find superbubbles in each of the subgraph.

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Topological sorting, starting from each vertex, to test if it is an entrance.

## $\mathcal{O}(m \log m)$ -time algorithm [Sung et al., 2015]

- Partition graphs into a set of sub-graphs -  $\longrightarrow$  linear
  - subgraphs corresponding to each non-singleton strongly connected component
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- Convert each subgraph into acyclic if it is cyclic.  $\longrightarrow$  linear
- Find superbubbles in each of the subgraph.  $\longrightarrow$   $\mathcal{O}(m \log m)$

# Outline

## 2 Linear-Time Algorithm

- Properties
- Description

# Properties of superbubbles

Lemma ([Onodera et al., 2013])

**Any node can be the entrance (respectively exit) of at most one superbubble.**

Lemma ([Sung et al., 2015])

*Let  $G$  be a directed acyclic graph. We have the following two observations.*

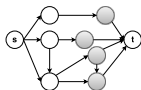
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- 2) For any superbubble  $\langle s, t \rangle$  in  $G$ , there must exist some parent  $p$  of  $t$  such that  $p$  has exactly one child  $t$ .*

Lemma ([Brankovic et al., 2015])

*For any superbubble  $\langle s, t \rangle$  in a directed acyclic graph  $G$ , there must exist some child  $c$  of  $s$  such that  $c$  has exactly one parent  $s$ .*



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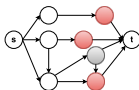
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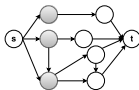
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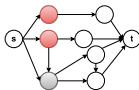
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# Abstract Description

## Conceptual Idea

- **Input:**  $G = (V, E)$ , a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG) where  $V$  and  $E$  are sets of vertices and edges resp. ( $|V| = n$ ,  $|E| = m$ )
- **Output:** Superbubbles in  $G$
- **Assumption:** Single-source and single-sink (*if not, add dummy vertices*)
- **Work-Flow:**
  - Topologically order the vertices
  - Identify possible entrance and exit candidates: *Candidate-list*
  - Traverse candidate-list ( in reverse topological order) to find superbubbles using subroutines:
    - *Report*
    - *Validate*

# Detailed Description

## Conceptual Idea

- Topological ordering
- Identify candidates
- Find super-bubbles using subroutines:
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# Detailed Description

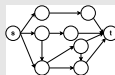
## Topological-order

For every edge  $(a, b)$ ,  $ord[a] < ord[b]$

## TopologicalSort

Recursive DFS (Depth First Search)

## Example



## Lemma (4)

Given a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  containing a superbubble  $\langle s, t \rangle$ , a topological ordering obtained by TopologicalSort has the following properties.

- For all  $x$  such that  $x \in U \setminus \{s, t\}$ ,  $ordD[s] < ordD[x] < ordD[t]$
- For all  $y$  such that  $y \notin U$ ,  $ordD[y] < ordD[s]$  or  $ordD[y] > ordD[t]$ .

## Conceptual Idea

- **Topological ordering**
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- Topological ordering
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## Candidate

A node  $v$  is an

- **exit candidate**: if it has at least one parent with exactly one child (out-degree 1)
- **entrance candidate**: if it has at least one child with exactly one parent (in-degree 1).

(From Lemmas 2 and 3)

## Identifying Candidates

Check each node in  $V$ , in topological order, to identify whether it is an exit or an entrance candidate (or both).

-If both, add twice (First as entrance and then as exit).

- **Maximum size:  $2n$**

- **Candidates are added in topological order in Candidate-list.**



# Detailed Description

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- Topological ordering
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## What?

- Reports all the possible superbubbles (including the nested ones) between given *start* and *exit*
- Called for each exit candidate in decreasing order either by *main* routine or through a recursive call to identify a nested superbubble.

## How?

- Checks the possible entrance candidates between given *start* and *exit* candidates starting with the nearest previous entrance candidate (to *exit*), using *Validate*.
  - If *valid*, report it and recursively find nested superbubbles.
  - Otherwise, mark the returned *alternative entrance candidate*

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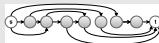
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- Returns *start* itself, given *start* and *exit* is a valid superbubble.
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## How?

- **Valid:** For a valid superbubble  $\langle s, t \rangle$ , every  $x \in U \setminus \{s, t\}$  has  $t$  as its *topologically furthest child*.  $s$  as its *topologically furthest parent*.



- **Invalid:**



*Red Vertex* is an alternate entrance candidate for the pair  $\langle s, t \rangle$ .

- Maintain arrays of topological furthest child and parent resp., for each vertex and using RMQ to verify the conditions for validity.

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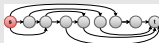
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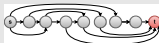
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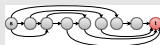
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## Conceptual Idea

- Topological ordering
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## Marking



- *Red Vertex* is an invalid entrance not only for the superbubble ending at  $t$  but also for all those ending at any other exit node ( $t'$ ) between  $s$  and  $t$  for which  $s$  is not a valid entrance and which also has *Red Vertex* as an alternative entrance.
- Further, any candidate in the sequence of alternative entrance candidates following *Red Vertex* (*Orange Vertex* and so on) can not be a valid entrance for the superbubble ending at  $t'$ .
- *Marking*: to skip this sequence later.

# Outline

- 3 Analysis
  - Correctness
  - Running Time



# Correctness of the algorithm

## Lemma (5)

*Given  $s$  and  $t$ , the candidates for an entrance and an exit of a superbubble in  $G$ , respectively, subroutine `Validate` reports  $\langle s, t \rangle$  if and only if  $\langle s, t \rangle$  is a superbubble.*

## Lemma (6)

*For a given exit candidate  $e$ , let  $x$  be the alternative entrance candidate returned by the subroutine `VALIDATE`( $s, e$ ). Then any entrance candidate between  $x$  and  $e$  can not be a valid entrance for the superbubble ending at  $e$ .*

## Theorem

*Given a directed acyclic graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $n = |V|$  and  $m = |E|$ , algorithm `SUPERBUBBLE` correctly finds all superbubbles in  $G$  in decreasing order of the topological ordering of their exit nodes.*

# Running Time of the algorithm

## Lemma (7)

*For the given exit and entrance candidates  $s$  and  $e_1$  (respectively), let  $mark[s]$  has been set to  $t_1$  which later gets reset to  $t_2$  while considering  $s$  with another exit candidate  $e_2$ . Then any exit candidate between  $s$  and  $e_2$  can not reset  $mark[s]$  to  $t_1$  again.*

- **Topological sorting:**  $\mathcal{O}(n + m)$
- **Computing the candidates list:**  $\mathcal{O}(n + m)$
- **All the list's operations:** constant time each, sums up to a linear cost  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ , as there are at most  $2n$  candidates in the list.
- **Each call for *Validate*:**  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  [RMQ]
- **Total calls to *Validate*:**  $\mathcal{O}(n + m)$ .
  - Either validates the entrance candidate ( $\mathcal{O}(n)$ )
  - Or marks the corresponding position ( $\mathcal{O}(m)$ )
    - Once 'marked', it will not be considered again in subsequent calls [from lemma (7)].
    - Marking is done every time an edge is found for the first time between a vertex (in between an entrance candidate and an exit candidate) and its topologically furthest parent.
- **Total time:**  $\mathcal{O}(n + m)$

# Outline

## 4 Summary




# Summary

- A critical step of assembly algorithms utilizing de Bruijn graphs is to detect typical motif structures in the graph caused by sequencing errors and genome repeats, and filter them out; one such complex subgraph class is a so-called *superbubble*.
- A superbubble  $\langle s, t \rangle$  is equivalent to a single source, single sink, acyclic directed subgraph of  $G$  with source  $s$  and sink  $t$ , which does not have any cut nodes and preserves all in-degrees and out-degrees of nodes in  $U \setminus \{s, t\}$ , as well as the out-degree of  $s$  and in-degree of  $t$ .
- Given a directed acyclic graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $n = |V|$  and  $m = |E|$ , all superbubbles in  $G$  can be identified in  $\mathcal{O}(n + m)$ -time.
- What's Next: More complex motifs

Paper appears in TCS (Open Access):

[L. Brankovica, C. S. Iliopoulos, R. Kundu, M. Mohamed, S. P. Pissis, F. Vayani:  
Linear-time superbubble identification algorithm for genome assembly].

# References

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# Thank You!